

The Controlled Substances Act

Chapter 13 of Title 21 of the US Code provides the foundation for the nation's laws related to illegal substances and drugs. It is commonly known as the Controlled Substances Act, or "CSA" and divides drugs into five "schedules" (I, II, III, IV, and V) based on the degree of severity of addiction and abuse, medical usage, and dependence associated with it.

- » **Schedule I:** The drug or other substance has a high potential for abuse, has no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and lacks the accepted safety for use of the drug or other substance under medical supervision.
- » **Schedule II:** The drug or other substance has a high potential for abuse, but has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States or a currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions. However, abuse of the drug or other substances may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence.
- » **Schedule III:** The drug or other substance has a potential for abuse less than the drugs or other substances in schedules I and II; it has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. However, abuse of the drug or other substance may lead to moderate or low physical dependence or high psychological dependence.
- » **Schedule IV:** The drug or other substance has a low potential for abuse relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule III. It has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. Abuse of the drug or other substance may lead to limited physical dependence or psychological dependence relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule III.
- » **Schedule V:** The drug or other substance has a low potential for abuse relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule IV. It has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. Abuse of the drug or other substance may lead to limited physical dependence or psychological dependence relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule IV.

Most of the drugs that are common in the illegal drug trade are found in Schedule I (including MDMA, LSD, heroin, GHB, cannabis) or Schedule II (cocaine, methamphetamine, amphetamine, phencyclidine [PCP], and opium/opiates such as morphine and oxycodone).

Get Involved!

No one individual or agency working alone can prevent crime. It takes police and citizens working in partnership. The District of Columbia's community policing strategy provides many ways for police and communities to work together to prevent crime and build safer neighborhoods. These include regular Police Service Area meetings in your community, citizen patrols and more. To learn more about community policing activities in your neighborhood, call your local police district:

1st District	Main:.....(202) 698-0555.....	TTY: 727-8506
	Substation:.....(202) 698-0068.....	TTY: 543-2352
2nd District	Main:.....(202) 715-7300.....	TTY: 364-3961
3rd District	Main:.....(202) 673-6815.....	TTY: 518-0008
	Substation:.....(202) 576-8222.....	TTY: 576-9640
4th District	Main:.....(202) 715-7400.....	TTY: 722-1791
5th District	Main:.....(202) 698-0150.....	TTY: 727-5437
6th District	Main:.....(202) 698-0880.....	TTY: 398-5397
	Substation:.....(202) 698-2088.....	TTY: 281-3945
7th District	Main:.....(202) 698-1500.....	TTY: 889-3574

Know Something About a Crime? Don't Keep It a Secret

If you have important information to share with the police, the Anonymous Crime Tip Line and Text Tip Line enables you to give MPD vital information anonymously. Just dial (888) 919-2746 (CRIME) or text to 50411 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Your name will not be used, only the information you provide. Your information could lead to a cash reward. For more details, see www.mpdc.dc.gov/tipline.

GIVE 5-0

THE 4-1-1

Have information for police?

CALL (888) 919-CRIME

TEXT TO 50-411



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Metropolitan Police Department
300 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

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PUBLIC VICE AND DRUG TRENDS



Understanding the Risks and Dangers of MDMA ("Ecstasy")

Recognizing the health hazards and community impacts of cocaine



Tell your friends you want a hug, not “Hugs.”

Dangerous substances like MDMA and other psychedelic drugs are often accompanied by clever marketing or colorful packaging. But don't be tempted. MDMA can have extremely dangerous health effects and long-term impacts on your future.

What is MDMA?

MDMA is one of the most popular recreational psychoactives, most commonly sold in the form of “Ecstasy” tablets. A Schedule I drug, MDMA can promote euphoria, feelings of closeness, empathy, sexuality, and reduced inhibitions. MDMA acts as both a stimulant and psychedelic, producing an energizing effect as well as distortions in time and perception and enhanced enjoyment of tactile experiences.



Although MDMA is known universally among users as Ecstasy, researchers have determined that many Ecstasy tablets

contain not only MDMA but also a number of other drugs or drug combinations that can be harmful, such as methamphetamine, Ketamine, cocaine, the over-the-counter cough suppressant dextromethorphan, the diet drug ephedrine and caffeine. In addition, other drugs similar to MDMA — such as MDA or PMA — are often sold as Ecstasy, which can lead to overdose and death when the user takes additional doses to obtain the desired effect.

Origin and Description

MDMA is mainly distributed in tablet form. MDMA tablets are sold with logos, creating brand names for users to seek out. The colorful pills are often hidden among colorful candies. MDMA is also distributed in capsules, powder, and liquid forms.

MDMA is a synthetic chemical, made in labs. Seized MDMA in the US is primarily manufactured in clandestine laboratories in Canada and to a lesser extent the Netherlands and is smuggled across our borders. A small number of MDMA clandestine laboratories have also been identified operating in the US.

Cocaine is known by many names. Common street names include “Ecstasy,” “X,” “Hugs,” “Love,” “Adam,” “Essence,” “Rolling,” “pills,” “Flipping,” and “Tripping.”



What Does MDMA Look Like?

MDMA is usually found in pressed tablet form displaying known commercial logos, designs or stamps upon them. There are over 600 known logos (brands) identified by US law enforcement agencies.

How is MDMA Used?

MDMA use mainly involves swallowing tablets (50–150 mg). It is also available as a powder, and tablets are sometimes crushed and snorted, occasionally smoked, but rarely injected. MDMA abusers usually take MDMA by “stacking” (taking three or more tablets at once) or by “piggy-backing” (taking a series of tablets over a short period of time). One trend among young adults is “candy flipping,” which is the co-abuse of MDMA and LSD. It is considered a “party drug” and obtained at “rave” or “techno” parties. However, its abuse has expanded to include other settings outside of the rave scenes, such as on college campuses.

What Are the Side Effects?

MDMA mainly affects brain cells that use the chemical serotonin to communicate with each other. Serotonin helps to regulate mood, aggression, sexual activity, sleep and sensitivity to pain. Clinical studies suggest that MDMA may increase the risk of long-term, perhaps permanent, problems with memory and learning. MDMA causes changes in

perception, including increased sensitivity to touch, euphoria, increased energy, increased sensual and sexual arousal, increased “need” to be touched (i.e., hugged) and an increased need for stimulation. Some unwanted psychological effects include confusion, anxiety, depression, paranoia, sleep problems and drug craving. All these effects usually occur within 30 to 45 minutes of swallowing the drug and usually last 4 to 6 hours, but they may occur or last weeks after ingestion.

What Are the Dangers of MDMA Use?

Users of MDMA experience many of the same effects and face many of the same risks as users of other stimulants such as cocaine and amphetamines. These include increased motor activity, alertness, heart rate, and blood pressure. Some unwanted physical effects include muscle tension, tremors, involuntary teeth clenching, muscle cramps, nausea, faintness, chills, sweating and blurred vision. High doses of MDMA can interfere with the ability to regulate body temperature, resulting in a sharp increase in body temperature (hyperthermia), leading to liver, kidney and cardiovascular failure, as well as possible death. Severe dehydration can result from the combination of the drug's effects and the crowded and hot conditions in which the drug is often taken. Studies suggest chronic use of MDMA can produce damage to the serotonin system. Because MDMA can interfere with its own metabolism (that is, its break down within the body), potentially harmful levels can be reached by repeated drug use within short intervals.

MDMA Prices in the Washington Area

A typical street dose of MDMA is one 80–125 mg tablet (.08 – .125 g), costing \$20 to \$30. If purchased in multiples, the prices can be \$12–\$15 per tablet in ziplock bags. When purchased in bulk, prices can range anywhere from \$500 to \$1,000 (approx. 100 pills). MDMA costs approximately \$.05 – \$.50 to produce, thus yielding a considerable profit return.

Recognizing the Signs of MDMA Use

Repeated cocaine use will often be accompanied by some predictable paraphernalia associated with its use. If you see these items around your home or in your neighborhood, the chances are good that cocaine is being used.

- » Glow lightsticks
- » Petroleum lip balm
- » Pill press
- » Vapor rub
- » Water bottles
- » Face masks
- » Pacifiers
- » Candy bags (Skittles, etc.)
- » Lollipops
- » Energy drinks