

## Methamphetamine - Oregon Fact Sheet

- In 2005, Oregon shifted away from drug polices based on fear and reaction, and moved toward drug polices based on science in the areas of Prevention, Enforcement, and Treatment.  
<http://www.oregondec.org/OMTF-ClosingMemo.pdf>
- Included within Prevention is effective control of the key meth precursor, pseudo/ephedrine (PSE). Effective July 1, 2006, Oregon returned PSE to a prescription drug, as it was prior to 1976.  
<http://www.leg.state.or.us/05reg/measpdf/hb2400.dir/hb2485.en.pdf>
- Mexico followed Oregon's lead, and then banned PSE entirely. The result is that meth from Mexico is pure, cheap, and plentiful, but weak. The potency of meth from Mexico is down substantially.  
<http://www.oregondec.org/MPP-UpdatedInfo.pdf>
- Oregon has experienced the following:
  - 100% reduction (elimination) of PSE smurfing, and 96% reduction in meth lab incidents.  
<http://www.oregondec.org/OregonMethLabTrends.pdf>  
<http://www.oregondec.org/OregonMethLabStats.pdf>
  - 32% reduction in meth arrests.  
<http://www.oregon.gov/CJC/SAC.html>
  - 33% reduction in meth treatment admissions.  
<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/data/main.shtml>  
<http://www.oregondec.org/OrTxAdmits-2004-2009.pdf>
  - 35% reduction in meth-related emergency room visits.  
<http://www.rdmag.com/News/Feeds/2010/06/policy-ohsu-emergency-department-reports-fewer-meth-relat/>  
[http://www.oregonlive.com/health/index.ssf/2010/06/decongestant\\_ban\\_cut\\_ohsus\\_met.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/health/index.ssf/2010/06/decongestant_ban_cut_ohsus_met.html)
- Oregon crime rates:
  - 78% of property crimes are committed by addicts stealing to pay for their addiction.  
[http://www.doj.state.or.us/about/pdf/annual\\_report\\_2009.pdf](http://www.doj.state.or.us/about/pdf/annual_report_2009.pdf)
  - In 2008, Oregon experienced the largest decrease in crime rates in our nation.  
[http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/09/oregon\\_leads\\_the\\_nation\\_in\\_vio.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/09/oregon_leads_the_nation_in_vio.html)  
<http://www.oregondec.org/Oregonian.pdf>
  - By 2009, Oregon crime rates were at a 50-year low.  
[http://www.leg.state.or.us/press\\_releases/sdo\\_052410\\_III.html](http://www.leg.state.or.us/press_releases/sdo_052410_III.html)  
<http://www.dailyemerald.com/news/director-attributes-low-crime-rates-to-meth-laws-1.1488619>  
<http://www.oregondec.org/2011-02-CJPRI-report.pdf>

*Updated March 1, 2011*

For more information, visit <http://www.oregondec.org/pse.htm>