

REGIONAL BIAS: METH VERSUS COCAINE

The politics of methamphetamine have been shaped by geography. Lawmakers from the East, Midwest and South focused on cocaine – the most heavily abused drug by far in their home states. By contrast, more than 90 percent of people treated for meth abuse live west of the Mississippi River.

Oregon leads the country, with 28 meth users in rehab for every 10,000 residents.

NOTE: West Virginia data only available for two years.

Source: U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Treatment Episode Data Set

METH

The map indicates the number of meth users in rehab per 10,000 state residents age 12 and older. Figures are annual averages for 1998-2002.

Less than 4 4 to 8 8 to 16 16 or more

