

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



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Ohio State Highway Patrol drug seizures up 13 percent for 2008 *Statistical recap shows areas and counties where drugs are being intercepted*

COLUMBUS - Stark and Franklin counties saw more drug arrests by Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers through October of this year than any other Ohio counties and overall drug arrests are up 13 percent according to new statistics released by the Patrol today.

According to the *Drug Arrests in Ohio* statistical recap from the Patrol's Statistical Analysis Unit, during the first 10 months of this year troopers made 179 drug arrests in Stark County and 175 in Franklin County. Rounding out the top five were Scioto County with 169 arrests, Summit County with 143 arrests and Butler County with 130 drug arrests. Overall nearly 20 percent of the Patrol's drug arrests occurred in one of these five counties during the first 10 months of this year.

While Ohio roads are getting safer - Patrol superintendent Colonel Richard H. Collins has predicted 2008 will be the safest year on Ohio roads ever - the release of today's study shows state troopers have also directly impacted the safety of Ohio communities and neighborhoods by interrupting the criminal element on Ohio roads.

Year-to-date through October, Ohio troopers seized illegal narcotics valued at \$44.5 million and made more than 2,100 felony arrests. During the first 10 months of the year troopers made 4,453 drug arrests, which were 505 more drug arrests than through October 2007. In many instances these drug arrests led local drug task forces to apprehensions in larger drug and other criminal cases.

Troopers were involved in 565 drug arrests in May, the most of any month through this October. In fact, the two highest single days for Patrol drug arrests occurred during Memorial Day weekend with 45 drug arrests on Friday, May 23 and Saturday, May 24 respectively.

The complete *Drug Arrests in Ohio* statistical recap, including statistics for all 88 Ohio Counties can be viewed at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov

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