

Increase in Number of Meth Labs in Georgia

March 18, 2011

A [report](#) on The Augusta Chronicle shared that the number of meth labs in the state of Georgia has increased over the past three years. In the city of Augusta, statistics indicate a 79 percent increase in the number of meth labs discovered by the police. The percentage statewide is 82 percent.



Sgt. Allan Rollins of Richmond County Sherrif's Office shared: "We've been on a surge recently... (The labs are) getting much more portable and easier to carry. It used to be you almost had to have a high school chemistry laboratory to make, but now you can basically make it out of a suitcase in a jar."

Douglas Kahn, a spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Administration in Atlanta, explained that only an estimated 20 percent of the [methamphetamine](#) in Georgia is actually made in-state. The meth, according to Kahn, is coming into Georgia from Mexico; the purpose of the labs being set up in the state is to extract crystal meth.

Jim Langford, the executive director of the Georgia Meth Project, described the city of Atlanta, Georgia, as a "distribution hub for meth." He explains further: "[Meth] is easy to ingest... You can snort it or inject it... you can also put it in a soft drink or in chewing gum." It is for this reason, according to Langford, that teens are drawn to the drug; the state of Georgia actually has the third-worst meth problem among teenage users in the United States.

Based on a poll conducted by the Georgia Meth Project last year, 35 percent of teens and young adults do not see any risk in trying the meth; 23 percent, on the other hand, said that they believe that using the drug will be beneficial.
