

**CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY  
 ON SEIZURES OF NARCOTIC DRUGS,  
 PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR PRECURSORS**

(based on mass media reports)

**01.04. to 10.04.2024**

**№10**

In the period from 1 to 10 April 2024, based on information from the media law enforcement agencies and security services of CARICC Member States seized **249.38 kg of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including: heroin - 34.7 kg, opium - 11.8 kg, cocaine - 15.53 kg, cannabis group drugs - 140.91 kg, synthetic drugs - 46.26 kg and potent substances - 0.18 kg.**

Drug seizures in CARICC Member States

Type of drug (in kg)	Azerbaijan	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyzstan	Russia	Tajikistan	Uzbekistan
Heroin	10.25	0		2.492		0
Opium	2.55	0		0		0.936
Cocaine	0	0		76		0
Cannabis group drugs	44.8	58.24		18		10.273
Synthetic drugs	6.375	75.397		118.866		0
Potent substances	0	0		0		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63.98</b>	<b>133.64</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>215.36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11.21</b>

During the period other countries seized **2 tons 533 kg of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including: heroin - 20 kg, cocaine - 1 ton 331 kg, cannabis-group drugs - 177 kg, synthetic drugs - 280 kg and potent substances - 725 kg.**

**CARICC MEMBER STATES**

**AZERBAIJAN**

**01.04.2024** Within measures carried out by officers of the Samukh district police department, a resident of the town of Yevlakh was detained on suspicion of organizing drug trafficking. **7 kg of opium, heroin, marijuana and methamphetamine** were found in his possession. <https://ru.oxu.az/society/855167>

**02.04.2024** As a result of operative measures carried out by officers of Mingachevir City Police Department, Gadzhi Jafarov, a resident of Sabirabad district, who was involved in drug courier by a foreign citizen, was detained. **1.25 kg of heroin and 800 g of marijuana** were found in his possession. <https://ru.oxu.az/society/855653>

**02.04.2024** As a result of measures taken by police officers on the territory of the capital, two previously convicted citizens involved in drug trafficking were detained. During a search

they seized **4 kg of heroin and 300 methadone tablets.** <https://ru.oxu.az/criminal/855901>

**03.04.2024** As a result of operative actions carried out by officers of the Criminal Investigation Department of Sabunchu District Police Department of Baku, two citizens of the republic were detained on suspicion of drug trafficking. About **2 kg of marijuana and methamphetamine, 830 methadone tablets** were found in their possession. <https://ru.oxu.az/society/856140>

**04.04.2024** In Khazar district police officers detained a resident of Sumgayit city who was engaged in drug trafficking. **4.715 kg of marijuana** was seized. <https://ru.oxu.az/society/856615>

**05.04.2024** On 3 April at 03:38 on the service territory of the border guard detachment "Geitepe" of the State Border Service due to the vigilance of the border guard stopped the smuggling of 19 kg 550 g of narcotic drugs (**19 kg of marijuana and 550 g of opium**) and **4370 tablets of the drug "Methadone M-40"** from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Azerbaijan. <https://ru.oxu.az/criminal/857029>

**08.04.2024** About 18 kilograms of narcotics were found in Baku from three detained drug couriers. It is reported that as a result of regular operational activities carried out by police officers in Baku, three previously convicted citizens engaged in drug trafficking were detained. In the course of their personal examination and search of the car were found about **18 kg of marijuana.** <https://ru.oxu.az/society/858065>

**08.04.2024** Officers of the General Directorate for Combating Drugs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Azerbaijan conducted another operation on the territory of the country to prevent trafficking of drugs imported from Iran by unconventional methods. As a result of implemented measures, a resident of Jalilabad district was detained in Baku, and **6 kg of marijuana** enriched with psychotropic substances and packaged in tubes for sealant used in repair works was seized. <https://ru.oxu.az/criminal/858179>

**09.04.2024** As a result of conducted measures officers of Masalli district police department detained a local resident on suspicion of illicit trafficking of prohibited substances, more than **10 kilograms of heroin, methamphetamine and marijuana** were found and seized during personal search. <https://ru.oxu.az/society/858394>

## KAZAKHSTAN

**01.04.2024** On 30 March, officers of UPN DP of Almaty region as part of an operational and preventive measure identified a drug dealer and seized about **3 kg of mephedrone.** A 28-year-old girl is suspected of illegal possession and sale of synthetic drugs, who was detained during operative-search measures in Karasay district. Suspect indicated location of three drug dead drops, where a powdery substance of beige color with a specific odor was found and seized. Expert examination results confirmed that the seized substance was a synthetic drug mephedrone, weighing about three kilograms. <https://polisia.kz/ru/tri-kg-sintetiki-iz-yali-udevushki-v-almatinskoj-oblasti/>

**01.04.2024** As a result of operative-search measures carried out by officers of the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the Kyzylorda Region Police Department, a 52-year-old local resident who had built a drug laboratory and was engaged in the cultivation of narcotic plants was detained. During inspection at his place of residence, a greenhouse with a special phytolaboratory inside was found. Walls of the room were covered with polyethylene film. In the course of inspection, they seized LED lighting devices for growing plants and watering tools. Police officers seized 214 **marijuana** bushes from the laboratory as material evidence. According to conclusion of expert examination, the seized narcotic plants have a total mass of **3.98 kg**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/narkolaboratoriyu-likvidirovali-politsejskie-v-kyzylordinskoj-oblasti/>

**05.04.2024** In Petropavlovsk, drug enforcers detained a young man suspected of selling synthetic drugs on a particularly large scale. During detention they seized 10 rolls with powdery substance of white color prepared for distribution. Packaging material was found and seized at his place of residence. It was found that the suspect kept drug himself at his grandmother's house. According to conclusion of examination, the seized substance is a synthetic drug **α-PvP** with a total weight of **191 g**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/podrostka-pryatavshego-sintetiku-u-babushki-zaderzhali-politsejskie-v-sko/>

**05.04.2024** A 47-year-old resident of Pavlodar region was detained on suspicion of possession of narcotic drugs on a particularly large scale. The man worked as a shepherd in Merken district. According to the suspect, he found wild cannabis, collected, dried and stored it for his personal consumption. During examination, as well as a search at his place of residence and on the farm, police seized a total of **40.24 kg** of dried **marijuana**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/pastuh-zagotovil-na-zimu-bolee-40-kg-narkotikov-v-zhambylskoj-oblasti/>

**09.04.2024** On 7 March, officers of the Department for Combating Drug Crime detained a 38-year-old citizen of Kokshetau on suspicion of possession of synthetic drugs in a yard in Kokshetau. Police officers found 178 polyethylene rolls with a substance of powdery consistency in the man's possession. According to expertise, the substance is **mephedrone** weighing **206 g**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/zakladchika-sintetiki-zaderzhali-v-kokshetau/>

**10.04.2024** A drug trafficking channel was intercepted in Zhambyl region. Operational and investigative measures were carried out by the officers of UPN DP and DKNB in the village of Tole bi of Shu district. A 25-year-old local resident was detained on suspicion of possession of narcotic drugs on a particularly large scale for the purpose of sale. A polyethylene bag with **hashish** inside was seized from the suspect. Total weight of the seized substance amounted to **14.02 kg**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/gashish-na-5-mln-tenge-iz-yali-u-zhitelya-zhambylskoj-oblasti/>

**10.04.2024** Officers of the National Security Committee of Kazakhstan, with coordination of the prosecutor's office, foiled a smuggling channel of a large consignment of **methamphetamine**. The operation was conducted in Shymkent. During inspection of a heavy-duty vehicle, over 90 liters (**72 kg**) of drugs dissolved in Cola drink were found and seized. An expert examination revealed that concentration of prohibited substances in the liquid was more than 80%. <https://ru.sputnik.kz/20240410/bolee-90-litrov-metamfetamina-rastvorenogo-cola-izyali-v-shymkente-43592360.html>

## RUSSIA

**01.04.2024** Omsk drug control officers identified a man who arrived in Omsk a few days ago as being involved in illicit trafficking of banned substances. Police officers detained him in the Sovetsky district. In the course of a personal search, they seized 20 rolls of heroin. In the apartment rented by a native of a Central Asian country, they found **198 grams of methadone and 492 grams of heroin**, various packaging material. In addition, several dead drops were found, already organized in Omsk by the suspect. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48633943/>

**01.04.2024** An SUV driven by residents of the Leningrad region was stopped according to a tip-off from the Drug Control Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Chuvash Republic on the M-12 highway in Komsomolsky district. Special forces of the Rosgvardiya regional police participated in detention of the vehicle together with the State Automobile Inspection officers. The driver and passenger were offered to voluntarily surrender prohibited cargo, after which the young men reported location of mephedrone parcels in the interior. In total, police seized over **3 kilograms of mephedrone**. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48647902/>

**01.04.2024** At the 111th kilometer of the M4 "Don" highway, officers of the Kashir OMVD of Russia and traffic police of the State Automobile Inspection of the Main Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Moscow Region stopped a foreign-made car driven by a 41-year-old driver. During inspection of the vehicle, police found and confiscated a bag and a backpack with rolls and packages. A chemical test determined that their contents were **mephedrone** (more than **1 kilogram**), **MDMA** (about **200 grams**) and **methylephedrone** (about **500 grams**). <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48639017/>

**01.04.2024** While checking information received from GUNK MVD of Russia, officers of the Drug Control Department of UVD of Sochi, together with operatives of the regional Department of the Federal Security Service of Russia, with assistance of state automobile inspectors, stopped a Ford Focus driven by a 34-year-old previously convicted local resident at a stationary checkpoint of the Magri traffic police for inspection. As a result of inspection of the vehicle in the spare tire recess police found two bags with a powdery substance, which, according to expert's conclusion, is a synthetic drug - a derivative of **N-methylephedrone**. The operatives seized a package with similar contents, rolls with mephedrone, as well as electronic scales, packaging material and money in the amount of 250 thousand rubles during an inspection of the suspect's apartment. A total of about **2.8 kilograms** of illicit substances were seized. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48638903/>

**02.04.2024** Officers of the Drug Control Department of UMVD of Russia for Leninsky g.o. as a result of operational and search activities near the forest area of Drozhzhzhino settlement detained a 34-year-old local resident suspected of drug trafficking. During personal search police seized two polymer bags from his bag. According to expert's conclusion, their contents are a narcotic drug - **mephedrone**. In the criminal's apartment in Bobrovo village, they found 3 electronic scales, 30 zip-lock bags and 4 rolls, which, according to results of expert examination, contained the narcotic drug MDMA. The total mass of the seized drugs amounted to more than **3 kilograms**. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48680191/>

**02.04.2024** Police officers seized a large shipment of prohibited substances from dead drops in forests of the Leningrad region. According to GUNK, in February during investigation of a criminal case officers of UMVD in the Gatchina district found several dead drops containing 25 transparent plastic bags with various substances. According to results of examination, seized packages contained almost **2 kg of amphetamine, 0.5 kg of mephedrone**, more than **700 g of synthetic drug** mixture and almost **600 g of spice** components.  
<https://78.ru/news/2024-04-02/ogromnie-shroni-narkotikov-nashli-v-lesah-pod-viricej>

**03.04.2024** Officers of the General Directorate for Drug Control of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs, together with colleagues from the Ryazan region, detained 21 foreigners. As a result of operational and investigative measures police officers together with members of the Rosgvardiya detained suspects. About **5 kilograms** of illegal substances were found in their rented apartments, as well as cars and street stashes. Test results confirmed that the seized substances were **heroin, mephedrone and methadone**.  
<https://мвд.пф/news/item/48747540/>

**03.04.2024** Officers of the Drug Control Department of the Murmansk ГбМБ of Russia became aware of involvement of a 24-year-old young man in implementation of preparatory measures for illegal distribution of drugs of synthetic origin on the territory of the city. In the course of special measures operatives detained red-handed a resident of St. Petersburg living in Murmansk. In the course of personal search of the young man police officers found a package with powdery substance. According to conclusion of expert examination, the seized substance is a derivative of **N-methylephedrone** with a total mass of more than **989 grams**.  
<https://мвд.пф/news/item/48739292/>

**04.04.2024** Officers of UNK GU MVD of Russia in the Voronezh region detained a 34-year-old resident of the Stavropol Krai and a 29-year-old resident of the Rostov region on suspicion of illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs. Police officers obtained intelligence that the criminals were traveling by car from the Moscow region to the Stavropol region. At the 545th km of the highway M-4 "Don" in Novousmansk district together with officers of the State Automobile Inspection operatives stopped a foreign made car. During inspection of the car, synthetic narcotic drugs were found in the trunk in a diaper box. The seized substance was found to be **mephedrone** with a mass of **1507 grams**.  
<https://мвд.пф/news/item/48776523/>

**04.04.2024** Operatives of drug control unit of the Department of Internal Affairs of Russia for Ufa district together with officers of the district traffic police detained a 25-year-old girl. During personal search of the car and inspection of the detainee's rented apartment, almost **0.5 kilograms of synthetic drugs** were found and seized.  
<https://мвд.пф/news/item/48767129/>

**05.04.2024** Officers of the General Directorate for Drug Control of the Russian Interior Ministry, together with colleagues from Moscow Region, detained two local residents. They are suspected of attempting to sell synthetic drugs. As a result of operative-search measures, police officers in cooperation with the Rosgvardiya detained suspects. They found 70 polymer canisters with chemical liquids, a crystal substance, laboratory equipment and packaging

materials. Test results showed that the substance with a total mass of about **14 kilograms** contained the narcotic drug **mephedrone**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48814992/>

**05.04.2024** In the course of joint operational activities, officers of GUNK MVD of Russia and the Department for Drug Control of UMVD of Russia in Bryansk region foiled an attempt to illegally sell a large shipment of narcotics by a 26-year-old resident of Trubchevsky district. During a search in the garage of the criminal, law enforcement officers seized more than three dozen plastic bags with dried herbal material. According to results of tests, it was concluded that the seized substance was **marijuana** with a total weight of more than **15 kilograms**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48808354/>

**07.04.2024** As a result of an operational verification of information received by UNK GU MVD of Russia in Krasnodar Krai, a 26-year-old resident of Krasnodar suspected of drug trafficking was detained in a forest belt near the village of Maryanskaya. As a result of personal search of the detainee operatives seized a package with powdery substance, as well as a bank card and a cell phone, used by her in illegal activities. During inspection of the criminal's apartment, police found eight polymer bags with similar contents, scales and packaging material. According to expert report, the seized substance is **N-methylephedrone** with a total mass of about **500 grams**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48809014/>

**08.04.2024** At the 39th kilometer of the Yekaterinburg-Polevskoy highway, OKON officers together with OGIBDD officers in the course of the operative-search activity "Surveillance" detained the driver of a VAZ-211340 car, a 34-year-old citizen who was not working anywhere, who was suspected of trafficking in narcotic drugs. In the course of personal examination he was confiscated a package with a substance of vegetable origin and a plastic egg with powdery substance, which, according to him, he acquired and stored for personal use. During an inspection of the man's residence, police officers found a plastic container containing **991.3 grams of mephedrone**. The detainee admitted that he had acquired and stored the narcotic substance with the purpose of further sale. During the study of information from the hard disk of the system unit, the UNPO officers identified the locations of caches located in the Polevskiy district from which they seized packages with a total mass of about **45 grams** of narcotic substance.. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48878374/>

**08.04.2024** Officers of the Department for Combating Ethnic Drug Crimes and Drug Smuggling of UNK GU MVD of Russia for Altai Krai detained a group of three residents of Barnaul: two men, born in 1976 and 1999, and a woman born in 1982, who were involved in sale of narcotic drugs. They were detained by drug police when they were traveling by car to a suburb of Barnaul in order to make another deposit of drugs to dead drops. During examination of the vehicle in which they were traveling, they found more than **200 grams of mephedrone**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48879058/>

**08.04.2024** Officers of the Department for Drug Control of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Omsk region in the course of implementation of operational information established that a 29-year-old Omsk man was engaged in drug distribution. The operatives detained the man with support of special-purpose fighters from the SOBR Department of the Omsk Region's Rosgvardia during jogging. 3 packages with synthetic drug **N-methylephedrone** derivative were found in his possession. During inspection of the

apartment where the man lived, they seized **436 grams** of narcotic synthetics, scales and packaging material in a shoebox. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48877049/>

**08.04.2024** Officers of the Drug Control Department of the Krasnoyarsk Krai GU MVD detained a man suspected of selling more than 600 grams of drugs in the regional center in the course of operational and investigative measures. It was found that the man born in 1982 was a wholesale dead dropper of a darknet store. During a personal search, police officers found bags with a substance which, according to results of a chemical examination, was found to be a narcotic drug: **heroin and methadone** with a total mass of about **630 grams**. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48875387/>

**09.04.2024** Workers at a logistics center in the village of Zaozerye, Guryevsky District, discovered briquettes wrapped in polyethylene in boxes of bananas when unloading goods and reported the suspicious find to police. During inspection of the cargo law enforcement officers seized nine boxes, inside which **76 kilogram** briquettes with powdery substance of white color were stored under the top layer of fruit. According to preliminary data, they contained the narcotic drug **cocaine**. Operatives found that this consignment of bananas arrived in Germany by sea from Colombia, then was transported by automobile to Klaipeda, and from there it was imported to the territory of Kaliningrad region through the checkpoint "Chernyshevskoe". The truck driven by a 44-year-old resident of the Republic of Belarus left for Poland after unloading cargo. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48924929/>

**09.04.2024** As a result of investigative actions, officers of drug control unit of the Department of UMVD of Russia for the city of Veliky Novgorod and the regional Department of Internal Affairs, with the support of special forces of the Novgorod Region's Rosgvardia Department, detained three repeatedly convicted participants in a criminal activity involving sale of illegal substances through an online store. During a search in the apartment of a resident of the Leningrad region, police officers seized a large bag containing a crystal-like substance. It contained about **10 kilograms of methadone**, as it was determined by expert examination. More than **100 grams of methadone**, as well as electronic scales, duct tape and magnets were found in the apartment of a Novgorod resident in the Western microdistrict. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48916958/>

**09.04.2024** Operatives of the Main Directorate for Drug Control of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, together with colleagues from the Chelyabinsk Region, suppressed the activities of an underground drug laboratory. They were assisted by police officers from the Republic of Belarus. According to available information, a resident of the Astrakhan region organized the activities of a drug laboratory in a private house in the city of Miass. As "cooks" he engaged three citizens of the Republic of Belarus, who came to the region specifically to participate in the criminal business. As a result of operational and search activities, police detained two men and a woman in the premises of the laboratory. Seized were **18 kilograms** of the finished drug **mephedrone**, **25 liters of precursors**, about **430 liters of reagents**, and laboratory equipment used by accomplices to synthesize mephedrone. Soon operatives came on the trail of the group's leader and detained him in a parking lot near Moscow's Domodedovo airport immediately after returning from a foreign vacation. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/48915432/>

**10.04.2024** Officers of the Separate Detachment of the Patrol and Checkpoint Service of UMVD of Russia for Lenin City District detained a 35-year-old resident of St. Petersburg, who had a previous conviction and was suspected of trafficking in narcotic drugs. While patrolling the area near the village of Pugovichino, police noticed a car parked near a forest area. Nearby was a man who, when checking his documents, behaved suspiciously and was visibly nervous. When police searched the trunk of the car, they found 13 briquettes of white substance wrapped in duct tape, and photos with coordinates of the locations of "dead drops" in the perpetrator's phone. In the course of visits to the specified addresses in the forest near the town of Vidnoye, operatives seized 30 briquettes with similar contents from two dead drops. Their total mass amounted to about **43 kilograms**. According to expert report, the contents of three of the seized briquettes were derivatives of **ephedrone** and **mephedrone** weighing about **3 kilograms**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48971478/>

**10.04.2024** As a result of a set of operational and investigative measures, officers of the Drug Control Department of the Ulyanovsk Region UMVD of the Russian Federation for the Ulyanovsk Region disrupted a distribution channel for the narcotic drug hashish. According to operational reports, a resident of St. Petersburg born in 1985 was planning to sell a large amount of the drug in the Ulyanovsk region and the Republic of Tatarstan. Police officers detained the criminal near the village of Bolshoye Nagatkin in the Ulyanovsk region. Operatives seized 20 packages in a car compartment. Examination showed that the seized drug was **hashish** with a total mass of more than **3 kg**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48969442/>

**10.04.2024** During a post-flight inspection of passengers' luggage arriving in Norilsk, a sniffer dog indicated that one of the suitcases might contain prohibited substances. Officers of the Taimyr Line Department of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs identified and detained the 30-year-old owner of the suitcase, which contained two containers of granular substances. An expert examination showed that inside was amphetamine-type narcotic drug **mephedrone**. The weight of the seized drug exceeded **1.1 kilograms**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48943452/>

**10.04.2024** Officers of UNK UMVD of the Murmansk detained a local resident born in 1983 during special measures in the regional center. The police officers found a package with a narcotic drug in his possession. During a search of the detainee's car, police found 20 more packages ready for distribution. During a search at the place of residence of the criminal, drug police officers found two bags of drugs, scales, and polymer packaging products. Expert analysis found that the seized narcotic drug was **methadone** with a mass of about **1 kilogram**. <https://мвд.пф/news/item/48948772/>

## UZBEKISTAN

**08.04.2024** Uzbek State Security Service (SGB) officers seized 11.2 kilograms of drugs from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

In Namangan region SGB officers stopped and inspected a car "Nexia" moving in the direction "Chortok-Namangan". Law enforcers found **2.047 kilograms of hashish** in possession of a passenger of the car, a resident of Chortok district. Another **4.942 kilograms of hashish** were seized in the house of the detainee.

A resident of Yangikurgan district who was selling **1.842 kilograms of hashish** for \$14 thousand to a resident of Namangan was detained in Davlatabad district during operational measures. He was detained at the moment of receiving \$10 thousand of the total sum. SGB officers also detained three residents of Urgut district, Samarkand province, who brought **936 grams of opium** from Tajikistan. They were detained while handing over opium to the buyer. Another accomplice from Urgut district was also detained during the operation. SGB officers in Fergana region detained a resident of Kuvasoy who was selling **950 grams of hashish** to another resident of Kuvasoy for \$6000. Drugs were imported from Tajikistan. Another resident of Kuvasoy who was selling **492 grams of hashish** from Tajikistan for 75 million soums was also arrested. <https://www.uzdaily.uz/ru/post/84936>

**OTHER COUNTRIES**

**AUSTRALIA**

**10.04.2024** In February 2024 detectives assigned to the State Crime Command's Raptor Squad formed Strike Force Chadderton to investigate interstate transportation of cash linked to criminal activity. After an extensive investigation, police searched a warehouse in Auburn on Sunday, 7 April 2024. During the search, police discovered and seized **722 kilograms of alprazolam**, commonly referred to as Xanax. [https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/news?sq\\_content\\_src=%2BdXJsPWh0dHBzJTNBJTJGJTJGZWJpenByZC5wb2xpY2UubnN3Lmdvdi5hdSUyRm1lZGlhJTJGMTEzMzgzLmh0bWwmYWxsPTE%3D](https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/news?sq_content_src=%2BdXJsPWh0dHBzJTNBJTJGJTJGZWJpenByZC5wb2xpY2UubnN3Lmdvdi5hdSUyRm1lZGlhJTJGMTEzMzgzLmh0bWwmYWxsPTE%3D)

**BRAZIL**

**04.04.2024** In a joint operation with Federal Police agents, Brazilian Navy divers discovered **212 kilograms of cocaine** in a sea chest, the underwater compartment responsible for cooling engines, on a merchant ship bound for Germany. The drug bust took place at the Port of Santos, the largest port terminal in the southern hemisphere, on Tuesday, 2 April. Investigations show that packages of cocaine concealed on ships are usually transported in two ways: on small boats, which mostly travel at night with lights off, or by divers traveling from forested areas or on more distant vessels. <https://www.datamarnews.com/noticias/navy-seizes-over-200-kg-of-cocaine-hidden-in-ship-hull-at-port-of-santos/>

**UNITED KINGDOM**

**06.04.2024** The UK Royal Navy seized almost £17 million worth of drugs after intercepting speedboats in the Caribbean. HMS Trent seized **200 kilograms of cocaine** and other drugs with an estimated street value of £16.7 million in two operations. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2024/apr/06/royal-navy-seizes-17m-of-drugs-in-caribbean-sea>

**IRAQ**

**02.04.2024** Iraqi security forces announced Monday a significant blow to drug trafficking inside the country, reporting successful dismantling of a drug network and seizure of 1 million narcotic pills in Baghdad. The operation was led by a unit headed by the Defense Ministry's Director General of Intelligence and Security, acting on accurate intelligence that resulted in the discovery of a trafficking hideout in the capital city. During the raid security officers found about **1000000 tablets** of the narcotic drug **Captagon**, a powerful stimulant. <https://themedialine.org/mideast-daily-news/iraqi-forces-seize-one-million-narcotic-pills-in-major-drug-bust/>

**INDIA**

**04.04.2024** In the biggest ever drug haul in Assam, over **20 kg heroin** was recovered from a vehicle entering the state from Mizoram. Acting on a tip-off, the Special Task Force (STF) of Assam Police intercepted the vehicle near Sahidpur under Silchar police station in Cachar district in the southern part of the state. <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/heroin-worth-rs-210-crore-seized-in-assams-biggest-drug-haul-1-arrested-5376434>

## LEBANON

**06.04.2024** More than 25 kilograms of cocaine concealed in a shipment of bananas from Ecuador was seized at the port of Beirut, the Internal Security Forces (ISF) said on Saturday, without specifying the date of the seizure. The ISF said in a statement that they received "information about an international smuggling network that allegedly smuggled large quantities of cocaine into Lebanon from Ecuador in banana shipments".

After seizing the shipment, the ISF said it discovered **25.6 kilograms** of the main ingredient of **cocaine** with a total value of "millions of dollars" concealed in the metal structure of a container.

Seizures of drugs concealed in food deliveries have recently increased in Lebanon. On Wednesday, police in Beirut intercepted **27 kilograms of hashish** hidden in bags of coffee. A week earlier, they seized about **150 kilograms of hashish** found in bags of za'atar (a mixture of thyme and spices), sumac and keshek (oxygen yogurt). <https://today.lorientlejour.com/article/1409506/more-than-25-kilos-of-cocaine-seized-at-beirut-port.html>

## USA

**04.04.2024** A vehicle check on Interstate 57 in Marion, Illinois, led to a major drug bust Wednesday evening, 3 April. According to Marion Police, officers stopped the vehicle at 20:20. A search revealed **15 kilograms** (33 pounds) of crystalline "ice" **methamphetamine**. <https://www.kfvs12.com/2024/04/04/marion-ill-pd-seize-15-kilos-crystal-meth-during-traffic-stop/>

**09.04.2024** On 6 April 2024, in the Bronx as part of an ongoing investigation into a network of drug traffickers conducting large-scale illegal pill manufacturing operations throughout New York City, the NYPD Field Division, along with HSI's Eldorado Task Force, seized two industrial-scale pill presses, approximately **13000 pills**, approximately **3 kilograms** of powder containing **fentanyl**, approximately **9 kilograms** of powdered drugs containing **methamphetamine**, and approximately **1.5 kilograms** of suspected crystallized **methamphetamine**. Two suspects were also arrested. <https://www.dea.gov/stories/2024/2024-04/2024-04-09/recent-dea-seizures-pill-presses>

## UKRAINE

**10.04.2024** Seven members of a criminal group who organized four drug laboratories for manufacture of amphetamine and the precursor phenylnitropropane and sold prohibited substances in Ukraine and neighboring countries were detected and reported on suspicion in Kiev. Law enforcers conducted 23 simultaneous searches of premises of the drug laboratories, a warehouse, residences and cars of the suspects. They seized almost **400 liters of nitroethane**, which could be used to synthesize about **300 kg of amphetamine**,

**25 kg of various precursors, more than 3000 MDMA tablets, 430 g of amphetamine, and 205 g of marijuana.** [https://prm.ua/ru/yz-ialy-prekursor-narkotyky-y-psykhotrop-na-122-myllyona-hryven-v-kyeve-obezvredyly-chet-re-narkolaboratoryy/#google\\_vignette](https://prm.ua/ru/yz-ialy-prekursor-narkotyky-y-psykhotrop-na-122-myllyona-hryven-v-kyeve-obezvredyly-chet-re-narkolaboratoryy/#google_vignette)

## FRANCE

**05.04.2024** The French Navy, with the cooperation of the Anti-Narcotics Office (OFAST) and DNRED, has succeeded in making another major cocaine seizure in an area that has been particularly problematic in recent years. On 03.04.2024, a French amphibious helicopter carrier seized **894 kg of cocaine** from a sailing vessel in the Gulf of Guinea after a French Navy Falcon aircraft spotted and identified the 15-meter-long vessel in the middle of the Atlantic. The massive operation was carried out based on intelligence provided by the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and the British National Crime Agency (NCA) and in cooperation with authorities in Portugal, Spain and Brazil. <https://maoc.eu/maoc-n-supports-french-seizure-of-894kg-of-cocaine-off-the-coast-of-west-africa/>