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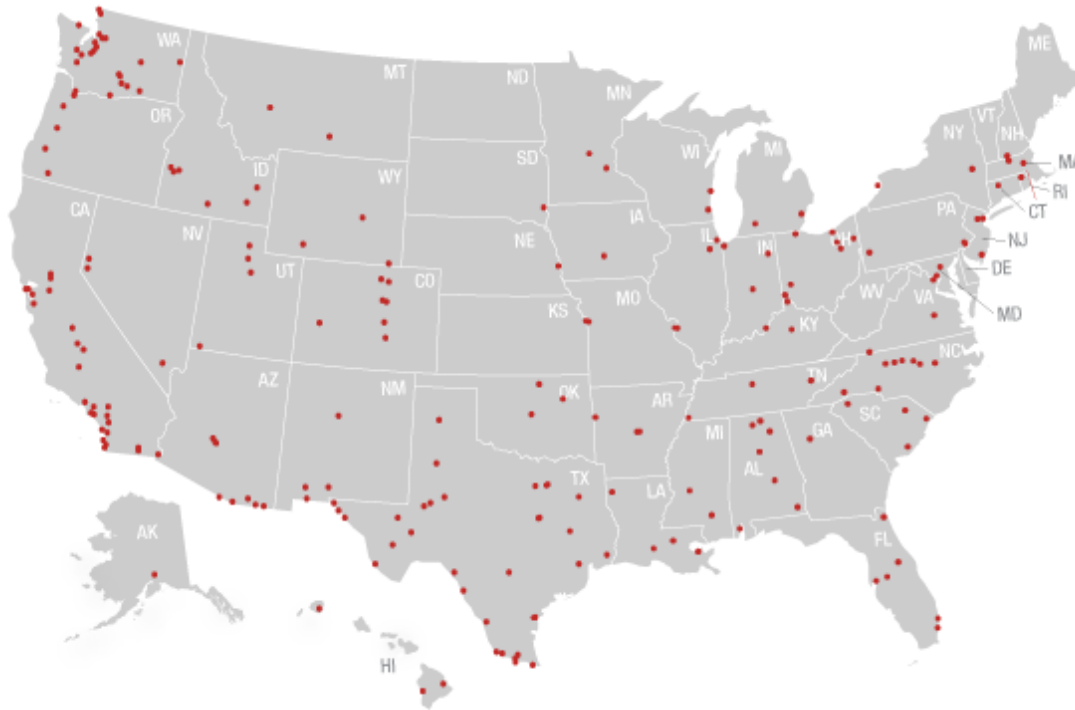


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## Mexican Drug Cartels In The U.S.

The presence of Mexican drug cartels in U.S. cities is expanding. Mexican cartels have long had links to marijuana-growing farms in California, and are widening their reach into the Pacific Northwest and the Eastern United States. They also are involved in producing methamphetamines in the United States. The FBI has reported that the Mexican cartels deal only in wholesale distribution in the U.S. -- and farm out street sales to various U.S. gangs. This map shows locations of cartel activity in the United States.



**Click on the state names in the list below to see which cities and towns have cartel presence.**

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### **Mexico Take Root In U.S.**

The Justice Department says cartels now have operations in at least 230 American cities, up from 50 in 2006.

Sources: Federal, state, and local law enforcement reporting January 1, 2006 through April 8, 2008.

Credits: Design by Lindsay Powell/NPR

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