

# PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF DRUG-RELATED CRIMES IN THAI NGUYEN PROVINCE DURING THE PERIOD 2021–JUNE 2025

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## ABSTRACT

*Drug-related crimes constitute a highly dangerous category of crime that not only infringes upon the State's management regime over narcotic substances but also negatively affects social order and safety, public health, and the stability of families, schools, and residential communities. Based on first-instance criminal trial statistics in Thai Nguyen Province from 2021 to June 2025 and an analysis of 100 first-instance criminal judgments involving 144 defendants, this article evaluates the situation, causes, and preventive measures for drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province. The findings indicate that during the study period, Thai Nguyen recorded 3,043 cases and 3,648 defendants tried at first instance for drug-related offenses. These crimes accounted for a significant proportion of the overall crime structure in the locality. Although the number of cases and defendants showed a downward trend, the nature of these crimes remained complex, reflected in the high proportion of particularly serious offenses, the widespread occurrence of illegal possession, trafficking, transportation, and organization of illicit drug use, as well as the simultaneous presence of heroin and various synthetic drugs. In addition to criminal sanctions, the prevention and control of drug-related crimes require integrated measures, including local management, social prevention, legal education, addiction treatment, and support for offenders' social reintegration. On this basis, the article proposes a comprehensive prevention-oriented solution system suitable to the socio-economic characteristics and crime situation of Thai Nguyen Province.*

**Keyword:** drug-related crimes; crime prevention; criminology; Thai Nguyen; narcotics; community reintegration.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Drugs are among the most serious social issues, capable of generating a chain of negative impacts on individuals, families, communities, and the state management system. From a criminological perspective, drug-related crimes are not merely isolated violations of criminal law but are also associated with complex social phenomena such as drug addiction, unemployment, poverty, lack of family supervision, crime hotspots, and risks of recidivism. International studies on the relationship between drugs and crime have demonstrated a significant correlation between drug use and criminal behavior [1], concluding through meta-analysis that drug users are substantially more likely to commit crimes than non-users. However, this relationship should not be understood mechanically, as it is influenced by multiple mediating factors, including the type of drug, level of dependency, social environment,

criminal opportunities, and social control structures.

Thai Nguyen is a northern midland and mountainous province and also serves as a regional center for education, industry, services, and economic exchange. The process of urbanization, industrial zone development, expansion of accommodation and entertainment services, rental housing, concentrated residential areas, and increasing population mobility has created favorable conditions for socio-economic development but also posed major challenges for local governance. In this context, drug-related crimes have developed in various forms, ranging from illegal possession and small-scale trafficking to transportation and organization of illicit drug use.

According to the research data, from 2021 to June 2025, Thai Nguyen Province recorded 3,043 cases

involving 3,648 defendants tried at first instance for drug-related crimes. This figure is noteworthy, reflecting that drug-related crimes constitute one of the most prominent categories within the province's crime structure. Although the data indicate a declining trend in the number of cases and defendants over the years, this does not necessarily mean that the crime situation has been effectively controlled. The complexity of this category remains evident in the structure of offenses, severity of criminal conduct, criminal motives, types of drugs involved, offender profiles, and latent crime statistics.

This article is based on criminal trial statistics from Thai Nguyen Province covering the period from 2021 to June 2025 and the analysis of 100 first-instance criminal judgments, while also incorporating theoretical frameworks on drug crime prevention. The primary objective is to clarify the situation of drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province during the period from 2021 to June 2025, analyze the main causes from a criminological perspective, and propose a system of measures for preventing drug-related crimes in the province.

## 2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK ON CRIME PREVENTION

Research on drug crime prevention should be examined through the interaction between offenders, the social environment, and state control mechanisms. First, routine activity theory suggests that crimes are likely to occur when motivated offenders, suitable targets, and the absence of capable guardians converge in the same space and time [3]. Applied to drug-related crimes, boarding houses, conditional business establishments, karaoke bars, motels, border areas, or socially complex residential zones may become ideal locations for drug offenders in the absence of effective social control and local management.

Second, the collective efficacy approach emphasizes the role of social cohesion, trust, informal supervision, and residents' willingness to intervene in reducing crime [10]. In the context of drug crime prevention, this indicates that families, residential groups, villages, social organizations, schools, businesses, and grassroots police forces should not operate separately but instead form a community prevention network. Where communities lack cohesion, information,

and coordination mechanisms, the risk of forming locations for drug use, trafficking, or organization of illicit drug use becomes significantly higher.

In addition, Goldstein's (1985) "drugs–violence–crime" model explains that drugs may be linked to crime through three mechanisms: the psychopharmacological effects of drugs, criminal acts committed to obtain money for purchasing drugs, and systemic violence within illegal drug markets [4]. This model is particularly important when analyzing criminal motives in Thai Nguyen because the analysis of 100 judgments revealed common motives such as personal drug use, profit-driven trafficking, and income generation. In other words, offenders may simultaneously be drug users and participants in trafficking, possession, or transportation activities for economic gain.

Furthermore, studies on drug control policies indicate that criminal suppression alone is often insufficient to sustainably reduce drug-related crimes. Reviews of law enforcement practices at the grassroots level suggest that more effective strategies are targeted approaches based on hotspot analysis, community partnerships, and interventions addressing the conditions that facilitate drug markets [6].

Finally, the public health approach to drug addiction emphasizes evidence-based treatment, stigma reduction, rehabilitation support, and social reintegration. UNODC and WHO (2018) argue that drug use prevention should be science-based and should target families, schools, communities, and the broader social environment [11,12]. Moreover, UNODC and WHO (2020) stress that treatment for drug use disorders must be ethical, effective, human rights-based, and continuous [13]. These orientations indicate that local drug crime prevention requires a combination of criminal law enforcement, social management, and socio-medical intervention.

Based on this framework, the article applies an analytical model comprising four groups of factors: the situation and structure of crimes; offender profiles and motives; socio-economic and community environmental causes; and the capacity of state management agencies, criminal justice agencies, addiction treatment systems, and reintegration mechanisms.

### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This article employs qualitative research methods combined with secondary data analysis. The primary data sources include aggregated statistics from first-instance trials of drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province during the period from 2021 to June 2025 and analytical data from 100 first-instance criminal judgments involving 144 defendants. In addition, the article refers to international documents, Vietnamese legal documents, and guidelines issued by UNODC and WHO to develop the theoretical framework and propose solutions.

Specific methods include descriptive statistical analysis to examine the number of cases, defendants, ratios, and crime structures; judgment analysis to identify criminal offenses, drug types, criminal motives, and offender characteristics; comparative methods to assess changes over time; and analytical-synthetic methods to determine causes and propose preventive measures.

It should be noted that the 2025 data only cover the period up to June 2025, before Thai Nguyen Province was merged with Bac Kan Province under the policy of the Communist Party and the State. Therefore, assessments regarding trends in 2025 should be understood as based on incomplete annual data. Furthermore, trial data only reflect crimes that have been brought to first-instance trial and do not fully represent latent crimes or cases still under verification, investigation, or prosecution.

### 4. RESEARCH FINDINGS

#### 4.1. Current Situation and Trends of Drug-Related Crimes in Thai Nguyen Province

From 2021 to June 2025, Thai Nguyen Province recorded 3,043 cases and 3,648 defendants tried at first instance for drug-related crimes. On average, approximately 608.6 cases and 729.6 defendants were tried annually for these offenses. Compared with the overall crime situation in the province, drug-related crimes accounted for approximately 45.3% of total cases and 32.1% of total defendants. Calculated per 100,000 inhabitants, Thai Nguyen recorded an annual average of approximately 42.4 cases and 50.9 defendants related to drug crimes per 100,000 population. This demonstrates the widespread prevalence of drug-related crimes in the province during the study period.

The temporal trend indicates a gradual decline in both the number of cases and defendants. In 2021, there were 949 cases and 1,046 defendants; in 2022, 926 cases and 1,051 defendants; in 2023, the figures decreased to 547 cases and 675 defendants; in 2024, 433 cases and 619 defendants; and by June 2025, 188 cases and 257 defendants had been recorded (table 1.1). This downward trend may reflect certain achievements in combating, detecting, handling, and preventing drug-related crimes.

**Table 1.1. Number of Drug-Related Cases and Convicted Offenders Compared to the Total Number of Criminal Cases and Convicted Offenders in Thai Nguyen Province during the Period 2021–2025**

Year	Drug-Related Crimes		General Crimes		Ratio (%)	
	Number of Cases (1)	Number of Defendants (2)	Number of Cases (3)	Number of Defendants (4)	of (1)/(3)	of (2)/(4)
2021	949	1,046	1,679	2,493	56.5%	42%
2022	926	1,051	1,641	2,400	56.4%	43.8%
2023	547	675	1,447	2,744	37.8%	24.6%
2024	433	619	1,355	2,550	32%	24.3%
2025	188	257	589	1,163	32%	22.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,043</b>	<b>3,648</b>	<b>6,711</b>	<b>11,350</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>32.1%</b>

(Source: Thai Nguyen Provincial People's Court)

Based on Table 1.1, from 2021 to 2025, there were a total of 3,043 drug-related cases and 3,648

defendants brought to first-instance trial in Thai Nguyen Province, out of a total of 6,711 criminal cases and 11,350 defendants involved in overall

crimes within the province. This indicates that drug-related crimes accounted for a significant proportion of the total number of crimes in Thai Nguyen Province during the research period, representing 45.3% of total cases and 32.1% of total defendants. Specifically, the highest proportion was recorded in 2022, with 926 out of 1,641 cases (56.4%) and 1,051 out of 2,400 defendants (43.8%). The lowest proportion was recorded in 2024, with 433 out of 1,355 cases (32%) and 619 out of 2,550 defendants (24.3%). On average, each year, the Thai Nguyen Provincial People’s Court conducted first-instance trials for 3,043 out of 6,711 criminal cases (45.3%) and 3,648 out of 11,350 defendants (32.1%). In recent years, the number of cases and offenders has shown a downward trend, decreasing by 761 cases and 789 defendants compared to the first year of the study period (2021). Although the overall provincial rate has tended to decline, in some localities within the province the level remains relatively high. This is due to the influence of geographical location and economic conditions, which result in differences in the number of cases and offenders among districts and communes.

From a criminological perspective, however, a quantitative decline does not necessarily

correspond to a proportional reduction in danger. If the crime structure continues to concentrate on serious or particularly serious offenses, or if drug markets evolve into more sophisticated forms, preventive measures must still be maintained at a high level. Therefore, it is necessary to further analyze the structure of offenses, drug types, criminal motives, and offender profiles.

At the same time, the study evaluates the crime rate index of drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province during the period from 2021 to 2025 (calculated per 100,000 inhabitants). “The crime index, also known as the crime coefficient, is one of the most general indicators reflecting the level of crime within a territorial administrative unit over a period of one year, and it is calculated based on the number of criminal acts per 100,000 inhabitants” [14]. Assessing the prevalence of drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province from 2021 to June 2025 provides a more accurate understanding of the actual situation of this type of crime as well as the crime ratio among the population throughout the province over the years.

**Table 1.2. Crime Rate Index of Drug-Related Crimes in Thai Nguyen Province during the Period 2021–2025 (per 100,000 inhabitants)**

Year	Population	Number of Crime Cases	of Crime Index	Case Number Defendants	of Defendant Index	Crime
2021	1,323,150	949	71.7	1,046	79.1	
2022	1,335,990	926	69.3	1,051	78.7	
2023	1,350,300	547	40.5	675	50	
2024	1,361,474	433	31.8	619	45.5	
2025	1,434,171	188	13.1	257	17.9	
Average/year	1,434,171	608.6	42.4	729.6	50.9	

*(Source: Thai Nguyen Provincial People’s Court; Thai Nguyen Statistics Office)*

As shown in Table 1.2, the crime index of drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province from 2021 to 2025, calculated per 100,000 inhabitants, indicates that on average each year there were approximately 42.4 cases and 50.9 defendants per 100,000 inhabitants. This rate represents a relatively high proportion within the province. The crime index for drug-related crimes from 2021 to 2025 displayed different characteristics over the years. The number of cases and offenders

varied annually due to the complex developments of this group of crimes, which were influenced by many different causes.

In summary, the above information shows several notable characteristics of the crime situation in Thai Nguyen Province. The number of drug-related cases and offenders from 2021 to 2025 remained high compared to other categories of crimes in the province. Moreover, these figures only reflect detected crimes that have been handled and officially included in criminal statistics. In reality, many crimes have been

committed but remain undetected, or have been discovered but not yet fully resolved. Criminal acts are frequently committed in concealed areas that facilitate illegal activities, such as guesthouses, karaoke bars, service areas, rental rooms, and markets. In addition, organized crimes, accomplice crimes, and professionally operated criminal activities have increasingly been carried out on a larger scale and in greater numbers, gradually replacing isolated offenses. This demonstrates that the organized and professional nature of this type of crime has become increasingly dangerous in recent years.

#### ***4.2. Latent Drug-Related Crimes in Thai Nguyen Province During 2021–June 2025***

According to aggregated data, during the same research period, authorities detected 3,867 cases involving 4,849 individuals related to drug crimes, whereas only 3,043 cases and 3,648 individuals were brought to first-instance trial. Thus, the ratio of prosecuted cases to detected cases was approximately 78.7%, while the ratio of prosecuted individuals to detected individuals was around 75.2%. The remaining gap of 824 cases and 1,201 individuals may reflect cases still under investigation, prosecution, administrative handling, case separation, suspension, or not yet included in judicial statistics at the time of the study.

This gap should not simply be interpreted as entirely representing “latent crime” in the absolute sense, but it does indicate the limitations of trial statistics. Drug-related crimes are often committed secretly, involve concealment, and may include multiple offenders and locations. Therefore, judicial statistics represent only one aspect of the crime situation after the criminal procedure process. Effective prevention requires integrating trial data with investigative data, information on drug users, local management data, community reports, and information from healthcare, education, and labor-social welfare agencies.

#### ***4.3. Crime Structure by Offense Type and Severity***

Analysis of 100 first-instance criminal judgments involving 144 defendants revealed that the most common offenses included illegal possession of narcotic substances, illegal trafficking of narcotic substances, illegal transportation of narcotic substances, and organizing the illegal use of

narcotic substances. Among these, illegal possession appeared most frequently. This aligns with the general characteristics of local drug crimes, where possession and use often constitute common links within the chain of consumption, small-scale trafficking, or organized use.

Regarding severity, particularly serious crimes accounted for the highest proportion, with 83 defendants (57.6%); very serious crimes involved 32 defendants (22.2%); less serious crimes involved 23 defendants (16%); and serious crimes involved 6 defendants (4.2%). The high proportion of particularly serious crimes indicates that drug-related crimes in the locality are not only widespread in quantity but also alarming in nature. This also explains why many defendants received severe penalties, especially in cases involving trafficking, transportation, or organization of illicit drug use.

From the perspective of Vietnamese criminal law, drug-related crimes are stipulated in Chapter XX of the 2015 Criminal Code, as amended and supplemented in 2017. These offenses include acts ranging from cultivating plants containing narcotic substances, illegally producing, storing, transporting, and trading narcotic substances, to organizing the illegal use of drugs, harboring drug use, coercing, or enticing others to illegally use narcotic substances. The severe penalties prescribed for these offenses reflect the State’s strict criminal policy toward this category of crime. However, from a crime prevention perspective, criminal penalties should be combined with demand reduction measures, addiction treatment, post-rehabilitation management, and support for social reintegration.

#### ***4.4. Structure by Drug Types***

Data from the 100 judgments reveal a relatively diverse range of drugs involved. Heroin appeared in 73 judgments; methamphetamine in 44 judgments; MDMA/MET in 28 judgments; and ketamine in 20 judgments. In addition, amphetamine, morphine, codeine, MDMB-BUTINACA, opium, and narcotic plants appeared in several cases (table 1.3).

The simultaneous presence of heroin and various synthetic drugs indicates that the drug situation in Thai Nguyen is influenced by both traditional drug markets and the growing trend of synthetic drug use. This is consistent with the international context, as UNODC (2025) reported that drug

trafficking groups continue adapting to global changes, exploiting vulnerable groups, and expanding synthetic drug markets. At the local level, synthetic drugs pose new challenges because they are often associated with entertainment environments, youth groups, peer

relationships, motels, boarding houses, karaoke bars, and difficult-to-detect forms of organized use.

**Table 1.3. Structure of Drug-Related Crimes by Type of Narcotic Substance**

Type of Drug	Number of Drug Types in Total Quantity of Narcotic Substances in 100 Judgments	Number of Drug Types in Total Quantity of Narcotic Substances in 100 Judgments
Ketamine	20	496.057 g
Methamphetamine	44	13,384.375 g
Heroin	73	8,351.396 g
Amphetamine	2	32.91 g
MDMA and MET	28	548.524 g
Plants Containing Narcotic Substances	5	1,890 plants
Morphine, Codeine, MDMB-BUTINACA, Opium	6	2,440.691 g

(Source: 100 first-instance criminal judgments on drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province)

#### 4.5. Crime Structure by Criminal Motives and Offender Characteristics

Judgment analysis indicates that the most common criminal motives were personal drug use and profit-seeking. Among the 144 defendants, 42.4% committed offenses for personal use, 43.8% for profit-making through trafficking, and 11.8% for earning additional income.

This structure reflects the intersection between drug dependency and financial motives. Some offenders possessed drugs for personal use, while others engaged in trafficking, transportation, or organization of drug use for profit. In some cases, addicts participated in small-scale trafficking in order to finance their continued drug use.

Regarding criminal records, first-time offenders accounted for 71.5%; repeat offenders accounted for 22.2%; and dangerous recidivists accounted for 6.3%. In addition, 28.5% of defendants had prior criminal or administrative records. These figures indicate that recidivism in drug-related crimes remains relatively high in Thai Nguyen Province.

Concerning occupations, freelance laborers accounted for 70.1%; unemployed individuals accounted for 14.6%; farmers accounted for 9.7%; while businesspersons, drivers, factory workers,

and other occupations represented smaller proportions. This structure suggests that unstable livelihoods, unemployment, and weak social control may increase the risk of involvement in drug-related crimes. However, it is important to avoid stereotypical interpretations that directly associate poverty or informal labor with criminality. The core issue lies in the interaction between economic hardship, complex social environments, drug addiction, criminal opportunities, and inadequate support mechanisms.

### 5. MEASURES FOR PREVENTING AND COMBATING DRUG-RELATED CRIMES IN THAI NGUYEN PROVINCE

#### 5.1. Data-Based Prevention and Hotspot Management

Thai Nguyen Province should establish an inter-agency mechanism for analyzing drug crime data. Such data should not only include prosecuted cases and defendants but also integrate police detection data, information on addicts and illegal drug users, post-rehabilitation individuals, complex locations, conditional business establishments, citizen reports, enforcement data, and recidivism statistics. This approach would enable more accurate identification of key areas, high-risk groups, and emerging forms of crime.

The province should also implement hotspot management models for high-risk areas such as

boarding houses, industrial zones, karaoke bars, motels, bus stations, border areas, and locations with large numbers of addicts or individuals with prior drug-related convictions. However, hotspot management should not merely involve increased administrative inspections but also require analysis of why such locations generate crime, which groups are at risk, what facilitating conditions exist, the responsibilities of business owners, and how communities can participate in prevention.

### ***5.2. Strengthening Social Prevention and Livelihood Support***

Drug crime prevention must be linked to socio-economic development policies. Judgment data indicate that most offenders are freelance laborers or individuals without stable employment. Therefore, vocational training programs, job placement services, loan support, career counseling, and business connections should be expanded for post-rehabilitation individuals, released prisoners, high-risk youth, and informal workers.

Local authorities should develop a “livelihood support linked with recidivism prevention” model. This model may include personal needs assessment, short-term vocational training, employment assistance, identity document support, legal counseling, psychological counseling, and follow-up supervision. If former addicts or released prisoners lack employment, income, and social acceptance, the likelihood of returning to former environments and reoffending will increase.

### ***5.3. Reforming Legal Education in Families, Schools, and Communities***

Families should be considered the first line of prevention. Parents should receive guidance on recognizing signs of drug use and recruitment, communicating with children, and coordinating with schools and local authorities. For families with addicts or post-rehabilitation individuals, separate counseling mechanisms are necessary to prevent isolation and ensure support beyond mere supervision requirements.

In schools, drug prevention education should shift from slogan-based propaganda to skills-based education. Educational content should include identifying synthetic drugs, refusal skills, risk avoidance skills, and understanding the legal

consequences of illegal possession, transportation, trafficking, and organization of illicit drug use. Real-life anonymized case studies should be utilized so that students clearly understand the boundary between seemingly minor acts and serious criminal liability.

Within communities, the roles of residential groups, youth unions, women’s unions, the Fatherland Front, businesses, landlords, and owners of conditional business establishments should be promoted. Community coordination aligns with the theory of collective efficacy, according to which cohesive communities capable of intervention contribute to crime reduction [10].

### ***5.4. Improving the Management of Drug Addicts, Illegal Drug Users, and Post-Rehabilitation Individuals***

The 2021 Law on Drug Prevention and Control established mechanisms for managing illegal drug users, drug rehabilitation, and post-rehabilitation supervision. However, practical effectiveness depends heavily on implementation capacity at the commune and ward levels. Thai Nguyen should review records of addicts, illegal drug users, and post-rehabilitation individuals; classify risks; develop individual management plans; and combine supervision with counseling, treatment, and social support.

Drug addict management should not be viewed solely as an administrative measure. According to the orientations of UNODC and WHO (2020), treatment for drug use disorders must be continuous, respect human dignity, and reduce stigma against drug users. Therefore, local authorities should strengthen the capacity of rehabilitation centers, grassroots healthcare systems, social workers, judicial officers, commune police, and mass organizations in supporting addicts and post-rehabilitation individuals.

### ***5.5. Enhancing the Quality of Investigation, Prosecution, Adjudication, and Sentence Enforcement***

Criminal justice agencies should continue ensuring accurate handling of offenders and crimes in accordance with the law, avoiding both wrongful convictions and omissions of offenders. In cases involving trafficking, transportation, or organization of illicit drug use, investigators should clarify the role of each defendant, supply

sources, criminal networks, masterminds, accomplices, recruited individuals, and links with other localities.

During adjudication, courts should ensure strictness while also individualizing criminal liability. Organizers, professional traffickers, and those transporting large quantities of drugs should receive severe punishment. However, for addicts, secondary participants, recruited individuals, or first-time offenders, courts should fully consider personal circumstances, background factors, and rehabilitation potential.

Sentence enforcement and community reintegration should be regarded as critical components of prevention. Individuals completing prison sentences for drug-related crimes should receive counseling, post-release supervision, employment assistance, addiction treatment if necessary, and reintegration support. Without effective reintegration mechanisms, imprisonment merely isolates offenders temporarily without addressing the root causes of recidivism.

### **5.6. Controlling Synthetic Drugs and High-Risk Entertainment Environments**

The appearance of methamphetamine, MDMA/MET, ketamine, and other substances in the analyzed judgments indicates the need to strengthen synthetic drug prevention. These drugs are often associated with experimentation, entertainment, peer influence, birthday parties, gatherings, karaoke bars, motels, rented apartments, and social media environments. Therefore, preventive measures should focus strongly on adolescents, students, young workers, migrant laborers, and individuals frequently participating in entertainment settings.

Conditional business establishments should be required to sign compliance commitments, receive training on identifying signs of organized drug use, and establish rapid communication channels with commune and ward police. At the same time, establishments that neglect management responsibilities or facilitate and conceal illegal drug use should be strictly sanctioned. However, control measures should be accompanied by preventive communication and anti-stigma efforts, especially toward post-rehabilitation individuals and those undergoing treatment.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

Using appropriate research methods and collected data, this article assessed the situation of drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen Province during the period from 2021 to June 2025. Drug-related crimes in Thai Nguyen exhibit several notable characteristics, including the high proportion of particularly serious offenses; the prevalence of illegal possession, trafficking, transportation, and organization of illicit drug use; motives related to personal use, profit-seeking, and income generation; and the large proportion of offenders who are freelance laborers or individuals without stable employment.

For Thai Nguyen Province, future priorities should include developing data-driven prevention mechanisms; managing crime hotspots; strengthening practical legal education; supporting addicts, post-rehabilitation individuals, and released prisoners; controlling synthetic drugs; improving the quality of criminal justice activities; and promoting the roles of families, schools, businesses, and local communities. Only through the comprehensive handling of the causes and conditions giving rise to crime can drug crime prevention achieve sustainable effectiveness.

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