

**A Weekly FAX From the Center for Substance Abuse Research**

**University of Maryland At College Park \***

## ***Baltimore City Residents Most Likely to Perceive Drug Problem***

The majority of Baltimore City residents interviewed for the 1992 Maryland Poll believed that the use of illegal drugs, especially cocaine (81%), was increasing in the state. While responses from residents of other counties reflected the same sentiment, Baltimore City had the highest percentage of respondents who think that cocaine and heroin are being sold in their neighborhood. Whether the perceptions of these residents are shaped by an actual exposure to the drug problem or are unduely influenced by other factors remains to be determined. The psychological toll of these perceptions on Baltimore residents must be large.

### **SELECTED COUNTY RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM THE MARYLAND POLL\*\***

(Includes counties where more than 50 responses were available)

Percentage of Respondents Who Report:	Anne Arundel (N = 69)	Baltimore (N = 160)	Baltimore City (N = 118)	Harford (N = 69)	Howard (N = 68)	Montgomery (N = 149)	Prince George's (N = 149)
Cocaine use, including crack cocaine, in Maryland is increasing	66%	74%	81%	74%	65%	60%	73%
Heroin use in Maryland is increasing	29%	42%	52%	33%	28%	27%	38%
Cocaine or crack cocaine is being sold in their neighborhood	43%	40%	57%	30%	30%	34%	45%
Heroin is being sold in their neighborhood	15%	21%	48%	9%	15%	15%	21%
Illegal use of drugs, other than alcohol, among middle school and high school students is a very serious problem	54%	54%	60%	58%	41%	51%	65%

Source: CESAR, *Responses to Substance Abuse Questions Included in a 1992 Telephone Survey of Maryland Residents*, June 1992

### **\*\* MD. POLL RESULTS NOW AVAILABLE!!**

Complete set of the substance abuse responses to the 1992 telephone survey of Maryland residents.  
Call CESAR at 301-403-8329 to request your complimentary copy.

For further information about today's topic or to be placed on the distribution list, please call CESAR at 301-403-8329.

\* CESAR FAX is supported by a grant from the Governor's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission.