

A Weekly FAX From the Center for Substance Abuse Research

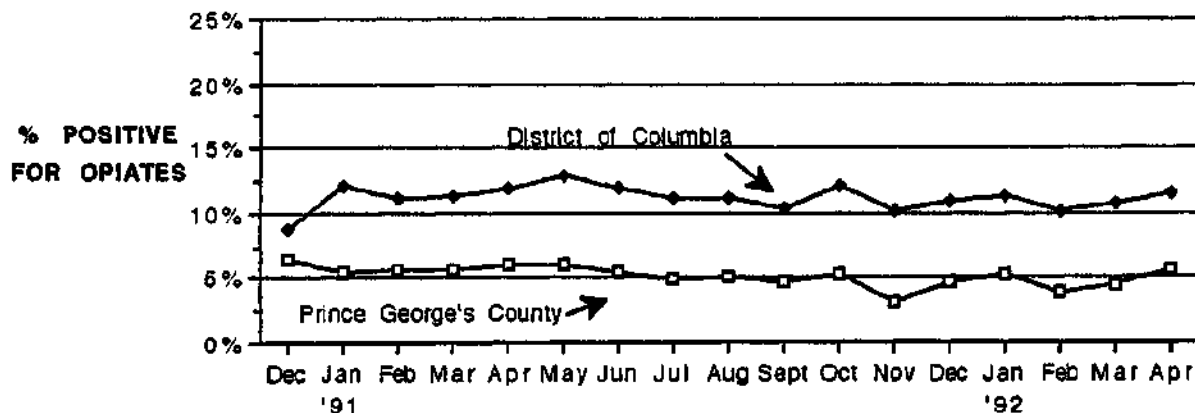
University of Maryland At College Park *

Who is Using All That Heroin?

Despite recent reports of a higher grade of heroin available in cities across the country, there has been no evidence of an increase in heroin use among arrestees tested in the DUF program or similar programs across the country, including Maryland. The increased use of illicit drugs in a community is often detected first in high risk persons already involved in other illegal activities. However, the chart below indicates that the trends in opiate use in arrestees tested in programs local to Maryland have remained flat. We will continue to monitor these indicators for signs of increased heroin use in Maryland.

PERCENTAGE OF BOOKED ARRESTEES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY TESTING POSITIVE FOR OPIATES

(N = 30,145 male and female arrestees tested in the District of Columbia and
11,717 tested in Prince George's County, December 1990 - April 1992)



Source: District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency and the Prince George's County Pre-Trial Release Unit.

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