

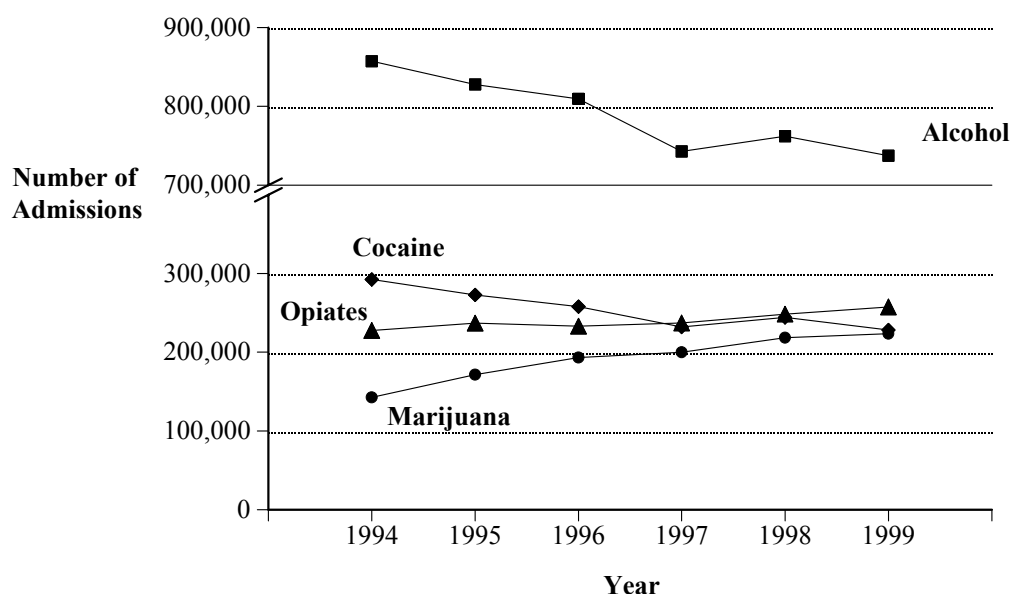
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Alcohol is Primary Drug of Abuse Among U.S. Treatment Clients; Admissions for Opiates, Cocaine, and Marijuana Nearly Equal

Alcohol continues to be the primary reason people seek treatment, according to data from the national Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). In 1999 (the most recent year for which data are available) there were 737,429 admissions to treatment facilities for alcohol abuse—more than three times the number for any other drug. The number of admissions for opiates, cocaine, and marijuana have converged over the past few years, primarily attributable to a decrease in cocaine admissions and an increase in marijuana admissions. In 1999 there were 257,426 admissions for opiates, 228,206 for cocaine, and 223,597 for marijuana. A copy of the report, including state-level admissions data, is available online (<http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/teds/99TEDS/99Teds.pdf>).

Number of Treatment Admissions Reporting Alcohol, Cocaine, Opiates, or Marijuana As a Primary Substance of Abuse, 1994-1999



NOTE: TEDS does not include admissions to all U.S. treatment facilities. Rather, TEDS includes facilities that are licensed or certified by state substance abuse agencies to provide substance abuse treatment and that are required by states to provide TEDS client-level data. Thus, the scope of facilities included in TEDS is affected by differences in state licensure, certification, accreditation, and disbursement of public funds.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 1994-1999, National Admissions to Substance Abuse Treatment Services*, 2001.