

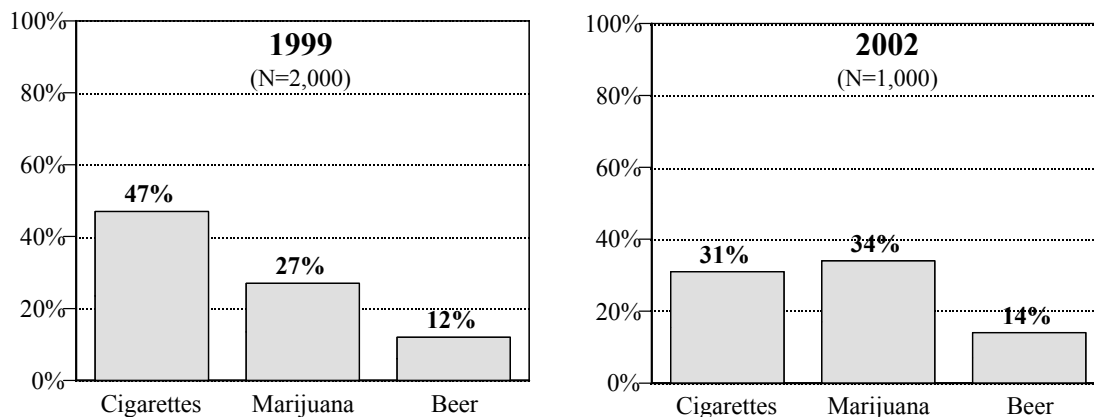
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

U.S. Youths Less Likely to Report Cigarettes Are Easiest to Buy— Cigarettes Now Tied with Marijuana

Cigarettes and marijuana are now tied as the illegal substance youths report is the easiest for someone their age to buy, according to a household survey of youths ages 12 to 17. The percentage of youths reporting that cigarettes were the easiest to buy (of cigarettes, marijuana, or beer) has decreased in recent years, from 47% in 1999 to 31% in 2002. At the same time, the percentage of youths that said marijuana was the easiest substance to buy increased slightly, so that youths are now equally likely to report marijuana or cigarettes as the easiest substance to buy. Beer has remained stable at 12-14%.

“Which Is Easiest for Someone Your Age to Buy: Cigarettes, Beer, or Marijuana?” (U.S. youths 12- to 17-years old)



NOTES: Telephone interviews with youths were conducted with a random sample of U.S. households who had a youth 12- to 17-years old living in the household. The margin of error is ± 2.2 percent for the 1999 survey and ± 3.1 percent for the 2002 survey.

SOURCES: Adapted by CESAR from data from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA), National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VII: Teens, Parents, and Siblings, August 2002; and CASA, Back to School 1999--National Survey on American Attitudes on Substance Abuse V: Teens and Their Parents, August 1999. Available online at <http://www.casacolumbia.org/publications1456/publications.htm>.

National RUN FOR RECOVERY® 5K to be held in Washington, DC on Saturday September 21st

As part of the September 2002 National Recovery Month, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) is sponsoring the 7th annual RUN FOR RECOVERY® 5K. For more information, visit www.vanguardservices.org/events.html or contact Jay Jacob Wind at racedirector@vanguardservices.org or 703-920-0156.

• 301-403-8329 (voice) • 301-403-8342 (fax) • CESAR@cesar.umd.edu • www.cesar.umd.edu •
CESAR FAX is supported by a grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention.
CESAR FAX may be copied without permission. Please cite CESAR as the source.