

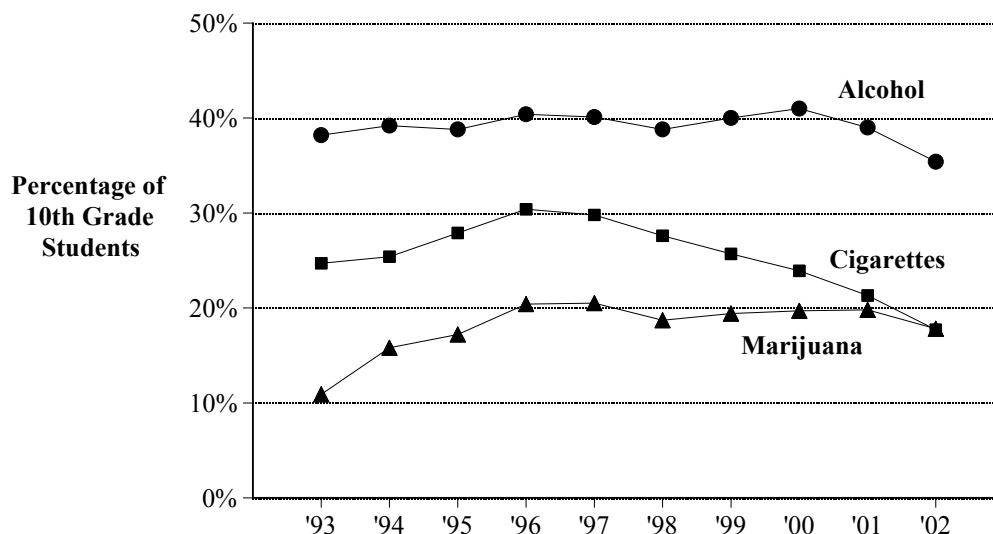
## A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

### *Alcohol, Cigarette, and Marijuana Use Decline Among U.S. Tenth Graders*

The percentage of U.S. 10<sup>th</sup> grade students reporting the use of alcohol, cigarettes, or marijuana declined from 2001 to 2002, according to data from the national Monitoring the Future survey. The most substantial decreases were for alcohol (from 39% in 2001 to 35% in 2002) and cigarette use (from 21% to 18%). In addition, the reported use of marijuana decreased among 10<sup>th</sup> graders for the first time in several years (from 20% to 18%). The only significant declines in alcohol, cigarette, or marijuana use among students in other grades were for alcohol use among 8<sup>th</sup> graders and cigarette use among 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders (data not shown). The study's Principal Investigator, Lloyd D. Johnston, concludes that although use may be on the decline, "We need to remember that the job of education and persuading our youngsters is never done, because there are always new ones entering adolescence" (p. 9).

**Percentage of U.S. 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Reporting Past Month Use of Alcohol, Cigarettes and Marijuana, 1993-2002**



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from University of Michigan, Monitoring the Future Study Press Release, "Ecstasy Use Among American Teens Drops for the First Time in Recent Years, and Overall Drug and Alcohol Use Also Decline In the Year After 9/11" December 13, 2002. Available online at [www.monitoringthefuture.org](http://www.monitoringthefuture.org). For more information, contact Lloyd D. Johnston at 734-763-5043.

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