

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

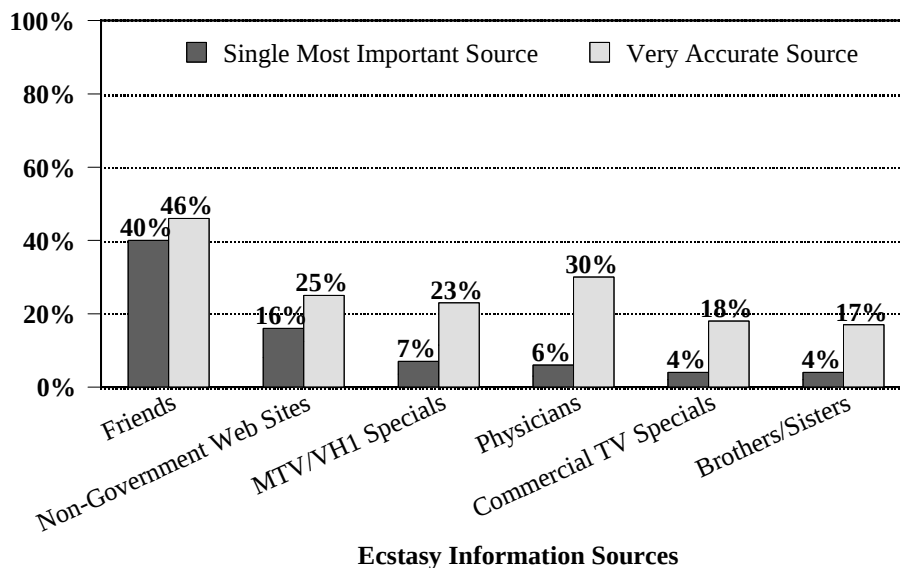
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***Ecstasy Users Perceive Friends to Be
Most Important and Accurate Source of Information About Ecstasy***

Friends were considered to be the most accurate and most important source of information about ecstasy, according to a study of young adult ecstasy users in central Ohio. More than one-third (40%) of the ecstasy users claimed that friends were their single most important source of information and 46% reported that they perceived their friends to be a very accurate source of information. Non-government websites (such as DanceSafe and Erowid), MTV/VH1 specials, and physicians were cited as very accurate sources of information on ecstasy (by 25%, 23%, and 30%, respectively), but were listed as the single most important source of information by only 6% to 16% of users. The authors conclude that while “friends may be the lynchpin of ecstasy prevention programming” (p. 51), using other sources of information that ecstasy users view as accurate (e.g., physicians) may also be effective in preventing ecstasy use.

**Ecstasy User Ratings of the Perceived Importance and Accuracy of
Ecstasy Information Sources, 2002**

(N=304)



NOTES: Participants were between 18 and 30 years old, reported ecstasy use at least once in the 6 months prior to the study, and had not been involved in a formal drug treatment program within the past 30 days.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Falck, R., Carlson, R., Wang, J., and Siegal, H. “Sources of Information about MDMA (3,4-methyldiozylmethamphetamine): Perceived Accuracy, Importance, and Implications for Prevention Among Young Adult Users,” *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 74(1):45-54, 2004. For more information, contact Russel Falck at russel.falck@wright.edu.

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