

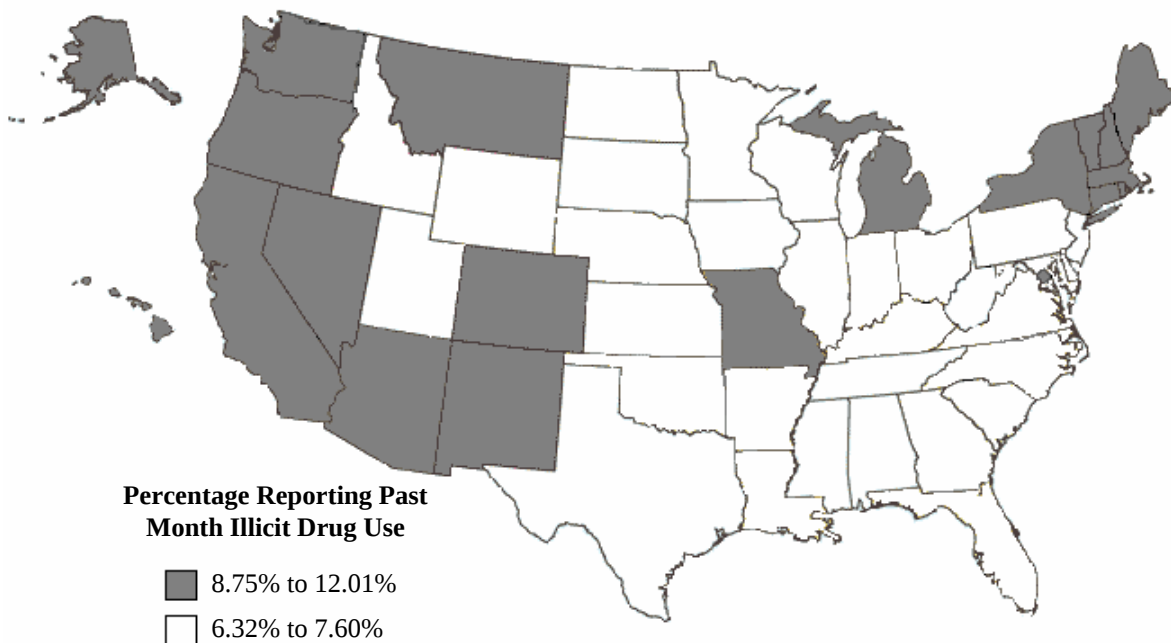
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Illicit Drug Use Rates Are Highest in Western and Northeastern U.S. States

The percentage of U.S. residents reporting the use of any illicit drug (primarily marijuana) in the past month ranged from 6.3% in Utah to 12.0% in Alaska, according to an analysis of data from the 2002 and 2003 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health. States in the western and northeastern regions of the country typically had the highest rates of past month use, while the lowest rates were found in southern states (see figure below). Individual state estimates for illicit drug use, as well as alcohol and tobacco use, are available online at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k3State/2k3SAE.pdf>.

States with High or Low Rates of Illicit Drug Use in the Past Month, 2002 and 2003*
(U.S. Household Residents Age 12 and Older)



*Highlighted states are those that ranked in the upper two-fifths of all states for past month illicit drug use.

NOTE: Any Illicit Drug Use is defined as at least one use of cocaine (including crack), hallucinogens, heroin, inhalants, marijuana/hashish, or any prescription-type psychotherapeutic used nonmedically.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2002-2003 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health*, 2005.

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