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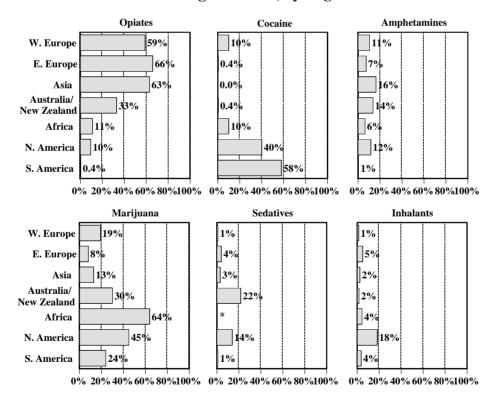
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

UN Report Illustrates Global Differences in Drug Abuse

The primary drug of abuse among treatment clients varies widely across continents, according to the 2005 World Drug Report from the United Nations. Opiates were most likely to be a problem in European and Asian countries, while cocaine was most likely to be reported as a drug of abuse in North and South America. Marijuana treatment admissions were most common in Africa and North America. Treatment admissions for sedative use were highest in Australia and New Zealand, while North America had the highest percentage of inhalant treatment admissions. The report is available online at http://www.unodc.org/unodc/world_drug_report.html.

Percentage of Treatment Clients Reporting Specified Drugs as Drugs of Abuse, by Region



^{*}Treatment admissions for sedatives were not reported for Africa.

NOTES: Treatment admissions are from 2003 or the latest year available. Treatment definitions differ from country to country. Regional estimates are unweighted averages from individual countries. Persons may be treated for more than one drug. Not all drugs for which treatment was sought are listed.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2005 World Drug Report, Volume 1: Analysis, 2005.