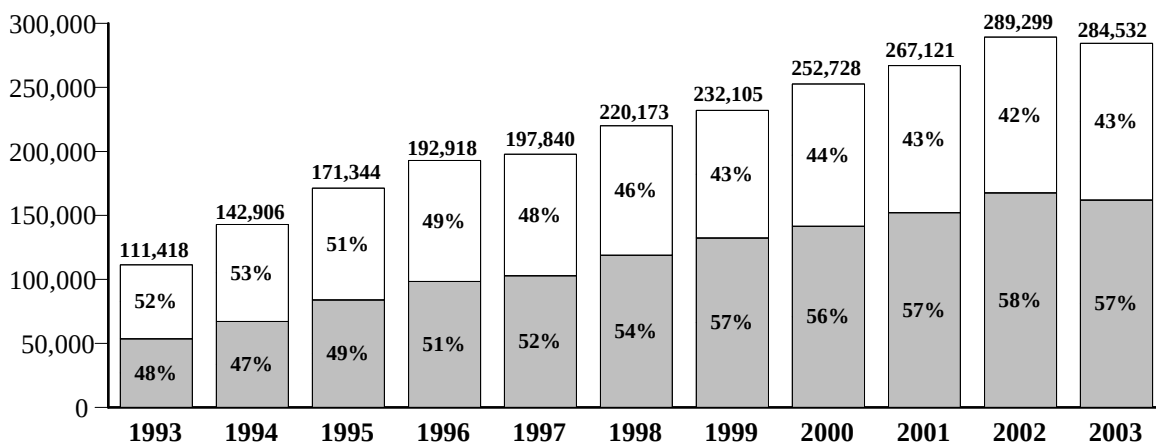


Increase in National Marijuana Treatment Admissions Driven by Increase in Criminal Justice Referrals

The number of treatment admissions reporting marijuana as a primary substance of abuse more than doubled from 1993 to 2003, according to data from the national Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). There were 284,532 treatment admissions for marijuana use in 2003 (comprising 16% of all admissions), compared to 111,418 in 1993 (7% of all admissions). However, this increase was largely driven by an increase in admissions that were referred by the criminal justice system—from 48% in 1993 to 57% in 2003. Thus, the increase in marijuana treatment admissions may reflect changes in law enforcement and sentencing practices as well as actual changes in marijuana use and dependence.

**Number of Marijuana Treatment Admissions and
Percentage that Were Criminal Justice Referrals, 1993-2003**

■ Criminal Justice Referrals □ Other Referrals



*The category "Other Referrals" includes referrals from individuals (including self-referrals), substance abuse providers, other health care providers, schools, employers, and other community sources.

NOTE: TEDS provides information on the demographic and substance abuse characteristics of admissions to treatment for abuse of alcohol and drugs in facilities that report to individual State administrative databases.

SOURCES: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), *Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) Highlights—2003*, 2005. Available online at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm#teds2>.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Data Archive, online analysis of the concatenated 1992-2002 TEDS data set, conducted 8/2/2005. The SAMHDA is available online at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/SAMHDA>.