

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

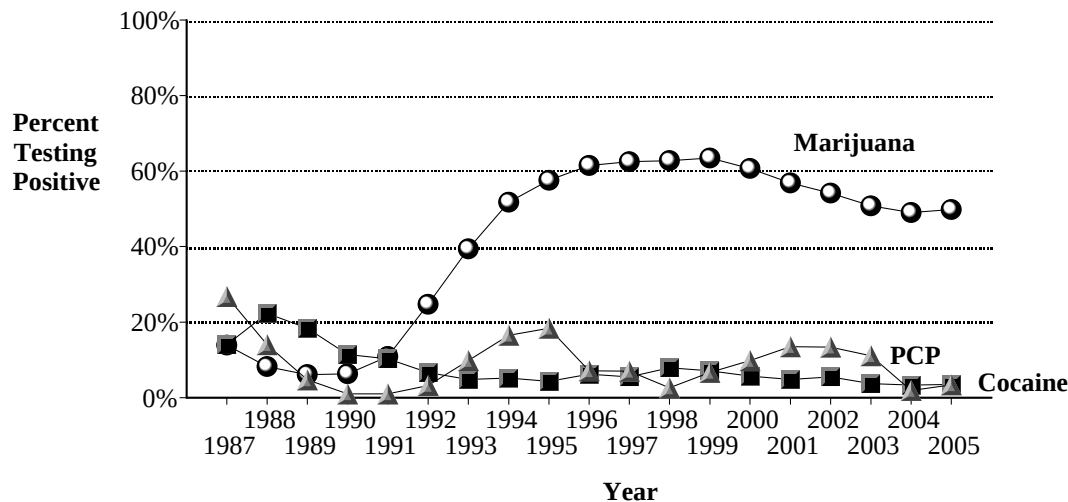
University of Maryland, College Park

Decline in Marijuana Use Among D.C. Juvenile Arrestees May Be Abating

The recent declines in the percentage of Washington, D.C. juvenile arrestees testing positive for marijuana may have subsided, according to data from the D.C. Pretrial Services Agency. While marijuana remains the drug most commonly detected among this population, the percentage of juvenile arrestees testing positive had been declining from a peak of 64% in 1999 to 49% in 2004. In 2005, however, 50% of juvenile arrestees tested positive for marijuana.* The percentage of D.C. juvenile arrestees testing positive for cocaine and PCP also remained relatively stable at low levels between 2004 and 2005. Other national measures of drug use among youth, including the Monitoring the Future survey and the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, have shown similar stabilization of youth drug use in recent years.

Percentage of Washington, D.C., Juvenile Arrestees Testing Positive by Urinalysis for Cocaine, Marijuana, and PCP, 1987-2005

(N ranged from 1,896 in 2002 to 4,449 in 1988)



*The most recent data from the D.C. Pretrial Services Agency shows that marijuana use remained around 50% in the first three months of 2006.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency. Available online at <http://www.dcpsa.gov/foia/foiaERRpsa.cfm>. For more information, contact Jerome Robinson, Director of Forensic Research at the D.C. Pretrial Services Agency at jerome.robinson@csosa.gov.

CESAR Seeking PhD-Level Candidate to Analyze Data on Alcohol Use Among College Students

CESAR is seeking a Research Associate to analyze and publish data from an ongoing, longitudinal prospective survey of alcohol use among college students. A PhD-level candidate with post-doctorate experience in public health and/or epidemiology is preferred. If you are interested in working in a supportive and stimulating, university-based team environment, please send a letter of interest and a resume to Dr. Amelia Arria at CESAR, 4321 Hartwick Rd, Ste 501, College Park, MD 20740; 301-403-8342 (fax); cesar@cesar.umd.edu.

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