

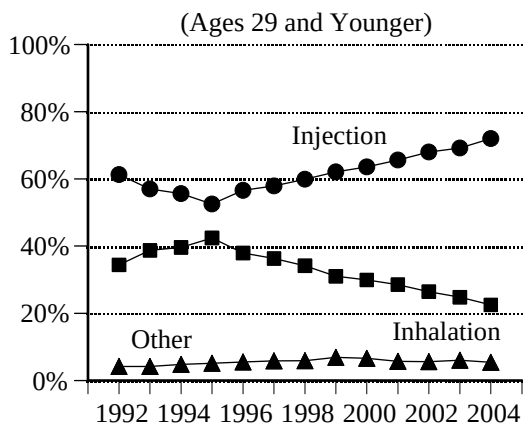
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

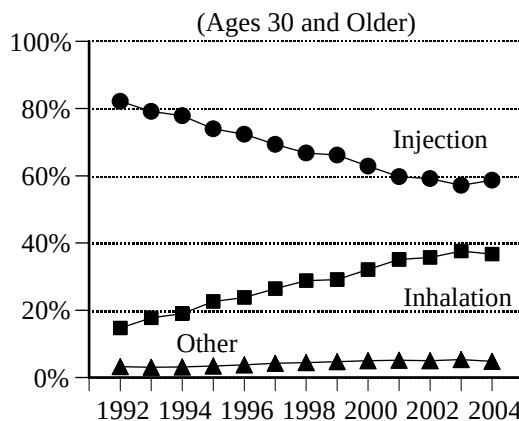
Injection Drug Use Up Among Younger Heroin Treatment Clients; Down Among Older Clients

Injection is increasingly becoming the prevalent route of administration among younger heroin users admitted to treatment, according to data from the national Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). Since 1995, the percentage of primary heroin treatment admissions ages 29 and younger who reported injection as their usual route of administration has increased steadily, from 53% to 72% in 2004. At the same time, the percentage of older heroin treatment admissions (age 30 and older) who reported injection as their usual route of administration has decreased from 82% in 1992 to 59% in 2004. One possible explanation for this trend is that younger heroin users perceive less social stigma and/or risk of contracting HIV/AIDS associated with injecting drug use than do their older counterparts.

While Younger Heroin Treatment Clients Are Increasingly More Likely to Inject the Drug ...



Older Heroin Treatment Clients Are Increasingly More Likely to Inhale



NOTES: TEDS includes facilities that are licensed or certified by the State substance abuse agency to provide substance abuse treatment. Data are of admissions and not individual clients. The category "Other" includes smoking, oral, and other routes of administration.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Data Archive, online analysis of the concatenated 1992-2004 TEDS data set, conducted 11/15/2006. The SAMHDA is available online at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/SAMHDA>.

• 301-405-9770 (voice) • 301-403-8342 (fax) • CESAR@cesar.umd.edu • www.cesar.umd.edu •
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