

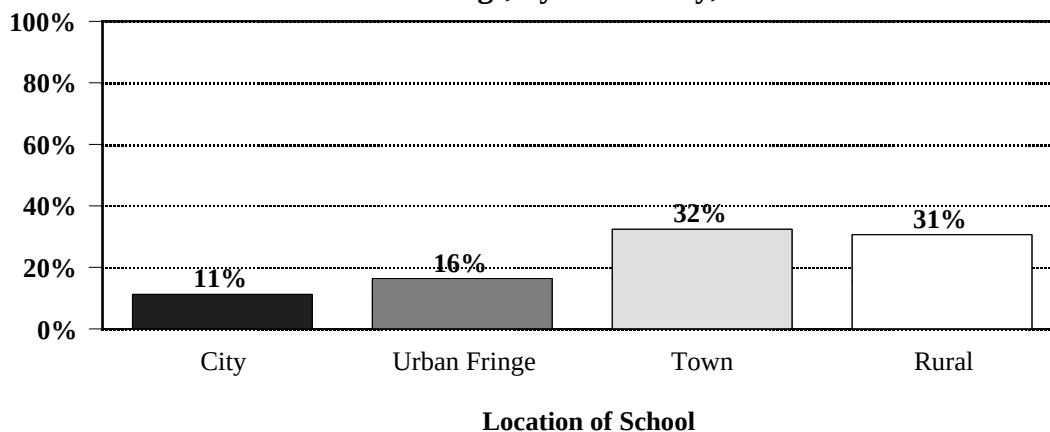
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Rural Schools More Likely to Use Random Dog Sniffs to Check for Drugs

Public elementary, middle, and high schools in rural areas of the United States are more likely to use drug-sniffing dogs than those in urban areas, according to the 2006 *Indicators of School Crime and Safety* report. Nearly one-third of public schools in rural areas (31%) and towns (32%) utilized random dog sniffs to check for drugs in the 2003–2004 school year (the most recent year for which data are available), compared to 11% of schools in mid-sized and large cities and 16% of schools in the fringes of these urban areas. The use of drug-sniffing dogs was the only safety and security measure asked about in the survey that schools in rural areas were significantly more likely than those in urban areas to employ.

Percentage of U.S. Public Schools Using Random Dog Sniffs to Check for Drugs, by Urbanicity,* 2003–2004



NOTES: Data are from the 2004 School Survey on Crime and Safety (SSOCS), a nationally representative sample of approximately 2,800 regular public elementary, middle, and secondary schools. Either school principals or the person most knowledgeable about discipline issues at school completed the SSOCS questionnaire.

*Urbanicity definitions are taken from the U.S. Census Bureau's Common Core of Data. City includes large and mid-sized cities, town includes large and small towns, and rural includes rural outside a MSA and inside a MSA. (See <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/RuralEd/definitions.asp> for more information).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), U.S. Department of Justice and National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education, *Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2006*, December 2006. Available online at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iscs06.htm.

Historic Drug Czar Conference DVD Now Available!

On June 17th, 2006, CESAR and the Institute for Behavior and Health sponsored a Drug Czar Conference at the University of Maryland. The one-day meeting featured seven of the eleven men who have served as heads of the White House drug abuse prevention office. An unedited 6 DVD set of this historic meeting is now available for \$95, including shipping. Ordering information is available online at <http://www.cesar.umd.edu>.

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