

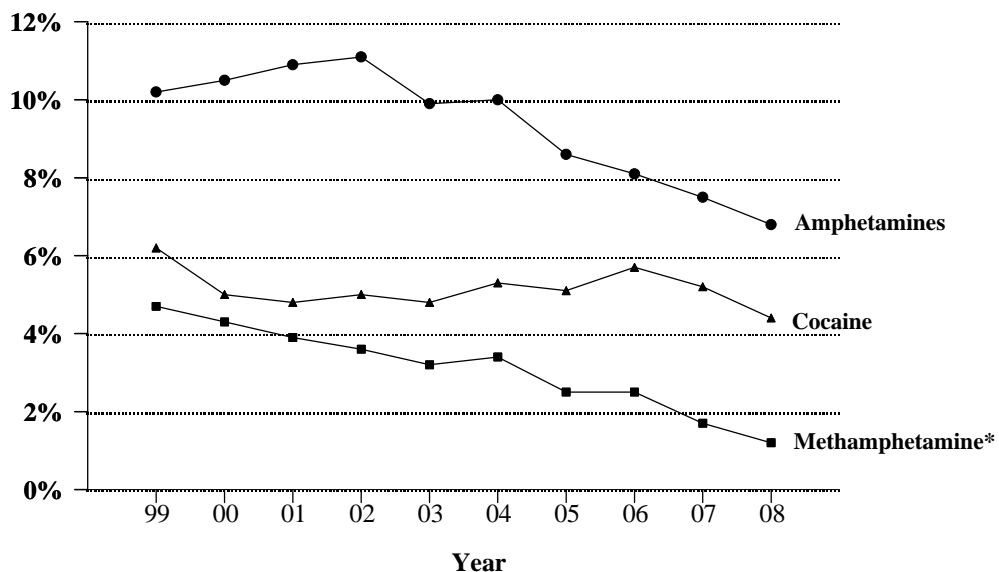
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Use of Cocaine and Amphetamines Among U.S. 12th Graders Continues to Decrease

The use of cocaine and amphetamines among high school seniors in the U.S. continues to decrease, according to recently released data from the 2008 Monitoring the Future survey. The percentage of 12th graders reporting past year use of cocaine has decreased slightly in recent years (from 5.7% in 2006 to 4.4% in 2008) and amphetamine use decreased from the most recent high of 11.1% in 2002 to 6.8% in 2008. In addition, the use of methamphetamine—a type of amphetamine—has decreased as well, reaching a low of 1.2% in 2008. Lloyd Johnston, the study's principal investigator, notes that "the use of this highly addictive drug is now down by about two thirds among teens since 1999, when its use was first measured."

Percentage of Twelfth Graders Reporting Use of Stimulants in the Past Year, 1999 to 2008



*Methamphetamine is also included in the category amphetamines.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from University of Michigan, "Various Stimulant Drugs Show Continuing Gradual Declines Among Teens in 2008, Most Illicit Drugs Hold Steady," Monitoring the Future press release, December 11, 2008. Available online at <http://www.monitoringthefuture.org>.

CESAR Wishes You a Very Happy Holiday Season!

This is the final issue of the *CESAR FAX* for 2008. The *CESAR FAX* will resume with Volume 18, Issue 1 on January 12th, 2008. Thank you for your support during the past year!