

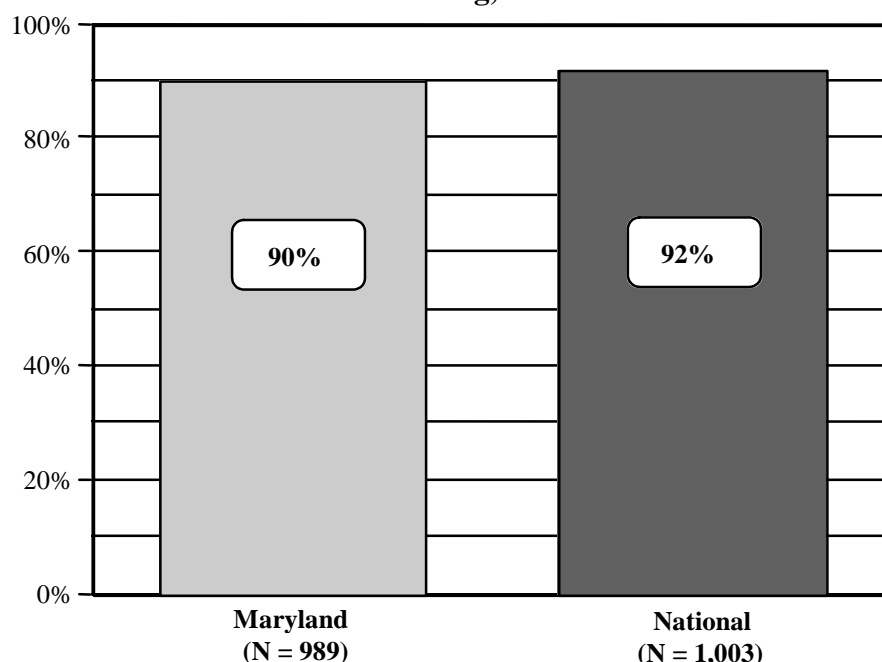
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

***Drug Testing of Reckless Drivers Strongly Supported
in Maryland and Nationally***

According to the Spring 1995 Maryland Household Poll, 90% of adult Maryland residents support drug testing of reckless drivers, results virtually identical to those of a recent national survey. In 1994 there were 21,753 arrests in Maryland for driving while intoxicated (by alcohol or other drugs). However, during the same period only 138 drug tests were conducted by the Maryland State Police on persons who appeared to be under the influence of a substance yet did not test positive for alcohol with a breathalyzer. The growing evidence that many reckless drivers test positive for drugs (see CESAR Fax Volume 3, Issue 35), coupled with the strong public support for drug testing of reckless drivers, points to the need for a nationwide system for identifying and treating drugged drivers.

**Percent in Favor of Requiring Drug Testing,
as Well as Alcohol Testing, for Reckless Drivers**



SOURCE: National poll adapted by CESAR from national telephone survey of U. S. residents aged 18 and older, conducted for Drug Strategies by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc., February 1995. Maryland telephone poll of adults aged 18 and older, conducted for CESAR by the University of Maryland Survey Research Center, April - June 1995.

WHAT DO MARYLANDERS THINK ABOUT SUBSTANCE ABUSE?

The views of Marylanders on such topics as the extent of drug use in Maryland and drug legalization are presented in "Marylanders' Views on Substance Abuse: Advance Results from the 1995 Maryland Household Opinion Poll". To receive a complimentary copy, contact CESAR by phone (301-403-8329), fax (301-403-8342), or e-mail (CESAR@cesar.umd.edu).

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