

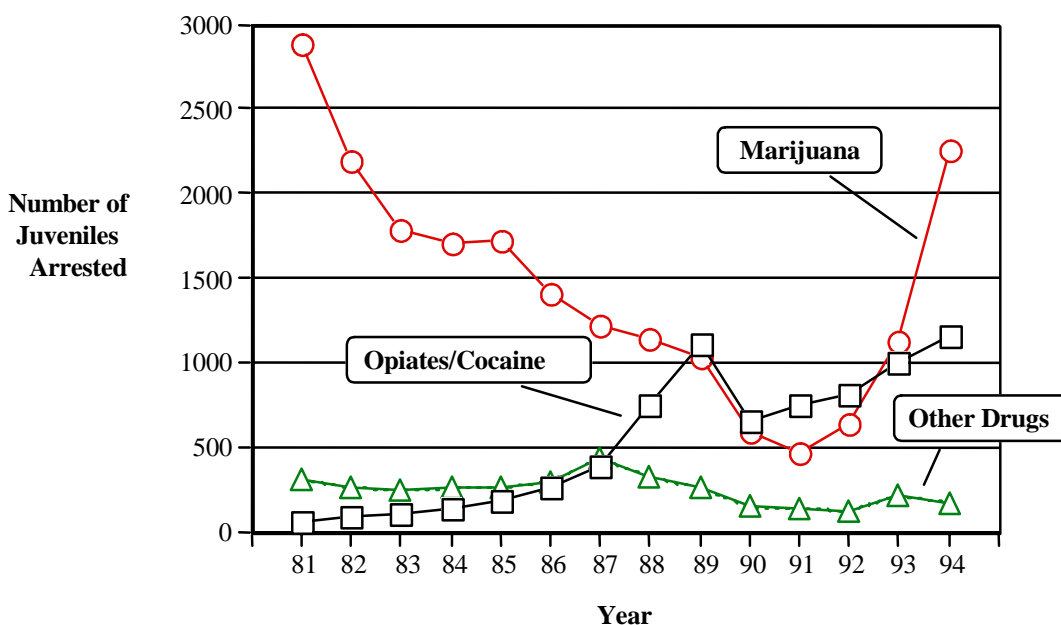
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Juvenile Marijuana Arrests Rise to Thirteen-Year High in Maryland

Recently released statistics from the Maryland Uniform Crime Reports show that juvenile arrests for possession of marijuana have been increasing since reaching a low in 1991. Arrests of juveniles for possession of opiates/cocaine has also been rising, but at a much lower rate. It is not possible to determine if these data reflect an actual shift in juvenile drug involvement or in law enforcement practices. However, a number of other indicators also point to increased marijuana use among youths, both nationally and in Maryland (see CESAR FAX, Volume 4, Issues 9 and 17).

Number of Maryland Juveniles Arrested for Possessing Marijuana, Opiates/Cocaine, or Other Drugs, 1981 - 1994*



*NOTE: Opiates/Cocaine includes opium, cocaine, and their derivatives (such as morphine, heroin, and codeine).

Other Drugs includes synthetic narcotics (such as methadone) and dangerous nonnarcotic drugs (such as barbiturates).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, Maryland State Police.

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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