

## A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

### *Marijuana "Blunts" Used by UMCP Students*

The newly released survey of drug use among students at the University of Maryland at College Park (UMCP) shows increases in marijuana use since the 1991 survey, especially among freshmen. The 1994 survey also indicates that a new method of using marijuana has reached the UMCP campus. Nearly one-half (49%) of students who reported past year marijuana use had used marijuana in the "blunt" form (hollowed-out cigar filled with marijuana). Among past year marijuana users, those who were male, black, under age 20, or had a GPA below 3.0 were more likely to use marijuana blunts. Previous CESAR research has suggested that the large increases seen in cigar sales in the D.C. metropolitan area is being fueled by the use of marijuana blunts by young people.

#### Percentage of Past Year Marijuana Users Who Reported Blunt Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, UMCP Students, 1994

CHARACTERISTIC		% REPORTING BLUNT USE
<b>SEX</b>		
Male	(N=145)	54
Female	(N=124)	43
<b>AGE</b>		
<16-18	(N=39)	54
19-20	(N=71)	52
21-25	(N=127)	45
≥26	(N=31)	49
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>		
Black	(N=22)	81
White	(N=202)	45
Asian/Pacific Islander	(N=18)	44
Hispanic	(N=9)	**
Other	(N=6)	**
International Student	(N=6)	**
<b>GPA</b>		
3.6-4.0	(N=44)	36
3.0-3.5	(N=109)	44
2.5-2.9	(N=94)	59
Below 2.5	(N=23)	60
<b>ALL PAST YEAR MJ USERS</b>		(N=278) 49

NOTES: Categories with fewer than 10 respondents are marked by \*\*. There were 278 past year marijuana users who answered the question on blunt use. The sum of N's for each set of characteristics may not equal 278 because of missing values. Race/ethnicity designations apply only to U.S. students; non-U.S. students are categorized as international students.

SOURCE: M. Hsu et al., *1994 UMCP Student Drug Survey*, October 1995. Cosponsored by the Center for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR) and the University Health Center, University of Maryland at College Park. Complimentary copies of the report are available from CESAR at 301-403-8329.

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