

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Survey Shows Record-High Cigarette Use Among Junior and Senior High School Students; Marijuana Use Also Increasing

Recently released data from the 1994-95 national survey by the Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) show that there have been significant increases in the use of cigarettes and marijuana among junior (grades 6-8) and senior (grades 9-12) high school students. Past year use of cigarettes by junior (28.1%) and senior high students (44.4%) has reached the highest levels since PRIDE began conducting surveys in 1988. Past year use of marijuana has also been rising. Junior high students' use of marijuana rose from 8.2% in 1993-94 to 9.5% in 1994-95, while senior high students' past year use rose from 24.6% to 28.2% over the same period.

Percentage of Junior and Senior High School Students Who Used Selected Substances in the Year Prior to Survey, 1992-93, 1993-94, and 1994-95 School Years

Substance Used at Least Once in Prior Year	Junior High (6-8th Grades)			Senior High (9-12th Grades)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Beer	31.2%	30.3%	30.8%*	55.6%	56.5%	57.4%*
Cigarettes	25.5	26.3	28.1*	38.4	41.5	44.4*
Marijuana	5.8	8.2	9.5*	19.0	24.6	28.2*
Inhalants	4.8	5.9	6.3*	5.6	6.9	7.5*
Uppers	3.0	3.4	3.3	7.9	9.1	9.3
Downers	2.2	2.4	2.4	4.6	5.3	5.5*
Hallucinogens	1.9	2.1	2.4*	5.7	6.6	7.7*
Cocaine	1.6	1.9	1.9	3.4	4.0	4.5*

* Indicates a significant ($p \leq .05$) change over prior year.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the 1994-95 PRIDE Survey, National Parents' Resource for Drug Education. For additional information, contact Doug Hall at 770-458-9900. The 1994-95 PRIDE survey included 198,241 students (grades 6-12) from 32 states (Jr. High N=92,453; Sr. High N=105,788).

ABSTRACTS OF EVALUATION ARTICLES NOW AVAILABLE ON CESAR BOARD

The National Evaluation Data and Technical Assistance Center (NEDTAC) is an evaluation resource funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT). Over 200 pages of abstracts from the NEDTAC data base of evaluation-related materials is available on CESAR's electronic bulletin board, under the NEDTAC Conference, via:

- Modem: 301-403-8343 or 1-800-84-CESAR (toll-free for Maryland callers)
- World Wide Web: <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/cesar/cesar.html>
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