

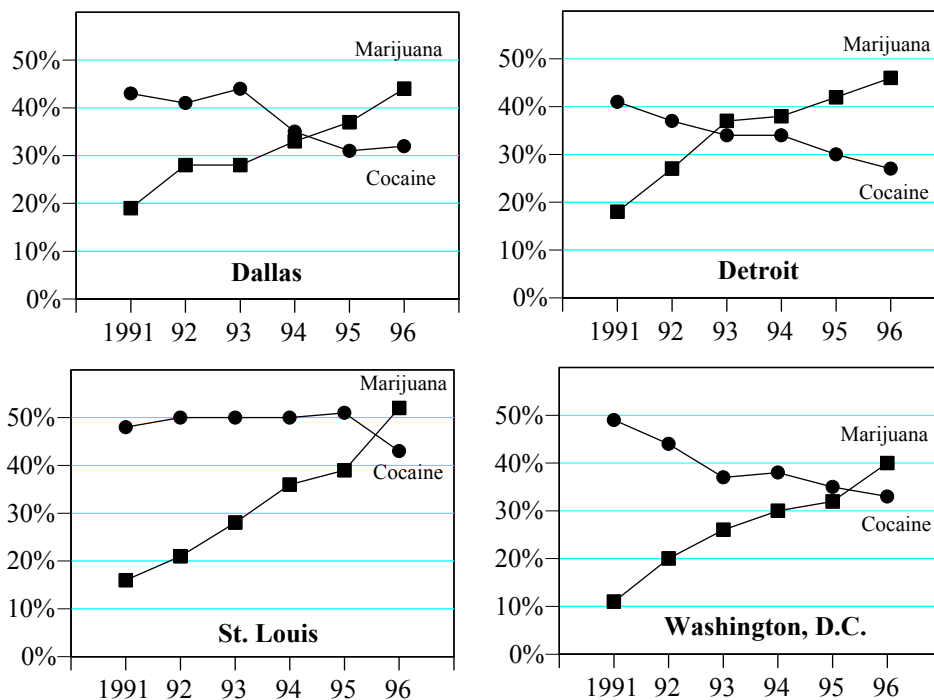
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Marijuana Replacing Cocaine as Drug of Choice Among Adult Arrestees

Data from the 1996 Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) annual report show that at almost every DUF site marijuana use among adult male arrestees increased “at rates exceeding those noted in recent years” (p. 9). The percentage of adult male arrestees testing positive for marijuana is now equal to or greater than that for cocaine in 13 of the 23 DUF sites, including Dallas, Detroit, St. Louis, and Washington, D.C. (see figure and note below). According to the report, “marijuana appears to have broadly replaced cocaine as the drug of choice among arrestees” (p. 12). In the past, cocaine has been the drug of choice among adult arrestees, and increases in marijuana use have occurred primarily among the juvenile arrestee population.

Percentage of Adult Male Arrestees Testing Positive for Cocaine and Marijuana, by Selected DUF Site, 1991-1996



NOTE: The percentage of adult male arrestees testing positive for marijuana was equal to or greater than that for cocaine at 13 DUF sites: Birmingham, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Indianapolis, Omaha, Philadelphia, Portland, St. Louis, San Antonio, San Diego, San Jose, and Washington, D.C.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the “1996 Drug Use Forecasting Annual Report on Adult and Juvenile Arrestees,” Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) program, National Institute of Justice (NIJ). A copy of the report may be ordered from NCJRS at 800-851-3420 or 301-251-5500.

CESAR FAX is supported by a grant from the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention.

CESAR FAX may be copied without permission. Please cite CESAR as the source.

•• 301-403-8329 (voice) •• 301-403-8342 (fax) •• CESAR@cesar.umd.edu (e-mail) ••