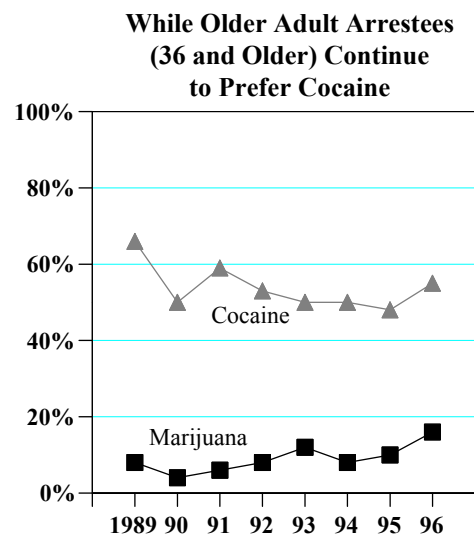
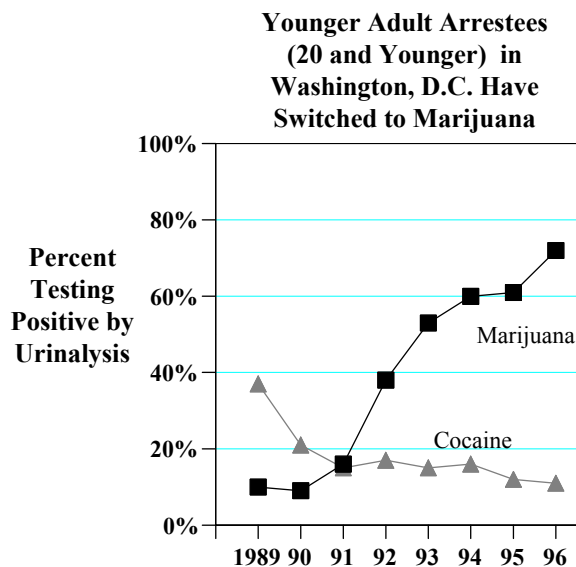


A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Younger Arrestees in U.S. Favor Marijuana; Older Arrestees Stay with Cocaine

Data from the 1996 Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) annual report indicate that marijuana may be replacing cocaine as the drug of choice among adult arrestees (see CESAR FAX, Volume 6, Issue 25). This change, however, is occurring primarily among younger arrestees. For example, in Washington, D.C., the percentage of adult arrestees aged 20 and younger who tested positive for marijuana increased from 10% in 1989 to 72% in 1996, while those testing positive for cocaine decreased from 37% to 11% over the same period. This is in sharp contrast with the trends among adult arrestees aged 36 and older—their marijuana and cocaine use has not changed dramatically since 1989. Similar trends were found among male arrestees in a majority of the DUF sites across the United States. It remains to be seen whether this shift away from cocaine and toward marijuana will affect the course of offenders' criminal careers.



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 301-519-5500.

NEW SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Four new bibliographies from the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment's National Evaluation Data and Technical Assistance Center (NEDTAC) are now available for browsing and downloading at CESAR's web site (www.bsos.umd.edu/cesar/cesar.html). Selected full-text bibliographies with overviews are also available at the NEDTAC web site (www.calib.com/nedtac/).

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