

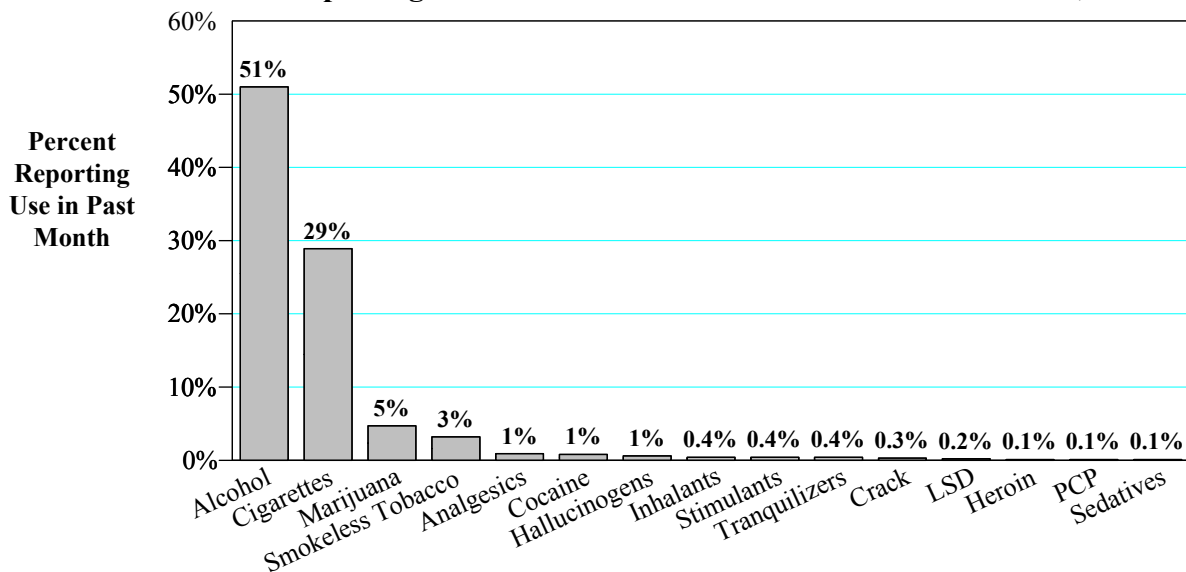
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Alcohol and Cigarettes Remain Most Frequently Used Substances Among U.S. Household Residents

Data from the 1996 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) show that alcohol and cigarettes are the substances most frequently used by U.S. household residents. A majority of the respondents aged 12 and older reported that they had used alcohol (51%) at least once in month prior to the survey, followed by cigarettes (29%), marijuana (5%), and smokeless tobacco (3%). Use of all other drugs was reported by 1% or less of the respondents. Despite the magnitude of alcohol and cigarette use in the U.S., proportionate public media attention is often not given to this problem (see CESAR FAX, Volume 6, Issue 36).

**Percentage of U.S. Household Residents Aged 12 and Older
Reporting Substance Use at Least Once in the Past Month, 1996**



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, "Preliminary Results from the 1996 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse," WWW document; URL <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/nhsda/pe1996/httoc.htm> (accessed 9/4/97). For more information, contact SAMHSA's Office of Applied Studies at 301-443-6239.

Preliminary Results from the 1996 NHSDA Now Available from SAMHSA

A copy of the "Preliminary Results from the 1996 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse" can be ordered from the National Center for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI) at 301-468-2600 or 800-729-6686. The report is also available online at SAMHSA's web site (www.samhsa.gov).

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