

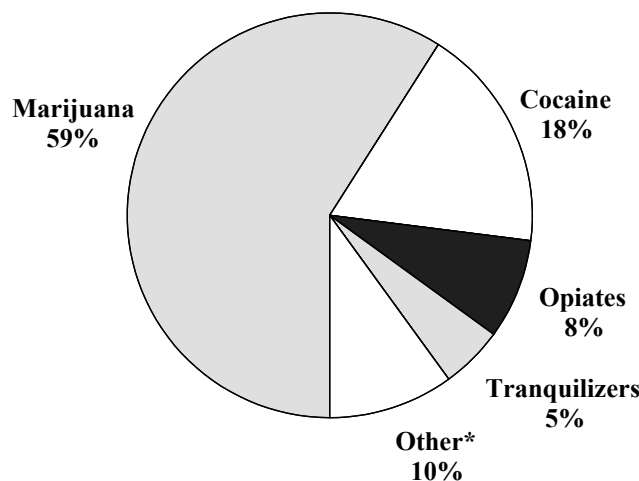
## A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

### *Marijuana Most Frequently Detected Drug Among Tested U.S. Workforce*

More than one-half (59%) of positive workplace drug tests conducted in the first six months of 1997 were positive for marijuana, according to data from SmithKline Beecham Clinical Laboratories (SBCL).<sup>□</sup> The only other drugs detected with any frequency were cocaine (18% of all positive tests), opiates (8%), and tranquilizers (5%); all other drugs were each detected in less than 5% of the positive tests. The overall rate of drug positives for the first six months of 1997 was 5%, continuing a decline evident since SBCL began conducting workplace drug tests in 1987 (see CESAR FAX, Volume 5, Issue 40).

### **Drug Distribution of Positive Urine Tests Among U.S. Workforce Tested by SmithKline Beecham Clinical Laboratories, January - June 1997**



<sup>□</sup>More than 2.2 million tests were conducted from January to June of 1997. Reasons for testing include pre-employment, periodic, random, post-accident, for cause, and returned to duty.

\*The category "Other" includes amphetamines (4%), barbiturates (3%), methadone (0.7%), methaqualone (0.01%), PCP (0.4%), and propoxyphene (1.6%).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from SmithKline Beecham Clinical Laboratories, "Workplace Drug Test Positives Continue Downward Trend, SmithKline Beecham Data Show," WWW document; URL <http://www.sb.com/news/dti.html> (downloaded 9/22/97). For more information, contact Thomas Johnson at 800-877-7478 or 610-454-6202.

### **Access Additional Workplace Drug Information at CESAR's Web Site**

CESAR's web site contains numerous articles and statistics on workplace drug issues, including a survey of Maryland businesses and sample policy statements for workplace drug abuse programs. Go to [www.bsos.umd.edu/cesar/cesar.html](http://www.bsos.umd.edu/cesar/cesar.html) and select CESAR BOARD, then Workplace.

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