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Distribution: 3,000

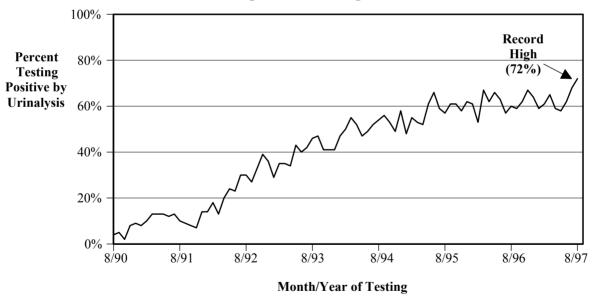
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Record Percentage of D.C. Juvenile Arrestees Test Positive for Marijuana

The most recent drug test results from the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency show that 72% of juvenile arrestees tested positive by urinalysis for marijuana in August 1997; 74% tested positive for any drug. These are the highest rates of both overall drug positives and marijuana drug positives since drug testing of juvenile arrestees began in 1985. The positivity rates for cocaine and PCP remain relatively low (6% and 8%, respectively). Marijuana use among juvenile arrestees in the District of Columbia has been rapidly increasing since 1990, when rates averaged 6% for the year. This increase reflects a recent nationwide trend of increased marijuana use among youth (see CESAR FAX, Volume 5, Issue 38 and Volume 6, Issue 2). For more information, contact Susan Shaffer, Director of the D.C. Pretrial Services Agency, at 202-727-2911.

Percentage of Washington, D.C. Juvenile Arrestees Testing Positive by Urinalysis for Marijuana, August 1990 to August 1997



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency.

Washington, D.C. Pretrial Drug Test Data Available at CESAR's Web Site

D.C. pretrial drug test data for both adult and juvenile arrestees are available at CESAR's world wide web site. Go to www.bsos.umd.edu/cesar/cesar.html, select CESAR BOARD, then Criminal Justice.