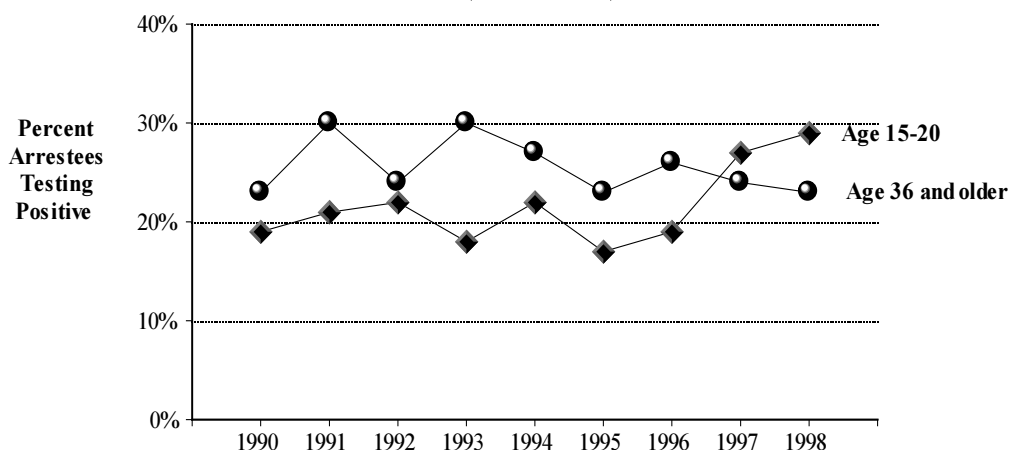


Cocaine Use May Be Increasing Among Adult Arrestees Ages 15 to 20

Cocaine use has historically been a problem among older arrestees (see CESAR FAX, Volume 7, Issue 34). Recent data from the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM) program (formerly the DUF program) show that the percentage of young adult arrestees testing positive for cocaine has been growing in certain sites in the southwestern and southern U.S. Twelve* of the 35 ADAM sites demonstrate patterns that suggest that cocaine use among the youngest adult arrestees (ages 15-20) may be growing. For example, cocaine positives in San Antonio have been rising since 1995 and are now at 29%—a rate higher than that of the oldest adult cohort. The researchers believe that these patterns are due to an increase in powder cocaine use among young adults since “sites that are demonstrating increases in cocaine positives among 15-20 year olds are typically showing declines in self-reported crack use, but increases in self-reported cocaine use” (p. 15).

**Percentage of Adult Male Arrestees Testing Positive
by Urinalysis for Cocaine, San Antonio, 1990-1998**
(n=909 in 1998)



*Albuquerque, Atlanta, Birmingham, Ft. Lauderdale, Houston, Laredo, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, Phoenix, San Antonio, and Tucson

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from National Institute of Justice (NIJ), “1998 Annual Report on Cocaine Use Among Arrestees,” NIJ Research Report, 1999. A copy of the report is available online at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs.htm.