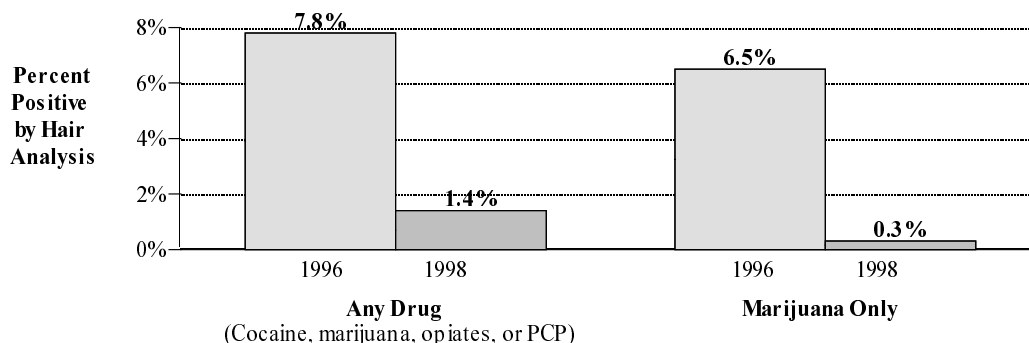


Pennsylvania Prisons Now Nearly Drug Free

The Pennsylvania Prison Drug Testing Program is a comprehensive drug strategy aimed at eliminating drug use in Pennsylvania prisons. The strategy includes using electronic drug-detection devices, increasing the number of drug-sniffing dog teams, monitoring inmate telephone calls, conducting daily, random urine tests, and expanding substance abuse treatment services. To assess the effectiveness of this strategy, the National Institute of Justice funded hair analyses of 1,000 inmates randomly selected from five prisons in 1996 and 1998, before and after the strategy components were implemented. The percentage of inmates testing positive for any drug decreased from 7.8% in 1996 to 1.4% in 1998. The majority of this decline was due to a decrease in marijuana (from 6.5% in 1996 to 0.3% in 1998), the drug for which inmates most frequently tested positive.

Percentage of Pennsylvania Prison Inmates Testing Positive by Hair Analysis for Any Drug and Marijuana Only, 1996 and 1998

(n=1,000 inmates sampled in each year from five Pennsylvania prisons)



NOTES: The five prisons included in this study were Graterford, Pittsburgh, Somerset, Cresson, and Muncy. NIJ provided aggregate results of the hair analyses to the prisons; individual hair test results remained anonymous.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Corrections, "National Study Reveals Ridge Administration Crackdown Has Made Pennsylvania Prisons Nearly 99 Percent Drug Free," Press Release, 1/22/99. For more information, contact Andy Keyser of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections at 717-731-7149 or Thom Feucht of the National Institute of Justice at 202-307-2949.

CESAR Seeking Manager for Treatment Outcome Project

CESAR is currently seeking a project manager for a three-year substance abuse treatment outcome assessment. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline and experience in generating grant/contract income. Please contact CESAR at 301-403-8329 or cesar@cesar.umd.edu for a complete job description.

• 301-403-8329 (voice) • 301-403-8342 (fax) • CESAR@cesar.umd.edu • www.cesar.umd.edu •

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