

CESAR *FAX*

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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

CESAR FAX Annual Volume

Volume 4 1995

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

CESAR is pleased to provide this 1995 Annual Volume of the CESAR FAX. To assist you in using this volume, the Table of Contents groups the 1995 faxes by subject area as well as by issue number.

Since the first transmission to 150 recipients on February 17, 1992, the CESAR FAX has grown to over 2,400 recipients worldwide. The CESAR FAX is maintained by Wanda Lauer, with the assistance of Jean Shirhall (editor) and Jennifer Kogok (graduate assistant). Other CESAR staff provide valuable assistance in the selection of CESAR FAX topics by their continuous monitoring of drug abuse issues and data sources. With the ongoing support of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, the CESAR FAX continues to provide timely and relevant drug abuse information in an easy-to-read format.

Eric D. Wish,
Director
1/9/96

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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

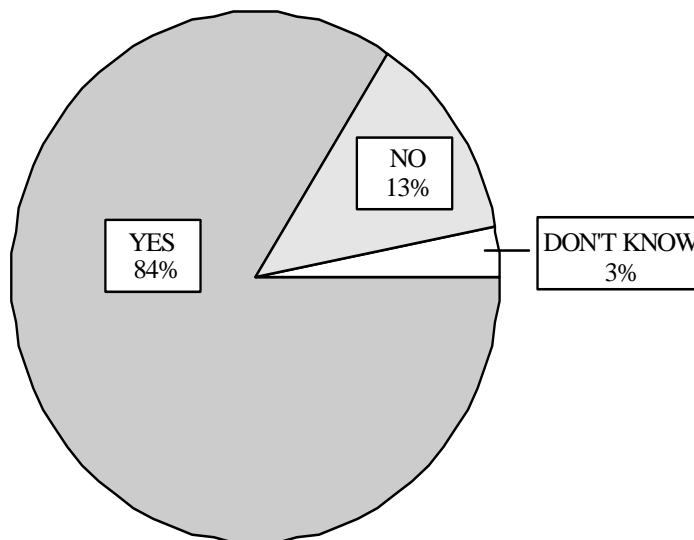
University of Maryland at College Park*

***Marijuana Use for Medicinal Purposes--
Supported by Majority of Marylanders, Maryland Court Now Faces Issue***

For the first time in Maryland, the medical-necessity defense of marijuana use may be brought before a jury. In November 1993, a Charles County man was charged with possession of 10 grams of marijuana and with manufacturing it with the intent to sell. He had been growing and using small amounts of the substance to lessen the side effects of an antiviral drug he was taking to treat his HIV infection. A Charles County Circuit Court judge has delayed judgment on whether a jury may hear this medical-necessity defense pending submission of further legal briefs.

The issue of medicinal use of marijuana was recently asked in a telephone poll of a representative sample of Maryland householders aged 18 and older. The poll, conducted for CESAR in the spring of 1994, found that 84% of Marylanders believe that physicians should be allowed to prescribe marijuana if it is proven to be effective in treating certain health conditions.

**If Marijuana Is Proven to Be Effective In Treating Some Health Conditions,
Do You Think Physicians Should Be Allowed To Prescribe It?**



SOURCE: "Marijuana as Medicine at Heart of Md. Case," The Washington Post, December 20, 1994, pp. D1, D3 and statewide telephone poll of adults aged 18 or older, conducted for CESAR by the University of Maryland Survey Research Center, College Park. (Margin of error in poll: $\pm 3\%$. N=1,018.)

**COMPILATION OF
MARYLAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE LAWS NOW AVAILABLE!**

The "Compilation of Maryland Alcohol, Controlled Dangerous Substance, and Tobacco Abuse Laws and Summary of 1991 - 1994 Legislation" includes statutory provisions, executive orders, and regulations that relate to controlled dangerous substances, alcohol, and tobacco.

To obtain a copy, contact the Maryland Department of Legislative Reference at 301-858-3810 (Washington area), 410-841-3810 (Baltimore area), or 800-492-7122 (other areas).

For more information about today's topic or to be placed on the distribution list, please call CESAR at 301-403-8329.

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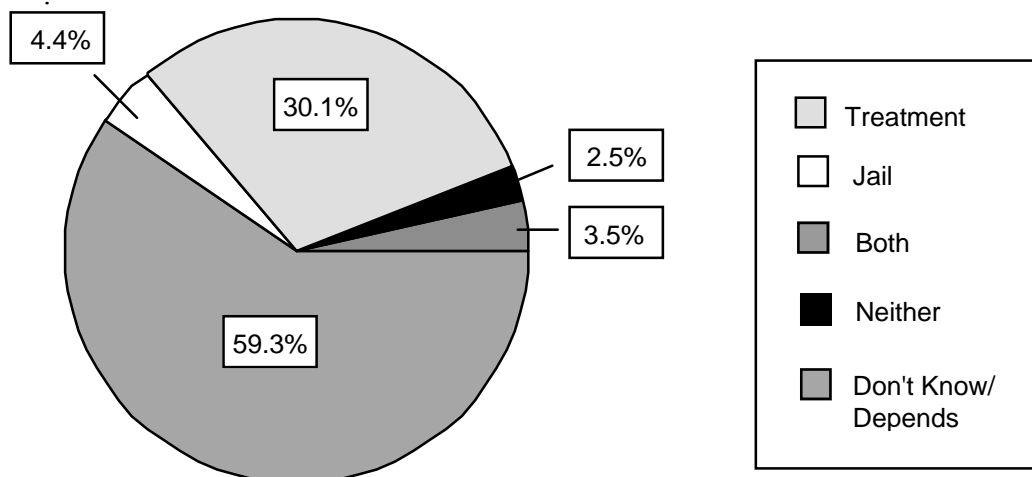
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park*

Majority of Marylanders Support Treatment Programs as Sentence for First-Time Conviction of Drug Possession

A telephone survey of Maryland households shows that a majority (59%) of Marylanders believe that individuals convicted for the first time of possessing drugs should be sent to treatment programs. A combination sentence of both incarceration and treatment is supported by another 30% of Marylanders. The poll, conducted in the spring of 1994 for CESAR by the University of Maryland Survey Research Center, was of a sample of Maryland householders aged 18 or older.

Should an Individual Convicted for the First Time of Possessing Drugs for Personal Use Be Sent to Jail, to a Treatment Program, or Both?



SOURCE: Statewide telephone poll of adults aged 18 or older, conducted for CESAR by the University of Maryland Survey Research Center, College Park. (Margin of error: $\pm 3\%$. Numbers do not total 100% due to rounding.)

NEW WASHINGTON, D.C. DRUG ABUSE REPORT NOW AVAILABLE!

"Drug Abuse in Washington, D.C.: Insights from Quantitative and Qualitative Research"
by Clare Mundell is now available from CESAR.
Call CESAR at (301) 403-8329 for a complimentary copy.

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University of Maryland at College Park *

New Report on Drug Abuse in Washington, D.C. Now Available

The newly released report makes use of a combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods to analyze drug abuse trends in Washington, D.C. Statistical data and information from in-depth interviews with drug users and treatment providers were synthesized to obtain a comprehensive picture of the patterns and problems of drug use in the nation's capital. Among the findings were:

- Drug use has become much more dangerous for drug users due to the emergence of younger, less experienced drug dealers, higher purity drugs, drug-related violence, and the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- There appears to be emerging a new cohort of drug users--young, upper middle class adults. Interviews reveal that heroin may be the new "glamour" drug for this population.
- PCP use has been rising over the past few years, according to both statistical indicators and interviews with drug users.
- Accessibility of drug treatment is a major issue with drug users. When drug users are psychologically ready for drug treatment, waiting lists often make treatment inaccessible. However, when treatment is forced on drug users, through the court system for example, users often are not psychologically ready to accept it.

To obtain a copy of this report, please contact CESAR at 301-403-8329. The report may also be viewed or downloaded from CESAR's electronic bulletin board. Call the CESAR BOARD at 301-403-8343 or 1-800-84-CESAR (toll-free for Maryland callers only) and enter the "Products" conference to view the "DC Report."

SOURCE: C. Mundell. Drug Abuse in Washington, D.C.: Insights from Quantitative and Qualitative Research. Center for Substance Abuse Research and KOBA Associates, Inc., 1994. Available from CESAR.

VOLUME III OF THE CESAR FAX IS NOW AVAILABLE!

Issues 1 through 50 (1994) of the CESAR FAX are now available in a bound volume.
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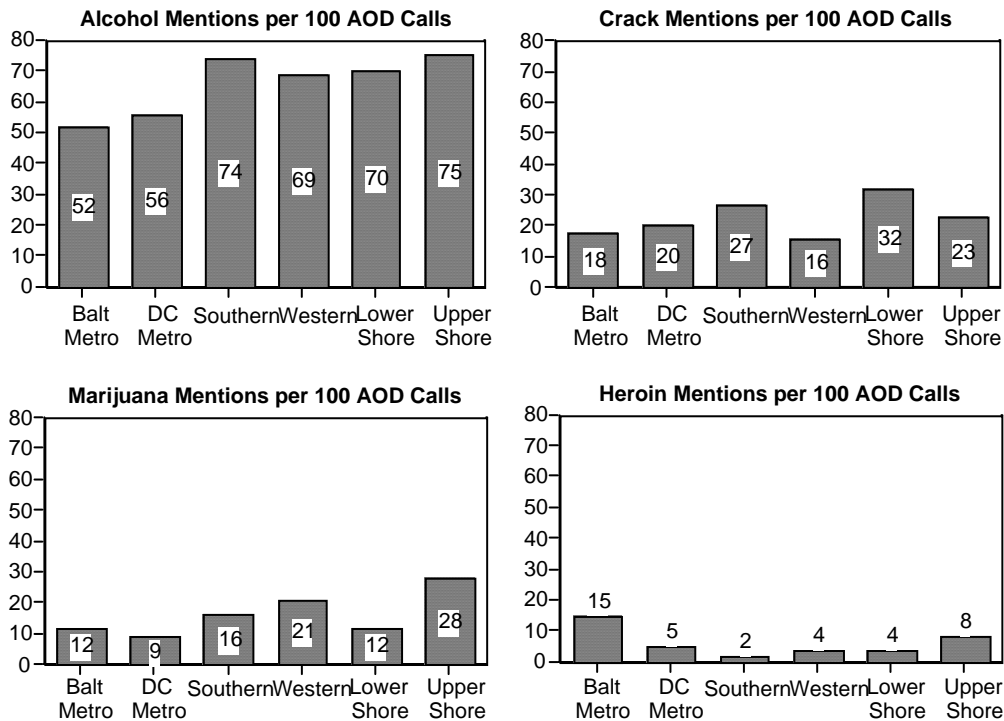
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University of Maryland at College Park *

Types of Drugs Mentioned By Maryland Hotline Callers Vary by Region

Recent data from the Maryland Automated Hotline Reporting System (MAHRS) show that there continue to be regional variations in mentions of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) by callers to six Maryland crisis hotlines. The highest rate of alcohol mentions was from callers residing in the Southern region of the state, while the lowest rate was from callers from the Baltimore Metro area. Conversely, the Baltimore Metro area had the highest rate of heroin mentions, while the Southern region had the lowest rate. Similar regional variations appear for mentions of crack and marijuana. It is unclear the extent to which these variations are due to regional differences in drug use or to the specialized functions of each hotline.

**Alcohol, Crack, Marijuana, and Heroin Mentions, by Residence of Caller,¹ 1994
(Rates per 100 AOD Calls)**



¹Baltimore Metro: Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties.

DC Metro: Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

Western Maryland: Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties.

Southern Maryland: Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties.

Lower Shore: Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties.

Upper Shore: Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot counties and out-of-state.

SOURCE: Maryland Automated Hotline Reporting System (MAHRS), Center for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR), College Park, Maryland.

1993 & 1994 MAHRS DATA NOW AVAILABLE!

A compilation of 1993 and 1994 data from the Maryland Automated Hotline Reporting System (MAHRS) is now available from CESAR. To receive your complimentary copy, contact CESAR at 301-403-8329 (voice), 301-403-8342 (fax) or CESAR@cesar.umd.edu (internet).

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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park *

*Are We Getting Our Money's Worth?:
New Report Looks at Effectiveness of Federal Drug Policy*

Since 1981, nearly \$100 billion has been spent by the federal government in an effort to combat drugs. Despite this immense investment, drug use, addiction, and related crime have not been reduced. A report recently released by Drug Strategies, "Keeping Score: What We Are Getting for Our Federal Drug Control Dollars," analyzes the effectiveness of the federal drug policy, concentrating on four areas: illicit drug use, drug-related crime, drugs in the workplace, and the impact of drugs on health and health care costs. Among the findings are:

- Federal drug control spending has risen from \$1.5 billion in 1981 to \$13.2 billion in 1995. Two-thirds of the 1995 drug budget is allocated to enforcement and interdiction.
- Since 1982, cocaine has become cheaper and more plentiful, despite massive spending for international drug control.
- Every \$34 million spent per year on treatment achieves the same reduction in cocaine consumption as spending \$246 million on enforcement, \$366 million on interdiction, or \$783 million on source-country control.
- Marijuana use among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders has been rising sharply since 1992.
- Blacks constitute 40% of all drug arrests and one-third of all drug convictions nationwide--yet they make up only 12% of the population.
- Drug offenders are the largest and fastest growing population in Federal prisons, accounting for 61% of the total inmate population in 1993.
- More than two-thirds (71%) of regular drug users are employed, and 15% of them worked while under the influence of drugs in the past year.
- Many model treatment programs (described briefly in the report) are making a difference in reducing drug use at the community level.

One of the goals of "Keeping Score" is to help people judge for themselves the effectiveness of federal drug policy. As part of this goal, a "report card" is included with each report, which allows the recipient to grade federal drug control efforts in each of the four areas. The completed report card is then returned to Drug Strategies, which will provide each respondent a summary of the survey results. To receive a full copy of the report, contact Drug Strategies at 202-663-6090.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Drug Strategies, Keeping Score: What We Are Getting for Our Federal Drug Control Dollars, Washington, D.C., 1995.

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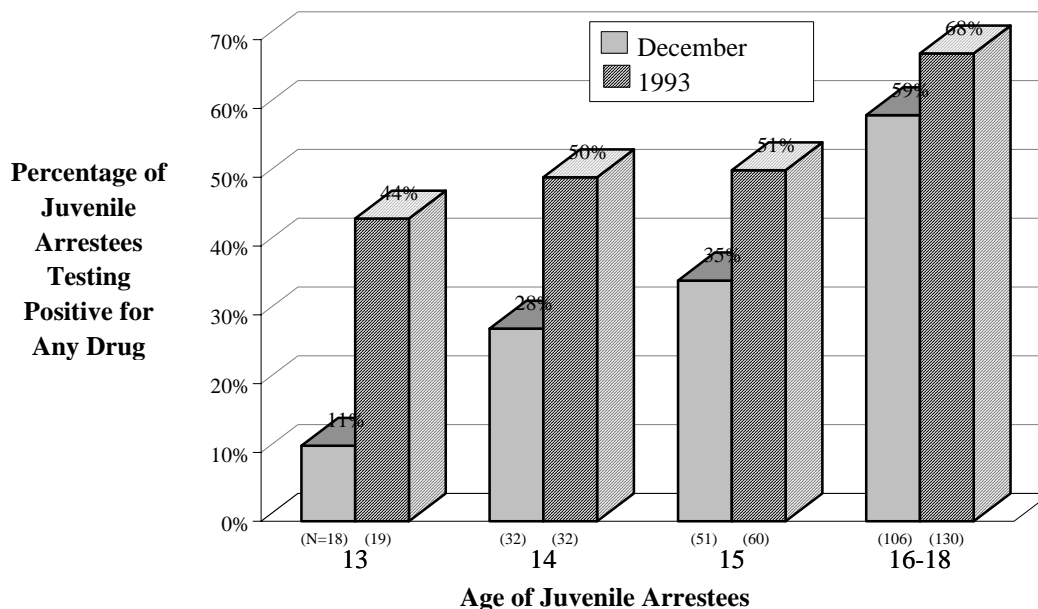
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University of Maryland at College Park *

A Growing Number of Young Arrestees Are Using Drugs in D.C.

Data from the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency show that in December 1994, 59% of all juvenile arrestees tested positive for drug use, an increase over the 43% positive rate of December 1993. The majority of this increase is due to increased drug use among younger arrestees. Arrestees aged 13 to 15 had greater increases in positive rates over this time period than arrestees aged 16 to 18. A total of 3,136 juvenile arrestees were tested by urinalysis for cocaine, marijuana, opiates, and PCP during 1994.

Percentage of Washington, D.C. Juvenile Arrestees Testing Positive for Any Drug, by Age, December 1993 versus December 1994



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

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Is Marijuana Potency Increasing?

by Maggie Hsu

One of the issues in the current debate about marijuana is that the marijuana available today is more potent than that available in the 60s and 70s. Recently, I conducted an informal inquiry into the variation in marijuana potency over the past few decades.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse's Marijuana Potency Monitoring Program (MPMP), a project based at the University of Mississippi at Oxford, is the primary source of marijuana potency data for the United States. The MPMP extracts and measures the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the primary active ingredient in marijuana. Samples are obtained from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and state and local law enforcement agencies. Although data from the MPMP show that the average potency of commercial marijuana has increased from 0.85% in 1974 to 4.18% in 1993, there are some problems with interpreting these data.

One obstacle to interpreting these estimates involves the extraction and measurement techniques employed. The techniques used in the 1970s to extract and measure THC were more "primitive" compared with today's methodologies. Thus, the estimates may not be comparable, which makes any increasing trends in potency difficult to discern.¹

There are also problems with how earlier samples were stored prior to submission to MPMP for testing. It has been suggested that the THC in the early samples had degraded due to improper storage of samples,² and it is unclear if this remains a problem today. Any changes in storage procedures, however, could have an impact on comparisons of test results before and after the changes.

As I looked more closely at the data, I began to question the validity of the marijuana potency estimates. Does data on average marijuana potency from a nonrandom sample of law enforcement marijuana seizures accurately reflect the potency of marijuana being used by Americans? In the absence of systematized sampling procedures, perhaps it would be more useful to look at the range of THC content found in a given year. For example, in 1972 the Canadian Commission of Inquiry into the Non-Medical Use of Drugs conducted studies of illicit cannabis that included samples collected from police seizures as well as samples provided by private individuals. The Commission found an average potency of less than 1% THC, but the THC content in the sample ranged from .02% to 3.46%.³ Comparing the range of THC found in marijuana seizures over the years may be more useful than comparing averages.

While there are many reasons to be concerned about the growing use of marijuana, the evidence surrounding the increasing potency of marijuana is, at best, equivocal. Before any methodologically sound decisions can be made about trends in marijuana potency, more rigorous, representative, and uniform methods will have to be established for the collection, storage, and testing of samples. I would be interested in hearing about any relevant information that recipients of the CESAR FAX may have.

¹Forensic Drug Abuse Advisor, Vol. 7 (1), January 1995, pp. 7-8.

²TH Mikuriya and MR Aldrich . "Cannabis 1988: Old Drug, New Dangers, the Potency Question," Journal of Psychoactive Drugs, Vol. 20(1), Jan-Mar 1988, pp. 47-55.

³Canadian Commission of Inquiry into the Non-Medical Use of Drugs, "Cannabis: A Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Non-Medical Use of Drugs," 1972, pp. 25-32.

****ATTENTION CESAR BOARD USERS****

Your comments and suggestions about the CESAR BOARD are important to us! If you have not yet returned your completed CESAR BOARD survey, please do so as soon as possible. If you would like a copy of the survey, please contact Bernadine Douglas at CESAR.

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University of Maryland at College Park *

***Increasing Number of DUF Sites Report
Marijuana as Most Prevalent Drug Used by Adult Male Arrestees***

The National Institute of Justice's Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) Program has typically found that cocaine is the most prevalent drug used by adult male arrestees in the largest cities across the United States. However, recently released 1993 DUF data show that the primacy of marijuana use among adult male arrestees may be on the rise. In 1992, the percentage of male arrestees testing positive for marijuana surpassed that for cocaine in only two DUF sites. In 1993, the percentage of arrestees testing positive for marijuana equalled or surpassed that for cocaine in seven DUF sites. Marijuana use among juvenile male arrestees has risen dramatically over the past few years. It appears that this epidemic may now be surfacing among adult male arrestees.

**Percentage of Adult Male Booked Arrestees
Testing Positive for Cocaine or Marijuana,
by DUF Site, 1993**

DUF Site	% Positive Cocaine	% Positive Marijuana
Atlanta	59*	26*
Birmingham	51*	28*
Chicago	53	40*
Cleveland	48	23*
Dallas	44*	28
Denver	41*	36*
Detroit	34	37*
Ft. Lauderdale	43	30
Houston	41	24
Indianapolis	32*	42*
Los Angeles	48	23
Manhattan	66*	21
Miami	61*	26
New Orleans	48	25*
Omaha	19*	42*
Philadelphia	56	32*
Phoenix	30*	31*
Portland	33	30*
St. Louis	50	28*
San Antonio	31	32*
San Diego	37	40*
San Jose	23	27*
Washington, D.C.	37	26*

*% positive is an increase over 1992.

NOTE: The percentages do not total 100% because more than one drug may be present in a specimen. The drugs tested for are cocaine, opiates, marijuana, PCP, methadone, benzodiazepines, methaqualone, propoxyphene, barbiturates, and amphetamines.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the "1993 Annual Report on Adult Arrestees: Drugs and Crime in America's Cities", Drug Use Forecasting (DUF), National Institute of Justice (NIJ). To receive a copy of this report, please contact NCJRS at 800-851-3420 or 301-251-5500.

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For more information about today's topic or to be placed on the distribution list, please call CESAR at 301-403-8329.

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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park *

Alcohol and Cigarette Use Remains High Among Students; Illicit Drug Use Increases

Data from the 1993-94 survey by the National Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) indicate that alcohol and cigarettes continue to be the substances most widely used among junior and senior high students surveyed (grades 6-12). More than one third of junior high and two thirds of senior high students reported using alcohol at least once during the year prior to the survey. In addition, 26.3% of junior high and 41.5% of senior high students used cigarettes in the prior year.

Significant increases were found among both junior and senior high school students in the use of every illicit drug included in the survey. Eight percent of junior high students reported using marijuana in the prior year, a 41% increase over 1992-93. Senior high students' use of marijuana increased by 29%, from 19.0% in 1992-93 to 24.6% in 1993-94.

Percentage of Junior and Senior High School Students Who Used Selected Substances in the Year Prior to Survey, 1992-93 and 1993-94 School Years

Substance Used at Least Once in Prior Year	Junior High (6-8th Grades)		Senior High (9-12th Grades)	
	1992-93 (N = 105,335)	1993-94 (N = 92,939)	1992-93 (N = 131,410)	1993-94 (N = 104,796)
Alcohol (any form)	41.0%	39.3%*	65.5%	65.9%*
Cigarettes	25.5	26.3*	38.4	41.5*
Marijuana	5.8	8.2*	19.0	24.6*
Inhalants	4.8	5.9*	5.6	6.9*
Uppers	3.0	3.4*	7.9	9.1*
Downers	2.2	2.4*	4.6	5.3*
Hallucinogens	1.9	2.1*	5.7	6.6*
Cocaine	1.6	1.9*	3.4	4.0*

* Indicates a significant ($p \leq .05$) change over prior year.

SOURCE: 1993-94 PRIDE Survey, National Parents' Resource for Drug Education. The 1992-93 PRIDE survey included 236,745 students (grades 6-12) from 40 states. The 1993-94 PRIDE survey included 197,735 students (grades 6-12) from 34 states. For additional information, contact PRIDE at 404-577-4500.

SPRING 1994 MD POLL NOW AVAILABLE FROM CESAR!

A text version of the summary findings of the 1994 Maryland Poll is now available on CESAR's electronic bulletin board. Call the board at 800-842-3727 (toll free from Maryland) or 301-403-8343 and access the "BBMDPOLL" file under the "PRODUCTS" conference. A hardcopy of this report (including graphics) is available from CESAR, free of charge.

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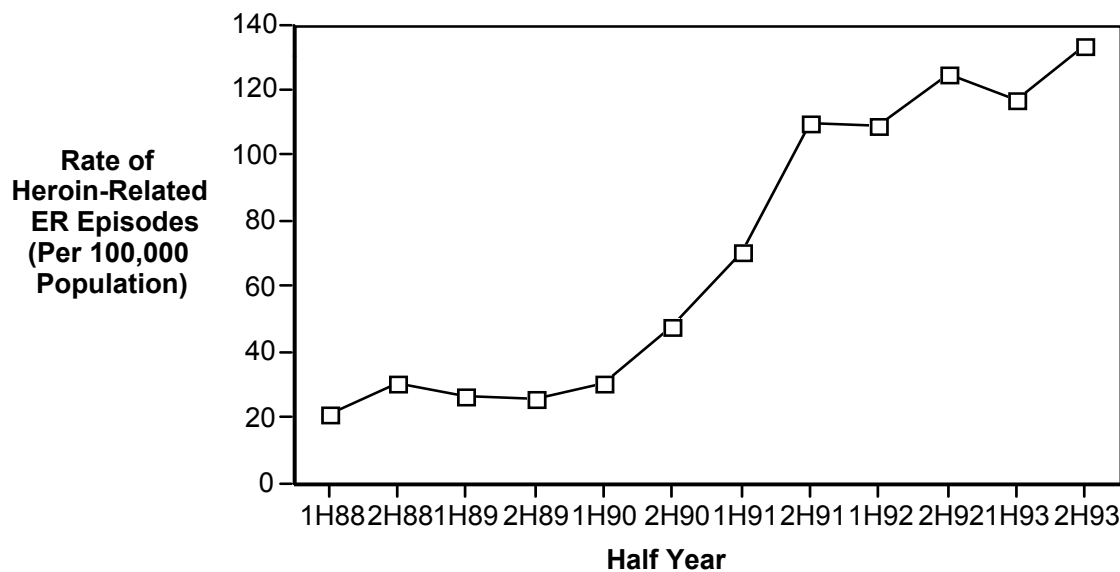
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park *

Heroin-Related ER Episodes Continue to Rise in Baltimore

Data from the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) show that estimated rates of heroin-related emergency room (ER) visits continue to rise in the Baltimore metropolitan area. In the first half of 1990, the estimated rate of heroin-related ER episodes in Baltimore was 30.1 per 100,000 population. By the end of 1993 this rate had increased to 133.1 per 100,000 population. This increase may be related to the increasing purity of heroin available in Baltimore. According to Dr. Shiv Soni, supervisor of the Baltimore City Police Department Drug Analysis Unit, the purity of street-level heroin has been increasing since 1990, as has the availability of very high quality, snortable heroin (with an average purity of 60-70%).

**Estimated Rate of Heroin-Related ER Episodes
in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area,
By Half Year, 1988 - 1993**



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), "Preliminary Estimates From the Drug Abuse Warning Network," Advance Report Number 8, December 1994; Baltimore City Police Department; and the Maryland Statewide Epidemiology Work Group, November 1993 Proceedings.

How Many Marylanders Believe Heroin Is Being Sold In Their Neighborhood?

To find out the answer to this and other questions asked of Maryland householders, call CESAR and request a complimentary copy of the "Spring 1994 Maryland Household Opinion Poll." A text version of the summary findings of the 1994 Maryland Poll is also available on CESAR's electronic bulletin board. Call the board at 800-842-3727 (toll free from Maryland) or 301-403-8343 and access the "BBMDPOLL" file under the "PRODUCTS" conference.

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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park *

CASA Report on Substance Abuse on College Campuses Under Scrutiny

In June 1994, the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University released a report, *Rethinking Rites of Passage: Substance Abuse on America's Campuses*. The report concluded that "abusive drinking" on college campuses has led to a rise in the "disastrous consequences of binge drinking--including death, violence, rape and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, such as AIDS" (p. ii). The results of the study were published by numerous media sources as well as substance abuse organizations such as ourselves (see CESAR FAX Volume 3, Issue 31). Recently, however, the report has been undergoing closer scrutiny. Kathy McNamara-Meis, a senior editor of *Forbes Media Critic Magazine*, investigated the sources behind some of the statistical data cited by CASA. Some of her findings appear below.

CASA Reported That . . .

"The number of women who reported drinking to get drunk more than tripled--between 1977 and 1993" (p. ii).

"90% of all reported campus rapes occur when alcohol is being used by either the assailant or the victim" (p. ii).

"60% of college women who have acquired sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS and genital herpes, were under the influence of alcohol at the time they had intercourse" (p. ii).

McNamara-Meis Reported That . . .

"The survey that produced [this statistic] was limited to drinking at a handful of colleges in Massachusetts in . . . 1977 and 1989, hardly a national sampling." Also, "the survey compared apples and oranges--drinking by college students of all ages ('77) to that by freshmen only ('89)" (p. 5).

"This statistic does not appear to exist in the published research available on rape." The CASA report did not provide a source but CASA's vice president said verbally that the source was a 1992 Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (OSAP) bulletin. The OSAP bulletin's source for the figure is a 1991 article about an on-campus lecture, published in a University of Maine student newspaper. The lecturer cited a *Ms.* magazine study as the source. "But the lecturer misspoke or else was misquoted . . . because the *Ms.* study . . . offers no such number" (p. 4).

A publication of the Advocacy Institute is the source for this statistic. That publication cites its source as a June 1990 University of California (UC) at Berkeley publication. According to the author of the UC publication, the statistic was taken "from a speech she had heard given by the director of student health services at the University of Wisconsin" and was "not intended to reflect any kind of original research." Further, the UC publication "does not mention any specific connection between AIDS and alcohol. In a move perhaps designed to attract media attention, CASA simply inserted the phrase 'such as AIDS' after the words '60 percent of college women who have acquired sexually transmitted diseases' " (p. 4).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from *Rethinking Rites of Passage: Substance Abuse on America's Campuses*, a report by the Commission on Substance Abuse at Colleges and Universities, June 1994, Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University and from Kathy McNamara-Meis, "CASA reports don't hold up against close scrutiny," *The Bacchus Beat*, February 1995, reprinted with permission from *Forbes Media Critic Magazine*. For further information, please contact Kathy McNamara-Meis at 908-781-2078.

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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park *

A Check on the Pulse of the Nation's Drug Problem

Since the spring of 1994, Abt Associates, under contract with the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), has conducted *Pulse Check*, a quarterly series of telephone conversations with drug ethnographers and epidemiologists, law enforcement agents, and treatment providers across the nation. The goal is to obtain a current profile of drug use and availability--a quick check on the pulse of the nation's drug abuse problem. The qualitative information is intended to supplement traditional sources of drug abuse data, which often are a year or more old by the time they are released for publication. Following are some of the findings of the December 1994 *Pulse Check*.

- Heroin use is appearing among nontraditional groups, including teenagers, young adults, females, and middle and upper-middle income persons. In addition, alternative methods of use, such as snorting and smoking, are emerging. For example, "in San Francisco, it was reported that heroin is being mixed with marijuana or tobacco, and then smoked" (p. 6).
- Cocaine use remains stable at high levels and is now being used by people of all ages and ethnicities. "In addition, sources in Denver, Los Angeles, and San Francisco reported seeing more women using cocaine" (p. 8).
- Marijuana use is rising among people of all ages and ethnicities, with a specific increase in marijuana use among youth. Treatment providers also report increases in people seeking treatment for marijuana, with "one large rural program for adult substance abusers . . . report[ing] that almost 70% of its clientele have marijuana as their primary substance abuse problem" (p. 11).
- Ethnographers and treatment providers have seen a rise in the use of unusual varieties of hallucinogens, especially among youth. "The Washington, D.C. police contact reported the appearance of a hallucinogen that is extracted from fluid excreted by a variety of toad" (p. 15).
- An increase in amphetamine and methamphetamine use has also been reported, often in combination with other drugs. "In Denver the practice of injecting methamphetamine alone or with cocaine is described as popular, particularly among white young adults" (p. 15).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), *Pulse Check: National Trends in Drug Abuse*, December 1994. To receive a complimentary copy of the report, please contact the ONDCP Drugs and Crime Clearinghouse at 800-666-3332.

How Does Geocoding Apply to Substance Abuse Research?

To discover the practical applications of geocoding, order our new report, "Location of Drug-Using Arrestees and Treatment Centers in Washington, D.C.: A Geocoding Demonstration", by K. Petronis, C. Johnson, and E. D. Wish. A copy with black and white maps is available at no charge. A copy with color maps is available for \$15.00. Please contact CESAR for more information.

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CASA Responds to Criticisms of Its College Substance Abuse Report

After the publication of CESAR FAX Volume 4, Issue 11, "CASA Report on Substance Abuse on College Campuses Under Scrutiny," the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) contacted CESAR regarding *Forbes Media Critic Magazine's* analysis of the CASA report, *Rethinking Rites of Passage: Substance Abuse on America's Campuses*. Below are excerpts of CASA's response. Reactions to either *Forbes Media Critic Magazine's* or CASA's views can be addressed directly to those organizations, at the phone numbers listed below.

Media Critic Reported That . . .

"As for CASA's figure of a 300 percent increase in the number of college women drinking to get drunk, . . . the survey that produced it was limited to . . . a handful of colleges in Massachusetts" and "compared apples and oranges--drinking by college students of all ages ('77) to that by freshmen only ('89)" (p. 5).

The statistic that 90% of all campus rapes are alcohol related "does not appear to exist in the published research." CASA reported the source as a 1992 Office for Substance Abuse Prevention bulletin, whose source for the figure is a 1991 University of Maine student newspaper article about an on-campus lecture. The lecturer cited a *Ms.* magazine study as the source (p. 4).

The figure that 60% of college women who have acquired sexually transmitted diseases were under the influence of alcohol at the time they were infected is cited by CASA as coming from an Advocacy Institute publication. That publication cites its source as a June 1990 University of California (UC) at Berkeley publication. According to the author of the UC publication, the statistic was taken "from a speech she had heard given by the director of student health services at the University of Wisconsin" and was "not intended to reflect any kind of original research" (p. 4).

CASA Replied That . . .

"The numbers come from a 1977 survey of all ages and a 1993 survey of all ages. Only fresh apples here."

"In fact, support for this number appears in the published research. A review published in the *Journal of American College Health*, also cited by CASA's Commission, found that 73% of assailants and 55% of rape victims used alcohol or drugs prior to the assault, which adds plausibility of alcohol involvement in 90% of all cases."

"The threat of AIDS among college students who drink is real. Surveys have indicated that individuals who are drinking alcohol are more likely to have sex and to have it without a condom. On page 20 of the report, the Commission noted that 'only 3,000 college students currently have tested positive for infection with the HIV virus' and concluded, 'What is now a comparatively rare phenomenon among college students may, in the future, become frighteningly common.' "

SOURCES: Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University. For further information, please contact Alyse Booth at 212-841-5200. Kathy McNamara-Meis, "CASA reports don't hold up against close scrutiny," *The Bacchus Beat*, February 1995, reprinted with permission from *Forbes Media Critic Magazine*. For further information, please contact Kathy McNamara-Meis at 908-781-2078.

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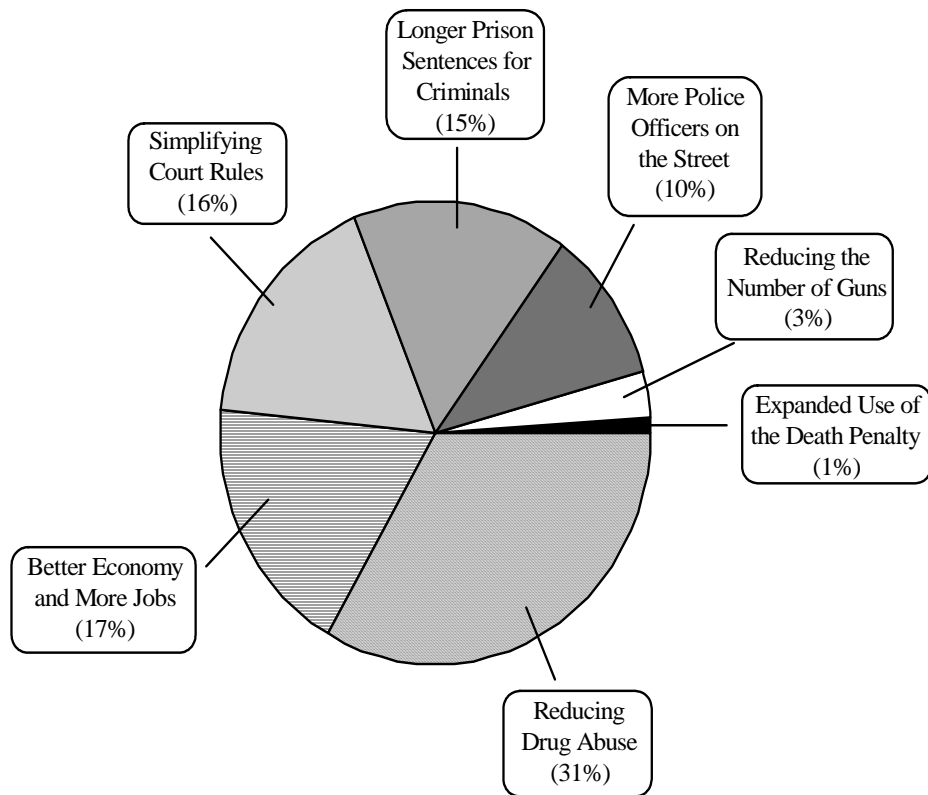
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park *

31% of Police Chiefs Believe Reducing Drug Abuse Would Have Greatest Impact on Reducing Violent Crime

In January 1995, the Death Penalty Information Center commissioned a nationwide telephone opinion poll of a random sample of police chiefs. The respondents were asked to state the strategies that they believed would have the greatest impact on reducing violent crime in their jurisdiction. Almost one third (31%) of the police chiefs surveyed believe that reducing drug abuse would have the greatest impact on reducing violent crime. The poll was conducted for the Death Penalty Information Center by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, an independent polling agency.

Actions Police Chiefs Believe Will Have the Greatest Impact on Reducing Violent Crime (N=386)



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Richard C. Dieter, "On the Front Line: Law Enforcement Views on the Death Penalty," Death Penalty Information Center, Washington, D.C., February 1995. For more information, contact the Death Penalty Information Center at (202) 347-2531.

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1995 Survey of Americans' Attitudes Towards Drug Abuse and Policy Just Released

"Nearly half (49%) of all Americans say they know a friend, relative, neighbor, or someone at work who became addicted to illegal drugs."

This is one of the findings of Drug Strategies' 1995 survey of Americans' attitudes toward drug abuse and drug policy. The telephone survey, conducted by Peter D. Hart Research Associates from February 16 to 19, 1995, was of a nationally representative sample of 1,003 American householders age 18 and over. The survey repeated several questions which had been asked in Drug Strategies' 1994 survey. A selection of those responses endorsed by a majority of the participants appear below.

- **92%** of Americans support "subjecting reckless drivers to drug testing, as well as alcohol testing."
- **85%** do not believe that "drug abuse is mainly a problem in poor and minority neighborhoods and doesn't affect most parts of the country."
- **77%** disagree with the statement "smoking marijuana is not really a major problem and does not lead to drug addiction."
- **55%** (up from 46% in 1994) believe that "in dealing with drug-related crime, we need to emphasize prosecuting drug dealers and drug users, stricter sentencing for drug dealers, and stopping drugs before they are brought into the U.S."
- Increased drug use among young people is either the first or second biggest concern about drug addiction and abuse for **53%** of those surveyed.
- **52%** believe that drug abuse is an "extremely serious" or a "quite serious" problem for their community.
- "Implementing needle exchange programs to reduce the spread of diseases such as AIDS" is favored by **50%** of Americans (down from 55% in 1994).
- **50%** state that violent crime associated with drug trafficking is either their first or second biggest concern about drug addiction and abuse.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc.'s telephone survey of 1,003 U.S. residents, February 16-19, 1995. Conducted for Drug Strategies, Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Margaret Beaudry of Drug Strategies at (202) 663-6090.

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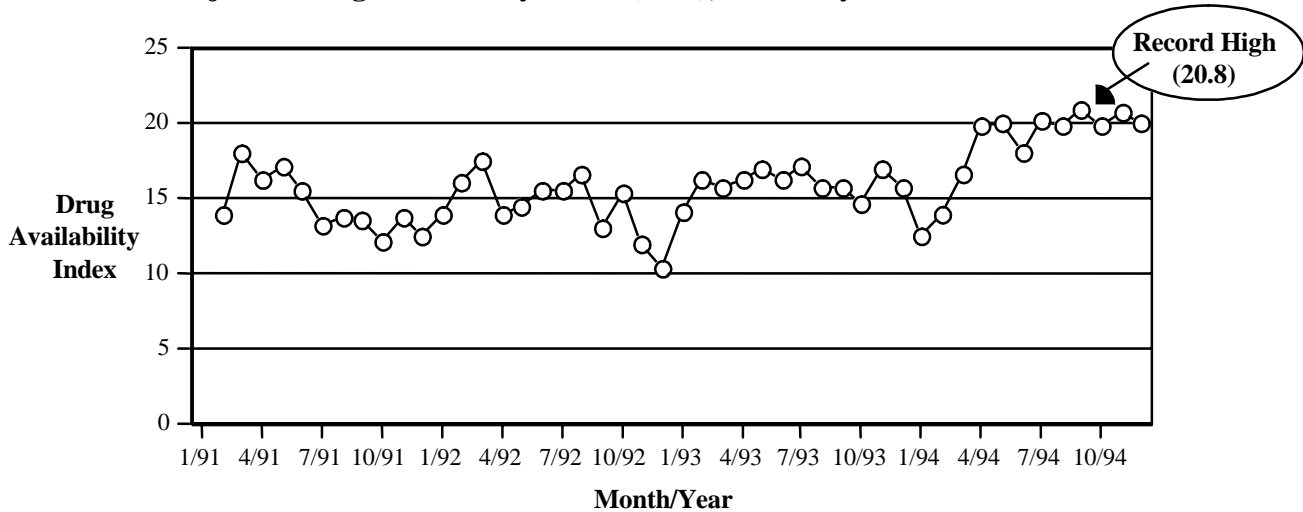
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Maryland State Police Drug Availability Index Shows Marijuana Availability Increasing

Since 1991 the Maryland State Police (MSP) has been using its Drug Availability Index (DAI) to better understand trends in drug supply. The DAI is a combination of several indicators that are directly affected by changes in drug availability--price, purity, the number of seizures, the average amount of drugs seized, the number of drug samples submitted to the MSP Crime Laboratory, and the percent of total laboratory submissions for each drug. While the value of the DAI has no intrinsic meaning, the current level of the index and how it changes over time provide a means of tracking drug availability. The DAI data indicate that marijuana availability is continuing to increase in Maryland.

Marijuana Drug Availability Index (DAI), February 1991 to December 1994*



*The DAI for October, November, and December 1994 is estimated.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from "Drug Availability Index Assessment," Maryland State Police, Criminal Intelligence Division. For more information about the DAI, or to receive a complimentary copy of the "Drug Availability Index Assessment," contact Tom Slahetka of the Maryland State Police, Criminal Intelligence Division at (410) 290-0780.

"DRUG AVAILABILITY INDEX ASSESSMENT" AVAILABLE ON CESAR BOARD!

The Maryland State Police, Criminal Intelligence Division's "Drug Availability Index Assessment" is available for viewing or downloading from CESAR's electronic bulletin board. Call the board at 800-842-3727 (toll free from Maryland) or 301-403-8343 and access the "CRIMINAL JUSTICE" conference.

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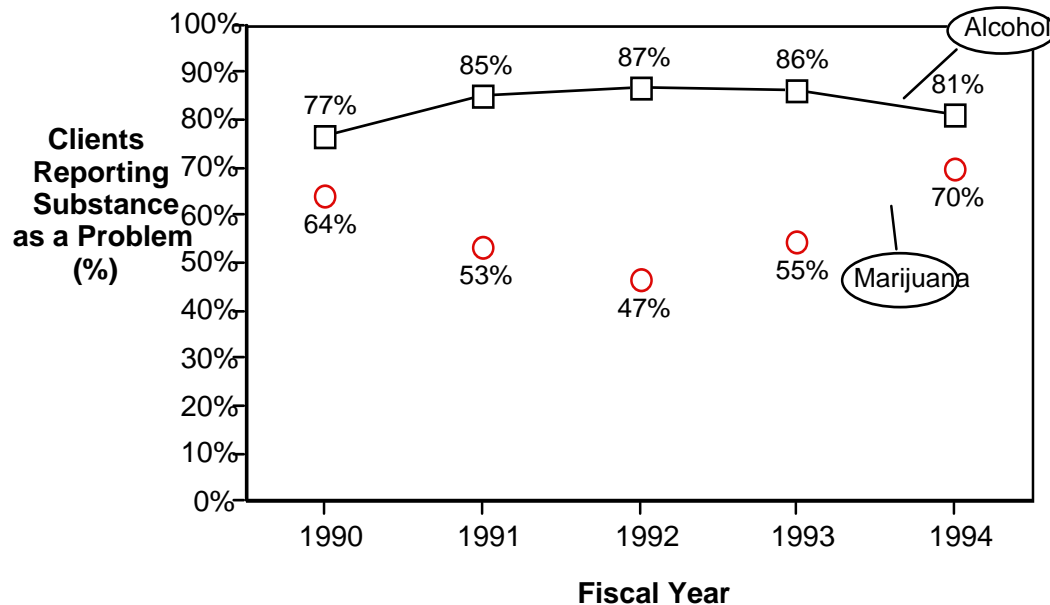
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Marijuana Rising as Alcohol Declines as Primary Substance of Abuse Among Juvenile Treatment Clients in Maryland

As a condition of state certification, all drug and alcohol treatment programs in Maryland are required to report their admissions statistics to the Substance Abuse Management Information System (SAMIS). Recently released SAMIS data show that while alcohol continues to be the primary substance of abuse among juvenile clients, the percentage mentioning alcohol as an abused substance has declined slightly since 1992. At the same time, the percentage of juvenile clients citing marijuana as a substance of abuse increased from 47% in 1992 to 70% in 1994.

Percentage of Maryland Juvenile Treatment Admissions, by Selected Substances of Abuse, Fiscal Year 1990 to 1994*



*Numbers do not add up to 100% because each client may report up to 3 substances of abuse at time of admission to a treatment facility.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Substance Abuse Management Information System (SAMIS), Maryland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration (ADAA).

CESAR BOARD IS NOW ON THE INTERNET AND WORLD WIDE WEB!!

CESAR is pleased to announce that our electronic bulletin board, the CESAR Board, is now accessible via the internet and World Wide Web. The internet address for the CESAR Board is: **inform.umd.edu**. Please select Educational Resources, then Colleges, then BSOS, then Departments, then CESAR to access the Board. The World Wide Web address is: **http://www.inform.umd.edu/EdRes/Colleges/BSOS/Depts/Cesar**

As always, the CESAR Board is accessible via modem by calling
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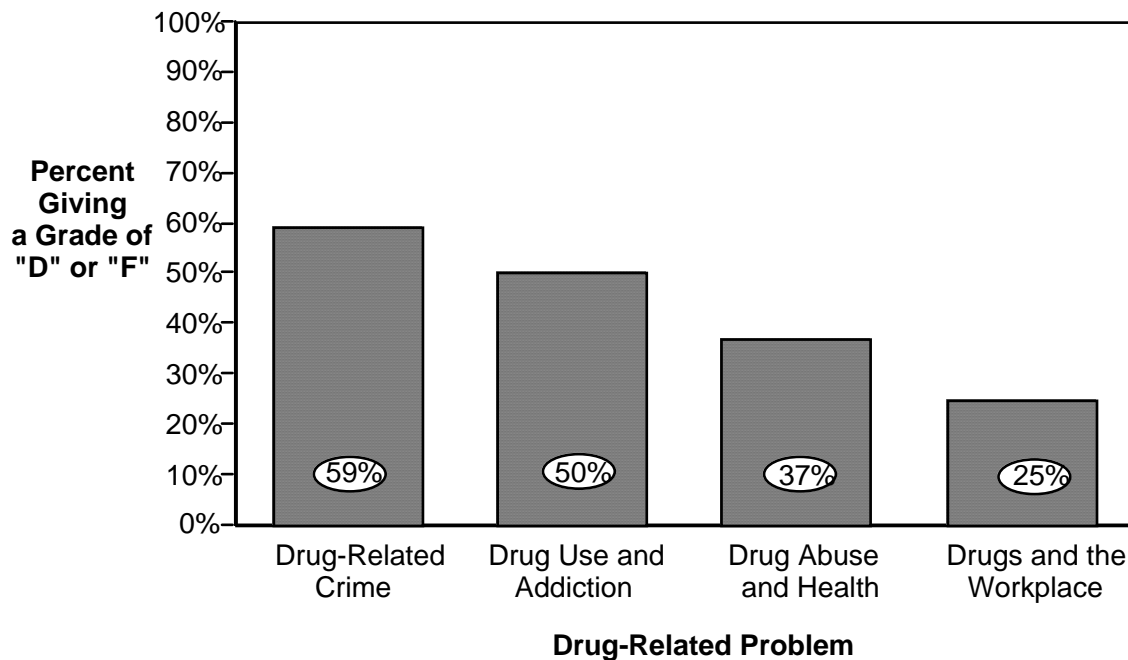
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Americans Give Federal Government Grades of "D" and "F" for Handling Drug Problems

A February 1995 survey asked U.S. residents to grade the federal government's current drug policies in four areas. Approximately one-half of the respondents gave the government a grade of either "D" or "F" for its efforts in dealing with "drug use and addiction" and "drug-related crime" (approximately 10% gave the government an "A" or "B" for its efforts in dealing with these two problems). The federal government's efforts in dealing with "drugs and the workplace" received the most favorable appraisal; only one-quarter gave it a "D" or "F" and over one-third (34%) gave it an "A" or "B."

Percentage of Americans Giving the Federal Government a Grade of "D" or "F" for Dealing with Four Drug-Related Problems



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc.'s telephone survey of 1,003 U.S. residents, February 16-19, 1995. Conducted for Drug Strategies, Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Margaret Beaudry of Drug Strategies at (202) 663-6090.

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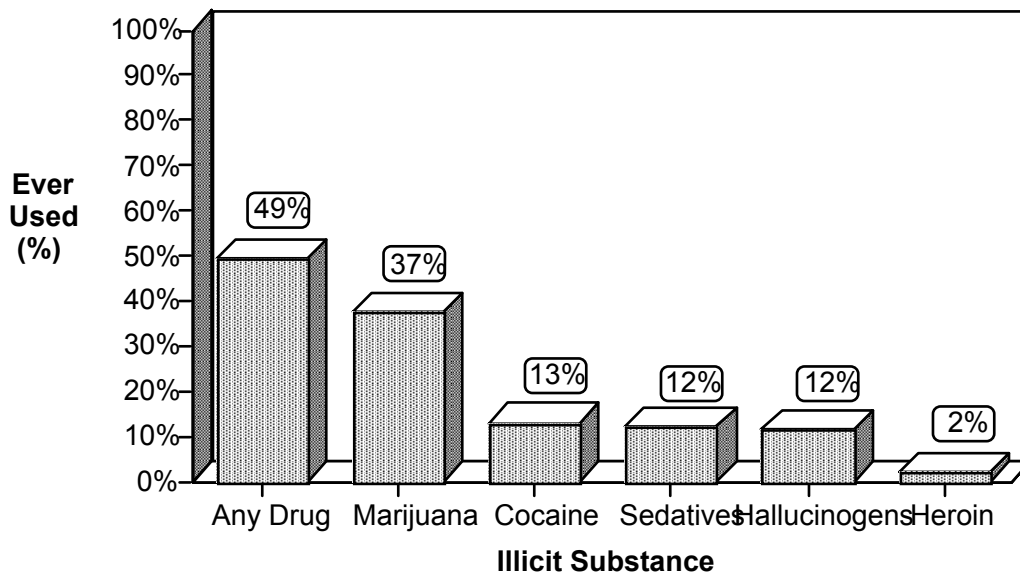
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Nearly One-Half of Montgomery County Residents Report Using Illicit Drugs at Least Once During Lifetime

Recently released data from the *1994 Montgomery County Household Survey of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse* indicate that almost one-half (49%)--over 283,000--of Montgomery County adults have used some type of illicit drug during their lifetime. Over one-third (37%) reported use of marijuana. The percentage reporting use of other drugs was much lower, ranging from 2% to 13%. The telephone survey, conducted between April 21 and May 31, 1994, interviewed 1,244 Montgomery County householders aged 18 or older. For more information contact the Montgomery County Community Partnership at (301) 929-8550.

Percentage of Montgomery County, Maryland Household Residents Reporting Lifetime Use of Illicit Drugs, by Drug, 1994



NOTES: Population estimate is based on 1990 census. "Sedatives" refers to non-prescription use of these drugs.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the *1994 Montgomery County Household Survey of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse*, sponsored by the Montgomery County Community Partnership (MCCP) and conducted by Macro International Inc.

HAS YOUR COMMUNITY CONDUCTED A SUBSTANCE ABUSE SURVEY ?

CESAR would like to receive copies of community, city, county or state substance abuse surveys to add to our library. Please send a copy of your substance abuse survey to us at the following address. Thank you!

CESAR, ATTN: Library
4321 Hartwick Road, Suite 501
College Park, MD 20740

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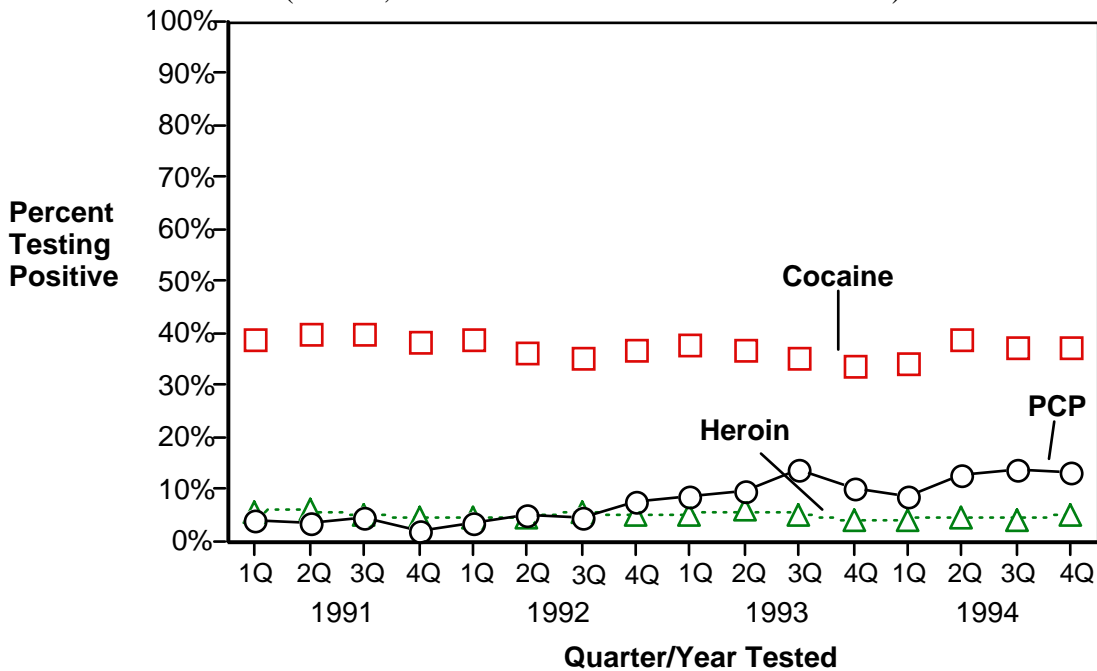
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University of Maryland at College Park

Prince George's County Stops Pre-Trial Drug Testing of Booked Arrestees: County and State Losing an Important Drug Trend Indicator

The Prince George's County Pre-Trial Release Unit has been collecting data on drug use by arrestees since the early 1980s. Arrestees who are in jail awaiting their bond hearing are asked to voluntarily submit urine specimens for testing. The results are used by the court system to help determine conditions of release for those arrestees placed under the supervision of the Pre-Trial Release Unit. CESAR has regularly used these data as indicators of arrestee drug use in Prince George's County (see figure below). Recently, CESAR was informed that as of January 1995, urinalysis testing of booked arrestees was discontinued due to a lack of funding. This indicator will be missed by many of us who have the difficult job of tracking drug epidemics in Maryland.

Percentage of Booked Arrestees in Prince George's County Who Tested Positive for Cocaine, PCP, and/or Heroin, First Quarter 1991 to Fourth Quarter 1994
(N = 29,806 Male and Female Arrestees Tested)



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Prince George's County Pre-Trial Release Unit.

ORDER YOUR COPY OF CESAR'S GEOCODING REPORT TODAY!

Copies of the report, "Location of Drug-Using Arrestees and Treatment Centers in Washington, D.C.: A Geocoding Demonstration" are still available. A copy with black and white maps is available at no charge. A copy with color maps is available for \$15.00. Please contact CESAR for more information.

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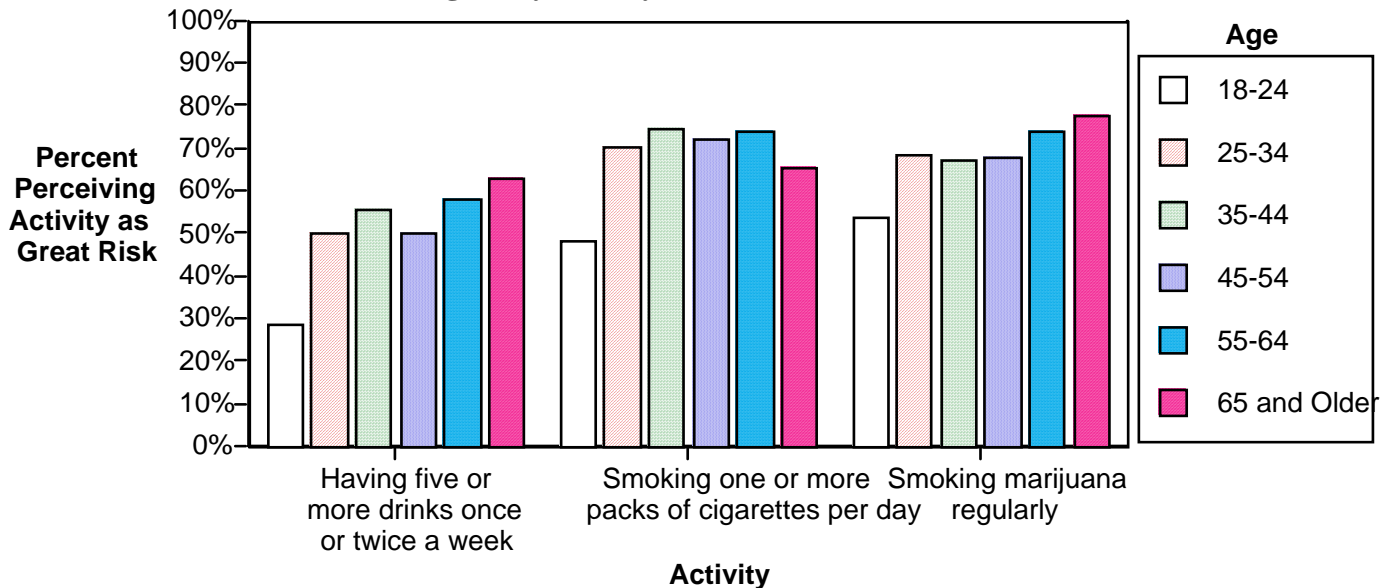
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Montgomery County Young Adults Less Likely Than Older Adults to Perceive Risk in Using Alcohol, Cigarettes, and Marijuana

Recently released data from a survey of Montgomery County residents indicates that young adults' perceptions of the risks of substance use are dramatically lower than those of older age groups. Having five or more drinks once or twice a week was seen as a great risk by 29% of respondents aged 18 to 24, compared with between 50% and 63% of persons aged 25 and older. Similar relationships were found for the perceptions of the risks of cigarette and marijuana use. According to the survey, "these findings suggest that the county needs to focus on debunking the myths that support tolerance of . . . regular marijuana use, heavy alcohol consumption, and cigarette smoking" (p. 20).

Perceived Risk of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Marijuana Use, by Age, Montgomery County Household Residents, 1994



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the 1994 *Montgomery County Household Survey of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse*, sponsored by the Montgomery County Community Partnership (MCCP) and conducted by Macro International, Inc. The survey was conducted via telephone with 1,244 Montgomery County householders aged 18 or older. For more information contact the Montgomery County Community Partnership at (301) 929-8550.

NEEDLE EXCHANGE DOCUMENTARY RECENTLY RELEASED

"Fire in Our House" is a 10-minute documentary that illustrates the "positive impact that needle exchange programs have on addicts, their families and communities. As a strategic tool that personalizes the terms of the debate, 'Fire in Our House' increases public awareness about needle exchange, influences policies and assists grassroots mobilization." For a free preview copy and the Resource Guide, contact MayDay Media at (202) 338-1094.

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Heroin Attracting Younger, Suburban Inhalers

According to the Spring 1995 *Pulse Check*, while older, inner-city residents continue to be the main users of heroin, an increase in the number of younger, suburban users has been reported in some areas. "Reports from New York, Colorado, New Jersey, Connecticut, California, and Georgia indicate heroin is being purchased by younger users" and "in New York there is a reported increase . . . in the number of suburban users coming into the city to buy heroin" (p. 7).

Several factors seem to be attracting new users to heroin. Availability of the drug is high, and many crack and cocaine dealers are switching to heroin sales. In addition, heroin is relatively inexpensive--the price across the country remains consistently at \$3, \$10, and \$20 per bag or balloon. The current purity of heroin "is reminiscent of heroin found on the streets during the heroin epidemic of the late 1960's," ranging from 40% to 80% in most areas (p. 8). Recent heroin seizures by the Maryland State Police yielded heroin which was 75-80% pure.

The availability of high-purity heroin has resulted in an increase in inhalation as a mode of ingestion, particularly in the Northeast. In New York, "small glassine envelopes in which heroin is packaged litter many areas where high levels of heroin trafficking occur, indicating that users buy the product, inhale it immediately, and dispose of the container on site" (p. 7). Treatment providers in the Northeast report that equal numbers of heroin inhalers and injectors are entering treatment. The availability of inhalable heroin attracts many new users because it is less stigmatizing than injection and there is no risk of HIV infection.

Pulse Check is released quarterly by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) (see CESAR FAX Volume 4, Issue 12, for more information). To receive a complimentary copy of the Spring 1995 report, please contact the ONDCP Drugs and Crime Clearinghouse at 800-666-3332.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), *Pulse Check: National Trends in Drug Abuse, Spring 1995*.

MARYLAND TO LAUNCH FIRST STATE WIDE PULSE CHECK!

CESAR is preparing to institute a statewide Pulse Check for Maryland, modeled after the national ONDCP Pulse Check. We are currently searching for researchers, epidemiologists, ethnographers, treatment providers, law enforcement officials, grass-roots organizers, and individuals working in a community setting who are willing to periodically discuss local drug trends over the telephone. If you would like to participate or would like to nominate someone, please contact Clare Mundell at CESAR, 301-403-8329.

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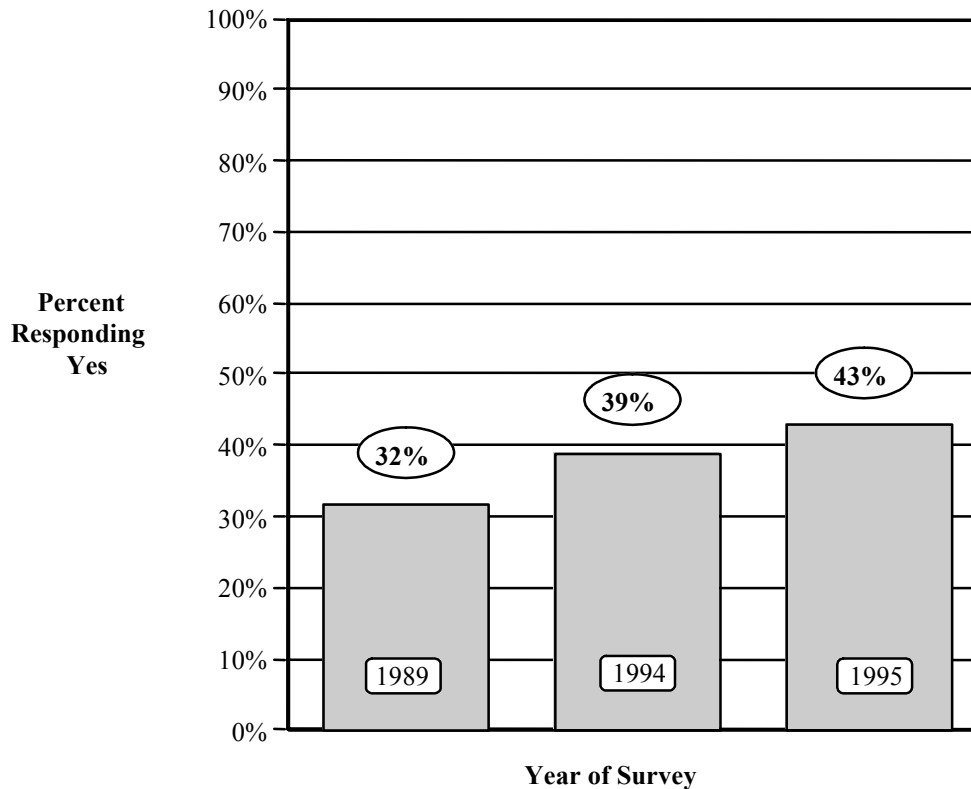
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Over One-Third of Americans Report Making Changes in the Way They Live Due to Threat of Drug-Related Problems

A recent national survey conducted for Drug Strategies found that 43% of Americans have changed the way they live because of drug-related problems, up from 32% in 1989. Types of changes include "when or where you shop" and "taking security precautions in your home" (p. 14). The telephone survey, conducted in February 1995, was of 1,003 U.S. householders aged 18 and over.

"Have you or your family changed the way you live . . . because of the threat of drugs or problems caused by drug sellers and users?"



NOTE: The 1989 results are from a *New York Times/Wall Street Journal* poll; the 1994 and 1995 results are from Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc.'s polls.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc.'s telephone survey of 1,003 U.S. residents, February 16-19, 1995. Conducted for Drug Strategies, Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Margaret Beaudry of Drug Strategies at (202) 663-6090.

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"Fire in Our House" is a 10-minute documentary that illustrates the "positive impact that needle exchange programs have on addicts, their families and communities. As a strategic tool that personalizes the terms of the debate, 'Fire in Our House' increases public awareness about needle exchange, influences policies and assists grassroots mobilization." For a free preview copy and the Resource Guide, contact MayDay Media at (202) 338-1094.

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Drug Abuse Alert: Rohypnol

A panel at NIDA's Community Epidemiology Work Group (CEWG) meeting on June 16, 1995 addressed the rapidly spreading abuse of the sedative-hypnotic Rohypnol among adolescents and young adults in Florida and Texas. Rohypnol (pronounced row-hip-nole) is not legally available in the United States, even for medicinal purposes, but it is an approved medicine in most other parts of the world, prescribed mainly for the short-term treatment of sleep disorders. Rohypnol (the brand name of flunitrazepam) is a benzodiazepine like the tranquilizer diazepam (Valium), yet is 10 times more potent. The drug produces sedative effects, including amnesia, muscle relaxation, and the slowing of psychomotor performance. Sedation occurs 20 to 30 minutes after administration of a 2-mg tablet and lasts for approximately 8 hours.

Illicit use of Rohypnol originated in Europe in the 1970s and has increased worldwide since then. However, the substance did not appear in the United States until the early 1990s. In 1992, a South Florida drug hotline began receiving calls reporting occasional to chronic abuse of the drug. Around the same time, the drug appeared in Texas as well. Today, use of Rohypnol is one of the fastest growing drug problems in both areas. In addition, the drug appears to be spreading across the United States. As of April 1995, the Drug Enforcement Administration had documented over 1,000 cases of Rohypnol possession across 13 states, including one case in **Maryland**. In addition, the most recent *Pulse Check* cites Rohypnol among the emerging drugs of the Spring 1995 survey.

Rohypnol use by youths of all socioeconomic status has been reported. The inexpensive cost, ranging from \$2 to \$3 per pill, attracts young users. High school students report use of the drug as a cheap drunk and as a cure for alcohol hangovers. Typically, however, Rohypnol is used along with alcohol and other drugs. College students using Rohypnol report mixing it with beer to enhance the feeling of drunkenness. It has also been reported to be used in combination with marijuana and cocaine, as well as heroin. Street names for Rohypnol include rophies, ropies, ruffies, roofies, roche, R-2, mexican valium, rib, and rope.

The use of Rohypnol itself is dangerous, leading to physical and psychic dependence, which increases with dose and duration of use. However, there are other dangers linked to the use of this substance. Rohypnol is typically sold in its original bubble packaging, conveying a sense of legality and security in its use. The perceived safety of the drug, along with the trend of use in combination with other substances, creates the possibility of Rohypnol becoming a gateway to harder drugs. An equally serious danger is the reported use of Rohypnol as a "date rape" drug of choice. Sources in both Florida and Texas report that the drug is given to females without their consent in order to produce disinhibition. While this specific use may not be pervasive, it is cause for concern.

The recent appearance of Rohypnol in the United States, coupled with the lack of an inexpensive urine test for the substance, has delayed the collection of research information. Future research should concentrate on the distribution pattern of the drug, medical descriptions of the epidemic, and effective prevention and treatment procedures.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Jim Hall and Jane C. Maxwell, Community Drug Epidemiology Work Group (CEWG) Memorandum, May 2, 1995. For more information on Rohypnol, contact Jim Hall at (305) 757-2566 or Jane Maxwell at (512) 867-8829.

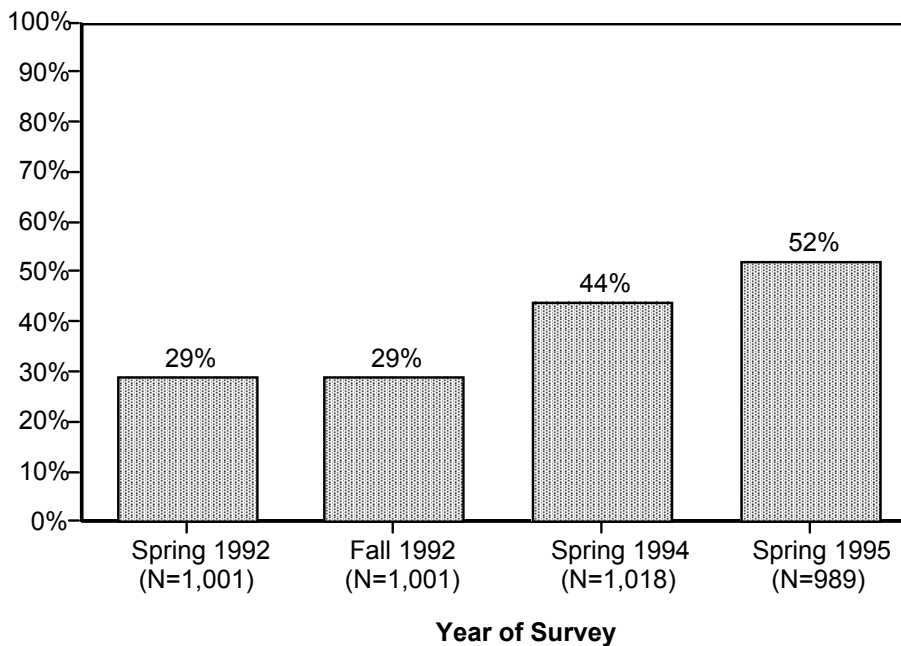
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Majority of Marylanders Believe Marijuana Use Is Increasing in Maryland

Recently, the University of Maryland Survey Research Center conducted its annual telephone survey of Maryland householders aged 18 and over. Among the drug-related questions asked for CESAR was whether marijuana use in Maryland is increasing, decreasing, or staying the same. Over half of the respondents (52%) believe that marijuana use is increasing in Maryland, a rise from 44% in the spring of 1994. Results for cocaine, heroin, and PCP did not increase over the same time period. Marylanders' perception of marijuana use corresponds with an increase in other state wide measures of marijuana use (see CESAR FAX Volume 4, Issues 16 and 17). To receive a complimentary copy of the preliminary results of the survey, which include questions on drug legalization, drug testing of reckless drivers, and the effectiveness of the federal government's drug policies, contact CESAR at 301-403-8329. CESAR's participation in this survey was funded by a grant from the Governor's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission.

Percentage of Respondents Who Think Marijuana Use Is Increasing in Maryland, 1992-1995



SOURCE: Statewide telephone poll of adults 18 and older, conducted for CESAR by the University of Maryland Survey Research Center, College Park.

CESAR CAN HELP YOU RESPOND TO RESEARCH SOLICITATIONS AND EVALUATE YOUR PROGRAMS

State and local government agencies in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Northern Virginia can get help from CESAR in responding to substance-abuse related research solicitations and in evaluating their programs. For more information on how CESAR's experienced team of researchers, evaluators, and proposal writers can be of assistance, contact CESAR's Director, Eric Wish, at 301-403-8329.

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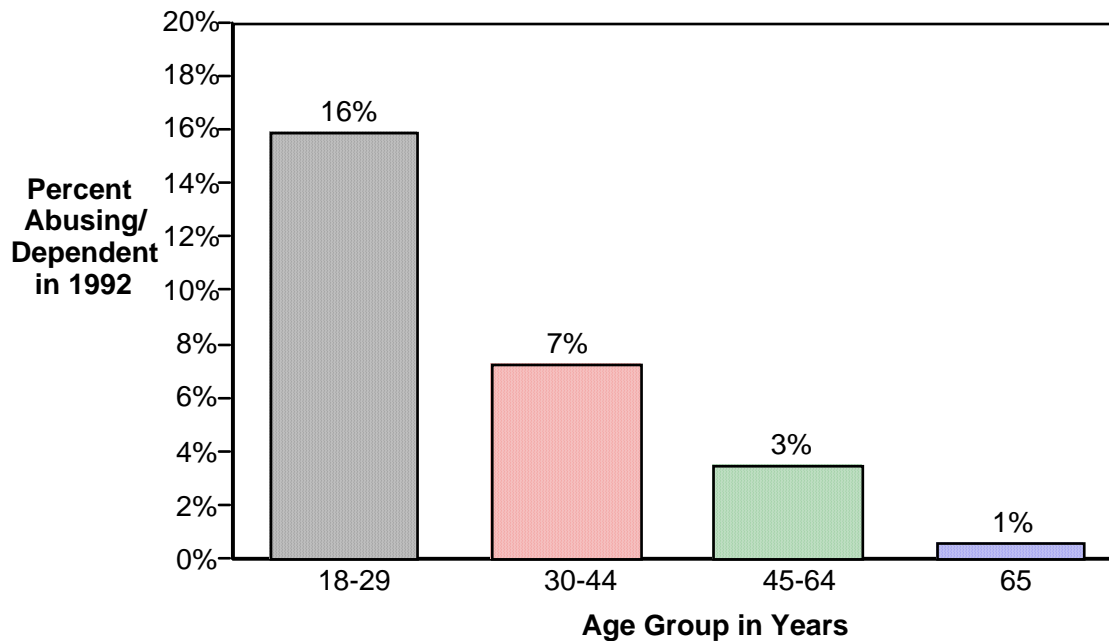
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University of Maryland at College Park

***More Than 13 Million Adult Americans Have an Alcohol Problem;
Highest Rates Found Among Young Adults***

According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 7% of adult Americans (an estimated 13,760,000) abused or were dependent on alcohol during 1992. The prevalence of alcohol abuse and dependence was highest among respondents aged 18-24 (an estimated 7,415,000 persons), regardless of sex or ethnicity. While it is possible that alcohol abuse and dependence are more prevalent in this age group, there are other plausible explanations for the decline in prevalence with age. These may include "faulty recall accompanying increasing age, lower survival rates among alcoholics, and various response styles" (p. 246).

Prevalence of DSM-IV Alcohol Abuse and Dependence*, by Age



* Prevalence estimates were based on face-to-face interviews conducted with 42,862 respondents, 18 years of age and older, in the contiguous United States. Criteria for abuse and dependence were based on the most recent criteria from the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (DSM-IV)*.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from B. Grant et al. "Prevalence of DSM-IV Alcohol Abuse and Dependence: United States, 1992," *Alcohol Health and Research World*, Volume 18 (3), 1994, pp. 243-248.

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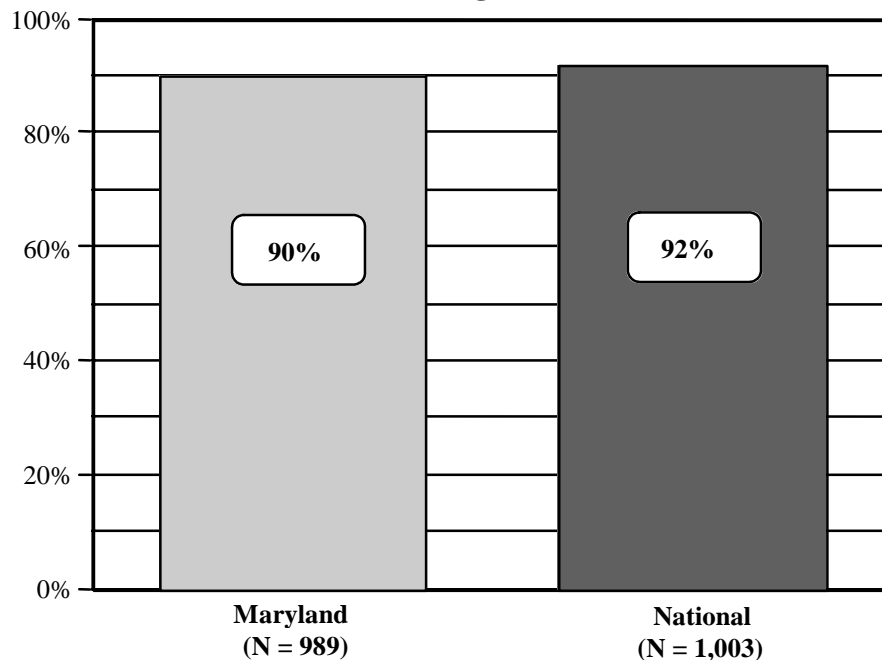
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Drug Testing of Reckless Drivers Strongly Supported in Maryland and Nationally

According to the Spring 1995 Maryland Household Poll, 90% of adult Maryland residents support drug testing of reckless drivers, results virtually identical to those of a recent national survey. In 1994 there were 21,753 arrests in Maryland for driving while intoxicated (by alcohol or other drugs). However, during the same period only 138 drug tests were conducted by the Maryland State Police on persons who appeared to be under the influence of a substance yet did not test positive for alcohol with a breathalyzer. The growing evidence that many reckless drivers test positive for drugs (see CESAR Fax Volume 3, Issue 35), coupled with the strong public support for drug testing of reckless drivers, points to the need for a nationwide system for identifying and treating drugged drivers.

**Percent in Favor of Requiring Drug Testing,
as Well as Alcohol Testing, for Reckless Drivers**



SOURCE: National poll adapted by CESAR from national telephone survey of U. S. residents aged 18 and older, conducted for Drug Strategies by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc., February 1995. Maryland telephone poll of adults aged 18 and older, conducted for CESAR by the University of Maryland Survey Research Center, April - June 1995.

WHAT DO MARYLANDERS THINK ABOUT SUBSTANCE ABUSE?

The views of Marylanders on such topics as the extent of drug use in Maryland and drug legalization are presented in "Marylanders' Views on Substance Abuse: Advance Results from the 1995 Maryland Household Opinion Poll". To receive a complimentary copy, contact CESAR by phone (301-403-8329), fax (301-403-8342), or e-mail (CESAR@cesar.umd.edu).

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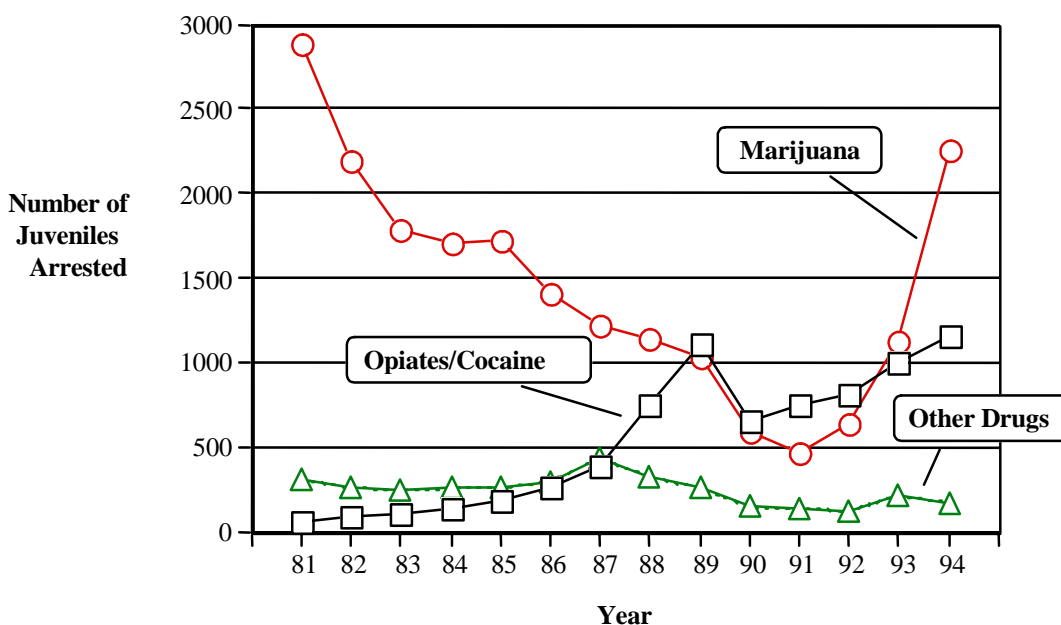
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Juvenile Marijuana Arrests Rise to Thirteen-Year High in Maryland

Recently released statistics from the Maryland Uniform Crime Reports show that juvenile arrests for possession of marijuana have been increasing since reaching a low in 1991. Arrests of juveniles for possession of opiates/cocaine has also been rising, but at a much lower rate. It is not possible to determine if these data reflect an actual shift in juvenile drug involvement or in law enforcement practices. However, a number of other indicators also point to increased marijuana use among youths, both nationally and in Maryland (see CESAR FAX, Volume 4, Issues 9 and 17).

Number of Maryland Juveniles Arrested for Possessing Marijuana, Opiates/Cocaine, or Other Drugs, 1981 - 1994*



*NOTE: Opiates/Cocaine includes opium, cocaine, and their derivatives (such as morphine, heroin, and codeine).
Other Drugs includes synthetic narcotics (such as methadone) and dangerous nonnarcotic drugs (such as barbiturates).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, Maryland State Police.

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***Over One-Third of National AIDS Cases Reported in 1994
Associated with Drug Use***

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over one-third (36%) of the 80,691 new AIDS cases reported in 1994 were associated with injection drug use (IDU). The majority of the IDU-related AIDS cases were among heterosexuals, which makes injection drug use the most prevalent mode of exposure among heterosexuals. Reported AIDS cases in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area show similar patterns (see CESAR FAX, Volume 3, Issue 48).

Number of AIDS Cases Reported in 1994, by Mode of Exposure, United States

<u>Mode of Exposure</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Men Having Sex with Men	34,974	43%
Injection Drug Use ¹		
By Homosexuals	3,853	5%
By Heterosexuals	25,086	31%
		} 36%
Undetermined Risk	9,578	12%
Heterosexual Contact	5,348	7%
Other ²	1,768	2%
Total	80,691	100%

¹Includes having sexual relations with an injection drug user.

²"Other" includes non-IDU perinatal transmission, hemophilia/coagulation disorder, and receipt of blood transfusion, blood components, or tissue.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, Volume 6, Number 2.

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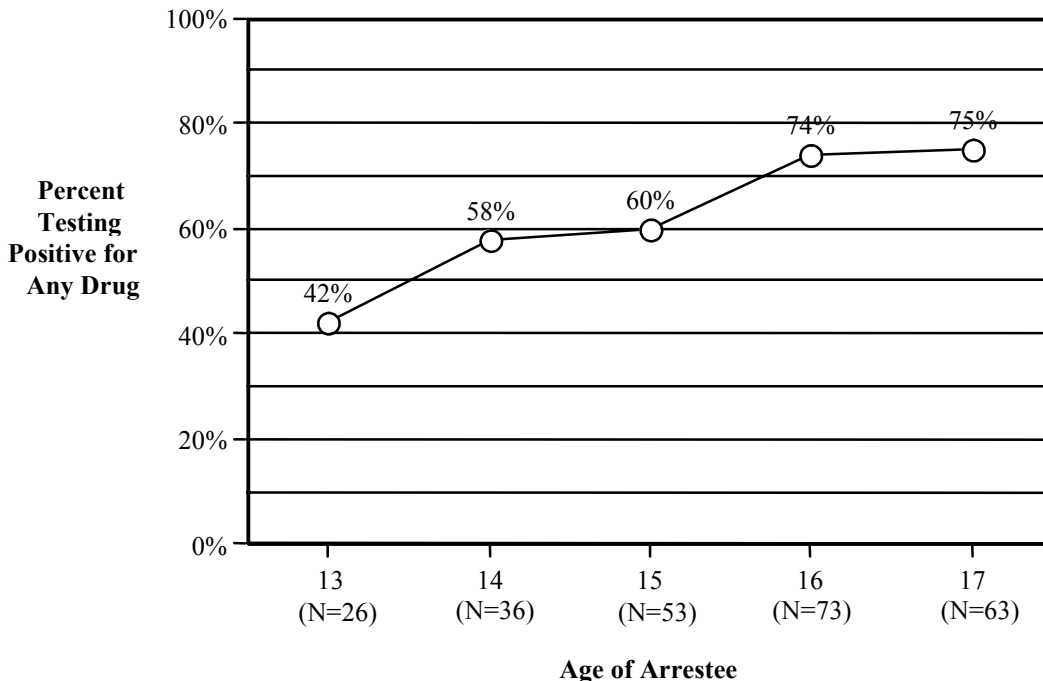
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Drug Positives Among Washington, D.C. Juvenile Arrestees Highest Since Testing Began in 1986

The May results from the D.C. Pretrial Services Agency testing program show that 66% of juvenile arrestees tested positive by urinalysis for any drug, the highest rate since juvenile drug testing began in 1986. One-fourth of those tested were positive for PCP and 61% for marijuana. Positive rates for both drugs have been steadily increasing since 1992. The graph below illustrates that in May 1995, three-quarters of juvenile arrestees aged 16 and older tested positive for at least one drug. For more information, contact Kathy Boyer at D.C. Pretrial Services Agency, 202-727-2914.

**Percentage of Washington, D.C. Juvenile Arrestees
Testing Positive for Any Drug* by Age, May 1995**



*Drugs tested for during May 1995 were marijuana, PCP, and cocaine.

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

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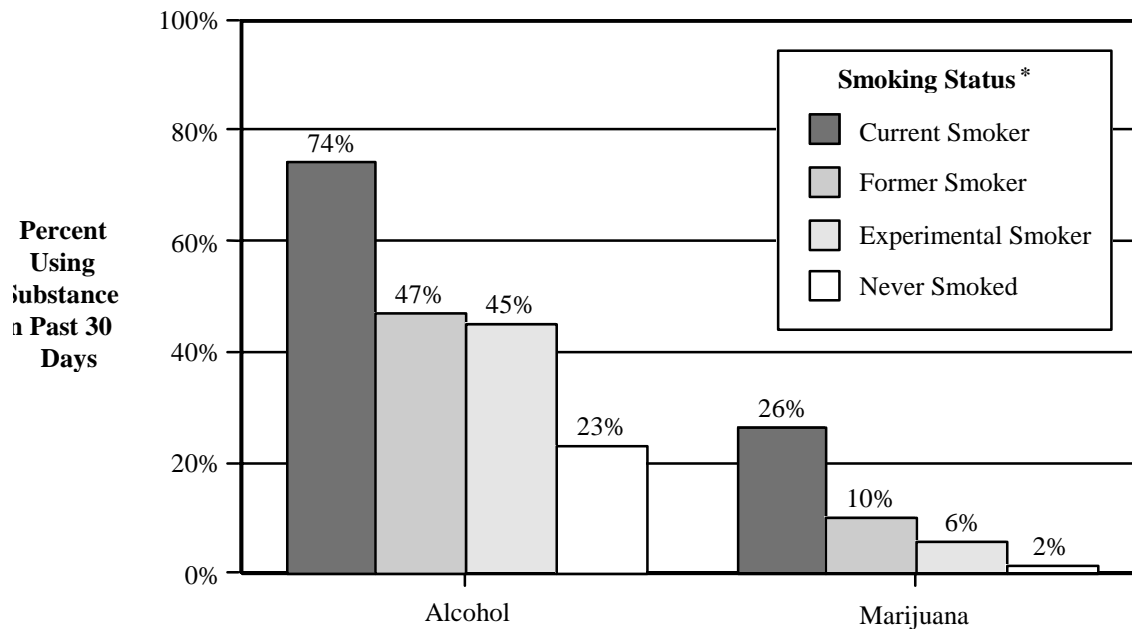
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Cigarette-Smoking Youth More Likely to Use Alcohol and Marijuana Than Nonsmokers

Recently released data from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey of Youth Risk Behavior indicate that there is an association between cigarette smoking and use of alcohol and marijuana among youth 12 to 21 years of age. Current smokers were 3 times more likely to have used alcohol within the past 30 days and 13 times more likely to have used marijuana than youth who had never smoked. These relationships were "stronger at the younger ages, but remained consistent . . . among youth 18-21 years of age" (p. 2).

**Percentage of Youth Aged 12 - 21
Who Used Alcohol or Marijuana in the Past 30 Days,
By Smoking Status, United States, 1992***



*Data were collected from in-person interviews of 10,645 youth aged 12 to 21 in the general household population of the United States, conducted from April 1992 through March 1993.

* Current: Youth who had smoked at least one cigarette in the past 30 days.

Former: Youth who had at one time smoked at least one cigarette per day for 30 days, but had not smoked cigarettes in the past month.

Experimental: Youth who had smoked at least one or two puffs of a cigarette, but had never smoked cigarettes every day for 30 days and had not used cigarettes in the past 30 days.

Never: Youth who had never had even one or two puffs of a cigarette.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from J.C. Willard and C.A. Schoenborn. "Relationship Between Cigarette Smoking and Other Unhealthy Behaviors Among our Nation's Youth: United States, 1992." Advance Data, Number 263, April 24, 1995. National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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Drug Arrests Seen By Most Jail Administrators as a Contributor to Crowding

Recently released data from the 1994 National Assessment Program show that arrests for drug possession and sales are the most frequently reported contributing factors to crowded jail conditions nationwide. Of the 103 crowded prison facilities surveyed by mail, 94% reported that drug arrests are a major or moderate contributing factor to their crowded conditions. Similar results were found among administrators of crowded state prisons--88% reported drug arrests as a contributing factor to crowded conditions.

Jail Administrators' Views on Factors That Contribute to Overcrowding* (N = 103 Administrators of Crowded Jails)

<u>Contributing Factors to Jail Crowding</u>	<u>Percent Reporting Factor as Major or Moderate Contributor</u>
Arrests for Drug Possession	94.0%
Arrests for Drug Sales	94.0
Arrests for Violent Crimes	90.0
Probation Violations	84.0
Jail Incarceration for Persons Convicted of Felonies	72.7
Parole Violations	72.0
Domestic Violence	68.7
Length of Sentences to Jail	68.7
Mandatory Jail Sentences for Driving While Intoxicated	64.6
Lack of Community Alternatives for Mentally Ill	58.6
Insufficient Pretrial Release Options	55.5
Prison System Delay in Accepting Convicted Felons	54.5
Insufficient Alternative Sentence Programs	52.5

*Surveys were mailed to the criminal justice agencies in a selected sample of 411 counties nationwide. All 211 counties having populations greater than 250,000 residents were selected, along with a random sample of 200 counties having populations between 50,000 and 250,000 residents. A total of 409 jail administrators were mailed surveys, 315 (77%) responded, and 103 (35%) were categorized as crowded (operating at more than 110% of their rated inmate capacity).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from *National Assessment Program: 1994 Survey Results*. National Institute of Justice Research Report. For information on ordering a copy of this report, contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service at 800-851-3420 or 301-251-5500.

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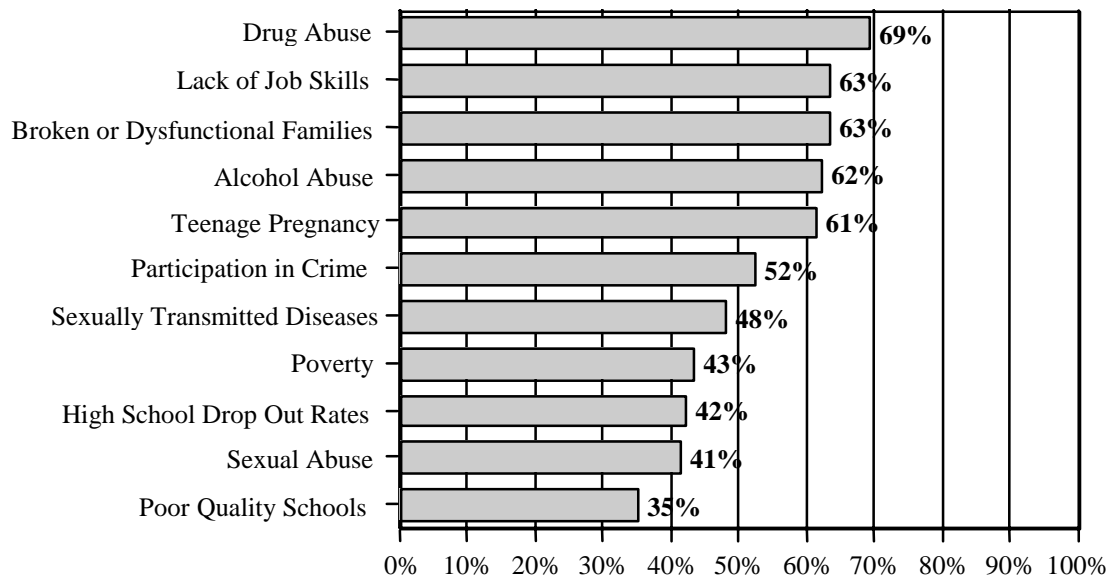
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***Substance Abuse, Lack of Job Skills, and Dysfunctional Families
Seen as Most Serious Problems Facing Young Adults***

Recently released data from a May 1995 national telephone survey show that substance abuse is thought to be one of the most serious problems among young adults. Of the 2,801 householders surveyed, 69% believe that drug abuse is a fairly or very serious problem among young adults (aged 17-21) in their community, while 62% believe this is true of alcohol abuse. Dysfunctional families (63%), a lack of job skills (63%), and teenage pregnancy (61%) were also seen as serious problems by a majority of householders.

Percentage of U.S. Adult Householders Reporting Problems as "Fairly" or "Very" Serious Among Young Adults Aged 17-21*



* Data were collected from national telephone interviews of 2,801 Americans aged 21 and older, conducted between April 29 and May 9, 1995. The sampling error is $\pm 3\%$.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from "Young Adults at-Risk: Public Perceptions about a Growing National Problem and What Should be Done." Prepared by Yankelovich Partners, Inc. for Covenant House, July 1995.

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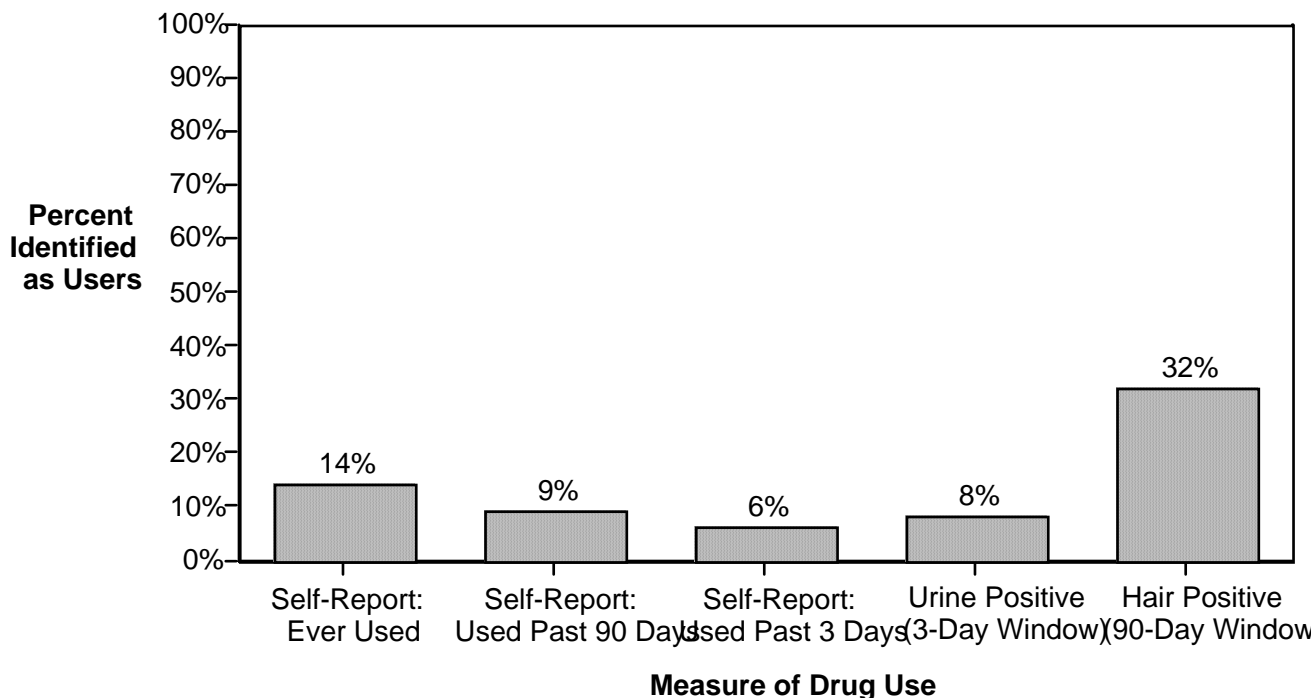
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Hair Analysis: An Effective Tool for Detecting Drug Use Among Juvenile Detainees

CESAR has recently completed the first study to assess recent drug use among female juvenile detainees using information from self-report, urinalysis, and hair analysis. The results show that hair analysis detects 2 to 5 times more users of cocaine than self-reports or urinalysis. These results are consistent with those found by Feucht, et al. among male juvenile detainees (see CESAR Fax Volume 3, Issue 16). A report of the results of this study will be available in September. To request a copy of the report, contact CESAR at 301-403-8329.

Estimates of Recent Cocaine Use Among Female Juvenile Detainees (N=132)



SOURCE: E.D. Wish and T.A. Gray (Forthcoming). "Recent Drug Use in Female Juvenile Detainees: Estimates from Interviews, Urinalysis, and Hair Analysis." Funded by a grant from the Governor's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission.

HAVE YOU CALLED THE CESAR BOARD LATELY?

CESAR's electronic bulletin board, CESAR BOARD, is accessible, 24 hours a day, via:

- Modem: 301-403-8343 or 1-800-84-CESAR (for Maryland callers only)
- World Wide Web: <http://www.inform.umd.edu/EdRes/Colleges/BSOS/Depts/Cesar>
- Internet: inform.umd.edu (select Educational Resources, then Colleges, then BSOS, then Departments, then CESAR)

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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

***Maryland Householders' Greatest Concerns About Drug Use:
Violent Crime and Use Among Youth***

According to the Spring 1995 Maryland Household Opinion Poll, Maryland householders' greatest concerns about drug use are violent crime associated with drug trafficking and increased drug use among young people. Violent crime is the greatest concern for nearly one third (31%) of Maryland householders while drug use among youth is the greatest concern for 24%. Similar results were found in a national household poll conducted by Peter D. Hart and Associates in February 1995. To receive a complimentary copy of the advance results of the Maryland poll, contact CESAR at 301-403-8329.

Maryland Householders' Concerns About Drug Use, 1995

Concern	Maryland Poll (N=989)
Violent Crime Associated with Drug Trafficking	31%
Increased Drug Use Among Young People	24
Thefts and Burglaries by Drug Users	9
The Spread of AIDS Through Contaminated Needles	8
Higher Health Care Costs from Treating Drug Users	3
Accidents Resulting from Drug Use in the Workplace	2
All of the Above Concerns	11
Combination of the Above Concerns	11
None/Don't Know	2
Total	100% ♦

♦Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: Statewide household telephone poll of adults 18 and older, conducted for CESAR by the University of Maryland Survey Research Center, College Park. CESAR's participation in this survey was funded by a grant from the Governor's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission.

WHAT DO MARYLANDERS THINK ABOUT SUBSTANCE ABUSE?

The views of Marylanders on such topics as the extent of drug use in Maryland and drug legalization are presented in "Marylanders' Views on Substance Abuse: Advance Results from the 1995 Maryland Household Opinion Poll." To receive a complimentary copy, contact CESAR by phone (301-403-8329), fax (301-403-8342), or e-mail (CESAR@cesar.umd.edu).

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National Drug Abuse Trends Discussed at Recent Drug Epidemiology Meeting

The National Institute on Drug Abuse's Community Epidemiology Work Group (CEWG) is a network of epidemiologists and other researchers who meet twice a year to discuss current and emerging substance abuse trends across the United States as well as internationally. At these meetings, CEWG members present both quantitative and qualitative indicator data from their region and exchange observations on existing and potential substance abuse problems. Following are some of the national findings from the 38th CEWG meeting, held June 13-16, 1995:

- While **crack cocaine** use has stabilized or declined in many metropolitan areas, "a field report from Chicago reports that crack cocaine (dissolved with lemon or pickle juice, vinegar, or Kool-aid) also is being injected because of the difficulty in obtaining powder cocaine."
- A younger generation of **heroin** users is emerging who are "more likely to snort heroin, sometimes in connection with the grunge/club scene, and come from all socio-economic groups." In contrast, "the older generation of addicts is more likely to inject heroin, to use it with cocaine, and to lead marginal and criminal lives."
- **Marijuana** indicators continue to rise, especially among adolescents, for whom "it is easier to get than is alcohol."
- **Methamphetamine** use is rising in western and West Coast cities, especially among younger users who feel that its high is longer, its purity more consistent and its price comparable to the price of crack cocaine.
- Heroin users in Chicago and Detroit have discovered a cheaper alternative to a speedball-- combining heroin with the stimulant **methylphenidate** (Ritalin). Ritalin is a prescription drug used in the treatment of attention deficit disorder. "There are [also] scattered reports that its presence and relative accessibility in school clinics are resulting in use by youth."

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Community Epidemiology Work Group (CEWG), "Epidemiologic Trends in Drug Abuse: Executive Summary," Forthcoming. To receive a copy of the Executive Summary, contact the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI) at 1-800-729-6686.

EASTERN SHORE EPIDEMIOLOGY WORK GROUP MEETING TO BE HELD

CESAR and the Talbot County Drug Epidemiology Network (DEN), will be co-hosting an Eastern Shore Epidemiology Work Group meeting on Friday, September 22, 1995, in Easton, Maryland. The purpose of this meeting is to examine data on substance use in the Eastern Shore counties and to discuss the benefits of forming additional Drug Epidemiology Networks on the Eastern Shore. If you would like to share your knowledge of local drug abuse trends and patterns with other professionals from Eastern Shore counties, contact Wanda Lauer at CESAR (301-403-8329).

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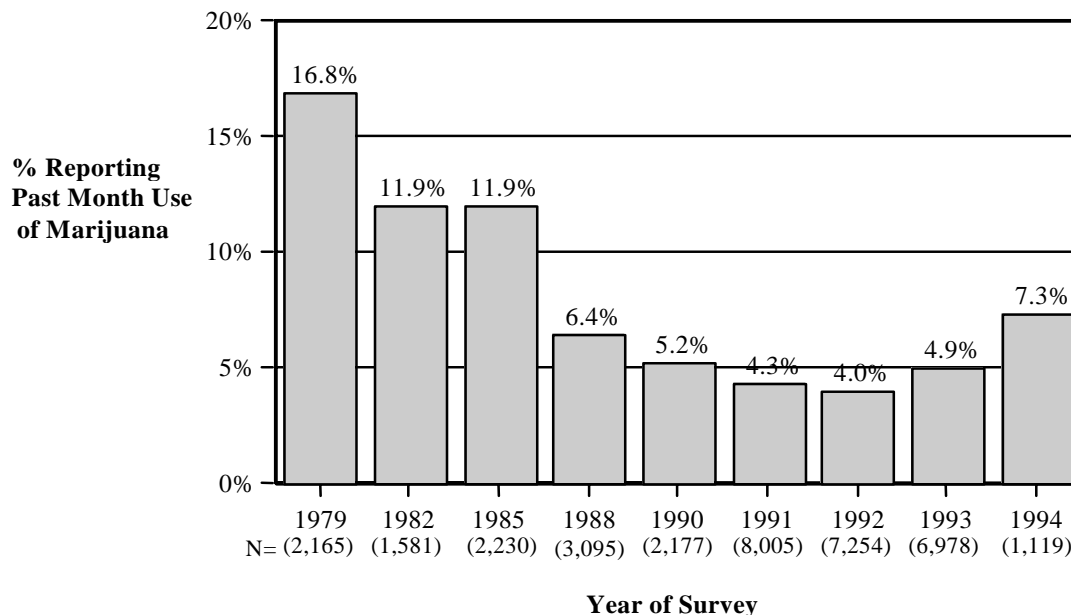
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1.6 Million U. S. Youth Have Used Marijuana in the Past Month

Recently released data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) show that marijuana use among youth aged 12 to 17 has almost doubled since 1992. The rate of current use of marijuana among youth rose from a low of 4% in 1992 to 7.3% (an estimated 1.6 million youth) in 1994. Similar increases in marijuana use among youth have also been reported in two national student surveys (see CESAR Fax Volume 3, Issue 49 and Volume 4, Issue 9).

Percentage of U.S. Population Aged 12 to 17 Reporting Use of Marijuana in the Month Prior to Survey, 1979 - 1994



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, "Preliminary Estimates from the 1994 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse," Advance Report Number 10, September 1995. To receive a copy of the Advance Report, contact the Office of Applied Studies at 301-443-7980.

WESTERN MARYLAND EPIDEMIOLOGY WORK GROUP MEETING TO BE HELD

CESAR and the Washington County Drug Epidemiology Network (DEN), will be co-hosting a Western Maryland Epidemiology Work Group meeting on Thursday, September 28, 1995, in Hagerstown, Maryland. The purpose of this meeting is to examine data on substance use in the Western Maryland counties and to discuss the benefits of forming additional Drug Epidemiology Networks in Western Maryland. If you would like to share your knowledge of local drug abuse trends and patterns with other professionals from Western Maryland counties, contact Wanda Lauer at CESAR (301-403-8329).

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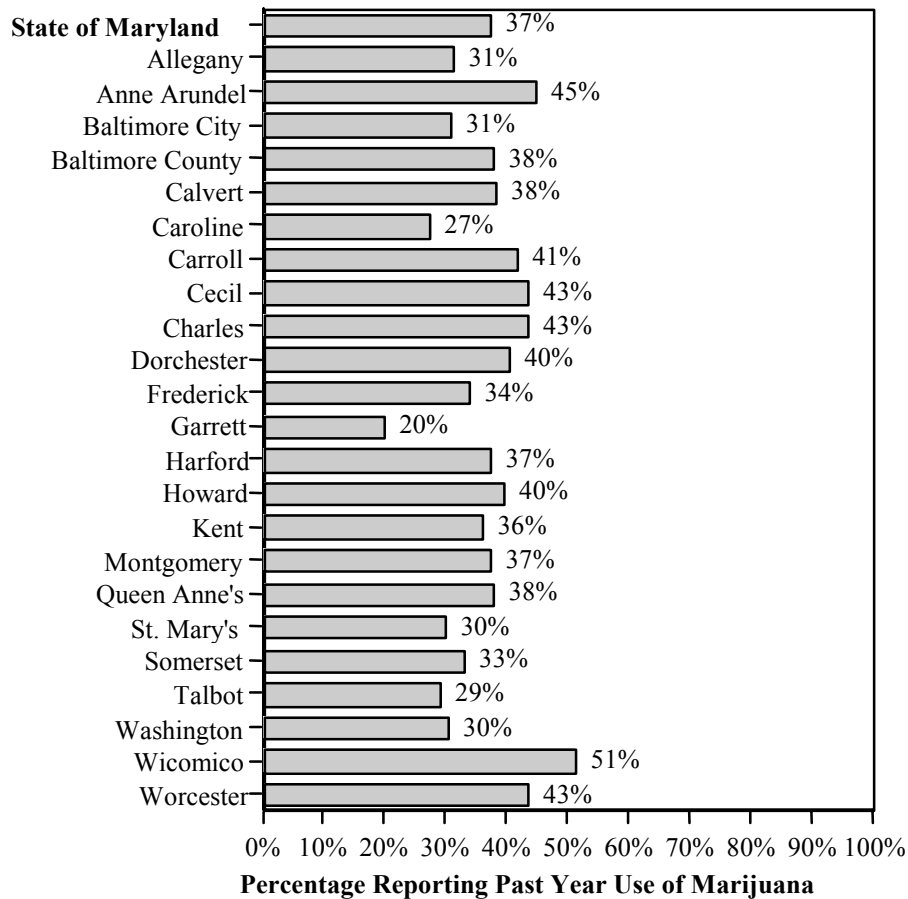
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University of Maryland at College Park

***Survey Shows County Differences in Marijuana Use
By Maryland High School Seniors***

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) just released the report of its 1994 biennial survey of public school students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12. The report shows significant increases in marijuana use among 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students, consistent with national trends (see CESAR Fax Vol. 3, Issue 49). The percentage of seniors reporting any use of marijuana in the past year varied from 20% in Garrett County to 51% in Wicomico County. County differences may reflect true regional differences in marijuana use, as well as differences in dropout rates and students' willingness to self-report drug use. For more information, contact Ms. Lu Morrisey of MSDE at 410-767-0301.

Percentage of Maryland Twelfth Graders Reporting Past Year Use of Marijuana, by County, 1994



*Prince George's County data were not included in the 1994 report due to a low response rate.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the 1994 Maryland Adolescent Survey (MAS), Maryland State Department of Education.

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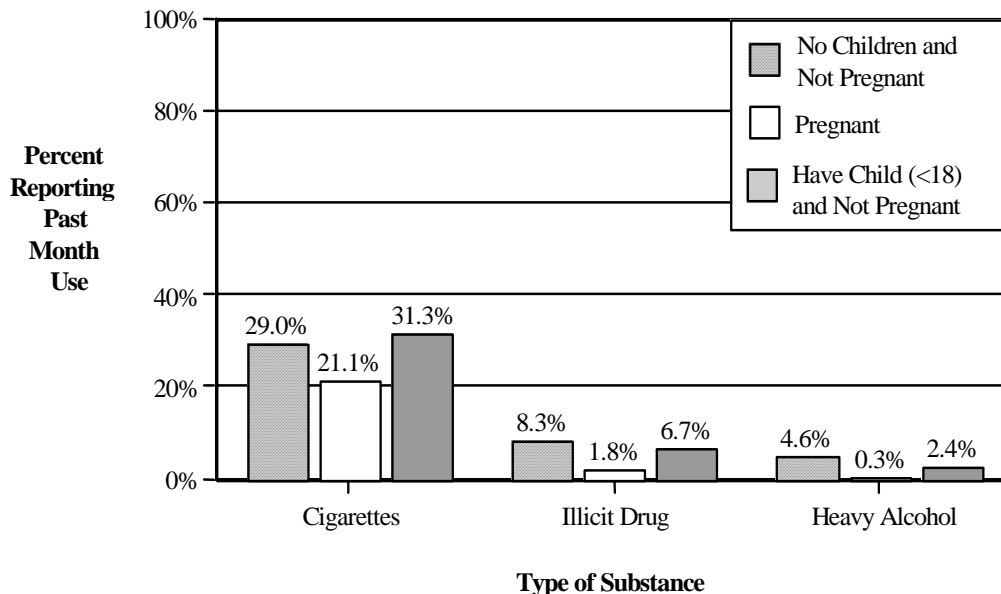
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University of Maryland at College Park

Pregnant Women Report Less Substance Use Than Other Women

According to the recently released National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, pregnant women report less use of cigarettes, alcohol or illicit drugs in the past month than other women of childbearing age, even when age and marital status are controlled for. However, nonpregnant women with children reported substance use at rates almost equal to those of nonpregnant women who had never had children. According to the report, these differences suggest "that many drug using women resume their drug use after their pregnancy" (p. 27). It is also possible that these findings reflect a reluctance among pregnant women to admit to substance use.

Percentage of Women Aged 12-44 Reporting the Use of Cigarettes, Heavy Alcohol*, or Illicit Drugs in the Month Prior to the Survey, by Pregnancy Status (Adjusted for Age and Marital Status), 1994



*Heavy alcohol use is defined as drinking five or more drinks per day on each of five or more days in the past 30 days.

SOURCE: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, "Preliminary Estimates from the 1994 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse," Advance Report Number 10, September 1995. To receive a copy of the Advance Report, contact the Office of Applied Studies at 301-443-7980.

SOUTHERN MARYLAND DRUG ABUSE MEETING TO BE HELD

The St. Mary's County Alliance for Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention will be meeting on Thursday, October 12, 1995 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm in Leonardtown, MD. As part of the Alliance meeting, we will examine data on substance use in Southern Maryland and discuss forming Drug Epidemiology Networks (DENs) in Southern Maryland counties. If you would like to attend this meeting and share your knowledge of drug abuse trends and patterns with other professionals from Southern Maryland, contact Walter Biscoe of the Alliance at 301-475-4632.

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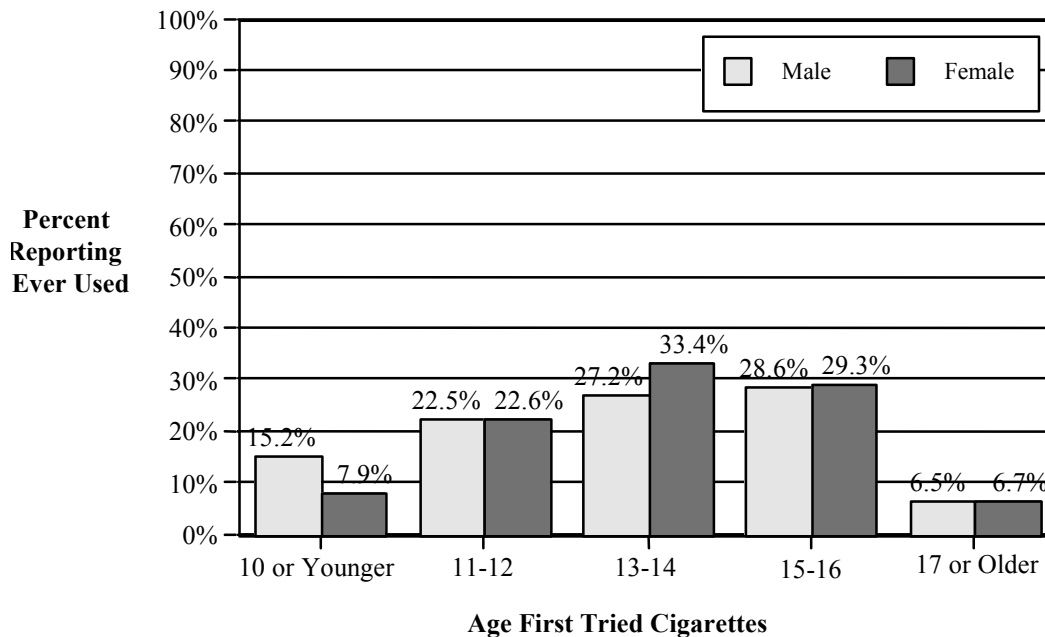
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Males Nearly Twice as Likely as Females to Have First Tried Cigarettes Before Age 11

Data from the recently released 1994 Maryland Adolescent Survey show that the majority of both male and female Maryland 12th graders who had ever used cigarettes first tried them before they were 15 years old. Among seniors who had ever tried cigarettes, males were nearly twice as likely as females to have first tried them before age 11--15.2% versus 7.9%. These findings suggest the need for prevention programs that target youths as soon as they enter grade school.

**Age First Tried Cigarettes, by Gender
(Maryland High School Seniors Who Had Ever Tried Cigarettes)**



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the 1994 Maryland Adolescent Survey (MAS), Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). For more information, contact Lu Morrisey of MSDE at 410-767-0301.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRUG TESTING ON INTERNET

The International Journal of Drug Testing, a multi-disciplinary, refereed journal, is posted and distributed on the Internet as an electronic document. The journal, edited by Tom Mieczkowski, is devoted to the publication of scientific research, technical applications, policy, and other issues pertinent to the use of drug testing. Of particular interest is research on new and emerging approaches to drug testing, such as hair, saliva, and sweat analysis. Any person with Internet access has access to the journal at no cost. The address of the journal's web site is:

<http://www.stpt.usf.edu/journal>

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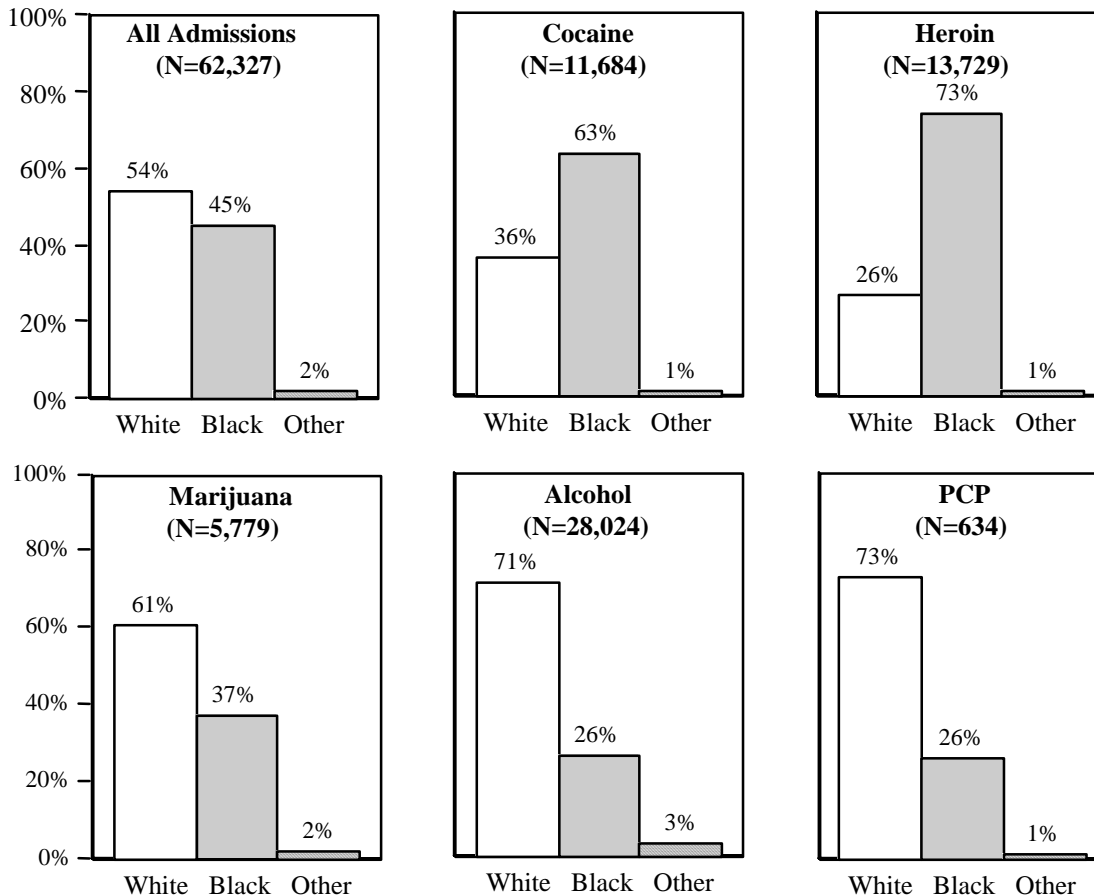
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Reductions in Funding for Drug Treatment Could Have Disproportionate Impact on Blacks in Maryland

Data on admissions to public and private treatment facilities in Maryland show considerable racial differences in the primary drug for which people in the state are admitted to treatment. Data from Maryland's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration indicate that the majority (61 to 73 percent) of Marylanders admitted to treatment in FY 1995 for marijuana, alcohol, or PCP use were white and the majority (63 to 73 percent) admitted to treatment for cocaine or heroin abuse were black. This suggests that any reductions in funding for residential and methadone maintenance treatment (the treatments most effective for cocaine and heroin abuse) will have a disproportionate impact on blacks seeking treatment in Maryland.

Maryland FY 1995 Treatment Admissions, by Primary Substance of Abuse and Race*



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Cocaine includes crack and other cocaine.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Substance Abuse Management Information System (SAMIS), Maryland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration (ADAA).

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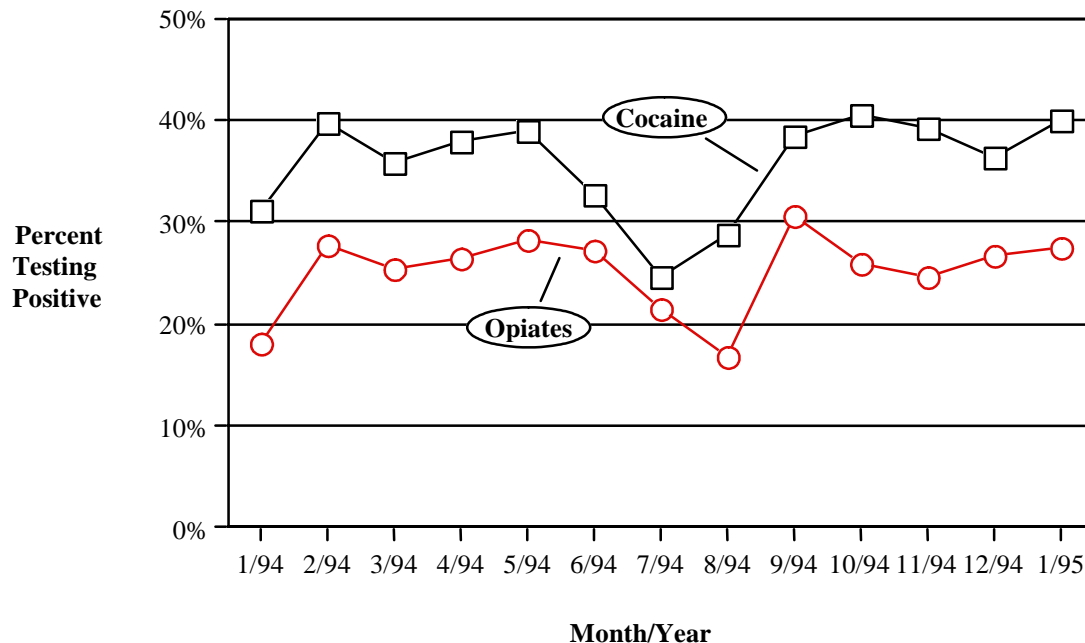
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University of Maryland at College Park

Cocaine and Opiate Use Persists Among Baltimore City Pretrial Releasees

Data from the Baltimore City Pretrial Services Program show that use of cocaine and opiates (most likely heroin) among pretrial releasees remains at relatively high levels. In January 1995, 40% of releasees tested positive for cocaine while 28% tested positive for some type of opiate. Cocaine has been the most frequently detected drug among Baltimore City pretrial releasees since data collection began in 1990.

Percentage of Baltimore City Pretrial Releasees Testing Positive for Cocaine or Opiates, January 1994 to January 1995*



*Results are calculated using each person's first urinalysis test during their entire pretrial monitoring period.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Baltimore City Pretrial Release Services Program.

STATE PROFILES OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AVAILABLE FROM DRUG STRATEGIES

Drug Strategies has developed profiles of three states (California, Massachusetts, and Ohio) that describe the dimensions of substance abuse problems as well as prevention, treatment, and law enforcement efforts to reduce alcohol, tobacco, and drug use within the state. These profiles are designed to increase public understanding of local substance abuse problems and to generate broad support for more effective policies. For more information on these state profiles, contact Drug Strategies at 202-663-6090.

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University of Maryland at College Park

Marijuana "Blunts" Used by UMCP Students

The newly released survey of drug use among students at the University of Maryland at College Park (UMCP) shows increases in marijuana use since the 1991 survey, especially among freshmen. The 1994 survey also indicates that a new method of using marijuana has reached the UMCP campus. Nearly one-half (49%) of students who reported past year marijuana use had used marijuana in the "blunt" form (hollowed-out cigar filled with marijuana). Among past year marijuana users, those who were male, black, under age 20, or had a GPA below 3.0 were more likely to use marijuana blunts. Previous CESAR research has suggested that the large increases seen in cigar sales in the D.C. metropolitan area is being fueled by the use of marijuana blunts by young people.

Percentage of Past Year Marijuana Users Who Reported Blunt Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, UMCP Students, 1994

CHARACTERISTIC		% REPORTING BLUNT USE
SEX		
Male	(N=145)	54
Female	(N=124)	43
AGE		
<16-18	(N=39)	54
19-20	(N=71)	52
21-25	(N=127)	45
_26	(N=31)	49
RACE/ETHNICITY		
Black	(N=22)	81
White	(N=202)	45
Asian/Pacific Islander	(N=18)	44
Hispanic	(N=9)	**
Other	(N=6)	**
International Student	(N=6)	**
GPA		
3.6-4.0	(N=44)	36
3.0-3.5	(N=109)	44
2.5-2.9	(N=94)	59
Below 2.5	(N=23)	60
ALL PAST YEAR MJ USERS	(N=278)	49

NOTES: Categories with fewer than 10 respondents are marked by **. There were 278 past year marijuana users who answered the question on blunt use. The sum of N's for each set of characteristics may not equal 278 because of missing values. Race/ethnicity designations apply only to U.S. students; non-U.S. students are categorized as international students.

SOURCE: M. Hsu et al., *1994 UMCP Student Drug Survey*, October 1995. Cosponsored by the Center for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR) and the University Health Center, University of Maryland at College Park. Complimentary copies of the report are available from CESAR at 301-403-8329.

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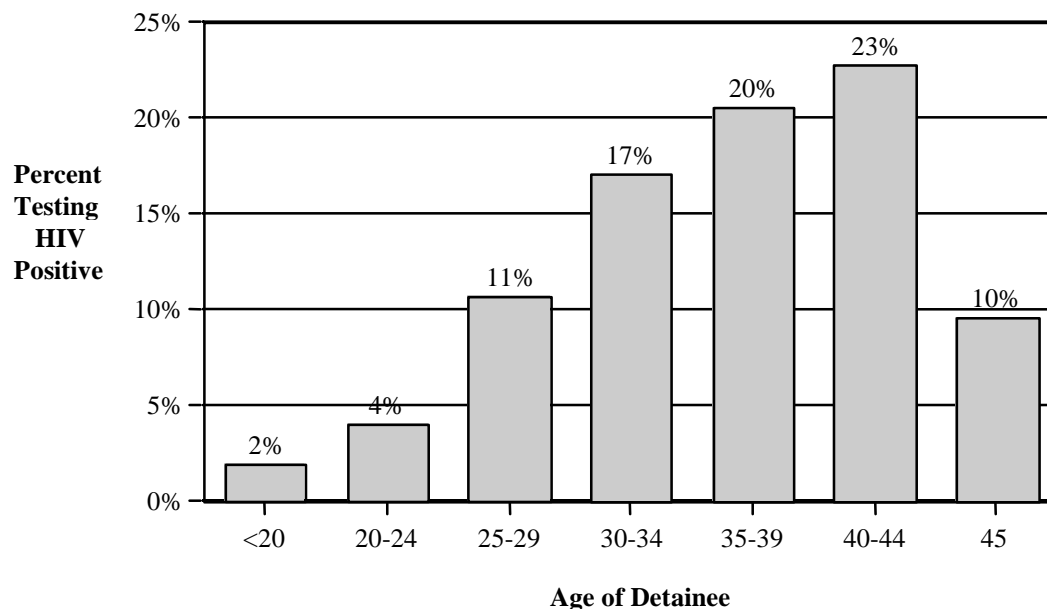
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***One in Five Black Males Aged 35 to 44
Detained in a Baltimore City Correctional Facility Positive for HIV***

The Baltimore City Health Department has just released a study estimating seropositivity for HIV among persons detained in a Baltimore City correctional facility in 1992. While 11% of all tested persons were HIV positive, black detainees were twice as likely to test positive as non-black detainees. In fact, one in five black male detainees aged 35 to 44 tested positive for HIV. Over 26,000 individuals entered this correctional facility during FY 1995. For additional information, contact Kamala Mallik Kane of the Baltimore City Health Department at 410-396-1930.

Percentage of Baltimore City Black Male Detainees Testing Positive for HIV, by Age, 1992 (N=1,894)*



*Repeat incarcerations within the study period were excluded so that each individual was sampled only once.

SOURCE: Baltimore City Health Department, *HIV Seroprevalence at a Baltimore Correctional Facility, 1992*, October 1995 and the Baltimore City Detention Center.

1995 CESAR ANNUAL REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The 1995 CESAR Annual Report describes CESAR's numerous information services, including the CESAR Board and the CESAR Speaker Series. In addition, selected CESAR Research projects are highlighted. To receive a complimentary copy of the Annual Report, contact CESAR at 301-403-8329 (voice), 301-403-8342 (fax), or CESAR@cesar.umd.edu (e-mail). Please provide your name and complete mailing address.

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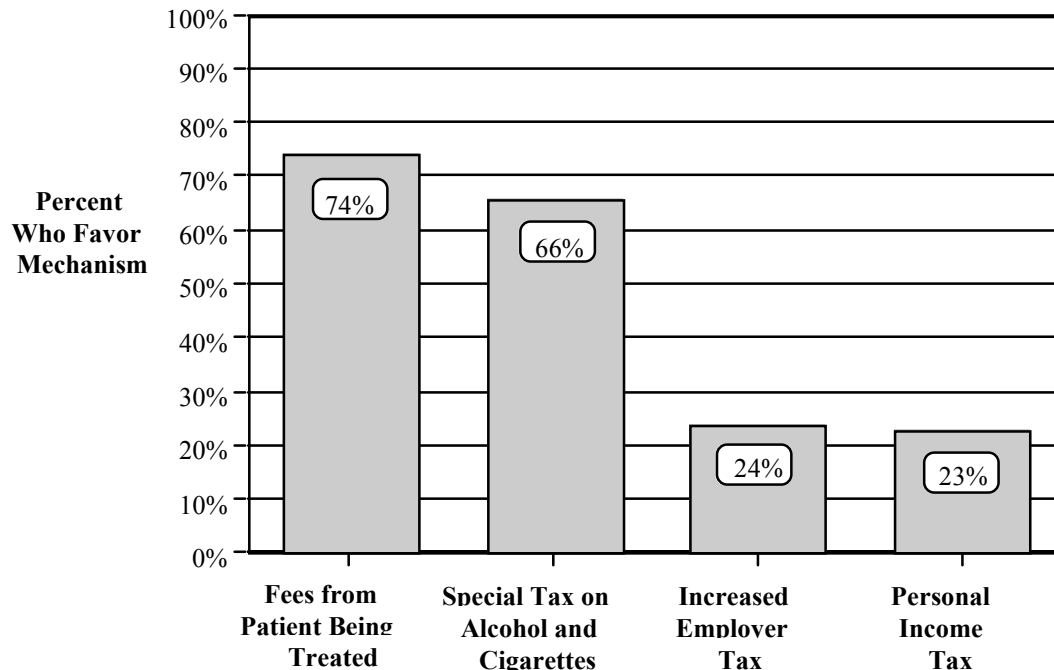
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Majority of U.S. Householders Support Patient Fees or a Special Sales Tax as a Way to Fund Drug and Alcohol Treatment

The National Treatment Consortium recently conducted a national household telephone survey in order to determine "public opinion on alcohol and drug addiction treatment in the context of health care reform and general social policy" (p. 10). According to the survey results, a majority of U.S. householders support paying for treatment through either special fees collected from individuals receiving treatment (74%) or a special sales tax on alcohol or cigarettes (66%). Less popular funding mechanisms were increased employer tax (24%) and personal income tax (23%). Support for specific funding mechanisms varied with the characteristics of the respondents. Support for both patient fees and a special sales tax increased with the educational level of the respondent, and support for patient fees was significantly reduced among blacks.

Percentage of U.S. Householders Favoring Specific Treatment Funding Mechanisms, 1994 (N=1,249)



NOTE: This national poll was conducted by Louis Harris and Associates for the National Treatment Consortium with 1,249 individuals 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted between July 25 and July 28, 1994, using a random digit dialing procedure.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from National Treatment Consortium, Inc., *The Future of Addiction Treatment*, NTC White Paper, August 1995. For information on how to obtain a copy of the report, contact NTC at 202-434-4780.

CESAR HAS NEW FAX TRANSMISSION SERVICE

Due to the growing size of the CESAR FAX distribution list, this and future issues of the CESAR FAX will be distributed by the AT&T Enhanced Fax Service. This service allows us to transmit the CESAR FAX to our entire distribution list within two hours. If you have any problems receiving your cover sheet or your fax, please contact Wanda Lauer at 301-403-8329.

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University of Maryland at College Park

Survey Shows Record-High Cigarette Use Among Junior and Senior High School Students; Marijuana Use Also Increasing

Recently released data from the 1994-95 national survey by the Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) show that there have been significant increases in the use of cigarettes and marijuana among junior (grades 6-8) and senior (grades 9-12) high school students. Past year use of cigarettes by junior (28.1%) and senior high students (44.4%) has reached the highest levels since PRIDE began conducting surveys in 1988. Past year use of marijuana has also been rising. Junior high students' use of marijuana rose from 8.2% in 1993-94 to 9.5% in 1994-95, while senior high students' past year use rose from 24.6% to 28.2% over the same period.

Percentage of Junior and Senior High School Students Who Used Selected Substances in the Year Prior to Survey, 1992-93, 1993-94, and 1994-95 School Years

Substance Used at Least Once in Prior Year	Junior High (6-8th Grades)			Senior High (9-12th Grades)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Beer	31.2%	30.3%	30.8%*	55.6%	56.5%	57.4%*
Cigarettes	25.5	26.3	28.1*	38.4	41.5	44.4*
Marijuana	5.8	8.2	9.5*	19.0	24.6	28.2*
Inhalants	4.8	5.9	6.3*	5.6	6.9	7.5*
Uppers	3.0	3.4	3.3	7.9	9.1	9.3
Downers	2.2	2.4	2.4	4.6	5.3	5.5*
Hallucinogens	1.9	2.1	2.4*	5.7	6.6	7.7*
Cocaine	1.6	1.9	1.9	3.4	4.0	4.5*

* Indicates a significant ($p \leq .05$) change over prior year.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the 1994-95 PRIDE Survey, National Parents' Resource for Drug Education. For additional information, contact Doug Hall at 770-458-9900. The 1994-95 PRIDE survey included 198,241 students (grades 6-12) from 32 states (Jr. High N=92,453; Sr. High N=105,788).

ABSTRACTS OF EVALUATION ARTICLES NOW AVAILABLE ON CESAR BOARD

The National Evaluation Data and Technical Assistance Center (NEDTAC) is an evaluation resource funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT). Over 200 pages of abstracts from the NEDTAC data base of evaluation-related materials is available on CESAR's electronic bulletin board, under the NEDTAC Conference, via:

- Modem: 301-403-8343 or 1-800-84-CESAR (toll-free for Maryland callers)
- World Wide Web: <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/cesar/cesar.html>
- Internet gopher: inform.umd.edu (select Educational Resources, Colleges, BSOS, Departments,

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University of Maryland at College Park

An Estimated 12,000 UMCP Students Report Experiencing One to Four Alcohol-Related Problems Within the Past Year

The recently released survey of alcohol and other drug use among students at the University of Maryland at College Park shows that 47%--an estimated 12,000--of UMCP students who used alcohol within the past year experienced one to four alcohol-related problems. The most frequently experienced alcohol-related problems were a hangover (60.9%) and vomiting or nausea (44.6%). Alcohol use affected scholastic performance as well--nearly a quarter (23%) of past-year alcohol users reported they had missed class, and one-third (33%) had missed studying, at least once in the past year because of their alcohol use.

Percentage of UMCP Students Who Experienced Selected Alcohol-Related Problems Within the Past Year, 1994
(N=870 past-year alcohol users)

ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEM	PERCENT EXPERIENCED IN PAST YEAR	ESTIMATED NUMBER
Hangover	60.9%	15,613
Vomiting or nausea	44.6	11,434
Missed studying	32.5	8,332
Got in fight/argument	25.4	6,512
Missed class	23.4	5,999
Had a memory loss	22.6	5,794
Had an alcohol-related injury	12.8	3,282
Damaged property	11.5	2,948
Got in some trouble (legal or school)	6.7	1,718
Was taken advantage of sexually	3.9	1,000
Thought about or tried to commit suicide	3.6	923
Experienced at least one problem	67.0	17,177
Experienced one to four problems	46.5	11,921
Experienced five or more problems	20.3	5,204

NOTES: Data are based on self-administered questionnaires distributed to a random sample of undergraduate and graduate classes at the University of Maryland at College Park between September and November 1994. Sample sizes on which percentages are based may vary slightly for each question because of missing values. Estimated numbers are based on the 1994 UMCP population of 32,493 undergraduate and graduate students.

SOURCE: M. Hsu et al., *1994 UMCP Student Drug Survey*, October 1995. Cosponsored by CESAR and the University Health Center, University of Maryland at College Park. Complimentary copies of the report are available from CESAR at 301-403-8329.

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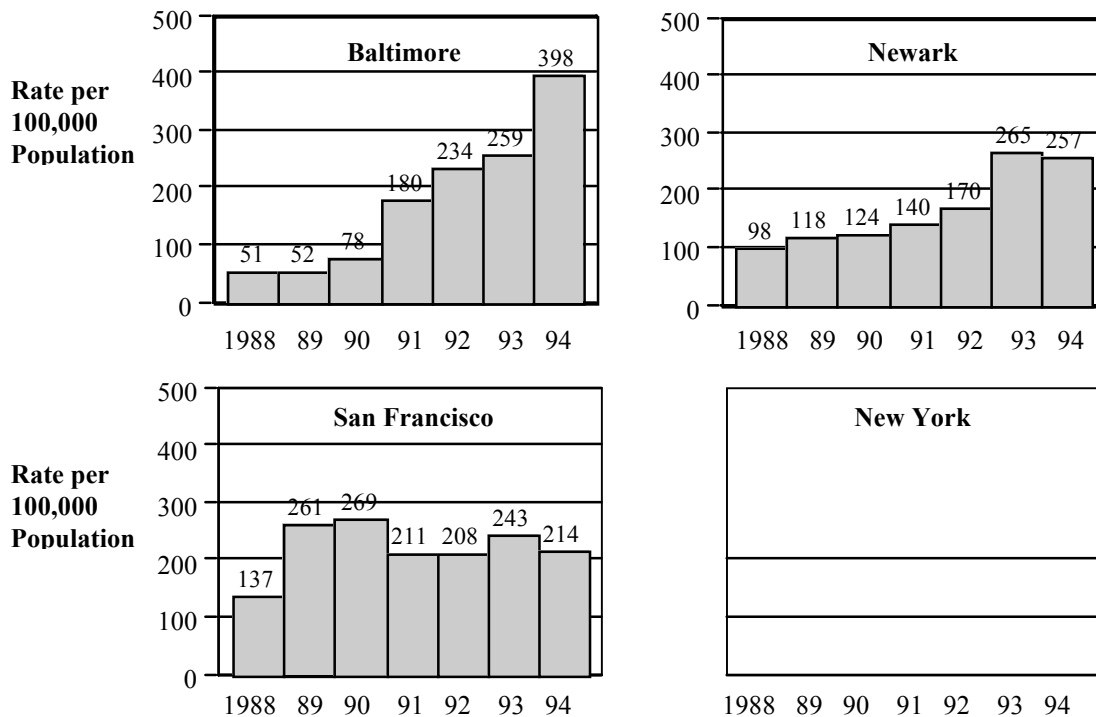
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Heroin-Related ER Visits in Baltimore Metro Area Highest Among Cities in DAWN System

Recently released data from the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) show that the Baltimore metropolitan area has experienced a greater increase in heroin-related ER visits than any other metropolitan area in the DAWN system. Since metropolitan area data collection began in 1988, the rate of heroin-related ER visits in Baltimore has increased from 51 to 398 per 100,000 population in 1994. Baltimore's 1994 rate is the highest among the 21 metropolitan areas sampled by the DAWN system. Only three other metropolitan areas in the DAWN system had heroin-related ER rates greater than 100 per 100,000 population in 1994--Newark (257), San Francisco (214), and New York (136).

Heroin-Related Emergency Room Visit Rates, Baltimore, Newark, San Francisco, and New York Metropolitan Areas, 1988 - 1994



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), "Preliminary Estimates from the Drug Abuse Warning Network," Advance Report Number 11, November 1995. For more information, contact SAMHSA at 301-443-7980.

---ERRATUM---

Last week's issue of the CESAR FAX (Issue 47) incorrectly listed the estimated number of UMCP students who "thought about or tried to commit suicide" as 9,229. The correct estimated number is **923**. We apologize for the inconvenience.

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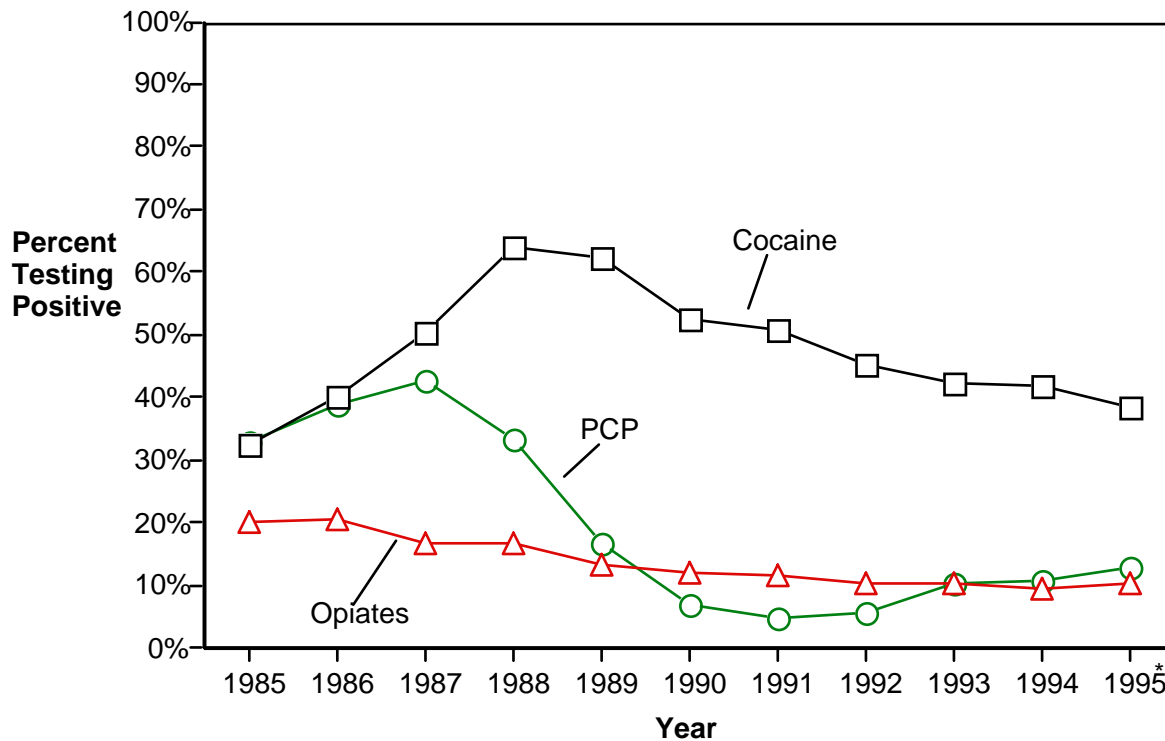
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Cocaine Positives Among D.C. Adult Arrestees Continue to Decline

Data from the D.C. Pretrial Services Agency for the first nine months of 1995 show that cocaine use continues to decline among adult male and female arrestees. While cocaine remains the substance most frequently detected among adult arrestees, positive rates for cocaine have declined from 64% in 1988 to 39% during the first nine months of 1995. The percentage of adult arrestees testing positive for PCP and opiates has leveled off at around 10%. Nearly one-half (49%) of all adult arrestees in D.C. test positive for at least one drug*.

Percentage of Washington, D.C. Adult Arrestees Testing Positive for Cocaine, PCP, or Opiates, 1984 - 1995



*Drugs tested for were amphetamines, cocaine, methadone, opiates, and PCP.

*Data from January through September 1995.

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

ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS RECEIVING YOUR CESAR FAX?

This is the fourth issue of the CESAR FAX to be transmitted by the AT&T Enhanced Fax Service. We are interested in hearing about any problems you may be experiencing, including quality of transmission and duplication of names. Please send any comments to Wanda Lauer by e-mail (cesar@cesar.umd.edu) or by fax (301-403-8342). Thank you!

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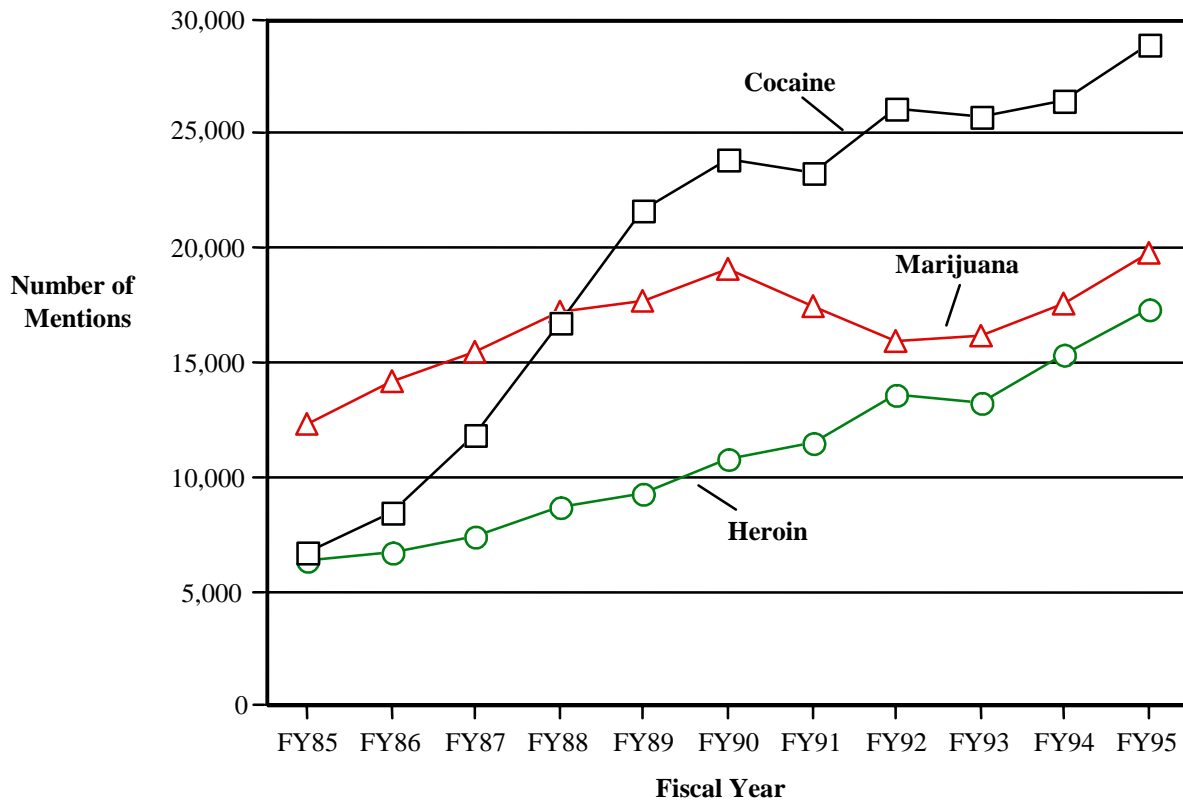
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Cocaine, Heroin, and Marijuana Treatment Admissions on the Rise in Maryland

ADAA's Substance Abuse Management Information System (SAMIS) records the three primary drugs of abuse for each client entering a certified public or private treatment program in Maryland. Data through FY 1995 show increasing numbers of clients reporting a problem with cocaine, marijuana, and/or heroin. Admissions for PCP and alcohol problems have been declining or level since 1992. In FY 1995, 66,067 clients were admitted to certified treatment programs in Maryland.

Selected Substances Mentioned by Clients Entering Maryland Treatment Programs, FY 1985 - 1995*



*Up to three substances may be mentioned at the time of admission to a treatment program.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the Substance Abuse Management Information System (SAMIS), Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration. For more information, contact Vickie Kaneko at 410-225-6890.

CESAR WISHES YOU A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

This is the final issue of Volume IV of the CESAR FAX. A complimentary indexed and bound copy of Volume IV will be available from CESAR after January 1, 1996. We will resume with Volume V, Issue 1, on January 8, 1995. Thank you for your support during the past year!

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