

DUF facts

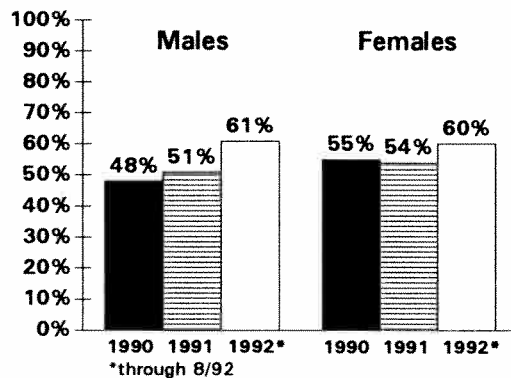
Drug Use Findings: Denver, Colorado 1992 ADULT ARRESTEES

Office of Research and Statistics, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice

In the past 3 years, the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice collected information from more than 3,700 people (2,598 men and 1,104 women) who had just been arrested and booked in the Denver Pre-Arrestment Detention Facility. Urine samples provided by these arrestees were tested in a laboratory for a spectrum of drugs including cocaine, marijuana, and opiates. The following facts are based on findings from the laboratory tests and police records. This DUF facts sheet contains information collected through August 1992.

Over the past three years, drug use among men arrested in Denver has been increasing — well over 1/2 of arrestees use drugs.

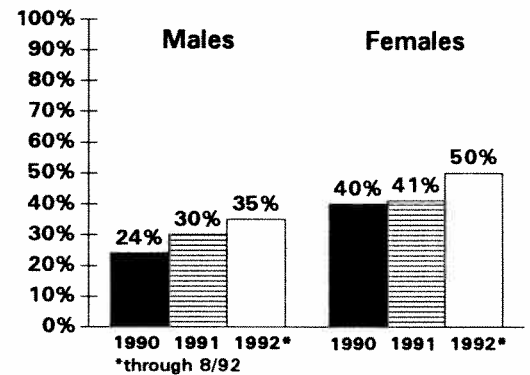
Percent of Denver Arrestees Found to Use Illegal Drugs, 1990 through August 1992.



- Laboratory tests performed from January through August 1992 proved that 61% of men and 60% of women had used an illegal drug shortly before they were arrested.
- In 1990, tests confirmed drug use among 48% of male and 55% of female arrestees.

Cocaine use increased the most — mainly among men arrested for burglary and other property crimes. Cocaine use also increased among men arrested for drug offenses.

Percent of Denver Arrestees Found to Use Cocaine, 1990 through August 1992.

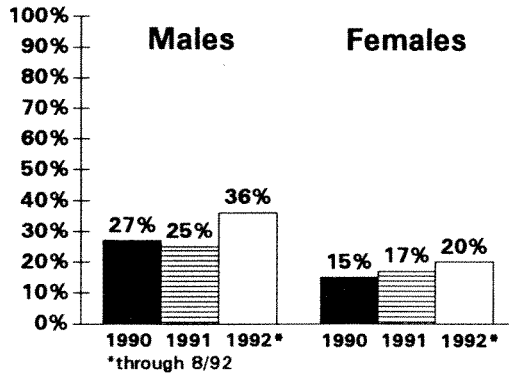


- In 1990, 24% of males and 40% of females were found to use cocaine.
- From January through August 1992 test confirmations of cocaine use significantly increased to 35% male and 50% female arrestees.
- Cocaine use increased primarily among men arrested for burglary and other property crimes; from 27% in 1990 to 41% in 1992 confirmed use among such arrestees.
- There was also an increase in cocaine use among men arrested for drug offenses.
- The following types of arrestees were most likely to be confirmed as cocaine users from January through August 1992: females, older arrestees, African-Americans, and people arrested for prostitution.

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Marijuana use has increased among male arrestees since 1990. The drugs most commonly used by male arrestees in Denver are marijuana and cocaine.

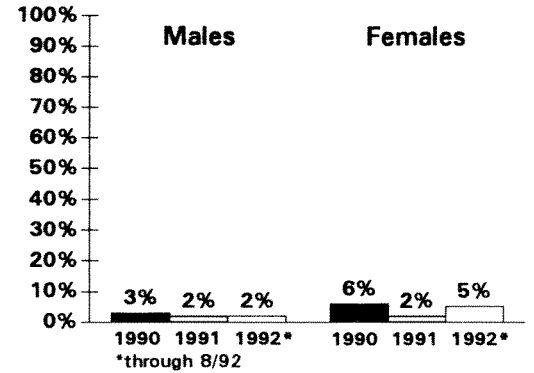
Percent of Denver Arrestees Found to Use Marijuana, 1990 through August 1992.



- From January through August 1992, tests confirmed marijuana use among 36% of men and 20% of women arrestees.
- Among men arrested for burglary and other property crimes, marijuana use increased from 1990 when 26% were confirmed to use marijuana, to 1992: 42% confirmed.
- The following types of arrestees were most likely to be found to use marijuana in 1992: males, Hispanics, arrestees in their early twenties or younger. Arrestees with the least education were typically found to use marijuana.

Confirmed use of heroin and other opiates continues to be very low among arrestees in Denver.

Percent of Denver Arrestees Found to Use Heroin and Other Opiates, 1990 through August 1992.



- 1992 tests confirmed use of heroin and other opiates for 2% of men and 5% of women arrestees. In comparison, tests in 1990 confirmed that 3% of males and 6% of females used heroin or other opiates.
- Women were typically more likely to use opiates than men.
- Use of other illegal drugs continues to be relatively uncommon among arrestees.
- Laboratory tests indicated that 4% or fewer people arrested in 1992 used these drugs: valium (4%), amphetamines (1%), methamphetamines (1%), methadone (1%), barbiturates (under 1%). These drugs were not found to be used by arrestees in Denver in 1992: Quaaludes, PCP.

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