SUBSTANCE USE STABLE FOR ADULT ARRESTEES; INCREASES FOR JUVENILES

Over the past four years, the percent of adult arrestees booked into San Diego County detention facilities testing positive for drugs has remained relatively stable, at about two-thirds (67% of males and 69% of females in 2003). During the same period, the percent of juveniles booked into Juvenile Hall that tested positive increased from 46 percent in 2000 to 56 percent in 2003 (see figure). According to the most recent arrest statistics, the number of juveniles arrested for alcohol- or drug-related offenses increased 25 percent overall from 1993 to 2002, but declined 7 percent between 1999 and 2002 (not shown).

In 2003, adults were more likely than juveniles to test positive for each drug type, with the exception of marijuana (36% of adults positive for marijuana versus 49% of juveniles). There were also differences by drug type for adults, with males more likely than females to test positive for marijuana (39% versus 29%) and females more likely to test positive for methamphetamine (47% versus 38%) (not shown).

These data were collected as part of the ADAM (Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring) and SAMY (Substance Abuse Monitoring for Youth) programs currently funded by the California Border Alliance Group (CBAG). Complete analysis of the 2003 ADAM and SAMY data will be available later this summer. For information about this project, please contact Lisbeth Howard at (619) 699-6910.