

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

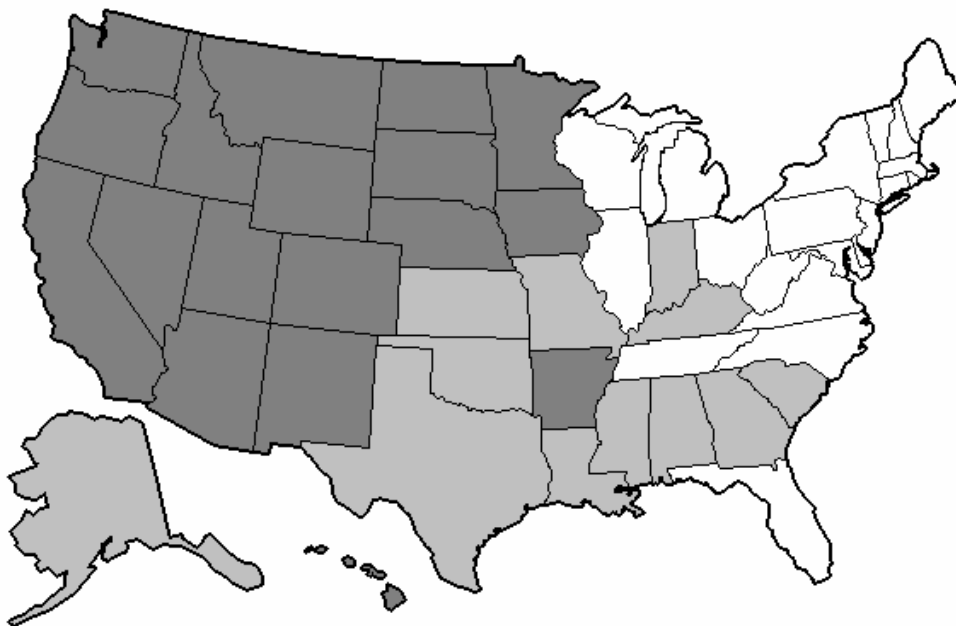
University of Maryland, College Park

New National Household Survey Data Illustrates Geographical Variation in Methamphetamine Use

Methamphetamine use is highest in the western United States and lowest in the Northeast, according to recently released data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Overall, 0.6% of U.S. residents—an estimated 1.4 million persons—reported using methamphetamine in the past year, ranging from 2.2% in Nevada to 0.04% in Connecticut. States with 1% or more of their residents reporting methamphetamine use were predominantly in the western U.S., while states with less than 0.5% of their residents reporting methamphetamine use were clustered in the northeastern part of the nation. These findings support geographical variations found in other indicators of methamphetamine use (see *CESAR FAX*, Volume 14, Issues 12 and 30). It should be noted, however, that the average level of methamphetamine use across the United States (0.6%) remains substantially lower than those of almost all other illicit drugs, including marijuana (10.6%), prescription pain relievers used non-medically (4.7%), cocaine (2.4%), tranquilizers (2.1%), and hallucinogens (1.6%).

Methamphetamine Use in the Past Year Among U.S. Residents Age 12 or Older, 2002-2004

□ 0.0% to 0.4% □ 0.5% to 0.9% ■ 1.0% to 2.2%



SOURCES: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), "State estimates for use of types of illicit drug in lifetime, past year, & past month for population age 12 and older (annual estimates based on 2002-2004)," 2005. Available online at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k5States/statePE.doc>; and SAMHSA, "Methamphetamine Use, Abuse, and Dependence: 2002, 2003, and 2004," *The NSDUH Report*, September 16, 2005. Available online at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k5/meth/meth.cfm>.

•• 301-405-9770 (voice) •• 301-403-8342 (fax) •• CESAR@cesar.umd.edu •• www.cesar.umd.edu ••
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