

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

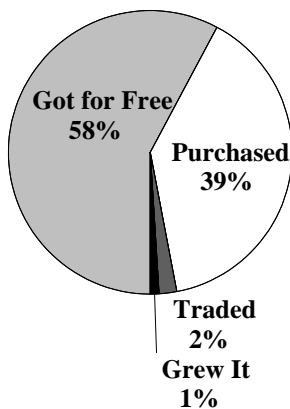
University of Maryland, College Park

Marijuana Distribution Relies Primarily on Generosity of Friends and Family

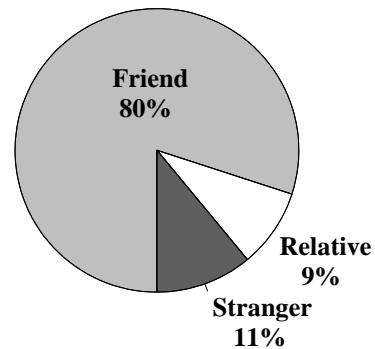
Marijuana distribution relies primarily on informal dealing through social networks, according to an analysis of data from a national household survey.* More than one-half (58%) of household residents who had used marijuana in the past year reported that they most recently obtained their marijuana for free, compared to 39% who reported purchasing it. Nearly all (89%) marijuana users reported getting their most recent acquisitions from a friend or relative (see figures below). And unlike users of more expensive drugs such as cocaine and heroin, the majority of people who used marijuana in the past year (58%) gave away or shared some of their most recent acquisition (data not shown).

How and From Whom Marijuana Was Most Recently Acquired by Past Year Marijuana Users, U.S. Household Residents, 2001

Method of Acquiring Marijuana



Source of Marijuana Acquisition



*Data was taken from the 2001 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (since renamed the National Survey on Drug Use and Health) marijuana market survey questions.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Caulkins, J.P. and Pacula, R.L., "Marijuana Markets: Inferences From Reports by the Household Population," *Journal of Drug Issues*, 36(1): 173-200, 2006. For more information, contact Dr. Jonathan P. Caulkins at caulkins@andrew.cmu.edu.

Historic Drug Czar Conference DVD Now Available!

On June 17th, 2006, CESAR and the Institute for Behavior and Health sponsored a Drug Czar Conference at the University of Maryland. The one-day meeting featured seven of the eleven men who have served as heads of the White House drug abuse prevention office. An unedited 6 DVD set of this historic meeting is now available for \$95, including shipping. Ordering information is available online at <http://www.cesar.umd.edu>.

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