

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY  
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**FACT SHEET: THE 2013 ARRESTEE DRUG ABUSE MONITORING PROGRAM II (ADAM)**

ADAM II is a unique Federal data collection program that shows drug use patterns among arrestees. In each of the five U.S. counties included in the program, data were collected from adult male arrestees, through voluntary interviews and drug tests, within 48 hours of arrest. The sample is drawn from all adult males arrested, not just those arrested on drug charges. Tests were conducted to detect the presence of the following drugs: marijuana, cocaine, opiates, amphetamines/methamphetamine, oxycodone, buprenorphine, PCP, benzodiazepines, methadone, and barbiturates. ADAM II does not test for alcohol.

**Some key highlights from the report:**

- In 2013, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) extended the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM II) data collection on drug use and other related behaviors among adult male booked arrestees that began in 2000, but limited the number of sentinel sites to five as it did in 2012. Current budget restrictions will make 2013 the final ADAM II data collection.
- Similar to 2012, data collection occurred over one, 21-day period rather than the two, 14-day periods in the 2007-2011 period. The five ADAM II sites continuing in 2012 and 2013 were Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Denver, CO; New York, NY; and Sacramento, CA.
- In these five sites, 1,888 interviews were conducted and 1,681 bioassay samples collected and then weighted to represent over 13,000 arrests.
- ADAM II continued to highlight the considerable regional variation in drug use that can be masked in national estimates. In Sacramento, 50 percent of adult male booked arrestees tested positive for methamphetamine at the time of arrest, compared to less than 1 percent in all other sites except Denver, where 16 percent tested positive. The percentage of ADAM II arrestees testing positive for cocaine metabolites also varied considerably, from 7 percent in Sacramento to 33 percent in Atlanta.
- Arrestees represented in ADAM II are a population often not well represented in other monitoring systems or surveys focusing on the Nation's illegal drug use. In 2013, 17 percent of all ADAM II arrestees had changed residence three or more times in the prior

year and 11 percent were homeless in the 30 days prior to arrest, making them highly transient and unlikely to be eligible for inclusion in general population household surveys.

- Although over 60 percent of ADAM II arrestees in each of the five sites had at least one drug in their system at the time of arrest, only one-quarter or fewer had ever participated in any outpatient drug or alcohol treatment and less than 30 percent had ever participated in any inpatient drug or alcohol treatment.
- ADAM II data highlight the need to validate self-reported answers to drug use questions in surveys. The agreement between self-report of drug use and a positive drug test matched to the appropriate window of detection varied considerably by drug: 83 percent of the ADAM II arrestees with a positive marijuana test result admitted use, but only 63 percent of those testing positive for methamphetamine, 50 percent of opioid positives and 43 percent of cocaine positives admitted use.
- Marijuana remained the drug most often detected in ADAM II arrestees in each of the five sites in 2013, ranging from 34 percent of ADAM II arrestees testing positive in Atlanta to 59 percent testing positive in Sacramento. In two sites (Chicago and Sacramento), more than half of the adult male arrestees tested positive for marijuana.
- After marijuana, cocaine was commonly found among arrestees in 2013. However, in each site there has been a steady, significant decline in the proportion of ADAM II arrestees testing positive for cocaine since 2000. In some sites, like Chicago and New York where the proportion testing positive in 2000 was 50 to 52 percent, that proportion gradually dropped to 24 percent (Chicago) and 32 percent (New York) in 2013.
- In 2013, there have been statistically significant changes in the proportion of ADAM II arrestees testing positive for opioids in all sites, but in different directions. In 2013, Atlanta, Denver, and Sacramento continued to show a significant upward trend in the proportion of arrestees testing positive for opiates. In Sacramento, for example, 18 percent of ADAM II arrestees tested positive for opiates in 2013, compared to just 3 percent in 2000 and 6 percent in 2007. Denver also showed a doubling of opiate positives in 2013 (to 8 percent) over 4 percent in 2000 and 3 percent in 2007. On the other hand, Chicago and New York City, which traditionally had higher levels of opioid-positive arrestees, showed declines compared to 2003 and earlier.
- Methamphetamine continued increasing since 2000 in Sacramento, escalating to 51 percent of adult male booked arrestees who tested positive in 2013. Methamphetamine positives also increased significantly in Denver, rising from 3 percent in 2000 and 6

percent in 2007 to 16 percent in 2013. In the other three sites, the percentage of methamphetamine positives remained under one percent.

- Across all sites, more than 80 percent of the arrestees reported that they have been arrested at least once prior to the current arrest, ranging from 82 percent (Sacramento) to 94 percent (Chicago). For all but Sacramento, these levels reflect a significant increase since 2003 in the proportion of arrestees with an arrest history. Many have also been recently arrested prior to the current arrest; between 14 percent (Denver) and 29 percent (Atlanta) of arrestees reported being arrested two or more times in the year prior to the current arrest. This represented a significant increase in the number of recent repeat offenders in all but Denver since the 2000–2003 years of ADAM.
- The average age of arrestees in all five sites ranged from 34 to 38, which reflected a significantly older arrestee population than in prior years in all sites except Denver, where the average age of arrestees has remained stable at between 34 and 35 years old. Over 60 percent of arrestees across all sites in 2013 were single.

*For more information on Obama Administration efforts to reduce drug use and its consequences while implementing effective drug policy reform, visit*

*[www.wh.gov/drugpolicyreform](http://www.wh.gov/drugpolicyreform)*

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