

Drug and Alcohol Fact Sheet

Quarterly - Issue 5, April 15, 1999

Prepared By: Departmental Drug Office

Inside DOT Statistics

The Department of Transportation's Federal Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Statistics for Fiscal Year 1999, October 1, 1998 - March 31, 1999:

	<u>TOTAL TESTED</u>	<u># OF POSITIVES</u>
Random Drug	4,587	7
Follow-Up	394	0
Reasonable Suspicion	5	0
Post Accident	29	0
Pre-employment	28	0
FAA Pre-employment	230	0
Voluntary	0	0
Random Alcohol	1893	0
CDL Alcohol (CY 99)	3	0
CDL Drug (CY 99)	12	0

The Department of Transportation's Fiscal Year 1999 drug positive rate of .3% is well below the latest published government positive rate of .6%.

"Did You Know?" Korner

- ◆ The purity of heroin has increased over the years. Traditionally, the purity of heroin in a bag has ranged from 1 to 10 percent; more recently purity has ranged from 1 to 98 percent with the a national average of 35 percent.
- ◆ Data suggests that there has been a rise in heroin used in recent years and that rise has occurred among younger persons who are smoking or sniffing heroin rather than injecting. Since smoking and sniffing is less invasive than injecting heroin, it may be perceived as less risky.
- ◆ Data from the 1996 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse conservatively show that there were approximately 2.4 million persons who used heroin at least once in their lifetime and approximately 455 thousand people who used heroin at least once in the past year.

Information Source: The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information

Substance Awareness Facts - Opiates

Opiates usually fall within the three categories:

Heroin - Smack, Junk, Brown Sugar, Horse, Skunk; Black Tar

Morphine - Mud, M, Dope, Morpho; and

Codeine - Schoolboy, Coties.

Appearance of Opiates:

Heroin - pure heroin is a white powder with a bitter taste, however, less pure heroin can vary in color from white to dark brown.

Morphine - white crystals, tablets, or an injected liquid.

Codeine - may be a dark liquid varying in thickness, capsules or tablets.

Physical Effects of Opiates:

Several factors which influence the effects of opiates: how often the drug is used; size of dose; and how the drug is used. Effects may include:

- ◆ short-lived state of euphoria, followed by drowsiness;
- ◆ slowed heart rate, breathing, and brain activity;
- ◆ depressed appetite, thirst, reflexes, and sexual desire; and/or
- ◆ increased tolerance for pain.

Signs of withdrawal may include:

- ◆ nausea, dysphoria, muscle aches, sweating, runny nose, irritability, diarrhea, insomnia, and tremors.

Looking For Help - Call:

Narcotics Anonymous: 1-800-896-8896
Parent Resource - PRIDE: 1-800-853-7867
DOT Employee Assistance Program: 1-800-222-0364
FAA Employee Assistance Program: 1-800-234-1EAP

"A Life of Substance Abuse is Life Without Substance"