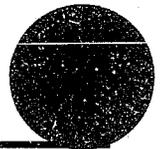


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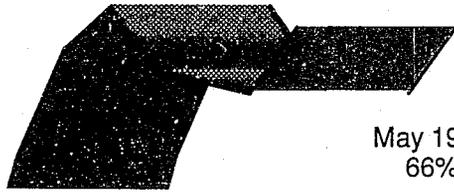
National Institute of Justice *Research in Action*

James K. Stewart, Director

December 1989

DRUG USE FORECASTING APRIL TO JUNE 1989

DUF



May 1989
66%

120742

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

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COCAINE USE:
Arrestees in
Washington, D.C.



May 1984
18%

NCJRS
JAN 15 1990
ACQUISITIONS

Source: National Institute of Justice
* Data based on male and female arrestees tested through Washington, D.C. Pretrial Services Agency

Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) Research Update

by Joyce Ann O'Neil and Eric D. Wish

DUF Research

The Drug Use Forecasting program provides the country with the first objective measure of recent drug use in an extremely deviant segment of the population. Recent drug use in arrestees is more than 10 times higher than is reported in surveys of persons in households or senior high schools. With DUF data, innovative research is now possible into the prevalence of drug use among criminal justice populations, cyclical trends in drug use, the age of onset and progression of drug use, the relationship of drug use to crime type, the validity of arrestees' self-reports, and AIDS risk behaviors in arrestees.

The DUF interview can be modified to address new research topics as they arise. For example, questions about the route of administration of cocaine were added to the interview when crack cocaine became a national problem.

Second Quarter Results, April-June 1989

Between 56 and 84 percent of male arrestees and 58 and 88 percent of female arrestees tested positive for one or more drugs.

Male arrestees in Philadelphia (84 percent) and females in Washington, D.C. (88 percent) were most likely to be found using a drug.

San Diego and Chicago had the most multiple drug use. In San Diego, four drugs were likely to be detected: cocaine, marijuana, opiates, and amphetamines. In Chicago, cocaine, marijuana, and opiates were found in 25 percent or more of the males. For female arrestees, multiple drug use was highest in Washington, D.C. (44 percent).

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Cocaine remained the drug most likely to be found in arrestees in all but two cities. The exceptions were San Diego and Phoenix, where males were as likely to test positive for marijuana as for cocaine.

Geographical differences were evident for PCP and amphetamines. In Washington, D.C., PCP use was found to be highest for both male and female arrestees.

Amphetamine use remained a west coast phenomenon. San Diego had the greatest amount of amphetamine use followed by Portland and Phoenix.

In every city except Chicago, opiates were found in fewer than 25 percent of tested males. Opiates were more common in females, especially in Washington, D.C., Portland, and San Diego.

Purpose of DUF

In 1986, the National Institute of Justice began the Drug Use Forecasting program in New York City. This report includes results from 16 cities. A total of 22 cities have joined the program, and information from them will be available in future reports. DUF is designed to provide each city with information for detecting changes in drug use trends in arrestees. This information can be used to plan the allocation of law enforcement treatment and prevention resources, as well as to gain an indication of the impact of local drug use reduction efforts. By early 1990, DUF will be expanded to 25 cities.

Method

DUF data are collected in central booking facilities in the largest cities across the United States. For about 10 consecutive evenings each quarter, trained local staff obtain voluntary and anonymous urine specimens and interviews from a new sample of arrestees. In each site, about 250 male arrestees are sampled. Some sites also obtain smaller samples of female arrestees and juvenile detainees. Response rates are consistently high, with over 90 percent agreeing to be interviewed. More than 80 percent of the persons interviewed provide a urine specimen.

To obtain samples with a sufficient distribution of charges, DUF interviewers limit the number of persons in the sample who are charged with the sale or possession of drugs. Because such persons are most likely to be using drugs at arrest (see table below) and are undersampled, DUF statistics are minimal estimates of drug use in the arrestee population.

Urine specimens are analyzed by EMIT™ for 10 drugs: cocaine, opiates, marijuana, PCP, methadone, Valium, methaqualone, Darvon, barbiturates, and amphetamines. Positive results for amphetamines are confirmed by gas chromatography to eliminate over-the-counter drugs.

Arrestees Charged with Drug Offenses are Most Likely to Test Positive^a

City	% Testing Positive for Any Drug	
	Drug Charges	Non-drug Charges
Birmingham	93	66*
Chicago	90	73*
Cleveland	95	61*
Detroit	76	55*
Houston	78	56*
Miami	79	69
New Orleans	87	75
New York	81	75
Philadelphia	94	82*
Portland	88	61*
St. Louis	90	65*
San Diego	93	75*
Wash., D.C.	85	65*

Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program.

^a April through June 1989

* Difference significant by χ^2 , $p < .05$

Drug Use by All Arrestees*

City	% POSITIVE ANY DRUG	RANGE OF % POSITIVE				% POSITIVE					
		LOW	DATE	HIGH	DATE	2+ DRUGS	COCAINE	MARIJUANA	AMPHETAMINES	OPIATES	PCP
Males											
Philadelphia	84	79	8/88	84	4/89	42	76	35	1	10	4
San Diego	80	66	6/87	85	1/89	52	42	43	36	22	5
Chicago	77	73	11/87	85	7/88	51	64	36	0	28	11
New York	76	76	4/89	90	6/88	35	67	23	0	13	5
New Orleans	76	58	1/88	76	4/89	35	63	42	**	6	2
Miami	70	Data not available				29	65	29	**	2	0
Wash., D.C.	70	70	6/89	72	2/89	31	62	15	0	13	15
Birmingham	70	70	4/89	75	7/88	26	56	30	0	5	0
St. Louis	69	56	10/88	69	4/89	36	55	40	0	10	4
Cleveland	67	66	2/89	68	11/88	22	56	22	0	2	4
Dallas	67	57	12/88	72	6/88	26	51	30	6	8	**
Portland	67	54	1/89	76	8/88	29	42	36	9	18	0
Kansas City	64	54	11/88	64	5/89	27	49	32	1	3	5
Houston	64	61	1/88	69	4/88	22	47	28	2	5	0
Detroit	62	62	4/89	69	10/88	38	48	22	**	11	0
Phoenix	56	53	10/87	67	1/88	18	26	33	8	8	0
Females											
Wash., D.C.	88	70	2/89	88	6/89	44	76	17	0	23	18
New York	81	76	10/88	83	2/88	33	72	8	0	21	1
Philadelphia	79	77	1/89	82	8/88	38	64	18	1	18	1
Birmingham	77	65	12/88	77	4/89	39	58	36	2	6	0
St. Louis	75	45	11/88	75	4/89	33	50	40	0	10	9
Portland	75	69	1/89	82	8/88	41	54	27	14	26	0
San Diego	74	78	8/88	87	12/87	41	41	18	29	26	2
Kansas City	73	70	11/88	73	2/89	23	64	13	2	7	5
New Orleans	65	46	11/87	65	1/89	32	51	27	0	6	4
Phoenix	65	54	7/88	78	3/89	36	49	28	12	17	0
Houston	64	Data not available				27	49	23	2	6	0
Dallas	58	44	3/89	71	6/88	29	42	22	8	8	3

Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program

* Positive urinalysis, April through June 1989
 ** Less than 1%

Drug Use: Trends Among Female Arrestees

Drug use in female arrestees is often higher than that of their male counterparts. During the second quarter of 1989 more than 50 percent of the female arrestees in each city tested positive for a drug at time of arrest. Trend data from four cities indicate that drug use remains high among women.

San Diego. Amphetamine use is found mainly in San Diego. It has increased from 24 percent in December 1987 to a

peak of 45 percent in February 1989. Cocaine use has leveled off at 41 percent, a slight decrease from its peak of 56 percent in 1988.

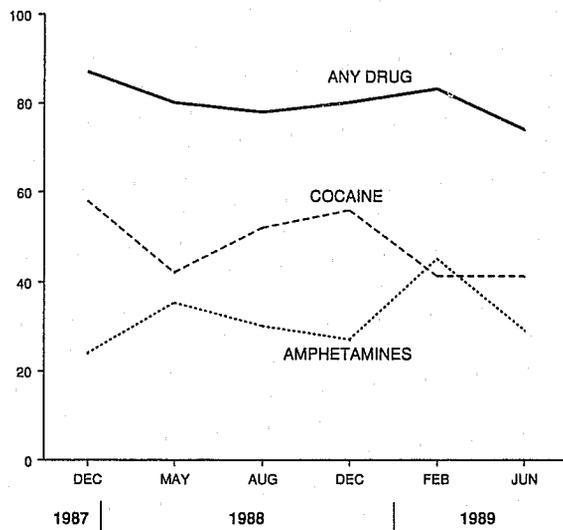
Phoenix. Since 1988, cocaine use has increased. It reached a high of 60 percent in March 1989. Amphetamine use fluctuates between 6 and 18 percent.

New York. Cocaine use remains high among female arrestees in New York.

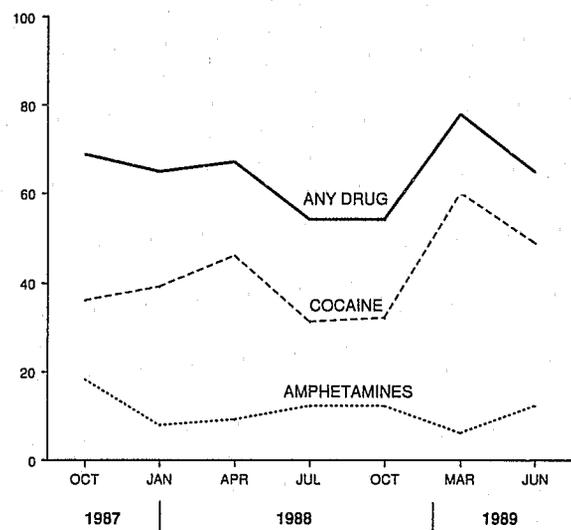
Since 1987, it has exceeded 70 percent. Use of cocaine dwarfs all other drug use in New York. Opiates are the second most frequently found drug among females in this city.

Portland. Cocaine use showed an increase to 60 percent in August of 1988 and has since been found in about 50 percent of females. Opiate use has been steady at about 26 percent since 1988.

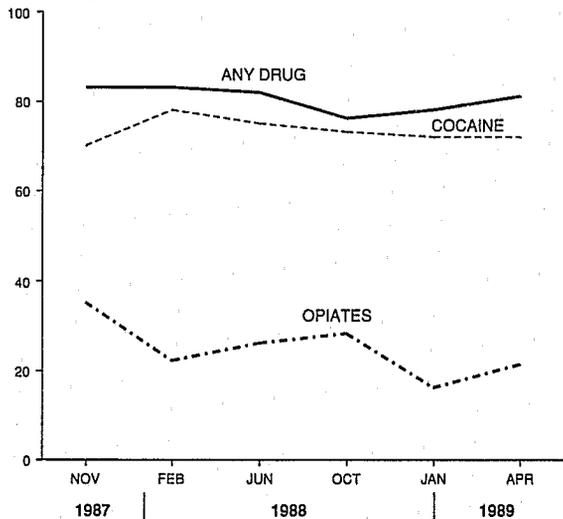
Drug Use: Female Arrestees in San Diego



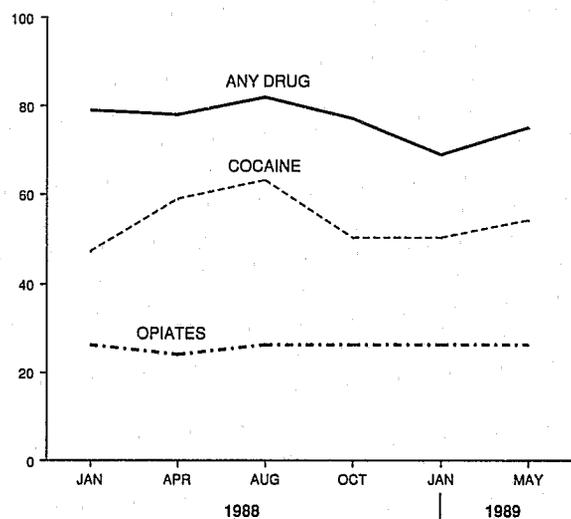
Drug Use: Female Arrestees in Phoenix



Drug Use: Female Arrestees in New York



Drug Use: Female Arrestees in Portland



Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program

Use of Amphetamines by Arrestees

DUF data have consistently shown amphetamine use to be limited to arrestees on the west coast. The chart on page 3 shows the amphetamine test results for the second quarter of 1989. In 15 of the 16 cities, amphetamines were found in fewer than 15 percent of all arrestees. In San Diego, the highest rate of amphetamine use occurred for both male (36 percent) and female arrestees (29 percent). To date, no significant increases in amphetamine use have been detected in any of the DUF cities.

To gain insights into the characteristics of amphetamine users, information from the San Diego DUF project was analyzed. During 1988-89, 34 percent of male arrestees and 33 percent of female arrestees in San Diego tested positive for amphetamines.

Amphetamine users were likely to be using other drugs. Sixty-four percent of the males positive for amphetamines were also positive for marijuana and 28 percent were positive for cocaine. Among females testing positive for amphetamines, 41 percent were also positive for marijuana and 25 percent were positive for cocaine. Opiates were found in 14 percent of the males positive for amphetamines and in 16 percent of the female positive for amphetamines.

The table to the right shows selected characteristics of amphetamine users. White arrestees were most likely to test positive for amphetamines: 56 percent of the white males and 46 percent of the white females. Approximately 25 percent of Hispanics were using amphetamines. Black arrestees were least likely to be using amphetamines.

No relation was found between amphetamine use and whether a person had dropped out of school before the 12th grade. For males, the criminal charge most associated with amphetamine use was a weapons offense (45 percent), followed by stolen property or vehicle and drug sale or possession (both 38 percent positive). For females, those charged with stolen property or vehicle were most likely to test positive for amphetamines (67

percent). Forty-three percent of females charged with drug sale or possession were positive for amphetamines.

The figure below shows the relationship between age at arrest and likelihood of testing positive for amphetamines. For male arrestees, the percent testing positive increased with age, reaching a peak between 26 and 30 years and dropping off as age increased. Amphetamine use was more common in younger females. After age 25 amphetamine use gradually declined.

The use of smokable methamphetamine, known as Ice, has been reported in cities in the continental United States. It was initially reported in Hawaii. The trends in amphetamine use established by the DUF data will serve as a baseline for assessing any increase in the use of amphetamines or methamphetamines. (A positive amphetamine finding by urinalysis can result from amphetamine or methamphetamine use.) Trends in Ice use will be monitored by urine test results and arrestees' reports of new drugs available in their communities. Findings will be presented in future DUF reports.

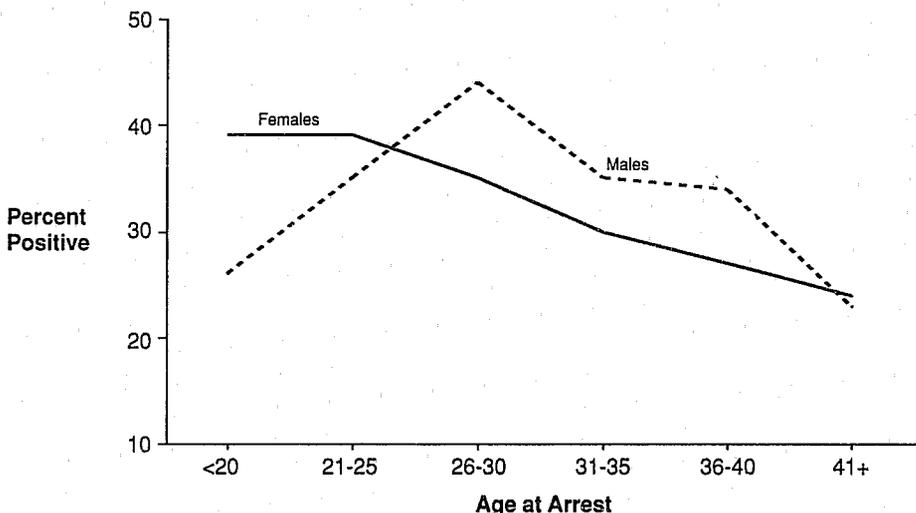
Amphetamine Users in San Diego*

	Positive for Amphetamines	
	Males	Females
Ethnicity		
White	(506) 56%	(237) 46%
Hispanic	(480) 23%	(69) 28%
Black	(337) 17%	(132) 11%
Complete 12th Grade		
No**	(501) 32%	(163) 34%
Yes	(851) 36%	(289) 33%
Charge at Arrest***		
Weapons Offense	(60) 45%	Too few cases
Stolen property, vehicle	(226) 38%	(27) 67%
Drug sale/possession	(455) 38%	(166) 43%
Burglary	(203) 29%	(59) 19%
Sex Offense	(22) 27%	(29) 14%

Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program.

- * 1988-1989
- ** Includes persons who subsequently completed their GED
- *** Presented are charges most associated with a urine test positive for amphetamines.

Amphetamine Use by Age and Sex* (N=1,346 male and 450 female arrestees in San Diego)



Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program.
* 1988-1989

Treatment Needs of All Arrestees*

During the DUF interview, arrestees are asked if they need drug or alcohol treatment and to specify the type of treatment needed. The percentage requesting treatment differs considerably from city to city. Arrestees in Philadelphia report the highest need for treatment: 41 percent of the males and 43 percent of the females. Arrestees in St. Louis are least likely to report a need for treatment (11 percent of males and 12 percent of females).

In all cities except San Diego, the greatest demand is for cocaine treatment. Cocaine treatment requests include arrestees who need treatment for crack use. In 13 of the 15 cities reporting during the second quarter of 1989, more than 58 percent of males who say they need treatment request cocaine treatment. Among female arrestees, the demand for cocaine treatment also exceeds other drug treatment requests.

For most cities, the need for heroin treatment is second to cocaine treatment. More than one-third of the female arrestees request treatment for heroin.

As noted above, the reported treatment needs in San Diego differ from treatment needs in other cities. For both male and female arrestees, heroin is the drug for which treatment is most needed. Cocaine treatment requests in this city are second to heroin requests. Arrestees in San Diego also state a need for crystal methamphetamine treatment: 28 percent of the males and 17 percent of the females.

The treatment information collected from the DUF interview can be useful in policy planning and allocation. To know that the majority of arrestees needing treatment overwhelmingly request services for their cocaine or crack use enables officials to focus treatment efforts on these drugs. At the same time, the geographical differences noted both in drug use and treatment requests also help cities plan programs that meet their specific treatment needs.

City	% needing treatment ^a	% NEEDING TREATMENT FOR:		
		COCAINE ^b	MARIJUANA	HEROIN
Males				
Birmingham	38	80	21	1
Chicago	32	59	9	44
Cleveland	31	87	23	14
Dallas	13	81	19	6
Detroit	32	71	3	34
Houston	11	88	21	12
Kansas City	16	86	14	8
Miami	13	96	0	0
New Orleans	19	88	10	10
New York	34	84	5	26
Philadelphia	41	94	5	15
Phoenix	18	58	25	34
Portland	23	48	18	32
St. Louis	11	80	4	29
San Diego	27	34	9	46
Wash., D.C.	21	72	2	39
Females				
Birmingham	27**	—	—	—
Dallas	15**	—	—	—
Houston	19	71	0	33
Kansas City	37	84	16	3
New Orleans	14**	—	—	—
New York	38	78	0	42
Philadelphia	43	85	2	29
Phoenix	29	72	8	44
Portland	32	47	8	44
St. Louis	12**	—	—	—
San Diego	27	44	9	52
Wash., D.C.	32	78	3	32

Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program

^a Does not include persons requesting alcohol treatment only

^b Includes crack

* Data based on voluntary self-reports, April through June 1989

** Results in less than 20 cases

School Dropout Among Arrestees

In 1988, DUF collected information from arrestees in 20 cities throughout the United States. In addition to drug use histories, arrestees were asked about other aspects of their lives. For example, arrestees were asked to report their highest level of education. An analysis of these data indicated that the majority of arrestees in the 20 cities had not finished the 12th grade. The percentage of male arrestees who had not completed high school ranged from 32 percent in Fort Lauderdale to 67 percent in San Antonio (data not shown). Female

arrestees in San Antonio were most likely to have dropped out of school (59 percent). The lowest rate of high school dropout among female arrestees was found in Los Angeles (44 percent).

The table below shows the dropout rates according to ethnicity. The rate of dropout among Hispanic arrestees was especially high: 60 percent or more of Hispanics dropped out of school before completing 12th grade. The term Hispanic in this context refers to a number of different ethnicities, e.g., Mexicans in San Antonio, Cubans and Puerto Ricans in New York.

The dropout rates in arrestees underscored the limitations of surveys of drug use in senior high school students. With greater than one-third of all arrestees and more than 60 percent of Hispanic arrestees dropping out of school before 12th grade, it is evident that this highly deviant and drug abusing portion of the population is omitted from high school surveys. A more representative picture of national drug use can be obtained by integrating epidemiologic information from diverse segments of the total population.

Percentage of Arrestees Who Completed Less than 12 Grades of School*

City	Black	White	Hispanic
Males			
San Antonio	55	50	81
Kansas City	58	70	**
St. Louis	64	70	**
Philadelphia	55	54	69
Dallas	56	69	86
Cleveland	55	52	**
New Orleans	60	34	**
New York	55	36	65
Indianapolis	60	68	**
Miami	46	57	68
Chicago	56	50	65
Detroit	62	47	**
Portland	46	54	71
Birmingham	49	57	**
Los Angeles	34	38	72
Houston	52	34	75
Omaha	36	54	**
Phoenix	36	37	74
San Diego	34	37	61
Ft. Lauderdale	45	28	**

City	Black	White	Hispanic
Females			
San Antonio	**	42	74
Kansas City	51	**	**
St. Louis	52	38	**
Philadelphia	56	42	**
Dallas	46	49	**
New Orleans	48	44	**
New York	57	54	64
Indianapolis	36	64	**
Chicago	48	**	**
Detroit	54	67	**
Portland	51	65	**
Birmingham	52	55	**
Los Angeles	29	42	72
Phoenix	47	50	74
San Diego	31	46	71

Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program

* Data based on voluntary self-reports, 1988. Sample sizes for males are: Black-5622, White-2936, Hispanic-1794. Sample sizes for females are: Black-1533, White-1169, Hispanic-438.

** Less than 20 cases

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NCJ 120742

Distribution of Arrest Charges*

City	N	CHARGE AT ARREST (In Percent)										
		ASSAULT	BURGLARY	DRUG SALE/POSS.**	HOMICIDE	LARCENY	ROBBERY	SEX OFFENSES	STOLEN PROP./VEHICLE	WEAPONS	OTHER	TOTAL
Males												
Birmingham	201	1	19	15	2	24	10	3	16	***	10	100%
Chicago	219	4	25	26	***	8	6	4	18	5	4	100
Cleveland	214	8	10	18	6	11	7	6	11	7	16	100
Dallas	246	17	13	6	0	20	5	2	10	8	19	100
Detroit	186	4	2	32	2	3	3	5	2	3	45	100
Houston	220	5	11	34	4	8	2	***	9	4	22	100
Kansas City	228	9	5	0	2	13	4	3	6	2	56 ^a	100
Miami	215	15	16	11	2	11	8	3	12	7	15	100
New Orleans	254	12	9	9	4	15	12	6	8	11	14	100
New York	264	12	7	10	***	25	12	***	3	3	26	100
Philadelphia	288	9	13	18	2	14	11	6	11	4	12	100
Phoenix	185	13	7	4	0	25	2	5	5	0	39	100
Portland	254	18	8	20	***	14	3	2	6	2	26	100
St. Louis	224	20	10	17	***	14	4	3	3	5	24	100
San Diego	261	3	14	32	0	10	1	***	24	6	9	100
Wash., D.C.	226	14	4	24	***	12	4	***	12	3	27	100

Source: National Institute of Justice/Drug Use Forecasting Program

* April through June 1989

** Drug sale and possession charges are undersampled

*** Less than 1%

^a Other charges include family offense (22%), disturbing the peace (10%), and bench warrants (8%)

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