Price/Purity:

a forensic assessment of the illegal drug market in Maryland

Maryland State Police
Criminal Intelligence Division
Second Half, 1992
Y-97-01179

151478

Price and Purity Assessment
July 1, 1992 to December 31, 1992

Introduction

The Criminal Intelligence Division of the Maryland State Police maintains a database which enables the Division to track the price and purity of various illicit drugs in the State. For this report, the prices of marijuana, powdered cocaine (cocaine HCL), crack cocaine and heroin were determined by amounts purchased. The data were also examined to learn if geographic location (defined by county) and the time of year (defined by month) had an effect on price and purity. Because of the lack of sufficient data for expanded analysis, only an average Statewide price was determined for Phencyclidine (PCP) and Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD).

Why is this done? Since the illicit drug trade is based on market conditions directly affected by supply and demand, changes in the sale price of drugs sold and purity fluctuations within specific geographic locations can give much insight into changes in demand and availability.

Information for this report was obtained from several sources. Price information was derived from actual undercover purchases by law enforcement personnel. The amount, purity, drug type, date and location of the seizure or purchases were obtained from police and laboratory reports. The price and laboratory reports were matched using the unique Property Control Number for each transaction.

This report could not have been made possible without the cooperation of the following agencies that submitted price or purity data:

Howard County Police Department
The Southern Maryland Tri-County Task Force
Maryland State Police, Drug Enforcement Division
Montgomery County Narcotics Division

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
The Maryland State Police Crime Laboratories
City of Baltimore Crime Laboratory
Montgomery County Police Crime Laboratory

As a courtesy to prosecutors and investigators, a convenient "tear out sheet" of drug prices by county has been included at the end of this report.

Appendix 1 explains the statistical techniques used. Appendix 2 is a table of weights and measures.

Marijuana

Prices for Marijuana Purchases 0.5 Grams to 2 Ounces		
	Prices ($)	
Amount, In Ounces	Through 6-30-92	Through 12-31-92
1 Joint (0.5 Grams)	15	10
1/8 Ounce (3.5 Grams)	39	37
1/4 Ounce (7 Grams)	61	63
1/2 Ounce (14 Grams)	107	115
1 Ounce (28 Grams)	206	205
2 Ounces (56 Grams)	348	380

This table shows the price of typical marijuana purchases for the first and second half of 1992.

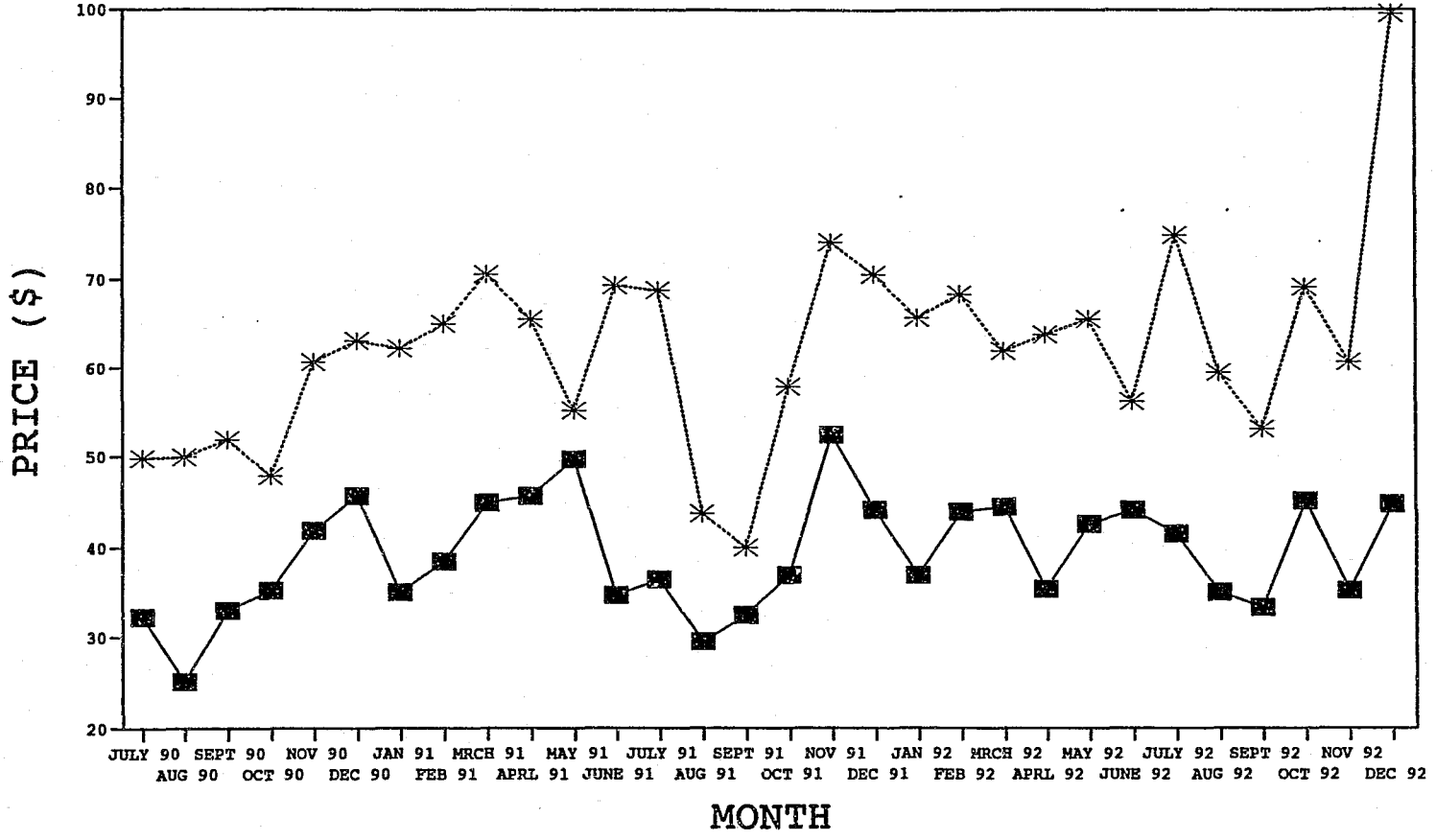
While it may seem unusual, purchases can be made of one or two marijuana cigarettes (0.5 to 1 grams) in various parts of the State, particularly urban areas such as Baltimore City or near college campuses.

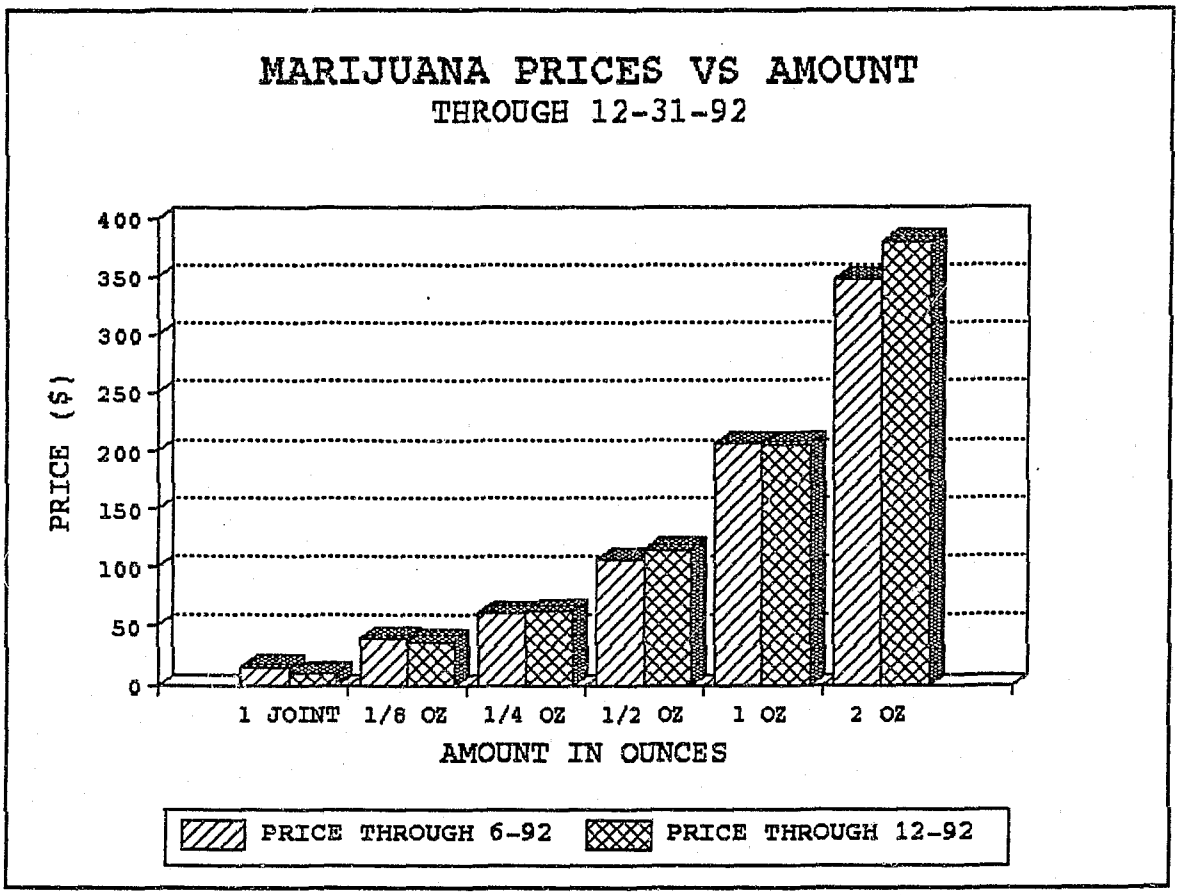
As indicated, there were no significant marijuana price changes during the second half of the year (with the exception of 1 joint purchases).

Intelligence information indicates more marijuana is being grown indoors. Reasons for the increase in indoor cultivation include avoiding law enforcement, reducing theft of crops and producing higher quality marijuana. One result is a stability of marijuana supply. Marijuana can be grown indoors year round, decreasing the seasonal effect on supply and resulting in less dramatic changes in prices.

The stability in prices may also indicate a shift to out-of-state suppliers such as Texas, Arizona and Mexico because these areas have several growing seasons.

STATEWIDE MARIJUANA PRICES, 1991 & 1992
1/4-OUNCE AND 1/8-OUNCE PURCHASES





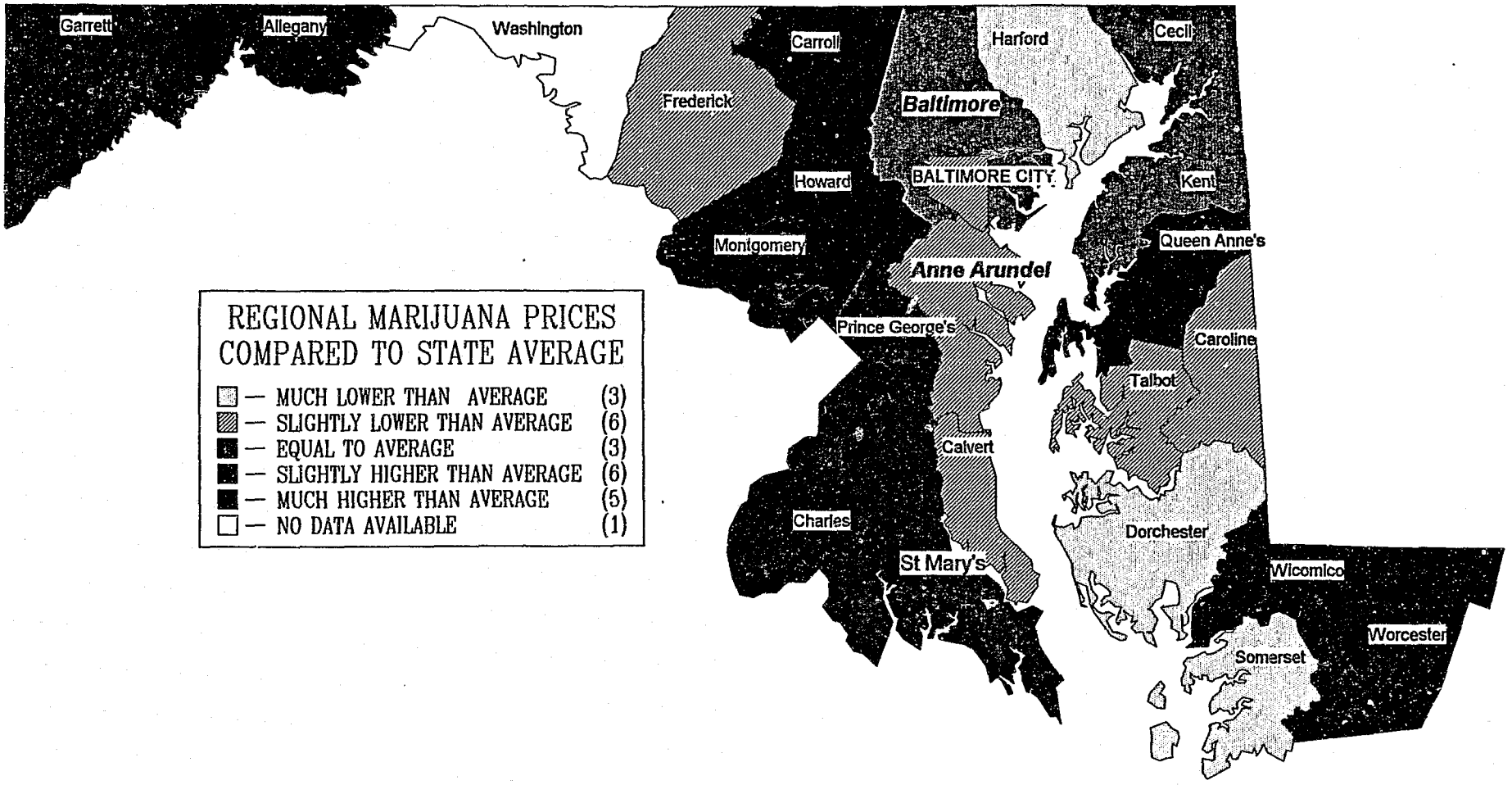
The price per gram of marijuana drops as purchases become larger. The most significant drop in price is between 1/4-ounce and 1/2-ounce purchases, which coincides with the break between retail and wholesale purchases.

Marijuana Purchases By Amount Through 12-31-92				
	Up to 1/8 Ounce	1/8 to 1/4 Ounce	1/4 to 1/2 Ounce	Over 1/2 Ounce
Number	102	161	99	86
Percent	23%	36%	22%	19%
Cumulative Percent	23%	59%	81%	100%

To compare marijuana prices by region, the median amount purchased and the median price by amount were determined for each county. The median represents the typical amount purchased, as opposed to the average amount, which includes all purchases. By using the median, unusually large or small purchases are removed, which provides a more accurate comparison. The median price is then compared to the Statewide average price for this amount to determine areas where prices are higher or lower than expected (this process is explained more completely in Appendix 1). The information is displayed on Map 1.

Compared to the last price/purity assessment, prices increased slightly in Montgomery and Carroll Counties, where they are now significantly above the State average. Prices dropped dramatically in Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties. The previous assessment reported prices as being significantly above the State average in these two counties. Prices dropped slightly in Cecil, Caroline and Wicomico Counties and increased in Kent County. Prices in Harford, Dorchester and Somerset Counties are significantly below the State average and are the lowest in the State; this is consistent with the last assessment.

MAP 1– MARIJUANA PRICE DEVIATIONS



Note: Significant changes in price occurred in counties labeled in bold.

Cocaine HCL Prices

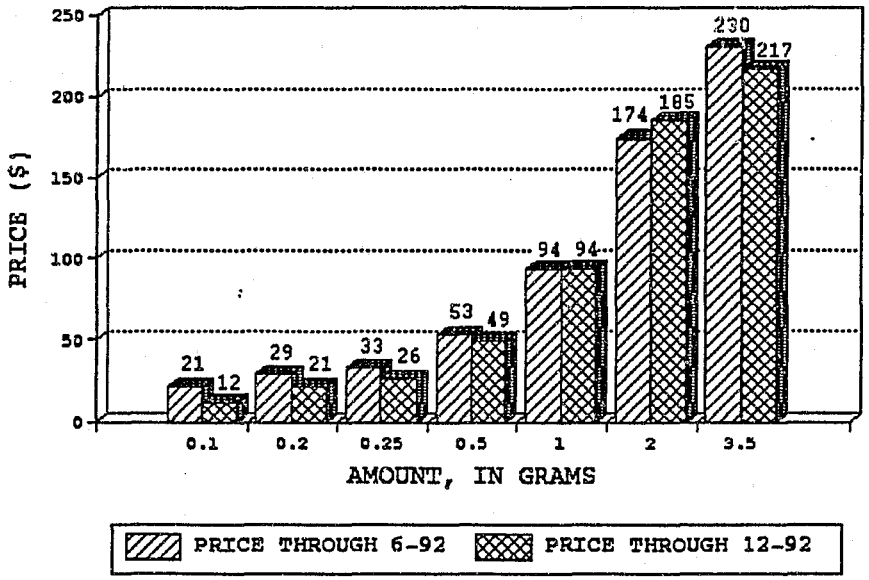
Prices for Cocaine HCL Purchases		
	Prices ($)	
Amount, in Grams	Through 6-30-92	Through 12-31-92
0.1	21	12
0.2	29	21
0.25 (1/4 Gram)	33	26
0.50 (1/2 Gram)	53	49
1.0	94	94
2.0	174	185
3.5 (8 Ball)	230	217
7.0 (1/4 Oz)	373	375
14.0 (1/2 Oz)	730	690
28.0 (1 Oz)	1295	1245
57.0 (2 Oz)	2495	2690
85.0 (3 Oz)	3745	4150
113.0 (4 Oz)	4470	5580

This table shows the price of typical cocaine HCL purchases (powdered cocaine) for the 1st and 2nd half of 1992.

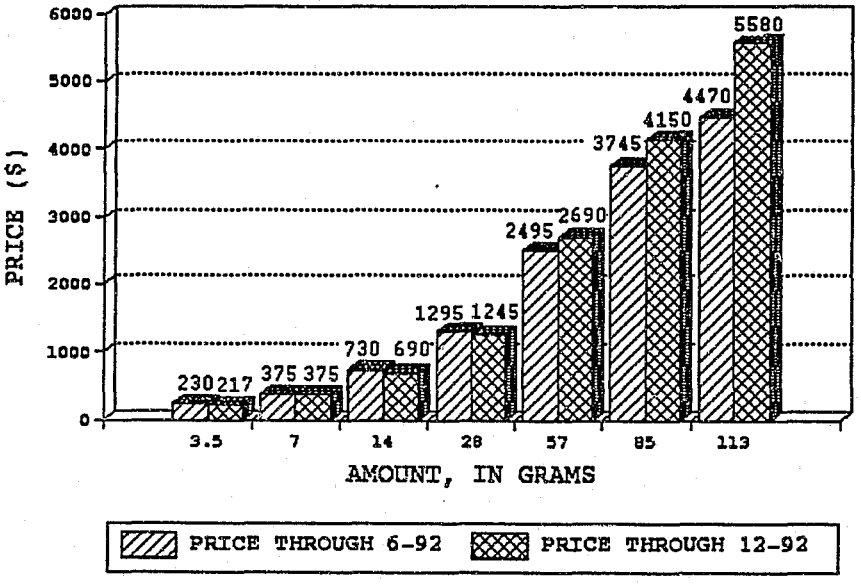
Cocaine prices dropped for purchases of less than 1 gram over the last six months. Comparing the price of 1 gram and 1/2 gram purchases, there appears to be a gradual decrease in price over the last 2 years. This may indicate a stable supply but decreasing demand.

Both supply and demand act to determine price. An excess of supply over demand leads to lower prices. Cocaine cartels are not dramatically increasing their production; some appear to be diversifying into other illicit drugs. Also, there are indications of a reduction in the user population. This may be due to a number of factors, including an overall increase in health consciousness, the positive effects of drug health and education programs, law enforcement efforts and a general intolerance toward drug use. These factors, along with many others, may be responsible for little or no growth, and perhaps a reduction, in the number of cocaine users. A gradual decrease in demand, along with stable supply, is accompanied by a slow decrease in price.

RETAIL COCAINE HCL PRICES VS AMOUNT
THROUGH 12-31-92, UP TO 3.5 GRAMS

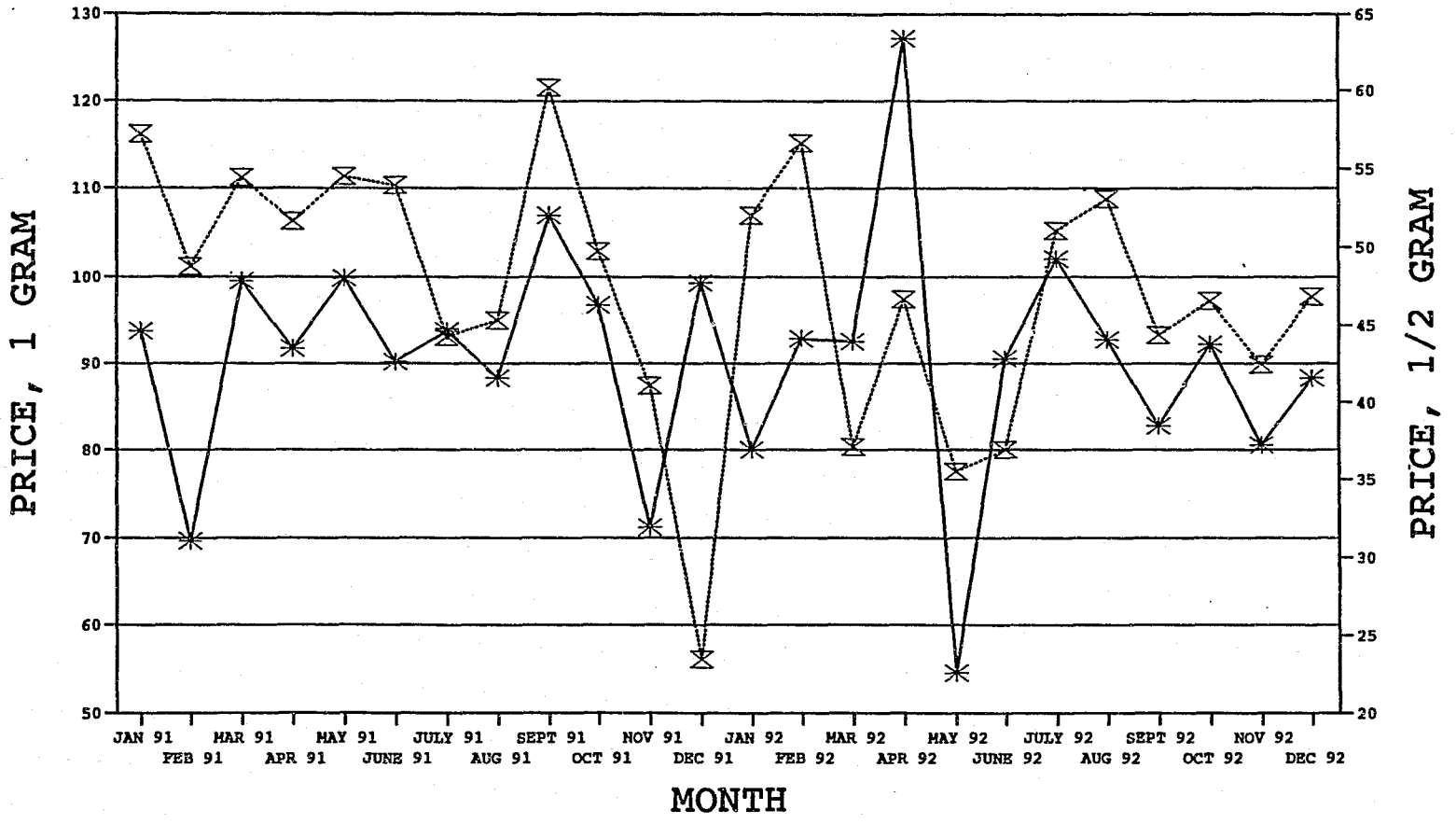


WHOLESALE COCAINE HCL PRICES VS AMOUNT
THROUGH 12-31-92, 3.5 GRAMS AND OVER



STATEWIDE COCAINE PRICES, 1991 & 1992

1 GRAM AND 1/2 GRAM PURCHASES



The sharp price increase in April, 1992 may be due to a severe disruption in supply. Along with price increase, there was a significant drop in cocaine HCL purity and a decrease in the number of highway interdictions resulting in larger seizures of cocaine. Prices dropped sharply in May 1992 as dealers overcompensated for the reduction in supply. Price and purity went back to more normal levels by June, 1992.

The following table shows the number and percentage of cocaine purchases at various amounts.

Cocaine HCL Purchases, By Amount For the Period 7-1-90 Through 12-31-92			
Purchase Amount	Number of Purchases	Percent	Cumm. Percent
Up To 1/4 Gram	253	22.2%	22.2%
1/4 Gram To 1/2 Gram	122	10.7%	32.9%
1/2 Gram To 1 Gram	129	11.3%	44.2%
1 Gram To 3.5 Grams	185	16.2%	60.4%
3.5 Grams To 7 Grams	85	7.2%	67.6%
7 Grams To 14 Grams	87	7.6%	75.2%
14 Grams To 28 Grams	101	8.9%	84.1%
28 Grams To 56 Grams	95	8.3%	92.4%
Over 56 Grams	86	7.5%	100.0%

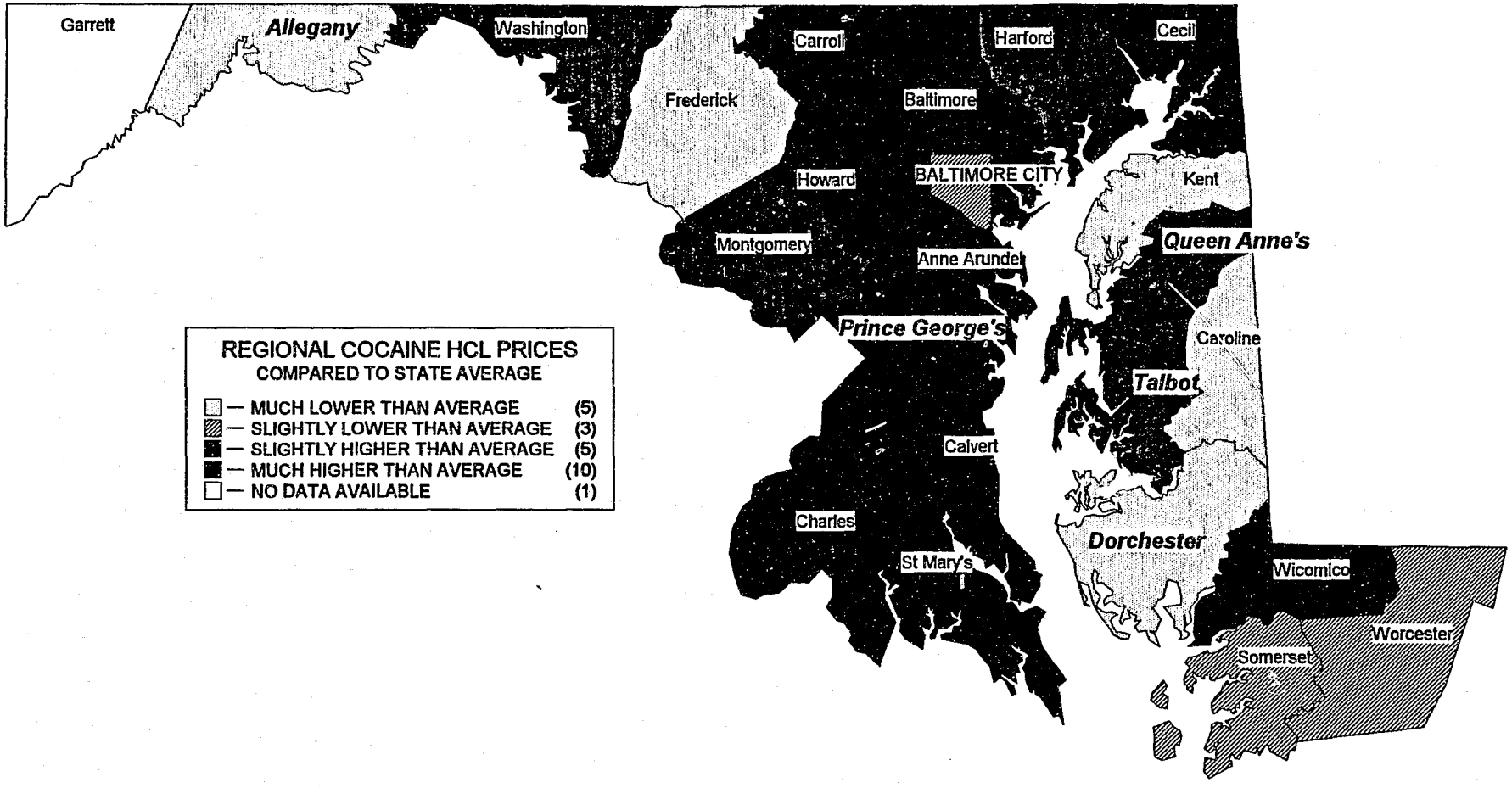
Over one half of the cocaine purchases being made are in user quantities. When buying more than two grams, the intention is usually to break up the purchase and resell it in smaller quantities. Anecdotal information from undercover investigators suggests that most users do not make purchases of more than a gram.

Prices were compared regionally with the same technique used for marijuana prices described in Appendix 1. The information is presented on Map 2.

Compared to the last assessment, prices dropped significantly in Allegany County. A sharp drop in price during a short time period indicates of increased supply. Prices increased slightly in Baltimore, Anne Arundel and Howard Counties. The steady population growth may account for some of these changes. Prices increased dramatically in Prince George's County, where they are now significantly above the Statewide average.

Prices in Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties increased dramatically from being significantly below State average. Prices dropped slightly in Worcester County and increased slightly in Somerset County. Prices in Dorchester County dropped dramatically, from being significantly above Statewide average to being significantly below.

MAP 2– REGIONAL COCAINE PRICE DEVIATIONS



Note: Significant changes in price occurred in counties labeled in bold.

Cocaine HCL Purity

Cocaine HCL Purities By County		
	Purity Through 6-30-92	Purity Through 12-31-92
Statewide	70.5	69.9
Allegany	40.6	58.4
Anne Arundel	66.5	65.0
Baltimore	70.9	65.1
Calvert	N/A	N/A
Caroline	66.0	68.0
Carroll	68.5	65.9
Cecil	77.4	75.8
Charles	76.0	85.4
Dorchester	86.5	86.9
Frederick	68.8	60.6
Garrett	N/A	N/A
Harford	74.2	74.7
Howard	78.1	81.8
Kent	73.6	68.7
Montgomery	62.6	63.7
Prince George's	72.3	73.1
Queens Anne's	65.6	66.3
St. Mary's	44.8	39.0
Somerset	62.5	59.3
Talbot	66.7	68.3
Washington	57.0	57.0
Wicomico	69.4	67.5
Worcester	83.1	76.6
Baltimore City	69.7	68.9

This table shows the average purity of cocaine HCL for Maryland.

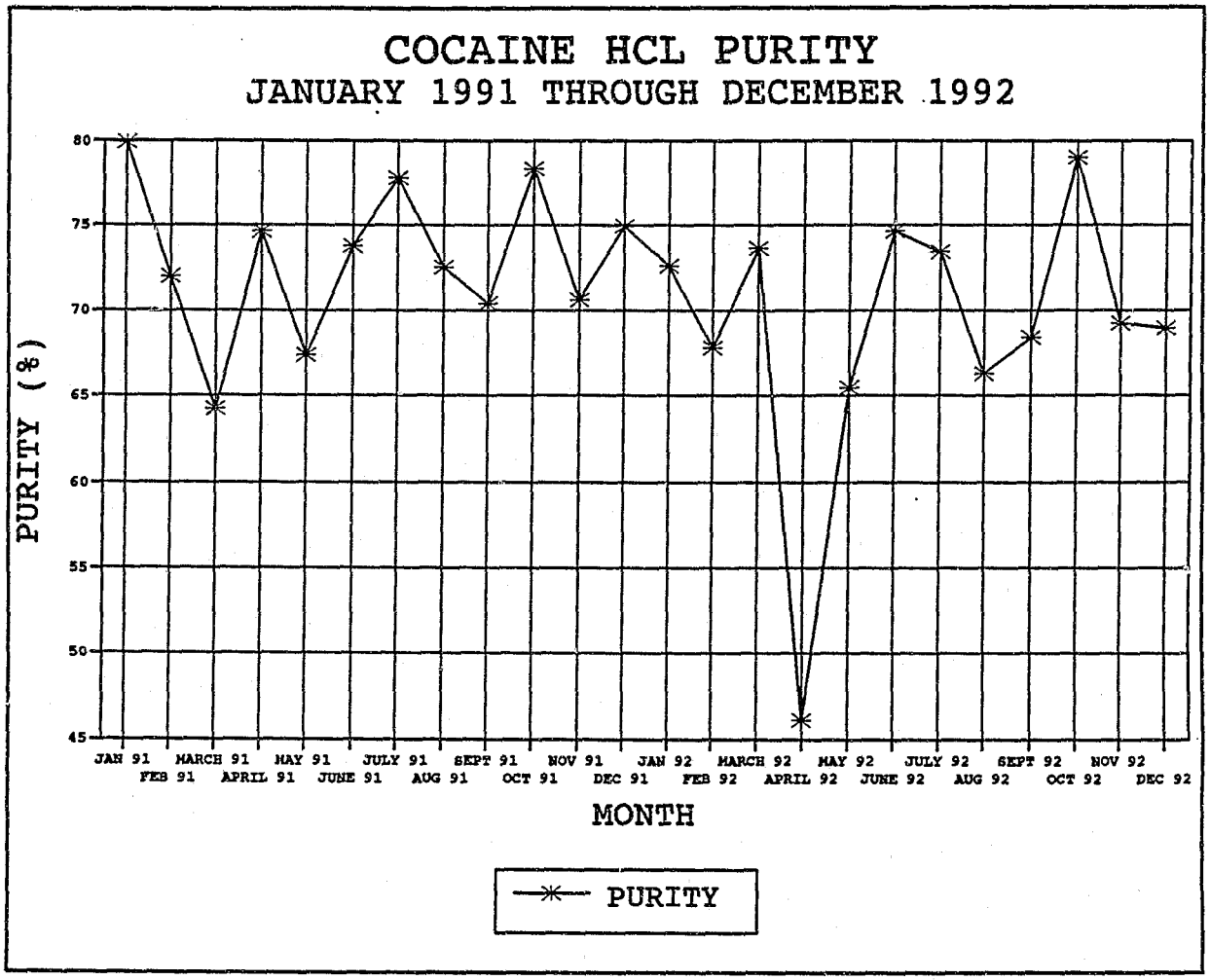
The most notable changes in purity were in Allegany, Kent and Charles Counties. In Allegany County, purity increased sharply, which was accompanied by a decrease in price. All else being equal, this would indicate a significant increase in cocaine HCL availability.

A change in purity without a change in price is the first indication of a change in the cocaine market. Dealers are likely to change purity in order to match demand before changing price. This may have been observed in Kent County. Purity dropped while prices remained stable. With the increasing population in Kent County, dealers may be cutting purity to meet demand before increasing price.

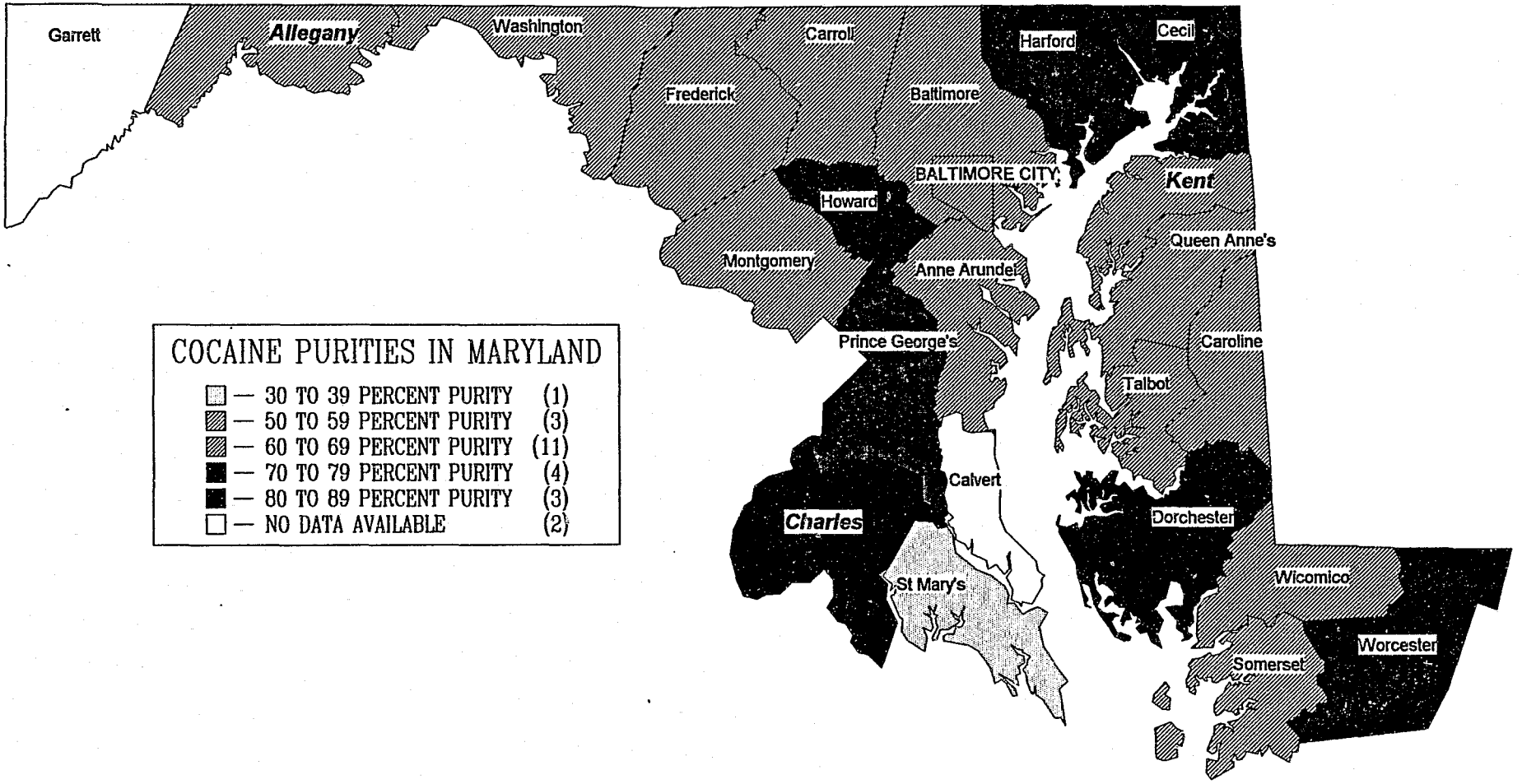
Purities increased in Charles County without an increase

in price. This may be indicative of a stabilizing market. Finding that supply is beginning to exceed demand, dealers may increase purity rather than cut prices to attract customers.

The following chart shows the average cocaine HCL purity by month. With one exception in April, 1992, purities fluctuated within a narrow range over the last two years. This drop in purity corresponds to an increase in price during the same time period. Again, this may be related to a sudden drop in availability.



MAP 3- COCAINE HCL PURITES IN MARYLAND



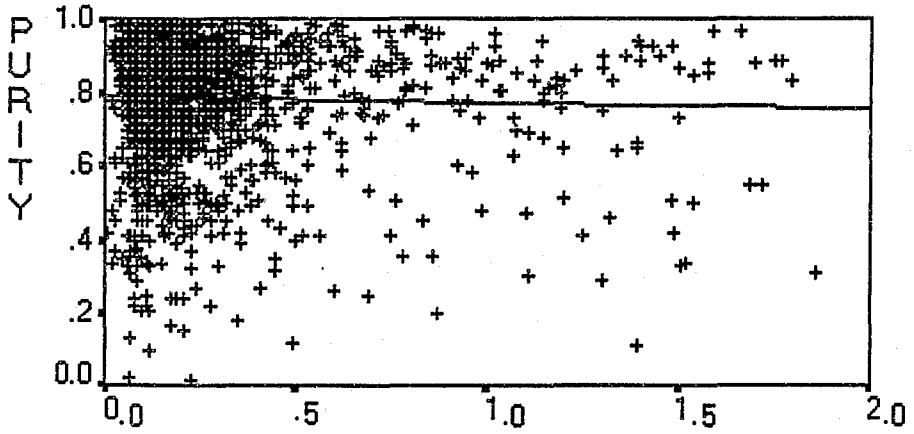
Note: Significant changes in purity occurred in counties labeled in bold.

Regional Cocaine HCL Purities State of Maryland			
	Purity		
Region	Overall	Purchased	Seized
Maryland	69.9	68.9	71.2
Baltimore City	68.9	68.3	71.8
Suburban Baltimore (Baltimore, Howard, Anne Arundel Counties)	69.6	64.2	73.5
Suburban Washington (Montgomery, Prince George's Counties)	68.6	73.1	65.5
Southern Maryland (Charles, Calvert, St Mary's Counties)	63.5	73.1	42.8
Northern Maryland (Harford, Cecil Counties)	75.2	70.2	76.9
Western Maryland (Carroll, Frederick, Washington, Allegany, Garrett Counties)	61.3	60.9	61.6
Eastern Shore (Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester Counties)	69.4	65.8	71.6

As the table shows, cocaine purities from seizures are not necessarily higher than those from purchases; in some cases, they are lower. This may be due to an abundance of cocaine and a reluctance of dealers to cut it. The main determinant of cocaine purity appears to be the region in which it was seized or purchased.

An old truism from narcotics investigations suggests that the larger the purchase or seizure the higher the purity of the drug. This was interpreted to mean that if an investigator was uncovering higher purity drugs, they were getting closer to "the source". The following charts do not support this theory. Charts 1 and 2 plot purity versus amount for purchases while Charts 3 and 4 show purity versus amount for seizures. The charts show no tendency for purity to increase as amount increases, refuting the idea that larger amounts result in higher purities.

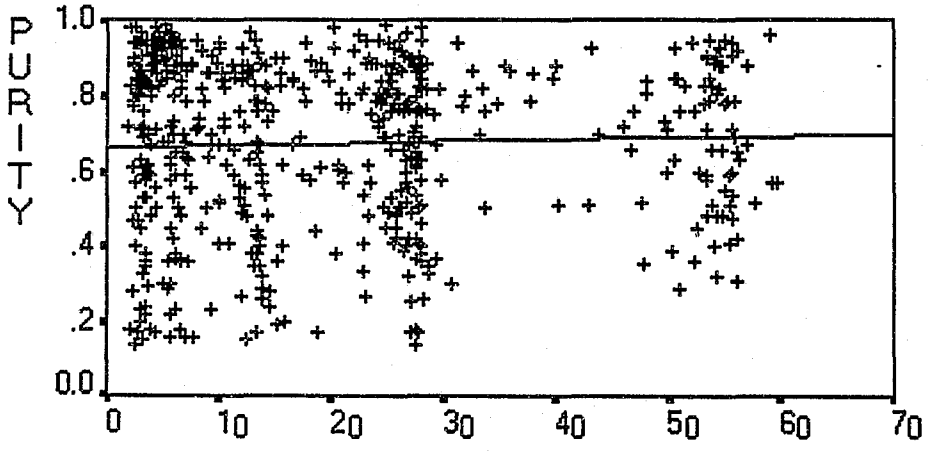
COCAINE PURITY VS AMOUNT
AMOUNTS LESS THAN 2 GRAMS



Rsq = 0.0007

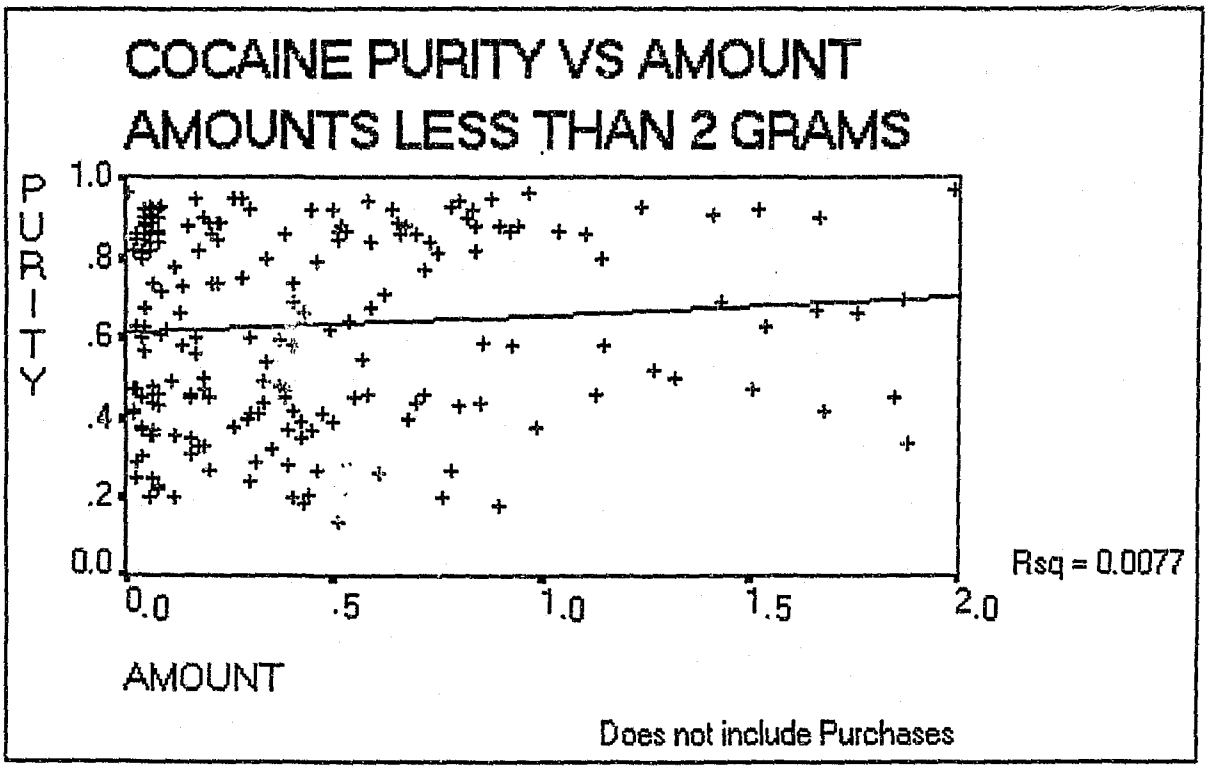
Includes Purchases where purity is known

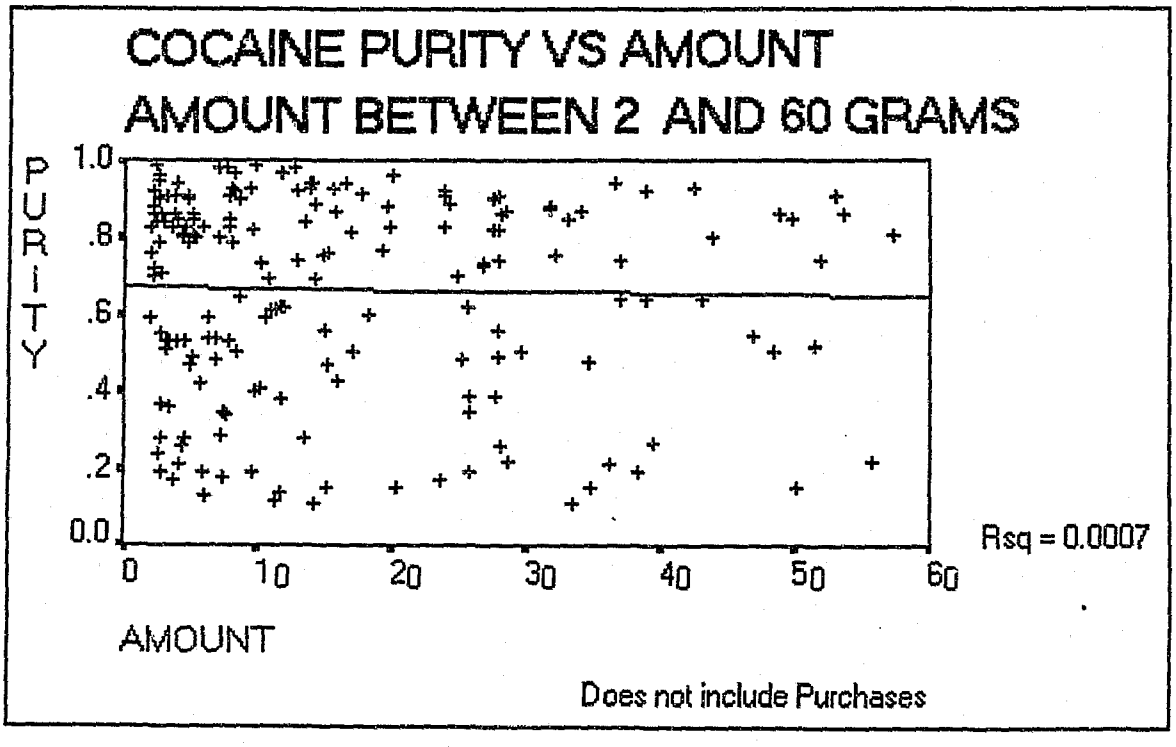
COCAINE PURITY VS AMOUNT
AMOUNT BETWEEN 2 AND 60 GRAMS



Rsq = 0.0014

Includes Purchases where purity is known


COCAINE PURITY VS AMOUNT
AMOUNTS LESS THAN 2 GRAMS
PURITY
1.0
.8
.6
.4
.2
0.0
0.0
.5
1.0
1.5
2.0
AMOUNT
Rsq = 0.0077
Does not include Purchases


COCAINE PURITY VS AMOUNT
AMOUNT BETWEEN 2 AND 60 GRAMS
PURITY
1.0
.8
.6
.4
.2
0.0
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
AMOUNT
Rsq = 0.0007
Does not include Purchases

Crack Cocaine Prices

Crack Cocaine Amounts and Prices		
	Amount Received In Grams	
Dollar Amount of Purchases	Through 6-30-92	Through 12-31-92
$10	0.14	0.09
$20	0.18	0.15
$40	0.26	0.18
$50	0.31	0.22
$100	N/A	0.50
	Prices	
Amount In Grams	Through 6-30-92	Through 12-31-92
0.6	72	64
0.7	78	74
0.8	84	84
0.9	90	94
1.0	96	104
1.5	127	155
2.0	160	205
3.5 (1/8 Oz)	260	324
7.0 (1/4 Oz)	493	478
14.0 (1/2 Oz)	755	787
28.0 (1 Oz)	1287	1420
56.0 (2 Oz)	2240	2560
85.0 (3 Oz)	3155	3272
113.0 (4 Oz)	4060	3985

This table reflects the way crack is sold. For street-level purchases, crack is sold by dollar amounts, usually $20 or $40. The buyer gets a number of "rocks" for the dollar amount. These rocks are sold by size, not by weight. The buyer has little control over the amount received.

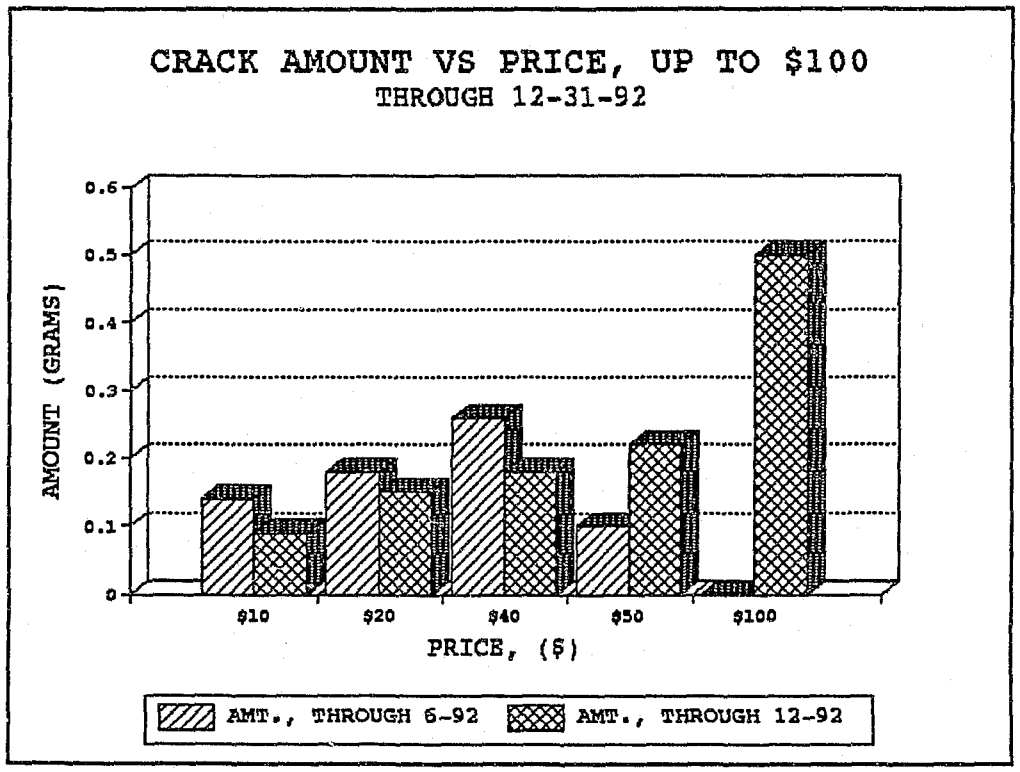
For purchases over 1/2 gram, crack is sold by weight with the price being negotiated, as with marijuana, cocaine and heroin.

At many purchase amounts, crack has become more expensive over the last six months; the price increased or the amount received decreased. This is indicative of demand exceeding supply. One possible explanation is that dealers are moving away from crack cocaine into other drugs. Evidently this is occurring.

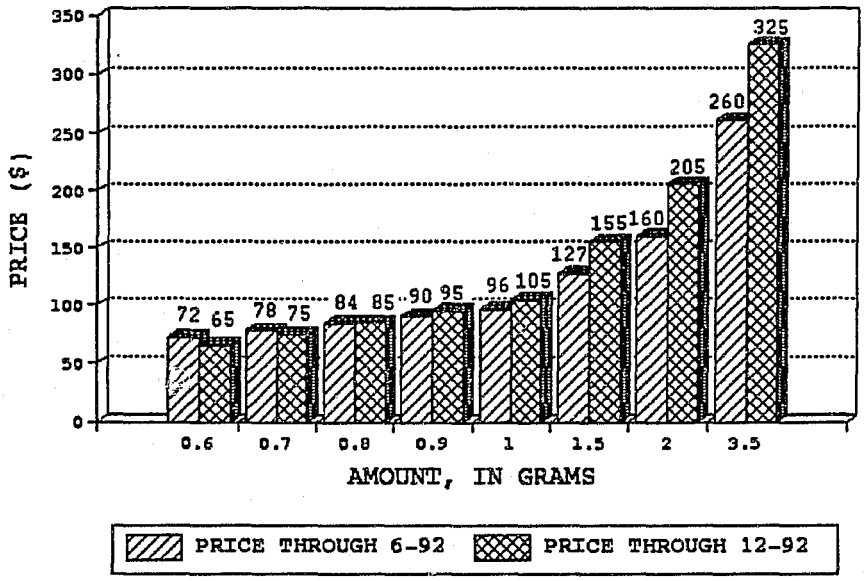
As with cocaine HCL there is no substantial growth in new users and there

there may be a decline in casual users. Seizures, arrests and laboratory submissions for crack, which are indications of availability, are also decreasing. Therefore, the increase in price and decrease in amount received is likely due to a reduction in supply.

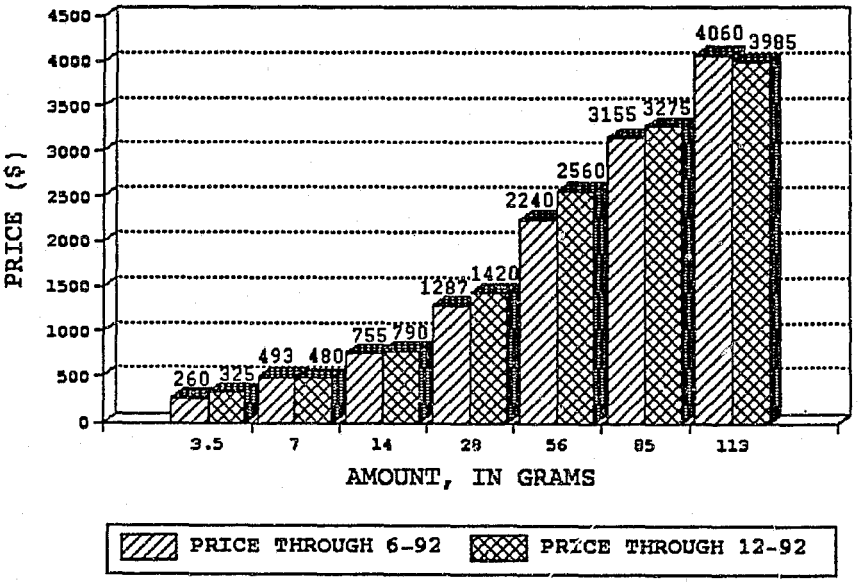
Another observation is that, at street retail level, crack cocaine is more expensive than cocaine HCL. This indicates an abundance of cocaine HCL versus crack cocaine.



CRACK PRICES VS AMOUNT, 0.6 TO 3.5 GRS
THROUGH 12-31-92



CRACK PRICES VS AMOUNT, 3.5 GR & OVER
THROUGH 12-31-92

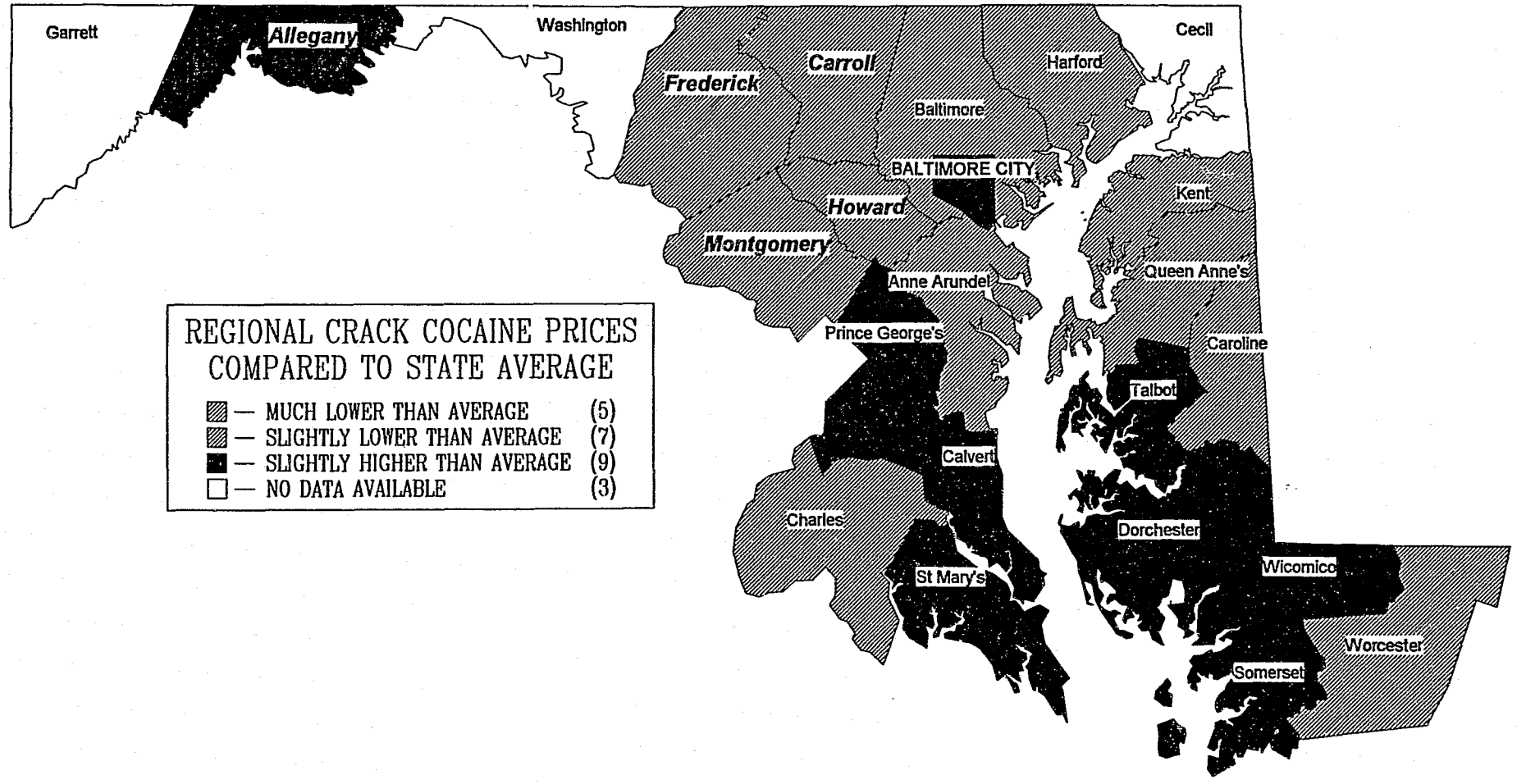


The median purchase amount and purchase price of crack, which represents the typical amount purchased and the typical amount paid, was determined for each county in Maryland (again, this process is more fully explained in Appendix 1). This information is plotted in Map 4. Overall, the difference in price between the counties is decreasing when compared to the last price/purity assessment

Crack prices increased in Allegany County but decreased sharply in Carroll, Frederick, Montgomery and Howard Counties. In the last six months prices have decreased from above State average to slightly below the average. In Baltimore County, prices dropped to significantly below average.

In Southern Maryland, prices increased in Prince George's and Charles Counties. In Caroline and Worcester Counties prices decreased to slightly lower and significantly lower than the State average, respectively.

MAP 4– REGIONAL CRACK COCAINE PRICE DEVIATIONS



Note: Significant changes in price occurred in counties labeled in bold.

Crack Cocaine Purity

Crack Cocaine Purities By County		
	Purity Through 6-30-92	Purity Through 12-31-92
Statewide	80.8	79.1
Allegany	80.2	81.1
Anne Arundel	82.0	82.5
Baltimore	79.9	81.8
Calvert	74.5	82.3
Caroline	86.9	87.1
Carroll	85.5	85.8
Cecil	72.6	72.8
Charles	79.7	76.0
Dorchester	86.2	88.2
Frederick	77.6	81.0
Garrett	N/A	N/A
Harford	80.1	81.5
Howard	78.6	78.6
Kent	74.3	79.4
Montgomery	79.7	76.5
Prince George's	76.6	75.1
Queen Anne's	75.7	79.9
St. Mary's	82.6	83.3
Somerset	87.7	85.7
Talbot	79.2	80.3
Washington	82.4	82.4
Wicomico	87.0	82.8
Worcester	80.0	78.5
Baltimore City	75.1	73.3

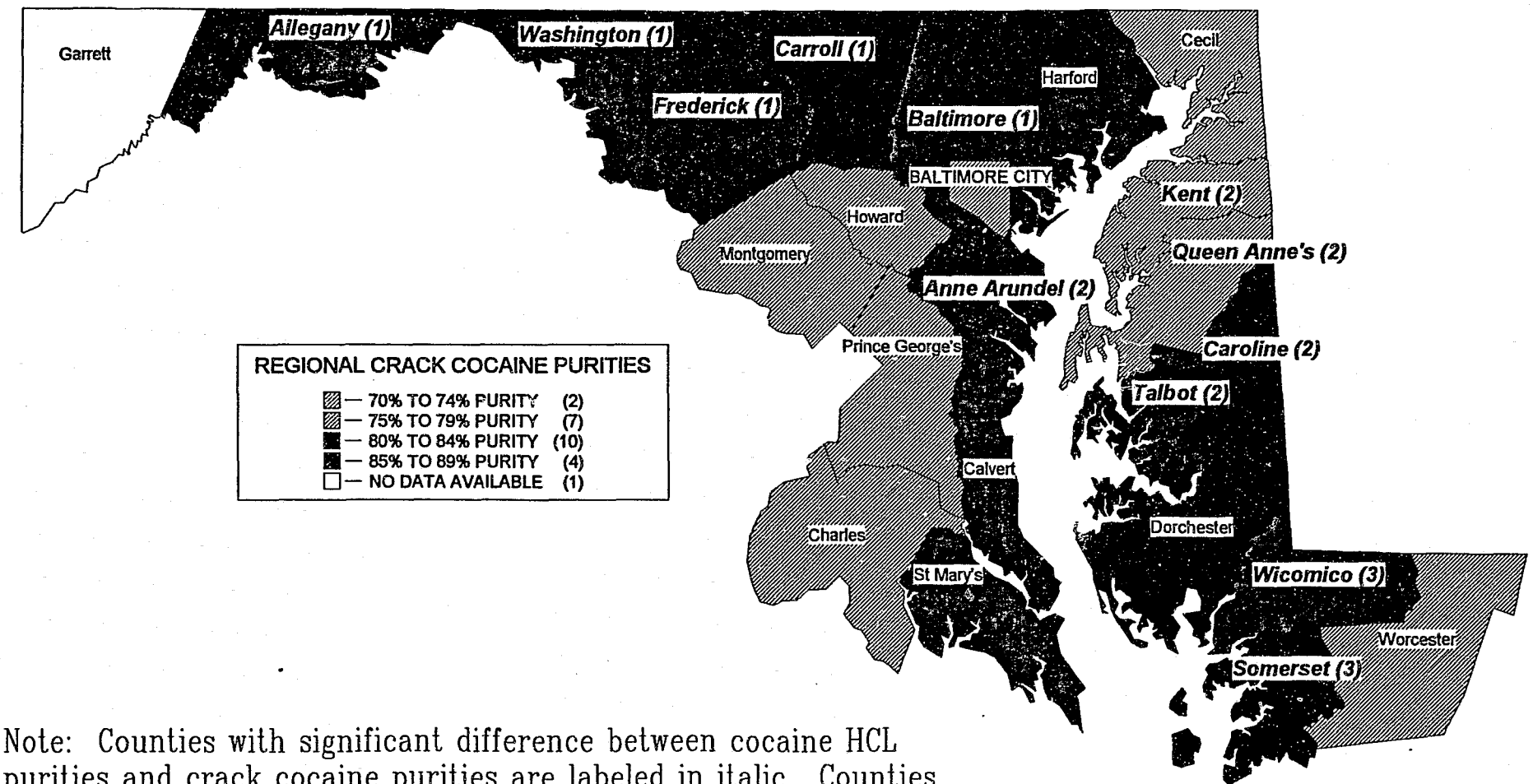
This table shows the average purity of crack cocaine by county. There were no significant changes in purity over the last six months. This is expected, since crack purity is always extremely high.

Generally, crack cocaine is not cut. If low purity crack is found, most likely the cocaine HCL that was converted into crack was cut with an adulterant that was not water soluble. A non-soluble cut will survive the conversion process and reduce crack purity. Since most of the cocaine HCL is not being cut, it is likely that the crack cocaine will be extremely pure.

In half the counties, crack purities were significantly higher than cocaine HCL purities. These counties are grouped across Maryland. One group extends through Central and Western Maryland (Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Washington and Allegany Counties). Another group is on the Eastern Shore (Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline and

Talbot Counties as well as Anne Arundel County). A third group is Wicomico and Somerset Counties. Since the counties in each group are adjacent to each other, and major trafficking routes go through the area, it is possible that they share a common source or a limited number of trafficking organizations control distribution. Past regional studies of crack cocaine purities suggest that most crack in Maryland is converted from cocaine HCL locally. These observations support the county grouping theory.

MAP 5- CRACK COCAINE PURITIES MARYLAND



Note: Counties with significant difference between cocaine HCL purities and crack cocaine purities are labeled in italic. Counties in the same group are labeled as Group 1, 2, or 3.

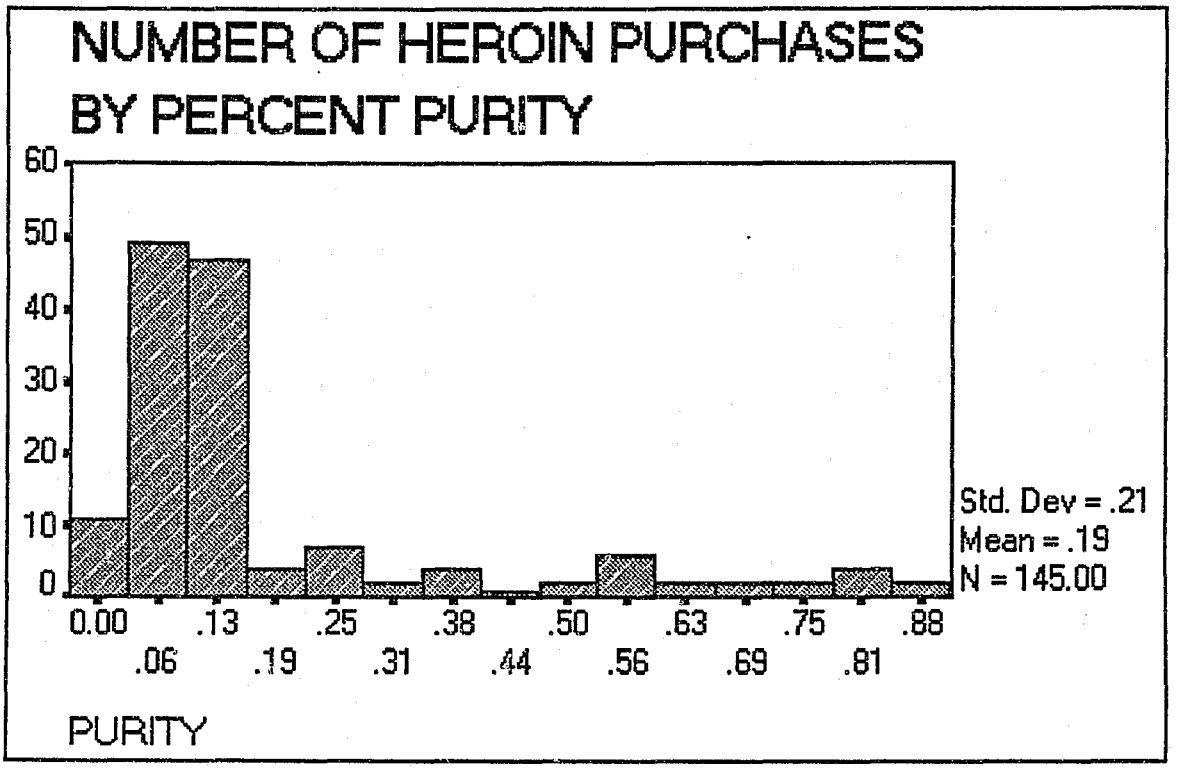
Heroin Prices

The following table shows the purchase price for heroin in Maryland. There is no comparison because of insufficient data and different criteria used in the last assessment.

Prices of Heroin Purchases 0.1 to 28 Grams For Low Purity and High Purity Purchases		
	Low Purity (Under 19 Percent) 8.2 Percent Average Purity	High Purity (Over 19 Percent) 54.7 Percent Average Purity
Price Paid	Amount Received In Grams	
$10	0.17	0.15
$20	0.27	0.05
Amount Purchased In Grams	Price Paid	
0.5	81	405
1.0	103	540
2.0	148	807
7.0 (1/4 Oz)	373	2146
14.0 (1/2 Oz)	687	4021
28.0 (1 Oz)	1330	7852
56.0 (2 Oz)	2600	16435

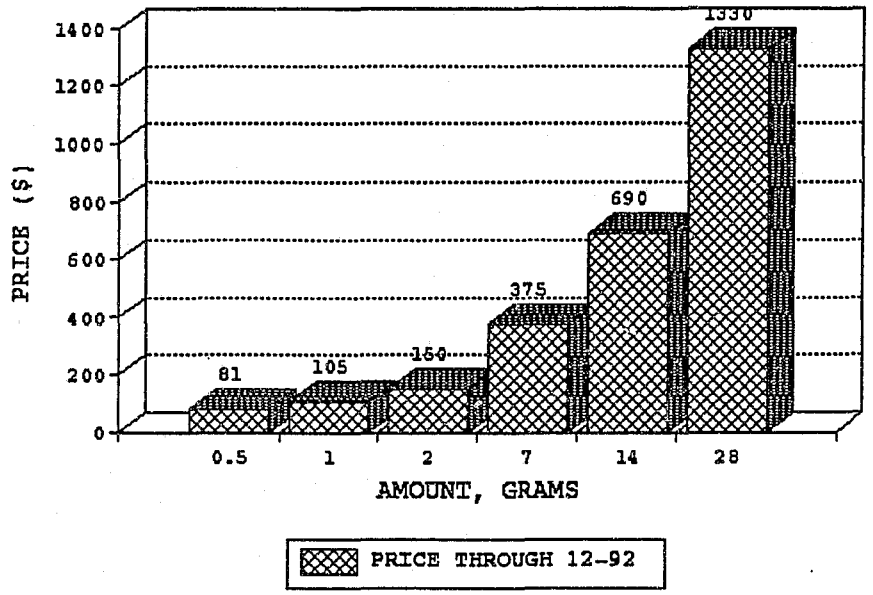
The following table shows the amount received for standard purchases of heroin as well as the price paid for certain weights. The purchases are broken into two categories, low and high purity heroin. Low purity is intended for injection, while high purity is intended for inhaling; higher purity is necessary if the user intends to snort the heroin. The higher purity commands a higher price.

As shown in the chart below, a natural break in the data occurs around 19 percent purity; samples are either higher or lower than this amount. This is used as the separation point between the two types of heroin, the injectable versus the snortable. These two types of heroin represent two distinct markets.

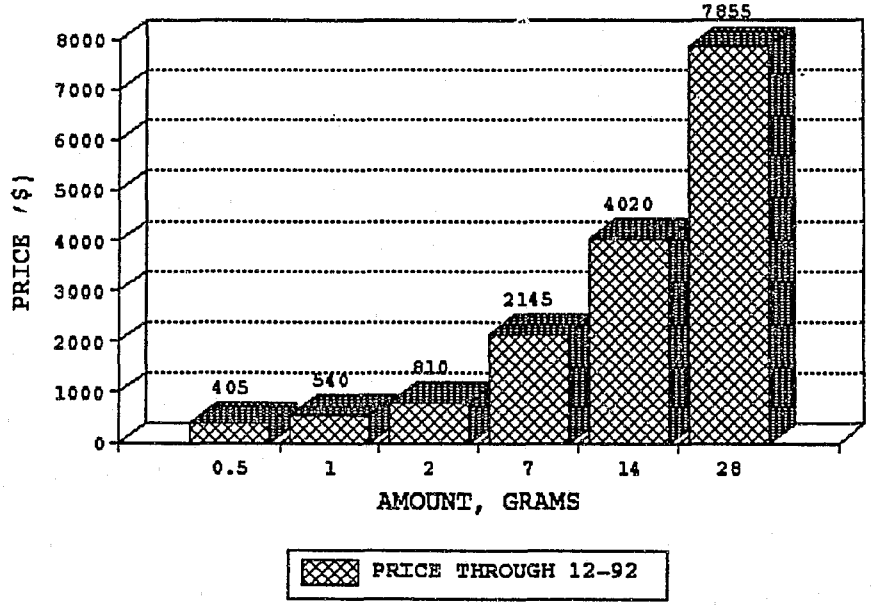


The separation between the retail and wholesale market heroin is at the 7 gram (1/4 ounce) level. At this point, it is profitable to purchase the heroin and break it down into smaller standard street-level purchases.

HEROIN PRICES VS AMOUNT, LOW PURITY
UP TO 28 GRAMS, THROUGH 12-31-92



HEROIN PRICES VS AMOUNT, HIGH PURITY
UP TO 28 GRAMS, THROUGH 12-31-92



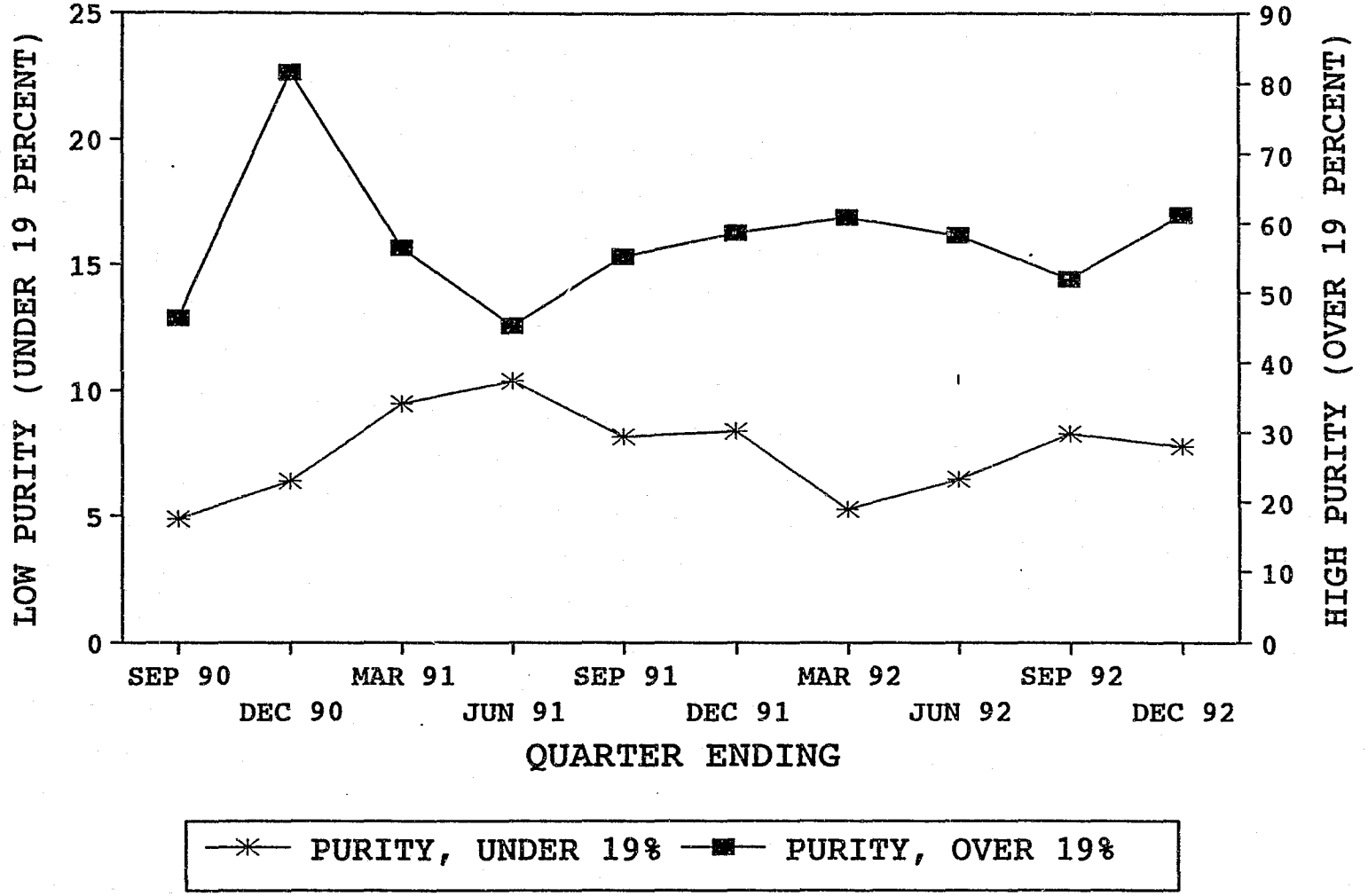
Heroin Purities

Below is a table showing heroin purity by county, where the information is available.

Heroin Purity By County		
County	Low Purity (Under 19 Percent)	High Purity (Over 19 Percent)
Statewide	8.3	55.0
Baltimore	N/A	56.8
Cecil	N/A	54.4
Montgomery	N/A	54.9
Prince George's	12.8	55.2
Worcester	N/A	59.2
Baltimore City	7.9	53.2

The following chart shows the purity of high-quality, snortable heroin versus low-purity, injectable heroin, by quarter, since July, 1990. The two lines seem to move inversely compared to each other. One reason may be changes in preference for the two products. As demand for high-purity heroin increases it affects the availability of low-purity heroin, and visa versa.

HEROIN PURITIES, LOW AND HIGH PURITY
GRAM PURCHASES, THROUGH 12-31-92



PCP and LSD Prices

The following table shows the prices for PCP and LSD purchases. PCP purchases are measured in grams of PCP sprayed on a substance such as marijuana or parsley. The prices in this report do not distinguish between the two substances, though typically PCP sprayed on marijuana sells for a slightly higher price.

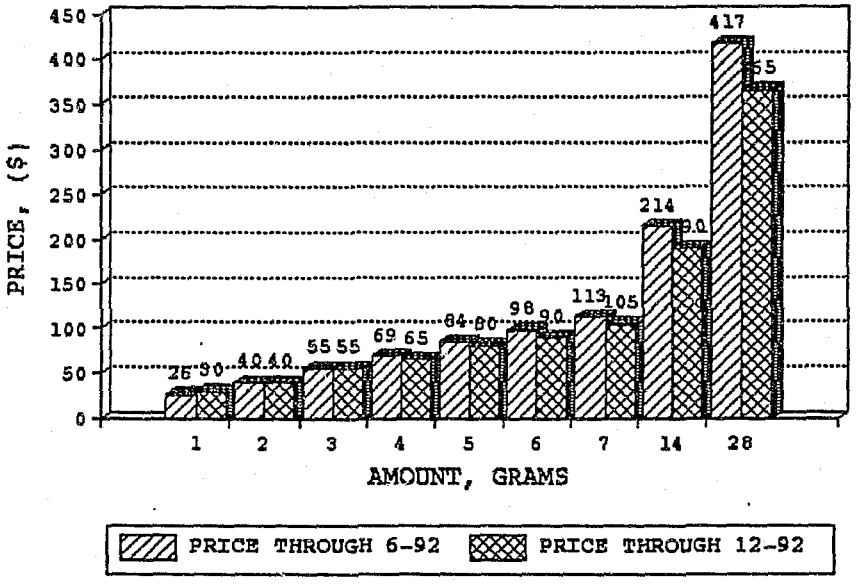
LSD purchases are measured in Dosage Units (DU's); a unit is one piece of blotter paper or its equivalent.

Prices for PCP Purchases 1 to 28 Grams Through 12-31-92		
	Prices	
Amount In Grams	Through 6-30-92	Through 12-31-92
1	26	29
2	40	41
3	55	54
4	69	66
5	84	78
6	98	90
7	113	103
14	214	189
28	417	365
1 Ounce Liquid	400	400

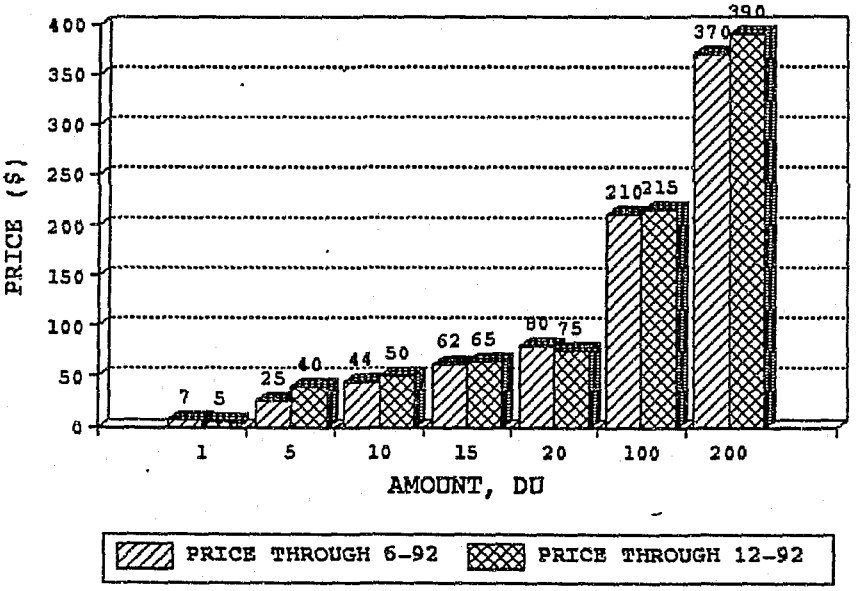
Price for LSD Purchases 1 to 200 Dosage Units (DU)		
	Price	
Amount In DU	Through 6-30-92	Through 12-31-92
1	7	5
5	25	40
10	44	51
15	62	65
20	80	75
100	210	215
200	370	390

There was a slight drop in the price of PCP, especially for larger amounts. There was no significant change in the price of LSD.

PCP PRICES VS AMOUNT, UP TO 28 GRAMS
THROUGH 12-31-92



LSD PRICES VS AMOUNT, UP TO 200 DU'S
THROUGH 12-31-92



Appendix 1- Design of Report

Using regression analysis, this report is designed to determine the relationship between the **amount** of a drug bought and the purchase **price** of the drug. The location of the purchase and/or the month of the year are also analyzed for their effect on the price. These same factors-- amount, location and time-- are examined for their influence on **purity.**

Regression analysis is the mathematical technique used to determine the effect of independent variables (in this example, amount, location, and time) on the dependent variable (price or purity). Essentially, each independent variable is plotted on a graph and compared to the dependent variable (Diagram A). A line is then "fitted" through the middle of the points. The slope and shape of the line describes the relationship between price and amount. For example, as the amount purchased increases, how much does price typically increase (Diagram B)? This is repeated for each independent variable.

Diagram A

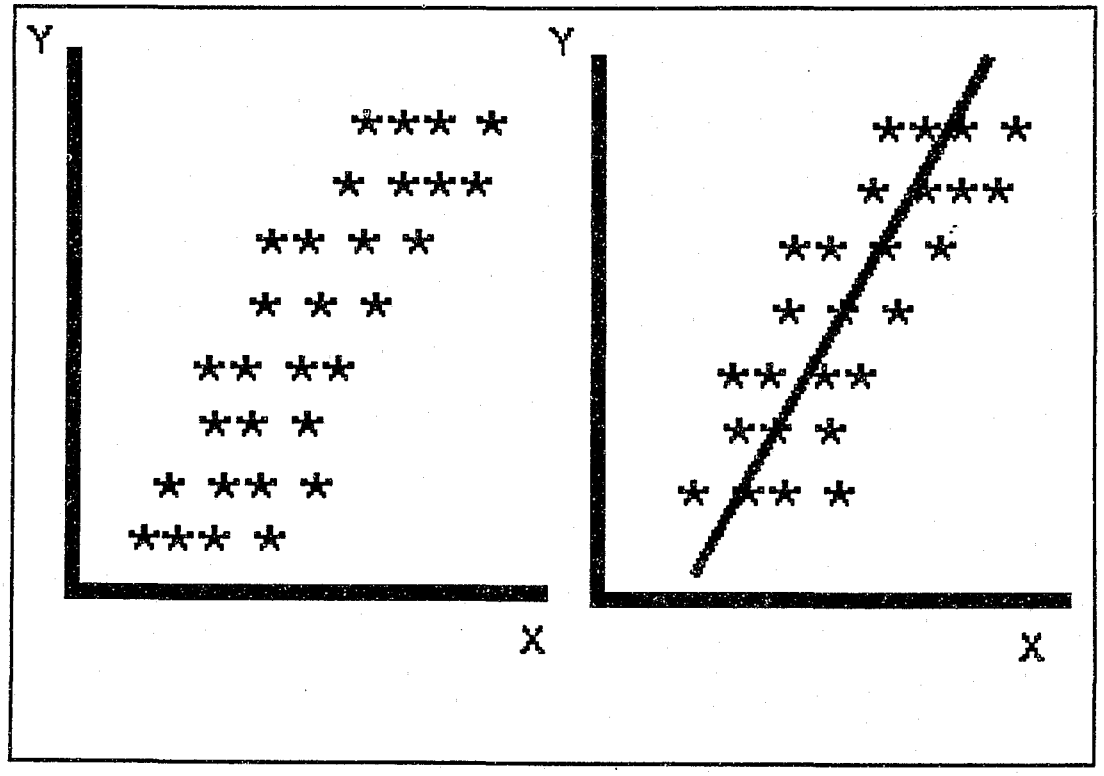


Diagram B

The strength of these relationships are then evaluated. If a variable, such as amount purchased, helps explain changes in price, this relationship is maintained. The weaker relations, those that do not explain changes in price or purity, are discarded. The purpose of regression analysis is to accurately explain the effect of the independent variables, such as amount, location and time, on the dependent variable, such as drug prices and purities. Once this relationship is determined, this can be for forecasting.

These calculations can determine the amount investigators should pay for drugs, based on location and time. They can also determine changes in drug markets. If a drug purchase is made at an unexpectedly high or low price, or drug purity changes, it may indicate changes in supply, demand or trafficking patterns.

The regression model was also used to compare prices between counties. To do this, the median amount purchased and the median prices were determined for each drug by county. The median represents the typical amount purchased and the typical amount paid. By using the median, instead of the average, unusually large or small purchases are removed, which allows a more accurate comparison.

The regression model is then used to calculate what the purchase prices should be for the median amount purchased. It is also used to determine a range of prices for the median amount purchased. Every purchase is not made at the same price; the prices fall in a range around the predicted price. The median price is compared to the predicted price and the range of prices. If the median price is above or below the average price, but within the range, the median price is said to be slightly above or below the State average, respectively. If the median price is above the average price and higher than the high price on the range, the median price is said to be much higher than the State average; if below the average price and the low price on the range, the median price is said to be much lower than the State average.

Appendix 2- Weights and Measures

This table provided so the reader can better compare the different units of weight and measure.

Marijuana:

3.5 Grams = 1/8 Ounce

7 Grams = 1/4 Ounce

14 Grams = 1/2 Ounce

28 Grams = 1 Ounce

Cocaine:

1 Gram of Cocaine- Equivalent of 1 package of Sweet and Low

8 Ball = 3.5 grams, or 1/8 of an Ounce.

28 grams = 1 Ounce

1 Pound = 454 Grams

1 Kilogram = 1,000 Grams, 2.2 pounds

Crack:

0.1 Grams of crack- Approximately the same size as 1/4 the eraser on the end of a pencil

LSD:

Dosage Unit: One piece of blotter paper, the size of a postage stamp.

Drug Prices By County, 2nd Half 1992					
County	Price				
	Marijuana		Cocaine HCL		
	1/8 Oz	1/4 Oz	1/2 Gr	1 Gr	Purity
Statewide	37	63			
Allegany	43	68	39	78	81.4
Anne Arundel	37	63	61	94	60.4
Baltimore Co.	48	62	62	92	40.0
Calvert	38	57	64	104	
Caroline	38	61	36	60	65.8
Carroll	42	72	80	124	64.0
Cecil	38	60	52	80	67.5
Charles	45	63	62	112	
Dorchester	34	54	59	112	
Frederick	34	61	36	59	47.6
Garrett	39	77	N/A	N/A	
Harford	34	64	49	93	76.3
Howard	39	66	49	92	88.0
Kent	28	56	50	86	56.4
Montgomery	46	67	54	95	60.7
Prince George's	35	70	81	113	72.6
Queen Anne's	46	88	29	35	65.3
St. Mary's	34	67	51	89	27.3
Somerset	19	48	59	112	45.0
Talbot	40	55	48	94	88.0
Washington	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wicomico	39	60	69	98	64.0
Worcester	37	57	53	79	72.3
Baltimore City	27	47	47	91	72.3

Crack Cocaine Prices By County , 2nd Half, 1992				
County	Amount Received		Price	Purity
	$20	$40	1 Gram	
Statewide				
Allegany	0.18	0.36		95.0
Anne Arundel	0.48	0.50		93.5
Baltimore Co.	0.10	0.20		84.0
Calvert	0.17	0.21		90.0
Caroline	0.17	0.41	$95	88.4
Carroll	0.10	0.20		
Cecil	N/A	N/A		69.8
Charles	0.13	0.20	$118	76.2
Dorchester	0.13	0.20	$115	90.8
Frederick	0.13	0.20	$160	84.6
Garrett	N/A	N/A		
Harford	0.10 (1)	0.20 (2)	$158	89.1
Howard	0.10	0.27 (2)		
Kent	0.20	0.40		89.8
Montgomery	0.10	0.13	$115	71.0
Prince George's	0.18	0.50		67.6
Queen Anne's	0.18	0.15	$95	82.9
St. Mary's	N/A	N/A		87.0
Somerset	0.13	0.33 (2)	$106	79.5
Talbot	0.14	0.27	$90	80.2
Washington	N/A	N/A		
Wicomico	0.18	0.30	$55	87.1
Worcester	0.10	0.16	$142	79.5
Baltimore City	0.14	0.31	$80	75.3

(1)- $25 Purchase
(2)- $50 Purchase

State of Maryland
William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Melvin A. Steinberg, Lt. Governor

Department of Public Safety
and Correctional Services
Bishop L. Robinson, Secretary