

REDUCING THE IMPACT OF DRUGS ON AMERICAN SOCIETY

**OFFICE OF NATIONAL
DRUG CONTROL POLICY**

The *1993 Interim National Drug Control Strategy* represented a significant change in focus in the *National Drug Control Strategy*. For the first time the emphasis of drug control efforts were on: (1) chronic, hardcore drug users—the heaviest users who fuel the demand for drugs and put great strains on our society in the form of increased crime, health costs, and homelessness; (2) prevention efforts to educate the young about the dangers of illicit drug use; (3) the need to view the drug issue in the overall context of economic and domestic policy; and (4) the need for more emphasis on supply reduction programs in source countries.

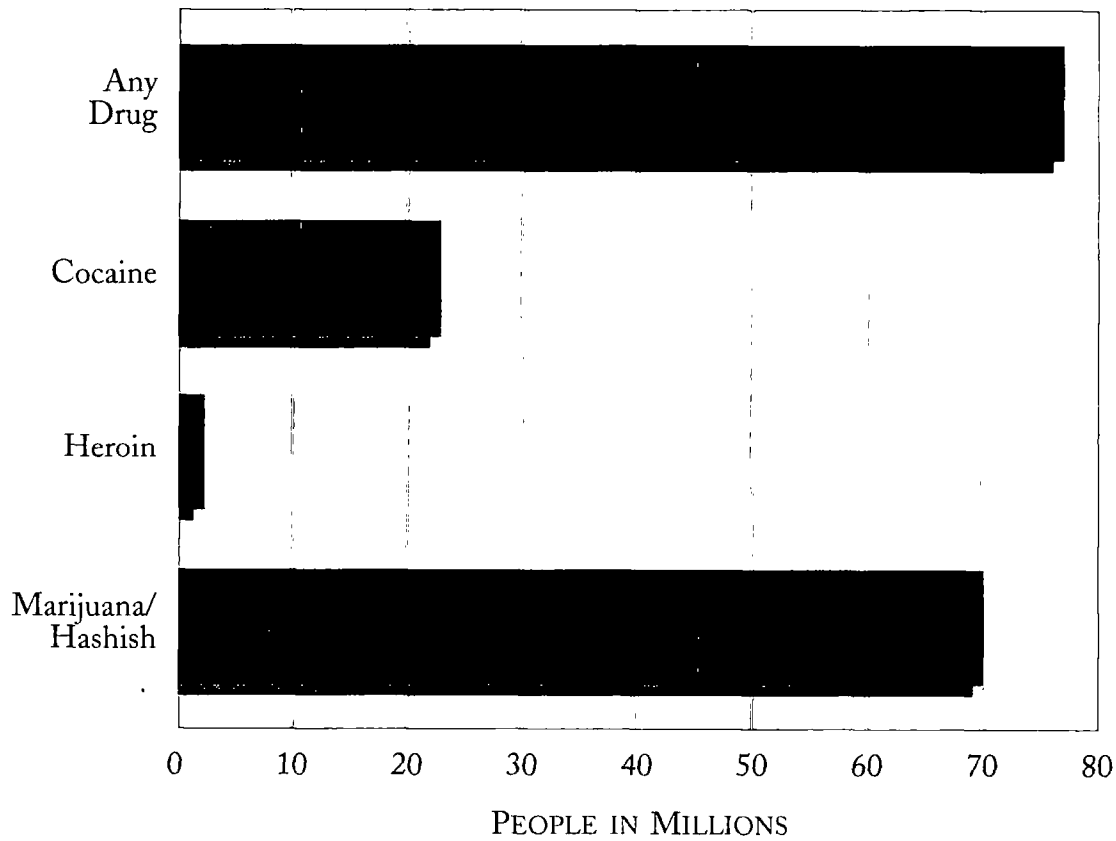
The subsequent *1994 National Drug Control Strategy* continued this new focus by emphasizing chronic, hardcore drug use and the violence it spawns—the most tenacious and damaging aspect of America’s drug problem. Past national drug control policies have failed to come to grips with the harsh realities of chronic, hardcore drug use, the underlying causes of addiction, and the human and societal harms hardcore drug use causes. To reverse this trend, the *1994 National Drug Control Strategy* proposed a focussed expansion of treatment directed at chronic or hardcore drug users. The *Strategy* proposed expanding treatment opportunities in communities around the country and providing additional and substantial drug treatment and intervention services in the criminal justice system.

The following charts graphically represent the steps involved in the Clinton Administration’s approach to addressing the drug problem. Step 1 is “Know the Scope of the Problem.” Charts in this section present information on the number of people that have experimented with illicit drugs, casual use of drugs, trends in the number of hardcore users, drug use among youth, and trends in hardcore drug use. Step 2 is “Understand the Costs of Abuse.” Charts in this section present information on the amount of money involved in the drug trade, the economic cost to society of drug use, and the burden on the criminal justice system due to drug use. Step 3 is “Respond with a Strategy.” Charts in this section present information on the highlights of the *1994 National Drug Control Strategy* and Federal funding for drug control efforts.

STEP 1:
KNOW THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

77 Million People Have Experimented With Illicit Drugs

BREAKDOWN OF ILLICIT DRUG USE



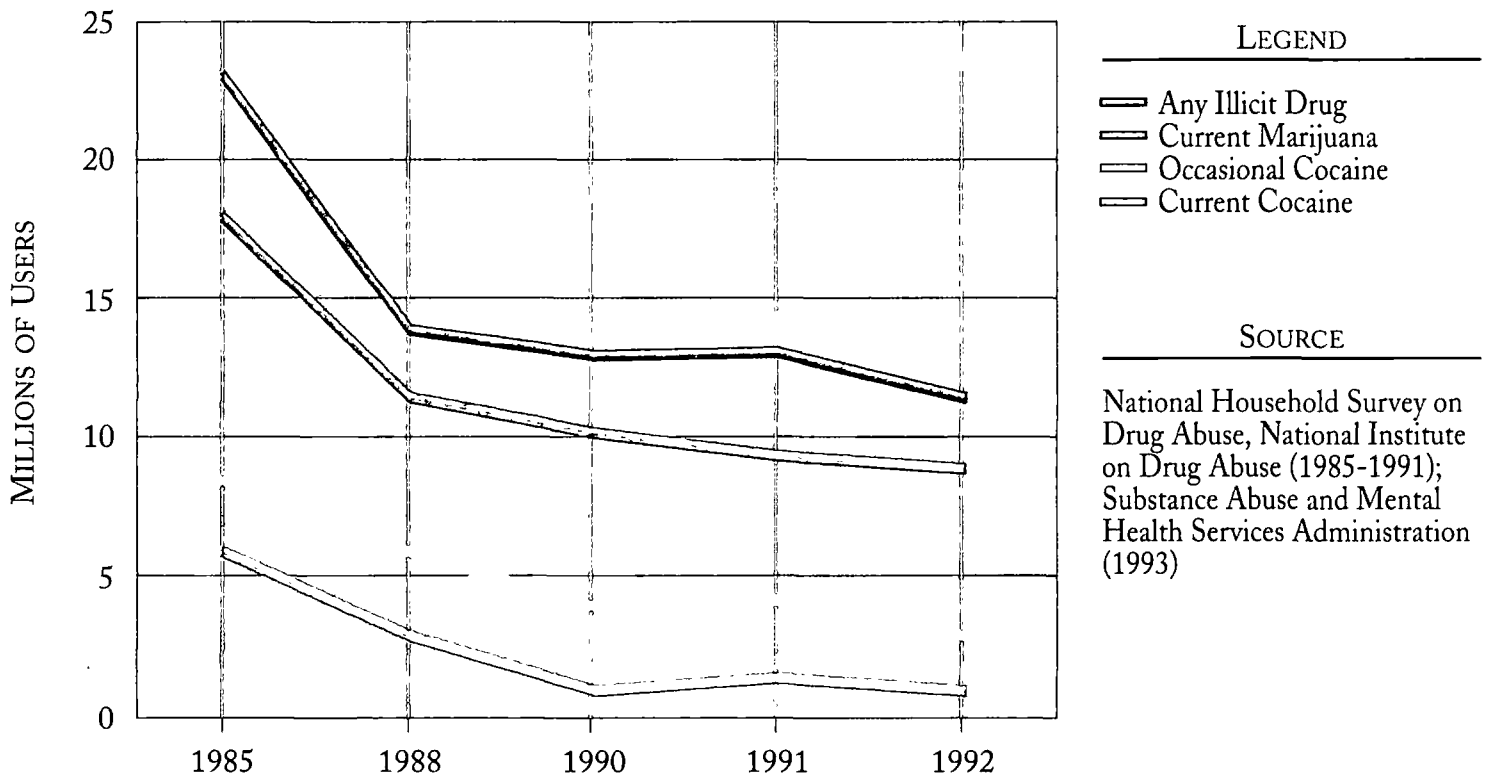
SOURCE

National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (1993)

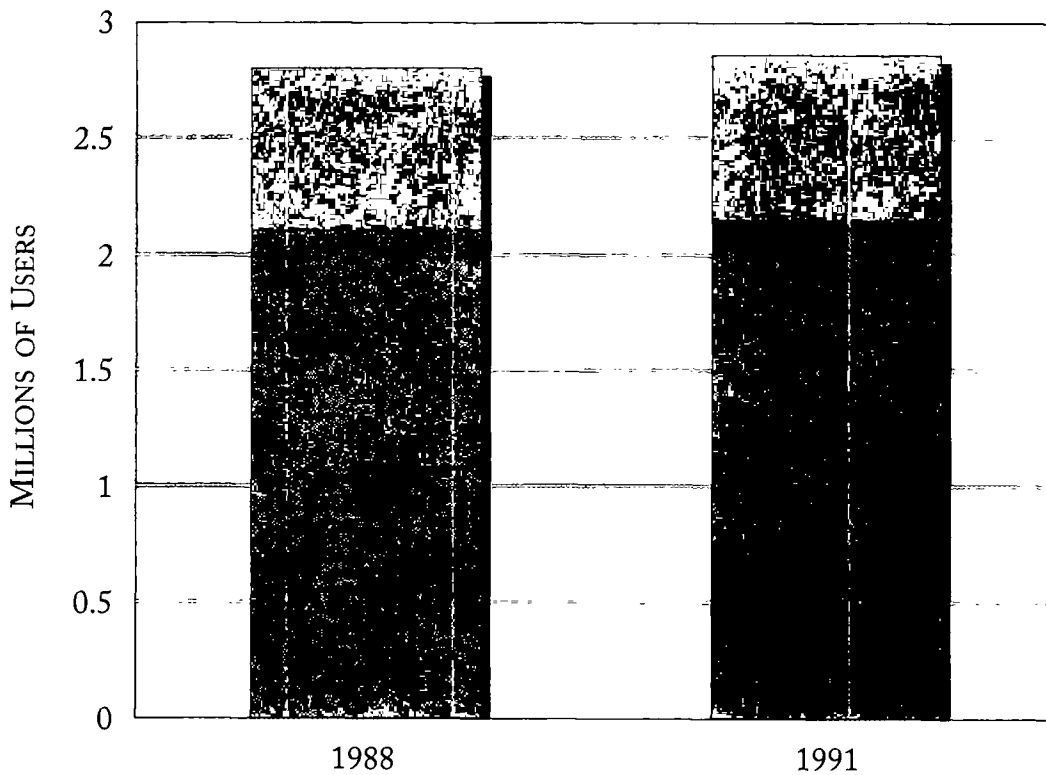
NOTE

Breakdown includes the number of persons who have used an illicit drug at least once in their lifetime

Casual Use Is Down Significantly



Number of Hardcore Users Unchanged



LEGEND

- Heroin
- Cocaine

SOURCE

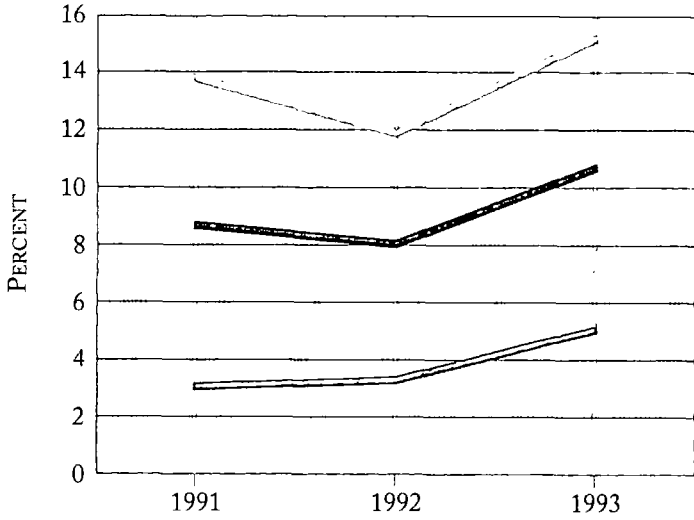
ONDCP estimates

NOTE

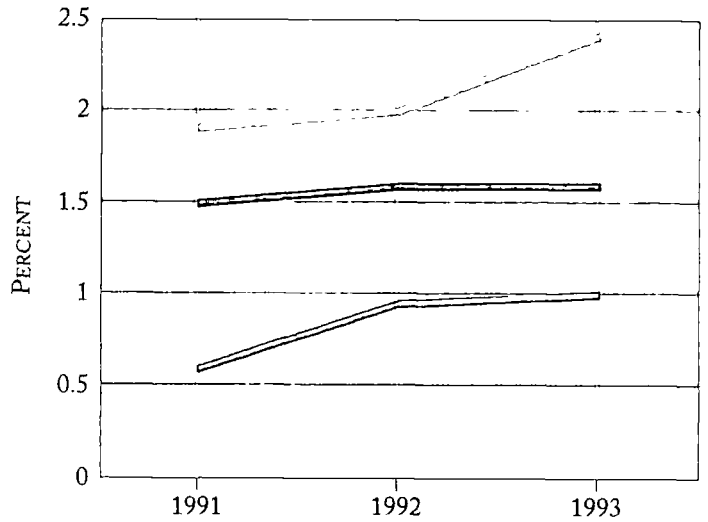
Hardcore users include individuals who use illicit drugs at least weekly and exhibit behavioral problems stemming from their drug use

Drug Use Among Young People Is Increasing

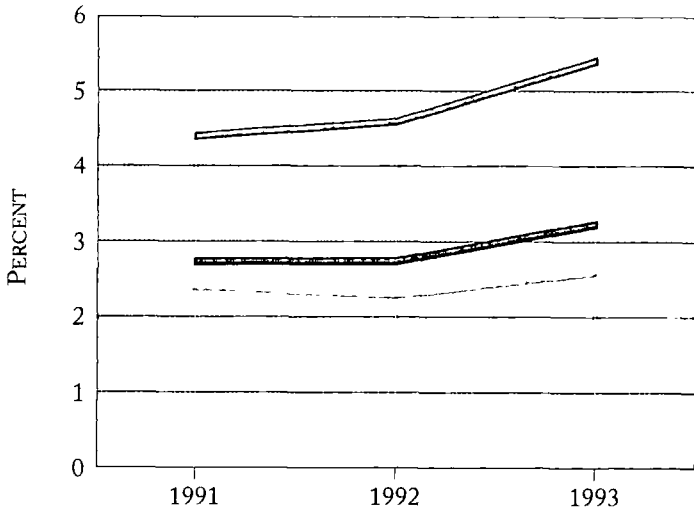
MARIJUANA



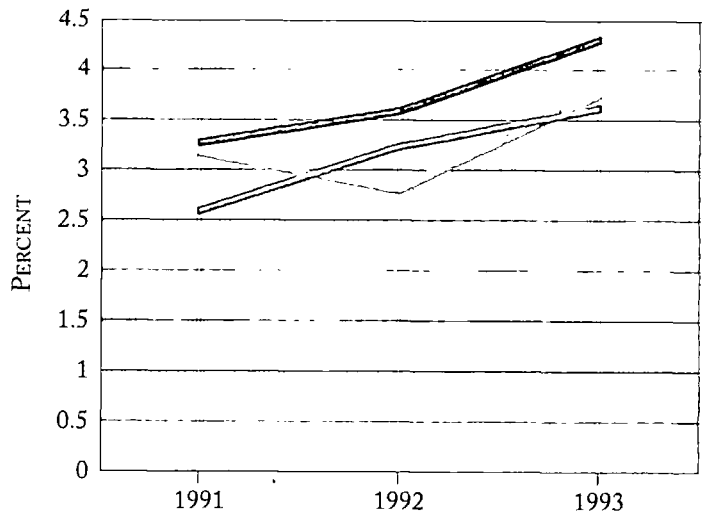
LSD



INHALANTS



STIMULANTS



LEGEND

- 8th Grade
- 10th Grade
- 12th Grade

SOURCE

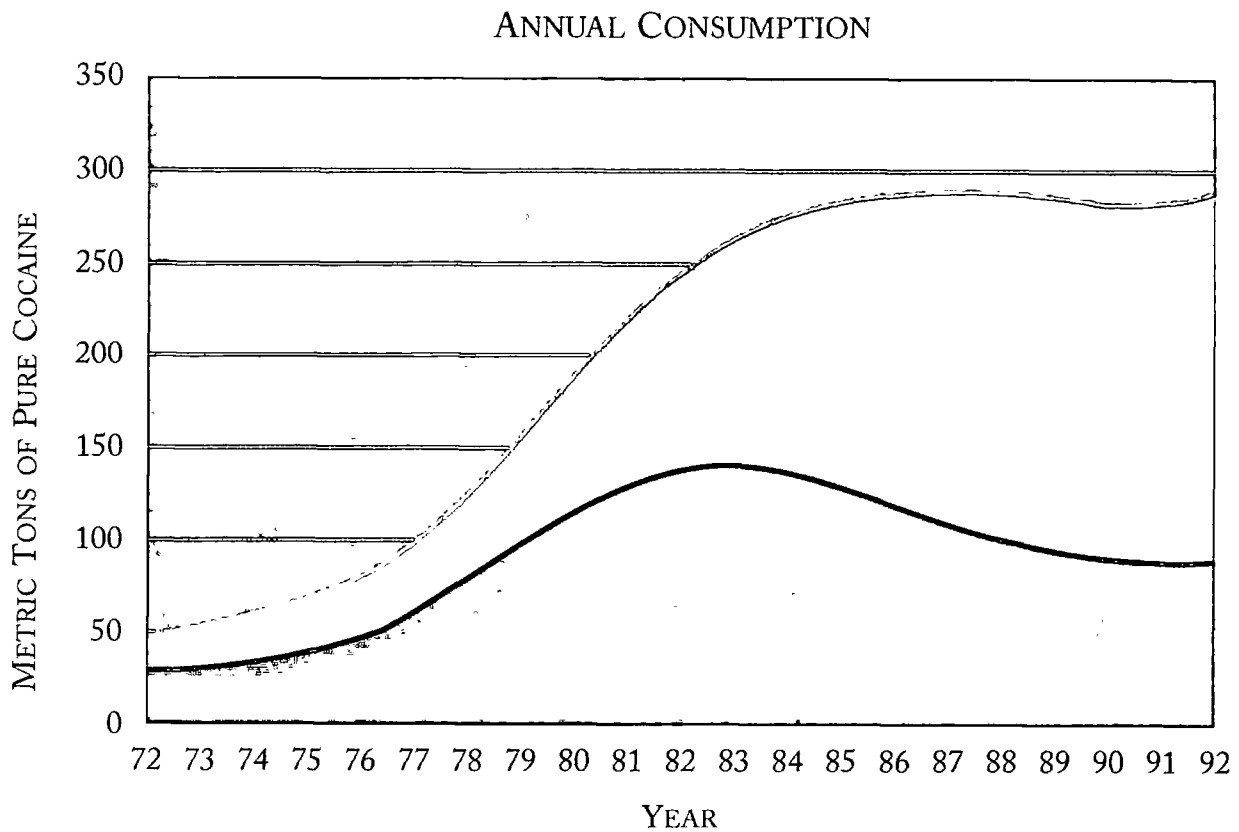
Monitoring the Future study,
Institute for Social Research,
University of Michigan (1993)

NOTE

Data are for past 30-day use

Hardcore Drug Users Are at the Heart of the Problem

While the number of individuals using illicit drugs at least weekly is unchanged, these individuals consume a greater proportion of illicit drugs than ever.



LEGEND

- Hardcore User
- Casual User

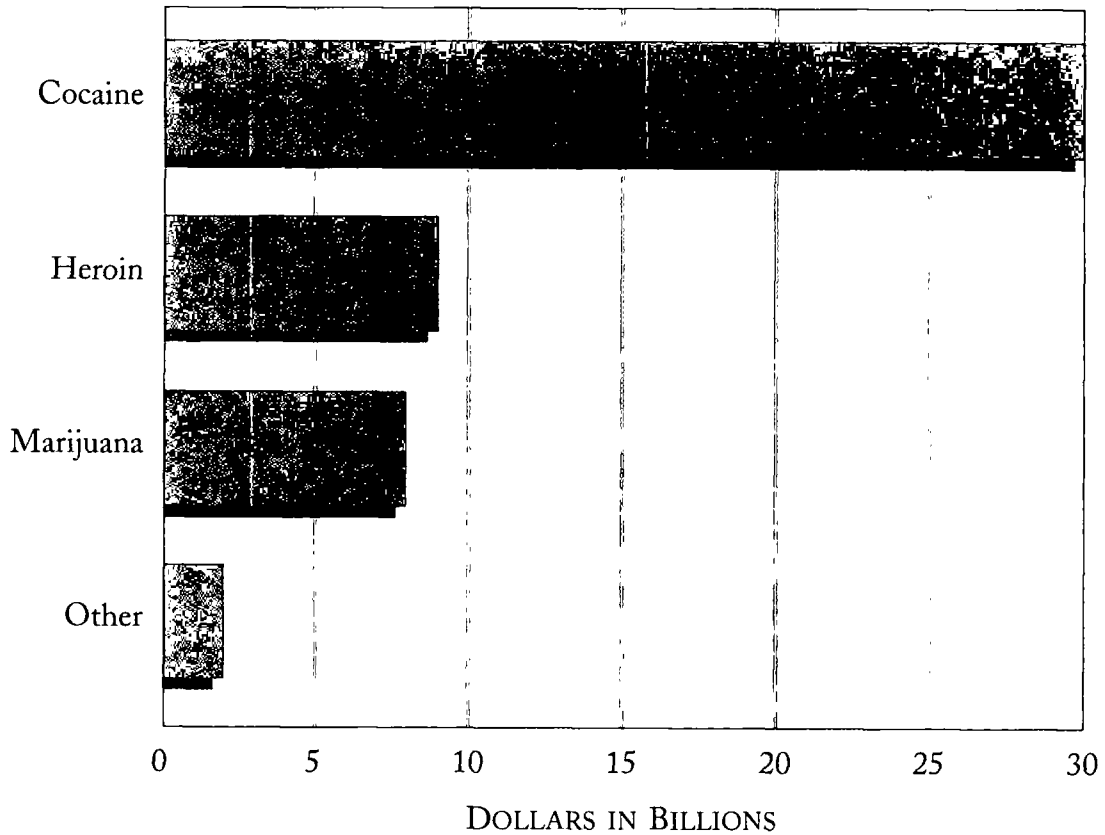
SOURCE

Modeling the Demand for Cocaine,
RAND Corporation (1994)

STEP 2:
UNDERSTAND THE COSTS OF ABUSE

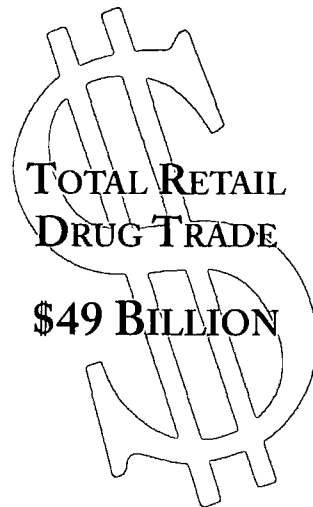
The Drug Trade Is a \$49 Billion Industry

ANNUAL CONSUMER SPENDING BY PRODUCT



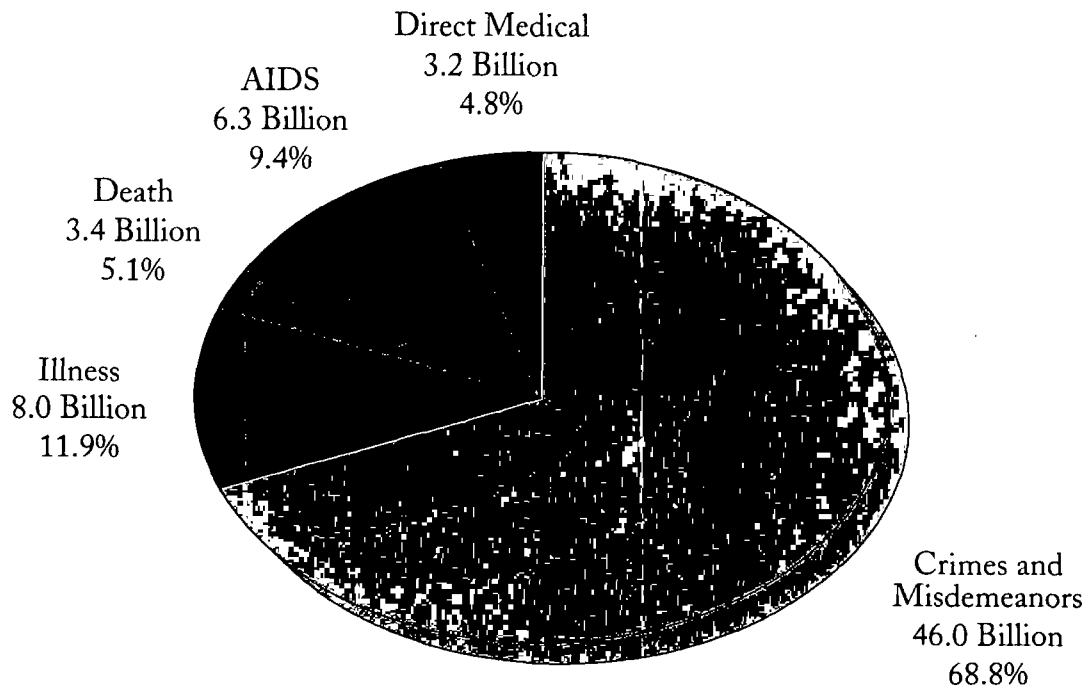
SOURCE

*What America's Users Spend on
Illegal Drugs, 1988-1991, Abt
Associates (1993)*



Drug Abuse Takes a Heavy Economic Toll on Society

ESTIMATED ECONOMIC COSTS OF DRUG ABUSE



SOURCE

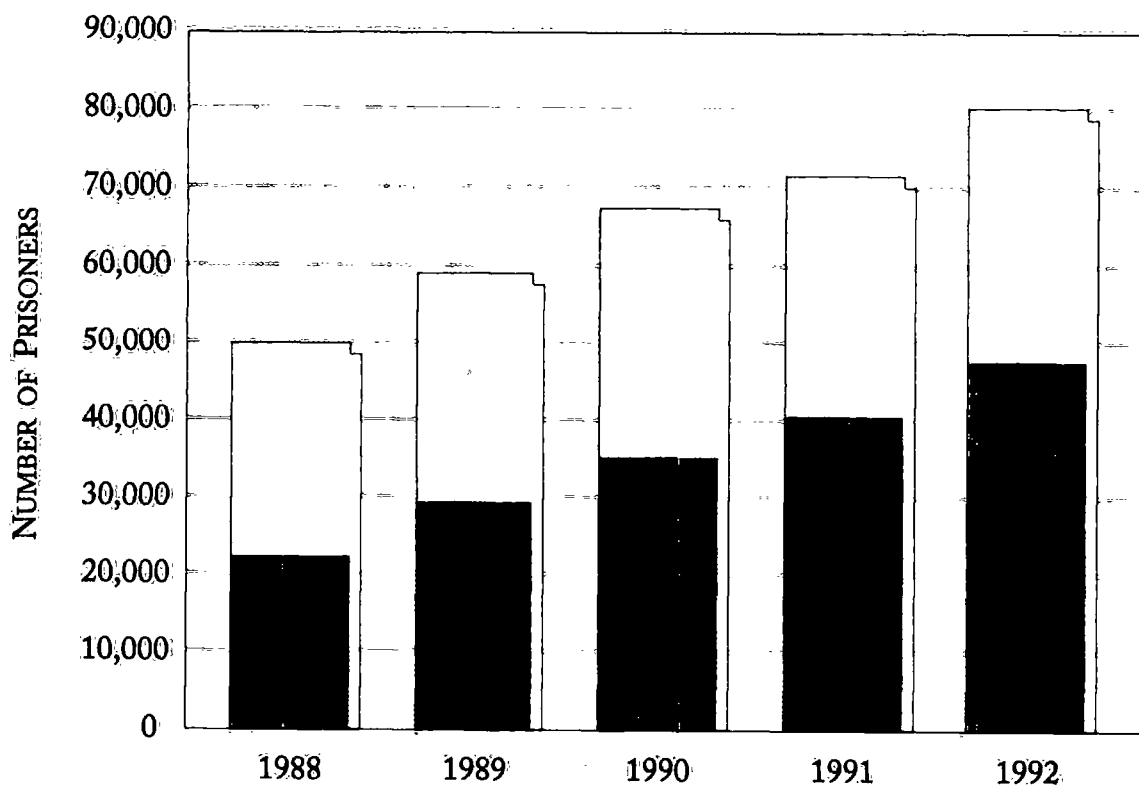
Substance Abuse: The Nation's Number One Health Problem, Key Indicators for Policy, Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University (1993)

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST

\$66.9 BILLION

Drug Abuse Burdens the Criminal Justice System

The majority of Federal prisoners are now drug offenders.



LEGEND

- Total Prisoners
- Drug Offenders

SOURCE

National Drug Control Strategy,
February 1994

STEP 3:
RESPOND WITH A STRATEGY

National Drug Control Strategy Highlights

I. TREATMENT OF HARDCORE USERS

- Treat an additional 140,000 hardcore users next year
- Target users inside and outside the criminal justice system

II. EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR AMERICA'S YOUTH

- Drug-Free Schools Act
- Prevention research

III. COMMUNITY ACTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTAs)
- Community policing

IV. SUPPLY REDUCTION IN SOURCE COUNTRIES

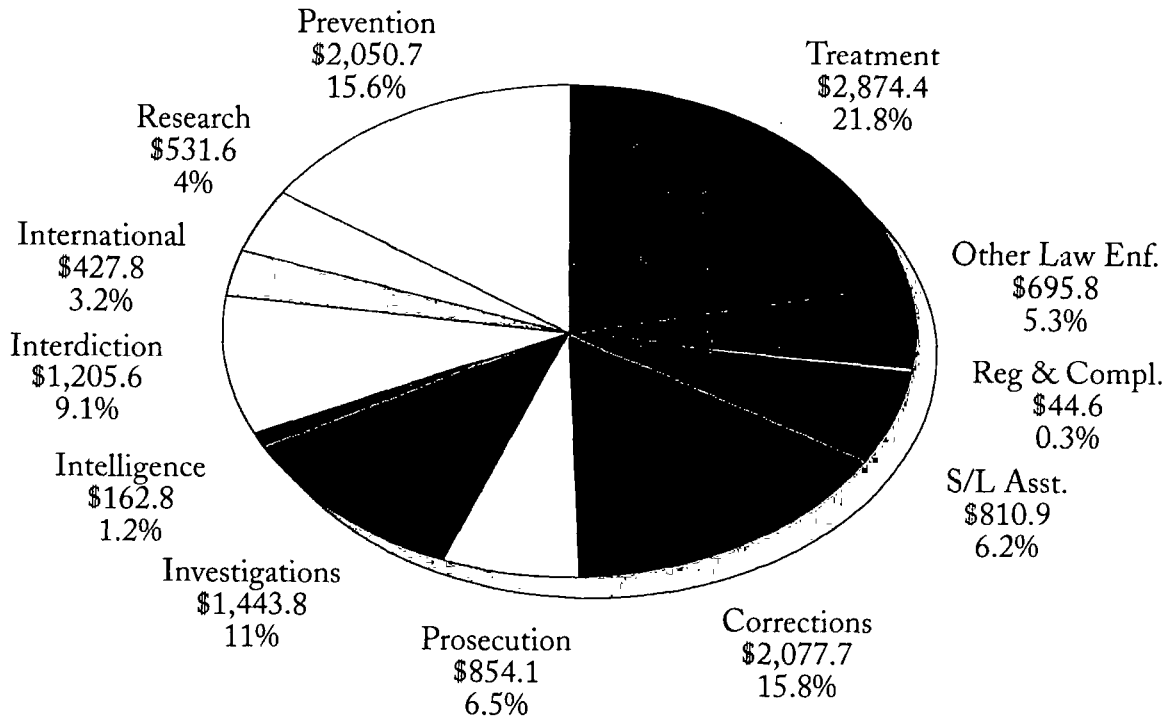
- Democracy and institution building
- Controlled shift from transit zones

V. SUPPORT FOR VITAL PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES

- Health Security Act
 - Education 2000
 - Crime bill
 - Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities
-

Federal Funding for the National Drug Control Strategy

FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL BUDGET BY FUNCTION, 1995
(Dollars in Millions)



SOURCE

National Drug Control Strategy,
February 1994

TOTAL 1995 BUDGET REQUEST

\$13.2 BILLION