

■ december 2009

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arizona arrestee reporting information network



2008
drug report

ASU Center for Violence Prevention
and Community Safety

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Suggested Citation:

Griffin, Marie L. (2009). *Arizona Arrestee Reporting Information Network Adult Drug Market Acquisition Report 2008*. Phoenix, AZ: Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety, Arizona State University.

Arizona Arrestee Reporting Information Network

2008 Drug Market Acquisition Report

by Marie L. Griffin, Ph.D.

December 2009

Acknowledgements

The AARIN Project staff thanks Peter Ozanne and Amy Rex for their establishment of the AARIN project and for all of their hard work and assistance on the project. We also thank Maricopa County Manager David Smith and the Board of Supervisors for their continued support for AARIN. Additionally, we would like to thank Sheriff Arpaio of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Chief Conrad of the Glendale Police Department, Chief Gascón of the Mesa Police Department, Chief Carol Boone of the Maricopa County Juvenile Probation, and all of the officers who helped conduct the study.

This project was funded by Maricopa County. Opinions contained herein are those of the author and do not represent the position of either Maricopa County or Arizona State University.

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Annual Drug Market Acquisition Report 2008

December 2009

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Executive Summary

Introduction

During 2008, 2,105 adult arrestees participated in the AARIN study. Participants completed the survey instrument and provided a valid urine specimen for testing. In addition to the core AARIN instrument, a supplemental set of question was asked of the arrestees. This *Market and Use Addendum* consisted of a series of questions related to the arrestees' acquisition of drugs and specific drug market behaviors.

Acquisition Patterns

- Over one third of arrestees reported having acquired marijuana during the past 30 days. Far fewer arrestees reported acquiring crack cocaine (9.4%), powder cocaine (8.6%), or heroin (4.5%) during that same time period
- Some differences were found across drug markets in terms of the method by which arrestees obtained drugs (cash only, no cash, cash and other form of exchange). Slightly more than half of those arrestees who acquired marijuana (53.2) or powder cocaine (52.5%) at least once over the past month, paid at least some cash. In those instances where crack cocaine or heroin was acquired, arrestees were more likely to have reported paying some cash for these drugs (77.2% and 80.6%, respectively).

- When asked to recall the last transaction involving marijuana, crack cocaine, powder cocaine or heroin, the most common manner of acquisition was as a gift.
- The majority of arrestees reported purchasing drugs themselves and not relying on another individual. Less than one-quarter reported that they relied on someone else to purchase their drugs; this was consistent across all four drug markets.

Locations of Transactions

- Arrestees were somewhat more likely to purchase marijuana, powder cocaine and heroin outside their neighborhood than inside their neighborhood. For transactions involving crack cocaine, 55.6% of the arrestees reported purchasing the drug locally within their neighborhood, while 44.4% purchased the drug outside their neighborhood.
- A private residence or outdoor area was the most likely setting for drug purchases involving marijuana and heroin. When purchasing crack and powder cocaine, however, arrestees also made use of public buildings.

Ability to Purchase Drugs

- When asked to consider a time in the past 30 days when they had the money to purchase drugs (marijuana, crack cocaine, powder cocaine or heroin), the majority of arrestees reported having no problem purchasing drugs. Heroin proved to be the most difficult drug to purchase, with 22.9% of arrestees unable to purchase heroin due to a shortage of dealers and 12.9% unable to purchase heroin due to a shortage of supply (12.9%). Methamphetamine transactions (and use) occurred most often in private residences; most users traveled outside their neighborhoods to make purchases (70.2%).
- When faced with the inability to purchase powder cocaine, only 4.5% of arrestees purchased alcohol or another drug instead. Interestingly, this is much lower than what was reported by arrestees unable to purchase marijuana (21.1%), crack cocaine (26.9%) or heroin (12.5%).

Acquisition Differences by Sex

- Male arrestees were more likely to report having acquired marijuana than were female arrestees (37.2% and 32.9%, respectively).
- Women (17.1%) were less likely than men (24.8%) to purchase marijuana on the street or in an outdoor area.
- Women were more likely than men to have acquired crack cocaine (12.6% and 8.4%, respectively).
- Men were more likely than women to have acquired powdered cocaine during the past thirty days (9.7% and 5.0%, respectively).
- Women (26.9%) were more likely than men (10.2%) to rely on someone else to purchase heroin.

Arizona Arrestee Reporting Information Network (AARIN)

2008 Drug Market Acquisition Report

Introduction

The Arizona Arrestee Reporting Information Network (AARIN) is a research project funded by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. Originally implemented in January 2007, the purpose of this project is to collect and present data regarding drug use and drug-related activities among arrestees in Maricopa County, Arizona. The AARIN project is modeled after the National Institute of Justice's Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM) program and provides both practitioners and researchers with important information regarding patterns of alcohol and drug use and other related behaviors among a population at risk for criminal activity.

AARIN data collection follows a quarterly schedule at two juvenile and three adult booking facilities in Maricopa County. During this data collection period, professionally trained interviewers request the participation of recently booked arrestees in voluntary and anonymous in-depth survey interviews. Interview questions focus on a variety of areas including socio-demographic characteristics, criminal history, patterns of drug use, drug dependency, drug acquisition, gang affiliation, ownership of fire arms, victimization, mental health, and treatment experiences. After the interview, researchers request a urine sample of interview participants to confirm any drug or alcohol use.

The AARIN Sample

During 2008, 2,105 adult arrestees participated in the AARIN study. Data for this report come from those adult arrestees who both completed the survey instrument and provided a valid urine specimen for testing. The 2008 AARIN sample is described in detail in the Annual Adult Report.

The AARIN Market and Use Addendum

In addition to the core AARIN instrument, a supplemental set of questions was asked of the arrestees. This Market and Use Addendum consisted of a series of questions related to the arrestees' acquisition of drugs and specific drug market behaviors. The addendum focused on

- Acquisition of marijuana, crack cocaine, powder cocaine and/or heroin during the last 30 days;
- The manner by which arrestees acquired the drug(s) – e.g. whether the arrestee used cash or some other form of exchange to acquire the drug(s);
- The nature of the transaction – e.g., whether the arrestee acquired the drug(s) directly or relied on someone else; whether the source used was a regular, occasional or new source;
- The location of the transaction – e.g., inside or outside the arrestee's neighborhood; the physical location (private residence, public building, street);
- The difficulty in acquiring the drug(s) – e.g., dealers not available, police activity, availability of drug;

The questions contained within the addendum were asked in relation to each drug (marijuana, powder cocaine, crack cocaine, and heroin) the arrestee reported using during the last 30 days prior to the interview. Given the prior research that suggests drug markets vary considerably from one another in terms of how individuals acquire drugs, it is important that the data allow for an examination of differences in drug market behaviors across different drug types, as well as differences across individual characteristics. Such information can be used to inform street level law enforcement approaches to disrupt street drug market activity, as well as assist in understanding of drug use acquisition behaviors for public policy and prevention programs.

Patterns of Acquisition by Drug Type and Sex

The AARIN Market and Use addendum provides data allowing analyses of drug acquisition patterns. **Exhibit 1** presents these acquisition patterns by sex for each drug type (marijuana, powder cocaine, crack cocaine, and heroin).

Exhibit 1: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Marijuana

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
In the past 30 days, did you acquire?*						
Yes	603	37.2	159	32.9	762	36.2
No	1016	62.8	325	67.1	1314	63.8
Ever pay any cash?						
Yes	329	54.7	76	47.8	405	53.2
No	273	45.3	83	52.2	356	46.8
Ever acquire without using cash?						
Yes	381	63.7	105	66.5	486	64.3
No	217	36.3	53	33.5	270	35.7
Last time acquire without cash, how?						
Gift	346	91.3	102	96.2	448	9.4
Grow	3	0.8	--		3	0.6
Credit	4	1.1	1	0.9	5	1.0
Fronted to sell	2	0.5	1	0.9	3	0.6
Trade other drug	6	1.8	--		6	1.2
Trade property	3	0.8	--		3	0.6
Transport drug	1	0.3	--		1	0.2
Steal drug	2	0.5	--		2	0.4
Trade sex	1	0.3	--		1	0.2
Other	11	2.9	2	1.9	13	2.7
Last time paid any cash, was it only cash?						
Yes	317	96.6	74	97.4	391	98.6
No	11	3.4	2	2.6	13	3.2
Last time drug was obtained with cash:						
Bought it directly						
Yes	275	84.1	62	81.5	337	83.6
No	52	15.9	14	18.4	66	16.4

Marijuana

Arrestees were asked whether they had acquired marijuana, powder cocaine, crack cocaine, or heroin during the past 30 days, regardless of whether or not they had used the drug themselves. Approximately one-third (36.2%) of arrestees reported having acquired marijuana (n=762). Male arrestees were more likely to report having acquired marijuana than were female arrestees (37.2% and 32.9%, respectively). Of those individuals who reported having acquired marijuana during the past 30 days, 64.3% reported at least one transaction where they did so without using cash. Over 92% of those individuals received the drug as a gift in those instances. The remaining individuals (n=25) stated that they had engaged in one of the following transactions: grew the marijuana, received the drug on credit, were fronted to sell, traded other drugs, traded other property, transported drugs, stole the drug, or traded sex for marijuana.

Exhibit 1 con't: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Marijuana

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
Purchased inside neighborhood						
Yes	131	40.3	28	36.8	159	39.7
No	194	59.7	48	63.2	242	60.3
Source						
Regular or main source	192	58.9	45	59.2	237	59
Occasional source	72	22.1	15	19.7	87	21.6
New source	62	19.0	16	21.1	78	19.4
Type of location						
Private residence	212	64.8	51	67.1	263	65.3
Public building	23	7.0	8	10.5	31	7.7
Abandoned building	2	0.6	--		2	0.5
*Street or other outdoor area	81	24.8	13	17.1	94	23.4
Unable to purchase in last 30 days						
No	296	74.7	67	70.5	363	73.9
Yes, no dealer	44	11.1	8	8.4	52	10.6
Yes, no supply	42	10.6	16	16.8	58	11.8
Yes, police activity	1	0.2	--		1	0.2
Yes, other	13	3.3	4	4.2	17	3.5
If unable to purchase, bought something else						
Yes	17	17.0	10	35.7	27	21.1
No	83	83.0	18	65.3	101	78.9

*Chi-square significant at p < .05

When asked to think about the last time they paid any cash when acquiring marijuana, almost all (96.8%) report having acquired marijuana using only cash. The remaining arrestees reported using cash and some other form of payment. Interviewers then asked arrestees to think about the last time they bought marijuana. Almost 84% reported having purchased the marijuana themselves and approximately 60% went outside their neighborhood to purchase the drug. Over half (59%) of arrestees relied on their regular or main source for acquisition. The remaining arrestees either used an occasional source (21.6%) or a new source (19.4%) when purchasing marijuana. When asked where they had purchased the marijuana, the majority of arrestees reported having purchased the drug in a private residence (65.3%). Approximately 24% reported purchasing the drug on the street or an outdoor area, while 7.7% purchased the drug in a public building. Compared to men, women were less likely to purchase marijuana on the street (24.8% and 17.1%, respectively).

When asked to consider a time in the past 30 days when they had the money to purchase marijuana, only 26.1% of the arrestees reported being unable to purchase marijuana. Almost 74% of arrestees reported having no problem purchasing marijuana in the past month. Of those who were unable to purchase marijuana, 10.6% reported that there were no dealers available, 11.8% stated that there was no supply, 0.2% reported police activity, while 3.7% reported other difficulties. For those unable to purchase marijuana, 21.1% purchased alcohol or another drug.

Crack Cocaine

Regardless of whether they had used the drug themselves, 9.4% of arrestees (n=197) reported having acquired crack cocaine in the past 30 days. Women were more likely than men to have acquired crack cocaine (12.6% and 8.4%, respectively). Of those who reported acquiring this drug, the majority (77.2%) reported using cash or cash and some other form of trade in at least one transaction. Almost 43% reported at least one non-cash transaction. In those instances where cash was not used, 84.5% reported receiving crack cocaine as a gift. The remaining individuals either received crack cocaine on credit (2.4%), were fronted to sell (4.8%), traded property (3.6%), or used some other form of exchange (4.8%). This transaction differed slightly by sex, with 92.6% of women receiving crack cocaine as a gift while only 80.7% of men reported doing so.

Similar to the acquisition of marijuana, when asked to think about the last time they paid any cash when acquiring crack cocaine, almost all (96.7%) report having acquired crack cocaine using only cash. The remaining arrestees reported using cash and some other form of payment. The vast majority of arrestees interviewed (86.8%) stated that they had purchased the drug themselves. Compared to men (90.4%), women (79.2) were less likely to purchase crack cocaine themselves, instead relying on another person to make the transaction. Approximately half of arrestees (55.6%) reported making the purchase inside their own neighborhood, and almost two-thirds (62.3%) relied on a regular source. The remaining transactions were split almost evenly between the use of an occasional source (17.9%) and a new source (19.9%). Unlike marijuana purchases, arrestees made use of both private residences and street or outdoor areas as primary locations for their purchase of crack cocaine. Approximately 41% of the arrestees report using a private residence for this transaction, while 38.9% used a street or outdoor area.

Almost 66% of arrestees stated that they never had difficulty purchasing crack cocaine during the past 30 days. For men, 70.2% stated they were always able to purchase crack cocaine during the past 30 days; women appeared to have greater difficulty with only 56.3% reporting that were always able to purchase crack cocaine during the past 30 days. In those instances when arrestees were unable to purchase crack cocaine, they stated that this was due primarily to a lack of dealers (15.1%) and a lack of supply (15.1%). The remaining arrestees reported either increased police activity (1.3%) or other difficulties when trying to obtain crack cocaine (2.6%). For those unable to purchase crack cocaine, 26.9% purchased alcohol or another drug.

Exhibit 2: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Crack Cocaine

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
In the past 30 days, did you acquire?						
*Yes	136	8.4	61	12.6	197	9.4
No	1,482	91.6	424	87.4	1,906	90.6
Ever pay any cash?						
Yes	104	76.5	48	78.7	152	77.2
No	32	23.5	13	21.3	45	22.8
Ever acquire without using cash?						
Yes	56	41.2	28	45.9	84	42.6
No	80	58.8	33	54.1	113	57.4
Last time acquire without cash, how?						
Gift	46	80.7	25	92.6	71	84.5
Credit	1	1.8	1	3.7	2	2.4
Fronted to sell	3	5.2	1	3.7	4	4.8
Trade other drug	--		--		--	
Trade property	3	5.2	--		3	3.6
Transport drug	--		--		--	
Steal drug	--		--		--	
Trade sex	--		--		--	
Other	4	7.0	--		4	4.8
Last time paid any cash, was it only cash?						
Yes	99	95.2	48	100.0	147	96.7
No	5	4.8	--		5	3.3
Last time drug was obtained with cash:						
Bought it directly						
Yes	94	90.4	38	79.2	132	86.8
No	10	9.6	10	20.8	20	13.2
Purchased inside neighborhood						
Yes	59	57.3	25	52.1	84	55.6
No	44	42.7	23	47.9	67	44.4
Source						
Regular or main source	64	62.1	30	62.5	94	62.3
Occasional source	17	16.5	10	20.8	27	17.9
New source	22	21.4	8	16.7	30	19.9

Exhibit 2 con't: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Crack Cocaine

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
Type of location						
Private residence	33	40.7	6	40.0	39	40.6
Public building	15	18.5	3	20.0	28	18.8
Abandoned building	--		--		--	
*Street or other outdoor area	31	38.3	6	40	37	38.6
Unable to purchase in last 30 days						
No	73	70.2	27	56.3	100	65.8
Yes, no dealer	17	16.3	6	12.5	23	15.1
Yes, no supply	10	9.6	13	27.1	23	15.1
Yes, police activity	2	1.9	--		2	1.3
Yes, other	2	1.9	2	4.2	4	2.6
If unable to purchase, bought something else						
Yes	10	32.3	4	19.0	14	26.9
No	21	67.7	17	81.0	38	73.1

*Chi-square significant at p < .05

Powder Cocaine

Approximately 9% of arrestees (n=181) reported having acquired powder cocaine during the 30 days prior to their interview. Women (5.0%) were less likely than men (9.7%) to report having acquired powder cocaine. Of those who reported acquiring this drug, about half (52.5%) reported using cash or cash and some other form of trade in at least one transaction. Fifty-seven percent reported at least one non-cash transaction. Similar to marijuana and crack cocaine, in those instances where cash was not used, 89.1% of the arrestees reported receiving powder cocaine as a gift. The remaining individuals received powder cocaine on credit, were fronted to sell, traded property, transported drugs, or stole the drug.

When asked about their most recent purchase involving any cash, almost all arrestees (96.8%) reported that they used only cash to purchase powder cocaine. Over three-quarters of the arrestees reported purchasing the powder cocaine themselves (78.7); 13.3% of women compared to 22.8% of men relied on others to purchase their drugs. Nearly two-thirds stated that they made the purchase outside their neighborhood (64.2%). Approximately 60% reported using a regular source for their purchase, while 24.5% used an occasional source and 16% used a new source. Similar to the acquisition of crack cocaine, slightly more than 40% of the arrestees reported the use of a private residence for this transaction while 38.6% made the purchase in the street or other outdoor area. Almost 19% of the arrestees stated that the transaction took place in a public building. As **Exhibit 3** indicates, there is little difference between men and women in terms of the type of place used for the purchase of powder cocaine.

Exhibit 3: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Powder Cocaine

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
In the past 30 days, did you acquire?						
*Yes	157	9.7	24	5.0	181	8.6
No	1459	90.3	459	95.0	1918	91.4
Ever pay any cash?						
Yes	79	51.0	15	62.5	94	5.2
No	76	49.0	9	37.5	85	47.5
Ever acquire without using cash?						
Yes	91	58.7	11	45.8	102	57.0
No	64	41.3	13	54.2	77	43.0

Exhibit 3 con't: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Powder Cocaine

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
Last time acquire without cash, how?						
Gift	80	87.9	10	90.9	90	89.1
Credit	1	1.1	--		1	1.0
Fronted to sell	1	1.1	--		1	1.0
Trade other drug	--		--		--	
Trade property	3	3.3	--		3	3.0
Transport drug	1	1.1	--		1	1.0
Steal drug	1	1.1	--		1	1.0
Trade sex	--		--		--	
Other	3	3.3	1	9.0	4	4.0
Last time paid any cash, was it only cash?						
Yes	79	98.8	13	86.7	92	96.8
No	1	1.3	2	13.3	3	3.2
Last time drug was obtained with cash:						
Bought it directly						
Yes	61	77.2	13	86.7	74	78.7
No	18	22.8	2	13.3	20	21.3
Purchased inside neighborhood						
Yes	29	36.3	4	26.7	33	34.7
No	50	62.5	11	73.3	61	64.2
Source						
Regular or main source	47	59.5	9	60.0	56	59.6
Occasional source	18	22.8	5	33.3	23	24.5
New source	14	17.7	1	6.7	15	16.0
Type of location						
Private residence	33	40.7	6	40.0	39	40.6
Public building	15	18.5	3	20.0	28	18.8
Abandoned building	--		--		--	
*Street or other outdoor area	31	38.3	6	40.0	37	38.6
Unable to purchase in last 30 days						
No	60	78.9	10	62.5	70	76.1
Yes, no dealer	8	10.5	2	12.5	10	10.9
Yes, no supply	6	7.9	2	12.5	8	8.7
Yes, police activity	--		--		--	
Yes, other	2	2.6	2	12.5	4	4.3
If unable to purchase, bought something else						
Yes	1	6.3	--		1	4.5
No	15	93.7	6	100.0	21	95.5

*Chi-square significant at p < .05

Slightly more than 76% of the arrestees stated that there was no time during the past month that they were unable to purchase powder cocaine when they had the funds to do so. Compared to men, women reported greater inability to purchase powder cocaine during the past month (21.1% and 37.5%, respectively). Overall, in those instances when arrestees were unable to purchase powder cocaine, they stated that this was due primarily to a lack of dealers (10.9%) or a lack of supply (8.7%). For those unable to purchase powder cocaine, only 4.5% purchased alcohol or another drug instead. Interestingly, this is much lower than what was reported by arrestees attempting to purchase marijuana (21.1%), crack cocaine (26.9%) or heroin (12.5%) and were unable to do so.

Heroin

Fewer arrestees reported having acquired heroin compared to marijuana (36.2%), crack cocaine (9.4%), or powder cocaine (8.6%). Only 4.5% of those interviewed (n=94) stated that they had acquired heroin during the 30 days prior to their interview. Six percent of female arrestees and 4% of male arrestees interviewed had acquired heroin. Of those who reported acquiring this drug, 80.6% reported using cash or cash and some other form of trade in at least one transaction. Almost 36% reported at least one non-cash transaction. In those instances where cash was not used, 74.2% reported receiving heroin as a gift. The remaining individuals received heroin on credit (3.2%), were fronted to sell (3.2%), traded other drugs (6.5%), traded other property (6.5%), or transported drugs in exchange for heroin (6.5%).

When asked about their most recent purchase involving any cash, almost all arrestees (94.7%) reported that they used only cash to purchase heroin. Eighty-four percent of arrestees reported having purchased the drug themselves, with only 16% relying on someone else to make the purchase. Women were significantly more likely than men to rely on someone else to complete the transaction (26.9% and 10.2%, respectively). Slightly more than one-half of the arrestees reported that the transaction took place outside their neighborhood (53.4%), and 81.1%

of the arrestees stated that they purchased the heroin from their regular source. Transactions were as likely to occur in a private residence (46.7%) as the street or other outdoor area (45.3%).

More than half of the arrestees (57.1%) stated that there was no time during the past month in which they attempted to purchase heroin but were unable to do so. In those instances when arrestees reported difficulty in acquiring heroin, the primary reason was a lack of dealers (22.9%); fewer reported a lack of supply as the reason they were unable to purchase the drug (12.9%). When faced with the inability to purchase heroin, only 12.5% of the arrestees reported purchasing alcohol or another drug instead.

Exhibit 4: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Heroin

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
In the past 30 days, did you acquire?						
*Yes	65	4.0	29	6.0	94	4.5
No	1551	96.0	455	94.0	2006	95.5
Ever pay any cash?						
Yes	49	76.6	26	89.7	75	80.6
No	15	23.4	3	10.3	18	19.4
Ever acquire without using cash?						
Yes	22	34.9	11	37.9	33	35.9
No	41	65.1	18	62.1	59	64.1
Last time acquire without cash, how?						
Gift	15	68.2	8	88.8	23	74.2
Credit	1	4.5	--	--	1	3.2
Fronted to sell	1	4.5	--	--	1	3.2
Trade other drug	1	4.5	1	11.1	2	6.5
Trade property	2	9.0	--	--	2	6.5
Transport drug	2	9.0	--	--	2	6.5
Steal drug	--	--	--	--	--	--
Trade sex	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--
Last time paid any cash, was it only cash?						
Yes	47	95.9	24	92.3	71	94.7
No	2	4.1	2	7.7	4	5.3

Exhibit 4 con't: Drug Market Acquisition Behaviors - Heroin

	Male (n=1619)		Female (n=484)		Total (n=2103)	
Last time drug was obtained with cash:						
Bought it directly						
Yes	44	89.8	19	73.1	63	84.0
No	5	10.2	7	26.9	12	16.0
Purchased inside neighborhood						
Yes	22	45.8	12	48.0	34	46.6
No	26	54.2	13	52.2	39	53.4
Source						
Regular or main source	40	83.8	20	76.9	60	81.1
Occasional source	3	6.3	1	3.8	4	5.4
New source	5	10.4	5	19.2	10	13.5
Type of location						
Private residence	22	44.9	13	50.0	35	46.7
Public building	4	8.2	1	3.8	5	6.7
Abandoned building	--		--		--	
*Street or other outdoor area	17	34.7	11	42.3	34	45.3
Unable to purchase in last 30 days						
No	27	58.7	13	54.2	40	57.1
Yes, no dealer	10	21.7	6	25.0	16	22.9
Yes, no supply	8	17.3	1	4.2	9	12.9
Yes, police activity	--		--		--	
Yes, other	1	2.2	4	16.7	5	7.1
If unable to purchase, bought something else						
Yes	3	15.0	1	8.3	4	12.5
No	17	85.0	11	91.7	28	87.5

*Chi-square significant at $p < .05$

Conclusion

The AARIN Market and Use addendum provides insight into the drug acquisition patterns of arrestees and how such patterns differ across drug markets. Compared to powder cocaine, crack cocaine, or heroin, arrestees were more likely to report having acquired marijuana during the 30 days prior to their arrest. When any cash was involved in the transaction, arrestees tended to rely only on cash. When recalling their last drug acquisition that involved no cash, gifting was the primary mode of acquisition. Arrestees also received drugs on credit, were fronted to sell, traded other drugs or property, or transported drugs in exchange for other drugs; yet, gifting was the most likely non-cash transaction across all drug markets.

Arrestees reported staying within their neighborhood when purchasing crack cocaine but were somewhat more likely to purchase marijuana, powder cocaine and heroin outside their neighborhood. Except for marijuana, the acquisition process was as likely to occur in a private residence as it was on the street. Marijuana was more likely to be purchased in a private residence.

When they had the financial resources, arrestees reported having been able to purchase drugs the majority of the time. A lack of drug dealers or drug supply was the most often cited reason for not purchasing drugs. Rarely did arrestees report a concern over police activity as the reason for not acquiring drugs.

Lastly, some differences in drug acquisitions behaviors existed by sex. These differences, however, more often reflected a greater likelihood to acquire a particular drug. For example, women were more likely than men to have acquired crack and powder cocaine, while men were more likely than women to have acquired marijuana. What was less evident, however, were differences in the ways in which men and women went about acquiring drugs. Across the four drug markets, there were only two instances where men and women differed in their drug acquisition patterns. Women were less likely than men to purchase marijuana on the street or in an outdoor area and were more likely than men to rely on someone else to purchase heroin. Continued implementation of the Market and Use Addendum, however, would provide further insight into differences in drug acquisition patterns by salient group factors.

About the Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety

Arizona State University, in order to deepen its commitment to the communities of Arizona and to society as a whole, has set a new standard for research universities, as modeled by the New American University. Accordingly, ASU is measured not by whom we exclude, but by whom we include.

The University is pursuing research that considers the public good, and is assuming a greater responsibility to our communities for their economic, social, and cultural vitality. Social embeddedness – university-wide, interactive, and mutually supportive partnerships with Arizona communities – is at the core of our development as a New American University.

Toward the goal of social embeddedness, in response to the growing need of our communities to improve the public's safety and well-being, in July 2005 ASU established the Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety. The Center's mission is to generate, share, and apply quality research and knowledge to create "best practice" standards.

Specifically, the center evaluates policies and programs; analyzes and evaluates patterns and causes of violence; develops strategies and programs; develops a clearinghouse of research reports and "best practice" models; educates, trains, and provides technical assistance; and facilitates the development and construction of databases.

For more information about the Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety, please contact us using the information provided below.

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