



APPENDIX 4: DISCUSSION AREAS

APPENDIX 4: DISCUSSION AREAS BY SOURCE TYPE*

Topic	L	E	M	N
SPECIAL SECTION. LOCAL DRUG MARKETS: A DECADE OF CHANGE				
During the last reporting period, among street-level transactions involving each listed drug, **what percentage involved exchanging any of the following items: cash, property/merchandise, shoplifted merchandise, other stolen merchandise, sex, guns, other drugs, transporting drugs, stealing the drug, food stamps, drug buying services, injecting services, lookout services, other?	✓	✓	✓	✓
Have there been any changes in any of these specific types of transactions over the past 10 years?	✓	✓	✓	✓
Over the past 10 years, to what degree have specific illicit marketing innovations or tools complicated efforts to detect or disrupt drug activity in your community?	✓	✓		
Over the past 10 years, to what degree have specific changes in the drug market and in the nature of drug users made your community's drug abuse problem more complex?			✓	✓
Over the past 10 years, has your community tried any specific innovations, changes, or tools to address increased complexities of drug markets?	✓	✓		
Over the past 10 years, to what extent have specific changes contributed to the widespread availability and use of marijuana?	✓	✓		
Over the past 10 years, to what extent have changes in specific problems complicated the treatment of marijuana-using clients, particularly youth?			✓	✓
What continuing effects, if any, have the September 11 attacks and their aftermath had on the drug abuse problem?	✓	✓	✓	✓
THE SNAPSHOT				
How serious is the current illegal drug problem in your community?	✓	✓	✓	✓
How has the illegal drug problem changed in your community?	✓	✓	✓	✓
THE PERCEPTION				
During the current and last reporting periods, what was the most commonly abused drug in your community?				
Second most commonly abused drug? What drug was related to the most serious consequences?				
Second most serious consequences? Is any new problem drug appearing in your community?	✓	✓	✓	✓
THE DRUG**				
How difficult is it for undercover officers/users to buy drugs (and various forms of each drug)?***	✓	✓		
Has it become more difficult, less difficult, or the same, to buy drugs since the last reporting period?	✓	✓		
During this reporting period, has there been a time when undercover officers/buyers could not buy drugs?	✓	✓		
What are the most common and second most common units of sale and corresponding standard units of the drug?	✓	✓		
What is the purity range for each drug during the current reporting period? During the last reporting period?	✓	✓		
What is the price range during the current reporting period? During the last reporting period?	✓	✓		
Are there any adulterants? If yes, please list and indicate if any are new this reporting period.	✓	✓		
Why have price, purity, or adulterants changed or remained stable?	✓	✓		
What is the source for your price, purity, and adulterant information?	✓	✓		
How is the drug locally manufactured, processed, diverted, or grown?	✓	✓		
Have there been any changes in the local manufacturing process since the last reporting period?	✓	✓		
THE MARKET PERSPECTIVE**				
What is the predominant affiliation of local, street-level sellers?	✓	✓		
What is the predominant age range of local, street-level sellers?	✓	✓		
How likely are sellers to use their own drugs?	✓	✓		
In what type of other crimes are sellers involved?	✓	✓		
Have there been any changes in seller characteristics since the last reporting period?	✓	✓		
Are there any new seller groups this reporting period?	✓	✓		
What is the geographical area where most street-level sales of each drug occur?	✓	✓		
Where is each drug sold?	✓	✓		
How does each drug get from seller to buyer?	✓	✓		
How do dealers communicate with buyers, suppliers, and other dealers?	✓	✓		
Are other drugs sold by this type of dealer? If yes, please list the drugs.	✓	✓		
Have any of the drug scene characteristics changed since the last reporting period? If yes, please describe.	✓	✓		
THE USERS PERSPECTIVE: Predominant characteristics**				
How did the number of users change since the last reporting period?		✓		
What are the total number and percentage of primary users for this drug? All use (including primary, secondary, and tertiary)?			✓	✓
Have these percentages or numbers changed since the last reporting period?			✓	✓
What percentage of the drug clients are return clients for that drug?			✓	✓
What percentage of the drug clients are return clients for any drug?			✓	✓
What is the predominant age range of the drug users? Mean age? Has either of these changed since the last reporting period?		✓	✓	✓



THE USERS PERSPECTIVE: Predominant characteristics** (continued)				
	L	E	M	N
What is the predominant gender (provide percentages if possible), and has it changed since the last reporting period?		✓	✓	✓
What is the predominant racial/ethnic group, and has it changed since the last reporting period? Is this group underrepresented, overrepresented, or about equal compared with the general population in your area?		✓	✓	✓
What is the predominant socioeconomic position, and has it changed since the last reporting period?		✓	✓	✓
What is the most common geographical residence, and has it changed since the last reporting period?		✓	✓	✓
What is the predominant route of administration, and has it changed since the last reporting period?		✓	✓	✓
What are the drugs commonly taken with this drug? Are they taken sequentially, in combination with, or as a substitute for the drug? What are the street names for this combination or practice? Have there been any changes?		✓	✓	✓
Is the drug used mostly in public or in private?		✓	✓	✓
Is the drug used mostly alone or in groups/among friends?		✓	✓	✓
What are the common settings for the use of this drug?		✓	✓	✓
What is the most common referral source, and has it changed since the last reporting period?		✓	✓	✓
What is the predominant education level, and has it changed since the last reporting period?			✓	✓
What is the predominant employment status, and has it changed since the last reporting period?			✓	✓
What are the common negative consequences of marijuana use (asked for marijuana only)?		✓	✓	✓
THE USERS: New/emerging users**				
How did the number of new or emerging users change since the last reporting period? If increased, repeat the first 10 questions under "the users: predominant characteristics" for the new/emerging user group.	✓			
What are the total number and percentage of users new to treatment? Have these numbers or percentages changed since the last reporting period?			✓	✓
How did the number of users new to treatment change since the last reporting period? If increased, repeat all questions under "the users: predominant characteristics" for the new-to-treatment user group.			✓	✓
METHADONE DIVERSION/TREATMENT				
What is the availability of methadone treatment in your community?		✓		
How has treatment availability changed since the last reporting period?		✓		
What is the capacity of public methadone treatment? Private methadone treatment?		✓		
How has the capacity of public methadone treatment changed since the last reporting period? Private methadone treatment?		✓		
DRUG ABUSE RELATED CONSEQUENCES, COMORBIDITY, AND BARRIERS TO TREATMENT				
How common are specific drug-related consequences among clients in your program? Have these drug-related consequences increased, decreased, or remained stable since the last reporting period?			✓	✓
How common are specific psychiatric comorbid diagnoses in your program? Have these comorbid disorders increased, decreased, or remained stable since the last reporting period?			✓	✓
How common are specific barriers to treatment? Have these barriers to treatment increased, decreased, or remained stable since the last reporting period?		✓	✓	
TREATMENT BACKGROUND				
How do you define program capacity?			✓	✓
What is your program's maximum capacity?			✓	✓
What is your current enrollment?			✓	✓
Does your program's clientele reflect the population of your local community? If no, please describe.			✓	✓

^LLaw enforcement, ^EEpidemiologic/ethnographic, ^MMethadone treatment, ^NNon-methadone treatment
 *Please note that for the methadone and non-methadone treatment interviews, "community" was replaced with "program."
 **Respondents were asked about heroin, crack cocaine, powder cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamine, ecstasy, diverted OxyContin®, and any other drugs (specify) for each of the discussion areas.
 ***Law enforcement sources were asked about undercover officers' ability to buy drugs; epidemiologic/ethnographic sources were asked about users' ability to buy drugs.



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