

Improving Federal Drug-Related Data Systems

ONDCP supports improvements to enhance the policy relevance of Federal drug-related data systems. These include the following innovations:

- In 2006, ONDCP implemented the planning process to resume the *Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring* (ADAM) program. Previously conducted by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the ADAM program was discontinued in 2003. In 2007, new data collection began from 10 sentinel locations across the country, using both self-report and urinalysis-based measurement of recent drug use. This process enables the production of local estimates of drug use prevalence among the arrestee population. The new round of ADAM data, designated as *ADAM II*, will permit trend comparisons with the earlier series collected in 2000–2003 for each data collection site.
- SAMHSA’s Office of Applied Studies (OAS) undertook a redesign of the *Drug Abuse Warning Network* (DAWN) system in 2003, in efforts to maintain alignment with the health care delivery system. The new DAWN, now available to participating sites as *DAWN Live!*, is an important source of national and local data on substance abuse derived from information on visits to hospital emergency departments (EDs) and drug-related deaths identified by medical examiners (MEs). DAWN collects data on the demographic characteristics of substance abusers and the specific drugs involved in each drug-related ED visit or death.
- ONDCP and the Department of Justice are leading an interagency effort to update drug availability estimates—from source countries through availability in the United States—for cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine. The first round of estimates was published in 2003, and a new round of estimates is expected in fall 2008. Results from this project are providing critical measures enabling assessment of the Nation’s supply-reduction programs.