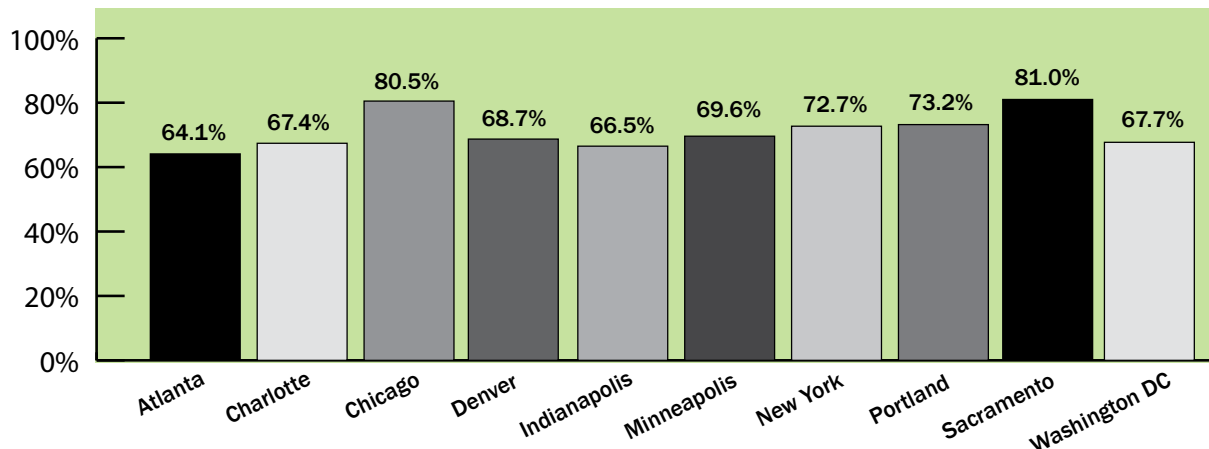




## Across Ten U.S. Sites, Most Men Who Are Arrested Test Positive for Illicit Drugs

In each of ten survey sites across the U.S., most men who were arrested last year tested positive for at least one of ten illicit drugs,<sup>1</sup> according to the *2011 Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring Annual Report*<sup>2</sup> recently published by the federal Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). The portion of adult males testing positive ranged from 64% in Atlanta to 81% in Sacramento. (By contrast, the latest national estimate of past-month illicit drug use in the general population is 9%.) The report indicates a nationwide downward trend in current cocaine use in all ten sites, including a major drop in both Chicago and New York, from 50% or more in 2000 to half that in 2011. Rates of opiate use—including heroin and non-medical use of prescription pain relievers—which in 2000 had been as high as 36% in Chicago and 20% in New York, dropped by about half in those sites, but they more than doubled in Denver, Indianapolis, Sacramento, and Minneapolis, from 3-4% in 2000 to 8-10% in 2011. With the release of the report ONDCP Director Gil Kerlikowske said, "...too often underlying substance use disorders are the driving force of criminal activity taking place in our communities..." and that "...we cannot simply arrest our way out of the drug problem."

**Percentage of Arrested Men Who Tested Positive for Illicit Drugs, 2011**



**Source:**

Office of National Drug Control Policy. (2012). New Survey Results Show Majority of Adult Males Arrested in 10 U.S. Cities Test Positive for Illegal Drugs At Time of Arrest [Press release]. Retrieved from <http://goo.gl/hfDxQ>.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2011). *Results from the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings*, NSDUH Series H-41, HHS Publication No. (SMA) 11-4658. Rockville, MD: author.

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Marijuana, cocaine, opiates, amphetamine, phencyclidine (PCP), benzodiazepines, propoxyphene, methadone, barbiturates, and oxycodone.

<sup>2</sup> The ADAM survey is a data collection program involving voluntary interviews and drug tests of arrested men within 48 hours of their booking.

Prepared by the Center for Health and Justice (CHJ) at TASC. CHJ works to build, enhance, and sustain strong and vibrant communities by promoting policies and practices that stop the cycle of drugs and crime. We conduct research and evaluations, and offer policy analysis, trainings, and technical assistance in the fields of health and justice. For more information, visit us online at [www.centerforhealthandjustice.org](http://www.centerforhealthandjustice.org).

To receive Facts on Justice from CHJ, please send an email to [research@tasc-il.org](mailto:research@tasc-il.org) with "Join Facts on Justice" typed in the subject line, and your name, title, organization, and email address in the body of the message.