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Criminality Among Narcotic Addicts
in Baltimore: The Role of
Nonnarcotic Drugs, 1973-1978

104622

David Nurco

ICPSR 8604

Criminality Among Narcotic Addicts in Baltimore:
The Role of Nonnarcotic Drugs, 1973-1978

(ICPSR 8604)

Principal Investigator

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Nurco, David.
    CRIMINALITY AMONG NARCOTIC ADDICTS IN BALTIMORE: THE   ROLE   OF
NONNARCOTIC DRUGS, 1973-1978 (ICPSR 8604)

SUMMARY: This study investigated the frequency with which various
nonnarcotic substances were used by male narcotic addicts and the
relation of these substances to different types of criminal activity
during periods of active addiction and periods of non- addiction.   The
variables were designed to facilitate an analysis of narcotic addicts
as crime risks, patterns of nonnarcotic drug use, and the percentage of
illegal income addicts obtained during periods of addiction compared
with periods of nonaddiction.   Information is included concerning types
of narcotic drug use, crime patterns, and use of marijuana, cocaine,
barbiturates, amphetamines, and Librium. CLASS IV

UNIVERSE: Population of known narcotic offenders arrested by the
Baltimore police department between 1952 and 1976.
SAMPLING: The sample consists of 354 male narcotic addicts who were
selected from a population of 6149 known narcotic offenders arrested by
the Baltimore police department between 1952 and 1976. The sample was
stratified by race and year of police contact.   These 354 sample
addicts were selected because they had used addictive narcotic drugs at
least four days per week for a period of more than one month.   The
majority of subjects were heroin addicts.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 3 data files + machine-readable documentation
DATA FORMAT: Card Image

PART 1: Crime Risk File   PART 2: Drug Use File
FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular   FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular
CASES: 354   CASES: 354
VARIABLES: approximately 15-18   VARIABLES: approximately 15-18
RECORD LENGTH: 80   RECORD LENGTH: 80
RECORDS PER CASE: 24   RECORDS PER CASE: 24

PART 3: Illegal Income File
FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular
CASES: 354
VARIABLES: 24
RECORD LENGTH: 80
RECORD.PER.CASE: 3

RELATED PUBLICATIONS:
    Nurco, David N., Ira H. Cisin, and John C. Ball. ``Crime as a
Source of Income for Narcotic Addicts.´´ JOURNAL OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE
TREATMENT 2 (1985), 113-115.
    Shaffer, John W., et al. ``The Frequency of Nonnarcotic Drug Use
and Its Relationship to Criminal Activity Among Narcotic Addicts.´´
COMPREHENSIVE PSYCHIATRY, 26:6 (1985), 558-566.
    Shaffer, John W., et al.   ``Patterns of Non-Narcotic Drug Use
Among Male Narcotic Addicts.´´ JOURNAL OF DRUG ISSUES. in press.

OK.

ABSTRACT

1. Bibliographic Citation:

   1.1 Title:
       Measures and Patterns of Criminality Among Narcotic
       Addicts - The Role of Nonnarcotic Drugs

   1.2 Principal Investigator:
       David N. Nurco
       Department of Psychiatry
       University of Maryland School of Medicine
       1229 West Mount Royal Avenue
       Baltimore, Maryland 21217

   1.3 Producer:
       Friends Medical Science Research Center Inc.
       1229 West Mount Royal Avenue
       Baltimore, Maryland 21217

   1.4 Date of Production:
       December, 1984

2. Methodology:

   2.1 Source of Information:
       Data were collected from detailed interviews of narcotic
addicts, conducted between 1973 and 1978 in the Baltimore
metropolitan area.

   2.2 Type of Sample:
       Confidential in-person interviews were conducted with 354
male narcotic addicts who were selected from a population of 6149
known narcotic offenders arrested by the Baltimore police
department between 1952 and 1976. The sample was stratified by
race and year of police contact. These 354 sampled addicts were
selected because they had used addictive narcotic drugs at least
four days per week for a period of more than one month. The
majority of subjects were heroin addicts.

   2.3 Dates of Data Collection:
       Data were collected between July 1973 and January 1978.

3. Summary of Contents:

   3.1 Purpose or Scope of the Study:
       The major purpose of the study was to investigate the
frequency with which various nonnarcotic substances were used
among male narcotic addicts and their relation to different types
of criminal activities during periods of active addiction and
periods of nonaddiction to narcotics.

3.2 Special Characteristics of the Study:

In order to obtain chronological information, each sampled addict was asked to describe his periods of addiction as well as periods of nonaddiction from the time of first regular narcotic use to the time of interview. Data were collected up to a maximum of 14 on-periods and 8 off-periods of addiction for each addict. Within each period, information concerning types of narcotic drug use, crime days at risk per year, and percentage of illegal income were reported.

3.3 Subject Matter:

The variables measured were designed to facilitate an analysis on the relationships among crime risks of narcotic addicts, patterns of nonnarcotic drug use and the percentage of illegal income they obtained during periods of addiction and nonaddiction. Measured variables in the crime risk file were length of periods, total number of days committing crime during each period, number of partners in the crimes committed, crime days at risk per year. The drug use file contains variables concerning total times used by addicts for each of 15 types of nonnarcotic drugs including such types of drugs as marijuana, cocaine, barbiturates, amphetamines and librium. The illegal income file includes variables corresponding to percentage of illegal income obtained by addicts during each period.

3.4 Number of Variables, Observations, and Records:

The data set has three data files and each file contains coded results from the confidential interviews of the 354 subjects. In the first file (crime risk file) and the second file (drug use file), each physical record represents a period of addiction or nonaddiction so that number of records of each subject depends upon his number of periods on addiction and nonaddiction. With variable records per subject, a total of 1898 records were included in these two files respectively and each record contains approximately 15 to 18 variables. In the third file (illegal income file), there is a total of 1062 records with 3 fixed records per subject. 24 variables were included to describe each subject.

3.5 Geographic Coverage: Baltimore, Maryland

4. Technical Notes:

4.1 File Structure:

There are three raw data files and two machine-readable document files for the study. Each raw data file is rectangularly structured and data are stored in character-number, fixed format. One of the two document files describes positions and descriptive statistics of variables in each of the first three files, and the other describes the standard labels of each file on the IBM tape.

4.2 Special Formats:
   The first three files have a logical record length of 80 and a blocksize of 16000. The fourth and the fifth files have variable record formats and logical record lengths of 137 with blocksizes of 15759.

4.3 Computer or Software Dependence: None

5. Term of Availability:

5.1 Condition of data:
   Frequency distributions of the data have been examined and all known problems with the data have been corrected.

5.2 Restrictions of Access: None

5.3 Contact Person or Organization:
   Dr. David Nurco
   1229 West Mount Royal Avenue
   Baltimore, Maryland 21217

6. Cited References:

Nurco, David N., Ira H. Cisin and John C. Ball
   1985   Crime As a Source of Income for Narcotic Addicts, Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, Vol.2, pp. 113-115.

Shaffer, John W., David Nurco, John Ball and Timothy Kinlock
   1985   The Frequency of Nonnarcotic Drug Use and Its Relationship to Criminal Activity Among Narcotic Addicts, Comprehensive Psychiatry, 26:6, pp. 558-566.

Shaffer, John W., David Nurco, John Ball and Timothy Kinlock
         Patterns of Non-Narcotic Drug Use Among Male Narcotic Addicts, Journal of Drug Issues, in press.

Coding Instructions for Crime-Days
by Periods

Individual "ON" periods are coded on Cards 11-24, as shown. The number of each period, as shown in Cols. 6-7, plus 10 equals the card number, as follows:

Number of "ON" period	Card Number
01	11
02	12
03	13
04	14
05	15
06	16
07	17
08	18
09	19
10	20
11	21
12	22
13	23
14	24

Individual "OFF" periods (in blue) are coded on Cards 31-39, as shown. The number of each period, as shown in Cols. 6-7 plus 30 equals the card number, as follows:

Number of "OFF" period	Card Number
01	31
02	32
03	33
04	34
05	35
06	36
07	37
08	38
09	39

Card 50 is a summary sheet for all "ON" periods, and Card 60 (pink) is a code sheet for all OFF periods for each individual.

Card 70 is a summary sheet for all periods (ON and OFF) for each individual.

Identification No.

```
┌───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┘
  1   2   3
```

No. of On periods

```
┌───┬───┐
│   │   │
└───┴───┘
  4   5
```

No. of this period

```
┌───┬───┐
│   │   │
└───┴───┘
  6   7
```

Length of period (in days)

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
  8   9  10  11
```

No. of Crime Days -1 (Theft)

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
 12  13  14  15
```

No. of Crime Days -2 (Violence)

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
 16  17  18  19
```

No. of Crime Days -3 (Dealing)

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
 20  21  22  23
```

No. of Crime Days -4 (Paper Theft)

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
 24  25  26  27
```

No. of Crime Days -5 (Other Crime)
(Note: If other than gambling or pimping, note on separate 3x5 card)

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
 28  29  30  31
```

Total No. of Crime Days (Sum of Crime Days 1-5)

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
 32  33  34  35
```

Total No. of Non-Crime Days

```
┌───┬───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┴───┘
 36  37  38  39
```

No. of Partners in Theft
(Blank=QNA=No Theft)

```
┌───┐
│   │
└───┘
 40
```

No. of Partners in Violence
(Blank=QNA=No Violence)

```
┌───┐
│   │
└───┘
 41
```

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -1/year at risk (0-365)

```
┌───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┘
 42  43  44
```

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -2/year at risk (0-365)

```
┌───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┘
 45  46  47
```

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -3/year at risk (0-365)

```
┌───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┘
 48  49  50
```

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -4/year at risk (0-365)

```
┌───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┘
 51  52  53
```

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -5/year at risk (0-365)

```
┌───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┘
 54  55  56
```

~~Percent of~~ Non-Crime Days/year at risk (0-365)

```
┌───┬───┬───┐
│   │   │   │
└───┴───┴───┘
 57  58  59
```

Card Number

```
┌───┬───┐
│   │   │
└───┴───┘
 79  80
```

Code Sheet for Crime Days by Periods

Identification No.
1	2	3

No. of Off periods
4	5

No. of this period
6	7

Length of period (in days)
8	9	10	11

No. of Crime Days -1 (Theft)
12	13	14	15

No. of Crime Days -2 (Violence)
16	17	18	19

No. of Crime Days -3 (Dealing)
20	21	22	23

No. of Crime Days -4 (Paper Theft)
24	25	26	27

No. of Crime Days -5 (Other Crime)
(Note: If other than gambling or pimping, note on separate 3x5 card)
28	29	30	31

Total No. of Crime Days (Sum of Crime Days 1-5)
32	33	34	35

Total No. of Non-Crime Days
36	37	38	39

No. of Partners in Theft
      (Blank=QNA=No Theft)
40

No. of Partners in Violence
      (Blank=QNA=No Violence)
41

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -1/year at risk   (0-365)
42	43	44

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -2/year at risk   (0-365)
45	46	47

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -3/year at risk   (0-365)
48	49	50

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -4/year at risk (0-365)
51	52	53

~~Percent of~~ Crime Days -5/year at risk (0-365)
54	55	56

~~Percent of~~ Non-Crime Days/year at risk (0-365)
57	58	59

Card Number
79	80

Identification No.

1	2	3

No. of On periods

4	5

Total days "On":

6	7	8	9	10

Total Crime Days -1 (Theft)

11	12	13	14

Total Crime Days -2 (Violence)

15	16	17	18

Total Crime Days -3 (Dealing)

19	20	21	22

Total Crime Days -4 (Paper Theft)

23	24	25	26

Total Crime Days -5 (Other Crime)

27	28	29	30

Total No. of Crime Days for All On Periods (Sum of Crime Days 1-5)

31	32	33	34

Total No. of Non-Crime Days for All On Periods

35	36	37	38

Average No. of Crime Partners in Theft (All On Periods)
        (Blank=QNA=No Theft)

39

Average No. of Crime Partners in Violence (All On Periods)
        (Blank=QNA=No Violence)

40

Percent of Crime Days -1

41	42	43

Percent of Crime Days -2

44	45	46

Percent of Crime Days -3

47	48	49

Percent of Crime Days -4

50	51	52

Percent of Crime Days -5

53	54	55

Percent of Non-Crime Days

56	57	58

Card Number

5	0

Identification No.

[ ] [ ] [ ]
1 2 3

No. of Off periods

[ ] [ ]
4   5

Total days "Off"

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
6 7 8 9 10

Total Crime Days -1 (Theft)

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
11 12 13 14

Total Crime Days -2 (Violence)

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
15 16 17 18

Total Crime Days -3 (Dealing)

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
19 20 21 22

Total Crime Days -4 (Paper Theft)

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
23 24 25 26

Total Crime Days -5 (Other Crime)

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
27 28 29 30

Total No. of Crime Days for All Off Periods (Sum of Crime Days 1-5)

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
31 32 33 34

Total No. of Non-Crime Days for All Off Periods

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
35 36 37 38

Average No. of Crime Partners in Theft (All Off Periods)
   (Blank=QNA=No Theft)

[ ]
39

Average No. of Crime Partners in Violence (All Off Periods)
   (Blank=QNA=No Violence)

[ ]
40

Percent of Crime Days -1

[ ] [ ] [ ]
41 42 43

Percent of Crime Days -2

[ ] [ ] [ ]
44 45 46

Percent of Crime Days -3

[ ] [ ] [ ]
47 48 49

Percent of Crime Days -4

[ ] [ ] [ ]
50 51 52

Percent of Crime Days -5

[ ] [ ] [ ]
53 54 55

Percent of Non-Crime Days

[ ] [ ] [ ]
56 57 58

Card Number

[6 | 0]

Crime Days Per Year at Risk: Summary Sheet

Identification No.

1	2	3

(1) Total Days "On" plus Total Days "Off" (Total Days at Risk)

4	5	6	7	8

(2) Total No. of Non-Overlapping Non-Crime Days for all "On" Periods +
Total No. of Non-Overlapping Non-Crime Days for all "Off" Periods

9	10	11	12	13

(3) = (1)-(2) = Total Non-Overlapping Crime Days During
Total Days at Risk

14	15	16	17	18

(4) = [(3)÷(1)]x100=Percent of Total Days at Risk that were Crime Days

19	20	21

(5) Total Crime Days Theft "On" plus Total Crime Days Theft "Off"

22	23	24	25	26

(6) [(5)÷(1)]x100=Percent of Total Days at Risk that were Theft Days

27	28	29

(7) Total Crime Days Violence "On" plus Total Crime Days Violence "Off"

30	31	32	33	34

(8) [(7)÷(1)]x100=Percent of Total Days at Risk that were Violence Days

35	36	37

(9) Total Crime Days Dealing "On" plus Total Crime Days Dealing "Off"

38	39	40	41	42

(10) [(9)÷(1)]x100=Percent of Total Days at Risk that were Dealing Days

43	44	45

(11) Total Crime Days Paper Theft "On" plus Total Crime Days Paper Theft
"Off"

46	47	48	49	50

(12) [(11)÷(1)]x100=Percent of Total Days at Risk that were Paper Theft Days

51	52	53

(13) Total Crime Days Other "On" plus Total Crime Days Other "Off"

54	55	56	57	58

(14) [(13)÷(1)]x100=Percent of Total Days at Risk that were Other Days

59	60	61

Card Number

7	0
79	80

Coding Instructions for Nonnarcotic Drug Use
by Periods

Individual "ON" periods are coded on Cards 71-84 (corresponds to crime-days cards 11-24, as shown). The number of each period equals 70 plus the card number, as shown.

Number of "ON" period	Card number
01	71
02	72
03	73
04	74
05	75
06	76
07	77
08	78
09	79
10	80
11	81
12	82
13	83
14	84

Individual "OFF" periods are coded on Cards 91-99 (corresponds to crime-days cards 31-39, as shown). The number of each period equals 90 plus the card number, as shown.

Number of "OFF" period	Card number
01	91
02	92
03	93
04	94
05	95
06	96
07	97
08	98
09	99

Code Sheet for Non-Narcotic Drug Use

1. Identification No.

2. Total times used Marijuana/Hashish

3. Total times used Cocaine

4. Total times used Barbiturates

5. Total times used Amphetamines

6. Total times used Benzodiazepines (e.g. Valium, Librium)

7. Total times used Hallucinogens

8. Total times used Inhalants

9. Total times used Doriden

10. Total times used Chloral Hydrate

11. Total times used Phenergan

12. Total times used Miltown

13. Total times used Placidyl

14. Total times used Quaaludes

15. Total times used Phenothiazines

16. Total times used Other Non-Narcotics

17. Card Number

Note: Each card represents one ON or OFF period.

　　　Card Number = Number of ON period + 70 (Corresponds to old card no. + 60)
　　　　　　　　First ON = Card 71

　　　　　　　　　　　Number of OFF period + 90 (Corresponds to old card no. + 60)
　　　　　　　　　　　First OFF = Card 91

　　　Length of period is on all cards (ONs = Cards 11-25; OFFs = Cards 51-59), Cols. 8-1

Coding Instructions Pertaining to Illegal Income Data

Card 1

Column	Variable	
1-3	Identification No.	
4	Race (0=Black; 1=White)	
5-8	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #1
9-12	Length (in days)	ON Period #1
13-16	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #2
17-20	Length	ON Period #2
21-24	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #3
25-28	Length	ON Period #3
29-32	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #4
33-36	Length	ON Period #4
37-40	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #5
41-44	Length	ON Period #5
45-48	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #6
49-52	Length	ON Period #6
53-56	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #7
57-60	Length	ON Period #7
61-64	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #8
65-68	Length	ON Period #8
69-72	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #9
73-76	Length	ON Period #9
79-80	Card Number	

Note: The second field for each group of columns corresponding to percent of illegal income for a particular period was always represented by a decimal point. For example, if a man reported that 38 percent of his income during his first ON period came from illegal sources, columns 5-8 should be coded as follows:

0	.	3	8
5	6	7	8

Card 2

Column	Variable	
1-3	Identification No.	
4	Race	
5-8	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #10
9-12	Length	ON Period #10
13-16	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #11
17-20	Length	ON Period #11
21-24	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #12
25-28	Length	ON Period #12
29-32	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #13
33-36	Length	ON Period #13
37-40	Percent of Illegal Income	ON Period #14
41-44	Length	ON Period #14
45-48	Percent of Illegal Income for all ON Periods Combined	
79-80	Card Number	

Card 3

Column	Variable	
1-3	Identification No.	
4	Race	
5-8	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #1
9-12	Length	OFF Period #1
13-16	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #2
17-20	Length	OFF Period #2
21-24	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #3
25-28	Length	OFF Period #3
29-32	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #4
33-36	Length	OFF Period #4
37-40	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #5
41-44	Length	OFF Period #5
45-48	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #6
49-52	Length	OFF Period #6
53-56	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #7
57-60	Length	OFF Period #7
61-64	Percent of Illegal Income	OFF Period #8
65-68	Length	OFF Period #8
69-72	Percent of Illegal Income for all OFF Periods	
73-76	Percent of Illegal Income for all Periods Combined	
79-80	Card Number	