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**CRIME TREND SERIES
CRIME PREVENTION DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

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**DRUG ABUSE ARRESTS, 1980-1991
STATE OF HAWAII**

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In 1991, a total of 3,296 arrests were made in the State of Hawaii for drug abuse violations. The total number of arrests for drug abuse violations in 1991 represents a 35% increase since 1980 and an 8.4% decrease from 1990.

The 1991 arrest figures represent a significantly reduced number of arrests from the annual average number of drug abuse violation arrests since 1980: 3,782. Since peaking in 1985 with 5,132 drug arrests, the general trend in the number of arrests has gone down.

Drug abuse violation arrest statistics fall into two categories: sales/manufacturing and possession. Within each category are four general drug types: opium or cocaine and their derivatives, marijuana, synthetic narcotics, and nonnarcotics.

The proportion of sales/manufacturing arrests to possession arrests has changed significantly since 1980. In 1980, possession of drugs accounted for 93% of the arrests for drug abuse violations. Since 1985, the percentage of sales/manufacturing arrests relative to the total number

of drug abuse violations arrests has more than doubled.

The greatest number of sales/manufacturing arrests in 1991 were for opium or cocaine and their derivatives: 64% of the sales/manufacturing total. The total number of arrests in this category increased 1% from 1990 and 394% since 1980.

The number of drug abuse violation arrests in 1991 for possession were almost equally distributed between opium and cocaine and their derivatives and marijuana. In 1991, there were 1,131 arrests for possession of opium and cocaine and their derivatives (48% of the possession total) and 1,115 arrests for possession of marijuana (47% of the possession total).

The majority of those arrested for drug abuse violations in 1991 were male, 75.4% of the total. Females comprised 24.6% of the total number of drug arrests in 1991. In 1980, males accounted for a greater proportion of drug arrests: 84% versus 16% for women.

Thirty-nine percent of the arrests in 1991 were of individuals 25-34 years of age; 20% were 35-44 years old. Only 12% of the drug abuse violation arrests in 1991 were juveniles, compared to 18%

in 1980.

Caucasians, who comprise a little over 33% of the population, accounted for 35% of the drug arrests in 1991, down from 42% in 1980. Hawaiians and part-Hawaiians, who comprise approximately 12.5% of the State's population, accounted for 21% of the drug arrests in 1991, a decrease of 0.7% from 1980.

The data for the Crime Trend Series comes from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR Program in Hawaii gathers offense and arrest data from each of the four county law enforcement agencies: Honolulu, Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai.

The Research and Statistics unit of the Crime Prevention Division, Department of the Attorney General, operates as clearinghouse for the UCR Program, reporting the county offense and arrest data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and publishing the results annually in Crime in Hawaii.

December, 1992.

1991 Drug Arrests - Sex and Age

Over three out of four of all drug arrests in 1991 involved males. The proportion of males to females varied little when comparing sales/manufacturing subtotals and possession subtotals. The only offense category in which females accounted for more than 30% of arrests involved possession of dangerous, nonnarcotic drugs (36.4% of the total).

Arrests for possession accounted for over 80% of the total of drug arrests and males accounted for 76% of arrests for possession. Males arrested for possession offenses make up 61% of all the drug abuse violation arrests.

The single largest category of drug abuse violation arrests is males arrested for possession of marijuana (32%), followed by males arrested for possession of opium or cocaine and their derivatives (26.6%). Together, these two possession offenses committed by males account for 58.6% of all drug abuse violation arrests in 1991.

Almost three-fourths of all drug arrests in 1991 involved individuals under 35 years of age. Juveniles accounted for 12% of all drug arrests, but only 6.7% of the sales/manufacturing arrests. Individuals age 25-34 accounted for 39.4% of all drug arrests in 1991.

Table 1 includes the number of males and females arrested for drug-related offenses, by age, for the years 1980 and 1991.

Comparison of 1980 and 1991 Drug Arrests - Sex and Age

Arrests of males for drug abuse violations increased 21% from 1980 to 1991. The number of

Age and Sex		All Drug Arrests		Sales/Manufacturing Subtotal		Possession Subtotal	
		1980	1991	1980	1991	1980	1991
Under 18	M	364	301	6	30	358	271
	F	79	102	2	14	77	88
18-20	M	397	186	13	14	384	172
	F	49	64	5	13	44	51
21-24	M	485	347	55	75	430	272
	F	81	131	14	33	67	98
25-34	M	554	989	44	174	510	815
	F	134	309	16	60	118	249
35-44	M	159	512	14	129	145	383
	F	31	156	3	52	28	104
45-54	M	53	117	3	40	50	77
	F	9	42	0	8	9	34
Over 55	M	44	34	4	8	40	26
	F	2	6	0	3	2	3
TOTAL	M	2056	2486	139	470	1917	2016
	F	385	810	40	183	345	627

males arrested decreased in four age categories between 1980 and 1991: under 18, 18-20, 21-24, and over 55. Large increases in the 25-34, 35-44, and 45-54 more than made up for those decreases, however (79%, 222%, and 121%, respectively).

Arrests of females for drug offenses increased over 110% from 1980 to 1991. Every age category of females showed increased arrests, especially 25-34 (131%), 35-44 (403%), and 45-54 (367%).

Females accounted for a larger percentage of the total number of drug arrests in 1991 than in 1980. In 1980, 16% of all drug arrests involved women; in 1991, almost 25% of the total number of drug arrests involved females.

The number of juveniles arrested for drug offenses decreased 9% from 1980 to 1991. The number of juvenile males arrested declined 17% from 1980 to 1991, while the number of females arrested increased 29%. Females also increased their share of juvenile drug arrests, from 18% of the total in 1980 to 25% in 1991.

One of the most substantial shifts from 1980 to 1991 occurred in the proportion of sales/manufacturing arrests. In 1980, just over 7% of all drug arrests were for sales/manufacturing (93% for possession offenses). In 1991, almost 20% of all drug arrests were for sales/manufacturing offenses (80% for possession offenses).

1991 Drug Arrests - Race and Ethnicity

The group with the highest percentage of arrests in all three categories (total drug abuse, sales/manufacturing subtotal, and possession subtotal) is Caucasians: 35.3%, 38.1%, and 34.5%, respectively. These percentages are slightly higher than the proportion of Caucasians in the total population.

Individuals of Indian (American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut), Chinese, and Japanese ancestry were arrested at rates far below their respective proportions of the total population (0.5%, 6.2%, and 22.3%, respectively). Total drug arrests of Filipinos account for a smaller percentage of drug arrests than that group represents in the total population (15.2%); however, arrests for sales/manufacturing were roughly equivalent to their percentage of the total population.

Hawaiians and part-Hawaiians were overrepresented in all three drug arrest categories, accounting for a greater proportion of arrests than in the total population (12.5%). Koreans were underrepresented in all categories, especially the sales/manufacturing subtotal. Samoans account for nearly twice as many total drug arrests as their percentage of the total population (1.4%).

Table 2 includes the number of drug arrests for each racial and ethnic group identified by the UCR Program.

Comparison of 1980 and 1991 Drug Arrests - Race/Ethnicity

All of the racial/ethnic groups had a greater number of arrests in 1991 than in 1980. Arrests of persons of Indian, Chinese, Korean, and Samoan ancestry more than

Table 2. Drug Abuse Arrests, by Race/Ethnicity, 1980 and 1991 - State of Hawaii

Race/Ethnicity	All Drug Arrests		Sales/Manufacturing Subtotal		Possession Subtotal	
	1980	1991	1980	1991	1980	1991
Caucasian	1027	1162	88	249	939	913
Black	89	174	5	40	84	134
Indian	0	8	0	2	0	6
Chinese	21	65	0	11	21	54
Japanese	236	327	16	49	220	278
Filipino	215	401	22	100	193	301
Hawaiian/Part-Hawaiian	530	693	40	112	490	581
Korean	16	47	0	4	16	43
Samoan	31	76	2	12	29	64
Other	276	343	6	74	270	269
Total	2441	3296	179	653	2262	2643

doubled from 1980 to 1991; however, the actual numbers of arrests are quite small. Arrests of Caucasians increased 13%; Blacks, 96%; Japanese, 39%; Filipinos, 87%; and Hawaiians/Part-Hawaiians, 31%.

Most of the racial/ethnic groups account for roughly the same percentage of drug abuse arrests in 1991 as in 1980. The greatest changes since 1980 occurred among Caucasians and Filipinos. In 1980, Caucasians accounted for 42% of all drug arrests; that percentage was reduced to 35% in 1991. In 1980, Filipinos accounted for slightly less than 9% of the total drug abuse arrests; in 1991, that figure was over 12%.

Arrests involving opium or cocaine and their derivatives constitute a much larger percentage of drug abuse arrests in 1991 than in 1980 for all racial/ethnic groups. Among Caucasians, possession of opium or cocaine and

their derivatives accounted for only 5.9% of the drug arrests in 1980 and 27.5% in 1991; among Blacks, 13.5% in 1980 and 51.1% in 1991; among Japanese, 8.5% in 1980 and 46.2% in 1991; among Filipinos, 2.8% in 1980 and 37.7% in 1991; among Hawaiians and Part-Hawaiians, 1.9% in 1980 and 31.6% in 1991; among Koreans, 18.8% in 1980 and 42.6% in 1991; and among Samoans, 6.5% in 1980 and 60.5% in 1991.

There were 3 fewer arrests for possession of marijuana in 1991 than in 1980 in the State of Hawaii. Arrests in this category accounted for a smaller portion of drug arrests in all racial/ethnic categories in 1991 than in 1980.

Conclusions

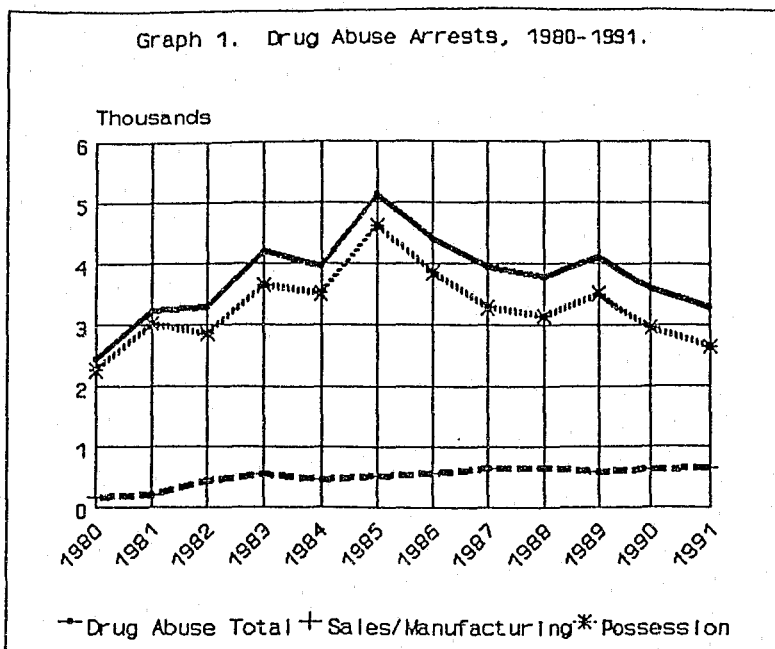
While the data in this report are limited to arrests for rather broad categories of drug abuse violations, there are some interesting

conclusions which can be drawn. Overall, arrests for drug abuse violations have declined the past two years and for five of the last six years. Compared to the national trend in drug arrests, Hawaii's overall increase is low. From 1980 to 1991, the number of drug arrests in the United States increased 47%, compared to 35% in Hawaii.

The trends in the number of drug arrests from 1980 to 1991, including sales/manufacturing and possession subtotals, are revealed in Graph 1.

The distribution of drug arrests is not equal for males and females or across age and racial/ethnic groups. In all but one drug arrest category, males account for over 70% of all arrests. Aside from this general rule, some subtle differences do exist between arrests for males and females. Sales/manufacturing arrests in general, and opium or cocaine and their derivatives in particular, account for higher proportion of arrests of females than males. Arrests of females for possession of marijuana and possession of opium or cocaine and their derivatives were roughly equivalent, while males were more likely to be arrested for possession of marijuana than opium or cocaine and their derivatives.

Fewer juveniles were arrested for drug violations in 1991 than in 1980. This also holds true for those age 18 to 21 and 21 to 24. However, almost twice as many 25 to 34 year olds were arrested in 1991 than in 1980; three and one-half times as many 35 to 44 year olds were arrested in 1991 than 1980; and almost two and one-half times as many 45 to 54 year olds were arrested in 1991 as 1980. Rather than the number of drug arrests being concentrated in a



particular age group, it appears as if arrests are concentrated in a particular age cohort: those who were 18 to 34 in 1980 were 29 to 45 in 1991. Both in 1980 and in 1991, that age cohort was responsible for the greatest number of arrests for drug violations.

Most drug arrests were for possession rather than sales/manufacturing. However, the proportion of these two offense categories to the total number of arrests has changed significantly since 1980. In 1980, 93% of the drug arrests involved possession; in 1991, 80% were for possession. Arrests for sales/manufacturing in 1991 were the highest percentage of total drug abuse violations (20%) since these data have been collected.

Since 1980, Caucasians have accounted for the greatest percentage of total drug arrests. That percentage has been decreasing, however, from 42% of all arrests in 1980 to 35% in 1991. The greatest increases in the percentage of total drug arrests since 1980 have occurred among Blacks (from 3.6% to 5.3%) and

Filipinos (from 8.8% to 12.2%).

Since arrests for possession account for over 80% of all drug arrests, it is no surprise that category of arrests would also represent the greatest percentage of arrests for each racial/ethnic group. There are some interesting differences between groups when specific drug categories are examined independent of sales/manufacturing or possession charges.

Among Caucasians arrested for drug violations, 55% involved marijuana and 39% involved opium or cocaine and their derivatives. For Blacks, the opposite trend was true: 71% involved opium or cocaine and their derivatives and 26% involved marijuana. Japanese were more frequently arrested for opium or cocaine and their derivatives (57%) than marijuana (37%). Drug arrests for Hawaiians/Part Hawaiians were similar to Caucasians: 56% for marijuana and 40% for opium or cocaine and their derivatives.