

15004 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

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Region 6 - DETROIT

INTELLIGENCE OVERVIEW

Based on criminal intelligence received by the Regional Intelligence Unit, ethically produced amphetamines, and generally all ethical preparations, have become more available to users than previously. Their availability has increased at a greater rate than other controlled substances excluding marihuana. In the States of Ohio and Michigan, approximately 65% of arrests made for controlled substance violations, excluding marihuana, involved dangerous drugs. Of those arrests, 10% were for amphetamine violations. According to authorities in both states, the vast majority of those amphetamines seized were legitimately produced.

A second observation to be made is that the majority of those subjects arrested were users and that amphetamine and dangerous drug abuse is much more widespread than are heroin, or other totally illicit drugs. Amphetamines are readily available in small quantities throughout the Region.

Availability of legitimately produced amphetamines in the illicit market is primarily through the excessive prescribing habits of physicians. Abuse of amphetamines is primarily through "fat clinics" run by physicians. The most commonly prescribed amphetamines are equally divided between such products as dexamy1, dexedrine, biphetamine, eskatrol, etc.