

16732 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

DAWN VI: SMSA's and Facilities

SMSA's			
Atlanta, GA	Minneapolis, MN		
Boston, MA	New Orleans, LA		
Buffalo, NY	New York, NY		
Chicago, IL	Oklahoma City, OK		
Cleveland, OH	Philadelphia, PA		
Dallas, TX	Phoenix, AZ		
Denver, CO	Norfolk, VA		
Detroit, MI	San Antonio, TX		
Houston, TX	San Diego, CA		
Indianapolis, IN	San Francisco, CA		
Kansas City, KA MO	Seattle, WA		
Miami, FL	Washington, D.C.		
		<u>Number of Facilities (DAWN VI)</u>	
		Hospital Emergency Room (ER)	778
		Medical Examiner/Coroner (ME)	111
		Crisis Centers	23
		Total Facilities	912

State and local drug abuse authorities and private organizations have used DAWN data or have requested access to it. Generally it is used to assess the drug abuse problem and follow the trends of the changing abuse patterns.

Even though DAWN Phase VI has been modified somewhat in SMSA and facility coverage, the overall program, at the Federal level, still represents one of the most comprehensive drug abuse data gathering indicator networks in size and scope. This system has assisted various government agencies and a number of state, local and private organizations to quantitatively and qualitatively evaluate a general or specific drug abuse problem.

An example of DEA's emphasis on Federal/State cooperation was recently demonstrated in New Hampshire. January 6, 1978, marked the beginning of a new era for DAWN when Governor Meldrim Thomson, Jr. of New Hampshire authorized the implementation of a statewide drug abuse data gathering program patterned after the DAWN System. This action is significant as it represents the forerunner of a larger DEA program to encourage other states to develop Mini-DAWN systems.

The United States Air Force Drug and Alcohol Branch, Social Actions Division, Human Resources Development, Headquarters, Pentagon has incorporated DAWN data into a drug abuse indicator evaluation system. This evaluation will be distributed to all major commands so that base commanders can initiate various types of countermeasures depending upon the level of drug abuse in their areas.

DAWN data was used extensively in preparing the barbiturate study requested by the Office of Drug Abuse Planning and by the Food and Drug Administration in preparation for the amphetamine hearings conducted in December, 1977.

Project DAWN can enable U.S. authorities to evaluate drug abuse problems as seen by medical, social and governmental indicators. It can provide system-wide and regional profiles for types of drug abuse and the abusers themselves. It can enable planners to prepare for the future, as well as providing action agencies the means to detect and react to developing problems.

Analyses of this sort can allow for evaluation of the impact of alternative strategies in specific communities. The availability of comparable information for more than one community will assist our efforts to understand causal relationships and thus permit more accurate programmatic emphasis and direction of resources.

It is important to note that the DAWN data is interpretive and should not be used by itself. DEA and NIDA have attempted to use it in conjunction with the other information available from a variety of sources, including state and local laboratory reports, other epidemiology studies and actual first-hand investigations. The system is used as a means to assist the officials and others concerned with the problems of drug abuse to identify the parameters of the drug abuse phenomenon.

DAWN represents a continuing and dynamic effort that will be constantly reviewed and modified to obtain more precise information upon which regulatory decisions can be based.

Additional Information on DAWN

Requests for additional information or specific data should be directed to:

Mr. Joseph B. Murphy
Chief, Information Systems Section
Office of Compliance & Regulatory Affairs
Drug Enforcement Administration
Washington, D.C. 20537