

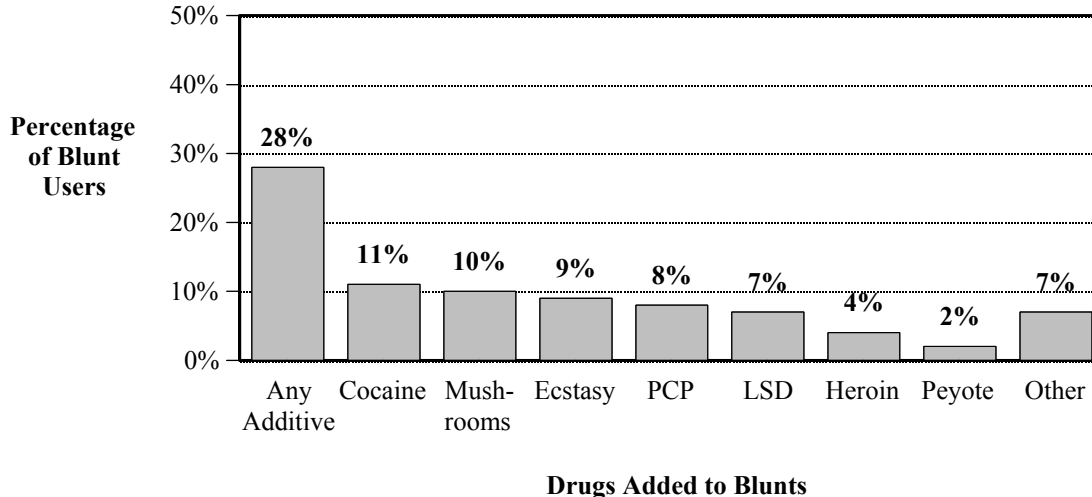
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

The Blunt Truth: Massachusetts Students Smoke More Than Marijuana In Their Cigars

Blunts are used as a delivery device for a variety of drugs and not just marijuana, according to a survey of more than 5,000 7th to 12th grade students in Massachusetts. One in five students have used blunts—hollowed-out cigars typically used to smoke marijuana—at least once in their lives (data not shown). Over a quarter of the blunt users (28%) reported adding at least one additional substance to cigars other than marijuana. Cocaine and mushrooms were the most popular additives, followed by ecstasy, PCP, and LSD. In fact, the authors conclude that, “our results suggest that virtually any recreational drug available will be added to blunts by at least some youth, even if smoking it does not necessarily enhance the effect of the drug” (p. 1385). They recommend that “future studies should explore whether adding drugs to blunts is a frequent or infrequent occurrence and what health consequences flow from smoking various drugs in this way” (p. 1385).

Percentage of Massachusetts 7th to 12th Grade Blunt Users Who Have Added Drugs Other Than Marijuana to Their Blunts, 2001
(N = 1,047)



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Soldz, S., Huyser, D.J., and Dorsey E., “The Cigar as a Drug Delivery Device: Youth Use of Blunts,” *Addiction* 98(10):1379-1386, 2003. For more information, contact Stephen Soldz at ssoldz@bgsp.edu.

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