Examination of Drug Related Data: Economic Factors and Potential Causes in Changes

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Slowdown

- Hurricanes Emily (2005)
- Tropical Storm Lily (2001)

- Global Events
  - Economic slowdown
  - Terrorist Event (2001)
Why Data?

- Drives decisions
- Informs Policies
- Monitor, Track & Evaluate
- Proactive
Data → Information → Decisions
Outline

- Background
- Economic situation
- Arrests & Conviction Data
- Types of Offences Data
- Recommendations
- Brief Demonstration of GIS
Data: 1998-2008

- GRENDAIN Statistical Indicators
  - Drug arrests
  - Types of offenses
  - Admission to Treatment units/facilities

- CIA Factbook

- Center of Statistics

- International Monetary Fund
References for Terms

- GDP – A measure of a country’s overall performance within the country
  - Purchasing Power
  - Income
  - Employment

- Inflation – measure of the rise in the level of prices of goods and services
  - How far your money will go
References (con’t)

- Foreign Investment
  - External Resources creating jobs

- Import of Goods
  - Dependence on external sources
Economy

- Labor Force (est. 2003)
  - Agriculture 5.4%
    - Bananas, citrus, avocado, root crops, sugar cane, maize, vegetables, cocoa, nutmeg
  - Industry 18%
    - Food & beverage, textiles, light assembly operations, construction
  - Services 76.6%
    - Tourism, education

Taken from www.cia.gov
Economy

- Unemployment rate: 12.5% (est. 2000)
- Population below poverty: 32% (est. 2000)
- Transnational
  - Small scale cannabis cultivation
  - Lesser transshipment point for marijuana and cocaine

- Taken from www.cia.gov
Imports

- Food
- Manufactured goods
- Machinery
- Chemicals
- Fuels
In General

- Developing a workforce to laborers
- Dependent on external materials
- High unemployment
- High poverty
Statistical Indicators by Time
Economic Trends of Drug Convictions by Age
Trends 15 – 19 year olds

- Trend
  - Decrease in foreign investment

- Interpretation
  - Unskilled
  - Minimal qualifications
  - Trying to enter into a competitive job market
Trends: 20 – 24 & 25 - 29

- Trend
  - Decrease in import of goods

- Interpretation
  - Experimental and exploration ages
  - Limited external stimuli
Trends: 35 – 39

- Trend
  - Decrease in GDP

- Interpretation
  - Job loss due to economic conditions
Trends: 40+

- Trend
  - Increase in foreign investment
  - Increase in GDP
  - Increase in GDP growth

- Interpretation
  - Forced out of the labor market
  - Employers want younger workers
Trends in Type of Offense
Trends Possession of Marijuana

- **Trend**
  - Increase in foreign investment
  - Increase GDP
  - Decrease import of goods

- **Implications**
  - More disposable income
Trends in Trafficking

- Trends
  - Increase in GDP
  - Increase in foreign investment
  - Decrease import of goods

- Implications
  - Reflects disposable income
  - Policing works (when increase in import of goods)
Trends in Cultivation of Marijuana

- Trend
  - Increase in inflation

- Implications
  - Use of fertile land
  - Raw materials and food are being imported
  - Source of revenue
Trends in Intent to Supply

- Trend
  - Decrease import of goods
  - Increase GDP growth

- Implications
  - More disposable income
Trends in Cocaine Possession

- Trends
  - Decrease import of goods

- Implications
  - Trafficking increases
Trends

- Drug distribution and use is related to the economy
- All age groups reflect different economic factors
- Reflects workforce training
Limitation

- Does not reflect consumer behavior
- Examination of trends using external sources of data
Grenada is at risk to drugs

- High poverty level
- High unemployment rate
- Geographic location
- Imposing of taxes
- No big industry
What is not Known

- The impact of drugs on society
- Drug use and abuse information
- Impact of alcohol
- In depth examination of who, what, when, where and why
- Effect of cultural acceptance
What’s Next?

- Expand the data that are collected and reported
- Ask: what do we want to know?
- Include data on:
  - Employment/unemployment
  - Enrollment of vocational training
  - Secondary school dropout
  - Accidents involving drugs (i.e. automobile)
- Use emerging technology to improve tracking
Emerging Technology

- Free Geographic Information System (GIS) tools for tracking and monitoring
- Google.maps.com
- Many-eyes.com
Benefits

- Geographically represent locations of various activity
- Impact of policy & programs
- Include spatial context
Questions?