



Fact Sheet:



Facts and Figures On Alcohol and Other Drugs

- Alcohol is a drug.
- Alcohol and other drug abuse is a major factor in chronic disease, infectious disease, hospital emergency room visits, newborn health problems, violence, and auto fatalities.
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, caused by drinking during pregnancy, is the NUMBER ONE cause of preventable developmental disability and birth defects in the United States.

Substance Use Prevalence

In 2004, it was estimated that of all Californians aged 12 years and older:

- 18.5 million persons used alcohol in the past month;
- 7.5 million persons were binge drinkers (drinking five or more drinks on one occasion during the past month);
- 3.3 million persons used illicit drugs in the past month.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, *State Estimates of Substance Use, 2003-2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health*

Economic Impact

In California, the estimated 2005 cost to society of alcohol and other drug abuse

was over \$44 billion. This estimate takes into consideration loss of productivity, health care costs, prevention and treatment costs, criminal justice costs, and losses due to crime.

- Drug Abuse - \$22.1 billion
- Alcohol Abuse - \$22.5 billion

Sources: Office of National Drug Control Policy, *The Economic Costs of Drug Abuse in the U.S., 1992-2002*. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, *Economic Costs of Alcohol Abuse in the US, December 2000*. State of California, Department of Finance, *California Population Estimates for Cities, Counties, and State, 2005*

Deaths

- Alcohol and other drug use killed approximately 6,209 Californians in 2002 and 2003.
 - Alcohol-related deaths in 2002 were 2,604
 - Drug-related deaths in 2003 were 3,605

Source: California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, 2005

Traffic Accidents

- In 2004, there were 22,198 traffic collisions that involved alcohol.
 - 1,326 fatalities
 - 20,872 injuries

Source: California Highway Patrol, *2004 Annual Report of Fatal and Injury Motor Vehicle Traffic Collisions*

Arrests

In 2004, 740,451 Californians were arrested on alcohol- or drug-related charges.

- Alcohol-related arrests were 308,682
- Drug-related arrests were 431,769

Source: California Department of Justice Data Center, 2006

Treatment Demographics

In SFY 2004-2005, there were 226,712 admissions to programs in California receiving federal or state funds, or licensed by the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs to operate a narcotic replacement treatment program.

PRIMARY SUBSTANCE USED	
Heroin	20.1%
Methamphetamine	30.9%
Alcohol	21.0%
Marijuana/Hashish	12.6%
Cocaine/Crack	11.3%
Other	4.0%

Source: CA Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, SFY 2004-2005 CADDs data

Heroin is over-represented as the primary drug used due to California Alcohol and Drug Data System (CADDs) reporting requirements. Both private and publicly funded providers that dispense methadone must report to CADDs. However, only publicly funded providers must report treatment for other drug types.

TREATMENT POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

	<u>Treatment Population</u>	<u>CA Population</u>
Gender		
Male	64.3%	49.8%
Female	35.7%	50.2%
Race		
White	51.2%	59.5%
African American	16.1%	6.7%
Am Ind and Alaskan Nat	3.7%	1.0%
Asian/PI	3.0%	11.3%
Other	2.4%	21.5%
Ethnicity		
Hispanic	45.3%	32.4%
Not Hispanic	54.7%	67.6%