

2024 Annual Meeting of The Bermuda Drug Information Network

DNDC's SURVEY UPDATES

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BUEI
Tradewinds Auditorium
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IMPORTANCE OF SURVEYS

- ❖ **Provide** another category of data, collected by the BerDIN.
- ❖ **Organised** either:
 - ***Periodically***: monitor drug situation and drug use among households (general population surveys), youths (school-based surveys), etc.
Time series becomes available when surveys are repeated.
 - ***Ad hoc***: used for specific groups of population who are more vulnerable to the effects of drug use (juveniles, homeless, etc.) or for special topics like drug-related infectious diseases or treatment services.
- ❖ **Describe** a situation in the population at a given point in time (cross-sectional/ snapshot).
- ❖ **Funded** by DNDC's Research Unit budget.
- ❖ **Spearhead** by DNDC's Research Unit staff.
- ❖ **Collaborate** with other departments/ministries, e.g., corrections, education, etc.
- ❖ **Use** international standardised protocols and methodologies/best-practice approaches.



SURVEYS SINCE LAST MEETING

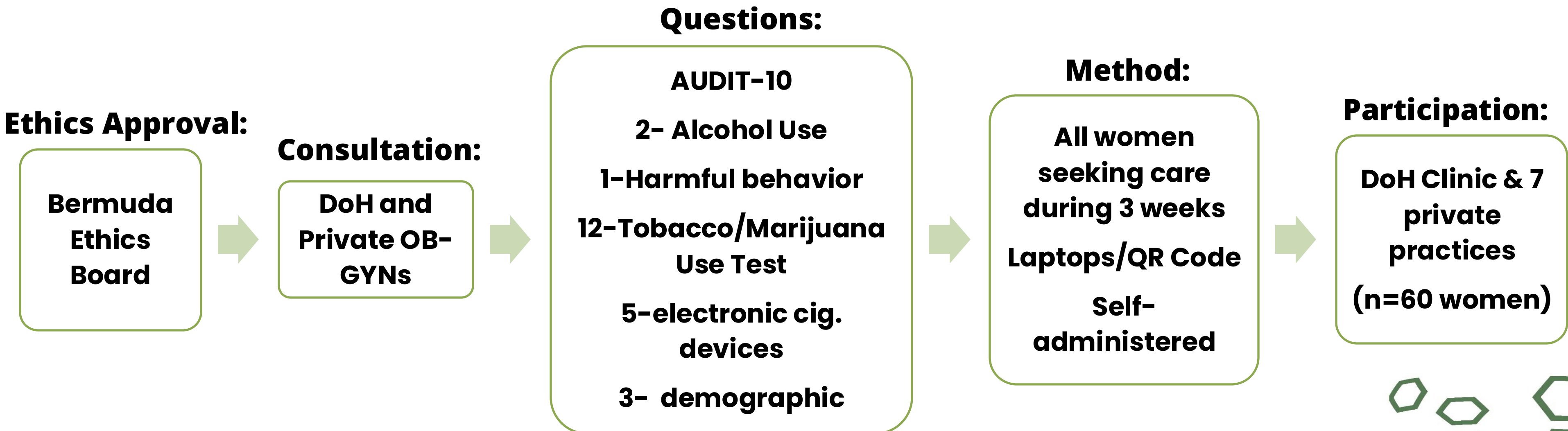
SURVEY	TYPE	DATE
Survey of Pregnant Women (AUDIT & Tobacco and Marijuana Use Among Pregnant Women Presenting for Prenatal Care)	Periodic	September, 2025
National Household Survey in Bermuda	Periodic	November, 2025
Stakeholder Feedback Survey	Annual	June (MT) December (WTC) March (RLH)
Omnibus Survey	Every Other year	August
Treatment Demand Indicators Survey	On-going	Year Round
Consumer Experience Surveys (MT, WTC & RLH)	Bi-Annual	May & November
Employee Climate Survey	Annual	July



SURVEY OF PREGNANT WOMEN

PURPOSE

- to continue monitoring the use of ATODs; assess changing trends, if any; and gather the latest information on ATOD use to support awareness efforts.



SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Pregnant Women's Alcohol Use

- › **21.7%** of women reported drinking alcohol monthly or less.
- › **68.3%** drink 1–2 alcoholic beverages on a typical day.
- › **5%** indicated that they or someone else had been injured due to their drinking (not within the last month).
- › **15%** reported drinking after becoming pregnant; 10 women did not stop drinking once pregnant.
- › **18.4%** reported having six or more drinks in one occasion, indicating potential hazardous or binge drinking.
- › **11.7%** had been a passenger in a car with a driver who had been drinking; 0% reported doing so on a bike.

SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Interpretation of the AUDIT Scores

Criteria	Respondents	
	n	%
Overall AUDIT Score		
Low Risk	Q1 – Q10 (score of 0 to 7)	58 96.7
High Risk	Q1 – Q10 (score of 8 or more)	2 3.3
Hazardous Consumption Level	Q2 – Q3 (score of 1 or more)	33 55.0
Alcohol Dependence	Q4 – Q6 (score of 1 or more)	5 8.3
Alcohol-Related Harm	Q7 – Q10 (score of 1 or more)	8 13.3
Past Alcohol Problem	Q9 - Q10 (score of 1 or more)	5 8.3

- Overall, 3.3% indicated hazardous/harmful alcohol use and possible alcohol dependence.
- 55% reported hazardous level of alcohol consumption.
- 8.3% indicated presence of alcohol dependence.
- 13.3% indicated experiencing alcohol-related harm.
- 8.3% reported past drinking problems.

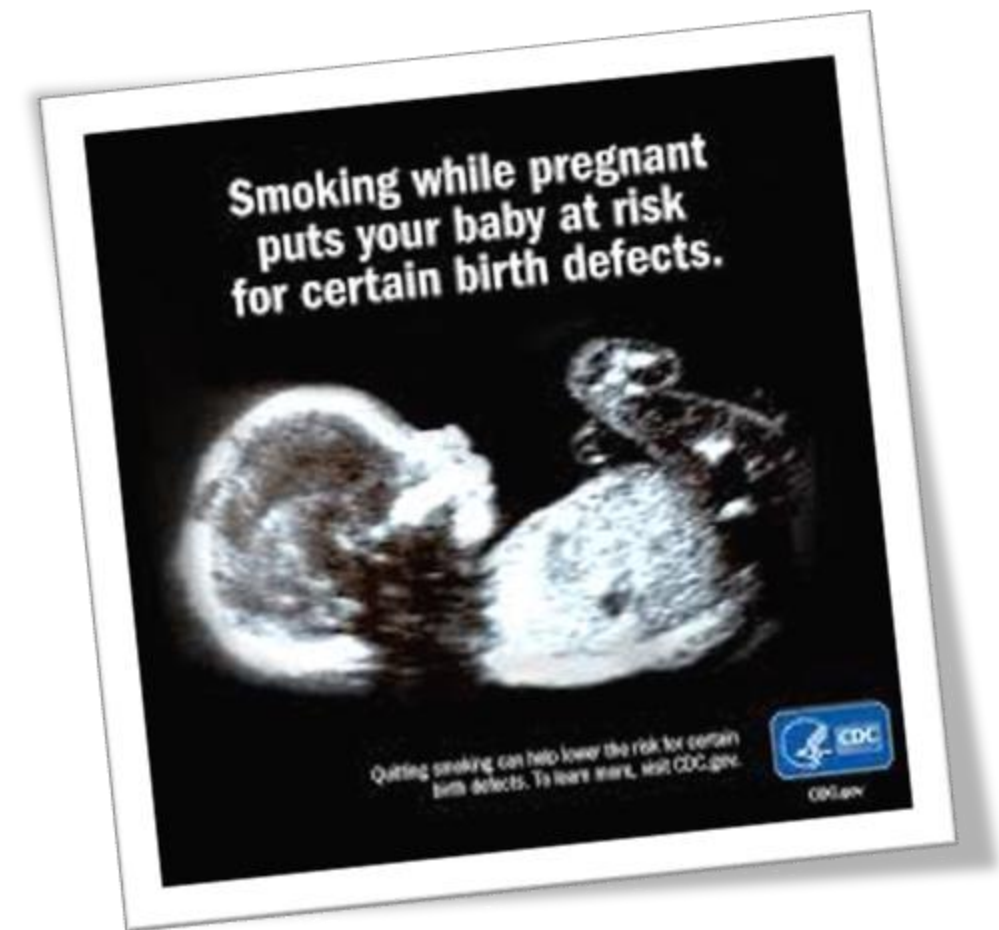
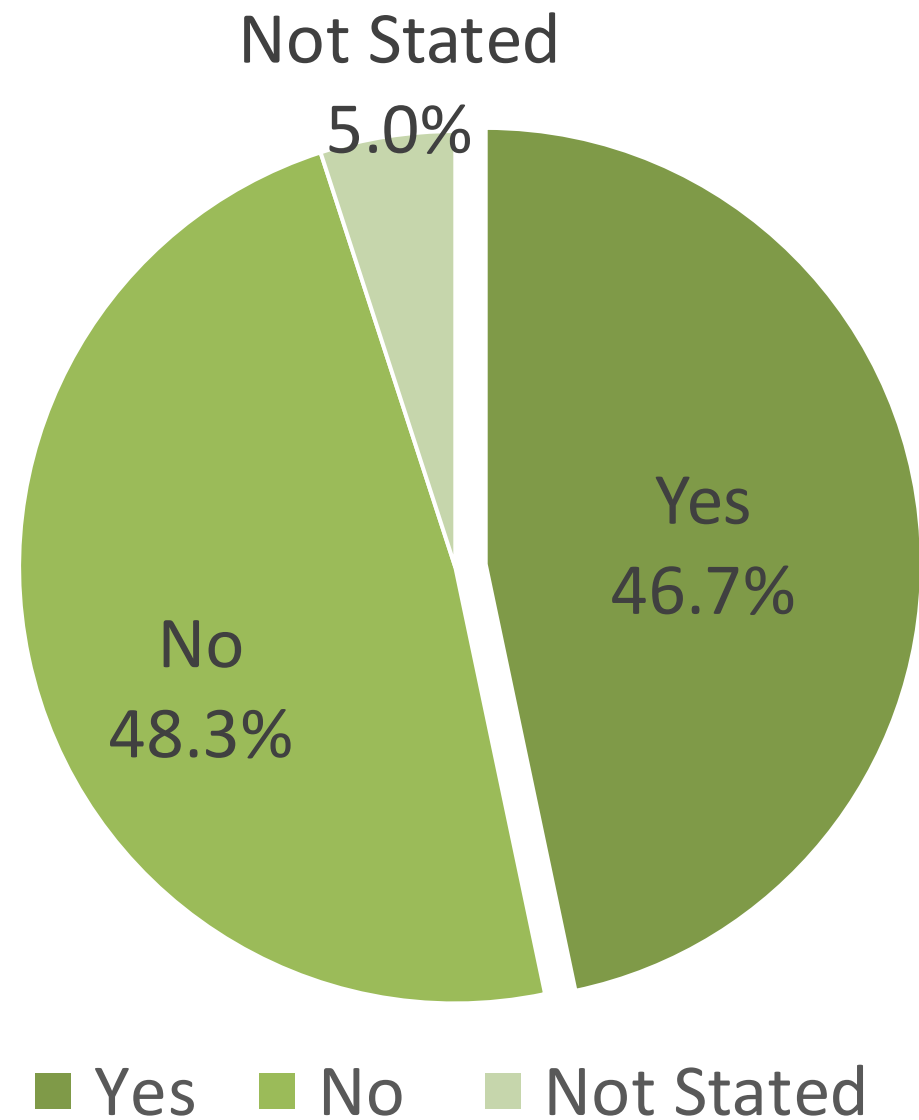
SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Smoking Behaviors Among Pregnant Women

- › **10%** were annual cigarette smokers, while **23.3%** used marijuana annually.
- › **18.3%** quit cigarette smoking because they became pregnant.
- › **46.7%** reported that a healthcare professional discussed the harmful effects of smoking during pregnancy.
- › **91.7%** were aware of the harmful effects of smoking while pregnant.
- › **1.7%** reported craving a cigarette first thing in the morning.
- › **95%** believed smoking cigarettes is definitely harmful to one's health.
- › Only **1.7%** of women who quit smoking intended to resume smoking in the short term; **0%** planned to resume in the long term.
- › **95%** stated that quitting smoking would be difficult once started.

SURVEY OF PREGNANT WOMEN

Provided with Information about the harmful effects of smoking while pregnant



SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS



**LET'S QUIT
SMOKING
AND VAPING
AND BREATHE
EASIER
TOGETHER!**

Free support is also available after your baby is born, even if you've connected before.



**QUIT SMOKING AND VAPING
TODAY TO HAVE A HEALTHIER
FUTURE WITH YOUR BABY.**

Free help is available without stigma or judgment.



References to tobacco in this document refer to commercial tobacco use, not the sacred and traditional tobacco used by Indigenous communities.



Vaping Among Pregnant Women

- › **16.7%** of women (n=10) reported ever using an electronic vaping device (e-cigarette, electronic nicotine product, or hookah).
- › In the **three months before pregnancy**, an average of **8.3%** of women used e-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine products, ranging from **once per week or less to 2–6 days per week**.





SURVEY OF PREGNANT WOMEN


DNDC will continue monitoring this **specific sub-demographic** to ensure the availability of **culturally relevant data** for policymakers.

Suggestions to address substance use during pregnancy:

- **Public health campaigns** emphasizing that *no amount of alcohol is safe* during pregnancy;
- **Targeted outreach** to women of childbearing age—especially first-time mothers—to prevent initiation.
- **Education and awareness** of the associated risk of using alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana during pregnancy as a part of childbirth classes, including risks associated with secondhand smoke exposure.
- Establish **referral pathways** to support services for women who report use;
- Include **vaping education** in prenatal and preconception health programs.



NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

- **Purpose:** Serves as the provision of accurate and reliable national-level data to monitor the drug situation in Bermuda.
 - **Survey Period:** October 28th – November 28th 2025
 - **Questionnaire:** 147 Questions
 - **Sample:** 1,200 adults aged 16 years and older residing in Bermuda
 - **Response rate:** 100%
 - **Topics covered:** consumption of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs as well as health and risk behaviors
- 

QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

APPENDIX 5: SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

CONTROL QUESTIONS

Interviewer, please enter the information in response to the following two questions before proceeding with the interview.

* 1. HOUSEHOLD ASSESSMENT NUMBER

* 2. INTERVIEWER'S NAME

DEMOGRAPHICS

Interviewer, please enter the information in response to the following two questions before proceeding with the interview.

* 3. Are you the head of household?

Yes No Not Stated

* 4. Are you male or female?

Male Female Not Stated

* 5. What is your age?

* 6. What is your race?

- Black or African
 White
 Portuguese
 Asian
 Mixed (Black & White, Black & Other, White & Other)
 Not Stated
 Other (Please specify)

* 7. What is your current status? Are you...

- Bermudian
 Non-Bermudian: Permanent Resident Certificate Holder

Demographic Characteristics

Risk of Harm

Access to Drugs

Prevalence-of-Use

Cigarettes

Alcohol

Cocaine

Vaping

Inhalants

Illegal Drugs

Heroin

Crack

Marijuana

Opium

Hallucinogens

Hash

Prescription Cannabinoids

Ecstasy

Tranquillisers & Stimulants without medical prescription

Drug Market

Health

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS



Sample Count:726

30.3%



69.8%



As of November 17th, 2025

Between the ages of 60–69

Black

Completed Highschool

Retired

Country of Birth:

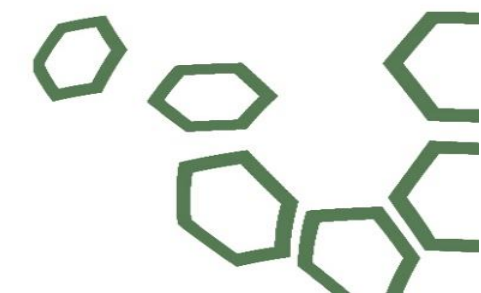


93.1%

BDA

OTHER

6.9%



ACCESS TO DRUGS

Easy to Access(%)

Alcohol
100.0



Marijuana
45.1



Ecstasy/Heroin
9.9

Difficult to Access(%)

Cocaine/Crack
Cocaine
22.0



Ecstasy/Heroin
20.9



Marijuana
11.0

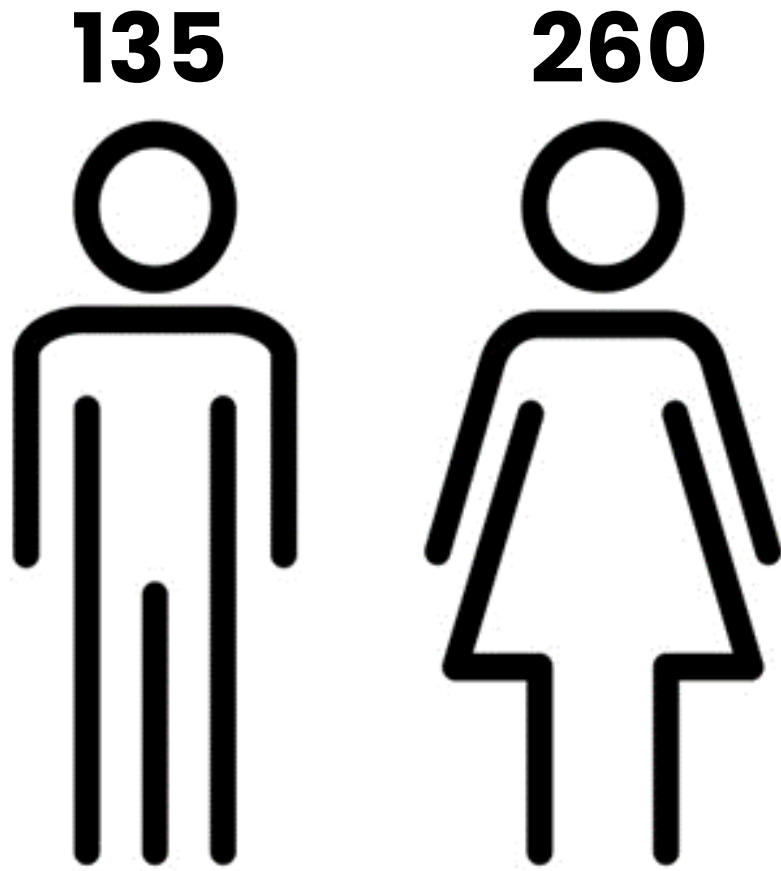
**Ease of Access to
Substances (%)**



CIGARETTE USE



Ever Used Cigarettes (Yes)=395



42.9%

Current Use (past 30 days)

40.0%

2-3 packs per month

25.0%

Age of initiation: Adolescent Smoking

90.1%

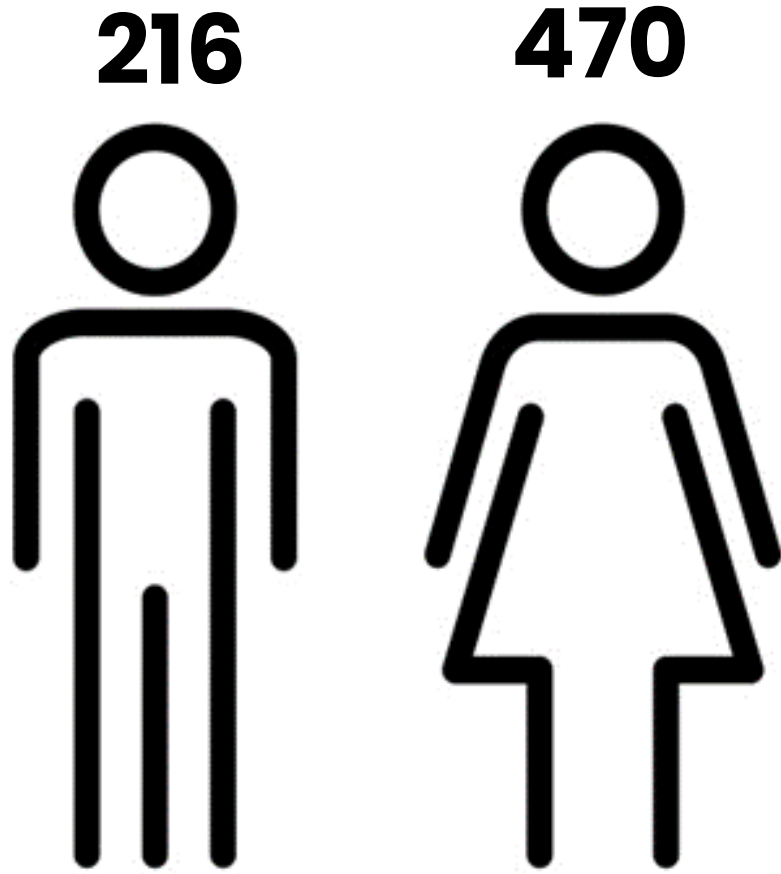
Risk of Harm: Smoking Cigarettes often (High risk)



ALCOHOL USE



Ever Used Alcohol (Yes)=686



As of November 17th, 2025

68.0%

Current Use (past 30 days)

41.2%

Medium alcohol content-
Some days a week

55.0%

Ridden in car driven by
someone who had been
drinking

12.2%

Ridden on a bike by someone
who had been drinking

Friends or family
members who get
drunk

61.3%

Quantity of Alcohol
drink in typical week:
Wine

46.8%

Underage Drinking
Trend

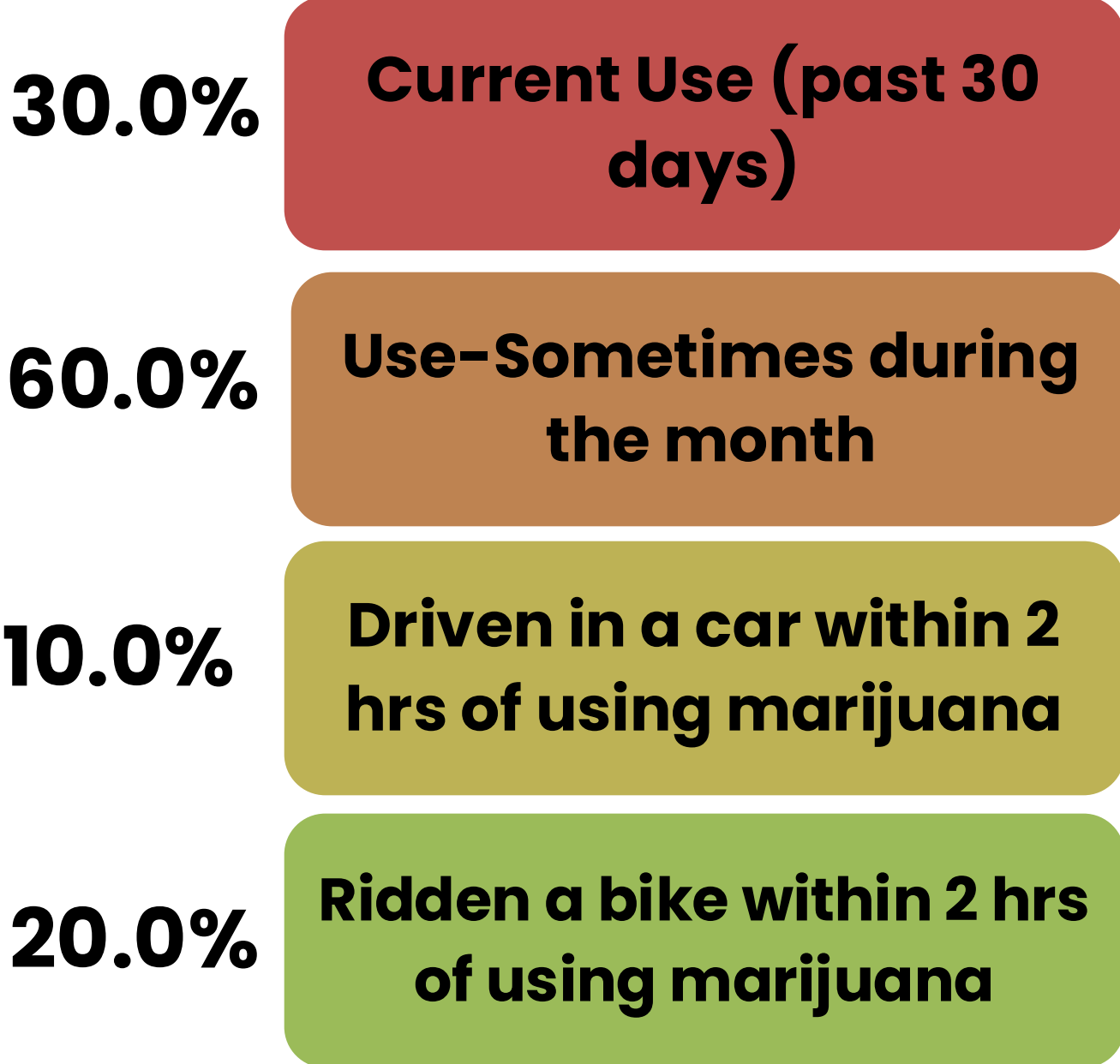
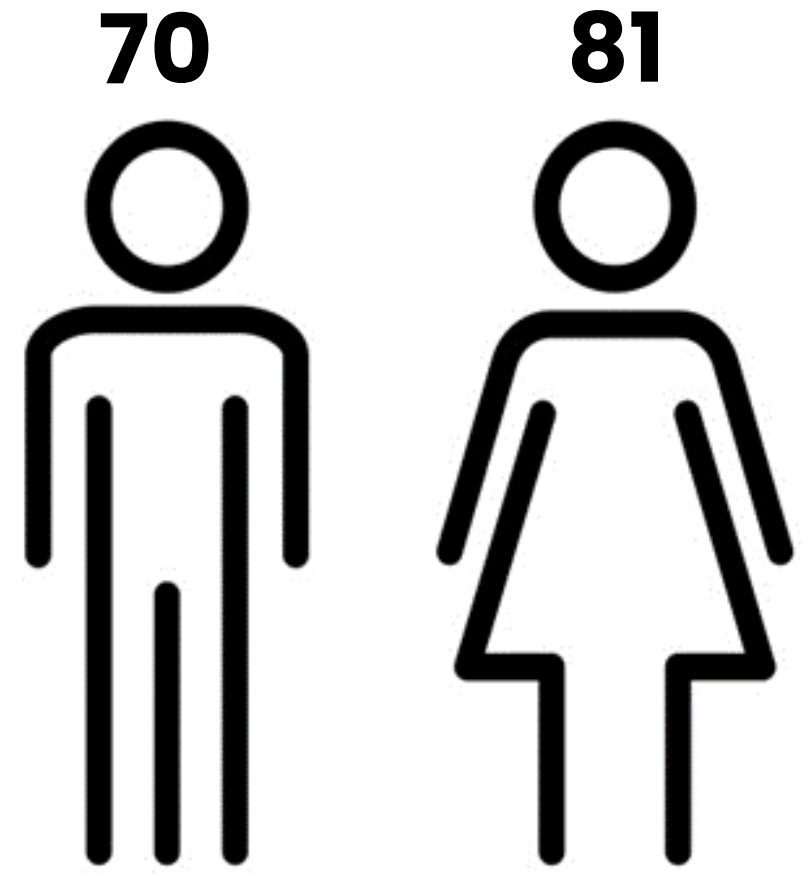
23.0%



MARIJUANA USE



Ever Used Marijuana (Yes)=151

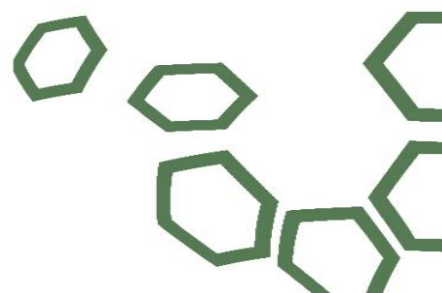


Friends or family members who take illegal drugs (i.e. marijuana/cocaine)

20.0%

Marijuana expenditure (typical week)

**Btw \$26 and \$50
66.7%**



OTHER DRUG USE



Vaping

- Ever Vaped: 18.8%
- First time Vaped: More than a year ago- 83.3%
- No current use
- Type of mist/vapor inhaled: Nicotine-50.0%



Cocaine

- Ever Used Cocaine: 20.3%
- First time used: More than a year ago- 92.3%
- Current Use reported



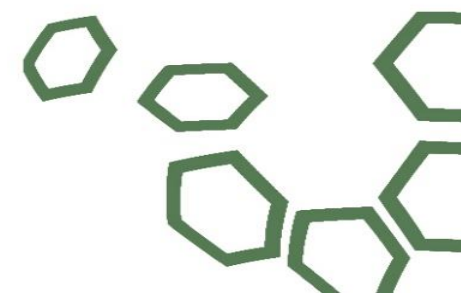
Other Drugs

- Crack Ever Used: 9.4%
- Heroin Ever Used: 3.1%
- Hallucinogens Ever Used: 9.4%
- Ecstasy Ever Used: 7.8%



Other Data


- Past 12 months seen a health professional because of alcohol use, drug use, emotional problems or behavioral problems (4.4%)
- Problem with own drug/alcohol use (9.0%)
- Problem with own mental health problem (13.6%)





THANK YOU!

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 Department for National Drug Control



Contact us

