

GENDER MATTERS

from the New Hampshire Women's Foundation

A Look at Gender Statistics from New Hampshire and Beyond
Compiled by the New Hampshire Women's Foundation

SPRING 2017 REPORT

The Impact of Substance Use on Women and Girls in NH

NATIONAL ILLICIT DRUG USE

27M
(10.2% NATIONALLY)

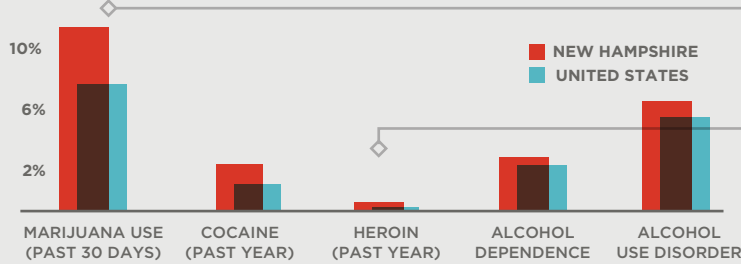
In 2014, an estimated 27 million Americans aged 12 or older — 10.2% of the population — had used an illicit drug in the past month.¹

10.5M
(7.7% OF WOMEN)

In 2014, an estimated 10.5 million American women aged 12 or older — 7.7% of the population — had used an illicit drug in the past month.^{*1}

THE PREVALENCE OF SUBSTANCE USE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

FIG 1. USE OF VARIOUS SUBSTANCES & ALCOHOL DISORDERS (2014-2015 SURVEY)



Marijuana use was most prevalent with 12% of New Hampshire residents over 12 having used the substance in the past month.

New Hampshire residents were almost 1.5 times as likely to use marijuana as the nation at large.

A small share of the state's residents over 12 have used heroin in the past year (.6%).

2X

However, New Hampshire residents are almost twice as likely to use heroin as the average person in the United States.

New Hampshire has higher rates of substance use among those ages 12 and above than the national average across almost all measures.



Had Alcohol in Last 30 Days



Binge Drank (5 or more drinks in one day)

SUBSTANCE USE AND GENDER IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Gender can be an important factor in substance use because women often use drugs differently, respond to drugs differently, and have to consider the impact on pregnancy and family care. For this reason, the data below looks at women during prime childbearing years.²

FIG 2. GRADES 9-12

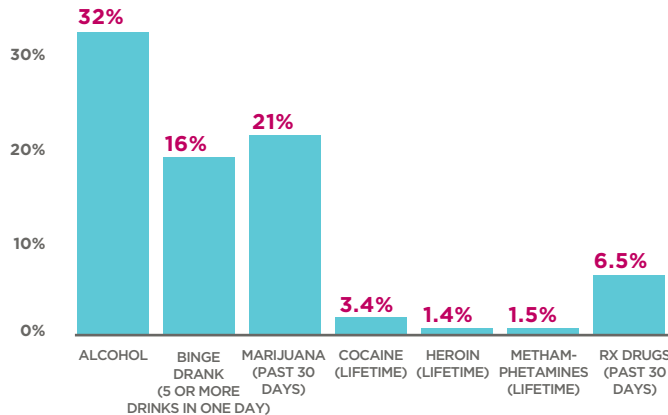
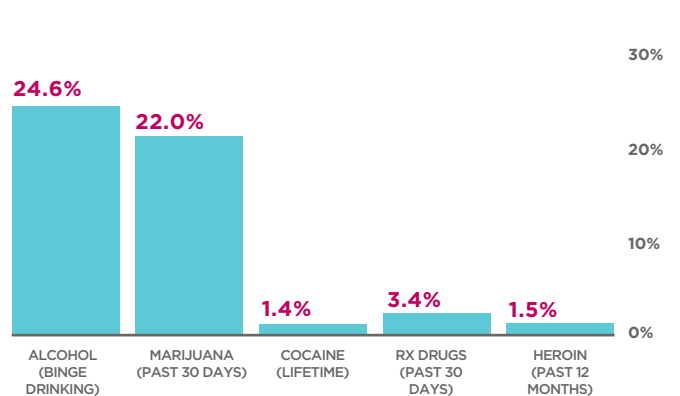


FIG 3. AGES 18-30



COST AND IMPACT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE ON FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

THE COSTS OF SUBSTANCE USE NATIONALLY

\$223.5B
LOST NATIONALLY

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

The costs of substance use are well known. In 2012 the cost of excessive alcohol consumption in the United States was \$223.5 billion, of which almost 75% was due to associated reductions in workplace productivity.³

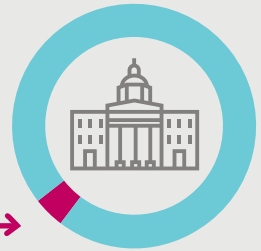
\$193B
LOST NATIONALLY

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF ILLICIT DRUG USE

In 2012, the Department of Justice released a report noting that the economic impact of illicit drug use was \$193 billion in 2007, of which slightly more than 60% was due to losses in workforce productivity.⁴

THE COSTS OF SUBSTANCE USE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE⁵

\$2.3B WHICH EQUALS **\$1,780** OR NEARLY **3%**
PER NH RESIDENT PER YEAR OF NH'S GDP



INCREASE IN BABIES BORN WITH OPIOID WITHDRAWL

FAMILY CONSEQUENCES

Of particular concern to families and communities is the cost associated with infants born with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), a result of maternal use of illicit substances. Alongside the growth in the use of opioids has come five-fold increase, nationally, in newborns suffering from opioid withdrawal. With the increase in opioid use in New Hampshire, it is assumed there is a similar impact at the state level.

This can have huge impacts on families and public programs. The average cost of a hospital stay for a newborn with NAS (estimated at almost \$67,000) is 20 times higher than for a newborn without NAS.⁶

COST OF A REGULAR NEWBORN

COST OF A NEWBORN BORN WITH NAS



IMPACT ON NEW HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

As reported by New Hampshire Division of Children, Youth and Families

+44%

A 44% increase in cases involved substance abuse in 2015

+83%

The number of drug addicted babies rose from 235 in 2013 to 430 in 2015

2X

The number of children removed from homes due to parental drug use doubled to 400 in 2016 from 200 cases in 2015.⁷

³The term "illicit" refers to the use of illegal drugs, including marijuana according to federal law, and misuse of prescription medications.

⁴Estimates of Numbers of Users - (NHCPPS analysis of YRBS data and population from the Office of Energy and Planning).

⁵ SAMHSA, 2014

⁶ The data for females in grades 9-12 comes from analyses conducted by the Center for Excellence on the Youth Risk Behavioral Survey for 2015. Data for females between the ages of 18-30 come from analyses conducted by the Center for Excellence on the New Hampshire young adult survey.

³ Ellen E. Bouchery, et al, Economic Costs of Excessive Alcohol Consumption

⁴ National Drug Intelligence Center, The Economic Impact of Illicit Drug

⁵ Recent New Futures report conducted by PolCon

⁶ Patrick, Stephen et. Al., Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Associated Health Care Expenditures United States, Use on American Society 2000-2009. *Jama*. 2012;307(18); and

Stephens Patrick et. Al., Increasing Incidence and Geographic Distribution of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: United States 2009 to 2012. *Journal of Perinatology*. 2015; 35.

⁷ N.H. Department of Health and Human Services



new hampshire
WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

We promote opportunity & equality for women & girls in New Hampshire through research, education, philanthropy & advocacy.

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Gender Matter is supported by:

Eastern Bank

Additional support provided by

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