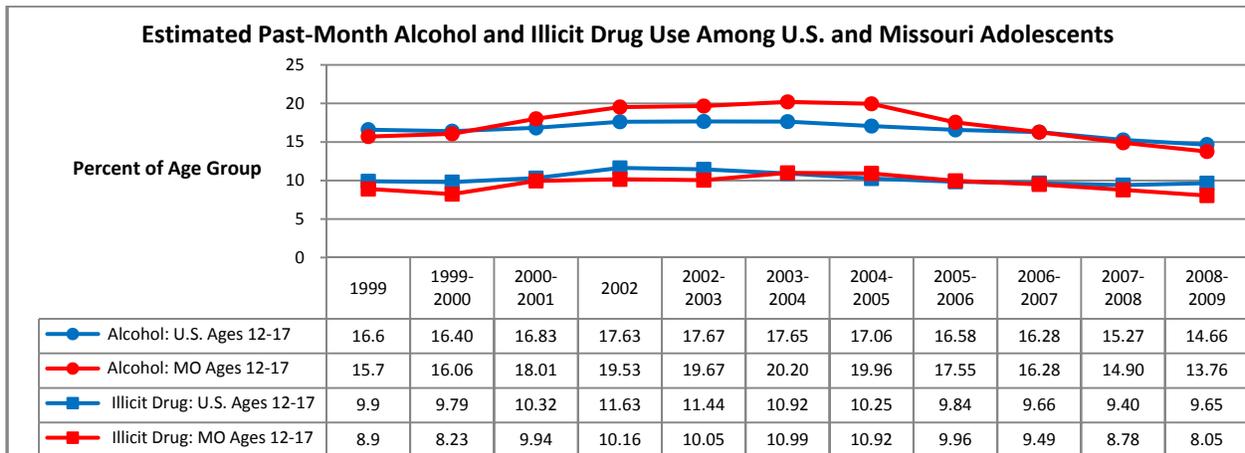


# HIGHLIGHTS

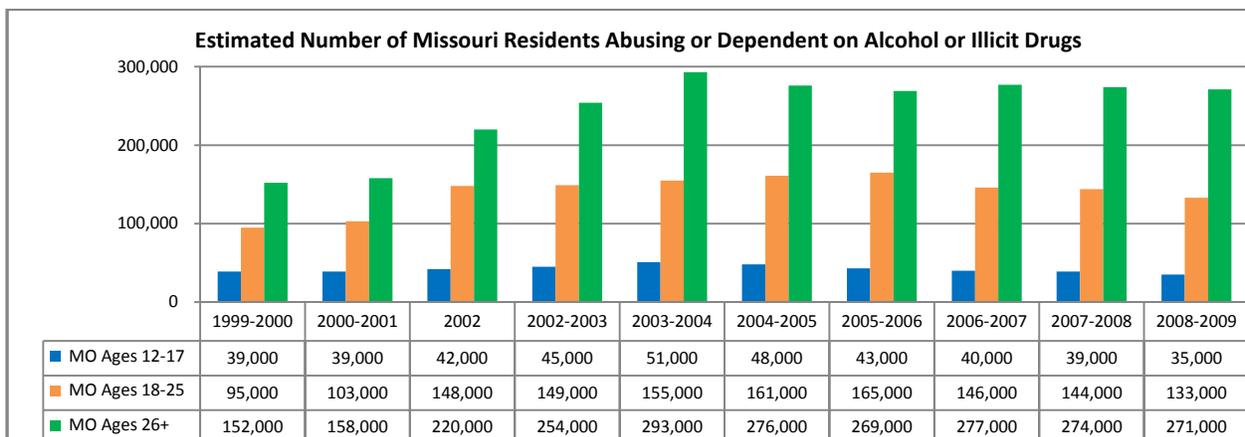
## PREVALENCE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

While illicit drug use rates are beginning to rise in the United States, drug use among Missouri adolescents continues to decline. Using two years of combined data, the latest report from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health estimates that 8.35% of adolescents and adults in the U.S. – and 7.56% of those in Missouri – currently use an illicit drug. However, among Missouri adolescents 12-17 years of age, illicit drug use has declined to the lowest rate reported in the 10-year history of the state estimates. National rates for past-month alcohol use also edged up in 2008/2009, but decreased in Missouri for all age groups. Current alcohol use among Missouri adolescents 12-17 years of age dropped to an estimated 13.76% – the lowest rate reported for Missouri adolescents in the 10-year history of the survey’s state estimates. Among young adults 18-25 years of age, Missouri’s drinking rate declined to an estimated 60.99% and dipped slightly below the national rate of 61.51% for that age group for the first time.



Data Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

The survey estimates that 439,000 Missouri residents have an alcohol or illicit drug dependency or abuse problem. They consist of 35,000 adolescents, 133,000 young adults, and 271,000 adults older than age 25. An estimated 316,000 have a problem with alcohol, 66,000 with illicit drugs, and 57,000 with both alcohol and illicit drugs.



Data Source: SAMHSA, National Survey on Drug Use and Health.