

INTRODUCTION

The *Status Report on Missouri's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Problems* is issued annually by the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADA). The purpose of this document is to support research, education, policy-making, planning, and evaluation activities. As a reference tool, the report provides consistent sets of year-to-year data on alcohol and drug usage rates and reported events that result from substance abuse. A long-standing component of the *Status Report* is summary data on clinical admissions in substance abuse treatment programs.

Alcohol and drug abuse is a complex cluster of medical, mental, and behavioral dysfunctions that deserve a strong public response. Some of society's most intractable problems are often rooted in substance abuse. Chronic alcohol and drug use can lead to poor socialization, lack of personal responsibility, under-education, lack of productivity, economic distress, and addiction. Impairment resulting from acute alcohol and drug use is often cited as the cause of emergency room episodes, home and workplace accidents, traffic crashes, and interpersonal conflict. Substance abuse impacts the health of the user and fetal development. Many of these problems and conditions—as well as property crime and violent crime—could be greatly diminished if alcohol and drug use rates could be substantially reduced. The *Status Report* tracks data on these rates and on several substance abuse indicators. Some indicators are events resulting directly from alcohol and drug abuse, and others are underlying conditions that encourage or are correlated with substance abuse. These data are summarized and discussed later in Section A and quantified for statewide Missouri in trend tables and charts presented in Section C. Three-year tables for statewide Missouri, the ADA Planning Regions and Service Areas, and Missouri's 115 counties are located in Section E.

Alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use rates are presented in tables in Section B. Data are derived from national and state surveys and surveillance systems. They include the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), the Monitoring the Future Survey, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, the Missouri Student Survey, and the Missouri College Health Behavior Survey. These surveys are discussed in more detail later in Section A.

Substance abuse treatment and intervention services administered by ADA are supported with federal and state funding and comprise a large portion of all substance abuse services provided in Missouri. Treatment admissions data serve as a type of problem indicator, providing demographic information on the substance abuse population that receives treatment. To enhance understanding of substance abuse treatment need geographically, admissions in the *Status Report* are listed by consumers' county of residence rather than the county in which they received services. Nine categories of treatment admissions are quantified: Comprehensive Substance Treatment and Rehabilitation (CSTAR) Adolescent, CSTAR Women and Children, CSTAR General Adult, CSTAR Opioid, Primary Recovery Detoxification, Primary Recovery Treatment, Substance Abuse Traffic Offenders Program (SATOP) clinical services, Department of Corrections ADA Treatment, and Other Substance Abuse Treatment. Admission counts—but not demographic detail—are provided for other services administered by ADA. These include SATOP education, services for co-dependents, Recovery Supports, and Compulsive Gambling treatment. Statewide admissions tables and charts are provided in Section D, while admissions tables for ADA Regions, Service Areas, and counties are linked to the substance abuse indicators tables in Section E. The counties are arranged according to their Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code numbers. Data represent calendar years unless identified by FY for Missouri's state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) or FFY for the federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30).