

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. The report provides consistent measures on the consumption of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and the consequences of substance abuse. It also quantifies the clinical services provided by the treatment programs through contracts with the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADA). Policy makers, planners, researchers, educators, and other interested individuals are encouraged to utilize this report.

Data are provided at several geographic levels. Tables and charts show Missouri trends for the most current year available and several prior years. Survey data tables compare national and Missouri rates of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug use for specific age groups. Alcohol and drug abuse consequences and treatment data are provided in multi-year tables for statewide Missouri and three-year tables for the ADA planning regions and service areas. These geographic units are illustrated on the map in the Appendix of this report. Three-year tables are also provided for Missouri's 114 counties and the city of St. Louis, arranged according to federal FIPS county code. In all of the tables, a data element represents a calendar year unless specified as "FY" for state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) or "FFY" for federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30). Throughout the report, numerals enclosed in brackets [] in the narratives, charts, and tables correspond to the references listed in the Appendix.

The consequences identified in this report include recorded events directly resulting from alcohol and other drug abuse. Some of the problems that have a correlation to substance abuse are also included—such as dropping out of school, unemployment, crime, and violence. Typically the data are recorded by local authorities and reported to state agencies. Arrests and traffic crashes are among events geographically indexed according to their county of occurrence. Others are summarized from person-centered reports based on county of residence. The ADA treatment admissions data in this report are indexed according to county of residence rather than treatment location.

The reader should avoid comparing treatment admissions data in this report with data from previous reports. Due to changes in treatment practice and terminology, this report classifies programs in eight types (Adolescent CSTAR, Women and Children CSTAR, General Population CSTAR, Primary Recovery Detoxification, Primary Recovery Treatment, Opioid Treatment, Clinical SATOP, and Other Substance Abuse Treatment) that differ from the categories used in previous reports. Admissions data from past years have been cross-walked to these new categories to provide data comparability between fiscal years within tables. Some clients need more than one type of treatment and have admissions in more than one program category. To reflect all categories equally, clients are counted once—or unduplicated—for each program category in which they have a treatment admission during a fiscal year.

Federal and state laws and regulations restrict youth access to tobacco products. One section of the report summarizes Missouri's tobacco regulations, merchant education, retail law compliance, and youth tobacco use. Trend data illustrates the significant progress Missouri has made during the past ten years in discouraging and reducing the sale of cigarettes to minors at retail outlets.