

Other Surveys

The Missouri Student Survey is conducted in even-numbered years throughout Missouri for students in grades 6 through 12, with a primary focus on grade 9. The survey became web-based in 2004, and the statewide prevalence rates from that survey are summarized in the table on page 48 [59]. The next survey will be administered in 2006.

The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, a project supported by Southern Illinois University, was administered to 68,000 undergraduate students at 133 colleges and universities in 2004 [43, 58]. Missouri Partners in Prevention administered the survey on 12 Missouri campuses. The survey measures binge drinking and past-month and past-year use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs. In 2004, binge alcohol use—consuming five or more drinks at one sitting at least once during the two weeks prior to the survey—was reported by 48.8 percent of the students nationally and 49.9 percent of the Missouri college students. In 2005, Missouri's binge drinking rate decreased to 48.4 percent.

Other Consumption Data

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism manages the Alcohol Epidemiologic Data System. Using data on sales of beer, wine, and distilled spirits, the system estimates annual consumption of ethanol (absolute alcohol). In 2003, per capita consumption of alcohol among the Missouri population age 14 and older was 2.26 gallons of ethanol, a decrease from the two-decade record of 2.39 gallons reached in 2002. Missouri's 2003 alcohol consumption was slightly higher than the national average of 2.22 gallons of ethanol [50].

CONSEQUENCES DATA

Health

Prenatal alcohol, tobacco, and drug exposure can cause low birth weight, newborn addiction, serious birth defects, mental retardation, and lifelong impairments. This report includes medical conditions of newborns identified on birth certificates and hospital data on maternal drug exposure using International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision (ICD-9) coding developed by the World Health Organization. Substance abuse during pregnancy showed no improvement in 2004 [15, 16]. The reported number of mothers of newborns who drank during their pregnancies increased from 464 in 2003 to 472 in 2004, a slight rate increase to 60.7 per 10,000 live births. Studies have shown that alcohol use during pregnancy is substantially underreported, so the number of babies at-risk for fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effects is unknown. Illicit drug use by pregnant women is also underreported, yet hospitals reported 302 drug-affected births in 2004, compared to 258 in 2003 and 222 in 2002. Although maternal smoking during pregnancy puts the newborn at-risk for low birth weight and other problems, 14,083 births among women who smoked were reported in 2004, over 18 percent of the live births [16]. Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse treatment programs admit pregnant women on a priority basis in accordance with federal requirements. Among the 13,582 women served during fiscal year 2005, 518 were pregnant when admitted to treatment [23]. Clients in CSTAR Women and Children programs had 91 births during their treatment, and 88 of those babies were documented to be born drug-free.

Several communicable diseases, including hepatitis, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS are frequently acquired through substance abuse. In 2004, Missouri had 3,150 reported cases of Hepatitis C compared to 3,071 in 2003. Hepatitis B cases have increased substantially, from 135 in 2002 to 339 in 2003 and 529 in 2004 [19]. The total number of HIV cases that have been reported in Mis-

souri increased from 4,526 in 2003 to 4,629 in 2004, an increase of 103 new cases. Cumulative AIDS cases reached 9,810 in 2004, an increase of 186 from the 2003 total of 9,624.

Alcohol, drug, and smoking related deaths are attribution estimates derived from mortality data using ICD-10 codes. Due to the development of a new algorithm for calculating smoking attributable deaths, smoking related death estimates for 2004 and prior years have been revised. Missouri had 9,396 resident deaths attributable to smoking in 2004, a reduction from the 9,537 and 9,503 deaths estimated for 2002 and 2003, respectively [18]. Drug related deaths increased from 561 in 2003 to 591 in 2004, and death attributable to alcohol increased from 328 in 2003 to 383 in 2004 [11].

Alcohol and drug related hospital and emergency room episodes increased in 2004. Alcoholic cirrhosis episodes increased from 3,280 in 2003 to 3,536 in 2004 and all other alcohol related episodes increased from 43,117 to 45,333. Drug related episodes increased from 33,700 in 2003 to 38,606 in 2004 [12, 13, 14].

Public Safety, Law Enforcement, and Corrections

Alcohol related traffic crashes increased from 8,081 in 2003 to 8,301 in 2004. However, fatal crashes attributed to alcohol intoxication declined to 218, compared to 249 in 2003 [33]. The 218 fatal crashes resulted in 252 deaths [36]. There were also 3,692 alcohol related non-fatal injury crashes in 2004, slightly more than the 3,603 recorded in 2003, and these crashes resulted in 5,450 injuries—virtually the same number of alcohol related injuries reported in 2003. Drug related crashes continued to increase and reached 955 in 2004, yet only 17 of these crashes were fatal [34].

Drug arrests and arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs declined in Missouri in 2004. Arrests for boating while intoxicated increased from 270 in 2003 to 350 in 2004. Law enforcement agencies reported 41,773 drug arrests, compared to 42,839 in 2003. Arrests for the sale or manufacturing of drugs, which reached 8,010 in 2002 before dropping to 7,313 in 2003, declined further to 7,179 in 2004 [30].

The manufacturing of methamphetamine creates an especially hazardous environment. Confiscated methamphetamine labs, chemicals, and equipment are entered into the Clandestine Laboratory Seizure System and reported by the Drug Enforcement Administration's El Paso Information Center [31]. Missouri's methamphetamine lab seizures increased annually until reaching 2,860 in 2003—the most recorded in the United States. The state experienced its first decrease in methamphetamine labs in 2004 with 2,788, and this number continued to decline in 2005 to 2,252. In 2004, there were 34,594 arrests in Missouri for possession of drugs [30].

Probation and parole openings totaled 13,560 for drug offenses and 1,798 for driving while intoxicated, comprising 40.5 percent of all new probation/parole cases [5]. State prison admissions in fiscal year 2005 included 6,846 admissions for drug offenses and 1,082 for driving while intoxicated, constituting 39.4 percent of the total [4].

Fully one-third of all children removed from their homes and separated from their parents in 2004 by juvenile courts were removed due to alcohol and drug abuse by their parents [40]. Out-of-home placements totaled 5,653—251 resulting from parental alcohol abuse, 1,446 caused by parental drug abuse, and 188 from parental alcohol and drug abuse. The portion of placements related to parental substance abuse has been increasing since 2000. Referrals for juvenile alcohol offenses declined to 1,153 in 2004—considerably lower than the recent peak of 1,817 alcohol referrals in 1999. Juvenile court referrals for drug offenses totaled 3,294, the third straight year of decreases after reaching 3,650 in 2001 [41].