

Manitoba Addictions Awareness Week

Substance Use And Gambling Involvement Among Manitoba Students



The Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM) regularly conducts prevalence surveys on the patterns of substance use and gambling involvement in Manitoba. The following statistics are taken from the report **Alcohol and other Drug Use In Manitoba Students** published in May 2005 and the **Student Gambling Report** published in September 2005. The data used is from a recently completed survey of alcohol, other drug use and gambling focusing on Manitoba youth in grades 7 to 12.

In the fall and winter of 2004, 6673 randomly selected Manitoba students from 58 schools provided information about:

- their use of various substances
- their gambling involvement
- access and availability of drugs
- their gambling games of choice
- concern about substance use or gambling involvement by friends or family
- factors that may increase or decrease the likelihood of substance use or gambling involvement (risk and protective)

For a copy of the full report contact AFM Library at 944-6233, 1-866-638-2568 or library@afm.mb.ca or visit AFM's Web site at www.afm.mb.ca.

SUBSTANCES USED BY MANITOBA STUDENTS (2004 Survey)

Alcohol	
(Grade 7 to 12)	73%
(Senior Grades only)	80%
Cannabis	
(Grade 7 to 12)	33%
(Grade 12 only)	42%

STATISTICS FOR SENIOR HIGH

Mushrooms	12%
Meth	3%
Club Drugs (Ecstasy = 2.6%)	3%
Cocaine/Crack	5%
Other Stimulants	3%
Other Hallucinogens	3%
Inhalants	3%

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TRENDS IN ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION (2004)

- 73 % of students (Grade 7-12) drank alcohol in the past year
- Less than 10% of students get drunk on a weekly basis
- 52% of males & 51% of females began drinking before the age of 15
- "Binge" Drinking: 25% of students drink more than 5 drinks about once per month
- "Hazardous Drinking": About 15% drink 8 or more drinks at least once per month

IMPAIRED DRIVING STATS (2004)

- 19% of male students and 14% of female students have driven within one hour of consuming 2 or more drinks
- 20% of males and 15% of the females over the age of 16 have driven under the influence of THC this last year
- Over half of Grade 12 students have been a passenger in a car with someone who has been drinking
- Almost half of Grade 12 students have been a passenger in a car with a driver who has been smoking cannabis

YOUTH GAMBLING PREVALENCE (2004)

- 38% of students reported gambling in the past year.
- Males are more likely to have gambled than females (45% males compared to 30% females)
- 2.3% of students reported having a problem with gambling.
- 15 % reported being affected by someone else's gambling.
- Problem gamblers were more likely to have started gambling at a younger age. (Average age for gambling onset is 13.4 but 50% of problem gamblers reported involvement in gambling activities before age 12.)
- Problem gamblers were more likely to have consumed alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes and use other illicit drugs.
- Problem gamblers had lower grades and a higher percentage were skipping classes, failing school and engaging in acts of delinquency.
- A higher percentage of problem gamblers had been prescribed medication for mental health and behaviour problems (e.g. depression, anxiety, ADHD, ADD and eating disorders).

