



Substance Use Disorders and Hispanics/Latinos

Illicit Drug Use among Hispanics

Nationally

- In 2003, an estimated 8.0% of US Hispanics were current illicit drug users—meaning they had used at least once in the past month. This is an increase from 7.2% in 2002.
- Although there were no statistically significant changes between 2002 and 2003 in the rates of current illicit drug use among any racial/ethnic subgroup it should be noted that:
 - While Hispanic current illicit drug use increased slightly, current use in other populations decreased. Rates of current illicit drug use dropped among Whites (8.5% in 2002 to 8.3% in 2003) and Black/African-Americans (9.7% in 2002 to 8.7% in 2003).
 - Although estimates of current hallucinogen use for all racial/ethnic groups combined showed a decrease between 2002 and 2003, this decrease was not evident among Hispanics. Among Hispanics aged 12 or older, the rate of past-month hallucinogen use was 0.3% in 2002 and 0.5% in 2003.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2004). *Results from the 2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings* (Office of Applied Studies, NHSDA Series H- 25, DHHS Publication No. SMA 04-3964). Rockville, MD. Retrieved January 27, 2005, from <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/nhsda/2k3nsduh/2k3ResultsW.pdf>

In Illinois

Results from the Illinois Household Survey on Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use indicated that in 1998:

- Approximately 30.1% of 765 Hispanics interviewed reported having used at least one illicit drug in their lifetime. Marijuana (29.7%) was the most common drug uses, followed by cocaine (7.7%).
- Approximately 5.1% of Hispanic adults interviewed reported using an illicit drug at least once during the past year.
- Approximately 2.4% of Hispanic adults reported using an illicit drug during the past month.

Table 1. Percentage of Hispanic Adults Reporting Use of Any Drug by Drug Type: Illinois, 1998			
Drug Type	Lifetime Use	Past Year Use	Past Month Use
Use of any Drug	30.1%	5.1%	2.4%
Marijuana Use	29.7%	4.7%	2.4%
Cocaine Use	7.7%	NA	NA
Heroin Use	1.0%	NA	NA
Hallucinogen Use	4.6%	NA	NA

*Hispanic respondents made up 9.2% of total surveyed

Source: C. Young, Johnson, T., Kelly-Wilson, L., Pickup, L. (2001). *Substance Use in Illinois: Prevalence and Treatment Needs, 1990-2000*. Chicago, Illinois: Illinois Department of Human Services, Office of Alcoholism and Substance abuse.

Illinois Drug Treatment Services Provided to Hispanics

According to the Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA) 2003 Departments Automated Reporting and Tracking Systems (DARTS) report:

- DASA provided a total of 14,898 state-funded substance abuse treatment services to Hispanic Illinois residents in FY '03. This represented 9% of all services provided by DHS.
- In FY '03, DHS funded 5,950 services to Hispanic clients referred by the criminal justice system.

The Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA) Substance Abuse Intervention and Treatment System is composed of varying levels of care that clients proceed through according to needs documented in their treatment plans. Levels of care include: Early Intervention, Outpatient and level II Intensive Outpatient, Residential Extended Care, Detoxification, Residential, and Recovery homes services. Adjunctive services include: Substance abuse case management, Community Intervention, and Toxicology.

Source: Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA) Bureau of Planning and Performance Management. (2003). *Fiscal Year 2003 Data Book*.