

22 million Americans suffered from substance abuse in 2002

In 2002, an estimated 22 million Americans suffered from substance dependence or abuse due to drugs, alcohol or both, according to the newest results of the Household Survey released today by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in the Department of Health and Human Services.

The 2002 survey found that 11 million people, 4.7 percent of the population ages 12 or older, reported driving under the influence of an illicit drug during the past year.

Those age 21 reported the highest rate of driving while drugged, 18 percent, but the rate was 10 percent or greater for each age from 17 to 25.

About 10.7 million people ages 12 to 20 (28.8 percent of this age group) reported drinking alcohol in the month prior to the survey interview. Of these, 7.2 million were binge drinkers (19.3 percent) and 2.3 million were heavy drinkers (6.2 percent).

There were 33.5 million Americans who drove under the influence of alcohol at least once in the 12 months prior to the interview.

Of the 3.5 million people ages 12



cris lovington

- prevention center

or older who received some kind of treatment related to the use of alcohol or illicit drugs in the 12 months prior to the survey interview, 974,000 received treatment for marijuana, 796,000 received treatment for cocaine, 360,000 received treatment for non medical use of narcotic pain relievers, 277,000 for heroin, and 2.2 million received treatment for alcohol.

Trends in lifetime use of substances were calculated from the 2002 survey based on reports of prior use. Use of pain relievers non-medically among those ages 12-17 increased from 9.6 percent in 2001 to 11.2 percent in 2002, continuing an increasing trend from 1989 when only 1.2 percent had ever used pain relievers non-medically in their lifetime.

Among young adults, ages 18-25, the rate of ever having used pain

1992.

For teens ages 12-17, the lifetime LSD rate is down from 3.3 percent of this population to 2.7 percent, the Ecstasy rate is up slightly from 3.2 percent to 3.3 percent, cocaine use is up from 2.3 percent of this population to 2.7 percent, and inhalant use is up from 9 percent in 2001 to 10.5 percent in 2002.

In 2002, the survey found, over 83 percent of youth ages 12-17 reported having seen or heard alcohol or drug prevention messages outside of school in the past year.

Youth who had seen or heard these messages indicated a slightly lower past month use of an illicit drug (11.3 percent) than teens who had not seen or heard these types or messages (13.2 percent).

There are 4 million adults who have both a substance use disorder and serious mental illness. In 2002,

relievers non-medically increased from 19.4 percent in 2001 to 22.1 percent in 2002. This rate was 6.8 percent in

there were an estimated 17.5 million adults ages 18 or older with serious mental illness. This is 8.3 percent of all adults. Adults who used illicit drugs were more than twice as likely to have serious mental illness as adults who did not use an illicit drug.

Among adults who used an illicit drug in the past year, 17.1 percent had serious mental illness in that year, compared to 6.9 percent of adults who did not use an illicit drug.

Among adults with serious mental illness in 2002, over 23 percent, were dependent on or abused alcohol or illicit drugs. The rate among adults without serious mental illness was only 8.2 percent.

Among adults with substance dependence or abuse, 20.4 percent had serious mental illness, compared with 7 percent among adults who were not dependent on or abusing alcohol or drugs.

The survey is based on interviews with 68,126 respondents who were interviewed in their homes. This includes persons residing in dormitories or homeless shelters.

The interviews represent 98 percent of the population ages 12 and

older. Not included in the survey are persons in the active military, in prisons or other institutionalized populations or who are homeless.

Recovery Month is a celebration of the accomplishments of people in recovery. Since its inception, it has highlighted the strides made in substance abuse treatment.

This year's theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Celebrating Health" emphasizes that addiction to alcohol and drugs is a chronic, but treatable, public health problem that affects everyone in the community.

Recovery Month is celebrated to promote the message of recovery, applaud the courage of people in recovery and recognize the contributions of treatment providers. More than 90 organizations and individuals partner with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in the Recovery Month planning process.

Health and Human Services agencies play a key role in the administration's substance abuse

strategy, leading the federal government's programs in drug abuse research and funding programs and campaigns aimed at prevention and treatment, particularly programs designed for youth.

Among those agencies are the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

A Health and Human Services fact sheet with more information is available at <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/>.

Other background and resources are available at the Web sites for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (<http://www.samhsa.gov>), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<http://www.cdc.gov>), the National Institute on Drug Abuse (<http://www.nida.nih.gov>) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (www.niaaa.nih.gov).

Inn, diner manager comes home with awards

Carla Kitch, general manager of the Oak Tree Inn and Penny's Diner in Sharon Springs, returned from the annual meeting of Lodging Enterprises Inc. with awards for the hotel's performance.

The Sharon Springs hotel received awards for financial performance, sales leadership, overall quality, safety management, cost containment, most-improved room sales, revenue development, most-improved food sales, employee re-

tention and community service.



Kitch

Kitch said company President Bill Burgess praised team members in Sharon Springs for continuing to demonstrate a spirit of hospitality while constantly working to exceed guest expectations for friendliness, cleanliness and product quality.

Lodging Enterprises operates 30 motels and 20 diners in 17 states. The meeting was Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 4-6, in Wichita.

St. Francis man to lead commission

A St. Francis corn producer will lead the Kansas Corn Commission for a third term, and a Sharon Springs man was re-elected as secretary of the commission. Both men will represent the commission to cooperating organizations.

Ted Zielke, St. Francis, was re-elected for his third term as chairman of the commission at its meeting Tuesday, Aug. 5, in Goodland. Ron Blaesi of Sharon Springs was re-elected as secretary.

Bob Timmons of Fredonia was elected as vice chairman, and Dan Guetterman of Bucyrus was re-elected as treasurer.

The commission also appointed representatives to five cooperating organizations.

Zielke, Donnie Young of Ulysses, Mike Brzon of Courtland and

Jere White, the corn commission's executive director, were the chosen representatives to the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

Carolyn Dunn of St. John, Terry Vinduska of Marion, Ken McCauley of White Cloud, Brzon, Zielke, Blaesi and White are representatives to the U.S. Grains Council.

Blaesi, McCauley, Timmons and Guetterman will represent the commission to the National Corn Growers Association. Brzon and Zielke are alternate representatives.

Guetterman, Zielke and McCauley will represent the commission to the Kansas Corn Growers Association.

Guetterman will represent the commission to the U.S. Poultry and Egg Export Council.

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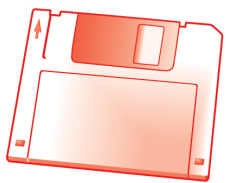
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