SUBSTANCE USE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS (18-25) IN MAINE

OCTOBER 2019

SUBSTANCE USE



One in three young adults (18-25) in Maine reported binge drinking within the past month.1* One in three Mainers 18 to 25 report using marijuana in the past month.^{2*}

Young adults (18-25) in Maine have higher rates of marijuana use in the past month than the US.2*



Maine adults 18 to 25 (7%) are more likely than adults 26 years and older (1%) to have used cocaine within the past year.^{2*}



Seven percent of Mainers 18 to 25 report misusing prescription pain relievers in the past year.2*

CONSEQUENCES

In 2018, Maine adults 18 to 25 observed the highest rates of EMS responses related to an alcohol overdose.3



From 2017 to 2018, EMS alcohol-related overdose responses among young adults (18-25) in Maine decreased by 19% while drugs/medication responses decreased by 16%.3

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Mainers 18 to 25 have consistently held lower perceptions of harm from binge drinking, smoking marijuana, and using heroin than adults 26 and older.²



† Major depressive episode is a period of



- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*
- **Emergency Medical Services**
- Maine Department of Transportation *Self-reported data
- at least two weeks when a person National Drug Use and Health Survey* experienced a depressed mood or loss of interest in daily activities and had a majority of specified depression symptoms.

TREATMENT

One in six Mainers18 to 25 qualified as needing but not receiving treatment for substance use within the past year.2*



MENTAL HEALTH & CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS

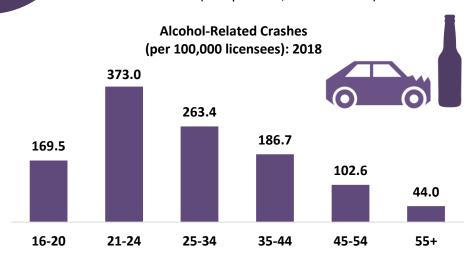
During 2016-17, 15% of Mainers 18 to 25 experienced at least one major depressive episode[†] within the past year. Rates have increased since 2015-16 (10%).2*

One in four Maine young adults (18-25) experienced any mental illness in the past year. ^{2*} Among young adults with any mental illness, 1 in 4 (27%) qualified as having a substance use disorder in the past year.^{2*}



Young adults in Maine are more prone to risky substance use and mental illness.

Maine drivers 21 to 24 had the highest alcohol-related crash rate in 2018 (373 per 100,000 licensees).4



This fact sheet is a product of the Maine State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) For more info, visit www.maineseow.com