

August 25, 2022



D.C. Update: New NASADAD Fact Sheet, ONDCP and ED Webinar, CSAT Advisory Council Meeting, National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day, and More

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NASADAD News

New Fact Sheet: The Current Landscape of Alcohol Use in the U.S.

NASADAD is pleased to share a new fact sheet on [The Current Landscape of Alcohol Use in the U.S.](#) This fact sheet dives into the current landscape of alcohol use, emergency room/motor vehicle accidents, impact of COVID-19, benefits of prevention, benefits of treatment and recovery, key federal programs related to alcohol, and the role of State alcohol and drug agencies in supporting prevention, treatment, and recovery.

NASADAD National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors August 2022

The Landscape of Alcohol Use in the U.S.

Alcohol use is one of the leading public health concerns for state alcohol and drug agencies in the United States. These state leaders are working to address this challenge through initiatives related to prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Background Alcohol (and ethanol) is produced through the fermentation of grains, sugar, and starch. It is found in beverages including beer, wine, and liquor and is a central nervous system depressant. Its consumption is legal for individuals over the age of 21 in the U.S. and is regulated by states and localities. A standard drink is 16 ounces of pure ethanol – this typically translates to either 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine, or 1.5 ounces of 80-proof distilled liquor. The 2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) defines binge drinking as having five or more standard drinks on the same occasion for men and four or more drinks for women. Heavy use is binge drinking on at least 5 days during the past 30 days. Alcohol use disorder (AUD) is characterized by the impaired ability to abstain or control alcohol use. AUD is considered a brain disorder and can be mild, moderate, or severe.

Prevalence of Alcohol Use In 2020, the NSDUH reported that 50% of all people drank alcohol in the last month. Adults aged 25 and older made up the age with the highest reported use (54.6%), followed by people aged 18-24 years old (51.2%), and then adolescents aged 12 to 17 years old.

- **Binge alcohol use** – A reported 22.2% (51.6 million) people binge drank in the past month. The percentage was highest among people aged 18-24 years old (24.4%), followed by adults 25 or older (22.9%), and then adolescents aged 12 to 17 years old (4.1%).
- **Heavy alcohol use** – A reported 6.4% (11.7 million) people were heavy alcohol users in the past month. The percentage was highest among people aged 18-24 (8.3%), followed by people 25 and older (7.7%), and then adolescents aged 12 to 17 years old (4.2%).
- **AUD** – A reported that 28.3 million people aged 12 years and older reported having an AUD. Among this group, 2.1 million reported seeking treatment for alcohol use, and only 262,000 of those who received treatment did so with medication-assisted treatment.*

Figure 6: Current, Binge, and Heavy Alcohol Use Among People Aged 12 to 17 Years Old

Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2020

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NPN Conference - Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who attended the National Prevention Network Conference from August 22-25. We hope that you found the conference informative and worthwhile. We appreciate you taking the time to share your time and expertise.

The Power of **NOPE**
 Healthy Opportunities for Prevention to Empower Change
 August 23rd-25th, 2022 | Virtual

New Fact Sheet Released Last Week: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant Reauthorization

NASDAQ released a new [fact sheet](#) about the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant. The SAPT Block Grant supports States to “plan, implement, and evaluate activities that prevent and treat substance [use].” The SAPT Block Grant was last reauthorized in the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114-255) in December 2016. This document provides an overview of House and Senate legislation to reauthorize the Block Grant through FY 2027.

August 2022

Reauthorization of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant, funded under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is a federal block grant dedicated to the States, Territories, and jurisdictions. The SAPT Block Grant supports States to plan, implement, and evaluate activities that prevent and treat substance use disorders. The SAPT Block Grant was last reauthorized in the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114-255) in December 2016. The authorization period through 2022. As a result, Congress is considering legislation to reauthorize the program through 2027.

The SAPT Block Grant serves as the cornerstone of federal substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services. State alcohol and drug agencies play a pivotal role in applying and reusing funds to distribute to eligible local governments, and providers. The funds are obligated to fully implement evidence-based programs to: (1) eliminate or reduce the burden of substance use disorders through comprehensive, coordinated care; (2) increase early identification and intervention services; (3) expand the availability of SAPT Block Grant funds to primary prevention strategies. In addition, the SAPT Block Grant by statute is designed to serve priority populations and service areas such as:

- Pregnant women and women with dependent children
- Tuberculosis services
- Persons who use intravenous drugs
- Early intervention services for HIV/AIDS

Status of reauthorization legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives: The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Community Services Block Grant Act of 2022 (H.R. 7220) was introduced by Representative Paul Tonko (NY), Steve Guthrie (KY), Susan Wigg (PA), and David McKinley (WV), Chairman, H.C. 7220 was introduced in a large package of substance use disorder and mental health bills by Republican House Minority Health and Human Services Committee Chair, Robert Wittman (VA). H.R. 7220 was approved by the full House Energy and Commerce Committee on May 19, 2022. The full House of Representatives considered and approved the bill on June 22, 2022, by a vote of 405-203.

Status of reauthorization legislation in the U.S. Senate: The Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment, and Community Services Block Grant Act of 2022 (S. 7220) was introduced by Representative Paul Tonko (NY), Steve Guthrie (KY), Susan Wigg (PA), and David McKinley (WV), Chairman, H.C. 7220 was introduced in a large package of substance use disorder and mental health bills by Republican House Minority Health and Human Services Committee Chair, Robert Wittman (VA). H.R. 7220 was approved by the full House Energy and Commerce Committee on May 19, 2022. The full House of Representatives considered and approved the bill on June 22, 2022, by a vote of 405-203.

Outlook: Congress left Washington, D.C. for the annual summer State work period through Labor Day weekend as a result, SAMHSA will continue to move any bills forward to the Senate. Any bills that are introduced in the House will have to take place in the autumn. From there, the Senate and House will have to iron out differences between the two versions and clear a final product before Congress adjourns either before the end of or during a lame duck session.

Role of State Alcohol and Drug Agencies: State alcohol and drug agencies within the 50 States, District of Columbia, and Territories manage and oversee their respective SAPT Block Grant. States work with counties, local governments, and providers to ensure that public entities are equipped to effectively and efficiently program by using tools such as performance data management and reporting, contract monitoring, corrective action planning, needs research, and technical assistance. The National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Officers (NASADAO) serves as the voice of State alcohol and drug agencies in Washington, D.C.

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA CSAT Advisory Council Meeting Next Week

On August 30 from 12:00-4:00 p.m. ET, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) will host the 87th Meeting of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) National Advisory Council (NAC) meeting. This meeting will include discussions with the advisory council members on CSAT updates (including the State Opioid Response Program), a discussion on the Office of Recovery, and a discussion on the health workforce. For more information about how to watch the meeting and the topics to be discussed, please visit the agenda [here](#).



ONDCP and ED Webinar: Transforming Youth Together: Understanding the Connection between Substance Use, Mental Health, and Student Learning Part 1: What the Data Tells Us



The Department of Education (DE) and the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) are collaborating on the development of a three-part miniseries within the [Lessons from the Field Webinar Series](#) to help schools and educators effectively address substance use, mental health, and their impacts on learning.

The first in the three-part miniseries titled, *Transforming Youth Together: Understanding the Connection between Substance Use, Mental Health, and Student Learning - Part 1: What the Data Tells Us* was on Wednesday, August 24. Speakers included representatives from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The recording and slides are available [here](#).

Future webinars from the Lessons from the Field Webinar Series can be found [here](#).

DEA Recognizes National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day

On August 21, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) recognized [National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day](#) by joining the many voices dedicated to educating the public on the serious dangers of fentanyl poisoning from fake pills and other illicit drugs. DEA supports the efforts of several organizations to amplify nationwide efforts to increase awareness of the highly addictive and dangerous drugs containing fentanyl that continue driving the opioid epidemic. For more information on the dangers of fentanyl, visit DEA's [Fentanyl](#)



Training Time

The Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information (CoE-PHI) Digital Media Toolkit



The Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information (CoE-PHI) recently released a new Digital Media Toolkit that includes ready-to-use content and graphics to promote the resources on CoE-PHI's website. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA)-funded CoE-PHI's website contains a resource library, including a suite of elearning modules, and videos to make complex federal health privacy laws easily understandable and applicable. The Digital Media Toolkit is available [here](#).

Research Roundup

Marijuana and Hallucinogen Use Among Young Adults Reached All Time-High in 2021

A National Institutes of Health (NIH)-supported study found that marijuana and hallucinogen use in the past year reported by young adults 19 to 30 years old increased significantly in 2021 compared to five and 10 years ago. Rates of past-month nicotine vaping, which have been gradually increasing in young adults for the past four years, also continued their general upward trend in 2021, despite leveling off in 2020. Past-month marijuana vaping, which had significantly decreased in 2020, rebounded to pre-pandemic levels in 2021. Additional findings from the Monitoring for Future study can be found [here](#).