

States In Brief



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Issues At-A-Glance

A Short Report from the Office of Applied Studies



Prevalence of Illicit Substance¹ and Alcohol Use

The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) generates state-level estimates for 23 measures of substance use and mental health problems for four age groups: the entire state population over the age of 12 (12+); individuals age 12 to 17; individuals age 18 to 25; and individuals age 26 and older (26+). Since state estimates of substance use and abuse were first generated using the combined 2002-2003 NSDUHs and continuing until the most recent state estimates based on the combined 2005-2006 surveys, Tennessee has ranked among those States with the *lowest*² rates of the following measures (Table 1):

Table 1: Tennessee is among those states with the lowest rates of the following:

Measure	Age Groups
Past Month Marijuana Use	12-17
Past Month Alcohol Use	All Age Groups
Past Month Binge Alcohol Use	All Age Groups

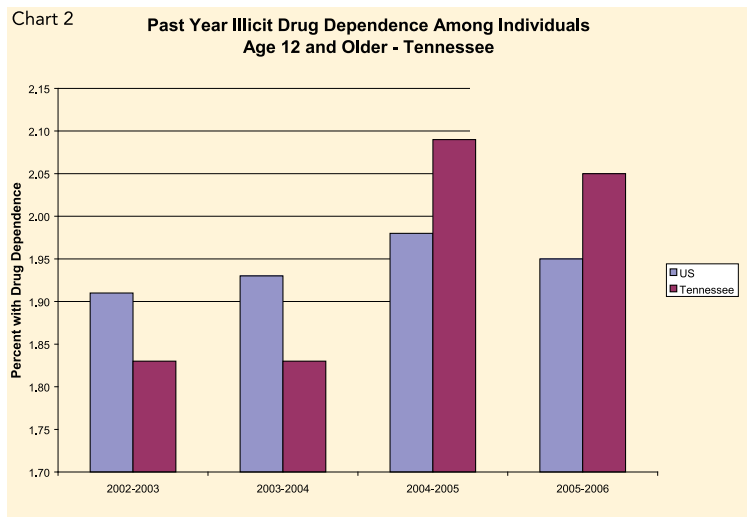
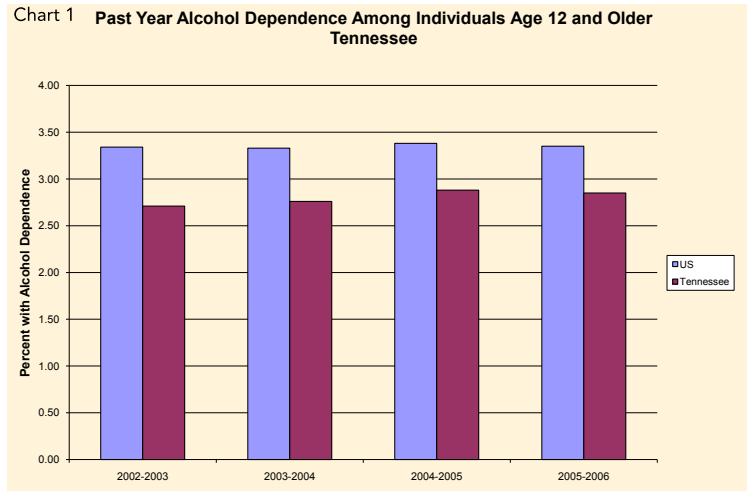
It is worth noting that in all survey years, Tennessee has also ranked among the 10 States with the highest rate of past year nonmedical use of pain relievers.

Abuse and Dependence

Questions in NSDUH are used to classify persons as being dependent on or abusing specific substances based on criteria specified in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Edition (DSM-IV)* (American Psychiatric Association, 1994).

Tennessee's rates of past year alcohol dependence have consistently been among the 10 lowest in the country for all age groups and across all survey years (Chart 1).

Rates of past year drug dependence have been more variable across all survey years (Chart 2).



Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities

According to the 2006 National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N SSATS),³ there were 195 treatment facilities in Tennessee. Of these, 147 (75%) were private nonprofit, and 35 (18%) were private for-profit.

Although facilities may offer more than one modality of care, in 2006 the 171 facilities (88%) offered some form of outpatient treatment, and an additional 54 facilities (28%) offered some form of residential care. Seven facilities offered an opioid treatment program, and 124 physicians and 24 treatment programs offered buprenorphine treatment for opiate addiction.

In 2006, 113 facilities (58%) received some form of Federal, State, county, or local government funds, and 116 facilities had agreements or contracts with managed care organizations for the provision of substance abuse treatment services.



