

Getting Started

The following sources are recommended as the best starting places for identifying key substance abuse statistics:

- **Drugs and Crime Facts – Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)**
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dcf/contents.htm>
This site summarizes U.S. statistics about drug-related crimes, law enforcement, courts, and corrections from and non-BJS sources.
- **Monitoring the Future : National Survey Results on Drug Use**
<http://monitoringthefuture.org/>
An ongoing study of the behaviors, attitudes, and values of U.S. secondary school students (grades 8, 10, 12), college students, and young adults (ages 19-45)
- **National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) – Data/Statistical Tables**
<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/Resources/DatabaseResources/QuickFacts/default>
Presents data tables on alcohol topics including: amounts and patterns of alcohol consumption; alcohol dependence or abuse; consequences of alcohol consumption; and other alcohol-related topics.
- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Statistics – SAMHSA Office of Applied Statistics (OAS)**
<http://www.drugabusestatistics.samhsa.gov>
OAS provides the latest national data on (1) alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse, (2) drug related emergency department episodes and medical examiner cases, and (3) the nation's substance abuse treatment system. Find data by topic, by drug, by geographic area (including state level), and other criteria.
- **Tobacco Information and Prevention Source (TIPS) – Research, Data, and Reports**
<http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data.htm>
Facts categorized by topic. Plus a list of all the MMWR releases.

General Statistical Sources

The following general sources provide compilations and summaries of data from multiple sources. Tables in each source will provide information to the data source and enable access to further information.

- **State and County Quick Facts – U.S. Census Bureau**
<http://quickfacts.census.gov>
A summary of key population, geography, and business statistics. Includes links to Quick Facts and additional Census data sets for Colorado.
- **State and Metropolitan Area Data Book – U.S. Census Bureau**
<http://www.census.gov/compendia/smadb/>
Features more than 1,500 data items for the United States and individual states, counties and metropolitan areas from a variety of sources. Includes data on crimes, deaths, and health.
- **Statistical Abstract of the United States – U.S. Census Bureau**
<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>
Comprehensive summary of social, political, and economic statistics. Includes tables on substance use, abuse, arrests, and fatalities – some at the national and state level.

Federal Statistical Sources

There are several federal sources of alcohol, drug and tobacco data used to quantify the substance abuse problem in America. This data is used to formulate federal, state, and local policy and to prioritize allocation of resources. The following site provides a fairly comprehensive look at federal data sources.

- **Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) – Federal Drug Data Sources**
<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/sources.html>
A list of the key federal sources for drug data that highlights the frequency of data sets, the sponsoring agencies, target populations and areas of coverage. Organized by 6 categories: Drug Use, Consequences of Use, Treatment, Source and Volume of Illegal Drugs, Enforcement, Drug Offenders.

State Level and Colorado Sources

- **Colorado – U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)**
<http://www.dea.gov/pubs/states/colorado.html>
Provides a current snapshot of substance abuse issues by state, information on drugs, and resources for drug prevention.
- **Colorado Health Statistics Section – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)**
<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hs/index.html>
Public health data for Colorado including vital statistics, the Colorado Health Information Dataset, and data on: behavioral risk factors, pregnancy and risk factors, and child and adolescent health.
- **Epidemiologic trends in drug abuse : proceedings -- NIDA Community Epidemiology Work Group.**
<http://www.drugabuse.gov/about/organization/cewg/Reports.html>
CEWG is a drug abuse surveillance network made up of researchers from 21 areas of the United States who meet semiannually to present and discuss quantitative and qualitative data related to drug abuse. A report on trends in Denver and Colorado is normally included in Volume II of each semiannual proceeding.
- **Healthy Kids Colorado Survey**
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/healthykidscolo.htm>
Colorado results for the national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). Includes self-reported data on injuries and violence, tobacco use, alcohol and other drugs, sexual behaviors, dietary behaviors, physical activity, and mental health.
- **Reports – Colorado Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) (formerly ADAD)**
www.cdhs.state.co.us/adad/reports.htm
The Homepage contains a list of reports compiled by DBH which report state statistics on patterns and trends in drug use, TANF, treatment admissions, and some specific drugs.
- **State Data on Alcohol, Tobacco, and Illegal Drug Use – SAMHSA Office of Applied Statistics (OAS)**
<http://oas.samhsa.gov/states.htm>
Includes “*State Estimates of Substance Use*” reports from several years of the National Surveys on Drug Use & Health (NSDUH) as well as mental health, individual drug, treatment, and mortality data at the state level.

From Federal Sources

Of the federal sources listed above, the following have state level data:

- **National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) – SAMHSA Office of Applied Statistics (OAS)**
<http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/nhsda.htm>
The primary source of information on the prevalence, patterns, and consequences of drug and alcohol use and abuse for the general population, 12 and over.
- **National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS) – SAMHSA OAS**
<http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm#nssats2>
Collects information on location, characteristics, and services offered by treatment facilities.
- **Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) – SAMHSA OAS**
<http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm#teds2>
Provides data on the demographic and substance abuse characteristics of admissions to substance abuse treatment.
- **Uniform Crime Reports – Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**
<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm>
Presents data on the number of offenses, including drug related offenses known to the police, arrests, and clearances.
- **National Corrections Reporting Program – Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)**
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/ncrp92.htm>
Tracks prisoners entering and leaving custody or supervision, including drug offenders.

Research Data

Data is often available from government studies by visiting the Web sites of the originating agency. The following tool can also act as a portal for accessing and using addiction data:

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Data Archive**
<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/SAMHDA/>
Provides ready access to addiction and mental health research data from several of the primary research studies and series. Data files, documentation, and reports are downloadable. Features an online data analysis system (DAS) that allows users to conduct analyses on selected datasets. It is also possible to produce analytic table from among pre-selected high-interest variables.