

Reported Substance Use within the Adult SANTA Arrestee Sample

- The prevalence of self-reported substance use in this sample of arrestees is very high.
 - Nearly all (97%) of the sample report lifetime use of alcohol; more than three-fourths (77%) have used alcohol in the past 30 days; and well over half (59%) have used alcohol within the three days preceding arrest.
 - Tobacco use is also very pervasive, with 83% lifetime use, 72% 30-day use, and 71% 3-day use of tobacco products among arrestees.
 - Nearly three-quarters of the adult sample have used marijuana at some time, 39% in the past 30 days, and over one in four (26%) have used it within the past three days.
 - Over one-third of the sample have used crack or cocaine at some time in their lives, and around one in ten have used one or both these illicit drugs in the thirty days and the three days before their interview.
- Tennessee arrestees have much higher rates of substance use than Americans as a whole or Tennessee adults living in households.
 - Tennessee adult arrestees are also much more likely to use alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and cocaine/crack as well as a host of other illicit and licit psychoactive drugs compared to their adult general population counterparts in the State.
 - Adult arrestees are 43% more likely to use tobacco and 49% more likely to use alcohol than other adults. They are 30 times more likely to use heroin, 13 times more likely to use cocaine/crack and 10 times more likely to use both inhalants and hallucinogens. Arrestees are about 5 times more likely to use marijuana than other adults, 3 times more likely to use speed or stimulant drugs, but only about 50%-60% more likely to use sedatives/downers or tranquilizers than other adults.
 - The magnitude of heroin and cocaine use differentiates the two groups the most of any drugs used.
- The most commonly used substances among adult SANTA arrestees are alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, cocaine, crack, and Valium. Benzodiazepines and barbiturates or “downers” are also frequently used by this group.