

Drinking and Driving • Alcohol • Marijuana

Facts about Substance Use

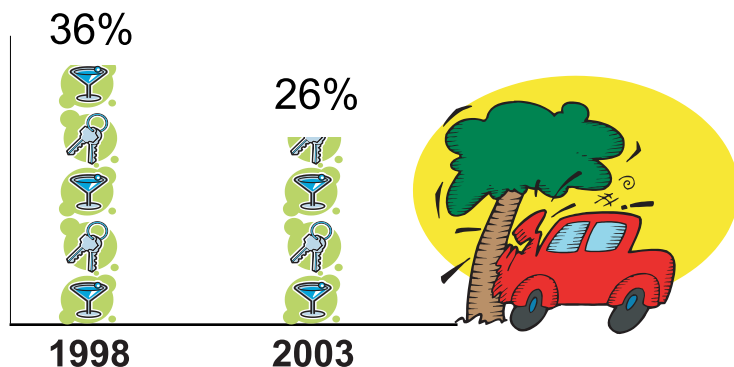
True or false? More students reported driving after using alcohol or drugs in 2003 than in 1998.



False. Fewer students reported drinking and driving in 2003 compared to 1998.

Trends

Percentage of licensed drivers who drove under the influence of drugs or alcohol



Drinking and Driving



Boys are more likely to drive after drinking or using drugs, but girls are more likely to get into a car with someone who's been drinking.



Graduated licensing was put into effect between 1998 and 2003, so that may have had an effect on the drop in drinking and driving.

New drivers are less likely to drive after drinking.

- ➔ 11% of drivers with learner's licenses have driven after drinking or using drugs.
- ➔ 36% of drivers with novice licenses have driven after drinking or using drugs.
- ➔ 55% of drivers with full licenses have driven after drinking or using drugs.

About the Adolescent Health Survey

These statistics are based on the results of the Adolescent Health Survey, a survey that was administered by the McCreary Centre Society in 1992, 1998, and 2003. It asked over 70,000 BC youth questions about their health.

The McCreary Centre Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the health of BC youth through research, information sharing, and community-based projects that address the unmet health needs of young people.

Funded by the Child and Family Research Institute, BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, and the Province of BC.

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Marijuana

37% of BC students have used marijuana.

Only 25% of students had used marijuana in 1992. In 1998, the number rose to 40%, but it has fallen since then and in 2003 was 37%.

1 in 5 BC students used marijuana in the past month.

Alcohol

57% of students have had a drink of alcohol, compared to 65% in 1992.

A "drink of alcohol" is one can of beer, 4 oz of wine, or 1 oz of hard liquor.

Males and females are equally likely to drink.

33% of 13 year olds have had a drink.

63% of 15 year olds have had a drink.

78% of 17 year olds have had a drink.



Marijuana side effects:

Short Term:

- memory/learning problems
- distorted perception (sound, sight, time, touch)
- coordination problems
- increased heart rate
- anxiety
- panic attacks

Long Term:

- Daily cough/phlegm
- Chronic bronchitis
- Chest pains
- Pneumonia

taken from drugs.com

Binge Drinking

Consuming 5 or more drinks in a few hours

Among students who have tried alcohol, binge drinking has increased since 1992.

