

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT NEED

### *Alcohol and Drug Dependence and Abuse*

The *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (DSM-IV)* specifies the criteria for alcohol and drug dependence and abuse. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) includes items designed to identify substance dependence and abuse based on the DSM-IV criteria. The NSDUH uses a sampling methodology that provides national, state, and sub-state percentage estimates. Consecutive years are combined to increase sample sizes and improve the reliability of the estimates. The most recent state estimates are based on samples from years 2004 and 2005 combined and are displayed with U.S. comparisons in the table on page 38. Missouri population estimates based on these rates are shown on page 39. Sub-state (regional) estimates use samples from years 2002-2004. Annually, an estimated 10.14 percent of the Missouri population 12 years of age and older were dependent on or abused alcohol or illicit drugs in 2004/2005. This rate is lower than the estimate of 10.58 percent for 2003/2004 but still higher than the 2002/2003 estimate of 9.58 percent. By comparison, the national rate was 9.22 percent in the 2002/2003 and 2003/2004 samples and 9.25 percent in 2004/2005. Estimated regional rates range from a high of 10.96 percent in the Central Region to a low of 8.57 percent in the Southeast Region. Urban sub-regions have high rates, including 11.00 for Jackson County and 10.97 percent for St. Louis City/County combined. Based on the statewide rate of 10.14 percent, Missouri has 485,000 individuals with alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse. An estimated 8.93 percent of Missouri adolescents and adults—or 427,000—have alcohol dependence or abuse, and 3.00 percent—or 143,000—have illicit drug dependence or abuse. The separate alcohol and illicit drug rates and population estimates exceed the combined totals because some individuals—approximately 80,000—are dually dependent on, or abuse, alcohol and illicit drugs.

The 2004/2005 NSDUH samples indicate that 9.80 percent of Missouri adolescents 12-17 years of age have alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse. This rate is somewhat higher than the national rate of 8.44 percent for this age group. The estimated 48,000 Missouri adolescents in this group include 34,000 with alcohol dependence or abuse and 28,000 with drug dependence or abuse. The alcohol and illicit drug estimates exceed the combined total by 14,000. This overlap represents adolescents with both alcohol and illicit drug problems.

Young adults 18-25 years of age have the highest rates of substance abuse. Among Missouri's young adults, 24.62 percent have a problem with alcohol or illicit drugs—considerably higher than the U.S. rate of 21.50 percent for this age group. Missouri has an estimated 137,000 young adults with alcohol dependence or abuse, 62,000 with illicit drug dependence or abuse, and a total of 161,000 with alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse. Approximately 38,000 overlap the two categories and have a dual dependency or abuse problem.

Adults in the age group 26 and older have the lowest overall rates of substance abuse. Based on Missouri's 2004/2005 NSDUH results, 7.59 percent of these older adults have alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse, compared to 7.20 percent nationwide. Although Missouri's rate of 7.03 percent for this age group matches the state's adolescent rate of 7.04 percent for alcohol dependence or abuse, illicit drug dependence or abuse is much less prevalent with a rate of 1.47 percent—lower than the national rate of 1.68 percent. The rates indicate that 276,000 Missouri residents older than age 25 have a substance abuse problem, comprising 256,000 with alcohol dependence or abuse and 53,000 with illicit drug dependence or abuse. Almost one percent of Missouri's older adult group—or 33,000—have a dependence or abuse problem with both alcohol and illicit drugs.