



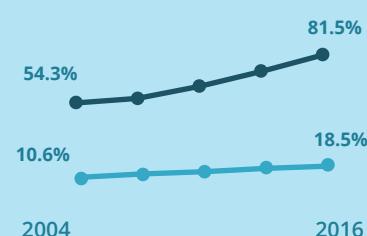
In 2015, **alcohol and illicit drug use were the leading causes of total burden of disease in males aged 15–24 and the second and third leading causes (respectively) for females.**^[1]



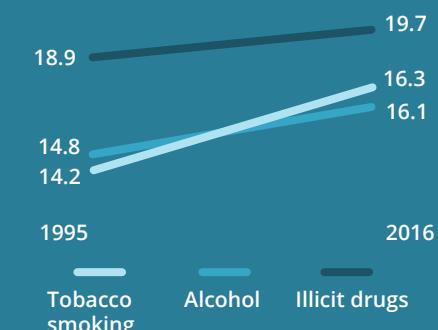
While **tobacco smoking** and **illicit drug use** is declining among young people, the consumption of alcohol at risky levels remained high in 2016.^[2]



An increasing proportion of people aged **12–17** and **18–24** are reporting alcohol abstinence.^[2]



Age of initiation increased between 1995–2016.^[2]



Principal drug of concern:

People aged under 30 were most likely to present to treatment where **cannabis** was the principal drug of concern (38%), followed by **amphetamines** (29%) in 2017–18.^[4]

Risky drinkers aged 14–19 in the last 12 months in 2016–17:

- 83% **injured** as a result of their drinking,
- 7% attended the **emergency department** for an alcohol related injury.^[3]



In 2015, **males aged 15–24 experienced nearly two times the burden of disease from alcohol and drug use**, compared to females.^[1]

In 2017–18, there were **76,386 clients** in alcohol and other drug treatment services aged under 30, representing 38% of all clients.^[4]

National Drug Strategy Household Survey findings relate to people aged 14 or older unless specified. An adult is a person aged 18 or older.^[2]

1. AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2019. *Australian Burden of Disease Study: impact and causes of illness and death in Australia 2015*. Australian Burden of Disease Study series no.19. Cat. no. BOD 22. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 13 June 2019.

2. AIHW 2017. *National Drug Strategy Household survey 2016: detailed findings*. Drug statistics series no. 31. Cat. no. PHE 214. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 14 December 2017.



5% of secondary school students aged 12–17 in 2017 were **current smokers**, this is significantly lower than the 7% reported in 2011.^[5]



Among secondary school students aged 16–17 years, **1 in 5 had tried e-cigarettes** in 2017.^[5]



In 2017, **43%** of students who were current drinkers obtained alcohol from their parents.^[5]



In 2017, **48%** of current secondary school smokers stated their most common source for cigarettes was from friends.^[5]



7% of secondary school students aged 12–17 in 2017 had **smoked in the last month**, down from 9% in 2011.^[5]



Younger people 12–17 year olds



In 2017, 46% of secondary students aged 12–17 had **tried alcohol** in the past year.^[5]



83% of secondary school students had **never tried smoking** (not even a single puff) in 2017 compared to 76% in 2011.^[5]



23% of current smokers in secondary school aged 16–17 **smoked daily** in 2017.^[5]



Among students aged 12–17, **cannabis** was the most **commonly used illicit substance** in 2017.^[5]



Among secondary school students aged 12–17, 29% of past month smokers had used **roll your own** at least 20 times or more in 2017, up from 24% in 2014.^[5]



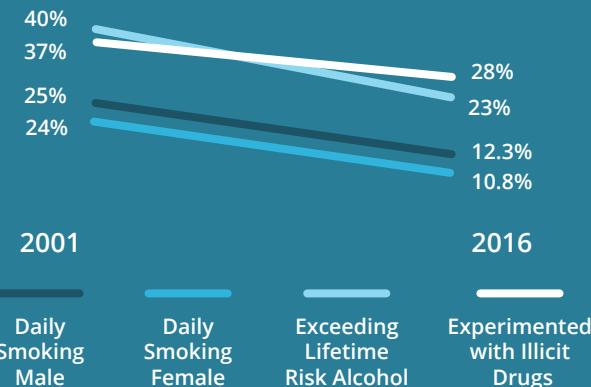
48% of secondary school students who had tried **vaping** reported in 2017 that they had **not previously smoked a cigarette**.^[5]



5. Guerin N & White V 2018. *Australian secondary school students' use of tobacco, alcohol, and over-the-counter and illicit substances in 2017*. Victoria: Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer. Viewed 11 March 2019.



Daily smoking (male & female), drinking at levels exceeding lifetime risk limit, and experimentation with **illicit drugs** have all decreased for young adults aged 18-24.^[2]



In 2016, **18-24 year olds were the most likely age group to have used illicit drugs** in the last 12 months (28%, down from 37% in 2001).^[2]



42% of young adults aged 18-24 **exceeded the single occasion risk guideline** in 2016 by consuming on average more than 4 standard drinks in one occasion, down from 47% in 2013.^[2]



Average **number of cigarettes smoked per week** for 18-24 year olds:

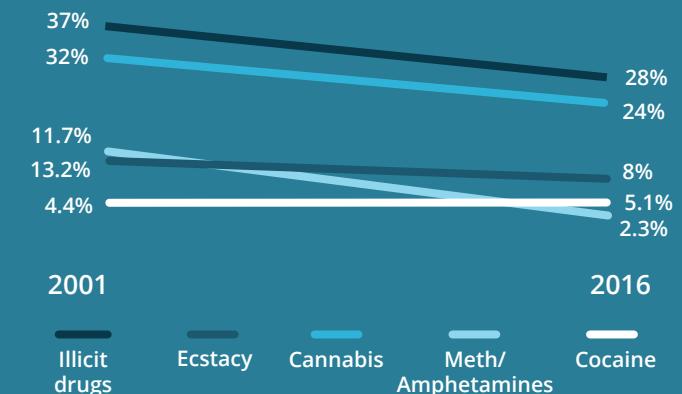
84 in 2013,
68 in 2016.^[2]



In 2016, 15.3% of young adults aged 18-24 consumed 11 or more standard drinks on one occasion.^[2]



18-24 year olds drug use in the last 12 months^[2]



2. AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2017. *National drug strategy household survey 2016: detailed findings*. Drug statistics series no. 31. Cat. no. PHE 214. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 14 December 2017