In Brief: Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Use in Saskatchewan and Canada, Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey

The Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey (CSTADS; formerly the Youth Smoking Survey) is a biennial school-based survey of Canadian students in grades 6-12. The Propel Centre for Population Health Impact has led the implementation of CSTADS since 2004. Additional information about the survey can be found at cstads.ca.

Tobacco Use in Saskatchewan and Canada, 2008/2009-2014/2015 CSTADS

The following table and figures displays tobacco use rates in Saskatchewan (SK) and Canada (CA) using a variety of standard measures.

In Saskatchewan, the rate of having ever tried cigarettes and the rate of using e-cigarettes in the past 30 days are significantly higher than the national rates. Additionally, the 2014/2015 results show no statistically significant changes in tobacco use rates in Saskatchewan since 2012/2013.

Table 1: Tobacco Use (percentage) in Saskatchewan and Canada, Grade 6-12 Students, 2008/2009-2014/2015 Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey

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<tr>
<td>Current smoking (cigarettes)</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>7.6‡</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>12.4‡</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>13.7‡</td>
<td>7.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ever tried cigarettes</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>45.5</td>
<td>33.3</td>
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<td>Cigarette use (past 30 days)</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>18.4‡</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>12.9</td>
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<td>E-cigarette use (past 30 days)</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Menthol cigarette use (past 30 days)</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>6.6‡</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Little cigars or cigarillos use (past 30 days)</td>
<td>6.0‡</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any tobacco product use (past 30 days)</td>
<td>15.7‡</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>23.1‡</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

†Includes cigarettes, pipe, little cigars or cigarillos, cigars, roll-your-own, bidis, smokeless, water-pipe, and blunt wraps. Bidis, blunt wraps and water-pipe were not included on the 2008/2009 questionnaire and pipe was not included in the 2014/2015 questionnaire.
‡Moderate sampling variability, interpret with caution.
#Data are suppressed due to high sampling variability or low sample size.

Note: The 2014/2015 results reported for having ever tried cigarettes and for using e-cigarettes in the past 30 days for SK are statistically significantly higher than the 2014/2015 Canada results.
Figure 1: Current Smoking in SK and Canada, Grade 6-12 Students, 2008-2014/15 CSTADS

- 2008/2009: 13.7% (SK), 45.5% (Canada)
- 2010/2011: 12.4% (SK), 37.9% (Canada)
- 2012/2013: 7.6% (SK), 33.3% (Canada)
- 2014/2015: 3.4% (SK), 26.2% (Canada)

Figure 2: Ever Tried Smoking in SK and Canada, Grade 6-12 Students, 2008-2014/15 CSTADS

- 2008/2009: 45.5% (SK), 33.3% (Canada)
- 2010/2011: 37.9% (SK), 26.2% (Canada)
- 2012/2013: 33.3% (SK), 23.8% (Canada)
- 2014/2015: 26.6% (SK), 17.6% (Canada)

Figure 3: Cigarette Use in the past 30 days in SK and Canada, Grade 6-12 Students, 2008-2014/15 CSTADS

- 2008/2009: 21.5% (SK), 18.4% (Canada)
- 2010/2011: 12.9% (SK), 9.7% (Canada)
- 2012/2013: 13.8% (SK), 7.9% (Canada)
- 2014/2015: 6.2% (SK),
Figure 4: Menthol Cigarette Use in the past 30 days in SK and Canada, Grades 6-12 students, 2010-2014/15 CSTADS

Figure 5: Little Cigar or Cigarillos Use in the Last 30 Days in SK and Canada, Grades 6-12 Students, 2008-2014 CSTADS

Figure 6: Use of Any Tobacco Product in the past 30 days in SK and Canada, Grades 6-12 students, 2008-2014/15 CSTADS

The following table displays alcohol and drug use rates in Saskatchewan (SK) and Canada (CA). The binge drinking rate in Saskatchewan is statistically significantly higher than the national rate. The 2014/2015 CSTADS results show no statistically significant changes in the use of alcohol or drugs since 2012/2013.

Table 2: Alcohol and Drug Use (percentage) in Saskatchewan and Canada, Grade 7-12 Students, 2008/2009 – 2014/2015 Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol Use (past 12 months)</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td>45.7</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>45.4</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>53.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Binge drinking (past 12 months)‡</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>34.9</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>49.1</td>
<td>39.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannabis use (past 12 months)</td>
<td>17.9*</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>18.5*</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical use (past 12 months) €</td>
<td>3.3*</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>6.7</td>
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‡ Binge drinking is defined as having five or more drinks of alcohol on one occasion.
€ Includes sedatives or tranquilizers, stimulants, medicine to treat ADHD, and pain relievers. 2014/2015 also includes oxycodone and fentanyl.

Note: The 2014/2015 results for SK for alcohol use, binge drinking and cannabis use are statistically significantly higher than the 2014/2015 Canada results.
Figure 9: Cannabis Use in the past 12 months in SK and Canada, Grades 7-12 Students, 2008-2014/15 CSTADS

Acknowledgements

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