

# Prevalence of past year substance use in British Columbia and other provinces of Canada from 2008 to 2012

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## 1. Objective

In this report the prevalence of several types of substance use (alcohol, cigarettes, cannabis and other) are presented for British Columbia and other provinces from 2008 to 2012. Breakdowns are provided by sex.

## 2. Methods

The analyses were based on the Canadian Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey (CADUMS) from 2008 to 2012. The CADUMS is an on-going survey on alcohol and other substance use among Canadians. The survey covers population aged 15 years and older in ten provinces and excludes residents of the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, permanent residents of institutions, people living in households without a telephone and people with cell phones only. Details on the survey can be found elsewhere [4].

### 2.1. Prevalence of past year substance use

The percent of adults who used alcohol in past year was estimated. Past year drinker was defined as those who reported drinking at least one time and one drink (one standard drink=13.6 g or 17.05 ml in Canada). The percent of risky drinking for chronic harms was also estimated using the number of drinkers who reported having 16+ drinks in men or 11+ drinks in women weekly average in past year [5]. The percent of risky drinking for acute harms was estimated by the number of drinkers who reported having 5+ drinks in men or 4+ drinks in women on one occasion at least once in past 30 days [5]. Smoking was defined into groups as current or occasional smokers, former smokers (not past 12 months) and those who never smoked 100 cigarettes. Cannabis use in past year was estimated using the number of the people who reported using cannabis in past year.

The prevalence of any other illicit drug uses in past year was estimated using the number of the people who reported using any drugs including cocaine, speed, methamphetamine, ecstasy, hallucinogens, inhalants, heroin, pain relievers to get high, stimulants to get high, and sedatives to get high divided by the sample.

### 2.2. Statistical analysis

Each sample was analyzed to estimate the prevalence of substance use in each year and the pooled sample was also analyzed to estimate the prevalence during the period from 2008 to 2012. The







## References

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5. Butt P, Beirness D, Gliksman L, Paradis C, Stockwell T: Alcohol and health in Canada: A summary of evidence and guidelines for low risk drinking. In. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. Available from URL: <http://www.ccsa.ca/2011%20CCSA%20Documents/Summary-of-Evidence-and-Guidelines-for-Low-Risk%20Drinking-en.pdf> Accessible 18 September 2012; 2011.
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Table 1. Prevalence (%) of alcohol consumption in past year overall and by gender British Columbia and other provinces of Canada, 2008-2012					
Gender	Year				Wald Test for 7 U H Q G ..
	2008-2012 ‡	2008	2009	2010	



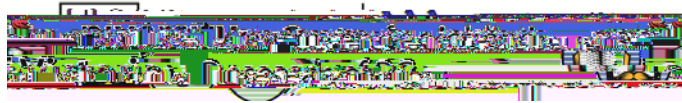
Table 2. Prevalence(%) of risky drinking in past year for chronic harms (having 16drinks in men and 14 drinks in women weekly)overall andby gender in Bri





nder in British Columbia and other provinces of Canada, 2008	
Year	Wald Test for
2009	7 U H Q G ..





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Gender

Year

Wald Test for  
7 U H Q G "



Canada, 2008-2012							
Gender	Year						Wald Test for Trend "
	2008-2012†	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
Total							
BC	3.19 [2.73-3.66]	4.48 [3.66-5.30]	2.99 [2.29-3.70]	2.14 [1.38-2.90]			