

Alcohol & Other Drugs

In Gippsland it's estimated that:

	Gippsland	Victoria
 Current smokers ¹	20.0%	13.1%
 Adults who consume alcohol likely to cause injury (> 4 standard drinks on one occasion at least monthly) ¹	45.1%	42.5%
 Adults who consume alcohol at levels likely to cause long term harm (>2 drinks per day) ¹	63.0%	59.2%
 Alcohol related ambulance attendances ²	19-48* per 10,000 people	35
 Illicit drug ambulance attendances ²	6.6-25* per 10,000 people	18
 Alcohol related hospital admissions ³	34-63* per 10,000 people	55
 People who are alcohol and other drug service clients ⁴	79 per 10,000 people	50
 Alcohol related family violence incidents ³	21-84* per 10,000 people	31
 Alcohol related death rate ³	2.2-4.8* per 10,000 people	1.7

*Range for Gippsland local government areas ■ Among highest or lowest 25% of regions in Victoria

Strengths

- Recommendations to raise awareness and removing stigma around mental health and alcohol and other drug use⁵
- Funders and service providers meet to improve how services work⁶
- Additional services for families, young people and Indigenous people have commenced in 2016-17⁷
- Recommendation to develop a Gippsland mental health and alcohol and other drug web site⁵
- Alcohol and other drug addiction is recognised as a key health issue in Gippsland⁸
- New peer support led services have been funded⁷

Needs

- People experiencing social and economic disadvantage have a significantly higher risk of alcohol and other drug issues⁹
- Alcohol and other drug use and mental health issues often occur together⁹
- Access to local services for rehabilitation and detox are needed⁸
- Alcohol and other drug use is linked to crime, especially family violence⁹
- "... [we need] support for family and carers of people with mental health and AOD issues."⁸
- Alcohol or tobacco related hospital admissions are three times higher for Aboriginal people¹⁰
- Alcohol related hospital admissions are 50% more common for males³
- A focus on prevention and expanded peer support model is needed⁸
- Prescription medication deaths are a growing cause of death¹¹

References

- 1 Victorian Population Health Survey, 2014, DHHS
- 2 Ambo AOD Stats, Turning Point, 2016-17
- 3 AOD Stats, Turning Point, 2014-15
- 4 Victorian Local Government Profiles, 2015, DHHS
- 5 Dual Diagnosis Carer and Consumer Report, Clarke G, Latrobe Regional Hospital, 2017
- 6 Gippsland Alcohol and Drug Service Providers Alliance

7 Gippsland PHN, www.gphn.org.au

8 Gippsland PHN, Community and Stakeholder engagement 2016-18

9 National Drug Strategy, 2017-2026

10 Gippsland Health Online, DHHS, 2014-15

11 Cause of death data, ABS, 2016