

SUBSTANCE USE PREVALENCE & CALD POPULATIONS IN AUSTRALIA

1. CALD population were 16% of respondents in the 2013 National Drug Strategy Household Survey
2. Culturally and linguistically diverse populations (in general) are less likely to drink alcohol at moderate or high risk levels, smoke cannabis, or use amphetamine or methamphetamine.
3. No difference between CALD and non-CALD populations in the likelihood of current tobacco smoking, quitting smoking
4. No difference in using analgesics, tranquilizers, heroin or steroids.
5. No difference in likelihood of injecting drugs.
6. Among people who drink alcohol, people from CALD backgrounds are more likely to do things to reduce risk of harms associated with drinking.
7. No difference in likelihood of experiencing AOD-related physical violence in public spaces.
8. What we can't tell from the survey: data only allows us to generalise where resource allocation would be helpful for "CALD" populations, can't examine uneven distributions of harm within CALD populations that would assist with designing targeted interventions.
9. Data suggests dual-diagnosis alongside accessible, culturally-responsive AOD programs may particularly support improved health among people from CALD backgrounds.

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