
Executive Summary

This report was commissioned by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation (ADF) and presents trends in: alcohol and other drug (AOD) related hospitalisations; AOD-induced deaths (i.e., overdose and other drug-induced deaths where drugs have been deemed the underlying cause of death); AOD treatment episodes; and past year AOD use, among Australians aged 15-50 years.

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7,211 hospitalisations, 79% of all (AOD-related hospitalisations), and this has remained stable over the past decade (76% of all AOD-related hospitalisations in 2013). However, the largest increase in AOD-related hospitalisations was observed for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), which increased thirteen-fold between 2002-2003 (0.9 per 100,000) and 2020-2021 (12.0 per 100,000).

and not to consume more than 4 standard drinks on any single day) – this was highest among those aged 60-69 years (33%) and lowest among those aged –80 years (18%).

- o Older adults who use o pioids and/or benzodiazepines . In 2021 in Australia, the most common drug types
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- o **Polysubstance use** . In 2021, two thirds of AOD-induced deaths involved more than one drug class, with the most common polysubstance use profiles comprising opioids and antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic and