

Young People In Custody Health Survey

2015

Key Comparisons (2009/2015)

Young people in 2015 had similar demographic profiles to those surveyed in 2009

Age at time of interview: 17.0 years (2009), 17.2 years (2015)

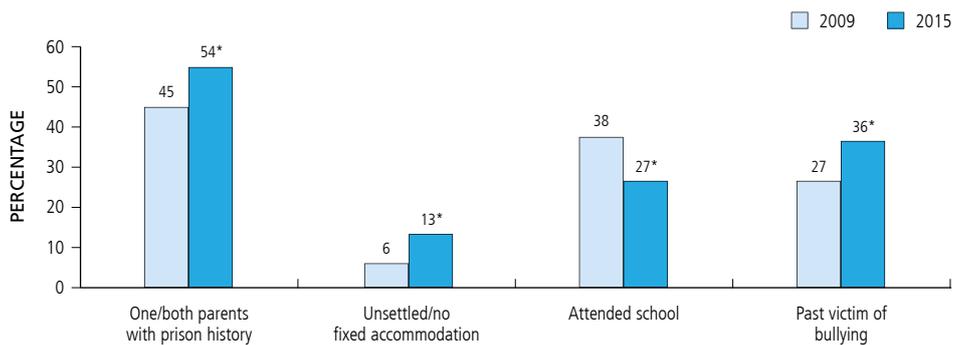
Gender: 88% male (2009), 91% male (2015)

Social Determinants

Key Differences 2009 vs 2015

- A greater proportion of young people in 2015 had a parent who had been in prison. *20% increase from 2009.*
- A greater proportion of young people in 2015 had unsettled accommodation or no fixed abode in the four weeks prior to custody. *117% increase from 2009.*
- Fewer young people in 2015 had attended school in the six months prior to custody. *29% decrease from 2009.*
- A greater proportion of participants in 2015 had been bullied. *33% increase from 2009.*

Table 1: Social Determinants

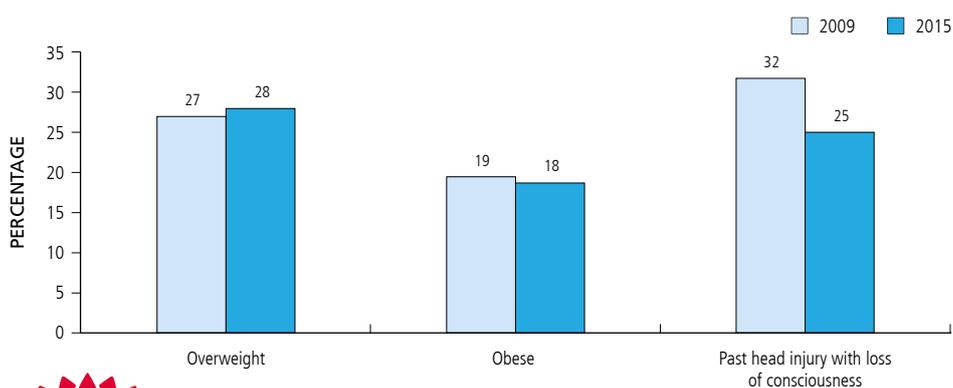


* Statistically significant difference from 2009

Physical Health

- The prevalence of overweight and obesity remained high in 2015. *4% increase in overweight, 5% decrease in obesity from 2009.*
- The prevalence of self-reported head injury resulting in loss of consciousness decreased slightly from 2009, but nevertheless remained high. *22% decrease from 2009.*

Table 2: Physical Health



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Key Comparisons (2009/2015)

Smoking, Alcohol and Drugs

- A lifetime history of smoking (2009: 94%; 2015: 92%) and daily smoking in the 12 months prior to custody (2009: 79%; 2015: 82%) remained prevalent in 2015
- As was the case in 2009, lifetime illicit drug use was reported by the majority of young people in 2015 (2009: 89%; 2015: 93%).

2% decrease in lifetime smoking, 4% increase in daily smoking from 2009.

4% increase from 2009.

Key Differences 2009 vs 2015

- Of those who reported drinking in the 12 months prior to custody, fewer 2015 participants reported being drunk at least weekly during this period.
- In 2015, young people were more likely than those in 2009 to have used an illicit drug at least weekly in the year prior to custody than in 2009.
- In 2015, young people were more likely to have ever used crystal methamphetamine (ice) and cocaine.
- A significantly greater proportion of young people in 2015 reported that they were intoxicated (on alcohol, drugs or both) at the time of their offence (2009: 69%; 2015: 78%).

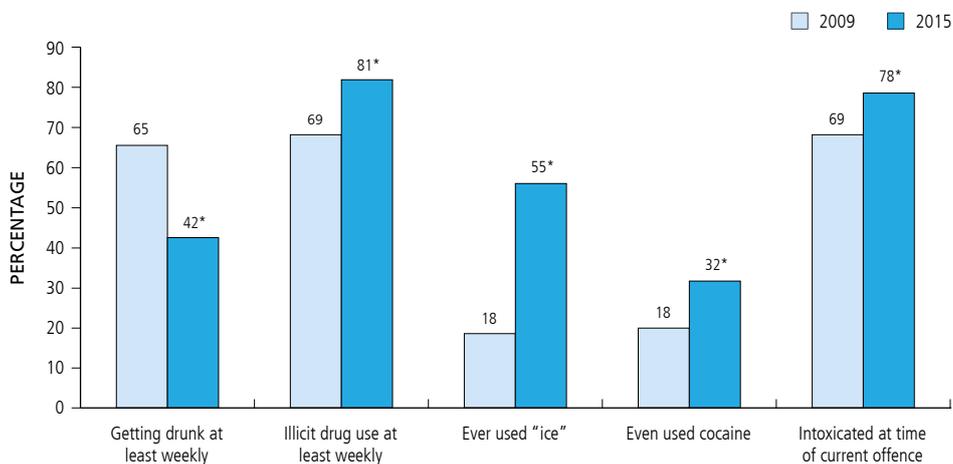
35% decrease from 2009.

17% increase from 2009.

206% increase in crystal methamphetamine use; 60% increase in cocaine use from 2009.

13% increase from 2009.

Table 3: Alcohol and Illicit Drug Use



* Statistically significant difference from 2009

Illicit drugs: heroin, cannabis, methamphetamine, amphetamine, cocaine, ecstasy, gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB)/Ketamine, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD)

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Key Comparisons (2009/2015)

Mental Health

Psychological Disorders

- The prevalence of past 12 month mental health diagnoses remained high in 2015 (2009: 87%; 2015: 83%).
- Disruptive behaviour disorders other than attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) (i.e. conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, disruptive behaviour disorder not otherwise specified (NOS)) remained highly prevalent in 2015 (2009: 63%; 2015: 59%).
- As was the case in 2009, approximately two thirds of young people in custody met criteria for a substance (i.e. alcohol and/or drug) use disorder in the preceding 12 months (2009: 64%; 2015: 66%).

5% decrease since 2009.

6% decrease since 2009.

3% increase since 2009.

Key Differences 2009 vs 2015

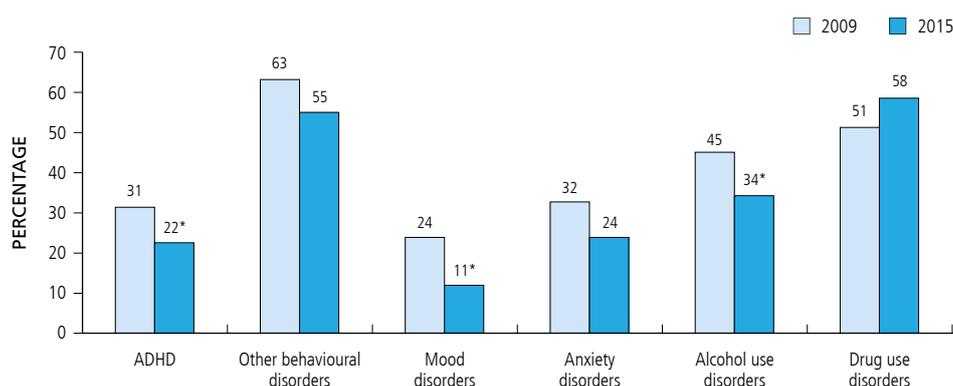
- ADHD (including ADHD NOS) in the preceding 12 months was less prevalent in 2015 than in 2009.
- There was a decrease in the past year prevalence of alcohol use disorders in 2015, although the prevalence of drug use disorders remained high.
- Young people in 2015 were less likely than those in 2009 to meet criteria for a mood disorder in the preceding 12 months

29% decrease from 2009.

24% decrease in alcohol use disorders, 14% increase in drug use disorders since 2009

54% decrease from 2009.

Table 4: Mental Health Indicators



* Statistically significant difference from 2009

Cognitive Ability

- The proportion of young people in 2015 that had an intelligence quotient (IQ) in the "Extremely Low" (intellectual disability) range (IQ < 70) was similar to that in 2009 (2009: 14%; 2015: 17%), as was the proportion that had an IQ in the "Borderline" range (IQ 70-79) (2009: 32%; 2015: 39%).

21% increase in participants with IQ in "Extremely Low" range, 22% increase in participants with IQ in "Borderline" range, since 2009.

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Key Comparisons (2009/2015)

Childhood Abuse and Neglect

- The proportion of young people reporting a history of childhood abuse and neglect remained high in 2015 (2009: 60%; 2015: 68%). *13% increase since 2009.*
- In both 2009 and 2015, approximately one in four young people reported a history of “severe” abuse and neglect (2009: 23%; 2015: 28%). *22% increase since 2009.*

Offending Behaviour

Key Differences 2009 vs 2015

- A greater proportion of young people surveyed in 2015 had been in custody prior to the current custodial period (2009: 77%; 2015: 84%). *9% increase since 2009.*
- On average, young people surveyed in 2015 first entered custody at a later age than those surveyed in 2009 (2009: 14.3 years; 2015: 15.1 years).