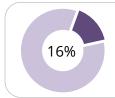
OSDUHS Data Brief

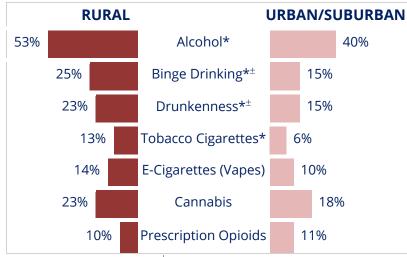


Alcohol and Drug Use Among Ontario Students in Rural Areas



About 16% of Ontario students in grades 7-12 attended a school in a rural area in 2017.[†]

Percentage of students reporting past year drug use by rural versus non-rural area, 2017 OSDUHS



Students who attended schools in rural areas of the province were significantly more likely than students who attended urban/suburban schools to:

- drink alcohol
- binge drink
- get drunk, and
- smoke tobacco cigarettes.

 \ast significant difference (p<.05); $^{\pm}$ binge drinking and drunkenness refer to the past month.

Students who attended schools in rural areas of the province were significantly more likely than students who attended urban/ suburban schools to ride in a vehicle with a driver who had been drinking alcohol.



Percentage of students reporting vehicle-related risk behaviours in the past year by rural versus non-rural area, 2017 OSDUHS

* significant difference (p<.05); $^{\pm}$ among grades 10-12 with a driver's licence.

[†] Rural is based on Statistics Canada's definition of rural area classification, and derived using the 2016 Census Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF).

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's (CAMH) *Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey* (OSDUHS) is a health survey of Ontario students in grades 7-12. The OSDUHS has been conducted in Ontario schools every two years since 1977, making it Canada's longest ongoing student survey and one of the longest in the world. The 2017 OSDUHS surveyed 11,435 students in 764 classes in 214 schools in 52 boards. For more information on survey methods and definitions, please see the OSDUHS drug use report available at <u>www.camh.ca/osduhs</u>.