

# Prevalence of alcohol, tobacco and illicit substance use among secondary school student in Thailand, 2015

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## Introduction

Alcohol consumption has been considered as major social problems, lead to health risk behaviors among teenagers. This paper aimed to obtain prevalence of alcohol, tobacco and illicit substance use among secondary school student in Thailand.

## Methods

Cross-sectional survey was conducted, in high-school students, academic year 2015. Two-stages sampling was applied and data were collected using self-administered questionnaire in 117 secondary schools and 79 vocational schools, from 40 provinces.

## Results

Of all 38,535 students, 54.5% were female, average age 15.2, SD 1.9. Prevalence of life-time, past-year and current drinking were 37.5%, 25.9% and 17.8%. Among current drinkers, proportion of drink until intoxicate, frequent drinking, and binge drinking were 40.5%, 40.4% and 25.5% respectively. Student who ever smoked a cigarette was 14.6%, with past-year and past-30 days smoking prevalence of 9.6% and 6.8%. The students with experience of any illicit substance use and in past-year were 5.5% and 2.4%. The common substances used were Cannabis, Krathom and Metamphetamines. Male had higher prevalence than female and prevalence increased regarding school years, consistently for alcohol, tobacco and illegal substance. Among those ever experienced, 70% experienced only single type, whilst 7.2% had experienced all.

## Conclusion

Alcohol drinking, tobacco and substance used among secondary school student is needed for comprehensive prevention measures. Effective screening and cares should be launched for student with risk drinking and illicit substance use.