



Forum: General Assembly 6

Issue: Laws to Moderating the Distribution of Addictive Substances
Among Gen Z

Student Officer: Christina Fan

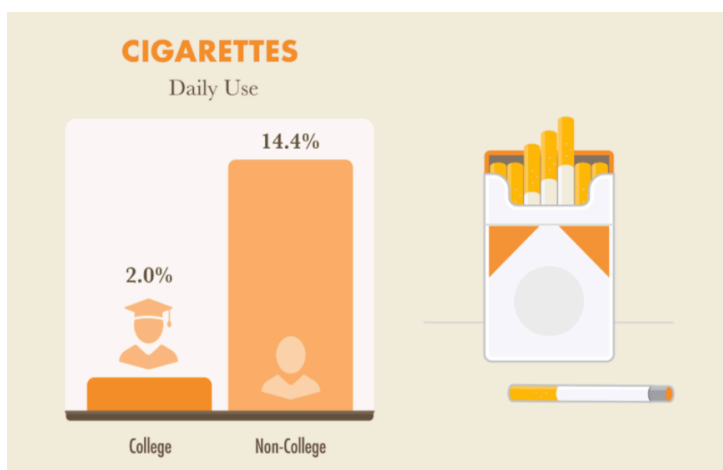
Overview

A significant percentage of the addictive population occurred across the world since decades ago. According to United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), globally, between 155 and 250 million people, or 3.5% to 5.7% of the population aged 15-64, had used illicit substances at least once in the previous year. Indeed, the statistic illustrates addictive substances are widespread nowadays. Generally, an addiction is a chronic disease characterized by the behavior of seeking compulsive-substance such as drug or alcohol. The patient will present withdrawal symptoms when the substance ingestion stopped. Human beings, especially teenagers access magnitude drugs for various reasons. Specifically, young people marked illicit substances as socialize tools. Many teenagers felt shy and had trouble to make friends when they enter high school as a freshman, thus, people use alcohol and drug to enhance their confidence or to bond with a social group that familiar with these substances. In addition, Gen Z hooked on drug and alcohol to relieve the pressure. Nevertheless, most of the teenagers were overly stressed with their academic performance in school, tight schedule, and extracurricular activities. In order to relieve the individual's pressure, people created an artificial method of coping with stress such as marijuana. The phenomenon of utilizing drug is not only the "prevalent culture" among of Gen Z population but also a potential problem for human development.

Additionally, the repetition of drug use can lead to healthcare issue such as attention deficit hyperactivity(ADHD), intermittent explosive disorder, bipolar disorder, etc. Overdose drug addicted person's ability to self-control and interfere the resist intense urges to take drugs among young people. According to "Our World in Data", the project produced by Oxford Martin Programme on Global Development at the University of Oxford, the global estimation of death rate from total substances use in 2016, around 144,000 directly deaths

from drug use disorder. The research is reflecting the demand for addressing treatment and health care subsidy of drug dependence person. Meanwhile, the data implies the consequences of overdose illicit have the association with some drug-taking behaviors, also it emphasizes the increased risk of developing an illicit drug dependency or abuse disorder in individuals.

Further, managing the access method (drugs trafficking) of the addictive substance and educating the risk of drugs is essential for solving the problem. Traffickers creates profit by trading with the drug abuser. Especially, traffickers pay fully attention to ages between 15-24 because the high consumption creates more business. As more traffickers occurred within the society, more young ages people will be affected. Comparatively, Gen Z also attracted by illicit drug owing to the feeling of freshness, enjoy the moment that all stress suddenly released. According to a research from National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIH) about drug and alcohol use in college-age adults in 2017, the graphic clearly illustrates people that have higher education level would employ least illicit substances.



In fact, some of the non-college people or lower education level individuals did not recognize the seriousness of the matter, people do not understand addicted drugs is to danger that can lead human's brain change. In essence, reducing drugs trafficking and educating youth is crucial for Gen Z to have a healthy environment.

Key Terms

Generation Z

Describe the cohort of people that born after mid-1990s to mid-2000s.

Addictive Substance



An addictive substance is something that individual can not resist once start taking it, such as drugs, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, heroin etc.

Drugs trafficking

Simply known as the drug trade. Is a global black market trade involving the manufacture, distribution, plantation, sale of substances which violate to drug prohibition laws.

Important Events/Timelines

Date	Event
1919	The 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1919, prohibited the sale of all intoxicating liquors in the United States, superseding State laws on the sale of alcoholic beverages to young people.
1946	Establishment of Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) by resolution 9(I) from the United Nation's Economic and Social Council, to help supervise application of international drug control treaties.
1970-1975	Between 1970 and 1975, 29 States lowered their minimum drinking ages from 21 to 18, 19, or 20, following the enactment of the 26th Amendment to the U.S.
1980s	In the 1980s, States began to return the minimum drinking age to 21.
1991	UN General Assembly expands the mandate of the CND, allowing it to function as the governing body of the UNODC.



- 1997** Establishment of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through merging the United Nations Drug Control Programme and the Centre for International Crime Prevention. Its aim was to control drug abuse, illegal distribution of drugs, criminal activity etc.
- 2000** Establishment of World Health Organization (WHO)'s Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, by merging the Department of Substance Abuse with the Department of Mental Health. The strengthening of mental health and substance abuse policies is among its primary objectives.
- 2000** The *Children's Health Act of 2000* reauthorizes SAMHSA programs that work to improve mental health and substance abuse services for children and adolescents. It also provides SAMHSA the authority to implement proposals that give U.S. states more flexibility in how they use block grant funds, with accountability based on performance.
- 2006** The *STOP Act* of 2006 authorized:
A grant program providing additional funds to current or former grantees under the Drug Free Communities Act of 1997 to prevent and reduce alcohol use among youth ages 12-20.
- 2009** Focus on raising resolutions for international cooperation on controlling drug abuse, including prevention of drug abuse among children, such as resolution 43/4 from the CND.
- 2018** More focus on raising resolutions for protecting children from illicit drug challenges, such as Resolution 61/9 from the CND.

Major Nations/Organizations



World Health Organization (WHO)

World Health Organization's Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse aims to strengthen policies regarding mental health and substance abuse, as well as providing technical guidance and a reliable information base regarding these topics.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's functioning governing body, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, heavily focuses on raising resolutions and supervising the application of international treaties, regarding drug control.

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism is one of the leading research institutes in the world regarding the causes and consequences of alcohol-related problems, as well as how we can prevent these problems.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration focuses on public health efforts in order to improve the behavioral health of the people of the United States of America. It aims to make substance abuse and mental health information, services and research more accessible to the public.

National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

The organization was found in 1971 and conducted data every year from the nations. National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) provides data information on Drug Use and Health including: tobacco, alcohol, and drug use, mental health and other health-related issues. The information of NSDUH is used to support the prevention and treatment of addictive substance usage, estimate the needs of public treatment and inform public health policy, and monitor the trends of substances.

Important Documents/Passed Solutions

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Resolution 60/7, 17 March 2017

2. Preventing the use of illicit drugs within Member States and strengthening international cooperation on policies of drug abuse prevention, Resolution 53/2, 12 March 2010
3. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Resolution 59/2, 22 March 2016.

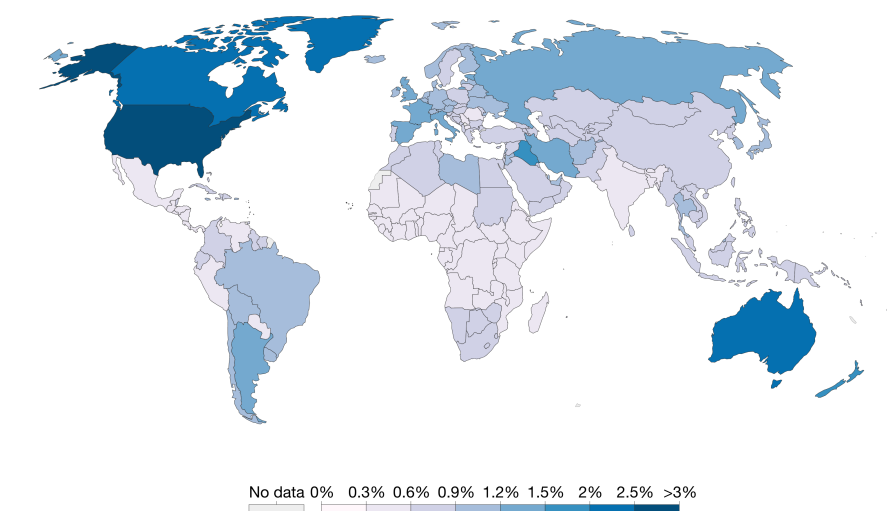
Statistics

- (1) Estimated about 0.85 percent of the world population had addictive substance usage (not including alcohol) disorder in 2016. Across the world, the prevalence ranged from 0.4 to 3.4 percent. In addition, in 2016, the United States was the highest prevalence where around age 1-30 has drugs addiction.

Share of population with drug use disorders, 2016

Drug dependence is defined by the International Classification of Diseases as the presence of three or more indicators of dependence for at least a month within the previous year. Drug dependency includes all illicit drugs.

OurWorld
in Data



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

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(FIGURE 1.1 Our World in Data, Substance Use, April 2018.)

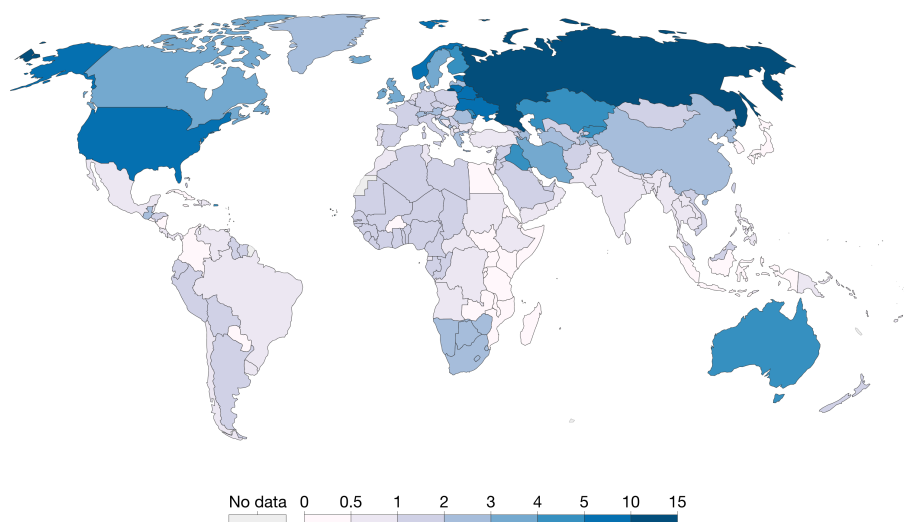
- (2) Globally estimated about 144,000 direct deaths of drug use disorders in 2016. Russia has the highest death rate over 10 deaths per 100,000. Following by the United States just under 10 per 100,000.

(FIGURE 1.2 Our World in Data, Substance Use, April 2018.)

Death rates from drug use disorders, 2016

Age-standardized death rates from drug use disorders, measured per 100,000 individuals. Drug use here refers to illicit drugs including opioids, cocaine, amphetamine, and cannabis. Figures do not include indirect suicide deaths which may otherwise be related to drug use disorders.

Our World
in Data



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

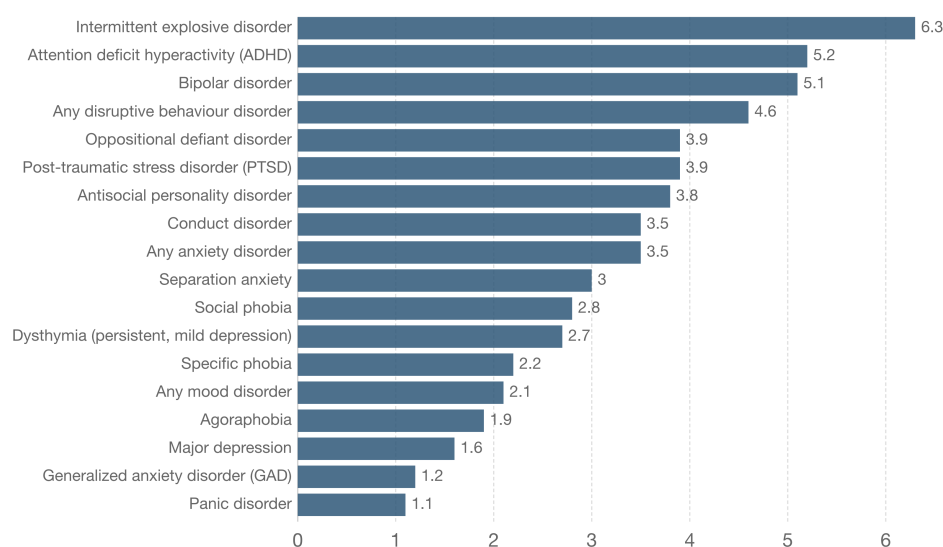
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(3) The relationship between addictive substance and mental health:

Mental health as a risk factor for illicit drug dependency or abuse

Increased risk of developing an illicit drug dependency or abuse disorder in individuals with a given mental health disorder, relative to those without. A value of 3.9 for PTSD, for example, would indicate that individuals with PTSD are 3.9 times as likely to develop drug dependency relative to those without.

Our World
in Data



Source: Swendsen et al. (2010)

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(FIGURE 1.3 Our World in Data, Substance Use, April 2018.)



Possible Solutions

1. Addressing the health and social consequences for children
2. Preventing the usage of drugs
3. Treating drug dependence
4. Facilitating Gen Z contribution and conformability to the larger community
5. Reinforcing healthcare professionals
6. Promoting psychotherapy within the community
7. Strong laws and regulations
8. Establish international cooperation to eliminating the addictive substances' business
9. Educating Gen Z about the possible risks and hazard of drug use, the educator such as teachers, parents, and healthcare providers have crucial responsibility.

Additional Links

1. National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Model-Based Prevalence Estimates <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHsaePercents2016/NSDUHsaePercents2016.pdf>
2. Access to Controlled Drugs for Medical Purposes, While Preventing Diversion and Abuse (GLOK67) <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-prevention-and-treatment/access-to-controlled-medicines/accessibility-medicines-availability-glok67.html>
3. Preventing Illicit Drug Use and Treating Drug Use Disorders for Children and Adolescents <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-prevention-and-treatment/children/index.html>
4. Publications on prevention of drug use and treatment, care and rehabilitation of drug dependence www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-prevention-and-treatment/publications.html
5. Education sector responses to the use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs http://www.unodc.org/documents/drug-prevention-and-treatment/UNODC_UNESCO_WHO_GoodPolicyAndPracticeInHealthEducation.pdf
6. Monitoring the Future Study: Trends in Prevalence of Various Drugs <http://www.drugabuse.gov/trends-statistics/monitoring-future/monitoring-future-study-trends-in-prevalence-various-drugs>



7. Opioid overdose: preventing and reducing opioid overdose mortality <http://www.unodc.org/docs/treatment/overdose.pdf>
8. UNODC Youth Initiative Discussion Guide http://www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/youth_initiative_discussion_guide_E.pdf
9. Substance Use <https://ourworldindata.org/substance-use>

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6. National Institute on Drug Abuse. “The Science of Drug Use and Addiction: The Basics.” *NIDA*, www.drugabuse.gov/publications/media-guide/science-drug-use-addiction-basics. Accessed 20 Oct. 2019.
7. National Institute on Drug Abuse. “Trends & Statistics.” *NIDA*, 24 Apr. 2017, www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/trends-statistics#costs. Accessed 20 Oct. 2019.



8. "Opioid Overdose." *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 9 Aug. 2018, www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/. Accessed 20 Oct. 2019.
9. rebecca.wabwoba. "United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime." *Legal Framework*, www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/legal-framework.html. Accessed 20 Oct. 2019.
10. "Substance Use." *Our World in Data*, ourworldindata.org/substance-use. Accessed 28 Oct. 2019.
11. "The 5 Most Addictive Substances On Earth." *AddictionCenter*, 12 Apr. 2018, www.addictioncenter.com/community/these-are-the-5-most-addictive-substances-on-earth/. Accessed 22 Oct. 2019.
12. "Underage Drinking." *National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, alcoholpolicy.niaaa.nih.gov/underage-drinking. Accessed 28 Oct. 2019.