

RETREAT FACT SHEET

KEY TRENDS AND STATISTICS FOR WOMEN AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

WAYZATA, MINN. (MAY 29, 2019)

The Washington Post reported in December, 2016, that between 1999 and 2015, the rate of alcohol-related deaths increased 130 percent in Caucasian women and 27 percent in Hispanic women. (Alcohol-related deaths decreased 12 percent among black women.)

Women over 40 are more frequently prescribed opiates, at higher doses, and become addicted more quickly than men.

The Centers for Disease Control reports that between 1999 and 2010, prescription overdose deaths increased 400 percent among women versus 237 percent for men.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that death rates for female alcoholics are 50 to 100 percent higher than those of male alcoholics.

According to a national emergency room data sample and reported by the Washington Post, women ages 45 to 54 are the most frequently hospitalized female patient group for alcohol intoxication.

Since the 2010 U.S. census, white college-educated females ages 30 to 50 are the only demographic group whose life expectancy has declined, reflecting the impact of alcohol and drug abuse.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), a branch of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, says that in 2011, 33.1 percent of the estimated 1.84 million admissions to substance abuse treatment centers were women.

According to the Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health, every dollar spent on treatment saves \$4 in health care costs, and \$7 in criminal justice costs.

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