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National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre; NCPIC

Key points

- The 2007 National Drug Strategy Household Survey demonstrated that cannabis remains the most commonly used illicit drug in Australia
- Rates of recent cannabis use among 14 to 39-year-olds have continued to decline since 1998
- Despite these population-level declines, preliminary exploration of cannabis-related presentations to two Sydney emergency departments between 2004 and 2006 revealed the presence of physical and mental health problems and (sometimes violent) injuries
- There are gender issues worthy of further exploration, particularly the convergence in rates of cannabis use among the 14 to 19 years age group

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Figure 1

Percentage of Australians aged at least 14 years reporting lifetime and recent cannabis use, 1995 to 2007

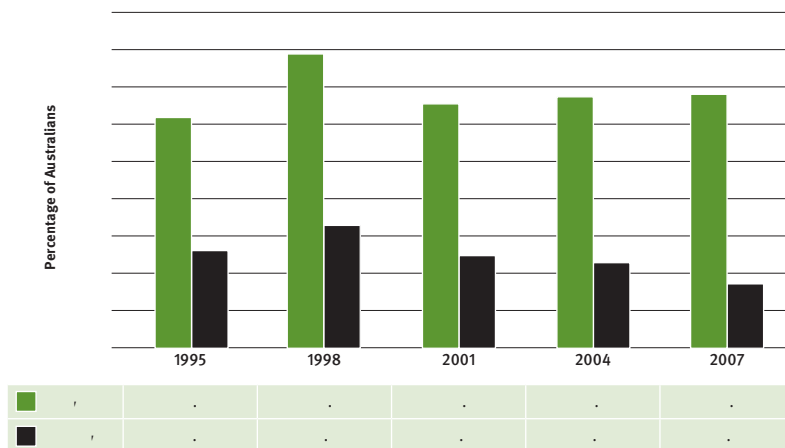
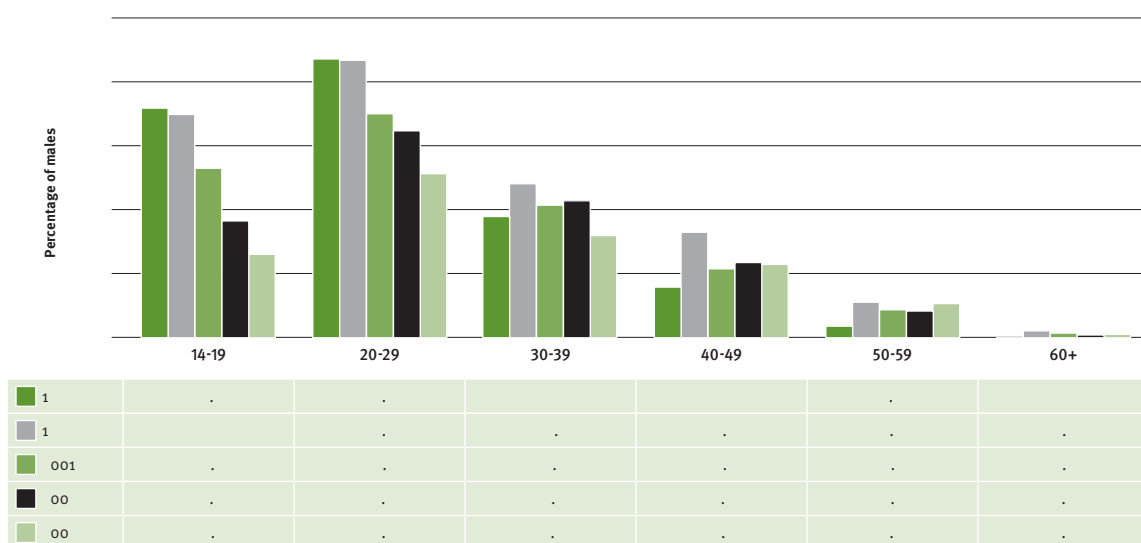


Figure 2

Australian males' recent cannabis use by age group, 1995 to 2007





Conclusion

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Reference

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. (00). *National Drug Strategy Household Survey: first results.* Drug Statistics Series number 20. Cat. no. PHE 98. A ...

