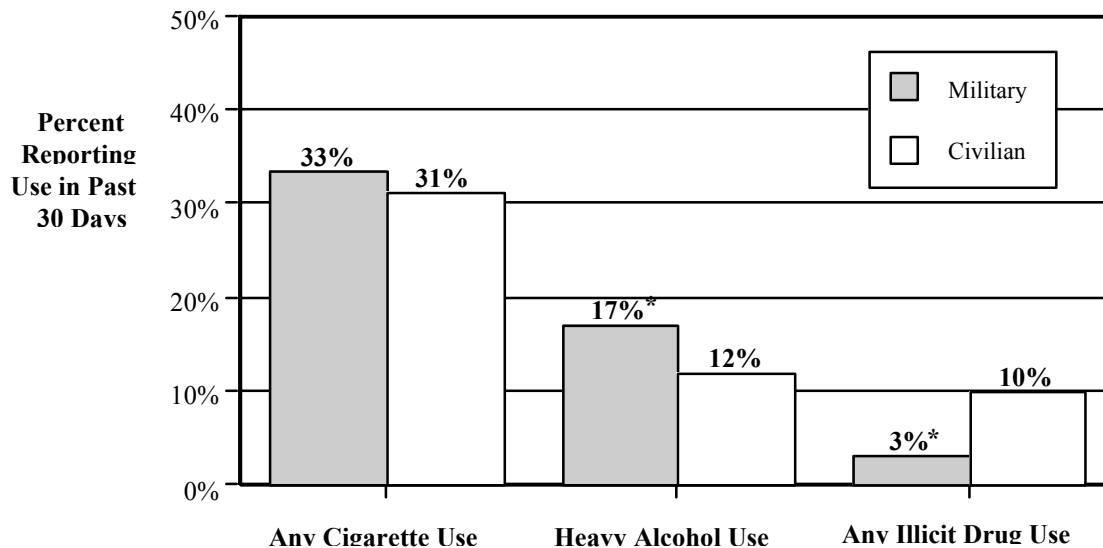


Military Personnel Report Lower Rates of Illicit Drug Use, Higher Rates of Heavy Alcohol Use Than Civilians

According to a survey of health-related behaviors among military personnel, there are major differences in substance use between military personnel and civilians. The survey data were compared to data from the 1994 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, which were standardized to match the demographic distribution of the military personnel. Military personnel were significantly more likely to report heavy alcohol use than civilians. This difference was greatest for men in the military aged 18 to 25, who were nearly 1.5 times more likely to report heavy alcohol use than civilians in the same age group. While military personnel were significantly less likely to use illicit drugs than civilians, marijuana was the most commonly used illicit drug among both groups.

Percentage of Military Personnel and Civilians (Aged 18-55) Reporting Past Month Cigarette, Heavy Alcohol, and Illicit Drug Use*



*Civilian data were standardized to the military data by sex, age, education, race/ethnicity, and marital status. Illicit drug use is defined as the nonmedical use of marijuana/hashish, PCP, LSD or other hallucinogens, cocaine, amphetamines or other stimulants, tranquilizers or other depressants, barbiturates or other sedatives, heroin or other opiates, analgesics or other narcotics, inhalants, designer drugs, and anabolic steroids.

*Significantly different from the civilian estimate at the .05 significance level.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Robert M. Bray et al., 1995 Department of Defense Survey of Health Related Behaviors Among Military Personnel, The Research Triangle Institute, February 1996. For more information, contact Robert M. Bray at 919-541-6000.

CESAR SEEKING FULL-TIME INTERVIEWER/EVALUATOR

Experienced interviewer/evaluator wanted to help evaluate a residential drug treatment program for women. Must have experience conducting in-person interviews with comparable population. Knowledge of SPSS and Lotus 123 preferred. Please fax resume and references to Ms. Midkiff at 301-403-8342. The University of Maryland is an AA/EOE.

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