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NATIONAL SURVEY OF PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES USE IN ADOLESCENTES IN CONFLICT WITH THE
LAW IN COLOMBIA
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**NATIONAL SURVEY OF
PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES USE
IN ADOLESCENTES IN CONFLICT
WITH THE LAW IN COLOMBIA**

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General Objective

Estimate the magnitude of the consumption of psychoactive substances and their relationship to crime among adolescents in conflict with the law in Colombia



Methodology

- Universe: young offenders linked to the juvenile criminal system. This is a fluctuating population of which the survey achieved 1.189.
- Questionnaire: Methodology prepared by the
- CICAD/OAS, based on experience from the CONACE in Chile.
- Pilot project: We conducted a pilot test with 200 cases.
- Bogotá, Cali, Medellín, Itagüí, Manizales, Pasto, Bucaramanga, Piedecuesta, Cartagena, Neiva, Popayán and Soacha.



Results

General characteristics of the population:

- Over 80% of the population is between 16 and 18 years old.
- About 60% had incomplete secondary while 16% have completed primary.
- 90% men and 10% female.
- Social Economic Level: 1, 2 and 3.
- Absent parent families and high unemployment in parents.



Last behavior for which has been sanctioned

Behavior	Total
Theft	54,4
Homicide	20,2
Personal injury	17,7
Drug offense	16,5
Weapon – related crime	13,1

Consumption



Substances	Study young offenders		
	Lifetime	Past year	Past month
Marihuana	87,8	74,1	30,6
Tranquilizers	49,1	40,0	13,6
Cocaine	36,3	30,2	9,8
Inhalans	36,0	28,0	7,3
Basuco	20,9	15,4	4,5
Ecstasy	11,6	9,1	2,7
Heroin	5,6	4,0	1,4

Adolescent prison population compared to school population



Substance	Study young offender			Study school population	
	Lifetime	Past year	Past month	Lifetime	Past year
Alcohol	87,8	74,1	30,6	76,4	65,4
Marihuana	77,4	63,4	28,9	8,2	7,1
Tranquilizers	49,1	40,0	13,6	10,1	6,4
Cocaine	36,3	30,2	9,8	1,92	1,7
Inhalans	36,0	28,0	7,3	4	3,5
Basuco	20,9	15,4	4,5	1,4	1,27
Ecstasy	11,6	9,1	2,7	3,5	2,96
Heroin	5,6	4,0	1,4	1,3	1,2

Some relationship to drug



Some relationship to drug	Total
Drug offense (ever)	35,2
He did it to buy drugs	23,8
Was committed under the influence of some substance	49,1
Any substance consumed that day	44,6

Dependency to Psychoactive substances



According to international criteria DSM -IV

MEN	WOMEN
25%	30%



Beyond the data

- It is confirmed that adolescents in conflict with the law are highly vulnerable
- Need to strengthen efforts to reach populations highly vulnerable to actions aimed at preventing the use of Psychoactive substances.
- Design and implementation of actions to integrate the prevention of crime and drug prevention.
- Strengthen programs for drug treatment under the Criminal Responsibility System of Adolescents.
- Useful Information for the System Adolescent Criminal Responsibility in the Law on Children and Adolescents in 2006, with the sense of the penalty is educational and restorative.
- Supports the need to implement treatment courts in the country.
- This study is a baseline and should advance the effort.