



Indiana Prevention
Resource Center

GHB

GAMMA HYDROXYBUTYRIC ACID

Gamma hydroxybutyric acid, more commonly referred to as GHB, is a substance that was initially used by bodybuilders to stimulate muscle growth. In recent years, it has become a popular recreational drug among club patrons and those who attend “raves.” GHB can be found in the forms of a white powder or an odorless (sometimes colorless) liquid. Street names for GHB include liquid ecstasy, scoop, easy lay, Georgia home boy, grievous bodily harm, liquid X, and goop. This drug is usually ingested, often mixed with alcohol, and has been used as a sedative aid in sexual assaults and rapes.



EFFECTS

The effects of GHB use can vary from person to person. Most common are states of relaxation and euphoria, which may be followed by nausea, dizziness, drowsiness, visual disturbances, respiratory distress, amnesia, seizures, and possibly coma. There have also been documented cases of poisoning and death resulting from GHB use.



SCHOOL OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL
EDUCATION, AND RECREATION
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Bloomington



DEPARTMENT OF
APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCE
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
Bloomington

The Indiana Prevention Resource Center is operated by the Department of Applied Health Science, School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at Indiana University. Funded, in part, by a contract with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health and Addiction, financially supported through Health and Human Services/Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.



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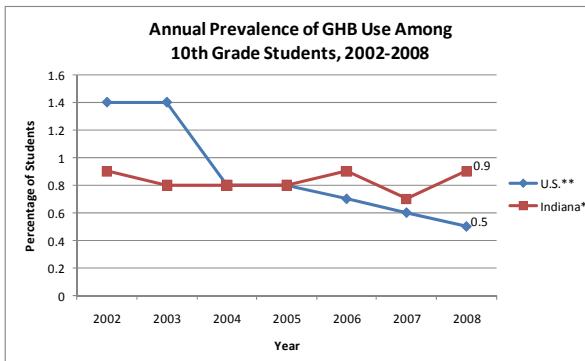


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INCIDENCE & PREVALENCE

In 2002, the rates of annual use of GHB were lower among adolescents in Indiana than compared to the national figures. Although the state figures continued to remain lower than the national statistics among 8th and 12th graders, there has been a significant trend of increased GHB use among 10th grade students in Indiana. According to the IPRC 2008 Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use by Indiana Children and Adolescent Survey, 0.9% of 10th graders surveyed have used GHB within the past year; this is nearly twice the national rate, which was reported to be 0.5% in 2008 among the same grade level.



Source: IPRC 2008 ATOD Use By Children & Adolescent Survey*

Monitoring the Future Study, Univ. of Michigan 2008**

LAW & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GHB is currently classified as a Schedule I controlled substance by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. As a Schedule I drug, GHB has a high potential for abuse and individuals who possess, distribute, or manufacture GHB could face serious penalties such as up to 20 years of imprisonment. The Food and Drug Administration has banned GHB in the U.S. since 1990.

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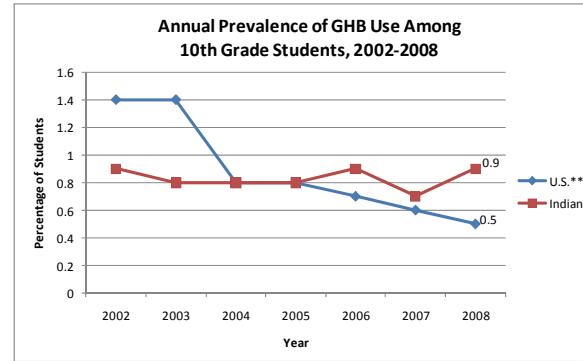
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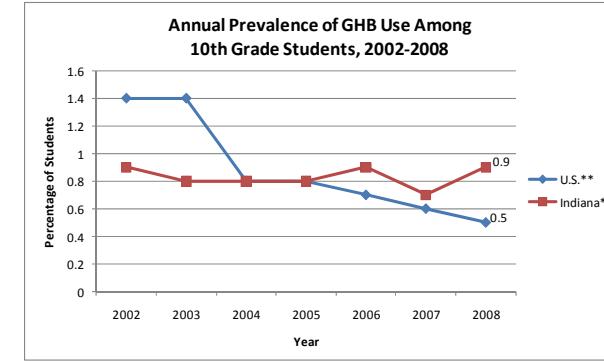
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