

marri *Findings*

FAITH & FAMILY

Sex Differences in Addiction

“Human beings are not animals, and I do not want to see sex and sexual differences treated as casually and amorally as dogs and other beasts treat them.”—Ronald Reagan, 40th. President of the United States.

Sex Differences in Alcohol Use



A [2019 review](#) found that women are generally more likely to drink to regulate negative feelings and reaction to stress, while men are more likely to drink for positive social reinforcement. These differences coincide with the exposure to early life stress and emerging changes in brain morphology that occur during adolescence.

Severity of Alcohol Dependence Differ Between the Sexes



A [2019 cross-sectional study](#) of 178 alcohol-dependent, outpatients in Spain compared the severity of alcohol dependence with other clinical and psychopathological characteristics between men and women found sex-dependent differences in alcohol consumption to be associated with suicide attempts, addiction severity, age at onset of regular consumption, and depression.

Sex Differences in Addictive Behaviors



A [2014 review](#) of male-female differences in addictive behavior found that
 uncontrolled food intake is higher among women than men;
 women were more likely to abuse prescribed drugs, while
 men were more likely to abuse illicit drugs;

compulsive sexual behavior or sex addiction, however, is higher among men than women;

men had higher levels of addiction to gambling than women;

women, once they start gambling, have faster progression toward pathological gambling than men.



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