

2018 Student Survey Data

Additional Analysis, updated 11.16.19

Past 30-day Use by Grade, Race & Ethnicity

Overall, rates of use increase as students rise from 7th to 11th grade. In 2018, grade-specific use rates of alcohol range from a low of 12.8% among 7th graders to a high of 39.5% among 11th grade students. A similar range is found with marijuana use – students report a low of 3.5% among 7th grade students to a high of 19.8% among juniors.

Substance use rates are similar when comparing rates between males and females – although males report slightly higher use rates around binge drinking, marijuana and tobacco (Table 1.)

Students who identify as white report higher alcohol use rates and students who identify as black report higher marijuana, tobacco and prescription drug abuse rates. Students who identify as Asian report much lower use rates for all core substances (Table 2.)

Table 1. 30-day Use Rates by Gender, 2018

30-day use	All (n=1976) %	Male (n=900) %	Female (n=938) %
Alcohol	25.5	24.3	24.6
Alcohol-Binge	13.0	13.0	12.0
Marijuana	11.0	11.3	9.8
Tobacco	1.6	1.9	1.0
Rx Drugs	2.9	2.7	2.9

Table 2. 30-Day Use Rates by Race & Ethnicity, 2018

30-day use	All (n=1976) %	Hispanic/ Latino (n=935) %	White (n=732) %	Black (n=357) %	Multi-racial (n=159) %	Asian (n=100) %
Alcohol	25.5	24.8	30.2	22.1	25.8	11.0
Alcohol-Binge	13.0	13.6	13.8	14.1	15.4	5.0
Marijuana	11.0	12.0	11.3	15.1	8.1	3.0
Tobacco	1.6	1.8	1.6	2.8	1.3	1.0
Rx Drugs	2.9	3.6	2.9	5.9	5.0	0.0

Past 30-Day Use by At-Risk Sub-populations

When examining variables that indicate a student maybe at-risk, the data indicates higher substance use rates among these students -

- Students who reported feeling sad or depressed (most or all of the time in the last month), students who had attempted suicide (one or more times in the life) and students who have engaged in a bulimic or anorexic behavior all report higher substance use rates across all four core substances (Table 3.)
- Students who reported skipping school (once or more in the past 4 weeks), hitting someone, stealing, or vandalizing report higher substance use rates across all four core substances (Table 4.)

Table 3. 30 Day-Use Rates by Mental Health Status, 2018

30-day use	All (n=1976) %	Sad or Depressed (n=395) %	Attempted Suicide (n=274) %	Eating Disorder (n=401) %
Alcohol	25.5	34.4*	36.1*	30.4*
Alcohol - Binge	13.0	17.7*	20.1*	20.2*
Marijuana	11.0	16.8*	17.6*	16.9*
Tobacco	1.6	2.5	4.3*	3.4*
Rx Drugs	2.9	6.5*	10.8*	7.0*

Table 4. 30 Day-Use Rates by Risky Behaviors, 2018

30-day use	All (n=1976) %	Ditched School (n=282) %	Hit (n=498) %	Stealing (n=376) %	Vandalism (n=157) %
Alcohol	25.5	37.5*	35.0*	46.8*	58.0*
Alcohol - Binge	13.0	24.6*	21.9*	28.6*	43.5*
Marijuana	11.0	24.4*	19.4*	27.5*	30.0*
Tobacco	1.6	4.2*	3.4*	5.2*	10.7*
Rx Drugs	2.9	5.7*	6.8*	9.2*	13.4*

Past 30-Day Use by Thriving Indicators

In most cases, students who report succeeding in school, resisting danger, and delaying gratification (all indicators that a student is thriving) report lower alcohol, marijuana, tobacco and prescription drug use rates (Table 5.)

Table 5. 30 Day Use Rates by Thriving Indicators, 2018

30-day use	All (n=1976) %	Succeeds in School (n=515) %	Resists Danger (n=473) %	Delays Gratification (n=1030) %
Alcohol	25.5	19.2*	14.6*	21.8*
Alcohol - Binge	13.0	8.4*	6.1*	9.9*
Marijuana	11.0	4.4*	4.1*	8.6*
Tobacco	1.6	.8	.7	.8*
Rx Drugs	2.9	.8*	.7*	2.1*

Past 30-Day Alcohol Use by External Assets

Table 6 illustrates the percent of youth who reported external assets. The columns on the far right compare alcohol use rates among those students who reported having the asset present in their life and those who did not. In 13 of the 20 assets, there is a significant difference between the use rates of those with the asset present and without.

Table 6. Past 30-Day Use of Alcohol by External Assets, 2018

Category	Asset Name	% reported Asset present %	Used Alcohol Past 30-days & YES asset present %	Used Alcohol Past 30-days & NO asset present %
Support	1. Family support*	76	23	34
	2. Positive family communication*	32	20	28
	3. Other adult relationships	46	24	27
	4. Caring neighborhoods	35	23	27
	5. Caring school climate*	30	21	28
	6. Parent involvement in schooling	31	23	26
Empowerment	7. Community values youth*	23	19	27
	8. Youth as resources*	33	21	28
	9. Service to others	43	28	24
	10. Safety	46	25	26
Boundaries and Expectations	11. Family boundaries	55	25	26
	12. School boundaries*	60	22	31
	13. Neighborhood boundaries*	42	20	29
	14. Adult role models*	37	19	30
	15. Positive peer influence*	75	17	50
	16. High expectations*	57	21	32
Constructive Use of Time	17. Creative activities	21	25	26
	18. Youth programs*	53	32	19
	19. Religious community*	49	23	28
	20. Time at home*	67	18	39

*Statistically significant difference between percent reporting use and non-use of alcohol

Past 30-Day Use by Other Current Substance Use Rates

Students who reported past 30-day use of alcohol are significantly more likely to also smoke marijuana and cigarettes, and abuse prescription drugs. Similarly, students who report current use of marijuana are significantly more likely to also drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes, and abuse prescription drugs. (Table 7.)

Table 7. 30 Day Use Rates by Other Substance Use Rates, 2018

	All (n=1976) %	Used Alcohol in Past 30 days (n=495) %	Used Marijuana in past 30 days (n=216) %
Alcohol - Past 30-day use rate	25.5	X	70.4
Marijuana - Past 30-day use rate	11.0	30.3	X
Cigarettes - Past 30-day use rate	1.6	5.3	7.9
RX drugs - Past 30-day use rate	2.9	7.1	13.1

Past 30-Day Use by Parent and Peer Disapproval

A young person's perception of their parent's and peer's disapproval is correlated to a young person's choice to use substances. If teens perceive their parents or peers believe it is wrong for them to drink or use substances, when faced with the opportunity, they are less likely to do so. When looking at only those students that reported their parents and peers disapproved of use, overall 30-day use rates are much lower compared to students who believe their parents and peers don't really think drinking or smoking marijuana is wrong (or only a little bit wrong.)

Both Tables 8 and 9 clearly illustrates that students who believe that their parents think it is wrong to use substances are less likely to drink or smoke marijuana.

Table 8. Perception of Parent Disapproval by 30 Day Use Rates, 2018

	Perceive Parents DISAPPROVE of alcohol use (n=1806) %	Perceive Parents LITTLE TO NO DISAPPROVAL of alcohol use (n=130) %
30-Day Alcohol Use	23.0	56.2
	Perceive Parents DISAPPROVE of marijuana use (n=1797) %	Perceive Parents LITTLE TO NO DISAPPROVAL of marijuana use (n=169) %
30-Day Marijuana Use	8.1	42.0

Table 9. Perception of Peer Disapproval by 30 Day Use Rates, 2018

	Perceive Peer DISAPPROVE of alcohol use (n=1419) %	Perceive Peer LITTLE TO NO DISAPPROVAL of alcohol use (n=514) %
30-Day Alcohol Use	17.6	47.0
	Perceive Peer DISAPPROVE of marijuana use (n=1797) %	Perceive Peer LITTLE TO NO DISAPPROVAL of marijuana use (n=169) %
30-Day Marijuana Use	2.7	26.0

Race & Ethnicity by Mental Health, Risky Behaviors, & Developmental Deficits

Tables 10 to 13 compare 4 groups of youth by reported race and ethnicity to reported mental health indicators, risky behaviors, developmental deficits and thriving indicators. Please note that survey respondents were able to select more than one race/ethnicity category so individual group n’s do not add up to ‘all’ n’s.

A higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino and black youth reported feeling sad or depressed, had attempted suicide in their lifetime or had an eating disorder. (Table 10)

Table 11 indicates that a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino youth reported hitting someone, stealing and committing vandalism at least one or more times in the past year. A higher percentage of black youth reported hitting someone, threatening physical harm, stealing, and getting into trouble with the police. Among this demographic group lower rates were reported around gambling.

When looking at reported developmental deficits, a higher percentage of black respondents reported being along at home (more than 2+ hours per school day), TV exposure (watches tv/video 3+ hours per school day), and physical abuse (reports being physically harmed by someone in their household). (Table 12)

Table 10. Race/Ethnicity by Mental Health Status, 2018

	All (n=1976) %	Hispanic/ Latino (n=935) %	Black (n=357) %	White (n=732) %
Sad or Depressed	20	25	23	18
Attempted Suicide	14	17	18	12
Eating Disorder	22	25	27	16

Table 11. Race/Ethnicity by Risky Behaviors, 2018

30-day use	All (n=1976) %	Hispanic/ Latino (n=935) %	Black (n=357) %	White (n=732) %
Gambled	17	19	13	18
School truancy	24	26	27	21
Hit someone 1+ times	26	29	42	20
Threatened physical harm	19	20	30	17
Carried weapon for protection	10	11	11	10
Stole	20	23	25	16
Got into trouble with police + times	10	11	14	6
Committed vandalism 1+ times	8	10	8	7

Table 12. Race/Ethnicity by Developmental Deficits, 2018

	All (n=1976) %	Hispanic/ Latino (n=935) %	Black (n=357) %	White (n=732) %
Alone at Home	41	42	49	40
TV Exposure	37	35	50	34
Physical Abuse	20	22	25	19
Victim of Violence	21	22	23	23
Drinking Parties	34	35	33	37

Race & Ethnicity by Thriving Indicators

Table 13 compares 4 groups of youth by reported race and ethnicity to eight thriving indicators. In general, reported rates are slightly lower for the Hispanic/Latino and black respondents when compared to the total population and white respondents.

Table 13. Race/Ethnicity by Thriving Indicators, 2018

	All (n=1976) %	Hispanic/ Latino (n=935) %	Black (n=357) %	White (n=732) %
Succeeds in School	27	17	14	41
Helps Others	74	73	67	78
Values Diversity	79	80	76	78
Maintains Good Health	57	55	52	64
Exhibits Leadership	63	58	63	71
Resists Danger	23	20	29	21
Delays Gratification	53	52	44	53
Overcomes Adversity	57	52	60	64

Race & Ethnicity by External Assets

Table 14 compares 4 groups of youth by reported race and ethnicity and external assets.

Table 14. Race/Ethnicity by External Assets, 2018

Category	Asset Name	% reported Asset present All	% reported Asset present Hispanic	% reported Asset present Black	% reported Asset present White
Support	1. Family support	76	72	70	82
	2. Positive family communication	32	30	19	38
	3. Other adult relationships	46	40	44	54
	4. Caring neighborhoods	35	31	26	46
	5. Caring school climate	30	29	24	30
	6. Parent involvement in schooling	31	27	29	38
Empowerment	7. Community values youth	23	20	20	26
	8. Youth as resources	33	30	29	36
	9. Service to others	43	43	40	46
	10. Safety	46	45	48	46
Boundaries and Expectations	11. Family boundaries	55	53	55	59
	12. School boundaries	60	61	61	56
	13. Neighborhood boundaries	42	41	34	46
	14. Adult role models	37	32	34	42
	15. Positive peer influence	75	73	66	77
	16. High expectations	57	57	58	55
Constructive Use of Time	17. Creative activities	21	19	22	21
	18. Youth programs	53	44	49	70
	19. Religious community	49	48	44	45
	20. Time at home	67	68	64	63