

2018 INDIANA COLLEGE SUBSTANCE USE SURVEY

SUMMARY FINDINGS

A total of 8,425 students 18-25 years of age from 24 Indiana colleges participated in the Indiana College Substance Use Survey conducted in Spring 2018. Funding for the survey was provided by the Indiana Collegiate Action Network through a contract with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health and Addiction. The survey administration and data analysis were conducted by the Institute for Research on Addictive Behavior at Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington. A detailed report of the findings may be accessed at <http://www.drugs.indiana.edu/indiana-college-survey/substance-use-survey>.

PAST MONTH SUBSTANCE USE

Nearly two-thirds of the students who participated in the survey (63%), including over half of the students under 21 years of age (53%), reported consuming alcohol in the past month. Approximately one-fourth of the students (23%) reported using marijuana in the past month and 22% used electronic vaping devices. One in eight of the students (12%) smoked cigarettes in the past month. Misuse of prescription stimulants was the next most commonly used substance, with 5% reporting use without a doctor's prescription in the past month.

Male students reported statistically higher rates of use within the past month for most substances investigated on the survey. One-quarter of the male students (25%) used marijuana, compared to 21% of the female students. Over one-fourth of male students (28%) used vaping devices, compared to 18% of female students.

BINGE DRINKING

Over one-third of the surveyed students (37%) reported binge drinking in the past two weeks (defined as four or more drinks* for females, and five or more drinks for males in a row). Male students reported a statistically higher rate of binge drinking than female students, with nearly two in five of the male students (39%) engaging in the behavior in the past two weeks compared to 36% of the female students. One in eight of the students who completed the survey (13%) reported binge drinking more than two times in the past two weeks.

*A drink was defined as a 12-ounce bottle of beer, a five-ounce glass of wine, or one shot of liquor (straight or in a mixed drink).

CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

Three out of ten students who drank alcohol within the past year (30%) reported blacking out (forgetting where they were or what they did), and 18% reported engaging in unprotected sexual intercourse as a result of drinking alcohol. One in six of the students (16%) had missed class or an assignment as a result of their drinking, and 11% had driven a car while under the influence. Over one-fourth of the students who drank alcohol in the past year (28%) felt bad or guilty about their drinking.

UNDERAGE STUDENTS' ACCESS TO ALCOHOL

Three-fifths of the students under 21 years of age who have used alcohol (61%) reported that they obtain it from friends over 21 years old, and a third reported getting it at off-campus parties (34%). Over one-fourth reported getting alcohol at fraternities or sororities (28%) and on-campus parties (27%). Thirteen percent of the students under 21 who have used alcohol reported having purchased it directly from a retailer, ranging from 11% of female students to 16% of male students. Over half of these students reported that they were able to purchase it without being asked for ID (58%) or used a fake ID (56%). Less than a third of the underage students (28%) think it is likely to be ticketed if drinking at off-campus parties.

Indiana Collegiate Action Network
Lisa Hutcherson, Director - lhutcherson@mh.ai.net

