

Youth Use of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs

Overview

What can I expect to see in the youth drug use indicators?

Each youth drug use indicator is in a two-page format. The format lists the question that was asked of the youth, describes the use of the drug over time by grade, notes any differences between male and female use of the drug, and compares Minnesota data to national data when national data is available.

What drugs are included?

Drug use is presented for the past year except binge drinking. The drug use indicators are:

- Alcohol use
- Binge drinking (5 or more drinks in a row) in the past two weeks
- Marijuana use
- Someone else's prescription drug use
- Amphetamines
- Methamphetamine
- Inhalants
- Cocaine/crack
- Barbiturates
- LSD/psychedelics
- MDMA (Ecstasy)
- Narcotics/opiates

Where do I go for tobacco use?

For data on youth tobacco use, please go to the MDH Tobacco Prevention website, <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpcd/tpc/TobaccoPrevention.html> and click on "tobacco reports". It contains information from the Minnesota Student survey. A more in-depth look at youth tobacco use can be found in reports from the Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey. Adult tobacco use data can be found in the Adult Tobacco Survey. Additional tobacco-related data can also be found under the "tobacco reports."

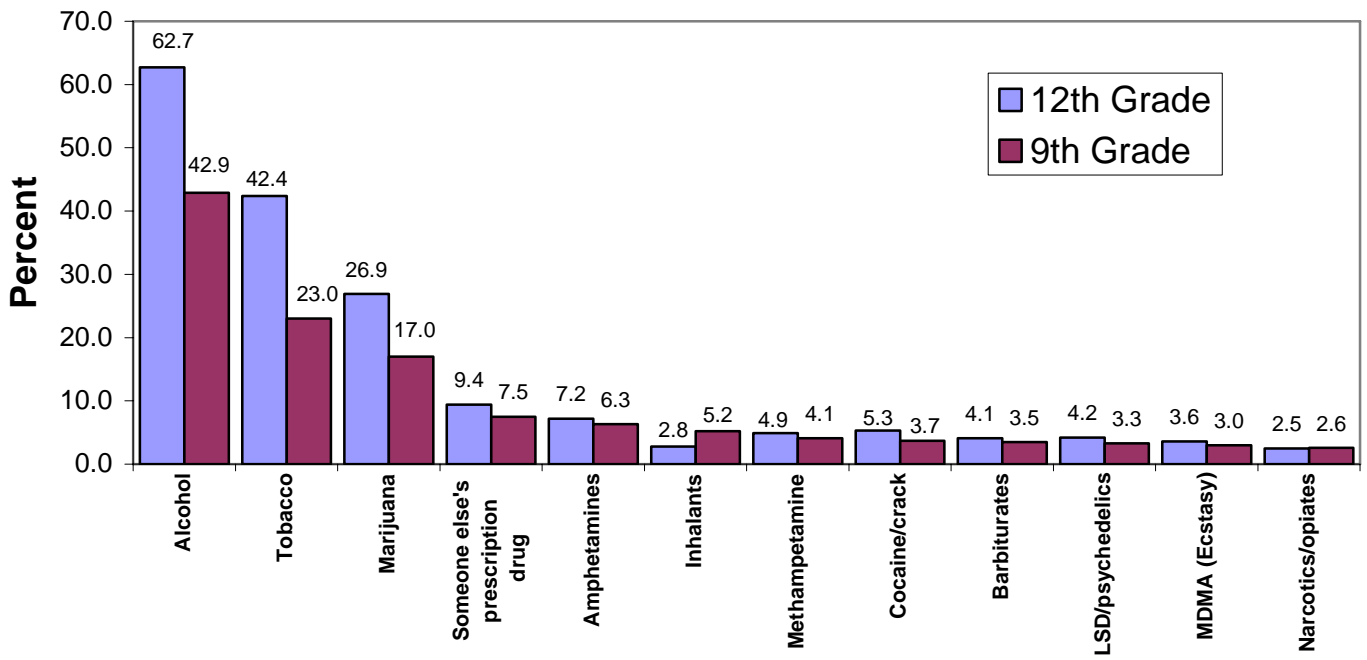
What is the most frequently used drug?

When looking across all reported chemical use in the past year (the only question that can be compared across substances), alcohol is the most common drug reported, followed by tobacco and marijuana. In all substances except inhalants and narcotics/opiates, 12th graders report more use than 9th graders.

Data Source:

The Minnesota Student Survey is a chief source of information on youth use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. This self-report survey has been offered every three years to 6th, 9th and 12th grade students in regular public elementary and secondary schools, charter schools and tribal schools.

Students using chemical substances one or more times in past year -- 2004



Data Sources:

2004 Minnesota Student Survey. For more information about the data source and its limitations, see “Data Sources and Limitations.”