

Table 3.62.2009

High school students reporting drug, alcohol, and cigarette use

By sex, race, ethnicity, and grade level, United States, 2009

(Percent reporting engaging in the behavior)

	Total	Sex		Race, ethnicity			Grade level			
		Male	Female	White, non-	Black, non-	Hispanic	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
				Hispanic	Hispanic					
Marijuana use, lifetime <sup>a</sup>	36.8%	39.0%	34.3%	35.7%	41.2%	39.9%	26.4%	35.5%	42.0%	45.6%
Marijuana use, current <sup>b</sup>	20.8	23.4	17.9	20.7	22.2	21.6	15.5	21.1	23.2	24.6
Cocaine use, lifetime <sup>c</sup>	6.4	7.3	5.3	6.3	2.9	9.4	4.5	5.6	7.7	7.9
Cocaine use, current <sup>b</sup>	2.8	3.5	2.0	2.4	1.9	4.3	2.3	2.5	3.3	3.0
Illegal steroid use, lifetime <sup>d</sup>	3.3	4.3	2.2	3.1	2.8	3.9	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.1
Injected illegal drugs, lifetime <sup>e</sup>	2.1	2.7	1.4	1.6	2.4	3.1	2.0	2.0	2.5	1.8
Heroin use, lifetime <sup>f</sup>	2.5	3.2	1.7	2.2	2.2	3.3	2.1	2.2	3.2	2.5
Methamphetamine use, lifetime <sup>g</sup>	4.1	4.7	3.3	3.7	2.7	5.7	3.3	3.7	5.2	4.1
Ecstasy use, lifetime <sup>h</sup>	6.7	7.6	5.5	6.4	5.1	8.2	4.9	5.2	8.7	8.0
Sniffed or inhaled intoxicating substances, lifetime <sup>i</sup>	11.7	10.6	12.9	11.5	8.2	14.0	13.0	12.5	11.5	9.1
Hallucinogen use, lifetime <sup>j</sup>	8.0	10.2	5.5	9.0	3.3	7.9	5.9	7.4	8.9	10.0
Alcohol use, lifetime <sup>k</sup>	72.5	70.8	74.2	73.8	67.6	76.6	63.4	71.1	77.8	79.7
Alcohol use, current <sup>l</sup>	41.8	40.8	42.9	44.7	33.4	42.9	31.5	40.6	45.7	51.7
Episodic heavy drinking <sup>m</sup>	24.2	25.0	23.4	27.8	13.7	24.1	15.3	22.3	28.3	33.5
Cigarette use, lifetime <sup>n</sup>	46.3	46.3	46.1	46.1	43.5	51.0	37.7	44.0	50.0	55.5
Cigarette use, current <sup>o</sup>	19.5	19.8	19.1	22.5	9.5	18.0	13.5	18.3	22.3	25.2
Cigarette use, frequent <sup>p</sup>	7.3	8.0	6.4	9.5	2.1	4.2	4.7	5.7	8.3	11.2
<b>Before age 13</b>										
Smoked whole cigarette	10.7	11.8	9.4	10.3	9.1	12.6	12.1	11.2	10.3	8.6
Drank alcohol <sup>q</sup>	21.1	23.7	18.1	18.1	24.9	27.1	28.1	22.2	17.9	14.2
Tried marijuana	7.5	9.7	5.0	5.7	10.2	10.3	9.1	8.3	6.5	5.2

Note: These data are from the national school-based survey conducted biennially as part of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). The data were collected and analyzed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Results are based on a nationally representative sample of 16,410 students in grades 9-12 who attend public or private schools in the United States. For survey methodology and sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

<sup>a</sup>Ever used.

<sup>b</sup>One or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.

<sup>c</sup>Ever tried any form of cocaine (e.g., powder, crack, or freebase).

<sup>d</sup>Ever took steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription.

<sup>e</sup>Ever used a needle to inject any illegal drug.

<sup>f</sup>Ever used heroin (also called smack, junk, or China White).

<sup>g</sup>Ever used methamphetamine (also called speed, crystal, crank, or ice).

<sup>h</sup>Ever used ecstasy (also called MDMA).

<sup>i</sup>Ever sniffed glue or breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans or inhaled any paints or sprays to become intoxicated.

<sup>j</sup>Ever used hallucinogenic drugs (also called LSD, acid, PCP, angel dust, mescaline, or mushrooms).

<sup>k</sup>Ever had one or more drinks of alcohol.

<sup>l</sup>At least one drink of alcohol on 1 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

<sup>m</sup>Drank five or more drinks of alcohol in a row (within a couple hours) on 1 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

<sup>n</sup>Ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.

<sup>o</sup>On 1 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

<sup>p</sup>Smoked cigarettes on 20 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

<sup>q</sup>More than a few sips.

Source: Danice K. Eaton et al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance--United States, 2009," CDC Surveillance Summaries, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 59 No. SS-5 (Washington, DC: USGPO, June 4, 2010), pp. 63-65, 73-90. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.