



Arkansas Statewide Collegiate Substance Use Assessment, 2023



Arkansas Collegiate Substance Use Assessment 2023

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Key Findings

General Findings:

- The survey encompasses 2-year, 4-year, and post-baccalaureate institutions, as well as public and private universities & colleges.
- The 16-20-year-old age range is repeatedly the age where respondents identified first use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
- Across the demographics surveyed, most of the participants in this survey study were White (74.7%), Female (69.7%), single (66.8%), full-time (82.3%), undergraduate student status (49.4%).
- Regarding student status, most students were staying off-campus (70.4%)
- For class modality, most students were taking either hybrid (38%) or fully in-person classes (36%).
- Risk behaviors were consistent, albeit somewhat decreased, from the previous two years' assessments

Alcohol:

- A larger portion of respondents reported first using alcohol between the ages of 16 to 20 in 2023 (44%) than in 2022 (38%)."
- Lifetime occasions of alcohol use showed a marked increase (for more than 10 times usage) from the year 2022 (45.6%) to 2023 (57.8%).
- Most participants (77%) reported that they have not been drunk or high from drinking alcoholic beverages in the last 30 days."
- When asked about 5+ drinks in a sitting, many of the survey

participants who had never had 5+ drinks in a sitting over the last 2 weeks increased to 84.13 % in 2023 as compared to the previous year 2022 (67.66%).

Tobacco & Vaping:

- A lower number of participants reported first using tobacco between the ages of 16 to in 2023 (17.51%) than in 2022 (21.57%).
- Lifetime occasions of tobacco use showed a marked increase (for more than 10 times usage) from the year 2022 (27.34%) to 2023 (57.86%).
- Majority of the participants (86.2%) had never used tobacco in the past 30 days.
- A larger portion of respondents reported first vaping between the ages of 16 to 20 in 2023 (18.38%) than in 2022 (16.59%).
- The percentage of participants who reported using tobacco more than 10 times over the course of their life increased markedly from 2022 (27%) to 2023 (58%).
- The majority of participants reported that they haven't vaped flavorings (96%) or marijuana (86%) at all in the last 30 days.

Marijuana:

- About half of the survey respondents reported having used marijuana at some point in their life. Most of those who reported having ever used marijuana reported first using marijuana between the ages of 16 and 20.
- Lifetime occasions of marijuana use showed a marked increase from the year 2022 (22.12%) to 2023 (30.94%)

Substance use and Prescription drugs abuse:

- The majority of participants reported having never used prescription opioids (80.37%) or another person's prescription drugs (87.27%).
- Lifetime occasions of prescription drug usage showed a marked increase (more than 10 percentage point increase) from the year 2022 (3.94%) to 2023 (6.16%).
- Most participants reported that they never used prescription opioids or another person's prescription drugs (97.38%) in the last 30 days.
- Lifetime occasions of substance use (for more than 10 times usage) was seen to be highest for Amphetamines (8.66%), followed by sedatives (6.04%). More than 95% of the participants had never used a substance such as cocaine, amphetamine, sedatives, hallucinogens, opiates, designer drugs, steroids, meth, and illegal drugs in the last 30 days.

Campus perceptions:

- Most of the participants (97.82%) were aware of the campus policies for alcohol, tobacco and substance use and most (90.31%) believed that they were enforced as well.
- About 87% of respondents indicated they were aware that their school has an alcohol, tobacco, and drugs prevention program.

- About 21% of the participants indicated that tobacco was used on campus every day, while only about 14% indicated that marijuana was used on campus every day.
- Many participants thought that the social atmosphere on the campus does not promote alcohol (76.55%) or any other drug use (87.23%).
- About half of the participants reported that they think alcohol is used less on their campus than on other campuses with which they are familiar.

Mental Health Indicators and COVID 19 impact:

- About 14% of respondents reported that their alcohol, tobacco and/or drug use increased since the COVID-19 pandemic."
- More than two-third of the participants (63.05%) indicated that they did not feel that they were sadder and more hopeless than usual since the COVID 19 pandemic.
- In reference to the past thirty days, 13% of respondents reported that 'everything was an effort' all of the time, 10% reported that they experienced nervousness all of the time, 6% reported that they experienced depression all of the time, and 5% reported that they experienced feelings of worthlessness all of the time

INTRODUCTION

Overview:

The third annual statewide collegiate substance use assessment was conducted by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Survey Research Center from August to November 2023 using a web-based survey instrument. The assessment was sponsored by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock MidSOUTH Center for Prevention and Training and funded by Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services with continued support from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (SAMHSA/CSAP) via the Substance Abuse Block Grant. The purpose of the assessment was to collect self-reported information on college students' substance use, the behaviors and consequences related to use, and students' perceptions of substance use on college campuses across the state of Arkansas.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Importance of Assessment:

The Arkansas Epidemiological Outcomes Work group indicated there is a statewide deficiency of collegiate-level data for Arkansas that measures the incidence of substance use within the college population (AFMC, 2019). The collegiate level data is important based on a variety of factors, but this data is particularly relevant given that "this category of the population may present as a high risk for first-time users of illicit substances" (AFMC, 2019, p. 13). The data collected for the Arkansas Collegiate Substance Use Assessment represents the only systematic Arkansas statewide data collection where college students self-reported information related to substance use, consequences of use, and perceptions of substance use on college campuses. Data collected as part of this assessment will be utilized to create safer campuses and will leverage the

Substance Abuse Block Grant, which is set to help plan, implement, and evaluate activities that prevent and treat substance abuse on Arkansas college campuses.

Risk Factors Specific for Substance Use in College Campuses:

College enrollment represents a distinct phase in life that initiates the transition from adolescence to independent adulthood and a period of increased exposure to the pressures of alcohol, tobacco, and other substance use (Welsh, Shentu, & Sarvey, 2019). Over the past decade there has been a nationwide increase of cannabis, stimulant, and other illegal drug use across U.S. college campuses (Welsh, Shentu, & Sarvey, 2019) to the point that substance use disorder has become one of the most pervasive health problems for American college campuses (Schulenberg, Johnston, O'Malley, & Bachman, 2017). Substance use disorder is also a major behavioral and health concern among the college students themselves (Rimsza & Moses, 2005). Substance use is associated with multiple negative outcomes for college students including higher probability of unemployment after graduation, lower academic performance, failure to graduate, and increased risk of committing or experiencing sexual assault (Arria, Caldeira, Bugbee, Vincent, & O'Grady, 2015; Arria, et al., 2013; Horsman, 2014; Rimsza & Moses, 2005; Wolaver, 2002;), as well as associations with significant general medical and psychiatric mortality and morbidity for some students (Skidmore, Kaufman, & Crowell, 2016; White, Hingson, Pan, & Hsiao-ye yi, 2011). There is an added importance for higher education institutions to address substance use among students given the unique nature of planning treatments for colleges (e.g., aspects of confidentiality, unique financial constraints, potential university involvement/oversight) (Welsh, Shentu, & Sarvey, 2019). Additional risk factors specific to college campuses and the collegiate population are included in the narratives for the different substances as presented within the report.

Mental Health Issues in College Campuses:

The escalating concerns surrounding mental health on college campuses in the United States demands attention as students grapple with issues like academic pressure, peer expectations, the transition to college life, and societal changes, resulting in prevalent disorders such as anxiety, depression, and stress. Hunt and Eisenberg's study in 2010 emphasized the significance of addressing these issues promptly, revealing a substantial proportion of students experiencing emotional distress. The WHO World Mental Health International College Student project (see Auerbach et al. in 2018) underscored that a noteworthy percentage of first-year college students in multiple countries, including the United States, grapple with common mental disorders and that the need for mental health services surpasses the current available resources, emphasizing the magnitude of the situation and the necessity for comprehensive reinforcement strategies.

Furthermore, the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated mental health challenges among students worldwide, including in the USA. Wang et al. (2020) highlighted elevated levels of anxiety and depression among college students during the pandemic, adding a layer of complexity to mental well-being on campuses. The COVID-19 pandemic, and resulting economic and social impacts, have led to global widespread adverse psychological issues, depression, and anxiety (Qiu, et al., 2020) which have been tied to increased substance use and increased addictive/behavioral addictions (Alexander & Ward, 2018). The COVID-19 pandemic and various public health control measures may have increased risks associated with addictive behaviors and substance abuse (Sun, et al., 2020; National Institution on Drug Abuse of USA, 2021; Sun, Bao, & Kosten, 2020). Previous studies on the impacts of disasters have shown higher rates of alcohol use, smoking, and increased risk behaviors (DiMaggio, Galea, & Li, 2009; Lee, Kang, Bell, & Marmot, 2014). Within the college-aged population, a recent study (Firkey, Sheinfil, & Woolf-King, 2021) indicated that domestic college students reported a 26.9% increase in alcohol

consumption and a 15.1% increase in cannabis use in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Concomitantly, recent provisional data (2021) from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics demonstrated that overdose deaths in the United States hit an all-time high for the 12-month period ending in 2021 – which was a 28.5% increase from the previous year. This dramatic increase in overdose deaths was seen in opioids, synthetic opioids, methamphetamines, cocaine, and natural and semi-synthetic opioid (prescription pain medication).

Alcohol:

Alcohol and other substance use broadly, have become part of the normative tradition, and integrated into the 'fabric of the college experience' (Welsh, Shentu, & Sarvey, 2019). In fact, full-time college students tend to consume more alcohol than others in their respective age groups (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2021) and alcohol contributes to an estimated 1,519 deaths annually for college students (Hingson, Zha, & Weitzman, 2009). The typical student embarks on their educational journey two to three years before reaching the legal drinking age, which means that alcohol becomes a legal and consumable substance for them as they are likely entering their final year of school. The transition to the legal drinking age on college campuses creates a policy-spectrum of rules that can create confusion for those students that are subject to the enforcement policies (Cremeens et al., 2011).

The overlap between this annual statewide collegiate assessment and the annual statewide high school assessment is worth observing because there is an observed relationship where students bring established drinking habits from high school to the college level (Schulenberg et al., 2017). Additionally, as college students near the legal drinking age of 21 there is an increased risk for an alcohol use disorder (SAMHSA, 2021). The prevalence of such alcohol use disorders

among college students rose from 104,000 students for 18-year-olds to more than double that number, 231,000 by the age of 21 (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2020). Historically, drinking by college males has exceeded female alcohol consumption but this trend has reversed over time and the most recent 2019 data indicated that females are consuming more alcohol than male their counterparts – however males are still binge drinking and heavy drinking at higher rates (SAMHSA, 2021).

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2021) reported that in 2019, 53% of full-time college students drank alcohol in the past month (33% of which reported binge drinking) and 8% reported heavy drinking in the past month. Impairment and elevated blood alcohol concentrations associated with binge drinking place those individuals, and individuals around them, at a significantly elevated risk for negative consequences (e.g., injury-related deaths, traffic accidents, sexual assault, violent crimes, and poor academic performance) (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2018), and increased illicit drug use (O'Grady, Arria, Fitzelle, & Wish, 2008). About one-in-four college students reported having negative consequences associated with drinking (including falling behind in coursework, missing classes, doing poorly on exams/reports, and overall receive lower grades) (White & Hinson, 2013).

The Arkansas Collegiate Substance Use Assessment included a question on binge drinking. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) defined binge drinking as, “a pattern of drinking alcohol that brings blood alcohol concentration (BAC) to 0.08 percent—or 0.08 grams of alcohol per deciliter—or higher” (NIAAA, 2021, What is Binge Drinking, para. 1). The NIAAA further explains that “[f]or a typical adult, this pattern of alcohol misuse corresponds to consuming 4 or more drinks (female), or 5 or more drinks (male) in about 2 hours” (NIAAA, 2021,

What is Binge Drinking, para. 1). Alcohol use on college campuses remains a heavily researched topic due to its direct correlation with the long-term effects on underage individuals (Horsman, 2014). In a recent study, the risk of negative consequences was found to be positively correlated with the consumption of alcohol and cannabis on college campuses (Gunn et al., 2022).

Tobacco & Vaping:

Evidence underscores the significant impact of tobacco-related health disparities (TRHDs) on population health in the United States (Berg et al., 2021). Smoking cigarettes, a key contributor to TRHDs, results in nearly 500,000 deaths annually in the United States, with over 40,000 deaths attributed to secondhand smoking. It is noteworthy that almost all adult cigarette smokers initiate smoking before the age of 26 (Wang et al., 2018). Despite this, there appears to be a lack of effective policy enforcement related to tobacco use, contributing to the persistence of tobacco use into adulthood. Wang et al. (2018) revealed that 99% of adult cigarette smokers began smoking before the age of twenty-six, with many becoming regular, daily smokers during young adulthood.

The prevalence of cigarette smoking and tobacco use hit a historic low in 2020, marking a 4% usage among college students in the past 30 days (Schulenberg, et al., 2020). Although this national figure is below Arkansas' reported percentages, it's essential to note that ACSUA aggregates all forms of tobacco use without distinction. Despite the overall decline in tobacco use, the void left has been filled by the rising trend of vaping through electronic cigarettes and vaporizer devices across the United States (Cullen et al., 2019; Miech, Miech, Johnston, O'Malley, Bachman, & Patrick, 2019; Patrick, O'Malley, & Johnston, 2017).

While electronic cigarettes offer an alternative to traditional tobacco, concerns arise due to their ability to deliver concentrated amounts of nicotine (Loukas, Batanova, Fernandez, & Agarwal, 2015) and cannabis oil. The surge in vaping has been linked to various factors such as

harm reduction, the absence of regulation, and the appeal of public consumption (Trumbo, 2017; Tavollaci, et al., 2016; Franks, Hawes, McCain, & Payakachat, 2017). Associations have been observed with regular tobacco use, concurrent use of tobacco and cannabis, alcohol consumption, and even suicidal ideations (Auf, et al., 2019; Jones, Hill, Pardini, & Meier, 2016; Oh, et al., 2019; Lee & Lee, 2019).

Studies suggest linkages between vaping and beliefs, social cues, cognitive-risk perceptions, and even residence in urban versus rural areas (Trumbo, 2017; Dai & Hao, 2017). The trend extends across educational levels, impacting middle school, high school, and college students, with estimates indicating a vaping rate as high as 25% among college students over the past 30 days (Trumbo, 2017). Although there was a leveling off in vaping for 2020, concerning figures persist, such as a 25% annual prevalence of vaping marijuana among college students and a rise in daily use from 5% in 2017 to 12% in 2020 (Schulenberg et al., 2020; U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, National Institutes of Health, 2021).

Despite being perceived as a potentially less harmful method of nicotine consumption, the surge in vaping among adolescents in the United States has become a major cause for concern. The U.S. Surgeon General declared vaping an epidemic in 2018, emphasizing its notable increase among individuals aged 16 to 19 between 2017 and 2018 (Office of the Surgeon General, n.d.; Hammond et al., 2019). The FDA explicitly cautions against vaping through electronic nicotine delivery systems, challenging claims of it being a safer alternative to smoking tobacco cigarettes (Federal Drug Administration, 2022).

The persistence of vaping trends, especially among college students, is influenced by the social atmosphere on campuses (Kava et al., 2021). Efforts to address this issue necessitate the implementation of effective policies as a crucial strategy (Navon et al., 2019). The CDC has

conducted studies highlighting e-cigarettes as a top concern among young people, with the FDA Annual National Youth Tobacco Survey (2022) reporting that approximately 1 in 10 middle and high school students in the United States currently use some form of e-cigarettes. Additionally, the survey reveals strategic targeting by tobacco companies through the offering of a variety of flavors, with nearly 85% of current users favoring flavored e-cigarettes, particularly fruit flavors, followed by candy, desserts, or other sweets (FDA Annual National Youth Tobacco Survey, para. 8, 2022).

Marijuana:

The use of Marijuana has been steadily increasing nationwide and is the third ‘most used’ substance among Arkansas college students. Schulenberg et al (2017) noted that daily cannabis use among college students doubled between 2007 and 2014. Similarly, the most recent Monitoring the Future report (Schulenberg, et al., 2020), cited that this trend has continued into 2020 where 44% of college students reported using marijuana, 8% used marijuana on a daily/ near-daily basis, and the number of college students vaping marijuana over the past 30 days rose from 5% to 14%. For this assessment, over 12% of respondents aged 18-25 reported using marijuana within the last 30 days. Studies have noted that increased marijuana/cannabis use is important for the college population since the likelihood of use increases in prevalence with successive years in school (Arria, O'Grady, Caldeira, Vincent, & Wish, 2008) and that heavy marijuana use has a short-term impact on learning and memory which can then impair collegiate academic and health outcomes (Arria, Caldeira, Bugbee, Vincent, & O'Grady, 2015; Arria, Caldeira, Bugbee, Vincent, & O'Grady, 2016). There is a rise in vaping marijuana among college students, with a 25% annual prevalence and a rise in daily use from 5% in 2017 to 12% in 2020.

Substance Use:

“Substance use” is a term that refers to several substances consumed that can potentially cause dependency and detrimental effects on the body (CDC, 2021). Substances within this paper refer to drugs that may lead to dependency that are addressed within the ACSUA. Transitional periods in individuals' lives, such as the period between high school and college, increase the chance of participating in risky behavior (Fromme et al., 2008). For most, college is when individuals are introduced to the world of substances. The transition and the new exposure increase the likelihood that college students will consume substances they may not have consumed before starting college.

The misuse of stimulant medication within the college population is on the rise (Benson, Flory, Humphreys, & Lee, 2015). A meta-analysis and literature review identified academic pressures as the primary driver, often facilitated by obtaining stimulants from peers with prescriptions. In 2020, Schulenberg et al. reported a significant increase in hallucinogen use among college students, with 9% acknowledging usage, nearly double the 2019 rate of 5%. The prevalence of amphetamine usage without a prescription stood at 6.5%, Adderall at 7.2%, and nonmedical use of Ritalin at 1.4%. The Monitoring the Future survey revealed annual prevalence rates for sedatives (1.7%), tranquilizers (2.6%), narcotics other than heroin (1.3%), Vicodin (1.2%), and OxyContin (1.5%), with cocaine use reaching 3.8%.

The escalation in cocaine use is particularly concerning, with a longitudinal study at a large public university (Kasperski et al., 2011) indicated that, by the fourth year of college, 36% of students had been offered cocaine, 13% had used it, and annual prevalence increased from 4% in Year 1 to 10% in Year 4. Females exhibited more serious patterns of use and a higher likelihood of cocaine dependence. Hallucinogens, MDMA, LSD, and psychedelics are also on the rise, fueled by social pressures, curiosity. In the broader context, a 2020 study reveals that young adults aged

18 to 25 have the highest substance use disorder rate at 24.4% (Johnson, Aug. 2022). Startlingly, 90% of adults with a substance use disorder-initiated use before adulthood (The JED Foundation, 2022). Overdose mortality rates among adolescents aged fourteen to eighteen surged by 94% in one year, from 2.36 deaths per 100,000 in 2019 to 4.57 per 100,000 in 2020, with a further twenty percent increase from 2020 to 2021 (Johnson, Oct. 2022).

The issue of substance abuse carries multiple adverse outcomes for students, including diminished academic performance, heightened unemployment risks post-graduation, and increased vulnerability to committing or experiencing sexual assault (Welsh et al., 2019). Notably, students with low grade point averages or facing exceptional performance pressures are at a higher risk of misusing prescription stimulant medications like Adderall. Furthermore, it has been observed that female students are more prone to nonmedical stimulant medication use compared to their non-student counterparts (Welsh et al., 2019).

Prescription Drugs:

Even though college students were particularly vulnerable to opioid misuses during the opioid crisis - young adults reported the highest past-year opioid prevalence use for all age groups (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2017) - there has been a continual 5-year decline for prescription opioid misuses for college students. In 2020, 1% of college students reported non-medical use of opioids within the past year (Schulenberg, et al, 2020). While declining, it is worth noting that opioid use disorders commonly begin during young adulthood and coincide with typical college years/ages (Johnston, O'Malley, Miech, Bachman, & Schulenberg, 2016; Hadland, et al., 2017). Research has noted the opioid misuse in college students is associated with several demographic factors and concurring

behaviors - such as off-campus living and low cumulative grade point averages (Harries, Lust, Christenson, Redden, & Grant, 2018).

Methodology:

The Arkansas Collegiate Substance Use Assessment (ACSUA) was conducted by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Survey Research Center from August to November 2023 using a web-based survey instrument through Qualtrics. The assessment was funded by the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Aging, Adult, & Behavioral Health Services and coordination and management was facilitated through collaboration between the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Survey Research Center (UALR SRC) and University of Arkansas at Little Rock MidSOUTH. The purpose of the assessment was to collect self-reported information on college students' substance use, the behaviors and consequences related to use, and student perceptions of substance use on college campuses across the state of Arkansas.

Survey Instrument and Distribution:

Survey items were adapted from several sources, including the Core Institute Alcohol and Other Drug Database (Southern Illinois University, Carbondale), the Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment Survey (Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Behavioral Health Services), Texas College Survey of Substance Use (Texas Health and Human Services), and the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality). This report represents the third assessment of its kind for Arkansas so last year's results are noted as comparisons to be included in the report. A complete list of higher education institutions was developed by the UALR SRC and included both public and private 2-year, 4-year, and postbaccalaureate institutions. All institutions were invited to participate in the assessment. The method of email distribution and

time frame within the August 15th to November 30th period was determined by the individual institutions. The survey uses a convenience sampling methodology, with all Arkansas colleges invited to participate. The participating schools can vary from year to year, based on individual institutions desire to participate. Due to the number of schools participating in the survey and the absence of a true random sampling technique, while results from previous years are occasionally presented, interpreting comparisons across the years should be done with caution. Additionally, the same restraint is advised when generalizing the findings to *all* total Arkansas college students. Reports from previous years' surveys can be found at:

<https://ualr.edu/publicaffairs/survey-research-center/arkansas-college-substance-use-assessments/>

Student Selection

The selection of students was determined by participating schools – some schools chose random samples to survey, whereas others distributed the assessment to their entire student population. Participation in the survey was completely voluntary at the institutional and participant level. No incentives were provided as in previous years (i.e., random gift card drawing) which impacted total number of responses from the student population. The survey protocol and instrument were approved through the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Institutional Review Board processes. Responses were only recorded upon completion of the assessment. Partial submissions were excluded from the assessment and there were 21 respondents indicated they did not wish to participate or were not at least 18 years of age, which were excluded from analysis. Security measures were included for this year's assessment to prevent multiple submissions; bot detection; relevantID (propriety Qualtrics settings for analysis of respondents' browser; operating system; & location) to prevent fraudulent responses; and tools to prevent indexing on search engines.

In total, 1,321 students agreed to participate and completed the assessment. In total there were 27 academic institutions that recorded student responses. Additionally, there were 86 student respondents which did not answer the question identifying the institution and 61 respondents that indicated 'other'.

RESULTS

Risk Behaviors as a Result of Substance Use/ Misuse

Table 1a. Occasions of Risk Behaviors as a Result of Substance Use/Misuse, last 30 days, 2023

Question	N	Never	Once	Twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times
Had a hangover	1041	83.19%	10.09%	3.17%	2.40%	0.67%	0.48%
Performed poorly on a test or important project	1044	82.66%	8.14%	4.60%	3.54%	0.29%	0.77%
Been in trouble with police or campus authorities	1045	98.66%	0.96%	0.29%	0.10%	0.00%	0.00%
Damage property	1046	99.24%	0.57%	0.00%	0.19%	0.00%	0.00%
Got into a fight or argument	1045	93.59%	3.16%	1.63%	1.05%	0.29%	0.29%
Got nauseated or vomited	1046	82.70%	9.18%	3.25%	2.96%	0.86%	1.05%
Driven a car while under the influence	1044	94.35%	2.11%	1.05%	0.57%	0.38%	1.53%
Missed a class	1044	84.10%	6.23%	4.12%	4.02%	0.77%	0.77%
Criticized for alcohol and drug use	1045	94.74%	2.68%	1.05%	0.67%	0.19%	0.67%

Table 1b. Occasions of Risk Behaviors as a Result of Substance Use/ Misuse, last 30 Days, 2023

Question	N	Never	Once	Twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times
Thought I might have a drinking or drug problem	1044	93.20%	2.20%	1.72%	0.57%	0.86%	1.44%
Experienced memory loss	1042	88.96%	3.55%	2.30%	2.50%	0.58%	2.11%
Have been taken advantage of sexually	1045	97.03%	1.53%	0.67%	0.38%	0.00%	0.38%
Have taken advantage of another sexually	1044	99.71%	0.29%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Tried to stop using alcohol/ tobacco/ other drugs	1041	91.64%	3.75%	2.21%	1.25%	0.58%	0.58%
Thought about suicide	1042	91.27%	3.45%	2.21%	1.54%	0.58%	0.96%
Tried to commit suicide	1043	97.89%	1.34%	0.29%	0.38%	0.00%	0.10%
Been hurt or injured	1039	93.46%	3.18%	1.35%	1.25%	0.38%	0.38%

Alcohol Use

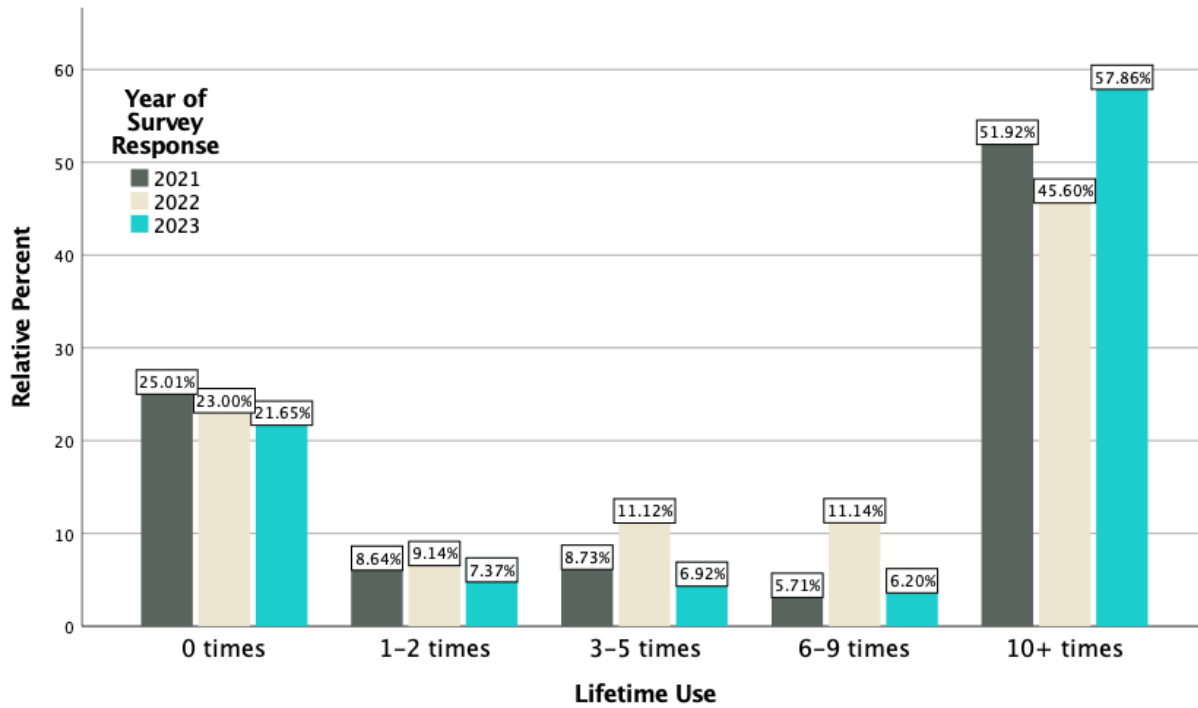
Table 2. Age of First Alcohol Use, 2021-2023

Year	Do not use/ Never	10- Under	11-15	16-20	21-25	26+	Total
2021	29.98%	4.37%	14.91%	39.93%	10.32%	0.49%	3246
2022	25.25%	2.93%	18.67%	38.18%	12.59%	2.38%	3829
2023	24.43%	3.85%	17.51%	43.78%	10.07%	0.44%	1142

Table 3. Age of First Alcohol Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Age of First Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Age	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Alcohol	<i>Never</i>	31.19	15.86	28.15	16.97
	<i>Under 10</i>	2.96	4.41	2.95	5.66
	<i>11-15</i>	15.52	18.62	14.82	22.62
	<i>16-20</i>	42.33	44.83	46.29	39.33
	<i>21-25</i>	N/A	15.72	7.75	14.40
	<i>26+</i>	N/A	0.55	N/A	1.03

Figure 1. Lifetime Occasions of Alcohol Use, 2021-2023



Times Used	2021	2022	2023
0 times	25.01%	23.00%	21.65%
1-2 times	8.64%	9.14%	7.37%
3-5 times	8.73%	11.12%	6.92%
6-9 times	5.71%	11.14%	6.20%
10+ times	51.92%	45.60%	57.86%
Count	3207	3787	1113

Table 4. Lifetime Occasions of Alcohol Use by Age (%), 2023

Lifetime: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Alcohol	Never	37.87	12.32	26.88	11.41
	1-2	14.11	3.54	9.14	3.98
	3-5	9.16	5.67	8.32	4.24
	6-9	7.43	5.52	7.50	3.71
	10+	31.44	72.95	48.16	76.66

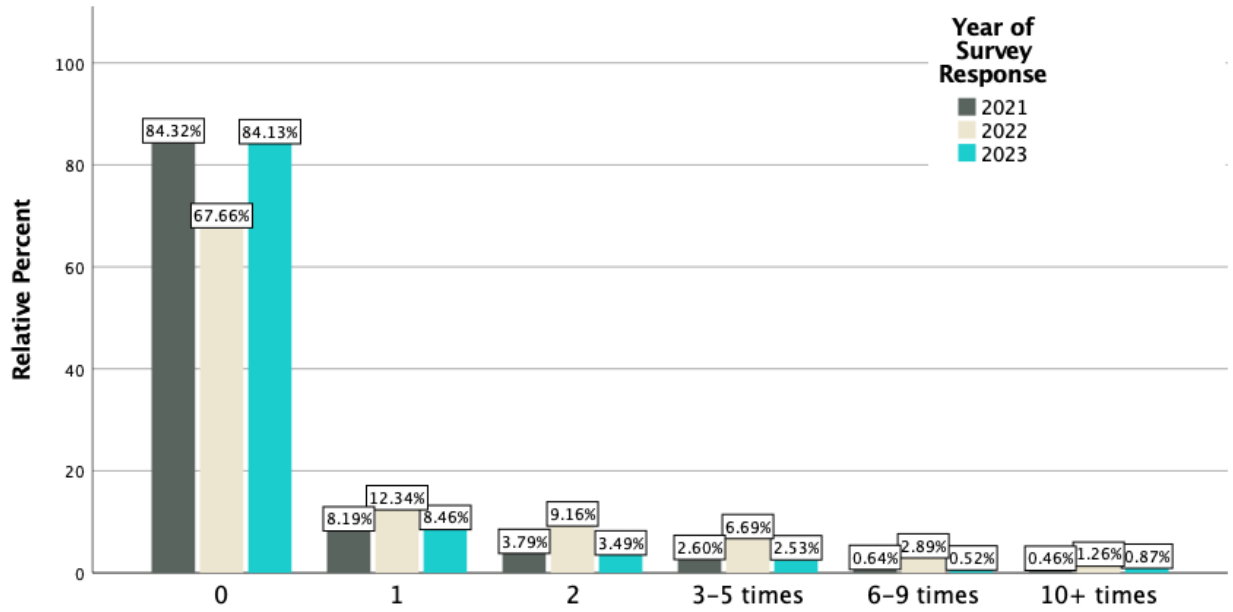
Table 5. Alcohol Use in the Last 30 Days, 2023

Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times	Total
Drunk one or more Alcoholic beverages (e.g., beer, wine, liquor)	51.81%	25.02%	11.68%	6.30%	5.19%	1079
Been drunk or very high from drinking alcoholic beverages	76.60%	14.67%	4.09%	2.60%	2.04%	1077

Table 6. Occasions of Alcohol Use in the Last 30 Days by Age (%), 2023

Last 30 Days: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Alcohol – 1 or More	<i>Never</i>	66.58	43.62	51.49	52.56
	<i>1-2</i>	18.65	28.55	23.83	27.22
	<i>3-5</i>	8.29	13.62	12.91	9.43
	<i>6-9</i>	3.11	8.12	5.82	7.28
	<i>10+</i>	3.37	6.09	5.96	3.50
Alcohol – Very Drunk	<i>Never</i>	76.88	76.34	71.37	86.29
	<i>1-2</i>	13.51	15.38	17.66	9.14
	<i>3-5</i>	4.42	3.92	5.41	1.61
	<i>6-9</i>	3.12	2.32	2.85	2.15
	<i>10+</i>	2.08	2.03	2.71	2.71

Figure 2. Over the past 2 weeks, number of times having had 5+ drinks in a sitting? 2021-2023



Response	2021	2022	2023
None	84.32%	67.66%	84.13%
Once	8.19%	12.34%	8.46%
Twice	3.79%	9.16%	3.49%
3-5 times	2.60%	6.69%	2.53%
6-9 times	0.64%	2.89%	0.52%
10 or more times	0.46%	1.26%	0.87%

Tobacco

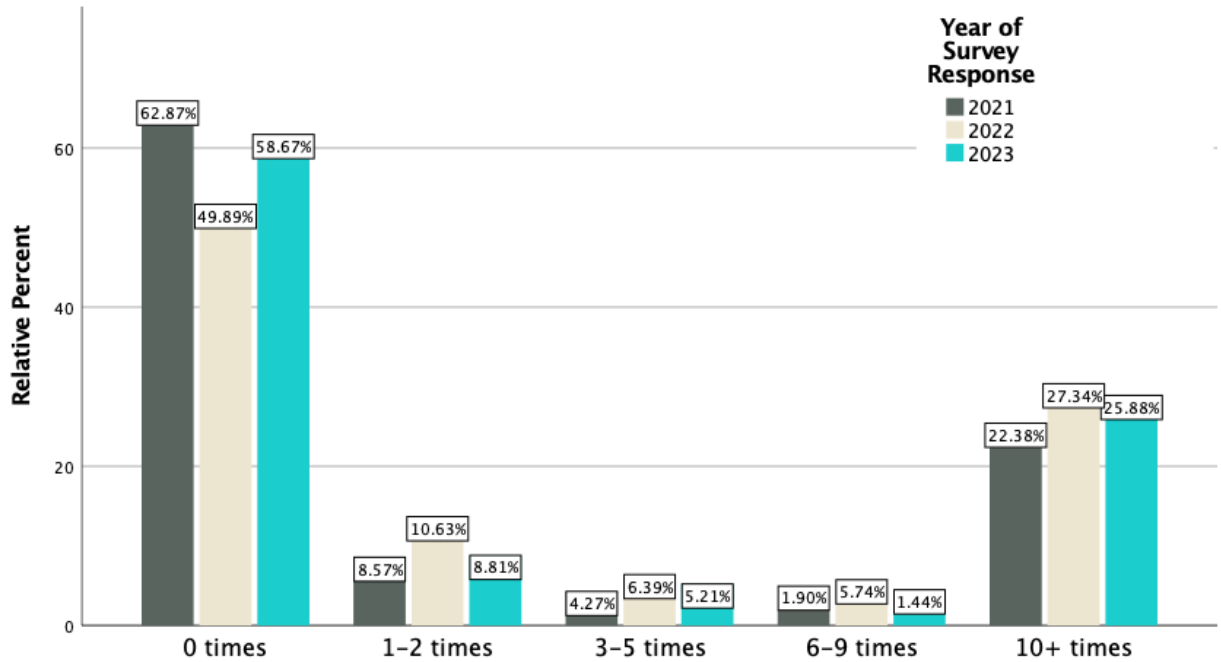
Table 7. Age of First Tobacco Use, 2021-2023

Year	Do not use/ Never	10- Under	11-15	16-20	21-25	26+	Total
2021	66.15%	1.69%	11.64%	17.37%	2.51%	0.64%	3264
2022	52.78%	3.08%	13.70%	21.57%	6.01%	2.85%	3861
2023	60.16%	2.98%	14.36%	17.51%	4.20%	0.79%	1142

Table 8. Age of First Tobacco Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Age of First Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Age	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Tobacco	Never	74.88	51.79	68.27	44.47
	Under 10	2.72	3.17	2.13	4.63
	11-15	11.20	16.12	10.40	21.85
	16-20	11.20	21.21	16.13	20.31
	21-25	N/A	6.47	3.07	6.43
	26+	N/A	1.24	N/A	2.31

Figure 3. Lifetime Occasions of Tobacco Use, 2021-2023



Times Used	2021	2022	2023
0 times	62.87%	49.89%	21.65%
1-2 times	8.57%	10.63%	7.37%
3-5 times	4.27%	6.39%	6.92%
6-9 times	1.90%	5.74%	6.20%
10+ times	22.38%	27.34%	57.86%
Count	3208	3800	1113

Table 9. Lifetime Occasions of Tobacco Use by Age (%), 2023

Lifetime: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Tobacco	Never	75.68	48.94	68.72	39.15
	1-2	9.43	8.49	9.84	6.88
	3-5	2.98	6.51	4.51	6.61
	6-9	1.49	1.41	1.23	1.85
	10+	10.42	34.65	15.71	45.50

Table 10. Occasions of Tobacco Use in the Past 30 Days, 2023

Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times	Total
Used tobacco (e.g., smoke, chew, snuff)	86.27%	2.23%	1.48%	9.18%	0.83%	1078

Table 11. Occasions of Tobacco Use in the Past 30 Days by Current Age (%), 2023

Last 30 Days: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Tobacco	Never	92.47	82.90	89.49	80.32
	1-2	2.60	2.03	2.41	1.89
	3-5	1.30	1.45	1.70	0.81
	6-9	3.38	12.46	5.97	15.36
	10+	0.26	1.16	0.43	1.62

Vaping

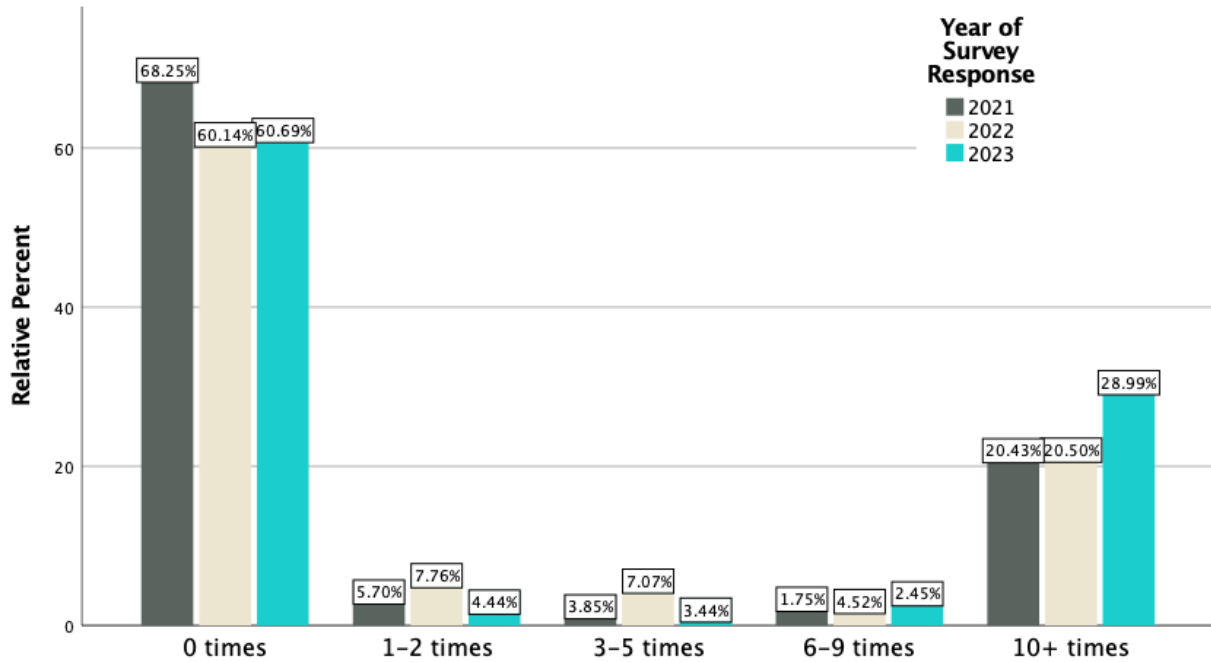
Table 12. Age of First Vaping Use, 2021-2023

Year	Do not use/ Never	10- Under	11-15	16-20	21-25	26+	Total
2021	70.78%	0.43%	4.50%	15.57%	4.50%	4.22%	3244
2022	61.57%	1.36%	7.10%	16.59%	7.31%	6.06%	3815
2023	62.80%	0.62%	6.33%	18.38%	6.33%	5.54%	1137

Table 13. Age of First Vaping Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Age of First Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Age	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Vaping	Never	67.07	60.22	61.82	64.43
	Under 10	0.73	0.55	0.69	0.52
	11-15	12.44	2.90	9.54	0.26
	16-20	19.76	17.68	24.28	7.22
	21-25	N/A	9.94	3.64	11.60
	26+	N/A	8.70	N/A	15.98

Figure 4. Lifetime Occasions of Vaping Use, 2021-2023



Times Used	2021	2022	2023
0 times	68.25%	60.14%	60.69%
1-2 times	5.70%	7.76%	4.44%
3-5 times	3.85%	7.07%	3.44%
6-9 times	1.75%	4.52%	2.45%
10+ times	20.43%	20.50%	28.99%
Count	3191	3761	1104

Table 14. Lifetime Occasions of Vaping Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Lifetime: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Vaping	Never	64.41	58.46	59.03	63.66
	1-2	4.51	4.41	4.97	3.45
	3-5	4.26	2.99	4.00	2.39
	6-9	1.25	3.13	3.03	1.33
	10+	25.56	31.01	28.97	29.18

Table 15. Occasions of Vaping Use in the Last 30 Days, 2023

Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times	Total (N)
Vaped nicotine	77.70%	2.23%	1.67%	17.84%	0.56%	1076
Vaped marijuana	86.44%	3.16%	1.67%	8.26%	0.46%	1077
Vaped just flavoring	96.09%	1.12%	0.56%	1.95%	0.28%	1075

Table 16. Occasions of Vaping Use in the Last 30 Days by Current Age (%), 2023

Last 30 Days: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
<i>Vaped Nicotine</i>	<i>Never</i>	77.08	77.94	75.07	82.48
	<i>1-2</i>	3.39	1.60	3.28	0.27
	<i>3-5</i>	2.08	1.45	2.14	0.81
	<i>6-9</i>	16.67	18.58	18.95	15.90
	<i>10+</i>	0.78	0.44	0.57	0.54
<i>Vaped Marijuana</i>	<i>Never</i>	84.16	87.81	86.04	87.37
	<i>1-2</i>	4.42	2.47	3.42	2.69
	<i>3-5</i>	1.30	1.89	1.85	1.34
	<i>6-9</i>	9.35	7.55	8.12	8.33
	<i>10+</i>	0.78	0.29	0.57	0.27
<i>Vaped Flavoring</i>	<i>Never</i>	94.79	96.80	95.73	96.76
	<i>1-2</i>	1.82	0.73	1.42	0.54
	<i>3-5</i>	0.78	0.44	0.85	0.00
	<i>6-9</i>	2.08	1.89	1.71	2.43
	<i>10+</i>	0.52	0.15	0.28	0.27

Marijuana

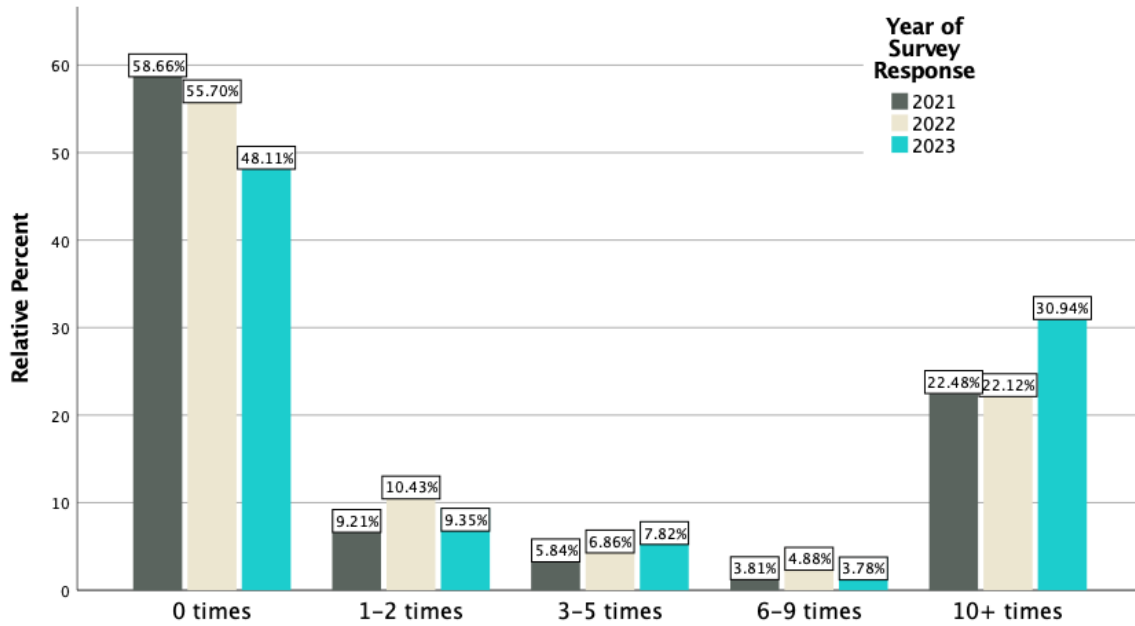
Table 17. Age of First Marijuana Use, 2023

Substance	Do not use/ Never	10- Under	11-15	16-20	21-25	26+	Total
Marijuana (e.g., weed, pot, hash)	49.96%	0.79%	10.78%	31.11%	5.43%	1.93%	1141

Table 18. Age of First Marijuana Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Age of First Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Age	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
<i>Marijuana</i>	<i>Never</i>	58.15	45.25	53.88	42.31
	<i>Under 10</i>	0.97	0.69	0.67	1.03
	<i>11-15</i>	9.73	11.28	9.63	12.82
	<i>16-20</i>	31.14	31.22	32.09	29.49
	<i>21-25</i>	N/A	8.53	3.74	8.72
	<i>26+</i>	N/A	3.03	N/A	5.64

Figure 5. Lifetime Occasions of Marijuana Use, 2021-2023



Times Used	2021	2022	2023
0 times	58.66%	55.70%	48.11%
1-2 times	9.21%	10.43%	9.35%
3-5 times	5.84%	6.86%	7.82%
6-9 times	3.81%	4.88%	3.78%
10+ times	22.48%	22.12%	30.94%
Count	3203	3788	1112

Table 19. Lifetime Occasions of Marijuana Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Lifetime: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Marijuana	Never	57.57	42.63	52.67	39.15
	1-2	9.43	9.35	9.99	8.20
	3-5	8.19	7.65	8.34	6.88
	6-9	2.23	4.67	3.01	5.29
	10+	22.58	35.69	25.99	40.48

Table 20. Lifetime Occasions of Marijuana Use by Gender (%), 2023

Lifetime: Occasions of Use		Gender		
Drug	Times Used	Male	Female	Transgender/Non-Binary
Marijuana	Never	51.48	47.14	42.37
	1-2	7.78	10.26	6.78
	3-5	3.70	9.09	11.86
	6-9	2.59	4.55	0.00
	10+	34.44	28.96	38.98

Table 21. Marijuana Use in Last 30 Days, 2023

Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times	Total
Vaped marijuana	86.44%	3.16%	1.67%	8.26%	0.46%	1077
Used marijuana (e.g., weed, pot, hash)	82.93%	4.82%	2.60%	8.35%	1.30%	1078

Table 22. Marijuana Use in the Last 30 Days by Current Age (%), 2023

Last 30 Days: Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Vaped Marijuana	Never	84.16	87.81	86.04	87.37
	1-2	4.42	2.47	3.42	2.69
	3-5	1.30	1.89	1.85	1.34
	6-9	9.35	7.55	8.12	8.33
	10+	0.78	0.29	0.57	0.27
Marijuana	Never	80.78	84.20	82.36	84.14
	1-2	5.45	4.49	5.69	3.23
	3-5	3.64	2.03	2.56	2.69
	6-9	8.83	7.97	7.97	8.87
	10+	1.30	1.30	1.42	1.08

Substance Use & Prescription Drug Abuse

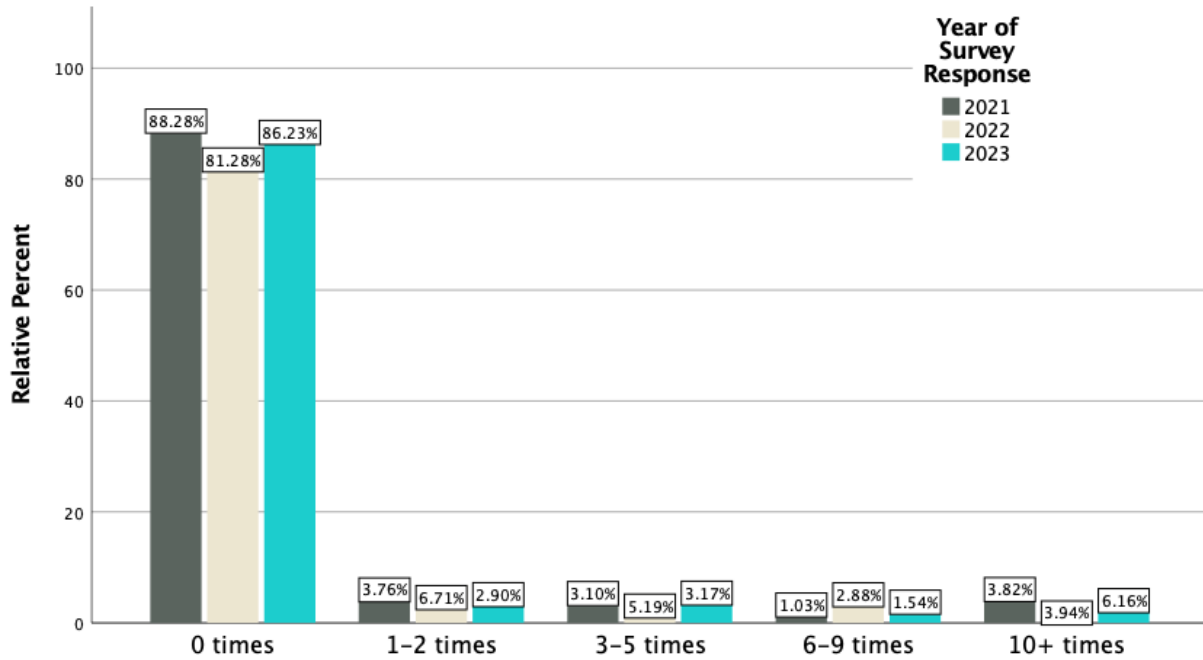
Table 23. Age of First Prescription Drug Use, 2023

Substance	Do not use/ Never	Under 10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26+	Total
Prescription Opioids	80.37 %	0.97%	3.35%	8.36%	4.23%	2.73%	1136
Another person's prescription drugs	87.27%	1.05%	3.16%	5.44%	2.37%	0.70%	1139

Table 24. Age of First Prescription Drug Use by Current Age (%) 2023

Age of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Age	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Prescription Opioids	Never	90.49	74.55	87.79	65.98
	Under 10	1.71	0.55	1.34	0.26
	11-15	2.93	3.60	3.22	3.61
	16-20	4.88	10.37	6.17	12.63
	21-25	N/A	6.64	1.48	9.54
	26+	N/A	4.29	N/A	7.99
Other Person's Prescriptions	Never	92.46	84.28	91.04	79.90
	Under 10	1.22	0.97	1.34	0.52
	11-15	2.92	3.31	2.81	3.87
	16-20	3.41	6.62	4.01	8.25
	21-25	N/A	3.72	0.80	5.41
	26+	N/A	1.10	N/A	2.06

Figure 6. Lifetime Occasions of Prescription Drug Use, 2021-2023



Times Used	2021	2022	2023
0 times	88.28%	81.28%	86.23%
1-2 times	3.76%	6.71%	2.90%
3-5 times	3.10%	5.19%	3.17%
6-9 times	1.03%	2.88%	1.54%
10+ times	3.82%	3.94%	6.16%
Count	3191	3756	1104

Table 25. Lifetime Occasions of Prescription Drug Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Other Person's Prescriptions	Never	92.75	82.45	91.20	76.47
	1-2	1.75	3.57	2.48	3.74
	3-5	1.50	4.14	1.79	5.88
	6-9	1.25	1.71	0.96	2.67
	10+	2.75	8.13	3.58	11.23

Table 26. Occasions of Prescription Drug Use in the Last 30 Days, 2023

Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times	Total
Used another person's prescription drugs	97.38%	1.50%	0.65%	0.28%	0.19%	1069
Used prescription opioids	97.38%	0.84%	0.47%	1.03%	0.28%	1068

Table 27. Occasions of Prescription Drug Use in the Last 30 Days by Current Age (%), 2023

Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Other Person's Prescriptions	<i>Never</i>	97.63	97.23	97.70	96.77
	<i>1-2</i>	0.53	2.04	0.86	2.70
	<i>3-5</i>	1.32	0.29	1.01	0.00
	<i>6-9</i>	0.26	0.29	0.14	0.54
	<i>10+</i>	0.26	0.15	0.29	0.00
Prescription Opioids	<i>Never</i>	97.89	97.08	98.27	95.69
	<i>1-2</i>	0.53	1.02	0.58	1.35
	<i>3-5</i>	1.05	0.15	0.58	0.27
	<i>6-9</i>	0.26	1.46	0.43	2.16
	<i>10+</i>	0.26	0.29	0.14	0.54

Table 28. Age of First Substance Use, 2023

Substance	Do not use/ Never	10-Under	11-15	16-20	21-25	26+	Total
Cocaine (e.g., crack, rock, freebase)	90.61%	0.35%	0.61%	3.95%	3.25%	1.23%	1140
Amphetamines (e.g., diet pills)	85.35%	0.44%	2.28%	6.40%	3.33%	2.19%	1140
Sedatives (e.g., ludes, downers)	90.07%	0.62%	2.46%	3.95%	1.67%	1.23%	1138
Hallucinogens/ psychedelics (e.g., PCP, LSD)	86.38%	0.26%	1.41%	6.94%	3.43%	1.58%	1138
Opiates (e.g., heroin, smack)	97.01%	0.26%	0.18%	1.14%	0.88%	0.53%	1138
Inhalants (e.g., solvents, glue, gas)	95.76%	0.53%	1.85%	1.41%	0.35%	0.09%	1133
Designer drugs (e.g., ecstasy, MDMA, molly)	91.48%	0.26%	0.88%	4.21%	1.93%	1.23%	1139
Steroids	96.57%	0.44%	0.88%	0.88%	0.35%	0.88%	1137
Methamphetamine (e.g., meth, ice, speed)	94.90%	0.35%	0.35%	2.55%	0.88%	0.97%	1138
Other illegal drugs	95.23%	0.27%	0.80%	2.21%	1.15%	0.35%	1132

Table 29. Age of First Substance Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Age of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Age	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Cocaine	Never	97.82	86.60	95.98	80.46
	Under 10	0.49	0.28	0.40	0.26
	11-15	0.73	0.55	0.67	0.51
	16-20	0.97	5.66	2.28	7.20
	21-25	N/A	5.11	0.67	8.23
	26+	N/A	1.80	N/A	3.34
Amphetamines	Never	94.96	79.86	92.52	71.39
	Under 10	0.79	0.28	0.53	0.26
	11-15	2.00	2.48	2.00	2.84
	16-20	2.24	8.83	3.87	11.34
	21-25	N/A	5.10	1.07	7.73
	26+	N/A	3.45	N/A	6.44
Sedatives	Never	95.45	87.00	93.86	82.73
	Under 10	0.79	0.55	0.82	0.26
	11-15	2.24	2.63	2.30	2.84
	16-20	1.52	5.39	2.83	6.19
	21-25	N/A	2.63	0.15	4.64
	26+	N/A	1.80	N/A	3.35
Hallucinogens	Never	92.21	83.01	89.17	80.88
	Under 10	0.24	0.28	0.27	0.26
	11-15	1.46	1.38	1.47	1.29
	16-20	6.08	7.46	7.62	5.68
	21-25	N/A	5.39	1.47	7.24
	26+	N/A	2.49	N/A	4.65
Opiates	Never	99.27	95.71	98.80	93.52
	Under 10	0.24	0.28	0.27	0.26
	11-15	0.24	0.14	0.27	0.00
	16-20	0.24	1.66	0.53	2.33
	21-25	N/A	1.38	0.13	2.33
	26+	N/A	0.83	N/A	1.55
Inhalants	Never	97.81	94.58	97.32	92.71
	Under 10	0.49	0.56	0.54	0.52
	11-15	0.97	2.36	0.80	3.91
	16-20	0.73	1.81	0.94	2.34
	21-25	N/A	0.56	0.40	0.26
	26+	N/A	0.14	N/A	0.26
Designer Drugs	Never	96.84	88.40	95.19	84.24
	Under 10	0.24	0.28	0.27	0.26
	11-15	0.97	0.83	0.93	0.78
	16-20	1.94	5.52	3.20	6.20
	21-25	N/A	3.04	0.40	4.91
	26+	N/A	1.93	N/A	3.62
Steroids	Never	97.82	95.84	98.00	93.77
	Under 10	0.49	0.42	0.40	0.52
	11-15	0.73	0.97	0.40	1.82
	16-20	0.97	0.83	1.07	0.52
	21-25	N/A	0.55	0.13	0.78
	26+	N/A	1.39	N/A	2.60
Methamphetamine	Never	99.03	92.53	98.53	87.82
	Under 10	0.49	0.28	0.40	0.26
	11-15	0.24	0.41	0.13	0.78
	16-20	0.24	3.78	0.93	5.70
	21-25	N/A	1.38	0.00	2.59
	26+	N/A	1.52	N/A	2.85
Other Illegal Drugs	Never	97.30	94.04	96.24	93.23
	Under 10	0.25	0.28	0.27	0.26
	11-15	1.23	0.55	1.07	0.26
	16-20	1.23	2.77	2.01	2.60
	21-25	N/A	1.80	0.40	2.60
	26+	N/A	0.55	N/A	1.04

Table 30. Lifetime Occasions of Substance Use, 2023

Question	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times	Total
<i>Cocaine (e.g., crack, rock, freebase)</i>	90.37%	2.16%	1.35%	1.53%	4.59%	1111
<i>Amphetamines (e.g., diet pills)</i>	85.75%	2.43%	2.34%	0.81%	8.66%	1109
<i>Sedatives (e.g., ludes, downers)</i>	90.36%	1.80%	0.90%	0.90%	6.04%	1110
<i>Hallucinogens/ psychedelics (e.g., PCP, LSD)</i>	86.19%	5.60%	3.25%	1.71%	3.25%	1108
<i>Opiates (e.g., heroin, smack)</i>	96.48%	0.81%	0.27%	0.54%	1.90%	1107
<i>Inhalants (e.g., solvents, glue, gas)</i>	95.66%	1.90%	0.90%	0.45%	1.08%	1106
<i>Designer drugs (e.g., ecstasy, MDMA, molly)</i>	91.24%	3.61%	2.26%	0.99%	1.90%	1107
<i>Steroids</i>	96.44%	1.19%	0.91%	0.55%	0.91%	1097
<i>Methamphetamine (e.g., meth, ice, speed)</i>	94.66%	0.27%	0.54%	0.36%	4.16%	1105
<i>Other illegal drugs</i>	95.45%	1.36%	0.73%	0.18%	2.27%	1099

Table 31. Lifetime Occasions of Substance Use by Current Age (%), 2023

Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Cocaine	<i>Never</i>	98.51	85.69	96.17	79.05
	<i>1-2</i>	0.50	3.12	1.37	3.71
	<i>3-5</i>	0.00	2.12	0.14	3.71
	<i>6-9</i>	0.27	2.27	1.09	2.39
	<i>10+</i>	0.75	6.80	1.23	11.14
	Amphetamines	<i>Never</i>	94.76	80.57	93.14
<i>1-2</i>		0.50	3.55	1.10	5.04
<i>3-5</i>		1.00	3.12	1.10	4.77
<i>6-9</i>		0.50	0.99	0.41	1.59
<i>10+</i>		3.24	11.77	4.25	17.24
Sedatives		<i>Never</i>	96.27	86.95	94.93
	<i>1-2</i>	1.00	2.27	1.37	2.65
	<i>3-5</i>	0.50	1.13	0.68	1.33
	<i>6-9</i>	0.75	0.99	0.68	1.33
	<i>10+</i>	1.49	8.65	2.33	13.26
	Hallucinogens	<i>Never</i>	92.29	82.65	89.32
<i>1-2</i>		2.74	7.25	4.66	7.47
<i>3-5</i>		1.49	4.27	2.19	5.33
<i>6-9</i>		1.24	1.99	1.78	1.60
<i>10+</i>		2.24	3.84	2.05	5.60
Opiates		<i>Never</i>	99.50	94.74	99.04
	<i>1-2</i>	0.00	1.28	0.27	1.87
	<i>3-5</i>	0.25	0.28	0.14	0.53
	<i>6-9</i>	0.00	0.85	0.00	1.60
	<i>10+</i>	0.25	2.84	0.55	4.53
	Inhalants	<i>Never</i>	98.00	94.31	97.53
<i>1-2</i>		1.25	2.28	1.24	3.20
<i>3-5</i>		0.75	1.00	0.69	1.33
<i>6-9</i>		0.00	0.71	0.14	1.07
<i>10+</i>		0.00	1.71	0.41	2.40
Designer Drugs		<i>Never</i>	97.26	87.77	95.34
	<i>1-2</i>	1.00	5.12	2.06	6.67
	<i>3-5</i>	0.50	3.27	0.96	4.80
	<i>6-9</i>	0.25	1.42	0.55	1.87
	<i>10+</i>	1.00	2.42	1.10	3.47
	Steroids	<i>Never</i>	98.00	95.53	97.93
<i>1-2</i>		0.500	1.59	0.83	1.89
<i>3-5</i>		1.00	0.86	0.83	1.08
<i>6-9</i>		0.50	0.58	0.28	1.08
<i>10+</i>		0.00	1.44	0.14	2.43
Methamphetamine		<i>Never</i>	99.50	91.87	98.90
	<i>1-2</i>	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.80
	<i>3-5</i>	0.25	0.71	0.28	1.07
	<i>6-9</i>	0.00	0.57	0.00	1.07
	<i>10+</i>	0.25	6.42	0.83	10.67
	Other Illegal Drugs	<i>Never</i>	97.49	94.27	96.55
<i>1-2</i>		0.50	1.86	1.24	1.61
<i>3-5</i>		0.50	0.86	0.83	0.54
<i>6-9</i>		0.00	0.29	0.00	0.54
<i>10+</i>		1.50	2.72	1.38	4.02

Table 32. Occasions of Substance Use in the Last 30 Days (%), 2023

Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10+ times	Total
Used cocaine (e.g., crack, rock, freebase)	96.26%	0.37%	0.09%	0.19%	0.09%	1077
Used amphetamines (e.g., diet pills)	96.20%	0.74%	0.37%	2.60%	0.09%	1078
Sedatives (e.g., ludes, downers)	98.23%	0.56%	0.37%	.84%	0.00%	1075
Used hallucinogens/psychedelics (e.g., PCP, LSD)	98.60%	0.84%	0.19%	0.09%	0.28%	1074
Used opiates (e.g., heroin, smack)	99.53%	0.19%	0.00%	0.28%	0.00%	1070
Sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled other gases or sprays to get high	99.4%	0.37%	0.09%	0.09%	0.00%	1069
Used designer drugs (e.g., ecstasy, MDMA, molly)	99.63%	0.09%	0.00%	0.19%	0.09%	1069
Used steroids (e.g., testosterone)	99.53%	0.19%	0.09%	0.19%	0.00%	1070
Used Meth (e.g., Ice, speed)	99.34%	0.00%	0.37%	0.28%	0.00%	1067
Other illegal drugs	99.53%	0.09%	0.09%	0.28%	0.00%	1060

Table 33. Occasions of Substance Use in Last 30 Days by Current Age (%), 2023

Occasions of Use		Age Group (18-20, 21+)		Age Group (18-25, 26+)	
Drug	Times Used	18-20	21 and Older	18-25	26 and Older
Cocaine	<i>Never</i>	99.48	99.13	99.23	98.92
	<i>1-2</i>	0.26	0.44	0.28	0.54
	<i>3-5</i>	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.27
	<i>6-9</i>	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.27
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.15	0.14	0.00
Amphetamines	<i>Never</i>	97.14	95.65	97.58	93.55
	<i>1-2</i>	0.52	0.87	0.71	0.81
	<i>3-5</i>	0.52	0.29	0.28	0.54
	<i>6-9</i>	1.82	3.04	1.42	4.84
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.27
Sedatives	<i>Never</i>	98.96	97.82	99.14	96.50
	<i>1-2</i>	0.26	0.73	0.14	1.35
	<i>3-5</i>	0.52	0.29	0.29	0.54
	<i>6-9</i>	0.26	1.16	0.43	1.62
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hallucinogens	<i>Never</i>	98.43	98.69	98.71	98.38
	<i>1-2</i>	0.52	1.02	0.71	1.08
	<i>3-5</i>	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.27
	<i>6-9</i>	0.0	0.15	0.00	0.27
	<i>10+</i>	0.78	0.00	0.43	0.00
Opiates	<i>Never</i>	99.74	99.42	99.71	99.18
	<i>1-2</i>	0.00	0.29	0.14	0.27
	<i>3-5</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<i>6-9</i>	0.26	0.29	0.14	0.54
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Inhalants/Sniffed Glue	<i>Never</i>	99.21	99.56	99.42	99.46
	<i>1-2</i>	0.79	0.15	0.58	0.00
	<i>3-5</i>	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.27
	<i>6-9</i>	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.27
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Designer Drugs	<i>Never</i>	99.74	99.56	99.71	99.46
	<i>1-2</i>	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.27
	<i>3-5</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<i>6-9</i>	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.27
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.15	0.14	0.00
Steroids	<i>Never</i>	99.74	99.42	99.86	98.92
	<i>1-2</i>	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.27
	<i>3-5</i>	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.27
	<i>6-9</i>	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.54
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Methamphetamine	<i>Never</i>	99.74	99.12	99.71	98.65
	<i>1-2</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<i>3-5</i>	0.00	0.58	0.14	0.81
	<i>6-9</i>	0.26	0.29	0.14	0.54
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Illegal Drugs	<i>Never</i>	99.20	99.71	99.56	99.46
	<i>1-2</i>	0.27	0.00	0.15	0.00
	<i>3-5</i>	0.27	0.00	0.15	0.00
	<i>6-9</i>	0.27	0.29	0.15	0.54
	<i>10+</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Campus Perceptions

Table 34. Student Awareness of Campus' Policies/ Programs for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Substance Use, 2023

Question	Yes	No
<i>Does your campus have alcohol, tobacco, and other drug policies?</i>	97.82%	2.17%
<i>If yes (to question 'Does your campus have alcohol, tobacco, and other drug policies?'), are campus policies enforced?</i>	90.31%	9.69%
<i>Does your college have an alcohol, tobacco, and drugs prevention program?</i>	87.27%	12.73%
<i>Do you believe your campus is concerned about the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use?</i>	86.93%	13.07%
<i>Are you actively involved in efforts to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and drug use on your campus?</i>	9.94%	90.06%

Table 35. Student Perceptions of Campus Substance Use (%), 2023

Substance	Did not use	Once a year	Once/month	Twice/month	Once/week	3 times/week	5 times/week	Every day	Total (N)
Tobacco	25.27	4.51	9.56	7.58	12.75	12.42	6.59	21.32	910
Alcohol	13.41	1.76	4.95	9.89	30.77	23.19	8.13	7.91	910
Marijuana	21.19	4.61	9.11	9.99	16.14	18.33	6.70	13.94	911
Prescription Opioids	60.42	11.97	8.43	5.65	4.99	4.21	1.22	3.10	902
Cocaine	70.97	11.48	6.51	4.30	2.54	1.99	0.44	1.77	906
Amphetamines	69.03	8.44	6.44	3.88	5.11	2.55	1.55	3.00	901
Sedatives	71.38	9.06	6.19	3.76	3.54	2.87	0.55	2.65	905
Hallucinogens/ Psychedelics	63.65	14.36	9.50	5.75	3.20	1.33	0.33	1.88	905
Opiates	71.25	10.54	6.33	4.44	2.33	2.00	0.89	2.22	901
Inhalants	74.86	8.31	6.31	3.88	2.99	1.33	0.33	1.99	903
Designer Drugs	70.35	10.29	7.63	3.98	3.76	1.55	0.44	1.99	904
Steroids	68.59	9.77	7.21	4.88	3.66	2.33	1.11	2.44	901
Methamphetamine	75.31	9.68	5.23	2.78	2.67	1.45	0.44	2.45	899
Other's prescription drugs	59.14	13.07	10.08	5.54	4.87	3.21	1.11	2.99	903
Vaping	21.88	2.21	3.54	3.87	7.62	9.83	9.94	41.10	905
Other illegal drugs	71.40	10.84	5.47	3.24	2.91	1.79	0.78	3.58	895

Table 36. Campus Atmosphere and Substance Use, 2023

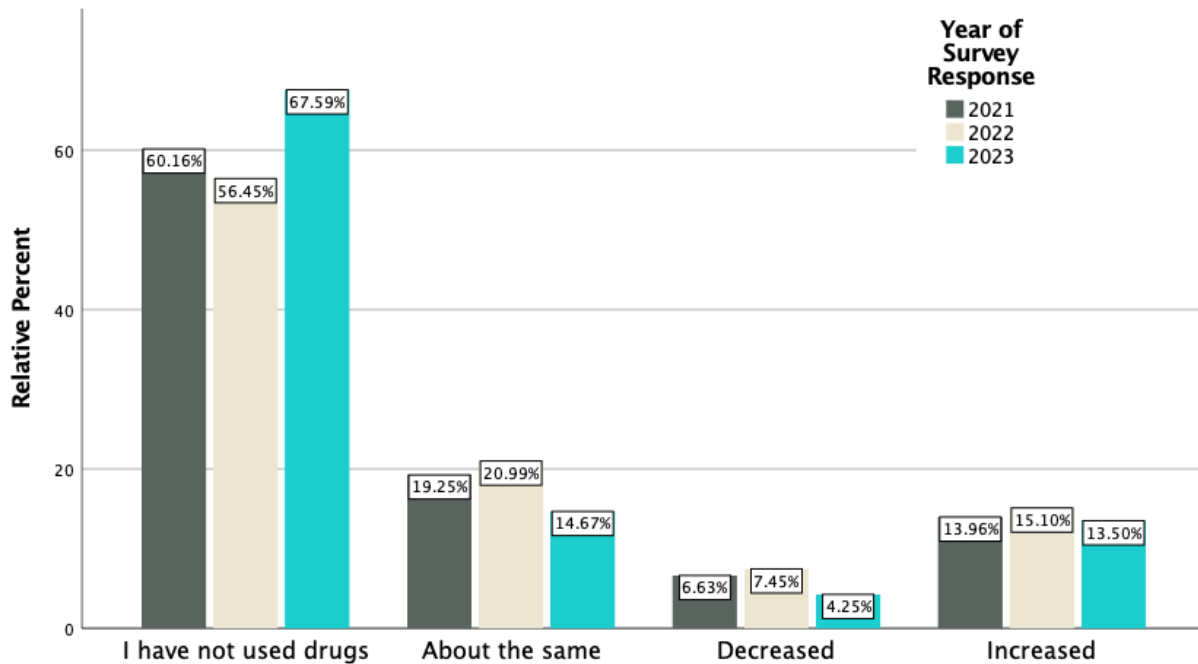
Inquiry	YES	NO
Does the social atmosphere on this campus promote alcohol use?	23.45%	76.55%
Does the social atmosphere on this campus promote other drug use?	12.77%	87.23%

Table 37. Student Perception of Alcohol Use Relative to Other Campuses, 2023

Inquiry	Greater Than	About the Same	Less Than
Compared to other campuses with which you are familiar, this campus' use of alcohol is...?	3.88%	46.93%	49.19%

Mental Health Indicators & COVID-19 Impact

Figure 7. COVID-19 pandemic effect on alcohol, tobacco, and/or drug use, 2021-2023



Use Change	2021	2022	2023
Have Not Used	60.16%	56.45%	67.59%
About the Same	19.25%	20.99%	14.67%
Decreased	6.63%	7.45%	4.25%
Increased	13.96%	15.10%	13.50%
Count	2987	3582	941

Table 38. COVID and Changes in Sadness and Hopelessness, 2023

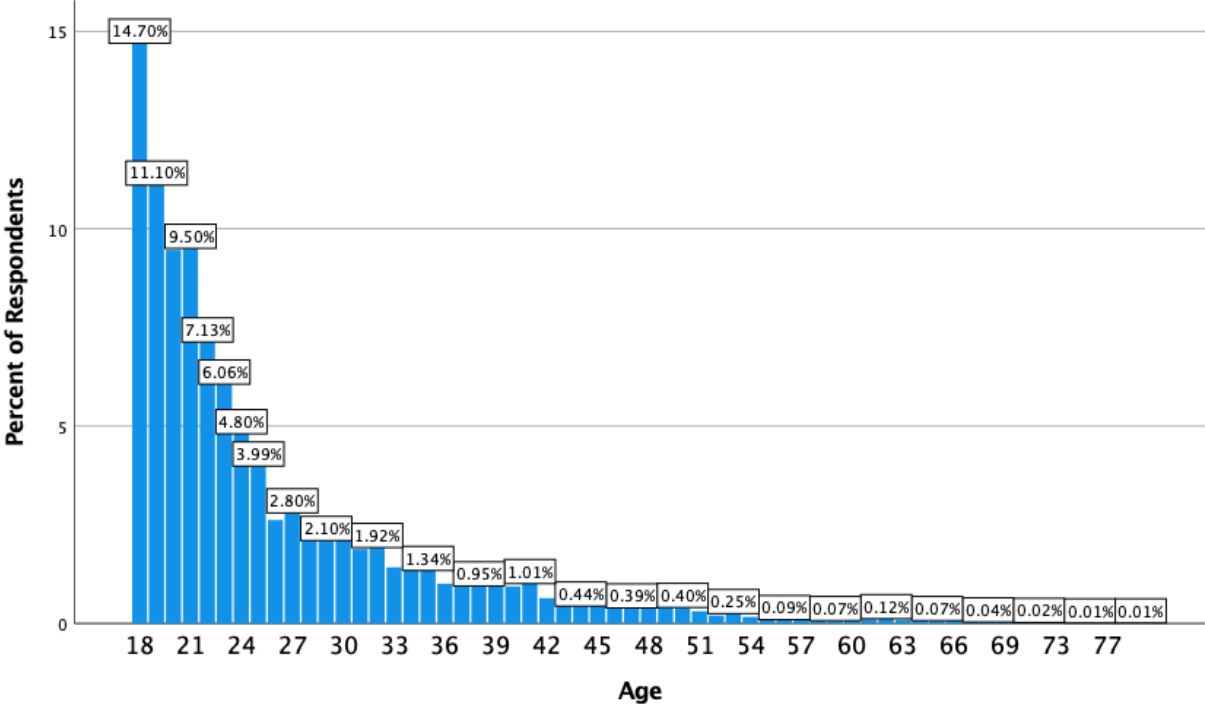
Inquiry	YES	NO
Since the COVID-19 pandemic, have you felt more sadness or hopeless than usual?	36.95%	63.05%

Table 39. Negative Emotional Well-being Indicators in the Last 30 Days, 2023

Emotion	None of the time	A little of the time	Some of the time	Most of the time	All of the time	Total
<i>Nervousness</i>	20.87%	20.00%	30.58%	18.46%	10.10%	1040
<i>Hopelessness</i>	53.15%	21.78%	15.78%	6.10%	3.19%	1033
<i>Restlessness/ Fidgetiness</i>	29.86%	21.16%	23.38%	15.65%	9.95%	1035
<i>Worthlessness</i>	60.10%	17.10%	11.79%	6.47%	4.54%	1035
<i>Depression</i>	42.80%	22.13%	17.29%	11.30%	6.47%	1035
<i>Everything was an 'effort'</i>	33.27%	21.39%	17.66%	14.82%	12.86%	1019

Participant Demographics

Figure 8. Respondent Age, in years, by Percent Response, 2023



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table 40. Gender, Race, and Ethnicity Demographics, 2023

Demographic Criteria	<i>Demographic Category</i>	Percentage	Count (N)
Gender	<i>Male</i>	24.8	290
	<i>Female</i>	69.7	815
	<i>Transgender/ Gender Non-conforming</i>	5.6	79
	(Transgender Man)	(1.3)	(17)
	(Transgender Woman)	(0.6)	(8)
	(Gender Non-Conforming)	(1.4)	(19)
	(Genderqueer) (Preference Not Listed)	(1.0) (2.5)	(13) (34)
Race	<i>Black or African American</i>	13.0	153
	<i>Asian</i>	3.0	35
	<i>Native American</i>	1.4	16
	<i>Alaska Native</i>	0.1	1
	<i>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</i>	0.2	2
	<i>White</i>	74.7	879
	<i>Other</i>	2.6	31
Ethnicity	<i>Yes (Spanish/ Hispanic/ Latinx)</i>	9.7	115
	<i>No (Spanish/ Hispanic/ Latinx)</i>	90.3	1065

Table 41. Life, Work, and Student Classification Demographics, 2023

Demographic Criteria	Demographic Category	Percentage	Count (N)
Marital Status	<i>Single, divorced</i>	7.3	86
	<i>Living with domestic partner</i>	5.6	66
	<i>Widowed</i>	0.7	8
	<i>Single, never married</i>	66.8	789
	<i>Married, and living with spouse</i>	18.6	220
	<i>Married, and living separately from spouse</i>	1.1	13
Work and Military Status	<i>Yes, part-time</i>	34.2	405
	<i>Yes, full-time</i>	28.8	341
	<i>Not Working</i>	36.9	437
	<i>Military Service, No</i>	97.0	1145
	<i>Military Service, Yes</i>	3.0	35
	<i>(Full Active)</i>	(0.0)	(0)
	<i>(Active for Training)</i>	(0.8)	(9)
<i>(Active Previously)</i>	(2.2)	(26)	
Permanent Residence	<i>In-state (Arkansas)</i>	87.2	1031
	<i>Out of State</i>	10.8	128
	<i>Outside the United States</i>	1.9	23
Student Status	<i>Full-time (e.g., 12+credits)</i>	82.3	969
	<i>Part-time (e.g., 1-11 credits)</i>	17.7	209
Degree	<i>Non-degree seeking</i>	4.2	49
	<i>Undergraduate</i>	49.4	583
	<i>Associate</i>	22.1	260
	<i>Graduate</i>	19.5	230
	<i>Other (please specify)</i>	4.8	57
Undergraduate	<i>Freshman (undergraduate)</i>	32.0	186
	<i>Sophomore (undergraduate)</i>	18.7	109

<i>Junior (undergraduate)</i>	23.0	134
<i>Senior (undergraduate)</i>	26.3	153

Table 42. Student Performance and Additional Classification Demographics, 2023

Demographic Criteria	Demographic Category	Percentage	Count (N)
Graduate	<i>Masters</i>	46.3	106
	<i>Doctorate</i>	36.7	84
	<i>Professional Degree</i>	13.1	30
	<i>Other (please specify)</i>	3.9	9
Current Residence	<i>On-campus</i>	29.6	349
	<i>Off-campus</i>	70.4	832
Class Modality	<i>Fully online courses</i>	25.9	306
	<i>Hybrid (both online and in-person courses)</i>	37.9	448
	<i>Fully in-person courses</i>	36.2	427
Cumulative Grade Point Average	<i>A</i>	52.9	613
	<i>B</i>	35.1	406
	<i>C</i>	10.4	120
	<i>D</i>	1.6	18
	<i>F</i>	0.1	1

PARTICIPANT FAMILY HISTORY

Table 43. Family Members with Alcohol or Other Drug Problems, 2023

Family Member	Frequency (n), 2023
<i>Mother</i>	185
<i>Father</i>	312
<i>Stepmother</i>	23
<i>Stepfather</i>	59
<i>Siblings</i>	190
<i>Grandparents (Mother's Side)</i>	189
<i>Grandparents (Father's Side)</i>	180
<i>Aunts/Uncles</i>	318
<i>Spouse</i>	46
<i>Partner</i>	40
<i>Children</i>	16
<i>None</i>	346

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