

2009 INDIANA COLLEGE SUBSTANCE USE SURVEY

SUMMARY FINDINGS

A total of 5,440 students from seven Indiana colleges participated in the Indiana College Substance Use Survey conducted in Spring 2009. The survey, with a 21.1% response rate, was administered online by the Indiana Prevention Resource Center. Funding 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.

CURRENT USE...

Three-fourths of the Indiana college students reported using alcohol in the past month (74.6%) compared to 69.0% nationally¹. Over two-thirds of the Indiana students under 21 years of age (67.6%) drank alcohol in the past month. Nearly one in five Indiana students (19.3%) reported using cigarettes in the past month, and 14.9% reported marijuana use over the same period. Monthly prevalence rates for male college students in Indiana were statistically higher than females for all substances queried, except alcohol and over-the-counter medications. Students at two-year colleges reported statistically higher monthly use of cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and prescription medication misuse than students at four-year colleges. They also reported statistically lower rates of monthly use of alcohol, cocaine, and tobacco use via water pipe/hookah.

¹ Johnston, L.D., O'Malley, P.M., Bachman, J.G., & Schulenberg, J. E. (2009). Monitoring the Future National Survey Results on Drug Use, 1975-2008. Volume I: Secondary school students. NIH Publication No. 09-7402. Bethesda, MD: National Institute on Drug Abuse.

BINGE DRINKING...

Almost half of the students surveyed (48.0%) reported binge drinking in the past two weeks (defined as four or more drinks in one sitting for females and five or more drinks in one sitting for males). Male students, students 21 and over, and students attending four-year schools reported statistically higher rates of binge drinking than their counterparts. Students who binge drank did so on an average of 5.1 days in the past month. Male students who binge drank reported doing so on an average of 5.9 days, while female students reported an average of 4.4 days in the past month.

CONSEQUENCES OF USE...

The most commonly experienced consequences of alcohol use included feeling bad about their drinking (30.4%), missing a class or assignment (19.5%), and driving while under the influence of alcohol (17.3%). Consequences of drug use included feeling bad about their drug use (11.1%), using more than one drug at a time (10.9%), and driving while under the influence of drugs (9.0%).

UNDERAGE STUDENTS' ACCESS TO ALCOHOL ...

Students identified the three easiest ways they obtain alcohol. Older friends was the most often cited response for the easiest way to get alcohol, followed by off-campus parties as the second easiest method and on-campus parties as the third easiest method. 6.1% of underage students reported buying alcohol without an ID, while 5.3% reported using a fake ID and 3.3% used someone else's ID. Underage students reported liquor stores, bars, and grocery stores as the most common places to purchase alcohol.

