

# 2014 INDIANA COLLEGE SUBSTANCE USE SURVEY

## SUMMARY FINDINGS

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A total of 4,711 students from 12 Indiana colleges participated in the Indiana College Substance Use Survey conducted in Spring 2014. 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 Indiana Prevention Resource Center. 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

Three-fifths of the Indiana college students who participated in the survey (60%) reported using alcohol in the past month, including over half of the students under 21 years of age (52%). One in seven of the students (14%) reported marijuana use in the past month and thirteen percent smoked cigarettes during the same period. Misused prescription medication was the next most commonly used substance, with four percent reporting use in the past month of prescription medication that was not prescribed to them.

Male students reported higher rates of use within the past month for many of the substances investigated. Eighteen percent of the male students used marijuana, compared to twelve percent of the female students. Sixteen percent of the male students smoked cigarettes and fourteen percent smoked cigars or smoked tobacco with a hookah. There was no statistical difference between genders in the rates of alcohol consumption in the past month.

### BINGE DRINKING

Two in five of the surveyed students (39%) reported binge drinking in the past two weeks (defined as four or more drinks\* in three hours or less for females, and five or more drinks in three hours for males). Male students reported a statistically higher rate of binge drinking than female students, with almost half of the male students (46%) engaging in the behavior compared to 35% of the female students. Rates of binge drinking also differed by age, with almost half of the students 21 years of age or older (45%) and 35% of the underage students binge drinking. 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 is a 12 ounce bottle of beer, a five ounce glass of wine, or one shot of liquor (straight or in a mixed drink).

### PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION MISUSE

Adderall was the most commonly misused prescription medication, with nine percent of the students reporting misusing it in the past six months. One in eight of the male students (13%) reported doing so compared to seven percent of the female students. Xanax was the second most commonly misused prescription medication, with three percent of the students misusing it in the past six months.

### CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

One-fourth of the students who drank alcohol within the past six months (26%) reported blacking out (forgetting where they were or what they did), and one in seven (15%) had missed class or an assignment as a result of their drinking. Thirteen percent of the students had driven a car while under the influence. One in eight of the students (13%) reported engaging in risky sexual behavior as a result of their drinking, and ten percent had been hurt or injured because of their drinking. Over one-fourth of the students who drank alcohol in the past six months (26%) felt bad or guilty about their drinking.

### UNDERAGE STUDENTS' ACCESS TO ALCOHOL

Students under 21 years of age identified "older friends" as the easiest way to obtain alcohol, with almost nine in ten of the students (87%) listing it as one of the top three easiest methods. "Off-campus parties" was selected by half of the survey respondents (50%) as one of the three easiest methods. Nine percent of the students under 21 who drink alcohol reported having purchased it directly from a retailer. Half of these students (49%) reported that purchasing it without being asked for ID was the most common method they used for buying it.