

# 2019 INDIANA COLLEGE SUBSTANCE USE SURVEY

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A total of 6,454 students 18-25 years of age from 20 Indiana colleges participated in the Indiana College Substance Use Survey conducted in Spring 2019. Funding for the survey was provided by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health and Addiction. The survey administration and data analysis were conducted by the Institute for Research on Addictive Behavior at Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington. A detailed report of the findings may be accessed at <https://iprc.iu.edu/indiana-college-survey/substance-use-survey>.

### PAST MONTH SUBSTANCE USE

Three-fifths of the students who participated in the survey (61%), including half of the students under 21 years of age (49%), reported consuming alcohol in the past month. A quarter of the students (26%) reported using electronic vapor products in the past month, and 21% reported using marijuana. One in ten of the students (10%) smoked cigarettes in the past month. Misuse of prescription stimulants was the next most commonly used substance, with 4% reporting use without a doctor's prescription in the past month.

Male students reported statistically higher rates of use within the past month for most substances investigated on the survey. Almost thirty percent of the male students (29%) reported using electronic vaping devices, compared to 23% of the female students.

Students 21 years of age or older reported statistically higher rates of alcohol use, smoking cigarettes, and prescription stimulant misuse in the past month, while younger students reported higher rates for use of electronic vaping devices, with 28% of the students under 21 years of age vaping in the past month.

### BINGE DRINKING

One-third of the surveyed students (33%) reported binge drinking in the past two weeks (defined as four or more drinks\* for females, and five or more drinks for males in a row). Ten percent of the students who completed the survey reported binge drinking more than two times in the past two weeks.

\*A drink was defined as a 12-ounce bottle of beer, a five-ounce glass of wine, or one shot of liquor (straight or in a mixed drink)

### CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

Over half of the students who drank alcohol in the past year (56%) reported having had a hangover, and 26% reported blacking out (forgetting where they were or what they did). Sixteen percent of the students reported engaging in unprotected sexual intercourse, and one in eight (12%) reported missing class or an assignment as a result of their drinking. One in ten of the students (10%) reported that they had been hurt or injured because of drinking in the past year.

### UNDERAGE STUDENTS' ACCESS TO ALCOHOL

Nearly three-fifths of the students under 21 years of age who have used alcohol (57%) reported that they obtain it from friends over 21 years old, and over one-fourth (27%) reported getting it at off-campus parties. Twelve percent of the male students and 9% of the female students under 21 who have used alcohol reported having purchased it directly from a retailer. Two-thirds of these students (66%) reported that they were able to purchase it without being asked for ID, while 43% reported using a fake ID. Less than one-fourth of the underage students (23%) think it is likely to be ticketed if drinking at off-campus housing.

### PERCEPTION OF PEER BELIEFS

Less than half of the students thought their close friends would disapprove if they had five or more alcoholic drinks in one sitting (42%), or if they used marijuana (45%).