

2023 INDIANA COLLEGE SUBSTANCE USE SURVEY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Twenty-two Indiana colleges participated in the 2023 Indiana College Substance Use Survey. A total of 5,387 useable responses were collected from 18- to 25-year-old students at the participating schools in spring 2023. 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 Prevention Insights and the Institute for Research on Addictive Behavior at the School of Public Health, Indiana University-Bloomington. A full report of the findings is at <https://collegesurvey.indiana.edu/>.

PAST MONTH SUBSTANCE USE

Over half of the students who participated in the survey (55.7%), including 44.7% of the students under 21 years of age, reported consuming alcohol in the past month. One in five of the students (21.1%) reported using electronic vapor products, and nearly one in four reported using marijuana (24.1%). Eight percent of the students smoked cigarettes in the past month. The next most commonly used substances in the past month included cigars (3.8%), smokeless tobacco (2.4%), and prescription stimulants without a doctor's prescription (2%).

Females reported statistically higher past-month rates of alcohol use and electronic vapor products compared to students who identify as a gender other than male or female. Males and females reported statistically lower rates of marijuana use than students who do not identify as male or female. Students 21 years of age or older reported statistically higher rates of use for most substances measured on the survey, including alcohol, electronic vapor products, marijuana, tobacco (all forms), and cocaine.

BINGE DRINKING

More than one-fourth of the surveyed students (29.6%) reported binge drinking in the past two weeks, with 30.9% of male students, 29.8% of female students, and 16.2% of students who identified as other than male or female reporting the behavior.

Older students were much more likely to report binge drinking than underage students (39.6% vs. 23.2%).

CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

More than half of the students who drank alcohol in the past year (55.7%) reported having had a hangover, and 27.7% reported feeling bad or guilty about their drinking. One-fourth of the students reported blacking out or doing something they later regretted (25.7% and 23.7% respectively). Over sixteen percent of the students (16.6%) reported engaging in unprotected sexual intercourse, and nearly 14% reported missing class or an assignment because of their drinking.

UNDERAGE STUDENTS' ACCESS TO ALCOHOL

Half of the students under 21 years of age who have used alcohol (52.7%) reported that they obtained alcohol from friends who were 21 years of age or older. One-fourth of the underage students reported obtaining alcohol from other adults over 21 (25.8%), someone under 21 (25.6%), off-campus parties (25.0%), or parents (23.5%).

Fifteen percent of the students under 21 who have used alcohol reported having purchased it directly from a retailer. Three-fifths of the students who purchased alcohol from a retailer reported doing so without being asked for ID (61.9%) or using a fake ID (58.1%). Less than one-fifth (19.9%) purchased alcohol using someone else's ID.

PERCEPTION OF PEER BELIEFS

Less than half of the students thought their peers would disapprove if they had five or more alcoholic drinks in one sitting (45.2%), or if they used marijuana (40.5%).