



2024 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey

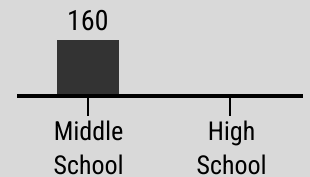
Union County Report

Survey Background

This report presents key findings from the 2024 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS) for Union County. Full FYSAS data tables for each county are available at the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) website. Detailed information on the survey's methodology is included in the FYSAS Statewide Report, which is also available at the DCF website.

The final Union County FYSAS sample included 160 students from 1 middle school, yielding a maximum margin of error of +/- 3.9 percentage points. High school students in Union County were not surveyed as part of the 2024 survey administration.

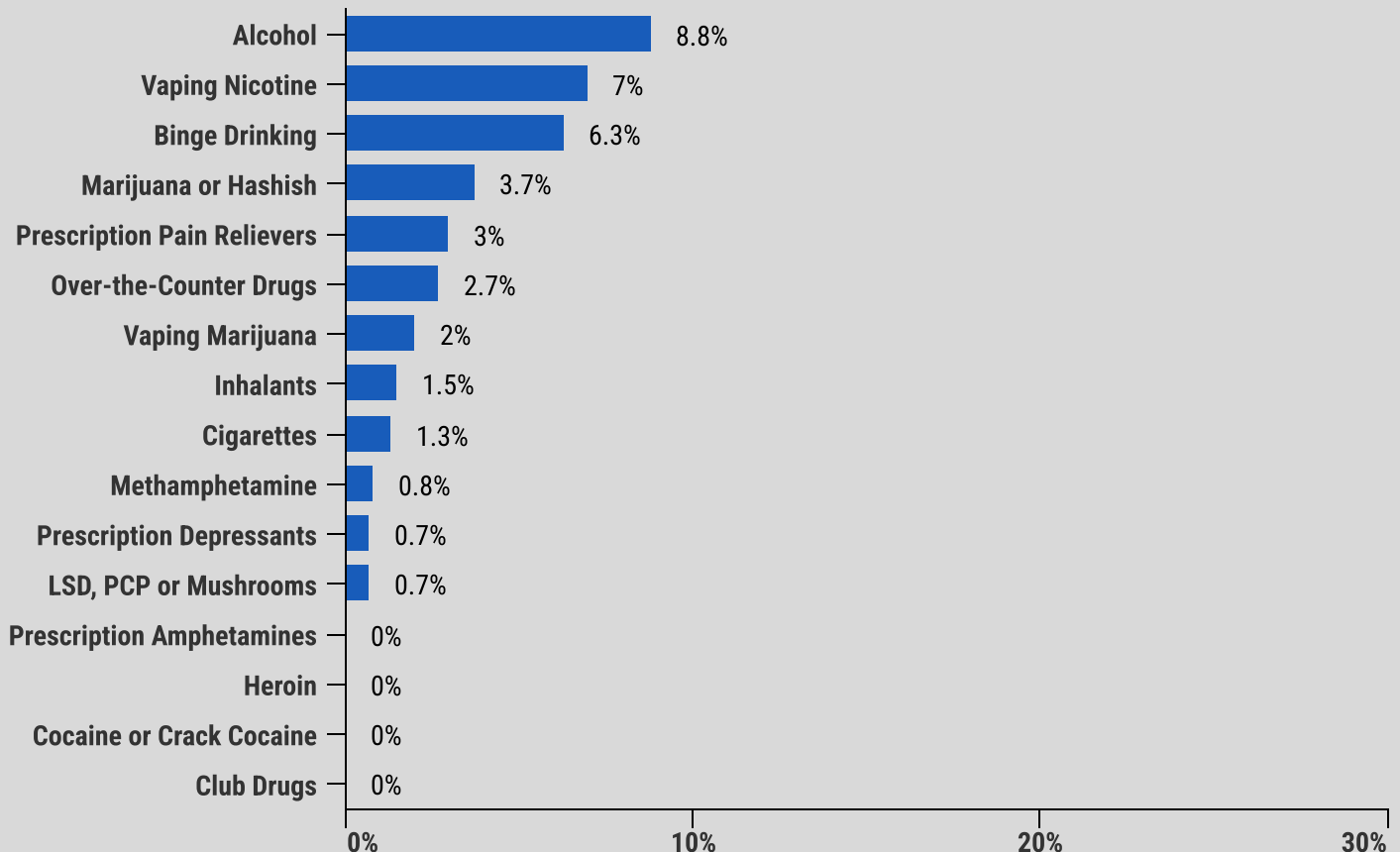
County Sample Size



Substance Use Among Union County Students

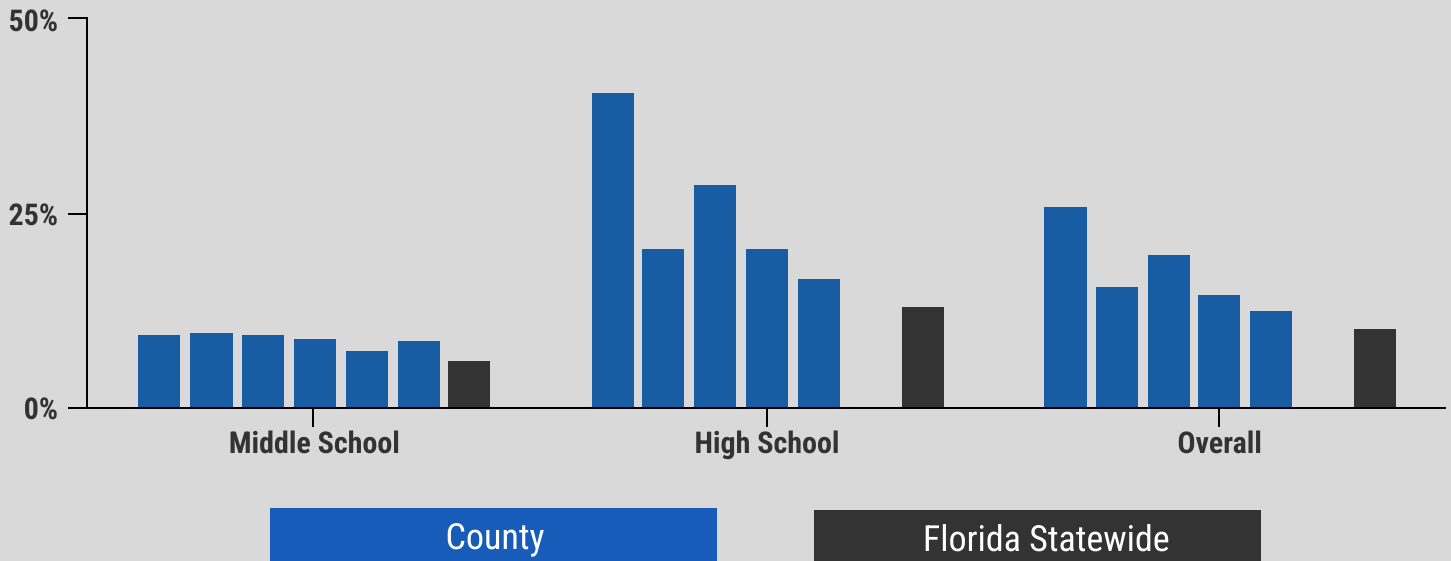
The graph below shows past-30-day substance use prevalence rates for middle school students. Past-30-day prevalence (whether a student has used a substance on one or more occasions within the past month) is the standard indicator of current use.

Union County: Past-30-Day Substance Use



Union County | Alcohol Use

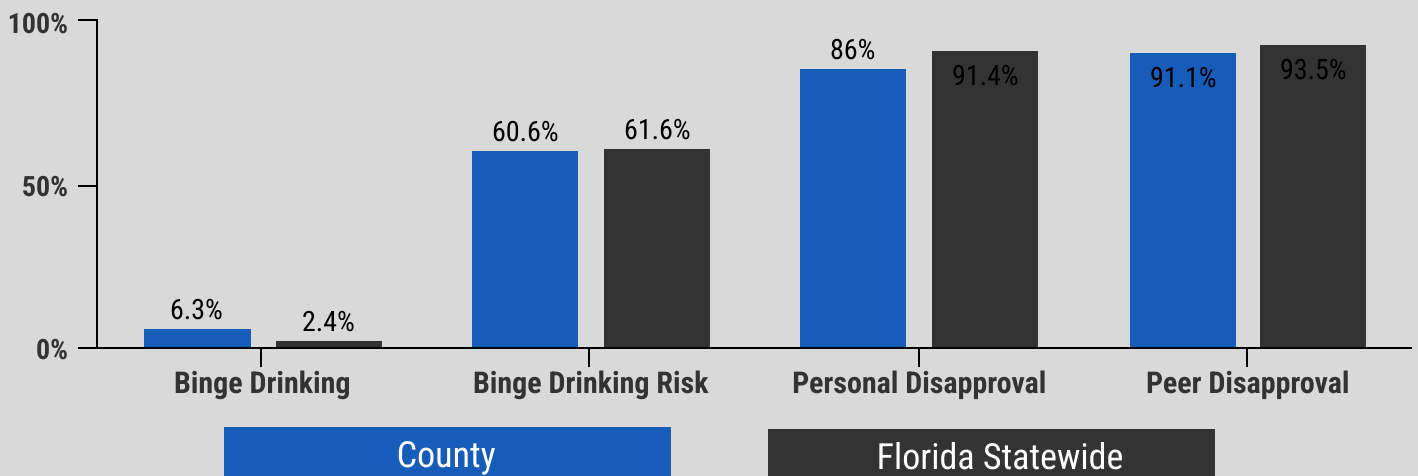
Past-30-Day Alcohol Use, Union County 2014-2024 and Florida 2024



High-Risk Alcohol Use, Perceptions of Risk, and Disapproval

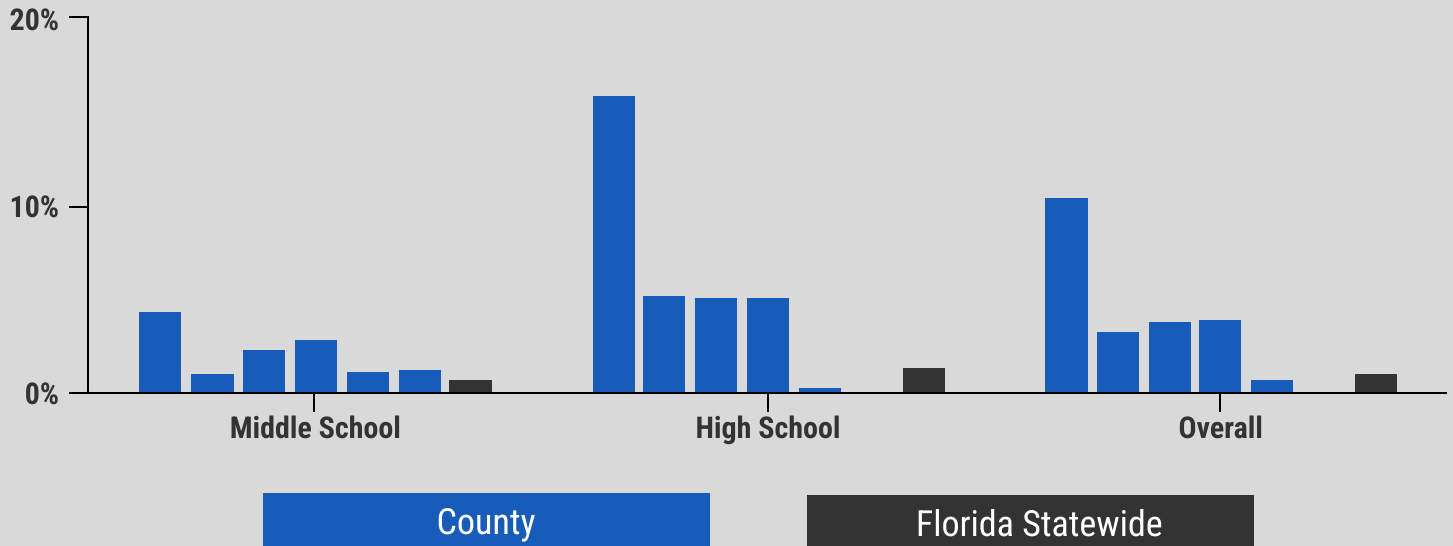
The FYSAS includes several indicators of alcohol use that are particularly dangerous for adolescents, including binge drinking (five or more drinks in a row within the past two weeks). The second set of bars shows the percentage of students who assign a "great" risk to binge drinking. The third set of bars shows the percentage of students who disapprove of regular alcohol use. And the fourth set of bars shows the percentage of students who believe their friends disapprove of daily alcohol use. All results in this graph are for middle school students only.

Alcohol Use, Middle School, Union County and Florida, 2024



Union County | Cigarette Use

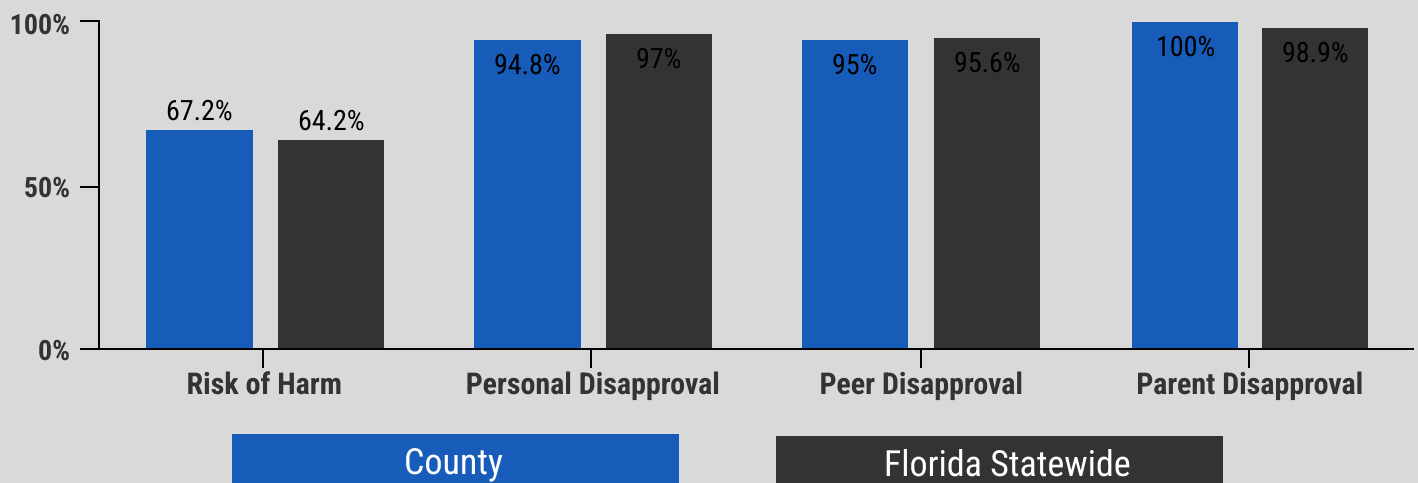
Past-30-Day Cigarette Use, Union County 2014-2024 and Florida 2024



Attitudes Towards Cigarette Use

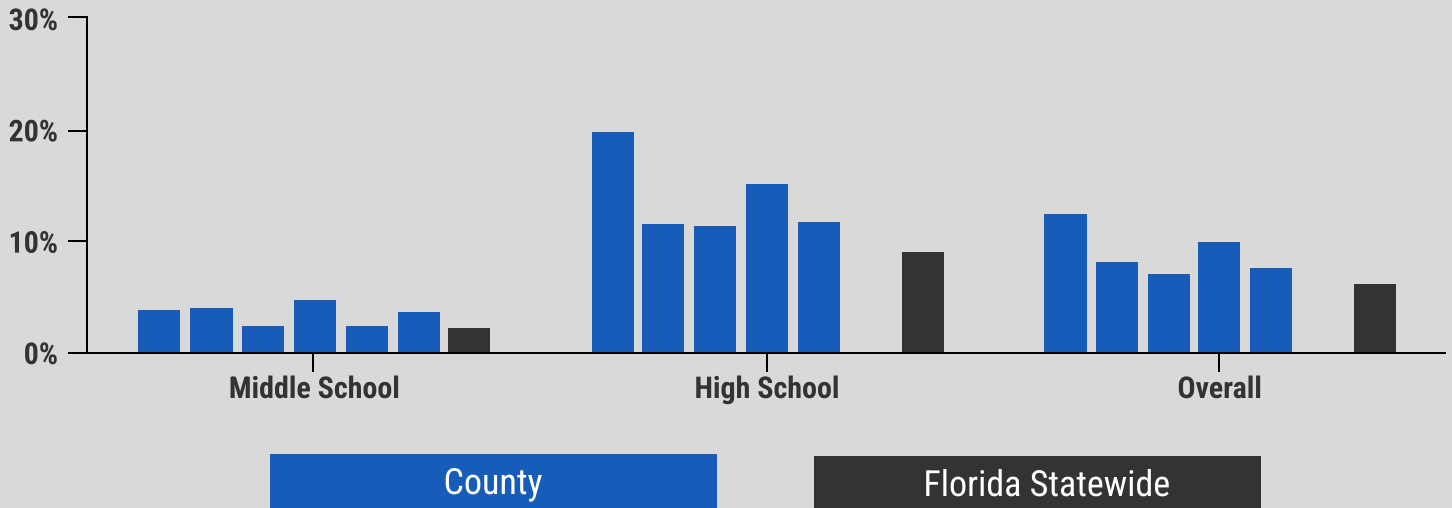
The remarkable reduction in cigarette use among Florida students is driven, in part, by the norms and values youth hold about smoking. The first set of bars shows the percentage of students who believe there is a "great" risk associated with daily cigarette use. Prevalence rates for personal disapproval of smoking, perceptions of peer disapproval, and perceptions of parent disapproval are shown in the second, third, and fourth bar sets. All data points are for middle school students only.

Cigarette Smoking, Middle School, Union County and Florida, 2024



Union County | Marijuana Use

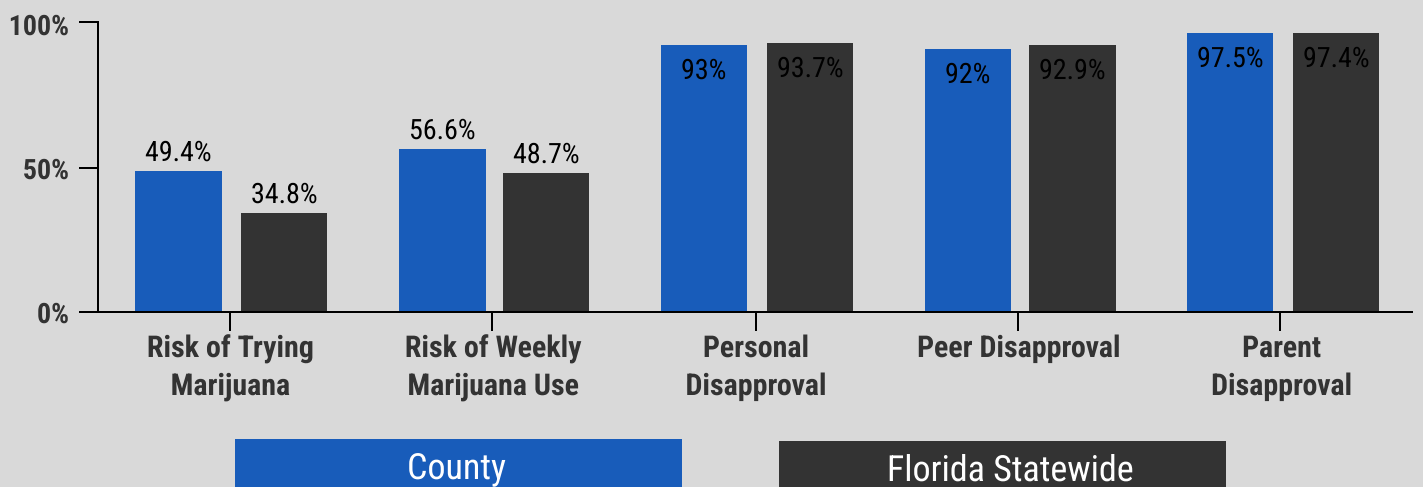
Past-30-Day Marijuana Use, Union County 2014-2024 and Florida 2024



Additional Data on Marijuana Use

The first set of bars shows the percentage of students who assigned a "great" risk of harm to trying marijuana "once or twice." The second set of bars shows the percentage of students who assigned a "great" risk of harm to weekly marijuana use. The third set of bars shows the percentage of students who described marijuana use as "wrong" or "very wrong." The fourth set of bars shows the percentage of students who believe their friends consider marijuana use to be "wrong" or "very wrong." The fifth set of bars shows the percentage of students who believe their parents consider marijuana use to be "wrong" or "very wrong." All data points are for middle school students only.

Marijuana Use, Middle School, Union County and Florida, 2024

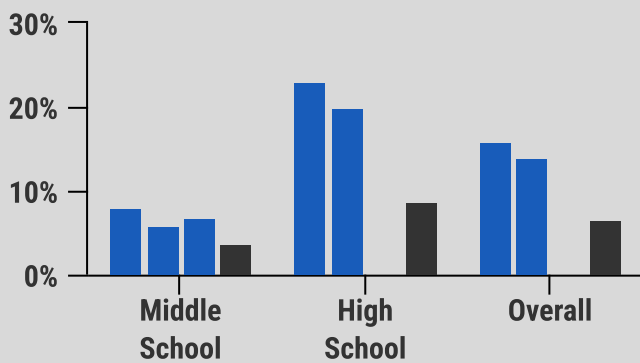


Union County | Vaping

Nicotine Vaping and Marijuana Vaping

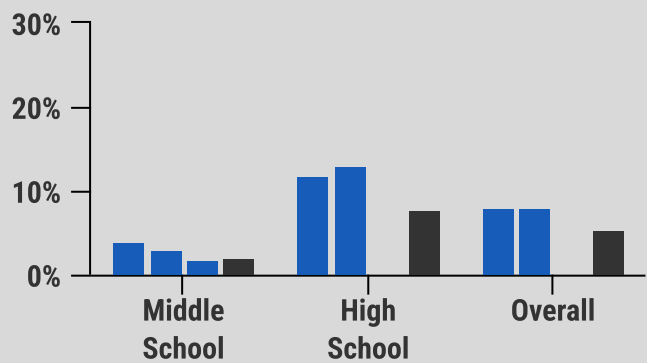
Vaping has rapidly emerged, both within Florida and across the nation, as one of the most prevalent forms of adolescent substance use. In 2020, new items that distinguish between nicotine vaping and marijuana vaping were added to the FYSAS questionnaire. The graphs below show the percentage of students reporting one or more occasions of vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana within the past 30 days. For Union County, the graphs show the change in vaping prevalence rates between 2020 and 2024. Statewide comparison data for Florida as a whole are shown for 2024.

Past-30-Day Nicotine Vaping



County 2020-2024

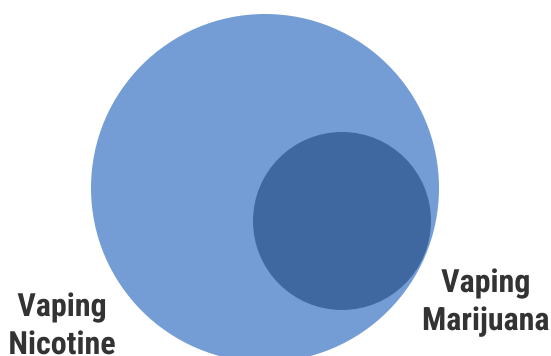
Past-30-Day Marijuana Vaping



Florida Statewide 2024

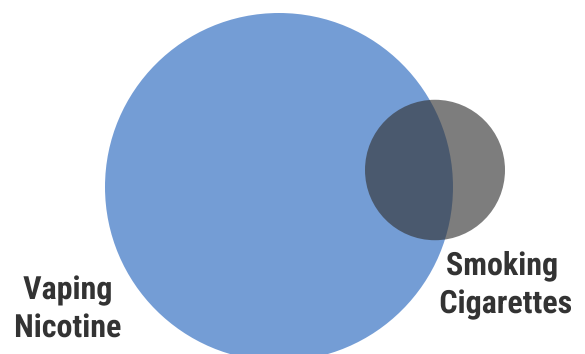
Vaping Nicotine and Vaping Marijuana

This overlap reveals the role of vaping as a substance delivery system. **31%** of Union County students who vape nicotine also vape marijuana, and **100%** of students who vape marijuana also vape nicotine.



Vaping Nicotine and Smoking Cigarettes

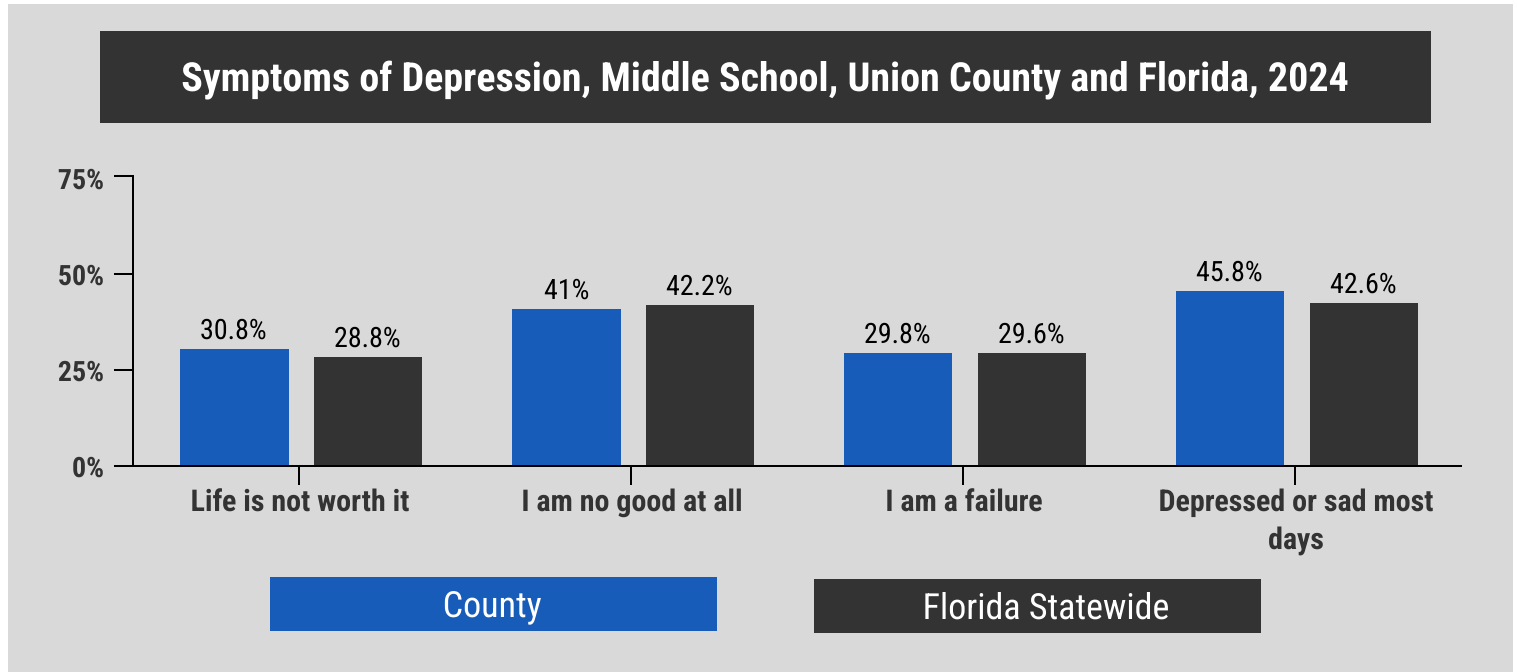
The majority of students who vape nicotine did not transition from smoking cigarettes. Their vaping is independent of cigarette use. Only **10%** of Union County students who vape nicotine also smoke cigarettes.



Union County | Emotional Health

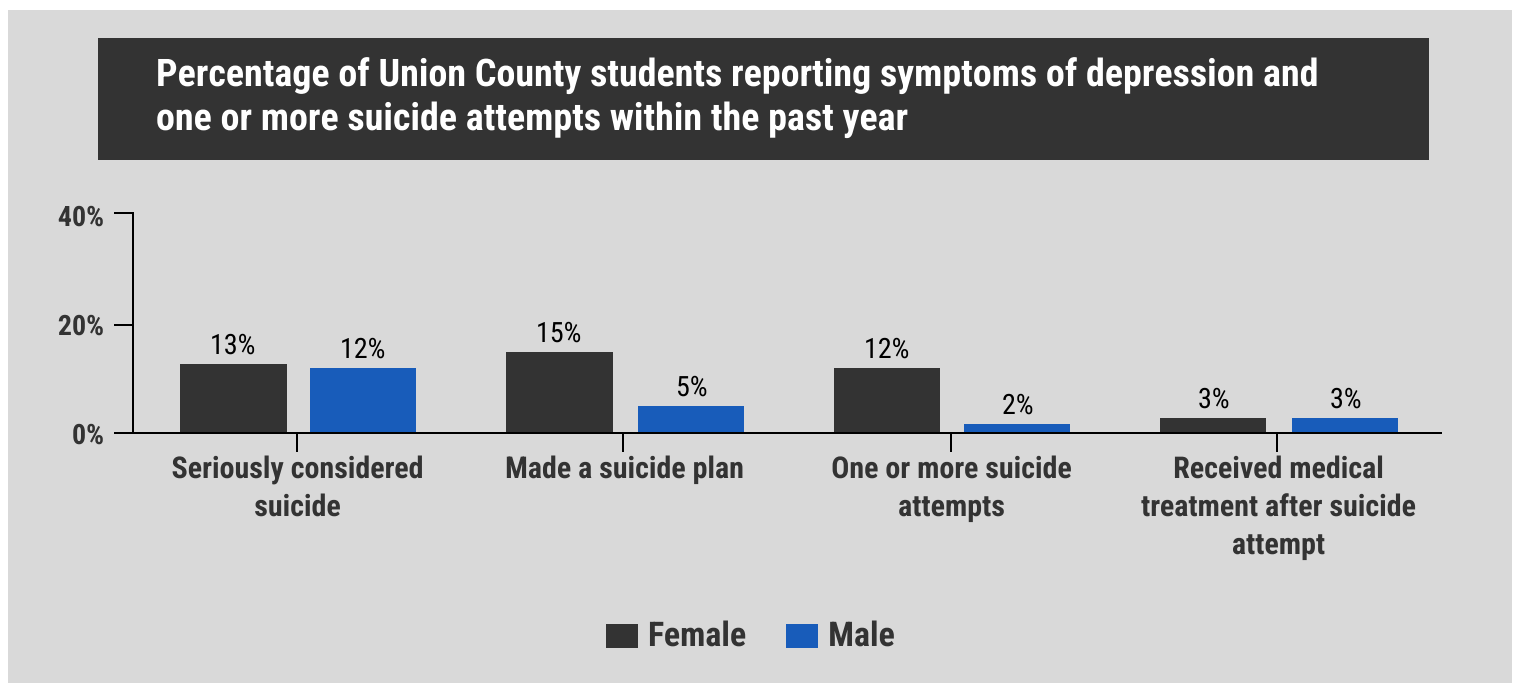
Symptoms of Depression

The FYSAS asks students about four symptoms of depression. Across the state as a whole, prevalence rates for these indicators increased for more than a decade before peaking in 2022 and declining in 2024.



Suicidal Ideation and Behavior

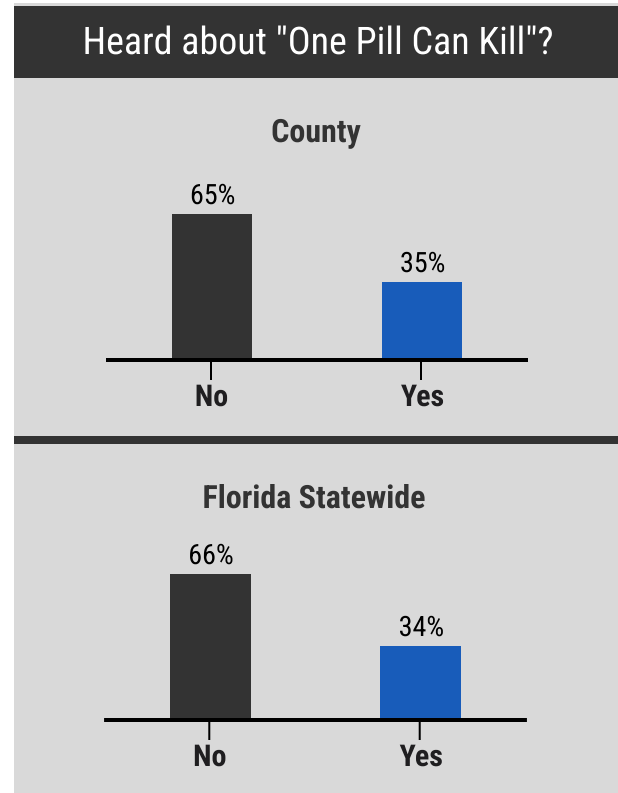
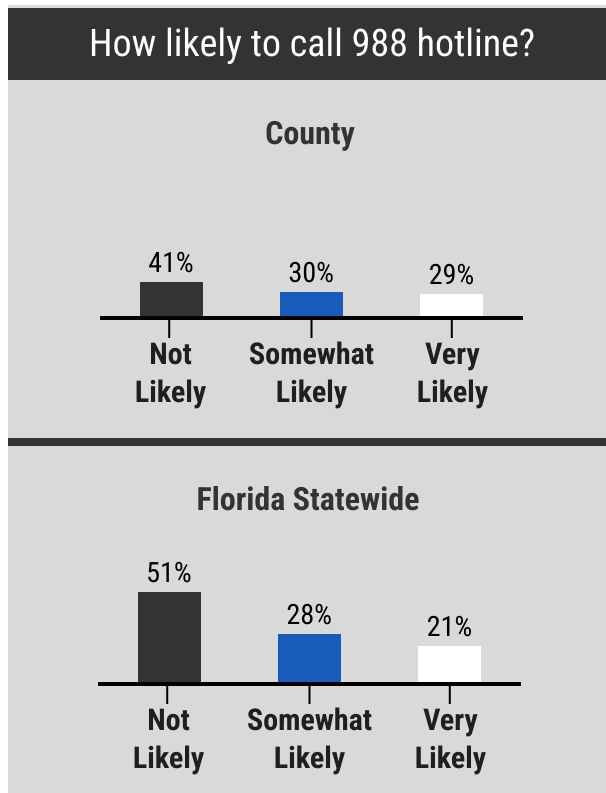
In 2023, a new set of questions addressing thinking and behavior related to suicide was added to the FYSAS questionnaire. The graphs below show the past-year prevalence rates for seriously thinking about suicide, making a suicide plan, attempting suicide on one or more occasions, and receiving medical care after a suicide attempt for an injury, poisoning, or overdose. Across the first three measures, female students reported higher rates of suicidal thinking and behavior.



The 988 Hotline and the "One Pill Can Kill" Campaign

The 988 hotline is a national program, supported by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, that provides 24-hour, confidential support to people experiencing a suicide crisis or emotional distress. The FYSAS questionnaire asks students how likely they would be to call 988 if they were feeling overwhelmed, upset, or suicidal. At the state level, **18%** of students said they were "very likely" to call.

To warn Floridians about the dangers posed by fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, Florida has joined the "One Pill Can Kill" educational campaign. Statewide, **36%** of students reporting having seen or heard this prevention message.



Some groups are more likely than others to use the 988 crisis hotline. Across Florida as a whole, both younger students and male students are more likely to report that they would use the hotline if they were experiencing suicidal thoughts or other difficulties.

Percentage of students in Union County who are "very likely" to call the 988 hotline if they are experiencing a suicide crisis or an emotional crisis

