2019 FLORIDA YOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE SURVEY
1. Methodology
2. Substance use rates and trends
3. New data on vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana
4. Student attitudes toward school
5. Digital self-harm
Since 2002, the FYSAS is administered each spring to public middle school and high school students across Florida.

Students were surveyed in 40 out of 67 Florida counties.

Final sample size was 9,819 across grades 6 through 12.

66.6% of surveys were administered with paper booklets and 33.4% were administered online.

The margin of error is less than 2.0 percentage points for middle school and high school prevalence rates.
Past-30-Day Prevalence

Middle School

- Alcohol: 8.2%
- Vaping Nicotine: 5.9%
- Marijuana or Hashish: 3.7%
- Binge Drinking: 3.6%
- Vaping Marijuana: 3.0%
- Inhalants: 2.9%
- Rx Pain Relievers: 1.3%
- Cigarettes: 1.2%
- Rx Depressants: 1.0%
- Methamphetamines: 0.8%
- LSD, PCP, and Mushrooms: 0.6%
- Cocaine or Crack: 0.4%
- Club Drugs: 0.4%
- Heroin: 0.3%
- Other: 0.1%
Past-30-Day Prevalence
High School

- Alcohol: 19.8%
- Vaping Nicotine: 17.4%
- Marijuana or Hashish: 15.4%
- Binge Drinking: 12.3%
- Cigarettes: 9.3%
- Over-The-Counter Drugs: 2.1%
- Rx Depressants: 1.4%
- LSD, PCP, and Mushrooms: 1.4%
- Inhalants: 1.2%
- Rx Pain Relievers: 1.2%
- Synthetic Marijuana: 1.1%
- Club Drugs: 1.1%
- Cocaine or Crack: 0.9%
- Methamphetamine: 0.7%
- Heroin: 0.5%
- Other: 0.4%
- Other Other: 0.3%
Past-30-Day Drug Use Summary

- Alcohol continues to be the most prevalent form of substance use among Florida students, followed by vaping nicotine, marijuana, and vaping marijuana.

- Rates of use for other drug categories, including cigarettes, are very low.
Alcohol

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort

Middle School

High School
Alcohol

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders

MTF

FYSAS
Binge Drinking
Prevalence by Grade Cohort

Middle School
High School
Binge Drinking
Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders

- 2002: 21.9%
- 2004: 19.7%
- 2006: 22.4%
- 2008: 20%
- 2010: 19.5%
- 2012: 19.9%
- 2014: 9.9%
- 2016: 10.0%
- 2018: 9.0%
- 2020: 8.7%
- 2022: 8.9%

MTF and FYSAS data trends.
Blacking Out from Drinking
Lifetime Prevalence Among High School Students

On how many occasions (if any) in your lifetime have you woken up after a night of drinking alcoholic beverages and not been able to remember the things that you did or places that you went?
Alcohol and Driving Trends
Past-30-Day Prevalence Among High School Students

Riding with a Drinking Driver

Driving after Drinking
Alcohol Use Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students, 2019 data show a continuation of the long-term reduction in alcohol use.
  - 22.2 percentage point reduction in past-30-day use since 2004
  - High risk use, such as binge drinking, blacking out, and drinking and driving also declined in 2019

- Among M.S. students, both past-30-day alcohol use and binge drinking increased between 2018 and 2019.
  - Past-30-day increase is first since 2004, binge drinking increase is first since 2010
Cigarettes
Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort

Middle School
High School

0% 5% 10% 15% 20%
14.9 15.0 7.1 3.5 1.2 2.1 1.0
Cigarettes

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders

MTF

FYSAS
The long-term reduction in cigarette use among Florida students continued in 2019.

Among H.S. students, past-30-day cigarette use has dropped from 15.0% in 2004 to 2.1% in 2019.

Among M.S. students, past-30-day cigarette use has dropped from 7.1% in 2002 to 1.0% in 2019.
Marijuana

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort

Middle School
High School


0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25%

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Marijuana

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders

MTF
FYSAS
Marijuana and Driving Trends
Past-30-Day Prevalence Among High School Students

Riding with a Marijuana-Using Driver

Driving after Using Marijuana
Marijuana Use Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students, 2019 data show a continuation in the reduction in marijuana use.
  - Past-30-day use has dropped from 18.6% in 2014 to 15.4% in 2019
  - Driving after marijuana use is down again in 2019

- Among M.S. students, marijuana use showed no change in 2019, after a 0.5% increase between 2016 and 2018.
Use of Any Illicit Drug (Other than Marijuana)
Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort

- Middle School
- High School
Prescription Pain Relievers
Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort

Middle School
High School


0% 5% 10%
FYSAS Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students, alcohol, cigarette, marijuana, and Rx pain reliever use continue their long-term decline.
- Among M.S. students, the substance use decline has stalled.

→ Possibility #1: Temporary pause in the downward trend line

→ Possibility #2: M.S. rates have declined to the point where further reductions are difficult

→ Possibility #3: Start of a reversal in the overall substance use trend, as younger cohorts of Florida students adopt riskier substance use behaviors
Vaping Nicotine and Vaping Marijuana

Lifetime and Past-30-Day Prevalence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lifetime Nicotine Vaping</th>
<th>Past-30-Day Nicotine Vaping</th>
<th>Lifetime Marijuana Vaping</th>
<th>Past-30-Day Marijuana Vaping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.S.</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Sample</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Vaping Trend
Past-30-Day Prevalence

Middle School

High School

2016  2017  2018  2019

5.1  4.3  6.4  6.4

12.8  10.1  19.2  20.9

0%  10%  20%  30%  40%
Vaping National Trend
Past-30-Day Prevalence

8th Grade
2015: 8.0%, 2016: 6.2%, 2017: 6.6%, 2018: 10.4%

10th Grade

12th Grade
2015: 16.3%, 2016: 12.5%, 2017: 16.6%, 2018: 26.7%
MTF Press Release: 12/17/18

Increases in adolescent vaping from 2017 to 2018 were the largest ever recorded in the past 43 years for any adolescent substance use outcome in the U.S.
Vaping Nicotine and Vaping Marijuana
Past-30-Day Prevalence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>M.S.</th>
<th>H.S.</th>
<th>Full Sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Only Vaped Nicotine</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only Vaped Marijuana</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaped Both</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vaping Nicotine and Vaping Marijuana
Past-30-Day Prevalence

47.9% of current nicotine vapers are vaping marijuana.
72.2% of current marijuana vapers are vaping nicotine.
Vaping Nicotine and Smoking Cigarettes

Lifetime and Past-30-Day Prevalence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Lifetime Nicotine Vaping</th>
<th>Past-30-Day Nicotine Vaping</th>
<th>Lifetime Cigarette Use</th>
<th>Past-30-Day Cigarette Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.S.</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
92.2% of current nicotine vapers do not smoke cigarettes.
Vaping Nicotine and Smoking Cigarettes
Past-30-Day and Lifetime Prevalence

71.9% of current vapers have never tried cigarettes.
Vaping Summary

- There is a strong correlation between vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana.

  → 47.9% of current nicotine vapers are vaping marijuana, and 72.2% of current marijuana vapers are vaping nicotine.

- Most current nicotine vapers, 71.9%, have never tried cigarettes. And nearly all current nicotine vapers, 92.2%, report no cigarette use in the past 30 days.

  → The majority of students who vape nicotine did not transition from smoking cigarettes. Their vaping is independent of cigarette use.
Lack of Commitment to School
Percentage of Students at High Risk by Grade Cohort

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Middle School</th>
<th>High School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lack of Commitment to School

Responses to Individual Scale Items—2012 to 2019

- School Work is Meaningful: 40, 37, 34, 32
- Courses are Interesting: 33, 31, 29
- School Learning Important Later in Life: 57, 50, 46, 42, 39
- Enjoy Being in School: 42, 38, 37, 34, 33

0% to 80% distribution with specific percentage values for each category.
Attitudes Toward School
Responses to Individual Items—2012 to 2019

- I Feel Safe at My School: 80% (2012), 78% (2013), 76% (2014), 71% (2015), 72% (2016)
- Skipped School in Past Month: 27% (2012), 28% (2013), 30% (2014), 33% (2015), 36% (2016)
Student Attitudes About School Summary

- Youth attitudes about school and community vary across demographic and geographic groups, but typically show only small changes over time.

- In contrast to this usual pattern, there has been a notable decline in student commitment to school since 2012.
The next two questions ask about “Digital Self-Harm.” This is when someone anonymously posts mean or hurtful information about themselves on the internet or on social media (Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, etc.).
Digital Self-Harm
Percentage of Students by Gender Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past 12 Months</th>
<th>Past 30 Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female Students</td>
<td>Male Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Digital Self-Harm and Health Outcomes

- **Life is Not Worth It**
  - No Digital Self-Harm: 26.5%
  - Yes Digital Self-Harm: 71.3%

- **Depressed Most Days**
  - No Digital Self-Harm: 42.4%
  - Yes Digital Self-Harm: 80.1%

- **Alcohol Use**
  - No Digital Self-Harm: 13.8%
  - Yes Digital Self-Harm: 30.1%

- **Marijuana Use**
  - No Digital Self-Harm: 9.7%
  - Yes Digital Self-Harm: 19.6%
Digital Self-Harm Summary

- Female students are twice as likely as male students to have anonymously posted hurtful information about themselves on social media.
- Students who engage in digital self-harm are substantially more likely to report symptoms of depression and substance use.
Thank you!