

Table 3.66

Reported drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette use in last 12 months among young adults

By type of drug, United States, 1986-96

Question: "On how many occasions, if any, have you used. . .during the last 12 months?"

Type of drug	Percent who used in last 12 months										
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Marijuana	36.5%	34.8%	31.8%	29.0%	26.1%	23.8%	25.2%	25.1%	25.5%	26.5%	27.0%
Inhalants ^a	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.2
Adjusted ^b	3.0	2.8	2.4	NA	2.1	2.2	1.9	2.3	2.2	NA	NA
Nitrites ^c	2.0	1.3	1.0	NA	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	NA	NA
Hallucinogens	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.6	4.1	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.8	5.6	5.6
Adjusted ^d	4.9	4.1	3.9	NA	4.2	4.6	5.1	4.6	4.9	5.6	5.6
LSD	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.7	3.3	3.8	4.3	3.8	4.0	4.6	4.5
PCP ^e	0.8	0.4	0.4	NA	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Cocaine	19.7	15.7	13.8	10.8	8.6	6.2	5.7	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.1
Crack ^e	3.2	3.1	3.1	2.5	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1
Other cocaine ^f	NA	13.6	11.9	10.3	8.1	5.4	5.1	3.9	3.6	3.9	3.8
Heroin	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4
Other opiates ^g	3.1	3.1	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.2	2.5	3.0	2.9
Stimulants ^g	10.6	8.7	7.3	5.8	5.2	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.5	4.6	4.2
Crystal methamphetamine ^h	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.9
Sedatives ^g	3.0	2.5	2.1	1.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Barbiturates ^g	2.3	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.2
Methaqualone ^g	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tranquilizers ^g	5.4	5.1	4.2	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.1	2.9	3.4	3.2
Alcohol ⁱ	88.6	89.4	88.6	88.1	87.4	86.9	86.2	85.3	83.7	84.7	84.0
Steroids ^e	NA	NA	NA	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3
Cigarettes	40.1	40.3	37.7	38.0	37.1	37.7	37.9	37.8	38.3	38.8	40.3

Note: See Notes, tables 3.58 and 3.63. "Young adults" includes high school graduates 1 to 10 years beyond high school. These data present the prevalence for young adults combined. The approximate N for each year is as follows: 1986, 6,900; 1987, 6,800; 1988, 6,700; 1989, 6,600; 1990, 6,700; 1991, 6,600; 1992, 6,800; 1993, 6,700; 1994, 6,500; 1995, 6,400; 1996, 6,300. Some data for 1995 have been revised by the Source and will differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 7.

^aThis drug was asked about in four of the five questionnaire forms in 1986-89, and five of the six questionnaire forms in 1990-96. Total N in 1996 is approximately 5,250.

^bAdjusted for underreporting of amyl and butyl nitrites.

^cThis drug was asked about in one questionnaire form. Total N in 1996 is approximately 1,050. Questions about nitrites were dropped in 1995.

^dAdjusted for underreporting of PCP.

^eThis drug was asked about in two of the five questionnaire forms in 1987-89, and in all six questionnaire forms in 1990-96.

^fThis drug was asked about in one of the five questionnaire forms in 1987-89, and in four of the six questionnaire forms in 1990-96. Total N in 1996 is approximately 4,200.

^gOnly drug use that was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

^hThis drug was asked about in two questionnaire forms. Total N in 1996 is approximately 2,100.

ⁱIn 1993, the question was changed slightly in half of the questionnaire forms to indicate that a "drink" meant "more than a few sips." Data for 1993 are from the revised question. Beginning in 1994, all forms include the revised wording.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1996*, Vol. 2, College Students and Young Adults, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1997). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.