

Table 3.63

Reported drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette use in last 12 months among college students

By type of drug, United States, 1981-96

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															
	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Marijuana	51.3%	44.7%	45.2%	40.7%	41.7%	40.9%	37.0%	34.6%	33.6%	29.4%	26.5%	27.7%	27.9%	29.3%	31.2%	33.1%
Inhalants ^a	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.4	3.1	3.9	3.7	4.1	3.7	3.9	3.5	3.1	3.8	3.0	3.9	3.6
Hallucinogens	7.0	8.7	6.5	6.2	5.0	6.0	5.9	5.3	5.1	5.4	6.3	6.8	6.0	6.2	8.2	6.9
LSD	4.6	6.3	4.3	3.7	2.2	3.9	4.0	3.6	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.7	5.1	5.2	6.9	5.2
Cocaine	16.0	17.2	17.3	16.3	17.3	17.1	13.7	10.0	8.2	5.6	3.6	3.0	2.7	2.0	3.6	2.9
Crack ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.3	2.0	1.4	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	1.1	0.6
Heroin	0.2	0.1	(c)	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4
Other opiates ^d	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.8	2.4	4.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.4	3.8	3.1
Stimulants ^d	NA	21.1	17.3	15.7	11.9	10.3	7.2	6.2	4.6	4.5	3.9	3.6	4.2	4.2	5.4	4.2
Crystal meth- amphetamine ^e	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.3
Sedatives ^d	8.0	8.0	4.5	3.5	2.5	2.6	1.7	1.5	1.0	NA						
Barbiturates ^d	2.8	3.2	2.2	1.9	1.3	2.0	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.2	2.0	2.3
Methaqualone ^d	6.5	6.6	3.1	2.5	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.2	NA						
Tranquilizers ^d	4.8	4.7	4.6	3.5	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.1	2.6	3.0	2.4	2.9	2.4	1.8	2.9	2.8
Alcohol ^f	92.5	92.2	91.6	90.0	92.0	91.5	90.9	89.6	89.6	89.0	88.3	86.9	86.5	82.7	83.2	82.9
Cigarettes	37.6	34.3	36.1	33.2	35.0	35.3	38.0	36.6	34.2	35.5	35.6	37.3	38.8	37.6	39.3	41.4

Note: See Note, table 3.58. These data are from a followup survey of respondents 1 to 4 years past high school who are presently enrolled in college. Included are those registered as full-time students in March of the year in question and who report that they are enrolled in a 2- or 4-year college. Those individuals previously in college and those who have already completed college are excluded. The approximate N for each year is as follows: 1981, 1,130; 1982, 1,150; 1983, 1,170; 1984, 1,110; 1985, 1,080; 1986, 1,190; 1987, 1,220; 1988, 1,310; 1989, 1,300; 1990, 1,400; 1991, 1,410; 1992, 1,490; 1993, 1,490; 1994, 1,410; 1995, 1,450; 1996, 1,450. Some data for 1995 have been revised by the Source and will differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK.

Since 1982, new questions were introduced on the use of controlled and non-controlled stimulants in order to exclude over-the-counter amphetamines, which were believed to have been inflating the statistic during 1980 and 1981. Figures presented for "stimulants" are based on the data obtained from these new questions. "Crack" is a highly potent and addictive form of cocaine. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 7.

^aThis drug was asked about in four of the five questionnaire forms in 1980-89, and in five of the six questionnaire forms in 1990-96. Total N in 1996 for college students is 1,210.

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

^cLess than 0.05%.

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

^eThis drug was asked about in two of the six questionnaire forms. Total N in 1996 for college students is 500.

^fIn 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.