

YOUTH DRUG USE: ISLAND COUNTY 2008



Findings from the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey

MARIJUANA	6 TH GRADERS	8 TH GRADERS	10 TH GRADERS	12 TH GRADERS
Currently use Marijuana	2.1	7.9	18.8	23.3
Ever tried Marijuana	3.4	11.9	27.7	44.5
Think it would be easy to get Marijuana if they wanted some	6.7	22.1	43.6	66.2
Think it is very wrong for someone their age to use Marijuana	91.9	77.6	56.6	34.0

METHAMPHETAMINE, COCAINE & OTHER ILLEGAL DRUGS	6 TH GRADERS	8 TH GRADERS	10 TH GRADERS	12 TH GRADERS
Currently use Methamphetamine	~	2.4**	.9	4.2**
Ever tried Methamphetamine	~	2.8	2.2	5.3
Ever tried Cocaine to get high	~	3.2	4.4	7.9
Used any illegal drug to get high in past 30 days	~	7.9	20.5	24.2

**Increases in meth use among 8th and 12th grade; 6th grade use of any illegal drug is higher than state

INHALANTS	6 TH GRADERS	8 TH GRADERS	10 TH GRADERS	12 TH GRADERS
Currently use Inhalants to get high	~	6.3	3.0	5.8
Ever tried Inhalants to get high	4.5	6.1	8.7	7.5

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS	6 TH GRADERS	8 TH GRADERS	10 TH GRADERS	12 TH GRADERS
Used Ritalin without a doctor's order	~	3.5	1.7	3.7
Currently use Pain Killers to get high (e.g. Vicodin, Percocet)	~	5.2	6.5	12.7
Got painkillers from my own prescription	~	5.2*	4.8	8.0
Got painkillers from a friend	~	1.6	5.7	7.0
Took from home or someone else's house	~	2.8*	1.3	3.7

*Generally higher than state rates

AVAILABILITY AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS DRUGS	6 TH GRADERS	8 TH GRADERS	10 TH GRADERS	12 TH GRADERS
Perceive drugs as easy to obtain	24.6	24.1	25.9	38.9
Have a favorable attitude towards drug use	21.3	22.5	31.9	45.2
Do not see drug use as risky	33.3	32.4	32.9	50.8
Intentions to use drugs	~	31.7	41.3	43.1**
Parental attitudes favorable towards drug use	~	31.7	40.1	47.6

**Statistically higher than state

~ Not asked of students in this grade.

* Currently use = any use in the past 30 days (also called recent use). Ever tried = use at anytime in the past (also called lifetime use).

We are extremely appreciative of the participation of all four Island County school districts in the Healthy Youth Survey. Their participation allows us to report on the current health status of our youth and track trends over time.

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