

ALASKA

Table 13. Selected Drug Use, Perceptions of Great Risk, Average Annual Marijuana Initiates, Past Year Substance Dependence or Abuse, Needing But Not Receiving Treatment, and Past Year Mental Health Measures in Alaska, by Age Group: Estimated Numbers (in Thousands), Annual Averages Based on 2008-2009 NSDUHs

Measure	12+	12-17	18-25	26+	18+
ILLICIT DRUGS					
Past Month Illicit Drug Use ¹	74	7	22	45	67
Past Year Marijuana Use	89	10	27	52	80
Past Month Marijuana Use	63	6	19	38	58
Past Month Use of Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana ¹	21	3	6	12	18
Past Year Cocaine Use	16	1	6	10	16
Past Year Nonmedical Pain Reliever Use	29	4	9	15	24
Perception of Great Risk of Smoking Marijuana Once a Month	152	17	13	122	135
Average Annual Number of Marijuana Initiates ²	6	3	2	0	3
ALCOHOL					
Past Month Alcohol Use	298	9	47	243	289
Past Month Binge Alcohol Use ³	132	6	31	96	126
Perception of Great Risk of Drinking Five or More Drinks Once or Twice a Week	226	26	23	177	200
Past Month Alcohol Use (Persons Aged 12 to 20)	23 ⁴	--	--	--	--
Past Month Binge Alcohol Use (Persons Aged 12 to 20) ³	17 ⁴	--	--	--	--
TOBACCO PRODUCTS					
Past Month Tobacco Product Use ⁵	161	8	34	118	153
Past Month Cigarette Use	133	6	30	97	127
Perception of Great Risk of Smoking One or More Packs of Cigarettes Per Day	388	42	49	297	346
PAST YEAR DEPENDENCE, ABUSE, AND TREATMENT⁶					
Illicit Drug Dependence ¹	10	1	4	5	9
Illicit Drug Dependence or Abuse ¹	16	3	6	8	14
Alcohol Dependence	21	1	5	15	20
Alcohol Dependence or Abuse	44	3	13	28	41
Alcohol or Illicit Drug Dependence or Abuse ¹	52	4	16	32	48
Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Illicit Drug Use ^{1,7}	16	2	5	8	13
Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Alcohol Use ⁷	40	3	12	25	37
PAST YEAR MENTAL HEALTH					
Had at Least One Major Depressive Episode ^{8,9}	--	5	6	23	28
Serious Mental Illness ^{9,10}	--	--	5	15	20
Any Mental Illness ^{9,11}	--	--	20	71	92
Had Serious Thoughts of Suicide	--	--	5	14	18

-- Not available.

NOTE: Estimates are based on a survey-weighted hierarchical Bayes estimation approach.

¹ Illicit Drugs include marijuana/hashish, cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or prescription-type psychotherapeutics used nonmedically. Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana include cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or prescription-type psychotherapeutics used nonmedically. These estimates are based on data from original questions, excluding those on the use of over-the-counter drugs or new methamphetamine items that were added in 2005 and 2006. See Section B.4.8 in Appendix B of the *Results from the 2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings*.

² Average annual number of marijuana initiates = $X_1 \div 2$, where X_1 is the number of marijuana initiates in past 24 months.

³ Binge Alcohol Use is defined as drinking five or more drinks on the same occasion (i.e., at the same time or within a couple of hours of each other) on at least 1 day in the past 30 days.

⁴ Underage drinking is defined for persons aged 12 to 20; therefore, the "Total" estimate reflects that age group and not persons aged 12 or older.

⁵ Tobacco Products include cigarettes, smokeless tobacco (i.e., chewing tobacco or snuff), cigars, or pipe tobacco.

⁶ Dependence or abuse is based on definitions found in the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV)*.

⁷ Needing But Not Receiving Treatment refers to respondents classified as needing treatment for illicit drugs (or alcohol), but not receiving treatment for an illicit drug (or alcohol) problem at a specialty facility (i.e., drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities [inpatient or outpatient], hospitals [inpatient only], and mental health centers).

⁸ Major depressive episode is defined as in the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV)*, which specifies a period of at least 2 weeks when a person experienced a depressed mood or loss of interest or pleasure in daily activities and had a majority of specified depression symptoms. There are minor wording differences in the questions in the adult and adolescent major depressive episode modules. Therefore, data from youths aged 12 to 17 were not combined with data from persons aged 18 or older to get an overall estimate (12 or older).

⁹ For more details, see Section A.11 in Appendix A of the report on *State Estimates of Substance Use and Mental Disorders from the 2008-2009 NSDUHs*.

¹⁰ Serious mental illness is defined as having a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder, other than a substance use disorder, that met the criteria found in the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV)* and resulted in serious functional impairment.

¹¹ Any mental illness is defined as having a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder, other than a substance use disorder, that met the criteria found in the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV)*.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (formerly the Office of Applied Studies), National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2008 and 2009.

ALASKA

Table 14. Selected Drug Use, Perceptions of Great Risk, Average Annual Rates of First Use of Marijuana, Past Year Substance Dependence or Abuse, Needing But Not Receiving Treatment, and Past Year Mental Health Measures in Alaska, by Age Group: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2008-2009 NSDUHs

Measure	12+	12-17	18-25	26+	18+
ILLICIT DRUGS					
Past Month Illicit Drug Use ¹	13.54	11.08	28.62	11.07	13.85
Past Year Marijuana Use	16.29	15.87	35.44	12.75	16.34
Past Month Marijuana Use	11.53	9.18	25.21	9.31	11.83
Past Month Use of Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana ¹	3.82	4.13	8.20	2.95	3.78
Past Year Cocaine Use	3.00	1.46	7.41	2.40	3.19
Past Year Nonmedical Pain Reliever Use	5.24	7.18	11.57	3.76	5.00
Perception of Great Risk of Smoking Marijuana Once a Month	27.77	27.96	17.09	29.76	27.75
Average Annual Rate of First Use of Marijuana ²	2.30	6.37	7.28	0.17	1.33
ALCOHOL					
Past Month Alcohol Use	54.44	14.23	60.34	59.28	59.45
Past Month Binge Alcohol Use ³	24.17	9.71	40.08	23.32	25.97
Perception of Great Risk of Drinking Five or More Drinks Once or Twice a Week	41.32	42.68	29.84	43.29	41.15
Past Month Alcohol Use (Persons Aged 12 to 20)	25.44 ⁴	--	--	--	--
Past Month Binge Alcohol Use (Persons Aged 12 to 20) ³	18.57 ⁴	--	--	--	--
TOBACCO PRODUCTS					
Past Month Tobacco Product Use ⁵	29.39	13.51	44.53	28.90	31.37
Past Month Cigarette Use	24.19	9.39	38.30	23.74	26.04
Perception of Great Risk of Smoking One or More Packs of Cigarettes Per Day	70.83	69.17	63.86	72.39	71.04
PAST YEAR DEPENDENCE, ABUSE, AND TREATMENT⁶					
Illicit Drug Dependence ¹	1.91	2.32	5.20	1.23	1.86
Illicit Drug Dependence or Abuse ¹	2.96	4.37	7.62	1.87	2.78
Alcohol Dependence	3.86	1.81	6.78	3.61	4.11
Alcohol Dependence or Abuse	8.11	5.39	16.98	6.85	8.45
Alcohol or Illicit Drug Dependence or Abuse ¹	9.52	7.31	20.33	7.82	9.80
Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Illicit Drug Use ^{1,7}	2.90	4.12	6.93	1.96	2.74
Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Alcohol Use ⁷	7.37	4.87	15.96	6.12	7.68
PAST YEAR MENTAL HEALTH					
Had at Least One Major Depressive Episode ^{8,9}	--	7.50	7.16	5.49	5.76
Serious Mental Illness ^{9,10}	--	--	6.37	3.69	4.11
Any Mental Illness ^{9,11}	--	--	26.56	17.33	18.80
Had Serious Thoughts of Suicide	--	--	5.97	3.31	3.73

-- Not available.

NOTE: Estimates are based on a survey-weighted hierarchical Bayes estimation approach.

¹ Illicit Drugs include marijuana/hashish, cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or prescription-type psychotherapeutics used nonmedically. Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana include cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or prescription-type psychotherapeutics used nonmedically. These estimates are based on data from original questions, excluding those on the use of over-the-counter drugs or new methamphetamine items that were added in 2005 and 2006. See Section B.4.8 in Appendix B of the *Results from the 2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings*.

² Average annual marijuana initiation rate = $100 * \{ [X_1 + (0.5 * X_1 + X_2)] \div 2 \}$, where X_1 is the number of marijuana initiates in the past 24 months and X_2 is the number of persons who never used marijuana. Both of the computation components, X_1 and X_2 , are based on a survey-weighted hierarchical Bayes estimation approach. Note that the age group is based on a respondent's age at the time of the interview, not his or her age at first use.

³ Binge Alcohol Use is defined as drinking five or more drinks on the same occasion (i.e., at the same time or within a couple of hours of each other) on at least 1 day in the past 30 days.

⁴ Underage drinking is defined for persons aged 12 to 20; therefore, the "Total" estimate reflects that age group and not persons aged 12 or older.

⁵ Tobacco Products include cigarettes, smokeless tobacco (i.e., chewing tobacco or snuff), cigars, or pipe tobacco.

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⁷ Needing But Not Receiving Treatment refers to respondents classified as needing treatment for illicit drugs (or alcohol), but not receiving treatment for an illicit drug (or alcohol) problem at a specialty facility (i.e., drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities [inpatient or outpatient], hospitals [inpatient only], and mental health centers).

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Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (formerly the Office of Applied Studies), National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2008 and 2009.