

SUBSTANCE USE



Philadelphia
Youth Risk
Behavior Survey
Selected Results
from 2021

53%

Never had alcohol

18%

15 years or older

14%

13 or 14 years old

6%

11 or 12 years old

5%

9 or 10 years old

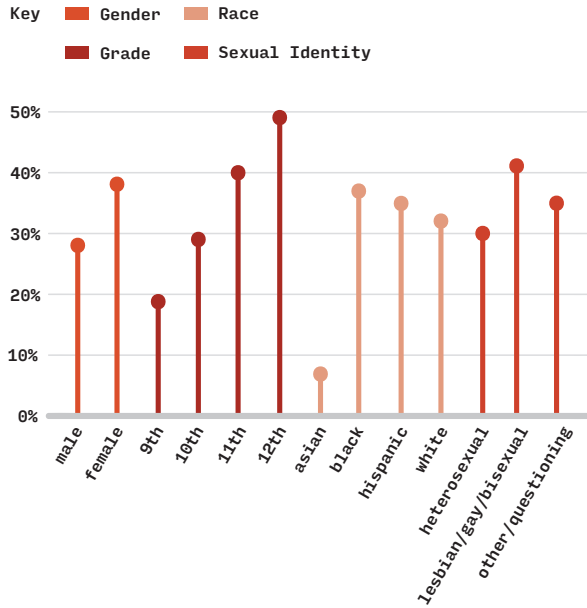
5%

8 years or
younger

**How old were you
when you had
your first drink of
alcohol other than
a few sips?**

Marijuana

Percentage of high school students who ever used marijuana



The graph above shows the percentage of students in each demographic group who have used marijuana one or more times. For example, the graph shows that more female, 12th grade, Black, and Lesbian / Gay / Bisexual students used marijuana one or more times than other groups.

About YRBS

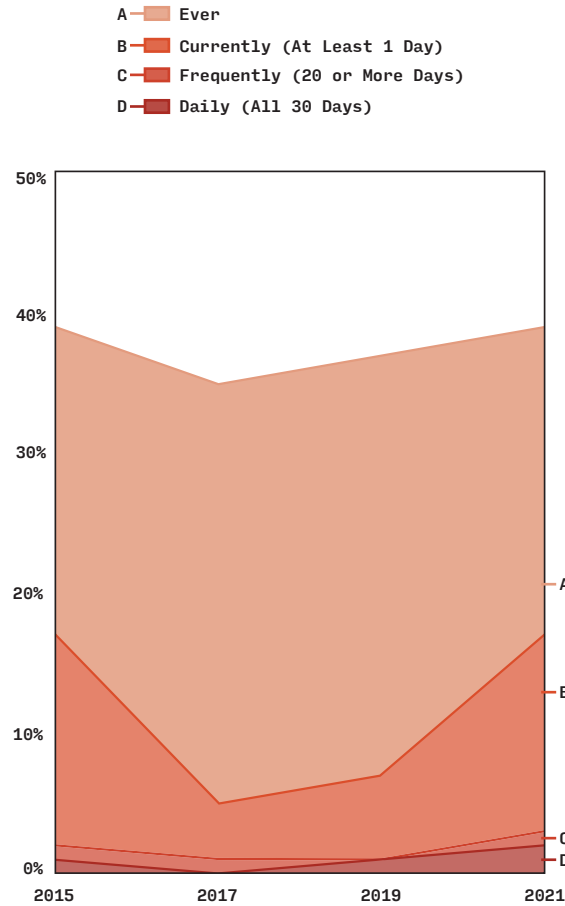
The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is conducted in cities and states across the United States on behalf of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In spring 2021, the YRBS was administered to a sample of 1,351 students in grades 9-12 at 30 School District of Philadelphia (SDP) schools.

For more information on the YRBS
<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/data/yrbs/index.htm>

For more information on the YRBS in SDP
<https://www.philasd.org/research/yrbs/>

Vaping

Percentage of high school students who used electronic vapor products...



Risks of E-Cigarettes & Vaping

- Harm to the parts of the brain that control attention, learning, mood, and impulse control
- Mental health symptoms such as depression
- Exposure to cancer-causing chemicals
- Addiction to nicotine, which can negatively impact adolescent brain development
- Future addiction to other drugs

https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html

Substance Usage

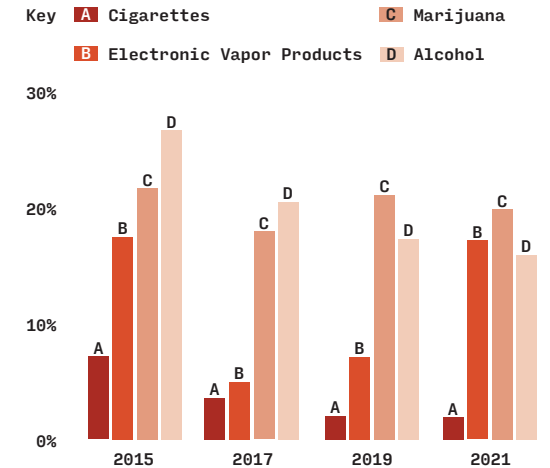
33% of high school students in the School District of Philadelphia reported using marijuana one or more times.

20% of students reported being offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property.

17% of high school students in the School District of Philadelphia reported currently using an electronic vapor product.

12% of students in the School District of Philadelphia have reported misusing prescription medicine.

Cigarette, marijuana, electronic vapor, and alcohol use in the past 30 days, 2015-2021



Resources for Students

<https://dare.org/> (310)-215-0575
D.A.R.E America

philasd.org/prevention/resources/
SDP Mental Health Resources

1-844-289-0879
National Drug Hotline

<https://www.justthinktwice.gov/get-help>
Just Think Twice