The Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey



College Student Survey Results

November 2008

Methodology (1)

- Interviews were conducted in two waves.
- The first wave was fielded during the summer from August 11th, 2008 - September 7th, 2008.
- The second wave was fielded when students returned to school from November 11th, 2008
 November 17, 2008.
- Interviews were conducted online among 499 students attending a school in New Jersey.
- The interviews were weighted by gender and race.

Methodology (2)





Executive Summary (1)

- While binge drinking and marijuana have the highest use, OTC cough medications & diet pills are experienced by around 1 in 10 college students
- College students are far better behaved during summer months, during which they live at home under the watchful eyes of parents
- Going back to college in the fall results in an increase of drug & alcohol abuse

Executive Summary (2)

- Eighteen percent of students have used prescription drugs without a prescription
- Those that ate dinner at home more often during high school are less likely to use prescription drugs without a prescription
- Margin of error : ±4.5%. The margin of error measures only sampling variability, and does not adjust for other types of non- sampling error, such as nonresponse, panel participation, and misreporting.





Academic status







Class year

What year are you in college?



Residence – At School





SUBMAY

GPA – **Most Recent Semester**

I22. Thinking back to the most recent academic semester that you completed, what was your GPA? 100% 90% 80% 76% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 14% 9% 10% 1% 0% 0% 3.0 - 3.9 4.0 or above 2.0 - 2.9 1.0 - 1.9 Less than 1.0







Students are generally unfamiliar with the Amethyst Initiative





Students are divided on lowering the drinking age to 18



A majority of college students currently drink alcoholic beverages

B1. Do you currently drink alcoholic beverages of any type?



Though most college students drink, a vast majority do so rarely or sometimes

B2. How often do you drink alcohol?





Students typically begin drinking when they are teenagers

DSM5. How old were you when you first started drinking alcohol?



Seventy-five percent of students believe that more of their peers are drinking alcohol than they actually are.

B3. Please take your best guess as to what percent of your friends / peers / classmates drink alcohol.





Binge Behavior

DSM1. Has there ever been a time in your life when you had five or more drinks in one occasion? (Males) DSM1. Has there ever been a time in your life when you had four or more drinks in one occasion? (Females)





Binge Behavior

DSM2. Have you, in any 2 hour period, had five or more drinks recently? (Males) DSM2. Have you, in any 2 hour period, had four or more drinks recently? (Females)





Binge Frequency

DSM4. On approximately how many occasions within the past two months have you drank that much in a 2 hour period?





Fifty-two percent of students believe that more peers are taking illegal drugs than actually are.

DSM7. Please take your best guess as to what percent of your friends / peers / classmates use street drugs?





Potential for Addiction

I17. Do you think it is possible for someone to become addicted to prescription drugs?





Health Effects of Prescription Drug Abuse

I18. Do you think that prescription drug abuse has any negative affects on your health?







Awareness of Prevention Commercials

I20. Have you seen or heard any prescription drug abuse prevention commercials?







Prescription Drug Abuse

DSM8. Have you ever gotten 'hooked' on a prescription medicine or taken a lot more of it than you were supposed to?





Fifty-six percent of students believe more peers are abusing prescription drugs than actually are.

DSM9. Please take your best guess as to what percent of your friends / peers / classmates abuse prescription drugs?





Prescription Drug Abuse – Unidentified Use

DSM10. Have you ever taken any prescription medicine without knowing what it was?





Cannabis Usage

DA1e. Have you ever taken any of the following Cannabis Drugs to get high, to study better, to sleep better, to lose weight or to change your mood? 100% 90% 80% 74% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 26% 20% 10% 4% 3% 0% Marijuana Hashish THC None of the above



Other Usage

DA1h. Have you ever taken any of the following to get high, to study better, to sleep better, to lose weight or to change your mood?







Marijuana – Reasons for Use

DA7. Why do you take Marijuana Drugs?




Marijuana – With Alcohol and Prescription Drugs

DA8. When taking Marijuana, do you combine this drug with alcohol?



DA9. When taking Marijuana, do you combine this drug with other prescription drugs?



SUBVER

Marijuana – Prelude to Other Drugs

DA11. Did you begin taking Marijuana In advance of other drugs, or after you were already using other drugs?



OTC sleep / diet pills – 1st Use

DA2. How old were you when you first started taking Over the counter sleep or diet pills Drugs?



OTC sleep / diet pills – Reasons for Use



OTC sleep / diet pills – With Alcohol and Prescription Drugs

DA8. When taking ,Over the counter sleep or diet pills do you combine this drug with alcohol?



DA9. When taking Over the counter sleep or diet pills, do you combine this drug with other prescription drugs?









In-Person Contact Frequency









Influences - Parents





Influences - Friends



SUBMESS

Alcohol Use Policy in Parent's Household

I11. Do you have a policy on drinking alcohol within your parent's household?



I12. Which of the following best describes the policy on your ability to drink within your household?





Prevention Programs

I15. Were you actively involved in substance abuse prevention programs & assemblies during your high school years?



I16. Are you currently actively involved in substance abuse prevention programs and assemblies?





Extended Family with Abuse Problems

I21. Do any of your extended family have an alcohol or substance abuse problem?



SUBWAY

Students that started binge drinking before the age of 15 are more than twice as likely to abuse prescription drugs





Students that do not live with parent or relatives during the summer or school year are more likely to be binge drinkers*





Binge Drinking Influencers



Students with friends with substance abuse problems are more likely to be binge drinkers

Students that believe their parents opinion is important are less likely to be binge drinkers



Not important

Important



Students that value their parent's opinion are $3\frac{1}{2}$ times less likely to have tried Marijuana





Students who think that their friends' opinions are important are more likely to be binge drinkers





Prescription drug use is typically higher the less face to face interaction students have with their parents during summer





Students that ate dinner more often with their family in high school are less likely to have use prescription drugs without a prescription.



About SurveyU

- Dedicated exclusively to measuring the opinions of U.S. college students
- Our research panel of 50,000+ college students has been recruited campus-bycampus as is matched to statistics provided by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
- We work with marketers, public-policy makers and other market research firms to reveal the opinions of US college students
- We conduct custom research, publish syndicated reports and provide access to college students for other research organizations