

Indicator 49. Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug Use

Tobacco, alcohol, and drug use among high school seniors, by substance and frequency of use: 1975 to 1994

Substance and frequency of use	Class of 1975	Class of 1980	Class of 1985	Class of 1990	Class of 1991	Class of 1992	Class of 1993	Class of 1994
Percent reporting having ever used drugs								
Cigarettes	73.6	71.0	68.8	64.4	63.1	61.8	61.9	62.0
Alcohol ¹	90.4	93.2	92.2	89.5	88.0	87.5	80.0	80.4
Any illicit drug	55.2	65.4	60.6	47.9	44.1	40.7	42.9	45.6
Marijuana only	19.0	26.7	20.9	18.5	17.2	15.6	16.2	18.0
Any illicit drug other than marijuana ²	36.2	38.7	39.7	29.4	26.9	25.1	26.7	27.6
Selected illicit drugs:								
Cocaine	9.0	15.7	17.3	9.4	7.8	6.1	6.1	5.9
Heroin	2.2	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.2
LSD	11.3	9.3	7.5	8.7	8.8	8.6	10.3	10.5
Marijuana/hashish	47.3	60.3	54.2	40.7	36.7	32.6	35.3	38.2
PCP	—	9.6	4.9	2.8	2.9	2.4	2.9	2.8
Percent reporting use of drugs in the previous 30 days								
Cigarettes	36.7	30.5	30.1	29.4	28.3	27.8	29.9	31.2
Alcohol ¹	68.2	72.0	65.9	57.1	54.0	51.3	48.6	50.1
Any illicit drug	30.7	37.2	29.7	17.2	16.4	14.4	18.3	21.9
Marijuana only	15.3	18.8	14.8	9.2	9.3	8.1	10.4	13.1
Any illicit drug other than marijuana ²	15.4	18.4	14.9	8.0	7.1	6.3	7.9	8.8
Selected illicit drugs:								
Cocaine	1.9	5.2	6.7	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5
Heroin	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
LSD	2.3	2.3	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.4	2.6
Marijuana/hashish	27.1	33.7	25.7	14.0	13.8	11.9	15.5	19.0
PCP	—	1.4	1.6	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.7

—Data not available.

¹ Beginning in 1993, the question was changed to indicate that "a drink" meant "more than a few sips."

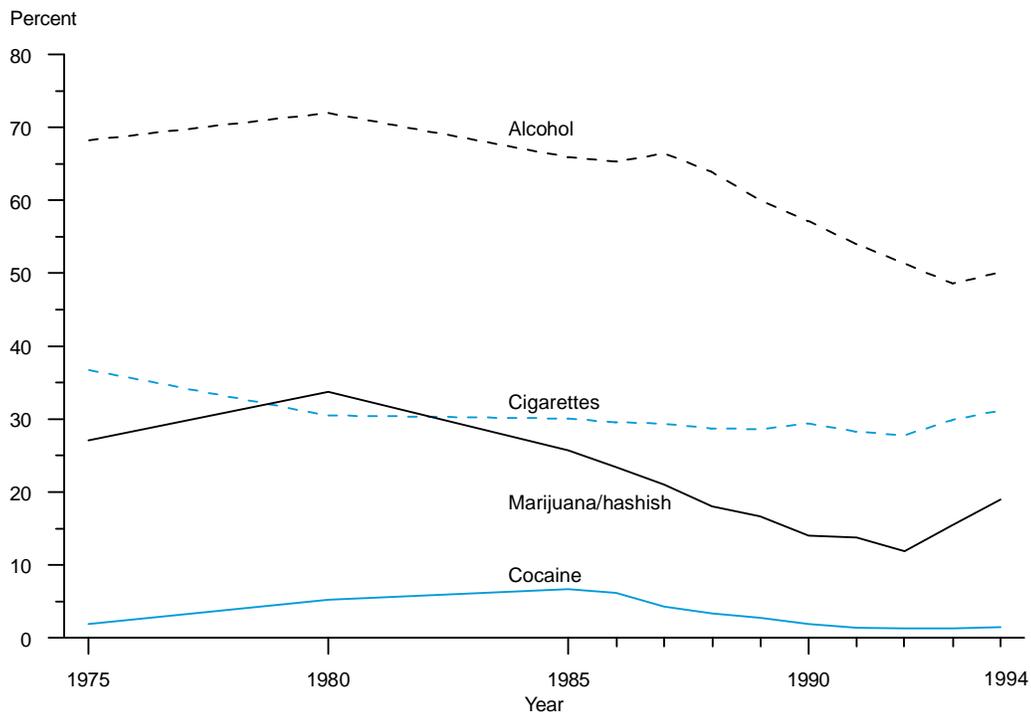
² Other illicit drugs include hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not prescribed by a doctor.

NOTE: A revised questionnaire was used in 1982 and later years to reduce the inappropriate reporting of nonprescription stimulants. This slightly reduced the positive responses for some types of drug use.

SOURCE: University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research, *Monitoring the Future*, various years.

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Percent of seniors reporting cigarettes, alcohol, and drug use in the previous 30 days, by substance: 1975 to 1994



SOURCE: University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research, *Monitoring the Future*, various years.

The percentage of seniors who reported having ever used illicit drugs increased from 1975 to 1980, but declined from 65 percent to 41 percent between 1980 and 1992. The proportion then rose to 46 percent in 1994. The proportion of seniors reporting drug use in the previous 30 days declined from 37 percent in 1980 to 14 percent in 1992, before rising to 22 percent in 1994. The proportion using alcohol in the previous 30 days declined from 72 percent in 1980 to 50 percent in 1994. Student use of cigarettes slowly declined between 1975 and 1992, but then rose slightly. Marijuana/hashish remains the most frequently used illicit drug by a wide margin, but those reporting ever having used it declined from 60 percent of students in 1980 to 33 percent in 1992 but rose to 38 percent in 1994.