

2026 STUDENT SURVEY

ALCOHOL & DRUG MISUSE BY YOUTH IN SOUTHWEST OHIO

The PreventionFIRST! (PF!) Student Survey is a youth survey administered every other year. Results of the Student Survey provide comprehensive descriptions of the self-reported drug use patterns of area youth. In addition to substance use/misuse, students are asked about gambling behaviors, school climate, and other factors associated with substance use/misuse. The following data is the results to the 2025-2026 survey cycle.

METHODOLOGY

23,982 seventh through twelfth grade students attending schools in Southwest Ohio completed the localized version of the Pride Surveys Questionnaire between September 2025 and November 2025. Students in school the day(s) the survey was conducted, completed the survey. No surveys were conducted outside of the school building.

DEMOGRAPHICS

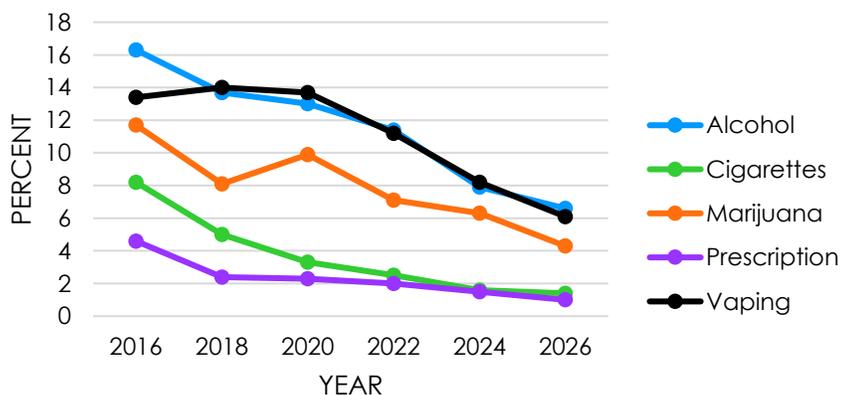
The racial/ethnic makeup of respondents is representative of the 7th-12th grade student populations of the schools who participated in Southwest Ohio.

4 Key Measures of Substance Use/Misuse for Southwest Ohio

Measure	Alcohol	Tobacco	Marijuana	Prescription Drugs ¹	Vaping
Past 30-Day Use	6.6%	1.4%	4.3%	1.0%	6.1%
Perception of Harm ²	82.4%	85.2%	70.9%	85.3%	77.6%
Parental Disapproval ³	89.6%	94%	92.3%	94.6%	93.5%
Friend Disapproval ³	76.7%	84.2%	81.6%	89.4%	80.2%

¹Non-medical use ²Percent responding harmful or very harmful ³Percent responding that parent or friend feels behavior is wrong or very wrong

Past 30 Day Use of Alcohol, Cigarettes, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs, & Vaping



Most kids are **NOT** using alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.



Past 30-Day use of Marijuana decreased from 6.3% in 2024 to 4.3% in 2026.



Past 30-Day use for all substances decreased from 2024 to 2026.

Key Contact:

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MPH, OCPC, MCHES

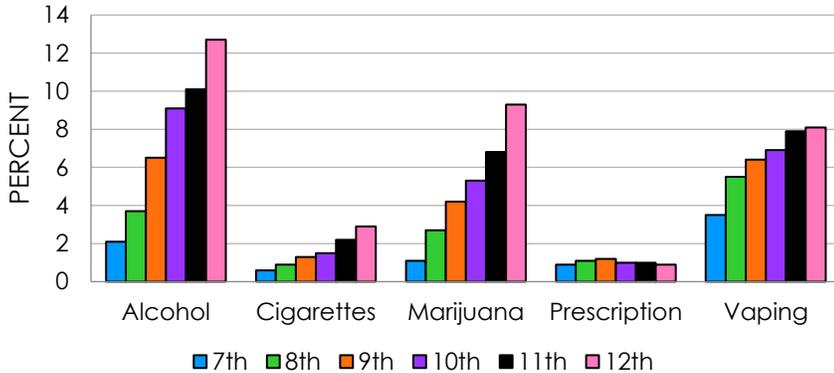
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2026 STUDENT SURVEY



30-Day Use of Alcohol, Cigarettes, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs and E-Vapor by Grade



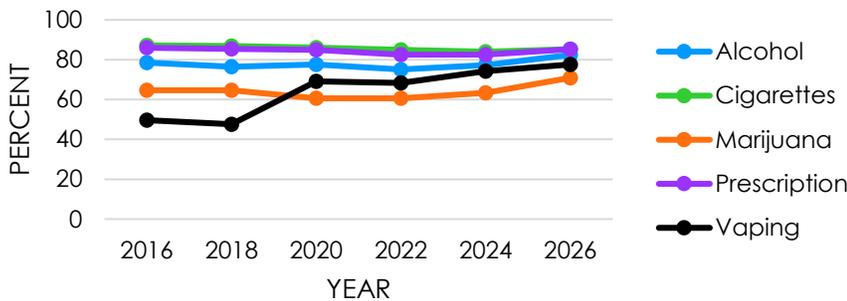
42.1% of Students said they get 8 or more hours of **sleep** on an average school night.

When asked how often they experienced **depression** in the last 30-days, **17.6%** said **all /most of the time**. When asked about anxiety, **31.0%** responded **all/ most of the time**.

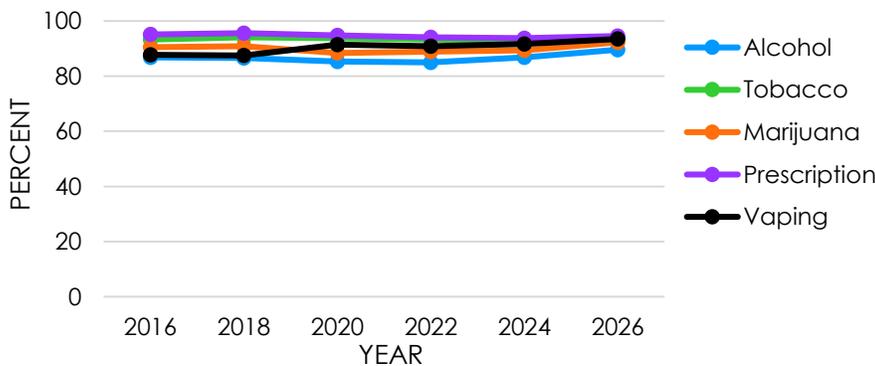
41.7% of Students said that in general they feel **stressed** often/ a lot.

When asked, "How often are you able to pull yourself out of a bad mood?" **47.0%** of students responded **often/ a lot**.

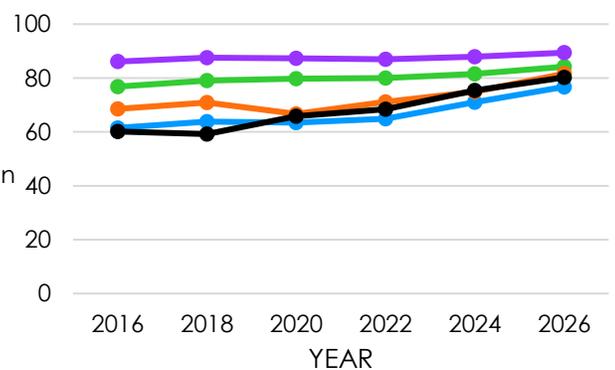
Perception of Harm



Perception of Parental Disapproval



Perception of Friend Disapproval



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Visit: www.prevention-first.org for topic summaries & regional finding for 2000 - 2026

Special thanks to: Hamilton County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board Family Services & Treatment Levy · Interact for Health · Ohio Department of Behavioral Health · ISA Data · School Participants · OJJDP Federal Grant: OAYI · Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation · Hamilton County Office of Addiction Response · PF! Board of Directors · Local member coalitions and other county organizations in Butler, Hamilton, and Clermont counties, who facilitated and funded the implementation of this survey.