

Table 4.16B Mean Age at First Use among Past Year Initiates of Substance Use Aged 12 to 49, by Gender: 2009 and 2010

Substance	Total (2009)	Total (2010)	Male (2009)	Male (2010)	Female (2009)	Female (2010)
ILLCIT DRUGS^{1,2}	17.6 ^b	19.1	16.9 ^a	18.1	18.2 ^a	20.0
Marijuana and Hashish	17.0 ^b	18.4	16.6 ^a	17.9	17.4	18.9
Cocaine	20.0	21.2	19.4	21.6	20.7	20.5
Crack	20.6	24.8	21.1	22.8	20.1	26.1
Heroin	25.5 ^a	21.3	22.5	22.3	28.8 ^b	19.9
Hallucinogens	18.9	18.3	19.2	18.3	18.5	18.3
LSD	18.4	19.1	18.4	18.7	18.3	19.5
PCP	16.8	17.6	16.4 ^b	18.1	17.2	16.7
Ecstasy	20.2	19.4	20.7	19.6	19.6	19.3
Inhalants	16.9	16.3	18.1	16.4	15.5	16.3
Nonmedical Use of Psychotherapeutics ^{2,3}	21.0	22.3	19.6	21.2	22.0	23.2
Pain Relievers	20.8	21.0	20.2	20.3	21.3	21.5
OxyContin [®]	22.3	22.8	22.8	22.5	21.8	23.2
Tranquilizers	22.4 ^a	24.6	20.7	23.2	23.8	25.6
Stimulants ²	21.5	21.2	20.2	20.1	22.5	22.2
Sedatives	19.7	23.5	19.6	24.5	19.9	22.7
ILLCIT DRUGS OTHER THAN MARIJUANA^{1,2}	19.3	20.2	18.0	19.0	20.4	21.2
CIGARETTES	17.5	17.3	17.2	17.1	17.8	17.5
Daily Cigarette Use ⁴	20.7 ^a	19.1	19.6	18.5	21.8	19.8
SMOKELESS TOBACCO	18.8	19.3	18.7	19.1	19.3	19.9
CIGARS	20.7	20.5	19.8	19.7	22.1	21.4
ALCOHOL	16.9	17.2	16.6 ^a	17.0	17.2	17.3

*Low precision; no estimate reported.

NOTE: Past Year Initiates are defined as persons who used the substance(s) for the first time in the 12 months prior to date of interview.

^a Difference between estimate and 2010 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

^b Difference between estimate and 2010 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.01 level.

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.

² Estimates in these designated rows do not include data from new methamphetamine initiation items added in 2007 or new methamphetamine use items added in 2005 and 2006.

³ Nonmedical use of prescription-type psychotherapeutics includes the nonmedical use of pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, or sedatives and does not include over-the-counter drugs.

⁴ Daily Cigarette Use is defined as ever smoking every day for at least 30 days.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (formerly the Office of Applied Studies), National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2009 and 2010.