

ALASKA

Table 13 Selected Drug Use, Past Year Alcohol Use Disorder, and Past Year Mental Health Measures in Alaska, by Age Group: Estimated Numbers (in Thousands), Annual Averages Based on 2014-2015 NSDUHs

Measure ¹	12+	12-17	18-25	26+	18+
ILLCIT DRUGS					
Past Year Marijuana Use	127	11	34	82	116
Past Month Marijuana Use	83	6	21	56	77
Past Year Cocaine Use	12	0	4	7	11
Past Year Heroin Use	7	0	1	6	7
First Use of Marijuana ^{2,3}	8	3	4	1	5
ALCOHOL					
Past Month Alcohol Use	319	7	52	261	313
Past Month Alcohol Use (Individuals Aged 12 to 20)	22 ⁴	--	--	--	--
TOBACCO PRODUCTS					
Past Month Tobacco Product Use ⁵	183	6	35	142	177
Past Month Cigarette Use	143	4	29	110	140
PAST YEAR ALCOHOL USE DISORDER⁶					
Alcohol Dependence	21	1	5	16	21
Alcohol Use Disorder	43	2	10	31	42
PAST YEAR MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES					
Major Depressive Episode ^{3,7}	--	7	10	25	35
Serious Mental Illness ^{3,8}	--	--	5	16	21
Any Mental Illness ^{3,8}	--	--	21	74	94
Had Serious Thoughts of Suicide ⁹	--	--	8	16	24

-- Not available.

NOTE: Estimates are based on a survey-weighted hierarchical Bayes estimation approach.

NOTE: Estimated numbers appearing as 0 in this table mean that the estimate is greater than 0 but less than 500 (because estimated numbers are shown in thousands).

¹ In 2015, a number of changes were made to the NSDUH questionnaire and data collection procedures resulting in the establishment of a new baseline for a number of measures. Therefore, estimates for several measures included in prior reports are not available. For details, see Section A of the "2014-2015 NSDUH: Guide to State Tables and Summary of Small Area Estimation Methodology" at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/>.

² *First use of marijuana* (or the average annual number of marijuana initiates) = $X_1 \div 2$, where X_1 is the number of marijuana initiates in the past 24 months.

³ For details, see Section B of the "2011-2012 NSDUH: Guide to State Tables and Summary of Small Area Estimation Methodology" at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/>.

⁴ Underage drinking is defined for individuals aged 12 to 20; therefore, the "12+" estimate reflects that age group and not individuals aged 12 or older.

⁵ Tobacco Products include cigarettes, smokeless tobacco (i.e., snuff, dip, chewing tobacco, or "snus"), cigars, or pipe tobacco.

⁶ Alcohol Use Disorder is defined as meeting criteria for alcohol dependence or abuse. Dependence or abuse is based on definitions found in the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-IV).

⁷ Major depressive episode (MDE) is defined as in the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-IV), which specifies a period of at least 2 weeks when an individual experienced a depressed mood or loss of interest or pleasure in daily activities and had a majority of specified depression symptoms. There are minor wording differences in the questions in the adult and adolescent MDE modules. Therefore, data from youths aged 12 to 17 were not combined with data from adults aged 18 or older to produce an estimate for those aged 12 or older.

⁸ Mental Illness is defined as having a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder, other than a developmental or substance use disorder, assessed by the Mental Health Surveillance Study (MHSS) *Structured Clinical Interview for the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders—Fourth Edition—Research Version—Axis I Disorders* (MHSS-SCID), which is based on the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-IV). Three categories of mental illness severity are defined based on the level of functional impairment: mild mental illness, moderate mental illness, and serious mental illness (SMI). Any mental illness (AMI) includes individuals in any of the three categories.

⁹ Respondents were asked, "At any time in the past 12 months, did you seriously think about trying to kill yourself?" If they answered "Yes," they were categorized as having serious thoughts of suicide in the past year.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2014 and 2015.

ALASKA

Table 14 Selected Drug Use, Past Year Alcohol Use Disorder, and Past Year Mental Health Measures in Alaska, by Age Group: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2014-2015 NSDUHs

Measure ¹	12+	12-17	18-25	26+	18+
ILLCIT DRUGS					
Past Year Marijuana Use	21.92	18.44	40.69	18.76	22.31
Past Month Marijuana Use	14.38	10.64	25.02	12.83	14.80
Past Year Cocaine Use	2.00	0.65	4.79	1.64	2.15
Past Year Heroin Use	1.23	0.08	0.91	1.45	1.36
First Use of Marijuana ^{2,3}	3.54	7.52	10.69	0.74	2.52
ALCOHOL					
Past Month Alcohol Use	54.98	11.04	62.57	59.45	59.95
Past Month Alcohol Use (Individuals Aged 12 to 20)	23.91 ⁴	--	--	--	--
TOBACCO PRODUCTS					
Past Month Tobacco Product Use ⁵	31.51	9.87	42.61	32.30	33.96
Past Month Cigarette Use	24.64	6.02	35.38	25.09	26.74
PAST YEAR ALCOHOL USE DISORDER⁶					
Alcohol Dependence	3.67	0.87	6.23	3.55	3.99
Alcohol Use Disorder	7.43	2.55	12.30	7.16	7.99
PAST YEAR MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES					
Major Depressive Episode ^{3,7}	--	12.40	11.68	5.77	6.73
Serious Mental Illness ^{3,8}	--	--	5.75	3.69	4.02
Any Mental Illness ^{3,8}	--	--	24.93	16.80	18.11
Had Serious Thoughts of Suicide ⁹	--	--	9.97	3.66	4.68

-- Not available.

NOTE: Estimates are based on a survey-weighted hierarchical Bayes estimation approach.

¹ In 2015, a number of changes were made to the NSDUH questionnaire and data collection procedures resulting in the establishment of a new baseline for a number of measures. Therefore, estimates for several measures included in prior reports are not available. For details, see Section A of the "2014-2015 NSDUH: Guide to State Tables and Summary of Small Area Estimation Methodology" at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/>.

² *First use of marijuana* (or the average annual initiation of marijuana expressed as a percentage) = $100 * \{ [X_1 \div (0.5 * X_1 + X_2)] \div 2 \}$, where X_1 is the number of marijuana initiates in the past 24 months and X_2 is the number of individuals who never used marijuana (with the at-risk population defined as $0.5 * X_1 + X_2$). Both of the computation components, X_1 and X_2 , are based on a survey-weighted hierarchical Bayes estimation approach. The age group shown is based on a respondent's age at the time of the interview, not his or her age at first use.

³ For details, see Section B of the "2011-2012 NSDUH: Guide to State Tables and Summary of Small Area Estimation Methodology" at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/>.

⁴ Underage drinking is defined for individuals aged 12 to 20; therefore, the "12+" estimate reflects that age group and not individuals aged 12 or older.

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⁹ Respondents were asked, "At any time in the past 12 months, did you seriously think about trying to kill yourself?" If they answered "Yes," they were categorized as having serious thoughts of suicide in the past year.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2014 and 2015.