

Table 4.10D Past Year Initiation of Substance Use: Among People Aged 12 to 49; Mean Age at First Substance Use: Among Past Year Initiates Aged 12 to 49; by Gender, Standard Errors of Numbers in Thousands and Standard Errors of Averages, 2019 and 2020

Substance	Number of Past Year Initiates (1,000s)		Mean Age among Past Year Initiates		Mean Age among Past Year Male Initiates		Mean Age among Past Year Female Initiates	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
ILLCIT DRUGS	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>
Marijuana	115	<i>161</i>	0.38	<i>0.51</i>	0.63	<i>0.78</i>	0.44	<i>0.62</i>
Cocaine	56	<i>59</i>	0.61	<i>0.91</i>	0.84	<i>0.49</i>	0.85	<i>1.74</i>
Crack	18	<i>23</i>	2.00	<i>3.73</i>	2.56	*	3.08	*
Heroin	11	<i>58</i>	2.53	*	*	*	*	*
Hallucinogens	77	<i>130</i>	0.50	<i>0.67</i>	0.64	<i>0.61</i>	0.82	<i>1.09</i>
LSD	67	<i>103</i>	0.47	<i>0.88</i>	0.65	<i>1.34</i>	0.56	<i>1.08</i>
PCP	9	<i>27</i>	0.70	*	0.81	*	*	*
Ecstasy	53	<i>82</i>	0.50	<i>1.37</i>	0.59	<i>1.86</i>	0.86	<i>1.98</i>
Inhalants	54	<i>78</i>	0.57	<i>0.95</i>	0.83	<i>1.57</i>	0.78	<i>0.87</i>
Methamphetamine	23	<i>34</i>	1.39	<i>3.92</i>	2.10	<i>4.59</i>	1.72	<i>1.71</i>
Misuse of Prescription								
Psychotherapeutics	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>
Pain Relievers	77	<i>104</i>	0.75	<i>1.55</i>	1.15	<i>2.64</i>	0.86	<i>1.16</i>
Stimulants	60	<i>76</i>	0.64	<i>1.30</i>	0.76	<i>1.96</i>	1.10	<i>1.83</i>
Tranquilizers or Sedatives	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>
Tranquilizers	61	<i>104</i>	0.77	<i>1.13</i>	1.32	<i>1.78</i>	0.92	<i>1.23</i>
Sedatives	22	<i>45</i>	2.47	<i>2.63</i>	2.99	<i>2.44</i>	3.52	<i>4.38</i>
Benzodiazepines	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Opioids	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>
Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana ¹	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>	nr	<i>nr</i>
CIGARETTES	76	<i>110</i>	0.26	<i>0.42</i>	0.27	<i>0.48</i>	0.47	<i>0.63</i>
Daily Cigarette Use	41	<i>73</i>	1.07	<i>0.84</i>	0.89	<i>0.92</i>	1.84	<i>1.26</i>
SMOKELESS TOBACCO	59	<i>96</i>	0.54	<i>0.79</i>	0.59	<i>1.10</i>	1.01	<i>0.94</i>
CIGARS	92	<i>116</i>	0.39	<i>0.89</i>	0.45	<i>1.18</i>	0.70	<i>1.07</i>
ALCOHOL	129	<i>189</i>	0.11	<i>0.15</i>	0.11	<i>0.20</i>	0.20	<i>0.23</i>

* = low precision; -- = not available; da = does not apply; nc = not comparable due to methodological changes; nr = not reported due to measurement issues.

NOTE: Estimates in the 2020 column are italicized to indicate caution should be used when comparing estimates between 2020 and prior years because of methodological changes for 2020. Due to these changes, significance testing between 2020 and prior years was not performed. See the *2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological Summary and Definitions* for details.

NOTE: Methodological limitations preclude the estimation of past year initiates for aggregate substance use categories having at least one prescription psychotherapeutic, including categories for overall illicit drugs, misuse of prescription psychotherapeutics, tranquilizers or sedatives, opioids, and illicit drugs other than marijuana (see Chapter 3 of the *2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological Summary and Definitions*).

¹ Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana excludes respondents who used only marijuana but includes those who used marijuana in addition to other illicit drugs.

Definitions: Measures and terms are defined in Appendix A.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2019 and Quarters 1 and 4, 2020.