



2020 Missouri Student Survey Summary

Every even-numbered year since 2000, the Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH) and Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) conducts Missouri Student Survey (MSS) to monitor substance use and related behaviors among adolescents. Middle and high schools in the state are selected to be a part of the statewide random sample. Over 100,000 students across Missouri typically participate each cycle.

Gender, grade (middle school, high school), race/ethnicity, and school size category (small, medium, large) are weighted at state-level. A summary of the substance use from this random sample of the MSS is explained in this brief.

	Alcohol	Tobacco/ Cigarette	Marijuana	Rx Drugs
Past-month use	17%	5.3%	8.9%	6.3%
Perception of availability: easy or very easy	52.3%	39.5%	38%	21.1%
Parent's perception of wrongness: wrong and very wrong	93.4%	91.8%	92.5%	96.2%
Friend's perception of wrongness: wrong and very wrong	67%	87.7%	79.4%	94.5%
Perception of risk: slight risk and no risk at all	46.5%	18.9%	39.2%	14.2%

Perception: "Student's perception of availability of substance", "Student's perception of wrongness to use substance", "Student's perception of their parent's feelings of wrongness to use substance", "Student's perception of their friend's feelings of wrongness to use substance", and "Student's perception of risk to use substance". The exact wording of the questions can be found [here](#).

The results from Missouri Student Survey are described, in detail, on [BHEW website](#). The website also has a [query tool](#) which can be used to study trends of drug use and mental health over years. The results can be filtered by demographics (gender, race, grades) and region. Registration for the survey will open late fall. More information on how to register will be available in the next few months. The survey itself will be open January through March 2022.

