

2013 Ohio Youth Risk Behavior Survey



Illegal Drug Use and Prescription Drug Abuse

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A major public health problem that still faces the United States is the use of drugs among the nation's youth. Substance use can have a negative effect on social, academic, mental and physical aspects of an adolescent's life and can lead to overdose or addiction.¹

Healthy People 2020's 10-year health objectives include topics relevant to the YRBS topics, aimed at improving the health of adolescents in the United States.² One objective that addresses Adolescent Health (AH) specifically is presented below:

AH-7: Reduce the proportion of adolescents who have been offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property to no more than 20.4 percent.

- In 2013, 19.9 percent of Ohio high school students were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property during the past 12 months.

Recent trends (2003-2013) for Ohio in adolescent substance abuse indicate:

- Prevalence rates for students who have ever tried marijuana and for student who have used marijuana in the past 30 days remained stable.
- The percentage of students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 decreased.
- Prevalence rates for students who used any form of cocaine and those who took steroids decreased.
- Prevalence rates for students who have used hallucinogenic drugs and heroin have remained steady.
- Prevalence rates for students who were offered, given or sold illegal drugs on school property decreased.

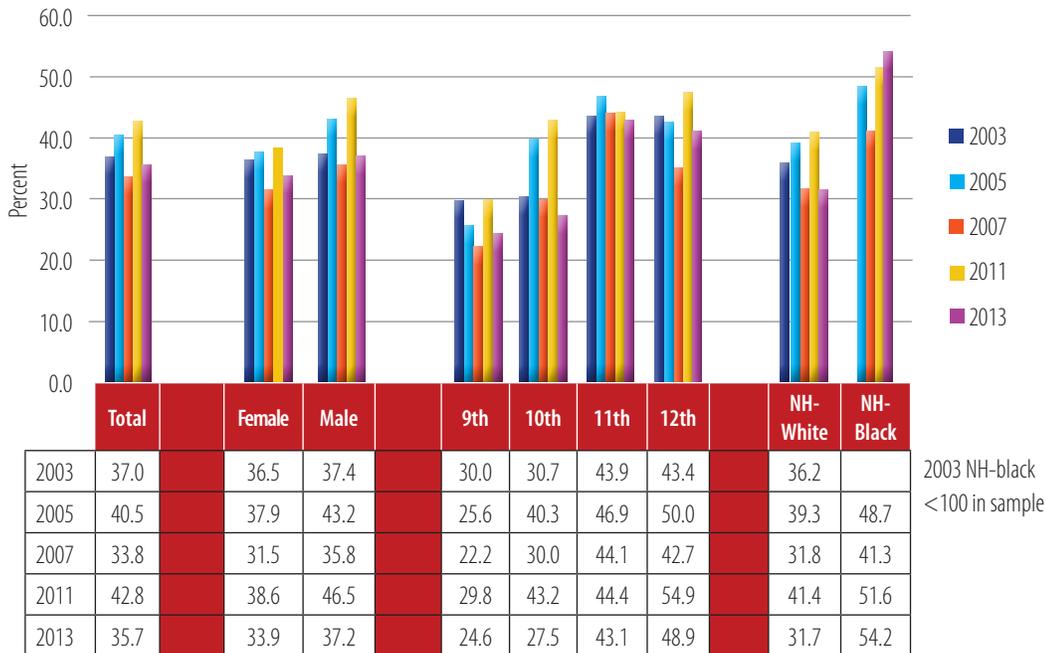
The charts on the following pages represent the past ten years of YRBS data.^{abc}

^a2009 data are not included in tables because the limited response rate did not produce a weighted sample.

^bTrend data based on trend analysis using logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade, $p < 0.05$.

^cComparisons among groups in 2013 data were not tested for significance, but determined by comparing confidence intervals.

Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times in their life, Ohio 2003-2013



“During your life, how many times have you used marijuana?”

- From 2003 to 2013, there was **no significant change** in the percentage of students who have ever used marijuana.
- 11th and 12th graders were 1.8 and 2.0 times more likely to have used marijuana than 9th graders.
- When compared to non-Hispanic white students, non-Hispanic black students were 1.7 times more likely to have ever tried marijuana.
- There were no differences by gender for students who reported ever having tried marijuana.

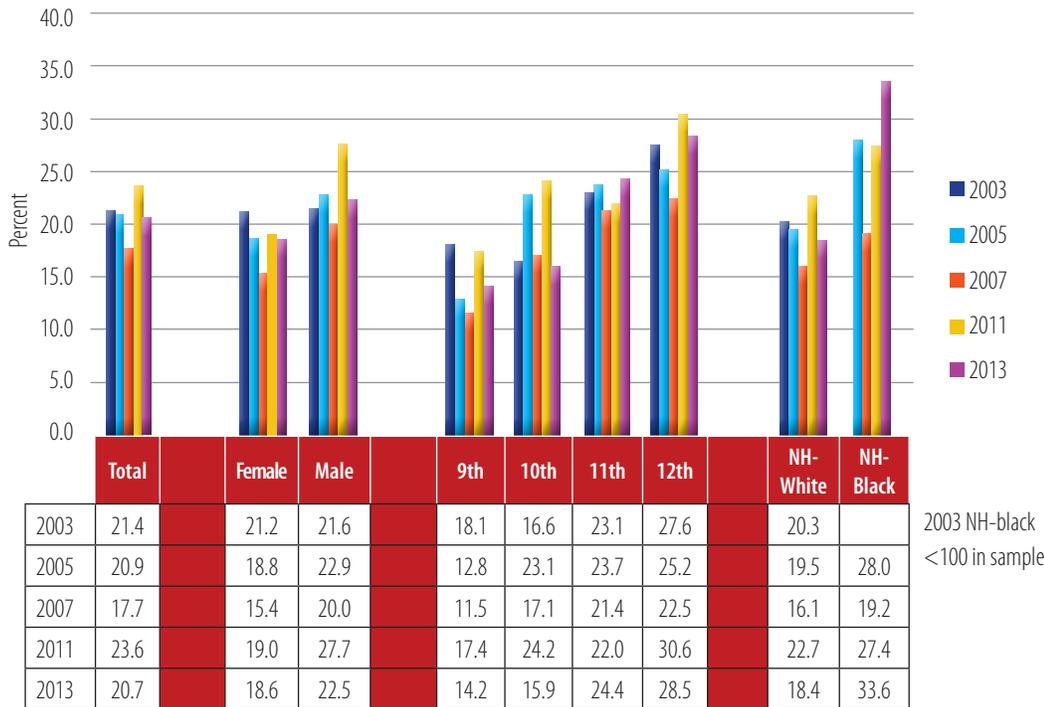
Percentage of students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 years, Ohio 2003-2013



“How old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?”

- From 2003 to 2013, there was a **significant decrease** in the percentage of students who reported trying marijuana for the first time before age 13.
- When compared to female students, male students are 2.3 times more likely to report trying marijuana before the age of 13.
- When compared to non-Hispanic white student, non-Hispanic black students were 3.9 times more likely to report trying marijuana before age 13.
- There were no differences by grade level for trying marijuana before age 13.

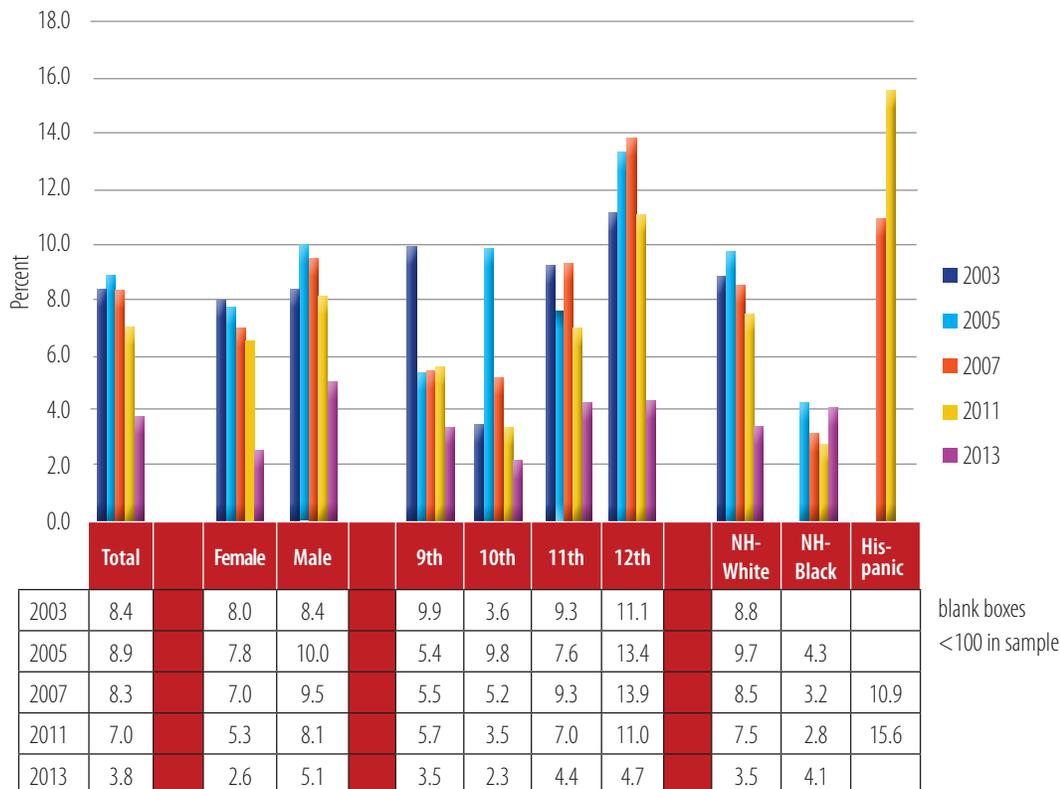
Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during the past 30 days, Ohio 2003-2013



“During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?”

- There was **no significant** change from 2003 to 2013 for current marijuana use.
- 12th graders are two times more likely than 9th graders report current marijuana use.
- There were no differences by gender or race for students reporting current marijuana use.

Percentage of students who used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase one or more times during their life, Ohio 2003-2013



“During your life, how many times have you used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase?”

- From 2003 to 2013, there was a **significant decrease** in the percent of students reporting any cocaine use.
- There were no differences by gender, race or grade level for students reporting any cocaine use.

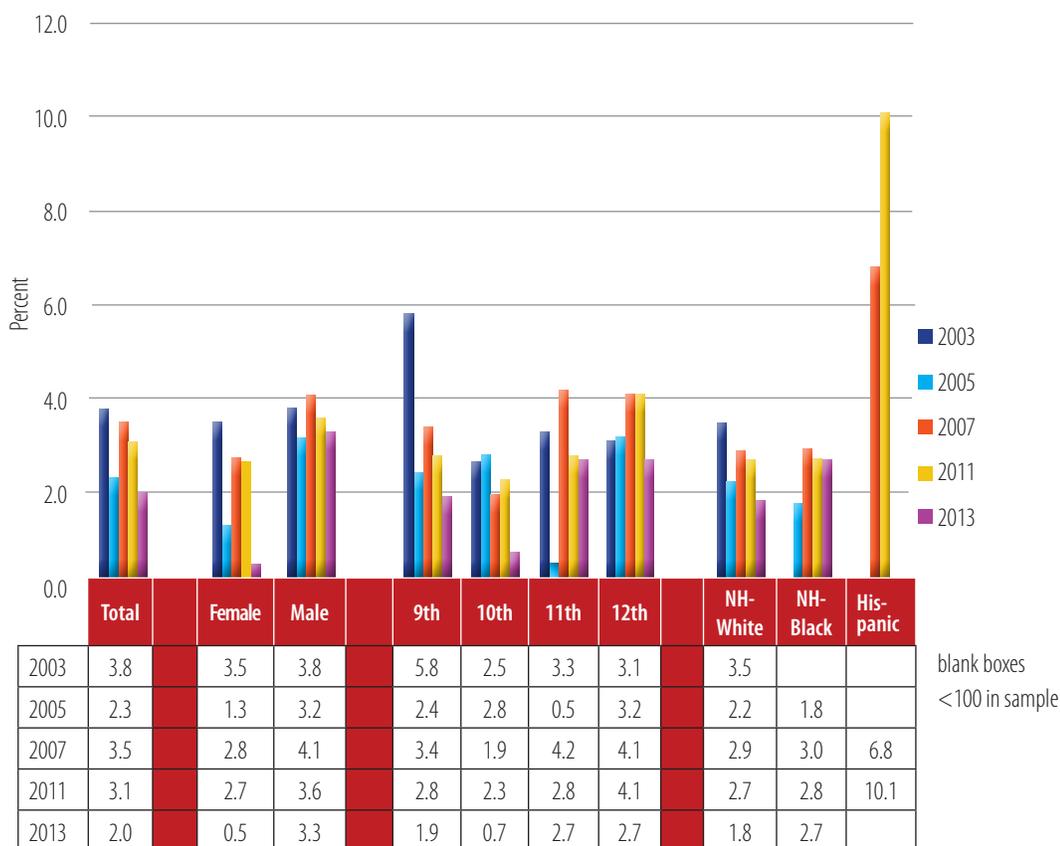
Percentage of students who used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase, one or more times during the past 30 days, Ohio 2013



“During the past 30 days, how many times did you use any form of cocaine, including powder, crack or freebase?”

- 9th, 11th and 12th graders were 23, 30 and 29 times more likely than 10th graders to use cocaine in the past month.
- There were no differences by race or gender.

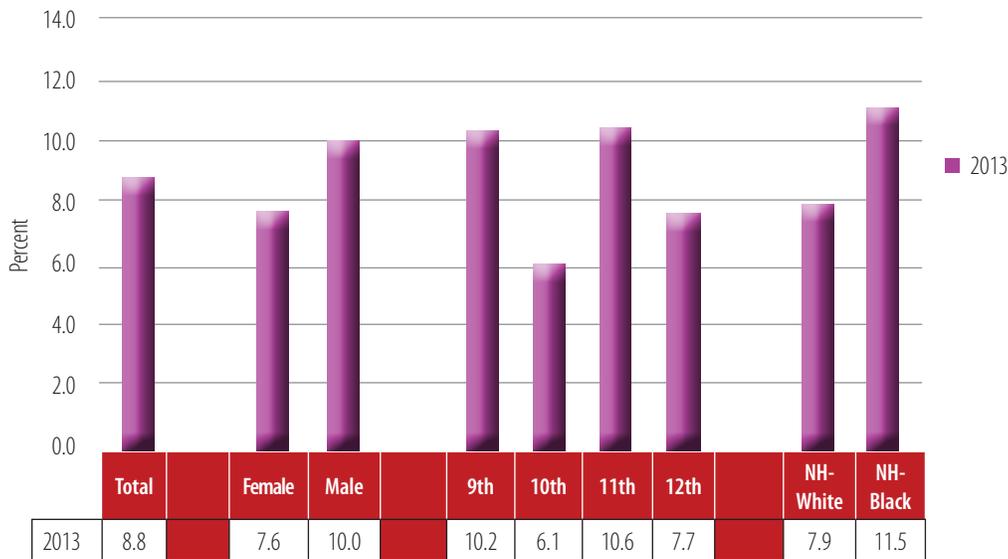
Percentage of students who used heroin one or more times during their life, Ohio 2003-2013



“During your life, how many times have you used heroin?”

- From 2003 to 2013, there was **no significant change** in the percentage of students who reported using heroin.
- When compared to female students, male students are 6.6 times more likely to report using heroin.
- There were no differences by race or grade level for students who have ever used heroin.

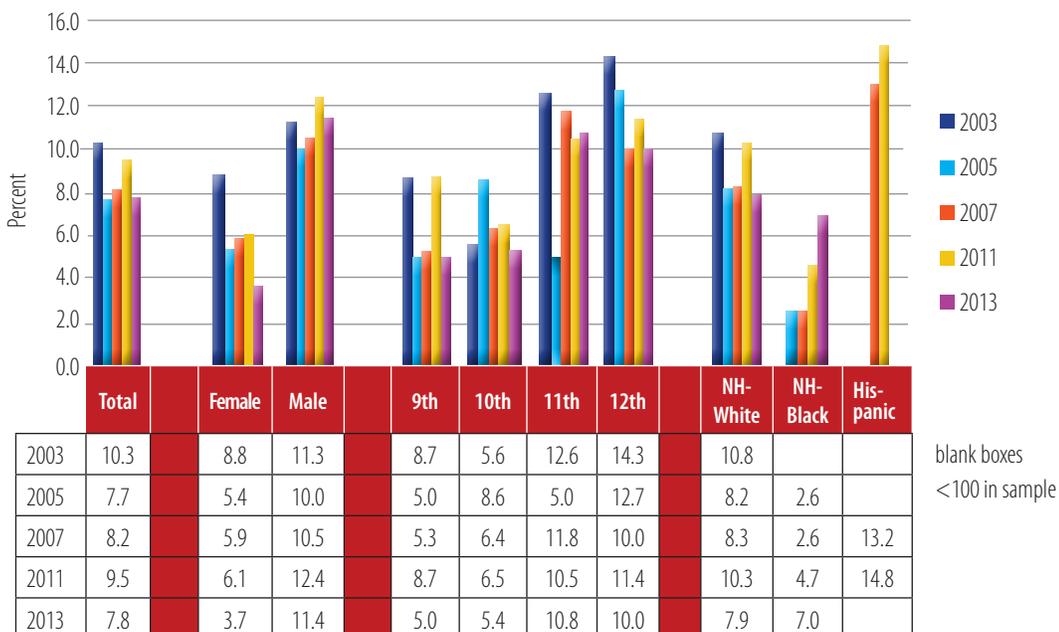
Percentage of students who sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high one or more times during their life, Ohio 2013



“During your life, how many times have you sniffed glue, breathed the contents or aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high?”

- There are **no differences** by gender, race or grade level for students who reported sniffing glue, breathing aerosol cans, or inhaling paints or sprays to get high.

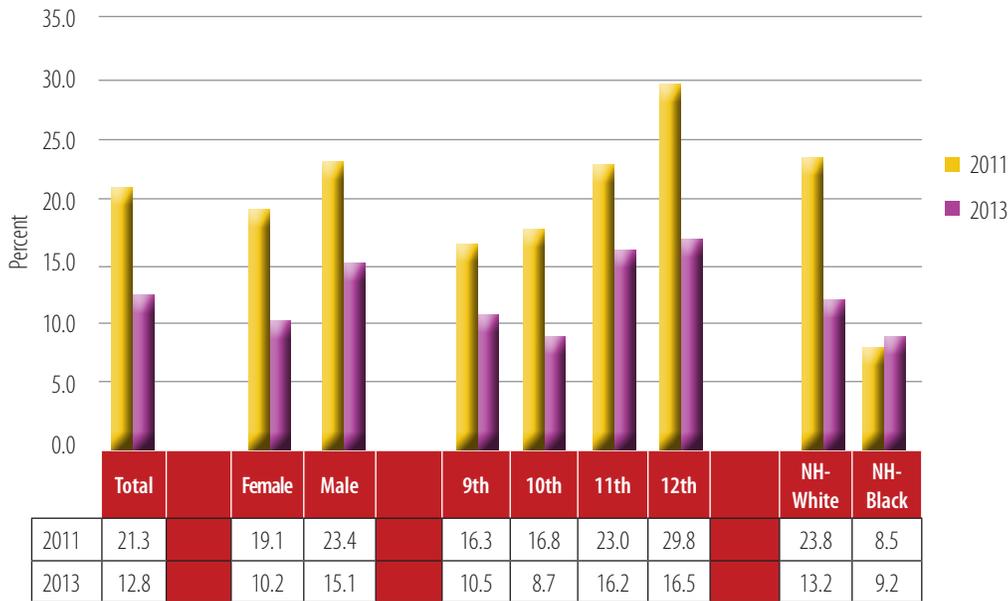
Percentage of students who have used hallucinogenic drugs, such as LSD, acid, PCP, angel dust, mescaline, or mushrooms, one or more times during their life, Ohio 2003-2013



“During your life, how many times have you used hallucinogenic drugs such as LSD, acid, PCP, angel dust, mescaline, or mushrooms?”

- From 2003 to 2013, there was **no significant change** in the percentage of students who used hallucinogenic drugs.
- When compared to female students, male students were 3.1 times more likely to report they have used hallucinogenic drugs.
- 11th graders were 2.2 times more likely than 9th graders to use hallucinogenic drugs.
- There were no differences by race.

Percentage of students who have used prescription painkillers such as Vicodin, Percocet, OxyContin or Codeine without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life, Ohio 2011-2013



“During your life, how many times have you used prescription pain relievers or painkillers such as Vicodin, Percocet, OxyContin, Lortabs, or Codeine without a doctor’s prescription?”

- From 2011 to 2013, there was a **significant decrease** in the percentage of students using prescription painkillers.
- There were no differences by gender, race, or grade level in students who reported prescription drug use.

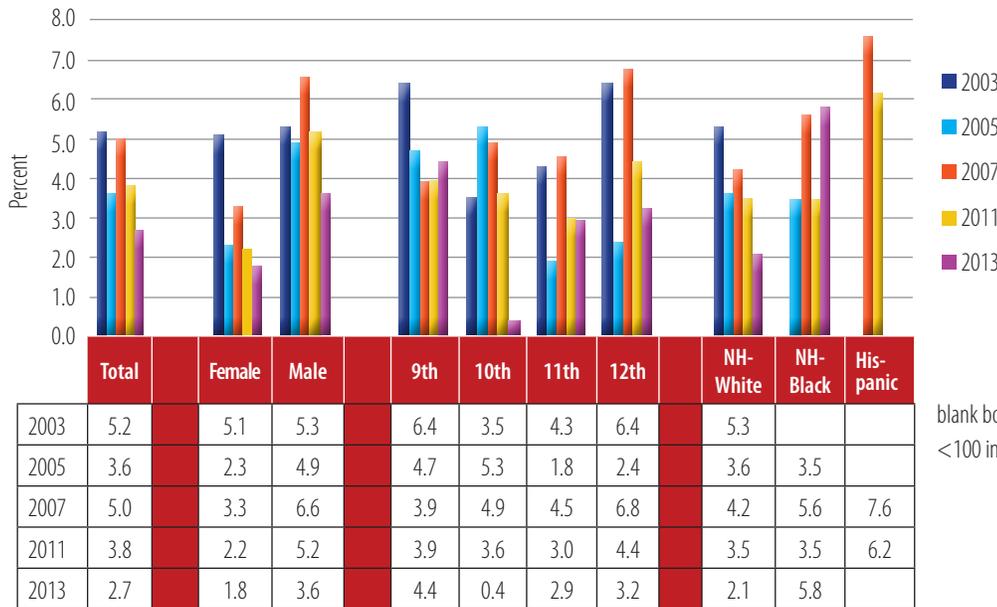
Percentage of students who have taken most often multiple types of prescription drugs at the same time without a doctor's prescription, Ohio 2013



“What type of prescription drug have you taken most often without a doctor’s prescription?”

- There were **no differences** by gender, race or grade level for students who take multiple prescription drugs at a time.

Percentage of students who took steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life, Ohio 2003-2013

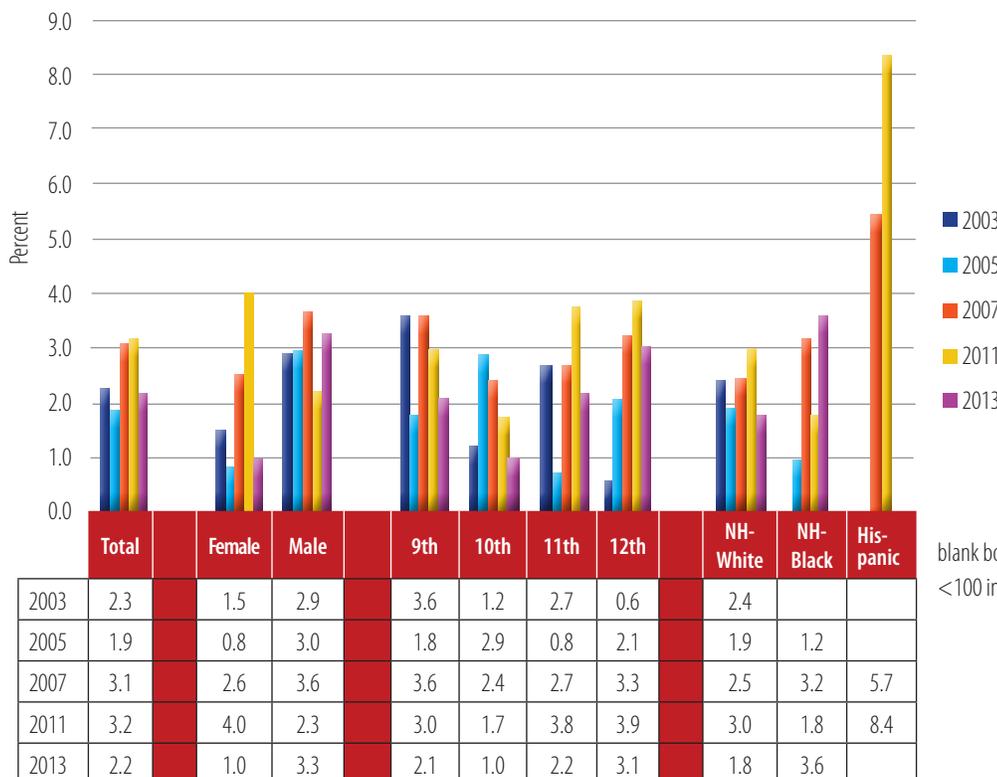


“During your life, how many times have you taken steroid pills or shots without a doctor’s prescription?”

- From 2003 to 2013, there was a **significant decrease** in students reporting steroid use.
- 9th graders were 11 times more likely than 10th graders to report steroid use.
- There were no differences by gender or race for steroid use.

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Percentage of students who used a needle to inject any illegal drug into their body one or more times during their life, Ohio 2003-2013



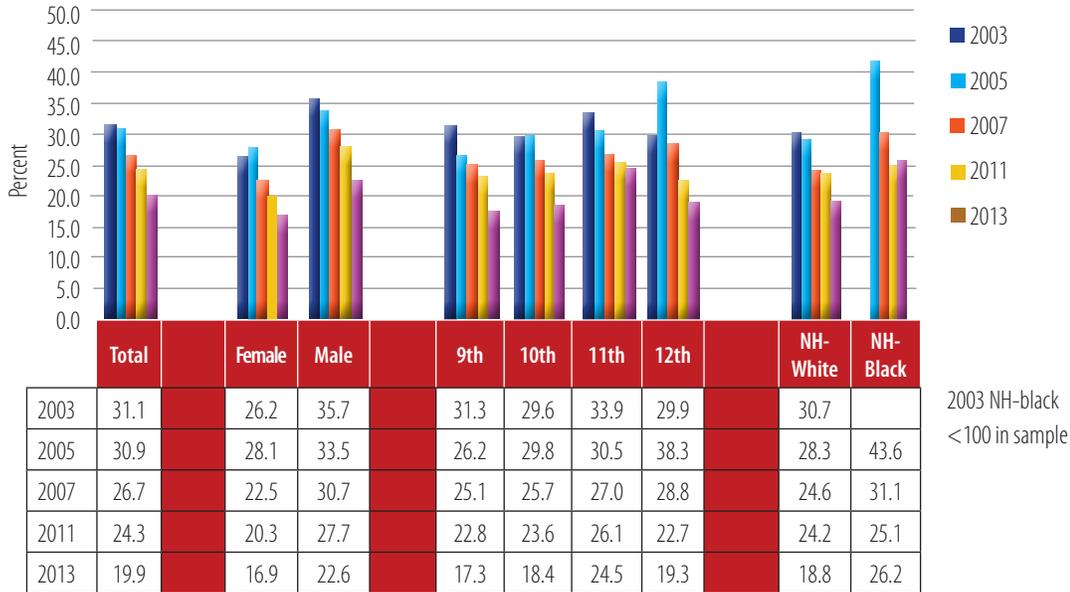
“During your life, how many times have you used a needle to inject any illegal drug into your body?”

- From 2003 to 2013, there has been **no significant change** in the percentage of students who reported injecting illegal drugs into their body.
- Compared to female students, male students were 3.3 times more likely to inject illegal drugs.
- There were no differences by grade level or race for students who inject illegal drugs.

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Percentage of students who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property during the past 12 months, Ohio 2003-2013

“During the past 12 months, has anyone offered, sold or given you an illegal drug on school property?”



- From 2003-2013, there was a **significant decrease** in the percentage of students who were offered, sold or given illegal drugs on school property.
- There were no differences by race, gender or grade level for students who reported being offered, sold or given illegal drugs on school property.

Conclusions

Illegal drug use and abuse has negative consequences on many aspects of adolescents' lives, including mental health, social life, physical health, legal issues, family life and academics. While many illegal drug trends seem to be decreasing in Ohio, marijuana use continues to be a problem for Ohio's students. Marijuana use has remained steady in Ohio over the past twenty years, and 36 percent of high school students say they have used marijuana at least once during their life. Marijuana use in particular is associated with numerous mental health problems, including depression, anxiety, psychosis and suicide, along with health problems, cancer, decreased cognitive functioning and poor academic performance.³ Prescription drug abuse has been a public concern in recent years, yet Ohio data shows a significant decrease since 2011, from 21 percent to 13 percent reporting using prescription drugs recreationally. Though drug use in general appears to be declining in Ohio, another issue for Ohio students is the availability of drugs on school property. One fifth of students report being offered, sold or given drugs on school property during the past year.

The primary findings from the 2013 Ohio YRBS showed that approximately:

- Four out of 10 students reported having ever used marijuana
- Two out of 10 students reported using marijuana during the past 30 days
- Two out of 10 students reported being offered, sold, or given illegal drugs on school property during the past year
- One out of 10 students reported using prescription pain killers such as Vicoden, Percocet, OxyContin, or Codeine without a doctor's prescription at least once in their life

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013, May 16). Mental Health Surveillance among Children, United States, 2005-2011. Retrieved from: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/su6202a1.htm?s_cid=su6202a1_w
2. Healthy People. (2012, April 10). *Adolescent Health*. Retrieved from 2020 Topics and Objectives: <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/overview.aspx?topicid=2>
3. Schepis, T.S., Desai, R.A., Cavallo, D.A., Smith, A.E., McFetridge, A., Liss, T.B., Potenza, M.N, and Krishnan-Sarin, S. (2011, March). Gender differences in adolescent marijuana use and associated psychosocial characteristics. *J Addict Med*, 5 (1), 65-73. doi: 10.1097/ADM.0b013e3181d8dc62

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