

Portrait of the Four Core Measures

Young people are increasingly exposed to negative behaviors and opportunities for risk-taking. Youth who experience low levels of Developmental Assets and high levels of developmental deficit conditions are particularly vulnerable. In this section, you'll find data describing four core measures related to young people's use of alcohol, tobacco, prescription drugs, and marijuana (the four core measures are defined below). These data can be used to meet Drug Free Communities (DFC) grantee reporting requirements established by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

All communities can also use the data in this section to assess student levels of involvement with substance use and abuse. This information is invaluable not only to your efforts to educate the community and develop an action plan for reducing substance use, associated risk behaviors, and deficit factors, but also as a basis for strengthening protective factors (assets) critical to ensuring that your youth thrive.

This version of the *Developmental Assets Profile* specifically measures students' use of alcohol, tobacco, prescription drugs, and marijuana. Selected survey questions address the following four core measures:

- The percentage of youth who report using alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or prescription drugs at least once in the 30 days immediately preceding the survey date.
- The percentage of youth who think there is moderate or great risk in binge drinking, smoking one or more packs of cigarettes per day, smoking marijuana once or twice a week, or using prescription drugs not prescribed to them.
- The percentage of youth who report that their parents feel *regular use* of alcohol is wrong or very wrong, and report that their parents feel *any use* of cigarettes, marijuana, or unprescribed prescription drugs is wrong.
- The percentage of youth who report that their friends feel *regular use* of alcohol is wrong or very wrong, and report that their parents feel *any use* of cigarettes, marijuana, or unprescribed prescription drugs is wrong.

You can use the data in this section to guide school and community prevention activities and asset building efforts that lead to a permanent reduction of negative choices by young people in your community.

Past 30-Day Use of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, and Prescription Drugs

One of the areas evaluated by the *Developmental Assets Profile* survey relates to students' alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and prescription drug use in the 30 days *immediately preceding* the survey administration . The percentages for past 30-day substance use by total sample, gender, and grade are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Past 30-Day Substance Use by Gender and Grade												
Category	Definition	Total Sample	Gender		Grade							
			M	F	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Alcohol	Used alcohol once or more in the past 30 days	29	30	27	12	23	29	57				
Tobacco	Smoked cigarettes once or more in the past 30 days	6	7	6	1	2	6	19				
Marijuana	Used marijuana once or more in the past 30 days	13	14	11	2	9	14	30				
Prescription Drugs	Used prescription drugs once or more in the past 30 days	6	6	6	3	3	6	15				

Youth Perception of Risk of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, and Prescription Drug Use

One of the four core measures evaluated by the *Developmental Assets Profile* survey is students' perception of the risks involved in using alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs. The percentages for youth perception of risk are recorded in Table 2.

Table 2. Perception of Substance-Use Risk by Gender and Grade											
Category	Definition <i>Moderate Risk or Great</i>	Total Sample	Gender		Grade						
			M	F	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Alcohol	Five or more drinks once or twice a week	77	72	83	74	84	80	71			
Tobacco	One or more packs of cigarettes per day	91	91	91	91	94	90	88			
Marijuana	Once or twice a week	63	56	70	80	74	55	33			
Prescription Drugs	Use prescription drugs that are not prescribed to them	89	87	91	84	94	91	86			

Youth Perception of Parental Disapproval of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, and Prescription Drug Use

The *Developmental Assets Profile* survey evaluates students' perception of their parents' disapproval of youth use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs. Percentages for youth perception of parental disapproval of substance use are recorded below in Table 3.

Table 3. Perception of Parental Disapproval of Substance Use											
Category	Definition <i>Wrong or Very Wrong</i>	Total Sample	Gender		Grade						
			M	F	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Alcohol	Drink regularly	91	89	94	94	97	88	83			
Tobacco	Smoke cigarettes	96	95	97	98	100	99	85			
Marijuana	Smoke marijuana	91	89	93	96	98	90	75			
Prescription Drugs	Use prescription drugs not prescribed to you	98	97	98	96	100	100	94			

Youth Perception of Peer Disapproval of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, and Prescription Drug Use

The *Developmental Assets Profile* survey evaluates students' perception of their friends' disapproval of youth use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs. Percentages for youth perception of peer disapproval of substance use are recorded below in Table 4.

Table 4. Perception of Peer Disapproval of Substance Use											
Category	Definition <i>Wrong or Very Wrong</i>	Total Sample	Gender		Grade						
			M	F	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Alcohol	Drink regularly	71	68	75	86		82		65		45
Tobacco	Smoke cigarettes	82	79	85	93		94		75		59
Marijuana	Smoke marijuana	68	65	71	91		81		57		34
Prescription Drugs	Use prescription drugs not prescribed to you	85	83	87	90		93		86		65

Four Core Measures Data Summary

Table 5 summarizes how your students responded to all questions related to the four core measures measured by the *Developmental Assets Profile* survey.

Table 5. Summary of Four Core Measures Data																	
		Past 30-Day Use				Perception of Risk				Perception of Parental Disapproval				Perception of Peer Disapproval			
		Alc	Tob	Mar	Pre	Alc	Tob	Mar	Pre	Alc	Tob	Mar	Pre	Alc	Tob	Mar	Pre
Total Sample	*%	28.6	6.3	12.6	5.9	77.4	90.8	62.6	88.8	91.3	96.2	90.7	97.6	71.5	81.6	67.9	84.8
	n	193	45	89	42	548	641	442	625	647	680	640	691	506	578	479	599
	N	674	714	708	709	708	706	706	704	709	707	706	708	708	708	705	706
Male	*%	29.6	6.7	14.0	5.9	72.2	90.9	55.5	87.1	88.7	95.2	89.0	96.9	68.1	78.8	65.2	82.8
	n	100	24	50	21	255	320	196	305	315	337	315	344	241	279	230	293
	N	338	357	356	356	353	352	353	350	355	354	354	355	354	354	353	354
Female	*%	27.2	5.7	10.9	5.7	83.1	90.8	69.9	90.8	93.7	97.1	92.5	98.3	75.1	84.8	70.9	87.0
	n	90	20	38	20	291	317	244	317	327	338	322	342	262	296	246	302
	N	331	352	348	348	350	349	349	349	349	348	348	348	349	349	347	347
Grade 6	*%	12.2	1.5	2.0	3.0	74.0	90.8	80.0	84.1	93.9	98.0	96.4	95.9	86.2	92.9	90.8	90.3
	n	23	3	4	6	145	177	156	164	185	193	188	189	169	182	177	176
	N	189	201	198	197	196	195	195	195	197	197	195	197	196	196	195	195
Grade 7	*%																
	n																
	N																
Grade 8	*%	23.3	2.1	8.6	2.7	83.9	93.5	74.2	94.1	97.3	100.0	97.8	100.0	82.4	93.6	81.1	93.0
	n	41	4	16	5	156	173	138	174	182	186	182	187	154	175	150	174
	N	176	188	187	188	186	185	186	185	187	186	186	187	187	187	185	187
Grade 9	*%																
	n																
	N																
Grade 10	*%	29.5	6.1	14.4	5.5	79.7	90.1	55.2	90.6	88.5	98.9	89.6	100.0	65.4	75.3	57.1	86.2
	n	51	11	26	10	145	164	100	164	161	179	163	181	119	137	104	156
	N	173	181	181	181	182	182	181	181	182	181	182	181	182	182	182	181
Grade 11	*%																
	n																
	N																
Grade 12	*%	57.4	18.8	30.3	14.7	70.8	88.2	33.3	86.0	83.2	85.3	74.8	93.7	44.8	58.7	33.6	65.0
	n	78	27	43	21	102	127	48	123	119	122	107	134	64	84	48	93
	N	136	144	142	143	144	144	144	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143



In the above table the rows marked with an asterisk (*) are percentages of youth who meet the criteria appropriate to the column for the 30 day use, perception of risk, and perception of parental disapproval columns. The asterisk rows are mean age for the age of first use columns.

Rows marked with a lower case n are the number of students who meet the criteria, or the number of students whose responses were averaged.

Rows marked with an upper case N are the number of students who responded to the relevant question.