Sexual Violence and Substance Abuse

Research demonstrates that there is a strong association between experiencing sexual assault and higher rates of substance use. This is also true among the Delaware students (6.6%) who reported on the 2015 High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey that they had been forced to have sexual intercourse. As the chart below illustrates, regardless of gender, students who reported that they had been forced to have sexual intercourse were also significantly more likely to self-report current use of cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana, and misuse of prescription drugs.