Delaware Youth Substance Abuse

Funding for this project has been provided by the Department for Health and Social Services, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health-State of Delaware through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA, SP015607)
12% of Delaware 5th graders have ever drunk alcohol; while this number is still low, only 42% perceive a lot of risk in daily use of alcohol.

35% of Delaware 8th graders drank alcohol in the past year.

Most Delaware students who drink do so at their own home or someone else’s home, and most have been to parties where adults provided alcohol.

62% of Delaware 11th graders drank alcohol in the past year, most of them having three or more drinks at a time.

Source: 2011 Delaware School Surveys
1% of Delaware 5th graders have ever tried marijuana; while this number is still low, only 33% perceive a lot of risk in trying marijuana.

19% of Delaware 8th graders have smoked marijuana in the past year. Delaware high school students exceed national norms for marijuana use, and in 2007 ranked 1st in past 30 day use among all states participating in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

Source: 2011 Delaware School Surveys

39% of Delaware 11th graders have smoked marijuana in the past year appear to be increasing.
Ever had sex: 46% (U.S.), 57.5% (Delaware)
Currently sexually active: 34.2% (U.S.), 42.9% (Delaware)
Sex before age 13: 5.9% (U.S.), 9.7% (Delaware)
Sex w/>3 persons: 13.8% (U.S.), 21% (Delaware)
Injured in physical fight: 3.8% (U.S.), 4.2% (Delaware)
Carried Weapon: 17.5% (U.S.), 18.5% (Delaware)
Carried Gun: 5.9% (U.S.), 8.5% (Delaware)
Felt sad/hopeless: 26.1% (U.S.), 26.5% (Delaware)
Attempted suicide: 6.3% (U.S.), 8.5% (Delaware)

Source: 2009 Delaware Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Delaware Has Higher Than Average Consequences Often Associated With Youth Substance Abuse
Delaware Adult Substance Abuse

Funding for this project has been provided by the Department for Health and Social Services, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health-State of Delaware through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA, SP015607)
As Delaware youth become young adults . . .

- 18-25 year olds are highest for past month alcohol use—69% and binge drinking 48%
- 18-25 year olds are highest for past month marijuana use—23%
- 18-25 year olds are highest for past month use of illicit drugs other than marijuana—9%
- 18-25 year olds are highest for non-medical past year non-medical pain reliever use—13%
- All of the above Delaware estimates are higher than national norms; estimates for alcohol use, binge drinking and marijuana use are significantly higher

Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2008-2009
Delaware Drug and Alcohol Treatment Admissions by Primary Drug
1996-2010

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<td>433</td>
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Adult Drug Arrests 2003-2008