

TABLE 15
Trends in Availability of Drugs as Perceived by 8th Graders

<i>How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?</i>	Percentage saying fairly easy or very easy to get ^a															
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Marijuana	—	42.3	43.8	49.9	52.4	54.8	54.2	50.6	48.4	47.0	48.1	46.6	44.8	41.0	41.1	39.6
LSD	—	21.5	21.8	21.8	23.5	23.6	22.7	19.3	18.3	17.0	17.6	15.2	14.0	12.3	11.5	10.8
PCP ^b	—	18.0	18.5	17.7	19.0	19.6	19.2	17.5	17.1	16.0	15.4	14.1	13.7	11.4	11.0	10.5
MDMA (e.g. ecstasy, "Molly") ^b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23.8	22.8	21.6	16.6	15.6	14.5
Crack	—	25.6	25.9	26.9	28.7	27.9	27.5	26.5	25.9	24.9	24.4	23.7	22.5	20.6	20.8	20.9
Cocaine powder	—	25.7	25.9	26.4	27.8	27.2	26.9	25.7	25.0	23.9	23.9	22.5	21.6	19.4	19.9	20.2
Heroin	—	19.7	19.8	19.4	21.1	20.6	19.8	18.0	17.5	16.5	16.9	16.0	15.6	14.1	13.2	13.0
Narcotics other than Heroin ^{b,c}	—	19.8	19.0	18.3	20.3	20.0	20.6	17.1	16.2	15.6	15.0	14.7	15.0	12.4	12.9	13.0
Amphetamines ^d	—	32.2	31.4	31.0	33.4	32.6	30.6	27.3	25.9	25.5	26.2	24.4	24.4	21.9	21.0	20.7
Crystal methamphetamine (ice) ^b	—	16.0	15.1	14.1	16.0	16.3	15.7	16.0	14.7	14.9	13.9	13.3	14.1	11.9	13.5	14.5
Sedatives (barbiturates)	—	27.4	26.1	25.3	26.5	25.6	24.4	21.1	20.8	19.7	20.7	19.4	19.3	18.0	17.6	17.3
Tranquilizers	—	22.9	21.4	20.4	21.3	20.4	19.6	18.1	17.3	16.2	17.8	16.9	17.3	15.8	14.8	14.4
Alcohol	—	76.2	73.9	74.5	74.9	75.3	74.9	73.1	72.3	70.6	70.6	67.9	67.0	64.9	64.2	63.0
Cigarettes	—	77.8	75.5	76.1	76.4	76.9	76.0	73.6	71.5	68.7	67.7	64.3	63.1	60.3	59.1	58.0
Vaping device ^{e,f}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E-liquid with nicotine (for vaping) ^{e,f}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Flavored e-liquid with nicotine (for vaping) ⁱ	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E-liquid for marijuana vaping ⁱ	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
JUUL vaping device ^g	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Steroids	—	24.0	22.7	23.1	23.8	24.1	23.6	22.3	22.6	22.3	23.1	22.0	21.7	19.7	18.1	17.1
<i>Approximate weighted N =</i>		8,355	16,775	16,119	15,496	16,318	16,482	16,208	15,397	15,180	14,804	13,972	15,583	15,944	15,730	15,502

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TABLE 15 (cont.)
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<i>How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?</i>	Percentage saying fairly easy or very easy to get ^a														2019–2020 change
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 ^h	2020	
Marijuana	37.4	39.3	39.8	41.4	37.9	36.9	39.1	36.9	37.0	34.6	35.2	35.0	32.0	28.0	-4.0
LSD	10.5	10.9	10.0	10.0	9.3	7.5	7.4	6.9	6.6	6.9	6.3	6.5	7.9	7.3	-0.5
PCP ^b	9.5	10.1	9.1	8.0	7.9	6.7	5.8	5.5	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.7	6.1	§	—
MDMA (e.g. ecstasy, "Molly") ^b	13.4	14.1	13.1	12.9	12.0	9.6	9.5	10.1	9.6	8.7	8.0	7.2	8.6	6.6	-2.0
Crack	19.7	20.2	18.6	17.9	15.7	14.4	13.7	12.0	11.3	11.1	10.2	9.6	8.3	7.3	-1.0
Cocaine powder	19.0	19.5	17.8	16.6	14.9	14.1	13.5	11.9	11.6	11.0	10.4	9.8	8.6	7.6	-1.0
Heroin	12.6	13.3	12.0	11.6	9.9	9.4	10.0	8.6	7.8	8.9	8.1	7.8	6.4	5.1	-1.3
Narcotics other than Heroin ^{b,c}	11.7	12.1	11.8‡	14.6	12.3	10.6	9.7	9.2	8.8	8.9	8.9	8.3	8.7	§	—
Amphetamines ^d	19.9	21.3	20.2	19.6‡	15.0	13.4	12.8	12.1	11.8	12.1	11.0	11.6	12.4	12.7	+0.4
Crystal methamphetamine (ice) ^b	12.1	12.8	11.9	10.9	9.6	8.8	8.5	7.7	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.2	6.5	§	—
Sedatives (barbiturates) ^e	16.8	17.5	15.9	15.3	12.6	11.1	10.6	10.0	9.0	9.3	9.2	8.6	10.8	9.1	-1.7
Tranquilizers	14.4	15.4	14.1	13.7	12.0	10.5	10.4	9.8	9.8	11.4	11.8	12.2	10.9	9.8	-1.1
Alcohol	62.0	64.1	61.8	61.1	59.0	57.5	56.1	54.4	53.6	52.7	53.2	53.9	46.1	45.0	-1.1
Cigarettes	55.6	57.4	55.3	55.5	51.9	50.7	49.9	47.2	47.0	45.6	46.2	45.7	39.4	38.1	-1.3
Vaping device ^{e,f}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38.6	45.7	40.9	42.8	+1.9
E-liquid with nicotine (for vaping) ^{e,f}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31.0	37.9	39.3	38.0	-1.2
Flavored e-liquid with nicotine (for vaping) ⁱ	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38.0	—
E-liquid for marijuana vaping ⁱ	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24.2	—
JUUL vaping device ^g	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	47.2	43.4	-3.8 s
Steroids	17.0	16.8	15.2	14.2	13.3	12.5	12.9	11.8	11.6	12.6	11.6	10.9	9.6	8.9	-0.7
<i>Approximate weighted N =</i>	15,043	14,482	13,989	14,485	15,233	14,235	13,605	13,208	13,494	15,628	14,042	12,315	6,706	2,939	

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TABLE 15 (cont.)
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Source. The Monitoring the Future study, the University of Michigan.

Notes. Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: $s = .05$, $ss = .01$, $sss = .001$. '—' indicates data not available. '‡' indicates that the question changed the following year. See relevant footnote for that drug. Any apparent inconsistency between the change estimate and the prevalence estimates for the two most recent years is due to rounding.

§This estimate is not presented in 2020 due to small sample size. The survey question for this estimate appears on a randomly-selected 1/6 of the questionnaires, and the number of responses is uniquely small in 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic halted MTF data collection prematurely and the resulting sample size was only 25% of the target.

^aAnswer alternatives were: (1) Probably impossible, (2) Very difficult, (3) Fairly difficult, (4) Fairly easy, (5) Very easy, and (6) Can't say, drug unfamiliar.

^bBeginning in 1993, data based on one of two of forms; N is one half of N indicated. Beginning in 2014 data based on one sixth of N indicated. For MDMA only: In 2014 the question text was changed in one form to include "Molly." In 2015 a second form was changed to including "Molly;" data based on one sixth of N indicated in 2014 and on one half of N indicated in 2015. An examination of the data did not show any effect from this wording change.

^cIn 2010 the list of examples for narcotics other than heroin was changed from methadone, opium to Vicodin, OxyContin, Percocet, etc. This change likely explains the discontinuity in the 2010 results.

^dIn 2011 the list of examples for amphetamines was changed from uppers, pep pills, bennies, speed to uppers, speed, Adderall, Ritalin, etc. These changes likely explain the discontinuity in the 2012 results.

^eBeginning in 2017, data based on one half of N indicated.

^fPercentages for all years reported here include respondents who replied "can't say, drug unfamiliar" in the denominator. The percentage for 2017 published in late 2017 and early 2018 did not include these respondents in the denominator.

^gData based on three of four forms. N is two thirds of N indicated.

^hDrug prevalence results in 2019 combine results from paper-and-pencil surveys with those completed using electronic tablets. In 2019 students in a randomly-selected half of schools completed MTF surveys on paper-and-pencil and students in the other half completed the surveys using electronic tablets. Analysis of this randomized controlled trial demonstrated that these results did not significantly differ across survey mode (Miech, R.A., Couper, M.P., Heeringa, S. G., and Patrick M. E. Forthcoming. The Impact of Survey Mode on US National Estimates of Adolescent Drug Prevalence: Results from a Randomized Controlled Study, Addiction). Results for student attitudes and beliefs in 2019 are based on answers from electronic tablets only because these appear more susceptible to survey mode effects. Readers are cautioned that large changes in these results from 2018 to 2019 may stem from survey mode effects.

ⁱData based on two of four forms. N is one half of N indicated.