

Monitoring the Future Annual Data Volumes

Monitoring the Future is one of the most important and long-standing studies of the behaviors, attitudes, and beliefs of American young people. This unique series presents descriptive statistical results from annual representative surveys of high school seniors throughout the United States since 1975. Each year a nationally representative sample of approximately 16,000 seniors in 130 public and private high schools participate in the survey.

A Comprehensive Study

The issues addressed in these data volumes are broad in scope and of fundamental importance to the nation:

- drug use and views about drugs
- delinquency and victimization
- changing roles for women
- confidence in social institutions
- concerns about energy and ecology
- social and ethical attitudes

The great majority of questions in the study are repeated unchanged from year to year.

Nearly two thousand variables in the study's six different questionnaire forms are covered in these volumes, and an index shows in what year and at what questionnaire location each question has appeared.

Each volume also contains a wide variety of background and demographic information, as well as a fairly detailed description of the study design and an appendix with estimates of sampling errors.

A Look at Social Change

These annual volumes of descriptive results provide an accurate and systematic description of the high school seniors in each year. Comparison between volumes empowers readers to understand the changes in viewpoints, attitudes, and experiences of young people over the past 31 years.

www.monitoringthefuture.org

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Monitoring the Future
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How Have
America's
Young People
Changed
Over the Last
31 Years?



Monitoring the Future
Questionnaire Responses
from the Nation's High School Seniors

Subject Areas Covered

Drugs.....761 questions

Drug use and related attitudes and beliefs, drug availability and exposure, surrounding conditions and social meaning of drug use. Views of parents, friends, and others regarding drugs.

Work and leisure 165 questions

Vocational values, meaning of work and leisure, work and leisure activities, preferences regarding occupational characteristics and type of work setting, work experience, income sources, and financial security.

Background and school107 questions

Demographic and family background characteristics, curriculum and grades in high school, victimization in school.

Education87 questions

Educational lifestyle, values, experiences, and environments. Media usage.

Other personality and lifestyle variables81 questions

Attitudes about self (including self-esteem), locus of control, loneliness, optimism, trust in others, importance placed on various life goals, counter-cultural attitudes.

Gender roles and family 65 questions

Values, attitudes, and expectations about marriage, family structure, gender roles, and gender discrimination.

Conservation, materialism, equity 65 questions

Values, attitudes, and expectations related to conservation, pollution, materialism, equity, and the sharing of resources. Preferences regarding type of dwelling and urbanicity. Driving and mass transit use.

Interpersonal relationships 54 questions

Qualitative and quantitative characteristics of cross-age and peer relationships. Interpersonal conflict.

Major social institutions..... 42 questions

Confidence in and commitment to various major social

institutions including business, unions, branches of government, the press, and organized religion.

Deviant behavior and victimization 40 questions

Delinquent behaviors, driving violations and accidents, violations and accidents under the influence of drugs, victimization experiences.

Health 38 questions

Symptoms, habits, and medical treatment. Height, weight.

Race relations..... 35 questions

Attitudes toward and experiences with other racial groups.

Military..... 33 questions

Views about the armed services and the use of military force. Personal plans for military service.

Social change..... 29 questions

Values, attitudes, and expectations regarding social change.

Concern for others 25 questions

Scope of concern for others. Voluntary and charitable activities.

Happiness24 questions

Happiness and life satisfaction, overall and in specific life domains.

Social problems.....24 questions

Concern with various social problems facing the nation and the world.

Population concerns 12 questions

Concerns about population and birth control.

Religion10 questions

Religious affiliation, practices, and views.

Politics10 questions

Political affiliation, activities, and views.



Researchers' Recommendations

“In a period of revolutionary changes in the lives of American families, children, and youth, it is especially important to have carefully monitored systematic data on these changes and their consequences The volumes have been most helpful to me in my work . . .”

—Urie Bronfenbrenner

“The annual volumes of *Monitoring the Future* provide an invaluable resource for anyone who wants to go beyond popular stereotypes and anecdotes, and find out what the great majority of American young people actually think and believe about important issues—and how they act—at a critically important stage of development A must for investigators, writers, and policymakers in the area of youth and adolescence.”

—John Conger

“Each year’s output of this amazing project confirms my growing conviction that it is the single most impressive realization and vindication of the social indicators movement . . .”

—O. Dudley Duncan

“Anyone interested in young adults should consult this work. It presents primary source background material useful for hundreds of purposes, from writing novels to setting policy in senior high school.”

—Wayne Wiegard, *American Reference Books Annual*

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The annual volumes are available as individual volumes or as various sets. These are 8¹/₂" by 11" hardbound volumes, one for each year between 1975 and 2005.

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About the Authors

Lloyd D. Johnston is a Research Professor and Distinguished Research Scientist at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research and has been a principal investigator of the Monitoring the Future study since its inception in 1975. A social psychologist by training, he has served as an advisor to the White House, Congress, and many other national and international bodies and has conducted research on a wide range of issues, including drug use, institutional trust, sex-role attitudes, policy evaluation, childhood obesity, and the functioning of American high schools. His research also includes international comparative studies and the application of survey research to social problems generally. He is author of more than 60 books and monographs and over 120 articles and chapters.

Jerald G. Bachman is a Research Professor and Distinguished Research Scientist at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research and has been a co-principal investigator on the Monitoring the Future study since its inception in 1975. Prior to that, in 1965, he initiated the Youth in Transition project. His research has focused broadly on youth and social issues. Current interests include drug use and attitudes about drugs; other values, attitudes, and behaviors of youth; military plans and experiences; and public opinion as related to a number of other social issues. He is author of 8 books, over 80 monographs and technical reports, and over 130 journal articles and chapters.

Patrick M. O'Malley is a Research Professor at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research and co-principal investigator on the Monitoring the Future study. He received his Ph.D. degree in psychology from the University of Michigan in 1975 and has been associated with the Monitoring the Future project since then. His publications deal with alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug use and related attitudes and beliefs; and contextual factors related to childhood obesity. His research interests also include causes and consequences of drug use, drinking and driving, social epidemiology of drug use, and longitudinal survey data analysis techniques.

A Sampling of Questions From Various Questionnaire Forms

	1976	1986	2005	2005 Volume														
	Volume	Volume	Volume	Sex		Race		Region				4-Yr College Plans		Illicit Drug Use: Lifetime				
	Total	Total	Total	M	F	White	Black	NE	NC	S	W	Yes	No	None	MJ Only	Few Pills	More Pills	Any Heroin
<i>N</i> (Weighted No. of Cases):	15138	15713	15378	6962	7432	9689	1523	3065	3738	5451	3124	11471	2629	7343	3442	1468	2343	223
% of Weighted Total:	100.0	100.0	100.0	45.3	48.3	63.0	9.9	19.9	24.3	35.4	20.3	74.6	17.1	47.8	22.4	9.5	15.2	1.4
C10: Did your mother have a paid job (half-time or more) during the time you were growing up?																		
1. No	37.2	24.5	15.7	15.6	15.7	14.8	10.0	14.9	15.0	13.9	20.4	15.8	14.2	17.3	14.6	14.4	12.9	14.8
2. Yes, some of the time when I was growing up	31.3	29.4	20.5	22.1	19.0	21.4	13.3	20.8	21.3	18.8	22.3	20.3	21.3	20.5	19.2	22.9	20.8	22.8
3. Yes, most of the time	14.4	18.8	17.4	17.5	17.2	17.1	17.7	18.2	16.8	17.1	17.7	17.0	18.9	17.0	17.8	17.3	17.6	20.5
4. Yes, all or nearly all of the time	17.2	27.4	46.4	44.7	48.2	46.7	59.0	46.1	46.9	50.2	39.6	46.9	45.6	45.2	48.4	45.3	48.7	41.9
<i>Item 330 Subject R02</i>	12088	15213	14584	6813	7358	9593	1467	2851	3577	5185	2971	11397	2592	7189	3328	1418	2253	214
B02: How frequently have you smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days?																		
1. Not at all	61.2	70.4	76.8	75.2	79.3	73.0	90.0	78.0	73.2	75.4	82.5	80.0	65.2	94.1	69.5	66.4	44.8	25.8
2. Less than one cigarette per day	10.0	10.9	9.6	10.3	8.8	10.9	3.9	8.7	10.6	9.2	9.9	9.5	9.9	3.2	14.9	15.2	18.0	15.5
3. One to five cigarettes per day	9.5	7.4	6.7	6.6	6.5	7.6	4.3	5.8	7.6	7.8	4.5	5.9	9.7	1.4	9.1	11.2	15.9	14.1
4. About one-half pack per day	9.3	5.4	3.8	4.3	3.0	4.7	1.0	4.5	4.6	4.1	1.5	2.6	7.9	0.7	4.1	3.9	11.6	16.2
5. About one pack per day	7.9	4.8	2.1	2.5	1.7	2.7	0.2	1.9	2.7	2.4	1.0	1.3	5.2	0.4	1.7	1.8	7.2	15.0
6. About one and one-half pack per day	1.6	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.4	1.2	0.1	0.4	1.1	1.3	7.3
7. Two packs or more per day	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.2	6.1
<i>Item 780 Subject A01c</i>	14608	15339	14934	6874	7347	9605	1484	2981	3618	5297	3037	11347	2591	7263	3416	1457	2310	217
C11: How would you describe your political preference?																		
1. Strongly Republican	4.2	10.4	13.1	15.5	10.8	17.1	4.5	8.5	17.0	15.8	8.1	12.9	13.7	15.2	10.8	11.9	11.1	12.3
2. Mildly Republican	12.3	17.3	15.9	16.8	15.3	19.9	3.0	13.4	19.6	16.1	13.5	17.1	11.1	16.2	14.7	15.9	17.0	17.1
3. Mildly Democrat	15.8	11.1	14.6	14.1	15.1	13.1	17.0	15.9	12.7	12.9	18.4	15.8	9.3	14.1	16.2	16.6	12.7	10.0
4. Strongly Democrat	9.9	8.9	12.7	11.0	14.2	9.9	30.4	13.6	11.5	12.3	14.1	13.2	10.5	11.9	14.6	12.8	12.0	11.6
5. Independent*	1.7	1.3	8.7	9.7	7.8	9.1	7.1	9.3	9.7	7.5	9.1	8.7	8.5	8.0	7.7	8.1	12.4	13.1
6. No preference*	30.2	22.6	13.1	14.6	11.7	12.3	10.9	13.6	12.8	13.3	12.4	12.2	17.8	12.6	13.5	13.5	13.7	16.0
7. Other	1.7	1.4	1.4	2.0	0.8	1.3	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.3	1.9	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.8	3.7
8. Don't know, haven't decided	24.2	27.0	20.5	16.1	24.5	17.3	25.5	24.8	15.6	20.5	22.3	18.8	27.2	20.8	21.3	19.2	19.3	16.2
<i>Item 340 Subject H01</i>	14429	15146	14038	6575	7089	9372	1316	2744	3489	4917	2889	11067	2446	6917	3213	1369	2196	191
C21: How likely is it that you will do each of the following things after high school?																		
C21D: Graduate from college (four-year program)																		
1. Definitely won't	29.6	19.4	9.0	11.4	6.5	9.2	9.4	7.9	9.3	10.1	7.9	—	48.4	6.7	10.0	10.5	12.1	19.8
2. Probably won't	19.9	16.8	9.6	11.1	8.2	9.3	9.3	6.7	8.9	11.1	10.6	—	51.6	8.0	10.0	11.0	12.6	20.0
3. Probably will	23.1	23.0	21.6	24.1	19.3	19.6	24.8	19.5	19.4	22.2	25.2	26.6	—	19.7	21.7	23.8	26.0	23.7
4. Definitely will	27.4	40.7	59.7	53.4	66.0	61.9	56.5	65.8	62.4	56.6	56.3	73.4	—	65.6	58.3	54.7	49.3	36.4
<i>Item 510 Subject B09</i>	13871	14568	14100	6522	7154	9328	1365	2713	3488	5014	2886	11471	2629	6953	3208	1381	2184	201

Entries are the percentage of the group defined in the column heading who gave each answer. Each sums vertically to 100%.

*Wording was slightly different prior to 1995.