

lowest rate since administration of the YRBS began in the state. Among U.S. high school students in 2005, 38.4 percent had ever used marijuana. Missouri students who used marijuana before age 13 decreased from the YRBS peak rate of 13.6 percent in 1999 to 8.8 percent in 2005, virtually the same as the 2005 U.S. estimate of 8.7 percent.

Cocaine: Estimates of the percentage of Missouri high school students who ever used cocaine have fluctuated during the last decade without any statistically significant changes. The 2005 rate was 7.4 percent compared to a national rate of 7.6 percent. Past-month use of cocaine was reported by 3.0 percent of Missouri high school students and 3.4 percent of students nationwide in 2005. Missouri 9th graders had the lowest rate of use at 1.6 percent compared to a national rate of 3.0 percent for that grade level.

Methamphetamine: The percentage of Missouri high school students who ever used methamphetamine was 6.4 percent in 2005, compared to 6.2 percent among all U.S. high school students. The highest lifetime methamphetamine rates collected by the YRBS were 10.4 percent for Missouri students and 9.8 percent for U.S. students, both in 2001.

Ecstasy: Among Missouri high school students, the estimated percentage that ever used ecstasy (MDMA) declined from 6.7 percent in 2003 to 6.1 percent in 2005. The rates ranged from 3.8 percent for grade 9 to 8.5 percent for grade 12. Lifetime ecstasy use among U.S. high school students dropped sharply during the same time period. The national rate decreased from 11.1 percent in 2003 to 6.3 percent in 2005—a statistically significant reduction.

Inhalants: In 2005, 12.2 percent of Missouri's high school students had ever use inhalants—statistically lower than the 20.0 percent posted in 1995. Lifetime inhalant use rates in Missouri have closely paralleled the national rates, which dropped from 20.3 percent in 1995 to 12.4 percent in 2005.

Non-prescription Steroid Use: In 2003, an estimated 4.5 percent of Missouri high school students had ever used illicit steroids. This figure decreased to 3.5 percent in 2005. Steroid use among U.S. high school students declined significantly. Lifetime use decreased from 6.1 percent in 2003 to 4.0 percent in 2005.

Heroin: Based on analysis of the YRBS, 2.7 percent of Missouri high school students indicated in 2005 that they had ever used heroin. This rate is not statistically larger than the 1.7 percent rate in 2003 due to the size of the confidence intervals. The 2005 estimated rates were higher for students in grades 11 and 12 than in grades 9 and 10. Among high school students nationwide, 2.4 percent were lifetime heroin users and rates were highest for grades 9 and 10.

Injection Drug Use: In 2005, an estimated 2.3 percent of Missouri students in grades 9-12 had ever used a needle to inject an illegal drug, compared to 1.3 percent in 2003. The apparent increase is consistent with the estimated 1.0 percentage point increase in lifetime heroin use during this period. However, the difference in the rates is not statistically significant. Injection drug use among males was 3.1 percent—nearly twice the 1.6 percent estimate for females. Lifetime injection drug use rates in the U.S. dropped from 3.2 percent in 2003 to 2.1 percent in 2005.

Monitoring the Future Survey

Monitoring The Future (MTF) is a survey funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and conducted by the University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research. It is administered each year nationwide to students in grades 8, 10, and 12, college students, and young adults 19-28 years of age. The charts on pages 26-28 illustrate trends for past 30-day use of alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana, and cocaine. The tables on pages 40-44 provide past 30-day and lifetime use of all drugs included in the survey. Although state subsets of the MTF results are not available, rates from the Missouri Student Survey for grades 8, 10, and 12 are compared to the MTF national estimates in the next section.