

**Regional KIP data Report 2014
Facts Sheet
Findings and Trends**

- 10,986 students surveyed vs. 12,303 in 2012
- Nearly all Northern KY School Districts participated in the survey
- We're on the right track! - Overall small decrease in cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana consistent with the year over year trend

Alcohol

- Alcohol is the most common substance used, with 32% of 12 graders reporting fairly regular use and 13% report binge drinking at least once during the previous 30 days
- Only 39% of youth thought drinking alcohol to be very wrong, whereas 78% of youth thought their parents would think it was very wrong for youth to drink
- Fewer students find it very easy to get alcohol. In 2014, 28% of 10th graders and 41% of 12th graders report that alcohol is very easy to obtain, showing a slight decrease from 2012 where 30% of 10th graders and 45% of 12th graders reported that alcohol was very easy to obtain.

Tobacco

- 19% of 12th graders reporting using cigarettes in the last thirty days
- 37% of students tried cigarettes by 12th grade, with the largest jump between 6th grade (5%) and 8th grade (19%)
- 5% of 10th graders are heavy smokers (over half pack/day in the last 30 days)
- **NEW:** 11% of 10th graders report using e-cigarettes on at least one day in the past 30 days.
- Only 36% of youth thought smoking cigarettes to be very wrong, whereas 72% of youth thought their parents would think it was very wrong for youth to smoke
- Fewer students find it very easy to get cigarettes. In 2014, 35% of 10th graders and 56% of 12th graders report that cigarettes are very easy to obtain, showing 39% of 10th graders and 63% of 12th graders reported that cigarettes were very easy to obtain.

Marijuana

- 34% of 12th graders have tried marijuana with 18% reporting using marijuana within the previous 30 days.
- Only 50% of youth thought smoking marijuana to be very wrong, whereas 81% of youth thought their parents would think it was very wrong for youth to smoke
- **NEW:** 5% of 12th graders and 5% of 10th graders report using synthetic marijuana in the last 12 months; 1% in the past 30 days
- Fewer students find it very easy to get marijuana. In 2014, 32% of 10th graders and 38% of 12th graders report that Marijuana is very easy to obtain, showing a slight decrease from 2012 where 36% of 10th graders and 52% of 12th graders reported that alcohol was very easy to obtain.

OxyContin

- The rate of 12th graders reporting using prescription pain killers like OxyContin at least once in the last 30 days doubled from 2% in 2012 to 4% in 2014.
- 84% of youth thought using Oxycontin to be very wrong, whereas 93% of youth thought their parents would think it was very wrong for youth to use Oxycontin

Heroin

- **NEW:** 1% of 12th graders (N=2,050) report use of heroin in the past 12 months – equates to 21 students
- 14 % of 10th graders and 12% of 12th graders perceive no or slight risk of using heroin

Psychological Functioning

- Feelings of hopelessness increase as students get older: 29% of 6th grade students report feeling hopeless compared to 44% of 10th graders feeling hopeless
- Students in 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grade report high levels of feeling nervous and depressed: 67% of 6th graders; 71% of 8th graders, 69% of 10th graders and 63% of 12th graders.

- NKY youth surveyed report suicide ideology consistent with national rates¹. 5% in 6th grade; 10% in 8th grade; 14% in 10th grade and 11% in 12th grade report having made a plan about how they would attempt suicide.
- Suicidal thoughts and behaviors peak in 10th grade where 9% of youth report attempting suicide; 8% in 8th grade and 5% in 12th grade.

Safety

- **NEW:** Bullying is reported by 32% of 6th graders vs 14% of 12th graders, which is consistent with national findings
- **NEW:** Cyber Bullying appears to be more prominent among 8th graders: 13% of 6th graders; 20% of 8th graders; 16% of 10th graders; and 12% of 12th graders report having been electronically bullied.

Community Response:

- NKY Agency for Substance Abuse Policy Board provides funding for 9 coalitions to address tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, and prescription drugs.
- Local foundations have contributed over \$175,000 to increase regional resources that local efforts.
- Four communities are funded through Federal Drug Free Communities Grants: Kenton, Boone, Carroll, and the NKY Prevention Alliance
- Local schools are implementing evidenced-based programs such as Life Skills, drug-testing, and Positive Behavioral Interventions.
- Libraries are engaged in outreach to parents regarding parenting skills, the importance of early literacy, and early childhood development
- Faith-based groups continue to provide fun, positive alternative activities for youth
- Programs like Student Success, Success by Six, and increasing counselors in schools contribute to student well-being.
- Interact for Health continues to fund NKY communities striving toward a healthier environment.

Regional Initiatives Promoted by NKY Prevention Alliance:

- The Regional Youth Leadership is launching a youth engagement program in the Spring called #Push.
- Focused student/family asset development initiatives are operating in Dayton, Pendleton County, and Grant County.
- And SO MUCH MORE that is being done within each county to promote the health and well-being of our students across the 8-county region. For information on coalitions operating in your county, visit: www.DrugFreeNKY.org.

The NK Prevention Alliance aims to interact, link, and collaborate with all programs that nurture the resiliency and well-being of children and youth. We are all working toward a common goal!

¹ Nationwide in 2013, 8.0% of students reported having attempted suicide one or more times during the 12 months before the survey. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, June 13, 2014. Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance – US 2013. Retrieved from:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6326a6.htm?s_cid=mm6326a6_w