

Regional Needs Assessment

REGION VII: BRAZOS VALLEY COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (BVCASA)
PREVENTION RESOURCE CENTER 7

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Executive Summary

What is the RNA?

The Prevention Resource Center's (PRC) Regional Needs Assessment (RNA) is a document created by PRC 7 along with Data Coordinators from PRCs across the State of Texas and supported by Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). The PRC 7 serves 30 counties in central Texas.

This assessment was designed to aid PRCs, HHSC, and community stakeholders in long-term strategic prevention planning based on most current information about the unique needs of Texas' diverse communities. This document will present a summary of statistics on risk and protective factors associated with drug use, as well as consumption patterns and consequences data; at the same time, it will offer insight on gaps in services and data.

Who writes the RNA?

A team of Data Coordinators has procured national, state, regional, and local data through collaborative partnerships with diverse agencies such as law enforcement, public health, and education, among others.

How is the RNA informed?

Qualitative data collection has been conducted, in the form of questionnaires, focus groups, and interviews with key informants. The information obtained through these partnerships has been analyzed and synthesized in the form of this RNA. PRC 7 recognizes those collaborators who contributed to the creation of this RNA. Quantitative data has been extrapolated from federal and state agencies to ensure reliability and accuracy. **Most data in this report is available at a county level upon request specialized maps available in appendix as well as upon request.**

Main key findings from this assessment include:

Demographics:

Region 7 is primarily rural with several large city and suburb areas in Travis, Williamson, Brazos, Hays, and McLennan county. The median income for region 7 ranged from \$39,497 to \$87,337 with the percent of households making under \$24,999 ranging from 8.8% to 34.4%. The dropout rate has held steady around 6% in region 7 with a graduation rate of roughly 89%.

Every county in region 7 saw an increase in unemployment in 2020.

There is no county in region 7 that has a higher percentage of limited English speaking households when compared to Texas as a whole. The Primary language spoken besides English is Spanish.

Substance Use Behaviors:

The perceptions of danger for marijuana are much lower than for other substances including alcohol indicating a perception of harmlessness around the drug.

Marijuana use seems to be on the rise in region 7 among youth while tobacco use is decreasing in favor of vaping.

Alcohol was most commonly acquired through friends and family. When acquired without an ID, the most common places were restaurants and gas stations.

Protective Factors and Community Strengths:

Many counties have high social association scores indicating stronger communities, those with lower scores may benefit from focusing efforts in this area.

Region 7 also has many service providers who have the resources to greatly assist the population, however, homelessness and mental health are still large problems indicating a need to expand access.

Underlying Conditions:

Due to the largely rural nature of the region, many counties struggle with the distribution of services to areas outside of Austin, Round Rock, Waco, San Marcos, and Bryan/ College Station exacerbating issues related to substance abuse, familial problems, mental health, and physical health.

Behavioral Health Disparities:

While some counties within region 7 like Williamson or Travis or Hays have high median household incomes there are areas with median household incomes much lower than Texas as a whole (e.g. Falls, Leon, Limestone). There are also disparities in insurance coverage for vulnerable age groups with Williamson having only 8.87% uninsured youth (under 19) and 23.4% uninsured older adults (65+) a pattern that holds steady across the region is fewer uninsured children than older adults. The highest percentage of uninsured youth is Blanco county at 16.67% and both Mills and Caldwell county having 31.4% uninsured adults over 65.

Methodology

This needs assessment is a review of data on substance misuse, substance use disorders, and related variables that will aid in substance misuse prevention decision making at the county, regional, and state level. In this needs assessment, the reader will find the following:

- primary focus on the state-delineated prevention priorities of alcohol (underage drinking)
- tobacco/nicotine, marijuana, prescription drugs, and other drug use among adolescents
- exploration of drug consumption trends and consequences, particularly where adolescents are concerned
- and an exploration of related risk and protective factors as defined by The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)

Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework for this report examines empirical indicators related to the Social Determinants of Health (SDoH), documented risk and protective factors, consumption patterns, and public health consequences as they associate with substance use/misuse and behavioral health challenges. The indicators are organized in the domains (or levels) of the Social Ecological Model (SEM), as described below. For the purpose of strategic prevention planning, the report attempts to identify behavioral health disparities and inequities present in the region.

Purpose/Relevance of the RNA

The regional needs assessment can serve in the following capacities to:

- determine patterns of substance use among adolescents and monitor changes in substance use trends over time
- identify gaps in data where critical substance misuse information is missing
- determine county-level differences and disparities
- identify substance use issues that are unique to specific communities
- provide a comprehensive tool for local providers to design relevant, data-driven prevention and intervention programs targeted to needs
- provide data to local providers to support their grant-writing activities and provide justification for funding requests
- assist policymakers in program planning and policy decisions regarding substance misuse prevention, intervention, and treatment at the region and state level

Process

HHSC and the Data Coordinators collected primary and secondary data at the county, regional, and state levels between September 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Due to the global pandemic, COVID-19, the Regional Needs Assessment deadline was extended to August 31, 2021.

Between September and July, HHSC staff meets with the Data Coordinators via monthly conference calls to discuss the criteria for processing and collecting data. The information is primarily gathered through established secondary sources including federal and state government agencies. Region-specific data collected through local law enforcement, community coalitions, school districts and local-level governments are included to address the unique regional needs of the community. Additionally, qualitative data is collected through primary sources such as surveys and focus groups conducted with stakeholders and participants at the regional level.

Primary and secondary data sources are identified when developing the methodology behind this document. Readers can expect to find information from the American Community Survey, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas School Survey of Drug and Alcohol Use, and the Community Commons, among others. For the purpose of this needs assessment, adults and youth in the region were selected as primary sources.

Quantitative Data Selection

Identification of Variables

The data collected is the most recent data available within the last five years. However, older data might be provided for comparison purposes.

Criteria for Selection

The criteria used for including data sets in this document are their relevance, timeliness, methodological soundness, representativeness, and accuracy. The data arise from well-documented methodology gathered through valid and reliable data collection tools.

Qualitative Data Selection

Data Coordinators conduct focus groups, surveys, and interviews with community members about what they believe their greatest needs to be. These qualitative data collection methods often reveal additional sources of data.

Key Informant Interviews

Interviews are conducted primarily with school officials and law enforcement officers where available. Participants are randomly selected by city and then approached to participate in an interview with the Data Coordinator. Each participant is asked the following questions:

- What problems do you see in your community?
- What is the greatest problem you see in your community?
- What hard evidence do you have to support this as the greatest problem?
- What services do you lack in your community?

Other questions inevitably arise during the interviews, but these four are asked of each participant.

Focus Groups

Participants for the focus groups are invited from a wide selection of professions including law enforcement, health, community leaders, clergy, high school educators, town councils, state representatives, university professors, and local business owners. In these sessions, participants discuss their perceptions of how their communities are affected by substance use/misuse and behavioral health challenges.

Longitudinally Presented Data

To capture a richer depiction of possible trends in the data, we report multi-year data where it is available from respective sources. Most longitudinal presentations of data in this needs assessment consist of (but are not limited to) the most recently available data collected over three years in one-year intervals of data-collection, or the most recently-available data collected over three data-collection intervals of more than one year (e.g. data collection for the TSS is done in two-year intervals). Efforts are also made in presenting state- and national-level data with county-level data for comparison purposes. However, when neither state-level nor national-level data are included in tables and figures, this is generally because the data was not available at the time of the data request. Such requests are made to numerous counties, state, and national-level agencies in the development of this needs assessment.

Prevention Resource Centers

PRCs are funded by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to provide data and information related to substance use and misuse and to support prevention collaboration efforts in the community. There is one PRC located in each of the eleven Texas Health Service Regions (see Figure 1) to provide support to prevention providers located in their region with substance use data, trainings, media activities, and regional workgroups.

PRCs focus on the state's overall behavioral health and the four prevention priorities:

- underage alcohol use
- underage tobacco and nicotine products use
- marijuana and other cannabinoids use
- prescription drug misuse

PRCs have four fundamental objectives:

- collect data relevant to the state's prevention priorities and share findings with community partners
- ensure sustainability of a Regional Epidemiological Workgroup focused on identifying strategies related to data collection, gaps in data, and prevention needs
- coordinate regional prevention trainings and conduct media awareness activities related to risks and consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) use
- conduct voluntary compliance checks and education on state tobacco laws to retailers

Regions

Figure 1. Map of Health Service Regions serviced by a Prevention Resource Center:

Region 1	Panhandle and South Plains
Region 2	Northwest Texas
Region 3	Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex
Region 4	Upper East Texas
Region 5	Southeast Texas
Region 6	Gulf Coast
Region 7	Central Texas
Region 8	Upper South Texas
Region 9	West Texas
Region 10	Upper Rio Grande
Region 11	Rio Grande Valley/Lower South Texas



How PRCs Help the Community

PRCs provide technical assistance and consultation to providers, community groups, and other stakeholders to identify data related to substance use and behavioral health in general. PRCs work to

promote and educate the community on substance use and misuse and associated consequences through various data products, media awareness activities, and an annual regional needs assessment. In this way, PRCs provide stakeholders with knowledge and understanding of the local populations they serve, help guide programmatic decision making, and provide community awareness and education related to substance use and misuse. The program also helps to identify community strengths, gaps in services and areas for improvement.

Data Coordinators

The PRC Data Coordinators serve as a primary resource for substance use and behavioral health data for their region. They lead a Regional Epidemiological Workgroup (REW), compile and synthesize data, and disseminate findings to the community. The PRC Data Coordinators also engage in building collaborative partnerships with key community members who aid in securing access to information.

Key Concepts

Adolescence

The World Health Organization (WHO) identifies adolescence as a critical transition in the lifespan characterized by tremendous growth and change, second only to infancy. This period of mental and physical development poses a critical point of vulnerability where the use and misuse of substances, or other risky behaviors, can have long-lasting negative effects on future health and well-being. The focus of prevention efforts on adolescence is particularly important since approximately 90% of adults who are clinically diagnosed with SUDs, began misusing substances before the age of 18. (citation SAMSHA) Qualifiers for age-specific terms related to different data sources will be referenced in each section.

Texas School Survey

The Texas School Survey of Drug and Alcohol Use (TSS) collects self-reported tobacco, alcohol, and substance use data among students in grades 7 through 12 in Texas public schools. The survey is sponsored by HHSC and administered by the Public Policy Research Institute (PPRI). PPRI actively recruits approximately 20% of Texas public schools with grades 7 through 12 to participate in the statewide assessment during the spring of even-numbered years.

Figure 2. Number of Surveys Included in State Sample for Texas School Survey

Number of Surveys Included in State Sample for TSS							
Report Year	Original Campuses Selected	Campuses Signed Up to Participate	Actual Campuses Participated	Total Non-Blank Surveys	Usable Surveys	# Rejected	% Rejected
2020*	700	224	107	28,901	27,965	936	3.2%
2018	710	228	191	62,620	60,776	1,884	2.9%
2016	600	187	140	50,143	49,070	1,073	2.1%

Texas School Survey, 2020/2018/2016. <http://www.texasschoolsurvey.org/Report>. Accessed March 4, 2021

Figure 3. Texas School Survey Distribution Comparison and Impact of Pandemic

Grade	Survey Distribution TSS 2020*		Survey Distribution TSS 2018		Difference Between 2018 and 2020* TSS
	# of Usable Surveys	%	# of Usable Surveys	%	# of Usable Surveys
Grade 7	6,414	2.9%	12,445	20.5%	-6,031
Grade 8	6,472	23.1%	12,268	20.2%	-5,796
Grade 9	4,189	15.0%	9,409	15.5%	-5,220
Grade 10	4,119	14.7%	9,571	15.8%	-5,452
Grade 11	3,556	12.7%	9,163	15.1%	-5,607
Grade 12	3,215	11.5%	7,920	13.0%	-4,705
Total	27,965	100.0%	60,776	100.0%	-32,811

Texas School Survey, 2020/2018. <http://www.texaschoolsurvey.org/Report>. Accessed March 4, 2021

* "During the 2019-2020 school year, schools across Texas were closed from early March through the end of the school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to this sudden and unexpected closure, many schools that had registered for the survey were unable to complete it. Please note that both the drop in participation along with the fact that those that did complete did so before March may have impacted the data." - **Public Policy Research Institute** Texas School Survey, 2020. <http://www.texaschoolsurvey.org/Report>. Accessed March 4, 2021

Epidemiology

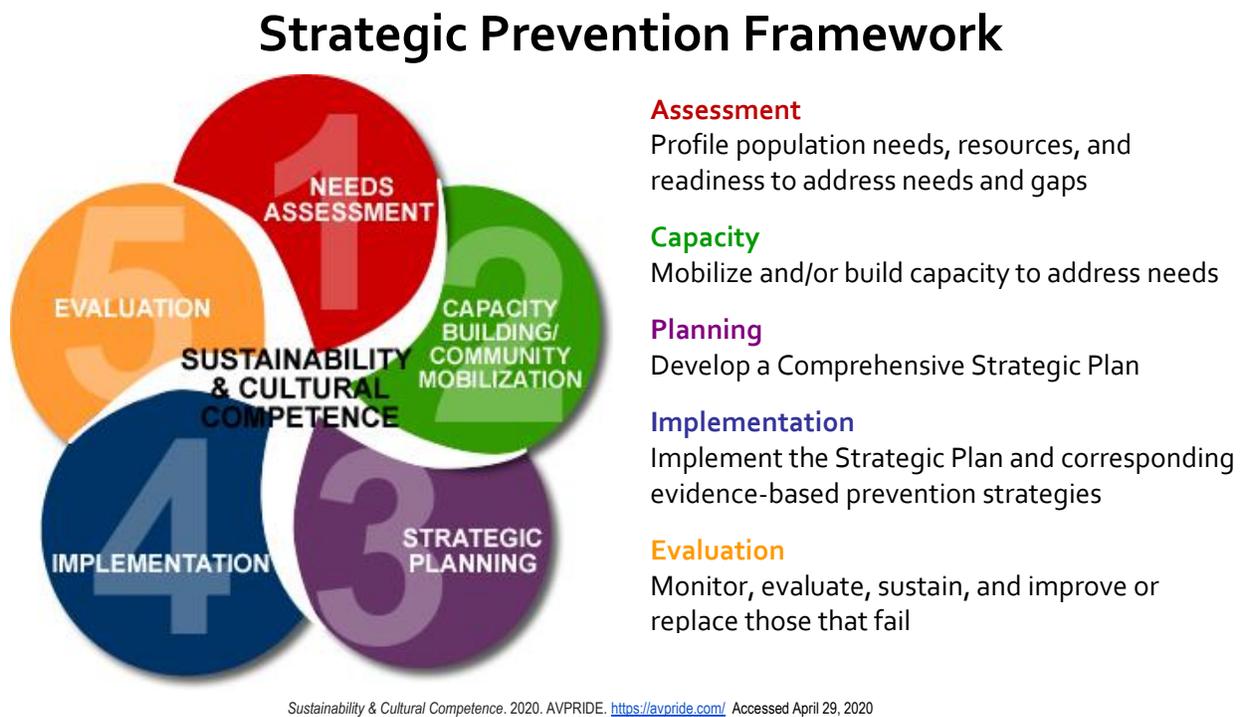
Epidemiology is described as "the study of the occurrence and distribution of health-related events, states, and processes in specified populations, including the study of the determinants influencing such processes, and the application of this knowledge to control relevant health problems."¹ This definition provides the theoretical framework that this assessment uses to discuss the overall impact of substance use and misuse. Epidemiology frames substance use and misuse as a preventable and treatable public health concern. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the main federal authority on substance use, utilizes epidemiology to identify and analyze community patterns of substance misuse and the contributing factors influencing this behavior.

Strategic Prevention Framework

The Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) provided by CSAP guides many prevention activities in Texas (see Figure 4). In 2004, Texas received a state incentive grant from CSAP to implement the SPF in close collaboration with local communities to tailor services to meet local needs for substance abuse prevention. This prevention framework provides a continuum of services that target the three classifications of prevention activities under the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), which are universal, selective, and indicated.

¹ Porta, Miquel S. *A Dictionary of Epidemiology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016, p. 95.

Figure 4. Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)



Socio-Ecological Model

The Socio-Ecological Model (SEM) is a conceptual framework developed to better understand the multidimensional factors that influence health behavior and to categorize health intervention strategies. This RNA is organized using the six domains (or levels) of the SEM as described below:

- Societal Domain - social and cultural norms and socio-demographics such as the economic status of the community
- Community Domain - social and physical factors that indirectly influence youth including educational attainment of the community, community conditions, the health care/service system, and retail access to substances
- School Domain - social and physical factors that indirectly impact youth including academic achievement and the school environment
- Family Domain - social and physical factors that indirectly impact youth including family conditions and perceptions of parental attitudes
- Peer Domain - interpersonal factors including social norms and youth perceptions of peer consumption and social access
- Individual Domain - intrapersonal characteristics of youth such as knowledge, skills, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors

The SEM proposes that behavior is impacted by all levels of influence, from the intrapersonal to the societal, and that the health promotion programs become more effective when they intervene at multiple levels. Changes at the community level will create change in individuals, and the support of individuals in the population is essential for implementing environmental change.

Risk and Protective Factors

One component shared by effective prevention programs is a focus on risk and protective factors that influence adolescents. Protective factors decrease an individual's risk for a substance use disorder. Examples include strong and positive family bonds, parental monitoring of children's activities, and access to mentoring. Risk factors increase the likelihood of substance use behaviors. Examples include unstable home environments, parental use of alcohol or drugs, parental mental illness, poverty levels, and failure in school performance. Risk and protective factors can exist in any of the domains of the Socio-Ecological Model (see Figure 5).²

² Adapted from: D'Amico, EJ, Osilla, KC. *Prevention and intervention in the school setting*. Edited by KJ Sher. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016. Vol. 2 of *The Oxford Handbook of Substance Use and Substance Use Disorders*, p. 678.

Figure 5. Socio-Ecological Model for Substance Use, with Examples

	Risk Factors	Protective Factors
Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impoverishment • Unemployment and underemployment • Discrimination • Pro-AOD-use messages in the media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media literacy (resistance to pro-use messages) • Decreased accessibility • Increased pricing through taxation • Raised purchasing age and enforcement • Stricter driving-under-the-influence laws
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of AOD • Community laws, norms favorable toward AOD • Extreme economic and social deprivation • Transition and mobility • Low neighborhood attachment and community disorganization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for participation as active members of the community • Decreasing AOD accessibility • Cultural norms that set high expectations for youth • Social networks and support systems within the community
School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic failure beginning in elementary school • Low commitment to school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for prosocial involvement • Rewards/recognition for prosocial involvement • Healthy beliefs and clear standards for behavior • Caring and support from teachers and staff • Positive instructional climate
Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family history of AOD use • Family management problems • Family conflict • Parental beliefs about AOD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonding (positive attachments) • Healthy beliefs and clear standards for behavior • High parental expectations • A sense of basic trust • Positive family dynamics
Peer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association with peers who use or value AOD use • Association with peers who reject mainstream activities and pursuits • Susceptibility to negative peer pressure • Easily influenced by peers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association with peers who are involved in school, recreation, service, religion, or other organized activities • Resistance to negative peer pressure • Not easily influenced by peers
Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological and psychological dispositions • Positive beliefs about AOD use • Early initiation of AOD use • Negative relationships with adults • Risk-taking propensity/impulsivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for prosocial involvement • Rewards/recognition for prosocial involvement • Healthy beliefs and clear standards for behavior • Positive sense of self • Negative beliefs about AOD • Positive relationships with adults

Social Determinants of Health

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health People 2030 defines the SDOH as the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. The SDOH are grouped into 5 domains; economic stability, education access, health care access, neighborhood and built environment, and social and community context. SDOH's have a major impact on health, well-being, and quality of life, they also contribute to health disparities and inequities.

Figure 6. Social Determinants of Health



Adapted from: Healthy People 2020

health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health

Consumption Patterns

This needs assessment follows the example of the TSS, the Texas Youth Risk Surveillance System (YRBSS), and the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), by organizing consumption patterns into three categories: lifetime use (has tried a substance, even if only once), school year use (past year use when surveying adults or youth outside of a school setting), and current use (use within the past 30 days). These three consumption patterns are used in the TSS to elicit self-reports from adolescents on their use of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, and illicit drugs and their misuse of prescription drugs. The TSS, in turn, is used as the primary outcome measure of Texas youth substance use and misuse in this needs assessment.

A plethora of information exists on risk factors that contribute to Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD) in the United States. According to SAMHSA, AUD is ranked as the most wide-reaching SUD in the U.S. for people ages 12 and older, followed by Tobacco Use Disorder, Cannabis Use Disorder, Stimulant Use Disorder, Hallucinogen Use Disorder, and Opioid Use Disorder. When evaluating alcohol consumption patterns in adolescents, more descriptive information beyond the aforementioned three general consumption categories is often desired and can be tapped by adding specific quantifiers (i.e., per capita sales, frequency and trends of consumption, and definitions of binge drinking and heavy drinking), and qualifiers (i.e., consequential behaviors, drinking and driving, alcohol consumption during pregnancy) to the operationalization process.

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) has created very specific guidelines that are widely used in the quantitative measurement of alcohol consumption (see Figure 7).

Some alcoholic drinks contain more alcohol than others. As with all matter's nutritional, you need to consider the portion size. For example, some cocktails may contain an alcohol "dose" equivalent to three standard drinks.

Figure 7. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

Percentage of Alcohol in Standard Portions



National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism <https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/> Accessed April 16, 2020

Consequences

One of the hallmarks of SUDs is the continued use of a substance despite harmful or negative consequences. SUDs have health consequences, physical consequences, social consequences, and specific consequences for adolescents. The prevention of such consequences has received priority attention as Goal 2 (out of four goals) on the 2016-2020 NIDA Strategic Plan titled *Develop new and improved strategies to prevent drug use and its consequences*.

We caution our readers against drawing firm conclusions about the consequences of SUDs from the data reported here. The secondary data we have drawn from does not necessarily show a causal relationship between SUDs and consequences for the community.

Stakeholder/Audience

This document can provide useful information to stakeholders from a variety of disciplines: substance use prevention and treatment providers; community coalitions; medical providers; school districts and higher education institutions; city, county, and state leaders; and community members interested in public health and drug consumption. The information presented in this report aims to contribute to program planning, evidence-based decision making, and community education.

The executive summary found at the beginning of this report provides highlights of the report for those seeking a brief overview. Since readers of this report will come from a variety of backgrounds, a glossary of key concepts can be found at the end of this needs assessment. The core of the report focuses on risk factors, consumption patterns, consequences, and protective factors.

Regional Demographics

Overview of Region

In general, Texas is a state of vast land area and a rapidly growing population, second only to Alaska in land mass and second in population to California. Public Health Region 7 (PHR7) sits in the center of Texas and includes 30 counties major metropolitan areas like Austin, as well as very rural counties like San Saba. In the middle of Texas region 7 sits between region 6's major metropolitan area (Houston), region 8's major metropolitan area (San Antonio), and region 3's major metropolitan area (Dallas/Fort Worth). This leads to an interesting mix of demographics due to region 7 being a mixture of rural and urban as well as notable issues stemming from its inclusion of numerous large highways between large metropolitan areas.

Geographic Boundaries



Zip Codes

Below is a list of all the ZIP-codes sorted by county for public health region 7.

Zip	County	Zip	County	Zip	County	Zip	County
78602	Bastrop	76690	Bosque	76570	Falls	76621	Hill
78612	Bastrop	77801	Brazos	76632	Falls	76622	Hill
78621	Bastrop	77802	Brazos	76656	Falls	76627	Hill
78650	Bastrop	77803	Brazos	76661	Falls	76628	Hill
78659	Bastrop	77805	Brazos	76680	Falls	76631	Hill
78662	Bastrop	77806	Brazos	76685	Falls	76636	Hill
78953	Bastrop	77807	Brazos	78932	Fayette	76645	Hill
78957	Bastrop	77808	Brazos	78938	Fayette	76648	Hill
76501	Bell	77840	Brazos	78940	Fayette	76650	Hill
76502	Bell	77841	Brazos	78941	Fayette	76660	Hill
76503	Bell	77842	Brazos	78945	Fayette	76666	Hill
76504	Bell	77843	Brazos	78949	Fayette	76673	Hill
76505	Bell	77844	Brazos	78952	Fayette	76676	Hill
76508	Bell	77845	Brazos	78954	Fayette	76692	Hill
76513	Bell	77862	Brazos	78956	Fayette	76539	Lampasas
76519	Bell	77866	Brazos	78960	Fayette	76550	Lampasas
76533	Bell	77881	Brazos	78961	Fayette	76853	Lampasas
76534	Bell	77836	Burleson	78963	Fayette	77853	Lee
76540	Bell	77838	Burleson	75838	Freestone	78942	Lee
76541	Bell	77852	Burleson	75840	Freestone	78946	Lee
76542	Bell	77863	Burleson	75848	Freestone	78947	Lee
76543	Bell	77878	Burleson	75859	Freestone	78948	Lee
76544	Bell	77879	Burleson	75860	Freestone	75831	Leon
76545	Bell	78605	Burnet	76693	Freestone	75833	Leon
76546	Bell	78608	Burnet	77363	Grimes	75846	Leon
76547	Bell	78611	Burnet	77830	Grimes	75850	Leon
76548	Bell	78654	Burnet	77831	Grimes	75855	Leon
76549	Bell	78616	Caldwell	77861	Grimes	77850	Leon
76554	Bell	78622	Caldwell	77868	Grimes	77855	Leon
76559	Bell	78644	Caldwell	77869	Grimes	77865	Leon
76564	Bell	78648	Caldwell	77873	Grimes	77871	Leon
76569	Bell	78655	Caldwell	77875	Grimes	76635	Limestone
76571	Bell	78656	Caldwell	77876	Grimes	76642	Limestone
76579	Bell	78661	Caldwell	76436	Hamilton	76653	Limestone
78606	Blanco	76522	Coryell	76457	Hamilton	76667	Limestone
78635	Blanco	76525	Coryell	76531	Hamilton	76678	Limestone
78636	Blanco	76526	Coryell	76565	Hamilton	76686	Limestone
78663	Blanco	76528	Coryell	78610	Hays	76687	Limestone
76634	Bosque	76538	Coryell	78619	Hays	76831	Llano
76637	Bosque	76558	Coryell	78620	Hays	76885	Llano
76644	Bosque	76561	Coryell	78640	Hays	78607	Llano
76649	Bosque	76566	Coryell	78666	Hays	78609	Llano
76652	Bosque	76596	Coryell	78667	Hays	78639	Llano
76665	Bosque	76597	Coryell	78676	Hays	78643	Llano
76671	Bosque	76598	Coryell	78737	Hays	78657	Llano
76689	Bosque	76599	Coryell	76055	Hill	78672	Llano

Zip Codes

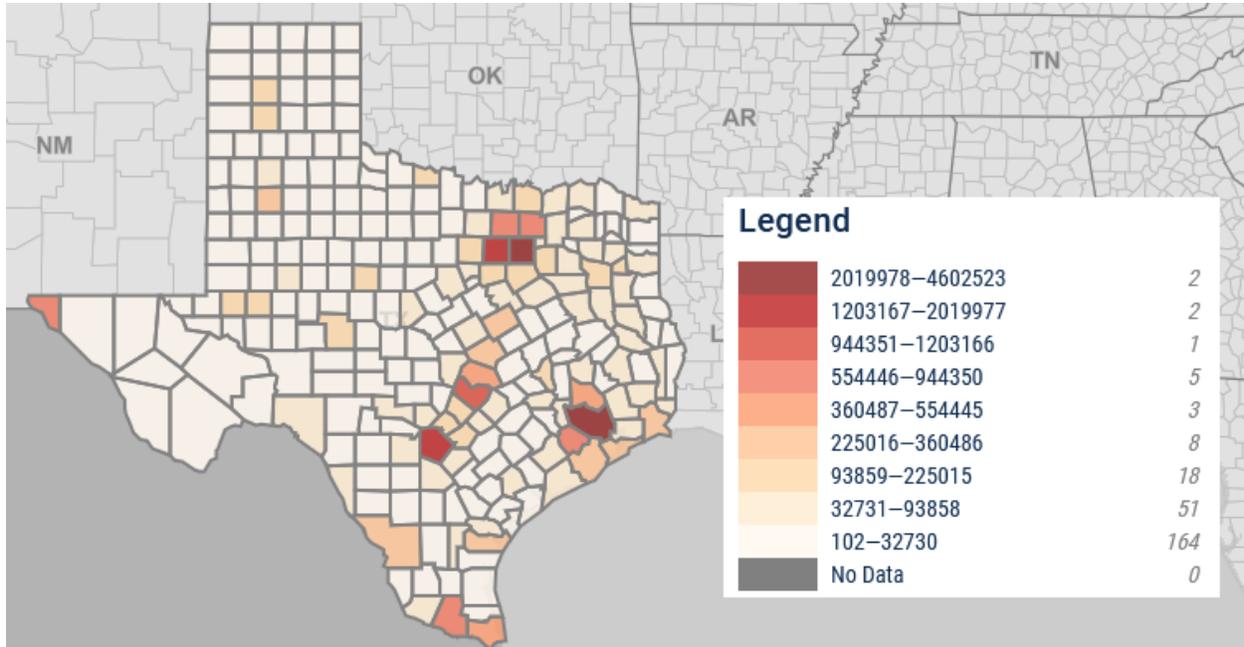
Below is a list of all the ZIP-codes sorted by county for public health region 7.

Zip	County	Zip	County	Zip	County	Zip	County
75852	Madison	76880	Mills	78731	Travis	78788	Travis
77864	Madison	76629	Robertson	78732	Travis	78789	Travis
77872	Madison	77837	Robertson	78733	Travis	78798	Travis
76524	McLennan	77856	Robertson	78734	Travis	78799	Travis
76557	McLennan	77859	Robertson	78735	Travis	77426	Washington
76624	McLennan	77867	Robertson	78736	Travis	77833	Washington
76630	McLennan	77870	Robertson	78738	Travis	77834	Washington
76633	McLennan	77882	Robertson	78739	Travis	77835	Washington
76638	McLennan	76824	San Saba	78741	Travis	77880	Washington
76640	McLennan	76832	San Saba	78742	Travis	76511	Williamson
76643	McLennan	76871	San Saba	78744	Travis	76527	Williamson
76654	McLennan	76877	San Saba	78745	Travis	76530	Williamson
76655	McLennan	73301	Travis	78746	Travis	76537	Williamson
76657	McLennan	73344	Travis	78747	Travis	76573	Williamson
76664	McLennan	78617	Travis	78748	Travis	76574	Williamson
76682	McLennan	78645	Travis	78749	Travis	76578	Williamson
76684	McLennan	78652	Travis	78750	Travis	78613	Williamson
76691	McLennan	78653	Travis	78751	Travis	78615	Williamson
76701	McLennan	78660	Travis	78752	Travis	78626	Williamson
76702	McLennan	78669	Travis	78753	Travis	78627	Williamson
76703	McLennan	78691	Travis	78754	Travis	78628	Williamson
76704	McLennan	78701	Travis	78755	Travis	78630	Williamson
76705	McLennan	78702	Travis	78756	Travis	78633	Williamson
76706	McLennan	78703	Travis	78757	Travis	78634	Williamson
76707	McLennan	78704	Travis	78758	Travis	78641	Williamson
76708	McLennan	78705	Travis	78759	Travis	78642	Williamson
76710	McLennan	78708	Travis	78760	Travis	78646	Williamson
76711	McLennan	78709	Travis	78761	Travis	78651	Williamson
76712	McLennan	78710	Travis	78762	Travis	78664	Williamson
76714	McLennan	78711	Travis	78763	Travis	78665	Williamson
76715	McLennan	78712	Travis	78764	Travis	78673	Williamson
76716	McLennan	78713	Travis	78765	Travis	78674	Williamson
76795	McLennan	78714	Travis	78766	Travis	78680	Williamson
76797	McLennan	78715	Travis	78767	Travis	78681	Williamson
76798	McLennan	78716	Travis	78768	Travis	78682	Williamson
76799	McLennan	78718	Travis	78769	Travis	78683	Williamson
76518	Milam	78719	Travis	78772	Travis	78717	Williamson
76520	Milam	78720	Travis	78773	Travis	78729	Williamson
76523	Milam	78721	Travis	78774	Travis		
76556	Milam	78722	Travis	78778	Travis		
76567	Milam	78723	Travis	78779	Travis		
76577	Milam	78724	Travis	78780	Travis		

Counties

In region 7 there are 30 counties: Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Coryell, Falls, Fayette, Freestone, Grimes, Hamilton, Hays, Hill, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Limestone, Llano, McLennan, Madison, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Travis, Washington, and Williamson. Of these counties the bulk of the population of this region is in Travis, Brazos, Bell, McLennan, Hays, and Williamson. Major population centers for Region 7 are Austin, Round Rock, Waco, San Marcos, and Bryan/ College Station.

Major Metropolitan Areas (i.e., Concentrations of Populations)



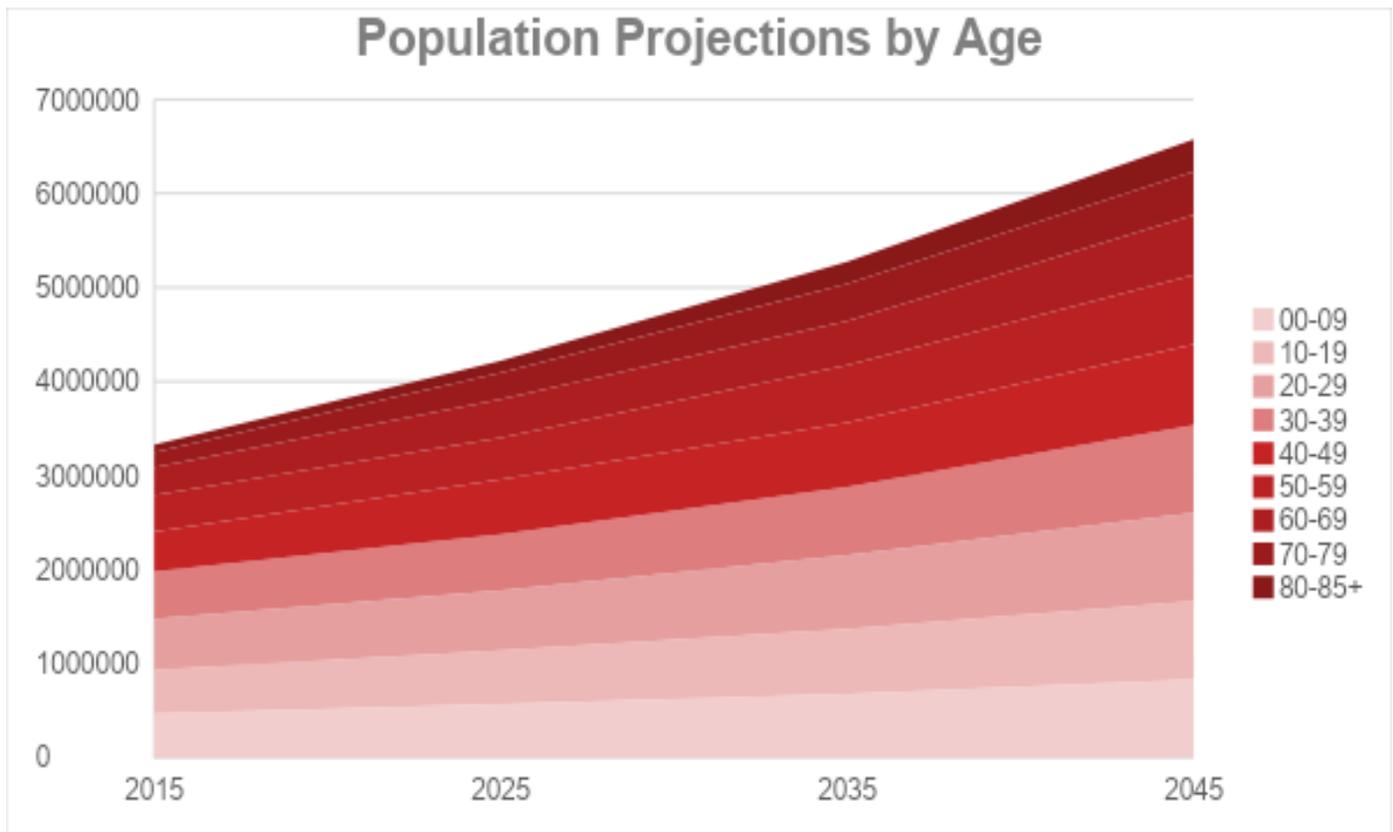
Demographic Information

Total Population

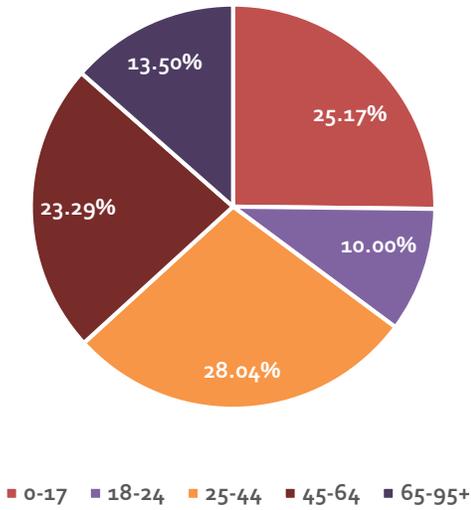
Population Projections for Texas 2021			
County	Total Pop	County	Total Pop
Bastrop	87,351	Lampasas	21,193
Bell	357,856	Lee	17,691
Blanco	11,609	Leon	17,805
Bosque	17,729	Limestone	23,559
Brazos	233,503	Llano	19,481
Burleson	17,782	McLennan	254,824
Burnet	48,769	Madison	14,636
Caldwell	44,960	Milam	24,634
Coryell	78,703	Mills	4,863
Falls	16,493	Robertson	16,924

County	Total Pop	County	Total Pop
Fayette	26,272	San Saba	5,856
Freestone	19,865	Travis	1,317,306
Grimes	29,128	Washington	35,306
Hamilton	8,210	Williamson	609,818
Hays	244,221	Region 7 total	3,662,025
Hill	35,678	State total	30,168,926

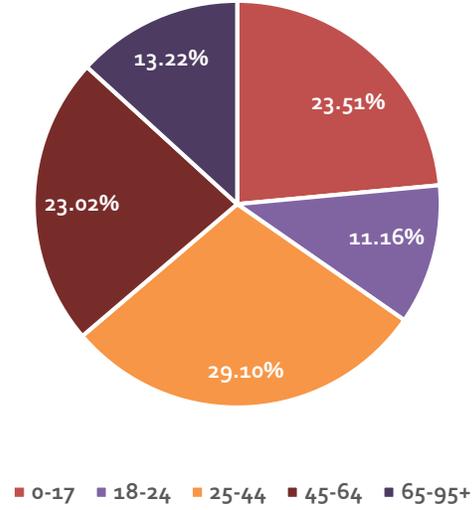
Population <Age 19 including percentage



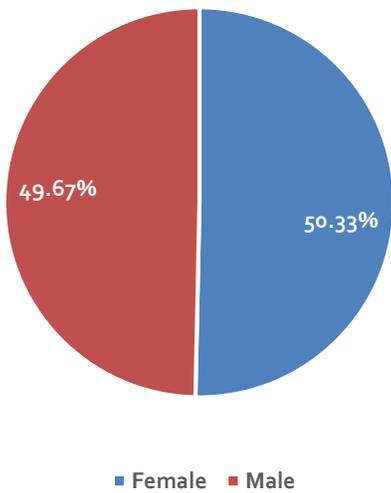
Texas by Population by Age



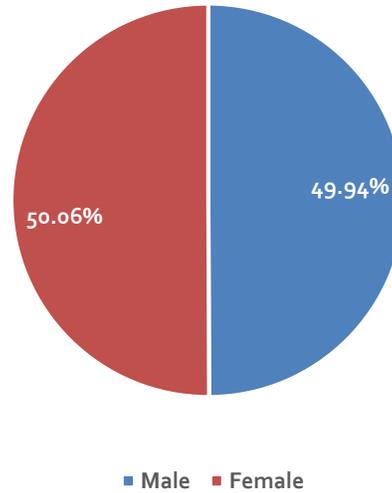
Region 7 Population by Age



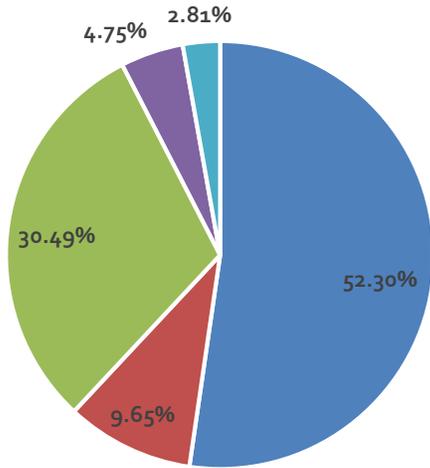
Texas by Sex



Region 7 by Sex

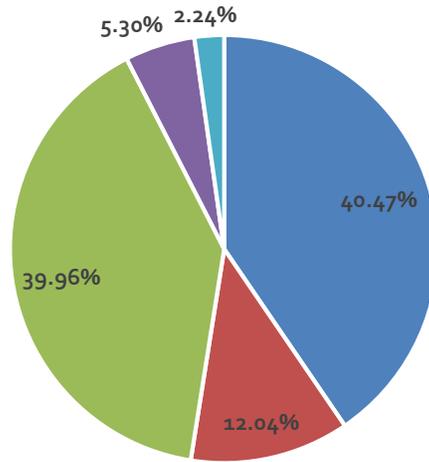


Region 7 by Race/Ethnicity



■ NH White ■ NH Black ■ Hispanic
■ NH Asian ■ NH Other

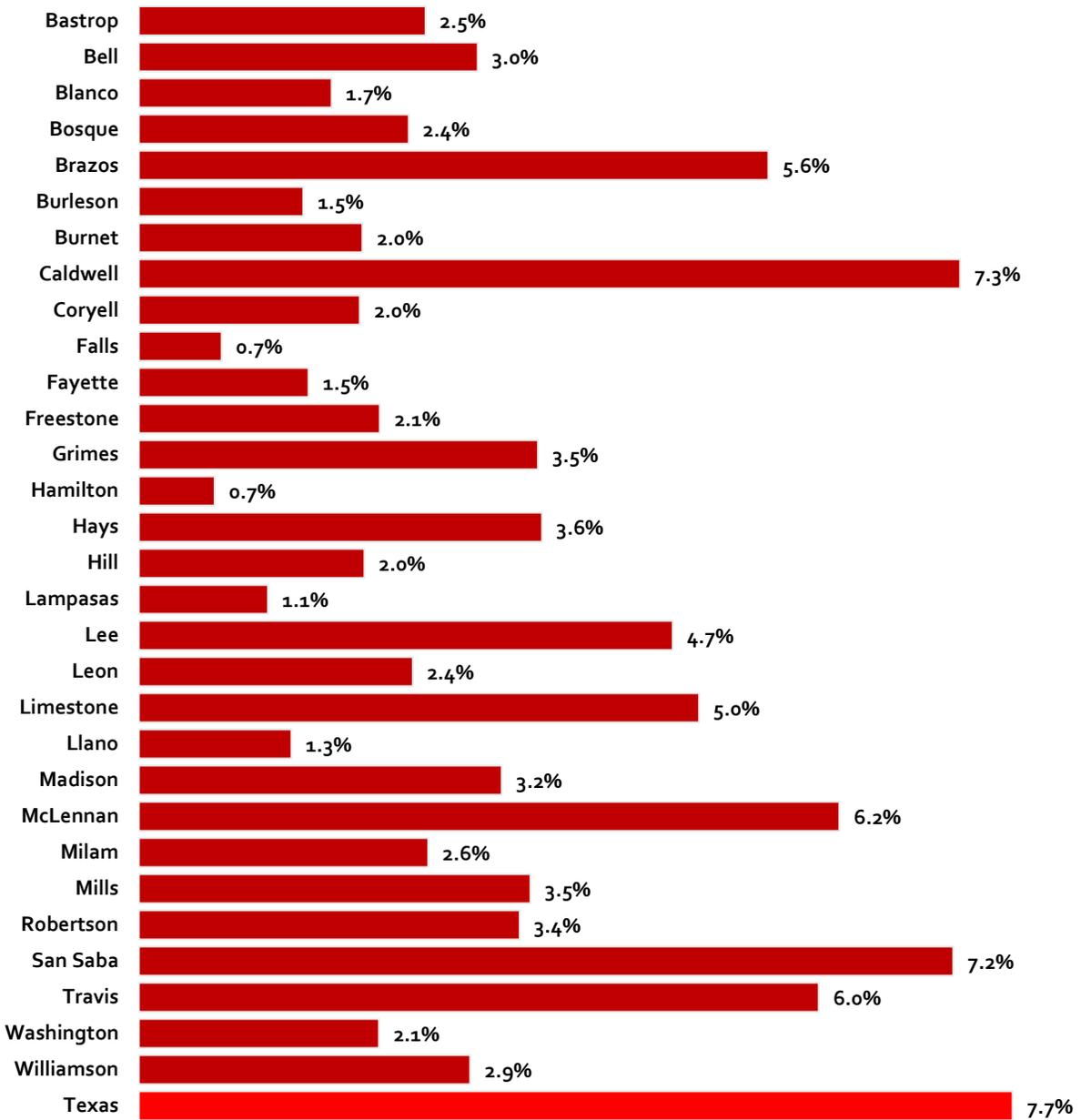
Texas by Race/Ethnicity



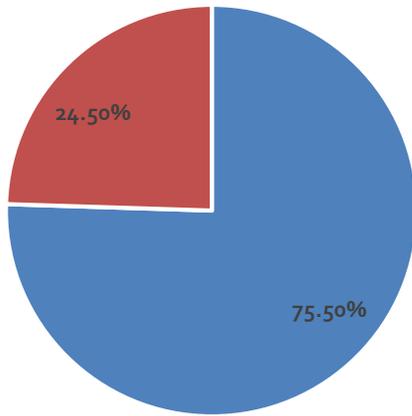
■ NH White ■ NH Black ■ Hispanic
■ NH Asian ■ NH Other

Languages

% Households with Limited English

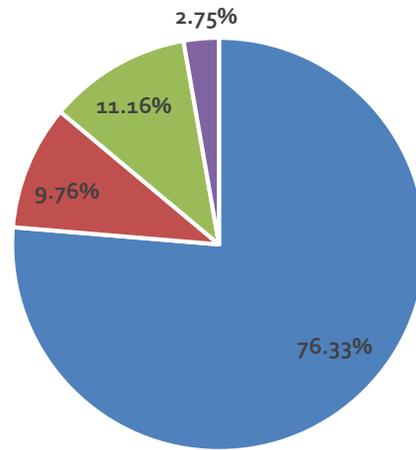


Region 7



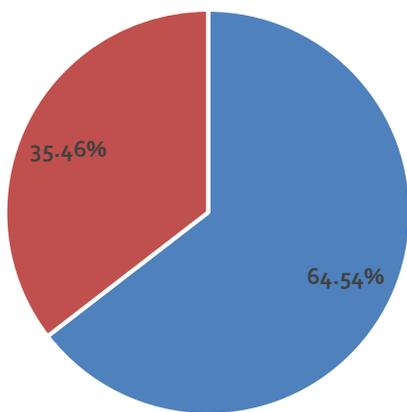
- Speak only English
- Speak Language other than English

Region 7 Languages Spoken other than English



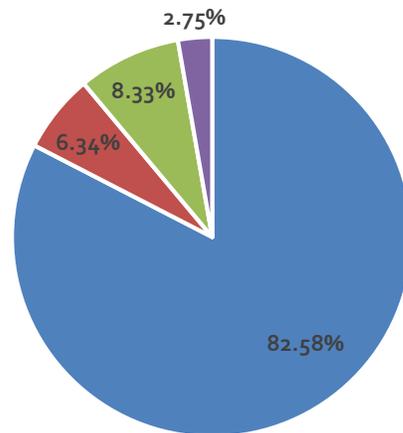
- Spanish
- Other Indo-European Languages
- Asian and Pacific Island Languages
- Other Languages

Texas



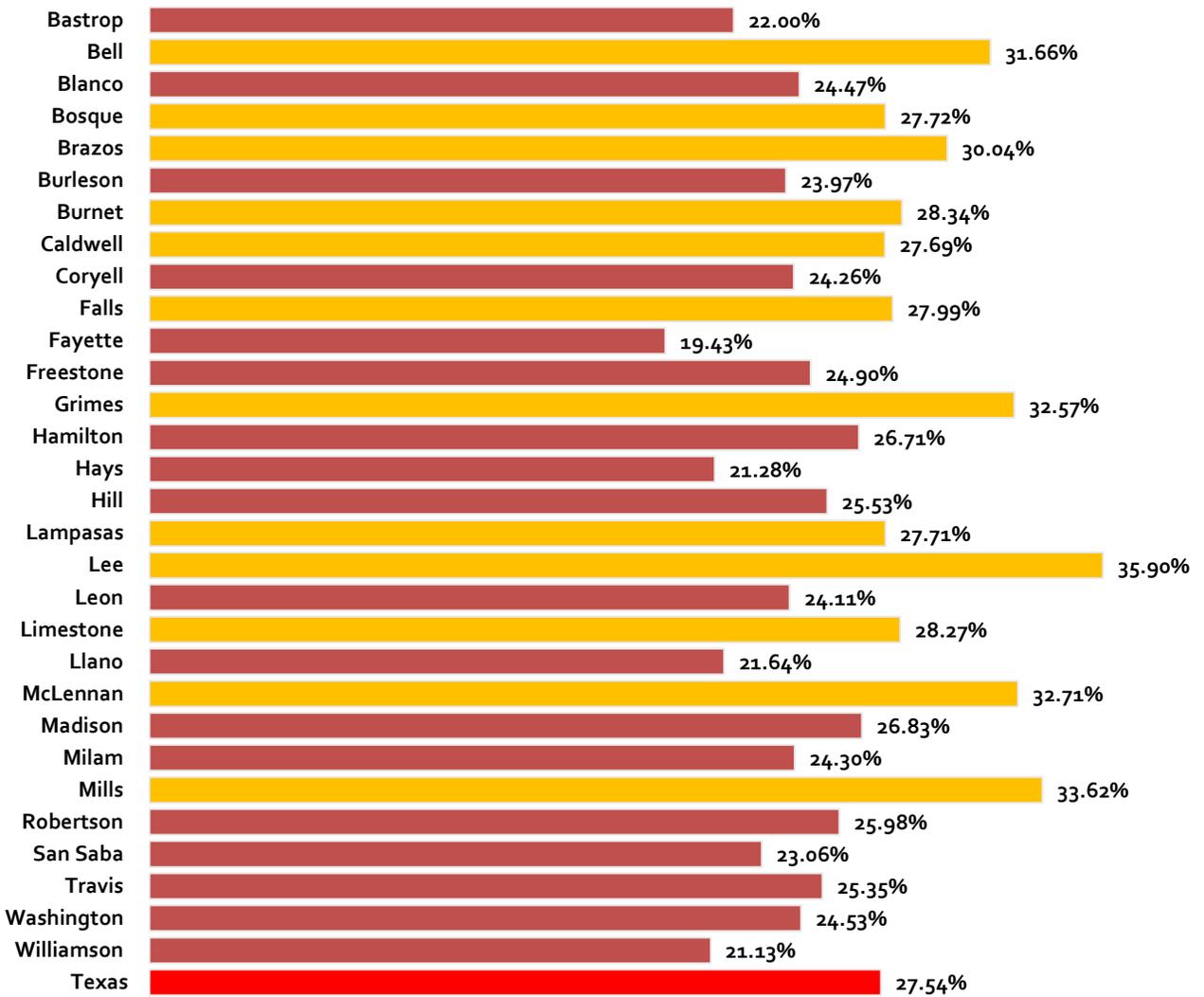
- Speak only English
- Speak Language other than English

Texas Languages Spoken other than English



- Spanish
- Other Indo-European Languages
- Asian and Pacific Island Languages
- Other Languages

Single Parent Households 2018



Family Violence

In Texas 656,446 victims of family violence from 639,656 offenders. Below is a summary of state level family violence.

Family Violence

Injuries	None	Broken Bones	Possible Internal	Severe Laceration	Minor	Major	Loss of Teeth	Unconsciousness	
Count	293196	2514	7836	6636	358605	7600	631	4365	
Relationship	Spouse	Common Law Spouse	Parent	Sibling	Child	Grandparent	Grandchild	In-law	
Count	108045	56525	55719	45361	37044	5265	3213	12026	
Relationship	Step Parent	Step Child	Step Sibling	Other	Roommate	Foster Parent	Foster Child	Ex-Spouse	HR
Count	7274	9299	1840	269120	36112	129	84	27202	2346
Weapons	Motor Vehicle	PRSN	Poison	Explosive	Fire	Drugs	Other	Unknown	
Count	6039	515051	189	6	285	198	30162	4348	
Weapons	None	Fire Arm	Hand Gun	Rifle	Shotgun	Other Arm	Knife	Blunt Object	
Count	74016	4501	11854	804	844	317	24867	11973	

Homeless Students per 1,000 Students

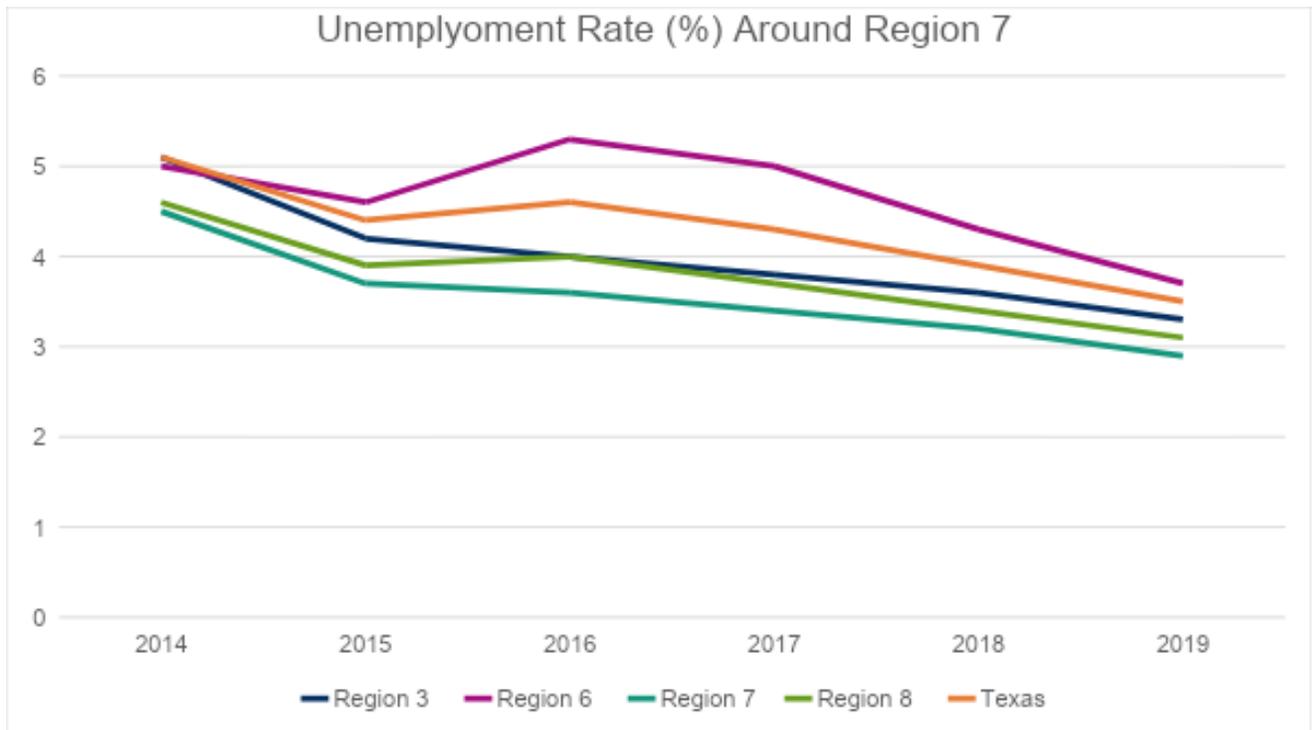
County	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Bastrop	23.58	21.92	26.18	28.86
Bell	16.91	18.95	15.87	10.22
Blanco	--	--	--	--
Bosque	21.31	23.75	30.46	35.42
Brazos	14.32	18.98	15.66	16.22
Burleson	13.02	11.05	--	10.84
Burnet	4.46	4.57	13.39	9.08
Caldwell	27.71	31.23	42.14	30.64
Coryell	12.50	13.67	17.62	11.06
Falls	--	12.18	10.69	10.01
Fayette	10.88	63.46	15.13	17.07
Freestone	10.53	18.30	18.72	12.68
Grimes	39.34	50.31	45.81	39.94
Hamilton	39.31	19.89	19.75	33.94
Hays	14.49	36.32	31.02	8.71
Hill	33.36	6.84	10.95	37.35
Lampasas	15.09	19.22	21.96	19.67

County	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Lee	32.40	5.74		15.95
Leon	22.07	28.45	12.13	12.86
Limestone	12.91	113.35	93.87	25.93
Llano	3.23	5.06	12.30	6.19
Madison	--	--	--	--
McLennan	21.98	25.17	13.57	14.50
Milam	12.32	19.86	17.37	13.57
Mills	--	--	--	--
Robertson	--	--	--	4.30
San Saba	7.25	59.91	23.33	17.09
Travis	11.74	12.32	10.45	10.76
Washington	13.31	13.87	2.73	5.20
Williamson	7.80	8.44	7.92	8.29
Texas	12.92	20.72	13.37	14.22

Homeless adult estimates (Point in Time Measurements)

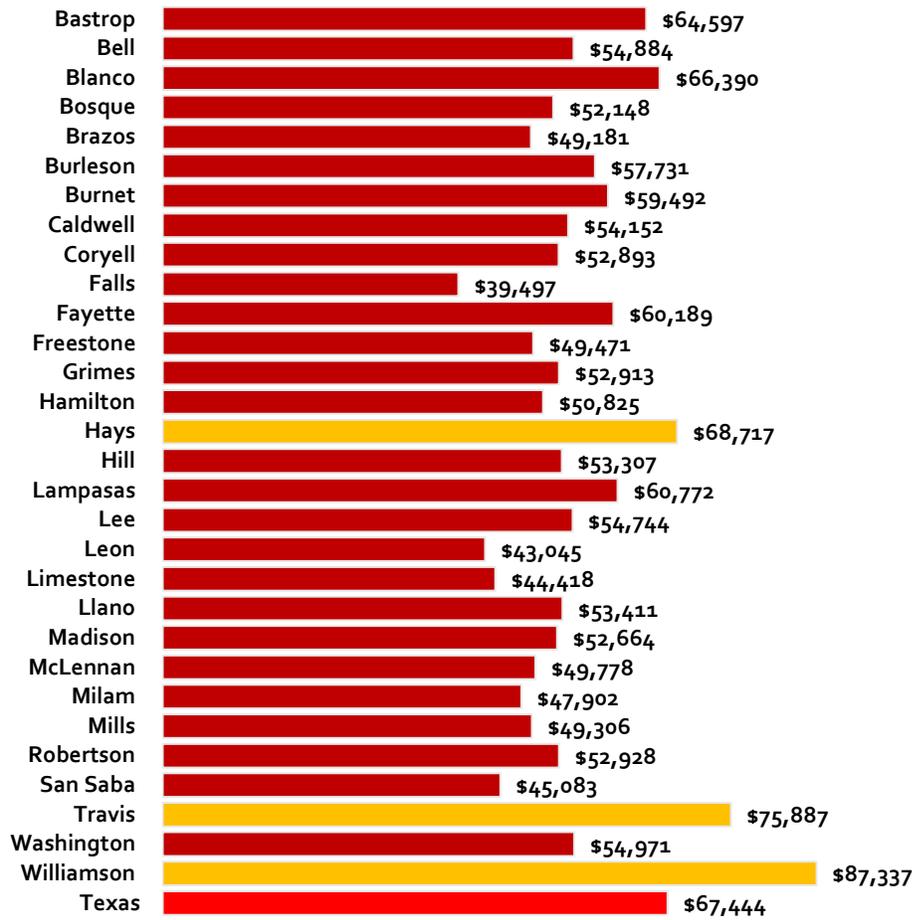
	Counties	HHS Region	Total Homeless	Male	Female	Homeless Under 18	Homeless 18-24	Chronically Homeless
2019	Bastrop (7), Lee (7), Fayette (7), Colorado (6)	6 & 7	90	34	52	29	7	1
	Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas	7	409	200	199	91	24	16
	Texas	Texas	4735	2786	1747	619	347	369
2020	Bastrop, Lee	7	123	54	64	47	11	8
	Bell	7	331	172	147	60	27	30
	Hays	7	102	54	37	17	11	12
	Williamson	7	12	7	3	0	2	6
	Texas	Texas	5715	3300	2144	935	380	667
2021	Bastrop, Lee	7	76	24	52	38	6	0
	Bell	7	151	38	17	74	65	11
	Hays	7	30	15	12	12	1	2
	Texas	Texas	2354	1058	981	733	232	143

Socio-Economic Data



County	Percent households under \$24,999	County	Percent households under \$24,999
Bastrop	17.80%	Hill	21.60%
Bell	19.80%	Lampasas	17.90%
Blanco	14.90%	Lee	22.90%
Bosque	20.40%	Leon	24.20%
Brazos	28.30%	Limestone	27.30%
Burleson	19.90%	Llano	20.20%
Burnet	16.70%	Madison	23.60%
Caldwell	21.60%	McLennan	25.20%
Coryell	18.80%	Milam	25.10%
Falls	34.40%	Mills	29.90%
Fayette	20.00%	Robertson	22.80%
Freestone	26.10%	San Saba	27.40%
Grimes	22.40%	Travis	13.90%
Hamilton	24.00%	Washington	21.00%
Hays	15.90%	Williamson	8.80%

Median Household income



Unemployment/Employment

County	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bastrop	3.7%	3.6%	3.4%	3.1%	6.0%
Bell	4.5%	4.3%	4.2%	3.8%	7.0%
Blanco	3.1%	2.8%	2.6%	2.4%	3.8%
Bosque	4.3%	4.0%	3.7%	3.4%	5.5%
Brazos	3.5%	3.1%	2.9%	2.7%	5.3%
Burleson	4.7%	4.2%	3.6%	3.1%	6.3%
Burnet	3.5%	3.2%	2.9%	2.7%	4.7%
Caldwell	4.3%	3.9%	3.7%	3.4%	6.3%
Coryell	4.7%	4.4%	4.2%	4.0%	6.6%
Falls	4.4%	4.3%	3.9%	3.3%	6.0%
Fayette	3.7%	3.2%	2.8%	2.6%	4.7%
Freestone	6.7%	6.4%	5.9%	4.8%	8.3%
Grimes	6.6%	5.4%	4.1%	4.0%	8.0%
Hamilton	4.9%	4.0%	3.3%	3.0%	4.5%
Hays	3.3%	3.2%	3.0%	2.8%	6.3%
Hill	4.4%	4.0%	3.7%	3.3%	6.3%
La Salle	5.1%	3.7%	2.4%	2.4%	6.8%
Lee	3.8%	3.3%	3.1%	2.6%	4.9%
Leon	6.5%	6.4%	5.0%	4.4%	7.8%
Limestone	5.6%	5.6%	4.7%	3.8%	7.1%
Llano	4.2%	3.8%	3.7%	3.5%	5.7%
McLennan	4.0%	3.9%	3.6%	3.3%	6.2%
Madison	5.1%	4.8%	4.4%	4.2%	7.2%
Milam	5.2%	5.1%	5.5%	5.0%	7.1%
Mills	4.2%	3.6%	3.5%	3.2%	4.1%
Robertson	5.1%	4.8%	4.2%	3.6%	6.4%
San Saba	3.4%	3.2%	3.1%	2.9%	5.2%
Travis	3.2%	3.1%	2.9%	2.6%	6.3%
Washington	5.1%	4.2%	3.6%	3.4%	5.6%
Williamson	3.4%	3.3%	3.1%	2.8%	5.9%

TANF recipients

Region 7	TANF BASIC			TANF STATE PROGRAM		
	Recipients	Avg Payment	Total	Recipients	Avg Payment	Total
2014	4,788	\$79.27	\$379,550.96	343	\$73.29	\$25,148.45
2015	4,027	\$79.34	\$319,465.32	276	\$71.43	\$19,685.35
2016	5,054	\$88.83	\$448,989.10	280	\$63.16	\$17,653.45
2017	4,155	\$80.86	\$335,985.95	302	\$71.80	\$21,648.88
2018	3,900	\$82.10	\$320,194.53	251	\$72.11	\$18,108.82
2019	3,451	\$84.56	\$291,820.10	205	\$71.19	\$14,626.95
2020	2328	\$84.00	\$196,704.02	221	\$71.00	\$15,786.42

SNAP recipients

Region 7	NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS	AVERAGE PAYMENT/CASE	Total
2015	339,715	\$263.47	\$89,505,174.56
2016	468,900	\$270.87	\$127,011,201.60
2017	345,579	\$267.21	\$92,343,527.43
2018	333,315	\$264.18	\$88,054,516.66
2019	312,094	\$258.84	\$80,781,105.47
2020	134,041	\$296.00	\$39,720,177.00

Free, reduced school lunch recipients

County	Percent of Students Free and Reduced School Lunch			
	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019- 2020
Bastrop	66.04%	69.31%	70.67%	71.37%
Bell	54.35%	55.84%	58.76%	58.83%
Blanco	42.46%	39.41%	42.93%	44.73%
Bosque	63.04%	62.35%	65.04%	64.34%
Brazos	57.42%	56.57%	57.72%	62.48%
Burleson	63.58%	61.39%	62.62%	58.45%
Burnet	61.28%	60.12%	62.72%	63.93%
Caldwell	69.48%	73.38%	72.30%	71.45%
Coryell	54.30%	52.83%	56.06%	56.95%
Falls	80.45%	82.11%	78.62%	76.97%
Fayette	51.14%	54.74%	53.53%	45.36%
Freestone	53.24%	54.27%	58.29%	59.06%
Grimes	65.15%	66.84%	65.56%	64.04%
Hamilton	53.56%	53.12%	52.24%	52.80%

Percent of Students Free and Reduced School Lunch

County	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019- 2020
Hays	45.31%	44.29%	47.70%	47.98%
Hill	63.70%	63.05%	65.21%	63.02%
Lampasas	53.30%	50.71%	54.22%	56.18%
Lee	63.14%	63.83%	60.04%	62.69%
Leon	56.73%	51.47%	57.85%	51.63%
Limestone	71.82%	74.54%	70.73%	68.60%
Llano	65.07%	58.90%	64.42%	27.40%
Madison	68.78%	69.35%	69.69%	70.38%
McLennan	61.21%	61.78%	56.41%	65.81%
Milam	67.70%	65.91%	70.11%	67.27%
Mills	60.81%	59.02%	54.89%	55.13%
Robertson	62.19%	62.30%	64.80%	60.78%
San Saba	61.58%	68.53%	71.91%	61.67%
Travis	49.28%	48.17%	50.17%	51.71%
Washington	56.44%	54.08%	59.08%	58.30%
Williamson	30.07%	29.36%	30.72%	30.38%
Region 7	49.88%	49.49%	50.81%	51.97%
Texas	59.22%	58.98%	60.53%	63.31%

Green = lower than Region 7; Red = greater than Texas

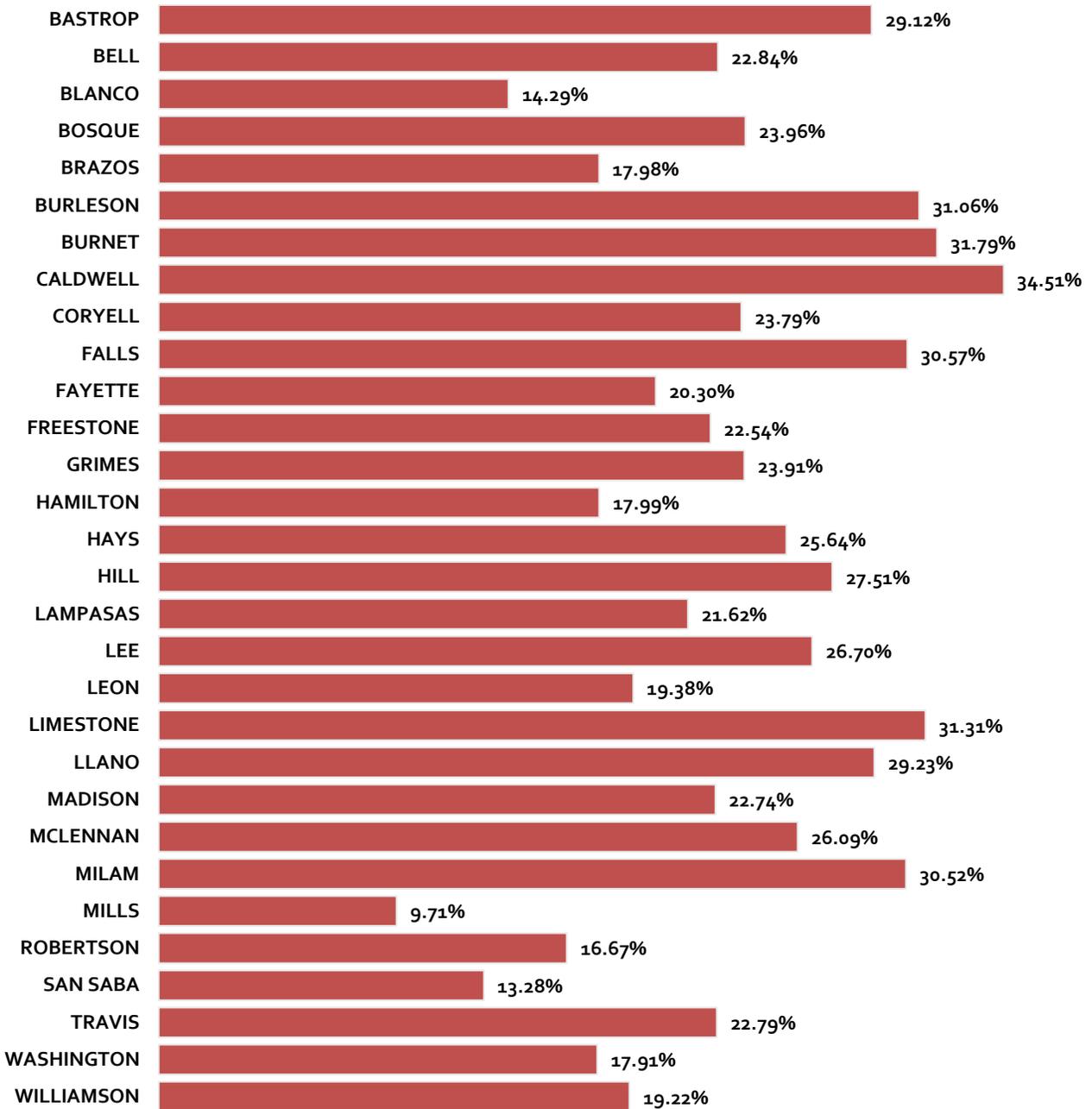
Uninsured

County	Youth Under 19	Elderly Over 64
Bastrop	8.87%	23.40%
Bell	5.42%	17.60%
Blanco	16.67%	23.30%
Bosque	12.22%	26.40%
Brazos	7.05%	15.10%
Burleson	10.44%	22.40%
Burnet	7.37%	24.20%
Caldwell	14.68%	31.40%
Coryell	4.01%	16.40%
Falls	7.65%	26.20%
Fayette	10.82%	15.30%
Freestone	11.55%	20.50%
Grimes	10.48%	19.60%
Hamilton	7.79%	26.80%
Hays	7.93%	17.40%
Hill	9.41%	23.10%
Lampasas	7.68%	19.10%
Lee	8.48%	23.50%

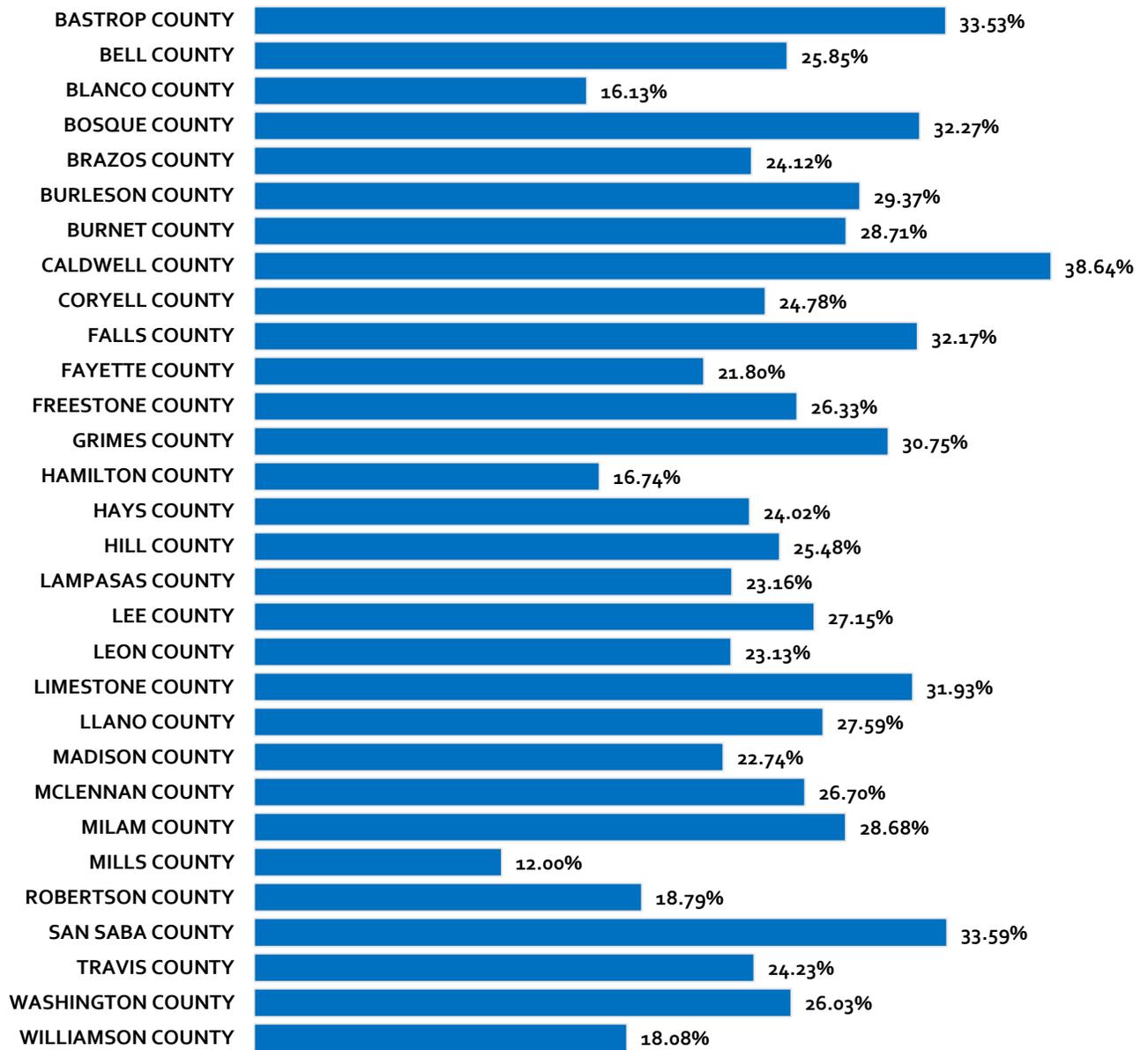
County	Youth Under 19	Elderly Over 64
Leon	13.19%	26.60%
Limestone	8.53%	29.10%
Llano	11.32%	30.30%
Madison	13.79%	20.90%
McLennan	9.13%	19.90%
Milam	7.12%	20.70%
Mills	9.08%	31.40%
Robertson	8.26%	19.90%
San Saba	13.76%	29.60%
Travis	8.15%	16.20%
Washington	8.34%	16.70%
Williamson	5.88%	12.20%

Education

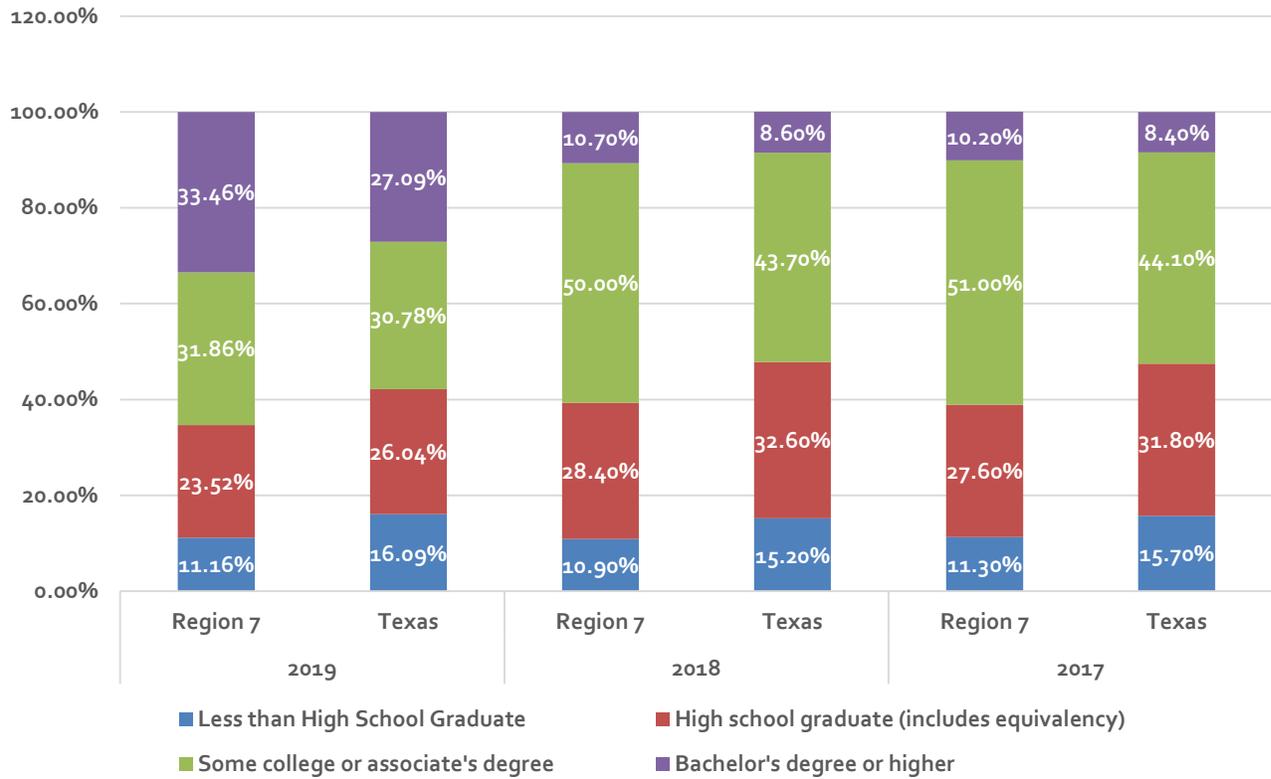
Percent of 3rd Grade Students That Did Not Meet Expectations on STAAR Math Test



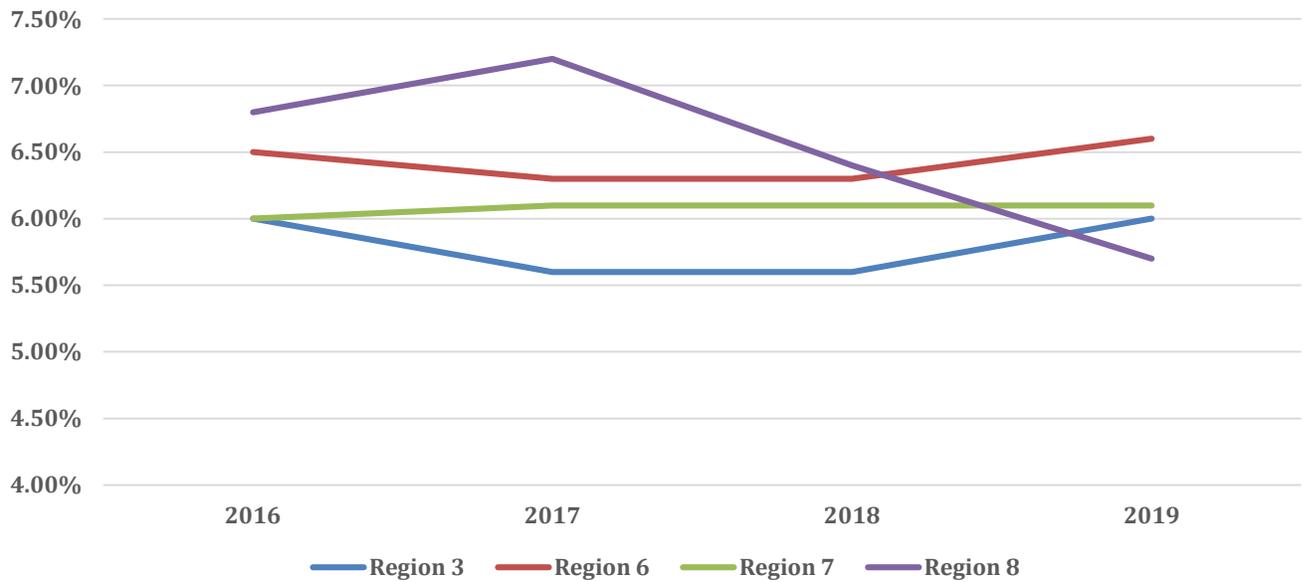
Percent of 3rd Grade Students That Did Not Meet Expectations on STAAR Reading Test



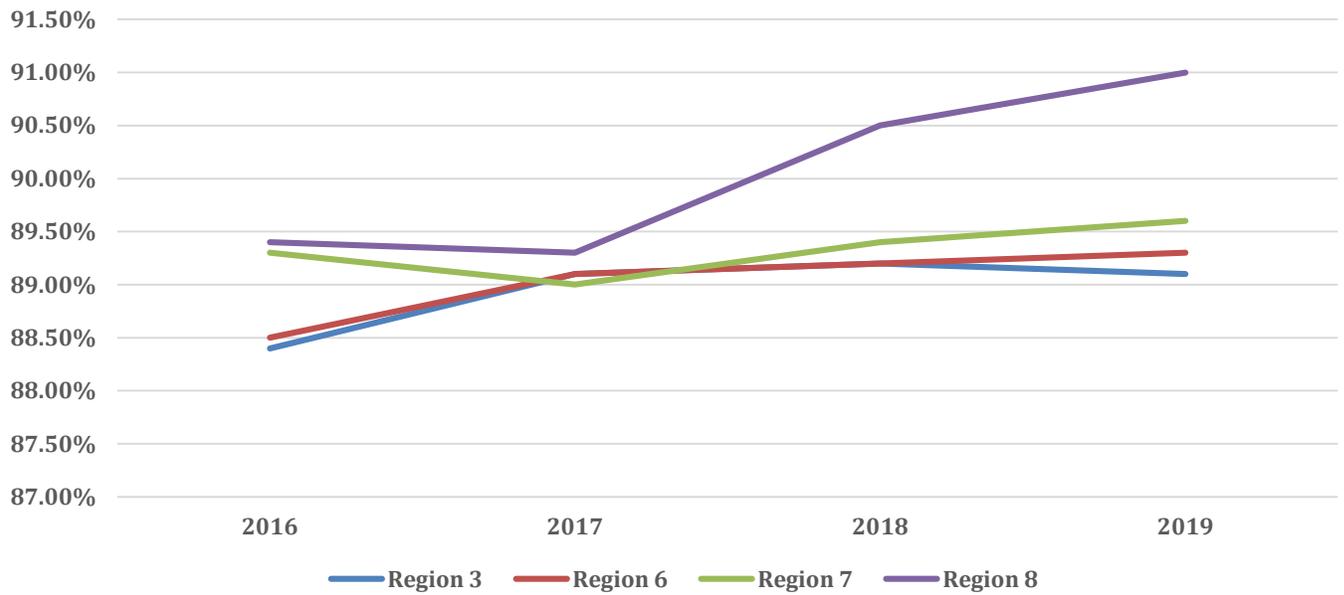
Educational Attainment Ages 18+



Dropout Rate Around Region 7



Graduation Rate Around Region 7

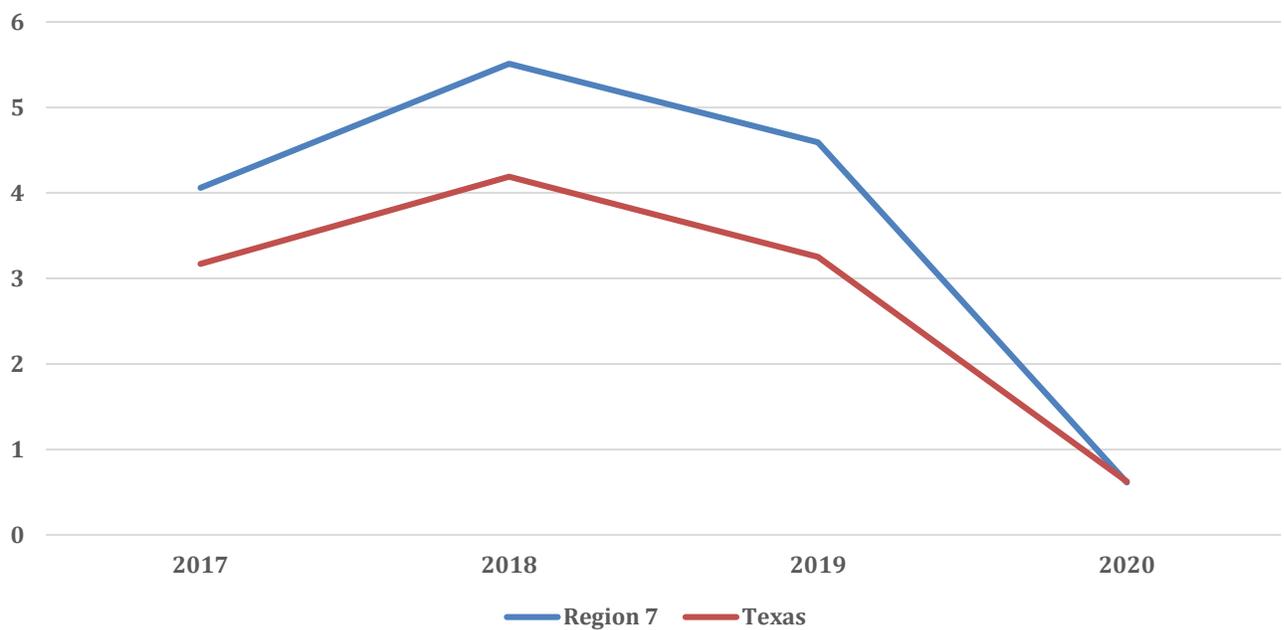


Environmental Risk Factors

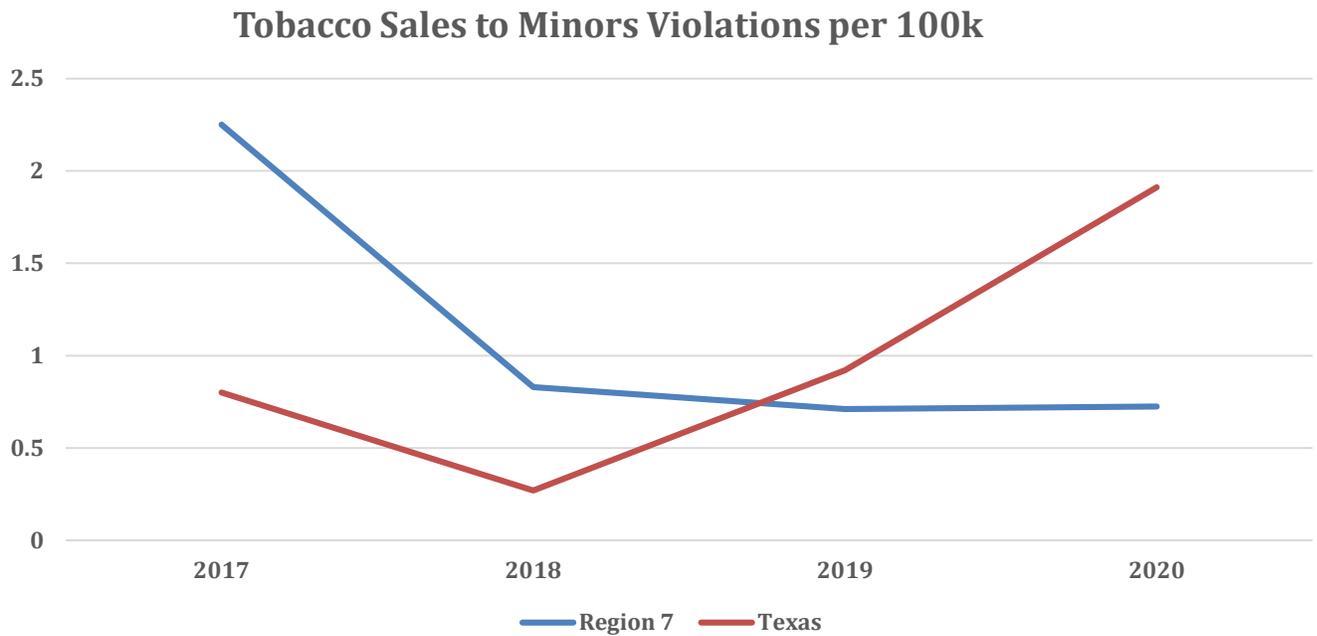
Retail Access

Alcohol

Alcohol Sales to Minors Violations per 100k



Tobacco and other Nicotine products



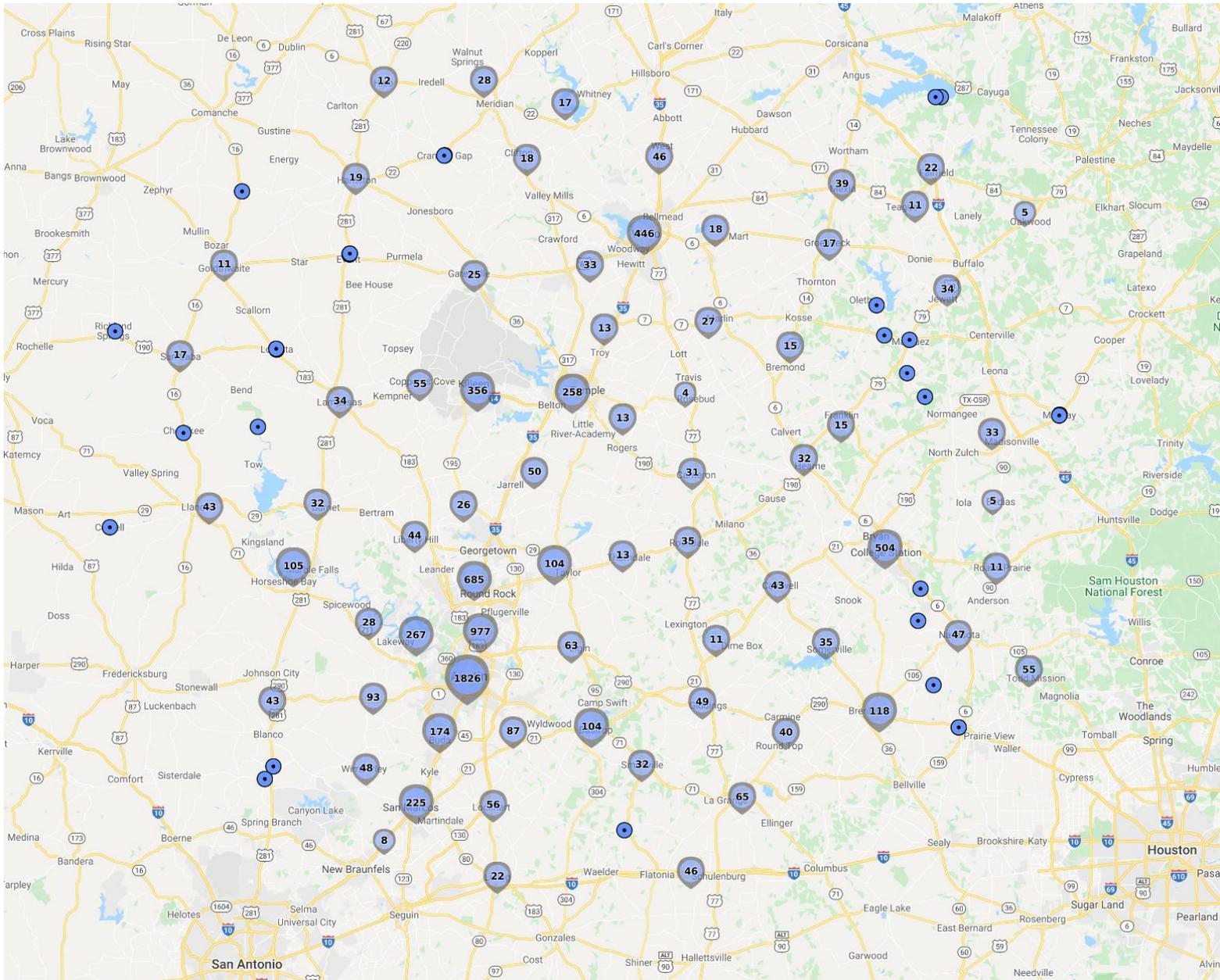
Marijuana (law changes regarding marijuana)

Although medical marijuana is legalized in Texas only for intractable epilepsy and under the care of an authorized doctor after trying two FDA-approved drugs and the cannabis subsequently used must contain less than 10% THC. While, other states in the US have legalized medical marijuana, while other states have legalized marijuana for recreational use, recreational use in Texas still illegal. At the time of writing this Texas does allow medical cannabis oil for patients with epilepsy. Access to marijuana is mostly influenced from outside sources and will depend on law enforcement or marijuana decriminalization policies in order to reduce and control marijuana access. Outside sources now include nearby states that have legalized marijuana, like Colorado, and many police officers are finding THC products and marijuana that come from states where it is legal.

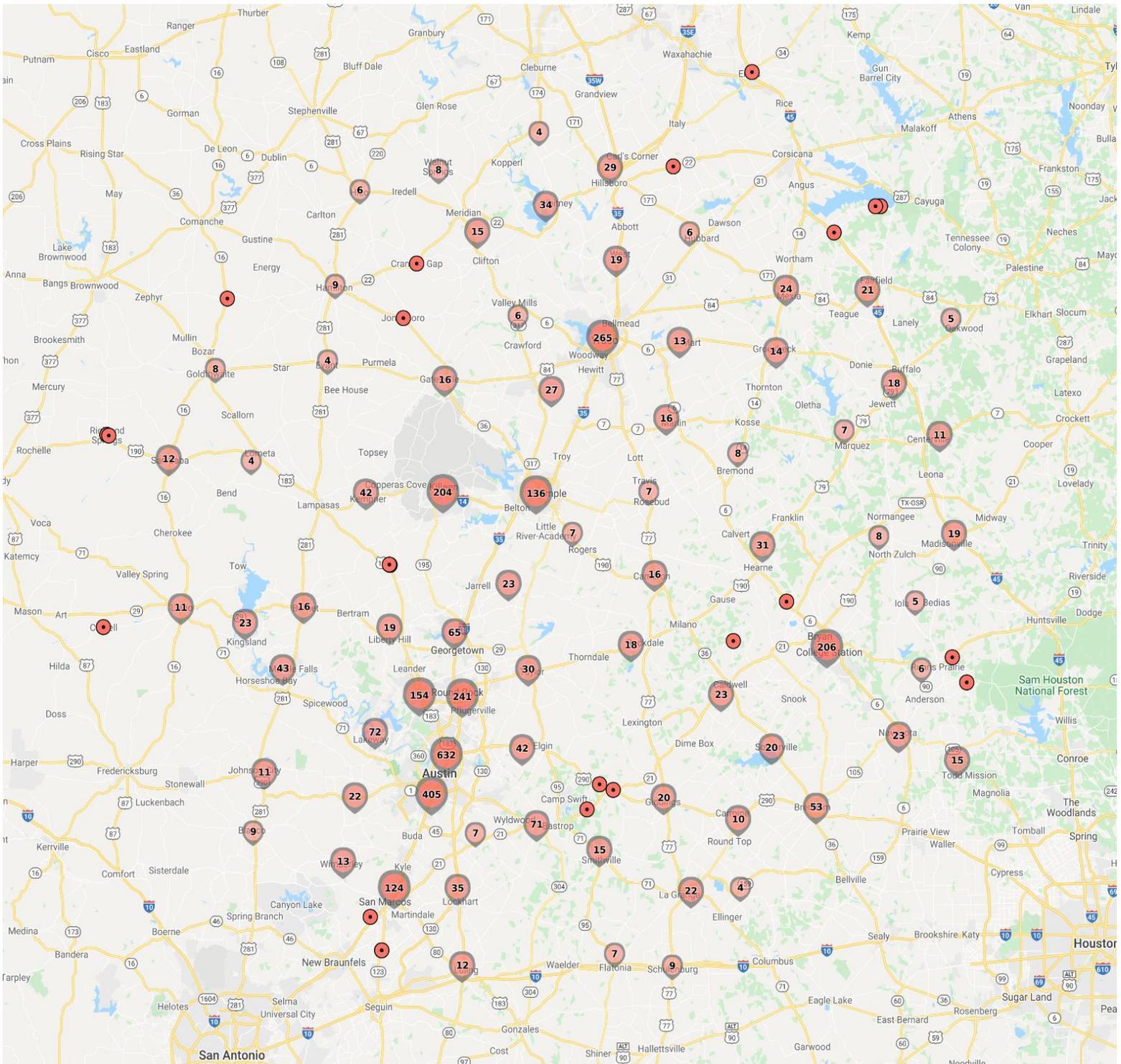
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
REGION 7 TOTAL	4,027,325	4,054,037	4,894,652	4,670,907	4,546,093	4,397,036
Schedule 2	1,756,214	1,747,099	1,873,094	1,791,146	1,748,613	1,706,607
Schedule 3	393,744	409,990	577,613	570,590	584,156	559,322
Schedule 4	1,866,880	1,890,371	2,172,485	2,047,644	1,963,993	1,893,831
Schedule 5	10,487	6,577	269,847	258,694	244,359	232,892
Unscheduled	0	0	1,339	1,225	3,987	3,559
Unspecified	0	0	274	1,608	985	825
TEXAS TOTAL	32,656,558	33,153,769	39,769,436	38,099,104	36,852,951	34,913,248
Schedule 2	12,671,045	12,537,374	13,383,655	12,918,910	12,474,439	11,935,232
Schedule 3	3,851,998	4,230,079	5,554,214	5,397,562	5,409,135	5,032,803
Schedule 4	16,017,700	16,290,855	18,478,798	17,523,431	16,819,848	15,861,182
Schedule 5	115,815	95,461	2,334,380	2,232,539	2,108,327	2,012,711
Unscheduled	0	0	9,319	16,588	29,843	61,429
Unspecified	0	0	9,070	10,074	11,359	9,891

Alcohol/Tobacco/Other Legal Substances Promotion

Below is a map of all the facilities with alcohol sale licenses in region 7.



Below is a map of all the facilities with tobacco sale licenses in region 7.



Alcohol Permit Density

County	Density Rates per 100K	County	Density Rates per 100K
Bastrop	266.74	Lampasas	212.33
Bell	191.14	Lee	344.81
Blanco	465.16	Leon	252.74
Bosque	389.19	Limestone	241.95
Brazos	216.70	Llano	410.66
Burleson	438.65	McLennan	222.51
Burnet	258.36	Madison	204.97
Caldwell	240.21	Milam	336.93
Coryell	100.38	Mills	308.45
Falls	200.08	Robertson	336.80
Fayette	582.37	San Saba	375.68
Freestone	196.33	Travis	241.48
Grimes	415.41	Washington	399.37
Hamilton	426.31	Williamson	175.95
Hays	185.90	Region 7	227.09
Hill	243.85	Texas	203.32

Green =below state; Red = over region 7

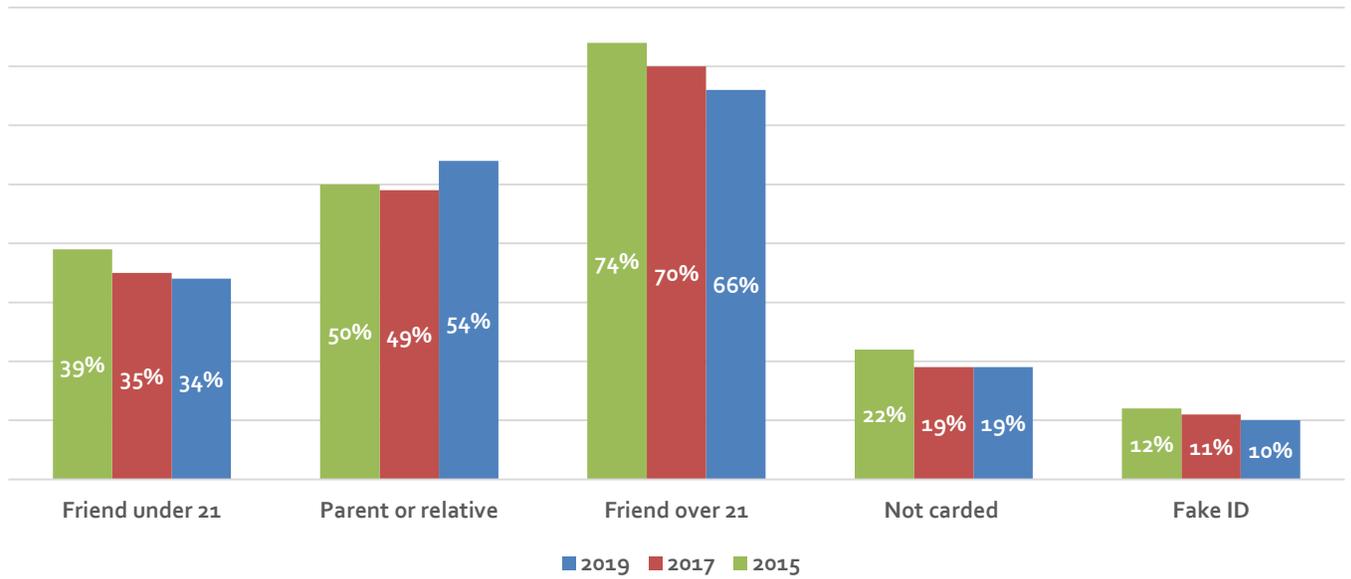
Tobacco Permit Density

County	Density Rates per 100K	County	Density Rates per 100K
Bastrop	128.2183	Lampasas	103.8079
Bell	97.8047	Lee	175.2303
Blanco	172.2801	Leon	224.656
Bosque	219.9786	Limestone	178.2758
Brazos	90.36286	Llano	159.1294
Burleson	219.3229	Madison	136.6494
Burnet	125.0795	McLennan	128.7163
Caldwell	104.5374	Milam	146.1395
Coryell	71.15358	Mills	185.0709
Falls	157.6426	Robertson	206.8069
Fayette	194.123	San Saba	221.9945
Freestone	156.0534	Travis	88.96946
Grimes	175.0893	Washington	175.6075
Hamilton	194.8843	Williamson	65.42936
Hays	72.47534	Region 7	98.00588
Hill	173.7766	Texas	101.9625

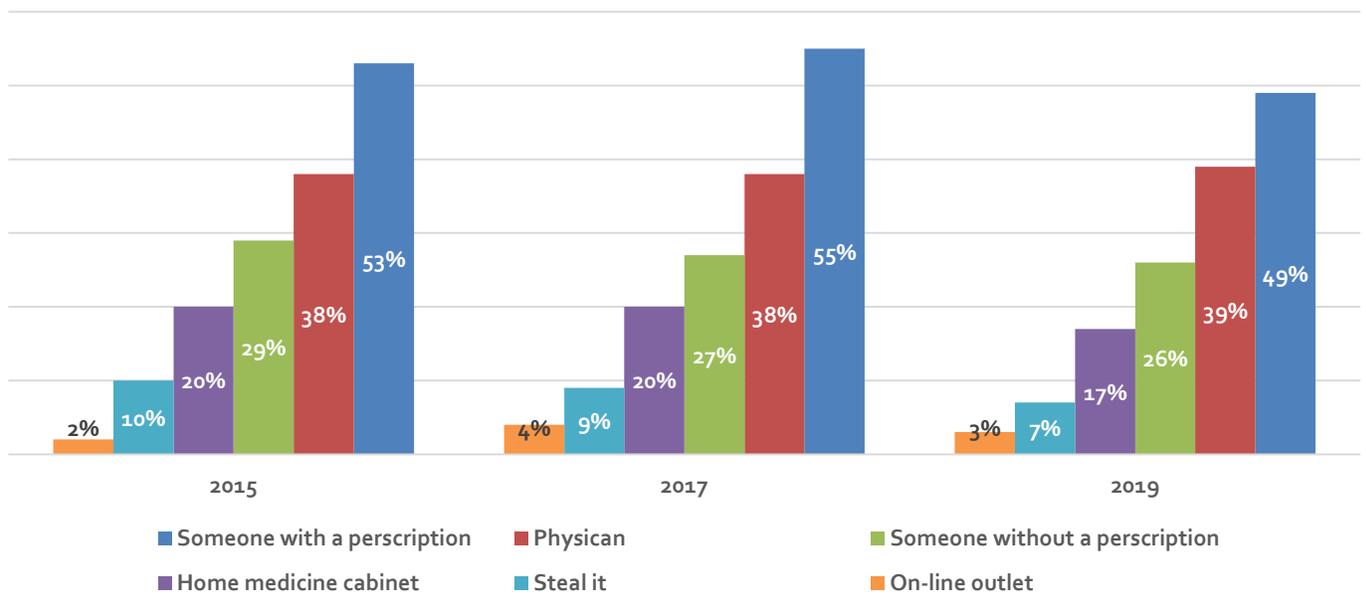
Green =below region 7; Red = over state

Source of Access

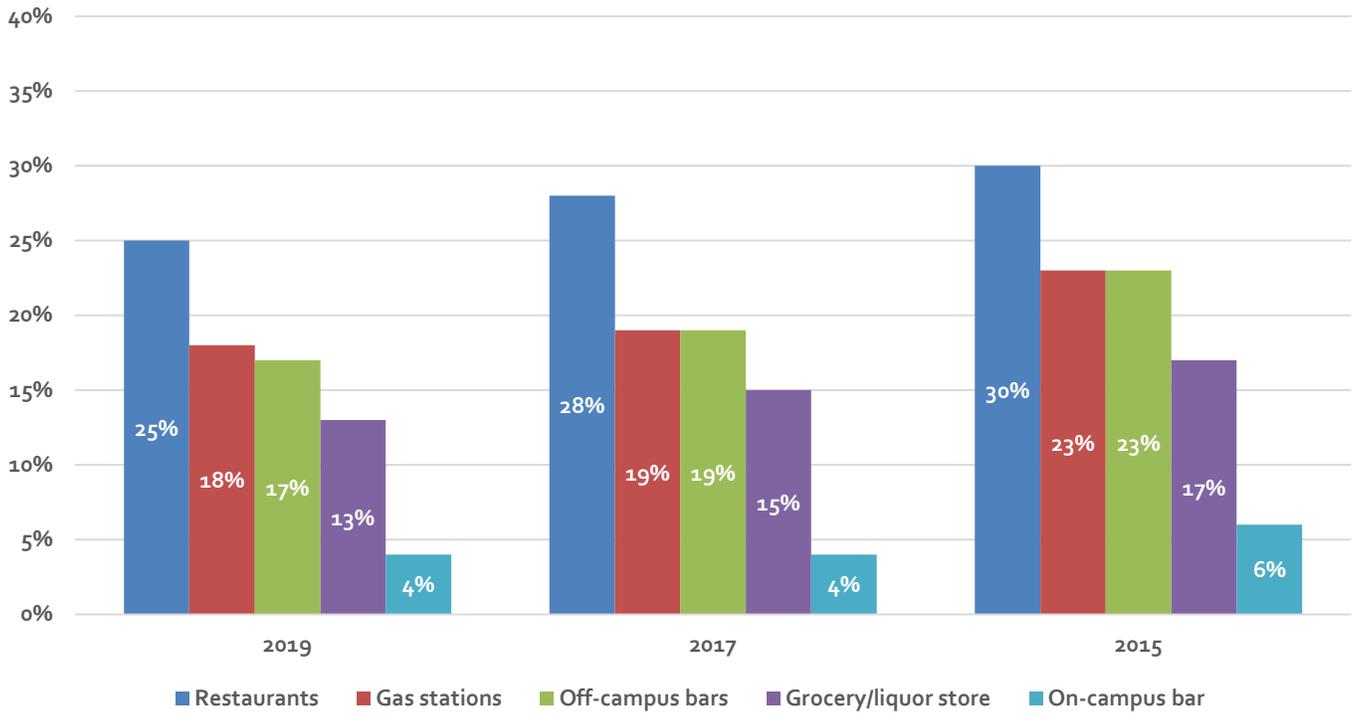
How Texas College Students Have Obtained Alcohol



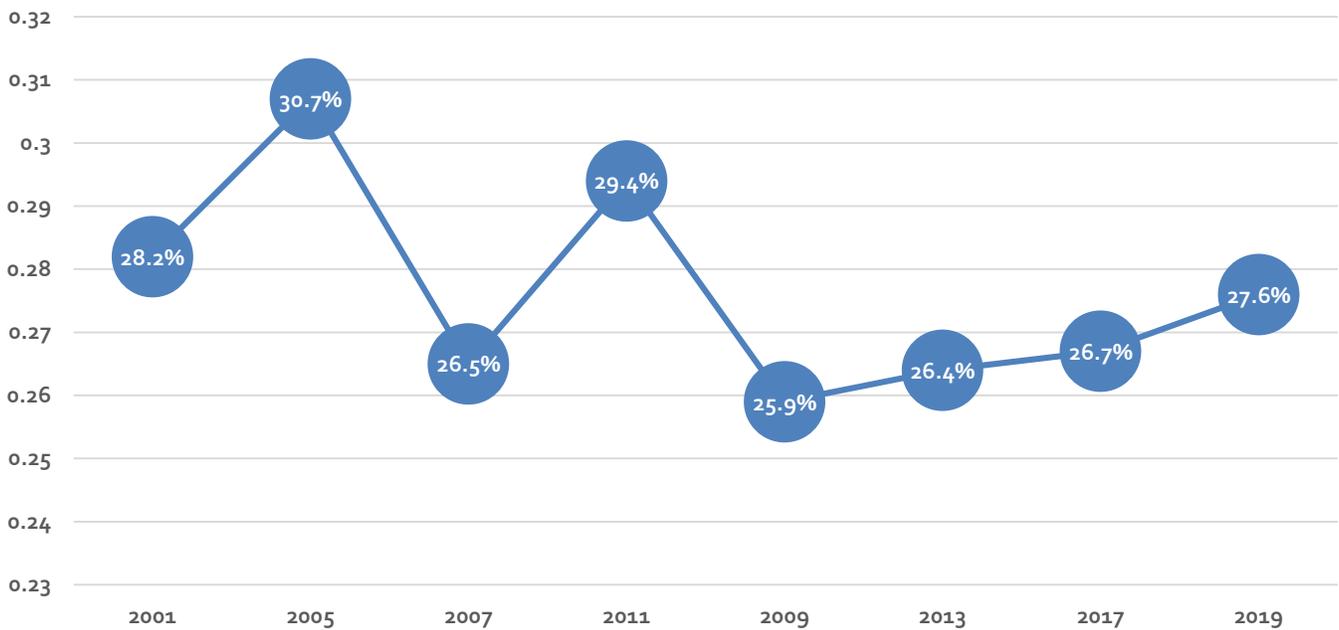
How Texas College Students Have Obtained Prescription Drugs



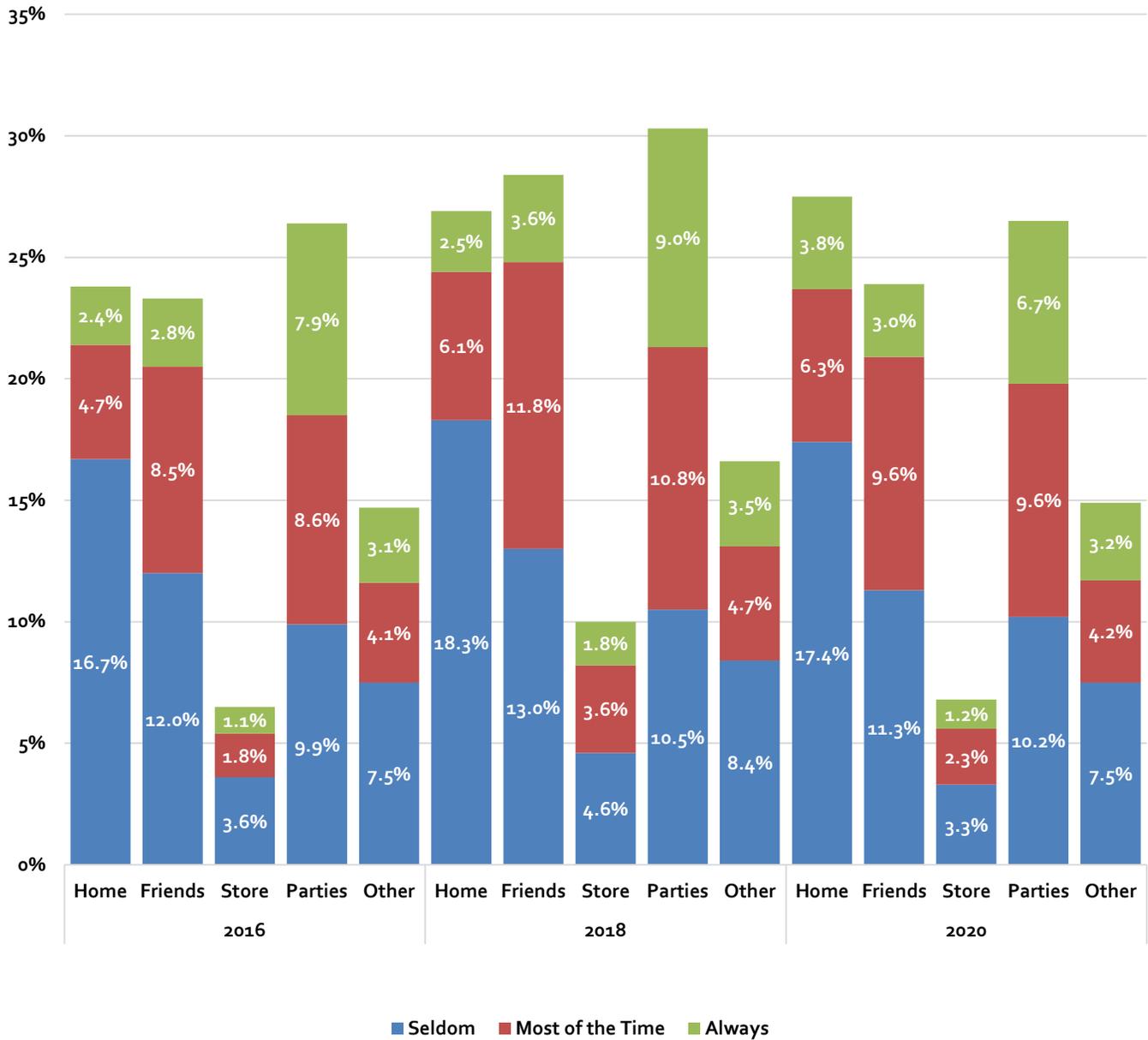
Where College Students Usually Get Alcohol without Being Carded?



Percentage of students who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property by someone during the past 12 months YRBS



How High-School Students Acquired Alcohol

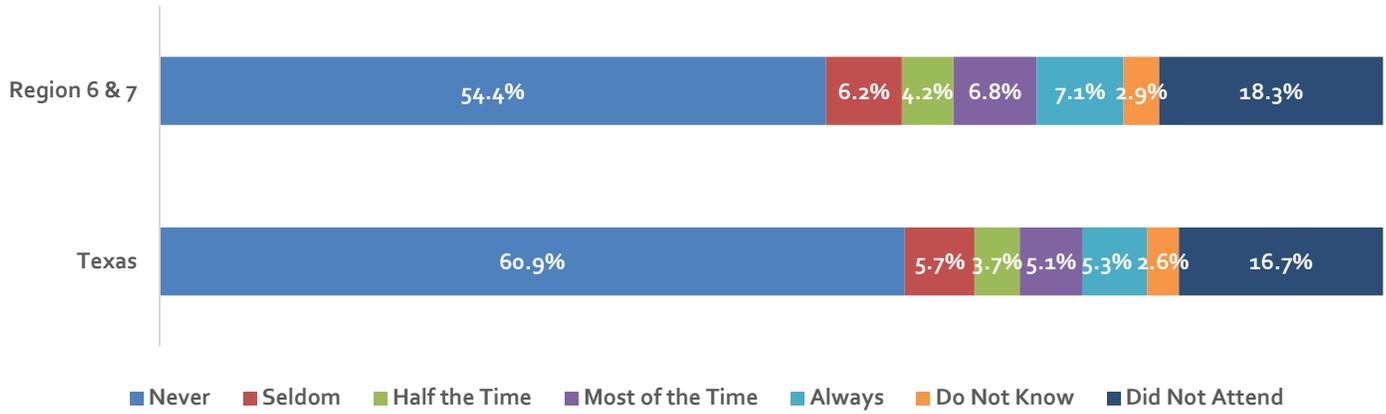


Drug Seizures/Trafficking

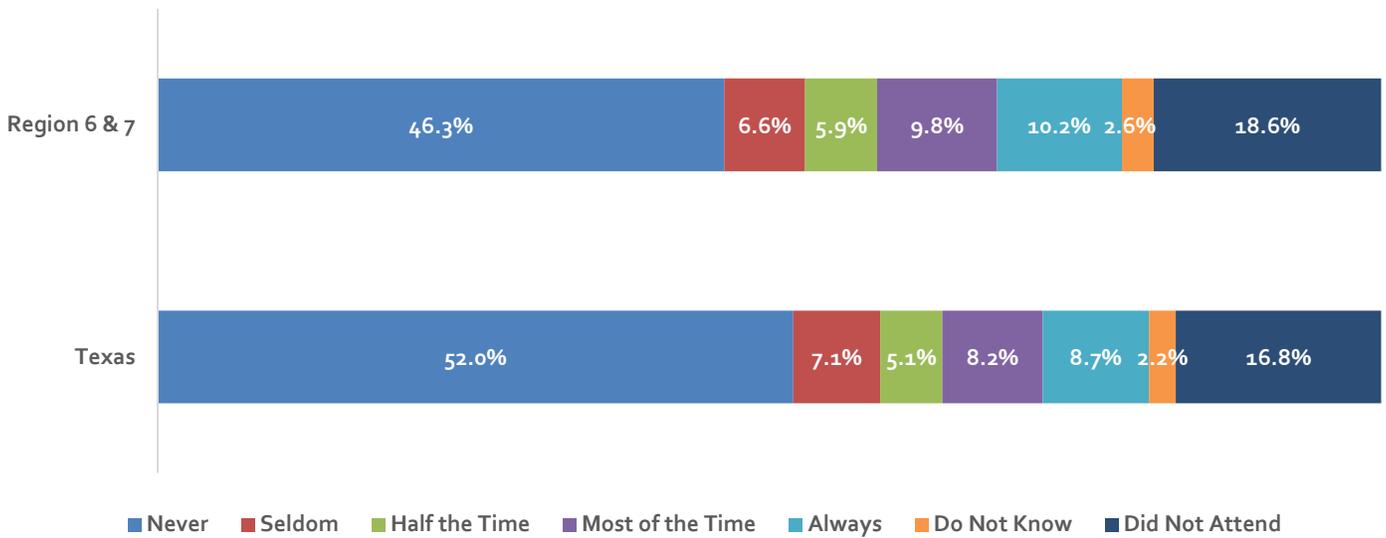
Description	Region 7 2015-2020			
	Solid Pounds	Liquid Ounces	Dose Units	Items
Marijuana(Packaged)	12,709.06	-	-	-
Marijuana(Plants)	-	-	-	6,653
Marijuana(Gardens)	-	-	-	129
Marijuana(Wild Fields)	-	-	-	2
Marijuana(Cultivated Fields)	-	-	-	65
Marijuana(Green Houses)	-	-	-	136
Hashish(Liquid Oil)	-	1363	-	-
Hashish(Solid)	123.6597	-	-	-
Opiates(Morphine)	3.0812	13	2,057	-
Opiates(Heroin)	196.8781	103	2,523	-
Opiates(Codeine)	65.7444	2,255	11,467	-
Opiates(Gum Opium)	6.804	-	-	-
Cocaine(Solid)	1,695.97	-	-	-
Cocaine(Liquid)	-	543	-	-
Hallucinogens(LSD)	2.2459	202	8912	-
Hallucinogens(PCP)	11.1168	64	147	-
Hallucinogens(Mushrooms)	50.8339	-	3	-
Hallucinogens(Peyote)	0.6179	-	-	-
Hallucinogens(Designer Drugs)	367.442	2528	30445	-
Precursor Chemicals	4.8221	212	-	-
Other Drugs(Barbiturates)	-	311	12,611	-
Other Drugs(Amphetamines)	364.7586	5,090	7,413	-
Other Drugs(Methamphetamines)	4,539.81	1,040	6,011	-
Other Drugs(Tranquilizers)	-	176	70,196	-
Other Drugs(Synthetic Narcotics)	-	1,229	65,373	-
Clandestine Labs	-	-	-	163

Perceived Access

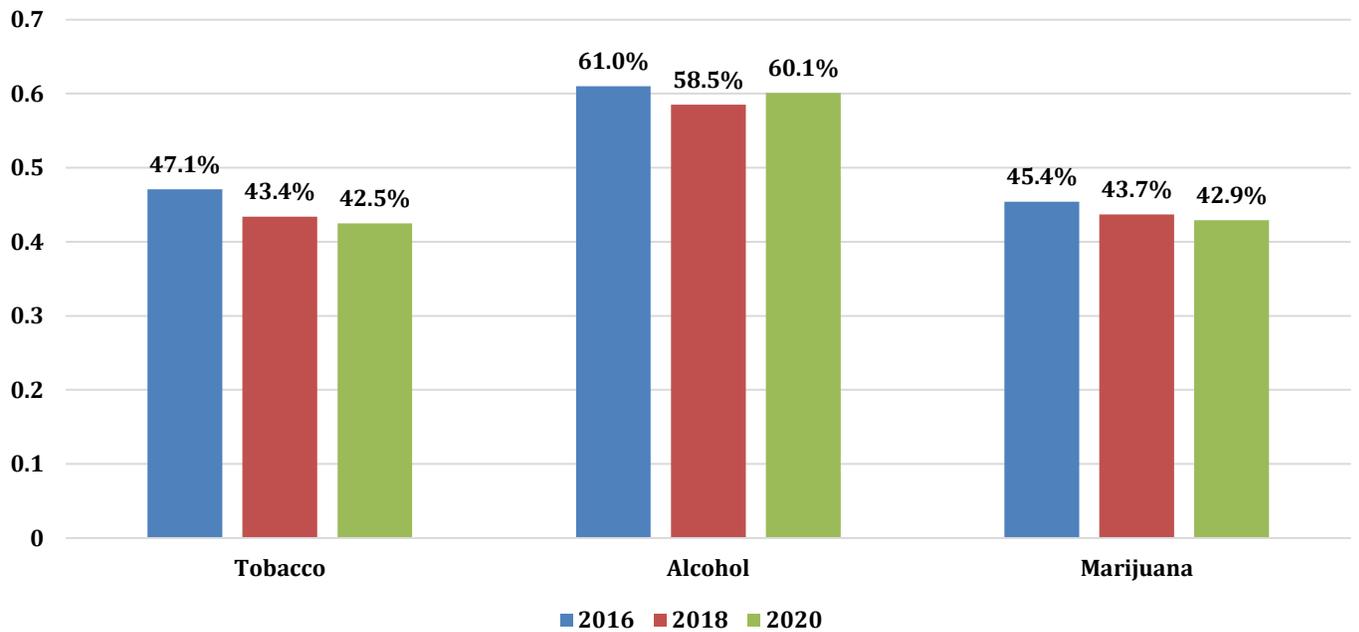
Marijuana Presence at High School Parties



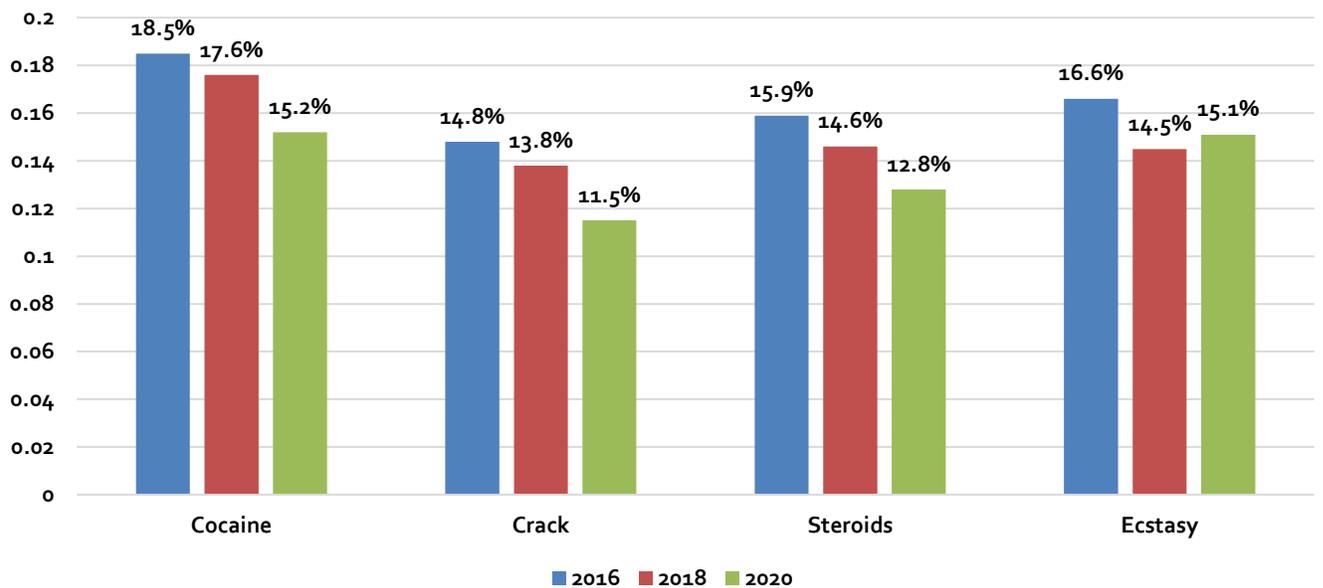
Alcohol Presence at High School Parties



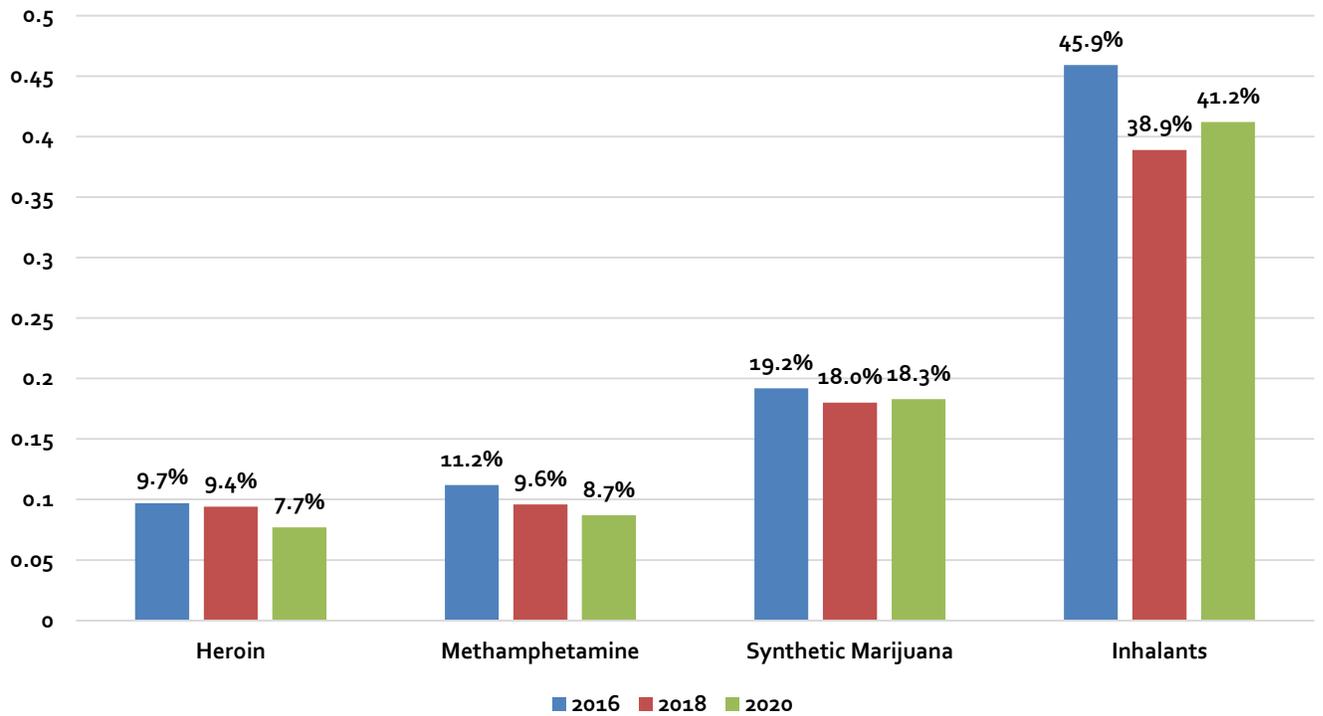
Percent of High-School Students Who Percieved it would be "Somewhat Difficult - Very Easy" to Acquire



Percent of High-School Students Who Percieved it would be "Somewhat Difficult - Very Easy" to Acquire

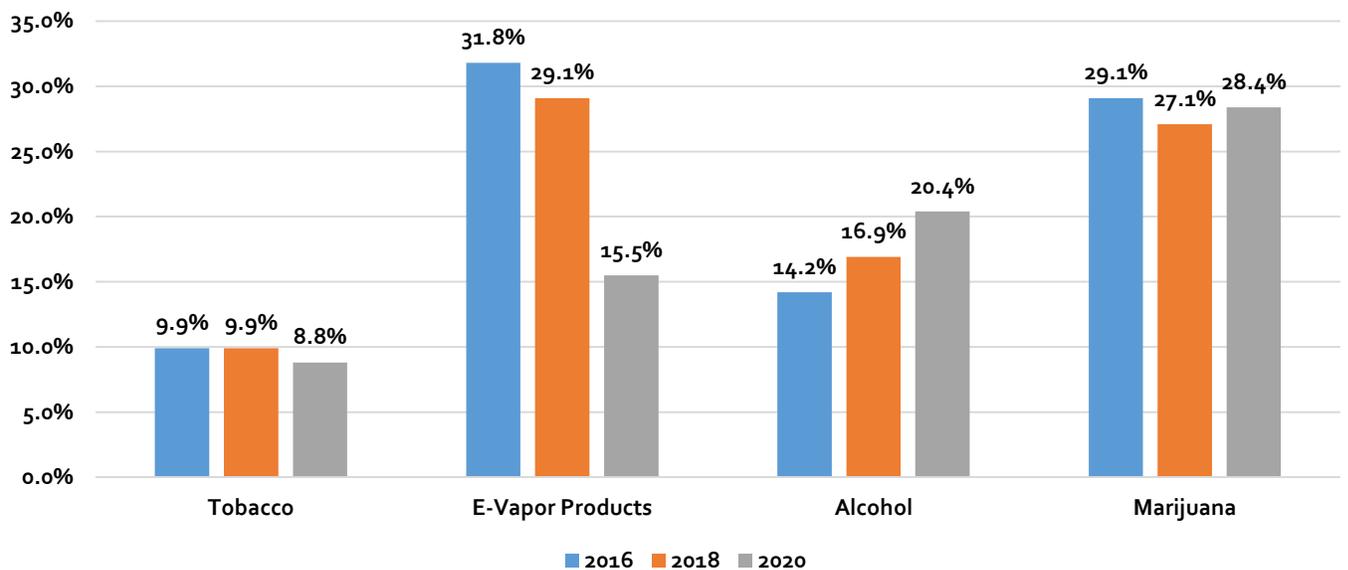


Percent of High-School Students Who Perceived it would be "Somewhat Difficult - Very Easy" to Acquire

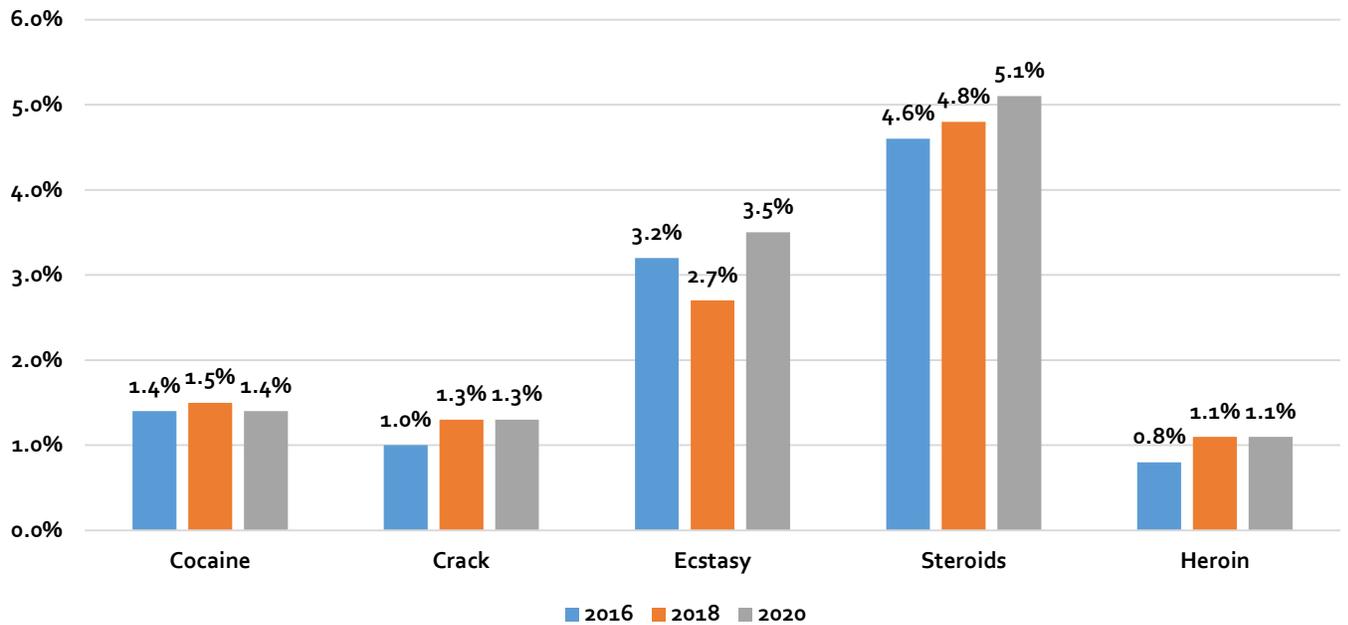


Perceived Risk of Harm

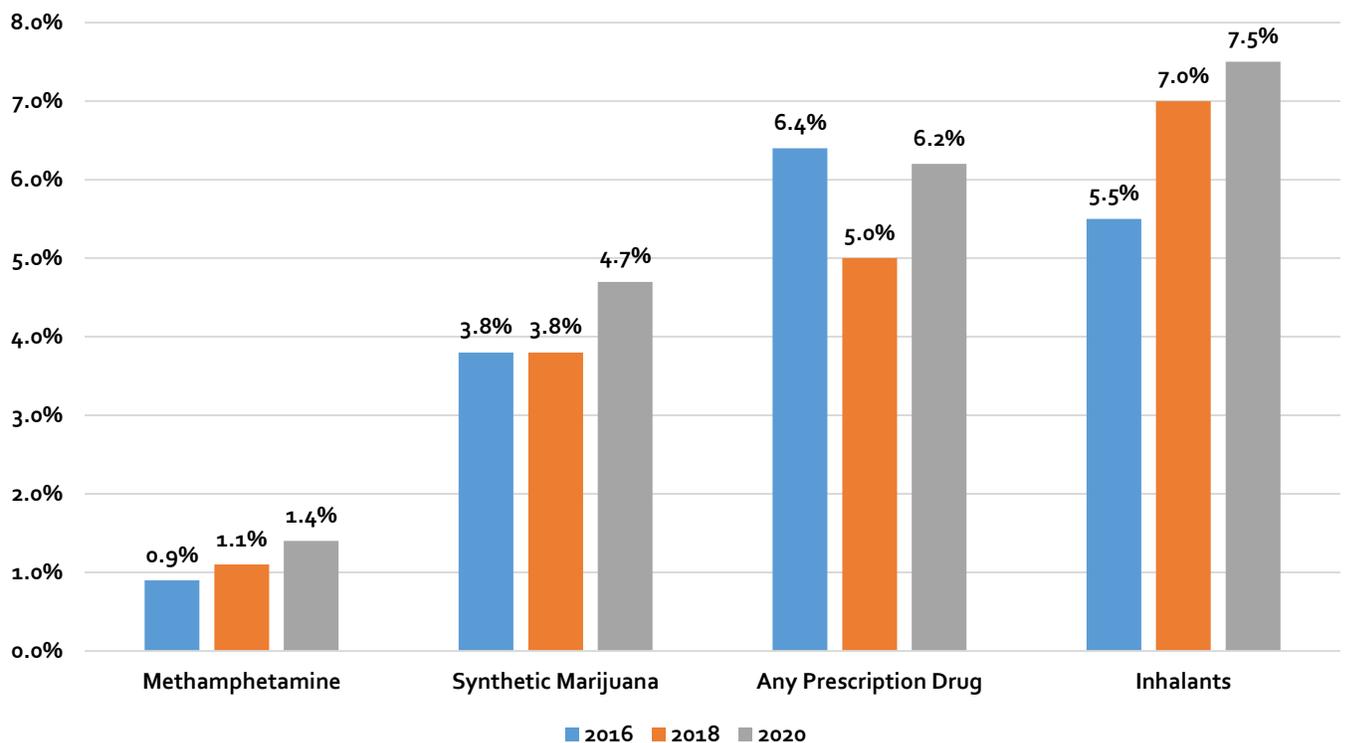
Percent of High-School Students Who Perceive the Following are "Not Very - Not at All" Dangerous



Percent of High-School Students Who Percieve the Following are "Not Very - Not at All" Dangerous



Percent of High-School Students Who Percieve the Following are "Not Very - Not at All" Dangerous

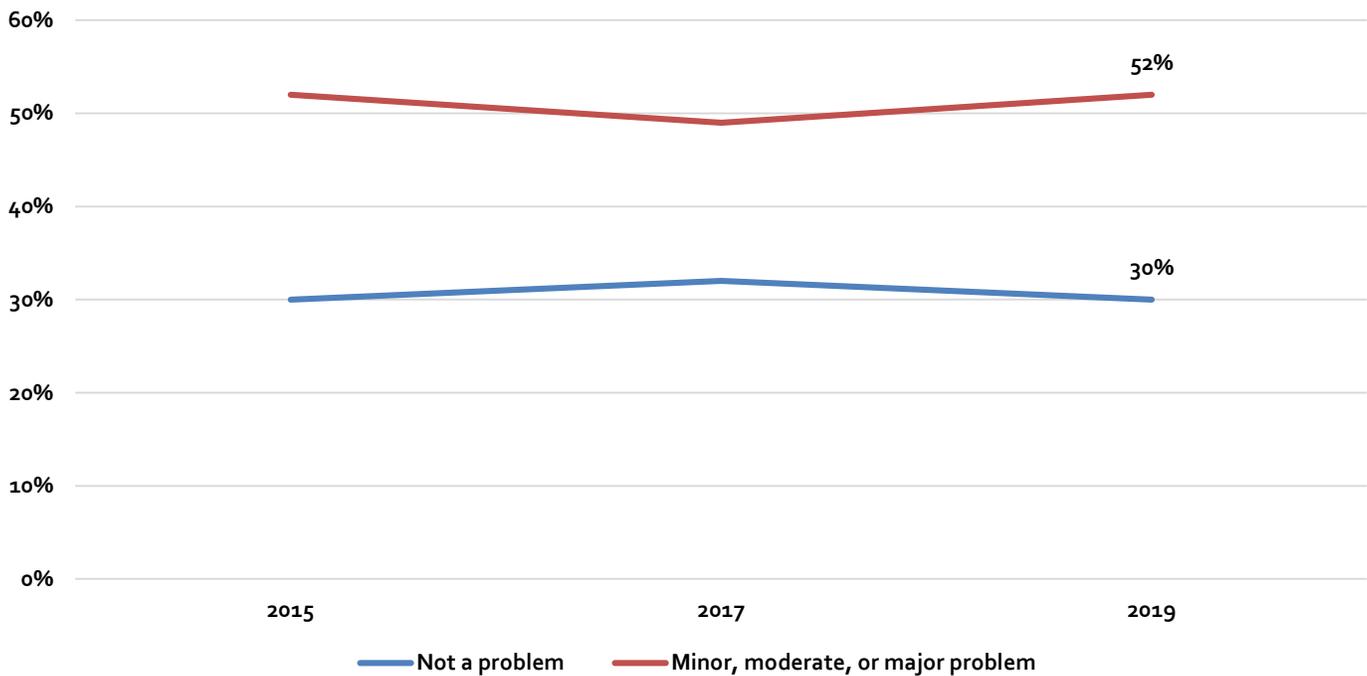


Percentage of College Students that Believe a Drug is Somewhat or Very Dangerous

Substance	2019	2017	2015
Marijuana	40%	37%	41%
Cocaine or Crack	96%	96%	95%
Stimulants	96%	95%	95%
Sedatives	89%	89%	87%
Psychedelics or hallucinogens	82%	84%	85%
Heroin	97%	96%	96%
Narcotics other than heroin	94%	92%	90%
Inhalants	90%	90%	92%
Anabolic steroids	82%	81%	83%
Dextromethorphan DXM	74%	75%	76%
Synthetic Cathinones	86%	89%	90%
MDMA, MDA or PMA	86%	80%	88%
Synthetic Marijuana	82%	84%	84%

Social Norms

College Students "Is drug abuse a problem on your campus"

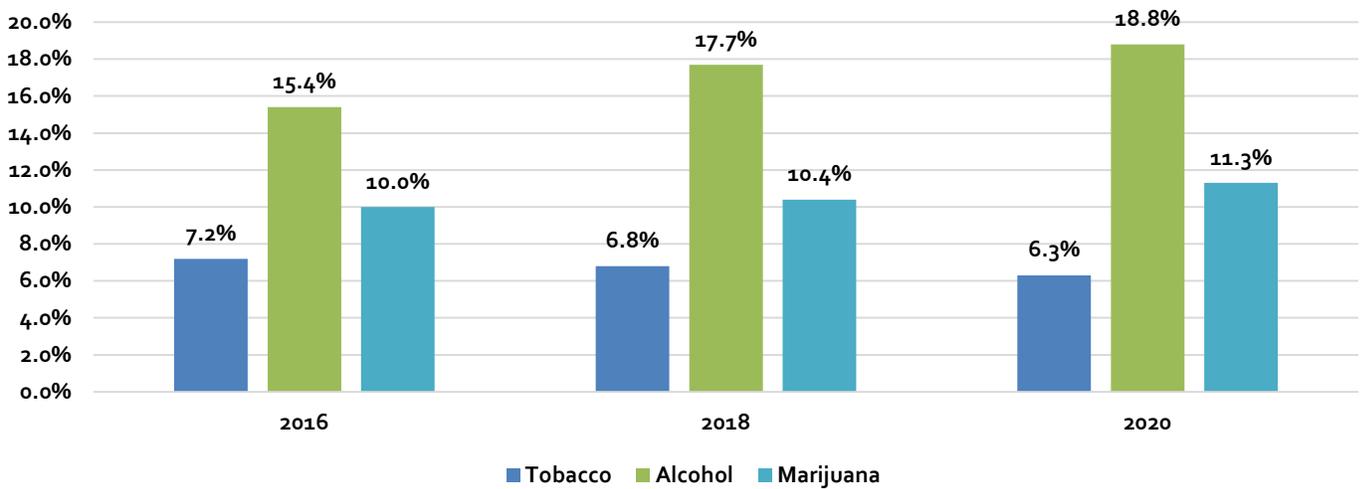


**It is a minor, moderate,
or major problem on campus**

Substance Issue	2015	2017	2019
Drug Abuse	52%	49%	52%
Underage Drinking	60%	64%	65%
Binge Drinking	56%	55%	57%

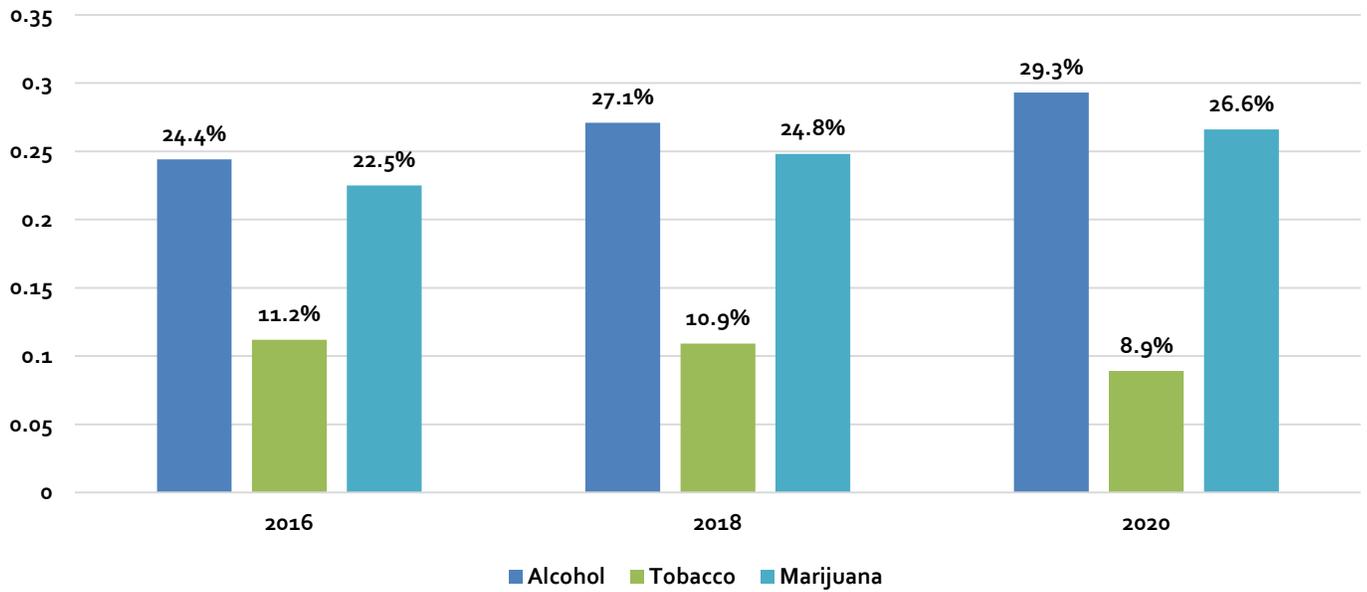
Parental Approval/Consumption

High-School Student Parental Approval of Use "Neither Approve nor Disapprove - Strongly Approve"



Peer Approval/Consumption

Percent High-School Students' Close Friends Who Use "Some - All"



Access to Care

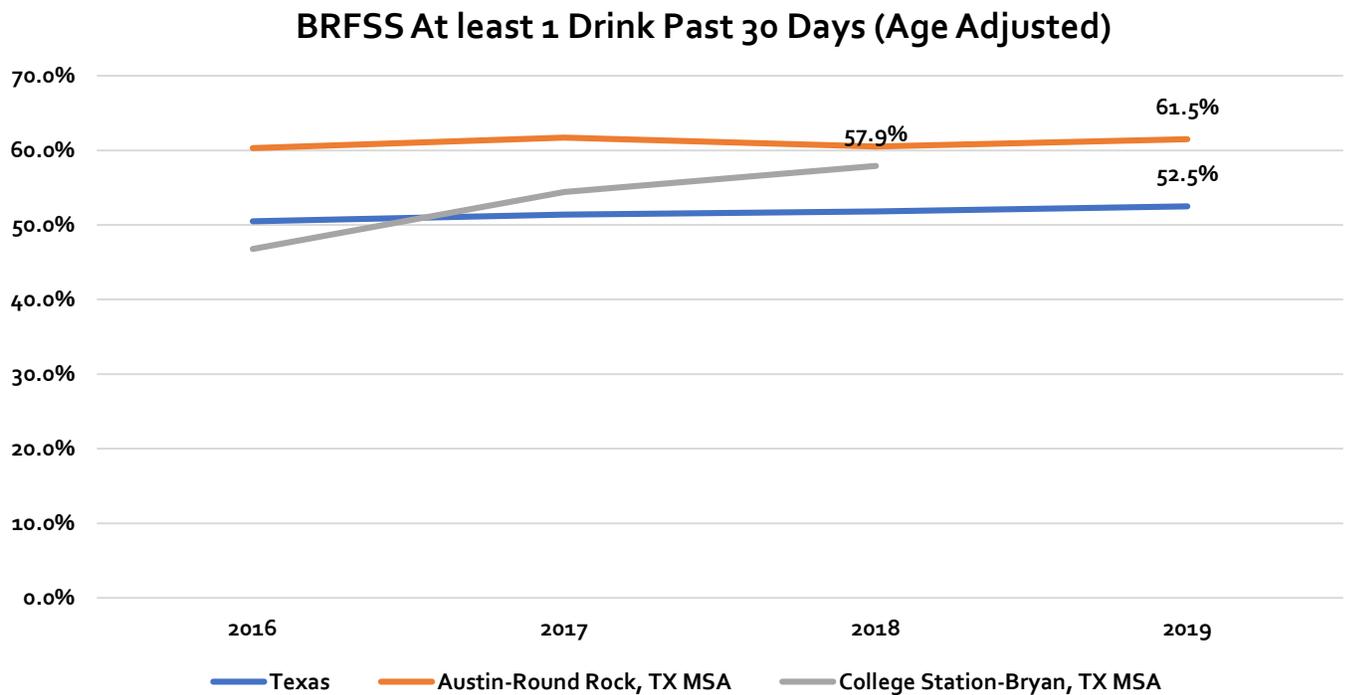
84 facilities for behavioral health treatment in region.

Regional Consumption

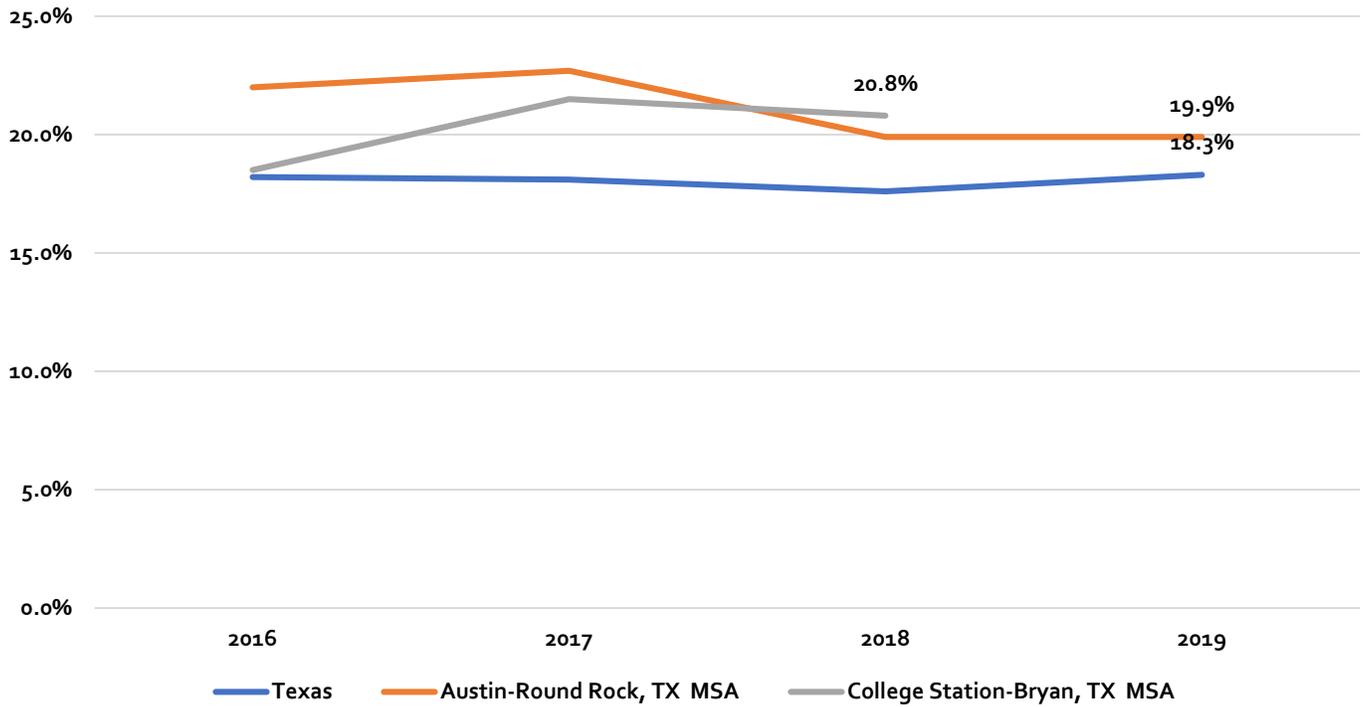
Adult Consumption

Alcohol

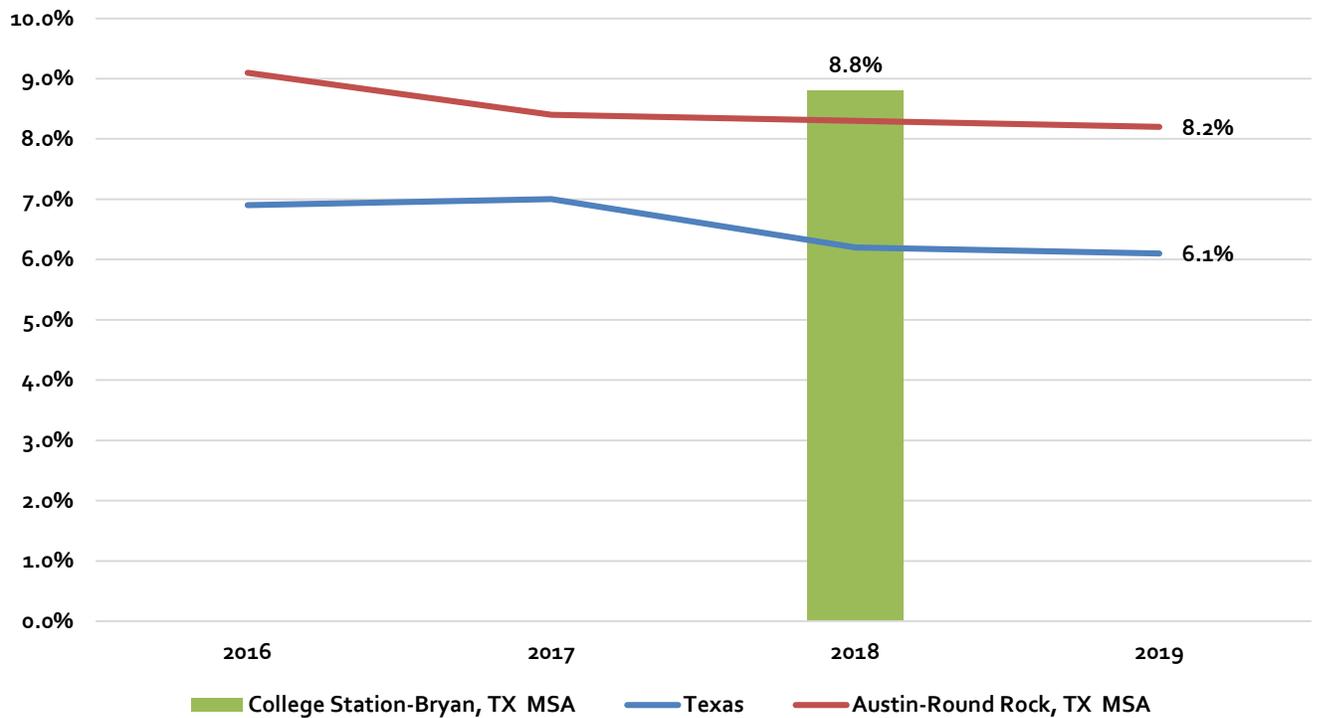
The NIAAA’s standard definition of binge drinking is drinking behaviors that raise an individual’s Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) up to or above the level of .08gm%, which is typically five or more drinks for men and four or more drinks for women, within a two-hour time span. At-risk or heavy drinking is defined as more than four drinks a day or 14 drinks per week for men and more than three drinks a day or seven drinks per week for women. “Benders ” are considered two or more days of sustained heavy drinking.



BRFSS Binge Drinking Past 30 Days (Age Adjusted)



BRFSS Met Criteria for Heavy Drinking (Age Adjusted)



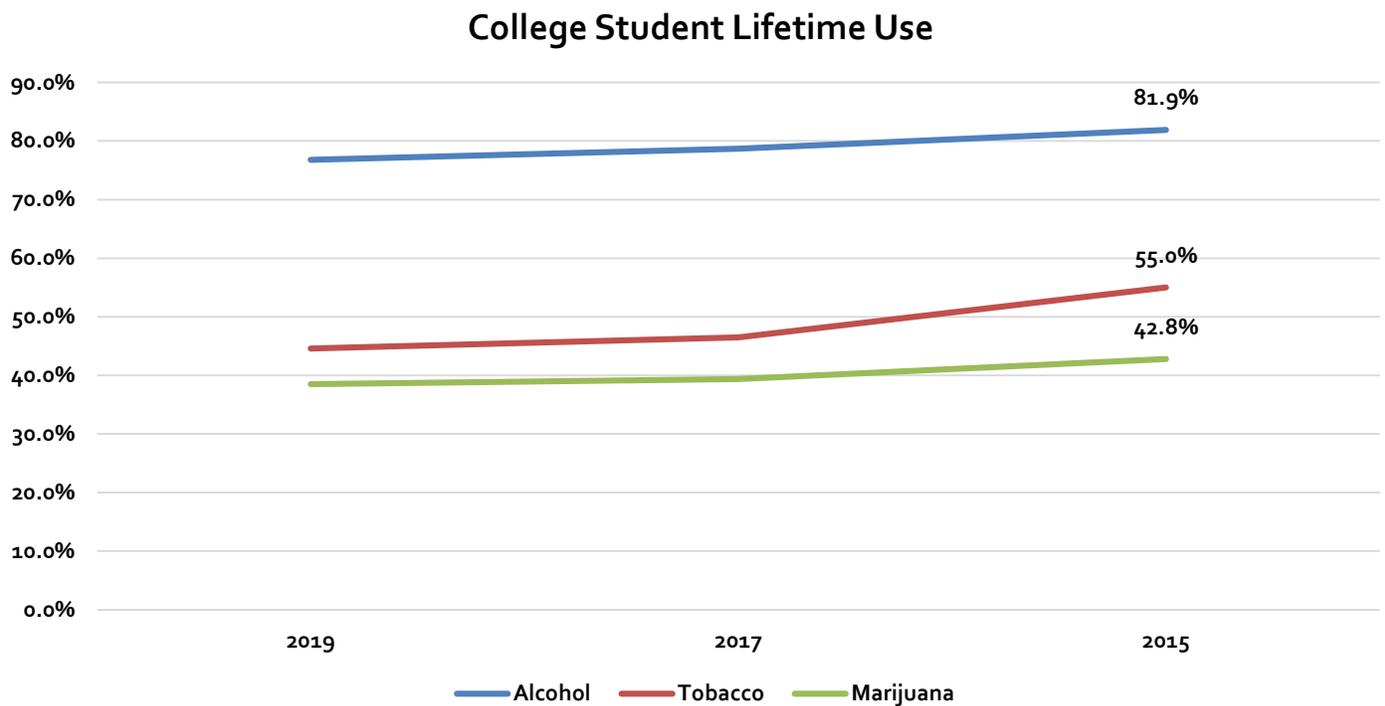
Tobacco

Smoker Status		2016	2017	2018	2019
Texas	Smoke everyday	8.4	9.3	9.2	9
Texas	Smoke some days	5.8	6.5	5.1	5.7
Texas	Former smoker	22.8	19.6	21.3	19.8
Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA	Smoke everyday	8.3	6.7	6.3	6.9
Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA	Smoke some days	6.1	5.7	4.7	4.2
Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA	Former smoker	23.8	23	20.5	24.4
College Station-Bryan, TX MSA	Smoke everyday	*	*	8.7	-
College Station-Bryan, TX MSA	Smoke some days	*	*	7.9	-
College Station-Bryan, TX MSA	Former smoker	16.6	21.3	15.2	-

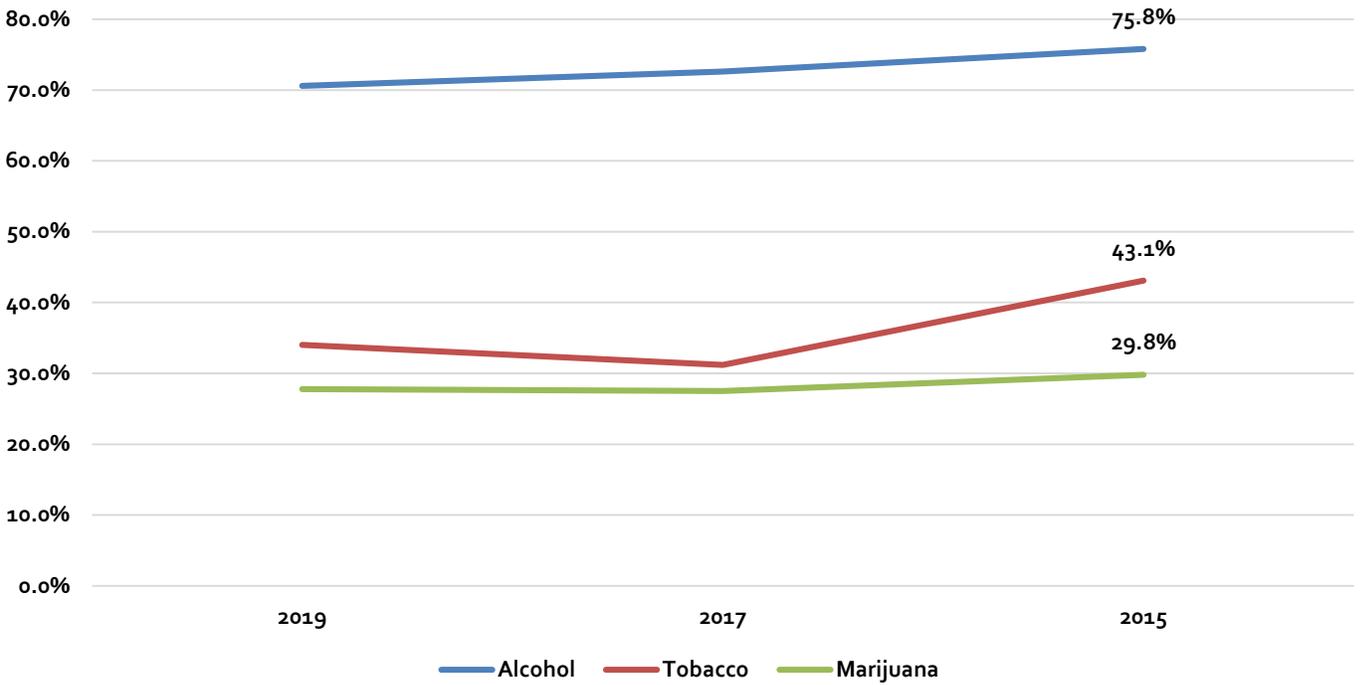
Smokeless Tobacco Use

		2016	2017	2018	2019
Texas	Every day	2.3	2.6	1.8	2
Texas	Some days	2	1.6	2	1.7
Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA	Every day	*	1.8	1.4	*
Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA	Some days	*	2.5	1.9	1.2

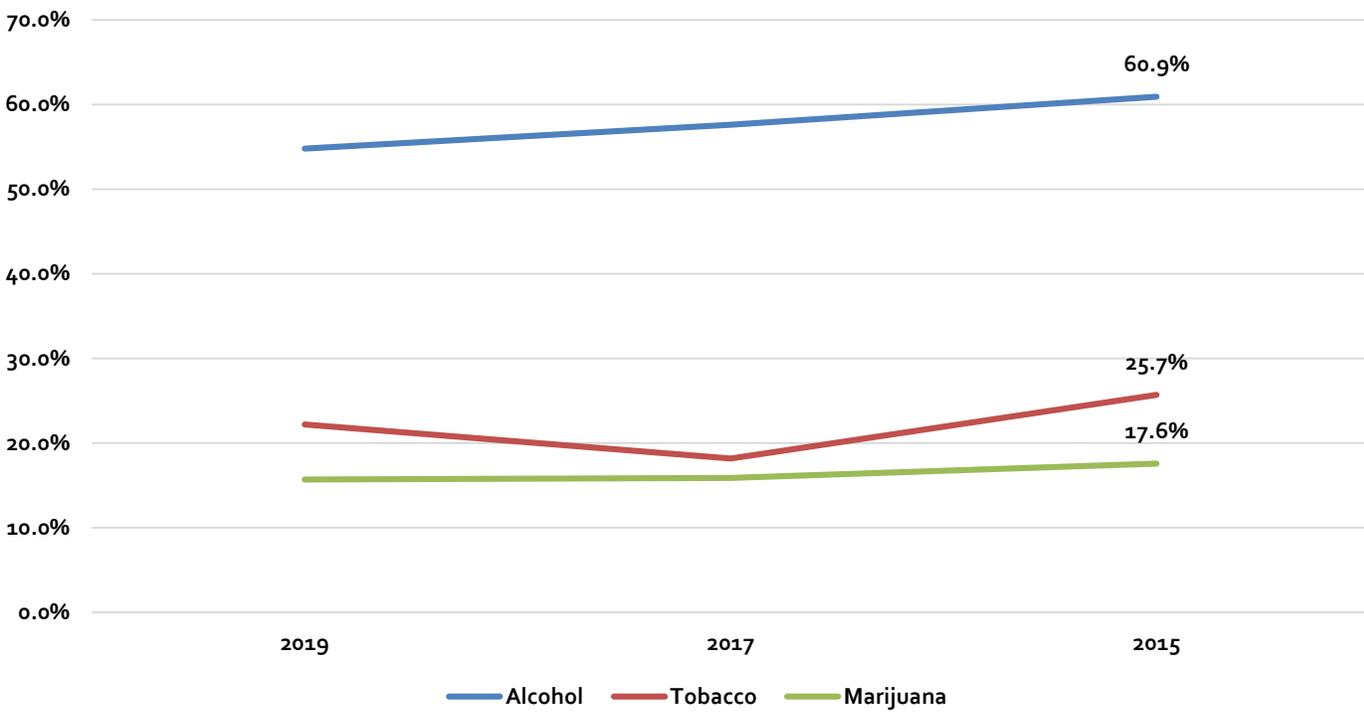
College Student Consumption



College Student Past Year Use

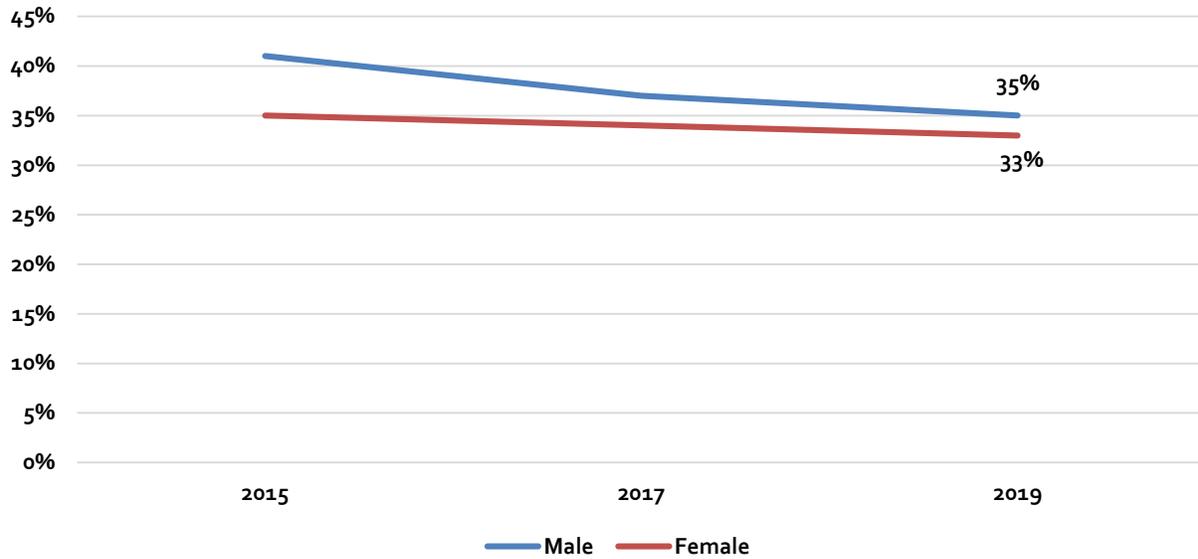


College Student Past Month Use

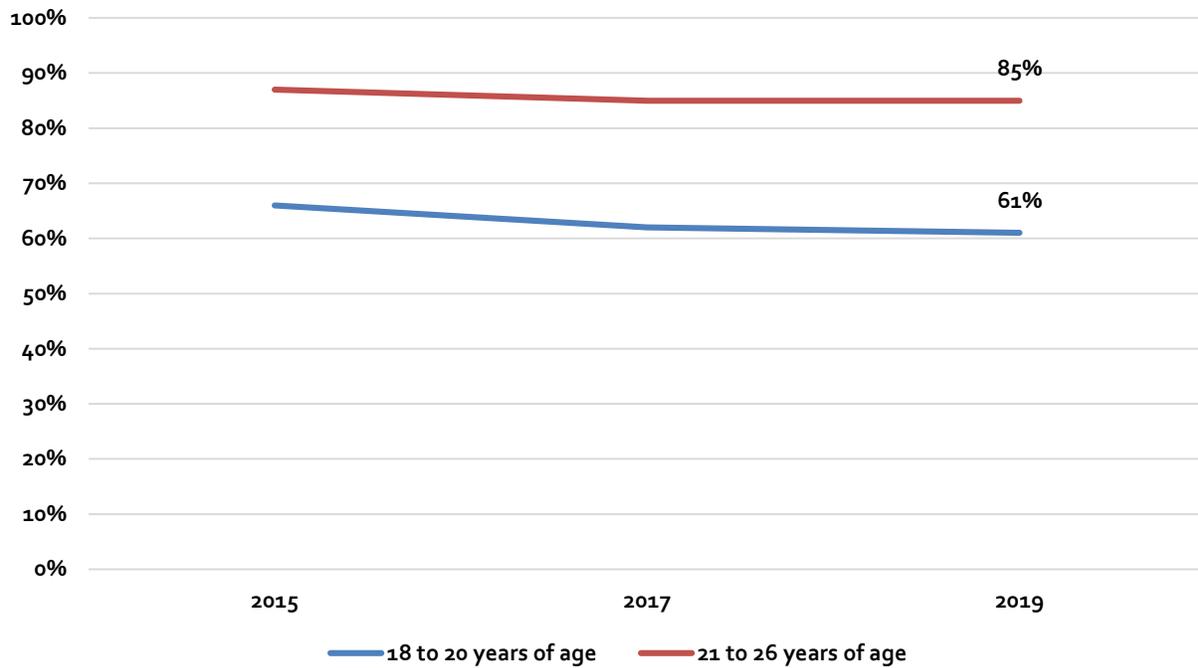


Alcohol Expanded

College Students Reporting Binge Drinking in the Past 30 Days



College Student Alcohol Consumption in the Past Year



Drinking and Driving Behavior

	2015	2017	2019
Have driven once after drinking alcohol in a typical month	23%	18%	16%
Have driven once after drinking 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a typical month	9%	5%	4%
Have driven drunk or stoned in the past month	13.4%	11.5%	10%
Have ridden in a car with someone high or drunk	25%	22%	21%
Served as a designated driver at least once in a typical month	50%	47%	47%
Have ridden with a designated driver in the past month	na	41%	41%
Have been involved in an auto accident involving a drunk driver	2.2%	1.7%	1.5%
Said they had been in a drunk driving accident, they reported they were the intoxicated driver	25%	19%	19%

Illicit Drugs Excluding Marijuana**College Student Lifetime Use**

Substance	2019	2017	2015
Inhalants	2.5%	2.9%	3.9%
DXM	6.1%	6.2%	7.3%
Synthetic Marijuana	2.8%	5.2%	9.0%
Cocaine	6.1%	7.3%	0.0%
Stimulants	4.1%	5.1%	8.8%
Sedatives	9.1%	10.2%	6.5%
Hallucinogens	9.2%	9.4%	12.1%
Heroin	0.5%	0.8%	10.8%
Other Narcotics	6.6%	7.9%	1.2%
Steroids	0.9%	1.1%	1.0%
Bath Salts	0.6%	0.9%	1.1%
MDMA	5.8%	7.0%	9.5%

College Student Past Year Use

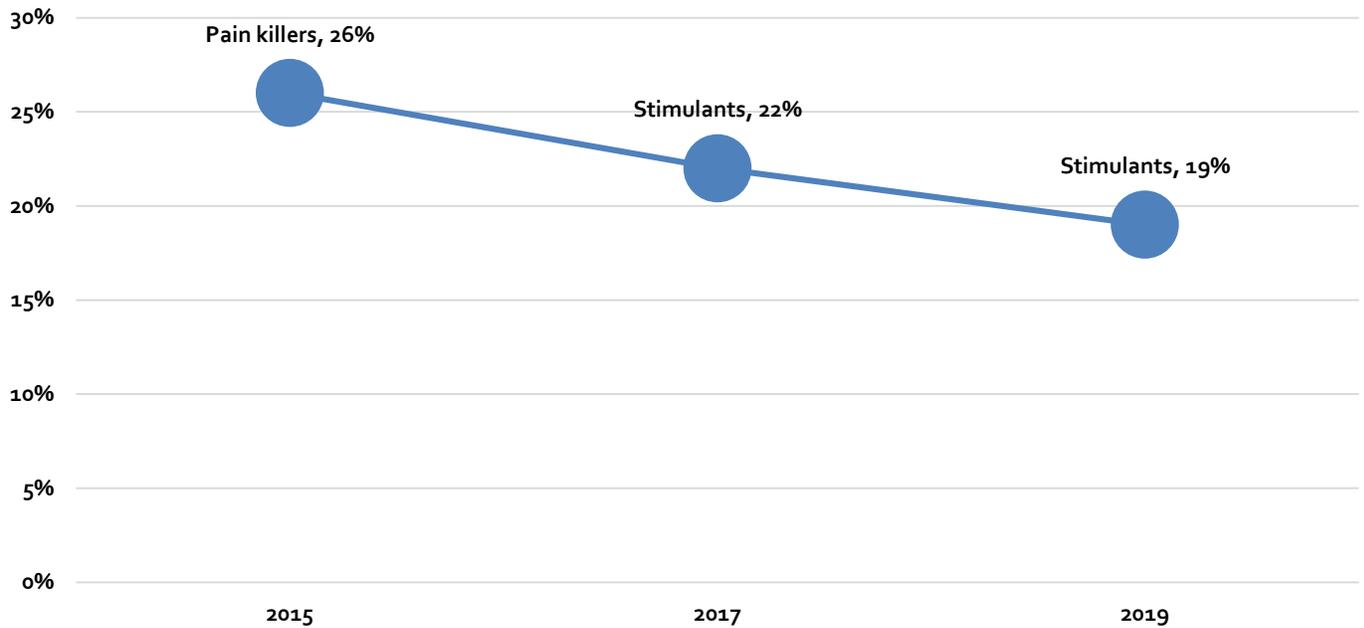
Substance	2019	2017	2015
Inhalants	1.0%	1.0%	1.3%
DXM	3.0%	3.2%	4.0%
Synthetic Marijuana	0.5%	0.6%	1.1%
Cocaine	3.0%	4.1%	4.9%
Stimulants	2.5%	3.0%	3.9%
Sedatives	4.7%	5.5%	7.4%
Hallucinogens	5.1%	4.6%	5.7%
Heroin	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%
Other Narcotics	2.7%	3.2%	6.6%
Steroids	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%
Bath Salts	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
MDMA	2.7%	3.0%	4.1%

College Student Past Month Use

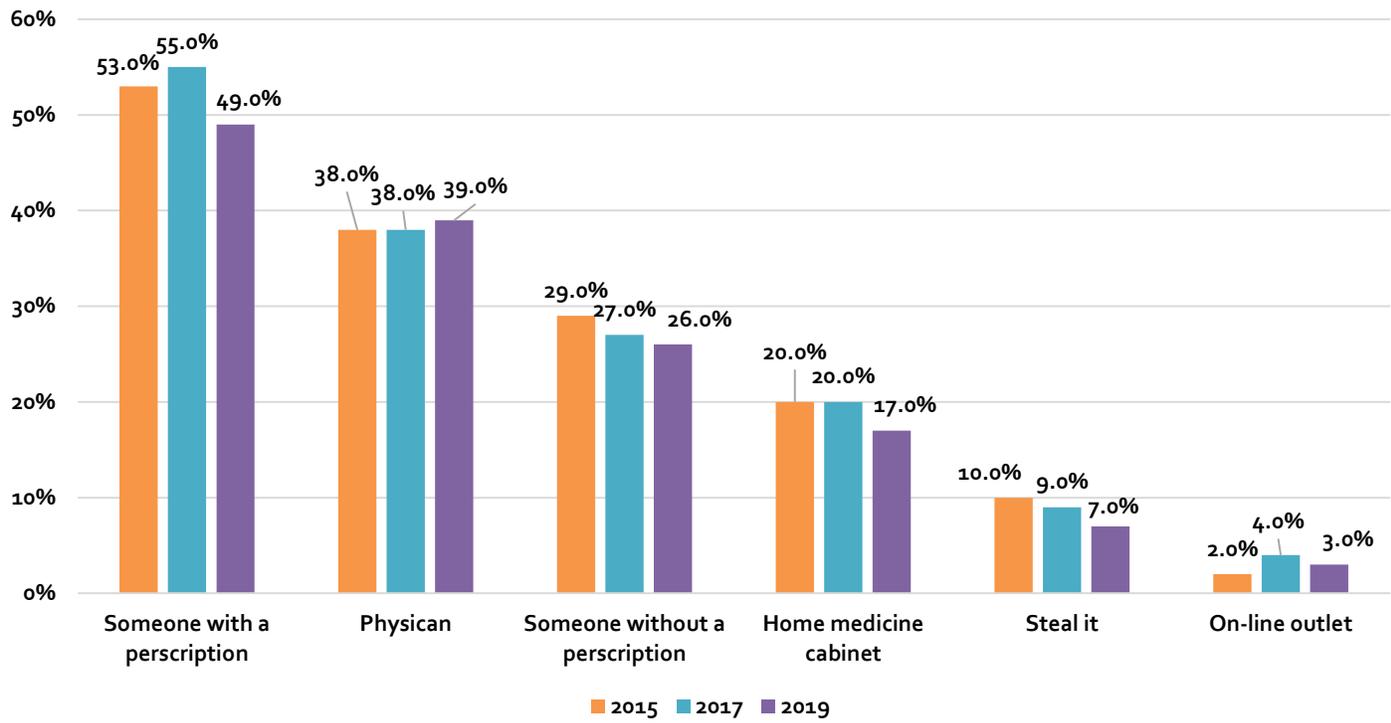
Substance	2019	2017	2015
Inhalants	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
DXM	1.0%	1.0%	1.8%
Synthetic Marijuana	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Cocaine	1.0%	1.5%	2.1%
Stimulants	1.3%	1.3%	2.2%
Sedatives	2.3%	2.5%	3.0%
Hallucinogens	1.7%	1.5%	1.6%
Heroin	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Other Narcotics	0.8%	1.0%	2.1%
Steroids	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Bath Salts	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
MDMA	0.7%	0.8%	1.1%

Prescription Drugs

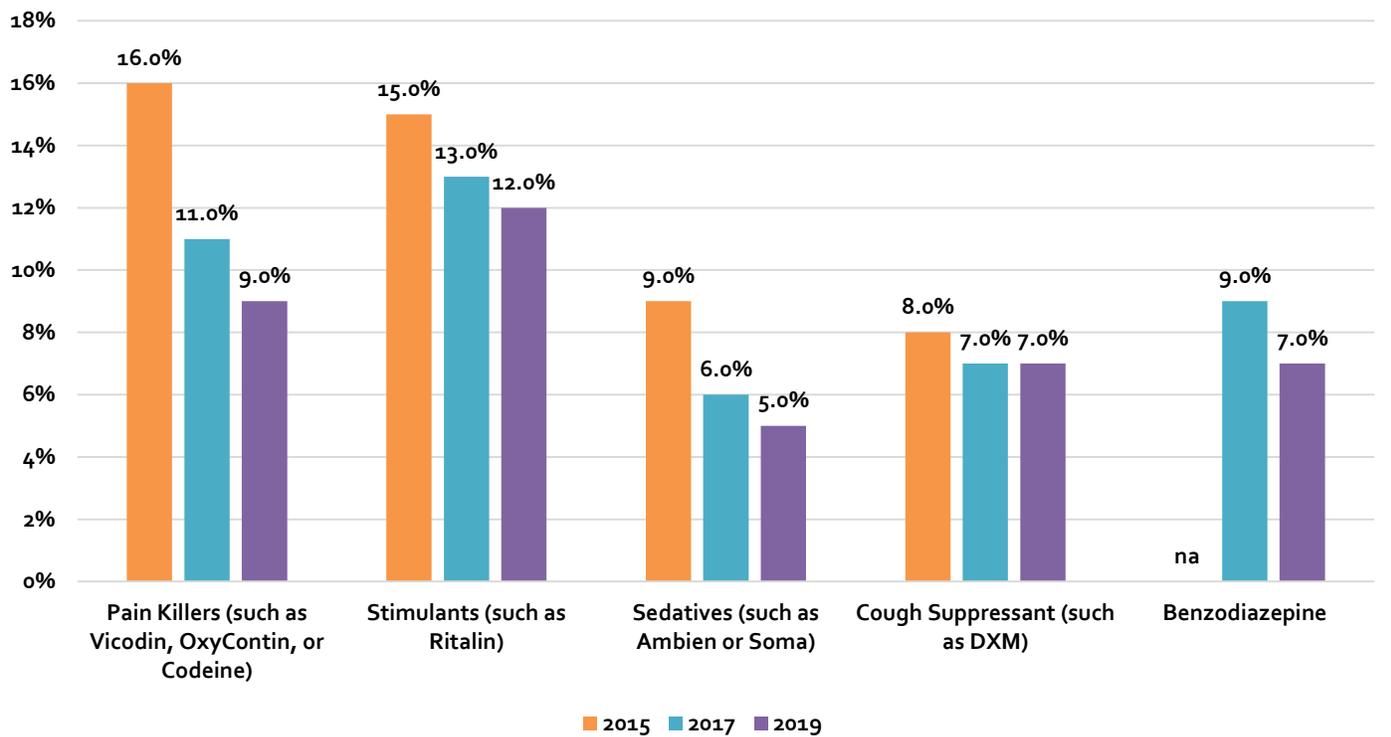
Uses a Rx to get High + Most Commonly Abused Rx



How College Students Acquired Misused Rx Drugs

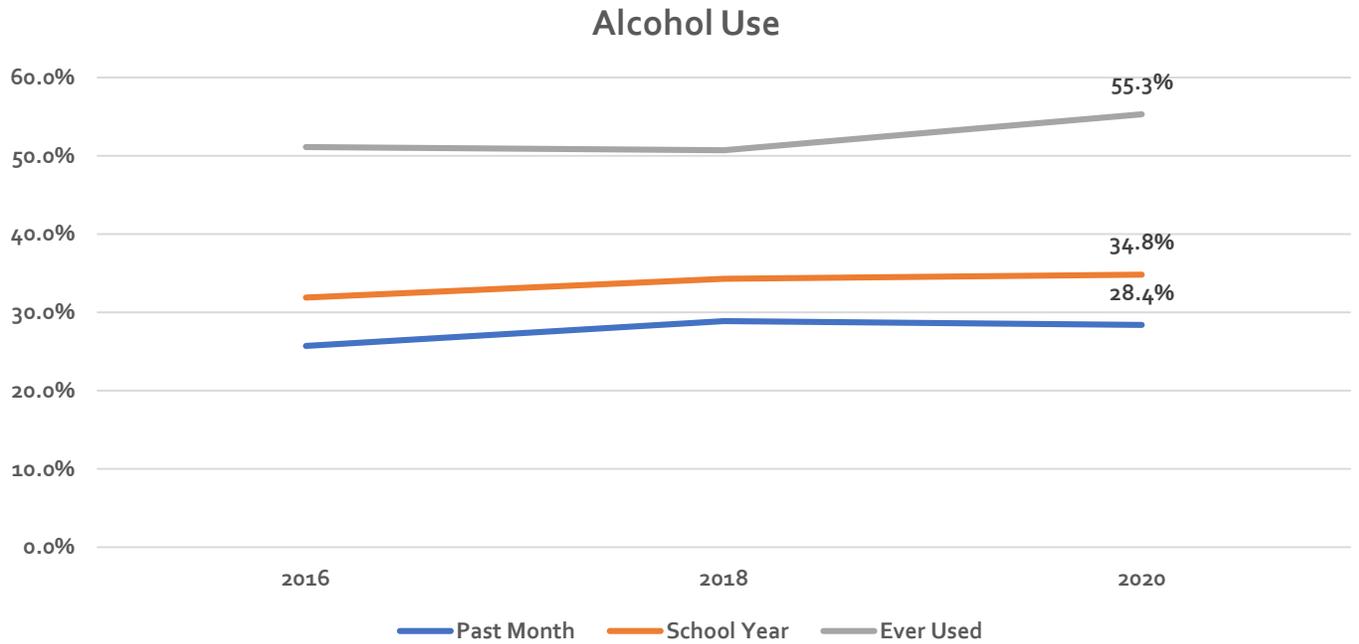


College Student Lifetime Misuse of Rx Drugs



Texas School Survey

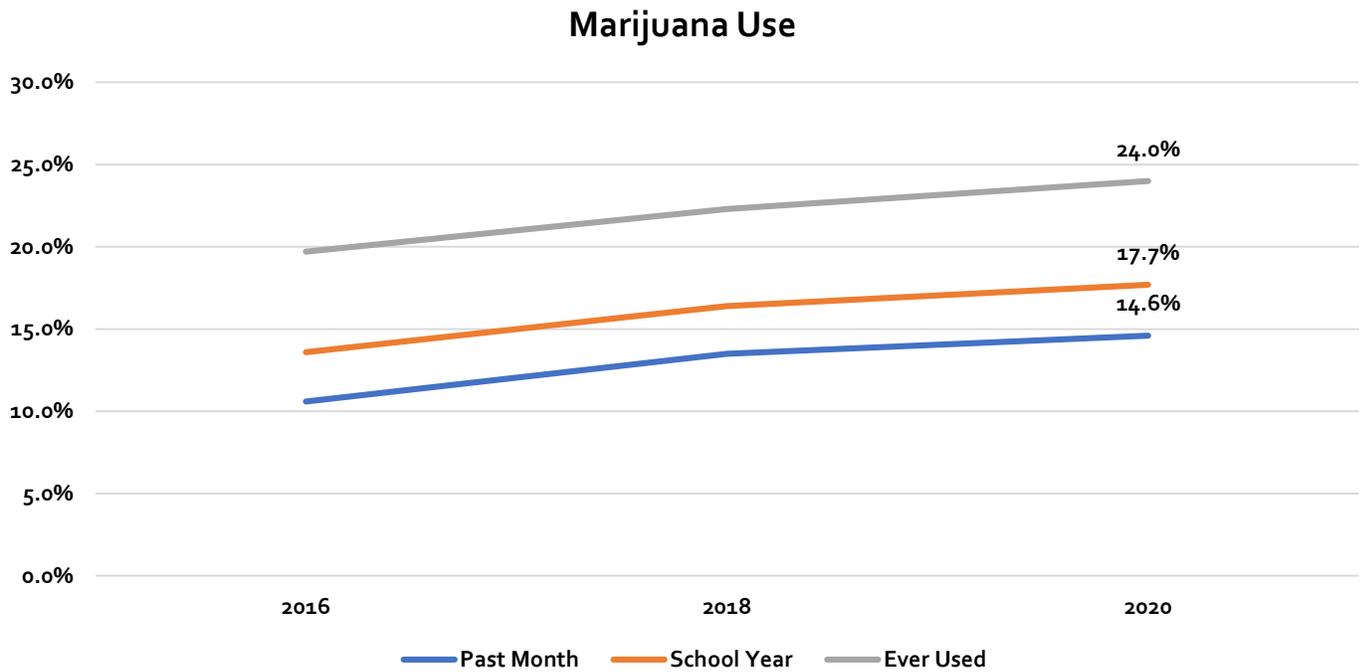
Alcohol



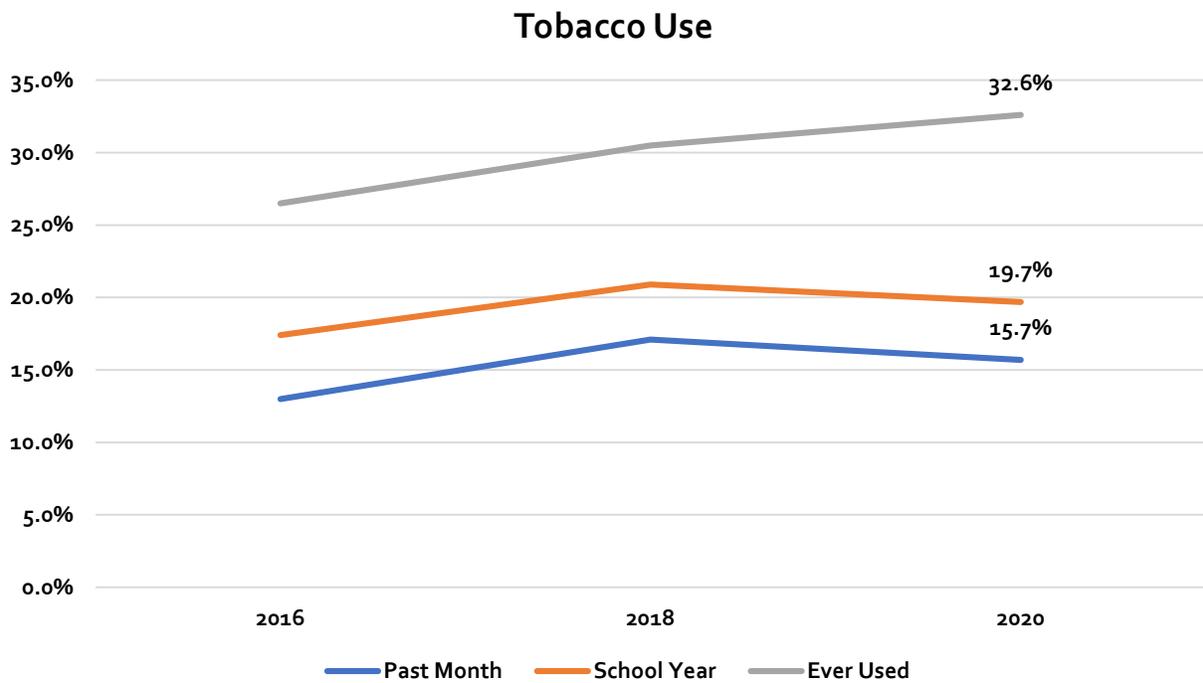
During the Past 30 Days, on How Many Days Have You Had Five or More Drinks of Alcohol in a Two-Hour Period?

	1 Days	2 Days	3 to 5 Days	6 to 9 Days	10+ Days
Region 6 & 7	4.4%	2.5%	2.3%	0.6%	1.2%

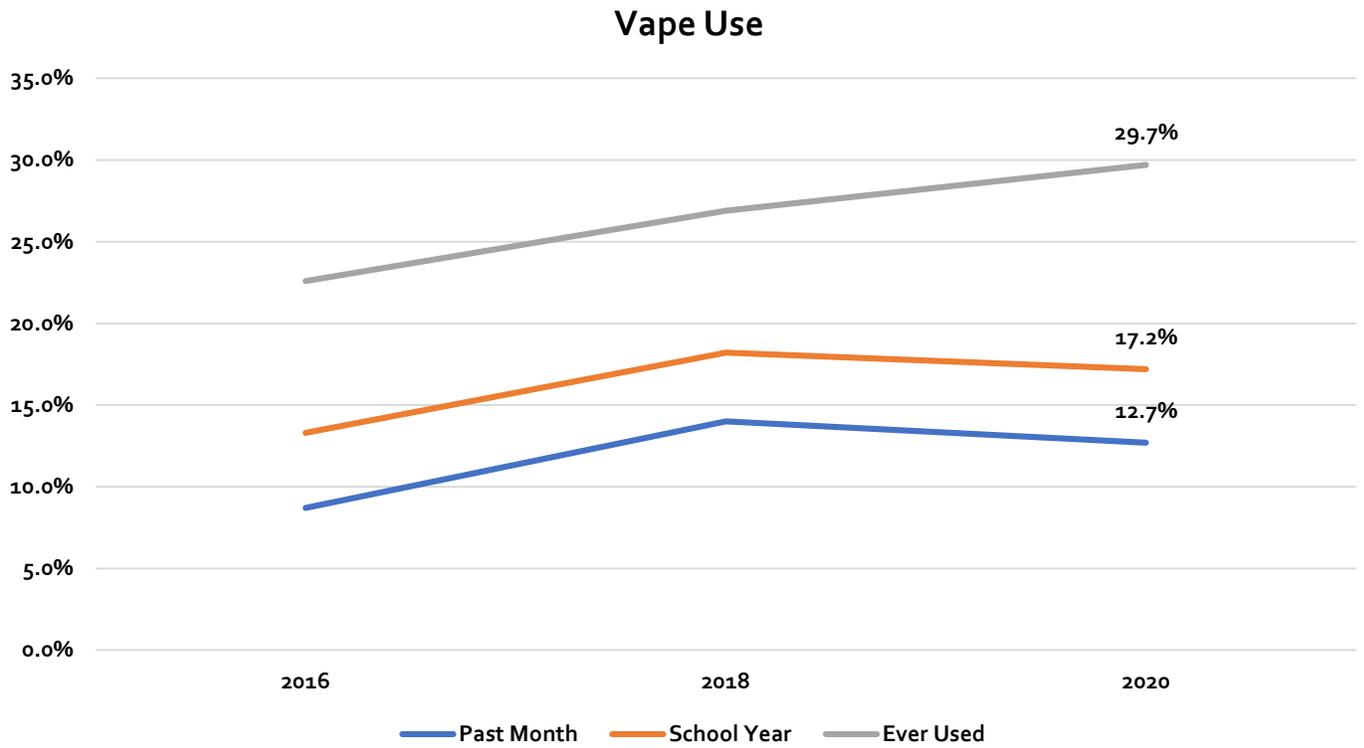
Marijuana



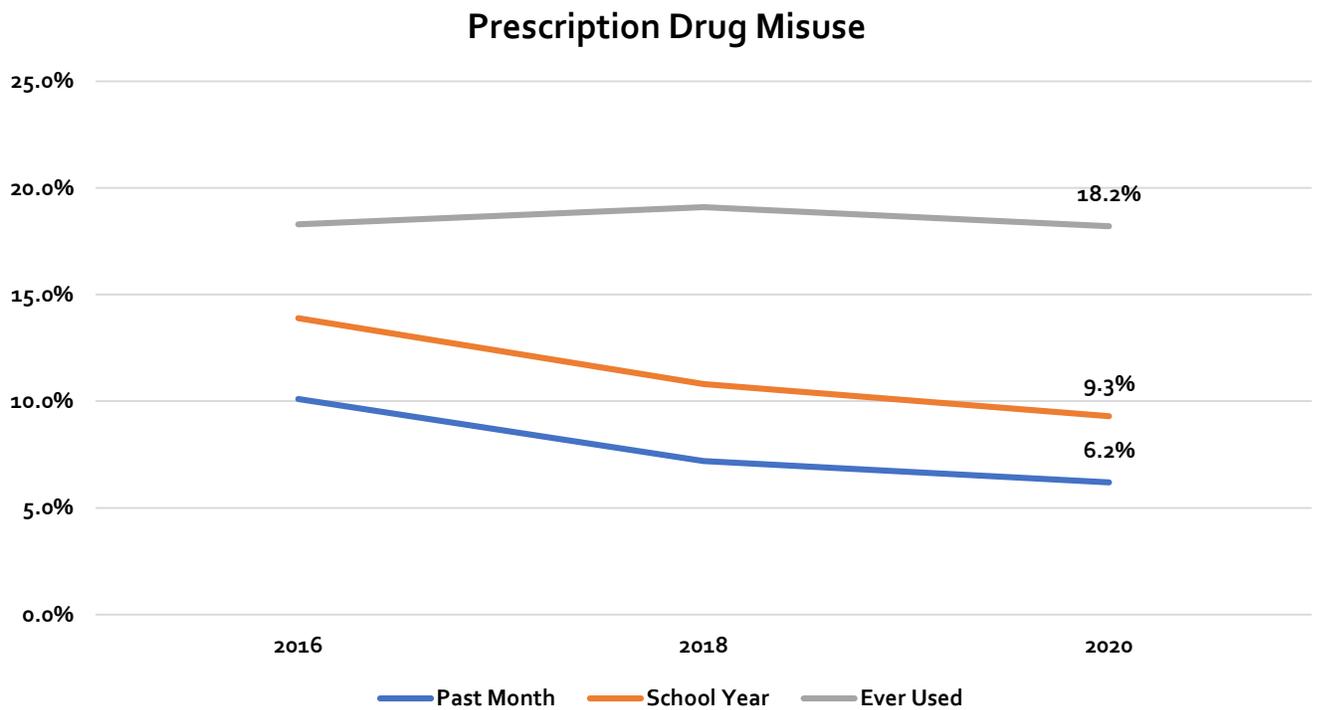
Tobacco



Vaping



Prescription Drugs



Illicit**Past Month Use**

Substance	2016	2018	2020
Inhalant	3.7%	4.2%	4.6%
Cocaine/Crack	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%
Hallucinogens	1.0%	0.9%	1.6%
Synthetic Marijuana	0.9%	1.0%	1.2%
Ecstasy	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%
Steroids	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%
Synthetic Cathinones	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Heroin	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
Methamphetamine	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%

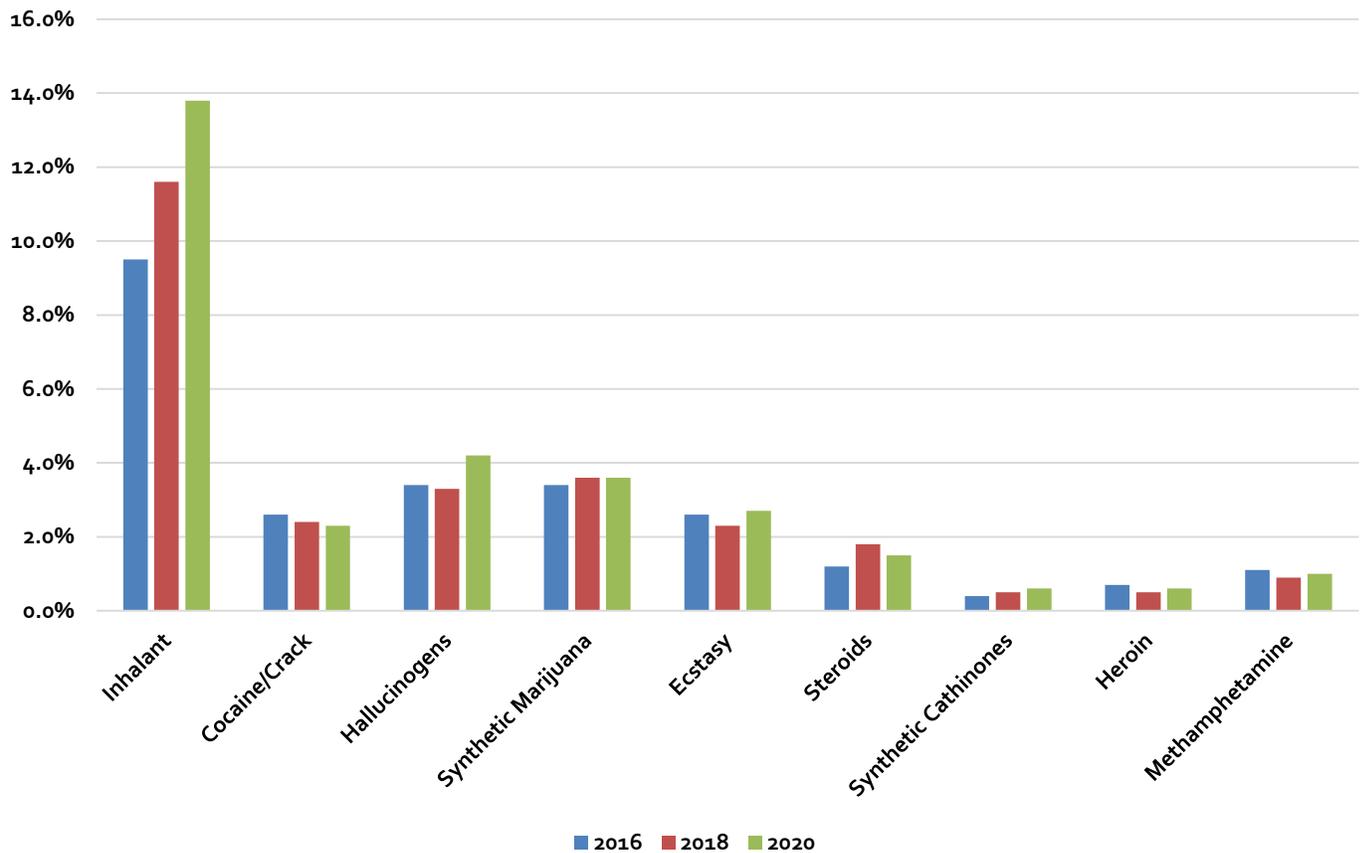
School Year Use

Substance	2016	2018	2020
Inhalant	5.0%	5.7%	6.7%
Cocaine/Crack	1.7%	1.4%	1.5%
Hallucinogens	1.8%	1.6%	2.3%
Synthetic Marijuana	1.3%	1.7%	1.9%
Ecstasy	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%
Steroids	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%
Synthetic Cathinones	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Heroin	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Methamphetamine	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%

Lifetime Use

Substance	2016	2018	2020
Inhalant	9.5%	11.6%	13.8%
Cocaine/Crack	2.6%	2.4%	2.3%
Hallucinogens	3.4%	3.3%	4.2%
Synthetic Marijuana	3.4%	3.6%	3.6%
Ecstasy	2.6%	2.3%	2.7%
Steroids	1.2%	1.8%	1.5%
Synthetic Cathinones	0.4%	0.5%	0.6%
Heroin	0.7%	0.5%	0.6%
Methamphetamine	1.1%	0.9%	1.0%

Lifetime Use of Illicit Drugs



Age of Initiation

Age of First Use: Alcohol

	Age of Initiation	Early Initiation (<13)
State 2008	12.9	42.1%
State 2010	13	40.2%
State 2012	13.1	38.5%
Regions 7&8 2014	13.2	35.7%
Regions 7&8 2018	13.1	*
Regions 6&7 2020	12.8	*

Age of First Use: Tobacco

	Age of Initiation	Early Initiation (<13)
State 2008	12.9	42.1%
State 2010	13	40.2%
State 2012	13.1	38.5%
Regions 7&8 2014	13.2	35.7%
Regions 7&8 2018	13.7	*
Regions 6&7 2020	13.3	*

Age of First Use: Marijuana

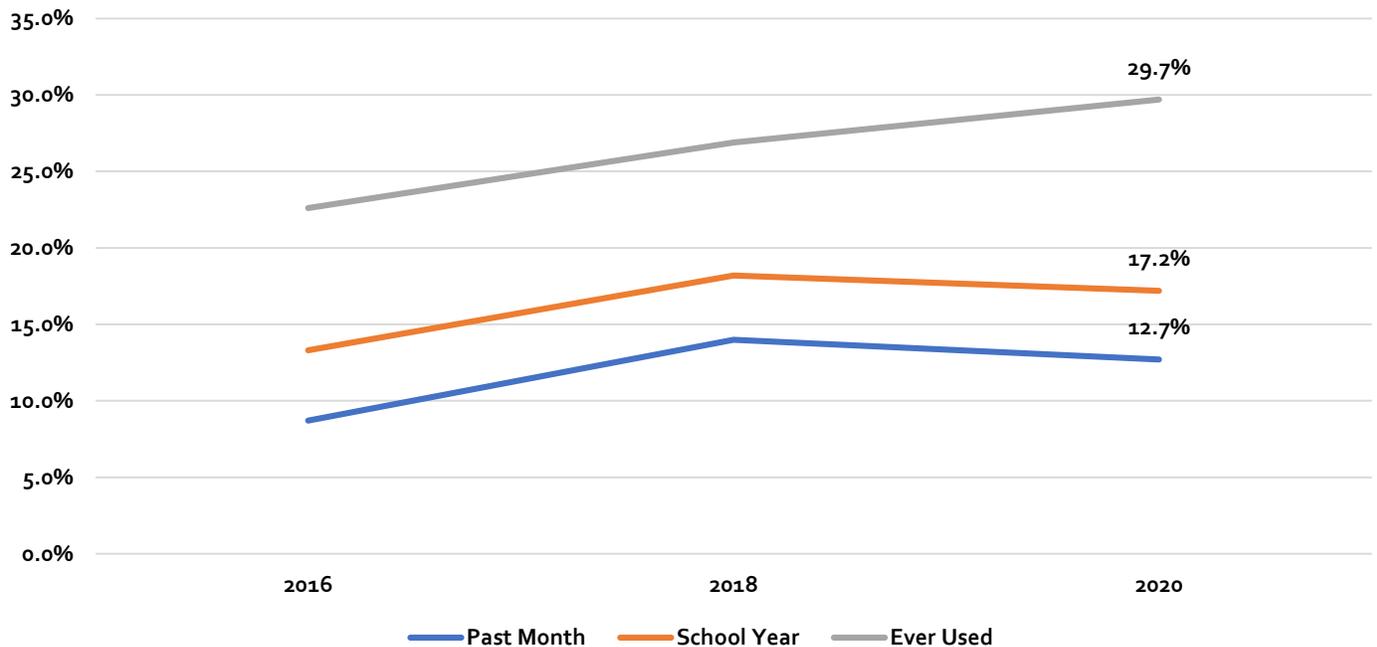
	Age of Initiation	Early Initiation (<13)
State 2008	13.6	27.5%
State 2010	13.7	25.8%
State 2012	13.7	24.9%
Regions 7&8 2014	13.7	26.5%
Regions 7&8 2018	14.2	*
Regions 6&7 2020	14.1	*

Regions 6&7 2020 Age of First Use

Substance	2018	2020
Cocaine	14.9	14.4
Crack	13.7	13.7
Steroids	12.4	12.4
Ecstasy	14.9	14.8
Heroin	12.8	12.7
Methamphetamine	14.3	13.3
Synthetic Marijuana	13.6	14.1

Emerging Trends

Vape Use



Local Covid-19 Situation

Region 7 accounts for 8.56% of the COVID-19 fatalities in Texas and for 12.14% indicating a lower fatality rate for region 7 than for Texas as a whole. The overall case-fatality rate for region 7 is 1.42% compared to 1.84% for Texas, with 1.27 fatalities per 1,000 people vs. 1.80 for Texas.

Covid-19 in Region 7

County	Fatalities per 1,000	Case-Fatalities Rate	County	Fatalities per 1,000	Case-Fatalities Rate
Bastrop	1.34	1.32%	Lampasas	1.84	1.69%
Bell	1.41	1.83%	Lee	2.32	3.45%
Blanco	1.98	3.07%	Leon	2.58	3.09%
Bosque	2.37	2.68%	Limestone	3.61	3.58%
Brazos	1.20	1.09%	Llano	2.87	3.72%
Burleson	2.70	2.13%	McLennan	0.13	1.75%
Burnet	1.64	1.51%	Madison	35.39	1.58%
Caldwell	2.47	1.79%	Milam	2.31	3.20%
Coryell	1.22	1.19%	Mills	4.73	3.50%
Falls	2.06	1.69%	Robertson	3.01	2.51%
Fayette	2.82	3.85%	San Saba	4.10	4.31%
Freestone	2.77	4.22%	Travis	0.84	1.11%
Grimes	2.54	1.85%	Washington	2.89	2.59%
Hamilton	3.53	3.27%	Williamson	0.86	1.05%
Hays	1.04	1.06%	Region 7	1.27	1.42%
Hill	3.25	2.84%	State	1.80	1.84%

Consequences

Overview of Consequences

Legal

Region 7 Arrests Jan 2020 - July 2021

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES	Adult	Juvenile
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	224	14
Manslaughter by Negligence	28	7
Rape	627	226
Robbery	1164	413
Aggravated Assault (Return A - 4a-d)	7524	877
Burglary - Breaking or Entering	2355	896
Larceny-Theft (Except Motor Vehicle Theft)	14233	2064
Motor Vehicle Theft	1706	1136

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES	Adult	Juvenile
Other Assaults (Return A - 4e)	19189	2496
Arson	144	17
Forgery and Counterfeiting	1114	47
Fraud	1640	101
Embezzlement	30	3
Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possessing	190	101
Vandalism	2124	622
Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	2717	144
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	155	7
Prostitution	114	1
Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	21	1
Purchasing Prostitution	20	8
Sex Offenses (Except Rape and Prostitution)	358	190
Drug Abuse Violations - Grand Total	20806	816
(1) Sale/Manufacturing - Subtotal	1055	41
18a - Opium/Cocaine	310	14
18b - Marijuana	199	15
18c - Synthetic Narcotics - Manufactured Narcotics Which Can Cause True Drug Addiction (Demerol, Methadones)	122	19
18d - Other - Dangerous Nonnarcotic Drugs (Barbiturates, Benzedrine)	424	106
(2) Possession - Subtotal	19751	774
18e - Opium or Cocaine and Their Derivatives (Morphine, Heroin, Codeine)	3477	139
18f - Marijuana	6861	530
18g - Synthetic Narcotics - Manufactured Narcotics Which Can Cause True Drug Addiction (Demerol, Methadones)	2220	57
18h - Other - Dangerous Nonnarcotic Drugs	7193	142
Gambling - Total	35	0
Bookmaking (Horse and Sport Book)	0	0
Numbers and Lottery	6	0
All Other Gambling	5	5
Offenses Against The Family and Children	977	19
Driving Under The Influence	15984	100
Liquor Laws	1620	162
Drunkenness	8310	92
Disorderly Conduct	2243	272
Vagrancy	54	545
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	40043	3047
Curfew and Loitering Law Violations		132
Human Trafficking/Commercial Sex Acts	25	0
Human Trafficking/Involuntary Servitude	4	2243

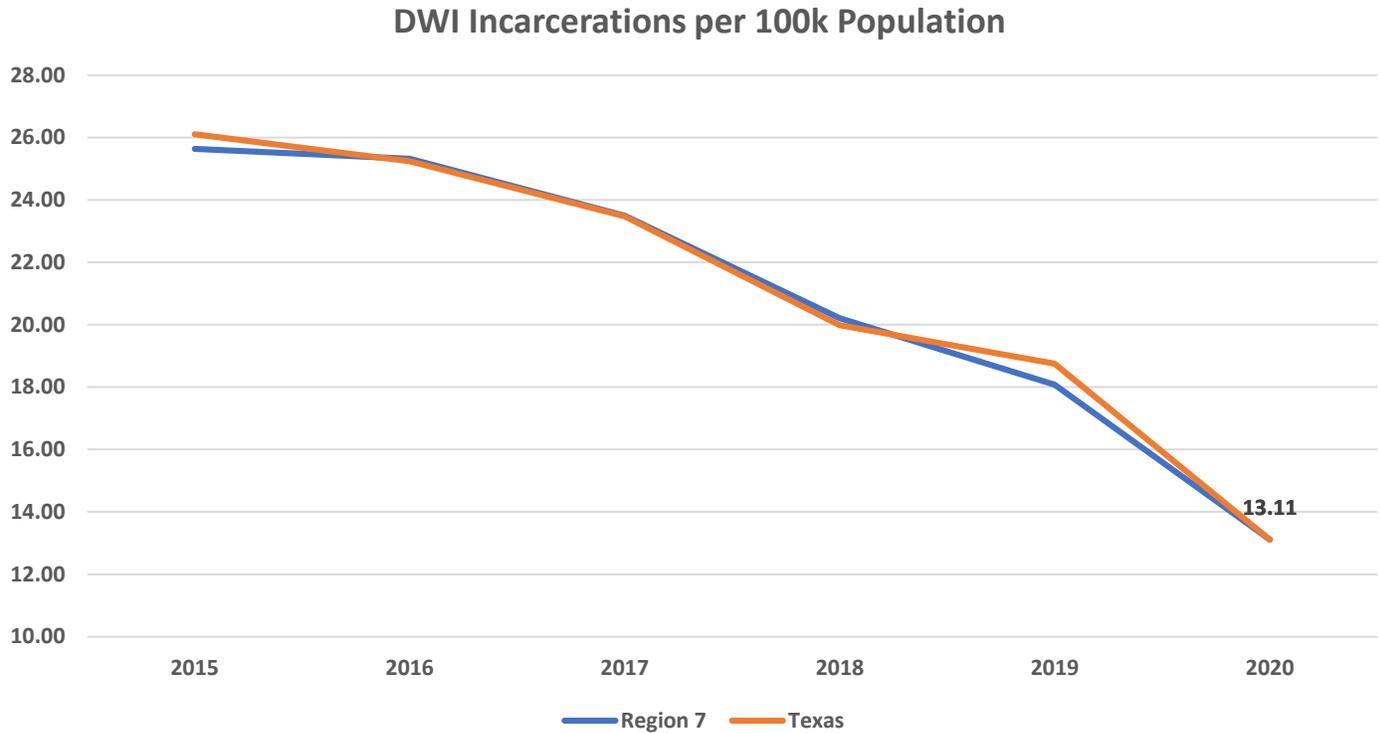
Index Crimes and Rate by County

County	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Auto Theft	Rate per 1,000
Bastrop	1	36	33	199	180	676	131	14.08214
Bell	43	202	213	1064	1253	4702	953	23.55012
Blanco	1	1	1	27	30	45	7	9.5028
Bosque	1	0	0	8	40	52	6	5.740343
Brazos	9	172	79	461	670	3461	395	22.85956
Burleson	0	6	0	31	57	121	15	12.48507
Burnet	3	23	5	83	111	326	56	12.17482
Caldwell	1	17	7	59	68	234	41	9.887235
Coryell	5	6	15	158	182	705	69	15.21684
Falls	0	2	5	38	40	42	11	9.157874
Fayette	0	16	2	36	63	165	36	12.57464
Freestone	0	1	2	38	98	112	31	14.32636
Grimes	0	16	11	51	107	170	57	14.50398
Hamilton	0	0	1	5	6	46	1	8.377112
Hays	9	150	57	305	509	2281	273	15.52248
Hill	1	13	4	31	110	332	41	15.25361
Lampasas	0	5	0	31	71	227	21	17.96286
Lee	1	12	2	23	35	118	19	13.20257
Leon	0	1	0	3	46	77	6	7.689639
Limestone	0	8	2	36	69	170	29	13.4343
Llano	0	5	1	25	55	178	29	15.72985
Madison	0	1	2	20	37	58	11	8.998326
McLennan	16	152	173	874	1274	5035	598	32.04273
Milam	0	6	2	37	93	163	22	13.61433
Mills	0	0	0	9	4	9	0	4.504505
Robertson	1	4	8	26	106	107	25	14.66074
San Saba	4	1	1	17	13	39	10	14.15251
Travis	53	602	1209	3775	5878	31532	4716	36.36838
Washington	1	24	8	61	63	318	28	14.34438
Williamson	9	188	119	375	1123	5980	506	15.35061

*rate calculated from DPS given population totals

DWI Rates

Region 7 did not differ in DWI incarceration rates compared to Texas as a whole with the overall trend indicating a steady decrease in DWI incarcerations for both areas.



Possession of illicit drug (arrests)

The number of arrests for illicit drug possession can be seen below, most areas demonstrate a gradual decrease or holding steady pattern over time. IT should be noted that this pattern may be influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Drug Incarcerations

County	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bastrop	32	29	19	24	18	12
Bell	284	320	313	324	301	250
Blanco	2	2	6	14	17	14
Bosque	15	22	30	30	28	20
Brazos	196	187	204	256	278	224
Burleson	28	17	22	34	28	16
Burnet	64	71	75	63	66	52
Caldwell	35	16	24	22	19	9
Coryell	40	68	74	81	86	67
Falls	32	34	35	38	25	21
Fayette	26	33	39	40	27	16
Freestone	24	23	28	25	19	18
Grimes	33	28	25	28	26	19
Hamilton	15	18	26	22	31	27
Hays	59	62	92	103	112	69

County	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Hill	60	86	81	98	101	85
Lampasas	31	37	24	39	39	21
Lee	14	12	7	8	15	9
Leon	8	17	15	12	16	14
Limestone	39	41	57	46	49	33
Llano	30	27	39	34	36	26
Madison	15	17	15	18	21	21
McLennan	506	544	564	616	630	514
Milam	32	38	32	33	39	28
Mills	17	22	21	21	23	21
Robertson	20	22	10	12	18	11
San Saba	8	5	4	1	5	0
Travis	423	419	439	426	345	215
Washington	40	40	46	48	41	34
Williamson	187	176	178	184	188	136
Region 7	2,315	2,433	2,544	2,700	2,647	2,002
Texas	23,577	23,558	23,631	23,963	23,431	17,305

Juvenile Justice involvement

Overall region 7 had 4,681 youth referred for 6,453 referrals and 6,866 dispositions. Region 7 had slightly more referrals than with 20 per 1000 compared to Texas with 19 per 1000.

2019 Juvenile Justice

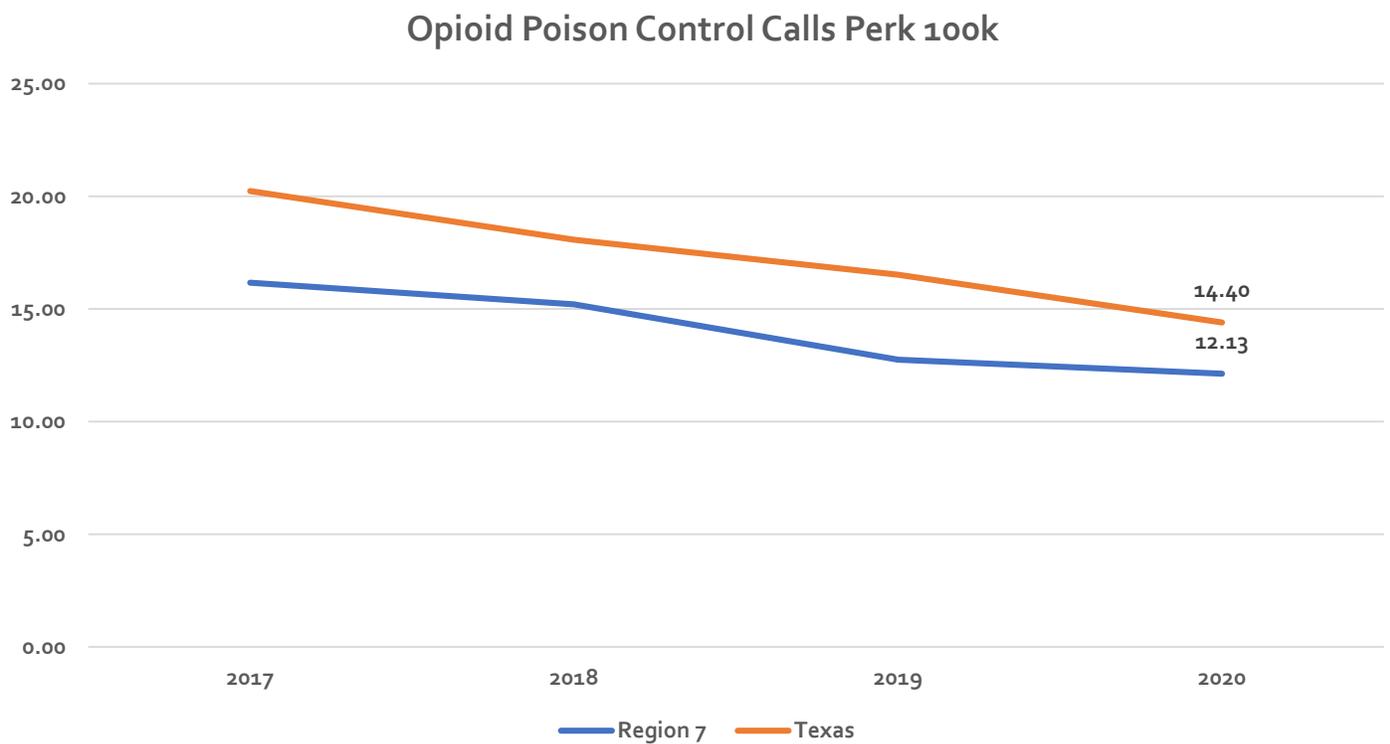
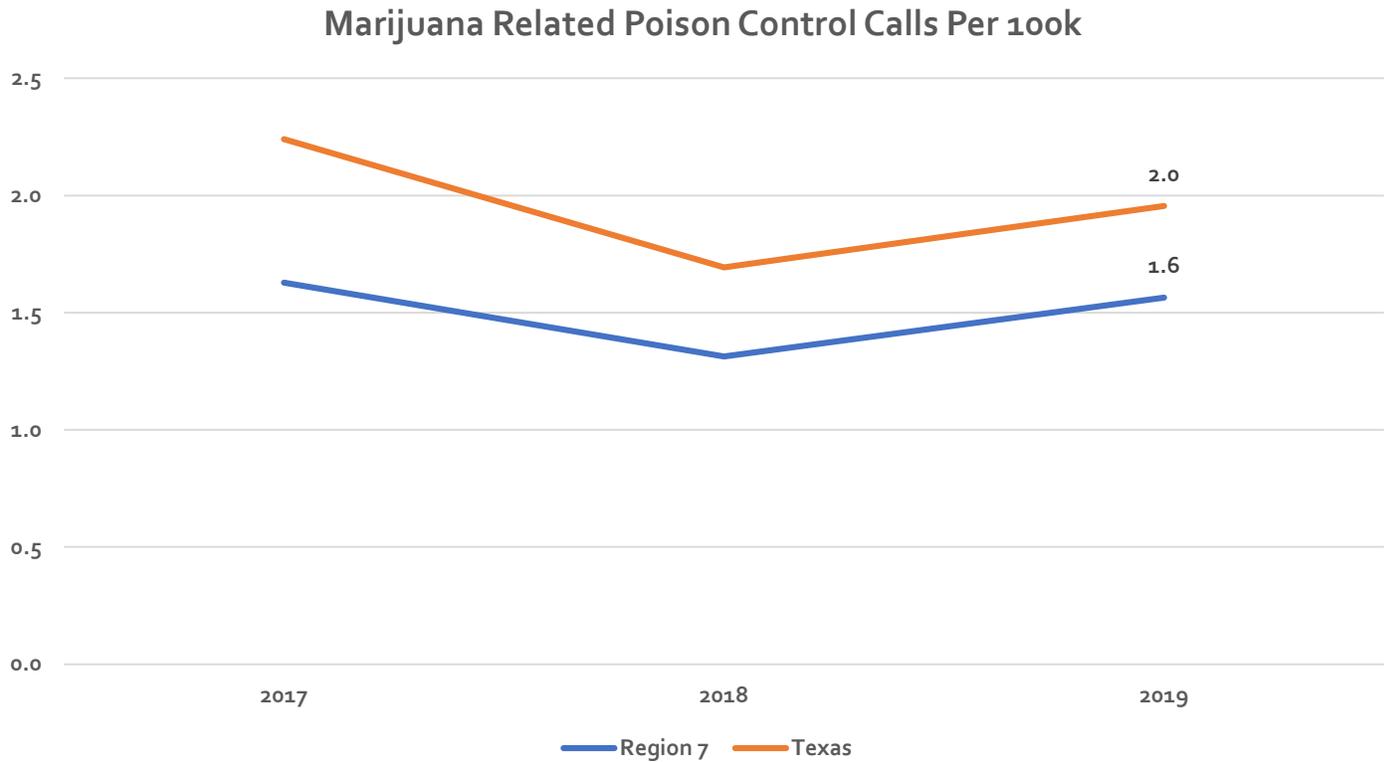
County	Disposition Rate per 1,000	Referral Rate per 1,000
Bastrop	12.99	8.68
Bell	6.33	4.92
Blanco	1.89	1.89
Bosque	6.08	4.76
Brazos	14.03	8.56
Burleson	6.70	4.64
Burnet	11.65	8.92
Caldwell	16.04	11.26
Coryell	7.64	7.02
Falls	9.69	8.79
Fayette	4.57	4.21
Freestone	6.02	5.09
Grimes	4.40	4.23
Hamilton	3.36	1.68
Hays	9.51	7.81
Hill	7.59	5.30
Lampasas	9.48	8.79

County	Disposition Rate per 1,000	Referral Rate per 1,000
Lee	3.88	3.88
Leon	4.05	3.51
Limestone	5.85	4.03
Llano	8.46	6.34
McLennan	262.93	151.44
Madison	0.05	0.07
Milam	10.85	9.63
Mills	3.07	2.04
Robertson	7.32	4.34
San Saba	4.22	1.69
Travis	8.64	5.27
Washington	8.75	5.88
Williamson	5.50	4.28
Texas	7.97	5.63

Texas Prison Incarcerations

Prison On-Hand Population Per 100,000						
Area	Offense	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Region 7	Drug Delivery OH Pop	26.01	27.71	28.53	29.26	28.57
Region 7	Drug Other OH Pop	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.06	0.03
Region 7	Drug Possession OH Pop	43.17	43.31	45.18	47.23	45.18
Region 7	DWI OH Pop	25.56	25.52	23.40	20.98	17.75
Texas	Drug Delivery OH Pop	34.96	34.76	34.52	34.23	33.10
Texas	Drug Possession OH Pop	51.47	49.68	49.60	49.18	47.10
Texas	Drug Other OH Pop	0.20	0.11	0.10	0.08	0.06
Texas	DWI OH Pop	26.35	25.28	23.67	21.01	18.75

Poison Center Calls



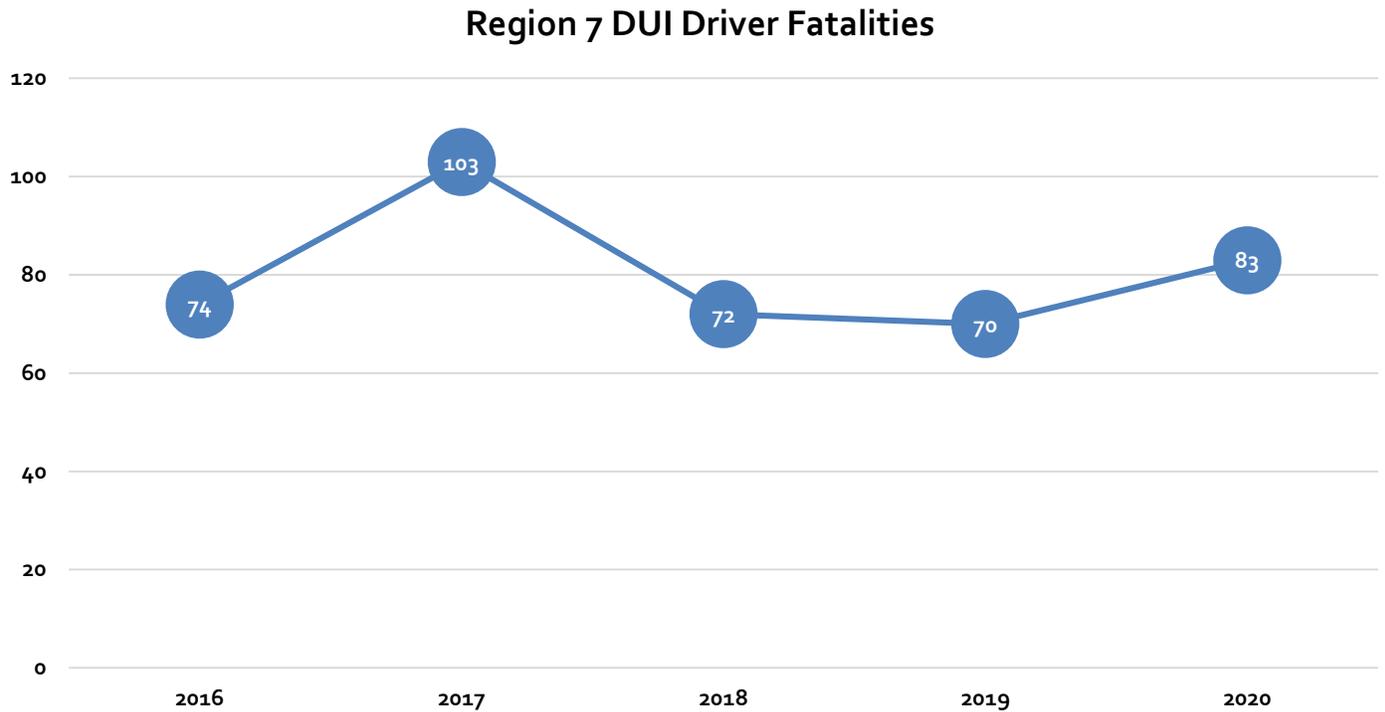
Mortality

For deaths related to drug and alcohol between 1999 and 2019 region 7 accounted for 11.8% of total drug and alcohol related deaths in Texas. Below is a table detailing the age-adjusted death rate due to drugs and alcohol for each county between 1999 and 2019.

Drug and Alcohol Induced Death Rate 1999-2019

County	Age Adjusted Rate Per 100k	County	Age Adjusted Rate Per 100k
Bastrop	17.6	Lampasas	13.0
Bell	14.0	Lee	12.6
Blanco	17.8	Leon	18.6
Bosque	19.7	Limestone	13.5
Brazos	13.0	Llano	32.6
Burleson	13.7	McLennan	18.0
Burnet	18.2	Madison	15.5
Caldwell	16.1	Milam	17.2
Coryell	11.7	Mills	Unreliable
Falls	13.6	Robertson	18.7
Fayette	11.2	San Saba	15.2
Freestone	9.9	Travis	19.4
Grimes	18.1	Washington	12.8
Hamilton	16.0	Williamson	11.9
Hays	15.9	Texas	16.4
Hill	19.0		

Alcohol related vehicular fatalities

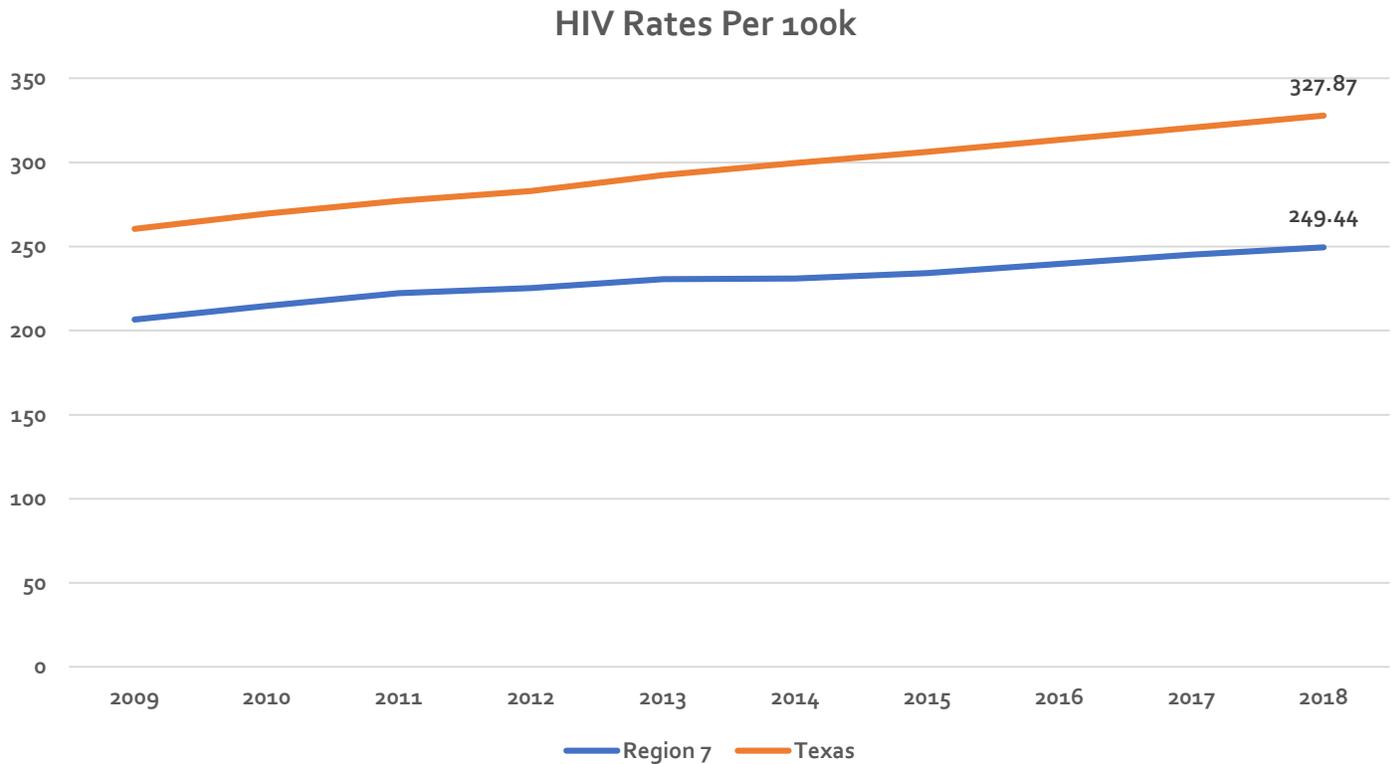


Overdose Deaths

Overdose and Drug Induced Deaths

County	Age Adjusted Rate per 100k	County	Age Adjusted Rate per 100k
Texas	9.7	Hays	8.1
Bastrop	9.4	Hill	10.8
Bell	8.1	Lampasas	7.6
Blanco	9.5	Lee	7.0
Bosque	12.0	Leon	12.4
Brazos	7.4	Limestone	9.1
Burleson	9.0	Llano	18.8
Burnet	11.1	McLennan	8.2
Caldwell	7.5	Madison	7.4
Coryell	5.5	Milam	10.6
Falls	8.0	Robertson	10.5
Fayette	7.4	San Saba	Unreliable
Freestone	6.7	Travis	11.5
Grimes	10.6	Washington	5.8
Hamilton	Unreliable	Williamson	6.6

HIV infection rates and transmission route



Opioid Related ER Visits

Opioid-Related Emergency Department Visits					
Public Health Region	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (missing Q4)
1	328	324	230	228	198
2	281	266	213	190	143
3	3065	2891	2540	2455	1898
4	462	434	365	317	249
5	273	261	219	167	131
6	1747	1851	1868	1826	1505
7	1186	1296	1117	1031	720
8	1092	970	907	790	531
9	234	183	181	187	117
10	253	236	246	226	157
11	634	546	504	568	357
Texas	9555	9258	8390	7985	6006

Adolescents Receiving SA Treatment

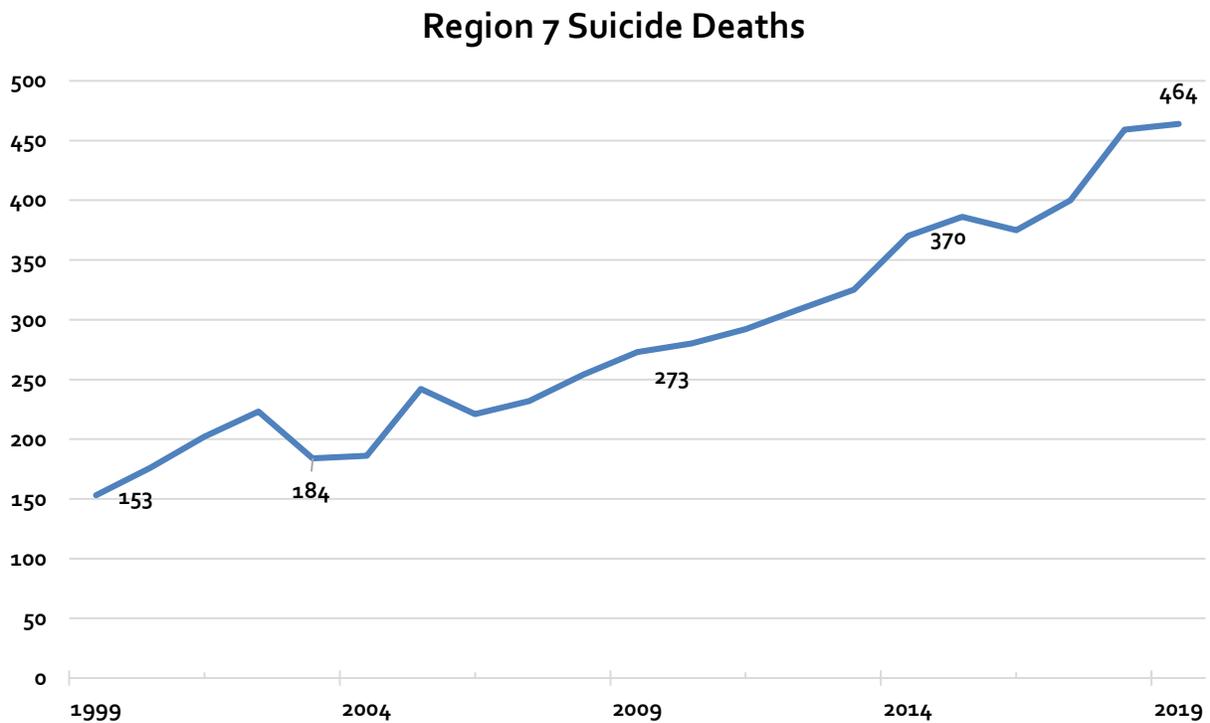
Drugs for Which Treatment was Sought (12-20 Year Olds)			
Substance	2018	2019	2020
Marijuana	78.69%	79.11%	73.73%
Amphetamines	6.10%	7.42%	6.93%
Alcohol + Alcohol with secondary drug	5.01%	4.08%	5.55%
Tranquilizers	2.93%	3.95%	4.82%
Cocaine	2.66%	2.06%	2.80%
Heroin	2.71%	1.62%	2.49%

School disciplinary issues

Region 7 accounted for 12.24% of all school disciplinary action focused on alcohol and drugs in Texas with 5,267 actions.

Mental Health

Suicide

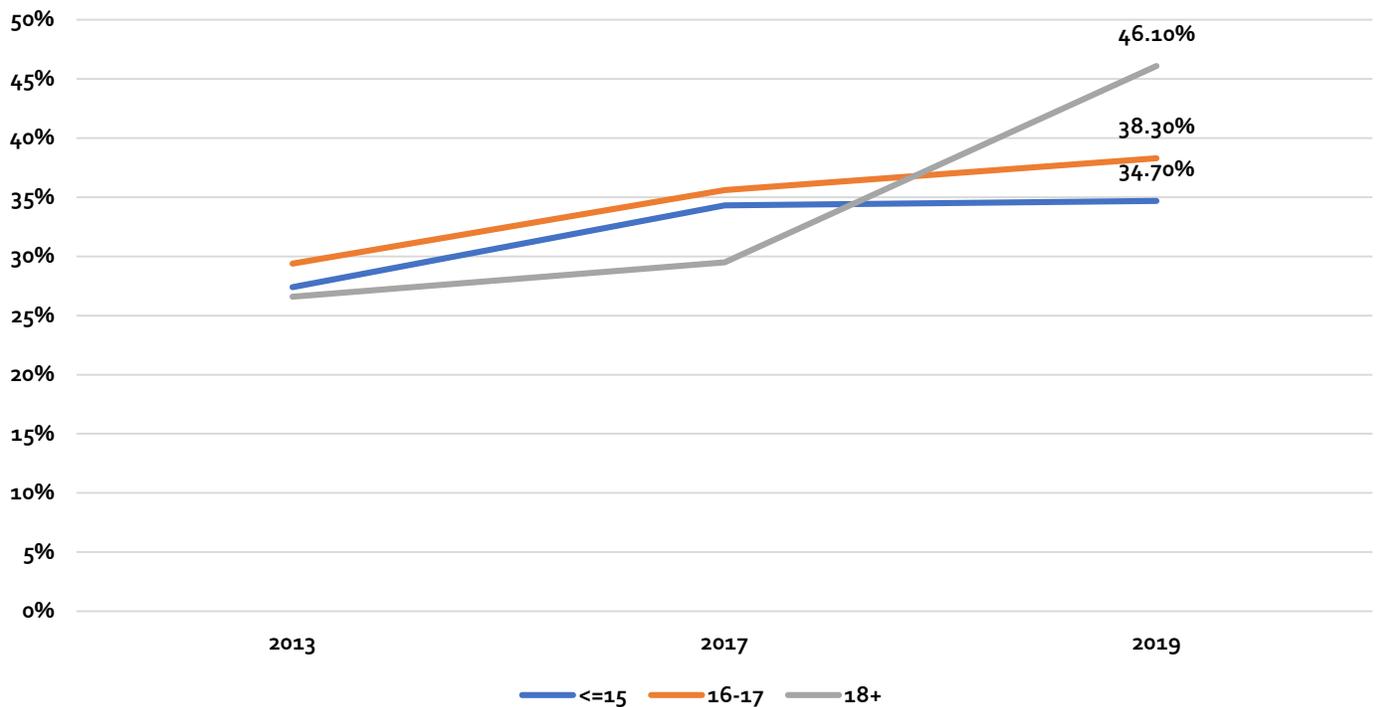


Adolescent Self-Directed Violence

Attempted Suicide YRBS Texas

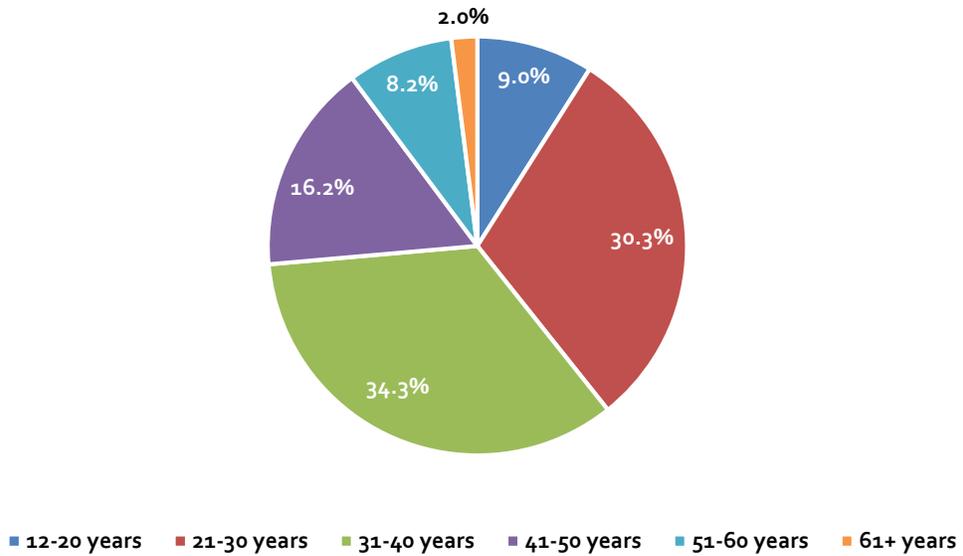
Age	2013	2017	2019
<15	11.6%	9.8%	8.8%
16-17	9.6%	14.2%	10.0%
18+	8.4%	12.1%	12.8%
Total	10.1%	12.3%	10.0%

Feelings of Hopelessness Among Texas Teens by Age YRBS

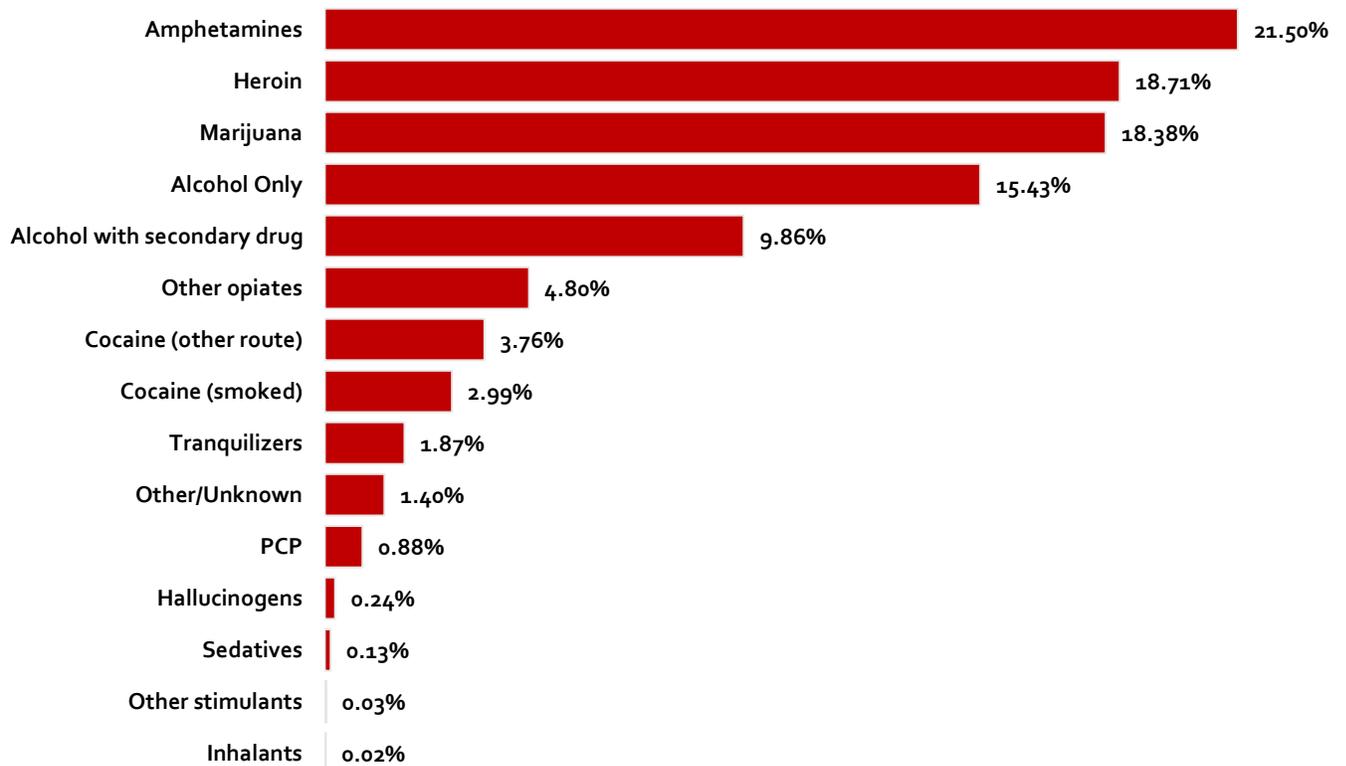


Adolescents/Adults Receiving Substance Abuse Services

Treatment Sought in 2020



Drugs for which Treatment was Sought In 2020



Environmental Protective Factors

Overview of Protective Factors

County	Association Rate	County	Association Rate
Bastrop	7.4	Lampasas	14.7
Bell	7.6	Lee	11.1
Blanco	10.3	Leon	18
Bosque	13.6	Limestone	9.4
Brazos	7.6	Llano	12.3
Burleson	12.2	Madison	9.8
Burnet	13.2	McLennan	11.7
Caldwell	8.7	Milam	14
Coryell	6.7	Mills	14.2
Falls	12	Robertson	11
Fayette	18.6	San Saba	16.8
Freestone	9.7	Travis	9.3
Grimes	6.4	Washington	15.1
Hamilton	17.8	Williamson	6.2
Hays	5.9	TEXAS	7.6
Hill	10.9		

Green = Better than State

Community Coalitions

In Region 7, according to Coalitions Texas, four DSHS-funded coalitions currently operate. These coalitions include the Voice Against Substance Abuse Coalition in Waco; the Community Alcohol and Substance Awareness Partnership (CASAP) in Bryan and Brenham; the Hearne Zero Tolerance Youth Coalition in Hearne; and the LifeSteps Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition in Round Rock.

A fifth coalition working in Region 7 is the Robertson County Community Coalition (RCCC). This coalition is financially supported through a Drug-Free Communities (DFC) grant and works in partnership with the Hearne Zero Tolerance Youth Coalition. Together, both coalitions work with partners in Robertson County to address issues of alcohol abuse and drug use in the community. There is also an Anti-Smoking coalition for Brazos County funded under HHSC.

Also, another coalition of note is the Hays Caldwell Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse. This coalition is involved in education and advocacy for better conditions free of substance abuse concerns is inspiring. They are well informed on their communities and knowledgeable about specific substance abuse struggle is present.

A final noteworthy organization is Texans Standing Tall (TST). This state-wide coalition is known for being leaders in producing reports and generating activities for awareness concerning underage drinking. One such report describes how the increase of an alcohol tax by 10 cents can dramatically change the

health and economic status of Texas school children. This coalition, however, is expanding to address state-wide issues related to the dangers of substance abuse.

Treatment Providers

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities

County	Facility Type	Facility Name	Phone	Website
Bastrop	SA	Renewal Lodge by Burning Tree	512-285-5900	http://www.burningtree.com
	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
	SA	Willow Springs Recovery	888-486-6717	http://www.willowspringsrecovery.com/
	SA	Last Resort Recovery Center	512-360-3600	http://www.lastresortrecovery.com
Bell	MH	Metroplex Pavilion Hospital	254-628-1000	http://www.adventhealth.com/hospital/adventhealth-central-texas
	MH	Steven A Cohen Military Fam Clinic	254-213-7847	http://www.endeavors.org
	MH	Cedar Crest Clinic	254-519-4162	http://www.cedarcresthospital.com
	SA	Care Counseling Services	254-299-2797 x2800	http://www.cenikor.org
	MH	Cedar Crest Hospital and Resid Trt Ctr	844-763-3326	http://www.cedarcresthospital.com/
	SA	Christian Farms Treehouse Inc	254-933-9400	http://www.cfth.org
	SA	West Texas Counseling and	254-742-0490	http://www.wtcr.net
	SA	Baylor Scott and White Alcohol and	254-724-2585	http://www.sw.org/psychiatry/substance-abuse
	MH	Scott and White Memorial Hospital	254-724-2585	http://www.bswhealth.com/pages/default.aspx
	SA	Cenikor Foundation	888-236-4567	http://www.cenikor.org
Bosque	MH	Central Texas VA Healthcare System	800-423-2111	http://www.centraltexas.va.gov/
	SA	Central Texas VA Healthcare Services	254-743-1271	
	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	254-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
	SA	Everyday Life Inc	979-589-1885	http://www.everydaylife-rtc.com
	SA	Brazos Valley Council on Alc and SA	979-846-3560	http://www.bvcasa.org
	SA	La Hacienda College Station	979-846-9500 x111	http://www.lahacienda.com
	MH	Rock Prairie Behavioral Health	979-703-8848	
	SA	Symetria Recovery	866-440-7429	http://www.symetriarecovery.com
	MH	Central Texas VA Healthcare System	979-680-0361	http://www.centraltexas.va.gov
	Burnet	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968
SA		Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
SA		Bluebonnet Trails Community MH/MR Ctr	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
Caldwell	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
	MH	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	830-875-5700	http://www.bbTrails.org

	MH	Pegasus Schools Inc	512-376-2101	http://www.pegasusschool.net
Falls	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	866-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
Fayette	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	
Freestone	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	866-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
	SA	Austin Recovery Inc	512-697-8500	http://www.austinrecovery.org
Hays	MH	San Marcos Treatment Center	512-396-8500 x3245	http://sanmarcostc.com
	MH	WellBridge Healthcare San Marcos	512-353-0194	http://www.wellbridghealthcare.com
Hill	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	254-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
Limestone	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	866-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
Limestone	MH	Parkview Regional Hospital	254-562-5332 x2021	http://www.parkviewregional.com/
	SA	Lake Shore Center for Behavioral Hlth	254-776-0400	http://www.lakeshorecenterwaco.com
	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	254-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
	MH	Depaul Center	254-776-5970	http://www.providence.net/depaul/
	SA	Care Counseling Services	254-224-8880	http://www.cenikor.org
	SA	Cenikor Foundation	254-224-8880	http://www.cenikor.org
	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	254-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
McLennan	MH	Waco Center for Youth	254-756-2171	http://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/state-hospitals/waco-center-youth
	SA	Doris Miller VAMC CTVHCS	254-297-3050	http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/SUD.asp
	MH	Family Counseling and Childrens Servs	254-313-4500	http://www.wacofhc.org
	SA	Manna House	254-714-1223	http://www.missionwaco.org
	SA	MedMark Treatment Centers	254-755-6411	http://www.medmark.com
	SA	Heart of Texas Regional MH/MR Center	254-297-8999	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	254-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
	MH	Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center	254-752-3451	http://www.hotrmhmr.org
Milam	MH	Resolution Ranch Academy	254-697-2422	http://www.resolutionranch.com
Mills	MH	New Horizons Ranch and Center	325-938-5518	http://www.newhorizonsinc.com/ranch/
	SA	Northwest Counseling and Wellness Ctr	512-250-9355	http://www.ncwcaustin.com
	SA	Self Recovery	512-766-4051	http://SelfRecovery.org
	SA	Sage Recovery and Wellness Center	512-306-1394	http://www.sagerecoveryaustin.com
	SA	Cenikor Foundation	737-300-2960	http://www.Cenikor.org
Travis	SA	La Haciendas Solutions	512-835-1994 x218	http://www.lahacienda.com/outpatient/austinmap/
	MH	Settlement Home for Children	512-836-2150	http://www.settlementhome.org
	SA	Maintenance and Recovery Services Inc	512-339-9757	http://www.marsmethadone.com
	SA	Austin Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program	512-454-8180	http://www.adaap.com
	MH	Ascension Seton Shoal Creek Hospital	512-324-2000	http://www.seton.net/

	SA	Austin Changes Counseling and	512-257-0066	http://www.changescounseling.com
	MH	Austin State Hospital	512-452-0381	http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/austinh/
	SA	Lionrock Recovery	800-495-2282	http://www.lionrockrecovery.com
	MH	Integral Care	512-804-3900	http://www.integralcare.org/content/integrated-care-clinics
	SA	Embracia Health	512-551-8545	http://www.embraciahealth.com
	MH	Center for Discovery	844-546-2614	http://www.austin.centerfordiscovery.com
	SA	Clean Investments Inc	512-477-6690	http://www.cleaninvestmentsinc.com
	SA	Positive Recovery Services	512-899-8300	http://www.positiverecovery.com
	SA	Arbor Intensive Outpatient	512-868-4952	http://www.thearbor.com
	MH	Cross Creek Hospital	512-215-3900	http://www.crosscreekhospital.com
	MH	Austin Lakes Hospital	512-544-5253	http://www.austinlakeshospital.com/
	MH	Austin Oaks Hospital	512-440-4800	http://austinoakshospital.com
	SA	Phoenix Academy of Austin	512-440-0613 x4733	http://www.phoenixhouse.org
	SA	Phoenix House	512-440-0613 x4705	http://www.phoenixhouse.org
	SA	Aeschbach and Associates Inc	512-444-5092	http://www.austinmethadone.com
	SA	Maintenance and Recovery Services Inc	512-899-2100	http://www.marsmethadone.com
Travis	SA	Texas NeuroRehab Center	512-444-4835	http://www.texasstarrecovery.com
	SA	Integral Care	512-804-3380	http://www.integralcare.org
	SA	Austin Recovery Inc	512-697-8500	http://www.austinrecovery.org
	SA	Recovery Unplugged Encore	888-334-1189	http://www.recoveryunplugged.com
	SA	Integral Care	512-804-3463	http://www.integralcare.org
	SA	Integral Care	512-804-3526	http://www.atcic.org
	SA	Integral Care	512-804-3650	http://www.integralcare.org
	SA	Veterans Administration	512-823-4040	http://www.centraltexas.va.gov/
	SA	Recovery Unplugged Austin	888-343-1405	http://www.recoveryunplugged.com
	SA	BRC Recovery	866-905-4550	http://www.brcrecovery.com
Williamson	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community MH/MR Ctr	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
	SA	Medication Assisted Recovery Services	512-986-7743	http://marsmethadone.com
	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://www.bbtrails.org
	MH	Georgetown Behavioral Health Institute	512-819-1100	http://www.georgetownbehavioral.com
	MH	Rock Springs	512-819-9400	http://www.rockspringshealth.com
	SA	Arbor Behavioral Healthcare	844-413-2690	http://www.thearbor.com
	SA	Phoenix Houses of Texas Inc	512-851-1231 x4705	http://www.phoenixhouse.org
	MH	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-244-8480	http://www.bbtrails.org
	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org

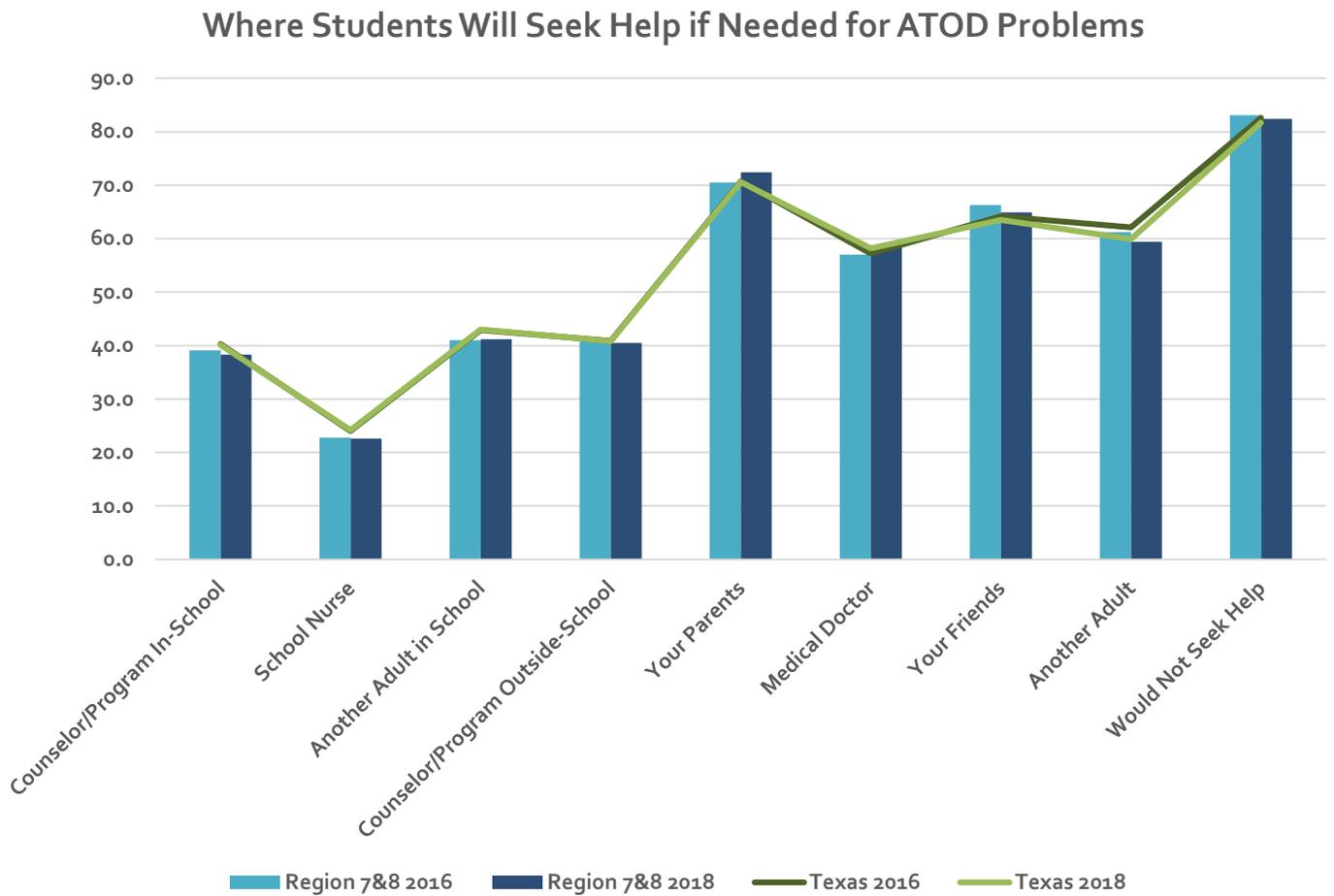
YP Programs

Agencies providing youth prevention (YP) programs are empowered by local coalitions and the Prevention Resource Center. Considering all YPs, along with coalitions and the Regional Prevention Resource Center, there are 9 agencies that contribute to youth prevention. According to HHSC, the following agencies are funded in Region 7 and work in some capacity toward youth prevention, if not

directly: (1) Austin-Travis County MHMR and Austin Travis County Integral Care, (2) Brazos Valley Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse, (3) Connections Individual and Family Services Inc., (4) Hays Caldwell Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, (5) Phoenix Houses of Texas, Inc., (6) Viable Options in Community Endeavors, (7) Williamson Council on Alcohol and Drugs, DBA LifeSteps, (8) Youth and Family Alliance, and (9) YWCA of Greater Austin.

YP Organization	City
Brazos Valley Council on Alcohol & Substance Abuse	Bryan
Connections Individual & Family Services	New Braunfels
Phoenix House of Texas	Austin
VOICE	Waco
Workers Assistance Program	Austin
Cenikor Foundation	San Marcos

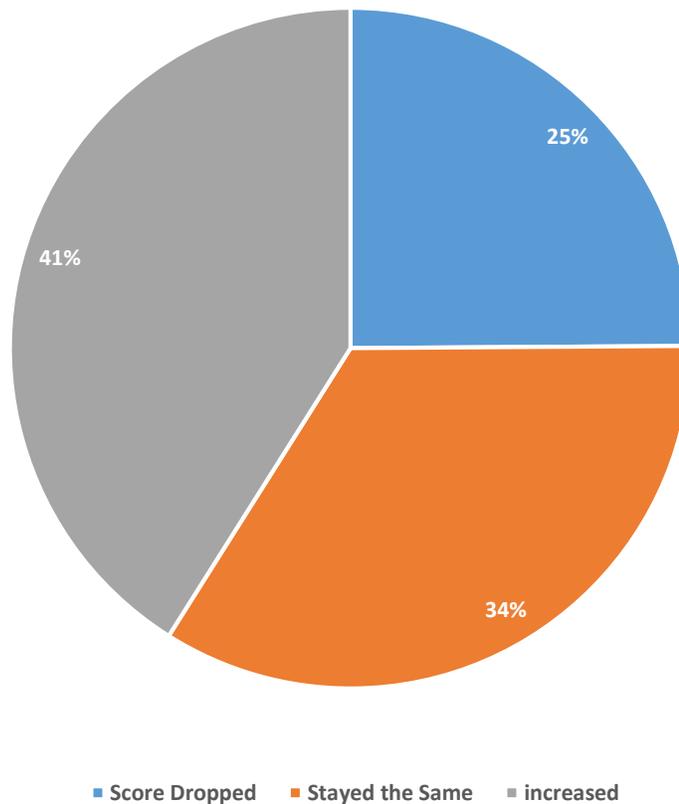
Life skills learned in YP Programs (pre and posttests)



Life skills learned in YP Programs (pre and posttests)

The average student receiving education about ATOD in region 7 had an improved score by 0.42 suggesting a small increase in knowledge about the risks of ATOD. Due to COVID-19 2020 Pretest and posttest data are unavailable as such this data represents 2019 values.

YP Pretest-Posttest Score Change



ATOD Education Facilities

ATOD Education/Course Providers

County	Course Type	Provider
Bastrop	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE OF TEXAS
	DWI Education Program	PLOWE SERVICES DWI FIRST TIME OFFENDER COURSE
	Drug Offender Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Education Program	PLOWE SERVICES DWI FIRST TIME OFFENDER COURSE
	DWI Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
Bell	Drug Offender Education Program	A&A DRUG AND ALCOHOL EDUCATION

	Drug Offender Education Program	AFFORDABLE COURT CLASSES BY CANNON
	DWI Intervention Program	WEAVER COUNSELING & LIFE COACHING
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	A&A TEEN ALCOHOL AWARENESS
	Drug Offender Education Program	WEAVER COUNSELING & LIFE COACHING
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	A&A TEEN ALCOHOL AWARENESS
	DWI Intervention Program	A&A DRUG AND ALCOHOL EDUCATION
	DWI Intervention Program	A&A DRUG AND ALCOHOL EDUCATION
	DWI Intervention Program	ALCOHOL & DRUG EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
	DWI Education Program	ALCOHOL EDUCATORS OF TEXAS
	Drug Offender Education Program	ALCOHOL & DRUG EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
	DWI Education Program	ALCOHOL EDUCATORS OF TEXAS
	Drug Offender Education Program	A&A DRUG AND ALCOHOL EDUCATION
	DWI Education Program	AFFORDABLE COURT CLASSES BY CANNON
Brazos	DWI Education Program	NOBLES COUNSELING GROUP LLC
	DWI Education Program	TEXAS ALCOHOL & SAFETY EDUCATION AGENCY
	DWI Intervention Program	TASEA - TEXAS ALCOHOL AND SAFETY EDUCATION AGENCY
	DWI Intervention Program	BVCASA DWI INTERVENTION
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	BRAZOS VALLEY COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE ABUSE
	Drug Offender Education Program	BRAZOS VALLEY ALCOHOL AND DRUG EDUCATION
	Drug Offender Education Program	BRAZOS VALLEY ALCOHOL AND DRUG EDUCATION
	Drug Offender Education Program	TASEA - TEXAS ALCOHOL AND SAFETY EDUCATION AGENCY
	DWI Intervention Program	HAMILTON UNIT IN-PRISON DWI INTERVENTION
	Drug Offender Education Program	TASEA - TEXAS ALCOHOL AND SAFETY EDUCATION AGENCY
	DWI Intervention Program	TASEA - TEXAS ALCOHOL AND SAFETY EDUCATION AGENCY
	Drug Offender Education Program	NOBLES COUNSELING GROUP LLC
	DWI Intervention Program	NOBLES COUNSELING GROUP LLC
	DWI Education Program	TEXAS ALCOHOL & SAFETY EDUCATION AGENCY
	Brazos	DWI Education Program
Burleson	DWI Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	Drug Offender Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
Burnet	Drug Offender Education Program	33RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT CSCD
	DWI Education Program	ALCOHOL TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM
	DWI Intervention Program	HEART OF HOPE COUNSELING
	DWI Intervention Program	HEART OF HOPE COUNSELING

	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	HEART OF HOPE COUNSELING AND MEDIATION PLLC
Caldwell	DWI Intervention Program	MTC LOCKHART CORRECTIONAL FACILITY DWI PROGRAM
	DWI Education Program	CALDWELL COUNTY CSCD
	Drug Offender Education Program	CALDWELL COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	CALDWELL COUNTY CSCD
Coryell	DWI Education Program	NEW BEGINNINGS EDUCATION
	DWI Intervention Program	NEW BEGINNINGS EDUCATION
	Drug Offender Education Program	NEW BEGINNINGS EDUCATION
Falls	Drug Offender Education Program	FALLS COUNTY DRUG OFFENDER EDUCATION PROGRAM
Freestone	DWI Education Program	LIMESTONE COUNTY DWI EDUCATION PROGRAM
Grimes	Drug Offender Education Program	GRIMES COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES
Hamilton	Drug Offender Education Program	MOORE TO LIFE COUNSELING - BOBBY DALE MOORE
Hays	DWI Education Program	EDUCATION RESOURCE
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	HAYS CALDWELL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE - AEPM COURSE
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY AEPM
	DWI Intervention Program	SURRENDERING TODAY SERVICES
	Drug Offender Education Program	EDUCATION RESOURCE
	Drug Offender Education Program	CALDWELL COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	CALDWELL COUNTY CSCD
	Drug Offender Education Program	SURRENDERING TODAY SERVICES
	DWI Education Program	SURRENDERING TODAY SERVICES
	DWI Education Program	CALDWELL COUNTY CSCD
Hill	Drug Offender Education Program	HILL COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	SUBSTANCE ABUSE & DWI INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SADIP)
	DWI Education Program	66TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT CSCD OF HILL COUNTY
Lee Lee	DWI Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	Drug Offender Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
Limestone	DWI Education Program	LIMESTONE COUNTY DWI EDUCATION PROGRAM
	Drug Offender Education Program	LIMESTONE COUNTY DRUG OFFENDER EDUCATION PROGRAM
Llano	DWI Education Program	ALCOHOL TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM
	Drug Offender Education Program	33RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	HEART OF HOPE COUNSELING

	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	HEART OF HOPE COUNSELING AND MEDIATION PLLC
McLennan	Drug Offender Education Program	MCLENNAN COUNTY DRUG OFFENDER EDUCATION PROGRAM
	DWI Education Program	MCLENNAN COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Education Program	ALCOHOL EDUCATION OF WACO
	Drug Offender Education Program	BAYLOR DRUG OFFENDER EDUCATION PROGRAM
	DWI Intervention Program	MCLENNAN COUNTY CSCD
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	BAYLOR ALCOHOL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR MINORS
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	ALCOHOL EDUCATION OF WACO
Milam	Drug Offender Education Program	MILAM COUNTY DOEP
	DWI Intervention Program	MILAM COUNTY DOEP
	DWI Education Program	MILAM COUNTY CSCD
Robertson	Drug Offender Education Program	FALLS COUNTY DRUG OFFENDER EDUCATION PROGRAM
Travis	Drug Offender Education Program	FAME PROGRAM
	DWI Intervention Program	EDUCATION RESOURCE
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	ALCOHOL AND DRUG AWARENESS INSTITUTE
	DWI Intervention Program	TEXAS EDUCATION SERVICES/SERVICIOS EDUCATIVOS DE TEXAS LLC
	Drug Offender Education Program	ALCOHOL AND DRUG AWARENESS INSTITUTE
	DWI Education Program	ALCOHOL AND DRUG AWARENESS INSTITUTE
	DWI Education Program	ANOTHER CHANCE 4 CHANGE
	Drug Offender Education Program	ROSE COUNSELING CENTER
	DWI Education Program	FAME PROGRAM
	Drug Offender Education Program	TEXAS EDUCATION SERVICES / SERVICIOS EDUCATIVOS DE TEXAS LLC
	DWI Intervention Program	LOSS PREVENTION SYSTEMS (LPS)
	DWI Education Program	ROSE COUNSELING CENTER
	DWI Education Program	TRAVIS COUNTY COUNSELING AND EDUCATION SERVICES
	DWI Education Program	DRUGCLASS.ORG
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	TRAVIS COUNTY COUNSELING AND EDUCATION SERVICES
Drug Offender Education Program	EDUCATION RESOURCE	
Travis	DWI Intervention Program	MANAGEMENT & TRAINING CORPORATION
	DWI Education Program	CHANGES COUNSELING SERVICES DWI EDUCATION PROGRAM
	DWI Education Program	EDUCATION RESOURCE
	Drug Offender Education Program	AUSTIN DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE PROGRAM
	Drug Offender Education Program	IMPACT EDUCATION CENTER
	DWI Education Program	PLOWE SERVICES DWI FIRST TIME OFFENDER COURSE

	DWI Intervention Program	AUSTIN DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PROGRAM - DWI INTERVENTION PROGRAM
	DWI Education Program	IMPACT EDUCATION CENTER
	DWI Education Program	AMC INSTITUTE
	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	TRAVIS COUNTY COUNSELING AND EDUCATION SERVICES
	DWI Intervention Program	CHANGES COUNSELING SERVICES
	DWI Intervention Program	IMPACT EDUCATION CENTER
	DWI Intervention Program	TRAVIS COUNTY COUNSELING AND EDUCATION SERVICES
	DWI Education Program	TEXAS EDUCATION SERVICES / SERVICIOS EDUCATIVOS DE TEXAS LLC
	Drug Offender Education Program	DRUGCLASS.ORG
	DWI Intervention Program	CHANGING HOW I LIVE LIFE
	Drug Offender Education Program	TRAVIS COUNTY COUNSELING AND EDUCATION SERVICES
Washington	Drug Offender Education Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
	DWI Intervention Program	BASTROP COUNTY CSCD
Williamson	Alcohol Education Program for Minors	LIFESTEPS
	DWI Intervention Program	AMDT DWI INTERVENTION PROGRAM
	Drug Offender Education Program	DRUG OFFENDER EDUCATION
	DWI Intervention Program	LIFESTEPS
	Drug Offender Education Program	LIFESTEPS
	DWI Intervention Program	ANOTHER CHANCE 4 CHANGE
	DWI Education Program	AMDT DWI EDUCATION PROGRAM
	DWI Education Program	LIFESTEPS

Region in Focus

There are many indicators that suggest a lack of readiness in numerous areas that are required before meaningful progress can be made in reducing alcohol and substance abuse problems. These factors that must be addressed include student homelessness, low social association rates in several counties, a low number of students that would seek help if needed, high and unchanging drop-out rates, high rates of uninsured children and TANF/SNAP qualified students, and economic and social disruptions due to COVID-19. In many other areas the community appears to be ready to address ATOD issues in a more direct manner. The evidence of this readiness is the acceptance and demand for YP coalitions in schools, the small successes of YP programs in changing knowledge of ATOD issues, the high rates of use among students, and the admittance of low approval of parents and peers all suggest there is some readiness.

Gaps in Services

Notable gaps in services include:

- Lack of services in many rural counties
- Lack of insurance for children in most counties
- Economic and social disruptions due to COVID-19
- Lack of enforcement of existent laws

Gaps in Data

The gaps in data are unfortunately plentiful due to the difficult nature of gathering accurate information about ATOD use and associated data. Most importantly the following are missing from this report:

- Hospital & emergency room data
- Adult consumption rates
- Data on the impact of COVID-19 on relapse and consumption

Moving Forward

It is important to address many factors in the region including economic, housing, social associations, medical data gaps, and lack of willingness to seek help, and lack of enforcement of existent laws, perception of marijuana as not harmful, evident demand for drugs. It is recommended that stakeholders, coalitions, and concerned individuals pursue:

- Development of economic improvements, such as bringing industry and economic opportunities to their local areas
- Increase affordable housing by improving competition in the market and showing demand for housing in their communities
- Improve access to care through telehealth and improved transportation infrastructure and
- Attempt to coordinate with hospitals to gather substance use data in their area
- Encourage help-seeking behavior among students and adults alike for substance use and mental health concerns
- Build resilience in youth to provide a buffer against negative substance abuse outcomes
- Improve the accuracy of perceptions of students regarding marijuana including the deleterious effects of use
- Increase caution among youth when it comes to vape products
- Encourage local governance to pursue the enforcement of existent laws
- Encourage local governance to create ordinances that benefit public health initiatives in their communities.
- Decrease the number of seizures of large amounts of illicit substances through lowering demand and increasing the number of adults and youth in treatment

Conclusion

Primary substance abuse concerns based on the data in this report:

- Alcohol, marijuana, and vape product use among youth
 - Based on TSS, TCS, YRBSS, and Treatment data

- Alcohol, marijuana, and methamphetamine use among adults
 - Based on drug seizure and treatment data

Substance abuse perception & behavior concerns:

- Marijuana use acceptance and low perception of risk among students
- High risk alcohol use among college students
- Use of homemade vape products

Related concerns:

- Homelessness
- Data gaps
- Economic instability
- Low social association
- Suicide rates

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Glossary of Terms

30 Day Use	The percentage of people who have used a substance in the 30 days before they participated in the survey.
ATOD	Alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
Adolescent	An individual between the ages of 12 and 17 years.
DSHS	Department of State Health Services
Epidemiology	Epidemiology is concerned with the distribution and determinants of health and diseases, sickness, injuries, disabilities, and death in populations.
Evaluation	Systematic application of scientific and statistical procedures for measuring program conceptualization, design, implementation, and utility; making comparisons based on these measurements; and the use of the resulting information to optimize program outcomes.

Incidence	A measure of the risk for new substance abuse cases within the region.
PRC	Prevention Resource Center
Prevalence	The proportion of the population within the region found to already have a certain substance abuse problem.
Protective Factor	Conditions or attributes (skills, strengths, resources, supports or coping strategies) in individuals, families, communities or the larger society that help people deal more effectively with stressful events and mitigate or eliminate risk in families and communities.
Risk Factor	Conditions, behaviors, or attributes in individuals, families, communities or the larger society that contribute to or increase the risk in families and communities.
SPF	Strategic Prevention Framework. The idea behind the SPF is to use findings from public health research along with evidence-based prevention programs to build capacity and sustainable prevention. This, in turn, promotes resilience and decreases risk factors in individuals, families, and communities.
Substance Abuse	When alcohol or drug use adversely affects the health of the user or when the use of a substance imposes social and personal costs. Abuse might be used to describe the behavior of a woman who has four glasses of wine one evening and wakes up the next day with a hangover.
Substance Misuse	The use of a substance for a purpose not consistent with legal or medical guidelines. This term often describes the use of a prescription drug in a way that varies from the medical direction, such as taking more than the prescribed amount of a drug or using someone else's prescribed drug for medical or recreational use.

Substance Use	The consumption of low and/or infrequent doses of alcohol and other drugs such that damaging consequences may be rare or minor. Substance use might include an occasional glass of wine or beer with dinner, or the legal use of prescription medication as directed by a doctor to relieve pain or to treat a behavioral health disorder.
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TPII	Texas Prevention Impact Index
TSS	Texas Student Survey
VOICES	Volunteers Offering Involvement in Communities to Expand Services. Essentially, VOICES is a community coalition dedicated to create positive changes in attitudes, behaviors, and policies to prevent and reduce at-risk behavior in youth. They focus on changes in alcohol, marijuana, and prescription drugs.
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey

Appendix Maps:

