

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 Regional Needs Assessment (RNA)?

The Prevention Resource Center's (PRC) RNA is a document created by Jared Datzman 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.

A needs assessment is the process of determining and addressing the "gaps" between the current conditions and desired conditions in a set environment or demographic.¹ This assessment was designed to aid PRCs, HHSC, and community stakeholders in long-term strategic prevention planning based on the most current information about the unique needs of Texas' diverse communities. This document will present summary statistics of risk and protective factors associated with substance use, consumption patterns, and public health consequences. In addition, this report will offer insight on gaps in behavioral health promotion and substance use prevention services and data in Texas.

Who creates the RNA?

A team of Data Coordinators from all eleven PRCs has gathered national, state, regional, and local data through collaborative partnerships with diverse agencies from the CDC's twelve sectors for community change²:

- youth and young adults
- parents
- business communities
- media
- schools
- organizations serving youth and young adults
- law enforcement agencies
- religious or fraternal organizations
- civic or volunteer groups
- healthcare professionals and organizations
- state, local, and tribal government agencies
- and other local organizations involved in promoting behavioral health and reducing substance use and non-medical use of prescription drugs, such as recovery communities, Education Services Centers, and Local Mental Health Authorities

PRC 7 recognizes those collaborators who contributed to the creation of this RNA.

How is the RNA informed?

Qualitative data has been collected in the form of focus groups and interviews with key informants. Quantitative data has been collected from federal and state agencies to ensure reliability and accuracy.

¹ Watkins, R., et al. (2012).

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021).

The information obtained through these partnerships has been analyzed and synthesized together in the form of this RNA.

Main key findings from this assessment includes:

Demographics:

With a growing and diverse population region 7 will have increasing challenges to face. A growing population, particularly in the urban areas will likely bring increase availability of substances. The diversity of the region's ethnicity also indicates a need for diverse outreach programs both in English and in Spanish as the Spanish speaking population grows. Additionally, the diversity of the rurality of the area will require variations in outreach for treatment and prevention.

Substance Use Behaviors:

Alcohol, marijuana, and nicotine remain the main substances used in region 7 among youth, college, and adult populations. However, other substances remain constant with an increase of fentanyl deaths in the last few years indicating an underlying problem with opioids and fentanyl poisoned substances. Finally, age of first use for high school students who use has been consistent across the last few years, while actual use has been decreasing for high school students.

Underlying Risk Factors:

The presence of numerous colleges suggests that a substantial portion of this use is exploratory rather than disordered. However, perception of risk remains a risk factor for youth use, particularly for the main 3 substances (alcohol, tobacco/vape, and marijuana). Unfortunately, youth that feel hopeless has been increasing in Texas which can lead to substance abuse if not treated. Finally, another risk factor is a low graduation rate which has been seen in several counties in region 7, most notably Mills.

Behavioral Health Disparities:

Health disparities, particularly in terms of mental health providers, are most notable in the more rural counties which have far fewer services for mental health issues. Additionally, economic disparities can be readily seen from the median income maps.

Protective Factors and Community Strengths:

There are numerous coalitions and services available in region 7, mostly around the major population centers in region 7. Certain counties in region 7 also have good social association rates which can be a major benefit to mental health. Due to the numerous colleges in this region there is also a high rate of graduate degrees in certain counties.

Introduction

The information presented in this RNA aims to contribute to program planning, evidence-based decision making, and community education. The RNA strives to increase knowledge of factors related to substance use and behavioral health. There are several guiding key concepts throughout the RNA, including a focus on the youth and young adult population and the use of an empirical, public health framework. All key concepts are outlined within their own respective sections later in this report.

The information in this needs assessment is based on three main data categories:

1. exploration of related risk and protective factors as defined by The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP);
2. exploration of drug consumption trends of adolescents with a primary focus on the state-delineated prevention priorities of alcohol (underage drinking), tobacco/nicotine, marijuana, and non-medical use of prescription drugs; and
3. broader public health and public safety consequences that result from substance use and behavioral health challenges

The report concludes with a collection of prevention resources in the region, an overview of the region's capacity to address substance use and other behavioral health challenges, and overall takeaways from the RNA.

Prevention Resource Centers (PRCs)

PRCs are funded by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to provide data and information related to substance use and to support prevention collaboration efforts in the community. There is one PRC located in each of the eleven Texas Public Health Service Regions (see Figure 1) to provide support to prevention providers located in their region with 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
- non-medical use of prescription drugs

PRCs have four fundamental objectives:

- collect data relevant to the state's prevention priorities, share findings with community partners, and ensure sustainability of a Regional Epidemiological Workgroup (REW) focused on identifying strategies related to data collection, gaps in data, and prevention needs
- coordinate regional behavioral health promotion and substance use prevention trainings
- conduct media awareness activities related to substance use prevention and behavioral health promotion
- conduct voluntary compliance checks on tobacco and e-cigarette retailers and provide education on state tobacco laws to these retailers

Regions

Figure 1. Map of Public 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



Image courtesy of HHSC.

How PRCs Help the Community

PRCs provide information and education to other HHSC-funded providers, community groups, and other stakeholders through four core areas based around the four fundamental objectives: Data, Training, Media, and Tobacco. All the core areas work together to position the PRC as a regional hub of information and resources related to prevention, substance use, and behavioral health in general. PRCs work to educate the community on substance use and associated consequences through various data products, such as the RNA, media awareness activities, training, and retailer education. Through these actions, 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.

Data

The PRC Data Coordinators serve as a primary resource for substance use and behavioral health data for their region. They lead an 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.

- Develop and maintain the REW.
- Conduct Key Informant Interviews (KII).
- Develop and facilitate at least one regionwide event based on RNA data findings.
- Conduct and attend meetings with community stakeholders to raise awareness and generate support to enhance data collection efforts of substance use and behavioral health data.

- Compile and synthesize data to develop an RNA to provide community organizations and stakeholders with region-specific substance use, behavioral health, and Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) information.
- Direct stakeholders to resources regarding data collection strategies and evaluation activities.
- Disseminate findings to the community.

Training

The Public Relations Coordinators are tasked with building the prevention workforce capacity through technical support and coordination of prevention trainings.

- Work directly with HHSC-funded training entity to identify training and learning needs
- Host and coordinate trainings for virtual and in-person trainings
- Provide monthly updates to HHSC-funded prevention providers within the region about the availability of substance use prevention trainings and related trainings offered by HHSC-funded training entity and other community-based organizations

Media

The Public Relations Coordinators use social and traditional media to increase the community's understanding of substance use prevention and behavioral health promotion.

- Promote consistent statewide messaging by participating in HHSC's statewide media campaign
- Maintain organizational social media platforms required by HHSC to post original content, share other organizations posts, and HHSC media
- Promote prevention messages through media outlets including radio or television PSAs, media interviews, billboards, bus boards, editorials, or social media

Tobacco

The PRC Tobacco Coordinators provide education and conduct activities that address retailer compliance with state law. The goal of these tobacco-related activities is to reduce minors' access to tobacco and other nicotine products. Tobacco Coordinators conduct retailer checks to verify retailers are complying with state and federal regulations regarding proper signage and placement of tobacco products. In addition, Tobacco Coordinators provide education on state and federal guidelines for tobacco sales.

- Conduct on-site, voluntary checks with tobacco retailers in the region
- Provide education to tobacco retailers in the region that require additional information on most current tobacco laws as they pertain to minor access
- Conduct follow-up voluntary compliance visits with all tobacco retailers who have been cited for tobacco-related violations

Regional Epidemiological Workgroups

Each Data Coordinator develops and maintains a Regional Epidemiological Workgroup (REW) to identify substance use patterns focused on the State's four prevention priorities at the regional, county, and local level. Members of the REW are stakeholders that represent all twelve of the community sectors and different geographic locations within that region. The REW also works to identify regional data sources, data partners, and relevant risk and protective factors. Information relevant to identification of data gaps,

analysis of community resources and readiness, and collaboration on region-wide efforts comes directly from those participating in the REWs. A minimum of four REW meetings are conducted each year to provide recommendations and develop strong prevention infrastructure support at the regional level.

The Regional Needs Assessment (RNA)

Purpose/Relevance of the RNA

A needs assessment is a systematic process for determining and addressing "gaps" between current conditions and desired conditions.³ The RNA is a specific needs assessment that provides community organizations and stakeholders with region-specific substance use and related behavioral health information. At the broadest level, the RNA can show patterns of substance use among adolescents and adults, monitor changes in substance use trends over time, and identify substance use and behavioral health issues that are unique to specific communities. It provides data to local providers to support grant-writing activities and provide justification for funding requests and to assist policymakers in program planning and policy decisions regarding substance use prevention, intervention, and treatment. The RNA can highlight gaps in data where critical substance use and behavioral health information is missing. It is a comprehensive tool for local providers to design relevant, data-driven prevention and intervention programs tailored to specific needs through the monitoring of county-level differences and disparities. Figure 2 below shows a visual representation of the overall steps and process of creating the RNA.

Figure 2. Steps, Processes, and Stakeholders Involved for RNA Creation

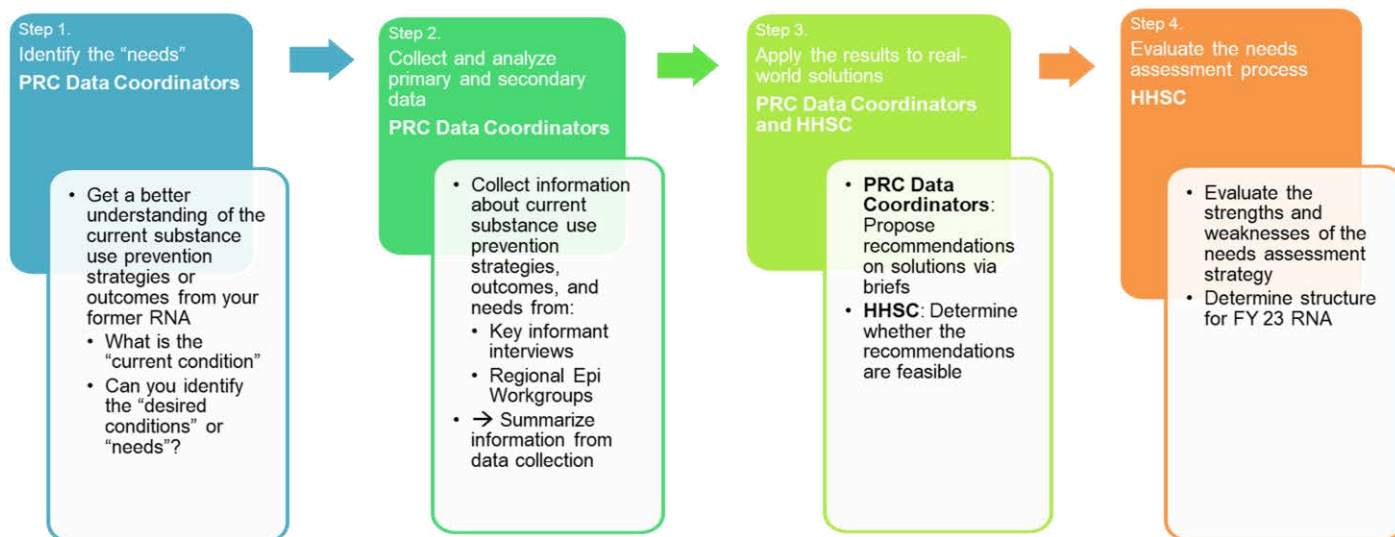


Image courtesy of HHSC.

Stakeholders/Audience

³ Watkins, R., et al. (2012).

Stakeholders can use the information presented in this report 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 and protective factors, consumption patterns, and public health and safety consequences.

Stakeholders within the twelve sectors both contribute to the RNA and benefit from the information within. These stakeholders participate in focus groups, qualitative interviews, Epi-Workgroup meetings, and collaborations with the PRC. Qualitative interviews were completed within all twelve community sectors in 2022 and 2023.⁴ The information gathered in these interviews was compiled to create the 2022 RNA and will be utilized in the 2023 RNA. These twelve sectors are:

- youth and young adults
 - parents
 - business communities
 - media
 - schools
 - organizations serving youth and young adults
 - law enforcement agencies
 - religious or fraternal organizations
- civic or volunteer groups
 - healthcare professionals and organizations
 - state, local, and tribal government agencies
 - and other local organizations involved in promoting behavioral health and reducing substance use and non-medical use of prescription drugs such as recovery communities, Education Services Centers, and Local Mental Health Authorities

Each sector has a unique knowledge of substance use along with risk and protective factors in their communities.

Regionwide Event

The Region 7 PRC was tasked by HHSC to develop and facilitate at least one region-wide event based on RNA data findings to bring targeted communities and stakeholders together to educate and promote collaboration on substance use related issues. Region 7 uses its region wide event to disseminate information to as many counties and coalitions as possible as well as to highlight the regional epidemiological workgroup. This year the epi workgroup has focused on smaller data deliverables as well as encouraging coalition collaborations within region 7.

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021).

Methodology

This needs assessment reviews behavioral health data on substance use, substance use disorders, related risk and protective factors, and other negative public health and safety consequences that will aid in substance use prevention decision making at the county, regional, and state level.

Conceptual Framework

The overall conceptual framework for this report is the use of epidemiological data to show the overall distribution of certain indicators that are associated with substance use and behavioral health challenges. Broadly, these indicators consist of documented risk and protective factors, such as the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs); consumption patterns; and public health and safety consequences related to substance use and behavioral health challenges. The indicators are organized by the domains (or levels) of the Social Ecological Model (SEM). For the purpose of strategic prevention planning, the report attempts to identify behavioral health disparities and inequities present in the region. For more information on these various frameworks and concepts, please see the “Key Concepts” section later in this report.

Process

PRCs collaborate with HHSC’s Data Specialist in the Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion Unit, other PRC Data Coordinators, other HHSC staff, and regional stakeholders to develop a comprehensive data infrastructure for each PRC region.

HHSC staff met with the Data Coordinators via monthly conference calls to discuss the criteria for processing and collecting data. Primary data was collected from a variety of community stakeholders, and secondary data sources were identified as a part of the methodology behind this document. Readers can expect to find information from secondary data sources such as: The U.S. Census, American Community Survey, Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas School Survey of Drug and Alcohol Use, among others.

Quantitative Data Selection

Quantitative data refers to any information that can be quantified, counted or measured, and given a numerical value. Quantitative data tells how many, how much, or how often and is gathered by measuring and counting then analyzing using statistical analysis. Quantitative indicators were selected after doing a literature review on causal factors and consequences that are most related to substance use and non-medical use of prescription drugs. Data sets were selected based on relevance, timeliness, methodological soundness, representativeness, and accuracy. Data used in this report was primarily gathered through established secondary sources including federal and state government agencies to ensure reliability and accuracy. Region-specific quantitative data collected through local law enforcement, community coalitions, school districts, and local-level governments is included to address the unique regional needs of the community.

While the data selection process was heavily informed by research and evidence on substance use, we caution readers against drawing any firm conclusions about the consequences of substance use from the

data reported here. The secondary data we have drawn from does not necessarily show a causal relationship between substance use and consequences for the community.

Longitudinal Data

To capture a richer depiction of possible trends in the data, multi-year data, referred to as longitudinal data, is reported where it is available from respective sources. Longitudinal data in this needs assessment consist of the most recently available data going back to 2018. For each indicator, there are a different number of data points due to differing frequencies of data collection. However, data from before 2018 will not be included in this needs assessment regardless of the number of data points available. Efforts are also made to present state-level data for comparison purposes with regional and county data. In some instances, there will be data gaps, and this is generally because the data was not available at the time of the data request.

COVID-19 and Data Quality

One of the many impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic was a direct negative effect on the data collection efforts of many organizations and agencies. This in turn has left a lasting mark on the validity and reliability of any data that was collected during this time period. While this report will include data from the time of COVID-19, primarily the years of 2020 and 2021, it is important to keep in mind that these data points may not be truly accurate of what was going on during that time. As such, no firm conclusions should be drawn from data collected during those years and we caution against making direct comparisons of these years with the other years presented in this report, namely 2018 and 2022.

Texas School Survey (TSS) and Texas College Survey (TCS)

The primary sources of quantitative data for substance use behaviors for this report are the Texas School Survey of Drug and Alcohol Use (TSS) and the Texas College Survey of Substance Use. TSS collects self-reported substance use data among students in grades 7 through 12 in Texas public schools while TCS collects similar information from college students across Texas. This includes tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, non-medical use of prescription drugs, and use of other illicit drugs. The surveys are sponsored by HHSC and administered by staff from the Department of Public Service and Administration (PSAA) at Texas A&M University. For TSS, PSAA 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. For TCS, PSAA recruits from a variety of college institutions including both 2-year colleges and 4-year colleges. They administer the assessment every odd-numbered year.

It is important to note that 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. Figures 3 and 4 provides more detail on context on recruitment and the number of usable surveys from 2018 through 2022, showcasing how 2020 caused a sizable drop in both campuses that participated and in usable surveys.

Figure 3. Number of Usable Surveys Included in State Sample for Texas School Survey 2018-2022

Number of Surveys Included in State Sample for TSS							
Report Year	Original Campuses Selected	Campuses Signed Up to Participate	Actual Participating Campuses	Total Non-Blank Surveys	Usable Surveys	Number Rejected	Percent Rejected
2022	711	232	164	43,010	42,199	811	1.89%
2020	700	224	107	28,901	27,965	936	3.2%
2018	710	228	191	62,620	60,776	1,884	2.9%

Information in these tables is from the Methodology Reports for the 2018, 2020, and 2022 Texas School Survey. These reports can be accessed here: <https://www.texaschoolsurvey.org/Report>.

Figure 4. Texas School Survey Distribution Across Grades in 2020 and 2022

Grade	Survey Distribution TSS 2022		Survey Distribution TSS 2020		Difference Between 2020* and 2022 TSS
	# of Usable Surveys	%	# of Usable Surveys	%	# of Usable Surveys
Grade 7	10,759	25.5%	6,414	22.9%	4,345
Grade 8	11,056	26.2%	6,472	23.1%	4,584
Grade 9	5,345	12.7%	4,189	15.0%	1,156
Grade 10	5,268	12.5%	4,119	14.8%	1,149
Grade 11	4,948	11.8%	3,556	12.7%	1,392
Grade 12	4,823	11.4%	3,215	11.5%	1,608
Total	42,199	100.0%	27,965	100.0%	14,234

Information in these tables is from the Methodology Reports for the 2018, 2020, and 2022 Texas School Survey. These reports can be accessed here: <https://www.texaschoolsurvey.org/Report>.

Qualitative Data Selection

Qualitative data is descriptive in nature and expressed in terms of language, interpretation, and meaning rather than numerical values and categorized based on traits and characteristics. Qualitative data tells the why or how behind certain behaviors by describing certain attributes and is gathered through observation and interviews then analyzed by grouping data into meaningful themes or categories.

Data Coordinators conducted key informant interviews with community members about what they believe their greatest needs and resources are in the region. These qualitative data collection methods

provide additional context and nuance to the secondary data and often reveal additional potential key informants and secondary data sources.

Key Informant Interviews

Data Coordinators conducted Key Informant Interviews (KII) with stakeholders that represent the twelve community sectors (please see the prior section on the Regionwide Event in the Introduction for a table of these sectors) across each region. Most of these interviews occurred between September of 2021 and August of 2022 and a few others up through August of 2023.

Key Informants are individuals with specific local knowledge about certain aspects of the community because of their professional background, leadership responsibilities, or personal experience. Compared to quantitative data, the format of interviewing allows the interviewer to ask more open-ended questions and allows the Key Informant to speak rather than filling in pre-selected options. This results in data with richer insights and more in-depth understanding and clarification. The interviews focused on the informant's perceptions of their communities' greatest resources and needs and to determine how their communities are affected by substance use and behavioral health challenges

Each participant was asked the following questions:

1. What substance use concerns do you see in your community?
 - a. What do you think are the greatest contributing factors, and what leads you to this conclusion?
 - b. What do you believe are the most harmful consequences of substance use/misuse, and what leads you to this conclusion?
2. How specifically does substance use affect the (insert sector here) sector?
3. What substance use and misuse prevention services and resources are you aware of in your community?
 - a. What do you see as the best resources in your community?
 - b. What services and resources does your community lack?
4. What services and resources specifically dedicated to promoting mental and emotional wellbeing are you aware of in your community?
 - a. What do you see as the best resources in your community?
 - b. What services and resources does your community lack?
5. What information does the (insert sector here) sector need to better understand substance use/misuse and mental and emotional health in your community?
6. What other questions should we be asking experts in this area?

Once the KII was complete, the Data Coordinator transcribed the audio from the interviews and then used coding techniques to analyze the data.⁵ This involved categorizing the information by topics, themes, and patterns.

⁵ University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library. (2023).

Key Concepts

Epidemiology

Epidemiology is defined as the study (scientific, systematic, and data-driven) of the distribution (frequency, pattern) and determinants (causes, risk factors) of health-related states or events (not just diseases) in specified populations (neighborhood, school, city, state, country, global). It is also the application of this study to the control of health problems.⁶ This definition provides the theoretical framework that this assessment uses to discuss the overall impact of substance use. Epidemiology frames substance use 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 use and the contributing factors influencing this behavior.

Risk and Protective Factors

One component shared by effective prevention programs is a focus on risk and protective factors that influence adolescents. Protective factors are characteristics associated with a lower likelihood of negative outcomes or that reduce a risk factor's impact. Examples include strong and positive family bonds, parental monitoring of children's activities, and access to mentoring. Risk factors are characteristics at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precede and are associated with a higher likelihood of negative outcomes. Examples include unstable home environments, parental use of alcohol or drugs, parental mental illness, poverty, and failure in school performance. Risk and protective factors can exist in any of the domains of the Socio-Ecological Model, described more in the following section.⁷

Social-Ecological Model

The Socio-Ecological Model (SEM) is a conceptual framework developed to better understand the multidimensional risk and protective factors that influence health behavior and to categorize health intervention strategies.⁸ This RNA is organized using the four domains of the SEM (See Figure 5)⁹ 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 like the physical built environment, experiences of poverty, the health care/service system, and retail access to substances

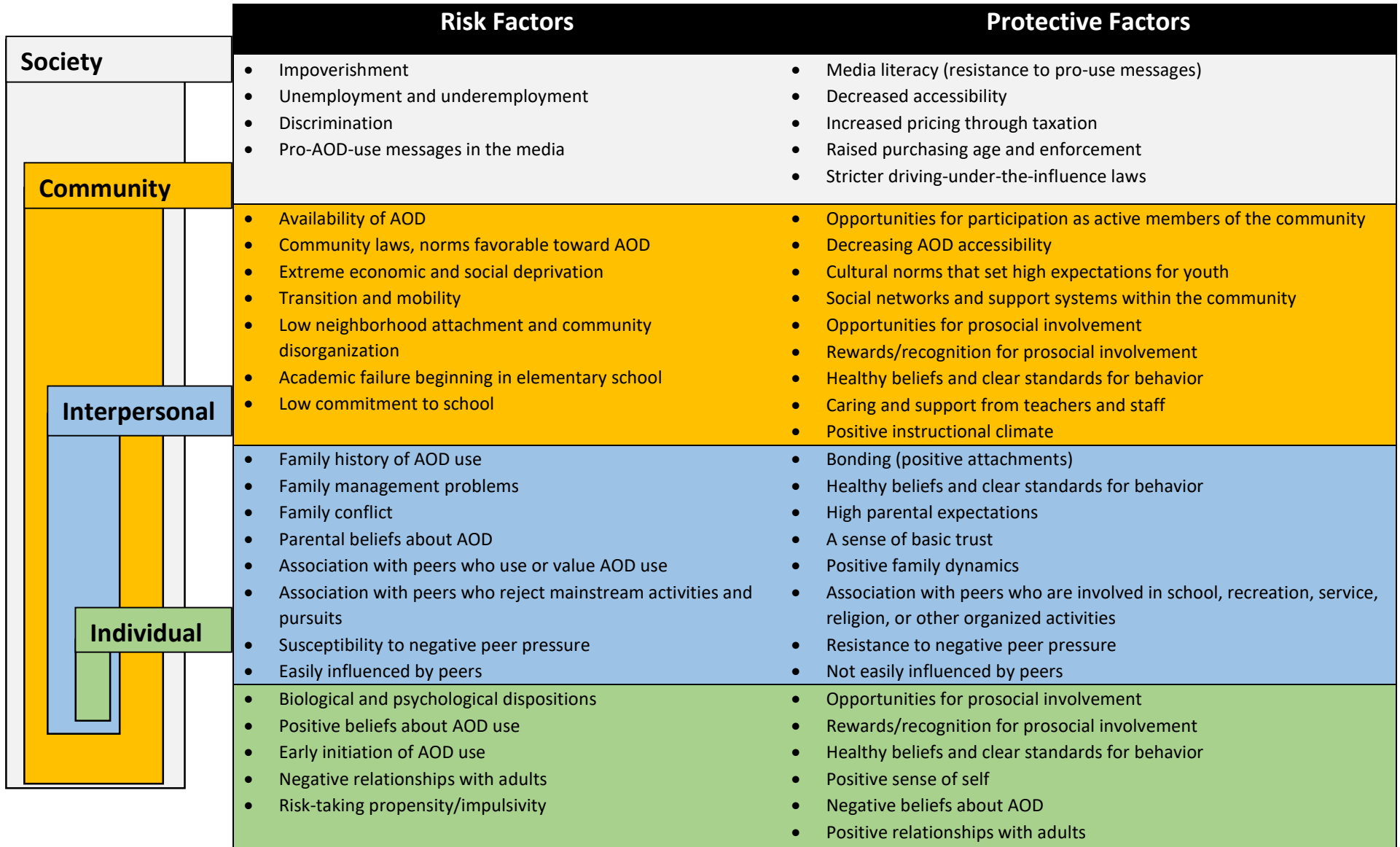
⁶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2012).

⁷ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services. (2019).

⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022a).

⁹ Adapted from: D'Amico, EJ, et al. (2016).

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



- Interpersonal Domain – social and physical factors that indirectly impact youth including academic achievement and the school environment, family conditions and perceptions of parental attitudes, 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 prevention and health promotion programs become more effective when they intervene at multiple levels. Changes at the societal and community levels will create change in individuals, and the support of relevant stakeholders and community leaders in the population is essential for implementing environmental change at the community and societal level

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

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.¹⁰ The SDOH are grouped into 5 domains (see Figure 6): economic stability, education access and quality, health care access and quality, neighborhood and built environment, and social and community context. SDOH’s have a major impact on health, well-being, and quality of life, and they also contribute to health disparities and inequities.

Figure 6. Social Determinants of Health



Social Determinants of Health
Copyright-free

Healthy People 2030

Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Retrieved 6/8/2023 from <https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health>

¹⁰ Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Offices of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. (2023).

Adolescence

The American Psychological Association defines “adolescence” as a part of human development which begins at puberty (10-12 years of age) and ends with physiological and neurobiological maturity, reaching to at least 20 years of age. Brain development continues into an individual’s mid-twenties. Adolescence is a period of major changes in physical characteristics along with significant effects on body image, self-concept, and self-esteem. Mental characteristics are also developing during this time. These include abstract thinking, reasoning, impulse control, and decision-making skills.¹¹ The World Health Organization (WHO) adds this period of growth poses a critical point in vulnerability where the non-medical use of substances, or other risky behaviors can have long-lasting negative effects on future health and well-being.¹²

A similar but slightly different term that is used in the justice system is “juvenile.” The Texas Juvenile Justice System defines a juvenile as a person at least 10 years old but not yet 17 at the time he or she commits an act of “delinquent conduct” or “conduct in need of supervision”.¹³ Delinquent conduct is generally conduct that could result in imprisonment or jail if committed by an adult. Conduct in Need of Supervision for juveniles includes truancy and running away from home. In the context of some indicators, juvenile will be used instead of adolescent to more precisely define the population of interest.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

The CDC-Kaiser Permanente adverse childhood experiences (ACE) study from 1998 is one of the largest investigations of childhood abuse, neglect, and household challenges, and the effects on health and well-being later in life.¹⁴ ACEs are events that occur in children 0-17 years of age. The ACE questionnaire asks about experiences such as childhood abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction across seven different categories. The study showed that individuals with a score of 4 or more (meaning they experienced at least one event in four of the seven categories) have an increased risk for:

- Smoking, heavy alcohol use, and SUDs
- Mental health issues, such as depression and suicidal behavior
- Poor self-rated health
- Sexually transmitted disease
- Challenges with obesity and physical inactivity
- Heart disease
- Lung disease
- Risk for broken bones
- Multiple types of cancer

¹¹ American Psychological Association. (2023).

¹² World Health Organization. (2023).

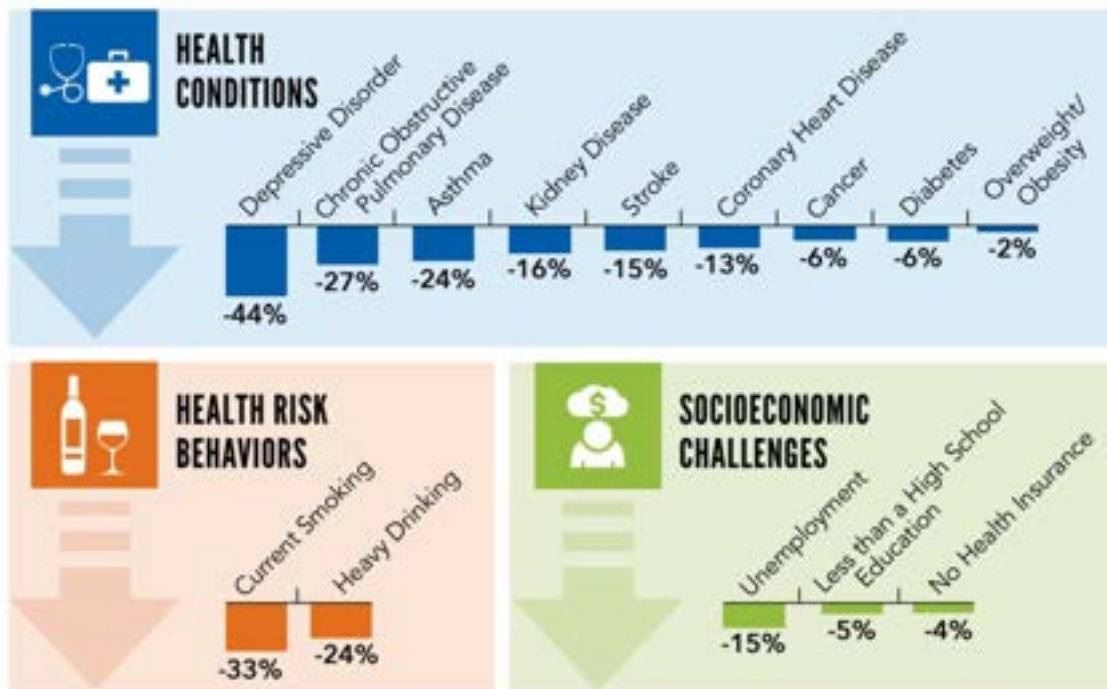
¹³ Texas Juvenile Justice Department. (2022).

¹⁴ Felitti, VJ, et al. (1998).

The study also showed that there is a dose-response relationship where experiencing ACEs in more categories is directly linked with an increasing risk for the above physical and behavioral health concerns. ACEs can also negatively impact job opportunities, education, and earning potential.

ACEs are common with the CDC reporting that approximately 61% of adults have experienced at least one type of ACE before the age of 18, and 1 in 6 reports having 4 or more. Women and other marginalized groups are at a higher risk for experiencing 4 or more types of ACEs. ACEs can, however, be prevented by creating safe, stable, and healthy relationships and environments. Preventing ACEs requires understanding and addressing the risk and protective factors that make these experiences more likely to occur.¹⁵ Figure 7 below describes the potential health and socioeconomic benefits in adulthood that could come from preventing ACEs in childhood.

Figure 7. Potential reduction of negative outcomes in adulthood.



Accessed from: <https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/aces/pdf/vs-1105-aces-H.pdf>. Original source: BRFSS 2015-2017, 25 states, CDC Vital Signs, November 2019.

Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs)

Unlike ACEs which have been researched for decades, Positive Childhood Experiences are still a relatively new and explored aspect of prevention. Dr. Christina Bethell from Johns Hopkins, one of the leading researchers on Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs), defines a positive childhood experience as “feeling safe in our families to talk about emotions and things that are hard and feeling support during hard

¹⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022b).

times.”¹⁶ Dr. Bethell and her colleagues conducted a similar study to the ACEs study in 2019 to determine the health impacts of positive childhood experiences. In this study, they identified seven distinct PCEs:

1. The ability to talk with family about feelings.
2. The sense that family is supportive during difficult times.
3. The enjoyment of participating in community traditions.
4. Feeling a sense of belonging in high school (this did not include those who did not attend school or were home schooled).
5. Feeling supported by friends.
6. Having at least 2 non-parent adults who genuinely cared about them.
7. Feeling safe and protected by an adult in the home.¹⁷

The researchers used data from adults who responded to the 2015 Wisconsin Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) and, like the ACEs study, also found that PCEs have a dose-response relationship with adult mental and behavioral health meaning that experiencing more PCEs was associated with better outcomes. This included a lower odd of depression and poor mental health and increased odds of reporting high amounts of social and emotional support in adulthood. The protective effects of PCE’s remained even after adjusting for ACEs suggesting that promotion of PCEs may have a positive lifelong impact despite co-occurring adversities such as ACEs.¹⁸

Consumption Patterns

This needs assessment follows the example of the [Texas School Survey \(TSS\)](#), 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)
- 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 other illicit drugs, and their non-medical use of prescription drugs. The TSS therefore serves as the primary outcome measure of Texas youth substance use in this needs assessment.

¹⁶ Kreitz, M. (2023).

¹⁷ Pinetree Institute. (2023).

¹⁸ Bethell, C. et al. (2019).

PART II – Geographical Area and Community Demographics

Regional Demographics

Overview of Region

Geographic Boundaries

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.

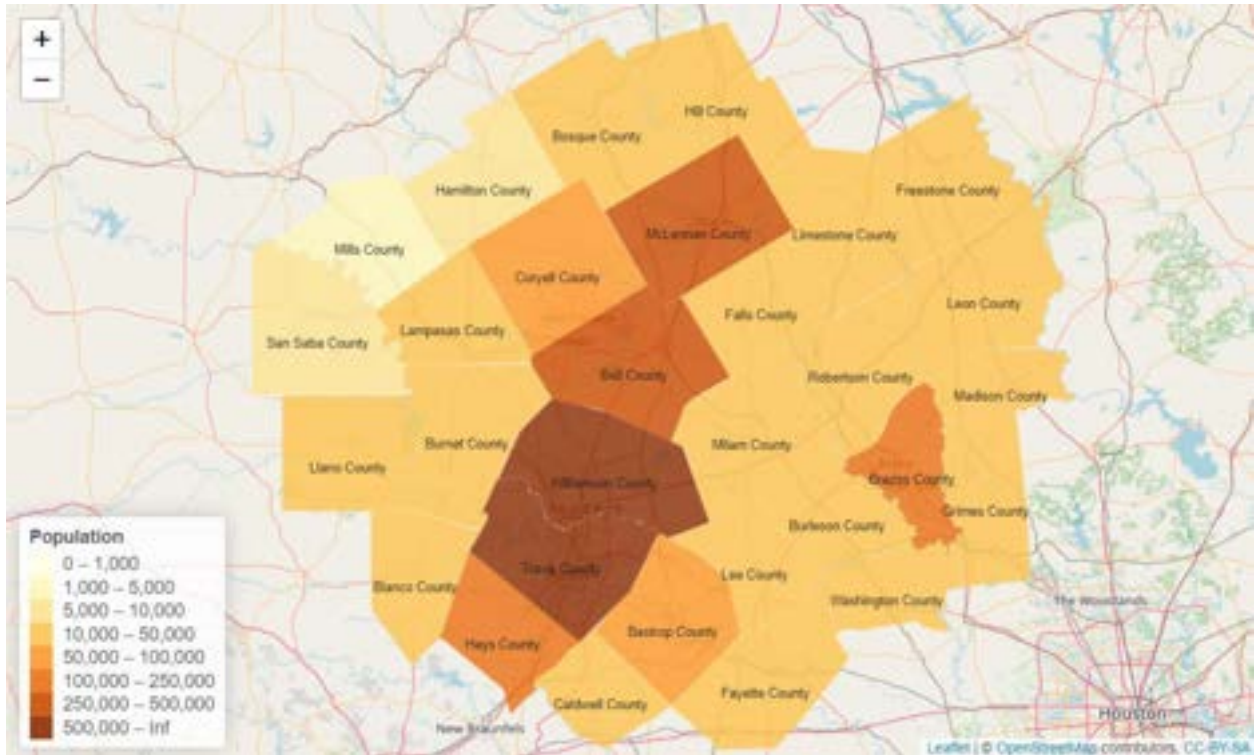


Counties

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)

Major metropolitan areas can be seen in the map below which maps out the populations of the various counties. In Region 7 the main population centers are Brazos county (Bryan/College Station), Bell county (Killeen, Temple), Williamson county (Round Rock), Travis county (Austin), and Hays county (Kyle).



Demographic Information

Total Population

The total population by county can be found in the map above and the table below. Region 7 has a total estimated population of 3,598,672.

County	Pop Estimate	County	Pop Estimate
Bastrop County	94,887	Hill County	35,686
Bell County	364,703	Lampasas County	21,443
Blanco County	11,313	Lee County	17,393
Bosque County	18,275	Leon County	15,877
Brazos County	231,095	Limestone County	22,252
Burleson County	17,687	Llano County	21,246
Burnet County	48,424	Madison County	13,579
Caldwell County	45,286	McLennan County	258,031
Coryell County	81,692	Milam County	24,895

Falls County	17,074	Mills County	4,520
Fayette County	24,445	Robertson County	16,839
Freestone County	19,478	San Saba County	5,775
Grimes County	28,878	Travis County	1,267,795
Hamilton County	8,211	Washington County	35,561
Hays County	234,573	Williamson County	591,759

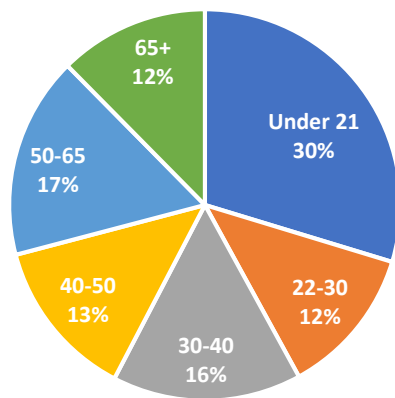
Total Population by Sex and Age

Below is a table detailing the populations and ratios of the sexes in region 7 counties and the region as a whole.

	Female	Male	Male to Female Ratio
Bastrop County	46391	48496	1.05
Bell County	182550	182153	1.00
Blanco County	5679	5634	0.99
Bosque County	9263	9012	0.97
Brazos County	114400	116695	1.02
Burleson County	8892	8795	0.99
Burnet County	24454	23970	0.98
Caldwell County	22344	22942	1.03
Coryell County	40748	40944	1.00
Falls County	9108	7966	0.87
Fayette County	12244	12201	1.00
Freestone County	9305	10173	1.09
Grimes County	13178	15700	1.19
Hamilton County	4128	4083	0.99
Hays County	117544	117029	1.00
Hill County	17762	17924	1.01
Lampasas County	10689	10754	1.01
Lee County	8939	8454	0.95
Leon County	8020	7857	0.98
Limestone County	10740	11512	1.07
Llano County	10914	10332	0.95
Madison County	5875	7704	1.31
McLennan County	131593	126438	0.96
Milam County	12508	12387	0.99
Mills County	2266	2254	0.99

Robertson County	8473	8366	0.99
San Saba County	2761	3014	1.09
Travis County	624626	643169	1.03
Washington County	18235	17326	0.95
Williamson County	298352	293407	0.98
Total	1791981	1806691	1.01

Total Population Region 7 By Age Range



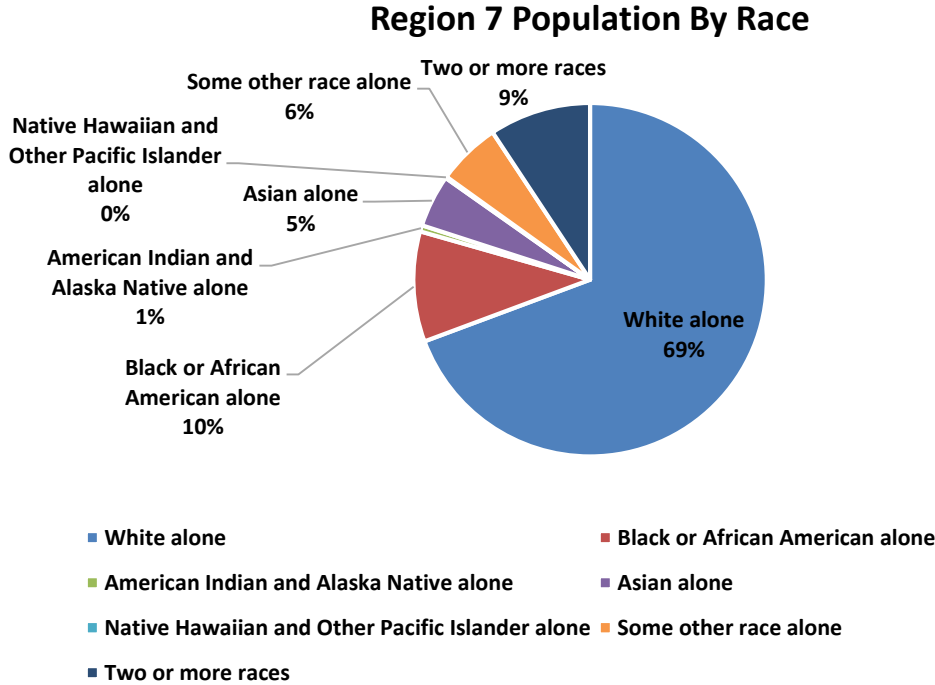
■ Under 21 ■ 22-30 ■ 30-40 ■ 40-50 ■ 50-65 ■ 65+

The graph above details the age distributions in region 7 while the table below details the age distributions for each county.

	Age					
	Under 21	22-30	30-40	40-50	50-65	65+
Bastrop County	29,467	8,497	11,315	11,974	19,394	14,240
Bell County	124,918	48,653	54,200	42,398	54,735	39,799
Blanco County	2,397	741	1,086	1,391	2,889	2,809
Bosque County	4,731	1,340	2,067	1,680	3,973	4,484
Brazos County	85,803	40,130	31,187	22,526	29,817	21,632
Burleson County	4,572	1,619	1,719	2,153	3,968	3,656
Burnet County	12,340	4,074	5,205	5,313	10,487	11,005

Caldwell County	13,892	5,012	5,650	5,700	8,466	6,566
Coryell County	24,415	12,915	14,161	10,522	11,268	8,411
Falls County	4,369	1,700	2,434	1,867	3,566	3,138
Fayette County	5,765	1,886	2,363	2,811	5,430	6,190
Freestone County	5,168	1,683	2,435	2,523	3,872	3,797
Grimes County	7,864	2,452	3,828	3,829	5,788	5,117
Hamilton County	2,300	499	977	773	1,638	2,024
Hays County	78,156	30,004	33,572	29,933	36,962	25,946
Hill County	10,258	2,932	4,075	3,929	7,295	7,197
Lampasas County	5,637	1,617	2,647	2,536	4,674	4,332
Lee County	4,638	1,432	2,083	2,380	3,471	3,389
Leon County	4,364	1,244	1,537	1,801	3,086	3,845
Limestone County	6,239	2,012	2,652	2,654	4,430	4,265
Llano County	3,976	1,372	1,808	1,560	4,793	7,737
Madison County	3,731	1,777	2,081	1,780	2,158	2,052
McLennan County	86,091	31,940	31,752	28,274	42,920	37,054
Milam County	7,348	1,927	2,718	2,729	5,017	5,156
Mills County	1,071	237	362	605	1,011	1,234
Robertson County	4,752	1,522	2,071	1,779	3,363	3,352
San Saba County	1,459	794	575	542	1,050	1,355
Travis County	336,786	172,659	237,715	185,003	209,152	126,480
Washington County	10,468	2,884	3,293	3,960	7,286	7,670
Williamson County	175,763	57,983	94,959	91,810	99,037	72,207
Total	1,068,738	443,537	562,527	476,735	600,996	446,139

Total Population by Ethnicity and Race

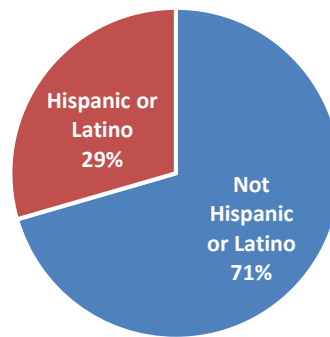


The chart above shows the overall distribution of the population by race for region 7. The table below shows the same breakdown for each county.

	White alone	Black or African American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Some other race alone	Two or more races
Bastrop County	59,039	6,975	953	777	0	17,904	9,239
Bell County	210,914	86,420	2,068	10,567	2,105	14,795	37,834
Blanco County	9,180	3	54	99	33	775	1,169
Bosque County	15,929	334	69	119	0	429	1,395
Brazos County	168,520	25,741	743	13,627	153	6,809	15,502
Burleson County	13,380	2,338	154	0	0	281	1,534
Burnet County	41,346	708	156	331	75	2,783	3,025
Caldwell County	31,561	2,353	288	413	12	3,359	7,300

Coryell County	54,981	11,640	633	1,689	603	1,932	10,214
Falls County	11,169	3,860	64	288	0	480	1,213
Fayette County	21,228	1,511	14	134	0	879	679
Freestone County	14,701	2,900	41	78	0	88	1,670
Grimes County	20,435	4,244	98	115	0	1,470	2,516
Hamilton County	7,549	22	20	9	2	104	505
Hays County	179,703	9,282	1,622	3,603	318	8,268	31,777
Hill County	29,351	2,228	250	289	47	1,836	1,685
Lampasas County	17,622	792	149	288	41	487	2,064
Lee County	13,848	1,939	12	208	0	321	1,065
Leon County	13,459	989	57	145	45	789	393
Limestone County	15,395	3,754	115	222	49	375	2,342
Llano County	19,159	128	198	84	0	678	999
Madison County	9,676	2,185	45	180	0	483	1,010
McLennan County	185,534	36,788	1,001	4,277	168	8,127	22,136
Milam County	20,079	2,444	39	172	56	889	1,216
Mills County	3,826	24	4	9	0	164	493
Robertson County	11,872	3,453	9	58	7	361	1,079
San Saba County	4,713	103	3	8	10	482	456
Travis County	838,840	105,127	9,418	89,571	533	111,393	112,913
Washington County	26,561	6,031	61	473	0	602	1,833
Williamson County	425,221	38,708	2,273	44,419	675	21,106	59,357
Total	2,494,791	363,024	20,611	172,252	4,932	208,449	334,613

Region 7 Population by Ethnicity



■ Not Hispanic or Latino ■ Hispanic or Latino

The chart above shows the overall distribution of the population by ethnicity for region 7. The table below shows the same breakdown for each county.

	Not Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latino
Bastrop County	56,816	38,071
Bell County	270,549	94,154
Blanco County	9,034	2,279
Bosque County	14,739	3,536
Brazos County	170,169	60,926
Burleson County	13,927	3,760
Burnet County	37,437	10,987
Caldwell County	20,796	24,490
Coryell County	65,964	15,728
Falls County	12,932	4,142
Fayette County	19,101	5,344
Freestone County	16,276	3,202
Grimes County	21,817	7,061
Hamilton County	7,092	1,119
Hays County	140,643	93,930
Hill County	27,991	7,695

Lampasas County	17,148	4,295
Lee County	13,146	4,247
Leon County	13,451	2,426
Limestone County	17,205	5,047
Llano County	18,846	2,400
Madison County	10,312	3,267
McLennan County	188,321	69,710
Milam County	18,140	6,755
Mills County	3,440	1,080
Robertson County	13,172	3,667
San Saba County	4,001	1,774
Travis County	841,396	426,399
Washington County	29,591	5,970
Williamson County	444,010	147,749
Total	2,537,462	1,061,210

Disability Status

Percent with Disability		Percent with Disability	
Bastrop	12.70%	Hill	17.60%
Bell	14.90%	Lampasas	21.40%
Blanco	16.60%	Lee	14.10%
Bosque	18.20%	Leon	18.60%
Brazos	9.00%	Limestone	16.40%
Burleson	14.90%	Llano	21.20%
Burnet	17.10%	McLennan	13.40%
Caldwell	16.30%	Madison	19.00%
Coryell	18.40%	Milam	14.50%
Falls	19.90%	Mills	18.30%

Fayette	14.70%	Robertson	17.80%
Freestone	19.30%	San Saba	20.80%
Grimes	14.80%	Travis	8.40%
Hamilton	21.30%	Washington	14.00%
Hays	10.30%	Williamson	9.80%
Region 7		11.18%	

LGBTQ+ population (Same-sex households)

While unavailable at the county level below are the estimated percent of households in each state that are same-sex households along with the standard error (SE) of the estimates.

Percent of households that are same-sex households

	Percent	S.E.		Percent	S.E.
Alabama	0.6	0.1	Montana	0.5	0.1
Alaska	0.6	0.2	Nebraska	0.6	0.1
Arizona	1.1	0.1	Nevada	1.1	0.1
Arkansas	0.7	0.1	New Hampshire	0.9	0.1
California	1.2	--	New Jersey	0.8	--
Colorado	1.1	0.1	New Mexico	1.1	0.1
Connecticut	1.2	0.1	New York	1.2	--
Delaware	1.3	0.1	North Carolina	0.8	--
District of Columbia	2.5	0.2	North Dakota	0.5	0.2
Florida	1.2	--	Ohio	0.8	--
Georgia	1	0.1	Oklahoma	0.7	0.1
Hawaii	1.4	0.2	Oregon	1.3	0.1
Idaho	0.5	0.1	Pennsylvania	0.8	--
Illinois	0.9	--	Rhode Island	1.1	0.1
Indiana	0.8	0.1	South Carolina	0.7	0.1
Iowa	0.6	0.1	South Dakota	0.4	0.1

Kansas	0.5	0.1	Tennessee	0.7	0.1
Kentucky	0.8	0.1	Texas	1	--
Louisiana	0.7	0.1	Utah	1	0.1
Maine	1.1	0.2	Vermont	1	0.1
Maryland	0.9	0.1	Virginia	0.8	0.1
Massachusetts	1.2	0.1	Washington	1.1	0.1
Michigan	0.7	--	West Virginia	0.6	0.1
Minnesota	0.9	0.1	Wisconsin	0.7	--
Mississippi	0.5	0.1	Wyoming	1	0.2
Missouri	0.8	0.1	United States	0.9	--

Limited English Language Proficiency and Languages Spoken in Home

The table below details the percent of households in each county and the region as a whole that are limited in their English speaking.

Percent of Households with Limited English

Bastrop County	2.30%	Hill County	1.96%
Bell County	2.64%	Lampasas County	0.72%
Blanco County	1.03%	Lee County	4.34%
Bosque County	1.85%	Leon County	2.85%
Brazos County	4.87%	Limestone County	4.10%
Burleson County	2.97%	Llano County	0.36%
Burnet County	1.38%	Madison County	6.24%
Caldwell County	6.45%	McLennan County	3.06%
Coryell County	1.83%	Milam County	4.53%
Falls County	1.70%	Mills County	0.77%
Fayette County	0.48%	Robertson County	2.27%
Freestone County	1.23%	San Saba County	3.52%
Grimes County	2.60%	Travis County	5.22%

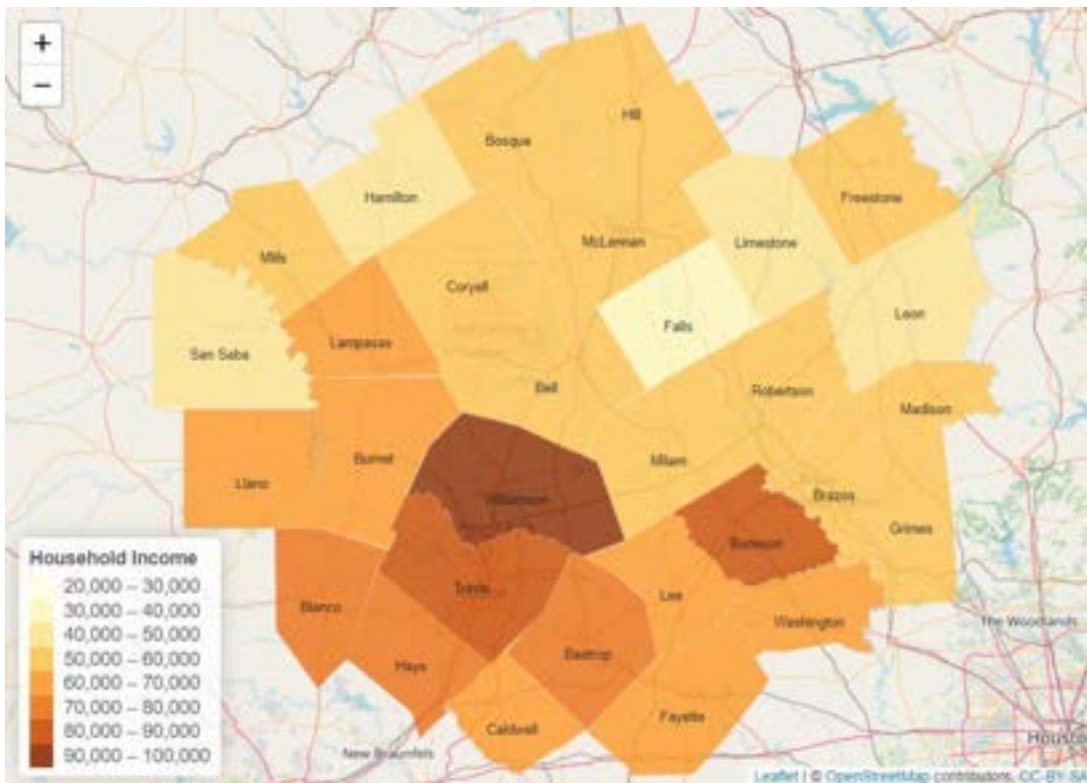
Hamilton County	0.21%	Washington County	2.28%
Hays County	3.46%	Williamson County	2.99%
Region 7		4.07%	

PART III - Risk Factors and Protective Factors

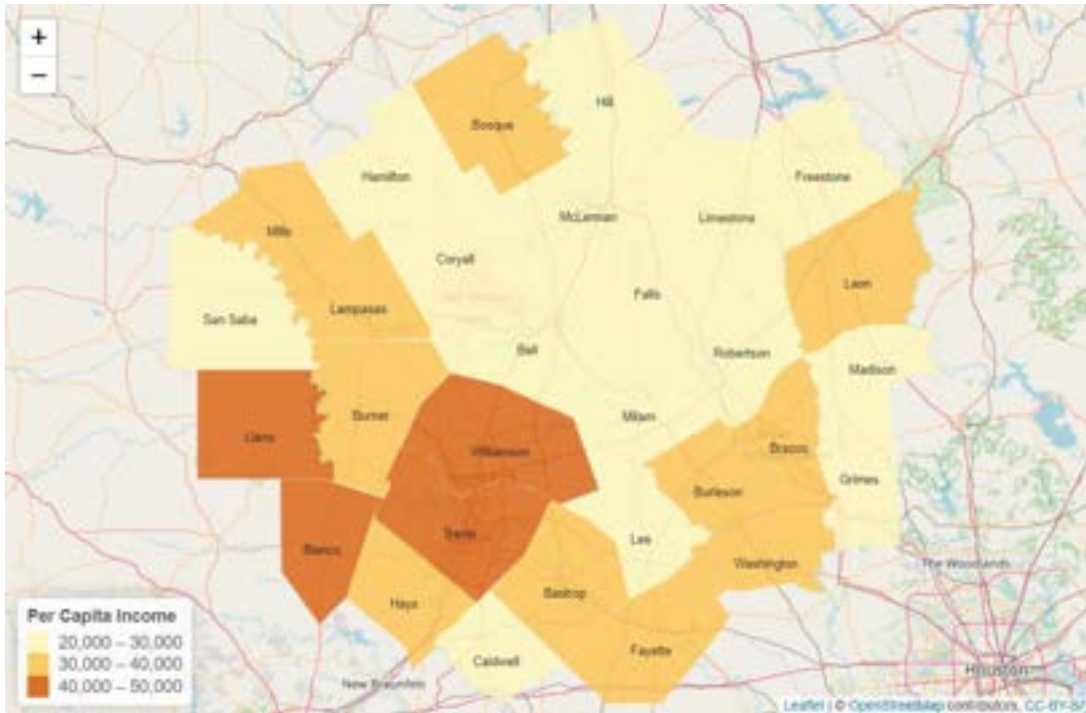
Societal Domain

Economic

Below is a map detailing the median levels of household income for each county in region 7.



Below is a map detailing the median per capita income levels for each county in region 7.



Unemployment

Below is a table detailing the unemployment percentages from 2018-2022. Consistently unemployment is high in Freestone and Leon counties. Highlighted are the top 10% counties for each year.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	3.40%	3.06%	6.02%	4.47%	3.34%
Bell	4.17%	3.85%	7.00%	5.74%	4.41%
Blanco	2.64%	2.44%	3.84%	3.32%	2.79%
Bosque	3.74%	3.42%	5.46%	4.57%	3.69%
Brazos	2.88%	2.71%	5.32%	4.11%	3.09%
Burleson	3.64%	3.12%	6.37%	4.99%	3.59%
Burnet	2.91%	2.73%	4.75%	3.73%	2.96%
Caldwell	3.68%	3.41%	6.49%	4.90%	3.45%
Coryell	4.22%	3.98%	6.62%	5.66%	4.47%
Falls	3.93%	3.28%	6.10%	5.32%	4.05%
Fayette	2.82%	2.63%	4.71%	4.28%	3.46%
Freestone	5.92%	4.80%	8.35%	7.24%	5.34%
Grimes	4.15%	3.99%	8.08%	6.71%	4.51%
Hamilton	3.30%	2.97%	4.56%	4.06%	3.39%

Hays	2.98%	2.79%	6.26%	4.11%	3.02%
Hill	3.66%	3.33%	6.30%	5.01%	3.86%
Lampasas	3.77%	3.33%	5.36%	4.80%	3.69%
Lee	3.07%	2.65%	4.94%	4.28%	3.54%
Leon	5.03%	4.36%	7.81%	7.08%	5.18%
Limestone	4.67%	3.86%	7.13%	6.18%	4.60%
Llano	3.74%	3.46%	5.74%	4.84%	3.80%
McLennan	3.61%	3.33%	6.23%	4.87%	3.58%
Madison	4.46%	4.20%	7.17%	6.25%	4.32%
Milam	5.54%	4.99%	7.18%	5.81%	4.25%
Mills	3.55%	3.27%	4.08%	4.36%	4.24%
Robertson	4.20%	3.62%	6.42%	5.27%	3.84%
San Saba	3.06%	2.96%	5.15%	4.68%	3.53%
Travis	2.87%	2.62%	6.35%	4.04%	2.82%
Washington	3.66%	3.40%	5.65%	5.24%	3.97%
Williamson	3.08%	2.82%	5.82%	3.99%	2.92%
Texas	3.20%	3.54%	7.66%	5.68%	3.17%

TANF recipients

Below is the rate of TANF cases per 100 households for each county. Notably bell has consistently had a high TANF case rate between 2020 and 2022. Highlighted are the top 10% counties for each year.

	Cases per 100 Households 2020	Cases per 100 Households 2021	Cases per 100 Households 2022
Bastrop	1.4	1.1	0.5
Bell	3.1	2.1	1.3
Blanco	0.4	0.4	0.0
Bosque	0.9	0.5	0.3
Brazos	1.0	0.8	0.5
Burleson	1.2	0.7	0.8
Burnet	0.9	0.5	0.2
Caldwell	1.6	1.0	0.4
Coryell	2.8	2.0	1.0

Falls	2.8	1.7	1.1
Fayette	0.6	0.3	0.1
Freestone	1.8	1.1	0.6
Grimes	1.4	0.6	0.4
Hamilton	1.6	1.1	0.2
Hays	0.7	0.4	0.3
Hill	1.4	1.6	1.1
Lampasas	1.7	1.1	0.7
Lee	1.3	1.2	0.7
Leon	2.6	1.7	1.0
Limestone	2.8	1.9	1.2
Llano	0.4	0.2	0.3
McLennan	2.0	1.4	0.8
Madison	2.0	2.5	2.2
Milam	1.0	1.0	0.7
Mills	0.1	0.8	1.3
Robertson	2.5	1.0	0.2
San Saba	1.6	1.5	0.2
Travis	0.7	0.5	0.3
Washington	1.2	0.6	0.4
Williamson	0.7	0.4	0.2

SNAP recipients

Below is a table detailing the number of SNAP cases per person in each county and the average payment per case. Consistently McLennan county had an abnormally high number of cases followed by Robertson and Falls. Highlighted are the top 10% counties for each year.

County	SNAP 2020		SNAP 2021		SNAP 2022	
	Number of Cases per Population	Avg Payment/Case	Number of Cases per Population	Avg Payment/Case	Number of Cases per Population	Avg Payment/Case
Bastrop	0.60	\$273.16	0.56	\$324.15	0.58	\$358.50
Bell	0.78	\$268.79	0.69	\$311.21	0.70	\$351.95
Blanco	0.28	\$210.93	0.25	\$246.83	0.27	\$275.82

Bosque	0.61	\$239.51	0.54	\$280.40	0.57	\$303.14
Brazos	0.48	\$260.55	0.44	\$308.98	0.44	\$341.81
Burleson	0.69	\$226.01	0.70	\$273.13	0.75	\$312.94
Burnet	0.44	\$244.60	0.39	\$276.09	0.39	\$302.00
Caldwell	0.69	\$272.06	0.63	\$318.85	0.65	\$351.26
Coryell	0.55	\$258.15	0.50	\$302.74	0.51	\$342.48
Falls	0.96	\$223.02	0.91	\$266.30	0.93	\$298.32
Fayette	0.43	\$233.53	0.41	\$275.04	0.41	\$297.52
Freestone	0.70	\$245.03	0.65	\$279.96	0.67	\$310.81
Grimes	0.73	\$240.13	0.70	\$277.72	0.72	\$316.05
Hamilton	0.61	\$225.99	0.53	\$251.57	0.56	\$277.80
Hays	0.34	\$270.99	0.30	\$314.96	0.32	\$350.32
Hill	0.77	\$235.36	0.70	\$267.75	0.73	\$301.59
Lampasas	0.63	\$244.14	0.58	\$286.53	0.57	\$306.82
Lee	0.59	\$240.01	0.55	\$291.92	0.54	\$324.53
Leon	0.72	\$230.03	0.70	\$271.83	0.74	\$303.67
Limestone	0.92	\$235.31	0.85	\$270.90	0.88	\$301.15
Llano	0.53	\$223.38	0.49	\$266.09	0.52	\$293.75
McLennan	14.33	\$249.36	13.05	\$288.32	13.29	\$322.57
Madison	0.04	\$248.09	0.04	\$287.38	0.04	\$329.70
Milam	0.88	\$237.33	0.82	\$270.99	0.82	\$308.05
Mills	0.48	\$238.43	0.43	\$263.53	0.48	\$300.36
Robertson	1.07	\$227.94	1.01	\$268.46	1.01	\$301.16
San Saba	0.72	\$240.08	0.63	\$271.21	0.64	\$289.85
Travis	0.43	\$255.10	0.38	\$296.82	0.38	\$333.50
Washington	0.55	\$227.76	0.51	\$269.67	0.52	\$302.32
Williamson	0.26	\$272.17	0.22	\$313.36	0.23	\$353.67

Free/Reduced lunch

The below table details the percent of free and reduced school lunches for each county from 2018 to 2022. Consistently Caldwell and Falls have high percents. Highlighted are the top 10% counties for each year.

Percent % Free & Reduced

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Bastrop County	71%	65%	72%	68%
Bell County	59%	61%	54%	59%
Blanco County	43%	158%	39%	38%
Bosque County	65%	160%	66%	64%
Brazos County	58%	59%	58%	59%
Burleson County	63%	103%	61%	63%
Burnet County	63%	52%	61%	61%
Caldwell County	72%	56%	78%	78%
Coryell County	56%	53%	57%	55%
Falls County	79%	96%	79%	80%
Fayette County	54%	177%	52%	51%
Freestone County	58%	138%	62%	64%
Grimes County	66%	117%	66%	65%
Hamilton County	52%	123%	53%	52%
Hays County	48%	49%	43%	45%
Hill County	65%	223%	62%	65%
Lee County	60%	112%	62%	59%
Leon County	58%	143%	58%	59%
Limestone County	71%	73%	74%	76%
Llano County	64%	91%	64%	63%
Milam County	70%	143%	66%	68%
Mills County	55%	388%	53%	56%
Robertson County	65%	99%	62%	60%
San Saba County	72%	167%	71%	61%
Travis County	50%	55%	50%	49%
Washington County	59%	52%	60%	53%
Williamson County	31%	29%	27%	26%

Students experiencing homelessness

Below is a table detailing the homeless rate for students per 1,000 students for each county. Highlighted are the top 10% counties for each year.

Student Homeless Rate per 1,000					
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Bastrop	26.18	28.86	32.23	36.03	11.02
Bell	15.18	10.22	8.62	8.07	14.40
Blanco	--	--	--	--	--
Bosque	30.46	35.42	25.72	25.35	12.40
Brazos	15.66	16.22	13.93	5.98	12.36
Burleson	--	10.84	4.42	8.92	0.00
Burnet	13.39	9.08	14.84	18.24	22.13
Caldwell	42.14	30.64	19.79	18.58	15.21
Coryell	17.62	11.06	8.09	8.74	11.59
Falls	10.69	10.01	4.43	--	--
Fayette	15.13	17.07	11.40	6.98	10.83
Freestone	18.72	12.68	19.57	11.07	13.46
Grimes	45.81	39.94	26.29	23.73	23.31
Hamilton	34.79	33.94	22.04	37.58	38.19
Hays	11.17	8.71	9.27	8.95	8.28
Hill	32.87	37.35	33.60	19.01	27.49
Lampasas	18.92	19.67	13.93	18.18	17.17
Lee	12.13	15.95	5.43	4.67	7.54
Leon	4.13	12.86	11.24	20.49	11.85
Limestone	17.75	25.93	13.06	10.26	14.20
Llano	15.73	6.19	12.13	6.91	--
McLennan	14.31	14.50	15.10	14.17	15.78
Madison	3.65	--	--	--	3.95
Milam	23.22	13.57	10.31	15.78	5.09
Mills	18.00	--	--	--	--
Robertson	5.10	4.30	3.72	3.89	--
San Saba	15.02	17.09	10.36	11.22	--

Travis	10.73	10.76	10.06	13.83	13.14
Washington	2.73	5.20	2.21	6.29	7.31
Williamson	7.92	8.29	6.37	6.72	8.27
Texas	13.40	14.22	10.74	11.32	12.98

Community Domain

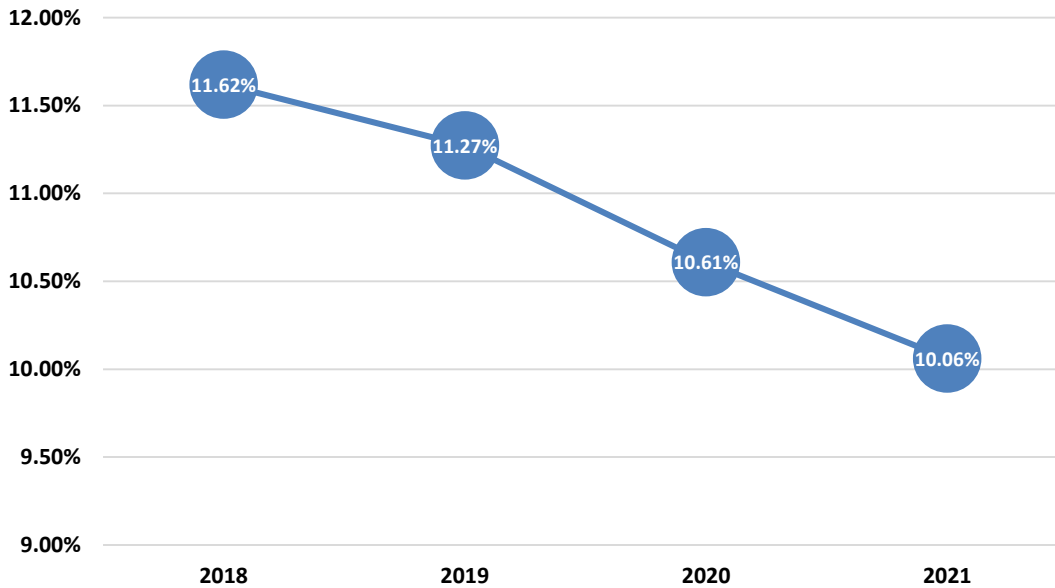
Educational Attainment of Community

Below is a table detailing the percent of the population (ages 25+) that have attained a high school degree or higher. Highlighted are the bottom 10%.

	High school graduate or higher ages 25+			
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bastrop	81.00%	81.90%	83.10%	84.40%
Bell	90.60%	91.00%	90.90%	91.10%
Blanco	90.70%	90.10%	91.60%	90.20%
Bosque	85.10%	86.50%	88.30%	89.50%
Brazos	86.70%	87.20%	88.30%	88.70%
Burleson	82.50%	82.50%	84.10%	82.80%
Burnet	88.10%	88.30%	88.40%	88.60%
Caldwell	78.80%	78.20%	79.70%	80.10%
Coryell	88.10%	88.00%	88.80%	89.20%
Falls	77.00%	76.90%	77.40%	79.50%
Fayette	84.20%	86.10%	89.10%	88.50%
Freestone	82.20%	82.60%	81.80%	82.60%
Grimes	79.60%	80.60%	81.20%	81.70%
Hamilton	81.50%	84.00%	87.10%	86.90%
Hays	89.50%	90.10%	90.40%	90.50%
Hill	82.40%	83.50%	84.50%	85.40%
Lampasas	90.60%	91.00%	89.90%	91.40%
Lee	83.90%	84.60%	83.00%	87.10%
Leon	82.40%	81.80%	81.90%	83.40%
Limestone	81.10%	81.10%	83.20%	84.50%
Llano	86.00%	85.80%	86.50%	89.10%

McLennan	84.30%	84.90%	85.40%	86.40%
Madison	80.00%	80.80%	81.20%	78.30%
Milam	82.20%	81.40%	83.60%	86.10%
Mills	80.50%	83.00%	82.80%	85.30%
Robertson	83.80%	84.50%	84.70%	84.90%
San Saba	74.20%	74.80%	80.80%	81.60%
Travis	89.10%	89.30%	90.30%	90.60%
Washington	85.80%	86.70%	87.50%	89.10%
Williamson	93.20%	93.20%	93.30%	94.00%

Region 7 Ages 25+ % with less than high school diploma



Below is a table detailing the percent of the population (ages 25+) with a bachelor’s degree or higher. The top 10% are highlighted.

Bachelor's degree or higher ages 25+

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bastrop	20.40%	20.70%	21.50%	23.10%
Bell	24.50%	25.20%	25.30%	26.60%
Blanco	27.10%	26.50%	28.20%	25.70%
Bosque	18.50%	19.80%	18.50%	18.40%

Brazos	40.80%	41.70%	41.40%	42.20%
Burleson	17.10%	17.30%	21.30%	21.10%
Burnet	25.10%	25.40%	26.80%	27.80%
Caldwell	14.80%	14.60%	14.80%	16.00%
Coryell	15.70%	16.10%	16.90%	17.30%
Falls	12.90%	12.40%	12.40%	12.70%
Fayette	18.10%	19.70%	22.30%	23.00%
Freestone	13.00%	15.30%	14.80%	16.00%
Grimes	14.60%	15.70%	18.30%	17.60%
Hamilton	21.70%	22.40%	20.60%	21.60%
Hays	37.40%	37.20%	38.60%	38.70%
Hill	17.10%	17.40%	17.50%	17.30%
Lampasas	20.00%	19.90%	18.40%	18.20%
Lee	15.90%	14.60%	14.00%	14.30%
Leon	16.40%	14.00%	15.00%	17.20%
Limestone	14.00%	14.80%	16.70%	15.70%
Llano	25.70%	25.30%	25.90%	30.80%
McLennan	23.70%	24.20%	25.00%	26.30%
Madison	13.60%	14.70%	13.80%	11.80%
Milam	13.80%	14.10%	15.10%	16.20%
Mills	18.20%	18.30%	21.10%	24.70%
Robertson	16.10%	16.10%	18.40%	17.80%
San Saba	14.40%	14.10%	17.40%	17.00%
Travis	48.60%	50.00%	51.50%	52.70%
Washington	25.00%	26.80%	28.10%	28.10%
Williamson	41.10%	41.30%	41.90%	44.80%

Community Conditions

Alcohol related arrests

Below is a table detailing the rate per 100,000 of juvenile arrests due to alcohol violations. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year. Brazos and Hays and Travis have consistently high rates likely due to the presence of colleges in each of these counties.

Adult Alcohol Violation Arrest rate per 100,000

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	543.63	540.9	492.97	251.96	310.84
Bell	530.56	533.14	434.3	468.47	383.96
Blanco	106.15	275.98	254.75	329.05	477.66
Bosque	664.08	359.71	207.53	186.77	255.95
Brazos	899.78	847.61	758.33	782.53	374.32
Burleson	697.29	632.59	416.94	215.66	230.03
Burnet	566.91	541.26	415.57	482.26	497.65
Caldwell	514.19	540.64	593.52	534.76	458.37
Coryell	330.64	372.17	196.47	212.44	225.22
Falls	141.31	29.75	37.19	96.68	208.24
Fayette	324.81	314.5	252.63	67.02	128.89
Freestone	503.53	183.1	170.02	130.79	156.94
Grimes	325.45	256.02	112.82	130.18	121.5
Hamilton	492.99	277.31	107.84	61.62	184.87
Hays	731.98	753.01	622.56	598.31	408.57
Hill	345.63	349.27	338.35	385.65	283.78
Lampasas	777.17	551.73	474.61	492.41	284.77
Lee	622.49	356.79	151.83	129.05	235.33
Leon	104.79	153.15	225.7	185.39	266
Limestone	538.2	280.8	251.55	134.55	70.2
Llano	585.22	596.26	397.5	215.31	336.77
McLennan	473.17	521.81	351.59	405.29	407.31
Madison	457.9	9.34	626.11	401.83	102.79
Milam	728.89	550.6	445.73	403.78	199.27
Mills	392.27	448.3	168.11	112.08	336.23
Robertson	385.16	102.19	94.32	243.67	172.93
San Saba	195.4	86.84	108.55	0	0
Travis	812.5	699.66	540	510.58	461.39
Washington	463.54	594.46	346.77	375.08	346.77

Williamson 440.13 466.62 398.86 463.31 434.39

Drug related arrests

Below is a table detailing the rate per 100,000 of juvenile arrests due to drug violations. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year. Brazos and Washington were consistently high

Adult Drug Violation Arrest rate per 100,000					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	587.45	634.01	498.45	350.56	304
Bell	591.56	627.57	432.09	533.14	555.55
Blanco	976.54	700.56	275.98	286.59	254.75
Bosque	477.31	470.39	276.7	318.21	283.62
Brazos	987.44	986.9	738.43	853.52	573.32
Burleson	639.78	431.31	517.58	388.18	452.88
Burnet	818.31	823.44	441.22	610.52	692.61
Caldwell	364.34	352.59	308.52	232.12	240.94
Coryell	694.82	765.1	507.94	552.66	482.38
Falls	275.17	267.74	133.87	252.86	409.04
Fayette	866.16	876.47	670.24	561.97	603.22
Freestone	660.48	379.28	608.16	477.37	555.85
Grimes	338.47	295.07	147.54	225.65	264.7
Hamilton	754.89	169.47	154.06	77.03	261.9
Hays	527.7	518.53	405.34	463.02	348.74
Hill	531.18	378.37	422.03	494.8	338.35
Lampasas	628.86	913.62	622.92	640.72	504.27
Lee	2254.61	1761.18	417.52	273.29	554.16
Leon	80.61	8.06	153.15	137.03	80.61
Limestone	1240.2	883.35	573.3	503.1	356.85
Llano	541.05	645.94	342.3	590.74	430.63
McLennan	629.21	509.14	342.97	372.86	427.58
Madison	485.94	140.17	429.87	504.63	373.8
Milam	734.14	849.5	650.24	267.44	267.44

Mills	1821.24	0	0	0	28.02
Robertson	463.76	188.65	102.19	282.97	149.35
San Saba	217.11	108.55	65.13	21.71	173.69
Travis	501.23	499.86	233.55	170.88	198.53
Washington	785.53	1068.61	767.84	951.84	1012
Williamson	475.67	375.9	169.96	181	196.01

Violent crime and property crime rates

Below is a table detailing the violent and property arrest rates for each region 7 county. Highlighted is the top 10% for each year. McLennan had a consistently high rate.

Adult Violent and Property Violation Arrest rate per 100,000

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	282.09	305.37	250.59	269.76	377.94
Bell	504.84	433.93	329.58	346.12	397.56
Blanco	74.3	106.15	116.76	137.99	116.76
Bosque	228.28	89.93	62.26	62.26	83.01
Brazos	438.86	313.01	295.26	296.88	185.01
Burleson	841.06	409.75	517.58	186.9	172.53
Burnet	538.7	566.91	430.96	469.44	369.39
Caldwell	196.86	202.74	170.42	158.66	152.79
Coryell	710.79	637.32	388.14	335.43	437.66
Falls	751.15	409.04	148.74	14.87	74.37
Fayette	407.3	257.79	190.76	154.67	190.76
Freestone	170.02	176.56	228.88	124.25	202.72
Grimes	342.81	282.06	342.81	195.27	295.07
Hamilton	292.71	138.65	92.44	107.84	138.65
Hays	483.5	501.29	347.67	437.14	437.68
Hill	531.18	556.65	280.14	341.99	349.27
Lampasas	516.14	468.68	433.08	314.43	379.69
Lee	447.89	387.16	296.06	334.02	303.65
Leon	88.67	24.18	48.36	72.55	112.85
Limestone	1170	514.8	590.85	468	292.5

Llano	176.67	204.27	132.5	171.15	165.63
McLennan	961.54	1172.8	1029.94	1008.66	1024.36
Madison	373.8	28.03	299.04	224.28	383.14
Milam	728.89	566.33	367.07	356.58	314.63
Mills	672.46	0	0	0	0
Robertson	463.76	282.97	290.83	275.11	322.28
San Saba	130.26	108.55	21.71	86.84	173.69
Travis	536.16	608.07	493.86	466.31	502.02
Washington	424.61	346.77	240.61	265.38	247.69
Williamson	202.41	197.77	162.9	146.12	172.83

Juvenile probation

Below is a table detailing the rate per 100,000 of juvenile arrests due to alcohol violations. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year. Lampasas and Burnet have consistently high rates.

	Juvenile Alcohol Violation Arrest rate per 100,000				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	83.33	93.75	31.25	20.83	41.67
Bell	32.25	40.31	43.00	10.75	5.37
Blanco	0.00	0.00	102.46	0.00	0.00
Bosque	60.35	60.35	0.00	0.00	60.35
Brazos	82.57	104.59	71.56	115.60	22.02
Burleson	0.00	0.00	126.02	0.00	0.00
Burnet	163.74	280.70	257.31	116.96	561.40
Caldwell	100.05	75.04	75.04	25.01	25.01
Coryell	81.69	49.01	16.34	49.01	0.00
Falls	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.02	0.00
Fayette	91.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Freestone	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grimes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.75
Hamilton	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hays	59.06	45.43	81.78	68.15	36.35
Hill	0.00	28.27	28.27	28.27	28.27

Lampasas	785.08	245.34	343.47	932.29	245.34
Lee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leon	0.00	0.00	62.77	62.77	0.00
Limestone	150.23	150.23	150.23	50.08	0.00
Llano	76.45	152.91	76.45	152.91	0.00
McLennan	53.09	53.09	24.50	44.92	32.67
Madison	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Milam	79.55	0.00	79.55	159.11	39.78
Mills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Robertson	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.79	60.79
San Saba	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Travis	145.96	118.29	65.83	66.78	41.02
Washington	225.81	0.00	32.26	32.26	0.00
Williamson	70.25	47.90	36.72	31.93	25.54

Below is a table detailing the rate per 100,000 of juvenile arrests due to drug violations. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year. Burnet, Lampasas, and Washington had consistently high rates.

Juvenile Drug Violation Arrest rate per 100,00					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	916.67	947.92	135.42	72.92	312.50
Bell	403.12	317.12	110.19	137.06	290.24
Blanco	204.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bosque	181.05	60.35	60.35	0.00	0.00
Brazos	781.68	572.50	423.87	677.09	578.00
Burleson	189.04	0.00	189.04	252.05	252.05
Burnet	538.01	865.50	350.88	397.66	654.97
Caldwell	450.23	275.14	275.14	675.34	675.34
Coryell	261.40	473.78	261.40	343.08	849.53
Falls	142.05	426.14	71.02	71.02	0.00
Fayette	137.80	183.74	275.61	137.80	275.61
Freestone	54.00	107.99	107.99	0.00	107.99

Grimes	306.98	345.36	76.75	76.75	729.09
Hamilton	397.35	0.00	0.00	264.90	397.35
Hays	558.84	508.86	281.69	290.78	440.71
Hill	169.64	282.73	84.82	56.55	141.36
Lampasas	686.95	637.88	343.47	1030.42	834.15
Lee	343.64	481.10	68.73	0.00	618.56
Leon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Limestone	600.90	450.68	0.00	100.15	150.23
Llano	0.00	76.45	76.45	76.45	0.00
McLennan	187.85	147.01	81.67	73.51	81.67
Madison	155.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Milam	238.66	278.44	39.78	238.66	39.78
Mills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Robertson	60.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.79
San Saba	212.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Travis	612.46	461.73	114.48	35.30	42.93
Washington	419.35	612.90	612.90	1096.77	806.45
Williamson	501.30	371.98	76.63	43.11	83.02

Drug seizure/trafficking

Below is a table detailing the drugs seized by authorities.

Drug Type Description	2019										
	Solid Pounds	Solid Ounces	Solid Grams	Liquid Ounces	Dose Units (capsules, pills, tablets, etc.)	Number of Plants	Garden	Wild Fields	Cultivated Fields	Green Houses	Labs
Crack Cocaine	4	2	7.35	96	9	0	0	0	0	0	7
Cocaine (All forms except Crack)	64	9	7.137	384.67 6	5.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hashish	10	6	21.576	2.054	7443	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heroin	33	7	15.145	16.196	303.01	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana	1206	10	6.778	774.92 1	138.07	39	3	0	1	1	0
Morphine	0	3	24.485	0	169	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opium	0	1	10.741	0	125	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Narcotics	72	14	15.731	271.56 6	3353.483	0	0	0	0	0	0
LSD	0	0	27.96	0	1732.5	0	0	0	0	0	0

PCP	1	11	24.628	0.237	34	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Hallucinogens	9	2	5.025	1.215	324.8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amphetamines/Methamphetamines	326	2	3.557	4792.78	546.68	0	0	0	0	0	18
Other Stimulants	0	5	22.281	9	169	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barbiturates	2	13	16.305	0	619.25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Depressants	4	6	24.811	29.066	730.75	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Drugs	73	6	1.547	558.992	6218.262	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precursor Chemicals	0	1	15.65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Clandestine Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43

2020

Drug Type Description	Solid Pounds	Solid Ounces	Solid Grams	Liquid Ounces	Dose Units (capsules, pills, tablets, etc.)	Number of Plants	Garden	Wild Fields	Cultivated Fields	Green Houses	Labs
Crack Cocaine	2	9	4.423	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Cocaine (All forms except Crack)	47	3	2.359	128.01	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hashish	26	0	6.839	23.072	348	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heroin	12	2	23.272	280.77	381	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana	1559	1	24.365	47.047	267	177	1	0	1	2	0
Morphine	0	0	21.001	1.014	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opium	1	9	10.749	15.994	64	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Narcotics	51	12	24.295	51.714	2810.95	0	0	0	0	0	0
LSD	2	10	22.237	0	2651	0	0	0	0	0	0
PCP	1	2	27.447	6.487	76	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Hallucinogens	118	4	17.974	0.676	710	4	0	0	0	0	0
Amphetamines/Methamphetamines	180	4	22.963	1078.32	882.84	0	0	0	0	0	13
Other Stimulants	8	14	1.138	0	97	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barbiturates	8	5	5.991	0	2380.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Depressants	4	13	10.394	306.8	852	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Drugs	134	8	26.179	34113	7456.022	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precursor Chemicals	0	3	27.951	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Clandestine Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29

2021

Drug Type Description	Solid Pounds	Solid Ounces	Solid Grams	Liquid Ounces	Dose Units (capsules, pills, tablets, etc.)	Number of Plants	Garden	Wild Fields	Cultivated Fields	Green Houses	Labs
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Crack Cocaine	6	13	7.797	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Cocaine (All forms except Crack)	307	4	21.556	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hashish	45	11	3.881	31.977	129	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heroin	22	13	9.418	12.68	470	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana	1626	3	3.331	4131.4	276.009	25	8	0	0	0	0
Morphine	0	0	11.106	1	28.014	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opium	1	4	5.702	0.014	68	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Narcotics	70	9	2.573	162.84	2808.825	0	0	0	0	0	0
LSD	0	3	22.591	0	4941.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
PCP	3	0	5.155	2.371	49	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Hallucinogens	70	14	6.754	47.573	1294.79	1	0	0	0	0	0
Amphetamines/Methamphetamines	560	1	13.57	276.32	2331.678	0	0	0	0	0	4
				7							
Other Stimulants	8	6	15.719	0.001	720.8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barbiturates	2	6	8.388	2	630.001	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Depressants	13	5	6.377	18.999	1320.206	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Drugs	100	13	1.506	889.58	25254.124	0	0	0	0	0	0
				1							
Precursor Chemicals	2	11	13.969	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Clandestine Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9

2022

Drug Type Description	Solid Pounds	Solid Ounces	Solid Grams	Liquid Ounces	Dose Units (capsules, pills, tablets, etc.)	Number of Plants	Garden	Wild Fields	Cultivated Fields	Green Houses	Labs
Crack Cocaine	7	6	10.307	384	4	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cocaine (All forms except Crack)	74	14	22.284	59.008	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hashish	524	1	13.657	366.21	204	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2							
Heroin	13241	12	23.858	89.339	168	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana	2749	9	25.672	2929.7	825.9	12	1	1	0	0	0
				9							
Morphine	0	3	0.018	0	33.003	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opium	2	11	18.542	0	84.31	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Narcotics	2293	7	25.77	120.03	1195.405	0	0	0	0	0	0
				6							
LSD	0	1	17.082	0	595	0	0	0	0	0	0
PCP	1	0	25.094	3.1	35.01	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Hallucinogens	220491	15	3.443	0	147	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amphetamines/Methamphetamines	22624	13	1.666	635.23	3176.064	0	0	0	0	0	4
				5							

Other Stimulants	21	5	5.011	0	222.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barbiturates	0	14	18.701	0	74.005	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Depressants	3	15	18.48	178.36	794.505	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Drugs	2438	14	0.106	423.02	5874.675	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precursor Chemicals	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Clandestine Labs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9

Health Care/Service System

Uninsured children

Below is a table detailing the percent of individuals under 19 years of age who were uninsured. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year.

Percent Uninsured Under 19

	2018	2019	2020
Bastrop County	13.4%	15.1%	14.7%
Bell County	6.7%	9.9%	8.7%
Blanco County	17.9%	20.9%	19.1%
Bosque County	15.5%	15.8%	14.8%
Brazos County	11.1%	11.5%	10.2%
Burleson County	13.1%	14.7%	12.7%
Burnet County	13.4%	14.0%	15.1%
Caldwell County	11.8%	15.2%	14.2%
Coryell County	7.8%	8.9%	8.5%
Falls County	12.0%	13.0%	11.5%
Fayette County	14.5%	16.9%	15.7%
Freestone County	13.0%	14.4%	13.7%
Grimes County	14.5%	16.4%	14.4%
Hamilton County	14.7%	18.8%	16.9%
Hays County	11.0%	11.6%	10.8%
Hill County	12.9%	13.5%	13.6%
Lee County	12.1%	15.8%	13.0%
Leon County	19.8%	21.8%	17.6%
Limestone County	12.6%	14.9%	12.8%

Llano County	13.1%	16.5%	14.4%
Milam County	10.8%	12.8%	13.5%
Mills County	18.0%	19.2%	18.2%
Robertson County	12.5%	12.5%	12.6%
San Saba County	18.1%	21.1%	17.0%
Travis County	8.0%	12.3%	9.1%
Washington County	13.8%	15.5%	13.9%
Williamson County	8.4%	8.3%	8.0%

Uninsured 19-64

Below is a table detailing the percent of individuals 19-64 years of age who were uninsured. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year. San Saba has had a consistently high percent.

Uninsured Percent Ages 19-64

	2018	2019	2020
Bastrop County	25.71%	26.26%	25.99%
Bell County	19.20%	19.94%	20.57%
Blanco County	23.47%	21.97%	22.87%
Bosque County	26.78%	25.95%	25.25%
Brazos County	18.74%	19.60%	18.71%
Burleson County	23.45%	22.58%	22.84%
Burnet County	27.10%	23.76%	25.40%
Caldwell County	25.72%	30.06%	27.54%
Coryell County	18.58%	19.34%	20.07%
Falls County	24.48%	25.04%	22.80%
Fayette County	21.50%	23.42%	23.60%
Freestone County	24.44%	23.90%	24.20%
Grimes County	25.87%	25.51%	26.13%
Hamilton County	26.34%	27.39%	26.45%
Hays County	20.17%	18.69%	18.11%
Hill County	27.30%	26.64%	27.51%
Lee County	23.82%	24.52%	22.45%
Leon County	28.52%	28.27%	25.81%

Limestone County	25.92%	26.01%	25.25%
Llano County	23.27%	25.57%	23.04%
Milam County	22.86%	22.18%	24.59%
Mills County	30.56%	30.03%	29.57%
Robertson County	24.47%	23.26%	21.89%
San Saba County	32.35%	34.95%	32.83%
Travis County	17.09%	17.89%	15.30%
Washington County	21.73%	21.58%	20.76%
Williamson County	14.17%	14.15%	14.31%

Retail Access

Alcohol retail density

Below is a table detailing the number of alcohol licenses per 100 square miles for each county.

	Alcohol Licenses per 100 sq. miles				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	18.91	21.5	23.76	24.77	24.09
Bell	51.24	58.27	61.59	61.97	62.25
Blanco	6.2	6.2	6.77	7.05	7.19
Bosque	4.88	5.7	5.8	6.71	6.21
Brazos	69.1	77.63	82.58	84.12	81.73
Burleson	8.65	9.86	10.77	10.77	11.23
Burnet	9.25	10.86	11.46	12.16	12.77
Caldwell	14.51	16.16	17.81	19.47	19.28
Coryell	6.37	6.94	7.22	6.84	6.94
Falls	4.18	4.7	4.18	4.31	4.57
Fayette	12.53	14.42	15.58	15.58	14.42
Freestone	3.87	4.22	4.33	4.44	4.33
Grimes	11.56	12.32	13.71	14.22	14.48
Hamilton	3.23	3.23	3.35	3.35	3.59
Hays	49.34	56.73	61.9	63.97	66.92
Hill	6.57	8.13	8.45	8.24	8.55

Lampasas	4.35	5.05	5.89	5.47	5.33
Lee	7	7.95	8.11	8.11	7.79
Leon	3.45	3.54	3.63	3.54	3.63
Limestone	5.63	6.63	6.63	6.74	6.3
Llano	6.64	7.39	7.71	8.03	7.92
McLennan	40.22	47.27	50.45	51.51	52.28
Madison	5.36	6.01	6.44	6.01	6.87
Milam	5.9	6.4	7.58	7.38	7.08
Mills	0.94	1.2	1.34	1.6	2
Robertson	4.91	5.61	5.5	6.08	6.08
San Saba	1.23	1.5	1.32	1.59	1.76
Travis	256.71	289.31	301.78	303.59	301.08
Washington	18.37	21.02	22.01	21.52	21.85
Williamson	64.44	76	82.9	87.29	88.37

Tobacco retail density

Below is a table detailing the number of tobacco licenses per 100 square miles for each county.

	Tobacco Licenses per 100 sq. miles				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	11.03	12.50	13.74	15.65	25.22
Bell	29.04	32.26	35.87	40.14	65.67
Blanco	2.82	3.10	3.10	3.38	5.08
Bosque	3.36	3.66	3.97	4.98	7.22
Brazos	31.74	36.17	39.24	42.83	68.59
Burleson	5.01	5.46	5.92	6.68	9.71
Burnet	5.83	6.43	6.84	7.74	12.67
Caldwell	7.16	8.08	8.82	10.47	16.35
Coryell	4.56	5.13	5.42	5.80	9.98
Falls	3.00	3.14	3.14	3.79	5.88
Fayette	4.42	5.37	6.00	6.95	9.58
Freestone	3.30	3.65	3.76	4.44	7.29

Grimes	5.33	6.10	6.98	7.37	10.29
Hamilton	2.03	2.03	2.03	2.39	4.31
Hays	22.01	24.97	27.33	29.99	53.18
Hill	5.84	6.57	6.88	7.82	13.24
Lampasas	2.95	3.23	3.51	3.65	6.04
Lee	4.45	4.93	5.56	5.72	8.27
Leon	3.54	3.54	3.91	4.01	5.78
Limestone	3.42	4.20	4.42	4.75	7.95
Llano	3.53	3.64	4.07	4.60	6.85
Madison	4.08	4.51	4.93	5.15	9.01
McLennan	25.66	30.87	34.92	38.58	60.29
Milam	2.95	3.35	3.94	4.13	6.40
Mills	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.47
Robertson	3.62	4.09	4.56	4.79	7.02
San Saba	1.06	1.23	1.50	1.50	2.29
Travis	108.44	119.71	128.66	142.34	229.25
Washington	7.94	8.77	10.26	11.25	16.88
Williamson	29.49	33.52	36.92	42.66	73.76

Alcohol sales to minors

of Alcohol Sales to Minors

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bastrop	0	6	0	0
Bell	2	9	10	2
Blanco	2	2	0	0
Bosque	6	0	1	0
Brazos	23	11	22	4
Burleson	6	2	2	0
Burnet	0	1	0	1
Caldwell	3	1	1	0
Coryell	3	2	0	0

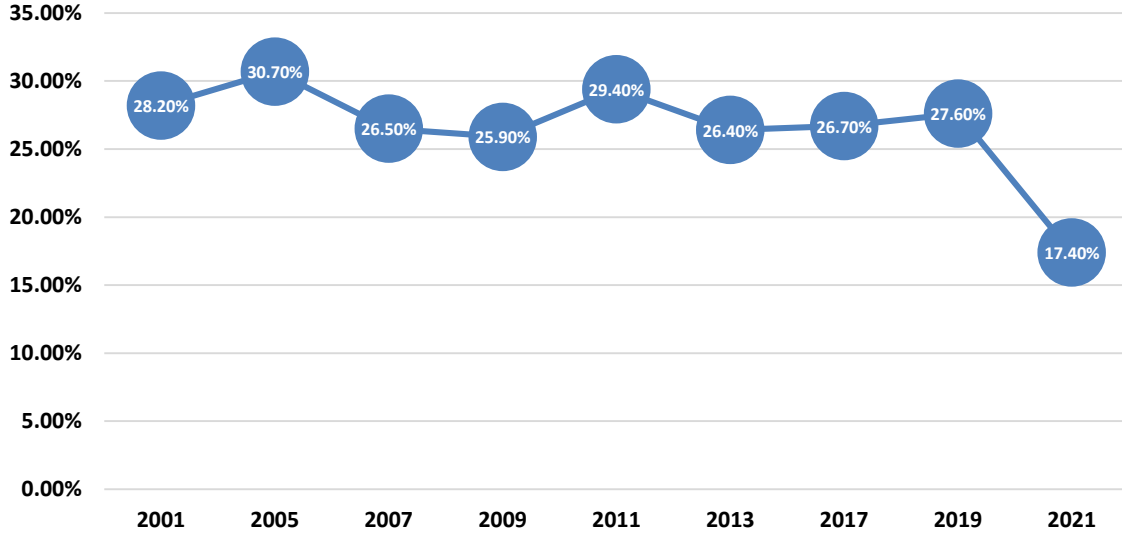
Falls	1	0	0	0
Fayette	0	1	0	0
Freestone	0	0	0	0
Grimes	2	9	2	1
Hamilton	0	0	0	0
Hays	16	13	15	5
Hill	0	1	2	0
Lampasas	0	2	0	1
Lee	3	5	0	0
Leon	0	0	0	0
Limestone	2	0	1	0
Llano	0	0	1	0
Madison	0	0	1	0
McLennan	12	15	9	1
Milam	1	1	0	0
Mills	0	2	0	0
Robertson	3	4	4	0
San Saba	1	0	1	0
Travis	37	73	72	6
Washington	1	7	1	0
Williamson	8	13	8	1

School Conditions

Students offered drugs

The below graph shows the percent of Texas students who were offered/sold/given drugs on school property in the last year.

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



Protective Factors

Social Associations

The below table details the social association rate per 10,000 for each county. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year. Fayette, Hamilton, and Leon have consistently high social association rates.

Social Association Rate per 10,000

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bastrop	7.9	7.7	7.4	6.7	6.9	6.7
Bell	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.6	8.3	7.7
Blanco	13.6	12.3	10.3	12.8	10.1	9.8
Bosque	16.8	16	13.6	13.4	15	12.9
Brazos	8	7.8	7.6	8	7.9	8.0
Burleson	14.9	14.6	12.2	10.9	10.8	8.1
Burnet	13	13.4	13.2	12.8	12	11.9
Caldwell	9.6	9.7	8.7	8.8	8.9	9.3
Coryell	7	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8
Falls	14	13.9	12	12.1	13.3	12.2
Fayette	19.9	20.3	18.6	17	19.7	19.2
Freestone	14.7	12.7	9.7	11.1	11.2	10.6

Grimes	7.6	7.6	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.4
Hamilton	22.1	21.7	17.8	16.5	16.5	14.0
Hays	6.5	6.6	5.9	5.9	6	5.4
Hill	12	12	10.9	11.8	10.9	11.6
Lampasas	7.9	7.9	5.3	5.3	5.3	13.3
Lee	12.4	12.9	11.1	11.1	11	10.3
Leon	18.1	18.5	18	16.2	16.1	15.4
Limestone	10.7	11.1	9.4	9.8	9.8	10.3
Llano	15.7	15.2	12.3	11.5	11	11.4
McLennan	15.8	14.5	14.9	14.2	13.4	11.1
Madison	19.2	18.4	15.1	15	13.8	9.7
Milam	16.7	16.5	14	12.7	12.9	13.0
Mills	18.4	18.3	14.2	14.2	16.4	16.5
Robertson	14.4	14.9	11	11.6	9.4	8.7
San Saba	20.3	18.5	16.8	14.9	14.9	14.9
Travis	9.3	9.5	9.3	9.2	9	8.7
Washington	17.5	16.8	15.1	14.5	14.5	15.1
Williamson	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.2

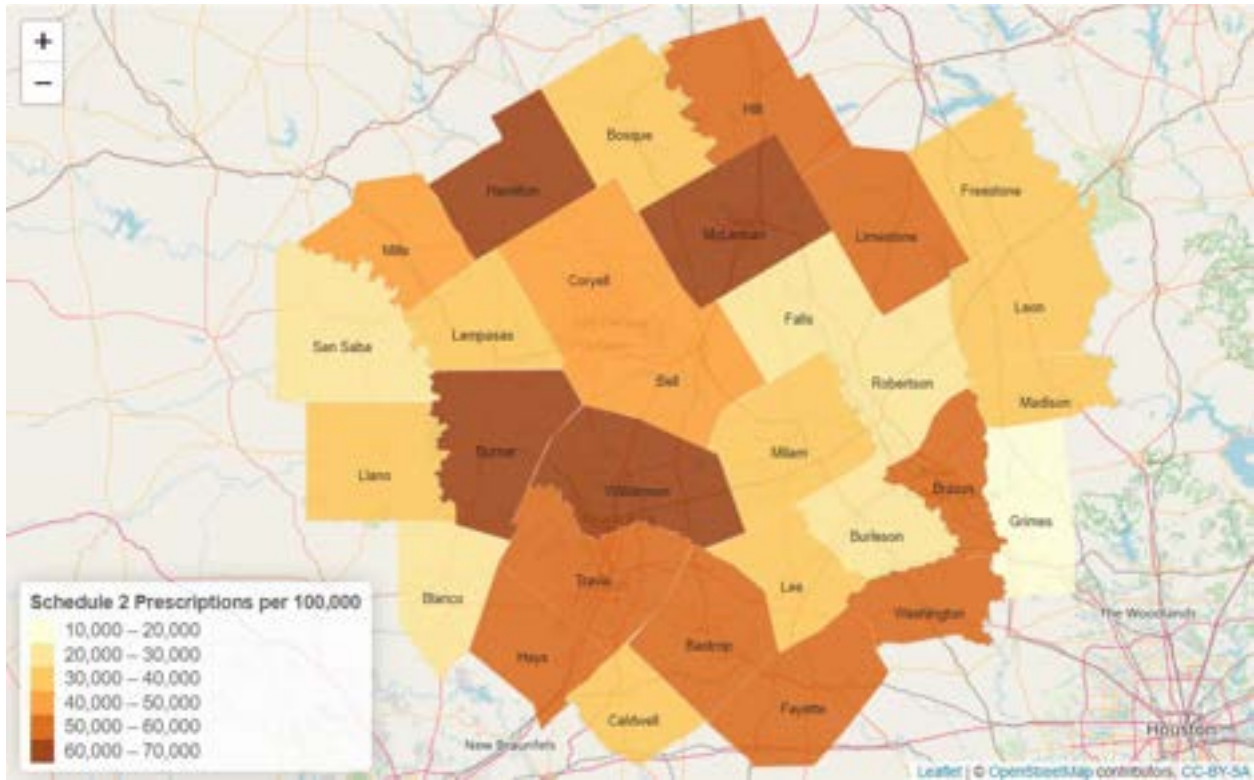
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Below is a table detailing the number of prescriptions in region 7 separated by schedule.

Region 7 Totals by Schedule

Schedule	2020	2021	2022
2	1721072	1826504	1964271
3	553061	517248	509919
4	1889835	1807286	1751408
5	215810	220294	245607
Unspecified	4418	1854	2462

Below is a map showing the Schedule 2 Prescriptions per 100,000 for region 7.



Mental Health Providers

The below table shows the population to mental health provider ratio for each county. Highlighted are the highest ratios.

	Population Ratio (to 1 MHP)					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bastrop	1880	1843	1740	1740	1579	1570
Bell	504	476	463	445	418	401
Blanco	11392	11626	11702	11931	3067	2377
Bosque	9049	9163	4673	4671	4651	2056
Brazos	1238	1198	1151	1019	881	780
Burleson	8880	9006	9195	18443	18514	18051
Burnet	1595	1510	1534	1553	1419	1415
Caldwell	1583	1460	1311	1284	1257	1265
Coryell	2409	2203	1918	1947	1668	1620
Falls	8637	8719	5778	8649	5758	5771
Fayette	5030	5054	3621	3621	3650	3527
Freestone	6541	6542	6603	6572	6625	6591

Grimes	9224	7021	9453	7220	7404	5048
Hamilton	2076	1404	1212	1209	1222	914
Hays	1142	1111	1035	971	921	869
Hill	2192	2241	2020	2156	2177	2026
Lampasas	1903	1896	1883	1880	1875	1334
Lee	1706	1718	1714	1567	2175	1967
Leon	8650	8622	8635	5801	5831	5320
Limestone	2934	2353	2138	2131	2334	2011
Llano	2262	1928	1804	1816	1830	1691
McLennan	727	681	653	620	568	2138
Madison	3497	3556	3606	4761	4809	2511
Milam	6218	6263	3141	3103	3089	3138
Mills	1227	984	984	975	807	896
Robertson	Suppressed	Suppressed	17284	8537	5718	5653
San Saba	5944	5959	3027	3028	3020	2914
Travis	420	397	362	343	318	291
Washington	2062	1844	1848	1794	1376	1380
Williamson	1106	1016	901	828	734	666

Interpersonal Domain

Family Environment

Single-parent households

The table below details the percent of households that are single-parent households for each county in region 7. Highlighted are the top 10% of counties.

Percent Single-Parent Households

Bastrop	15.24%
Bell	28.87%
Blanco	17.20%
Bosque	19.29%
Brazos	24.72%
Burleson	10.44%

Burnet	13.42%
Caldwell	19.52%
Coryell	19.85%
Falls	11.90%
Fayette	13.58%
Freestone	20.35%
Grimes	22.50%
Hamilton	23.46%
Hays	15.73%
Hill	21.21%
Lampasas	16.60%
Lee	23.34%
Leon	19.19%
Limestone	22.99%
Llano	19.42%
Madison	26.09%
McLennan	17.23%
Milam	19.47%
Mills	29.53%
Robertson	23.40%
San Saba	12.61%
Travis	18.39%
Washington	19.81%
Williamson	15.20%

Family violence crime rate

Below is a table detailing the family violence rate per 100,000 for region 7. Highlighted are the top 10% of each year. McLennan has a consistently high rate though it has started to decrease in recent years.

Family violence rate per 100,000 population

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	548.26	607.92	658.33	704.62	863.03
Bell	738.98	655.07	768.39	752.2	766.23
Blanco	211.01	184.63	254.97	254.97	307.72
Bosque	202.91	241.29	285.17	131.62	224.84
Brazos	601.67	618.78	677.79	706.87	389.57
Burleson	340.1	272.08	249.4	300.42	345.77
Burnet	584.16	559.74	598.41	616.73	602.48
Caldwell	527.43	533.97	298.59	366.15	472.94
Coryell	806.33	683.57	754.58	901.4	725.69
Falls	111.98	70.72	229.84	200.38	170.91
Fayette	392.88	249.64	278.29	319.21	335.58
Freestone	298.43	437.36	391.05	370.47	303.58
Grimes	358.75	355.34	338.25	437.34	615.01
Hamilton	133.79	206.76	255.41	328.39	316.22
Hays	423.53	453.82	527.65	640.07	640.07
Hill	565.87	524.06	543.57	563.08	632.77
Lampasas	365.28	416.15	614.97	577.98	439.27
Lee	377.62	366.17	366.17	411.95	440.55
Leon	133.6	127.23	400.79	152.68	139.96
Limestone	803.76	415.42	699.9	623.14	627.65
Llano	89.44	353.06	781.43	640.21	527.23
Madison	341.88	334.45	237.83	401.34	274.99
McLennan	1352.37	1489.38	1489.38	887.64	826.24
Milam	464.57	335.3	408.01	379.74	311.06
Mills	112.21	179.53	201.97	336.62	224.42
Robertson	698.22	549.02	453.54	543.06	531.12
San Saba	279.23	366.49	890.05	174.52	157.07
Travis	578.83	835.77	733.69	619.29	598.52
Washington	555.79	930.04	625.61	550.2	572.55
Williamson	343.34	374.54	422.81	469.45	495.55

Victims of Maltreatment

Below is a table detailing the abuse and neglect victim rate per 100,000 for region 7. Highlighted are the top 10% of each year. McLennan has a consistently high rate.

	Child Victim Rate per 1000 Children				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	12.70	11.75	11.55	8.43	8.96
Bell	13.33	13.14	17.14	17.04	12.75
Blanco	13.05	7.02	9.03	8.53	7.02
Bosque	15.19	22.91	19.05	13.13	9.01
Brazos	5.10	6.51	9.98	13.10	10.42
Burleson	13.65	16.48	13.65	14.16	11.07
Burnet	17.61	20.66	15.64	18.79	10.23
Caldwell	14.34	15.65	15.37	13.22	10.03
Coryell	21.01	22.14	22.73	24.51	13.95
Falls	17.56	18.11	26.89	22.78	11.80
Fayette	7.29	7.69	9.51	11.94	10.73
Freestone	8.79	12.62	9.69	9.92	9.92
Grimes	9.93	8.84	6.52	12.26	6.21
Hamilton	12.68	24.26	22.60	15.44	13.78
Hays	8.40	8.51	8.49	9.23	6.26
Hill	16.74	13.87	17.94	20.09	17.22
Lampasas	16.65	23.79	20.76	21.41	12.33
Lee	6.03	9.70	9.96	12.32	8.39
Leon	6.24	5.16	5.43	9.23	9.23
Limestone	6.63	8.84	15.68	17.68	14.27
Llano	22.14	20.39	30.59	29.71	20.39
Madison	12.96	9.07	10.37	18.79	11.67
McLennan	48.60	61.88	66.26	68.08	44.06
Milam	12.08	15.93	12.24	22.31	14.59
Mills	13.67	17.08	14.81	10.25	15.95
Robertson	11.13	10.39	12.86	20.28	14.09
San Saba	10.82	11.36	13.52	7.03	5.95

Travis	7.83	8.50	8.79	7.31	5.97
Washington	8.50	9.40	7.86	11.59	12.49
Williamson	4.55	4.61	4.59	4.71	5.39

Children in Foster care

Below is a table detailing the rate of children in substitute care for each county in region 7. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year. Llano has a consistently high rate.

Children in Substitute Care on August 31 Per 1000 Children

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	5.50	5.37	5.62	5.33	3.51
Bell	7.80	8.84	9.27	8.95	7.12
Blanco	10.75	9.22	7.17	7.17	6.66
Bosque	15.88	10.32	14.55	8.73	5.56
Brazos	1.86	1.77	2.73	3.94	3.86
Burleson	11.79	10.45	13.40	9.38	6.97
Burnet	11.73	11.53	10.25	9.17	5.81
Caldwell	5.99	5.74	7.26	6.16	4.47
Coryell	6.98	7.66	8.98	6.88	3.12
Falls	8.80	9.94	14.76	11.36	6.53
Fayette	5.16	5.36	7.34	8.73	4.17
Freestone	8.69	8.69	9.65	7.00	5.07
Grimes	6.43	4.18	3.05	4.98	2.09
Hamilton	4.62	9.82	6.35	7.51	9.82
Hays	4.12	4.86	4.54	5.19	3.47
Hill	11.68	8.58	7.15	8.82	7.75
Lampasas	7.13	9.85	11.32	9.85	7.13
Lee	6.04	7.20	7.43	8.13	6.04
Leon	6.04	3.32	4.23	6.34	4.83
Limestone	4.75	7.92	8.91	8.91	7.32
Llano	19.49	12.46	20.77	22.68	14.38
Madison	4.36	1.82	3.27	7.99	6.17
McLennan	10.18	10.75	12.82	11.09	6.93

Milam	12.49	10.73	11.44	14.07	11.79
Mills	7.89	14.66	11.27	12.40	9.02
Robertson	7.93	9.17	13.14	16.85	14.37
San Saba	9.79	9.79	12.46	8.01	8.90
Travis	3.85	3.81	3.77	3.25	2.18
Washington	5.04	5.83	3.18	5.43	4.51
Williamson	2.03	1.43	1.33	1.13	1.15

Parental depression

While there is no measure of specifically parental depression the table below estimates adult depression prevalence for each county in region 7. The highlights are the top 10% for each year.

	Age-Adjusted Adult depression prevalence	
	2018	2020
Bastrop	14.2	15.4
Bell	13.8	15.9
Blanco	13.3	15.3
Bosque	15	16.5
Brazos	13.6	15.4
Burleson	14.7	16
Burnet	13.8	15.9
Caldwell	14.8	16.1
Coryell	15	16.5
Falls	16.8	18
Fayette	14.6	15.8
Freestone	15.8	16.7
Grimes	15.6	16.6
Hamilton	15.8	16.9
Hays	12.7	14.4
Hill	15.1	16.6
Lampasas	14.2	16.2

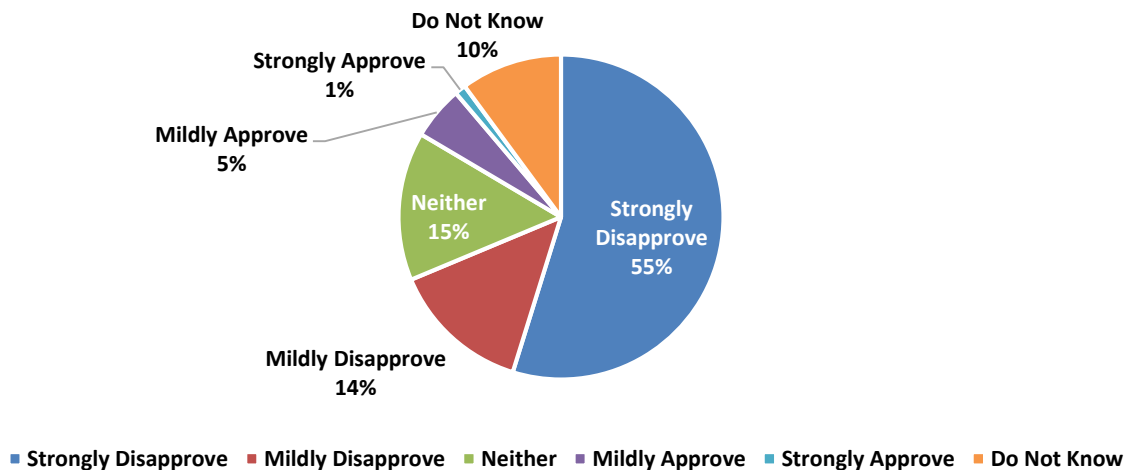
Lee	15.2	16.6
Leon	15.8	17.5
Limestone	15.9	16.8
Llano	14.6	16.3
Madison	14.8	15.6
McLennan	14.9	16.2
Milam	15.5	16.8
Mills	15.5	16.6
Robertson	14.9	16.8
San Saba	15.5	16.4
Travis	11.7	13.5
Washington	14.5	15.8
Williamson	11.2	13.3

Perceptions of Parental Attitudes

Parents Disapproval of Alcohol

Below is a graph denoting the percent of parents that approve of alcohol use for regions 6 & 7 in 2022.

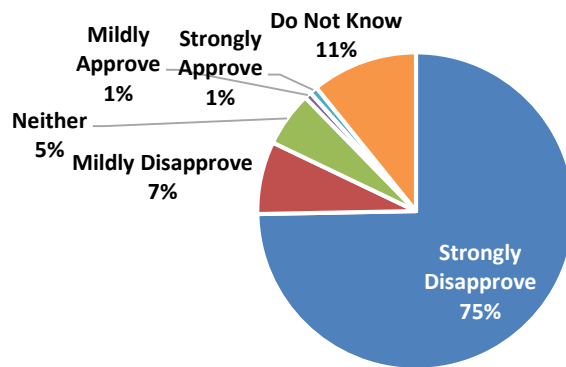
Parental Approval of Alcohol for Regions 6&7



Parents Disapproval of Tobacco

Below is a graph denoting the percent of parents that approve of tobacco use for regions 6 & 7 in 2022.

Parental Approval of Tobacco for Regions 6&7

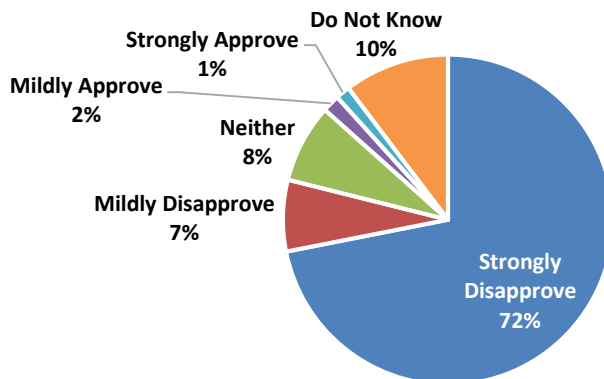


■ Strongly Disapprove ■ Mildly Disapprove ■ Neither ■ Mildly Approve ■ Strongly Approve ■ Do Not Know

Parents Disapproval of Marijuana

Below is a graph denoting the percent of parents that approve of marijuana use for regions 6 & 7 in 2022.

Parental Approval of Marijuana for Regions 6&7



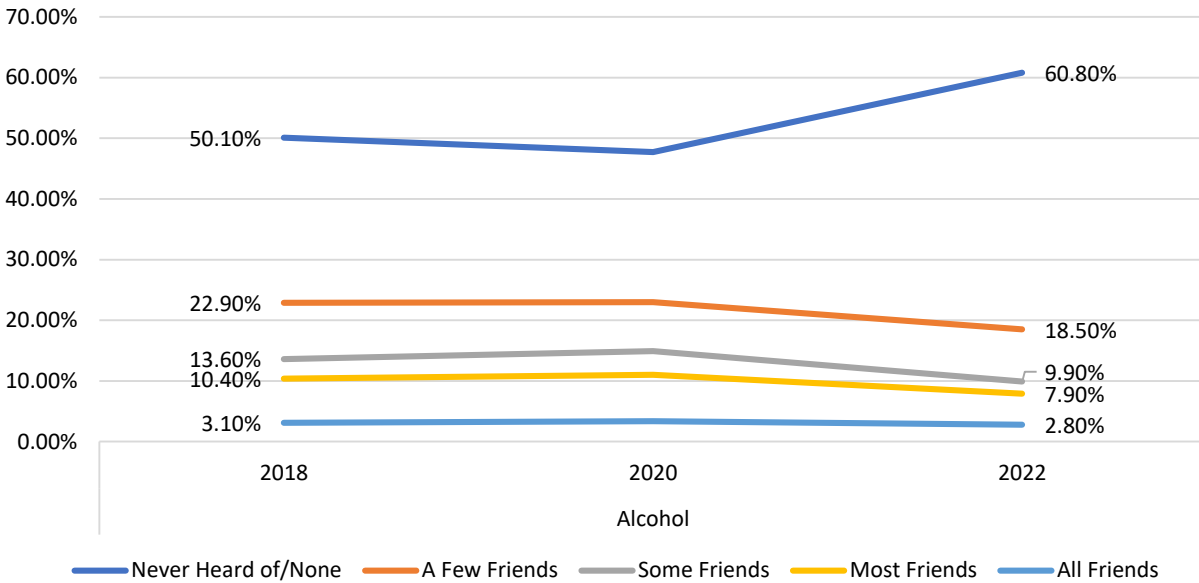
■ Strongly Disapprove ■ Mildly Disapprove ■ Neither
 ■ Mildly Approve ■ Strongly Approve ■ Do Not Know

Perceptions of Peer Use

Friends Who Use Alcohol

Below is a graph denoting the percent of youth with peers that use of alcohol use for regions 6 & 7 in 2022.

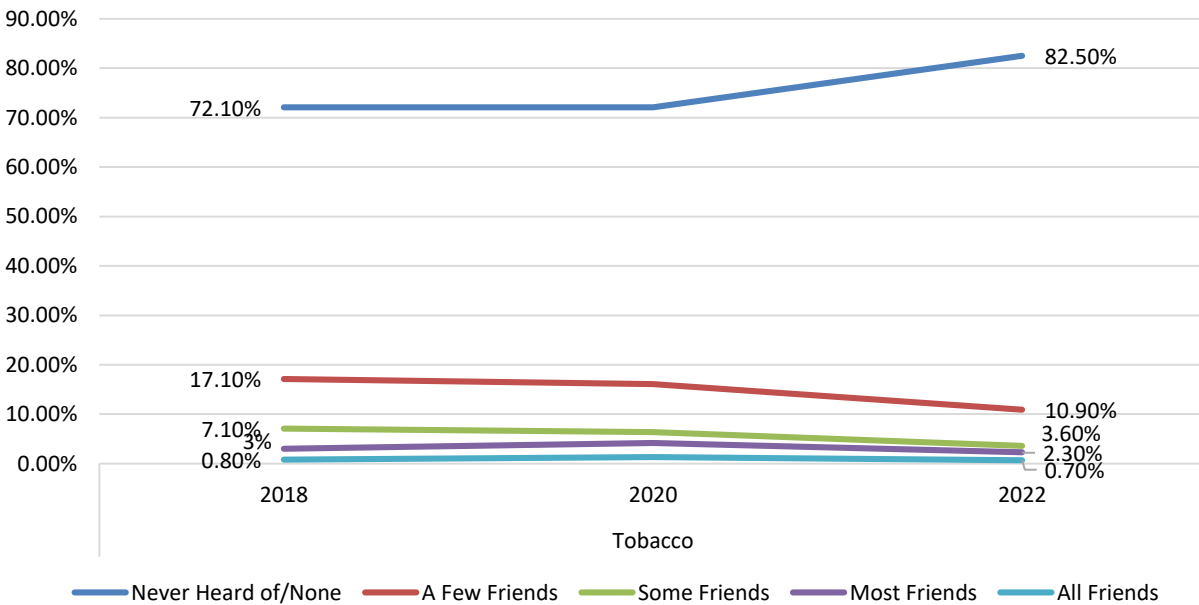
Peer Alcohol use for Regions 6&7



Friends Who Use Tobacco

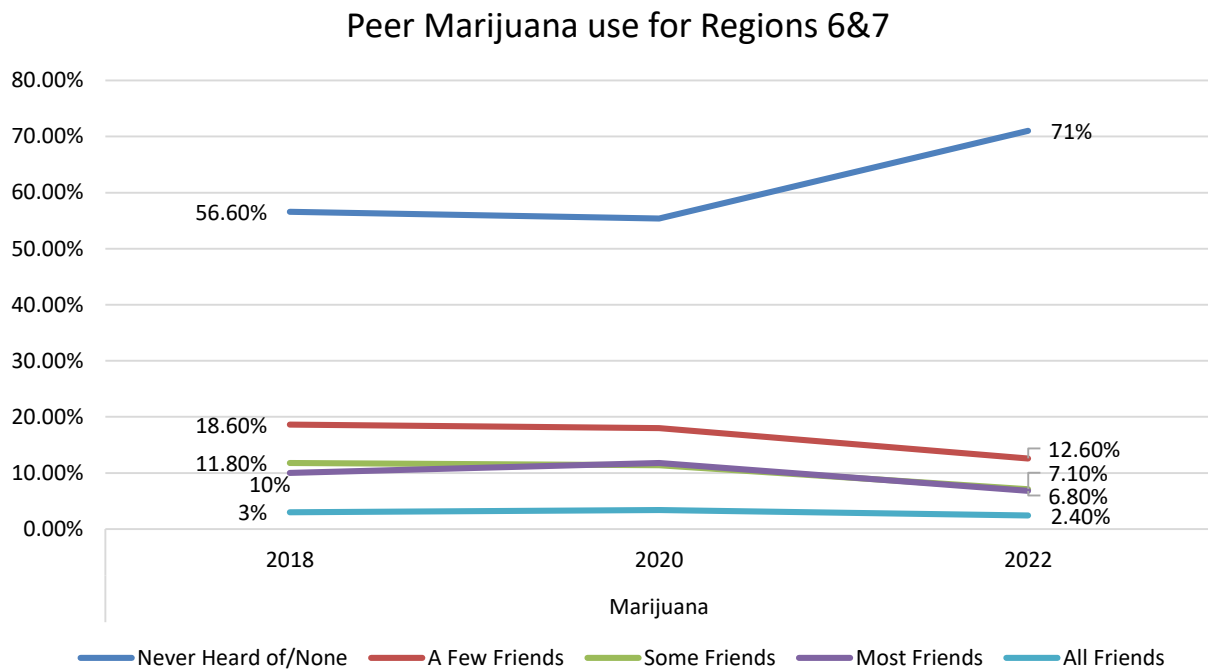
Below is a graph denoting the percent of youth with peers that use of tobacco use for regions 6 & 7 in 2022.

Peer Tobacco use for Regions 6&7



i. Friends Who Use Marijuana

Below is a graph denoting the percent of youth with peers that use of marijuana use for regions 6 & 7 in 2022.



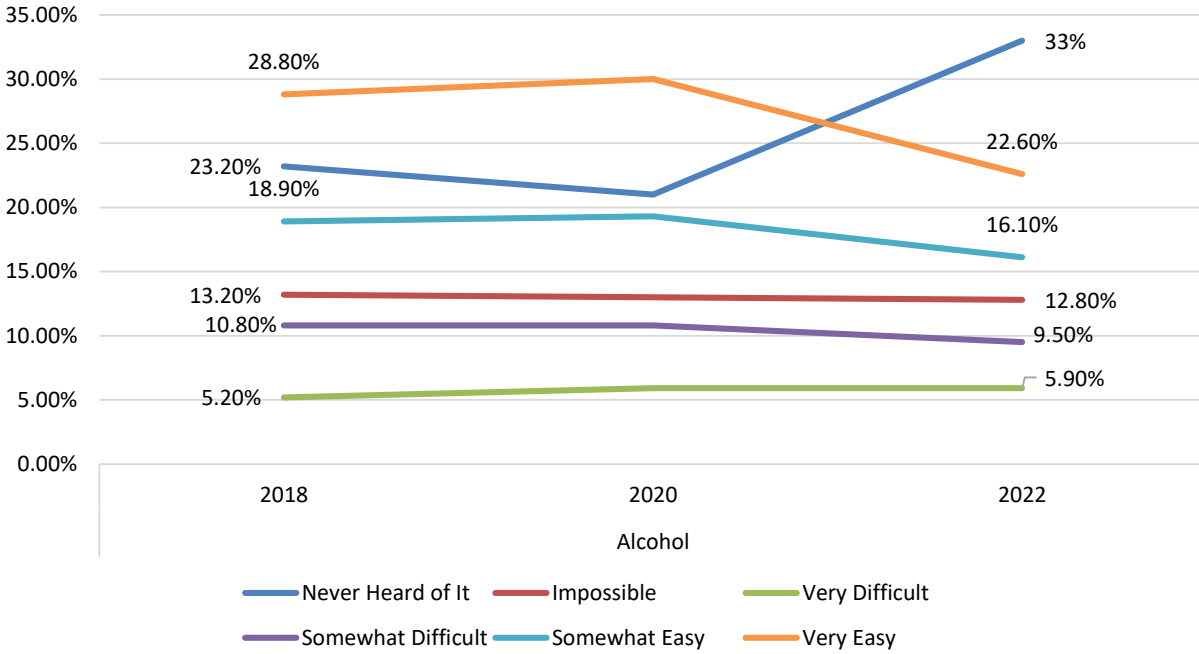
Perceived Substance Availability

Social Access

Access to Alcohol

Below is a graph denoting the youth perceptions of ease of access to alcohol use for regions 6 & 7.

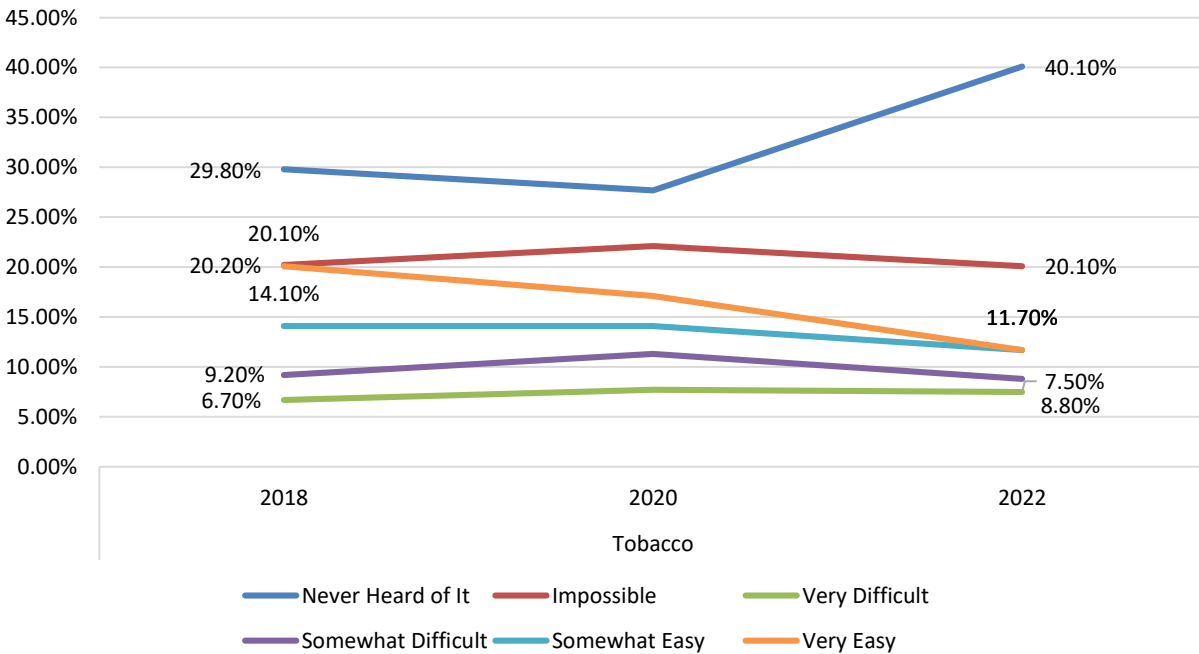
Perceived Access to Alcohol



Access to Tobacco

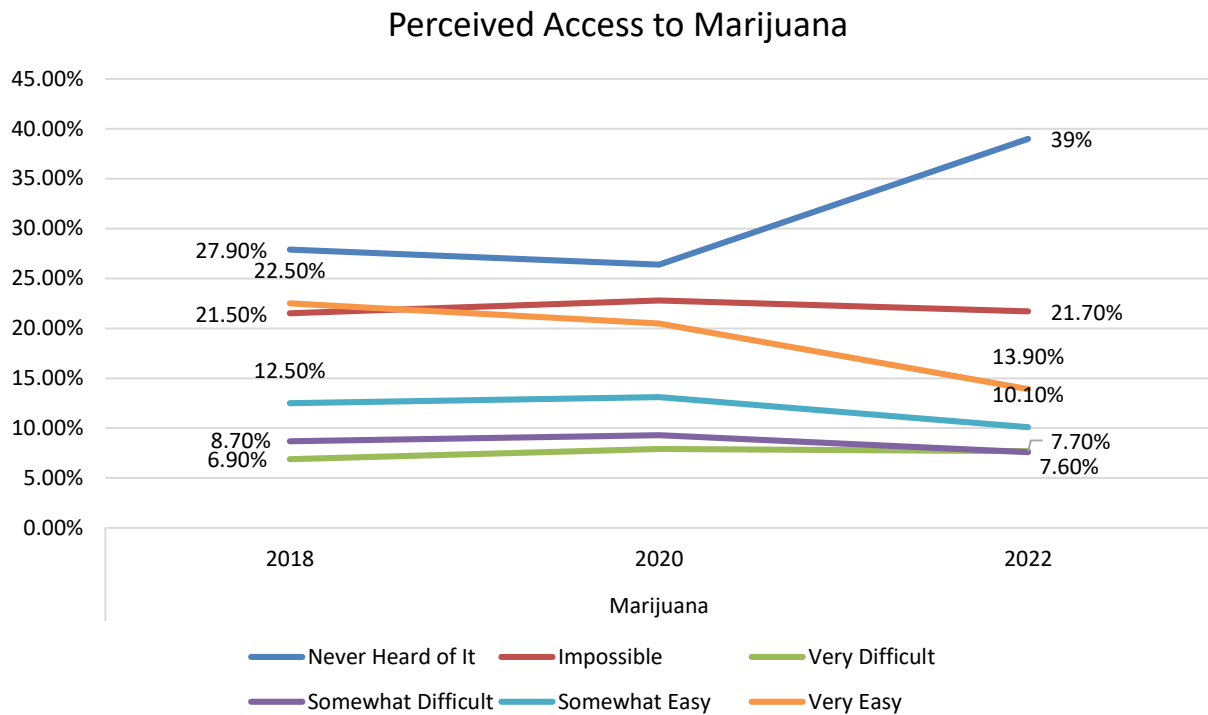
Below is a graph denoting the youth perceptions of ease of access to tobacco use for regions 6 & 7.

Perceived Access to Tobacco



Access to Marijuana

Below is a graph denoting the youth perceptions of ease of access to marijuana use for regions 6 & 7.

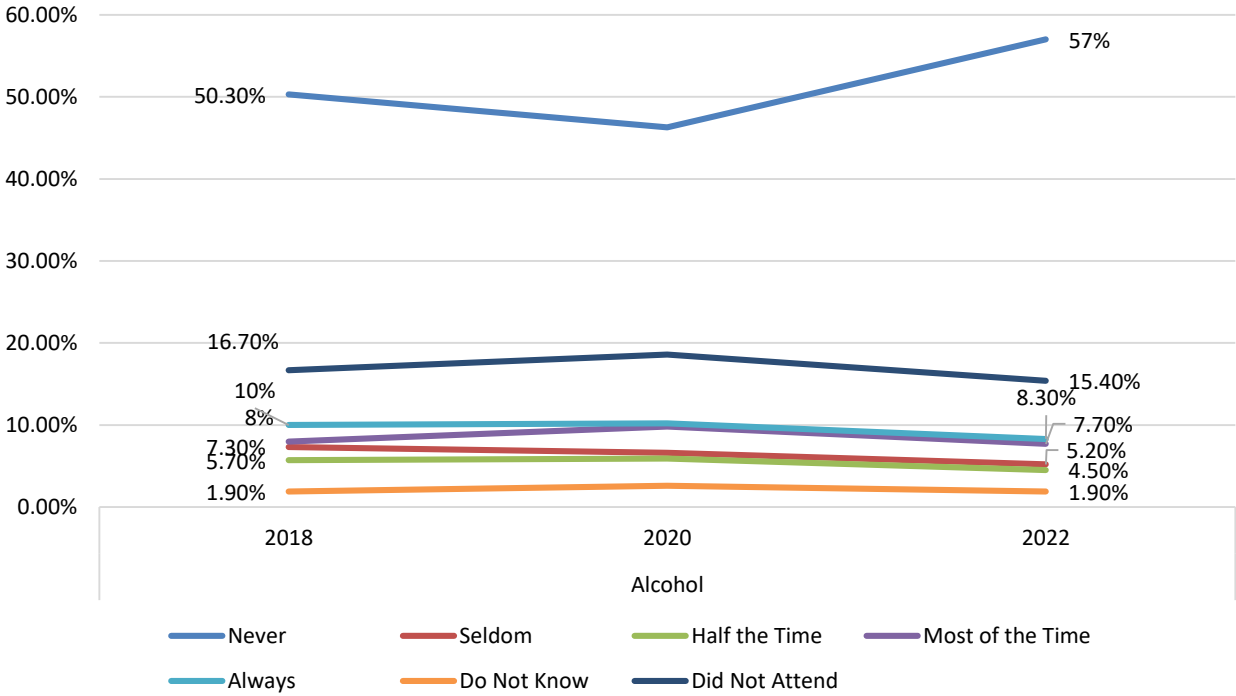


Presence of a Substance at Parties

Alcohol at Parties

Below is a graph denoting the youth who have seen alcohol available for use at parties for regions 6 & 7.

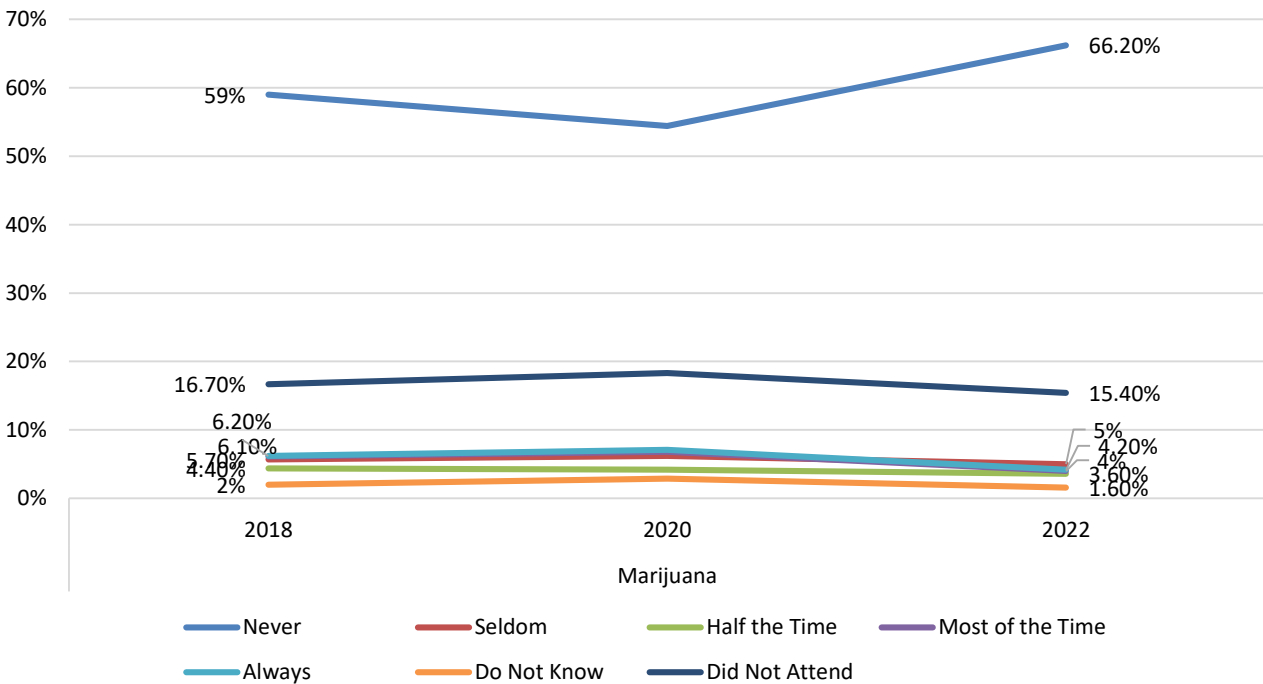
Seen Alcohol Available at Parties



Marijuana or Other Drugs at Parties

Below is a graph denoting the youth who have seen alcohol available for use at parties for regions 6 & 7.

Seen Marijuana Available at Parties



Individual Domain

Academic Achievement – TEA

High school dropout

The below table provides the high school dropout rate per 100 students for region 7 counties. Highlighted are the top 10 percent.

	Student dropout rate per 100 students		
	2019	2020	2021
Bastrop County	2	3	2.9
Bell County	15.2	13.6	15
Blanco County	0.7	2.1	2.5
Bosque County	1.1	1.9	4.8
Brazos County	10	7.3	6.3
Burleson County	1.5	1.2	1.6
Burnet County	2.1	1.7	2.1
Caldwell County	4.9	6.1	5.7
Coryell County	3.2	5	7.9
Falls County	8.1	4.4	5.7
Fayette County	1.7	2.1	1
Freestone County	1.4	0.4	3.8
Grimes County	1.9	1.3	1.9
Hamilton County	2.1	3.3	0
Hays County	7	6	6.6
Hill County	1.6	1.5	3.4
Lampasas County	0.4	0	0.4
Lee County	2.3	0.5	3
Leon County	1.4	3.8	2.3
Limestone County	5.8	4.4	9.2
Llano County	0.8	0.8	0
Madison County	0.5	0.5	0.6
McLennan County	5.6	3.8	4.4
Milam County	6.1	4.5	3.8

Mills County	35.5	29.4	26.7
Robertson County	2.4	1.6	6.2
San Saba County	1.4	0	1.4
Travis County	5.6	5.7	6.1
Washington County	4.8	4.3	3.1
Williamson County	1.8	1.5	2.1

Absenteeism

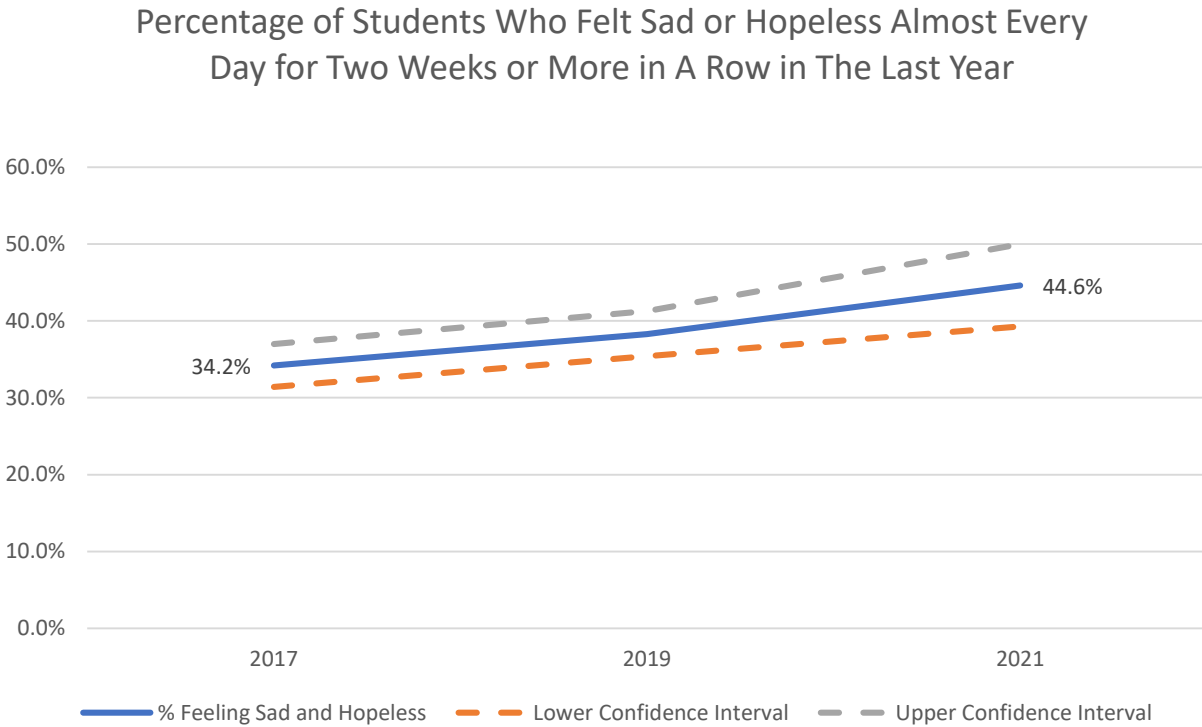
The below table provides the average number of absences per student for region 7 counties in 2021-2022. Highlighted are the top 10 percent.

Absences Per 1 Student			
Bastrop County	13.74	Hill County	9.49
Bell County	12.34	Lampasas County	11.00
Blanco County	9.86	Lee County	11.20
Bosque County	9.37	Leon County	9.72
Brazos County	11.38	Limestone County	11.30
Burleson County	10.18	Llano County	10.39
Burnet County	11.03	Marion County	13.82
Caldwell County	15.22	Mason County	8.24
Coryell County	12.92	Milam County	9.02
Falls County	9.16	Mills County	5.88
Fayette County	8.92	Robertson County	9.01
Freestone County	9.78	San Saba County	9.05
Grimes County	11.05	Travis County	12.99
Hamilton County	9.30	Washington County	9.76
Hays County	12.98	Williamson County	11.82

Youth Mental Health

Adolescent depression

The graph below shows the number of students who felt sad or hopeless every day for at least 2 weeks in a row in the last year in Texas.

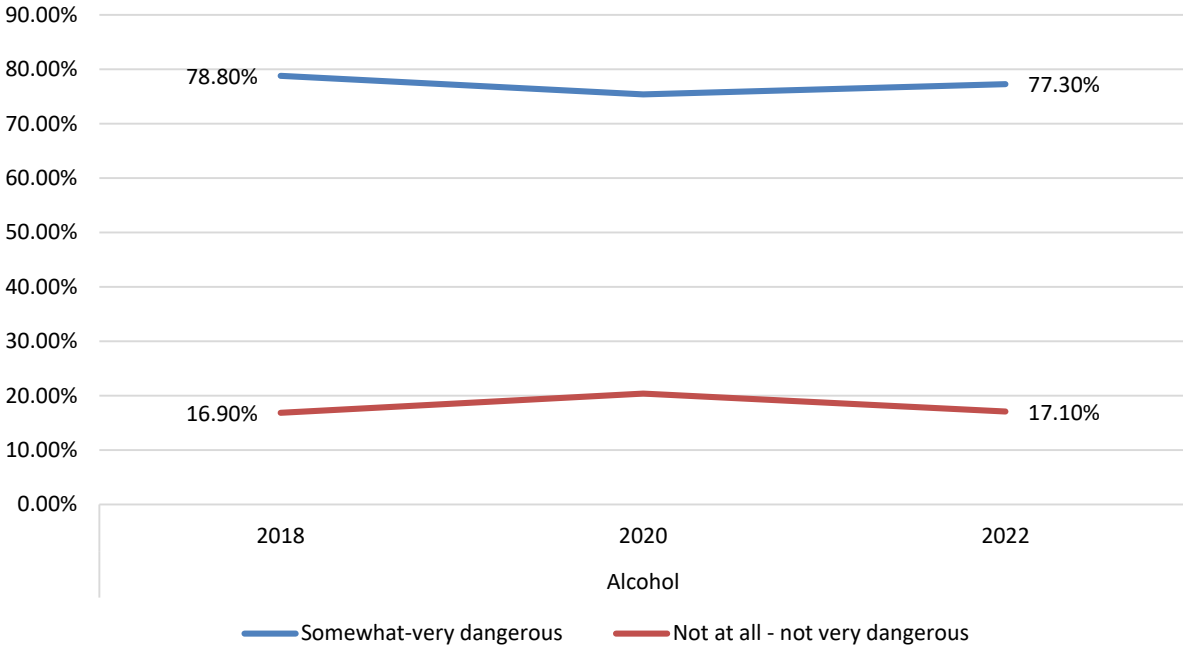


Youth Perception of Risk/Harm

Perception of Risk/Harm – Alcohol

The graph below shows the youth perception of risk of alcohol over time for Texas students.

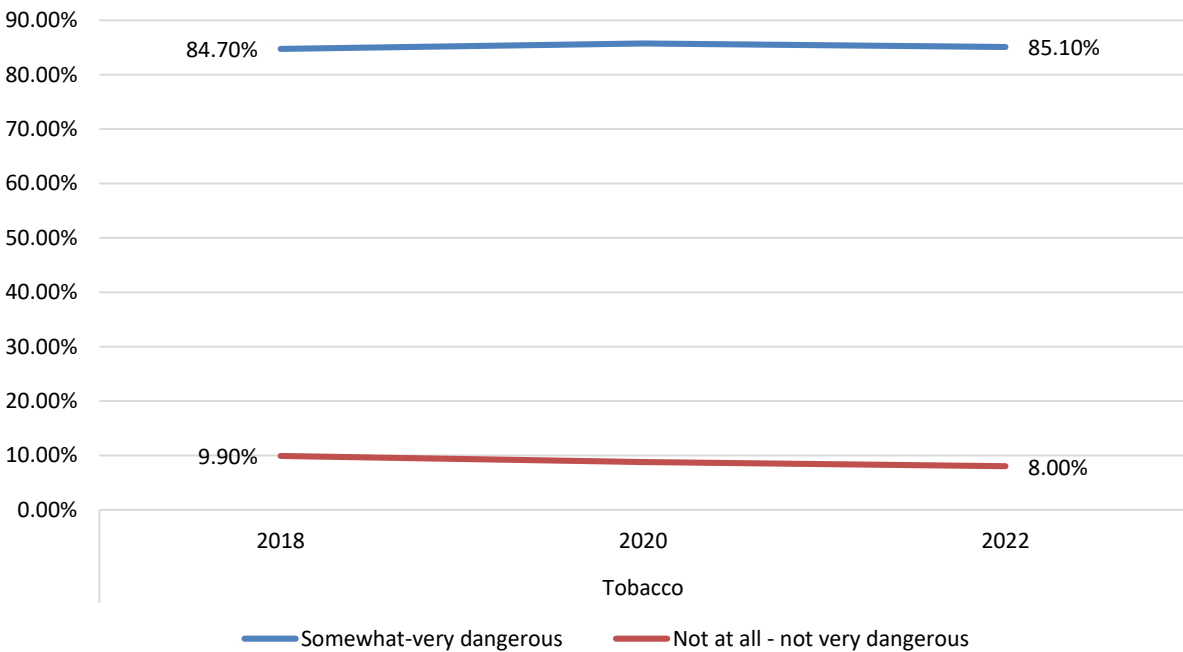
Perception of Risk: Alcohol



Perception of Risk/Harm – Tobacco

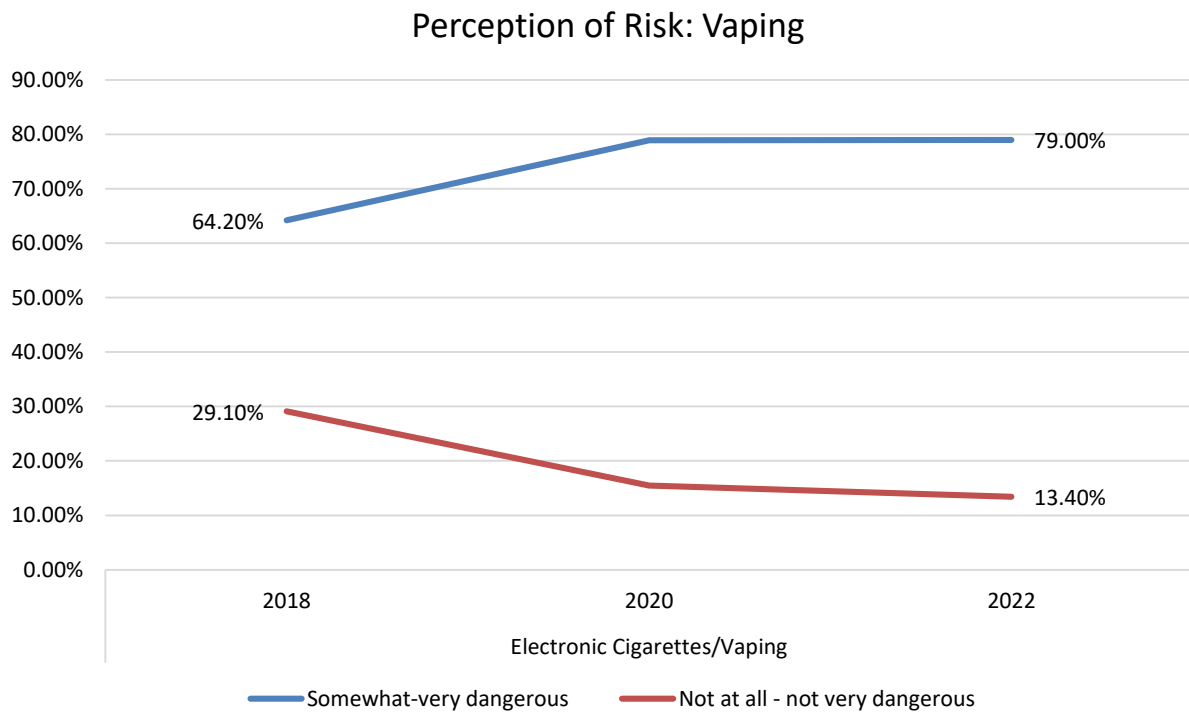
The graph below shows the youth perception of risk of tobacco over time for Texas students.

Perception of Risk: Tobacco



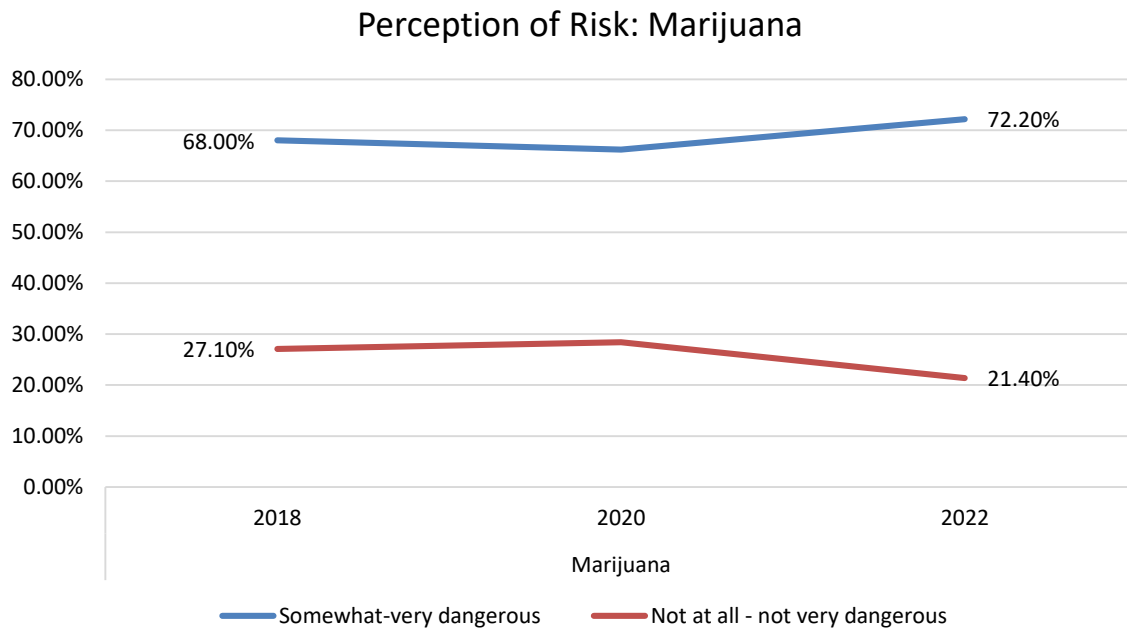
Perception of Risk/Harm - Electronic Vapor Products

The graph below shows the youth perception of risk of vaping over time for Texas students.



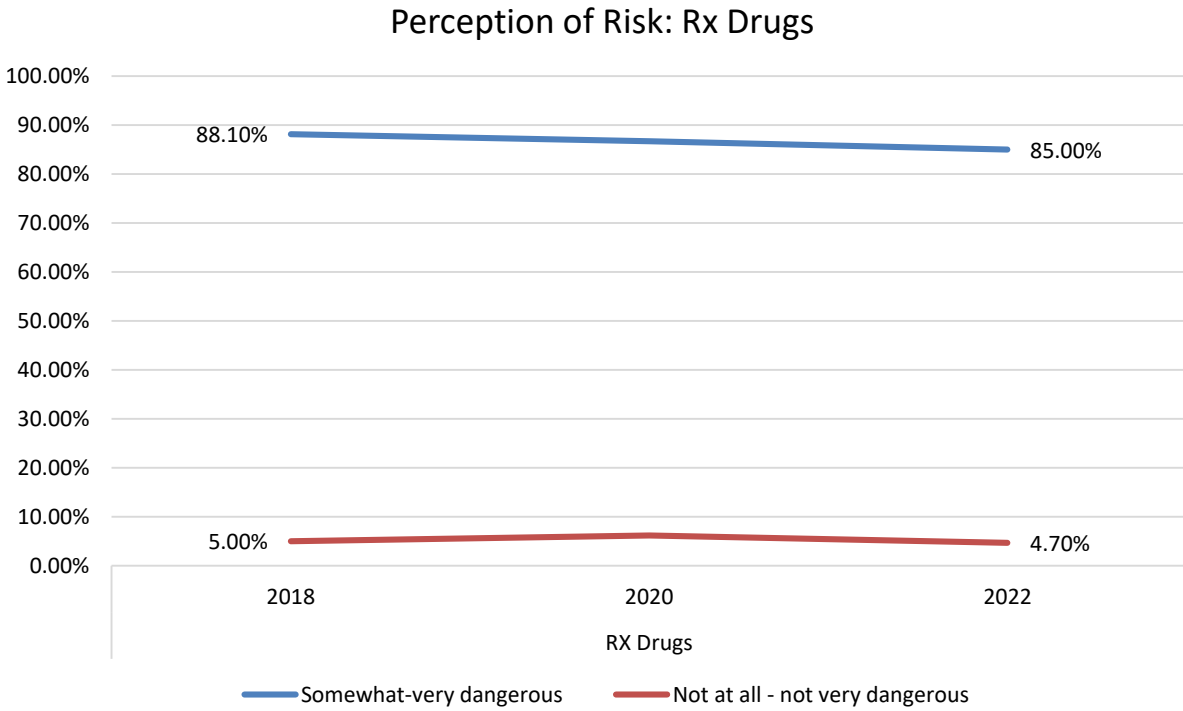
Perception of Risk/Harm – Marijuana

The graph below shows the youth perception of risk of marijuana over time for Texas students.



Perception of Risk/Harm - Rx drugs

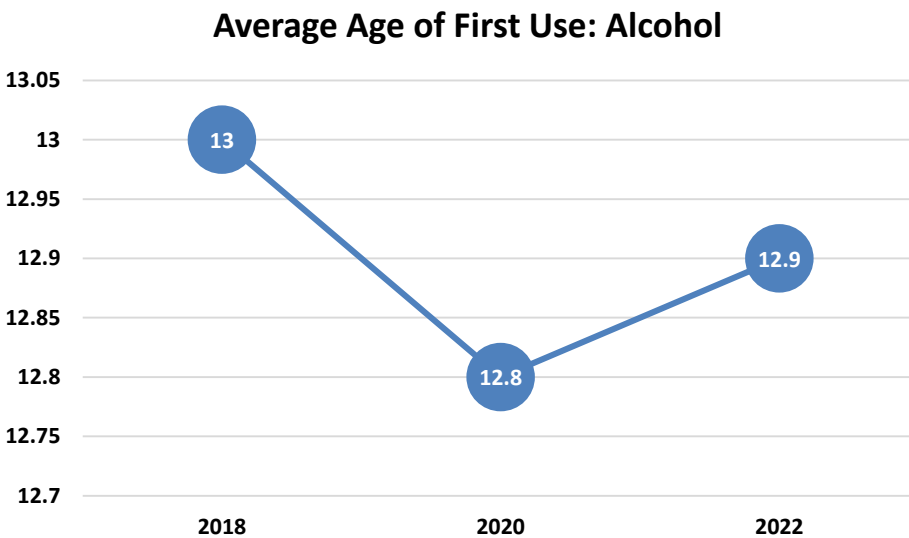
The graph below shows the youth perception of risk of Rx drugs over time for Texas students.



Early Initiation of Use

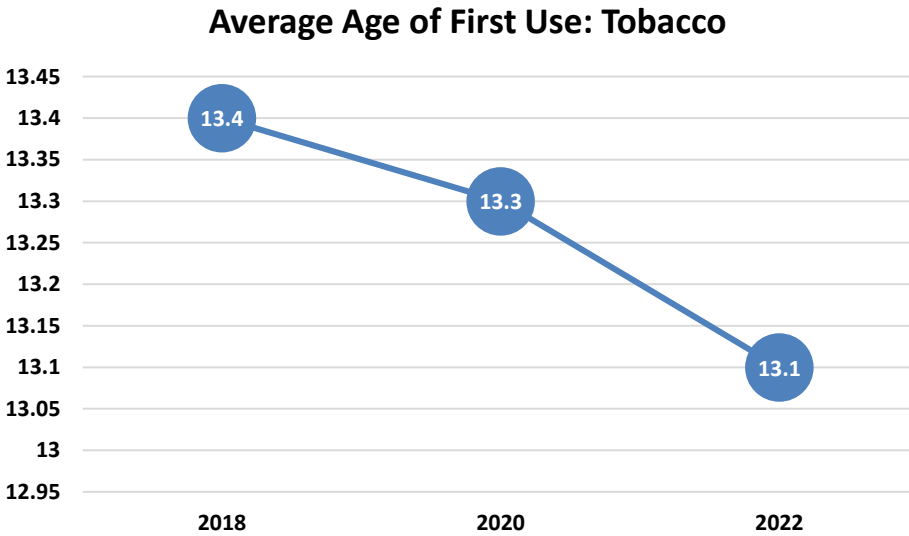
Age of First Use – Alcohol

The below graph shows the average age of first use of alcohol for students who reported having used alcohol on the TSS.



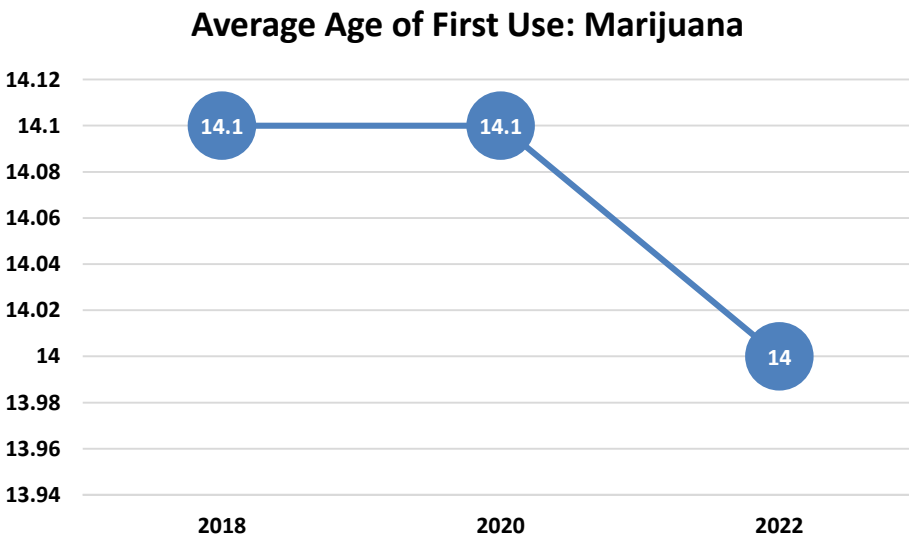
Age of First Use – Tobacco

The below graph shows the average age of first use of alcohol for students who reported having used tobacco on the TSS.



Age of First Use – Marijuana

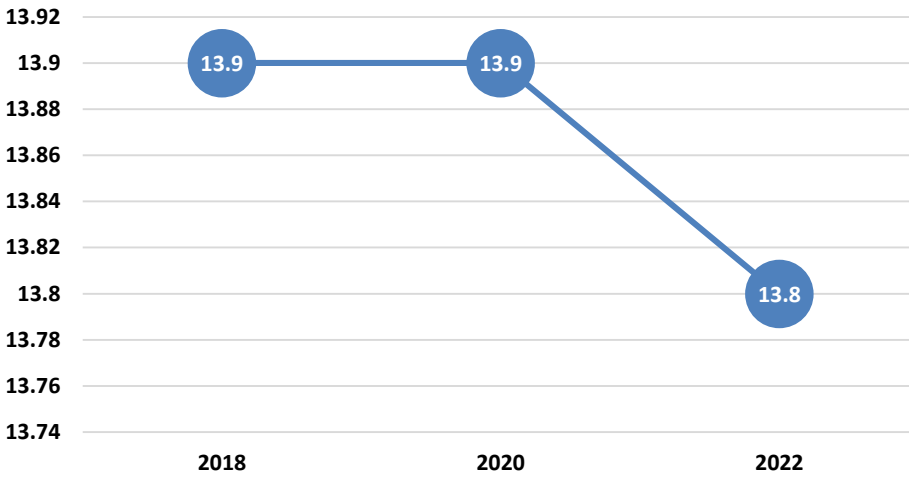
The below graph shows the average age of first use of alcohol for students who reported having used marijuana on the TSS.



Age of First Use – Any Illicit Drugs

The below graph shows the average age of first use of alcohol for students who reported having used any illicit drug on the TSS.

Average Age of First Use: Any Illicit Drug



Protective Factors

High school graduation

Below is a table showing the high school graduation rates for region 7 counties. Highlighted are the bottom 10% for each year. Bell, Brazos, and Mills have consistently lower rates.

High school Graduation Rates

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bastrop County	93.7	93.5	92.6	91.2
Bell County	74.7	75.3	77.6	77
Blanco County	97.9	97.9	96.5	97.5
Bosque County	98.6	97.7	97.2	94.7
Brazos County	86.9	84.9	88	89.4
Burleson County	94.4	97	98.3	95.3
Burnet County	94.2	95.6	95	95.8
Caldwell County	91.2	91	91.7	91.4
Coryell County	93.9	92.1	90.2	85.4
Falls County	91.9	89.2	94.1	93.6
Fayette County	94.8	97	97.6	97.2
Freestone County	97.9	96.2	98.8	93.1
Grimes County	95.7	96.6	95.6	94.6

Hamilton County	96.9	97.9	96.7	99
Hays County	90.5	88.8	89.8	88.7
Hill County	96.3	96.3	97	93.7
Lampasas County	97.4	98.1	98.8	98.9
Lee County	98.3	97.2	98.6	95.7
Leon County	97.3	97.2	95.2	96.7
Limestone County	95.2	89.5	92.3	89.7
Llano County	98.4	97.5	96.1	97.9
Madison County	97.2	98	98.4	98.8
McLennan County	88.9	91.1	92.5	91.4
Milam County	94.2	93	94.5	94.1
Mills County	64.6	58.9	55.6	53.3
Robertson County	97.9	95.2	97.8	92.9
San Saba County	96.4	97.3	98.7	97.1
Travis County	89.5	90.4	89.7	89.7
Washington County	93.5	92.7	92.4	94.8

Spirituality

The table below shows the rate of religious congregations for each county and the percent of that population that is an adherent to a religion.

	Congregations Per 100,000 Population	Adherents as % of Population
Bastrop	114.2	44.17%
Bell	93.9	46.87%
Blanco	202.2	45.48%
Bosque	312.6	47.39%
Brazos	74.4	39.77%
Burleson	255.1	66.59%
Burnet	162.8	53.71%

Caldwell	152.6	45.49%
Coryell	130.0	41.41%
Falls	318.2	54.23%
Fayette	245.5	83.54%
Freestone	267.6	55.12%
Grimes	191.3	48.10%
Hamilton	352.7	48.63%
Hays	59.3	39.07%
Hill	292.7	61.53%
Lampasas	180.3	44.95%
Lee	223.1	67.55%
Leon	547.1	56.12%
Limestone	352.2	65.16%
Llano	178.9	41.48%
Madison	230.4	49.71%
McLennan	150.4	57.33%
Milam	351.5	59.51%
Mills	426.4	86.42%
Robertson	280.5	66.71%
San Saba	471.2	77.77%
Travis	57.1	43.87%
Washington	195.5	71.45%
Williamson	61.1	40.73%

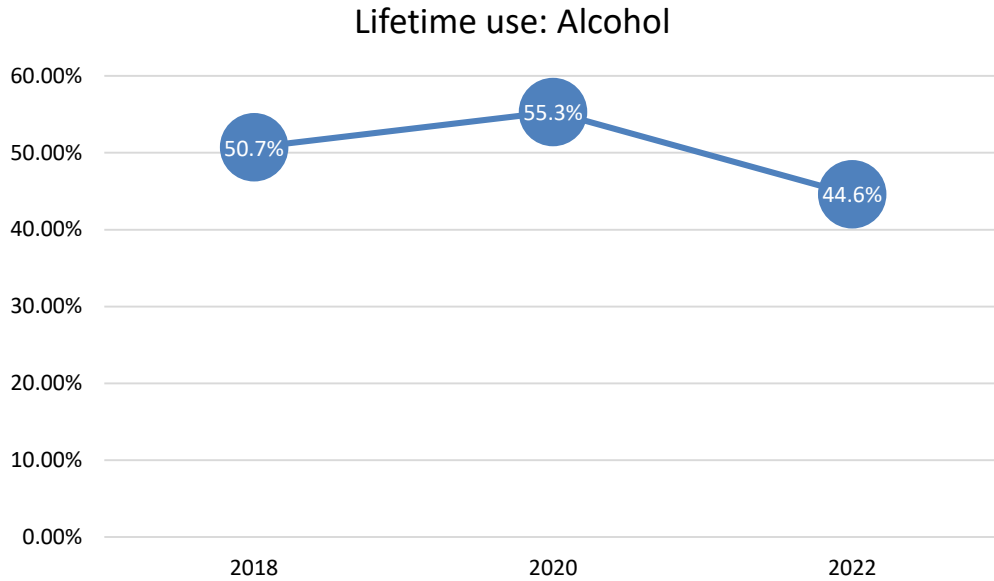
PART IV - Consumption Patterns

Patterns of Consumption

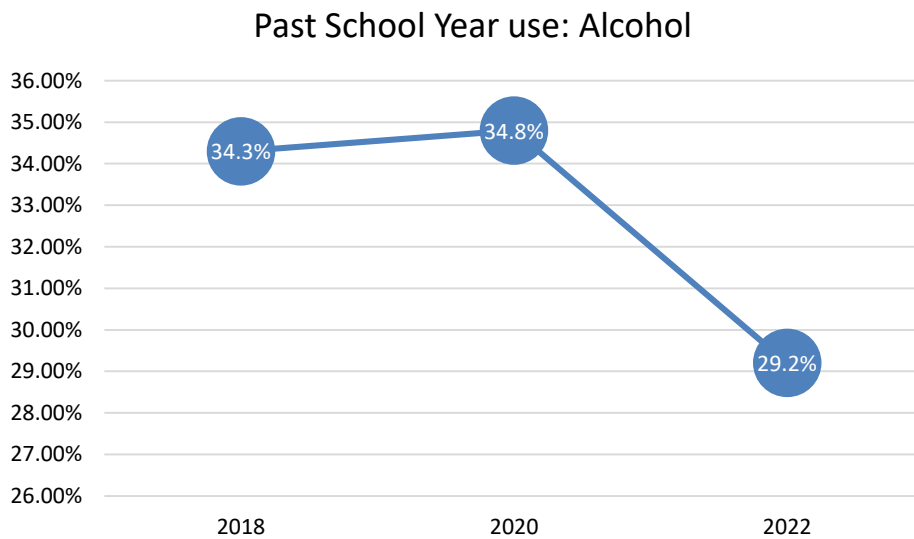
Youth Substance Use

Alcohol

The below graph shows the number of students reporting ever having used alcohol for regions 6&7.

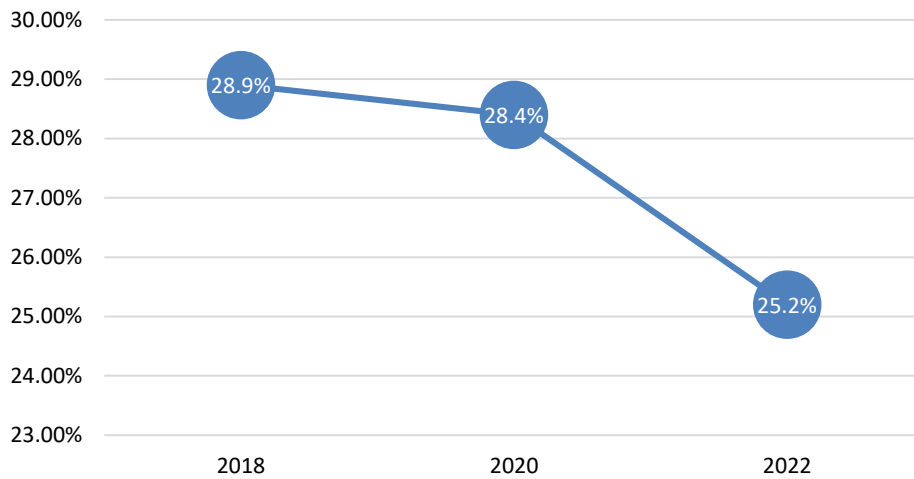


The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used alcohol in the past school year for regions 6&7.



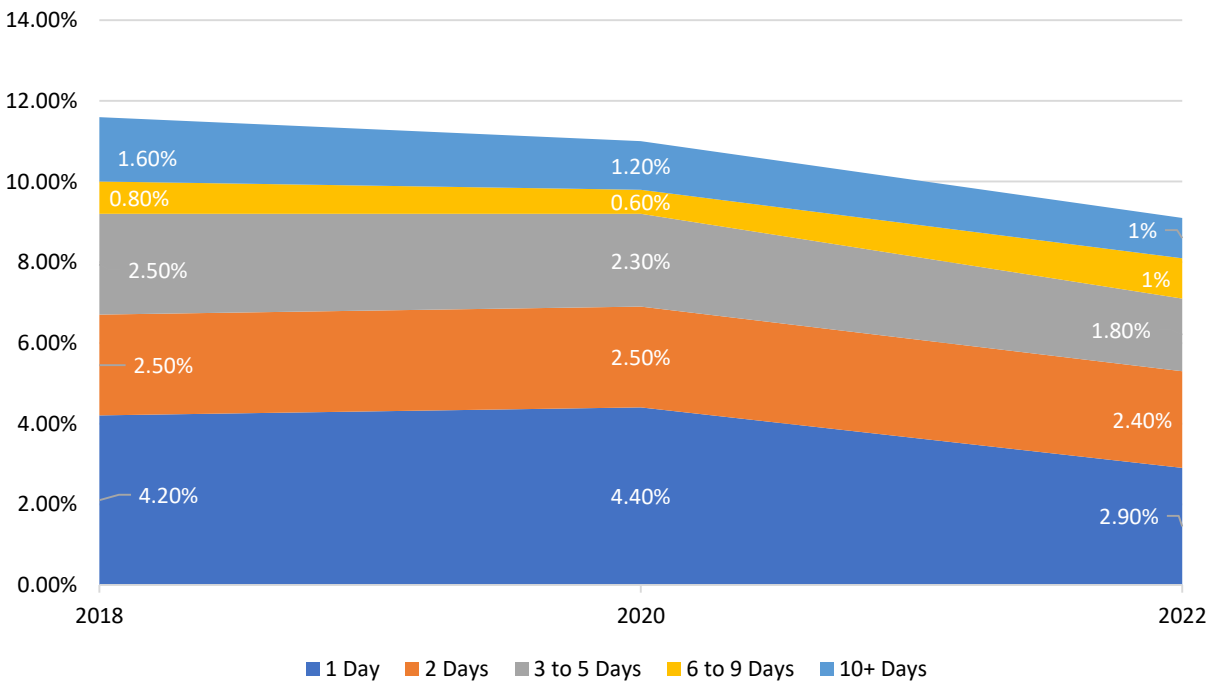
The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used alcohol in the past 30 days for regions 6&7.

Past 30 Days use: Alcohol



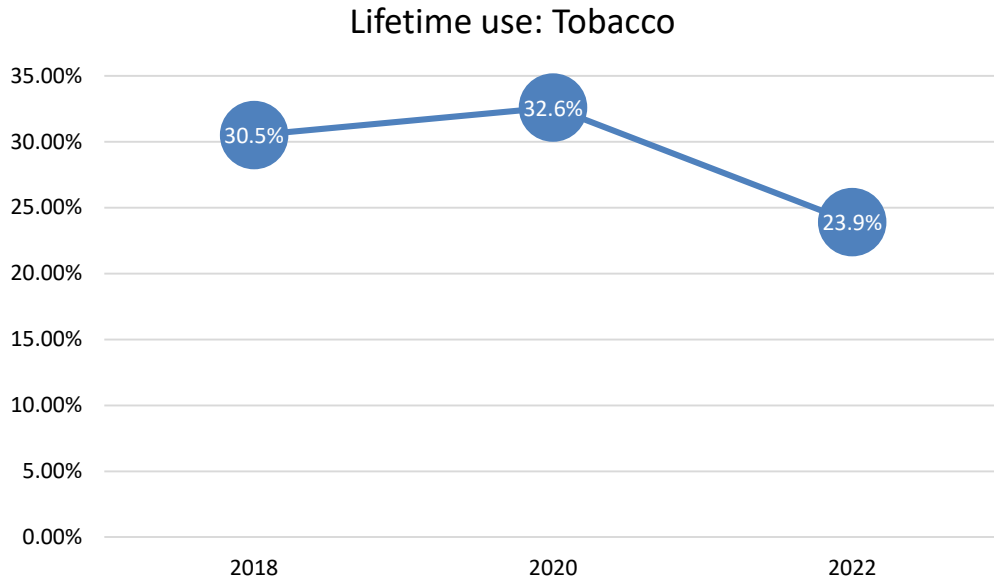
The below graph shows the number of students reporting binge drinking for the given number of days in the last month for regions 6&7.

Percent of Students Reporting Binge Drinking for a Given # of Days in the last 30 Days.

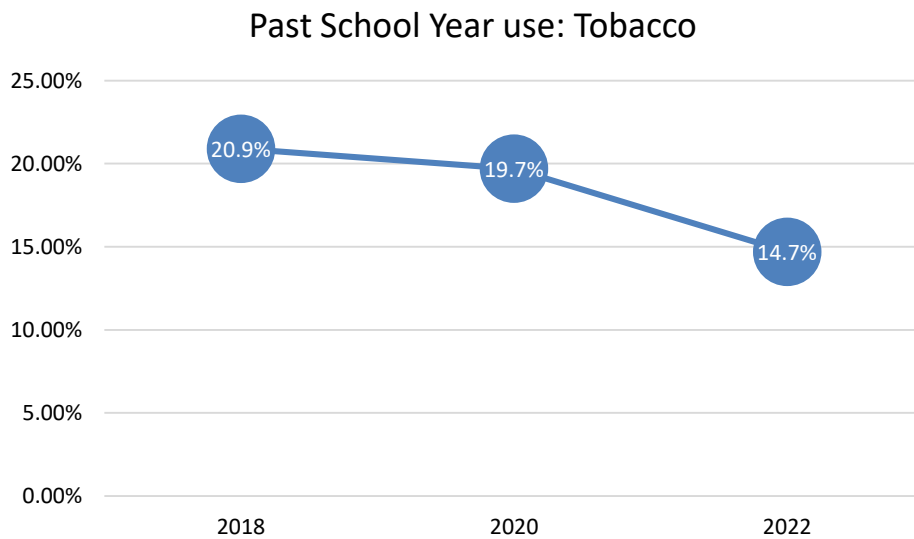


Tobacco

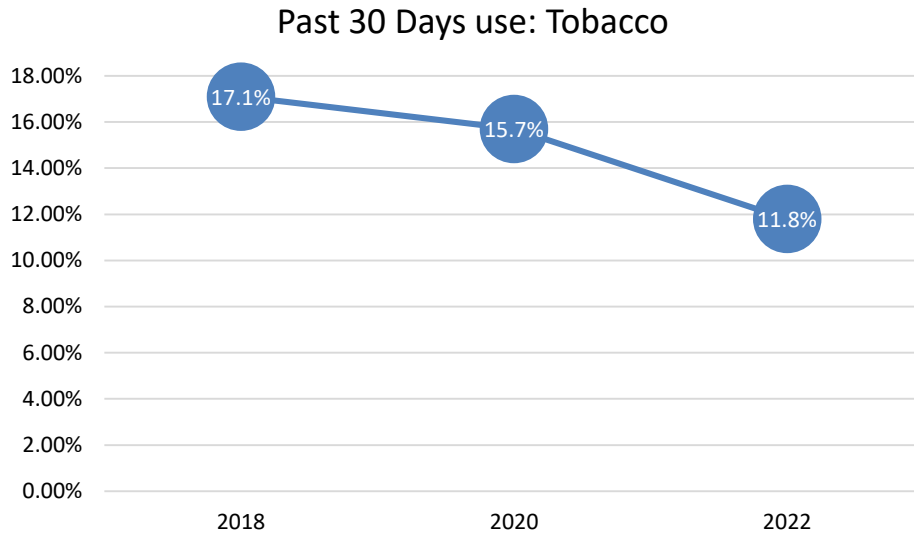
The below graph shows the number of students reporting ever having used tobacco for regions 6&7.



The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used tobacco in the past school year for regions 6&7.

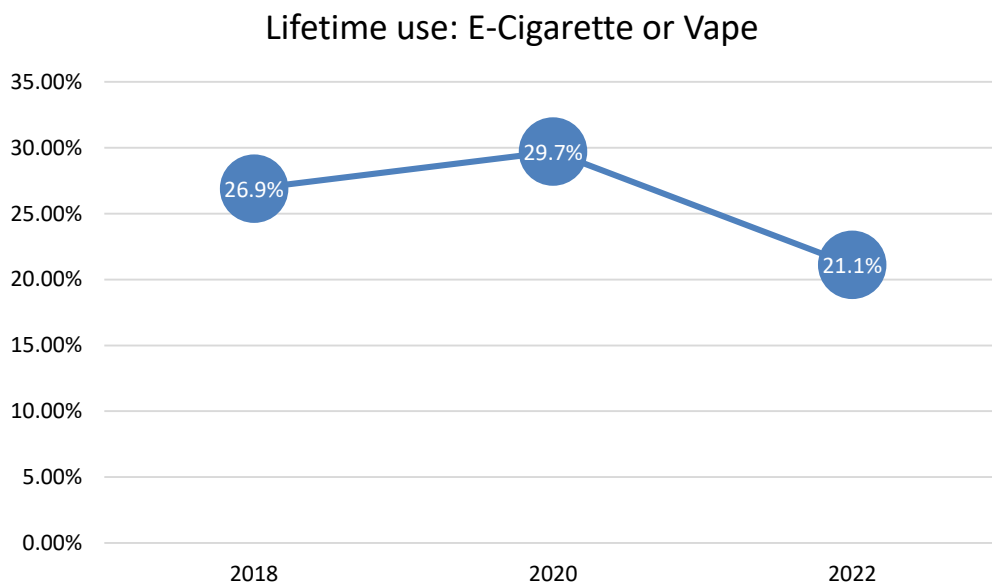


The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used tobacco in the past 30 days for regions 6&7.



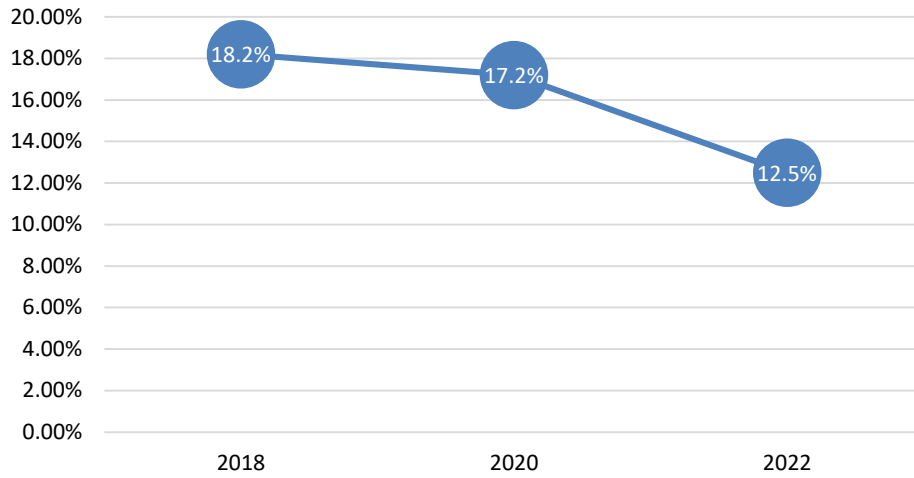
E-Cigs/Vaping Products

The below graph shows the number of students reporting ever having used an e-cig or vape for regions 6&7.



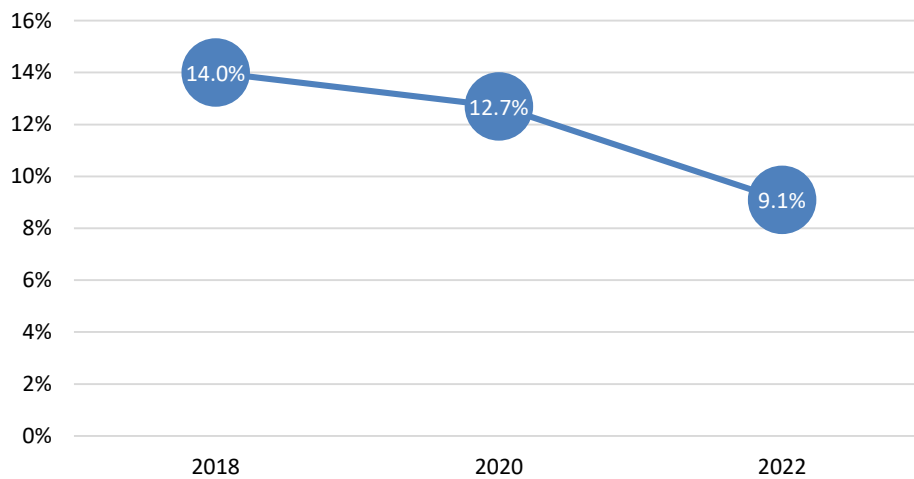
The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used an e-cig or vape in the past school year for regions 6&7.

Past School Year use: E-Cigarette or Vape



The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used any e-cig or vape in the past 30 days for regions 6&7.

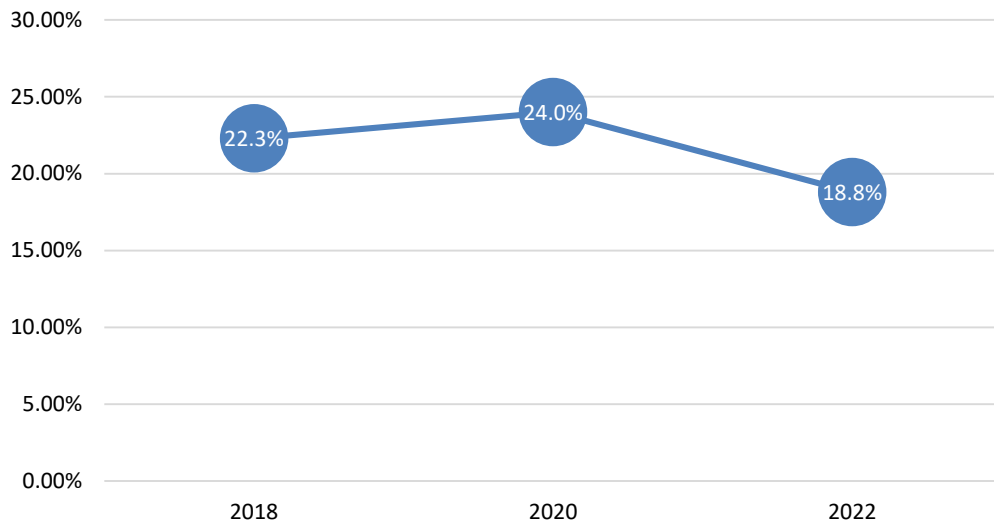
Past 30 Days use: E-Cigarette or Vape



Marijuana

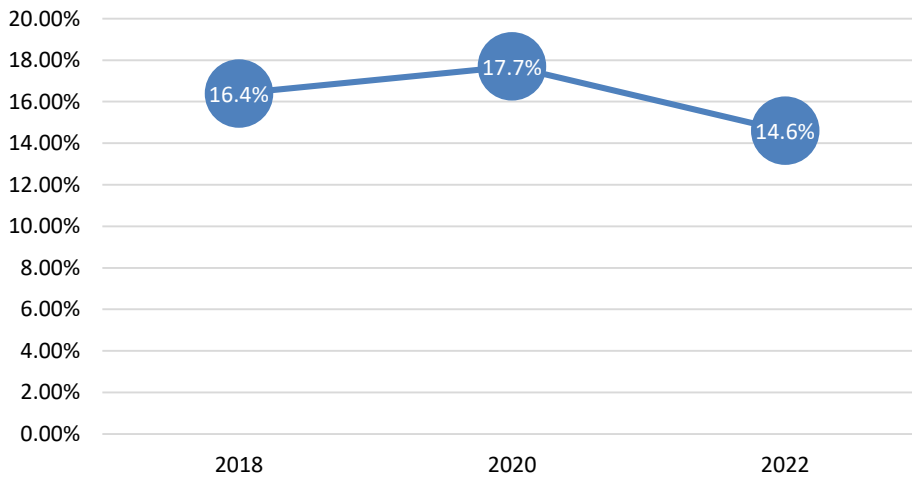
The below graph shows the number of students reporting ever having used marijuana for regions 6&7.

Lifetime use: Marijuana



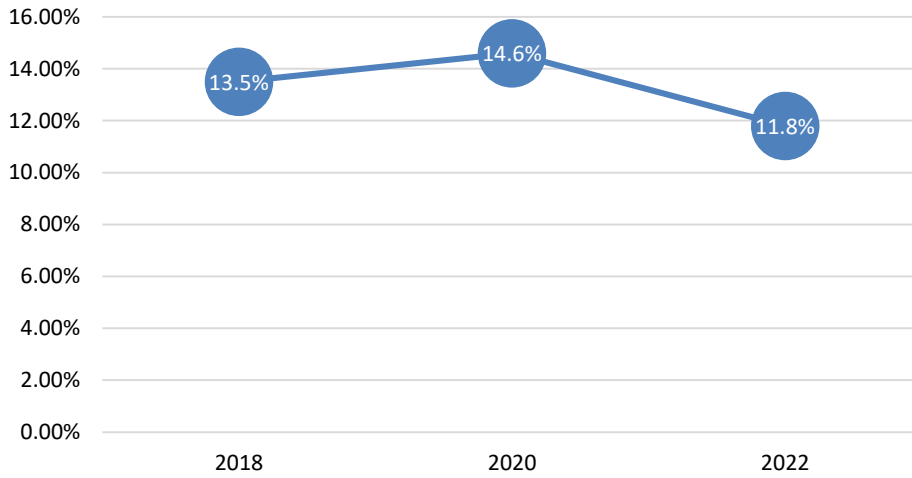
The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used marijuana in the past school year for regions 6&7.

Past School Year use: Marijuana



The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used marijuana in the past 30 days for regions 6&7.

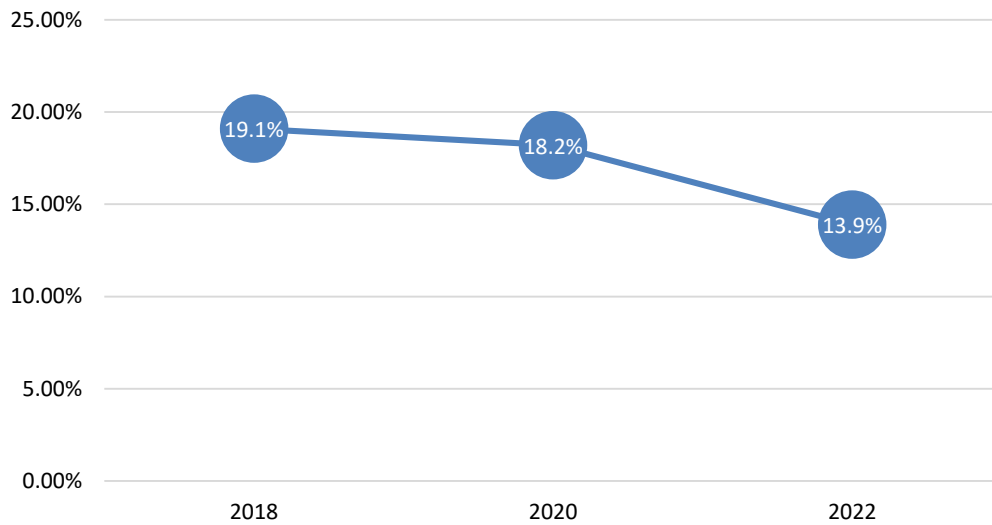
Past 30 Days use: Marijuana



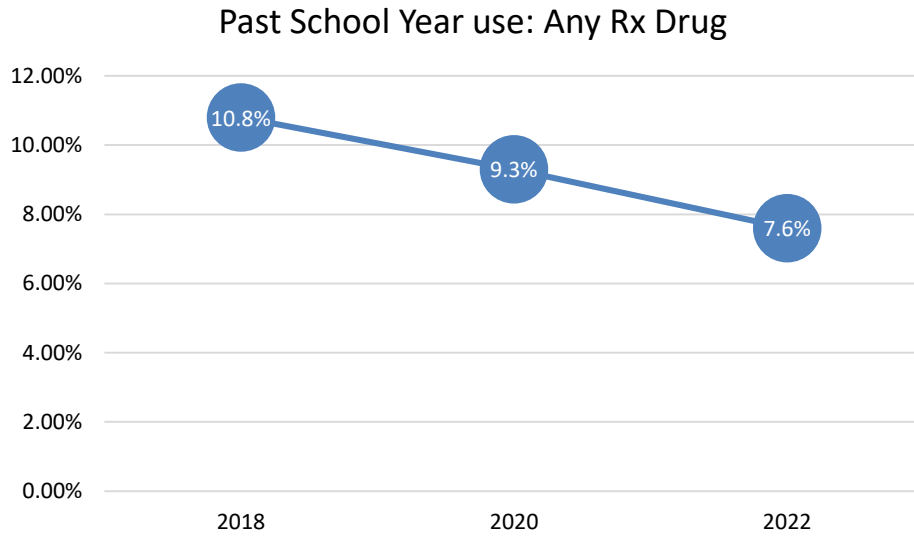
Rx drugs

The below graph shows the number of students reporting ever having misused a prescription drug for regions 6&7.

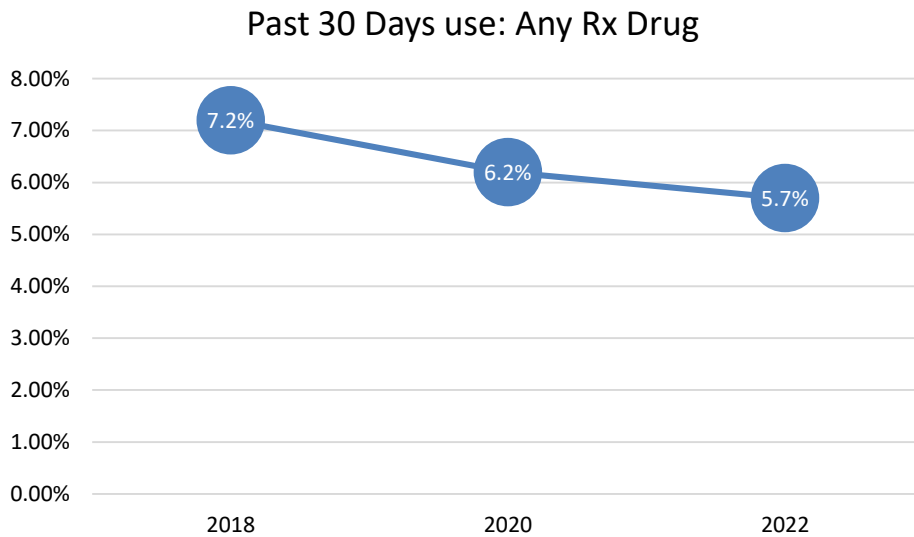
Lifetime use: Any Rx Drug



The below graph shows the number of students reporting having misused any prescription drug in the past school year for regions 6&7.



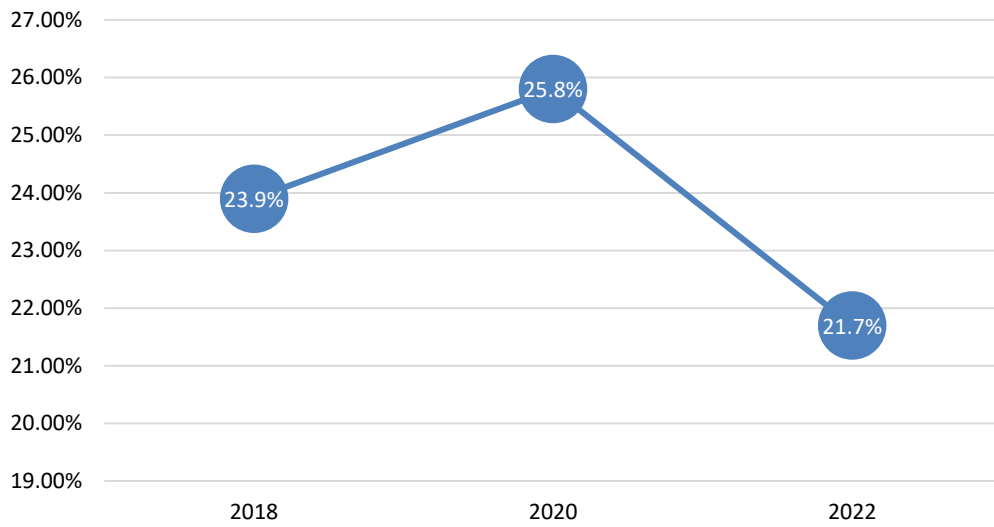
The below graph shows the number of students reporting having misused any prescription drug in the past 30 days for regions 6&7.



Illicit drugs

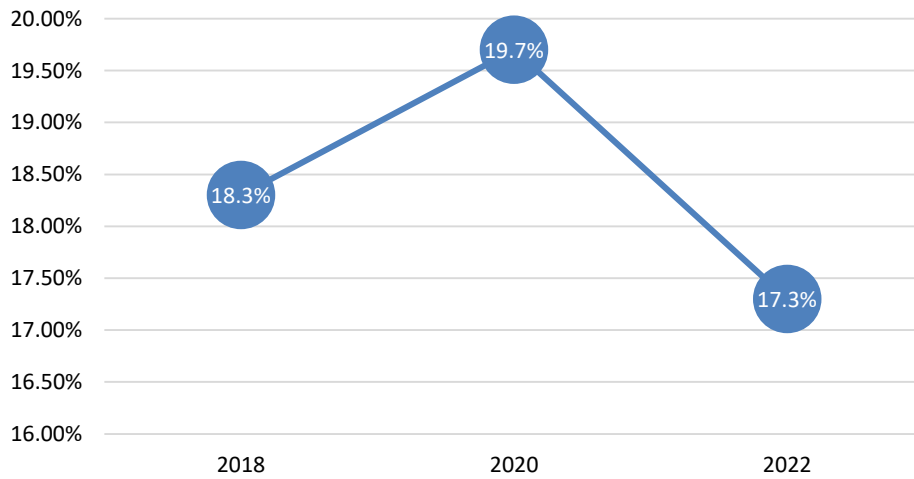
The below graph shows the number of students reporting ever having used any illicit drug for regions 6&7.

Lifetime use: Any Illicit Drug

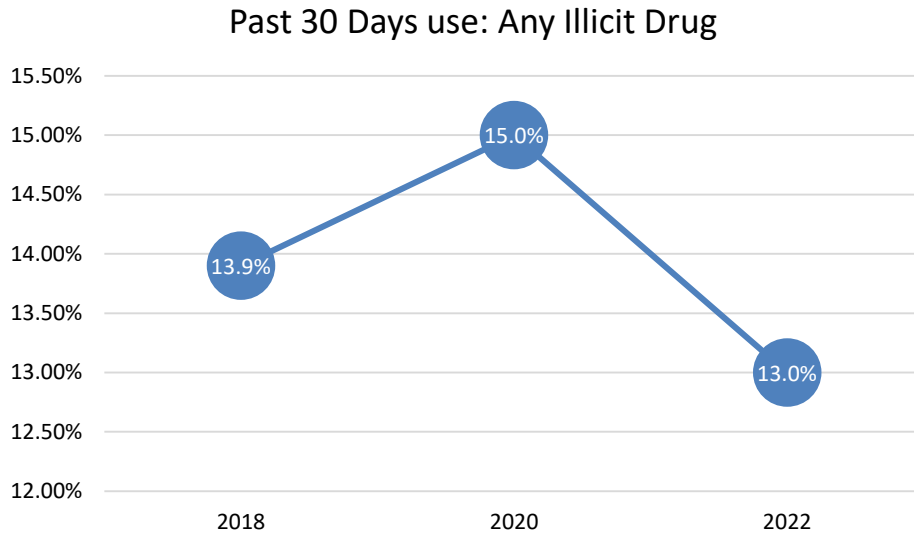


The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used any illicit drug in the past school year for regions 6&7.

Past School Year use: Any Illicit Drug



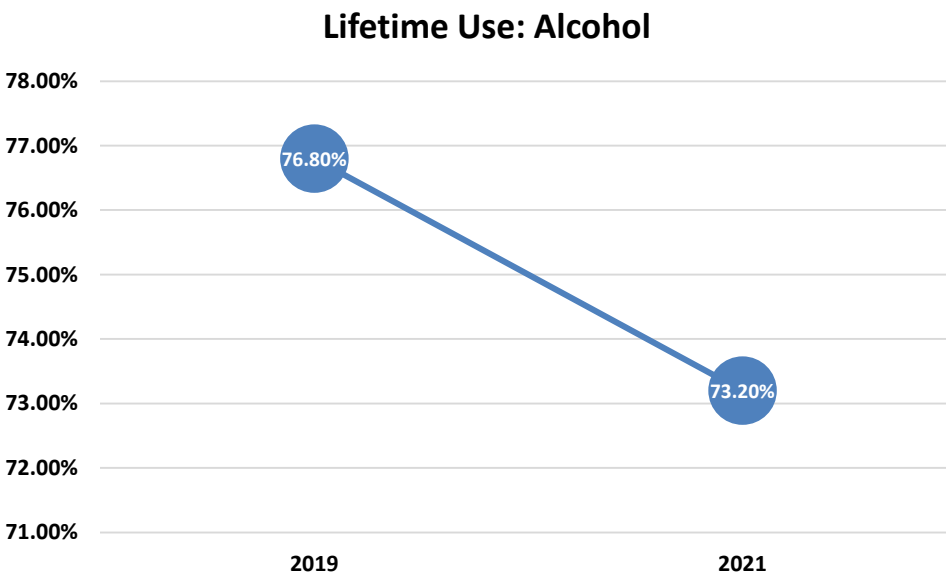
The below graph shows the number of students reporting having used any illicit drug in the past 30 days for regions 6&7.



College Student Consumption

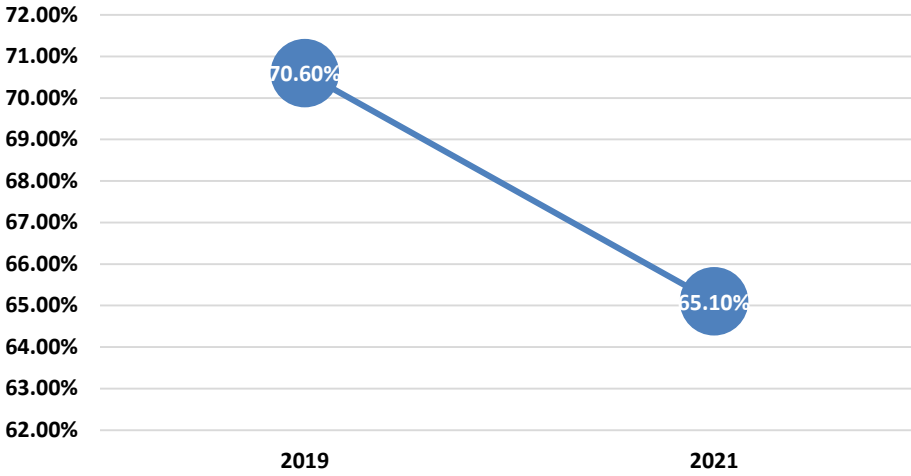
Alcohol

The below graph shows the number of college students reporting ever having used alcohol.



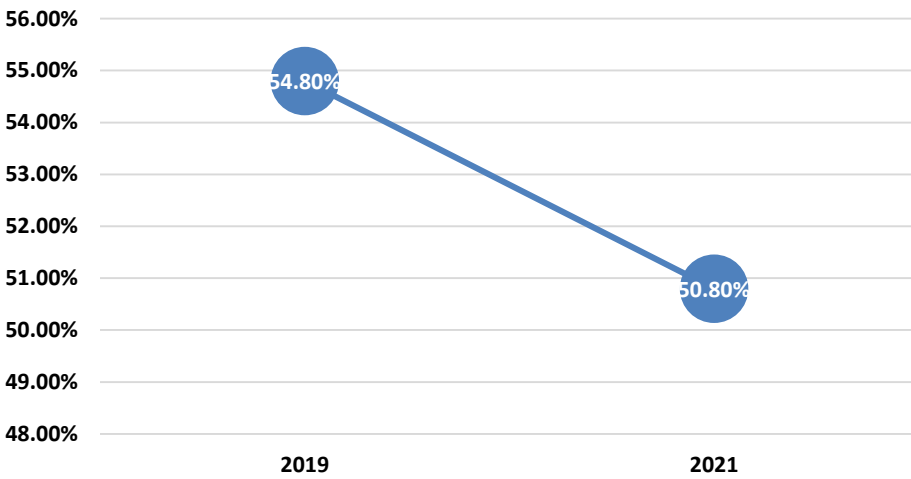
The below graph shows the number of college students reporting having used alcohol in the past school year.

Past Year Use: Alcohol



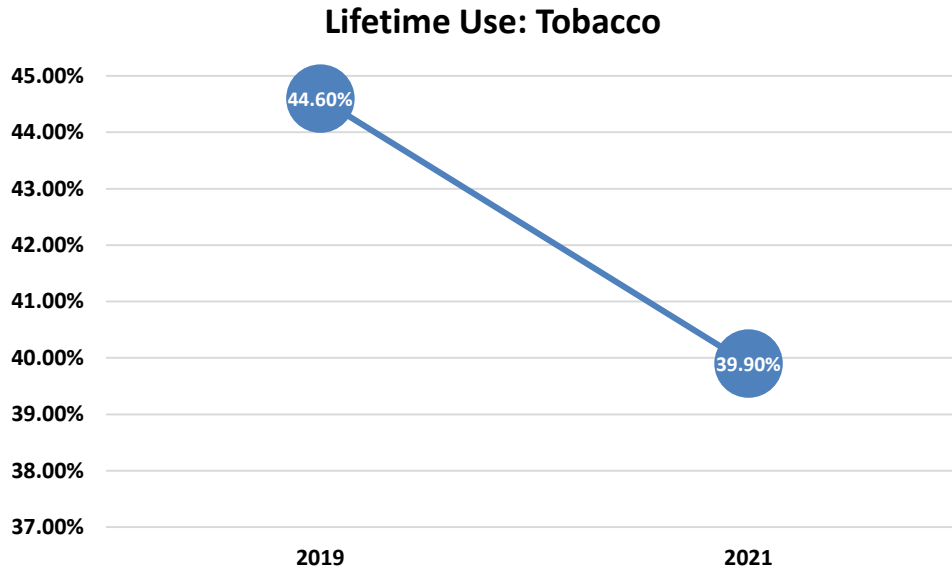
The below graph shows the number of college students reporting having used alcohol in the past 30 days.

Past 30 Days Use: Alcohol

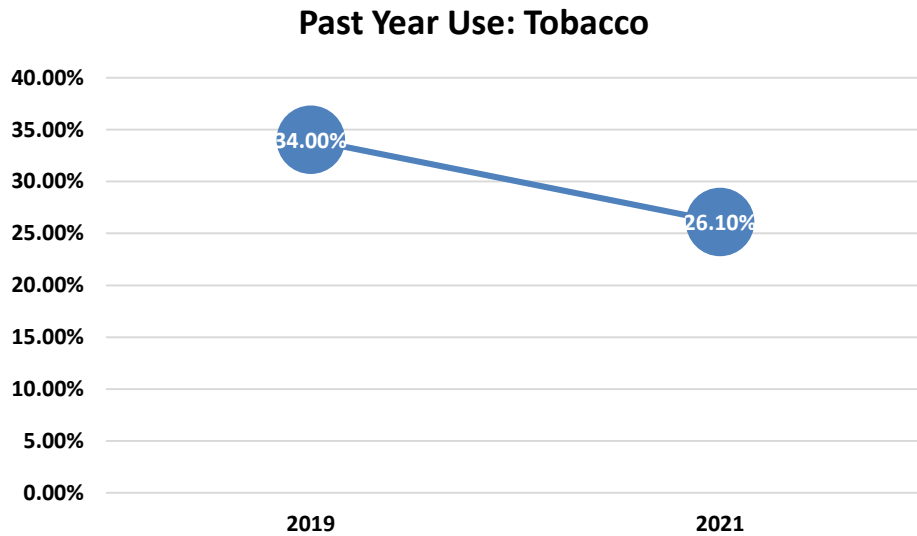


Tobacco

The below graph shows the number of college students reporting ever having used tobacco.

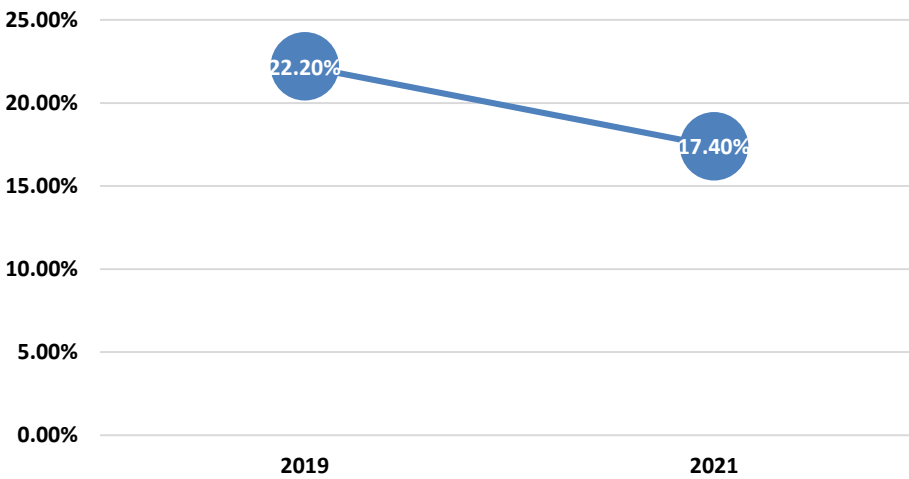


The below graph shows the number of college students reporting having used tobacco in the past school year.



The below graph shows the number of college students reporting having used tobacco in the past 30 days.

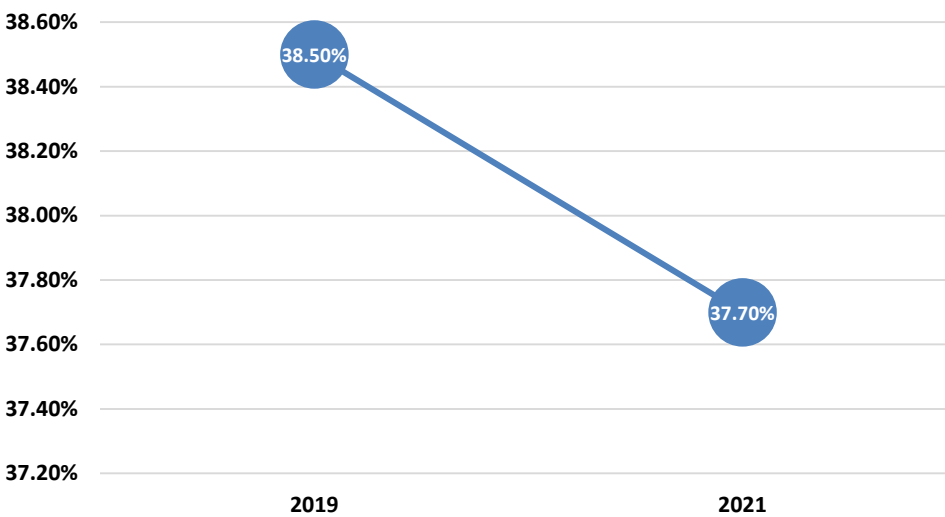
Past 30 Days Use: Tobacco



Marijuana

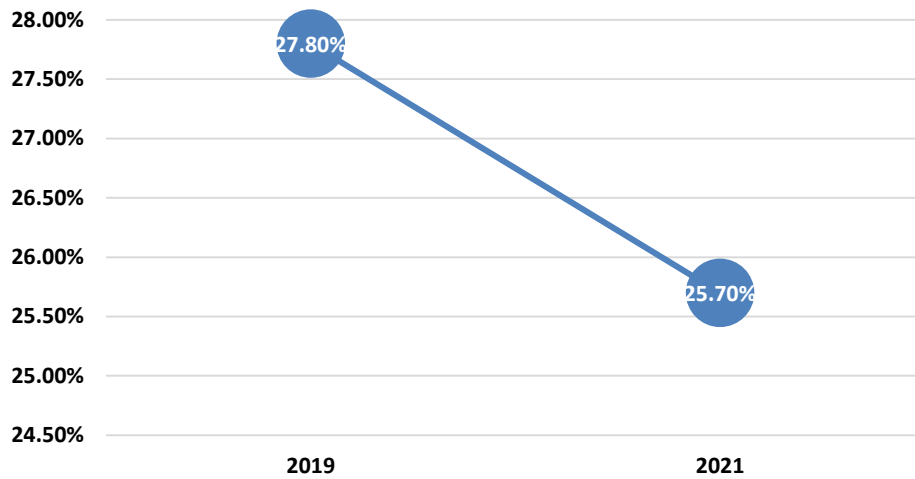
The below graph shows the number of college students reporting ever having used marijuana.

Lifetime Use: Marijuana



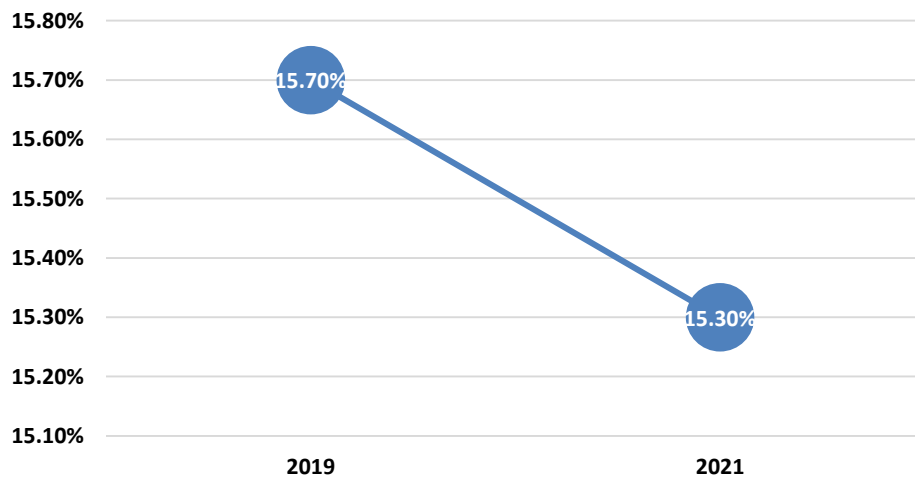
The below graph shows the number of college students reporting having used marijuana in the past school year.

Past Year Use: Marijuana



The below graph shows the number of college students reporting having used marijuana in the past 30 days.

Past 30 Days Use: Marijuana



Illicit drugs

The below table shows the number of college students reporting ever having used the following drugs.

	Lifetime	
	2019	2021
Inhalants	2.50%	2.50%
DXM	6.10%	4.40%

Synthetic Marijuana	2.80%	2.40%
Cocaine	6.10%	5.10%
Stimulants	4.10%	3.20%
Sedatives	9.10%	7.40%
Hallucinogens	9.20%	10.70%
Heroin	0.50%	0.60%
Other Narcotics	6.60%	4.80%
Steroids	0.90%	0.70%
Bath Salts	0.60%	0.50%
MDMA	5.80%	4.90%

The below table shows the number of college students reporting having used the following drugs in the past school year.

	Past Year	
	2019	2021
Inhalants	1.00%	1.00%
DXM	3.00%	1.60%
Synthetic Marijuana	0.50%	0.40%
Cocaine	3.00%	2.20%
Stimulants	2.50%	1.60%
Sedatives	4.70%	3.30%
Hallucinogens	5.10%	6.20%
Heroin	0.10%	0.10%
Other Narcotics	2.70%	1.30%
Steroids	0.20%	0.10%
Bath Salts	0.10%	0.00%
MDMA	2.70%	1.60%

The below table shows the number of college students reporting having used the following drugs in the past 30 days.

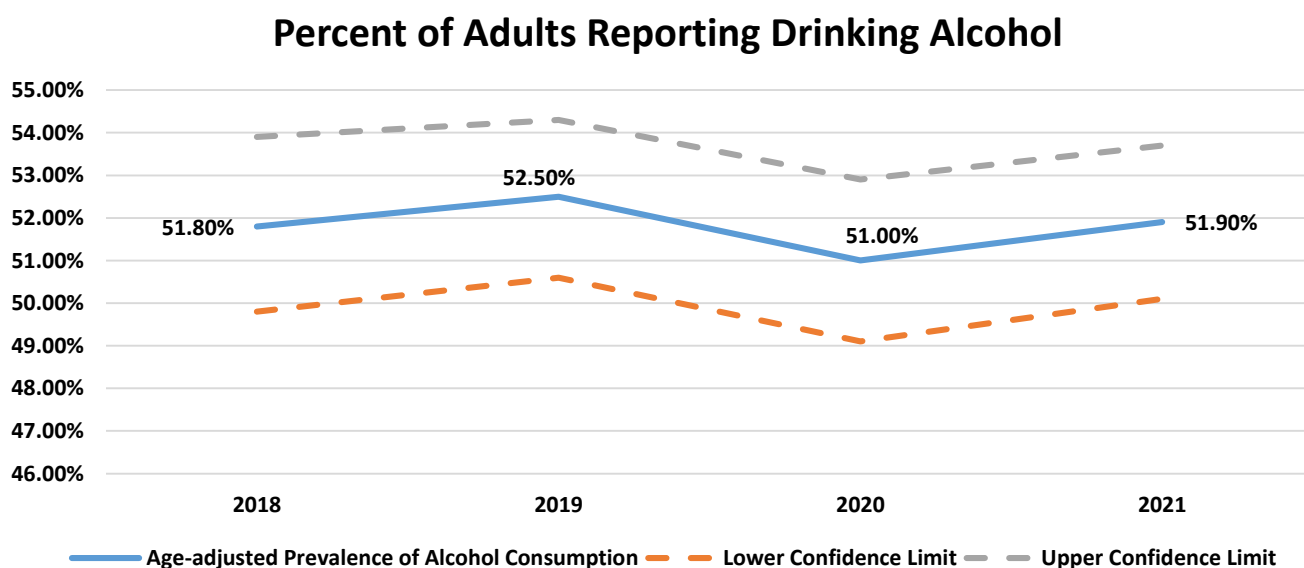
Past 30 Days

	2019	2021
Inhalants	0.30%	0.40%
DXM	1.00%	0.50%
Synthetic Marijuana	0.20%	0.10%
Cocaine	1.00%	0.80%
Stimulants	1.30%	0.90%
Sedatives	2.30%	1.50%
Hallucinogens	1.70%	1.80%
Heroin	0.00%	0.00%
Other Narcotics	0.80%	0.40%
Steroids	0.10%	0.10%
Bath Salts	0.10%	0.00%
MDMA	0.70%	0.30%

Adult Substance Use

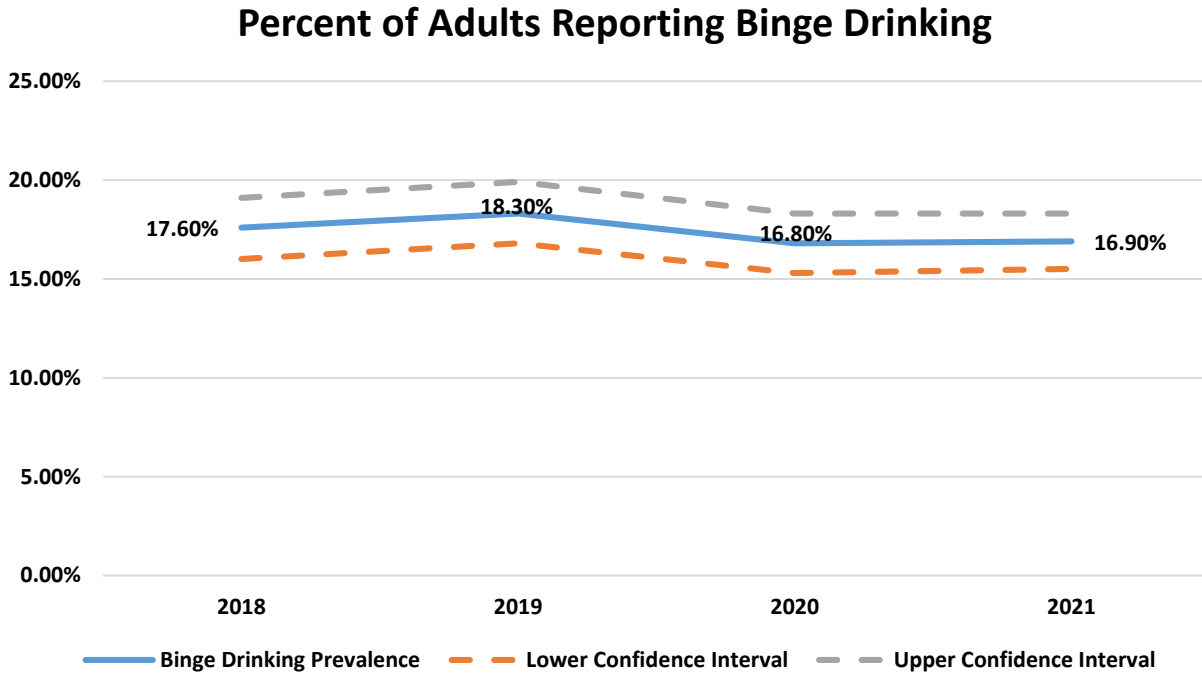
Current Use – Alcohol

The graph below shows the estimated percent of adults who drink alcohol in Texas with a 95% confidence interval.



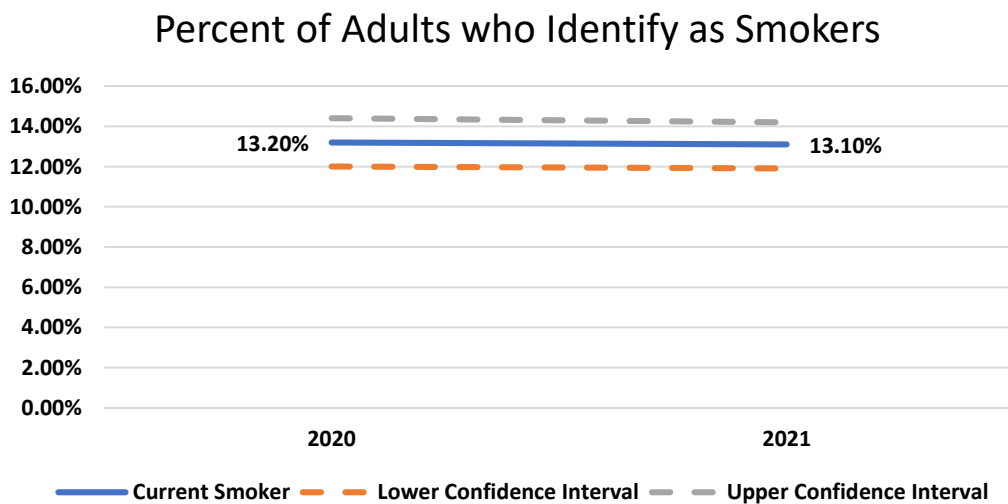
Adult binge drinking

The graph below shows the estimated percent of adults who binge drink alcohol in Texas with a 95% confidence interval.



Adult smoking

The graph below shows the estimated percent of adults who smoke in Texas with a 95% confidence interval.



PART V - Public Health and Public Safety

Consequences of Substance Use/Misuse

Mortality

1. Opioid ED 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

Overdose deaths

The table below shows the number of unintentional alcohol related poisoning deaths by region.

Public Health Region	Year				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	*	*	*	*	*
2	*	*	*	*	*
3	38	41	52	37	44
4	*	*	10	*	*
5	*	*	*	*	*
6	43	50	48	38	31
7	11	*	23	18	14

8	*	11	*	*	10
9	*	*	*	*	*
10	*	*	*	*	*
11	*	*	*	17	*
Total	131	141	166	149	136

The table below shows the number of unintentional stimulant related poisoning deaths by region.

Public Health Region	Year				
	2018	2019	2020	2021^	2022^
1	38	55	49	54	68
2	26	32	36	42	55
3	339	399	563	756	812
4	46	63	67	81	93
5	44	52	74	99	105
6	463	529	788	920	926
7	164	196	259	337	416
8	165	183	240	288	365
9	21	37	46	46	57
10	30	37	64	80	87
11	61	78	108	100	130
Total	1,397	1,661	2,294	2,803	3,114

Below is a table that shows the number of opioid-related poisoning deaths by region.

Public Health Region	Year				
	2018	2019	2020	2021^	2022^
1	42	48	46	53	76
2	20	14	17	43	53
3	355	401	567	740	768
4	40	46	31	48	71
5	33	32	68	90	82

6	419	477	742	899	885
7	176	163	217	309	375
8	126	169	171	230	318
9	31	25	47	47	40
10	44	70	79	103	105
11	73	51	102	83	125
Total	1,359	1,496	2,087	2,645	2,898

The table below shows the number of unintentional fentanyl related poisoning deaths by region.

Public Health Region	Year				
	2018	2019	2020	2021^	2022^
1	*	11	18	26	45
2	*	*	*	30	36
3	37	74	273	465	543
4	*	*	*	25	49
5	*	*	28	49	63
6	117	133	378	608	698
7	25	35	79	197	304
8	*	24	32	121	212
9	*	*	16	25	30
10	*	21	45	70	77
11	*	*	20	32	69
Total	217	329	905	1,648	2,126

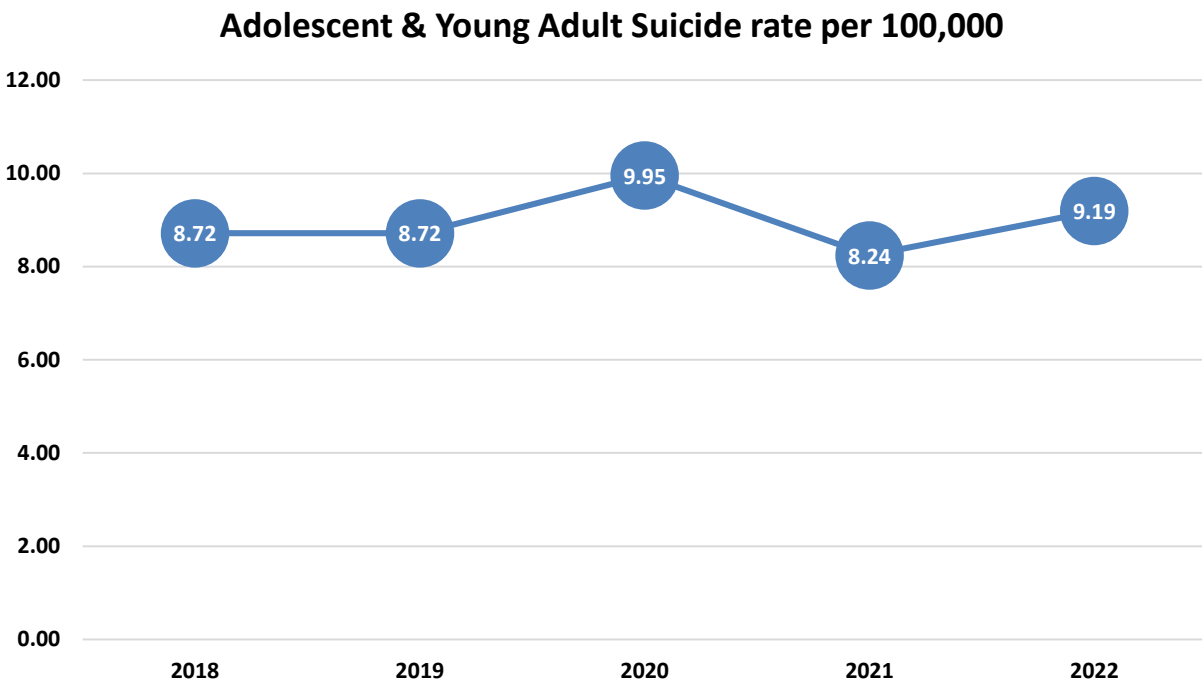
Drug and Alcohol Induced Death Rate 1999-2019

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		

Adolescent deaths by suicide

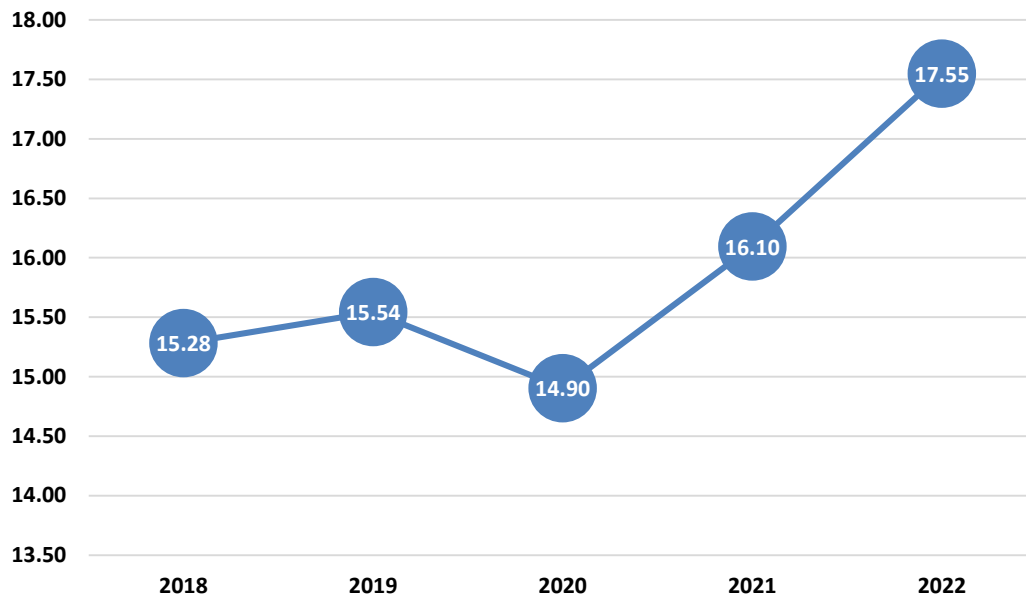
The graph below shows the adolescent and young adult (ages 5-24) unadjusted suicide rate per 100,000 population for region 7.



All deaths by suicide

The graph below shows the unadjusted suicide rate per 100,000 population for region 7.

Suicide Rate per 100,000 for Region 7



Alcohol-related vehicular fatalities

The table below shows the rate of alcohol related vehicle fatalities per 100,000 population for region 7 counties. Bastrop, Bell, and Travis have had consistently high rates. Highlighted are the top 10% for each year.

Rate of Alcohol-Related Vehicle Fatalities per 100,000

	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	12.65	15.81	9.48
Bell	16.86	12.65	16.86
Blanco	4.22	1.05	1.05
Bosque	3.16	0.00	7.38
Brazos	3.16	4.22	5.27
Burleson	3.16	2.11	1.05
Burnet	4.22	1.05	7.38
Caldwell	2.11	4.22	7.38
Coryell	2.11	1.05	7.38
Falls	4.22	1.05	1.05
Fayette	0.00	3.16	3.16
Freestone	1.05	1.05	5.27

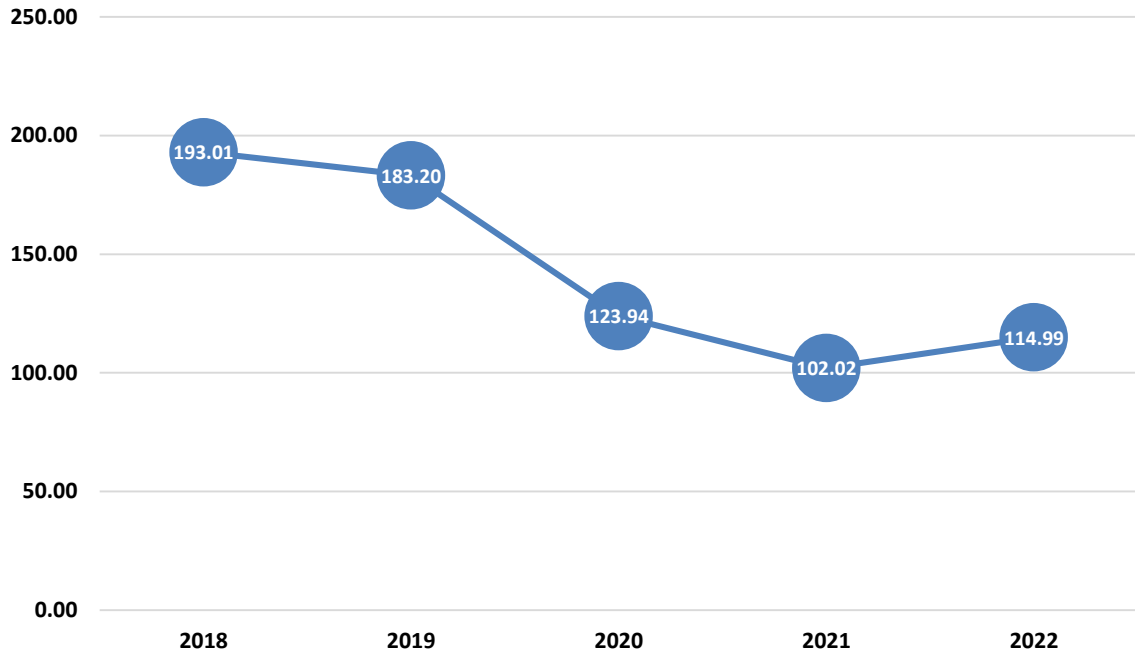
Grimes	3.16	4.22	3.16
Hamilton	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hays	7.38	5.27	13.70
Hill	4.22	6.32	3.16
Lampasas	0.00	3.16	3.16
Lee	1.05	0.00	0.00
Leon	4.22	2.11	6.32
Limestone	0.00	4.22	0.00
Llano	3.16	2.11	2.11
Madison	1.05	1.05	0.00
McLennan	7.38	11.59	21.08
Milam	4.22	1.05	1.05
Mills	0.00	1.05	3.16
Robertson	0.00	1.05	5.27
San Saba	0.00	0.00	0.00
Travis	50.59	61.13	63.23
Washington	6.32	0.00	4.22
Williamson	10.54	11.59	17.92

Healthcare

Adolescents receiving SUD treatment

Below is a graph detailing the youth in treatment rate per 100,000 for Texas.

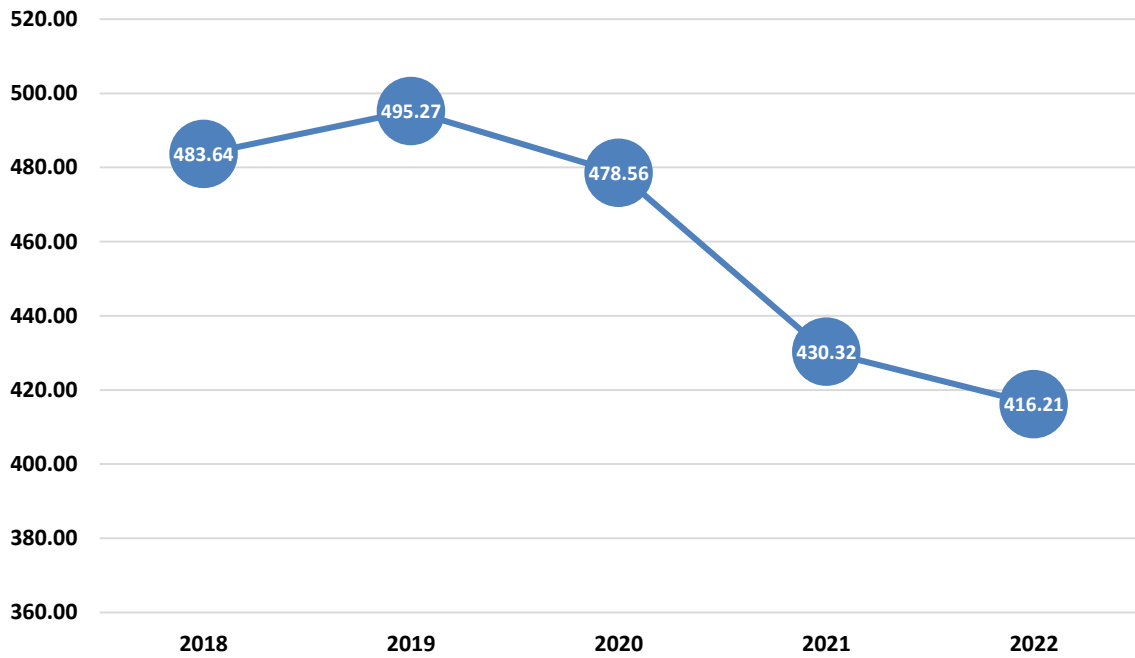
Texas Youth in Treatment per 100,000 Population



Adults receiving SUD treatment

The graph below shows the number of adults in treatment per 100,000 population for Texas.

Texas Adults in Treatment per 100,000 Population



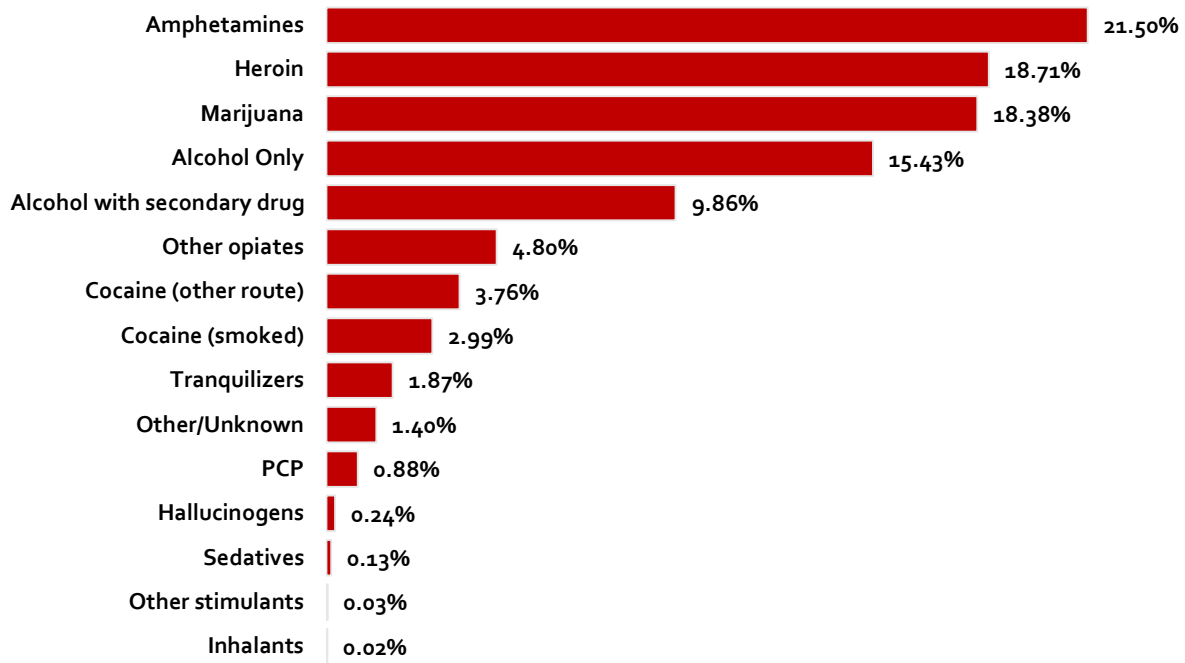
The table below provides the treatment rate per 100,000 population for youth and adults in region 7 by county.

Treatment per 100,000 Residents Region 7

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bastrop	383.7	473.2	470.1	579.1	558.6
Bell	140.6	168.9	154.6	170.0	198.0
Blanco	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bosque	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brazos	220.2	237.8	210.0	142.4	101.8
Burleson	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Burnet	1274.2	852.8	924.1	816.2	742.9
Caldwell	645.1	778.1	494.7	680.0	769.3
Coryell	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Falls	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fayette	523.8	253.7	139.1	8.2	0.0
Freestone	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grimes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hamilton	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hays	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hill	122.7	142.2	8.4	0.0	0.0
Lampasas	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lee	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Leon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Limestone	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Llano	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Madison	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
McLennan	945.2	1076.1	847.7	413.7	320.1
Milam	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mills	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Robertson	83.5	202.9	155.2	173.1	107.4
San Saba	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travis	413.1	403.6	382.5	308.2	282.7

Washington	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Williamson	218.2	183.4	235.8	252.5	243.2

Drugs for which Treatment was Sought In 2020



Economic

Estimated economic impact of underage drinking/drug use/misuse

The table below shows the economic costs estimated to be attributed to the given substances every year.

Cost of Substance Use Nationally

	Health Care Cost	Overall Cost	Year Estimate Based On
Tobacco	\$168 billion	\$300 billion	2010
Alcohol	\$27 billion	\$249 billion	2010
Illicit Drugs	\$11 billion	\$193 billion	2007
Prescription Opioids	\$26 billion	\$78.5 billion	2013

Emerging Trends

Impact of COVID-19 on Behavioral Health

Overall COVID-19 and the subsequent reactions from state and news agencies had a very damaging effect on mental health and substance abuse in both Texas and the United States as a whole (Prati & Mancini, 2021; Şimşir, Koç, Seki, & Griffiths, 2022). As a whole there were a myriad of ranges of effects ranging from small to large mental effects on the population (Kim, Qian, & Aslam, 2020). While many of these effects have disappeared the chronic nature of substance use disorder characterizes it as one of the longer lasting impacts seen from COVID-19 and its subsequent lockdowns, fear, and stress (Cénat et al., 2022; Kilian et al., 2022).

Community Interview Findings

The PRCs main role has long been a data repository and behind the scenes assistant to coalitions and more hands-on organizations, as such this PRC has sought to ensure schools, coalitions, and organizations have the appropriate, accurate, and up to date information regarding youth use. As noted by one key informant one until better data is available inroads to the use of meth and opioids is near impossible as nobody is really sure of where and how bad the problem is in this large 30 county region.

The regional needs assessment is a tool used by the community, coalitions, and organizations to better understand the needs in the community. In this region that usually takes the form of assistance towards grant writers, and assisting in spreading accurate information to improve care and build roads to improve the continuum of care in the region.

From this region there was one informant from Blanco a very rural area, a few from Travis and Williamson counties which are very urban areas, and several from the Brazos Valley where it is semi-rural. All sectors were represented with the best information coming from informants in the medical sector, the law enforcement sector, and one researcher who does prevention work in the region and Texas as a whole.

All interviews were conducted via zoom, participants were recruited in part with the regional epi workgroup and were largely already familiar with substance abuse counseling, treatment, prevention, or enforcement in some way prior to being willing to do the interview leading to a biased but informed sample.

Text analysis in will be done to code the main thematic elements in each interview and combined by question to get the major impressions of the data. Given the small and heterogeneous sample and an initial viewing of the interviews there will be bias in the results and limited conclusions able to be drawn.

Coalitions were the main attendees as they cared the most about the subject matter and in the past the REWs were more focused on problems that concerned coalition members. The current workgroup was maintained, little recruitment was done this year as the change and upheaval in the structure left less time for the workgroup itself and less for the PRC to provide, the workgroup attendance waned as efforts to utilize the workgroup for finding key informants increased. To fix this new effort to recruit a larger more diverse group will be made next year.

The key informant interviews highlighted a few obvious results (death is the worst outcome of substance use) and a few more niche results (mental health and substance abuse related access issues). Vaping, alcohol, and marijuana are the universal concerns for the majority of the youth populations with certain subsets seeing some use of harder drugs. Methamphetamine in pill form is growing in usage, now mixed with fentanyl, and meth is a consistent concern in the more rural areas. Opioid use especially fentanyl is a concern due partially to high overdose fatality ratio compared to other drugs but partially because of the increase of fentanyl and its presence in other drugs of abuse. Many efforts are being made but the ease of access for alcohol, marijuana, THC products, and vape products in particular has made it hard to make real gains in curbing youth use. Major barriers to access include lack of insurance, transportation, and knowledge of where and what services are available. Key resources were largely resources in the informants' area of expertise (e.g., medical informants spoke about medical care facilities) indicating a real lack of intercommunication between the sectors on this particular area of need.

Takeaways are that the communities across this region largely see substance use as a tangential problem to mental health and find that issues of transportation, barriers to service, and mental health treatment and prevention services should take priority. This was not true for the law enforcement sector and the medical sector where participants saw use as larger or equal issue. My recommendations are to utilize the PRCs to open up dialogues with transportation sectors and utilize the state evaluator to open inroads to improve treatment access.

PART VI - Region in Focus

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	
Brazos	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
Burnet	MH	Central Texas VA Healthcare System	979-680-0361	http://www.centraltexas.va.gov
	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
Caldwell	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community MH/MR Ctr	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
	SA	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	512-863-8968	http://bbtrails.org
	MH	Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	830-875-5700	http://www.bbTrails.org
Falls	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
Hays	SA	Austin Recovery Inc	512-697-8500	http://www.austinrecovery.org
	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 Austin State Hospital	512-257-0066 512-452-0381	http://www.changescounseling.com http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/austins/h/

	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

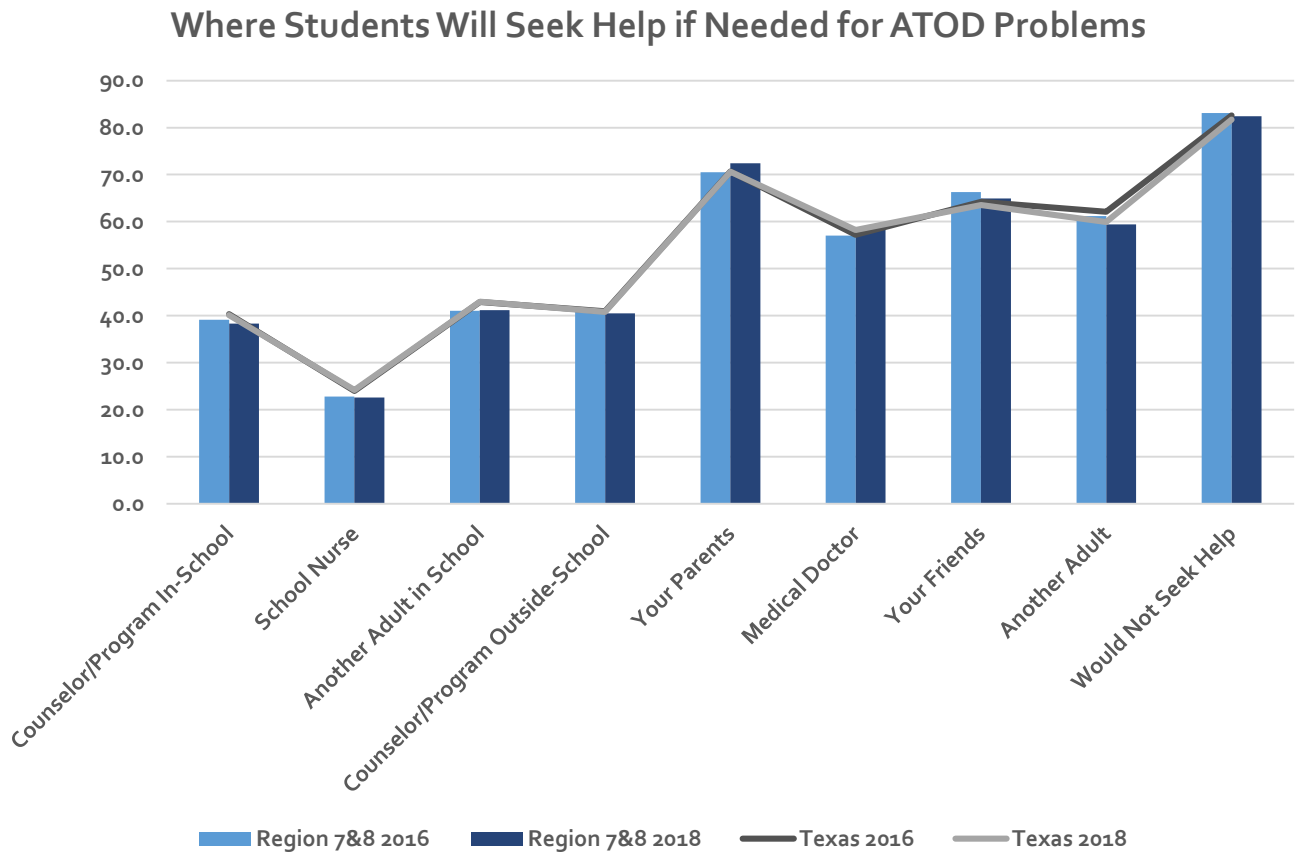
YP Programs

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.

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	BRAZOS VALLEY COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (BVCASA)
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
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	

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

Data	Citations
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Glossary of Helpful Terms and Definitions

<p>ACES</p>	<p>Adverse Childhood Experiences. Potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (0-17 years) such as experiencing violence, abuse, or neglect; witnessing violence in the home; and having a family member attempt or die by suicide. Also included are aspects of the child’s environment that can undermine their sense of safety, stability, and bonding such as growing up in a household with substance use, mental health problems, or instability due to parental separation or incarceration of a parent, sibling, or other member of the household.</p> <p>May also refer to adverse <i>community</i> experiences – such as concentrated poverty, segregation from opportunity, and community violence – contribute to community trauma, which can exacerbate adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).</p> <p>Please see the beginning the report for more information on ACEs.</p>
<p>Adolescent</p>	<p>An individual ranging between the ages of 10 and 20 years depending on what health organization you reference. For a more in-depth description and definition, see the “Adolescence” section in “Key Concepts” in the beginning of the RNA.</p>
<p>ATOD</p>	<p>Acronym for alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.</p>
<p>BRFSS</p>	<p>Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Health-related telephone survey that collects state data about U.S. residents regarding their health-related behaviors, chronic health conditions, and use of preventive services.</p>
<p>Counterfeit Drug</p>	<p>A medication or pharmaceutical item which is fraudulently produced and/or mislabeled then sold with the intent to deceptively represent its origin, authenticity, or effectiveness. Counterfeit drugs include drugs that contain no active pharmaceutical ingredient (API), an incorrect amount of API, an inferior-quality API, a wrong API, contaminants, or repackaged expired products.</p>
<p>DSHS</p>	

	The Texas Department of State Health Services. The agency's mission is to improve the health, safety, and well-being of Texans through good stewardship of public resources and a focus on core public health functions.
<i>Drug</i>	A medicine or other substance which has a physiological and/or psychological effect when ingested or otherwise introduced into the body. Drugs can affect how the brain and the rest of the body work and cause changes in mood, awareness, thoughts, feelings, or behavior.
<i>Evaluation</i>	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. The primary purpose is to gain insight to assist in future change.
<i>HHS</i>	The United States Health and Human Services. The mission of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is to enhance the health and well-being of all Americans, by providing for effective health and human services and by fostering sound, sustained advances in the sciences underlying medicine, public health, and social services.
<i>Incidence</i>	The proportion, rate, or frequency of new occurrences of a disease, crime, or something else undesirable. In the case of substance use, it is a measure of the risk for new substance use behaviors and new substance use disorder cases within a community.
<i>LGBTQIA+</i>	An inclusive term referring to people of marginalized gender identities and sexual orientations and their allies. Examples include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, questioning, queer, intersex, asexual, demisexual, and pansexual.
<i>Justice-Impacted</i>	

	Justice-impacted individuals include those who have been incarcerated or detained in a prison, immigration detention center, local jail, juvenile detention center, or any other carceral setting, those who have been convicted but not incarcerated, those who have been charged but not convicted, and those who have been arrested.
MAT/MOUD	Medication-Assisted Treatment. The use of medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a “whole patient” approach to the treatment of substance use disorders.
Neurotoxin	Synthetic or naturally occurring substances that damage, destroy, or impair nerve tissue and the function of the nervous system. They inhibit communication between neurons across a synapse.
Person-Centered Language or Person-First Language	<p>Language that puts people first. A person’s identity and self-image are closely linked to the words used to describe them. Using person-centered language is about respecting the dignity, worth, unique qualities, and strengths of every individual. It reinforces the idea that people are more than their substance use disorder, mental illness, or disability.</p> <p>Please note: some people do prefer the use of language that is not person-centered to self-identify, e.g., in Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA), some people prefer to self-identify as an “addict” rather than a “person with addiction” even though this is not person-centered language. It is best practice to use the language that a person asks you to use when referring to them.</p>
PRC	Prevention Resource Center. Prevention Resource Centers provide information about substance use to the general community and help track substance use problems. They provide trainings, support community programs and tobacco prevention activities, and connect people with community resources related to substance use. The beginning of the RNA includes significantly more details on the purpose and functions of the PRCs.
Prevalence	The current proportion, rate, or frequency of a disease, crime, or other event or health state with a given community. In the case of substance use, it refers to the current rates of substance use, and

	the current rate of substance use disorders within a given community.
<i>Protective Factor</i>	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.
<i>Recovery</i>	A process of change through which individuals struggling with behavioral health challenges improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.
<i>Risk Factor</i>	Conditions, behaviors, or attributes in individuals, families, communities, or the larger society that contribute to or increase the risk in families and communities.
<i>Self-Directed Violence</i>	Anything a person does intentionally that can cause injury to self, including death.
<i>SPF</i>	Strategic Prevention Framework. SPF is a model created by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to assist communities with implementing effective plans to prevent substance use. The idea behind the SPF is to use findings from public health research and community assessment, such as this RNA, along with evidence-based prevention programs to build a robust and sustainable prevention system. This, in turn, promotes resilience and decreases risk factors in individuals, families, and communities. More information can be found here: https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/20190620-samhsa-strategic-prevention-framework-guide.pdf
<i>Stigma</i>	The stigma of substance use—the mark of disgrace or infamy associated with the disease—stems from behavioral symptoms and aspects of substance use disorder. The concept of stigma describes the powerful, negative perceptions commonly associated with substance use and misuse. Stigma has the potential to negatively affect a person’s self-esteem, damage relationships with loved ones, and prevent those suffering from substance use and misuse from accessing treatment.
<i>SDoH</i>	

	<p>Social Determinants of Health. These refer to 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. See the beginning of the RNA for more details.</p>
<p><i>Substance Abuse</i></p>	<p>When substance use adversely affects the health of an individual or when the use of a substance imposes social and personal costs.</p> <p>Please note: This is an antiquated term that should be avoided as it contributes to the stigma surrounding substance use and substance use disorders. The term “abuse” has been found to have a high association with negative judgments and punishment and can prevent people seeking treatment. More information can be found here: https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/addiction-science/words-matter-preferred-language-talking-about-addiction</p>
<p><i>Substance Dependence</i></p>	<p>An adaptive biological and psychological state that develops from repeated drug administration, and which results in withdrawal upon cessation of substance use.</p>
<p><i>Substance Misuse or Non-Medical Substance Use</i></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><i>Substance Use</i></p>	<p>The consumption of any drugs such as prescription medications, alcohol, tobacco, and other illicit drugs. Substance use is an inclusive, umbrella term that includes everything from an occasional glass of wine with dinner or the legal use of prescription medication as directed by a doctor all the way to use that causes harm and becomes a substance use disorder (SUD).</p>
<p><i>SUD</i></p>	<p>Substance Use Disorder. A condition in which there is uncontrolled use of a substance despite harmful consequences. SUDs occur when the recurrent use of alcohol and/or drugs causes clinically significant impairment, including health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home.</p>

<p><i>Telehealth</i></p>	<p>The use of electronic information and telecommunications technologies to support and promote long-distance clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, public health, and health administration. Technologies include videoconferencing, the internet, store-and-forward imaging, streaming media, and terrestrial and wireless communications.</p>
<p><i>TCS</i></p>	<p>Texas College Survey of Substance Use. A survey that collects self-reported data related to alcohol and drug use, mental health status, risk behaviors, and perceived attitudes and beliefs among college students in Texas. More information on the TCS can be found in the beginning of the RNA.</p>
<p><i>TSS</i></p>	<p>Texas School Survey of Drug and Alcohol Use. A survey that collects self-reported data on tobacco, alcohol, and other substance use among students in grades 7 through 12 in Texas public schools. More information on TSS can be found in the beginning of the RNA.</p>
<p><i>YRBS</i></p>	<p>Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey. an American biennial survey of adolescent health risk and health protective behaviors such as smoking, drinking, drug use, diet, and physical activity conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It surveys students in grades 9–12.</p>

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