

Table 4.13B Mean Age at First Use among Past Year Initiates of Substance Use Aged 12 or Older, by Gender: 2007 and 2008

Substance	Total (2007)	Total (2008)	Male (2007)	Male (2008)	Female (2007)	Female (2008)
ILLCIT DRUGS^{1,2}	19.2	19.8	17.5	18.0	20.6	21.3
Marijuana and Hashish	17.8	17.9	17.6	17.4	18.0	18.3
Cocaine	20.2	19.8	20.9	19.4	19.2	20.4
Crack	33.8	27.2	37.4 ^a	27.0	24.6	27.5
Heroin	21.8	23.4	21.1	25.7	23.3	18.5
Hallucinogens	19.4	18.6	19.4	18.7	19.5	18.4
LSD	18.3	18.4	18.6	18.8	17.6	17.2
PCP	16.4	15.8	16.0	15.8	17.2	15.8
Ecstasy	20.2	20.6	20.9	20.6	19.4	20.5
Inhalants	17.2	16.0	17.5	16.8	16.8 ^a	15.1
Nonmedical Use of Psychotherapeutics ^{2,3}	23.8	23.5	21.7	20.9	25.6	25.4
Pain Relievers	22.6	22.7	21.6	20.9	23.6	24.2
OxyContin [®]	25.8	22.0	24.6	21.9	26.8	22.0
Tranquilizers	26.3	25.7	24.1	22.3	27.9	27.9
Stimulants ²	21.9	21.3	19.0	19.9	23.3	22.3
Sedatives	24.2	25.8	23.5	20.5	24.8	27.8
ILLCIT DRUGS OTHER THAN MARIJUANA^{1,2}	21.4	21.7	19.1	19.8	23.4	23.4
CIGARETTES	16.9	17.4	16.7 ^a	17.3	17.1	17.4
Daily Cigarette Use ⁴	19.2	20.2	19.2	19.6	19.3	20.9
SMOKELESS TOBACCO	18.2	20.2	17.4 ^a	19.2	20.6	22.8
CIGARS	21.1	21.5	19.2	20.0	23.3	23.2
ALCOHOL	17.0	17.7	17.0	16.9	16.9	18.4

*Low precision; no estimate reported.

NOTE: Past Year Initiates are defined as persons who used the substance(s) for the first time in the 12 months prior to date of interview.

^a Difference between estimate and 2008 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

^b Difference between estimate and 2008 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.01 level.

¹ Illicit Drugs include marijuana/hashish, cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or prescription-type psychotherapeutics used nonmedically. Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana include cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or prescription-type psychotherapeutics used nonmedically.

² Estimates in these designated rows do not include data from methamphetamine initiation items added in 2007 or methamphetamine use items added in 2005 and 2006.

³ Nonmedical use of prescription-type psychotherapeutics includes the nonmedical use of pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, or sedatives and does not include over-the-counter drugs.

⁴ Daily Cigarette Use is defined as ever smoking every day for at least 30 days.

Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2007 and 2008.