

Table 4.9A Past Year Initiation of Substance Use among Persons Aged 12 or Older Who Initiated Use Prior to Age 18, Prior to Age 21, and at Age 21 or Older: Numbers in Thousands, 2018 and 2019

Substance	Persons Who Initiated Use Prior to Age 18		Persons Who Initiated Use Prior to Age 21		Persons Who Initiated Use at Age 21 or Older	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
ILLICIT DRUGS	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
Marijuana	1,491	1,509	2,174	2,169	888 ^a	1,309
Cocaine	100	81	415 ^a	304	459	367
Crack	4	11	18	19	82	72
Heroin	11	*	27	8	90	42
Hallucinogens	299	300	642	689	474	532
LSD	183	226	408	477	370	407
PCP	8	16	9	23	*	*
Ecstasy	125	138	388	374	334	370
Inhalants	334	397	417	502	159	229
Methamphetamine	37	25	72	60	133	124
Misuse of Psychotherapeutics	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
Pain Relievers	355	280	559	471	1,349	1,136
Stimulants	226	262	510	482	491	419
Tranquilizers or Sedatives	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
Tranquilizers	271	216	456	375	754	575
Sedatives	*	*	*	*	176	193
Benzodiazepines	--	--	--	--	--	--
Opioids	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana ¹	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
CIGARETTES	722	610	1,401	1,265	424	330
Daily Cigarette Use	98	86	312 ^a	234	184	254
SMOKELESS TOBACCO	335	371	583	620	335	421
CIGARS	584	518	1,337	1,322	937	792
ALCOHOL	2,670	2,550	3,972	3,815	906	1,064

* = low precision; -- = not available; da = does not apply; nc = not comparable due to methodological changes; nr = not reported due to measurement issues.

NOTE: Methodological limitations preclude the estimation of past year initiates for aggregate substance use categories having at least one prescription psychotherapeutic, including categories for overall illicit drugs, misuse of psychotherapeutics, tranquilizers or sedatives, opioids, and illicit drugs other than marijuana (see Section 3.4.2 in Chapter 3 of the *2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological Summary and Definitions*).

^a The difference between this estimate and the 2019 estimate is statistically significant at the .05 level. Rounding may make the estimates appear identical.

¹ Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana excludes respondents who used only marijuana but includes those who used marijuana in addition to other illicit drugs.

Definitions: Measures and terms are defined in Appendix A.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2018 and 2019.