

## Highlights

- About one in three students (31%) in grades 7 to 12 reports no substance use at all (including cigarettes and alcohol) in the year before the survey

### Cigarettes

- 12% of students report smoking either occasionally or daily in the past year
- 6% of students report smoking contraband cigarettes in the past year (almost half of past year smokers smoke contraband cigarettes)

### Alcohol

- 58% of students report drinking alcohol in the past year (this excludes sips just to try it). Past year drinking varies by grade, increasing from 23% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders to 83% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders
- 25% of students report binge drinking (5+ drinks on one occasion) at least once in the past month. This varies by grade, increasing from 3% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders to almost half of 12<sup>th</sup> graders
- 12% of licensed drivers in grades 10 to 12 report driving within an hour of consuming two or more drinks at least one time in the past year

### Cannabis, non-medical prescription drugs, other drug use

- 26% of students report using cannabis at least once in the past year; 15% of students report using cannabis six times or more in the past year
- 17% of licensed drivers in grades 10 to 12 report driving a vehicle within one hour of using cannabis at least one time in the past year
- 20% of students report using at least one prescription drug non-medically (that is, without a doctor's prescription) in the past year (out of OxyContin®, other prescription opioid drugs, ADHD drugs, other stimulants pills, and tranquillizers/sedatives)
- 18% of students report using a prescription opioid pain reliever (e.g., Percocet, Percodan, Tylenol #3) non-medically at least once in the past year
- Over-the-counter cough/cold medication is used by 7% of students to "get high"; other drugs such as ecstasy, hallucinogenic drugs, or cocaine are used by less than 5% of the student population
- An index measuring any illicit drug use (excluding alcohol and tobacco) shows that 42% of students used at least one illicit drug in the past year (ranging from 22% of 7<sup>th</sup>-graders to 55% of 12<sup>th</sup>-graders)

### Sex Differences

- Males are more likely than females to use: alcohol, cigarettes, cannabis, hallucinogens such as "magic mushrooms", salvia divinorum, methamphetamine, and heroin
- Females are more likely than males to use a prescription drug non-medically

### **Regional Differences**

- Compared to the provincial average, Toronto students are less likely to drink alcohol, binge drink, smoke cigarettes, and use cannabis. Yet, they are more likely to use inhalants and over-the-counter cough/cold medicine to get high
- Students in Northern Ontario are more likely to drink alcohol, binge drink, smoke cigarettes, use cannabis, use salvia divinorum, and use prescription opioids non-medically

### **Trends Over Time**

- No drug shows a change since 2007, however many drugs show a decline in use over the past decade (since 1999), including alcohol and cigarettes. Cannabis use has remained stable over the past decade.
- Over the past 30 years, peak periods of drug use among students were observed in the late 1970s and again in the late 1990s, and use in 2009 is lower relative to these periods