Slightly More Than One-Third of High School Seniors Used Marijuana in the Past Year

Marijuana continues to be the most prevalent illicit drug (other than alcohol) used by U.S. high school seniors, according to data from the 2010 Monitoring the Future Study. Slightly more than one-third (34.8%) of 12th grade students reported using marijuana in the past year. The nonmedical use of narcotic drugs (such as Vicodin® and OxyContin®) was reported by 8.7% of 12th graders, followed by amphetamines (7.4%), over-the-counter cough or cold medications used solely to get high (6.6%), tranquilizers (5.6%), and hallucinogens (5.5%). All other drugs were used by 5% or less of 12th graders.

Percentage of U.S. 12th Grade Students Reporting Past Year Use of Drugs (Other Than Alcohol and Tobacco), 2010

*Amphetamines include Adderall® (6.5%), Ritalin® (2.7%), and methamphetamine (1%). Hallucinogens include salvia (5.5%), ecstasy (4.5%), LSD (2.6%), and PCP (1%).

**Used for the explicit purpose of getting high.