



Survey of North Dakota Young Adults, 2020

Eric L. Canen, M.S., Senior Research Scientist
Michael Dorssom, M.S., Associate Research Scientist
Brian Harnisch, M.B.A., Senior Research Scientist
Bistra Anatchkova, Ph.D., Survey Research Manager

ABOUT THIS REPORT

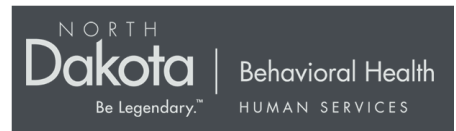
This publication was produced for the North Dakota Department of Human Services, Behavioral Health Division, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration (SAMHSA)

CITATION

WYSAC (2020). *Survey of North Dakota Young Adults, 2020* by Canen, E. L., Dorssom M., Harnisch, B., & Anatchkova, B. (WYSAC Technical Report No. SRC-2008). Laramie: Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center, University of Wyoming.

Short Reference: WYSAC (2020), Survey of North Dakota Young Adults, 2020.

© 2020 WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER



Contents

Contents.....	3
List of Figures	4
List of Tables.....	5
Methods.....	9
Questionnaire Development.....	9
Mode of Contact and Data Collection	9
Sampling Frame, Sample Design and Sample Size	10
Survey Administration	11
Response Rates and Margins of Error	12
Data Compilation and Analysis	12
Key Findings.....	14
Alcohol use	14
Average Number of Alcoholic Beverages Consumed	18
Binge Drinking Social Norms	22
Perceptions of Drinking as a Community Problem.....	26
Prescription Drug Misuse.....	29
Prescription Drug Misuse Social Norms.....	31
Marijuana Use	31
Marijuana Use Social Norms	32
Support for Marijuana Legalization.....	33
Perceptions about Risk of Harm.....	35
Frequent Binge Drinking	35
Prescription Drug Misuse	35
Marijuana Use.....	35
Comparing the Perceptions of Risk of Harm.....	36
Mental Health	40
Complete Survey Results.....	41
Appendix A: Comments Provided by Respondents.....	65

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. North Dakota Human Service Regions 11

Figure 2. The Prevalence Rates for Self-Reported Alcohol Use Have Remained Stable Since 2016 15

Figure 3. Underage Young Adults Are Less Likely to Use Alcohol 17

Figure 4. Men and Women Had Similar Alcohol Use Except for Binge Drinking 18

Figure 5. Average Numbers of Drinks Has Held Steady Across Time 20

Figure 6. Older Young Adults Likely to Consume Higher Amounts of Alcohol on Average than Underage Adults 21

Figure 7. More Men Consumed Six or More Drinks on the Days They Drank Than Did Women..... 22

Figure 8. Actual Binge Drinking Prevalence Rates Do Not Match the Perceived Social Norms 24

Figure 9. Perception of Peer Disapproval for Frequent Binge Drinking Has Not Changed With Time, But There Are Significant Gender and Age Group Differences 25

Figure 10. Most Young Adults Thought Underage Alcohol Use Was a *Moderate* or *Serious Problem* in Their Community 27

Figure 11. More Than Two Out of Three Young Adults Thought Drinking by People 21 or Older Was a *Minor* or *Moderate Problem* in Their Community 28

Figure 12. Young Adults Reported Low and Steady Rates of Prescription Drug Misuse 29

Figure 13. Actual Misuse of Prescription Drugs Prevalence Rates Do Not Match the Perceived Social Norms About Prescription Drug Misuse 30

Figure 14. Two in Ten Young Adults Reported Using Marijuana Sometime in the Past Year and a Little More Than One in Ten Used in the Past Month 32

Figure 15. Young Adults Consistently Overestimated by a Large Margin How Much Their Peers Used Marijuana 33

Figure 16. Majority of Young Adults Supported Legalizing Possession of Small Amounts of Marijuana for Personal Use 34

Figure 17. Perception of Risk Varied Substantially From Substance to Substance..... 36

Figure 18. Seven in Ten Young Adults Acknowledged that Frequent Binge Drinking Has Moderate or Great Risk of Harm 37

Figure 19. Over Four in Five Young Adults Thought Misusing Prescription Drugs Had a Moderate or Great Risk of Harm 38

Figure 20. Three-Quarters of Young Adults Thought That Smoking Marijuana Once or Twice a Week Had No Risk or Slight Risk of Harm 39

Figure 21. One in Ten Young Adults Seriously Considered Suicide in the Past Year, and One in Fifty Said They Attempted Suicide..... 40

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Completed Surveys by Sample Frame—Statewide 12

Table 2. Key Demographics - Percent Age Statewide..... 13

Table 3. Key Demographics - Percent Gender Statewide..... 13

Table 4. Respondents’ regional distribution. 42

Table 5. Respondents’ gender distribution..... 42

Table 6. Lifetime alcohol use 43

Table 7. Past 30-day alcohol use (of those that used in their lifetime)..... 43

Table 8. Past 30-day alcohol use (all young adults) 43

Table 9. Past 30-day average number of alcoholic beverages consumed (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days) 44

Table 10. Past 30-day average number of alcoholic beverages consumed (all young adults)..... 44

Table 11. Past 30-day frequency of binge drinking (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days)..... 45

Table 12. Past 30-day frequency of binge drinking (all young adults)..... 45

Table 13. Past 30-day driven within 2 hours of drinking (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days)..... 46

Table 14. Past 30-day driving after having too much to drink (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days) 46

Table 15. Perception of peers’ binge drinking behavior 47

Table 16. Perception of risk of harm from binge drinking 47

Table 17. Perception of friends’ reaction to binge drinking 48

Table 18. Opinion on the problem of alcohol use by youth under the age of 21 48

Table 19. Opinion on the problem of alcohol use by adults 21 years or older 49

Table 20. Past 12-month prescription drug misuse 49

Table 21. Past 12-month frequency of prescription drug misuse (of those that misused prescription drugs in the past 12 months)..... 50

Table 22. Past 12-month frequency of prescription drug misuse (all young adults)..... 50

Table 23. Past 30-day frequency of prescription drug misuse (of those that misused prescription drugs in the past 12 months)..... 51

Table 24. Past 30-day frequency of prescription drug misuse (all young adults)..... 51

Table 25. Perception of peers’ use of prescription drugs to get high..... 52

Table 26. Perception of risk of harm from using prescription drugs to get high..... 52

Table 27. Perception of ease or difficulty of getting prescription drugs 53

Table 28. Past 12-month marijuana use..... 53

Table 29. Past 12-month frequency of marijuana use (of those that used marijuana in past 12-months) 54

Table 30. Past 12-month frequency of marijuana use (all young adults) 54

Table 31. Past 30-day frequency of marijuana use (of those that used marijuana in past 12-months) 55

Table 32. Past 30-day frequency of marijuana use (all young adults) 55

Table 33. Perception of peers’ use of marijuana 56

Table 34. Perception of risk of harm from smoking marijuana 56

Table 35. Perception of ease or difficulty of getting marijuana 57

Table 36. Support or oppose legalization of marijuana—personal use..... 57

Table 37. Past 12-month gambling events 58

Table 38. Past 12-month suicide contemplation 58

Table 39. Past 12-month suicide attempts (of those who seriously considered suicide in past 12 months) 59

Table 40. Past 12-month suicide attempts (all young adults) 60

Table 41. Race 60

Table 42. Hispanic or Latino..... 61

Table 43. Marital status 61

Table 44. Education level 62

Table 45. Employment status 63

Table 46. Living situation..... 63

Table 47. Sexual orientation..... 64

Survey of North Dakota Young Adults, 2020

The North Dakota (ND) Department of Human Service, Behavioral Health Division (BHD), contracted with the Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center (WYSAC) at the University of Wyoming to conduct the third iteration of the North Dakota Survey of Young Adults (NDSOYA). This survey was part of a larger project called the ND Partnerships for Success Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (ND PFS). The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded the PFS grant to BHD in 2015. As part of that project, the BHD was tasked with maintaining a data workgroup called the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW). Using some of the PFS funds designated to fund unique data collection for the SEOW, the BHD contracted with WYSAC to conduct the NDSOYA beginning in 2016, with subsequent survey administrations in 2018 and 2020. The survey's major topics included alcohol use, misuse of prescription drugs, marijuana use, and mental health concerns. It tracked trends and changes in these topics over time and served as a public health surveillance measure for young adults, ages 18 to 29.

Evidence suggests this population represents a particular point in the lifecycle that engages in risky behavior more often and to a greater degree than both younger and older age groups. For instance, the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2017-2018 results identified 18% of people in ND age 18 to 25 reported using an illegal drug sometime in the past month. This stands in contrast to other age groups in ND, where 6% of people age 12 to 17 and 7% of people age 26 or older reported that same behavior. This pattern of greater substance use and engagement in risk behavior by the young adult population suggested the need for ND specific information on this age group above and beyond what is available from other data sources like the NSDUH and the Core Institute survey for enrolled college students.

The NDSOYA was designed to be a reliable and scientifically valid survey of young adults in ND. It was specifically designed to gather information from the entire population of young adults in ND, which includes students in college or post-secondary school, along with those that are in the workforce, or unemployed. To the degree possible, we wanted to explore gender and age group differences as well. The age group differences differentiated people underage for consuming alcohol (Age 18 to 20) and comparing them to young adults who could legally purchase and use alcohol (Age 21 to 29).

Methods

This section describes the methods and pertinent overall survey statistics that apply to the 2020 NDSOYA. It includes a description of the questionnaire development, the mode of contact and data collection, the survey administration approach, the achieved response rates and consequent margins of error, and finally, a description of the analysis approach for this report. These descriptions are designed to allow the reader to understand how WYSAC approached the NDSOYA methodology and to provide information relevant to the 2020 NDSOYA's validity and reliability.

Questionnaire Development

The ND BHD and WYSAC jointly developed the NDSOYA questionnaire using similar surveys conducted in Wyoming and Oregon. Like ND, Oregon and Wyoming developed their versions of the survey as part of their Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grants (SPF SIG) and their SEOW data collection efforts. The young adult surveys for these two states served as the initial draft for the NDSOYA in 2016. WYSAC consulted with the ND SEOW to determine any additional topics for the ND version of the survey. Based on those discussions, WYSAC added survey questions regarding mental health and gambling.

The ND PFS data and evaluation team prioritized the potential survey questions based on that project's needs and the feedback WYSAC received from the ND SEOW membership. The survey was narrowed to the highest priority questions before being finalized and administered by WYSAC's Survey Research Center.

The questionnaire administered in 2020 replicates the 2016 and 2018 questionnaires, which allows for direct comparisons by year. The only question that changed was about support for legalizing medical marijuana. The data and evaluation team eliminated this question in 2018 because the ND voters approved Measure 5 in the 2016 election. This new law and its subsequent modifications by the ND Legislature legalized medical marijuana, and consequently, the survey team removed that question because it no longer applied.

Mode of Contact and Data Collection

To reach and identify the survey's target population of 18-to-29-year-old adults in ND required an efficient means of screening for eligible participants. A telephone interview is the most efficient way of doing this screening. Other scientifically valid survey data collection methods, such as paper-based surveys or in-person data collection, do not allow for the same efficient use

of resources. For instance, paper-based survey methods would require an initial sample size that would have been several orders of magnitude larger than the telephone sample. It also held little hope of getting many returned and valid surveys. Other survey modes, like posting web-based survey links on social media platforms, also had concerns about representativeness because they relied on convenience samples.

In the end, the survey team chose to administer the survey using a telephone interview. The first set of questions identified if the households had any eligible participants, and then if they met the target age group, asked them to participate.

Sampling Frame, Sample Design and Sample Size

WYSAC obtained the telephone sample, according to specifications described below. The population of interest for this survey was the young adult population, 18 to 29 years of age, in

ND. WYSAC employed a complex dual sampling frame. This method maximized screening efficiency and quickly removed ineligible phone numbers that belonged to individuals and households outside the target age range. This sampling method consisted of two sub-frames: RDD (random digit dialing) cellular frame and targeted landline frame. The landline frame included phone numbers of households that the sampling company believed, based on other data sources, had individuals in that age group living within them. These targeted sample lists came from the Marketing Systems Group, a company specializing in scientific sampling. They used their proprietary methods to identify possible households with people belonging to the desired age group.

Survey Facts

Start and End Dates

February 19, 2020 – August 8, 2020

Completed Surveys by Sample Frame

520 Total Surveys
 153 Targeted Landline (29.5%)
 367 RDD Cellular (70.5%)

Response Rates¹

Total Sample – 8.5%
 Targeted Landline – 7.0%
 RDD Cellular – 9.4%

Average Interview Length

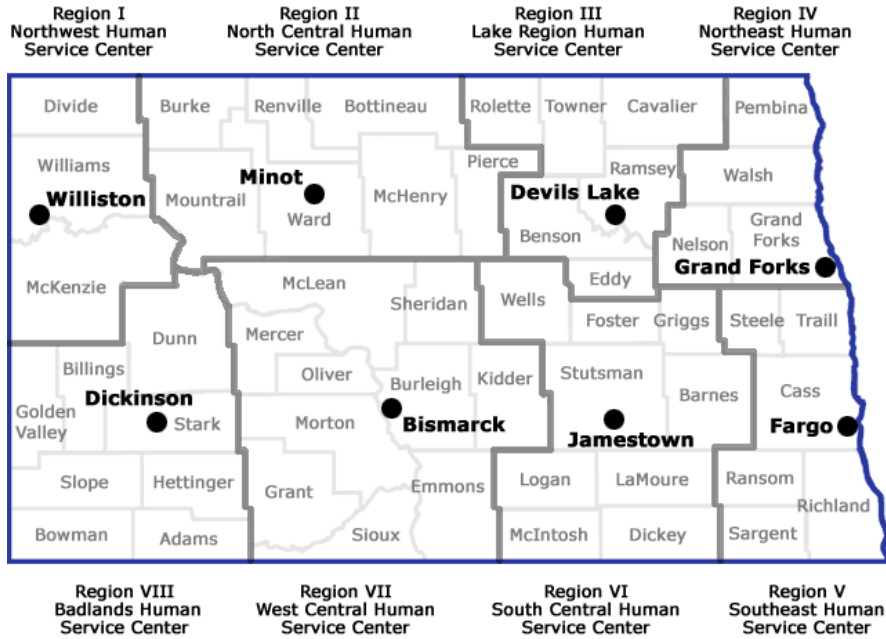
11 minutes 69 seconds

Margin of Error

Overall: ±4.4 Percentage Points at 95%
 Confidence

¹ WYSAC used American Association of Public Opinion Researchers (AAPOR) Response Rate 4 (RR4). This method included an estimate of what proportion of cases of unknown eligibility are actually eligible.

Figure 1. North Dakota Human Service Regions



Source: North Dakota Department of Human Services

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

To produce survey estimates for each of the eight ND Human Service Regions (see Figure 1), WYSAC disproportionately stratified the sample. This meant the researchers attempted to get an equal number of survey completions in each service region, regardless of each region’s relative weight in the state’s population. The project attempted to get a minimum of 50 completed surveys in each region, and approximately 1,000 completed surveys statewide. COVID-19 related complications in 2020 required changes to these specifications. The research team, with permission from BHD, reduced the statewide target for the completed surveys to 500 and eliminated the regional targets. The result was that the research team successfully produced state-level results for all three survey years—2016, 2018, and 2020. However, regional results were only available for the first two survey administrations, 2016 and 2018.

Survey Administration

The survey instrument was programmed for WYSAC’s computer-assisted telephone interview system (WINCATI), tested for programming errors, and made available to interviewers for training and practice. In 2020, 79 interviewers were trained and worked on this survey. Most of them had worked on similar surveys before.

The data collection period ran from February 19 to August 8, 2020. WYSAC conducted the interviews Mondays through Thursdays from 5 pm to 9 pm, Friday and Saturday afternoons, and Sundays from 5 pm to 9 pm per respondent time. The interviewers called the telephone numbers up to 12 times, depending upon the previous attempts’ results. The interviewers stopped calling a phone number if they completed a survey. Additionally, they stopped calling when they encountered an irate or firm refusal or an otherwise not eligible number. Experienced interviewers trained specifically on refusal avoidance and refusal conversion, called soft-refusals, to try to get them to participate.

An indication of the effort involved in telephone survey data collection is the total number of times phone numbers were called to produce the final number of completed surveys. To reach the final survey dataset in 2020, it required 227,533 phone calls from a pool of 47,358 unique telephone numbers in the samples.

Response Rates and Margins of Error

The 2020 NDSOYA obtained 520 surveys for an overall response rate of 8.5%¹. Of all completions, 70.5% were completed on a cell phone. The number of completions and response rates by sample frame are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Completed Surveys by Sample Frame—Statewide

	RDD Cellular Frame	Targeted Landline Frame
Number of completions	367	153
Percent of all responses	70.5%	29.5%
Response rate	9.4%	7.0%

Note: RDD =Random Digit Dialing

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Data Compilation and Analysis

The survey research team exported the data from WINCATI to SPSS (Version 26.0) for data cleaning, checking, and analysis. First, the researchers checked the dataset for consistency, looked for any missing data, and confirmed the appropriate skip patterns. This was followed by creating analysis weights that accounted for the disproportionate stratified sample design. To do this, the research team created analysis weights that adjusted for each region’s population

¹ American Association of Public Opinion Polls (AAPOR) Response Rate 4 (RR4) formula is used to calculate response rates; it includes an estimate of what proportion of cases of unknown eligibility are actually eligible, and includes partial interviews as completes. See [https://www.aapor.org/Standards-Ethics/Standard-Definitions-\(1\).aspx](https://www.aapor.org/Standards-Ethics/Standard-Definitions-(1).aspx)

size. This brought the final survey sample in line with each region’s true weight relative to the state’s population.

The weights were further adjusted to account for the population distributions of two key demographic characteristics, gender (female and male) and age (ages 18-24 and ages 25-29). In total, the final sample weights helped the final sample distribution to more closely align with the population characteristic of the state as a whole, both geographically and for the two key demographic variables--gender and age group. Tables 2 and 3 present the distributions of the demographics before and after the weighting.

Table 2. Key Demographics - Percent Age Statewide

Age Category	Unweighted Sample Percentage	Population Percentage	Weighted Sample Percentage
18 - 24	62.1%	58.0%	57.9%
25 - 29	37.9%	42.0%	42.1%

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Table 3. Key Demographics - Percent Gender Statewide

Gender	Unweighted Sample Percentage	Population Percentage	Weighted Sample Percentage
Male	56.5%	53.9%	53.3%
Female	43.5%	46.1%	46.7%

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Where appropriate, the research analysis team grouped some of the continuous variables—such as the number of days in the past month that the respondent consumed alcohol--into sensible and meaningful categories. Additionally, for variables affected by skip patterns, WYSAC, where appropriate, filled in the responses based on the respondent answers to the previous questions in the skip order.

For the analysis, WYSAC produced frequency tables of all questions separated by years. We followed this with cross-tabulations of the survey questions against the gender categories (male, female) and the age groups (Age 18-20, Age 21-29). Relationships between the question

frequencies and these categorical variables were tested using the Pearson chi-square tests of independence. Significant Chi-square tests (i.e., tests associated with p-values < 0.05) were further investigated using post-hoc difference of proportions tests with Bonferroni corrections for multiple comparisons. These additional pairwise comparisons identified the year, gender, or age-group differences that might be considered meaningfully distinct.

Key Findings

In this section, we present key findings from the 2016, 2018, and 2020 surveys. We used Pearson chi-square tests of independence to measure the presence of statistically significant differences in statewide responses across years (2016, 2018, and 2020). Statistical significance is noted in all cases, where established.

Using 2020 data, we point to differences by gender and age group (18 to 20 and 21 to 29-year-olds) when they were statistically significant. Pearson chi-square tests were used to measure the presence of statistically significant differences across gender and age group (18 to 20 and 21 to 29-year-olds).

Alcohol use

The NDSOYA measured three types of alcohol use: lifetime use, 30-day use, and binge drinking. Note that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention define binge drinking as consuming five more drinks on a single occasion within two hours of each other. The definition of these

three measures are:

“Binge drinking is defined as a pattern of drinking that brings a person’s blood alcohol concentration (BAC) to 0.08 g/dl or above. This typically happens when men consume 5 or more drinks or women consume 4 or more drinks in about 2 hours.”

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention -- <https://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/binge-drinking.htm>

- Lifetime use— The percentage of young adults reporting having consumed alcohol sometime in their life.
- 30-day or current use— The percentage of young adults reporting they consumed alcohol on one or more days during the past month.
- Binge Drink— The percentage of young adults reporting they binge drank on one or more days during the past month. For this survey, WYSAC defined binge drinking as consuming five or more drinks in a row on a single occasion.

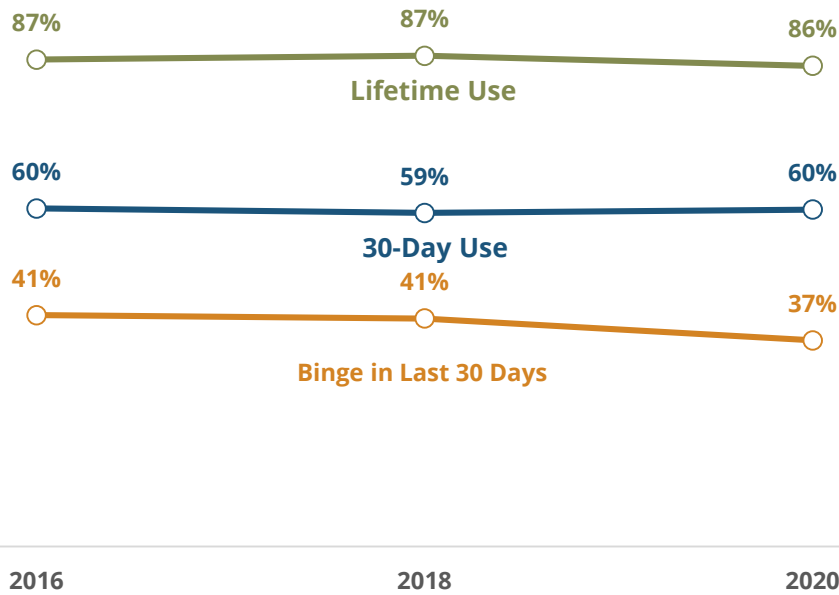
Figure 2 presents the prevalence rates for the three survey years on these three alcohol consumption

measures. For the three survey years, the prevalence rates have remained stable. We found no significant differences between years for all three measures. Consistently across years, about seven out of eight ND young adults reported they consumed alcohol sometime in their lifetime. In 2020, the *lifetime alcohol use* prevalence rate was 86%.

Three out of five young adults reported that they consumed alcohol on one or more days in the past 30-days before participating in the survey. This rate has remained stable across all three NDSOYA administrations. In 2020, 60% of young adults reported consuming an alcoholic beverage sometime in the past 30 days.

Figure 2. The Prevalence Rates for Self-Reported Alcohol Use Have Remained Stable Since 2016

About three in five young adults reported consuming alcohol sometime in the past thirty days, and approximately two in five reported one or more days of binge drinking.



Note: Lifetime use is consuming alcohol sometime in the respondents’ lifetimes. Thirty-day use is defined as having consumed alcohol on one or more days in the past 30-days before the survey. Binge drinking is defined as reporting having consumed five or more drinks on an occasion. The n for 2016, 2018, and 2020 surveys are 1026, 1008, and 519, respectively.

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

This survey defined binge drinking as having consumed five or more drinks on an occasion or in a row. Figure 2 presents the percentage of young adults who reported binge drinking on one or more days during the past 30-days. Approximately two out of five ND young adults reported binge drinking, and there was no statistically significant difference observed from year to year. In 2020, 37% of young adults in North Dakota reported this type of alcohol consumption.

For this survey, binge drinking was defined as consuming five or more drinks on an occasion or in a row.

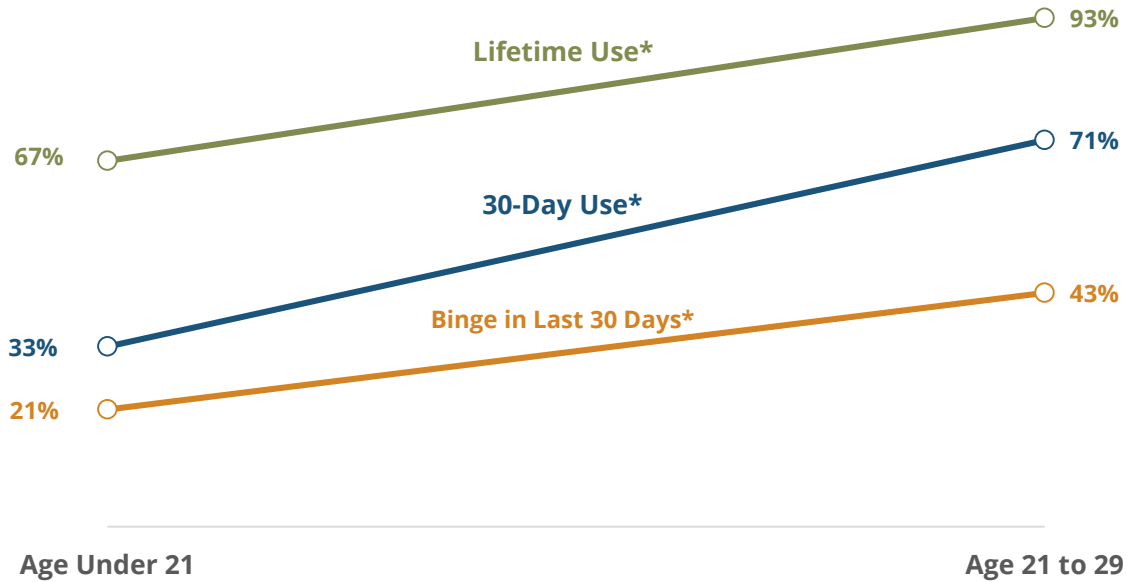
There were statistically significant differences in alcohol consumption prevalence rates between young adults who consume alcohol legally (Age 21 to 29) and underage young adults (Age 18 to 20). Figure 3 presents these differences. In 2020, more than 9 out of 10 young adults who were age 21 to 29 reported they consumed alcohol sometime in their lifetime. This contrasts with underage respondents, where a little less than 7 out of 10 reported the same.

A similar pattern of significantly higher rates for legal adults versus lower rates for underage adults was seen for both past 30-day use and binge drinking in the last 30-days. One-third of underage young adults reported drinking in the past 30 days, while more than double that rate (71%) was reported by the older respondents (Age 21 to 29). About one-fifth of underage young adults (21%) reported binge drinking sometime in the past 30 days, and this measure doubled to a little more than two-fifths of legally aged young adults (43%).

The only measure that saw significant gender difference was binge drinking. As can be seen in Figure 4, 41% of men indicated they binge drank sometime in the last 30-days, while only 32% of the women reported the same. The gender differences for lifetime and past 30-day alcohol use were not significantly different in this population.

Figure 3. Underage Young Adults Are Less Likely to Use Alcohol

Across all three alcohol-use measures, young adults who were less than age 21 were significantly less likely to have consumed alcohol than the older age group.



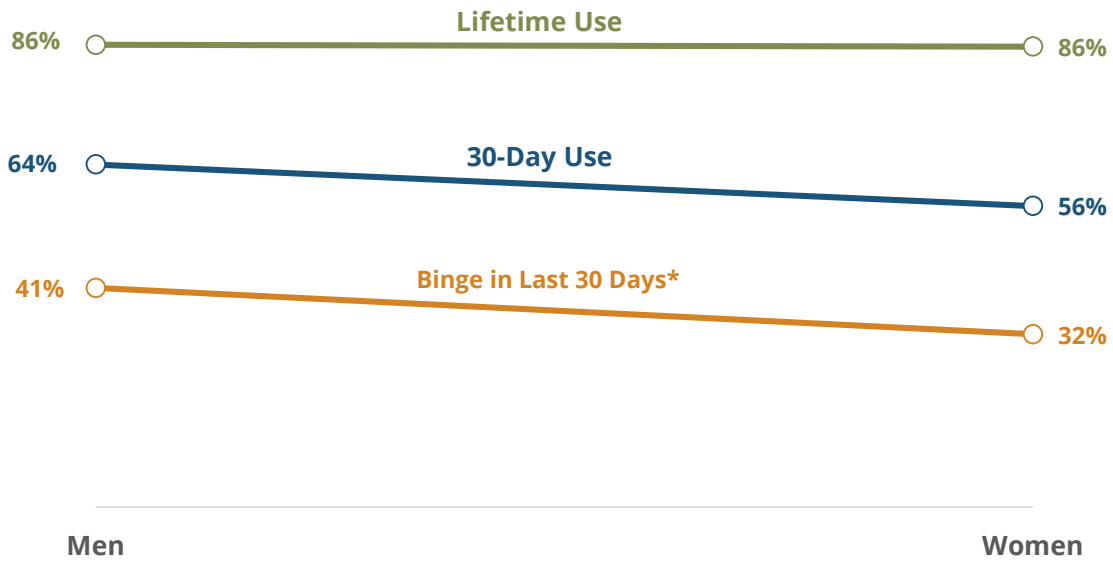
Note: Lifetime use is consuming alcohol sometime in the respondents' lifetimes. Thirty-day use is defined as having consumed alcohol on one or more days in the past 30-days before the survey. Binge drinking is defined as reporting having consumed five or more drinks in an occasion. The n for underage (Age 18 to 20) and older young adults (Age 21 to 29) respondents are 158 and 360, respectively. * Statistically significant based on a difference of proportions test with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Figure 4. Men and Women Had Similar Alcohol Use Except for Binge Drinking

Women were significantly less likely to report that they binge drank in the past 30-days compared to men. There were no significant differences between men and women for the other two alcohol use measures.



Note: Lifetime use is consuming alcohol sometime in the respondents' lifetimes. Thirty-day use is having consumed alcohol on one or more days in the past 30-days before the survey. Binge drinking percentage is consuming five or more drinks in an occasion on one or more days of the past month. The n for men and women are 294 and 225, respectively. * Statistically significant based on a difference of proportions test with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

AVERAGE NUMBER OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONSUMED

Another measure to describe drinking behavior used in the survey was the average number of alcoholic beverages people reported consuming on the days that they drank. This survey question was asked only of those people who reported consuming alcohol sometime in the past 30 days. However, for this analysis, the survey team recoded the data by deducing that young adults who were not current drinkers (i.e., did not drink in the past 30 days) consumed zero drinks on average. This question's analysis was performed on this recoded variable, and it represented all young adults in North Dakota.

Figure 5 presents the percentage of young adults who reported different amounts of alcohol consumption on the days they drank. The data is categorized as *zero drinks*, including those that reported they did not consume alcohol in the past 30 days, *one to two drinks*, *three to five drinks*, and *six or more drinks*.

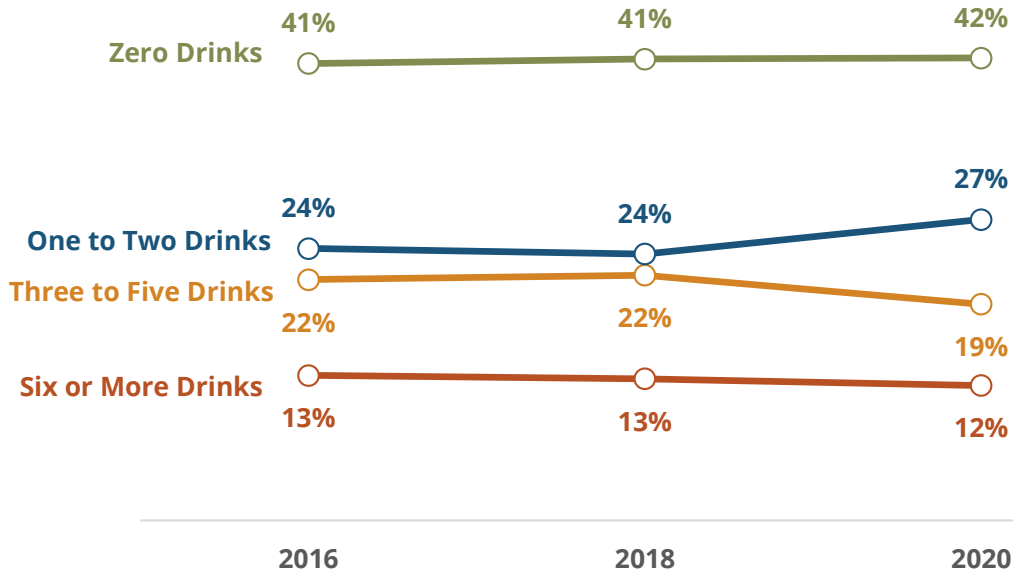
In 2020, about two out of five young adults (42%) reported that they consumed *zero drinks* on average. This was the most commonly endorsed response choice. This was followed by 27% reporting consuming *one to two*, 19% reporting *three to five drinks*, and 12% reporting *six or more drinks*. When the analysis compared year-to-year changes in these categories, we found no significant differences between the survey years. Generally, this pattern of drinking has remained stable over time.

On this same measure, we found significant age group and gender differences. Respondents aged 18 to 20 were much more likely to consume zero drinks on average than the older age group (see Figure 6). Seven in ten young adults in the underage group reported this as their answer, whereas 31% of the older age group reported zero drinks. Generally, there was a clear pattern that the older age group consumed more drinks on average on the days that they drank than the younger age group.

The gender differences, though statistically significant, were more nuanced (see Figure 7). As a first impression, there does seem to be notable variation between the two genders, however after performing the pairwise post-hoc difference in proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction, the only response group that achieved statistical significance was six or more drinks. In particular, 18% of the young adult men reported consuming this large amount of alcohol on the days they drank, while only 5% of the women did the same. The other less extreme consumption categories were not statistically different between the genders.

Figure 5. Average Numbers of Drinks Has Held Steady Across Time

Respondents were asked about the average number of drinks they consumed on the days they drank in the past 30-days. People who did not consume alcohol were considered to have consumed zero drinks on average. Across all the different average drink grouping, the percentages did not significantly change across time.



Note: Respondents were asked, “During the past 30 days, on the days when you drank, about how many alcoholic beverages did you drink on the average?” Respondents who did not drink in the last 30-days were considered to have consumed zero drinks. The n for 2016, 2018, and 2020 surveys are 1006, 993, and 507, respectively. Based on pairwise year comparisons, no significant differences were found in the average drink categories using a difference of proportions test with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons.

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Figure 6. Older Young Adults Likely to Consume Higher Amounts of Alcohol on Average than Underage Adults

Greater proportions of older young adults who could legally purchase alcohol (Age 21 to 29) tended to consume more alcohol on the days they drank than underage adults. This was largely driven by the fact that more of the older young adults were consuming alcohol in the past month.



Note: Respondents were asked, “During the past 30 days, on the days when you drank, about how many alcoholic beverages did you drink on the average?” Respondents who did not drink in the last 30-days were considered to have consumed zero drinks. The n for underage (Age 18 to 20) and older young adults (Age 21 to 29) are 153 and 354, respectively. * Statistically significant based on a difference of proportions test with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Figure 7. More Men Consumed Six or More Drinks on the Days They Drank Than Did Women

Women and men had similar drinking patterns on the days they drank, except for the consumption category of six or more drinks. Significantly more men said they, on average, consumed this large amount of alcohol than did women.



Note: Respondents were asked, “During the past 30 days, on the days when you drank, about how many alcoholic beverages did you drink on the average?” Respondents who did not drink in the last 30-days were considered to have consumed zero drinks. The n for men and women respondents are 287 and 220, respectively. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Binge Drinking Social Norms

When designing the NDSOYA questionnaire, the DHS wanted to understand the difference between how much people actually consume and how much they think their peers and the people around them consumed. This perception of other people’s consumption represents a social norm around drinking.

To measure the difference between the actual use and the social norm, we created a pair of similarly worded questions. We started with the wording for measuring the respondents’ actual binge drinking during the last 30-days. Using that question as the base, we altered the wording

for the social norms question. We removed the reference to the respondent (“...on how many days during the past 30 days did you...”) and substituted a phrase referencing what they thought most people their age did (“...on how many days do you think most people your age”). Together these questions can be compared --- how often people say they binge drink versus how often they think most people their age binge drank.

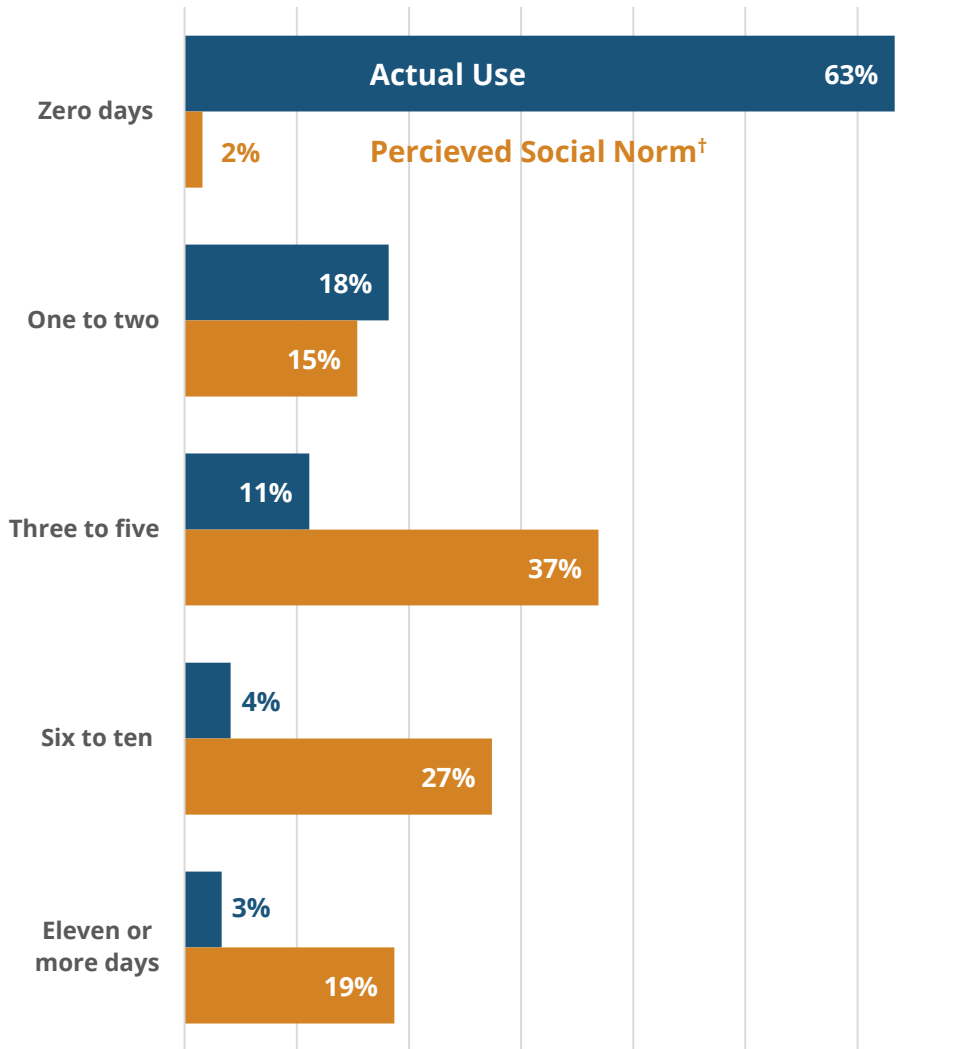
Figure 8 presents the results of this comparison. It is clear that there is a significant discrepancy between the actual reported amounts of binge drinking and the perceived social norm. Only around 2% of young adults believed that most people their age had *zero days* on which they binge drank over the past 30 days. In contrast, 63% of all young adults aged 18 to 29 reported having that behavior. When examining the *eleven or more days* category of binge drinking, around 19% believe this to be true for most people their age, while only 3% of all young adults reported such behavior.

In addition to the explicit social norms questions described above, the survey also asked the young adult respondents how they thought their friends would react to their consumption of five or more alcoholic beverages in a row, once or twice a week. In other words, how they thought their friends would react to them if they frequently binge drank. Figure 9 presents the findings regarding changes over time and demographic differences on this measure. Overall in 2020, 48% of the young adults believed their friends would view their engaging in frequent binge drinking as *very*, or *somewhat wrong*. There were no significant year-to-year changes in those percentages.

There were, however, significant age group and gender differences. In 2020, more people aged 18 to 20 believed their friends would think their binge drinking behavior to be *very wrong*, or *somewhat wrong* compared to the older age group (Age 18 to 20 = 60%; Age 21 to 29 = 44%). Accordingly, significantly more men than women believed their friends would think frequent binge drinking would be *not at all wrong* or a *little bit wrong* (Males = 58%, Females = 44%).

Figure 8. Actual Binge Drinking Prevalence Rates Do Not Match the Perceived Social Norms

When respondents were asked a similar pair of questions about how frequently they binge drink and how frequently they thought most people their age binge drink, respondents systematically overestimated how often they thought most people engaged in that behavior.



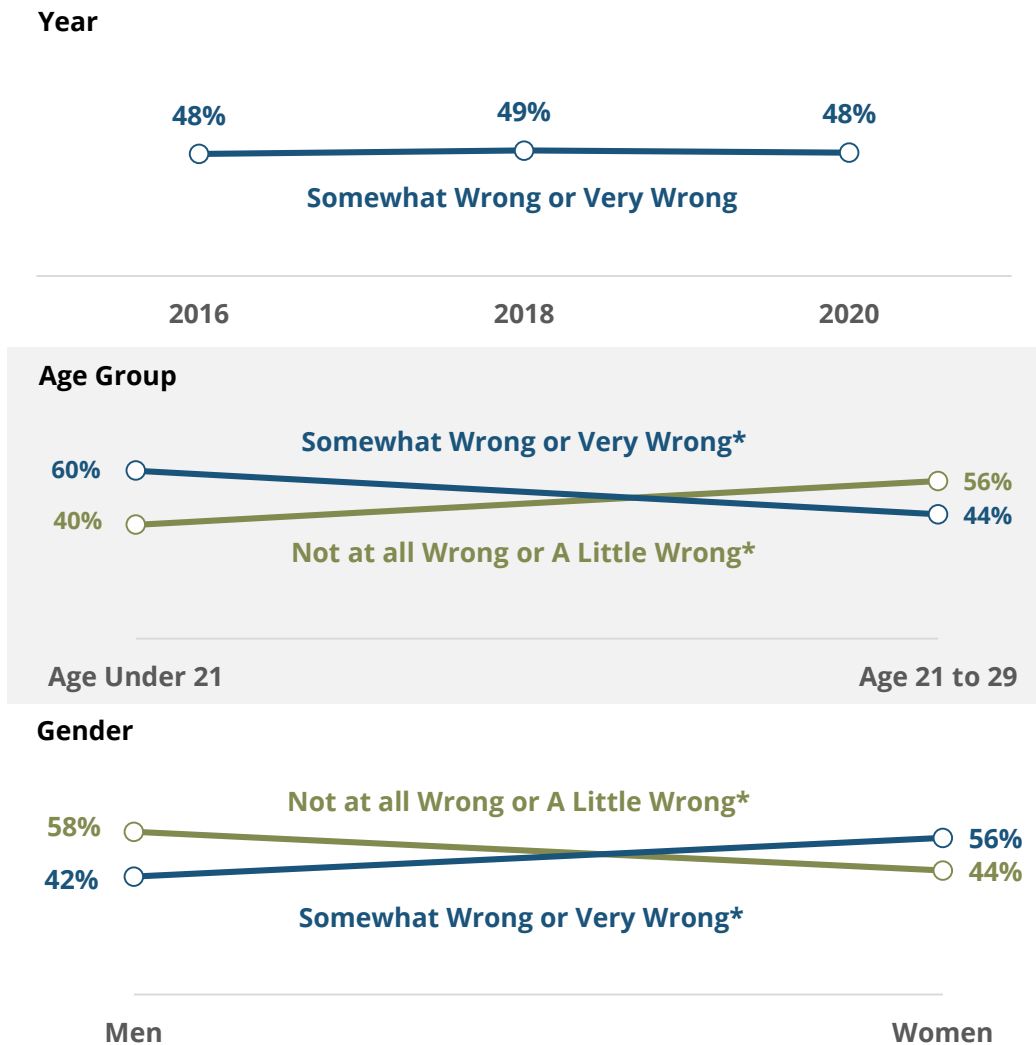
Note: Actual use came from the binge drinking prevalence survey item (n=517). The perceived social norms question was asked similarly, but asked about binge drinking days by most people. Binge drinking was defined as consuming five or more drinks on an occasion. †Perceived social norms percentages are of those that provided a valid response (n=423). A substantial portion of the respondents (18.7%, n = 97) did not provide a valid response to the social norms question; instead, they indicated they did not know or refused to answer.

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Figure 9. Perception of Peer Disapproval for Frequent Binge Drinking Has Not Changed With Time, But There Are Significant Gender and Age Group Differences

When asked how wrong their friends feel it would be for them to binge drink once or twice a week, the percentage who said it was Somewhat Wrong or Very Wrong stayed the same across all the survey years. Greater percentages of underage respondents (Age 18 to 20) and women said they would experience the higher levels of disapproval from their peers as compared to the older age group (Age 21 to 29) and men respectively.



Note: The survey asked, “How wrong or not wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to have five or more alcoholic beverages in a row, once or twice a week?” The n counts for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1018, 986, and 513. Age and gender comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for age group (Age < 21, Age 21-29) were 157 and 356. The n for men and women respondents were 290 and 223, respectively. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

Perceptions of Drinking as a Community Problem

The survey asked respondents for their opinion on how much of a problem underage drinking and alcohol use by adults of legal drinking age was in their community. Respondents had the choice of responding if each of these behaviors were *not a problem*, a *minor problem*, a *moderate problem*, or a *serious problem*.

First, we looked at how much **underage drinking** was considered to be a community problem (see Figure 10). We found that 60% of the young adults in 2020 thought underage drinking was a *moderate* or *serious* problem. The distribution for these two categories remained stable from 2016 to 2018. However, comparing 2020 to 2018, we found some significant shifts on the ends of the scale. The percentage saying that underage alcohol use was *not a problem* went from 7% in 2018 to 11% in 2020, a statistically significant change. On the other side of the scale, the percentage reporting that underage drinking was a *serious problem* went from 26% in 2018 to 19% in 2020, again a statistically significant difference.

We found significant gender differences in 2020 about how much they viewed underage drinking as a problem. Women more often felt that underage alcohol use was a problem in their community. In particular, 72% of the women thought underage drinking was a *moderate* or *serious problem*, while only 50% of men felt the same way.

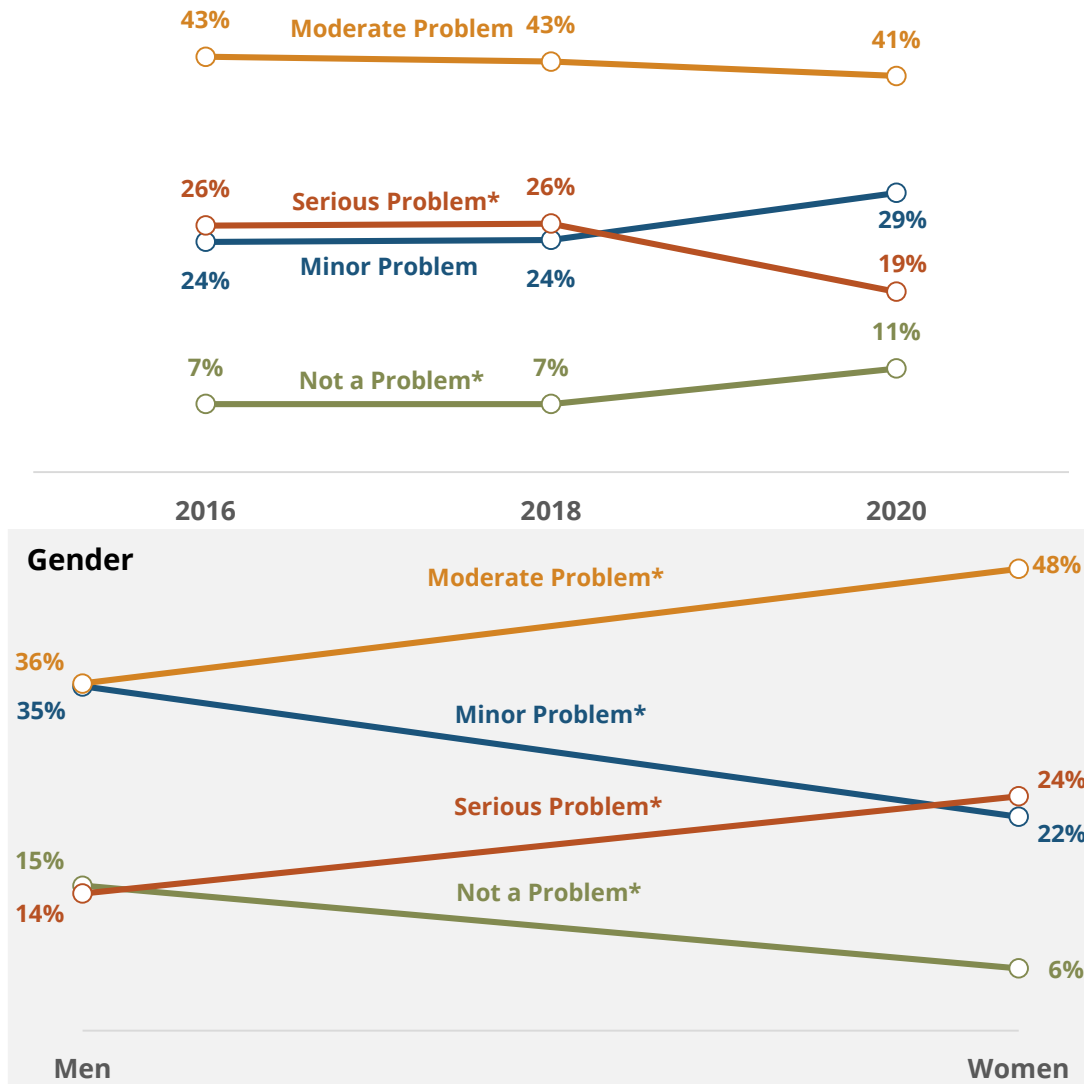
Second, the survey asked about how much of a problem **legal drinking** is in the community by people 21 years old or older (see Figure 11). Around 17% of young adults believed that adults' alcohol use was a *serious problem* in their community. We found some significant year-to-year variation within *minor* and *moderate problem* categories. However, they did not represent any clear pattern of change. The other two answer choices—*not a problem* and *serious problem*—remained stable across all the years.

The perceptions of alcohol use by adults as community problem varied significantly by gender. More women than men believed this to be a *serious problem* in their community (24% vs. 11%). Conversely, significantly more men than women believed this to be *not a problem* in their community (18% vs. 9%).

The differences observed by age group regarding perceptions of alcohol use as a community problem by adults of legal drinking age were not statistically significant.

Figure 10. Most Young Adults Thought Underage Alcohol Use Was a *Moderate* or *Serious Problem* in Their Community

There have been significant changes across time that suggest fewer young adults thought underage alcohol use in their communities was a serious problem in 2020 compared to 2018. More women viewed underage drinking as a moderate or serious a problem in their communities than did men.

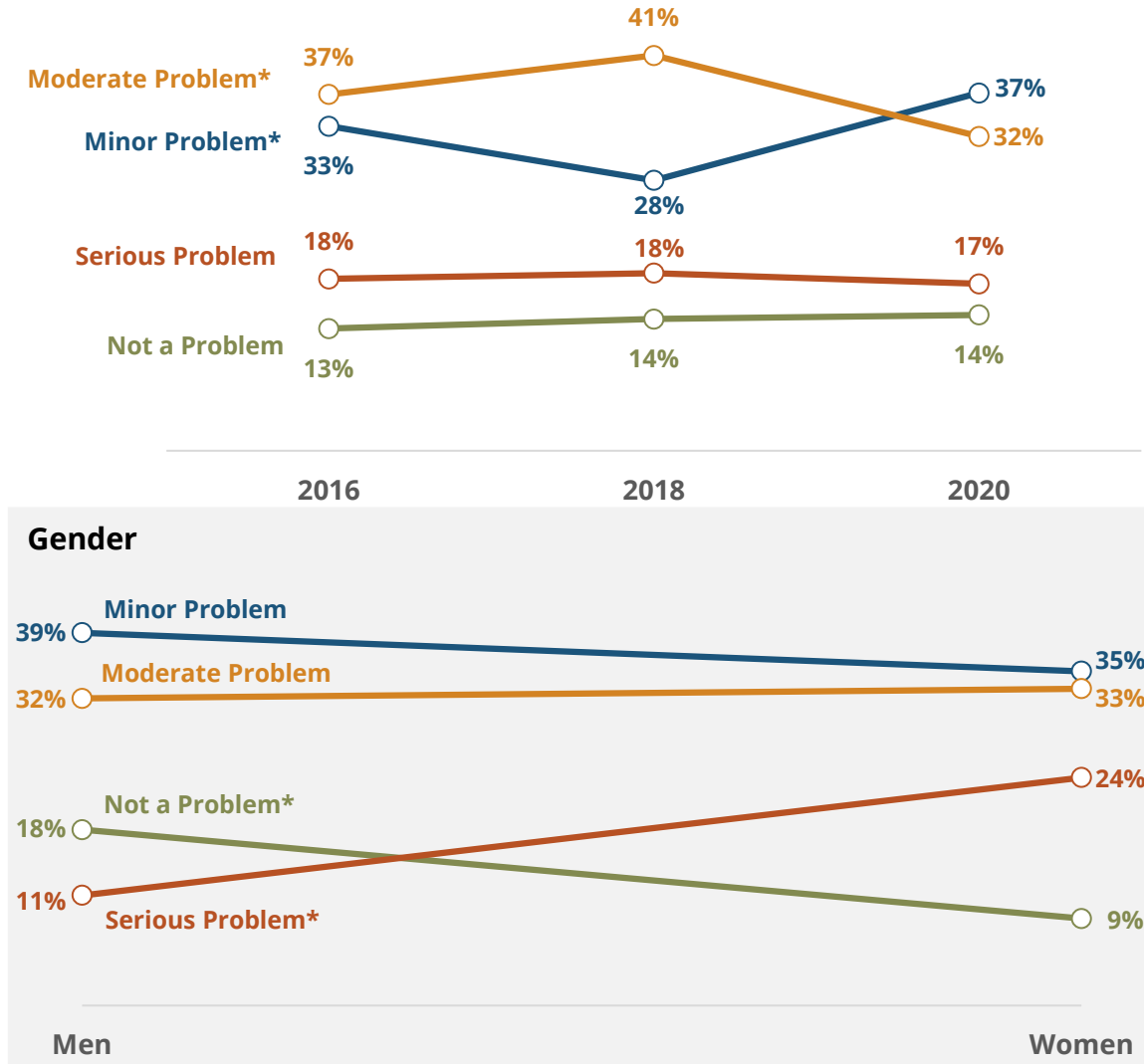


Note: Respondents were asked, "In your opinion how much of a problem is the use of alcohol in your community by youth under the age of 21?" The n counts for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 987, 968, and 503. Age and gender comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for gender (men, women) were 281 and 222. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

Figure 11. More Than Two Out of Three Young Adults Thought Drinking by People 21 or Older Was a *Minor or Moderate Problem* in Their Community

Significant gender differences occurred on the extreme ends of the scale. More women respondents thought legal alcohol use was a serious problem, but more men thought it was not a problem.



Note: Respondents were asked, “In your opinion how much of a problem is the use of alcohol in your community by adults who are 21 years old or older?” The n counts for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1015, 999, and 513. Gender comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for gender (men, women) were 290 and 223. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

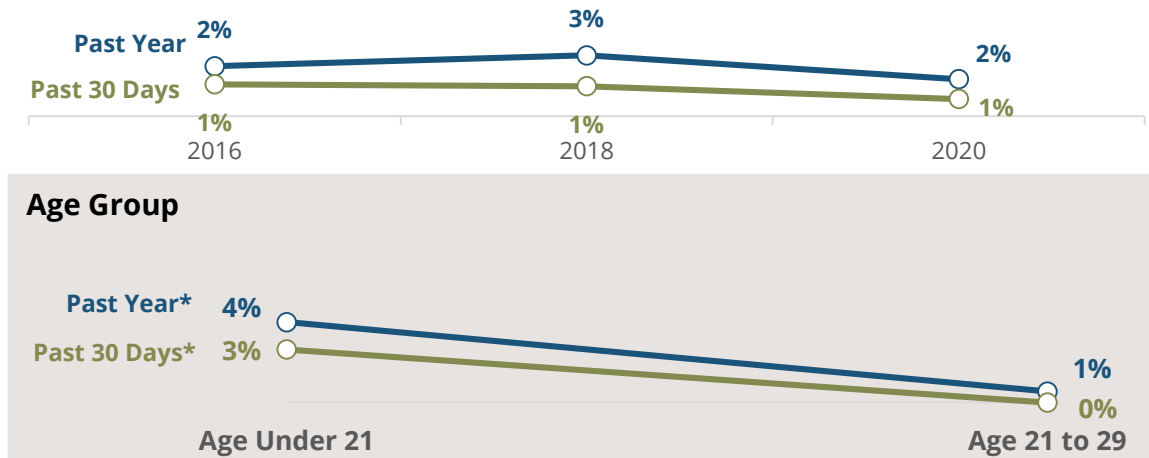
WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Prescription Drug Misuse

In 2020, just about 2% of young adults indicated that they had used prescription medicine to get high or used them without a prescription in the past 12 months. One percent reported the same kind of use in the past 30 days. These findings remained almost unchanged from the reported misuse in 2016 and 2018 (see Figure 12). The differences observed year-to-year were found not to be statistically significant.

Figure 12. Young Adults Reported Low and Steady Rates of Prescription Drug Misuse

Prescription drug misuse has remained an infrequently reported behavior since 2016. There were significant age group differences. A significantly greater proportion of the younger age group (Age 18 to 20) reported misusing prescription drugs than the older age group (Age 21 to 29).



Note: Respondents were asked two questions, “During the past 12 months, have you used prescription drugs to get high or used them without a prescription?” and “During the past 30 days, on how many DAYS did you use prescription drugs to get high or use them without a prescription?” Respondents who did not use prescription drugs in the past 12 months were considered as using zero days in the past 30 days. The n for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1026, 1009, and 520, respectively. Age group comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for age group (Age 18 to 20, and Age 21 to 29) were 158 and 363. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

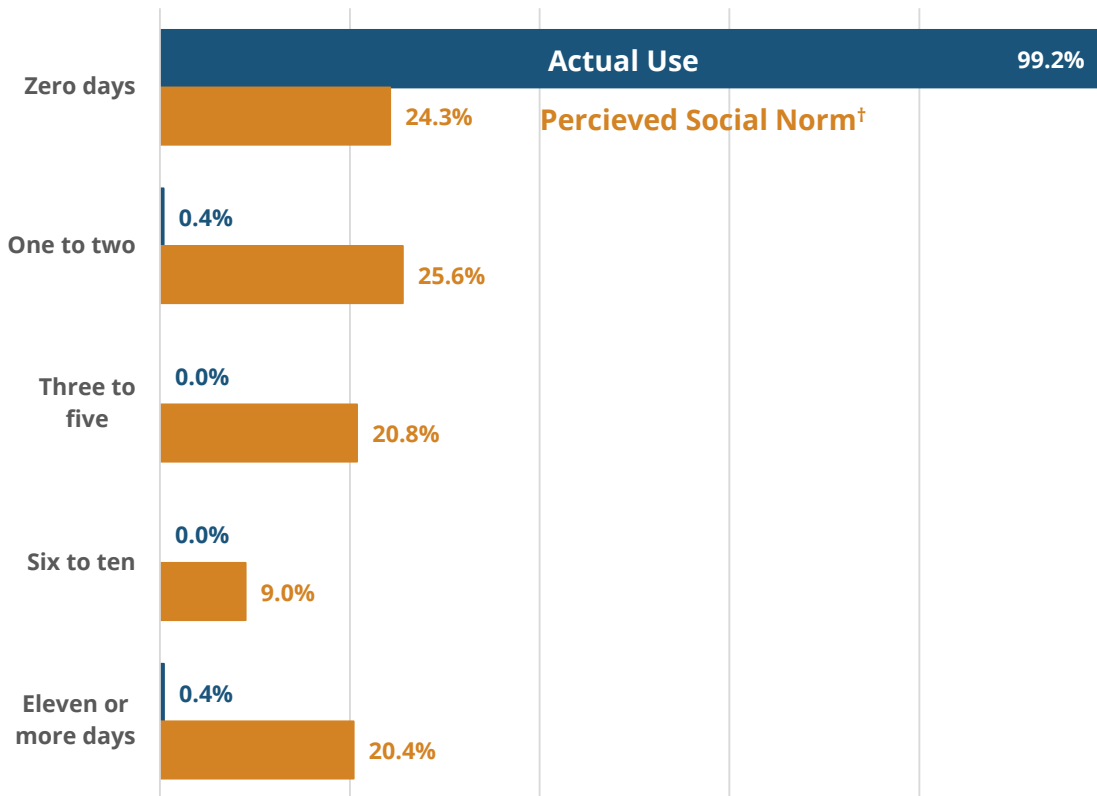
Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

There were some small but significant age group differences. Four percent of the younger age group (Age 18 to 20) reported misusing prescription drugs in the past 12 months, and 3% of them reported doing so in the past 30 days. This stands in contrast with the older age group, where 1% of them misused prescription drugs in the last year, and none reported doing so in the past month.

Figure 13. Actual Misuse of Prescription Drugs Prevalence Rates Do Not Match the Perceived Social Norms About Prescription Drug Misuse

When respondents were asked a similar pair of questions about how frequently they misused prescription drugs in the past thirty days and how frequently they thought most people their age did so, respondents systematically overestimated how often they thought most people engage in that behavior.



Note: Actual use came from the survey item asking about the misuse of prescription drugs in the past 30 days (n=520). Perceived social norms question was asked similarly but changed the focus to what the respondents thought most people their age did. Prescription drug misuse was defined as using prescription drugs to get high or using them without a prescription. [†]Perceived social norms percentages are of those that provided a valid response (n=370). A substantial portion of the respondents (29%, n = 150) did not provide a valid response to the social norms question; instead, they indicated they did not know or refused to answer.

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Prescription Drug Misuse Social Norms

As was done for binge drinking, we designed a pair of survey questions to examine the difference between prescription drugs' actual misuse and the perceived frequency with which they are misused by people the respondents' age. Figure 13 makes those comparisons. Nearly all the young adults (99%) in the survey reported that they did not misuse prescription drugs by either taking them to get high or using them without a prescription. However, when they were asked how much they thought most people their age misused prescription drugs, only about a quarter of the young adults thought that most people did not misuse prescription drugs. It must be noted, the social norms percentages in Figure 13 represent only those respondents who felt they could provide an answer. For this question, a substantial portion of the respondents (29%) said they were unsure or did not know how to answer it. Even with this restriction on the data, it is still clear that many young adults extremely overestimated how much their peers misuse prescription drugs.

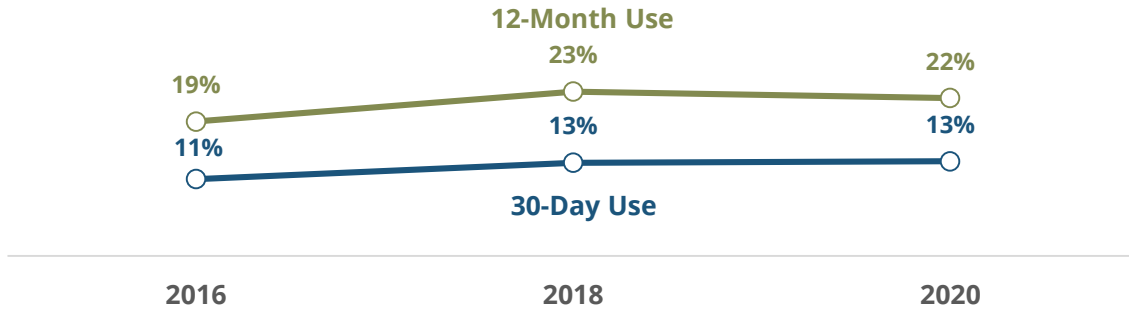
Marijuana Use

Figure 14 presents the percentage of young adults who reported using marijuana sometime in the past year and in the past 30 days before the survey. In 2020, roughly two in ten (22%) young adults reported having used marijuana in the past year, and about half that number (13%) of young adults reporting using marijuana in the past month. These prevalence rates have remained relatively stable across all three survey administrations. There were no statistically significant differences in the year-to-year changes.

For both measures of marijuana use, the analysis found no significant age group and gender differences.

Figure 14. Two in Ten Young Adults Reported Using Marijuana Sometime in the Past Year and a Little More Than One in Ten Used in the Past Month

Across the survey years, there was not any significant change in the reported marijuana use measures. They have remained stable across all three survey years.



Note: Respondents were asked two questions to measure marijuana use prevalence, “Have you used marijuana in the past 12 months?” and “During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use marijuana?” Respondents who did not use marijuana drugs in the past 12 months were considered as using zero days in the past 30 days. The n for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1024, 1006, and 518, respectively.

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

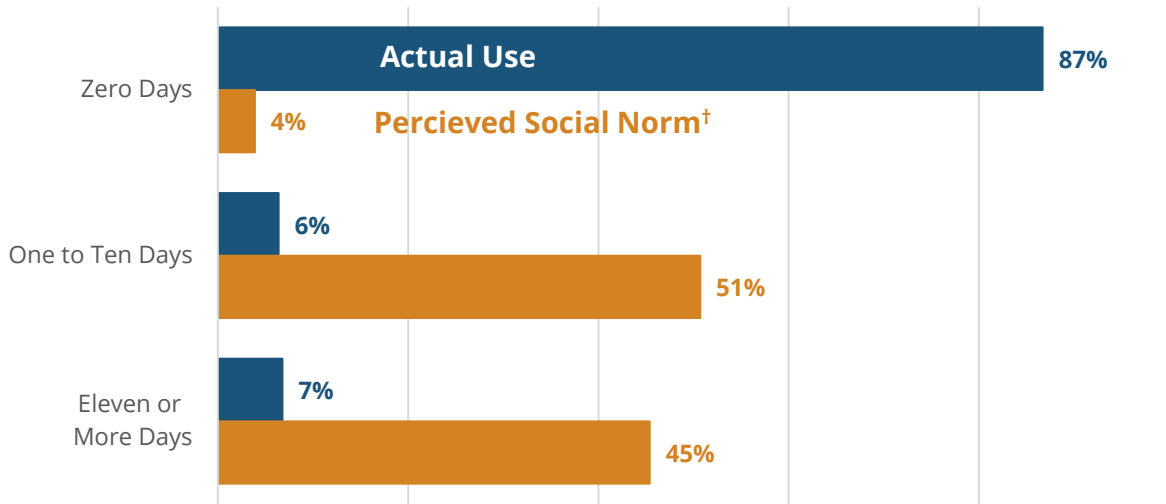
WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Marijuana Use Social Norms

The last social norms comparison in the survey was for marijuana use. Figure 15 compares the reported frequency of marijuana use during the past 30 days to perceived use by most people of the respondents’ age. As can be seen, young adults overestimated this kind of behavior on the part of their peers. While 87% of the young adults reported using marijuana on zero days over the past 30 days, only 4% of young adults believed that their peers had zero days of marijuana use in the past 30 days. A majority (51%) thought their peers had used marijuana on one to ten days in the past 30 days, while the actual reported use of marijuana by young adults at that rate was only 6%.

Figure 15. Young Adults Consistently Overestimated by a Large Margin How Much Their Peers Used Marijuana

When respondents were asked a similar pair of questions about how frequently they used marijuana in the past 30 days and how frequently they think most people their age did so, only 4% of the respondents thought most of their peers were abstinent. However, 87% of young adults abstained.



Note: Actual use came from the survey item asking about using marijuana during the 30 days before answering the survey (n=520). The perceived social norms question was asked similarly but changed the focus to what they thought most people their age did. †Perceived social norms percentages are of those that provided a valid response (n=451). A substantial portion of the respondents (13%, n = 69) did not provide a valid response to the social norms question; instead, they indicated they did not know or refused to answer.

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

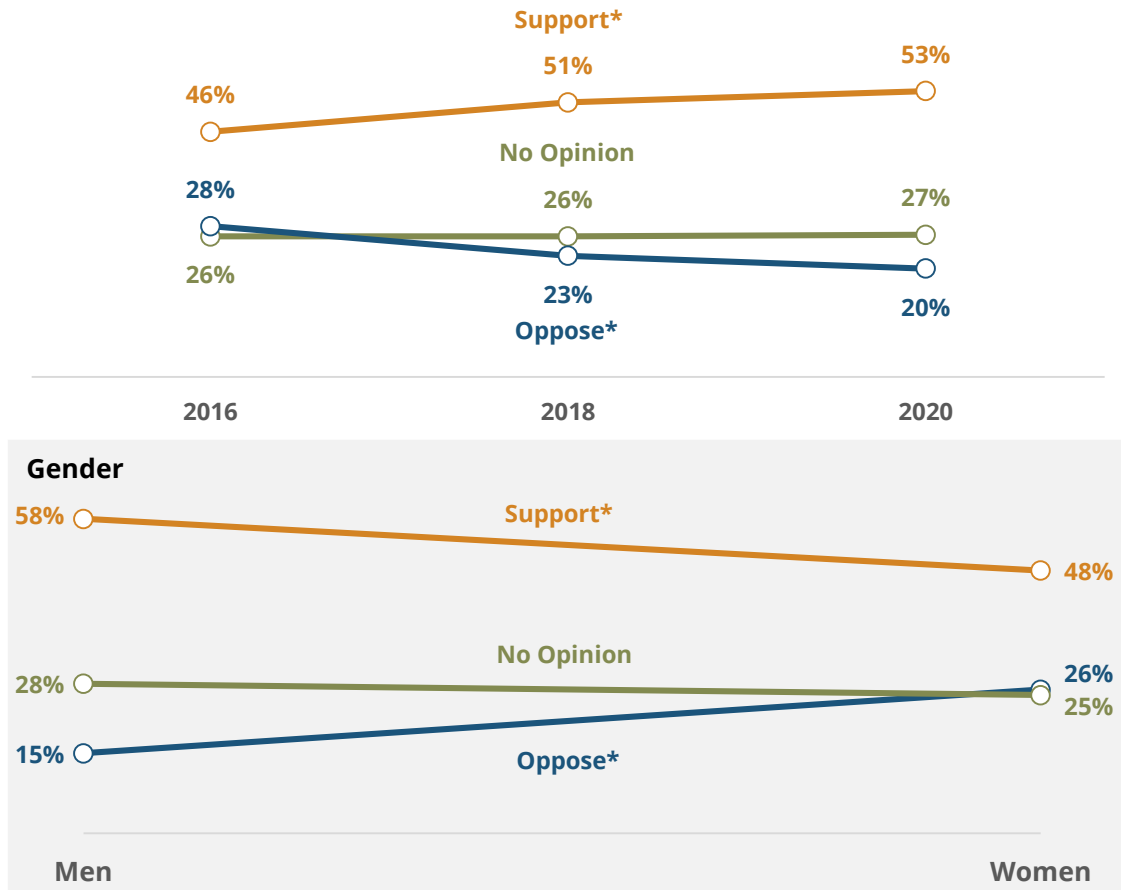
WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Support for Marijuana Legalization

The survey asked the young adults whether they would support or oppose enacting laws legalizing the possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal use. In 2020 just over half (53%) supported marijuana legalization. This is a statistically significant increase from the 46% that expressed support in 2016 (see Figure 16).

Figure 16. Majority of Young Adults Supported Legalizing Possession of Small Amounts of Marijuana for Personal Use

Support for legalizing marijuana for personal use significantly increased in 2020 compared to what was observed in 2016. There were, however, significant gender differences. Support for marijuana legalization was ten points higher among male than female respondents.



Note: Respondents were asked, “Do you support or oppose a change to the law that would legalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal use?” The n for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1021, 1005, and 517, respectively. The n for gender (men, women) were 292 and 225. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

There were significant gender differences. Almost six out of ten young adult men expressed support (58%) for legalizing marijuana for personal use, while women were almost evenly divided at 48%. The analysis found no significant age group differences on this measure.

Perceptions about Risk of Harm

The NDSOYA asked three related questions regarding how much risk the young adults associated with frequent binge drinking, misusing prescription drugs, and regularly smoking marijuana. The perceptions about risk of harm varied among the three drugs.

FREQUENT BINGE DRINKING

The young adults were asked, “In your opinion, how high is the risk of people harming themselves physically or in other ways when they have five or more alcoholic beverages in a row once or twice a week?” Figure 18 presents the findings from this question. In 2020, seven in ten ND young adults (71%) believed that binge drinking once or twice a week was associated with *moderate* or *great risk* of harm. This pattern of how much risk was associated with frequent binge drinking has remained stable. The analysis found no significant differences by survey year. However, in 2020, there were significant gender differences. Significantly more young adult women than men perceived that there was *great risk* (34% vs. 25%) associated with frequent binge drinking, and significantly fewer women than men (19% vs. 31%) perceive that the risk was only *slight*.

There are no statistically significant differences by age group on the perceived risk of harm caused by frequent binge drinking.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE

To find out how much risk the young adults in North Dakota associated with misusing prescription drugs, we asked, “How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they use prescription drugs that are not prescribed to them?” Figure 19 presents the findings from this question. In 2020, approximately seven out of eight young adults (86%) indicated that misusing prescription drugs carried *moderate* or *great risk* of harm. The way that the young adults answered this question has remained stable over time. We found no statistically significant differences between the three survey years. There was a small but significant age group difference. About one-third of the older age group (Age 21 to 29) indicated that misusing prescription drugs was associated with a *moderate risk* for harm. A little less than one-fourth of the younger age group indicated the same.

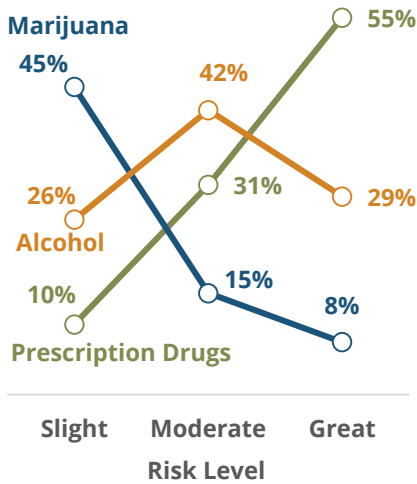
MARIJUANA USE

Figure 20 shows the findings concerning the perceived risk of harm for smoking marijuana once or twice a week. About three-quarters of the young adults in 2020 reported that using marijuana weekly was associated with *no risk* or only a *slight risk* of harm. This pattern has remained stable over time, as the analysis found no statistically significant changes from year-to-year. There

were no significant gender differences in 2020; however, the analysis did find a significant age group difference. One-third of the younger age group (Age 18 to 20) reported that smoking marijuana once or twice a week was associated with moderate or great risk of harm. Only 18% of the older age group (Age 21 to 29) felt that behavior carried that same amount of risk. Generally, the older age group was more likely to endorse that the risk was less (*no risk* or *slight risk*), and the younger age group was more likely to say it was greater (*moderate risk* or *great risk*).

Figure 17. Perception of Risk Varied Substantially From Substance to Substance

Marijuana use was most frequently thought to have only slight risk; however, prescription drug misuse was thought most often to have great risk of harm. Frequent binge drinking falls between these two extremes.



Note: The response choice, “No-risk” is not presented because it does not follow as clear a pattern. To see that category represented see Figures 18, 19, and 20.

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

COMPARING THE PERCEPTIONS OF RISK OF HARM

The three related risk assessment questions displayed different patterns in how much the young adults in North Dakota associated the substances with different amounts of potential harm. Figure 17 compares those risk assessments.

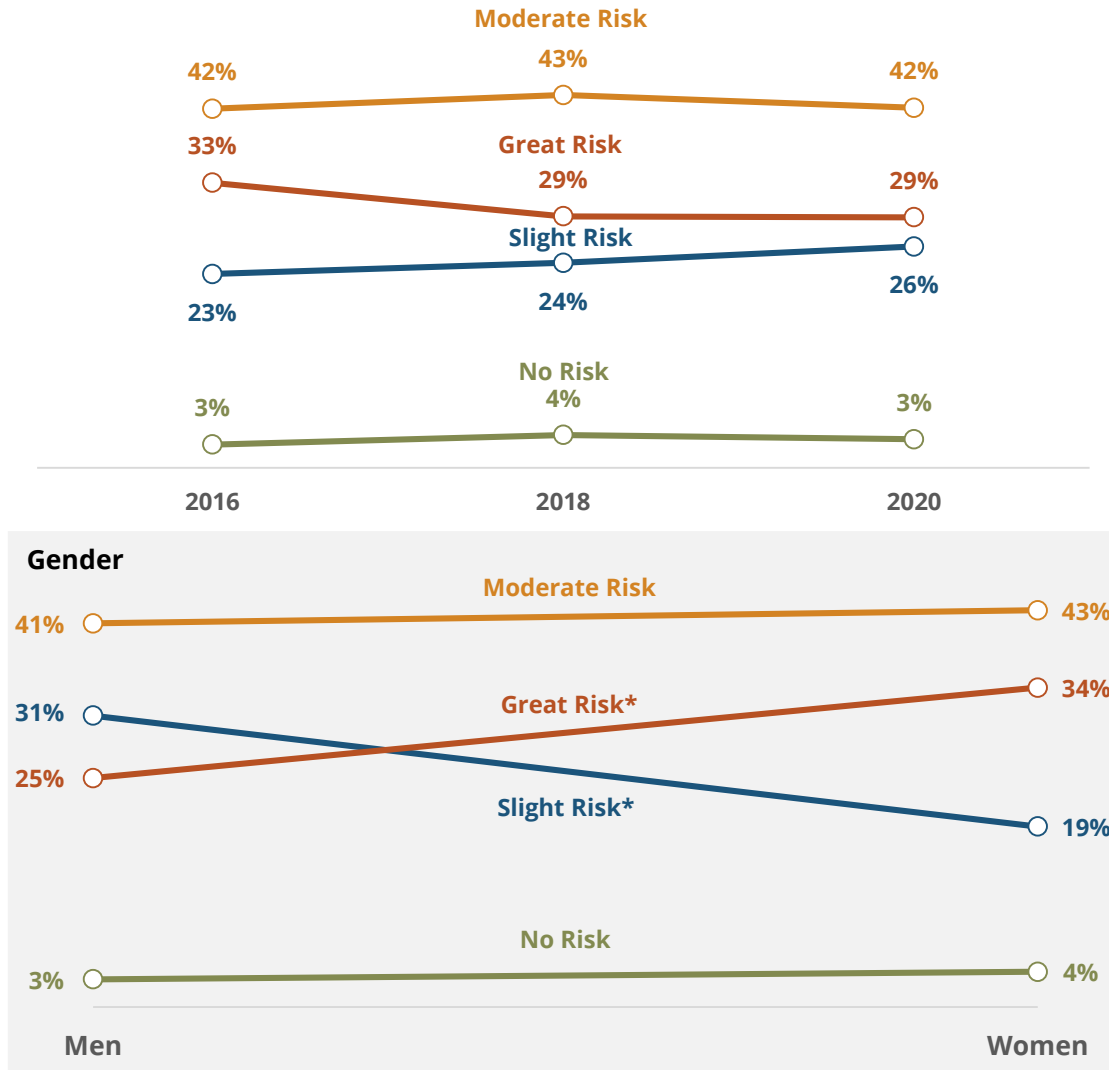
Prescription drug misuse was associated with the greatest perceptions of harm. Over half (55%) of the respondents indicated there was a *great risk* of harm in misusing prescription drugs.

In almost complete contrast, smoking marijuana was associated with a much smaller amount of risk. Only 8% of young adults believed that there was a *great risk* for people harming themselves if they smoked marijuana. Close to half (45%) of the young adults believed the risk of harm from smoking marijuana was only *slight*.

Binge drinking’s perception of risk was between the other two substances. Two in five young adults (42%) believed that frequent binge drinking only had *moderate risk* harm.

Figure 18. Seven in Ten Young Adults Acknowledged that Frequent Binge Drinking Has Moderate or Great Risk of Harm

The risk perception of frequent binge drinking has remained stable over time. A third of female respondents indicated there is great risk to that type of drinking, but only one-fourth of males thought the same.



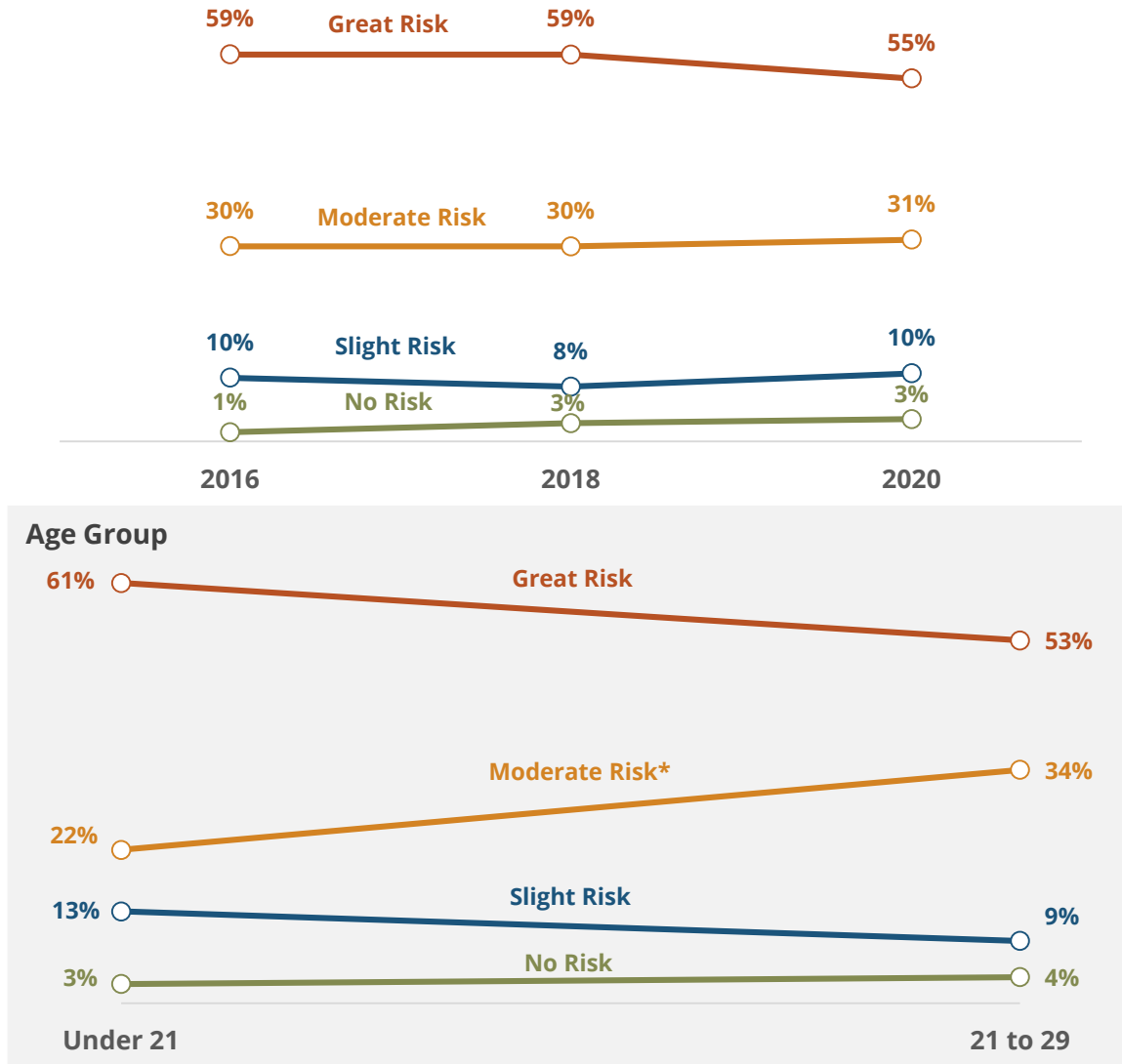
Note: Respondents were asked, “In your opinion, how high is the risk of people harming themselves physically or in other ways when they have five or more alcoholic beverages in a row once or twice a week?” The n counts for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1012, 996, and 512. Gender comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for gender (male, female) were 290 and 222. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Figure 19. Over Four in Five Young Adults Thought Misusing Prescription Drugs Had a Moderate or Great Risk of Harm

The perception of harm from misusing prescription drugs has remained relatively constant over the three survey administrations. The older age group (Age 21 to 29) had significantly more people reporting that prescription drug misuse has a moderate risk of harm than the younger age group.



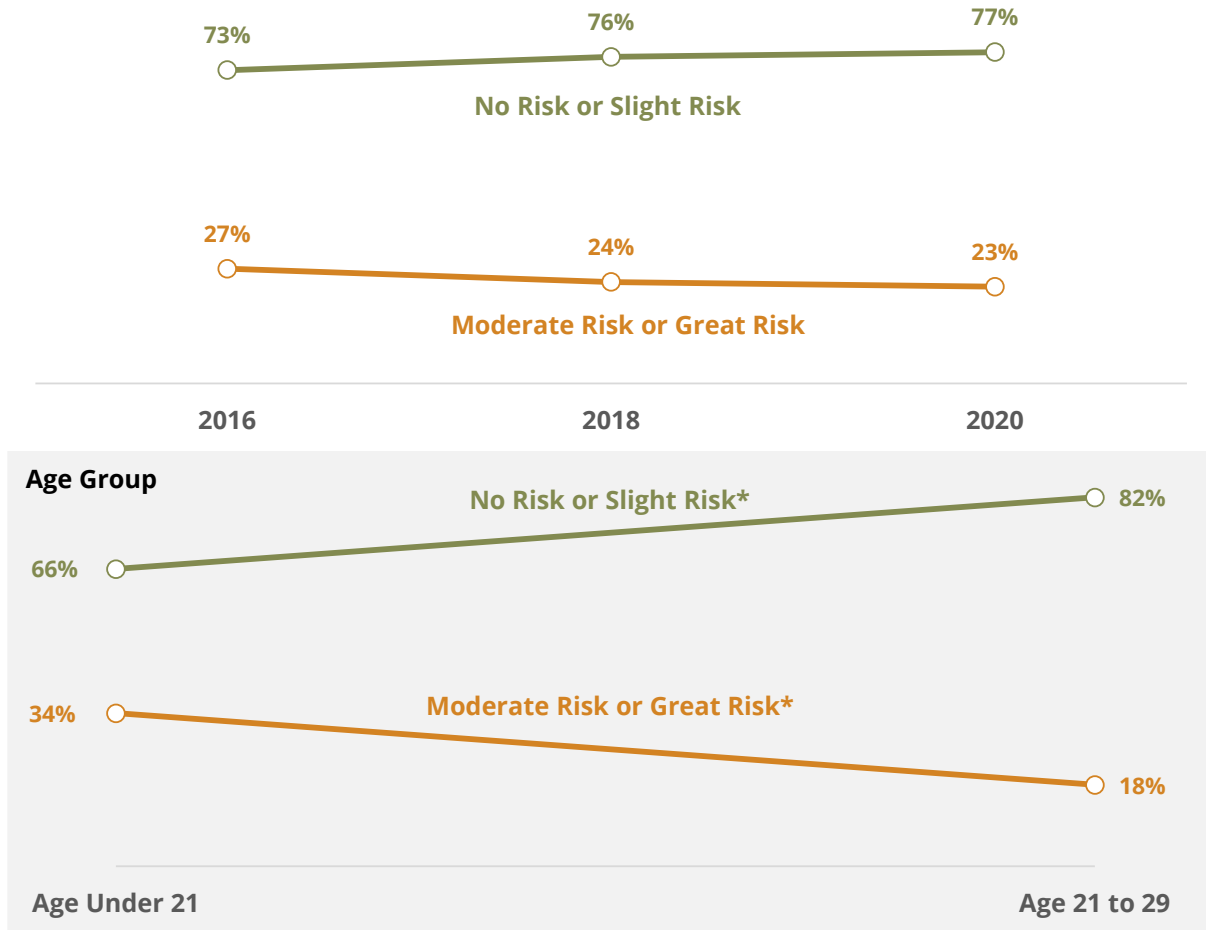
Note: Respondents were asked, “How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they use prescription drugs that are not prescribed to them?” The n counts for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1010, 996, and 510. Age group comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for age group (Age < 21, Age 21-29) were 157 and 353.
 * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Figure 20. Three-Quarters of Young Adults Thought That Smoking Marijuana Once or Twice a Week Had No Risk or Slight Risk of Harm

The perception of harm from using marijuana one to two times a week has remained relatively constant over the three survey administrations. However, there was a significant age group difference. About one-third of the younger age group thought this behavior had a moderate or great risk of harm, but less than one-fifth of the older age group thought the same.



Note: Respondents were asked, “How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they smoke marijuana once or twice a week?” The n counts for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1018, 998, and 513. Age group comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for age group (Age < 21, Age 21-29) were 158 and 355. * Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

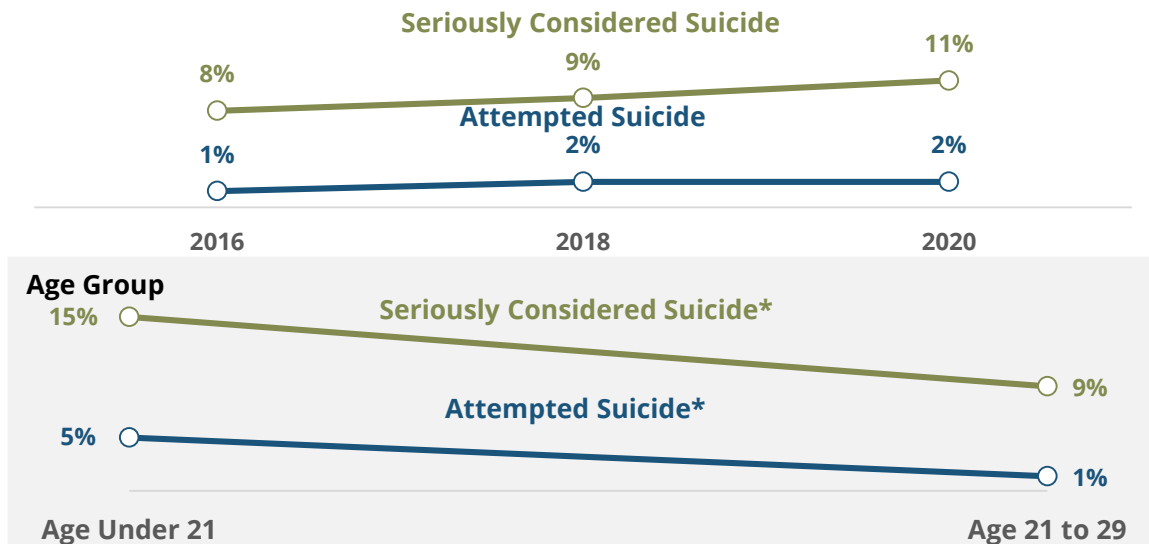
WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Mental Health

In 2020, 11% of young adults reported that they had seriously considered suicide in the past year (see Figure 21). The slight upticks from 2016 to 2020 were not statistically significant. We also found that there were significant age group differences. In 2020, more young adults under 21 years of age indicated that they seriously considered suicide in the past 12 months (15%) compared to those 21 and older (9%). About 2% of young adults reported having at least one suicide attempt in the past year, and this has been stable across the survey years. However, the age group differences were significant, where the younger age group (Age 18-20) was more likely to report attempting suicide (5%) than the older age group (1%). We found no significant gender differences in either suicide measure.

Figure 21. One in Ten Young Adults Seriously Considered Suicide in the Past Year, and One in Fifty Said They Attempted Suicide

There were no significant changes in these mental health measures over time. However, the younger age group (Age 18 to 20) reported considering suicide and attempting suicide at higher rates.



Note: Respondents were asked, “Have you seriously considered suicide in the past 12 months?” and “In the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?” As a safety measure, the survey interviewers provided the national suicide hotline when respondents indicated they seriously considered or attempted suicide sometime in the past year. The n counts for the years 2016, 2018, 2020 were 1025, 1007, and 520. Age group comparisons used 2020 data only. The n for age group (Age < 21, Age 21-29) were 158 and 362.

* Statistically significant based on pairwise difference of proportions tests with a Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons (p-value < 0.05).

Source: North Dakota Young Adult Survey, 2016, 2018, 2020

WYOMING SURVEY & ANALYSIS CENTER

Complete Survey Results

In the tables that follow, we provide frequency results from all three iterations of the survey. We also provide the survey script that we used in the interviews. All questions are in the order we asked the respondents.

We present the raw frequency counts and weighted percentage distributions for the three years side-by-side in each table. We also performed Pearson chi-squares to check for year-to-year changes and indicate when there were statistically significant findings based on those comparisons. For all questions, *No answer/Refused* responses are excluded from the valid percent calculations. Note that for *Mark all that Apply* items, the percentages may total more than 100 percent.

Hello, my name is [First Name.] I'm calling on behalf of the North Dakota Department of Human Services and I'm not selling anything. (Optional: "How are you today?") We're conducting some research about issues that relate to young adults between the ages of 18 and 29. Would you or someone else aged 18-29 in your household be able to help me out with this?

I won't ask for your name, address or other personal information that may identify you. Your participation in this survey is voluntary. You don't have to answer any questions you don't want to and you may end the interview at any time. If you have questions about your rights as a research subject you can call the University of Wyoming IRB. I can provide you with that number.

The interview takes about 10 minutes or less. The information you provide will be confidential. If you have questions about the survey, I can provide you with a telephone number to get more information.

May I continue with the survey?

If asked: Eric Canen for more SURVEY information. (307) 766-8928

I need to ask. Have I reached you on a cell phone?

I'm not allowed to interview you if you're driving, or doing anything else that may be dangerous. May I keep going, or should I call back at another time?

Do you currently reside or live in North Dakota, even if you are doing so temporarily for school or a job? *If needed: For most of the year?*

NDCnty. **First, in which county in North Dakota do you live?**
 (Used to determine regional distribution of responses.)

Table 4. Respondents’ regional distribution.

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Region 1			6.1	117	6.6	136
Region 2			14.5	127	15.1	110
Region 3			4.2	109	4.2	113
Region 4			16.0	123	15.9	142
Region 5			32.1	150	30.8	155
Region 6			5.3	102	5.3	119
Region 7			16.6	143	16.3	121
Region 8			5.3	131	5.8	127
Valid Total			100.0	1002	100.0	1023
Total missing				7		3
Total				1009		1026

Sex. Respondent’s Sex

If needed: “And I’m required to ask, what is your gender?”

Table 5. Respondents’ gender distribution

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Male	53.3	294	54.0	575	54.2	544
Female	46.7	226	46.0	434	45.8	482
Other	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Valid Total	100.0	520	100.0	1009	100.0	1026
Total missing		0		0		0
Total		520		1009		1026

Q6. Now for my first question: Have you ever, that is in your entire lifetime, drank one or more alcoholic beverages?

Table 6. Lifetime alcohol use

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Yes	85.6	442	87.4	880	86.7	899
No	14.4	77	12.6	128	13.3	127
Valid Total	100.0	519	100.0	1008	100.0	1026
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		1		0
(No answer/Refused)		1		0		0
Total missing		1		1		0
Total		520		1009		1026

Q7. Did you drink any alcoholic beverages in the past 30 days?

Table 7. Past 30-day alcohol use (of those that used in their lifetime)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Yes	70.1	311	67.9	587	69.5	614
No	29.9	130	32.1	292	30.5	282
Valid Total	100.0	441	100.0	879	100.0	896
(Don't know/Not sure)		1		2		3
(No answer/Refused)		1		0		0
System missing		77		128		127
Total missing		79		130		130
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 8. Past 30-day alcohol use (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Yes	60.0	311	59.4	587	60.2	614
No	40.0	207	40.6	420	39.8	409
Valid Total	100.0	518	100.0	1007	100.0	1023
(Don't know/Not sure)		1		2		3
(No answer/Refused)		1		0		0
Total missing		2				3
Total		520		1009		1026

Q8. One alcoholic beverage is equivalent to a 12-ounce beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine, or a drink with one shot of liquor. During the past 30 days, on the days when you drank, about how many alcoholic beverages did you drink on the average?

Table 9. Past 30-day average number of alcoholic beverages consumed (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 drinks	0.5	1	0.2	1	0.6	2
1 to 2 drinks	45.9	130	40.7	228	41.2	247
3 to 5 drinks	33.0	101	37.4	211	36.4	220
6 or more drinks	20.6	66	21.7	131	21.9	125
Valid Total	100.0	298	100.0	571	100.0	594
(Don't know/Not sure)		12		15		18
(No answer/Refused)		1		1		2
System missing		209		422		412
Total missing		222		438		432
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 10. Past 30-day average number of alcoholic beverages consumed (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 drinks	41.5	210	41.4	423	41.0	414
1 to 2 drinks	27.0	130	23.9	228	24.4	247
3 to 5 drinks	19.4	101	22.0	211	21.6	220
6 or more drinks	12.1	66	12.7	131	13.0	125
Valid Total	100.0	507	100%	993	100	1006
(Don't know/Not sure)		12		15		18
(No answer/Refused)		1		1		2
Total missing		13		16		20
Total		520		1009		1026

Q9. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, on how many DAYS during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more alcoholic beverages on an occasion?

Table 11. Past 30-day frequency of binge drinking (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	38.4	110	31.2	185	31.4	190
1 to 2 days	30.5	94	37.2	204	37.1	223
3 to 5 days	18.6	62	18.4	110	16.8	111
6 to 10 days	6.9	22	8.6	54	9.3	54
11 or more days	5.6	20	4.7	28	5.4	33
Valid Total	100.0	308	100.0	581	100.0	611
(Don't know/Not sure)		3		6		2
(No answer/Refused)		0		0		1
System missing		209		422		412
Total missing		212		428		415
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 12. Past 30-day frequency of binge drinking (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	63.3	319	59.4	607	58.8	602
1 to 2 days	18.2	94	21.9	204	22.3	223
3 to 5 days	11.1	62	10.9	110	10.1	111
6 to 10 days	4.1	22	5.0	54	5.6	54
11 or more days	3.3	20	2.8	28	3.3	33
Valid Total	100.0	517	100.0	1003	100.0	1023
(Don't know/Not sure)		3		6		2
(No answer/Refused)		0		0		1
System missing		0		0		0
Total missing		3		6		3
Total		520		1009		1026

Q10. In the past 30 days, how many times have you driven a motor vehicle within two hours after drinking an alcoholic beverage?

Table 13. Past 30-day driven within 2 hours of drinking (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 times	77.3	242	73.0	431	76.1	475
1 to 2 times	18.0	48	18.2	98	18.3	99
3 to 5 times	3.4	12	5.6	34	3.7	22
6 to 10 times	0.3	2	1.8	12	1.3	7
11 or more times	1.0	4	1.5	9	0.6	3
Valid Total	100.0	308	100.0	584	100.0	606
(Don't know/Not sure)		1		3		6
(No answer/Refused)		2		0		2
System missing		209		422		412
Total missing		212		425		420
Total		520		1009		1026

Q11. During the past 30 days, how many times have you driven when you've had perhaps too much to drink?

Table 14. Past 30-day driving after having too much to drink (of those that drank alcohol in the past 30 days)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 times	94.8	294	95.3	549	93.2	571
1 to 2 times	3.8	10	4.1	30	5.5	33
3 to 5 times	1.0	2	0.3	2	0.7	4
6 to 10 times	0.0	0	0.1	1	0.1	1
11 or more times	0.4	1	0.3	2	0.6	2
Valid Total	100.0	307	100.0	584	100.0	611
(Don't know/Not sure)		1		3		2
(No answer/Refused)		3		0		1
System missing		209		422		412
Total missing		213		425		415
Total		520		1009		1026

Q12. During the past 30 days, on how many DAYS do you think most people YOUR AGE had 5 or more alcoholic drinks in a row, that is within a couple of hours?

Table 15. Perception of peers' binge drinking behavior

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	1.6	7	1.1	11	1.8	14
1 to 2 days	15.4	60	13.9	108	13.2	106
3 to 5 days	36.9	148	36.3	291	36.1	283
6 to 10 days	27.4	118	26.9	220	24.5	205
11 or more days	18.7	90	21.8	192	24.3	216
Valid Total	100.0	423	100.0	822	100.0	824
(Don't know/Not sure)		92		184		198
(No answer/Refused)		5		3		4
Total missing		97		187		202
Total		520		1009		1026

Q13. In your opinion, how high is the risk of people harming themselves physically or in other ways, when they have five or more alcoholic beverages in a row once or twice a week? Would you say there is...

Table 16. Perception of risk of harm from binge drinking

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
No risk	3.3	23	3.8	39	2.7	34
Slight risk	25.7	133	23.8	244	22.5	231
Moderate risk	41.8	209	43.3	428	41.7	413
Great risk	29.1	147	29.2	285	33.1	334
Valid Total	100.0	512	100.0	996	100.0	1012
(Don't know/Not sure)		8		11		12
(No answer/Refused)		0		2		2
Total missing		8		13		14
Total		520		1009		1026

Q14. How wrong or not wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to have five or more alcoholic beverage in a row, once or twice a week? Would you say...

Table 17. Perception of friends’ reaction to binge drinking

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Not at all wrong	29.0	156	30.0	320	31.7	316
A little wrong	22.6	114	20.8	201	20.4	215
Somewhat wrong	28.4	139	24.3	237	27.0	272
Very Wrong	20.1	104	24.9	228	20.9	215
Valid Total	100.0	513	100.0	986	100.0	1018
(Don't know/Not sure)		5		19		8
(No answer/Refused)		2		4		0
Total missing		7		23		8
Total		520		1009		1026

Q15. In your opinion how much of a problem is the use of alcohol in your community by youth under the age of 21? Would you say it's...

Table 18. Opinion on the problem of alcohol use by youth under the age of 21

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Not a problem	10.8	54	7.1	80	7.1	70
Minor problem	29.1	145	24.2	251	24.0	231
Moderate problem	41.3	194	42.8	380	43.3	418
Serious problem	18.8	110	25.9	257	25.7	268
Valid Total	100.0	503	100.0	968	100.0	987
(Don't know/Not sure)		16		41		39
(No answer/Refused)		1		0		0
Total missing		17		41		39
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Q16. In your opinion how much of a problem is the use of alcohol in your community by adults who are 21 years old or older? Would you say it's...

Table 19. Opinion on the problem of alcohol use by adults 21 years or older

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Not a problem	13.9	72	13.5	155	12.5	116
Minor problem	36.7	178	27.7	261	33.3	326
Moderate problem	32.3	173	40.6	401	36.6	385
Serious problem	17.1	90	18.2	182	17.6	188
Valid Total	100.0	513	100.0	999	100.0	1015
(Don't know/Not sure)		6		9		11
(No answer/Refused)		1		1		0
Total missing		7		10		11
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Q17. During the past 12 months, have you used prescription drugs to get high or used them without a prescription?

Table 20. Past 12-month prescription drug misuse

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Yes	1.7	8	2.8	29	2.3	25
No	98.3	512	97.2	980	97.7	1001
Valid Total	100.0	520	100.0	1009	100.0	1026
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		0		0
(No answer/Refused)		0		0		0
Total missing		0		0		0
Total		520		1009		1026

Q18. How often during the past 12 months would you say you have used prescription drugs to get high or used them without a prescription? Was it approximately...

Table 21. Past 12-month frequency of prescription drug misuse (of those that misused prescription drugs in the past 12 months)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Daily	29.6	2	12.3	4	5.5	1
Weekly	0.0	0	27.0	7	19.2	5
Monthly	28.6	2	16.9	7	21.5	6
Only once or twice	41.8	4	43.8	11	53.7	12
Valid Total	100.0	8	100.0	29	100.0	24
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		0		1
System missing		512		980		1001
Total missing		512		980		1002
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 22. Past 12-month frequency of prescription drug misuse (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Daily	0.5	2	0.3	4	0.1	1
Weekly	0.0	0	0.8	7	0.4	5
Monthly	0.5	2	0.5	7	0.5	6
Only once or twice	0.7	4	1.2	11	1.2	12
Never	98.3	512	97.2	980	97.8	1001
Valid Total	100.0	520	100.0	1009	100.0	1025
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		0		1
Total		520		1009		1026

Q19. During the past 30 days, on how many DAYS did you use prescription drugs to get high or use them without a prescription?

Table 23. Past 30-day frequency of prescription drug misuse (of those that misused prescription drugs in the past 12 months)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	51.8	6	51.0	14	37.8	9
1 to 2 days	23.5	1	25.5	7	34.8	9
3 to 5 days	0.0	0	6.3	2	22.2	6
6 to 10 days	0.0	0	12.7	3	0.0	0
11 or more days	24.7	1	4.5	3	5.2	1
Valid Total	100.0	8	100.0	29	100.0	25
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		0		0
(No answer/Refused)		0		0		0
System missing		512		980		1001
Total missing		512		980		1001
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 24. Past 30-day frequency of prescription drug misuse (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	99.2	518	98.6	994	98.6	1010
1 to 2 days	0.4	1	0.7	7	0.8	9
3 to 5 days	0.0	0	0.2	2	0.5	6
6 to 10 days	0.0	0	0.4	3	0.0	0
11 or more days	0.4	1	0.1	3	0.1	1
Valid Total	100.0	520	100.0	1009	100.0	1026
Total		520		1009		1026

Q20. During the past 30 days, on how many DAYS do you think most people YOUR AGE used prescription drugs to get high or used them without a prescription?

Table 25. Perception of peers’ use of prescription drugs to get high

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	24.3	84	12.8	101	14.6	115
1 to 2 days	25.6	90	26.0	169	24.6	163
3 to 5 days	20.8	79	20.5	138	23.6	148
6 to 10 days	9.0	40	14.6	95	13.7	101
11 to 20 days	10.7	42	11.8	88	14.2	97
21 or more days	9.7	35	14.3	107	9.3	75
Valid Total	100.0	370	100.0	698	100.0	699
(Don't know/Not sure)		144		307		323
(No answer/Refused)		6		4		4
Total missing		150		311		327
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Q21. How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they use prescription drugs that are not prescribed to them? Would you say...

Table 26. Perception of risk of harm from using prescription drugs to get high

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
No risk	3.5	17	2.7	31	1.4	16
Slight risk	10.3	52	8.4	94	9.7	95
Moderate risk	30.8	159	29.8	283	29.8	293
Great risk	55.4	282	59.1	588	59.1	606
Valid Total	100.0	510	100.0	996	100.0	1010
(Don't know/Not sure)		10		13		15
(No answer/Refused)		0		0		1
Total missing		10		13		16
Total		520		1009		1026

Q22. If you wanted to get a prescription drug to get high, how easy or how difficult would it be for you to get some? Would you say it would be...

Table 27. Perception of ease or difficulty of getting prescription drugs

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Very difficult	24.5	123	21.2	208	19.6	188
Sort of difficult	30.3	134	29.6	273	28.2	264
Sort of easy	28.4	139	27.8	266	31.0	285
Very easy	16.8	88	21.4	202	21.2	207
Valid Total	100.0	484	100.0	949	100.0	944
(Don't know/Not sure)		34		54		80
(No answer/Refused)		2		6		2
Total missing		36		60		82
Total		520		1009		1026

Q23. Have you used marijuana in the past 12 months?

Table 28. Past 12-month marijuana use.

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Yes	22.2	117	23.1	215	18.9	176
No	77.8	402	76.9	791	81.1	849
Valid Total	100.0	519	100.0	1006	100.0	1025
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		0		0
(No answer/Refused)		1		3		1
Total missing		1		3		1
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Q24. During the past 12 months, how often would you say you used marijuana? Was it approximately...

Table 29. Past 12-month frequency of marijuana use (of those that used marijuana in past 12-months)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Daily	25.0	31	24.9	64	21.5	41
Weekly	15.7	22	15.3	33	16.6	25
Monthly	21.4	21	17.6	33	15.0	28
Only once or twice	37.9	43	42.2	83	46.9	80
Valid Total	100.0	117	100.0	213	100.0	174
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		1		1
(No answer/Refused)		0		1		1
System missing		403		794		850
Total missing		403		796		852
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 30. Past 12-month frequency of marijuana use (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Daily	5.5	31	5.7	64	4.0	41
Weekly	3.5	22	3.5	33	3.1	25
Monthly	4.7	21	4.0	33	2.8	28
Only once or twice	8.4	43	9.7	83	8.7	80
Never	77.8	403	77.1	1007	81.4	850
Valid Total	100.0	520	100.0	1007	100.0	1024
(Don't know/Not sure)						
(No answer/Refused)						
System missing						
Total missing						
Total		520		1009		1026

Q25. During the past 30 days, on how many DAYS did you use marijuana?

Table 31. Past 30-day frequency of marijuana use (of those that used marijuana in past 12-months)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	39.6	44	42.5	86	41.7	73
1 to 2 days	18.8	21	19.6	35	23.7	38
3 to 5 days	5.1	4	11.2	23	8.3	16
6 to 10 days	5.6	4	4.4	9	4.5	7
11 to 20 days	9.0	15	4.2	12	5.8	8
20 or more days	21.8	27	18.1	47	15.9	32
Valid Total	100.0	115	100.0	212	100.0	174
(Don't know/Not sure)		2		3		0
(No answer/Refused)		0		0		2
System missing		403		794		850
Total missing		405		797		852
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 32. Past 30-day frequency of marijuana use (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	86.7	447	86.9	880	89.2	923
1 to 2 days	4.1	21	4.5	35	4.4	38
3 to 5 days	1.1	4	2.5	23	1.5	16
6 to 10 days	1.2	4	1.0	9	0.8	7
11 to 20 days	2.0	15	0.9	12	1.1	8
20 or more days	4.8	27	4.1	47	3.0	32
Valid Total	100.0	518	100.0	1006	100	1024
(Don't know/Not sure)		2		3		0
(No answer/Refused)		0		0		2
System missing		0		0		0
Total missing		2		3		2
Total		520		1009		1026

Q26. During the past 30 days, on how many DAYS do you think most people YOUR AGE used marijuana?

Table 33. Perception of peers' use of marijuana

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 days	3.9	17	3.3	31	5.4	46
1 to 2 days	13.4	54	11.3	87	12.4	104
3 to 5 days	23.4	93	17.4	141	18.2	146
6 to 10 days	13.9	69	19.2	158	17.0	134
11 to 20 days	25.3	122	24.5	200	24.4	199
20 or more days	20.1	96	24.4	235	22.7	206
Valid Total	100.0	451	100.0	852	100.0	835
(Don't know/Not sure)		67		155		188
(No answer/Refused)		2		2		3
Total missing		69		157		191
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Q27. How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they smoke marijuana once or twice a week? Would you say...

Table 34. Perception of risk of harm from smoking marijuana

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
No risk	32.2	172	33.7	349	30.4	314
Slight risk	45.2	231	42.6	407	42.8	414
Moderate risk	14.9	71	16.4	170	18.6	197
Great risk	7.7	39	7.3	72	8.2	93
Valid Total	100.0	513	100.0	998	100.0	1018
(Don't know/Not sure)		7		10		8
(No answer/Refused)		0		1		0
Total missing		7		11		8
Total		520		1009		1026

Q28. If you wanted to get some marijuana, how easy or how difficult would it be for you to get some?

Table 35. Perception of ease or difficulty of getting marijuana

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Very difficult	11.2	54	12.7	126	12.5	133
Sort of difficult	16.9	86	20.2	190	19.4	192
Sort of easy	29.4	143	30.0	276	24.7	244
Very easy	42.5	214	37.1	376	43.3	412
Valid Total	100.0	497	100.0	968	100.0	981
(Don't know/Not sure)		20		38		44
(No answer/Refused)		3		3		1
Total missing		23		41		45
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Q30. Do you support or oppose a change to the law that would legalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal use or do you not have an opinion?

Table 36. Support or oppose legalization of marijuana—personal use

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Support	53.3	270	51.2	504	45.7	443
Oppose	20.2	105	22.6	227	28.1	309
No Opinion	26.5	142	26.2	274	26.2	269
Valid Total	100.0	517	100.0	1005	100.0	1021
(Don't know/Not sure)		1		4		4
(No answer/Refused)		2		0		1
Total missing		3		4		5
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Q31. During the past 12 months, how many times have you engaged in any kind of gambling?
Examples include gambling at a casino, playing cards, dice, or bingo for money, playing the state's lottery, gambling on horseracing, playing pull tabs, or betting on a sports team?

Table 37. Past 12-month gambling events

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 times	61.2	314	53.0	516	52.0	528
1 to 2 times	15.3	77	17.9	179	19.7	198
3 to 5 times	9.7	48	10.7	115	12.5	122
6 to 10 times	3.8	20	7.2	70	5.1	54
11 to 30 times	7.3	38	8.1	84	7.0	73
31 or more times	2.8	16	3.0	38	3.7	41
Valid Total	100.0	513	100.0	1002	100.0	1016
(Don't know/Not sure)		6		7		7
(No answer/Refused)		1		0		3
Total missing		7		7		10
Total		520		1009		1026

Q32. Please remember that all responses to this survey are confidential. Have you seriously considered suicide in the past 12 months?

Table 38. Past 12-month suicide contemplation

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Yes	10.9	59	9.4	89	8.3	77
No	89.1	461	90.6	918	91.7	948
Valid Total	100.0	520	100.0	1007	100.0	1025
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		1		0
(No answer/Refused)		0		1		1
Total missing		0		2		1
Total		520		1009		1026

H3a. Because you indicated that you have seriously considered suicide in the past year, I would like to provide you with the suicide prevention lifeline number, where a skilled, trained crisis worker can help you. The call is confidential and free. Are you ready? It's 1-800-273-8255 or you can text the crisis line at 741-741.

Q33. In the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?

If needed: *The suicide prevention lifeline number is 1-800-273-8255.*

The number for texting the crisis line is 741-741.

Table 39. Past 12-month suicide attempts (of those who seriously considered suicide in past 12 months)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 times	79.6	47	76.5	68	83.2	64
1 time	17.9	10	14.2	13	9.4	8
2 times	2.5	2	7.4	8	1.6	2
3 times	0.0	0	1.9	2	1.9	2
4 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
5 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
6 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
7 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	2.2	1
8 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
9 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
10 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	1.8	1
Valid Total	100.0	59	100.0	91	100.0	78
System		461		918		948
Total missing		461		918		948
Total		520		1009		1026

Table 40. Past 12-month suicide attempts (all young adults)

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
0 times	97.8	508	97.8	986	98.6	1012
1 time	2.0	10	1.4	13	0.8	8
2 times	0.3	2	0.7	8	0.1	2
3 times	0.0	0	0.2	2	0.2	2
4 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
5 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
6 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
7 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.2	1
8 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
9 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
10 times	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.1	1
Valid Total	100.0	520	100.0	1009	100.0	1026
Total		520		1009		1026

DEMO. Now I would like to ask you some demographic questions needed for statistical purposes. The information you provide will be kept confidential.

RACE. I'm going to read a list of racial categories. Which one or more of the following do you consider yourself to be?

Table 41. Race

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
White	88.8	459	89.9	895	90.6	921
Black or African American	3.1	12	3.4	33	3.7	32
Asian	2.1	9	2.5	24	0.9	10
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1.2	7	2.3	28	0.7	10
American Indian or Alaska Native	7.2	48	10.5	122	6.4	82
Other (specify)	2.6	15	3.8	36	3.6	41
Valid Total	100.0	518	100.0	1004	100.0	1021
(Don't know/Not sure)		1		2		0
(No answer/Refused)		1		3		5
Total missing		2		5		5
Total		520		1009		1026

HISP. Are you Hispanic or Latino(a)?

Table 42. Hispanic or Latino

	2020		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Yes	4.9	26	4.4	53	4.1	48
No	95.1	490	95.6	953	95.9	974
Valid Total	100.0	516	100.0	1006	100.0	1022
(Don't know/Not sure)		3		1		3
(No answer/Refused)		1		2		1
Total missing		4		3		4
Total		520		1009		1026

Marit. Are you now...

Table 43. Marital status

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Married	17.4	88	19.0	207	20.6	241
Living with a partner	13.8	68	16.0	163	14.2	161
Divorced	1.7	8	1.6	18	1.0	12
Widowed	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	0
Separated	0.3	2	0.8	7	0.4	4
Single	65.2	342	61.6	597	63.8	604
Other (Specify)	1.6	9	1.0	11	0.0	0
Valid Total	100.0	517	100.0	1004	100.0	1022
(Don't know/Not sure)		1		1		1
(No answer/Refused)		2		4		3
Total missing		3		5		4
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

EDUC. What is the highest level of school you completed or the highest degree you received?

Table 44. Education level

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Less than a high school degree	3.6	28	9.5	103	4.6	51
Grade 12 (high school graduate)	29.3	164	23.9	263	30.2	307
GED	2.1	10	1.8	25	3.2	37
Some college, no degree	22.4	113	25.5	229	21.1	216
Completion of an Occupational, Technical, or Vocational Program	3.5	21	4.1	39	4.6	46
Associate's degree	12.9	65	11.6	124	9.8	104
Bachelor's degree	22.1	94	19.6	188	21.6	217
Some graduate or professional school	1.4	7	1.2	8	1.6	16
Graduate or professional degree	2.8	16	2.9	27	3.2	32
Valid Total	100.0	518	100.0	1006	100.0	1026
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		0		0
(No answer/Refused)		2		3		0
Total missing		2		3		0
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Empl. Which one of the following best describes your employment status?

Table 45. Employment status

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Student	19.0	94	24.3	210	18.5	170
Employed part-time or full-time	68.1	347	65.9	681	71.5	744
In the military	2.6	14	1.5	16	0.7	8
Unemployed or unable to work	6.2	39	4.4	53	5.6	56
Stay-at-home parent	4.0	20	4.0	45	3.6	46
Valid Total	100.0	514	100.0	1005	100.0	1024
(Don't know/Not sure)		3		1		1
(No answer/Refused)		3		3		1
Total missing		6		4		2
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Live. Which one of the following best describes where you live?

Table 46. Living situation

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Live with parents or family	36.0	202	31.6	306	29.4	292
Live on campus	4.3	19	6.0	56	4.4	41
Live on your own	55.7	274	58.6	601	63.2	654
Live some other place (specify)	4.0	22	3.9	42	2.9	37
Valid Total	100.0	517	100.0	1005	100.0	1024
(Don't know/Not sure)		0		0		0
(No answer/Refused)		3		4		2
Total missing		3		4		2
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

SEXO. Do you consider your sexual orientation to be...

Table 47. Sexual orientation

	2020*		2018		2016	
	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.	Wtd. %	Freq.
Straight	89.3	464	91.7	922	93.8	960
Gay or Lesbian	1.9	7	2.2	19	1.2	11
Bisexual	7.6	40	5.2	47	3.7	36
Other (Specify)	1.2	5	1.0	13	1.3	11
Valid Total	100.0	516	100.0	1001	100.0	1018
(Don't know/Not sure)		2		2		3
(No answer/Refused)		2		6		5
Total missing		4		8		8
Total		520		1009		1026

*Statewide differences between 2016, 2018, and 2020 are statistically significant (p < 0.05); overall Pearson Chi-square test performed.

Comment. **Do you have any other comments about the survey?**

See Appendix A for complete text listings.

These are all the questions I have. Thank you for your time.

Appendix A:

Comments Provided by Respondents

- Add research into the harder drugs.
- Ask more about statistics and less about personal information.
- Be more specific about the people instead of going in an age range.
- digital gambling, especially through video games
- good job man
- I personally oppose LGBTQ. I believe the gender you were born with is what you are.
- I personally think the legal age to drink alcohol should be lowered to 18 or 16 with parental supervision. It would result in fewer cases of underage drinking.
- I think we definitely need drug reform. We need to treat the roots of the problem and not put Band-Aids on cancer lumps, so to speak.
- I wish more people would answer your questions to give you good data.
- It is kind of weird to judge of how much people my age use substances. Those specific questions were worded weird.
- Mental health is a thing, and we need to address it.
- Meth is a major problem in his community. In his opinion opioids & pot are not as big of a problem. Has a medical condition and uses marijuana for medical purposes.
- Small possession on private property for marijuana use not for use in public.
- Some of the questions are not exactly clear.
- The 30 days questions are too vague, needed to be more specific.
- Wait a while for call to go through.
- What are you studying?
- Why is a survey for North Dakota being done by Wyoming?
- Wider selection of answers.