

El Camino College

Student and Employee Drug and Alcohol Survey Fall 2009

A periodic survey of students and workforce is required by the U.S. Department of Education at all colleges and universities receiving financial aid support. Survey questions cover topics such as tobacco, alcohol and drug use, potential problems with drugs and alcohol, and awareness of, and interest in, support services.

Survey Result Highlights - Part 2

Drug and Alcohol Use - STUDENTS

1. The most common substances used were beer and wine, followed by liquor and cigarettes.
2. Forty-one percent reported drinking beer or wine in the last 30 days (33% of students under age 21 reported the same—see full report). The percentages are slightly lower for hard liquor (36%).
3. Illegal substances with the highest rate of experience (ever used %) were marijuana (38%), followed by MDMA (14%) and other amphetamines (12%).
4. An overwhelming majority of students thought that the “typical student” used these substances much more than students actually reported. Eighty-six percent of students thought that the typical student smoked cigarettes regularly, but 36% of students reported ever smoking and 20% had smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days.

STUDENTS Drug or Substance	Never Used %		Ever Used %		Used in last 30 days %	
	Typical Student	Self	Typical Student	Self	Typical Student	Self
Cigarettes	6%	64%	94%	36%	86%	20%
Tobacco from water pipe	18%	73%	82%	27%	64%	6%
Cigars/clover cigarettes	16%	75%	84%	25%	64%	8%
Smokeless tobacco	32%	93%	68%	7%	50%	2%
Beer or wine	6%	34%	94%	66%	88%	41%
Hard Liquor	6%	35%	94%	65%	88%	36%
Marijuana (recreational)	10%	62%	90%	38%	82%	13%
Cocaine	31%	90%	69%	10%	46%	2%
Methamphetamines	36%	91%	64%	9%	41%	1%
Other amphetamines	29%	88%	71%	12%	48%	2%
Sedatives	37%	90%	65%	10%	45%	3%
Hallucinogens	40%	91%	60%	9%	37%	2%
Anabolic Steroids	43%	99%	57%	1%	39%	0%
Opiates	48%	97%	52%	3%	32%	2%
Inhalants	42%	93%	58%	7%	34%	1%
MDMA (ecstasy)	26%	86%	74%	14%	53%	4%
Other Club Drugs	35%	97%	65%	3%	41%	1%
Other Illegal	32%	95%	93%	5%	70%	1%
Drugs without Rx	24%	90%	76%	10%	53%	3%

Student Drug Use Observed by Employees

1. A large majority of employees reported never seeing or hearing students discuss drugs or alcohol, the exception to this being cigarettes, which more than two-thirds noted they see cigarettes used frequently on campus.
2. No drug on this survey was immune to being seen or heard about at some time by the faculty, the least often occurring drugs being “hallucinogens” and “other club drugs” still appeared to 10% of the employees.
3. Very few drugs were exposed to the faculty more than occasionally, the top ones being cigarettes (67%), beer or wine (11%), hard liquor (8%), and marijuana (5%).

Substance	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Often	Daily
Cigarettes	6%	7%	20%	26%	41%
Tobacco from water pipe	88%	9%	2%	0%	0%
Cigars/clover cigarettes	49%	24%	18%	5%	3%
Smokeless tobacco	74%	15%	7%	2%	2%
Beer or wine	51%	15%	23%	10%	1%
Hard Liquor	58%	16%	18%	7%	1%
Marijuana (recreational)	57%	17%	19%	5%	2%
Cocaine	85%	13%	5%	0%	0%
Methamphetamines	86%	12%	2%	0%	0%
Other amphetamines	82%	13%	5%	0%	0%
Sedatives	88%	9%	2%	0%	0%
Hallucinogens	90%	8%	2%	0%	0%
Anabolic Steroids	83%	11%	4%	0%	0%
Opiates	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%
Inhalants	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%
MDMA (ecstasy)	85%	11%	3%	0%	0%
Other Club Drugs	90%	9%	1%	0%	0%
Other Illegal	85%	12%	3%	0%	0%
Drugs without Rx	79%	13%	7%	1%	0%

Frequency of Use - EMPLOYEES

1. Employees reported recently (in last 30 days) consuming beer or wine at about the same rates as students 21 and older, and consuming hard liquor at rates lower than legal-aged students.
2. More employees than students have never used cigarettes and were much less likely to have smoked recently compared to students.
3. Excluding beer and wine, about 90% of employees have never used other substances listed in the survey.

Substance	Never Used	Ever Used	Recently Used
Cigarettes	81%	19%	7%
Cigars/clover cigarettes	89%	11%	*
Smokeless tobacco	98%	2%	*
Beer or wine	34%	64%	49%
Hard Liquor	41%	59%	30%
Marijuana (recreational)	89%	11%	*
Other Illegal	95%	5%	0%

* represent less than 5 responses.

Socializing off Campus - STUDENTS and EMPLOYEES

1. When asked about socializing off campus, 56% of students said they did *not* drink alcohol during their latest social gathering. Sixty-two percentage of under-age students reported abstaining from alcohol.
2. Similar to the findings about alcohol and drug use perceived about others, nearly all students felt that *a typical* student had at least one drink at a recent social event. About 73% of students believe others are drinking 3-11 drinks when socializing, and only 4% thought typical students consumed no alcohol.
3. About 7% of respondents reported drinking more than 6 drinks at a recent social event.
4. The employees surveyed also thought more students drank alcohol while socializing off campus. No (0%) employees surveyed thought that the typical student consumed no alcohol and about half of employees believed students in general drink about 3-6 alcoholic drinks.

Number of Drinks Consumed	Typical Student	Student Self-Report	Employee Opinion of STUDENTS drinking	Employee Self-Report
Zero 0	4%	56%	0%	52%
1-2	15%	19%	13%	35%
3-4	42%	12%	31%	9%
5-6	24%	6%	18%	4%
7-11	8%	4%	7%	1 % (7+)
12+	7%	3%	0%	
Don't Know	N/A	N/A	31%	

Attitudes about Drugs and Alcohol – STUDENTS and EMPLOYEES

1. Just under half of students thought that under-age drinking and smoking cigarettes were never okay to do. About 53% thought that smoking marijuana/pot was never okay.
2. A large majority of students (74%-95%) said other behaviors such as drinking until passing out or driving under the influence were never okay to do.
3. Ninety-two percent of students said they do not have a problem with drugs or alcohol but 35% said they believed a friend (not necessarily a class or schoolmate) had a drug or alcohol problem (percentages not shown).
4. Nearly all employees said they do not have a problem with drugs or alcohol but 12% said they feel a colleague has a problem (percentages not shown below).

Action/Substance	Never	Sometimes	Anytime	Not sure
Under Age Drinking	47%	40%	6%	7%
Drinking until Passed Out	92%	5%	1%	2%
Driving Under the Influence	95%	3%	0%	1%
Taking Party Drugs	82%	14%	2%	2%
Smoking Pot	53%	32%	10%	5%
Smoking Tobacco	50%	30%	17%	3%
Taking Drugs to Wake up or Chill	74%	19%	3%	4%

More detailed findings, especially by age of student, will be available in the complete report of the Drug and Alcohol Survey.