Maryland Epidemiological Profiles on Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

Jurisdiction Profiles
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Data Sources & Considerations for Use

Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS): The YRBS provides state and county level data on behaviors and perceptions linked to disease and death among middle and high school students in the United States. YRBS, a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (CDC YRBSS), is facilitated by The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Maryland’s participation in the CDC YRBSS has been mandated since 2005 with survey data available for 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2014. The 2014 YRBS was administered in the fall of 2014 to a representative sample of students in grades 6-8 and 9-12. From 175 and 183, public middle schools and high schools respectively, over 80,000 students completed the survey.

The results from the 2014 high school YRBS were analyzed to explore polysubstance use and mental health among alcohol users in each jurisdiction in Maryland. The profiles build on the report published by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH). Jurisdiction reports were distributed to public health officials and stakeholders identified by the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) in the state of Maryland. Recipients were encouraged to share the documents, utilize the information for needs assessments and planning. The SEOW team welcomes any questions, feedback, and suggestions that arise from the review of these profiles.

Important considerations regarding YRBS data:
- All YRBS data are self-reported and the extent of under reporting or over reporting behaviors has not been determined.
- Out-of-school, home schooled and privately educated youth are not represented in the survey.

For more information visit: http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/ccdpc/Reports/Pages/yrbs.aspx
SUMMARY— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Allegany County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students.
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan.

Allegany County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (64.0%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). One third of Allegany County female students reported current alcohol use, slightly higher than females statewide (33.2% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Allegany County female and male students reported similar rates of binge alcohol use (20.3% and 20.1%, respectively), both higher than students statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).

Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 44.6% of 9th graders, 63.7% of 10th graders, 65.9% of 11th graders, and 73.1% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 20.1% of 9th graders, 30.9% of 10th graders, 34.9% of 11th graders, and 44.9% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to peers statewide, Allegany County high schoolers reported higher rates of current alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

High School Demographics:

Allegany County

- Students Surveyed: 1,726
- Racial Mix: 3.6% Black; 85.2% White; 11.2% Other
- Gender: 49.7% Female; 50.3% Male
- Grade: 31.1% 9th Grade; 21.1% 10th Grade; 24.9% 11th Grade; 22.9% 12th Grade

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students' substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.
Allegany County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were slightly less likely to report using marijuana and prescription drugs without a doctor’s prescription compared to peers statewide (Fig. 3).

Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, and over one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 27.9% of Allegany County students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug including: inhalants (12.1%), synthetic marijuana (8.7%), or ecstasy (10.7%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Other Drug Use

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (59.3%) than peers who do not binge drink (10.1%); 23.7% of binge drinkers reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Allegany County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (36.6% vs. 20.1%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (29.0% vs. 13.2%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (44.0%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (38.0%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Allegany County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (39.9%) as compared to non-binge-drinking peers (22.0%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (34.1% vs. 14.8%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).

Mental Health
Alcohol Use and Consequences: Allegany County

SUMMARY—The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Anne Arundel County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

High School Demographics:
Anne Arundel County
- Students Surveyed: 3,668
- Racial Mix: 17.9% Black; 58.9% White; 23.2% Other
- Gender: 49.6% Female; 50.4% Male
- Grade: 31.5% 9th Grade; 24.9% 10th Grade; 23.2% 11th Grade; 20.4% 12th Grade

According to the 2014 YRBS, 42.4% of 9th graders, 51.1% of 10th graders, 61.2% of 11th graders, and 66.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 17.6% of 9th graders, 25.2% of 10th graders, 36.6% of 11th graders, and 43.3% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to peers statewide, Anne Arundel County high schoolers reported higher rates of binge alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Anne Arundel County female students reported a slightly higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (58.4%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). One third of Anne Arundel County female students reported current alcohol use, slightly higher than females statewide (33.0% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Anne Arundel County female students reported a higher rate of binge alcohol use than Anne Arundel County male students (16.9% vs. 15.7%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Anne Arundel County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, almost eight times the rate of non-drinkers, and almost a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 28.5% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (11.1%), synthetic marijuana (18.6%), or ecstasy (10.6%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (63.3%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (28.9%), compared to peers who denied binge drinking (10.7% and 3.6%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Anne Arundel County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (40.9% vs. 20.4%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (29.6% vs. 14.6%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (42.8%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (32.5%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Anne Arundel County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (43.1%) as compared to non-binge-drinking peers (23.5%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (30.3% vs. 17.3%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 40.1% of 9th graders, 51.4% of 10th graders, 59.2% of 11th graders, and 66.6% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 14.3% of 9th graders, 22.0% of 10th graders, 31.0% of 11th graders, and 36.9% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Baltimore County high schoolers reported lower rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Baltimore County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (59.2%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A lower percentage of Baltimore County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (29.2% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Baltimore County female and male students reported similar rates of binge alcohol use (12.5% and 12.7%, respectively), both lower than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Baltimore County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, more than six times the rate of non-drinkers, and over one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 23.2% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (11.6%), synthetic marijuana (12.7%), or ecstasy (9.0%). ‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Baltimore County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use (49.5%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (17.1%) than non-drinkers (6.6% and 2.6%, respectively) (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (64.6%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (25.3%), compared to peers who denied binge drinking (11.8% and 4.3%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Baltimore County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (41.2% vs. 23.0%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (29.6% vs. 14.2%, respectively) (Fig. 5a). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (47.5%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (36.2%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Baltimore County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (43.1%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (25.9%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (29.8% vs. 16.8%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
SUMMARY— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Calvert County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students.
- Alcohol users had lower rates of ever using other drugs than alcohol using peers statewide.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana use and prescription drug use without a prescription.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan.

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

Calvert County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

According to the 2014 YRBS, 42.8% of 9th graders, 56.3% of 10th graders, 67.4% of 11th graders, and 74.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 18.4% of 9th graders, 32.1% of 10th graders, 40.7% of 11th graders, and 48.8% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Calvert County high schoolers reported higher rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

High School Demographics:
Calvert County

- Students Surveyed: 2,274
- Racial Mix: 12.8% Black; 69.5% White; 17.7% Other
- Gender: 49.5% Female; 50.5% Male
- Grade: 26.8% 9th Grade; 27.6% 10th Grade; 25.4% 11th Grade; 20.2% 12th Grade

Any Lifetime Alcohol Use by Sex

Calvert County: 62.3% Female; 56.0% Male; Maryland: 58.3% Female; 50.5% Male

Current Alcohol Use by Sex

Calvert County: 37.7% Female; 30.3% Male; Maryland: 31.1% Female; 25.5% Male

Current Binge Alcohol Use by Sex

Calvert County: 19.4% Female; 19.3% Male; Maryland: 15.0% Female; 15.1% Male

Calvert County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (62.3%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A higher percentage of Calvert County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (37.7% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Calvert County female and male students reported similar rates of binge alcohol use (19.4% and 19.3%, respectively), both higher than students statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Calvert County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use than non-drinking peers (41.8% vs. 5.9%, respectively); 16.7% of current drinkers reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (53.2%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (24.4%), compared to peers who denied binge drinking (9.9% and 3.6%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Calvert County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (35.5% vs. 20.9%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (27.2% vs. 13.2%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (43.9%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (35.1%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Calvert County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (35.2%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (23.8%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (25.7% vs. 16.8%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
SUMMARY— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Caroline County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Alcohol users had higher rates of ever using other drugs than alcohol using peers statewide
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription than peers statewide
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

**Alcohol Consumption**

According to the 2014 YRBS, 46.5% of 9th graders, 60.6% of 10th graders, 65.8% of 11th graders, and 65.9% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 18.6% of 9th graders, 32.2% of 10th graders, 38.8% of 11th graders, and 41.1% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Caroline County high schoolers reported higher rates of current alcohol use in every grade except 12th (statewide data not shown).

Caroline County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (59.2%) than female students statewide (58.3%)(Fig. 2a). Almost one third of Caroline County female students reported current alcohol use similar to females statewide (31.2% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Caroline County female students reported a lower rate of binge alcohol use than Caroline County male students (17.3% vs. 20.7%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Caroline County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and over a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 31.3% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (16.0%), synthetic marijuana (18.7%), or ecstasy (13.1%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Mental Health

Compared to non-drinking peers, Caroline County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (42.0% vs. 23.3%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (32.3% vs. 16.9%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (46.0%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (39.1%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Caroline County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (39.6%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (26.6%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (31.6% vs. 19.7%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
SUMMARY— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Carroll County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

According to the 2014 YRBS, 34.9% of 9th graders, 47.4% of 10th graders, 63.4% of 11th graders, and 69.9% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 13.5% of 9th graders, 23.9% of 10th graders, 37.5% of 11th graders, and 43.1% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1).

Compared to their peers statewide, Carroll County high schoolers reported lower rates of all alcohol use in 9th and 10th grades and higher rates in 11th and 12th grades (statewide data not shown).

Carroll County female students reported a lower rate of any lifetime alcohol use (55.7%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). Almost one third of Carroll County female students reported current alcohol use, slightly higher than females statewide (31.9% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Carroll County female students reported a higher rate of binge alcohol use than Carroll County male students (15.0% vs. 14.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Carroll County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were less likely to report ever using marijuana than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Almost half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and almost a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 23.5% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (9.9%), synthetic marijuana (15.6%), or ecstasy (8.0%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Mental Health

Compared to non-drinking peers, Carroll County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (36.4% vs. 20.9%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (27.6% vs. 14.6%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (41.3%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (35.8%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Carroll County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (35.5%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (24.1%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (26.8% vs. 16.7%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
This report highlights recent information on the consumption and consequences of alcohol in Allegany County, Maryland.

Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 47.3% of 9th graders, 58.9% of 10th graders, 68.9% of 11th graders, and 74.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 23.6% of 9th graders, 33.4% of 10th graders, 39.4% of 11th graders, and 46.4% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Cecil County high schoolers reported higher rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Cecil County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (65.9%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A higher percentage of Cecil County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (37.7% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Cecil County female and male students reported similar rates of binge alcohol use (21.3% and 21.4%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.
Cecil County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use than non-drinking peers (53.9% vs. 6.4%, respectively); 17.1% of current drinkers reports using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (62.0%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (21.4%), compared to peers who denied binge drinking (12.6% and 3.8%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Cecil County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (42.1% vs. 23.3%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (33.1% vs. 15.6%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (50.5%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (41.6%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Cecil County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (46.0%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (26.5%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (35.0% vs. 19.0%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
SUMMARY— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Charles County:
- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

According to the 2014 YRBS, 42.8% of 9th graders, 53.7% of 10th graders, 58.2% of 11th graders, and 64.5% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 17.4% of 9th graders, 23.9 of 10th graders, 29.2% of 11th graders, and 37.3% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Charles County high schoolers reported lower rates of current binge alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Charles County male students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (51.7%) than male students statewide (50.5%) (Fig. 2a). A lower percentage of Charles County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (29.8% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Charles County female students reported a slightly higher rate of binge alcohol use than Charles County male students (13.7% vs. 13.1%, respectively), both lower than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Charles County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report ever using marijuana than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, almost five times the rate of non-drinkers (data not shown), and over one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 29.3% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (13.6%), synthetic marijuana (17.9%), or ecstasy (10.6%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Charles County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use than non-drinking peers (49.6% vs. 8.2%, respectively); 17.9% of current drinkers reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (60.6%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (25.7%), compared to peers who denied binge drinking (13.9% and 4.2%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Charles County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (37.5% vs. 20.8%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (25.7% vs. 14.2%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (40.4%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (26.8%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Charles County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (37.6%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (23.8%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (24.9% vs. 16.5%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
SUMMARY—The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Dorchester County:

- Male students reported higher rates of current alcohol use than female students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

Dorchester County female students reported a lower rate of any lifetime alcohol use (55.6%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A lower percentage of Dorchester County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (26.9% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Dorchester County female students reported a lower rate of binge alcohol use than Dorchester County male students (14.6% vs. 19.6%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).

Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 49.6% of 9th graders, 49.5% of 10th graders, 60.4% of 11th graders, and 61.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Dorchester County high schoolers reported lower rates of current alcohol use in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.
Dorchester County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were less likely to report using marijuana and prescription drugs without a doctor’s prescription than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Almost half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, more than three times the rate of non-drinkers (data not shown), and almost one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 30.1% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including inhalants (15.5%) and synthetic marijuana (19.3%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

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Dorchester County students who currently drank were slightly less likely to report current marijuana use (47.2%) than peers statewide (47.5%) (Fig. 4a).

Dorchester County students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (55.4%) than peers who denied binge drinking (10.5%). Binge drinking peers statewide reported a higher rate of marijuana use (60.3%) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Dorchester County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (38.5% vs. 20.0%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (31.3% vs. 13.3%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (47.0%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Dorchester County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (43.0%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (22.1%) (Fig. 5b).
### Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 37.6% of 9th graders, 53.3% of 10th graders, 65.6% of 11th graders, and 69.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 15.4% of 9th graders, 28.4% of 10th graders, 40.4% of 11th graders, and 43.4% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Frederick County high schoolers reported higher rates of all alcohol use in every grade except 9th (statewide data not shown).

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

### Frederick County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

**SUMMARY**— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Frederick County:
- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

**High School Demographics:**

**Frederick County**

- **Students Surveyed:** 3,599
- **Racial Mix:** 8.6% Black; 65.4% White; 26.0% Other
- **Gender:** 48.2% Female; 51.8% Male
- **Grade:** 31.9% 9th Grade; 28.4% 10th Grade; 20.7% 11th Grade; 18.6% 12th Grade

Frederick County female students reported a similar rate of any lifetime alcohol use (58.5%) to female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). One third of Frederick County female students reported current alcohol use, slightly higher than females statewide (32.8% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Frederick County female students reported a higher rate of binge alcohol use than Frederick County male students (15.2% vs. 14.5%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Other Drug Use

Frederick County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, more than eight times the rate of non-drinkers, and over a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 24.2% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (11.4%), synthetic marijuana (14.8%), or ecstasy (8.2%).

Other drug use includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Mental Health

Compared to non-drinking peers, Frederick County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (41.0% vs. 21.2%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (28.8% vs. 14.7%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (45.7%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (32.2%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Frederick County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (41.2%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (25.0%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (29.2% vs. 17.4%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
This report highlights recent information on the consumption and consequences of alcohol in Allegany County, Maryland.

**Alcohol Consumption**

According to the 2014 YRBS, 63.9% of 9th graders, 69.8% of 10th graders, 67.9% of 11th graders, and 76.4% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 37.5% of 9th graders, 33.2% of 10th graders, 44.6% of 11th graders, and 51.1% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Garrett County high schoolers reported higher rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Garrett County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (71.2%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A higher percentage of Garrett County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (40.9% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Garrett County female students reported a lower rate of binge alcohol use than Garrett County male students (22.7% vs. 28.9%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.
Garrett County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were less likely to report using other substances than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Over two-fifths of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and over one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 25.8% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (15.2%), synthetic marijuana (15.3%), or ecstasy (10.1%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Garrett County students who currently drank were less likely to report current marijuana use compared to peer drinkers statewide (32.1% vs. 47.5%, respectively). Garrett County students were more likely to report using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (19.0% vs. 18.8%, respectively) (Fig. 4a). Students who reported binge drinking were less likely to report current marijuana use (40.6%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (25.5%), compared to peers statewide (60.3% and 26.5%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Garrett County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (32.5% vs. 19.1%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (27.6% vs. 13.4%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (47.2%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (42.9%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Garrett County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (32.9%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (21.9%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (27.9% vs. 15.9%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
SUMMARY—The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Harford County:
- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 40.0% of 9th graders, 55.2% of 10th graders, 64.4% of 11th graders, and 73.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 18.0% of 9th graders, 31.6% of 10th graders, 39.3% of 11th graders, and 49.7% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Harford County high schoolers reported higher rates of current alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Harford County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (60.4%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A higher percentage of Harford County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (37.4% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Harford County female students reported a higher rate of binge alcohol use than Harford County male students (19.0% and 17.7%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Harford County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use compared to peers who were not current drinkers (47.0% vs. 6.1%, respectively); 16.5% of current drinkers reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (60.8%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (21.6%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (11.1% and 3.6%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Harford County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (37.4% vs. 21.1%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (26.0% vs. 14.4%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (43.0%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (31.7%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Harford County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (39.0%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (24.0%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (27.8% vs. 16.5%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
**Howard County**: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

**Summary**— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Howard County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

**Alcohol Consumption**

According to the 2014 YRBS, 26.7% of 9th graders, 45.9% of 10th graders, 51.7% of 11th graders, and 59.9% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 8.8% of 9th graders, 19.9% of 10th graders, 27.7% of 11th graders, and 36.0% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Howard County high schoolers reported lower rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Howard County female students reported a lower rate of any lifetime alcohol use (49.2%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A lower percentage of Howard County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (26.3% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Howard County female students reported a higher rate of binge alcohol use than Howard County male students (11.1% and 9.9%, respectively), both lower than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Howard County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Almost half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, more than ten times the rate of non-drinkers, and almost one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 19.5% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (9.1%), synthetic marijuana (9.0%), or ecstasy (7.4%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Howard County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use compared to peers who were not current drinkers (41.3% vs. 3.9%, respectively); 14.7% of current drinkers reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (51.9%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (20.7%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (8.1% and 3.3%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Howard County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (36.6% vs. 19.4%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (26.2% vs. 14.3%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (43.6%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (32.5%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Howard County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (38.1%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (21.9%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (26.9% vs. 16.3%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
SUMMARY— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Kent County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

Kent County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 50.0% of 9th graders, 59.8% of 10th graders, 62.9% of 11th graders, and 65.3% of 12th graders in Kent County reported using alcohol in their lifetime. Compared to their peers statewide, Kent County high schoolers reported higher rates of lifetime alcohol use in every grade except 12th (Fig. 1).

Kent County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (63.3%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A higher percentage of Kent County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (41.6% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b).
Kent County students who reported lifetime alcohol use were less likely to report using marijuana and prescription drugs without a doctor’s prescription than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Almost half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and over one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 26.7% of Kent County students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, slightly more than the 26.2% of peers statewide.

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Kent County students who currently drank were less likely to report current marijuana or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription than peers statewide (40.2% vs. 51.3%, respectively) (Fig. 4a).

Kent County students who reported binge drinking were less likely to report current marijuana or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription than peers statewide (57.0% vs. 63.7%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to peers statewide, Kent County high school students were less likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (23.6% vs. 27.1%, respectively), and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (18.2% vs. 19.6%, respectively) (Fig. 5a).

Students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were less likely to report feeling sad or hopeless or considered suicide (33.6%) than peers statewide (43.5%) (Fig. 5b).
Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 33.2% of 9th graders, 48.1% of 10th graders, 57.8% of 11th graders, and 67.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 12.1% of 9th graders, 22.8% of 10th graders, 30.5% of 11th graders, and 38.3% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Montgomery County high schoolers reported lower rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.
Montgomery County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Almost half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, more than eight times the rate of non-drinkers, and over one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 19.9% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (10.2%), synthetic marijuana (9.6%), or ecstasy (8.5%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Montgomery County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use than non-drinkers (48.7% vs 5.3% respectively); 17.1% used a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (67.5%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (24.0%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (9.8% and 3.3%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Montgomery County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (40.6% vs. 22.8%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (29.7% vs. 14.1%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (41.6%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (34.0%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Montgomery County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (41.4%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (25.8%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (33.3% vs. 16.3%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 37.3% of 9th graders, 48.4% of 10th graders, 53.0% of 11th graders, and 56.4% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 12.5% of 9th graders, 18.3% of 10th graders, 24.0% of 11th graders, and 27.3% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to peers statewide, Prince George's County high schoolers reported lower rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Any Lifetime Alcohol Use by Sex

Current Alcohol Use by Sex

Current Binge Alcohol Use by Sex

Prince George's County female students reported a lower rate of any lifetime alcohol use (53.8%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A lower percentage of Prince George's County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (22.9% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Prince George's County female and male students reported similar rates of binge alcohol use (7.1% and 7.2%, respectively), both lower than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).

Alcohol Use and Consequences:

According to the 2014 YRBS, 37.3% of 9th graders, 48.4% of 10th graders, 53.0% of 11th graders, and 56.4% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 12.5% of 9th graders, 18.3% of 10th graders, 24.0% of 11th graders, and 27.3% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to peers statewide, Prince George's County high schoolers reported lower rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs
Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

Prince George’s County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.
Prince George’s County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, five times the rate of non-drinkers, and over one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 27.8% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (15.5%), synthetic marijuana (14.0%), or ecstasy (10.5%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Prince George’s County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use (52.0%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (21.2%) compared non-drinking peers (8.2% and 2.6%, respectively) (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (72.0%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (37.3%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (13.8% and 4.9%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Prince George’s County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (41.5% vs. 23.3%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (28.8% vs. 13.9%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (42.1%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (33.1%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Prince George’s County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (41.5%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (28.7%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (33.8% vs. 16.6%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
Alcohol Use and Consequences:

This report highlights recent information on the consumption and consequences of alcohol in Allegany County, Maryland.

Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 43.5% of 9th graders, 59.8% of 10th graders, 70.9% of 11th graders, and 70.9% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 18.1% of 9th graders, 35.6% of 10th graders, 40.9% of 11th graders, and 45.3% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Queen Anne's County high schoolers reported higher rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Queen Anne's County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

**SUMMARY**— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Queen Anne’s:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Alcohol users had higher rates of ever using other drugs than alcohol using peers statewide
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

**High School Demographics:**

**Queen Anne’s**

- **Students Surveyed:** 1,516
- **Racial Mix:** 7.1% Black; 75.7% White; 17.2% Other
- **Gender:** 51.4% Female; 48.6% Male
- **Grade:** 29.7% 9th Grade; 24.9% 10th Grade; 21.6% 11th Grade; 22.9% 12th Grade

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

According to the 2014 YRBS, 43.5% of 9th graders, 59.8% of 10th graders, 70.9% of 11th graders, and 70.9% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 18.1% of 9th graders, 35.6% of 10th graders, 40.9% of 11th graders, and 45.3% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Queen Anne's County high schoolers reported higher rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

**Queen Anne’s County:**

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Alcohol users had higher rates of ever using other drugs than alcohol using peers statewide
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

Queen Anne’s County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (63.6%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A higher percentage of Queen Anne’s County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (36.4% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Queen Anne’s County female students reported a slightly lower rate of binge alcohol use than Queen Anne’s County male students (20.8% vs. 21.9%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Queen Anne’s County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and over a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 30.7% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (16.4%), synthetic marijuana (19.5%), or ecstasy (13.3%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Queen Anne’s County students who currently drank reported current marijuana use (49.1%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (22.0%) (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (60.5%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (28.1%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (9.6% and 5.5%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Queen Anne’s County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (34.9% vs. 21.9%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (27.9% vs. 17.9%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (41.8%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (33.1%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Queen Anne’s County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (37.1%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (24.6%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (28.4% vs. 19.6%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
**Alcohol Consumption**

According to the 2014 YRBS, 47.4% of 9th graders, 53.0% of 10th graders, 66.1% of 11th graders, and 73.6% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 22.3% of 9th graders, 23.7% of 10th graders, 35.5% of 11th graders, and 46.7% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Saint Mary’s County high schoolers reported higher rates of all alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

**Alcohol Use by Grade**

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

Saint Mary’s County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (64.3%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). Over one-third of Saint Mary’s County female students reported current alcohol use, higher than females statewide (35.4% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Saint Mary’s County female students reported a higher rate of binge alcohol use than Saint Mary’s County male students (18.6% vs. 15.3%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Saint Mary’s County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were less likely to report using marijuana than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Almost half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and almost a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 30.5% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (12.6%), synthetic marijuana (21.0%), or ecstasy (9.7%). ‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Saint Mary’s County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use compared non-drinking peers (43.1% vs. 5.7%, respectively); 20.8% of current drinkers reported prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a). Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (55.5%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (28.5%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (9.9% and 4.0%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Saint Mary’s County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (37.0% vs. 21.2%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (28.4% vs. 15.0%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (44.8%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (36.4%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Saint Mary’s County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (39.3%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (24.1%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (27.8% vs. 17.5%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 51.4% of 9th graders, 58.5% of 10th graders, and 57.9% of 11th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime. Compared to their peers statewide, a higher percentage of Somerset County high schoolers reported any lifetime alcohol use in 9th and 10th grades (Fig. 1).

Summary—The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Somerset County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students.
- Alcohol users had higher rates of ever using other drugs than alcohol using peers statewide.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana use and prescription drug use without a prescription.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan.

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.
Somerset County students who reported lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, and almost a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription. Overall, 36.5% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one drug (other than marijuana or prescription drugs), including: synthetic marijuana (23.3%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Somerset County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use than peers statewide (51.3% vs. 47.5%, respectively) (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (71.6%) compared to peers statewide (63.7%) (Fig. 4b).

Somerset County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to endorse symptoms of mental health distress, which is defined as reported feelings of sadness or hopelessness, considering suicide, or making a suicide plan. Compared to peers statewide, a higher percentage of Somerset County students reported mental health distress (47.5% vs. 42.8%, respectively). Students who denied current alcohol use were less likely to report feeling sad or hopeless or considering suicide in Somerset County and statewide (21.0% vs. 24.5%) (Fig. 5a).
Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 39.0% of 9th graders, 46.5% of 10th graders, 53.5% of 11th graders, and 64.7% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 26.7% of 10th graders, 31.3% of 11th graders, and 38.0% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Talbot County high schoolers reported lower rates of lifetime alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Talbot County female students reported a lower rate of any lifetime alcohol use (54.9%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A lower percentage of Talbot County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (29.1% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Talbot County female and male students reported similar rates of binge alcohol use (17.1% and 16.9%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Talbot County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were slightly more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and over a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 26.1% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (12.5%), synthetic marijuana (15.6%), or ecstasy (12.9%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Other Drug Use

Talbot County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use (45.7%) or prescription drug use without a doctor's prescription (47.5%) compared to peers who were not current drinkers (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (56.6%) or prescription drug use without a doctor's prescription (60.3%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (9.3% and 10.9%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Mental Health

Compared to non-drinking peers, Talbot County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (33.9% vs. 16.7%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (22.3% vs. 11.7%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (43.9%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Talbot County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (34.4%) than non-binge-drinking peers (19.0%) (Fig. 5b).
**Washington County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School**

**SUMMARY**— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Washington County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students.
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan.

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

**High School Demographics:**

**Washington County**

- Students Surveyed: 2,726
- Racial Mix: 10.8% Black; 70.5% White; 18.7% Other
- Gender: 50.0% Female; 50.0% Male
- Grade: 27.8% 9th Grade; 29.0% 10th Grade; 21.1% 11th Grade; 21.8% 12th Grade

**Alcohol Consumption**

According to the 2014 YRBS, 49.9% of 9th graders, 56.1% of 10th graders, 57.6% of 11th graders, and 75.2% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 25.1% of 9th graders, 25.5% of 10th graders, 29.8% of 11th graders, and 47.6% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1).

**Figure 1**

![Alcohol Use by Grade](image)

**Figure 2a**

![Any Lifetime Alcohol Use by Sex](image)

**Figure 2b**

![Current Alcohol Use by Sex](image)

**Figure 2c**

Washington County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (63.0%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). Over one third of Washington County female students reported current alcohol use, higher than females statewide (34.5% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Washington County female and male students reported similar rates of binge alcohol use (16.9% and 17.0%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Washington County students who reported lifetime alcohol use were slightly less likely to report using marijuana than peers statewide (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, almost seven times the rate of non-drinkers (data not shown), and almost a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 27.8% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (12.0%), synthetic marijuana (20.0%), or ecstasy (10.1%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Washington County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use than non-drinkers (46.1% vs. 7.1%, respectively) (Fig. 4a); 21.2% of current drinkers reported prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription. Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (58.6%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (29.5%), compared to peers who denied binge drinking (11.3% and 4.0%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Washington County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (37.1% vs. 22.0%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (28.8% vs. 15.8%, respectively) (Fig. 5a). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (42.6%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (36.0%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Washington County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (37.0%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (24.8%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (31.0% vs. 17.7%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
### SUMMARY

The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Wicomico County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students.
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan.

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past 30 days.

### Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 40.5% of 9th graders, 52.2% of 10th graders, 61.8% of 11th graders, and 66.5% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 17.3% of 9th graders, 25.9% of 10th graders, 30.4% of 11th graders, and 37.4% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1).

### Wicomico County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School

#### High School Demographics:

- **Students Surveyed:** 1,877
- **Racial Mix:** 30.2% Black; 46.0% White; 23.8% Other
- **Gender:** 52.8% Female; 47.2% Male
- **Grade:** 36.3% 9th Grade; 29.0% 10th Grade; 18.9% 11th Grade; 15.3% 12th Grade

Wicomico County female students reported a lower rate of any lifetime alcohol use (53.5%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A quarter of Wicomico County female students reported current alcohol use, lower than females statewide (25.6% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Wicomico County female students reported a slightly lower rate of binge alcohol use than Wicomico County male students (12.4% vs. 12.8%, respectively), both lower than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Other Drug Use

Wicomico County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use compared to peers who were not current drinkers (49.1% vs. 6.4%, respectively); 21.4% of current drinkers reported prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use (61.6%) or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (31.8%) compared to peers who denied binge drinking (11.4% and 4.2%, respectively) (Fig. 4b).

Mental Health

Compared to non-drinking peers, Wicomico County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (40.9% vs. 22.5%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (32.3% vs. 15.0%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (44.6%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (37.6%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Wicomico County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (41.3%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (25.5%) and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (31.8% vs. 17.9%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).
**Worcester County: Substance Use and Mental Health Among Alcohol Users in High School**

**SUMMARY**— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Worcester County:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students
- Alcohol users had higher rates of ever using other drugs than alcohol using peers statewide
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan

Worcester County female students reported a higher rate of any lifetime alcohol use (60.9%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). A higher percentage of Worcester County female students reported current alcohol use than females statewide (37.6% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Worcester County female students reported a lower rate of binge alcohol use than Worcester County male students (19.3% vs. 21.2%, respectively), both higher than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.
Worcester County students who reported any lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Over half of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana and almost a quarter reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 31.2% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including: inhalants (14.5%), synthetic marijuana (19.5%), or ecstasy (13.4%).

‘Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Worcester County students who currently drank were more likely to report current marijuana use (69.0%) and prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (21.5%) than non-drinking peers (Fig. 4a).

Students who reported binge drinking were more likely to report current marijuana use compared to peers who denied binge drinking (83.6% vs 25.6%, respectively); 33.9% of binge drinkers reported prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription (Fig. 4b).

Compared to non-drinking peers, Worcester County high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (36.0% vs. 22.8%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (30.3% vs. 14.4%, respectively). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (43.1%) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (36.7%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Worcester County high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (35.4%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (25.3%), and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (30.0% vs. 18.2%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).

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SUMMARY— The Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Workgroup (SEOW) analyzed the 2014 Maryland High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for Maryland and each jurisdiction. In Baltimore City:

- Female students reported higher rates of alcohol use than male students in Baltimore City.
- Students who ever used alcohol had higher rates of ever using other drugs.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of current marijuana and prescription drug use without a prescription.
- Students who were current or binge alcohol users had higher rates of feeling sad or hopeless, and considered suicide and/or made a suicide plan.

The 2014 Maryland YRBS is the source of data used for all tables and graphs. The survey uses three time frame measurements when assessing students’ substance use and mental health status. Any lifetime use is defined as whether or not a student has ever used a substance. Past year substance use is defined as any use in the past 12 months. Current use is defined as substance use in the past 30 days. Current binge alcohol use is defined as five or more drinks in a row in the past thirty days.

Alcohol Consumption

According to the 2014 YRBS, 41.0% of 9th graders, 46.5% of 10th graders, 54.0% of 11th graders, and 63.5% of 12th graders reported using alcohol in their lifetime; and 14.0% of 9th graders, 14.4% of 10th graders, 23.7% of 11th graders, and 29.8% of 12th graders reported current alcohol use (Fig. 1). Compared to their peers statewide, Baltimore City high schoolers reported lower rates of current alcohol use in every grade (statewide data not shown).

Baltimore City female students reported a lower rate of any lifetime alcohol use (54.3%) than female students statewide (58.3%) (Fig. 2a). One fifth of Baltimore City female students reported current alcohol use, lower than females statewide (20.3% vs. 31.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2b). Baltimore City female students reported a lower rate of binge alcohol use than Baltimore City male students (6.7% vs. 8.8%, respectively), both lower than students reported statewide (15.0% and 15.1%, respectively) (Fig. 2c).
Baltimore City students who reported lifetime alcohol use were more likely to report using other substances than non-drinking peers (Fig. 3). Almost two-thirds of those who ever drank alcohol also used marijuana, more than three times the rate of non-drinkers, and almost one-fifth reported using a prescription drug without a doctor’s prescription. Overall, 27.0% of students who reported ever using alcohol reported using at least one other drug, including inhalants (15.8%), synthetic marijuana (14.1%), or ecstasy (10.7%).

'Other drug use’ includes inhalants, synthetic marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids, heroin, and methamphetamine.

Compared to non-drinking peers, Baltimore City high school students who reported current alcohol use were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (42.5% vs. 26.1%, respectively) and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (27.8% vs. 16.6%, respectively) (Fig. 5a). Students who reported current alcohol use plus current marijuana use and/or a prescription drug use without a doctor’s prescription were more likely to report feeling sad or hopeless (43.9%), and considered suicide/made a suicide plan (32.5%) (Fig. 5a).

A higher percentage of binge drinkers in Baltimore City high schools reported feeling sad or hopeless (41.5%) compared to non-binge-drinking peers (28.7%), and had higher rates of considering suicide/making a suicide plan (29.0% vs. 19.0%, respectively) (Fig. 5b).