

## **DATA BRIEF**

# **Alcohol & Substance Use**

Use of Alcohol, Marijuana, and Prescription Pain Medicine/Opioids

#### **Alcohol Use**

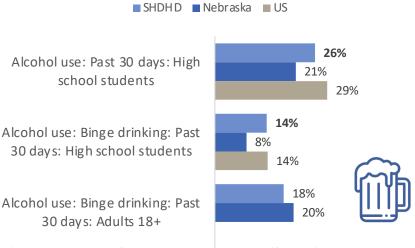
Local high school students were more likely than peers across the state to report drinking in the past month – including binge drinking.

Beer, wine, and hard liquor were described as easy to obtain by a third of 8<sup>th</sup> graders (35%), half of 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and two-thirds of high school seniors (68%)

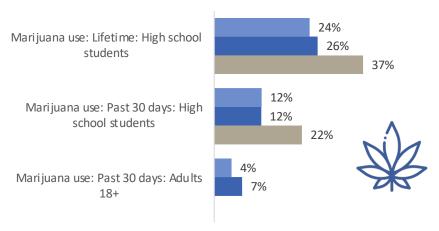
#### Marijuana Use

Nearly one in ten local high school students reported using marijuana in the last month, and nearly one in four said they had ever used.

Marijuana was described as easy to obtain by one in five 8<sup>th</sup> graders, a third of 10<sup>th</sup> graders (32%), and half of high school seniors (52%)



\*Binge drinking is defined as 4+ drinking in a row (females) or 5+ drinks in a row (males)



### **Prescription Pain Medicine/Opioids Misuse**

While 13% of high school students reported misusing Rx pain medication in their lifetime, between 23% (8<sup>th</sup> graders) and 35% (12<sup>th</sup> graders) said it was easy to obtain prescription drugs for non-medical use.

Local adults were about half as likely as other adults across Nebraska to report misusing opioids in the past year.

Misuse of Rx pain medication:
Lifetime: High school students

Misuse of o pioids: Past year: Adults
13%
15%
14%

14%

\*Misuse is defined as taken without a doctor's prescription (Rx) or differently than ordered by a doctor



Data sources: YRBS (2018), BRFSS (2020), NRPFSS (2018)

Flaticon graphics created by Freepik