

Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people

Part 8 tables - drug use prevalence

England, 2018

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Introduction

Data tables showing selected outputs on drug use in young people from a survey of secondary school pupils in England in years 7 to 11 (mostly aged 11 to 15), which is currently run every other year.

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Notes and definitions for all tables

Notes:

Age and sex totals: Where age and sex breakdowns are shown, the row / column total includes pupils where the age / For time series tables, data prior to 2014 has been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Symbols used in tables:

- = zero or rounded to zero

: = not available

z = not applicable

u = estimate not shown due to a small sample base (less than 30)

[figures in brackets] have a small sample base (30 to less than 50)

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Table 8.2
Proportion of pupils who took drugs in the last year, by sex and age^{1,2}

2001 - 2018

All pupils

Numbers / Percentages

	Year														2016 ³	2018	
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ²	2011	2012	2013	2014			
Took drugs in the last year	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Boys																	
11 years	7	7	8	6	7	7	8	5	5	4	2	4	4	5	8	5	
12 years	8	10	11	8	11	8	8	6	7	4	3	6	5	4	12	8	
13 years	20	17	19	16	15	13	11	14	10	9	10	9	7	8	16	14	
14 years	26	29	27	27	26	23	24	19	19	16	16	13	11	12	19	22	
15 years	41	39	39	33	34	28	32	30	32	27	26	24	26	20	28	33	
Total (11-15)	21	21	22	18	19	17	18	16	16	13	13	12	12	11	18	18	
Girls																	
11 years	4	6	7	4	6	5	4	2	4	5	3	4	2	3	6	5	
12 years	9	6	9	8	8	6	7	5	6	5	4	3	4	4	9	5	
13 years	18	16	17	13	14	12	14	13	10	8	9	9	7	6	15	12	
14 years	27	25	29	23	27	23	24	18	18	13	13	14	14	15	19	22	
15 years	36	34	36	32	34	30	30	28	27	24	21	23	22	17	31	29	
Total (11-15)	19	18	20	17	19	16	17	14	14	12	11	12	11	10	18	16	
Total																	
11 years	6	6	8	5	6	6	6	4	5	5	3	4	3	4	7	5	
12 years	9	8	10	8	9	7	8	5	7	4	3	4	4	4	10	7	
13 years	19	16	18	14	15	12	12	13	10	8	9	9	7	7	15	13	
14 years	27	27	28	25	26	23	24	19	19	14	14	13	12	14	19	22	
15 years	39	37	38	32	34	29	31	29	30	25	23	24	24	19	30	31	
Total (11-15)	20	20	21	18	19	17	17	15	15	12	12	12	11	10	18	17	
Unweighted bases																	
Boys																	
11 years	779	797	812	792	673	553	554	576	547	521	453	512	383	436	652	622	
12 years	865	945	976	958	858	765	780	728	710	711	607	662	501	541	761	937	
13 years	894	960	1012	953	899	727	750	730	723	686	561	708	494	598	964	1053	
14 years	860	916	964	936	867	770	735	722	679	663	588	707	497	559	941	1132	
15 years	996	1088	1112	1044	956	866	878	903	861	820	713	867	623	722	1037	1213	
Total (11-15)	4394	4706	4876	4683	4253	3681	3697	3659	3520	3401	2922	3456	2498	2856	4358	4969	
Girls																	
11 years	759	753	808	774	668	583	541	585	574	546	494	525	369	448	696	679	
12 years	939	927	1020	885	827	783	687	735	722	681	605	714	462	553	849	1121	
13 years	915	903	1004	899	870	805	733	719	723	694	658	730	442	605	1096	1284	
14 years	916	921	936	886	927	752	679	739	716	718	597	730	448	539	926	1361	
15 years	929	993	1077	999	931	965	849	848	845	785	752	835	550	661	1212	1205	
Total (11-15)	4458	4497	4845	4443	4223	3888	3489	3626	3580	3424	3106	3534	2271	2806	4779	5659	
Total																	
11 years	1538	1550	1620	1566	1341	1136	1095	1161	1121	1067	947	1037	752	884	1352	1306	
12 years	1804	1872	1996	1843	1685	1548	1467	1463	1432	1392	1212	1376	963	1094	1617	2063	
13 years	1809	1863	2016	1852	1769	1532	1483	1449	1446	1380	1219	1438	936	1203	2077	2345	
14 years	1776	1837	1900	1822	1794	1522	1414	1461	1395	1381	1185	1437	945	1098	1875	2505	
15 years	1925	2081	2189	2043	1887	1831	1727	1751	1706	1605	1465	1702	1173	1383	2255	2434	
Total (11-15)	8852	9203	9721	9126	8476	7569	7186	7285	7100	6825	6028	6990	4769	5662	9302	10781	

Weighted bases															
Boys															
11 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	404	711	747
12 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	523	808	1033
13 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	603	899	1027
14 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	585	948	1001
15 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	734	1212	1324
Total (11-15)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	2849	4580	5147
Girls															
11 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	426	702	809
12 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	532	845	1121
13 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	579	948	1060
14 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	544	882	1065
15 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	750	1260	1386
Total (11-15)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	2831	4636	5454
Total															
11 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	831	1425	1561
12 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1054	1665	2160
13 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1182	1874	2094
14 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1129	1836	2077
15 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1483	2479	2728
Total (11-15)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5680	9403	10756

Footnotes

1. Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.
2. Estimates since 2010 are based on weighted data (see appendix A for more details).
3. Psychoactive substances were included in this measure from 2016 and so data before then is not comparable. Details of this and other issues effecting comparability can be found in the Data Quality Statement (Coherence and comparability).

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.3
Proportion of pupils who took drugs in the last month, by sex and age^{1,2}

2001 - 2018

All pupils

Numbers / Percentages

Took drugs in the last month	Year														2016 ³	2018
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ²	2011	2012	2013	2014		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys																
11 years	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	3	2	1	3	2	3	4	2
12 years	4	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	1	1	3	3	2	6	5
13 years	11	9	11	8	8	7	5	9	6	5	5	4	3	5	8	8
14 years	17	19	17	17	16	15	14	10	10	9	8	7	6	8	12	12
15 years	25	26	25	21	22	18	19	18	21	16	15	15	16	12	17	21
Total (11-15)	13	13	13	11	11	10	10	9	9	7	7	7	6	6	10	11
Girls																
11 years	2	3	3	1	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	3	3
12 years	4	3	5	4	4	3	4	2	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	3
13 years	9	8	8	7	8	6	7	7	6	3	4	6	4	2	8	5
14 years	15	15	18	13	16	12	15	11	11	6	5	8	8	7	11	12
15 years	22	19	22	20	19	16	16	14	13	13	10	11	12	11	19	15
Total (11-15)	11	10	12	9	10	8	9	7	7	6	5	6	6	6	10	8
Total																
11 years	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	4	2
12 years	4	4	5	4	4	3	4	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	5	4
13 years	10	8	9	7	8	6	6	8	6	4	5	5	3	4	8	7
14 years	16	17	17	15	16	13	15	10	10	7	7	7	7	8	11	12
15 years	24	22	23	21	20	17	17	16	17	14	13	13	14	12	18	19
Total (11-15)	12	12	12	10	11	9	10	8	8	7	6	6	6	6	10	9
Unweighted bases																
Boys																
11 years	778	794	810	792	672	552	551	576	545	520	452	512	383	434	646	618
12 years	861	941	973	954	851	764	772	728	707	707	606	659	500	538	743	925
13 years	887	950	1005	952	891	722	745	722	720	685	561	708	492	595	944	1033
14 years	852	910	951	932	853	764	727	716	673	659	584	704	493	556	923	1103
15 years	982	1077	1101	1034	941	855	868	899	848	812	711	860	619	718	1003	1160
Total (11-15)	4360	4672	4840	4664	4208	3657	3663	3641	3493	3383	2914	3443	2487	2841	4261	4849
Girls																
11 years	759	751	806	774	667	582	540	584	572	546	493	524	369	448	694	675
12 years	937	924	1017	883	825	780	685	732	721	680	605	714	459	552	842	1111
13 years	913	897	997	897	865	801	730	716	722	691	652	730	442	601	1073	1256
14 years	911	914	929	878	921	745	677	737	714	715	593	727	446	535	906	1324
15 years	919	987	1069	990	922	958	838	837	835	778	744	829	545	658	1162	1157
Total (11-15)	4439	4473	4818	4422	4200	3866	3470	3606	3564	3410	3087	3524	2261	2794	4677	5531
Total																
11 years	1537	1545	1616	1566	1339	1134	1091	1160	1117	1066	945	1036	752	882	1344	1298
12 years	1798	1865	1990	1837	1676	1544	1457	1460	1428	1387	1211	1373	959	1090	1592	2041
13 years	1800	1847	2002	1849	1756	1523	1475	1438	1442	1376	1213	1438	934	1196	2033	2297
14 years	1763	1824	1880	1810	1774	1509	1404	1453	1387	1374	1177	1431	939	1091	1837	2438
15 years	1901	2064	2170	2024	1863	1813	1706	1736	1683	1590	1455	1689	1164	1376	2170	2331

Total (11-15)	8799	9145	9658	9086	8408	7523	7133	7247	7057	6793	6001	6967	4748	5635	9097	10528
---------------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-------

Weighted bases															
Boys															
11 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	403	706	742
12 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	519	788	1021
13 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	600	879	1009
14 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	581	926	975
15 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	731	1170	1268
Total (11-15)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	2835	4471	5027
Girls															
11 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	426	699	802
12 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	530	838	1112
13 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	575	928	1039
14 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	540	863	1037
15 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	746	1188	1331
Total (11-15)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	2819	4516	5333
Total															
11 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	829	1418	1549
12 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1050	1638	2140
13 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1176	1831	2054
14 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1122	1796	2021
15 years	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1477	2364	2616
Total (11-15)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5653	9166	10510

Footnotes

1. Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.
2. Estimates since 2010 are based on weighted data (see appendix A for more details).
3. Psychoactive substances were included in this measure from 2016 and so data before then is not comparable. Details of this and other issues effecting comparability can be found in the Data Quality Statement (Coherence and comparability).

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.4

Proportion of pupils who have taken drugs (including and excluding volatile substances) ever, in the last year and in the last month, by sex ^{1,2}

2001 - 2018

All pupils

Numbers / Percentages

	Year														2016 ³	2018			
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ²	2011	2012	2013	2014					
Taken drugs³	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%		
Boys																			
All drugs																			
Ever taken drugs	30	29	31	26	28	24	26	23	23	18	18	17	17	16			25	25	
Taken drugs in the last year	21	21	22	18	19	17	18	16	16	13	13	12	12	11			18	18	
Taken drugs in the last month	13	13	13	11	11	10	10	9	9	7	7	7	6	6			10	11	
Excluding volatile substances																			
Ever taken drugs	21	21	22	19	19	18	17	16	15	13	12	12	11	11			18	19	
Taken drugs in the last year	17	18	18	15	15	14	14	13	12	11	11	10	9	9			14	15	
Taken drugs in the last month	11	11	10	9	10	9	8	8	8	6	6	6	5	5			8	9	
Girls																			
All drugs																			
Ever taken drugs	28	25	30	25	27	24	24	21	21	18	16	17	16	13			24	22	
Taken drugs in the last year	19	18	20	17	19	16	17	14	14	12	11	12	11	10			18	16	
Taken drugs in the last month	11	10	12	9	10	8	9	7	7	6	5	6	6	6			10	8	
Excluding volatile substances																			
Ever taken drugs	17	17	18	16	18	16	15	13	12	11	9	10	9	9			17	15	
Taken drugs in the last year	15	14	15	13	15	13	13	10	10	9	8	8	8	7			14	12	
Taken drugs in the last month	9	8	9	7	8	7	7	5	5	4	4	4	4	4			8	6	
Total																			
All drugs																			
Ever taken drugs	29	27	30	26	28	24	25	22	22	18	17	17	16	15			24	24	
Taken drugs in the last year	20	20	21	18	19	17	17	15	15	12	12	11	11	10			18	17	
Taken drugs in the last month	12	12	12	10	11	9	10	8	8	7	6	6	6	6			10	9	
Excluding volatile substances																			
Ever taken drugs	19	19	20	18	18	17	16	14	13	12	11	11	10	10			18	17	
Taken drugs in the last year	16	16	16	14	15	13	13	12	11	10	9	9	9	8			14	14	
Taken drugs in the last month	10	10	10	8	9	8	7	6	6	5	5	5	5	5			8	7	
Unweighted bases⁴																			
Boys	4360	4734	4921	4713	4296	3707	3733	3681	3540	3417	2951	3473	2531	2881			4453	5050	
Girls	4439	4511	4872	4461	4252	3906	3514	3641	3602	3435	3127	3557	2288	2828			4857	5742	
Total	8799	9145	9658	9086	8408	7523	7247	7322	7142	6852	6078	7030	4819	5709			9484	10946	
Weighted bases⁴																			
Boys	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:			2875	4663	5228
Girls	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:			2851	4717	5538
Total	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:			5726	9573	10925

Footnotes

1. Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.

2. Estimates since 2010 are based on weighted data (see appendix A for more details).

3. Psychoactive substances were included in this measure from 2016 and so data before then is not comparable. Details of this and other issues effecting comparability can be found in the Data Quality Statement (Coherence and comparability).

4. Bases shown for any drug use excluding volatile substances. Other bases may vary slightly.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.5
Proportion of pupils who have taken drugs (including and excluding volatile substances) ever, in the last year and in the last month, by age and sex

2018

All pupils

Numbers / Percentages

	Age					Total
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Taken drugs						
Boys						
All drugs						
Ever taken drugs	10	14	22	31	40	25
Taken drugs in the last year	5	8	14	22	33	18
Taken drugs in the last month	2	5	8	12	21	11
Excluding volatile substances						
Ever taken drugs	6	8	14	23	35	19
Taken drugs in the last year	4	5	10	19	30	15
Taken drugs in the last month	2	3	6	10	19	9
Girls						
All drugs						
Ever taken drugs	9	12	18	31	36	22
Taken drugs in the last year	5	5	12	22	29	16
Taken drugs in the last month	3	3	5	12	15	8.15
Excluding volatile substances						
Ever taken drugs	4	5	9	22	30	15
Taken drugs in the last year	3	3	7	18	26	12
Taken drugs in the last month	1	1	3	9	14	6
Total						
All drugs						
Ever taken drugs	9	12	20	31	38	24
Taken drugs in the last year	5	7	13	22	31	17
Taken drugs in the last month	2	4	7	12	19	9
Excluding volatile substances						
Ever taken drugs	5	6	11	23	33	17
Taken drugs in the last year	3	4	9	18	28	14
Taken drugs in the last month	1	2	5	9	16	7
Unweighted bases ¹						
Boys	631	954	1070	1156	1226	5050
Girls	684	1142	1294	1387	1225	5742
Total	1320	2101	2372	2556	2466	10946
Weighted bases ¹						
Boys	762	1051	1047	1018	1335	5228
Girls	816	1142	1066	1088	1413	5538
Total	1583	2199	2119	2117	2766	10925

Footnotes

1. Bases shown for any drug use excluding volatile substances. Other bases may vary slightly.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.6a
Proportion of boys who have ever taken individual drugs^{1,2}

2011 - 2018

All boys	Numbers / Percentages					
	Year					
Type of drug taken	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	10.3	9.6	9.1	8.8	9.6	10.6
Any stimulants³	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.6
Cocaine	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.4	2.0
Crack	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.9
Ecstasy	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.4
Amphetamines	1.1	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.7	1.1
Poppers	1.5	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8
Mephedrone ⁴	-	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.2
Any psychedelics	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.5
LSD	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.1
Magic mushrooms	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.3
Ketamine	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.2
Any psychoactive substances⁵	-	-	-	-	7.1	7.1
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	5.5	5.6
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	2.2	2.0
Any opiates	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8
Heroin	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.7
Morphine	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	7.1	6.6	7.0	6.6	8.7	8.3
Tranquillisers	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.9
Other drugs	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.5	1.4	1.1
Any Class A drug⁶	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.9	3.8	4.1
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	24.7	24.9
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	17.6	17.4	16.6	15.7	21.5	21.8
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	12.5	12.2	11.1	10.8	18.2	18.8
Unweighted bases ⁷	3183	3771	2735	3104	5766	6489
Weighted bases ⁷	3300	3819	2618	3086	5949	6733

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. These estimates were not published in the tables prior to 2011.
3. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
4. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
5. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
6. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
7. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.6b
Proportion of girls who have ever taken individual drugs^{1,2,3}

2011 - 2018	Numbers / Percentages					
	Year					
All girls	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018
Type of drug taken	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	7.3	8.2	7.5	7.2	9.1	8.3
Any stimulants⁴	2.7	3.2	2.9	2.2	3.6	3.3
Cocaine	0.6	1.1	0.7	0.8	1.8	1.6
Crack	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.8
Ecstasy	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.8	1.6	1.6
Amphetamines	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.6
Poppers	1.3	1.2	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.7
Mephedrone ⁵	-	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2
Any psychedelics	1.5	1.5	0.9	1.1	2.0	1.9
LSD	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.9
Magic mushrooms	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.6
Ketamine	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.1
Any psychoactive substances⁶	-	-	-	-	7.9	7.0
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	6.5	5.9
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	2.1	1.8
Any opiates	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6
Heroin	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Methodone	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	8.3	8.6	8.1	5.9	9.4	9.8
Tranquillisers	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.6
Other drugs	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.3	0.7
Any Class A drug⁶	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.1	3.9	3.5
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	23.9	22.4
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	16.0	16.9	15.7	13.5	21.1	19.6
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	9.1	9.8	9.1	8.8	17.1	15.2
Unweighted bases ⁷	3308	3763	2433	3011	5969	6856
Weighted bases ⁷	3195	3719	2549	3031	5778	6605

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. These estimates were not published in the tables prior to 2011.
3. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
4. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
5. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
6. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
7. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.6c
Proportion of pupils who have ever taken individual drugs^{1,2}

All pupils	Numbers / Percentages					
	Year					
Type of drug taken	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	8.8	9.0	8.3	8.0	9.4	9.5
Any stimulants³	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.6	3.4	3.5
Cocaine	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.6	1.6
Crack	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8
Ecstasy	1.0	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.5	1.5
Amphetamines	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.8
Peppers	1.4	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.8
Mephedrone ⁴	-	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2
Any psychedelics	1.7	1.8	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.2
LSD	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.1	1.0
Magic mushrooms	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.9
Ketamine	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.2
Any psychoactive substances⁵	-	-	-	-	7.4	7.1
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	6.0	5.7
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	2.2	1.9
Any opiates	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7
Heroin	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6
Methodone	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	7.7	7.7	7.6	6.4	9.0	9.0
Tranquillisers	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8
Other drugs	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.4	1.0
Any Class A drug⁶	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.5	3.9	3.9
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	24.3	23.7
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	16.8	17.1	16.1	14.6	21.3	20.7
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	10.8	11.0	10.1	9.8	17.7	17.1
Unweighted bases ⁷	6491	7534	5168	6115	11956	13562
Weighted bases ⁷	6495	7538	5167	6117	11960	13556

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. These estimates were not published in the tables prior to 2011.
3. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
4. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
5. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
6. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
7. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.6d
Proportion of boys who have taken individual drugs in the last year^{1,2}

2001 - 2018

All boys

Type of drug taken in the last year	Year																
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ³	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Cannabis	14.3	14.4	14.2	12.2	12.2	10.8	9.6	10.1	9.8	8.8	8.9	7.9	7.4	7.2	7.8	9.0	
Any stimulants⁴	5.8	6.5	6.2	5.3	5.7	5.8	6.4	5.1	3.7	2.5	2.9	2.5	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.9	
Cocaine	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.5	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.7	1.1	1.2	1.6	
Crack	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6	
Ecstasy	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.4	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.2	
Amphetamines ⁵	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.4	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.8	
Peppers	3.7	4.7	4.1	3.2	3.4	3.6	4.5	3.0	1.8	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.6	
Mephedrone ⁶	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.2	
Any psychedelics⁷	2.7	2.1	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.0	2.6	2.4	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.9	
LSD	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	
Magic mushrooms	2.4	1.8	2.6	2.2	1.9	1.9	1.2	1.7	1.8	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.9	0.8	
Ketamine ⁸	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.0	
Any psychoactive substances⁹	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	4.6	4.9
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6	3.8
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	1.4
Any opiates	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	
Heroin	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	
Methodone	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	6.6	6.2	7.0	5.3	6.1	4.6	5.6	4.8	5.4	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.5	2.8	4.1	4.0	
Tranquillisers	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.7	
Other drugs	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.9	
Any Class A drug¹⁰	4.5	3.8	4.8	3.9	4.4	4.7	3.8	4.3	3.8	2.3	2.7	2.4	2.0	2.4	3.2	3.2	
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17.9	18.2
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	21.3	21.4	21.6	18.5	19.3	16.8	17.6	15.9	15.7	13.0	12.7	12.3	11.6	10.8	15.2	15.9	
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	17.4	17.4	17.5	14.9	15.3	14.1	13.9	12.9	12.2	10.6	10.8	9.8	9.0	8.7	14.4	15.1	
Unweighted bases ¹¹	4687	5081	5250	5000	4667	3994	4064	3943	3837	3646	3138	3771	2735	3104	5766	6489	
Weighted bases ¹¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3086	5949	6733

Footnotes

1. Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.
2. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
3. Estimates since 2010 are based on weighted data (see appendix A for more details).
4. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
5. Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'.
6. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
7. From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.
8. Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.
9. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
10. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
11. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.6e
Proportion of girls who have taken individual drugs in the last year^{1,2}

2001 - 2018

All girls

Type of drug taken in the last year	Year																
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ³	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Cannabis	12.4	11.9	12.4	10.3	11.2	9.4	9.2	7.8	8.1	7.5	6.3	7.1	6.5	6.2	7.9	7.1	
Any stimulants⁴	5.4	5.9	6.1	5.6	6.6	6.5	7.4	4.7	3.4	2.9	2.0	2.7	2.1	1.8	2.8	2.7	
Cocaine	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.6	1.4	1.2	
Crack	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	
Ecstasy	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	1.4	1.4	
Amphetamines ⁵	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	
Poppers	3.1	3.6	3.9	3.6	4.4	4.8	5.3	2.8	1.8	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.5	
Mephedrone⁶	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	
Any psychedelics⁷	2.2	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.3	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.9	1.6	1.6	
LSD	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.8	
Magic mushrooms	1.7	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	
Ketamine ⁸	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.9	
Any psychoactive substances⁹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.8	5.2
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.5	4.3
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	1.4
Any opiates	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	
Heroin	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	
Morphine	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	7.7	6.4	8.2	5.8	7.3	5.6	6.8	5.2	5.6	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.0	4.8	4.4	
Tranquillisers	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.5	
Other drugs	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.6	
Any Class A drug¹⁰	4.1	3.6	3.9	3.9	4.4	3.8	4.2	3.0	3.3	2.5	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.6	3.1	2.8	
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17.8	15.8
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	19.4	18.0	20.5	16.7	18.8	16.3	17.0	14.1	13.9	11.9	10.8	11.5	11.0	9.8	15.1	13.2	
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	14.8	14.4	15.1	13.2	14.6	12.7	12.7	10.2	10.0	8.8	7.7	8.5	8.1	7.5	14.1	12.5	
Unweighted bases ¹¹	4670	4749	5121	4666	4507	4138	3749	3811	3811	3596	3308	3763	2433	3011	5969	6856	
Weighted bases ¹¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3031	5778	6605

Footnotes

1. Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table, they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.
2. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
3. Estimates since 2010 are based on weighted data (see appendix A for more details).
4. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
5. Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'.
6. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
7. From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.
8. Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.
9. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
10. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
11. Bases show numbers of girls with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.6f
Proportion of pupils who have taken individual drugs in the last year^{1,2}

2001 - 2018

All pupils

Type of drug taken in the last year	Year																
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ³	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Cannabis	13.4	13.2	13.3	11.3	11.7	10.1	9.4	9.0	8.9	8.2	7.6	7.5	7.0	6.7	7.9	8.1	
Any stimulants⁴	5.6	6.2	6.1	5.4	6.2	6.2	6.9	4.9	3.6	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.1	2.1	2.7	2.8	
Cocaine	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.4	
Crack	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.6	
Ecstasy	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.8	1.3	1.3	
Amphetamines ⁵	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.7	
Peppers	3.4	4.3	4.0	3.4	3.9	4.2	4.9	2.9	1.8	1.5	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	
Mephedrone ⁶	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	
Any psychedelics⁷	2.4	1.8	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.9	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.7	1.8	
LSD	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.8	
Magic mushrooms	2.1	1.5	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.7	
Ketamine ⁸	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.0	
Any psychoactive substances⁹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.2	5.0	
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.0	4.1
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	1.4	
Any opiates	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	
Heroin	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	
Morphine	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	7.1	6.3	7.6	5.6	6.7	5.1	6.2	5.0	5.5	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.6	2.9	4.4	4.2	
Tranquillisers	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	
Other drugs	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.8	
Any Class A drug¹⁰	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.9	4.4	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.6	2.4	2.3	2.2	1.9	2.0	3.2	3.0	
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17.8	17.0	
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	20.4	19.7	21.0	17.6	19.1	16.5	17.3	15.0	14.8	12.5	11.8	11.9	11.3	10.3	15.2	14.5	
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	16.1	15.9	16.3	14.0	15.0	13.4	13.3	11.6	11.1	9.7	9.3	9.1	8.5	8.1	14.2	13.8	
Unweighted bases ¹¹	9357	9830	10371	9666	9174	8132	7813	7754	7648	7242	6491	7534	5168	6115	11956	13562	
Weighted bases ¹¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6117	11960	13556	

Footnotes

1. Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table. They are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.
2. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
3. Estimates since 2010 are based on weighted data (see appendix A for more details).
4. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
5. Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'.
6. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
7. From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.
8. Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.
9. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
10. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
11. Bases show numbers of valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.6g

Proportion of boys who have taken individual drugs in the last month^{1,2}

2011 - 2018

All boys Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken in the last month	Year					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	5.2	4.6	4.2	4.4	4.2	5.2
Any stimulants³	1.2	1.5	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.6
Cocaine	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.6
Crack	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
Ecstasy	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Amphetamines	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.5
Poppers	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3
Mephedrone ⁴	-	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2
Any psychedelics	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1
LSD	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Magic mushrooms	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.5
Ketamine	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.6
Any psychoactive substances⁵	-	-	-	-	1.9	2.0
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	1.3	1.4
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.6
Any opiates	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3
Heroin	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Methodone	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.0	2.3
Tranquillisers	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Other drugs	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.4
Any Class A drug⁶	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.9	1.7
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	10.1	10.7
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	7.2	7.1	6.5	6.5	8.7	8.7
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	6.2	5.9	5.2	5.3	8.1	8.7
Unweighted bases ⁷	3183	3771	2735	3104	5766	6489
Weighted bases ⁷	3300	3819	2618	3086	5949	6733

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. These estimates were not published in the tables prior to 2011.
3. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
4. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
5. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
6. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
7. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.6h
Proportion of girls who have taken individual drugs in the last month^{1,2}
2011 - 2018
All girls

	Numbers / Percentages					
	Year		Year		Year	
Type of drug taken in the last month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	2.9	3.3	3.7	3.4	4.5	3.5
Any stimulants³	0.6	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.2
Cocaine	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5
Crack	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3
Ecstasy	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6
Amphetamines	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
Poppers	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Mephedrone ⁴	-	0.3	-	0.3	0.1	0.1
Any psychedelics	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7
LSD	0.1	0.2	-	0.1	0.1	0.4
Magic mushrooms	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Ketamine	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5
Any psychoactive substances⁵	-	-	-	-	1.9	1.9
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	1.3	1.5
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.6
Any opiates	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3
Heroin	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Morphine	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.0	0.1
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.0
Tranquillisers	0.0	0.1	-	0.1	0.2	0.3
Other drugs	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4
Any Class A drug⁶	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.9	1.2	1.3
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	9.9	8.2
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	4.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	8.6	7.1
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	3.5	4.3	4.4	4.1	7.7	6.2
Unweighted bases ⁷	3308	3763	2433	3011	5969	6856
Weighted bases ⁷	3195	3719	2549	3031	5778	6605

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. These estimates were not published in the tables prior to 2011.
3. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
4. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
5. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
6. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
7. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.6i

Proportion of pupils who have taken individual drugs in the last month^{1,2}

2011 - 2018

All pupils	Numbers / Percentages					
	Year					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018
Type of drug taken in the last month	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.3	4.4
Any stimulants³	0.9	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.5
Cocaine	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7
Crack	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Ecstasy	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
Amphetamines	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4
Poppers	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Mephedrone ⁴	-	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1
Any psychedelics	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0
LSD	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
Magic mushrooms	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
Ketamine	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6
Any psychoactive substances⁵	-	-	-	-	1.9	1.9
Nitrous oxide	-	-	-	-	1.3	1.4
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	-	-	-	-	0.7	0.6
Any opiates	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Heroin	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Methodone	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.6	2.1	2.1
Tranquillisers	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Other drugs	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.4
Any Class A drug⁶	1.1	1.2	0.8	1.2	1.5	1.5
Any drug (2016 onwards)	-	-	-	-	10.0	9.4
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	6.0	6.5	6.1	6.1	8.7	8.4
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	4.9	5.1	4.8	4.7	7.9	7.5
Unweighted bases ⁷	6491	7534	5168	6115	11956	13562
Weighted bases ⁷	6495	7538	5167	6117	11960	13556

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. These estimates were not published in the tables prior to 2011.
3. From 2012, estimates for stimulants include mephedrone.
4. Mephedrone was measured for the first time in 2012.
5. Psychoactive substances were measured for the first time in 2016.
6. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
7. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.7a
Proportion of boys who have ever taken individual drugs, by age¹

2018

All boys

Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken	Age					Total (11-15) %
	11 years %	12 years %	13 years %	14 years %	15 years %	
Cannabis	0.8	2.2	6.2	14.2	24.2	10.6
Any stimulants	0.6	1.1	2.4	4.8	7.6	3.6
Cocaine	0.3	0.5	1.4	2.6	4.3	2.0
Crack	0.4	0.3	0.6	1.6	1.4	0.9
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.8	2.2	3.3	1.4
Amphetamines	0.3	0.2	0.5	1.7	2.2	1.1
Poppers	-	0.1	0.6	1.6	1.3	0.8
Mephedrone	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.3
Any psychedelics	0.1	0.9	1.7	3.0	5.6	2.5
LSD	-	0.4	0.6	1.4	2.5	1.1
Magic mushrooms	0.1	0.5	1.4	1.5	2.3	1.3
Ketamine	-	0.3	0.6	1.5	2.8	1.2
Any psychoactive substances	2.9	3.3	5.4	9.4	12.4	7.1
Nitrous oxide	2.1	2.3	3.9	7.7	10.2	5.6
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	0.7	1.1	1.8	2.3	3.5	2.0
Any opiates	0.3	0.2	0.9	1.5	1.1	0.8
Heroin	0.3	0.2	0.8	1.2	0.8	0.7
Methadone	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.3
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	4.1	6.1	9.8	10.2	10.1	8.3
Tranquillisers	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.5	1.4	0.9
Other drugs	0.4	0.4	1.1	1.0	2.1	1.1
Any Class A drug²	0.7	1.5	2.9	5.4	8.6	4.1
Any drug	9.7	13.6	21.8	30.6	40.0	24.9
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	7.1	10.3	19.1	27.3	37.1	21.8
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	5.9	7.6	13.8	23.5	35.2	18.8
Unweighted bases ³	832	1272	1395	1461	1504	6489
Weighted bases ³	1019	1387	1372	1287	1641	6733

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
3. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.7b
Proportion of girls who have ever taken individual drugs, by age¹

2018

All girls

Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken	Age					Total (11-15)
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	0.3	0.9	3.7	11.6	20.5	8.3
Any stimulants	0.7	0.8	2.3	3.9	7.5	3.3
Cocaine	0.4	0.5	0.9	1.5	4.1	1.6
Crack	0.1	0.1	0.8	1.1	1.6	0.8
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.6	1.9	4.5	1.6
Amphetamines	-	0.0	0.5	0.9	1.3	0.6
Poppers	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.7	0.7
Mephedrone	-	-	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.2
Any psychedelics	0.1	0.1	1.0	2.7	4.8	1.9
LSD	-	-	0.4	1.0	2.5	0.9
Magic mushrooms	-	0.1	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.6
Ketamine	0.1	-	0.2	1.5	3.2	1.1
Any psychoactive substances	2.0	2.8	3.6	10.7	13.8	7.0
Nitrous oxide	2.0	2.5	3.1	8.5	11.5	5.9
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	0.2	0.3	0.6	3.4	4.0	1.8
Any opiates	0.1	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.4	0.6
Heroin	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.6	1.2	0.5
Methadone	-	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	5.5	7.5	10.2	14.3	10.7	9.8
Tranquillisers	-	0.0	0.2	0.5	2.0	0.6
Other drugs	0.6	0.6	0.3	1.0	1.0	0.7
Any Class A drug²	0.6	0.8	2.2	4.2	8.2	3.5
Any drug	8.8	11.6	18.1	30.6	36.0	22.4
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	7.2	10.0	16.3	26.7	31.6	19.6
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	4.3	4.6	8.7	21.8	30.0	15.2
Unweighted bases ³	843	1371	1587	1650	1390	6856
Weighted bases ³	991	1376	1335	1295	1589	6605

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

2. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.

3. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.7c
Proportion of pupils who have ever taken individual drugs, by age¹

2018

All pupils

Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken	Age					Total (11-15)
	11 years %	12 years %	13 years %	14 years %	15 years %	
Cannabis	0.5	1.6	5.0	12.8	22.5	9.5
Any stimulants	0.6	0.9	2.3	4.4	7.6	3.5
Cocaine	0.3	0.5	1.2	2.0	4.2	1.8
Crack	0.2	0.2	0.7	1.4	1.5	0.8
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.7	2.1	3.9	1.5
Amphetamines	0.1	0.1	0.6	1.3	1.8	0.8
Poppers	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.2	1.6	0.8
Mephedrone	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2
Any psychedelics	0.1	0.5	1.4	2.9	5.2	2.2
LSD	-	0.2	0.6	1.2	2.5	1.0
Magic mushrooms	0.1	0.3	1.1	1.2	1.8	0.9
Ketamine	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.5	3.1	1.2
Any psychoactive substances	2.5	3.0	4.5	10.1	13.1	7.1
Nitrous oxide	2.0	2.4	3.5	8.1	10.9	5.7
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	0.5	0.7	1.2	2.8	3.8	1.9
Any opiates	0.2	0.1	0.7	1.2	1.3	0.7
Heroin	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.9	1.1	0.6
Methadone	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	4.8	6.8	10.0	12.3	10.4	9.0
Tranquillisers	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.1	1.7	0.8
Other drugs	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.6	1.0
Any Class A drug²	0.7	1.1	2.6	4.8	8.4	3.9
Any drug	9.2	12.5	20.0	30.7	38.1	23.7
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	7.1	10.1	17.7	27.0	34.4	20.7
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	5.0	6.0	11.3	22.7	32.7	17.1
Unweighted bases ³	1681	2649	2994	3132	2912	13562
Weighted bases ³	2016	2769	2717	2601	3250	13556

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
3. Bases show number of valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.7d
Proportion of boys who have taken individual drugs in the last year, by age¹

2018

All boys

Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken in the last year	Age					Total (11-15)
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	0.8	1.8	5.2	12.1	20.6	9.0
Any stimulants	0.3	0.5	2.0	4.1	6.3	2.9
Cocaine	0.2	0.2	1.3	2.1	3.7	1.6
Crack	0.3	0.1	0.4	1.2	1.0	0.6
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.8	2.0	2.7	1.2
Amphetamines	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.7	1.6	0.8
Poppers	-	0.1	0.5	1.3	0.9	0.6
Mephedrone	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2
Any psychedelics	-	0.6	1.3	2.4	4.5	1.9
LSD	-	0.1	0.6	1.0	1.8	0.8
Magic mushrooms	-	0.2	1.0	0.9	1.7	0.8
Ketamine	-	0.3	0.4	1.4	2.6	1.0
Any psychoactive substances	1.8	1.8	2.8	6.6	9.8	4.9
Nitrous oxide	1.2	1.1	2.1	5.2	8.1	3.8
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.7	2.5	1.4
Any opiates	0.1	0.1	0.6	1.2	0.9	0.6
Heroin	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.5
Methadone	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	1.6	3.2	4.7	4.5	5.3	4.0
Tranquillisers	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.1	1.2	0.7
Other drugs	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.8	1.8	0.9
Any Class A drug²	0.3	0.8	2.3	4.4	7.0	3.2
Any drug	5.1	8.0	14.0	22.4	33.3	18.2
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	3.6	6.1	12.4	19.7	30.3	15.9
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	3.8	4.8	9.9	19.2	30.5	15.1
Unweighted bases ³	832	1272	1395	1461	1504	6489
Weighted bases ³	1019	1387	1372	1287	1641	6733

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
3. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.7e
Proportion of girls who have taken individual drugs in the last year, by age¹

2018

All girls

Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken in the last year	Age					Total (11-15)
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	0.3	0.8	3.0	9.8	17.8	7.1
Any stimulants	0.2	0.7	1.8	3.1	6.1	2.7
Cocaine	-	0.4	0.7	1.0	3.2	1.2
Crack	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.6	1.1	0.5
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.4	1.4	4.0	1.4
Amphetamines	-	-	0.4	0.8	1.1	0.5
Poppers	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.6	1.3	0.5
Mephedrone	-	-	-	0.1	0.4	0.1
Any psychedelics	0.1	-	0.7	2.4	4.1	1.6
LSD	-	-	0.3	0.9	2.4	0.8
Magic mushrooms	-	-	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.5
Ketamine	0.1	-	0.2	1.3	2.6	0.9
Any psychoactive substances	1.6	1.2	3.1	7.3	11.0	5.2
Nitrous oxide	1.5	1.0	2.7	6.0	9.1	4.3
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	0.2	0.2	0.5	2.1	3.2	1.4
Any opiates	-	0.0	0.1	0.6	1.0	0.4
Heroin	-	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.0	0.3
Methadone	-	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	2.0	3.0	4.7	7.3	4.8	4.4
Tranquillisers	-	-	0.1	0.4	1.7	0.5
Other drugs	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.6
Any Class A drug²	0.1	0.6	1.7	3.2	7.0	2.8
Any drug	5.0	5.3	11.6	22.3	28.9	15.8
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	3.4	4.7	9.5	18.9	24.4	13.2
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	3.1	2.6	7.1	17.6	26.0	12.5
Unweighted bases ³	843	1371	1587	1650	1390	6856
Weighted bases ³	991	1376	1335	1295	1589	6605

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
3. Bases show numbers of girls with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

Table 8.7f
Proportion of pupils who have taken individual drugs in the last year, by age¹

2018

All pupils

Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken in the last year	Age					Total (11-15)
	11 years %	12 years %	13 years %	14 years %	15 years %	
Cannabis	0.5	1.3	4.1	10.9	19.3	8.1
Any stimulants	0.3	0.6	1.9	3.6	6.3	2.8
Cocaine	0.1	0.3	1.1	1.5	3.5	1.4
Crack	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.6
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.6	1.7	3.3	1.3
Amphetamines	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.2	1.4	0.7
Poppers	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.0	1.2	0.6
Mephedrone	-	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.2
Any psychedelics	0.0	0.3	1.1	2.4	4.4	1.8
LSD	-	0.1	0.5	1.0	2.1	0.8
Magic mushrooms	-	0.1	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.7
Ketamine	0.0	0.1	0.3	1.3	2.6	1.0
Any psychoactive substances	1.7	1.5	3.0	7.0	10.4	5.0
Nitrous oxide	1.3	1.0	2.4	5.7	8.7	4.1
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.9	2.8	1.4
Any opiates	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.9	1.0	0.5
Heroin	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.4
Methadone	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	1.8	3.1	4.7	5.9	5.1	4.2
Tranquillisers	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	1.5	0.6
Other drugs	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.3	0.8
Any Class A drug²	0.2	0.7	2.0	3.8	7.0	3.0
Any drug	5.0	6.6	12.8	22.3	31.2	17.0
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	3.5	5.4	11.0	19.2	27.5	14.5
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	3.4	3.7	8.6	18.3	28.3	13.8
Unweighted bases ³	1681	2649	2994	3132	2912	13562
Weighted bases ³	2016	2769	2717	2601	3250	13556

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
3. Bases show number of valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England

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Table 8.7g
Proportion of boys who have taken individual drugs in the last month, by age¹

2018

All boys

Numbers / Percentages

Type of drug taken in the last month	Age					Total (11-15)
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	0.4	0.9	3.0	7.0	11.9	5.2
Any stimulants	0.2	0.4	1.2	2.3	3.5	1.6
Cocaine	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.1	1.7	0.8
Crack	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4
Ecstasy	-	-	0.3	1.1	1.3	0.6
Amphetamines	-	-	0.2	1.1	0.8	0.5
Poppers	-	-	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3
Mephedrone	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2
Any psychedelics	-	0.5	0.5	1.4	2.8	1.1
LSD	-	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.9	0.4
Magic mushrooms	-	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.1	0.5
Ketamine	-	0.2	0.2	0.8	1.7	0.6
Any psychoactive substances	0.8	0.7	1.1	2.5	4.3	2.0
Nitrous oxide	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.7	3.4	1.4
New psychoactive substances (previously known as legal highs)	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.6
Any opiates	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.3
Heroin	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3
Methadone	0.1	-	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (volatile substances)	0.5	1.9	2.7	2.5	3.1	2.3
Tranquillisers	-	-	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.3
Other drugs	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4
Any Class A drug²	0.2	0.6	1.0	2.3	3.8	1.7
Any drug	2.2	4.6	8.5	12.0	21.4	10.7
Any drug (excluding psychoactive substances)	1.3	3.8	7.9	11.3	19.6	9.7
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	1.6	2.5	6.1	9.9	18.9	8.7
Unweighted bases ³	832	1272	1395	1461	1504	6489
Weighted bases ³	1019	1387	1372	1287	1641	6733

Footnotes

1. Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.
2. See Appendix C for a definition of Class A drugs.
3. Bases show numbers of boys with valid responses for at least one of the types of drug asked about.

Source

Survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England