# Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment (APNA) Survey Update

# Overview of APNA Survey

- The APNA Survey is a student survey tool used in Arkansas to assess the prevention-related needs of youth. The survey targets health risk behaviors in youth like substance use and violence, along with attitudes that predict these behaviors.
- Administered by International Survey Associates (ISA)

# FSPS - Data Results

First administration in Fort Smith Schools was in 2006

Fall 2021 - 2022  Profile report (Summary Fall 2021) Grades 6, 8, 10, 12, n = 2,722

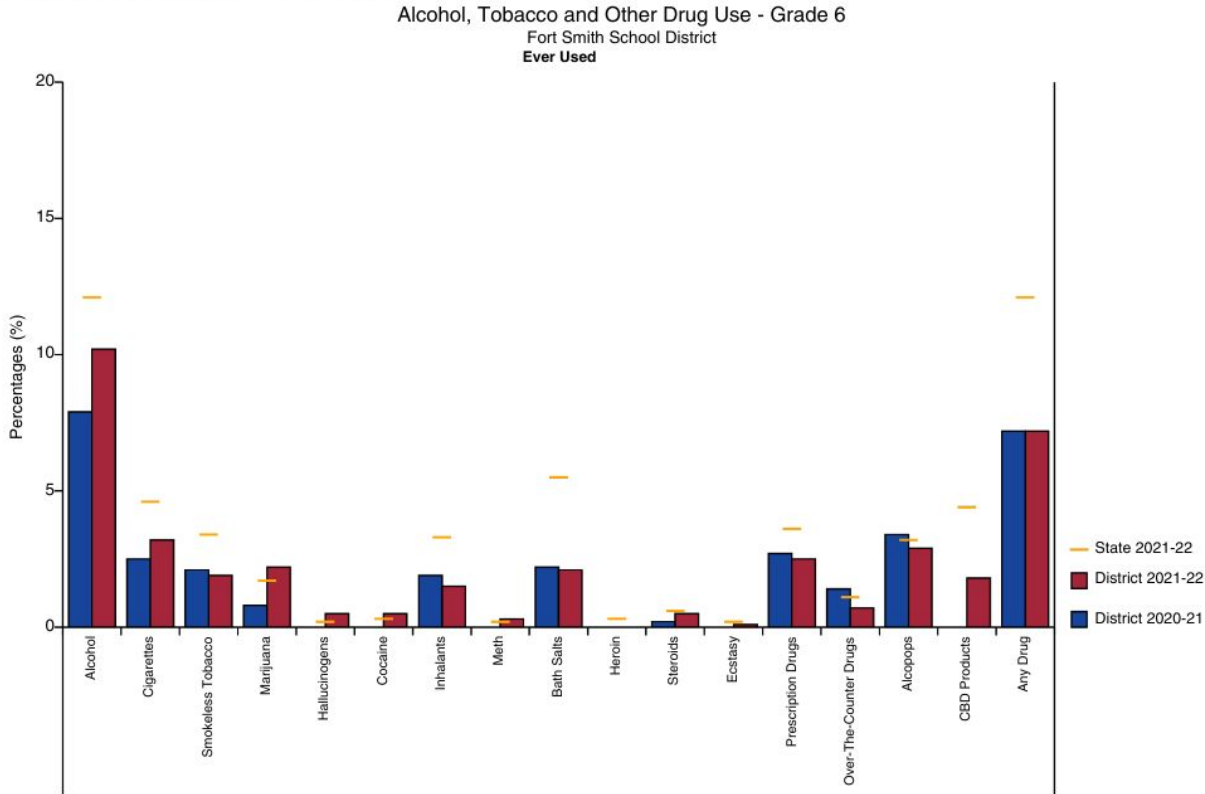Fall 2022 - 2023 Profile Report (Summary Fall 2022) Grades 6, 8, 10, 12, n = 2,798

Fall 2023 - 2024 Profile Report Grades 8, 10, 12, n = 51

Fall 2024 - 2025 Profile Report Grades 8, 10, 12, n = 68

n = Number of Participants

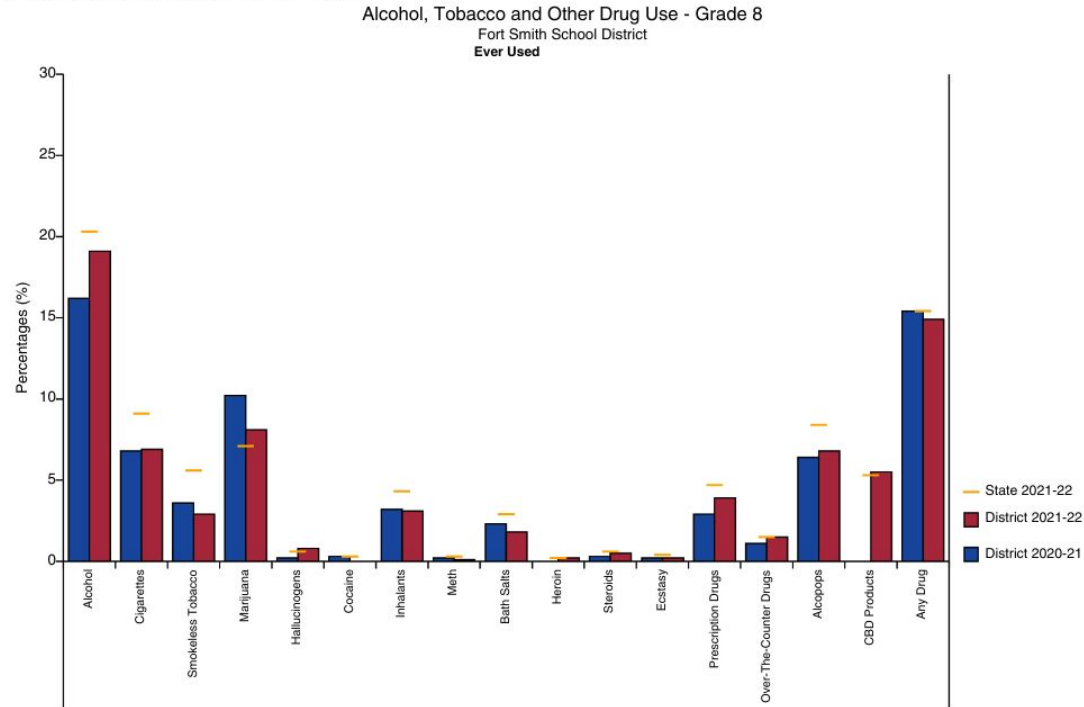# Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use/Ever - Grade 6 (n=813): Nov 2021

Figure 3.1: Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 6



Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 6
Fort Smith School District
**Ever Used**

CBD Products question introduced in 2021. Data comparison for all prior years is not available.
Any drug is calculated from marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, inhalants, meth, bath salts, heroin, steroids, ecstasy, prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs.

# Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use/Ever-Grade 8 (n=898): Nov 2021



Figure 3.2: Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 8

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 8
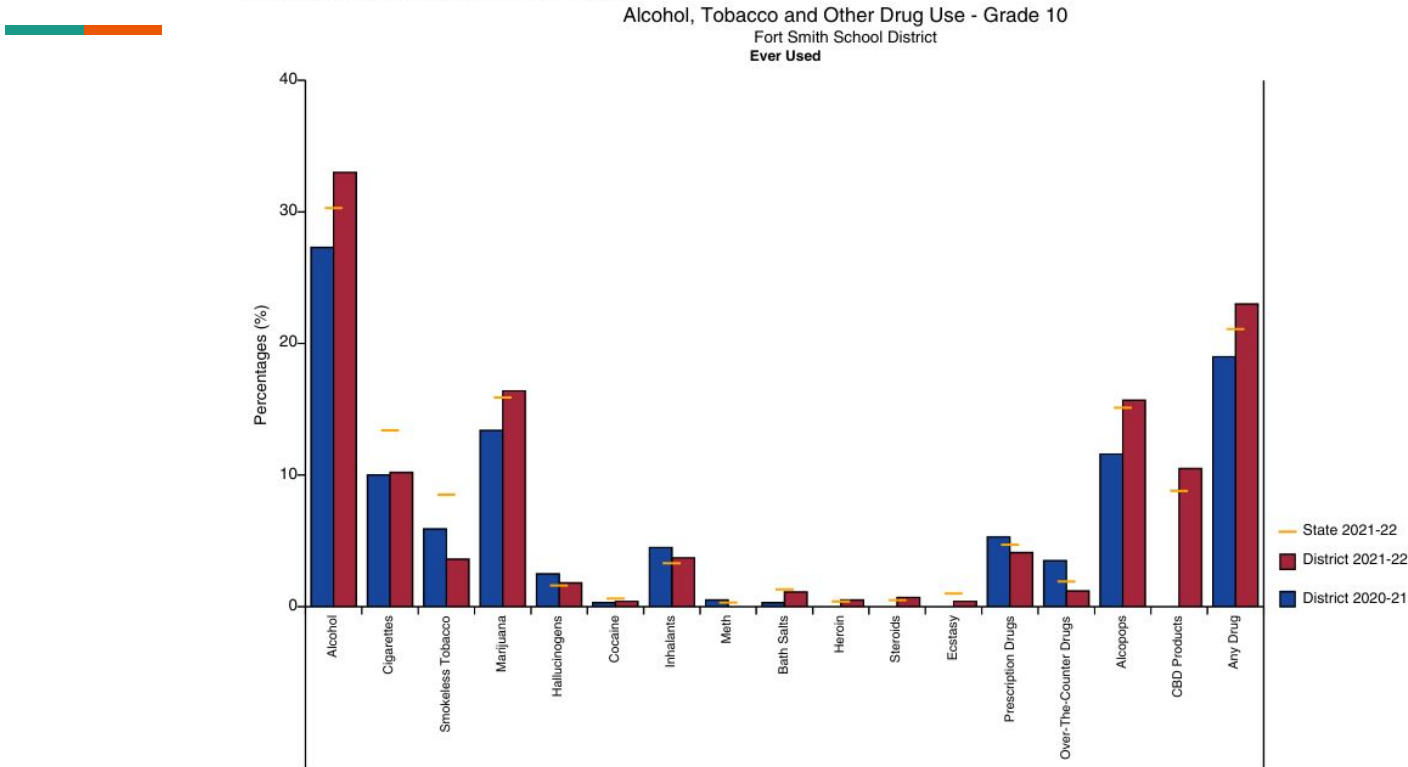Fort Smith School District
**Ever Used**

CBD Products question introduced in 2021. Data comparison for all prior years is not available.
Any drug is calculated from marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, inhalants, meth, bath salts, heroin, steroids, ecstasy, prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs.

# Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use/Ever-Grade 10 (n=614): Nov 2021



Figure 3.3: Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 10

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 10
Fort Smith School District
**Ever Used**

CBD Products question introduced in 2021. Data comparison for all prior years is not available.
Any drug is calculated from marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, inhalants, meth, bath salts, heroin, steroids, ecstasy, prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs.

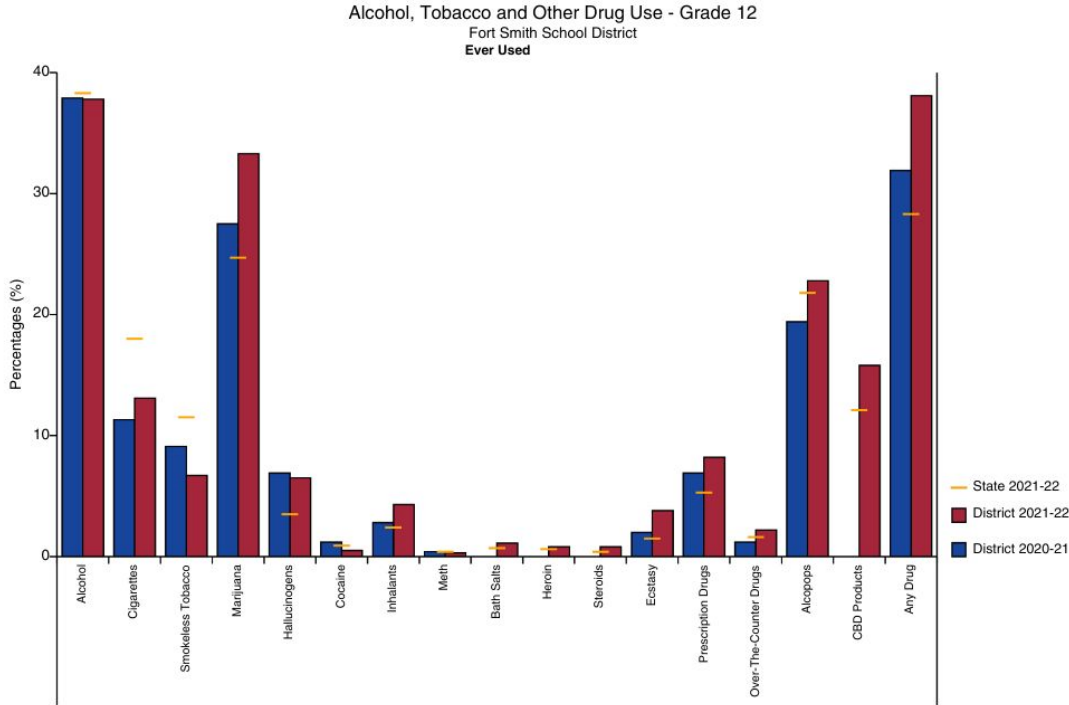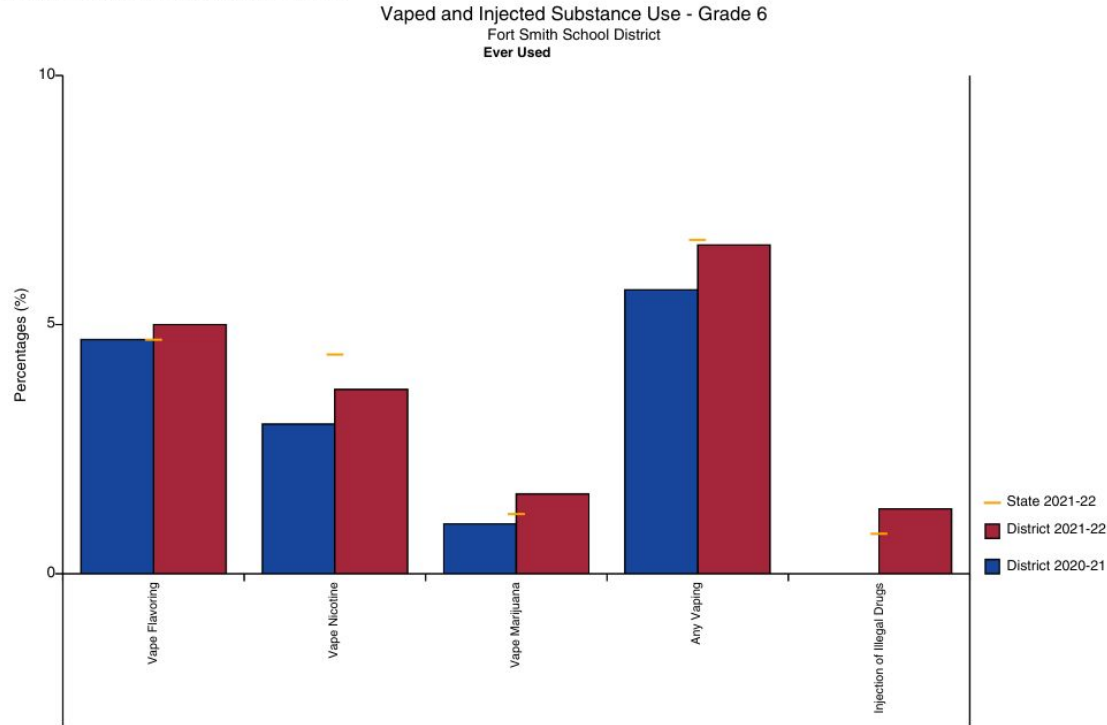# Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use/Ever-Grade 12 (n=397): Nov 2021

Figure 3.4: Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 12

### Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use - Grade 12
#### Fort Smith School District
**Ever Used**



Legend:
- State 2021-22
- District 2021-22
- District 2020-21

Categories: Alcohol, Cigarettes, Smokeless Tobacco, Marijuana, Hallucinogens, Cocaine, Inhalants, Meth, Bath Salts, Heroin, Steroids, Ecstasy, Prescription Drugs, Over-The-Counter Drugs, Alcopops, CBD Products, Any Drug

Y-axis: Percentages (%), 0 to 40

CBD Products question introduced in 2021. Data comparison for all prior years is not available.
Any drug is calculated from marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, inhalants, meth, bath salts, heroin, steroids, ecstasy, prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs.

# Vaping and Injected Substance Use/Ever - Grade 6 (n=813) : Nov 2021

Figure 3.5: Vaped and Injected Substance Use - Grade 6

## Vaped and Injected Substance Use - Grade 6
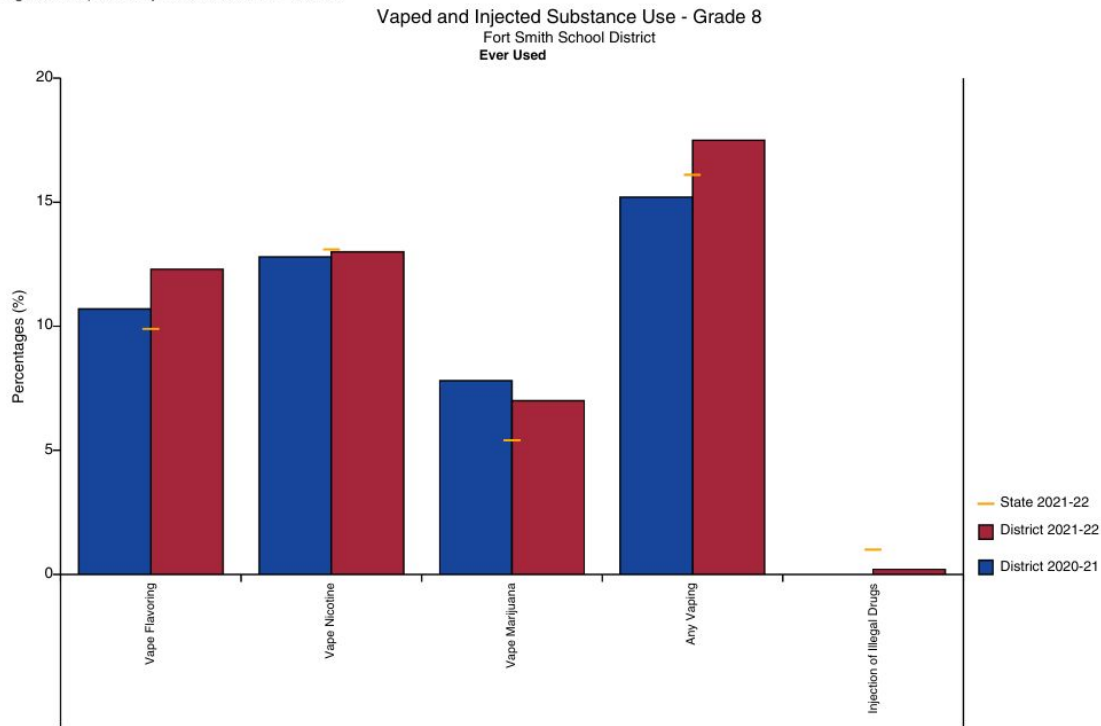### Fort Smith School District
**Ever Used**



Injected substance question introduced in 2021. Data comparison for all prior years is not available.

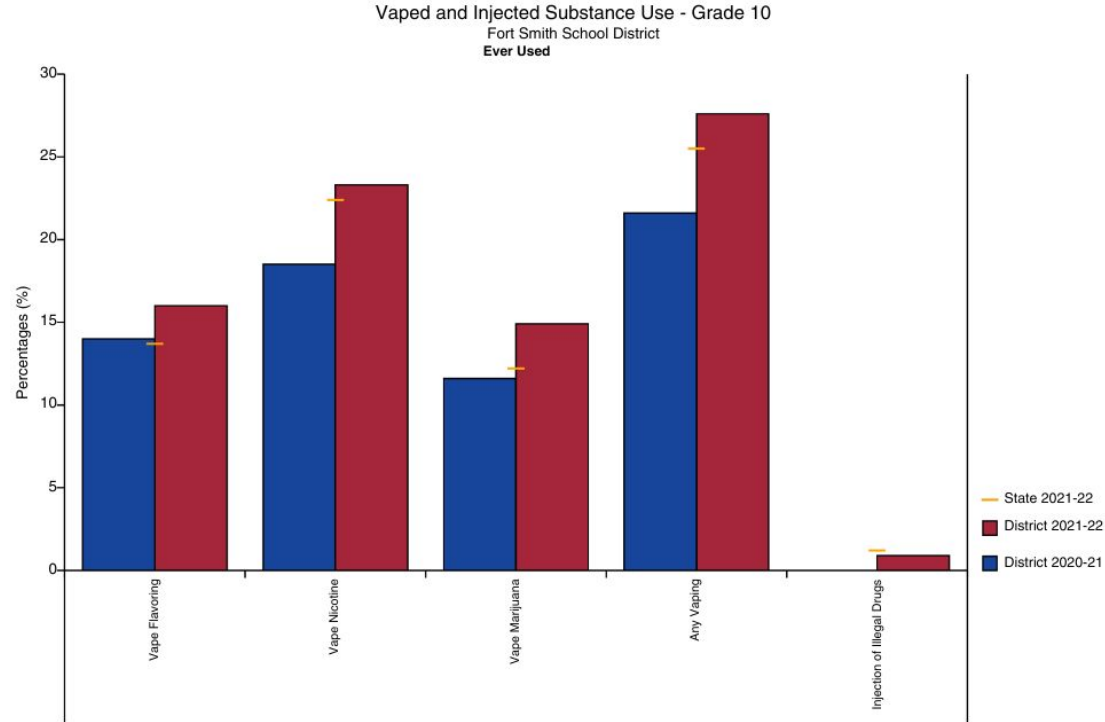# Vaping and Injected Substance Use/Ever - Grade 8 (n=898) : Nov 2021



Figure 3.6: Vaped and Injected Substance Use - Grade 8

# Vaping and Injected Substance Use/Ever - Grade 10(n=614) : Nov 2021

Figure 3.7: Vaped and Injected Substance Use - Grade 10

**Vaped and Injected Substance Use - Grade 10**
Fort Smith School District
**Ever Used**



Injected substance question introduced in 2021. Data comparison for all prior years is not available.

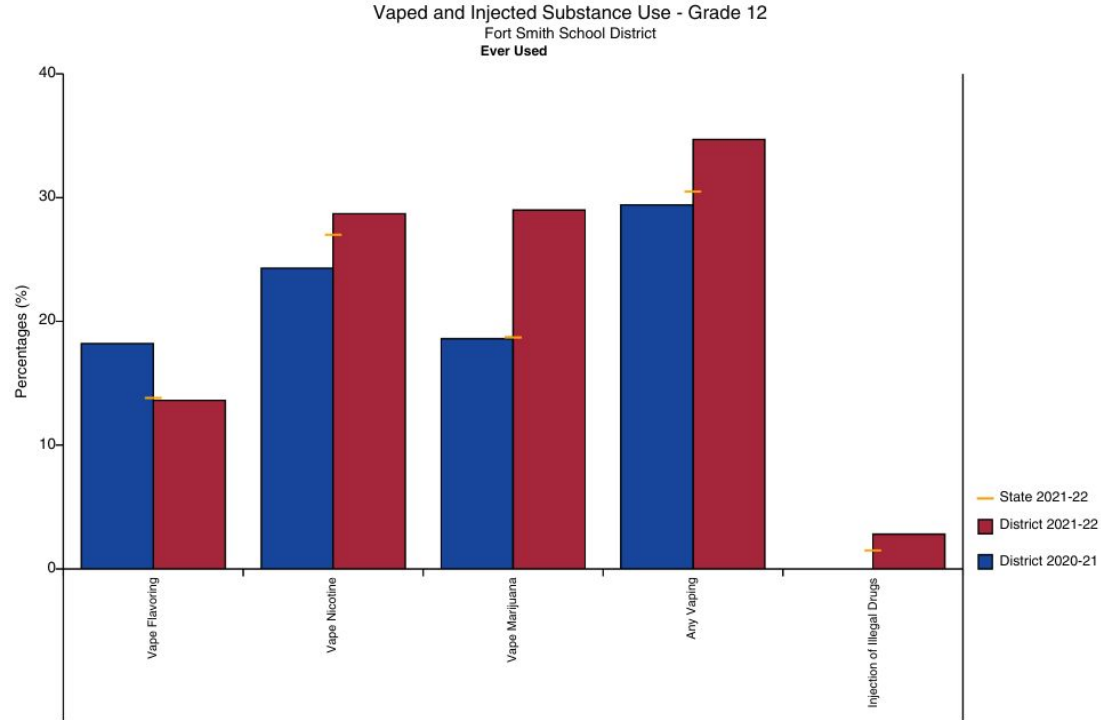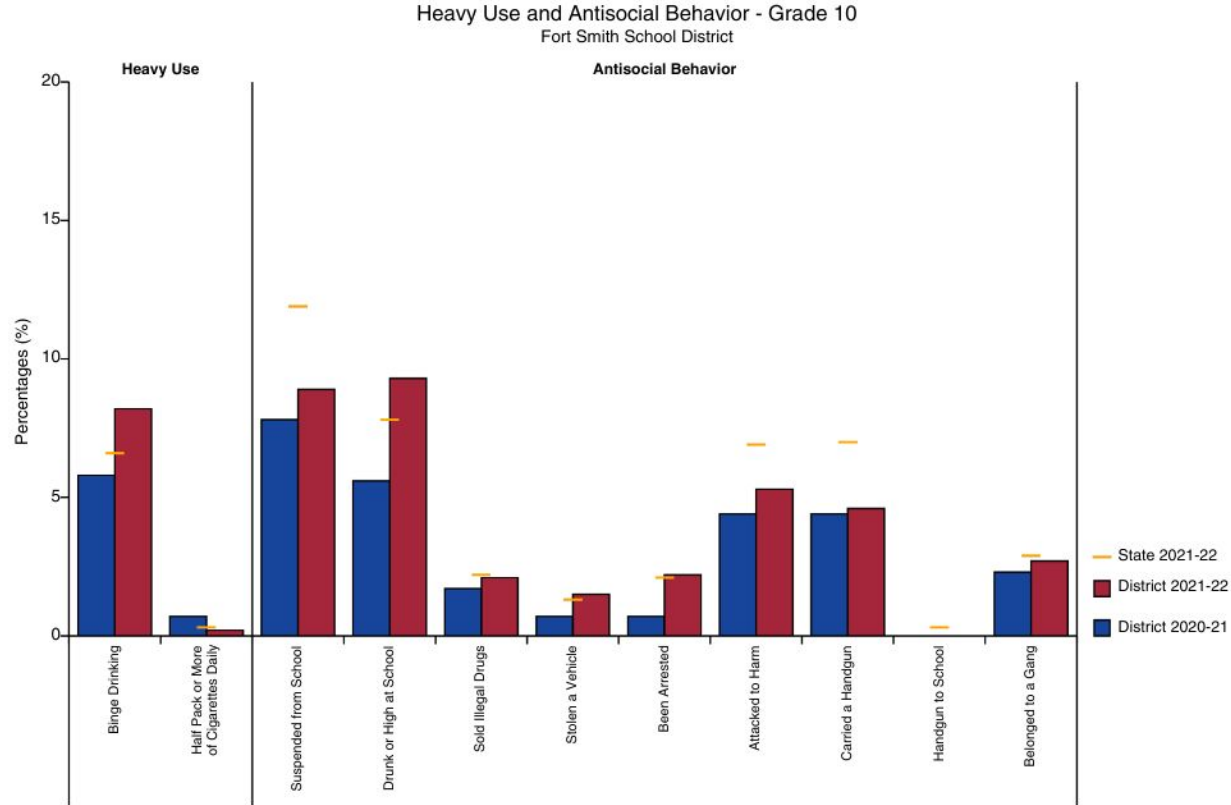# Vaping and Injected Substance Use/Ever - Grade 12 (n=397): Nov 2021



Figure 3.8: Vaped and Injected Substance Use - Grade 12

Vaped and Injected Substance Use - Grade 12
Fort Smith School District
**Ever Used**

Injected substance question introduced in 2021. Data comparison for all prior years is not available.

# Heavy Use and Antisocial Behavior - Grade 10 (n=614): Nov 2021



Figure 3.19: Heavy Use and Antisocial Behavior - Grade 10

# District Use of Data

- Historically
  - School Calming Kits
  - Suicide Prevention Brochures
  - Professional Development
    - Comprehensive School Counseling Program - Hatching Results
    - Play Therapy - Dr. Brittany Wilson
    - Hope Awareness Training - Chad Hellman
    - Reunification - I Love You Guys
- Student Drug Intervention Presentation - [Ray Lozano](#)
- School Based Health Center (SBHC)- APNA provided supporting data to substantiate grant application to supplement the lack of access to health care in 72901 & 72904.
- Drug Free Communities Grant written by the Sebastian Co. Opioid Task Force - has added a prevention specialist who works out of School Based Health Center.
- Provides data sets for district to review and identify potential areas of concern/need
- Follow data over grade level cohorts.

# Community Use of Data

Funding of Programs - Participation  supports state and federal reporting requirement and can assist in securing funding for essential programs.

FSPS is community partner. Relationships the district has on the Community Health Council have helped support the development of ideas and partnership at both PEAK and the SBHC.

Both Fort Smith hospitals engage in a community health needs assessment and create a community health improvement plan.

**Present this evening are:**

Ms. Katelynn Priest: Prevention Grant Manager at Harbor House

Fr. Paul Fetsko: Vice President of Missions for  Mercy Health

Chair of the Sebastian County Opioid Task Force: Sebastian County Sheriff Hobe Runion

# 2025-2026 Survey & Assessment Logistics

- [2025-2026 APNA Survey](#)
- [APNA 2025-2026 Timeline](#) per International Survey Associates (ISA)
  - Survey Window October 27 - December 5, 2025
  - Agreement Form Due by November 7, 2025
- Time Frame for Assessment: 1 class period.

# Next Steps/Recommendations

Continue Administration of APNA for Students in Grade 8, 10, and 12

To increase student participation and data gathering use an opt out format with a letter from the student's secondary school principal for students in Grades 8, 10, and 12.

Proposed Opt Out Letter/Denial of Permission

Three ways to Opt Out/Denial of Permission

1. Parent Link or QR Code
2. Opt Out written note to School Counselor
3. Student Opt out on Administration Day "It is completely voluntary"

# Questions