



Orleans County Community Profile

December 2020

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Purpose of this Profile

This profile is provided by the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP), the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) and the Research, Epidemiology, and Evaluation Unit of the Vermont Department of Health as a resource to the District Offices and community-based prevention partners.

Purpose of this Profile

This profile includes estimates of substance use/misuse prevalence from State surveys, as well as other data to assist the District Offices and prevention partners to focus on the following priorities for 2021:

- 1) Build, maintain, and strengthen the state, regional and community level infrastructure capacity needed to address substance use and misuse prevention and intervention across Vermont, and
- 2) Prevent and reduce underage drinking, binge drinking, and marijuana use/ misuse among youth and young adults.

Demographics: Sex (all) and Age (youth only)

Source: [2019: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates](#)

| Label | Orleans County | | Vermont | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | Estimate | Percent | Estimate | Percent |
| SEX AND AGE | | | | |
| Total population | 26,901 | 100% | 624,313 | 100% |
| Male | 13,512 | 50% | 308,097 | 49% |
| Female | 13,389 | 50% | 316,216 | 51% |
| Under 5 years | 1,295 | 5% | 29,568 | 5% |
| 5 to 9 years | 1,358 | 5% | 32,060 | 5% |
| 10 to 14 years | 1,581 | 6% | 33,496 | 5% |
| 15 to 19 years | 1,489 | 6% | 42,549 | 7% |
| 20 to 24 years | 1,413 | 5% | 46,180 | 7% |

Demographics: Race and Ethnicity

Source: [2019: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates](#)

| | Orleans County | | Vermont | |
|---|----------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Label | Estimate | Percent | Estimate | Percent |
| Race alone or in combination with one or more other races | | | | |
| Total population | 26,901 | 100% | 624,313 | 100% |
| White | 26,472 | 98% | 599,819 | 96% |
| Black or African American | 313 | 1% | 12,083 | 2% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native | 389 | 1% | 7,818 | 1% |
| Asian | 182 | 1% | 14,503 | 2% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 18 | 0% | 749 | 0% |
| Some other race | 83 | 0% | 2,890 | 1% |
| HISPANIC OR LATINO | | | | |
| Total population | 26,901 | 100% | 624,313 | 100% |
| Hispanic or Latino (of any race) | 405 | 2% | 12,038 | 2% |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 26,496 | 99% | 612,275 | 98% |

Poverty: All Ages

Source: [Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\) 2019](#)

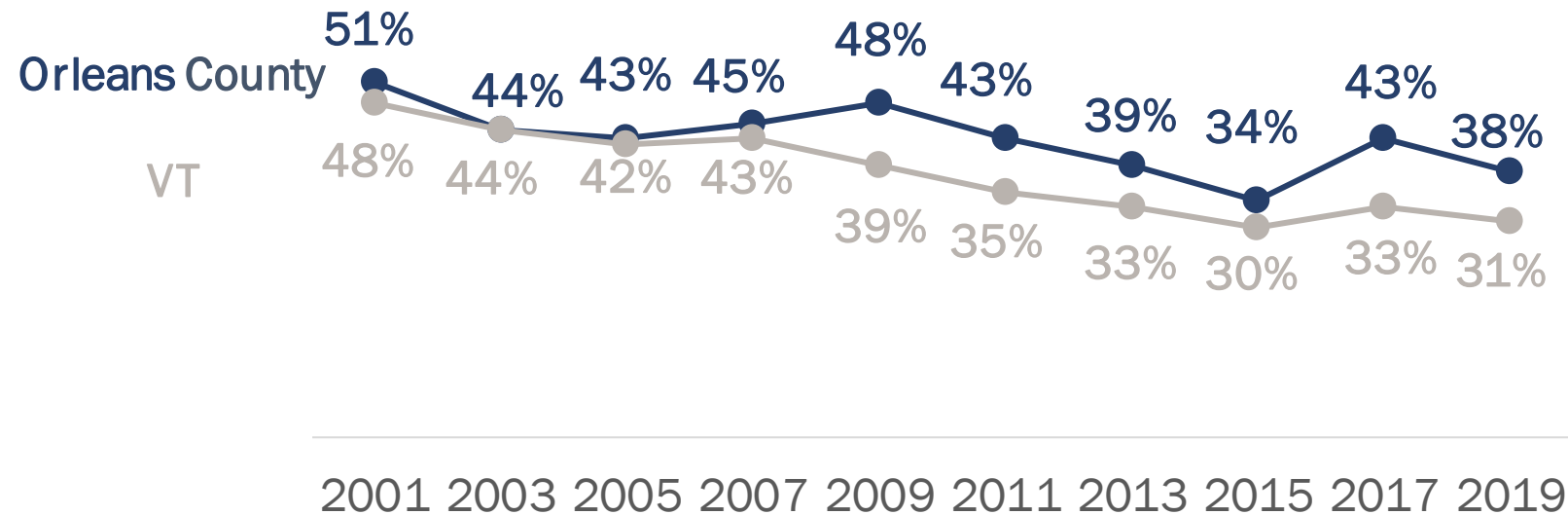
| County | # All Ages in Poverty | % All Ages in Poverty | 90% Confidence Interval: % All Ages in Poverty LB | 90% Confidence Interval: % All Ages in Poverty UB |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| Addison | 2,690 | 7.9 | 5.9 | 9.9 |
| Bennington | 3,399 | 10 | 7.5 | 12.5 |
| Caledonia | 3,561 | 12.3 | 9.5 | 15.1 |
| Chittenden | 16,084 | 10.5 | 9.3 | 11.7 |
| Essex | 908 | 14.8 | 11 | 18.6 |
| Franklin | 4,699 | 9.6 | 7.5 | 11.7 |
| Grand Isle | 581 | 8.1 | 5.9 | 10.3 |
| Lamoille | 2,231 | 9.1 | 6.8 | 11.4 |
| Orange | 2,652 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 11.6 |
| Orleans | 3,333 | 12.7 | 9.8 | 15.6 |
| Rutland | 6,033 | 10.8 | 8.5 | 13.1 |
| Washington | 4,673 | 8.4 | 6.4 | 10.4 |
| Windham | 4,776 | 11.6 | 9.4 | 13.8 |
| Windsor | 5,005 | 9.2 | 7.3 | 11.1 |
| Vermont | 60,624 | 10.1% | 9.5% | 10.7% |

Median Household Income

Source: [Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\) 2019](#)

| County | Median Household Income in Dollars | 90% Confidence Interval: Median Household Income in Dollars LB | 90% Confidence Interval: Median Household Income in Dollars UB |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Addison | \$73,574 | \$69,528 | \$77,620 |
| Bennington | \$56,948 | \$52,284 | \$61,612 |
| Caledonia | \$50,942 | \$47,076 | \$54,808 |
| Chittenden | \$76,483 | \$73,447 | \$79,519 |
| Essex | \$45,796 | \$40,988 | \$50,604 |
| Franklin | \$65,056 | \$59,047 | \$71,065 |
| Grand Isle | \$68,364 | \$61,071 | \$75,657 |
| Lamoille | \$60,555 | \$54,153 | \$66,957 |
| Orange | \$59,758 | \$55,681 | \$63,835 |
| Orleans | \$48,826 | \$43,855 | \$53,797 |
| Rutland | \$51,903 | \$49,484 | \$54,322 |
| Washington | \$65,879 | \$61,501 | \$70,257 |
| Windham | \$52,068 | \$47,230 | \$56,906 |
| Windsor | \$61,843 | \$57,670 | \$66,016 |
| Vermont | \$63,293 | \$61,699 | \$64,887 |

The percent of adolescents in grades 9-12 who drank any alcohol in the past 30 days was statistically worse in Orleans County compared to Vermont in 2019



Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2001-2019\)](#)

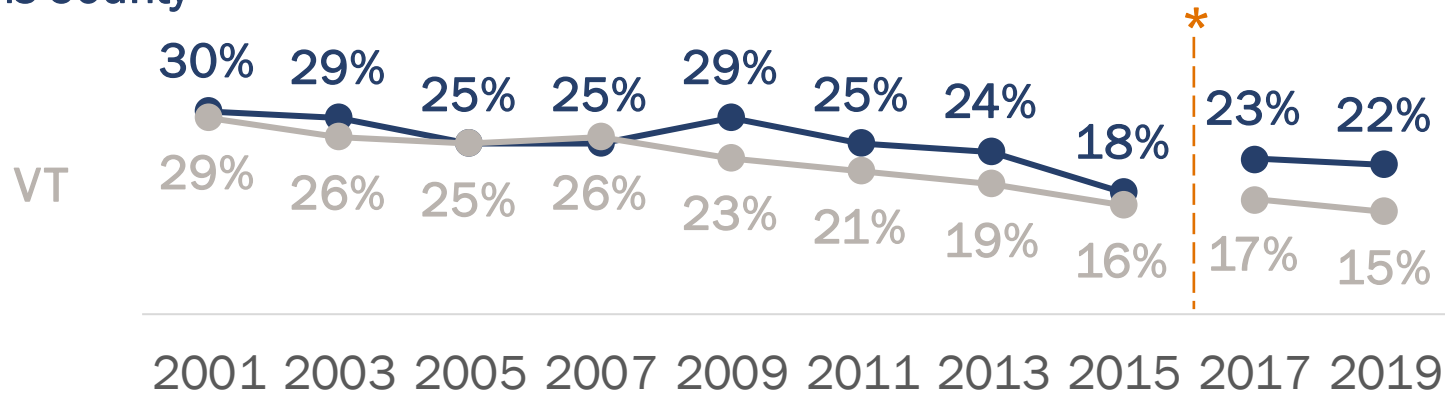
Vermont Department of Health

Prevalence: High School Youth - Alcohol Use

The percent of adolescents in grades 9-12 who binge drank in the past 30 days was statistically worse in Orleans County compared to Vermont in 2019

*Note: question wording changed between 2015 and 2017. Use caution when comparing data pre- and post-change.

Orleans County

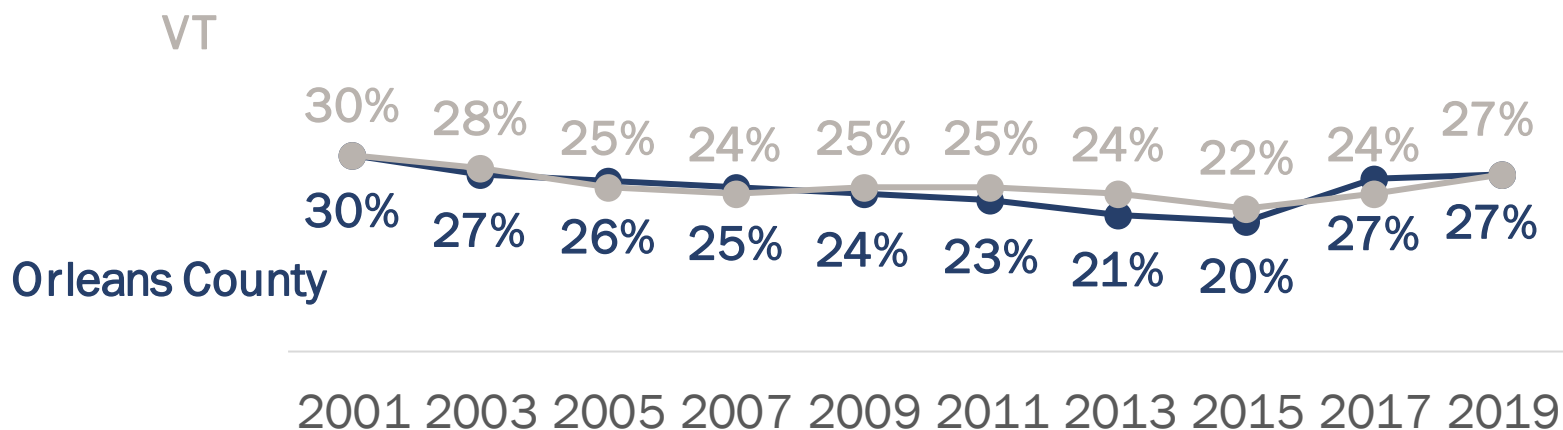


Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2001-2019\)](#)

Vermont Department of Health

Prevalence: High School Youth – Binge Drinking

The percent of adolescents in grades 9-12 who used marijuana in the past 30 days was statistically the same in Orleans County compared to Vermont in 2019



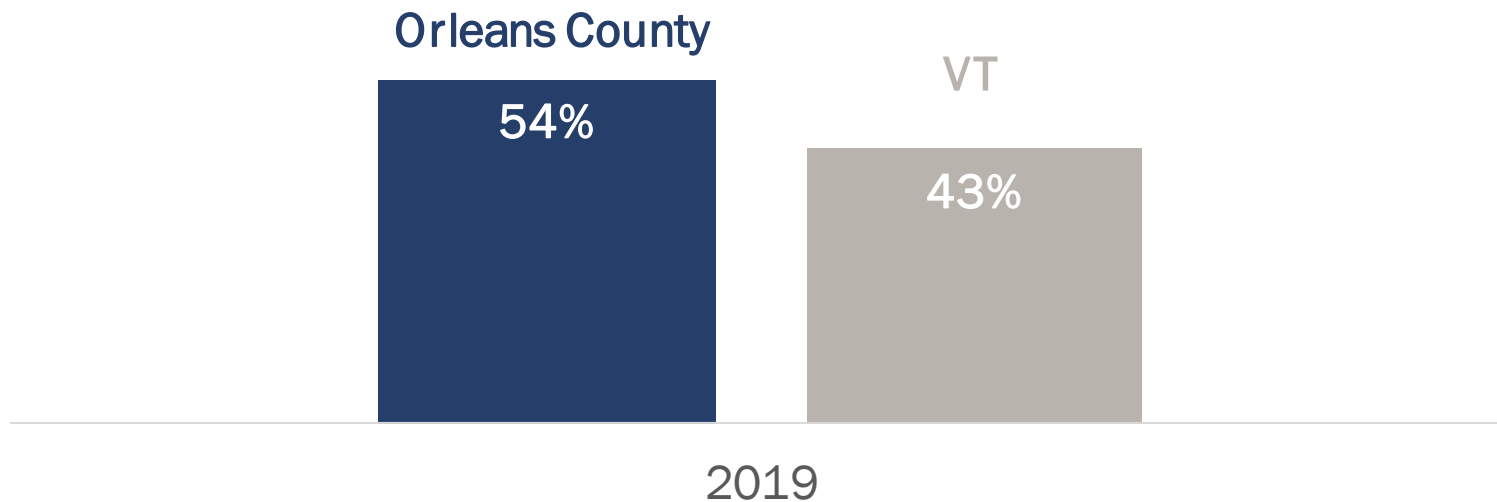
Source: Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2001-2019)

Vermont Department of Health

Prevalence: High School Youth – Marijuana Use

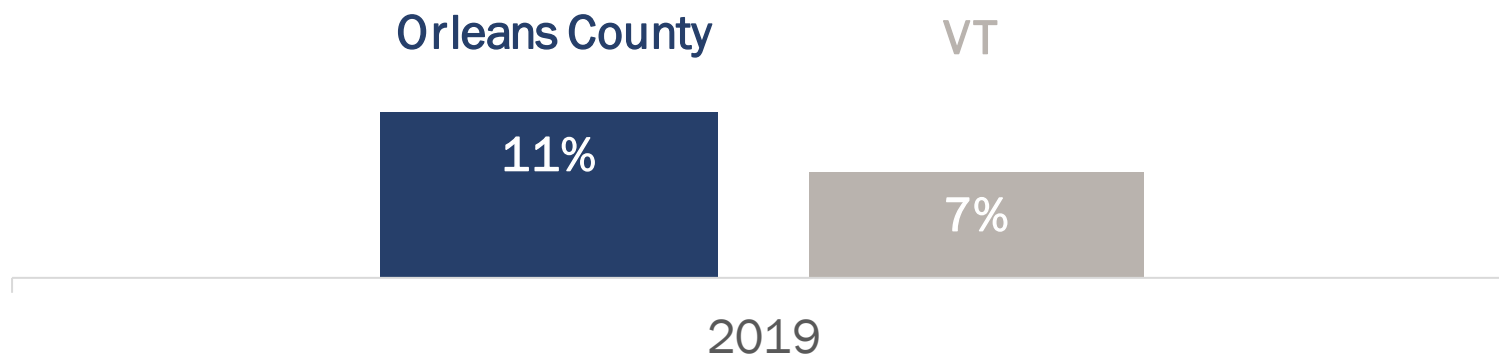
The percent of students who reported frequent use of marijuana in **Orleans County** and **Vermont** in 2019 (statistical comparison not available)

Among students in grades 9-12 using marijuana in the past 30 days, **54% of students in Orleans County** reported frequent use (10+ times)



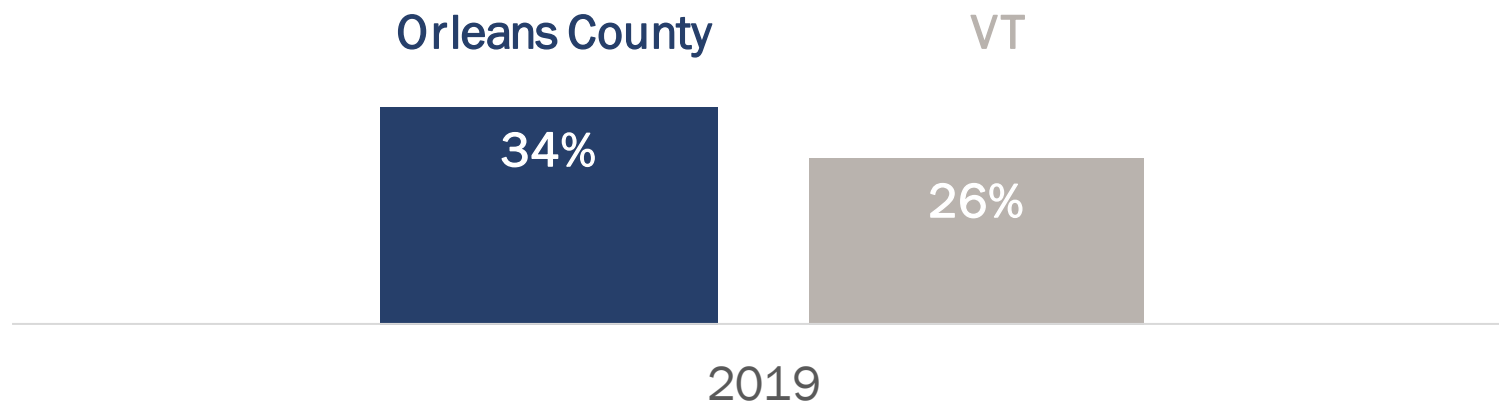
Source: Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019)

The percent of adolescents in grades 9-12 who smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days was statistically worse in Orleans County compared to Vermont in 2019



Source: Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019)

The percent of adolescents in grades 9-12 who used electronic vapor products (EVPs) in the past 30 days was statistically worse in **Orleans County** compared to **Vermont** in 2019

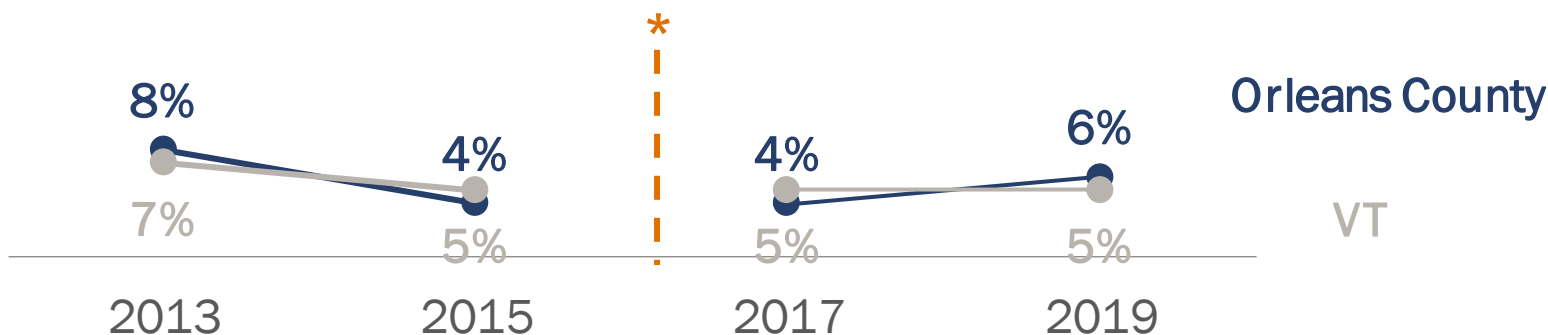


Source: Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019)

The percent of adolescents in grades 9-12 who used a prescription drug not prescribed to them was statistically the same between Orleans County and Vermont in 2019

Use in the past 30 days

*Note: question wording changed between 2015 and 2017.
Use caution when comparing data pre- and post-change.



Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2013-2019\)](#)

Vermont Department of Health

Prevalence: High School Youth – Prescription Drug Use

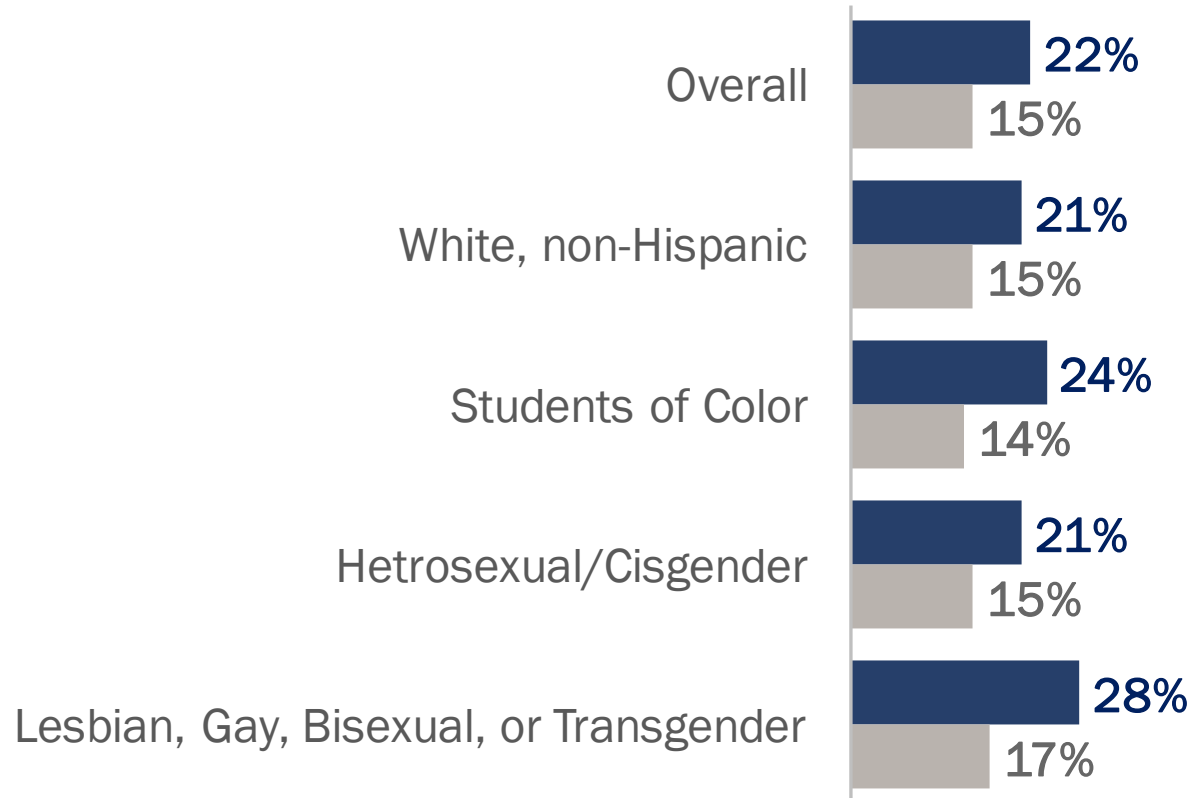
Percent of students in grades 6 – 8 reporting substance use

| Substance Use | Orleans | Vermont | Statistical Comparison |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|------------------------|
| Ever drank alcohol | 29% | 20% | Worse |
| Drank any alcohol, past 30 days | 11% | 7% | Worse |
| Ever used marijuana | 9% | 7% | Same |
| Marijuana use, past 30 days | 5% | 5% | Same |
| Ever smoked cigarette | 11% | 7% | Worse |
| Smoked cigarette, past 30 days | 3% | 2% | Same |
| Ever used EVP | 21% | 16% | Worse |
| EVP use, past 30 days | 9% | 8% | Same |

Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2019\)](#)

Vermont Department of Health

Percent of students who binge drank in the past 30 days in Orleans County and Vermont, grades 9-12



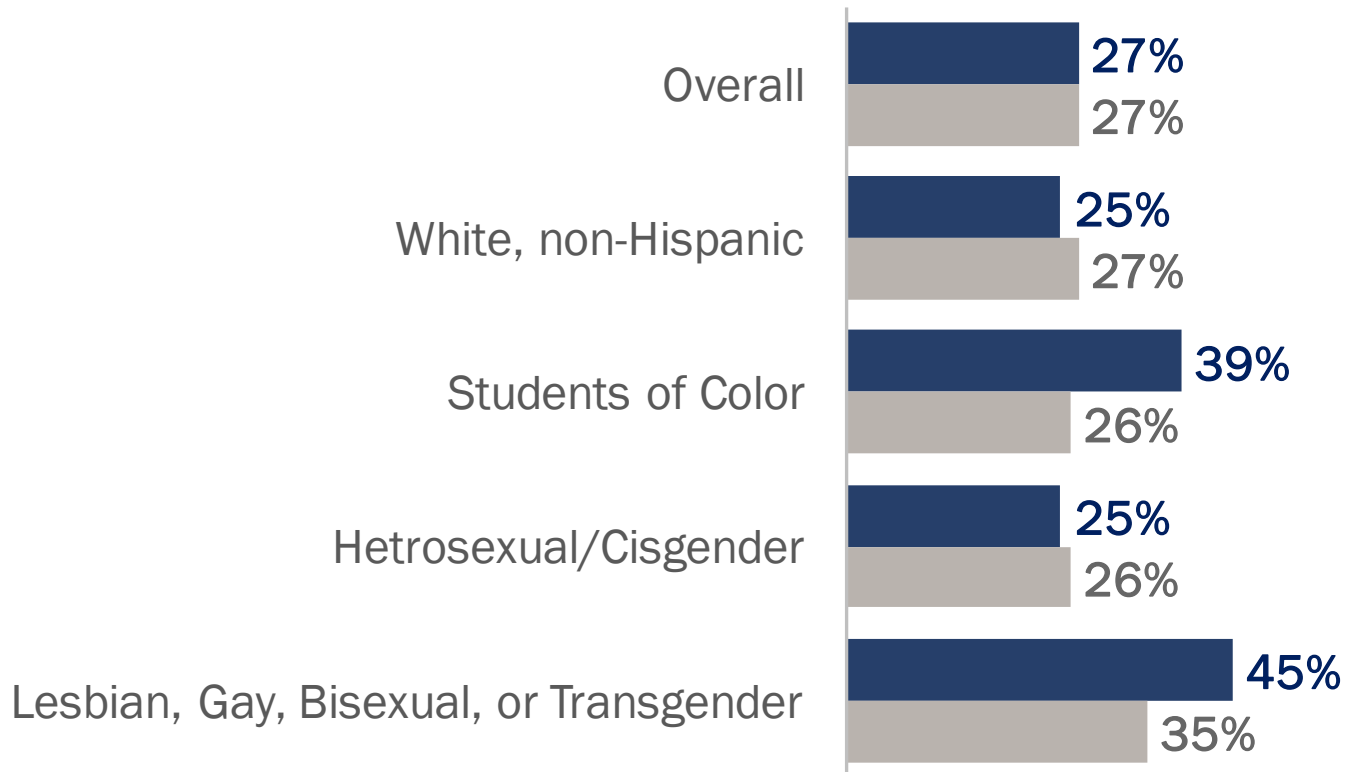
There are no statistical differences within **Orleans County**.

Source: Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019)

Vermont Department of Health

Disparities in Prevalence: High School

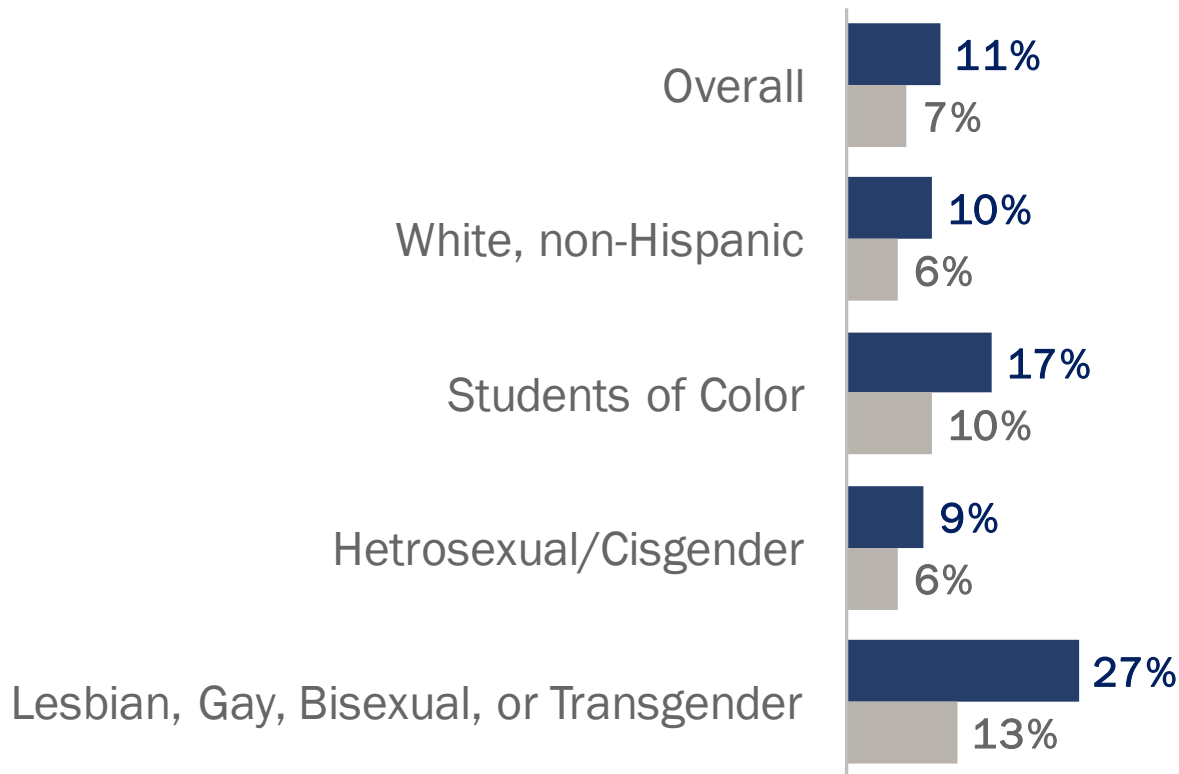
Percent of students who used marijuana in the past 30 days in Orleans County and Vermont, grades 9-12



Students of Color were statistically more likely to use marijuana than White, non-Hispanic students, and LGBT students were statistically more likely to use marijuana than heterosexual/cisgender students within **Orleans County**.

Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2019\)](#)

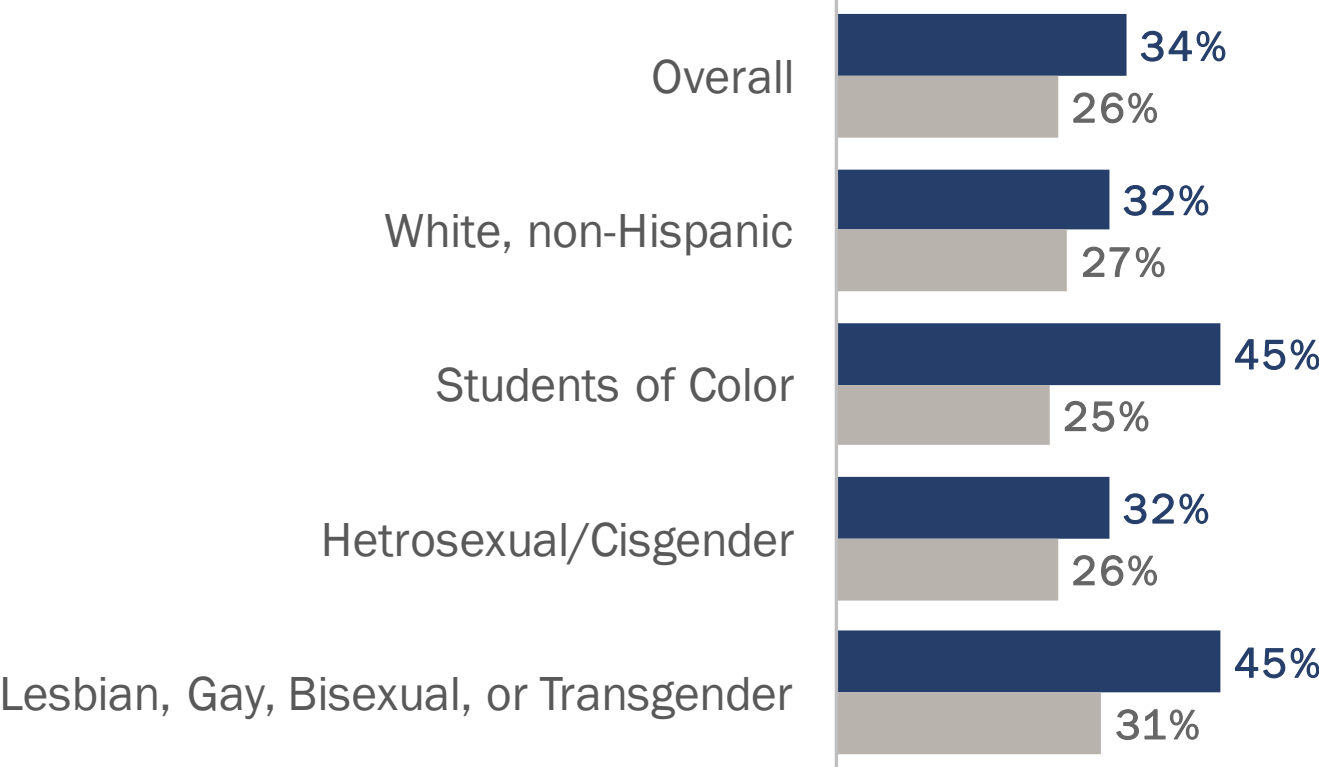
Percent of students who smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days in Orleans County and Vermont, grades 9-12



LGBT students were statistically more likely to use cigarettes than heterosexual/cisgender students within **Orleans County**.

Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2019\)](#)

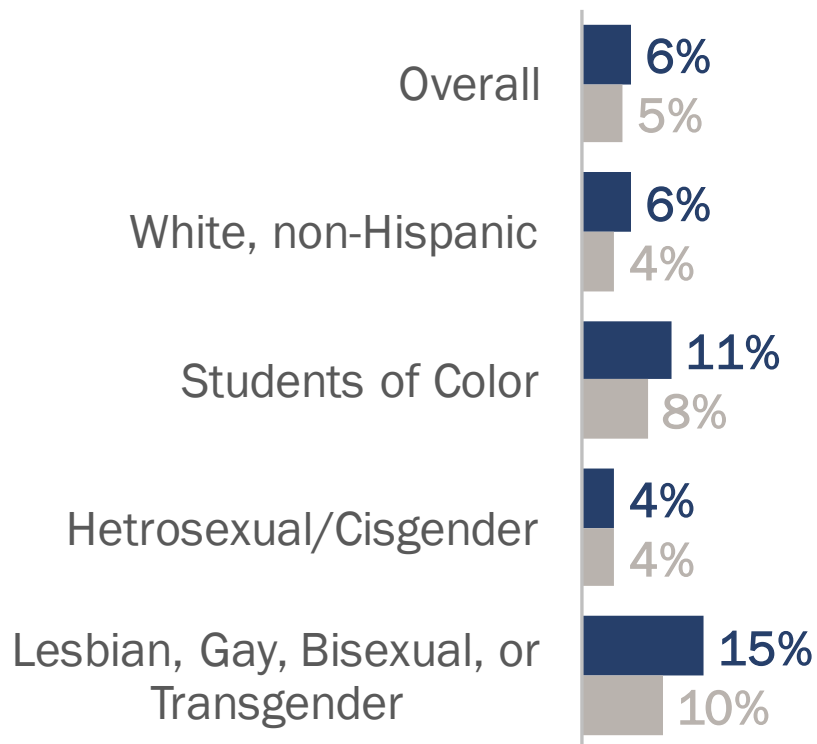
Percent of students who used an EVP in the past 30 days in Orleans County and Vermont, grades 9-12



There are no statistical differences within Orleans County.

Source: Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019)

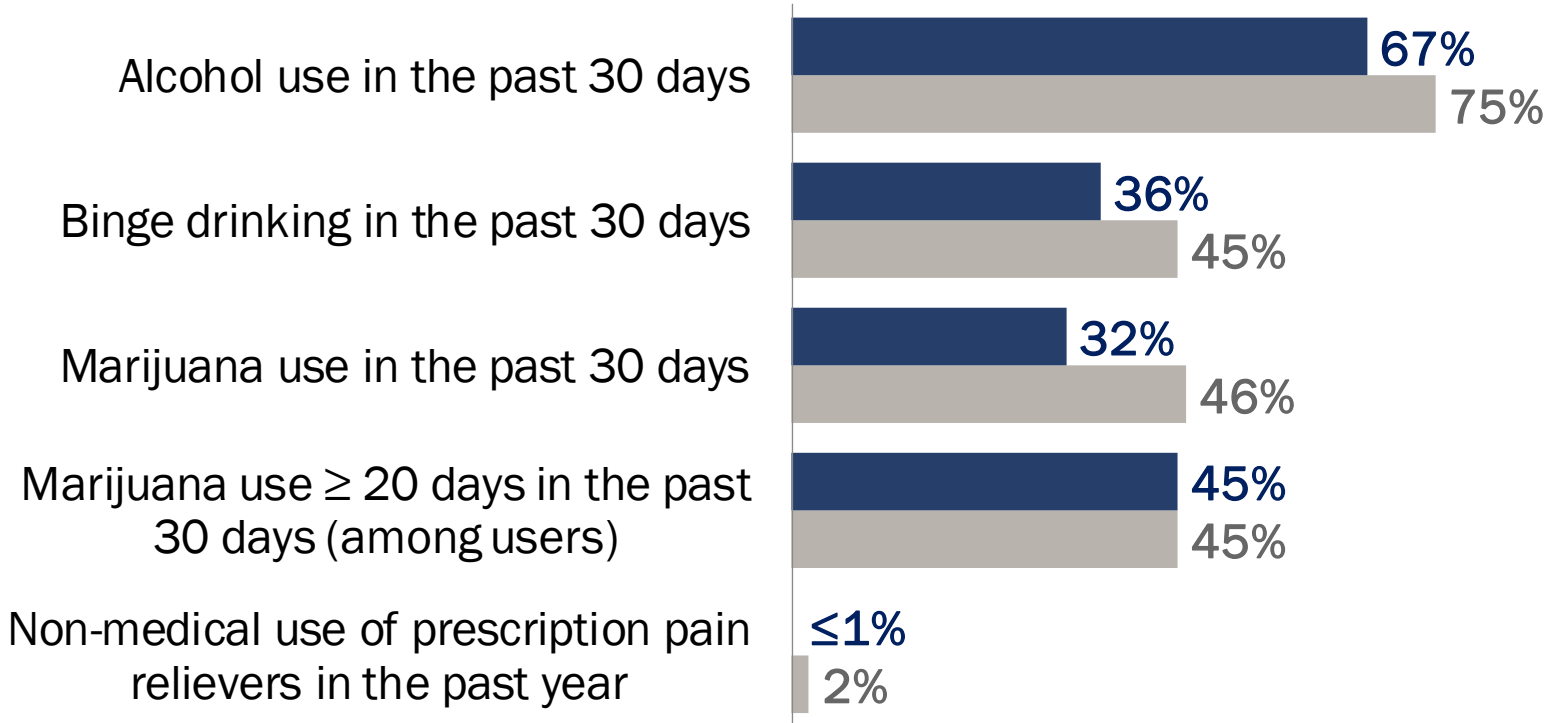
Percent of students who misused a prescription drug in the past 30 days in Orleans County and Vermont, grades 9-12



LGBT students were statistically more likely to misuse a prescription drug than heterosexual/cisgender students within **Orleans County**.

Source: Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019)

Prevalence of substance use in young adults aged 18-25 in Essex/Orleans Counties and Vermont

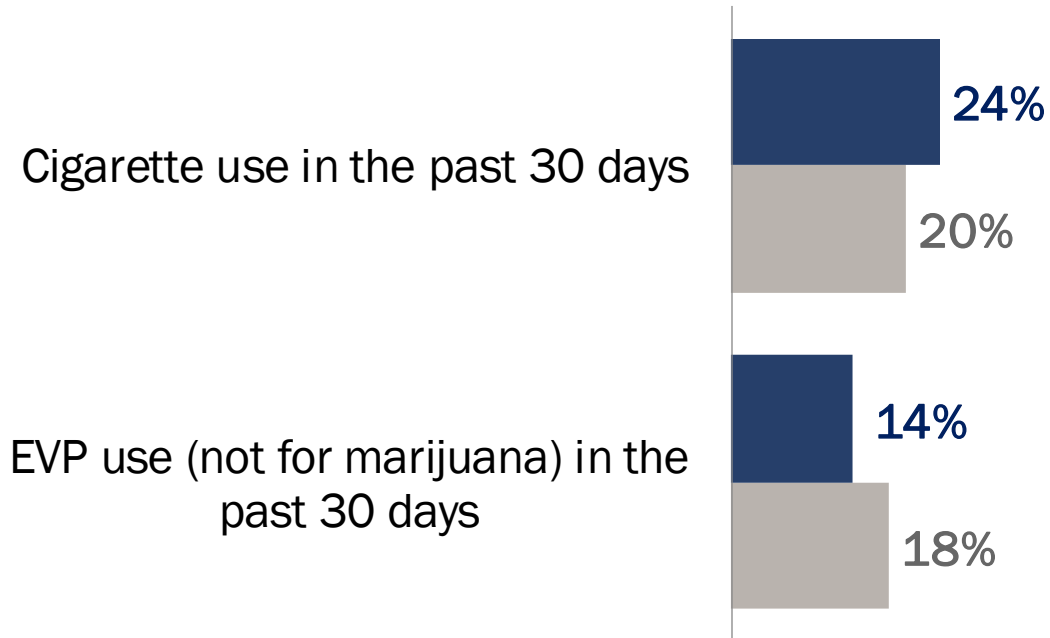


Past 30 day marijuana use in **Essex-Orleans Counties** was statistically better than Vermont overall

Note: Due to a limited sampling population, in order to present data for Essex and Orleans counties the data for these two needed to be combined.

Source: [Vermont Young Adult Survey \(2020\)](#)

Prevalence of substance use in young adults aged 18-25 in Essex/Orleans Counties and Vermont



There are no statistical differences between **Essex/Orleans Counties** and **Vermont** for the above measures.

Note: Due to a limited sampling population, in order to present data for Essex and Orleans counties the data for these two needed to be combined.

Source: [Vermont Young Adult Survey \(2020\)](#)

Percent of students in grades 9 – 12 reporting protective or other factors

| Protective or Other Factor | Orleans County | Vermont | Statistical Comparison |
|---|----------------|---------|------------------------|
| Felt valued by community | 45% | 58% | Worse |
| Have at least one adult or teacher in their school they can talk to if they had a problem | 79% | 78% | Same |
| Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for at least two weeks in the past year | 32% | 31% | Same |

Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2019\)](#)

Percent of students in grades 9 – 12 reporting risk factors for substance use, alcohol

| Risk Factor | Orleans County | Vermont | Statistical Comparison |
|--|----------------|---------|------------------------|
| Drank before age 13 | 19% | 13% | Worse |
| Believe it is easy to get alcohol | 69% | 67% | Same |
| Think people greatly risk harming themselves binge drinking | 32% | 39% | Worse |
| Believe their parents would think it is wrong or very wrong to drink alcohol | 60% | 69% | Worse |
| Believe it is wrong or very wrong for people their age to drink alcohol | 45% | 53% | Worse |

Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2019\)](#)

Percent of students in grades 9 – 12 reporting risk factors for substance use, marijuana

| Risk Factor | Orleans County | Vermont | Statistical Comparison |
|--|----------------|---------|------------------------|
| Marijuana use before age 13 | 7% | 6% | Same |
| Believe it is easy to get marijuana | 62% | 62% | Same |
| Think people greatly risk harming themselves smoking marijuana | 23% | 23% | Same |
| Believe their parents would think it is wrong or very wrong to use marijuana | 73% | 75% | Same |
| Believe it is wrong or very wrong for people their age to use marijuana | 50% | 51% | Same |

Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2019\)](#)

Percent of students in grades 9 – 12 reporting risk factors for substance use, cigarettes and EVPs

| Risk Factor | Orleans County | Vermont | Statistical Comparison |
|---|----------------|---------|------------------------|
| Cigarette use before age 13 | 10% | 7% | Worse |
| Believe it is easy to get EVPs | 77% | 73% | Worse |
| Think people greatly risk harming themselves using EVPs | 24% | 29% | Worse |
| Believe their parents would think it is wrong or very wrong to use EVPs | 79% | 84% | Worse |
| Believe it is wrong or very wrong for people their age to use EVPs | 50% | 56% | Worse |

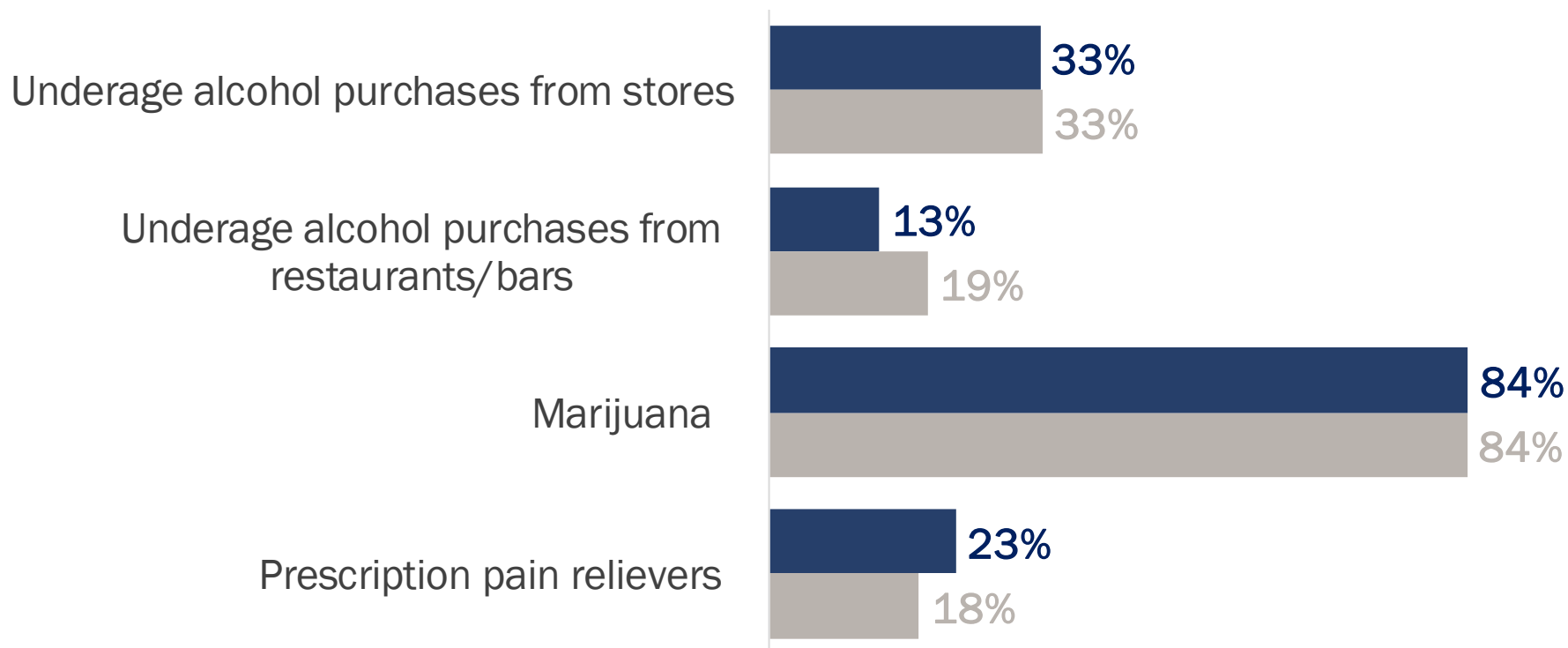
Source: [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(2019\)](#)

The percent of high school students and young adults who report driving after using marijuana or alcohol

| Behavior | Orleans County [^] | Vermont | Statistical Comparison |
|--|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| 9 th – 12 th grade students that drove after using marijuana in the past 30 days* | 16% | 15% | Same |
| 18 – 25-year-olds that drove after using marijuana in the past 30 days** | 8% | 14% | Same |
| 9 th – 12 th grade students that drove after drinking in the past 30 days* | 10% | 6% | Worse |
| 18 – 25-year-olds that drove after having too much to drink , in the past 30 days** | 1% | 1% | Same |

Sources: *Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019) **Vermont Young Adult Survey (2020)
[^]Young Adult Survey Essex and Orleans County data are combined

The percent of young adults perceiving “very easy” or “somewhat easy” to obtain substances in Essex/Orleans Counties and Vermont

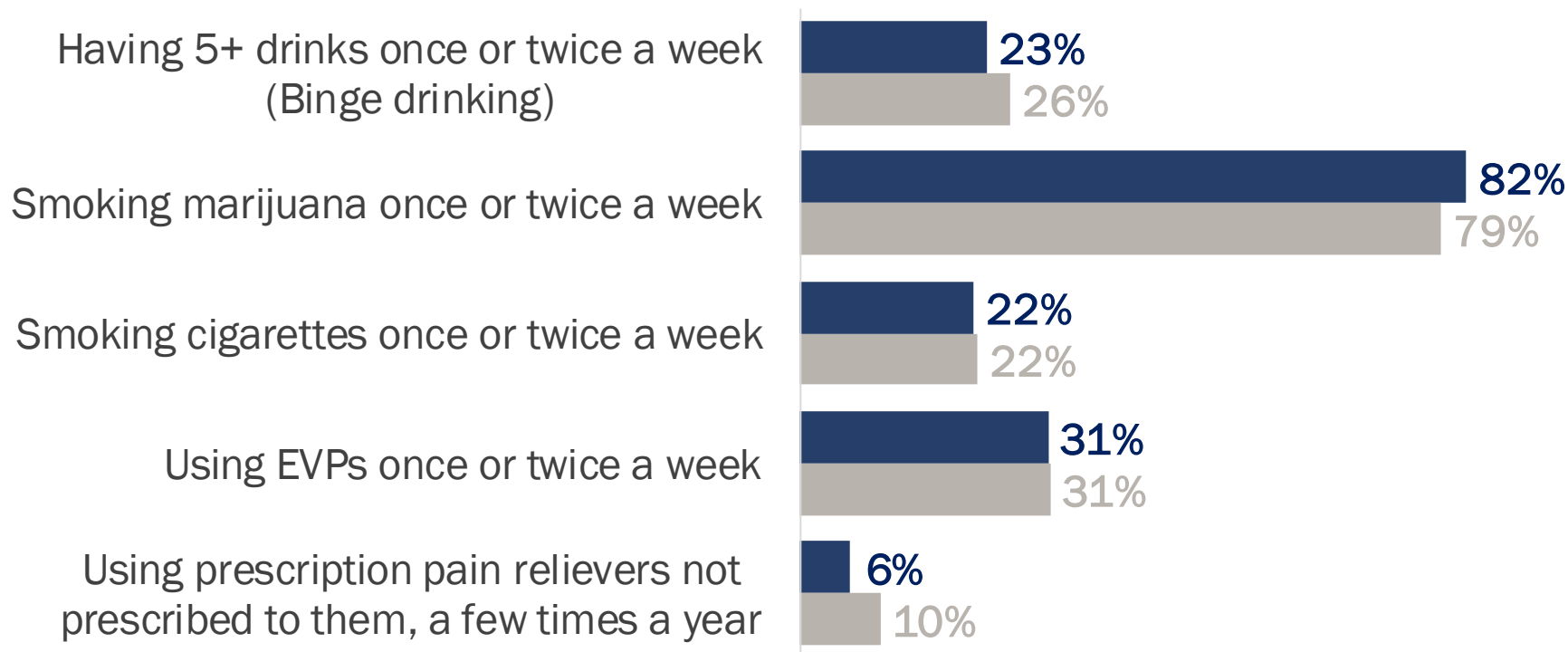


There are no statistical differences between **Essex/Orleans Counties** and **Vermont** for the above measures.

Note: Due to a limited sampling population, in order to present data for **Essex and Orleans** counties the data for these two needed to be combined in the Vermont Young Adult Survey.

Source: [Vermont Young Adult Survey](#) (2020)

The percent of young adults perceiving “no risk” or “slight risk” in using substances in **Essex/Orleans Counties** and **Vermont**



There are no statistical differences between **Essex/Orleans Counties** and **Vermont** for the above measures.

Note: Due to a limited sampling population, in order to present data for **Essex and Orleans** counties the data for these two needed to be combined in the Vermont Young Adult Survey.

Source: [Vermont Young Adult Survey](#) (2020)

Vermont Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

Vermont's PDMP, known as the **Vermont Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS)**, is a statewide electronic database of controlled substance prescriptions dispensed from Vermont-licensed pharmacies that became operational in January of 2009.

VPMS collects, monitors and analyzes electronically transmitted prescribing and dispensing data submitted by pharmacies and dispensing practitioners. This information is used to support and coordinate clinical care and substance misuse prevention, and to assist in understanding the patterns of controlled substance prescribing and dispensing in Vermont.

Source: [Vermont Prescription Monitoring System](#)

Vermont Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS)

VPMS quarterly reports summarize data for all Schedule II – IV prescriptions that were dispensed by Vermont-licensed pharmacies. The next slide includes data from the VPMS quarterly report covering the period of 07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020. The drug types included are:

- Opioid Analgesic – opioids used to treat pain
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Opioids – opioids used to treat opioid use disorder
- Benzodiazepines – sedatives used for anxiety, insomnia and other conditions
- Stimulants - medication used to increase alertness, attention, energy

Source: [VPMS 2020 Quarter 3 Report](#)

Percent of Population Receiving At Least One Prescription in Drug Class, July - September 2020

| | OPIOID ANALGESIC | MAT | BENZODIAZEPINE | STIMULANT |
|------------|------------------|------|----------------|-----------|
| ADDISON | 3.8% | 0.9% | 3.4% | 2.3% |
| BENNINGTON | 4.8% | 1.8% | 4.9% | 3.5% |
| CALEDONIA | 4.0% | 0.7% | 3.5% | 2.9% |
| CHITTENDEN | 3.3% | 0.9% | 4.0% | 2.9% |
| ESSEX | 2.9% | 0.3% | 2.4% | 1.5% |
| FRANKLIN | 4.8% | 1.9% | 3.4% | 2.0% |
| GRAND ISLE | 5.1% | 1.3% | 3.6% | 2.3% |
| LAMOILLE | 4.2% | 1.3% | 3.9% | 2.5% |
| ORANGE | 3.1% | 1.1% | 3.3% | 1.9% |
| ORLEANS | 5.5% | 1.0% | 4.9% | 3.5% |
| RUTLAND | 5.1% | 1.6% | 4.5% | 2.6% |
| WASHINGTON | 4.2% | 0.8% | 4.7% | 3.0% |
| WINDHAM | 4.4% | 0.8% | 4.9% | 4.0% |
| WINDSOR | 2.9% | 0.9% | 3.0% | 1.7% |
| | | | | |
| Vermont | 4.0% | 1.1% | 4.0% | 2.7% |

Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME) to measure opioid prescriptions

Using Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME) allows for comparison between types and strengths of opioids.

MME is a way to express the strength of an opioid analgesic prescription as though the prescription were converted to morphine.

For instance, the following medications each provide 50 MME/day:

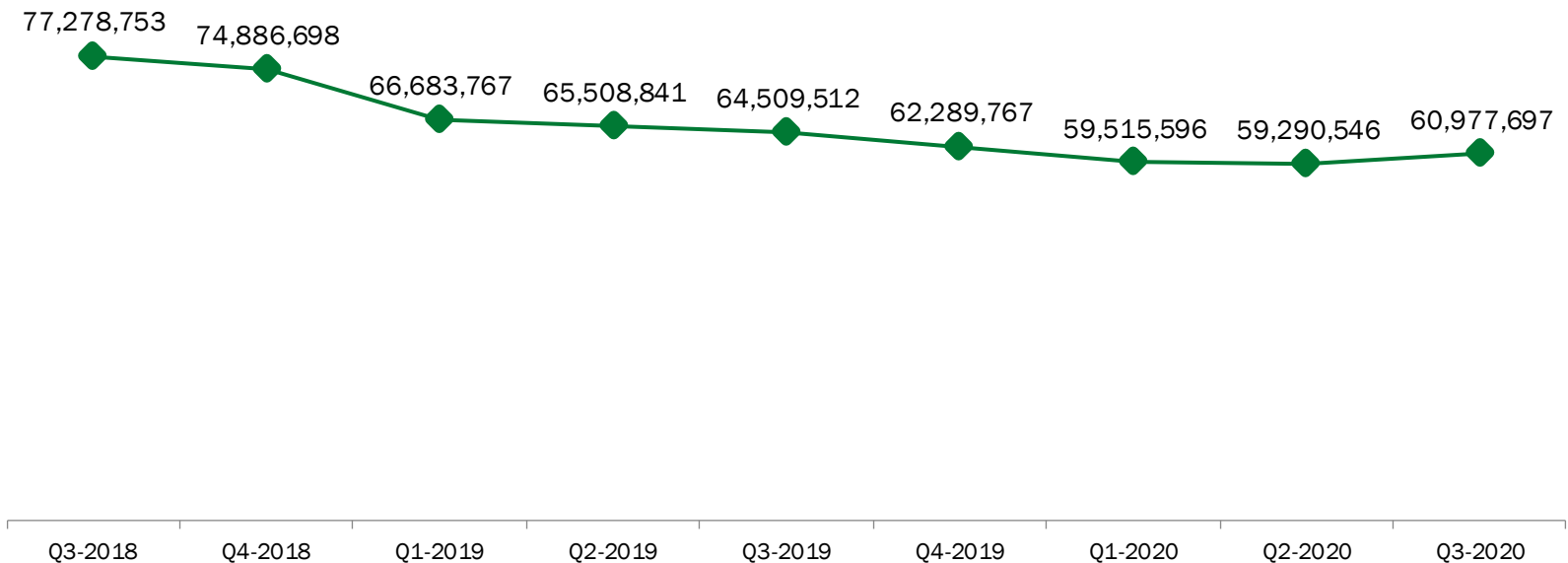
- 10 tablets of hydrocodone/acetaminophen 5/300
- 2 tablets of oxycodone sustained-release 15 mg
- <3 tablets of methadone 5 mg

Source: [VPMS 2020 Quarter 3 Report](#)

The total amount of opioids dispensed has decreased over time

Vermont Total MME Dispensed by Quarter

Since Quarter 1 of 2016, the Vermont total MME has decreased by over 44%

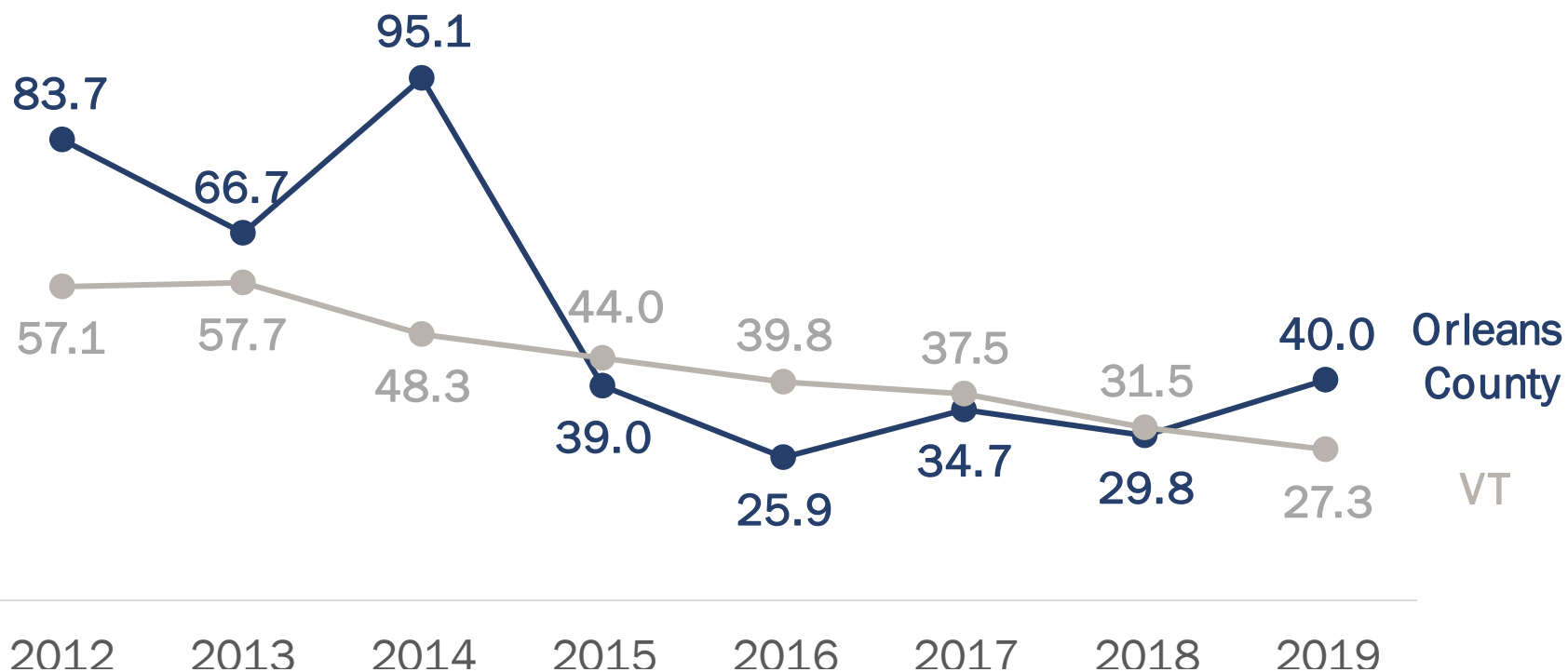


Q1: January-March Q2: April-June Q3: July-September Q4: October-December

The rate of Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program alcohol citations for youth age 16-20

per 1,000 VT youth, by fiscal year

(using the annual Vermont population estimate data for ages 16-20)



Source: Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program (2012-2019)

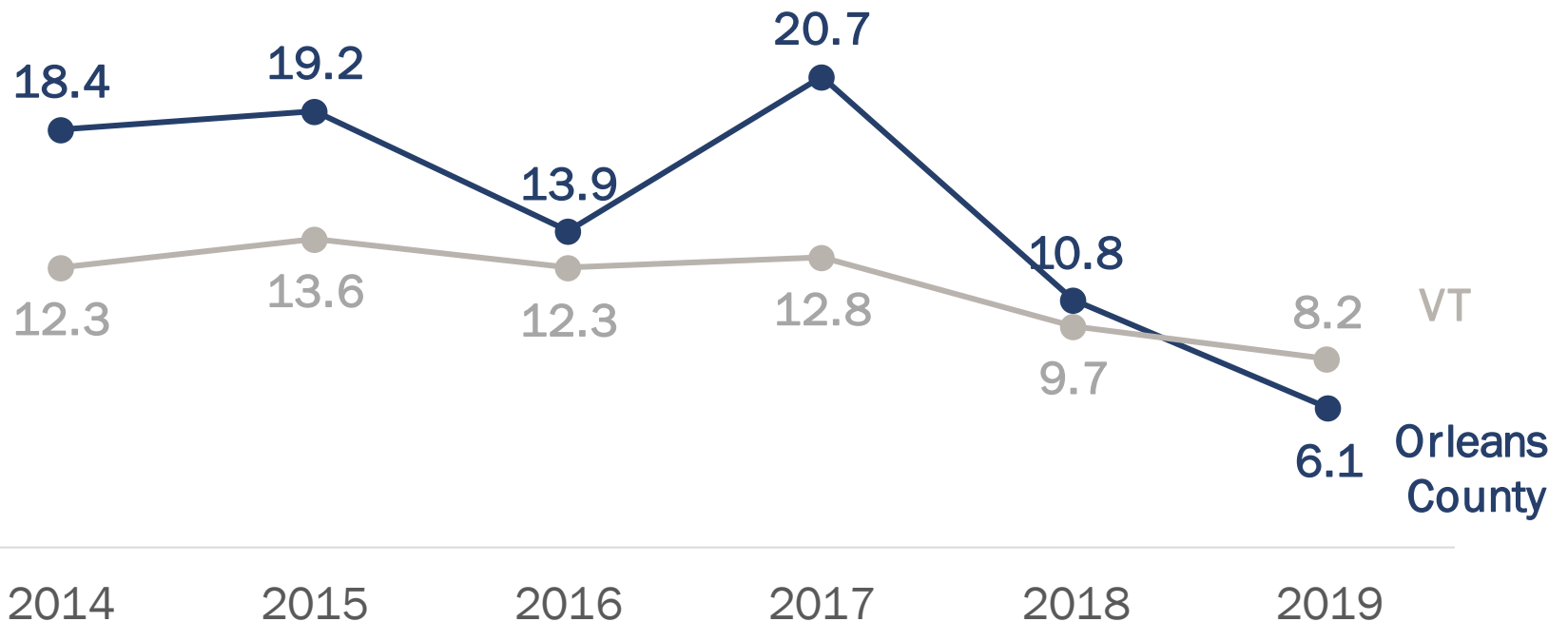
Vermont Department of Health

Consequence

The rate of Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program marijuana citations for youth age 16-20

per 1,000 VT youth, by fiscal year

(using the annual Vermont population estimate data for ages 16-20)



Source: Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program (2014-2019)

Vermont Department of Health

Consequence

Impaired Driver Crashes - 2019

| Impaired Driver Crashes by County & Crash Type: 2019 | | | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| County | Fatal Crashes | Injury Crashes | Property Damage Only Crashes | Total by County |
| Addison | 2 | 9 | 17 | 28 |
| Bennington | 0 | 25 | 22 | 47 |
| Caledonia | 2 | 3 | 12 | 17 |
| Chittenden | 4 | 39 | 84 | 127 |
| Essex | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Franklin | 3 | 10 | 19 | 32 |
| Grand Isle | 0 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Lamoille | 2 | 10 | 14 | 26 |
| Orange | 1 | 9 | 7 | 17 |
| Orleans | 3 | 7 | 6 | 16 |
| Rutland | 1 | 12 | 15 | 28 |
| Washington | 0 | 16 | 20 | 36 |
| Windham | 2 | 14 | 20 | 36 |
| Windsor | 2 | 26 | 18 | 46 |
| Total by Crash Type | 23 | 184 | 261 | 468 |

Division of Liquor Control Compliance Checks

Number of checks of 1st and 2nd Class Licensees Jan 2019 – Oct 2020, does not include “incomplete” checks

Source: [Division of Liquor Control](#) projectRABIT

| County | Checked | Passed | Percent Passed |
|----------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Addison | 17 | 15 | 88% |
| Bennington | 56 | 52 | 93% |
| Caledonia | 53 | 47 | 89% |
| Chittenden | 232 | 216 | 93% |
| Essex | 7 | 6 | 86% |
| Franklin | 57 | 56 | 98% |
| Grand Isle | 14 | 13 | 93% |
| Lamoille | 28 | 28 | 100% |
| Orange | 26 | 22 | 85% |
| Orleans | 69 | 60 | 87% |
| Rutland | 109 | 106 | 97% |
| Washington | 77 | 66 | 86% |
| Windham | 71 | 60 | 85% |
| Windsor | 96 | 89 | 93% |
| Vermont | 912 | 836 | 92% |

School-Based Substance Abuse Service Grants in Supervisory Unions funded for Fiscal Year 2021

Addison Northwest SU

Champlain Valley SD

Franklin Northeast SU

Lamoille South SU

Maple Run Unified SD

Mount Mansfield Unified Union SD

Slate Valley Unified Modified SD

Southwest Vermont SU

Springfield SD

Two Rivers SU

Windham Central SU

Windham Northeast SU

Windham Southeast SU

Windham Southwest SU

Windsor Central SU

The purpose of these grants is to provide and enhance substance abuse prevention and early intervention services in Vermont schools, leading to reductions in students' alcohol and other drug use.

See the **[Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Dashboard](#)** for information on the percent of students screened and referred to treatment.

Conclusion and Contacts

- These data are presented to assist the District Offices and community partners in all types of planning, needs assessment, community outreach, and prevention work surrounding alcohol use, binge drinking, marijuana use, and prescription drug misuse.

- **Contact information**

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