

Delaware DDATA

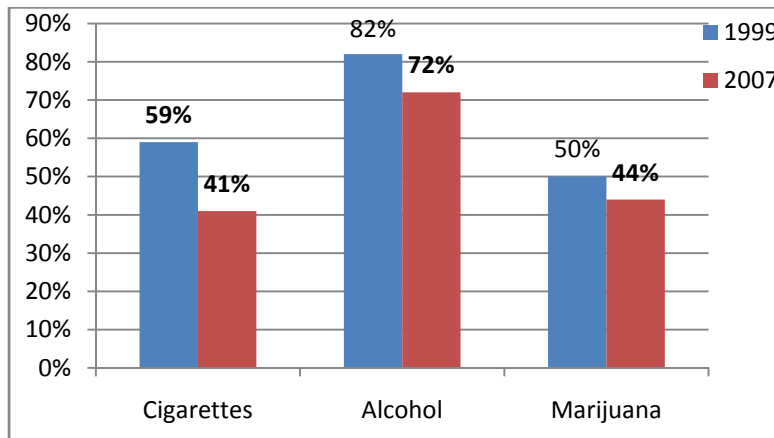
Delaware Drug and Alcohol Tracking Alliance

September 15, 2008

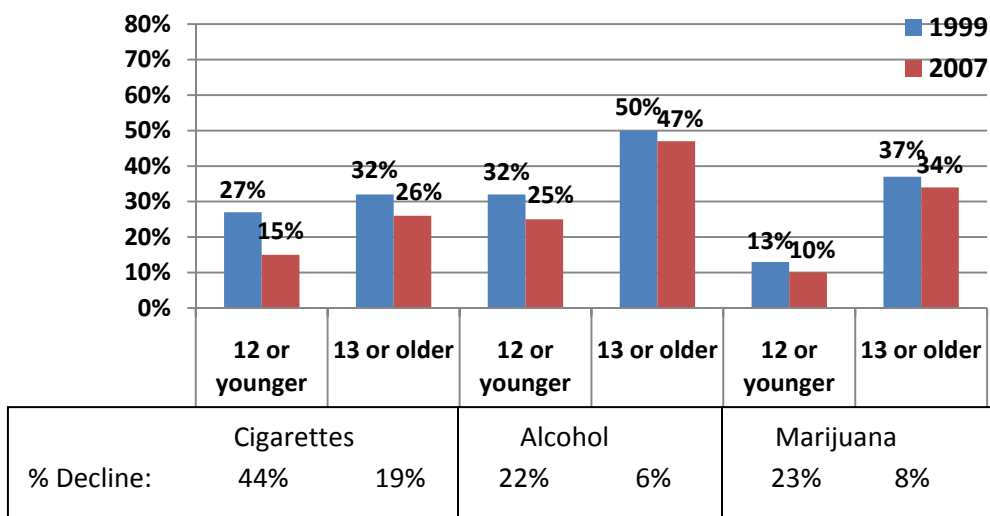
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Fewer Delaware Youth Report Ever Trying Alcohol, Cigarettes, and Marijuana Compared to 1999, and Those Who Do Try, Start Later

The percentage of Delaware high school students who report trying cigarettes, alcohol or marijuana on the Delaware Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) has noticeably declined since 1999. While these declines in the initial onset of substance use are encouraging, it is still important to note that three in four high school students have tried alcohol, and two in five have tried marijuana.



Percentage of Delaware High School Students Who Tried Cigarettes, Alcohol, or Marijuana, 1999 and 2007



The rate of change for students reporting use before age 13 is greater than the rate of change for those who report later onset, which means the average age of onset for trying cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana is higher.

†Tried a cigarette is defined as smoking a whole cigarette. Tried alcohol is defined as drinking more than a few sips of alcohol.

Source: 1999-2007 Delaware Youth Risk Behavior Survey

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