

FY25 Middle School Meth Prevention Program Outcomes

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES,
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

SOUTH DAKOTA EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES

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Data Collection Methods and Curricula Utilized

Data Collection:

In FY2025, **28 of 43 schools*** that submitted Participant Level Instruments (PLI) tests for Middle School meth prevention programming had matching pre- and post-tests.

FY2025 updates, pre- and post-test PLIs were provided separately, so students were unable to answer post-test question(s) during the pre-test nor would they be able to answer pre-test question(s) during the post-test. In addition, questions around previous prevention programs were added to the PLIs.

There were **2,214 original PLI tests completed**. Of the original PLI tests, there were total of **1,188 pre-tests** and **1,026 post-tests**. There were **4,467 PLI-2 tests completed**. Of the PLI-2 tests, there were a total of **2,479 pre-tests** and **1,988 post-tests**. In total, **6,681 PLIs were completed for FY2025**.

After unique identifiers were utilized to match pre- and post-tests, there were a total of **1,499 matched tests** that could be utilized for further analysis. This is an **attrition/fail rate of 55.1%**, based on the total number of PLI tests.

Curricula Utilized in Middle School Meth Prevention Programming (as reported by prevention provider)**:

Too Good For Drugs	Project SUCCESS	LifeSkills	Positive Action
77.8% (N=2,331)	14.0% (N=421)	6.9% (N=206)	1.3% (N=40)

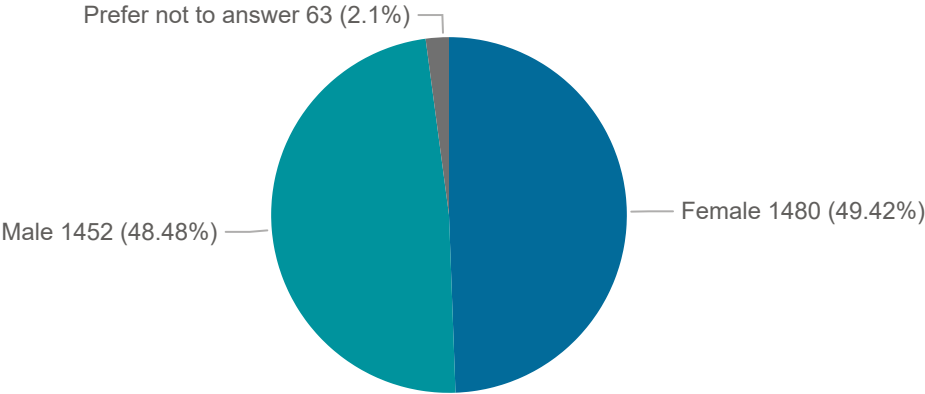
*Note: "Blank" schools are not included in total unique count of schools that submitted PLIs.

**Note: Total pre- and post-test equals 2,998 or 1,499 matched tests.



Demographics

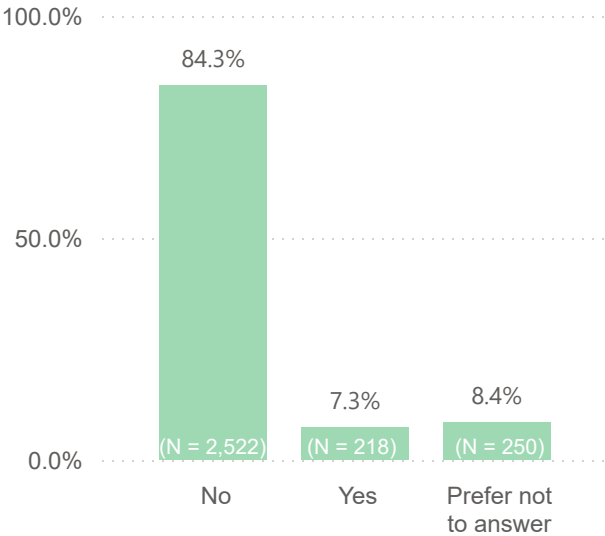
Gender



Note: There were three blank responses for "What is your gender?".

Ethnicity and Race

Are you Hispanic or Latino?

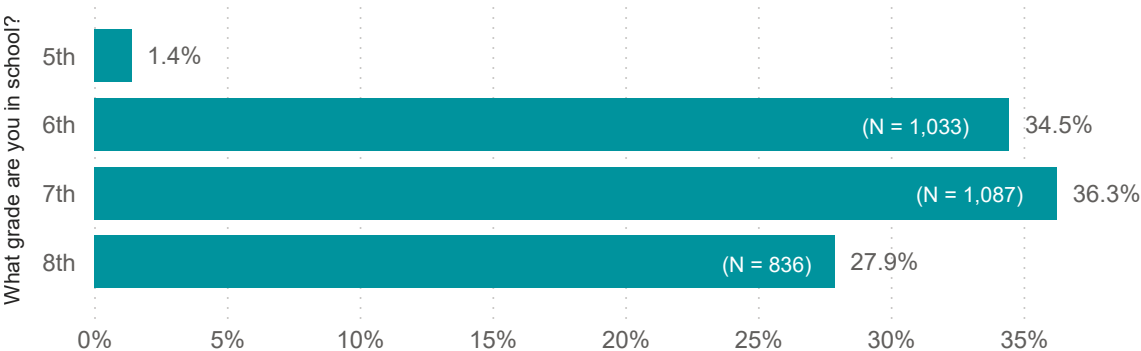


Note: There were eight blank responses for "Are you Hispanic or Latino?".

Race	Count (#)	Percent (%)
White or Caucasian	2,275	76.0%
Prefer not to answer	180	6.0%
Hispanic or Latino	149	5.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	136	4.5%
Another race	106	3.5%
Black or African American	69	2.3%
Asian or Asian American	68	2.3%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	10	0.3%
Total	2,993	100.0%

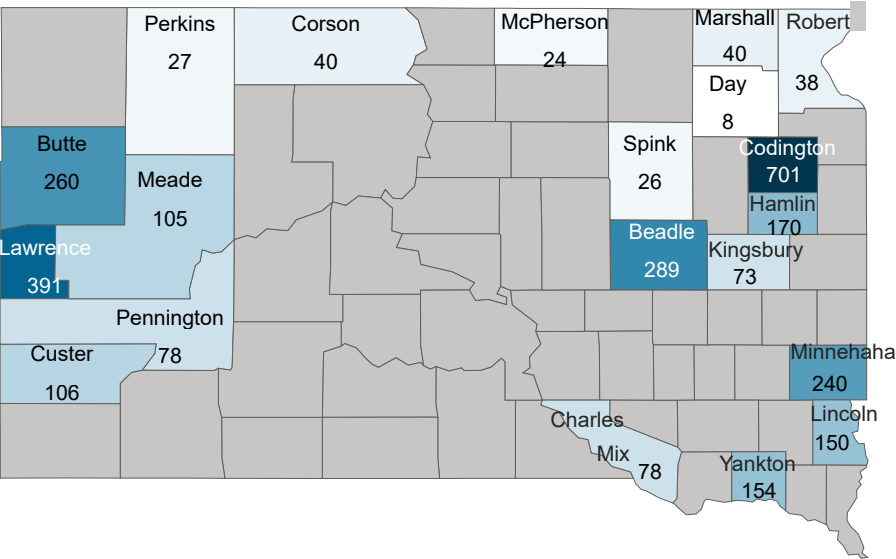
Note: There were five blank responses for "What is your race?".

Grade

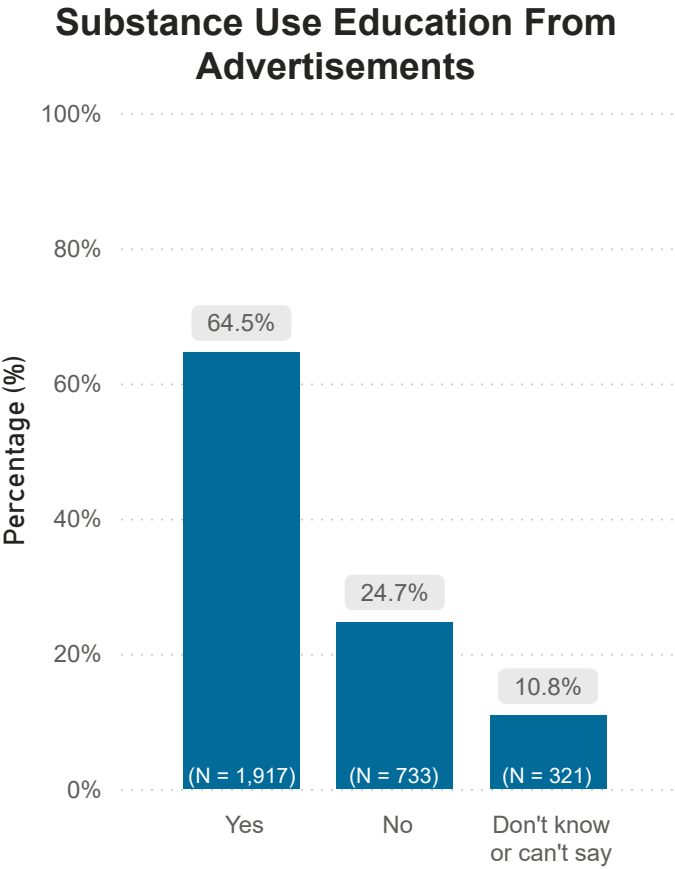


Note: There were forty-two 5th grade responses for "What grade are you in school?".

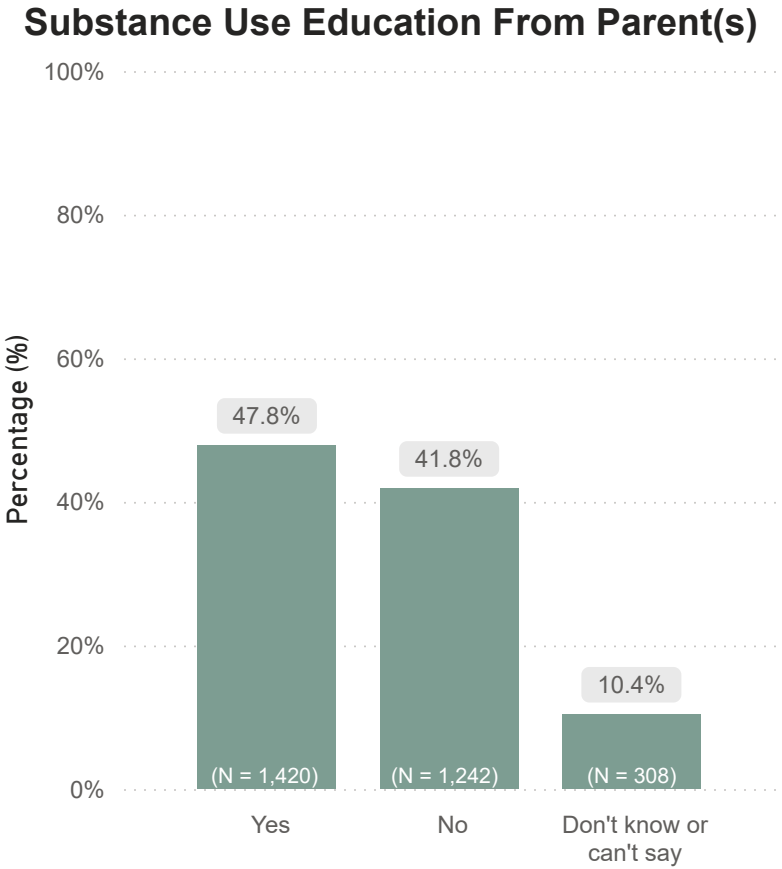
County Location of Middle School Meth Programming



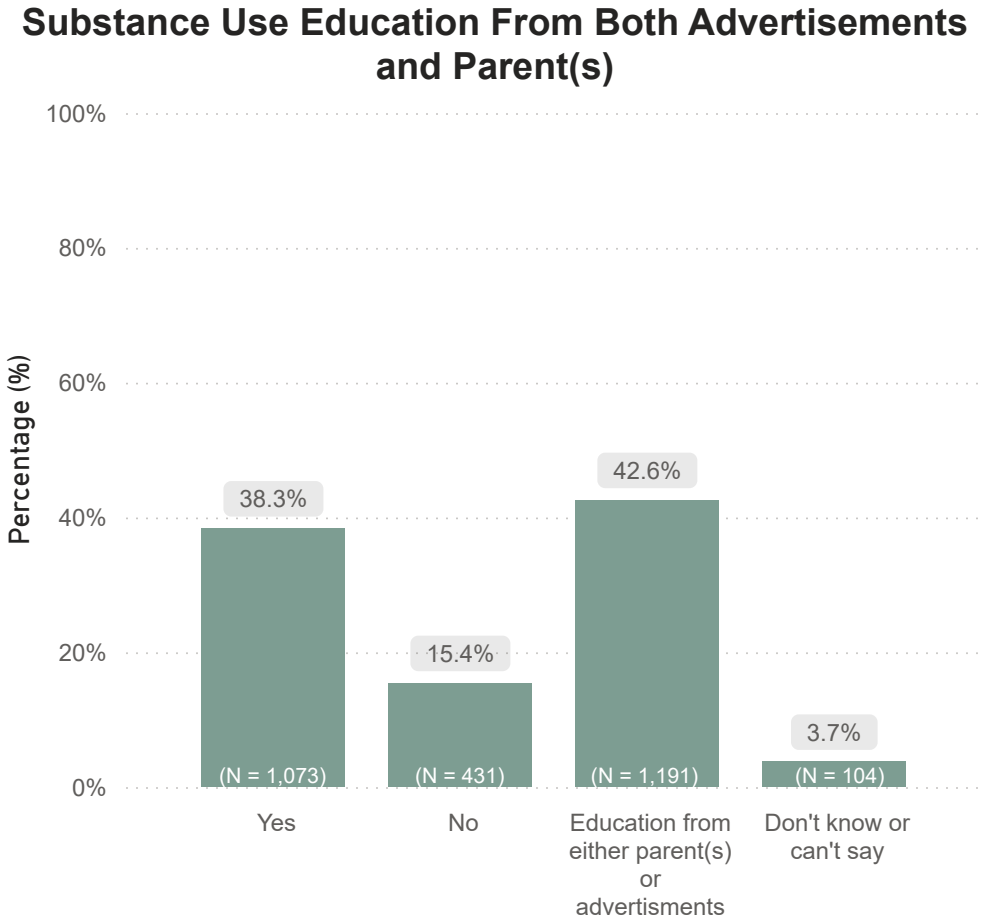
Substance Use Education



Note: There were twenty-seven blank responses.



Note: There were twenty-eight blank responses.

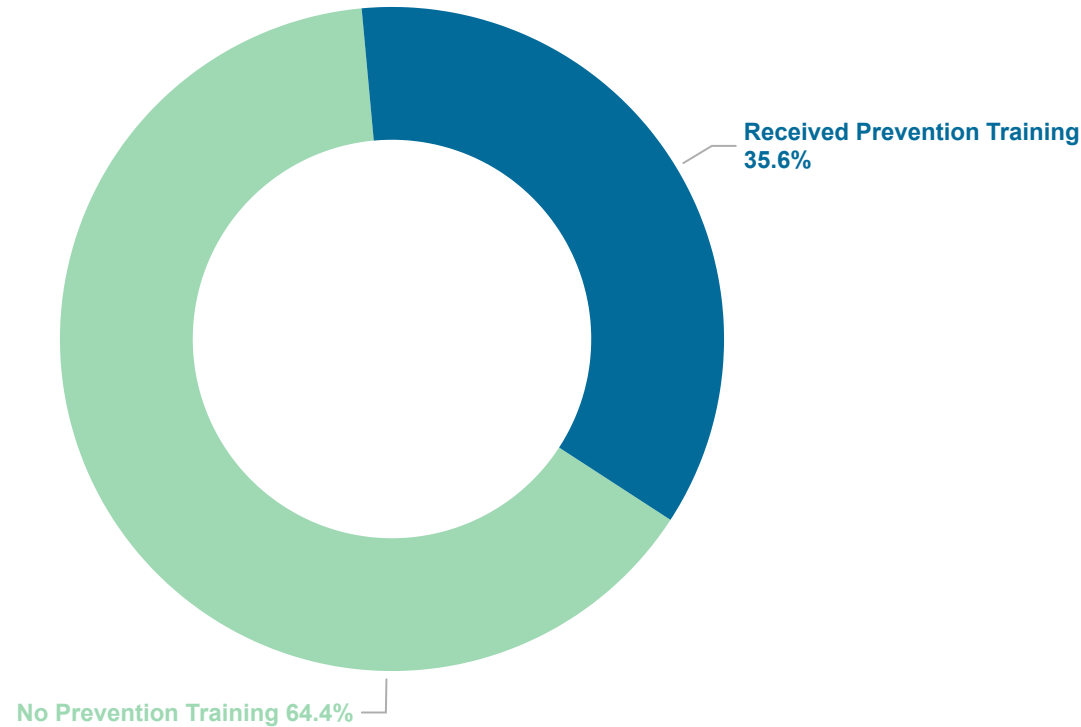


Note: There were 199 participants that could not be grouped in the above categories.

- Advertisements were the most common substance use education received by participants (64.5%).
- 47.8% of parent(s) provided substance use education to participants.
- 38.3% of participants received substance use education from advertisements and parent(s).
- 15.4% of participants have never received substance use education from parent(s) or advertisements.



Past Year Participation in Prevention Training(s)



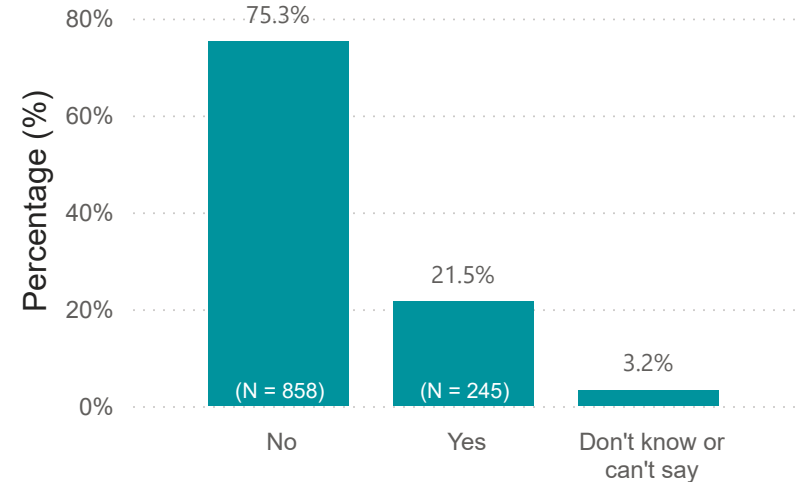
Historical Prevention Training	Count (#)	Percent (%)
None	1,930	64.4%
Too Good For Drugs	478	15.9%
Other	237	7.9%
Two or more prevention programs	147	4.9%
D.A.R.E.	90	3.0%
LifeSkills	80	2.7%
S.A.F.E.	22	0.7%
Positive Action	13	0.4%
P.E.E.P.S.	1	0.0%
Total	2,998	100.0%

- About 64% of participants did not participate in any educational prevention training(s) in the past year.
- Among the 36% that did participate in any educational prevention training(s), nearly 16% received Too Good For Drugs and another 7.9% marked Other.



Initiation of Alcohol Use

Ever Used Alcohol



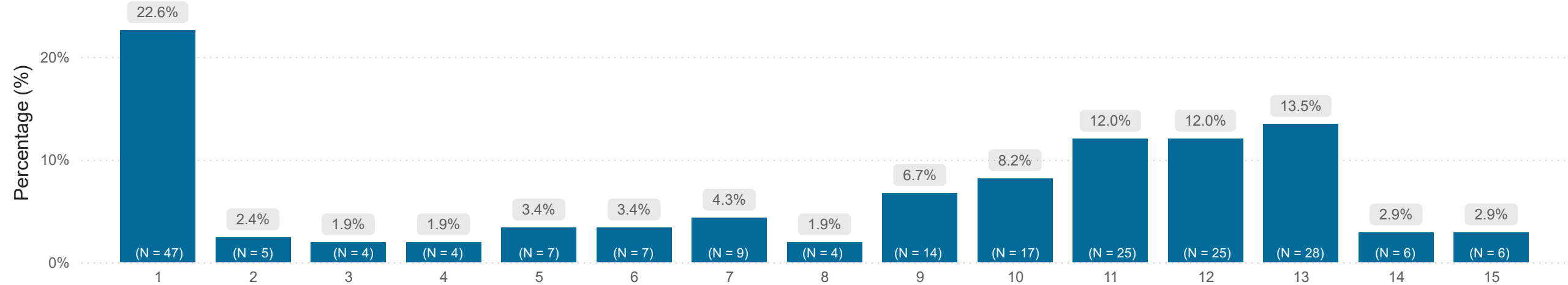
Note: There were 1,858 blank responses and thirty-seven "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Any participant that marked a specific age of alcohol initiation was grouped into "Yes" among ever used alcohol variable.

State-Level Alcohol Initiation:

- Overall, 75.3% of participants reported having never drank alcohol.
- Of the 21.5% that reported alcohol use, 13.5% initiated alcohol use when they were 13 years old.
- About 32.2% (or 67) of participants that marked they tried alcohol for the first time between the ages of 1 and 5 years old.

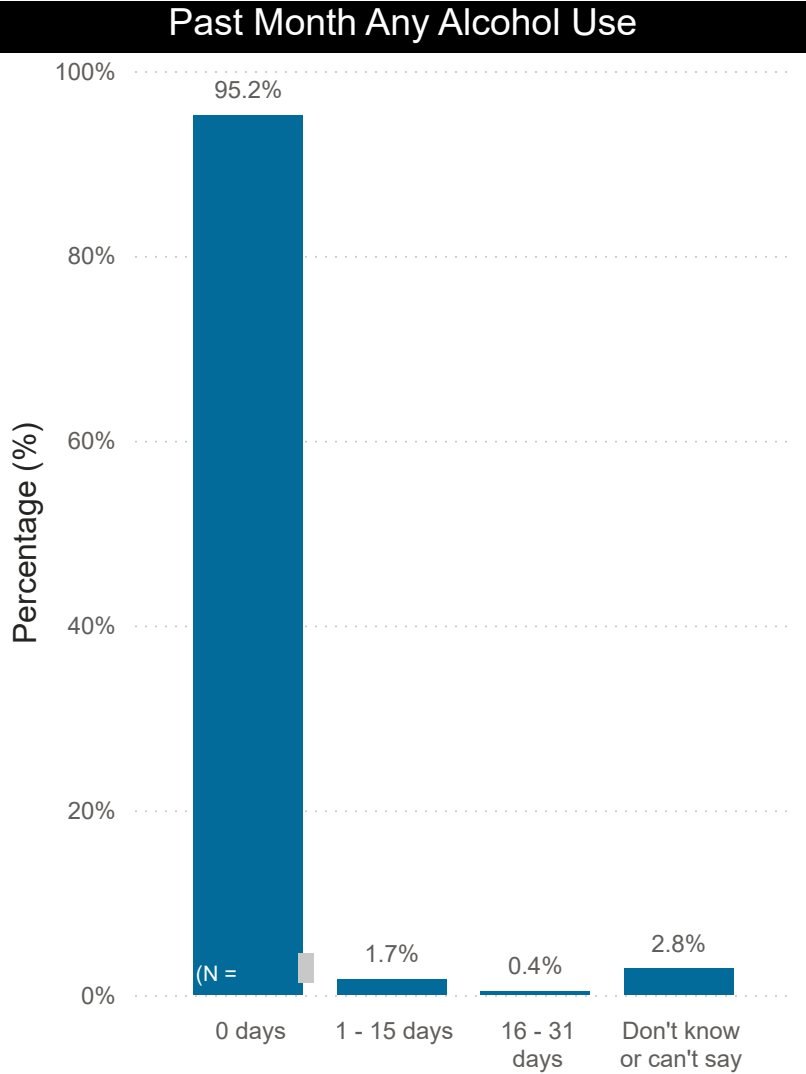
Age of Alcohol Initiation



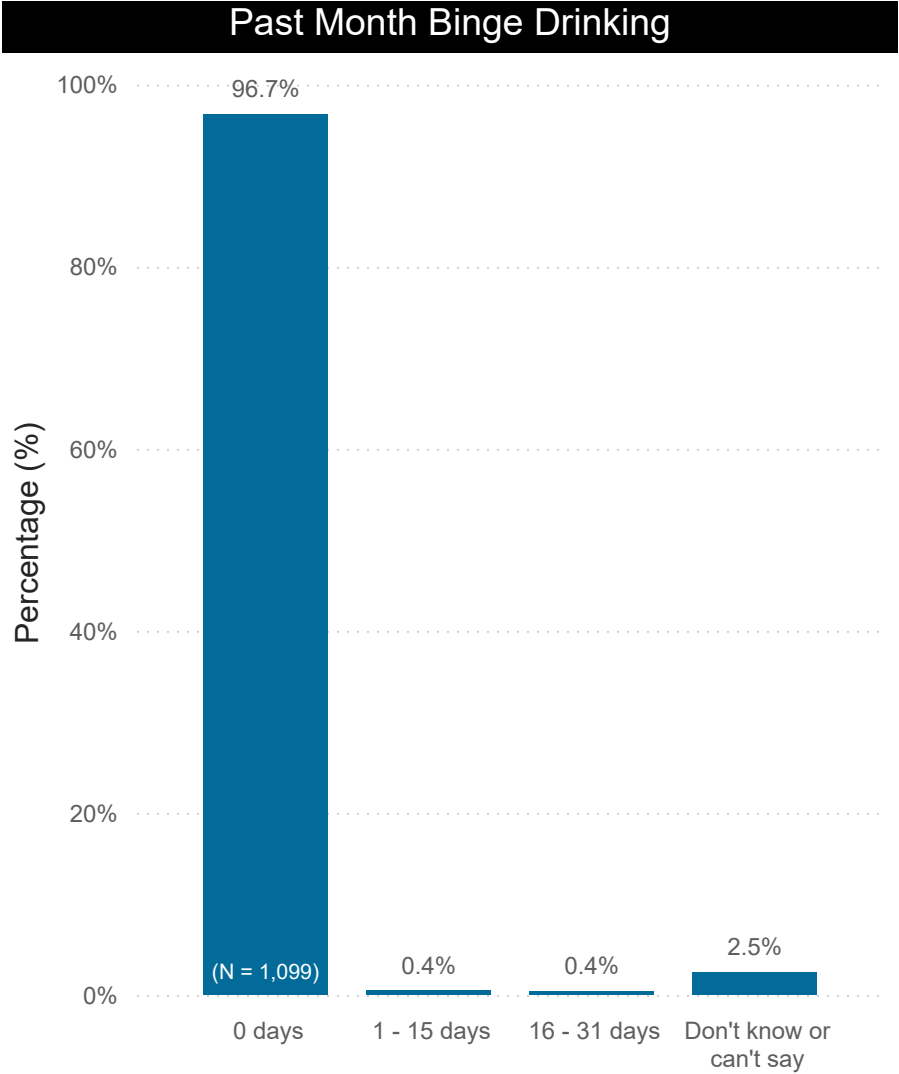
Alcohol Use And Binge Drinking

Any Alcohol Use and Binge Drinking in the Past Month

- Most participants reported they did not have **any alcoholic beverages** within the past month (95.2%).
- 1.7% of participants reported they had **any alcoholic beverages** 1 to 15 days and 0.4% had **any alcoholic beverage** 16 to 31 days in the past month.
- 0.8% of participants reported they **binge drank** in the past month and 0.4% of participants reported they binge drank 1-15 days and 16-31 days.



Note: There were nineteen "1-15 days" responses, four "16-31 days" and thirty-two "Don't know or can't say" responses.



Note: There were five "1-15 days" responses, four "16-31 days" responses, and twenty-eight "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Prescription Medication Misuse and Methamphetamine Use

Prescription Medication Misuse in the Past Month

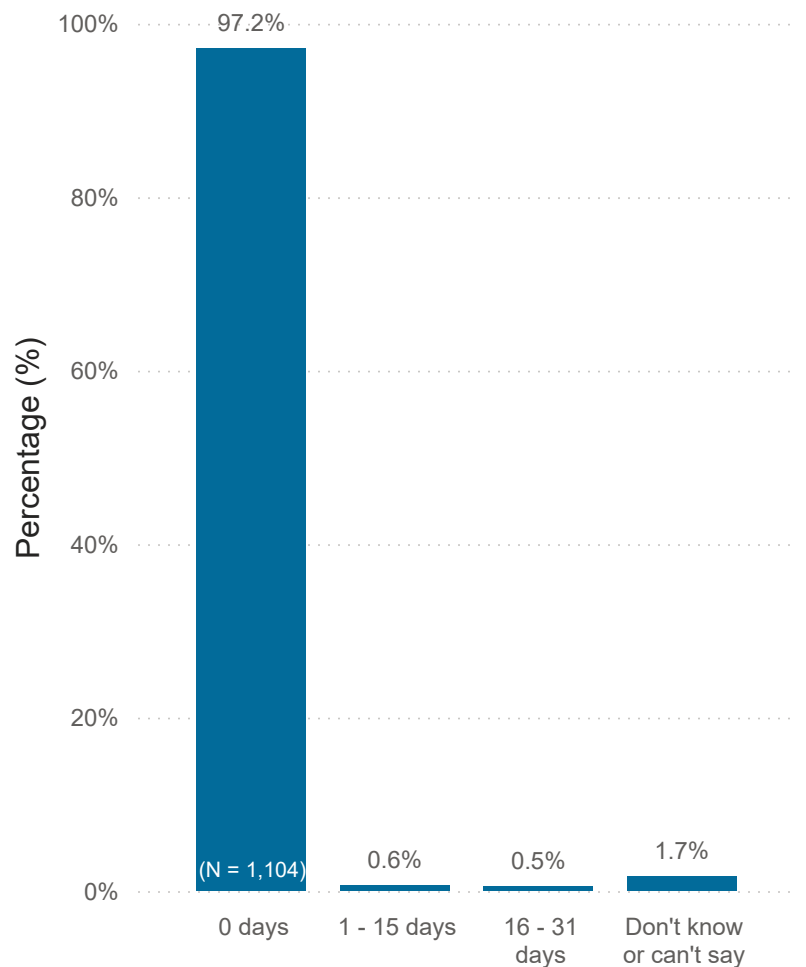
- 1.1% of participants reported they **misused prescription medications** in the past month. 0.6% misused prescription medication 1-15 days and 0.5% misused prescription medication 16-31 days.

Lifetime Methamphetamine Use

- Overall, 0.6% of participants used methamphetamine in their **lifetime**.
- In 2023, the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) reports 1.8% of high school students in South Dakota and the United States have used methamphetamine in their lifetime.

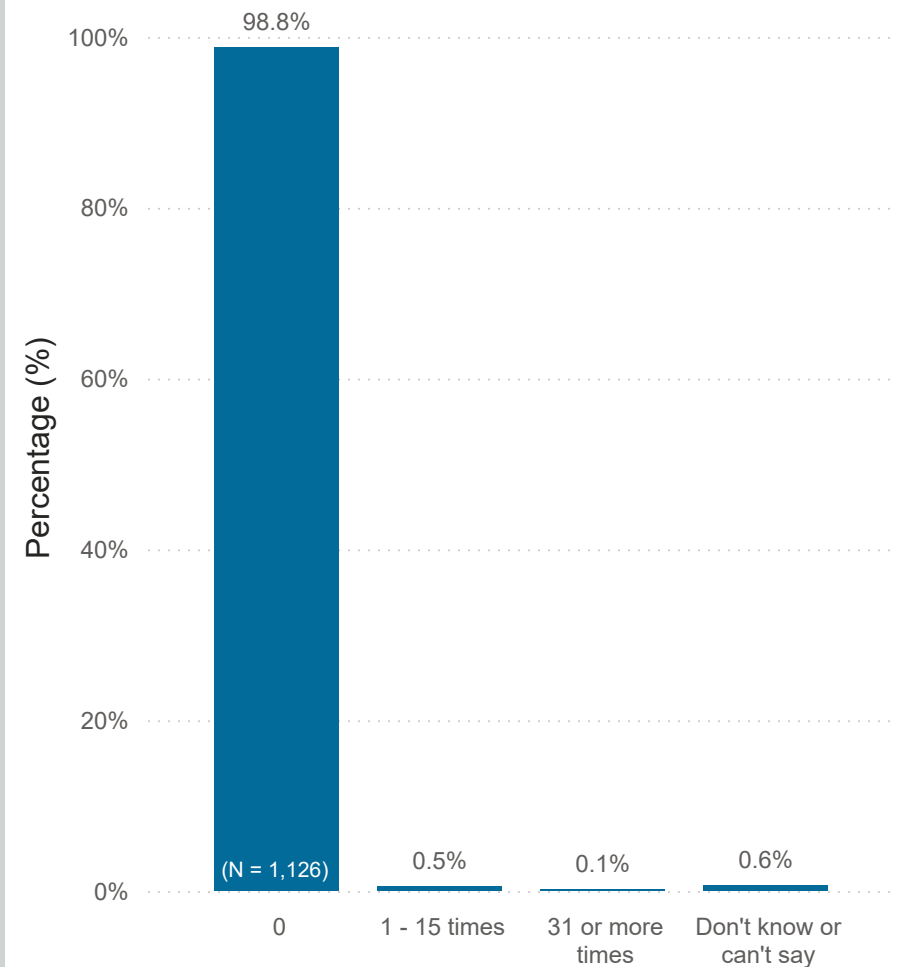


Past Month Misuse of Prescription Medication



Note: There were seven "1-15 days" responses, six "16-31 days" responses, and nineteen "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Lifetime Use of Methamphetamine



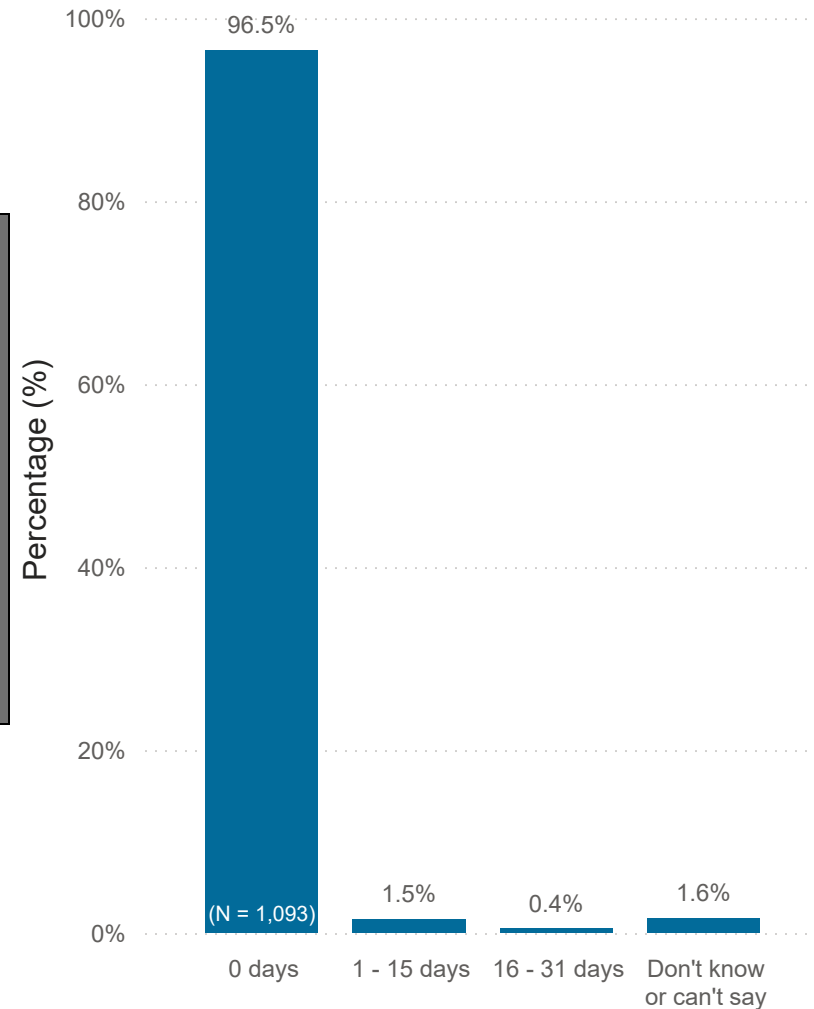
Note: There were six "1-15 times" responses, one "31 or more times" response, and seven "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Marijuana and Synthetic Marijuana Use

Marijuana and Synthetic Marijuana Use

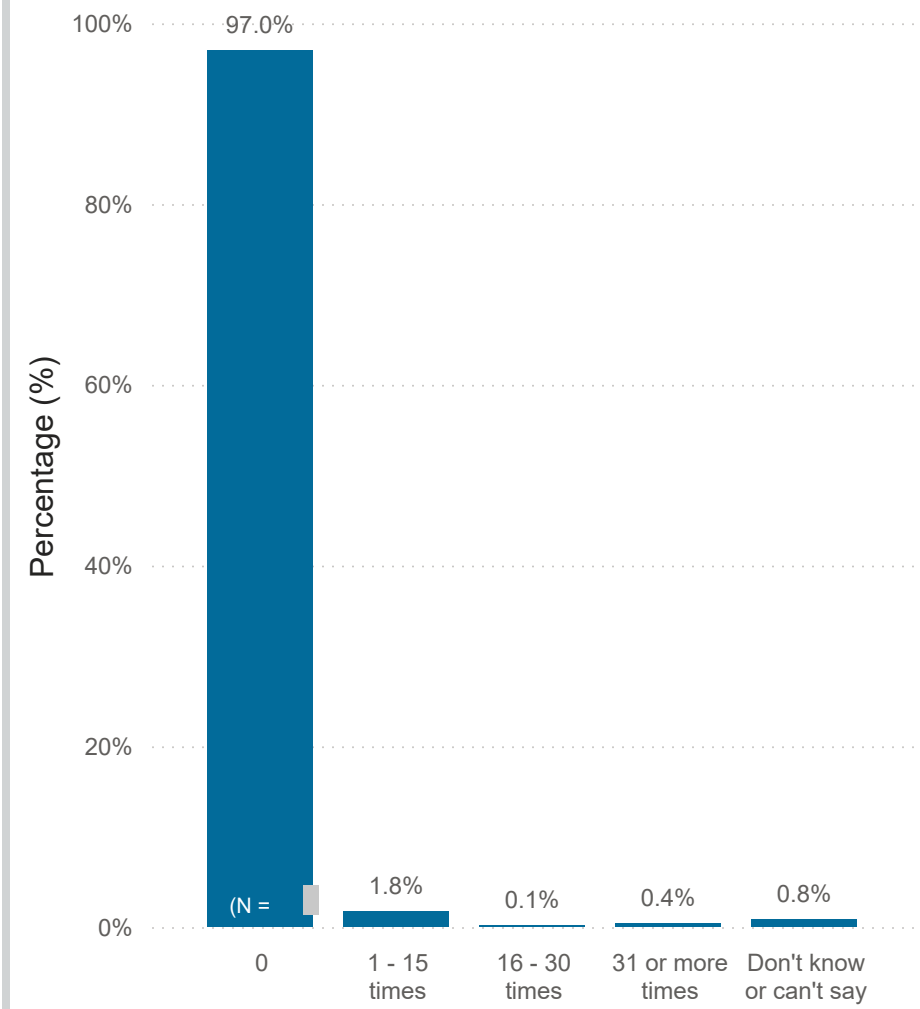
- 1.9% of participants used **marijuana** in the past month.
- 2.3% of youth reported using **synthetic marijuana** in their **lifetime**. 1.8% reported 1 to 15 times, 0.1% reported 16 to 30 times and 0.4% reported more than 31 times.

Past Month Marijuana Use



Note: There were seventeen "1-15 days" responses, five "16-31 days" responses and eighteen "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Lifetime Use of Synthetic Marijuana



Note: There were twenty "1-15 times" responses, one "16-30 times" response, four "31 or more times" responses and nine "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Nicotine and E-Cigarettes/Vaping

Nicotine and E-Cigarette or Vaping Use

- 1.0% of participants used **nicotine** 1 to 15 days and 0.4% of participants used nicotine 16 to 31 days in the past month.

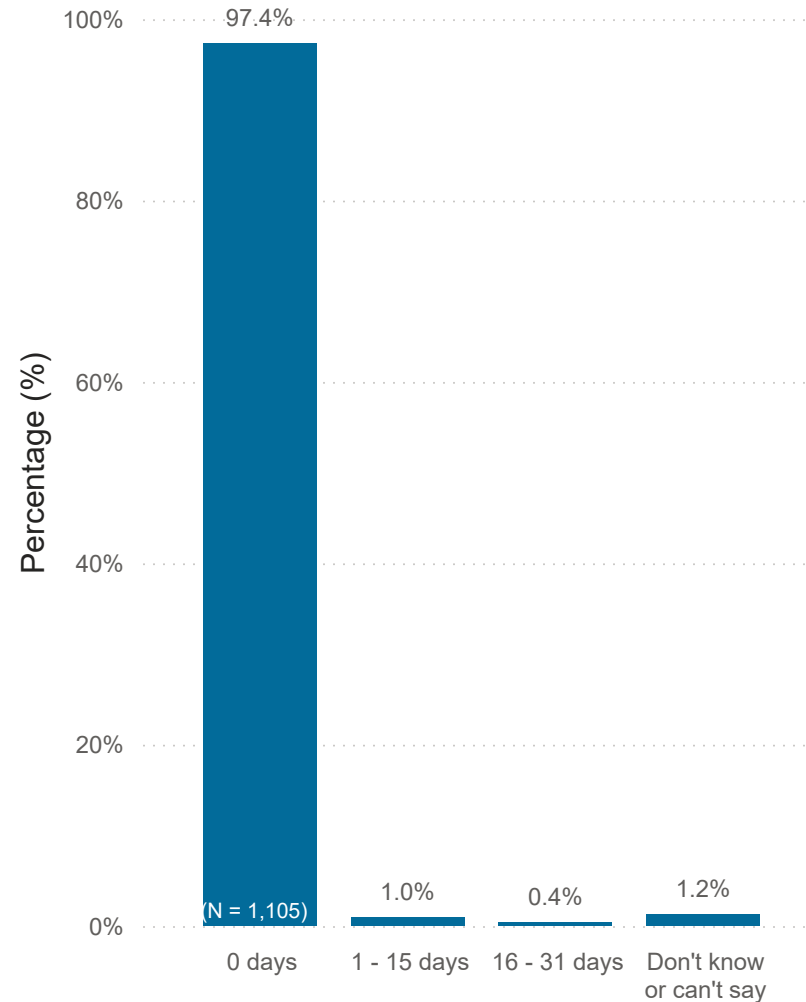
- The rate of **e-cigarette or vape use** in the past month was 1.7% for 1 to 15 days and 0.6% for 16 to 31 days. Among e-cigarette or vape users, 51.5% used only **flavored nicotine**.

- Overall, 2.3% of participants reported using an **e-cigarette or having vaped** within the past month.

*Nicotine use is defined by any participation in cigarettes, cigars, hookah, dissolvable tobacco, smokeless tobacco, or nicotine pouches.

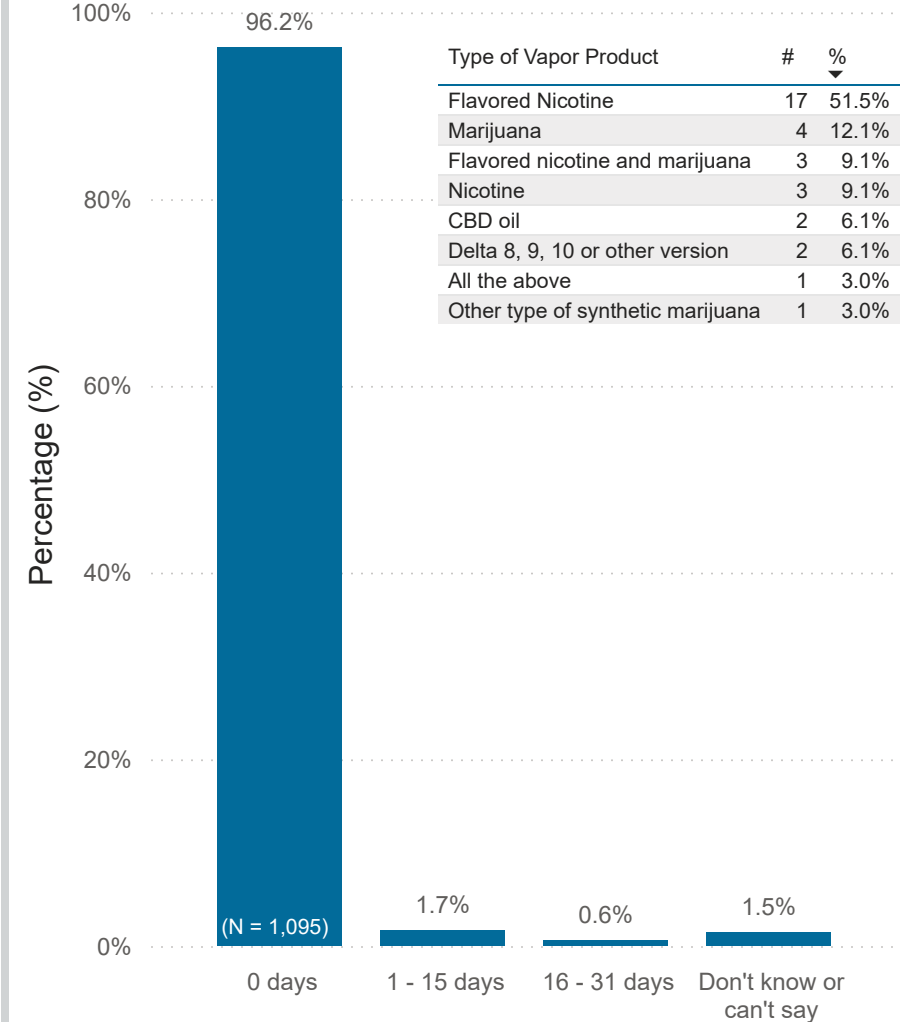


Past Month Nicotine Use*



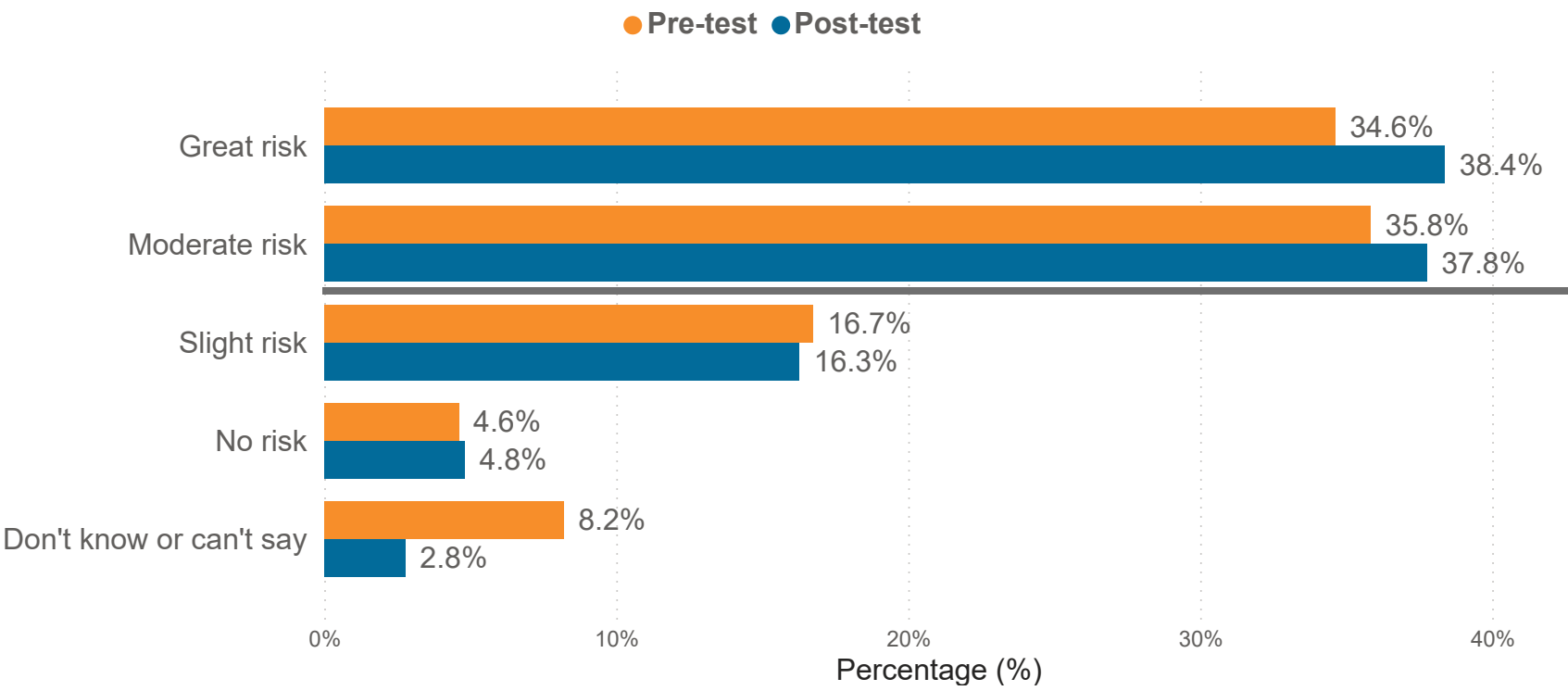
Note: There were eleven "1-15 days" responses, five "16-31 days" and fourteen "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Past Month E-Cigarette or Vape Use



Note: There were nineteen "1-15 days" responses, seven "16-31 days" responses, and seventeen "Don't know or can't say" responses.

Risk of Harm from Binge Drinking



Target Area**
Overall Increase of 5.8 percentage points

Focus Area*
Overall Decrease of 5.8 percentage points

Percent of Response in Target Area

Pre-Test
70.4%

Post-Test
76.2%

There was a general **increase** in perceived harm from binge drinking and **more** responses in the target area between pre-test to post-test.

Wilcoxon signed rank test
p-value = 0.08

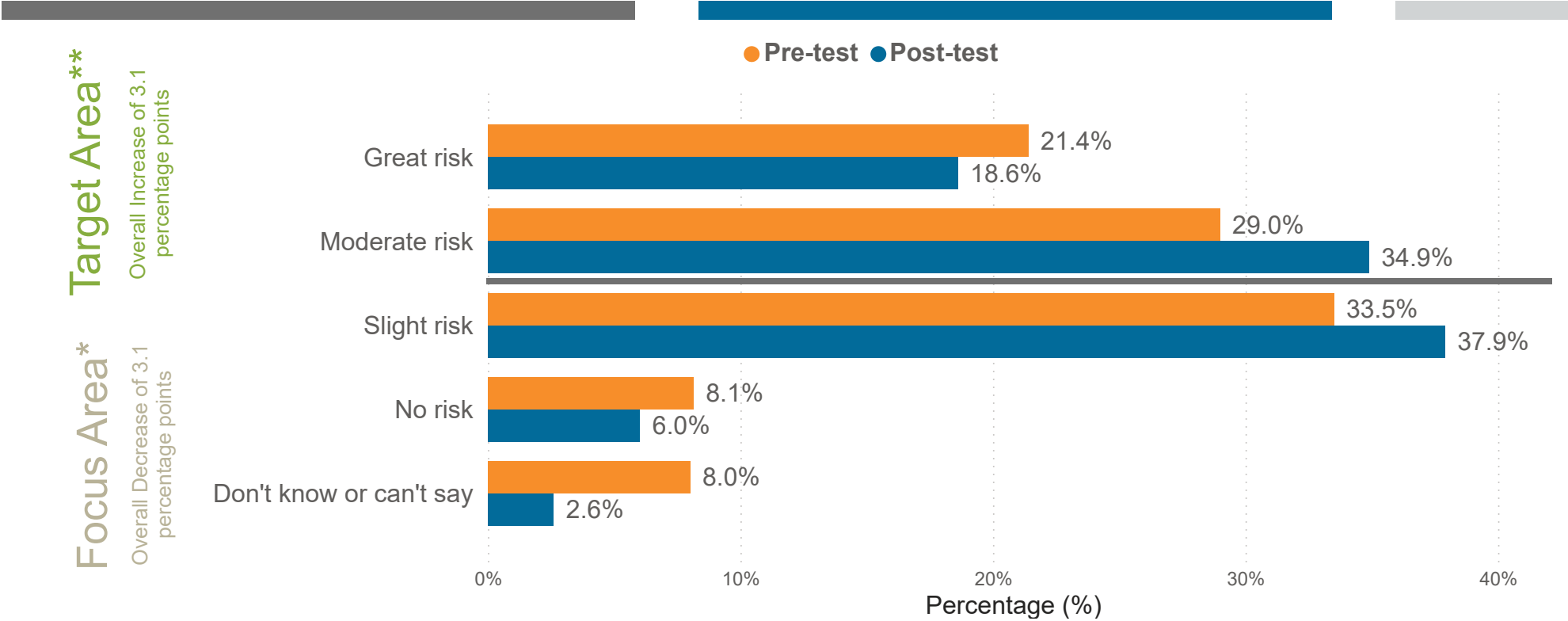
The difference between the value of the post-test and the pre-test is **not** big enough to be **statistically significant**.

*Focus Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that should improve or place participant at risk of future substance use.
**Target Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that is optimal and would indicate hesitancy in future substance use.

	Great Risk	Moderate Risk	Slight Risk	No Risk	Don't Know or Can't Say
Pre-Test	34.6% (N=511)	35.8% (N=529)	16.7% (N=247)	4.6% (N=68)	8.2% (N=121)
Post-Test	38.4% (N=566)	37.8% (N=557)	16.3% (N=240)	4.8% (N=71)	2.8% (N=41)



Risk of Harm from Smoking Nicotine Once a Month



Percent of Response in Target Area

Pre-Test
50.4%

Post-Test
53.5%

There was a general **increase** in perceived harm from smoking nicotine once a month and **more** responses in the target area between pre-test to post-test.

Wilcoxon signed rank test
p-value = 0.11

The difference between the value of the post-test and the pre-test is **not** big enough to be statistically significant.

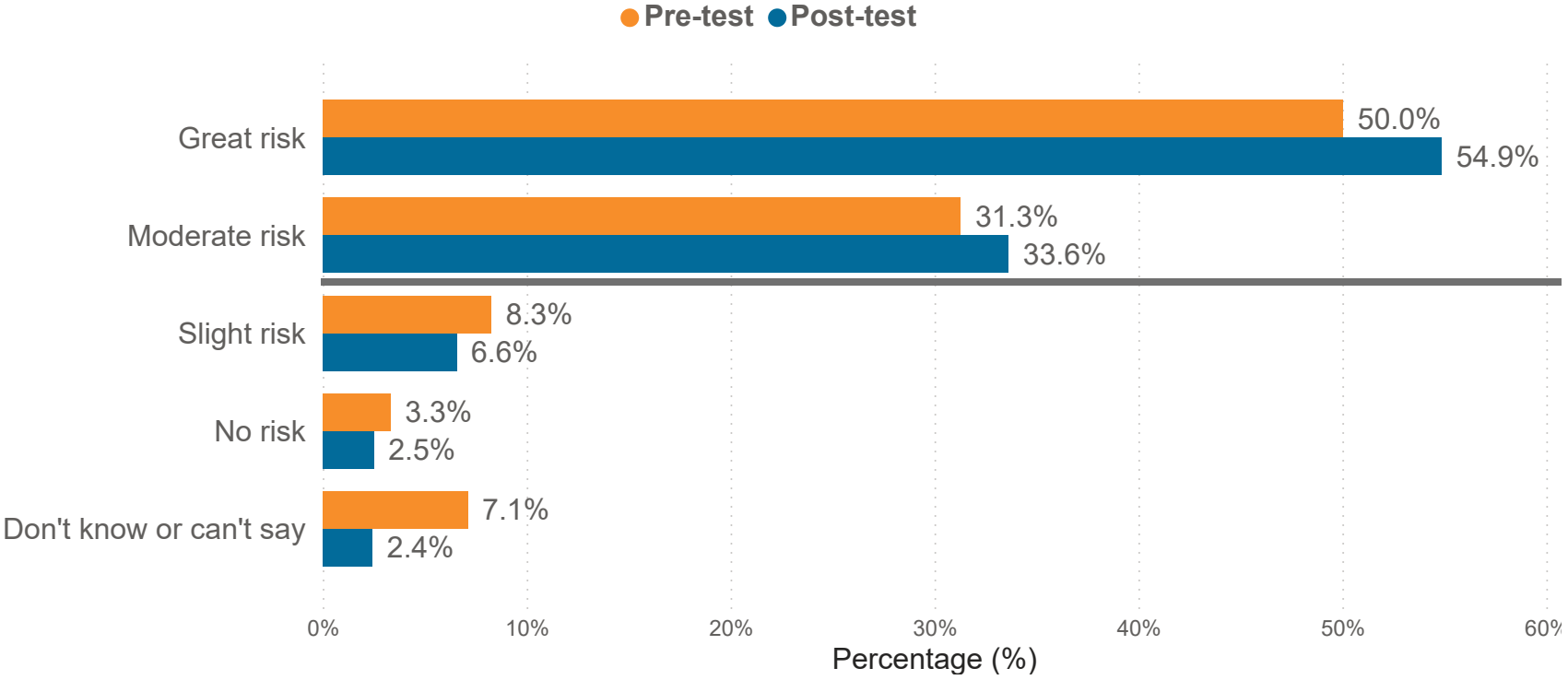
*Focus Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that should improve or place participant at risk of future substance use.

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	Great Risk	Moderate Risk	Slight Risk	No Risk	Don't Know or Can't Say
Pre-Test	21.4% (N=313)	29.0% (N=424)	33.5% (N=490)	8.1% (N=119)	8.0% (N=117)
Post-Test	18.6% (N=272)	34.9% (N=510)	37.9% (N=554)	6.0% (N=88)	2.6% (N=38)



Risk of Harm from Smoking Nicotine Weekly



Target Area**
Overall Increase of 7.2 percentage points

Focus Area*
Overall Decrease of 7.2 percentage points

Percent of Response in Target Area

Pre-Test
81.3%

Post-Test
88.5%

There was a general **increase** in perceived harm from smoking nicotine weekly and **more** responses in the target area between pre-test to post-test.

Wilcoxon signed rank test
p-value = 2.4×10^{-4}

The difference between the value of the post-test and the pre-test is big enough to be **statistically significant**.

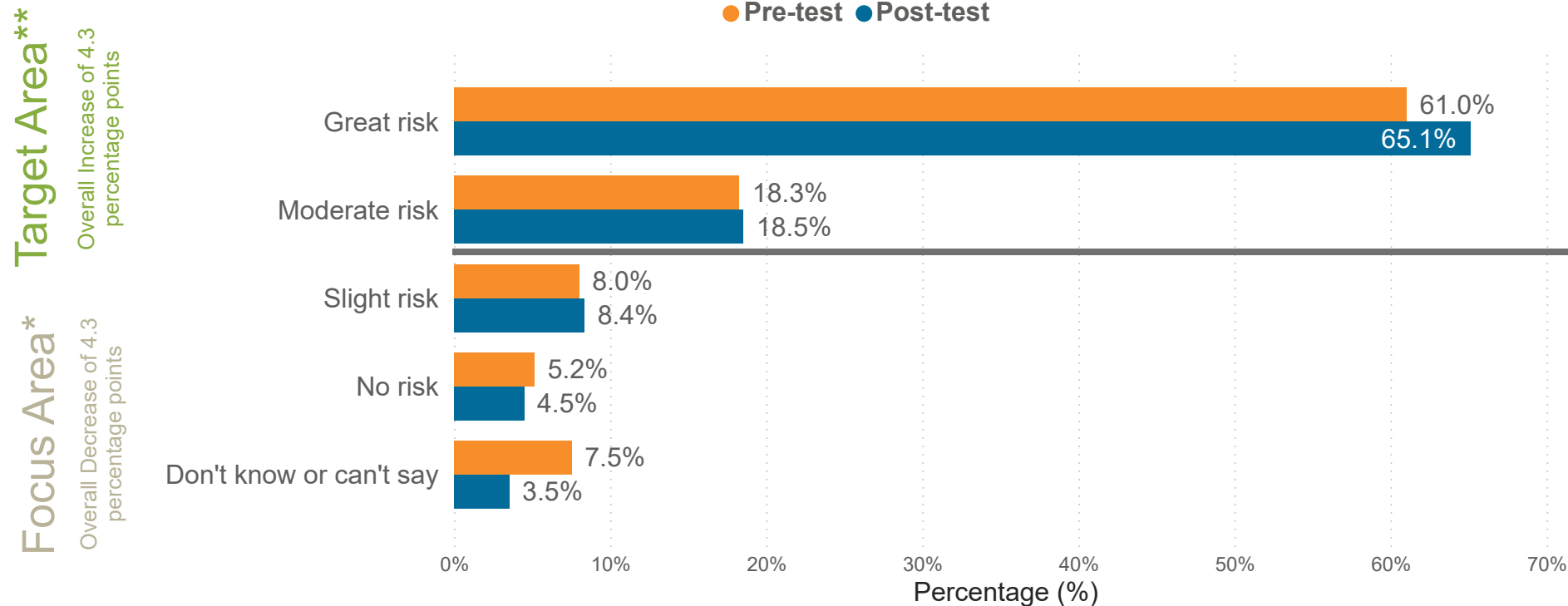
*Focus Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that should improve or place participant at risk of future substance use.

**Target Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that is optimal and would indicate hesitancy in future substance use.

	Great Risk	Moderate Risk	Slight Risk	No Risk	Don't Know or Can't Say
Pre-Test	50.0% (N=739)	31.3% (N=462)	8.3% (N=122)	3.3% (N=49)	7.1% (N=105)
Post-Test	54.9% (N=811)	33.6% (N=497)	6.6% (N=97)	2.5% (N=37)	2.4% (N=36)



Risk of Harm from Prescription Drug Misuse



Target Area**
Overall Increase of 4.3 percentage points

Focus Area*
Overall Decrease of 4.3 percentage points

Percent of Response in Target Area

Pre-Test

79.3%

Post-Test

83.6%

There was a general **increase** in perceived harm from prescription drug misuse and **more** responses in the target area between pre-test to post-test.

Wilcoxon signed rank test

p-value = 0.13

The difference between the value of the post-test and the pre-test is **not** big enough to be **statistically significant**.

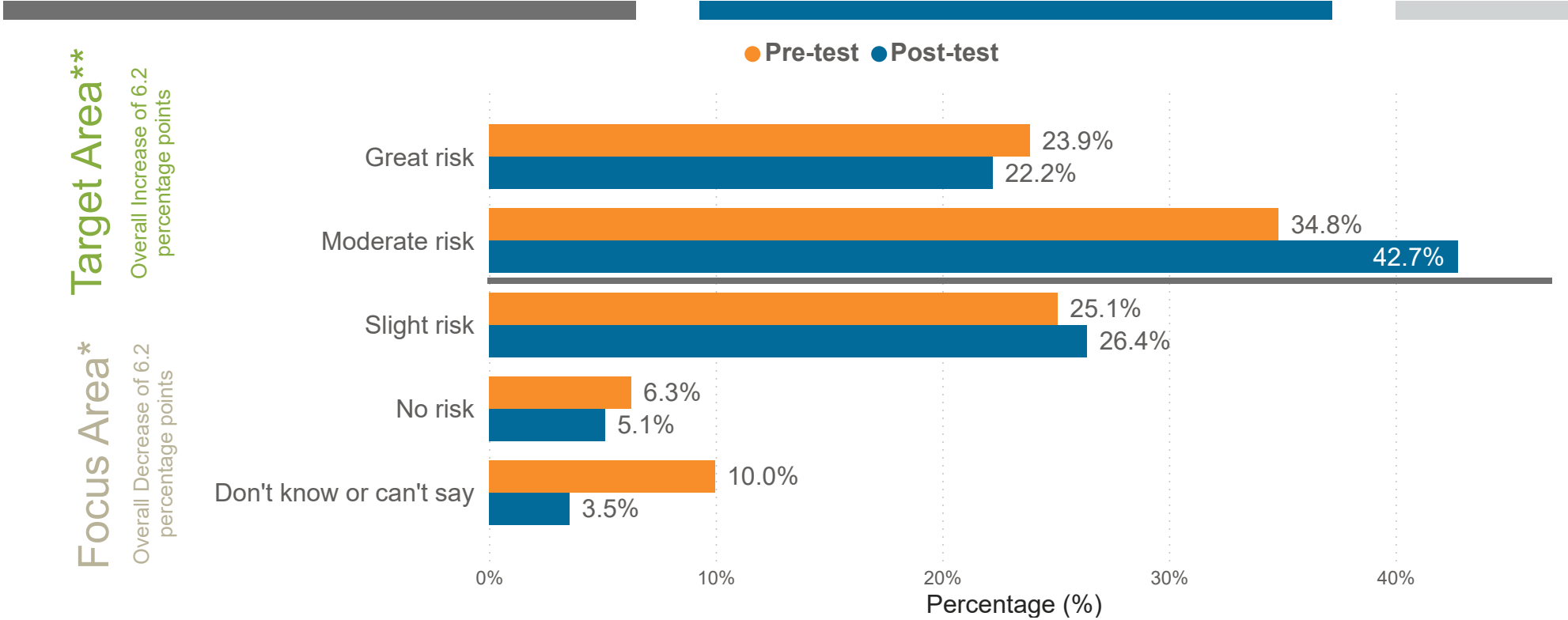
*Focus Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that should improve or place participant at risk of future substance use.

**Target Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that is optimal and would indicate hesitancy in future substance use.

	Great Risk	Moderate Risk	Slight Risk	No Risk	Don't Know or Can't Say
Pre-Test	61.0% (N=899)	18.3% (N=269)	8.0% (N=118)	5.2% (N=76)	7.5% (N=111)
Post-Test	65.1% (N=959)	18.5% (N=273)	8.4% (N=123)	4.5% (N= 66)	3.5% (N=52)



Risk of Harm from Monthly Marijuana Use



Percent of Response in Target Area

Pre-Test
58.7%

Post-Test
64.9%

There was a general **increase** in perceived harm from from monthly marijuana use and **more** responses in the target area between pre-test to post-test.

Wilcoxon signed rank test

p-value = 2.3 x 10-03

The difference between the value of the post-test and the pre-test is big enough to be **statistically significant**.

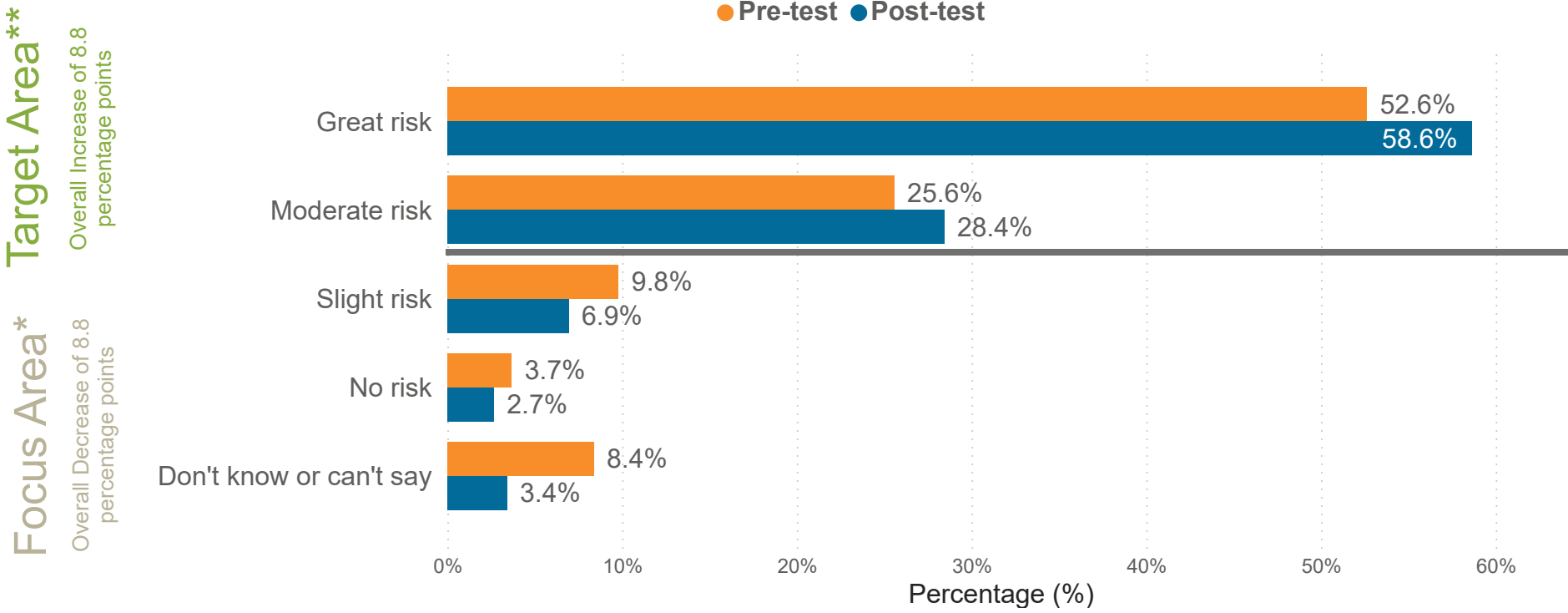
*Focus Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that should improve or place participant at risk of future substance use.

**Target Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that is optimal and would indicate hesitancy in future substance use.

	Great Risk	Moderate Risk	Slight Risk	No Risk	Don't Know or Can't Say
Pre-Test	23.9% (N=350)	34.8% (N=511)	25.1% (N=368)	6.3% (N=92)	10.0% (N=146)
Post-Test	22.2% (N=326)	42.7% (N=627)	26.4% (N=387)	5.1% (N=75)	3.5% (N=52)



Risk of Harm from Weekly Marijuana Use



Percent of Response in Target Area

Pre-Test
78.2%

Post-Test
87.0%

There was a general **increase** in perceived harm from weekly marijuana use and **more** responses in the target area between pre-test to post-test.

Wilcoxon signed rank test

p-value = 1.9×10^{-06}

The difference between the value of the post-test and the pre-test is big enough to be **statistically significant**.

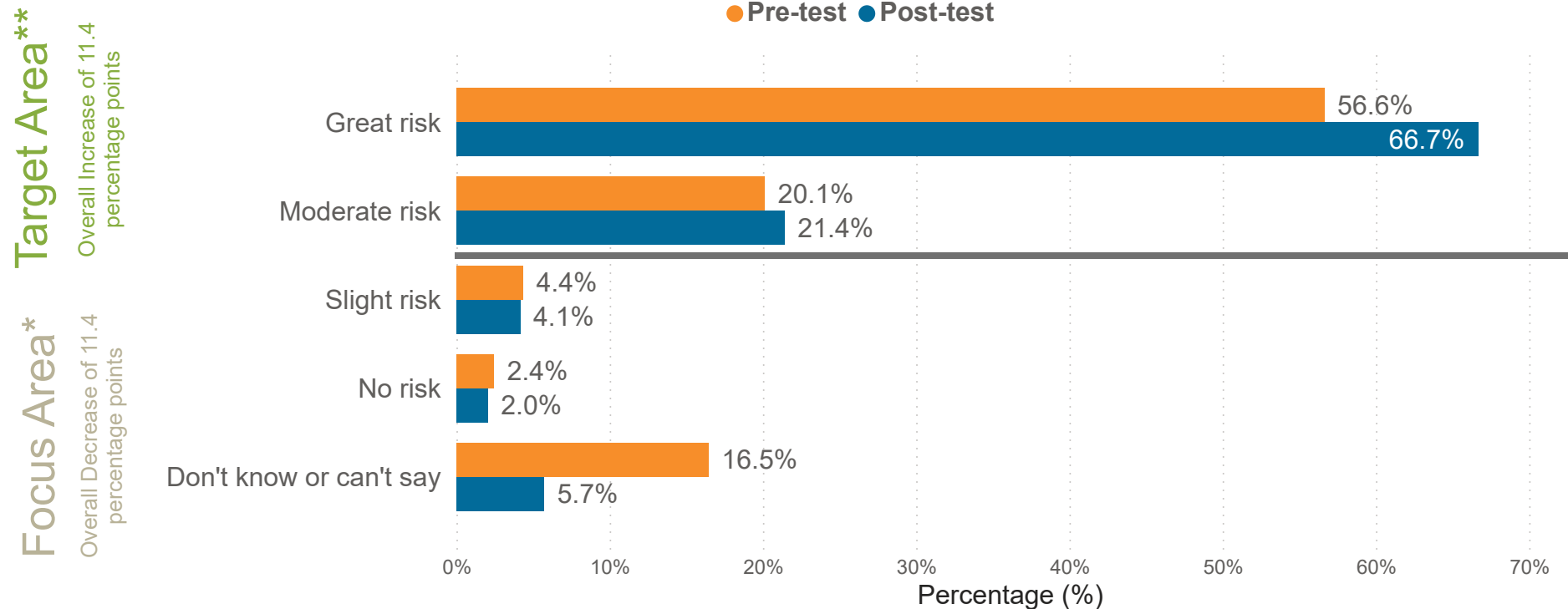


*Focus Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that should improve or place participant at risk of future substance use.

**Target Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that is optimal and would indicate hesitancy in future substance use.

	Great Risk	Moderate Risk	Slight Risk	No Risk	Don't Know or Can't Say
Pre-Test	52.6% (N=774)	25.6% (N=376)	9.8% (N=144)	3.7% (N=54)	8.4% (N=123)
Post-Test	58.6% (N=862)	28.4% (N=418)	6.9% (N=102)	2.7% (N=39)	3.4% (N=50)

Risk of Harm from Methamphetamine Use



Percent of Response in Target Area

Pre-Test

76.7%

Post-Test

88.1%

There was a general **increase** in perceived harm from methamphetamine use and **more** responses in the target area between pre-test to post-test.

Wilcoxon signed rank test

p-value = 3.7×10^{-06}

The difference between the value of the post-test and the pre-test is big enough to be **statistically significant**.

*Focus Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that should improve or place participant at risk of future substance use.

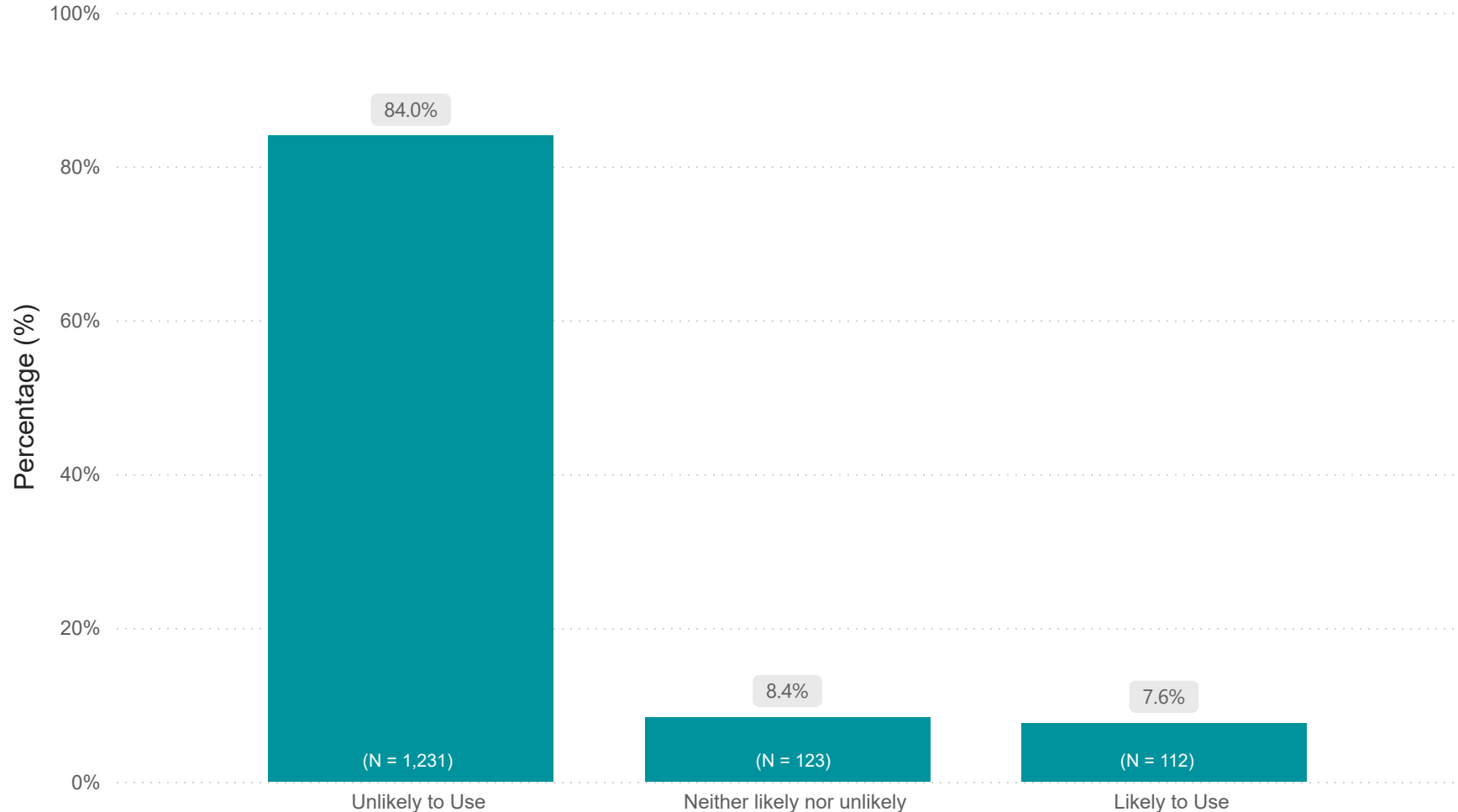
**Target Area is defined as an outcome in perceived harm that is optimal and would indicate hesitancy in future substance use.

	Great Risk	Moderate Risk	Slight Risk	No Risk	Don't Know or Can't Say
Pre-Test	56.6% (N=833)	20.1% (N=296)	4.4% (N=64)	2.4% (N=36)	16.5% (N=242)
Post-Test	66.7% (N=981)	21.4% (N=315)	4.1% (N=61)	2.0% (N=30)	5.7% (N=84)

SD BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Department of Social Services

Likelihood to Use Drugs, Alcohol, or Tobacco

After attending the educational program how likely are you to use drugs, alcohol, or tobacco?

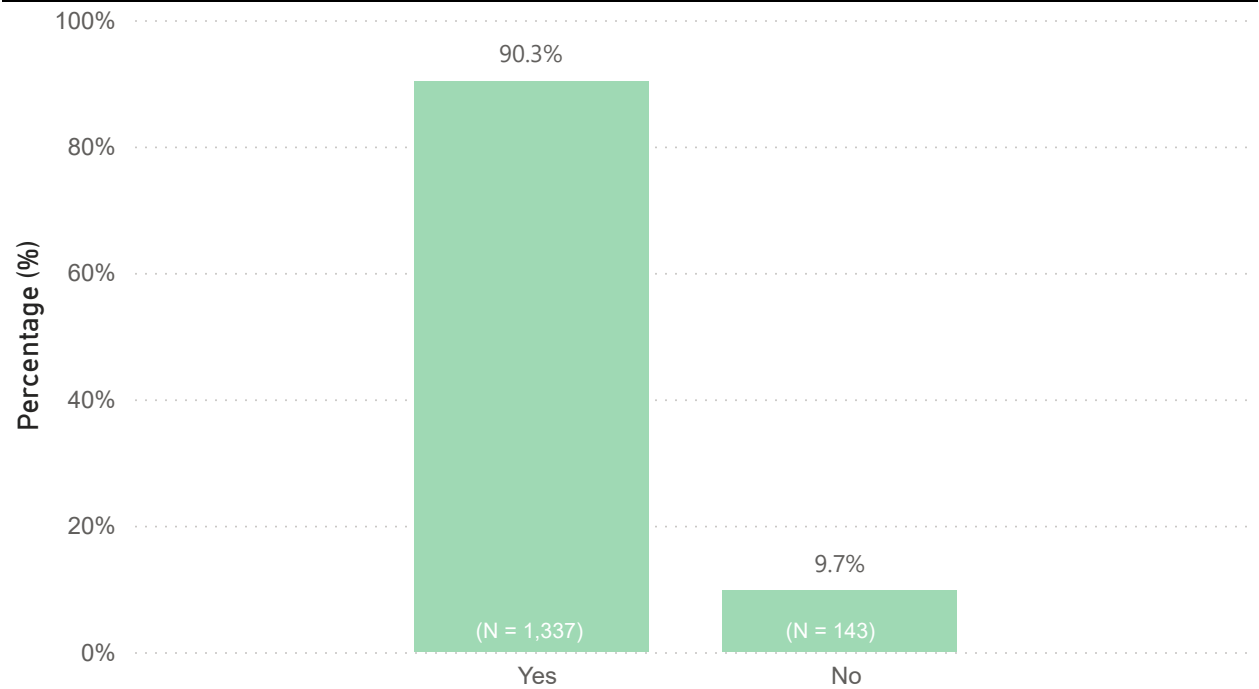


84.0% of participants reported that after attending the educational program, they were **unlikely to use** drugs, alcohol, or tobacco.

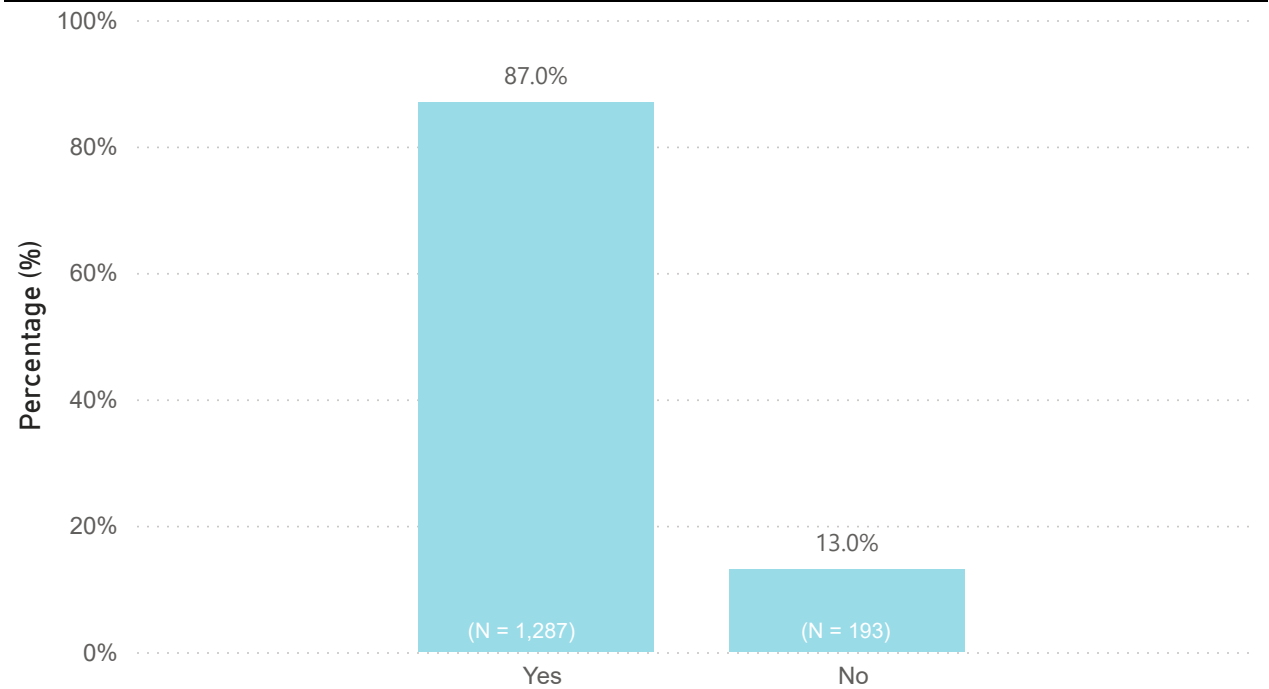
Definition: **Likely to Use** groups the following three responses, (1) likely, (2) somewhat likely, and (3) very likely; **Unlikely to Use** groups the following three responses (1) unlikely, (2) somewhat unlikely, and (3) very unlikely.

Views of Risk of Substance Use and Knowledge of Impacts

Would you agree that the educational program used gave you more knowledge about the impacts of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco?



Would you agree that the curriculum provided influenced your views on the risk of substance use?



- 90.3% of participants agreed the educational program provided them with more knowledge about the impacts of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.
- 87.0% of participants agreed that the curriculum influenced their views on substance use.



Summary of FY25 Meth Prevention Program Impact

Risk of Harm from Drug Use

- Between pre-test to post-test, the perception of risk of harm **increased** for all drug-types (binge drinking, smoking nicotine once a month, smoking nicotine weekly, prescription drug misuse, monthly marijuana use, weekly marijuana use, and methamphetamine use).
- This increase was **statistically significant** for smoking nicotine weekly, monthly marijuana use, weekly marijuana use and methamphetamine use.

Likelihood of Use After Meth Prevention Program

- At the end of the meth prevention program, 84.0% of participants reported they were **unlikely to use drugs**.

Self-Reported Impact of Meth Prevention Program

- 87.0% of participants agreed that the curriculum **influenced their views on substance use**.
- 90.3% of participants agreed the educational program provided them with more **knowledge about the impacts** of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

Efficacy Checkpoint

The program successfully increased the perceived risk of harm from methamphetamine use. Specifically, "Don't know or can't say" responses decreased from 16.5% at pre-test to 5.7% at post-test or a decrease of 10.8 percentage points.

At post-test, 88.1% of participants felt using methamphetamine was a great or moderate risk of harm. This is an increase of 11.4 percentage points between pre-test and post-test, which was a **statistically significant** change in perceived harm from methamphetamine use.





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