

2022

## MISSOULA COUNTY PREVENTION REPORT



### What Prevention Specialist's Do:

Prevention Specialists are professionals who provide education and resources that promote positive community health. We collaborate with various community members, leaders, and stakeholders to support ongoing efforts to reduce underage substance abuse.

### Coalition Work:

The Healthy Missoula Youth Coalition (HMY) helps bring the community together to collectively address youth substance abuse. This work is done by the coalition collaborating with the community and implementing best practices to inform and support youth on how to make healthy decisions, and promote a healthy environment. The Missoula Prevention Specialist actively works with the coalition to help establish local programs, and fund evidence-based curriculum.



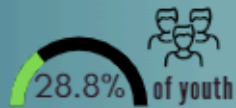
### Substance Abuse Prevention Goals:

Prevention Specialists identify risk factors that put youth at higher risk of abusing substances; while also providing prevention education and strategies that protect youth and promote healthy choices. This can be achieved through collaboration with parents, educators, youth-serving organizations, and other community stakeholders.

DPHHS Block Grant Goals

- Reduce 30 - day youth alcohol use
- Reduce 30 - day youth marijuana use
- Reduce 30 - day adult binge drinking

### 2020 Montana Statistics:



Used alcohol in the past 30 days according to the 2020 MPNA survey.



Used marijuana in the past 30 days according to the 2020 MPNA survey.



Alcohol-induced death rate among adults aged 25 and over (per 100,000 people) in 2019 (Montana DPHHS). These deaths could have been avoided had alcohol not been involved.



258,337 Montanan's voted, "No" on Montana I-190. This initiative has legalized the possession of marijuana for adults over the age of 21 (Ballotpedia 2020).

43.1%

### About the MPNA:

The Montana Prevention Needs Assessment (MPNA) assesses risk and protective Factors, which correlate with risky behaviors that have a likelihood to lead to drug and alcohol abuse. The MPNA is taken by 8th, 10th, and 12th graders which gives us valuable information about student attitudes, beliefs, and perceptions related to substance use. This information helps the Missoula community to have the needed knowledge to strategically implement prevention interventions, and use the correct evidence based prevention practices. Together, we can all support a healthy Missoula for our youth and families.



## Missoula County MPNA Statistics:



Of students have smoked marijuana in the last 30 days.



Of students had 5 or more alcohol drinks in row, within a couple of hours.

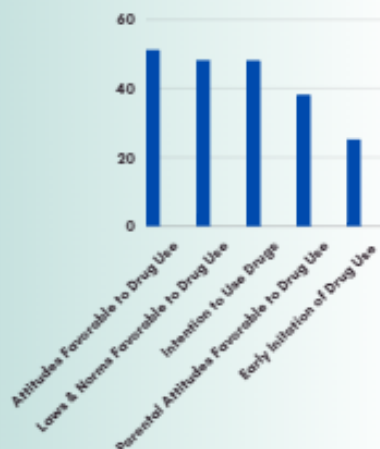


Of students reported that 4 of their friends have used marijuana in the past year.



Of students had beer, wine, or hard liquor to drink during the past 30 days.

Missoula County: Grades 8, 10, and 12 Risk Factors, 2020 Montana Youth Survey



## Missoula County Prevention Specialist:

My name is Steve Nelson. I enjoy having an active role in serving my community. Prevention facilitates a communities' capacity to come together, and address the public health issues they may be facing in a positive and productive way. I am honored to be able to work with coalitions and organized volunteers to better support the youth of today, with the tools and education to have healthier, happier, and more successful futures.



## How To Get Involved:

- Reach out to your local Prevention Specialist to learn more about the MPNA, or discuss other prevention activities and topics.
- Join or attend the Healthy Missoula Youth coalition!
- Encourage school district's to consistently register for the MPNA.

### Missoula Prevention Specialist

snelson@wmmhc.org

Work: (406)5410031 | Cell: (406)4659767

Website: [www.wmmhc.org](http://www.wmmhc.org)

### Healthy Missoula Youth Coalition

lfitch-brody@missoulacounty.us

Work: (406)2583023

Website: [www.missoulacounty.us/](http://www.missoulacounty.us/)

## CITED WORKS:

Office of Epidemiology and Scientific Support. Epidemiology and Scientific Support. (n.d.). Retrieved January 26, 2022, from <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/epidemiology/>

2020 Montana MPNA Survey Data (<https://www.pridesurveys.com>)



Montana I-190, Marijuana Legalization Initiative (2020). Ballotpedia. (n.d.). Retrieved December 10, 2021, from [https://ballotpedia.org/Montana\\_I-190\\_Marijuana\\_Legalization\\_Initiative\\_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Montana_I-190_Marijuana_Legalization_Initiative_(2020)).