

Standard Sector Indicator Reference Sheet

INDICATOR: Number of individuals who report using drugs (illegal substance) in the past month

STANDARD SECTOR

HEALTH SECTOR 

PROJECT AREA: Youth Health and Well-Being

INDICATOR CODE:

HE_YOUTH_276

Type: Outcome

Unit of Measure: Individuals

Disaggregation: Male by Age:

<1, 1–4, 5–9, 10–14, 15–19, 20–24, 25–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40–44, 45–49, 50+

Female by Age: <1, 1–4, 5–9, 10–14, 15–19, 20–24, 25–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40–44, 45–49, 50+

Frequency: 0 times, 1–2 times, 3–9 times, 10 or more times

Related Objective: Increase the knowledge and skills of youth to improve their health and well-being through health and life skills education and linkages to youth-friendly services (Objective 1)

Precise definitions

Individuals: The Youth Health and Well-Being project focuses on young people between the ages of 10 and 19 because this is such a crucial time in terms of developing lifelong behaviors that impact health. Each country may have its own definition for youth and posts can use this definition to align with government reporting and priorities. The age disaggregations should be used to reflect the actual age of the participants, but an individual of any age can be captured under this indicator.

Report: This is a self-reported indicator based on an individual's answer to the questions in the Alcohol and Tobacco Use Section of the Youth Health Outcomes Survey tool. These questions should be used as a pre-test, post-test, and as a three- to six-month follow-up to assess behavior change. Those individuals answer to the question in the three- to six-month follow-up should be used to calculate this indicator.

Drugs/Illegal Substance:¹ Usually refers to three main categories of drugs, but posts should consult local definitions as it varies by country.

- Illicit drugs (e.g., cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, cannabis) are under international control and are largely produced and consumed for nonmedical purposes.
- Prescription drugs (e.g., antidepressants, benzodiazepines, opioid analgesics) can be bought legally or prescribed by a doctor for the management of acute or chronic medical conditions, but can be used/abused against the recommended prescription.
- New psychoactive substances (e.g., synthetic cannabinoids, synthetic cathinones) are synthesized and consumed for nonmedical purposes with expectation of effects of well-known illicit drugs.

¹ WHO. 1994. [Lexicon of alcohol and drug terms](#).

Data collection

Tool: Youth Health Outcomes Survey

The Youth Health Outcomes Survey is intended to be given to youth who participate in a multisession training focused on Youth Health and Well-Being facilitated by a PCV and their counterpart. This survey tool should be used three times:

- 1) As a pre-test at the start of the first training session/meeting;
- 2) As a post-test at the last session/meeting to assess change during the time of the training; and
- 3) Three to six months after the training/activity has finished to assess whether knowledge is retained.

All youth should be given the pre-test and post-test. Only youth who attended at least 75 percent of the defined information sessions should be included in the survey three to six months afterward. Therefore, the results of Step 3—the follow-up survey—should be used to calculate this indicator.

If the timing of a PCV's close of service (COS) or other factors will not allow for this, a survey could be conducted earlier, but some indicators may need to be modified. The survey should be conducted by the PCV and their counterpart or co-facilitator of the group following the instructions provided in the outcomes survey tool closely. The survey should only include the topics that were included in the training on Youth Health and Well-Being. Questions should be removed from the survey if not discussed in the training.

Reporting

To be counted for this indicator the following criteria must be met:

- The individuals must have received at least 75 percent of the training sessions and/or information offered on youth health and well-being.
- The information must have been provided by the PCV or their partner in an individual or small group setting with 25 people or less.
- Attendance at each session must be documented by the Volunteer or their partner.
- The individual must be assessed after the conclusion of the intervention using the Youth Health Outcomes Survey tool.

Please enter the total number of individuals who took the survey in the “total” field and the frequency as the disaggregate. The correct answer can be found in the instructions for the outcomes survey.