

## Age of First Use in Missouri..



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- ✦ Age of first use is an average of the age in which students report having used a substance for the first time. For alcohol, the question specifically says “We are not asking about times when you only had a sip or two from a drink or drank only for religious purposes.” (Data from MSS 2010)
- ✦ With the exception of inhalants, males used various substances earlier than females on average.

Age 11

- 11.93 Female Average First Use of Inhalants
- 11.99 Male Average First Use of Inhalants

Age 12

- 12.16 Male Average First Use of Cigarettes
- 12.30 Male Average First Use of Alcohol
- 12.41 Female Average First Use of Cigarettes
- 12.76 Female Average First Use of Alcohol

Age 13

- 13.33 Male Average First Use of Marijuana
- 13.73 Female Average First Use of Marijuana

- ✦ With the exception of alcohol, African Americans used various substances earlier than Caucasians on average.

Age 11

- 11.12 African American Average First Use of Inhalants

Age 12

- 12.05 Caucasian Average First Use of Inhalants
- 12.10 African American Average First Use of Cigarettes
- 12.34 Caucasian Average First Use of Cigarettes
- 12.54 Caucasian Average First Use of Alcohol
- 12.67 African American Average First Use of Alcohol

Age 13

- 13.45 African American Average First Use of Marijuana
- 13.57 Caucasian Average First Use of Marijuana