STUDENT WELLNESS AND EDUCATION SURVEY

Grades 6-12: Substance Use



Community
Dalhousie, Balmoral, Belledune Area



Zone 5
Restigouche Area



Province
New Brunswick

Smoking and vaping

Cigarette

This section includes tobacco cigarettes that are bought ready-made and cigarettes that are made by students. This section does not include e-cigarettes, vaping devices and other tobacco products.

Has tried cigarette smoking % | 2025-2026	**19.9**	**19.7**	**14.4**
Daily or occasional smoker % | 2025-2026	**10.2**	**9.8**	**6.3**
Daily smoker % | 2025-2026	**3.4**	**3.3**	**2.2**

Vaping

This section includes vaping e-liquid with nicotine, without nicotine, or when students didn't know whether it contained nicotine. It includes all e-cigarettes, vaporizers and vape pens. This section does not include vaping cannabis.

Has tried vaping % | 2025-2026	**28.5**	**27.1**	**20.7**
Daily or occasional vaper % | 2025-2026	**17.9**	**14.8**	**11.1**
Daily vaper % | 2025-2026	**9.5**	**8.3**	**5.8**

Alcohol and cannabis

Alcohol

Has tried alcohol % | 2025-2026	**47.7**	**45.7**	**37.4**
Had a drink of alcohol at least once a month, last 12 months % | 2025-2026	**21.8**	**18.6**	**15.5**
Heavy drinking, once a month or more, last 12 months % | 2025-2026	**11.9**	**10.9**	**8.3**

	Community Dalhousie, Balmoral, Belledune Area	Zone 5 Restigouche Area	Province New Brunswick
Cannabis			
This section includes marijuana and any other products made from the cannabis plant, such as dry cannabis and cannabis that is mixed or processed into another product.			
Has tried cannabis % | 2025-2026	**18.2**	**18.4**	**14.2**
Has used cannabis, last 12 months % | 2025-2026	**14.4**	**13.9**	**10.8**
Daily cannabis user, last 12 months % | 2025-2026	**6.0**	**5.2**	**3.2**

About this Table

Content and description
This table presents data collected from students in grades 6 to 12 through the New Brunswick Student Wellness and Education Survey (SWES). It contains self-reported information regarding the use of substances among New Brunswick students in grades 6 to 12. Substances include cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, alcohol, and cannabis.
The questionnaire previously comprised modules, which means that certain questions were asked every other cycle.

Why it is important
Only when we understand who our students are and what their needs are can we better plan for services and allocate resources to meet their health and educational needs.

Availability of the data
The information in this data table is available by school district, school sector and overall New Brunswick, by the seven (7) New Brunswick health zones and 33 communities created by the NBHC, as well as by demographic groups. More information is available on our New Brunswick Student Wellness and Education Survey page.

Note about demographic groups
In 2023, the NBHC undertook a review of the demographic questions in its surveys to more accurately report on the experience of citizens who identify with particular groups. As such, starting in 2024, all demographic groups (characteristics) have been adjusted to reflect this change. Data tables and indicator pages were adjusted to allow for trending where applicable.

Caption

n/a = Not applicable / not available

S = Data suppressed due to confidentiality requirements and/or small sample size

Above-average performance

Below-average performance