

Figure 1. Proportion of individuals in each age group scoring at or above the mean for 26- to 30- year-olds on indices of intellectual and psychosocial maturity. From Steinberg et al., 2007. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2396566/

## Characteristics of Formal Operational Thought

#### Abstract

Adolescents think more abstractly than children. Formal operational thinkers can solve abstract algebraic equations, for example.

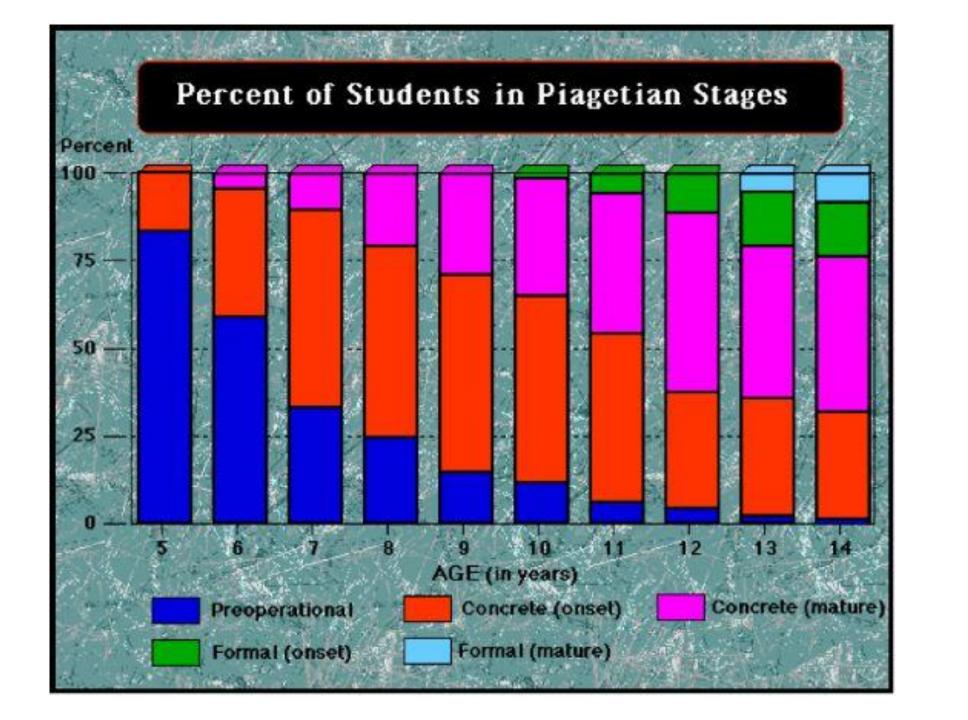
#### Idealistic

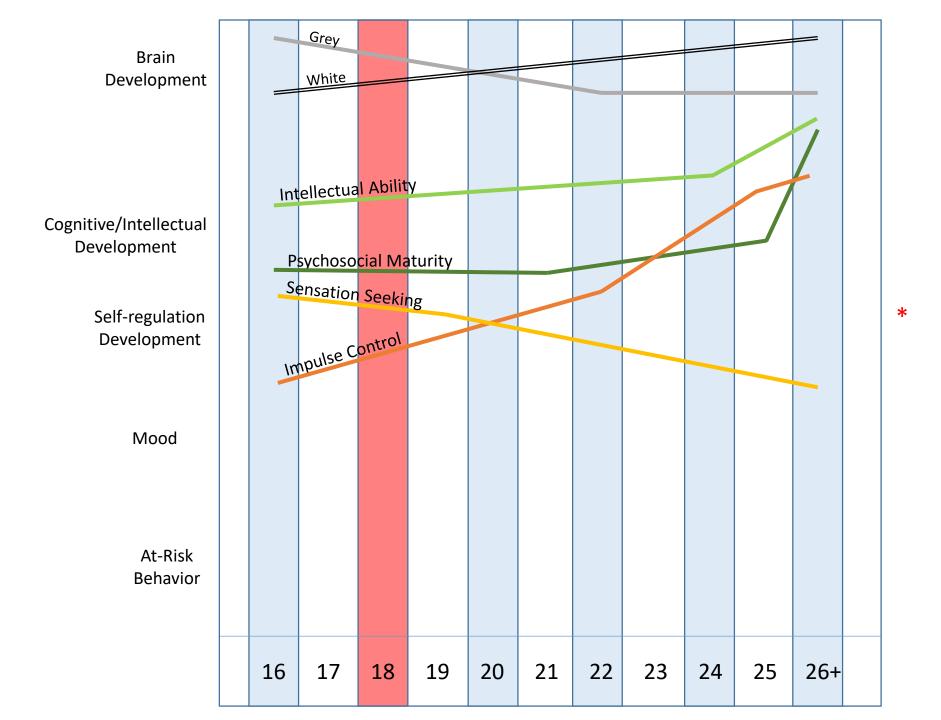
Adolescents often think about what is possible. They think about ideal characteristics of themselves, others, and the world.

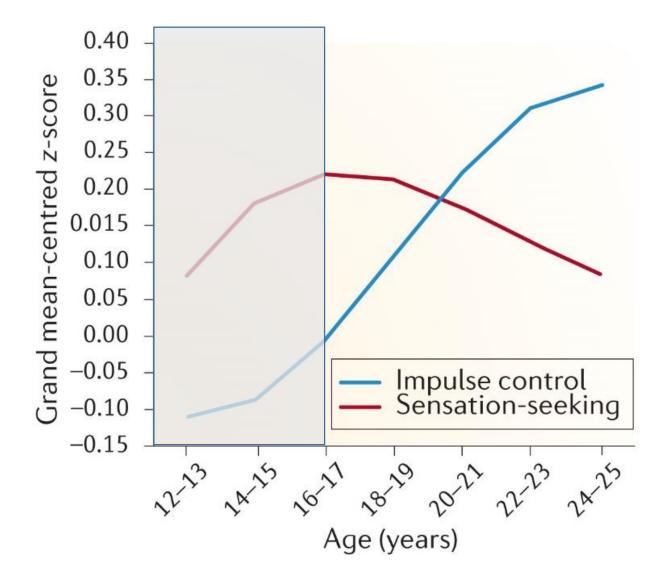
### Logical

Adolescents begin to think more like scientists, devising plans to solve problems and systematically testing solutions. Plaget called this type of logical thinking hypothetical-deductive reasoning.

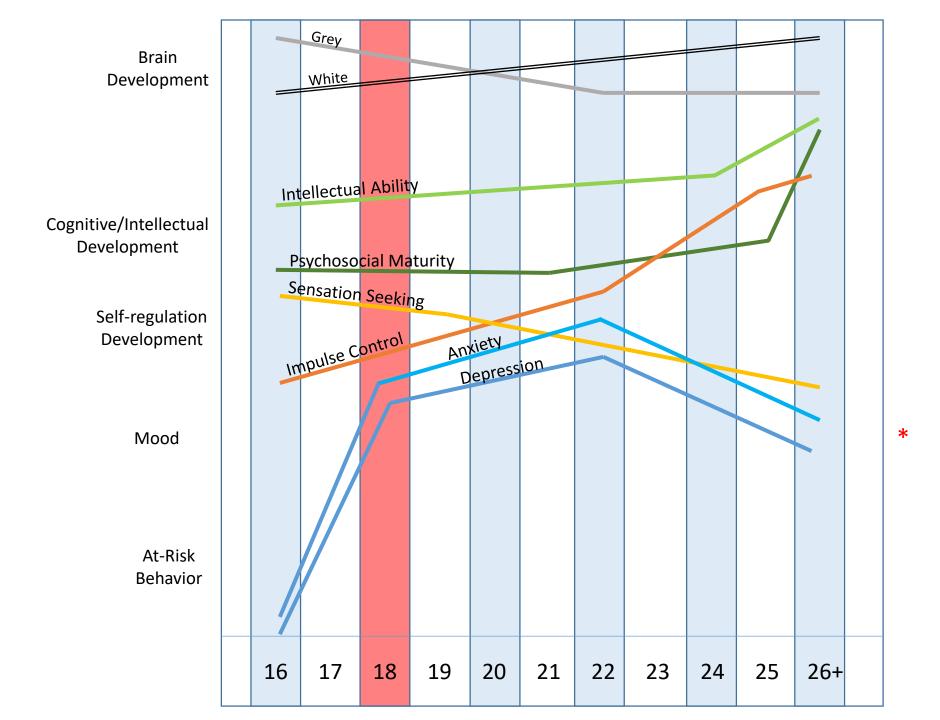




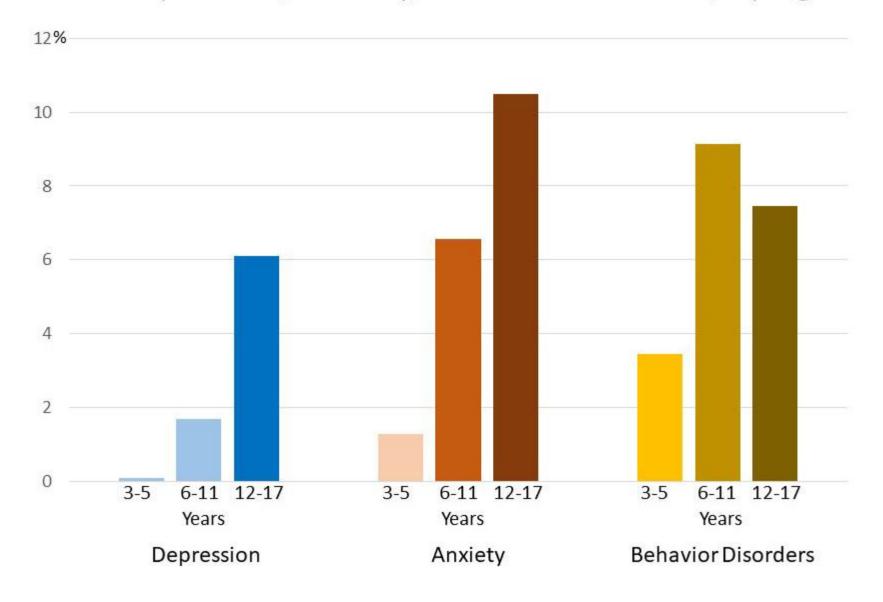




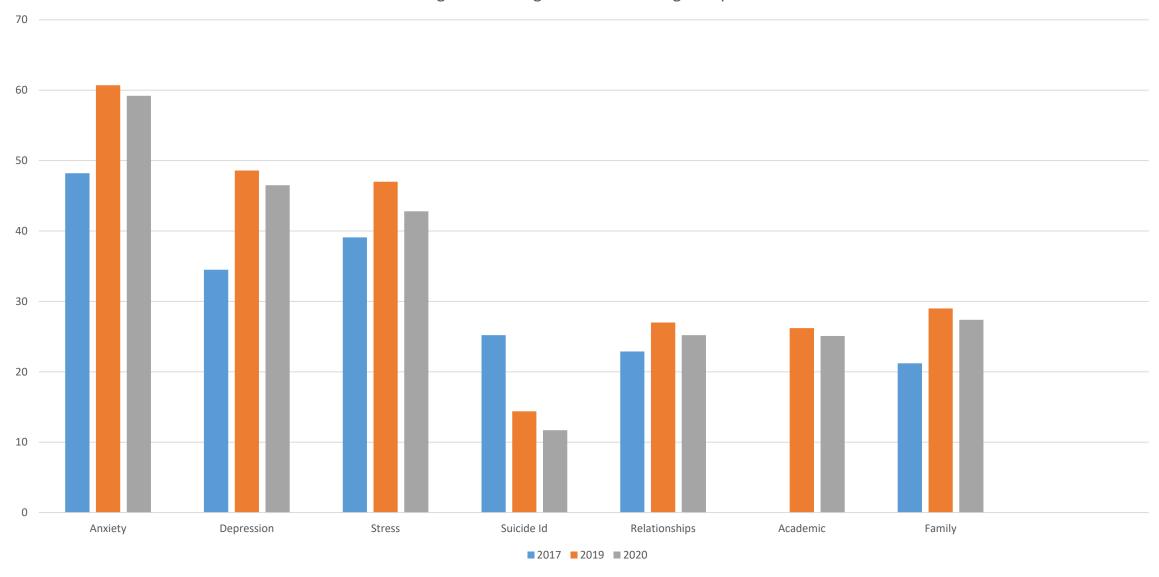
### Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

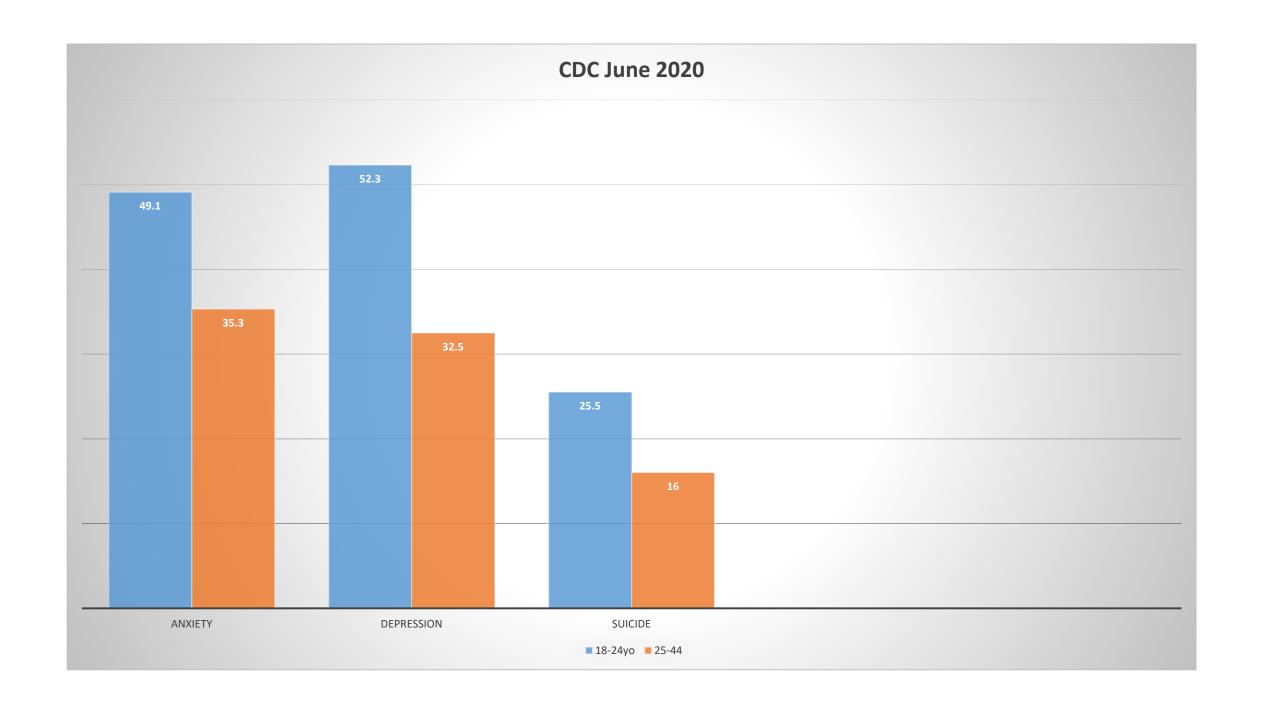


### Depression, Anxiety, Behavior Disorders, by Age

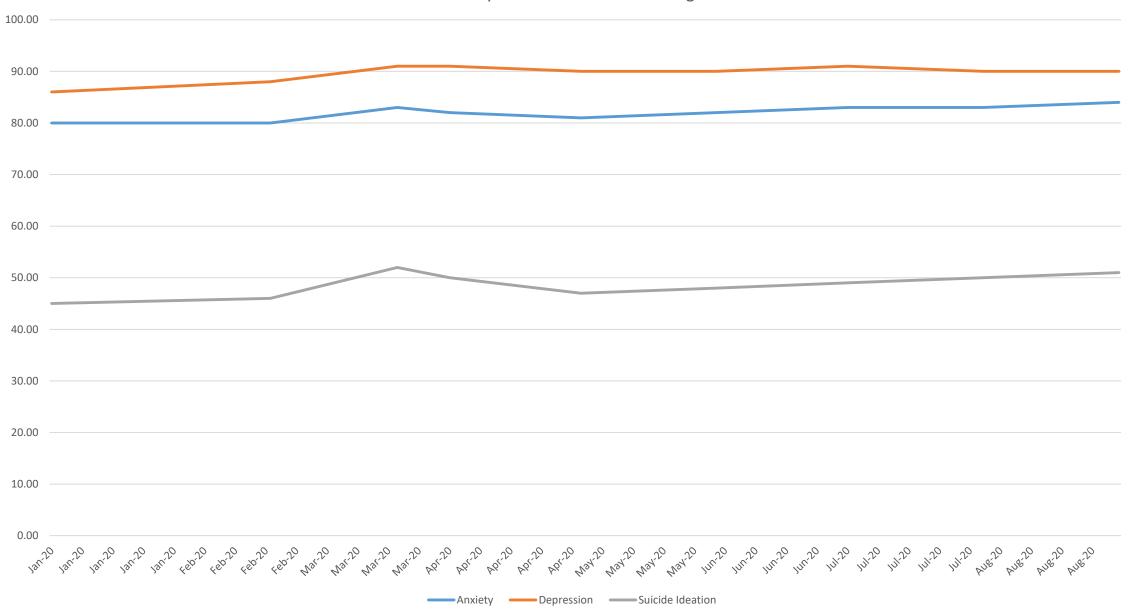


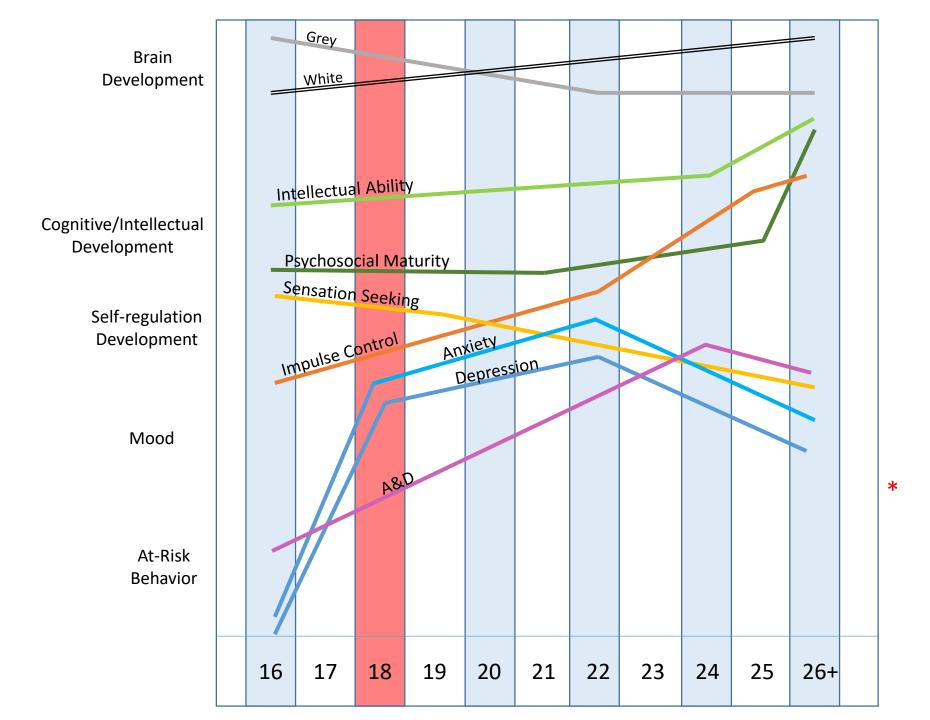
#### College Counseling Center Presenting Complaints



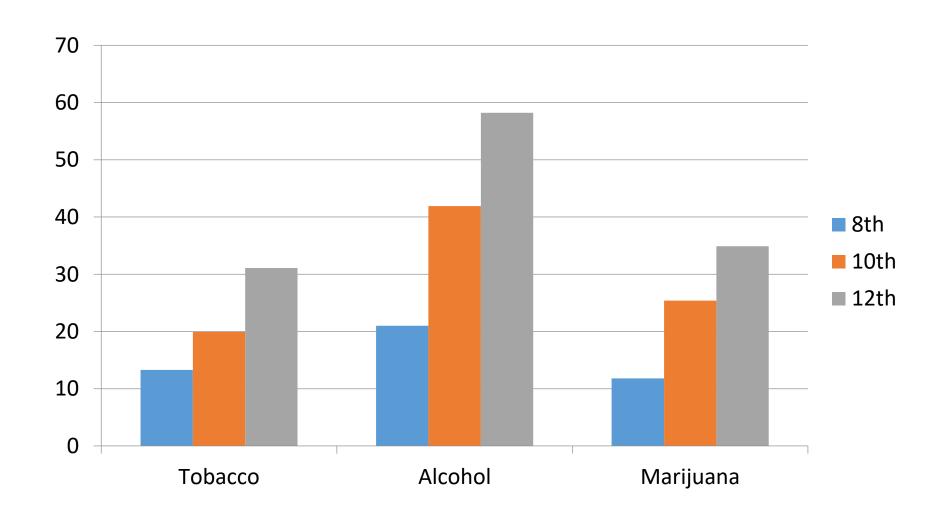


#### 11-17 yo Mental Health Screenings

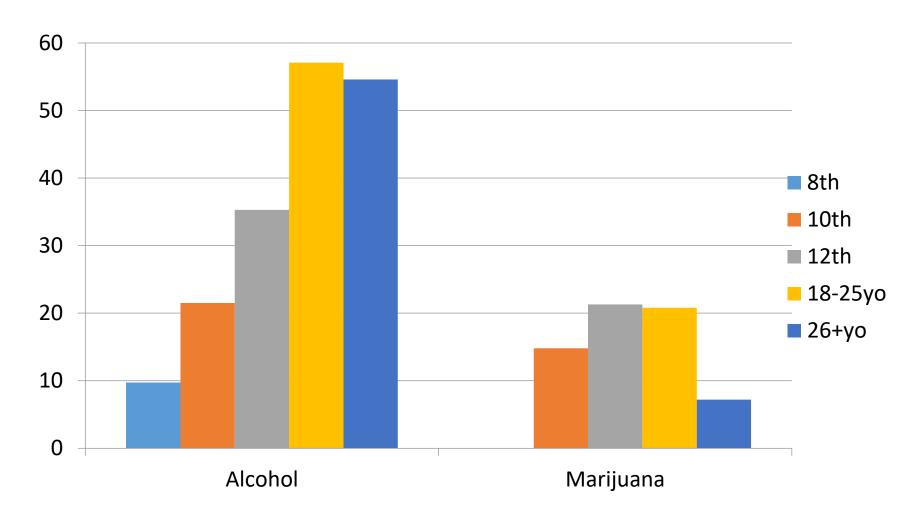




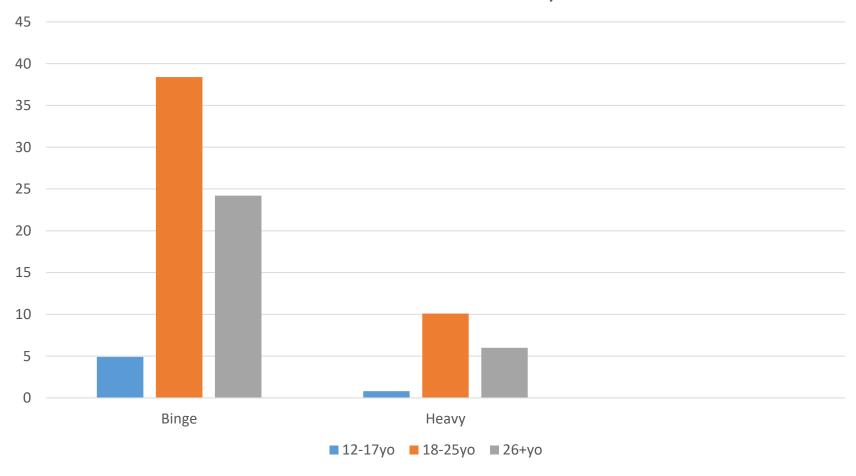
## Annual Substance Use

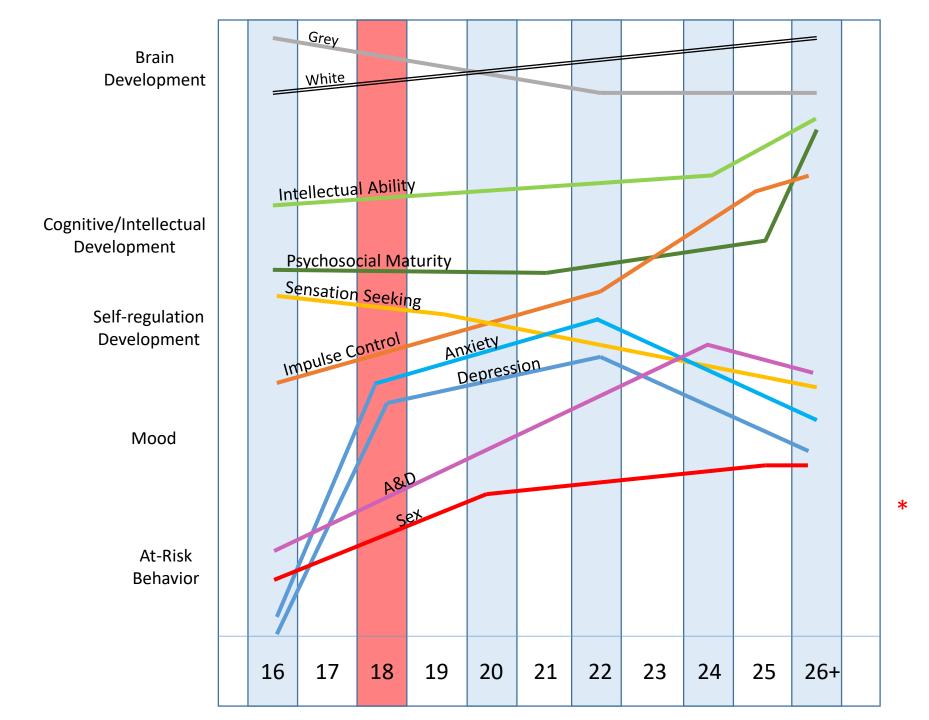


# 30 Day Substance Use



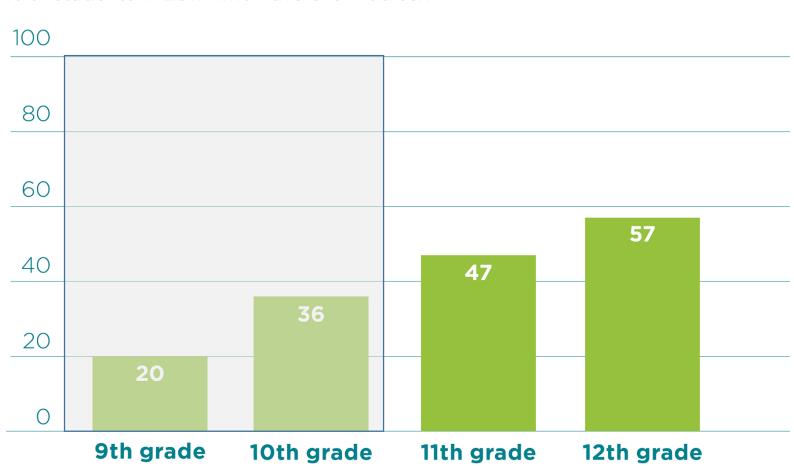
Binge (5+ drinks)
Heavy (5+ Binge days)
Alcohol use in Past 30 days





# By the time they are in 12th grade, the majority of U.S. high school students have had sexual intercourse

% of students in 2017 who have ever had sex

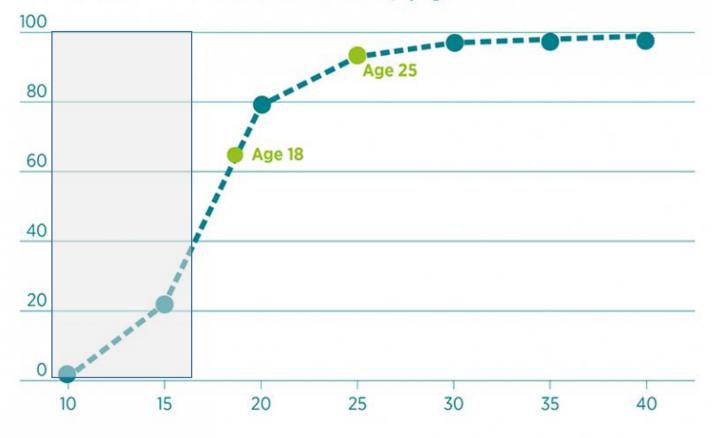


**SOURCE:** guttmacher.org

#### SEXUAL INTERCOURSE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE U.S.

### Sex is a natural part of being human, and 65% of 18-yearolds and 93% of 25-year-olds have had sexual intercourse

% of individuals who have had sexual intercourse, by age



www.guttmacher.org



# SCAFFOLDING

- Structure
- · Monitoring
- Choice
- Accountability
- · Character



# "You're A Young Adult Now"

**STRUCTURE** Low

**MONITORING** With Cause

**CHOICE** Freedom

**ACCOUNTABILITY** Kid (with Parent)

**CHARACTER** Integrity



# Parenting Approaches

- > Lots of talking, even more listening
- > Practice freedom
- Practice responsibility
  - Goal setting and planning
  - Short term consequences and then reset privileges
  - > Time management

### Resources

- www.DrJamesWellborn.com
- www.JamesGWellbornPhD.com
- https://drjameswellborn.com/books/booklets/
- Parenting Teens Newsletter www.drjameswellborn.com/newsletter
- Blogs

www.DrJamesWellborn.com click on the "Articles" tab

**Presentation Evaluation** 

www.drjameswellborn.com/survey

