Perceived Harm of Drug Use

Instrument: Monitoring the Future

Scale/Subscale Name: Perceived Harm of Drug Use

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA),

Developers: Dr. Lloyd Johnston, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, 426 Thompson Street Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2321, (734) 764-8354, MTFinfo@isr.umich.edu

Year: Not reported

Target Audience(s): Grades 8 – 12. It has been normed with several subpopulations, including Whites, African-Americans, and Hispanics.

Language other than English available: Spanish

Type: Attitudes

Data collected: Quantitative

Data collection format: Self-report – Pre/post

Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid grade level: 7.6

Existence of test/technical manuals, user guides, supplemental materials: Scale and summary information online at: https://preventionplatform.samhsa.gov/macro/csap/mir_search_create/redesign/measures/detail.cfm?MeasureID=dd155cf4-69b4-4d84-be0a-24346dfccc65&Category=&Row=&CategoryID=&CFID=92315&CFTOKEN=77153435 Information about Monitoring the Future (national study that uses this scale) online at: http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/

Level of training necessary for administration/scoring/interpretation: None

Widespread Use/Professional Endorsements: Listed by the US Department of Health and Human Services Center for Substance Abuse and Prevention as part of their core measures initiative. This scale is part of a larger instrument used in Monitoring the Future: a study that has been funded under a series of investigator-initiated competing research grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, a part of the National Institutes of Health.

Cost of Use: No costs associated with the use of this instrument.
Description:
- This 14-item scale assesses the respondent's views regarding the harm or risk associated with drug use.

Psychometrics:
Information on reliability and validity are provided below. If information on a particular psychometric was not found, it is indicated as “no information provided.” It should be noted that this is not necessarily an indication of a lack of reliability or validity within a particular scale/instrument, but rather a lack of rigorous testing, for various reasons, by the developers or other researchers.

Reliability: A correlation of at least .80 is suggested for at least one type of reliability as evidence; however, standards range from .5 to .9 depending on the intended use and context for the instrument.

- **Internal Consistency:** No information provided
- **Inter-rater reliability:** No information provided
- **Test-Retest:** No information provided

Validity: *The extent to which a measure captures what it is intended to measure.*

- **Content/Face Validity:** No information provided
- **Criterion Validity:** No information provided
- **Construct Validity:** Center for Substance Abuse and Prevention reports that perceived harm from substance use has been found to negatively relate to use and onset of use.
Construct: Substance Abuse – Perceived Harm

Scale Name: Perceived Harm of Drug Use

Developers: Dr. Lloyd Johnston, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

Rating Scale:
0=Can't Say/Drug Unfamiliar, 1=No risk, 2=Slight risk, 3=Moderate risk, 4=Great risk

Items:
How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they...
1. Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day.
2. Try marijuana once or twice.
3. Smoke marijuana occasionally.
4. Smoke marijuana regularly.
5. Try cocaine in powder form once or twice.
6. Take cocaine powder occasionally.
7. Take cocaine powder regularly.
8. Try 'crack' cocaine once or twice.
9. Try 'crack' cocaine occasionally.
10. Try crack cocaine regularly.
11. Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor).
12. Take one or two drinks nearly every day.
13. Take four of five drinks nearly every day.
14. Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend.

Scoring:
- Sum all item ratings together.
- Higher scores indicate greater perception of risk from using alcohol and drugs.