

Q3 Additional Information About Substance Use: Provide any additional information regarding why you believe substance use is a significant problem in Jefferson County.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 138

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	we have substance abuse clinics but not all of them serve the underprivileged or do not accept the insurance of those in need of the services	6/24/2025 12:02 PM
2	Substance abuse is a Signiant problem in our culture, schools and homes	6/24/2025 10:49 AM
3	Concerns about products sold in gas stations like Delta 8, Delta 9, and other unregulated substances that contain unregulated harmful synthetic drugs.	6/24/2025 10:19 AM
4	n/a	6/24/2025 10:10 AM
5	Ways to earn extra needed money	6/23/2025 3:36 PM
6	Even in the schools where the socioeconomic status is well above the poverty line, where there are plenty of resources and education, students are regularly using drugs and alcohol. There is an attitude of dismissal about the potential harm.	6/23/2025 2:31 PM
7	IDK	6/23/2025 12:22 PM
8	Many are using Marijuana instead of seeking mental health care	6/23/2025 10:25 AM
9	Not enough emphasis on this issue from politicians, educators, or parents	6/23/2025 9:29 AM
10	More comprehensive & universally available services are needed. More education about the significant risks associated with various legal & illicit substances	6/17/2025 7:09 PM
11	I have heard from various mothers stating their children have access to drugs at schools or are using them at school.	6/11/2025 9:35 AM
12	Children (youth) are aware of the risks of substance use, but the direct impact on their health and well-being does not matter to them as they rely on substance use to relieve stress or other mental health-related problems. Additionally, seeing other students and adults utilize substances (ie vapes) makes it easier and less stigmatizing to partake.	6/10/2025 11:07 AM
13	No Answer	6/9/2025 1:53 PM
14	The length of stay for rehabilitation programs are not sufficient. Individuals are temporarily weaned off of substances but have not had enough time and services to deal with the core issues that trigger desires to engage in addiction behavior. Then they are mostly released back into the same impoverished and under-resourced areas that are teeming with people and reminders that promote substance use.	6/8/2025 4:14 PM
15	Lack of availability to safe recreation areas and activities for children after school.	6/7/2025 8:20 AM
16	The number of referrals we encounter in the intake and probation division is significant.	6/6/2025 11:49 AM
17	many adolescents are involved in drugs and alcohol according to Family Court.	6/6/2025 11:39 AM
18	Vaping is the most significant issue.	6/5/2025 5:36 PM
19	na	6/5/2025 4:51 PM
20	The drug epidemic is significantly impacting adults, which then puts children in dangerous situations. Kids are then at risk for abuse, neglect, lack of supervision, etc.	6/5/2025 2:44 PM
21	Parents or guardians smoking, vaping or drinking or taking substances in front of children or while in the car.	6/5/2025 2:09 PM
22	Poverty is very prevalent in Jefferson County and a lot of people deal with this issue with	6/5/2025 1:27 PM

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substance use. Children are influenced by their parents, friends, other family members, and social media. Some households already lack guidance from parents, so children are on their own a lot of time to do whatever they want.

23	One issue is the crime rate we see that is a by product of substance abuse. Other is current statistics heard about on the news	6/5/2025 9:57 AM
24	parents using THC and melatonin gummies to put kids to sleep.	6/5/2025 9:47 AM
25	You can smell the remnants of marijuana in the hospital parking decks on a regular basis	6/5/2025 9:43 AM
26	widespread misinformation that THC is safe, we are seeing so many children overdose on THC, especially gummies, it is dangerous and small children can die from ingesting their parents gummies	6/5/2025 9:40 AM
27	How easily accessible alcohol and drugs are	6/5/2025 9:04 AM
28	N/A	6/5/2025 8:34 AM
29	Too many youth have access to gummies and other drugs, are vaping, and being influenced.	6/5/2025 7:54 AM
30	My child got access to drugs at school	6/4/2025 9:59 PM
31	NA	6/4/2025 8:39 PM
32	I believe that substance is a significant problem homeless/housing, poverty and lack of education that stop adult's from getting a job.	6/4/2025 11:07 AM
33	marijuana use is rampant among all ages and has become extremely normalized	6/3/2025 11:30 AM
34	Alot of abusers have mental and emotional issues. They do not know how to cope with life. I believe that more mental help agencies should be available and actually go out to neighborhoods for one on one assessments	6/3/2025 8:52 AM
35	I have a close relationship with individuals who fall within the SUD population and I think there needs to be as many programs and trained individuals as possible to assist moms and the children	6/2/2025 11:53 AM
36	A high proportion of pregnant women taking drugs	6/2/2025 9:26 AM
37	substance use has been normalized and is what people do instead of accessing mental health. They self medicate because mental health is not easy to receive.	6/1/2025 10:36 PM
38	Anecdotaly I have heard it is...	5/28/2025 2:46 PM
39	Smoking marijuana is as common as smoking a cigarette and becoming as widely accepted. This is leading to poor decision making by youth and parents.	5/28/2025 2:36 PM
40	I work at a middle/highschool and vaping is one of our top issues.	5/27/2025 1:29 PM
41	I really believe more attention needs to be place on youth vaping. It is a serious problem in the schools daily.	5/23/2025 1:37 PM
42	I feel that there is reaction to substance abuse instead of proactive measures. Educating and supporting those with mental health issues as well as providing QUALITY education on raising children with emotional stability is key. The cycle needs to be broken from the start not after it is a problem.	5/22/2025 3:34 PM
43	I have not heard of underage alcohol sales, but have heard of underage vape/e-cigarette sales. Lack of information about the harms of vaping is definintely a problem.	5/22/2025 12:56 PM
44	Because of the Fentanyl epidemic	5/22/2025 11:29 AM
45	Every life we lose to substance use is a lost opportunity to be a positive contributor to our society. Our youth represent our future; we, the adults in their lives, must take a more intentional approach to creating the foundation our youth need to support them as they grow into adulthood. Prevention is much less expensive than recovery: mentally, physically, and emotionally. What are we doing to make those who help create this issue more accountable for contributing to these problems?	5/22/2025 11:08 AM
46	Due to poverty and economic instability, limited opportunities and hopelessness, topped by mental health issues and trauma.	5/22/2025 10:21 AM

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47	There are no residential placements for teens who are struggling with substance abuse in the state of alabama. If there is a facility financially some families cannot afford the treatment.	5/22/2025 9:54 AM
48	Mental health decline and poor living conditions in conjunction with and to self medicating needs to be addressed as a leading cause of addiction	5/22/2025 9:46 AM
49	Jefferson County has socioeconomic challenges. For example,unemployment, poverty, limited access to housing and health care for families. These are some of the significant issues for substance abuse. These key issues can lead teenagers, and individuals within families to use substances as a way to cope with difficult hardships in their lives.	5/22/2025 8:50 AM
50	Easy access and minimal treatment facility for adolescent.	5/22/2025 8:19 AM
51	Access to vaping pins.	5/22/2025 8:14 AM
52	Substance abuse is sometimes highlighted in social media.	5/20/2025 1:32 PM
53	I work in a school district and EVERY alternative school placement for the past 2 years has been for hemp-derived THC products--vapes and gummies. All have been bought from convenience stores. In the past 2 years, six children have been transported from school to the hospital as they were unresponsive after consuming these THC products at school. One child was hospitalized for 2 days. The legislature recently adopted a bill to create a Consumable Hemp Board. This law creates a new addictive drug industry in Alabama.	5/20/2025 9:01 AM
54	Because parents are smoking and or drinking to maintain mental health and it effects the kids	5/20/2025 4:07 AM
55	We have parents driving their children to school while they smoke pot. Their children reek of it when they enter school and some seem to be high themselves.	5/19/2025 3:43 PM
56	Increase in drug overdose	5/19/2025 2:25 PM
57	I am in a primary school, but I talk with my co-worker who are at the middle and high school, and they inform me on the many kids that are vaping in the schools.	5/19/2025 1:23 PM
58	I work at an OB clinic - many families are using marijuana in their homes around children. Young children attending the clinic smell strongly of THC; parents are often high when attending clinic.	5/19/2025 10:32 AM
59	Stigma around substance use, lack of affordable programs for substance use, fear of DHR involvement (EX: having children taken away if they seek treatment)	5/19/2025 9:40 AM
60	When coping manifests as substance abuse, other areas of family functioning is significantly impacted such as housing, financial stability, and risk of incarceration. All of these factors are prevalant in Jefferson County.	5/19/2025 9:33 AM
61	lack of sustainable employment and parental involvement	5/19/2025 9:01 AM
62	I think a lot of parents are substance users and children are growing up in this environment.	5/19/2025 8:50 AM
63	Vaping is a huge problem for Alabama high schools.	5/19/2025 8:30 AM