## **BHEW Bulletin**

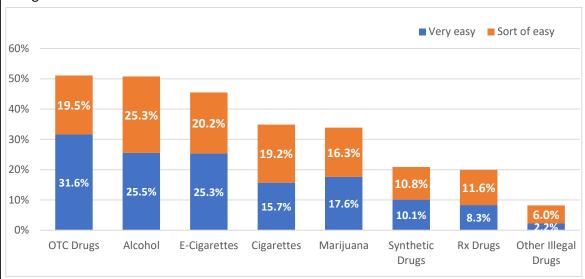
December 2022

Contact the Behavioral Health Epidemiological Workgroup:

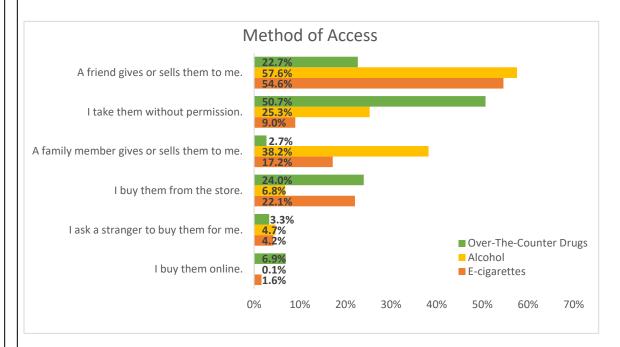
or susan.depue @mimh.edu

## **Substance Availability**

The Missouri Student Survey, administered in 2022 to 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders in Missouri, asked youth how easy it would be to get several substances. About 51.1% of youth believed that it would be very easy or sort of easy to obtain over-the-counter drugs, 50.8% to obtain alcohol, and 45.5% to obtain e-cigarettes.



Methods of access varied based on substance. Over-the-counter drugs were most accessed by taking them without permission, and alcohol and e-cigarettes were most accessed through a friend. Of the three substances, both friends and family members were most likely to give or sell alcohol to their youth above any of the other two substances.



Find more data like this from the Missouri Student Survey on the Department of Mental Health's website at <a href="https://www.seow.dmh.mo.gov">www.seow.dmh.mo.gov</a>.