SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION SERVICES OF THE CAROLINAS

YOUTH DRUG SURVEY
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2004

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May 25, 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

Executive Summary

Introduction

  Substance Abuse Prevention Services (formerly The Drug Education Center) has conducted a countywide Youth Drug Survey (YDS) every two - three years since 1972. This survey has been an important administrative tool to help identify the extent of problems throughout the community and to assist in generating and providing services. As a result, Charlotte has one of the longest time frames within which to see change and to monitor community based programs. In February 2004, Substance Abuse Prevention Services, in collaboration with Mecklenburg County's Area Mental Health Authority, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Drug Free Coalition administered the self-report YDS to approximately 3,500 students in grades 6-12. This is a report on the 2004 survey on the use of all substances: cigarettes, alcohol, licit and illicit drugs."

The Survey

  The survey instrument was designed to address at least four critical questions: the extent of lifetime usage, the extent of usage within the last thirty days, perception of risk or harm and the degree of peer and adult approval. Other questions are included for comparison purposes such as age, gender, and race. Questions related to the perception of use by other students were also included.

The Sample

  The sample is a stratified proportionate representative random sample of all 6 through 12th grade classrooms. The surveys were monitored to provide anonymity for the students. A total of 3,522 surveys were completed and, after deleting those surveys where students answered that they had used a fabricated drug or otherwise showed internal inconsistency, the number of usable surveys was 3,427. With this sample size one can have 95% confidence that the actual findings are within a $\pm 2\%$ margin of error.

  The sample slightly over-represents Middle School students and slightly under-represents High School students. There are 3% more eighth graders and 1.5% fewer 9th graders with other grades proportionately represented. The sample includes 51.7% Middle School students and 48.3% High School students. The CMS population is 47.7% Middle School and 52.3% High School.

Findings

Lifetime Users

Smoking

- 24.9% of all students admit to having smoked cigarettes.
    - 15.4% of Middle School students have smoked
    - 35.1% of High School students they have smoked

Alcohol

- 34.8% of students admit to having used alcohol.
    - 18.1% of Middle School students admit use
    - 52.7% of High School students admit use.

Any Drug

Excluding tobacco and alcohol:
- 26.7% of all students admit using at least one of the drugs covered in the survey (42.5% if prescription drugs are included)[1]
    - 16.1% of Middle School Students used some drug other than alcohol or cigarettes
    - 38.0% of High School students used some drug other than alcohol or cigarettes

Marijuana
- 17.1% of all students admit using marijuana
    - 6.5% of Middle School students
    - 28.6% of High School students

Cocaine
- 1.0% of students admit using cocaine
    - 0.3% of Middle School students
    - 1.8% of High School students

Trend Comparison- Lifetime Use

- System-wide there is a general decline in reported use of the primary gateway drugs of alcohol, cigarettes and marijuana since 1995.

- Alcohol use has declined from 61.2% use in 1995 to 34.8% use in 2004, a decline by 43.1%.

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[1] Students, especially in the lower grades, may have misinterpreted the question regarding prescription drugs. Therefore, the response to prescription drugs in not included in the calculation of any drug use unless otherwise noted.

Table 1Lifetime Use 1995-2004*

Substance	1995	1998	2002	2004
Cigarettes	46.3	37.1	26.9	24.9
Alcohol	61.2	45.6	43.5	34.8
Marijuana	31.2	26.6	23.9	17.1
Cocaine	4.2	3.6	3.3	1.0
Tranquilizers	x	2.4	3.7	6.8

* Only system-wide lifetime use is compared since previous studies did not separate use by school level.

Figure 1 Trends in Self-Reported Substance Use Grades 6 through 12
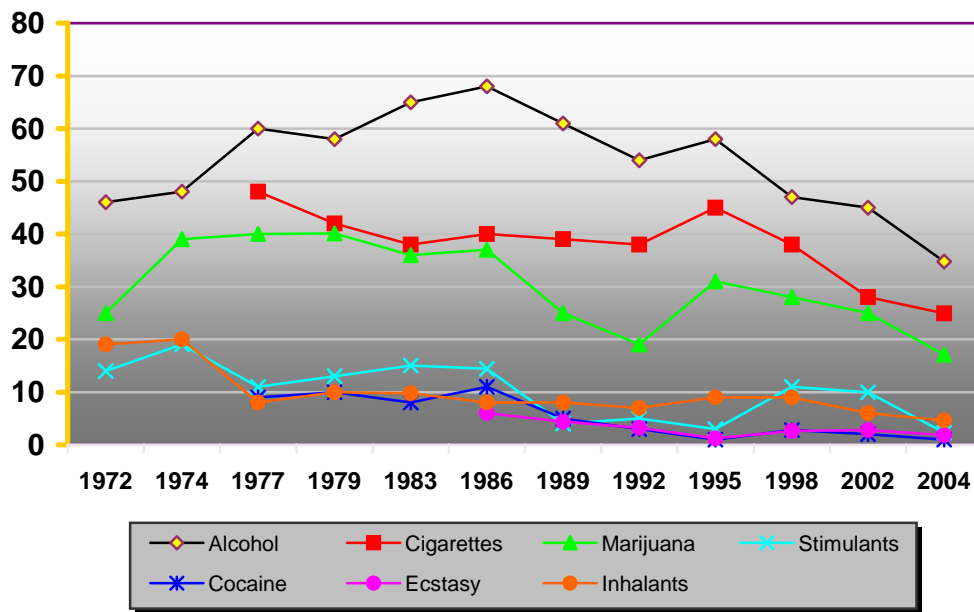
Age at first use

Smoking
- Of those who admit smoking, 37.1% started at ages 12 to 13 with another 31.2% starting at age 14 or older.
- 31.7% started smoking under the age of 12.

Alcohol
- A third, 33.1% started using alcohol at age 12-13 and
  - o 34% say that they first used at age 14 or older
  - o 32.90% first used alcohol under the age of 12
  - o 4.4% say first use was at age seven or younger

Marijuana
- Nearly half – 48.8% first used marijuana before they were 14-15 years old with 37.5% saying they were 12 – 13 and 11.3% eleven or younger.
- 40.2% started when they were 14-15 and 11% were 16 or older.

Cocaine
- 37.2% of cocaine users started when they were 14-15; 30.2% started after age 16
- 16.3% were 12-13 and 16.3% were under 12.

Drugs Other Than Tobacco and Alcohol

- Ages varied for the first use of other types of drugs.
  - The most frequent age was 12-13 for alcohol, downers, inhalants and steroids.
  - The most frequent starting age for marijuana, cocaine, benzodiazepines, and others is 14-15.
  - Approximately 10% started using either marijuana or cocaine under the age of 12.
  - Less than 0.5% say they started using any substance besides alcohol or cigarettes at age seven or younger.

Use within the last 30 days

- If all substances are considered - tobacco, alcohol or any illegal substance (excl. Rx) - 23.3% of the students used in the last 30 days;
  - 35.4% of High School students and 13.0% of Middle School students.

Tobacco
- 10.7 % of all students indicate that they have smoked cigarettes within the last 30 days
  - 16.1% of High School students and 5.8% of Middle School students
- 2.2% have used smokeless tobacco within the last 30 days
  - 2.7% High School; 1.7% Middle School
- 6.4% have smoked cigars within the last 30 days
  - 8.8% High School; 4.1% Middle School

Alcohol
- 14.8% have consumed alcohol within the last 30 days
  - 24.3% High School; 6.0% Middle School

- 6.1% admit to having had five or more alcoholic drinks in one setting (Binge Drinking) within the last 30 days.
  - 9.9% High School; 1.4% Middle School

- Of those who consumed alcohol within the last 30 days:
  - 47.7% admit to binge drinking
    - 55.5% of alcohol consuming High School Students
    - 22.7% of alcohol consuming Middle School Students

Other Substances
- Excluding tobacco, alcohol and prescription drugs, 11.5% of all students used some substance in the last 30 days;
  - o 17.1% in High School ; 6.3% in Middle School

Table 2 Substance Use Last 30 Days – All Students and by Level

Substance	Total	High School	Middle School
Any Substance- Cigarettes/ Alcohol or other	**31.3%**	**43.3%**	**28.1%**
Any Substance excl. Rx	**23.3%**	**35.4%**	**13.0%**
Marijuana	7.3	12.3	2.7
Cocaine	0.3	0.4	0.2
Downers	2.3	3.0	1.5
Inhalants	1.4	0.8	1.9
Prescription	13.1	16.6	9.8
OTC Diet	1.3	2.2	0.6
Binge Drinking	6.1	11.9	1.4
Any Substance except alcohol	20.7	27.8	14.1
Any Substance except Alcohol & Cigarettes	17.1	21.9	12.6
Any Substance except Alcohol, Cigarettes or Rx	11.5	17.1	6.3

Substance Use – Last 30 Days by Grade

The proportion of students admitting use of any substance in the last 30 days increases steadily by grade. Cigarette smoking in the last 30 days is admitted by 2.8% of 6th graders and that increases to 18.6% of 12th graders. Alcohol in the last 30 days increases from 1.6% in 6th grade to 33.8% in 12th while the use of any drug (not tobacco or alcohol) shows 13.5% of 6th graders and 28.1% of 12th graders.

Grade	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cigarettes	2.8	5.5	8.9	14.3	15.4	17.2	18.6
Alcohol	1.6	5.1	10.7	19.6	23.1	24.3	33.8
Any Drug*	3.9	6.2	8.6	14.8	19.7	15.6	19.7
Any Drug**	13.5	13.4	15.2	28.6	29.3	24.9	28.1

* Not including tobacco, alcohol or Rx
** Not including tobacco, alcohol but includes Rx

Charlotte – North Carolina Trend Comparison

- Charlotte has been lower than the state estimates since the benchmark year of 1997.
- State trends for cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana and cocaine have been down since 1997.
- The 2004 Charlotte findings are also consistent with recent national trends. According to NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse),[2] there has been a 7% decline of any illicit drug use within the last 30 days by 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. Trend analysis since 2001 shows a national 17% cumulative decline.

Table 3 Any Illicit Drug – Last 30 Days – NIDA/Charlotte

Grade	NIDA	Char-Meck
8	8.4	8.6
10	18.3	19.7
12	23.4	19.7

Figure 2 Substance Use Last 30 Days – Charlotte and North Carolina

Substance Use - Last 30 Days

Charlotte - NC Comparison - 9-12th Grades

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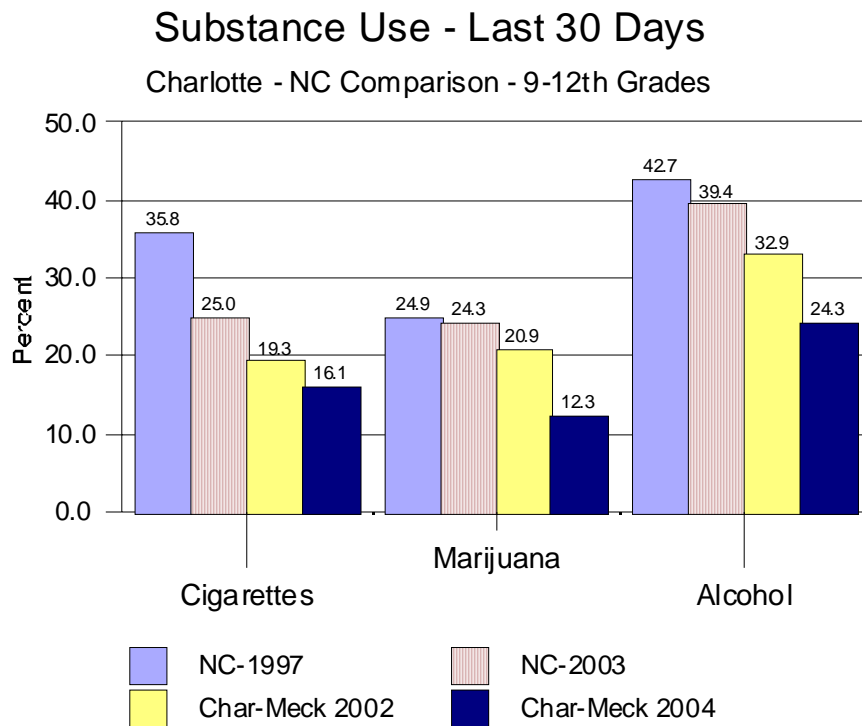
[2] "Teen Drug Use Declines 2003-2004 – But Concern Remains About Inhalants and Painkillers." NIDA News Release December 21, 2004.

Perception of Risk

Those students who engage in any form of substance use tend to see less risk in the behavior than other students.

Smoking

- 80% of all students see smoking as having moderate to high risk.
    - 77% of those who have smoked see moderate to high risk
    - 62.5% of those who smoke daily see moderate to high risk and 8.9% see no risk.

Marijuana

- 70% of all students see occasional marijuana smoking as having moderate to high risk.
    - 35% of those who have smoked marijuana in the last 30 days see occasional marijuana smoking as having moderate to high risk.
- 78% of all students see *regular* marijuana smoking as having moderate to high risk.
    - 45% of those who have smoked marijuana in the last 30 days see *regular* marijuana smoking as having moderate to high risk.

Peer Approval

- Of all the substances queried, peer approval is greatest for ***occasional drinking***
    - 27.9% of all students;
    - 12.1% of Middle School students and
    - 44.0% for High School students

    However, 55.6% feel there is peer disapproval of occasional drinking.

- 17.3% of all students feel that peers would approve of ***occasional marijuana*** smoking
    - 7.1% of Middle School and
    - 27.8% of High School students.

- 15.8% feel peer approval for ***regular drinking***
    - 7.1% of Middle School
    - 24.6% of High School students

- 10.8% feel approval for binge drinking and 10.9% feel peer approval for regular marijuana smoking.
    - 5.2% and 5.4% middles school
    - 17.6% and 16.5% High School

Adult Approval

- Approximately 90 percent or more of students see the adults around them as disapproving use of all of the substances except for occasional drinking by students; 6.7% feel that adults would approve while 88% says adults would disapprove.
    - 8.8% of High School students believe that the adults around them would approve of occasional drinking.

Perceptions of Use

- On average, youth surveyed think that 40 % of students in their schools drink alcohol
    - If students drink, they think, on average, that 66% drink but the most frequent response by students who drink is 80%. Non-drinkers think that 40% drink.
    - Middle School students think that 26 % drink but the most frequent response is 10 %
    - High School students think that 62% drink and the most frequent response is 70%
- On average, youth surveyed think that 44% of students use some kind of drug
    - Students using a drug other than tobacco or alcohol, think that 58% of the students are using drugs with the most frequently selected percent being 80%. Non-users think 40% of the students in their schools use drugs other than tobacco and alcohol with the most frequent percent being 10%.
    - Middle School students think that 27% of students use some kind of drug
    - High School students think that 60% of students use drugs.

- Within Middle School, there is little difference in the perception of users and non-users regarding the proportion in their schools who drink or use some drug other than tobacco or alcohol.
- High School drinkers are more likely than non-drinkers to think that more fellow students also drink.
- High School drug users are only slightly more likely than non-users to think that the proportion of students who use drugs is higher.

User Correlates: Middle School

Cigarettes:
- 51.0% have a parent who smokes and 42.2% have a sibling who smokes.
- Of those failing in school 26.7% have smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days; only 1.9% of A students smoked in the last 30 days.
- Of those who had 16 or more unexcused absences last year, 24.2% smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days.

Alcohol:
- Of those who are doing "C" work or poorer, 28.6% used alcohol within the last 30 days.
- The more unexcused absences, the greater the likelihood that students consumed alcohol in the last 30 days.
- Binge drinking is significantly related to increased unexcused absences.

Marijuana:
- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are significantly related to smoking marijuana in Middle School.
- Males are significantly more likely than females to have smoked marijuana in the last 30 days.

Use of Drugs Other Than Alcohol and Tobacco:
- The highest proportion is Caucasian students. No other factor is significant.

User Correlates: High School

Cigarettes:
- Of High School students who smoke, 44.4% have a parent who smokes and 31.4% have a sibling who smokes.
- High School smokers disproportionately come from households where the highest level of adult education is less than a High School degree. With the exception of having a graduate degree, where 15% of students smoke, the less education of the adults in the household, the greater the probability of a High School student smoking.
- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are significantly related to cigarette smoking in High School.

Alcohol
   All demographic factors are significantly related to High School drinking *except* gender and parent's highest level of education.
- 29.3% of Caucasian students and 24.3% of "other race" High School students are alcohol users, statistically significant proportions. Proportionately more Caucasian students are also binge drinkers.
- 38.1% of D students and 27.3% of F students used alcohol in the last 30 days.
- Over 40% of those with 11 or more unexcused absences say they have used alcohol within the last 30 days.

Binge Drinking:
- The more unexcused absences the more the likelihood of binge drinking; of those with 16 or more unexcused absences, 37.2% admit to binge drinking.

Marijuana:
   All demographic factors are significantly related to High School marijuana smoking *except* race and parent's education.
- 16.4% of male High School students admit marijuana smoking in the last 30 days; 8.6% of female High School students admit use.
- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are statistically significantly related to marijuana smoking. 36.4% of "F" students and 38.1% of "D" students smoke. 37.2% of those with 16 or more unexcused absences smoke compared with only 3.7% of those with no unexcused absences.

Use of Drugs Other Than Alcohol, Tobacco and Marijuana
- Only overall grade point average and unexcused absences are significantly related to the use of some drug other than tobacco, alcohol and marijuana.
  - The largest proportion of students using drugs other than tobacco and alcohol and marijuana have D or F averages.
  - The largest proportion of students using drugs other than tobacco, alcohol and marijuana have six or more unexcused absences.

13

Source of Substances

The primary source of all substances, for those admitting use, is from friends.
Cigarettes
- 47.3% got their last cigarettes from friends
- 25.9% had someone buy them
- 14.9% bought themselves
- 10.1% took from home or from a friend's home
- 1.4% got from their parents

Alcohol
- 35.0% got their alcohol from friends.
- 15.8% were given alcohol by parents and
- 14.0% took it from home.
- 4.7% took from a friend's home
- 26.9% had someone else buy alcohol for them.
- Only 3.6% bought the alcohol themselves.

Drugs
- 46.4% got their drugs from friends.
- 29.8% bought their own drugs
- 12.6% had someone else buy
- 6.4% got from a parent
- 4.8% took from their home or their friend's home

Participation in DARE and Other Programs

There was no significant relationship between participation in school related prevention programs and admitted use. 7.2% of DARE students admitted using marijuana and 8.0% of non-DARE students admitted use. 16.3% of DARE students admitted using some other drug than marijuana and 13.4% of non-DARE students admitted use. This difference is not significant.

Treatment Issues

184 (56%) of the 329 students who answered the question about trying to stop using drugs on their own say they have tried to stop on their own. 2.6% of the survey respondents report having received out-patient treatment, 1.0% report having been in residential treatment for less than 30 days and 0.4% report having received residential treatment for more than 30 days. 3% of the survey respondents say they have had treatment for substance abuse, 3.4% say they have had treatment for a mental health problem and 1.3% say they have received treatment for both substance abuse and mental health. 74.2% say they have a regular family physician.

Primary Report

Introduction

Substance Abuse Prevention Services (formerly The Drug Education Center) has conducted a countywide Youth Drug Survey (YDS) every two - three years since 1972. This survey has been an important administrative tool to help identify the extent of problems throughout the community and to assist in generating and providing services. As a result, Charlotte has one of the longest time frames within which to see change and to monitor community based programs. In February 2004, Substance Abuse Prevention Services, in collaboration with Mecklenburg County's Area Mental Health Authority, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Drug Free Coalition administered the self-report YDS to approximately 3,500 students in grades 6-12. This is a report on the 2004 survey on the use of all substances: cigarettes, alcohol, licit and illicit drugs."

The Survey

The survey instrument was designed to address at least four critical questions: the extent of lifetime usage, the extent of usage within the last thirty days, perception of risk or harm and the degree of peer and adult approval. Other questions are included for comparison purposes such as age, gender, and race. Questions related to the perception of use by other students were also included.

The Sample

The sample was selected based on information provided by the public schools. Each school in the system with 6th through 12th grades was identified by the total number of students in each grade and the number of students in each room. The sample size was based on the total number of completed surveys required to provide the user of the data 95% confidence that the true results are within a two percent margin of error. A list was provided to Substance Abuse Prevention Services and the Substance Abuse Prevention Department of Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools identifying for each school the number of surveys required and the specific rooms to be surveyed. This process provided a stratified proportionate representative random sample.

Students anonymously completed the surveys and they were packaged and sent to Research and Training Specialists for coding and analysis. The original number of surveys returned was 3,522.

The surveys, once coded, were subjected to tests of reliability. The survey included, first a fictitious drug, Paneotropines. All respondents who said they had used the drug or who said that they had started using the drug at any particular age were deleted from the sample. In addition, students who indicated that for every drug they used they started under the age of seven were also eliminated as were students who claimed to take every drug every day. One other inconsistency was used to check on the validity of the responses. Any student who claimed to have used a drug in one section but then claimed not to have used the drug in a follow-up section was also eliminated.

A total of 95 surveys (2.7%) were discarded using these criteria. The total number of surveys used for analysis is 3,427 and the results are considered to provide the 95% confidence that the results are within ± 2% of the 6 –12 grade student population.

The sample, however, slightly over-represents Middle School students and slightly under-represents High School students. The reason for this is unknown except that there was some methodological communication breakdown with some schools accounting for variance in the response rates. The results of this survey will reflect 3% more eighth graders than the school population and 1.5% fewer 9th graders; all other grades are proportionately represented. Only 27 surveys were completed in Spanish.

Table 4 Distribution of School Population and Sample

Grade	Population	Pop %	Sample	Sample %	Usable	Use %
6	9,205	16.1	585	16.8	570	16.8
7	9,355	16.4	579	16.6	567	16.7
8	8,706	15.2	635	18.2	617	18.2
9	10,426	18.2	584	16.7	567	16.7
10	7,848	13.7	386	11.1	376	11.1
11	5,760	10.1	385	11.0	378	11.1
12	5,869	10.3	335	9.6	320	9.4
Did not report			33		32	
Total N	57,169		3,522		3,427	

The sample includes, therefore, 51.7% Middle School students and 48.3% High School students. The population is 47.7% Middle School and 52.3% High School.

While provisions were made to have proportionately the correct number of Spanish language surveys, only 27 (0.8%) are in the data.

Findings

Lifetime Users

Smoking

- 24.9% of all students admit to having smoked cigarettes.
    - o 15.4% of Middle School students have smoked
    - o 35.1% of High School students they have smoked

Alcohol

- 34.8% of students admit to having used alcohol.
    - o 18.1% of Middle School students admit use
    - o 52.7% of High School students admit use.

Any Drug

Excluding tobacco and alcohol:
- 26.7% of all students admit using at least one of the drugs covered in the survey (42.5% if prescription drugs are included)[3]
    - o 16.1% of Middle School Students used some drug other than alcohol or cigarettes
    - o 38.0% of High School students used some drug other than alcohol or cigarettes

Marijuana
- 17.1% of all students admit using marijuana
    - o 6.5% of Middle School students
    - o 28.6% of High School students

Cocaine
- 1.0% of students admit using cocaine
    - o 0.3% of Middle School students
    - o 1.8% of High School students

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[3] Students, especially in the lower grades, may have misinterpreted the question regarding prescription drugs. Therefore, the response to prescription drugs in not included in the calculation of any drug use unless otherwise noted.

Table 5 Lifetime Use of Substances by Grade

N=3,427	Grade						
	6	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
Cigarettes	6.5	15.4	23.7	30.5	36.2	34.5	42.8
Alcohol:	7.8	17.3	28.5	42.0	54.0	56.4	65.5
Marijuana	1.1	5.5	12.8	20.8	27.7	31.4	40.0
Cocaine: powder or crack	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.9	2.4	1.9	2.5
Klonipin, Valium, Librium, Xanax	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.2	4.5	3.4	5.6
Uppers: Speed amphetamines, methamphetamine	0.5	1.4	1.1	2.7	4.0	4.5	3.8
Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills	3.9	3.5	5.5	7.8	11.2	9.3	9.7
Inhalants: glue, paint, gas etc.	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	2.4	1.6
Hallucinogens: LSD, mushrooms	0.9	0.7	0.5	2.1	4.5	3.7	3.1
Ecstasy	0.5	0.5	1.3	1.6	4.0	2.6	3.4
Other rave drugs: Ketamine, ruffies etc	0.2	.02	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.9
Steroids	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.6	0.8	0.3
Oxycontin	0	0	0.3	1.9	2.9	2.6	2.8
Heroin	0	0.5	1.0	0	0.5	0.8	0
Prescription drugs	26.1	18.4	22.3	34.6	38.4	30.2	30.0
Over The Counter diet pills	2.5	1.1	2.6	3.7	6.1	4.8	9.4
Triple C	0.2	0.2	0.5	2.8	4.3	2.1	2.5
Any drug except cigarettes and alcohol	31.9	28.0	34.2	50.1	54.3	54.8	62.2
Any drug except cigarettes, alcohol and Rx	12.1	14.3	21.4	31.4	37.8	39.9	47.8

Table 6 Lifetime Users 2002 and 2004

Substance	2002	2004	Difference
Cigarettes	26.9	24.9	-2.0
Alcohol:	43.5	34.8	-8.7
Marijuana	23.9	17.1	-6.8
Cocaine: powder or crack	3.7	1.0	-2.7
Klonipin, Valium, Librium, Xanax	*	1.8	
Uppers: Speed amphetamines, meth, Ritalin	4.5	2.3	-2.2
Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills	3.8*	6.8	+3.0
Inhalants: glue, paint, gas etc.	6.6	4.6	-2.0
Hallucinogens	4.6	1.9	-2.7
Ecstasy	6.1	1.8	-4.3
Other rave drugs: Ketamine, ruffies etc	x	0.5	
Steroids	3.0	0.7	-2.3
Oxycontin	x	1.3	
Heroin	2.4**	0.4	-2.0
Prescription drugs	x	27.7	
Over The Counter diet pills	x	3.7	
Triple C	x	1.5	

* Valium and Xanax were included under tranquilizers in 2002
** Oxycontin was included under the heading opiates in 2002; heroin was not a separate category

There appears to have been a significant drop between 2002 and 2004 in the proportion of students admitting use of all substances except Downers –tranquilizers, where there is an increase of 3%, but this may be a reflection of the categories under which each substance was considered in 2002 and 2004.

There were slight but potentially significant differences in the survey samples between 2002 and 2004. The 2002 sample was smaller and had proportionately more High School students than the 2004 sample. 50.9% of the 2,420 students surveyed in 2002 were High School students. In 2004, 48.3% of the 3,427 students were in High School. To determine if the overall reduction in reported use was an artifact of the sample, the following table shows the differences for the primary drugs for High School students only.

The differences are still significantly lower in 2004 for every drug except "Downers", which in 2004 included both tranquilizers and barbiturates.

Table 7 High School Lifetime Users, 2002 and 2004

Substance	2002	2004
Cigarettes	38.7	35.1
Alcohol	63.6	52.7
Marijuana	39.0	28.6
Cocaine	4.7	1.8
Tranquilizers	3.8	9.3
Barbiturates	1.3	

Trend Comparisons

- System-wide there is a general decline in reported use of the primary gateway drugs of alcohol, cigarettes and marijuana since 1995.

- Alcohol use has declined from 61.2% in 1995 to 34.8% in 2004. This represents a 43.1% decline.

Figure 3 Trend in Substance Use Since 1972
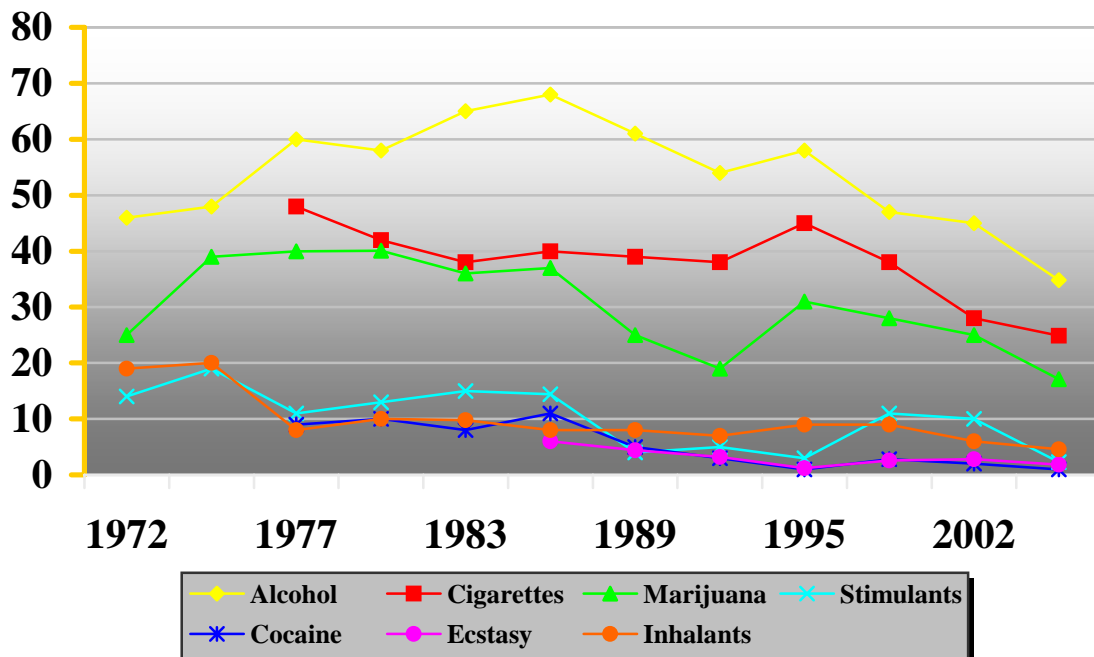
Figure 4 Lifetime Alcohol Use 1992-2004 – In Percent
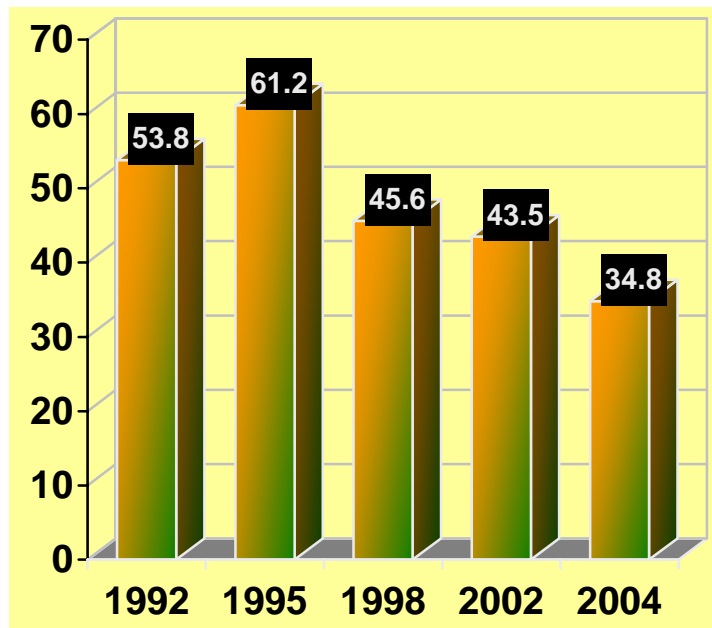
Age at First Use

Table 8 Age First Started Smoking

Age Started Smoking

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	7 years or younger	64	7.5	7.5	7.5
	8-9	73	8.6	8.6	16.1
	10-11	133	15.6	15.6	31.7
	12-13	316	37.1	37.1	68.8
	14-15	209	24.5	24.5	93.3
	16-17	56	6.6	6.6	99.9
	18	1	.1	.1	100.0
	Total	852	100.0	100.0	

Alcohol

- 33.1% started using alcohol at age 12-13 and
- 34% started using alcohol at age 14 or older

- 32.9% started using alcohol under the age of 12

Table 9 Age First Started Using Alcohol

Age Started Using Alcohol

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	7 or younger	105	8.8	8.9	8.9
	8-9	111	9.4	9.4	18.4
	10-11	172	14.5	14.6	33.0
	12-13	389	32.8	33.1	66.0
	14-15	304	25.6	25.8	91.8
	16-17	96	8.1	8.2	100.0
	Total	1177	99.2	100.0	
Missing	9	10	.8		
Total		1187	100.0		

Any Drug Excluding Cigarettes

Table 10 Average and Most Frequent Age To First Try Drugs Except Cigarettes

Substance	Average Age	Most Frequent
Alcohol: beer, wine, wine coolers, liquor	12-13	12-13
Marijuana	12-13	14-15
Cocaine: powder or crack	14-15	14-15
Klonipin, Valium, Librium, Xanax	14-15	14-15
Uppers: Speed amphetamines, meth, Ritalin	14-15	14-15
Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills	12-13	12-13
Inhalants: glue, paint, gas etc.	10-11	12-13
Hallucinogens: LSD, mushrooms	14-15	14-15
Rave Drugs	14-15	14-15
Steroids	12-13	12-13
Oxycontin	14-15	14-15
Heroin	14-15	14-15
Prescription drugs	8-9	7 or younger
Over The Counter	8-9	7 or younger

Marijuana

- 11.3% first used marijuana before they were 12 years old, 37.5% started between the ages 12 and 13.
- 40.2% started when they were 14-15.
- 11.0% first used marijuana over the age of 16.

Cocaine

- 37.2% of cocaine users started when they were 14-15; 30.2% started after age 15
- 16.3% started using cocaine between 12 and 13 and 16.3% were under 12.

Table 11 Age Started Using Marijuana

Marijuana Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	7 or younger	15	.4	2.4	2.4
	8-9	12	.4	1.9	4.3
	10-11	44	1.3	7.0	11.3
	12-13	235	6.9	37.5	48.8
	14-15	252	7.4	40.2	89.0
	16-17	67	2.0	10.7	99.7
	18	2	.1	.3	100.0
	Total	627	18.3	100.0	
Missing	System	2800	81.7		
Total		3427	100.0		

Table 12 Age Started Using Cocaine

Cocaine Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	7 or younger	3	.1	7.0	7.0
	8-9	1	.0	2.3	9.3
	10-11	3	.1	7.0	16.3
	12-13	7	.2	16.3	32.6
	14-15	16	.5	37.2	69.8
	16-17	12	.4	27.9	97.7
	18	1	.0	2.3	100.0
	Total	43	1.3	100.0	
Missing	System	3384	98.7		
Total		3427	100.0		

Frequency of use within the last 30 days

- If all substances are considered - tobacco, alcohol, Rx or any illegal substance - 31.3% of the students used in the last 30 days;
  - o 43.3.1% of High School students and 28.1% of Middle School students.
- Excluding prescription drugs,
  - o 23.3% have used substances – 35.4% High School and 13.0% Middle School.

Table 13 Use of Drugs Last 30 Days

Substance	2002	2004	Difference
Cigarettes	12.2	10.7	-1.5
Alcohol:	19.5	14.9	-4.6
Marijuana	12.6	7.3	-5.3
Cocaine: powder or crack	1.0	0.3	-0.7
Klonipin, Valium, Librium, Xanax	x	0.6	
Uppers: Speed amphetamines, meth, Ritalin	5.3	0.6	-4.7
Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills	1.4	2.3	+0.9
Inhalants: glue, paint, gas etc.	2.0	1.4	-0.6
Hallucinogens	1.6	0.5	-1.1
Ecstasy	1.5	0.5	-1.0
Other rave drugs: Ketamine, ruffies etc	x	0.1	
Steroids	0.8	0.1	-0.7
Oxycontin	x	0.1	
Heroin*	0.6	0.1	-0.5
Prescription drugs	x	13.1	
Over The Counter diet pills	x	1.3	
Triple C	x	0.3	
Any Drug except Alcohol/Cigarettes	X	21.9	
Binge Drinking	11.2	6.1	-5.1

* In 2002 the survey used the word opiates, which included oxycontin

- 2.2% have used smokeless tobacco products in the last 30 days and 6.4% indicate that they have smoked cigars in the last 30 days.
- 3.8% indicate that they have prescriptions for Ritalin or Adderall. It is the same proportion in middle or High School.
- 0.4% say they have ever used a needle to inject an illegal drug.

Of those who indicate that they smoke marijuana in the last 30 days 41.9% say they smoked only part of one, 21.9% one a day, 18.6% smoked 2-3 a day, 8.1% smoked 4-5 a day and 9.6% smoked more than 5 marijuana cigarettes a day.

Table 14 Pattern of Substance Use Lat 30 Days by School Level

Substance	Total	High School	Middle School
Any Substance- Cigarettes/ Alcohol or other	**31.3%**	**43.3%**	**28.1%**
Any Substance excl. Rx	**23.3%**	**35.4%**	**13.0%**
Marijuana	7.3	12.3	2.7
Cocaine	0.3	0.4	0.2
Downers	2.3	3.0	1.5
Inhalants	1.4	0.8	1.9
Prescription	13.1	16.6	9.8
OTC Diet	1.3	2.2	0.6
Binge Drinking	6.1	11.9	1.4
Any Substance except alcohol	20.7	27.8	14.1
Any Substance except Alcohol & Cigarettes	17.1	21.9	12.6
Any Substance except Alcohol, Cigarettes or Rx	11.5	17.1	6.3

Table 15 Substance Use Last 30 Days by Grade

	Grade						
N=3,427	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
Cigarettes	2.8	5.5	8.9	14.3	15.4	17.2	18.6
Smokeless Tobacco	1.4	0.7	2.8	1.8	3.2	2.4	4.1
Cigars	2.3	3.2	6.5	7.6	6.9	7.9	14.4
Alcohol:	1.6	5.1	10.7	19.6	23.1	24.3	33.8
Marijuana	0.5	2.1	5.2	10.2	14.1	11.1	15.3
Cocaine: powder or crack	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6
Klonipin, Valium, Librium, Xanax	0	0	0.2	0.2	2.1	1.1	1.3
Uppers: Speed amphetamines, methamphetamine	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.9	1.3	1.3	0.6
Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills	1.1	1.8	1.6	2.5	3.7	2.9	3.1
Inhalants: glue, paint, gas etc.	2.1	2.3	1.5	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.9
Hallucinogens: LSD, mushrooms	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.6	0.5	0.6
Ecstasy	0	0.2	0.5	0.7	1.3	0.5	0.6
Other rave drugs: Ketamine, ruffies etc	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0.3
Steroids	0.2	0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0	0
Oxycontin	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	0
Heroin	0	0	0.3	0	0.3	0.3	0
Prescription drugs	10.7	9.2	9.4	18.3	17.5	15.1	14.4
Over The Counter diet pills	0.4	0.4	1.0	1.4	3.5	1.9	2.5
Triple C	0.2	0	0.2	0.5	0.5	0	0.6
5 or more drinks one sitting	0.9	1.5	1.8	7.8	11.1	11.8	21.1
Any drug except cigarettes and alcohol	13.2	11.8	12.8	22.8	23.7	19.6	20.9
Any drug except cigarettes, alcohol and Rx	3.3	3.9	3.4	5.6	9.0	5.3	6.3

Figure 5 Substance Use Last 30 Days by Grade
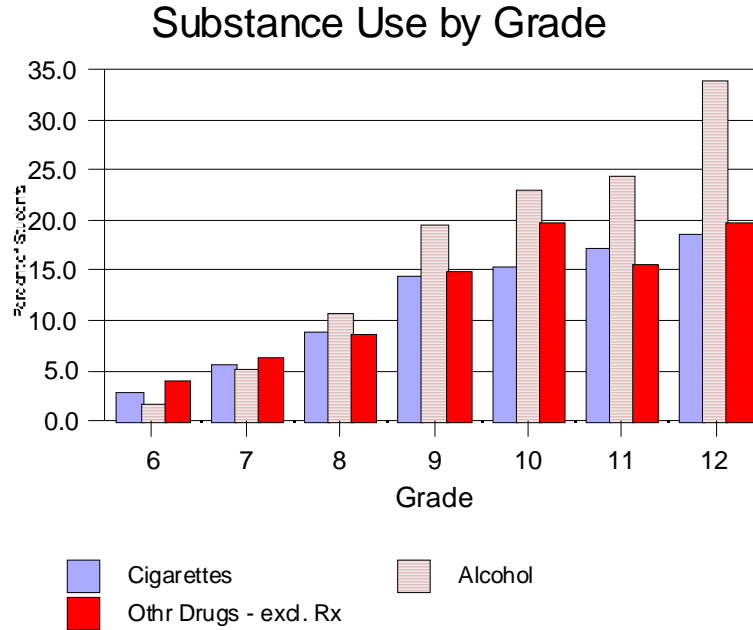
Substance Use by Grade

Grade	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cigarettes	2.8	5.5	8.9	14.3	15.4	17.2	18.6
Alcohol	1.6	5.1	10.7	19.6	23.1	24.3	33.8
Any Drug*	3.9	6.2	8.6	14.8	19.7	15.6	19.7
Any Drug**	13.5	13.4	15.2	28.6	29.3	24.9	28.1

* Not including tobacco, alcohol or Rx

** Not including tobacco, alcohol but includes Rx

Table 16: Average Number of Marijuana Cigarettes per Day – Last 30 Days

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	less than 1	88	35.2	41.9	41.9
	1 a day	46	18.4	21.9	63.8
	2-3 a day	39	15.6	18.6	82.4
	4-5 a day	17	6.8	8.1	90.5
	7-10 a day	10	4.0	4.8	95.2
	11 or more a day	10	4.0	4.8	100.0
	Total	210	84.0	100.0	
Missi	System	40	16.0		
Total		250	100.0		

Figure 6 Comparative Use – Charlotte and North Carolina

Substance Use - Last 30 Days

Charlotte - NC Comparison - 9-12th Grades
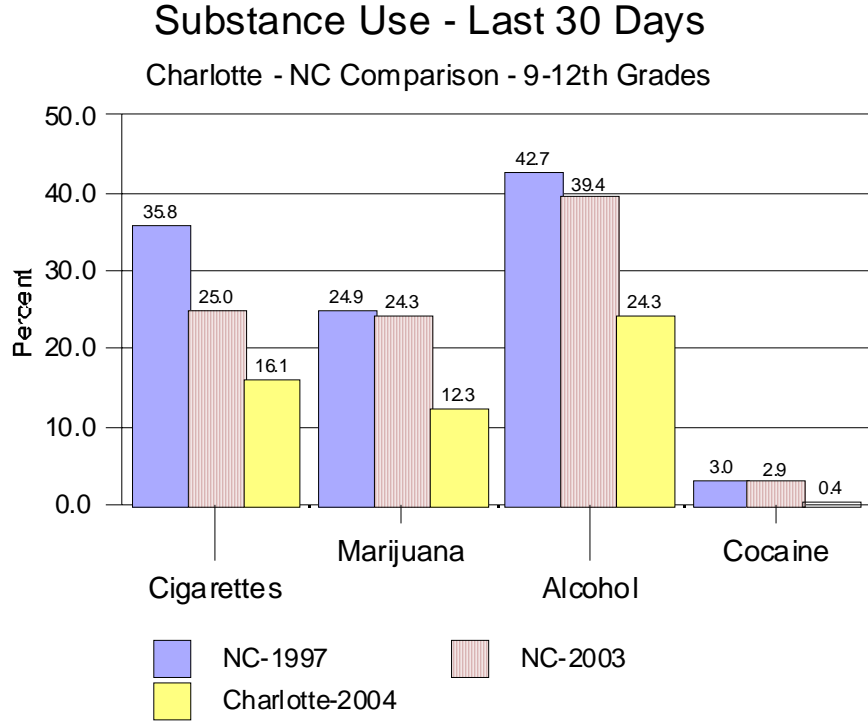
Source: North Carolina Child Advocacy Institute, 2004 North Carolina Child Health Report Card, Raleigh: North Carolina Institute of Medicine. http://www.nciom.org/docs/card2004.pdf

North Carolina has shown a moderate decline since 1997 and Charlotte's decline is consistent and greater. The 2004 Charlotte findings are also consistent with recent national trends. According to NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse),[4] there has been a 7% decline of any illicit drug use within the last 30 days by 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. Trend analysis since 2001 show a national 17% cumulative decline.

Table 17 Any Illicit Drug Use – Last 30 Days – NIDA/Charlotte

Grade	NIDA	Char-Meck
8	8.4	8.6
10	18.3	19.7
12	23.4	19.7

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[4] "Teen Drug Use Declines 2003-2004 – But Concern Remains About Inhalants and Painkillers." NIDA News Release December 21, 2004.

Perception of Risk.

Table 18 Perception of Risk (in Percent): All Students and Users Last 30 Days and Non-Users

	No Risk	Some Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day					
Non-smokers	*4.3*	*7.0*	*7.8*	*15.9*	*65.0*
Smokers	*3.3*	*12.2*	*7.6*	*20.0*	*56.9*
Smoke marijuana occasionally*					
Non-Marijuana smokers	*5.5*	*11.1*	*9.8*	*26.0*	*47.6*
Marijuana smokers	*20.2*	*37.6*	*11.6*	*19.4*	*11.2*
Smoke marijuana regularly*					
Non-Marijuana smokers	*4.5*	*5.9*	*9.2*	*14.2*	*66.2*
Marijuana smokers	*10.3*	*29.8*	*12.8*	*24.4*	*22.7*
Use cocaine occasionally					
Non- Cocaine users	*3.5*	*3.7*	*9.6*	*15.9*	*67.3*
Cocaine users	*10.0*	*30.0*	*10.0*	*40.0*	*10.0*
Use cocaine regularly					
Non- Cocaine users	*3.5*	*2.2*	*9.2*	*6.6*	*78.5*
Cocaine users	*10.0*	*20.0*	*10.0*	*20.0*	*40.0*
Other drugs occasionally					
Non-users	*3.8*	*4.2*	*13.2*	*19.5*	*59.3*
Any substance user (except alcohol)	*3.0*	*8.0*	*15.8*	*22.6*	*50.6*
Other drugs regularly					
Non-user users	*3.8*	*3.4*	*12.1*	*10.5*	*70.2*
Any substance users (except alcohol)	*2.7*	*6.1*	*15.2*	*13.1*	*62.9*
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally					
Non-alcohol users	*11.4*	*23.5*	*11.3*	*21.5*	*32.2*
Alcohol users	*26.6*	*37.3*	*10.7*	*13.9*	*11.5*
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly					
Non-alcohol users	*5.2*	*12.7*	*11.1*	*23.7*	*47.3*
Alcohol users	*9.5*	*34.8*	*11.3*	*25.4*	*19.0*
Have 5 or more drinks once/ twice each weekend					
Non-alcohol users	*4.1*	*5.1*	*9.9*	*13.9*	*67.0*
Alcohol users	*5.0*	*16.1*	*11.7*	*29.0*	*38.2*

* The terms "occasionally" and "regularly" were not pre-defined. The terms were used consistent with CADCA instruments and reflect how students commonly define the terms.

Perception of Approval

Approval by Close Friends

- The perception of peer approval is greatest for *having 1 or 2 drinks occasionally.*
  - o 27.9% of all students;
  - o 12.1% of Middle School students
  - o 44.0% for High School students.
- 17.3% of all students feel that peers would approve of ***occasional marijuana*** smoking
  - o 7.1% of Middle School students
  - o 27.8% of High School students.
- 15.8% feel peer approval for *having 1-2 drinks **regularly***
  - o 7.1% of Middle School students
  - o 24.6% of High School students
- 10.8% feel peer approval for binge drinking and 10.9% feel peer approval for regular marijuana smoking.
  - o 5.2% and 5.4% Middle School students
  - o 17.6% and 16.5% High School students

Table 19 Perception of Close Friend Approval – All Students and by Middle and High School Respondents

	Strongly Approve	Approve	Don't Know	Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	1.6	5.4	16.8	19.0	57.2
Middle School/ High School	2.2/1.0	3.0/7.8	16.5/17.1	13.9/23.8	64.5/50.3
Smoke marijuana occasionally	4.0	13.3	14.4	14.3	54.0
Middle School/ High School	2.8/5.3	4.3/22.4	13.9/14.8	11.3/17.0	67.6/40.5
Smoke marijuana regularly	3.6	7.3	13.9	14.2	61.0
Middle School/ High School	3.0/4.2	2.4/12.3	13.7/14.1	10.1/18.0	70.7/51.4
Use cocaine occasionally	1.2	1.4	12.4	12.1	73.0
Middle School/ High School	1.5/0.9	1.0/1.8	12.7/12.0	10.7/13.3	74.1/72.0
Use cocaine regularly	1.2	0.8	12.4	10.3	75.3
Middle School/ High School	1.7/0.7	0.5/1.0	13.3/11.7	9.6/10.9	75.0/75.7
Use other drugs occasionally	1.6	3.8	16.2	13.1	65.3
Middle School/ High School	2.0/1.2	2.2/5.4	14.9/17.3	11.3/14.8	69.6/61.3
Use other drugs regularly	1.4	2.8	15.6	11.1	69.1
Middle School/ High School	1.9/1.0	1.9/3.7	14.6/16.6	9.6/12.5	72.0/66.3

	Strongly Approve	Approve	Don't Know	Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	**6.5**	**21.4**	**16.5**	**13.6**	**42.0**
Middle School/ High School	**3.5/9.7**	**8.6/34.3**	**16.5/16.5**	**12.9/14.0**	**58.6/25.5**
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	**4.2**	**11.6**	**17.3**	**16.1**	**50.8**
Middle School/ High School	**2.8/5.7**	**4.3/18.9**	**15.6/19.0**	**12.8/19.0**	**64.5/37.3**
Have 5 or more drinks once or twice each weekend	**3.1**	**7.7**	**16.6**	**13.3**	**58.6**
Middle School/ High School	**2.5/4.9**	**2.7/12.7**	**14.8/18.4**	**10.4/15.9**	**69.5/48.0**

Figure 7 Perception of Close/Peer Friend Approval – Middle and High School
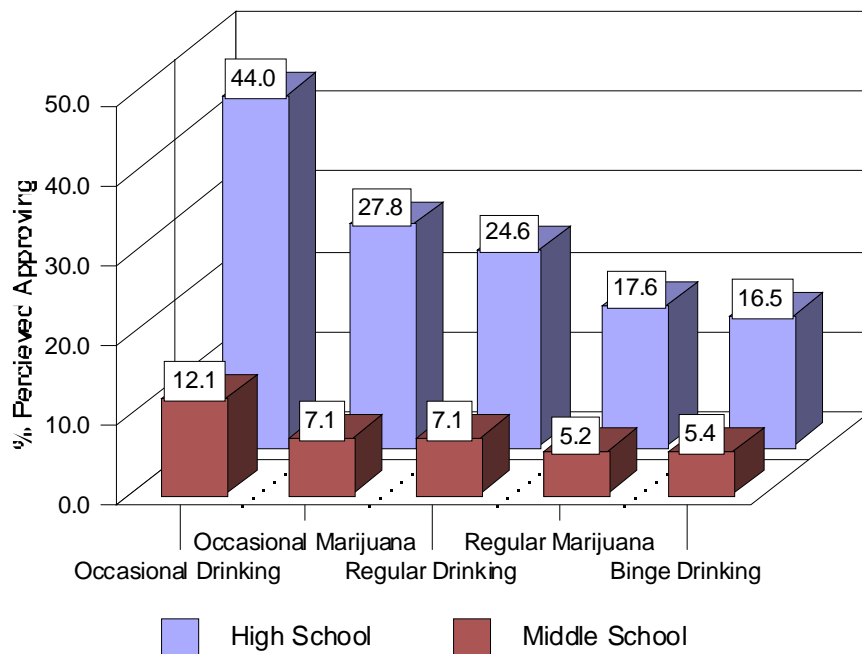

Approval by Close Friends

Table 20 Perception of Peer/Close Friend Approval/Disapproval by Users/non-Users

	Strongly Approve	Approve	Don't Know	Dis-approve	Strongly Disapprove
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day					
Non-smokers	*1.3*	*3.4*	*15.8*	*18.2*	*61.3*
Smokers	*4.3*	*21.6*	*25.0*	*26.1*	*23.0*
Smoke marijuana occasionally					
Non-Marijuana smokers	*2.5*	*10.1*	*14.6*	*14.8*	*57.9*
Marijuana smokers	*23.0*	*53.5*	*11.1*	*7.8*	*4.5*
Smoke marijuana regularly					
Non-Marijuana smokers	*2.2*	*4.9*	*13.8*	*14.2*	*65.0*
Marijuana smokers	*21.8*	*38.3*	*15.2*	*13.6*	*11.1*
Use cocaine occasionally					
Non- Cocaine users	*1.2*	*1.3*	*12.3*	*12.1*	*73.1*
Cocaine users	*10.0*	*20.0*	*30.0*	*0.0*	*40.0*
Use cocaine regularly					
Non- Cocaine users	*1.2*	*0.8*	*12.4*	*10.3*	*75.3*
Cocaine users	*10.0*	*0.0*	*20.0*	*20.0*	*50.0*
Other drugs occasionally					
Non-users	*1.3*	*2.4*	*15.1*	*12.6*	*68.6*
Any substance user (except alcohol)	*2.5*	*8.7*	*20.1*	*15.0*	*53.6*
Other drugs regularly					
Non-users	*1.1*	*2.1*	*14.3*	*10.5*	*72.0*
Any substance user (except alcohol)	*2.5*	*5.3*	*20.5*	*13.5*	*58.1*
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally					
Non-alcohol users	*3.5*	*15.9*	*17.4*	*15.3*	*47.8*
Alcohol users	*23.6*	*52.0*	*11.7*	*3.8*	*8.9*
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly					
Non-alcohol users	*2.3*	*6.6*	*17.2*	*16.5*	*57.4*
Alcohol users	*14.9*	*39.5*	*17.9*	*13.9*	*13.7*
Have 5 or more drinks once/ twice each weekend					
Non-alcohol users	*2.0*	*4.1*	*15.6*	*12.9*	*65.3*
Alcohol users	*13.3*	*28.0*	*22.2*	*15.5*	*21.0*

Adults

- Approximately 90 percent or more of students see the adults around them as disapproving or strongly disapproving their (students') use of all of the substances except occasional drinking; 83.1% say adults would disapprove or strongly disapprove of having 1 or 2 drinks occasionally but 6.7% feel that adults would approve or strongly approve of this behavior.

- 9.9% of High School students believe that the adults around them would approve or strongly approve of occasional drinking.

Table 21 Perception of Adult Approval/Disapproval – All Students, Middle School, High School

|	Strongly Approve	Approve	Don't Know	Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	0.4	1.1	6.9	8.4	83.2
Middle School/ High School	0.2/0.6	1.1/1.2	8.4/5.2	7.6/9.4	82.7/83.7
Smoke marijuana occasionally	0.7	1.2	7.5	8.0	82.6
Middle School/ High School	0.4/1.1	1.1/1.3	8.5/6.3	6.4/9.5	83.6/81.8
Smoke marijuana regularly	0.6	1.0	7.1	6.5	84.8
Middle School/ High School	0.3/0.9	1.1/0.9	8.4/5.6	5.8/7.3	84.5/85.3
Use cocaine occasionally	0.3	0.3	6.5	5.2	87.7
Middle School/ High School	0.1/0.4	0.4/0.2	8.3/4.4	5.6/5.0	85.5/90.0
Use cocaine regularly	0.3	0.4	6.4	4.9	88.0
Middle School/ High School	0.1/0.5	0.6/0.2	8.2/4.5	5.4/4.4	85.6/90.5
Use other drugs occasionally	0.3	0.6	7.2	5.6	86.2
Middle School/ High School	0.1/0.6	0.8/0.4	9.4/5.0	5.9/5.4	83.8/88.6
Use other drugs regularly	0.3	0.7	7.1	5.3	86.6
Middle School/ High School	0.1/0.5	1.0/0.4	9.0/5.1	5.4/5.2	84.4/88.8
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	0.8	5.9	10.2	11.7	71.4
Middle School/ High School	0.5/1.1	3.0/8.8	11.1/9.2	8.3/15.0	77.1/65.9
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	0.6	2.2	8.2	10.4	78.6
Middle School/ High School	0.3/0.9	1.6/2.8	9.4/6.8	8.0/12.8	80.7/76.8
Have 5 or more drinks once or twice each weekend	0.6	1.1	7.3	7.0	83.9
Middle School/ High School	0.3/1.0	1.1/1.2	9.0/5.4	5.4/8.5	84.1/83.9

Table 22 Perception of Adult Approval/Disapproval by Student Users/Non-Users

	Strongly Approve	Approve	Don't Know	Dis- approve	Strongly Disapprove
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day					
Non-smokers	*1.3*	*0.6*	*6.2*	*7.2*	*84.7*
Smokers	*2.6*	*5.4*	*11.7*	*18.0*	*62.3*
Smoke marijuana occasionally					
Non-Marijuana smokers	*1.6*	*0.8*	*6.7*	*6.9*	*84.0*
Marijuana smokers	*4.5*	*6.6*	*16.1*	*20.2*	*52.5*
Smoke marijuana regularly					
Non-Marijuana smokers	*1.5*	*0.7*	*6.3*	*5.7*	*85.8*
Marijuana smokers	*4.1*	*4.5*	*16.1*	*15.7*	*59.5*
Use cocaine occasionally					
Non- Cocaine users	*1.4*	*0.3*	*6.4*	*5.1*	*86.9*
Cocaine users	*0.0*	*10.0*	*20.0*	*10.0*	*60.0*
Use cocaine regularly					
Non- Cocaine users	*1.4*	*0.4*	*6.3*	*4.8*	*87.1*
Cocaine users	*0.0*	*0.0*	*20.0*	*10.0*	*70.0*
Other drugs occasionally					
Non-user	*1.4*	*0.3*	*7.0*	*4.9*	*86.4*
Any substance user (except alcohol)	*1.6*	*1.8*	*7.6*	*7.9*	*81.1*
Other drugs regularly					
Non-user	*1.4*	*0.5*	*6.9*	*4.7*	*86.6*
Any substance user (except alcohol)	*1.4*	*1.4*	*7.6*	*7.2*	*82.4*
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally					
Non-alcohol users	*1.7*	*3.6*	*9.0*	*10.1*	*75.7*
Alcohol users	*3.0*	*18.3*	*16.5*	*19.8*	*42.3*
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly					
Non-alcohol users	*1.6*	*1.1*	*7.0*	*8.8*	*81.4*
Alcohol users	*1.8*	*7.9*	*14.3*	*18.8*	*57.3*
Have 5 or more drinks once/ twice each weekend					
Non-alcohol users	*1.6*	*0.7*	*6.8*	*5.5*	*85.5*
Alcohol users	*2.4*	*3.4*	*10.1*	*15.1*	*69.0*

Perception of Use

Students who have used alcohol in the last 30 days and High School students perceive a higher percentage of students drink than do students in general or Middle School students.

Figure 8 Perception of Percent Who Use Alcohol
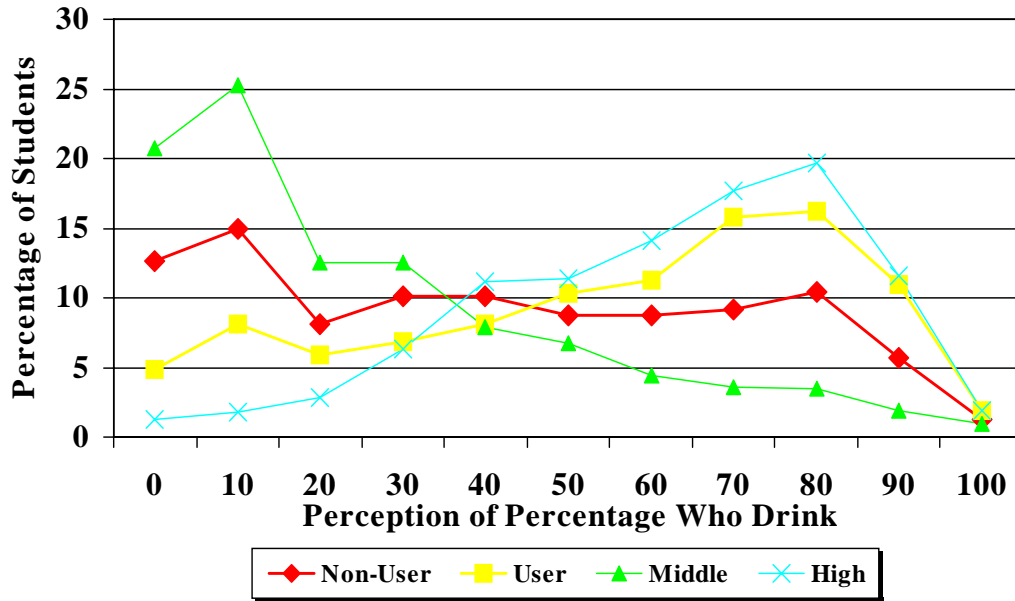
Likewise, students who use drugs and High School students perceive that a greater proportion of students in their schools use drugs.

Figure 9 Perception of Percentage Who Use Any Drug
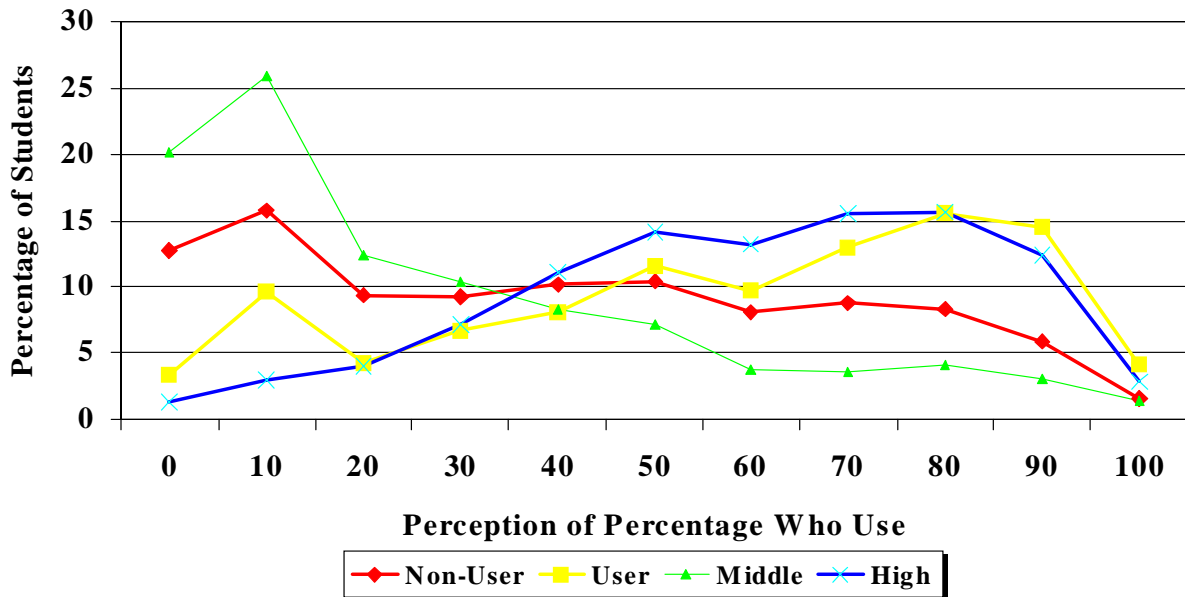
Perception of Student Alcohol Use by Middle School/High School

Figure 10 Perception of Student Use Alcohol Use – High School Students
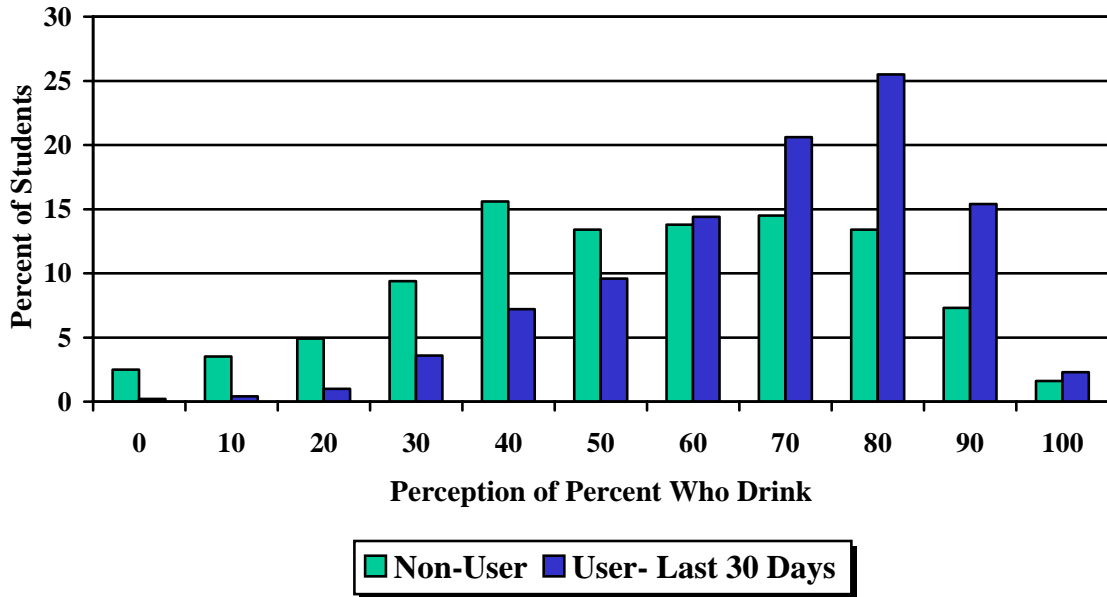
Figure 11 Perception of Student Alcohol Use – Middle School Students
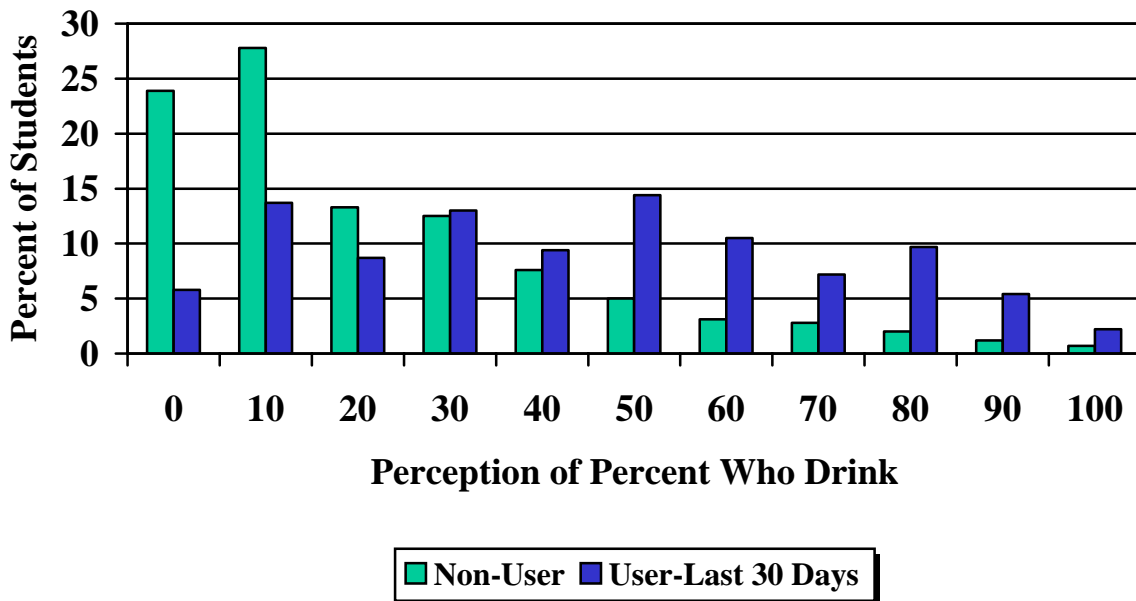
Perception of Student Drug Use by Middle School/High School

Figure 12 Perception of Student Drug Use – High School Students
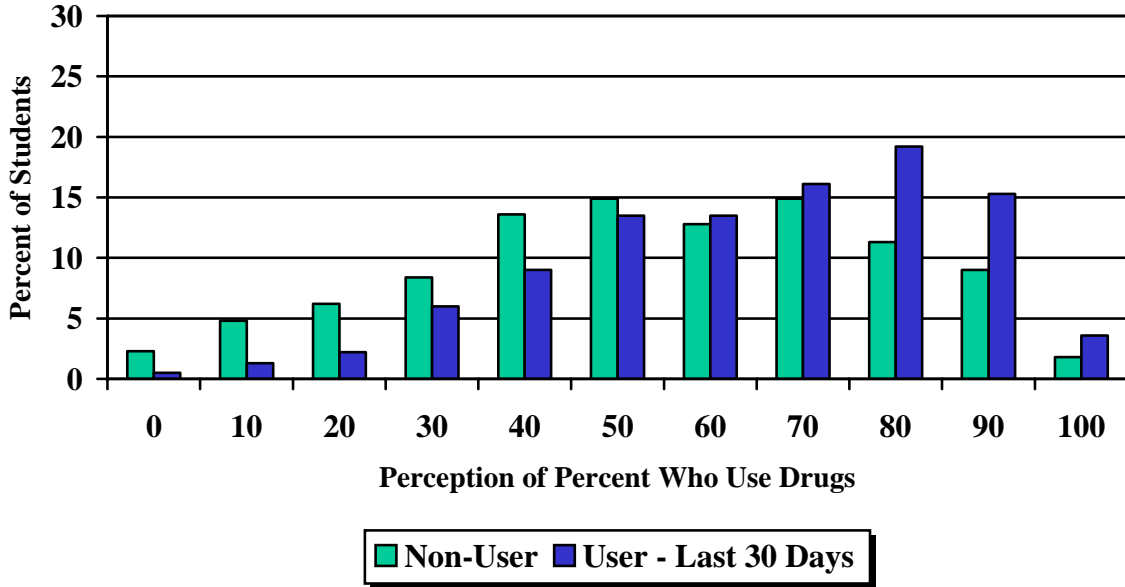
Figure 13 Perception of Student Drug Use – Middle School Students
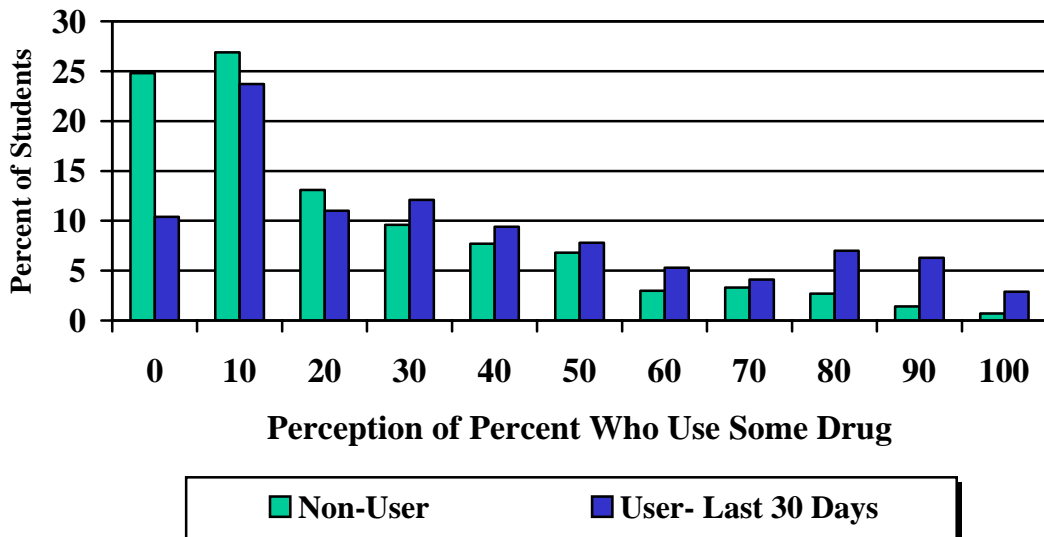
Corrolates

Cigarettes

- The percentage who say the smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days increases by age.
- The percentage almost doubles between ages 13 and 14 and more than doubles between the ages 17 and 19.

Table 23 Age and Smoking in the last 30 days

Age	% Smoked Last 30 Days
10	4.3
11	2.2
12	3.7
13	7.3
14	13.7
15	14.4
16	16.3
17	18.6
18	31.1
19	40.0

- There is no significant difference by gender. 11.6% of boys and 10.2% of girls in the survey had smoked in the last 30 days
    - 6.2% Middle School boys and 5.4% Middle School girls
    - 17.8% High School boys and 14.8% High School girls

Statistically Significant Factors

User Corrolates: Middle School

Cigarettes:
- 51.0% have a parent who smokes and 42.2% have a sibling who smokes
- Of those failing in school 26.7% have smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days; only 1.9% of A students smoked in the last 30 days.
- Of those who had 16 or more unexcused absences last year, 24.2% smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days.

Alcohol:
- Of those who are doing "C" work or poorer, 28.6% used alcohol within the last 30 days.

- The more unexcused absences, the greater the likelihood that students consumed alcohol in the last 30 days.
- Binge drinking is significantly related to increased unexcused absences.

Marijuana:
- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are significantly related to smoking marijuana in Middle School.
- Males are significantly more likely than females to have smoked marijuana in the last 30 days.

Use of Drugs Other Than Alcohol and Tobacco:
- The highest proportion of users are Caucasian. No other factor is significant.

User Corrolates: High School

Cigarettes:
- Of High School students who smoke, 44.4% have a parent who smokes and 31.4% have a sibling who smokes.
- High School smokers disproportionately come from households where the highest level of adult education is less than a High School degree. With the exception of having a graduate degree, where 15% of students smoke, the less education of the adults in the household, the greater the probability of a High School student smoking.
- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are significantly related to cigarette smoking in High School.

Alcohol

All demographic factors are significantly related to High School drinking *except* gender and parent's highest level of education.
- 29.3% of Caucasian students and 24.3% of "other race" High School students are alcohol users, statistically significant proportions. Proportionately more Caucasian students are also binge drinkers.
- 38.1% of D students and 27.3% of F students used alcohol in the last 30 days.
- Over 40% of those with 11 or more unexcused absences say they have used alcohol within the last 30 days.

Binge Drinking:
- The more unexcused absences the more the likelihood of binge drinking; of those with 16 or more unexcused absences, 37.2% admit to binge drinking.

Marijuana:

All demographic factors are significantly related to High School marijuana smoking *except* race and parent's education.
- 16.4% of male High School students admit marijuana smoking in the last 30 days; 8.6% of female High School students admit use.
- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are statistically significantly related to marijuana smoking. 36.4% of "F" students and 38.1% of "D" students

smoke. 37.2% of those with 16 or more unexcused absences smoke compared
with only 3.7% of those with no unexcused absences.

Use of Drugs Other Than Alcohol, Tobacco and Marijuana
- Only overall grade point average and unexcused absences are significantly related
  to the use of some drug other than tobacco, alcohol and marijuana.
  - The largest proportion of students using drugs other than tobacco and alcohol
    and marijuana have D or F averages.
  - The largest proportion of students using drugs other than tobacco, alcohol and
    marijuana have six or more unexcused absences.

Table 24 Profile Characteristics of MIDDLE SCHOOL Users and Non-Users Within Last 30 days

Factor	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Binge Drinking	Marijuana	Other Drugs*
	% Users	% Users	% Users	% Users	% Users
Grade					
6 (N=570)	2.8	1.6	0.9	0.5	3.3
7 (N=567)	5.5	5.1	1.5	2.1	3.9
8 (N=617)	8.9	10.7	1.8	5.2	3.4
Gender					
Male (N=790)	6.2	5.6	1.4	4.1	2.9
Female (N=833)	5.4	6.5	1.5	1.3	3.8
Race					
African American (N=688)	7.1	5.8	1.3	3.4	3.2
Asian (N=84)					
Caucasian (N=516)	4.7	6.2	1.2	2.1	5.0
Hispanic (N=178)	8.4	7.3	2.4	1.7	2.2
Native American (N=43)	0.0	4.7	0.0	2.3	9.3
Other (N-223)	5.0	6.7	1.9	4.0	13.5
Religion**					
Catholic (N=350)	7.4	8.6	2.5	2.0	3.4
Islamic (N=20)	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0
Jewish (N=26)	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	3.8
Protestant (N=261)	2.3	4.2	0.4	0.4	2.3
Other (N=808)	5.9	5.8	1.6	3.2	3.8
None (N=240)	7.1	6.3	0.9	5.4	3.3
Highest Education					
No HS Degree (N=185)	5.9	4.9	1.2	2.2	2.2
HS Degree/GED (N=285)	7.4	8.1	1.9	1.8	3.5
Some college (N=273)	7.7	7.3	1.2	4.8	4.8
College degree (N=511)	3.7	4.9	1.4	2.7	3.3
Graduate study (N=56)	3.6	1.8	0.0	1.8	5.4
Graduate degree (N=353)	7.1	5.9	1.5	2.5	3.1
Overall GPA					
A (N=531)	1.9	3.8	0.8	0.2	3.2
B (N=722)	5.0	6.2	1.8	2.4	2.5
C (N=368)	10.9	7.3	2.1	6.0	4.3
D (N=53)	3.8	11.3	0.0	3.8	9.4
F (N=30)	26.7	10.0	0.0	13.3	10.0
Unexcused Absences					
None (N=574)	1.2	2.4	0.2	3.7	2.8
1-5 (N=783)	6.5	6.1	1.4	10.6	3.4
6-10 (N=185)	5.9	8.1	3.0	21.8	3.8
11-15 (N=68)	17.6	16.2	0.0	30.3	7.4
16+ (N=62)	24.2	19.4	9.6	39.7	6.5

*Excludes Rx
** Students may not have differentiated between Protestant and their own protestant denominations. Therefore, the number of "other" is exceptionally high.

Shaded cells reflect a statistically significant relationship between the factor and use of the substance. Significance is determined when the findings could be found by chance less than 5 times in a hundred.

Table 25 Profile Characteristics of HIGH SCHOOL Users and Non-Users Within Last 30 days

Factor	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Binge Drinking	Marijuana	Other Drugs*
	% Users	% Users	% Users	% Users	% Users
Grade					
9 (N=567)	14.3	19.6	7.8	10.2	5.6
10 (N=376)	15.4	23.1	11.1	14.1	9.0
11 (N=378)	17.2	24.3	11.8	11.1	5.3
12 (N=320)	18.6	33.8	21.1	15.3	6.3
Gender					
Male (N=706)	17.8	25.8	12.9	16.4	6.4
Female (N=881)	14.8	23.0	11.1	8.6	6.1
Race /Ethnicity					
African American (N=602)	12.8	19.4	7.1	14.0	4.3
Asian (N=84)					
Caucasian (N=764)	19.2	29.3	16.7	12.0	8.1
Hispanic (N=74)	14.9	13.5	4.7	6.8	2.7
Native American (N=8)	50.0	50.0	25.0	37.5	12.5
Other (N=87)	17.2	28.0	12.2	13.8	25.3
Religion**					
Catholic (268)	16.1	28.7	13.2	12.4	7.5
Islamic (14)	21.4	7.1	0.0	7.1	7.1
Jewish (31)	16.1	41.9	14.8	16.1	6.5
Protestant (411)	13.1	23.4	12.1	6.3	5.4
Other (N=725)	15.1	22.8	11.6	14.1	5.9
None (N=163)	29.0	24.5	12.7	19.0	10.4
Highest Education					
No HS Degree (N=108)	23.1	20.4	9.1	13.9	5.5
HS Degree/GED (N=219)	18.7	25.1	15.2	16.5	9.6
Some college (N=305	18.1	23.0	9.8	13.5	7.2
College degree (N=594)	14.2	22.7	10.9	11.1	4.4
Graduate study (N=35)	2.9	25.7	7.4	8.6	0
Graduate degree (N=340)	15.0	28.5	14.6	11.2	7.9
Overall GPA					
A (N=422)	7.6	19.7	9.7	4.7	3.6
B (N=677)	12.7	25.6	11.8	10.5	6.2
C (N=440)	24.4	24.1	13.0	18.2	8.0
D (N=63)	47.6	38.1	21.4	38.1	17.5
F (N=11)	27.3	27.3	12.5	36.4	18.2
Unexcused Absences					
None (N=410)	6.6	15.1	6.2	3.7	3.7
1-5 (N=819)	14.3	23.9	11.3	10.6	5.4
6-10 (N=240)	26.5	30.8	17.6	21.8	10.8
11-15 (N=66)	42.4	42.4	20.0	30.3	13.6
16+ (N=63)	36.5	41.3	37.2	39.7	17.5

* Excludes prescription drugs

** Students may not have differentiated between Protestant and their own protestant denominations. Therefore, the number of "other" is exceptionally high.

Shaded cells reflect a statistically significant relationship between the factor and use of the substance. Significance is determined when the findings could be found by chance less than 5 times in a hundred.

Table 26 Profile Characteristics of Life Time MIDDLE SCHOOL Users and Non-Users

Factor	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana	Other Excl. Rx
	% Users	% Users	% Users	% Users
Grade				
6 (N=570)	6.5	7.8	1.1	10.0
7 (N=567)	15.4	17.3	5.5	9.7
8 (N=617)	23.7	28.5	12.8	10.4
Gender				
Male (N=790)	16.9	19.1	8.9	9.6
Female (N=833)	14.0	18.0	4.3	10.2
Race				
African American (N=688)	17.1	18.5	8.8	8.9
Asian (N=81)	7.4	12.3	0	4.9
Caucasian (N=516)	13.0	17.3	5.2	11.8
Hispanic (N=178)	14.6	22.2	5.1	9.6
Native American (N=43)	19.0	14.0	7.0	7.0
Other (N-223)	19.8	18.8	7.6	12.6
Religion**				
Catholic (N=350)	14.6	21.8	6.3	9.1
Islamic (N=20)	10.0	10.0	0	10.0
Jewish (N=26)	3.8	3.8	0	7.7
Protestant (N=261)	11.2	14.2	4.2	8.4
Other (N=808)	17.5	18.8	7.3	10.8
None (N=240)	16.4	18.9	10.1	11.3
Highest Education				
No HS Degree (N=185)	15.1	17.4	7.6	8.1
HS Degree/GED (N=285)	19.3	21.5	7.0	10.2
Some college (N=273)	22.0	24.5	10.7	14.3
College degree (N=511)	13.5	15.7	5.5	8.2
Graduate study (N=56)	10.7	9.1	1.9	7.1
Graduate degree (N=353)	13.1	18.2	6.5	10.8
Overall GPA				
A (N=531)	6.6	11.3	1.9	7.5
B (N=722)	15.0	19.3	5.4	10.2
C (N=368)	25.5	24.2	14.9	11.4
D (N=53)	18.9	17.0	5.8	15.1
F (N=30)	48.3	37.0	20.0	30.0
Unexcused Absences				
None (N=574)	8.7	11.0	2.6	7.1
1-5 (N=783)	15.0	18.7	5.8	9.8
6-10 (N=185)	24.3	27.6	11.9	14.1
11-15 (N=68)	32.4	40.3	14.9	19.1
16+ (N=62)	43.5	33.3	29.5	17.7

** Students may not have differentiated between Protestant and their own protestant denominations. Therefore, the number of "other" is exceptionally high.

Table 27 Profile Characteristics of Life Time HIGH SCHOOL Users and Non-Users

Factor	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana	Other Excl. Rx
	% Users	% Users	% Users	% Users
Grade				
9 (N=567)	30.5	42.0	20.8	16.4
10 (N=376)	36.2	54.0	27.7	21.0
11 (N=378)	34.5	56.4	31.4	17.2
12 (N=320)	42.8	65.5	40.0	14.4
Gender				
Male (N=706)	34.9	51.3	33.8	15.9
Female (N=881)	35.6	54.4	24.7	18.4
Race /Ethnicity				
African American (N=602)	34.2	47.5	30.1	11.0
Asian (N=84)	19.1	43.6	11.7	13.8
Caucasian (N=764)	36.6	58.8	30.2	22.9
Hispanic (N=74)	37.0	48.6	23.0	12.2
Native American (N=8)	62.5	75.0	62.5	12.5
Other (N=87)	44.8	48.2	26.4	21.8
Religion**				
Catholic (268)	34.1	59.3	29.2	18.7
Islamic (14)	28.6	28.6	28.6	14.3
Jewish (31)	35.5	67.7	32.3	16.1
Protestant (411)	31.6	50.7	21.7	18.0
Other (N=725)	35.0	49.5	29.3	14.8
None (N=163)	46.6	61.7	43.2	27.0
Highest Education				
No HS Degree (N=108)	47.2	51.2	30.5	14.8
HS Degree/GED (N=219)	39.7	53.5	34.6	19.6
Some college (N=305	39.7	53.4	30.6	19.0
College degree (N=594)	31.6	49.7	26.3	15.3
Graduate study (N=35)	20.0	48.6	22.9	14.3
Graduate degree (N=340)	33.0	57.6	27.6	19.4
Overall GPA				
A (N=422)	20.4	42.7	14.5	13.0
B (N=677)	33.4	53.0	26.9	17.9
C (N=440)	45.9	57.2	38.3	19.1
D (N=63)	71.4	75.8	65.1	23.8
F (N=11)	63.6	63.6	63.6	36.4
Unexcused Absences				
None (N=410)	18.5	35.9	13.2	11.2
1-5 (N=819)	34.7	54.7	26.7	16.0
6-10 (N=240)	52.5	63.6	45.6	25.8
11-15 (N=66)	60.6	71.2	56.1	31.8
16+ (N=63)	63.5	77.4	65.1	30.2

Table 28 All Students – Lifetime Use of Gateway Drugs

Factor	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana
	% Users	% Users	% Users
Grade			
6 (N=570)	6.5	7.8	1.1
7 (N=567)	15.4	17.3	5.5
8 (N=617)	23.7	28.5	12.8
9 (N=567)	30.5	42.0	20.8
10 (N=376)	36.2	54.0	27.7
11 (N=378)	34.5	56.4	31.4
12 (N=320)	42.8	65.5	40.0
Gender			
Male (N=1510)	25.3	34.1	20.5
Female (N=1727)	25.1	36.7	14.8
Race /Ethnicity			
African American (N=1304)	25.0	31.9	18.6
Asian (N=179)	13.4	29.1	6.2
Caucasian (N=1287)	27.1	42.2	20.1
Hispanic (N=256)	21.2	29.9	10.2
Native American (N=52)	27.5	25.0	15.4
Other (N=311)	26.8	26.9	12.9

Table 29 All Students – Use of Gateway Drugs Last 30 Days

Factor	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana	Binge Drinking
	% Users	% Users	% Users	%
Grade				
6 (N=570)	2.8	1.6	0.5	0.9
7 (N=567)	5.5	5.1	2.1	1.5
8 (N=617)	8.9	10.7	5.2	1.8
9 (N=567)	14.3	19.6	10.2	7.8
10 (N=376)	15.4	23.1	14.1	11.1
11 (N=378)	17.2	24.3	11.1	11.8
12 (N=320)	18.6	33.8	15.3	21.1
Gender				
Male (N=1510)	11.6	15.2	9.9	6.4
Female (N=1727)	10.2	15.1	5.1	6.1
Race /Ethnicity				
African American (N=1304)	9.8	12.2	8.3	3.8
Asian (N=179)	6.1	10.6	3.4	5.4
Caucasian (N=1287)	13.3	20.0	8.0	9.9
Hispanic (N=256)	10.5	9.4	3.1	3.0
Native American (N=52)	7.7	13.5	7.7	4.2
Other (N=311)	8.4	12.9	6.8	4.6

Source of Recent Acquisition

The primary source of all substances, for those admitting use, is from friends.

Cigarettes
- 47.3% got their last cigarettes from friends
- 25.9% had someone buy them
- 14.9% bought themselves
- 10.1% took from home or from a friend's home
- 1.4% got from their parents

Alcohol
- 35.0% got their alcohol from friends. However,
- 15.8% were given alcohol by parents and
- 14.0% took it from home.
- 4.7% took from a friend's home
- 26.9% had someone else buy alcohol for them.
- Only 3.6% bought the alcohol themselves.

Any Drugs
- 46.4% got their drugs from friends.
- 29.8% bought their own drugs
- 12.6% had someone else buy
- 6.4% got from a parent
- 4.8% took from their home or their friend's home