



**YOUTH DRUG SURVEY
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

2010

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 1972, Substance Abuse Prevention Services (formerly The Charlotte Drug Education Center) has implemented a countywide youth drug survey every two - three years. These data are collected to determine the current level of incidence and prevalence of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug use among school age youth. Due to the longitudinal nature of the research, changes in local patterns and trends can be observed. During November/December 2010, Substance Abuse Prevention Services (SAPS) in collaboration with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and with the support from volunteers from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Drug Free Coalition administered the self-report survey instrument to 4273 youth ages 12-18.

Sampling Procedure

The sample selection was a proportionate stratified random sample of all students in grades 6 through 12 from all Charlotte-Mecklenburg public schools. The surveys were monitored to provide anonymity for the students. A total of 3,923 surveys were completed and, after deleting those surveys where students answered that they had used a fabricated drug or otherwise showed internal inconsistency (3.8%), the number of usable surveys was 3,714. With a sample of this size one can have 95% confidence that the actual findings for the results are within $\pm 1.5\%$.

Substance Use in 2010

Students reported using a variety of drugs. Students most commonly report using the substances that have been traditionally referred to as "gateway drugs," i.e., alcohol, cigarettes, and marijuana. As usual, alcohol ranks first as the drug most used by the student population (15.3%) followed by marijuana use (12.0%) and then cigarette smoking (8.6%).

1. Current Use (Used within the last 30 days)

Cigarettes/tobacco

- **There has been a decrease in the percent of students smoking cigarettes but an increase in the percent smoking cigars with tobacco and for using any tobacco product.**
 - 8.6% of all students indicate that they **smoked cigarettes** in the last 30 days – **decrease over 2008.** (9.9% in 2008 and 12.7% in 2006)
 - 16.4% indicate they used **some type of tobacco** product in the last 30 days – an **increase over 2008.** (12.8% in 2008 and 16.7% in 2006)
 - 12.7% smoked **cigars** with tobacco in the last 30 days – **Twice the percent as in 2008**

Alcohol

- **There is an **increase** in the percent of high school students drinking alcohol in the last 30 days but a decrease in the percent of middle school students using alcohol in the last 30 days**
 - 15.3% indicate they drank alcohol in the last 30 days **This is an increase over 2008** (14.0% in 2008, 17.2% in 2006 and 14.9% in 2004)
 - 3.3% middle school (4.7% in 2008, 6.2% in 2006; 5.9% in 2004) **-decrease**

- 25.1% high school (21.7% in 2008, 25.3% in 2006; 24.3% in 2004)-**increase**
- **There is a decrease in the percent of students who binge drank in the last 30 days**
 - 4.8% indicate they had five or more drinks in a couple of hours (binge drinking).
This is a DECREASE over 2008
(5.6% in 2008, 6.0% in 2006; 6.1 in 2004)

- 28.5% of those who drank alcohol in the last 30 days say they binge drank. This compares with 38.0% in 2008, 32.5% in 2006 and 47.7% in 2004.
- 16.2% middle school (30.6% in 2008, 12.7% in 2006; 22.7% in 2004)
- 29.9% high school (49.1% in 2008, 36.0% in 2006; 55.5% in 2004)

- **The percent of students binge drinking in the last 30 days increases from 3.3% in the 9th grade to 17.8% in 12th grade**

Marijuana

- **There has been a significant increase in the use of marijuana in the last 30 days by High School students but not Middle School students**
 - 12.0% of all students admit using marijuana in the past 30 days **SIGNIFICANT INCREASE**
(10.0% in 2008, 10.8% in 2006 and 7.3% in 2004)
 - 1.9% of Middle School students (2.9% IN 2008, 3.1% in 2006 and 2.7% in 2004) - **decrease**
 - 20.3% of High School students (15.8% in 2008, 16.6% in 2006 and 12.3% in 2004) - **increase**

2. National Comparisons

- **Charlotte data show lower alcohol use in the last 30 days in all comparable grades than reported by national data in 2010.**
- **Proportionately more 10th and 12th grade students in Charlotte admit using marijuana in the last 30 days than students report nationally.**
- **Proportionately more 10th grade Charlotte students also report cigarette smoking.**

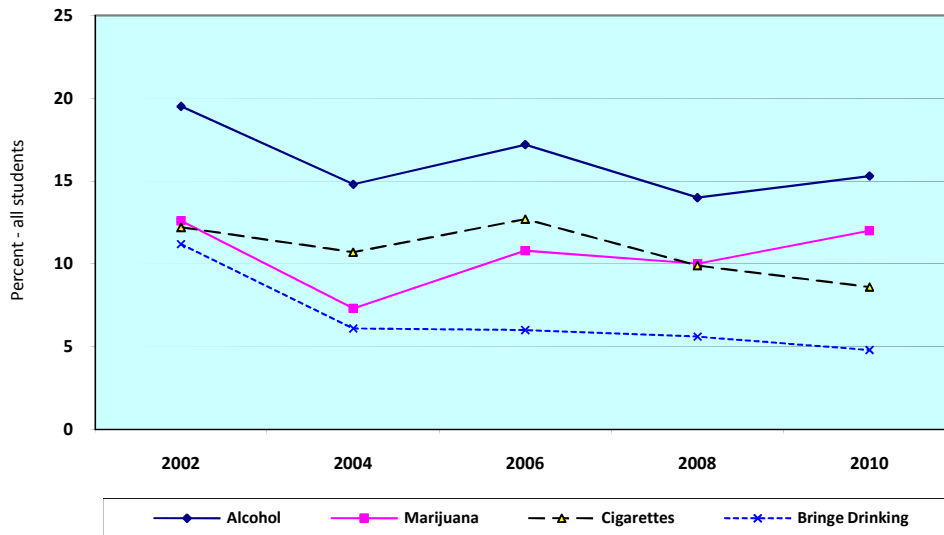
3. North Carolina Comparisons

- **Charlotte Mecklenburg data show lower proportions using cigarettes, alcohol or cocaine in the last 30 days than are reported by students in the State.**
- **Proportionately more Charlotte 9th grade and 12th grade students admit using marijuana than the same grade students in the state.**
- **More Charlotte 9th grade students, both male and female, and females in 10th and 12th grades have used marijuana in the last 30 days than comparable students in the State.**

- More White and Multi-racial males and minority females in the 9th to 12th grades in Charlotte have used marijuana in the last 30 days than comparable students in the State.

4. Trends – 30 Day Use - Overall

- Alcohol and marijuana use is increasing, cigarettes and binge drinking are decreasing



5. Trends – Gender¹

- The increase in alcohol consumption and marijuana use applies to BOTH males and females
 - Alcohol: males increased from 14% to 15.6%;
 - Alcohol: females increased from 14.3% to 15.9%
 - Marijuana: males increased from 11.0% to 15.2%
 - Marijuana: females increased from 9.0% to 9.6%

6. Trends – Grade

- Alcohol consumption and marijuana use have substantially increased for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students while the proportions have decreased for 6-9th grade students
- Binge drinking has decreased for all grades except 10th and 12th

¹ The overall percent of alcohol consumption is 15.3%. This is based on all students who answered. Some did not give their gender. Therefore, these percentages are based on only those who gave their gender on the survey.

Substance Use	Grade						
	6 N=553	7 N=567	8 N=543	9 N=642	10 N=563	11 N=443	12 N=389
Cigarettes last 30 days	1.5 (1.4*)	2.4 (4.0)	4.6 (7.9)	10.2 (13.1)	15.2 (11.9)	13.8 (15.5)	15.7 (18.8)
Alcohol last 30 days	0.6 (2.2)	2.7 (4.0)	6.5 (7.9)	14.6 (16.1)	24.4 (17.6)	29.0 (23.4)	39.3 (34.8)
Binge last 30 days	0.2 (0.7)	0.3 (1.3)	1.6 (3.2)	3.3 (5.3)	6.5 (6.0)	9.0 (11.0)	17.8 (16.2)
Marijuana last 30 days	0.3 (0.7)	1.4 (2.1)	4.2 (6.1)	12.6 (13.9)	20.0 (11.6)	23.5 (18.6)	29.9 (21.4)

* The number in parentheses is 2008.

7. Trends – Race

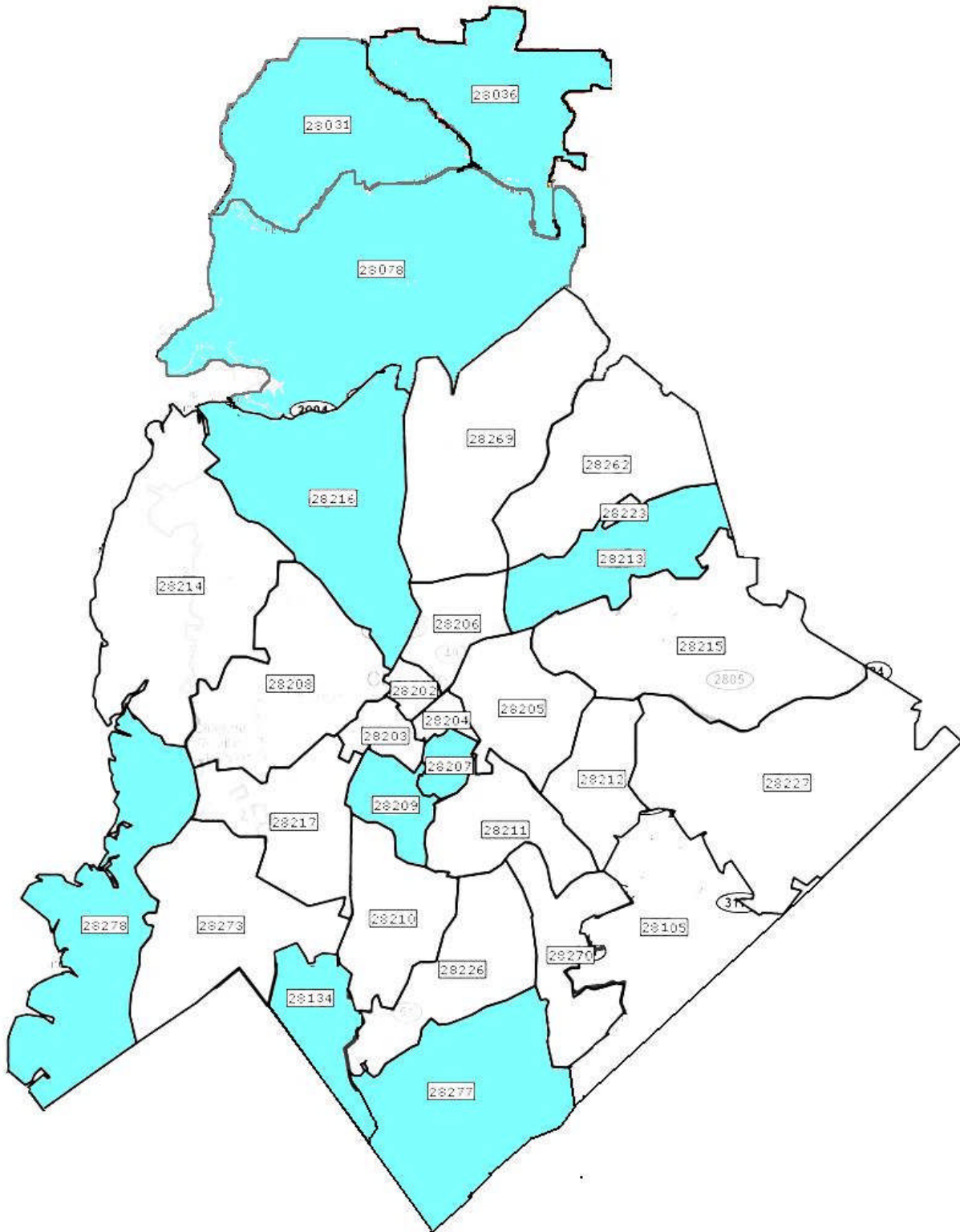
- Hispanic students were proportionately more likely to have smoked, Native American students to have drunk alcohol but the percent of White students was highest for binge drinking and Multi-racial students to have used marijuana. The lowest percent of use of each substance is lowest for Asian students.

Substance Use	African American	Asian	White	Hispanic	Native American	Multi-racial
Cigarettes last 30 days	6.5	4.5	10.5	10.9	6.8	9.6
Alcohol last 30 days	12.4	8.5	18.2	14.0	25.0	19.4
Binge last 30 days	2.0	1.7	8.2	5.0	6.8	5.4
Marijuana last 30 days	11.9	4.0	12.7	9.0	13.6	17.3

8. Use by zip code

- A few zip codes show over 15% of students using cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana and binge drinking while other zip codes have fewer students engaging in the behaviors. Zip codes with more than 25 students and above 15% using one or more of the substances are:
 - 28031 28207 28216
 - 28036 28209 28277
 - 28078 28213 28278
 - 28134
- Zip code 28213 has 45.6% of high school students admitting alcohol consumption in the last 30 days and 29.1% using marijuana in the last 30 days
- Zip code 28278 has 33.0% using alcohol, 27.2% using marijuana and 20.4% binge drinking

Zip codes with more than 25 students and above 15% using one or more of cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana or binge drinking



9. Other Substances –including cocaine

- Use of most other drugs is less than two percent and less than in 2008
- 6.2% of students indicate they have consumed alcoholic energy drinks within the last 30 days
- 24.5% of students say they have consumed energy drinks in the last 30 days.

10. Age at first use

The average age to begin smoking is 12.7

consuming alcohol is 13.6

using marijuana is 13.6

binge drinking is 14.3

- There is little difference by gender except that males start using marijuana on average at 13.3 and females at 13.9 years.
- There is little difference in the average age of first use by race. However:
 - Asian youth try cigarettes at a younger age (10.9) than other groups
 - White youth are the oldest to start to consume alcohol (13.4)
 - Native American students try marijuana at a slightly younger age (12.5) than others
 - African American and Multi-racial youth binge drink earlier (13.9)

11. Perception of Risk/harm

- The percent of students who see significant risk of harming themselves is **LOWEST** for 1 or 2 drinks occasionally (29.2%) and for occasional marijuana smoking (31.5%)
 - 41.5% of students see NO RISK or only “some risk” in having 1-2 drinks occasionally; this is an **increase** from 39.1% in 2008
 - 34.1% of students see NO RISK or only “some risk” in occasional marijuana smoking; this is an **increase** from 25.8% in 2008

- The perception of significant risk of harming oneself by smoking marijuana occasionally or regularly has decreased substantially for both males and females since 2008

- Fewer than 20% of 10th through 12th grade students see significant risk in occasional marijuana smoking while over 70% see smoking a pack of cigarettes a day as having significant risk
- Only 52% of 6th grade students see significant risk in occasional marijuana smoking
- Students are more likely to see smoking a pack of cigarettes as a significant risk of harming oneself than to see occasional marijuana smoking as harmful.

- The perception of significant risk from occasional or regular alcohol consumption and the risk from binge drinking have all **decreased** for both male and female students since 2008.

12. Perception of Parental Disapproval

- Over 95% of students perceive parental disapproval for the use of all substances.

13. Perception of Peer Approval

- While the majority of students think that their peers would disapprove of using substances, 22% think their peers would approve of occasional marijuana smoking and 28% think their peers would approve occasional alcohol use.
 - 13.9% of Middle School students feel that peers would approve of occasional alcohol use
 - 16.1% of Middle School students feel that peers would approve of occasional marijuana use
 - 35.6% of High School students feel that peers would approve of occasional alcohol use
 - 43.3% of High School students feel that peers would approve of occasional marijuana use
- There is a significant relationship between the perception of peer approval and use.
 - 41.1% of students who feel peers would approve of occasional alcohol use, drank alcohol in the last 30 days; this compares with only 3.5% who felt that their peers would disapprove ($p<.000^2$).

14. Perception of Use in Schools

- System-wide the perception is that 45% of students drink alcohol and 45% smoke marijuana. The perception is that 35% use some other kind of drugs
 - Middle School students think that:
 - 24% of students drink alcohol,
 - 22% smoke marijuana and
 - 22% use other drugs
 - High School students think that:
 - 61% drink alcohol
 - 64% smoke marijuana
 - 45% use other drugs

² $P<.000$ means that the findings could have occurred by chance less than at least once in 1,000 times

There is a statistically significant relationship between perception of how many other students drink or use marijuana and how many of one's own friends drink or use some kind of drug and a student's own use.

15. Lifetime Use –Ever Used

- Students admitting ever smoking cigarettes has continued to *decline* since 2004
- Life time alcohol use has *increased* but binge drinking has *decreased* since 2008
- Lifetime marijuana use has *increased* while lifetime cocaine use has *decreased* since 2008

Cigarettes – Lifetime Use

- 18.9% of all students admit to having smoked cigarettes (20.6% in 2008, 26.7% in 2006 and 24.9% in 2004) This is a continuous decrease since 2004

Alcohol-Lifetime

- 37.8% of students admit to ever having used alcohol. (34.7% in 2008, 40.1% in 2006 and 34.8% in 2004). This is an increase over 2008.

Binge drinking –Lifetime

- 12.2% of students admit to ever binge drinking. (14.1% in 2008). The percent decreased since 2008.

Marijuana - Lifetime

- 23.9% of all students admit using marijuana (20.6% in 2008. 22.8% in 2006 and 17.1% in 2004). This is an increase over 2008

Cocaine – Lifetime

- 1.7% of all students admit using cocaine (2.1% in 2008, 2.2% in 2006 and 1.0% in 2004). This is a decrease from 2008

16. Attitudes toward Drugs

In 2008 Partnership for a Drug-Free America released The Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS). The study asked students in the 7th through 12th grades to respond to 16 reasons why “kids use drugs.” We used the statements in that research for our study.

- 84.2% of students agreed with the statement that youth who used drugs would say “being high feels good.” Only 46.3% of students in in our research in 2008 agreed with this statement
- The second most agreed to statement is that students do drugs do so “to deal with the pressures and stress of school.” 80.3% in 2010; 77.5% in 2008.
- Two reasons ranked third in why Charlotte students think kids do drugs: “It helps kids when they’re having a hard time” and “to look cool” 79.7%.

- “Looking cool” was the number one reason in 2008 with 77.5% agreeing with the statement in 2008.
- The least agreed reason in both studies was to “help students study better,” 27.9% in 2010. 14.9% in 2008.
- Students who believe that students who use drugs would believe that “Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school” are three times more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days, used marijuana in the last 30 days and to have binge drunk in the last 30 days than students who did not agree with the statement.
- Students who agree with the statement that students who used drugs would “... think that being high feels good,” are six times more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days, used marijuana in the last 30 days and to have binge drunk in the last 30 days than students who did not agree with the statement
- Students who agree with the statement that students who used drugs would believe that “Drugs help kids when they’re having a hard time,” are three times more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days, used marijuana in the last 30 days and to have binge drunk in the last 30 days than students who did not agree

17. Access to Drugs

- Students are finding it easier to get alcohol and marijuana than they did in 2008.

- 56.7% of all students say that it is either fairly easy or very easy to get alcohol; 43.3% found it easy in 2008.
- 48.4% of all students say that marijuana is fairly or very easy to get; 33.4% found it easy in 2008.

EASE OF GETTING SUBSTANCES, 2010

	Can't get/Fairly Hard	Fairly Easy/Very Easy
Alcohol	43.3	56.7
Marijuana	51.6	48.4
Cocaine	87.5	12.5
Other Drugs	73.2	26.8

18. Source of Drugs

- The primary source for cigarettes, alcohol and prescription drugs to get high, for those admitting use, is from friends.

Cigarettes:

- 52.5% got their last cigarette from friends (53.5% in 2008, 49.8% in 2006 and 47.3% in 2004)

Alcohol: Overall 15.3% indicate they drank alcohol in the last 30 days; of those who did:

- 32.8% got their alcohol from friends (32.8% in 2008, 35.4% in 2006 and 35% in 2004)

The proportion of youth who drank alcohol the last 30 days who said they got it from their parents decreased from 20.3% in 2008 to 17.2%

Prescription Drugs: The question was asked, “The last time you took a prescription drug to get high how did you get it.”

- 68.3% of the students who said the last time they took a prescription drug to get high they got it from a friend.
- 64.7 Middle School 69.2% High School
- 21.2% say they took it from home.

19. Location of Use

- **Of students who drank alcohol in the last 30 days, 11.6% did so at home with parents. There is no way to determine the circumstances but the wording of the question said “more than a sip.” (12.4% in 2008)**
- **The largest proportions (50.4%) drank their alcohol at a friend’s house or at parties at friends’ houses. Another 5% drank at parties in their own homes and 4% drank at parties at strangers’ houses.**

6.7% of students who drank alcohol within the last 30 days drank at home alone (10.5% in 2008).

- 8.5% in Middle School 6.5% in High School

38.5% of High School students and 21.8% of Middle School students last drank at a party

Of students who drank alcohol in the last 30 days

- 38.9 % have had **alcohol** at concerts or festival events (37.9% in 2008)

This is an increase

- 26.3% of Middle School students (21.2% in 2008)
- 40.4% of High School students (40.7% in 2008)

- 16.0% have had **alcohol** at sports events (16.4% in 2008)

This is a slight decrease

- 7.8% of Middle School students (11.8% in 2008)
- 16.9% of High School students (17.1% in 2008)

20. Parental Rules

- 87.0% of students say that their parents have strict rules against drinking alcohol (87.1% in 2008).

Students who say their parents have NO strict rules about alcohol and drug use are twice as likely to have drunk alcohol or used marijuana in the last 30 days than students with parents who have rules ($p<.000$)

- Of the students who said their parents had no clear rules, 27.9% drank in the last 30 days compared with 13.9% who said their parents had strict rules
- Of the students who said their parents had no clear rules, 23.4% use marijuana in the last 30 days compared with 10.4% who said their parents had strict rules

21. User Correlates

- Students with a brother or sister under 21 who smokes are nearly 3 times more likely to smoke ($p<.000$).
- Students with an adult in their home who smokes are nearly twice as likely to smoke ($p<.000$).
- It is statistically significant ($p<.000$) that the students with lower grades (C and below) are more likely to have smoked in the last 30 days.
- The more absences a student has had, the more likely the student has smoked within the last 30 days ($p<.000$)
- Students receiving grades of A last year are less likely than students receiving F to have consumed alcohol in the last 30 days ($p<.003$).
- The more unexcused absences, the greater the likelihood that students consumed alcohol in the last 30 days ($p<.000$).

There is a significant relationship between students who smoke and who also drink alcohol.

- Only 11% of students who did not smoke in the last 30 days consumed alcohol but
- 57.9% of those who smoked also drank.

- Students from homes where parents have no strict rules about the use of alcohol and drugs were twice as likely to binge drink alcohol in the last 30 days than students from homes with clear rules.
- The more unexcused absences, the greater the likelihood that students binge drank in the last 30 days ($p<.000$).

- Students receiving grades of A last year are less likely than students receiving F to have binge drank in the last 30 days
- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are significantly related to smoking marijuana ($p < .000$).

22. Conclusions

Positive findings:

- Students with parents who have strict rules regarding alcohol and drugs are significantly less likely to drink or use drugs.
- There has been a decrease in the percent of students smoking cigarettes
- There has been a decrease in the percent of Middle School students using alcohol in the last 30 days
- There is a decrease in the percent of students who binge drank in the last 30 days
- There has been a decrease in the percent of Middle School students who used marijuana in the last 30 days
- Charlotte Mecklenburg data show lower alcohol use in the last 30 days in all comparable grades than reported by national data in 2008.
- Charlotte Mecklenburg data show lower proportions of students using cigarettes, alcohol or cocaine in the last 30 days than are reported by students in the State.
- The proportion of students consuming alcohol or using marijuana has decreased for 6-9th grades
- The use of drugs other than alcohol, marijuana and tobacco products is less than two percent and less than in 2008
- Over 95% of students perceive parental disapproval for the use of all substances.
- The proportion of youth who drank alcohol the last 30 days who said they got it from their parents decreased from 20.3% in 2008 to 17.2%
- The proportion of students who drank at home alone has decreased since 2008
- There has been a slight decrease in the proportion of youth who drank alcohol at sports events

Negative findings:

- There has been an increase in the percent smoking cigars with tobacco and using any tobacco product.
- There is an **increase** in the percent of High School students drinking alcohol in the last 30 days

- There has been a significant **increase** in the use of marijuana in the last 30 days by High School students
- Proportionately **more 10th and 12th grade** students in Charlotte admit using marijuana in the last 30 days than students report nationally.
- Proportionately **more 10th grade** Charlotte students than students nationally report cigarette smoking.
- Proportionately **more** Charlotte 9th grade and 12th grade students admit using marijuana than the same grade students in the State.
- **More Charlotte 9th grade** students, both male and female, and females in 10th and 12th grades have used marijuana in the last 30 days than comparable students in the State
- Alcohol consumption and marijuana use have substantially increased for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students
- The average age to begin smoking is 12.7, consuming alcohol is 13.6, using marijuana is 13.6, and binge drinking is 14.3
- The percent of students who see significant risk is **LOWEST** for 1 or 2 drinks occasionally (29.2%) and for occasional marijuana smoking (31.5%)
- The perception of significant risk from occasional or regular alcohol consumption and the risk from binge drinking have all **decreased** since 2008.
- The perception of significant harm (physically or in other ways) to them for smoking marijuana occasionally or regularly has **decreased substantially** since 2008
- 84.2% of students agreed with the statement that kids who use drugs would believe that “being high feels good.” Only 46.3% of students in 2008 agreed with this statement
- Students are finding it easier to get alcohol and marijuana than they did in 2008.
- There has been a slight increase in the percent of youth drinking alcohol at concerts and festivals

Youth Drug Survey³

PRIMARY FINDINGS

Since 1972, Substance Abuse Prevention Services (formerly The Charlotte Drug Education Center) has implemented a countywide youth drug survey every two - three years. These data are collected to determine the current level of incidence and prevalence of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug use. Due to the longitudinal nature of the research, changes in local patterns and trends can be observed. During November/December 2010, Substance Abuse Prevention Services (SAPS) in collaboration with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and with support from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Drug Free Coalition, administered the self-report survey instrument to 4,273 youth ages 12-18.

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to describe and analyze the drug usage pattern among middle and high school age students in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. The survey was conducted with Charlotte-Mecklenburg School students. This report is based on surveys conducted in 1972, 1974, 1977, 1979, 1983, 1989, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010.

This is a descriptive study. As such, no attempt is made to explain why students use drugs as they do. An explanatory level of analysis of this question is very complex and requires a refined theory and empirical demonstration. A research objective of this nature is not the purpose of this report. Rather, the concern is to chart the terrains of the prevalence and incidence of drug usage patterns among students in the county over a period of more than three decades.

The survey instrument was designed to address at least four recommended core measures: the extent of usage within the last thirty days, average age of onset, perception of risk or harm and the perception of parental approval or disapproval⁴. Data are included on the extent of lifetime use. Other questions are included for comparison purposes such as age, gender, and race. Questions related to the perception of use by other students and the reasons youth believe that students use alcohol and other drugs are also included.

More specifically, the kinds of questions asked in this study are:

- (1) What kind of drugs or psychoactive substances are currently in use and how widespread is the use within the student population?
- (2) Is drug use increasing or decreasing during the period under investigation?
- (3) Is student drug use in Mecklenburg County more or less widespread than the national average in a similar group of students?
- (4) Is drug use more widespread as one progresses toward the higher-grade levels?

³ Sponsored and paid for by a grant from the Mecklenburg County ABC Board to Substance Abuse Prevention Services of the Carolinas and with permission of Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools.

⁴ Core (Gateway) measures are recommended by Community Anti Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) to measure youth substance use over time and among communities.

- (5) At what age are youth most likely to experiment with drugs?
- (6) Is drug use more prevalent among male than female students?
- (7) Is there a difference in drug use among various ethnic groups?

These are some of the fundamental questions that need to be answered about substance use and abuse by our school-age population. In the process of answering these questions, we will not only become acquainted with the basic structure of drug use by our youth but also with the specific target populations toward whom the primary prevention, intervention, and treatment services must be directed.

Questionnaire Administration

All drug surveys implemented by SAPS were anonymous, self-administered and self-reported by students during a normal class period. A representative from SAPS and/or a Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Substance Abuse Prevention Counselor monitored the administration. The complete survey questionnaire is in Appendix A.

THE SAMPLE

The sample is a proportionate random sample by school and grade. 3,923 surveys were completed and, after deleting those surveys where students answered that they had used a fabricated drug or otherwise showed internal inconsistency (4.5%), the number of usable surveys was 3,746. With a sample of this size one can have 95% confidence that the actual findings for the system are within $\pm 1.5\%$. This is extremely good.

The sample is very close to the official distribution by race and can be considered representative.

TABLE 1 RACIAL DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLE AND SYSTEM

Race	State Record	Sample
African American	44.1%	36.8%
Asian	5.1%	4.8%
Caucasian (White)	32.7%	32.4%
Hispanic	14.3%	13.1%
Native American	0.4%	1.2%
Mixed race	3.3%	11.7%

TABLE 2 SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION BY GRADE

Grade	Number	Percent	Official Percent
6	657	17.5	14.9
7	661	17.6	15.1
8	693	18.5	14.5
9	462	12.3	17.1
10	388	10.4	14.9
11	443	11.8	12.0
12	428	11.4	10.4
Missing	14	0.4	
Total N	3746	100	

The sample is skewed in favor of the middle school students and is thus not completely representative. Eighth grade is disproportionately large and ninth grade is disproportionately small. For this reason, the data must be “weighted” to better reflect the actual distribution. This can be done statistically and becomes reflected in the analysis.

TABLE 3 GRADE DISTRIBUTION BY SAMPLE, SYSTEM AND WEIGHTED

Grade	Sample Percent	Official Percent	Weighted Percent
6	17.5	14.9	14.9
7	17.6	15.1	15.3
8	18.5	14.5	14.6
9	12.3	17.1	17.3
10	10.4	14.9	15.1
11	11.8	12.0	11.9
12	11.4	10.4	10.5
Missing	0.4		0.4
Total N	3746		3714

CORE (GATEWAY) MEASURES

USAGE WITHIN THE LAST THIRTY DAYS – 2010

As usual, alcohol ranks first as the drug most used by the student population (15.3%) followed by marijuana use (12.0%) and then cigarette smoking (8.6%).

CIGARETTES/TOBACCO

16.4% indicate they used **some type of tobacco** product in the last 30 days – **an increase over 2008** (12.8% in 2008 and 16.7% in 2006)

- 5.2% in middle school; 25.6% in high school (5.3% MS; 19.0% HS in 2008)
- 8.6% of all students indicate that they **smoked cigarettes** in the last 30 days – a **decrease over 2008** (9.9% in 2008 and 12.7% in 2006)
 - 2.8% middle school; 13.4% high school (4.4% MS; 14.4% HS in 2008 and 5.2% MS; 18.1% HS in 2006)
- 12.7% smoked cigars with tobacco in the last 30 days – **Twice the percent as in 2008** (6.2% in 2008)
 - 3.8% middle school; 20.0% high school (2.2% MS; 9.6% HS in 2008)
- 2.4% used smokeless tobacco in the last 30 days –about the same as 2008 (2.1% in 2008)
 - 0.5% middle school; 4.0% high school (0.7% MS; 3.3% HS in 2008)
- Any tobacco use is statistically significantly related to having a sibling under 18 who smokes and to having a parent who smokes. (p<.000)

Amount of tobacco use last 30 days

TABLE 4 AMOUNT OF TOBACCO USE LAST 30 DAYS BY ALL STUDENTS

<i>Times/month</i>	<i>Cigarettes</i>	<i>Cigars</i>	<i>Smokeless</i>
No Times	91.1	87.3	97.6
1-5	4.5	8.2	1.3
6-10	1.1	1.4	0.3
11-20	0.8	0.9	0.3
21-30	0.6	0.9	0.1
31+	1.7	1.3	0.4

ALCOHOL USE

- 15.3% indicate they drank alcohol in the last 30 days **This is an increase over 2008**
(14.0% in 2008, 17.2% in 2006 and 14.9% in 2004)
 - 3.3% middle school (4.7% in 2008, 6.2% in 2006; 5.9% in 2004) -**decrease**
 - **25.1%** high school (21.7% in 2008, 25.3% in 2006; 24.3% in 2004)-**increase**
- 4.8% indicate they had five or more drinks in a couple of hours (binge drinking).
This is a DECREASE over 2008
(5.6% in 2008, 6.0% in 2006; 6.1 in 2004)
 - 0.7% middle school (1.2% in 2008, 1.2% in 2006; 1.4% in 2004)-**decrease**
 - 8.2% high school (8.2% in 2008, 9.5% in 2006; 11.9% in 2004)-**decrease**

THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN THE PROPORTION OF STUDENTS WHO DRANK IN THE LAST 30 DAYS AND WHO ALSO BINGE DRANK IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

- 28.5% of those who drank alcohol in the last 30 days say they binge drank. This compares with 38.0% in 2008, 32.5% in 2006 and 47.7% in 2004.
 - 16.2% middle school (30.6% in 2008, 12.7% in 2006; 22.7% in 2004)
 - 29.9% high school (49.1% in 2008, 36.0% in 2006; 47.7% in 2004)

MARIJUANA

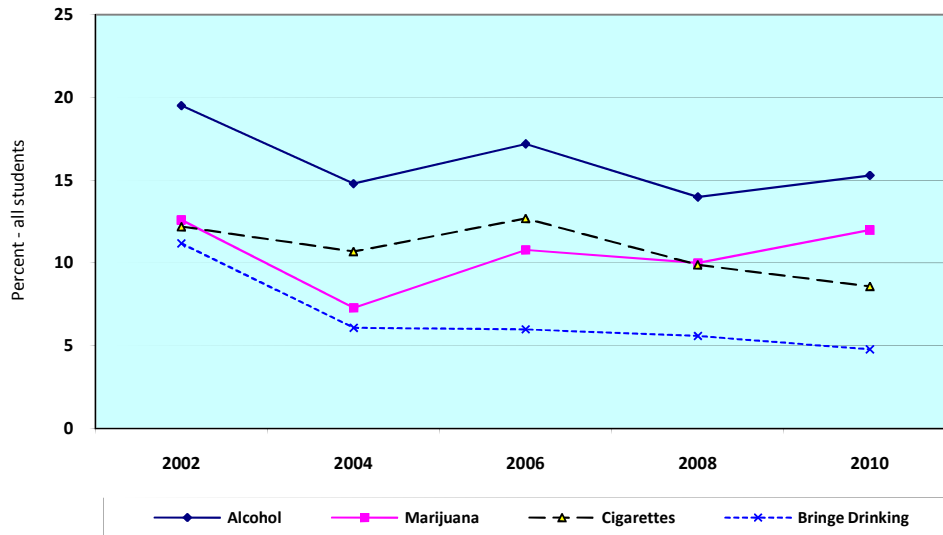
- 12.0% of all students admit using marijuana in the past 30 days **SIGNIFICANT INCREASE**
(10.0% in 2008, 10.8% in 2006 and 7.3% in 2004)
 - 1.9% of Middle School students (2.9% IN 2008, 3.1% in 2006 and 2.7% in 2004) -
decrease
 - 20.3% of High School students (15.8% in 2008, 16.6% in 2006 and 12.3% in 2004) – **increase**

TABLE 5 CORE MEASURES, SUBSTANCE USE, ALL STUDENTS 2002 - 2010

Substance	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Smoked Cigarettes last 30 days	12.2	10.7	12.7	9.9	8.6
Drank Alcohol last 30 days	19.5	14.8	17.2	14.0	15.3
Binge drank last 30 days	11.2	6.1	6.0	5.6	4.8
Used Marijuana last 30 days	12.6	7.3	10.8	10.0	12.0

- The percent of students admitting 30 day use of cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana has decreased since 2002 levels but alcohol and marijuana use has increased over 2008.

FIGURE 1 TRENDS IN LAST 30 DAY USE – ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, CIGARETTES, BINGE – 2002-2010



CORE MEASURES BY GENDER/GRADE/RACE

GENDER

- Use of alcohol has increased for both male and female students since 2008⁵

TABLE 6 CIGARETTE, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA USE LAST 30 DAYS BY GENDER – 2006 - 2010

Substance	Male			Female		
	2006 Size: 963	2008 Size: 1735	2010 Size: 1576	2006 Size: 1072	2008 Size: 1904	2010 Size: 1768
Cigarettes last 30 days	13.6%	11.0%	9.6%	11.7%	8.7%	8.1%
Alcohol last 30 days	17.0%	14.0%	15.6%	17.5%	14.3%	15.9%
Binge drink last 30 days	6.2%	6.1%	6.1%	6.0%	5.5%	3.9%
Marijuana last 30 days	12.2%	11.0%	15.2%	10.7%	9.0%	9.6%

⁵ The overall percent of alcohol consumption is 15.3%. This is based on all students who answered. Some did not give their gender. Therefore, these percentages are based on only those who gave their gender on the survey.

GRADE

- Alcohol consumption and marijuana use have substantially increased for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students while the proportions have decreased for 6-9th grade students
- Binge drinking has decreased for all grades except 10th and 12th

TABLE 7 CIGARETTE, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA USE LAST 30 DAYS BY GRADE –2008-2010 (IN PERCENT) -2008 IN ()

Substance Use	Grade						
	6 N=553	7 N=567	8 N=543	9 N=642	10 N=563	11 N=443	12 N=389
Cigarettes last 30 days	1.5 (1.4)	2.4 (4.0)	4.6 (7.9)	10.2 (13.1)	15.2 (11.9)	13.8 (15.5)	15.7 (18.8)
Alcohol last 30 days	0.6 (2.2)	2.7 (4.0)	6.5 (7.9)	14.6 (16.1)	24.4 (17.6)	29.0 (23.4)	39.3 (34.8)
Binge last 30 days	0.2 (0.7)	0.3 (1.3)	1.6 (3.2)	3.3 (5.3)	6.5 (6.0)	9.0 (11.0)	17.8 (16.2)
Marijuana last 30 days	0.3 (0.7)	1.4 (2.1)	4.2 (6.1)	12.6 (13.9)	20.0 (11.6)	23.5 (18.6)	29.9 (21.4)

RACE

The percent of students within each racial category who indicated they had smoked cigarettes, consumed alcohol, used marijuana or binge drank in the last 30 days is shown in Table 8. Hispanic students were proportionately more likely to have smoked, Native American students to have drunk alcohol but the percent of White students was highest for binge drinking and Multi-racial students to have used marijuana. The lowest percent of use of each substance is lowest for Asian students.

TABLE 8 CIGARETTE, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA USE LAST 30 DAYS BY RACE

Substance Use	African American	Asian	White	Hispanic	Native American	Multi-racial
Cigarettes last 30 days	6.5	4.5	10.5	10.9	6.8	9.6
Alcohol last 30 days	12.4	8.5	18.2	14.0	25.0	19.4
Binge last 30 days	2.0	1.7	8.2	5.0	6.8	5.4
Marijuana last 30 days	11.9	4.0	12.7	9.0	13.6	17.3

CIGARETTE, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA USE AND BINGE DRINKING– BY ZIP CODE

- A few zip codes show over 15% of students using cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana and binge drinking while other zip codes have fewer students engaging in the behaviors. Zip codes with more than 25 students and above 15% using one or more of the substances are:

28031	28207	28216
28036	28209	28277
28078	28213	28278
28134		

FIGURE 2 MAP OF ZIPCODES WITH MORE THAN 15% OF STUDENTS USING ONE OR MORE SUBSTANCE IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

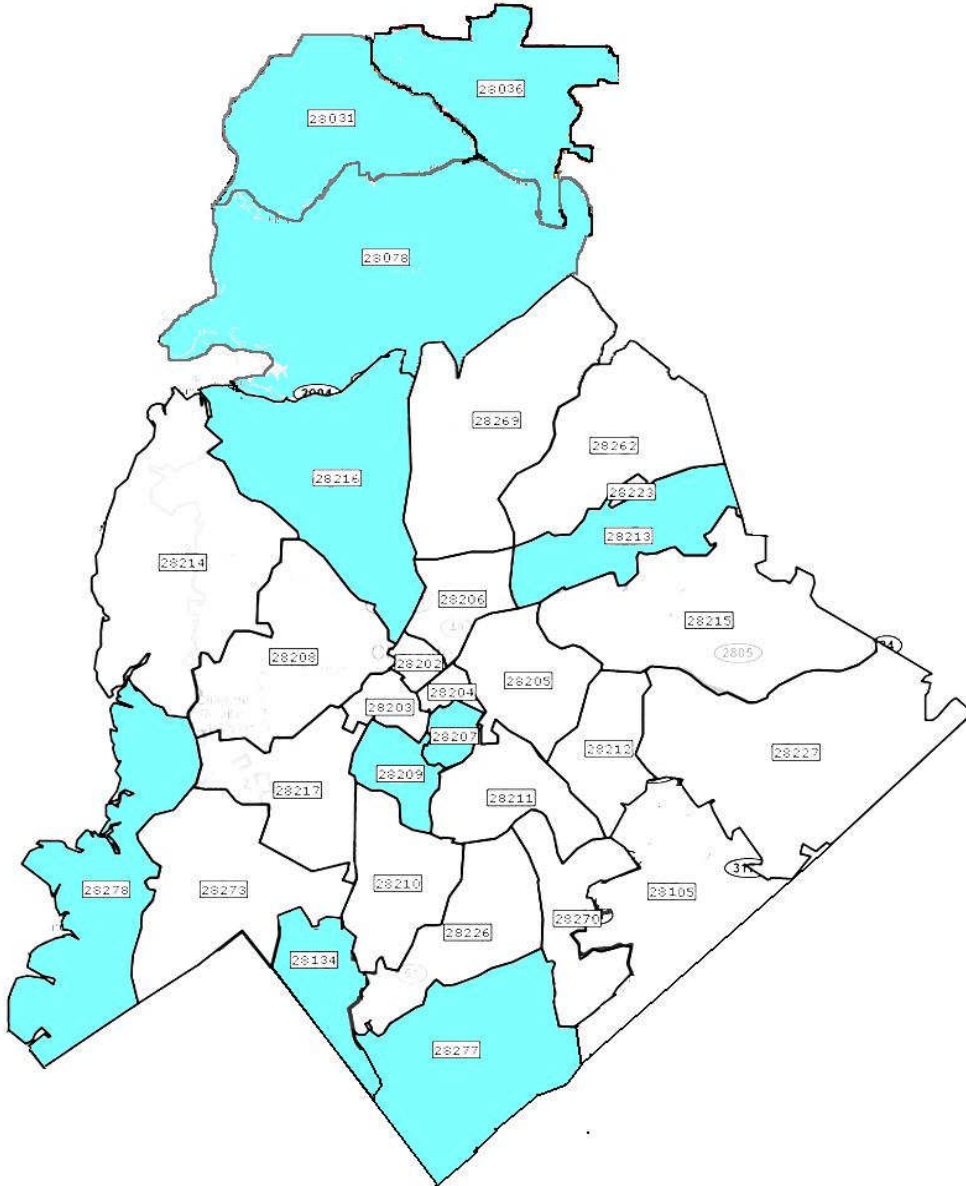


TABLE 9 PERCENT OF STUDENTS USING DIFFERENT SUBSTANCES WITHIN LAST 30 DAYS BY ZIPCODE

N	ZIP		Cigarettes last 30 days	Alcohol last 30 days	Marijuana last 30 days	Binge drank last 30 days
66	28031	Count	9	12	10	7
		% within Zip code	13.60%	18.50%	15.20%	10.80%
25	28036	Count	6	4	6	3
		% within Zip code	24.00%	16.00%	24.00%	12.00%
180	28078	Count	19	35	29	22
		% within Zip code	10.60%	19.30%	16.00%	12.20%
235	28105	Count	20	37	25	12
		% within Zip code	8.50%	15.80%	10.70%	5.10%
27	28134	Count	4	6	3	1
		% within Zip code	14.80%	21.40%	11.10%	3.70%
21	28202	Count	3	1	1	1
		% within Zip code	14.30%	4.80%	4.80%	4.80%
39	28203	Count	1	3	1	0
		% within Zip code	2.60%	7.70%	2.60%	0.00%
8	28204	Count	2	3	1	1
		% within Zip code	25.00%	37.50%	12.50%	12.50%
133	28205	Count	11	13	18	3
		% within Zip code	8.30%	9.70%	13.50%	2.30%
65	28206	Count	6	9	7	1
		% within Zip code	9.20%	13.80%	10.80%	1.50%
17	28207	Count	2	3	3	2
		% within Zip code	11.80%	16.70%	17.60%	11.80%
202	28208	Count	22	24	24	3
		% within Zip code	10.90%	12.00%	12.10%	1.50%
60	28209	Count	7	11	9	4
		% within Zip code	11.70%	18.30%	15.00%	6.70%

N	ZIP		Cigarettes last 30 days	Alcohol last 30 days	Marijuana last 30 days	Binge drank last 30 days
114	28210	Count	9	14	11	5
		% within Zip code	7.90%	12.30%	9.70%	4.40%
65	28211	Count	6	5	6	1
		% within Zip code	9.20%	7.90%	9.50%	1.60%
149	28212	Count	6	9	15	5
		% within Zip code	4.00%	6.00%	10.10%	3.40%
145	28213	Count	9	39	23	7
		% within Zip code	6.20%	26.90%	15.90%	4.80%
165	28214	Count	9	23	14	7
		% within Zip code	5.50%	13.90%	8.40%	4.20%
256	28215	Count	30	43	30	12
		% within Zip code	11.70%	17.10%	11.90%	4.70%
217	28216	Count	15	40	32	8
		% within Zip code	6.90%	18.40%	14.70%	3.70%
91	28217	Count	7	8	10	2
		% within Zip code	7.70%	8.80%	11.10%	2.20%
138	28226	Count	10	29	14	6
		% within Zip code	7.20%	21.00%	10.10%	4.30%
222	28227	Count	18	28	13	5
		% within Zip code	8.10%	12.60%	5.90%	2.20%
121	28262	Count	9	20	14	3
		% within Zip code	7.40%	16.30%	11.50%	2.50%
281	28269	Count	12	39	31	11
		% within Zip code	4.30%	13.80%	11.00%	3.90%
139	28270	Count	14	22	19	6
		% within Zip code	10.10%	15.90%	13.80%	4.40%
105	28273	Count	9	11	9	7
		% within Zip code	8.60%	10.50%	8.60%	6.70%

N	ZIP		Cigarettes last 30 days	Alcohol last 30 days	Marijuana last 30 days	Binge drank last 30 days
295	28277	Count	29	57	51	25
		% within Zip code	9.80%	19.40%	17.30%	8.50%
59	28278	Count	6	12	4	5
		% within Zip code	10.20%	20.30%	6.80%	8.50%
3640	TOTAL	Count	310	560	433	175
		% within Zip code	8.50%	15.40%	11.90%	4.80%

When controlling for school level and just looking at high school students a few zip codes stand out as having over 25% of high school students engaging in one or more of the behaviors.

- Zip code 28213 has 45.6% of high school students admitting alcohol consumption in the last 30 days and 29.1% using marijuana in the last 30 days
- Zip code 28278 has 33.0% using alcohol, 27.2% using marijuana and 20.4% binge drinking

The only zip codes with over 25 high school students with less than 20% engaging in one or more of the behaviors are: 28208 and 28273

TABLE 10 PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS USING DIFFERENT SUBSTANCES WITHIN LAST 30 DAYS BY ZIPCODE

N	ZIP		Cigarettes last 30 days	Alcohol last 30 days	Marijuana last 30 days	Binge last 30 days
39	28031	Count	9	12	10	7
		% within Zip code	23.10%	30.80%	25.60%	17.90%
18	28036	Count	6	4	6	3
		% within Zip code	33.30%	22.20%	33.30%	16.70%
103	28078	Count	18	34	28	21
		% within Zip code	17.50%	33.00%	27.20%	20.40%
127	28105	Count	17	35	24	12
		% within Zip code	13.40%	27.80%	19.00%	9.40%
26	28134	Count	4	6	3	1
		% within Zip code	15.40%	22.20%	11.50%	3.70%

N	ZIP		Cigarettes last 30 days	Alcohol last 30 days	Marijuana last 30 days	Binge drank last 30 days
9	28202	Count	2	1	1	1
		% within Zip code	22.20%	11.10%	11.10%	11.10%
3	28203	Count	0	0	0	0
		% within Zip code	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
6	28204	Count	2	3	1	1
		% within Zip code	33.30%	50.00%	16.70%	14.30%
71	28205	Count	11	12	18	3
		% within Zip code	15.50%	16.70%	25.00%	4.20%
38	28206	Count	5	8	7	1
		% within Zip code	13.20%	21.10%	18.40%	2.60%
12	28207	Count	2	3	3	2
		% within Zip code	16.70%	25.00%	25.00%	16.70%
88	28208	Count	14	16	17	2
		% within Zip code	15.90%	18.40%	19.50%	2.30%
43	28209	Count	6	10	9	4
		% within Zip code	14.00%	23.80%	21.40%	9.30%
55	28210	Count	7	11	9	4
		% within Zip code	12.70%	20.00%	16.40%	7.30%
37	28211	Count	5	4	6	0
		% within Zip code	13.50%	11.40%	16.70%	0.00%
55	28212	Count	6	8	13	5
		% within Zip code	10.90%	14.50%	23.60%	9.10%
77	28213	Count	7	36	23	6
		% within Zip code	9.10%	45.60%	29.10%	7.60%
81	28214	Count	8	19	13	7
		% within Zip code	9.90%	23.20%	16.00%	8.60%
144	28215	Count	22	34	24	9
		% within Zip code	15.30%	24.30%	17.10%	6.40%
117	28216	Count	13	36	29	8
		% within Zip code	11.10%	30.50%	24.80%	6.80%

N	ZIP		Cigarettes last 30 days	Alcohol last 30 days	Marijuana last 30 days	Binge drank last 30 days
36	28217	Count	4	6	8	2
		% within Zip code	11.10%	16.70%	22.20%	5.60%
79	28226	Count	8	29	14	6
		% within Zip code	10.10%	36.30%	17.70%	7.60%
118	28227	Count	15	26	12	5
		% within Zip code	12.70%	21.80%	10.20%	4.20%
70	28262	Count	6	17	14	3
		% within Zip code	8.60%	23.90%	19.70%	4.30%
171	28269	Count	9	34	30	9
		% within Zip code	5.30%	19.90%	17.50%	5.30%
81	28270	Count	14	22	19	6
		% within Zip code	17.30%	27.50%	23.80%	7.50%
64	28273	Count	8	11	9	7
		% within Zip code	12.50%	17.50%	14.30%	11.10%
190	28277	Count	29	56	50	25
		% within Zip code	15.30%	29.60%	26.50%	13.20%
35	28278	Count	5	11	4	5
		% within Zip code	14.30%	30.60%	11.10%	13.90%
1993		Count	262	504	404	165
		% within Zip code	13.10%	25.30%	20.30%	8.30%

NATIONAL COMPARISONS⁶

The most recent report from Monitoring the Future states that “marijuana use is rising, ecstasy use is beginning to rise; and alcohol is declining among US teens. Our data show the same increase in marijuana use and our “Club drug” question also shows a slight rise. However, alcohol use in Charlotte is on the increase while binge drinking is declining. The national data show that the perceived risk of marijuana has decreased nation-wide and that is also true in Charlotte.

⁶ Johnston, L. D., O'Malley, P. M., Bachman, J. G., & Schulenberg, J. E. (December 14, 2010). "Marijuana use is rising; ecstasy use is beginning to rise; and alcohol use is declining among U.S. teens." University of Michigan News Service: Ann Arbor, MI. Retrieved 05/30/2010 from <http://www.monitoringthefuture.org>

LIFETIME USE COMPARISONS

With the exception of marijuana for 10th and 12th grade students and cocaine for 10th grade students, proportionately fewer Charlotte students than the national sample have use alcohol or smoked cigarettes.

- **Comparing grade levels nationally, proportionately more Charlotte students in the 10th grade have used marijuana and also used cocaine than nationally.**
- **12th grade students are proportionately more likely to have ever used marijuana than 12th grade students nationally.**

TABLE 11 LIFETIME SUBSTANCE USE - US AND CHARLOTTE 2010 – GRADES 8, 10, 12

	8 th Grade		10 th Grade		12 th Grade	
	CLT	NIDA*	CLT	NIDA	CLT	NIDA
Alcohol	24.8	35.8	55.8	58.2	70.3	71.0
Cigarettes	11.9	20.0	27.1	33.0	33.9	42.2
Marijuana	15.0	17.3	36.6	33.4	52.3	43.8
Cocaine	1.3	2.6	4.2	3.7	4.4	5.5

* NIDA Monitoring the Future, 2010. <http://monitoringthefuture.org/data/10data/pr10t1.pdf>

30 DAY USE COMPARISONS

- Charlotte data show lower alcohol use in the last 30 days in all comparable grades than reported by national data in 2010.
- Proportionately **more 10th and 12th grade** students in Charlotte admit using **marijuana** in the last 30 days than students report nationally. Proportionately more **10th grade** Charlotte students also report cigarette smoking.

TABLE 12 LAST 30 DAY SUBSTANCE USE - US AND CHARLOTTE – GRADES 8, 10, 12

	8 th Grade		10 th Grade		12 th Grade	
	CLT	NIDA*	CLT	NIDA	CLT	NIDA
Alcohol	6.5	13.8	24.4	28.9	39.3	41.2
Cigarettes	4.6	7.1	15.2	13.6	15.7	19.2
Marijuana	4.2	8.0	20.0	16.7	29.9	21.4
Cocaine	0.1	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.3

*NIDA Monitoring the Future, 2010, <http://monitoringthefuture.org/data/10data/pr10t3.pdf>

NORTH CAROLINA COMPARISONS

North Carolina collects data for 9th through 12th grade. Using the same base:

- Charlotte Mecklenburg data show lower proportions using cigarettes, alcohol or cocaine in the last 30 days than are reported by students in the State.
- Proportionately more Charlotte 9th grade and 12th grade students admit using marijuana than the same grade students in the state.
- The proportion of students binge drinking in the last 30 days is significantly less than comparable students in the state: Only 3.3% of 9th grade students binge drank in Charlotte compared with 11.8% in the State; Only 9% of Charlotte-Mecklenburg students in 11th grade binge drank compared with 21.6% of 11th grade students in the state.

COMPARISON- LAST 30 DAY USE – NORTH CAROLINA – CHARLOTTE (GRADES 9-12 ONLY)

	9 th Grade		10 th Grade		11 th Grade		12 th Grade	
	CLT	NC*	CLT	NC	CLT	NC	CLT	NC
Cigarettes	10.2	12.5	15.2	18.4	13.8	20.3	15.7	21.2
Alcohol	14.6	24.9	24.4	36.0	29.0	39.6	39.3	43.7
Binge	3.3	11.8	6.5	19.5	9.0	21.6	17.8	24.5
Marijuana	12.6	11.6	20.0	20.7	23.5	25.4	29.9	24.7
Cocaine	0	4.2	4.9	4.9	0.7	6.2	1.4	7.5

* <http://www.nchealthyschools.org/docs/data/yrbs/2009/highschool/statewide/tables.pdf>

AGE, GRADE, RACE AND GENDER COMPARISONS – 30 DAY USE - NC AND CHARLOTTE 2008

The following charts compare 2010 Charlotte data for grades 9-12 with the North Carolina Youth Risk Behavior Survey for grades 9-12, 2009.

<http://www.nchealthyschools.org/docs/data/yrbs/2009/highschool/statewide/tables.pdf>

- **Minority females in grades 9-12 in Charlotte are more likely to have smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days than comparable students throughout the state.**

TABLE 13 PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO SMOKED CIGARETTES – LAST 30 DAY USE – CHARLOTTE-NC BY AGE, GRADE, RACE AND GENDER- GRADES 9-12

Percent of 9 th to 12 th grade students who smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days						
	Total		Male		Female	
	CLT	NC	CLT	NC	CLT	NC
Total	13.4	17.7	14.9	20.6	11.9	14.9
Grade						
9	10.2	12.5	11.4	15.6	9.1	9.9
10	15.2	18.4	14.0	21.3	15.7	15.3
11	13.8	20.3	19.7	22.7	8.9	17.9
12	15.7	21.2	16.5	24.6	14.6	18.2
Race						
African American	9.6	11.0	12.3	16.8	7.6	6.1
Asian	8.0	*	0	*	0.0	*
Hispanic	19.0	18.7	19.4	20.9	18.6	16.3
White	16.1	21.3	18.0	22.4	14.0	20.3
Other	9.4	18.7	3.8	26.0	9.3	9.2
Multi-racial	13.1	15.2	13.8	16.3	13.1	14.5

- ASIAN IS INCLUDED IN "OTHER" IN NC REPORTS

TABLE 14 PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO DRANK ALCOHOL – LAST 30 DAY USE – CHARLOTTE-NC BY AGE, GRADE, RACE AND GENDER- GRADES 9-12

Percent of 9 th to 12 th grade students who had at least one drink or more of alcohol in the past 30 days						
	Total		Male		Female	
	CLT	NC	CLT	NC	CLT	NC
Total	25.1	35.0	25.4	37.8	25.3	32.4
Grade						
9	14.6	24.9	13.0	27.3	14.2	22.2
10	24.4	36.0	21.6	36.6	26.2	35.8
11	29.0	39.6	28.9	43.5	30.7	36.2
12	39.3	43.7	42.4	48.7	37.3	39.2
Race						
African American	20.4	27.8	16.6	32.0	24.1	24.5
Asian	16.3	*	10.8	*	14.6	*
Hispanic	25.8	36.2	24.3	38.7	26.3	33.7
White	28.2	38.8	32.6	41.1	24.3	36.6
Other	23.8	24.7	24.5	26.7	18.6	-
Multi-racial	29.2	37.1	29.8	38.1	31.5	37.4

- ASIAN IS INCLUDED IN "OTHER" IN NC REPORTS

- More Charlotte 9th grade students, both male and female, and females in 10th and 12th grades have used marijuana in the last 30 days than comparable students in the State.
- More White and multi-racial males and minority females in the 9th to 12th grades in Charlotte have used marijuana in the last 30 days than comparable students in the State.

- To deal with the issue of marijuana use in high school some focus needs to be on the female population since Charlotte high school females are more likely to use than high school female students throughout the state.

TABLE 15 PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO USED MARIJUANA – LAST 30 DAY USE – CHARLOTTE-NC BY AGE, GRADE, RACE AND GENDER- GRADES 9-12

Percent of 9 th to 12 th grade students who used marijuana in the past 30 days						
	Total		Male		Female	
	CLT	NC	CLT	NC	CLT	NC
Total	20.3	19.8	24.5	25.5	16.1	14.5
Grade						
9	12.6	11.6	17.0	15.3	8.5	8.1
10	20.0	20.7	22.7	26.5	16.9	14.9
11	23.5	25.4	29.9	30.6	16.3	20.3
12	29.9	24.7	32.4	32.8	26.9	17.7
Race						
African American	19.8	21.4	23.9	31.0	15.7	13.4
Asian	3.5	*	2.7	*	4.9	*
Hispanic	16.7	17.7	17.5	22.5	16.2	13.0
White	20.7	19.1	26.6	22.9	13.6	15.3
Other	11.5	16.9	9.4	23.2	11.6	9.2
Multi-racial	28.8	18.6	36.8	23.6	24.6	13.6

- ASIAN IS INCLUDED IN "OTHER" IN NC REPORTS

- The percent of students binge drinking in the last 30 days increases from 3.3% in the 9th grade to 17.8% in 12th grade

TABLE 16 PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO DRANK 5 OR MORE DRINKS WITHIN A COUPLE OF HOURS – LAST 30 DAY USE – CHARLOTTE-NC BY AGE, GRADE, RACE AND GENDER- GRADES 9-12

Percent of students who had 5 or more drinks in a row within a couple of hours in the past 30 days						
	Total		Male		Female	
	CLT	NC	CLT	NC	CLT	NC
Total	8.2	18.7	6.1	21.8	3.9	15.7
Grade						
9	3.3	11.8	3.7	13.2	2.3	9.9
10	6.5	19.5	6.7	21.9	6.0	17.3
11	9.0	21.6	14.7	24.6	5.1	18.7
12	17.8	24.5	21.6	30.2	14.0	19.2
Race						
African American	3.5	10.0	3.3	11.8	4.1	8.5
Hispanic	9.4	17.5	9.7	18.5	8.5	15.9
White	12.9	22.9	18.6	26.9	7.0	19.0
Other	5.8	15.0	7.7	16.2	4.7	13.6
Multi-racial	8.2	26.5	7.4	31.0	8.5	22.5

OTHER SUBSTANCE USE – LAST 30 DAYS, 2002 – 2010

- Use of most other drugs is less than two percent and less than in 2008
- 6.2% of students indicate they have consumed alcoholic energy drinks within the last 30 days
- 24.5% of students say they have consumed energy drinks in the last 30 days.

TABLE 17 OTHER DRUGS USED LAST 30 DAYS, 2002 - 2010

Substance	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Cocaine: powder or crack	1.0	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.4
Benzos: Klonopin, Valium, Librium, Xanax	x	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.5
Uppers: Speed amphetamines, meth	5.3	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.4
Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills	1.4	2.3	3.4	2.9	1.5
Inhalants: glue, paint, gas etc.	2.0	1.4	1.5	4.8 ⁺	1.2
Hallucinogens	1.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.4
K2 Spice	X	X	X	x	0.7
Ecstasy	1.5	0.5	0.8	0.8	x
Club drugs: Ketamine, ruffies	x	0.1	0	0.3	0.4
Steroids	0.8	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.1
Prescription drugs	x	13.1*	1.5	1.1	1.3
Alcoholic Energy Drinks	X	X	X	X	6.2
Triple C	x	0.3	0.7	1.9	0.7
Pain Pills	X	X	X	4.9	2.0
Black Tar Heroin	X	X	X	X	0.1
Energy Drinks	X	X	X	32.5	24.5

⁺ The item on inhalants was changed in 2008 when a number of inhalants were listed, included among which were “superglue and whiteout, which may have confused students who may have used these items for their intended purposes.

* Students, especially in the lower grades, may have misinterpreted the question regarding prescription drugs in 2004. The question was changed in 2006 to read: “Prescription drugs to get high.”

- 3.5% of all students indicate that they are prescribed Ritalin or Adderal; 3.8% in 2008
 - 2.0% in Middle school and 4.8% in High School
- 1.8 % indicate that they have given or sold their pills to another
 - 0.9% Middle School 2.6% High School
- 2.8% indicate that they have taken more pills at one time than prescribed
 - 1.9% Middle School 3.5% High School

AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST USE- 2008-2010

The average age to begin smoking is 12.7,
 consuming alcohol is 13.6,
 using marijuana is 13.6,
 binge drinking is 14.3

2010

Cigarettes	12.7 years of age Middle School: 10.9 years	High School: 13.1 years	2008: 12.7 years
Alcohol	13.6 years of age Middle School: 10.7	High School: 13.1 years	2008: 12.6 years
Binge drink	14.3 years of age Middle School: 12.2 years	High School: 14.5 years	2008: 14.2 years
Marijuana	13.6 years of age Middle School: 11.8 years	High school: 13.8 years	2008: 13.6 years

AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST USE BY GENDER, 2010

TABLE 18 SUMMARY: AVERAGE AGE OF ONSET BY GENDER

Gender		Alcohol	Cigarettes	Marijuana
Male	Age	12.7	12.7	13.3
Female	Age	12.8	12.9	13.9

- High school seniors report that they first started using alcohol, cigarettes and marijuana at about 14 years of age; 10th grade students started at 13 and 8th grade students at about 12.

AVERAGE AGE OF ONSET BY GRADE

TABLE 19 SUMMARY AVERAGE AGE OF ONSET BY GRADE

Grade:		Age first tried: Alcohol: Beer, wine, wine coolers, liquor, alcopops	What age first smoked cigarettes, if ever	Age first tried: Marijuana	
6	N	Valid	32	18	3
		Missing	521	535	549
	Mean	9.24	10.00	9.50	
7	N	Valid	81	41	22
		Missing	486	526	545
	Mean	10.11	10.40	11.12	
8	N	Valid	134	64	79
		Missing	409	479	464
	Mean	11.44	11.50	12.10	
9	N	Valid	260	153	160
		Missing	382	489	482
	Mean	11.98	12.22	12.77	
10	N	Valid	305	152	197
		Missing	258	410	365
	Mean	12.70	12.88	13.59	
11	N	Valid	290	135	183
		Missing	153	308	260
	Mean	13.73	13.78	14.04	
12	N	Valid	271	132	202
		Missing	118	258	187
	Mean	14.14	13.74	14.73	

AVERAGE AGE OF ONSET BY RACE

There is little difference in the average age of first use by race. Asian youth try cigarettes at a younger age (10.92) than other groups while White youth are the oldest to start to consume alcohol (13.4). Native American students try marijuana at a slightly younger age (12.46) than others while African American and Multi-racial youth binge drink earlier (13.9)

TABLE 20 AGE OF FIRST USE BY RACE

Your race		What age first smoked cigarettes	Age first tried Alcohol	Age first tried Marijuana	Age first had:Five or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours
African American	Mean	12.49	12.60	13.54	13.91
Asian	Mean	10.92	12.59	13.62	15.17
White	Mean	13.46	13.14	13.93	14.57
Hispanic	Mean	12.65	12.43	13.47	14.04
Native American	Mean	12.12	12.58	12.46	14.85
Multi-racial	Mean	12.06	12.31	13.12	13.92

PERCEPTION OF RISK OF HARMING ONESELF - 2010

- The percent of students who see significant risk in the behavior is **LOWEST** for 1 or 2 drinks occasionally (29.2%) and for occasional marijuana smoking (31.5%)
- Students are more likely to see smoking a pack of cigarettes as risky behavior than to see occasional marijuana smoking as harmful.
- The perception of significant risk from using cocaine or other drugs occasionally or regularly has also decreased since 2008

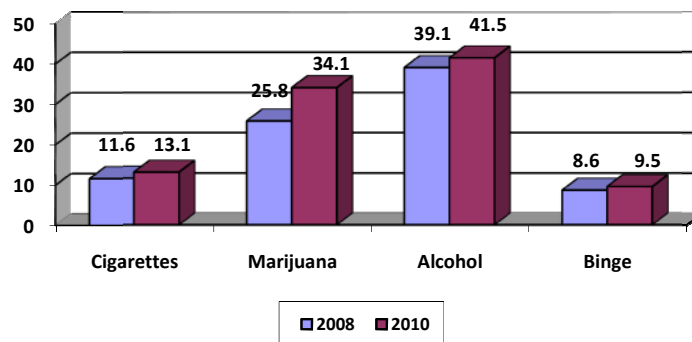
TABLE 21 PERCEPTION OF RISK: CIGARETTES, MARIJUANA, COCAINE, ALCOHOL, BINGE, 2010

	No Risk	Some Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	4.0	8.2	7.7	14.8	65.4
Smoke marijuana occasionally	12.3	17.9	11.5	26.9	31.5
Smoke marijuana regularly	8.2	11.9	10.4	18.6	51.0
Use cocaine occasionally	3.6	4.5	9.8	20.2	62.0
Use cocaine regularly	3.5	2.3	9.1	8.1	77.2
Other drugs occasionally	4.0	6.3	14.3	23.9	51.4
Other drugs regularly	3.6	3.8	13.3	12.7	66.6
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	12.1	24.4	11.9	22.4	29.2
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	6.0	12.8	11.1	23.1	47.0
Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	4.4	4.3	9.0	10.9	71.5

If we exclude those who “do not know” and view the proportion who see risk or no risk the percent of students who see NO RISK for each substance is increasing. The chart below is for smoking a pack of cigarettes, occasional marijuana smoking, 1-2 drinks occasionally, and having 5 or more drinks in a short time (binge drinking). The proportion seeing no risk for all of the behaviors is greater than in 2008.

- 41.5% of students see NO RISK or only “some risk” in having 1-2 drinks occasionally; this is an increase from 39.1% in 2008
- 34.1% of students see NO RISK or only “some risk” in occasional marijuana smoking; this is an increase from 25.8% in 2008

FIGURE 3 PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO SAY THERE IS NO RISK TO SUBSTANCE USE, 2008-2010



PERCEPTION OF RISK BY GENDER, 2010

TABLE 22 PERCEPTION OF RISK BY GENDER (IN PERCENT)*

	MALE			FEMALE		
	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	8.6 (10.2)	16.3 (18.4)	61.1 (60.0)	6.5 (6.0)	14.2 (15.7)	69.3 (68.7)
Smoke marijuana occasionally	13.1 (13.1)	25.0 (24.1)	27.2 (36.4)	9.7 (8.3)	29.2 (28.9)	34.1 (42.0)
Smoke marijuana regularly	11.7 (12.3)	18.2 (17.9)	45.5 (53.4)	8.8 (7.8)	19.8 (15.1)	55.3 (65.0)
Use cocaine occasionally	11.1 (12.1)	20.1 (20.1)	59.5 (61.5)	8.6 (7.6)	21.3 (20.9)	63.7 (65.7)
Use cocaine regularly	10.4 (11.3)	8.4 (7.8)	74.3 (76.3)	7.6 (6.7)	7.5 (6.5)	80.8 (83.0)
Other drugs occasionally	16.7 (18.0)	25.0 (23.3)	46.5 (50.1)	12.2 (12.0)	24.6 (24.2)	54.4 (57.0)
Other drugs regularly	15.6 (16.3)	13.6 (13.3)	62.1 (63.7)	11.1 (11.2)	12.4 (9.4)	70.8 (73.9)

* The perceptions of no risk or slight risk are not shown

* 2008 percentages are in parentheses

- The perception of significant harm to oneself by smoking marijuana occasionally or regularly has decreased substantially for both males and females since 2008

TABLE 23 PERCEPTION OF RISK FOR ALCOHOL USE BY GENDER (IN PERCENT)

	MALE			FEMALE		
	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	14.3 (14.5)	22.05 (21.3)	25.3 (28.2)	9.9 (9.3)	23.0 (24.2)	31.0 (32.0)
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	12.7 (12.9)	25.6 (23.6)	40.4 (43.8)	9.7 (8.0)	22.1 (22.5)	51.7 (54.1)
Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	10.1 (11.1)	12.5 (11.5)	67.1 (68.5)	7.8 (6.4)	9.7 (8.7)	75.8 (78.4)

* The perceptions of no risk or slight risk are not shown

* 2008 percentages are in parentheses

- The perception of significant risk from occasional or regular alcohol consumption and the risk from binge drinking have all **decreased** for both male and female students since 2008.

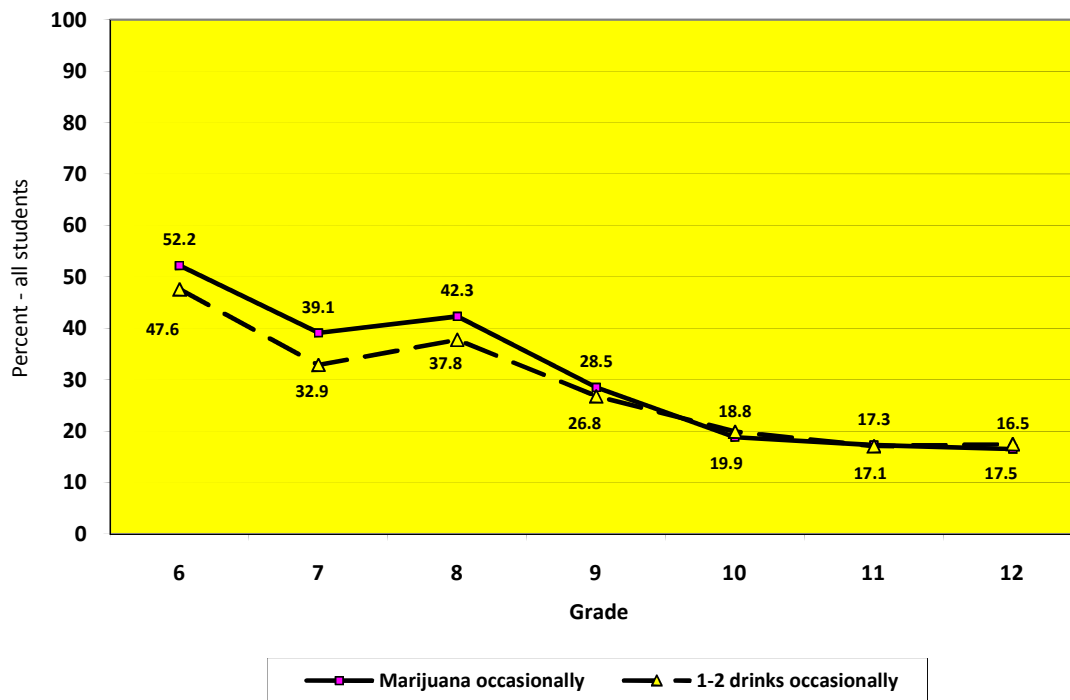
TABLE 24 PERCENT OF STUDENTS SEEING SIGNIFICANT RISK FOR SUBSTANCE USE BY GRADE*

	GRADE						
	6 N=553	7 N=567	8 N=543	9 N=642	10 N=563	11 N=443	12 N=389
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	59.3 (65.9)	55.3 (61.8)	63.8 (63.8)	69.1 (60.1)	66.3 (67.1)	74.2 (67.5)	72.6 (70.0)
Smoke marijuana occasionally	52.2 (60.9)	39.1 (50.5)	42.3 (48.2)	28.5 (34.0)	18.8 (31.9)	17.3 (27.4)	16.5 (25.1)
Smoke marijuana regularly	61.5 (70.6)	61.0 (70.1)	60.5 (66.8)	53.2 (56.2)	41.3 (54.8)	37.7 (50.3)	34.4 (43.5)
Use cocaine occasionally	54.2 (65.2)	51.3 (59.2)	60.0 (62.0)	61.7 (58.5)	66.3 (66.5)	71.1 (71.6)	74.9 (71.1)
Use cocaine regularly	62.9 (71.8)	67.3 (74.0)	75.2 (79.6)	82.2 (75.9)	82.0 (83.7)	86.8 (89.1)	87.3 (87.2)
Other drugs occasionally	53.4 (62.8)	45.2 (53.9)	50.2 (53.9)	52.2 (45.9)	50.9 (56.0)	51.7 (57.9)	58.2 (56.3)
Other drugs regularly	61.8 (69.1)	61.2 (68.1)	67.0 (69.3)	68.1 (62.6)	67.0 (70.9)	72.4 (74.1)	70.9 (73.4)
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	47.6 (51.1)	32.9 (38.4)	37.8 (35.2)	26.8 (26.1)	19.9 (25.8)	17.1 (22.9)	17.5 (19.0)
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	59.5 (63.0)	51.3 (56.6)	54.7 (54.1)	48.4 (42.6)	39.6 (44.4)	35.6 (45.9)	34.9 (41.9)
Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	71.2 (77.0)	67.1 (75.6)	76.3 (79.3)	74.9 (68.8)	72.7 (73.3)	70.4 (72.3)	65.1 (69.6)

* 2008 percentages are in parentheses

- Fewer than 20% of 10th through 12th grade students see significant risk in occasional marijuana smoking while over 70% see smoking a pack of cigarettes a day as having significant risk
- Only 52% of 6th grade students see significant risk in occasional marijuana smoking

FIGURE 4 PERCENT OF STUDENTS SEEING OCCASIONAL DRINKING AND OCCASIONAL MARIJUANA USE AS HAVING "HIGH RISK" BY GRADE



PERCEPTION OF RISK BY RACE

- White students are more likely than students of other races to see significant risk in smoking a pack of cigarettes a day, using cocaine regularly and using other drugs regularly.
- Asian students are more likely than other students to see significant risk in smoking marijuana occasionally or regularly
- African American and multi-racial students are more likely than others to see significant risk in using cocaine or other drugs regularly
- African American students are more likely to see occasional alcohol use as risky, but no racial group has more than 35% seeing that behavior as significantly risky
- All racial groups see binge drinking as risky but only 54.5% of Native American students feel it is carries significant risk

TABLE 25 PERCENT OF STUDENTS SEEING SIGNIFICANT RISK FOR SUBSTANCE USE BY RACE

	Race					
	African American	Asian	White	Hispanic	Native American	Multi-racial
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	64.3	60.0	72.9	55.5	51.2	63.7
Smoke marijuana occasionally	33.3	43.7	28.4	30.1	22.2	32.9
Smoke marijuana regularly	49.3	62.1	54.7	46.8	27.3	48.2
Use cocaine occasionally	66.2	52.0	62.1	51.6	47.7	66.7
Use cocaine regularly	76.0	68.6	85.4	65.5	48.8	77.8
Other drugs occasionally	56.1	50.0	48.4	43.1	32.6	56.7
Other drugs regularly	65.2	64.7	73.9	55.2	37.2	67.6
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	34.8	29.7	24.4	25.2	27.9	30.2
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	51.3	50.6	45.6	42.0	34.9	44.3
Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	72.8	74.1	74.8	63.0	54.5	69.8

PERCEPTION OF RISK – 12TH GRADE STUDENTS, 2004-2010

TABLE 26 PERCEPTION OF SMOKING RISK – 12TH GRADE – 2004-2008 (IN PERCENT)

12 TH Grade Students	No Risk	Some Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day 2010	1.9	7.5	3.5	14.4	72.6
2008	1.9	8.4	3.6	16.1	70.0
2006	4.6	6.8	5.6	17.6	65.4
2004	3.4	7.8	4.7	16.9	67.1

TABLE 27 PERCEPTION OF MARIJUANA RISK – 12TH GRADE – 2004-2010 (IN PERCENT)

12 TH Grade Students		No Risk	Some Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk
Smoke marijuana occasionally	2010	21.0	27.0	10.2	25.3	16.5
	2008	13.7	28.4	8.0	24.8	25.1
	2006	16.4	21.4	11.1	25.1	26.0
	2004	7.2	25.1	7.2	31.0	29.5
Smoke marijuana regularly	2010	11.1	22.5	9.0	23.0	34.4
	2008	8.4	16.1	8.2	23.8	43.5
	2006	10.9	13.7	8.7	22.7	44.1
	2004	4.1	13.2	6.6	24.5	51.7

TABLE 28 PERCEPTION OF ALCOHOL RISK – 12TH GRADE – 2004-2010 (IN PERCENT)

12 TH Grade Students		No Risk	Some Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	Significant Risk
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	2010	20.8	33.3	9.0	19.4	17.5
	2008	16.6	35.1	7.5	21.9	19.0
	2006	20.1	31.6	9.3	20.7	18.3
	2004	18.8	36.4	7.5	17.2	20.1
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	2010	6.6	22.9	6.8	28.8	34.9
	2008	3.4	20.6	6.1	28.1	41.9
	2006	7.5	21.1	9.0	27.6	34.8
	2004	6.0	25.1	6.3	28.5	34.2
5 or more drinks within a couple of hours	2010	4.0	7.1	6.1	17.7	65.1
	2008	1.4	10.1	4.8	14.0	69.6
	2006	4.3	10.8	8.6	16.9	59.4
	2004	3.1	9.1	6.0	23.2	58.6

- The perception of parental disapproval remains over 90 percent for nearly all substance use except one or two drinks occasionally.

PERCEPTION OF PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL - 2010

- Over 95% of students perceive parental disapproval for the use of all substances.

TABLE 29 PERCEPTION OF PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL, 2010

	Approve	Disapprove
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	0.7	99.3
Smoke marijuana occasionally	3.1	96.9
Smoke marijuana regularly	1.9	98.1
Use cocaine occasionally	0.1	99.9
Use cocaine regularly	0.2	99.8
Use other drugs occasionally	0.3	99.7
Use other drugs regularly	0.3	99.7
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	7.7	92.3
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	2.1	97.9
Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	1.0	99.0

PERCEPTION OF PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL BY GENDER AND GRADE, 2008/2010

TABLE 30 PERCEPTION OF PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL BY GENDER (IN PERCENT)*

	MALE	FEMALE
Parental Disapproval:	Disapprove or Strongly Disapprove	Disapprove or Strongly Disapprove
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	93.3 (91.6)	95.3 (95.5)
Smoke marijuana occasionally	89.4 (91.1)	91.8 (93.5)
Smoke marijuana regularly	91.1 (91.3)	93.7 (95.1)
Use cocaine occasionally	94.3 (93.4)	96.5 (96.9)
Use cocaine regularly	94.3 (93.5)	96.3 (97.0)
Other drugs occasionally	93.9 (92.1)	95.8 (96.3)
Other drugs regularly	93.9 (92.3)	95.9 (96.3)
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	82.8 (83.0)	84.3 (85.3)
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	89.5 (89.1)	92.3 (92.9)
Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	92.2 (92.0)	94.8 (95.4)

* 2008 percentages are in parentheses

- A smaller percentage of 10th and 12th grade students feel parental disapproval for occasional alcohol or occasional marijuana use than felt parental disapproval in 2008

TABLE 31 PERCEPTION OF PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL BY GRADE (IN PERCENT)

Parental Disapproval	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Substance Use							
Smoking	92.1 (91.9)	91.3 (93.1)	95.4 (94.8)	94.6 (90.4)	95.2 (95.2)	96.8 (94.6)	95.3 (95.1)
Occasional alcohol	91.1 (90.3)	87.3 (88.5)	90.8 (88.1)	84.7 (83.5)	78.7 (82.9)	82.0 (77.8)	70.1 (74.3)
Occasional marijuana	92.2 (92.7)	91.4 (92.5)	95.3 (94.8)	90.1 (88.8)	88.8 (92.7)	91.2 (89.8)	85.1 (91.1)

* 2008 percentages are in parentheses

PERCEPTION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE IN THE STUDENTS' SCHOOLS

- System-wide the perception is that 45% of students drink alcohol and 45% smoke marijuana. The perception is that 35% use some other kind of drugs
 - Middle School students think that:
 - 24% of students drink alcohol,
 - 22% smoke marijuana and
 - 22% use other drugs
 - High School students think that:
 - 61% drink alcohol
 - 64% smoke marijuana
 - 45% use other drugs

FIGURE 5 PERCEPTION OF PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO DRINK ALCOHOL (NUMBER OF STUDENTS)

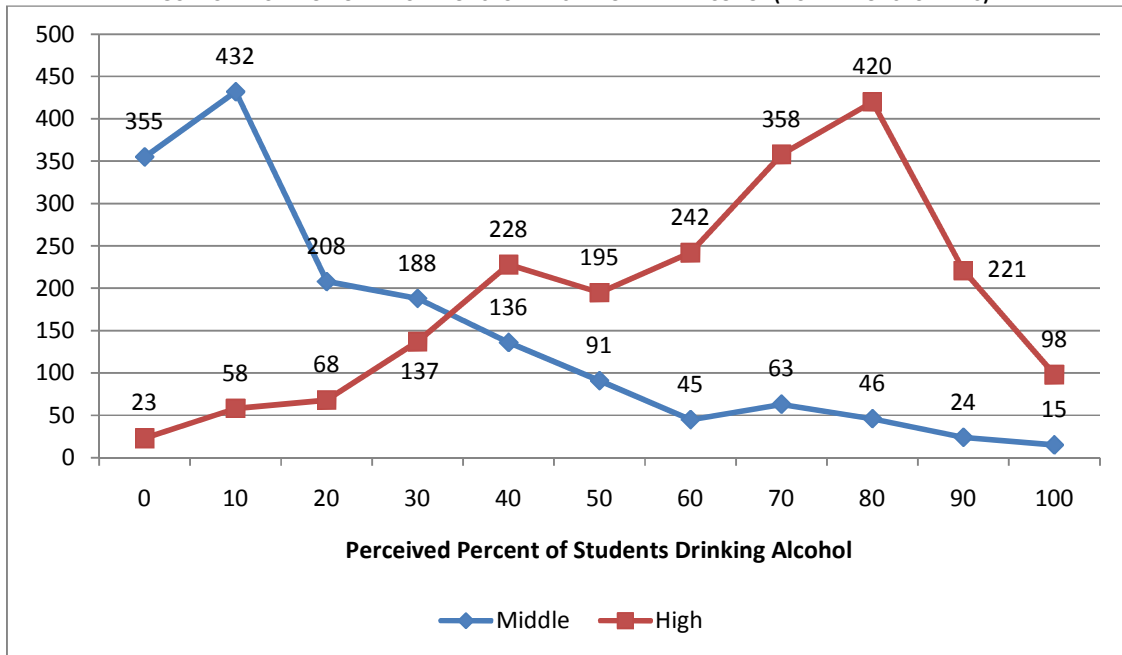
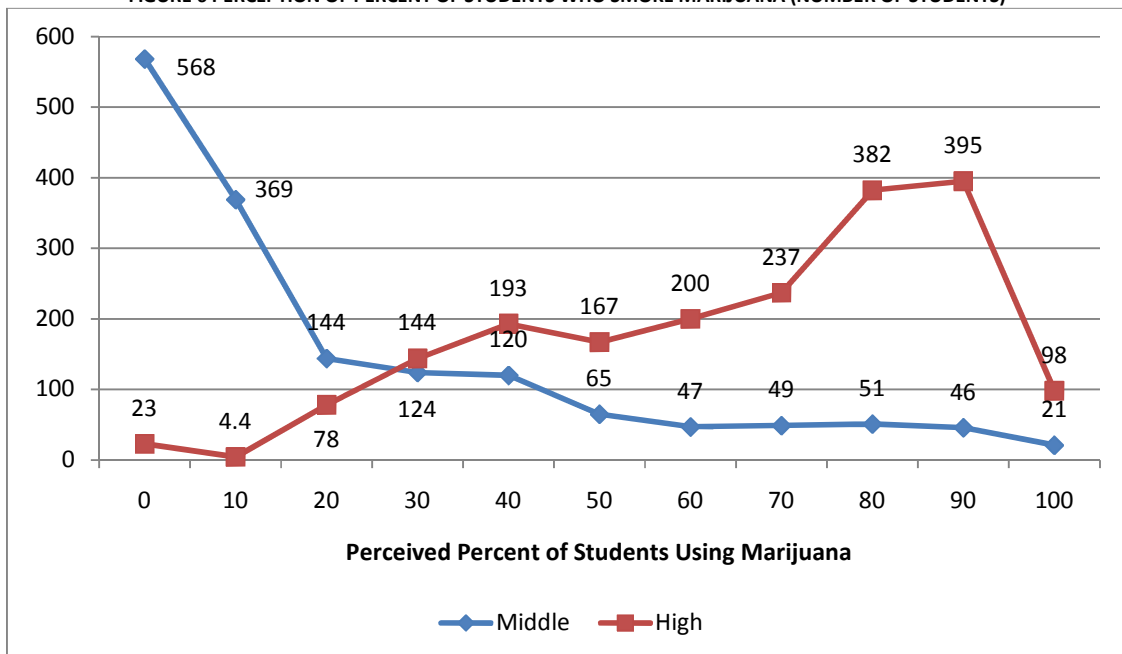


FIGURE 6 PERCEPTION OF PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO SMOKE MARIJUANA (NUMBER OF STUDENTS)



PERCEPTION AND USE

Using a statistic known as Pearson Correlation (r) the frequency of the use of alcohol (never used to daily) was correlated with the perception of the percent of students in one's school who drank alcohol (0 to 100) and between the frequency of marijuana use and the perception of the percent of students using marijuana.

- Alcohol use and alcohol perception = .462 ($p < .000$)
- Marijuana use and marijuana perception = .398 ($p < .000$)

There is a statistically significant relationship between perception of how many other students drink or use marijuana and how many of one's own friends drink or use some kind of drug and a student's own use.

A correlation was also performed on the relationship between the number of friends who drink and one's own consumption of alcohol in the last 30 days.

- $r = .501$ ($p < .000$)

Perception of the number of friends who use some kind of drug and own marijuana use in the last 30 days:

- $r = .430$ ($p < .000$)

PEER APPROVAL

While the majority of students think that their peers would disapprove of using substances, 22% think their peers would approve of occasional marijuana smoking and 28% would approve of occasional alcohol use.

TABLE 32 PERCEPTION OF PEER APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF SUBSTANCE USE (ALL STUDENTS)

Peer Approval:	Approve or Strongly Approve	Don't Know	Disapprove or Strongly Disapprove
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day	3.3	14.1	82.6
Smoke marijuana occasionally	22.0	14.4	63.6
Smoke marijuana regularly	14.1	14.4	71.5
Use cocaine occasionally	1.6	10.3	88.1
Use cocaine regularly	1.1	10.1	88.8
Other drugs occasionally	4.1	15.3	80.5
Other drugs regularly	3.2	14.7	82.0
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally	27.8	16.2	56.1
Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly	13.7	16.4	70.0
Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	7.9	15.5	76.6

- 13.9% of Middle School students feel that peers would approve of occasional alcohol use
- 16.1% of Middle School students feel that peers would approve of occasional marijuana use
- 35.6% of High School students feel that peers would approve of occasional alcohol use
- 43.3% of High School students feel that peers would approve of occasional marijuana use

There is a significant relationship between the perception of peer approval and use.

- 41.1% of students who feel peers would approve of occasional alcohol use, drank alcohol in the last 30 days; this compares with only 3.5% who felt that their peers would disapprove (p<.000).

TABLE 33 PERCEPTION OF PEER APPROVAL FOR ALCOHOL USE AND DRINKING ALCOHOL IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

Drank alcohol last 30 days		Peer Attitudes toward Occasional Alcohol Use			Total
		Approve	Do Not Know	Disapprove	
No	Count	590	518	1951	3059
	Percent	58.9%	88.9%	96.5%	84.8%
Yes	Count	412	65	71	548
	Percent	41.1%	11.1%	3.5%	15.2%
Total	Count	1002	583	2022	3607
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- 44.7% of students who feel their peers would approve occasional marijuana use, used marijuana in the last 30 days compared with only 1.5% who felt their peers would disapprove(p<.000)

TABLE 34 PERCEPTION OF PEER APPROVAL FOR OCCASIONAL MARIJUANA USE AND USING MARIJUANA IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

Used marijuana last 30 days		Peer Attitudes toward Occasional Marijuana Use			Total
		Approve	Do Not Know	Disapprove	
No	Count	441	476	2267	3184
	Percent	55.3%	91.5%	98.5%	88.0%
Yes	Count	356	44	35	435
	Percent	44.7%	8.5%	1.5%	12.0%
Total	Count	797	520	2302	3619
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

LIFETIME USE/EVER USED

- Students admitting ever smoking cigarettes has continued to **decline** since 2004
- Life time alcohol use has **increased** but binge drinking has **decreased** since 2008
- Lifetime marijuana use has **increased** while lifetime cocaine use has **decreased** since 2008

Cigarettes – Lifetime Use

- 18.9% of all students admit to having smoked cigarettes (20.6% in 2008, 26.7% in 2006 and 24.9% in 2004)
This is a continuous decrease since 2004
 - 10.0% of Middle School students have smoked (12.7% in 2006 and 15.4% in 2004)
 - 29.2% of High School students they have smoked (37.0% in 2006 and 35.1% in 2004)

Alcohol-Lifetime

- 37.8% of students admit to ever having used alcohol. (34.7% in 2008, 40.1% in 2006 and 34.8% in 2004).
This is an increase over 2008.
 - 16.1% of Middle School students admit ever drinking (18.8% in 2006 and 18.1% in 2004).
 - 49.8% of High School students admit ever drinking (55.6% in 2006 and 52.7% in 2004).

Binge drinking –Lifetime

- 12.2% of students admit to ever binge drinking. (14.1% in 2008). **The percent decreased since 2008.**

Marijuana - Lifetime

- 23.9% of all students admit using marijuana (20.6% in 2008, 22.8% in 2006 and 17.1% in 2004).
This is an increase over 2008
 - 7.6% of middle school students (6.4% in 2006 and 6.5% in 2004)
 - 31.3% of high school students (34.7% in 2006 and 28.6% in 2004)

Cocaine – Lifetime

- 1.7% of all students admit using cocaine (2.1% in 2008, 2.2% in 2006 and 1.0% in 2004).
This is a decrease from 2008

LONG-TERM COMPARISONS

30 DAY USE BY GRADE 2004 – 2010

- The most noticeable change over time is the increase in use by 10th through 12th grade students for the gateway drugs and not any of the other substances.

TABLE 35 SUBSTANCE USE LAST 30 DAYS BY GRADE 2004-2010

Substance		Grade						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cigarettes	2010	1.5	2.4	4.6	10.2	15.2	13.8	15.7
	2008	1.4	4.0	7.9	13.1	11.9	15.5	18.8
	2006	2.9	4.5	7.7	16.2	16.5	18.0	21.7
	2004	2.8	5.5	8.9	14.3	15.4	17.2	18.6
Alcohol	2010	0.6	2.7	6.5	14.6	24.4	29.0	39.3
	2008	2.2	4.0	7.9	16.1	17.6	23.4	34.8
	2006	3.5	5.5	9.1	15.3	23.3	25.7	36.0
	2004	1.6	5.1	10.7	19.6	23.1	24.3	33.8
Binge drinking	2010	0.2	0.3	1.6	3.3	6.5	9.0	17.8
	2008	0.7	1.3	3.2	5.3	6.0	11.0	16.2
	2006	0.7	1.3	1.7	7.6	6.6	9.5	14.2
	2004	0.9	1.5	1.8	7.8	11.1	11.8	21.1
Marijuana	2010	0.3	1.4	4.2	12.6	20.0	23.5	29.9
	2008	0.7	2.1	6.1	13.9	11.6	18.6	21.4
	2006	0.3	2.6	6.0	12.3	15.0	16.6	21.3
	2004	0.5	2.1	5.2	10.2	14.1	11.1	15.3
Cocaine	2010	0	0	0.1	0	1.0	0.7	1.4
	2008	0	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.7	1.2	0.7
	2006	0.3	0.3	0	0.3	0.3	0	1.5
	2004	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6
Benzodiazepines	2010	0	0	0	0.2	1.0	1.4	1.4
	2006	0	0	0.2	0.3	0.9	1.6	2.0
	2008	0	0.3	0.4	1.7	1.3	1.0	1.8
	2004	0	0	0.2	0.2	2.1	1.1	1.3
Uppers	2010	0	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.9
	2008	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.7	1.4	2.0
	2006	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.4	0.9
	2004	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.9	1.3	1.3	0.6

Substance		Grade						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Downers	2010	0.3	0.6	1.6	1.5	2.9	0.9	2.8
	2008	1.5	2.2	1.9	4.5	4.0	3.4	2.9
	2006	1.6	1.6	3.1	5.0	4.5	3.4	4.0
	2004	1.1	1.8	1.6	2.5	3.7	2.9	3.1
Inhalants	2010	0.6	2.6	1.6	1.3	0.8	0.9	0.7
	2008	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	2006	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.9	0.7	0.3
	2004	2.1	2.3	1.5	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.9
Hallucinogens	2010	0	0	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.4	1.9
	2008	0.3	0.2	0.5	1.2	1.1	1.9	2.1
	2006	0	0.3	0	1.0	1.3	0.7	0.9
	2004	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.6	0.5	0.6

LIFETIME USE COMPARISONS 2004 – 2010

- The increase in lifetime alcohol use is evident in Figure 6
- The increase in lifetime marijuana is evident in Figure 7
- All other lifetime substance use continues to decline

TABLE 36 SUBSTANCE USE - LIFETIME 2004-2008

Substance	System 2004	System 2006	System 2008	System 2010
Cigarettes	x	26.7	20.6	18.9
Alcohol	34.8	40.1	34.7	37.8
Binge Drinking	Not asked	14.2	14.1	12.2
Marijuana	17.1	22.8	20.7	23.9
Cocaine	1.0	2.2	2.1	1.7
Uppers: Speed, meth	2.3	2.4	1.8	0.8
Steroids	0.7	2.4	1.6	0.8
Pain pills	x	17.8	13.2	6.5
Rx to get high	x	4.2	3.6	4.1
Triple C	1.5	2.3	4.2	2.5
Downers	6.8	9.5	7.8	4.2
Inhalants*	4.6	6.4	x	4.2
Benzodiazepines	1.8	0.9	2.3	1.8

Substance	System 2004	System 2006	System 2008	System 2010
Hallucinogens	1.9	3.1	2.9	2.2
Ecstasy	1.8	3.0	2.8	1.5**
Other rave	0.5	0.6	0.8	
Energy Drinks	Not asked	Not asked	54.3	48.2
K2-Spice	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked	3.0
Alcoholic Energy Drinks	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked	14.7
Black Tar Heroin	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked	0.2

* The examples used for inhalants in the survey may have been misleading and the data are, therefore, not necessarily comparable for 2008. ** The category in 2010 was Club Drugs.

TABLE 37 LIFETIME USE BY GRADE LEVEL - 2008

Substance	2008 Middle School	2010 Middle School	2008 High School	2010 High School
Cigarettes	10.0	7.5	29.2	28.2
Alcohol	16.1	14.7	49.8	56.6
Binge Drinking	4.6	2.2	22.0	20.4
Uppers: Speed, meth	1.1	0.3	2.5	1.2
Steroids	1.8	0.7	1.4	0.9
Pain pills (Oxycontin etc)	9.4	3.4	16.2	9.0
Prescription to get high	1.8	1.6	5.1	6.2
Marijuana	7.6	6.9	31.3	37.7
Triple C	2.6	1.4	5.5	3.4
Downers	5.8	2.4	9.5	5.7
Inhalants*	X	4.6	X	4.0
Benzodiazepines	0.8	0.3	3.5	3.1
Cocaine	1.2	0.5	2.8	2.6
Hallucinogens	1.3	0.4	4.2	3.7
Ecstasy	0.8	0.2	4.3	2.5
Other rave	0.4		1.2	
Energy Drinks	43.9	36.1	62.8	58.0
K2-Spice	Not asked	0.4	Not asked	5.2
Alcoholic Energy Drinks	Not asked	4.3	Not asked	23.1
Black Tar Heroin	Not asked	0	Not asked	0.4

* The examples used for inhalants in the survey may have been misleading and the data are, therefore, not necessarily comparable for 2008. ** The category in 2010 was Club Drugs

FIGURE 7 LIFETIME ALCOHOL USE 1992 - 2010

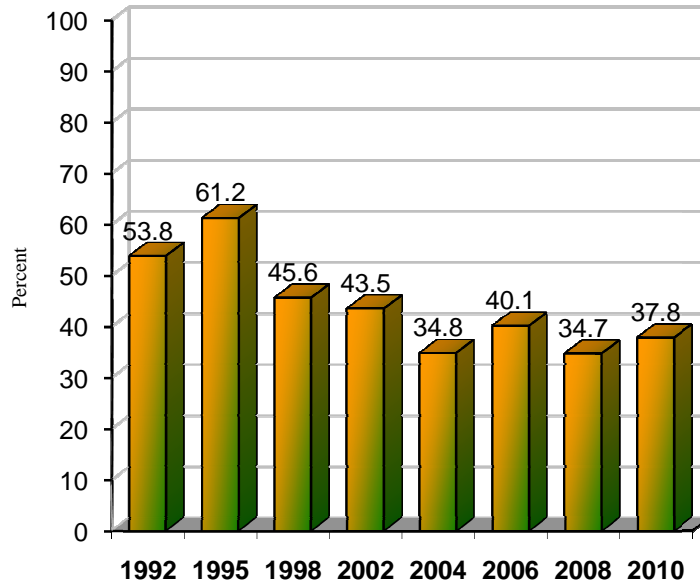
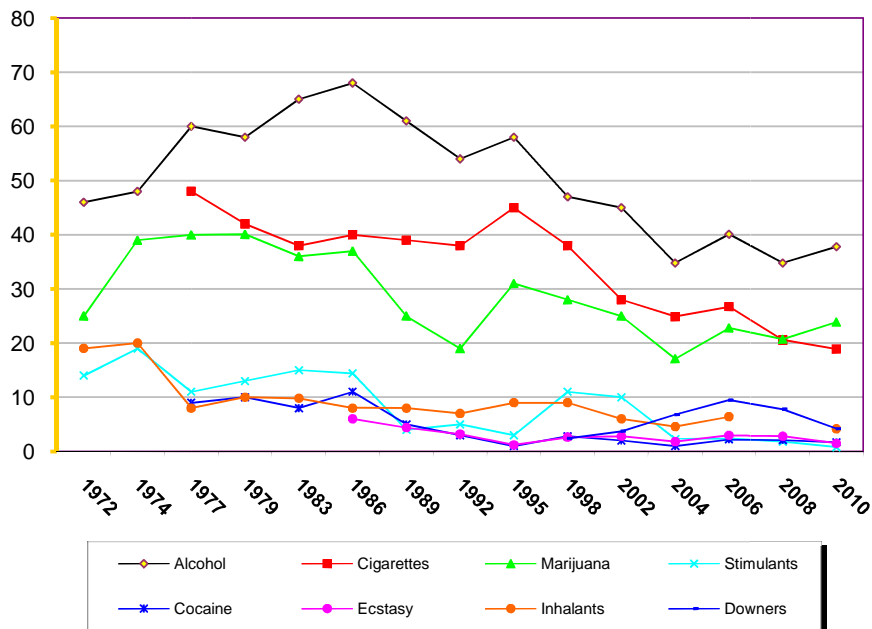


FIGURE 8 TRENDS IN LIFETIME USE GRADES 6 THROUGH 12*



LIFETIME USE BY GRADE – 2004 - 2010

- Between 2004 and 2008 lifetime use, i.e. if the student ever used in his/her lifetime, showed a progressive downward percent. However, the 2010 data show an upward trend for all high school grades for alcohol and marijuana. 10th grade shows an increase for cigarette smoking.

TABLE 38 LIFETIME SUBSTANCE USE BY GRADE – 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010

Substance		Grade						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cigarettes	2010	3.2	7.4	11.9	24.1	27.1	30.7	33.9
	2008	4.8	7.7	17.4	27.1	25.1	31.0	36.1
	2006	8.7	11.0	18.3	30.7	32.9	39.4	44.8
	2004	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Alcohol*	2010	5.9	13.6	24.8	42.4	55.8	65.8	70.3
	2008	6.7	14.7	27.0	40.9	47.2	54.5	63.8
	2006	11.6	17.5	27.8	43.9	50.3	57.8	67.1
	2004	7.8	17.3	28.5	42.0	54.0	56.4	65.5
Marijuana	2010	1.1	4.9	15.0	26.7	36.6	42.1	47.7
	2008	2.2	5.3	15.5	26.5	25.5	35.6	42.2
	2006	2.3	5.3	11.6	28.9	27.8	42.2	41.5
	2004	1.1	5.5	12.8	20.8	27.7	31.4	40.0

*Binge drinking is not included since comparable data are not available

TABLE 39 LIFETIME SUBSTANCE USE BY GRADE – 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010 - CONTINUED

Substance		Grade						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cocaine	2008	0	0	1.3	1.1	4.2	1.4	4.4
	2008	0	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.2	5.0	2.4
	2006	1.0	.7	1.1	2.0	3.5	3.4	3.4
	2004	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.9	2.4	1.9	2.5
Benzodiazepines	2010	0	0.5	0.3	1.1	3.4	3.6	5.4
	2008	0	0.6	1.5	2.3	3.4	4.0	5.0
	2006	0	0	.2	1.7	1.3	1.0	1.8
	2004	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.2	4.5	3.4	5.6

		Grade						
Substance		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Uppers	2010	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.3	1.4	2.3
	2008	.3	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.0	3.4	3.4
	2006	1.0	1.3	1.2	2.0	2.8	5.1	3.1
	2004	0.5	1.4	1.1	2.7	4.0	4.5	3.8
Downers	2010	1.4	2.1	3.8	4.6	6.5	4.8	7.5
	2008	3.8	4.8	8.9	11.2	7.8	9.5	8.4
	2006	6.2	6.2	5.7	10.9	11.8	12.6	12.0
	2004	3.9	3.5	5.5	7.8	11.2	9.3	9.7
Inhalants	2010	3.1	5.4	5.2	5.4	3.4	2.7	3.7
	2008	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	2006	6.9	9.5	10.6	5.7	5.6	3.8	2.4
	2004	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	2.4	1.6

TABLE 40 LIFETIME SUBSTANCE USE BY GRADE – 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010 – CONTINUED 2

		Grade						
Substance		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Hallucinogens	2010	0	0.5	0.7	1.5	3.4	4.5	6.8
	2008	0.9	1.1	2.0	2.8	3.8	5.8	5.6
	2006	0.3	0.7	1.9	3.6	4.1	5.1	5.2
	2004	0.9	0.7	0.5	2.1	4.5	3.7	3.1
Steroids	2010	0.6	0.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.5
	2008	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.4	1.1	1.6	1.7
	2006	1.6	2.3	2.9	2.0	3.8	2.4	1.5
	2004	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.6	0.8	0.3
Pain pills (Oxycontin etc)	2010	1.8	4.1	4.2	5.5	10.4	9.0	12.9
	2008	6.8	7.9	13.6	15.5	14.4	17.1	19.0
	2006	11.8	13.7	14.3	22.3	17.8	20.3	23.4
Oxycontin only	2004	0	0	0.3	1.9	2.9	2.6	2.8
Prescription to get high	2010	0.8	1.7	2.5	3.9	7.0	7.5	7.1
	2008	0.5	0.3	0.3	1.9	1.4	1.8	1.7
	2006	0.9	2.1	2.4	4.4	4.3	5.7	6.9
	2004	0.6	3.6	2.8	4.0	5.3	5.4	7.6
Triple C	2010	0.5	1.2	2.5	2.6	3.4	3.2	5.2
	2008	3.6	1.4	2.9	5.2	4.5	5.6	7.1
	2006	0	0.3	1.0	1.3	3.2	4.1	5.5
	2004	0.2	0.2	0.5	2.8	4.3	2.1	2.5

STUDENT PERCEPTION OF RISK 2006-2010

- The perception of high risk for the use of all substances , except cigarettes, has **decreased** since 2008
- 65% of students see smoking a pack of cigarettes as high risk compared with only 31% who see occasional marijuana smoking as high risk; 51% see regular marijuana smoking as high risk health behavior.
- Only 29% consider occasional alcohol drinking as high risk behavior.

TABLE 41 PERCEPTION OF RISK IN PERCENT – ALL STUDENTS

	No Risk	Some Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	High Risk
2010	4.0	8.2	7.7	14.8	65.4
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day 2008	2.9	7.7	8.2	16.5	64.6
2006	4.7	8.0	8.8	16.9	61.6
2010	12.3	17.9	11.5	26.9	31.5
Smoke marijuana occasionally 2008	8.3	14.7	10.8	25.9	40.4
2006	10.0	15.6	11.2	23.8	39.4
2010	8.2	11.9	10.4	18.6	51.0
Smoke marijuana regularly 2008	5.5	8.7	10.2	15.8	59.8
2006	6.9	9.9	10.8	16.5	55.9
2010	3.6	4.5	9.8	20.2	62.0
Use cocaine occasionally 2008	2.4	3.9	9.9	19.7	64.0
2006	4.4	3.0	10.7	17.3	64.4
2010	3.5	2.3	9.1	8.1	77.2
Use cocaine regularly 2008	2.5	2.0	9.0	7.0	79.5
2006	4.2	2.0	9.7	7.7	76.4
2010	4.0	6.3	14.3	23.9	51.4
Other drugs occasionally 2008	2.5	5.5	14.8	22.7	54.5
2006	4.3	5.2	15.5	21.5	53.5

	No Risk	Some Risk	Don't Know	Moderate Risk	High Risk
2010	3.6	3.8	13.3	12.7	66.6
Other drugs regularly 2008	2.7	3.7	13.5	11.1	69.0
2006	4.2	3.7	14.4	11.7	65.9
2010	12.1	24.4	11.9	22.4	29.2
1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally 2008	10.5	24.0	11.8	22.1	31.7
2006	14.0	27.5	12.2	19.2	27.1
2010	6.0	12.8	11.1	23.1	47.0
1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly 2008	4.4	12.8	10.4	22.5	49.9
2006	6.5	16.7	11.5	24.1	41.3
2010	4.4	4.3	9.0	10.9	71.5
5 or more drinks within a couple of hours 2008	3.3	4.5	8.7	9.7	73.8
2006	5.0	6.9	10.4	15.9	61.9

ATTITUDES TOWARD DRUGS

In 2008 Partnership for a Drug-Free America released The Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS)⁷. The study asked 7th through 12th grade students to respond on a 4 point Likert scale (Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree) to 16 reasons why “kids use drugs.” We used the instrument and for this report the answers were reduced to Agree and Disagree.

The following table shows the percent of Charlotte Mecklenburg students in grades 7 – 12 who agreed with each item.

- **84.2% of students agreed with the statement that youth who used drugs would say “being high feels good.” Only 46.3% of students in 2008 agreed with this statement**
- The second most agreed to statement is that students do drugs “to deal with the pressures and stress of school.” 80.3% in 2010; 77.5% in 2008.

⁷ The study was repeated in 2010 but focused only on alcohol. <http://www.drugfree.org/newsroom/full-report-and-key-findings-2010>; therefore there are no comparisons possible.

- Two reasons ranked third in why Charlotte students think kids do drugs: “It helps kids when they’re having a hard time” and “to look cool” 79.7%.
 - “Looking cool” was the number one reason in 2008 with 77.5% agreeing with the that year.
- The least agreed with reason in both studies was to “help students study better,” 27.9% in 2010. 14.9% in 2008.

We added a new statement: “Kids think that marijuana is natural and therefore not harmful.” Two-thirds (66.7%) of students agreed with this statement

TABLE 42 RESPONSES TO “REASONS KIDS USE DRUGS” SURVEY, CHARLOTTE-NATIONAL

Students believe that those who use drugs believe that:	Charlotte 2008	Charlotte 2010
Being high feels good	(46.3)	84.2
Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school	(75.8)	80.3
Drugs help kids when they’re having a hard time	(46.6)	79.7
Kids use drugs to look cool	(77.5)	79.7
Drugs help you forget your troubles	(55.0)	77.9
Marijuana helps you relax	(52.4)	76.5
Drugs are fun	(24.2)	75.1
Drugs help you relax socially	(45.8)	73.7
Drugs help kids deal with problems at home	(51.6)	72.1
Kids use drugs to help them feel better about themselves	(61.9)	69.5
Kids think that marijuana is natural and therefore not harmful	x	66.7
Drug users feel adventurous	(53.4)	63.2
Kids use drugs to improve their athletic performance	(40.8)	42.2
Drugs help you lose weight	(32.8)	34.6
Kids use drugs to improve their physical appearance	(31.8)	32.7
Parties are more fun with drugs	(28.8)	27.1
Kids use drugs to help them study better	(14.9)	27.9

There are a number of significant relationships between attitudes toward drug and drug use. Specifically:

- Students who believe that youth who use drugs believe that “Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school” are **three times more likely** to have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days, used marijuana in the last 30 days and to have binge drunk in the last 30 days than students who did not agree
- Students who believe that youth who use drugs believe that “Kids think that being high feels good,” are **six times more likely** to have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days, used marijuana in the last 30 days and to have binge drunk in the last 30 days than students who did not agree
- Students who believe that youth who use drugs believe that “Drugs help kids when they’re having a hard time,” are **three times more likely** to have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days, used marijuana in the last 30 days and to have binge drunk in the last 30 days than students who did not agree with the statement

TABLE 43 RESPONSE TO “KIDS USE DRUGS TO DEAL WITH THE PRESSURES AND STRESS OF SCHOOL” BY DRINKING ALCOHOL LAST 30 DAYS

Drank alcohol last 30 days		Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2201	833	3034
	Percent	81.5%	94.1%	84.6%
Yes	Count	501	52	553
	Percent	18.5%	5.9%	15.4%
Total	Count	2702	885	3587
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 45.43; df=1; p<.000$

Table 44 Response to “Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school” by using marijuana last 30 days

Used marijuana last 30 days		Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2315	844	3159
	Percent	85.7%	95.4%	88.1%
Yes	Count	387	41	428
	Percent	14.3%	4.6%	11.9%
Total	Count	2702	885	3587
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 31.61; df=1; p<.000$

TABLE 45 RESPONSE TO "KIDS USE DRUGS TO DEAL WITH THE PRESSURES AND STRESS OF SCHOOL" BY BINGE DRINKING LAST 30 DAYS

Binge drank last 30 days		Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2544	872	3416
	Percent	94.2%	98.6%	95.3%
Yes	Count	158	12	170
	Percent	5.8%	1.4%	4.7%
Total	Count	2702	884	3586
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 17.88$; $df=1$; $p<.000$

TABLE 46 RESPONSE TO "KIDS THINK THAT BEING HIGH FEELS GOOD" BY DRINKING ALCOHOL LAST 30 DAYS

Drank alcohol last 30 days		Kids think that being high feels good		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2293	739	3032
	Percent	81.3%	96.9%	84.6%
Yes	Count	526	24	550
	Percent	18.7%	3.1%	15.4%
Total	Count	2819	763	3582
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 67.21$; $df=1$; $p<.000$

TABLE 47 RESPONSE TO "KIDS THINK THAT BEING HIGH FEELS GOOD" BY USING MARIJUANA LAST 30 DAYS

Used marijuana last 30 days		Kids think that being high feels good		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2408	747	3155
	Percent	85.4%	97.9%	88.1%
Yes	Count	411	16	427
	Percent	14.6%	2.1%	11.9%
Total	Count	2819	763	3582
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 53.97$; $df=1$; $p<.000$

TABLE 48 RESPONSE TO "KIDS THINK THAT BEING HIGH FEELS GOOD" BY BINGE DRINKING LAST 30 DAYS

Binge drank last 30 days		Kids think that being high feels good		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2651	761	3412
	Percent	94.0%	99.6%	95.2%
Yes	Count	169	3	172
	Percent	6.0%	.4%	4.8%
Total	Count	2820	764	3584
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 26.99$; $df=1$; $p<.000$

TABLE 49 RESPONSE TO "KIDS THINK THAT BEING HIGH FEELS GOOD" BY DRINKING ALCOHOL LAST 30 DAYS

Drank alcohol last 30 days		Drugs help kids when they're having a hard time		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2183	850	3033
	Percent	81.2%	95.0%	84.6%
Yes	Count	507	45	552
	Percent	18.8%	5.0%	15.4%
Total	Count	2690	895	3585
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 61.98$; $df=1$; $p<.000$

TABLE 50 RESPONSE TO "KIDS THINK THAT BEING HIGH FEELS GOOD" BY USING MARIJUANA LAST 30 DAYS

Used marijuana last 30 days		Drugs help kids when they're having a hard time		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2300	856	3156
	Percent	85.5%	95.7%	88.1%
Yes	Count	390	38	428
	Percent	14.5%	4.3%	11.9%
Total	Count	2690	894	3584
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 39.66$; $df=1$; $p<.000$

TABLE 51 RESPONSE TO "KIDS THINK THAT BEING HIGH FEELS GOOD" BY BINGE DRINKING LAST 30 DAYS

Binge drank last 30 days		Drugs help kids when they're having a hard time		Total
		Agree	Disagree	
No	Count	2531	882	3413
	Percent	94.1%	98.7%	95.2%
Yes	Count	159	12	171
	Percent	5.9%	1.3%	4.8%
Total	Count	2690	894	3584
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 19.51; df=1; p<.000$

➤ Female students are more likely than male students to agree with all of the statements. The difference is statistically significant in all but a few of the statements.

TABLE 52 PERCENT OF MALE AND FEMALE STUDENTS GRADES 7-12 AGREEING WITH THE DIFFERENT REASONS KIDS USE DRUGS

Students believe that those who use drugs believe that:	Male	Female	Significance
Being high feels good	82.3	86.7	.001
Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school	76.3	85.2	.000
Drugs help kids when they're having a hard time	76.3	83.9	.000
Kids use drugs to look cool	76.0	83.6	.000
Drugs help you forget your troubles	73.1	82.9	.000
Marijuana helps you relax	75.5	78.3	no
Drugs are fun	71.8	78.8	.000
Drugs help you relax socially	70.0	77.3	.000
Drugs help kids deal with problems at home	66.1	78.7	.000
Kids use drugs to help them feel better about themselves	65.8	74.2	.000
Kids think that marijuana is natural and therefore not harmful	62.7	62.4	no
Drug users feel adventurous	59.9	66.2	.001
Kids use drugs to improve their athletic performance	40.1	44.4	.02
Drugs help you lose weight	30.6	38.0	.000
Kids use drugs to improve their physical appearance	31.7	33.6	no
Parties are more fun with drugs	70.3	75.8	.001
Kids use drugs to help them study better	27.0	29.0	no

ACCESS TO SUBSTANCES

- Students are finding it easier to get alcohol and marijuana than they did in 2008.

- 56.7% of all students say that it is either fairly easy or very easy to get alcohol; 43.3% found it easy in 2008.
- 48.4% of all students say that marijuana is fairly or very easy to get; 33.4% found it easy in 2008.

TABLE 53 EASE OF GETTING SUBSTANCES, 2010

	Can't get/Fairly Hard	Fairly Easy/Very Easy
Alcohol	43.3	56.7
Marijuana	51.6	48.4
Cocaine	87.5	12.5
Other Drugs	73.2	26.8

ACCESS COMPARISON

TABLE 54 EASE OF GETTING ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS - MIDDLE SCHOOL- 2006/2008(IN PERCENT)

Middle School	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Other Drugs	
Can't Get	2010	41.4	50.8	56.2	51.6
	2008	40.7	50.1	54.6	50.6
	2006	46.8	60.7	64.7	58.1
Fairly Hard	2010	5.4	3.4	2.9	3.3
	2008	4.3	3.8	4.1	3.7
	2006	4.9	3.9	3.6	5.4
Fairly Easy	2010	9.9	5.8	1.6	3.9
	2008	11.2	5.1	2.0	4.7
	2006	12.8	4.7	2.6	4.5
Very Easy	2010	9.9	5.2	1.9	4.0
	2008	11.8	6.8	2.2	3.8
	2006	11.4	6.2	1.8	4.5
Don't Know	2010	10.9	34.7	37.4	37.2
	2008	32.4	34.3	37.2	37.2
	2006	24.1	24.4	27.2	27.4

TABLE 55 EASE OF GETTING ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS HIGH SCHOOL- 2006/2008 (IN PERCENT)

High School		Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Other Drugs
Can't Get	2010	14.1	19.7	34.8	27.5
	2008	16.4	22.4	35.6	30.1
	2006	17.9	24.8	36.7	31.1
Fairly Hard	2010	8.0	4.1	8.7	7.1
	2008	6.5	2.8	8.7	6.4
	2006	5.3	3.1	3.6	3.9
Fairly Easy	2010	8.0	16.2	5.6	13.7
	2008	27.1	18.1	7.4	12.6
	2006	27.3	14.1	7.4	11.7
Very Easy	2010	31.7	38.5	4.7	9.0
	2008	32.4	32.7	6.1	10.3
	2006	33.9	38.5	9.3	13.8
Don't Know	2010	16.2	21.5	46.2	42.8
	2008	17.6	24.0	42.2	40.6
	2006	15.6	19.5	39.8	39.4

SOURCE OF SUBSTANCES

The primary source for cigarettes, alcohol and prescription drugs to get high, for those admitting use, is from friends.

Cigarettes: Overall 8.6% of students smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days; of those who did:

- 52.5% got their last cigarette from friends (53.5% in 2008, 49.8% in 2006 and 47.3% in 2004)
- 17.8% had someone buy them (19.5% in 2008, 18.6% in 2006 and 25.9% in 2004) a decrease
- 13.0% bought them themselves (10.5% in 2008, 14.6% in 2006 and 14.9% in 2004) an increase
- 13.3% took them from home or a friend's home (14% in 2008 and 2006 and 10.1% in 2004)
 - 2.1% got them from parents (2.9% in 2008, 1.8% in 2006 and 1.4% in 2004)

TABLE 56 SOURCE OF LAST CIGARETTES

Source of last cigarettes		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Parents gave them to me	14	.4	2.1
	Took from home	71	1.9	10.9
	Friend gave them to me	343	9.2	52.5
	Friend's parents gave them to me	8	.2	1.3
	Took from friend's home	16	.4	2.4
	Bought at store myself	85	2.3	13.0
	Someone bought for me	116	3.1	17.8
	Total	653	17.6	100.0
Missing	Don't smoke	3043	81.9	
	System	18	.5	
	Total	3061	82.4	
Total		3714	100.0	

Alcohol: Overall 15.3% indicate they drank alcohol in the last 30 days; of those who did:

- 32.8% got their alcohol from friends (32.8% in 2008, 35.4% in 2006 and 35% in 2004)

The proportion of youth who drank alcohol the last 30 days who said they got it from their parents decreased from 20.3% in 2008 to 17.2%

- 17.2% were given alcohol by parents (20.3% in 2008, 24.5% in 2006 and 15.8% in 2004)
 - Middle School: 31.7% (33.7% in 2008, 46.3% in 2006 and 33.3% in 2004)
 - High School: 14.5% (16.8% in 2008, 19.7% in 2006 and 32.9% in 2004)
- 17.9% took it from home (18.5% in 2008, 14.3% in 2006 and 14.0% in 2004)
 - Middle School: 18.5% (25.3% in 2008)
 - High School: 17.8% (16.9% in 2008)
- 3.7% took it from a friend's home (4.0% in 2008, 2.9% in 2006 and 4.7% in 2004)
- 22.5% had someone else buy alcohol for them (17.4% in 2008, 19.2% in 2006 and 26.9% in 2004)
- 3.1% bought the alcohol themselves (2.6% in 2008, 3.7% in 2006 and 3.6% in 2004)

TABLE 57 SOURCE OF LAST ALCOHOL

Where last got alcohol		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Parents gave it to me	228	6.1	17.2
	Took from home	238	6.4	17.9
	Friend gave it to me	436	11.7	32.8
	Friend's parents gave it to me	37	1.0	2.8
	Took from friend's home	50	1.3	3.7
	Bought at store myself	41	1.1	3.1
	Someone bought for me	298	8.0	22.5
	Total	1326	35.7	100.0
Missing	Don't drink	2349	63.2	
	System	39	1.0	
	Total	2388	64.3	
Total		3714	100.0	

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The question was asked, "The last time you took a prescription drug to get high how did you get it."

- 68.3% of the students who said the last time they took a prescription drug to get high they got it from a friend.
 - 64.7 Middle School 69.2% High School
- 21.2% say they took it from home.

TABLE 58 SOURCE OF LAST DRUG TAKEN THAT WAS NOT PRESCRIBED

Last time you got any drug not prescribed to you, how did you get it?		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Parents gave me	4	.1	2.9
	Took from home	32	.9	21.8
	Friend gave to me	100	2.7	68.3
	Friend's prescription	9	.2	5.9
	Took from friends home	2	.0	1.1
	Total	146	3.9	100.0
Missing	Don't use	3470	93.4	
	Own prescription	63	1.7	
	System	35	.9	
	Total	3568	96.1	
Total		3714	100.0	

LOCATION OF USE

- Of students who drank alcohol in the last 30 days, 11.6% did so at home with parents. There is no way to determine the circumstances but the wording of the question said “more than a sip.” (12.4% in 2008)
- The largest proportions (50.4%) drink their alcohol at a friend’s house (19.2%) and at parties at friends’ houses (31.2%). Another 5% drink at parties in their own homes and 4% drink at parties at strangers’ houses.

- **6.7% of students who drank alcohol within the last 30 days drink at home alone (10.5% in 2008).**
 - 8.5% in Middle School 6.5% in High School
- **38.5% of high school students and 21.8% of middle school students last drank at a party**

- Middle School: 39.4% (N=19) last had a drink given them by parents (24.3% in 2008)
8.6% **drank home alone (20.3% in 2008)**
21.8% drank at parties – theirs or a stranger’s (17.6% in 2008)
No middle school student drank at a party at his or her own home
- High School: 19.8% drank at a friend’s house (24.5% in 2008)
15.7% drank with friends in their own home (12.9% in 2008)
38.5% had their last drink of alcohol during parties (35.1% in 2008)
1.8% of the time the parties were at their own home (4.3% in 2008)

TABLE 59 WHERE STUDENTS DRINK ALCOHOL, 2008-2010 IN PERCENT

The last time you drank alcohol, where did you drink it?		
	2008	2010
At home with parents	12.4	11.6
At home alone	10.5	6.7
At home with friends	11.7	15.1
Friend’s house	24.1	19.2
Vacant building	.2	0.7
Park or outside	4.0	5.3
At a party (my house)	4.3	1.6
At a party (friend’s house)	25.0	31.2
At a party (stranger’s house)	3.6	4.0
Car	1.3	1.7
Professional sports event	.5	
Concert	.5	0.7
Restaurant, bar, club	1.9	1.7
Total	550	100.0

TABLE 60 WHERE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS HAD THEIR LAST ALCOHOLIC DRINK

The last time you drank alcohol, where did you drink it?		
	2008	2010
At home with parents	24.3	39.4
At home alone	20.3	8.6
At home with friends	4.1	10.2
Friend's house	21.6	11.7
Park or outside	8.1	6.6
At a party (my house)	4.1	0
At a party (friend's house)	13.5	15.1
At a party (stranger's)	0	6.7
Car	1.4	0
Restaurant, bar, club	2.7	0
Total	100.0	

TABLE 61 WHERE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HAD THEIR LAST ALCOHOLIC DRINK

The last time you drank alcohol, where did you drink it?		
	2008	2010
At home with parents	10.4	8.9
At home alone	9.1	6.5
At home with friends	12.9	15.7
Friend's house	24.5	19.8
Vacant building	.3	0.6
Park or outside	3.4	5.2
At a party (my house)	4.3	1.8
At a party (friend's house)	26.7	32.9
At a party (stranger's house)	4.1	3.8
Car	1.3	1.7
HS Sports event	.1	0.5
Concert	.5	0.8
Restaurant, bar, club	1.8	1.9
Total	473	100.0

Of students who used alcohol in the last 30 days

- 38.9 % have had **alcohol** at concerts or festival events (37.9% in 2008)

This is an increase

- 26.3% of middle school students (21.2% in 2008)
- 40.4% of high school students (40.7% in 2008)

- 16.0% have had **alcohol** at sports events (16.4% in 2008)

This is a slight decrease

- 7.8% of middle school students (11.8% in 2008)
- 16.9% of high school students (17.1% in 2008)

PARENTAL RULES

- 87.0% of students say that their parents have strict rules against drinking alcohol (87.1% in 2008).
 - 90.0% Middle School (90.0% in 2008)
 - 84.8% High School (84.9% in 2008)

Students who say their parents have **NO** strict rules about alcohol and drug use were **twice as likely** to have drunk alcohol or used marijuana in the last 30 days than students who say their parents have strict rules(p<.000)

- Of the students who said their parents had no clear rules, 27.9% drank in the last 30 days compared with 13.9% who said their parents had strict rules
- Of the students who said their parents had no clear rules, 23.4% use marijuana in the last 30 days compared with 10.4% who said their parents had strict rules

TABLE 62 PARENTAL RULES ON ALCOHOL AND DRUGS AND HAVING CONSUMED ALCOHOL WITHIN THE LAST 30 DAYS

Drank alcohol last 30 days		My parents have clear rules about drug use		Total
		No	Yes	
No	Count	289	2313	2602
	Percent	72.1%	86.1%	84.3%
Yes	Count	112	372	484
	Percent	27.9%	13.9%	15.7%
Total	Count	401	2685	3086
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

TABLE 63 PARENTAL RULES ON ALCOHOL AND DRUGS AND HAVING USED MARIJUANA WITHIN THE LAST 30 DAYS

Used marijuana last 30 days		My parents have clear rules about drug use		Total
		No	Yes	
No	Count	307	2407	2714
	Percent	76.6%	89.6%	87.9%
Yes	Count	94	279	373
	Percent	23.4%	10.4%	12.1%
Total	Count	401	2686	3087
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

USER CORRELATES

CIGARETTES:

- Students with a brother or sister under 21 who smokes are nearly 3 times more likely to smoke ($p < .000$).

TABLE 64 SMOKING BY WHETHER A SIBLING SMOKES

Smoked cigarettes last 30 days		Person under 18 smoking at home		Total
		No	Yes	
No	Count	3089	276	3365
	Percent	92.9%	77.7%	91.4%
Yes	Count	236	79	315
	Percent	7.1%	22.3%	8.6%
Total	Count	3325	355	3680
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- Students with an adult in their home who smokes are nearly twice as likely to smoke ($p < .000$).

TABLE 65 SMOKING BY WHETHER AN ADULT IN THE HOUSE SMOKES

Smoked cigarettes last 30 days		Does an adult in your home smoke?		Total
		No	Yes	
No	Count	2328	1047	3375
	Percent	93.0%	88.1%	91.4%
Yes	Count	175	142	317
	Percent	7.0%	11.9%	8.6%
Total	Count	2503	1189	3692
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- It is statistically significant ($p < .000$) that the students with lower grades (C and below) are more likely to have smoked in the last 30 days.

- Of students receiving a grade of A, 2.6% smoked cigarettes during the last 30 days compared with 28.0% of F students.

TABLE 66 SMOKING BY LAST YEAR'S GRADES

Smoked cigarettes last 30 days		Last year's overall average grade					Total
		A	B	C	D	F	
No	Count	958	1474	683	112	36	3263
	Percent	97.4%	92.5%	84.4%	83.6%	72.0%	91.4%
Yes	Count	26	119	126	22	14	307
	Percent	2.6%	7.5%	15.6%	16.4%	28.0%	8.6%
Total	Count	984	1593	809	134	50	3570
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- The more absences a student has had, the more likely the student has smoked within the last 30 days ($p < .000$).
 - 2.7% of students with no unexcused absences last year smoked cigarettes within the last 30 days while 30.9% of those with 16 or more unexcused absences had smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days

TABLE 67 SMOKING BY NUMBER OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Smoked cigarettes last 30 days		Last year's number of unexcused absences					Total
		None	1-5	6-10	11-15	16+	
No	Count	820	1663	503	122	103	3211
	Percent	97.3%	93.4%	87.5%	75.8%	69.1%	91.5%
Yes	Count	23	117	72	39	46	297
	Percent	2.7%	6.6%	12.5%	24.2%	30.9%	8.5%
Total	Count	843	1780	575	161	149	3508
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- The percent of students smoking in the last 30 days is also significantly related to the highest education level reached by an adult in the home: 13.3% of youth from homes with less than a high school education smoked while only 5.2% of students with an adult in the home who has done post-graduate study.

Alcohol:

- **Students receiving grades of A last year are less likely than students receiving F to have consumed alcohol in the last 30 days ($p < .003$). 9.6% of A students drank in the last 30 days while 32.7% of F students admitted drinking alcohol in the last 30 days.**

TABLE 68 ALCOHOL LAST 30 DAYS BY LAST YEAR'S GRADES

Drank alcohol last 30 days		Last year's overall average grade					Total
		A	B	C	D	F	
No	Count	887	1366	628	103	33	3017
	Percent	90.4%	85.8%	77.4%	77.4%	67.3%	84.6%
Yes	Count	94	226	183	30	16	549
	Percent	9.6%	14.2%	22.6%	22.6%	32.7%	15.4%
Total	Count	981	1592	811	133	49	3566
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- The more unexcused absences, the greater the likelihood that students consumed alcohol in the last 30 days ($p < .000$).
 - 5.7% of students with no unexcused absences last year drank alcohol in the last 30 days while 37.4% with 16 or more unexcused absences drank.

TABLE 69 ALCOHOL LAST 30 DAYS BY NUMBER OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Drank alcohol last 30 days		Last year's number of unexcused absences					Total
		None	1-5	6-10	11-15	16+	
No	Count	794	1520	439	117	92	2962
	Percent	94.3%	85.4%	76.1%	72.7%	62.6%	84.5%
Yes	Count	48	259	138	44	55	544
	Percent	5.7%	14.6%	23.9%	27.3%	37.4%	15.5%
Total	Count	842	1779	577	161	147	3506
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

There is a significant relationship between students who smoke and who also drink alcohol.

- Only 11% of students who did not smoke in the last 30 days consumed alcohol
- 57.9% of those who smoked also drank.

TABLE 70 CIGARETTE SMOKING IN THE LAST 30 DAYS AND ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

Drank alcohol last 30 days		Smoked cigarettes last 30 days		Total
		No	Yes	
No	Count	2996	133	3129
	Percent	88.7%	42.1%	84.7%
Yes	Count	381	183	564
	Percent	11.3%	57.9%	15.3%
Total	Count	3377	316	3693
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Binge Drinking:

- **Students from homes where parents have no strict rules about the use of alcohol and drugs are twice as likely to binge drink alcohol in the last 30 days than students from homes with clear rules.**
 - 4.2% from homes with rules binge drank while 10.5% without rules binge drank

TABLE 71 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTAL RULES ON ALCOHOL/DRUGS AND BINGE DRINKING IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

Binge drank last 30 days		Parents have strict rules		Total
		No	Yes	
No	Count	359	2573	2932
	Percent	89.5%	95.8%	95.0%
Yes	Count	42	113	155
	Percent	10.5%	4.2%	5.0%
Total	Count	401	2686	3087
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- **Students receiving grades of A last year are less likely than students receiving F to have binge drank in the last 30 days**
 - 16.3% of students who received average grades of F binge drank while 2.4% of students with A grades binge drank.

TABLE 72 GRADES AND BINGE DRINKING LAST 30 DAYS

Binge drank last 30 days		Last year's overall average grade					Total
		A	B	C	D	F	
No	Count	957	1519	751	125	41	3393
	Percent	97.6%	95.4%	92.6%	94.0%	83.7%	95.1%
Yes	Count	24	73	60	8	8	173
	Percent	2.4%	4.6%	7.4%	6.0%	16.3%	4.9%
Total	Count	981	1592	811	133	49	3566
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- The more unexcused absences, the greater the likelihood that students binge drank in the last 30 days ($p < .000$).
 - Only 1.2% of students with no unexcused absences last year binge drank in the last 30 days while 14.2% with 16 or more unexcused absences binge drank.

TABLE 73 NUMBER OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AND BINGE DRINKING LAST 30 DAYS

Binge drank last 30 days		Last year's number of unexcused absences					Total
		None	1-5	6-10	11-15	16+	
No	Count	833	1703	533	141	127	3337
	Percent	98.8%	95.8%	92.2%	87.6%	85.8%	95.1%
Yes	Count	10	75	45	20	21	171
	Percent	1.2%	4.2%	7.8%	12.4%	14.2%	4.9%
Total	Count	843	1778	578	161	148	3508
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Marijuana:

- Poor school performance and unexcused absences are significantly related to smoking marijuana ($p < .000$).
 - 4.4% of A students used marijuana in the last 30 days; 28.6% of F students and 21.5% of C students used in the last month.

TABLE 74 MARIJUANA LAST 30 DAYS BY LAST YEAR'S GRADES

Used marijuana last 30 days		Last year's overall average grade					Total
		A	B	C	D	F	
No	Count	939	1423	637	99	35	3133
	Percent	95.6%	89.4%	78.5%	75.0%	71.4%	87.9%
Yes	Count	43	169	174	33	14	433
	Percent	4.4%	10.6%	21.5%	25.0%	28.6%	12.1%
Total	Count	982	1592	811	132	49	3566
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- 35.4% of students with 16 or more unexcused absences admit to use of marijuana in the last 30 days compared with 10.8% with 1-5 unexcused absences and 4.5% with no unexcused absences.

TABLE 75 MARIJUANA LAST 30 DAYS BY NUMBER OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Used marijuana last 30 days		Last year's number of unexcused absences					Total
		None	1-5	6-10	11-15	16+	
No	Count	805	1586	473	123	95	3082
	Percent	95.5%	89.2%	81.8%	76.4%	64.6%	87.9%
Yes	Count	38	193	105	38	52	426
	Percent	4.5%	10.8%	18.2%	23.6%	35.4%	12.1%
Total	Count	843	1779	578	161	147	3508
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

CONCLUSIONS

Positive findings:

- Students with parents who have strict rules regarding alcohol and drugs are significantly less likely to drink or use drugs.
- There has been a decrease in the percent of students smoking cigarettes
- There has been a decrease in the percent of Middle School students using alcohol in the last 30 days
- There is a decrease in the percent of students who binge drank in the last 30 days
- There has been a decrease in the percent of Middle School students who used marijuana in the last 30 days
- Charlotte Mecklenburg data show lower alcohol use in the last 30 days in all comparable grades than reported by national data in 2008.
- Charlotte Mecklenburg data show lower proportions of students using cigarettes, alcohol or cocaine in the last 30 days than are reported by students in the State.
- The proportion of students consuming alcohol or using marijuana has decreased for 6-9th grades
- The use of drugs other than alcohol, marijuana and tobacco products is less than two percent and less than in 2008
- Over 95% of students perceive parental disapproval for the use of all substances.
- The proportion of youth who drank alcohol the last 30 days who said they got it from their parents decreased from 20.3% in 2008 to 17.2%
- The proportion of students who drank at home alone has decreased since 2008
- There has been a slight decrease in the proportion of youth who drank alcohol at sports events

Negative findings:

- There has been an increase in the percent smoking cigars with tobacco and using any tobacco product.
- There is an **increase** in the percent of High School students drinking alcohol in the last 30 days
- There has been a significant **increase** in the use of marijuana in the last 30 days by High School students
- Proportionately **more 10th and 12th grade** students in Charlotte admit using marijuana in the last 30 days than students report nationally.

- Proportionately **more 10th grade** Charlotte students than students nationally report cigarette smoking.
- Proportionately **more** Charlotte 9th grade and 12th grade students admit using marijuana than the same grade students in the State.
- **More Charlotte 9th grade** students, both male and female, and females in 10th and 12th grades have used marijuana in the last 30 days than comparable students in the State
- Alcohol consumption and marijuana use have substantially increased for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students
- The average age to begin smoking is 12.7, consuming alcohol is 13.6, using marijuana is 13.6, and binge drinking is 14.3
- The percent of students who see significant risk is **LOWEST** for 1 or 2 drinks occasionally (29.2%) and for occasional marijuana smoking (31.5%)
- The perception of significant risk from occasional or regular alcohol consumption and the risk from binge drinking have all **decreased** since 2008.
- The perception of significant harm (physically or in other ways) to them for smoking marijuana occasionally or regularly has **decreased substantially** since 2008
- 84.2% of students agreed with the statement that kids who use drugs would believe that “being high feels good.” Only 46.3% of students in 2008 agreed with this statement
- Students are finding it easier to get alcohol and marijuana than they did in 2008.
- There has been a slight increase in the percent of youth drinking alcohol at concerts and festivals

APPENDIX

SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Dear Student: This survey asks about you and your experience and feelings about alcohol, other drugs and your school. We need your honest answers because we want to know the truth. There is no right or wrong answer. This is not a test. There is no way to identify you. *You do not have to answer this survey and if you do decide to answer you can stop at any time.*

Your answers are important because not everyone in your school is going to be asked these questions. Your class has been selected at random, like the national public opinion surveys.

Please, DO NOT put your name on this questionnaire.
FOLLOWING ARE SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU

1. Your age: _____
2. Your gender: Male Female
3. Your Grade: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
4. School _____
5. Your race/ethnicity: 1 African-Amer. 2 Asian 3 White 4 Hispanic 5 Native Amer. 6 Multi-racial
6. Zip Code: What is the Zip Code of your home address? _____
7. Who are you living with now? 1 Mother & Father 2 Mother only 3 Father only 4 Parent & Step-parent
5 Grand parent 6 Foster Parent 7 Group Home 8 Other – family/sibling
8. What is the highest education reached by an adult in your home: 1 No high school 2 Some high school
3 High school graduate/GED 4 Some college 5 College degree 6 Graduate work 7 Graduate degree
9. What was your over-all average grade last year? 1 A 2 B 3 C 4 D 5 F
10. How many days do you think you had *unexcused* absences *last year*? 0 None 1 1-5 2 6-10 3 11-15 4 16 +

What's been your experience with tobacco use?

11. If you have ever smoked cigarettes, at what age did you first smoke them?
0 Never used 7 or younger 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
12. How often in the past month have you smoked cigarettes?
0 No times 1 1-5 times 2 6-10 times 3 10-20 times 4 20-30 times 5 more than 30 times
13. How often in the past month have you used dip or chew tobacco?
0 No times 1 1-5 times 2 6-10 times 3 10-20 times 4 20-30 times 5 more than 30 times
14. How often in the past month have you smoked cigars, cigarillos, Black & Mild with tobacco?
0 No times 1 1-5 times 2 6-10 times 3 10-20 times 4 20-30 times 5 more than 30 times

15. Does a brother or sister or a person under 18 yrs old in your home smoke? []₀ No []₁ Yes

15a. Does an adult in your home smoke? []₀ No []₁ Yes

16. The last time you got cigarettes how did you get them?

- []₀ Don't smoke []₁ Parents gave me []₂ Took from home []₃ Friend gave me []₄ Friend's parents gave me
 []₅ Took from friend's home []₆ Bought at store myself []₇ Someone bought for me

17. Do you have a prescription for Ritalin or Adderal? []₀ No []₁ Yes

17a. Have you ever given/sold any of your pills or capsules? []₀ No []₁ Yes

17b. Have you ever taken more pills/capsules at one time than were prescribed? []₀ No []₁ Yes

What's been your experience with alcohol and other drug use?

Please mark [X] your experience with each

HOW OFTEN DO YOU USE:	Never used ₀	No longer use ₁	More than a month ago ₂	1-2 times/month ₃	1-2 times/week ₄	4-5 times/week ₅	Daily ₆
18. Alcohol: beer, wine, wine coolers, liquor, alcopops							
19. Marijuana: Pot, Blunt, kush, buds, weed, herb, reefers							
20. Cocaine: powder or crack Blow, Coke, snow							
21. Benzos: Klonopin, Xanax, Valium							
22. Uppers: Speed amphetamines, crystal meth							
23. Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills							
24. K2, Spice							
25. Inhalants: super glue, paint, gas, whippets							
26. Alcoholic Energy Drinks, Four, Tilt							
27. Hallucinogens: LSD, salvia, mushrooms, Acid, Hits, Tabs, trips							
28. Black Tar Heroin							
29. Club drugs: Ecstasy, ruffies, date rape drug, cat valium, Ketamine, Special-K							
30. Panotropines							

31. Steroids							
32. Pain pills: Oxycontin, Vicodin, Loritab, Hydrocodone, Percocet							
33. Energy Drinks: Full Throttle, Red Bull, Monster, Amp, Rock Star etc							
34. Prescription drugs to get high							
35. Triple C's, Dex, Robo, skittles, Tussin							
36. Five or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours							

37. The last time you got *alcohol* how did you get it?

- _0 Don't drink _1 Parents gave me _2 Took from home _3 Friend gave me _4 Friend's parents gave me
_5 Took from friend's home _6 Bought at store myself _7 Someone bought for me

37a Have you ever gotten alcohol and given it to someone under 21? _0 No _1 Yes

38. The last time you drank alcohol, *where* did you drink it? (Mark only where you drank the most)

- _0 Don't drink _1 At home with parent(s) _2 At home alone _3 At home with friends _4 Friend's house _5 Vacant building
_6 Park or outside _7 At a party (my house) _8 At a party (friend's house) _9 At a party (stranger's house) _10 Car
_11 HS sports event _12 Prof. sports event _13 Concert _14 Restaurant, bar, club

39. Did you ever drink alcohol at concerts or festivals (Speed Street, Taste of Charlotte)? _0 No _1 Yes

40. Did you ever drink alcohol at professional sports events (Panthers, Bobcats, NASCAR, NCAA, CIAA)? _0 No _1 Yes

41. The last time you took a prescription *drug to get high* how did you get it?

- _0 Don't use _1 Own prescription _2 Parents gave me _3 Took from home _4 Friend gave me
_5 Friend's prescription _6 Took from friend's home _7 Friend's parents gave me

HOW EASY IS IT TO GET:

42. Alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/> _0 Can't get <input type="checkbox"/> _1 Fairly hard <input type="checkbox"/> _2 Fairly easy <input type="checkbox"/> _3 Very easy <input type="checkbox"/> _4 Don't know
43. Marijuana	<input type="checkbox"/> _0 Can't get <input type="checkbox"/> _1 Fairly hard <input type="checkbox"/> _2 Fairly easy <input type="checkbox"/> _3 Very easy <input type="checkbox"/> _4 Don't know
44. Cocaine	<input type="checkbox"/> _0 Can't get <input type="checkbox"/> _1 Fairly hard <input type="checkbox"/> _2 Fairly easy <input type="checkbox"/> _3 Very easy <input type="checkbox"/> _4 Don't know
45. Other drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> _0 Can't get <input type="checkbox"/> _1 Fairly hard <input type="checkbox"/> _2 Fairly easy <input type="checkbox"/> _3 Very easy <input type="checkbox"/> _4 Don't know

If you have ever used any of these drugs, at what age did you first try them?

46. Alcohol: beer, wine, wine coolers, liquor, alcopops	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
47. Marijuana: Pot, Blunt, kush, buds, weed, herb, reefers	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
48. Cocaine: powder or crack Blow, Coke, snow	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
49. Benzos: Klonopin, Xanax, Valium	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
50. Uppers: Speed, amphetamines, crystal meth	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
51. K2, Spice	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
52. Downers: Depressants, tranquilizers, sleeping pills	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
53. Inhalants: super glue, paint, gas, whippets	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
54. Panotropines	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
55. Hallucinogens: LSD, salvia, mushrooms, Acid, Hits, Tabs, trips	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
56. Alcoholic Energy Drinks, Four, Tilt	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
57. Black Tar Heroin	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
58. Club drugs: Ecstasy, ruffies, date rape drug, cat valium, Ketamine, Special-K	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
59. Steroids	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
60. Pain pills: Oxycontin, Vicodin, Loritab, Hydrocodone, Percocet	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
61. Energy Drinks: Full Throttle, Red Bull, Monster, Amp, Rock Star etc	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
62. Prescription Drugs – to get high	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
63. Triple C's, Dex, Robo, skittles, Tussin	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18
64. Five or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never used <input type="checkbox"/> 7 or younger <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18

65. If you use drugs, have you ever tried to stop on your own? 0 No 1 Yes 2. Don't use

66. If you use drugs, have you ever tried to stop with the help of a professional? 0 No 1 Yes 2. Don't use

67. For each statement, please put an X in the box which best describes how much you agree or disagree that it is a reason kids use drugs

	Agree strongly ₁	Agree somewhat ₂	Disagree somewhat ₃	Disagree strongly ₄
a) Kids use drugs to improve their athletic performance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Kids use drugs to improve their physical appearance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Kids use drugs to look cool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Kids believe that Marijuana helps you relax	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Kids use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

f) Kids think that drugs help you relax socially	[]	[]	[]	[]
g) Kids think that parties are more fun with drugs	[]	[]	[]	[]
h) Kids use drugs to help them feel better about themselves	[]	[]	[]	[]
i) Kids believe that drugs help you lose weight	[]	[]	[]	[]
j) Kids think that drugs help deal with problems at home	[]	[]	[]	[]
k) Kids believe that drug users feel adventurous	[]	[]	[]	[]
l) Kids believe that drugs help you forget your troubles	[]	[]	[]	[]
m) Kids think that being high feels good	[]	[]	[]	[]
n) Kids think that drugs help them when they're having a hard time	[]	[]	[]	[]
o) Kids believe that drugs are fun	[]	[]	[]	[]
p) Kids use drugs to help them study better	[]	[]	[]	[]
q) Kids think that marijuana is natural and therefore not harmful	[]	[]	[]	[]

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR CLOSE FRIENDS FEEL (OR WOULD FEEL) ABOUT YOU DOING THE FOLLOWING THINGS?

	Strongly Approve ₁	Approve ₂	Don't Know ₃	Disapprove ₄	Strongly Disapprove ₅
68. Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day					
69. Smoke marijuana occasionally					
70. Smoke marijuana regularly					
71. Use cocaine occasionally					
72. Use cocaine regularly					
73. Use other drugs occasionally					
74. Use other drugs regularly					
75. Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally					
76. Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly					
77. Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours					

HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK STUDENTS RISK HARMING THEMSELVES (PHYSICALLY OR IN OTHER WAYS) IF THEY DO THE FOLLOWING:

	No Risk ₁	Some Risk ₂	Don't Know ₃	Moderate Risk ₄	High Risk ₅
78. Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day					
79. Smoke marijuana occasionally					
80. Smoke marijuana regularly					
81. Use cocaine occasionally					
82. Use cocaine regularly					
83. Use other drugs occasionally					
84. Use other drugs regularly					
85. Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally					
86. Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly					
87. Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours					

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR PARENTS FEEL (OR WOULD FEEL) ABOUT YOU DOING THE FOLLOWING THINGS?

	Strongly Approve ₁	Approve ₂	Don't Know ₃	Disapprove ₄	Strongly Disapprove ₅
88. Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes/day					
89. Smoke marijuana occasionally					
90. Smoke marijuana regularly					
91. Use cocaine occasionally					
92. Use cocaine regularly					
93. Use other drugs occasionally					
94. Use other drugs regularly					

95. Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol occasionally					
96. Have 1-2 drinks of alcohol regularly					
97. Have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours					

98. My parents have clear rules about alcohol and drug use. No Yes

WHAT DO YOU THINK? (Circle your guess)

99. What percent of kids *in your school* drink alcohol? 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

100. What percent of kids *in your school* smoke marijuana? 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

101. What percent of kids *in your school* do some other kind of drug 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

102. How many of *your friends* drink alcohol? 0. None 1. A few 2. Several 3. Many

103. How many of *your friends* use some kind of drug? 0. None 1. A few 2. Several 3. Many