

CONNECTICUT SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION STUDENT SURVEY

Educational Reference Group H

Prepared by:

Health Services Research Unit
Department of Community Medicine & Health
Care



University of
Connecticut
Health Center

Supported by:



Center for Substance
Abuse Prevention
Contract #277-95-1037

1997 Connecticut Substance Abuse Prevention Student Survey

Educational Reference Group H

**Prepared by
Steven Delaronde, Matthew J. Cook, Jane A. Ungemack,
and Bethann Stanger**

**Department of Community Medicine & Health Care
University of Connecticut Health Center
Farmington, Connecticut**

June 30, 1999

This publication was prepared with funding support from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services under Contract No. 277-95-1037. The presentations herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions, official policy or position of CSAP, SAMHAS, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
GUIDE TO USING THIS REPORT	4
METHODOLOGY	5
UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE	5
PREVALENCE COMPARISONS	6
RECENT CIGARETTE USE IN THE ERG BY GENDER	7
RECENT CIGARETTE USE BY ERG AND STATE.....	7
RECENT ALCOHOL USE IN THE ERG BY GENDER.....	8
RECENT ALCOHOL USE BY ERG AND STATE	8
RECENT MARIJUANA USE IN THE ERG BY GENDER	9
RECENT MARIJUANA USE BY ERG AND STATE.....	9
RECENT INHALANT USE IN THE ERG BY GENDER	10
RECENT INHALANT USE BY ERG AND STATE.....	10
RECENT ILLICIT DRUG USE IN THE ERG BY GENDER	11
RECENT ILLICIT DRUG USE BY ERG AND STATE.....	11
ASSOCIATION OF RISK FACTORS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE	12
RECENT SUBSTANCE USE AMONG CONNECTICUT 9 TH -12 TH GRADE STUDENTS BY:	
PERCEIVED AVAILABILITY OF ALCOHOL.....	13
PERCEIVED HARM FROM OCCASIONAL MARIJUANA USE.....	13
CARRYING A WEAPON DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.....	14
HOW WRONG PARENTS FEEL IT WOULD BE TO SMOKE CIGARETTES	14
PARENTS' KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR WHEREABOUTS WHEN THEY ARE AWAY FROM HOME.....	15
PARENTS RULES ABOUT DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE	15
AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS SPENT PER WEEK DOING HOMEWORK.....	16
ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL	16
RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTOR PROFILE	17
7 TH -8 TH GRADE STUDENT RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTOR PROFILE.....	18
9 TH -12 TH GRADE STUDENT RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTOR PROFILE.....	19
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND OTHER DRUG USE	20
CIGARETTE AND ALCOHOL USE.....	21
LIFETIME DRUG USE.....	22
RECENT DRUG USE.....	23
MEAN AGE OF INITIATION FOR SPECIFIC BEHAVIORS	24
5 th – 8 th grade	24
9 th -12 th grade.....	24
WHEN STUDENTS DRINK ALCOHOL	25
SOURCES FOR OBTAINING CIGARETTES	26
SOURCES FOR OBTAINING ALCOHOL	27
PLACE AND PREVALENCE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE	28
IMPORTANT FACTORS IN THE DECISION TO DRINK ALCOHOL.....	30
PERCEIVED AVAILABILITY OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, MARIJUANA , AND GUNS	34
PERCEIVED HARM OF TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL USE.....	35
PERCEIVED HARM OF MARIJUANA USE	36
FRIENDS' USE OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, OR OTHER DRUGS	37

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

FAMILY DOMAIN.....	38
FAMILY HISTORY OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, OR MARIJUANA USE.....	39
UNFAVORABLE PARENTAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND MARIJUANA	39
FAMILY MANAGEMENT	40
PARENTAL ATTACHMENT AND COMMUNICATION.....	41
POSITIVE FAMILY INVOLVEMENT	42
PARENTS' EDUCATION	43
INDIVIDUAL DOMAIN.....	44
SOCIAL SUPPORTS	45
ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR.....	47
ATTITUDES TOWARDS ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR.....	48
HOW STUDENTS REPORT SPENDING TIME AFTER SCHOOL.....	50
SELF-CONCEPT	53
ATTENTION DEFICIT INDICATORS.....	57
SCHOOL DOMAIN	59
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE	60
SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT	60
COMMITMENT TO SCHOOL.....	61
SCHOOL ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO POLICIES	62
SCHOOL DRUG POLICIES	63
STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF THE D.A.R.E. PROGRAM	64
PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	65
COMMUNITY DOMAIN.....	67
PERCEPTION OF NEIGHBORHOOD ENVIRONMENT	68
NEIGHBORHOOD DRUG INVOLVEMENT	70
REFERENCES.....	71
APPENDIX.....	72
CONNECTICUT CITIES AND TOWNS BY EDUCATIONAL REFERENCE GROUP.....	73

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Executive Summary

Statewide student surveys conducted in Connecticut have shown that alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among Connecticut youth has increased over the past decade (Hartwell et al., 1996). Furthermore, the prevalence of substance use among Connecticut youth is greater than the prevalence in both the Northeast region of the country and nationwide. While the patterns of substance use and the factors contributing to use may vary, adolescent substance use and its consequences are a subject of concern in all Connecticut communities.

Between April and October of 1997, researchers from the University of Connecticut Health Center administered the Connecticut Substance Abuse Prevention Student Survey to 15,733 students in 5th-12th grades in twenty-seven school districts statewide. The survey was conducted for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). A representative sample of 1,260 5th-12th grade students representing two school districts in ERG H were among the students who completed the questionnaire.

School districts were categorized according to their Educational Reference Group (ERG), a classification system developed by the Connecticut Department of Education. This system groups together public school students with a similar socioeconomic status (SES) and need. Grouping similar districts together is useful in making comparisons among school districts (Prowda & Thompson, 1996). A complete listing of communities classified by ERG can be found in Appendix A. Districts are assessed on seven variables (income, education, occupation, poverty, family structure, home language, and district enrollment). There are nine distinct ERG categories ranging from A (high SES) to I (low SES) that were reclassified into five categories.

The survey objectives were: 1) to estimate the prevalence of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among students, and 2) to measure the risk and protective factors for substance use in the student population. Risk factors are situations or characteristics that may increase the likelihood of a youth using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs, such as the availability of substances, having friends who use, and tolerant attitudes toward drug use. Protective factors are situations or characteristics that decrease the likelihood of substance use among youth. Protective factors for youth substance use include a close parent-child relationship, commitment to school, perceived harm of substance use, and community norms that discourage substance abuse among youth. These risk and protective factors occur within several domains:

- Individual (e.g., biological and psychological dispositions, attitudes, values, knowledge, skills, and problem behaviors)
- Peer (e.g., norms and activities)
- Family (e.g., function, management, and bonding)
- School (e.g., commitment, performance, climate, and policy)
- Community (e.g., bonding, norms, awareness, mobilization and resources)

Prevention programs that seek to reduce or prevent the initiation of substance use employ strategies that target specific risk factors or enhance protective factors. These risk and protective

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

factors are also important for understanding and preventing other adolescent problem behaviors, such as school dropout, truancy, delinquency, violence, and teen pregnancy.

Selected Findings

Analyses of the substance use data showed that:

- Students in ERG H were less likely to report recent illicit drug use (except marijuana) compared to students statewide
- 5th-6th grade students in ERG H were more likely to report recent cigarette and alcohol use compared to students in the rest of the state
- 7th-12th grade students in ERG H reported levels of cigarette, alcohol and marijuana use similar to students statewide
- 7th-8th grade students in ERG H were less likely to report recent inhalant use than students statewide

Analyses of the risk and protective factor data showed that students in ERG H have some protective factors that help prevent substance use among youth. Compared to students statewide, 7th-8th grade students in ERG H reported slightly higher levels of family management, parental bonding and fewer hours spent after school without an adult present. They were also more likely to perceive harm associated with substance use. High school students in ERG H had less favorable attitudes towards substance use and more favorable attitudes towards the DARE program. All students in ERG H perceived their neighborhoods as more cohesive, as well. However, there were risk factors among ERG H students that fell below the state average. Compared to students statewide, students in ERG H:

- Reported lower commitment to school, poorer academic performance, and fewer hours doing homework on average
- Perceived substances as more easily available

Discussion

Alcohol was the most widely used substance reported by students in ERG H. Sixty percent of 11th-12th graders and 44% of 9th-10th graders reported recent alcohol use. Forty percent of 11th-12th graders and 31% of 9th-10th graders also reported recent cigarette use. Among 5th-6th grade students in ERG H, approximately 10% reported recent cigarette or alcohol use. Because 5th-6th grade students in ERG H were more likely to report recent alcohol and cigarette use than students statewide, these substances may be a good target for prevention programming in ERG H communities.

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

In this study, comparisons of substance use among high school students must be interpreted with caution. This sample includes only students who were at school during the administration of the survey. It does not include youth who had dropped out of school or were absent from school. Youth who have dropped out of school or are frequently absent are more likely to report alcohol, tobacco and other drug use than in-school students. Since communities in low SES groups tend to experience higher dropout rates among high school students compared to high SES groups, substance use rates among all youth may be higher in low SES groups than is indicated by student data.

Prevention programs that have multiple components serving the family, school, and community may have particular benefit for youth in ERG H. Effective model programs have been identified which increase coordination among schools and community agencies and involve parents in the lives of their children (Brounstein et al., 1998). The most effective prevention education programs are multi-faceted ones that enroll schools, communities, parents and youth themselves in shared responsibility for substance abuse prevention.

Reducing youth access to alcohol and tobacco may be an important strategy in reducing substance use among youth in ERG H communities. This approach also requires collaboration among families, schools and the communities. Enacting policies which restrict youth access to cigarettes and alcohol in the community, as well as limiting opportunities for youth to use substances in their homes or public places is critical in reducing youth substance use.

Research shows that educational approaches that include peer led components and/or target families have advantages in preventing and reducing adolescent substance use. Overall, comprehensive approaches, which incorporate a variety of individually focused strategies with proven effectiveness (e.g., in-school curricula, after-school mentoring programs, drug-free alternative activities, and community service opportunities) in conjunction with environmental approaches (e.g., information dissemination and laws and policies governing access to substances), are recommended.

In addition to local community resources, there are a number of regional and statewide resources available to support substance abuse prevention planning efforts. The state's 14 substance abuse prevention Regional Action Councils (RAC) are part of the Connecticut Prevention Network (CPN). Contact information for each RAC can be obtained through visiting the CPN web site (www.ctprevention.com). RACs are available to assist communities in environmental strategies for substance abuse prevention and prevention programming. The Connecticut Clearinghouse in Plainville (800-232-4424; www.ctclearinghouse.org) is available to access information about strategies and model programs that can be implemented to prevent adolescent substance use. The Connecticut Coalition to Stop Underage Drinking (800-422-5422) can provide information and technical assistance in devising environmental strategies to address alcohol use among youth. Likewise, the Mobilization Against Tobacco for Children's Health (MATCH) Coalition (860-676-9320) can provide information and support for community-wide tobacco prevention efforts.

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Guide to Using This Report

This report of the Connecticut Substance Abuse Prevention Student Survey for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services is intended for use by schools, communities, and the state for substance use problem identification and prevention planning. The findings of the survey are presented in the form of graphs and tables. The data are organized into four major sections:

Substance use prevalence comparisons

The use of five different types of substances (i.e., cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana, inhalants, and other illicit drugs) during the past month are compared across four grade categories (5th-6th, 7th-8th, 9th-10th, and 11th-12th). Two graphs are displayed for each type of substance. The first graph compares rates of recent use by male and female students in Educational Group (ERG) H. The second graph shows how students in ERG H communities compare with the state.

Association between substance abuse and risk and protective factors

Graphs are presented to illustrate the association between selected risk and protective factors with the use of cigarettes, alcohol, and marijuana among senior high school students in Connecticut. These graphs demonstrate the increased prevalence of substance use among those students with higher levels of a risk factor or, conversely, lower levels of a protective factor. Separate graphs for each district were not created because the association between risk and protective factors and substance use is similar across all school districts. This report does not include an exhaustive display of all risk and protective factors associated with substance use. Rather, examples of substance-related factors across the individual, family, school and community domains are shown to illustrate these relationships.

Risk and protective factor profile

Separate risk and protective factor profiles were developed for ERG H students in the 7th-8th grades and 9th-12th grades. These profiles compare students from ERG H communities to the state average across all risk and protective factor scales measured in the survey. Appendix A contains a brief summary of the research regarding each factor included in the profile and a listing of the items in each risk and protective factor index. A full discussion of the development and individual items in the scale can be found in the state report to the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (Delaronde et al., 1999).

Item responses by grade level categories

Student responses for all survey items are presented showing the rates of substance use and the risk and protective factors ordered by four domains: individual, family, school and community. The frequency distributions are presented for each of the four grade groups: 5th-6th, 7th-8th, 9th-10th, and 11th-12th.

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Methodology

A representative sample of students was obtained by randomly selecting classes in grades 5 through 12. Data were collected through a self-administered questionnaire that was completed by students during a class period. The 5th-6th grade students were given a shorter version of the 7th-12th grade survey. A total of 1,260 students participated in the survey.

Percentages are based on all students who responded to a given question. A small minority of students did not answer some items. The notation 'NA' is used in those cases where students in certain grades were not asked a particular question.

All data have been weighted to reflect the grade, gender, and racial distribution of students in the district for the 1996-97 school year so that the data represent all students in ERG H.

Unweighted sample

Grade	Gender			Total
	Male	Female	Not Reported	
	n	n	n	n
5 th	84	92	0	176
6 th	68	87	4	159
7 th	63	61	7	131
8 th	92	75	9	176
9 th	79	81	4	164
10 th	65	79	5	149
11 th	75	95	6	176
12 th	55	73	1	129
TOTAL	581	643	36	1260

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

PREVALENCE COMPARISONS

Figure 1

Recent cigarette use in the ERG by gender

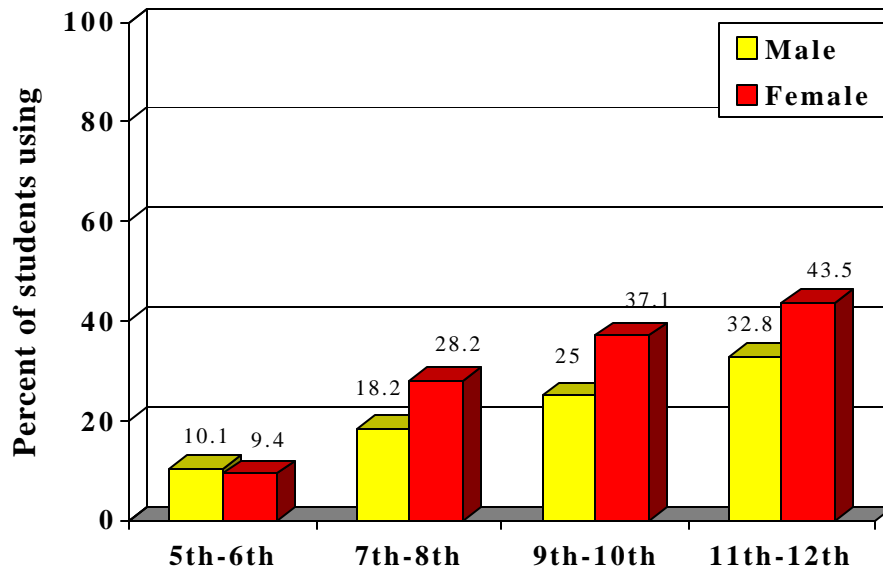
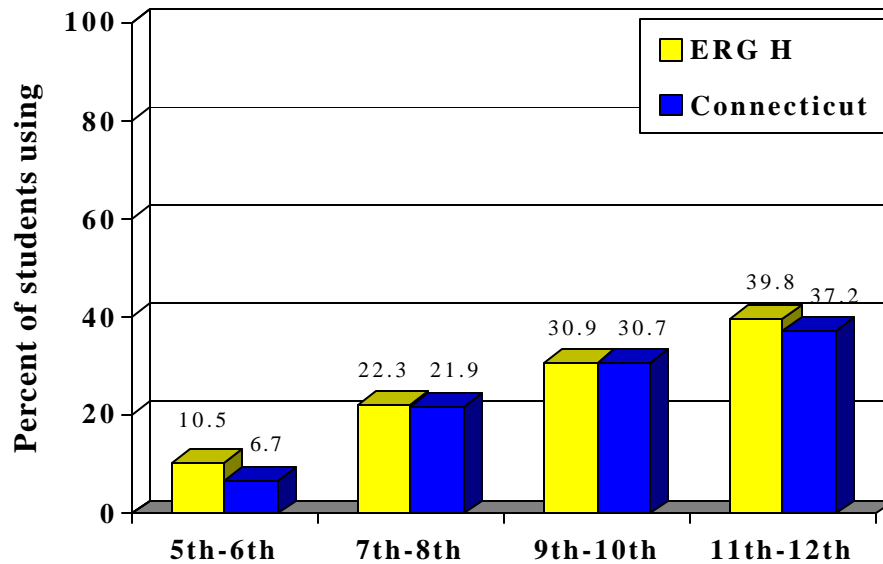


Figure 2

Recent cigarette use by ERG and state



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Figure 3

Recent alcohol use in the ERG by gender

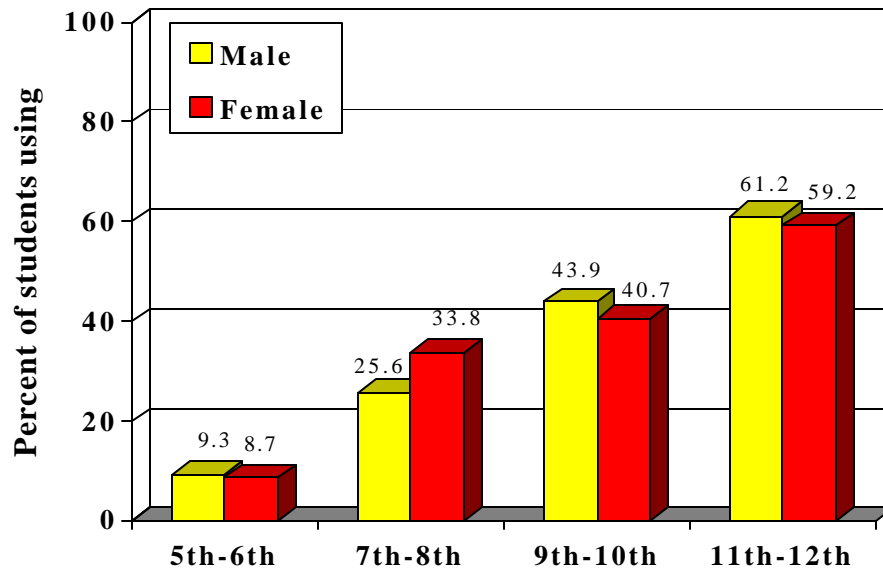
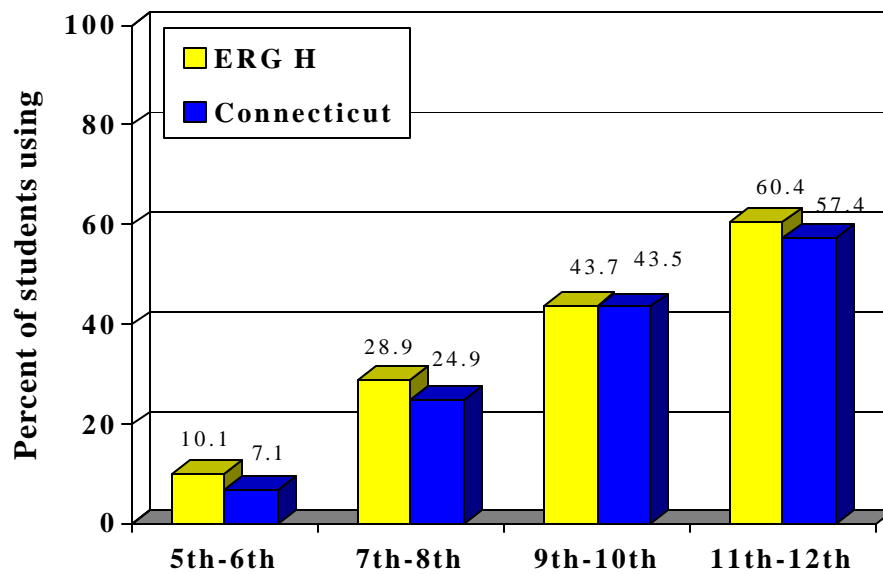


Figure 4

Recent alcohol use by ERG and state



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Figure 5

Recent marijuana use in the ERG by gender

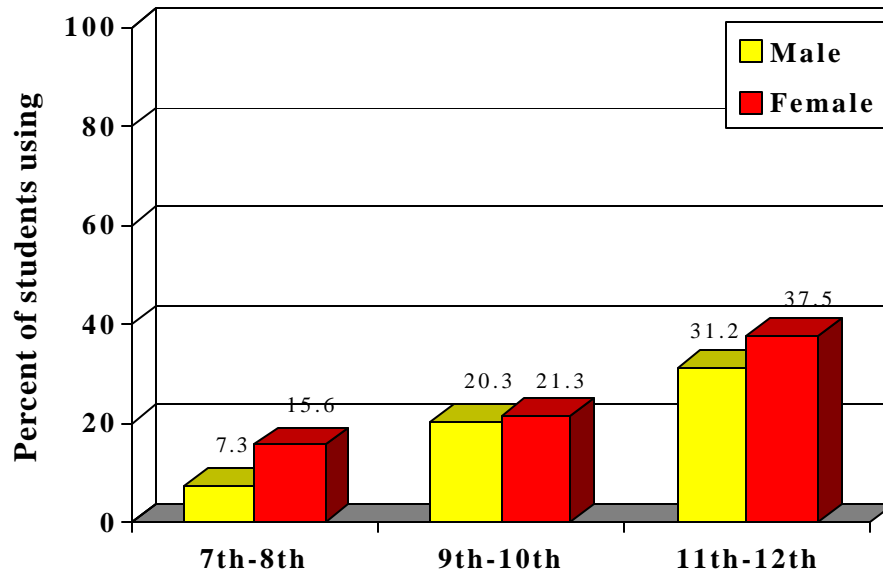
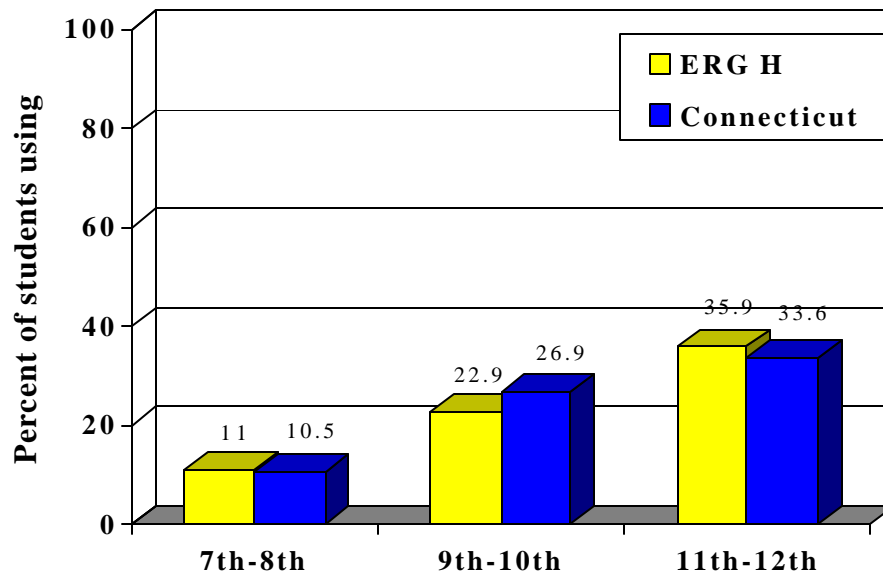


Figure 6

Recent marijuana use by ERG and state



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Figure 7

Recent inhalant use in the ERG by gender

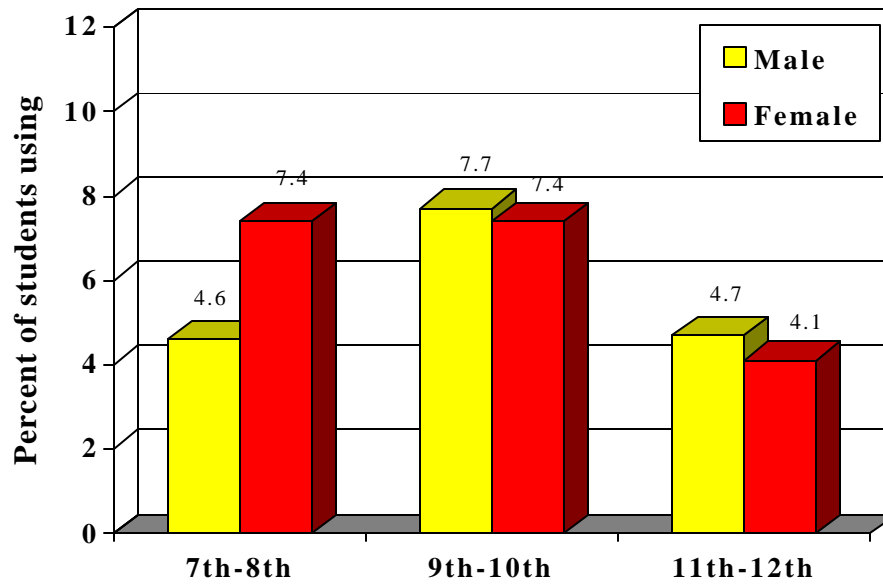
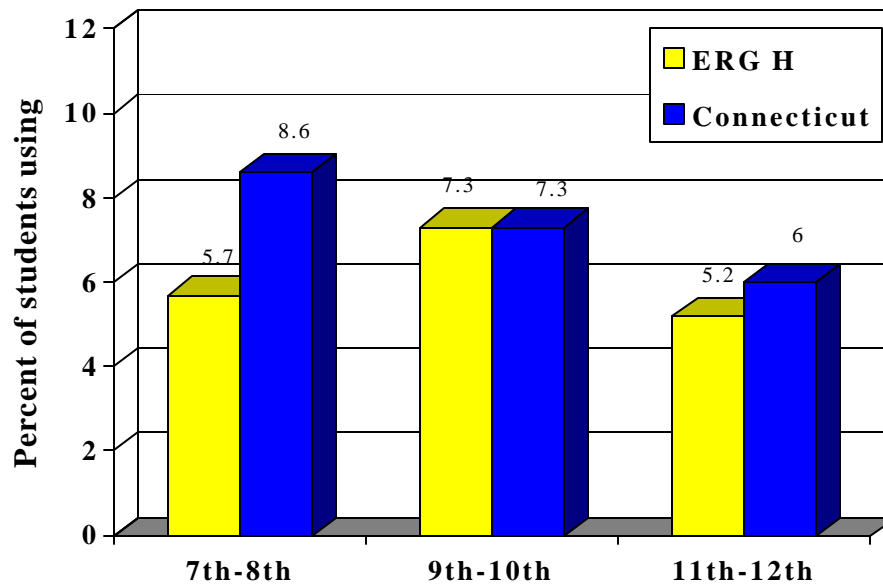


Figure 8

Recent inhalant use by ERG and state



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Figure 9

Recent illicit drug use in the ERG by gender

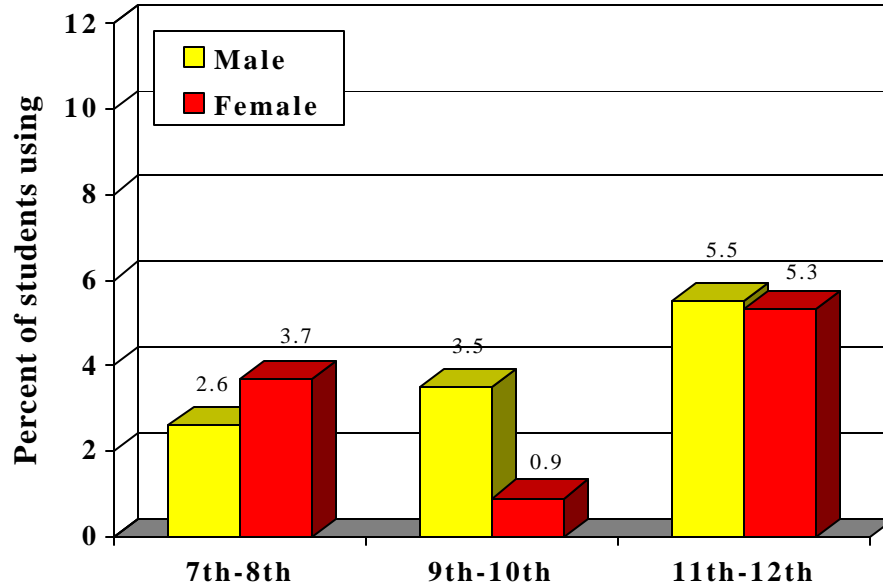
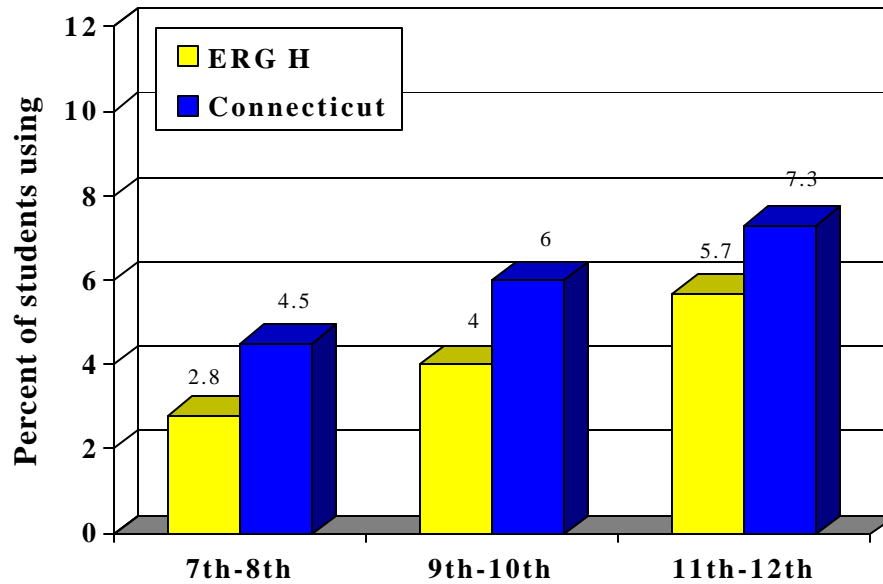
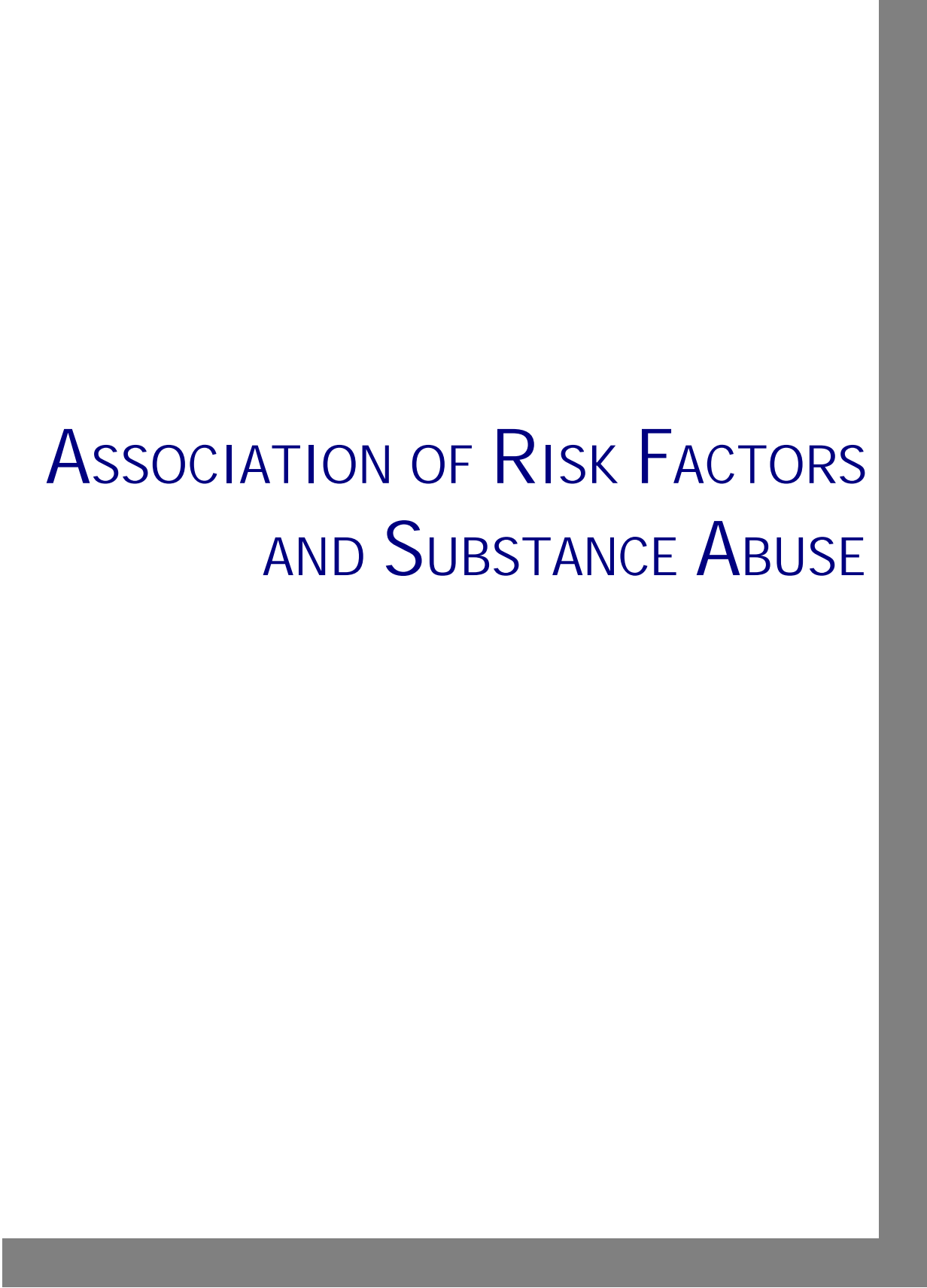


Figure 10

Recent illicit drug use by ERG and state



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.



ASSOCIATION OF RISK FACTORS
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Figure 11
Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by
Perceived availability of alcohol

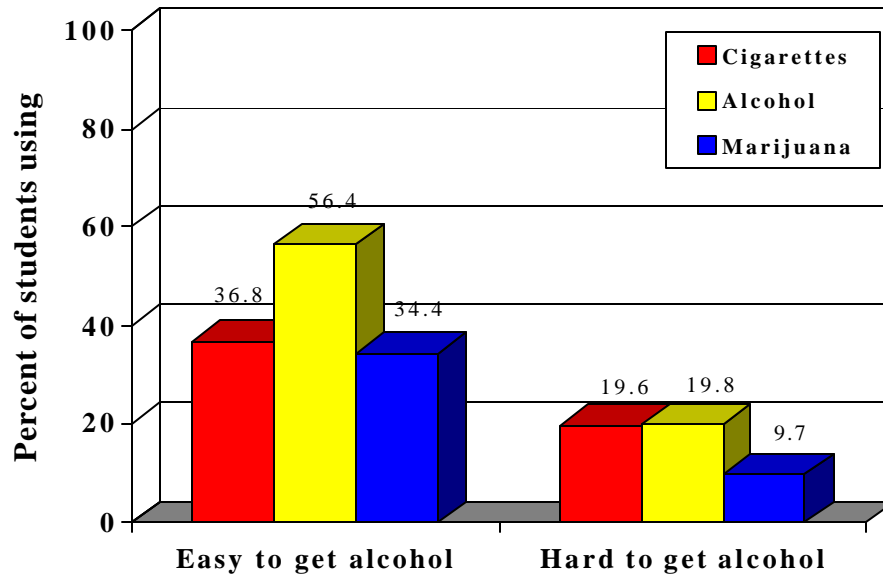
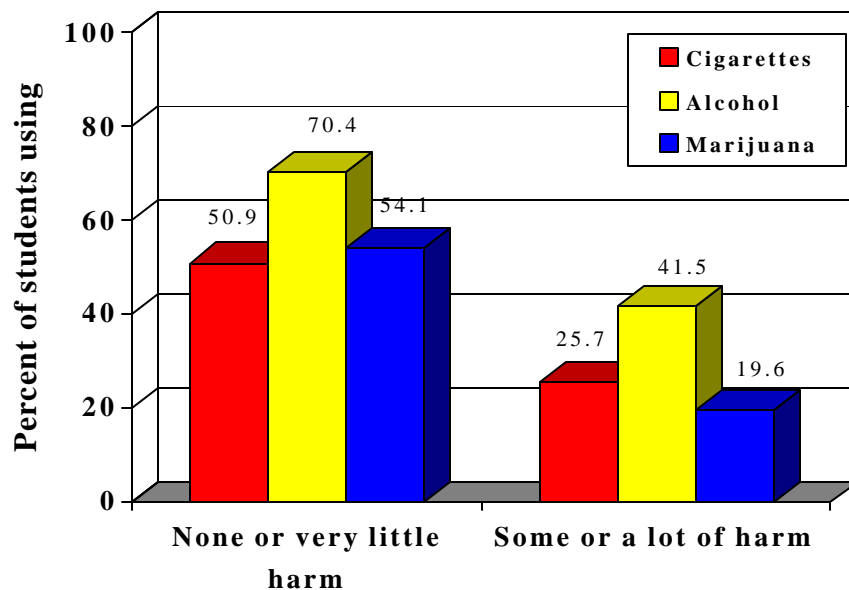


Figure 12
Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by
Perceived harm from occasional marijuana use



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services.

Figure 13

**Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by
Carrying a weapon during the past 12 months**

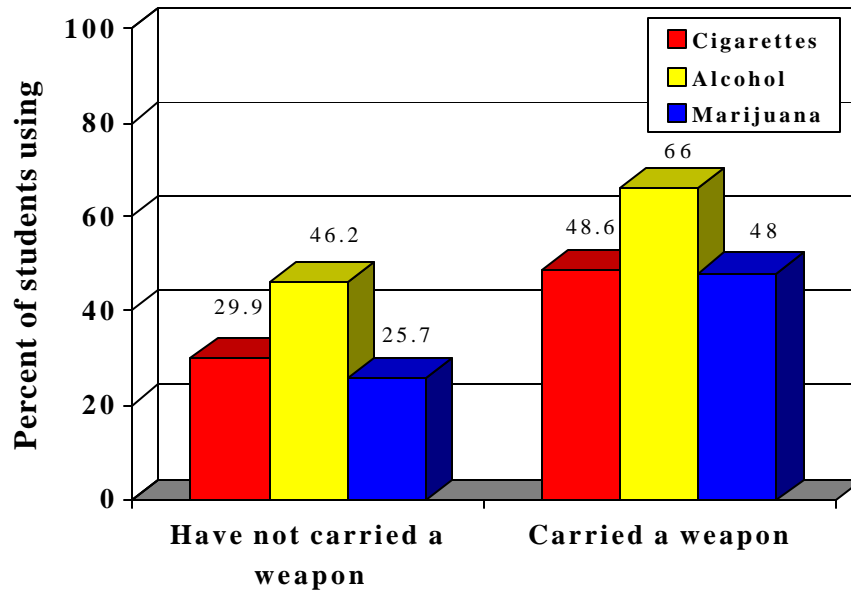
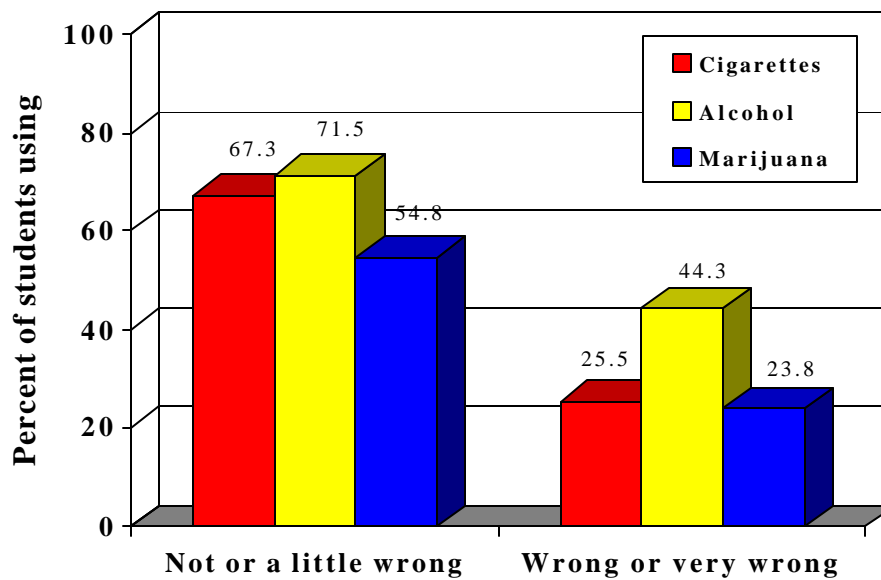


Figure 14

**Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by
How wrong parents feel it would be to smoke cigarettes**



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services.

Figure 15

Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by Parents' knowledge of their whereabouts when they are away from home

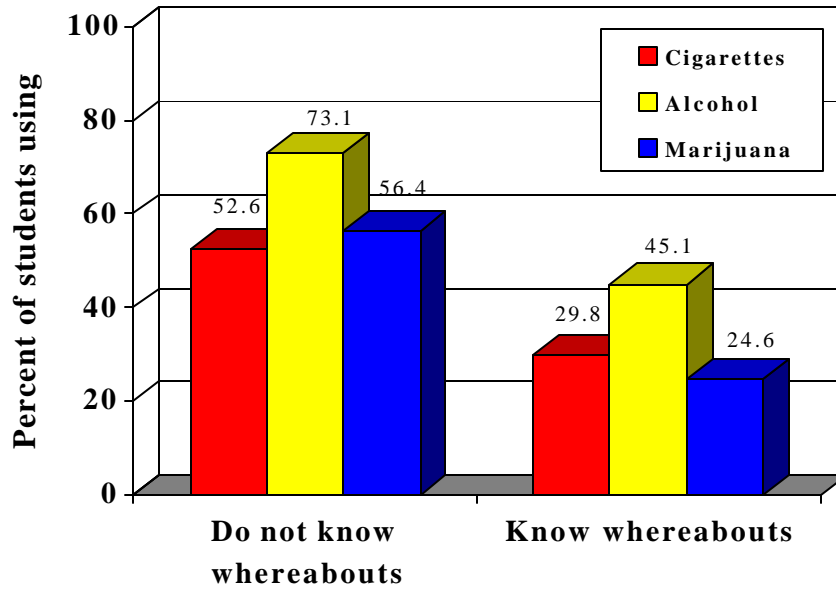
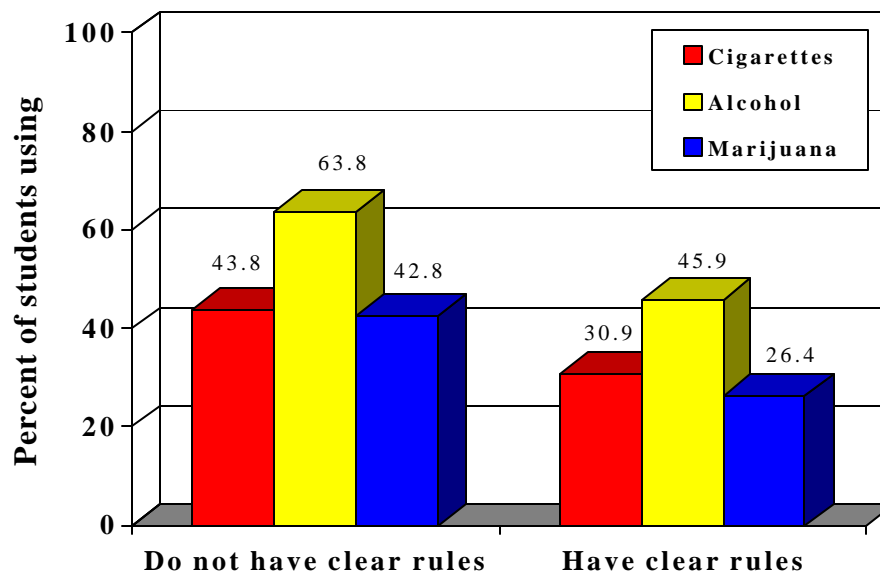


Figure 16

Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by Parents rules about drug and alcohol use



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services.

Figure 17

**Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by
Average number of hours spent per week doing homework**

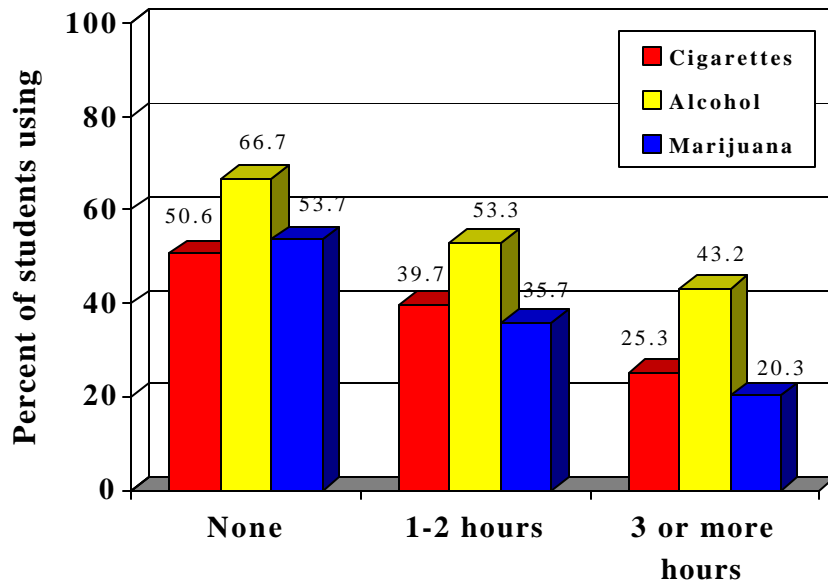
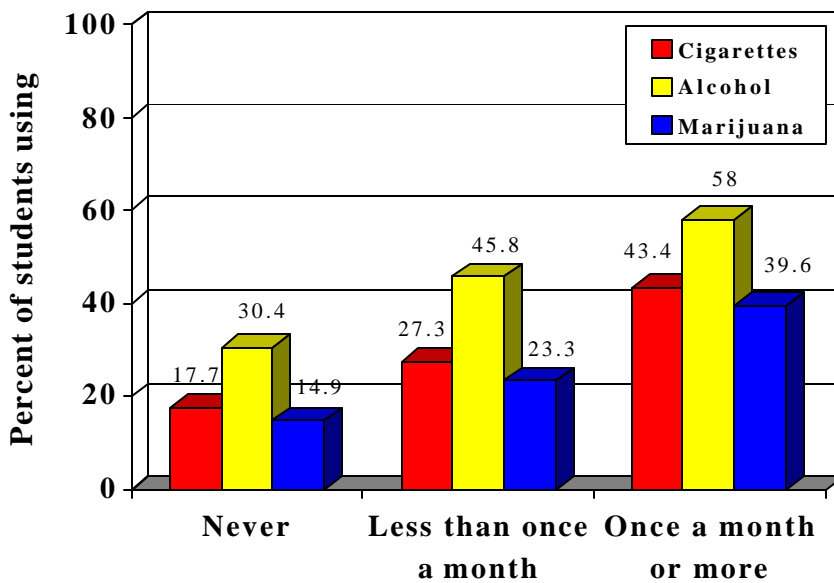


Figure 18

**Recent substance use among Connecticut 9th-12th grade students by
Absence from school**

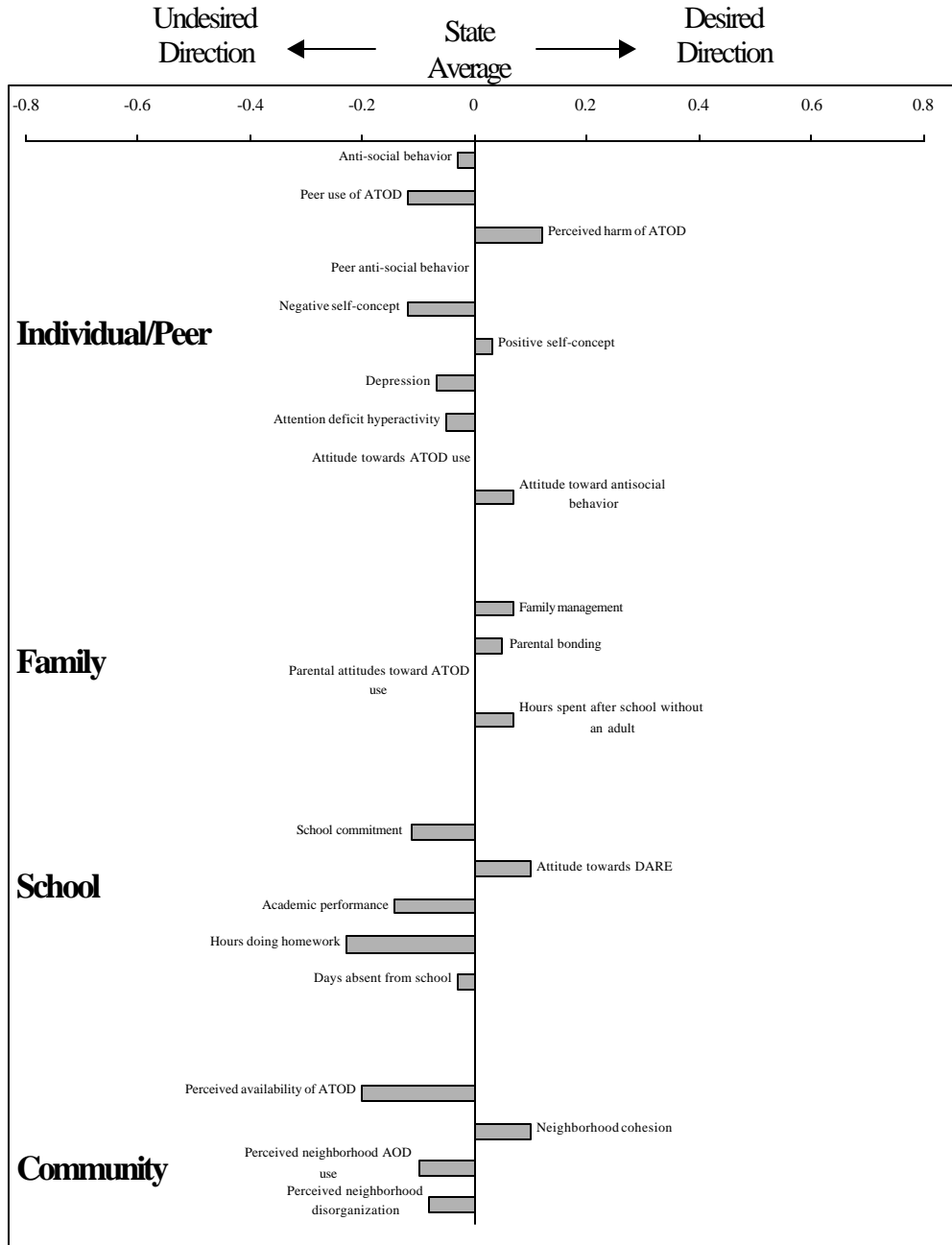


Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services.

RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTOR PROFILE

Figure 19

7th-8th grade student risk and protective factor profile



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Figure 20

9th-12th grade student risk and protective factor profile



Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.



ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND OTHER DRUG USE

Cigarette and alcohol use

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
Lifetime cigarette use	24.7	43.9	56.9	64.0
How many days did you smoke cigarettes in the past month?				
1-5 days	8.7	12.4	13.5	9.7
6 or more days	1.6	9.8	17.9	29.5
Number of cigarettes smoked in the past month				
Less than one cigarette to 5 cigarettes a day	8.2	16.0	20.9	22.0
About ½ a pack a day or more	0.6	4.9	9.0	16.3
Lifetime alcohol use (not just a sip)	29.6	56.7	69.6	82.7
In the past month, how many days did you drink alcohol?				
1-5 days	8.4	23.7	30.4	35.3
6 or more days	1.2	5.9	11.9	25.3
In the past month, on the days you drank, how many drinks did you usually have?				
1-2 drinks	7.4	18.4	15.4	15.6
3 or more drinks	2.2	12.1	28.8	45.9

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Lifetime drug use

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
I have used these drugs.				
Marijuana	4.0	19.9	37.2	54.8
Inhalants (things you sniff or inhale, like glue, paint, aerosol sprays, whippets, or snappers)	9.3	12.6	14.5	13.0
Cocaine	NA	1.3	3.9	8.1
Crack (rock)	NA	0.7	3.2	3.4
Hallucinogens (LSD, acid, mushrooms)	NA	4.7	8.0	13.0
Heroin	NA	0.7	2.3	0.3
Angel Dust (PCP)	NA	3.0	2.9	2.3
MDMA (ecstasy)	NA	2.0	3.9	3.3
Other drugs (like cocaine, crack, LSD (acid), heroin, or ecstasy)	2.2	NA	NA	NA
I have used these drugs or medicine on my own without a prescription or a doctor or dentist telling me to.				
Downers (barbiturates, sleeping pills, quaaludes)	3.7	9.3	10.6	17.4
Tranquilizers (valium, librium)	1.2	1.7	2.3	5.0
Uppers (stimulants, amphetamines)	0.6	5.1	6.1	10.4
Pain medications	7.8	15.3	12.5	17.4
Steroids (juice, roids)	NA	1.0	3.2	2.3

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Recent drug use
Number of days using drugs during the past month

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6 %	7-8 %	9-10 %	11-12 %
In the past month, how many days did you use:				
Marijuana				
1-2 days	NA	6.0	8.7	12.0
3 or more days	NA	4.7	12.5	23.3
Inhalants				
1-2 days	NA	3.3	4.8	3.7
3 or more days	NA	2.3	2.9	0.7
Cocaine				
1-2 days	NA	0.3	0.3	2.3
3 or more days	NA	0.3	1.3	0.3
Crack				
1-2 days	NA	0.3	0.6	0.7
3 or more days	NA	0.0	0.3	0.3
Hallucinogens				
1-2 days	NA	1.7	1.9	3.0
3 or more days	NA	0.7	1.6	1.0
Heroin				
1-2 days	NA	0.3	1.3	0.0
3 or more days	NA	0.0	0.0	0.3
Angel Dust				
1-2 days	NA	1.0	1.0	0.7
3 or more days	NA	0.0	0.3	0.3
MDMA (ecstasy)				
1-2 days	NA	0.7	1.0	1.3
3 or more days	NA	0.7	1.9	0.7

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Mean age of initiation for specific behaviors

5th – 8th grade

Question and responses	Grade			
	5	6	7	8
	Age	Age	Age	Age
How old are you now?	10.68	11.75	12.82	13.80
How old were you when you first:				
Tried cigarettes	9.13	9.72	10.92	11.07
Tried alcohol	9.03	9.28	10.98	11.38
Drank enough to feel drunk or very high	10.25	10.15	11.81	12.30
Tried marijuana	11.50	10.70	12.29	12.59
Tried inhalants	9.56	9.87	10.77	11.14
Carried a knife, gun, or other weapon	NA	NA	10.96	11.18
Were suspended or expelled from school	NA	NA	12.63	12.39
Were arrested	NA	NA	12.20	12.22

9th -12th grade

Question and responses	Grade			
	9	10	11	12
	Age	Age	Age	Age
How old are you now?	14.84	15.82	16.82	17.63
How old were you when you first:				
Tried cigarettes	11.65	12.76	13.26	13.49
Tried alcohol	12.46	13.28	13.36	14.24
Drank enough to feel drunk or very high	13.27	13.78	14.10	15.07
Tried marijuana	13.04	14.03	14.61	15.40
Tried inhalants	12.11	12.47	14.22	14.46
Carried a knife, gun, or other weapon	11.70	12.06	12.42	13.85
Were suspended or expelled from school	11.44	12.63	13.25	13.71
Were arrested	12.00	14.13	14.47	15.50

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

When students drink alcohol
(Responses of students who report using alcohol in their lifetime)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How often do you drink alcohol before school?				
Sometimes	NA	4.6	8.3	10.2
Often	NA	0.6	0.5	0.4
How often do you drink alcohol during the school day?				
Sometimes	NA	2.3	6.0	7.3
Often	NA	0.6	0.9	0.8
How often do you drink alcohol after school?				
Sometimes	NA	32.4	25.1	33.3
Often	NA	3.5	9.8	10.6
How often do you drink alcohol on weekends?				
Sometimes	NA	43.4	42.4	40.4
Often	NA	16.2	28.6	44.5
How often do you drink alcohol on holidays or special occasions?				
Sometimes	NA	57.8	52.5	50.4
Often	NA	19.7	26.7	36.2

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Sources for obtaining cigarettes
(Responses of students who report recent cigarette use)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How often do you get cigarettes from:				
Your parents with their permission				
Sometimes	3.2	2.9	7.2	3.8
Often	3.2	8.8	13.4	20.3
Your parents without their permission				
Sometimes	43.7	31.3	34.4	20.3
Often	18.8	11.9	15.6	20.3
Your friends				
Sometimes	53.1	56.7	35.4	51.3
Often	21.9	26.9	53.1	41.0
Your brother(s) or sister(s)				
Sometimes	9.4	14.7	14.6	19.0
Often	6.3	19.1	14.6	12.7
Stores (you buy them)				
Sometimes	18.8	17.6	20.8	16.7
Often	3.1	20.6	39.6	67.9
Machines (you buy them)				
Sometimes	18.8	14.7	14.6	13.9
Often	12.5	7.4	7.3	15.2

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Sources for obtaining alcohol
(Responses of students who report recent alcohol use)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How often do you get alcohol from:				
Home, with your parents' permission				
Sometimes	32.3	18.2	21.4	21.1
Often	6.5	3.4	1.5	2.8
Home, without your parents' permission				
Sometimes	25.8	47.1	44.7	30.6
Often	22.6	9.2	12.1	10.0
Your friends				
Sometimes	35.5	52.2	39.4	36.5
Often	29.0	22.2	51.5	55.2
Your brother(s) or sister(s)				
Sometimes	16.1	23.9	22.1	20.0
Often	6.5	8.0	7.6	10.6
Other people who buy it for you				
Sometimes	19.4	34.4	31.8	28.7
Often	12.9	12.2	40.2	51.4
A store, bar or restaurant				
Sometimes	9.7	7.9	9.8	21.0
Often	16.1	2.2	3.8	12.7

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Place and prevalence of alcohol and drug use
(Responses of students who report using alcohol or drugs in their lifetime)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
In the past month, how many days did you use alcohol or drugs in the following places or during the following times:				
At home				
1-2 days	NA	21.1	21.0	23.6
3 or more days	NA	4.7	6.9	10.0
On the street, in the woods, or in parks or fields				
1-2 days	NA	20.8	21.1	26.7
3 or more days	NA	4.2	12.1	15.0
With older friends				
1-2 days	NA	25.3	27.9	30.0
3 or more days	NA	4.7	14.6	23.6
At the homes of other people				
1-2 days	NA	21.3	29.9	29.6
3 or more days	NA	4.7	10.8	24.7
At school activities, such as dances or football games				
1-2 days	NA	1.8	2.6	11.2
3 or more days	NA	2.9	1.3	3.2
At work				
1-2 days	NA	1.8	3.9	8.8
3 or more days	NA	1.2	1.3	1.6
When skipping school				
1-2 days	NA	5.3	9.0	19.2
3 or more days	NA	1.8	3.0	5.2

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Place and prevalence of alcohol and drug use (continued)
(Responses of students who report using alcohol or drugs in their lifetime)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
In the past month, how many days did you use alcohol or drugs in the following places or during the following times:				
While driving a car, truck, or motorcycle				
1-2 days	NA	3.0	3.0	9.6
3 or more days	NA	1.2	1.7	6.8
While a passenger in a car with someone who has been drinking or using drugs				
1-2 days	NA	6.4	6.9	19.2
3 or more days	NA	1.8	5.6	9.2

Note: NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

**Important factors in the decision to drink alcohol
(Responses of students who report drinking alcohol in their lifetime)**

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How important are the following factors in your decision to drink alcohol:				
Alcohol is easy to get				
Not important	NA	53.4	52.5	52.5
Somewhat important	NA	30.8	31.6	33.9
Very important	NA	15.8	15.8	13.6
Alcohol doesn't cost much				
Not important	NA	63.6	51.7	55.9
Somewhat important	NA	22.5	34.5	30.0
Very important	NA	14.0	13.8	14.1
My friends drink				
Not important	NA	59.4	55.2	47.5
Somewhat important	NA	18.8	33.3	38.5
Very important	NA	21.8	11.5	14.0
My parents drink				
Not important	NA	70.5	78.5	76.7
Somewhat important	NA	13.2	16.3	11.9
Very important	NA	16.3	5.2	11.4
My parents prefer that I drink alcohol rather than use drugs				
Not important	NA	75.8	76.0	76.2
Somewhat important	NA	14.5	12.3	14.3
Very important	NA	9.7	11.7	9.5
Weekends are boring				
Not important	NA	62.6	44.8	39.4
Somewhat important	NA	19.5	36.0	31.2
Very important	NA	17.9	19.2	29.4

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Important factors in the decision to drink alcohol (continued)
(Responses of students who report drinking alcohol in their lifetime)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How important are the following factors in your decision to drink alcohol:				
I've seen adults use it my whole life				
Not important	NA	75.6	77.9	77.1
Somewhat important	NA	15.0	12.2	12.8
Very important	NA	9.4	9.9	10.1
Beer advertisements				
Not important	NA	77.8	84.5	88.1
Somewhat important	NA	12.7	9.8	7.3
Very important	NA	9.5	5.7	4.6
Wine or hard liquor advertisements				
Not important	NA	78.4	85.0	89.0
Somewhat important	NA	14.4	10.4	6.0
Very important	NA	7.2	4.6	5.0

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Important factors in preventing alcohol use

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How important are the following in preventing kids from drinking alcohol?				
High price				
Very important	NA	32.0	22.8	17.8
Somewhat important	NA	32.3	34.7	35.4
Not important	NA	35.7	42.4	46.8
Checking I.D.s in stores and bars				
Very important	NA	68.7	59.8	51.3
Somewhat important	NA	14.7	26.7	28.2
Not important	NA	16.7	13.5	20.5
Advertisements that show the problems associated with drinking				
Very important	NA	43.8	33.4	19.9
Somewhat important	NA	27.6	33.4	32.7
Not important	NA	28.6	33.1	47.5
Friends who don't drink				
Very important	NA	49.5	49.0	45.5
Somewhat important	NA	26.1	29.2	31.8
Not important	NA	24.4	21.8	22.7
Friends who disapprove of drinking				
Very important	NA	49.7	50.5	43.0
Somewhat important	NA	27.2	30.5	33.6
Not important	NA	23.2	19.0	23.5
Parental strictness about drinking				
Very important	NA	52.2	44.1	35.1
Somewhat important	NA	23.7	35.0	34.1
Not important	NA	24.1	20.9	30.7
Getting arrested for drinking				
Very important	NA	61.5	61.2	49.0
Somewhat important	NA	22.1	27.2	33.6
Not important	NA	16.4	11.5	17.4

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Important factors in preventing alcohol use (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How important are the following in preventing kids from drinking alcohol?				
Alcohol education in school				
Very important	NA	47.5	30.2	23.5
Somewhat important	NA	24.1	36.3	28.5
Not important	NA	28.4	33.4	48.0
Alcohol free activities				
Very important	NA	53.5	38.9	33.1
Somewhat important	NA	22.1	36.7	28.7
Not important	NA	24.4	24.4	38.2
Fear of addiction				
Very important	NA	48.8	38.1	28.1
Somewhat important	NA	22.1	28.8	29.8
Not important	NA	29.1	33.0	42.0
Blood alcohol or breathalyzer tests at school or home				
Very important	NA	52.7	47.6	35.9
Somewhat important	NA	24.8	30.5	34.9
Not important	NA	22.5	21.9	29.2

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Perceived availability of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and guns

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
If you wanted to, how easy would it be for you to get:				
Beer, wine, wine coolers, or hard liquor				
Very easy	14.2	33.6	47.3	59.7
Sort of easy	11.7	24.0	29.7	27.0
Sort of hard	20.0	17.1	11.5	7.0
Very hard	54.2	25.3	11.5	6.3
Cigarettes				
Very easy	21.6	45.2	66.0	80.8
Sort of easy	12.3	19.0	18.9	10.3
Sort of hard	17.9	13.8	7.1	4.0
Very hard	48.1	22.0	8.0	5.0
Marijuana				
Very easy	8.0	25.2	47.3	60.2
Sort of easy	6.5	14.6	21.1	19.7
Sort of hard	6.5	15.9	14.7	8.7
Very hard	79.0	44.4	16.9	11.4
A drug like cocaine, heroin, LSD, or amphetamines				
Very easy	7.4	11.3	15.3	26.4
Sort of easy	3.1	10.3	18.2	24.1
Sort of hard	6.5	15.9	25.9	21.7
Very hard	83.0	62.6	40.6	27.8
A gun				
Very easy	12.7	13.2	12.1	12.8
Sort of easy	7.7	12.2	16.0	20.5
Sort of hard	8.3	18.2	33.9	31.5
Very hard	71.3	56.4	38.0	35.2

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Perceived harm of tobacco or alcohol use

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How much do you think people harm themselves if they:				
Use tobacco occasionally				
No harm	NA	5.3	9.8	7.4
Very little harm	NA	14.0	25.2	27.9
Some harm	NA	45.6	47.1	52.0
A lot of harm	NA	28.8	14.4	9.7
I don't know	NA	6.3	3.6	3.0
Use tobacco regularly				
No harm	NA	2.8	2.3	2.7
Very little harm	NA	3.8	2.9	2.7
Some harm	NA	13.5	26.1	24.2
A lot of harm	NA	73.6	65.4	67.4
I don't know	NA	6.2	3.3	3.0
Use alcohol occasionally				
No harm	NA	8.4	10.5	10.1
Very little harm	NA	23.1	29.7	30.6
Some harm	NA	36.7	42.8	47.5
A lot of harm	NA	25.9	13.7	9.4
I don't know	NA	5.9	3.3	2.4
Use alcohol regularly				
No harm	NA	2.1	1.6	3.7
Very little harm	NA	4.5	4.9	3.3
Some harm	NA	19.8	24.5	25.8
A lot of harm	NA	67.4	66.3	64.9
I don't know	NA	6.2	2.6	2.3
Get drunk occasionally				
No harm	NA	3.5	5.2	6.4
Very little harm	NA	8.7	12.1	19.9
Some harm	NA	30.6	44.8	46.5
A lot of harm	NA	50.3	34.3	24.6
I don't know	NA	6.9	3.6	2.7

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Perceived harm of marijuana use

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How much do you think people harm themselves if they:				
Use marijuana occasionally				
No harm	NA	4.2	8.1	10.1
Very little harm	NA	7.6	16.6	18.1
Some harm	NA	19.8	40.9	45.0
A lot of harm	NA	60.4	30.8	24.2
I don't know	NA	8.0	3.6	2.7
Use marijuana regularly				
No harm	NA	2.4	3.9	6.7
Very little harm	NA	3.1	5.9	6.0
Some harm	NA	7.7	14.7	22.1
A lot of harm	NA	81.2	71.2	62.2
I don't know	NA	5.6	4.2	3.0

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Friends' use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How many of your close friends smoke cigarettes?				
Most	6.2	11.2	19.9	31.9
Some	6.8	21.0	20.5	29.5
A few	14.9	18.3	24.0	16.1
None	72.1	49.5	35.6	22.5
How many of your close friends drink beer, wine, wine coolers, or hard liquor?				
Most	3.7	18.3	32.1	54.2
Some	5.2	15.6	23.1	19.4
A few	14.8	21.0	26.9	16.7
None	76.2	45.1	17.9	9.7
How many of your close friends use marijuana?				
Most	3.4	8.8	14.8	32.1
Some	3.1	9.8	17.7	21.7
A few	5.6	13.9	27.0	20.1
None	88.0	67.5	40.5	26.1
How many of your close friends use inhalants?				
Most	NA	5.8	3.8	5.3
Some	NA	4.4	4.8	3.7
A few	NA	11.6	8.7	12.0
None	NA	78.2	82.7	79.0
How many of your close friends tried a drug like cocaine, LSD, heroin, or amphetamines?				
Most	NA	6.1	5.2	6.4
Some	NA	3.7	3.9	6.4
A few	NA	11.2	13.2	26.6
None	NA	79.0	77.7	60.6

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

FAMILY DOMAIN

Family history of alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana use

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
Parents/guardians smoke cigarettes.	53.3	53.0	54.2	50.7
Parents/guardians drink beer, wine, wine coolers, or hard liquor.	53.4	57.1	59.4	57.8
Has anyone in your family (not including you) ever used marijuana?				
No	57.4	43.9	24.0	23.8
Yes	13.2	31.4	47.1	50.5
I don't know	29.5	24.8	28.8	25.7

Unfavorable parental attitudes towards alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How wrong does your parent/guardian(s) feel it would be for you to drink beer, wine, wine coolers, or hard liquor (besides a few sips)?				
Not at all wrong	3.1	3.0	4.2	8.9
A little bit wrong	4.9	10.2	13.8	24.1
Wrong	17.2	25.1	32.1	31.7
Very wrong	74.8	61.7	50.0	35.3
How wrong does your parent/guardian(s) feel it would be for you to smoke cigarettes?				
Not at all wrong	4.0	4.6	7.0	10.5
A little bit wrong	2.8	4.0	10.2	16.1
Wrong	11.7	18.8	24.9	29.9
Very wrong	81.5	72.6	57.8	43.4
How wrong does your parent/guardian(s) feel it would be for you to use marijuana?				
Not at all wrong	3.1	3.0	3.5	4.9
A little bit wrong	0.6	2.3	5.1	6.2
Wrong	3.7	8.9	10.9	18.1
Very wrong	92.6	85.8	80.5	70.7

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Family management

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
On a regular day, how many hours do you usually spend after school without an adult present?				
None	30.7	21.2	11.3	10.8
One hour or less	28.7	26.5	19.3	11.8
2 hours	19.1	19.9	24.4	16.4
3-4 hours	14.9	21.2	28.6	28.9
5 hours or more	6.6	11.1	16.4	32.1
My parent/guardian knows my whereabouts when I am away from home.				
Definitely not true	2.7	1.6	2.9	6.3
Mostly not true	4.2	6.2	8.9	13.5
Mostly true	27.8	41.8	46.0	51.2
Definitely true	65.4	50.3	42.2	29.0
If I break one of my parents/guardian(s)' rules, I usually get punished.				
Definitely not true	8.4	9.5	9.6	16.4
Mostly not true	21.9	22.3	27.8	31.4
Mostly true	38.3	45.2	34.5	38.5
Definitely true	31.4	23.0	28.1	13.7
My family has clear rules about alcohol/drugs.				
Definitely not true	4.5	4.6	5.1	6.6
Mostly not true	6.0	6.6	10.9	19.5
Mostly true	9.9	17.4	26.6	31.1
Definitely true	79.6	71.5	57.4	42.7

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Parental attachment and communication

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
I feel very close to my parent/guardian(s).				
Definitely not true	4.6	5.6	5.5	8.3
Mostly not true	4.9	6.9	13.8	17.2
Mostly true	19.1	26.6	32.2	33.0
Definitely true	71.4	61.0	48.6	41.6
I enjoy spending time with my parent/guardian(s).				
Definitely not true	2.4	7.2	7.1	7.9
Mostly not true	7.6	8.6	14.2	19.5
Mostly true	29.6	40.1	46.8	42.4
Definitely true	60.4	44.1	31.9	30.1
I share my thoughts and feelings with my parent/guardian(s).				
Definitely not true	12.5	15.8	18.1	17.9
Mostly not true	23.7	24.4	26.5	28.5
Mostly true	33.7	38.9	35.5	33.8
Definitely true	30.1	20.8	20.0	19.9

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Positive family involvement

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
My parent/guardian(s) gives me lots of chances to do fun things with them and my family.				
Definitely not true	6.3	4.2	7.1	9.7
Mostly not true	11.6	12.4	15.4	27.1
Mostly true	28.1	40.2	46.6	41.8
Definitely true	54.0	43.1	30.9	21.4
My parent/guardian(s) gives me help and support when I need it.				
Definitely not true	3.7	4.6	2.9	4.7
Mostly not true	5.5	4.2	10.2	12.3
Mostly true	23.5	29.4	34.8	35.9
Definitely true	67.4	61.8	52.1	47.2
My parent/guardian asks if my homework is done.				
Definitely not true	4.3	6.2	9.0	15.2
Mostly not true	9.5	8.8	16.7	22.5
Mostly true	20.2	30.4	33.3	34.8
Definitely true	66.1	54.6	41.0	27.5
My parent/guardian(s) participates in activities at my school.				
Definitely not true	28.5	28.4	38.5	35.8
Mostly not true	23.0	32.7	31.7	25.2
Mostly true	35.6	26.8	19.6	25.8
Definitely true	12.9	12.1	10.3	13.2

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Parents' education

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How far did your mother or female guardian go in school?				
Some grade school or high school	5.1	12.0	15.6	11.2
Graduated from high school	30.2	34.0	29.3	41.4
Some college or training after high school	15.6	18.5	21.4	22.8
Graduated from college	19.0	15.4	18.0	14.7
More education after college	8.3	7.3	6.1	7.0
Don't know	21.9	12.7	9.5	2.8
How far did your father or male guardian go in school?				
Some grade school or high school	6.3	12.4	13.5	14.6
Graduated from high school	22.2	29.8	28.7	28.9
Some college or training after high school	13.9	17.8	17.6	25.1
Graduated from college	19.3	18.2	14.9	13.6
More education after college	10.1	7.0	9.7	8.4
Don't know	28.2	14.7	15.6	9.4

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

INDIVIDUAL DOMAIN

Social Supports

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How many close friends do you have?				
None or one	6.6	6.2	7.7	6.9
Two or three	24.2	27.4	34.0	34.1
Four or more	69.3	66.4	58.3	59.0
When you have a problem that bothers you, how often do you talk about it with:				
Your parent(s) or guardian(s)				
Never or almost never	23.9	29.3	33.3	37.2
Sometimes	32.3	37.7	42.7	39.9
Often	20.5	16.3	15.3	13.3
Always or almost always	23.3	16.7	8.7	9.6
A relative, other than a parent				
Never or almost never	42.1	44.0	56.7	53.2
Sometimes	30.5	32.4	27.7	34.5
Often	15.9	13.5	10.3	8.9
Always or almost always	11.5	10.2	5.3	3.4
A teacher				
Never or almost never	66.6	69.2	80.9	75.9
Sometimes	21.9	20.5	14.0	21.0
Often	6.2	4.4	3.3	2.4
Always or almost always	5.3	5.9	1.7	0.7
An adult who is not a family member (not including a teacher)				
Never or almost never	68.4	57.3	58.5	53.8
Sometimes	19.4	26.3	30.4	31.4
Often	6.6	10.6	7.0	10.7
Always or almost always	5.6	5.8	4.0	4.1
A brother or a sister				
Never or almost never	51.6	46.0	46.4	42.4
Sometimes	25.2	30.1	30.8	29.7
Often	10.9	12.1	13.6	18.3
Always or almost always	12.4	11.8	9.2	9.7

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Social supports (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
When you have a problem that bothers you, how often do you talk about it with:				
A friend				
Never or almost never	24.7	18.8	10.0	6.2
Sometimes	29.4	25.4	23.7	21.7
Often	20.9	27.2	24.1	26.9
Always or almost always	25.0	28.7	42.1	45.2
Keep it to yourself				
Never or almost never	25.5	26.3	19.7	19.8
Sometimes	36.8	40.9	43.7	44.7
Often	15.0	13.9	22.0	19.5
Always or almost always	22.7	19.0	14.7	16.0

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Antisocial behavior

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
In the past year, I have:				
Stolen something worth less than \$50.	15.0	31.8	28.0	31.1
Gotten suspended or expelled from school.	12.0	12.1	15.0	14.7
Gotten into trouble with the police.	12.3	10.7	15.3	19.4
Picked a fight with someone (not including a family member).	33.7	34.6	28.7	26.8
Attacked someone with the idea of seriously hurting them.	12.3	14.5	12.4	13.7
Cheated on a test.	11.7	41.2	53.7	52.3
Sold illegal drugs.	0.6	2.8	7.2	12.0
Bought illegal drugs.	2.2	6.2	18.0	27.8
Purposely damaged or destroyed property that did not belong to me.	11.4	20.4	18.2	19.1
Carried a knife, gun, or other weapon.	8.6	19.0	14.7	13.4
Brought a knife, gun, or other weapon to school.	4.3	4.2	6.5	7.7
Gotten arrested.	NA	4.8	7.2	12.7
In the past year, my close friends have:				
Gotten suspended from school.	36.2	38.9	41.9	42.2
Sold illegal drugs.	4.0	9.1	25.0	38.4
Carried a knife, gun, or other weapon.	13.4	18.1	18.5	20.3
Tried to steal a motor vehicle.	NA	10.4	10.9	11.2
Dropped out of school.	4.3	6.9	15.5	21.1
Gotten arrested.	11.2	16.8	24.8	35.9

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Attitudes towards antisocial behavior

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to:				
Drink beer, wine, wine coolers, or hard liquor				
Very Wrong	71.0	46.9	26.4	17.9
Wrong	16.5	20.6	23.7	23.0
A little bit wrong	9.0	24.8	38.6	36.1
Not at all wrong	3.4	7.6	11.2	23.0
Smoke cigarettes				
Very Wrong	72.9	50.8	26.4	20.1
Wrong	15.9	24.4	27.7	22.8
A little bit wrong	7.2	17.6	31.1	29.8
Not at all wrong	4.0	7.3	14.9	27.3
Use marijuana				
Very Wrong	85.7	70.6	47.0	36.4
Wrong	9.0	14.5	22.6	24.7
A little bit wrong	3.1	9.5	21.3	23.4
Not at all wrong	2.2	5.3	9.1	15.5
Purposely damage or destroy property that does not belong to them				
Very Wrong	71.0	67.3	54.2	56.4
Wrong	19.9	20.0	34.3	28.5
A little bit wrong	5.0	8.1	9.4	11.0
Not at all wrong	4.0	4.6	2.0	4.1
Carry a knife, gun or other weapon				
Very Wrong	75.7	61.7	55.1	59.5
Wrong	11.8	18.0	23.3	23.7
A little bit wrong	7.2	12.3	14.2	9.6
Not at all wrong	5.3	8.0	7.4	7.2
Bring a knife, gun or other weapon to school				
Very Wrong	85.0	74.1	63.5	70.9
Wrong	9.7	17.0	25.0	19.0
A little bit wrong	2.5	5.4	6.1	4.5
Not at all wrong	2.8	3.5	5.4	5.5

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Attitudes towards antisocial behavior (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to:				
Steal something worth less than \$50				
Very wrong	69.2	57.5	45.8	46.7
Wrong	19.9	22.0	35.9	31.3
A little bit wrong	5.3	16.6	14.9	17.9
Not at all wrong	5.6	3.9	3.4	4.1
Pick a fight with someone (not including a family member)				
Very wrong	53.5	45.6	33.1	30.2
Wrong	24.8	26.8	36.5	36.1
A little bit wrong	14.8	20.3	22.3	27.5
Not at all wrong	6.9	7.3	8.1	6.2
Attack someone with the idea of seriously hurting them				
Very wrong	76.9	68.2	57.9	56.7
Wrong	12.5	18.0	27.1	26.3
A little bit wrong	6.5	8.8	11.3	12.5
Not at all wrong	4.0	5.0	3.8	4.5
Use inhalants (things you inhale or sniff to get high like glue, paint, etc.)				
Very wrong	83.2	78.8	67.7	65.6
Wrong	10.3	11.2	21.2	23.7
A little bit wrong	3.7	5.4	7.1	5.2
Not at all wrong	2.8	4.6	4.0	5.5
Cheat on a test				
Very wrong	53.1	37.3	21.9	17.2
Wrong	28.7	22.7	29.3	25.8
A little bit wrong	13.1	31.2	33.0	36.4
Not at all wrong	5.0	8.8	15.8	20.6
Drink and drive				
Very wrong	NA	81.6	82.2	77.2
Wrong	NA	11.5	11.8	14.2
A little bit wrong	NA	3.8	4.4	5.2
Not at all wrong	NA	3.1	1.7	3.5

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

How students report spending time after school

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How many hours a week do you usually spend:				
Doing homework				
None	8.7	11.1	15.7	23.8
1-2 hours	51.2	47.7	34.6	39.3
3-5 hours	28.7	22.2	22.1	18.2
6-10 hours	7.2	14.1	18.9	9.6
11 or more hours	4.2	4.9	8.7	9.2
In clubs or sports				
None	20.4	24.5	28.4	31.7
1-2 hours	29.0	24.5	13.5	19.7
3-5 hours	26.3	21.9	20.3	16.0
6-10 hours	14.1	16.0	16.8	16.0
11 or more hours	10.2	13.1	21.0	16.7
Watching TV				
None	3.9	5.6	8.7	8.6
1-2 hours	30.2	32.5	28.9	36.0
3-5 hours	30.8	31.1	30.2	28.7
6-10 hours	17.5	15.1	19.6	13.2
11 or more hours	17.5	15.7	12.5	13.5
Reading books, magazines, or newspapers				
None	15.4	19.3	17.7	18.7
1-2 hours	47.6	48.0	52.6	53.3
3-5 hours	21.4	20.9	21.0	16.0
6-10 hours	9.0	8.2	6.1	7.7
11 or more hours	6.6	3.6	2.6	4.3
Hanging out with friends at your or their home				
None	9.0	7.5	5.5	4.7
1-2 hours	22.2	22.9	17.4	19.7
3-5 hours	34.2	30.7	29.6	25.7
6-10 hours	17.7	18.0	26.7	25.7
11 or more hours	16.8	20.9	20.9	24.3

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

How students report spending time after school (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How many hours a week do you usually spend:				
Hanging out with friends at malls, public areas, etc.				
None	32.2	27.2	17.6	13.4
1-2 hours	32.2	28.9	28.8	34.1
3-5 hours	21.0	25.9	34.6	29.4
6-10 hours	8.2	11.5	11.2	14.4
11 or more hours	6.4	6.6	7.7	8.7
Working for money outside of your house (e.g. baby-sitting, paper route, working in a store, etc.)				
None	58.4	43.1	36.5	22.1
1-2 hours	19.6	22.0	14.4	6.6
3-5 hours	14.2	19.1	15.4	9.2
6-10 hours	5.4	11.5	14.1	17.8
11 or more hours	2.4	4.3	19.6	44.2
Working or doing chores around the house				
None	14.4	10.4	12.8	15.9
1-2 hours	50.5	51.1	48.4	51.0
3-5 hours	22.8	27.0	29.2	24.5
6-10 hours	7.5	8.1	6.1	4.6
11 or more hours	4.8	3.3	3.5	4.0
Doing volunteer work				
None	51.4	59.5	67.0	67.4
1-2 hours	30.2	30.6	19.2	22.3
3-5 hours	14.2	5.9	9.3	6.0
6-10 hours	2.7	2.3	1.9	3.7
11 or more hours	1.5	1.6	2.6	0.7
In a band, orchestra, or playing an instrument				
None	59.0	64.7	73.8	73.8
1-2 hours	22.6	18.6	8.3	7.6
3-5 hours	14.2	13.4	8.6	8.6
6-10 hours	3.0	2.3	6.1	7.0
11 or more hours	1.2	1.0	3.2	3.0

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

How students report spending time after school (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How many hours a week do you usually spend:				
Attending religious services, groups or programs at a church, synagogue, or temple				
None	48.0	55.2	57.2	61.4
1-2 hours	33.9	33.3	30.7	31.0
3-5 hours	13.8	9.5	8.3	5.3
6-10 hours	3.3	1.6	3.2	1.7
11 or more hours	0.9	0.3	0.6	0.7
Playing on the computer or video games				
None	17.1	25.1	35.1	43.4
1-2 hours	39.9	44.6	37.4	36.1
3-5 hours	25.2	17.6	15.7	13.6
6-10 hours	10.2	7.8	6.1	3.6
11 or more hours	7.5	4.9	5.8	3.3
Talking on the telephone				
None	13.2	11.8	10.3	7.9
1-2 hours	45.8	41.6	36.2	40.1
3-5 hours	18.0	23.6	27.2	26.2
6-10 hours	11.7	11.8	9.9	14.2
11 or more hours	11.4	11.1	16.3	11.6
Listening to music				
None	5.7	5.6	1.6	3.3
1-2 hours	35.1	29.4	24.4	18.5
3-5 hours	23.1	25.8	23.5	23.4
6-10 hours	18.0	17.0	20.6	19.8
11 or more hours	18.0	22.2	29.9	35.0

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Self-concept

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How much do you disagree or agree with the following:				
I am good at making friends				
Strongly disagree	3.4	3.5	0.7	2.4
Disagree	4.4	4.2	1.7	3.4
Not sure	23.1	15.4	18.5	13.0
Agree	36.9	46.3	53.8	55.1
Strongly agree	32.2	30.5	25.4	26.0
I feel no one understands me				
Strongly disagree	33.8	20.3	16.6	12.6
Disagree	21.8	29.7	33.1	33.4
Not sure	23.0	26.6	26.2	29.7
Agree	11.7	15.4	14.9	14.7
Strongly agree	9.8	8.0	9.3	9.6
At times, I think I am no good at all				
Strongly disagree	35.7	23.5	22.6	23.1
Disagree	18.5	21.4	28.2	27.6
Not sure	14.1	22.5	19.6	18.4
Agree	18.5	23.9	22.6	24.5
Strongly agree	13.2	8.8	7.0	6.5
I feel lonely				
Strongly disagree	37.0	30.3	24.1	21.6
Disagree	17.9	26.8	33.7	29.9
Not sure	17.9	14.8	22.8	21.0
Agree	16.3	19.0	15.5	21.3
Strongly agree	11.0	9.2	4.0	6.2
I am good at making decisions				
Strongly disagree	8.2	2.5	1.6	2.0
Disagree	8.8	6.0	6.9	6.8
Not sure	22.3	22.8	20.4	20.1
Agree	32.9	43.4	49.7	49.1
Strongly agree	27.9	25.3	21.4	21.8

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Self-concept (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How much do you disagree or agree with the following:				
I feel that no one really cares about me				
Strongly disagree	51.7	44.1	40.1	35.3
Disagree	18.0	25.3	33.1	38.4
Not sure	14.2	14.2	16.9	13.7
Agree	8.5	11.0	6.6	9.6
Strongly agree	7.6	5.3	3.3	3.1
I feel I do not have much to be proud of				
Strongly disagree	57.4	43.7	37.1	37.1
Disagree	17.4	24.4	34.1	32.3
Not sure	9.1	14.0	14.6	11.3
Agree	8.2	9.3	10.3	13.4
Strongly agree	7.9	8.6	4.0	5.8
I think I have a good sense of humor				
Strongly disagree	8.2	3.2	1.7	3.4
Disagree	6.0	5.4	5.0	3.8
Not sure	19.9	20.7	17.5	14.4
Agree	27.2	37.1	44.6	48.8
Strongly agree	38.6	33.6	31.4	29.6
I often have trouble sleeping				
Strongly disagree	32.2	26.9	24.8	25.3
Disagree	15.9	29.7	28.5	31.1
Not sure	13.8	11.1	13.2	10.9
Agree	25.6	19.7	24.8	21.8
Strongly agree	12.5	12.5	8.6	10.9
I feel sad most of the time				
Strongly disagree	47.8	37.2	34.2	28.9
Disagree	21.8	30.3	31.2	37.8
Not sure	11.7	13.0	19.9	16.2
Agree	10.4	13.4	10.0	12.7
Strongly agree	8.2	6.1	4.7	4.5

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Self-concept (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How much do you disagree or agree with the following:				
On the whole, I like myself				
Strongly disagree	8.5	4.7	2.7	3.1
Disagree	4.1	5.8	4.3	7.9
Not sure	20.7	21.8	19.4	18.2
Agree	28.5	37.5	47.2	46.6
Strongly agree	38.2	30.2	26.4	24.3
I have so much energy, I don't know what to do with it				
Strongly disagree	18.2	13.4	10.0	11.7
Disagree	16.0	21.0	29.4	31.0
Not sure	22.6	27.9	26.1	25.5
Agree	19.8	23.2	24.1	21.0
Strongly agree	23.3	14.5	10.4	10.7
I have less energy than I think I should have				
Strongly disagree	49.1	31.7	27.6	20.3
Disagree	21.8	30.9	29.9	33.3
Not sure	16.5	21.6	21.3	15.8
Agree	5.1	10.1	16.6	23.7
Strongly agree	7.6	5.8	4.7	6.9
I have a number of good qualities				
Strongly disagree	5.7	3.9	1.7	2.0
Disagree	5.4	6.8	2.6	4.4
Not sure	20.2	15.8	17.2	17.1
Agree	29.7	40.9	48.3	50.2
Strongly agree	39.1	32.6	30.1	26.3
All in all, I am glad I am me				
Strongly disagree	8.7	6.8	2.7	3.8
Disagree	3.7	4.5	5.7	4.4
Not sure	14.6	13.9	13.8	15.4
Agree	26.8	39.1	44.3	45.1
Strongly agree	46.1	35.7	33.6	31.4

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Self-concept (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How much do you disagree or agree with the following:				
I wish I was dead				
Strongly disagree	67.9	61.0	63.3	68.6
Disagree	9.1	16.1	18.9	17.4
Not sure	11.0	12.7	10.8	10.6
Agree	8.2	6.0	4.7	1.0
Strongly agree	3.8	4.1	2.4	2.4
I have a plan to kill myself				
Strongly disagree	77.1	71.5	74.4	79.1
Disagree	7.5	12.0	12.5	10.6
Not sure	8.5	7.9	5.4	6.8
Agree	3.4	5.6	5.1	2.4
Strongly agree	3.4	3.0	2.7	1.0
I am restless and can't sit still				
Strongly disagree	47.6	49.1	38.3	46.2
Disagree	17.2	23.8	27.9	25.3
Not sure	12.5	9.8	13.8	13.4
Agree	11.3	14.0	16.1	11.6
Strongly agree	11.3	3.4	4.0	3.4
I have trouble concentrating				
Strongly disagree	49.8	44.1	30.2	33.4
Disagree	13.5	20.5	21.8	26.6
Not sure	15.0	14.8	20.1	16.4
Agree	14.4	17.5	22.1	20.1
Strongly agree	7.2	3.0	5.7	3.4

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Attention deficit indicators

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How true are the following:				
I act too young for my age				
Not true	71.0	76.7	71.0	81.8
Somewhat true	22.4	20.0	23.7	15.1
Very true	6.5	3.3	5.3	3.1
I have trouble concentrating or paying attention				
Not true	53.3	53.6	42.3	48.5
Somewhat true	34.9	35.4	41.7	38.6
Very true	11.8	10.9	16.0	13.0
I have trouble sitting still				
Not true	72.5	61.5	57.7	65.2
Somewhat true	27.5	24.5	29.3	26.3
Very true	0.0	13.9	13.0	8.5
I feel confused or in a fog				
Not true	73.0	74.5	71.0	71.0
Somewhat true	18.0	17.5	23.3	23.9
Very true	9.0	8.0	5.7	5.1
I daydream a lot				
Not true	49.2	51.1	34.3	39.4
Somewhat true	29.6	28.8	46.0	42.5
Very true	21.2	20.1	19.7	18.2
I act without stopping to think				
Not true	47.5	47.6	50.0	48.8
Somewhat true	35.1	38.8	37.3	40.6
Very true	17.4	13.6	12.7	10.6
I am nervous or tense				
Not true	69.2	59.2	66.3	54.6
Somewhat true	30.8	30.1	26.6	36.2
Very true	0.0	10.7	7.1	9.2

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Attention deficit indicators (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
How true are the following:				
My school work is poor				
Not true	70.6	68.1	63.2	62.0
Somewhat true	23.4	25.3	26.1	29.5
Very true	5.9	6.6	10.7	8.6
I am poorly coordinated or clumsy				
Not true	76.0	80.3	80.7	81.8
Somewhat true	16.8	13.9	16.7	14.7
Very true	7.2	5.8	2.7	3.4

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

SCHOOL DOMAIN

Academic performance

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
What kind of grades do you usually get?				
Mostly A's	33.0	24.7	16.3	14.8
Mostly B's	40.7	43.7	46.7	46.1
Mostly C's	21.6	26.7	29.1	34.5
Mostly D's and F's	4.6	5.0	7.8	4.6

School environment

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
There are lots of chances for students in my school to talk with teachers one-on-one.				
Definitely not true	11.2	8.8	5.8	8.3
Mostly not true	14.5	15.4	22.1	22.2
Mostly true	44.1	43.1	53.5	49.0
Definitely true	30.2	32.7	18.6	20.5
My teacher(s) notices when I am doing a good job and lets me know about it.				
Definitely not true	9.9	12.1	9.6	10.6
Mostly not true	15.5	16.3	21.8	30.1
Mostly true	44.5	43.8	52.9	43.0
Definitely true	30.1	27.8	15.7	16.2
I feel safe at my school.				
Definitely not true	9.3	7.5	7.1	5.9
Mostly not true	11.1	10.7	12.6	10.9
Mostly true	36.9	46.6	57.4	54.9
Definitely true	42.6	35.2	22.9	28.3

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Commitment to school

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
During the past year, how many days did you miss school?				
Never	13.2	13.3	12.5	7.9
Less than once a month	48.3	45.0	42.1	34.4
Once a month	11.7	14.7	18.3	20.5
Two or three times a month	16.2	21.0	19.9	31.1
One or more times a week	10.5	6.0	7.1	6.0
I try hard to do good work at school.				
Definitely not true	1.8	0.3	2.2	4.3
Mostly not true	4.5	7.5	10.6	13.5
Mostly true	42.8	51.5	57.1	54.1
Definitely true	50.9	40.7	30.1	28.1
I want very much to get more education after high school.				
Definitely not true	5.1	3.3	2.6	1.0
Mostly not true	8.1	7.9	8.3	6.6
Mostly true	25.2	27.9	27.5	25.0
Definitely true	61.6	61.0	61.7	67.4
It is important to me to get good grades.				
Definitely not true	2.4	1.0	1.9	2.3
Mostly not true	3.9	5.3	9.0	10.3
Mostly true	19.4	37.2	41.5	42.2
Definitely true	74.2	56.6	47.6	45.2
I have given up on school.				
Definitely not true	83.4	83.0	79.2	71.2
Mostly not true	9.7	10.8	13.0	21.2
Mostly true	4.8	4.3	5.2	6.6
Definitely true	2.1	2.0	2.6	1.0

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

School alcohol and tobacco policies

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
Does your school have rules against tobacco use on school grounds?				
No	3.4	3.9	4.5	5.0
Yes	80.0	89.9	83.7	92.6
I don't know	16.6	6.2	11.9	2.3
What happens to a student who is caught smoking cigarettes at school?				
Nothing	2.1	1.0	10.9	17.4
Sent to principal's office	37.6	55.7	36.1	43.3
Detention	22.7	28.7	36.4	41.3
Suspension	51.9	68.4	34.2	40.3
Expulsion	33.4	30.6	4.5	3.3
I don't know	31.3	23.5	41.5	25.2
If a student were caught smoking cigarettes at school, would his/her parents be called?				
No	1.9	1.3	12.0	15.0
Yes	81.3	85.9	35.0	36.5
I don't know	16.9	12.8	53.1	48.5
What happens to a student who is caught drinking alcohol at school?				
Nothing	1.8	0.7	2.2	3.3
Sent to principal's office	35.5	49.8	26.2	27.2
Detention	25.1	27.0	15.0	15.7
Suspension	46.0	57.0	36.7	44.9
Expulsion	37.0	39.1	11.5	19.0
I don't know	35.8	35.2	60.1	47.2
If a student were caught drinking alcohol at school, would his/her parents be called?				
No	2.3	0.3	1.6	2.3
Yes	97.7	85.5	49.7	62.5
I don't know	0.0	14.2	48.7	35.1
If a student were caught drinking alcohol at school, would the police be called?				
No	NA	8.6	6.1	9.4
Yes	NA	21.2	17.9	23.4
I don't know	NA	70.2	76.0	67.2

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

School drug policies

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
What happens to a student who is caught using drugs (not including alcohol or cigarettes) at school?				
Nothing	NA	0.3	2.6	3.3
Sent to the principal's office	NA	45.0	27.8	32.1
Detention	NA	24.1	11.2	14.1
Suspension	NA	44.3	32.9	34.4
Expulsion	NA	59.0	39.0	43.6
I don't know	NA	26.1	46.3	37.4
If a student were caught using drugs at school, would his or her parents be called?				
No	NA	0.7	1.6	2.4
Yes	NA	87.9	64.1	71.4
I don't know	NA	11.4	34.3	26.3
If a student were caught using drugs at school, would the police be called?				
No	NA	2.0	2.6	3.0
Yes	NA	64.2	55.9	62.4
I don't know	NA	33.8	41.5	34.6

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Student perceptions of the D.A.R.E. program

Question and Responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
The D.A.R.E. program has taught me skills that have helped me to refuse drugs or alcohol when they have been offered to me.				
Very true	NA	50.2	25.0	17.5
Somewhat true	NA	24.7	40.3	38.0
Not true	NA	21.6	29.2	37.0
Did not have D.A.R.E.	NA	3.5	5.5	7.4
The D.A.R.E. program has helped me to make decisions to do other activities rather than use drugs or alcohol.				
Very true	NA	51.0	25.6	19.0
Somewhat true	NA	25.0	35.9	30.8
Not true	NA	20.8	32.7	42.7
Did not have D.A.R.E.	NA	3.1	5.8	7.5
The D.A.R.E. program has given me very good reasons not to use drugs or alcohol.				
Very true	NA	56.4	27.5	21.5
Somewhat true	NA	22.6	36.2	34.0
Not true	NA	17.8	30.4	37.0
Did not have D.A.R.E.	NA	3.1	5.8	7.4
The D.A.R.E. program has helped me to have a positive view of police officers in my community.				
Very true	NA	48.3	29.4	22.2
Somewhat true	NA	26.7	31.4	32.3
Not true	NA	21.5	33.7	37.7
Did not have D.A.R.E.	NA	3.5	5.5	7.7

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Participation in school and community activities

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
Participation in the following programs within the past twelve months at school or in the community:				
Tutoring programs				
In school	29.1	21.1	13.1	14.9
In community	19.5	12.1	10.0	11.3
Peer mentoring programs				
In school	36.5	15.5	24.3	26.9
In community	17.7	6.7	10.7	9.0
Problem solving skills programs				
In school	55.4	36.3	45.0	44.3
In community	22.2	12.9	12.0	7.3
Communication skills programs				
In school	45.3	28.6	40.5	35.2
In community	20.3	12.9	14.2	11.8
Violence prevention programs				
In school	67.1	36.3	37.3	33.1
In community	28.1	13.9	13.2	7.6
Alcohol, tobacco, or drug prevention programs				
In school	80.5	61.5	65.8	64.4
In community	33.3	25.1	24.6	13.1
Sports or recreation activities				
In school	59.6	64.8	68.9	58.8
In community	66.2	60.6	55.4	43.6
Stress reduction or relaxation groups				
In school	46.6	17.7	18.9	15.9
In community	18.9	9.6	12.5	9.0
Self-esteem groups				
In school	65.0	36.3	37.8	35.4
In community	25.9	15.5	12.1	9.0

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Participation in school and community activities (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
Participation in the following programs within the past twelve months at school or in the community:				
Program or meeting to help you deal with drug or alcohol use by a member of your family				
In school	24.7	12.7	9.2	10.3
In community	13.4	11.1	8.4	7.0
Volunteer or community work				
In school	31.8	31.4	31.0	32.1
In community	33.1	28.2	31.1	31.1
Pregnancy prevention programs				
In school	NA	20.2	23.4	22.3
In community	NA	8.6	7.7	5.9
Job skills				
In school	NA	58.6	25.3	27.0
In community	NA	27.6	19.0	15.8
Job training				
In school	NA	31.2	16.4	18.0
In community	NA	19.7	19.3	21.6
Drop-out prevention programs				
In school	NA	13.1	5.8	3.4
In community	NA	NA	NA	NA
Youth center programs				
In school	NA	NA	NA	NA
In community	35.8	26.1	21.5	18.4

Note. NA = not asked

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

COMMUNITY DOMAIN

Perception of neighborhood environment

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
There are a lot of things for young people to do in my neighborhood.				
Definitely not true	14.6	27.8	48.1	63.9
Mostly not true	22.6	31.0	34.3	23.5
Mostly true	37.8	24.2	13.1	9.3
Definitely true	25.0	17.0	4.5	3.3
You've got to be tough to get along in my neighborhood.				
Definitely not true	52.0	48.9	49.8	61.7
Mostly not true	24.0	30.9	37.9	30.0
Mostly true	12.6	14.0	8.4	7.3
Definitely true	11.4	6.2	3.9	1.0
There are a lot of gangs in my neighborhood.				
Definitely not true	73.9	70.7	67.8	72.5
Mostly not true	16.0	22.7	24.1	22.5
Mostly true	5.5	3.9	4.5	3.6
Definitely true	4.6	2.6	3.5	1.3
My neighborhood is a safe place.				
Definitely not true	9.5	6.6	5.1	4.3
Mostly not true	12.9	13.8	9.6	9.9
Mostly true	36.5	41.1	52.4	51.3
Definitely true	41.1	38.5	32.8	34.4
People in my neighborhood look out for one another.				
Definitely not true	9.8	13.2	17.3	13.7
Mostly not true	18.2	24.1	28.4	28.0
Mostly true	38.5	42.6	39.3	42.3
Definitely true	33.5	20.1	15.0	16.0
It's hard to stay out of trouble growing up in my neighborhood.				
Definitely not true	54.8	56.1	50.5	60.7
Mostly not true	16.9	30.2	32.6	25.3
Mostly true	13.2	6.6	11.8	9.7
Definitely true	15.1	7.2	5.1	4.3

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Perception of neighborhood environment (continued)

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
A lot of people in my neighborhood carry a knife, gun, or other weapon.				
Definitely not true	60.0	55.1	53.1	60.0
Mostly not true	19.7	28.9	32.8	28.8
Mostly true	11.4	9.8	9.6	7.5
Definitely true	8.9	6.2	4.5	3.7
People in my neighborhood do other things that could get them in trouble with the police like stealing, selling stolen goods, mugging or assaulting others.				
Definitely not true	52.6	46.8	40.7	51.3
Mostly not true	17.8	21.9	35.3	25.7
Mostly true	14.5	15.9	11.5	14.0
Definitely true	15.1	15.3	12.5	9.0

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Neighborhood drug involvement

Question and responses	Grade			
	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%	%
A lot of drugs are sold in my neighborhood.				
Definitely not true	72.9	58.7	47.1	47.7
Mostly not true	12.6	21.1	29.2	27.0
Mostly true	6.5	12.5	13.5	15.0
Definitely true	8.0	7.6	10.3	10.3
A lot of people use drugs in my neighborhood.				
Definitely not true	56.4	51.3	41.2	32.0
Mostly not true	23.7	26.0	33.8	38.0
Mostly true	9.3	13.2	15.8	20.0
Definitely true	10.6	9.5	9.3	10.0
A lot of kids I know in my neighborhood are into using marijuana and other drugs.				
Definitely not true	70.7	52.0	34.9	27.1
Mostly not true	13.9	21.5	26.0	32.8
Mostly true	7.1	12.6	24.4	19.1
Definitely true	8.3	13.9	14.7	21.1
People in my neighborhood are trying to keep kids off drugs.				
Definitely not true	15.5	13.9	17.0	17.7
Mostly not true	13.7	22.8	28.6	34.0
Mostly true	28.3	34.7	38.6	35.7
Definitely true	42.5	28.7	15.8	12.6

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

References

Brounstein, P. J., Zweig, J. M., & Gardner, S. (1998). *Science-based practices in substance abuse prevention: A guide*. (Working Draft). Washington, D.C.: Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

Delaronde, S., Ungemack, J., & Cook, M.J. (1999). *Connecticut Substance Abuse Prevention Student Survey Report: Statewide Source Book*. Farmington, CT: University of Connecticut Health Center.

Hartwell, S., Ungemack, J. Babor, T. F., Stevens, M., & Del Boca, F. (1996). *Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Needs Assessment: The 1995 Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Use School Survey* (Tech. Rep.). Farmington, CT: University of Connecticut Health Center.

Prowda, P. & Thompson, J. (1996). Educational Reference Groups, 1996. *Research Bulletin, Number 1*. Hartford, CT: Connecticut State Department of Education.

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

Connecticut Cities and Towns by Educational Reference Group

A listing of the Connecticut cities and towns that comprise the Connecticut Department of Education's (1996) Educational Reference Group (ERG) classification of school districts. ERG is a classification system in which school districts that have public school students with similar socioeconomic status and need are grouped together for district level comparisons.

ERGs A-B

Avon	Glastonbury	New Fairfield	West Hartford
Bethel	Granby	Newtown	Weston
Brookfield	Greenwich	Orange	Westport
Cheshire	Guilford	Redding	Wilton
Darien	Madison	Ridgefield	Woodbridge
Easton	Marlborough	Simsbury	Region 5
Fairfield	Monroe	South Windsor	Region 9
Farmington	New Canaan	Trumbull	

ERGs C-E

Ashford	East Granby	Norfolk	Watertown
Andover	East Haddam	North Branford	Westbrook
Barkhamstead	East Hampton	North Haven	Wethersfield
Berlin	East Lyme	North Stonington	Willington
Bethany	Eastford	Old Saybrook	Windsor
Bolton	Ellington	Oxford	Woodstock
Bozrah	Essex	Pomfret	Woodstock Acad.
Branford	Franklin	Portland	Region 1
Brooklyn	Hamden	Preston	Region 4
Canaan	Hampton	Rocky Hill	Region 6
Canterbury	Hartland	Salem	Region 7
Canton	Hebron	Salisbury	Region 8
Chester	Kent	Scotland	Region 10
Clinton	Ledyard	Sharon	Region 11
Colchester	Lebanon	Shelton	Region 12
Colebrook	Lisbon	Sherman	Region 13
Columbia	Litchfield	Somers	Region 14
Cornwall	Mansfield	Southington	Region 15
Coventry	New Hartford	Suffield	Region 16
Cromwell	New Milford	Tolland	Region 17
Deep River	Newington	Union	Region 18
			Region 19

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

ERGs F-G

Bloomfield	Milford	Sprague	Vernon
Chaplin	Montville	Stafford	Voluntown
East Haven	Naugatuck	Sterling	Wallingford
East Windsor	North Canaan	Stonington	Waterford
Enfield	Plainfield	Stratford	Winchester
Griswold	Plainville	Thomaston	Windsor Locks
Groton	Plymouth	Thompson	Wolcott
Manchester	Seymour	Torrington	Gilbert Academy

ERG H

Ansonia	East Hartford	Norwalk	Norwich Free Acad.
Bristol	Killingly	Norwich	Stamford
Danbury	Meriden	Putnam	West Haven
Derby	Middletown		

ERG I

Bridgeport	New Britain	New London	Windham
Hartford	New Haven	Waterbury	

Data based on the 1997 Substance Abuse Prevention School Survey conducted by the University of Connecticut Health Center for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.