Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey 2002



(December 2002)

A survey undertaken by the Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit (CAHRU), The University of Edinburgh, commissioned by the Information and Statistics Division (ISD Scotland) on behalf of the Scottish Executive.

Background to the 2002 survey

The Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) has been established by the Scottish Executive to allow a broad based approach to the monitoring of substance use among secondary school children in Scotland. The survey was undertaken by the Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit (CAHRU), University of Edinburgh, commissioned by the Information and Statistics Division (ISD Scotland) on behalf of the Scottish Executive.

SALSUS 2002 was designed to provide information about smoking, drinking and drug use in the context of adolescent lifestyles. The survey continues the biennial series of surveys used to monitor national trends in smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland since 1982 and in 2002 incorporates items on health, lifestyle and social factors for the first time¹. A further important development in 2002 is the provision of information at local as well as national level. Local reports will be provided to Drug and Alcohol Action Teams early in 2003. The main national report on the survey findings, including the interrelationships of substance use with other health and lifestyle factors will be published later in 2003.

Sample Design

In order to provide disaggregated as well as national information the SALSUS 2002 survey had a final sample size of over 23,000 Scottish school pupils in S2 and S4 from local authority and independently funded schools across Scotland, but excluding pupils attending special schools. The sample size was sufficient to obtain the level of accuracy required of prevalence estimates at a disaggregated level for pupils in S2 and S4. Mainly for reasons of cost and the survey burden on schools, it was not feasible to expand the sample size to cover pupils in S1 and S3 sufficiently.

Comparison with previous surveys

SALSUS 2002 was carried out in the spring school term, approximately six months later than the previous UK wide surveys. The survey sampled pupils from S2 and S4, a change from previous national surveys in the series that sampled pupils from S1-S4. These differences mean that care must be taken when comparing 2002 results with reports from previous surveys. Due to the timing of the survey S2 and S4 pupils in SALSUS 2002 are comparable with the '13 year old' and '15 year old' categories from the earlier surveys (rather than the 'S2' and 'S4' school years). Where comparisons with earlier surveys are made, therefore, S2 and S4 pupils from SALSUS 2002 are compared with '13 year olds' and '15 year olds' pupils from sales. For the purpose of reporting consistency, S2 pupils will be referred to as '13 year olds' and S4 pupils referred to as '15 year olds' throughout this report.

¹ See Background Notes

² As in previous national reports 16 year olds are included in the '15 year old' group. The 13 year old' group also includes 14 year olds. The pupils in S2 have an average age of 13 years 7 months, and 14% are 14 years. The pupils in S4 have an average age of 15 years 7 months, and 17% are 16 years old. The average age of the SALSUS '13 year old' and '15 year old' groups is not significantly different from that of '13' and '15' year old age groups cited in previous reports (average age 13 years 6 months and 15 years 6 months respectively in 2000).

Key Findings: Summary

Smoking

- 8% of 13 year old pupils and 20% of 15 year olds reported being regular smokers ¹.
- In both age groups girls were more likely to be regular smokers than boys. Nine percent (9%) of 13 year old girls reported smoking regularly compared with 6% of 13 year old boys. Twenty four percent (24%) of 15 year old girls reported being regular smokers compared with 16% of 15 year old boys.
- There has been a decline in the prevalence of regular smoking among 15 year old boys from a peak of 30% in 1996 to 16% in 2002.
- Regular smoking has shown little change among 13 year old boys and girls and 15 year old girls over the previous 20 years.
- The average age for first smoking reported by 15 year old pupils was 12 years.

Drinking

- 23% of 13 year olds and 46% of 15 year olds reported that they had drunk alcohol in the week previous to the survey.
- There were no gender differences in the reported prevalence of drinking in the previous week in 2002.
- The prevalence of drinking in the previous week has increased over the last four years among 15 year old boys and girls and among 13 year old girls.
- 56% of 13 year olds and 77% of 15 year olds who drink alcohol reported that they had been drunk at least once.
- The average age for first drinking reported by 15 year old pupils was 12 years.

Drug Use

- 8% of 13 year olds and 23% of 15 year olds had used drugs in the last month prior to the survey.
- In both age groups boys were more likely to have used drugs than girls. Nine percent (9%) of 13 year old boys used drugs in the last month compared with 6% of 13 year old girls. Twenty four percent (24%) of 15 year old boys reported using drugs in the last month compared with 21% of 15 year old girls.
- Reported drug use has not changed significantly since 1998 (when questions on drug use were introduced to this series of biennial surveys).
- The average age for the first occasion of drug use reported by 15 year old pupils was 14 years.

¹ Pupils who report smoking one or more cigarettes every week

Figure 1 shows gender and age differences in reported smoking, drinking and drug use in 2002. Use of all substances is higher in 15 year olds than in 13 year olds.

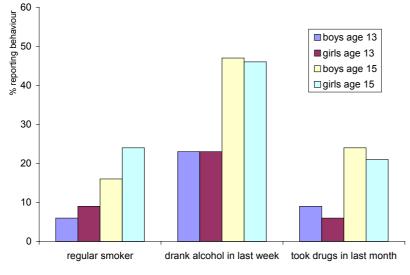


Figure 1: Prevalence of smoking, drinking and drugs use in thirteen and fifteen year old pupils in Scotland 2002

Base = All pupils

Summary trend tables are reported in the text and are prefixed 'S' for smoking, 'A' for drinking alcohol and 'D' for drugs. All other tables referred to in the interim report can be found on pages 14-21.

Key Findings: Smoking

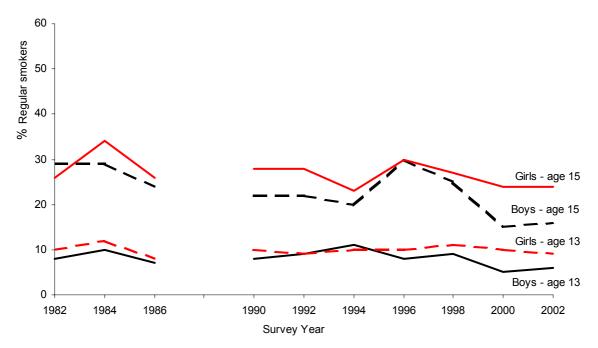
Prevalence and trends in regular smoking

In 2002 eight percent (8%) of 13 year olds and 20% of 15 year olds reported being regular smokers. In both age groups girls were more likely to be regular smokers than boys. Nine percent (9%) of 13 year old girls smoked regularly compared with 6% of 13 year old boys. Twenty four percent (24%) of 15 year old girls reported being regular smokers compared with 16% of 15 year old boys (Table 1).

Figure 2 shows the trends in regular smoking since the series of surveys began in 1982, by age group and gender. Although there is an apparent decrease in smoking among 13 year old boys and girls since 1998, when prevalence was 9% and 11% respectively, these changes were not statistically significant (Table S1).

Smoking prevalence in both boys and girls aged 15 has decreased since its peak in 1996 when prevalence for boys and girls was 30%. The decrease for boys has been much greater, and it is only among boys that the change was statistically significant.





Base = All pupils Note: There was no survey in 1988

, j		J -										
Gender	Year											
	1982	1984	1986	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2002 Bases
Age	Percenta	age who	were reg	gular sm	okers							
13 Year old	ds											
Boys	8	10	7	-	8	9	11	8	9	5	6	5948
Girls	10	12	8	-	10	9	10	10	11	10	9	6146
15 Year ol	ds											
Boys	29	29	24	-	22	22	20	30	25	15	16	5145

28

28

23

30

27

24

24

5074

Table S1: Percentage of pupils who reported themselves to be regular smokers, by gender and age: 1982 to 2002

Base: All pupils

Girls

Note: There was no survey in 1988

26

Patterns of smoking in 2002

34

26

Number of cigarettes smoked

Pupils who smoked regularly were asked how many cigarettes they usually smoked in a week. Younger pupils who were regular smokers smoked fewer cigarettes than older pupils: an average of 26 per week for 13 year olds and 40 per week for 15 year olds. Boys who reported smoking regularly reported smoking only slightly more cigarettes per week than girls: an average of 38 per week for boys compared with 34 per week for girls.

Money spent on cigarettes

Almost all regular smokers (95%) reported that they usually spend money each week on cigarettes, spending £8 per week on average.

Dependency

The majority (65%) of regular smokers had been smoking for more than a year: 52% of 13 year olds and 70% of 15 year olds.

Most pupils who smoked regularly reported that they would like to give up smoking altogether: 73% of those who had been smoking for over a year and 65% of those who had been smoking for less than a year.

Almost a third (32%) of all pupils who smoked regularly felt that it would be "very difficult" to give up smoking altogether and a further 36% felt it would be "fairly difficult". Pupils who had been smoking regularly for more than a year were more likely to report that it would be very difficult to give up smoking altogether: 41% compared with 12% of pupils who had smoked regularly for less than a year (Table 2). Seventy percent (70%) of pupils who smoked regularly reported that they had tried to give up smoking.

Family attitudes towards pupils' smoking

Pupils who smoked were asked what their families felt about them smoking and three quarters (75%) of regular smokers reported that their families stop them smoking or try to persuade them not to smoke. Non-smokers were asked how their families would feel if they started smoking and almost all (92%) reported that their families would stop them or try to persuade them not to smoke (Table 3).

More pupils who smoked regularly reported that a parent smoked daily: 66% of regular smokers reported that a parent smoked daily compared with 39% of non-smokers (Table 4).

Pupils who reported that they smoked regularly were also more likely to have a sibling who smoked: 38% of regular smokers and 13% of non-smokers reported that they had a sibling who smoked (Table 5).

Regular smokers were also more likely to have friends who smoked: 39% of regular smokers reported that all or almost all of their friends smoked but only 3% of non-smokers had friends who smoked. The majority of non-smokers (61%) reported that none or almost none of their friends smoked (Table 6).

Key Findings: Drinking

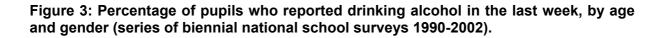
Prevalence and trends in drinking in the last week

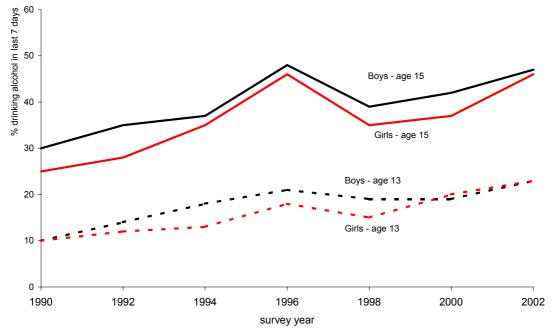
All pupils were asked whether they had ever had a "proper alcoholic drink, a whole drink not just a sip". Sixty nine percent (69%) of all 13 year old and 88% of 15 year old pupils reported that they had had an alcoholic drink.

In 2002 forty six percent (46%) of 15 year olds and 23% of 13 year olds reported that they had had an alcoholic drink in the last week (Table 7).

Figure 3 shows the trends in percentage of pupils who reported that they had had an alcoholic drink in the last week identified from previous surveys. Drinking in both age groups has increased fairly consistently since this series of surveys began reporting alcohol consumption, with a brief rise in 1996, and a subsequent fall in 1998. Current drinking prevalence has returned to its highest level in all age groups, equal to the peak year of 1996 (Table A1).

In 2002 there was no significant difference between boys and girls in proportion of pupils drinking in the last week. Although boys have had a higher prevalence of drinking than girls over previous years this has always been a small difference and not always statistically significant.





Base = All pupils

Year 1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2002
Percent	age who	drank a	lcohol in	the last	week		Bases
lds							
10	14	18	21	19	19	23	5515
10	12	13	18	15	20	23	5839
lds							
30	35	37	48	39	42	47	5602
25	28	35	46	35	37	46	5641
	1990 <i>Percent</i> Ids 10 10 Ids 30	1990 1992 Percentage who ids 10 14 10 14 10 12 1ds 30 35	1990 1992 1994 Percentage who drank a Ids 10 14 18 10 12 13 Ids 30 35 37	1990 1992 1994 1996 Percentage who drank alcohol in 10 12 13 18 10 14 18 21 10 12 13 18 Ids 30 35 37 48	1990 1992 1994 1996 1998 Percentage who drank alcohol in the last ids 10 14 18 21 19 10 12 13 18 15 ids 30 35 37 48 39	1990 1992 1994 1996 1998 2000 Percentage who drank alcohol in the last week 10 14 18 21 19 19 10 14 18 21 19 19 19 10 12 13 18 15 20 Ids 30 35 37 48 39 42	1990 1992 1994 1996 1998 2000 2002 Percentage who drank alcohol in the last week Ids 10 14 18 21 19 19 23 10 12 13 18 15 20 23 Ids 30 35 37 48 39 42 47

Table A1: Percentage of pupils who reported drinking alcohol in the last week, by gender and age: 1990 to 2002

Base: All pupils

Drinking patterns in 2002

Money spent on alcohol

Pupils who were usually weekly drinkers and who spend money on alcohol each week (77% of weekly drinkers) spent an average of £8 per week.

Units of alcohol consumed

All pupils who said they had drunk alcohol in the last week were asked to record the amount they had consumed in the last week of each type of alcoholic drink listed¹. The average units of alcohol drunk by pupils who drank in the last week were 12.8 units of alcohol for 15 year olds, and slightly fewer for 13 year olds (10.0 units). These amounts have not changed since the 2000 survey.

In each age group boys who drank alcohol in the last week consumed more units of alcohol than girls. Fifteen year old boys drank an average of 14.2 units of alcohol a week, compared to 11.4 units consumed by 15 year old girls. This is equivalent to 7 pints of beer for boys and 11 glasses of wine for girls. Thirteen year old boys reported drinking an average of 11.2 units per week, compared with 13 year old girls who drank an average of 9.0 units per week.

Usual drinking patterns

When asked about their usual drinking frequency², older pupils were more likely to report that they usually drink alcohol at least once a week: 38% of all 15 year old pupils compared with 17% of all 13 year old pupils. Boys were more likely to report that they usually drink once a week or more than girls: 29% of boys and 26% of girls reported that they usually drink at least once a week (Table 8).

¹ Pupils were asked about the following types of drink: Beer, lager or cider; Shandy; Wine; Martini and sherry; Spirits and liqueurs; Alcopops and pre-mixed alcoholic drinks.

² All pupils, regardless of whether they had had a drink in the last week, were asked how often they usually have a drink.

Drinking to excess

For the first time in the series of surveys all pupils were asked whether they had ever had so much alcohol that they had been really drunk, and the number of times they had had 5 or more drinks on the same occasion in the previous 30 days.

Almost a third (32%) of pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink had never been drunk. The remaining 68% reported that they had been drunk at least once and just over a quarter (27%) said they had been drunk 4 times or more (Table 9). The average age given by 15 year olds for first being drunk was 13. Fifty six percent (56%) of 13 year olds and 77% of 15 year olds who drink alcohol reported that they have been drunk at least once, with no gender differences.

Nearly half (49%) of all pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink reported that they had had five or more drinks on the same occasion in the past 30 days. Thirteen percent (13%) had had five or more drinks on the same occasion more than 4 times in the past 30 days. Older pupils were more likely to have had five or more drinks on the same occasion than younger pupils: 57% of 15 year olds compared with 36% of 13 year olds, with no gender differences (Table 10).

Family attitudes to drinking

Pupils who drank alcohol were asked what their families felt about them drinking alcohol. Just over a quarter (27%) of those who drank in the last week reported that their family did not know that they drank and less than half (45%) of those who drank alcohol in the past week reported that their family did not mind if they drank alcohol (Table 11). Pupils who had never drunk alcohol (around 1 in 5 pupils, 22%) were asked what their families would feel if they started drinking and the majority of this group (70%) felt that their families would be upset or angry if they started drinking alcohol (Table 12).

All pupils were asked if they were allowed to drink at home. The majority (82%) of those who had drunk alcohol reported that they were allowed to drink at home. Forty percent (40%) of pupils who had never drunk alcohol also believed that they would be allowed to drink at home 'sometimes'.

Key Findings: Drug Use

Questions on drug use were first introduced to the series of biennial smoking surveys in 1998 and these have been extended to provide more information in 2002.

Prevalence

Gender

Year

In 2002 twenty three percent (23%) of 15 year olds and 8% of 13 year olds reported using drugs in the last month before the survey (Table 13).

Although the differences are not large, in both age groups boys were more likely to have used drugs than girls. Twenty four percent (24%) of 15 year old boys reported using drugs in the last month compared to 21% of 15 year old girls. Nine percent of 13 year old boys (9%) used drugs in the last month compared with 6% of 13 year old girls.

In 2002 thirty three percent (33%) of 15 year old pupils and 11% of thirteen year old pupils had used drugs in the last year.

Thirty seven percent (37%) of 15 year olds and 13% of 13 year olds reported ever having used drugs.

There has been no significant change in reported drug use in the last month prior to the survey, the last year or ever, since information was first reported on drug use in the 1998 survey (Table D1).

Gender	rear			
	1998	2000	2002	2002 Bases
	Percentage	e who had ι	ised drugs i	n the last month
13 Year o	lds			
Boys	9	8		9 5771
Girls	7	7	, (6030
15 Year o	lds			
Boys	26	23	24	4 5052
Girls	22	20	2	1 5047
	Percentage	e who had	used drug	s in the last year
	(including	those who h	ad done so	in the last month)
13 Year o	lds			
Boys	14	12	1:	3 5829
Girls	9	10	1	D 6107
15 Year o	lds			
Boys	36	32	3	5 5173
Girls	34	27	3	2 5191
	Percentage	e who had e	ever used dr	rugs
13 Year o	lds			
Boys	16	15	1	5 5856
Girls	11	11	1	1 6135
15 Year o	lds			
Boys	42	35	3	3 5213
Girls	38	31	30	5230
Base: All r	nunile			

Table D1: Percentage of pupils who used drugs in the last month, last year or ever by gender and age: 1998 to 2002

Base: All pupils

Usual frequency of drug use

For the first time since questions on drugs were introduced in 1998, a question was asked on the usual frequency of using drugs. Overall, 4% of all pupils reported that they took drugs once a week or more often, with a marked difference by age: 7% of fifteen year olds compared to 2% of thirteen year olds (Table 14).

Drugs offered to pupils

Half of all pupils (50%) reported that they had been offered drugs, a proportion slightly lower than the 57% reported in 2000 for corresponding age groups. This reduction was more marked for the younger pupils: 44% of 13 year old pupils in 2000 and 34% in 2002, than the older pupils: 70% in 2000 and 65% in 2002.

The most commonly offered drug type was cannabis, 58% of 15 year old pupils and 25% of 13 year old pupils had been offered cannabis in the last year.

Types of drugs used in the last year

The most frequently used drug in the last year was cannabis. Older pupils reported more use of cannabis than younger pupils: 31% of 15 year olds had used cannabis in the last year compared with 10% of 13 year olds (Table 15).

Use of other types of drugs was much lower: 6% of all pupils had used stimulants (cocaine, crack, ecstasy, amphetamine and poppers), 4% had used solvents, 2% percent had used psychedelics (LSD, magic mushrooms) and 1% had used opiates (heroin or methadone) (Table 16). The proportion of pupils using each type of these drug types was not significantly different from those found in 2000.

Money spent on drugs

Of all pupils who used drugs once a month or more, 50% reported that they usually spent money on drugs each week, spending an average of £9 per week.

Use of drugs with alcohol

All pupils who had used drugs were asked whether they were drinking alcohol the last time they had used drugs and 39% said that this was the case. Girls were more likely to report that they were drinking than boys: 44% of girls compared with 35% of boys. Older pupils were more likely than younger pupils to have been drinking the last time they used drugs; 43% of fifteen year olds and 30% of thirteen year old reported doing so (Table 17).

Dependency on drugs

Thirty-nine percent (39%) of all 13 year old and 15 year old pupils who reported taking drugs a few times a year or more reported that they did not want to give up taking drugs. Twenty percent (20%) said they would like to give up sometime in the future, 15% said they would like to give up now and 26% were not sure what they wanted to do (Table 18).

Almost all pupils (96%) who had ever taken drugs said they had never felt that they needed help because they were using drugs, though 72% felt they would know where to go to get help.

All 13 and 15 year old pupils were asked if they knew where to get information on drugs; 69% reported that they did know where to get information.

Comparison of Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use

Smoking and drinking

Pupils who smoked were more likely to be weekly drinkers. Overall 27% of pupils reported drinking weekly, however amongst regular smokers 68% drank weekly, whereas only 11% of non-smokers drank weekly. Pupils who drank alcohol were also more likely to be regular smokers. Overall 14% of pupils were regular smokers. Among weekly drinkers, however, 34% smoked regularly compared with only 1% of non-drinkers who smoked regularly.

Smoking and drug use

A higher proportion of regular smokers had used drugs in the last month (60%) compared with pupils who had never smoked (2%).

Drinking and drug use

Of pupils who were weekly drinkers, 40% had also used drugs in the last month, compared to 1% of non-drinkers. There were no gender difference in reported drug taking in the last month among weekly drinkers, however among occasional or non-drinkers boys were more likely to have used drugs in the last month than girls.

Background Notes

1. The first survey in the series of biennial school surveys commissioned by the Scottish Executive was carried out in 1982 to obtain information on smoking prevalence and behaviour. From 1990 the surveys have included questions on alcohol and from 1998 questions on drugs. Until 1998 the surveys were carried out by ONS; the 2000 survey was undertaken by the National Centre for Social Research (NCSR) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER).

2. In the 2002 SALSUS survey questions on health, lifestyle and social factors were derived largely from the Health Behaviour in School Aged Children (HBSC): a WHO Cross-National Study. A national HBSC survey has been conducted in Scotland every four years since 1990 by Dr Candace Currie, Scottish HBSC Principal Investigator and Director of CAHRU. The 2002 HBSC survey and 2002 SALSUS survey were carried out concurrently to reduce survey fatigue in Scottish schools.

3. The SALSUS Protocol, soon to be available, provides more detailed background information, including the government policy frameworks for smoking, drinking and drug use, survey aims and objectives, sample design and the questionnaire rationale.

4. One mainland and one island authority declined to take part in the SALSUS 2002 survey. These authorities represent only a small fraction of the target population and consequently SALSUS 2002 is still a nationally representative sample.

Report prepared by:

Candace Currie, Joan Fairgrieve, Dorothy Currie, Patricia Akhtar Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit (CAHRU), The University of Edinburgh.

Tables

Notes:

- Percentages may not add up to 100 because of rounding. •
- Some children failed to answer each question, these 'no answers' have been excluded from the • analyses and so the tables that describe the same population may have varying bases.
- The following conventions have been used, 0=less than 0.5 but not 0 and -= 0. •

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Boys			
Regular smoker	6	16	11
Occasional smoker	3	5	4
Used to smoke	10	13	11
Tried smoking once	25	25	25
Never smoked	57	42	49
Base	5948	5145	11093
Girls			
Regular smoker	9	24	16
Occasional smoker	6	7	8
Used to smoke	14	17	15
Tried smoking once	22	22	22
Never smoked	50	30	40
Base	6146	5074	11220
Both			
Regular smoker	8	20	14
Occasional smoker	4	6	5
Used to smoke	12	15	13
Tried smoking once	23	23	23
Never smoked	53	36	45
Base	12094	10219	22313

Base=all pupils

Table 2: Perceived difficulty of giving up smoking, by length of time smoking

	one year or less %	more than a year %	Total %
Very difficult	12	41	32
Fairly difficult	35	37	36
Fairly easy	32	15	21
Very easy	21	6	11
Base	1011	1817	2868

Base=all regular smokers

¹ regular smoker – smokes 1 or more cigarettes every week, occasional smoker – smokes sometimes but not as many as one per week

	regular	occasional	non-	Total
	smoker	smoker	smoker	%
	%	%	%	
Stop/would stop	21	44	61	54
Persuade not to	54	39	31	35
Do nothing	15	3	1	3
Encourage to smoke	2	1	0	0
Not sure	9	12	6	7
Base	2827	902	15550	19279

Table 3: Family attitudes to smoking by pupil's own smoking status

Base=all pupils

Table 4: Parents smoking status by pupil's own smoking status

	regular smoker	occasional smoker	non- smoker
	%	%	%
No parent smokes daily	33	55	59
At least one parent smokes daily	66	43	39
Does not see either parent	1	2	2
Base	2837	1175	17555

Base=all pupils

Table 5: Sibling smoking status by pupil's own smoking status

	regular smoker %	occasional smoker %	non- smoker %
No sibling smokes daily	56	72	79
At least one sibling smokes daily	38	20	13
Does not have siblings	6	7	8
Base	2700	1128	16681

Base=all pupils

Table 6: Number of friends smoking by pupil's own smoking status

	regular smoker	occasional smoker	non- smoker
	%	%	%
All or almost all	39	13	3
More than half	33	20	7
Half	14	21	8
Less than half	10	28	20
Almost none	3	17	33
None	0	2	28
Base	2937	1215	18034

Base=all pupils

	Age 13 Age 15 Total				
	% %	% %	%		
Boys					
During the last week	23	47	35		
One to four weeks ago	12	17	15		
One to six months ago	18	15	17		
More than six months ago	13	7	10		
Never had a drink	33	13	23		
Base	5943	5229	11172		
Girls					
During the last week	23	46	34		
One to four weeks ago	13	21	17		
One to six months ago	20	17	19		
More than six months ago	12	7	10		
Never had a drink	31	10	21		
Base	6202	5243	11445		
Both					
During the last week	23	46	35		
One to four weeks ago	13	19	16		
One to six months ago	19	16	18		
More than six months ago	13	7	10		
Never had a drink	32	12	22		
Base	12145	10472	22617		

Base: All pupils

Table 8: Usual drinking frequency, by gender and age group

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Boys			
Once a week or more	17	40	29
About once a fortnight	8	14	11
About once a month	10	12	11
Only a few times a year	32	22	27
Never	32	13	23
Base	5996	5253	11249
Girls			
Once a week or more	16	37	26
About once a fortnight	9	16	12
About once a month	12	15	13
Only a few times a year	32	22	27
Never	30	10	21
Base	6245	5260	11505
Both			
Once a week or more	17	38	27
About once a fortnight	9	15	12
About once a month	11	13	12
Only a few times a year	32	22	27
Never	31	12	22
Base	12241	10513	22754

Base = All pupils

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Boys			
Never	43	24	33
Once	22	15	18
2-3 times	18	24	20
4-10 times	8	16	13
More than 10 times	9	21	16
Base	4091	4557	8648
Girls			
Never	45	22	32
Once	22	16	19
2-3 times	18	25	22
4-10 times	9	18	14
More than 10 times	6	19	13
Base	4359	4716	9075
Both			
Never	44	23	32
Once	22	16	19
2-3 times	18	24	22
4-10 times	9	17	13
More than 10 times	7	20	14
Base	8450	9273	17723

Base= All pupils who ever drink alcohol

Table 10: Five or more drinks on same occasion in the last month,
by gender and age group

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Boys			
4 or more times	8	16	13
1-3 times	28	41	35
not in last 30 days	22	23	23
never	42	20	29
Base	4012	4556	8568
Girls			
4 or more times	8	17	13
1-3 times	28	42	35
not in last 30 days	24	24	24
never	40	17	28
Base	4329	4718	9047
Both			
4 or more times	8	17	13
1-3 times	28	40	36
not in last 30 days	23	24	23
never	41	19	28
Base	8341	9274	17615

Base= All pupils who ever drink alcohol

Table 11: Family's attitudes to pupil's drinking, pupils who drank alcohol in the past week

	Age 13	Age 15	Tota
	%	%	%
Boys			
They don't like it	15	16	16
They don't mind	41	52	48
They don't know I drink	30	21	24
I don't know what they think	14	11	12
Base	1323	2379	3702
Girls			
They don't like it	13	18	16
They don't mind	36	44	41
They don't know I drink	39	27	31
I don't know what they think	13	10	11
Base	1402	2365	3767
Both			
They don't like it	14	17	16
They don't mind	38	48	45
They don't know I drink	34	24	27
I don't know what they think	14	11	12
Base	2725	4744	7469

Base=All pupils who drank alcohol in the previous week

Table 12: Family's attitudes to pupil's starting drinking,
pupils who have never drunk alcohol

	Age 13 Age 15 Tota			
	%	~ %	%	
Boys	%	%	%	
They would be upset or angry	73	57	68	
They would not mind	8	16	10	
I don't know what they would think	19	26	22	
Base	1773	641	2414	
Girls				
They would be upset or angry	75	72	72	
They would not mind	5	15	7	
I don't know what they would think	20	23	20	
Base	1805	492	2297	
Both				
They would be upset or angry	74	60	70	
They would not mind	6	16	9	
I don't know what they would think	20	25	21	
Base	3578	1133	4711	

Base=All pupils who have never drunk alcohol

Table 13: Used drugs in last month, year or ever, percentage of all pupils

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Boys	/0	/0	/0
Used drugs in last month	9	24	16
Used drugs in last year *	13	35	23
Used drugs ever	15	38	26
Base	5856	5213	11069
Girls			
Used drugs in last month	6	21	13
Used drugs in last year*	10	32	20
Used drugs ever	11	36	23
Base	6135	5230	11365
Both			
Used drugs in last month	8	23	14
Used drugs in last year*	11	33	22
Used drugs ever	13	37	24
Base	11991	10443	22434

Base=All pupils * including past month Note: columns in the table do not add up to 100 as each category includes the previous one

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Boys			
Once a week or more often	3	9	6
Once or twice a month	2	7	4
A few times a year	2	7	5
Do not use drugs	92	77	85
Base	5894	5230	11124
Girls			
Once a week or more	1	5	3
Once or twice a month	2	7	4
A few times a year	2	8	5
Do not use drugs	95	81	88
Base	6176	5232	11408
Both			
Once a week or more	2	7	4
Once or twice a month	2	7	4
A few times a year	2	7	5
Do not use drugs	94	79	87
Base	12070	10462	22532

Table 14: Usual frequency of drug use, percentage of all pupils

Base = All pupils

Table 15: Ever offered each type of drug,
percentage of all pupils

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Cannabis	25	58	40
Stimulants	11	28	19
cocaine	5	8	6
crack	4	4	4
ecstasy	6	18	12
amphetamines	3	11	7
poppers	4	14	9
Psychedelics	6	14	10
LSD	3	7	5
magic mushrooms	5	11	8
Opiates	5	6	5
heroin	4	5	5
methadone	2	2	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	11	15	12
Tranquillisers	3	8	5
Anabolic steroids	2	2	2
Semeron ¹	1	1	1
Other	1	1	1
Base	10853	9761	20614

Base=All pupils Note: columns in the table may not add up to 100 as pupils could give more than one answer

Table 16: Used each type of drug in last year, percentage of all pupils

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
2			
Cannabis	10	31	19
Stimulants	3	9	6
cocaine	1	2	1
crack	1	1	1
ecstasy	1	4	3
amphetamines	1	3	2
poppers	1	5	3
Psychedelics	1	3	2
LSD	1	1	1
magic mushrooms	1	3	2
Opiates	1	1	1
heroin	1	1	1
methadone	0	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	3	5	4
Tranquillisers	1	2	2
Anabolic steroids	0	1	1
Semeron ¹	0	1	0
Other	0	0	0
Base	12440	10650	23090

Base=All pupils Note: columns in the table do not add up to 100 as pupils could give more than one answer

¹ dummy drug

Table 17: Whether drinking alcohol when last used drugs, all pupils who have ever taken drugs

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Boys			
drank alcohol	25	40	35
did not drink alcohol	75	60	65
Base	948	2013	2961
Girls			
drank alcohol	37	46	44
did not drink alcohol	63	54	56
Base	710	1873	2583
Both			
drank alcohol	30	43	39
did not drink alcohol	70	57	61
Base	3886	1658	5544

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 18: Whether want to stop using drugs, all pupils who take drugs a few times a year or more often

all pupils who take drugs a few t	pupils who take drugs a few times a year or more often				
	Age 13	Age 15	Total		
	%	%	%		
Boys					
would like to give up now	17	13	14		
would like to give up in the future	18	21	20		
would not like to give up	40	45	43		
not sure	26	22	23		
Base	440	1175	1615		
Girls					
would like to give up now	26	14	17		
would like to give up in the future	17	20	19		
would not like to give up	32	35	34		
not sure	25	31	30		
Base	300	984	1284		
Both					
would like to give up now	21	14	15		
would like to give up in the future	17	20	20		
would not like to give up	37	40	39		
not sure	26	26	26		
Base	740	2159	2899		

Base = All pupils who take drugs a few times a year or more