

## Table 1: Cigarettes

|                           |       |       |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| <b>Ever smoked: (All)</b> | 1995: | 74.0% |
|                           | 1999  | 73.0% |
|                           | 2003  | 67.0% |

|            |       |       |      |
|------------|-------|-------|------|
| By Gender: | Boys: | 1995: | 72.0 |
|            |       | 1999  | 68.0 |
|            |       | 2003  | 62.0 |

|       |      |      |
|-------|------|------|
| Girls | 1995 | 75.0 |
|       | 1999 | 77.0 |
|       | 2003 | 72.0 |

|                           |       |       |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| <b>Last month : (All)</b> | 1995: | 41.0% |
|                           | 1999  | 37.0  |
|                           | 2003  | 33.0  |

|            |       |      |      |
|------------|-------|------|------|
| By Gender: | Boys: | 1995 | 37.0 |
|            |       | 1999 | 32.0 |
|            |       | 2003 | 29.0 |

|       |      |      |
|-------|------|------|
| Girls | 1995 | 45.0 |
|       | 1999 | 42.0 |
|       | 2003 | 37.0 |

**Table 2: Age of First Smoking Cigarettes and Daily Smoking**

(Percentage Answering 13 years or younger)

|      | First smoking | Daily Smoking |
|------|---------------|---------------|
|      | All students  |               |
| 1995 | 51            | 18            |
| 1999 | 53            | 18            |
| 2003 | 44.           | 14            |
|      | Boys          |               |
| 1995 | 55            | 20            |
| 1999 | 51            | 17            |
| 2003 | 41            | 12            |
|      | Girls         |               |
| 1995 | 48            | 16            |
| 1999 | 55            | 19            |
| 2003 | 49            | 16            |

**Table 3: Cigarette Smoking 40 times+**

|            |       |       |       |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|
| (All)      |       | 1995: | 37.0% |
|            |       | 1999  | 34.0% |
|            |       | 2003  | 27.0% |
| By Gender: | Boys: | 1995: | 31.0  |
|            |       | 1999  | 25.0  |
|            |       | 2003  | 22.0  |
|            | Girls | 1995  | 38.0  |
|            |       | 1999  | 36.0  |
|            |       | 2003  | 29.0  |

**Cigarette Smoking: Comparison of Ireland with other countries in 2003**

In terms of comparison with other countries, Ireland is in the middle and is similar to France, the Netherlands, Denmark and the UK

Strong gender differences with girls smoking more than boys is found in Ireland and in the UK but not in other European countries

Insert Table 29a for comparison with other countries

#### **Table 4: Drinking**

|                                    |      |      |
|------------------------------------|------|------|
| <b>Lifetime (ever drank)All</b>    | 1995 | 91.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 92.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 92.0 |
| Lifetime (ever drank) Boys         | 1995 | 91.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 92.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 92.0 |
| Lifetime (ever drank) Girls        | 1995 | 91.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 92.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 93.0 |
| <b>Last year (ever drank) All</b>  | 1995 | 85.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 89.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 88.0 |
| Last year (ever drank) Boys        | 1995 | 85.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 89.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 86.0 |
| Last year (ever drank) Girls       | 1995 | 85.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 89.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 90.0 |
| <b>Last month (ever drank) All</b> | 1995 | 69.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 74.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 73.0 |
| Last month (ever drank) Boys       | 1995 | 69.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 73.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 71.0 |
| Last month (ever drank) Girls      | 1995 | 69.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 75.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 74.0 |

**Table 5: Feeling Drunk**

|                                    |      |      |
|------------------------------------|------|------|
| <b>Lifetime (ever drunk)All</b>    | 1995 | 67.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 72.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 76.0 |
| Lifetime (ever drunk) Boys         | 1995 | 69.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 73.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 74.0 |
| Lifetime (ever drunk) Girls        | 1995 | 65.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 72.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 77.0 |
| <b>Last year (ever drunk) All</b>  | 1995 | 66.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 69.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 72.0 |
| Last year (ever drunk)Boys         | 1995 | 67.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 69.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 70.0 |
| Last year (ever drunk)Girls        | 1995 | 64.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 70.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 74.0 |
| <b>Last month (ever drunk) All</b> | 1995 | 42.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 50.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 53.0 |
| Last month (ever drunk)Boys        | 1995 | 43.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 49.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 52.0 |
| Last month (ever drunk)Girls       | 1995 | 41.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 50.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 54.0 |

**Table 6: Frequency of Drinking 5 or more Drinks in a Row (Last month)**

|      |    | Number of occasions |            |            |           |
|------|----|---------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
|      |    | <i>Never</i>        | <i>1-2</i> | <i>3-5</i> | <i>6+</i> |
|      |    | All Students        |            |            |           |
| 1995 | 53 | 25                  | 14         | 9          |           |
| 1999 | 43 | 26                  | 17         | 14         |           |
| 2003 | 42 | 25                  | 17         | 15         |           |
|      |    | <i>Never</i>        | <i>1-2</i> | <i>3-5</i> | <i>6+</i> |
|      |    | Boys                |            |            |           |
| 1995 | 48 | 28                  | 14         | 11         |           |
| 1999 | 43 | 26                  | 17         | 15         |           |
| 2003 | 43 | 26                  | 16         | 15         |           |
|      |    | <i>Never</i>        | <i>1-2</i> | <i>3-5</i> | <i>6+</i> |
|      |    | Girls               |            |            |           |
| 1995 | 58 | 23                  | 14         | 6          |           |
| 1999 | 44 | 25                  | 18         | 14         |           |
| 2003 | 43 | 24                  | 18         | 15         |           |

**Table 7: Age of First Drinking beer and Being Drunk**

(Percentage Answering 13 years or younger)

|      | First beer   | Been drunk |
|------|--------------|------------|
|      | All students |            |
| 1995 | 43           | 20         |
| 1999 | 49           | 25         |
| 2003 | 47           | 24         |
|      | First beer   | Been drunk |
|      | Boys         |            |
| 1995 | 52           | 26         |
| 1999 | 55           | 28         |
| 2003 | 50           | 25         |
|      | First beer   | Been drunk |
|      | Girls        |            |
| 1995 | 35           | 16         |
| 1999 | 44           | 21         |
| 2003 | 45           | 22         |

**Table 8: Drinking Places on Last Drinking Day**

|      | <i>Home/someone else<br/>Home</i> | <i>Street/Park<br/>Beech</i> | <i>Bar/pub</i> | <i>Disco</i> | <i>Rest.</i> | <i>Other<br/>Place</i> |
|------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|
|      |                                   | <i>All students</i>          |                |              |              |                        |
| 1995 | 29                                | 12                           | 35             | 29           | 3            | 7                      |
| 1999 | 28                                | 12                           | 39             | 24           | 4            | 6                      |
| 2003 | 34                                | 14                           | 24             | 11           | 3            | 6                      |
|      |                                   | <i>Boys</i>                  |                |              |              |                        |
| 1995 | 32                                | 16                           | 34             | 22           | 2            | 7                      |
| 1999 | 31                                | 15                           | 36             | 18           | 3            | 6                      |
| 2003 | 34                                | 15                           | 23             | 9            | 2            | 7                      |
|      |                                   | <i>Girls</i>                 |                |              |              |                        |
| 1995 | 26                                | 8                            | 36             | 27           | 3            | 6                      |
| 1999 | 27                                | 9                            | 43             | 29           | 5            | 6                      |
| 2003 | 33                                | 12                           | 25             | 13           | 4            | 6                      |



**Table 9: Expected Positive Personal Consequences of Alcohol Consumption**

|                     | Feel Relaxed | Feel happy | Feel more friendly/<br>Outgoing | Have a lot of fun | Forget my problems |
|---------------------|--------------|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <i>All students</i> |              |            |                                 |                   |                    |
| 1995*               |              |            |                                 |                   |                    |
| 1999                | 73           | 82         | 82                              | 83                | 48                 |
| 2003                | 75           | 82         | 82                              | 84                | 52                 |
| <i>Boys</i>         |              |            |                                 |                   |                    |
| 1999                | 74           | 83         | 82                              | 83                | 52                 |
| 2003                | 77           | 79         | 80                              | 83                | 51                 |
| <i>Girls</i>        |              |            |                                 |                   |                    |
| 1999                | 75           | 84         | 82                              | 84                | 45                 |
| 2003                | 74           | 86         | 83                              | 85                | 53                 |

\*There is a problem in the way that these figure are reported for 1995

**Table 10: Expected Negative Personal Consequences of Alcohol Consumption**

(Percentage answering likely or very likely)

|              | Feel Sick | Get a hangover | Not able stop | Harm health | Do sm'thg regret | Trouble police |
|--------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| All students |           |                |               |             |                  |                |
| 1999         | 29        | 37             | 13            | 26          | 39               | 11             |
| 2003         | 29        | 40             | 14            | 27          | 41               | 19             |
| Boys         |           |                |               |             |                  |                |
| 1999         | 28        | 35             | 14            | 25          | 38               | 14             |
| 2003         | 27        | 39             | 13            | 27          | 41               | 19             |
| Girls        |           |                |               |             |                  |                |
| 1999         | 29        | 38             | 13            | 27          | 41               | 8              |
| 2003         | 31        | 41             | 16            | 30          | 46               | 11             |

For comparison insert Figure 32b on lifetime use 40 times or more

And 43b...proportion who have been drunk.....

And 45a

The significant point is that it is not the frequency of drinking that is the major problem but rather in the amount drunk by young people on an occasion as is evident from the these figures

The other important point is the remarkable similarity between Ireland other Northern European countries especially the UK

**Table 11: Cannabis use**

|                                    |      |      |
|------------------------------------|------|------|
| <b>Lifetime (ever used)</b> All    | 1995 | 37.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 32.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 38.0 |
| Lifetime (ever used) Boys          | 1995 | 42.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 35.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 38.0 |
| Lifetime (ever used) Girls         | 1995 | 31.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 29.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 38.0 |
| <b>Last year (ever used)</b> All   | 1995 | 33.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 26.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 31.0 |
| Last year (ever used) Boys         | 1995 | 39.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 31.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 31.0 |
| Last year (ever used) Girls        | 1995 | 27.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 22.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 31.0 |
| <b>Last month (ever used )</b> All | 1995 | 19.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 15.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 17.0 |
| Last month (ever used) Boys        | 1995 | 25.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 18.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 16.0 |
| Last month (ever used)Girls        | 1995 | 12.0 |
|                                    | 1999 | 11.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 17.0 |

Insert Figure 52a

**Table 12: Frequency of Lifetime use of any illicit drug other than cannabis**

Number of occasions

|              | <i>Never</i> | <i>1-2</i> | <i>3-5</i> | <i>6-9</i> | <i>10+</i> |
|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| All students |              |            |            |            |            |
| 1995         | 84.0         | 14.0       | 1          | ---        | ---        |
| 1999         | 91.0         | 3.0        | 1          | 1.0        | 4.0        |
| 2003         | 91.0         | 3.0        | 1.0        | 2.0        | 3.0        |
| Boys         |              |            |            |            |            |
| 1995         | 81.0         | 16.0       | 3.0        | ---        | ---        |
| 1999         | 89.0         | 4.0        | 2.0        | 1.0        | 4.0        |
| 2003         | 92.0         | 3.0        | 1.0        | 2.0        | 2.0        |
| Girls        |              |            |            |            |            |
| 1995         | 88.0         | 11.0       | 1          | ---        | ---        |
| 1999         | 92.0         | 3.0        | 1.0        | 1.0        | 3.0        |
| 2003         | 90.0         | 3.0        | 1.0        | 2.0        | 4.0        |

### Table 13: Frequency of use of solvents/inhalants

(Note: These questions were omitted in 1995)

|                                    |      |      |
|------------------------------------|------|------|
| <b>Lifetime (ever used)</b> All    | 1999 | 22.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 18.0 |
| Lifetime (ever used) Boys          | 1999 | 22.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 14.0 |
| Lifetime (ever used) Girls         | 1999 | 21.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 21.0 |
| <b>Last year (ever used)</b> All   | 1999 | 12.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 9.0  |
| Last year (ever used) Boys         | 1999 | 12.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 7.0  |
| Last year (ever used) Girls        | 1999 | 10.0 |
|                                    | 2003 | 10.0 |
| <b>Last month (ever used )</b> All | 1999 | 4.0  |
|                                    | 2003 | 3.0  |
| Last month (ever used) Boys        | 1999 | 5.0  |
|                                    | 2003 | 2.0  |
| Last month (ever used)Girls        | 1999 | 3.0  |
|                                    | 2003 | 3.0  |

Insert Table 56a Inhalants

Note also that while inhalant use has been relatively high in Ireland, other drug problems occur in other countries that we don't have...sedatives without a prescription..

**Table 14: Perceived Risk of use of Various Substances**

(Percentage among all students answering 'great risk')

|                                       | <b>1995</b> | <b>1999</b> | <b>2003</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| One or more packs of Cigarettes daily | 61.0        | 67.0        | 73.0        |
| 5+ drinks once or twice each week-end | 16.0        | 18.0        | 15.0        |
| Cannabis once or twice                | 19.0        | 22.0        | 16.0        |
| Cannabis regularly                    | 57.0        | 63.0        | 54.0        |
| Ecstasy once or twice                 | 45.0        | 69.0        | 63.0        |
| Ecstasy regularly                     | 81.0        | 90.0        | 82.0        |
| Cocaine once or twice                 | 49.0        | 48.0        | 46.0        |
| Cocaine regularly                     | 86.0        | 89.0        | 79.0        |
| Inhalants once or twice               | 46.0        | 55.0        | 35.0        |
| Inhalants regularly                   | 81.0        | 79.0        | 64.0        |

**Table 15: Perceived Availability of Substances**

**(All students-Percent saying 'very easy or 'easy')**

|                      | <b>1995</b> | <b>1999</b> | <b>2003</b> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Beer</b>          | <b>96.0</b> | <b>90.0</b> | <b>86.0</b> |
| Wine                 | 91.0        | 86.0        | 84.0        |
| Spirits              | 88.0        | 83.0        | 79.0        |
| Cannabis             | 62.0        | 59.0        | 59.0        |
| LSD                  | 43.0        | 30.0        | 16.0        |
| Ecstasy              | 54.0        | 35.0        | 33.0        |
| Heroin               | 28.0        | 21.0        | 17.0        |
| Inhalants            | 80.0        | 77.0        | 76.0        |
| Anabolic<br>Steroids | 15.0        | 19.0        | 12.0        |

**Table 16: How the first Illegal Drug was Obtained**

|                               | 1995 | 1999 | 2003 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Never used                    | 61.0 | 68.0 | 61.0 |
| Brother/sister                | 2.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
| Older friend                  | 7.0  | 6.0  | 7.0  |
| Same age friend               | 8.0  | 7.0  | 11.0 |
| Given by someone<br>Else*     | 2.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
| Shared in a group             | 13.0 | 12.0 | 15.0 |
| Bought from a<br>Friend       | 3.0  | 1.0  | 2.0  |
| Bought from someone<br>Else** | 2.0  | 1.0  | 0.0  |
| Other way                     | 4.0  | 2.0  | 1.0  |

\* In the 2003 questionnaire, a distinction was made between a 'stranger' and someone else

\*\* In the 2003 questionnaire, a distinction was made between a 'stranger' and someone else