

**Executive Summary**  
**Alexander City Schools**  
**Alexander City, AL**



April 8, 2009

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# 1 Introduction

We at PRIDE Surveys have reviewed the education legislation, No Child Left Behind (NCLB), and attended meetings in Washington, D.C., with USDOE for briefings on the legislation. This summary and the complete report on your CD-ROM are intended to assist you in meeting the requirements of NCLB.

Under the NCLB, schools are required to establish a Uniform Management and Information Reporting System. The collected data, from *anonymous student surveys*, shall include:

*"...the incidence and prevalence, age of onset, perception of social disapproval of drug use and violence by youth in schools and communities".*

The graphs and tables in this summary are compiled from data collected in your school(s) using the ***Pride Surveys Questionnaire for Grades 6-12***. These graphs and tables cover the areas typically of most interest for school systems. The areas covered are demographics, prevalence of use, perception of risk, students' perception of parental and peer disapproval, age of first use, violence indicators, where and when students use drugs, school and community safety, and risk and protective factors. The drugs covered in this summary are *any tobacco* use, *any alcohol* use, and *any marijuana* use during the past year. Marijuana is typically used as a measure of illicit drug use as it is by far the most commonly used of the illicit drugs.

This summary and the accompanying CD-ROM (full report) will assist you in meeting the requirements of NCLB and requirements from agencies that have similar requirements in assessment and evaluation.

**NOTE: THIS IS ONLY A BRIEF SUMMARY OF YOUR RESULTS. YOUR FULL AND COMPLETE REPORT CAN BE FOUND ON YOUR CD-ROM.**

If you have questions about this report or if you wish to have information on other ***Pride Surveys*** services and products, please call the ***Pride Surveys*** Office or write to the following address:

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## 2 Demographics

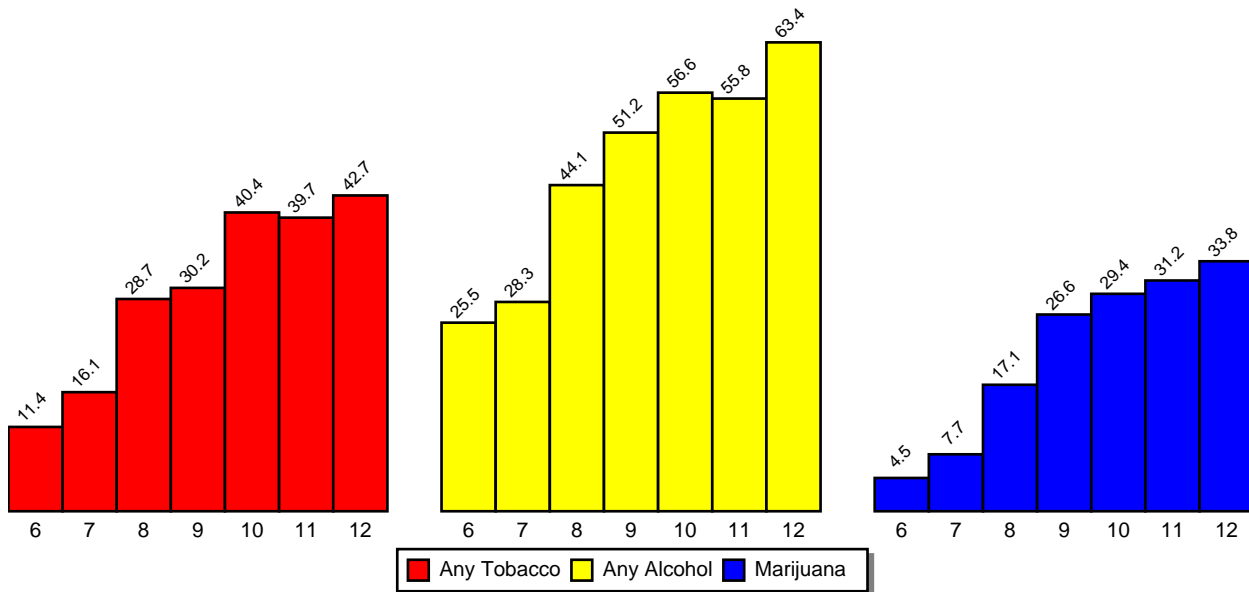
Total number of students surveyed: **1,448**

- Number of 6th grade students surveyed: **225 (15.5%)**
- Number of 7th grade students surveyed: **225 (15.5%)**
- Number of 8th grade students surveyed: **223 (15.4%)**
- Number of 9th grade students surveyed: **243 (16.8%)**
- Number of 10th grade students surveyed: **201 (13.9%)**
- Number of 11th grade students surveyed: **195 (13.5%)**
- Number of 12th grade students surveyed: **136 (9.4%)**

## 3 Prevalence of Drug Use

**NOTE:** For tables, *N of Valid* is the number of students who answered the question and *N of Missing* is the number of students who did not answer the question.

**% Students Who Use Tobacco, Alcohol & Marijuana (Past Year)**



Source: Pride Surveys

Table 1: Frequency of Use – Any **Tobacco**?

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
6th	220	5	2.7	3.6	4.5	11.4
7th	223	2	1.8	4.9	7.6	16.1
8th	223	0	9.9	17.0	19.3	28.7
9th	242	1	11.2	16.1	20.7	30.2
10th	193	8	21.8	28.0	30.6	40.4
11th	189	6	13.2	21.7	31.2	39.7
12th	131	5	20.6	27.5	33.6	42.7
6-8	666	7	4.8	8.6	10.5	18.8
9-12	755	20	16.0	22.5	28.1	37.4
Total	1421	27	10.8	16.0	19.8	28.6

Table 2: Frequency of Use – Any **Alcohol**?

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
6th	220	5	3.2	6.8	9.1	25.5
7th	223	2	1.3	4.5	10.3	28.3
8th	222	1	3.2	10.8	17.6	44.1
9th	242	1	4.5	13.2	28.9	51.2
10th	196	5	8.7	21.9	31.6	56.6
11th	190	5	3.7	16.3	31.6	55.8
12th	131	5	8.4	23.7	38.9	63.4
6-8	665	8	2.6	7.4	12.3	32.6
9-12	759	16	6.1	18.1	32.0	55.9
Total	1424	24	4.4	13.1	22.8	45.0

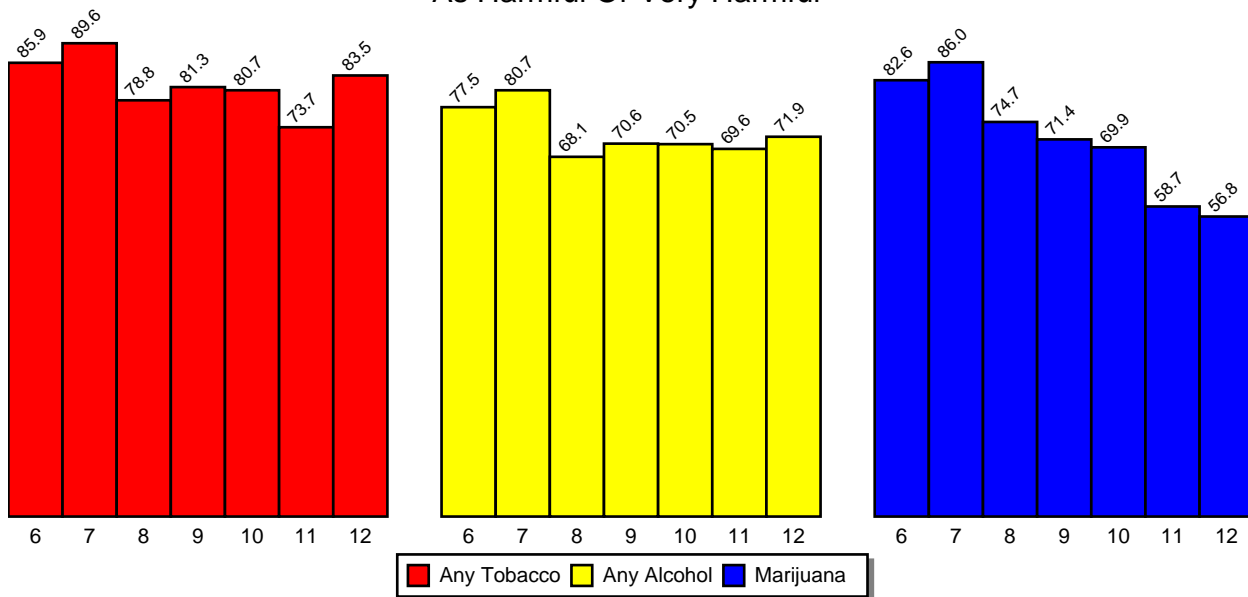
Table 3: Frequency of Use – Any **Marijuana**?

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
6th	220	5	1.8	2.7	2.7	4.5
7th	222	3	0.9	3.6	5.0	7.7
8th	222	1	4.1	8.1	9.9	17.1
9th	241	2	5.8	14.1	17.8	26.6
10th	194	7	8.8	19.6	24.2	29.4
11th	189	6	8.5	13.2	19.6	31.2
12th	130	6	8.5	14.6	19.2	33.8
6-8	664	9	2.3	4.8	5.9	9.8
9-12	754	21	7.7	15.4	20.2	29.7
Total	1418	30	5.1	10.4	13.5	20.4

## 4 Students' Perception of Risk

Students are asked about their perception of risk of any use of various drugs with the possible responses being *No Harm, Some Harm, Harmful* or *Very Harmful*. Past analysis of national statistics indicates that as students' perception of risk increases, use of substances decreases. It is also typical for the perception of risk (*Harmful* or *Very Harmful*) to decrease as a child gets older. (Note: In order to comply with federal guidelines an additional question was added to the questionnaire regarding use of alcohol on a regular basis. Responses to this questions are analogous with the other harm questions and include *No Risk, Slight Risk, Moderate Risk* and *Great Risk*. Harm questions regarding alcohol are based on the new question and report the percentage of students who regard regular alcohol use as *Moderate Risk* or *Great Risk*. Your students' responses are detailed in the following tables.

% Students Who Perceive Tobacco, Alcohol & Marijuana As Harmful Or Very Harmful\*



\*Alcohol responses are Moderate Risk or Great Risk. Source: Pride Surveys

Table 4: Students' Perception of Risk of **Tobacco**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Harmful or Very Harmful
6th	220	5	85.9
7th	222	3	89.6
8th	222	1	78.8
9th	240	3	81.3
10th	197	4	80.7
11th	190	5	73.7
12th	133	3	83.5
6-8	664	9	84.8
9-12	760	15	79.6
Total	1424	24	82.0

Table 5: Students' Perception of Risk of **Alcohol**

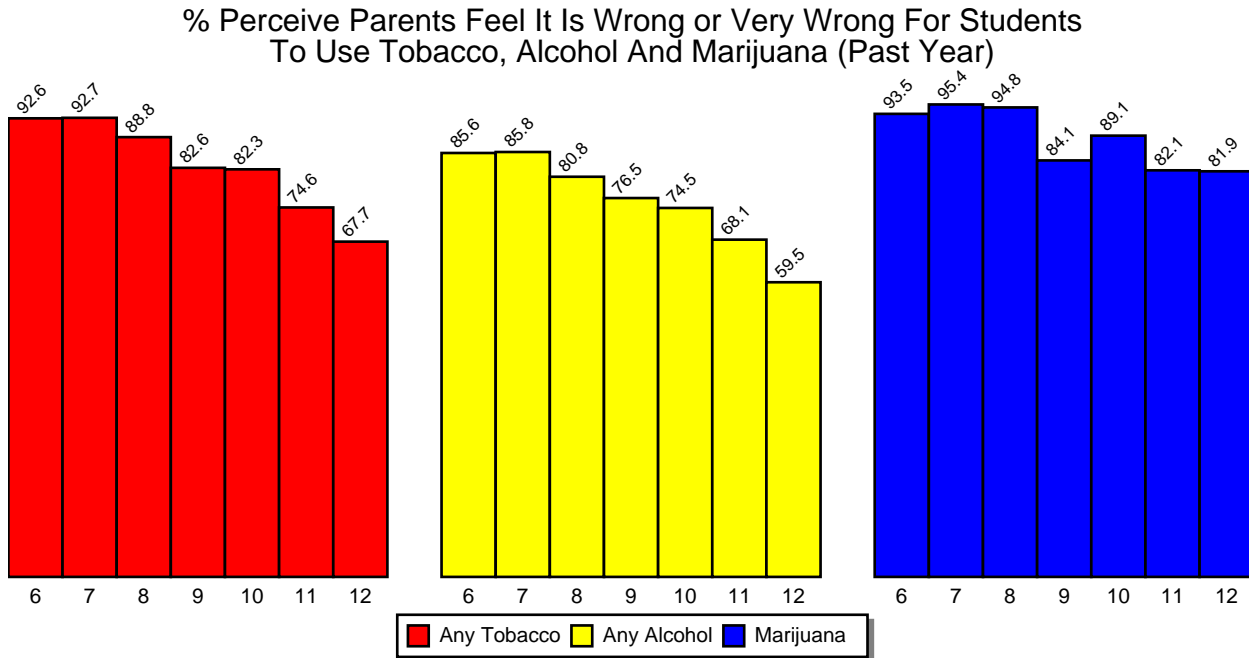
Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Moderate or Great Risk
6th	209	16	77.5
7th	218	7	80.7
8th	213	10	68.1
9th	231	12	70.6
10th	193	8	70.5
11th	181	14	69.6
12th	128	8	71.9
6-8	640	33	75.5
9-12	733	42	70.5
Total	1373	75	72.8

Table 6: Students' Perception of Risk of **Marijuana**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Harmful or Very Harmful
6th	218	7	82.6
7th	221	4	86.0
8th	221	2	74.7
9th	238	5	71.4
10th	196	5	69.9
11th	189	6	58.7
12th	132	4	56.8
6-8	660	13	81.1
9-12	755	20	65.3
Total	1415	33	72.7

## 5 Students' Perception of Disapproval

Past analysis of national statistics indicates that the majority of students tend to perceive parents as feeling it is *Wrong* or *Very Wrong* for students to use tobacco, alcohol and marijuana for all grade levels. Your students' responses are detailed in the following tables.



Source: Pride Surveys

Table 7: Students' Perception Of **Parents'** Disapproval Of Use of **Tobacco**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Wrong or Very Wrong
6th	216	9	92.6
7th	219	6	92.7
8th	214	9	88.8
9th	235	8	82.6
10th	192	9	82.3
11th	185	10	74.6
12th	127	9	67.7
6-8	649	24	91.4
9-12	739	36	77.9
Total	1388	60	84.2

Table 8: Students' Perception Of **Parents'** Disapproval Of Use of **Alcohol**

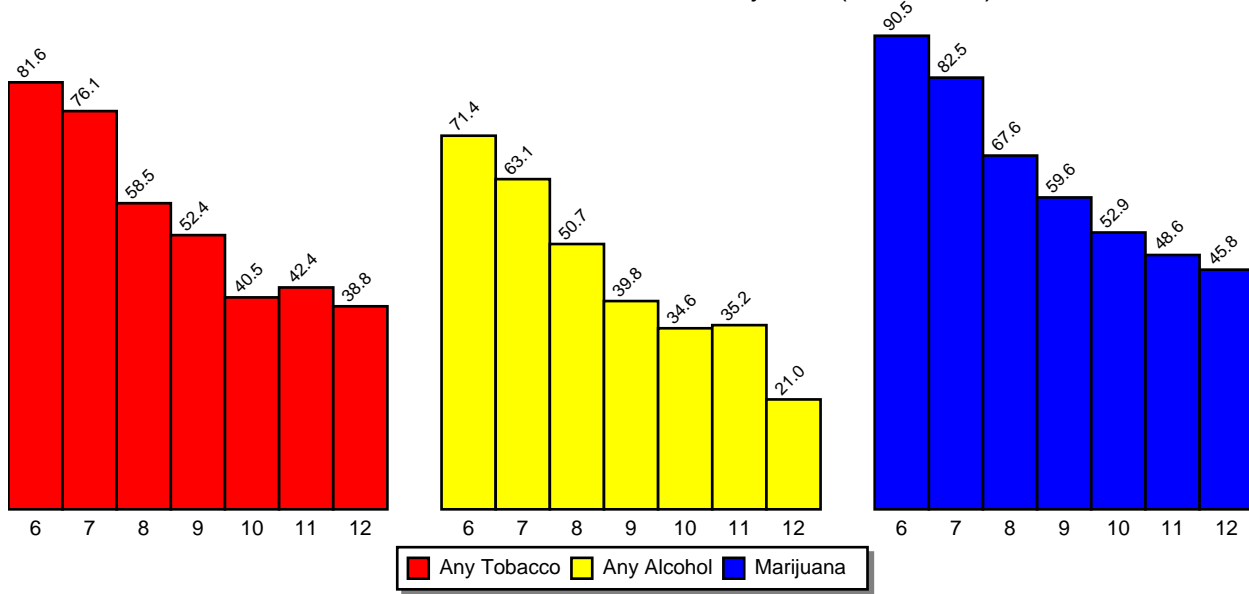
Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Wrong or Very Wrong
6th	216	9	85.6
7th	219	6	85.8
8th	213	10	80.8
9th	234	9	76.5
10th	192	9	74.5
11th	185	10	68.1
12th	126	10	59.5
6-8	648	25	84.1
9-12	737	38	71.0
Total	1385	63	77.1

Table 9: Students' Perception Of **Parents'** Disapproval Of Use of **Marijuana**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Wrong or Very Wrong
6th	214	11	93.5
7th	219	6	95.4
8th	213	10	94.8
9th	232	11	84.1
10th	192	9	89.1
11th	184	11	82.1
12th	127	9	81.9
6-8	646	27	94.6
9-12	735	40	84.5
Total	1381	67	89.2

Typically, students perceive a decreasing amount of disapproval from their friends as they grow older. This is helpful in understanding peer pressure. The following tables detail your students' responses to their friends' disapproval.

**% Perceive Friends Feel It Is Wrong or Very Wrong For Students To Use Tobacco, Alcohol And Marijuana (Past Year)**



Source: Pride Surveys

**Table 10: Students' Perception of Friends' Disapproval of Use of Tobacco**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Wrong or Very Wrong
6th	201	24	81.6
7th	213	12	76.1
8th	207	16	58.5
9th	225	18	52.4
10th	190	11	40.5
11th	177	18	42.4
12th	121	15	38.8
6-8	621	52	72.0
9-12	713	62	44.5
Total	1334	114	57.3

Table 11: Students' Perception of **Friends'** Disapproval of Use of **Alcohol**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Wrong or Very Wrong
6th	199	26	71.4
7th	214	11	63.1
8th	207	16	50.7
9th	226	17	39.8
10th	188	13	34.6
11th	176	19	35.2
12th	119	17	21.0
6-8	620	53	61.6
9-12	709	66	34.1
Total	1329	119	47.0

Table 12: Students' Perception of **Friends'** Disapproval of Use of **Marijuana**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Wrong or Very Wrong
6th	199	26	90.5
7th	212	13	82.5
8th	207	16	67.6
9th	225	18	59.6
10th	187	14	52.9
11th	175	20	48.6
12th	120	16	45.8
6-8	618	55	80.1
9-12	707	68	52.8
Total	1325	123	65.5

## 6 Age of First Use

The question *At what age did you first use...* is used to measure this statistic. The possible responses to this question range from *8 or Under* to *17 or Older*. The table shows the age range that represents the average category score for this question of those students who answered the question with a response other than *Never Used*.

Table 13: When did you first use any **tobacco**?

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Avg Age
6th	34	191	11.029
7th	42	183	11.214
8th	74	149	11.649
9th	86	157	12.198
10th	82	119	12.439
11th	76	119	13.711
12th	60	76	13.667
6-8	150	523	11.387
9-12	304	471	12.931
Total	454	994	12.421

Table 14: When did you first use any **alcohol**?

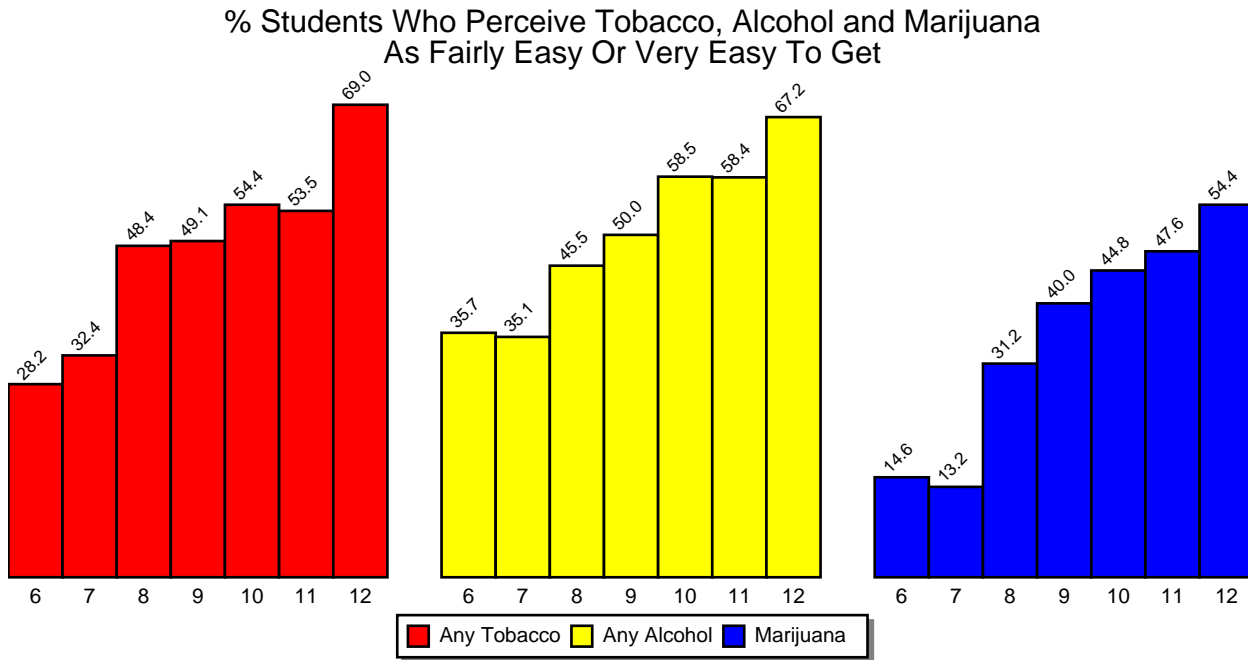
Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Avg Age
6th	65	160	10.923
7th	71	154	11.056
8th	99	124	11.596
9th	127	116	12.378
10th	118	83	12.873
11th	110	85	13.909
12th	84	52	14.202
6-8	235	438	11.247
9-12	439	336	13.244
Total	674	774	12.547

Table 15: When did you first use any **marijuana**?

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Avg Age
6th	11	214	11.545
7th	15	210	12.267
8th	39	184	12.615
9th	66	177	13.152
10th	61	140	13.492
11th	61	134	14.443
12th	48	88	14.729
6-8	65	608	12.354
9-12	236	539	13.894
Total	301	1147	13.561

## 7 Students' Perception of Availability

Past analysis of national statistics indicates that as students get older a larger percentage of them tend to perceive tobacco, alcohol and marijuana as *Fairly Easy* or *Very Easy* to get. Your students' responses are detailed in the following tables.



Source: Pride Surveys

Table 16: Students' Perception of Availability of **Tobacco**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Fairly Easy or Very Easy to Get
6th	213	12	28.2
7th	219	6	32.4
8th	215	8	48.4
9th	234	9	49.1
10th	195	6	54.4
11th	185	10	53.5
12th	126	10	69.0
6-8	647	26	36.3
9-12	740	35	55.0
Total	1387	61	46.3

Table 17: Students' Perception of Availability of **Alcohol**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Fairly Easy or Very Easy to Get
6th	213	12	35.7
7th	222	3	35.1
8th	213	10	45.5
9th	234	9	50.0
10th	195	6	58.5
11th	185	10	58.4
12th	125	11	67.2
6-8	648	25	38.7
9-12	739	36	57.2
Total	1387	61	48.6

Table 18: Students' Perception of Availability of **Marijuana**

Grade Level	N of Valid	N of Miss	Fairly Easy or Very Easy to Get
6th	213	12	14.6
7th	219	6	13.2
8th	215	8	31.2
9th	235	8	40.0
10th	194	7	44.8
11th	185	10	47.6
12th	125	11	54.4
6-8	647	26	19.6
9-12	739	36	45.6
Total	1386	62	33.5

## 8 Violence Indicators

Except where noted by an '\*\*', the following table lists the percentage of students who made any positive response to the following questions.

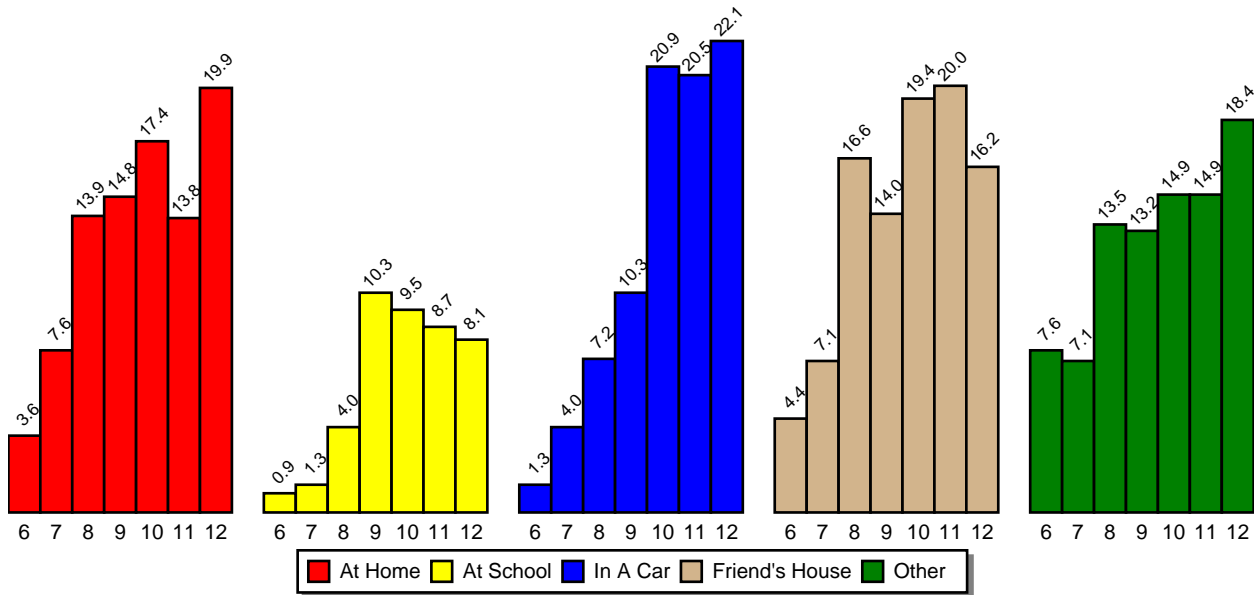
Table 19: Violence Indicators

<b>Violence Indicator</b>	<b>Num</b>	<b>Pct</b>
Threatened a fellow student	537	38.5%
Get into trouble with police	417	29.3%
Being afraid at school	277	19.9%
Being hurt at school	261	18.8%
Participated in gangs	172	12.1%
Thought <i>often</i> or <i>a lot</i> about suicide*	90	6.4%

## 9 Where Students Use

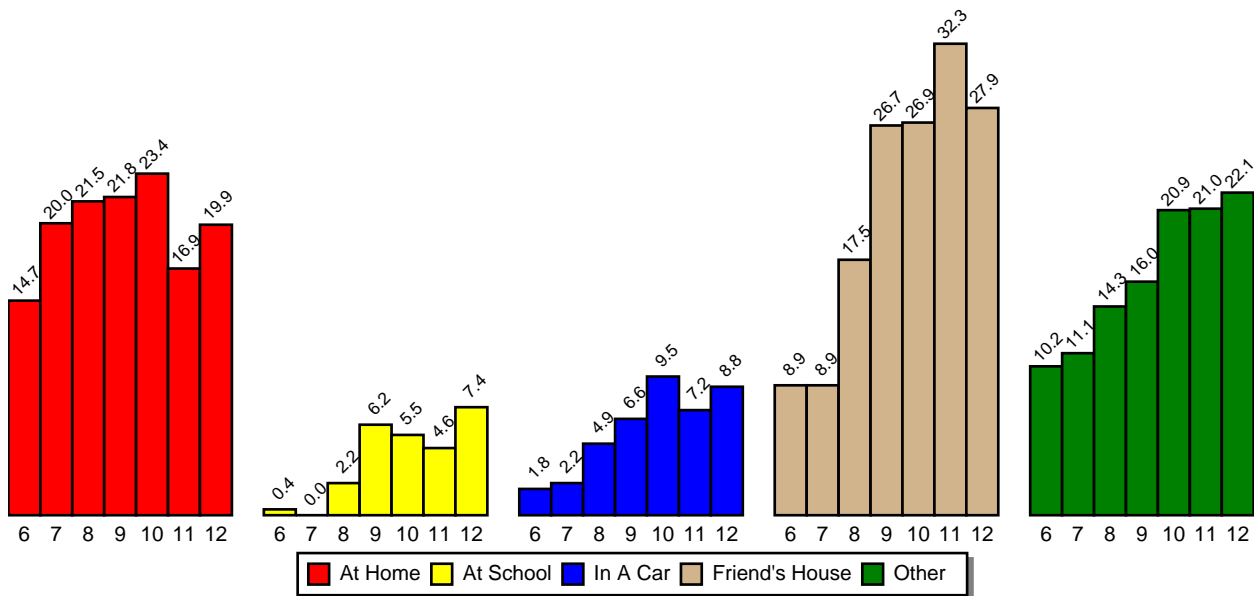
The following graphs show where students report using tobacco, alcohol and marijuana. Past analysis of national statistics show that *At School* is typically the *least* popular place of use.

### Where Do You Use Any Tobacco



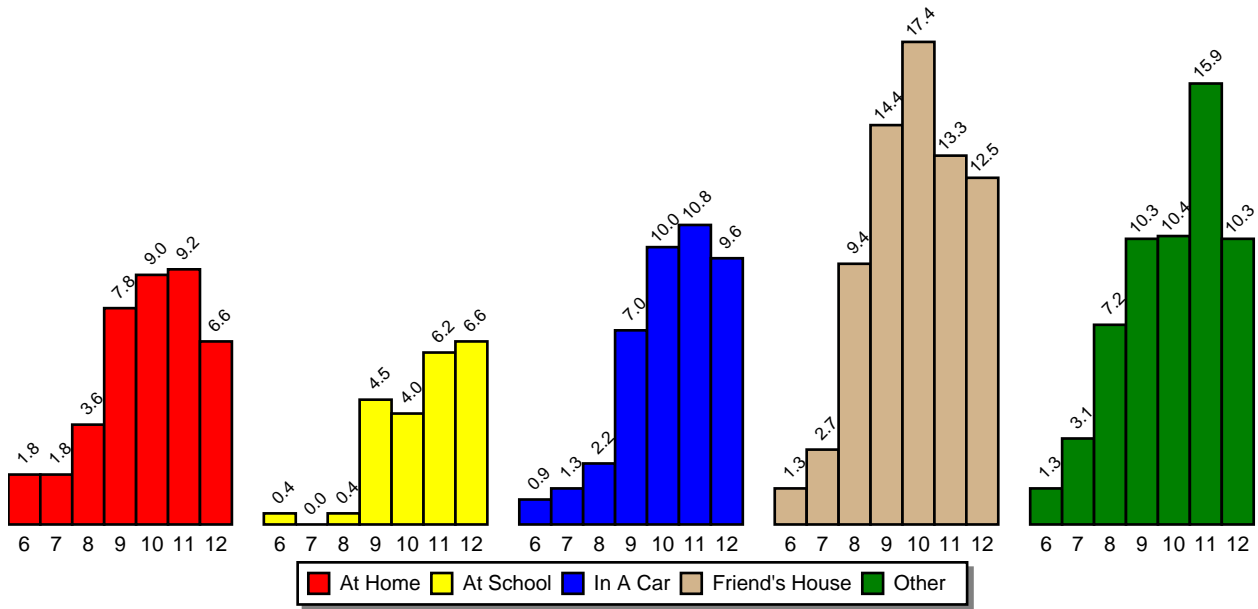
Source: Pride Surveys

### Where Do You Use Any Alcohol



Source: Pride Surveys

### Where Do You Use Marijuana

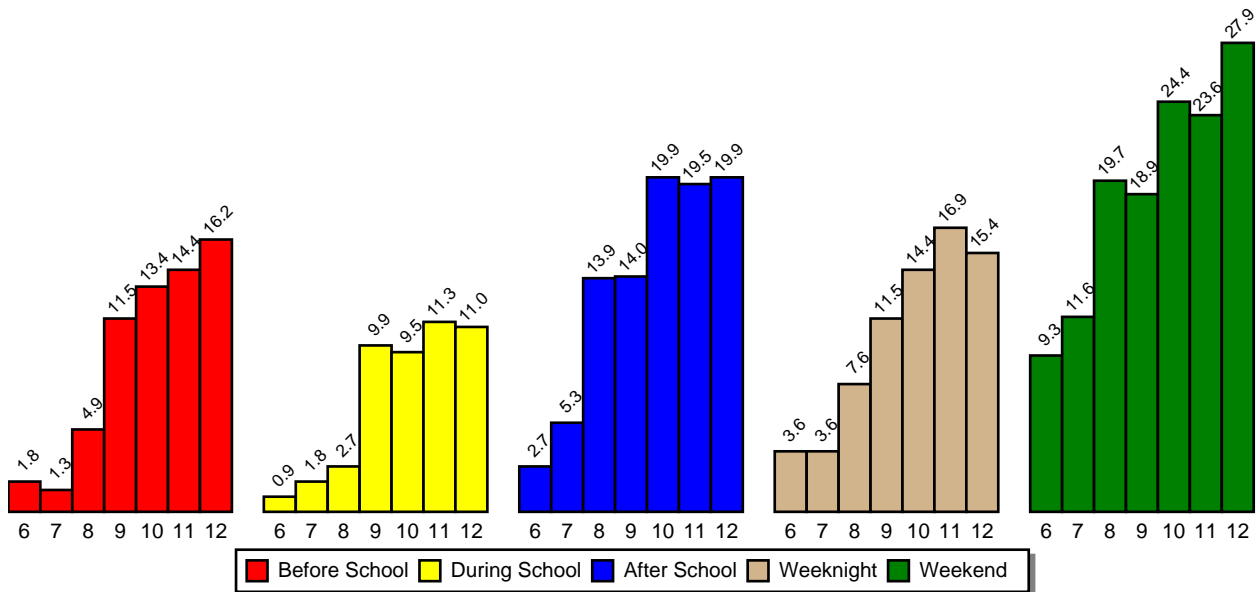


Source: Pride Surveys

## 10 When Students Use

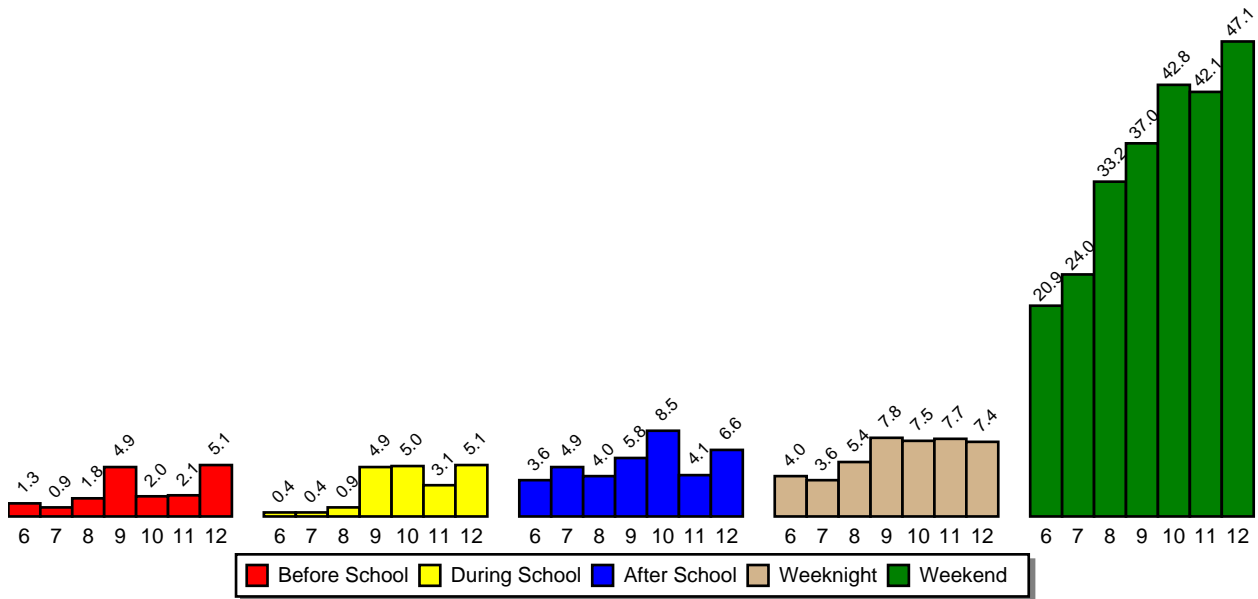
The following graphs show when students report using tobacco, alcohol and marijuana. Past analysis of national statistics show that *During School* is typically the *least* popular time of use.

### When Do You Use Any Tobacco



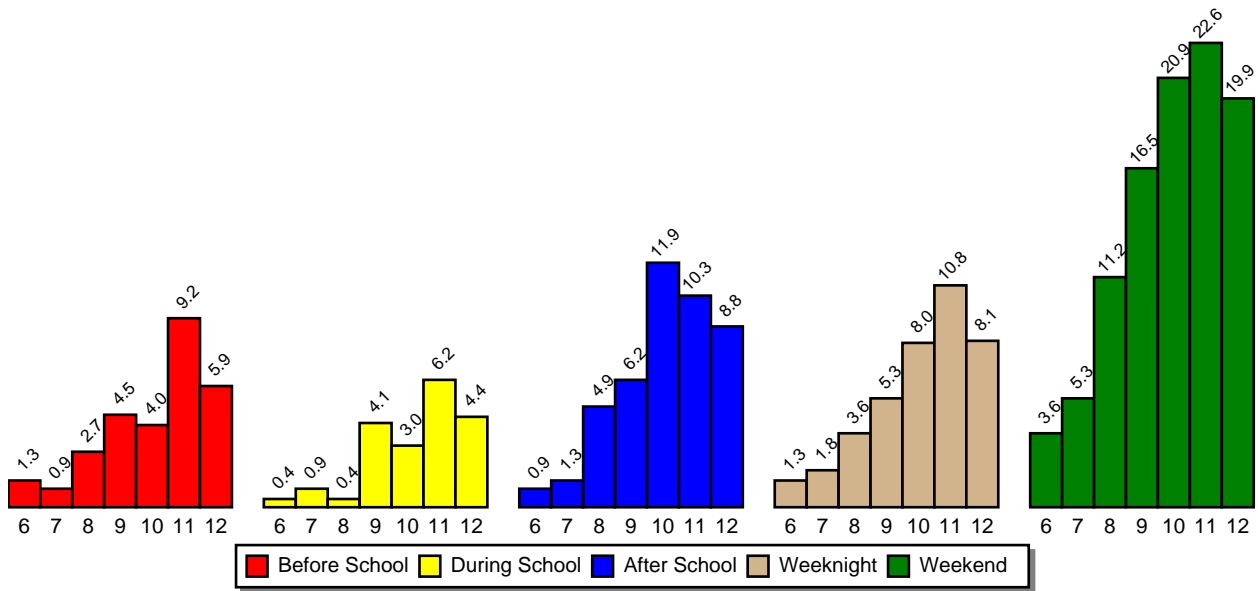
Source: Pride Surveys

### When Do You Use Any Alcohol



Source: Pride Surveys

### When Do You Use Marijuana



Source: Pride Surveys

## 11 School Safety

The following table lists the percentage of students who responded as *Never* or *Seldom* feeling safe in the following school locations.

Table 20: School Safety

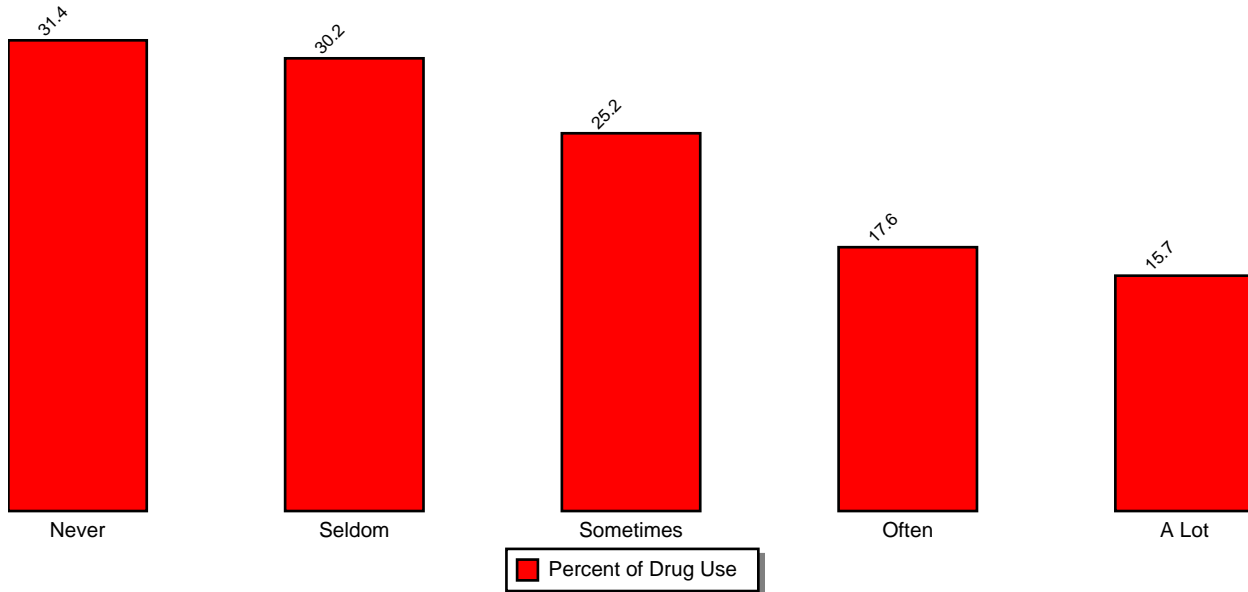
Location	Num	Pct
On the school bus	593	43.7%
In the parking lot	573	41.7%
On the playground	539	40.0%
In the bathroom	550	39.9%
In the halls	490	35.3%
At school events (ballgames, etc.)	462	33.6%
In the cafeteria (lunchroom)	434	31.3%
In the gym	425	30.7%
In the classroom	320	23.1%

\*Pct represents percent who responded *Never* or *Seldom*

## 12 Risk and Protective Factors

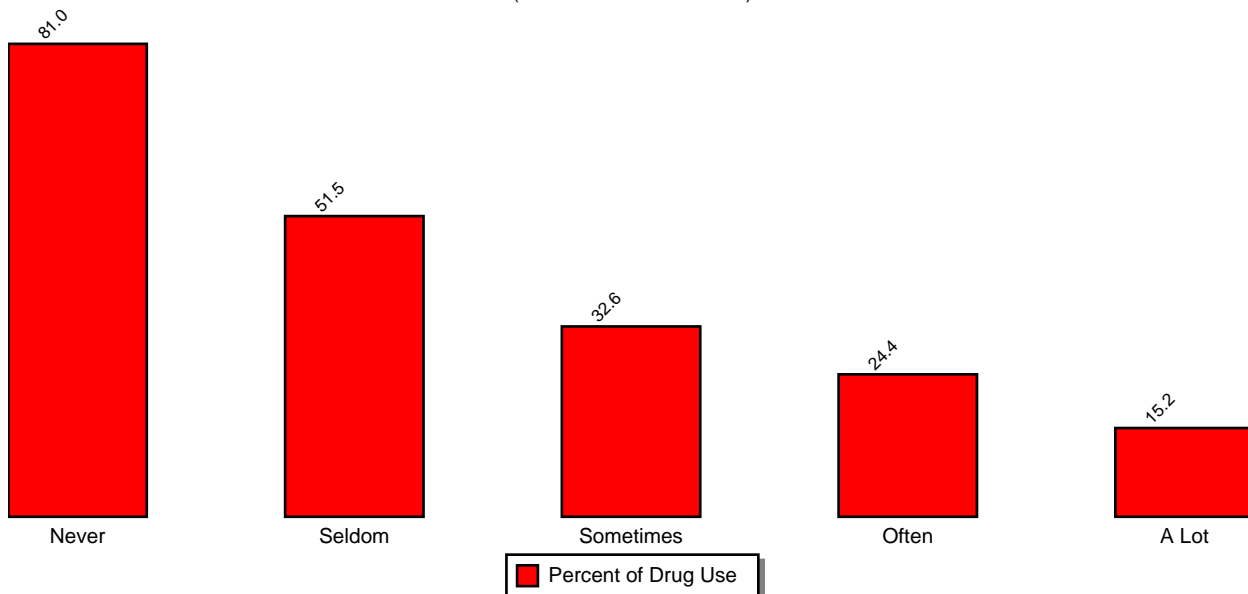
The following graphs on illicit drug use by risk & protective factors show for each category (Never, Seldom, Sometimes, Often, A Lot) of a risk or protective factor question the percentage of students who report using illicit drugs. For example, on the question of taking part in school activities, if the bar labeled NEVER was 40%, this means that OF those students who responded NEVER to taking part in school activities, 40% reported using an illicit drug.

**% Students Who Use Illicit Drugs by Take Part in School Activities**  
(School Protective Factor)



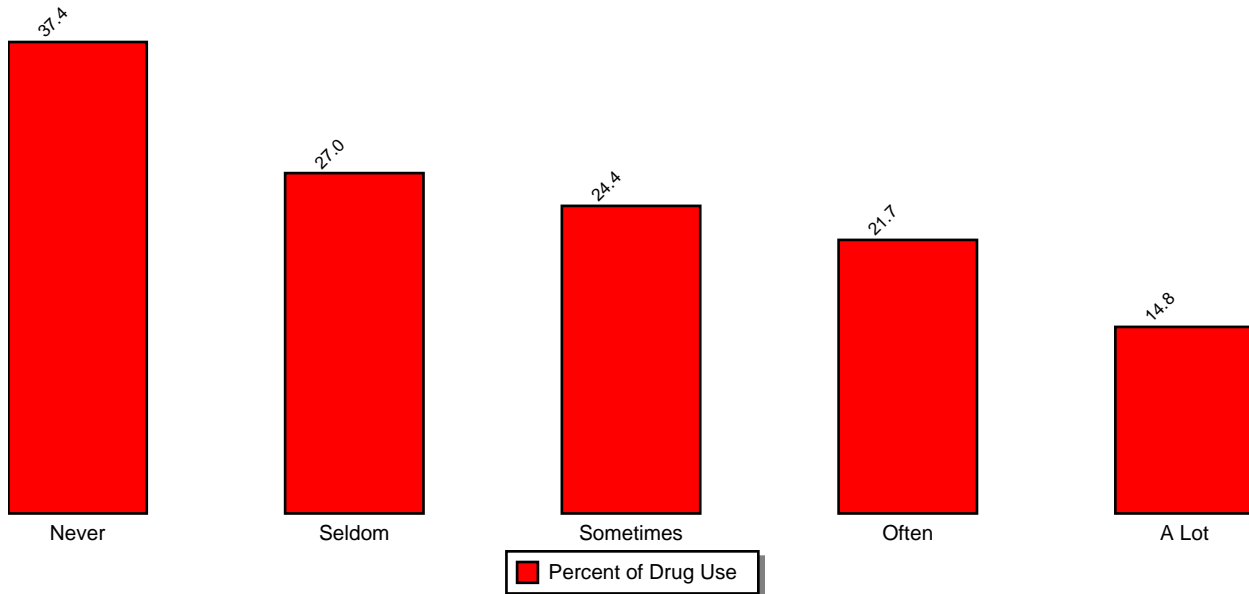
Source: Pride Surveys -- For the group of students who responded NEVER to this question, 31.4% reported using illicit drugs, for A LOT, 15.7% reported using illicit drugs

**% Students Who Use Illicit Drugs by Make Good Grades**  
(School Protective Factor)



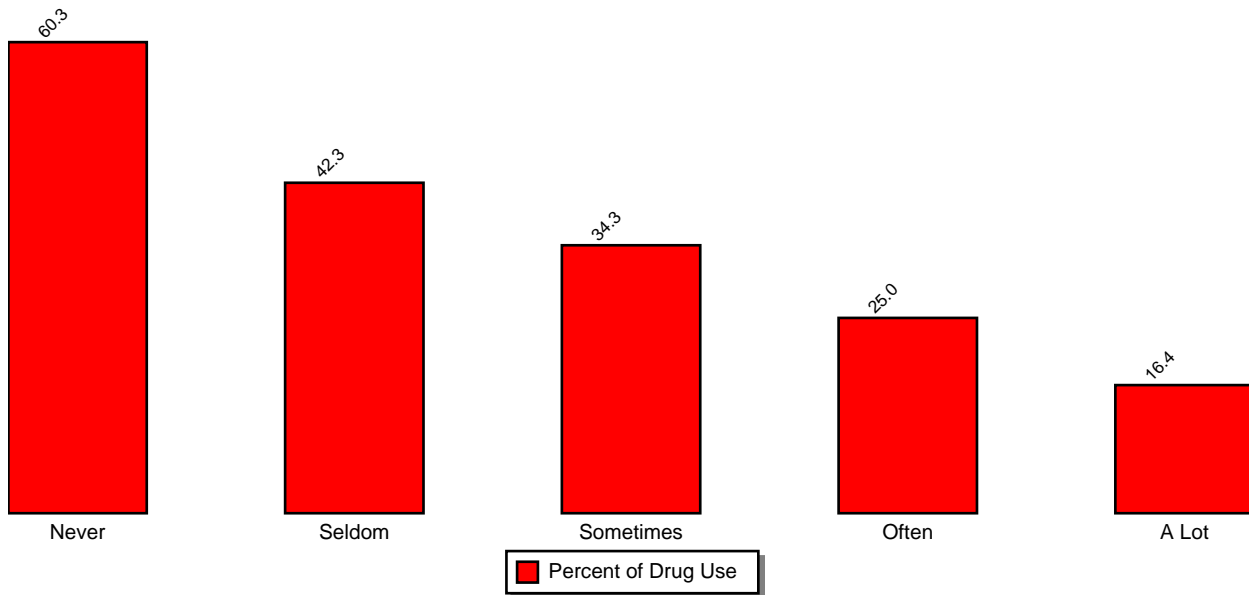
Source: Pride Surveys -- For the group of students who responded NEVER to this question, 81.0% reported using illicit drugs, for A LOT, 15.2% reported using illicit drugs

### % Students Who Use Illicit Drugs by Parents Talk About Dangers of Drugs (Parent Protective Factor)



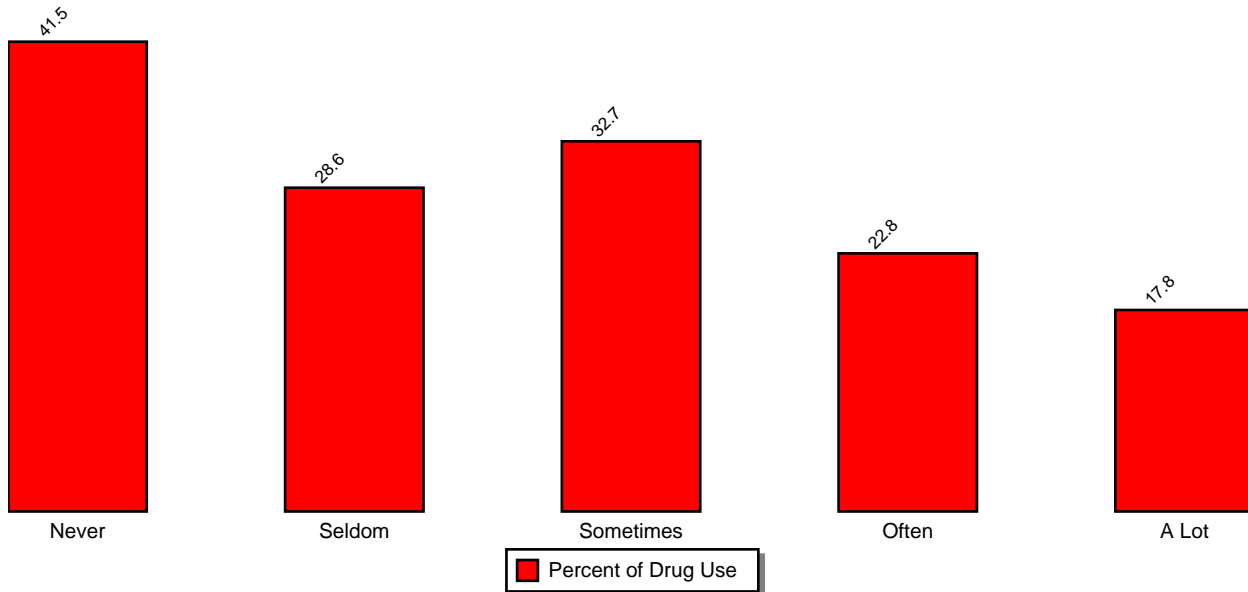
Source: Pride Surveys -- For the group of students who responded NEVER to this question, 37.4% reported using illicit drugs, for A LOT, 14.8% reported using illicit drugs

### % Students Who Use Illicit Drugs by Parents Set Clear Rules (Parent Protective Factor)



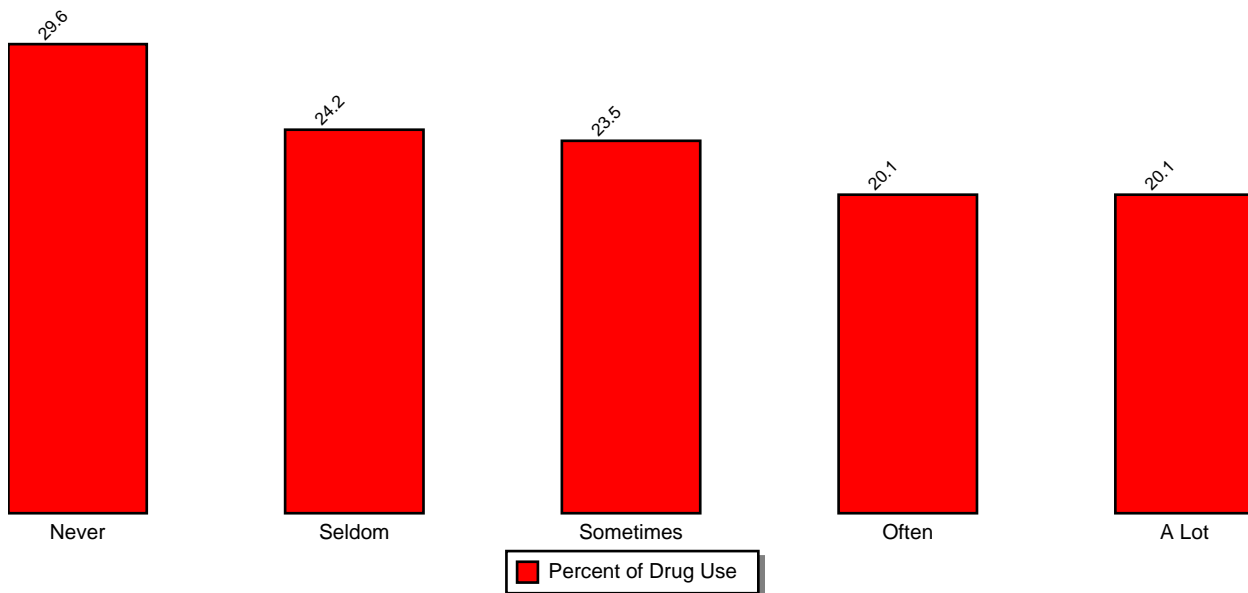
Source: Pride Surveys -- For the group of students who responded NEVER to this question, 60.3% reported using illicit drugs, for A LOT, 16.4% reported using illicit drugs

**% Students Who Use Illicit Drugs by Attend Church, Synagogue, etc.**  
(Community Protective Factor)



Source: Pride Surveys -- For the group of students who responded NEVER to this question, 41.5% reported using illicit drugs, for A LOT, 17.8% reported using illicit drugs

**% Students Who Use Illicit Drugs by Take Part in Community Activities**  
(Community Protective Factor)



Source: Pride Surveys -- For the group of students who responded NEVER to this question, 29.6% reported using illicit drugs, for A LOT, 20.1% reported using illicit drugs

### 13 The Pride Surveys Questionnaire

Since 1982, the Pride Surveys Questionnaire has been used by schools in 49 of the 50 states and several foreign countries to gather data on student tobacco, alcohol and illicit drug use and related behaviors. A decade ago we added questions on violence to explore the relationship between students who used various drugs and their violence. We now archive more than 8 million completed questionnaires, making the Pride Surveys database on student drug use and

violence the largest in the world.

Other Pride Surveys that we hope you will consider for your assessment and evaluation needs are: Faculty and Staff, Parents, and Grade 4-6. Copies of the questionnaires are available on the Pride Surveys web site [www.pridesurveys.com](http://www.pridesurveys.com) and can be downloaded or you can call 1-800-279-6361 and we will send you copies for review.

## 14 Why Schools Use Pride Surveys

The following are some of the reasons school systems use Pride Surveys:

**Used by more than 8,000 school systems.** For more than two decade, schools across the nation have used the Pride Survey to identify student levels of drug use, violence, and related behaviors.

**Designated by Federal Law as a measure of illicit drug use by youth.** This law can be reviewed in Congressional Record, October 19, 1998, Page H11228. (see [www.pridesurveys.com](http://www.pridesurveys.com))

**40-50 minutes to administer.** School time is an important consideration. The survey can be administered during a portion of only one class period.

**Evaluates most prevention goals and objectives.** Changes in student behavior can be measured over time, allowing an individual school, system, or state to measure most of their goals and objectives.

**Helps write winning grants.** Schools can match their data against the Pride Surveys national database to indicate need for grant monies, or to indicate success in their drug education programs.

**Meets most of the needs of evaluation required by the U.S. Department of Education as expressed in NCLB legislation – Principles of Effectiveness.** The requirement for information on: the incidence and prevalence, age of onset, perception of health risk, and perception of social disapproval of drug use and violence by youth in schools and communities. Drug use and these related behaviors are available through the use of the Pride Survey.

Also, the legislation, under the Uniform Management Information and Reporting System (UMIRS) part (C) COMPI- LATION OF STATISTICS: states the collected data shall include incident reports by school officials, anonymous student surveys, and anonymous teacher surveys. The Pride Questionnaire for Faculty & Staff and Faculty and Staff Survey reports for the past year, can be reviewed on our web site.

**Allows multi-year comparisons of your data.** The data is archived for 10 or more years and through our computer software the data can be compared over multiple years of administrations. The multi-year analysis allows a school, system, or state, to track the changes in data over extended periods of time by sex, race, age, grade, and many other variables.

**Data belong to the customer.** Local data will not be released without written permission from the customer (school official). Pride Surveys will use data to build a national sample of data for an annual release to the public. The individual school or state data is not identified in the release.

**Report includes 120+ pages of tables, charts, and reports.** With software developed by Pride Surveys, we create tables, charts and special reports on variables of special concern to schools and administrators. (Ex. One graph shows drug use to occur most often on the weekend when schools are not in session.)

**Anonymous, voluntary, protects pupil confidentiality.** By following the instruction sheet for administering the questionnaire, the students confidentiality will be protected.

**Recognized by National News Media.** On our website you will find print media from the Pride Survey and a press release following the Jonesboro, Arkansas shooting at a local Jr. High school.

**Independent evaluators used for instrument and methodology evaluation.** Independent evaluators were utilized to test for reliability and validity of the Pride Questionnaire. A copy of this evaluation can be obtained from [www.pridesurveys.com](http://www.pridesurveys.com) under the validity hyperlink.

**National database for White, African American, and Hispanic students.** The only national database that is available on African American and Hispanic students. Comparison of behaviors between races may be compared to the Pride national database.

**Lie detection system built into survey.** When answers to questions are indicating that the student is not being honest the software will eliminate the questionnaire. Ex. If the student marks getting high when–, and then denies use of drugs, computer programs will eliminate the questionnaire from the data set.

**Protection from negative or blaming reports of school administrators and teachers for student drug use.** Often we hear, *"what are we going to do about the schools' drug problem"*, this statement needs to be followed with Pride Survey data which indicates drug use is more likely to occur *"at home"* than *"at school"* and drug use occurs most often on *"weekends"* and *"at night"* when school is not in session. Teachers are more likely to teach students about the harmful effects of drugs/alcohol than are parents. All students do not use drugs. This information will be available to schools that choose Pride Surveys for data collection.

**Remember to visit our website @ [www.pridesurveys.com](http://www.pridesurveys.com)  
or give us a call @ 1-800-279-6361**