

Youth Study on Substance Use

Results
from the 2008
Illinois Youth Survey

Illinois Department of Human Services
Division of Community Health and Prevention



2009
Chestnut Health Systems, Inc.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the principals, teachers and students throughout Illinois who participated in this survey.

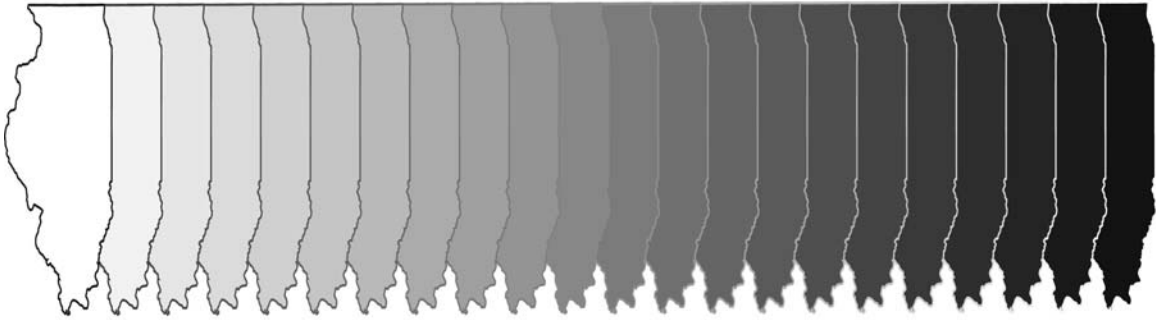
Chestnut Health Systems, Inc. of Bloomington, IL directed this study. Mark Godley and Alan Markwood coordinated all phases of the projects. School contact was managed by Donna Prather. The database was compiled and created by Nora Jones, Research Associate at Lighthouse Institute, Chestnut Health Systems, Inc., Bloomington, IL.

Lighthouse Institute, Chestnut Health Systems, Inc., Bloomington, IL, analyzed the data and produced this report.

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Chestnut Health Systems, Inc., Bloomington, Illinois: 2008

2008 Illinois Youth Study on Substance Use: Executive Summary



This report summarizes results from the 2008 Illinois Youth Survey of 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students. Previous surveys were conducted in 1990, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, and 2006.

Executive Summary

Survey Sample

The Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) is conducted in the spring of every other year with students from 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades. Responses from a scientific sample of youth are tallied to give statewide figures. Because of changes in 2008 to sampling methodology and protocol for dealing with contradictory responses given by a student, the 2008 figures in this report cannot be validly compared to 2006 results. More information about these changes and effects on results is available from the IYS office (866-345-4497).

Gateway Substances

As in all past surveys, nearly all youth who used any drug used one or more of the three main gateway drugs: alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana. Gateway drug use merits special attention for two reasons. One is that the great majority of drug-using youth uses only gateway drugs. As a result, public health studies have shown that gateway drugs do the most damage in terms of impairment of health among the population as a whole. The other consideration is that very few youth use other drugs alone without also using one or more gateway drugs. This does not mean that any use of gateway drugs leads to other drugs; a substantial number of gateway drug users do not progress. However, youth who avoid gateway drug use are extremely unlikely to use other drugs.

Alcohol continues to be the number one drug of youth. Alcohol use in the past month was reported by more than one in five 8th grade students, and approximately one half of 12th grade students. Comparison with national 8th, 10th, and 12th grade data show Illinois alcohol use percentages continue to be higher than national percentages.

About one in five high school seniors reported current (past month) use of cigarettes. However, an additional 6.8% of seniors, though they didn't smoke, did use some other tobacco product in the past month. Illinois youth cigarette use percentages are similar to national percentages.

Marijuana was still the most used illicit substance, used in the past month by about one out of thirteen 8th graders and more than one out of five 12th grade youth. The Illinois marijuana prevalence rates for 8th, 10th, and 12th grades were each higher than national rates.

The three most common patterns of gateway drug use were: use of alcohol only, use of all three gateway drugs, and use of both alcohol and tobacco.

Inhalants

Inhalants are unique among the substances used by youth. They are

not as consistently a “gateway” drug as are alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana, but they are most heavily used by younger teens, presumably due to being more widely available and lower cost relative to other drugs. While rates of most other substance use invariably rise as one looks at older teens, the rate of inhalant use peaks before tenth grade. Inhalants (some more than others) are also particularly capable of causing nervous system damage and death with relatively few uses. **Approximately one out of 15 8th grade Illinois students used inhalants (use in the past month) in 2008.** Youth inhalant use rates in Illinois are higher than national inhalant use rates.

Age Trend

The average age that youth first use alcohol or marijuana is about 14 and a half years of age, based on survey results from asking 12th grade students who have used a substance about their first use. The average age for first use of tobacco is slightly younger, and the average age at which some youth begin to drink regularly is when they are between 15 and 16 years old. These figures are based on only those youth who begin use by the time they are high school seniors, and not the large number that do not use these substances.

Other Substances (Past Year Use)

The Illinois Youth Survey measures use of many other substances but does so only in terms of use in the past year. Most of these substances are not used by many youth, so percent who

used in the past month would be small and hard to track over time. Substances included are cocaine, hallucinogens, methamphetamine, ecstasy, heroin, uppers, downers, steroids, other prescription drugs, over-the-counter performance enhancers, over-the-counter weight loss aids and other over-the-counter drugs. These are included in the 8th grade and high school surveys, but not 6th grade. Figures for past year use of a substance should not be directly compared to the past month use rates used with gateway drugs. Instead, see the appendices to this report for tables that allow comparison of past year rates of all substances.

Based on the 2008 survey results, 3.4% of Illinois 8th grade students and 8.2% of Illinois 12th grade students reported past year use of some illicit drug (other than marijuana). Similarly, 4.5% of 8th grade students and 9.6% of 12th grade students reported past year use of a prescription drug for which they did not have a prescription. See Chapter 6 of the report for more details.

Driving Under the Influence

Tenth and twelfth grade respondents were asked whether in the past year they had driven “when you had been drinking alcohol.” Approximately 8% of sophomores but 21% of seniors answered that they had. A similar question asked about driving “when you had been using marijuana or other illegal drugs?” Approximately 8% of sophomores and 18.5% of seniors answered that they had.

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DHS Youth Study on Substance Use: Results from the 2008 Illinois Youth Survey:

Introduction

This study was sponsored by the Illinois Department of Human Services.

This is the tenth in a series of surveys of Illinois junior and senior high school students sponsored by the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS, formerly DASA). The results of previous studies have been reported earlier in:

1990 Youth Survey: Our Youth is Our Future (1991),
DASA Youth Study on Substance Use: 1993 (1994),
DASA Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 1990 and 1993 Results (1994),
DASA Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 1990, 1993 and 1995 Results (1996),
Patterns of Youth Substance Use (1997), and
DHS Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 1990, 1993, 1995 and 1997 Results (1998),
DHS Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 1995, 1997, and 1998 Results (1999),
Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 1995, 1997, 1998 and 2000 Results (2001),
Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 1998, 2000 and 2002 Results (2003),

Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 2000, 2002 and 2004 Results (2005),
Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 2002, 2004 and 2006 Results (2007).

This report is divided into two major parts, a narrative and tabular appendices:

Narrative Report Chapter 1 discusses initiation of substance use. Chapters 2-5 summarize past month use of various substances. Results are considered by grade, gender, and region. Each chapter also contains a comparison of adolescent substance use rates in Illinois with national rates as reported in 2008 *Monitoring the Future Survey* (University of Michigan). Each year, the national *Monitoring the Future* survey project reports substance use percentages for 8th, 10th and 12th grade students.

Chapter 6 reports past year use percentages for each separate drug not yet covered, for 8th, 10th, and 12th grades. Chapter 7 looks at the category of “Any Illicit Drug Use”, which covers a number of illicit drugs

other than marijuana. Chapter 8 covers past year use of any substance (not just illicit). All three of these chapters (Chapters 6, 7, and 8) differ from the first 5 chapters in main prevalence measure. Chapters 1-5 focus on use in the past month while Chapters 6-8 focus on past year use of a substance.

Chapter 9 shows different patterns of use according to racial group. It includes both past month and past year data in its tables.

Appendices – A-B. The appendices provide additional data and technical details. Appendix A contains tables showing past year and past month drug use by various combinations of demographic characteristics for 2008. Appendix B is a discussion of the technical aspects of the survey (methods, weighting techniques) and its interpretive value.

The 2008 Survey Instruments

Different survey forms were used for 6th grades, 8th grades, and high school students. High school and 8th grade survey forms covered a wider range of questions than the 6th grade form. Schools could use an on-line or paper version of the survey. The on-line forms were identical in content to the paper forms and as similar in format as possible.

Data Handling and Issues

There were three major changes in data handling from 2006 to 2008 that affect the comparability of results between those two survey administrations. Details of those changes are covered in a technical document available from the IYS office (866-345-4497).

Combined 8th, 10th, and 12th grade results are given for each of four regions and also for the combination of the two Chicago area regions (“Metro Chicago”) and the two other regions (“Downstate”). Although the term “Downstate” is not technically accurate, it is used as the simplest and most common term for the rest of Illinois outside of the Metro Chicago area.

Sample Characteristics

The 2008 Illinois Youth Survey was administered between February and May 2008. The sample size for 2008 by demographic groups is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1
Number of Students

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th	2,137
8th	2,101
10th	2,162
12th	1,797
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	4,105
Chicago	1,036
Suburban Chicago	3,069
Downstate	1,955
Other Urban Counties	1,155
Rural Counties	799
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	3,045
Male	2,934
Metro Chicago Race Groups (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
White	1,988
African American	913
Hispanic	896
Asian American	79
Native American	9
Multi-racial	127
Other	62
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	6,060

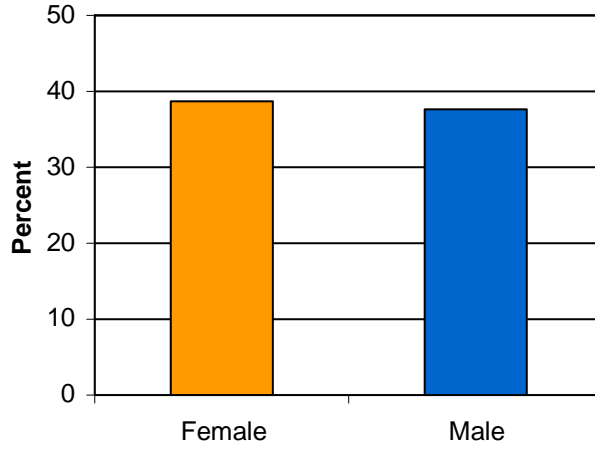
Chapter 1
Initiation and Use of Gateway Substances
(including: alcohol, tobacco and marijuana)

Table 1-1 shows the percent of 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students who had used any gateway substance in the past month in 2008.

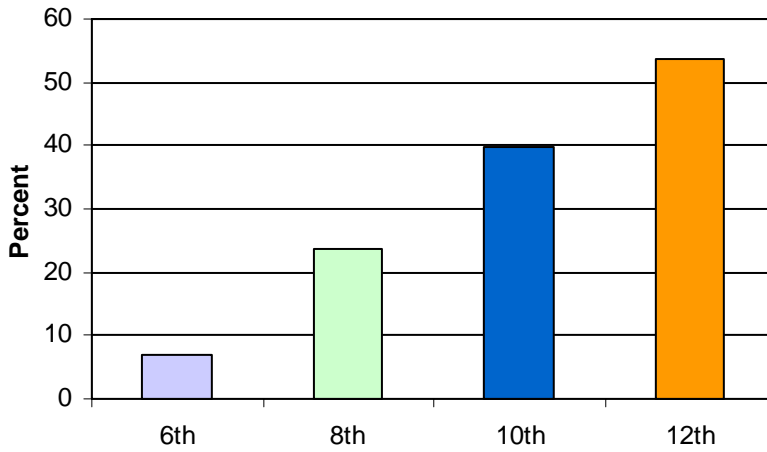
Table 1-1
Percent of Students Using
Gateway Substances* in the Past Month

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th Grade TOTAL	7.0
Female	6.5
Male	7.5
8th Grade TOTAL	23.6
Female	26.7
Male	19.8
10th Grade TOTAL	39.8
Female	39.6
Male	39.8
12th Grade TOTAL	53.6
Female	51.3
Male	56.1
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	38.0
Chicago	37.9
Suburban Chicago	38.0
Downstate	38.9
Other Urban Counties	40.7
Rural Counties	36.2
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	38.7
Male	37.6
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	38.3
*Alcohol, Tobacco and Marijuana	

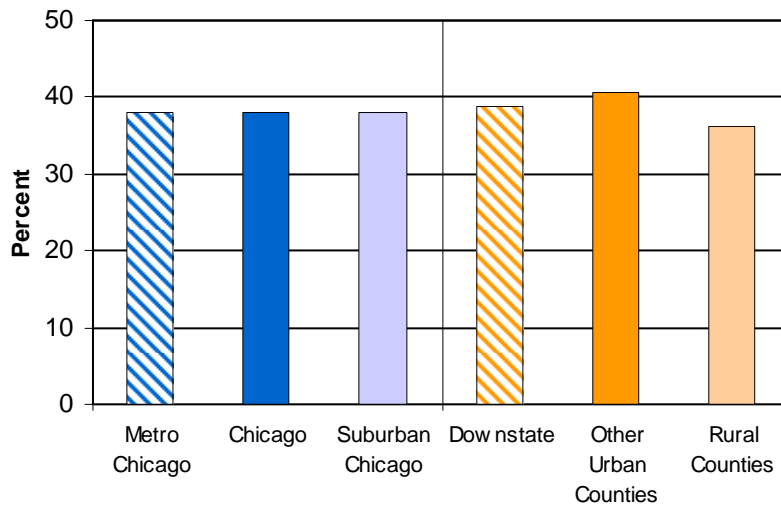
Past Month Gateway Substance Use by Gender (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Past Month Gateway Substance Use by Grade

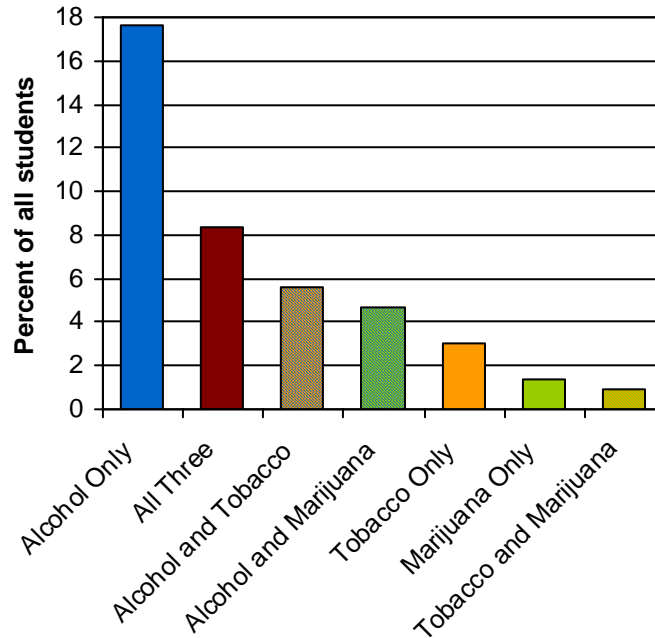


Past Month Gateway Substance Use by Region (8th/10th/12th Combined)



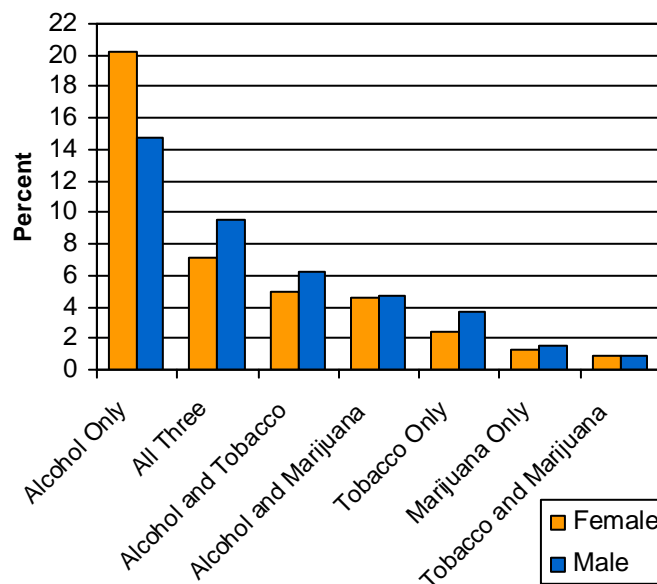
Alcohol alone is the most commonly used gateway substance (used by 17.6% of students), followed by a combination of all three -- alcohol, tobacco and marijuana. 58.5% of the students had used no gateway substance.

Patterns of Gateway Substance Use



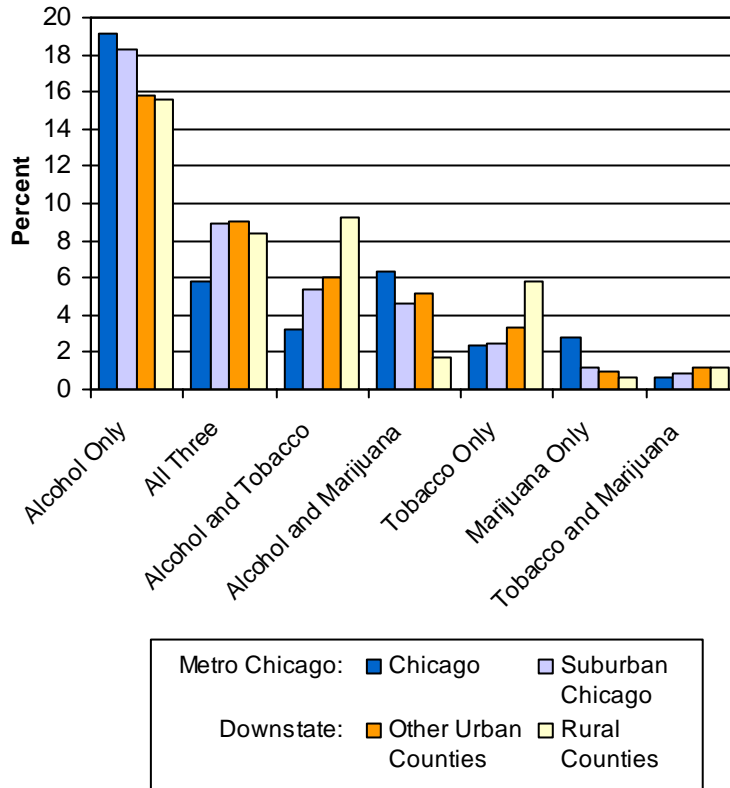
Female students used “Alcohol Only” more frequently than male students did. Male students were higher or about equal for all other combinations.

Patterns of Gateway Substance Use by Gender



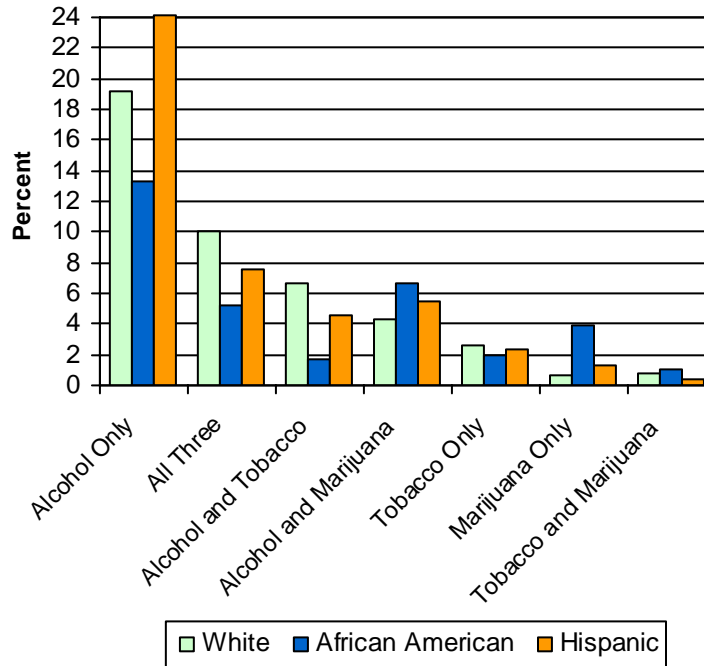
Regional differences in gateway combinations are also evident. Chicago students reported the highest rate for “Alcohol Only,” but reported less use of “All Three” than students in other regions. Students in Rural Counties reported the highest rates for “Alcohol and Tobacco” and “Tobacco Only.” Chicago students reported the highest rates of “Alcohol and Marijuana” and “Marijuana Only.” All 4 regions were similar in use of “Tobacco and Marijuana.”

Patterns of Gateway Substance Use by Region



Within the Metro Chicago, there are different patterns of gateway substance use by racial group. While “Alcohol Only” is the most common pattern for all three groups, Hispanic students are most likely to use “Alcohol Only.” African-American students report the highest rates using “Marijuana Only” or “Alcohol and Marijuana”. White students report the highest rates of “Alcohol and Tobacco” use and use of “All Three” substances compared to the other two groups. All three racial groups have similar use patterns for “Tobacco Alone” or “Tobacco and Marijuana.” For information about substance use patterns for each racial group, see Chapter 9.

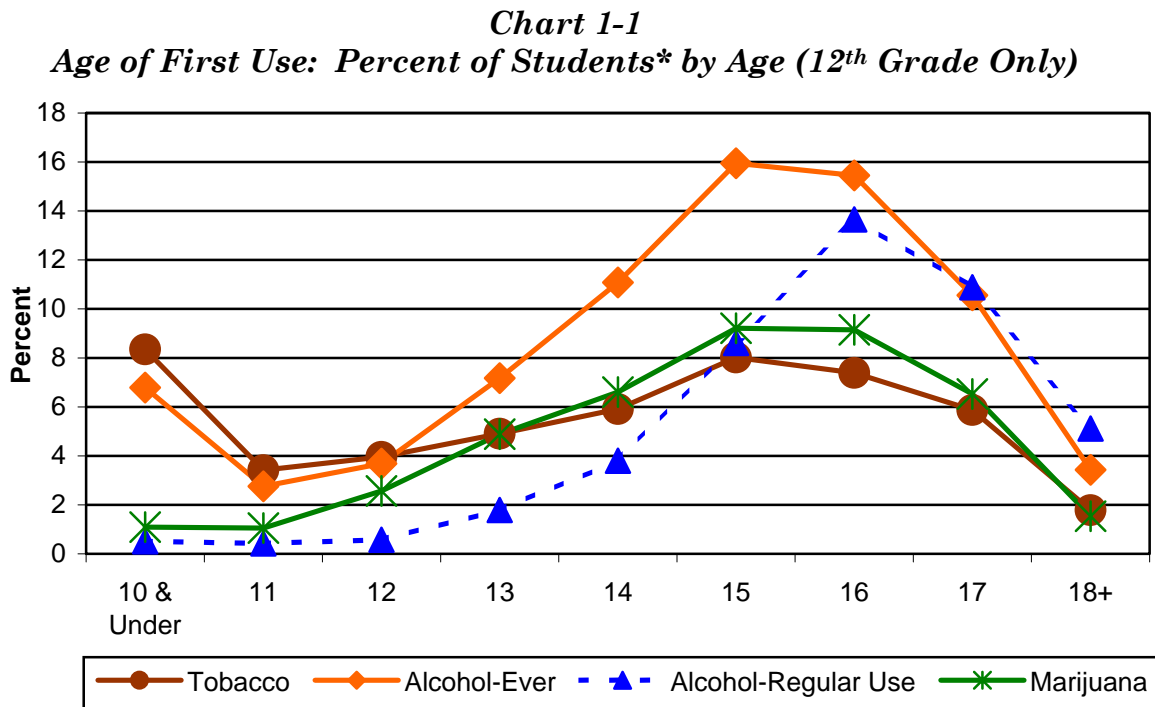
Patterns of Gateway Substance Use Among Metro Chicago Students by Race



Age of Initiation

The following two charts show the result of asking 12th grade students how old they were when they first started using tobacco, alcohol, or marijuana, or when they started drinking regularly (at least once or twice a month). Unlike the tables showing the percent of students who used a substance in the past 30 days, these charts are based on any use in a youth's lifetime. Those who had no use of a substance could respond 'never have.' Students who never used a substance were not included in the charts. The percentages reported in the chart reflect the percent of all 12th grade respondents, rather than the percent of those who had used.

Chart 1-1 shows what percent of students started use at each age, from '10 or under' through '17 or older.' For example, at age 10 or under (approximately 8 or more years prior to this survey), about 8.5% had already used tobacco at least once, almost 7% had used alcohol ('more than a sip or two'), and less than 2% had used marijuana or started regular use of alcohol. Initiation of tobacco peaked by about age 15. In other words, although some youth started after they were 15, the percent starting each year was decreasing after age 15. Initiation of alcohol peaked at age 15, and initiation of marijuana peaked at age 16. Initiation of regular alcohol use showed a peak at age 16, as well.

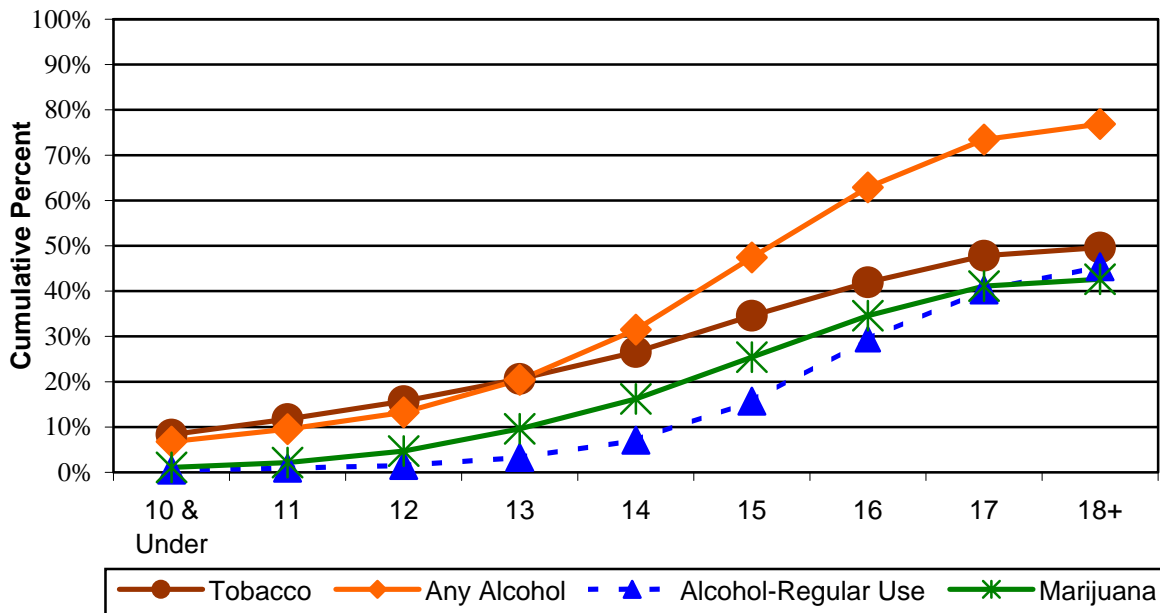


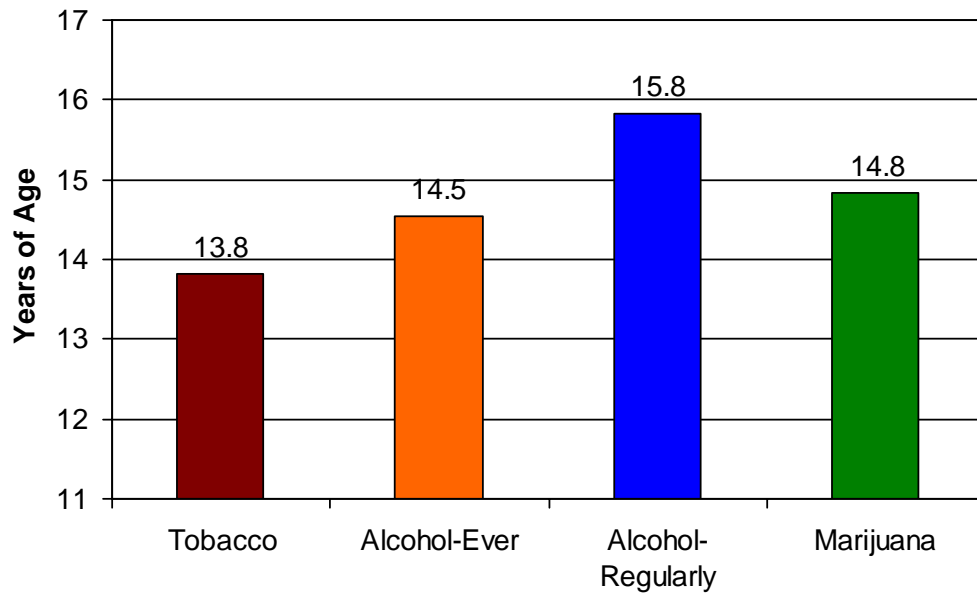
*This chart is based on percentages of all 12th graders, but students who did not use are excluded by omitting "did not use" as a category on the x-axis.

Chart 1-2 below shows the percent of 12th grade students who had used by a given age. This differs from the previous chart in that each age includes the percent of students who had begun at an earlier age (cumulative). For example, while the previous chart shows that approximately 3.5% of these students first used tobacco when they were 11 years old, the following chart shows that at age 11 a total of about 12% of the students had smoked cigarettes, starting either at age 11 or earlier.

This chart suggests that about the same number had started tobacco use as alcohol use until age 13, but from age 13 on, the percent that had tried alcohol surpassed cigarettes and continued to increase faster than tobacco initiation. Starting regular use of alcohol was less common than trying any of the three measured substances until about age 17, when the rapidly increasing rate of regular alcohol use surpassed the rate of youth who had tried marijuana at least once.

Chart 1-2
Age of First Use: Cumulative Percent of Students by Age (12th Grade Only)



Mean Age at First Use* (12th Grade Only)

*Of students who used.

Chapter 2

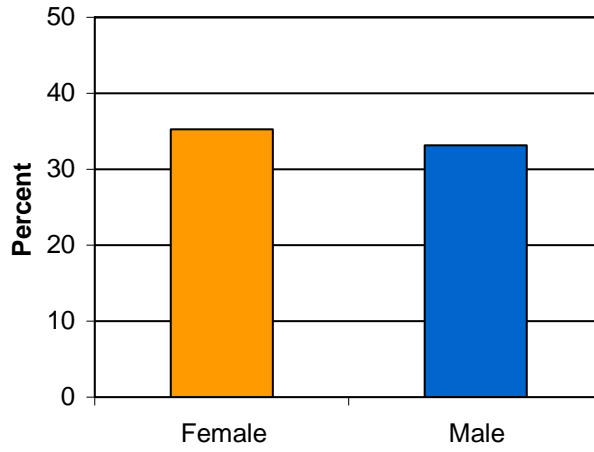
Alcohol

Table 2-1 shows the percent of 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students who had used alcohol in the past month in 2008.

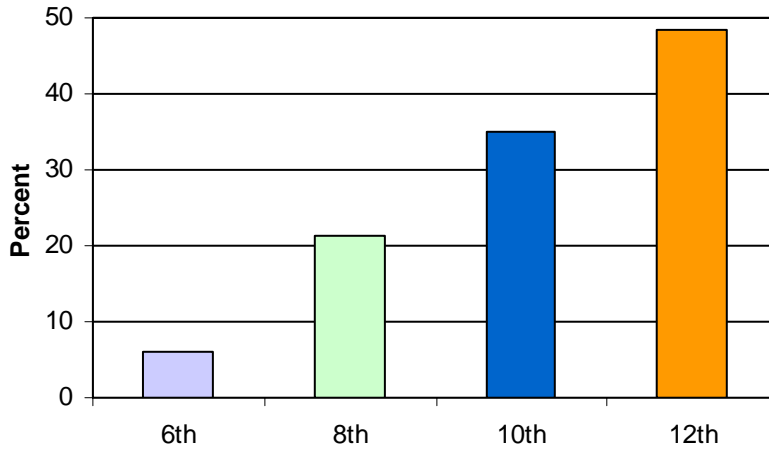
Table 2-1
Percent of Students Using
Alcohol in the Past Month

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th Grade TOTAL	5.9
Female	5.2
Male	6.8
8th Grade TOTAL	21.3
Female	24.4
Male	17.5
10th Grade TOTAL	34.9
Female	36.0
Male	33.7
12th Grade TOTAL	48.4
Female	46.7
Male	50.2
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	34.8
Chicago	34.0
Suburban Chicago	35.1
Downstate	33.2
Other Urban Counties	36.1
Rural Counties	29.2
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	35.3
Male	33.1
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	34.3

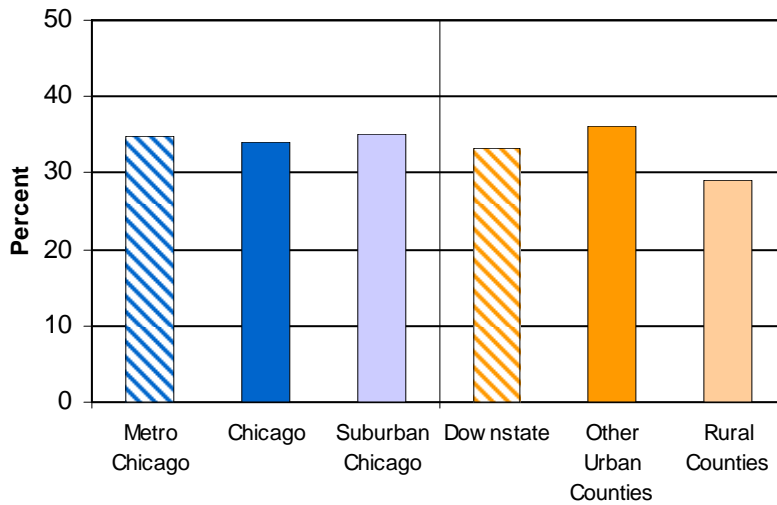
Past Month Alcohol Use by Gender (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Past Month Alcohol Use by Grade

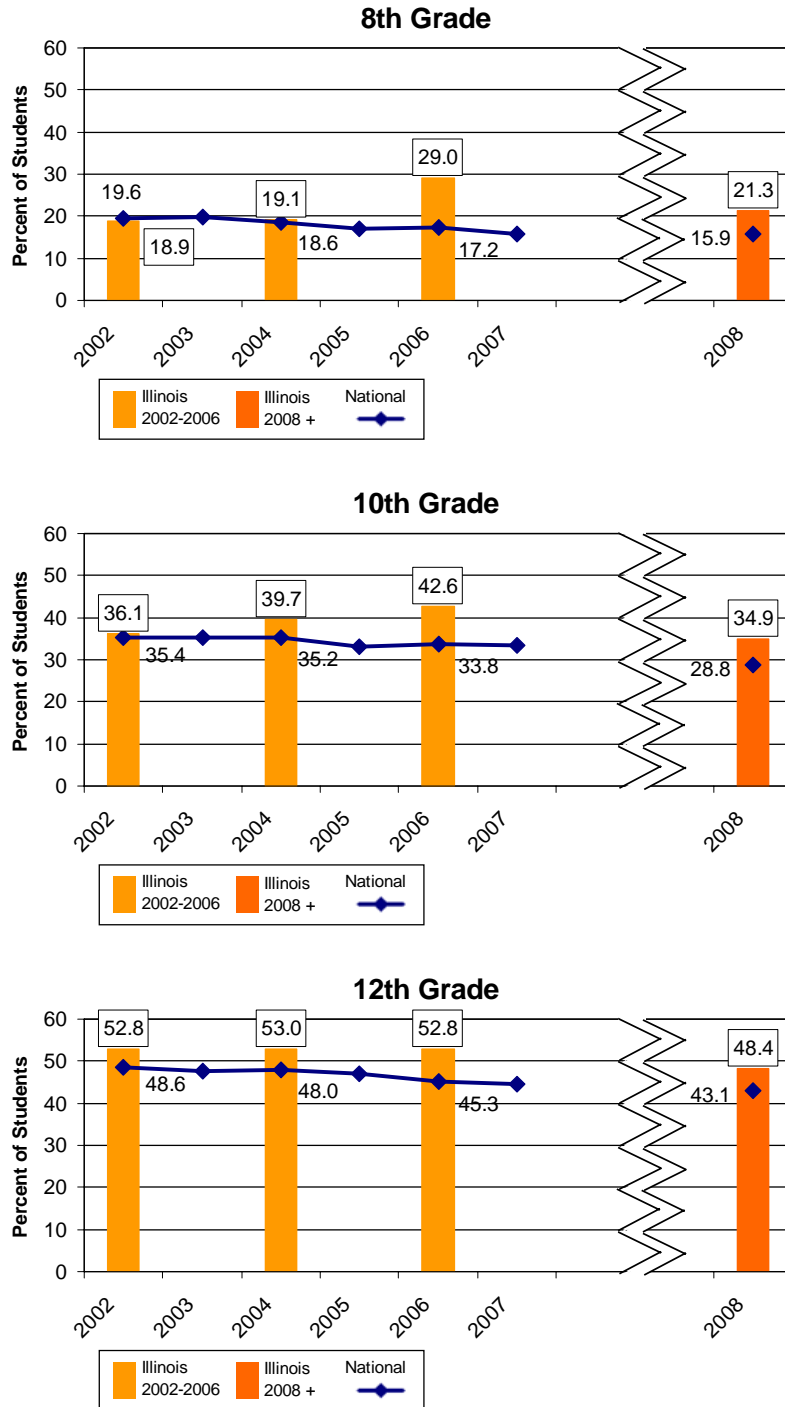


Past Month Alcohol Use by Region (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Illinois students in 2008 were more likely than students nationally¹ to use alcohol in the past month. Illinois rates are in boxes. The jagged line is to show that the 2008 Illinois rates cannot be validly compared to 2006 rates.

Past Month Alcohol Use by Grade: Illinois vs. National



¹ Source *Monitoring the Future 2008*.

Binge Drinking

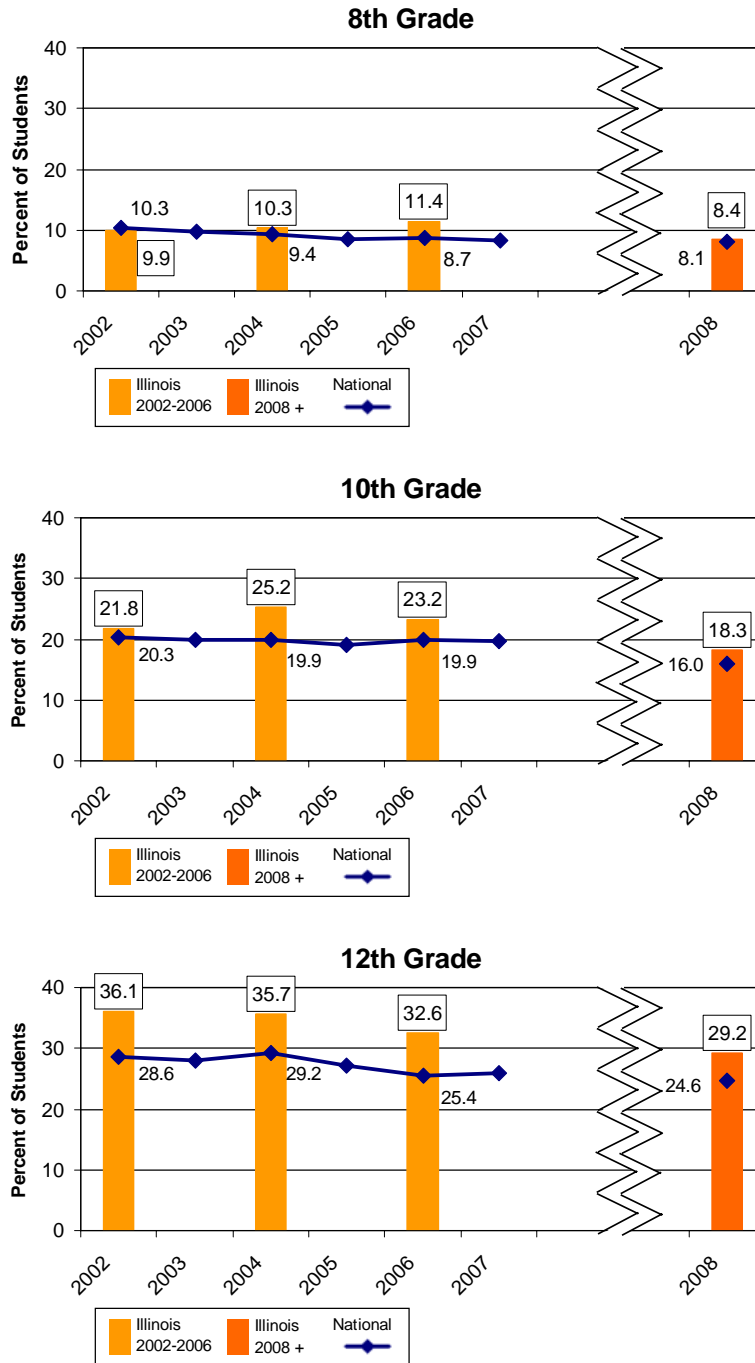
For the purposes of this survey, “Binge Drinking” is defined as having “five or more alcoholic drinks in a row.” ***Table 2-2*** shows the percent of students who reported one or more instances of binge drinking in the past two weeks.

Table 2-2
Percent of Students Binge Drinking
in the Past Two Weeks

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th Grade TOTAL	2.9
Female	2.5
Male	3.2
8th Grade TOTAL	8.4
Female	8.3
Male	7.7
10th Grade TOTAL	18.3
Female	17.8
Male	18.5
12th Grade TOTAL	29.2
Female	25.3
Male	33.1
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	18.1
Chicago	15.7
Suburban Chicago	18.9
Downstate	18.3
Other Urban Counties	19.4
Rural Counties	16.7
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	16.8
Male	19.1
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	18.2

Rates of binge drinking² in the past two weeks among Illinois youth remain higher than their counterparts nationally. Illinois rates are in boxes. The jagged line is to show that the 2008 Illinois rates cannot be validly compared to 2006 rates.

Binge Drinking by Grade: Illinois vs. National



² Binge drinking=5+ drinks in a sitting.

Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

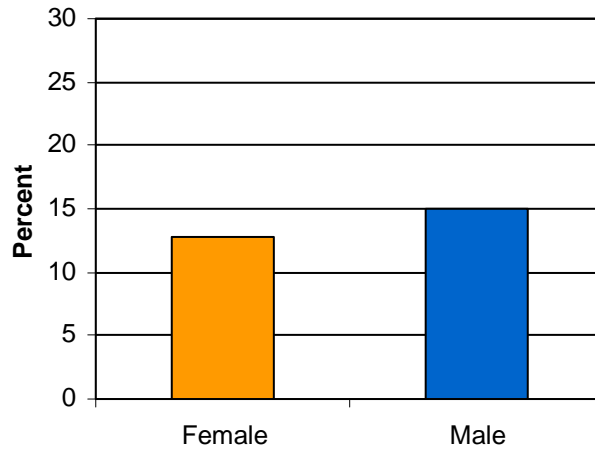
Table 2-3 shows the percent of 10th and 12th grade students who operated a motor vehicle after having used alcohol in the past year in 2008.

Table 2-3
Percent of Students* Driving
After Using Alcohol in the Past Year

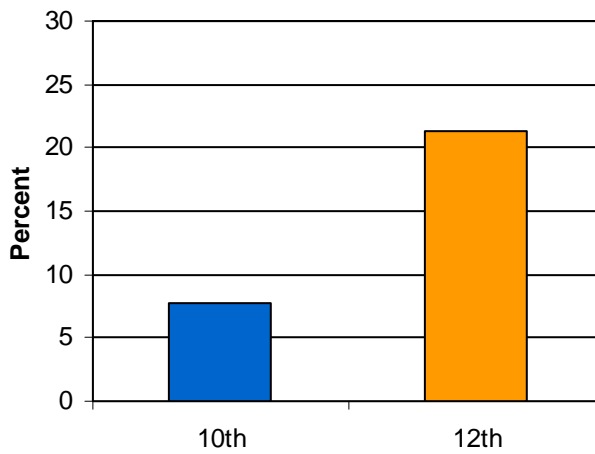
GRADE IN SCHOOL	
10th Grade TOTAL	7.7
Female	7.0
Male	8.5
12th Grade TOTAL	21.2
Female	19.9
Male	22.6
REGION	
Metro Chicago	12.8
Chicago	9.3
Suburban Chicago	14.0
Downstate	16.0
Other Urban Counties	16.1
Rural Counties	15.9
GENDER	
Female	12.8
Male	15.1
OVERALL	13.9

*Only 10th and 12th grades included

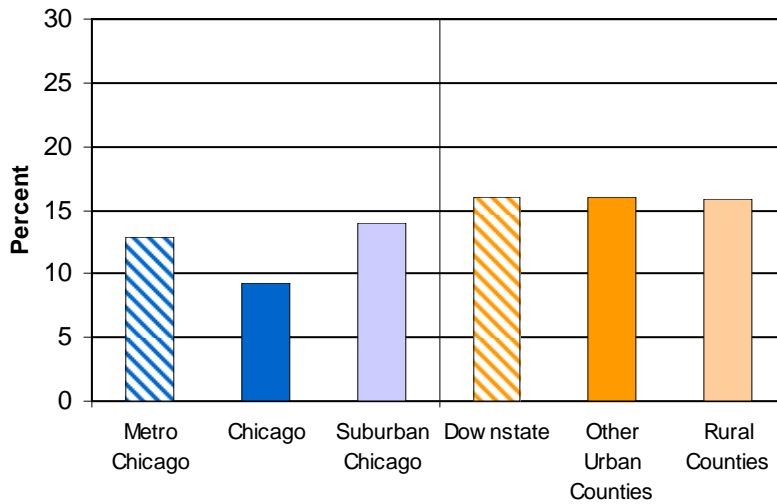
Past Year Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol by Gender



Past Year Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol by Grade



Past Year Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol by Region



Chapter 3 Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products

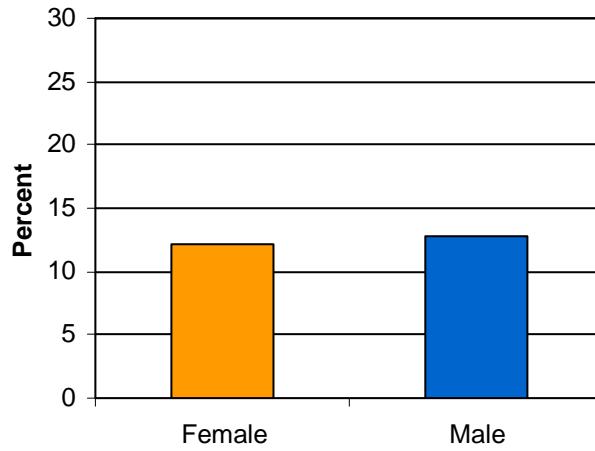
Cigarettes

Table 3-1 shows the percent of 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students who had smoked cigarettes in the past month in 2008.

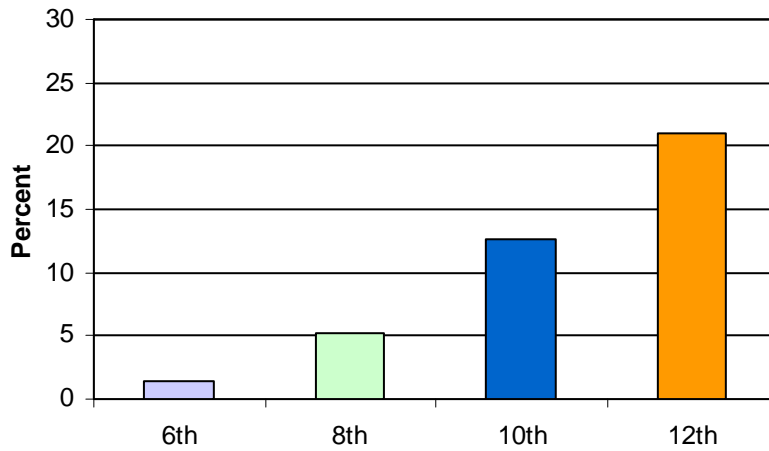
*Table 3-1
Percent of Students Smoking
Cigarettes in the Past Month*

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th Grade TOTAL	1.3
Female	1.7
Male	0.9
8th Grade TOTAL	5.3
Female	4.8
Male	5.4
10th Grade TOTAL	12.6
Female	13.3
Male	11.7
12th Grade TOTAL	21.0
Female	19.1
Male	23.0
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	11.1
Chicago	7.2
Suburban Chicago	12.4
Downstate	15.6
Other Urban Counties	13.4
Rural Counties	18.7
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	12.1
Male	12.8
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	12.5

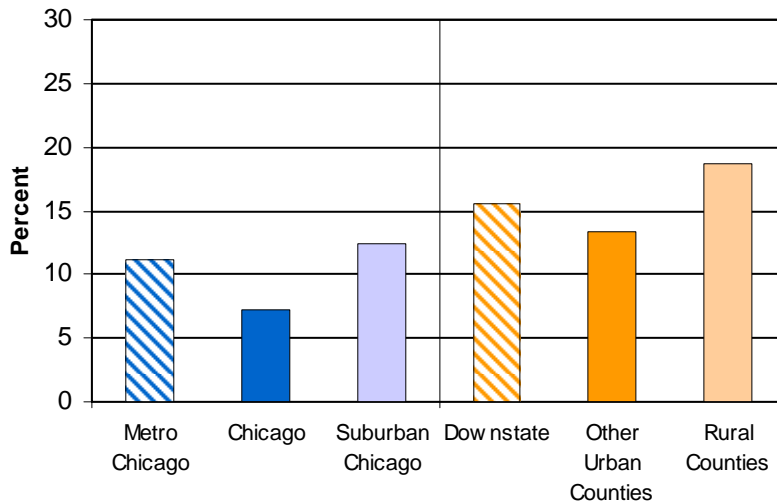
Past Month Cigarette Use by Gender (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Past Month Cigarette Use by Grade

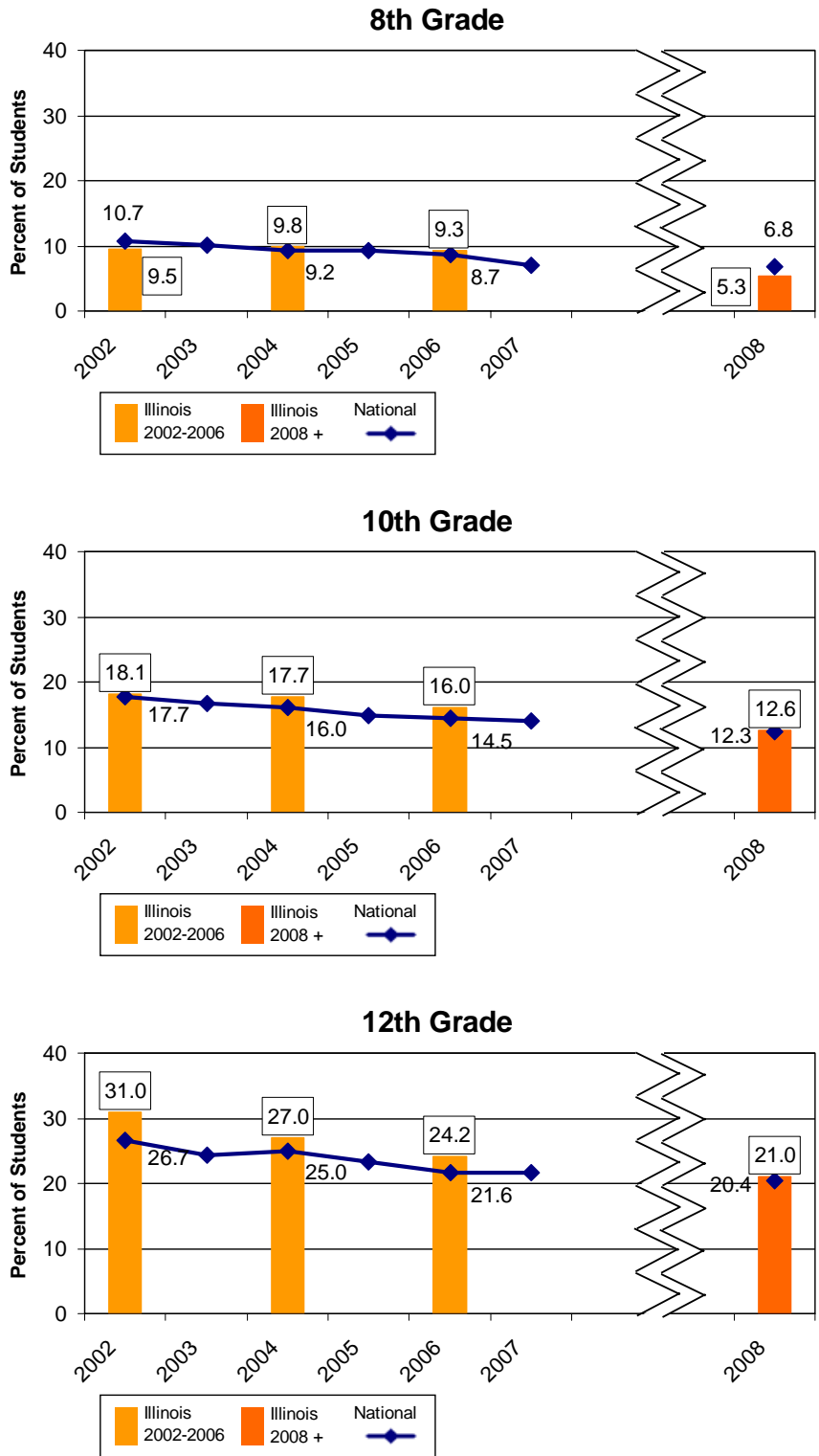


Past Month Cigarette Use by Region (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Illinois rates are in boxes. The jagged line is to show that the 2008 Illinois rates cannot be validly compared to 2006 rates.

Past Month Cigarette Use by Grade: Illinois vs. National



Other Tobacco Products

Table 3-2 differentiates among different combinations of tobacco use in 2008. The first column shows the percent of Illinois students who, in 2008, reported use of “other tobacco” products but NOT cigarettes in the past month. The second column is the percent that used BOTH cigarettes and other tobacco products. The third column is the percent that used any tobacco product, including those who used only cigarettes, those who used only other tobacco products, and those who used both.

Table 3-2
Percent of Students Using
Tobacco in the Past Month

	Type of Use		
	"Other" Only	Cigarettes and Other	Any Tobacco
GRADE IN SCHOOL			
6th Grade TOTAL	1.2	0.8	2.5
Female	1.1	1.1	2.8
Male	1.3	0.5	2.2
8th Grade TOTAL	1.5	2.4	6.8
Female	1.5	1.4	6.3
Male	1.3	2.9	6.6
10th Grade TOTAL	4.5	5.5	17.0
Female	1.8	4.9	15.0
Male	7.6	6.1	19.3
12th Grade TOTAL	6.8	10.1	27.8
Female	3.7	7.3	22.8
Male	10.1	13.2	33.0
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)			
Metro Chicago	3.8	5.0	14.9
Chicago	3.2	2.4	10.4
Suburban Chicago	3.9	5.9	16.4
Downstate	4.9	7.4	20.4
Other Urban Counties	6.0	6.5	19.3
Rural Counties	3.4	8.6	22.1
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)			
Female	2.2	4.4	14.3
Male	6.1	7.1	18.9
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	4.1	5.8	16.7

Chapter 4

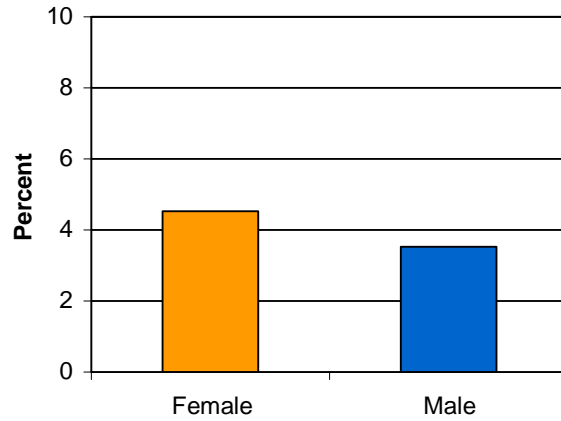
Inhalants

Table 4-1 shows the percent of 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students who had used inhalants in the past month in 2008.

Table 4-1
Percent of Students Using
Inhalants in the Past Month

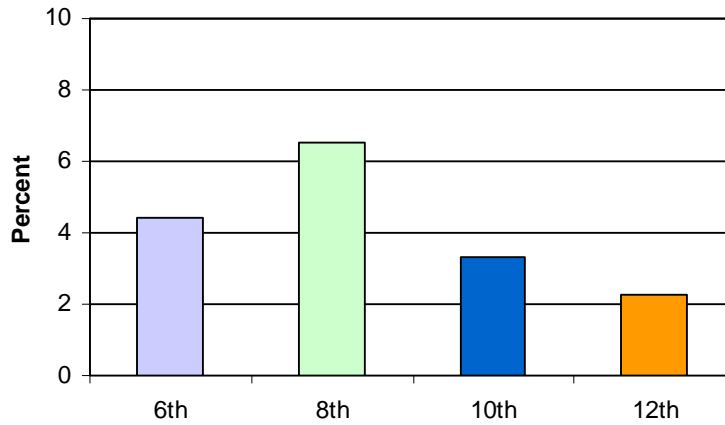
GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th Grade TOTAL	4.4
Female	4.5
Male	4.6
8th Grade TOTAL	6.5
Female	6.4
Male	6.1
10th Grade TOTAL	3.3
Female	4.5
Male	2.0
12th Grade TOTAL	2.3
Female	2.4
Male	2.2
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	4.1
Chicago	3.6
Suburban Chicago	4.3
Downstate	4.1
Other Urban Counties	3.6
Rural Counties	4.7
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	4.5
Male	3.5
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	4.1

Past Month Inhalant Use by Gender (8th/10th/12th Combined)

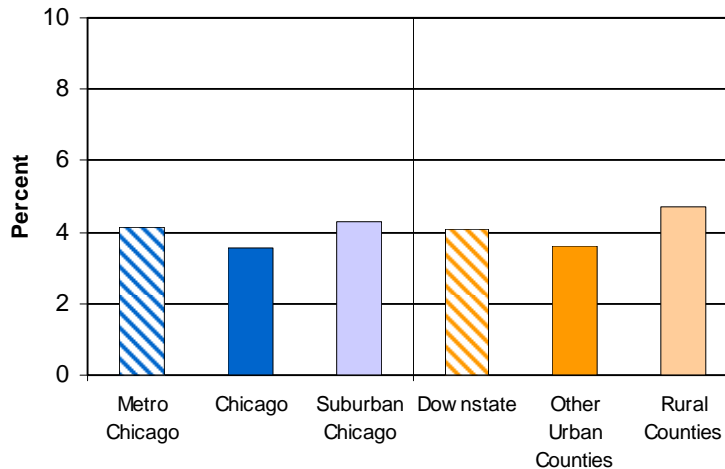


Inhalants continue to be unlike other substances – use of inhalants tends to peak in 8th grade and decline in later grades.

Past Month Inhalant Use by Grade

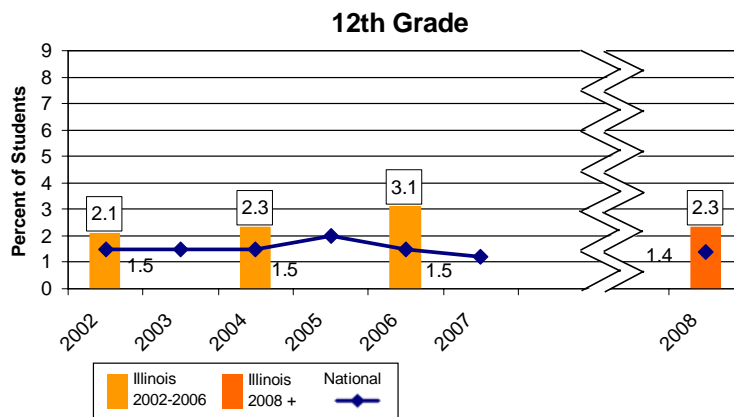
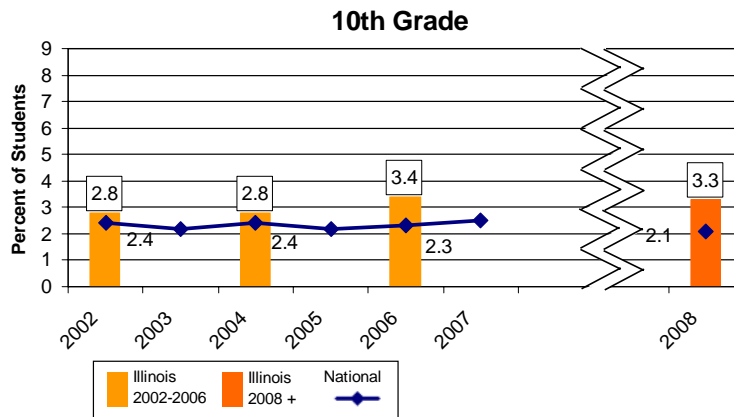
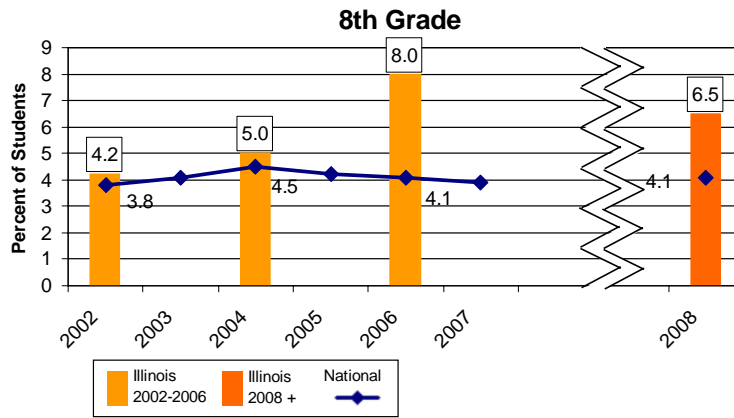


Past Month Inhalant Use by Region (8th/10th/12th Combined)



The past month use rate among 8th graders in Illinois remains over one and a half times that among 8th graders nationally³. Illinois students in 10th and 12th grades are also more likely than 10th and 12th graders nationally to have used inhalants in the past month. Illinois rates are in boxes. The jagged line is to show that the 2008 Illinois rates cannot be validly compared to 2006 rates.

Past Month Inhalant Use by Grade: Illinois vs. National



³ Source *Monitoring the Future 2008*.

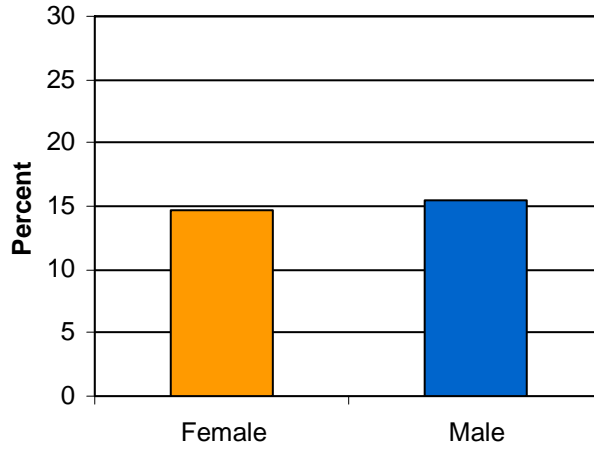
Chapter 5 Marijuana

Table 5-1 shows the percent of 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students who had used marijuana in the past month in 2008.

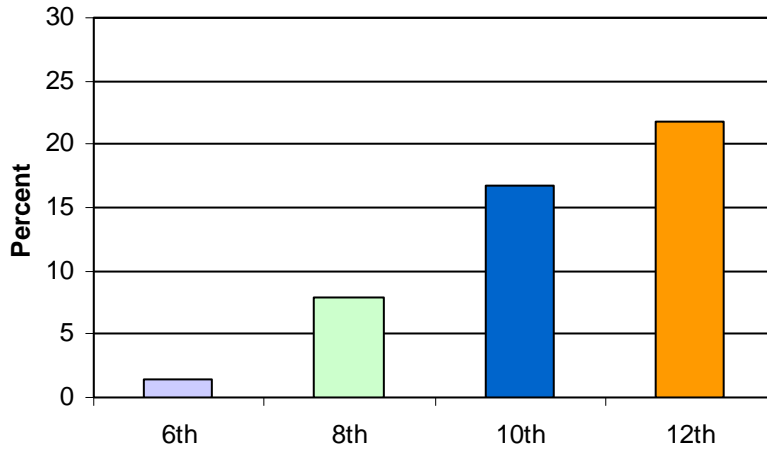
*Table 5-1
Percent of Students Using
Marijuana in the Past Month*

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th Grade TOTAL	1.4
Female	1.2
Male	1.7
8th Grade TOTAL	7.8
Female	7.7
Male	7.4
10th Grade TOTAL	16.7
Female	16.1
Male	17.1
12th Grade TOTAL	21.8
Female	21.0
Male	22.8
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	15.0
Chicago	15.3
Suburban Chicago	14.9
Downstate	15.5
Other Urban Counties	18.4
Rural Counties	11.4
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	14.7
Male	15.5
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	15.2

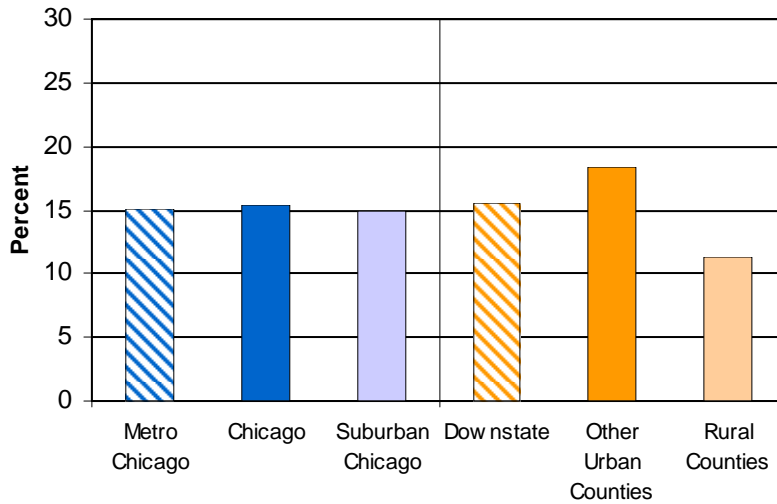
Past Month Marijuana Use by Gender (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Past Month Marijuana Use by Grade

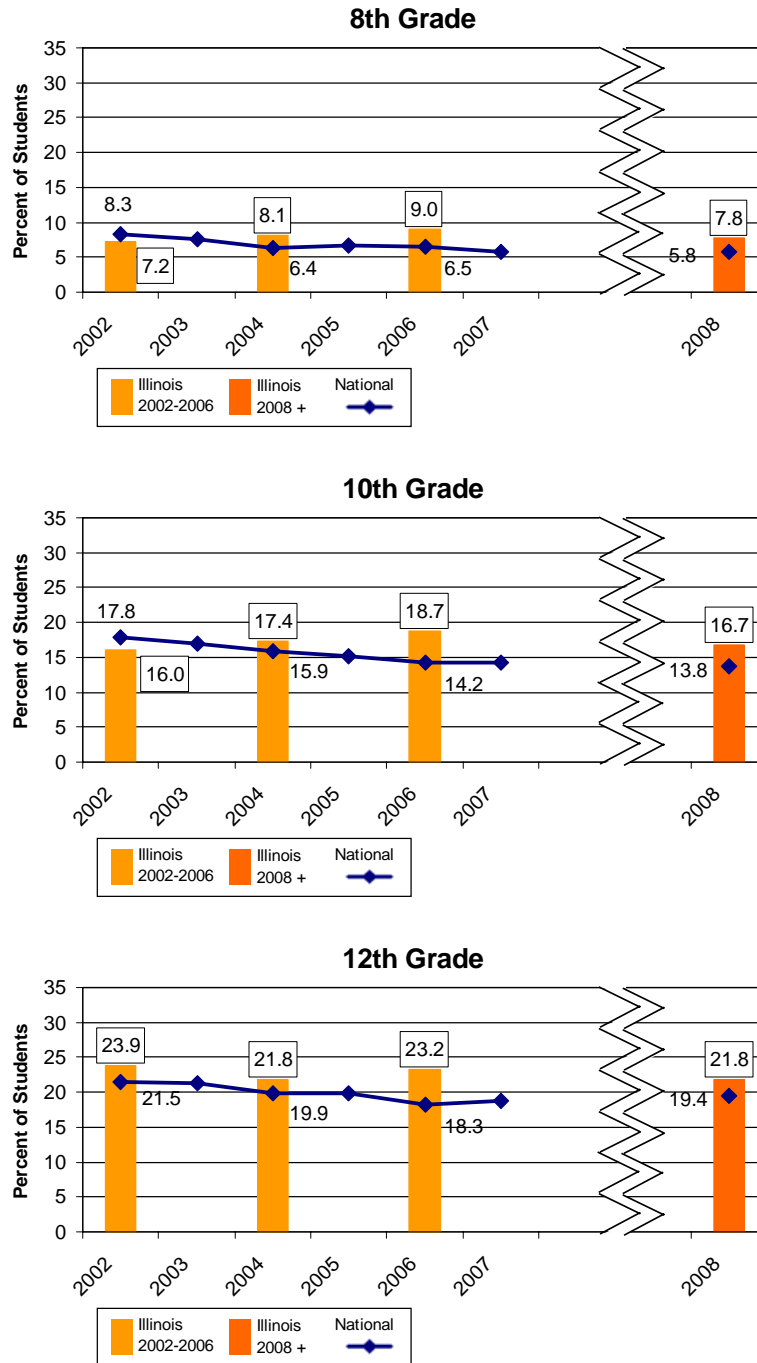


Past Month Marijuana Use by Region (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Illinois students were more likely than students nationally⁴ to have used marijuana in the past month. Use rates increased for 12th graders nationally. Illinois rates are in boxes. The jagged line is to show that the 2008 Illinois rates cannot be validly compared to 2006 rates.

Past Month Marijuana Use by Grade: Illinois vs. National



⁴ Source *Monitoring the Future 2008*.

Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana or Other Illegal Drugs

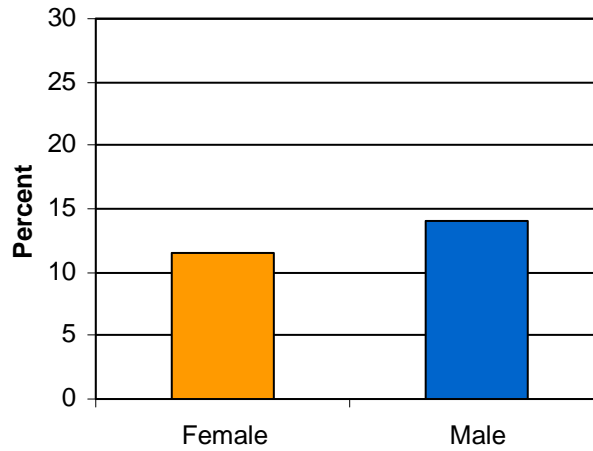
Table 5-2 shows the percent of 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had operated a motor vehicle after having used marijuana or other illegal drugs in the past year.

Table 5-2
Percent of Students* Driving
After Using Marijuana or Other Illegal Drugs
in the Past Year

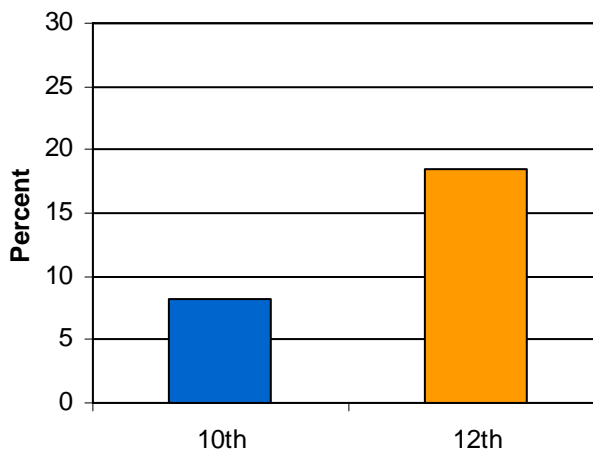
GRADE IN SCHOOL	
10th Grade TOTAL	8.2
Female	7.3
Male	8.8
12th Grade TOTAL	18.5
Female	16.6
Male	20.3
REGION	
Metro Chicago	12.5
Chicago	7.7
Suburban Chicago	14.0
Downstate	13.6
Other Urban Counties	15.2
Rural Counties	11.3
GENDER	
Female	11.5
Male	14.1
OVERALL	12.8

*Only 10th and 12th grades included

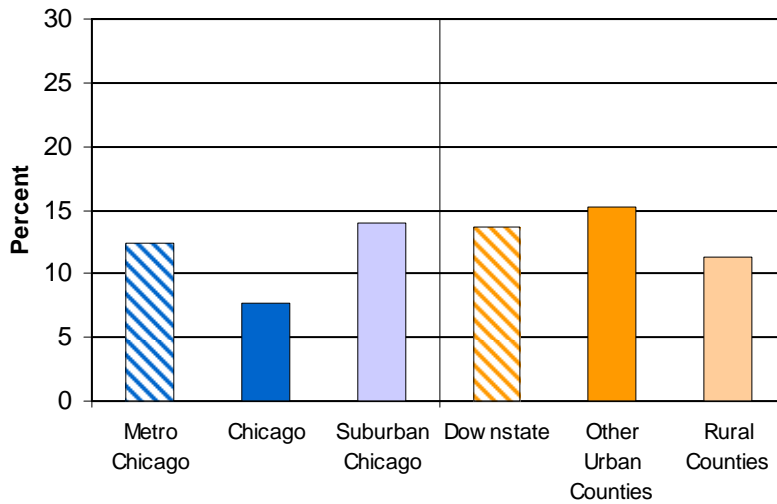
Past Year Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana or Other Illegal Drugs by Gender



Past Year Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana or Other Illegal Drugs by Grade



Past Year Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana or Other Illegal Drugs by Region



Chapter 6

Past Year Use of Other Specific Substances

This chapter discusses the past year use of other substances (e.g. cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine) among 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students. Focusing on past year use in these generally less used substances helps in comparisons among years, but can be confusing if one attempts to compare these rates with the “past month” rates used in chapters 1-5. In order to compare rates of illicit drug use with the previously reported substances, please refer to the Appendices, which give past year rates for all substances.

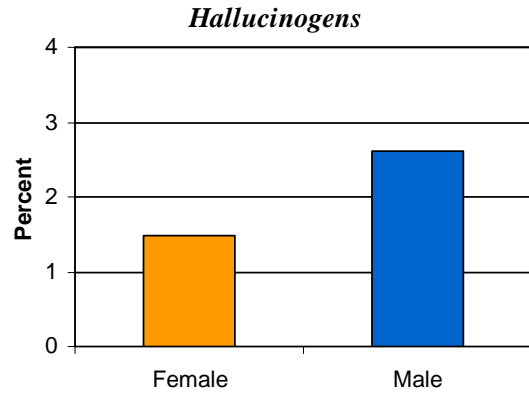
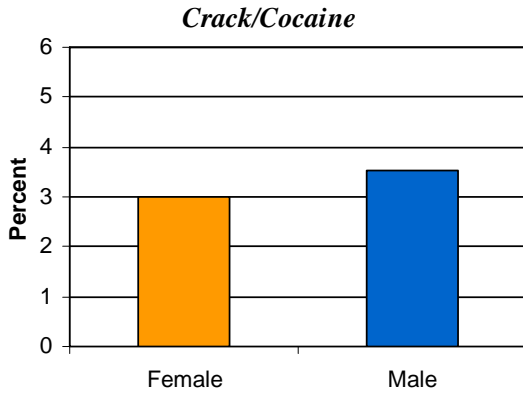
Crack/Cocaine and Hallucinogens

Table 6-1 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used crack/cocaine or hallucinogens in the past year.

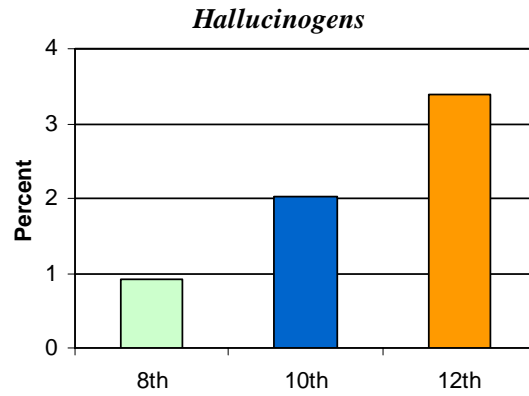
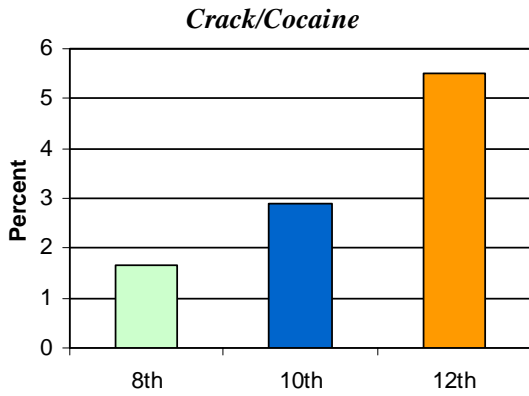
Table 6-1
Percent of Students Using
Specific Substances in the Past Year

	Specific Substance	
	Crack/Cocaine	Hallucinogens
GRADE IN SCHOOL		
8th Grade TOTAL	1.7	0.9
Female	2.2	1.1
Male	1.2	0.8
10th Grade TOTAL	2.9	2.0
Female	2.6	1.6
Male	3.2	2.4
12th Grade TOTAL	5.5	3.4
Female	4.5	1.9
Male	6.7	4.9
REGION		
Metro Chicago	3.4	2.1
Chicago	1.5	1.1
Suburban Chicago	4.1	2.4
Downstate	2.9	1.9
Other Urban Counties	3.3	1.9
Rural Counties	2.4	1.9
GENDER		
Female	3.0	1.5
Male	3.5	2.6
OVERALL		
	3.2	2.0

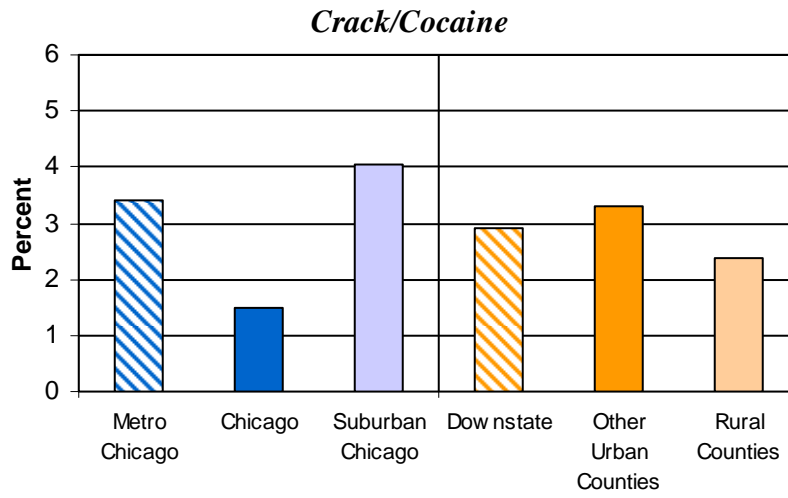
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Gender



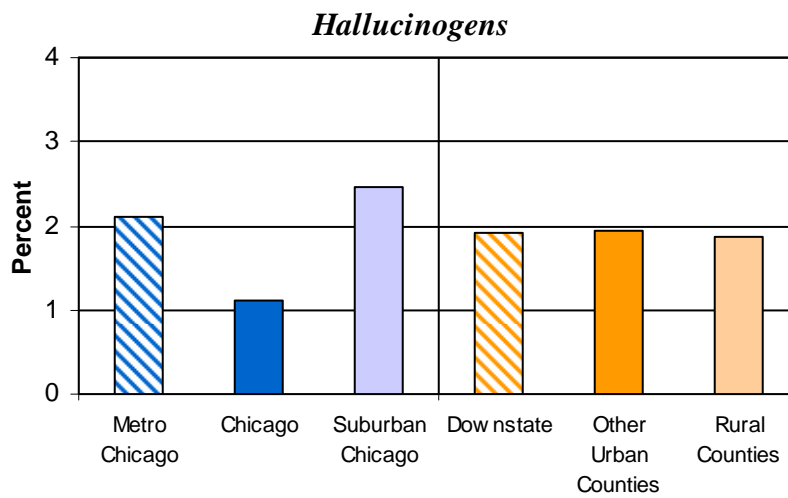
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Grade



Past Year Use of Crack/Cocaine by Region



Past Year Use of Hallucinogens by Region



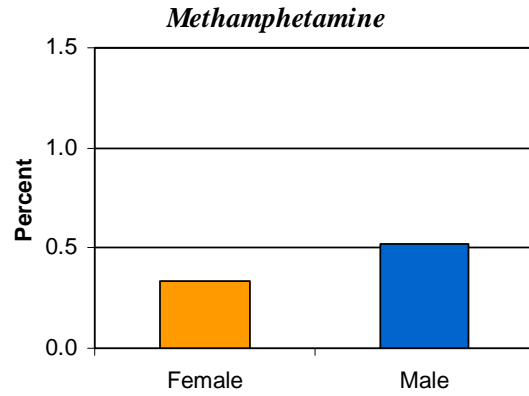
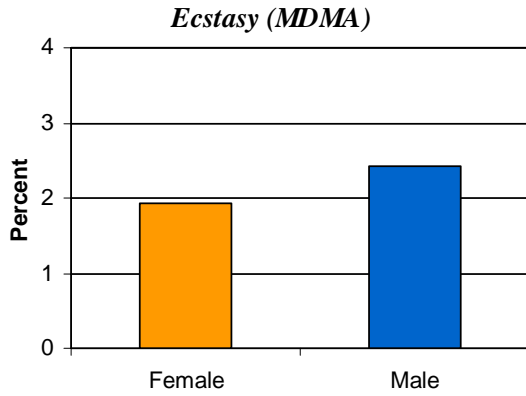
Ecstasy (MDMA) and Methamphetamine

Table 6-2 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used ecstasy (MDMA) or methamphetamine in the past year.

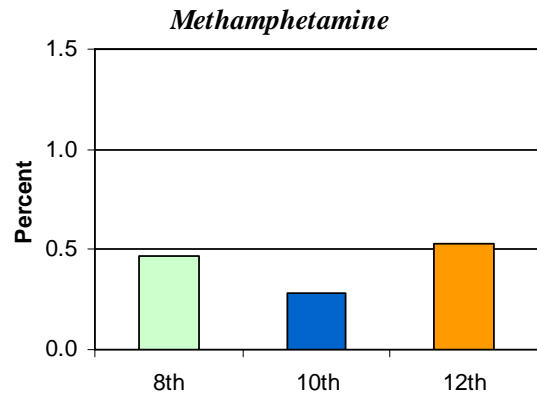
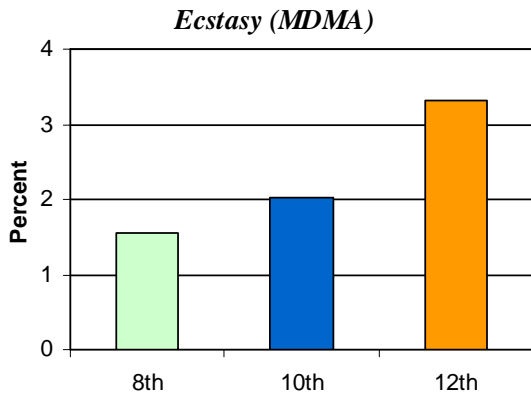
Table 6-2
Percent of Students Using
Specific Substances in the Past Year

	Specific Substance	
	Ecstasy (MDMA)	Methamphetamine
GRADE IN SCHOOL		
8th Grade TOTAL	1.6	0.5
Female	1.5	0.5
Male	1.2	0.5
10th Grade TOTAL	2.0	0.3
Female	1.8	0.2
Male	2.2	0.4
12th Grade TOTAL	3.3	0.5
Female	2.6	0.3
Male	4.1	0.7
REGION		
Metro Chicago	2.3	0.5
Chicago	1.5	0.5
Suburban Chicago	2.6	0.4
Downstate	2.1	0.4
Other Urban Counties	2.3	0.3
Rural Counties	1.7	0.5
GENDER		
Female	1.9	0.3
Male	2.4	0.5
OVERALL	2.2	0.4

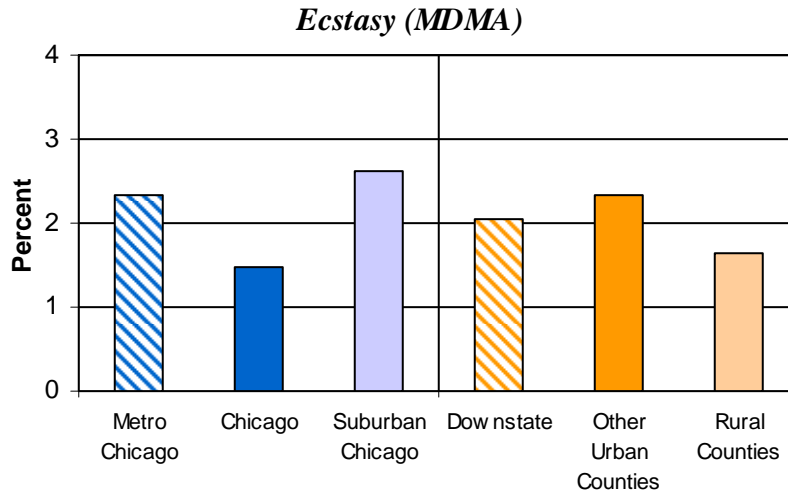
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Gender



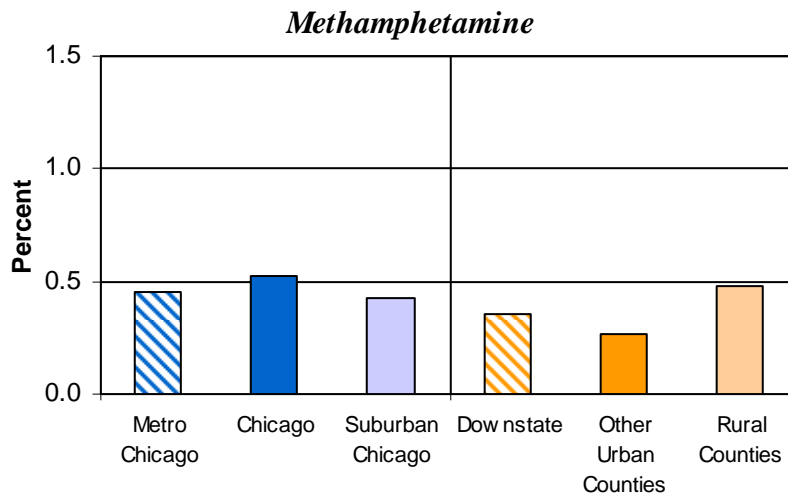
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Grade



Past Year Use of Ecstasy (MDMA) by Region



Past Year Use of Methamphetamine by Region



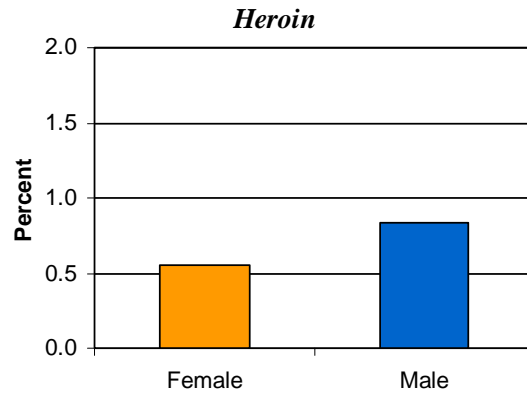
Heroin

Table 6-3 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used heroin in the past year.

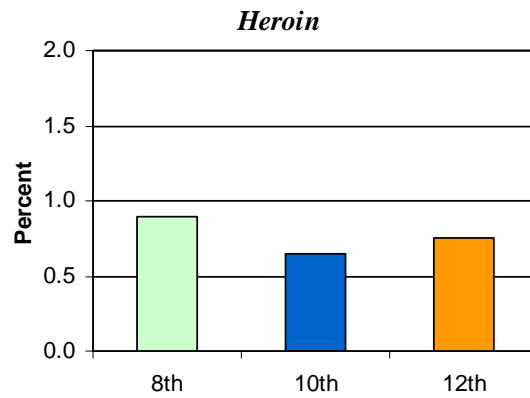
Table 6-3
Percent of Students Using Heroin in the Past Year

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
8th Grade TOTAL	0.9
Female	0.6
Male	0.7
10th Grade TOTAL	0.7
Female	0.4
Male	0.9
12th Grade TOTAL	0.8
Female	0.6
Male	0.9
REGION	
Metro Chicago	0.8
Chicago	0.8
Suburban Chicago	0.8
Downstate	0.6
Other Urban Counties	0.6
Rural Counties	0.6
GENDER	
Female	0.5
Male	0.8
OVERALL	0.8

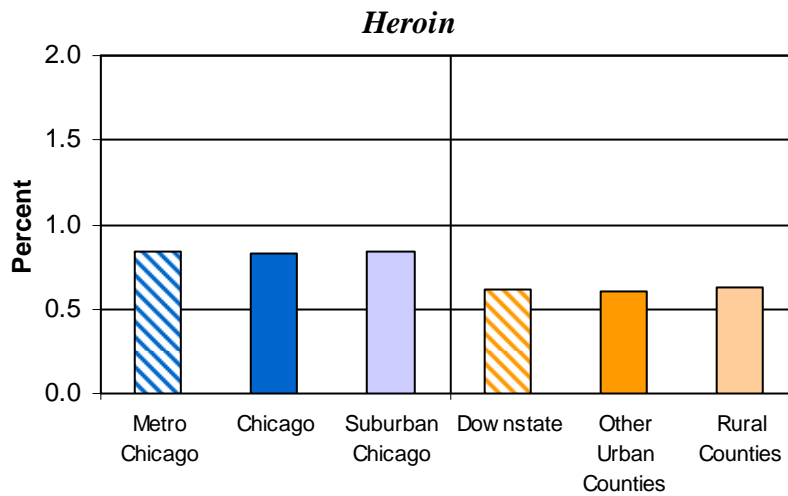
Past Year Use of Heroin by Gender



Past Year Use of Heroin by Grade



Past Year Use of Heroin by Region



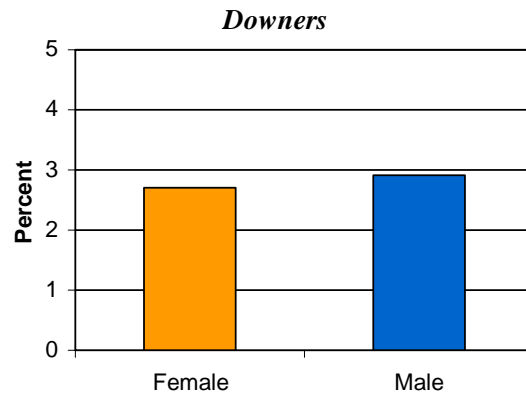
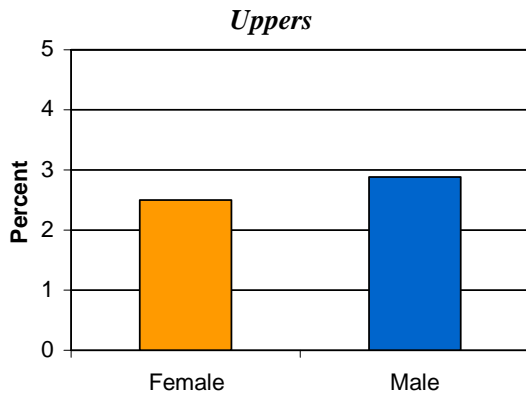
Uppers and Downers

Table 6-4 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used uppers or downers in the past year.

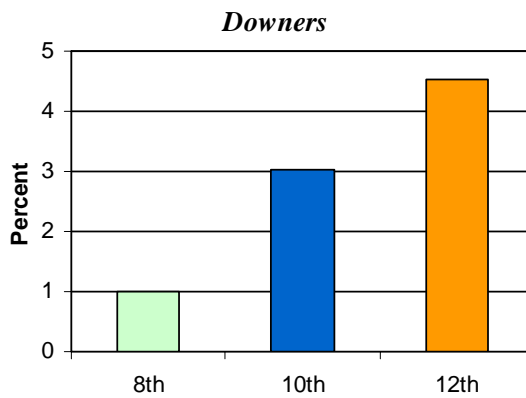
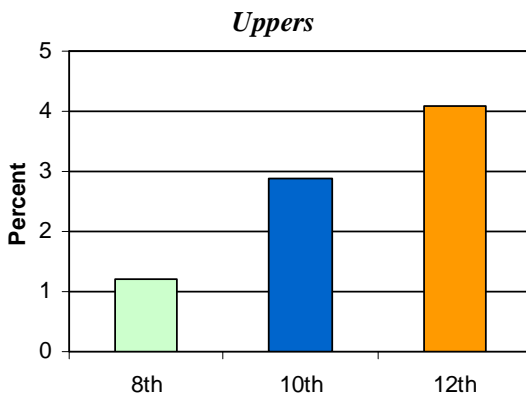
Table 6-4
Percent of Students Using
Specific Substances in the Past Year

	Specific Substance	
	Uppers	Downers
GRADE IN SCHOOL		
8th Grade TOTAL	1.2	1.0
Female	1.2	1.2
Male	1.3	0.9
10th Grade TOTAL	2.9	3.0
Female	2.6	2.9
Male	3.2	3.2
12th Grade TOTAL	4.1	4.5
Female	3.9	4.2
Male	4.3	4.9
REGION		
Metro Chicago	2.2	2.4
Chicago	1.3	1.2
Suburban Chicago	2.6	2.8
Downstate	3.5	3.5
Other Urban Counties	3.6	3.7
Rural Counties	3.4	3.3
GENDER		
Female	2.5	2.7
Male	2.9	2.9
OVERALL		
	2.7	2.8

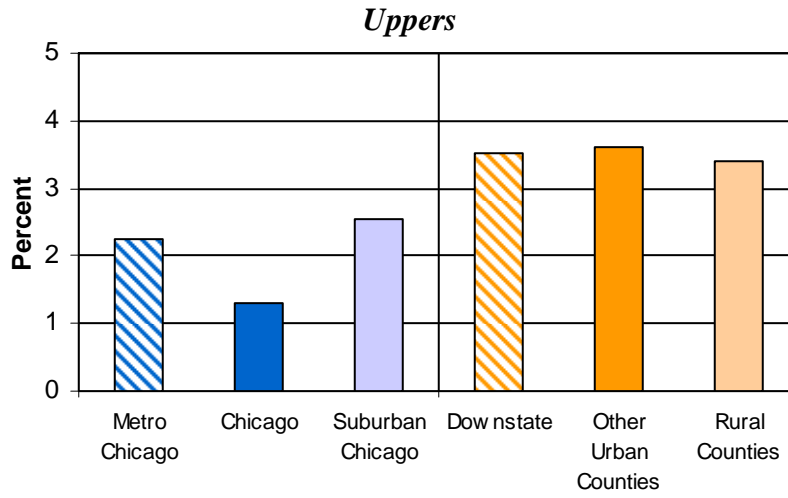
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Gender



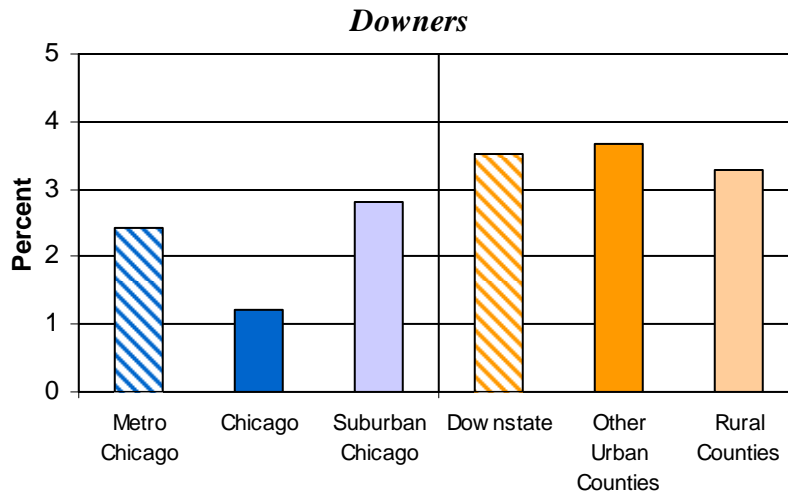
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Grade



Past Year Use of Uppers by Region



Past Year Use of Downers by Region



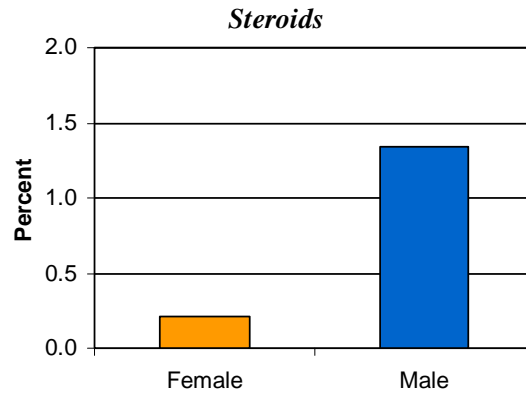
Steroids

Table 6-5 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used steroids in the past year.

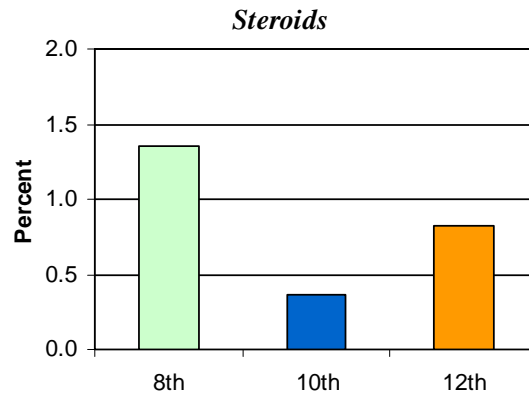
Table 6-5
Percent of Students Using
Steroids in the Past Year

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
8th Grade TOTAL	1.4
Female	0.3
Male	1.9
10th Grade TOTAL	0.4
Female	0.1
Male	0.6
12th Grade TOTAL	0.8
Female	0.2
Male	1.5
REGION	
Metro Chicago	0.9
Chicago	0.4
Suburban Chicago	1.0
Downstate	0.8
Other Urban Counties	0.8
Rural Counties	0.7
GENDER	
Female	0.2
Male	1.3
OVERALL	0.8

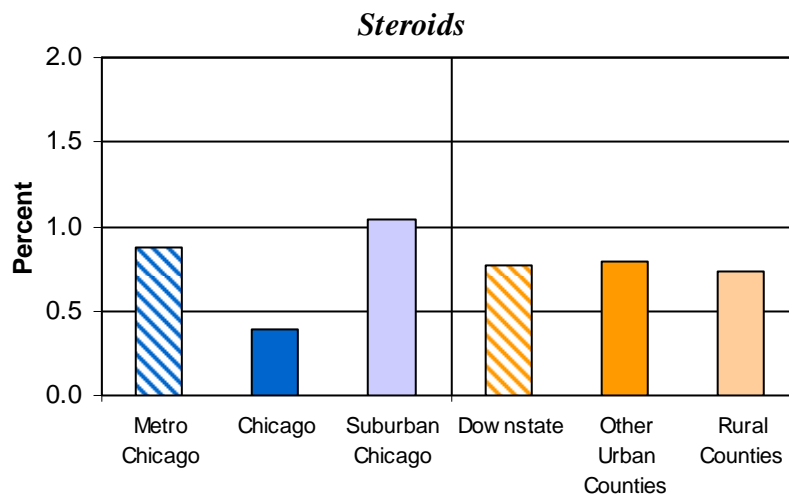
Past Year Use of Steroids by Gender



Past Year Use of Steroids by Grade



Past Year Use of Steroids by Region



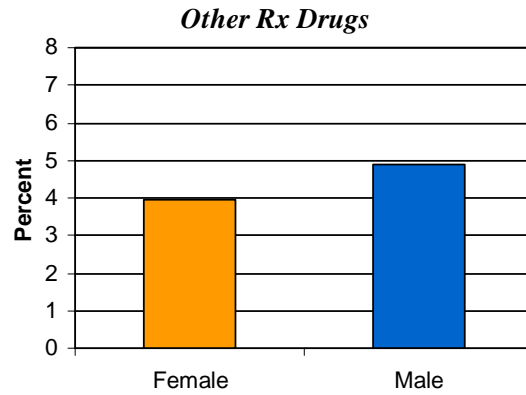
Other Prescription Drugs

A wording change in the survey question about “Other Prescription Drugs” in 2008 makes comparison to previous years invalid. In 2006 there was one question about use of “Pain Pills (OxyContin, Ketamine, etc.)” and another about use of “Other Prescription Drugs”. In 2008, the “Pain Pills” question was eliminated and the two examples of OxyContin and Ketamine were used with the “Other Prescription Drugs” question. There was a substantial decrease in those who reported use of “Other Prescription Drugs” in 2008, but that change appears to be mainly due to the change in wording. Apparently the previous term “Pain Pills” was interpreted by some students to include over-the-counter pain medicines. If so, then the 2008 results for that question are more valid than the 2006 results. *Table 6-6* below presents the 2008 figures.

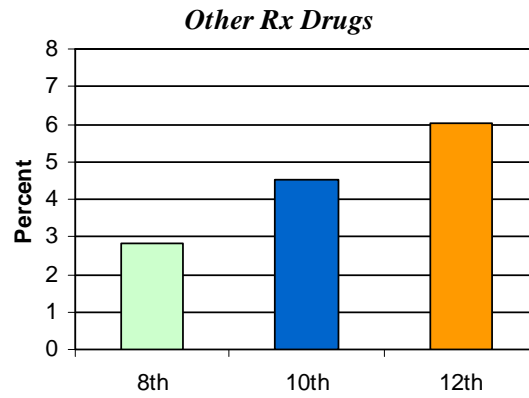
*Table 6-6
Percent of Students Using
Other Rx Drugs in the Past Year*

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
8th Grade TOTAL	2.8
Female	3.1
Male	2.6
10th Grade TOTAL	4.5
Female	4.4
Male	4.8
12th Grade TOTAL	6.0
Female	4.4
Male	7.8
REGION	
Metro Chicago	3.7
Chicago	2.1
Suburban Chicago	4.3
Downstate	5.7
Other Urban Counties	6.0
Rural Counties	5.3
GENDER	
Female	4.0
Male	4.9
OVERALL	4.4

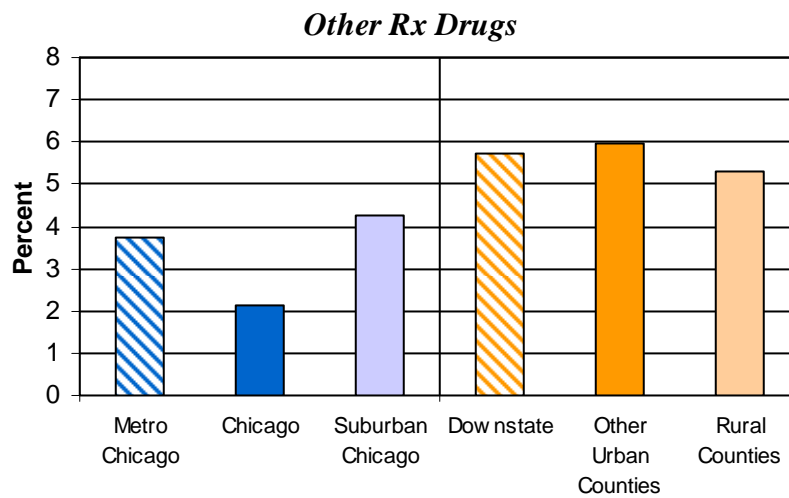
Past Year Use of Other Prescription Drugs by Gender



Past Year Use of Other Prescription Drugs by Grade



Past Year Use of Other Prescription Drugs by Region



OTC Performance Enhancers and OTC Weight Loss Aids

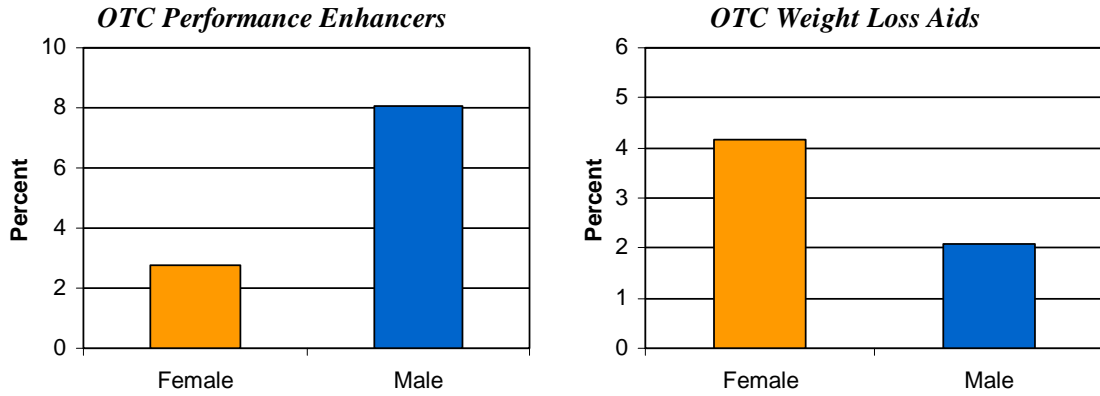
Table 6-7 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used over-the-counter (OTC) performance enhancing supplements or OTC weight loss aids in the past year.

Table 6-7
Percent of Students Using
Specific Substances in the Past Year

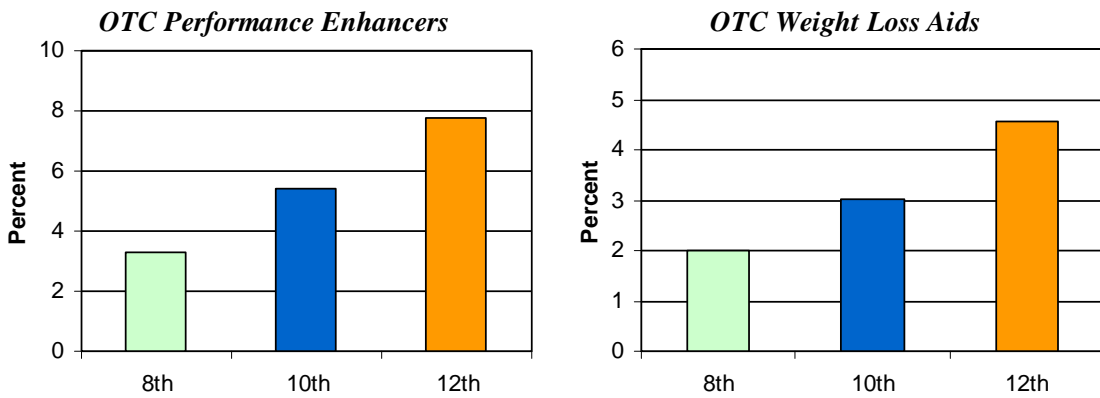
	Specific Substance	
	OTC Performance Enhancing Supplements	OTC Weight Loss Aids
GRADE IN SCHOOL		
8th Grade TOTAL	3.3	2.0
Female	2.2	2.3
Male	4.5	1.8
10th Grade TOTAL	5.4	3.0
Female	3.5	4.6
Male	7.3	1.2
12th Grade TOTAL	7.7	4.6
Female	2.6	5.8
Male	13.1	3.4
REGION		
Metro Chicago	5.3	2.8
Chicago	3.4	2.0
Suburban Chicago	5.9	3.1
Downstate	5.6	3.8
Other Urban Counties	5.8	3.8
Rural Counties	5.3	3.7
GENDER		
Female	2.8	4.2
Male	8.1	2.1
OVERALL	5.4	3.1

The past year use rate for OTC performance enhancers among males continues to be much higher than that among females. The use rate for OTC weight loss aids among males continues to be lower than that among females.

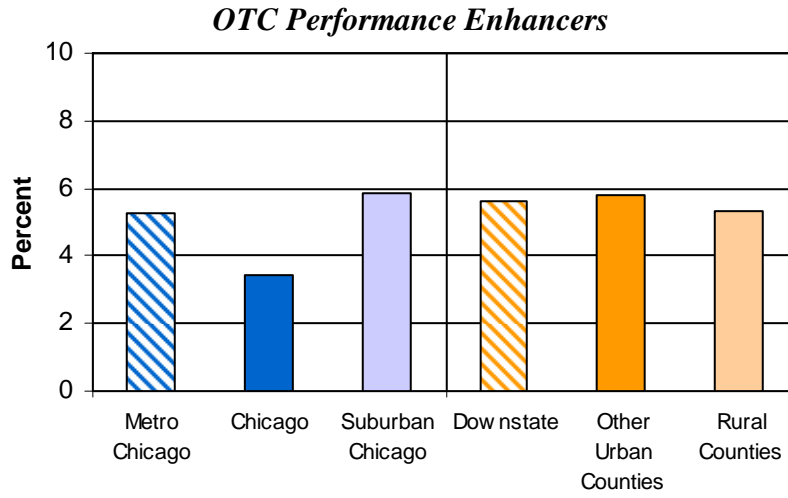
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Gender



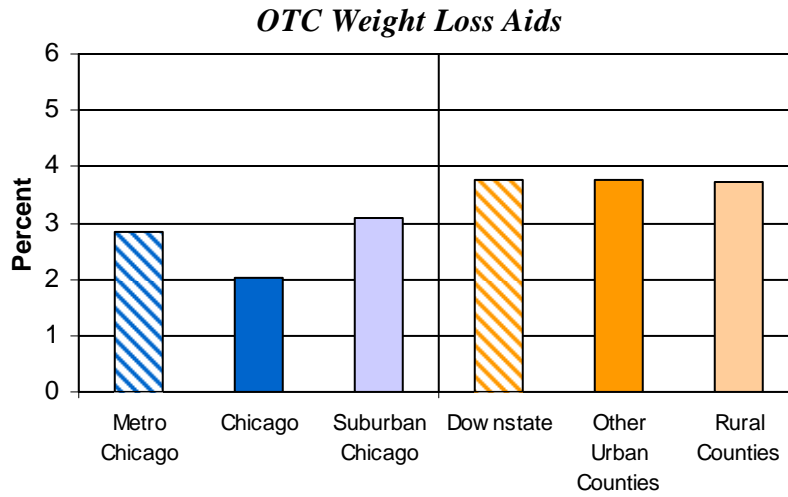
Past Year Use of Specific Substances by Grade



Past Year Use of OTC Performance Enhancers by Region



Past Year Use of OTC Weight Loss Aids by Region



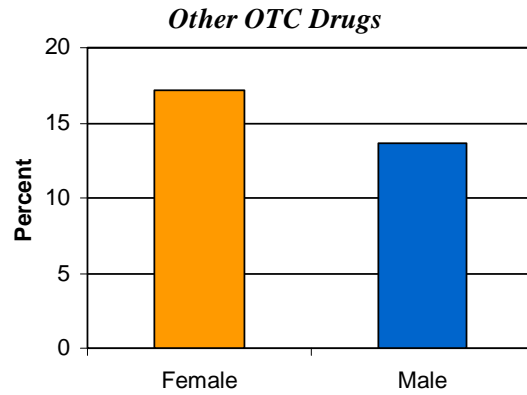
Other Over-the-Counter (OTC) Drugs

A question about use of “Other over-the-counter drugs (cough syrup, etc.)” was added to the IYS in 2008. **Table 6-8** shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students who reported in 2008 that they had used other over-the-counter drugs for a non-medical purpose in the past year.

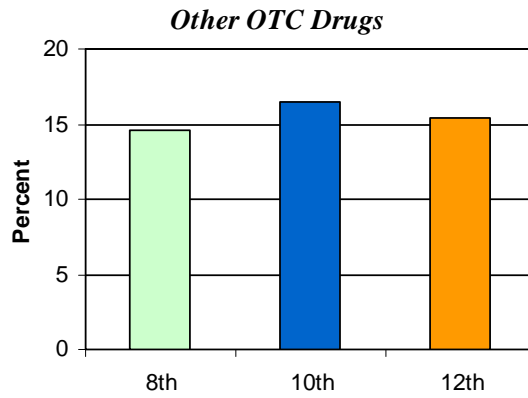
Table 6-8
Percent of Students Using
Other OTC Drugs in the Past Year

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
8th Grade TOTAL	14.6
Female	17.6
Male	11.3
10th Grade TOTAL	16.5
Female	18.9
Male	13.9
12th Grade TOTAL	15.4
Female	14.7
Male	16.1
REGION	
Metro Chicago	15.7
Chicago	15.0
Suburban Chicago	16.0
Downstate	15.0
Other Urban Counties	15.3
Rural Counties	14.6
GENDER	
Female	17.2
Male	13.6
OVERALL	15.5

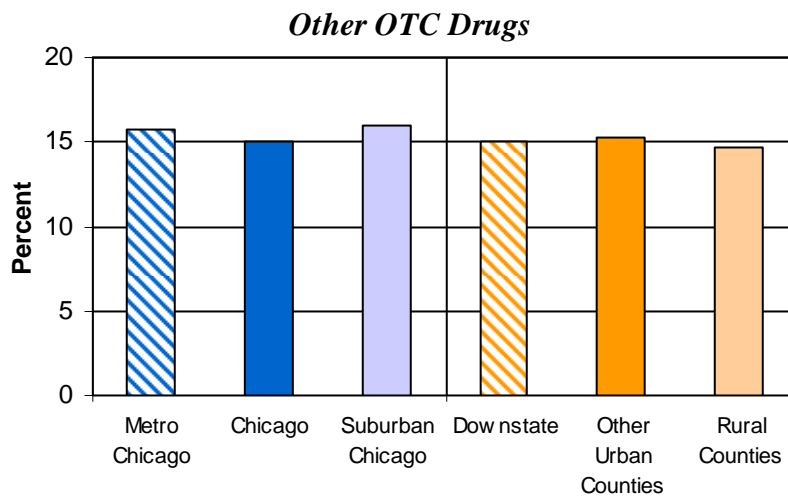
Past Year Use of Other Over-the-Counter Drugs by Gender



Past Year Use of Other Over-the-Counter Drugs by Grade



Past Year Use of Other Over-the-Counter Drugs by Region



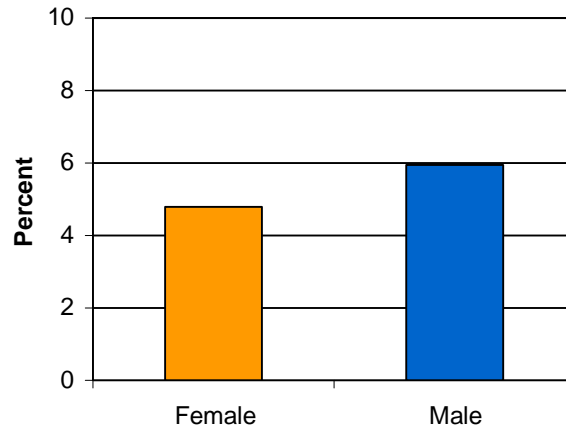
Chapter 7 ***Any Illicit Drug Use (Excluding Marijuana)***

Table 7-1 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used any illicit substance (excluding marijuana) in the past year. These percentages include only illicit substances (crack/cocaine, hallucinogens, ecstasy, methamphetamine, or heroin), and not prescription drugs used without a prescription.

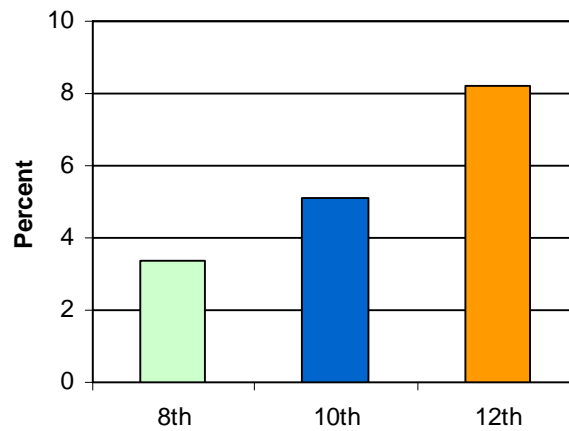
Table 7-1
Percent of Students Using
Any Illicit (Excluding Marijuana) in the Past Year

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
8th Grade TOTAL	3.4
Female	3.8
Male	2.4
10th Grade TOTAL	5.1
Female	4.5
Male	5.6
12th Grade TOTAL	8.2
Female	6.2
Male	10.4
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	5.5
Chicago	3.2
Suburban Chicago	6.3
Downstate	5.2
Other Urban Counties	5.7
Rural Counties	4.6
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	4.8
Male	5.9
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	5.4

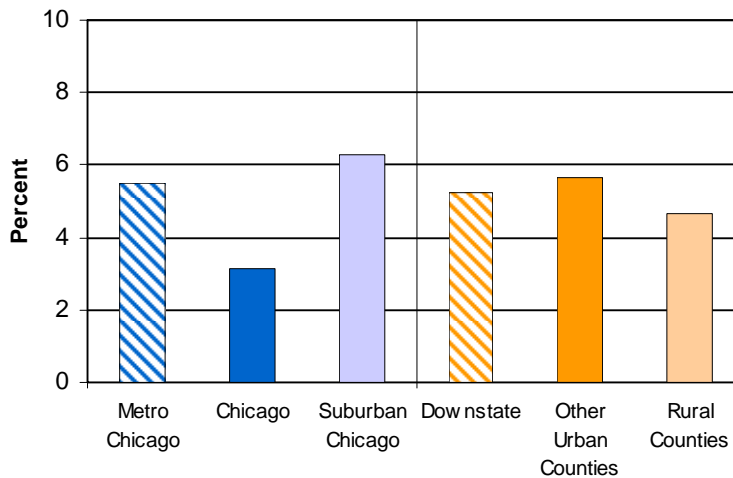
Past Year Use of Any Illicit Substance (Excluding Marijuana) by Gender



Past Year Use of Any Illicit Substance (Excluding Marijuana) by Grade



Past Year Use of Any Illicit Substance (Excluding Marijuana) by Region



Chapter 8

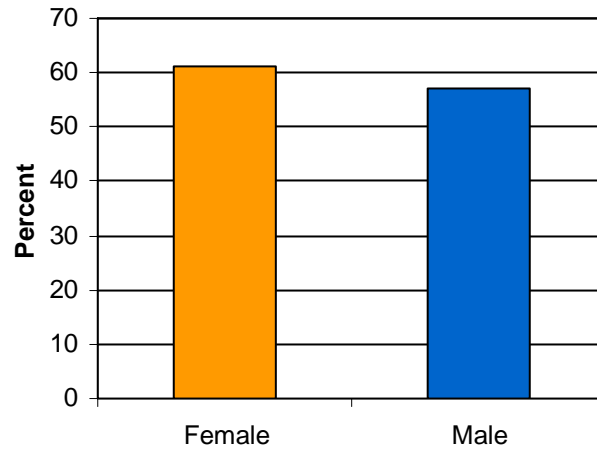
Any Substance Use

Table 8-1 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in 2008 who had used any substance in the past year. “Any substance” includes alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs, or prescription drugs used without a prescription. Over-the-counter drugs are not included.

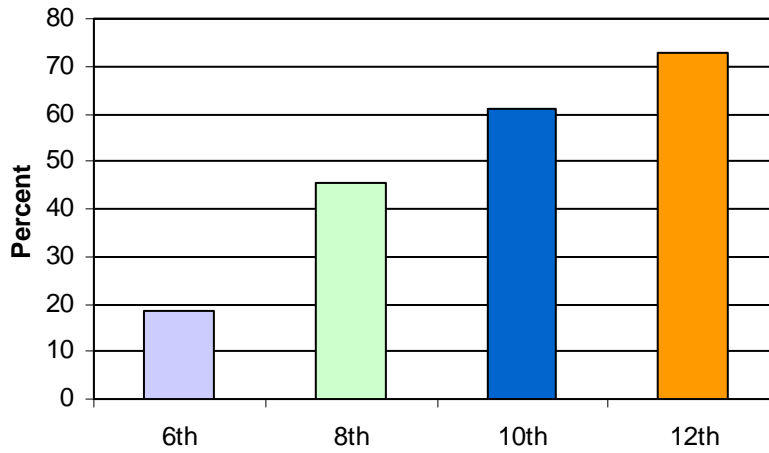
Table 8-1
Percent of Students Using
Any Substance in the Past Year

GRADE IN SCHOOL	
6th Grade TOTAL	18.4
Female	17.0
Male	20.2
8th Grade TOTAL	45.6
Female	47.9
Male	42.9
10th Grade TOTAL	61.0
Female	63.6
Male	58.5
12th Grade TOTAL	73.0
Female	73.1
Male	72.8
REGION (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Metro Chicago	59.3
Chicago	58.9
Suburban Chicago	59.5
Downstate	58.9
Other Urban Counties	60.2
Rural Counties	57.1
GENDER (8th/10th/12th Combined)	
Female	61.0
Male	57.3
OVERALL (8th/10th/12th)	59.2

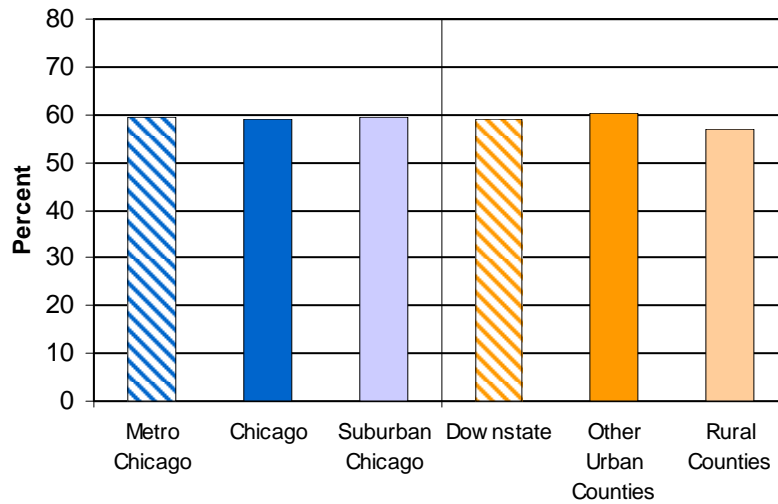
Any Substance Use by Gender (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Any Substance Use by Grade



Any Substance Use by Region (8th/10th/12th Combined)



Chapter 9 *Variation by Race Group*

Survey results have long provided clear evidence that youth of any race may use alcohol and other drugs, but that the particular drugs used may vary among racial or ethnic groups. This chapter provides details of such variation, with two limitations. One is that the results in this chapter are from only the “Metro Chicago” half of the state sample used for this report. The reason for this is that the “Downstate” part of the sample, particularly the part from rural counties, doesn’t include enough diversity for valid analysis. This is because the survey reflects the population, and the population in those counties is less diverse than in urban areas. The second limitation is that even in the Metro Chicago data, only three race groups have enough members to show results that can validly represent group differences. Those three are White, African-American, and Latino. In the survey these are treated as distinct racial groups. The survey question asks, “What is your race?”, and the response choices are “White”, “Black/African American”, “Latino/Latina”, “Asian American”, “Native American/American Indian”, “Multi-racial”, and “Other”. Of the 4,105 students in the 2008 Metro Chicago sample, all but 277 were in one of the three main groups.

Table 9-1 shows the percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade Hispanic, African American, and White students in 2008 from the Metro Chicago region who had used the indicated substances in the past year or in the past month.

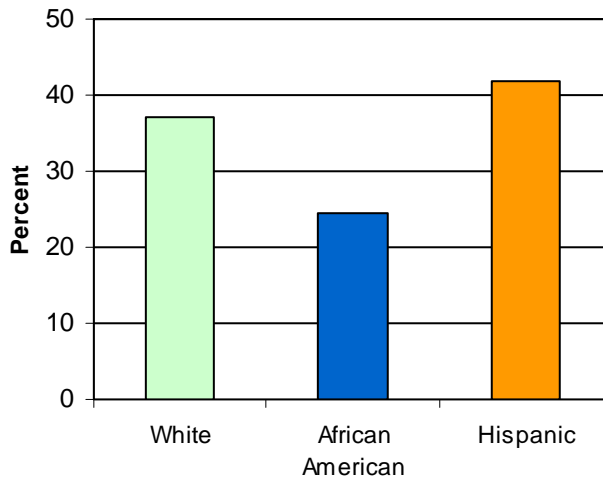
Table 9-1
Percent of Metro Chicago Students
Using Indicated Substance

	Race Group		
	White	African American	Hispanic
	Used Past Year		
Any Substance	59.3	53.0	66.7
Alcohol	56.4	46.2	64.7
Cigarettes	19.5	7.8	21.9
Other Tobacco Products	17.7	11.2	17.9
Inhalants	6.3	6.1	9.6
Marijuana	23.5	26.0	27.6
Any Illicit (Ex. MJ)*	6.6	2.6	5.8
Crack/Cocaine	3.9	1.0	4.8
Hallucinogens	3.4	0.8	0.8
Ecstasy	2.8	1.8	1.8
Methamphetamine	0.2	0.7	0.5
Heroin	0.4	1.5	1.3
Any Prescription Drug	8.1	3.7	2.9
Uppers	3.7	0.6	0.8
Downers	3.8	0.9	0.9
Steroids	0.7	1.5	0.5
Other Rx Drugs	5.3	1.7	1.7
OTC Perform. Enh. [†]	6.6	2.9	4.7
OTC Weight Loss Aids	3.4	1.3	2.9
Other OTC Drugs	15.6	14.9	15.2
	Used Past Month		
Alcohol	37.0	24.4	41.9
Cigarettes	14.2	4.8	10.9
Other Tobacco Products	11.3	5.6	8.2
Inhalants	2.8	4.6	6.2
Marijuana	14.4	16.1	15.7

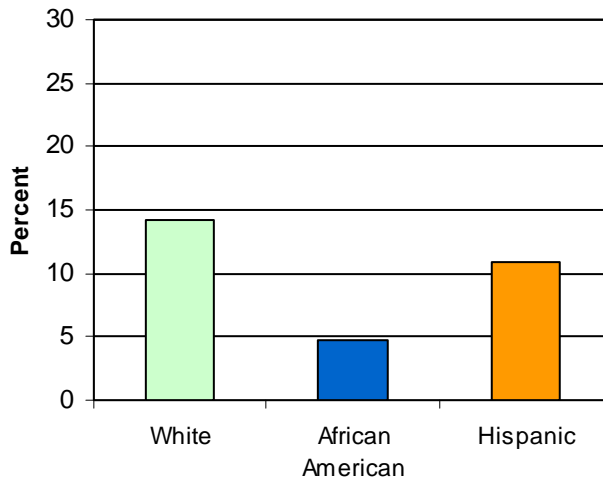
*Any Illicit Substance (Excluding Marijuana): See Report Chapter 8 for details

[†]Over-the-Counter Performance Enhancement Supplements

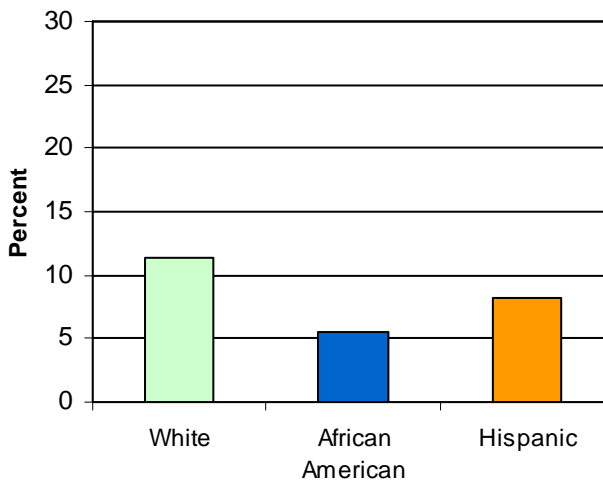
Past Month Alcohol Use by Metro Chicago Race Group



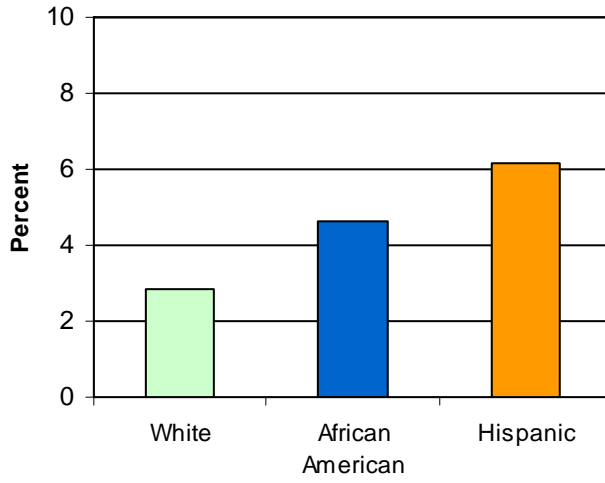
Past Month Cigarette Smoking by Metro Chicago Race Group



Past Month Use of Other Tobacco Products by Metro Chicago Race Group



Past Month Inhalant Use by Metro Chicago Race Group



Past Month Marijuana Use by Metro Chicago Race Group

