

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Report

December 2012

Survey sponsored by South Windsor Alliance for Families and East of the River Action for Substance Abuse Elimination (ERASE)



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Introduction

This report summarizes data collected from students in May 2012 at Timothy Edwards Middle School and South Windsor High School, located in South Windsor, Connecticut. Although this survey was administered in the schools in order to ensure a representative sample of youth, it is stressed that the findings presented in this report are reflective of the community of Somers as a whole and not just its schools. The results from this survey will be used for planning and development of strategies, policies and practices in Somers.

Survey Instrument

The survey instrument used has been adapted from the Governor's Prevention Initiative for Youth (GPIY) Student Survey which was originally administered throughout Connecticut in 2000.

Survey Consent

The South Windsor Youth Survey 2012 was administered on May 24 and May 29, 2012 to students from Timothy Edwards Middle School and South Windsor High School. Students' guardians received letters notifying them of the purpose and content of the survey and they were able to return a signed "passive consent" form to the school if they did not want their child(ren) to participate. Youth were also able to decline on their own to take the survey by simply not answering the questions and a few did so.

Survey Administration

The survey was administered as paper copies during class time. To avoid selection bias, subjects which all students are required to take were chosen for survey sampling. The survey was given under the supervision of South Windsor Public Schools teachers. The teachers received a set of instructions to read to the students prior to administering the survey. The instructions informed students that participation in the survey was voluntary and anonymous. Students who chose to not participate in the survey were asked to remain quiet while the remainder of the class completed the survey. Responses from the paper copies were entered onto the SurveyMonkey.com website by contracted college students.

Data Processing

Data were exported from the SurveyMonkey.com® web site as an SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) dataset.

Weighting

Data were weighted based upon the inverse of the participation rate for each grade. For example, if the participation rate for a particular grade was 90% the weight for that grade was 1.1 (1/0.9).

Survey Participation

Responses were collected from a total of 1732 youth. Responses from a total of 36 youth (2.1%) were excluded because youth declined to complete the survey, provided inconsistent responses, failed to answer core substance use questions or did not report a grade. The data presented in this report are from the remaining 1696 youth who completed the survey. Grade specific participation rates ranged from 56% to 87% with an overall rate of 67% .

Key Findings

Substance Use

- ✓ Overall, the most commonly used substance among South Windsor youth is alcohol.
- ✓ The most commonly used illicit substance is marijuana.
- ✓ The most commonly abused illicit drug, other than marijuana, is synthetic marijuana.
- ✓ Pain medications are the most commonly misused type of prescription medications.
- ✓ About 20% of youth report that they have a parent or guardian who smokes cigarettes.
- ✓ About 75% of youth report that they have a parent or guardian who drinks alcohol.
- ✓ About 20% of youth report that a family member has used alcohol in such a way that it has caused problems.

Age of Initiation

- ✓ For cigarettes, other tobacco, alcohol and marijuana, the largest percentage of youth report having first used between the ages of 14 and 15 which generally corresponds to grades 8 and 9.
- ✓ For all substances, the mean age of initiation among users is between 14.0 and 14.6 years.

Perception of Harm

- ✓ For all grades, perception of harm tends to be highest for cigarettes and prescription medications.
- ✓ Among youth in grades 6-8, perception of harm tends to be lowest for alcohol.
- ✓ Among youth in grades 9-12, perception of harm tends to be lowest for marijuana.

Perceived Parental Disapproval

- ✓ Most youth think their parents feel it would be "very wrong" for them to use tobacco, alcohol, marijuana or prescription drugs.
- ✓ For all substances, perceived parental disapproval tends to decline with increasing grade.
- ✓ The decline tends to be the smallest for prescription drugs.
- ✓ Perceived parental disapproval rates tend to be higher than perceived peer disapproval rates.

Perceived Peer Disapproval

- ✓ For all substances, perceived peer disapproval tends to decline with increasing grade.
- ✓ The decline tends to be largest for marijuana and smallest for prescription drugs.
- ✓ For all substances, perceived peer disapproval tends to be lower than perceived parental disapproval.

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Attitude Toward Peer Alcohol Use

- ✓ The percentage of youth who strongly disapprove of someone their age having 1 or 2 drinks nearly everyday ranges from about 46% among youth in grades 10-12 to 92% among youth in grade 6.

Rules

- ✓ Overall, most youth report that their family definitely has clear rules discouraging their use of cigarettes or tobacco, their drinking of alcoholic beverages, their use of marijuana and their misuse of prescription drugs.
- ✓ The percentage of youth who report that their family definitely has clear rules tends to decline with increasing grade.
- ✓ The decline is greatest for alcohol use.
- ✓ Most youth report that they are usually punished if they break their parents' rules. However, 9-30% of youth report that it is "definitely not true" or "mostly not true" that they are disciplined if they break their parents rules.

Sources of Alcohol

- ✓ Among youth in grade 7, parents with permission is the most common source of alcohol.
- ✓ Among youth in grades 8-12, friends is the most common source.

Factors Influencing Alcohol Use

- ✓ Among youth in grades 7-9, curiosity is the most commonly cited factor influencing alcohol use.
- ✓ The top three factors influencing alcohol use among youth in grades 10-12 are curiosity, friends/peer pressure and boredom.

Location of Alcohol Use

- ✓ Among recent drinkers in grades 9-12, the most commonly cited location for recent alcohol consumption is "on the street, in the woods or in parks or fields".
- ✓ About 5% of youth in grades 9-12 report having consumed alcohol while driving in the past month.

School

- ✓ Nearly all youth (>90%) say it is "mostly true" or "definitely true" that they try hard to do good work at school.
- ✓ About 6% of youth report that they do not feel safe at school
- ✓ Nearly all youth (>85%) feel encouraged and supported by teachers and other school staff to do their best.

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Community

- ✓ 37% of youth feel that a lot of drugs are sold in their community (definitely true + mostly true).
- ✓ 51% of youth feel that a lot of kids in their community are into using marijuana and other drugs (definitely true + mostly true).
- ✓ Among youth in grade 6, alcohol education in school, parental strictness and checking IDs are considered the most effective strategies for preventing youth from drinking alcohol.
- ✓ Youth in grades 7 and 8 agree that checking IDs and parental strictness are effective but also consider friends who don't drink to be among the top 3 strategies.
- ✓ High school youth consider checking IDs, having a license suspended and friends who do not drink to be the 3 most effective strategies.

Social Supports

- ✓ In all grades except 6, the largest percentage of youth report that they "always/almost always" talk to a friend when they have a problem that bothers them.
- ✓ Among youth in grade 6 the largest percentage report that they "always/almost always" talk to a parent or guardian.

Gambling

- ✓ Overall, 22% of youth report having gambled in their lifetime and 6% report having gambled in the past 30 days.
- ✓ Overall, 6% of lifetime gamblers report having been untruthful about their gambling and 5% report having thought or been told they might have a problem with gambling.

Data Tables and Discussion

Demographics

Table 1. Grade of Participants Included in Analysis

Grade	Official Enrollment (n)	Survey Participants (n)	Participation Rate (%)	Percent of Sample
6	383	232	61%	14%
7	366	319	87%	19%
8	354	224	63%	13%
9	365	250	68%	15%
10	334	186	56%	11%
11	377	230	61%	14%
12	368	255	69%	15%
All	2547	1696	67%	100%

The 1696 youth included in the analysis were relatively evenly distributed among grades 6-12 (Table 1). Grade specific participation rates ranged from 56% among 10th grade youth to 87% among 7th grade youth. The overall participation rate for all grades was 67%.

Table 2. Gender of Participants Included in Analysis

Gender	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
<i>Female</i>	787	46%
<i>Male</i>	852	50%
<i>Missing</i>	57	3%
<i>Total</i>	1696	100%

Table 3. Race and Ethnicity of Participants Included in Analysis

Race/Ethnicity	Frequency (n)	Percent *
<i>White/Caucasian</i>	1344	79%
<i>Black/African American</i>	98	6%
<i>Asian/Pacific Islander</i>	179	11%
<i>Native American</i>	33	2%
<i>Hispanic / Latino</i>	119	7%
<i>Other</i>	49	3%

* More than one answer was allowed, sum of percentages may total more than 100%

Most youth (79%) described themselves as White/ Caucasian (Table 3). About 11% of youth described themselves as Asian/Pacific Islander.

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Substance Use

Table 4. Reported Use Rates for Various Substances

Substance	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cigarettes							
<i>Never</i>	99.1%	98.7%	92.0%	92.3%	83.8%	80.0%	65.1%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.9%	1.3%	8.0%	7.7%	16.2%	20.0%	34.9%
<i>Recent</i>	0.4%	0.9%	1.3%	3.2%	8.1%	8.7%	18.8%
Other Tobacco Products							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	97.3%	98.8%	88.7%	84.8%	71.7%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	2.7%	1.2%	11.3%	15.2%	28.3%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%	0.4%	4.3%	8.7%	11.4%
Cigarettes or Tobacco							
<i>Never</i>	99.1%	98.7%	90.5%	91.9%	81.7%	72.6%	57.5%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.9%	1.3%	9.5%	8.1%	18.3%	27.4%	42.5%
<i>Recent</i>	0.4%	0.9%	1.4%	3.6%	9.2%	13.9%	24.8%
Alcohol							
<i>Never</i>	99.1%	95.5%	91.8%	75.8%	57.2%	41.0%	34.5%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.9%	4.5%	8.2%	24.2%	42.8%	59.0%	65.5%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	7.8%	20.6%	36.2%	44.8%
Marijuana							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.4%	95.9%	88.3%	74.9%	66.8%	53.7%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.6%	4.1%	11.7%	25.1%	33.2%	46.3%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	2.3%	4.0%	13.7%	19.2%	29.0%
A prescription drug for the purpose of getting high							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.4%	97.8%	97.2%	92.4%	92.5%	90.6%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.6%	2.2%	2.8%	7.6%	7.5%	9.4%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%	3.8%	1.8%	2.0%

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Table 4. Reported Use Rates for Various Substances (continued)

Substance	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Pain Medication							
<i>Never</i>	96.5%	96.2%	91.3%	92.5%	89.9%	88.4%	84.3%
<i>Lifetime</i>	3.5%	3.8%	8.7%	7.5%	10.1%	11.6%	15.7%
<i>Recent</i>	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	3.3%	2.2%	0.4%	2.8%
Steroids							
<i>Never</i>	99.6%	99.7%	99.5%	98.8%	98.9%	99.1%	98.8%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	1.2%	1.1%	0.9%	1.2%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.4%
Downers							
<i>Never</i>	98.2%	98.4%	96.3%	93.8%	92.2%	92.4%	90.8%
<i>Lifetime</i>	1.8%	1.6%	3.7%	6.3%	7.8%	7.6%	9.2%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	1.7%	2.8%	1.3%	2.0%
Tranquilizers							
<i>Never</i>	99.6%	100.0%	100.0%	98.3%	97.8%	98.7%	94.8%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	2.2%	1.3%	5.2%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
Uppers							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	99.5%	98.3%	97.2%	95.5%	94.4%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	1.7%	2.8%	4.5%	5.6%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.8%	1.6%
Cocaine							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	100.0%	99.6%	98.9%	97.8%	96.8%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	.3%	0.0%	0.4%	1.1%	2.2%	3.2%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.8%
Crack Cocaine							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	99.5%	99.6%	100.0%	100.0%	99.6%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

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Table 4. Reported Use Rates for Various Substances (continued)

Substance	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Ecstasy							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	99.5%	98.8%	98.3%	96.4%	94.8%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	1.2%	1.7%	3.6%	5.2%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.9%	2.4%
Hallucinogens							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	99.5%	98.4%	95.6%	95.6%	96.0%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	1.6%	4.4%	4.4%	4.0%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	2.7%	0.4%	0.0%
Heroin							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	100.0%	99.6%	98.9%	99.6%	98.4%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	1.1%	0.4%	1.6%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	.5%	0.0%	0.8%
Ketamine							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.4%	99.6%	99.6%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
GHB							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.2%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Methamphetamine							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.6%	98.9%	99.6%	100.0%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	1.1%	0.4%	0.0%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%

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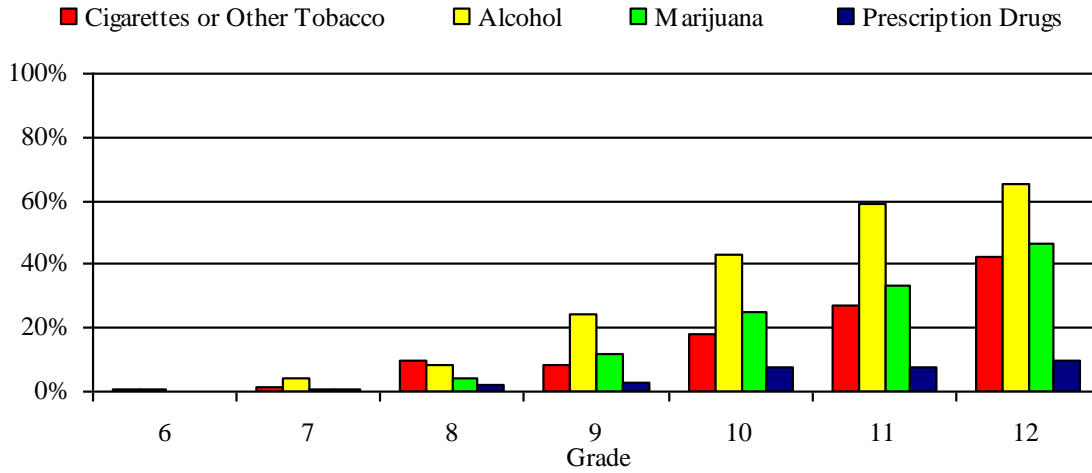
Table 4. Reported Use Rates for Various Substances (continued)

Substance	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Synthetic Marijuana							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	98.6%	94.2%	93.4%	91.6%	83.5%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	1.4%	5.8%	6.6%	8.4%	16.5%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%	1.7%	1.1%	1.3%	2.0%
Salvia							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	100.0%	99.5%	99.2%	97.2%	97.3%	90.8%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%	2.8%	2.7%	9.2%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Bath Salts							
<i>Never</i>	100.0%	99.7%	99.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.6%
<i>Lifetime</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
Inhalants							
<i>Never</i>	97.4%	96.2%	93.6%	95.1%	96.7%	96.5%	96.0%
<i>Lifetime</i>	2.6%	3.8%	6.4%	4.9%	3.3%	3.5%	4.0%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	0.6%	.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
OTC Medicines							
<i>Never</i>	97.3%	97.4%	97.7%	96.3%	96.6%	96.0%	95.2%
<i>Lifetime</i>	2.7%	2.6%	2.3%	3.8%	3.4%	4.0%	4.8%
<i>Recent</i>	0.9%	0.3%	0.9%	1.3%	1.1%	0.0%	0.4%
Energy Drinks							
<i>Never</i>	76.4%	66.2%	56.3%	50.6%	44.1%	41.9%	38.4%
<i>Lifetime</i>	23.6%	33.8%	43.8%	49.4%	55.9%	58.1%	61.6%
<i>Recent</i>	4.4%	11.4%	17.0%	16.5%	20.4%	24.5%	24.7%
Energy Drinks +Alcohol							
<i>Never</i>	98.2%	97.5%	96.0%	89.0%	78.4%	73.0%	70.6%
<i>Lifetime</i>	1.8%	2.5%	4.0%	11.0%	21.6%	27.0%	29.4%
<i>Recent</i>	0.0%	.3%	0.0%	4.1%	10.3%	13.0%	13.7%

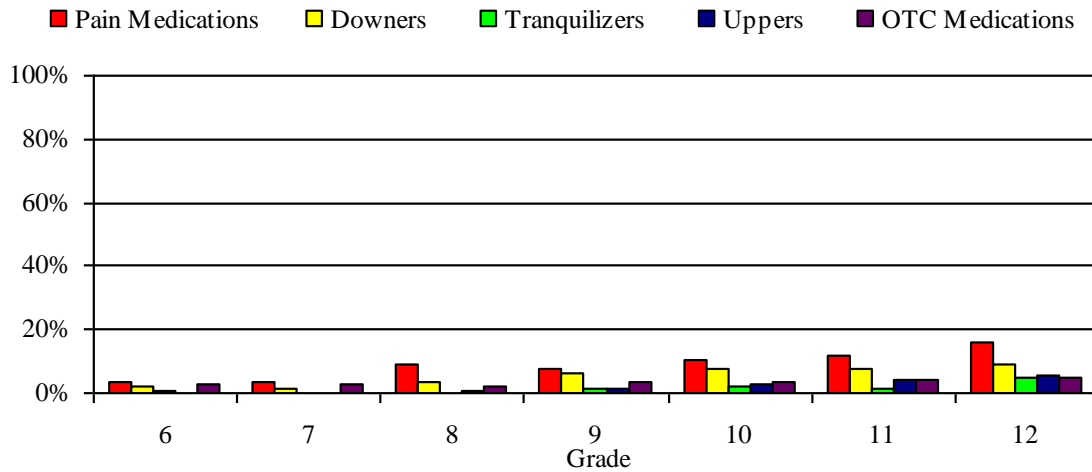
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Table 4 shows lifetime and recent use rates by grade for all substances addressed specifically in the survey. The figures below show lifetime use rates for those substances that are most widely used by South Windsor youth.

Percentage of Youth Reporting Lifetime Use of Core Substances

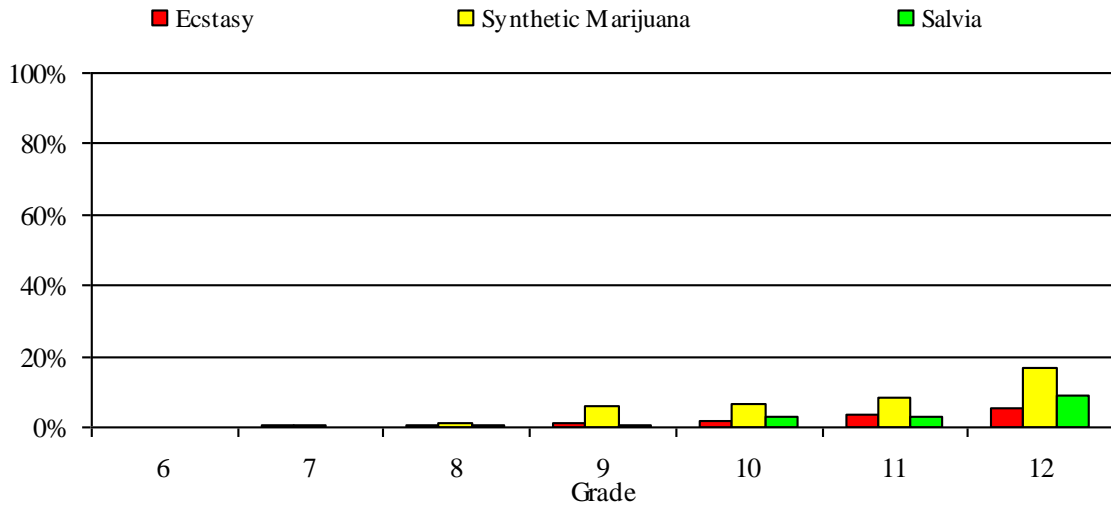


Percentage of Youth Reporting Lifetime Misuse of Legal Medications

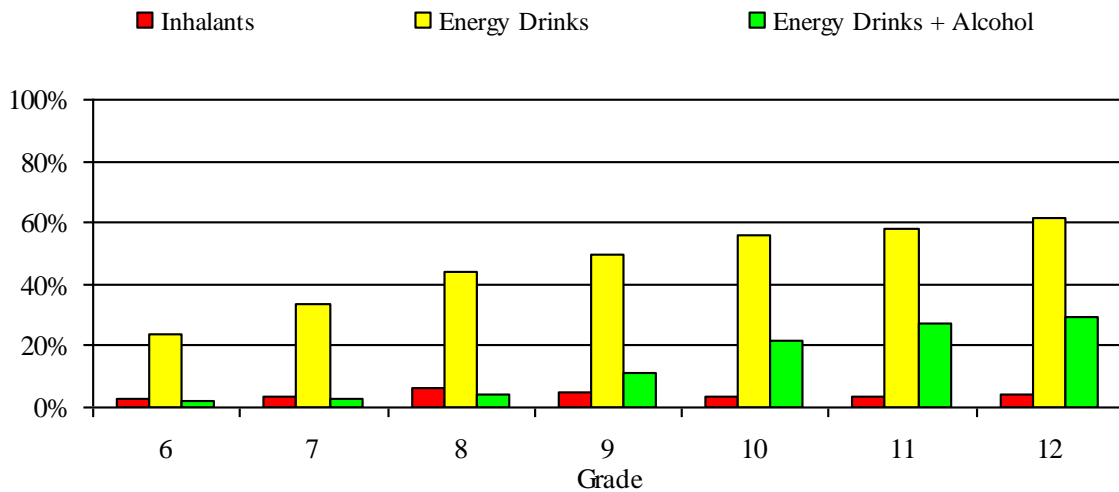


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Percentage of Youth Reporting Lifetime Use of Select Illicit Drugs



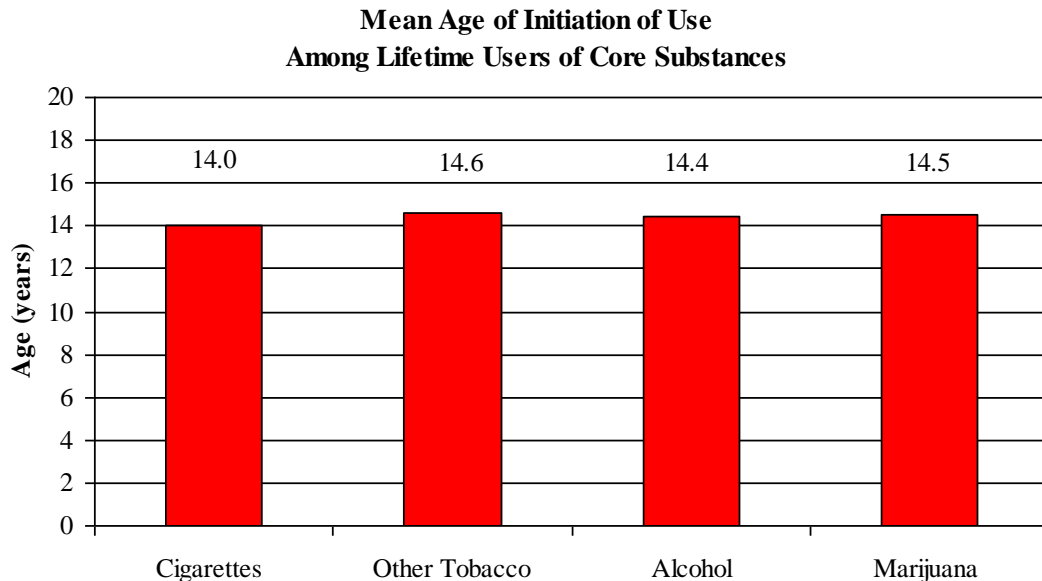
Percentage of Youth Reporting Lifetime Misuse of Other Legal Products



With lifetime use rates ranging from 1% among 6th graders to 65% among 12th graders, alcohol is the most commonly used substance among South Windsor youth. Pain medications, like Oxycontin[®], are the most commonly misused legal medications while synthetic marijuana is the most commonly used illicit drug. Overall, 46% of all youth report ever having had an energy drink in their lifetime. Fewer youth (13%) report ever having had an energy drink combined with alcohol in their lifetime.

Table 5. Reported Age of Initiation Among Lifetime Users of Various Substances

Substance	Age of Initiation	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Cigarettes	10 or younger	6	3%
	11-13	56	28%
	14-15	85	43%
	16 or older	51	26%
	Mean Age of Initiation	14.0 yrs	
Other Tobacco	10 or younger	1	1%
	11-13	19	15%
	14-15	63	51%
	16 or older	41	33%
	Mean Age of Initiation	14.6 yrs	
Alcohol	10 or younger	23	5%
	11-13	80	18%
	14-15	181	40%
	16 or older	163	37%
	Mean Age of Initiation	14.4 yrs	
Marijuana	10 or younger	3	1%
	11-13	51	19%
	14-15	128	48%
	16 or older	86	32%
	Mean Age of Initiation	14.5 yrs	

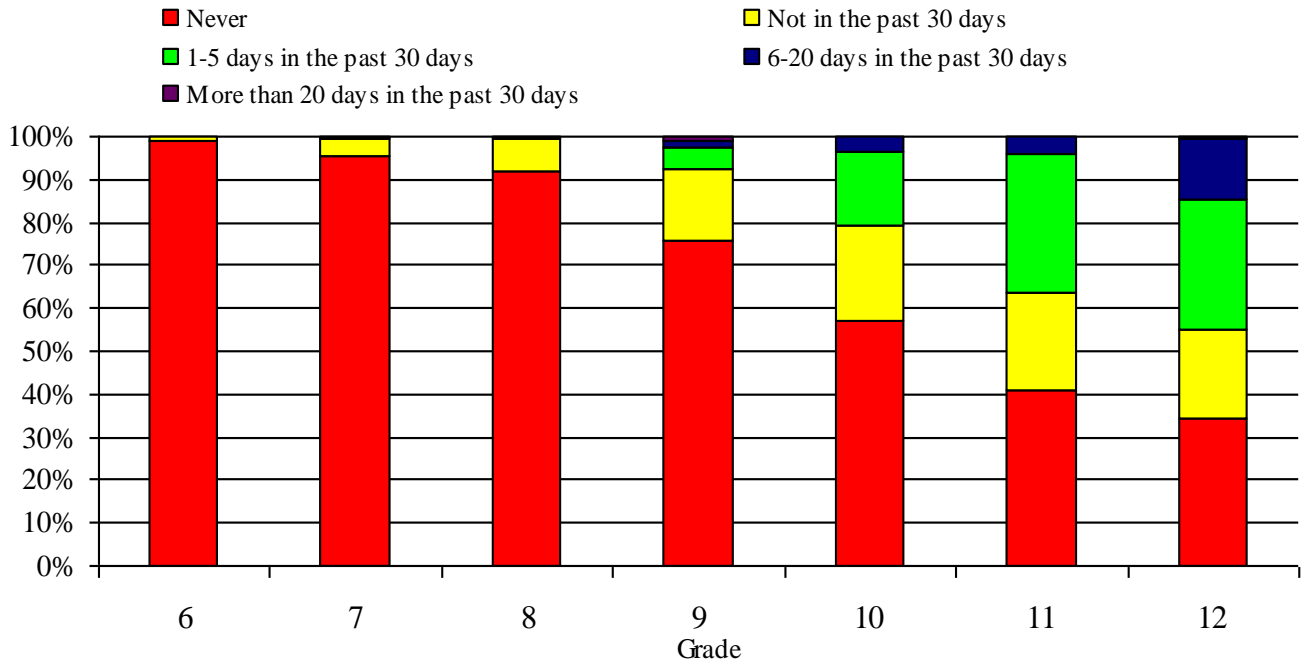


For cigarettes, other tobacco products, alcohol and marijuana, youth who reported lifetime use were asked at what age they had first used (Table 5). For all substances, the largest percentage of youth report having started between the ages of 14 and 15. The mean age of initiation of use for each substance is between 14.0 and 14.6 years of age.

Table 6. Frequency of Alcohol Use

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you drink one or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage (more than a sip and not including religious activities)?							
<i>I have NEVER used</i>	99.1%	95.5%	91.8%	75.8%	57.2%	41.0%	34.5%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	0.9%	4.2%	7.8%	16.4%	22.2%	22.7%	20.6%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	5.3%	17.2%	32.3%	30.2%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	1.2%	3.3%	3.9%	14.3%
<i>Almost every day (≥21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%

Frequency With Which Youth Report Having Used Alcohol



Nearly all youth in grades 6-8 (>90%) report never having used alcohol in their lives. However, in grades 11 and 12, more than half (about 60%) of youth report some lifetime use of alcohol while about 40% report recent use.

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Lifetime drinkers were asked additional questions about binge drinking behavior, sources of alcohol and factors that had influenced them to use alcohol (Tables A, B and C).

*****Lifetime Drinker- Sub-analysis*****

Table A. Intensity of Alcohol Use Among Lifetime Drinkers
(n=460)

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
How often have you drank 4 or more alcoholic drinks (beer, wine, wine coolers, mixed drinks, hard liquor etc.) during a single occasion?							
<i>NEVER</i>	100.0%	78.6%	72.2%	73.7%	41.9%	37.1%	25.2%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	0.0%	14.3%	27.8%	17.5%	32.4%	25.0%	22.1%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.0%	7.1%	0.0%	3.5%	18.9%	32.6%	34.4%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	6.8%	5.3%	17.8%
<i>Almost every day (≥21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%

Rates of binge drinking tend to increase with increasing grade (Table A). Most drinkers in grades 6-9 (>72%) report never having engaged in binge drinking (defined as having 4 or more drinks during a single occasion). However, 25-53% of drinkers in grades 10-12 report having done so at least once in the past month.

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*****Lifetime Drinker- Sub-analysis*****

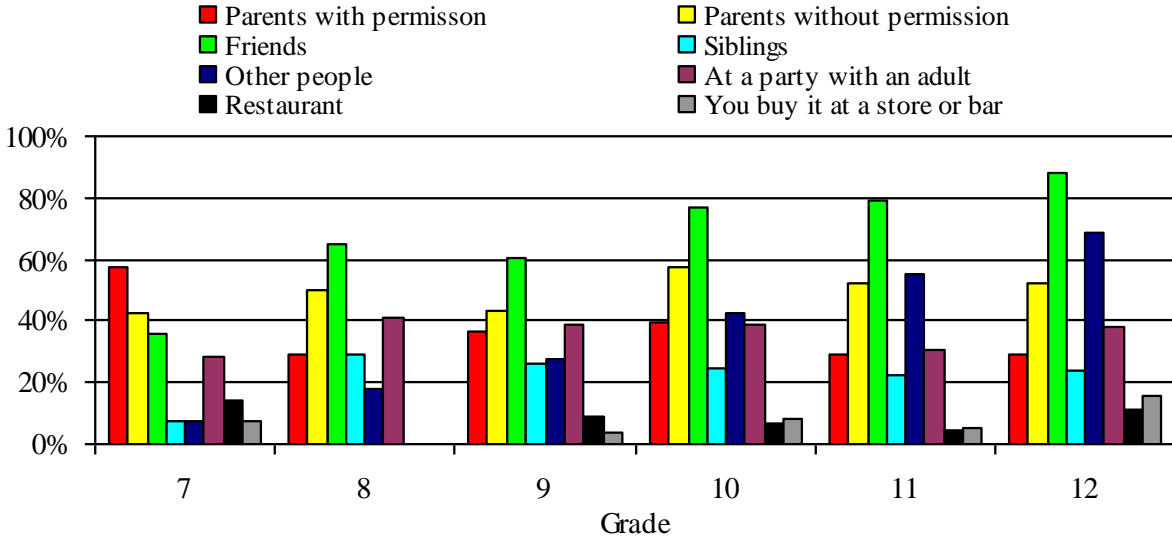
Table B. Percentage of Lifetime Drinkers Who Report Ever Getting Alcohol from Various Sources

(n = 459)

Do you ever get alcoholic beverages from the following sources?								
		Grade						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Parents, with permission								
<i>Yes</i>	*	57.1%	29.4%	36.2%	39.2%	28.8%	29.2%	
Parents, without permission								
<i>Yes</i>	*	42.9%	50.0%	43.1%	57.5%	51.9%	52.5%	
Friends								
<i>Yes</i>	*	35.7%	64.7%	60.3%	77.0%	78.8%	87.7%	
Siblings								
<i>Yes</i>	*	7.1%	29.4%	25.9%	24.7%	22.1%	24.1%	
Other people buy it for you								
<i>Yes</i>	*	7.7%	17.6%	27.6%	42.5%	55.3%	68.9%	
At a party with an adult's permission								
<i>Yes</i>	*	28.6%	41.2%	38.6%	38.9%	30.3%	38.3%	
At a restaurant								
<i>Yes</i>	*	14.3%	0.0%	8.6%	6.8%	4.6%	11.1%	
You buy it at a store/bar								
<i>Yes</i>	*	7.1%	0.0%	3.5%	8.3%	5.3%	15.4%	

* Too few to report

Percentage of Lifetime Alcohol Users Who Report Ever Getting Alcohol from Various Sources



Among youth in grade 7, parents with permission is the most common source of alcohol while among youth in grades 8-12, friends is the most common source (Table B).

*****Lifetime Drinker- Sub-analysis*****

Factors Influencing Youth To Use Alcohol

Table C.1. Number of Lifetime Drinkers Who Report Being Influenced by Each Factor

Factor	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Friends/Peer Pressure</i>	*	4	4	16	38	62	75
<i>Boredom</i>	*	2	5	20	24	64	49
<i>Curiosity</i>	*	10	10	33	36	53	54
<i>Advertisements</i>	*	1	1	1	2	4	3
<i>Family Tradition</i>	*	2	4	4	7	12	16
<i>Alcohol Readily Available</i>	*	1	5	14	19	35	25
<i>Angry/Upset with Someone</i>	*	1	1	8	10	17	25
<i>Stress/To Feel Better</i>	*	3	2	14	18	34	52

Table C.2. Factors Ranked by Number of Youth Report Being Influenced by that Factor

Grade						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
*	Curiosity (10)	Curiosity (10)	Curiosity (33)	Friends/Peer Pressure (38)	Boredom (64)	Friends/Peer Pressure (75)
*	Friends/Peer Pressure (4)	Boredom (5)	Boredom (20)	Curiosity (36)	Friends/Peer Pressure (62)	Curiosity (54)
*	Stress/To Feel Better (3)	Alcohol Readily Available (5)	Friends/Peer Pressure (16)	Boredom (24)	Curiosity (53)	Stress/To Feel Better (52)
*	Family Tradition (2)	Friends/Peer Pressure (4)	Alcohol Readily Available (14)	Alcohol Readily Available (19)	Alcohol Readily Available (35)	Boredom (49)
*	Boredom (2)	Family Tradition (4)	Stress/To Feel Better (14)	Stress/To Feel Better (18)	Stress/To Feel Better (34)	Alcohol Readily Available (25)
*	Advertisements (1)	Stress/To Feel Better (2)	Angry/Upset with Someone (8)	Angry/Upset with Someone (10)	Angry/Upset with Someone (17)	Angry/Upset with Someone (25)
*	Alcohol Readily Available (1)	Advertisements (1)	Family Tradition (4)	Family Tradition (7)	Family Tradition (12)	Family Tradition (16)
*	Angry/Upset with Someone (1)	Angry/Upset with Someone (1)	Advertisements (1)	Advertisements (2)	Advertisements (4)	Advertisements (3)

* Too few to report

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Among youth in grades 7-9, curiosity is the most commonly cited factor influencing use (Table C). The top three factors among youth in grades 10-12, are curiosity, friends/peer pressure and boredom.

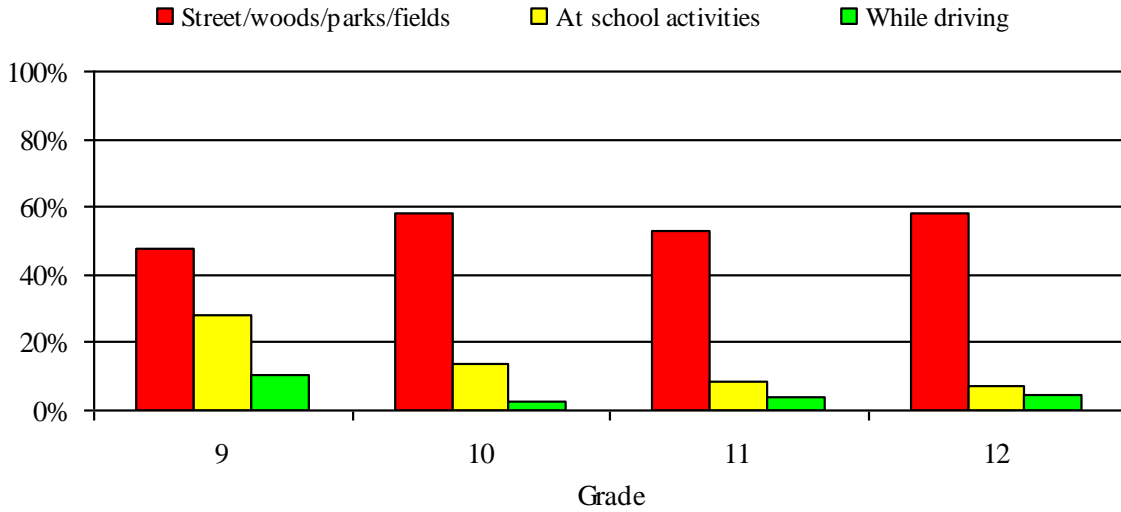
*****Recent Drinker Sub-analysis*****

Table D. Location of Alcohol Use Among Recent (Past 30 day) Drinkers
(n =250)

	Grade						
	6*	7*	8*	9	10	11	12
In the past 30 days you drink alcoholic beverages on the street, in the woods or in parks or fields?							
<i>No</i>	*	*	*	52.6%	41.7%	46.9%	41.6%
<i>Yes</i>	*	*	*	47.4%	58.3%	53.1%	58.4%
In the past 30 days you drink alcoholic beverages at school activities like dances or sporting events?							
<i>No</i>	*	*	*	72.2%	86.1%	91.5%	92.9%
<i>Yes</i>	*	*	*	27.8%	13.9%	8.5%	7.1%
In the past 30 days you drink alcoholic beverages while you were driving a car, truck or motorcycle?							
<i>No</i>	*	*	*	89.5%	97.2%	96.3%	95.5%
<i>Yes</i>	*	*	*	10.5%	2.8%	3.7%	4.5%

* Too few to report

Percentage of Recent Alcohol Users Who Report Having Used Alcohol in Various Settings



Recent drinkers were asked where they had consumed alcohol in the past month (Table D). In grades 6-8, there are too few recent drinkers to report valid data. Among recent drinkers in grades 9-12, the most commonly cited location for recent alcohol consumption is "on the street, in the woods or in parks or fields".

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Table 7. Frequency of Substance Use

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use cigarettes?							
<i>I have NEVER used</i>	99.1%	98.7%	92.0%	92.3%	83.8%	80.0%	65.1%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	0.4%	0.3%	6.7%	4.4%	8.1%	11.3%	16.1%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.4%	0.3%	0.9%	2.0%	2.2%	3.0%	9.0%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	3.2%	1.7%	2.0%
<i>Almost every day (≥21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%	2.7%	3.9%	7.8%
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use other tobacco products?							
<i>I have NEVER used</i>	100.0%	99.7%	97.3%	98.8%	88.7%	84.8%	71.7%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	.8%	7.0%	6.5%	16.9%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	1.6%	5.2%	7.9%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	1.7%	1.6%
<i>Almost every day (≥21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	1.1%	1.7%	2.0%
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use marijuana?							
<i>I have NEVER used</i>	100.0%	99.4%	95.9%	88.3%	74.9%	66.8%	53.7%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	0.0%	0.3%	1.8%	7.7%	11.5%	14.0%	17.3%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%	1.2%	7.1%	8.7%	11.4%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	1.2%	3.3%	3.9%	8.6%
<i>Almost every day (≥21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	1.6%	3.3%	6.6%	9.0%
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use prescription drugs for the purpose of getting "high"?							
<i>I have NEVER used</i>	100.0%	99.4%	97.8%	97.2%	92.4%	92.5%	90.6%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	0.0%	0.3%	1.8%	2.0%	3.8%	5.7%	7.5%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	2.2%	1.3%	2.0%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Almost every day (≥21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%

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Table 7. Frequency of Substance Use (continued)

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use an energy drink?							
<i>I have NEVER used</i>	76.4%	66.2%	56.3%	50.6%	44.1%	41.9%	38.4%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	19.1%	22.4%	26.8%	32.9%	35.5%	33.6%	36.9%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	4.0%	7.3%	12.1%	13.3%	12.4%	17.0%	19.2%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	2.8%	4.0%	2.0%	4.8%	4.8%	3.1%
<i>Almost every day (≥ 21 days)</i>	0.4%	1.3%	0.9%	1.2%	3.2%	2.6%	2.4%
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use an energy drink containing alcohol?							
<i>I have NEVER used</i>	98.2%	97.5%	96.0%	89.0%	78.4%	73.0%	70.6%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	1.8%	2.2%	4.0%	6.9%	11.4%	13.9%	15.7%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%	6.5%	9.6%	11.8%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.8%	3.2%	2.6%	2.0%
<i>Almost every day (≥ 21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.5%	0.9%	0.0%

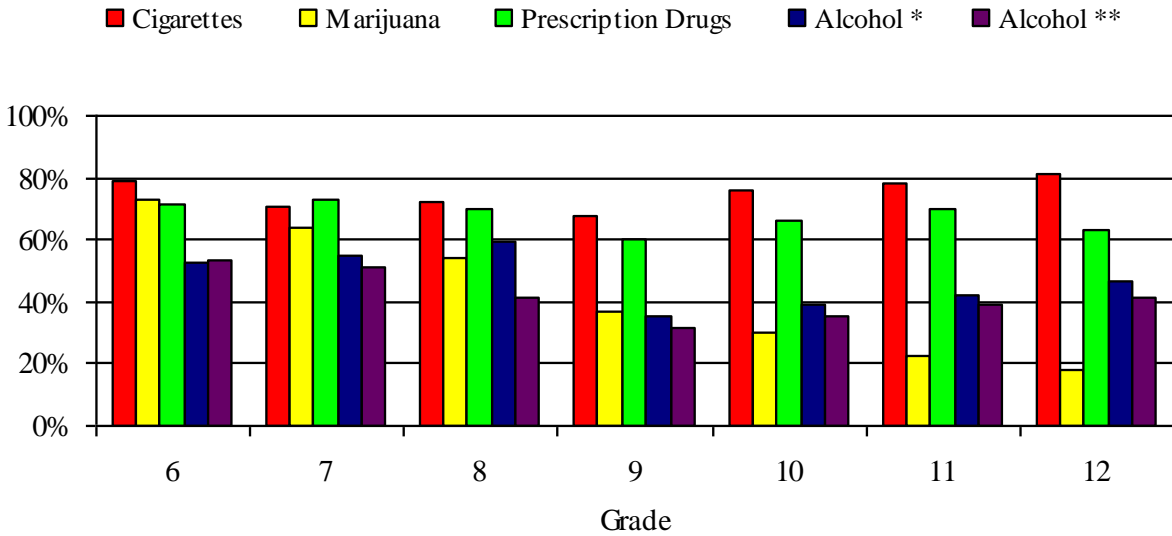
Among youth in grades 6-8, "almost every day" use is $\leq 0.5\%$ for cigarettes, tobacco, marijuana, prescription drugs and energy drinks combined with alcohol. However, "almost every day" use tends to be higher among youth in grades 9-12 and tends to be highest for cigarettes and marijuana.

Individual/Peer Domain

Table 8. Perceived Harm of Substance Use

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they smoke cigarettes (1 or more packs a day)?							
<i>No Risk</i>	1.8%	1.6%	0.0%	2.8%	1.6%	2.2%	2.0%
<i>Slight Risk</i>	1.3%	5.1%	4.5%	2.8%	6.0%	3.5%	2.4%
<i>Moderate Risk</i>	14.7%	18.5%	18.9%	20.2%	14.2%	13.2%	13.1%
<i>Great Risk</i>	79.0%	70.7%	72.1%	68.0%	76.0%	78.1%	80.9%
<i>I Don't Know</i>	3.1%	4.1%	4.5%	6.1%	2.2%	3.1%	1.6%
How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they use marijuana (1 or 2 times a week)?							
<i>No Risk</i>	1.8%	1.9%	5.0%	15.4%	17.0%	23.2%	30.3%
<i>Slight Risk</i>	2.2%	6.7%	10.5%	13.8%	24.2%	28.9%	29.1%
<i>Moderate Risk</i>	16.1%	21.3%	23.6%	22.8%	24.7%	18.0%	17.9%
<i>Great Risk</i>	72.8%	63.7%	54.5%	37.0%	30.2%	22.8%	18.3%
<i>I Don't Know</i>	7.1%	6.4%	6.4%	11.0%	3.8%	7.0%	4.4%
How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they use prescription drugs that are not prescribed to them?							
<i>No Risk</i>	1.8%	.6%	.5%	2.0%	1.7%	2.2%	.8%
<i>Slight Risk</i>	3.1%	2.9%	4.6%	4.5%	5.5%	3.5%	5.6%
<i>Moderate Risk</i>	17.5%	18.2%	18.3%	24.0%	23.2%	19.3%	24.9%
<i>Great Risk</i>	71.7%	73.2%	70.2%	60.2%	66.3%	70.2%	63.5%
<i>I Don't Know</i>	5.8%	5.1%	6.4%	9.3%	3.3%	4.8%	5.2%
How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they drink alcoholic beverages (5 or more once or twice a week)?							
<i>No Risk</i>	2.2%	1.6%	0.0%	2.8%	3.3%	3.1%	2.0%
<i>Slight Risk</i>	6.7%	7.3%	5.4%	11.7%	14.8%	13.2%	14.7%
<i>Moderate Risk</i>	32.3%	31.9%	30.6%	40.5%	39.9%	39.0%	34.7%
<i>Great Risk</i>	52.5%	54.6%	59.5%	35.2%	39.3%	42.1%	46.6%
<i>I Don't Know</i>	6.3%	4.5%	4.5%	9.7%	2.7%	2.6%	2.0%
How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they take 1 or 2 drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly everyday?							
<i>No Risk</i>	2.3%	2.9%	2.3%	4.6%	3.3%	5.7%	3.6%
<i>Slight Risk</i>	11.4%	12.3%	13.6%	22.7%	18.3%	17.2%	16.6%
<i>Moderate Risk</i>	28.6%	27.2%	36.2%	34.0%	41.1%	35.2%	36.4%
<i>Great Risk</i>	53.2%	51.1%	41.2%	31.9%	35.6%	38.8%	41.3%
<i>I Don't Know</i>	4.5%	6.5%	6.8%	6.7%	1.7%	3.1%	2.0%

**Percentage of Youth Who Perceive There is "Great Risk"
Associated with Use of Various Substances**



* 5 or more drinks once or twice a week

**1 or 2 drinks nearly everyday

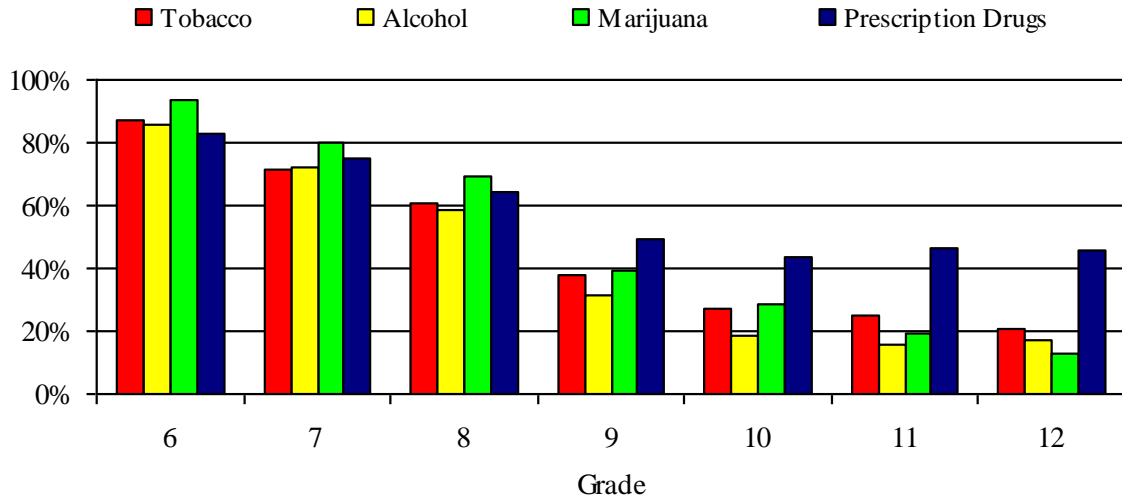
Table 8 and the figure above show the percentage of youth who think there is "great risk" associated with use of various substances. In general, perceived harm tends to be highest for cigarettes and prescription drugs. Among youth in grades 6-8, perceived harm tends to be lowest for alcohol. Among youth in grades 9-12, perceived harm tends to be lowest for marijuana. Perception of harm for cigarettes and prescription drugs tends to remain high for all grades while perception of harm for alcohol and marijuana tends to decline with increasing grade.

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Table 9. Peer Attitudes Toward Youth Substance Use

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
How wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to smoke tobacco?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	0.4%	2.6%	5.9%	8.0%	17.2%	18.5%	25.1%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	0.4%	4.8%	10.4%	16.4%	24.4%	30.8%	31.6%
<i>Wrong</i>	12.3%	21.2%	23.0%	37.4%	31.1%	25.6%	22.7%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	86.8%	71.5%	60.8%	38.2%	27.2%	25.1%	20.6%
How wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to drink 1 or 2 alcoholic beverages nearly every day?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	0.0%	2.2%	5.4%	10.5%	20.6%	23.8%	24.7%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	1.8%	6.7%	10.4%	21.4%	32.2%	32.6%	35.2%
<i>Wrong</i>	12.8%	18.9%	25.7%	37.0%	28.3%	28.2%	22.7%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	85.5%	72.1%	58.6%	31.1%	18.9%	15.4%	17.4%
How wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to smoke marijuana?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	.4%	3.8%	7.7%	13.5%	31.3%	39.2%	43.4%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	.4%	4.5%	9.5%	20.3%	20.7%	26.4%	27.9%
<i>Wrong</i>	5.3%	11.5%	13.5%	27.0%	19.6%	15.0%	15.6%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	93.8%	80.1%	69.4%	39.2%	28.5%	19.4%	13.1%
How wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to use prescription drugs not prescribed to you?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	.9%	1.9%	3.6%	5.1%	9.5%	7.0%	8.1%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	1.3%	4.8%	9.1%	11.1%	16.8%	17.6%	18.3%
<i>Wrong</i>	15.0%	18.3%	23.2%	34.5%	30.2%	29.1%	28.0%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	82.8%	75.0%	64.1%	49.4%	43.6%	46.3%	45.5%

**Percentage of Youth Who Say Their Friends Think it is
"Very Wrong" for them to Use Various Substances**

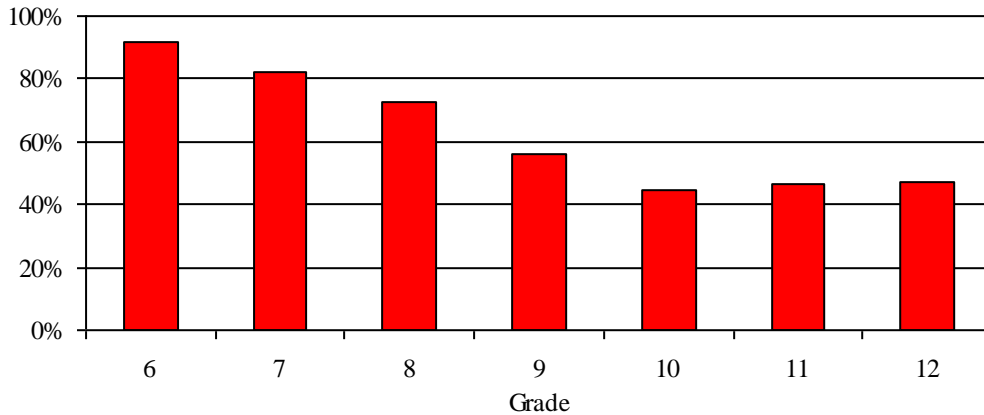


Perceived peer disapproval of substance use tends to decline with increasing grade. The percent of youth who think their friends feel it would be very wrong for them to use declines the most for marijuana and the least for prescription drug use.

Table 10. Attitude Toward Peer Alcohol Use

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
How do you feel about someone your age having 1 or 2 drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day?							
<i>Neither approve or disapprove</i>	0.9%	4.2%	6.8%	17.4%	17.6%	16.7%	20.7%
<i>Somewhat disapprove</i>	1.3%	5.9%	10.0%	19.9%	23.3%	29.1%	20.7%
<i>Strongly disapprove</i>	91.5%	82.4%	72.6%	56.0%	44.9%	46.3%	47.3%
<i>Don't know/ Can't say</i>	6.3%	7.5%	10.5%	6.6%	14.2%	7.9%	11.2%

Percentage of Youth Who "Strongly Disapprove" of Someone Their Age Having 1 or 2 Drinks of Alcohol Nearly Everyday

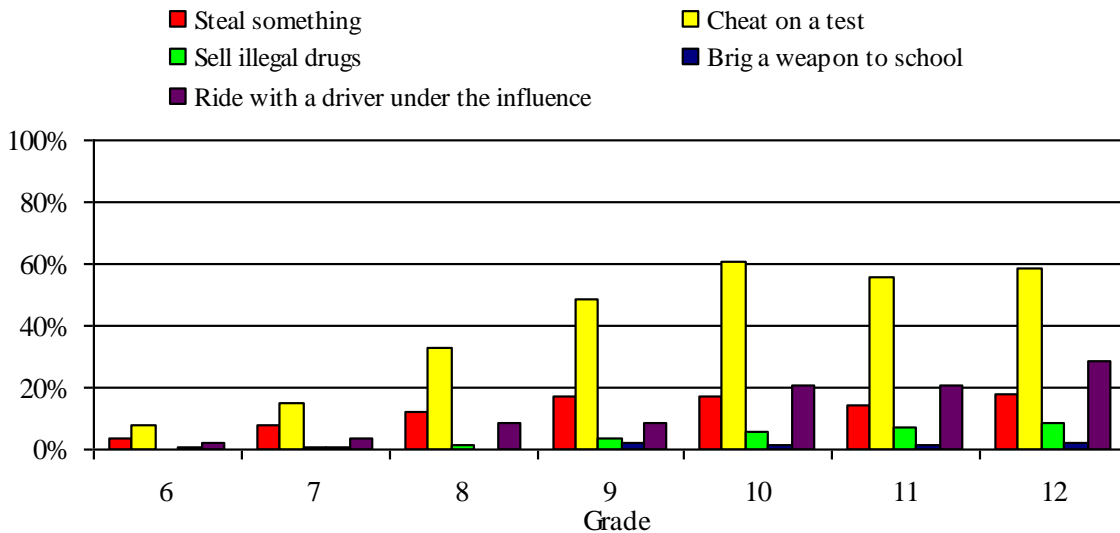


Personal disapproval of alcohol use by peers also tends to decline with increasing grade. The percentage of youth who "strongly disapprove" of someone their age having 1 or 2 drinks nearly every day" declines from 92% in 6th grade to about 46% in grades 10-12.

Table 11. Antisocial Behavior

In the past year, did you... (% yes)	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Steal something worth less than \$100?</i>	3.5%	8.0%	12.3%	16.8%	17.5%	14.0%	18.0%
<i>Cheat on a test at school?</i>	8.1%	14.9%	32.7%	48.5%	60.5%	55.4%	58.8%
<i>Sell illegal drugs?</i>	0.0%	0.6%	1.4%	3.4%	5.6%	6.8%	8.6%
<i>Bring a knife, gun or other weapon to school?</i>	0.4%	0.6%	0.0%	2.5%	1.7%	1.4%	2.0%
<i>Ride as a passenger with a driver under the influence of drugs or alcohol?</i>	1.8%	3.9%	8.3%	8.8%	20.9%	20.8%	28.5%

Percentage of Youth Who Have Engaged In Certain Antisocial Behaviors in the Past Year



Antisocial behaviors tend to increase with increasing grade. In all grades, the most common antisocial behavior reported is cheating on a test in school while the least common is bringing a weapon to school.

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Table 12. Self Concept

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I feel lonely.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	56.8%	61.5%	56.0%	41.9%	41.1%	40.6%	36.1%
<i>Disagree</i>	34.1%	28.0%	33.0%	36.8%	38.9%	37.9%	45.2%
<i>Agree</i>	7.9%	8.6%	7.8%	18.4%	17.7%	16.4%	13.3%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	1.3%	1.9%	3.2%	3.0%	2.3%	5.0%	5.4%
I am good at making decisions.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	3.1%	2.2%	1.4%	5.5%	2.9%	3.7%	3.3%
<i>Disagree</i>	6.6%	6.1%	6.5%	9.4%	9.1%	12.3%	10.7%
<i>Agree</i>	52.4%	49.4%	60.6%	58.3%	57.7%	52.1%	55.0%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	38.0%	42.3%	31.5%	26.8%	30.3%	32.0%	31.0%
I feel sad most of the time.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	69.7%	60.9%	58.3%	46.8%	47.4%	45.4%	38.8%
<i>Disagree</i>	24.6%	27.9%	32.4%	41.2%	40.0%	42.2%	46.3%
<i>Agree</i>	4.8%	9.6%	6.9%	10.3%	9.7%	8.7%	10.7%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	0.9%	1.6%	2.3%	1.7%	2.9%	3.7%	4.1%
I have so much energy, I don't know what to do with it.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	23.9%	20.2%	18.4%	14.5%	16.6%	17.0%	16.9%
<i>Disagree</i>	46.0%	40.4%	53.0%	54.7%	61.1%	56.4%	54.1%
<i>Agree</i>	23.9%	26.9%	22.6%	24.8%	16.6%	20.2%	21.5%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	6.2%	12.5%	6.0%	6.0%	5.7%	6.4%	7.4%
I have a number of good qualities.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	2.7%	1.3%	3.3%	3.4%	1.1%	1.8%	3.3%
<i>Disagree</i>	3.1%	5.5%	4.2%	7.3%	6.3%	4.1%	6.6%
<i>Agree</i>	37.8%	37.4%	51.2%	59.2%	58.9%	56.9%	53.3%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	56.4%	55.8%	41.4%	30.0%	33.7%	37.2%	36.8%
I have trouble concentrating.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	31.9%	33.1%	22.0%	14.2%	11.4%	13.2%	12.8%
<i>Disagree</i>	41.5%	38.5%	39.4%	39.7%	35.4%	42.9%	42.6%
<i>Agree</i>	22.3%	22.9%	24.8%	33.6%	38.3%	34.7%	32.6%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	4.4%	5.4%	13.8%	12.5%	14.9%	9.1%	12.0%

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Table 12. Self Concept (continued)

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I stand up for what I believe in.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	2.2%	1.0%	1.4%	2.2%	2.3%	1.8%	2.5%
<i>Disagree</i>	4.8%	7.1%	4.1%	6.5%	7.4%	6.0%	8.2%
<i>Agree</i>	45.6%	42.3%	56.2%	55.6%	58.5%	59.2%	52.3%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	47.4%	49.7%	38.2%	35.8%	31.8%	33.0%	37.0%
I believe that my life is going in a positive direction.							
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	1.3%	.6%	2.8%	3.5%	1.7%	2.3%	2.1%
<i>Disagree</i>	2.6%	2.9%	3.7%	6.1%	5.7%	3.2%	4.9%
<i>Agree</i>	29.8%	34.7%	40.7%	47.6%	48.9%	52.3%	48.1%
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	66.2%	61.8%	52.8%	42.8%	43.7%	42.1%	44.9%

Most South Windsor youth have a positive self concept and "agree" or "strongly agree" with statements such as the following: *I am good at making decision, I have a number of good qualities and I believe that my life is going in a positive direction.* However, 10-20% of youth "agree" or "strongly agree" that they *feel lonely* and 5-15% "agree" or "strongly agree" that they *feel sad most of the time.*

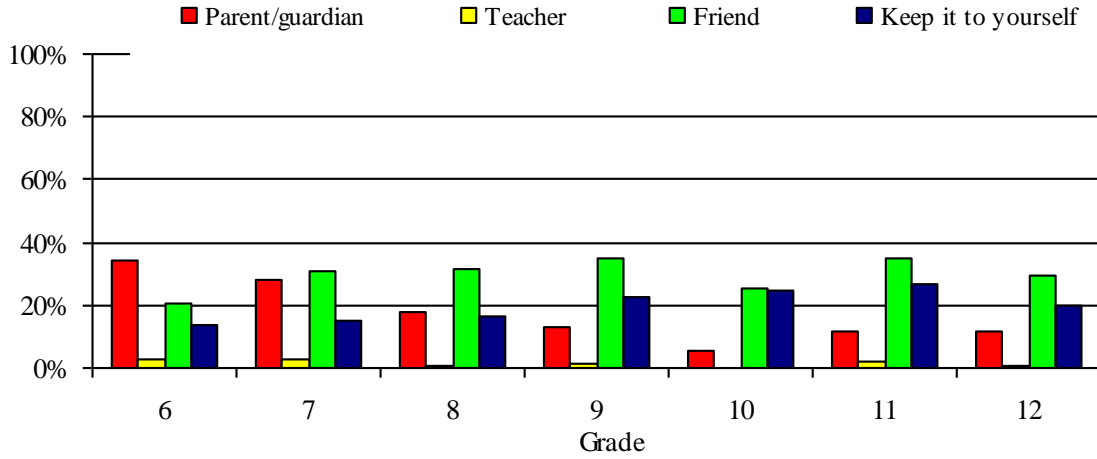
South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Table 13. Social Supports

When you have a problem that bothers you, how often do you...?							
	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Talk about it with your parent/guardian?							
<i>Never/Almost Never</i>	10.8%	16.1%	17.3%	25.0%	26.4%	25.3%	27.2%
<i>Sometimes</i>	26.9%	26.7%	40.9%	40.3%	47.1%	45.2%	44.9%
<i>Often</i>	28.3%	28.9%	24.1%	22.0%	20.7%	18.0%	16.0%
<i>Always/Almost Always</i>	34.1%	28.3%	17.7%	12.7%	5.7%	11.5%	11.9%
Talk about it with a teacher?							
<i>Never/Almost Never</i>	49.8%	58.7%	72.7%	77.0%	83.2%	79.3%	77.4%
<i>Sometimes</i>	36.8%	31.4%	23.2%	15.3%	15.0%	16.6%	18.5%
<i>Often</i>	10.8%	7.1%	3.6%	6.4%	1.7%	2.3%	3.7%
<i>Always/Almost Always</i>	2.7%	2.9%	0.5%	1.3%	0.0%	1.8%	0.4%
Talk about it with a friend?							
<i>Never/Almost Never</i>	15.3%	11.6%	8.7%	13.1%	11.0%	9.2%	7.4%
<i>Sometimes</i>	31.1%	28.7%	25.6%	19.5%	24.4%	18.0%	23.5%
<i>Often</i>	33.3%	29.0%	34.2%	32.6%	39.0%	38.2%	39.5%
<i>Always/Almost Always</i>	20.3%	30.6%	31.5%	34.7%	25.6%	34.6%	29.6%
Keep it to yourself?							
<i>Never/Almost Never</i>	27.5%	21.2%	11.9%	8.9%	7.6%	7.4%	7.8%
<i>Sometimes</i>	36.5%	40.8%	42.9%	36.0%	40.1%	34.3%	37.7%
<i>Often</i>	22.1%	23.2%	28.8%	32.6%	27.9%	31.5%	34.4%
<i>Always/Almost Always</i>	14.0%	14.8%	16.4%	22.5%	24.4%	26.9%	20.1%

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

**Percentage of Youth Who Report They
"Always or Almost Always" Talk to Certain People
When Something is Bothering Them**



In all grades except 6, the largest percentage of youth report that they "always/almost always" talk to a friend. Among youth in grade 6 the largest percentage report that they "always/almost always" talk to a parent or guardian. The percentage of youth who "always/almost always" talk to a parent or guardian tends to decline with increasing grade while the percent of youth who "keep it to yourself" tends to increase with increasing grade.

Family Domain

Table 14. Family Substance Use

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Do either of your parents/guardians smoke cigarettes?							
<i>Yes</i>	13.6%	14.3%	17.2%	16.0%	22.2%	21.4%	16.9%
Do either of your parents/guardians drink alcoholic beverages ?							
<i>Yes</i>	62.7%	69.0%	64.3%	74.4%	80.0%	75.9%	73.6%
Has anyone in your family (such as a parent, brother, sister, not including you) ever used alcohol so it created problems at home, at work or with friends?							
<i>Yes</i>	9.0%	10.9%	16.9%	19.5%	20.4%	20.0%	25.9%

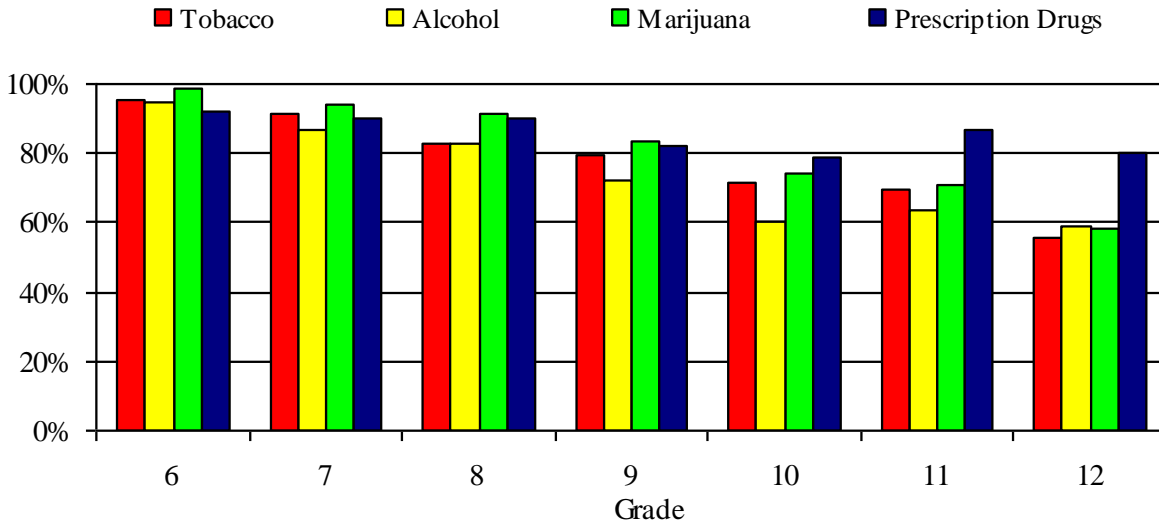
About 20% of youth (range 13-22%) report that they have a parent or guardian who smokes cigarettes while about 75% of youth (range 63-80%) report that they have a parent or guardian who drinks alcohol. About one in five youth (range 9%-26%) report that someone in their family has used alcohol so that it caused problems at home, work or with friends.

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Table 15. Family Attitudes Toward Youth Substance Use

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to smoke tobacco?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%	2.2%	0.9%	5.7%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	1.3%	1.0%	1.8%	2.8%	5.0%	11.4%	11.8%
<i>Wrong</i>	3.6%	7.6%	14.8%	16.7%	21.0%	18.4%	26.8%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	95.1%	91.1%	83.0%	79.7%	71.8%	69.3%	55.7%
How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to drink 1 or 2 alcoholic beverages nearly every day?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%	1.6%	2.2%	2.2%	2.4%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	1.8%	2.5%	2.2%	5.7%	7.2%	11.4%	11.4%
<i>Wrong</i>	3.6%	10.2%	13.9%	20.3%	30.4%	22.8%	27.2%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	94.6%	87.0%	83.0%	72.4%	60.2%	63.6%	58.9%
How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to smoke marijuana?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	0.0%	1.0%	1.3%	2.8%	4.4%	3.5%	4.5%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	3.3%	8.3%	8.4%	11.8%
<i>Wrong</i>	1.3%	4.8%	4.9%	10.6%	13.3%	17.3%	25.7%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	98.7%	94.3%	91.5%	83.3%	73.9%	70.8%	58.0%
How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to use prescription drugs not prescribed to you?							
<i>Not At All Wrong</i>	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	1.2%	1.7%	.9%	1.2%
<i>A Little Bit Wrong</i>	0.9%	2.2%	2.3%	1.6%	2.8%	2.2%	2.4%
<i>Wrong</i>	7.2%	6.7%	7.7%	14.8%	17.1%	10.1%	16.3%
<i>Very Wrong</i>	91.9%	90.1%	90.0%	82.4%	78.5%	86.8%	80.1%

Percentage of Youth Think Their Parents Feel It Would Be "Very Wrong" For Them To Use Various Substances



Although overall most youth (>50%) think their parents feel it would be very wrong for them to use tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and prescription drugs, the percentage tends to decline with increasing grade. The percentage declines the least for prescription drugs. Perceived parental disapproval rates tend to be higher than perceived peer disapproval rates.

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Table 16. Family Management

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
On a regular weekday, how many hours do you usually spend after school without an adult present?							
<i>None</i>	28.4%	20.5%	15.2%	10.6%	8.1%	5.2%	5.5%
<i>Less Than 1 Hour</i>	34.2%	33.8%	21.9%	21.5%	17.7%	14.3%	10.2%
<i>1 To 2 Hours</i>	31.6%	36.3%	46.4%	38.6%	43.0%	30.9%	26.4%
<i>Up To 4 Hours</i>	2.7%	6.0%	12.1%	18.7%	19.4%	31.7%	33.1%
<i>More Than 4 Hours</i>	3.1%	3.5%	4.5%	10.6%	11.8%	17.8%	24.8%
When I am away from home, my parent/guardian(s) know where I am and who I am with.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.4%	1.1%	2.2%	2.8%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	0.4%	1.6%	0.9%	1.6%	6.5%	6.6%	11.4%
<i>Mostly True</i>	12.1%	16.0%	30.2%	51.0%	50.5%	50.7%	53.9%
<i>Definitely True</i>	87.4%	82.4%	68.0%	47.0%	41.9%	40.6%	31.9%
If I break one of my parent/guardian(s) rules, I am usually disciplined.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	0.9%	3.2%	2.7%	2.4%	8.1%	3.9%	4.8%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	8.1%	7.0%	10.0%	10.9%	16.1%	14.8%	24.0%
<i>Mostly True</i>	47.5%	46.0%	52.5%	54.0%	46.2%	48.9%	40.8%
<i>Definitely True</i>	43.5%	43.8%	34.8%	32.7%	29.6%	32.3%	30.4%

Older youth tend to spend more hours per day without an adult present. Older youth also tend to be less likely to report that their parents know where they are and who they are with or that they are disciplined if they break rules.

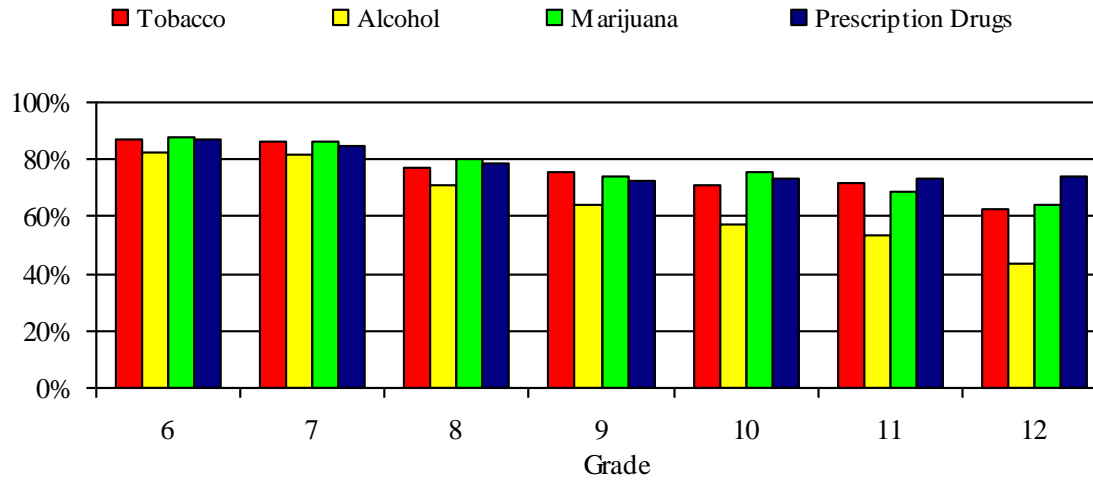
South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Table 16. Family Management (continued)

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
My family has clear rules discouraging me from smoking cigarettes or using tobacco.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	10.2%	10.1%	11.8%	10.2%	8.1%	11.3%	11.9%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	0.9%	1.6%	2.3%	3.3%	4.8%	2.6%	8.3%
<i>Mostly True</i>	1.8%	2.2%	8.6%	11.0%	16.1%	14.3%	17.0%
<i>Definitely True</i>	87.2%	86.1%	77.4%	75.6%	71.0%	71.7%	62.8%
My family has clear rules discouraging me from drinking alcoholic beverages.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	9.8%	8.8%	10.9%	8.5%	7.0%	10.9%	7.9%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	0.4%	2.8%	4.1%	6.5%	8.1%	8.3%	17.4%
<i>Mostly True</i>	7.1%	6.6%	14.0%	21.1%	27.4%	27.4%	31.2%
<i>Definitely True</i>	82.7%	81.7%	71.0%	63.8%	57.5%	53.5%	43.5%
My family has clear rules discouraging me from using marijuana.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	10.2%	9.8%	12.7%	10.6%	9.1%	12.2%	9.1%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	0.4%	0.9%	2.3%	4.5%	3.8%	3.9%	9.5%
<i>Mostly True</i>	1.8%	3.2%	4.5%	10.6%	11.8%	14.8%	17.0%
<i>Definitely True</i>	87.6%	86.1%	80.5%	74.3%	75.3%	69.0%	64.4%
My family has clear rules discouraging me from using a prescription drug not prescribed to me.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	8.6%	9.8%	11.3%	10.2%	8.6%	13.0%	8.8%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	0.5%	1.3%	2.3%	3.3%	4.9%	3.5%	8.0%
<i>Mostly True</i>	3.6%	4.1%	7.7%	14.2%	13.5%	10.0%	9.6%
<i>Definitely True</i>	87.3%	84.8%	78.7%	72.4%	73.0%	73.5%	73.7%

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Percentage of Youth Who Report Their Family "Definitely" Has Clear Rules Discouraging Use of Certain Substances



In general, youth feel it is "definitely true" that their family has rules discouraging their use of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and prescription drugs. However, the percentage does tend to decline with increasing grade. The steepest decline is seen for alcohol which goes from 83% among 6th graders to 44% among 12th graders.

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Table 17. Parental Attachment and Positive Family Involvement

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I share my thoughts and feelings with my parent/guardian(s).							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	3.5%	4.4%	6.3%	11.3%	8.1%	11.4%	10.3%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	13.9%	22.7%	26.5%	32.0%	41.9%	30.1%	32.1%
<i>Mostly True</i>	47.6%	50.5%	47.1%	43.7%	41.9%	44.5%	41.3%
<i>Definitely True</i>	35.1%	22.4%	20.2%	13.0%	8.1%	14.0%	16.3%
My parent/guardian(s) participate(s) in activities at my school, including attendance at school events.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	15.2%	16.1%	20.4%	20.5%	24.2%	24.9%	22.8%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	27.0%	25.0%	26.7%	23.7%	32.8%	33.2%	24.0%
<i>Mostly True</i>	38.7%	39.9%	32.1%	45.0%	32.3%	30.6%	36.2%
<i>Definitely True</i>	19.1%	19.0%	20.8%	10.8%	10.8%	11.4%	16.9%
I feel very close to my parent/guardian(s).							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	0.4%	0.6%	2.2%	3.2%	3.2%	6.6%	4.4%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	4.3%	3.5%	4.9%	8.8%	12.4%	6.6%	12.0%
<i>Mostly True</i>	13.9%	21.1%	31.8%	41.8%	47.0%	41.5%	40.6%
<i>Definitely True</i>	81.3%	74.8%	61.0%	46.2%	37.3%	45.4%	43.0%
I feel loved and valued by my family.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	2.0%	1.6%	3.1%	3.6%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	1.8%	1.9%	2.8%	2.8%	6.5%	3.9%	4.4%
<i>Mostly True</i>	16.7%	16.7%	24.9%	35.6%	41.3%	28.4%	34.9%
<i>Definitely True</i>	81.1%	81.1%	71.9%	59.5%	50.5%	64.6%	57.1%

Most youth report feeling close to, loved and valued by their family/parents/guardians. However, only 11-21% of youth report that it is "definitely true" that their parents/guardians participate in activities at their school.

School Domain

Table 18. Perception of School Environment

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I try hard to do good work at school							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	1.6%	1.6%	3.0%	1.6%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	0.9%	0.3%	1.8%	5.6%	4.3%	3.9%	6.7%
<i>Mostly True</i>	20.3%	20.4%	36.8%	41.6%	54.3%	52.6%	49.4%
<i>Definitely True</i>	78.4%	79.0%	61.0%	51.2%	39.8%	40.4%	42.3%
I feel safe at school.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	0.9%	1.3%	0.9%	0.0%	2.7%	2.6%	1.2%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	5.2%	4.4%	4.5%	7.3%	5.4%	5.2%	4.0%
<i>Mostly True</i>	43.1%	37.9%	48.7%	54.0%	48.6%	46.3%	40.3%
<i>Definitely True</i>	50.9%	56.5%	46.0%	38.7%	43.2%	45.9%	54.5%
Teachers/staff at my school encourage me and support me to do my best.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	0.4%	0.3%	1.8%	2.4%	3.3%	4.9%	0.8%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	3.1%	0.9%	6.8%	12.1%	12.0%	8.0%	9.6%
<i>Mostly True</i>	21.9%	24.9%	47.3%	52.4%	58.7%	55.8%	57.2%
<i>Definitely True</i>	74.6%	73.8%	44.1%	33.1%	26.1%	31.4%	32.4%

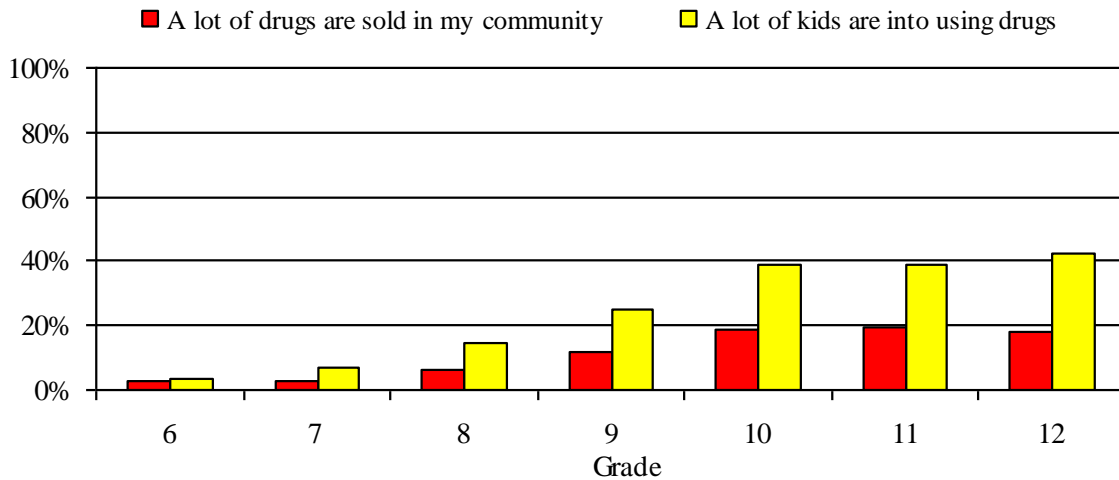
Most South Windsor youth are committed to doing well in school and feel supported by the teachers and staff at their school. Although most youth also feel safe at school. up to 3% of youth "definitely" do NOT.

Community Domain

Table 19. Perception of Community

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A lot of drugs are sold in my community.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	59.4%	49.0%	22.5%	15.5%	12.0%	10.9%	7.3%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	25.1%	34.2%	50.5%	43.3%	36.0%	33.6%	34.6%
<i>Mostly True</i>	12.8%	13.8%	21.1%	29.6%	33.1%	36.4%	40.2%
<i>Definitely True</i>	2.7%	3.0%	6.0%	11.6%	18.9%	19.1%	17.9%
A lot of kids in my community are into using marijuana and other drugs.							
<i>Definitely NOT True</i>	69.7%	43.9%	18.2%	11.3%	8.0%	6.4%	2.5%
<i>Mostly NOT True</i>	22.5%	35.6%	39.1%	30.4%	15.3%	15.1%	12.8%
<i>Mostly True</i>	4.6%	13.5%	28.2%	33.0%	38.1%	39.7%	42.1%
<i>Definitely True</i>	3.2%	6.9%	14.5%	25.2%	38.6%	38.8%	42.6%

Percentage of Youth Who Report It Is "Definitely True" That Drugs Are Sold and Used in Their Community



Overall, 23% of youth feel a lot of kids are into using drugs and 11% feel that a lot of drugs are sold. The perception that drugs are sold in the community and that youth in the community are using drugs tends to increase with increasing grade.

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Table 20. Prevention Strategies

How important do you think the following are in preventing kids from drinking alcoholic beverages?

Ranked from high to low based on percentage of youth choosing "very important"

6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Alcohol Education in School (84%)	Checking ID's (84%)	Checking ID's (78%)	Having License Suspended (57%)	Checking ID's (67%)	Checking ID's (62%)	Having License Suspended (58%)
Parental Strictness (84%)	Parental Strictness (77%)	Friends Who Don't Drink (76%)	Checking ID's (57%)	Having License Suspended (61%)	Having License Suspended (60%)	Checking ID's (52%)
Checking ID's (83%)	Friends Who Don't Drink (76%)	Parental Strictness (66%)	Friends Who Don't Drink (49%)	Friends Who Don't Drink (55%)	Friends Who Don't Drink (49%)	Friends Who Don't Drink (49%)
Having License Suspended (73%)	Having License Suspended (73%)	Alcohol Education in School (65%)	Breathalyzer Tests (44%)	Parental Strictness (47%)	Breathalyzer Tests (46%)	Breathalyzer Tests (43%)
Friends Who Don't Drink (73%)	Breathalyzer Tests (73%)	Breathalyzer Tests (63%)	Parental Strictness (41%)	Breathalyzer Tests (43%)	Parental Strictness (38%)	Parental Strictness (35%)
Breathalyzer Tests (65%)	Alcohol Education in School (72%)	Having License Suspended (61%)	Alcohol Education in School (28%)	Alcohol Education in School (30%)	Alcohol Education in School (26%)	Alcohol Education in School (25%)
High Price (37%)	High Price (35%)	High Price (25%)	High Price (17%)	High Price (26%)	High Price (22%)	High Price (18%)

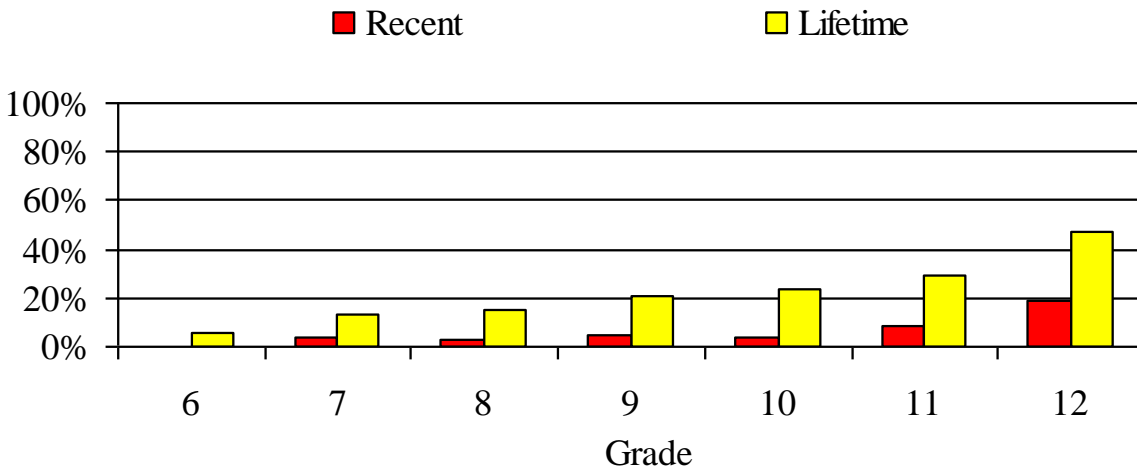
Among youth in 6th grade, alcohol education in school, parental strictness and checking IDs are considered the most effective strategies for preventing youth from drinking alcohol. Youth in grades 7 and 8 agree that checking IDs and parental strictness are effective but they also consider friends who don't drink to be among the top 3 strategies. High school youth consider checking IDs, having a license suspended and friends who do not drink to be the 3 most effective strategies.

Gambling

Table 21. Gambling Behavior

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
During the past 30 days, on how many days did you gamble for money or possessions?							
<i>I have NEVER gambled</i>	94.7%	86.5%	85.1%	79.2%	76.6%	70.6%	52.4%
<i>Not in the past 30 days</i>	4.8%	9.9%	12.2%	16.0%	19.4%	20.8%	28.5%
<i>Occasionally (1-5 days)</i>	0.4%	2.6%	0.9%	4.3%	4.0%	6.8%	15.4%
<i>Frequently (6-20 days)</i>	0.0%	1.0%	1.8%	0.4%	0.0%	1.4%	3.3%
<i>Almost every day (≥21 days)</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%

Percentage of Youth Who Report Recent and Lifetime Gambling



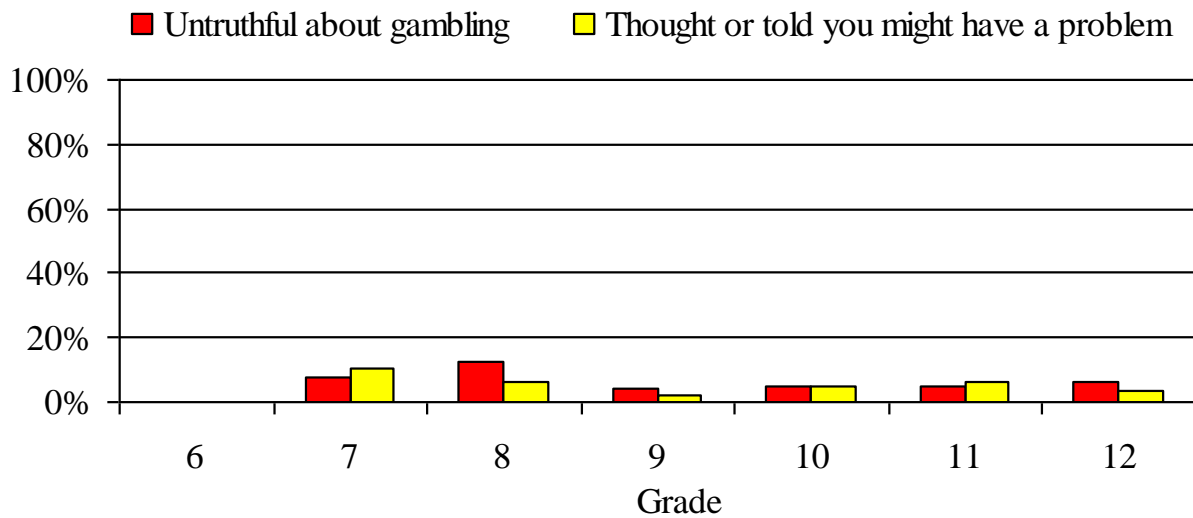
Lifetime and recent gambling rates tend to increase steadily with increasing grade.

*****Lifetime Gambler - Sub-analysis*****

Table E. Problem Gambling Indicators Among Lifetime Gamblers
(n=358)

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Have you ever been untruthful about the extent of your gambling?							
No	100.0%	92.7%	87.5%	95.7%	95.0%	95.2%	93.9%
Yes	0.0%	7.3%	12.5%	4.3%	5.0%	4.8%	6.1%
Have you ever thought you might have a problem with gambling or been told you might?							
No	100.0%	89.7%	93.8%	97.9%	95.0%	93.5%	96.5%
Yes	0.0%	10.3%	6.3%	2.1%	5.0%	6.5%	3.5%

Percentage of Lifetime Gamblers Who Report Certain Problem Gambling Indicators



Overall, 6% of lifetime gamblers report having been untruthful about their gambling and 5% report having though or been told they might have a problem with gambling. The rates of problem gambling indicators tend to be highest among youth in grades 7 and 8.

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Comparative Data

The youth in South Windsor were last surveyed regarding their attitudes, perceptions and practices with respect to drug and alcohol use in 2008. It is important to understand how the rates presented in this report compare to rates from South Windsor in 2008 and from other surveys conducted at the National and State levels. The tables below show the current South Windsor rates from 2012 in side-by-side comparisons with findings from the 2008 survey and with other National and State surveys for select questions. The National and State data are taken from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) survey of 2011. The YRBSS survey is conducted by the United States Centers for Disease Control every 2 years. There are also state/local Youth Risk Behavior Surveys conducted by state and local agencies. The Connecticut School Health Survey (CSHS) is the Connecticut component of the YRBSS. National data (as reported in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Volume 61, Number 4, June 8, 2012) and State data as reported on the Connecticut Department of Public Health website (<http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3132&q=388104>) are provided below.

Recent Tobacco Use*	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
South Windsor 2008	0.3%	0.6%	4.4%	13.4%	19.7%	26.4%	30.2%
South Windsor 2012*	0.4%	0.9%	1.4%	3.6%	9.2%	13.9%	24.8%
YRBSS 2011	Not available			16.1%	21.5%	25.8%	31.4%
CSHS 2011 (Youth Tobacco Component)	1.5%	5.4%	6.7%	15.0%	17.5%	21.6%	26.6%

*Includes cigarettes, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, cigars or snuff

Recent Alcohol Use	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
South Windsor 2008	0.9%	2.0%	8.2%	24.2%	34.8%	43.2%	52.3%
South Windsor 2012	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	7.8%	20.6%	36.2%	44.8%
YRBSS 2011	Not available			29.8%	35.7%	42.7%	48.4%
CSHS 2011	Not available			29.9%	37.5%	46.1%	54.5%

Recent Binge Alcohol Use (% of all youth)	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
South Windsor 2008*	1.0%			26.4%			
South Windsor 2012*	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	2.0%	10.2%	21.7%	33.7%
YRBSS 2011**	Not available			14.0%	18.4%	25.2%	31.5%
CSHS 2011*	Not available			11.5%	18.6%	28.8%	32.1%

* Binge = 4 or more drinks during a single occasion, 2012 percentages do not match those shown earlier in the report. The previous percentages were among lifetime drinkers. These percentages are among all youth.

** Binge = 5 or more drinks in a row within a couple of hours at least once in the past 30d

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Recent Marijuana Use	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
South Windsor 2008	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	11.1%	17.9%	23.5%	29.2%
South Windsor 2012	0.0%	0.3%	2.3%	4.0%	13.7%	19.2%	29.0%
YRBSS 2011	Not available			18.0%	21.6%	25.5%	28.0%
CSHS 2011	Not available			15.0%	22.8%	29.4%	30.6%

Lifetime Prescription Medication Misuse	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
South Windsor 2008	4.8%	4.9%	5.2%	9.2%	7.1%	11.2%	15.2%
South Windsor 2012	0.0%	0.6%	2.2%	2.8%	7.6%	7.5%	9.4%
YRBSS 2011	Not available			16.5%	18.2%	23.3%	25.6%
CSHS 2011	Not available			8.4%	6.6%	11.6%	11.9%

It is also important to understand how the rates presented in this report compare to the rates for the ERASE region as a whole. The tables below show regional rates calculated as weighted averages of rates representing approximately 6000 youth from 6 communities in the ERASE region where surveys were conducted in 2010, 2011 and 2012. The current (2012) South Windsor rates are included in the calculation of the regional averages.

Tobacco	South Windsor 2012 Grades 9-12	ERASE Region 2010-2012 Grades 9-12
Age of Onset (years)	14.4 yrs	14.2 yrs
Past Month Use (% use)	13%	14%
Perceived Risk (% moderate or great risk)	91%	90%
Perceived Parental Disapproval (% wrong or very wrong)	90%	91%

South Windsor Youth Survey 2012

Alcohol	South Windsor 2012 Grades 9-12	ERASE Region 2010-2012 Grades 9-12
Age of Onset (years)	14.6 yrs	14.2 yrs
Past Month Use (% use)	28%	31%
Perceived Risk (moderate or great risk)	79%	72%
Perceived Parental Disapproval (wrong or very wrong)	89%	84%

Marijuana	South Windsor 2012 Grades 9-12	ERASE Region 2010-2012 Grades 9-12
Age of Onset (years)	14.5 yrs	14.5 yrs
Past Month Use (% use)	17%	21%
Perceived Risk (moderate or great risk)	48%	59%
Perceived Parental Disapproval (wrong or very wrong)	88%	88%

Prescription Medications to Get High	South Windsor 2012 Grades 9-12	ERASE Region 2010-2012 Grades 9-12
Past Month Use (% use)	2.0%	3.5%

Appendix A

Survey Instrument