

Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) 2002

SMOKING, DRINKING AND DRUG USE AMONG 13 AND 15 YEAR OLDS IN ARGYLL AND CLYDE, 2002

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

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Notes on statistics

When differences between estimates are specifically commented on in the report text these differences are significant unless otherwise stated. For example reporting that '*...the prevalence of drug use was higher in boys than in girls...*' would indicate that the gender difference in drug use is *statistically significant*. Further details on precision of estimates and statistical significance are given in Chapter 6 *Survey Design*.

Notes to tables

- percentages may not add up to 100 because of rounding
- some children did not answer each question, these 'no answers' have been excluded from the analyses and so the tables that describe the same population may have varying bases
- the following conventions have been used in the tables,
0 = less than 0.5 but not 0
- = 0
- some percentages, particularly where numbers are broken down by age group or gender, may be based on a small number of pupils and should therefore be treated with caution as apparent differences may not be statistically significant

Acknowledgements:

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We would also like to thank the schools and pupils who took part in the survey.

1 Summary of Findings

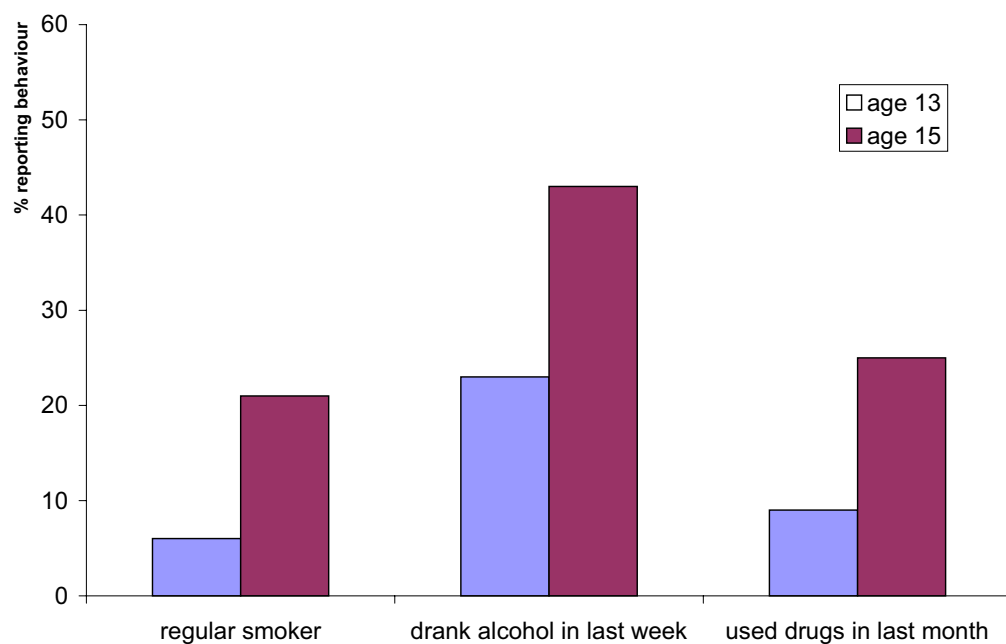
SALSUS 2002 found that among pupils in Argyll and Clyde:

- 6% of 13 year olds and 21% of 15 year olds were regular smokers¹
- Prevalence of regular smoking was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- 23% of 13 year olds and 43% of 15 year olds had drunk alcohol in the week prior to the survey
- Prevalence of drinking was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- 9% of 13 year olds and 25% of 15 year olds had used drugs in the month prior to the survey
- Prevalence of drug use was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- The differences in smoking, drinking and drug use between boys and girls in Argyll and Clyde were not statistically significant.
- For 15 year old pupils the average age for first smoking or drinking was 12, but the average age for the first occasion of drug use was older at 14 years.

Figures 1.1 and 1.2 (overleaf) show the age and gender differences in reported smoking, drinking and drug use in Argyll and Clyde in 2002.

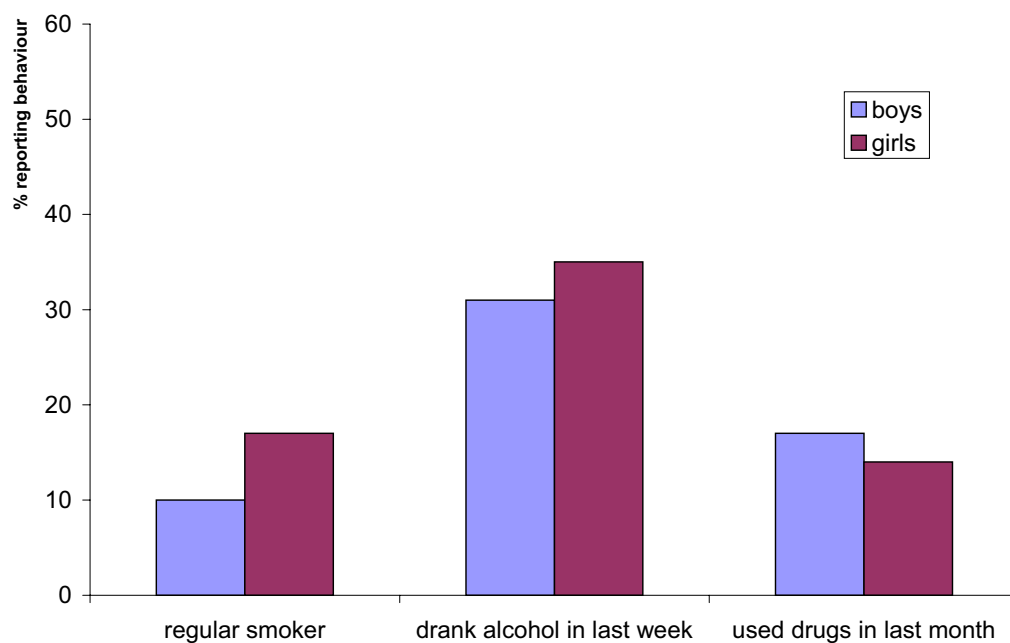
¹ regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week

Figure 1.1: Smoking, drinking and drug use in 13 and 15 year olds, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002



(Source: tables 3.1, 4.3, 5.1)

Figure 1.2: Smoking, drinking and drugs use in 13 and 15 year olds, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002



(Source: tables 3.2, 4.4, 5.2)

2 Background to the Survey

2.1 Introduction

This report presents the key findings from the Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) on the prevalence of smoking, drinking and drug use among 13 and 15 year old pupils attending schools in the Argyll and Clyde area. Findings on the availability of substances and on the behaviour and attitudes of pupils and their families in relation to substance use are also reported. One of the main purposes in developing the survey was to provide Drug and Alcohol Action Teams, local authorities and NHS Boards with information about substance use among school pupils in their own areas. The information is intended to assist local planning.

The national Interim Report released in December 2002¹ presented key national findings on the prevalence of smoking, drinking and drug use and comparisons are made with these national findings in this report. A more comprehensive national report will be published later in 2003. It will describe smoking, drinking and drug use in the context of adolescent lifestyles and health. Further local level information in the form of tables of lifestyle and health data will also become available following the publication of the national report.

2.2 Survey arrangements

SALSUS continues the series of biennial surveys of smoking, drinking and drug use begun in 1982² and is the first national school survey to provide local as well as national information. This is possible because new survey arrangements have been made in Scotland following an information needs assessment undertaken by the Scottish Advisory Committee on Drug Misuse (SACDM). SACDM identified the need for a regular cross sectional survey of substance misuse among schoolchildren in Scotland, disaggregated if possible to Drug and Alcohol Action Team and local authority level and including contextual information on other health and lifestyle factors. The Scottish Executive felt that the UK survey no longer met all Scotland's information needs and asked the Information and Statistics Division (ISD Scotland) to convene a National School Survey Substance Misuse Working Group³ to consider possible options for a Scottish survey to cover all areas of substance misuse and lifestyle contextual factors, and which would allow for the disaggregation of data to provide local information.

The key factor in making recommendations for a survey in 2002 was the pressing need for local information to support the work of Drug Action Teams (DATs) and Alcohol Action Teams (AATs), though the Working Group were also guided by the commitment to keep to a minimum any disruption to schools and the need for

¹ The SALSUS Interim Report can be accessed on-line
http://www.drugmisuse.isdscotland.org/publications/abstracts/salsus_interim02.htm

² The first survey in the series of biennial school surveys commissioned by the Department of Health with the Scottish Office was carried out in 1982 to obtain information on smoking prevalence and behaviour. From 1990 surveys included items on drinking and from 1998 items on drugs. In 2000 the survey was carried out by the National Centre for Social Research and the National Foundation for Educational Research, all previous surveys were carried out by ONS.

³ The Working Group included representatives from a range of interests, including Drug and Alcohol Action Team Associations, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, Health Education Board for Scotland, SE Health Policy Directorate, SE Education Department and LA Education Departments.

information on other lifestyle factors and social contextual information to gain a better understanding of substance use in school aged children. It was agreed that the best means of addressing all these issues in a Scottish survey was to combine components of the existing national and UK biennial school surveys on smoking, drinking and drug use with components of the WHO Health Behaviour in School Aged Children (HBSC) survey¹ on lifestyle and health factors, and to undertake the revised Scottish survey (now known as the Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey, SALSUS) concurrently with the HBSC survey in 2002². SALSUS is being undertaken by the Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit (CAHRU) of the University of Edinburgh in conjunction with the HBSC survey research in 2002. A smaller national survey will be undertaken in 2004. The contract is managed on behalf of the Scottish Executive by ISD Scotland with advice from an Advisory Group made up of key stakeholders including Drug and Alcohol Action Teams, the Health Education Board for Scotland and the Scottish Executive.

2.3 Sample design

SALSUS 2002 required a much larger sample of pupils than previous surveys in this series to ensure adequate precision of estimates of prevalence in local areas. Mainly for reasons of cost and the workload burden on schools it was not feasible to survey pupils in S1-S4 inclusive, as in previous years. Consequently the survey samples pupils from only two school years: S2 and S4. For the purpose of reporting, S2 pupils will be referred to as '13 year olds' and S4 pupils referred to as '15 year olds' throughout these reports.³

The survey fieldwork was carried out in the 2002 Spring term. Each participating school was requested to administer a confidential questionnaire to each pupil in selected classes. The methods used to select the schools and the number of classes ensured that within each local authority every eligible pupil had an equal chance of being included in the study. All pupils in S2 and S4 attending local authority and independently funded schools were eligible for inclusion in the study, with the exception of pupils attending special schools or schools with very few pupils.

2.4 Local response rates

The SALSUS 2002 survey of Argyll and Clyde was designed to have a final sample size of 3100 pupils, split equally between S2 and S4. This constituted approximately 29% of the pupils eligible to be included in the study. One local authority, Renfrewshire, withdrew from the SALSUS survey after allocation of the sample. The remaining 2100 pupils selected from areas which continued to participate comprised 34% of the eligible pupils. Of the 26 schools that were asked to participate in the participating areas 18 schools (69%) agreed to take part in the study.

¹ The HBSC survey has been conducted in Scotland every four years since 1990 by Dr Candace Currie, Scottish HBSC Principal Investigator and Director of the Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit (CAHRU), The University of Edinburgh <http://www.education.ed.ac.uk/cahru/>

² The SALSUS 2002 Protocol provides more detailed background information, including government policy frameworks for smoking, drinking and drug misuse, survey aims and objectives, sample design and questionnaire items.

³ As in previous surveys in this series 16 year olds are included in the '15 year old' age group. The '13 year old' group also includes 14 year olds. The pupils in S2 have an average age of 13 years 7 months, and 14% are 14 years old (5% more than 14 years 1 month, 2% older than 14 years 2 months). The pupils in S4 have an average age of 15 years 7 months, and 17% are 16 years old (5% more than 16 years 1 month, 3% more than 16 years 2 months). The average age of the SALSUS '13 year old' and '15 year old' groups is not significantly different from that of '13' and '15' year old age groups cited in previous reports (average age 13 years 6 months and 15 years 6 months respectively).

Response rates are based on class and pupil participation rates in the participating areas. In total 113 classes in Argyll and Clyde were selected to participate, and 60 classes (53%) took part. The overall pupil response rate within classes was 90%. The main reason for pupil non-response was absence due to illness. The final survey response in Argyll and Clyde, based on the class and pupil response rate, was therefore 48%. This was lower than the overall national response rate for SALSUS 2002 of 65%. The final sample size was 1254 pupils, 20.3% of the target population in participating local authorities in Argyll and Clyde.

The non-participation of Renfrewshire, which comprises more than 40% of the target population in Argyll & Clyde, is a source of bias in reported estimates for this area, as the Argyll and Clyde sample is not representative of the whole population, only of participating local authorities. Since surveys in this series have not been carried out at local level in the past it is not possible to assess accurately how estimates may have been different if all areas had taken part, and so quantify the direction and magnitude of this potential bias. If pupils in Renfrewshire behave in a similar manner to their counterparts in the rest of Argyll & Clyde with respect to smoking, drinking and drug taking then the estimates may not change very much from those obtained from a sample with all local authorities participating. However, estimates cited in the report are only accurate for areas covered by the sample, and any attempt to extrapolate from this to other areas should proceed with extreme caution.

3 Smoking

3.1 Smoking prevalence

In Argyll and Clyde, reported prevalence of regular smoking¹ increased significantly with age. In 2002, 6% of 13 year olds were regular smokers compared with 21% of 15 year olds. For both age groups the reported prevalence in Argyll and Clyde was not significantly different from the national prevalence of regular smoking (national figures: 8% for 13 year olds and 20% for 15 year olds). Just over half of 13 year olds reported that they had never smoked (53%), compared with 37% of 15 year olds.

Again, reflecting patterns found nationally, there was a higher prevalence of regular smoking among girls than boys in both age groups in Argyll and Clyde; 17% of girls and 10% of boys were regular smokers. However, these differences are small and not statistically significant (**Tables 3.1, 3.2**).

3.2 Number of cigarettes smoked

Pupils who smoked regularly were asked how many cigarettes they usually smoked in a week. Younger pupils who were regular smokers reported smoking fewer cigarettes per week than older pupils: an average of 26 per week for 13 year olds and 37 per week for 15 year olds. There was no significant gender difference in the average number of cigarettes smoked per week by regular smokers: an average of 39 for boys and 32 for girls.

3.3 Money spent on cigarettes

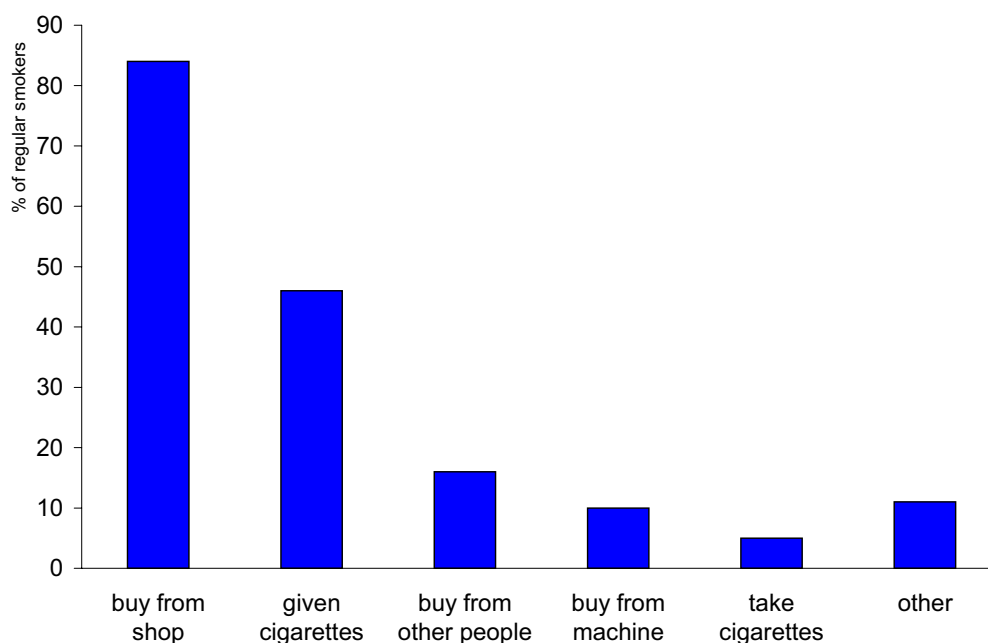
Almost all regular smokers (96%) reported that they spent money on cigarettes. The average amount spent by regular smokers who bought cigarettes was £8.00 a week.

3.4 Where pupils obtain cigarettes

Regular smokers were given a list of sources for obtaining cigarettes and asked to indicate where they usually obtained their cigarettes. Some pupils gave more than one source. The majority of regular smokers (84%) indicated that they bought cigarettes from shops, 10% bought them from machines and 16% reported buying them from other people. However, smokers did not always buy cigarettes, just under half (46%) of all regular smokers reported that they were given cigarettes by friends or relatives, 5% reported that they 'take cigarettes' and 11% of pupils reported that they obtained their cigarettes 'some other way' (**Tables 3.3 and 3.4, Figure 3.1**).

¹ regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week

Figure 3.1 Source of cigarettes: Argyll and Clyde 2002.



(Source: Table 3.3 and 3.4)

3.5 Smoking dependence

Regular smokers were asked whether they would like to give up smoking and how difficult or easy they felt this would be. The majority (77%) of regular smokers reported that they would like to give up smoking and 70% had tried to give up at some time. Twenty nine percent (29%) of all regular smokers reported that they would find it very difficult to give up smoking altogether and a further 35% reported that they would find it fairly difficult.

Pupils who had smoked for more than a year (69% of all regular smokers) were more likely to think it would be very difficult to give up smoking altogether compared to pupils who had smoked for less than a year: 39% of pupils who had smoked for more than a year reported that it would be very difficult to give up smoking compared with 8% of pupils who had smoked regularly for less than a year (Tables 3.5 to 3.8).

3.6 Family attitudes to smoking

All pupils were asked about their family's attitudes to smoking. Pupils who smoked were asked 'How does your family feel about your smoking?' and pupils who did not smoke were asked 'How do you think your family would feel if you started smoking?'

Eighty percent (80%) of regular smokers reported that their families either stop them smoking or try to persuade them to stop smoking. Sixty one percent (61%) of all pupils who were regular smokers reported that they are not allowed to smoke at home (Tables 3.9 and 3.10).

Almost all non-smokers (91%) reported that their families would either stop them smoking or try to persuade them not to smoke (Table 3.9).

Pupils were also asked whether their families and friends smoked. More pupils who were regular smokers reported that a parent was a daily smoker compared with non-smokers: 61% of regular smokers compared with 44% of non-smokers. Pupils who reported that they smoked regularly were also more likely to have a sibling who smoked daily: 43% of regular smokers, compared with 13% of non-smokers (**Tables 3.11 and 3.12**).

Regular smokers were also more likely to have friends who smoked: 36% of regular smokers reported that 'all or almost all' of their friends smoked compared with 3% of non-smokers. Most non-smokers (64%) reported that 'none' or 'almost none' of their friends smoked (**Table 3.13**).

3.7 Cigarette advertising

Pupils were given a list of places and asked to say whether or not they had seen cigarettes advertised there over the previous six months. Most pupils (82%) reported that they had seen adverts on posters or billboards. More than half reported that they had seen adverts in magazines (59%) or on television (58%). Fewer pupils reported seeing adverts in newspapers (45%) or at the cinema (18%) (**Table 3.14**).

3.8 Lessons on smoking

Pupils were asked if they had had any lessons, videos or discussions in class in the last 12 months on smoking. Pupil responses depend on recall and may not accurately reflect the provision of lessons, videos or class discussions. Most pupils reported that they had lessons, videos or discussions: 78% of 13 year olds and 76% of 15 year olds. However, 15% of 13 year olds and 18% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 7% of 13 year olds and 6% of 15 year olds reported that they did not know if they had had lessons, videos or discussions on smoking (**Table 3.15**).

Table 3.1: Smoking behaviour by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	6	21	13	14
Occasional smoker	5	4	5	5
Used to smoke	13	12	12	13
Tried smoking once	23	26	24	23
Never smoked	53	37	45	45
<i>Base</i>	695	527	1222	22313

Base=all pupils

note: regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week; occasional smoker smokes cigarettes sometimes but not as many as one a week

Table 3.2: Smoking behaviour by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	10	17	13	14
Occasional smoker	4	6	5	5
Used to smoke	11	14	12	13
Tried smoking once	26	22	24	23
Never smoked	49	41	45	45
<i>Base</i>	643	579	1222	22313

Base=all pupils

note: regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week; occasional smoker smokes cigarettes sometimes but not as many as one a week

Table 3.3: Source of cigarettes by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Buy from shop	52	94	84
Given cigarettes	45	46	46
Buy from other people	20	15	16
Buy from machine	11	10	10
Take cigarettes	11	3	5
Get cigarettes some other way	30	5	11
<i>Base</i>	44	110	154

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 3.4: Source of cigarettes by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Buy from shop	83	84	84
Given cigarettes	44	48	46
Buy from other people	17	16	16
Buy from machine	17	6	10
Take cigarettes	3	6	5
Get cigarettes some other way	5	15	11
<i>Base</i>	58	96	154

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 3.5: Whether regular smokers would like to give up smoking: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Would like to give up smoking	77
Would not like to give up smoking	23
<i>Base</i>	144

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.6: Whether regular smokers have ever tried to give up smoking: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Has tried to give up smoking	70
Has not tried to give up smoking	30
<i>Base</i>	148

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.7: Length of time smoking: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
One year or less	31
More than a year	69
<i>Base</i>	147

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.8: Ease of giving up smoking by length of time smoking: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	One year or less %	More than a year %	Total %	National Total %
Very difficult	8	39	29	32
Fairly difficult	39	33	35	36
Fairly easy	33	20	24	21
Very easy	21	8	12	11
<i>Base</i>	48	98	147	2868

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.9: Perception of family attitude to pupil's smoking, by smoking status: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non- smoker %	Total %	National Total %
Stop/would stop me	25	41	62	55	54
Persuade me not to	55	28	29	33	35
Do nothing	10	5	1	2	3
Encourage me	3	7	0	1	0
Not sure	7	19	8	9	7
<i>Base</i>	144	41	863	1078	19279

Base= All pupils

Table 3.10: Whether regular smokers are allowed to smoke at home: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Allowed to smoke at home	26
Not allowed to smoke at home	61
Don't know	14
<i>Base</i>	137

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.11: Parents' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
Neither parent smokes daily	38	47	54
At least one parent smokes daily	61	52	44
Does not see either parent	1	2	2
<i>Base</i>	148	58	977

Base= All pupils

Table 3.12: Siblings' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
No sibling smokes	50	75	80
At least one sibling smokes daily	43	17	13
Does not have siblings	8	8	8
<i>Base</i>	141	53	912

Base= All pupils

Table 3.13: Friends smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
All or almost all	36	16	3
More than half	40	26	6
Half	13	14	7
Less than half	8	31	20
Almost none	2	13	36
None	1	0	28
<i>Base</i>	152	59	1002

Base= All pupils

**Table 3.14: Whether pupils have seen cigarette advertising:
Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Yes %	No %	Don't know %	Base
On posters/billboards	82	12	6	1185
In magazines	59	29	11	1165
On television	58	33	9	1185
In newspapers	45	37	18	1150
At the cinema	18	63	19	1148

Base= All pupils

**Table 3.15: Proportion of pupils who reported having lessons, videos
or discussions in class on smoking, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	78	76	77
No	15	18	16
Don't know	7	6	7
<i>Base</i>	430	434	864

Base= All pupils

4 Drinking

4.1 Prevalence of alcohol use

All pupils were asked whether they had ever had a 'proper alcoholic drink, a whole drink, not just a sip'. The prevalence of alcohol use increased significantly with age. Sixty eight percent (68%) of 13 year olds and 90% of 15 year olds reported that they had had an alcoholic drink (**Table 4.1**). For both age groups the reported prevalence in Argyll and Clyde was not significantly different from the national prevalence of alcohol use (national figures: 69% for 13 year olds and 88% for 15 year olds).

Just under half (43%) of 15 year olds and 23% of 13 year olds had drunk alcohol in the last week, again a significant increase in prevalence with age. Once again these figures are not significantly different from the reported national figures for drinking in the last week (national figures: 23% of 13 year olds reported drinking in the week before the survey compared with 46% of 15 year olds). There was no significant difference between boys and girls in the proportion of pupils drinking in the last week (**Tables 4.3 and 4.4**).

4.2 Usual drinking frequency

Among those pupils who reported having had an alcoholic drink, the frequency of drinking increased significantly with age; 17% of 13 year old pupils reported that they usually drink at least once a week, compared to 36% of 15 year old pupils. For both age groups the prevalence of weekly drinking is not significantly different from that reported nationally (national figures: 17% of 13 year olds and 38% of 15 year olds reported drinking weekly). More girls than boys reported drinking at least once a week (28% of girls and 24% of boys), though this difference was not statistically significant. The prevalence of weekly drinking in boys was significantly lower than the reported national prevalence, but prevalence in girls was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence (national figures: 29% of boys reported drinking weekly compared with 26% of girls) (**Tables 4.5 and 4.6**).

4.3 Money spent on alcohol

Of all pupils who drank weekly, 72% reported that they spent money on alcohol. The average amount spent by those who bought alcohol was £7.00 a week.

4.4 Type of alcohol consumed

Pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week before the survey were asked whether or not they had consumed various categories of alcoholic drink¹. There were differences between boys and girls in the types of alcohol drunk. For boys 'beer, lager or cider' were most commonly reported: 58% of boys who had drunk alcohol in the last week had consumed half a pint or more of beer, lager or cider. For girls, 'spirits' were most commonly reported: 59% had drunk spirits in the last week. A similar proportion of girls (56%) reported that they had drunk 'alcopops' in the last week (**Table 4.8**).

¹ Pupils were asked about the following types of drink: beer, lager or cider, shandy, wine, martini and sherry, spirits and liqueurs, alcopops and pre-mixed alcoholic drinks.

4.5 Average amount of alcohol consumed weekly

Pupils who reported that they had drunk alcohol in the last week before the survey were asked to record the amount they had consumed of each category of alcoholic drink. From this the total units of alcohol consumed were calculated. Half a pint of beer or a small glass of wine contains approximately one unit of alcohol. The method used to calculate units of alcohol was the same as used in previous surveys in this series (a full discussion of the method, including issues of under-reporting, can be found in Boreham et al., 2001¹). Boys who drank over the previous seven days consumed on average 12 units of alcohol, and girls consumed 10 units. This difference was not statistically significant. Figures 4.1 and 4.2 show the consumption of each type of drink as a proportion of the total reported amount of alcohol drunk in the week prior to the survey.

Figure 4.1: Type of alcohol drunk by boys in previous week, percentage of total units consumed: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

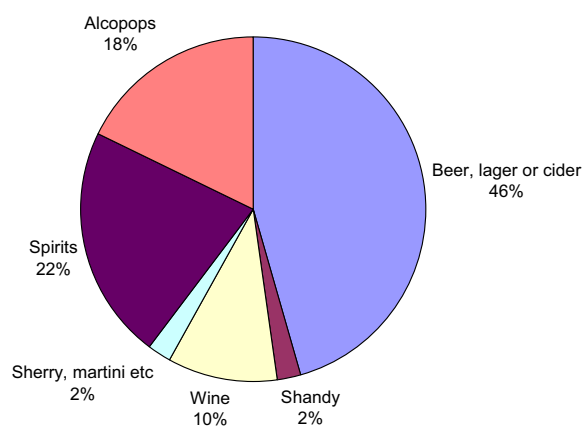
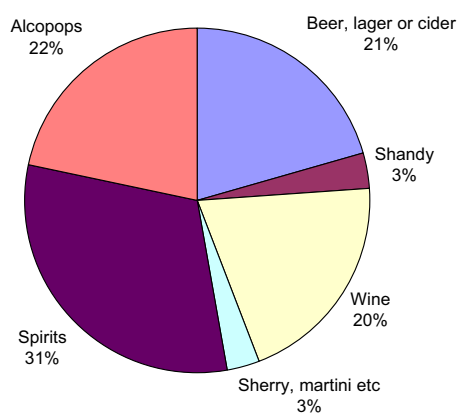


Figure 4.2: Type of alcohol drunk by girls in previous week, percentage of total units consumed: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

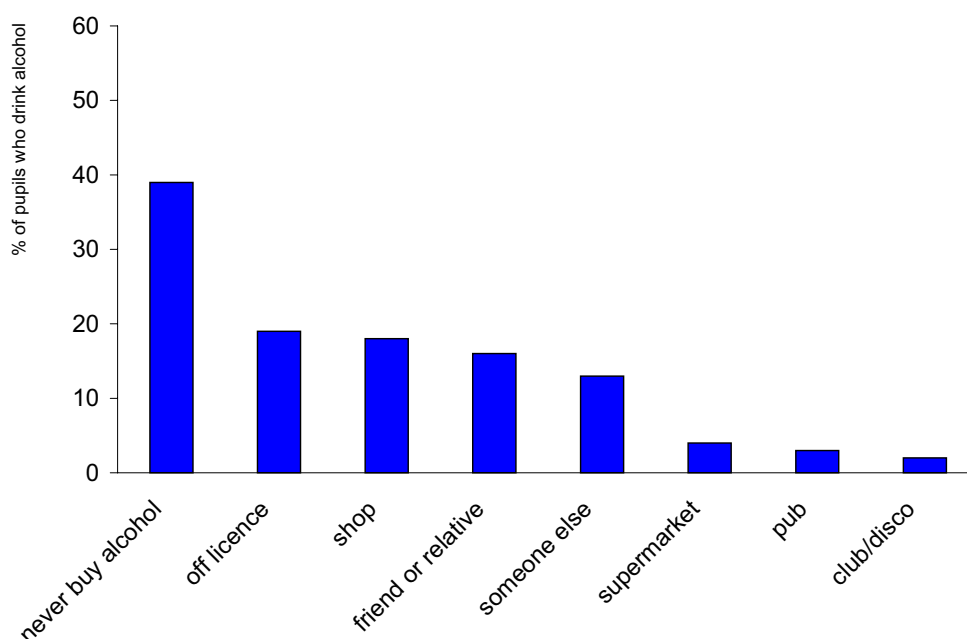


¹ Boreham R. and Shaw A. (eds) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland 2000*. Edinburgh: The Stationery Office, 2001.

4.6 Availability of alcohol

Pupils who reported ever having had an alcoholic drink were asked where they usually obtained alcohol. Some pupils reported more than one source. Thirty nine percent (39%) of those who had had an alcoholic drink reported that they 'never buy alcohol'. The most common sources for purchasing alcohol by pupils in Argyll and Clyde was from an off licence (19%), shop (18%) and friends or relatives (16%). Thirteen percent (13%) reported that they bought their alcohol from 'someone else'. Thirteen percent (13%) reported that they bought their alcohol from 'someone else' (Table 4.9 and 4.10, Figure 4.3).

Figure 4.3: Sources for obtaining alcohol, all pupils who had had an alcoholic drink: Argyll and Clyde 2002

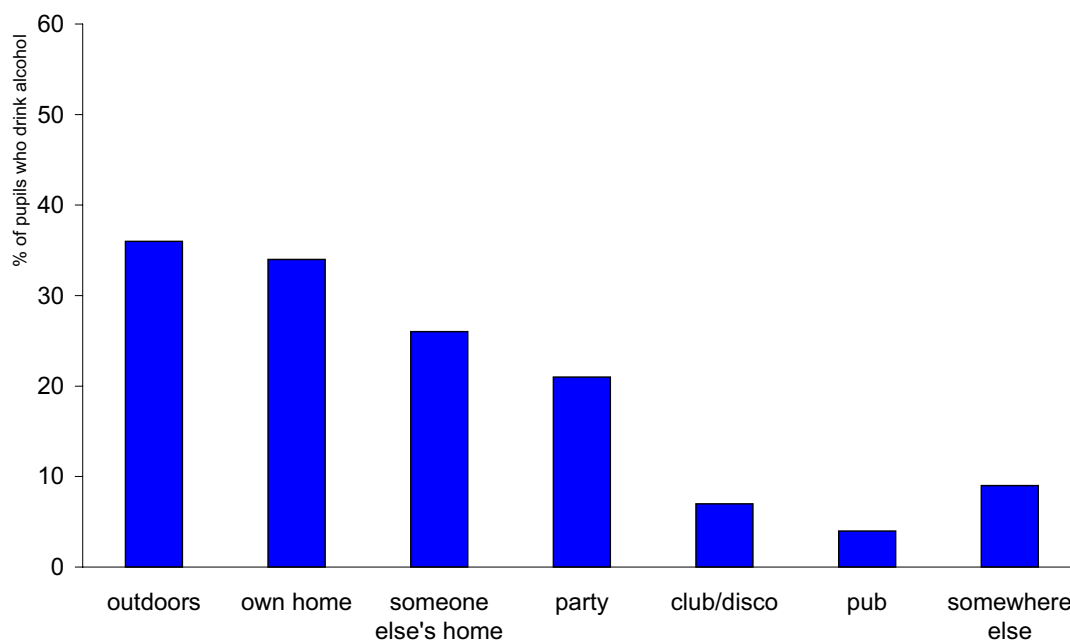


(Source: Tables 4.9 and 4.10)

4.7 Where young people drink alcohol

Pupils were asked 'When you drink alcohol, where are you usually?' and given a list of possible locations. Some pupils reported more than one location. The three most frequently reported locations for drinking alcohol were outdoors (36%), in the pupil's own home (34%) and someone else's home (26%) (Tables 4.11 and 4.12, Figure 4.4).

Figure 4.4: Places where pupils drink alcohol, all pupils who have had an alcoholic drink: Argyll and Clyde 2002



(Source: tables 4.11 and 4.12)

4.8 Drinking to excess

All pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink were asked 'Have you ever had so much alcohol that you were really drunk?'. Overall, 65% of pupils who had ever drunk alcohol reported that they had been drunk at least once. Sixteen percent (16%) had been drunk once, 22% had been drunk 2-3 times, 12% had been drunk 4-10 times and 15% had been drunk more than 10 times (Tables 4.13 and 4.14).

All pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink were also asked at what age they first got drunk (if ever). The average age reported by 15 year old pupils who had been drunk was 13 years old.

Just under half of all 13 and 15 year old pupils who had ever had a proper alcoholic drink (44%) reported that they had consumed five or more drinks on the same occasion in the past 30 days and 11% had consumed five or more drinks on the same occasion 4 or more times in the past 30 days (Tables 4.15 and 4.16).

4.9 Effects of drinking too much alcohol

Pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink were asked whether they had ever experienced any of a list of possible effects as a result of drinking too much alcohol. Pupils could give more than one answer. The most commonly reported effect was vomiting, reported by 42% of all 13 and 15 year old pupils. 'Having an argument or fight' was reported by 27% of all 13 and 15 year olds.

Some pupils had been involved in other risk behaviours as a result of drinking too much alcohol. Seventeen percent (17%) had tried drugs. Thirteen percent (13%) of

all 15 year olds (12% of boys and 14% of girls) had had unprotected sex (13 year old pupils were not asked questions on sexual health).

Around one in ten pupils had stayed off school as a result of drinking too much alcohol (11%). Fewer pupils reported having had any serious injuries which required the attention of a doctor or having been in hospital, either at an Accident and Emergency department or admitted overnight (**Tables 4.17 and 4.18**).

4.10 Family attitudes to drinking

All pupils who drank alcohol were asked how their parents felt about them drinking alcohol. Thirty seven (37%) of those pupils who drank alcohol in the past week reported that their parents did not know that they drank, 35% reported that their families did not mind them drinking, 15% reported that their families did not like them drinking and 14% reported that they did not know what their families thought (**Table 4.19 and 4.20**).

Pupils who had never had an alcoholic drink (21% of all pupils) were asked how their families would feel if they started drinking. Seventy one percent (71%) reported that their families would be upset or angry if they started drinking (**Tables 4.21 and 4.22**).

All pupils, including those who had never had a proper alcoholic drink, were asked if they were allowed to drink at home and most pupils (69%) agreed that they would be allowed to do so (**Table 4.23**).

4.11 Lessons on alcohol

Pupils were asked if they had had any lessons, videos or discussions in class in the last 12 months on alcohol. Pupil response depends on recall and may not accurately reflect the provision of lessons, videos or class discussions. Most pupils reported having lessons, videos or class discussions; 62% of 13 year olds and 71% of 15 year olds. However, 28% of 13 year olds and 22% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons, videos or class discussions and 10% of 13 year olds and 7% of 15 year olds did not know whether they had had lessons, videos or discussions on alcohol (**Table 4.24**).

Table 4.1: Whether pupils have had an alcoholic drink by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	68	90	79	78
No	32	10	21	22
<i>Base</i>	702	539	1241	22850

Base= All pupils

Table 4.2: Whether pupils have had an alcoholic drink by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	75	83	79	78
No	25	17	21	22
<i>Base</i>	657	584	1241	22850

Base= All pupils

Table 4.3: Last occasion of drinking, by age group Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	23	43	33	35
One to four weeks ago	13	17	15	16
One to six months ago	18	20	19	18
More than six months ago	14	10	12	10
Never	32	10	21	22
<i>Base</i>	695	539	1234	22617

Base=All pupils

Table 4.4: Last occasion of drinking, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	31	35	33	35
One to four weeks ago	13	17	15	16
One to six months ago	18	20	19	18
More than six months ago	13	11	12	10
Never	25	17	21	22
<i>Base</i>	654	580	1234	22617

Base=All pupils

Table 4.5: Usual drinking frequency, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	17	36	26	27
About once a fortnight	8	11	10	12
About once a month	11	15	13	12
Only a few times a year	32	28	30	27
Never	32	10	21	22
<i>Base</i>	697	537	1234	22754

Base=All pupils

Table 4.6: Usual drinking frequency, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	24	28	26	27
About once a fortnight	8	12	10	12
About once a month	13	12	13	12
Only a few times a year	30	30	30	27
Never	25	17	21	22
<i>Base</i>	652	582	1234	22754

Base=All pupils

Table 4.7: Type of drinks consumed in last seven days, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Beer, lager or cider	47	48	48
Shandy	19	5	10
Wine	32	34	33
Martini, sherry etc.	15	4	8
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	50	57	55
Alcopops	56	45	49
<i>Base</i>	163	229	392

Base=All pupils who drank one measure or more in past week

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.8: Type of drinks consumed in last seven days by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Beer, lager or cider	58	38	48
Shandy	13	7	10
Wine	28	38	33
Martini, sherry etc.	8	8	8
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	51	59	55
Alcopops	42	56	49
<i>Base</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>392</i>

Base=All pupils who drank one measure or more in last week

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.9: Sources of alcohol, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Never buy alcohol	48	31	39
Buy alcohol in off licence	9	27	19
Buy alcohol from shop	14	21	18
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	13	19	16
Buy alcohol from someone else	14	13	13
Buy alcohol from supermarket	3	5	4
Buy alcohol in pub	1	5	3
Buy alcohol in club	2	2	2
<i>Base</i>	<i>491</i>	<i>483</i>	<i>974</i>

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.10: Sources of alcohol, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Never buy alcohol	43	35	39
Buy alcohol in off licence	19	20	19
Buy alcohol from shop	18	17	18
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	14	18	16
Buy alcohol from someone else	9	18	13
Buy alcohol from supermarket	3	4	4
Buy alcohol in pub	4	3	3
Buy alcohol in club	2	2	2
<i>Base</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>482</i>	<i>974</i>

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.11: Venue for drinking alcohol, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	32	39	36
Usually drink in own home	42	27	34
Usually drink in someone else's home	18	33	26
Usually drink at a party with friends	13	26	21
Usually drink in club/disco	6	8	7
Usually drink in pub	2	6	4
Usually drink somewhere else	10	7	9
Base	491	483	974

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.12: Venue for drinking alcohol, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	32	41	36
Usually drink in own home	37	31	34
Usually drink in someone else's home	24	28	26
Usually drink at a party with friends	17	24	21
Usually drink in club/disco	5	9	7
Usually drink in pub	4	4	4
Usually drink somewhere else	9	8	9
Base	492	482	974

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.13: Ever been drunk, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Never	45	26	34	32
Once	19	14	16	19
2-3 times	19	24	22	22
4-10 times	9	15	12	13
More than 10 times	8	21	15	14
Base	472	476	948	17723

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

Table 4.14: Ever been drunk, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Never	35	34	34	32
Once	15	17	16	19
2-3 times	23	20	22	22
4-10 times	12	13	12	13
More than 10 times	15	16	15	14
<i>Base</i>	473	475	948	17723

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

Table 4.15: Consumed five or more drinks on the same occasion in last 30 days, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	7	14	11	13
3 times	7	9	8	9
Twice	8	16	12	13
Once	14	13	13	14
Not in last 30 days	23	25	24	23
Never	42	24	32	28
<i>Base</i>	467	470	937	17615

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

Table 4.16: Consumed five or more drinks on the same occasion in last 30 days, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	11	11	11	13
3 times	8	8	8	9
Twice	11	14	12	13
Once	11	15	13	14
Not in last 30 days	25	24	24	23
Never	34	29	32	28
<i>Base</i>	469	468	937	17615

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

Table 4.17: Effects of drinking too much alcohol, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Vomited	35	48	42
Had an argument or fight	21	32	27
Tried any drugs	9	21	17
Had unprotected sex*		13	13
Stayed off school	11	11	11
Injured and seen by doctor	7	6	6
Visited A & E department	3	3	3
Admitted to hospital overnight	3	1	3
Base	471	472	943

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

* 15 year old pupils only

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.18: Effects of drinking too much alcohol, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Vomited	39	46	42
Had an argument or fight	23	32	27
Tried any drugs	18	14	17
Had unprotected sex*	12	14	13
Stayed off school	10	12	11
Injured and seen by doctor	7	6	6
Visited A & E department	3	3	3
Admitted to hospital overnight	3	3	3
Base	470	473	943

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

* 15 year old pupils only

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 4.19: Perception of family attitudes to pupil's drinking (pupils who drank alcohol), by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	14	15	15	16
They don't mind	28	38	35	45
They don't know I drink	42	35	37	27
I don't know what they think	16	28	14	12
Base	152	221	373	7469

Base=All pupils who drank alcohol in previous week

Table 4.20: Perception of family attitudes to pupil's drinking (pupils who drank alcohol), by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	14	15	15	16
They don't mind	38	32	35	45
They don't know I drink	36	38	37	27
I don't know what they think	13	15	14	12
<i>Base</i>	182	191	373	7469

Base=All pupils who drank alcohol in previous week

Table 4.21: Perceptions of family attitude to pupil's drinking (pupils who have never tried alcohol), by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	72	68	71	70
They would not mind	5	13	7	9
I don't know what they would think	23	19	22	21
<i>Base</i>	209	54	263	4711

Base=All pupils who have never drunk alcohol

Table 4.22: Perceptions of family attitude to drinking (pupils who have never tried alcohol), by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	67	79	71	70
They would not mind	9	4	7	9
I don't know what they would think	25	17	22	21
<i>Base</i>	162	101	263	4711

Base=All pupils who have never drunk alcohol

Table 4.23: Whether pupils are allowed to drink alcohol at home: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Yes, always	5
Yes, sometimes	64
No, never	31
<i>Base</i>	1216

Base=All pupils

Table 4.24: Proportion of pupils who reported having lessons, videos or discussions in class on drinking, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Yes	62	71	67
No	28	22	25
Don't know	10	7	8
<i>Base</i>	<i>570</i>	<i>594</i>	<i>1164</i>

Base= All pupils

5 Drug Use

All pupils were asked whether they had ever been offered each drug on a list of drugs. Alternative street names were provided for each drug and a dummy drug 'Semeron'¹ was also included on the list.

All pupils were then asked whether they had ever used any of the drugs on the list, even if only once: 28% of all 13 and 15 year old pupils reported that they had taken drugs at some time (**Tables 5.1 and 5.2**).

The list of drugs was repeated in the next question and all pupils were asked when they had last used or taken each of the drugs listed: 'in the last month', 'in the last year', 'more than a year ago', or 'never'.

5.1 Drug use in the month prior to the survey

Prevalence of drug use in the month prior to the survey increased significantly with age. Nine percent (9%) of thirteen year old pupils reported using drugs in the last month compared with 25% of fifteen year olds. Prevalence of drug use in Argyll and Clyde is not significantly different from the prevalence found nationally (national figures: 8% of 13 year olds and 23% of 15 year olds). Girls reported a slightly lower prevalence of drug use in the month before the survey than boys (18% of boys and 15% of girls had used drugs in the last month), but this difference is not statistically significant (**Tables 5.1 and 5.2**).

5.2 Drug use in the year prior to the survey

Twenty five (25%) percent of all pupils in the survey reported that they had used drugs in the year prior to the survey (this figure includes those who used drugs in the last month) (**Tables 5.1 and 5.2**).

The most frequently used drug in the last year, including the last month, was cannabis, 24% of pupils had used cannabis in the last year. The figures were much lower for other types of drugs; 5% had used stimulants (cocaine, crack, ecstasy, amphetamines, poppers), 4% had used solvents, 3% percent had used psychedelics (LSD, magic mushrooms) and 1% had used opiates (heroin or methadone) (**Tables 5.3 and 5.4**).

5.3 Whether offered drugs

Around half of all pupils (52%) had been offered drugs. This proportion was higher for older pupils than for younger pupils: 65% of 15 year old pupils and 39% of 13 year old pupils reported that they had been offered drugs. The proportion of pupils offered drugs was not significantly different from that reported nationally for either age group (national figures: 65% of 15 year olds and 34% of 13 year olds reported being offered drugs). Girls were slightly less likely to report having been offered drugs than boys:

¹ 'Semeron' was included to give some idea as to whether children were over-reporting their use of drugs. Less than 1% of pupils reported Semeron among the drugs they had used and 1% included it among the drugs they had been offered.

51% of girls had been offered drugs compared with 53% of boys, but this difference was not statistically significant. The most commonly offered drug type was cannabis: 45% of pupils reported that they had been offered this drug (Tables 5.5 to 5.8).

5.4 Frequency of drug use

Five percent (5%) of pupils reported that they usually take drugs once a week or more, with a significantly higher proportion of older pupils doing so; 2% of thirteen year old pupils and 8% of fifteen year old pupils. There was no significant difference in proportion of girls and boys reporting taking drugs once a week or more (4% of girls and 6% of boys reported this). Reported prevalence of weekly drug taking was not significantly different from reported national prevalence in either age group or gender (Tables 5.9 and 5.10).

5.5 Money spent on drugs

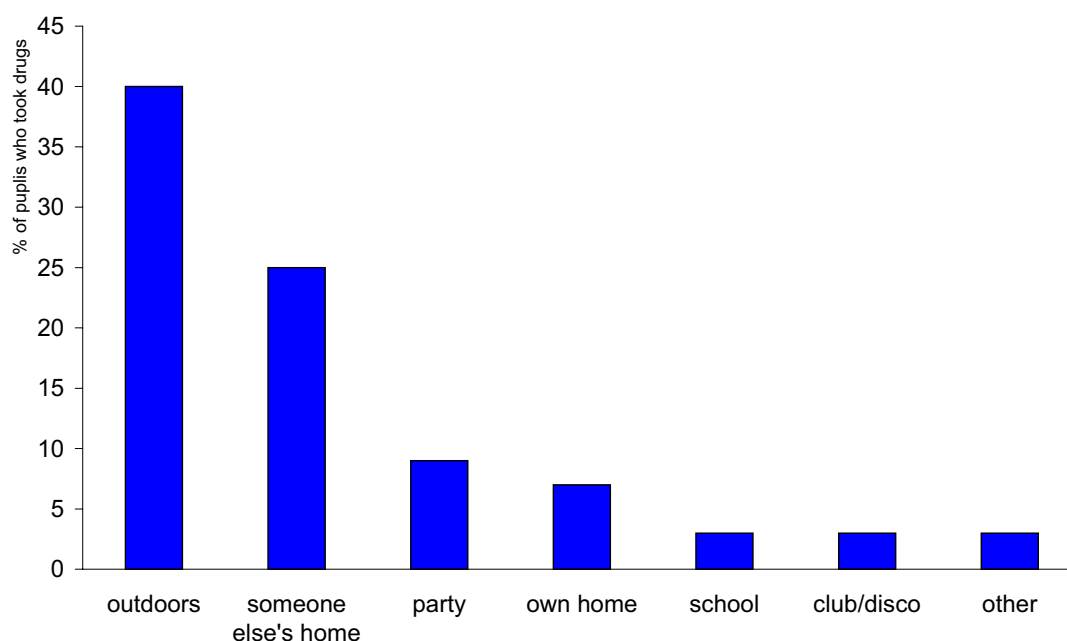
Around half (52%) of pupils who used drugs in the last month reported that they spent money on drugs. The average amount spent by those who reported buying drugs was £8.00 per week.

5.6 Where young people are when they use drugs

Pupils who had ever used drugs were asked where they were the last time they used drugs. Some pupils reported more than one location. Very few pupils reported using drugs in their own home. The most frequently reported location for drug taking for all 13 and 15 year old pupils was 'outdoors' (40%). The next most reported location was 'someone else's home' (25%) (Tables 5.11 and 5.12, Figure 5.1).

Thirty eight percent (38%) of those who have used drugs reported that they were drinking alcohol the last time they used drugs (Table 5.13).

Figure 5.1: Location of drugs use: Argyll and Clyde 2002



(Source: Tables 5.11 and 5.12)

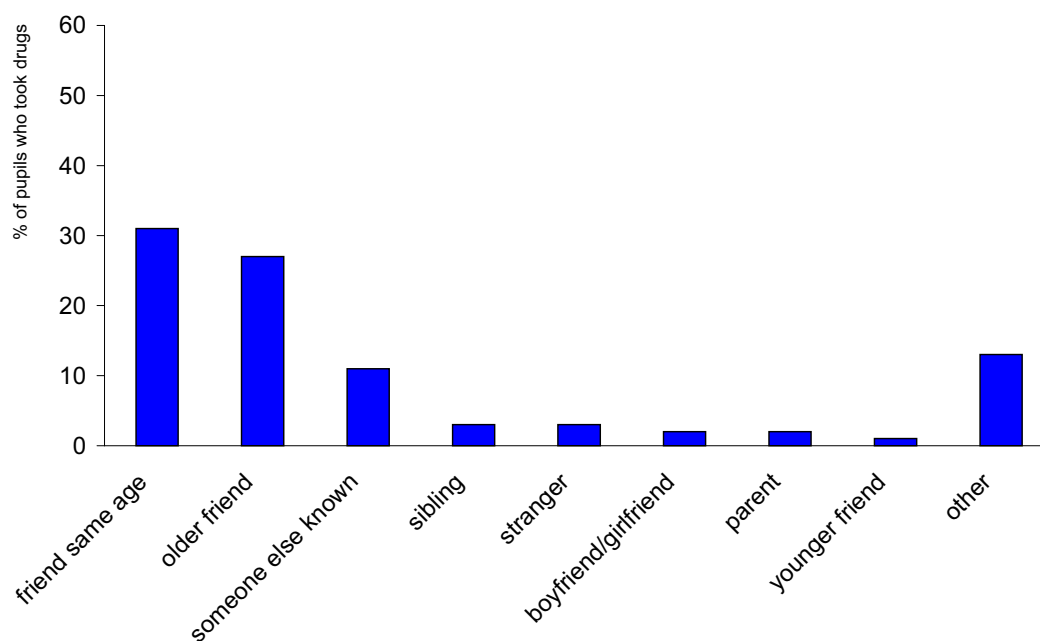
5.7 Availability of drugs

Half of all 13 and 15 year old pupils (50%) reported that it would be 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs while 36% did not know how easy or difficult it would be. Significantly more fifteen year olds reported that they would find it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' (65%) than thirteen year old pupils (37%) (Tables 5.14 and 5.15).

5.8 Source of drugs last used

Pupils who had used drugs were asked where they had obtained drugs from on the last occasion they had used them. Some pupils reported more than one source. As can be seen from figure 5.2, friends were the most commonly reported source of drugs; 33% of pupils reported that they obtained their drugs from a friend of the same age and a further 27% reported that they obtained drugs from an older friend (Tables 5.16 and 5.17, Figure 5.2).

Figure 5.2: Source of drugs: Argyll and Clyde 2002



(Source: Table 5.16 and 5.17)

Just over half (54%) of pupils who took drugs reported that they gave some drugs away last time they used drugs. Fewer pupils (7%) reported that they sold some of their drugs (Tables 5.18 and 5.19).

5.9 Obtaining information and help

Nineteen percent (19%) of the 13 and 15 year old pupils who reported taking drugs more than a few times a year said they would like to stop taking drugs now. Almost all young people who took drugs more than a few times a year reported that they have never felt that they needed help because of taking drugs (96%), although 72% reported that they knew where to go to get help (Tables 5.20 to 5.23).

All pupils were asked if they knew where to get information on drugs. Seventy percent (70%) reported that they knew where to get information (**Table 5.24**). The most frequently reported sources of information were 'doctor' (40%), 'friends' (35%), 'the internet' (33%) (**Table 5.25**).

5.10 Pupils attitudes to drugs

All pupils were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with a number of statements about drugs and those who used or sold them. Most pupils (78%) agreed that they 'know enough about the dangers of drugs' and almost all (90%) agreed that 'taking drugs harms your health'.

The majority of pupils also agreed with the other statements about the dangers of drugs: 'taking cocaine is dangerous' (79%), 'heroin is addictive' (67%) and 'injecting drugs can lead to HIV' (70%), although 30% did not know whether heroin is addictive and 27% did not know whether injecting drugs can lead to HIV. Half of the pupils (50%) agreed that 'heroin is more dangerous than cannabis' and 45% reported that they did not know whether this was the case. More than half (57%) of the pupils agreed that 'what adults tell us about drugs is true'.

Although around two thirds of pupils (67%) agreed that 'most young people will try out drugs', around half (57%) felt that 'people who take drugs are stupid'. Pupils were more likely to agree than disagree with the statement 'people my age who take drugs need help'; 67% of pupils agreed with this statement. Around half (52%) of pupils agreed that 'people who take heroin are junkies'.

Three of the statements concerned possible reasons for drug taking: 'people who take drugs want to escape from reality', 'people take drugs to relax' and 'taking drugs is exciting'. Very few pupils (16%) agreed that 'taking drugs is exciting'. Forty one percent (41%) agreed with the statement 'people who take drugs want to escape from reality' and 52% agreed that 'people take drugs to relax', but with regard to these last two statements a number of pupils reported that they 'don't know' (41% and 30% respectively).

Sixty two percent (62%) agreed that 'people who sell drugs should be punished' but only 26% believe that 'people who take drugs should be punished' (**Table 5.26**).

5.11 Lessons on drugs

All pupils were asked if they had had any lessons, videos or discussions in class in the last twelve months on drugs or on solvent abuse/glue sniffing. Pupil response depends on recall and may not accurately reflect the provision of lessons, videos or class discussions.

Most pupils reported that they had had lessons, videos or discussions on drugs: 69% of 13 year olds and 78% of 15 year olds. However, 23% of 13 year olds and 16% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 9% of 13 year olds and 6% of 15 year olds reported that did not know whether they had had lessons, videos or discussions on drugs (**Table 5.27**).

Fewer pupils reported having lessons, videos or discussions on solvent abuse/glue sniffing. Thirty six percent (36%) of 13 year olds and 40% of 15 year olds reported that they had had lessons, videos or discussions in the last twelve months. Forty eight percent (48%) of 13 year olds and 43% of 15 year olds reported that they had

not had lessons and 16% of 13 year olds and 16% of 15 year olds reported that they did not know whether they had had lessons, videos or discussions on solvent abuse/glue sniffing (**Table 5.28**).

Of those who reported having lessons, videos or discussions on drug use, 27% reported that they found them 'very useful' and 46% found them 'fairly useful' (**Table 5.29**).

Table 5.1: Taken drugs in last month, last year* or ever, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	9	25	17	14
Used drugs in last year*	15	36	25	22
Used drugs ever	16	40	28	24
<i>Base</i>	678	530	1208	22434

Base=All pupils

note: columns in the table do not add up to 100 as each category includes the previous one

Table 5.2: Taken drugs in last month, last year* or ever, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	18	15	17	14
Used drugs in last year*	28	23	25	22
Used drugs ever	31	25	28	24
<i>Base</i>	634	574	1208	22434

Base=All pupils

note: columns in the table do not add up to 100 as each category includes the previous one

Table 5.3: Type of drug used in the last year*, by age: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	13	35	24	19
Stimulants	3	8	5	6
<i>cocaine</i>	1	2	1	1
<i>crack</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	1	4	2	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	1	5	3	2
<i>poppers</i>	1	3	2	3
Psychedelics	2	3	2	2
<i>LSD</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	1	2	2	2
Opiates	1	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	1	1	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	4	4	4	4
Tranquillisers	1	2	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	1	1	1
Semeron	1	1	1	0
Other	0	1	1	0
<i>Base</i>	715	539	1254	23090

Base=All pupils

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

* includes past month

The National Totals shown in these tables have been weighted to allow more precise comparisons to be made with local figures, there may, therefore, be a slight variation between these National Totals and the figures published in the National Interim Report

**Table 5.4: Type of drug used in the last year*, by gender:
Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	26	21	24	19
Stimulants	7	4	5	6
<i>cocaine</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>crack</i>	2	0	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	3	2	2	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	4	2	3	2
<i>poppers</i>	3	1	2	3
Psychedelics	4	1	3	2
<i>LSD</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	3	1	2	2
Opiates	2	1	0	1
<i>heroin</i>	1	0	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	1	0	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	4	3	4	4
Tranquillisers	2	2	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	0	1	1
Semeron	1	0	1	0
Other	1	0	1	0
<i>Base</i>	<i>664</i>	<i>590</i>	<i>1254</i>	<i>23090</i>

Base=All pupils

* includes last month

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

**Table 5.5: Whether pupils offered drugs, by age group:
Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	39	65	52
No	61	35	48
<i>Base</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>510</i>	<i>1100</i>

Base= All pupils

**Table 5.6: Whether pupils offered drugs, by gender:
Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Yes	53	51	52
No	47	49	48
<i>Base</i>	<i>587</i>	<i>523</i>	<i>1100</i>

Base= All pupils

Table 5.7: Type of drug offered, by age: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	31	60	45	40
Stimulants	11	26	19	19
<i>cocaine</i>	5	5	5	6
<i>crack</i>	5	2	3	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	6	17	11	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	4	13	8	7
<i>poppers</i>	4	11	8	9
Psychedelics	7	11	9	10
<i>LSD</i>	4	6	5	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	5	8	6	8
Opiates	6	4	5	5
<i>heroin</i>	5	4	4	4
<i>methadone</i>	2	1	1	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	11	15	13	12
Tranquillisers	6	12	9	5
Anabolic Steroids	2	1	2	2
Semeron	2	1	2	1
Other	2	2	2	1
<i>Base</i>	674	531	1205	20614

Base=All pupils

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 5.8: Type of drug offered, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	47	44	45	40
Stimulants	18	19	19	19
<i>cocaine</i>	6	5	5	6
<i>crack</i>	5	2	4	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	10	13	11	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	9	8	8	7
<i>poppers</i>	9	6	8	9
Psychadelics	10	8	9	10
<i>LSD</i>	6	4	5	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	8	5	6	8
Opiates	5	4	5	5
<i>heroin</i>	5	4	4	4
<i>methadone</i>	2	0	1	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	13	12	13	12
Tranquillisers	9	8	9	5
Anabolic Steroids	2	1	2	2
Semeron	3	1	2	1
Other	2	1	2	1
<i>Base</i>	632	573	1205	20614

Base=All pupils

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

**Table 5.9: Usual frequency of taking drugs, by age group:
Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	2	8	5	4
Once or twice a month	2	7	4	4
A few times a year	3	7	5	5
Do not use drugs	93	78	86	87
<i>Base</i>	681	532	1213	22532

Base=All pupils

**Table 5.10: Usual frequency of taking drugs, by gender:
Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	6	4	5	4
Once or twice a month	4	5	4	4
A few times a year	6	4	5	5
Do not use drugs	84	87	86	87
<i>Base</i>	637	576	1213	22532

Base=All pupils

**Table 5.11: Places where drugs were used, by age group:
Argyll and Clyde 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	38	42	40
Someone else's home	17	29	25
At party	6	11	9
Own home	4	9	7
At club/disco	3	3	3
At school	2	4	3
Other place	4	4	4
<i>Base</i>	154	225	379

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 5.12: Places where drugs were used, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	39	42	40
Someone else's home	23	29	25
At party	9	10	9
Own home	8	5	7
At club/disco	3	4	3
At school	4	1	3
Other place	4	3	4
<i>Base</i>	225	154	379

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 5.13: Whether pupils were drinking alcohol last time they used drugs: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %	National Total %
Yes	38	39
No	62	61
<i>Base</i>	331	5544

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 5.14: Ease of getting drugs, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Very easy	14	33	23
Fairly easy	23	32	27
Fairly difficult	6	5	6
Very difficult	3	2	2
Impossible	8	2	5
Don't know	46	27	36
<i>Base</i>	669	532	1201

Base=All pupils

Table 5.15 Ease of getting drugs, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Very easy	25	21	23
Fairly easy	26	29	27
Fairly difficult	5	6	6
Very difficult	3	2	2
Impossible	5	5	5
Don't know	36	37	36
<i>Base</i>	629	572	1201

Base=All pupils

Table 5.16: Source of drugs, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Friend of own age	14	42	33
Older friend	26	27	27
Someone known	12	11	11
Brother or sister	3	3	3
Stranger	3	3	3
Boyfriend/girlfriend	2	2	2
Mother/father	3	1	2
Younger friend	1	2	1
Other	16	11	12
<i>Base</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>225</i>	<i>379</i>

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 5.17: Source of drugs, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Friend of own age	33	33	33
Older friend	24	31	27
Someone known	13	10	11
Brother or sister	2	4	3
Stranger	3	3	3
Boyfriend/girlfriend	-	4	2
Mother/father	2	1	2
Younger friend	1	2	1
Other	13	11	12
<i>Base</i>	<i>225</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>379</i>

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 5.18: Sharing drugs, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Used it all myself	35	40	39
Sold some of it	9	6	7
Gave some of it away	56	54	54
<i>Base</i>	<i>99</i>	<i>197</i>	<i>296</i>

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 5.19: Sharing drugs, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Used it all myself	41	35	39
Sold some of it	8	5	7
Gave some of it away	51	59	54
Base	174	122	296

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 5.20: Whether would like to stop taking drugs, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	25	17	19	15
Would like to give up in the future	15	12	12	20
Would not like to give up	40	44	43	39
Not sure	21	27	26	26
Base	48	111	159	2899

Base=All pupils who took drugs a few times or more in the last year

Table 5.21: Whether would like to stop taking drugs, by gender: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	16	23	19	15
Would like to give up in the future	16	7	13	20
Would not like to give up	49	34	43	39
Not sure	19	35	25	26
Base	93	66	159	2899

Base=All pupils who took drugs a few times or more in the last year

Table 5.22: Whether pupils felt they needed help because of using drugs: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Yes	4
No	96
Base	160

Base=All pupils who took drugs a few times or more in the last year

Table 5.23: Whether pupils know where to get help for of their drug use : Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Yes	72
No	28
<i>Base</i>	<i>159</i>

Base=All pupils who took drugs a few times or more in the last year

Table 5.24: Whether pupils know where to get information on drugs: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Yes	70
No	14
Don't know	15
<i>Base</i>	<i>1203</i>

Base=All pupils

Table 5.25: Where pupils would go for information on drugs: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Doctor	40
Friends	35
Internet/web	33
Telephone helpline	29
Advice organisation	22
Female family member	22
Drop-in centre	21
Teacher	19
Male family member	16
Magazines	15
Youth worker	14
Books	14
Councillor	11
TV/radio	7
<i>Base</i>	<i>836</i>

Base=All pupils who know where to get drugs information

note: columns may add up to more than 100 as more than one answer could be given

Table 5.26: Pupils' attitudes to drugs: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

<i>row %</i>	Agree	Disagree	Don't know	<i>Base</i>
Taking drugs harms your health	90	5	5	1204
Taking cocaine is dangerous	79	5	17	1196
I know enough about the dangers of drugs	78	13	9	1201
Injecting drugs can lead to HIV	70	3	27	1195
Heroin is addictive	67	3	30	1200
People my age who take drugs need help	67	18	16	1196
Most young people will try out drugs	67	17	16	1200
People who sell drugs should be punished	62	23	15	1198
People who take drugs are stupid	57	29	15	1193
What adults tell us about drugs is true	57	18	25	1196
People take drugs to relax	52	18	30	1197
People who take heroin are junkies	52	20	28	1195
Heroin is more dangerous than cannabis	50	5	45	1195
People take drugs to escape from reality	41	18	41	1194
People who take drugs should be punished	26	52	22	1193
Taking drugs is exciting	16	53	31	1203

Base=All pupils

Table 5.27: Proportion of pupils who reported having lessons, videos or discussions in class on drugs, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	69	78	73
No	23	16	19
Don't know	9	6	7
<i>Base</i>	569	593	1162

Base= All pupils

Table 5.28: Proportion of pupils who reported having lessons, videos or discussions in class on solvent abuse, by age group: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	36	40	38
No	48	43	46
Don't know	16	16	16
<i>Base</i>	565	590	1155

Base= All pupils

Table 5.29: Whether pupils found lessons, videos or discussions on drugs useful: Argyll and Clyde 2002.

	Total %
Very useful	27
Fairly useful	46
Not very useful	11
Not useful at all	6
Don't know	10
<i>Base</i>	898

Base= All pupils who reported having had lessons, videos or discussions

6 Survey Design

6.1 Sample design

All local samples were post-stratified to account for non-response bias in school type (independent or state funded) and school year (S2 or S4). In Argyll and Clyde there was no difference in response rate between state and independently funded pupils, but there was a higher response rate in S2 pupils (57% of Argyll and Clyde sample) compared with S4 pupils (43% of Argyll and Clyde sample).

6.2 Precision of estimates

The local and national sample size was agreed by the National School Survey Substance Misuse Working Group to provide robust data at local level. The proposed sample size within each local area was chosen to produce reliable estimates to monitor changes in prevalence over time, and enable comparisons between local and national estimates.

The degree of precision desired for the local samples was agreed by the National School Survey Substance Misuse Working Group as follows: when comparing a local sample of approximately 1000 with the national sample, a difference in prevalence of 5% in the local area, above or below the national figure, should be detected as statistically significant 80% of the time. With this sample size, changes in prevalence over time in a local area of 7% should also be detected as statistically significant 80% of the time. Comparing a local sub-group with a national sub-group (e.g. boys), the local prevalence would have to be 8% higher or lower than the national figure to be 80% certain of detecting this difference as statistically significant. Comparing sub-groups within local areas requires a large difference in prevalence (approx. 10%) if they are to be detected as statistically significant.

6.3 Statistical significance

Although the above acts as a guide to the magnitude of changes in prevalence which can in principal be detected, it should not be assumed that estimates differ unless clearly stated as significantly different in the text. The ability to detect differences in prevalence is also affected by the achieved sample size and the number of pupils who answer each question. The tables are provided are split by age group and by gender. The sample numbers in any sub-group should be taken into account, and extreme caution exercised when using figures from small subgroups for comparison purposes. Standard errors used to determine significance take account of the complex sample design^{1 2}.

¹ Kish (1970) *Survey Sampling*, London: John Wiley

² SAS System for Windows 1999. Release 8, SAS Institute Inc. Cary, NC, USA