

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

SMOKING, DRINKING AND DRUG USE AMONG 13 AND 15 YEAR OLDS IN AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN, 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

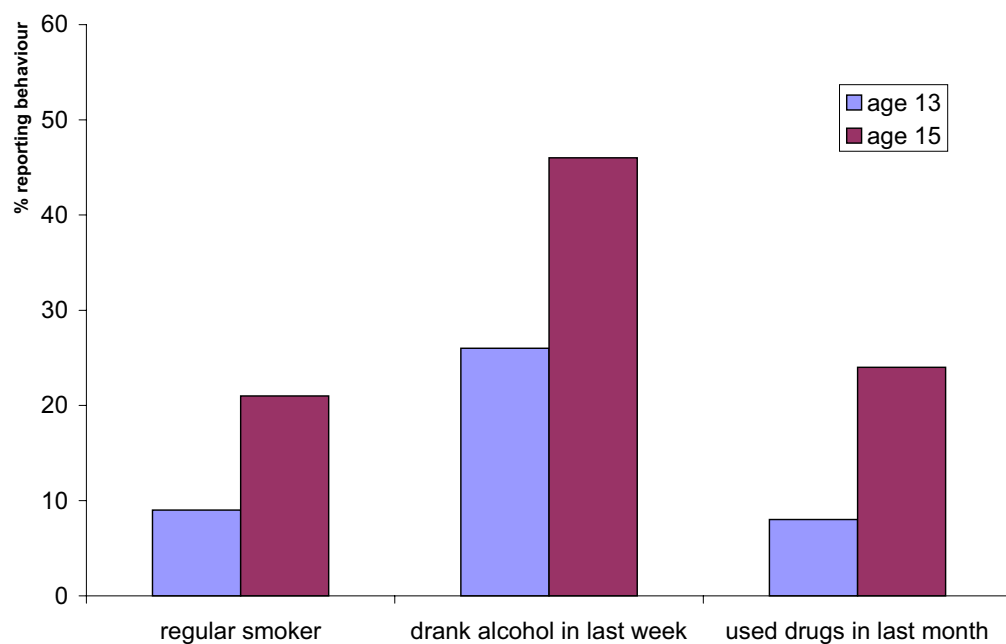
SALSUS 2002 found that among pupils in Ayrshire and Arran:

- 9% 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
- 26% of 13 year olds and 46% of 15 year olds had drunk alcohol in the week prior to the survey
- Prevalence of drinking in the week prior to the survey was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- 8% of 13 year olds and 24% 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 difference in drinking prevalence between boys and girls in Ayrshire and Arran was not statistically significant, however smoking prevalence was higher in girls than in boys, and drug use was lower in girls than boys
- For 15 year old pupils the average age for first drinking or smoking 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 Ayrshire and Arran in 2002.

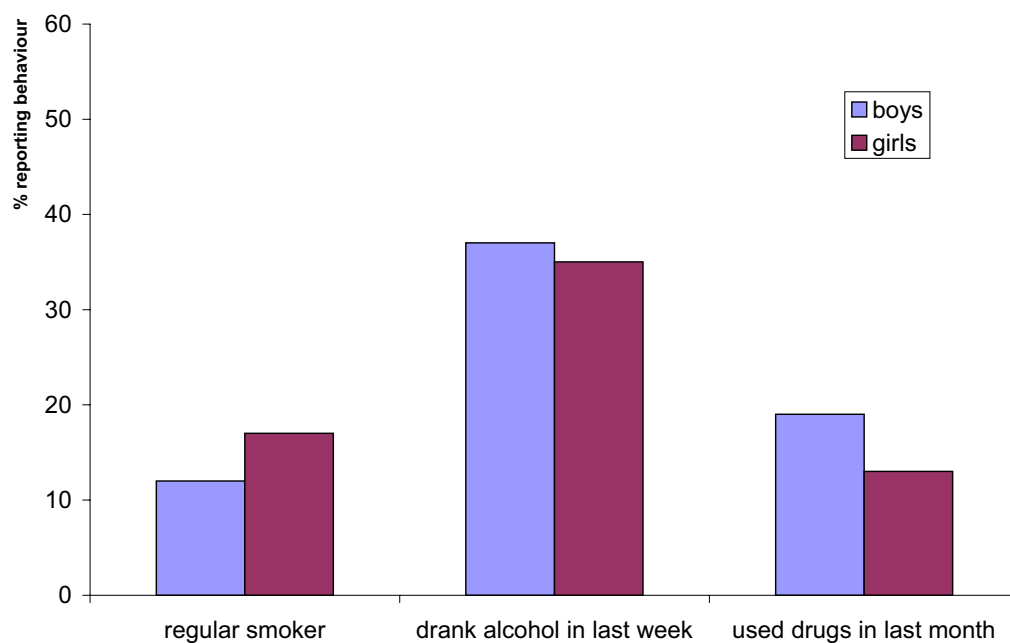
¹ regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week

Figure 1.1: Smoking, drinking and drug use in 13 and 15 year olds, by age group: Ayrshire and Arran 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: Ayrshire and Arran 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 Ayrshire and Arran 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 Ayrshire and Arran was designed to have a final sample size of 2400 pupils, split equally between S2 and S4. This constituted approximately 26% of the pupils eligible to be included in the study. Of the 29 schools which were asked to participate 23 schools (79%) 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 pupils participation rates. In total 124 classes in Ayrshire and Arran were selected to participate, and 89 classes (72%) took part. The overall pupil response rate within classes was 92%. The main reasons for pupil non-response were absence due to illness and authorised absences. The final survey response in Ayrshire and Arran, based on the class and pupil response rate, was therefore 66%. This is comparable with the overall national response rate for SALSUS 2002 of 65%. The final sample size was 1834 pupils, 19.3% of the target population in Ayrshire and Arran.

3 Smoking

3.1 Smoking prevalence

In Ayrshire and Arran, reported prevalence of regular smoking¹ increased significantly with age. In 2002, 9% of 13 year olds were regular smokers compared with 21% of 15 year olds. For both age groups the reported prevalence in Ayrshire and Arran 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 (54%), compared with 35% of 15 year olds.

Again, reflecting patterns found nationally, there was a slightly higher prevalence of regular smoking among girls than boys in Ayrshire and Arran; 17% of girls and 12% of boys were regular smokers (**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 29 per week for 13 year olds and 40 per week for 15 year olds. Boys smoked significantly more cigarettes per week than girls: an average of 49 cigarettes per week for boys and 28 per week for girls.

3.3 Money spent on cigarettes

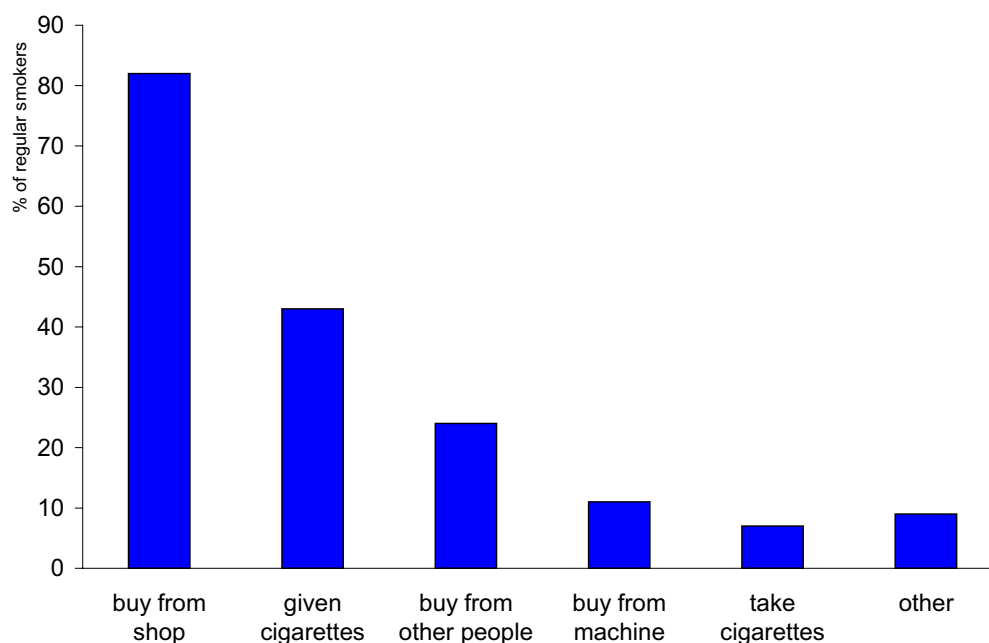
Almost all regular smokers (92%) reported that they spent money on cigarettes. The average amount spent by regular smokers who bought cigarettes was £8.00 a week.

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 (82%) indicated that they bought cigarettes from shops, 11% bought them from machines and 24% reported buying them from other people. However, smokers did not always buy cigarettes, just under half (43%) of all regular smokers reported that they were given cigarettes by friends or relatives, 7% reported that they 'take cigarettes' and 9% 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: Ayrshire and Arran 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. Sixty percent (60%) of regular smokers reported that they would like to give up smoking and 67% had tried to give up at some time. Thirty four percent (34%) of all regular smokers reported that they would find it very difficult to give up smoking altogether and a further 30% reported that they would find it fairly difficult.

Pupils who had smoked for more than a year (65% 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 one year or less. Forty six percent (46%) of pupils who had smoked for more than a year reported that it would be very difficult to give up smoking compared with 11% of pupils who had smoked regularly for one year or less (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?'

Seventy percent (70%) of regular smokers reported that their families either stop them smoking or try to persuade them to stop smoking. More than half (62%) 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 (92%) 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: 72% of regular smokers compared with 38% of non-smokers. Pupils who reported that they smoked regularly were also more likely to have a sibling who smoked daily: 38% 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: 44% of regular smokers reported that 'all or almost all' of their friends smoked compared with 3% of non-smokers. Most non-smokers (62%) 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 (83%) reported that they had seen adverts on posters or billboards. More than half reported that they had seen adverts in magazines (57%) or on television (56%). Fewer pupils reported seeing adverts in newspapers (44%) or at the cinema (16%) (**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: 79% of 13 year olds and 67% of 15 year olds. However, 15% of 13 year olds and 25% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 5% of 13 year olds and 8% 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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	9	21	14	14
Occasional smoker	4	6	5	5
Used to smoke	11	13	12	13
Tried smoking once	22	25	24	23
Never smoked	54	35	45	45
<i>Base</i>	1035	741	1776	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	12	17	14	14
Occasional smoker	5	5	5	5
Used to smoke	9	14	12	13
Tried smoking once	24	23	24	23
Never smoked	49	41	45	45
<i>Base</i>	876	900	1776	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Buy from shop	57	93	82
Given cigarettes	55	38	43
Buy from other people	34	20	24
Buy from machine	11	11	11
Take cigarettes	16	3	7
Get cigarettes some other way	17	5	9
<i>Base</i>	89	152	241

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Buy from shop	81	84	82
Given cigarettes	42	45	43
Buy from other people	23	25	24
Buy from machine	11	11	11
Take cigarettes	2	11	7
Get cigarettes some other way	8	9	9
<i>Base</i>	100	141	241

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
Would like to give up smoking	60
Would not like to give up smoking	40
<i>Base</i>	234

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

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

	Total %
Has tried to give up smoking	67
Has not tried to give up smoking	33
<i>Base</i>	237

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.7: Length of time smoking: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
One year or less	35
More than a year	65
<i>Base</i>	234

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.8: Ease of giving up smoking by length of time smoking: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	One year or less %	More than a year %	Total %	National Total %
Very difficult	11	46	34	32
Fairly difficult	26	33	30	36
Fairly easy	39	16	25	21
Very easy	24	5	11	11
<i>Base</i>	84	149	237	2868

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

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

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non- smoker %	Total %	National Total %
Stop/would stop me	20	44	62	54	54
Persuade me not to	50	34	30	34	35
Do nothing	17	-	1	4	3
Encourage me	1	-	0	0	0
Not sure	12	22	6	8	7
<i>Base</i>	232	58	1268	1616	19279

Base= All pupils

Table 3.10: Whether regular smokers are allowed to smoke at home: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
Allowed to smoke at home	24
Not allowed to smoke at home	62
Don't know	14
<i>Base</i>	198

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.11: Parents' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
Neither parent smokes daily	26	61	60
At least one parent smokes daily	72	38	38
Does not see either parent	1	1	2
<i>Base</i>	233	82	1402

Base= All pupils

Table 3.12: Siblings' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
No sibling smokes	55	77	78
At least one sibling smokes daily	38	17	13
Does not have siblings	6	6	9
<i>Base</i>	227	79	1334

Base= All pupils

Table 3.13: Friends smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
All or almost all	44	9	3
More than half	30	28	8
Half	13	19	9
Less than half	8	25	19
Almost none	4	18	33
None	0	1	29
<i>Base</i>	241	83	1443

Base= All pupils

**Table 3.14: Whether pupils have seen cigarette advertising:
Ayrshire and Arran 2002.**

	Yes %	No %	Don't know %	Base
On posters/billboards	83	10	6	1781
In magazines	57	32	11	1749
On television	56	36	8	1761
In newspapers	44	39	17	1748
At the cinema	16	66	18	1732

Base= All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	79	67	73
No	15	25	20
Don't know	5	8	7
Base	854	878	1732

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 nine percent (69%) of 13 year olds and 88% of 15 year olds reported that they had had an alcoholic drink (**Table 4.1**). For both age groups the reported prevalence in Ayrshire and Arran was the same as the national prevalence of alcohol use (national figures: 69% for 13 year olds and 88% for 15 year olds).

Just under half (46%) of 15 year olds and 26% of 13 year olds had drunk alcohol in the last week. 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; 19% of 13 year old pupils reported that they usually drink at least once a week or more, compared to 40% 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). Slightly more boys than girls reported drinking once a week or more (31% of boys and 29% of girls, though this difference was not statistically significant) (**Tables 4.5 and 4.6**).

4.3 Money spent on alcohol

Of all pupils who drank weekly, 82% reported that they spent money on alcohol. The average amount spent by those who bought alcohol was £8.00 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 significant differences between boys and girls in the types of alcohol drunk. For boys 'beer, lager or cider' were most commonly reported: 62% of boys who had drunk alcohol in the last week had consumed half a pint or more of beer, lager or cider. For girls, 'alcopops' were most commonly reported: 64% had drunk alcopops in the last week. A similar proportion of girls (62%) reported that they had drunk spirits in the last week (**Table 4.8**).

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

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.

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 14 units of alcohol, and girls consumed 10 units, a statistically significant difference. 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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

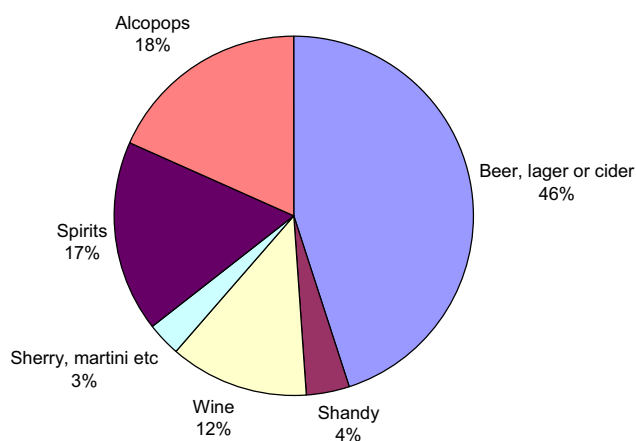
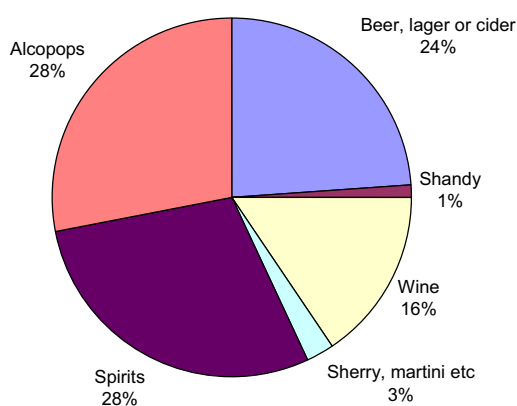


Figure 4.2: Type of alcohol drunk by girls in previous week, percentage of total units consumed: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

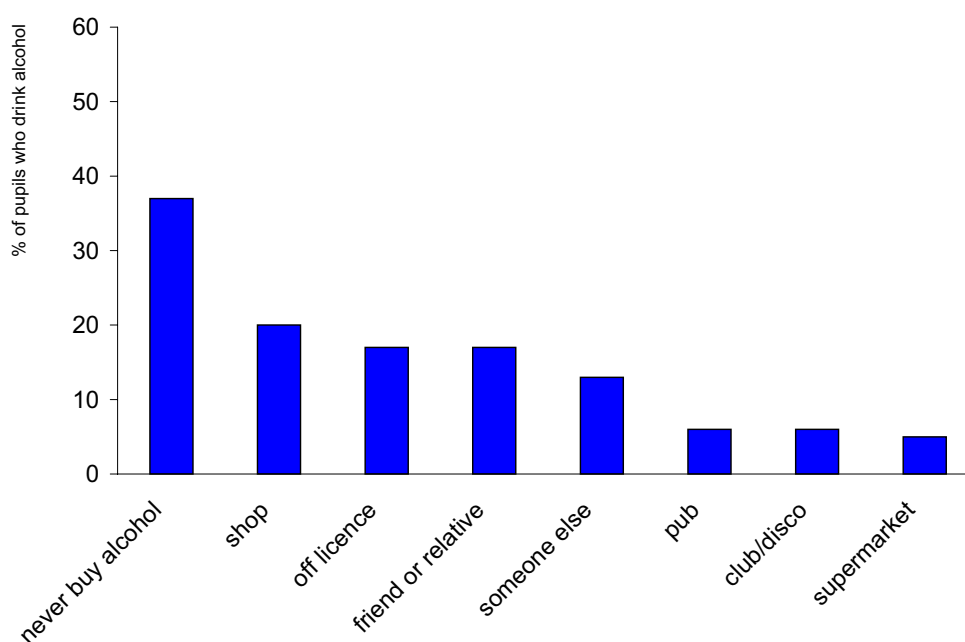


¹ Boreham R. and Shaw A. (eds) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland 2000*. Edinburgh: The Stationery Office, 2001.

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 seven percent (37%) of those who had had an alcoholic drink reported that they 'never buy alcohol'. The most common sources for purchasing alcohol by pupils in Ayrshire and Arran was from a shop (20%), from an off licence (17%) and from friend or relative (17%) (Table 4.9 and 4.10, Figure 4.3).

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

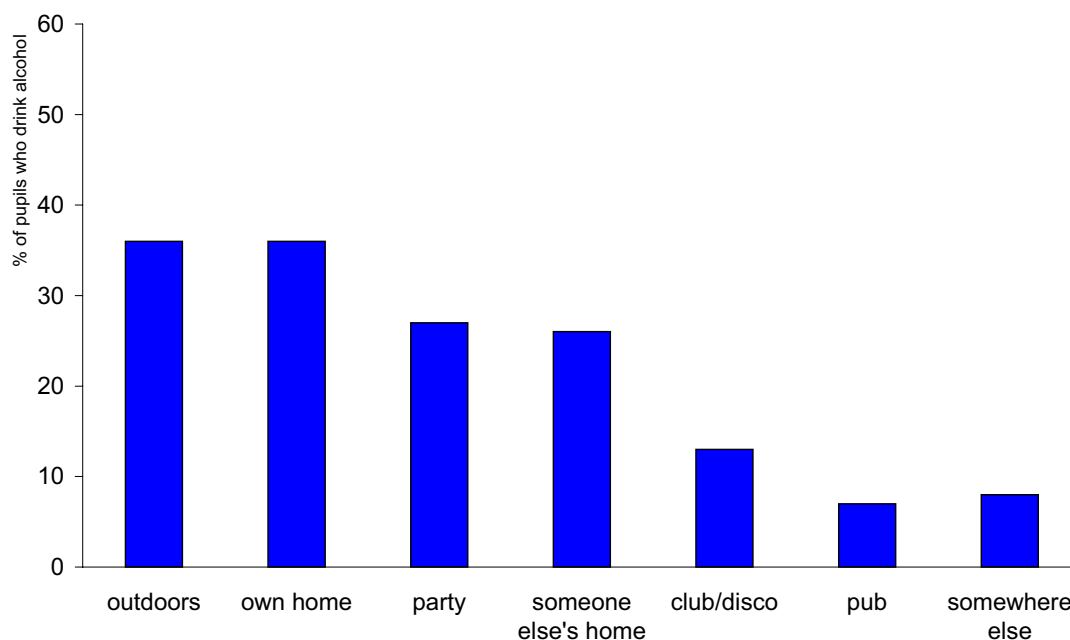


(Source: Tables 4.9 and 4.10)

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 most frequently reported locations for drinking alcohol were in the pupil's own home (36%), outdoors (36%), at a party with friends (27%) and in 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: Ayrshire and Arran 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, 71% of pupils who had ever drunk alcohol reported that they had been drunk at least once. Twenty percent (20%) had been drunk once, 22% had been drunk 2-3 times, 14% 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 (49%) reported that they had consumed five or more drinks on the same occasion in the past 30 days and 14% 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 43% of pupils. 'Having an argument or fight' was reported by 29% of pupils.

Some pupils had been involved in other risk behaviours as a result of drinking too much alcohol. Seventeen percent (17%) had tried drugs. Fifteen percent (15%) of all

15 year olds (14% of boys and 15% 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 family felt about them drinking alcohol. Just under a quarter (24%) of those pupils who drank alcohol in the past week reported that their families did not know that they drank, 45% reported that their families did not mind them drinking, 19% reported that their families did not like them drinking and 12% reported that they did not know what their families thought (**Table 4.19 and 4.20**).

Pupils who have never had an alcoholic drink (21% of all pupils) were asked how their families would feel if they started drinking. Seventy percent (70%) 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 the majority of pupils (78%) 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; 76% of 13 year olds and 71% of 15 year olds. However, 18% of 13 year olds and 21% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons, videos or class discussions and 6% of 13 year olds and 8% 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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	69	88	79	78
No	31	12	21	22
<i>Base</i>	1050	771	1821	22850

Base= All pupils

Table 4.2: Whether pupils have had an alcoholic drink by gender: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	76	81	79	78
No	24	19	21	22
<i>Base</i>	893	928	1821	22850

Base= All pupils

Table 4.3: Last occasion of drinking, by age group Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	26	46	36	35
One to four weeks ago	13	17	15	16
One to six months ago	19	18	18	18
More than six months ago	11	6	9	10
Never	31	12	22	22
<i>Base</i>	1042	768	1810	22617

Base=All pupils

Table 4.4: Last occasion of drinking, by gender: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	37	35	36	35
One to four weeks ago	14	17	15	16
One to six months ago	16	21	18	18
More than six months ago	9	9	9	10
Never	24	19	22	22
<i>Base</i>	886	924	1810	22617

Base=All pupils

Table 4.5: Usual drinking frequency, by age group: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	19	40	30	27
About once a fortnight	9	14	12	12
About once a month	12	12	12	12
Only a few times a year	29	21	25	27
Never	31	12	22	22
<i>Base</i>	1044	767	1811	22754

Base=All pupils

Table 4.6: Usual drinking frequency, by gender: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	31	29	30	27
About once a fortnight	12	12	12	12
About once a month	10	14	12	12
Only a few times a year	24	26	25	27
Never	24	19	22	22
<i>Base</i>	888	923	1811	22754

Base=All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Beer, lager or cider	42	51	48
Shandy	16	5	9
Wine	34	35	35
Martini, sherry etc.	10	8	8
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	48	58	54
Alcopops	58	58	58
<i>Base</i>	266	357	623

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Beer, lager or cider	62	32	48
Shandy	13	6	9
Wine	35	34	35
Martini, sherry etc.	11	6	8
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	47	62	54
Alcopops	52	64	58
<i>Base</i>	<i>314</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>623</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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Never buy alcohol	49	27	37
Buy alcohol from shop	15	24	20
Buy alcohol in off licence	10	23	17
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	15	19	17
Buy alcohol from someone else	15	13	13
Buy alcohol in pub	0	11	6
Buy alcohol in club	2	9	6
Buy alcohol from supermarket	1	8	5
<i>Base</i>	<i>737</i>	<i>682</i>	<i>1419</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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Never buy alcohol	37	37	37
Buy alcohol from shop	21	19	20
Buy alcohol in off licence	19	15	17
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	14	21	17
Buy alcohol from someone else	12	15	13
Buy alcohol in pub	7	6	6
Buy alcohol in club	5	7	6
Buy alcohol from supermarket	6	3	5
<i>Base</i>	<i>680</i>	<i>739</i>	<i>1419</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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	42	31	36
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	32	39	36
Usually drink at a party with friends	18	33	27
Usually drink in someone else's home	23	29	26
Usually drink in club/disco	10	16	13
Usually drink in pub	1	11	7
Usually drink somewhere else	9	7	8
Base	737	682	1419

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	38	34	36
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	35	37	36
Usually drink at a party with friends	23	31	27
Usually drink in someone else's home	22	31	26
Usually drink in club/disco	11	15	13
Usually drink in pub	7	6	7
Usually drink somewhere else	8	8	8
Base	680	739	1419

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Never	42	22	31	32
Once	23	17	20	19
2-3 times	18	24	22	22
4-10 times	10	17	14	13
More than 10 times	7	20	15	14
Base	719	665	1384	17723

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

Table 4.14: Ever been drunk, by gender: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Never	30	31	31	32
Once	17	22	20	19
2-3 times	23	20	22	22
4-10 times	13	14	14	13
More than 10 times	17	12	15	14
<i>Base</i>	659	725	1384	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	8	19	14	13
3 times	7	9	8	9
Twice	9	15	13	13
Once	11	16	14	14
Not in last 30 days	25	25	25	23
Never	40	16	27	28
<i>Base</i>	716	665	1381	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	15	12	14	13
3 times	8	8	8	9
Twice	13	13	13	13
Once	13	14	14	14
Not in last 30 days	25	26	25	23
Never	26	27	27	28
<i>Base</i>	655	726	1381	17615

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Vomited	34	51	43
Had an argument or fight	22	36	29
Tried any drugs	10	22	17
Had unprotected sex*	-	15	15
Stayed off school	11	11	11
Injured and seen by doctor	5	7	6
Admitted to hospital overnight	2	3	3
Visited A & E department	2	2	2
Base	716	662	1378

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Vomited	41	45	43
Had an argument or fight	28	31	29
Tried any drugs	22	12	17
Had unprotected sex*	14	15	15
Stayed off school	10	11	11
Injured and seen by doctor	7	5	6
Admitted to hospital overnight	3	2	3
Visited A & E department	4	1	2
Base	649	729	1378

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	15	21	19	16
They don't mind	42	47	45	45
They don't know I drink	31	21	24	27
I don't know what they think	13	11	12	12
Base	255	341	596	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	21	17	19	16
They don't mind	47	43	45	45
They don't know I drink	21	28	24	27
I don't know what they think	11	12	12	12
<i>Base</i>	296	300	596	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	75	57	70	70
They would not mind	6	14	8	9
I don't know what they would think	19	30	22	21
<i>Base</i>	305	88	393	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	70	70	70	70
They would not mind	9	6	8	9
I don't know what they would think	21	24	22	21
<i>Base</i>	210	183	393	4711

Base=All pupils who have never drunk alcohol

Table 4.23: Whether pupils are allowed to drink alcohol at home: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
Yes, always	8
Yes, sometimes	70
No, never	23
<i>Base</i>	1782

Base=All pupils

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

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Yes	76	71	73
No	18	21	20
Don't know	6	8	7
<i>Base</i>	<i>851</i>	<i>876</i>	<i>1727</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: 26% 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. Eight percent (8%) of thirteen year old pupils reported using drugs in the last month compared with 24% of fifteen year olds. Prevalence of drug use in Ayrshire and Arran is not significantly different from the prevalence found nationally (national figures: 8% of 13 year olds and 23% of 15 year olds). Girls were less likely to have used drugs in the last month than boys (19% of boys and 13% of girls had used drugs in the last month). Again this reflects the national pattern of slightly lower drug use among girls. (**Tables 5.1 and 5.2**).

5.2 Drug use in the year prior to the survey

Twenty three (23%) 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, 21% of pupils had used cannabis in the last year. The figures were much lower for other types of drugs; 6% had used stimulants (cocaine, crack, ecstasy, amphetamines, poppers), 5% 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: 67% of 15 year old pupils and 36% 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 less likely to have been offered drugs than boys: 48% of girls had been offered drugs compared with 56% of boys. The most commonly offered drug type was cannabis: 43% of pupils reported that they had been offered this drug (**Tables 5.5 to 5.8**).

¹ 'Semeron' was included to give some idea as to whether children were over-reporting their use of drugs. One percent (1%) of pupils reported Semeron among the drugs they had used and 2% included it among the drugs they had been offered.

5.4 Frequency of drug use

Five percent (5%) of all pupils reported that they usually take drugs once a week or more, with a significantly higher proportion of older pupils and boys doing so; 2% of thirteen year old pupils and 7% of fifteen year old pupils and 3% of girls and 6% of boys reported this. Reported prevalence of weekly drug taking is not significantly different from reported national prevalence in either age group (Tables 5.9 and 5.10).

5.5 Money spent on drugs

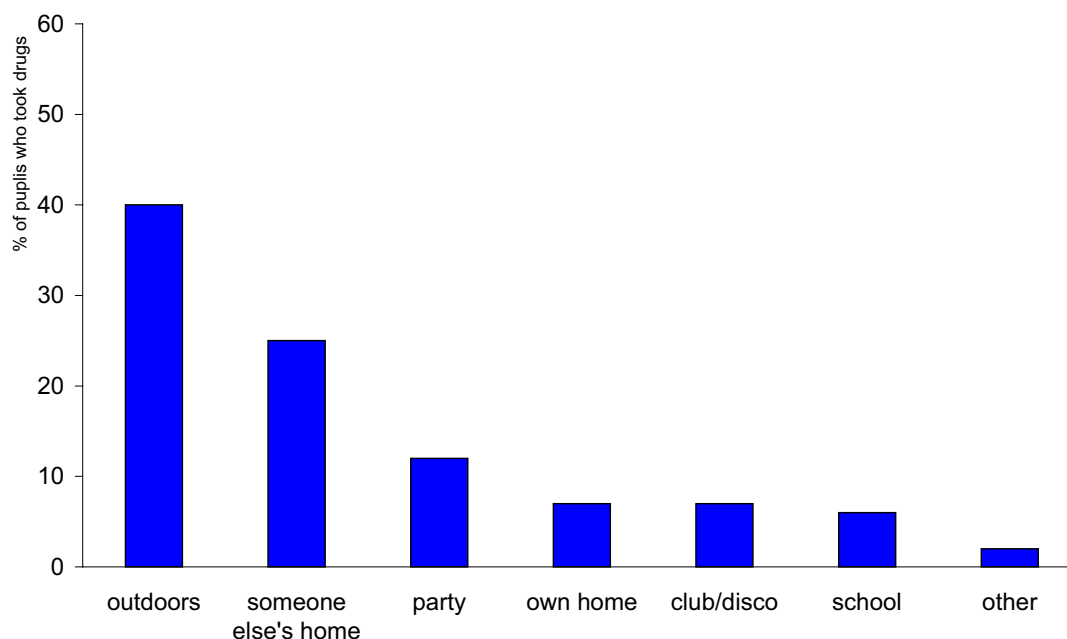
Half (50%) of pupils who used drugs in the last month reported that they spent money on drugs. The average amount spent by those who reported buying drugs was £8.00 per week.

5.6 Where young people are when they use drugs

Pupils who had 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).

Forty two percent (42%) of those who had used drugs reported that they were drinking alcohol the last time they used drugs (Table 5.13).

Figure 5.1: Location of drug use: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.



(Source: Tables 5.11 and 5.12)

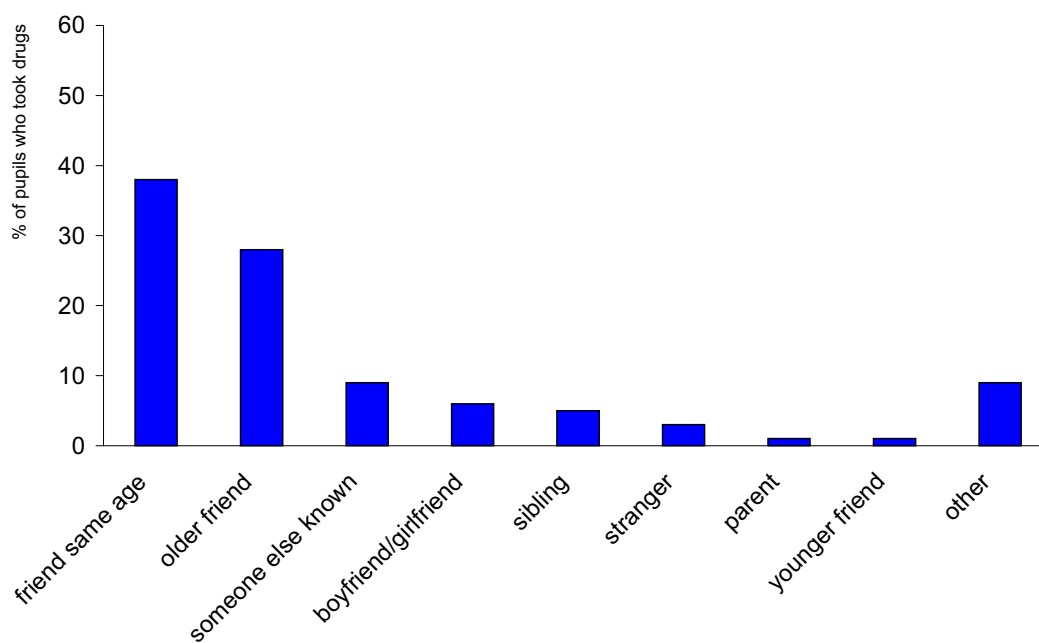
5.7 Availability of drugs

Just under half of all 13 and 15 year old pupils (47%) reported that it would be 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs while 39% 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' (61%) than thirteen year old pupils (33%) (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; 39% of pupils reported that they obtained their drugs from a friend of the same age and a further 28% reported that they obtained drugs from an older friend (Tables 5.16 and 5.17, Figure 5.2).

Figure 5.2: Source of drugs: Ayrshire and Arran 2002



(Source: Table 5.16 and 5.17)

Almost half (46%) of pupils who took drugs reported that they gave some drugs away last time they used drugs. Fewer pupils (11%) reported that they sold some of their drugs (Tables 5.18 and 5.19).

5.9 Obtaining information and help

Fifteen percent (15%) 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 69% 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. Sixty eight percent (68%) reported that they knew where to get information (**Table 5.24**). The most frequently reported sources of information were 'doctor' (43%), 'telephone helpline' (35%), 'the Internet' (35%) and 'friends' (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 (79%) 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' (69%) and 'injecting drugs can lead to HIV' (67%), although 28% did not know if heroin was addictive and 30% did not know whether injecting drugs can lead to HIV. Around half of all pupils (48%) agreed that 'heroin is more dangerous than cannabis' and 47% reported that they did not know whether this was the case. More than half (60%) of all pupils agreed that 'what adults tell us about drugs is true'.

Although 62% of pupils agreed that 'most young people will try out drugs', a similar proportion (61%) 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 and advice'; 69% of pupils agreed with this statement. Just over half (56%) of all 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'. Around half agreed with the statements 'people who take drugs want to escape from reality' (46%) and 'people take drugs to relax' (50%), but with regard to these last two statements around a third of pupils reported that they 'don't know' whether this was the case (39% and 31% respectively).

Sixty six percent (66%) agreed that 'all people who sell drugs should be punished' but only 31% believe that 'all 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: 78% of 13 year olds and 79% of 15 year olds. However, 16% of 13 year olds and 15% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 6% 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. Less than half (42% of 13 year olds and 41% of 15 year olds) reported that they had had lessons, videos or discussions on solvent abuse/glue sniffing in the last

twelve months. Forty three percent (43%) of 13 year olds and 40% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 15% of 13 year olds and 19% 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, 24% reported that they found them 'very useful' and 45% found them 'fairly useful' (**Table 5.29**).

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	8	24	16	15
Used drugs in last year*	12	34	23	22
Used drugs ever	14	38	26	25
<i>Base</i>	1027	757	1784	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	19	13	16	15
Used drugs in last year*	25	21	23	22
Used drugs ever	28	23	26	25
<i>Base</i>	866	908	1784	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	10	32	21	20
Stimulants	4	8	6	6
<i>cocaine</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>crack</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	2	3	3	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	1	3	2	2
<i>poppers</i>	2	4	3	3
Psychedelics	2	4	3	2
<i>LSD</i>	1	2	1	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	2	2	2	2
Opiates	1	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	0	1	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	4	6	5	4
Tranquillisers	1	3	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	1	1	0
Semeron	0	1	1	0
Other	0	1	0	0
<i>Base</i>	1058	776	1834	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:
Ayrshire and Arran 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	24	18	21	20
Stimulants	6	5	6	6
<i>cocaine</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>crack</i>	2	0	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	3	2	3	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	2	2	2	2
<i>poppers</i>	3	2	3	3
Psychedelics	4	2	3	2
<i>LSD</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	2	1	2	2
Opiates	2	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	2	0	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	1	0	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	5	5	5	4
Tranquillisers	2	2	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	0	1	0
Semeron	1	0	1	0
Other	1	0	0	0
Base	903	931	1834	23090

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:
Ayrshire and Arran 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	36	67	52
No	64	33	48
Base	940	696	1636

Base= All pupils

**Table 5.6: Whether pupils offered drugs, by gender:
Ayrshire and Arran 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Yes	56	48	49
No	44	52	51
Base	810	826	1636

Base= All pupils

Table 5.7: Type of drug offered, by age: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	27	58	43	42
Stimulants	14	28	21	19
<i>cocaine</i>	5	9	7	6
<i>crack</i>	3	4	4	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	8	20	14	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	4	11	7	7
<i>poppers</i>	4	12	8	9
Psychedelics	6	14	10	10
<i>LSD</i>	3	8	5	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	5	11	8	8
Opiates	4	7	5	5
<i>heroin</i>	4	6	5	4
<i>methadone</i>	2	2	2	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	12	15	14	12
Tranquillisers	3	9	6	6
Anabolic Steroids	1	2	2	2
Semeron	2	2	2	1
Other	1	3	2	1
<i>Base</i>	1027	762	1789	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	48	38	43	42
Stimulants	21	21	21	19
<i>cocaine</i>	6	7	7	6
<i>crack</i>	5	3	4	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	14	14	14	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	8	6	7	7
<i>poppers</i>	9	7	8	9
Psychadelics	11	9	10	10
<i>LSD</i>	6	4	5	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	10	6	8	8
Opiates	6	5	5	5
<i>heroin</i>	5	4	5	4
<i>methadone</i>	3	1	2	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	14	14	14	12
Tranquillisers	6	6	6	6
Anabolic Steroids	3	1	2	2
Semeron	3	1	2	1
Other	3	1	2	1
<i>Base</i>	877	912	1789	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:
Ayrshire and Arran 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	2	7	5	5
Once or twice a month	3	7	5	4
A few times a year	2	7	4	5
Do not use drugs	94	79	86	86
<i>Base</i>	1037	760	1797	22532

Base=All pupils

**Table 5.10: Usual frequency of taking drugs, by gender:
Ayrshire and Arran 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	6	3	5	5
Once or twice a month	5	4	5	4
A few times a year	5	4	4	5
Do not use drugs	84	89	86	86
<i>Base</i>	880	917	1797	22532

Base=All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	40	40	40
Someone else's home	13	31	25
At party	8	14	12
Own home	5	8	7
At club/disco	10	5	7
At school	7	6	6
Other place	2	3	2
<i>Base</i>	186	308	494

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	42	38	40
Someone else's home	21	31	25
At party	13	12	12
Own home	8	7	7
At club/disco	7	7	7
At school	7	6	6
Other place	4	0	2
<i>Base</i>	276	218	494

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %	National Total %
Yes	42	39
No	58	61
<i>Base</i>	441	5544

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 5.14: Ease of getting drugs, by age group: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Very easy	15	30	23
Fairly easy	18	31	24
Fairly difficult	5	6	5
Very difficult	5	2	3
Impossible	9	3	6
Don't know	48	29	39
<i>Base</i>	1023	758	1781

Base=All pupils

Table 5.15 Ease of getting drugs, by gender: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Very easy	26	19	23
Fairly easy	25	24	24
Fairly difficult	5	6	5
Very difficult	4	3	3
Impossible	5	6	6
Don't know	35	42	39
<i>Base</i>	870	911	1781

Base=All pupils

Table 5.16: Source of drugs, by age group: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Friend of own age	22	47	39
Older friend	30	27	28
Someone known	9	8	9
Boyfriend/girlfriend	8	5	6
Brother or sister	5	5	5
Stranger	3	1	2
Younger friend	-	1	1
Mother/father	2	-	1
Other	9	9	9
<i>Base</i>	186	308	494

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Friend of own age	40	38	39
Older friend	23	33	28
Someone known	9	8	9
Boyfriend/girlfriend	3	10	6
Brother or sister	5	5	5
Stranger	2	1	2
Younger friend	1	1	1
Mother/father	0	1	1
Other	11	7	9
<i>Base</i>	276	218	494

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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Use it all myself	35	46	43
Sold some of it	20	8	11
Gave some of it away	46	47	46
<i>Base</i>	142	278	420

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 5.19: Sharing drugs, by gender: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Use it all myself	43	42	43
Sold some of it	15	6	12
Gave some of it away	42	52	46
<i>Base</i>	228	192	420

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	15	14	15	15
Would like to give up in the future	25	22	23	20
Would not like to give up	37	42	41	39
Not sure	23	21	22	26
<i>Base</i>	65	159	224	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	15	14	15	15
Would like to give up in the future	22	24	23	20
Would not like to give up	44	36	41	39
Not sure	19	26	22	26
<i>Base</i>	132	92	224	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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
Yes	4
No	96
<i>Base</i>	226

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 : Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
Yes	69
No	31
<i>Base</i>	<i>225</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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
Yes	68
No	17
Don't know	15
<i>Base</i>	<i>1784</i>

Base=All pupils

Table 5.25: Where pupils would go for information on drugs: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

	Total %
Doctor	43
Telephone helpline	35
Internet/web	35
Friends	33
Female family member	24
Teacher	24
Advice organisation	24
Drop-in centre	18
Male family member	17
Magazines	17
Books	15
Youth worker	13
Councillor	11
TV/radio	8
<i>Base</i>	<i>1195</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: Ayrshire and Arran 2002.

<i>row %</i>	Agree	Disagree	Don't know	<i>Base</i>
Taking drugs harms your health	90	6	4	1779
Taking cocaine is dangerous	79	4	18	1763
I know enough about the dangers of drugs	79	12	9	1770
Heroin is addictive	69	3	28	1764
People my age who take drugs need help	69	18	14	1759
Injecting drugs can lead to HIV	67	3	30	1762
People who sell drugs should be punished	66	21	13	1776
Most young people will try out drugs	62	20	18	1772
People who take drugs are stupid	61	26	13	1763
What adults tell us about drugs is true	60	16	24	1766
People who take heroin are junkies	56	18	26	1764
People take drugs to relax	50	19	31	1762
Heroin is more dangerous than cannabis	48	5	47	1765
People take drugs to escape from reality	46	16	39	1761
People who take drugs should be punished	31	48	22	1763
Taking drugs is exciting	16	53	31	1778

Base=All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	78	79	78
No	16	15	16
Don't know	6	6	6
<i>Base</i>	849	880	1729

Base= All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	42	41	41
No	43	40	42
Don't know	15	19	17
<i>Base</i>	843	876	1719

Base= All pupils

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

	Total %
Very useful	24
Fairly useful	45
Not very useful	15
Not useful at all	6
Don't know	10
<i>Base</i>	1413

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 Ayrshire and Arran there was no difference in response rate between state and independently funded pupils, but there was a higher response rate in S2 pupils (58% of Ayrshire and Arran sample) compared with S4 pupils (42% of Ayrshire and Arran 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