

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

**SMOKING, DRINKING AND DRUG USE
AMONG 13 AND 15 YEAR OLDS
HIGHLAND, 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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Contents

1	Summary of Findings	4
2	Background to the Survey	6
3	Smoking	9
4	Drinking	16
5	Drug Use.....	29
6	Survey Design	44

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

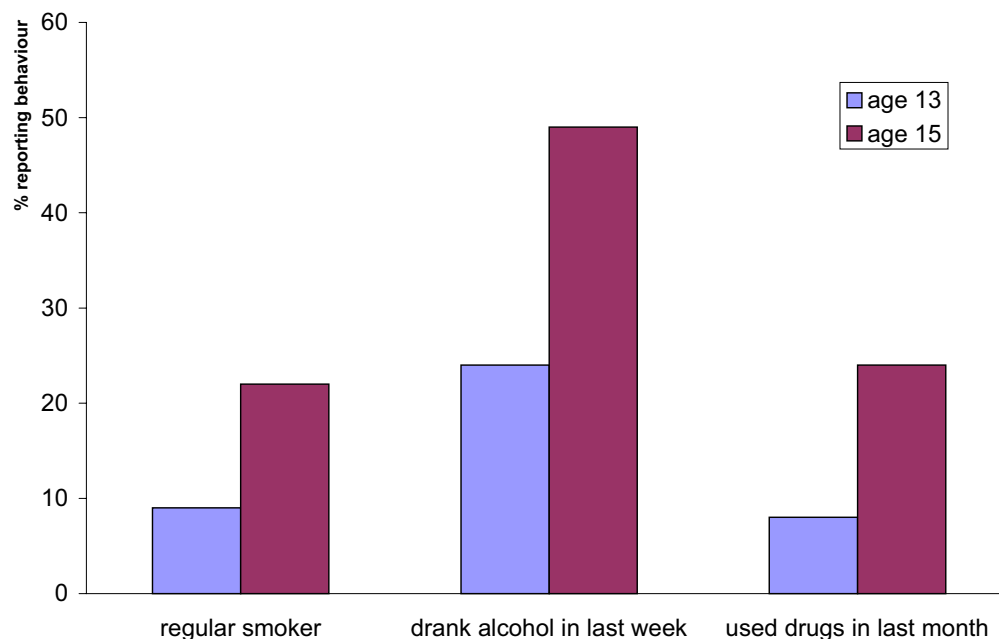
SALSUS 2002 found that among pupils in the Highland area:

- 9% of 13 year olds and 22% of 15 year olds were regular smokers¹
- Prevalence of regular smoking was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- 24% of 13 year olds and 49% 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
- 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 differences in smoking, drinking and drug use between boys and girls in Highland were not statistically significant.
- 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 13 years.

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

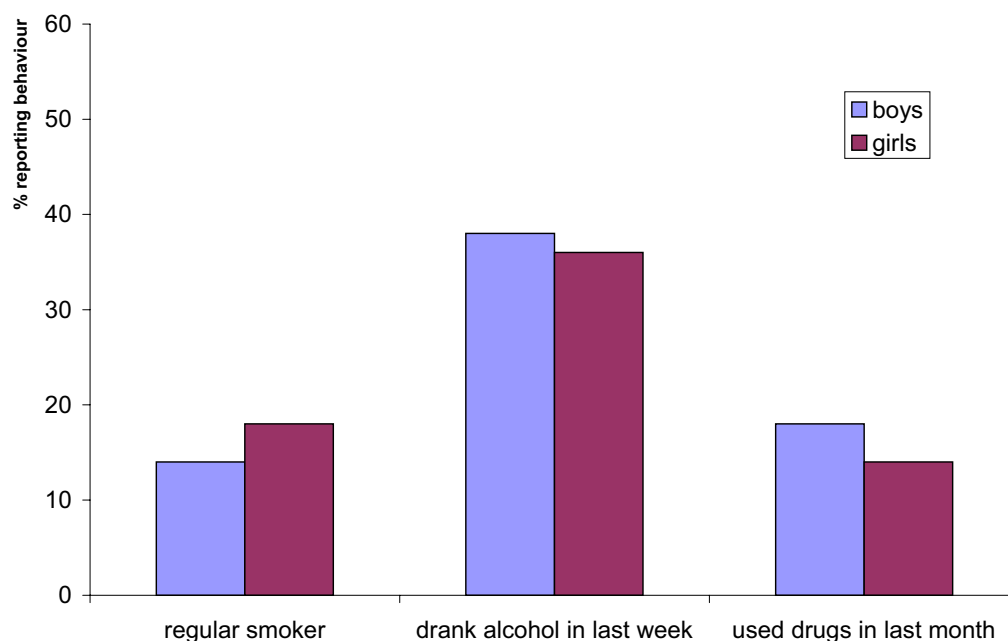
¹ regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week

Figure 1.1 Smoking, drinking and drug use in 13 and 15 year olds, by age group: Highland 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: Highland 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 Highland Council 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 the Highland area was designed to have a final sample size of 1000 pupils, split equally between S2 and S4. This constituted approximately 19% of the pupils eligible to be included in the study. Of the 29 schools which were asked to participate 22 schools (76%) 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% older 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% older than 16 years 1 month, 3% older 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 total 55 classes in Highland were selected to participate, and 46 classes (84%) took part. The overall pupil response rate within classes was 91%. The main reason for pupil non-response was absence due to illness or authorised absence. The final survey response in Highland, based on the class and pupil response rate, was therefore 76%. This compares favourably with the overall national response rate for SALSUS 2002 of 65%. The final sample size was 908 pupils, 16.3% of the target population in Highland.

3 Smoking

3.1 Smoking prevalence

In the Highland area, reported prevalence of regular smoking¹ increased significantly with age. In 2002, 9% of 13 year olds were regular smokers compared with 22% of 15 year olds. For both age groups the reported prevalence in Highland 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 under half of all 13 year olds reported that they had never smoked (47%), compared with 32% 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 Highland; 18% of girls and 14% 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 22 per week for 13 year olds and 38 per week for 15 year olds. There was no significant gender difference in the average number of cigarettes smoked per week by regular smokers.

3.3 Money spent on cigarettes

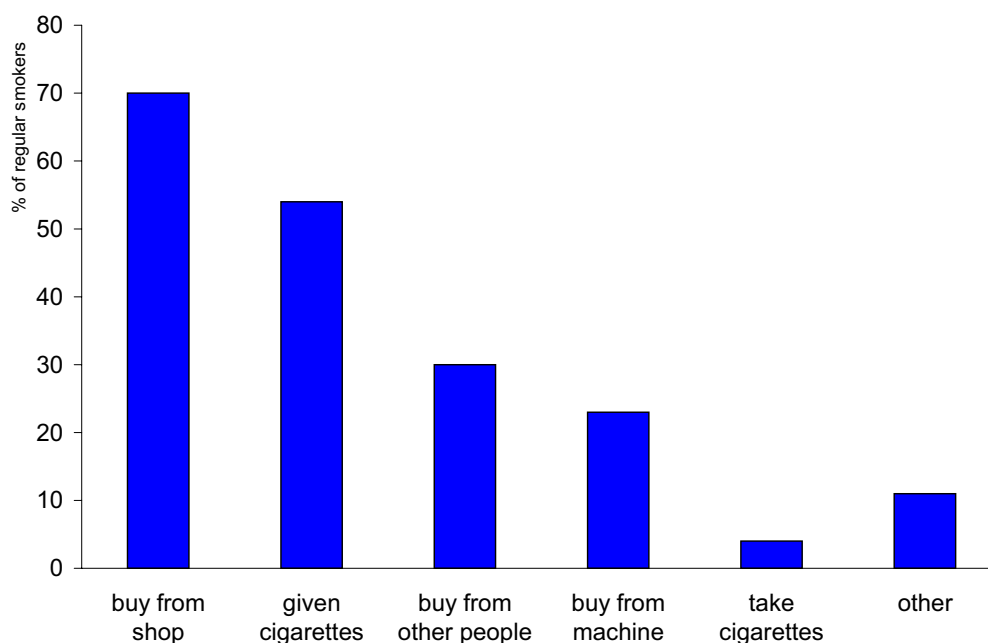
Almost all regular smokers (96%) reported that they spent money on cigarettes. The average amount spent by regular smokers who bought cigarettes was £8.00 a week.

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 (70%) indicated that they bought cigarettes from shops, around a quarter (23%) bought them from machines and 30% reported buying them from other people. However, smokers did not always buy cigarettes, just over half (54%) of all regular smokers reported that they were given cigarettes by friends or relatives, 4% 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: Highland 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. Most regular smokers (70%) reported that they would like to give up smoking and 74% had tried to give up at some time. Thirty nine percent (39%) of all regular smokers reported that they would find it very difficult to give up smoking altogether and a further 26% reported that they would find it fairly difficult.

Pupils who had smoked for more than a year (59% 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: 49% of pupils who had smoked for more than a year reported that it would be very difficult to give up smoking compared with 22% 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 one percent (71%) of regular smokers reported that their families either stop them smoking or try to persuade them to stop smoking. Two thirds (66%) 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: 63% of regular smokers compared with 34% of non-smokers. Pupils who reported that they smoked regularly were also more likely to have a sibling who smoked daily: 39% of regular smokers, compared with 15% of non-smokers (**Tables 3.11 and 3.12**).

Regular smokers were also more likely to have friends who smoked: 33% of regular smokers reported that 'all or almost all' of their friends smoked compared with 4% of non-smokers. Half of the non-smokers (50%) 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 (64%) reported that they had seen adverts on posters or billboards. Around half reported that they had seen adverts in magazines (58%) or on television (46%). Fewer pupils reported seeing adverts in newspapers (35%) or at the cinema (13%) (**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: 72% of 13 year olds and 69% of 15 year olds. However, 21% of 13 year olds and 25% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 7% of 13 year olds and 5% of 15 year olds reported that they did not know whether they had had lessons, videos or discussions on smoking (**Table 3.15**).

Table 3.1: Smoking behaviour by age group: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	9	22	16	14
Occasional smoker	5	9	7	5
Used to smoke	12	15	14	13
Tried smoking once	26	21	24	23
Never smoked	47	32	40	45
<i>Base</i>	423	453	876	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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	14	18	16	14
Occasional smoker	7	7	7	5
Used to smoke	14	13	14	13
Tried smoking once	22	25	24	23
Never smoked	43	36	40	45
<i>Base</i>	459	417	876	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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Buy from shop	40	83	70
Given cigarettes	55	53	54
Buy from other people	28	31	30
Buy from machine	15	27	23
Take cigarettes	3	5	4
Get cigarettes some other way	25	5	11
<i>Base</i>	40	101	141

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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Buy from shop	73	68	70
Given cigarettes	49	58	54
Buy from other people	20	38	30
Buy from machine	30	18	23
Take cigarettes	5	4	4
Get cigarettes some other way	11	11	11
<i>Base</i>	64	77	141

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: Highland 2002.

	Total %
Would like to give up smoking	70
Would not like to give up smoking	30
<i>Base</i>	136

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.6: Whether regular smokers have ever tried to give up smoking: Highland 2002.

	Total %
Has tried to give up smoking	74
Has not tried to give up smoking	26
<i>Base</i>	138

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.7: Length of time smoking: Highland 2002.

	Total %
One year or less	41
More than a year	59
<i>Base</i>	136

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.8: Ease of giving up smoking by length of time smoking: Highland 2002.

	One year or less %	More than a year %	Total %	National Total %
Very difficult	22	49	39	32
Fairly difficult	25	27	26	36
Fairly easy	31	19	23	21
Very easy	22	5	12	11
<i>Base</i>	55	81	138	2868

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

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

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non- smoker %	Total %	National Total %
Stop/would stop me	21	33	57	49	54
Persuade me not to	50	49	35	38	35
Do nothing	16	10	1	4	3
Encourage me	4	-	-	1	0
Not sure	10	8	7	8	7
<i>Base</i>	137	49	579	793	19279

Base= All pupils

Table 3.10: Whether regular smokers are allowed to smoke at home: Highland 2002.

	Total %
Allowed to smoke at home	19
Not allowed to smoke at home	66
Don't know	15
<i>Base</i>	120

Base= All pupils who were regular smokers

Table 3.11: Parents' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Highland 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
Neither parent smokes daily	36	63	63
At least one parent smokes daily	63	33	34
Does not see either parent	1	3	3
<i>Base</i>	137	60	649

Base= All pupils

Table 3.12: Siblings' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Highland 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
No sibling smokes	56	66	75
At least one sibling smokes daily	39	26	15
Does not have siblings	6	8	10
<i>Base</i>	126	59	632

Base= All pupils

Table 3.13: Friends smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Highland 2002.

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
All or almost all	33	21	4
More than half	40	16	10
Half	17	24	12
Less than half	6	29	23
Almost none	3	9	31
None	-	2	19
<i>Base</i>	141	63	666

Base= All pupils

**Table 3.14: Whether pupils have seen cigarette advertising:
Highland 2002.**

	Yes %	No %	Don't know %	Base
On posters/billboards	64	23	13	869
In magazines	58	32	10	869
On television	46	43	11	870
In newspapers	35	47	18	856
At the cinema	13	68	19	853

Base= All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	72	69	71
No	21	25	23
Don't know	7	5	6
<i>Base</i>	413	432	845

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. Seventy percent (70%) of 13 year olds and 93% of 15 year olds reported that they had had an alcoholic drink (**Table 4.1**). The proportion of 15 year olds in Highland who reported that they had drunk alcohol (93%) was higher than the national figure of 88%, a statistically significant difference.

Just under half (49%) of 15 year olds and 24% of 13 year olds had drunk alcohol in the last week, again a significant increase in prevalence with age. 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; 16% of 13 year old pupils reported that they usually drink at least once a week, compared to 41% of 15 year old pupils. For neither age group was the prevalence of weekly drinking significantly different from that reported nationally (national figures: 17% of 13 year olds and 38% of 15 year olds reported drinking weekly). More boys than girls reported drinking at least once a week (31% of boys and 26% 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, just over two thirds (68%) reported that they spent money on alcohol. The average amount spent by those who bought alcohol was £9.00 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: 64% 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: 65% had drunk alcopops in the last week. More than half of the pupils (60% of girls and 53% of boys) reported that they had drunk spirits 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 13 units of alcohol, and girls consumed 11 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: Highland 2002.

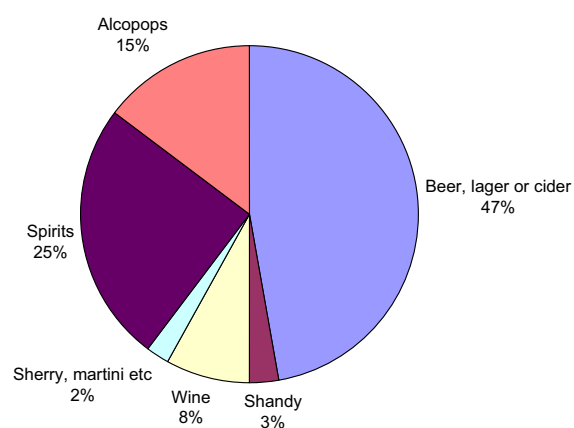
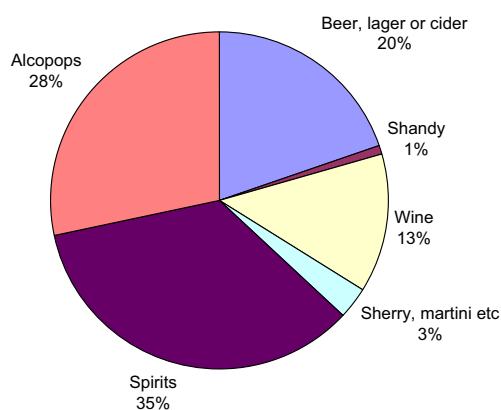


Figure 4.2: Type of alcohol drunk by girls in previous week, percentage of total units consumed: Highland 2002.

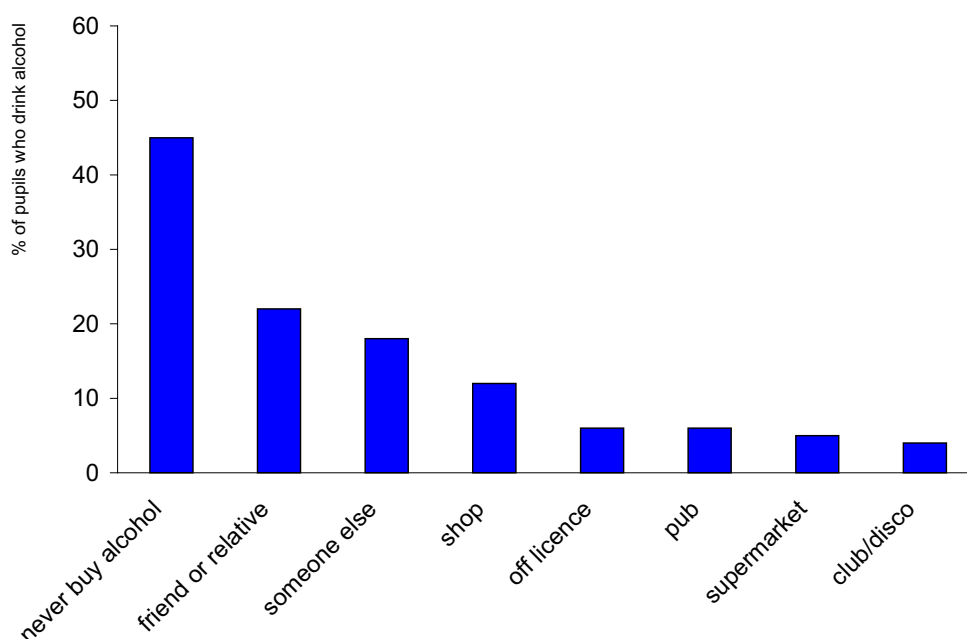


¹ Boreham R. and Shaw A. (eds) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland 2000*. Edinburgh: The Stationery Office, 2001.

4.6 Availability of alcohol

Pupils who reported ever having had an alcoholic drink were asked where they usually obtained alcohol. Almost half (45%) of those who had had an alcoholic drink reported that they 'never buy alcohol'. Other pupils reported more than one source. The most common sources for purchasing alcohol by pupils in the Highland area were from a friend or relative (22%) or someone else (18%). Around one in ten pupils (12%) reported that they bought alcohol from a shop (Table 4.9 and 4.10, Figure 4.3).

Figure 4.3: Sources for obtaining alcohol, all pupils who had had an alcoholic drink: Highland 2002.

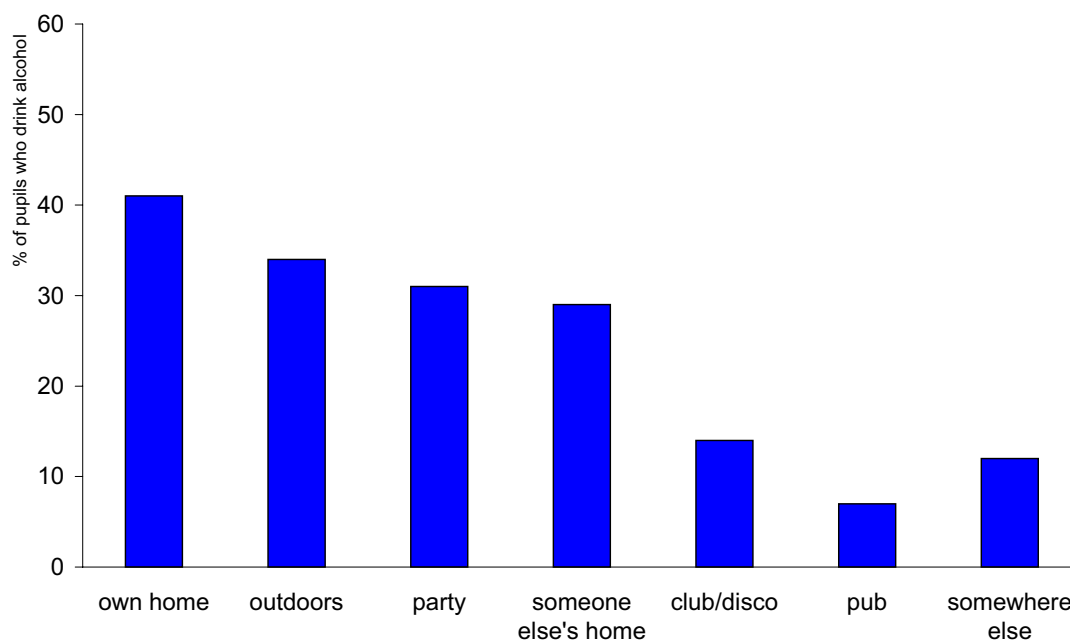


(Source: Tables 4.9 and 4.10)

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 (41%), outdoors (34%) or at a party with friends (31%) (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: Highland 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, 68% of pupils who had ever drunk alcohol reported that they had been drunk at least once. Seventeen percent (17%) had been drunk once, 20% had been drunk 2-3 times, 13% had been drunk 4-10 times and 18% 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 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. Eighteen percent (18%) had tried drugs. Twelve percent (12%) of all 15

year olds (7% of boys and 17% 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. Eighteen percent (18%) of those pupils who drank alcohol in the past week reported that their family did not know that they drank, around half (54%) reported that their families did not mind them drinking, 16% 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 had never had an alcoholic drink (18% of all pupils) were asked how their families would feel if they started drinking. Seventy two percent (72%) 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 (81%) 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; 74% of 13 year olds and 75% of 15 year olds. However, 20% of pupils in both age groups reported that they had not had lessons, videos or class discussions and 6% of 13 year olds and 5% 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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	70	93	82	78
No	30	7	18	22
<i>Base</i>	429	469	898	22850

Base= All pupils

Table 4.2: Whether pupils have had an alcoholic drink by gender: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	79	84	82	78
No	21	16	18	22
<i>Base</i>	468	430	898	22850

Base= All pupils

Table 4.3: Last occasion of drinking, by age group Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	24	49	37	35
One to four weeks ago	15	21	18	16
One to six months ago	21	15	18	18
More than six months ago	9	7	8	10
Never	30	7	19	22
<i>Base</i>	426	456	882	22617

Base=All pupils

Table 4.4: Last occasion of drinking, by gender: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	38	36	37	35
One to four weeks ago	18	18	18	16
One to six months ago	15	21	18	18
More than six months ago	7	9	8	10
Never	21	16	19	22
<i>Base</i>	459	423	882	22617

Base=All pupils

Table 4.5: Usual drinking frequency, by age group: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	16	41	29	27
About once a fortnight	9	16	13	12
About once a month	15	13	14	12
Only a few times a year	30	22	26	27
Never	30	7	18	22
<i>Base</i>	428	468	896	22754

Base=All pupils

Table 4.6: Usual drinking frequency, by gender: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	31	26	29	27
About once a fortnight	11	14	13	12
About once a month	12	16	14	12
Only a few times a year	24	28	26	27
Never	21	16	18	22
<i>Base</i>	467	429	896	22754

Base=All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Beer, lager or cider	42	52	49
Shandy	19	7	11
Wine	24	31	29
Martini, sherry etc.	9	8	9
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	49	60	57
Alcopops	47	54	52
<i>Base</i>	104	224	328

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: Highland 2002.

	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Beer, lager or cider	64	31	49
Shandy	17	4	11
Wine	24	33	29
Martini, sherry etc.	9	8	9
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	53	60	57
Alcopops	40	65	52
<i>Base</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>328</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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Never buy alcohol	59	34	45
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	19	24	22
Buy alcohol from someone else	15	20	18
Buy alcohol from shop	4	17	12
Buy alcohol in pub	1	10	6
Buy alcohol in off licence	4	8	6
Buy alcohol from supermarket	2	6	5
Buy alcohol in club	1	6	4
<i>Base</i>	<i>305</i>	<i>441</i>	<i>746</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: Highland 2002.

	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Never buy alcohol	45	45	45
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	21	24	22
Buy alcohol from someone else	16	20	18
Buy alcohol from shop	13	10	12
Buy alcohol in pub	5	7	6
Buy alcohol in off licence	7	6	6
Buy alcohol from supermarket	4	5	5
Buy alcohol in club	2	6	4
<i>Base</i>	<i>381</i>	<i>365</i>	<i>746</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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	45	37	41
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	29	37	34
Usually drink at a party with friends	24	36	31
Usually drink in someone else's home	22	34	29
Usually drink in club/disco	11	16	14
Usually drink in pub	2	11	7
Usually drink somewhere else	14	10	12
Base	305	441	746

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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	41	41	41
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	33	34	34
Usually drink at a party with friends	26	35	31
Usually drink in someone else's home	24	33	29
Usually drink in club/disco	10	18	14
Usually drink in pub	7	8	7
Usually drink somewhere else	13	11	12
Base	381	365	746

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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Never	44	24	32	32
Once	19	15	17	19
2-3 times	19	21	20	22
4-10 times	9	16	13	13
More than 10 times	9	25	18	14
Base	296	432	728	17723

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

Table 4.14: Ever been drunk, by gender: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Never	31	33	32	32
Once	18	16	17	19
2-3 times	20	20	20	22
4-10 times	10	16	13	13
More than 10 times	21	15	18	14
<i>Base</i>	<i>367</i>	<i>361</i>	<i>728</i>	<i>17723</i>

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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	9	18	14	13
3 times	6	11	9	9
Twice	9	13	12	13
Once	12	15	14	14
Not in last 30 days	26	24	25	23
Never	37	18	26	28
<i>Base</i>	<i>297</i>	<i>437</i>	<i>734</i>	<i>17615</i>

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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	16	13	14	13
3 times	9	10	9	9
Twice	11	12	12	13
Once	12	16	14	14
Not in last 30 days	25	25	25	23
Never	27	25	26	28
<i>Base</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>363</i>	<i>734</i>	<i>17615</i>

Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol

Table 4.17: Effects of drinking too much alcohol, by age group: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Vomited	27	52	42
Had an argument or fight	17	32	27
Tried any drugs	12	24	18
Had unprotected sex*	-	12	12
Stayed off school	11	12	11
Injured and seen by doctor	3	4	4
Visited A & E department	3	3	3
Admitted to hospital overnight	2	2	2
<i>Base</i>	287	435	722

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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Vomited	41	43	42
Had an argument or fight	23	30	27
Tried any drugs	21	17	18
Had unprotected sex*	7	17	12
Stayed off school	9	14	11
Injured and seen by doctor	5	3	4
Visited A & E department	3	3	3
Admitted to hospital overnight	3	2	2
<i>Base</i>	362	360	722

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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	17	16	16	16
They don't mind	44	59	54	45
They don't know I drink	27	14	18	27
I don't know what they think	13	11	12	12
<i>Base</i>	94	210	304	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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	15	18	16	16
They don't mind	58	49	54	45
They don't know I drink	14	23	18	27
I don't know what they think	12	11	12	12
<i>Base</i>	162	142	304	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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	77	55	72	70
They would not mind	6	15	8	9
I don't know what they would think	18	30	20	21
<i>Base</i>	124	33	157	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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	70	75	72	70
They would not mind	10	4	8	9
I don't know what they would think	20	21	20	21
<i>Base</i>	91	66	157	4711

Base=All pupils who have never drunk alcohol

Table 4.23: Whether pupils are allowed to drink alcohol at home: Highland 2002.

	Total %
Yes, always	8
Yes, sometimes	73
No, never	19
<i>Base</i>	886

Base=All pupils

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

	Age 13	Age 15	Total
	%	%	%
Yes	74	75	75
No	20	20	20
Don't know	6	5	5
<i>Base</i>	413	432	845

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: 27% 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 the Highland area was 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 (18% of boys and 14% of girls had used drugs in the last month), but this difference was not statistically significant (**Tables 5.1 and 5.2**).

5.2 Drug use in the year prior to the survey

A quarter (25%) 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, 22% of pupils had used cannabis in the last year. The figures were much lower for other types of drugs; 7% had used stimulants (cocaine, crack, ecstasy, amphetamines, poppers), 6% had used solvents, 5% 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 (53%) had been offered drugs. This proportion was higher for older pupils than for younger pupils: 70% of 15 year old pupils and 34% of 13 year old pupils reported that they had been offered drugs. The proportion of 15 year old pupils offered drugs was significantly higher than that reported nationally (national figures: 65% of 15 year olds and 34% of 13 year olds reported being offered drugs). There were no gender differences in the proportion of pupils offered drugs (52% of girls had been offered drugs compared with 53% of boys). The most commonly offered drug type was cannabis: 44% 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; 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 pupils reported that they usually take drugs once a week or more, with no significant differences with age or gender; 3% of thirteen year old pupils and 6% of fifteen year old pupils and 4% of girls and 5% of boys reported this. Reported prevalence of weekly drug taking is not significantly different from the reported national prevalence in either age group (Tables 5.9 and 5.10).

5.5 Money spent on drugs

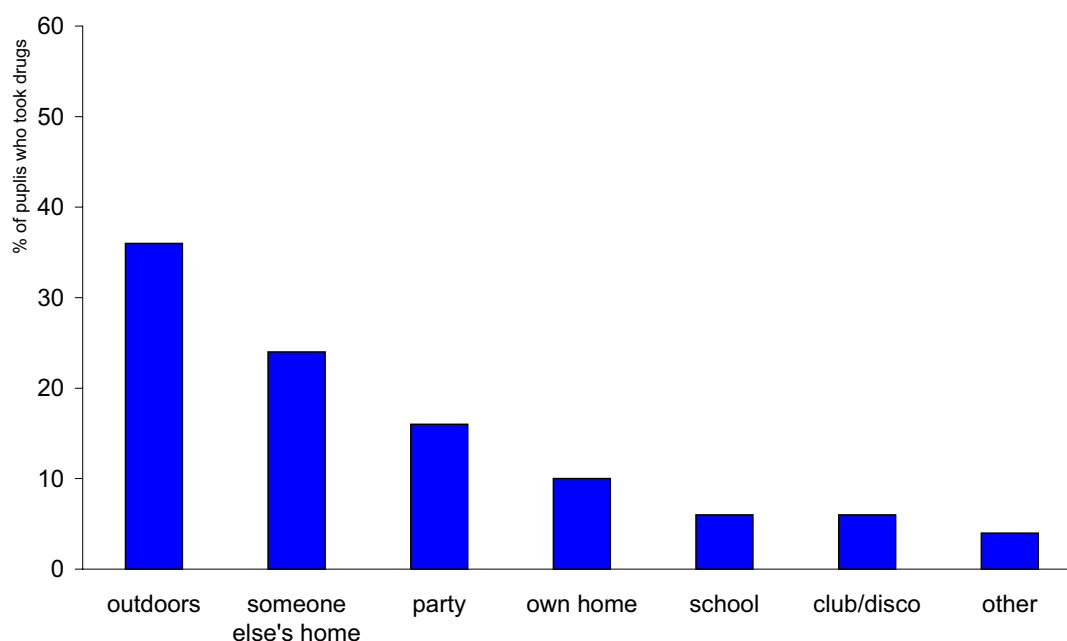
Around half (47%) of pupils who used drugs in the last month reported that they spent money on drugs. The average amount spent by those who reported buying drugs was £10.00 per week.

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 (36%). The next most reported location was someone else's home (23%) (Tables 5.11 and 5.12, Figure 5.1).

Thirty five percent (35%) 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 drug use: Highland 2002.



(Source: Tables 5.11 and 5.12)

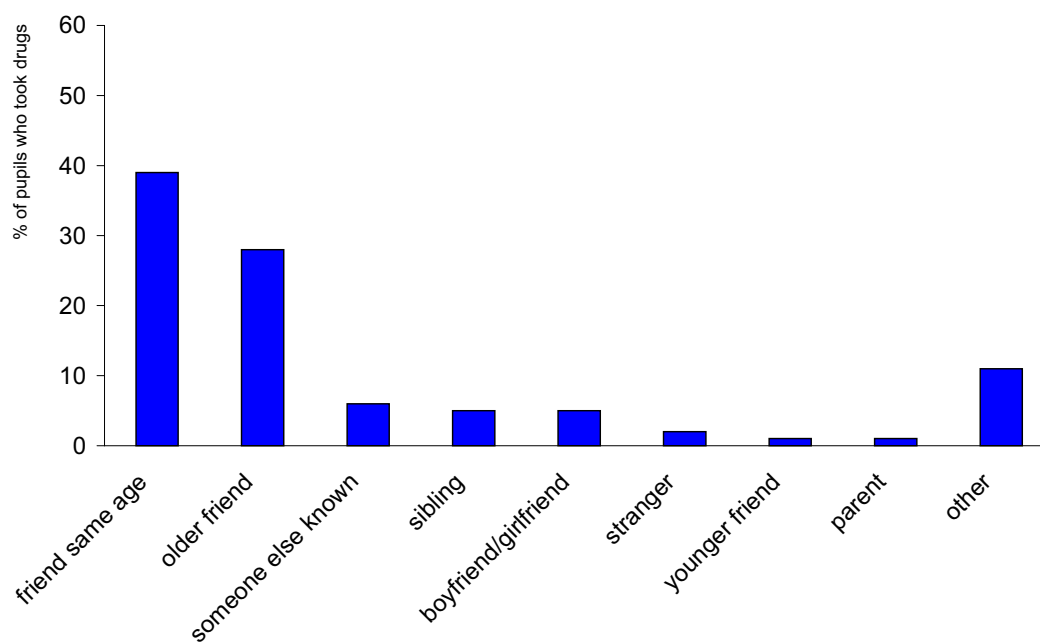
5.7 Availability of drugs

Just over half of all 13 and 15 year old pupils (54%) reported that it would be 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs while 32% 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' (72%) than thirteen year old pupils (35%) (Tables 5.14 and 5.15).

5.8 Source of drugs 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: Highland 2002.



(Source: Table 5.16 and 5.17)

Almost half (44%) of pupils who took drugs reported that they gave some drugs away the 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

Twelve percent (12%) 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 (99%), although 70% 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 four percent (74%) reported that they knew where to get information (**Table 5.24**). The most frequently reported sources of information were 'doctor' (41%), 'friends' (37%), 'the Internet' (34%), and 'telephone helpline' (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 (76%) agreed that they 'know enough about the dangers of drugs' and almost all (89%) 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' (80%), 'heroin is addictive' (73%) and 'injecting drugs can lead to HIV' (73%), although 25% did not know whether heroin was addictive and 24% did not know whether injecting drugs can lead to HIV. Around half of pupils (55%) agreed that 'heroin is more dangerous than cannabis' and 41% reported that they did not know whether this was the case. More than half (54%) of the pupils agreed that 'what adults tell us about drugs is true'.

Seventy percent (70%) of all pupils agreed that 'most young people will try out drugs', and just over half (54%) 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'; 62% of pupils agreed with this statement. Just under half (45%) 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 (21%) agreed that 'taking drugs is exciting'. Around half agreed with the statements 'people who take drugs want to escape from reality' (48%) and 'people take drugs to relax' (57%), but with regard to these last two statements around a third of pupils reported that they 'don't know' whether this was the case (34% and 28% respectively).

Fifty nine percent (59%) of all pupils agreed that 'all people who sell drugs should be punished' but only 25% 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: 79% of 13 year olds and 84% of 15 year olds. However, 16% of 13 year olds and 13% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 5% of 13 year olds and 4% of 15 year olds reported that they 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. Around half (51% of 13 year olds and 52% of 15 year olds) reported that they had had lessons, videos or discussions in the last twelve months. However,

37% of 13 year olds and 36% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 12% of 13 year olds and 13% 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, 21% reported that they found them 'very useful' and 48% found them 'fairly useful' **(Table 5.29)**.

Table 5.1: Taken drugs in last month, last year* or ever, by age group: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	8	24	16	15
Used drugs in last year*	13	36	25	22
Used drugs ever	14	40	27	25
<i>Base</i>	420	460	880	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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	18	14	16	15
Used drugs in last year*	27	22	25	22
Used drugs ever	29	25	27	25
<i>Base</i>	453	427	880	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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	11	33	22	20
Stimulants	3	11	7	6
<i>cocaine</i>	1	2	2	1
<i>crack</i>	1	2	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	1	6	4	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	2	4	3	2
<i>poppers</i>	1	5	3	3
Psychedelics	3	7	5	2
<i>LSD</i>	1	3	2	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	2	7	4	2
Opiates	1	2	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	1	1	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	5	7	6	4
Tranquillisers	1	3	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	1	1	0
Semeron	1	1	1	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<i>Base</i>	434	474	908	23090

Base=All pupils

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

* includes last 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:
Highland 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	25	19	22	20
Stimulants	6	8	7	6
<i>cocaine</i>	1	2	2	1
<i>crack</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	2	5	4	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	3	3	3	2
<i>poppers</i>	3	3	3	3
Psychedelics	5	5	5	2
<i>LSD</i>	2	1	2	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	5	4	4	2
Opiates	2	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	1	0	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	6	6	6	4
Tranquillisers	2	2	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	0	1	0
Semeron	1	0	1	0
Other	-	1	0	0
Base	476	432	908	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:
Highland 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	34	70	53
No	66	30	47
Base	380	438	818

Base= All pupils

**Table 5.6: Whether pupils offered drugs, by gender:
Highland 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Yes	53	52	53
No	47	48	47
Base	428	390	818

Base= All pupils

Table 5.7: Type of drug offered, by age: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	25	63	44	42
Stimulants	10	30	20	19
<i>cocaine</i>	3	8	6	6
<i>crack</i>	3	6	4	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	4	21	13	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	3	15	9	7
<i>poppers</i>	4	14	9	9
Psychedelics	7	23	15	10
<i>LSD</i>	3	10	6	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	6	20	13	8
Opiates	2	6	4	5
<i>heroin</i>	2	5	3	4
<i>methadone</i>	1	2	2	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	13	20	17	12
Tranquillisers	1	7	4	6
Anabolic Steroids	2	2	2	2
Semeron	1	2	2	1
Other	1	0	0	1
<i>Base</i>	420	465	885	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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	47	42	44	42
Stimulants	18	23	20	19
<i>cocaine</i>	5	6	6	6
<i>crack</i>	5	4	4	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	12	13	13	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	7	10	9	7
<i>poppers</i>	8	10	9	9
Psychedelics	15	15	15	10
<i>LSD</i>	8	5	6	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	13	13	13	8
Opiates	4	4	4	5
<i>heroin</i>	3	4	3	4
<i>methadone</i>	2	1	2	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	15	18	17	12
Tranquillisers	4	4	4	6
Anabolic Steroids	3	1	2	2
Semeron	2	0	2	1
Other	1	-	0	1
<i>Base</i>	459	426	885	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:
Highland 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	3	6	5	5
Once or twice a month	2	9	5	4
A few times a year	3	9	6	5
Do not use drugs	92	76	84	86
<i>Base</i>	423	463	886	22532

Base=All pupils

**Table 5.10: Usual frequency of taking drugs, by gender:
Highland 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	5	4	5	5
Once or twice a month	7	4	5	4
A few times a year	8	5	6	5
Do not use drugs	81	87	84	86
<i>Base</i>	458	428	886	22532

Base=All pupils

**Table 5.11: Places where drugs were used, by age group:
Highland 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	31	38	36
Someone else's home	12	28	23
At party	9	18	16
Own home	11	9	10
At club/disco	4	7	6
At school	8	5	6
Other place	7	4	4
<i>Base</i>	75	197	272

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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	37	34	36
Someone else's home	19	30	23
At party	14	18	16
Own home	9	11	10
At club/disco	7	5	6
At school	7	4	6
Other place	5	4	4
<i>Base</i>	158	114	272

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: Highland 2002.

	Total %	National Total %
Yes	35	39
No	65	61
<i>Base</i>	239	5544

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 5.14: Ease of getting drugs, by age group: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Very easy	13	32	23
Fairly easy	22	40	31
Fairly difficult	8	5	7
Very difficult	5	2	3
Impossible	5	2	3
Don't know	46	19	32
<i>Base</i>	416	465	881

Base=All pupils

Table 5.15: Ease of getting drugs, by gender: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Very easy	25	21	23
Fairly easy	32	31	31
Fairly difficult	6	8	7
Very difficult	2	4	3
Impossible	5	2	3
Don't know	31	34	32
<i>Base</i>	454	427	881

Base=All pupils

Table 5.16: Source of drugs, by age group: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Friend of own age	32	42	39
Older friend	29	28	28
Someone known	4	7	6
Brother or sister	8	4	5
Boyfriend/girlfriend	4	5	5
Stranger	1	3	2
Younger friend	1	1	1
Mother/father	3	1	1
Other	7	13	11
<i>Base</i>	75	197	272

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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Friend of own age	39	40	39
Older friend	24	34	28
Someone known	7	4	6
Brother or sister	3	8	5
Boyfriend/girlfriend	1	10	5
Stranger	3	1	2
Younger friend	1	1	1
Mother/father	1	2	1
Other	10	12	11
<i>Base</i>	158	114	272

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: Highland 2002.

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Used it all myself	47	50	49
Sold some of it	9	6	7
Gave some of it away	45	44	44
<i>Base</i>	58	178	236

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

Table 5.19: Sharing drugs, by gender: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Used it all myself	50	48	49
Sold some of it	8	6	7
Gave some of it away	42	46	44
Base	129	107	236

Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	12	12	12	15
Would like to give up in the future	18	22	21	20
Would not like to give up	50	39	42	39
Not sure	21	28	26	26
Base	34	111	145	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: Highland 2002.

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	12	11	12	15
Would like to give up in the future	23	18	21	20
Would not like to give up	42	41	42	39
Not sure	23	30	26	26
Base	89	56	145	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: Highland 2002.

	Total %
Yes	1
No	99
Base	145

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 : Highland 2002.

	Total %
Yes	70
No	30
<i>Base</i>	<i>144</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: Highland 2002.

	Total %
Yes	74
No	13
Don't know	14
<i>Base</i>	<i>877</i>

Base=All pupils

Table 5.25: Where pupils would go for information on drugs: Highland 2002.

	Total %
Doctor	41
Friends	37
Internet/web	34
Telephone helpline	33
Teacher	25
Female family member	23
Advice organisation	20
Magazines	19
Drop-in centre	16
Male family member	16
Books	16
TV/radio	10
Councillor	9
Youth worker	7
<i>Base</i>	<i>649</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: Highland 2002.

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know	<i>Base</i>
Taking drugs harms your health	89	6	5	878
Taking cocaine is dangerous	80	5	14	874
I know enough about the dangers of drugs	76	13	11	872
Heroin is addictive	73	2	25	874
Injecting drugs can lead to HIV	73	3	24	873
Most young people will try out drugs	70	15	15	873
People my age who take drugs need help	62	24	15	874
People who sell drugs should be punished	59	26	15	875
People take drugs to relax	57	15	28	873
Heroin is more dangerous than cannabis	55	4	41	876
People who take drugs are stupid	54	33	13	875
What adults tell us about drugs is true	54	20	26	871
People take drugs to escape from reality	48	19	34	871
People who take heroin are junkies	45	23	33	874
People who take drugs should be punished	25	56	19	873
Taking drugs is exciting	21	47	32	876

Base=All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	79	84	81
No	16	13	14
Don't know	5	4	5
<i>Base</i>	415	436	851

Base= All pupils

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	51	52	51
No	37	36	36
Don't know	12	13	12
<i>Base</i>	413	432	845

Base= All pupils

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

	Total %
Very useful	21
Fairly useful	48
Not very useful	16
Not useful at all	7
Don't know	8
<i>Base</i>	714

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 the Highland area, the number of independent school pupils was very small (less than 0.5% of the target population) and no independent schools were sampled. There was a higher response rate in S4 pupils (52% of Highland sample) compared with S2 pupils (48% of Highland 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 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 sub-groups 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