

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

**SMOKING, DRINKING AND DRUG USE  
AMONG 13 AND 15 YEAR OLDS  
IN LOTHIAN, 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:

The authors would like to thank MVA for carrying out the fieldwork and data entry for this survey.

We are grateful to ISD Scotland for their help and advice in the preparation of this report, to members of the Advisory Group for guidance received and to colleagues at CAHRU for their help and advice.

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 Lothian:

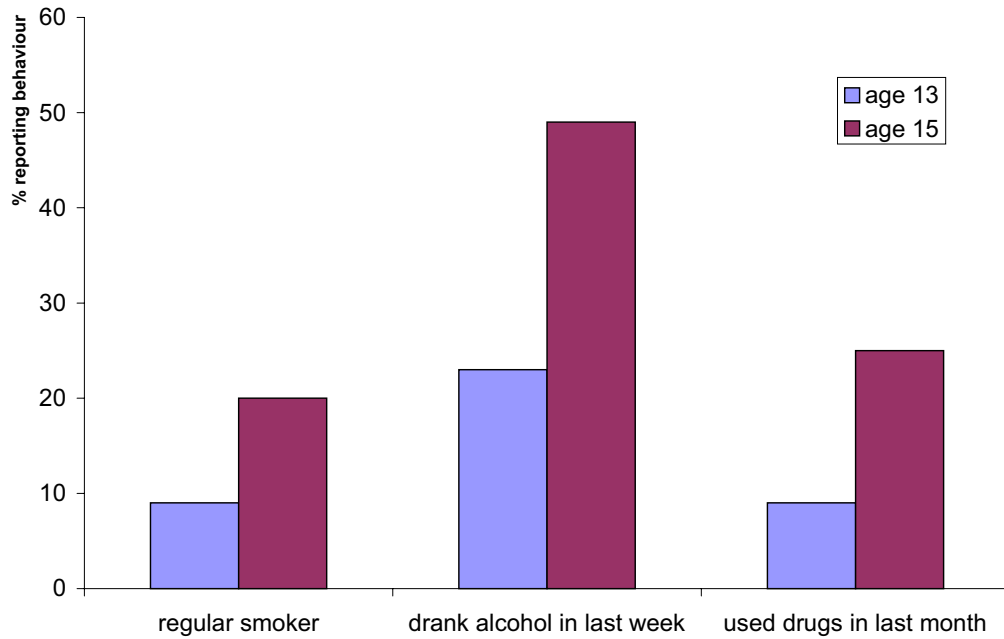
- € 9% of 13 year olds and 20% of 15 year olds were regular smokers<sup>1</sup>
- € Prevalence of regular smoking was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- € 23% of 13 year olds and 49% of 15 year olds had drunk alcohol in the week prior to the survey
- € Prevalence of drinking was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- € 9% of 13 year olds and 25% of 15 year olds had used drugs in the month prior to the survey
- € Prevalence of drug use was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- € The differences in drinking and drug use between boys and girls in Lothian were not statistically significant, however significantly more girls were regular smokers 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 Lothian in 2002.

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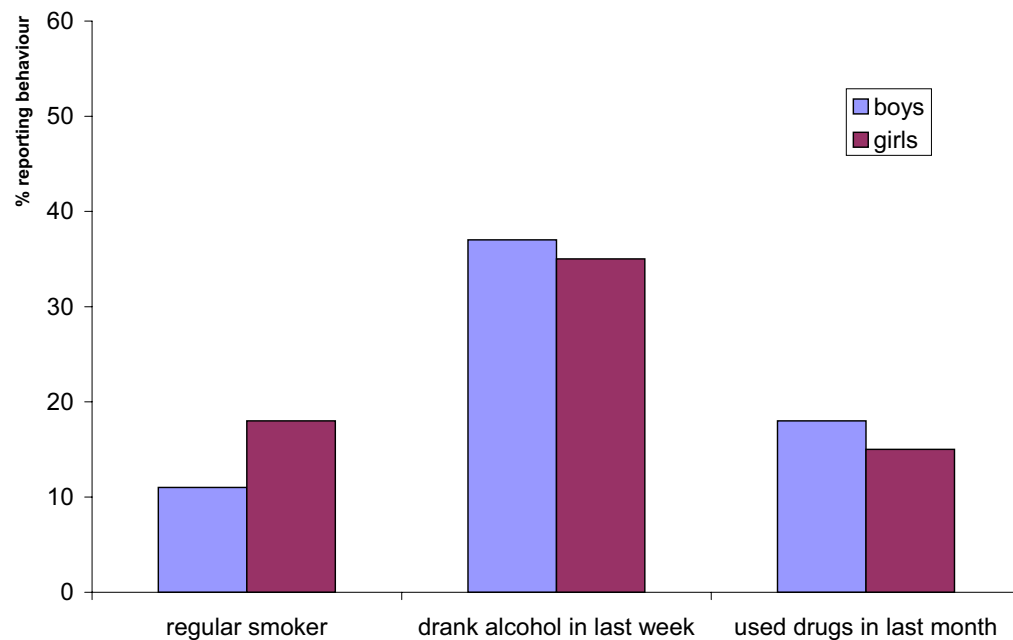
<sup>1</sup> regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week

**Figure 1.1: Smoking, drinking and drug use in 13 and 15 year olds, by age group: Lothian 2002.**



(Source: tables 3.1, 4.3, 5.1)

**Figure 1.2: Smoking, drinking and drug use in 13 and 15 year olds, by gender: Lothian 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 Lothian 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 2002<sup>1</sup> 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 1982<sup>2</sup> 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 Group<sup>3</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> The SALSUS Interim Report can be accessed on-line  
[http://www.drugmisuse.isdscotland.org/publications/abstracts/salsus\\_interim02.htm](http://www.drugmisuse.isdscotland.org/publications/abstracts/salsus_interim02.htm)

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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) survey<sup>1</sup> 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 2002<sup>2</sup>. 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.<sup>3</sup>

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 Lothian was designed to have a final sample size of 4400 pupils, split equally between S2 and S4. This constituted approximately 24% of the pupils eligible to be included in the study. Of the 62 schools which were asked to participate 40 schools (65%) agreed to take part in the study.

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<sup>1</sup> 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/>

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

Response rates are based on class and pupil participation rates. In total 243 classes in Lothian were selected to participate, and 146 classes (60%) took part. The overall pupil response rate within classes was 90%. The main reason for pupil non-response was absence due to illness. The final survey response in Lothian, based on the class and pupil response rate, was therefore 54%. This is lower than the overall national response rate for SALSUS 2002 of 65%. The final sample size was 2768 pupils, 15.2% of the target population in Lothian.

## **3 Smoking**

### **3.1 Smoking prevalence**

In Lothian, reported prevalence of regular smoking<sup>1</sup> increased significantly with age. In 2002, 9% of 13 year olds were regular smokers compared with 20% of 15 year olds. For neither age group was the reported prevalence in Lothian 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 (52%) of all 13 year olds reported that they had never smoked compared with 35% of 15 year olds.

Again, reflecting patterns found nationally, there was a higher prevalence of regular smoking among girls than boys in Lothian; 18% of girls and 11% 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 24 per week for 13 year olds and 39 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 (93%) reported that they spent money on cigarettes. The average amount spent by regular smokers who bought cigarettes was £8.00 a week.

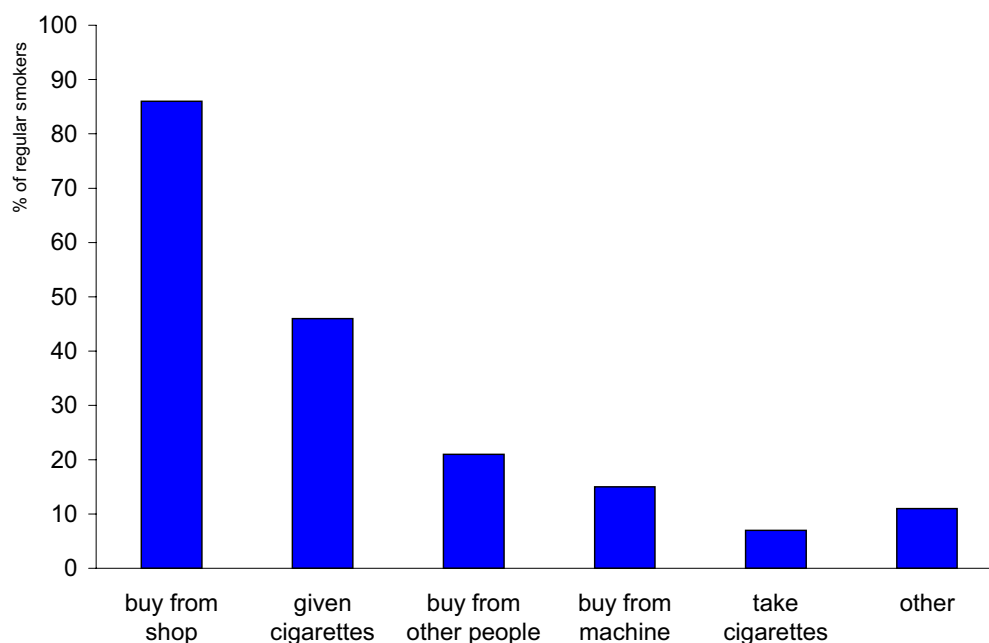
### **3.4 Where pupils obtain cigarettes**

Regular smokers were given a list of sources for obtaining cigarettes and asked to indicate where they usually obtain their cigarettes. Some pupils gave more than one source. The majority of regular smokers (86%) indicated that they bought cigarettes from shops, 15% bought them from machines and 21% reported buying them from other people. However, smokers did not always buy cigarettes, just under half (46%) of all regular smokers reported that they were given cigarettes by friends or relatives, 7% 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**).

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<sup>1</sup> regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week

**Figure 3.1: Source of cigarettes: Lothian 2002.**



(Source: Table 3.3 and 3.4)

### **3.5 Smoking dependence**

Regular smokers were asked whether they would like to give up smoking and how difficult or easy they felt this would be. The majority (69%) of regular smokers reported that they would like to give up smoking and 68% had tried to give up at some time. Just over a third (34%) of all regular smokers reported that they would find it very difficult to give up smoking altogether and a further 35% reported that they would find it fairly difficult.

Pupils who had smoked for more than a year (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: 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?'

Three quarters (75%) of regular smokers reported that their families either stop them smoking or try to persuade them to stop smoking. Just over half (55%) 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: 64% 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: 33% 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: 43% of regular smokers reported that 'all or almost all' of their friends smoked compared with 3% of non-smokers. More than half of non-smokers (58%) 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 (78%) had seen adverts on posters or billboards. More than half reported that they had seen adverts in magazines (59%) or on television (55%). Fewer pupils reported seeing adverts in newspapers (39%) or at the cinema (22%) (**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: 83% of 13 year olds and 62% of 15 year olds. However, 13% of 13 year olds and 30% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 4% 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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	9	20	15	14
Occasional smoker	5	8	7	5
Used to smoke	11	15	13	13
Tried smoking once	22	22	22	23
Never smoked	52	35	44	45
<i>Base</i>	1436	1237	2673	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	11	18	15	14
Occasional smoker	6	7	7	5
Used to smoke	10	16	13	13
Tried smoking once	23	21	22	23
Never smoked	50	38	44	45
<i>Base</i>	1357	1316	2673	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Buy from shop	70	93	86
Given cigarettes	45	47	46
Buy from other people	30	16	21
Buy from machine	16	15	15
Take cigarettes	10	6	7
Get cigarettes some other way	23	6	11
<i>Base</i>	128	240	368

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Buy from shop	82	88	86
Given cigarettes	38	51	46
Buy from other people	22	20	21
Buy from machine	15	16	15
Take cigarettes	6	8	7
Get cigarettes some other way	12	10	11
<i>Base</i>	145	223	368

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Total %
Would like to give up smoking	69
Would not like to give up smoking	31
<i>Base</i>	347

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

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

	Total %
Has tried to give up smoking	68
Has not tried to give up smoking	32
<i>Base</i>	357

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

**Table 3.7: Length of time smoking: Lothian 2002.**

	Total %
One year or less	35
More than a year	65
<i>Base</i>	352

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

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

	One year or less %	More than a year %	Total %	National Total %
Very difficult	11	46	34	32
Fairly difficult	35	35	35	36
Fairly easy	31	13	19	21
Very easy	23	6	12	11
<i>Base</i>	127	222	352	2868

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

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

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non- smoker %	Total %	National Total %
Stop/would stop me	22	41	57	51	54
Persuade me not to	53	44	35	38	35
Do nothing	14	3	1	3	3
Encourage me	2	1	0	1	0
Not sure	9	11	6	7	7
<i>Base</i>	344	128	1833	2395	19279

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Total %
Allowed to smoke at home	32
Not allowed to smoke at home	55
Don't know	13
<i>Base</i>	313

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

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

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
Neither parent smokes daily	35	55	60
At least one parent smokes daily	64	41	38
Does not see either parent	1	4	2
<i>Base</i>	354	176	2067

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
No sibling smokes	62	71	79
At least one sibling smokes daily	33	21	13
Does not have siblings	6	8	8
<i>Base</i>	343	169	1951

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
All or almost all	43	12	3
More than half	28	21	7
Half	16	23	10
Less than half	10	24	21
Almost none	3	18	33
None	-	2	25
<i>Base</i>	367	180	2116

*Base= All pupils*

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

	<b>Yes %</b>	<b>No %</b>	<b>Don't know %</b>	<b>Base</b>
On posters/billboards	78	14	7	2635
In magazines	59	31	10	2605
On television	55	37	8	2624
In newspapers	39	45	16	2575
At the cinema	22	61	17	2582

*Base= All pupils*

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

	<b>Age 13 %</b>	<b>Age 15 %</b>	<b>Total %</b>
Yes	83	62	73
No	13	30	21
Don't know	4	8	6
<i>Base</i>	<i>1391</i>	<i>1233</i>	<i>2624</i>

*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 88% of 15 year olds reported that they had had an alcoholic drink. For neither age group was the reported prevalence in Lothian significantly different from the national prevalence of alcohol use (national figures: 69% for 13 year olds and 88% for 15 year olds) (**Table 4.1**).

Just under half (49%) of 15 year olds and 23% of 13 year olds had drunk alcohol in the last week, again a significant increase in prevalence with age. Once again these figures are not significantly different from the reported national figures for drinking in the last week (national figures: 23% of 13 year olds reported drinking in the week before the survey compared with 46% of 15 year olds). There was no significant difference between boys and girls in the proportion of pupils drinking in the last week (**Tables 4.3 and 4.4**).

### 4.2 Usual drinking frequency

Among those pupils who reported having had an alcoholic drink, the frequency of drinking increased significantly with age; 17% of 13 year old pupils reported that they usually drink at least once a week, compared to 40% 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 (30% of boys and 27% 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, 79% 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 drink<sup>1</sup>. There were significant differences between boys and girls in the types of alcohol drunk. For boys 'beer, lager or cider' were most commonly reported: 61% 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: 68% had drunk alcopops in the last week. A similar proportion of girls (67%) reported that they had drunk spirits in the last week (**Table 4.8**).

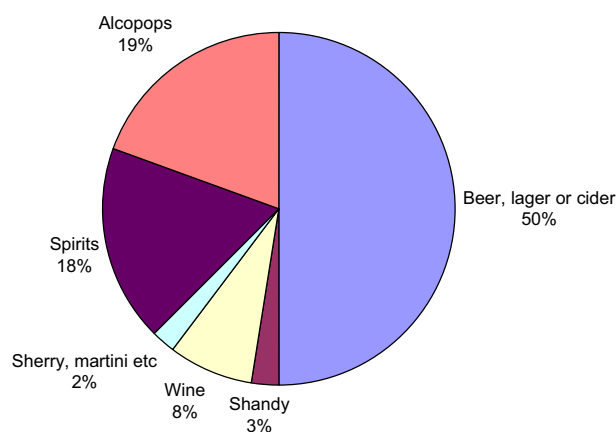
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<sup>1</sup> Pupils were asked about the following types of drink: beer, lager or cider, shandy, wine, martini and sherry, spirits and liqueurs, alcopops and pre-mixed alcoholic drinks.

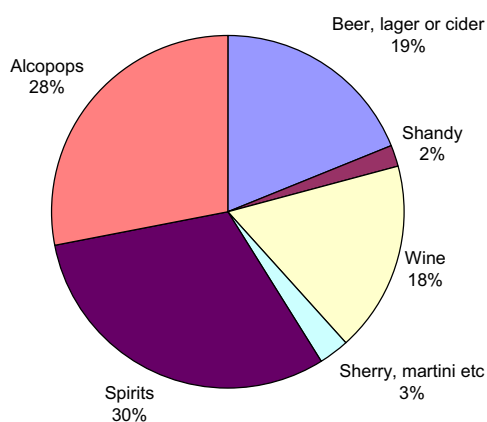
## 4.5 Average amount of alcohol consumed weekly

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., 2001<sup>1</sup>). Boys who drank over the previous seven days consumed on average 14 units of alcohol, and girls consumed 11 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: Lothian 2002.**



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

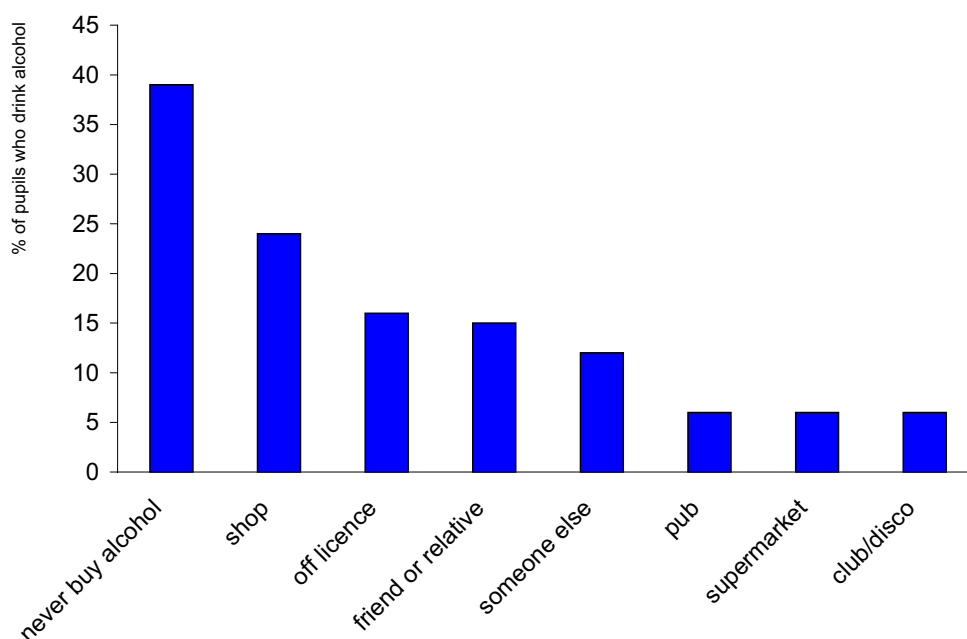


<sup>1</sup> Boreham R. and Shaw A. (eds) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland 2000*. Edinburgh: The Stationery Office, 2001.

## 4.6 Availability of alcohol

Pupils who reported ever having had an alcoholic drink were asked where they usually obtained alcohol. Some pupils reported more than one source. Thirty nine percent (39%) of those who had had an alcoholic drink reported that they 'never buy alcohol'. The most common sources for purchasing alcohol by pupils in Lothian were from a shop (24%), from an off licence (16%) or from friend or relative (15%) (Table 4.9 and 4.10, Figure 4.3).

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

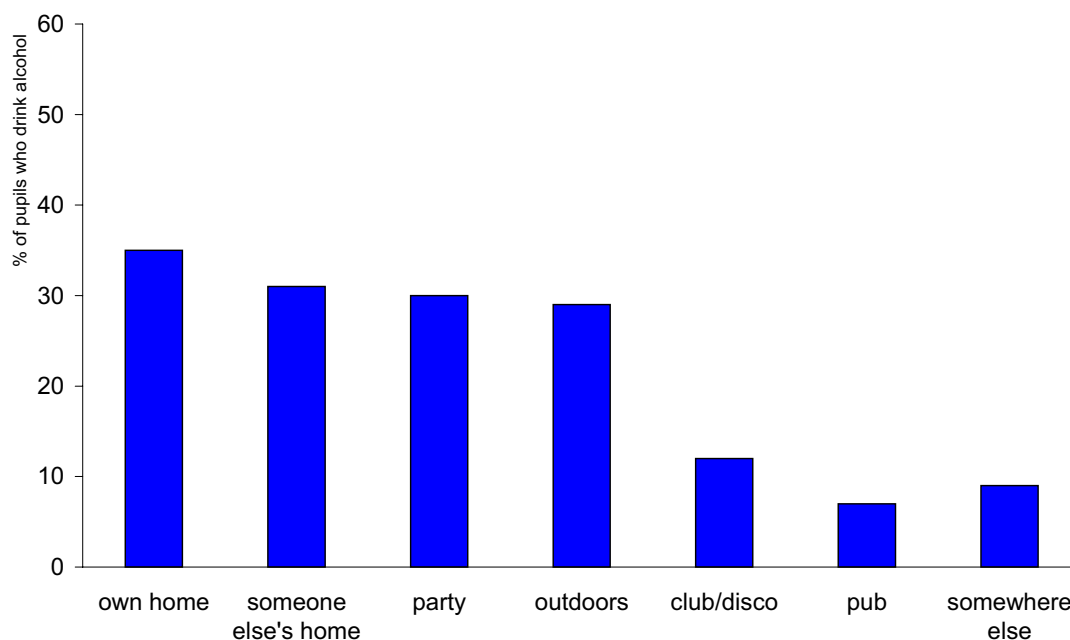


(Source: Tables 4.9 and 4.10)

## 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 (35%), in someone else's home (31%), at a party with friends (30%) or outdoors (29%) (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: Lothian 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. Eighteen percent (18%) had been drunk once, 21% 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.

Half (50%) of all 13 and 15 year old pupils who had ever had a proper alcoholic drink reported that they had consumed five or more drinks on the same occasion in the past 30 days and 13% 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 40% of all 13 and 15 year old pupils. 'Having an argument or fight' was reported by 28% of all 13 and 15 year olds.

Some pupils had been involved in other risk behaviours as a result of drinking too much alcohol. Fifteen percent (15%) had tried drugs. Fourteen percent (14%) of all

15 year olds (12% of boys and 16% of girls) had had unprotected sex (13 year old pupils were not asked questions on sexual health).

Thirteen percent (13%) of pupils had stayed off school as a result of drinking too much alcohol. 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 family did not know that they drank, around half (48%) 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 (21% of all pupils) were asked how their families would feel if they started drinking. Sixty seven percent (67%) reported that their families would be upset or angry if they started drinking (**Tables 4.21 and 4.22**).

All pupils, including those who had never had a proper alcoholic drink, were asked if they were allowed to drink at home and most pupils (76%) 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; 81% of 13 year olds and 71% of 15 year olds. However, 14% of 13 year olds and 22% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons, videos or class discussions and 4% of 13 year olds and 7% of 15 year olds did not know whether they had had lessons, videos or discussions on alcohol (**Table 4.24**).

**Table 4.1: Whether pupils have had an alcoholic drink by age group: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	70	88	79	78
No	30	12	21	22
<i>Base</i>	1473	1269	2742	22850

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	79	79	79	78
No	21	21	21	22
<i>Base</i>	1386	1356	2742	22850

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	23	49	36	35
One to four weeks ago	14	19	16	16
One to six months ago	19	14	17	18
More than six months ago	12	6	9	10
Never	31	12	22	22
<i>Base</i>	1446	1261	2707	22617

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	37	35	36	35
One to four weeks ago	15	18	16	16
One to six months ago	16	18	17	18
More than six months ago	10	8	9	10
Never	22	21	22	22
<i>Base</i>	1365	1342	2707	22617

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	17	40	29	27
About once a fortnight	9	15	12	12
About once a month	9	14	12	12
Only a few times a year	33	19	26	27
Never	31	12	21	22
<i>Base</i>	1466	1266	2732	22754

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 4.6: Usual drinking frequency, by gender: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	30	27	29	27
About once a fortnight	11	13	12	12
About once a month	10	14	12	12
Only a few times a year	28	25	26	27
Never	21	21	21	22
<i>Base</i>	1380	1352	2732	22754

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Beer, lager or cider	43	49	47
Shandy	16	5	9
Wine	30	32	32
Martini, sherry etc.	10	8	9
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	49	62	58
Alcopops	60	58	59
<i>Base</i>	335	611	946

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Beer, lager or cider	61	32	47
Shandy	9	8	9
Wine	23	41	32
Martini, sherry etc.	8	9	9
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	49	67	58
Alcopops	50	68	59
<i>Base</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>454</i>	<i>946</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: Lothian 2002.**

	<b>Age 13</b>	<b>Age 15</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Never buy alcohol	51	28	39
Buy alcohol from shop	15	32	24
Buy alcohol in off licence	5	25	16
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	12	18	15
Buy alcohol from someone else	14	10	12
Buy alcohol in pub	1	10	6
Buy alcohol from supermarket	4	8	6
Buy alcohol in club/disco	2	9	6
<i>Base</i>	<i>1039</i>	<i>1123</i>	<i>2162</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: Lothian 2002.**

	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Never buy alcohol	40	37	39
Buy alcohol from shop	23	25	24
Buy alcohol in off licence	16	16	16
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	12	18	15
Buy alcohol from someone else	13	11	12
Buy alcohol in pub	5	6	6
Buy alcohol from supermarket	7	6	6
Buy alcohol in club/disco	4	7	6
<i>Base</i>	<i>1100</i>	<i>1062</i>	<i>2162</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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	41	30	35
Usually drink in someone else's home	24	37	31
Usually drink at a party with friends	20	38	30
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	27	31	29
Usually drink in club/disco	9	15	12
Usually drink in pub	2	11	7
Usually drink somewhere else	12	7	9
<i>Base</i>	1039	1123	2162

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	36	34	35
Usually drink in someone else's home	28	35	31
Usually drink at a party with friends	28	32	30
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	27	31	29
Usually drink in club/disco	10	15	12
Usually drink in pub	7	7	7
Usually drink somewhere else	10	8	9
<i>Base</i>	1100	1062	2162

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Never	44	22	32	32
Once	23	14	18	19
2-3 times	16	25	21	22
4-10 times	9	18	14	13
More than 10 times	8	20	15	14
<i>Base</i>	1002	1106	2108	17723

*Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol*

**Table 4.14: Ever been drunk, by gender: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Never	34	30	32	32
Once	17	19	18	19
2-3 times	21	22	21	22
4-10 times	13	16	14	13
More than 10 times	16	14	15	14
<i>Base</i>	<i>1070</i>	<i>1038</i>	<i>2108</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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	9	16	13	13
3 times	7	13	10	9
Twice	10	17	14	13
Once	11	15	13	14
Not in last 30 days	21	22	22	23
Never	42	17	28	28
<i>Base</i>	<i>995</i>	<i>1106</i>	<i>2101</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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	12	14	13	13
3 times	10	10	10	9
Twice	15	13	14	13
Once	12	14	13	14
Not in last 30 days	19	24	22	23
Never	31	24	28	28
<i>Base</i>	<i>1063</i>	<i>1038</i>	<i>2101</i>	<i>17615</i>

*Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Vomited	30	48	40
Had an argument or fight	22	33	28
Tried any drugs	8	19	15
Had unprotected sex*	-	14	14
Stayed off school	12	13	13
Injured and seen by doctor	7	5	6
Visited A & E department	4	3	4
Admitted to hospital overnight	3	3	3
<b>Base</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>1103</b>	<b>2083</b>

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Vomited	37	43	40
Had an argument or fight	26	31	28
Tried any drugs	16	15	15
Had unprotected sex*	12	16	14
Stayed off school	12	13	13
Injured and seen by doctor	7	6	6
Visited A & E department	3	4	4
Admitted to hospital overnight	3	2	3
<b>Base</b>	<b>1049</b>	<b>1034</b>	<b>2083</b>

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	13	18	16	16
They don't mind	40	52	48	45
They don't know I drink	33	20	24	27
I don't know what they think	15	11	12	12
<b>Base</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>7469</b>

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	15	18	16	16
They don't mind	51	44	48	45
They don't know I drink	21	26	24	27
I don't know what they think	13	11	12	12
<i>Base</i>	476	444	920	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	68	65	67	70
They would not mind	8	15	10	9
I don't know what they would think	23	20	22	21
<i>Base</i>	429	145	574	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	64	70	67	70
They would not mind	12	8	10	9
I don't know what they would think	23	22	22	21
<i>Base</i>	289	285	574	4711

*Base=All pupils who have never drunk alcohol*

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

	Total %
Yes, always	8
Yes, sometimes	68
No, never	24
<i>Base</i>	2693

*Base=All pupils*

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

	<b>Age 13</b>	<b>Age 15</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	81	71	76
No	14	22	18
Don't know	4	7	6
<i>Base</i>	1391	1235	2626

*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'<sup>1</sup> 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. Nine percent (9%) of thirteen year old pupils reported using drugs in the last month compared with 25% of fifteen year olds. Prevalence of drug use in Lothian was not significantly different from the prevalence found nationally (national figures: 8% of 13 year olds and 23% of 15 year olds). Girls were slightly less likely to have used drugs in the last month than boys, though this difference was not statistically significant (18% of boys and 15% of girls had used drugs in the last month) (**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; 7% had used stimulants (cocaine, crack, ecstasy, amphetamines, poppers), 4% had used solvents, 3% 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

Half of all pupils (50%) had been offered drugs. This proportion was higher for older pupils than for younger pupils: 63% 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 significantly less likely to have been offered drugs than boys: 46% of girls had been offered drugs compared with 54% of boys. The most commonly

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<sup>1</sup> '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.

offered drug type was cannabis: 42% of pupils reported that they had been offered this drug (Tables 5.5 to 5.8).

## 5.4 Frequency of drug use

Five percent (5%) of pupils reported that they usually take drugs once a week or more, with a significantly higher proportion of older pupils and boys doing so; 3% of thirteen year old pupils and 7% of fifteen year old pupils and 3% of girls and 7% 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

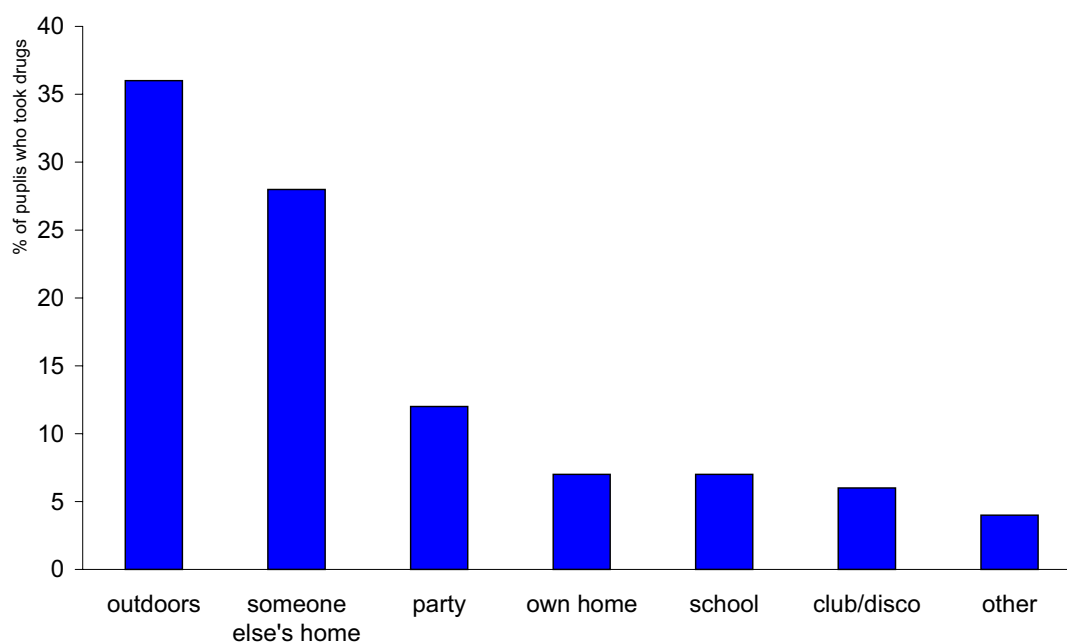
Around half (48%) of pupils who used drugs in the last month reported that they spent money on drugs. The average amount spent by those who reported buying drugs was £10.00 per week.

## 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' (28%) (Tables 5.11 and 5.12, Figure 5.1).

Forty two percent (42%) 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: Lothian 2002.



(Source: Tables 5.11 and 5.12)

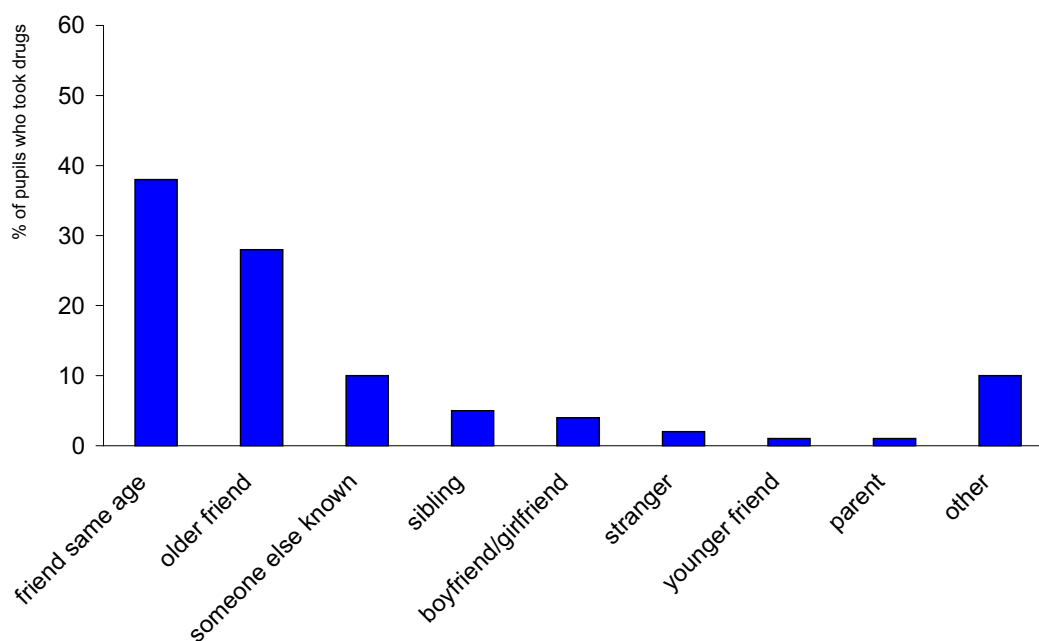
## 5.7 Availability of drugs

Just under half (47%) of all 13 and 15 year old pupils reported that it would be 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs while 37% did not know how easy or difficult it would be. Significantly more 15 year olds reported that they would find it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' (64%) than 13 year olds (32%) (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; 38% of pupils reported that they obtained their drugs from a friend of the same age and 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: Lothian 2002.



(Source: Table 5.16 and 5.17)

Just under half (45%) 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

Fourteen percent (14%) 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 (97%) 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, although 74% reported that they knew where to go to get help (Tables 5.20 to 5.23).

All pupils were asked if they knew where to get information on drugs. Seventy percent (70%) reported that they knew where to get information (**Table 5.24**). The most frequently reported sources of information were 'friends' (38%), 'doctor' (37%), 'the Internet' (34%) and 'telephone help-line' (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 (77%) 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' (79%), 'heroin is addictive' (68%) and 'injecting drugs can lead to HIV' (73%), although 29% did not know whether heroin was addictive and 23% did not know whether injecting drugs can lead to HIV. Around half of pupils (51%) agreed that 'heroin is more dangerous than cannabis' and 43% reported that they did not know whether this was the case. Just over half (57%) of the pupils agreed that 'what adults tell us about drugs is true'.

Although around two thirds of pupils (64%) agreed that 'most young people will try out drugs', 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'; 66% 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'. Sixteen percent (16%) of pupils 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' (55%). However 37% of pupils reported that they did not know whether 'people who take drugs want to escape from reality' and 29% reported that they did not know whether 'people take drugs to relax'.

Sixty percent (60%) agreed that 'all people who sell drugs should be punished' but only 27% 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: 86% of 13 year olds and 77% of 15 year olds. However, 11% of 13 year olds and 16% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 3% of 13 year olds and 6% 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 (58% of 13 year olds and 49% of 15 year olds) reported that they had had lessons, videos or discussions in the last twelve months. However,

32% of 13 year olds and 39% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and the remaining 10% 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, 28% reported that they found them 'very useful' and 44% found them 'fairly useful' (**Table 5.29**).

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	9	25	17	15
Used drugs in last year*	12	34	23	22
Used drugs ever	15	38	26	25
<i>Base</i>	1444	1249	2693	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	18	15	17	15
Used drugs in last year*	24	22	23	22
Used drugs ever	27	25	26	25
<i>Base</i>	1362	1331	2693	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	10	31	21	20
Stimulants	4	9	7	6
<i>cocaine</i>	2	2	2	1
<i>crack</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	2	4	3	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	1	4	3	2
<i>poppers</i>	2	5	3	3
Psychedelics	2	3	3	2
<i>LSD</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	2	3	2	2
Opiates	2	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	1	1	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	4	5	4	4
Tranquillisers	1	2	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	1	1	0
Semeron	1	1	1	0
Other	1	1	1	0
<i>Base</i>	1491	1277	2768	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:  
Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	21	20	21	20
Stimulants	8	5	7	6
<i>cocaine</i>	2	1	2	1
<i>crack</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	4	2	3	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	3	2	3	2
<i>poppers</i>	4	2	3	3
Psychedelics	4	2	3	2
<i>LSD</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	3	1	2	2
Opiates	2	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	1	0	1	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	4	4	4	4
Tranquillisers	2	1	2	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	1	1	0
Semeron	1	1	1	0
Other	1	0	1	0
<b>Base</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>1362</b>	<b>2768</b>	<b>23090</b>

*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:  
Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	36	63	50
No	64	37	50
<b>Base</b>	<b>1285</b>	<b>1185</b>	<b>2470</b>

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Yes	54	46	50
No	46	54	50
<b>Base</b>	<b>1254</b>	<b>1216</b>	<b>2470</b>

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	27	57	42	42
Stimulants	12	26	19	19
<i>cocaine</i>	6	7	7	6
<i>crack</i>	5	4	5	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	7	17	12	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	4	12	8	7
<i>poppers</i>	4	14	9	9
Psychedelics	7	13	10	10
<i>LSD</i>	4	6	5	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	5	11	8	8
Opiates	6	7	6	5
<i>heroin</i>	6	6	6	4
<i>methadone</i>	2	3	2	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	11	14	13	12
Tranquillisers	4	8	6	6
Anabolic Steroids	2	3	2	2
Semeron	2	2	2	1
Other	2	2	2	1
<b>Base</b>	<b>1446</b>	<b>1247</b>	<b>2693</b>	<b>20614</b>

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	46	38	42	42
Stimulants	20	19	19	19
<i>cocaine</i>	7	6	7	6
<i>crack</i>	6	3	5	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	12	12	12	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	8	8	8	7
<i>poppers</i>	10	7	9	9
Psychadelics	12	8	10	10
<i>LSD</i>	6	4	5	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	10	6	8	8
Opiates	7	6	6	5
<i>heroin</i>	6	6	6	4
<i>methadone</i>	3	2	2	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	14	12	13	12
Tranquillisers	6	5	6	6
Anabolic Steroids	3	2	2	2
Semeron	2	1	2	1
Other	3	1	2	1
<b>Base</b>	<b>1363</b>	<b>1330</b>	<b>2693</b>	<b>20614</b>

*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:  
Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	3	7	5	5
Once or twice a month	2	8	5	4
A few times a year	3	7	5	5
Do not use drugs	93	77	85	86
<i>Base</i>	1454	1252	2706	22532

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	7	3	5	5
Once or twice a month	5	5	5	4
A few times a year	5	6	5	5
Do not use drugs	83	87	85	86
<i>Base</i>	1368	1338	2706	22532

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	37	35	36
Someone else's home	15	34	28
At party	9	14	12
Own home	6	7	7
At school	4	8	7
At club/disco	8	5	6
Other place	4	3	4
<i>Base</i>	273	501	774

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	36	36	36
Someone else's home	23	33	28
At party	13	11	12
Own home	8	6	7
At school	7	6	7
At club/disco	7	5	6
Other place	4	3	4
<i>Base</i>	412	362	774

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Total %	National Total %
Yes	42	39
No	58	61
<i>Base</i>	693	5544

*Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Very easy	12	27	19
Fairly easy	20	37	28
Fairly difficult	6	5	6
Very difficult	5	2	4
Impossible	9	3	6
Don't know	48	26	37
<i>Base</i>	1439	1244	2683

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Very easy	23	16	19
Fairly easy	27	29	28
Fairly difficult	6	6	6
Very difficult	5	3	4
Impossible	5	7	6
Don't know	35	39	37
<i>Base</i>	1356	1327	2683

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Friend of own age	23	45	38
Older friend	29	27	28
Someone known	8	11	10
Brother or sister	6	3	4
Boyfriend/girlfriend	5	4	4
Stranger	2	1	2
Younger friend	1	1	1
Mother/father	3	1	1
Other	11	9	10
<i>Base</i>	273	501	774

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Friend of own age	37	39	38
Older friend	25	31	28
Someone known	12	8	10
Brother or sister	4	4	4
Boyfriend/girlfriend	1	8	4
Stranger	2	1	2
Younger friend	1	1	1
Mother/father	1	2	1
Other	10	9	10
<i>Base</i>	412	362	774

*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: Lothian 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Used it all myself	42	45	44
Sold some of it	14	9	11
Gave some of it away	44	45	45
<i>Base</i>	195	446	641

*Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs*

**Table 5.19: Sharing drugs, by gender: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Used it all myself	42	46	44
Sold some of it	15	6	11
Gave some of it away	43	47	45
Base	328	313	641

*Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	19	12	14	15
Would like to give up in the future	12	18	17	20
Would not like to give up	40	42	42	39
Not sure	28	27	27	26
Base	104	273	377	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	10	19	14	15
Would like to give up in the future	16	18	17	20
Would not like to give up	48	33	42	39
Not sure	25	30	27	26
Base	213	164	377	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: Lothian 2002.**

	Total %
Yes	3
No	97
Base	383

*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 : Lothian 2002.**

	Total %
Yes	74
No	26
<i>Base</i>	<i>379</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: Lothian 2002.**

	Total %
Yes	70
No	14
Don't know	15
<i>Base</i>	<i>2687</i>

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Total %
Friends	38
Doctor	37
Internet/web	34
Telephone helpline	33
Teacher	28
Advice organisation	26
Female family member	22
Drop-in centre	21
Magazines	16
Male family member	15
Books	15
Youth worker	11
Councillor	10
TV/radio	7
<i>Base</i>	<i>1881</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: Lothian 2002.**

	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>	<i>Base</i>
Taking drugs harms your health	89	6	5	2659
Taking cocaine is dangerous	79	4	17	2662
I know enough about the dangers of drugs	77	14	9	2658
Injecting drugs can lead to HIV	73	4	23	2667
Heroin is addictive	68	3	29	2670
People my age who take drugs need help	66	19	15	2659
Most young people will try out drugs	64	18	17	2669
People who sell drugs should be punished	60	24	16	2665
What adults tell us about drugs is true	57	19	24	2667
People take drugs to relax	55	16	29	2662
People who take drugs are stupid	54	31	15	2661
Heroin is more dangerous than cannabis	51	6	43	2665
People take drugs to escape from reality	48	16	37	2665
People who take heroin are junkies	45	25	30	2662
People who take drugs should be punished	27	53	20	2661
Taking drugs is exciting	16	52	31	2677

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	86	77	82
No	11	16	14
Don't know	3	6	5
<i>Base</i>	1390	1236	2626

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	58	49	53
No	32	39	35
Don't know	10	13	12
<i>Base</i>	1377	1229	2606

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Total %
Very useful	28
Fairly useful	44
Not very useful	15
Not useful at all	6
Don't know	8
<i>Base</i>	2223

*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 Lothian there was a slightly higher response from independently funded pupils (independently funded school pupils comprise 15% of the sample but 11% of the target population) , but there was a higher response rate in S2 pupils (54% of Lothian sample) compared with S4 pupils (46% of Lothian 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 <sup>1 2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Kish (1970) *Survey Sampling*, London: John Wiley

<sup>2</sup> SAS System for Windows 1999. Release 8, SAS Institute Inc. Cary, NC, USA