

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

## **SMOKING, DRINKING AND DRUG USE AMONG 13 AND 15 YEAR OLDS IN PERTH AND KINROSS, 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 Perth and Kinross:

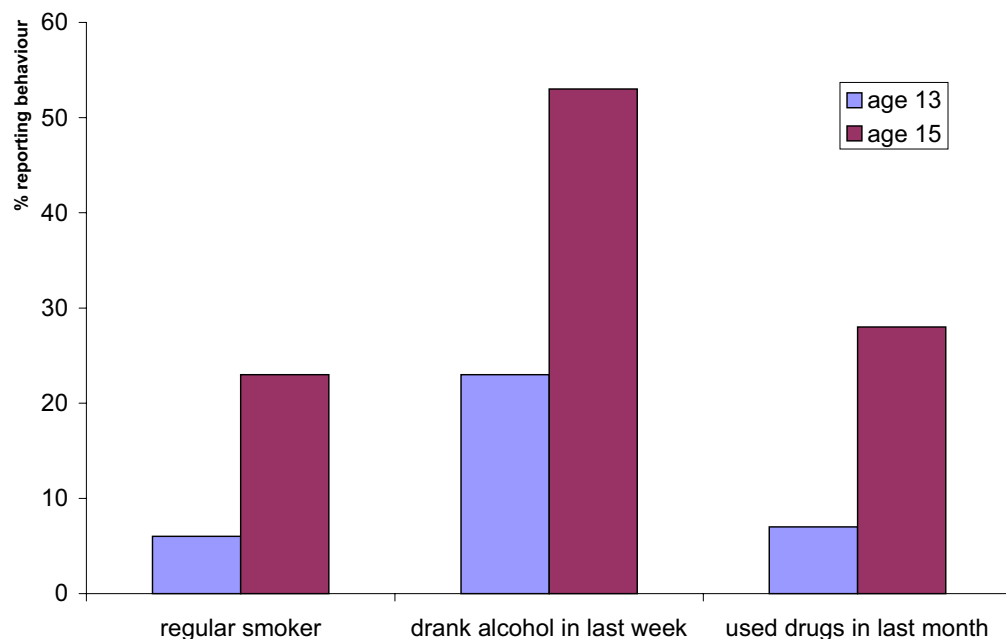
- 6% of 13 year olds and 23% of 15 year olds were regular smokers<sup>1</sup>
- Prevalence of regular smoking was not significantly different from the reported national prevalence for either age group
- 23% of 13 year olds and 53% of 15 year olds had drunk alcohol in the week prior to the survey
- The proportion of 15 year olds who drank alcohol in the week prior to the survey was higher than the reported national prevalence for this age group
- 7% of 13 year olds and 28% 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 Perth and Kinross 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 14 years.

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

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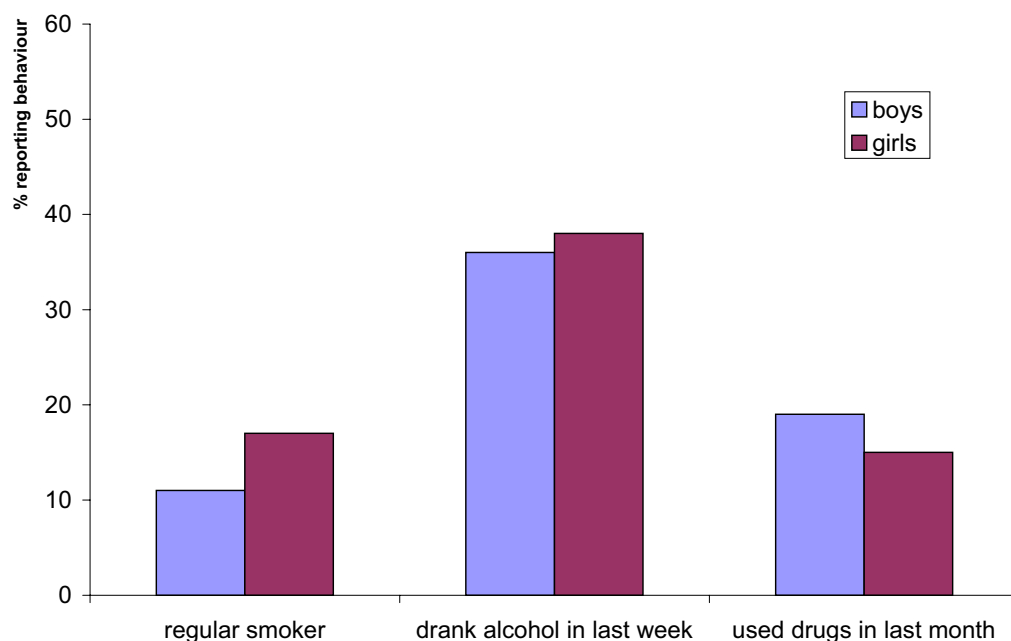
<sup>1</sup> regular smoker, usually smokes one or more cigarettes a week

**Figure 1.1: Smoking, drinking and drug use in 13 and 15 year olds, by age group: Perth and Kinross 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: Perth and Kinross 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 Perth and Kinross 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 Perth and Kinross was designed to have a final sample size of 850 pupils, split equally between S2 and S4. This constituted approximately 24% of the pupils eligible to be included in the study. Of the 17 schools which were asked to participate 12 schools (71%) 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 43 classes in Perth and Kinross were selected to participate, and 32 classes (74%) took part. The overall pupil response rate within classes was 89%. The main reason for pupil non-response was absence due to illness. The final survey response in Perth and Kinross, based on the class and pupil response rate, was therefore 66%. This was comparable with the overall national response rate for SALSUS 2002 of 65%. The final sample size was 688 pupils, 20% of the target population in Perth and Kinross.

## 3 Smoking

### 3.1 Smoking prevalence

In Perth and Kinross, reported prevalence of regular smoking<sup>1</sup> increased significantly with age. In 2002, 6% of 13 year olds were regular smokers compared with 23% of 15 year olds. For both age groups the reported prevalence in Perth and Kinross was not significantly different from the national prevalence of regular smoking (national figures: 8% for 13 year olds and 20% for 15 year olds). Just over half of all 13 year olds reported that they had never smoked (53%), 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 Perth and Kinross; 17% of girls and 11% of boys were regular smokers. However, these differences are 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 20 per week for 13 year olds and 35 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

Around three quarters of regular smokers (73%) reported that they spent money on cigarettes. The average amount spent by regular smokers who bought cigarettes was £8.00 a week.

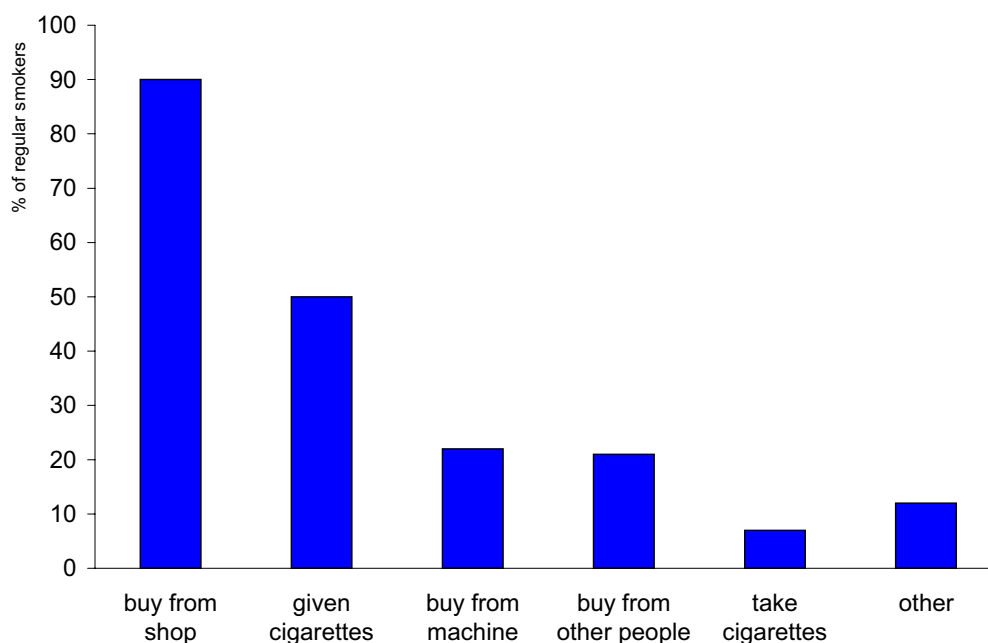
### 3.4 Where pupils obtain cigarettes

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 (90%) indicated that they bought cigarettes from shops, 22% bought them from machines and 21% reported buying them from other people. However, smokers did not always buy cigarettes, half (50%) of all regular smokers reported that they were given cigarettes by friends or relatives, 7% reported that they 'take cigarettes' and 12% 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: Perth and Kinross 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 (68%) reported that they would like to give up smoking and 66% had tried to give up at some time. Sixteen percent (16%) of all regular smokers reported that they would find it very difficult to give up smoking altogether and a further 46% 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: 22% of pupils who had smoked for more than a year reported that it would be very difficult to give up smoking compared with 3% 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 five percent (75%) of regular smokers reported that their families either stop them smoking or try to persuade them to stop smoking. Around half (58%) of all pupils who were regular smokers reported that they were not allowed to smoke at home (Tables 3.9 and 3.10).

Almost all non-smokers (89%) 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: 60% 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: 48% 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: 35% of regular smokers reported that 'all or almost all' of their friends smoked compared with 2% of non-smokers. Most non-smokers (59%) 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. The majority of pupils (85%) had seen adverts on posters or billboards. Around half reported that they had seen adverts in magazines (54%) or on television (48%). Fewer pupils reported seeing adverts in newspapers (37%) or at the cinema (18%) (**Table 3.14**).

### **3.8 Lessons on smoking**

Pupils were asked if they had had any lessons, videos or discussions in class in the last 12 months on smoking. Pupil responses depend on recall and may not accurately reflect the provision of lessons, videos or class discussions. Most pupils reported that they had lessons, videos or discussions: 83% of 13 year olds and 77% of 15 year olds. However, 11% of 13 year olds and 15% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 7% 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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	6	23	14	14
Occasional smoker	5	9	7	5
Used to smoke	11	15	13	13
Tried smoking once	25	22	23	23
Never smoked	53	32	43	45
<i>Base</i>	358	305	663	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Regular smoker	11	17	14	14
Occasional smoker	5	10	7	5
Used to smoke	12	13	13	13
Tried smoking once	26	21	23	23
Never smoked	45	40	43	45
<i>Base</i>	306	357	663	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Buy from shop	71	96	90
Given cigarettes	67	45	50
Buy from machine	29	20	22
Buy from other people	17	22	21
Take cigarettes	4	7	7
Get cigarettes some other way	21	9	12
<i>Base</i>	24	69	93

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Buy from shop	95	87	90
Given cigarettes	50	49	50
Buy from machine	32	17	22
Buy from other people	19	22	21
Take cigarettes	10	5	7
Get cigarettes some other way	19	8	12
<i>Base</i>	34	59	93

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
Would like to give up smoking	68
Would not like to give up smoking	32
<i>Base</i>	<i>91</i>

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

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

	Total %
Has tried to give up smoking	66
Has not tried to give up smoking	34
<i>Base</i>	<i>90</i>

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

**Table 3.7: Length of time smoking: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
One year or less	35
More than a year	65
<i>Base</i>	<i>91</i>

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

**Table 3.8: Ease of giving up smoking by length of time smoking: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	One year or less %	More than a year %	Total %	National Total %
Very difficult	3	22	16	32
Fairly difficult	42	49	46	36
Fairly easy	31	20	24	21
Very easy	24	9	14	11
<i>Base</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>2868</i>

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

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

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non- smoker %	Total %	National Total %
Stop/would stop me	21	23	51	45	54
Persuade me not to	54	49	38	41	35
Do nothing	18	6	2	5	3
Encourage me	3	3	0	1	0
Not sure	4	19	8	8	7
<i>Base</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>434</i>	<i>585</i>	<i>19279</i>

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 3.10: Whether regular smokers are allowed to smoke at home: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
Allowed to smoke at home	26
Not allowed to smoke at home	58
Don't know	17
<i>Base</i>	84

*Base= All pupils who were regular smokers*

**Table 3.11: Parents' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
Neither parent smokes daily	40	58	64
At least one parent smokes daily	60	42	34
Does not see either parent	-	-	2
<i>Base</i>	83	48	496

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 3.12: Siblings' smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
No sibling smokes	47	68	81
At least one sibling smokes daily	48	30	13
Does not have siblings	5	3	7
<i>Base</i>	82	43	485

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 3.13: Friends smoking, by pupil's smoking status: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Regular smoker %	Occasional smoker %	Non smoker %
All or almost all	35	7	2
More than half	35	30	9
Half	19	26	9
Less than half	9	23	22
Almost none	3	15	37
None	-	-	22
<i>Base</i>	93	49	514

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 3.14: Whether pupils have seen cigarette advertising:  
Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	<b>Yes %</b>	<b>No %</b>	<b>Don't know %</b>	<b>Base</b>
On posters/billboards	85	9	6	663
In magazines	54	35	11	651
On television	48	43	9	656
In newspapers	37	48	15	643
At the cinema	18	65	17	642

*Base= All pupils*

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

	<b>Age 13 %</b>	<b>Age 15 %</b>	<b>Total %</b>
Yes	83	77	80
No	11	15	13
Don't know	7	8	7
<b>Base</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>661</b>

*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 five percent (75%) of 13 year olds and 92% of 15 year olds reported that they had had an alcoholic drink. For both age groups the reported prevalence in Perth and Kinross was higher than the national prevalence of alcohol use (national figures: 69% for 13 year olds and 88% for 15 year olds) (**Table 4.1**).

Just over half (53%) 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. The proportion of 13 year olds who drank in the last week was the same as the national figure of 23%. However, the proportion of 15 year olds in Perth and Kinross who reported that they had drunk alcohol was higher than the national figure of 46%, a statistically significant difference. 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; 15% 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. There was no significant difference between boys and girls in the proportion of pupils who reported drinking at least once a week (**Tables 4.5 and 4.6**).

### 4.3 Money spent on alcohol

Of all pupils who drank weekly, 70% 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: 69% 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: 71% had drunk alcopops in the last week. Sixty three percent of girls (63%) reported that they had drunk spirits in the last week (**Table 4.8**).

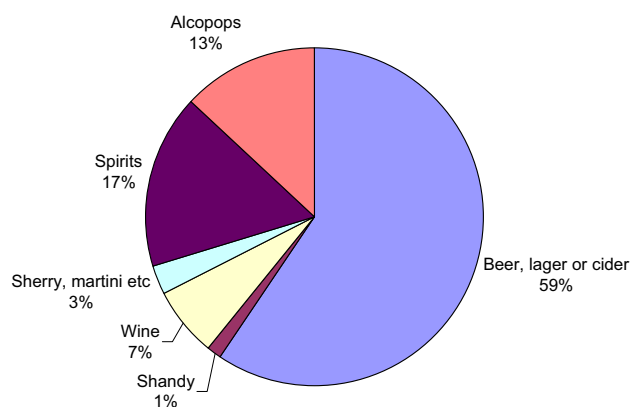
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<sup>1</sup> Pupils were asked about the following types of drink: beer, lager or cider, shandy, wine, martini and sherry, spirits and liqueurs, alcopops and pre-mixed alcoholic drinks.

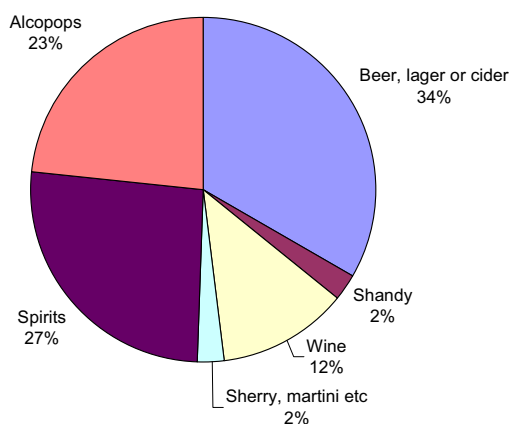
## 4.5 Average amount of alcohol consumed weekly

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 10 units. This difference was 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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**



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

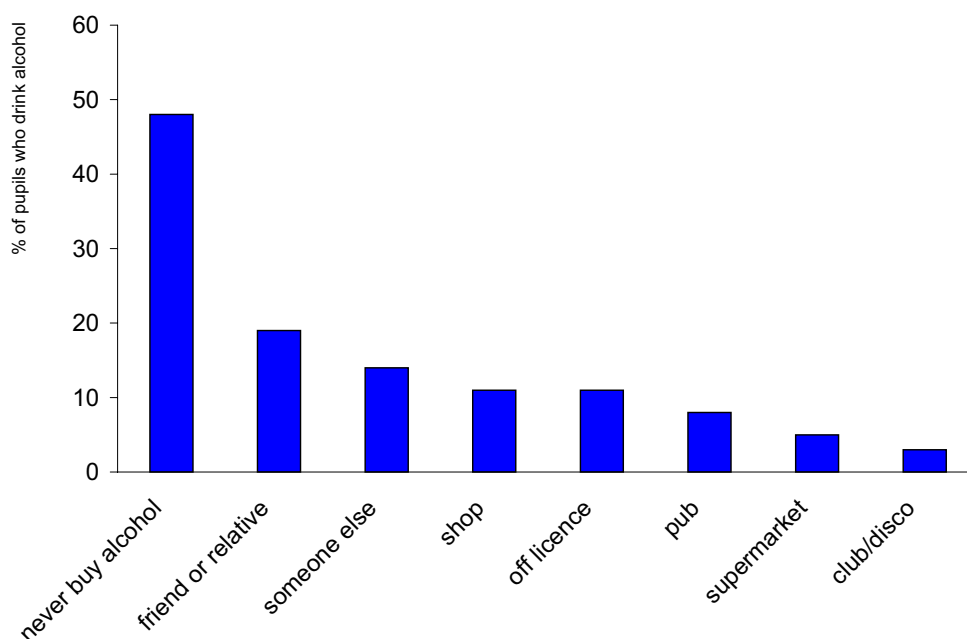


<sup>1</sup> Boreham R. and Shaw A. (eds) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland 2000*. Edinburgh: The Stationery Office, 2001.

## 4.6 Availability of alcohol

Pupils who reported ever having had an alcoholic drink were asked where they usually obtained alcohol. Almost half (48%) of those who had had an alcoholic drink reported that they 'never buy alcohol'. Other pupils reported more than one source. The most commonly reported sources for purchasing alcohol by pupils in Perth and Kinross were from a friend or relative (19%) or from someone else (14%) (Table 4.9 and 4.10, Figure 4.3).

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

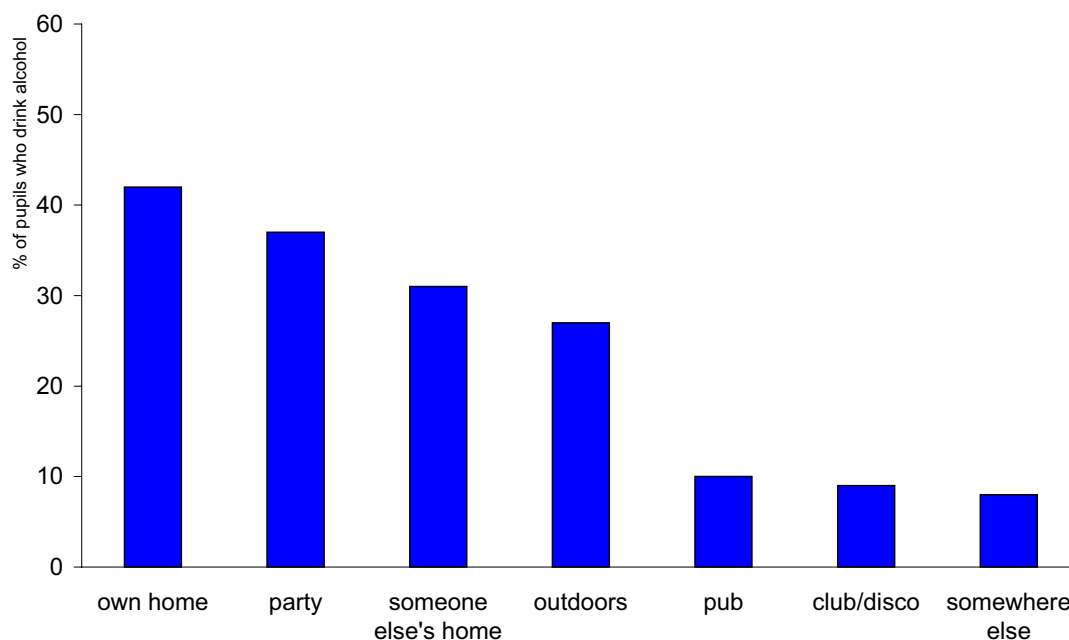


(Source: Tables 4.9 and 4.10)

## 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 (42%), at a party with friends (37%) or in someone else's home (31%). Around one in four pupils (27%) reported that they drank alcohol 'outdoors' (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: Perth and Kinross 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, 66% 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, 16% had been drunk 4-10 times and 13% 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 (48%) 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 24% of all 13 and 15 year olds.

Some pupils had been involved in other risk behaviours as a result of drinking too much alcohol. Seventeen percent (17%) had tried drugs. Nine percent (9%) of all 15

year olds (7% of boys and 11% 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. Twenty percent (20%) of those pupils who drank alcohol in the past week reported that their family did not know that they drank, around half (55%) reported that their families did not mind them drinking, 12% reported that their families did not like them drinking and 14% reported that they did not know what their families thought (**Table 4.19 and 4.20**).

Pupils who had never had an alcoholic drink (17% of all pupils) were asked how their families would feel if they started drinking. Sixty five percent (65%) 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 an 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; 78% of 13 year olds and 83% of 15 year olds. However, 15% of 13 year olds and 12% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons, videos or class discussions and 7% of 13 year olds and 6% 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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	75	92	83	78
No	25	8	17	22
<i>Base</i>	369	317	686	22850

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 4.2: Whether pupils have had an alcoholic drink by gender: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Yes	85	82	83	78
No	15	18	17	22
<i>Base</i>	318	368	686	22850

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 4.3: Last occasion of drinking, by age group Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	23	53	37	35
One to four weeks ago	13	21	17	16
One to six months ago	25	13	19	18
More than six months ago	14	6	10	10
Never	25	8	17	22
<i>Base</i>	369	311	680	22617

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 4.4: Last occasion of drinking, by gender: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
During the last week	36	38	37	35
One to four weeks ago	17	17	17	16
One to six months ago	21	17	19	18
More than six months ago	11	9	10	10
Never	16	18	17	22
<i>Base</i>	313	367	680	22617

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 4.5: Usual drinking frequency, by age group: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	15	41	28	27
About once a fortnight	8	20	14	12
About once a month	13	12	13	12
Only a few times a year	38	18	28	27
Never	25	8	17	22
<i>Base</i>	369	316	685	22754

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 4.6: Usual drinking frequency, by gender: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Once a week or more	30	26	28	27
About once a fortnight	14	14	14	12
About once a month	12	13	13	12
Only a few times a year	29	28	28	27
Never	15	18	17	22
<i>Base</i>	318	367	685	22754

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Beer, lager or cider	45	51	49
Shandy	14	7	9
Wine	31	35	34
Martini, sherry etc.	7	8	8
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	39	67	58
Alcopops	56	64	62
<i>Base</i>	87	162	249

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Beer, lager or cider	69	33	49
Shandy	15	5	9
Wine	27	40	34
Martini, sherry etc.	7	9	8
Spirits, liqueurs etc.	51	63	58
Alcopops	50	71	62
<i>Base</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>249</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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	<b>Age 13</b>	<b>Age 15</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Never buy alcohol	67	32	48
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	12	25	19
Buy alcohol from someone else	11	16	14
Buy alcohol in off licence	2	19	11
Buy alcohol from shop	4	17	11
Buy alcohol in pub	1	15	8
Buy alcohol from supermarket	3	7	5
Buy alcohol in club	1	4	3
<i>Base</i>	<i>281</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>574</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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Never buy alcohol	51	45	48
Buy alcohol from friend/relative	15	23	19
Buy alcohol from someone else	11	16	14
Buy alcohol in off licence	13	10	11
Buy alcohol from shop	11	11	11
Buy alcohol in pub	9	8	8
Buy alcohol from supermarket	7	3	5
Buy alcohol in club	1	4	3
<i>Base</i>	<i>270</i>	<i>304</i>	<i>574</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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	53	33	42
Usually drink at a party with friends	25	48	37
Usually drink in someone else's home	22	39	31
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	22	31	27
Usually drink in pub	3	15	10
Usually drink in club/disco	8	9	9
Usually drink somewhere else	11	6	8
<b>Base</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>574</b>

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Usually drink in own home	40	43	42
Usually drink at a party with friends	31	43	37
Usually drink in someone else's home	27	34	31
Usually drink outdoors (street, park etc)	28	26	27
Usually drink in pub	9	10	10
Usually drink in club/disco	6	12	9
Usually drink somewhere else	7	9	8
<b>Base</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>574</b>

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Never	48	21	33	32
Once	21	13	17	19
2-3 times	17	22	20	22
4-10 times	8	23	16	13
More than 10 times	5	20	13	14
<b>Base</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>17723</b>

*Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol*

**Table 4.14: Ever been drunk, by gender: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Never	33	33	33	32
Once	17	17	17	19
2-3 times	17	23	20	22
4-10 times	16	16	16	13
More than 10 times	16	11	13	14
<i>Base</i>	266	299	565	17723

*Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	5	20	13	13
3 times	6	12	9	9
Twice	11	14	13	13
Once	9	17	13	14
Not in last 30 days	23	23	23	23
Never	46	14	29	28
<i>Base</i>	277	289	566	17615

*Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol*

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

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
4 or more times	14	12	13	13
3 times	7	11	9	9
Twice	15	11	13	13
Once	8	17	13	14
Not in last 30 days	25	22	23	23
Never	31	27	29	28
<i>Base</i>	265	301	566	17615

*Base=All pupils who have ever drunk alcohol*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Vomited	28	50	40
Had an argument or fight	17	30	24
Tried any drugs	8	24	17
Stayed off school	7	14	11
Had unprotected sex*	-	9	9
Injured and seen by doctor	3	4	4
Visited A & E department	2	3	2
Admitted to hospital overnight	1	1	2
<i>Base</i>	273	286	559

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Vomited	39	41	40
Had an argument or fight	24	23	24
Tried any drugs	18	16	17
Stayed off school	8	15	11
Had unprotected sex*	7	11	9
Injured and seen by doctor	5	2	4
Visited A & E department	3	2	2
Admitted to hospital overnight	2	1	2
<i>Base</i>	259	300	559

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	10	12	12	16
They don't mind	50	57	55	45
They don't know I drink	19	20	20	27
I don't know what they think	21	11	14	12
<i>Base</i>	87	161	248	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They don't like it	13	10	12	16
They don't mind	59	52	55	45
They don't know I drink	15	23	20	27
I don't know what they think	13	15	14	12
<i>Base</i>	109	139	248	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	71	46	65	70
They would not mind	6	29	11	9
I don't know what they would think	24	25	24	21
<i>Base</i>	88	24	112	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
They would be upset or angry	57	71	65	70
They would not mind	19	5	11	9
I don't know what they would think	23	24	24	21
<i>Base</i>	48	64	112	4711

*Base=All pupils who have never drunk alcohol*

**Table 4.23: Whether pupils are allowed to drink alcohol at home: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
Yes, always	10
Yes, sometimes	71
No, never	20
<i>Base</i>	677

*Base=All pupils*

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

	<b>Age 13</b>	<b>Age 15</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	78	83	80
No	15	12	14
Don't know	7	6	7
<i>Base</i>	333	332	665

*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: 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. Seven percent (7%) of thirteen year old pupils reported using drugs in the last month compared with 28% of fifteen year olds. Prevalence of drug use in Perth and Kinross was not significantly different from the prevalence found nationally (national figures: 8% of 13 year olds and 23% of 15 year olds). Reflecting national patterns girls were less likely to have used drugs in the last month than boys (19% of boys and 15% of girls had used drugs in the last month), however this difference is not statistically significant (**Tables 5.1 and 5.2**).

### 5.2 Drug use in the year prior to the survey

Twenty five percent (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, 3% percent had used psychedelics (LSD, magic mushrooms) and 1% had used opiates (heroin or methadone) (**Tables 5.3 and 5.4**).

### 5.3 Whether offered drugs

Around half of all pupils (48%) had been offered drugs. This proportion was higher for older pupils than for younger pupils: 66% of 15 year old pupils and 30% of 13 year old pupils reported that they had been offered drugs. The proportion of pupils offered drugs was not significantly different from that reported nationally for either age group (national figures: 65% of 15 year olds and 34% of 13 year olds reported being offered drugs). Girls were slightly less likely to have been offered drugs than boys: 45% of girls had been offered drugs compared with 51% of boys, however this difference

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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. Less than 1% of pupils reported Semeron among the drugs they had used and 1% included it among the drugs they had been offered.

was not statistically significant. The most commonly offered drug type was cannabis: 38% of pupils reported that they had been offered this drug (Tables 5.5 to 5.8).

## 5.4 Frequency of drug use

Four percent (4%) of all pupils reported that they usually take drugs once a week or more, with a significantly higher proportion of older pupils and boys doing so; 1% of 13 year old pupils and 7% of 15 year old pupils and 2% of girls and 7% of boys reported this) (Tables 5.9 and 5.10).

## 5.5 Money spent on drugs

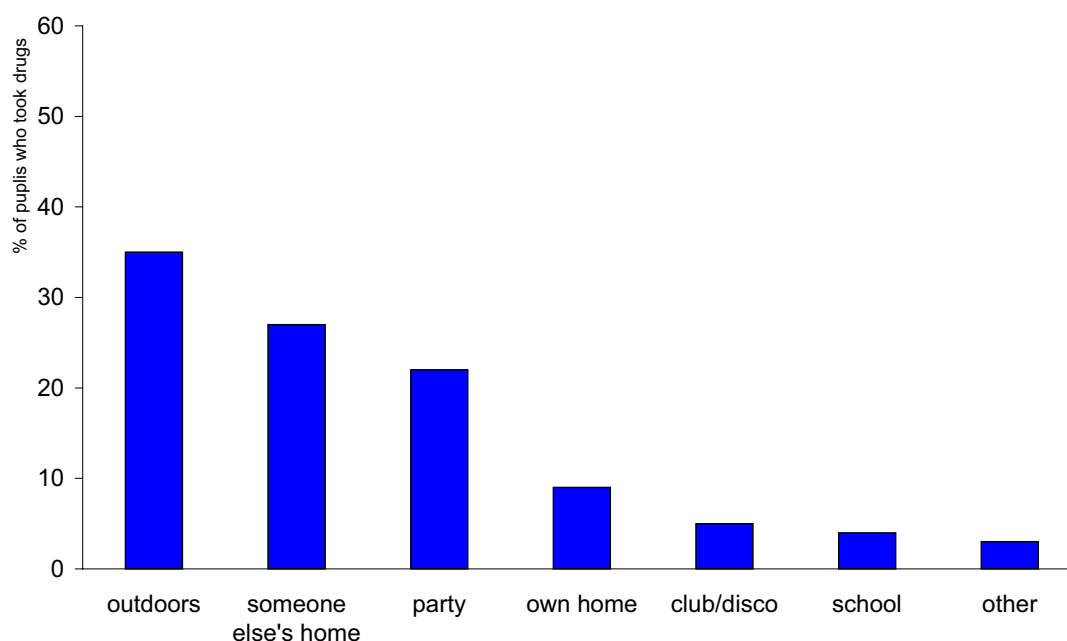
Around half (48%) of pupils who used drugs in the last month reported that they spent money on drugs. The average amount spent by those who reported buying drugs was £8.00 per week.

## 5.6 Where young people are when they use drugs

Pupils who had used drugs were asked where they were the last time they used drugs. Some pupils reported more than one location. Very few pupils reported using drugs in their own home. The most frequently reported location for drug taking for all 13 and 15 year old pupils was 'outdoors' (35%). The next most reported location was 'someone else's home' (27%) (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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**



(Source: Tables 5.11 and 5.12)

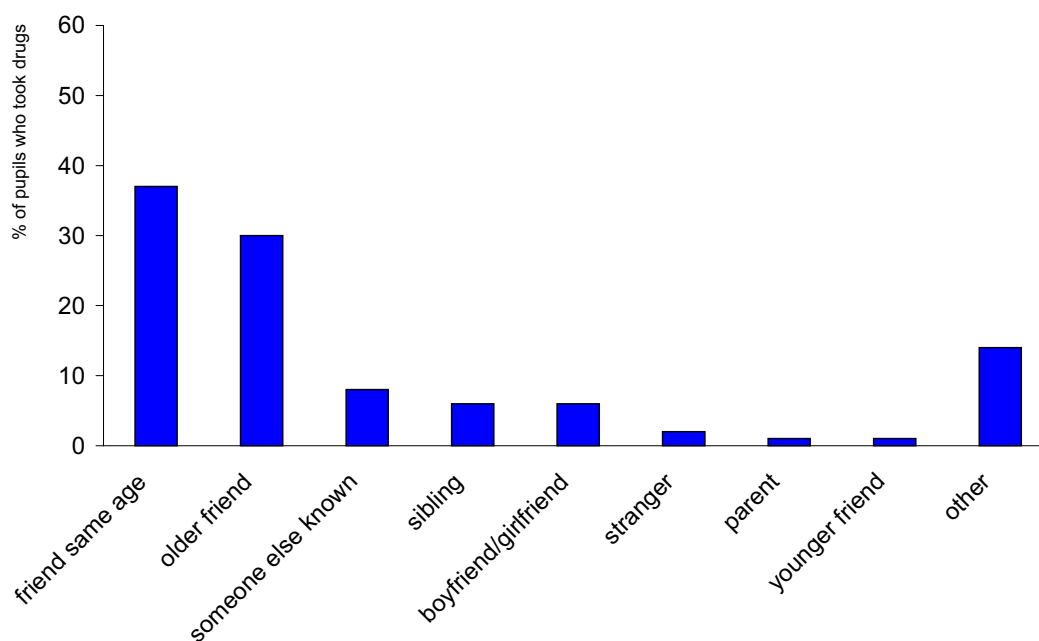
## 5.7 Availability of drugs

Just under half of all 13 and 15 year old pupils (47%) reported that it would be 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs while 37% 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' (68%) than thirteen year old pupils (28%) (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; 37% of pupils reported that they obtained their drugs from a friend of the same age and a further 30% reported that they obtained drugs from an older friend (Tables 5.16 and 5.17, Figure 5.2).

Figure 5.2: Source of drugs: Perth and Kinross 2002.



(Source: Table 5.16 and 5.17)

Around half (54%) of pupils who took drugs reported that they gave some drugs away last time they used drugs. Fewer pupils (8%) reported that they sold some of their drugs (Tables 5.18 and 5.19).

## 5.9 Obtaining information and help

Nine percent (9%) 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 (97%), 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 two percent (72%) reported that they knew where to get information (**Table 5.24**). The most frequently reported sources of information were 'doctor' (40%), 'drop-in centre' (40%) and 'friends' (36%) (**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 (91%) 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 24% did not know whether injecting drugs can lead to HIV. Half of all pupils (50%) agreed that 'heroin is more dangerous than cannabis' and 45% reported that they did not know whether this was the case. More than half (53%) of the pupils agreed that 'what adults tell us about drugs is true'.

Two thirds of pupils (66%) agreed that 'most young people will try out drugs', but around half (51%) 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'; 63% of pupils agreed with this statement. Thirty seven percent (37%) 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'. Twenty percent (20%) of pupils agreed that 'taking drugs is exciting'. Around half agreed with the statements 'people who take drugs want to escape from reality' (45%) and 'people take drugs to relax' (56%), but with regard to these last two statements around a third of pupils reported that they 'don't know' (36% and 31% respectively).

Fifty eight percent (58%) agreed that 'all people who sell drugs should be punished' but only 22% 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: 80% of 13 year olds and 90% of 15 year olds. However, 14% of 13 year olds and 6% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and 6% of 13 year olds and 4% of 15 year olds reported that did not know whether they had had lessons, videos or discussions on drugs (**Table 5.27**).

Fewer pupils reported having lessons, videos or discussions on solvent abuse/glue sniffing. Around half (53% of 13 year olds and 57% 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 29% of 15 year olds reported that they had not had lessons and the remaining 15% of 13 year olds and 14% 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 49% found them 'fairly useful' (**Table 5.29**).

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	7	28	17	15
Used drugs in last year*	12	39	25	22
Used drugs ever	14	41	27	25
<i>Base</i>	362	315	677	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Used drugs in last month	19	15	17	15
Used drugs in last year*	26	24	25	22
Used drugs ever	28	27	27	25
<i>Base</i>	313	364	677	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	9	36	22	20
Stimulants	2	12	7	6
<i>cocaine</i>	1	2	1	1
<i>crack</i>	0	1	0	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	1	3	2	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	1	3	2	2
<i>poppers</i>	1	8	4	3
Psychedelics	1	4	3	2
<i>LSD</i>	0	1	0	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	1	3	2	2
Opiates	-	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	-	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	-	0	0	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	5	7	6	4
Tranquillisers	0	1	1	2
Anabolic Steroids	-	1	1	0
Semeron	-	-	-	0
Other	-	0	0	0
<i>Base</i>	370	318	688	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:  
Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	24	21	22	20
Stimulants	8	6	7	6
<i>cocaine</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>crack</i>	1	0	0	1
<i>ecstasy</i>	2	2	2	3
<i>amphetamines</i>	3	1	2	2
<i>poppers</i>	6	3	4	3
Psychedelics	4	1	3	2
<i>LSD</i>	0	1	0	1
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	4	1	2	2
Opiates	1	1	1	1
<i>heroin</i>	0	1	1	1
<i>methadone</i>	0	-	0	0
Gas, glue or other solvents	6	5	6	4
Tranquillisers	1	1	1	2
Anabolic Steroids	1	-	1	0
Semeron	-	-	-	0
Other	0	-	0	0
<b>Base</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>688</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:  
Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	30	66	48
No	70	34	52
<b>Base</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>615</b>

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 5.6: Whether pupils offered drugs, by gender:  
Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Yes	51	45	48
No	49	55	52
<b>Base</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>615</b>

*Base= All pupils*

**Table 5.7: Type of drug offered, by age: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	20	58	38	42
Stimulants	9	31	20	19
<i>cocaine</i>	4	5	5	6
<i>crack</i>	2	5	4	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	5	15	10	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	2	11	7	7
<i>poppers</i>	5	22	13	9
Psychedelics	5	14	9	10
<i>LSD</i>	1	4	3	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	4	11	8	8
Opiates	4	5	4	5
<i>heroin</i>	3	4	4	4
<i>methadone</i>	2	1	1	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	13	15	14	12
Tranquillisers	1	5	3	6
Anabolic Steroids	1	2	2	2
Semeron	1	1	1	1
Other	1	0	1	1
<b>Base</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>673</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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Cannabis	43	35	38	42
Stimulants	23	16	20	19
<i>cocaine</i>	5	5	5	6
<i>crack</i>	4	3	4	4
<i>ecstasy</i>	11	8	10	12
<i>amphetamines</i>	8	5	7	7
<i>poppers</i>	18	9	13	9
Psychadelics	11	8	9	10
<i>LSD</i>	4	2	3	5
<i>magic mushrooms</i>	9	6	8	8
Opiates	5	4	4	5
<i>heroin</i>	4	3	4	4
<i>methadone</i>	1	1	1	2
Gas, glue or other solvents	15	13	14	12
Tranquillisers	4	3	3	6
Anabolic Steroids	3	1	2	2
Semeron	2	1	1	1
Other	1	-	1	1
<b>Base</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>673</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:  
Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	1	7	4	5
Once or twice a month	2	7	4	4
A few times a year	3	11	7	5
Do not use drugs	94	74	84	86
<i>Base</i>	363	315	678	22532

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 5.10: Usual frequency of taking drugs, by gender:  
Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
At least once a week	7	2	4	5
Once or twice a month	4	5	4	4
A few times a year	7	8	7	5
Do not use drugs	82	85	84	86
<i>Base</i>	314	364	678	22532

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	43	31	35
Someone else's home	18	30	27
At party	10	27	22
Own home	7	10	9
At club/disco	2	7	5
At school	2	6	5
Other place	5	1	2
<i>Base</i>	60	131	191

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Outdoors (street, park etc.)	33	37	35
Someone else's home	30	24	27
At party	22	23	22
Own home	11	7	9
At club/disco	3	7	5
At school	4	5	4
Other place	3	2	3
<i>Base</i>	89	102	191

*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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %	National Total %
Yes	42	39
No	58	61
<i>Base</i>	179	5544

*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 5.14: Ease of getting drugs, by age group: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Very easy	9	26	17
Fairly easy	19	42	30
Fairly difficult	7	6	7
Very difficult	4	2	3
Impossible	8	3	6
Don't know	54	21	37
<i>Base</i>	356	315	671

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 5.15: Ease of getting drugs, by gender: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Very easy	22	14	17
Fairly easy	27	33	30
Fairly difficult	7	7	7
Very difficult	3	3	3
Impossible	5	6	6
Don't know	37	38	37
<i>Base</i>	310	361	671

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 5.16: Source of drugs, by age group: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Friend of own age	17	45	37
Older friend	27	31	30
Someone known	8	8	8
Brother or sister	10	5	6
Boyfriend/girlfriend	5	6	6
Stranger	3	1	2
Younger friend	-	1	1
Mother/father	-	1	1
Other	17	14	14
<i>Base</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>191</i>

*Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs*

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

**Table 5.17: Source of drugs, by gender: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Friend of own age	46	30	37
Older friend	23	36	30
Someone known	12	5	8
Brother or sister	4	8	6
Boyfriend/girlfriend	-	11	6
Stranger	2	2	2
Younger friend	1	1	1
Mother/father	2	-	1
Other	16	13	14
<i>Base</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>191</i>

*Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs*

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

**Table 5.18: Sharing drugs, by age group: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Used it all myself	28	42	38
Sold some of it	6	9	8
Gave some of it away	66	49	54
<i>Base</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>171</i>

*Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs*

**Table 5.19: Sharing drugs, by gender: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %
Used it all myself	39	41	38
Sold some of it	13	4	8
Gave some of it away	48	50	54
Base	77	94	171

*Base=All pupils who have ever taken drugs*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	18	7	9	15
Would like to give up in the future	27	22	23	20
Would not like to give up	32	38	37	39
Not sure	23	32	30	26
Base	22	82	104	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Boys %	Girls %	Total %	National Total %
Would like to give up now	9	10	9	15
Would like to give up in the future	22	24	23	20
Would not like to give up	39	35	37	39
Not sure	30	31	30	26
Base	54	50	104	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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
Yes	97
No	3
Base	105

*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 : Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
Yes	74
No	26
<i>Base</i>	<i>105</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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
Yes	72
No	13
Don't know	14
<i>Base</i>	<i>675</i>

*Base=All pupils*

**Table 5.25: Where pupils would go for information on drugs: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	Total %
Doctor	40
Drop-in centre	40
Friends	36
Internet/web	30
Telephone helpline	27
Teacher	22
Advice organisation	20
Female family member	19
Magazines	17
Male family member	14
Youth worker	11
Books	11
Councillor	7
TV/radio	6
<i>Base</i>	<i>488</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: Perth and Kinross 2002.**

	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>	<i>Base</i>
Taking drugs harms your health	91	5	5	667
Taking cocaine is dangerous	79	4	17	671
I know enough about the dangers of drugs	76	16	8	670
Injecting drugs can lead to HIV	73	4	24	673
Heroin is addictive	68	3	29	673
Most young people will try out drugs	66	17	16	674
People my age who take drugs need help	63	23	15	674
People who sell drugs should be punished	58	29	13	672
People take drugs to relax	56	14	31	670
What adults tell us about drugs is true	53	21	26	670
People who take drugs are stupid	51	35	14	671
Heroin is more dangerous than cannabis	50	5	45	674
People take drugs to escape from reality	45	19	36	671
People who take heroin are junkies	37	32	31	672
People who take drugs should be punished	22	57	21	674
Taking drugs is exciting	20	47	33	672

*Base=All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	80	90	85
No	14	6	10
Don't know	6	4	5
<i>Base</i>	334	334	668

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Age 13 %	Age 15 %	Total %
Yes	53	57	55
No	32	29	31
Don't know	15	14	14
<i>Base</i>	331	330	661

*Base= All pupils*

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

	Total %
Very useful	21
Fairly useful	49
Not very useful	17
Not useful at all	4
Don't know	8
<i>Base</i>	589

*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 Perth and Kinross there was no difference in response rate between state and independently funded pupils, but there was a higher response rate in S2 pupils (54% of Perth and Kinross sample) compared with S4 pupils (46% of Perth and Kinross 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