

## Substance Free Youth

### Headline

The percentage of twelfth grade students who report being substance free (no cigarettes, no alcohol, no illicit drugs) in the last 30 days increased from 26 percent in 1976 to a high of 46 percent in 2003. ([See Figure 1](#))

### Importance

While programs are often targeted to prevent particular types of substance use (tobacco, alcohol, or illicit drugs), the ultimate goal of most social policy in this area, and of most parents, is to produce teens who are substance free. The negative social, academic, and health-related outcomes associated with the use of these substances are well documented,<sup>1</sup> and can include increased risky sexual behaviors,<sup>2</sup> psychiatric problems such as depression, anxiety or antisocial personality disorder,<sup>3,4</sup> delinquent behavior, poor academic performance, and health-related issues.<sup>5</sup>

Use of alcohol, cigarettes, and marijuana, sometimes called gateway drugs, may increase the likelihood of other drug use.<sup>6</sup> Because teens who are known to use one substance often use other substances as well, prevention programs that target multiple substances may be more successful than those that focus on only one.<sup>7</sup>

### Trends

Between 1976 and 2003, the percentage of twelfth grade students who reported being substance free during the 30 days preceding the survey increased from 26 percent to 46 percent, mostly due to a decrease in alcohol and cigarette use.<sup>8</sup> ([See Figure 1](#))

The percentage of eighth grade students who were substance free has increased from 65 percent in 1996 to 76 percent in 2003. The percentage of substance free students in the tenth grade has also increased, from 49 percent in 1996 to 58 percent in 2003. ([See Figure 1](#))

### Differences by Race

In 2003, black students in the tenth and twelfth grades were more likely than their white counterparts to report being substance free. Students in the twelfth grade had the largest race gap, with 65 percent of black students reporting being substance free in the last month compared with 41 percent of white students. ([See Table 1](#), [Table 2](#), and [Table 3](#)) While in 2002 black students in the eighth grade were more likely than their white peers to be substance free, there were no significant race differences among eighth grade students in 2003.

## Differences by Age

The percentage of students who report being substance free decreases with age, with the largest decrease taking place between the eighth and tenth grades. In 2003, 76 percent of eighth grade students reported being substance free, compared with 58 percent of tenth graders and 46 percent of twelfth grade students. ([See Figure 1](#))

Conversely, the percentage who report using all three substances (illicit drugs, cigarettes, and alcohol) increases with age, with estimates for 2003 ranging from 4 percent for youth in the eighth grade to 12 percent among those in grade 12. ([See Figure 2](#))

## Differences by College Plans

Students who plan on completing four years of college are much more likely than other students to report being substance free. More than three-quarters (78 percent) of eighth graders in 2003 who planned on completing college reported being substance free in the past 30 days, compared with only 54 percent of eighth graders without such plans. Similar patterns exist among students in the tenth and twelfth grades, although the difference decreases with age. ([See Table 1](#), [Table 2](#), and [Table 3](#))

## Differences by Parents' Educational Attainment

Among eighth and tenth grade students, those whose parents graduated from college are more likely than those whose have only completed high school to report being substance free. ([See Figure 3](#)) Differences by parental education are not significant for students in the twelfth grade.

## State and Local Estimates

None

## International Estimates

None

## National Goals

The federal government has set several national goals through its *Healthy People 2010* initiative related to adolescents and illicit drug, alcohol and tobacco use. Some of these goals include: decreasing the percentage of high school students smoking one or more cigarettes in the prior month from the 1999 level of 35 percent to 16 percent by 2010; decreasing the “proportion of adolescents reporting use of marijuana in the last 30 days” from 8.3 percent in 1998 (for ages 12-17) to 0.7 percent by 2010; and reducing binge drinking among high school seniors from 32 percent in 1998 to 11 percent in 2010. The initiative also aims to increase the age and proportion of adolescents who remain free

from alcohol and marijuana, to increase the percentage of adolescents who remain substance free, and to change adolescents' perceptions of drug, alcohol and tobacco use.

For more information, visit <http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/tableofcontents.htm#under> (See goals 26-9, 26-10, 26-11, 26-15, 26-16, 26-17, and 27-2)

## Definition

Substance users are defined as those who said they had used alcohol, cigarettes or illicit drugs in the past thirty days. Students using only one substance are defined as those who answered yes to only one of the questions (meaning they may have used more than one type of illicit drug).

## Data Source

Data for 1976-2003 from original analysis by Child Trends of Monitoring the Future survey data.

## Raw Data Source

Bachman, Jerald G., Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley. *Monitoring the Future: A Continuing Study of American Youth* (eighth, tenth, and twelfth-Grade Surveys), 1976-2003 [Computer files]. Conducted by University of Michigan, Survey Research Center. ICPSR ed. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [producer and distributor].

ICPSR: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu>

Monitoring the Future: <http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/>

## Next Update

November 2005

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<sup>1</sup> For details, see the "Importance" sections for the cigarette, binge drinking, marijuana and illicit drug use indicators in the Child Trends DataBank at <http://www.childtrendsdatbank.org/indicators/3Smoking.cfm>, <http://www.childtrendsdatbank.org/indicators/2BingeDrinking.cfm>, <http://www.childtrendsdatbank.org/indicators/46MarijuanaUse.cfm>, and <http://www.childtrendsdatbank.org/indicators/58IllicitDrugUse.cfm>

<sup>2</sup> Surgeon General's Office, *Trends in Risk Behavior*. Available at <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/aids/tlcatrendsrisk.html>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies. (1999). *The Relationship between Mental Health and Substance Abuse Among Adolescents*. Available at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/NHSDA/A-9/TOC.htm#TopOfPage>.

<sup>4</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division of Adolescent and School Health, Division of Adolescent and School Health, *Healthy Youth!* See website at <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/alcoholdrug/index.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> Office on National Drug Control Policy, *Juveniles and Drugs*. Available at <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/juveniles/index.html>

<sup>6</sup> National Drug Intelligence Center, *Illicit Drugs and Youth*, April 2002.

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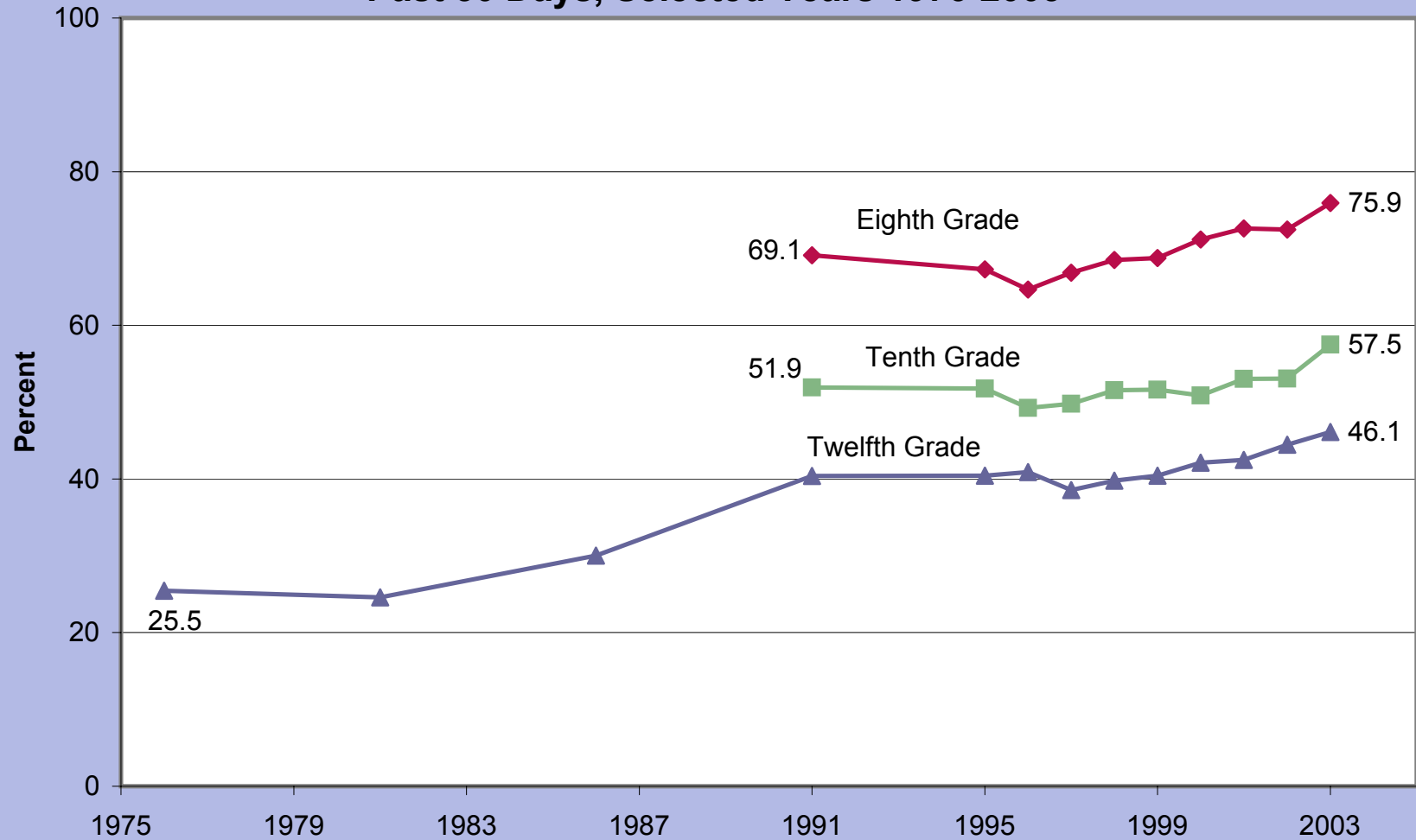
<http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs07/798/>

<sup>7</sup> Epstein, J.A., Botvin, G.J., Griffin, K.W., and Diaz, T. (2000). Role of Ethnicity and Gender in Polydrug Use Among a Longitudinal Sample of Innter-City Adolescents. *Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education* (45), 1-12.

<sup>8</sup> Bachman, Jerald G., Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley. (2003). Monitoring the Future national survey results on drug use, 1975-2003. Volume I: Secondary school students (NIH Publication 04-5507). Bethesda, MD: National Institute on Drug Use. Table 2-2. Available online at:  
[http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/pubs/monographs/vol1\\_2003.pdf](http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/pubs/monographs/vol1_2003.pdf)

Figure 1

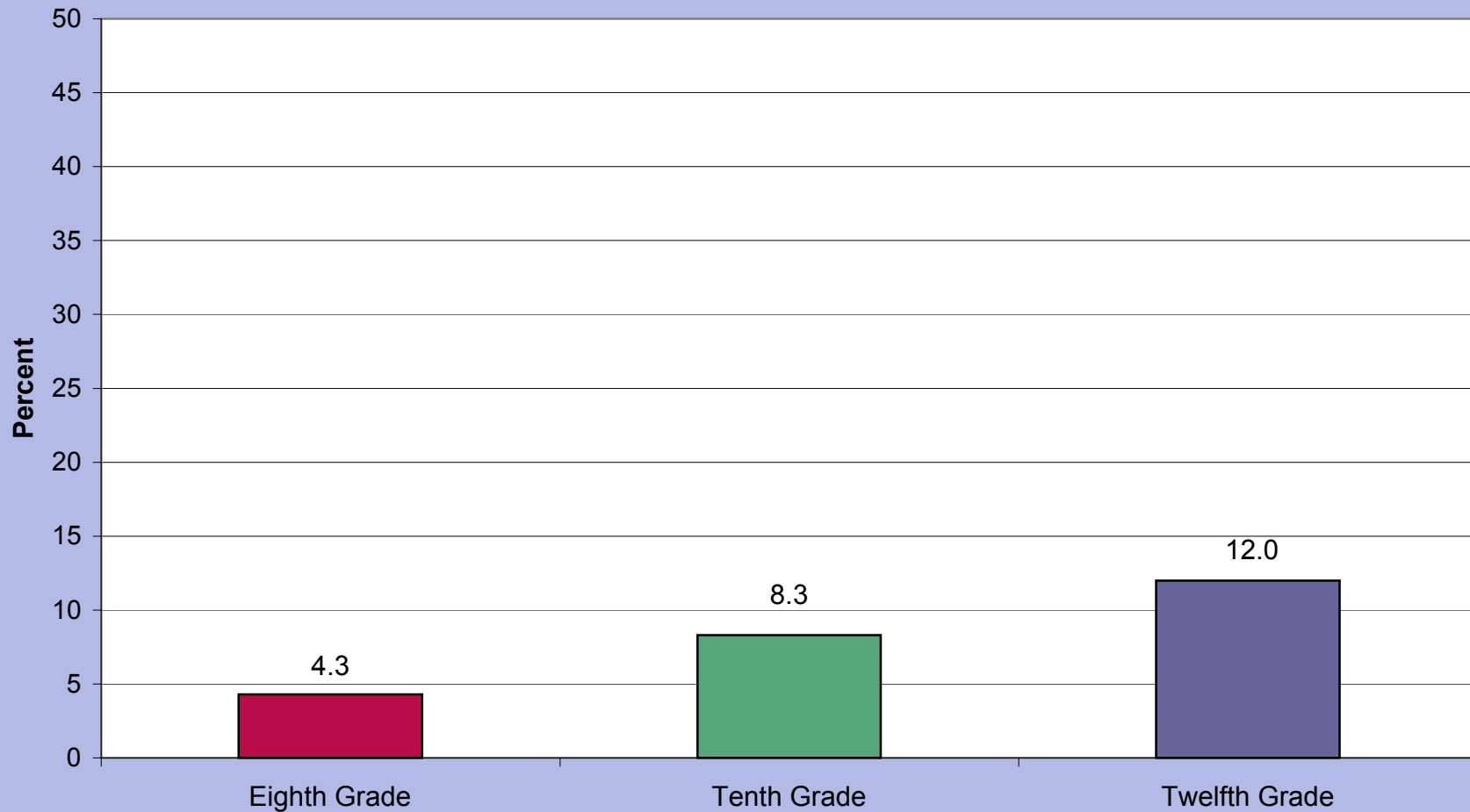
## Percentage of Students who Reported Being Substance Free<sup>1</sup> in the Past 30 Days, Selected Years 1976-2003



<sup>1</sup> Students who reported *not* using alcohol, cigarettes, and illicit drugs in past 30 days.  
Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of *Monitoring the Future* Data, 1976-2003

Figure 2

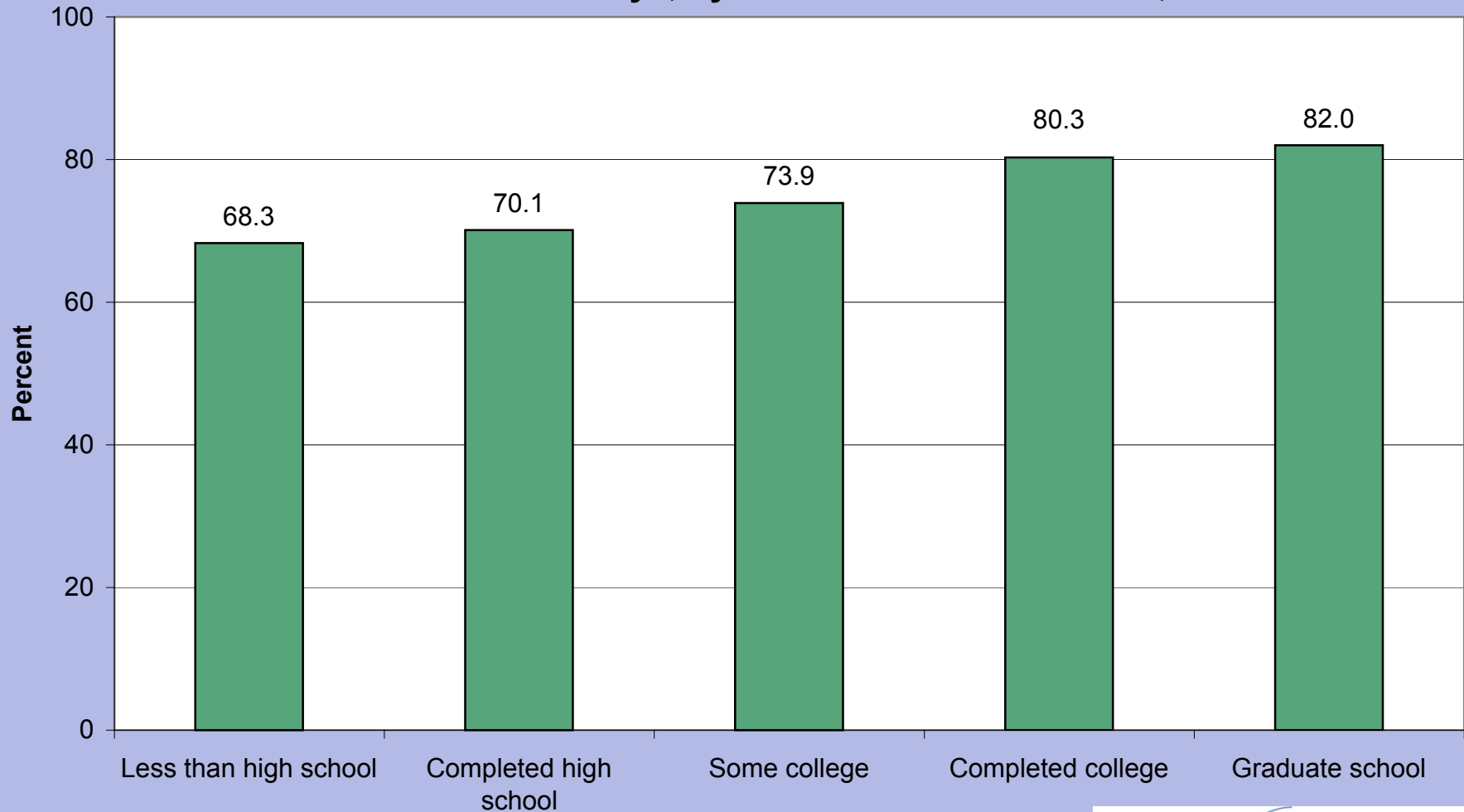
### Percentage of Youth who Reported Using All Three Substances (Alcohol, Cigarettes, and Illicit Drugs) in the Past 30 Days, by Grade, 2003



Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of *Monitoring the Future* Data, 2003

Figure 3

### Percent of Eighth-Grade Students who Reported Being Substance Free<sup>1</sup> in the Past 30 Days, by Parental Education Level, 2003



<sup>1</sup> Students who reported *not* using alcohol, cigarettes, and illicit drugs in past 30 days.  
Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of *Monitoring the Future* Data, 2003

Table 1

## Use of Alcohol, Cigarette and Illicit Drugs in the Previous 30 Days: Eighth Graders

	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used no substances in past 30 days</b>	69.1	67.3	64.7	66.9	68.5	68.7	71.2	72.6	72.5	75.9
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	67.7	66.7	64.0	66.0	68.0	68.4	70.8	71.1	72.8	76.9
Female	70.7	68.1	65.6	67.8	69.2	69.3	71.8	74.1	72.5	75.4
<b>Race</b>										
White	68.5	66.1	62.8	65.4	66.9	67.6	69.4	71.8	72.2	75.9
Black	78.5	76.8	73.6	75.2	77.5	75.7	79.2	79.1	77.5	78.7
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>										
Less than high school	58.8	58.6	59.5	57.4	58.2	58.8	60.0	63.2	61.8	68.3
Completed high school	66.6	62.2	60.3	63.4	63.2	62.3	65.3	65.9	65.4	70.1
Some college	69.4	64.5	62.2	63.4	66.1	68.2	69.9	70.4	70.6	73.9
Completed college	72.6	73.2	67.7	70.2	73.2	74.0	77.4	78.4	77.2	80.3
Graduate school	71.9	73.2	70.7	73.9	73.8	74.5	76.8	79.4	80.0	82.0
<b>College Plans</b>										
None or under 4 years	52.6	46.7	44.9	44.4	44.2	44.6	47.0	49.9	50.4	53.9
Complete four years	72.0	69.9	67.6	69.3	71.5	71.7	74.0	75.1	74.7	78.4
	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used only one substance in past 30 days<sup>2</sup></b>	19.6	16.7	17.3	17.1	16.1	16.5	15.8	15.4	15.5	14.1
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	20.2	17.2	17.9	18.0	17.1	16.8	16.4	16.1	14.7	14.1
Female	19.0	16.3	16.5	16.1	15.1	16.2	15.2	14.9	16.0	13.9
<b>Race</b>										
White	20.1	16.6	17.9	17.0	17.1	16.6	16.4	15.6	15.5	14.1
Black	17.0	15.4	15.0	15.9	12.7	15.1	13.3	12.9	14.5	13.7
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>										
Less than high school	20.4	19.7	20.0	20.4	18.5	17.6	18.4	18.4	18.6	16.0
Completed high school	20.3	18.9	18.6	18.8	17.3	19.0	17.6	18.1	18.6	15.7
Some college	19.8	17.9	18.7	18.6	17.3	15.8	17.0	16.5	17.2	15.9
Completed college	19.2	14.1	15.9	15.9	15.0	16.3	13.6	13.2	13.5	12.2
Graduate school	19.0	13.8	14.4	13.5	14.3	13.7	13.5	13.5	11.8	11.9
<b>College Plans</b>										
None or under 4 years	22.9	22.8	19.4	21.0	19.4	21.0	22.3	19.7	19.7	18.7
Complete four years	18.9	16.0	16.9	16.7	15.5	15.9	15.0	15.0	15.1	13.4
	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used two substances in past 30 days</b>	8.0	9.2	10.2	9.1	8.7	8.3	7.7	7.0	7.7	5.8
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	8.7	9.7	10.5	9.0	8.6	8.5	7.6	7.6	7.8	5.1
Female	7.3	8.7	10.0	9.0	8.7	8.0	7.7	6.5	7.5	6.4
<b>Race</b>										
White	8.1	10.0	10.9	9.8	9.0	9.0	8.3	7.2	7.7	5.8
Black	3.9	5.0	7.6	6.0	6.4	5.5	4.7	6.2	5.4	5.1
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>										
Less than high school	14.8	11.3	11.2	11.0	11.6	11.6	11.5	9.4	12.5	8.3
Completed high school	9.2	10.8	11.3	9.7	11.4	10.0	9.9	9.6	9.9	7.4
Some college	7.4	10.1	10.5	10.2	8.8	10.1	7.8	7.8	7.8	6.2
Completed college	6.4	7.6	10.1	8.1	7.0	4.9	5.7	5.0	6.3	4.6
Graduate school	6.3	7.8	9.0	7.4	7.1	7.0	5.8	4.9	5.4	3.9
<b>College Plans</b>										
None or under 4 years	14.8	13.5	16.9	16.7	17.7	14.5	15.2	14.8	16.0	13.2
Complete four years	6.9	8.6	9.3	8.2	7.7	7.6	6.8	6.2	6.8	5.1
	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used all three substances in past 30 days</b>	3.3	6.8	7.9	7.0	6.8	6.5	5.4	4.9	4.4	4.3
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	3.4	6.4	7.6	7.0	6.3	6.3	5.3	5.1	4.6	3.9
Female	3.1	6.9	7.9	7.1	7.0	6.6	5.3	4.6	4.1	4.4
<b>Race</b>										
White	3.4	7.3	8.4	7.8	7.0	6.9	5.8	5.4	4.6	4.3
Black	0.6	2.8	3.9	2.9	3.5	3.7	2.8	1.8	2.7	2.4
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>										
Less than high school	6.0	10.4	9.3	11.2	11.7	12.0	10.1	9.0	7.1	7.3
Completed high school	4.0	8.1	9.8	8.0	8.1	8.7	7.2	6.5	6.1	6.8
Some college	3.4	7.6	8.6	7.8	7.8	6.0	5.3	5.3	4.4	4.0
Completed college	1.8	5.1	6.2	5.8	4.8	4.8	3.4	3.4	3.1	2.9
Graduate school	2.8	5.2	5.9	5.1	4.9	4.9	3.9	2.3	2.7	2.2
<b>College Plans</b>										
None or under 4 years	9.7	17.0	18.8	17.9	18.7	20.0	15.5	15.6	14.0	14.2
Complete four years	2.2	5.5	6.2	5.7	5.4	4.9	4.2	3.7	3.4	3.1

<sup>1</sup>Parental education is calculated by the Institute for Social Research as the average of the mother's and father's education. Child Trends has relabeled these results to reflect the education level of the most educated parent. In those circumstances where the gap between mothers' and fathers' education is more than one level, this results is an underestimate of the most educated parent's education level.

<sup>2</sup>Indicates they have used only one of alcohol, cigarettes or illicit drugs. May in fact have used multiple types of illicit drugs.  
Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of Monitoring the Future Data, 1991-2000.

Table 2

## Use of Alcohol, Cigarette and Illicit Drugs in the Previous 30 Days: Tenth Graders

	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Used no substances in past 30 days</b>	51.9	51.8	49.3	49.8	51.6	51.6	50.9	53.0	53.1
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	49.5	50.8	48.0	48.1	51.2	49.8	48.6	51.0	53.0
Female	54.3	52.9	50.4	51.5	51.8	53.3	53.1	55.1	53.0
<b>Race</b>									
White	48.5	49.0	45.9	46.8	47.8	48.4	47.7	50.8	49.4
Black	67.7	65.4	67.2	66.2	65.9	69.1	64.9	65.8	67.3
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>									
Less than high school	51.3	46.0	45.8	48.3	49.2	47.0	49.0	52.0	48.8
Completed high school	49.5	46.0	46.2	47.1	46.9	47.6	47.2	48.7	47.8
Some college	50.1	51.5	47.0	48.5	50.5	51.6	48.1	50.9	51.6
Completed college	55.4	54.1	52.7	51.5	54.2	54.9	53.2	56.2	56.6
Graduate school	51.4	58.7	52.1	53.6	56.1	53.5	56.0	56.9	60.0
<b>College Plans</b>									
None or under 4 years	38.0	34.0	33.3	32.9	33.8	33.2	34.0	36.1	35.7
Complete four years	54.9	54.8	51.9	52.6	54.6	54.5	53.3	55.8	56.1
	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Used only one substance in past 30 days<sup>2</sup></b>	28.1	21.4	21.1	21.0	21.1	21.7	23.3	22.1	22.8
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	29.8	21.7	21.3	22.0	21.2	22.4	23.5	22.5	23.3
Female	26.6	21.1	21.0	20.0	21.2	21.4	23.0	21.8	22.4
<b>Race</b>									
White	28.9	21.9	21.7	20.9	21.6	22.3	23.7	22.2	23.4
Black	25.6	21.0	17.8	18.6	18.6	16.9	22.1	19.6	19.8
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>									
Less than high school	26.5	22.5	24.6	24.0	21.6	21.9	19.3	23.5	22.9
Completed high school	28.3	23.5	20.4	21.2	21.9	22.7	24.7	22.3	24.1
Some college	30.4	21.4	21.9	19.8	22.2	22.0	24.7	23.5	24.4
Completed college	26.2	20.5	20.6	20.7	21.1	20.4	23.1	21.2	21.7
Graduate school	29.2	19.8	20.7	22.0	18.8	22.1	21.7	21.6	19.5
<b>College Plans</b>									
None or under 4 years	28.8	22.8	20.5	21.4	21.1	21.7	24.0	20.8	25.3
Complete four years	28.0	21.2	21.3	20.9	21.2	21.9	23.2	22.3	22.3
	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Used two substances in past 30 days</b>	13.1	15.5	15.9	16.0	14.9	14.4	14.3	14.0	15.6
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	13.4	16.3	16.3	16.6	15.4	15.1	15.2	15.6	15.6
Female	12.8	14.6	15.6	15.4	14.3	13.7	13.5	12.4	15.6
<b>Race</b>									
White	14.7	16.5	17.0	17.5	16.3	15.6	15.7	14.6	17.2
Black	4.9	8.8	10.6	9.0	9.4	9.1	7.7	9.9	8.1
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>									
Less than high school	13.7	18.3	15.5	15.3	16.2	15.8	17.0	13.1	18.3
Completed high school	14.4	17.7	17.9	17.0	16.0	15.3	15.6	15.9	18.4
Some college	13.6	15.8	16.4	17.5	15.1	14.1	15.2	14.7	14.9
Completed college	11.9	14.8	14.5	15.3	14.1	14.1	12.8	12.8	14.1
Graduate school	11.8	12.1	14.6	13.1	14.4	13.6	12.6	12.1	13.6
<b>College Plans</b>									
None or under 4 years	20.9	23.0	21.8	22.4	21.4	20.9	20.4	21.2	22.4
Complete four years	11.4	14.1	15.0	14.9	13.7	13.3	13.4	12.8	14.5
	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Used all three substances in past 30 days</b>	7.0	11.3	13.7	13.3	12.5	12.3	11.6	10.9	8.6
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	7.4	11.2	14.3	13.3	12.2	12.8	12.7	11.0	8.1
Female	6.4	11.3	13.1	13.1	12.8	11.6	10.4	10.7	9.0
<b>Race</b>									
White	7.9	12.6	15.4	14.9	14.2	13.8	13.0	12.4	10.0
Black	1.8	4.8	4.4	6.3	6.2	4.9	5.3	4.6	4.9
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>									
Less than high school	8.6	13.3	14.1	12.5	13.0	15.4	14.7	11.3	10.1
Completed high school	7.8	12.8	15.5	14.7	15.2	14.3	12.5	13.1	9.7
Some college	6.0	11.3	14.7	14.3	12.2	12.3	12.0	10.8	9.1
Completed college	6.6	10.7	12.2	12.5	10.6	10.7	10.9	9.8	7.6
Graduate school	7.6	9.5	12.6	11.3	10.8	10.8	9.7	9.4	6.9
<b>College Plans</b>									
None or under 4 years	12.2	20.2	24.4	23.3	23.7	24.2	21.6	21.9	16.6
Complete four years	5.8	9.8	11.9	11.6	10.5	10.3	10.0	9.1	7.2

<sup>1</sup>Parental education is calculated by the Institute for Social Research as the average of the mother's and father's education. Child Trends has relabeled these results to reflect the education level of the most educated parent. In those circumstances where the gap between mothers' and fathers' education is more than one level, this results in an underestimate of the most educated parent's education level.

<sup>2</sup>Indicates they have used only one of alcohol, cigarettes or illicit drugs. May in fact have used multiple types of illicit drugs.

Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of Monitoring the Future Data, 1991-2002.

Table 3

## Use of Alcohol, Cigarette and Illicit Drugs in the Previous 30 Days: Twelfth Graders

	1976	1981	1986	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used no substances in past 30 days</b>	25.5	24.6	30.0	40.4	40.4	40.9	38.6	39.8	40.4	42.1	42.5	44.5	46.1
<b>Gender</b>													
Male	20.9	21.0	27.4	36.5	37.1	37.3	35.8	35.7	37.6	38.6	38.0	41.3	42.6
Female	30.2	28.1	32.5	44.5	43.7	44.5	41.5	43.9	43.2	45.5	46.9	47.4	49.2
<b>Race</b>													
White	23.8	21.3	25.6	36.2	36.9	36.8	33.3	34.0	36.6	36.9	37.1	40.2	41.4
Black	36.9	44.2	53.6	62.9	56.3	57.8	59.7	59.6	60.3	62.2	62.8	63.7	65.1
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>													
Less than high school	26.6	29.4	37.5	42.5	41.9	46.4	43.8	45.9	42.2	44.6	46.8	50.6	50.0
Completed high school	22.8	24.3	29.2	40.4	38.2	41.0	38.3	40.4	39.7	41.3	41.4	44.0	44.2
Some college	27.8	24.2	28.2	40.1	41.1	39.7	39.5	36.7	39.9	40.3	40.9	41.7	45.7
Completed college	24.9	23.8	29.2	39.8	41.3	40.4	37.6	39.9	42.5	44.7	42.5	45.0	47.0
Graduate school	22.6	20.1	28.0	38.3	39.2	41.1	35.2	39.5	37.7	41.6	44.2	43.7	46.1
<b>College Plans</b>													
None or under 4 years	22.3	21.8	26.8	34.4	32.2	32.8	30.3	31.9	33.2	34.2	34.0	37.3	35.8
Complete four years	29.1	26.5	31.6	42.7	43.3	43.4	41.2	42.2	42.5	44.8	45.1	46.3	49.2
	1976	1981	1986	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used only one substance in past 30 days<sup>2</sup></b>	28.8	32.6	33.2	30.8	25.3	24.0	24.1	23.7	23.5	24.3	24.5	24.5	24.8
<b>Gender</b>													
Male	29.1	35.2	33.8	32.4	24.8	24.7	24.1	24.1	23.1	24.2	26.2	24.8	24.6
Female	28.5	30.5	32.8	29.4	25.8	23.6	24.2	23.5	24.2	24.4	22.9	24.5	25.2
<b>Race</b>													
White	29.6	33.7	34.7	31.8	25.8	24.4	24.6	24.6	23.8	25.4	25.3	24.8	25.4
Black	26.1	28.1	27.0	26.4	23.6	21.8	21.2	19.9	20.5	21.3	20.0	20.6	20.0
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>													
Less than high school	27.9	29.7	29.6	28.6	28.2	22.8	25.2	22.2	24.8	23.4	25.7	23.7	23.1
Completed high school	28.7	32.2	32.7	30.7	27.5	24.7	25.4	23.0	22.7	24.8	25.5	23.5	25.6
Some college	27.7	32.7	33.8	30.9	24.0	24.9	23.4	24.6	24.4	25.2	24.2	25.1	24.5
Completed college	30.4	34.1	34.9	32.1	24.8	23.4	23.3	23.8	22.6	22.5	23.4	25.1	24.5
Graduate school	34.5	37.9	35.9	32.2	23.9	22.8	24.7	24.3	24.3	25.7	25.6	25.5	27.0
<b>College Plans</b>													
None or under 4 years	26.3	28.4	29.0	29.8	26.3	23.2	25.2	22.9	23.4	22.5	23.2	22.5	25.1
Complete four years	31.5	36.3	36.2	31.6	25.1	24.0	23.8	24.2	23.7	24.9	24.8	25.0	24.7
	1976	1981	1986	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used two substances in past 30 days</b>	25.6	24.9	21.6	18.5	20.1	20.3	20.7	20.9	20.2	19.1	19.3	18.0	17.1
<b>Gender</b>													
Male	28.7	26.8	23.4	20.0	22.5	22.0	22.0	22.5	21.7	21.2	21.2	18.9	18.5
Female	22.4	22.8	19.9	16.9	17.9	18.7	19.3	19.1	18.8	17.0	17.3	17.0	15.8
<b>Race</b>													
White	25.9	25.8	23.1	20.6	21.8	22.0	23.0	23.0	22.3	21.6	21.5	20.0	19.1
Black	22.0	18.7	12.9	8.0	13.3	14.2	12.3	13.6	12.0	9.0	11.9	10.4	10.2
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>													
Less than high school	26.7	23.8	19.8	19.5	18.1	19.5	18.4	18.6	20.1	18.5	16.6	16.6	16.1
Completed high school	26.5	24.6	21.3	19.3	21.2	20.9	20.1	22.0	21.5	20.0	19.2	18.7	18.5
Some college	25.1	25.2	22.9	18.5	20.7	19.7	20.6	21.3	19.7	20.0	19.9	18.5	17.0
Completed college	24.2	24.7	21.4	18.1	18.8	20.6	20.5	21.0	19.2	18.2	20.4	17.6	16.2
Graduate school	23.8	26.9	22.0	17.3	20.7	20.7	23.4	20.1	21.0	18.5	18.0	17.8	16.9
<b>College Plans</b>													
None or under 4 years	28.0	26.6	23.5	23.0	24.4	25.3	22.6	24.2	24.3	24.2	24.7	22.1	21.4
Complete four years	23.0	23.6	20.2	16.6	18.6	19.0	20.2	19.6	19.1	17.5	17.8	17.0	15.8
	1976	1981	1986	1991	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Used all three substances in past 30 days</b>	20.2	17.9	15.2	10.2	14.2	14.8	16.7	15.7	15.8	14.5	13.7	13.1	12.0
<b>Gender</b>													
Male	21.3	16.9	15.4	11.1	15.6	16.0	18.1	17.8	17.5	15.9	14.7	15.1	14.3
Female	18.9	18.6	14.8	9.2	12.7	13.3	15.0	13.5	13.9	13.1	12.8	11.1	9.8
<b>Race</b>													
White	20.7	19.2	16.7	11.4	15.5	16.8	19.2	18.4	17.4	16.1	16.1	15.0	14.0
Black	15.1	9.1	6.5	2.7	6.7	6.2	6.8	6.9	7.2	7.5	5.2	5.2	4.7
<b>Parental Education<sup>1</sup></b>													
Less than high school	18.9	17.1	13.0	9.3	11.8	11.2	12.7	13.3	13.0	13.5	11.0	9.1	10.9
Completed high school	22.1	18.9	16.8	9.6	13.2	13.3	16.2	14.6	16.1	13.9	13.9	13.8	11.8
Some college	19.4	17.9	15.1	10.4	14.1	15.6	16.5	17.4	15.9	14.5	14.9	14.7	12.8
Completed college	20.6	17.4	14.5	10.1	15.1	15.6	18.6	15.4	15.7	14.7	13.7	12.3	12.3
Graduate school	19.1	15.1	14.2	12.2	16.2	15.4	16.8	16.1	17.1	14.3	12.2	13.0	10.0
<b>College Plans</b>													
None or under 4 years	23.5	23.3	20.6	12.8	17.1	18.7	22.0	21.0	19.2	19.1	18.1	18.0	17.7
Complete four years	16.4	13.7	12.0	9.0	13.1	13.5	14.8	14.1	14.7	12.8	12.4	11.7	10.3

<sup>1</sup> Parental education is calculated by the Institute for Social Research as the average of the mother's and father's education. Child Trends has related these results to reflect the education level of the most educated parent.

In those circumstances where the gap between mothers' and fathers' education is more than one level, this results in an underestimate of the most educated parent's education level.

<sup>2</sup> Indicates they have used only one of alcohol, cigarettes or illicit drugs. Students may in fact have used multiple types of illicit drugs. For example, if a student had used both marijuana and cocaine, but had not used alcohol or cigarettes, they would still be categorized as having used only one substance.

Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of Monitoring the Future Data, 1976-2000.