Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2009

Edited by Elizabeth Fuller and Marie Sanchez

A survey carried out for the NHS Information Centre
by the National Centre for Social Research
and the National Foundation for Educational Research

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NatCen
National Centre for Social Research

Published by the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care.

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The full text of this publication has been made available to you on the internet. You can find this at:
http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd09fullreport

First published 2010
ISBN 978-1-84636-431-0

Designed by Davenport Associates

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Acknowledgements

Social surveys are the work of a team. The editors take full responsibility for the content of this report, but gratefully acknowledge the contribution of many colleagues. In particular, thanks are due at NatCen to the interviewers who administered the survey in schools; Dhriti Jotangia, who managed the 2009 survey; the Operations team, in particular Wendy Watson, for organising the fieldwork and data processing; the data editors; the programmer, John Hurn; and Julia Hall for statistical advice. At NFER, thanks are due to Jennie Jupp, Asiah Shafique and their team, who managed the initial contact with schools, and to Ben Styles for statistical and sampling input.

We are also grateful to Chris Buttery, Victoria Cooper, Paul Eastwood, Stephanie Gebert and Steve Webster at the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care; Jacqueline Hoare at the Home Office; John Doherty and Richard Lumley at the Department for Education; and the rest of the project team.

Above all, the authors would like to thank all the schools that took part for their co-operation and their time, and, most importantly, the pupils who took part in the survey.

Notes to tables

1. Percentages may not add up to 100% because of rounding.
2. A few pupils failed to answer each question. These 'no answers' have been excluded from the analysis, and so tables that describe the same population may have slightly different bases.
3. The following convention has been used:
   0 = less than 0.5%, but not zero
   - = zero

   Square brackets in tables are used to warn of small sample bases (between 30 and 49). Estimates based on less than 30 cases would not normally be shown in tables.
4. In tables where age is a variable, those aged 16 have been grouped with 15 year olds. This is because the survey did not include pupils in Year 12, and the small number of 16 year olds sampled from Year 11 were not representative of all schoolchildren aged 16. Similarly, pupils aged 10 have been grouped with 11 year olds.
5. The school year classification is based on the years or forms of maintained secondary schools. The school years of pupils attending some non-maintained schools have been adjusted accordingly.

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Summary

This survey is the latest in a series designed to monitor smoking, drinking and drug use among secondary school pupils aged 11 to 15. Information was obtained from 7,674 pupils in 247 schools throughout England in the autumn term of 2009.

Drug use (Part 2)

There has been a decline in drug use by 11 to 15 year old pupils since 2001. For example in 2009, less than a quarter (22%) of pupils had ever taken drugs, compared with 29% in 2001. There were similar falls in the proportions of pupils who reported taking drugs in the last year and the last month. The decline in the prevalence of drug use mirrors a fall in the proportions of pupils who have ever been offered drugs, from 42% in 2001 to 33% in 2009.

In 2009, 15% of pupils reported taking drugs in the last year, 8% in the last month. Boys are more likely than girls to have taken drugs (16% and 14% in the last year respectively). Drug use becomes more common with age; the proportions of pupils who had taken drugs in the last year increased from 5% of 11 year olds to 30% of 15 year olds. Pupils of Mixed, Asian and Black ethnicity are more likely to have taken drugs than White pupils.

As in previous years, pupils are most likely to have taken cannabis (8.9% in the last year, down from 13.4% in 2001) or to have sniffed glue, gas or other volatile substances (5.5% in 2009). Other drugs asked about have been taken by less than 2% of pupils in the last year. The survey asks about eight named Class A drugs; 3.6% of pupils had taken any of them in the last year. This proportion has remained at a similar level since 2001.

Most pupils who take drugs do so relatively infrequently. Around a third (36%) of those who took drugs in the last year say that they usually take them once a month or more (equivalent to 4% of all 11 to 15 year olds). 28% of those who took drugs in the last year have only ever taken drugs once, and a further 31% have taken them between two and five times.

The pattern of drug use varies according to what type of drugs pupils have taken. For example, pupils who have sniffed glue, gas, aerosols or solvents tend to be younger than pupils who have taken other drugs, and there is evidence that much volatile substance use is tentative. Pupils who have sniffed volatile substances but no other drug are more likely than users of other drugs to say they have only tried drugs once and they are also less likely to report frequent drug use.

In contrast, Class A drug use is more common among older pupils. The majority of those who report taking any Class A drugs – for example, cocaine, magic mushrooms, ecstasy or crack – say they take drugs at least once a month, and relatively few have taken drugs only once.

Pupils who have taken cannabis, but no other drugs, fall somewhere between these extremes. For example, they tend to be older than pupils who have taken volatile substances, and they are more likely to have taken drugs more than once. But they are less likely than pupils who have taken any Class A drugs to take drugs frequently or to have done so on many occasions.

Less than one in ten pupils thought that it would be OK for someone of their age to try drugs or take them regularly. They were slightly more tolerant of cannabis use (9% thought it OK to try once, 5% to take once a week) than glue sniffing (9% once, 3% once a week), with

cocaine the least acceptable of the drugs asked about (3% thought it OK to try once, 1% to take once a week).

Almost all pupils thought their families would either try to stop them taking drugs (84%) or would try to persuade them to stop (15%). However, there was a strong relationship between drug use and families' attitudes; those who thought their families would try to stop them taking drugs were less likely to have taken drugs than those who thought their families would take a more lenient approach.

Drug use in the last year is associated with regular smoking and recent drinking. Pupils who have been excluded also have an increased likelihood of recent drug use compared with pupils who have not, and drug use is also higher among pupils who have truanted from school compared with those who had not.

The report also presents findings about pupils' awareness of individual drugs, patterns of use, drug use among vulnerable pupils, first and most recent use, and attitudes, beliefs and sources of information about drug use.

Smoking (Part 3)

Three in ten (29%) of pupils have tried smoking at least once. This proportion is the lowest measured since the survey began in 1982, when more than half of pupils (53%) had tried smoking.

In 2009, 6% of pupils smoked regularly (at least once a week). This proportion has remained stable since 2007. The prevalence of regular smoking among 11 to 15 year olds has halved since its peak in the mid 1990s – 13% in 1996 – suggesting a sustained decline to levels well below the government's 1998 target of reducing the prevalence of regular smoking among 11 to 15 year olds to 9% by 2010.

Girls are more likely to smoke regularly than boys (7% and 5% respectively). The prevalence of smoking increases with age, from less than 0.5% of 11 year olds to 15% of 15 year olds. White pupils are more likely to smoke than pupils of Black or Mixed ethnicity, and smoking is also more likely among pupils in receipt of free school meals, an indicator of low family income.

Regular smoking is also associated with drinking alcohol, drug use, truancy and exclusion from school.

The report also presents information about cigarette consumption in the last week.

Drinking alcohol (Part 4)

Half (51%) of pupils aged between 11 and 15 have had at least one alcoholic drink in their lifetimes. The proportion of pupils in this age group who have never drunk alcohol has risen in recent years, from 39% in 2003 to 49% in 2009.

The proportion of pupils who drank alcohol in the last week has fallen from a peak of 26% in 2001 to 18% in 2009. Similar proportions of boys and girls drank alcohol in the last seven days, and older pupils are more likely to have done so than younger pupils (from 3% of 11 year olds to 38% of 15 year olds). White pupils are more likely to have drunk alcohol recently than pupils of Mixed or Asian ethnicity, and – independent of a pupil's own ethnicity – recent drinking was less common among those who attended schools with a higher proportion of pupils whose first language was not English.

In 2009, the mean amount of alcohol consumed by pupils who had drunk in the last week was 11.6 units. Boys drink more than girls, and older pupils more than younger ones.

The patterns of behaviour associated with having recently drunk alcohol (in the last seven days) are not unlike those related to regular smoking. Regular smokers and recent drug

users have an increased likelihood of having drunk alcohol in the last week. Recent drinking is also associated with truancy and exclusion from school.

The report also includes findings on pupils' alcohol consumption in the last week.

Smoking, drinking and drug use (Part 5)

Pupils aged 11 to 15 are more likely to have drunk alcohol at least once (51%) than to have tried smoking (29%) or taking drugs (22%). The proportion of pupils who have done at least one of these increases with age from 26% of 11 year olds to 87% of 15 year olds.

Less than half of pupils who have tried smoking, drinking or drug use will have done so recently. 18% of 11 to 15 year olds have drunk alcohol in the last week, 9% have smoked in the last week and 8% have taken drugs in the last month.

The survey sample represents an estimated population of around 3.1 million young people aged between 11 and 15 in England. Findings from this survey indicate that in England in 2009 around 180,000 young people aged between 11 and 15 were regular smokers, around 540,000 drank alcohol in the last week, around 250,000 had taken drugs (including glue, gas and other volatile substances) in the last month and around 450,000 had taken drugs in the last year.

Several factors are strongly associated with smoking, drinking and drug use. If a pupil has done one of these, he or she has an increased likelihood of having done one or both of the others. All three become increasingly prevalent with age. Other characteristics, such as sex and ethnicity, are not consistent predictors of whether pupils are more likely to smoke, drink or take drugs.

The report also compares pupils' attitudes to smoking, drinking and drug use, and the sources of information they find most helpful about each.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

1.1.1 The survey series

This is the latest in the series of surveys of secondary school children in England which provides the national estimates of the proportions of young people aged 11 to 15 who smoke, drink alcohol or take illegal drugs. The first survey in the series, carried out in 1982, measured the prevalence of smoking among pupils and described their smoking behaviour. Trends in smoking were monitored by similar surveys carried out every two years. Questions on alcohol consumption were added to the survey in 1988; the 1998 survey was the first to include questions on the prevalence of drug use. Since 2000, the survey has been carried out annually by the National Centre for Social Research and the National Foundation for Educational Research.

Each survey now includes a core section of questions covering the following:

- Pupils' experience of smoking, drinking and drug use;
- Consumption of cigarettes and alcoholic drinks in the last week; and
- Awareness and availability of specific named drugs.

As well as these core measures, questionnaires since 2000 have included more detailed questions, with the focus alternating between smoking and drinking in one year and drug use the next. The focus in 2009 was drug use, and this report reflects that.

Between 1998 and 2010, smoking, drinking alcohol and drug use were each the focus of the then government's policy; in each case there were initiatives aimed specifically at children and young people. These are outlined in the introduction in the relevant chapters of this report. At the time of writing (June 2010), the coalition government has yet to publish updated strategic priorities in these areas.[1]

1.1.2 The 2009 survey

The 2009 survey achieved a sample of 7,674 pupils aged between 11 and 15 in 247 schools. (For details of sampling and response, see Appendix A.)

As well as the core questions on smoking, drinking and drug use, the 2009 questionnaire collected more extensive information about drug use. This included:

- The circumstances of drug use;
- Pupils' reactions to taking drugs;
- Reasons for refusing drugs;
- Drug dependence;
- The attitudes of pupils and their families to drug use; and
- The impact of school lessons and other sources of information about drugs.

In addition, information about school policies related to smoking, drinking and drug taking was collected from teachers within participating schools.

The report focuses on drug use. It also presents key data on smoking and drinking alcohol. Finally, there is a chapter exploring the overlaps and relationships between behaviours.

1.2 How reliable are young people's answers?

1.2.1 Are pupils honest?

This survey relies on several strategies to encourage honest reporting of behaviours which pupils may wish to conceal from adults or to exaggerate to their peers; these include collecting information in school classrooms rather than homes, and repeated assurances of confidentiality, backed up by survey procedures which demonstrate this.[2] But, as with most surveys, there are limited opportunities to provide independent verification of pupils' responses. This has been investigated in two main ways.

Between 1990 and 1998 the survey obtained saliva samples from pupils in half of the participating schools. The samples were tested for the presence of cotinine, a major metabolite of nicotine that indicates recent exposure to tobacco smoke, in order to validate the estimates of the prevalence of smoking derived from the questionnaire. Results from these surveys consistently indicated that children were largely honest about their smoking; only a few children in each survey had saliva cotinine levels that clearly contradicted their self-reported smoking behaviour, and there were no significant differences in the prevalence of smoking between children who supplied saliva samples for testing and those who did not.[3,4]

Since questions about drugs were introduced in 1998, the questionnaire has asked about Semeron, a fictional drug. In 2009, only 11 pupils (0.1% of the total sample) reported that they had ever taken Semeron; this matches the experience of previous years, and lends support to the view that most pupils do not exaggerate their drug use. However, reported rates of awareness may be exaggerated, given that 13% of pupils claimed to have heard of Semeron (this, too, has remained at a similar level since the question was introduced).

1.2.2 Are pupils accurate?

Honesty is not the only factor affecting the accuracy of responses. In particular, recall of the number of cigarettes smoked or the amount of alcohol drunk can be problematic, given that pupils' patterns of behaviour between the ages of 11 and 15 may be experimental and episodic rather than habitual and regular. In order to minimise the difficulties of reporting 'usual' behaviour, questions are asked about consumption of alcohol and cigarettes in the last week, in each case using a series of questions designed to provide effective prompts to memory, while minimising data loss caused by incomplete recording.

1.3 Precision of estimates

As the data are based on a sample (rather than a census) of pupils, the estimates are subject to sampling error. Appendix B details how to calculate sampling errors for this survey, and includes true standard errors and design effects calculated for key survey estimates.

Differences are generally commented upon in the text only if they are significant at the 95% confidence level, implying no more than a 5% chance that any reported difference is not a real one but a consequence of sampling error.

Notes and references

1 The Coalition's *Programme for government*, published in May 2010, included commitments to allow the police and local authorities to close shops or bars found to be persistently selling alcohol to children, and to double the fine for selling alcohol to young people below the legal age; other proposals refer to alcohol pricing, which could be expected to have a impact on young people's consumption. http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/409088/pfg_coalition.pdf

2 For example the omission of names or other identifiers from the questionnaires pupils complete.

3 See Goddard E & Higgins V (1999) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young teenagers* in 1998 , TSO, London, for a fuller discussion.

4 The Health Survey for England (HSE) measures smoking among 8 to 15 year olds using confidential self-completion questionnaires. The prevalence of self-reported smoking among 11 to 15 year olds is consistently lower than that reported by pupils in this survey; for example in 2008, 3% of 11 to 15 year olds reported to the HSE that they smoked at least once a week, compared with 6% reported to this survey. The HSE also collects saliva samples which are tested for cotinine. 15ng/ml of cotinine is used as a threshold, above which the subject can be reliably considered to have smoked in recent days. Once children with cotinine at this level have been taken into account, HSE estimated of the prevalence of smoking are at levels similar to SDD's. See Moody A, Reilly N (2009) *Children's smoking and exposure to others' smoke* in Craig R, Mindell J, Hirani V (eds) *Health Survey for England 2008: Volume 1: Physical activity and fitness*. NHS Information Centre, Leeds http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/hse08physicalactivity

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2 Drug use

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Key findings for 2009

- Less than a quarter (22%) of pupils had ever taken drugs. Although this proportion has varied from year to year, overall it has decreased since 2001, when 29% of pupils reported that they had ever taken drugs.
- 15% of pupils reported taking drugs in the last year; this proportion has also fallen since 2001, when it was 20%. In 2009, prevalence was higher among boys than girls (16% and 14% respectively) and increased with age, from 5% of 11 year olds to 30% of 15 year olds.
- Pupils were most likely to have taken cannabis; 8.9% had done so in the last year, an overall decrease from 13.4% in 2001.
- 3.6% of pupils reported taking a Class A drug in the last year. This proportion has remained stable since 2001, when it was 4.3%.
- 4% of pupils said they usually took drugs at least once a month, a similar proportion to previous years. This proportion increased with age from 1% of 11 to 12 year olds to 10% of 15 year olds.
- Pupils who had truanted or been excluded from school in the past were more likely to say they usually took drugs at least once a month, and more likely to have taken a Class A drug, than those who had not truanted or been excluded.
- Those whose first experience of drug use was when they were 13 or younger were most likely to have sniffed volatile substances at the age they first tried drugs. Pupils who first took drugs when they were 14 or 15 were most likely to have taken cannabis at this age.
- Pupils were most likely to have got the first drugs they took from a friend of the same age. The most common reason they gave was 'To see what they were like'. Their overall response to the drug was equally likely to be that they felt 'good' (45%) or 'no different' (44%). Pupils whose first drug use was sniffing volatile substances reported different reasons and reactions to those who first tried other drugs; specifically, 75% said they felt no different.
- The last time they took drugs, pupils were most likely to have got them from a friend of the same age (38%). The most common location to obtain drugs was on the street, in a park or somewhere else outdoors (40%). Most took the drugs with a mixed group of friends of both sexes (48%) or with friends of the same sex (43%). The most likely reason given was 'To get high or feel good' (47%).
- Pupils who had used drugs more than once were more likely to report a good experience (67%) than a bad or indifferent one the last time they took drugs. Again, volatile substance users differed somewhat from pupils who had taken other drugs.
- A third (33%) of pupils had ever been offered drugs, down from 42% in 2001. Pupils were most likely to have been offered cannabis (21%) or volatile substances (14%).

- 80% of pupils who had ever been offered drugs had refused them at least once.
- As in previous years, there was widespread awareness of illegal drugs among pupils. Only 2% of pupils reported that they had never heard of any of the drugs asked about.
- A minority of pupils thought it was OK for someone of their age to take drugs, either once to see what it was like or every week. They were slightly more tolerant of cannabis use (9% thought it OK to try once, 5% to take once a week) than glue sniffing (9% once, 3% once a week), with cocaine the least acceptable of the drugs asked about (3% thought it OK to try once, 1% to take once a week).
- Almost all pupils thought their families would either try to stop them taking drugs (84%) or would try to persuade them to stop (15%). However, there was strong relationship between drug use and families' attitudes; pupils who thought their families had a more lenient attitude to their drug taking were more likely to have taken drugs than those who thought their families would try to stop them taking drugs.
- TV, parents and teachers were most likely to be seen as helpful sources of information about drugs. The sources pupils found helpful varied with sex, age and their experience of drug taking.
- Factors linked to an increased probability of drug use in the last year included being male, older, being a regular smoker, having recently drunk alcohol, and having truanted or been excluded from school. What pupils thought about the views of their families were also influential; compared with pupils who thought their families would try to stop them taking drugs, pupils who reported that their families took a softer approach to drug taking were more likely to have taken drugs in the last year.

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Background

Drug use by young people has long been a focus of public concern. The use of legal and illegal drugs is associated both with immediate health risks, which vary with the drug, and also with wider harm.[1] There is evidence to suggest that young people who use recreational drugs run the risk of damage to mental health including suicide, depression and disruptive behaviour disorders.[2,3] Regular use of cannabis or other drugs may also lead to dependence. Among 10 to 15 year olds, an increased likelihood of drug use is linked to a range of adverse experiences and behaviour, including truancy, exclusion from school, homelessness, time in care, and serious or frequent offending.[4]

A ten-year drug strategy, *Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain*, was published by the then government in 1998. It outlined a series of long-term goals which covered both drug enforcement and prevention, and had four main objectives, one of which was 'to help young people resist drug misuse in order to achieve their full potential in society'.[5]

The importance of reducing drug use by young people was further asserted in the same government's *Updated Drug Strategy* in 2002.[6] This included a stronger focus on Class A drugs and emphasised education, prevention and treatment as ways to tackle problematic drug use. Young people were described as being of the highest priority; the first of four strategic goals was defined as preventing today's young people from becoming tomorrow's problematic drug users, and included a target to reduce the use of Class A drugs and frequent use of any illicit drug by all young people under the age of 25, especially by the most vulnerable groups, by 2008.

Within this strategic context, Public Service Agreements (PSAs) were adopted jointly in 2007 by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF, now the Department for Education), the Home Office and the Department of Health. PSA Delivery Agreement 25 aimed to reduce the harm caused by drugs and alcohol.[7] PSA Delivery Agreement 14 ('Increase the number of children and young people on the path to success') included as an indicator the reduction of the proportion of young people frequently using illicit drugs, alcohol or volatile substances.[8]

A second ten-year drug strategy, *Drugs: protecting families and communities*, was published in 2008 by the then government.[9] Its delivery was underpinned by a series of three-year action plans, the first of which included measures designed to increase young people's awareness of the risks of drug and alcohol misuse in order to change their attitudes and behaviour, as well as providing advice and information to parents to increase their involvement in preventing young people's drug taking.[10] The strategy was designed to complement the *Every Child Matters* programme with a shared focus on reducing drug use by young people.[11]

Guidance had been produced for schools in 2004 by the Department for Education and Skills (now the Department for Education) covering drugs education and dealing with drug-related incidents.[12] In 2008, the Drug and Alcohol Advisory Group carried out a review of drug and alcohol education for the DCSF.[13] It endorsed the focus on the reduction of drug misuse by young people and identified schools as settings where this could be addressed.[13]

At the time of writing (June 2010) the coalition government has not yet published any detailed strategy concerning young people and drugs.[14]

This survey series measures drug use by young people up to the age of 15. The British Crime Survey measures drug use among adults aged 16 to 59, with a particular focus on young adults aged 16 to 24.[15]

2.1.2 Measuring drug use

Survey measures

Key survey measures include the proportion of pupils who had taken specific drugs in the last year and last month, including particular Class A drugs. The questionnaire covers the following drugs or types of drugs: amphetamines, anabolic steroids, cannabis, cocaine, crack, ecstasy, heroin, ketamine, LSD, magic mushrooms, methadone, poppers (e.g. amyl nitrite), tranquillisers, volatile substances such as gas, glue, aerosols and other solvents, and 'other' drugs (not obtained from a doctor or chemist). Within the questionnaire, pupils are asked about each drug in turn, including a series of questions on whether they had heard of the drug, been offered it, ever tried it and, if so, when they had last taken the drug. A fictional drug, Semeron, is also asked about to measure for exaggerations in the reporting of drug use; it is not discussed within the report.

Changes in the method of measuring drug use

Information on the prevalence of drug use among young people was first collected by this series of surveys in 1998, and the current method of measuring drug use was introduced in 2001.[16] The effect of the changes, from a grid format to a repeated sequence of questions about each drug, was such that findings from 2001 onwards are not comparable with those from surveys between 1998 and 2000. As a result, trend data are shown in this report from 2001 only. Data from previous surveys can be found in earlier reports.[17]

Since 2001, there have been two other small changes made to the core questions about drugs. In 2004, the questions relating to amphetamines were reworded to refer to 'speed and other amphetamines', instead of 'amphetamines', the wording taken in previous years.[18] In 2005, ketamine was added to the list of drugs asked about.

Drug classification

The table below lists the specific drugs that pupils were asked about in this survey, and indicates the classification under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971) and its subsequent amendments.[19] The Act classifies controlled substances into three categories according to their harmfulness, with Class A drugs considered to cause the most harm.[20]

This chapter includes estimates of the prevalence of use of Class A drugs. It is important to note the following points:

- The Class A drugs mentioned in the survey (amphetamines if prepared for injection, ecstasy, cocaine, crack, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms and methadone) are not an exhaustive list of Class A drugs.
- Some drugs are classified according to the method of delivery taken. For example, amphetamines are Class B drugs if taken orally and Class A drugs if injected.
- Methylamphetamine (crystal meth), included in the category 'Speed and other amphetamines', was reclassifed to Class A in all its forms on 18th January 2007. The current questionnaire does not allow a distinction between methylamphetamine and other forms of amphetamines. For the sake of comparability with previous years, this survey has continued to define all amphetamines as Class A if injected, and otherwise Class B.
- Within the Drugs Act 2005,[23] raw magic mushrooms were classified as Class A drugs; this came into force on the 18th July 2005. Previously, magic mushrooms were Class A drugs only if prepared, for example dried or stewed. The survey questionnaire has never made the distinction and magic mushrooms have always been counted as Class A drugs in the analysis.
- Cannabis was reclassified from a Class C to a Class B drug on 26th January 2009.[24]

Classifications of drugs covered by the survey		
Drug	**Mode of use**	**Classification**
Amphetamines	Inject	A
Ecstasy	Oral	A
Cocaine	Sniff and inject	A
Crack	Inject or smoke	A
Heroin	Smoke, inject or sniff	A
LSD	Oral	A
Magic mushrooms	Oral	A
Methadone	Oral	A
Amphetamines	Sniff or oral	B
Tranquillisers	Oral or inject	B/C (depends on drug)
Anabolic steroids	Oral or inject	C
Ketamine	Oral, sniff or inject	C
Cannabis	Smoke or oral	C
Poppers	Sniff	It is an offence for anyone other than a licensed outlet, such as a pharmacist, to supply amyl nitrite. Other types of poppers, for example butyl nitrite[21] and isobutyl nitrite, are legal to possess and supply.[22]
Glue Gas	Sniff Sniff	It is an offence to supply these substances if it is likely that the product is intended for abuse.

2.1.3 Outline of content

This chapter covers the following topics:

- Prevalence and frequency of drug use
- Drug use among vulnerable young people
- First and most recent drug use
- Dependence on drugs
- The availability of drugs to young people
- Whether pupils who try drugs continue to use them
- Refusing drugs
- Awareness of individual drugs
- Beliefs and attitudes about drugs
- Lessons about drugs
- Factors associated with drug use in the last year and the last month

2.2 Prevalence and frequency of drug use

2.2.1 Prevalence of drug use

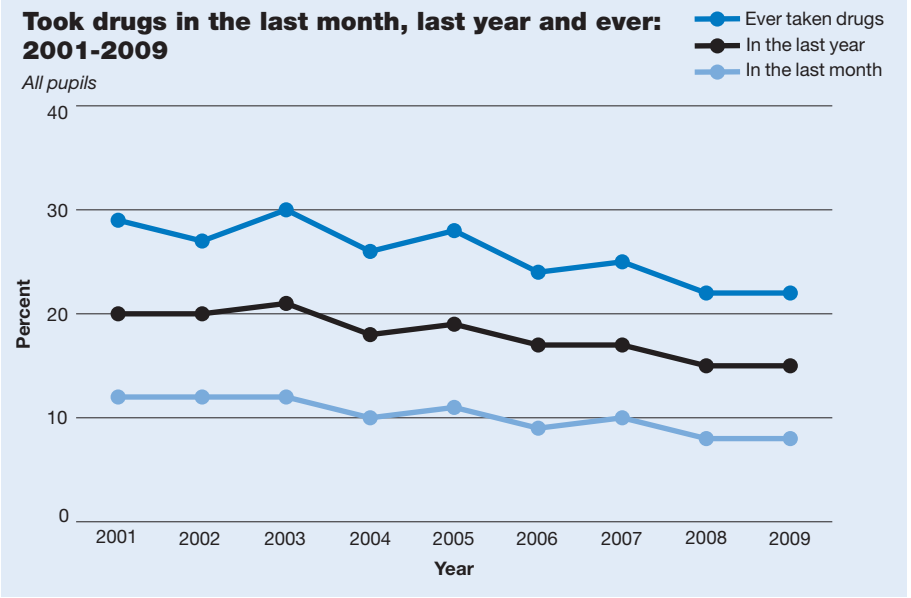
This section describes the prevalence of drug use by pupils in the last year, last month and ever. Due to a change in the method of measuring drug use, trend data for the prevalence of drug use is presented from 2001 onwards.[16]

Between 2001 and 2009, there was an overall decline in the proportion of pupils who reported ever having taken drugs (from 29% to 22%). The proportions who reported taking drugs in the last year (from 20% in 2001 to 15% in 2009) and taking drugs in the last month (from 12% to 8%) also declined. All three measures of drug use remained unchanged between 2008 and 2009. **(Tables 2.1-2.4, Figure 2.1)**

Boys were more likely than girls to have ever taken drugs (23% and 21% respectively), to have taken drugs in the last year (16% compared with 14%), and to have taken drugs in the last month (9% compared with 7%). This is similar to the pattern seen in previous years.

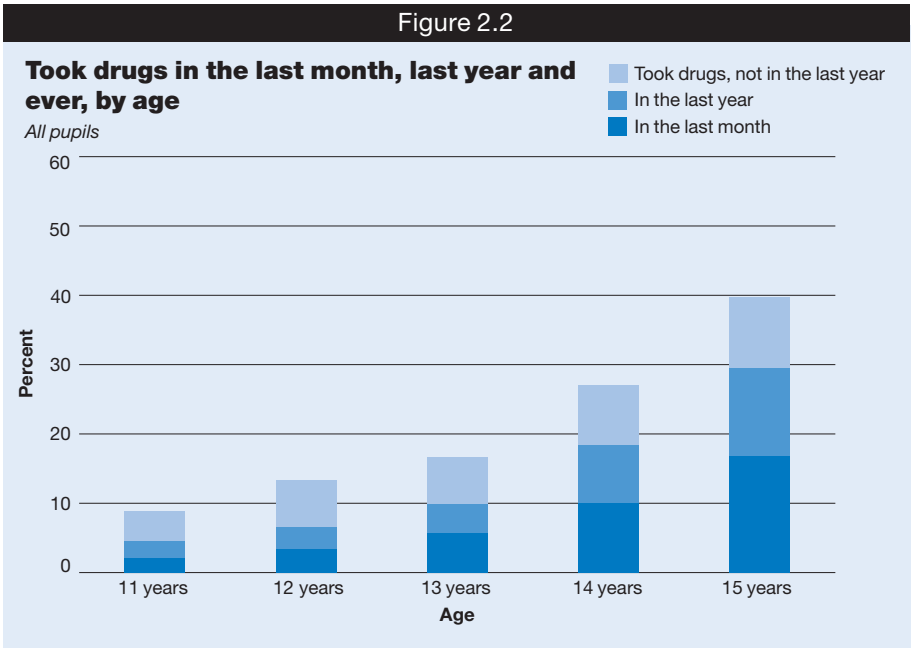
As in previous years, the prevalence of drug use steadily increased with age. 9% of 11 year olds reported having ever taken drugs, rising to 40% of 15 year olds. This pattern was also

Figure 2.1



evident for drug use in the last year (increasing with age from 5% of 11 year olds to 30% of 15 year olds), and in the last month (2% of 11 year olds compared with 17% of 15 year olds). **(Table 2.5, Figure 2.2)**

Figure 2.2



2.2.2 Types of drugs used in the last year

As in previous years, the drug that was most likely to have been taken in the last year was cannabis, by 8.9% of pupils.[25] Volatile substances such as glue, gas, aerosols or solvents had been sniffed by 5.5% of pupils in the last year. The remaining individual drugs asked about had been taken by no more than 2% of pupils.

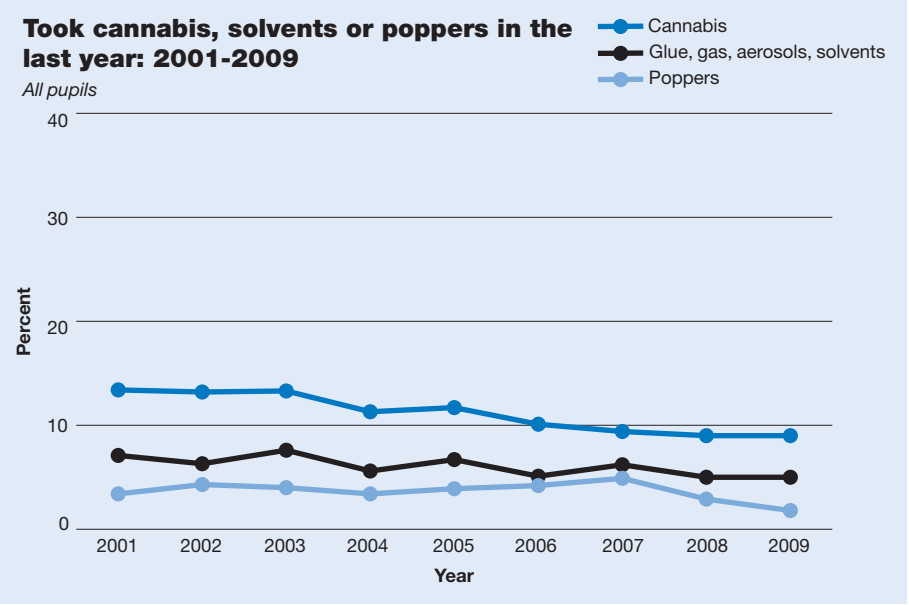
Since 2001, the proportion of pupils who reported taking cannabis in the last year declined, from 13.4% in 2001 to 8.9% in 2009. Over the same period, the proportion of pupils who had sniffed volatile substances varied, with no distinct pattern. Between 2008 and 2009, the proportions of pupils who had taken cannabis or volatile substances remained at similar levels.

In recent years there has been a fall in the proportions of pupils who reported that they had sniffed poppers in the last year. Between 2001 and 2007 this varied between 3.4% and

4.9%, and the use of poppers was therefore more prevalent than all drugs except cannabis and volatile substances. Since 2007, reported use of poppers in the last year has fallen; in 2009 1.8% of pupils had sniffed poppers in the last year, and the prevalence of the use of poppers was at levels not very different from less commonly used drugs.

3.6% of pupils had taken Class A drugs in the last year; this proportion is comparable to those reported since 2001. **(Table 2.6a-2.6c, Figure 2.3)**

Figure 2.3



Boys were more likely than girls to have taken cannabis in the last year (9.8% and 8.1% respectively). Otherwise, use of each drug asked about was generally at similar levels for boys and girls.

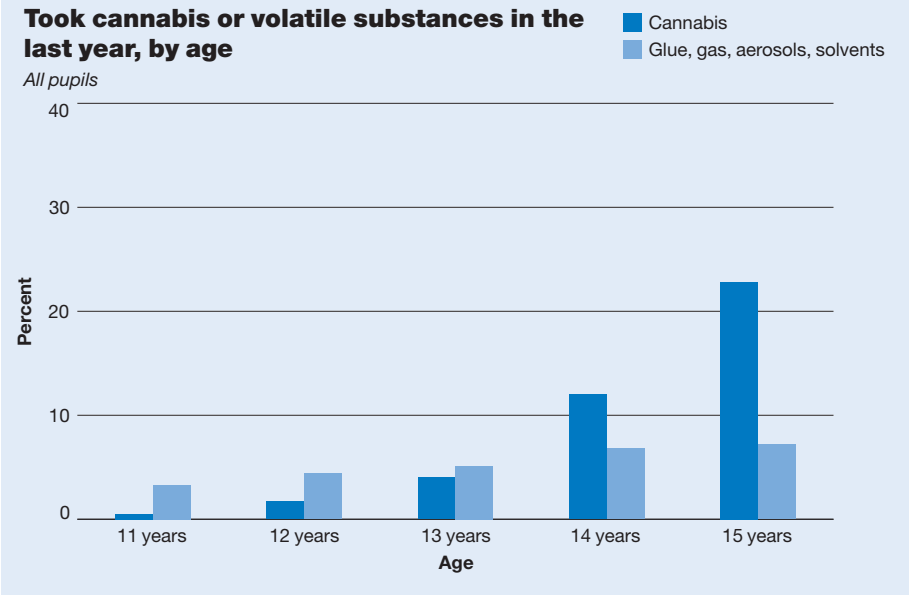
The proportion of pupils who had taken each drug increased with age. For example, in 2009, 0.5% of 11 year olds reported taking cannabis in the last year, compared with 22.8% of 15 year olds. Sniffing volatile substances was reported by 3.3% of 11 year olds, compared with 7.2% of 15 year olds. Consequently, if 11 and 12 year olds had taken drugs in the last year, they were more likely to have sniffed volatile substances than to have taken cannabis. By the age of 14, the reverse was true. **(Table 2.7a-2.7c, Figure 2.4)**

Although pupils were more likely to have taken cannabis than any other drug in the last year (and month), pupils were more likely to have tried sniffing volatile substances at least once; 12.7% of pupils said that they had ever sniffed gas, glue, aerosols or solvents, compared with 10.5% who had ever taken cannabis. **(Table 2.8)**

In 2009, amongst those pupils who had taken drugs in the last year, two thirds (67%) had only taken one type of drug.

The type and range of drug use in the last year varied with age. Younger pupils were more likely to report having taken only one type of drug, primarily volatile substances; 65% of 11 to 12 year olds reported sniffing volatile substances compared with 10% of 15 year olds. Older pupils who had taken only one type of drug in the last year were more likely to have taken cannabis (44% of 15 year olds compared with 14% of 11 to 12 year olds). Taking two or more types of drugs in the last year was unusual for younger pupils, and was more likely to be reported by older pupils (15% of 11 to 12 year olds compared with 41% of 15 year olds). **(Table 2.9)**

Figure 2.4



2.3 Frequency of drug use

In addition to questions about individual drug use, pupils were asked about their use of drugs in general, that is how many times they had taken drugs and how often they usually did so. These questions were based on a filter question, and the estimates of drug use in the last year derived from this question differ from the estimates reported elsewhere and are not definitive.[27]

In 2009, 3% of pupils reported taking drugs once, 3% on two to five occasions, 1% on six to ten occasions and 3% on more than ten occasions. Among those who had taken drugs in the last year, 28% had taken drugs once, 31% on two to five occasions, 12% on six to ten occasions and 29% on more than ten occasions (not necessarily all in the last year). **(Tables 2.10, 2.12)**

Just as older pupils were more likely to report that they had taken drugs, they were more likely to have taken drugs on more than one occasion. For example, 1% of 11 to 13 year olds had taken drugs on more than ten occasions, compared with 4% of 14 year olds and 8% of 15 year olds. Among pupils who had taken drugs in the last year, 14% of 11 and 12 year olds had taken drugs more than ten times, compared with 29% of 14 year olds and 34% of 15 year olds. **(Tables 2.11, 2.12)**

The number of occasions pupils had ever taken drugs varied according to the type of drug they had taken in the last year. Pupils who had sniffed volatile substances only in the last year were more likely to have taken drugs once (43%) than pupils who had taken cannabis only (33%) and those who had taken Class A drugs in the last year (10%). In contrast, more than half of pupils who had taken any Class A drugs in the last year (54%) had taken drugs on more than ten occasions compared with 25% of those who had taken cannabis only and 11% of those who had sniffed volatile substances only. **(Table 2.13)**

There has been a decrease in the proportion of pupils who report that they usually take drugs at least once a month, from 7% in 2003 to 4% in 2009.[28] **(Table 2.14)**

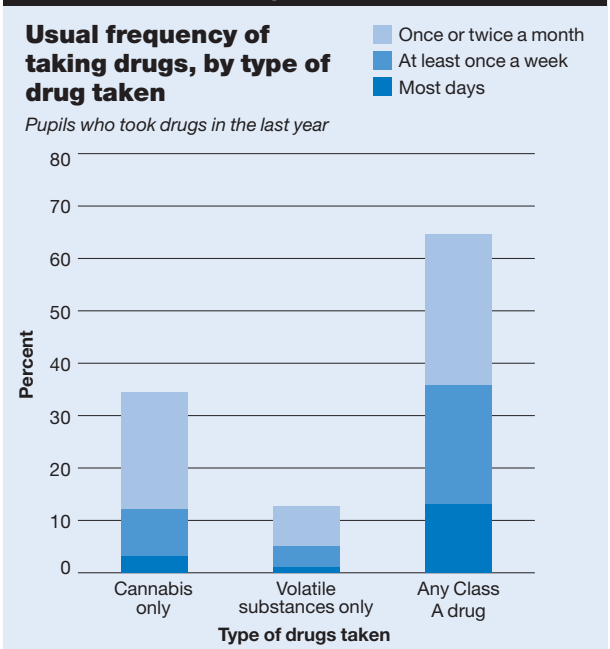
As in previous years, older pupils were more likely to report taking drugs at least once a month (10% of 15 year olds, compared with 1% of 11 to 12 year olds). Boys were more likely than girls to say that they usually took drugs at least once a month (4% and 3% respectively), and in particular older boys were more likely to report taking drugs in the last month than older girls (12% and 7% of 15 year olds respectively). A small minority of pupils reported very frequent drug use most days of the week (1%). **(Table 2.15)**

Of those pupils who had taken drugs in the last year, 36% usually took drugs at least once a

month, including 6% who reported taking drugs on most days. Boys were more likely than girls to have taken drugs at least once a month (40% compared with 31%) and the proportion of pupils who usually took drugs at least once a month increased with age, from 18% of 11 to 12 year olds to 41% of 15 year olds. **(Tables 2.16)**

Pupils' usual frequency of taking drugs varied according to the type of drug they had taken in the last year. Those who reported taking Class A drugs in the last year were most likely to be frequent drug users; 65% of pupils who had taken Class A drugs in the last year reported that they took drugs at least once a month, compared with 34% of pupils who had taken cannabis only in the last year and 13% who had sniffed volatile substances only. Furthermore, 13% of pupils who had taken Class A drugs in the last year reported taking drugs on most days. **(Table 2.17, Figure 2.5)**

Figure 2.5



2.4 Vulnerable pupils and drug use

Some young people, whose circumstances or patterns of behaviour already make them the focus of concern, have been shown to be vulnerable to problematic drug use.[4] These include those who truant or have been excluded from school.[29]

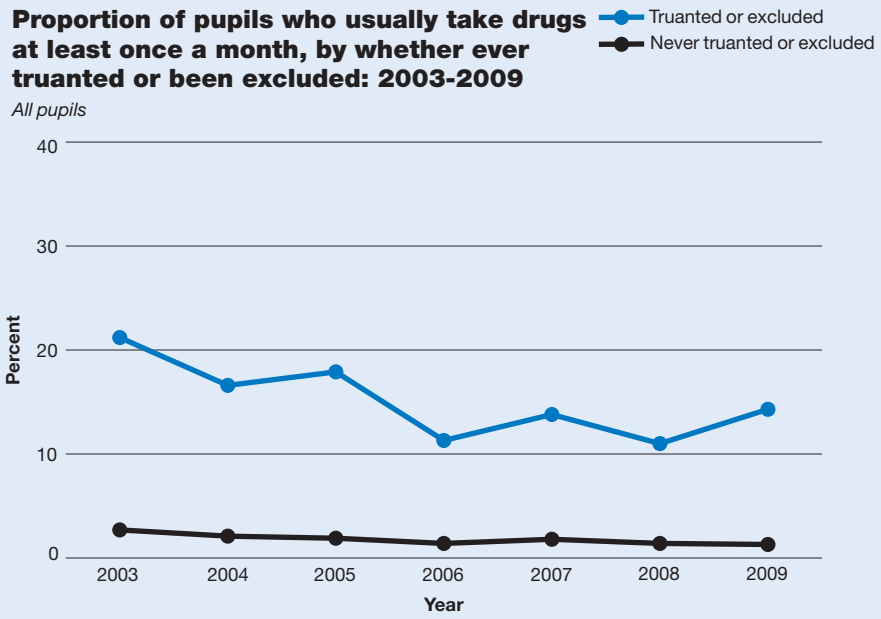
Pupils were asked whether they had 'ever stayed away from school without permission (truanted)' or been excluded from school. It should be noted that pupil's own reports of truancy and exclusion are not verified as part of the survey and so they should be interpreted with caution. In addition, regular truants and those excluded from school during the fieldwork period were almost certainly underrepresented in the sample, despite additional effort to include them.[30] In 2009, 15% of pupils reported that they had ever truanted from school and 9% had been excluded. In total, 20% reported either truanting, having been excluded from school or both.

Pupils who had ever truanted or been excluded from school were more likely to report frequent drug use, that is usually taking drugs at least once a month, compared with those pupils who had not truanted or been excluded (14% and 1% respectively). This finding was similar to those of earlier years. The prevalence of frequent drug use amongst this group of vulnerable young people has seen an overall decline from 21% in 2003. **(Table 2.18, Figure 2.6)**

In 2009, the use of Class A drugs in the last year was more likely amongst pupils who had truanted or been excluded (12%) compared with those who had not truanted or been

Figure 2.6

Proportion of pupils who usually take drugs at least once a month, by whether ever truanted or been excluded: 2003-2009



excluded (1%). The prevalence of Class A drug use by vulnerable pupils has continued to be relatively stable since 2003. **(Table 2.19)**

2.5 Pupils' first experience of drug use

2.5.1 Type of drugs taken at the age pupils first took drugs

Pupils were asked about what types of drugs they had tried at the age they first took them. Pupils' first experience of drug use was most likely to be sniffing volatile substances (55%), followed by taking cannabis (41%) or sniffing poppers (9%). Other individual drug use was less common at the age pupils first tried drugs.

The types of drugs pupils had taken varied with the age they first took drugs. Pupils who had first taken drugs when aged 11 years or younger were most likely to have sniffed volatile substances at that age (82%, compared with 12% who had taken cannabis at that age). As the age of first drug use increased, it was more likely that pupils had taken cannabis at that age and less likely that they had sniffed volatile substances. Among pupils whose first drug use was at the age of 15, 81% had taken cannabis and 18% had sniffed volatile substances at that age. **(Tables 2.20, 2.21, Figure 2.7)**

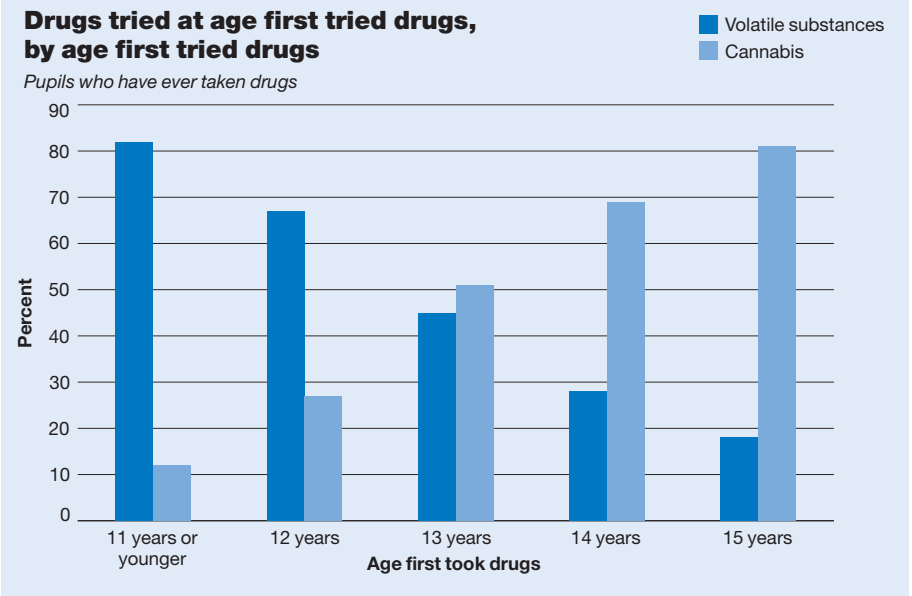
2.5.2 First source of drugs

The following sections are based on questions about the first occasion on which pupils took drugs. Asked where they had obtained drugs on the first occasion they took them, three quarters (73%) said they had got them from a friend, most commonly from friends of their own age (45%).

Girls were more likely than boys to have obtained drugs the first time from a boyfriend or girlfriend (3% and 1% respectively). Boys were more likely than girls to have got drugs first from someone they knew of, though not personally (9% and 5% respectively). Otherwise there were few differences in where boys and girls got their first drugs.

Differences by age were most noticeable among those whose first drug use was at 11 or younger. For example, those whose first drug use was at the age of 11 or younger were less likely to have got their first drugs from a friend than those whose first drug use was at 12 or older (61%, compared with between 75% and 83%). Those who first took drugs at the age of 11 were more likely to say that they had got their first drugs from someone not listed on the questionnaire (23%, compared with between 3% and 13% of those who first took drugs when older).[31] **(Tables 2.22, 2.23)**

Figure 2.7



Pupil's first source of drugs varied with the type of drugs they had tried on the first occasion. Half (51%) of pupils whose first drug use was sniffing volatile substances only obtained them from a friend of their own age. Another quarter (25%) of these pupils reported that they had got them from someone not listed on the questionnaire. They were relatively unlikely to have obtained their first drugs from an older friend (9%).

Most pupils whose first drug was cannabis only were most likely to have got them from friends of their own age (49%) or older friends (32%). Older friends were the most common source of drugs cited by those whose first drug use included a Class A drug (43%), followed by friends of their own age (27%). **(Table 2.24)**

2.5.3 Why pupils first took drugs

Pupils who had ever taken drugs were asked why they tried drugs the first time. They were able to choose as many reasons as they liked from a list of nine possible options.

As in previous years, most pupils who had taken drugs took them on the first occasion 'to see what it was like' (56%). The next most common reasons were 'to get high or feel good' (22%) followed by 'because my friends were doing it' (18%). **(Table 2.25)**

In 2009, boys and girls generally gave similar reasons for taking drugs on the first occasion. However, boys were more likely than girls to report that they took drugs on the first occasion to 'get high or feel good' (25% compared with 19%). More girls than boys reported they took drugs on the first occasion because they wanted to 'forget their problems' (13% compared with 9%).

Pupils' reasons for trying drugs the first time were associated with the age at which they first took them. Older pupils were more likely than younger pupils to report that they tried drugs on the first occasion because they wanted 'to see what it was like' (78% of 15 year olds, compared with 41% of those who were 11 years or younger) or because they wanted to 'get high or feel good'. Conversely, younger pupils were more likely than older pupils to have taken drugs on the first occasion because 'it was a dare' (13% of those who were 11 years old or younger, compared with 4% of those who were aged 15 at the time they first took drugs). Younger pupils were also more likely to say they first took drugs for a reason other than one listed, or to not know or not remember why they had taken drugs the first time. **(Table 2.26)**

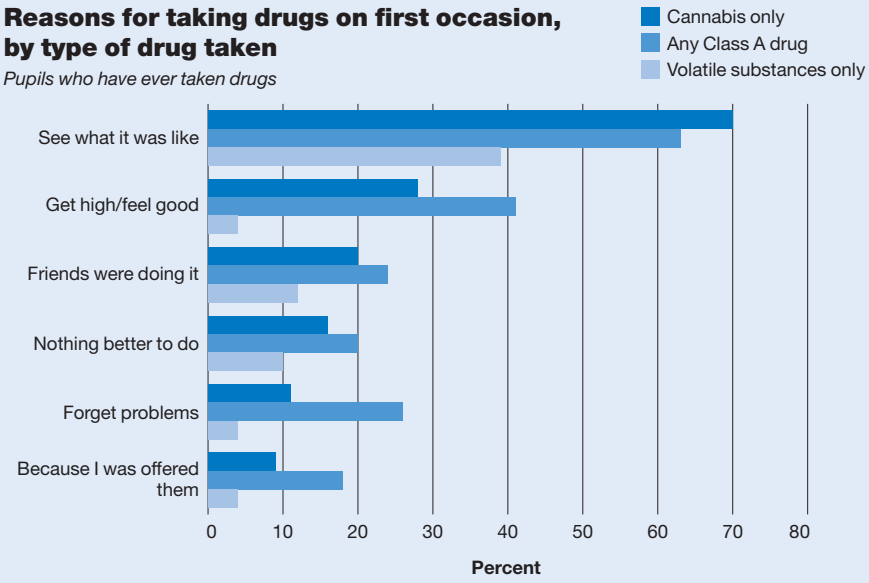
Pupils' reasons for trying drugs on the first occasion varied according to the type of drug they had taken. 'I wanted to see what it was like' was the most common reason for the first use of all types of drug. The next most common reason given by those who had taken cannabis only or a Class A drug on the first occasion was 'to get high or feel good' (28%

and 41% respectively). Pupils who had taken a Class A drug on the first occasion were more likely than others to report they took drugs because 'I wanted to forget my problems' (26%) or 'because I was offered' them (18%).

The reasons offered for trying volatile substances as a first drug followed a different pattern. The main reason 'to see what it was like' was cited by a smaller proportion of these pupils than those whose first drug use was taking cannabis or Class A drugs (39% of volatile substance users, compared with 70% of those who had first taken cannabis, 63% of those who first took a Class A drug.) Generally, pupils who first sniffed volatile substances were less likely to give any of the reasons offered by users of other drugs. They were more likely to say they did so for a reason other than one listed, or they did not know or they did not remember why they had taken drugs the first time. Relatively few said they did so 'to get high or feel good' (4%).

These reasons indicated that sniffing glue, gas, aerosols or other volatile substances was not necessarily seen in the same way as taking other types of drug.[32] **(Table 2.27, Figure 2.8)**

Figure 2.8



2.5.4 Reactions to first drug use

Pupils were asked how they felt the first time they took drugs and could choose from three answer options: 'I felt good', 'I felt bad', or 'I felt no different'.

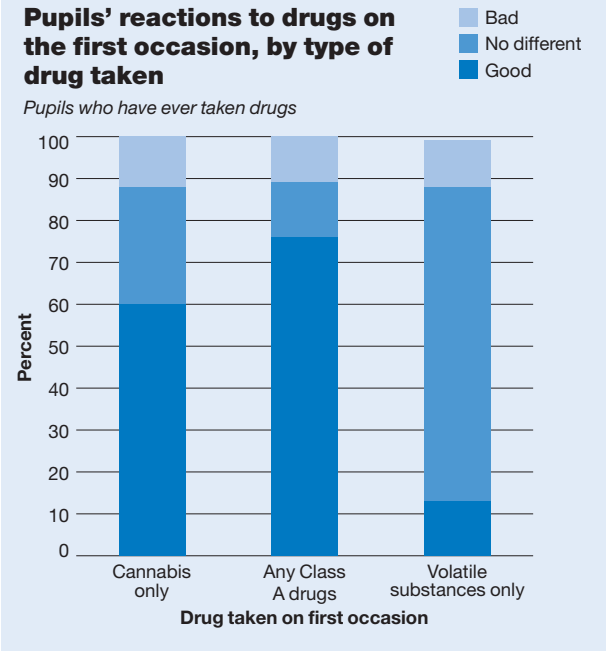
Among pupils who had ever taken drugs, 45% said they felt good, 11% said they felt bad and 44% reported they felt no different the first time they took drugs. Boys were more likely than girls to say they felt good the first time they tried drugs (48%, compared with 41%); girls were more likely to say that they felt no different (47%, compared with 41% of boys). The older the pupils were when they first took drugs the more likely they were to report a positive experience of first drug use. For example, 60% of pupils who had first tried drugs at the age of 15 reported feeling good compared with 27% who had first taken drugs at the age of 11 years or younger. Conversely, younger pupils were more likely than older pupils to report they felt no different (61%, compared with 31% who first took drugs at the age of 15).

(Table 2.28)

There was a strong relationship between how pupils felt the first time they took drugs and the type of drug they had taken. Pupils whose first experience of drug use was a Class A drug were more likely to report the experience as positive than those who took other types of drug (76%, compared with 60% for cannabis and 13% for volatile substances). Those who had taken volatile substances on the first occasion were most likely to report they felt no different (75%, compared with 28% for cannabis and 13% for a Class A drug).

(Table 2.29, Figure 2.9)

Figure 2.9



Pupils whose first experience of drugs was positive were more likely to have taken drugs in the last year than those who had a bad or indifferent experience. 81% of those who had felt good when they first took drugs had taken drugs in the last year, compared with 50% who felt bad and 44% who felt no different. Among those whose first experience of drug taking was positive, 33% had taken drugs on more then ten occasions, compared with 5% who felt no different and 11% of those who reported a bad experience on the first occasion they took drugs. **(Table 2.30)**

2.6 Pupils' most recent experience of drug use

2.6.1 Comparing first and most recent drug use

As well as asking pupils about their first drug use, the questionnaire also asked about the most recent occasion on which pupils took drugs, including some questions that were similar to those asked about the first experience of drug use.

In order to explore whether the experience of drug use changes over time, pupils who had only taken drugs once are excluded from the following analysis, as are pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year.

2.6.2 Drugs taken most recently

Pupils who had taken drugs more than once were most likely to have taken cannabis only (51%), compared with 23% who had only sniffed volatile substances, and 13% who had taken a Class A drug. This pattern differed from that observed for drugs taken at the age pupils first tried drugs: then 48% had sniffed volatile substances only, 31% had taken cannabis only, and 9% had taken a Class A drug. **(Tables 2.21, 2.31)**

Older pupils were more likely than younger pupils to have taken cannabis on the most recent occasion (63% of 15 year olds, compared with 22% of 11 to 13 year olds), whereas younger pupils were more likely than older pupils to have sniffed volatile substances (57% of 11 to 13 year olds, compared with 9% of 15 year olds).

2.6.3 Most recent source of drugs

As with drugs used on the first occasion, pupils were most likely to have got their drugs most recently from friends (73%), most commonly a friend of their own age (38%) or an

older friend (32%). Younger pupils were less likely than older pupils to have obtained drugs from friends (65% of 11 to 13 year olds, compared with 76% of 14 year olds and 75% of 15 year olds). Younger pupils were also more likely to say they got their most recent drugs from someone not named on the questionnaire. Sources of recent drugs were similar for boys and girls. **(Tables 2.32, 2.33)**

Where pupils obtained the drugs they took most recently varied with the type of drugs in a similar way to the first drugs taken (see Section 2.5.2). For example, pupils who sniffed volatile substances on the most recent occasion were less likely to have got them from friends than those who had taken cannabis or Class A drugs on the most recent occasion (60%, compared with 79% and 73% respectively). Volatile substance users were more likely to have got them from someone not listed on the questionnaire (28%, compared with 8% for those who took cannabis only and 9% for those who took a Class A drug).[34]

(Tables 2.34)

2.6.4 Where pupils got drugs they took most recently

Pupils were asked where they had obtained drugs from on the most recent occasion they had tried them (not necessarily where they took them). As in previous years, pupils were most likely to have obtained drugs on the street, in a park or other outdoor area (40%); next most common locations were in someone else's home (20%) or at school (14%). Girls were less likely than boys to have obtained the drugs in an outdoor location; otherwise there were no significant differences between the places where boys and girls had got the drugs they took most recently.

There were also some differences with age. Younger pupils were most likely to have obtained the drugs they took most recently at school (35% of 11 to 13 year olds). This was much less common among older pupils (17% of 14 year olds, 6% of 15 year olds). Older pupils were more likely than younger ones to have obtained drugs in someone else's home on the most recent occasion they took them (25% of 15 year olds and 17% of 14 year olds, compared with 11% of 11 to 13 year olds). **(Tables 2.35, 2.36)**

These age differences reflected differences according to the type of drug they had taken in where pupils got drugs from on the last occasion. Again, volatile substance users (likely to be younger) differed from pupils whose most recent drug use was either taking cannabis or Class A drugs (likely to be older). For example, cannabis and Class A users were both most likely to report getting drugs on the street, in a park or other outdoor area (52% and 46% respectively); in contrast 16% of volatile substance users reported this. Those whose most recent drug use was either cannabis alone, or a Class A drug were also more likely than those who had sniffed volatile substances to report having obtained these drugs in someone else's home or at a party, club or disco. Half (50%) of pupils who had sniffed volatile substances on the most recent occasion got them at school (compared with 1% of those who had taken cannabis and 2% of those who had taken Class A drugs). Additionally, 14% of those whose last drug use was sniffing volatile substances said they got them at home, compared with 4% of those who had taken cannabis and 5% of those who had taken Class A drugs.[34] **(Table 2.37)**

2.6.5 Who pupils took drugs with on the most recent occasion

As in previous years, pupils were most likely to have been with a friend (90%) on the most recent occasion they took drugs, most commonly a group of friends of both sexes (48%) or friends of the same sex (43%). **(Table 2.38)**

Boys were more likely than girls to report taking drugs with a group of same sex friends (56%, compared with 29%), whereas girls were more likely to take drugs with friends of both sexes (60%, compared with 35%). A higher proportion of girls than boys also reported taking drugs with a girlfriend or boyfriend (19%, compared with 6%).

Younger pupils were less likely to have taken drugs with friends on the most recent occasion (79% of 11 to 13 year olds compared with 92% of 14 year olds and 93% of 15 year olds) and more likely to have taken drugs alone (13% of 11 to 13 year olds, compared with 4% of 14 and 15 year olds). **(Table 2.39)**

As elsewhere, age differences reflected the different contexts in which pupils had last sniffed volatile substances, compared with those whose last drug use had been cannabis or a class A drug. On the last occasion pupils had taken cannabis or a Class A drug, they were more likely to have been with friends than pupils who had sniffed volatile substances (96%, 91% and 76% respectively). Pupils who had sniffed volatile substances were most likely to have done so alone (16%) than pupils who had taken cannabis (2%) or a Class A drug (5%). **(Table 2.40)**

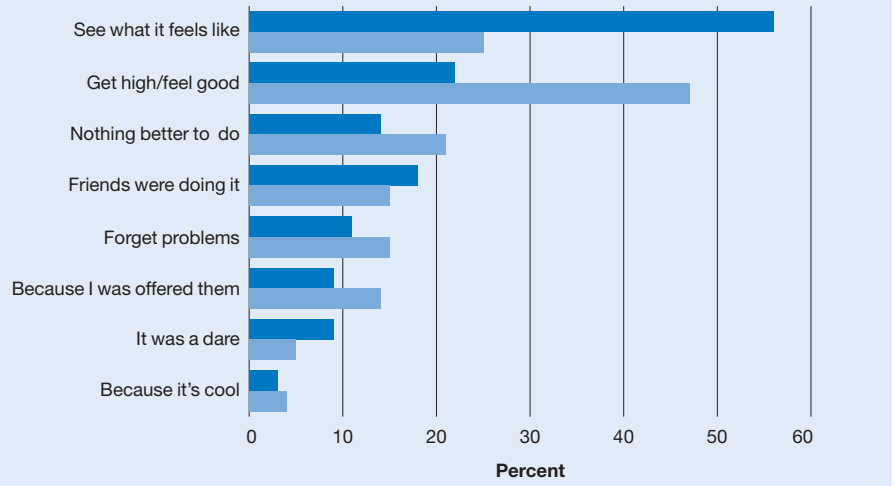
2.6.6 Why pupils took drugs on the most recent occasion

Pupils were asked why they took drugs on the most recent occasion. The most common reasons for pupils to have used drugs on the most recent occasion was 'to get high or feel good' (47%). The next most common reasons were 'to see what it was like' (25%) followed by 'I had nothing better to do' (21%). There were differences in the reasons pupils gave for taking drugs on the first occasion and on the most recent occasion. For example, 22% of pupils said they took drugs on the first occasion 'to get high and feel good' and 56% 'to see what it was like' (see Section 2.5.3). **(Tables 2.25, 2.41, Figure 2.10)**

Figure 2.10

Why pupils took drugs on the first and last occasions

(First occasion) Pupils who had ever taken drugs
(Last occasion) Pupils who had taken drugs in the last year and taken drugs more than once



As with first drug use, it was most common for boys to take drugs on the most recent occasion 'to get high or feel good' (56%, compared with 38% of girls), whereas girls were more likely to have taken drugs on the last occasion because they were offered them (18%, compared with 10%). Older pupils were more likely than younger pupils to have taken drugs on the last occasion because they wanted 'to get high or feel good' (55% of 15 year olds and 46% of 14 year olds, compared with 28% of 11 to 13 year olds). Younger pupils were most likely to have taken drugs for a dare (13% of 11 to 13 year olds, compared with 2% of 14 year olds and 3% of 15 year olds). **(Table 2.42)**

Pupils who had taken cannabis or a Class A drug on the most recent occasion were most likely to say they took drugs 'to get high or feel good' (58% and 57% respectively, compared with 15% of those who last sniffed volatile substances). Pupils who had sniffed volatile substances were most likely to have done so because 'I wanted to see what it was like' (26%), a reason also given by 30% of those who had taken Class A drugs and 19% of those who had taken cannabis on the last occasion they took drugs. **(Table 2.43)**

Pupils' experience of drug use on the most recent occasion was also related to the number of occasions they had ever taken drugs. Pupils who had taken drugs on more than ten occasions were more likely than less frequent drugs users to report taking drugs on the last occasion 'to get high or feel good'. This reason was reported by 64% of pupils who had taken drugs ten or more times, compared with 31% who had taken drugs on two to five occasions. Less frequent drugs users were more likely to have taken drugs on the most

recent occasion 'to see what it was like' (38% who had taken drugs on two to five occasions, compared with 14% who had taken drugs on more than ten occasions). **(Table 2.44)**

2.6.7 Reactions to most recent drug use

Compared with the first occasion, pupils were more likely to report positively about their most recent experience of drugs. Two thirds (67%) of pupils reported a positive reaction on the most recent occasion they took drugs compared with 45% on the first occasion they took drugs (see Section 2.5.4).

As with first drug use, boys were more likely than girls to report they felt good the last time they tried drugs (72% and 62% respectively). The older the pupils were on the last occasion they took drugs the more likely they were to report a positive experience; 74% of 15 year olds compared with 49% of 11 to 13 year olds. **(Table 2.45)**

Whether pupils had a good or bad experience of the last time they took drugs was linked to the type of drug they had tried on that occasion. The majority of those who took cannabis or a Class A drug on the most recent occasion said they felt good when they took them (78% for cannabis, 80% for Class A drugs). Pupils who had sniffed volatile substances were most likely to report they felt no different (64%). **(Table 2.46)**

Pupils who had taken drugs on more occasions were more likely to report a positive reaction. 78% who had taken drugs on more than ten occasions said they felt good on the most recent occasion, compared with 56% of those who had taken drugs on two to five occasions. **(Table 2.47)**

2.7 Dependence on drugs

2.7.1 Whether pupils wanted to give up taking drugs

Pupils who had taken drugs in the last year were asked if they wanted to give them up. 43% of pupils reported that they would like to give up now and 18% said they would want to give them up in the future. It is likely that some pupils did not 'take' drugs as such, but had tried them once and did not want to do so again.[35] There has been little change in these proportions in recent years. **(Table 2.48)**

Similar proportions of boys and girls reported that they would like to give up drugs now or in the future. Younger pupils who had taken drugs in the last year were more likely than older pupils to say they wanted to give up drugs now; 59% of 11 to 13 year olds, compared with 36% of 15 year olds. Conversely, older pupils were more likely than younger pupils to say they would like to give up drugs in the future (22% of 15 year olds, compared with 11% of 11 to 13 year olds). **(Table 2.49)**

Pupils' attitudes to giving up drugs were linked to the types of drugs they had taken in the last year. Pupils who had sniffed volatile substances only were more likely to say they wanted to stop taking drugs now (64%, compared with 36% of those who had taken cannabis only and 31% who had taken a Class A drug). Similar proportions of pupils who had taken cannabis or a Class A drug reported wanting to give them up in the future (21% and 23% respectively) compared to just 6% who had sniffed volatile substances. Pupils who had taken a Class A drug were more likely than other drug users to report they didn't want to give up taking drugs (17%, compared with 11% for cannabis and 7% for volatile substances). **(Table 2.50)**

2.7.2 Whether pupils felt they needed treatment

Pupils were asked whether they had ever felt they needed help or treatment for their drug use. 5% of pupils reported that they had. Pupils who had taken Class A drugs in the last year were more likely to have felt they needed help or treatment for their drug use (12%, compared with 1% for cannabis and 2% for volatile substances). **(Tables 2.51-2.53)**

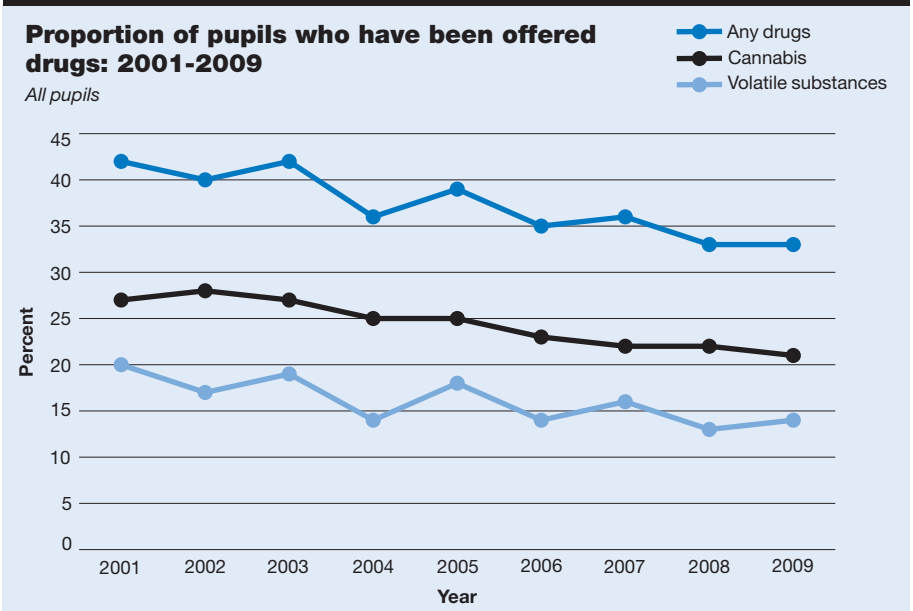
2.8 Availability of drugs

2.8.1 Whether pupils have been offered drugs

Pupils were asked about which types of drugs they had ever been offered. The proportion of pupils being offered any drugs has fallen by nine percentage points since 2001 (from 42% to 33%). This reduction is largely due to a fall in the number of pupils being offered cannabis, which fell from 27% in 2001 to 21% in 2009.

Other than cannabis, pupils were most likely to have been offered volatile substances (14% in 2009). Less than 10% of pupils had been offered any of the other drugs asked about. Since 2001, there has also been an overall decline over the same period in the proportions of pupils who had been offered drugs such as volatile substances, ecstasy and magic mushrooms). **(Table 2.54, Figure 2.11)**

Figure 2.11



Boys were more likely than girls to say they had been offered drugs (35% of boys compared with 31% of girls). Boys were more likely than girls to have been offered cannabis (23% and 19% respectively), but boys and girls were equally likely to have been offered volatile substances (13% and 14% respectively). **(Tables 2.55a-2.55c)**

The proportion of pupils who had been offered drugs increased with age, as in previous years. This was true for all types of drugs. For instance, by the age of 15, 56% of pupils had been offered at least one of the drugs asked about, compared with 10% of 11 year olds. As pupils were asked whether they had 'ever' been offered drugs, this result reflects not only that older pupils are more likely to be offered drugs, but also that they had a longer period to refer to.

2.8.2 Do all pupils who are offered drugs take them?

This section explores whether pupils try drugs if they are offered them, and whether the proportions that do are consistent over time. To control for different reference periods and levels of drug use by age, the analysis has been restricted to 15 year olds.

In 2009, more than half (56%) of 15 year olds had ever been offered any drugs; around two thirds (66%) of them had taken some at least once. There has been a slight variation in this proportion since 2001, with no clear pattern. Boys and girls were equally likely to have taken drugs at least once if they had been offered them. **(Table 2.56)**

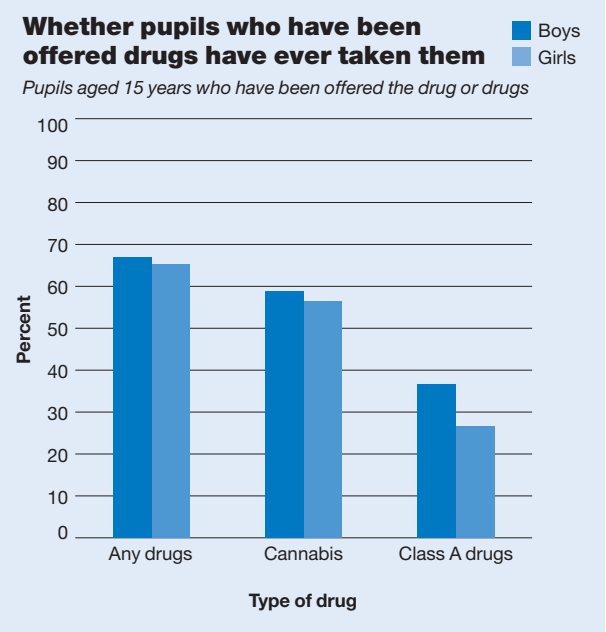
A slightly lower proportion of 15 year olds who had ever been offered cannabis had taken it; 58% in 2009. From 2001 to 2005 this proportion varied between 62% and 65% and has

fallen since then. As with drugs in general, boys and girls were equally likely to have taken cannabis at least once if they had been offered it. **(Table 2.57)**

Compared with those who had been offered cannabis, 15 year olds who had been offered Class A drugs were much less likely to have taken them. In 2009, this proportion was 31%, and it has remained at a similar level since 2001. Boys were more likely than girls to have taken Class A drugs if offered them (37%, compared with 27% in 2009).

(Table 2.58, Figure 2.12)

Figure 2.12



2.9 Refusing drugs

2.9.1 How many pupils have refused drugs?

Pupils were asked whether they had ever refused a drug that they had been offered.[36] In 2009, 32% of all pupils reported that they had refused an offer of drugs at least once, a decline from 39% of pupils in 2003.[37] In 2009, 8% of pupils reported that they had never refused on the occasions that they had been offered drugs. The remaining 60% had never been offered drugs, a proportion which has increased since 2003.

Boys were more likely than girls to report that they had refused drugs on at least one occasion (33% and 30% respectively). **(Table 2.59, Figure 2.13)**

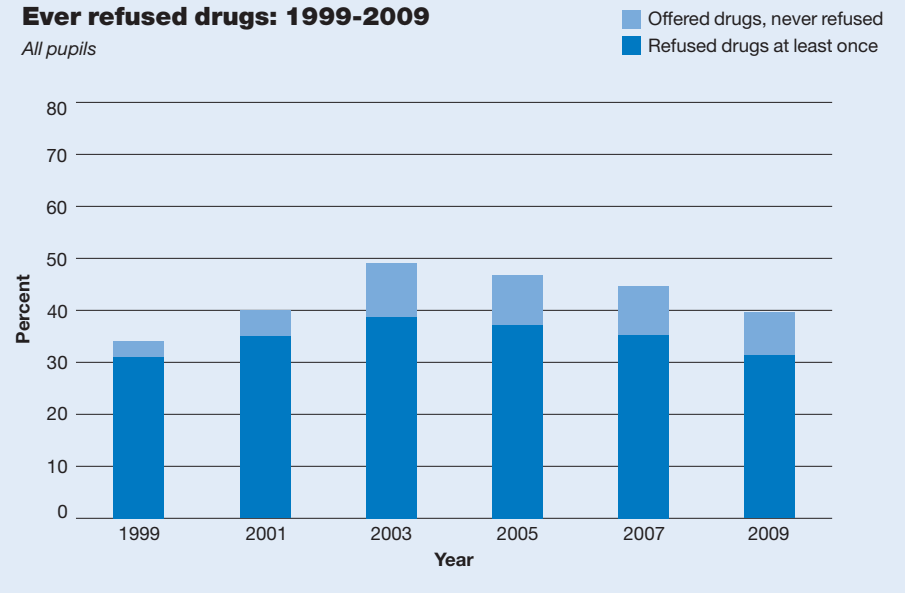
Among pupils who had been offered drugs, the proportion that had refused drugs at least once has remained stable since 2003; in 2009 it was 80%. As in other years, boys and girls who had been offered drugs were equally likely to have refused drugs on at least one occasion.

The likelihood of having ever refused drugs increased with age, from 54% of 11 year olds to 88% of 15 year olds. The survey question explicitly referred to ever refusing a drug that had been offered; perhaps the age difference is partially explained by older pupils having a longer time period to refer to and potentially having been offered drugs on more occasions than younger pupils. **(Table 2.60)**

2.9.2 Why pupils refused drugs

Pupils who had refused to take drugs were asked to choose from a list of eight reasons to indicate why they had refused. Pupils' experience of drug use and attitudes to it are strongly related to drug type (for example, see Sections 2.5 and 2.6). This is also likely to be a factor in why pupils refuse drugs. However, the questionnaire asked about refusing drugs in

Figure 2.13



general, without reference to individual drugs or specific occasions, so it is difficult to explore this relationship in detail.

As in previous years, 'I just didn't want to take them' was the main reason for refusing drugs in 2009 (41%). The other common reasons were the belief that taking drugs is wrong (34%), and concerns about addiction (32%) and the dangers of taking drugs (32%). **(Table 2.61)**

Girls were more likely to have refused drugs because they didn't want to take them (45% compared with 38% of boys) or because they were frightened (21% compared with 14% of boys), but unlike boys, they were less likely to have refused drugs because of their cost (6% compared with 10% of boys).

The reasons for refusing drugs on at least one occasion also differed by age. For example, older pupils were more likely to report that they had refused because they didn't want to take drugs (51% of 15 year olds, compared with 23% of 11 year olds), because they didn't want to get addicted (34% of 15 year olds, 19% of 11 year olds) or because the drugs were too expensive (11% of 15 year olds, 1% of 11 year olds). **(Table 2.62)**

The reasons why pupils had refused drugs also varied according to whether or not they had ever taken drugs, although the main reasons were similar. Pupils who had never taken drugs were most likely to have refused because 'I think that taking drugs is wrong' (43%, compared with 22% of those who had taken drugs at least once). But both groups were likely to have refused drugs because 'I just didn't want to take them' (47% of those who had taken drugs, 38% of those who had not), because they didn't want to get addicted (36% and 29% respectively) or because they thought they were dangerous (34% and 30% respectively). **(Table 2.63)**

2.10 Perceived ease of getting drugs

The survey asked pupils how easy or difficult they thought it would be to obtain drugs themselves. In 2009, nearly half of all pupils did not know how easy it would be to get any illegal drugs (49%), and the majority did not know how easy it would be to obtain cocaine or crack, or heroin (58% and 61% respectively).

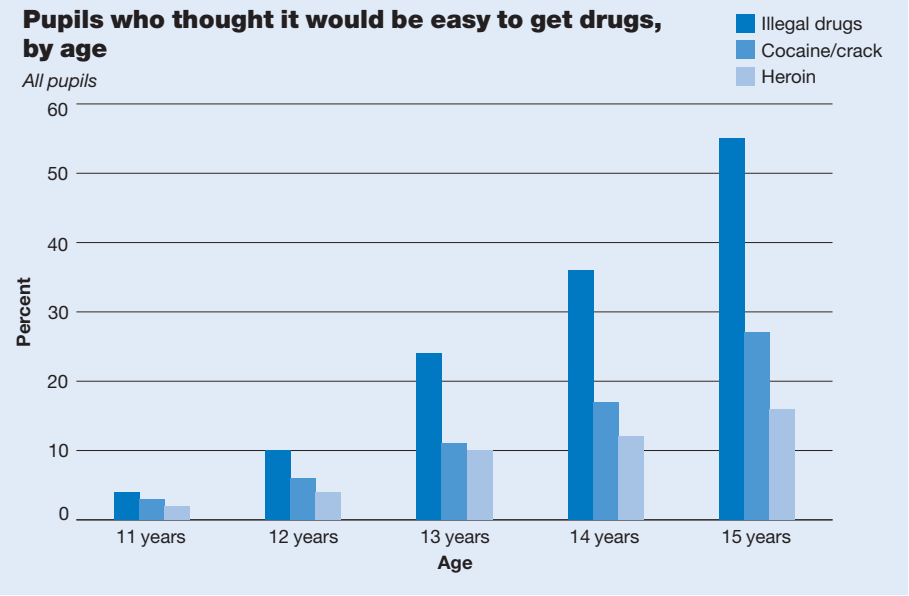
Pupils who expressed a view were more likely to think it would be easy (28%) than difficult (23%) to get illegal drugs in general. This was not true for cocaine or crack (28% thought they would be difficult to get, compared with 14% who thought they would be easy to get) and heroin (30% and 10% respectively).[38] **(Tables 2.64, 2.65)**

Boys were more likely than girls to think it would be easy to get illegal drugs (30%

compared with 26% of girls). The same was not true for the particular drugs asked about. Older pupils were more likely to think that it would be easy to obtain both drugs in general and cocaine, crack or heroin. For example, over half of 15 year olds (55%) thought it would be easy to get any illegal drugs, compared with 4% of 11 year olds. The proportions of 11 year olds who thought it would be easy for them to get cocaine or crack (3%) or heroin (2%) were at the same low level as illegal drugs in general. But there was a wide difference in the proportions of 15 year old pupils who thought it would be easy to get cocaine or crack (27%) or heroin (16%) compared with illegal drugs in general (55%).

(Tables 2.65, 2.66, Figure 2.14)

Figure 2.14



Not unnaturally, pupils who had already been offered drugs were more likely than those who had not to think that it would be easy to get drugs. For example, 63% of pupils who had been offered any drugs thought that it would be easy to get hold of illegal drugs, compared with 11% of pupils who had never been offered drugs. Conversely, just 21% of pupils who had been offered drugs said they did not know how easy it would be to get them, compared with 62% of those who had never been offered drugs. The same pattern was evident for cocaine or crack and heroin. **(Tables 2.67-2.69)**

2.11 Awareness of individual drugs

There is widespread awareness of drugs among pupils. In 2009, nine out of ten pupils had heard of cocaine (94%), heroin (93%) and cannabis (91%). The percentage of pupils who had heard of less well known drugs remained at a similar level to previous years, with around half being aware of poppers (49%) and LSD (54%). Only 2% of pupils reported that they had never heard of any of the drugs listed. **(Table 2.70)**

Awareness of drugs was also likely to increase with age. For instance, 21% of 11 year olds had heard of poppers, whilst 72% of 15 year olds had heard of the drug. However, even among 11 year olds, there was a high awareness of cocaine (86%), heroin (82%), and cannabis (79%). **(Table 2.71)**

2.12 Beliefs and attitudes about drugs

2.12.1 Attitudes to drug use

Pupils were asked whether they thought it was OK to try cannabis, cocaine or sniffing glue once to see what each was like or to take these substances once a week. Less than 10% of pupils thought any of these were OK.

In 2009, similar proportions of pupils thought it would be OK to try taking cannabis or sniffing glue to see what it was like (both 9%); fewer pupils thought it was OK to try cocaine to see what it was like (3%). There was less tolerance of regular drug use; 5% of pupils thought it was okay to take cannabis once a week, 3% to sniff glue once a week, and 1% that it was OK to take cocaine once a week. Tolerance of cannabis use has declined since 2003, when 17% thought it would be OK to try once and 10% thought it would be OK to take once a week. Attitudes to other drugs have remained broadly stable. **(Table 2.72)**

The proportion of pupils who thought it was OK for someone their age to try cannabis increased with age, from 1% of 11 year olds to 23% of 15 year olds. There were similar increases with age for the other types of drug use, broadly mirroring actual patterns of drug use across the age group. Although, overall, cannabis use was most likely to be seen as OK, this was not true for younger pupils; among 11 to 13 year olds, sniffing glue was seen as more acceptable, albeit by small proportions of pupils. **(Table 2.73)**

2.12.2 Pupils' beliefs about drug use among their peers

One aim of drug education programmes in schools is to challenge misconceptions about how many pupils take drugs.[7] 38% of pupils who recalled lessons about drugs said these lessons had helped them see that not as many young people took drugs as they thought (see Section 2.14.2). To assess pupils' perception of peer drug use, they were asked how many pupils of their own age they believed took drugs. Beliefs about peer drug use have remained level with previous years, with most pupils giving either the most accurate option 'only a few' (49%) or an underestimate 'none of them' (37%). **(Tables 2.74, 2.75)**

Pupils' own experience of drug use can influence their beliefs about their peers, so that they are more likely to increase their estimates of how many people their age take drugs. To control for the differences in prevalence of drug taking between age groups, this analysis focuses on 15 year olds. In total, 63% of 15 year olds thought that only a few people their age took drugs, probably the most accurate response; this ranged from 70% of those who had never taken drugs to 33% of those who had taken drugs six or more times. The proportion of 15 year olds who significantly overestimated the prevalence of drug use (they thought that 'most, but not all' or all people of their age took drugs) increased with the number of times they had taken drugs themselves, from 3% of those who had never used drugs to 28% of 15 year olds who had taken drugs on six or more occasions in the last year. **(Table 2.76)**

2.12.3 Perceived family attitudes

Whether or not they took drugs, all pupils were asked how their families would (or did) feel about them taking drugs. In 2009, almost all pupils thought their family would disapprove; 84% felt that their family would try to stop them from taking drugs, whilst 15% said that their family would try to persuade them not to take drugs. A very small proportion of pupils (1%) felt that their family would do nothing, and an even smaller proportion (less than 0.5%) said that their family would encourage them.[39]

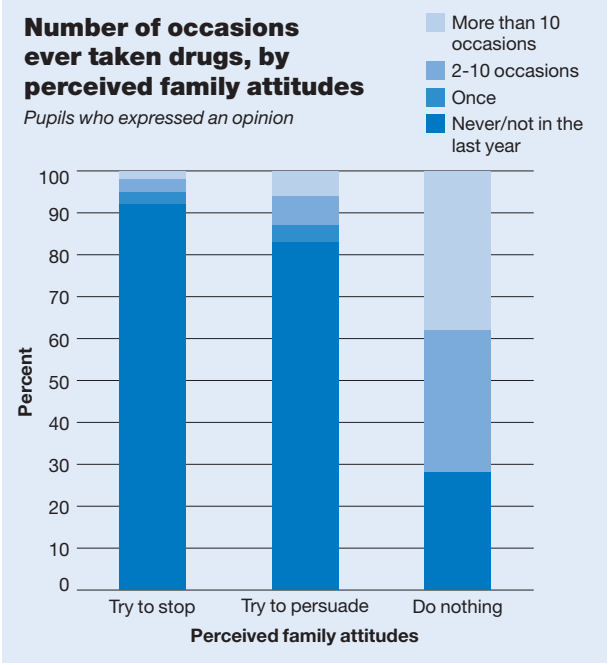
While there are no differences between family attitudes to boys and girls, older pupils were more likely than younger pupils to say that their families would try to persuade them not to take drugs and correspondingly less likely to say that their families would try to stop them; the proportion saying that their families would try to stop them decreased from 87% of 11 year olds to 81% of 15 year olds, and the proportion who said their families would try to persuade them to stop increased from 13% of 11 year olds to 17% of 15 year olds. **(Table 2.77, 2.78)**

There were also differences in perceptions of families' attitudes to drug use among pupils who took drugs, depending on whether their family knew about their drug use. Pupils who thought their family did not know about their drug use were more likely to think that their family would try to stop them, than those who believed that their family knew about their drug use (71% compared with 29%). Also, pupils who believed their family did not know about their drug use were less likely to think that their family would do nothing than pupils who thought their family knew about their drug use (4% compared with 21%). **(Table 2.79)**

Pupils' drug use was related to their perceptions of their families' attitudes. 92% of pupils

who thought their families would try to stop them taking drugs had never taken drugs or not taken them in the last year. Only 2% of these pupils had taken drugs on more than ten occasions. Among the relatively small proportion of pupils who believed that their families would take the most lenient approach, and would either do nothing or encourage them to take drugs, 28% had never taken drugs or had not taken them in the last year. More than half these pupils had used drugs more than a few times; 15% on six to ten occasions and 38% on more than ten occasions. **(Table 2.80, Figure 2.15)**

Figure 2.15



2.13 Sources of helpful information about drugs

Pupils were asked about where they had received helpful information about drugs from. The questions covered a range of people and sources they had received information from, including parents, teachers, and the media.

Pupils were most likely to get helpful information about drugs from TV (71%), parents and teachers (both 63%). Helplines were least likely to be mentioned by pupils as a source of helpful information (18%).

There were differences between the sources boys and girls found helpful. Boys were more likely than girls to mention family members - parents, siblings and other relatives – as helpful sources of information, and also more likely than girls to mention GPs, the police, radio and FRANK[40] as helpful. Girls were more likely than boys to find useful information in newspapers and magazines. **(Table 2.81)**

In general, older pupils were more likely to mention each of the sources of information compared with younger pupils. For instance, whilst 30% of 11 year olds mentioned their friends as a source of helpful information about drugs, this figure was higher for 15 year olds at 56%. 55% of 11 year olds also mentioned their teachers as useful source of information, compared with 67% of 15 year olds. **(Table 2.82)**

The sources pupils found helpful about drugs varied with when they had last taken drugs. For example, pupils who had taken drugs, but not in the last month, were more likely to have got helpful information about drugs from TV, radio, newspapers and magazines and parents than those who had taken drugs in the last month or those who had never taken drugs. Pupils who had taken drugs in the last month were more likely to mention friends and FRANK[40] than other pupils. **(Table 2.83)**

2.14 Lessons about drugs

2.14.1 Recall of lessons about drugs

Pupils were asked whether they 'had any lessons, videos or discussions' in class on drugs in general in the last 12 months. The question has been asked in different ways between 1998 and 2003; whilst the current wording has been used since 2004. Since then pupils' recall of lessons about drugs has remained fairly consistent; in 2009 59% of pupils said they remembered this type of lesson.

The proportion of pupils who remembered having lessons about drugs in the last year varied from 43% of pupils in Year 7, to 70% of Year 10 pupils. (Many pupils in Year 7 will have been referring to lessons received in the previous school year, when they were in primary school.) **(Tables 2.84a-2.85)**

2.14.2 What pupils learn in lessons about drugs

Most pupils who recalled lessons about drugs felt it helped them think about the risks of taking drugs (96%). Pupils also believed that lessons helped them realise that taking drugs was against the law (85%), think about what they would do if they were offered drugs (76%), and helped them find out where they could get advice or information about drugs (72%). Fewer pupils thought the lessons helped them see that not as many young people take drugs as they thought (38%).

Boys were more likely than girls to say they had learned messages from lessons about drugs, for example, to avoid drugs, what to do if they were offered drugs, where to go to get information or help and that not as many people as they thought took drugs. In general, younger pupils were also more likely to indicate things they had learned. There was a more complex pattern depending on pupils' experience of drug use. For example, those who had never taken drugs were more likely to say they had been helped to avoid drugs and to think about what to do if they were offered drugs. Pupils who had taken drugs in the last month were more likely than others to say they had been helped to understand why people took drugs and to see that not as many people as they thought took drugs. **(Tables 2.86-2.88)**

2.15 Factors associated with drug use

2.15.1 Using logistic regression to analyse drug use

A logistic regression model was used to explore which pupil and environmental characteristics were associated with having taken drugs in the last year. The model allows each characteristic to be considered independently by controlling for the effects of the other, sometimes related, factors. For, example drug use is associated with increased age, and with smoking. But older pupils are more likely to smoke. The model allows an evaluation of the strength of the relationship between each of these variables and pupils' drug use.

The model shows associations, not causes; in other words, factors which identify pupils with an increased or decreased risk of having taken drugs in the last year. These variations in risk are expressed as odds ratios relative to a reference category, which is given a value of 1. Odd ratios greater than 1 indicate higher odds (increased risk), and odds ratios less than 1 indicate lower odds (reduced risk). Also shown are 95% confidence intervals for the odds ratio. Where the interval does not include 1, this category is significantly different from the reference category.

For further information on the logistic regression method used, see Appendix B.

2.15.2 The variables included in the models

The model included key variables relevant to pupils and their schools. Most variables are categorical; those marked * are continuous.[41]

Pupil level variables (taken from the pupil questionnaire)

- Sex
- Age*
- Ethnicity (White, Mixed, Asian, Black, other)
- Smoking status (non-smoker, occasional smoker, regular smoker)
- Whether drunk alcohol (never drunk alcohol, drank alcohol in the last week, has drunk alcohol but not in the last week)
- Recall of lessons of drugs on the last year
- Ever truanted
- Ever been excluded
- Receives free schools meals (an indicator of low family income)
- Number of books in the home[42] (none, very few, enough to fill one shelf, enough to fill one bookcase, enough to fill two bookcases, enough to fill three or more bookcases)
- Perceived family attitudes to pupil's drug use (they (would) try to stop me, they (would) try to persuade me to stop, they (would) do nothing/encourage me, don't know)

School-level variables (taken from NFER's Register of Schools[43] and performance data)

- School type (comprehensive, grammar, secondary modern, independent)
- Sex of school intake (mixed, boys only, girls only)
- Government Office Region (GOR)
- Percentage of pupils achieving grades A*-C in at least five GCSEs*
- Percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals*
- Percentage of pupils with statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)*
- Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL)*

For reasons of space and clarity, only those variables, which were significantly associated with drug use in the last year are shown in Table 2.89.

2.15.3 Factors associated with drug use in the last year

Sex and age

After controlling for other factors, girls were less likely than boys to have taken drugs in the last year (odds ratio=0.76). The odds of having taken drugs in the last year also increased with age (odds ratio=1.15 for each additional year).

Ethnicity

Compared with White pupils, pupils of Mixed, Asian and Black ethnicity were more likely to have taken drugs in the last year (odds ratios=1.76, 2.27 and 2.28 respectively).

Smoking and drinking alcohol

As in previous years, both smoking and drinking alcohol were associated with drug taking. Both regular and occasional smokers[44] were more likely to have taken drugs in the last year (odds ratios=12.09 and 6.35 respectively). Compared with non-drinkers, pupils who had drunk alcohol were more likely to have taken drugs in the last year, with odds ratios of 6.84 for pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week, 3.69 for those who had drunk alcohol but less recently.

Truancy and exclusion

Pupils who had truanted from school or ever been excluded from school were more likely to have taken drugs in the last year (odds ratio for truants=2.00 compared with pupils who had never truanted; odds ratio=1.93 for pupils who had been excluded from school compared with pupils who had never been excluded).

Family attitudes to pupils taking drugs

Whether pupils had taken drugs in the last year was strongly related to how they perceived their family would view them taking drugs, and this varied with the strength of their disapproval. Compared with pupils who said their families would or did try to stop them taking drugs, those who said their families did or would try to persuade them to stop had 1.63 times the odds of having taken drugs in the last year. Pupils who reported that their

family would do nothing or encourage them in taking drugs had considerably higher odds of having taken drugs in the last year (odds ratio=12.81). Pupils who said they did not know what their family's attitudes would be also had increased odds of taking drugs in the last year (odds ratio=4.74).

Other individual characteristics

Other pupil characteristics in the model were not significantly associated with having taken drugs in the last year.

School characteristics

There was no relationship between any school characteristics in the model and pupils' drug use in the last year. **(Table 2.89)**

Notes and references

1 Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (2006) *Pathways to problems* http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/drugs/acmd1/pathways-to-problems/

2 BMA (2003) *Adolescent Health*, BMA London. http://www.bma.org.uk/images/Adhealth_tcm41-19549.pdf

3 Patton G, Coffey C, Carlin JB, Degenhardt L, Lynskey M, Hall W (2002). *Cannabis use and mental health in young people: cohort study*. BMJ. 2002 November 23; 325(7374): 1195–1198.

4 Becker J and Roe S (2005) *Drug use among vulnerable groups of young people: findings from the 2003 Crime and Justice Survey*. http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/r254.pdf

5 Home Office (1998). *Tackling drugs to build a better Britain*, Cm 3945, Stationery Office. http://www.archive.official-documents.co.uk/document/cm39/3945/3945.htm

6 Home Office (2002) *Updated Drug Strategy 2002*, which can be accessed via the University of Stirling's online drug and alcohol library http://www.drugslibrary.stir.ac.uk/documents/uk_ds2002.pdf

7 HM Government (2007) *PSA Delivery Agreement 25: Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs*. http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/pbr_csr07_psa25.pdf

8 HM Government (2007) *PSA Delivery Agreement 14: Increase the number of children and young people on the path to success*. http://www.gos.gov.uk/497468/docs/526727/PSA14.pdf

9 Home Office (2008) *Drugs: protecting families and communities. The 2008 drugs strategy* http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100418065544/http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/drug-strategy/

10 HM Government (2008). *Drugs: protecting families and communities. Action plan 2008-2011*. http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100418065544/http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/publication-search/drug-strategy/drug-strategy-2008f6ce.html?view=Standard&pubID=531716

11 Department for Education and Skills, Home Office, Department of Health (2004) *Every Child Matters: change for children: young people and drugs*, available via http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/healthandwellbeing/commonhealthissues/substancemisuse/guidance/guidance/

12 Department for Education and Skills (2004) *Drugs: guidance for schools*. http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DfES%200092%20200MIG373.pdf

13 Department for Children, Schools and Families (2008). *Drug Education: An entitlement for all – a report to government by the Advisory Group on Drug and Alcohol Education*. http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00876-2008&

14 The coalition government's published programme included a proposal to introduce temporary bans for new drugs, while evidence about their potential harms was considered by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. HM Government (2010) *The Coalition: our programme for government*. http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/409088/pfg_coalition.pdf

15 Hoare J and Moon D (ed) (2010) *Drug Misuse Declared: Findings from the 2009/10 British Crime Survey*. Home Office Statistical Bulletin 13/10. London: Home Office. http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb1310.pdf

16 The questionnaire was revised following development work for the 2001 survey, which included cognitive testing of questions about drug use, described in full in the 2001 report (Boreham R and Shaw A (2002) Drug use, smoking and drinking among young people in England in 2001 TSO, London). As a result, two major changes were made to the questionnaire.
The core drug questions were changed to the current format; information is collected about pupils' knowledge and experience of fifteen individual drugs by asking a series of questions about each drug separately. This replaced the approach of previous surveys; pupils were presented with a list of around fifteen drugs shown in grid format on a single page, and were asked which ones they had heard of, been offered and had taken. Evidence from testing suggested that pupils found the grid format difficult to answer, and as a result they were more likely to miss some questions.
At the same time, it was found that the term 'using' drugs was associated with regular use rather than trying

drugs once or taking them occasionally, and the question wording was changed so that pupils were asked about whether they had ever 'tried' drugs rather than ever 'taken' drugs.
Comparison of data from the 2000 and 2001 surveys showed that in 2001 there was less missing data and significantly higher reporting of volatile substance use. Given that volatile substances were at the bottom of the list of drugs taken in previous survey questionnaires, it is likely that the difference in reporting was due to the change in question format rather than a real change in behaviour.

17 Trend data concerning drug use from surveys in this series between 1998 and 2000 are available in Fuller E (ed) (2005) *Drug use, smoking and drinking among young people in England in 2005*. The NHS Information Centre, Leeds. http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd05fullreport

18 Recorded awareness of amphetamines since 2001 had not followed the increase generally observed for other drugs. Cognitive testing suggested two potential problems; low awareness of the term 'amphetamines' (the drug was more commonly known as 'speed'); and, for some children, problems with reading the word 'amphetamines' on a written questionnaire though they might recognise it when said out loud. Because of this change, the measures of awareness, having been offered and having ever tried this drug in this report are not strictly comparable with estimates from 2003 and before.

19 The 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act, HMSO, London (not available online). The legislation is summarised at http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/drugs/drugs-law/

20 See http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/drugs/drugs-law/ for a summary of current classifications.

21 Amyl nitrite is covered by the Medicines Act 1968; it is legally available on prescription only. See http://www.opsi.gov.uk/RevisedStatutes/Acts/ukpga/1968/cukpga_19680067_en_1

22 There is some question as to whether these alkyl nitrites, legally available in products such as room deodorants, but also sold by sex shops and other outlets, should be covered by the Medicines Act. See http://www.drugscope.org.uk/resources/drugsearch/drugsearchpages/nitrites.htm

23 The 2005 Drugs Act can be found at http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2005/ukpga_20050017_en_1

24 Cannabis was previously reclassified from Class B to Class C on 29th January 2004.

25 Estimates of the use of individual drugs are shown to one decimal place because of the generally low prevalence rates.

26 See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

27 In response to the single question, 18% of pupils reported that they had ever taken drugs, and 11% reported that they had taken drugs in the last year. The definitive estimates, based on the detailed questions about 15 named drugs, are 22% and 15% respectively. Similar discrepancies were found in earlier years.

28 Pupils were first asked how often they usually took drugs in 2003.

29 Other groups include looked-after children, those who have experienced homelessness and persistent offenders, none of whom are identified by this survey.

30 If more than four pupils were absent when the survey was carried out, the interviewer returned to the school at a time when those pupils were likely to be present (see Appendix A).

31 Pupils who chose 'someone else' were likely to say they already had the drug or got it from home, school or a shop. Many of these answers clearly related to glue or other volatile substances (e.g. aerosols).

32 For example, a number of pupils who chose 'other reason' wrote things like 'because it smelt nice' or 'because I hadn't smelt it before'. Others wrote 'I didn't know glue was drug' or similar comments.

33 As with the first use of volatile substances, many pupils who chose 'someone else' said they had already had the drug or got it from home, school or a shop.

34 This pattern is consistent with the sources of volatile substances mentioned in notes 31 and 33.

35 Overall, 28% of pupils who had taken drugs in the last year had only done so once (see Table 2.12).

36 The proportions of pupils who said they had been offered drugs in response to this single question (40%) was higher than the proportion who reported being offered any of the fifteen drugs asked about individually earlier in the questionnaire (36%). Similar discrepancies were found in earlier years.

37 In 2003 the questionnaire wording was revised to make explicit that the definition of 'drugs' covered by this question included volatile substances. Comparison of findings before and after the change in wording indicated that it did lead to a more inclusive interpretation of the question.

38 'Easy' combines the answer categories 'very easy' and 'easy'; 'difficult' combines the categories 'very difficult' and 'difficult'.

39 Pupils who did not know what their families would think have been excluded from this analysis.

40 http://www.talktofrank.com/

41 Categorical variables are those which group data in a specific number of discrete categories; for example, in this survey, sex has two categories: boy and girl. Continuous variables present data as a continuous range; for example, the percentage of pupils in a school who receive free school meals: from 0 to 100.

42 Used as a proxy measure of social class

43 The sample of schools was drawn from NFER's register of schools, which included 2007 data for some indicators used in the logistic regression model.

44 Regular smoking is defined as smoking at least one cigarette a week.

Table 2.1

Proportion of pupils who have ever taken drugs, by sex and age: 2001-2009[a,b]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Ever taken drugs	Year 2001	2002	2003[b]	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
11 years	13	12	16	11	15	10	13	10	9
12 years	16	18	17	14	16	13	15	12	14
13 years	30	24	28	24	22	19	20	23	17
14 years	35	39	37	36	36	32	35	26	27
15 years	51	49	49	44	46	40	42	38	43
Total	**30**	**29**	**31**	**26**	**28**	**24**	**26**	**23**	**23**
Girls									
11 years	12	12	15	10	13	10	8	6	9
12 years	17	12	17	15	15	11	12	11	13
13 years	27	24	27	20	23	19	21	19	16
14 years	37	32	38	32	36	31	32	27	27
15 years	45	43	48	42	44	40	41	38	37
Total	**28**	**25**	**30**	**25**	**27**	**24**	**24**	**21**	**21**
Total									
11 years	12	12	15	11	14	10	11	8	9
12 years	17	15	17	14	16	12	14	11	13
13 years	28	24	27	22	22	19	20	21	17
14 years	36	35	38	34	36	32	33	26	27
15 years	48	46	49	43	45	40	41	38	40
Total	**29**	**27**	**30**	**26**	**28**	**24**	**25**	**22**	**22**
Bases									
Boys									
11 years	*782*	*803*	*820*	*795*	*680*	*553*	*558*	*578*	*549*
12 years	*877*	*950*	*980*	*962*	*864*	*769*	*783*	*734*	*714*
13 years	*902*	*968*	*1024*	*960*	*904*	*734*	*758*	*732*	*729*
14 years	*866*	*921*	*974*	*944*	*881*	*781*	*745*	*729*	*684*
15 years	*1008*	*1092*	*1123*	*1052*	*967*	*870*	*889*	*908*	*865*
Total	*4435*	*4734*	*4921*	*4713*	*4296*	*3707*	*3733*	*3681*	*3541*
Girls									
11 years	*762*	*754*	*811*	*778*	*670*	*586*	*542*	*586*	*575*
12 years	*939*	*929*	*1023*	*886*	*836*	*787*	*692*	*737*	*725*
13 years	*920*	*905*	*1012*	*902*	*877*	*808*	*741*	*725*	*724*
14 years	*920*	*925*	*940*	*890*	*929*	*754*	*683*	*741*	*720*
15 years	*933*	*998*	*1086*	*1005*	*940*	*971*	*856*	*852*	*849*
Total	*4474*	*4511*	*4872*	*4461*	*4252*	*3906*	*3514*	*3641*	*3593*
Total									
11 years	*1544*	*1557*	*1631*	*1573*	*1350*	*1139*	*1100*	*1164*	*1124*
12 years	*1816*	*1879*	*2003*	*1848*	*1700*	*1556*	*1475*	*1471*	*1439*
13 years	*1822*	*1873*	*2036*	*1862*	*1781*	*1542*	*1499*	*1457*	*1453*
14 years	*1786*	*1846*	*1914*	*1834*	*1810*	*1535*	*1428*	*1470*	*1404*
15 years	*1941*	*2090*	*2209*	*2057*	*1907*	*1841*	*1745*	*1760*	*1714*
Total	*8909*	*9245*	*9793*	*9174*	*8548*	*7613*	*7247*	*7322*	*7134*

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.*

[b] The 2003 report contained revisions of the previously published estimates for 2002.

Table 2.2

Proportion of pupils who took drugs in the last year, by sex and age: 2001-2009[a,b]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Took drugs in the last year	Year 2001	2002	2003[b]	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
11 years	7	7	8	6	7	7	8	5	5
12 years	8	10	11	8	11	8	8	6	7
13 years	20	17	19	16	15	13	11	14	10
14 years	26	29	27	27	26	23	24	19	19
15 years	41	39	39	33	34	28	32	30	32
Total	**21**	**21**	**22**	**18**	**19**	**17**	**18**	**16**	**16**
Girls									
11 years	4	6	7	4	6	5	4	2	4
12 years	9	6	9	8	8	6	7	5	6
13 years	18	16	17	13	14	12	14	13	10
14 years	27	25	29	23	27	23	24	18	18
15 years	36	34	36	32	34	30	30	28	27
Total	**19**	**18**	**20**	**17**	**19**	**16**	**17**	**14**	**14**
Total									
11 years	6	6	8	5	6	6	6	4	5
12 years	9	8	10	8	9	7	8	5	7
13 years	19	16	18	14	15	12	12	13	10
14 years	27	27	28	25	26	23	24	19	19
15 years	39	37	38	32	34	29	31	29	30
Total	**20**	**20**	**21**	**18**	**19**	**17**	**17**	**15**	**15**
Bases									
Boys									
11 years	*779*	*797*	*812*	*792*	*673*	*553*	*554*	*576*	*547*
12 years	*865*	*945*	*976*	*958*	*858*	*765*	*780*	*728*	*710*
13 years	*894*	*960*	*1012*	*953*	*899*	*727*	*750*	*730*	*723*
14 years	*860*	*916*	*964*	*936*	*867*	*770*	*735*	*722*	*679*
15 years	*996*	*1088*	*1112*	*1044*	*956*	*866*	*878*	*903*	*861*
Total	*4394*	*4706*	*4876*	*4683*	*4253*	*3681*	*3697*	*3659*	*3520*
Girls									
11 years	*759*	*753*	*808*	*774*	*668*	*583*	*541*	*585*	*574*
12 years	*939*	*927*	*1020*	*885*	*827*	*783*	*687*	*735*	*722*
13 years	*915*	*903*	*1004*	*899*	*870*	*805*	*733*	*719*	*723*
14 years	*916*	*921*	*936*	*886*	*927*	*752*	*679*	*739*	*716*
15 years	*929*	*993*	*1077*	*999*	*931*	*965*	*849*	*848*	*845*
Total	*4458*	*4497*	*4845*	*4443*	*4223*	*3888*	*3489*	*3626*	*3580*
Total									
11 years	*1538*	*1550*	*1620*	*1566*	*1341*	*1136*	*1095*	*1161*	*1121*
12 years	*1804*	*1872*	*1996*	*1843*	*1685*	*1548*	*1467*	*1463*	*1432*
13 years	*1809*	*1863*	*2016*	*1852*	*1769*	*1532*	*1483*	*1449*	*1446*
14 years	*1776*	*1837*	*1900*	*1822*	*1794*	*1522*	*1414*	*1461*	*1395*
15 years	*1925*	*2081*	*2189*	*2043*	*1887*	*1831*	*1727*	*1751*	*1706*
Total	*8852*	*9203*	*9721*	*9126*	*8476*	*7569*	*7186*	*7285*	*7100*

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.*

[b] The 2003 report contained revisions of the previously published estimates for 2002.

Table 2.3

Proportion of pupils who took drugs in the last month, by sex and age: 2001-2009[a,b]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Took drugs in the last month	Year 2001	2002	2003[b]	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
11 years	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	3
12 years	4	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	4
13 years	11	9	11	8	8	7	5	9	6
14 years	17	19	17	17	16	15	14	10	10
15 years	25	26	25	21	22	18	19	18	21
Total	**13**	**13**	**13**	**11**	**11**	**10**	**10**	**9**	**9**
Girls									
11 years	2	3	3	1	3	3	2	1	2
12 years	4	3	5	4	4	3	4	2	3
13 years	9	8	8	7	8	6	7	7	6
14 years	15	15	18	13	16	12	15	11	11
15 years	22	19	22	20	19	16	16	14	13
Total	**11**	**10**	**12**	**9**	**10**	**8**	**9**	**7**	**7**
Total									
11 years	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	2
12 years	4	4	5	4	4	3	4	3	3
13 years	10	8	9	7	8	6	6	8	6
14 years	16	17	17	15	16	13	15	10	10
15 years	24	22	23	21	20	17	17	16	17
Total	**12**	**12**	**12**	**10**	**11**	**9**	**10**	**8**	**8**
Bases									
Boys									
11 years	*778*	*794*	*810*	*792*	*672*	*552*	*551*	*576*	*545*
12 years	*861*	*941*	*973*	*954*	*851*	*764*	*772*	*728*	*707*
13 years	*887*	*950*	*1005*	*952*	*891*	*722*	*745*	*722*	*720*
14 years	*852*	*910*	*951*	*932*	*853*	*764*	*727*	*716*	*673*
15 years	*982*	*1077*	*1101*	*1034*	*941*	*855*	*868*	*899*	*848*
Total	*4360*	*4672*	*4840*	*4664*	*4208*	*3657*	*3663*	*3641*	*3493*
Girls									
11 years	*759*	*751*	*806*	*774*	*667*	*582*	*540*	*584*	*572*
12 years	*937*	*924*	*1017*	*883*	*825*	*780*	*685*	*732*	*721*
13 years	*913*	*897*	*997*	*897*	*865*	*801*	*730*	*716*	*722*
14 years	*911*	*914*	*929*	*878*	*921*	*745*	*677*	*737*	*714*
15 years	*919*	*987*	*1069*	*990*	*922*	*958*	*838*	*837*	*835*
Total	*4439*	*4473*	*4818*	*4422*	*4200*	*3866*	*3470*	*3606*	*3564*
Total									
11 years	*1537*	*1545*	*1616*	*1566*	*1339*	*1134*	*1091*	*1160*	*1117*
12 years	*1798*	*1865*	*1990*	*1837*	*1676*	*1544*	*1457*	*1460*	*1428*
13 years	*1800*	*1847*	*2002*	*1849*	*1756*	*1523*	*1475*	*1438*	*1442*
14 years	*1763*	*1824*	*1880*	*1810*	*1774*	*1509*	*1404*	*1453*	*1387*
15 years	*1901*	*2064*	*2170*	*2024*	*1863*	*1813*	*1706*	*1736*	*1683*
Total	*8799*	*9145*	*9658*	*9086*	*8408*	*7523*	*7133*	*7247*	*7057*

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006*.

[b] The 2003 report contained revisions of the previously published estimates for 2002.

Table 2.4

Proportion of pupils who have taken drugs (including and excluding volatile substances) ever, in the last year and in the last month, by sex: 2001-2009[a,b]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Taken drugs	Year								
	2001	2002	2003[b]	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
All drugs									
Ever taken drugs	30	29	31	26	28	24	26	23	23
Taken drugs in the last year	21	21	22	18	19	17	18	16	16
Taken drugs in the last month	13	13	13	11	11	10	10	9	9
Excluding volatile substances									
Ever taken drugs	21	21	22	19	19	18	17	16	15
Taken drugs in the last year	17	18	18	15	15	14	14	13	12
Taken drugs in the last month	11	11	10	9	10	9	8	8	8
Girls									
All drugs									
Ever taken drugs	28	25	30	25	27	24	24	21	21
Taken drugs in the last year	19	18	20	17	19	16	17	14	14
Taken drugs in the last month	11	10	12	9	10	8	9	7	7
Excluding volatile substances									
Ever taken drugs	17	17	18	16	18	16	15	13	12
Taken drugs in the last year	15	14	15	13	15	13	13	10	10
Taken drugs in the last month	9	8	9	7	8	7	7	5	5
Total									
All drugs									
Ever taken drugs	29	27	30	26	28	24	25	22	22
Taken drugs in the last year	20	20	21	18	19	17	17	15	15
Taken drugs in the last month	12	12	12	10	11	9	10	8	8
Excluding volatile substances									
Ever taken drugs	19	19	20	18	18	17	16	14	13
Taken drugs in the last year	16	16	16	14	15	13	13	12	11
Taken drugs in the last month	10	10	10	8	9	8	7	6	6
Bases[c]									
Boys	4360	4734	4921	4713	4296	3707	3733	3681	3540
Girls	4439	4511	4872	4461	4252	3906	3514	3641	3602
Total	8799	9145	9658	9086	8408	7523	7247	7322	7142

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.

[b] The 2003 report contained revisions of the previously published estimates for 2002.

[c] Bases shown for drug use excluding volatile substances. Other bases may vary slightly.

Table 2.5

Proportion of pupils who have taken drugs (including and excluding volatile substances) ever, in the last year and in the last month, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Taken drugs	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
All drugs						
Ever taken drugs	9	14	17	27	43	23
Taken drugs in the last year	5	7	10	19	32	16
Taken drugs in the last month	3	4	6	10	21	9
Excluding volatile substances						
Ever taken drugs	3	4	7	18	34	15
Taken drugs in the last year	2	3	6	15	29	12
Taken drugs in the last month	1	2	4	8	19	8
Girls						
All drugs						
Ever taken drugs	9	13	16	27	37	21
Taken drugs in the last year	4	6	10	18	27	14
Taken drugs in the last month	2	3	6	11	13	7
Excluding volatile substances						
Ever taken drugs	1	3	7	15	29	12
Taken drugs in the last year	1	2	6	13	24	10
Taken drugs in the last month	0	1	4	8	11	5
Total						
All drugs						
Ever taken drugs	9	13	17	27	40	22
Taken drugs in the last year	5	7	10	19	30	15
Taken drugs in the last month	2	3	6	10	17	8
Excluding volatile substances						
Ever taken drugs	2	4	7	17	32	13
Taken drugs in the last year	1	2	6	14	27	11
Taken drugs in the last month	1	2	4	8	15	6
Bases[a]						
Boys	*549*	*716*	*729*	*683*	*863*	*3540*
Girls	*576*	*730*	*726*	*720*	*850*	*3602*
Total	*1125*	*1446*	*1455*	*1403*	*1713*	*7142*

[a] Bases shown for drug use excluding volatile substances. Other bases may vary slightly.

Table 2.6a

Proportion of boys who have taken individual drugs in the last year: 2001-2009[a,b]

All boys *2001-2009*

Type of drugs taken in the last year	Year 2001 %	2002 %	2003 %	2004 %	2005 %	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	2009 %
Cannabis	14.3	14.4	14.2	12.2	12.2	10.8	9.6	10.1	9.8
Any stimulants	**5.8**	**6.5**	**6.2**	**5.3**	**5.7**	**5.8**	**6.4**	**5.1**	**3.7**
Cocaine	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.5
Crack	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.7
Ecstasy	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.4
Amphetamines[c]	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.4	0.9	1.1	0.9
Poppers	3.7	4.7	4.1	3.2	3.4	3.6	4.5	3.0	1.8
Any psychedelics[d]	**2.7**	**2.1**	**2.8**	**2.6**	**2.5**	**2.7**	**2.0**	**2.6**	**2.4**
LSD	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.7
Magic mushrooms	2.4	1.8	2.6	2.2	1.9	1.9	1.2	1.7	1.8
Ketamine[e]	e	e	e	e	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.7
Any opiates	**0.7**	**0.8**	**1.0**	**0.7**	**0.8**	**0.7**	**0.5**	**0.8**	**0.8**
Heroin	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5
Methadone	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	6.6	6.2	7.0	5.3	6.1	4.6	5.6	4.8	5.4
Tranquillisers	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5
Anabolic steroids	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
Other drugs	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.5
Any Class A drug[f]	**4.5**	**3.8**	**4.8**	**3.9**	**4.4**	**4.7**	**3.8**	**4.3**	**3.8**
Any drug	**21.3**	**21.4**	**21.6**	**18.5**	**19.3**	**16.8**	**17.6**	**15.9**	**15.7**
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	**17.4**	**17.4**	**17.5**	**14.9**	**15.3**	**14.1**	**13.9**	**12.9**	**12.2**
Bases (boys)[g]	*4687*	*5081*	*5250*	*5000*	*4667*	*3994*	*4064*	*3943*	*3837*

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006*.

[b] Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

[c] Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'. See note 18.

[d] From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.

[e] Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.

[f] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[g] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.6b

Proportion of girls who have taken individual drugs in the last year: 2001-2009[a,b]

All girls *2001-2009*

Type of drugs taken in the last year	Year 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	12.4	11.9	12.4	10.3	11.2	9.4	9.2	7.8	8.1
Any stimulants	**5.4**	**5.9**	**6.1**	**5.6**	**6.6**	**6.5**	**7.4**	**4.7**	**3.4**
Cocaine	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.0
Crack	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.6
Ecstasy	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.0	1.0
Amphetamines[c]	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.2	0.8	0.6
Poppers	3.1	3.8	3.9	3.6	4.4	4.8	5.3	2.8	1.8
Any psychedelics[d]	**2.2**	**1.5**	**2.0**	**2.0**	**2.3**	**1.7**	**1.8**	**1.6**	**1.9**
LSD	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Magic mushrooms	1.7	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.3
Ketamine[e]	e	e	e	e	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.4
Any opiates	**0.9**	**0.8**	**0.8**	**0.8**	**0.9**	**0.6**	**0.9**	**0.6**	**0.5**
Heroin	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.4
Methadone	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	7.7	6.4	8.2	5.8	7.3	5.6	6.8	5.2	5.6
Tranquillisers	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2
Anabolic steroids	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Other drugs	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
Any Class A drug[f]	**4.1**	**3.6**	**3.9**	**3.9**	**4.4**	**3.8**	**4.2**	**3.0**	**3.3**
Any drug	**19.4**	**18.0**	**20.5**	**16.7**	**18.8**	**16.3**	**17.0**	**14.1**	**13.9**
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	**14.8**	**14.4**	**15.1**	**13.2**	**14.6**	**12.7**	**12.7**	**10.2**	**10.0**
Bases (girls)[g]	*4670*	*4749*	*5121*	*4666*	*4507*	*4138*	*3749*	*3811*	*3811*

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006*.

[b] Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

[c] Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'. See note 18.

[d] From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.

[e] Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.

[f] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[g] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.6c

Proportion of pupils who have taken individual drugs in the last year: 2001-2009[a,b]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Type of drugs taken in the last year	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	13.4	13.2	13.3	11.3	11.7	10.1	9.4	9.0	8.9
Any stimulants	**5.6**	**6.2**	**6.1**	**5.4**	**6.2**	**6.2**	**6.9**	**4.9**	**3.6**
Cocaine	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.2
Crack	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.6
Ecstasy	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.2
Amphetamines[c]	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8
Poppers	3.4	4.3	4.0	3.4	3.9	4.2	4.9	2.9	1.8
Any psychedelics[d]	**2.4**	**1.8**	**2.4**	**2.3**	**2.4**	**2.2**	**1.9**	**2.1**	**2.2**
LSD	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
Magic mushrooms	2.1	1.5	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.5
Ketamine[e]	e	e	e	e	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.6
Any opiates	**0.8**	**0.8**	**0.9**	**0.7**	**0.9**	**0.7**	**0.7**	**0.7**	**0.7**
Heroin	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Methadone	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	7.1	6.3	7.6	5.6	6.7	5.1	6.2	5.0	5.5
Tranquillisers	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Anabolic steroids	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Other drugs	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.4
Any Class A drug[f]	**4.3**	**3.7**	**4.3**	**3.9**	**4.4**	**4.3**	**4.0**	**3.6**	**3.6**
Any drug	**20.4**	**19.7**	**21.0**	**17.6**	**19.1**	**16.5**	**17.3**	**15.0**	**14.8**
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	**16.1**	**15.9**	**16.3**	**14.0**	**15.0**	**13.4**	**13.3**	**11.6**	**11.1**
Bases (all pupils)[g]	*9357*	*9830*	*10371*	*9666*	*9174*	*8132*	*7813*	*7754*	*7648*

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006*.

[b] Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

[c] Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'. See note 18.

[d] From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.

[e] Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.

[f] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[g] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.7a

Proportion of boys who have taken individual drugs in the last year, by age[a]

All boys *2009*

Type of drugs taken in the last year	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	1.0	2.4	4.2	12.7	24.7	9.8
Any stimulants	**1.0**	**0.7**	**1.3**	**3.3**	**10.7**	**3.7**
Cocaine	0.5	-	0.1	1.5	4.6	1.5
Crack	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.6	0.7
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.4	0.8	4.9	1.4
Amphetamines	0.2	-	0.3	0.3	3.2	0.9
Poppers	0.2	0.5	0.6	1.8	5.0	1.8
Any psychedelics	**0.5**	**0.6**	**1.2**	**1.6**	**7.1**	**2.4**
LSD	-	0.5	0.3	0.7	1.8	0.7
Magic mushrooms	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.8	5.7	1.8
Ketamine	0.2	-	0.1	0.4	2.2	0.7
Any opiates	**-**	**0.1**	**0.3**	**0.8**	**2.4**	**0.8**
Heroin	-	0.1	0.3	0.4	1.5	0.5
Methadone	-	-	-	0.7	1.2	0.4
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	3.6	4.5	4.7	6.5	7.3	5.4
Tranquillisers	-	0.1	-	0.3	1.9	0.5
Anabolic steroids	-	-	0.3	0.6	1.8	0.6
Other drugs	-	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.4	0.5
Any Class A drug[b]	**1.2**	**0.8**	**1.6**	**3.0**	**10.5**	**3.8**
Any drug	**5.3**	**7.5**	**9.5**	**18.9**	**31.8**	**15.7**
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	**2.2**	**3.2**	**5.6**	**15.1**	**29.0**	**12.2**
Bases (boys)[c]	*601*	*801*	*805*	*723*	*907*	*3837*

[a] Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.7b

Proportion of girls who have taken individual drugs in the last year, by age[a]

All girls *2009*

Type of drugs taken in the last year	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	-	0.9	3.9	11.4	20.9	8.1
Any stimulants	**0.3**	**0.8**	**2.1**	**4.7**	**7.8**	**3.4**
Cocaine	-	0.4	0.7	1.5	2.2	1.0
Crack	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.7	1.1	0.6
Ecstasy	-	-	0.3	1.3	3.1	1.0
Amphetamines	-	-	0.5	0.8	1.5	0.6
Poppers	0.2	0.1	0.9	3.2	4.2	1.8
Any psychedelics	**0.2**	**0.3**	**2.0**	**2.7**	**3.8**	**1.9**
LSD	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.6
Magic mushrooms	-	0.1	1.3	1.7	2.9	1.3
Ketamine	-	-	0.4	1.1	0.7	0.4
Any opiates	**0.2**	**0.3**	**0.7**	**0.5**	**0.8**	**0.5**
Heroin	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.4
Methadone	-	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	3.1	4.3	5.6	7.2	7.0	5.6
Tranquillisers	-	-	-	0.7	0.2	0.2
Anabolic steroids	-	0.3	0.3	-	0.1	0.1
Other drugs	-	-	-	0.5	0.4	0.2
Any Class A drug[b]	**0.3**	**0.8**	**3.0**	**4.1**	**7.3**	**3.3**
Any drug	**3.8**	**5.7**	**10.1**	**18.3**	**27.5**	**13.9**
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	**0.5**	**1.8**	**5.8**	**13.5**	**24.1**	**10.0**
Bases (girls)[c]	*619*	*781*	*772*	*764*	*875*	*3811*

[a] Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.7c

Proportion of pupils who have taken individual drugs in the last year, by age[a]

All pupils *2009*

Type of drugs taken in the last year	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	0.5	1.7	4.0	12.0	22.8	8.9
Any stimulants	**0.7**	**0.7**	**1.7**	**4.0**	**9.3**	**3.6**
Cocaine	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.5	3.4	1.2
Crack	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.4	0.6
Ecstasy	-	0.1	0.3	1.1	4.0	1.2
Amphetamines	0.1	-	0.4	0.5	2.4	0.8
Poppers	0.2	0.3	0.8	2.5	4.6	1.8
Any psychedelics	**0.3**	**0.5**	**1.6**	**2.1**	**5.5**	**2.2**
LSD	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.5	0.7
Magic mushrooms	0.2	0.2	1.0	1.3	4.3	1.5
Ketamine	0.1	-	0.3	0.7	1.5	0.6
Any opiates	**0.1**	**0.2**	**0.5**	**0.7**	**1.6**	**0.7**
Heroin	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.1	0.4
Methadone	-	-	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.3
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	3.3	4.4	5.1	6.8	7.2	5.5
Tranquillisers	-	0.1	-	0.5	1.1	0.4
Anabolic steroids	-	0.1	0.3	0.3	1.0	0.4
Other drugs	-	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.4
Any Class A drug[b]	**0.8**	**0.8**	**2.3**	**3.6**	**8.9**	**3.6**
Any drug	**4.5**	**6.6**	**9.8**	**18.6**	**29.7**	**14.8**
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	**1.3**	**2.5**	**5.7**	**14.3**	**26.6**	**11.1**
Bases (all pupils)[c]	*1220*	*1582*	*1577*	*1487*	*1782*	*7648*

[a] Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.8

Proportion of pupils who have taken individual drugs ever, in the last year and in the last month, by sex[a]

All pupils *2009*

Type of drug taken	Boys			Girls			Total		
	Ever taken	Taken in last year	Taken in last month	Ever taken	Taken in last year	Taken in last month	Ever taken	Taken in last year	Taken in last month
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	11.7	9.8	6.0	9.4	8.1	4.0	10.5	8.9	5.0
Any stimulants	**5.7**	**3.7**	**1.7**	**5.4**	**3.4**	**1.2**	**5.5**	**3.6**	**1.5**
Cocaine	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.6	1.0	0.3	1.8	1.2	0.5
Crack	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.2
Ecstasy	1.8	1.4	0.6	1.3	1.0	0.3	1.6	1.2	0.4
Amphetamines	1.2	0.9	0.3	0.9	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.8	0.3
Poppers	3.4	1.8	0.7	3.2	1.8	0.6	3.3	1.8	0.6
Any psychedelics	**3.1**	**2.4**	**1.2**	**2.3**	**1.9**	**0.9**	**2.7**	**2.2**	**1.0**
LSD	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.8	0.7	0.3
Magic mushrooms	2.4	1.8	0.9	1.7	1.3	0.6	2.0	1.5	0.7
Ketamine	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.3
Any opiates	**1.0**	**0.8**	**0.4**	**0.7**	**0.5**	**0.2**	**0.9**	**0.7**	**0.3**
Heroin	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.2
Methadone	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	12.7	5.4	2.4	12.8	5.6	2.4	12.7	5.5	2.4
Tranquillisers	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2
Anabolic steroids	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.2
Other drugs	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2
Any Class A drug[b]	**4.7**	**3.8**	**1.9**	**4.2**	**3.3**	**1.3**	**4.4**	**3.6**	**1.6**
Any drug	**23.4**	**15.7**	**9.3**	**21.3**	**13.9**	**7.1**	**22.3**	**14.8**	**8.2**
Any drug (excluding volatile substances)	**14.6**	**12.2**	**7.7**	**12.0**	**10.0**	**5.3**	**13.3**	**11.1**	**6.5**
Bases[c]	*3837*	*3837*	*3837*	*3811*	*3811*	*3811*	*7648*	*7648*	*7648*

[a] Estimates are shown to one decimal place because of generally low prevalence rates.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.9

Summary of drugs taken in the last year, by age and sex

Pupils who took drugs in the last year *2009*

Summary of drugs taken	Age 11-12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Boys					
Took one type of drug only	**82**	**75**	**73**	**55**	**66**
Cannabis only	17	32	48	42	38
Volatile substances only	57	41	20	9	22
Any Class A drug[a]	5	3	1	3	3
Any other type of drug	2	-	5	2	3
Took two or more types of drug	**18**	**25**	**27**	**45**	**34**
Two or more types of drug, but no Class A drugs[a]	11	14	16	31	22
Two or more types of drug, including at least one Class A drug[a]	7	10	12	14	12
Girls					
Only took one type of drug	**89**	**68**	**66**	**63**	**68**
Cannabis only	10	19	35	47	35
Volatile substances only	75	42	26	12	28
Any Class A drug[a]	3	7	3	3	4
Any other type of drug	2	-	2	2	2
Took two or more types of drug	**11**	**32**	**34**	**37**	**32**
Two or more types of drug, but no Class A drugs[a]	10	23	20	24	21
Two or more types of drug, including at least one Class A drug[a]	2	8	14	13	11
Total					
Only took one type of drug	**85**	**72**	**69**	**59**	**67**
Cannabis only	14	25	41	44	37
Volatile substances only	65	42	23	10	25
Any Class A drug[a]	4	5	2	3	3
Any other type of drug	2	-	3	2	2
Took two or more types of drug	**15**	**28**	**31**	**41**	**33**
Two or more types of drug, but no Class A drugs[a]	10	19	18	27	22
Two or more types of drug, including at least one Class A drug[a]	5	9	13	13	12
Bases[b]					
Boys	*82*	*69*	*128*	*274*	*553*
Girls	*63*	*73*	*131*	*232*	*499*
Total	*145*	*142*	*259*	*506*	*1052*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.10

Number of occasions pupils have ever taken drugs, by sex: 2003-2009

All pupils *2003-2009*

Number of occasions taken drugs	Year						
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys							
Once	4	4	4	3	4	3	3
2-5 occasions	5	4	4	3	4	4	3
6-10 occasions	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
More than 10 occasions	6	5	5	4	4	3	4
Taken drugs, not in last year[a]	8	7	9	6	9	6	7
Never taken drugs[a]	75	80	77	82	78	83	81
Girls							
Once	5	3	4	3	4	3	3
2-5 occasions	5	4	5	4	4	5	4
6-10 occasions	3	2	2	2	2	1	1
More than 10 occasions	5	4	5	4	4	3	3
Taken drugs, not in last year[a]	8	7	8	7	7	6	7
Never taken drugs[a]	75	80	76	81	79	83	82
Total							
Once	4	3	4	3	4	3	3
2-5 occasions	5	4	5	4	4	4	3
6-10 occasions	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
More than 10 occasions	5	4	5	4	4	3	3
Taken drugs, not in last year[a]	8	7	8	6	8	6	7
Never taken drugs[a]	75	80	76	81	78	83	82
Bases							
Boys	*5053*	*4914*	*4468*	*3900*	*3878*	*3855*	*3696*
Girls	*5006*	*4615*	*4366*	*4070*	*3657*	*3757*	*3720*
Total	*10059*	*9529*	*8834*	*7970*	*7535*	*7612*	*7416*

[a] Estimates shown in this table for the proportions of pupils who had taken drugs, but not in the last year, and the proportions who had never taken drugs are based on a filter question. They are not definitive and may vary from estimates shown elsewhere in this report. See note 27.

Table 2.11

Number of occasions pupils have ever taken drugs, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Number of occasions	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Once	1	2	2	4	6	3
2-5 occasions	1	2	2	4	6	3
6-10 occasions	0	0	1	1	4	1
More than 10 occasions	1	1	1	4	10	4
Taken drugs, not in last year[a]	3	6	7	9	11	7
Never taken drugs[a]	94	90	87	77	64	81
Girls						
Once	1	2	3	5	5	3
2-5 occasions	1	1	3	5	9	4
6-10 occasions	0	0	1	2	3	1
More than 10 occasions	0	0	2	4	6	3
Taken drugs, not in last year[a]	4	6	6	7	11	7
Never taken drugs[a]	94	90	86	77	66	82
Total						
Once	1	2	2	4	5	3
2-5 occasions	1	1	3	4	7	3
6-10 occasions	0	0	1	2	3	1
More than 10 occasions	1	0	1	4	8	3
Taken drugs, not in last year[a]	4	6	6	8	11	7
Never taken drugs[a]	94	90	86	77	65	82
Bases						
Boys	*584*	*774*	*777*	*690*	*871*	*3696*
Girls	*602*	*763*	*755*	*742*	*858*	*3720*
Total	*1186*	*1537*	*1532*	*1432*	*1729*	*7416*

[a] Estimates shown in this table for the proportions of pupils who had taken drugs, but not in the last year, and the proportions who had never taken drugs are based on a filter question. They are not definitive and may vary from estimates shown elsewhere in this report. See note 27.

Table 2.12

Number of occasions pupils who took drugs in the last year have ever taken drugs, by age

Pupils who took drugs in the last year *2009*

Number of occasions	Age				
	11-12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Once	45	33	30	22	28
2-5 occasions	35	35	30	29	31
6-10 occasions	7	13	11	14	12
More than 10 occasions	14	19	29	34	29
Bases	*92*	*112*	*208*	*415*	*827*

Table 2.13

Number of occasions pupils have ever taken drugs, by type of drugs taken in the last year

Pupils who took drugs in the last year *2009*

Number of occasions	Type of drug taken in last year				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[a]	Other types of drug[b]	Total[c]
	%	%	%	%	%
Once	33	43	10	14	28
2-5 occasions	29	38	23	34	31
6-10 occasions	13	8	14	16	12
More than 10 occasions	25	11	54	36	29
Bases	*261*	*186*	*200*	*114*	*827*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] The category 'Other types of drug' includes pupils who took cannabis or volatile substances and also took other non-Class A drugs.

[c] Total column includes pupils who did not answer all the questions about which drugs they had taken in the last year.

Table 2.14

Proportions of pupils who usually take drugs at least once a month, by sex and age: 2003-2009[a]

All pupils *2003-2009*

Usually takes drugs at least once a month	Year 2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys							
11-12 years	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
13 years	4	3	3	3	3	3	2
14 years	10	8	7	5	7	4	5
15 years	16	12	13	8	9	8	12
Total	**7**	**5**	**5**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**4**
Girls							
11-12 years	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
13 years	5	4	4	2	2	2	2
14 years	9	5	9	6	7	6	5
15 years	13	11	12	8	10	6	7
Total	**6**	**5**	**6**	**4**	**5**	**3**	**3**
Total							
11-12 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
13 years	5	4	3	2	3	3	2
14 years	10	7	8	5	7	5	5
15 years	15	11	13	8	10	7	10
Total	**7**	**5**	**6**	**4**	**5**	**3**	**4**
Bases							
Boys							
11-12 years	*1889*	*1878*	*1651*	*1427*	*1416*	*1403*	*1355*
13 years	*1051*	*997*	*947*	*768*	*795*	*771*	*776*
14 years	*984*	*959*	*897*	*812*	*774*	*752*	*689*
15 years	*1116*	*1062*	*953*	*883*	*883*	*917*	*868*
Total	*5040*	*4896*	*4448*	*3890*	*3868*	*3843*	*3688*
Girls							
11-12 years	*1907*	*1739*	*1574*	*1449*	*1313*	*1374*	*1363*
13 years	*1036*	*934*	*894*	*850*	*771*	*742*	*755*
14 years	*961*	*911*	*934*	*772*	*695*	*764*	*737*
15 years	*1089*	*1017*	*934*	*988*	*867*	*866*	*853*
Total	*4993*	*4601*	*4336*	*4059*	*3646*	*3746*	*3708*
Total							
11-12 years	*3796*	*3617*	*3225*	*2876*	*2729*	*2777*	*2718*
13 years	*2087*	*1931*	*1841*	*1618*	*1566*	*1513*	*1531*
14 years	*1945*	*1870*	*1831*	*1584*	*1469*	*1516*	*1426*
15 years	*2205*	*2079*	*1887*	*1871*	*1750*	*1783*	*1721*
Total	*10033*	*9497*	*8784*	*7949*	*7514*	*7589*	*7396*

[a] The answer categories for usual frequency of drug use were slightly different in 2004. In every year shown, the question included the categories 'I take drugs most days' and 'I take drugs at least once a week'. In every year except 2004, there was an additional category, 'I take drugs once or twice a month'. In 2004, this category was replaced by two different categories: 'I take drugs two or three times a month' and 'I take drugs once a month'.

Table 2.15

Usual frequency of drug use, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Usual frequency of drug use	Age 11-12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Boys					
Most days	0	0	1	3	1
At least once a week	0	1	2	3	1
Once or twice a month	0	1	3	6	2
At least once a month[a]	*1*	*2*	*5*	*12*	*4*
A few times a year	1	1	2	4	2
Once a year or less often	1	1	2	3	2
Taken drugs in last year but only ever taken drugs once	2	2	4	6	3
Taken drugs, not in last year[b]	5	7	9	11	7
Never taken drugs[b]	92	87	77	64	82
Girls					
Most days	0	0	1	1	0
At least once a week	0	1	2	2	1
Once or twice a month	0	2	3	4	2
At least once a month[a]	*1*	*2*	*5*	*7*	*3*
A few times a year	0	2	3	8	3
Once a year or less often	1	1	2	3	1
Taken drugs in last year but only ever taken drugs once	1	3	5	5	3
Taken drugs, not in last year[b]	5	6	7	11	7
Never taken drugs[b]	92	86	78	66	82
Total					
Most days	0	0	1	2	1
At least once a week	0	1	2	3	1
Once or twice a month	0	1	3	5	2
At least once a month[a]	*1*	*2*	*5*	*10*	*4*
A few times a year	0	2	3	6	2
Once a year or less often	1	1	2	3	2
Taken drugs in last year but only ever taken drugs once	2	2	4	5	3
Taken drugs, not in last year[b]	5	6	8	11	7
Never taken drugs[b]	92	86	77	65	82
Bases					
Boys	1355	776	689	868	3688
Girls	1363	755	737	853	3708
Total	2718	1531	1426	1721	7396

[a] 'At least once a month' is the sum of 'Most days', 'At least once a week' and 'Once or twice a month'. Individual categories may not add to this total due to rounding.

[b] Estimates shown in this table for the proportions of pupils who had taken drugs, but not in the last year, and the proportions who had never taken drugs are based on a filter question. They are not definitive and may vary from estimates shown elsewhere in this report. See note 22.

Table 2.16

Usual frequency of drug use among pupils who took drugs in the last year, by age and sex

Pupils who took drugs in the last year *2009*

Usual frequency of drug use	Age				
	11-12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Boys					
Most days	[2]	4	5	12	8
At least once a week	[2]	16	12	14	12
Once or twice a month	[10]	12	20	23	19
At least once a month[a]	*[15]*	*31*	*37*	*49*	*40*
A few times a year	[17]	16	18	16	16
Once a year or less often	[21]	20	14	12	14
Taken drugs in the last year, but only ever taken drugs once	[48]	33	30	24	29
Girls					
Most days	[3]	2	4	3	3
At least once a week	[10]	8	14	9	11
Once or twice a month	[10]	20	17	19	18
At least once a month[a]	*[23]*	*30*	*35*	*31*	*31*
A few times a year	[13]	25	19	35	27
Once a year or less often	[18]	12	15	12	13
Taken drugs in the last year, but only ever taken drugs once	[46]	33	32	22	29
Total					
Most days	2	3	4	8	6
At least once a week	6	12	13	12	11
Once or twice a month	10	16	18	21	18
At least once a month[a]	*18*	*31*	*36*	*41*	*36*
A few times a year	15	21	19	25	22
Once a year or less often	20	15	14	12	14
Taken drugs in the last year, but only ever taken drugs once	47	33	31	23	29
Bases					
Boys	*48*	*51*	*92*	*216*	*407*
Girls	*39*	*60*	*110*	*191*	*400*
Total	*87*	*111*	*202*	*407*	*807*

[a] 'At least once a month' is the sum of 'Most days', 'At least once a week' and 'Once or twice a month'. Individual categories may not add to this total due to rounding.

Table 2.17

Usual frequency of drug use among pupils who took drugs in the last year, by type of drugs taken in the last year

Pupils who took drugs in the last year — *2009*

Number of occasions	Type of drug taken in last year				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[a]	Other types of drugs[b]	Total[c]
	%	%	%	%	%
Most days	3	1	13	8	6
At least once a week	9	4	23	14	11
Once or twice a month	22	8	29	17	18
At least once a month[d]	*34*	*13*	*65*	*39*	*36*
A few times a year	24	16	17	37	22
Once a year or less often	9	27	9	9	14
Taken drugs in the last year, but only ever taken drugs once	33	44	10	15	29
Bases	*256*	*180*	*198*	*109*	*807*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] The category 'Other types of drug' includes pupils who took cannabis or volatile substances and also took other non-Class A drugs.

[c] Total column includes pupils who did not answer all the questions about which drugs they had taken in the last year.

[d] 'At least once a month' is the sum of 'Most days', 'At least once a week' and 'Once or twice a month'. Individual categories may not add to this total due to rounding.

Table 2.18

Proportions of pupils who usually take drugs at least once a month, by whether ever truanted or excluded: 2003-2009[a]

All pupils — *2003-2009*

Usually takes drugs at least once a month	Year						
	2003	2004[a]	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Truanted or excluded	21	17	18	11	14	11	14
Never truanted or excluded	3	2	2	1	2	1	1
Total[b]	7	5	6	4	5	3	4
Bases							
Boys	*2073*	*1896*	*1998*	*1920*	*1736*	*1499*	*1446*
Girls	*7767*	*7470*	*6651*	*5926*	*5654*	*6011*	*5801*
Total	*10033*	*9497*	*8784*	*7949*	*7514*	*7589*	*7396*

[a] The answer categories for usual frequency of drug use were slightly different in 2004. In every year shown, the question included the categories 'I take drugs most days' and 'I take drugs at least once a week'. In every year except 2004, there was an additional category, 'I take drugs once or twice a month'. In 2004, this category was replaced by two different categories: 'I take drugs two or three times a month' and 'I take drugs once a month'.

[b] Total includes pupils who did not say whether they had ever truanted or been excluded from school.

Table 2.19

Proportions of pupils who took Class A drugs in the last year, by whether ever truanted or excluded: 2003-2009[a]

All pupils *2003-2009*

Took Class A drugs in the last year	Year						
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Truanted or excluded	14	14	14	14	13	12	12
Never truanted or excluded	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total[b]	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Bases							
Boys	*1983*	*1879*	*2003*	*1867*	*1728*	*1477*	*1462*
Girls	*7500*	*7299*	*6550*	*5764*	*5532*	*5908*	*5683*
Total	*9650*	*9307*	*8702*	*7741*	*7396*	*7451*	*7288*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Total includes pupils who did not say whether they had ever truanted or been excluded from school.

Data from 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 2.20

Drugs taken at age of first drug use, by age of first drug use

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2009*

Drugs taken at age of first drug use[a]	Age first took drugs					
	11 years or younger	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	82	67	45	28	18	55
Cannabis	12	27	51	69	81	41
Poppers	2	11	10	14	13	9
Magic mushrooms	1	3	3	6	7	3
Cocaine	2	1	4	4	4	3
Ecstasy	1	3	2	4	5	2
Amphetamines	1	1	1	2	1	1
LSD	1	2	1	2	-	1
Heroin	1	1	1	1	1	1
Crack	1	0	1	1	1	1
Ketamine	0	0	1	2	-	1
Anabolic steroids	1	0	2	1	-	1
Methadone	1	0	0	1	-	1
Tranquillisers	0	1	0	0	-	0
Other drugs	1	0	1	2	1	1
Bases	*500*	*239*	*300*	*314*	*146*	*1499*

[a] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.21

Summary of drugs taken at age of first drug use, by age of first drug use

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2009*

Drugs taken at age of first drug use[a]	Age first took drugs					
	11 years or younger	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis only	10	19	39	50	62	31
Volatile substances only	80	59	38	17	11	48
Any Class A drugs[a,b]	6	9	8	14	14	9
Other drugs[c]	4	13	14	19	12	12
Bases	*500*	*239*	*300*	*314*	*146*	*1499*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[c] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

Table 2.22

Whom pupils got drugs from on the first occasion they took them: 2001-2009

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2001-2009*

Whom pupils got drugs from	Year				
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%	%
Friend of pupil's own age	40	44	42	44	45
Older friend	33	25	25	25	25
Younger friend	1	2	1	1	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	3	2	3	2	2
Any friend	**77**	**75**	**71**	**72**	**73**
Brother or sister	3	3	4	4	3
Parent or step-parent	1	2	1	2	2
Someone known of, but not personally	10	7	8	6	7
Stranger	2	2	1	2	2
Someone else	7	13	14	14	14
Bases	*1843*	*2424*	*2007*	*1551*	*1317*

Table 2.23

Whom pupils got drugs from on the first occasion they took them, by age of first drug use and sex

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2009*

Whom pupils got drugs from	Age of first drugs use					
	11 years or younger	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total[a]
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Friend of pupil's own age	40	40	52	53	68	47
Older friend	16	32	29	25	13	23
Younger friend	1	-	-	1	-	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	1	-	1	-	2	1
Any friend	**58**	**73**	**83**	**78**	**82**	**71**
Brother or sister	5	2	3	-	-	3
Parent or step-parent	5	1	1	-	-	2
Someone known of, but not personally	5	10	9	13	11	9
Stranger	3	2	-	3	3	2
Someone else	23	12	5	7	3	13
Girls						
Friend of pupil's own age	46	40	52	45	43	44
Older friend	16	32	31	36	25	28
Younger friend	1	-	-	-	-	0
Boyfriend or girlfriend	1	5	1	5	8	3
Any friend	**65**	**77**	**84**	**86**	**75**	**75**
Brother or sister	3	4	1	1	4	2
Parent or step-parent	4	1	-	-	-	2
Someone known of, but not personally	5	3	3	5	17	5
Stranger	2	1	-	-	-	1
Someone else	22	13	12	8	4	14
Total						
Friend of pupil's own age	43	40	52	49	57	45
Older friend	16	32	30	31	18	25
Younger friend	1	-	-	0	-	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	1	3	1	2	4	2
Any friend	**61**	**75**	**83**	**82**	**79**	**73**
Brother or sister	4	3	2	0	2	3
Parent or step-parent	4	1	0	-	-	2
Someone known of, but not personally	5	7	6	9	14	7
Stranger	3	2	-	1	2	2
Someone else	23	13	8	8	3	14
Bases						
Boys	*211*	*99*	*126*	*120*	*62*	*681*
Girls	*170*	*93*	*115*	*133*	*53*	*636*
Total	*381*	*192*	*241*	*253*	*115*	*1317*

[a] Total column includes pupils who did not answer the questions about the age at which they first took drugs.

Table 2.24

Whom pupils got drugs from on the first occasion they took them, by type of drug taken on that occasion

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2009*

Whom pupils got drugs from	Type of drug taken on first occasion				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[a,b]	Other drug[c]	Total[d]
	%	%	%	%	%
Friend of pupil's own age	49	51	27	44	45
Older friend	32	9	43	36	25
Younger friend	1	1	0	1	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	2	1	5	2	2
Any friend	**83**	**62**	**75**	**82**	**73**
Brother or sister	2	3	1	3	3
Parent or step-parent	0	4	3	-	2
Someone known of, but not personally	9	6	10	6	7
Stranger	1	1	4	3	2
Someone else	5	25	7	7	14
Bases	*352*	*536*	*223*	*198*	*1317*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[c] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[d] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the first occasion.

Table 2.25

Why pupils took drugs on the first occasion they took them: 2001-2009

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2001-2009*

Why pupils took drugs[a]	Year				
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%	%
I wanted to see what it was like	67	63	57	55	56
I wanted to get high or feel good	26	25	22	18	22
Because my friends were doing it	20	21	18	17	18
I had nothing better to do	11	13	13	13	14
I wanted to forget my problems	11	10	11	9	11
Just because I was offered	11	12	9	9	9
It was a dare	5	7	8	9	9
Because it's cool	4	4	2	3	3
Other reasons	6	10	12	14	11
I don't know	2	3	4	3	5
I don't remember	2	3	3	3	4
Bases	*1911*	*2609*	*2177*	*1671*	*1444*

[a] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.26

Why pupils took drugs on the first occasion they took them, by age of first drug use and sex

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2009*

Why pupils took drugs[a]	Age of first drug use					
	11 years or younger	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total[b]
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
I wanted to see what it was like	44	48	62	69	75	54
I wanted to get high or feel good	16	32	32	32	29	25
Because my friends were doing it	23	16	21	25	18	20
I had nothing better to do	15	19	19	16	12	16
I wanted to forget my problems	6	9	14	11	8	9
Just because I was offered	8	14	9	9	3	8
It was a dare	13	11	7	4	3	9
Because it's cool	5	5	4	1	-	4
Other reasons	13	7	6	4	5	8
I don't know	5	4	2	2	2	4
I don't remember	7	7	2	2	2	5
Girls						
I wanted to see what it was like	37	47	68	78	81	57
I wanted to get high or feel good	10	24	25	21	17	19
Because my friends were doing it	12	23	20	16	10	16
I had nothing better to do	12	12	14	12	10	12
I wanted to forget my problems	11	27	18	7	7	13
Just because I was offered	9	9	13	12	12	10
It was a dare	14	11	11	3	5	9
Because it's cool	3	4	5	2	-	3
Other reasons	23	17	8	6	5	14
I don't know	8	7	1	3	3	6
I don't remember	7	1	4	1	-	3
Total						
I wanted to see what it was like	41	47	65	74	78	56
I wanted to get high or feel good	13	28	29	26	23	22
Because my friends were doing it	18	20	20	20	15	18
I had nothing better to do	14	16	16	14	11	14
I wanted to forget my problems	8	18	16	9	7	11
Just because I was offered	9	12	11	11	7	9
It was a dare	13	11	9	3	4	9
Because it's cool	4	4	4	1	-	3
Other reasons	18	12	7	5	5	11
I don't know	6	5	1	3	2	5
I don't remember	7	4	3	2	1	4
Bases						
Boys	*228*	*104*	*140*	*122*	*65*	*732*
Girls	*190*	*101*	*131*	*148*	*59*	*712*
Total	*418*	*205*	*271*	*270*	*124*	*1444*

[a] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

[b] Total column includes pupils who did not answer the questions about the age at which they first took drugs.

Table 2.27

Why pupils took drugs on the first occasion, by type of drug taken

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2009*

Why pupils took drugs[a]	Type of drug taken on first occasion				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drug[b,c]	Other drug[d]	Total[e]
	%	%	%	%	%
I wanted to see what it was like	70	39	63	64	56
I wanted to get high or feel good	28	4	41	35	22
Because my friends were doing it	20	12	24	24	18
I had nothing better to do	16	10	20	17	14
I wanted to forget my problems	11	4	26	12	11
Just because I was offered	9	4	18	12	9
It was a dare	2	14	9	6	9
Because it's cool	2	2	8	4	3
Other reasons	4	18	9	8	11
I don't know	1	9	2	3	5
I don't remember	2	8	1	1	4
Bases	372	576	266	222	1444

[a] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[d] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[e] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the first occasion.

Table 2.28

How pupils felt after taking drugs on the first occasion they took them, by age of first drug use and sex

Pupils who have ever taken drugs *2009*

How pupils felt after taking drugs	Age first took drugs					
	11 years or younger	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total[a]
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Good	30	53	61	59	63	48
Bad	13	8	9	12	5	11
No different	57	39	31	28	32	41
Girls						
Good	21	45	48	53	58	41
Bad	12	13	12	11	12	12
No different	67	42	39	36	31	47
Total						
Good	27	49	55	56	60	45
Bad	13	10	10	12	8	11
No different	61	40	35	32	31	44
Bases						
Boys	*223*	*103*	*140*	*130*	*65*	*730*
Girls	*177*	*98*	*132*	*145*	*59*	*690*
Total	*400*	*201*	*272*	*275*	*124*	*1420*

[a] Total column includes pupils who did not answer the questions about the age at which they first took drugs.

Table 2.29

How pupils felt after taking drugs on the first occasion they took them, by type of drug taken on that occasion

Pupils who have ever taken drugs — *2009*

How pupils felt after taking drugs	Type of drug taken on first occasion: Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[a,b]	Other drug[c]	Total[d]
	%	%	%	%	%
Good	60	13	76	59	45
Bad	12	11	11	11	11
No different	28	75	13	30	44
Bases	*370*	*554*	*263*	*222*	*1420*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[c] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[d] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the first occasion.

Table 2.30

Number of occasions ever taken drugs, by overall reaction to drugs on the first occasion they took them

Pupils who have ever taken drugs — *2009*

Number of occasions ever taken drugs	Overall reaction: Good	Bad	No different	Total[a]
	%	%	%	%
Not taken drugs in last year[b]	19	50	56	39
Taken drugs once	13	20	20	17
2-5 occasions	24	14	15	19
6-10 occasions	12	6	4	7
More than 10 occasions	33	11	5	17
Bases	*587*	*147*	*602*	*1365*

[a] Total column includes pupils who did not answer the question about how they felt on the first occasion.

[b] Only pupils who had taken drugs in the last year were asked the question about the number of occasions on which they had taken drugs

Table 2.31

Drugs taken on most recent occasion, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken on more than one occasion[a] — *2009*

Drugs taken	Age: 11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Cannabis only	26	61	61	54
Glue, gas aerosols or solvents only	55	16	9	20
Class A drugs[b,c]	10	11	18	15
Other drugs[d]	10	13	11	11
Girls				
Cannabis only	18	38	64	48
Glue, gas aerosols or solvents only	58	32	10	26
Class A drugs[b,c]	12	10	10	11
Other drugs[d]	12	19	16	16
Total				
Cannabis only	22	49	63	51
Glue, gas aerosols or solvents only	57	25	9	23
Class A drugs[b,c]	11	11	15	13
Other drugs[d]	11	16	13	14
Bases				
Boys	*62*	*64*	*168*	*294*
Girls	*60*	*78*	*153*	*291*
Total	*122*	*142*	*321*	*585*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Includes any use of Class A drugs, alone or in combination with other drugs, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[d] The category 'Other types of drug' includes pupils who took cannabis or volatile substances in combination with other non-Class A drugs.

Table 2.32

Whom pupils got drugs from on the most recent occasion they took them: 2003-2009

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2003-2009*

Whom pupils got drugs from	Year 2003 %	2005 %	2007 %	2009 %
Friend of pupil's own age	41	41	40	38
Older friend	29	29	29	32
Younger friend	2	2	2	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	3	4	3	3
Any friend	**74**	**75**	**74**	**73**
Brother or sister	4	2	3	2
Parent or step-parent	2	1	1	1
Someone known of, but not personally	9	9	9	9
Stranger	2	1	2	1
Someone else	9	11	11	13
Bases	*1188*	*969*	*680*	*553*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

Table 2.33

Whom pupils got drugs from on the most recent occasion they took them, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Whom pupils got drugs from	Age 11-13 years %	14 years %	15 years %	Total %
Boys				
Friend of pupil's own age	35	41	41	40
Older friend	30	34	26	29
Younger friend	-	-	1	0
Boyfriend or girlfriend	-	-	1	0
Any friend	**65**	**75**	**68**	**69**
Brother or sister	2	5	3	3
Parent or step-parent	2	-	-	0
Someone known of, but not personally	9	9	15	13
Stranger	2	-	1	1
Someone else	21	11	13	14
Girls				
Friend of pupil's own age	29	38	38	36
Older friend	30	36	36	35
Younger friend	2	-	1	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	4	3	8	6
Any friend	**64**	**77**	**83**	**78**
Brother or sister	-	-	1	1
Parent or step-parent	7	3	-	2
Someone known of, but not personally	4	7	7	6
Stranger	2	1	1	1
Someone else	23	12	7	12
Total				
Friend of pupil's own age	32	39	40	38
Older friend	30	36	30	32
Younger friend	1	-	1	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	2	1	4	3
Any friend	**65**	**76**	**75**	**73**
Brother or sister	1	2	2	2
Parent or step-parent	4	1	-	1
Someone known of, but not personally	6	8	11	9
Stranger	2	1	1	1
Someone else	22	12	10	13
Bases				
Boys	*57*	*64*	*159*	*280*
Girls	*56*	*74*	*143*	*273*
Total	*113*	*138*	*302*	*553*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

Table 2.34

Whom pupils got drugs from on the most recent occasion they took them, by type of drug taken on that occasion

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Whom pupils got drugs from	Type of drug taken on most recent occasionn				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[b,c]	Other drug[d]	Total[e]
	%	%	%	%	%
Friend of pupil's own age	40	41	23	38	38
Older friend	35	20	41	32	32
Younger friend	0	-	3	-	1
Boyfriend or girlfriend	4	-	6	3	3
Any friend	**79**	**60**	**73**	**72**	**73**
Brother or sister	1	2	2	4	2
Parent or step-parent	-	4	3	-	1
Someone known of, but not personally	12	5	9	8	9
Stranger	-	1	3	6	1
Someone else	8	28	9	10	13
Bases	*287*	*123*	*64*	*72*	*553*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[d] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[e] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the most recent occasion.

Table 2.35

Where pupils got drugs on the most recent occasion they took them: 2003-2009

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2003-2009*

Where pupils got drugs	Year			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%
Out on the street, in a park or other outdoor area	44	45	41	40
In someone else's home	21	21	23	20
At school	13	12	14	14
At a party, club, disco or rave	10	9	10	13
At home	6	7	6	6
Somewhere else	3	6	6	6
Bases	1193	976	679	548

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

Data from 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 2.36

Where pupils obtained drugs on the most recent occasion, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Where pupils got drugs	Age			
	11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Out on the street, in a park or other outdoor area	27	50	48	44
In someone else's home	15	14	21	18
At school	31	18	5	13
At a party, club, disco or rave	5	11	12	11
At home	11	4	6	7
Somewhere else	11	4	7	7
Girls				
Out on the street, in a park or other outdoor area	34	39	34	36
In someone else's home	7	20	28	22
At school	39	16	6	16
At a party, club, disco or rave	4	12	23	16
At home	13	5	4	6
Somewhere else	4	8	4	5
Total				
Out on the street, in a park or other outdoor area	31	44	42	40
In someone else's home	11	17	25	20
At school	35	17	6	14
At a party, club, disco or rave	5	11	17	13
At home	12	5	5	6
Somewhere else	7	6	6	6
Bases				
Boys	*55*	*56*	*161*	*272*
Girls	*56*	*76*	*144*	*276*
Total	*111*	*132*	*305*	*548*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

Table 2.37

Where pupils got drugs on the most recent occasion they took them, by type of drug taken on that occasion

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Where pupils got drugs	Type of drug taken on most recent occasion				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[b,c]	Other drugs[d]	Total[e]
	%	%	%	%	%
Out on the street, in a park or other outdoor area	52	16	46	30	40
In someone else's home	26	9	17	20	20
At school	1	50	2	12	14
At a party, club, disco or rave	15	4	20	20	13
At home	4	14	5	6	6
Somewhere else	3	7	11	12	6
Bases	*281*	*128*	*65*	*66*	*548*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[d] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[e] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the most recent occasion.

Table 2.38

Whom pupils took drugs with on the most recent occasion they took them: 2003-2009

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2003-2009*

Whom pupils took drugs with[b]	Year			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%
Girlfriend or boyfriend	14	13	15	13
Same sex friends	34	41	41	43
Opposite sex friends	5	16	16	18
Group of friends of both sexes	51	46	50	48
Any friend	**91**	**89**	**88**	**90**
Parent or step-parent	1	1	1	2
Brother, sister or other relative	6	5	6	5
Someone else	2	2	3	3
No-one	6	8	8	6
Bases	*1246*	*1012*	*717*	*590*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.39

Whom pupils took drugs with on the most recent occasion they took them, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Whom pupils took drugs with[b]	Age 11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Girlfriend or boyfriend	2	5	8	6
Same sex friends	49	59	58	56
Opposite sex friends	11	16	16	15
Group of friends of both sexes	25	38	38	35
Any friend	**76**	**91**	**92**	**88**
Parent or step-parent	2	-	1	1
Brother, sister or other relative	5	8	6	6
Someone else	3	3	1	2
No-one	19	-	5	7
Girls				
Girlfriend or boyfriend	13	11	26	19
Same sex friends	30	39	23	29
Opposite sex friends	17	33	17	21
Group of friends of both sexes	46	52	71	60
Any friend	**81**	**92**	**95**	**91**
Parent or step-parent	10	-	1	3
Brother, sister or other relative	5	3	6	5
Someone else	5	1	5	4
No-one	8	8	3	5
Total				
Girlfriend or boyfriend	7	8	17	13
Same sex friends	40	48	41	43
Opposite sex friends	14	25	17	18
Group of friends of both sexes	36	45	54	48
Any friend	**79**	**92**	**93**	**90**
Parent or step-parent	6	-	1	2
Brother, sister or other relative	5	5	6	5
Someone else	4	2	3	3
No-one	13	4	4	6
Bases				
Boys	*63*	*64*	*167*	*294*
Girls	*63*	*79*	*154*	*296*
Total	*126*	*143*	*321*	*590*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.40

Whom pupils took drugs with on the most recent occasion they took them, by type of drug taken on that ocassion

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Whom pupils took drugs with[b]	Type of drug taken on most recent occasion				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[c,d]	Other drugs[e]	Total[f]
	%	%	%	%	%
Girlfriend or boyfriend	16	3	17	13	13
Same sex friends	46	37	51	31	43
Opposite sex friends	19	10	29	18	18
Group of friends of both sexes	51	34	51	60	48
Any friend	**96**	**76**	**91**	**88**	**90**
Parent or step-parent	1	4	1	1	2
Brother, sister or other relative	5	4	7	8	5
Someone else	2	4	3	5	3
No-one	2	16	5	6	6
Bases	*295*	*134*	*75*	*78*	*590*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

[c] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[d] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[e] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[f] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the most recent occasion.

Table 2.41

Why pupils took drugs on the most recent occasion they took them: 2003-2009

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2003-2009*

Why pupils took drugs[b]	Year			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%
I wanted to get high or feel good	49	44	43	47
I wanted to see what it was like	26	31	29	25
I had nothing better to do	23	22	21	21
Because my friends were doing it	20	16	17	15
I wanted to forget my problems	15	12	12	15
Just because I was offered	13	12	11	14
It was a dare	3	1	3	5
Because it's cool	4	3	3	4
Other reasons	10	9	12	11
Don't know	3	4	3	4
Don't remember	2	3	2	3
Bases	*1246*	*1014*	*718*	*584*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.42

Why pupils took drugs on the most recent occasion they took them, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Why pupils took drugs[b]	Age			
	11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
I wanted to get high or feel good	39	62	61	56
I wanted to see what it was like	25	29	21	24
I had nothing better to do	21	22	24	23
Because my friends were doing it	18	22	14	17
I wanted to forget my problems	11	12	14	13
Just because I was offered	8	17	8	10
It was a dare	11	-	4	4
Because it's cool	3	11	4	5
Other reasons	13	11	8	10
Don't know	8	2	1	3
Don't remember	5	3	2	3
Girls				
I wanted to get high or feel good	16	33	50	38
I wanted to see what it was like	38	21	25	27
I had nothing better to do	21	22	17	19
Because my friends were doing it	21	10	11	13
I wanted to forget my problems	15	24	13	16
Just because I was offered	16	12	22	18
It was a dare	15	4	2	5
Because it's cool	3	6	3	4
Other reasons	13	10	13	12
Don't know	11	4	4	6
Don't remember	3	6	2	3
Total				
I wanted to get high or feel good	28	46	55	47
I wanted to see what it was like	31	24	23	25
I had nothing better to do	21	22	21	21
Because my friends were doing it	20	15	13	15
I wanted to forget my problems	13	19	13	15
Just because I was offered	12	14	14	14
It was a dare	13	2	3	5
Because it's cool	3	8	3	4
Other reasons	13	10	10	11
Don't know	10	3	3	4
Don't remember	4	5	2	3
Bases				
Boys	*61*	*65*	*168*	*294*
Girls	*61*	*78*	*151*	*290*
Total	*122*	*143*	*319*	*584*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.43

Why pupils took drugs on the most recent occasion they took them, by type of drug taken on that occasion

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Why pupils took drugs[b]	Type of drug taken on most recent occasion				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drug[c,d]	Other drugs[e]	Total[f]
	%	%	%	%	%
I wanted to get high or feel good	58	15	57	54	47
I wanted to see what it was like	19	26	30	41	25
I had nothing better to do	23	18	26	15	21
Because my friends were doing it	11	20	12	24	15
I wanted to forget my problems	15	8	22	18	15
Just because I was offered	16	8	15	17	14
It was a dare	1	11	8	5	5
Because it's cool	2	6	5	9	4
Other reasons	9	16	12	8	11
Don't know	2	11	-	3	4
Don't remember	2	7	-	5	3
Bases	*294*	*131*	*74*	*78*	*584*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

[c] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[d] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[e] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[f] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the most recent occasion.

Table 2.44

Why pupils took drugs on the most recent occasion they took them, by number of occasions ever taken drugs

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

Why pupils took drugs[b]	Number of occasions ever taken drugs			
	2-5 occasions	6-10 occasions	More than 10 occasions	Total
	%	%	%	%
I wanted to get high or feel good	31	48	64	47
I wanted to see what it was like	38	21	14	25
I had nothing better to do	18	21	25	21
Because my friends were doing it	18	13	13	15
I wanted to forget my problems	12	16	17	15
Just because I was offered	15	19	11	14
Because it's cool	4	4	5	4
It was a dare	6	5	3	5
Other reasons	11	9	12	11
Don't know	6	5	1	4
Don't remember	4	5	1	3
Bases	*248*	*101*	*235*	*584*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.45

How pupils felt after taking drugs on the most recent occasion they took them, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

How pupils felt after taking drugs	Age			
	11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Good	49	72	81	72
Bad	3	5	5	4
No different	48	23	14	23
Girls				
Good	49	64	66	62
Bad	3	10	11	9
No different	48	26	23	29
Total				
Good	49	68	74	67
Bad	3	8	8	7
No different	48	25	18	26
Bases				
Boys	*61*	*65*	*167*	*293*
Girls	*63*	*80*	*152*	*295*
Total	*124*	*145*	*319*	*588*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

Table 2.46

How pupils felt after taking drugs on the most recent occasion they took them, by type of drug taken on that occasion

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

How pupils felt after taking drugs	Type of drug taken on most recent occasion				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drugs[b,c]	Other drugs[d]	Total[e]
	%	%	%	%	%
Good	78	29	80	80	67
Bad	8	7	8	3	7
No different	15	64	12	18	26
Bases	*294*	*132*	*75*	*79*	*588*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

[b] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[c] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[d] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[e] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took on the most recent occasion.

Table 2.47

How pupils felt after taking drugs on the most recent occasion they took them, by number of occasions ever taken drugs

Pupils who have taken drugs on more than one occasion[a] *2009*

How pupils felt after taking drugs	Number of occasions ever taken drugs			
	2-5 occasions	6-10 occasions	More than 10 occasions	Total
	%	%	%	%
Good	56	68	78	67
Bad	8	6	5	7
No different	36	26	16	26
Bases	*253*	*98*	*237*	*588*

[a] Excludes pupils who had not taken drugs in the last year, who were not asked the question about the number of times on which they had taken drugs.

Table 2.48

Whether pupils would like to give up taking drugs: 2003-2009

Pupils who have taken drugs in the last year *2003-2009*

Whether would like to give up drugs	Year			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%
Yes, I would like to give up now	43	43	45	43
Yes, I would like to give up in the future	16	16	16	18
No	13	13	14	13
Not sure	28	28	26	26
Bases	*1644*	*1290*	*961*	*796*

Data from 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 2.49

Whether pupils would like to give up taking drugs, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken drugs in the last year *2009*

Whether would like to give up drugs	Age			
	11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Yes, I would like to give up now	58	45	37	43
Yes, I would like to give up in the future	12	17	23	19
No	10	14	18	15
Not sure	20	24	22	22
Girls				
Yes, I would like to give up now	60	39	36	42
Yes, I would like to give up in the future	11	15	20	17
No	9	13	10	11
Not sure	21	33	33	30
Total				
Yes, I would like to give up now	59	42	36	43
Yes, I would like to give up in the future	11	16	22	18
No	9	13	15	13
Not sure	20	29	27	26
Bases				
Boys	*91*	*88*	*219*	*398*
Girls	*92*	*115*	*191*	*398*
Total	*183*	*203*	*410*	*796*

Table 2.50

Whether pupils would like to give up taking drugs, by type of drug taken in the last year

Pupils who have taken drugs in the last year — *2009*

Whether would like to give up drugs	Type of drug taken in last year				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drug[a,b]	Other drugs[c]	Total[d]
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, I would like to give up now	36	64	31	34	43
Yes, I would like to give up in the future	21	6	23	21	18
No	11	7	17	22	13
Not sure	32	23	28	23	26
Bases	*258*	*168*	*194*	*113*	*796*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[c] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[d] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took in the last year.

Table 2.51

Whether pupils ever felt they needed help or treatment for their drug use: 2003-2009

Pupils who have taken drugs in the last year — *2003-2009*

Felt they needed help or treatment	Year			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%
Felt they needed help or treatment	4	5	4	5
Bases	*1718*	*1367*	*1007*	*830*

Table 2.52

Whether pupils ever felt they needed help or treatment for their drug use, by age and sex

Pupils who have taken drugs in the last year — *2009*

Felt they needed help or treatment	Age			
	11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys	3	3	4	4
Girls	4	8	5	6
Total	3	6	5	5
Bases				
Boys	*102*	*91*	*222*	*415*
Girls	*101*	*115*	*199*	*415*
Total	*203*	*206*	*421*	*830*

Table 2.53

Whether pupils ever felt they needed help or treatment for their drug use, by type of drug taken in the last year

Pupils who have taken drugs in the last year *2009*

Felt they needed help or treatment	Type of drug taken in last year				
	Cannabis only	Volatile substances only	Any Class A drug[a,b]	Other drugs[c]	Total[d]
	%	%	%	%	%
Felt needed treatment	1	2	12	4	5
Bases	*269*	*182*	*197*	*114*	*830*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Includes any use of Class A drugs alone or in addition to other types of drug, including cannabis or volatile substances.

[c] Includes any type of drug use not covered by the previous categories, including cannabis or volatile substances as well as another kind of non-Class A drug.

[d] Total column includes pupils who did not say which drugs they took in the last year.

Table 2.54

Proportion of pupils who have ever been offered individual drugs: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Type of drugs offered	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	27	28	27	25	25	23	22	22	21
Any stimulants	**22**	**21**	**23**	**20**	**22**	**20**	**22**	**19**	**17**
Cocaine	9	9	9	8	9	9	10	9	8
Crack	9	7	9	8	8	7	8	7	6
Ecstasy	10	9	9	7	8	7	7	7	7
Amphetamines[b]	7	6	6	7	7	6	6	6	5
Poppers	10	12	12	11	12	12	13	10	7
Any psychedelics[c]	**12**	**11**	**12**	**12**	**13**	**11**	**10**	**10**	**10**
LSD	6	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	4
Magic mushrooms	10	9	10	10	11	8	8	7	8
Ketamine[d]	e	e	e	e	2	2	2	3	3
Any opiates	**8**	**7**	**8**	**6**	**6**	**6**	**6**	**6**	**6**
Heroin	7	6	7	5	6	5	6	5	5
Methadone	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	20	17	19	14	18	14	16	13	14
Tranquillisers	4	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3
Anabolic steroids	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Other drugs	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Any drug	**42**	**40**	**42**	**36**	**39**	**35**	**36**	**33**	**33**
Bases (all pupils)[e]	*9357*	*9859*	*10390*	*9715*	*9175*	*8132*	*7813*	*7754*	*7649*

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of the prevalence of drug use from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.

[b] Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'. See note 18.

[c] From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.

[d] Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.

[e] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 2.55a

Proportion of boys who have ever been offered individual drugs, by age and sex

All boys *2009*

Type of drugs offered	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	4	8	16	31	48	23
Any stimulants	**5**	**8**	**11**	**21**	**32**	**17**
Cocaine	3	3	4	9	17	8
Crack	2	4	5	8	11	6
Ecstasy	0	1	3	7	17	6
Amphetamines	1	1	3	5	12	5
Poppers	1	3	3	9	19	7
Any psychedelics	**2**	**4**	**7**	**12**	**23**	**10**
LSD	1	1	2	5	11	4
Magic mushrooms	1	3	5	9	18	8
Ketamine	1	1	1	3	9	3
Any opiates	**2**	**3**	**5**	**8**	**10**	**6**
Heroin	2	3	4	7	8	5
Methadone	0	1	0	2	5	2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	6	9	12	16	21	13
Tranquillisers	1	1	1	3	7	3
Anabolic steroids	1	1	2	3	7	3
Other drugs	0	1	1	1	3	1
Any drug	**14**	**20**	**29**	**43**	**58**	**35**
Bases[a]	*601*	*801*	*805*	*723*	*907*	*3837*

[a] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.55b

Proportion of girls who have ever been offered individual drugs, by age and sex

All girls *2009*

Type of drugs offered	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	1	6	15	26	42	19
Any stimulants	**3**	**7**	**13**	**22**	**35**	**17**
Cocaine	2	4	7	11	18	9
Crack	1	3	6	7	11	6
Ecstasy	0	1	5	10	16	7
Amphetamines	0	2	3	8	13	5
Poppers	1	1	4	9	20	8
Any psychedelics	**1**	**3**	**8**	**14**	**22**	**10**
LSD	0	1	2	5	9	4
Magic mushrooms	1	2	6	11	16	8
Ketamine	-	0	1	3	6	2
Any opiates	**2**	**4**	**6**	**8**	**10**	**6**
Heroin	2	4	5	7	8	5
Methadone	0	2	2	2	3	2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	4	11	12	17	24	14
Tranquillisers	0	1	2	3	4	2
Anabolic steroids	0	1	2	1	2	1
Other drugs	-	0	-	2	1	1
Any drug	**7**	**17**	**27**	**40**	**54**	**31**
Bases[a]	*619*	*781*	*772*	*765*	*875*	*3812*

[a] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.55c

Proportion of pupils who have ever been offered individual drugs, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Type of drugs offered	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	3	7	15	29	45	21
Any stimulants	**4**	**8**	**12**	**21**	**34**	**17**
Cocaine	2	4	5	10	18	8
Crack	2	4	6	8	11	6
Ecstasy	0	1	4	8	16	7
Amphetamines	0	1	3	7	13	5
Poppers	1	2	4	9	19	7
Any psychedelics	**2**	**4**	**7**	**13**	**23**	**10**
LSD	0	1	2	5	10	4
Magic mushrooms	1	3	6	10	17	8
Ketamine	0	1	1	3	8	3
Any opiates	**2**	**4**	**5**	**8**	**10**	**6**
Heroin	2	3	5	7	8	5
Methadone	0	1	1	2	4	2
Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents	5	10	12	17	22	14
Tranquillisers	1	1	1	3	6	3
Anabolic steroids	0	1	2	2	5	2
Other drugs	0	0	0	1	2	1
Any drug	**10**	**19**	**28**	**42**	**56**	**33**
Bases[a]	*1220*	*1582*	*1577*	*1488*	*1782*	*7649*

[a] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fifteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.56

Whether 15 year olds who have been offered drugs have ever taken any, by sex: 2001-2009

Aged 15 and has been offered drugs *2001-2009*

Ever taken drugs	Year 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys	69	69	70	66	68	66	65	62	67
Girls	67	65	69	67	66	66	64	63	65
Total	68	67	70	66	67	66	64	63	66
Bases									
Boys	*701*	*744*	*747*	*666*	*613*	*500*	*528*	*523*	*498*
Girls	*568*	*619*	*688*	*592*	*585*	*550*	*506*	*471*	*450*
Total	*1269*	*1363*	*1435*	*1258*	*1198*	*1050*	*1034*	*994*	*948*

Table 2.57

Whether 15 year olds who have been offered cannabis have ever taken any, by sex: 2001-2009

Aged 15 and has been offered cannabis *2001-2009*

Ever taken cannabis	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys	62	64	65	61	63	61	54	58	59
Girls	62	64	65	63	63	59	61	56	56
Total	62	64	65	62	63	60	58	57	58
Bases									
Boys	*607*	*674*	*672*	*590*	*533*	*436*	*453*	*436*	*431*
Girls	*485*	*530*	*584*	*505*	*487*	*448*	*383*	*381*	*369*
Total	*1092*	*1204*	*1256*	*1095*	*1020*	*884*	*836*	*817*	*800*

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 2.58

Whether 15 year olds who have been offered Class A drugs have ever taken any, by sex: 2001-2009[a]

Aged 15 and have been offered Class A drugs[a] *2001-2009*

Ever taken Class A drugs[a]	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys	30	30	32	32	29	35	28	30	37
Girls	28	29	30	30	28	28	27	27	27
Total	29	30	31	31	29	31	27	29	31
Bases									
Boys	*433*	*404*	*447*	*387*	*370*	*262*	*308*	*310*	*279*
Girls	*371*	*366*	*410*	*353*	*379*	*327*	*317*	*273*	*301*
Total	*804*	*770*	*857*	*740*	*749*	*589*	*625*	*583*	*580*

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

Table 2.59

Ever refused drugs, by sex: 1999-2009[a]

All pupils — *1999-2009*

Ever refused drugs[a]	Year					
	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Yes	32	37	41	38	37	33
No	3	5	11	10	10	8
Has never been offered drugs[a]	64	58	48	52	53	59
Girls						
Yes	30	32	37	37	34	30
No	3	4	10	9	9	8
Has never been offered drugs[a]	67	63	54	55	57	62
Total						
Yes	31	35	39	37	35	32
No	3	5	10	9	9	8
Has never been offered drugs[a]	66	61	51	53	55	60
Bases						
Boys	*4721*	*4618*	*5059*	*4398*	*3806*	*3622*
Girls	*4504*	*4604*	*5029*	*4351*	*3616*	*3690*
Total	*9225*	*9222*	*10088*	*8749*	*7422*	*7312*

[a] In 2003 the question was reworded to make explicit that the definition of drugs included volatile substances. Findings from 2003 and subsequent years may not be comparable with findings from 1999 and 2001.

Table 2.60

Proportion of pupils who have ever refused drugs that they were offered, by sex and age: 2003-2009

Pupils who had ever been offered drugs — *2003-2009*

Ever refused drugs	Year			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
11 years	65	63	56	55
12 years	70	70	69	70
13 years	79	80	77	79
14 years	83	82	83	83
15 years	87	86	88	88
Total	**79**	**79**	**79**	**80**
Girls				
11 years	56	60	52	54
12 years	69	73	64	74
13 years	78	79	77	71
14 years	84	82	87	85
15 years	88	89	87	89
Total	**79**	**80**	**79**	**80**
Total				
11 years	61	61	54	54
12 years	70	71	67	72
13 years	79	79	77	75
14 years	83	82	85	84
15 years	87	88	88	88
Total	**79**	**80**	**79**	**80**
Bases				
Boys				
11 years	*299*	*226*	*175*	*139*
12 years	*394*	*324*	*268*	*213*
13 years	*521*	*388*	*337*	*264*
14 years	*613*	*502*	*418*	*325*
15 years	*794*	*665*	*582*	*545*
Total	*2621*	*2105*	*1780*	*1486*
Girls				
11 years	*228*	*200*	*125*	*111*
12 years	*339*	*263*	*203*	*172*
13 years	*465*	*344*	*293*	*276*
14 years	*559*	*530*	*352*	*339*
15 years	*741*	*642*	*564*	*511*
Total	*2332*	*1979*	*1537*	*1409*
Total				
11 years	*527*	*426*	*300*	*250*
12 years	*733*	*587*	*471*	*385*
13 years	*986*	*732*	*630*	*540*
14 years	*1172*	*1032*	*770*	*664*
15 years	*1535*	*1307*	*1146*	*1056*
Total	*4953*	*4084*	*3317*	*2895*

Table 2.61

Reasons why pupils have refused drugs that they were offered, by sex: 2003-2009

Pupils who had ever been offered drugs *2003-2009*

Reasons for refusing drugs[a]	Year			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
I just didn't want to take them	37	37	37	38
I think that taking drugs is wrong	31	31	34	34
I didn't want to get addicted	33	32	34	32
I thought they were dangerous	34	29	31	31
I was frightened of taking them	17	15	16	14
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs	17	14	18	17
I didn't know enough about the drugs	12	8	11	10
They are too expensive	9	8	9	10
Never refused drugs	21	21	21	20
Girls				
I just didn't want to take them	43	43	44	45
I think that taking drugs is wrong	32	33	34	34
I didn't want to get addicted	30	31	33	31
I thought they were dangerous	35	33	36	33
I was frightened of taking them	22	23	23	21
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs	15	15	15	18
I didn't know enough about the drugs	14	13	12	13
They are too expensive	5	7	6	6
Never refused drugs	21	20	21	20
Total				
I just didn't want to take them	40	40	41	41
I think that taking drugs is wrong	32	32	34	34
I didn't want to get addicted	32	32	34	32
I thought they were dangerous	34	31	33	32
I was frightened of taking them	20	18	19	18
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs	16	15	17	17
I didn't know enough about the drugs	13	10	12	11
They are too expensive	7	7	7	8
Never refused drugs	21	20	21	20
Bases				
Boys	*2621*	*2105*	*1780*	*1486*
Girls	*2332*	*1979*	*1537*	*1409*
Total	*4953*	*4084*	*3317*	*2895*

[a] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Data from 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 2.62

Reasons why pupils have refused drugs that they were offered, by age and sex

Pupils who had ever been offered drugs *2009*

Reasons why refused drugs[a]	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
I just didn't want to take them	19	25	37	40	48	38
I think that taking drugs is wrong	29	37	38	37	29	34
I didn't want to get addicted	20	32	33	34	34	32
I thought they were dangerous	26	33	29	35	30	31
I was frightened of taking them	15	17	17	14	13	14
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs	15	19	19	21	13	17
I didn't know enough about the drugs	8	7	10	11	11	10
They are too expensive	2	6	8	9	14	10
Never refused drugs	45	30	21	17	12	20
Girls						
I just didn't want to take them	28	37	38	47	53	45
I think that taking drugs is wrong	37	39	32	34	33	34
I didn't want to get addicted	18	30	30	32	33	31
I thought they were dangerous	30	32	28	35	36	33
I was frightened of taking them	17	24	20	22	21	21
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs	16	23	17	20	15	18
I didn't know enough about the drugs	13	11	12	11	14	13
They are too expensive	-	6	4	7	7	6
Never refused drugs	46	26	29	15	11	20
Total						
I just didn't want to take them	23	31	38	43	51	41
I think that taking drugs is wrong	33	38	35	35	31	34
I didn't want to get addicted	19	31	32	33	34	32
I thought they were dangerous	28	32	28	35	33	32
I was frightened of taking them	16	20	18	18	17	18
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs	15	21	18	21	14	17
I didn't know enough about the drugs	10	9	11	11	13	11
They are too expensive	1	6	6	8	11	8
Never refused drugs	46	28	25	16	12	20
Bases						
Boys	*139*	*213*	*264*	*325*	*545*	*1486*
Girls	*111*	*172*	*276*	*339*	*511*	*1409*
Total	*250*	*385*	*540*	*664*	*1056*	*2895*

[a] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

Table 2.63

Reasons why pupils have refused drugs that they were offered, by whether ever taken drugs

Pupils who had ever been offered drugs *2009*

Reasons why refused drugs[a]	Ever taken drugs		
	Yes	No	Total[b]
	%	%	%
I just didn't want to take them	47	38	41
I think that taking drugs is wrong	22	43	34
I didn't want to get addicted	36	29	32
I thought they were dangerous	34	30	32
I was frightened of taking them	18	16	18
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs	16	18	17
I didn't know enough about the drugs	16	8	11
They are too expensive	12	5	8
Bases	*1266*	*1478*	*2895*

[a] Percentages may sum to more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer.

[b] Total column includes pupils who did not say whether they had ever taken drugs.

Table 2.64

Perceived ease of getting drugs, by age: 2001-2009

All pupils *2001-2009*

Type of drug	Year				
	2001	2003[a]	2005	2007	2009
	Percentage perceiving it easy to obtain drugs[b]				
11 years					
Any illegal drugs	7	7	8	8	4
Cocaine or crack	4	4	4	5	3
Heroin	3	3	3	3	2
12 years					
Any illegal drugs	13	15	15	12	10
Cocaine or crack	7	9	8	7	6
Heroin	5	7	7	5	4
13 years					
Any illegal drugs	29	30	28	24	24
Cocaine or crack	14	13	15	14	11
Heroin	10	11	11	11	10
14 years					
Any illegal drugs	45	46	44	40	36
Cocaine or crack	19	20	23	22	17
Heroin	15	16	16	15	12
15 years					
Any illegal drugs	64	61	60	56	55
Cocaine or crack	27	26	33	30	27
Heroin	21	19	21	18	16
Total					
Any illegal drugs	33	33	33	30	28
Cocaine or crack	15	15	18	17	14
Heroin	11	12	12	11	10
Bases[c]					
11 years	*1600*	*1707*	*1374*	*1120*	*1141*
12 years	*1900*	*2103*	*1740*	*1518*	*1496*
13 years	*1893*	*2116*	*1841*	*1559*	*1512*
14 years	*1845*	*1982*	*1846*	*1474*	*1443*
15 years	*1979*	*2255*	*1930*	*1782*	*1744*
Total	*9217*	*10163*	*8731*	*7453*	*7336*

[a] The estimate of the proportion of pupils aged 11 who thought it would be easy to get hold of cocaine or crack has been revised since the publication of the 2003 report.

[b] Pupils who perceived it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs.

[c] Bases shown for the pupils who responded to the question about the ease of getting hold of illicit drugs. Bases for the other questions may vary slightly.

Table 2.65

Perceived ease or difficulty of getting drugs, by type of drug and sex

All pupils *2009*

Ease or difficulty of getting drugs[a]	Type of drug		
	Illegal drugs	Cocaine/ Crack	Heroin
	%	%	%
Boys			
Easy	30	13	9
Difficult	22	29	31
Don't know	48	58	60
Girls			
Easy	26	14	10
Difficult	24	28	29
Don't know	50	58	61
Total			
Easy	28	14	10
Difficult	23	28	30
Don't know	49	58	61
Bases			
Boys	*3654*	*3650*	*3645*
Girls	*3682*	*3687*	*3680*
Total	*7336*	*7337*	*7325*

[a] 'Easy' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs; 'difficult' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very difficult' or 'fairly difficult' to get drugs.

Table 2.66

Perceived ease or difficulty of getting drugs, by type of drug and age

All pupils *2009*

Ease or difficulty of getting drugs[a]	Type of drug: Illegal drugs	Cocaine/ Crack	Heroin
	%	%	%
11 years			
Easy	4	3	2
Difficult	30	30	30
Don't know	66	66	67
12 years			
Easy	10	6	4
Difficult	28	29	30
Don't know	62	65	66
13 years			
Easy	24	11	10
Difficult	23	29	28
Don't know	53	60	62
14 years			
Easy	36	17	12
Difficult	21	27	29
Don't know	43	56	59
15 years			
Easy	55	27	16
Difficult	17	27	32
Don't know	28	46	52
Total			
Easy	28	14	10
Difficult	23	28	30
Don't know	49	58	61
Bases			
11 years	*1141*	*1141*	*1138*
12 years	*1496*	*1496*	*1494*
13 years	*1512*	*1511*	*1512*
14 years	*1443*	*1443*	*1440*
15 years	*1744*	*1746*	*1741*
Total	*7336*	*7337*	*7325*

[a] 'Easy' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs; 'difficult' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very difficult' or 'fairly difficult' to get drugs.

Table 2.67

Perceived ease or difficulty of getting illegal drugs, by whether had been offered drugs and age

All pupils *2009*

Ease or difficulty of getting illegal drugs[a]	Offered illegal drugs: Yes	No	Total[b]
	%	%	%
11-13 years			
Easy	43	6	14
Difficult	23	27	26
Don't know	34	66	60
14 years			
Easy	64	17	36
Difficult	16	24	21
Don't know	20	59	43
15 years			
Easy	79	25	55
Difficult	10	25	17
Don't know	10	49	28
Total			
Easy	63	11	28
Difficult	16	26	23
Don't know	21	62	49
Bases			
11-13 years	*779*	*3147*	*4149*
14 years	*582*	*814*	*1443*
15 years	*960*	*749*	*1744*
Total	*2321*	*4710*	*7336*

[a] 'Easy' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get drugs; 'difficult' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very difficult' or 'fairly difficult' to get drugs.

[b] Total column includes pupils who did not answer the questions about whether they had been offered drugs.

Table 2.68

Perceived ease or difficulty of getting cocaine or crack, by whether had been offered cocaine or crack and age

All pupils *2009*

Ease or difficulty of getting cocaine or crack[a]	Offered cocaine/ crack		
	Yes	No	Total[b]
	%	%	%
11-13 years			
Easy	36	5	7
Difficult	33	29	29
Don't know	31	66	64
14 years			
Easy	47	12	17
Difficult	30	27	27
Don't know	24	61	56
15 years			
Easy	60	18	27
Difficult	21	28	27
Don't know	18	54	46
Total			
Easy	50	9	14
Difficult	27	29	28
Don't know	23	62	58
Bases			
11-13 years	*244*	*3877*	*4148*
14 years	*193*	*1245*	*1443*
15 years	*374*	*1370*	*1746*
Total	*811*	*6492*	*7337*

[a] 'Easy' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get cocaine or crack; 'difficult' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very difficult' or 'fairly difficult' to get cocaine or crack.

[b] Total column includes pupils who did not answer the questions about whether they had been offered cocaine or crack.

Table 2.69

Perceived ease or difficulty of getting heroin, by whether had been offered heroin and age

All pupils *2009*

Ease or difficulty of getting heroin[a]	Offered heroin		
	Yes	No	Total[b]
	%	%	%
11-13 years			
Easy	43	4	6
Difficult	31	29	29
Don't know	26	66	65
14 years			
Easy	44	9	12
Difficult	32	29	29
Don't know	23	62	59
15 years			
Easy	49	14	16
Difficult	31	32	32
Don't know	21	55	52
Total			
Easy	45	7	10
Difficult	31	30	30
Don't know	23	63	61
Bases			
11-13 years	*140*	*3947*	*4144*
14 years	*99*	*1330*	*1440*
15 years	*144*	*1588*	*1741*
Total	*383*	*6865*	*7325*

[a] 'Easy' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very easy' or 'fairly easy' to get heroin; 'difficult' category combines pupils who perceived it 'very difficult' or 'fairly difficult' to get heroin.

[b] Total column includes pupils who did not answer the questions about whether they had been offered heroin.

Table 2.70

Awareness of individual drugs: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Aware of drug	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	91	92	92	92	91	89	90	90	91
Any stimulants	**97**	**96**	**97**	**96**	**97**	**96**	**97**	**96**	**96**
Cocaine	94	93	94	94	94	92	94	94	94
Crack	84	85	89	87	89	87	89	88	88
Ecstasy	81	81	82	78	76	73	75	74	72
Amphetamines[b]	57	54	52	71	70	66	65	62	60
Poppers	52	53	55	48	50	50	52	50	49
Any psychedelics[c]	**80**	**80**	**81**	**80**	**84**	**81**	**81**	**81**	**82**
LSD	64	62	60	56	55	54	55	54	54
Magic mushrooms	74	75	77	77	79	76	76	77	78
Ketamine[d]	d	d	d	d	31	31	30	31	32
Any opiates	**94**	**93**	**95**	**93**	**94**	**92**	**93**	**93**	**93**
Heroin	93	93	94	92	93	91	92	92	93
Methadone	55	55	53	49	51	51	55	56	58
Tranquillisers	74	71	73	70	70	67	71	67	67
Anabolic steroids	55	53	54	55	58	56	60	56	59
Other drugs	4	5	6	3	5	2	2	2	2
Not aware of any of these drugs	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**2**	**2**
Bases[e]	*9357*	*9832*	*10364*	*9668*	*9181*	*8135*	*7818*	*7756*	*7653*

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

[a] Because of changes to the questionnaire in 2001, estimates of pupils' awareness of individual drugs from surveys in this series carried out between 1998 and 2000 are not comparable with those shown here. Data from the earlier surveys have consequently been omitted from this table; they are available in the 2006 report: Fuller E (ed) Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006.

[b] Surveys from 2004 onwards asked about 'speed and other amphetamines'. See note 18.

[c] From 2005, estimates for psychedelics include ketamine.

[d] Ketamine was measured for the first time in 2005.

[e] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fourteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.71

Awareness of individual drugs, by age

All pupils *2009*

Aware of drugs	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cannabis	79	88	92	95	97	91
Any stimulants	**91**	**95**	**97**	**99**	**99**	**96**
Cocaine	86	92	94	97	98	94
Crack	69	83	91	96	96	88
Ecstasy	35	56	78	90	93	72
Amphetamines	22	38	60	80	88	60
Poppers	21	32	47	63	72	49
Any psychedelics	**54**	**71**	**86**	**95**	**97**	**82**
LSD	19	32	54	73	81	54
Magic mushrooms	47	65	82	92	96	78
Ketamine	10	16	25	44	59	32
Any opiates	**84**	**90**	**95**	**97**	**98**	**93**
Heroin	82	90	95	97	97	93
Methadone	32	47	57	70	78	58
Tranquillisers	45	57	67	78	83	67
Anabolic steroids	43	50	58	65	73	59
Other drugs	2	2	2	3	3	2
Not aware of any of these drugs	**5**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**
Bases[a]	*1221*	*1582*	*1578*	*1490*	*1782*	*7653*

[a] Bases show numbers of pupils with valid responses for at least one of the fourteen drugs or types of drug asked about.

Table 2.72

Attitudes to drug use by pupils' own age group: 1999-2009

All pupils *1999-2009*

Attitudes to drug use by own age group	Year								
	1999[a]	2001[a]	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
OK to try taking cannabis to see what it's like[b]	13	20	17	11	12	9	10	8	9
OK to try sniffing glue to see what it's like	a	a	10	7	9	7	9	8	9
OK to try taking cocaine to see what it's like	a	a	4	3	4	3	3	3	3
OK to take cannabis once a week	a	a	10	7	8	5	6	4	5
OK to sniff glue once a week	a	a	4	3	4	3	4	3	3
OK to take cocaine once a week	a	a	2	2	2	1	2	1	1
Bases[c]	*9234*	*9143*	*10134*	*9527*	*8928*	*8006*	*7628*	*7685*	*7496*

[a] Only questions about trying cannabis were asked in 1999 and 2001.

[b] In 1999 and 2001 pupils were asked whether it was OK to 'try cannabis once to see what it's like'. From 2003 they were asked whether it was OK to 'try taking cannabis to see what it's like'.

[c] Bases shown for pupils who answered whether it was OK to try cannabis once; other bases may vary slightly. Bases from 2001 have been revised.

Table 2.73

Attitudes to drug use by pupils' own age group, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Attitudes to drug use by own age group	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
OK to try taking cannabis to see what it's like	0	3	6	15	26	11
OK to try sniffing glue to see what it's like	3	7	9	9	13	8
OK to try taking cocaine to see what it's like	1	1	2	3	7	3
OK to take cannabis once a week	1	2	3	9	17	7
OK to sniff glue once a week	1	3	2	5	6	4
OK to take cocaine once a week	1	1	1	2	5	2
Girls						
OK to try taking cannabis to see what it's like	1	1	3	11	19	7
OK to try sniffing glue to see what it's like	5	7	7	13	13	9
OK to try taking cocaine to see what it's like	1	1	1	3	6	2
OK to take cannabis once a week	0	0	1	5	9	3
OK to sniff glue once a week	2	3	3	4	4	3
OK to take cocaine once a week	0	0	1	1	2	1
Total						
OK to try taking cannabis to see what it's like	1	2	4	13	23	9
OK to try sniffing glue to see what it's like	4	7	8	11	13	9
OK to try taking cocaine to see what it's like	1	1	2	3	7	3
OK to take cannabis once a week	0	1	2	7	13	5
OK to sniff glue once a week	2	3	3	4	5	3
OK to take cocaine once a week	1	1	1	2	3	1
Bases[a]						
Boys	*585*	*772*	*780*	*713*	*888*	*3738*
Girls	*603*	*775*	*756*	*756*	*868*	*3758*
Total	*1188*	*1547*	*1536*	*1469*	*1756*	*7496*

[a] Bases shown for pupils who answered whether it was OK to try cannabis once; other bases may vary slightly.

Table 2.74

Perceived number of people of pupil's age who take drugs: 2004-2009

All pupils *2004-2009*

Perceived number of people of pupil's age who take drugs	Year 2004 %	2005 %	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	2009 %
All of them	1	1	1	0	1	0
Most, but not all	4	5	4	4	3	3
About half	11	14	10	12	8	10
Only a few	46	49	47	50	46	49
None of them	38	31	39	34	41	37
Bases	*9548*	*8965*	*7940*	*7547*	*7631*	*7407*

Table 2.75

Perceived number of people of pupil's age who take drugs, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Perceived number of people of pupil's age who take drugs	Age 11 years %	12 years %	13 years %	14 years %	15 years %	Total %
Boys						
All of them	0	0	0	1	1	0
Most, but not all	1	1	2	4	6	3
About half	3	5	7	9	17	9
Only a few	26	34	48	66	64	49
None of them	70	60	43	21	12	39
Girls						
All of them	0	1	0	1	0	0
Most, but not all	1	1	3	4	7	4
About half	4	4	8	14	23	11
Only a few	27	36	53	61	61	49
None of them	68	57	36	20	8	36
Total						
All of them	0	0	0	1	1	0
Most, but not all	1	1	3	4	6	3
About half	4	5	7	11	20	10
Only a few	26	35	50	63	63	49
None of them	69	58	39	21	10	37
Bases						
Boys	*568*	*759*	*765*	*701*	*883*	*3676*
Girls	*592*	*762*	*758*	*755*	*864*	*3731*
Total	*1160*	*1521*	*1523*	*1456*	*1747*	*7407*

Table 2.76

Fifteen year olds' perceptions of the number of people of their own age that take drugs, by number of occasions ever taken drugs

Pupils aged 15 *2009*

Perceived number of people of pupil's age who take drugs	Number of occasions ever taken drugs				
	Never	Not in last year	1-5 occasions	6+ occasions	Total[a]
	%	%	%	%	%
All of them	0	1	2	3	1
Most, but not all	3	7	6	25	6
About half	13	27	33	38	20
Only a few	70	60	56	33	63
None of them	14	5	3	2	10
Bases	*1101*	*188*	*212*	*199*	*1747*

[a] Total includes pupils who did not say how often they had taken drugs.

Table 2.77

Perceived family attitudes towards drug taking, by sex: 2001-2009

Pupils who expressed an opinion[a] *2001-2009*

Perceived family attitudes towards drug taking	Year				
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
	%	%	%	%	%
Boys					
Family try to stop me	82	82	84	86	84
Family try to persuade me not to	17	16	15	13	15
Family do nothing	1	1	1	1	1
Family encourage me	0	1	0	0	0
Girls					
Family try to stop me	82	83	85	86	84
Family try to persuade me not to	17	16	14	13	15
Family do nothing	1	1	1	1	1
Family encourage me	0	0	0	0	0
Total					
Family try to stop me	82	83	84	86	84
Family try to persuade me not to	17	16	14	13	15
Family do nothing	1	1	1	1	1
Family encourage me	0	0	0	0	0
Bases[a]					
Boys	*3826*	*4120*	*3690*	*3121*	*3107*
Girls	*3874*	*4213*	*3704*	*3066*	*3190*
Total	*7700*	*8333*	*7394*	*6187*	*6297*

[a] Bases exclude pupils who answered 'don't know'. See note 39.

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 2.78

Perceived family attitudes towards taking drugs, by age and sex

Pupils who expressed an opinion[a] *2009*

Perceived family attitude	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Family try to stop me	87	85	86	83	81	84
Family try to persuade me not to	12	14	14	16	17	15
Family do nothing	1	0	1	1	1	1
Family encourage me	0	0	0	0	1	0
Girls						
Family try to stop me	86	85	85	81	82	84
Family try to persuade me not to	13	14	14	17	17	15
Family do nothing	0	0	1	1	1	1
Family encourage me	-	-	-	1	0	0
Total						
Family try to stop me	87	85	85	82	81	84
Family try to persuade me not to	13	14	14	17	17	15
Family do nothing	1	0	1	1	1	1
Family encourage me	0	0	0	0	1	0
Bases[a]						
Boys	*485*	*626*	*652*	*600*	*744*	*3107*
Girls	*512*	*655*	*634*	*639*	*750*	*3190*
Total	*997*	*1281*	*1286*	*1239*	*1494*	*6297*

[a] Bases exclude pupils who answered 'don't know'. See note 39.

Table 2.79

Perceived family attitudes towards taking drugs, by whether the family knows that child takes drugs

Pupils who take drugs and expressed an opinion[a] *2009*

Perceived family attitude	Family knows that child takes drugs		
	Yes	No	Total
	%	%	%
Family try to stop me	29	71	62
Family try to persuade me not to	41	25	28
Family do nothing	21	4	7
Family encourage me	9	1	2
Bases[a]	*90*	*365*	*455*

[a] Bases exclude pupils who answered 'don't know'. See note 39.

Table 2.80

Number of occasions pupils have taken drugs, by perceived family attitudes

All pupils who expressed an opinion[a] *2009*

Number of occasions pupils have taken drugs	Perceived family attitudes			
	Family try to stop me	Family try to persuade me not to	Family do nothing/ Family encourage me	Total
	%	%	%	%
Never taken drugs/ not taken in last year	92	83	28	90
Once	3	4	-	3
2-5 occasions	2	5	20	3
6-10 occasions	1	2	15	1
More than 10 occasions	2	6	38	3
Bases[a]	*5170*	*935*	*61*	*6166*

[a] Bases exclude pupils who answered 'don't know'. See note 39.

Table 2.81

Sources of helpful information about drug use, by sex

All pupils *2009*

Sources of helpful information	Sex		
	Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Parents	65	60	63
Siblings	30	27	29
Other relatives	43	36	40
Friends	43	42	43
GP	36	27	32
Teachers	64	63	63
Other adults at school	34	35	35
Police	43	37	40
TV	72	71	71
Radio	36	32	34
Newspapers or magazines	46	51	48
Internet	51	47	49
FRANK	39	33	36
Helplines	19	17	18
Bases[a]	*3563*	*3613*	*7176*

[a] Bases shown are for those responding to the question about 'parents'. Bases for other variables may vary slightly.

Table 2.82

Sources of helpful information about drug use, by age

All pupils *2009*

Sources of helpful information	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Parents	59	62	63	64	63	63
Siblings	26	26	28	28	33	29
Other relatives	40	39	41	38	40	40
Friends	30	34	41	48	56	43
GP	33	32	34	30	30	32
Teachers	55	59	65	69	67	63
Other adults at school	31	31	33	37	39	35
Police	42	40	41	38	40	40
TV	62	66	73	76	76	71
Radio	33	35	35	32	34	34
Newspapers or magazines	43	45	50	50	52	48
Internet	40	42	49	53	57	49
FRANK	20	29	38	42	47	36
Helplines	17	18	21	17	18	18
Bases[a]	*1138*	*1474*	*1478*	*1395*	*1691*	*7176*

[a] Bases shown are for those responding to the question about 'parents'. Bases for other variables may vary slightly.

Table 2.83

Sources of helpful information about drugs, by when last took drugs

All pupils *2009*

Sources of helpful information	When last took drugs: In the last month	Taken drugs, not in the last month	Never taken drugs	Total[a]
	Percentage who agreed with each statement			
Parents	60	68	62	63
Siblings	36	36	26	29
Other relatives	45	43	38	40
Friends	65	55	38	43
GP	31	32	31	32
Teachers	53	62	65	63
Other adults at school	38	37	34	35
Police	40	43	39	40
TV	68	77	71	71
Radio	34	39	33	34
Newspapers or magazines	49	54	48	48
Internet	58	60	46	49
FRANK	51	46	33	36
Helplines	20	21	17	18
Bases[b]	*519*	*954*	*5257*	*7176*

[a] Total includes pupils who did not answer the question about when they had last taken drugs.

[b] Bases shown are for those responding to the question about 'parents'. Bases for other variables may vary slightly.

Table 2.84a

Proportion of pupils who remembered receiving health education lessons about drugs in the last year: 1986-2000[a,b]

All pupils *1986-2000*

Recall of lessons	Year							
	1986	1988	1993	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Recalled lessons on drugs	35	38	55	57	64	66	64	61
Bases	*3189*	*2759*	*2971*	*2971*	*2705*	*4328*	*9023*	*6215*

Data from 1986 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

[a] Some estimates and bases between 2000 and 2006 have been revised since their original publication.

[b] 'Drugs and alcohol' was a combined category in 1986. In 1988 and 1993, the questionnaire asked about drugs as a general category. Solvent abuse was specifically asked about for the first time in 1994, and a more detailed list of individual drugs was included from 1996 to 2003, as well as 'drugs in general', the figures which are shown in this table.

Table 2.84b

Proportion of pupils who remembered receiving health education lessons about drugs in the last year: 2001-2009[a,b]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Recall of lessons	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Recalled lessons on drugs	60	63	61	59	59	58	61	60	59
Bases	*9172*	*9508*	*10097*	*9437*	*8810*	*7833*	*7542*	*7566*	*7383*

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

[a] Some estimates and bases between 2000 and 2006 have been revised since their original publication.

[b] Until 2003, a detailed list of individual drugs was included as well as 'drugs in general', the figures which are shown in this table. From 2004 onwards, drugs were asked about as a single category.

Table 2.85

Proportions of pupils who remembered receiving lessons about drugs in the last year, by school year

All pupils *2009*

Recall of lessons	School year					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Recalled lessons on drugs	43	50	65	70	65	59
Bases	*1465*	*1529*	*1505*	*1479*	*1405*	*7383*

Table 2.86

How pupils felt lessons on drugs had helped them, by sex

Pupils who remembered lessons about drugs *2009*

How pupils felt lessons on drugs helped	Sex		
	Boys	Girls	Total
	Percentage who agreed with each statement		
They helped me think about the risks of taking drugs	95	96	96
They helped me find out more about drugs	92	90	91
They helped me realise that taking drugs is against the law	84	86	85
They helped me to avoid drugs	81	78	79
They helped me think about what I would do if someone offered me drugs	77	74	76
They helped me find out where to go to get information/help about drugs	74	69	72
They helped me understand why people take drugs	67	65	66
They helped me see that not as many young people take drugs as I thought	42	34	38
Bases[a]	*1647*	*1665*	*3312*

[a] Bases shown are for those responding to question about whether lessons had helped them understand the risks of taking drugs. Bases for other variables may vary slightly.

Table 2.87

How pupils felt lessons on drugs had helped them, by school year

Pupils who recalled lessons about drugs *2009*

How pupils felt lessons on drugs helped	School year					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Total[a]
	Percentage who agreed with each statement					
They helped me think about the risks of taking drugs	96	96	95	96	94	96
They helped me find out more about drugs	89	91	91	92	91	91
They helped me realise that taking drugs is against the law	91	88	85	83	80	85
They helped me to avoid drugs	93	87	80	75	72	79
They helped me think about what I would do if someone offered me drugs	92	82	76	71	68	76
They helped me find out where to go to get information or help about drugs	69	70	71	71	75	72
They helped me understand why people take drugs	66	68	67	65	66	66
They helped me see that not as many young people take drugs as I thought	44	45	38	35	34	38
Bases[b]	*409*	*531*	*772*	*842*	*758*	*3312*

[a] Total includes pupils who did not give their school year.

[b] Bases shown are for those responding to question about whether lessons had helped them understand the risks of taking drugs. Bases for other variables may vary slightly.

Table 2.88

How pupils felt school lessons on drugs had helped them, by when last took drugs

Pupils who recalled lessons about drugs *2009*

How lessons on drugs helped pupils	When last took drugs			
	In the last month	Taken drugs, not in the last month	Never taken drugs	Total[a]
	Percentage who agreed with each statement			
They helped me think about the risks of taking drugs	90	94	96	96
They helped me find out more about drugs	85	92	92	91
They helped me realise that taking drugs is against the law	79	82	85	85
They helped me to avoid drugs	52	72	83	79
They helped me think about what I would do if someone offered me drugs	67	72	77	76
They helped me find out where to go to get information or help about drugs	72	73	71	72
They helped me understand why people take drugs	73	68	65	66
They helped me see that not as many young people take drugs as I thought	47	36	37	38
Bases[b]	*247*	*479*	*2416*	*3312*

[a] Total includes pupils who did not answer the question about when they had last taken drugs.

[b] Bases shown are for those responding to question about whether lessons had helped them understand the risks of taking drugs. Bases for other variables may vary slightly.

Table 2.89

Estimated odds ratios for drug use in the last year, by individual and school-level measures[a]

All pupils *2009*

Variable[b]	N	Odds ratio	p-value	95% confidence interval Lower	Upper
Sex (p=0.003)					
Boys	*3520*	1			
Girls	*3580*	0.76	0.003	0.63	0.91
Age in years[c]	*7100*	1.15	0.001	1.06	1.24
Ethnicity (p<0.001)					
White	*5974*	1			
Mixed	*254*	1.76	0.009	1.16	2.67
Asian	*432*	2.27	<0.001	1.48	3.49
Black	*172*	2.28	0.001	1.42	3.64
Other	*65*	0.38	0.266	0.07	2.09
Not given	*203*	1.24	0.447	0.71	2.16
Smoking status (p<0.001)					
Non-smoker	*6284*	1			
Occasional smoker	*344*	6.35	<0.001	4.85	8.33
Regular smoker	*430*	12.09	<0.001	9.21	15.87
Not given	*42*	2.02	0.091	0.89	4.57
Whether drunk alcohol (p<0.001)					
Never drunk alcohol	*3399*	1			
Drank alcohol in the last week	*1279*	6.84	<0.001	5.09	9.19
Has drunk alcohol but not in the last week	*2370*	3.69	<0.001	2.85	4.78
Not given	*52*	1.49	0.506	0.46	4.80
Ever truanted (p<0.001)					
No	*5889*	1			
Yes	*1043*	2.00	<0.001	1.62	2.46
Not given	*168*	1.54	0.300	0.68	3.49
Ever excluded from school (p<0.001)					
No	*6249*	1			
Yes	*641*	1.93	<0.001	1.50	2.48
Not given	*210*	1.57	0.047	1.01	2.44
Family attitudes to pupils taking drugs (p<0.001)					
Try to stop me taking drugs	*4948*	1			
Try to persuade me not to take drugs	*903*	1.63	<0.001	1.31	2.03
Do nothing/encourage me to take drugs	*60*	12.81	<0.001	5.54	29.60
Don't know	*438*	4.74	<0.001	3.56	6.30
Not given	*751*	1.04	0.812	0.78	1.38

[a] Variables included in the model which were not significant predictors of drug use in the last year are not shown (see Section 2.15.2 for a complete list).

[b] P-value for each variable excludes missing values.

[c] Odds ratio indicates change in odds for each additional year of age.

3 Smoking

Natasha Reilly

Key findings for 2009

- The proportion of pupils who have tried smoking at least once is 29%, the lowest since the survey began in 1982.
- In 2009, 6% of pupils said that they smoked at least once a week, the survey's definition of a regular smoker. This proportion has been unchanged since 2007.
- Girls are more likely to be regular smokers than boys (7% and 5% respectively).
- The prevalence of regular smoking increases with age, from less than 0.5% of 11 year olds to 15% of 15 year olds.
- The average (mean) consumption of cigarettes by pupils who smoke regularly is 38.1 cigarettes per week. Occasional smokers consume an average of 4.5 cigarettes a week.
- 9% of pupils reported that they had smoked in the last week.
- Compared with White pupils, those who describe their ethnicity as Mixed or Black are less likely to smoke. Pupils who receive free school meals are more likely to smoke than those who do not.
- Regular smoking is associated with other risk-taking behaviours such as drinking, drug use and truancy.

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Background

Smoking has a significant impact on the nation's health; it is a cause of numerous serious health conditions, including respiratory illnesses, several types of cancer such as lung, mouth and throat cancer, and cardio-vascular disease.[1,2] It has been estimated that nearly one in five deaths of adults over 35 is attributable to smoking, the UK's greatest cause of preventable illness and death, and that smoking is a major cause of health inequalities between rich and poor in Britain.[3,4] The cost to the NHS of treating smoking-related disease was estimated at £5.2 billion in 2005/06.[5]

Children who smoke are particularly vulnerable. In the short term, smoking can cause serious respiratory illnesses, poorer lung function, and asthma related illnesses and it can also impair lung growth. Studies have shown that even experimental smoking in childhood can lead to the increased likelihood of smoking in adolescence, and those who smoke before the age of 16 are twice as likely to continue smoking as those who start when they are older.[6] Those who start smoking at a young age are also more likely to smoke heavily than those who start smoking later, and also find it harder to stop smoking.[6]

In 1998, the then government outlined its strategy on smoking in the White Paper *Smoking Kills.* One of the main targets was to reduce the prevalence of regular smoking among children and young people from 13% (the 1996 baseline) to 9% by 2010.[3] This target was reached in 2003, and subsequently surpassed; the proportion of children aged 11 to 15 classed as regular smokers has remained at 6% since 2007.

Smoking continued to be a high priority. In the 2004 White Paper *Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier*,[4] the then government set out a multi-stranded tobacco strategy to tackle smoking and its wider effects. The main ways this would be achieved were by helping smokers to quit smoking; reducing tobacco promotion; increasing the regulation of tobacco products; reducing exposure to second hand smoke; and retaining the high price of tobacco products.

The Health Act 2006[7] introduced changes in the law aimed at reducing exposure to second hand smoke and reducing the prevalence of smoking among young people. 'Smokefree' legislation was implemented in England and Wales, banning smoking in enclosed public spaces. Although aimed at adults, this may have indirectly affected the age group covered by this survey, for example through changes in the smoking habits of family members. In October 2007, it became illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18 (rather than 16, as previously).

The Health Act 2009[8] included provisions to ban the display of tobacco products at the point of sale and powers to prohibit sales from vending machines, both measures partly aimed at discouraging young people from smoking.

At the time of writing (June 2010), the coalition government has not published any new policies on smoking and young people.

3.1.2 Measuring smoking

All pupils were asked questions about their smoking behaviour, including whether they had ever smoked and if they had, the number of cigarettes and how often they smoke. Based on their responses, pupils were categorised in three ways: as regular smokers (defined as usually smoking at least one cigarette per week), occasional smokers (defined as usually smoking less than one cigarette per week) or non-smokers. The term current smoker used in this chapter refers to those who smoke regularly or occasionally. Pupils who stated that they did not smoke, but recorded elsewhere that they had smoked at least one cigarette in the past seven days, were re-classified in the analysis as occasional smokers, regardless of the number of cigarettes recorded.[9]

Until 2002, a detailed smoking diary was used to cover smoking behaviour in the past seven

days. This method was replaced in 2003 by a question recording the number of cigarettes smoked in each of the previous seven days. This change in method means that estimates of the number of cigarettes smoked in the last seven days since 2003 are not comparable with estimates from surveys between 1982 and 2002.[10]

3.1.3 Outline of content

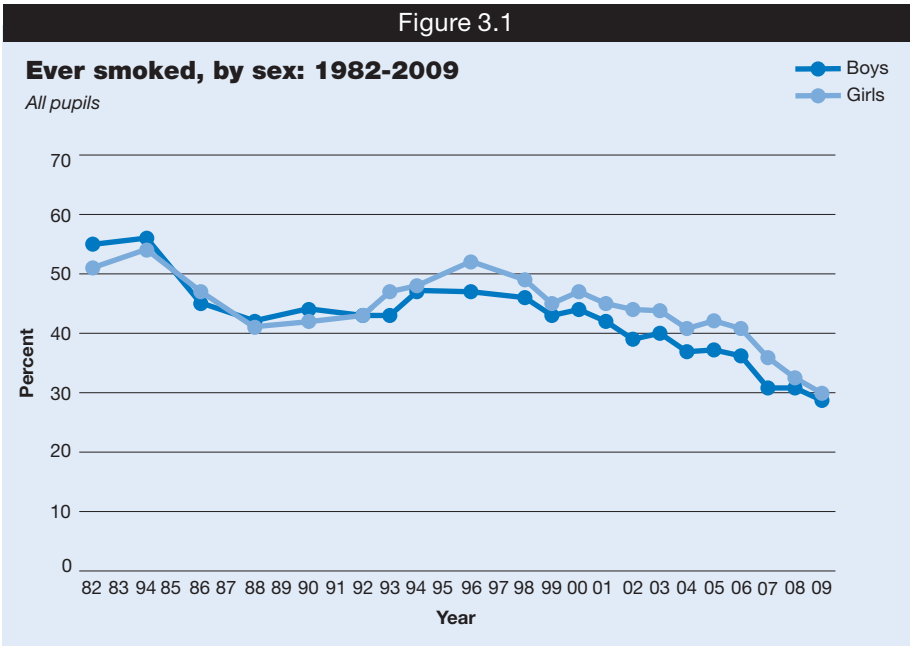
Smoking was the first topic covered by this series of surveys, and information on pupils' smoking behaviour has been collected since the survey first began in 1982. This section of the report discusses the prevalence of smoking among 11 to 15 year olds, patterns of consumption and the factors associated with regular smoking.

3.2 Smoking behaviour

3.2.1 Whether pupils have ever smoked

In 2009, less than a third (29%) of 11 to 15 year old pupils said they had smoked at least once. This is a continuation of the decline from 39% in 2006, when the smokefree legislation[11] was passed. It is lower than at any time since the survey started in 1982, when more than half (53%) of pupils had ever smoked. **(Table 3.1, Figure 3.1)**

Figure 3.1



In 2009, similar proportions of boys and girls had tried smoking (29% and 30% respectively). The likelihood of having smoked at least once increased with age, from 7% of 11 year olds to 52% of 15 year olds. **(Table 3.2)**

3.2.2 Regular smoking

In this study regular smoking is categorised as smoking at least one cigarette per week. The proportion of 11 to 15 year old pupils who said they were regular smokers (6%) has not changed since 2007. **(Table 3.3, Figure 3.2)**

As in previous years, the prevalence of regular smoking varied with sex and age. Girls were more likely than boys to smoke regularly (7% and 5% respectively), and older pupils were more likely to smoke than younger pupils (15% of 15 year olds, compared with less than 0.5% of 11 year olds). **(Table 3.3, Figure 3.3)**

3.2.3 Cigarettes smoked in the last week

As well as questions about their usual smoking habits, pupils were asked if they had smoked any cigarettes in the last seven days, and if so, how many cigarettes they had

Figure 3.2

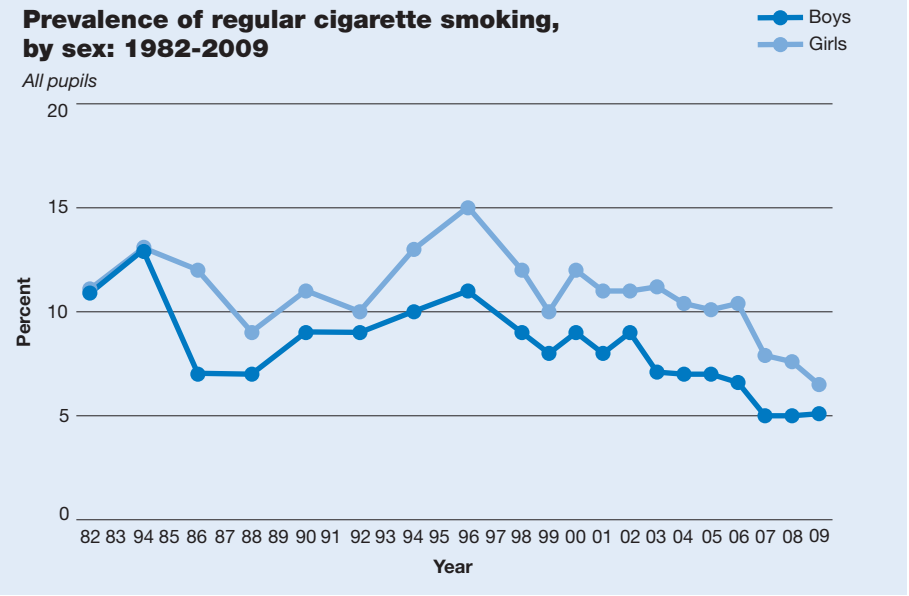
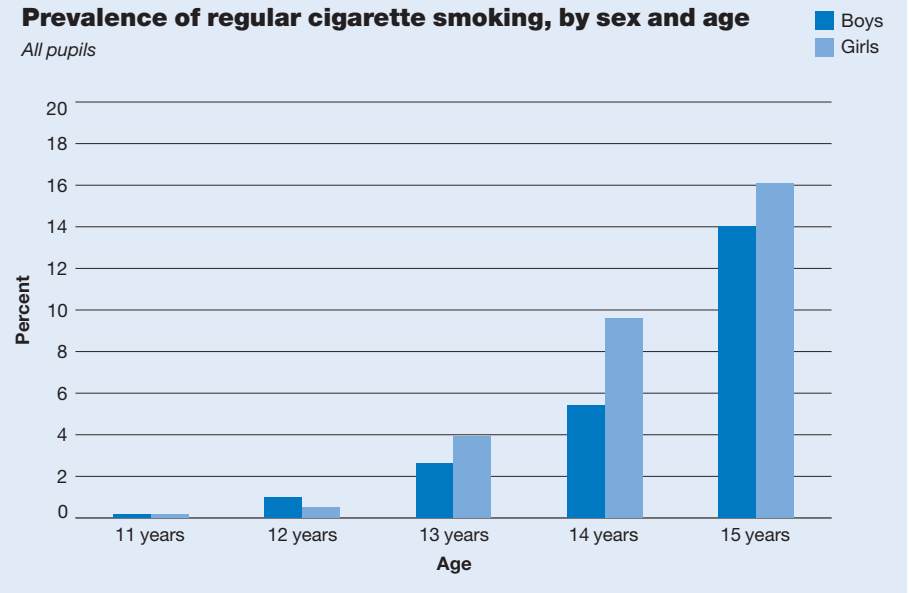


Figure 3.3



smoked on each day. In 2009, 9% of pupils said they had smoked in the last week. Girls were more likely than boys to report smoking in the last week (10% and 8% respectively). The prevalence of smoking in the last week also increased with age (from 1% of 11 year olds to 20% of 15 year olds). **(Table 3.4)**

Findings in this survey series have consistently shown that pupils tend to report that they smoked more cigarettes over the last week than would be expected from the way they categorise their smoking behaviour. For example, in 2009, 51% of pupils who said they sometimes smoked (but less than once a week), went on to report that they smoked one or more cigarettes in the last week. Similarly, of those who said they usually smoked between one and six cigarettes a week, 58% reported smoking seven or more cigarettes in the last week. 8% of pupils who said they used to smoke but never smoke now, also reported smoking in the last week. **(Table 3.5)**

95% of regular smokers and 63% of occasional smokers had smoked at least one cigarette a day in the past week. The mean consumption of regular smokers was 38.1 cigarettes a week. Occasional smokers consumed a mean of 4.5 cigarettes a week.

Median consumption in the last week was lower than mean consumption for both regular

and occasional smokers (29 cigarettes and 1 cigarette respectively). In other words, most pupils who smoked in the last week smoked less than the amount indicated by the mean.

(Tables 3.6, 3.8)

3.2.4 Patterns of cigarette consumption

Pupils were more likely to smoke on Fridays and Saturdays than on any other day of the week. In the last week, 64% of smokers had smoked on Friday and 62% on Saturday, compared with 55% or less for other days of the week. **(Tables 3.7, 3.8)**

Compared with the rest of the week, pupils smoked more on Fridays and Saturdays (a mean of 5.8 cigarettes on Friday, and 6.2 cigarettes on Saturday, compared with 4.2 or less on other days). **(Tables 3.9, 3.10)**

3.3 Factors associated with regular smoking

3.3.1 Using logistic regression to analyse pupils' smoking

The characteristics of pupils and their environments that are associated with regular smoking among pupils were explored by constructing a logistic regression model. This approach is advantageous in that it allows each factor to be considered separately by controlling for the effects of other, sometimes related, factors. For example, there are associations between regular smoking and both increased age and recent drug use. At the same time, older pupils are more likely to take drugs. The model allows the strength of the relationship between each of these variables and pupils' smoking behaviour to be evaluated separately.

The model shows associations, not causes; in other words, factors which identify pupils with an increased or decreased risk of being regular smokers. These variations in risk are expressed as odds ratios relative to a reference category, which is given a value of 1. Odd ratios greater than 1 indicate higher odds (increased risk), and odds ratios less than 1 indicate lower odds (reduced risk). Also shown are 95% confidence intervals for the odds ratio. Where the interval does not include 1, this category is significantly different from the reference category.

For further information on the logistic regression method used, see Appendix B.

3.3.2 The variables included in the model

The model included variables relevant to individual pupils and to their schools; these are listed below. Most variables are categorical; those marked * are continuous.[12]

Pupil-level variables (taken from the pupil questionnaire)

- Sex
- Age*
- Ethnicity (White, Mixed, Asian, Black, other)
- Whether drunk alcohol (never drunk alcohol, drank alcohol in the last week, has drunk alcohol but not in the last week)
- When last took drugs (never, took drugs in the last year, last took drugs more than a year ago)
- Recall of lessons on smoking in last year
- Ever truanted
- Ever been excluded
- Receives free schools meals (an indicator of low family income)
- Number of books in home[13] (none, very few, enough to fill one shelf, enough to fill one bookcase, enough to fill two bookcases, enough to fill three or more bookcases)

School-level variables (taken from NFER's Register of Schools)[14]

- School type (comprehensive, grammar, secondary modern, independent)
- Sex of school intake (mixed, boys only, girls only)
- Government Office Region (GOR)
- Percentage of pupils achieving grades A*-C in at least five GCSEs*

- Percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals*
- Percentage of pupils with statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)*
- Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL)*

For reasons of space and clarity, only those variables which were significantly associated with regular smoking are shown in Table 3.11

3.3.3 Factors associated with regular smoking

Sex and age

When other factors were controlled for, both age and sex were strongly related to smoking behaviour. The odds of a girl being a regular smoker were 2.35 times those of boys. Additionally, within this age group, the odds of being a regular smoker increased by 1.68 for each additional year of age.

Ethnicity

Black pupils and those of Mixed ethnicity were less likely to be regular smokers than White pupils (respectively odds ratio=0.06 and odds ratio=0.44). Other ethnic groups did not differ significantly from White pupils in their odds of being regular smokers.

Drinking and drug use

The strongest relationships between regular smoking and other variables within the model were with drinking alcohol and drug use. Compared with pupils who had never drunk alcohol, those who had drunk in the last week had 7.87 times the odds of being regular smokers. The odds for pupils who had drunk alcohol but not in the last week were increased, but less strongly (odds ratio=3.79).

Similarly pupils who had taken drugs in the last year had odds of being regular smokers 11.22 times those of pupils who had never taken drugs. Less recent drug users had odds increased 3.06 times.

Truancy and exclusion

Pupils who had played truant from school had 2.57 the odds of being regular smokers compared with pupils who had not. The odds of pupils who had been excluded from school at least once in their lives being regular smokers were similarly increased 2.82 times compared with those who had never been excluded.[15]

Socio-economic factors

Pupils who received free school meals had an increased risk of being regular smokers compared with those who did not (odds ratio=1.61). The number of books at home, used as a proxy for social class, was not significantly linked to the odds of being a regular smoker.

Lessons about smoking

Compared with pupils who said that they had been taught about smoking in the last year at school, those who did not recall such lessons were more likely to be regular smokers (odds ratio=1.32).

School characteristics

Boys, but not girls, in single sex schools had increased odds of being regular smokers (odds ratio=2.07) compared to those with a mixed sex intake. Other school-level variables in the model were not significantly linked to the odds of being a regular smoker. **(Table 3.11)**

Notes and references

1 Department of Health (2004) *Choosing Health: summary of intelligence on tobacco*. http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_4094874.pdf

2 The NHS Information Centre (2009) *Statistics on smoking 2009* http://www.ic.nhs.uk/webfiles/publications/smoking09/Statistics_on_smoking_England_2009.pdf

3 The Stationery Office (1998) *Smoking Kills: a White Paper on Tobacco*. Cm4177, London. http://www.archive.official-documents.co.uk/document/cm41/4177/4177.htm

4 Department of Health (2004) *Choosing Health: making healthier choices easier* http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4094550

5 Allendar S, Balakrishnan R, Scarborough P, Webster P and Rayner M (2009) *The burden of smoking-related ill-health in the United Kingdom*. Tobacco Control 18:252-255, cited in The NHS Information Centre (2009) *Statistics on smoking 2009*.

6 British Medical Association (2007) *Breaking the cycle of children's exposure to tobacco smoke*. BMA, London.

7 The Health Act 2006. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2006/ukpga_20060028_en_1

8 The Health Act 2009. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/ukpga_20090021_en_1

9 From 1982 to 1998, and in 2000 and 2002, around 2% to 3% of pupils said they did not smoke, but recorded in the smoking diary that they smoked at least one cigarette in the last week. They were consequently reclassified as occasional smokers. In 1999 there was no smoking diary, so pupils could not be reclassified in this way. In 2001, pupils were asked a question about smoking on each of the last seven days, and the diary was replaced by this question from 2003 onwards (see note 12 for more details). In response to this question, around 1% of pupils each year recorded that they had smoked at least one cigarette in the last seven days and were consequently reclassified as occasional smokers. The number of cigarettes recorded in the additional questions does not affect the definition of a regular smoker.

10 The changes were made for a number of reasons.

- Interviewers reported that pupils had problems completing the diary: they were confused by having to work backwards from 'yesterday' and didn't fill in entries for all seven days.
- The large amount of missing data on the diaries led to potentially unreliable estimates of the numbers of cigarettes smoked. Analysis was based on the assumption that, where sections of the diary had been left blank, no cigarettes had been smoked, even when there were whole days with no data and the parts of the diary that were completed indicated that the pupil had smoked some cigarettes.
- The diary could be used only in alternate years because it took up too much time to complete in a year where the focus was on drugs. This affected the estimates for occasional smokers, by excluding pupils who described themselves as non-smokers but who had smoked in the past seven days. Consequently, in years when the diary was not included, the prevalence of occasional smokers was underestimated by 2% to 3%.

Until 2002, the mean number of cigarettes smoked by regular smokers as measured by the diary varied between 46 cigarettes and 56 cigarettes; after the change from the diary to the single question regular smokers' mean consumption was 37 in 2003 and between 39 and 44 cigarettes per week in subsequent years. This apparent decrease in reported consumption between 2002 and 2003 was almost certainly due to the change in the way consumption was measured rather than a decrease in the actual number of cigarettes smoked. For data on cigarette consumption before 2003, see Hills A (2006) *Smoking*, in Fuller E (ed) *Drug use, smoking and drinking among young people in England in 2005*. The NHS Information Centre, Leeds. The space saved by removing the diary also allowed the inclusion of additional questions in years when the focus was on smoking and drinking.

11 Smokefree legislation refers to the package of measures enacted in the Health Act 2006; see Section 3.1.1

12 Categorical variables are those which group data in a specific number of discrete categories; for example, in this survey, sex has two categories: boy and girl. Continuous variables present data as a continuous range; for example, the percentage of pupils in the school who receive free school meals, from 0 to 100.

13 Used as a proxy measure of social class.

14 The sample of schools was drawn from NFER's Register of Schools, which included 2007 data for some indicators used in the logistic regression model.

15 The nature of the sample makes it very likely that truants and excludees are under-represented in this survey. Though it is likely that both these groups have increased odds of being regular smokers, the magnitude of these increases may not be accurately represented by this model.

Table 3.1a

Smoking behaviour, by sex: 1982-2000[a]

All pupils *1982-2000*

Smoking behaviour	Year											
	1982	1984	1986	1988	1990	1992	1993	1994	1996	1998	1999[b]	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys												
Regular smoker	11	13	7	7	9	9	8	10	11	9	8	9
Occasional smoker	7	9	5	5	6	6	7	9	8	8	4	7
Used to smoke	11	11	10	8	7	6	6	7	7	9	9	8
Tried smoking	26	24	23	23	22	22	22	21	22	20	22	20
Never smoked	45	44	55	58	56	57	57	53	53	54	57	56
Ever smoked	55	56	45	42	44	43	43	47	47	46	43	44
Girls												
Regular smoker	11	13	12	9	11	10	11	13	15	12	10	12
Occasional smoker	9	9	5	5	6	7	9	10	10	8	6	10
Used to smoke	10	10	10	9	7	7	10	8	9	10	11	8
Tried smoking	22	22	19	19	18	19	18	17	18	18	18	17
Never smoked	49	46	53	59	58	57	53	52	48	51	55	53
Ever smoked	51	54	47	41	42	43	47	48	52	49	45	47
Total												
Regular smoker	11	13	10	8	10	10	10	12	13	11	9	10
Occasional smoker	8	9	5	5	6	7	8	9	9	8	5	9
Used to smoke	10	10	10	8	7	7	8	8	8	10	10	8
Tried smoking	24	23	21	21	20	20	20	19	20	19	20	19
Never smoked	47	45	54	58	57	57	55	53	51	53	56	55
Ever smoked	53	55	46	42	43	43	45	47	49	47	44	45
Bases												
Boys	*1460*	*1928*	*1676*	*1489*	*1643*	*1662*	*1613*	*1522*	*1445*	*2311*	*4791*	*3654*
Girls	*1514*	*1689*	*1508*	*1529*	*1478*	*1626*	*1527*	*1523*	*1409*	*2413*	*4542*	*3407*
Total	*2979*	*3658*	*3189*	*3018*	*3121*	*3295*	*3140*	*3045*	*2854*	*4723*	*9333*	*7061*

[a] Table 3.1b shows trends in smoking behaviour from 2001 onwards.

[b] Questions about how many cigarettes were smoked in the last seven days were not asked in 1999, and pupils were not reclassified as occasional smokers. The figures for regular smokers in 1999 are comparable with other years, but figures for other classifications of smokers are not.

Table 3.1b

Smoking behaviour, by sex: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Smoking behaviour	Year 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
Regular smoker	8	9	7	7	7	7	5	5	5
Occasional smoker	7	6	6	4	5	4	4	4	4
Used to smoke	8	6	7	7	7	7	6	5	5
Tried smoking	20	18	20	19	18	18	16	16	15
Never smoked	58	61	60	63	63	64	69	69	71
Ever smoked	42	39	40	37	37	36	31	31	29
Girls									
Regular smoker	11	11	11	10	10	10	8	8	7
Occasional smoker	9	8	8	7	8	6	6	6	6
Used to smoke	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	6	5
Tried smoking	17	16	17	15	16	16	15	13	12
Never smoked	55	56	56	59	58	59	64	67	70
Ever smoked	45	44	44	41	42	41	36	33	30
Total									
Regular smoker	10	10	9	9	9	9	6	6	6
Occasional smoker	8	7	7	5	6	5	5	5	5
Used to smoke	8	7	8	8	8	7	6	6	5
Tried smoking	19	17	18	17	17	17	15	15	14
Never smoked	56	58	58	61	60	61	67	68	71
Ever smoked	44	42	42	39	40	39	33	32	29
Bases									
Boys	*4652*	*5064*	*5179*	*4989*	*4623*	*4018*	*4021*	*3950*	*3820*
Girls	*4625*	*4732*	*5081*	*4629*	*4469*	*4134*	*3717*	*3800*	*3792*
Total	*9277*	*9796*	*10260*	*9618*	*9092*	*8152*	*7738*	*7750*	*7612*

[a] Table 3.1a shows trends in smoking behaviour between 1982 and 2000.

Data from 2001 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 3.2

Smoking behaviour, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Smoking behaviour	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Regular smoker	0	1	3	5	14	5
Occasional smoker	1	2	2	5	8	4
Used to smoke	1	2	6	7	7	5
Tried smoking	7	11	14	20	21	15
Never smoked	92	84	76	62	50	71
Ever smoked	8	16	24	38	50	29
Girls						
Regular smoker	0	1	4	10	16	7
Occasional smoker	0	2	5	9	11	6
Used to smoke	0	3	5	7	9	5
Tried smoking	4	9	13	16	18	12
Never smoked	95	87	73	59	45	70
Ever smoked	5	13	27	41	55	30
Total						
Regular smoker	0	1	3	8	15	6
Occasional smoker	1	2	3	7	10	5
Used to smoke	1	2	5	7	8	5
Tried smoking	5	10	14	18	20	14
Never smoked	93	86	74	60	48	71
Ever smoked	7	14	26	40	52	29
Bases						
Boys	*598*	*795*	*799*	*722*	*906*	*3820*
Girls	*615*	*778*	*767*	*761*	*871*	*3792*
Total	*1213*	*1573*	*1566*	*1483*	*1777*	*7612*

Table 3.3a

Proportion of pupils who were regular smokers, by sex and age: 1982-2000[a]

All pupils *1982-2000*

Regular smokers	Year											
	1982	1984	1986	1988	1990	1992	1993	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys												
11 years	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
12 years	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	2
13 years	8	10	5	5	6	6	3	4	8	5	4	6
14 years	18	16	6	8	10	14	14	14	13	15	10	11
15 years	24	28	18	17	25	21	19	26	28	19	21	21
Total	**11**	**13**	**7**	**7**	**9**	**9**	**8**	**10**	**11**	**9**	**8**	**9**
Girls												
11 years	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
12 years	1	2	2	0	2	2	3	3	4	3	3	2
13 years	6	9	5	4	9	9	5	8	11	9	8	10
14 years	14	19	16	12	16	15	18	20	24	19	15	19
15 years	25	28	27	22	25	25	26	30	33	29	25	26
Total	**11**	**13**	**12**	**9**	**11**	**10**	**11**	**13**	**15**	**12**	**10**	**12**
Total												
11 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
12 years	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	2	3	4	3	2
13 years	7	10	5	5	7	7	4	6	10	8	6	8
14 years	16	17	11	10	13	14	16	17	18	19	12	15
15 years	25	28	22	20	25	23	22	28	30	24	23	23
Total	**11**	**13**	**10**	**8**	**10**	**10**	**10**	**12**	**13**	**11**	**9**	**10**
Bases												
Boys												
11 years	*299*	*260*	*236*	*229*	*313*	*289*	*251*	*268*	*272*	*300*	*870*	*618*
12 years	*298*	*378*	*320*	*280*	*350*	*336*	*318*	*310*	*297*	*349*	*1011*	*751*
13 years	*303*	*416*	*347*	*318*	*313*	*351*	*349*	*307*	*282*	*302*	*946*	*736*
14 years	*277*	*376*	*352*	*311*	*305*	*311*	*337*	*306*	*298*	*612*	*918*	*752*
15 years	*348*	*490*	*421*	*350*	*360*	*369*	*358*	*331*	*296*	*754*	*1046*	*797*
Total	*1525*	*1920*	*1676*	*1488*	*1641*	*1656*	*1613*	*1522*	*1445*	*2317*	*4791*	*3654*
Girls												
11 years	*250*	*254*	*213*	*226*	*296*	*307*	*253*	*236*	*274*	*303*	*870*	*572*
12 years	*276*	*332*	*314*	*315*	*281*	*359*	*316*	*307*	*278*	*375*	*892*	*686*
13 years	*303*	*355*	*266*	*297*	*292*	*335*	*325*	*329*	*278*	*390*	*924*	*697*
14 years	*312*	*333*	*314*	*315*	*302*	*297*	*323*	*310*	*288*	*670*	*933*	*688*
15 years	*372*	*412*	*400*	*376*	*304*	*320*	*310*	*341*	*291*	*673*	*923*	*764*
Total	*1513*	*1686*	*1507*	*1529*	*1475*	*1618*	*1527*	*1523*	*1409*	*2411*	*4542*	*3407*
Total												
11 years	*549*	*514*	*449*	*455*	*609*	*596*	*504*	*504*	*546*	*603*	*1740*	*1190*
12 years	*574*	*710*	*634*	*595*	*631*	*695*	*634*	*617*	*575*	*724*	*1903*	*1437*
13 years	*606*	*771*	*613*	*615*	*605*	*686*	*674*	*636*	*560*	*692*	*1870*	*1433*
14 years	*589*	*709*	*666*	*626*	*607*	*608*	*660*	*616*	*586*	*1282*	*1851*	*1440*
15 years	*720*	*902*	*821*	*726*	*664*	*689*	*668*	*672*	*587*	*1427*	*1969*	*1561*
Total	*3038*	*3606*	*3183*	*3017*	*3116*	*3274*	*3140*	*3045*	*2854*	*4728*	*9333*	*7061*

[a] Table 3.3b shows trends in the prevalence of regular smoking from 2001 onwards.

Data from 1982 to 2000 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 3.3b

Proportion of pupils who were regular smokers, by sex and age: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Regular smokers	Year 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
11 years	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
12 years	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
13 years	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	3
14 years	12	13	9	11	10	10	7	6	5
15 years	19	20	18	16	16	16	12	11	14
Total	**8**	**9**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**5**	**5**	**5**
Girls									
11 years	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
12 years	3	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1
13 years	8	8	8	6	6	7	4	6	4
14 years	19	18	16	14	14	16	12	11	10
15 years	25	26	26	26	25	24	19	17	16
Total	**11**	**11**	**11**	**10**	**10**	**10**	**8**	**8**	**7**
Total									
11 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
12 years	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
13 years	7	6	6	6	5	5	3	5	3
14 years	15	16	13	12	12	13	9	9	8
15 years	22	23	22	21	20	20	15	14	15
Total	**10**	**10**	**9**	**9**	**9**	**9**	**6**	**6**	**6**
Bases									
Boys									
11 years	*830*	*892*	*892*	*877*	*744*	*624*	*609*	*643*	*598*
12 years	*944*	*1037*	*1047*	*1031*	*954*	*853*	*871*	*803*	*795*
13 years	*951*	*1051*	*1077*	*1020*	*984*	*794*	*819*	*790*	*799*
14 years	*902*	*961*	*1015*	*983*	*937*	*837*	*804*	*779*	*722*
15 years	*1025*	*1123*	*1148*	*1078*	*1004*	*910*	*918*	*935*	*906*
Total	*4652*	*5064*	*5179*	*4989*	*4623*	*4018*	*4021*	*3950*	*3820*
Girls									
11 years	*795*	*816*	*863*	*826*	*734*	*642*	*590*	*619*	*615*
12 years	*976*	*997*	*1072*	*927*	*885*	*848*	*741*	*777*	*778*
13 years	*956*	*943*	*1055*	*939*	*924*	*856*	*790*	*755*	*767*
14 years	*944*	*952*	*979*	*915*	*956*	*789*	*710*	*770*	*761*
15 years	*954*	*1022*	*1112*	*1022*	*970*	*999*	*886*	*879*	*871*
Total	*4625*	*4732*	*5081*	*4629*	*4469*	*4134*	*3717*	*3800*	*3792*
Total									
11 years	*1625*	*1700*	*1755*	*1703*	*1478*	*1266*	*1199*	*1262*	*1213*
12 years	*1920*	*2034*	*2119*	*1958*	*1839*	*1701*	*1612*	*1580*	*1573*
13 years	*1907*	*1994*	*2132*	*1959*	*1908*	*1650*	*1609*	*1545*	*1566*
14 years	*1846*	*1913*	*1994*	*1898*	*1893*	*1626*	*1514*	*1549*	*1483*
15 years	*1979*	*2145*	*2260*	*2100*	*1974*	*1909*	*1804*	*1814*	*1777*
Total	*9277*	*9796*	*10260*	*9618*	*9092*	*8152*	*7738*	*7750*	*7612*

[a] Table 3.3a shows trends in the prevalence of regular smoking between 1982 and 2000.

Table 3.4

Proportion of pupils who smoked in the last week, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Smoked in the last week	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys	0	2	4	9	19	8
Girls	1	2	7	16	22	10
Total	1	2	6	13	20	9
Bases						
Boys	*536*	*719*	*728*	*670*	*860*	*3513*
Girls	*563*	*736*	*729*	*734*	*836*	*3598*
Total	*1099*	*1455*	*1457*	*1404*	*1696*	*7111*

Table 3.5

Cigarettes smoked in the last week, by smoking behaviour

All pupils *2009*

Cigarettes smoked in the last week	Smoking behaviour: Never smoked	Tried smoking once	Used to smoke, never now	Less than one a week	1 to 6 a week	More than 6 a week	Total[a]
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
None	100	96	92	49	12	2	92
1 to 6	0	3	6	40	30	2	3
7 to 69	-	1	2	11	56	64	4
70 or more	-	0	0	0	2	31	1
Bases	*5148*	*835*	*383*	*242*	*128*	*242*	*7024*

[a] Total column includes pupils who did not answer questions about their smoking behaviour.

Table 3.6

Mean and median number of cigarettes smoked in the last week, by sex and smoking status: 2003-2009[a]

Current smokers — *2003-2009*

Cigarettes smoked in last week	Year 2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	Mean/median number of cigarettes						
Boys							
Regular smokers							
Mean	38.9	41.6	39.7	47.0	45.2	44.7	40.3
Standard error of mean	2.26	2.12	2.08	2.42	3.23	3.23	3.32
Median	29	35	35	42	38	36	29
Occasional smokers[b]							
Mean	3.6	5.8	5.6	3.7	5.0	5.4	5.2
Standard error of mean	0.49	1.19	1.24	0.87	1.06	1.18	1.41
Median	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Girls							
Regular smokers							
Mean	35.7	42.3	42.8	41.5	43.3	36.0	36.5
Standard error of mean	1.40	1.60	1.73	1.78	2.32	2.11	2.44
Median	30	35	37	36	38	23	29
Occasional smokers[b]							
Mean	2.6	3.4	2.8	3.2	3.8	2.9	4.1
Standard error of mean	0.27	0.47	0.36	0.68	0.55	0.49	0.97
Median	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total							
Regular smokers							
Mean	36.9	42.0	41.6	43.5	44.1	39.3	38.1
Standard error of mean	1.27	1.34	1.33	1.41	1.94	1.90	2.04
Median	30	35	35	39	38	27	29
Occasional smokers[b]							
Mean	3.1	4.4	3.9	3.4	4.3	3.9	4.5
Standard error of mean	0.28	0.54	0.50	0.53	0.60	0.57	0.80
Median	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bases							
Boys							
Regular smokers	*319*	*307*	*275*	*227*	*179*	*162*	*156*
Occasional smokers	*287*	*192*	*190*	*158*	*151*	*145*	*126*
Girls							
Regular smokers	*530*	*446*	*416*	*379*	*262*	*260*	*214*
Occasional smokers	*363*	*304*	*331*	*239*	*225*	*196*	*190*
Total							
Regular smokers	*849*	*753*	*691*	*606*	*441*	*422*	*370*
Occasional smokers	*650*	*496*	*521*	*397*	*376*	*341*	*316*

[a] Data shown from 2003 onwards, when the current method of measuring cigarette consumption was introduced (see Section 3.1.2).

b 'Occasional smokers' includes pupils who described themselves as non-smokers but who reported smoking at least one cigarette in the last week.

Table 3.7

Days on which pupils smoked in last week, by sex

All pupils — *2009*

Days on which smoked	Sex Boys	Girls	Total
	%	%	%
Monday	4	6	5
Tuesday	4	6	5
Wednesday	4	6	5
Thursday	4	6	5
Friday	5	7	6
Saturday	5	7	6
Sunday	4	5	5
Any smoking in last week	**8**	**10**	**9**
Bases[a]	*3513*	*3598*	*7111*

[a] Bases shown for 'any smoking in last week'. Bases for individual days may vary slightly.

Table 3.8

Days on which pupils smoked in last week, by smoking status

Current smokers — *2009*

Days on which smoked	Smoking status Regular smoker	Occasional smokers[a]	Total
	%	%	%
Monday	78	24	55
Tuesday	79	22	55
Wednesday	80	20	54
Thursday	80	17	53
Friday	87	35	64
Saturday	85	34	62
Sunday	74	20	50
Any smoking in last week	**95**	**63**	**81**
Bases[b]	*407*	*338*	*745*

[a] 'Occasional smokers' includes pupils who described themselves as non-smokers but who reported smoking at least one cigarette in the last week.

[b] Bases shown for 'any smoking in last week'. Bases for individual days may vary slightly.

Table 3.9

Mean number of cigarettes smoked per day, by sex

Pupils who had smoked in last week — *2009*

Mean number of cigarettes smoked	Sex		
	Boys	Girls	Total
	Mean number of cigarettes		
Monday	4.4	3.8	4.0
Standard error of mean	0.41	0.31	0.26
Tuesday	4.4	3.7	4.0
Standard error of mean	0.39	0.30	0.24
Wednesday	4.3	3.7	3.9
Standard error of mean	0.41	0.32	0.26
Thursday	4.5	4.0	4.2
Standard error of mean	0.43	0.34	0.26
Friday	6.3	5.3	5.8
Standard error of mean	0.50	0.35	0.30
Saturday	6.7	5.8	6.2
Standard error of mean	0.59	0.41	0.35
Sunday	5.2	3.6	4.2
Standard error of mean	0.49	0.29	0.27
All seven days[a]	**32.0**	**26.9**	**29.0**
Standard error of mean	2.78	1.96	1.69
Bases[b]	*226*	*324*	*550*

[a] Not all smokers gave valid answers for all seven days; consequently the total for the week does not equal the sum of individual days.

[b] Bases shown for 'any smoking in last week'. Bases for individual days may vary slightly.

Table 3.10

Mean number of cigarettes smoked per day, by smoking status

Pupils who had smoked in last week — *2009*

Mean number of cigarettes smoked	Smoking status		
	Regular smoker	Occasional smokers[a]	Total[b]
	Mean number of cigarettes		
Monday	5.2	1.0	4.0
Standard error of mean	0.31	0.21	0.26
Tuesday	5.2	1.1	4.0
Standard error of mean	0.29	0.22	0.24
Wednesday	5.1	1.1	3.9
Standard error of mean	0.31	0.29	0.26
Thursday	5.4	1.2	4.2
Standard error of mean	0.30	0.36	0.26
Friday	7.5	1.9	5.8
Standard error of mean	0.36	0.25	0.30
Saturday	8.1	2.0	6.2
Standard error of mean	0.43	0.28	0.35
Sunday	5.5	1.2	4.2
Standard error of mean	0.33	0.26	0.27
All seven days[c]	**40.3**	**7.4**	**29.0**
Standard error of mean	2.12	1.30	1.69
Bases[d]	*350*	*192*	*550*

[a] 'Occasional smokers' includes pupils who described themselves as non-smokers but who had smoked in the last week.

[b] Total includes smokers who did not say how often they smoked.

[c] Not all smokers gave valid answers for all seven days; consequently the total for the week does not equal the sum of individual days.

[d] Bases shown for 'any smoking in last week'. Bases for individual days may vary slightly.

Table 3.11

Estimated odds ratios for regular smoking, by individual and school-level measures[a]

All pupils *2009*

Variable[b]	N	Odds ratio	p-value	95% confidence interval Lower	Upper
Sex (p<0.001)					
Boys	3820	1			
Girls	3792	2.35	<0.001	1.76	3.13
Age in years	**7612**	**1.68**	**<0.001**	**1.47**	**1.92**
Ethnicity (p<0.001)					
White	6373	1			
Mixed	271	0.44	0.015	0.23	0.85
Asian	475	1.33	0.519	0.55	3.20
Black	184	0.06	<0.001	0.02	0.23
Other	68	0.60	0.647	0.06	5.49
Not given	241	2.05	0.050	1.00	4.22
Whether drunk alcohol (p<0.001)					
Never drunk alcohol	3673	1			
Drank alcohol in the last week	1338	7.87	<0.001	4.35	14.25
Has drunk alcohol but not in the last week	2534	3.79	<0.001	2.21	6.49
Not given	67	4.12	0.031	1.14	14.89
Drug use (p<0.001)					
Never taken drugs	5509	1			
Took drugs in the last year	1043	11.22	<0.001	8.33	15.10
Has taken drugs but not in the last year	506	3.06	<0.001	1.93	4.84
Not given	554	1.56	0.134	0.87	2.79
Ever truanted (p<0.001)					
No	6282	1			
Yes	1104	2.57	<0.001	1.95	3.38
Not given	226	3.66	0.006	1.47	9.15
Ever excluded (p<0.001)					
No	6656	1			
Yes	691	2.82	<0.001	2.03	3.91
Not given	265	0.87	0.713	0.41	1.83
Receives free school meals (p=0.026)					
No	6413	1			
Yes	977	1.61	0.026	1.06	2.46
Not given	222	0.84	0.703	0.34	2.06
Recalls lessons on smoking (p=0.036)					
Yes	4286	1			
No/not given	3326	1.32	0.036	1.02	1.72
Sex of school intake (p=0.030)					
Mixed	6571	1			
Boys only	394	2.07	0.025	1.10	3.92
Girls only	647	1.75	0.060	0.98	3.14

[a] Variables included in the model which were not significant predictors of regular smoking are not shown (see Section 3.3.2 for a complete list of variables included in the model).

[b] P-value for each variable excludes missing values.

4 Drinking alcohol

Natalie Gunning and Soazig Nicholson

Key findings for 2009

- In 2009, half of 11 to 15 year olds had ever had an alcoholic drink (51%). This continues the downward trend in recent years, from 61% in 2003.
- Around one in five (18%) of pupils reported drinking alcohol in the last week. This was more common among older pupils (38% of 15 year olds, compared with 3% of 11 year olds), and was at similar levels for boys and girls.
- The proportion of pupils who reported that they drank alcohol at least once a week has decreased since 2001 (12% in 2009, compared with 20% in 2001).
- Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week had a mean intake of 11.6 units, and a median intake of 7.0 units.
- The most popular type of drink was beer, lager, or cider, which accounted for over half pupils' mean weekly intake (6.2 units). This was the case for both boys and girls, but girls drank more wine, spirits and alcopops than boys.
- White pupils were more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week than pupils from Mixed or Asian ethnic backgrounds. Independent of pupils' own ethnicity, those who attended a school where a high proportion of pupils had English as an additional language were also less likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week.
- Drinking alcohol in the last week was found to be associated with other risk-taking behaviours: smoking, drug use, and truancy.

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Background

Drinking during childhood, particularly heavy drinking, is associated with a range of problems including physical and mental health problems, alcohol-related accidents, violence, and anti-social behaviour.[1] In England in 2007/2008, more than 7600 children aged under 17 were admitted to hospital as a result of drinking alcohol.[2]

Young people who start drinking alcohol at an early age drink more, and drink more often, than those who delay the start of drinking until they are older. They are also more likely to get drunk and to develop alcohol problems in adolescence and childhood.[3] However, alcohol is considered a natural part of the transition from adolescence to adulthood and, until recently, it was generally considered safe for children to drink in a family setting.[4]

Young people's drinking behaviour is a matter of increasing public concern in England, and current patterns are among the worst in Europe.[3] Previous reports in this series have identified that although the proportion of young people who have drunk alcohol has decreased in recent years, many 11 to 15 year olds have drunk large amounts of alcohol, and deliberately try to get drunk.[5]

In 2008, the then government published the Youth Alcohol Action Plan, which set out a commitment to work with parents, industry, communities and criminal justice and law enforcement agencies to address drinking by young people. The plan acknowledged that although previous measures had brought about some improvements, such as making it harder for under-18s to purchase alcohol, young people's drinking remained a serious concern, and more needed to be done. The plan set out five priority areas for action:

- Stepping up enforcement activity to address young people drinking in public places.
- Taking action with industry on young people and alcohol.
- Developing a national consensus on young people and drinking.
- Establish a new partnership with parents on teenage drinking.
- Supporting young people to make sensible decisions about alcohol.[6]

In December 2009, the Chief Medical Officer for England published new guidance on the consumption of alcohol by children and young people, aimed primarily at parents, families, and young people. This was the first time that recommendations had been made for safe levels of alcohol consumption for young people. This guidance made it clear that any level of alcohol consumption can be harmful and therefore the safest option is an alcohol-free childhood, at least up to the age of 15. This guidance document also highlighted the need for young people to have access to information about the specific harms linked to drinking at a young age.[3]

The coalition's *Programme for government* published in May 2010,[7] includes proposals designed to restrict the supply of alcohol to young people aged under 18 through the granting of powers to councils to close outlets that persistently sell alcohol to children; and an increase in the maximum fine for under-age alcohol sales. In addition, there will be a ban on the sales of alcohol at below cost price, and a review of alcohol pricing and taxation, both policies which might be expected to have a particular impact on young drinkers.[8]

4.1.2 Measuring alcohol consumption

Consumption in units

Pupils who had drunk in the last seven days were asked how much they had drunk in that period. Their answers were used to calculate their consumption in units (one unit of alcohol is equivalent to 10ml by volume of pure alcohol). These questions about alcohol consumption have been asked in a consistent way since 1990, with minor changes in 2002.[9] The questionnaire specified six types of drink, and, for each, asked how much the pupil had drunk.

Beer, lager and cider: pints, half pints, large cans, small cans, bottles
Shandy: pints, half pints, large cans, small cans
Wine: glass
Martini and sherry (i.e. fortified wine): glass
Spirits and liqueurs (e.g. whisky, vodka, gin, tequila, Baileys, Tia Maria): glass
Alcopops (e.g. Bacardi Breezer, Reef, Smirnoff Ice, Vodka Kick, WKD): small cans, bottles.

Pupils who had drunk beer, lager or cider were asked if they usually drank normal strength or strong beer.

Attempting to accurately measure alcohol consumption among 11 to 15 year olds presents similar but not identical challenges to surveys of adults. First, with both adults and children, recall of their drinking can be erroneous; a generally acknowledged problem for all surveys measuring alcohol consumption. Second, the majority of pupils' drinking is in informal settings, and the quantities they drink are not necessarily standard measures. Finally, the survey method limits the amount of detail that can be recorded about the alcoholic strength and quantities drunk, so that, to convert actual drinks into units of alcohol consumed, it is necessary to make consistent assumptions about the strength and size of each type of drink.

Converting consumption of alcohol into units

Since the established unit measurement was introduced in 1990 there have been significant changes in the alcohol content of drinks and the variability in glass size. As a result the 2006 General Household Survey and the Health Survey for England changed the method by which adult alcohol consumption is converted into units of alcohol.[10/11] The 2007 report in this survey series revised the method of calculating units in line with these surveys of adults and reported 'original' and 'revised' units of alcohol. This resulted in a higher, more accurate estimate of alcohol consumption among pupils, and reflected a likely gradual change in drinking behaviour since the 1990s.[12] From 2008, consumption has been shown only in 'revised' units and so direct comparisons between consumption of alcohol in 2009 and trend data based on the original units from 2006 and before are not possible.

The conversion factors used in this report are shown in the table below.

Type of drink	Measure	Units of alcohol
Beer, lager or cider	Pint	2
	Half pint	1
	Large can	2
	Small can or bottle	1.5
	Less than half a pint	0.5
Shandy	Pint	1
	Half pint	0.5
	Large can	0
	Small can or bottle	0
	Less than half a pint	0.25
Wine	Glass	2
	Less than a glass	0.5
Martini, sherry, spirits and liqueurs	Glass	1
	Less than a glass	0.5
Alcopops	Can or bottle	1.5
	Less than a bottle	0.75

Where pupils have indicated that they normally drink strong rather than normal strength beer, lager or cider, the number of units has been multiplied by 1.5.

4.1.3 Outline of content

Drinking alcohol was first asked about in this series of surveys in 1988. This section of the report discusses the prevalence of drinking among 11 to 15 year olds, patterns of consumption and the factors associated with pupils' recent drinking.

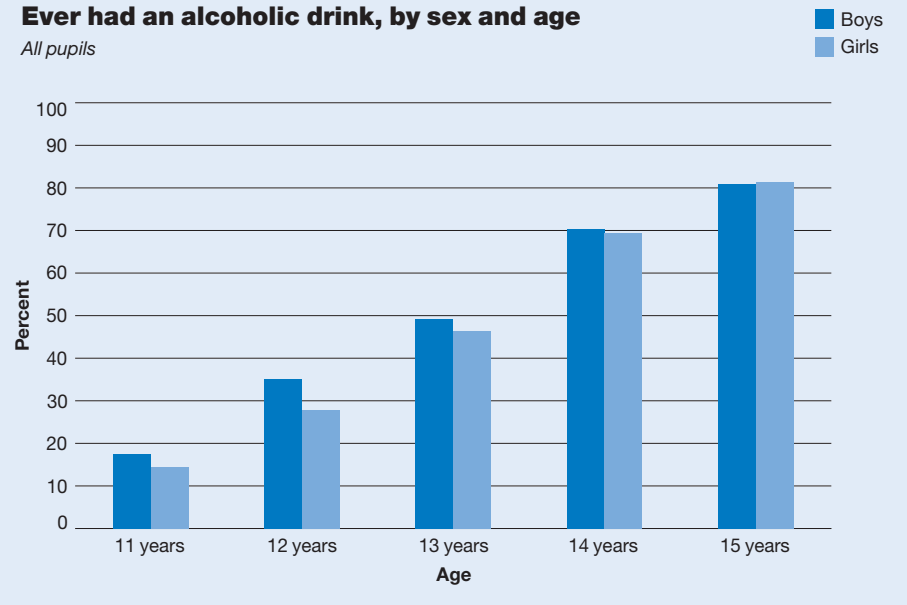
4.2 Prevalence of drinking alcohol

4.2.1 Whether pupils have ever drunk alcohol

Pupils were asked 'Have you ever had a proper alcoholic drink – a whole drink, not just a sip?'. In 2009, around half (51%) of pupils said that they had. The proportion of pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink has gradually decreased since 2003, when it was 61%. **(Tables 4.1a, 4.1b)**

As in previous years, the proportion of pupils who had ever drunk alcohol increased with age, from 16% of 11 year olds to 81% of 15 year olds. **(Table 4.2, Figure 4.1)**

Figure 4.1



4.2.2 Drinking in the last week

Pupils were asked when they last had an alcoholic drink. In 2009, as in 2008, around one in five (18%) of pupils said they had drunk alcohol in the last week. This proportion has decreased since 2001, when it was 26%.

As in every year since 2002, similar proportions of boys (19%) and girls (17%) had drunk alcohol in the last week. The prevalence of drinking in the last week increased with age, from 3% of 11 year olds to 38% of 15 year olds. **(Tables 4.3a-4.5b, Figure 4.2)**

4.2.3 Usual drinking frequency

In 2009, 12% of pupils said that they usually drank alcohol at least once a week. This figure has decreased from 20% in 2001. Boys were more likely to report drinking alcohol at least once a week compared with girls (14% and 10% respectively), and the prevalence of drinking at least once a week increased with age, from 2% of 11 year olds to 28% of 15 year olds. Very few pupils of any age claimed to drink every day (1% or less). **(Tables 4.6a- 4.7)**

Figure 4.2

4.3 Patterns of alcohol consumption in the last week

4.3.1 When pupils drink

Pupils who said they had drunk alcohol in the last week were asked when and what they had drunk. It is important to keep in mind that these data are based on the 18% of pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week, around one in five of all pupils. Because the likelihood of drinking in the last week increases with age, the age profile of this group is skewed towards older pupils; it includes 7% of 11 to 13 year olds, 25% of 14 year olds and 38% of 15 year olds. **(Table 4.4)**

The mean number of drinking days in the last seven days was 1.5. There was a small increase with age, from 1.4 mean drinking days (11 to 13 year olds) to 1.6 mean drinking days (15 year olds). **(Tables 4.8, 4.9)**

Pupils were most likely to have drunk alcohol at the weekend. 63% said that they had drunk on Saturday, 45% on Friday and 20% on Sunday. Between 5% and 7% of pupils drank on other days of the week. **(Tables 4.10, 4.11)**

4.3.2 Trends in pupils' alcohol consumption

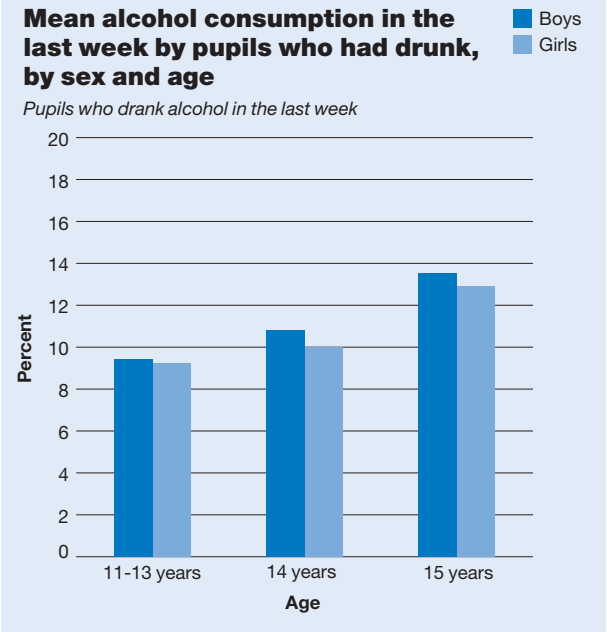
The method for calculating alcohol consumption based on actual drinks is described in Section 4.1.2. This method was revised in 2007, and in reporting that year's survey both the original and revised unit calculations were shown and commented on. From 2008 onwards only the revised calculation has been used. The adjustment in the unit calculation has a significant impact on the trend data in this section. Consequently, estimates of the numbers of units of alcohol consumed by 11 to 15 year olds in 2009 are not comparable with those reported from surveys in this series before 2007.

In 2009, the average (mean) consumption by pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week was 11.6 units per week. Average consumption by pupils has varied since 2007, but with no clear trend.[13] **(Tables 4.12a- 4.12c)**

4.3.3 How much pupils drink

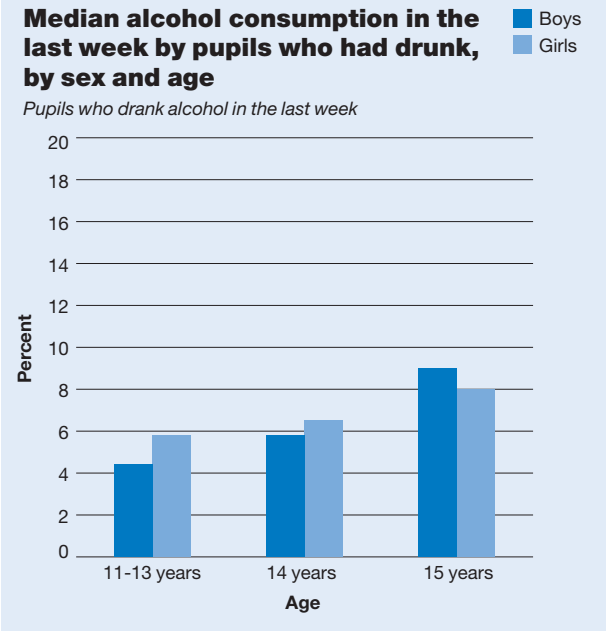
There was no significant difference in the mean amount consumed by boys and girls. As in previous years, mean consumption of alcohol increased with age, from an average of 9.3 units per week for 11 to 13 year olds to 13.2 units per week for 15 year olds. **(Table 4.12c, Figure 4.3)**

Figure 4.3



Mean consumption can be misleading if it is based on data whose distribution is skewed, as it is here. Even if the majority of pupils drink well below the mean value, the latter may be increased by relatively small numbers of pupils who record very high consumption. As in previous years, the median consumption of alcohol over the last week, 7.0 units, was lower than the mean for all groups. Among boys it was 6.8 units, among girls it was 7.0 units. Median consumption increased with age from 5.0 units for 11 to 13 year old drinkers to 8.5 units for 15 year olds. **(Table 4.13, Figure 4.4)**

Figure 4.4



Of those pupils who had drunk in the last week, a quarter (25%) drank a total of 15 or more units. This was more common among older pupils (30% of 15 year olds had drunk 15 or more units in the last week, compared with 17% of 11 to 13 year olds). Boys and girls who had drunk alcohol in the last week were equally likely to have drunk at this level. **(Table 4.14)**

Although pupils were not asked about alcohol consumption on a single day (the usual measure for adults), it is possible to calculate their average (mean) consumption on each day they drank in the last week. 57% of pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week had

drunk an average of more than four units per day on the days they drank. This proportion increased with age, from 49% of 11 to 13 year olds to 63% of 15 year olds. **(Table 4.15)**

4.3.4 Types of alcoholic drink

Pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week were asked how much, if any, they had drunk of each of six types of drink:

- Beer, lager, cider
- Shandy
- Wine
- Martini, sherry
- Spirits
- Alcopops

Most pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week had consumed more than one type of drink. 76% said they had drunk beer, lager or cider, 61% said they had drunk spirits, 56% said they had drunk alcopops. Fewer pupils reported drinking wine (35%), shandy (20%) or Martini or sherry (11%).

Boys and girls tended to drink different things. Among boys who had drunk alcohol in the last week, by far the most popular type of drink was beer, lager, or cider (drunk by 91%). Spirits (56%) and alcopops (48%) were the next most popular drinks among boys. Girls were less likely to have drunk beer, lager or cider (59% of girls who drank in the last week), and more likely to have drunk spirits (67%) and alcopops (66%). These findings are similar to those in previous years. **(Tables 4.16a, 4.16b)**

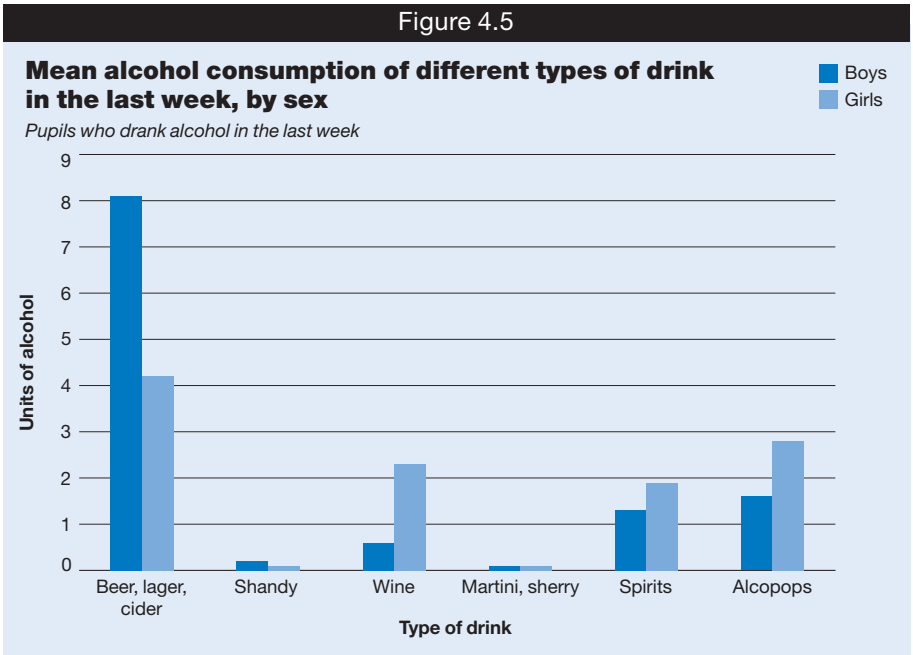
There was little variation by age in the types of alcoholic drink consumed. **(Table 4.17)**

4.3.5 How different drinks contribute to pupils' alcohol intake

Beer, lager and cider accounted for over half of pupils' average weekly intake (6.2 units), followed by alcopops (2.2 units), spirits (1.6 units), and wine (1.4 units).

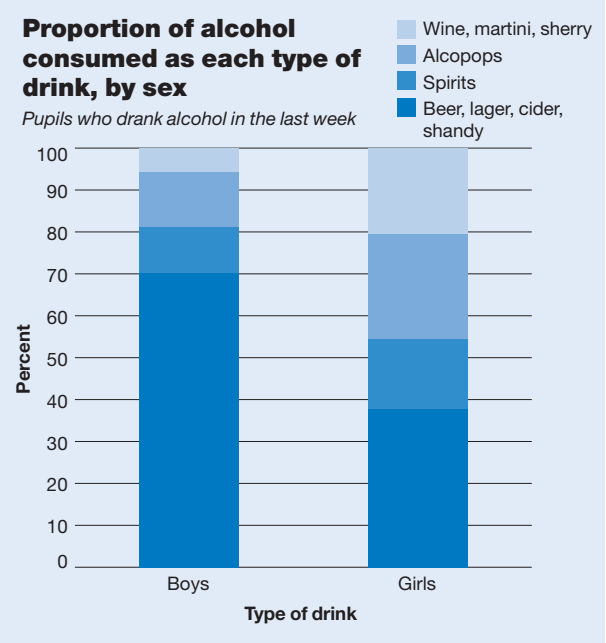
Overall, boys and girls consumed a similar amount of alcohol in the last week (11.9 units for boys, 11.3 units for girls). However, boys drank more beer, lager, and cider than girls (8.1 units and 4.2 units respectively). Girls drank more alcopops, wine, and spirits than boys. (Girls who drank in the last week consumed an average of 2.8 units as alcopops, 2.3 units as wine and 1.9 units as spirits; the corresponding amounts for boys were 1.6, 0.6 and 1.3 units.) **(Tables 4.18a- 4.19, Figure 4.5)**

Figure 4.5



As a result, the majority of boys' alcohol intake in the last week came from beer, lager, or cider (68% of total intake) followed by alcopops (13%) and spirits (11%). Beer, lager, or cider was also the most important part of girls' alcohol consumption in the last week, but the proportion of the total was much lower than for boys (37%). The rest of girls' alcohol intake came from alcopops (25%), wine (20%), and spirits (17%). **(Table 4.20, Figure 4.6)**

Figure 4.6



4.4 Factors associated with having drunk alcohol in the last week

4.4.1 Using logistic regression to analyse pupils' drinking

The characteristics of pupils and their environments associated with drinking in the last week were explored by constructing a logistic regression model. The advantage of this approach is that it allows each factor to be considered separately by controlling for the effects of other, sometimes related, factors. For example, there are associations between drinking behaviour and both increased age and recent drug use. At the same time, older pupils are more likely to take drugs. The model allows an evaluation of the strength of the relationship between each of these variables and pupils' drinking behaviour.

The model shows associations, not causes; in other words, factors which identify pupils with an increased or decreased risk of having drunk alcohol in the last week. These variations in risk are expressed as odds ratios relative to a reference category, which is given a value of 1. Odd ratios greater than 1 indicate higher odds (increased risk), and odds ratios less than 1 indicate lower odds (reduced risk). Also shown are 95% confidence intervals for the odds ratio. Where the interval does not include 1, this category is significantly different from the reference category.

For further information on the logistic regression method used, see Appendix B.

4.4.2 The variables included in the model

The model included variables relevant to individual pupils and to their schools; these are listed below. Most variables are categorical; those marked * are continuous.[14]

Pupil-level variables (taken from the pupil questionnaire)

- Sex
- Age*
- Ethnicity (White, Mixed, Asian, Black, other)
- Smoking status (non-smoker, occasional smoker, regular smoker)

- When last took drugs (never, took drugs in the last year, last took drugs more than a year ago)
- Recall of lessons on drinking in last year
- Ever truanted
- Ever been excluded
- Receives free schools meals (an indicator of low family income)
- Number of books in home[15] (none, very few, enough to fill one shelf, enough to fill one bookcase, enough to fill two bookcases, enough to fill three or more bookcases)

School-level variables (taken from NFER's Register of Schools)[16]

- School type (comprehensive, grammar, secondary modern, independent)
- Sex of school intake (mixed, boys only, girls only)
- Government Office Region (GOR)
- Percentage of pupils achieving grades A*-C in at least five GCSEs*
- Percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals*
- Percentage of pupils with statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)*
- Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL)*

For reasons of space and clarity, only those variables which were significantly associated with regular smoking are shown in Table 4.21.

4.4.3 Factors associated with having drunk alcohol in the last week

Age and sex

The likelihood of having drunk alcohol in the last week increased with age (odds ratio=1.79 for each additional year). There was no association between a pupil's sex and the likelihood of having drunk in the last week.

Ethnicity

Compared with White pupils, pupils from Mixed and Asian ethnic backgrounds were less likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week. The odds ratios for pupils of Mixed ethnicity were 0.61, for Asian pupils 0.15.

Smoking and drug use

Smoking and drug taking were both found to be independently associated with having drunk alcohol in the last week. Compared with non-smokers, pupils who smoked were more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week, whether occasional smokers (odds ratio=3.65) or regular smokers (odds ratio=2.85).

Compared with pupils who had never taken drugs, those who had taken drugs in the last year had almost three times the odds of having drunk alcohol in the last week (odds ratio=2.75), and those who had taken drugs but not in the last year also had increased odds (odds ratio=1.85).

Truancy and exclusion from school

Pupils who had played truant at any time in the past were more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week (odds ratio=2.24 compared with those who had never truanted). Those who had previously been excluded from school also had increased odds of having drunk alcohol in the last week (odds ratio=1.41 compared with those who had never been excluded).

Socio-economic factors

Pupils who received free school meals (an indicator of low income) were less likely to have drunk in the last week compared with pupils who did not (odds ratio=0.66).

School characteristics

Those who attended a school where a higher proportion of pupils had English as an additional language were less likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week (odds ratio=0.98 per additional percentage point). This decrease in likelihood was small but significant, and was independent of the pupil's own ethnicity. Compared with pupils at mixed schools, girls

at single-sex schools had reduced odds of having drunk alcohol in the last week (odds ratio=0.67). No other school-level characteristics were found to be significant.

Notes and references

1 Alcohol Concern (2009) Factsheet: *Young people and alcohol*. http://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk/publications/factsheets-and-booklets/factsheet-young-people

2 Figures compiled by the North West Public Health Observatory from Hospital Episode Statistics, cited in Donaldson L (2009) *Guidance on the consumption of alcohol by children and young people* Department of Health http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_110258

3 Donaldson L (2009) *Guidance on the consumption of alcohol by children and young people* Department of Health http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_110258

4 For example, the Inter-Departmental Group on Sensible Drinking recommended that 'parents and carers of children who drink alcohol should try to ensure that […] it is only consumed in moderate and safe quantities for their age group with reference to their physical development.' Department of Health (1995) *Sensible drinking: the report of an inter-departmental working group*. http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_4084702.pdf

5 Diment E, Lee L, and McManus S (2009) *Drinking alcohol* in Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, Drinking, and Drug Use among Young People in England 2008*. The NHS Information Centre, Leeds. http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd08fullreport

6 Department for Children, Schools and Families, Home Office, Department of Health (2008) *Youth Alcohol Action Plan*. The Stationary Office, London. http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=Cm+7387&

7 HM Government (2010) *The Coalition: our programme for government*. http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/409088/pfg_coalition.pdf

8 University of Sheffield (2008) *Independent review of the effects of alcohol pricing and promotion: part B. Modelling the potential impact of pricing and promotion policies for England: results from the Sheffield Alcohol Policy Model*. http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_091364.pdf

9 The questionnaire development for the 2002 survey included cognitive testing of questions about alcohol consumption in the last week, focusing on children's comprehension of the categories of drink asked about in the survey and the language used in the questionnaire. It found that:
- 'Alcopops' was a widely used and commonly understood term among young people, but 'pre-mixed alcoholic drinks' was not;
- There was some confusion about how strong shandy should be before it counted as a proper alcoholic drink; and
- There were some brands and types of drink, such as champagne, that young people have difficulty classifying.

As a result of these findings a number of changes were made in 2002 to the questions asking about alcohol consumption in the last week. First, references to 'alcopops and pre-mixed alcoholic drinks' were replaced with just 'alcopops'. Second, a question asking about the composition of shandy usually drunk was added to the end of the set of questions asking about drinking shandy in the last week. Finally, an additional set of questions was added, asking whether any types of alcohol had been drunk, other than the categories already asked about (i.e. alcopops; beer, lager and cider; Martini and sherry; shandy; spirits and liqueurs; and wine). The examples of spirits and liqueurs and alcopops given were updated to reflect those young people were most likely to have drunk or be least likely to be able to classify.
These changes are likely to have only a very minor effect on comparability and estimates of alcohol consumption in the last week for the following reasons.
- Where new questions were introduced, these were placed at the end of a section to minimise any effect on how preceding questions were answered.
- Analysis of the quantities of other alcoholic drinks that were reported suggested that the 'other types of alcohol' questions were not completed very reliably. Therefore answers from this additional set of questions have not been included in survey estimates of amount of alcohol drunk, and comparability with how these estimates were derived in surveys before 2002 has been retained.
- The questions measuring drinking in the last week are regularly updated to reflect changes in the drinks market: 'alcopops' was introduced as a new category of drink in 1996 and the list of example brands is updated annually. Therefore estimates have not been strictly comparable year-on-year.

10 Data from the General Household Survey are reported in Goddard E (2008) *Smoking and drinking among adults, 2006*, ONS.

11 Fuller E (2008) *Alcohol consumption* in Craig R, Mindell J (eds) *Health Survey for England 2006. Volume 1: Cardiovascular disease and risk factors in adults*. The NHS Information Centre, Leeds. http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/HSE06CVDandriskfactors

12 The main changes were as follows:
Beer, cider and lager: a large can increased from 1.5 to 2 units, a small can or bottle increased from 1 unit to 1.5 units, other measures unchanged. Where pupils report that they usually drink strong rather than normal strength beer, the total units drunk as beer, cider or lager is multiplied by 1.5.
Shandy: bottle and cans removed from the total, since they are not counted by the GHS or HSE.
Wine: a glass increased from 1 unit to 2 units.
Martini, sherry: unchanged.
Spirits and liqueurs: unchanged.
Alcopops: a bottle or can increased from 1 unit to 1.5 units, in line with the GHS.
The revised analysis resulted in a higher, probably more accurate, estimate of alcohol consumption amongst pupils. This did not reflect a sudden change in actual consumption by pupils between 2006 and 2007, but it is probable that there have been real but gradual changes in what adults and children drink since the early 1990s. For further details, see Lynch S (2008) Drinking alcohol in Fuller E (ed) Drug use, smoking and drinking among young people in England in 2007. The NHS Information Centre, Leeds. http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd07fullreport

13 This is in line with the pattern of consumption seen between 2001 and 2007.

14 Categorical variables are those which group data in a specific number of discrete categories; for example, in this survey, sex has two categories: boy and girl. Continuous variables present data as a continuous range; for example, the percentage of pupils in the school who receive free school meals, from 0 to 100.

15 Used as a proxy measure of social class.

16 The sample of schools was drawn from NFER's Register of Schools, which included 2007 data for some indicators used in the logistic regression model.

Table 4.1a

Proportion of pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink, by sex: 1988-2000[a]

All pupils *1988-2000*

Ever had an alcoholic drink	Year 1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys	65	65	63	62	63	62	62	59
Girls	59	63	56	60	61	58	59	59
Total	62	64	60	61	62	60	61	59
Bases								
Boys	*1472*	*1622*	*1650*	*1508*	*1431*	*2245*	*4823*	*3540*
Girls	*1523*	*1466*	*1608*	*1510*	*1387*	*2356*	*4568*	*3313*
Total	*3021*	*3088*	*3263*	*3018*	*2818*	*4607*	*9391*	*6853*

[a] Table 4.1b shows trends in drinking prevalence from 2001 onwards.

Table 4.1b

Proportion of pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink, by sex: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Ever had an alcoholic drink	Year 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys	62	62	62	59	57	56	54	53	53
Girls	60	60	61	59	60	55	54	52	50
Total	61	61	61	59	58	55	54	52	51
Bases									
Boys	*4620*	*5026*	*5221*	*4981*	*4629*	*3976*	*4032*	*3924*	*3828*
Girls	*4622*	*4711*	*5098*	*4635*	*4478*	*4128*	*3730*	*3795*	*3790*
Total	*9242*	*9737*	*10319*	*9616*	*9107*	*8104*	*7762*	*7719*	*7618*

[a] Table 4.1a shows trends in drinking prevalence between 1988 and 2000.

Table 4.2

Ever had an alcoholic drink, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Ever had an alcoholic drink	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Yes	17	35	49	70	81	53
No	83	65	51	30	19	47
Girls						
Yes	14	28	46	69	81	50
No	86	72	54	31	19	50
Total						
Yes	16	32	48	70	81	51
No	84	68	52	30	19	49
Bases						
Boys	*599*	*795*	*803*	*723*	*908*	*3828*
Girls	*614*	*773*	*771*	*758*	*874*	*3790*
Total	*1213*	*1568*	*1574*	*1481*	*1782*	*7618*

Table 4.3a

When pupils last drank alcohol, by sex: 1988-2000[a]

All pupils *1988-2000*

When last drank alcohol	Year							
	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys								
During the last week	24	22	24	26	27	23	22	25
One to four weeks ago	19	15	12	14	15	15	16	13
One to six months ago	12	13	13	11	12	12	12	11
More than six months ago	11	15	14	10	9	12	11	11
Never had a drink[b]	35	35	37	39	37	38	38	40
Girls								
During the last week	17	20	17	22	26	18	20	23
One to four weeks ago	17	14	12	16	13	15	17	15
One to six months ago	13	13	14	12	13	13	12	11
More than six months ago	11	15	12	10	10	11	10	10
Never had a drink[b]	41	38	44	40	38	42	41	41
Total								
During the last week	20	21	21	24	27	21	21	24
One to four weeks ago	18	15	12	15	14	15	16	14
One to six months ago	12	13	13	11	12	13	12	11
More than six months ago	11	15	13	10	9	11	11	10
Never had a drink[b]	38	36	41	39	38	40	40	40
Bases								
Boys	*1427*	*1619*	*1646*	*1503*	*1432*	*2249*	*4816*	*3656*
Girls	*1518*	*1456*	*1606*	*1506*	*1391*	*2362*	*4558*	*3409*
Total	*3015*	*3082*	*3252*	*3009*	*2823*	*4609*	*9374*	*7065*

Data from 1988 to 2000 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

[a] Table 4.3b shows trends in when pupils last drank alcohol from 2001 onwards.

[b] Bases exclude pupils who said they had ever drunk alcohol, but who did not answer the question about when they last did so. These bases are different from those used to measure how many pupils have ever drunk alcohol, and so estimates shown in this table for the proportions of pupils who had never drunk alcohol are not definitive. (Definitive estimates are given in Tables 4.1a and 4.1b.)

Table 4.3b

When pupils last drank alcohol, by sex: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

When last drank alcohol	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
During the last week	28	25	26	23	22	21	20	18	19
One to four weeks ago	14	14	14	14	13	13	12	14	13
One to six months ago	11	12	12	12	11	11	10	10	11
More than six months ago	9	11	10	10	10	10	11	9	11
Never had a drink[b]	38	38	38	41	43	46	46	49	47
Girls									
During the last week	25	23	24	23	23	20	20	17	17
One to four weeks ago	17	15	16	16	15	15	14	14	13
One to six months ago	11	12	12	11	12	10	11	11	11
More than six months ago	8	9	9	10	11	9	9	8	9
Never had a drink[b]	40	40	39	41	40	46	47	50	50
Total									
During the last week	26	24	25	23	22	21	20	18	18
One to four weeks ago	15	14	15	15	14	14	13	14	13
One to six months ago	11	12	12	11	11	10	10	10	11
More than six months ago	8	10	10	10	10	9	10	8	10
Never had a drink[b]	39	39	39	41	42	46	47	49	49
Bases									
Boys	*4611*	*4961*	*5204*	*4947*	*4609*	*3857*	*4015*	*3798*	*3812*
Girls	*4621*	*4669*	*5086*	*4625*	*4459*	*4036*	*3717*	*3680*	*3783*
Total	*9232*	*9630*	*10290*	*9572*	*9068*	*7893*	*7732*	*7478*	*7595*

[a] Table 4.3a shows trends in when pupils last drank alcohol between 1988 and 2000.

[b] Bases exclude pupils who said they had ever drunk alcohol, but who did not answer the question about when they last did so. These bases are different from those used to measure how many pupils have ever drunk alcohol, and so estimates shown in this table for the proportions of pupils who had never drunk alcohol are not definitive. (Definitive estimates are given in Tables 4.1a and 4.1b.)

Table 4.4

When pupils last drank alcohol, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

When last drank alcohol	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
During the last week	3	7	12	25	39	19
One to four weeks ago	3	7	12	18	21	13
One to six months ago	4	8	13	15	12	11
More than six months ago	7	13	12	12	8	11
Never had a drink[a]	83	65	51	30	19	47
Girls						
During the last week	2	4	12	24	37	17
One to four weeks ago	3	5	13	18	22	13
One to six months ago	4	7	11	17	15	11
More than six months ago	5	12	10	10	8	9
Never had a drink[a]	86	72	54	31	19	50
Total						
During the last week	3	6	12	25	38	18
One to four weeks ago	3	6	12	18	22	13
One to six months ago	4	8	12	16	13	11
More than six months ago	6	12	11	11	8	10
Never had a drink[a]	84	69	52	30	19	49
Bases						
Boys	*598*	*790*	*801*	*716*	*907*	*3812*
Girls	*612*	*773*	*767*	*758*	*873*	*3783*
Total	*1210*	*1563*	*1568*	*1474*	*1780*	*7595*

[a] Bases exclude pupils who said they had ever drunk alcohol, but who did not answer the question about when they last did so. These bases are different from those used to measure how many pupils have ever drunk alcohol, and so estimates shown in this table for the proportions of pupils who had never drunk alcohol are not definitive. (Definitive estimates are given in Tables 4.1a and 4.1b.)

Table 4.5a

Proportion of pupils who drank alcohol in the last week, by sex and age: 1988-2000[a]

All pupils *1988-2000*

Drank alcohol in last week	Year 1988 %	1990 %	1992 %	1994 %	1996 %	1998 %	1999 %	2000 %
Boys								
11 years	7	8	8	8	7	4	7	5
12 years	12	9	13	10	12	14	10	11
13 years	20	17	15	22	27	16	16	18
14 years	25	32	32	34	37	28	28	34
15 years	45	42	49	52	50	48	48	51
Total	**24**	**22**	**24**	**26**	**27**	**23**	**22**	**25**
Girls								
11 years	4	4	5	4	6	2	4	5
12 years	7	6	7	9	9	6	8	9
13 years	11	19	11	16	22	14	17	19
14 years	19	32	25	26	35	29	28	31
15 years	36	39	40	48	55	40	41	45
Total	**17**	**20**	**17**	**22**	**26**	**18**	**20**	**23**
Total								
11 years	5	6	6	6	7	3	6	5
12 years	9	8	10	9	11	10	9	10
13 years	16	18	13	19	24	15	16	19
14 years	22	32	29	30	36	29	28	32
15 years	40	40	45	50	53	44	45	48
Total	**20**	**21**	**21**	**24**	**27**	**21**	**21**	**24**
Bases								
Boys								
11 years	*227*	*309*	*284*	*266*	*269*	*285*	*882*	*612*
12 years	*279*	*340*	*335*	*307*	*296*	*336*	*1017*	*740*
13 years	*312*	*312*	*351*	*304*	*275*	*293*	*947*	*737*
14 years	*306*	*300*	*310*	*306*	*297*	*597*	*921*	*750*
15 years	*348*	*358*	*366*	*326*	*295*	*745*	*1049*	*796*
Total	*1473*	*1623*	*1652*	*1509*	*1432*	*2256*	*4816*	*3635*
Girls								
11 years	*225*	*289*	*304*	*231*	*266*	*291*	*881*	*564*
12 years	*312*	*277*	*354*	*304*	*272*	*365*	*896*	*681*
13 years	*296*	*290*	*333*	*326*	*277*	*383*	*925*	*696*
14 years	*311*	*298*	*298*	*309*	*285*	*657*	*933*	*691*
15 years	*374*	*302*	*317*	*341*	*291*	*666*	*923*	*764*
Total	*1518*	*1459*	*1614*	*1511*	*1391*	*2362*	*4558*	*3396*
Total								
11 years	*458*	*598*	*588*	*497*	*535*	*577*	*1763*	*1176*
12 years	*598*	*617*	*690*	*611*	*568*	*702*	*1913*	*1421*
13 years	*613*	*602*	*685*	*630*	*552*	*675*	*1872*	*1433*
14 years	*621*	*598*	*608*	*615*	*582*	*1254*	*1854*	*1441*
15 years	*725*	*660*	*683*	*667*	*586*	*1409*	*1972*	*1560*
Total	*3018*	*3082*	*3271*	*3020*	*2823*	*4617*	*9374*	*7031*

[a] Table 4.5b shows trends in the proportions of pupils who drank alcohol in the last week from 2001 onwards.

Table 4.5b

Proportion of pupils who drank alcohol in the last week, by sex and age: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Drank alcohol in last week	Year 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
11 years	8	7	8	5	4	5	4	3	3
12 years	14	12	12	11	7	8	7	6	7
13 years	22	20	22	17	18	16	17	15	12
14 years	35	34	32	32	31	29	26	24	25
15 years	54	49	49	44	46	40	42	38	39
Total	**28**	**25**	**26**	**23**	**22**	**21**	**20**	**18**	**19**
Girls									
11 years	4	4	5	3	2	2	2	2	2
12 years	11	9	9	9	9	7	7	4	4
13 years	22	21	19	19	18	15	16	13	12
14 years	35	34	34	33	33	30	30	25	24
15 years	50	45	48	46	45	41	40	37	37
Total	**25**	**23**	**24**	**23**	**23**	**20**	**20**	**17**	**17**
Total									
11 years	6	5	6	4	3	3	3	3	3
12 years	12	11	11	10	8	8	7	5	6
13 years	22	20	21	18	18	16	17	14	12
14 years	35	34	33	33	32	29	28	24	25
15 years	52	47	49	45	46	41	41	38	38
Total	**26**	**24**	**25**	**23**	**22**	**21**	**20**	**18**	**18**
Bases									
Boys									
11 years	*814*	*866*	*894*	*861*	*735*	*600*	*599*	*621*	*598*
12 years	*930*	*1003*	*1052*	*1024*	*957*	*818*	*873*	*769*	*790*
13 years	*937*	*1035*	*1084*	*1007*	*977*	*765*	*821*	*756*	*801*
14 years	*898*	*950*	*1017*	*977*	*938*	*805*	*798*	*756*	*716*
15 years	*1032*	*1107*	*1157*	*1078*	*1002*	*869*	*924*	*896*	*907*
Total	*4611*	*4961*	*5204*	*4947*	*4609*	*3857*	*4015*	*3798*	*3812*
Girls									
11 years	*800*	*798*	*856*	*820*	*728*	*636*	*589*	*612*	*612*
12 years	*967*	*978*	*1076*	*923*	*887*	*829*	*739*	*759*	*773*
13 years	*956*	*935*	*1057*	*941*	*919*	*826*	*790*	*718*	*767*
14 years	*942*	*946*	*983*	*917*	*953*	*767*	*710*	*746*	*758*
15 years	*956*	*1012*	*1114*	*1024*	*972*	*978*	*889*	*845*	*873*
Total	*4621*	*4669*	*5086*	*4625*	*4459*	*4036*	*3717*	*3680*	*3783*
Total									
11 years	*1614*	*1664*	*1750*	*1681*	*1463*	*1236*	*1188*	*1233*	*1210*
12 years	*1897*	*1981*	*2128*	*1947*	*1844*	*1647*	*1612*	*1528*	*1563*
13 years	*1893*	*1970*	*2141*	*1948*	*1896*	*1591*	*1611*	*1474*	*1568*
14 years	*1840*	*1896*	*2000*	*1894*	*1891*	*1572*	*1508*	*1502*	*1474*
15 years	*1988*	*2119*	*2271*	*2102*	*1974*	*1847*	*1813*	*1741*	*1780*
Total	*9232*	*9630*	*10290*	*9572*	*9068*	*7893*	*7732*	*7478*	*7595*

[a] Table 4.5a shows trends in the proportions of pupils who drank alcohol in the last week between 1988 and 2000.

Table 4.6a

Usual frequency of drinking alcohol, by sex: 1988-2000[a]

All pupils *1988-2000*

Usual frequency of drinking alcohol	Year							
	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys								
Almost every day	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
About twice a week	7	5	7	7	8	8	7	8
About once a week	8	8	8	10	12	8	10	9
At least once a week	*15*	*14*	*16*	*19*	*21*	*18*	*19*	*19*
About once a fortnight	10	8	8	7	8	8	8	8
About once a month	11	10	9	8	8	8	8	8
Only a few times a year	24	30	28	25	22	24	23	22
Doesn't drink now[b]	40	39	40	41	41	42	42	44
Girls								
Almost every day	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	1
About twice a week	3	4	3	5	7	6	6	7
About once a week	6	7	7	9	10	8	9	9
At least once a week	*10*	*12*	*10*	*15*	*18*	*14*	*15*	*17*
About once a fortnight	9	8	7	10	10	7	9	8
About once a month	9	10	8	9	9	9	9	9
Only a few times a year	26	30	27	25	21	23	22	22
Doesn't drink now[b]	45	40	47	40	42	46	44	45
Total								
Almost every day	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
About twice a week	5	5	5	6	7	7	7	8
About once a week	7	7	7	10	11	8	9	9
At least once a week	*13*	*13*	*13*	*17*	*20*	*16*	*17*	*18*
About once a fortnight	9	8	7	9	9	7	9	8
About once a month	10	10	8	9	9	9	8	9
Only a few times a year	25	30	28	25	21	23	23	22
Doesn't drink now[b]	43	39	43	41	42	44	43	44
Bases								
Boys	*1472*	*1622*	*1650*	*1509*	*1431*	*2245*	*4823*	*3540*
Girls	*1523*	*1466*	*1608*	*1511*	*1387*	*2356*	*4568*	*3313*
Total	*3021*	*3088*	*3263*	*3020*	*2818*	*4607*	*9391*	*6853*

[a] Table 4.6b shows trends in how often pupils usually drink alcohol from 2001 onwards.

[b] 'Doesn't drink now' includes pupils who say they don't drink now and those who have never drunk alcohol.

Data from 1988 to 2000 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 4.6b

Usual frequency of drinking alcohol, by sex: 2001-2009[a]

All pupils *2001-2009*

Usual frequency of drinking alcohol	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
Almost every day	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
About twice a week	10	8	8	7	7	7	6	5	5
About once a week	11	9	10	9	9	8	8	7	8
At least once a week	*22*	*19*	*20*	*17*	*17*	*16*	*15*	*14*	*14*
About once a fortnight	9	8	8	8	8	6	8	7	7
About once a month	8	9	9	8	8	8	6	8	7
Only a few times a year	22	22	21	21	20	21	21	20	21
Doesn't drink now[b]	40	42	41	45	47	49	50	51	51
Girls									
Almost every day	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
About twice a week	7	6	7	7	6	6	6	5	4
About once a week	10	9	10	8	9	8	8	7	6
At least once a week	*18*	*16*	*17*	*16*	*16*	*15*	*14*	*13*	*10*
About once a fortnight	10	9	10	9	9	8	9	7	8
About once a month	9	10	9	9	9	8	7	8	9
Only a few times a year	20	22	22	21	22	20	20	19	20
Doesn't drink now[b]	42	43	42	45	44	49	50	52	53
Total									
Almost every day	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
About twice a week	8	7	8	7	7	6	6	5	5
About once a week	10	9	10	9	9	8	8	7	7
At least once a week	*20*	*18*	*19*	*17*	*17*	*15*	*15*	*13*	*12*
About once a fortnight	9	9	9	8	8	7	8	7	8
About once a month	8	9	9	9	9	8	7	8	8
Only a few times a year	21	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	20
Doesn't drink now[b]	41	43	42	45	45	49	50	52	52
Bases									
Boys	*4620*	*4988*	*5198*	*4950*	*4612*	*3845*	*4005*	*3811*	*3814*
Girls	*4622*	*4690*	*5085*	*4612*	*4461*	*4028*	*3709*	*3687*	*3778*
Total	*9242*	*9678*	*10283*	*9562*	*9073*	*7873*	*7714*	*7498*	*7592*

[a] Table 4.6a shows trends in how often pupils usually drink alcohol between 1988 and 2000.

[b] 'Doesn't drink now' includes pupils who say they don't drink now and those who have never drunk alcohol.

Table 4.7

Usual frequency of drinking alcohol, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Usual frequency of drinking alcohol	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Almost every day	-	-	0	2	2	1
About twice a week	1	2	3	6	11	5
About once a week	1	2	4	10	18	8
At least once a week	*2*	*5*	*8*	*18*	*32*	*14*
About once a fortnight	1	3	4	11	14	7
About once a month	2	3	8	12	11	7
Only a few times a year	9	21	24	26	21	21
Doesn't drink now[a]	86	69	55	34	22	51
Girls						
Almost every day	0	0	0	1	1	0
About twice a week	0	1	2	6	10	4
About once a week	1	1	4	7	13	6
At least once a week	*1*	*2*	*7*	*13*	*24*	*10*
About once a fortnight	1	1	5	13	17	8
About once a month	1	4	8	13	16	9
Only a few times a year	8	17	22	27	22	20
Doesn't drink now[a]	88	76	58	34	21	53
Total						
Almost every day	0	0	0	1	1	1
About twice a week	1	2	3	6	11	5
About once a week	1	2	4	9	16	7
At least once a week	*2*	*3*	*8*	*16*	*28*	*12*
About once a fortnight	1	2	5	12	15	8
About once a month	2	3	8	12	14	8
Only a few times a year	8	19	23	27	22	20
Doesn't drink now[a]	87	72	56	34	22	52
Bases						
Boys	*597*	*791*	*802*	*719*	*905*	*3814*
Girls	*613*	*770*	*767*	*757*	*871*	*3778*
Total	*1210*	*1561*	*1569*	*1476*	*1776*	*7592*

[a] 'Doesn't drink now' includes pupils who say they don't drink now and those who have never drunk alcohol.

Table 4.8

Number of drinking days in last week, by sex: 1998-2009

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week *1998-2009*

Number of drinking days	Year						
	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys							
One day	57	68	66	68	57	52	67
Two days	21	17	19	17	25	30	21
Three days	10	8	8	7	10	10	6
Four days	6	3	4	4	3	3	2
Five days	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
Six days	1	1	1	0	1	0	1
Seven days	3	1	1	2	3	3	1
Mean number of drinking days	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.6
Standard error of the mean	0.07	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.04
Girls							
One day	64	66	65	63	53	58	65
Two days	20	23	21	23	30	27	26
Three days	10	6	9	8	11	10	6
Four days	4	3	3	4	3	3	2
Five days	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
Six days	1	1	0	1	0	1	-
Seven days	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Mean number of drinking days	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.5
Standard error of the mean	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.03
Total							
One day	60	67	65	65	55	55	66
Two days	21	20	20	20	28	29	23
Three days	10	7	9	8	11	10	6
Four days	5	3	4	4	3	3	2
Five days	1	2	1	2	2	1	1
Six days	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
Seven days	2	1	1	1	2	2	1
Mean number of drinking days	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.5
Standard error of the mean	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Bases							
Boys	*528*	*905*	*1243*	*1110*	*799*	*692*	*704*
Girls	*444*	*789*	*1088*	*1060*	*825*	*638*	*634*
Total	*968*	*1694*	*2331*	*2170*	*1624*	*1330*	*1338*

Data from 1998 to 2003 re-used with permission of the Department of Health

Table 4.9

Number of drinking days in the last week, by age and sex

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week *2009*

Number of drinking days in the last week	Age 11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
One day	75	71	62	67
Two days	18	17	25	21
Three days	5	5	7	6
Four days	1	4	3	2
Five days	2	1	1	1
Six days		2	0	1
Seven days	1	2	2	1
Mean number of drinking days	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6
Standard error of mean	0.06	0.10	0.06	0.04
Girls				
One day	71	64	62	65
Two days	20	29	27	26
Three days	6	5	8	6
Four days	2	1	3	2
Five days	1	1	0	0
Six days		-	-	-
Seven days		1	0	0
Mean number of drinking days	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5
Standard error of mean	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.03
Total				
One day	73	67	62	66
Two days	19	23	26	23
Three days	5	5	7	6
Four days	1	3	3	2
Five days	1	1	1	1
Six days		1	0	0
Seven days	0	1	1	1
Mean number of drinking days	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5
Standard error of mean	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.03
Bases				
Boys	*169*	*181*	*354*	*704*
Girls	*138*	*178*	*318*	*634*
Total	*307*	*359*	*672*	*1338*

Table 4.10

Days on which pupils drank alcohol in the last week, by sex: 1998-2009

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week *1998-2009*

Days on which pupils drank	Year 1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys							
Sunday	37	29	28	28	30	28	23
Monday	11	10	9	12	12	9	7
Tuesday	10	10	11	10	11	11	6
Wednesday	16	9	10	11	11	10	9
Thursday	11	9	9	8	8	9	7
Friday	43	39	41	42	49	52	44
Saturday	59	51	54	53	60	65	61
Girls							
Sunday	27	24	23	25	24	19	18
Monday	10	8	7	8	8	8	6
Tuesday	7	7	9	9	7	7	4
Wednesday	8	9	8	8	7	8	5
Thursday	8	6	8	7	8	7	6
Friday	45	44	45	48	53	54	46
Saturday	57	54	58	58	64	64	66
Total							
Sunday	33	27	25	26	27	24	20
Monday	10	9	8	10	10	9	6
Tuesday	9	9	10	9	9	9	5
Wednesday	12	9	9	10	9	9	7
Thursday	10	7	9	7	8	8	6
Friday	44	41	43	45	51	53	45
Saturday	58	52	56	55	62	64	63
Bases							
Boys	*526*	*905*	*1243*	*1110*	*799*	*692*	*704*
Girls	*442*	*789*	*1088*	*1060*	*825*	*638*	*634*
Total	*969*	*1694*	*2331*	*2170*	*1624*	*1330*	*1338*

Table 4.11

Days on which pupils drank alcohol in the last week, by age and sex

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2009*

Days on which pupils drank in the last week	Year 11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Sunday	25	26	20	23
Monday	7	8	6	7
Tuesday	4	7	7	6
Wednesday	9	8	9	9
Thursday	8	7	6	7
Friday	31	40	51	44
Saturday	56	63	63	61
Girls				
Sunday	21	16	17	18
Monday	3	6	7	6
Tuesday	6	4	3	4
Wednesday	4	5	5	5
Thursday	4	10	4	6
Friday	38	47	48	46
Saturday	66	60	69	66
Total				
Sunday	23	21	19	20
Monday	5	7	7	6
Tuesday	5	5	5	5
Wednesday	7	6	7	7
Thursday	7	9	5	6
Friday	34	43	50	45
Saturday	60	62	66	63
Bases				
Boys	*169*	*181*	*354*	*704*
Girls	*138*	*178*	*318*	*634*
Total	*307*	*359*	*672*	*1338*

Table 4.12a

Mean alcohol consumption in the last week by pupils who had drunk, by sex and age: 1990-2000[a,b]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *1990-2000*

Mean consumption in units[b]	Year 1990[c]	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000
	Units of alcohol[b]					
Boys						
11-13 years	c	3.6	5.2	7.1	6.2	8.3
14 years	c	5.3	6.7	7.3	12.3	9.5
15 years	c	9.6	8.8	12.9	12.9	14.5
Total	5.7	7.0	7.4	9.7	11.3	11.7
Girls						
11-13 years	c	3.1	3.0	4.0	6.4	4.6
14 years	c	3.8	5.5	8.2	8.1	10.1
15 years	c	6.0	6.6	8.0	9.7	11.2
Total	4.7	4.7	5.4	7.0	8.4	9.1
Total						
11-13 years	c	3.4	4.1	5.5	6.3	6.4
14 years	c	4.7	6.1	7.7	9.9	9.8
15 years	c	8.1	7.7	10.4	11.5	12.9
Total	5.3	6.0	6.4	8.4	9.9	10.4
Bases						
Boys						
11-13 years	*c*	*104*	*101*	*78*	*55*	*163*
14 years	*c*	*98*	*87*	*85*	*122*	*205*
15 years	*c*	*169*	*140*	*129*	*266*	*351*
Total	*231*	*376*	*329*	*292*	*351*	*719*
Girls						
11-13 years	*c*	*71*	*76*	*79*	*53*	*184*
14 years	*c*	*72*	*66*	*80*	*160*	*187*
15 years	*c*	*121*	*135*	*134*	*221*	*321*
Total	*192*	*264*	*277*	*293*	*334*	*692*
Total						
11-13 years	*c*	*176*	*177*	*157*	*108*	*347*
14 years	*c*	*170*	*154*	*165*	*282*	*392*
15 years	*c*	*290*	*276*	*263*	*487*	*672*
Total	*423*	*641*	*606*	*585*	*686*	*1411*

[a] Table 4.12b shows trends in alcohol consumption between 2001 and 2007. Table 4.12c shows trends in consumption between 2007 and 2009.

[b] Estimates are based on the original method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2) and are not comparable with estimates based on the revised method shown elsewhere in this report.

[c] Data by age group not available for 1990.

Table 4.12b

Mean alcohol consumption in the last week by pupils who had drunk, by sex and age: 2001-2007[a,b]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2001-2007*

Mean consumption in units[b]	Year						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Units of alcohol[b]						
Boys							
11-13 years	5.5	7.3	7.7	8.1	8.6	11.9	6.2
14 years	10.0	10.7	9.4	10.1	11.1	10.1	10.2
15 years	13.8	14.3	12.9	13.9	13.1	13.9	10.9
Total	10.6	11.5	10.5	11.3	11.5	12.3	9.6
Girls							
11-13 years	5.7	6.3	6.4	7.3	7.9	8.4	5.7
14 years	9.3	10.0	8.7	9.7	9.5	11.7	9.1
15 years	10.7	11.4	9.8	12.1	10.5	10.9	10.1
Total	8.9	9.6	8.5	10.2	9.5	10.5	8.8
Total							
11-13 years	5.6	6.8	7.1	7.8	8.2	10.1	6.0
14 years	9.6	10.3	9.0	9.9	10.3	10.9	9.6
15 years	12.3	13.0	11.3	12.9	11.8	12.3	10.5
Total	9.8	10.6	9.5	10.7	10.5	11.4	9.2
Bases							
Boys							
11-13 years	*283*	*256*	*312*	*237*	*189*	*150*	*153*
14 years	*253*	*254*	*267*	*256*	*238*	*190*	*179*
15 years	*491*	*463*	*490*	*395*	*395*	*298*	*316*
Total	*1027*	*973*	*1069*	*888*	*822*	*638*	*648*
Girls							
11-13 years	*274*	*256*	*292*	*226*	*214*	*157*	*157*
14 years	*279*	*279*	*291*	*271*	*266*	*190*	*178*
15 years	*446*	*407*	*484*	*428*	*368*	*343*	*314*
Total	*999*	*942*	*1067*	*925*	*848*	*690*	*649*
Total							
11-13 years	*557*	*512*	*604*	*463*	*403*	*307*	*310*
14 years	*532*	*533*	*558*	*527*	*504*	*380*	*357*
15 years	*937*	*870*	*974*	*823*	*763*	*641*	*630*
Total	*2026*	*1915*	*2136*	*1813*	*1670*	*1328*	*1297*

[a] Table 4.12a shows trends in alcohol consumption between 1990 and 2000. Table 4.12c shows trends in consumption between 2007 and 2009.

[b] Estimates are based on the original method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2) and are not comparable with estimates based on the revised method shown elsewhere in this report.

Table 4.12c

Mean alcohol consumption in the last week by pupils who had drunk, by sex and age (revised method): 2007-2009[a,b]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2007-2009*

Mean consumption in units[b]	Year		
	2007	2008	2009
	Units of alcohol[b]		
Boys			
11-13 years	8.3	10.9	9.4
Standard error of the mean	1.04	1.48	1.70
14 years	13.7	18.0	10.8
Standard error of the mean	1.13	1.72	1.10
15 years	15.0	17.4	13.5
Standard error of the mean	1.03	1.11	0.87
Total	13.1	16.0	11.9
Standard error of the mean	0.62	0.82	0.70
Girls			
11-13 years	8.1	13.4	9.2
Standard error of the mean	0.94	1.91	1.02
14 years	12.8	12.3	10.0
Standard error of the mean	0.99	1.15	0.86
15 years	14.4	13.5	12.9
Standard error of the mean	0.88	0.90	0.89
Total	12.4	13.1	11.3
Standard error of the mean	0.94	1.14	0.57
Total			
11-13 years	8.2	12.0	9.3
Standard error of the mean	0.69	1.20	1.00
14 years	13.2	15.1	10.4
Standard error of the mean	0.77	1.02	0.73
15 years	14.7	15.5	13.2
Standard error of the mean	0.74	0.74	0.61
Total	12.7	14.6	11.6
Standard error of the mean	0.46	0.57	0.45
Bases			
Boys			
11-13 years	*153*	*136*	*126*
14 years	*179*	*146*	*136*
15 years	*316*	*288*	*283*
Total	*648*	*570*	*545*
Girls			
11-13 years	*157*	*111*	*110*
14 years	*178*	*157*	*144*
15 years	*314*	*279*	*270*
Total	*649*	*547*	*524*
Total			
11-13 years	*310*	*247*	*236*
14 years	*357*	*303*	*280*
15 years	*630*	*567*	*553*
Total	*1297*	*1117*	*1069*

[a] Table 4.12a shows trends in alcohol consumption between 1990 and 2000. Table 4.12b shows trends in consumption between 2000 and 2007.

[b] Estimates are based on the revised method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2) and are not comparable with estimates based on the original method shown in Tables 4.12a and 4.12b.

Table 4.13

Median alcohol consumption in the last week by pupils who had drunk, by sex and age (revised method): 2007-2009[a,b]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2007-2009*

Median consumption in units[a]	Year 2007	2008	2009
	Units of alcohol[a]		
Boys			
11-13 years	3.5	5.1	4.4
14 years	9.0	10.0	5.8
15 years	10.0	12.0	9.0
Total	7.8	9.8	6.8
Girls			
11-13 years	4.0	6.5	5.8
14 years	8.0	7.5	6.5
15 years	9.8	8.0	8.0
Total	8.0	8.0	7.0
Total			
11-13 years	3.9	5.8	5.0
14 years	8.5	8.5	6.3
15 years	9.9	10.5	8.5
Total	7.8	8.5	7.0
Bases			
Boys			
11-13 years	*153*	*136*	*126*
14 years	*179*	*146*	*136*
15 years	*316*	*288*	*283*
Total	*648*	*570*	*545*
Girls			
11-13 years	*157*	*111*	*110*
14 years	*178*	*157*	*144*
15 years	*314*	*279*	*270*
Total	*649*	*547*	*524*
Total			
11-13 years	*310*	*247*	*236*
14 years	*357*	*303*	*280*
15 years	*630*	*567*	*553*
Total	*1297*	*1117*	*1069*

[a] Based on the revised method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2).

Table 4.14

Units of alcohol drunk in the last week, by age and sex[a]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2009*

Units of alcohol drunk in last week[a]	Age 11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Less than 1 unit	13	7	4	7
1 unit, less than 2 units	18	10	6	10
2 units, less than 4 units	16	18	12	14
4 units, less than 6 units	13	15	15	15
6 units, less than 10 units	17	15	16	16
10 units, less than 15 units	7	12	17	13
15 or more units	17	23	31	26
Girls				
Less than 1 unit	11	8	6	8
1 unit, less than 2 units	12	8	6	8
2 units, less than 4 units	12	15	15	15
4 units, less than 6 units	15	15	10	12
6 units, less than 10 units	15	22	22	20
10 units, less than 15 units	16	11	13	13
15 or more units	18	21	29	24
Total				
Less than 1 unit	12	8	5	7
1 unit, less than 2 units	15	9	6	9
2 units, less than 4 units	14	16	14	14
4 units, less than 6 units	14	15	12	13
6 units, less than 10 units	16	19	19	18
10 units, less than 15 units	11	11	15	13
15 or more units	17	22	30	25
Bases				
Boys	*126*	*136*	*283*	*545*
Girls	*110*	*144*	*270*	*524*
Total	*236*	*280*	*553*	*1069*

[a] Based on the revised method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2).

Table 4.15

Mean number of units drunk on each drinking day, by age and sex[a]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2009*

Mean number of units drunk on each drinking day	Age 11-13 years %	14 years %	15 years %	Total %
Boys				
Less than one	3	2	1	2
One or two	38	26	19	25
Three or four	13	24	16	17
More than four	46	49	64	56
Girls				
Less than one	5	2	-	2
One or two	25	27	21	23
Three or four	18	15	17	17
More than four	53	56	62	58
Total				
Less than one	4	2	1	2
One or two	32	26	20	24
Three or four	15	19	16	17
More than four	49	52	63	57
Bases				
Boys	*125*	*136*	*281*	*542*
Girls	*110*	*143*	*269*	*522*
Total	*235*	*279*	*550*	*1064*

[a] Based on the revised method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2).

Table 4.16a

Types of alcohol drunk in the last week, by sex: 1990-2000[a]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *1990-2000*

Types of alcohol drunk	Year 1990 %	1992 %	1994 %	1996 %	1998 %	2000 %
Boys						
Beer, lager, cider	76	81	82	81	78	85
Shandy	38	26	27	22	19	23
Wine	44	46	44	38	47	38
Martini, sherry	14	15	12	11	16	17
Spirits	33	38	37	42	52	55
Alcopops[b]	b	b	b	52	33	55
Girls						
Beer, lager, cider	56	67	70	67	63	63
Shandy	22	23	21	18	18	15
Wine	56	60	52	43	55	52
Martini, sherry	22	20	18	19	24	21
Spirits	38	36	42	48	56	63
Alcopops[b]	b	b	b	58	42	69
Total						
Beer, lager, cider	67	76	76	74	71	75
Shandy	31	25	24	20	18	20
Wine	50	52	48	40	51	44
Martini, sherry	18	17	15	15	20	19
Spirits	35	37	39	45	54	59
Alcopops[b]	b	b	b	55	37	62
Bases						
Boys	*339*	*394*	*375*	*372*	*446*	*914*
Girls	*284*	*275*	*324*	*349*	*410*	*790*
Total	*623*	*669*	*699*	*721*	*856*	*1704*

[a] Table 4.16b shows trends in types of alcohol consumed between 2001 and 2009.

[b] Alcopops were first asked about in 1996.

Table 4.16b

Types of alcohol drunk in the last week, by sex: 2001-2009[a]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week *2001-2009*

Types of alcohol drunk	Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys									
Beer, lager, cider	83	85	85	86	89	87	86	88	91
Shandy	21	22	28	24	23	22	22	23	25
Wine	33	34	35	33	33	30	30	32	25
Martini, sherry	10	13	14	14	9	12	9	15	12
Spirits	54	55	60	60	59	59	54	60	56
Alcopops	59	61	61	57	52	50	49	53	48
Girls									
Beer, lager, cider	57	55	53	56	56	59	60	55	59
Shandy	15	15	14	15	15	13	19	16	16
Wine	51	53	52	49	54	47	50	49	46
Martini, sherry	14	15	13	12	13	12	11	13	10
Spirits	61	68	68	67	71	67	69	73	67
Alcopops	77	76	76	73	73	69	70	69	66
Total									
Beer, lager, cider	70	71	69	71	73	72	74	72	76
Shandy	22	19	21	20	19	17	21	19	20
Wine	42	43	43	41	43	39	40	40	35
Martini, sherry	12	14	13	13	11	12	10	14	11
Spirits	57	61	64	63	65	63	61	66	61
Alcopops	68	68	68	65	63	60	59	61	56
Bases[b]									
Boys	*1027*	*1253*	*1335*	*1118*	*1026*	*809*	*823*	*698*	*709*
Girls	*999*	*1093*	*1217*	*1064*	*1006*	*827*	*761*	*641*	*639*
Total	*2026*	*2346*	*2552*	*2182*	*2032*	*1636*	*1584*	*1339*	*1348*

[a] Table 4.16a shows trends in types of alcohol consumed between 1990 and 2000.

[b] Bases shown for pupils who gave a valid answer for at least one type of drink.

Table 4.17

Types of alcohol drunk in the last week, by age and sex

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2009*

Types of alcohol drunk	Age 11-13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%
Boys				
Beer, lager, cider	87	91	93	91
Shandy	37	29	16	25
Wine	27	27	24	25
Martini, sherry	15	10	12	12
Spirits	47	54	61	56
Alcopops	49	53	44	48
Girls				
Beer, lager, cider	67	58	57	59
Shandy	29	16	9	16
Wine	41	46	48	46
Martini, sherry	17	9	7	10
Spirits	57	74	67	67
Alcopops	65	68	65	66
Total				
Beer, lager, cider	78	75	76	76
Shandy	34	23	13	20
Wine	34	37	35	35
Martini, sherry	16	9	10	11
Spirits	51	64	64	61
Alcopops	56	60	54	56
Bases[a]				
Boys	*171*	*182*	*356*	*709*
Girls	*139*	*181*	*319*	*639*
Total	*310*	*363*	*675*	*1348*

[a] Bases shown for pupils who gave a valid answer for at least one type of drink.

Table 4.18a

Mean alcohol consumption of different types of drink in the last week: 1992-2000[a,b]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *1992-2000*

Units of alcohol[b]	Year 1992	1994	1996	1998	2000
	Units of alcohol				
Beer, lager, cider	3.7	4.0	4.7	5.7	4.7
Shandy	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Wine	1.0	0.9	0.7	1.2	1.0
Martini, sherry	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
Spirits	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.9
Alcopops[c]	c	c	1.4	1.0	2.3
Total	6.0	6.4	8.4	9.9	10.4
Bases	*544*	*569*	*585*	*686*	*1704*

[a] Table 4.18b shows trends in types of alcohol consumed between 2001 and 2007. Table 4.18c shows trends in consumption between 2007 and 2009.

[b] Estimates are based on the original method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2) and are not comparable with estimates based on the revised method shown elsewhere in this report.

[c] Alcopops were first asked about in 1996.

Table 4.18b

Mean alcohol consumption of different types of drink in the last week: 2001-2007[a,b]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2001-2007*

Units of alcohol[b]	Year 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Units of alcohol						
Beer, lager, cider	4.8	4.7	4.0	4.9	4.8	5.4	4.4
Shandy	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Wine	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9
Martini, sherry	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Spirits	1.5	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3	1.8
Alcopops	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.2	1.7
Total	9.8	10.6	9.5	10.7	10.5	11.4	9.2
Bases	*2026*	*1915*	*2136*	*1813*	*1670*	*1328*	*1297*

[a] Table 4.18a shows trends in types of alcohol consumed between 1992 and 2000. Table 4.18c shows trends in consumption between 2007 and 2009.

[b] Estimates are based on the original method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2) and are not comparable with estimates based on the revised method shown elsewhere in this report.

Table 4.18c

Mean alcohol consumption in the last week by pupils who had drunk, by sex and age (revised method): 2007-2009[a,b]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2007-2009*

Units of alcohol[b]	Year		
	2007	2008	2009
	Units of alcohol[b]		
Beer, lager, cider	6.4	7.6	6.2
Standard error of the mean	0.29	0.40	0.35
Shandy	0.2	0.2	0.1
Standard error of the mean	0.02	0.03	0.03
Wine	1.7	1.8	1.4
Standard error of the mean	0.11	0.12	0.11
Martini, sherry	0.1	0.2	0.1
Standard error of the mean	0.02	0.03	0.01
Spirits	1.8	2.1	1.6
Standard error of the mean	0.07	0.10	0.07
Alcopops	2.5	2.8	2.2
Standard error of the mean	0.12	0.14	0.12
Total	12.7	14.6	11.6
Standard error of the mean	0.46	0.57	0.45
Bases	*1297*	*1117*	*1069*

[a] Table 4.18a shows trends in types of alcohol consumed between 1992 and 2000. Table 4.18b shows trends in consumption between 2001 and 2007.

[b] Estimates are based on the revised method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2) and are not comparable with estimates based on the original method shown in Tables 4.18a and 4.18b.

Table 4.19

Mean alcohol consumption of different types of drink in the last week, by sex (revised method)

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2009*

Types of alcohol	Sex		
	Boys	Girls	Total
	Units of alcohol[a]		
Beer, lager, cider	8.1	4.2	6.2
Standard error of mean	0.56	0.37	0.35
Shandy	0.2	0.1	0.1
Standard error of mean	0.05	0.01	0.03
Wine	0.6	2.3	1.4
Standard error of mean	0.07	0.21	0.11
Martini, sherry	0.1	0.1	0.1
Standard error of mean	0.02	0.02	0.01
Spirits	1.3	1.9	1.6
Standard error of mean	0.10	0.10	0.07
Alcopops	1.6	2.8	2.2
Standard error of mean	0.13	0.18	0.12
Total	11.9	11.3	11.6
Standard error of mean	0.70	0.57	0.45
Bases	*545*	*524*	*1069*

[a] Based on the revised method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2).

Table 4.20

Consumption of different types of drink as a percentage of the total in the last week, by sex[a]

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week — *2009*

Types of alcohol	Sex		
	Boys	Girls	Total
	Percentage of total units[a]		
Beer, lager, cider	68	37	53
Shandy	2	1	1
Wine	5	20	12
Martini, sherry	1	1	1
Spirits	11	17	14
Alcopops	13	25	19
Bases	*545*	*524*	*1069*

[a] Based on the revised method of calculating units of alcohol from drinks consumed (see Section 4.1.2).

Table 4.21

Estimated odds ratios for having drunk alcohol in the last week, by pupil characteristics[a]

All pupils *2009*

Variable[b]	N	Odds ratio	p-value	95% confidence interval Lower	Upper
Age in years[c]	7595	1.79	<0.001	1.68	1.92
Ethnicity (p<0.001)					
White	6358	1			
Mixed	270	0.61	0.033	0.38	0.96
Asian	473	0.15	<0.001	0.08	0.27
Black	181	0.59	0.063	0.34	1.03
Other	66	0.54	0.177	0.22	1.33
Not given	247	0.57	0.024	0.35	0.93
Smoking status (p<0.001)					
Non-smoker	6751	1			
Occasional smoker	353	3.65	<0.001	2.72	4.88
Regular smoker	441	2.85	<0.001	2.12	3.82
Not given	50	1.36	0.478	0.58	3.16
Drug use (p<0.001)					
Never taken drugs	5495	1			
Took drugs in the last year	1046	2.75	<0.001	2.25	3.36
Has taken drugs but not in the last year	507	1.85	<0.001	1.43	2.39
Not given	547	1.16	0.314	0.87	1.56
Ever truanted (p<0.001)					
No	6264	1			
Yes	1111	2.24	<0.001	1.86	2.70
Not given	220	1.60	0.201	0.78	3.27
Ever excluded from school (p=0.007)					
No	6646	1			
Yes	690	1.41	0.007	1.10	1.82
Not given	259	0.97	0.906	0.54	1.72
Whether gets free school meals (p=0.002)					
No	6407	1			
Yes	974	0.66	0.002	0.50	0.86
Not given	214	0.57	0.106	0.29	1.13
Sex of school intake (p=0.021)					
Mixed	6557	1			
Boys only	394	1.04	0.822	0.75	1.44
Girls only	644	0.67	0.008	0.50	0.90
% of pupils in school with English as an additional language[d]	7595	0.98	0.001	0.97	0.99

[a] Variables included in the model which were not significant predictors of having drunk alcohol in the last seven days are not shown (see Section 4.4.2 for a complete list).

[b] P-value for each variable excludes missing values.

[c] Odds ratio indicates change in odds for each additional year of age.

[d] Odds ratio indicates change in odds for each additional percentage point.

5 Smoking, drinking and drug use

Heather Wardle

Key findings for 2009

- More pupils aged between 11 and 15 had drunk alcohol at least once (51%) than had tried smoking (29%) or taking drugs (22%). 26% of 11 year olds had done at least one of these, and this proportion increased with age to 87% of 15 year olds.
- Pupils were more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week (18%) than to have smoked cigarettes in the last week (9%) or taken drugs in the last month (8%). Very few 11 year olds (5%) had done any of these recently, but the proportion who had increased with age to almost half (49%) of 15 year olds, including 38% who had drunk alcohol in the last week, 20% who had smoked in the last week and 17% who had taken drugs in the last month.
- The estimates of prevalence from this survey indicate that in England in 2009 around 180,000 young people aged between 11 and 15 were regular smokers, around 540,000 drank alcohol in the last week, around 250,000 had taken drugs in the last month and around 450,000 had taken drugs in the last year.
- Increasing age is strongly associated with smoking, drinking and drug use. Other characteristics, such as sex and ethnicity, are not consistent predictors of whether pupils are more likely to smoke, drink or take drugs.
- Smoking, drinking alcohol and drug use are strongly associated with each other. Smokers are more likely than non-smokers to have drunk alcohol in the last week or to have taken drugs in the last year. Similarly, recent drinking and drug use in the last year are each associated with an increased likelihood of regular smoking. Similar links exist independently between drinking behaviour and drug use.
- 11 to 15 year olds are more likely to think it is acceptable for someone of their age to smoke or drink than to take drugs. In addition, pupils are more likely to think that it is OK for someone of their age to try smoking or drinking than to have done either. The reverse is true for drug use; more pupils have tried cannabis than say that it is OK to for someone of their age to do so, and there is a similar pattern for volatile substances.
- TV, parents and teachers are most likely to be considered helpful sources of information about smoking, drinking and drug use.

5.1 Introduction

Previous chapters in this report have presented information on smoking, drinking and different types of drug use independently. This chapter describes the relationship between each of these, comparing prevalence rates, overlaps in behaviour and factors associated with each one. Estimates are given of the numbers of young people aged between 11 and 15 who smoke, drink or take drugs. In addition, this chapter provides information about pupils' attitudes to smoking, drinking and drug use among their peers, and also summarises the sources of information which they have found useful.

5.2 Prevalence of smoking, drinking and drug use

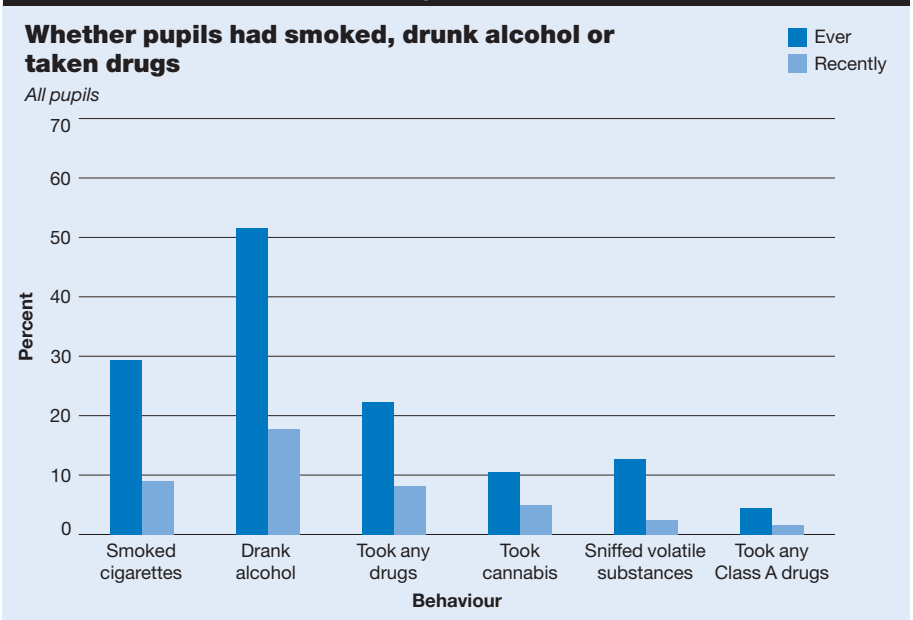
5.2.1 Experience of smoking, drinking and drug use

Three fifths (61%) of pupils aged 11 to 15 reported that they had smoked cigarettes, drunk alcohol or tried drugs at least once. This proportion increased with age from 26% of 11 year olds to 87% of 15 year olds. As in previous years, more pupils reported that they had drunk alcohol than had smoked or taken drugs. This pattern was evident across all ages. By the age of 15, most pupils had tried alcohol (81%), around half had tried smoking (52%) and two fifths (40%) of pupils reported that they had taken drugs.

Although drug use in general increased with age, this did not happen in a consistent way. 11 year olds were more likely to have sniffed glue, gas or other volatile substances (7%) than to have tried cannabis or any Class A drugs (1% each). By the age of 15, pupils were more likely to have tried cannabis (27%) than volatile substances (18%) or Class A drugs (11%).[1]

(Table 5.1, Figure 5.1)

Figure 5.1



Note: the category 'Took any drugs' includes use of volatile substances, cannabis and Class A drugs.

5.2.2 Recent smoking, drinking and drug use

Although the majority (61%) of pupils reported that they had tried smoking cigarettes, drinking alcohol or taking drugs, a smaller proportion (26%) reported that they had done any of these recently. 18% of pupils reported that they had drunk alcohol in the last week; 9% reported that they had smoked cigarettes in the last week and 8% reported that they had used drugs in the last month. Pupils who had used drugs in the last month were more likely to have taken cannabis (5%) than volatile substances or any Class A drugs (2% each).

The proportion reporting that they had recently smoked, drunk alcohol or taken drugs increased with age from 5% of 11 year olds to almost half (49%) of 15 year olds.

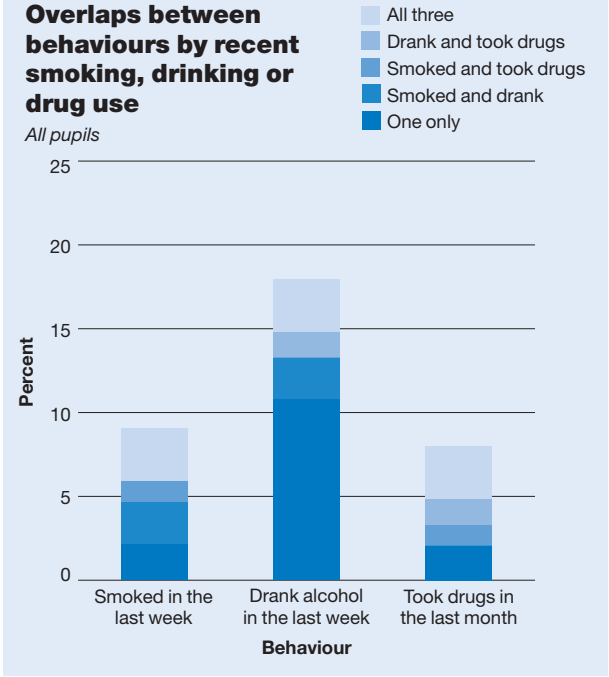
(Table 5.2, Figure 5.1)

5.2.3 Overlaps in behaviour

Separately, smoking, drinking and drug use each have associated risks, and pupils who do more than one of these expose themselves to an increased level of risk as a result.[2] Findings from previous surveys in this series suggest that there are strong correlations between smoking, drinking alcohol and drug use among pupils.[3]

As in previous years, smoking, drinking alcohol and drug use were each strongly associated with the others. Most pupils who had smoked in the last week (9% overall) had also recently drunk alcohol (3%), or taken drugs (1%), or done both (3%). Similarly, pupils who had taken drugs in the last month were more likely to also report smoking or drinking in the last week. The pattern among those who reported recently drinking alcohol was different; most pupils who reported recent drinking (18%) had neither smoked nor taken drugs recently (11% of all pupils). **(Table 5.3, Figure 5.2)**

Figure 5.2



This pattern of overlapping behaviour was similar for boys and girls. There was an increase with age in the co-occurrence of recent smoking, drinking and taking drugs, from 1% of 11 year olds to 21% of 15 year olds.

5.3 How many young people smoke, drink alcohol or take drugs?

Findings from the survey series describe the behaviour of young people aged 11 to 15 in England. In 2009, the total number of boys and girls in this age group in England was estimated to be 3.1 million.[4] Key survey measures, usually presented as percentages, can be used to estimate the numbers of young people who smoked, drank alcohol or took drugs.

Any population estimates based on survey data should be interpreted with caution; like the percentages they are based on, they are subject to sampling error. For this reason, they are shown rounded to the nearest 10,000 and 95% confidence intervals, showing the wider margin of error, are presented. In practice, the true value is likely to lie within the confidence interval (CI).[5]

In 2009, the key survey estimates for 11 to 15 year olds in England included the following:

- 6% of pupils were regular smokers, equivalent to around 180,000 young people (CI=160,000- 200,000)

- 18% of pupils had drunk alcohol recently (in the last week), equivalent to around 540,000 young people (CI=510,000-580,000)
- 8% of pupils had taken drugs (including glue and other volatile substances) in the last month, equivalent to around 250,000 young people (CI=230,000-270,000)
- 15% of pupils had taken drugs in the last year, equivalent to around 450,000 young people (CI=420,000-480,000)

5.4 Common factors associated with smoking, drinking and drug use

Elsewhere in this report, regression models have been used to examine the factors associated with regular cigarette smoking (smoking at least one cigarette per week), having drunk alcohol in the last week and having taken drugs in the last year. The models presented included a similar set of variables and this section compares them in order to identify which factors were associated with all three behaviours and whether these associations were consistent or not.[6] **(Tables 2.89, 3.11, 4.21)**

Demographic characteristics

Age was significantly associated with regular smoking, alcohol consumption in the last week and drug use in the last year. With each additional year of age, the odds of being a regular smoker increased by 1.68; the odd of consuming alcohol in the last week increased by 1.79 and the odds of taking drugs in the last year increased by 1.15.

There were no consistent associations between a pupil's sex and the likelihood of smoking, drinking and drug use. Girls were more likely than boys to smoke regularly, but less likely to have taken drugs in the last year, and a pupil's sex was not significantly associated with having drunk alcohol in the last week.

Similarly, although ethnicity was associated with all three behaviours, the associations were inconsistent. Pupils in some minority ethnic groups had a reduced risk of smoking and drinking alcohol compared with White pupils. However, pupils of Mixed, Asian and Black ethnicity were more likely than White pupils to have taken drugs in the last year.

Smoking, drinking and drug use

Each of these behaviours was significantly associated with the others.

- The odds of being a regular smoker were 7.87 times higher for those who had drunk in the last week compared with those who had never drunk alcohol. Similarly pupils who had taken drugs in the last year had 11.22 times the odds of being regular smokers compared with those who had never taken drugs.
- The odds of drinking alcohol in the past week were higher among those who were occasional smokers (odds ratio=3.65) or regular smokers (odds ratio=2.85) than those who were non-smokers. Similarly, compared with pupils who had never taken drugs, those who had taken drugs in the last year had higher odds of having drunk alcohol in the last week (odds ratio=2.75).
- Both regular and occasional smokers were more likely than non-smokers to have taken drugs in the last year (odds ratios=12.09 and 6.35 respectively). Pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week were also more likely to have taken drugs in the last year (odds ratio=6.84)

Truancy and exclusion

Truancy and exclusion were both associated with all three behaviours, in all cases with significantly increased risk. The odds of regular smoking were 2.57 higher among those who had truanted than those who had not. The equivalent increase in odds for drinking in the last week and drug use in the last year were 2.24 and 2.00 respectively.

The odds of regular smoking among those who had been excluded from school at least once in their lives were 2.82 times higher than those who had never been excluded.

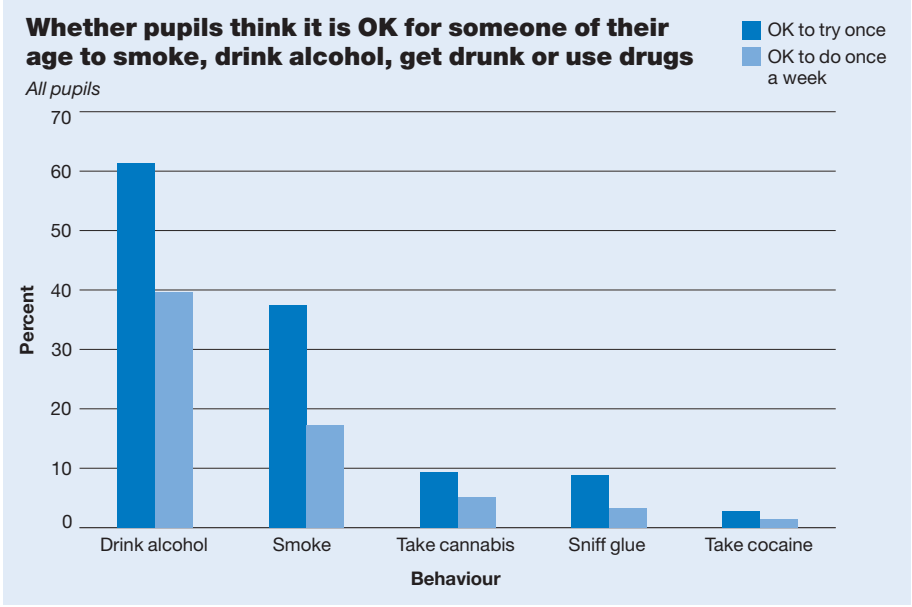
Likewise, the odds of past week drinking were 1.41 times higher and the odds of taking drugs in the past year were 1.93 times higher than those who had never been excluded.

5.5 Attitudes to smoking, drinking and drug use

All pupils were asked whether they thought it was OK for someone of their own age to try smoking, drinking or take different types of drugs at least once. Pupils were also asked if they thought it was OK to do each of these things once a week.

Pupils' views about smoking, drinking and drug use mirrored the pattern of behaviour within their age group. So drinking alcohol, the most common behaviour, was most likely to be tolerated; 61% of pupils said that it was OK to try alcohol to see what it was like and 40% of pupils said that it was OK to drink alcohol once a week. Fewer pupils had smoked than drunk alcohol, and the proportion who thought that smoking was acceptable was smaller; 37% thought it would be OK for someone of their age to try smoking once and 17% thought it would be OK to smoke once a week. Relatively small proportions of pupils had tried each type of drug, and relatively small proportions thought that it was OK for someone of their age to try taking cannabis (9%), sniffing glue (9%) or taking cocaine (3%), and even fewer thought that it was OK to take cannabis (5%), sniff glue (3%) or take cocaine (1%) once a week. **(Table 5.4, Figure 5.3)**

Figure 5.3

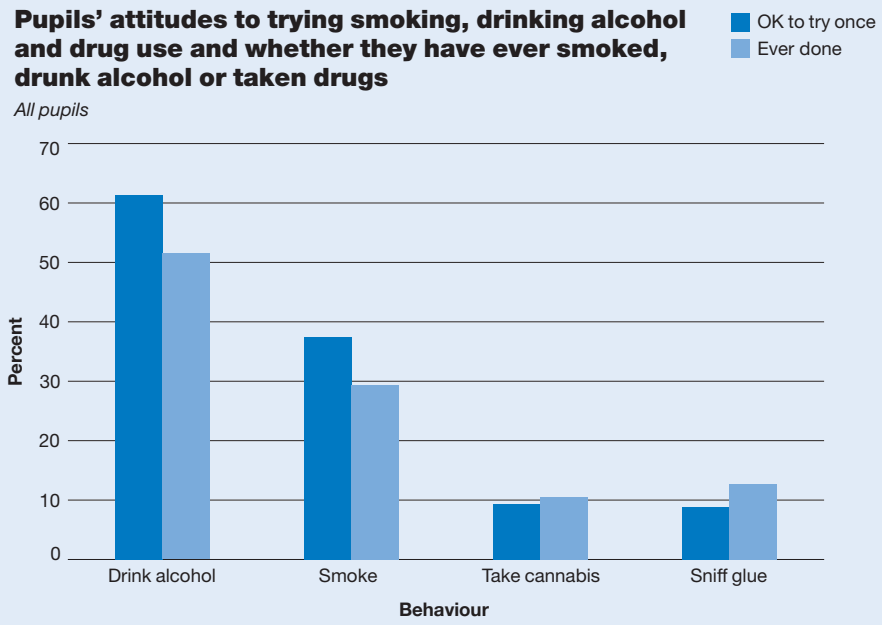


Although the patterns of approval and usage are similar, when attitudes and behaviour are compared there are differences between smoking and drinking on the one hand and drug use on the other. The proportions of pupils who think that it is OK to try smoking (37%) or drinking (61%) are greater than the proportions who have actually tried smoking (29%) or drinking (51%). In other words tolerance of these behaviours extends beyond the pupils who actually do them. The same is not true for drugs; the proportion of pupils who have tried cannabis is higher than the proportion who think it would be OK for someone of their age to do so (11% compared with 9%) and the same is true for sniffing volatile substances (13% and 9% respectively). **(Tables 5.1, 5.4, Figure 5.4)**

More than a third (36%) of pupils who have never drunk alcohol think it is OK for someone of their age to try drinking once, and around a quarter (23%) of those who have never smoked think it is OK to try smoking a cigarette. Relatively few non-users think the same way about drug use: 4% of pupils who have never taken cannabis think it is OK for someone of their age to try it, and 5% of those who have never sniffed volatile substances think that it is OK for someone of their age to try sniffing glue.[7] **(Tables 5.5-5.8)**

Figure 5.4

Pupils' attitudes to trying smoking, drinking alcohol and drug use and whether they have ever smoked, drunk alcohol or taken drugs



This difference between the acceptability of smoking and drinking compared with drug use is seen even when a pupil's own experience is taken into consideration. Among pupils who had drunk alcohol in the last week, 91% thought it was OK for someone of their age to try drinking alcohol and 78% thought it was OK to drink alcohol once a week. Similarly, most smokers thought that smoking was acceptable for someone of their age. 85% of those who had smoked in the last week thought it OK to try smoking and 67% thought it OK to smoke once a week. Tolerance of cannabis was lower, even among those who had taken cannabis in the last month; 66% of these thought it OK to try cannabis once and just half (50%) thought it OK to take cannabis once a week. And there was relatively little acceptance of sniffing glue; even among those who has sniffed volatile substances in the last month, just half (50%) thought it OK to try once and less than a third (30%) thought it OK for someone of their age to sniff glue once a week.[8]

5.6 Sources of helpful information

All pupils were asked about where they had found sources of helpful information about smoking cigarettes, drinking alcohol and taking drugs. Parents, TV and teachers were the most commonly cited source of information for all three. However, there were some differences. TV was cited as the most helpful source of information about smoking (79%) and taking drugs (71%), but second to parents as a helpful source of information about drinking alcohol (77% of pupils cited parents, 75% chose TV). Parents were more likely to be seen as helpful about drinking (77%) and smoking (75%) than about drug use (63%). Similarly, teachers were more likely to be seen as helpful sources of information about smoking (70%), than about drinking (63%) or drug use (63%). Apart from TV, the most influential media were newspapers and magazines and the internet, each described as helpful by about half of pupils. **(Table 5.9)**

Notes and references

1 See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

2 British Medical Association (2003) *Adolescent Health*. BMA, London. http://www.bma.org.uk/images/Adhealth_tcm41-19549.pdf

3 This survey series has recorded consistently high correlations between smoking cigarettes and cannabis use, and the correlation between smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol and taking cannabis and the use of Class A drugs were also relatively strong. See for example, Hills A (2007) *Smoking, drinking and*

drug use in Fuller E (ed) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England 2006*. The Information Centre, Leeds, available at http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd06fullreport, and Blenkinsop S (2006) *Relationships and risks* in Fuller E (ed) *Drug use, smoking and drinking among young people in England in 2005*. The Information Centre, Leeds, available at http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd05fullreport.

4 2009 population projections by the Office for National Statistics, based on mid-2008 population data. http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/NPP2008/wEng08singyear.xls

5 A confidence interval can be calculated around each survey estimate, indicating the range within which the true value for the population is likely to fall for a given level of confidence. The 95% confidence intervals shown here can be defined as the range which has a 95% chance of containing the true population value.

6 Note that the odds ratios here represent relative likelihood of the outcome of interest (e.g. drinking in the last week or taking drugs in the last year) between groups (e.g. smokers and non-smokers). For example, the odds ratio associated with regular smoking is lower for recent drinking than for drug use within the last year. In other words, if a non-smoker's odds of drinking are x and of taking drugs are y, all other things being equal, a regular smoker's odds of drinking will be 2.85x and their odds of taking drugs will be 12.09y. This does not imply anything about the likelihood that a regular smoker will have drunk alcohol compared with the likelihood that the same smoker will have taken drugs.

7 The questions about pupils' drug use cover glue, gas, aerosols and solvents; the questions about attitudes refer to glue only.

8 Although pupils are clearly less likely to tolerate drug use than smoking and drinking, these views about taking cannabis and sniffing glue to some extent reflect actual behaviour. A minority of pupils who have taken drugs in the last year say that they do so once a month or more (see Section 2.3), and pupils' experience of volatile substances, compared with other drugs, tends to be experimental and unlikely to be repeated (see Section 2.5).

Table 5.1

Ever smoked, drunk alcohol, taken drugs, by age

All pupils *2009*

Ever smoked, drunk alcohol, taken drugs[a]	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Smoked cigarettes	7	14	26	40	52	29
Drunk alcohol	16	32	48	70	81	51
Taken any drugs	9	13	17	27	40	22
Sniffed volatile substances	7	10	12	15	18	13
Taken cannabis	1	2	5	14	27	11
Taken Class A drugs[a]	1	1	3	5	11	4
Ever done any of these	26	42	59	78	87	61
Never done any of these	74	58	41	22	13	39
Bases[b]	*1213*	*1573*	*1566*	*1483*	*1777*	*7612*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Bases shown for pupils who answered the question about smoking; other bases may vary slightly.

Table 5.2

Recently smoked, drunk alcohol, taken drugs, by age

All pupils *2009*

Recently smoked, drunk alcohol, taken drugs	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Smoked cigarettes in last week	1	2	6	13	20	9
Drunk alcohol in last week	3	6	12	25	38	18
Taken any drug in last month	2	3	6	10	17	8
Sniffed volatile substances in last month	1	2	2	3	3	2
Taken cannabis in last month	0	1	3	7	13	5
Taken Class A drugs in the last month[a]	1	1	1	2	3	2
Done any of these recently	5	10	19	35	49	26
Done none of these recently	95	90	81	65	51	74
Bases[b]	*1099*	*1455*	*1457*	*1404*	*1696*	*7111*

[a] See Section 2.1.2 for a definition of Class A drugs.

[b] Bases shown for pupils who answered the question about smoking; other bases may vary slightly.

Table 5.3

Summary of whether pupils had recently smoked, drunk alcohol or taken drugs, by age and sex

All pupils *2009*

Recently smoked, drunk alcohol, taken drugs[a]	Age 11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Smoked only	-	1	1	3	2	2
Drank alcohol only	2	5	9	17	21	12
Took drugs only	1	2	2	3	3	2
Smoked and drank alcohol	-	0	1	3	4	2
Smoked and took drugs	-	0	1	1	3	1
Drank alcohol and took drugs	1	0	1	2	5	2
Smoked, drank alcohol and took drugs	0	0	1	2	9	3
None of these[b]	96	90	83	68	52	76
Girls						
Smoked only	1	1	3	4	4	3
Drank alcohol only	2	2	8	13	19	10
Took drugs only	1	2	2	2	2	2
Smoked and drank alcohol	0	0	2	4	8	3
Smoked and took drugs	-	-	1	2	2	1
Drank alcohol and took drugs	0	1	1	2	1	1
Smoked, drank alcohol and took drugs	-	0	2	5	8	3
None of these[b]	96	93	82	68	56	77
Total						
Smoked only	0	1	2	4	3	2
Drank alcohol only	2	4	9	15	20	11
Took drugs only	1	2	2	2	2	2
Smoked and drank alcohol	0	0	1	4	6	3
Smoked and took drugs	-	0	1	2	3	1
Drank alcohol and took drugs	0	1	1	2	3	2
Smoked, drank alcohol and took drugs	0	0	1	3	9	3
None of these[b]	96	92	83	68	54	77
Bases[b]						
Boys	*484*	*632*	*659*	*623*	*806*	*3204*
Girls	*521*	*674*	*680*	*681*	*797*	*3353*
Total	*1005*	*1306*	*1339*	*1304*	*1603*	*6557*

[a] Smoking in the last week, drinking in the last week, drug use in the last month.

[b] Bases shown for pupils who gave valid answers to all relevant questions (smoking in the last week, drinking in the last week, drug use in the last year). These bases are different from those used to estimate the prevalence of these behaviours separately and so estimates shown in this table for the proportions of pupils who had never smoked, drunk alcohol or taken drugs are not definitive.

Table 5.4

Attitudes to smoking, drinking alcohol and different types of drug use by pupils' own age group, by age

All pupils *2009*

Attitudes to smoking, drinking alcohol and drug use	Age					
	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	Total
	Percentage of pupils who agreed with each statement					
OK to try drinking alcohol to see what it's like	26	44	62	79	86	61
OK to try smoking a cigarette to see what it's like	7	18	33	53	66	37
OK to try getting drunk to see what it's like	3	8	18	36	53	25
OK to try taking cannabis to see what it's like	1	2	4	13	23	9
OK to try sniffing glue to see what it's like	4	7	8	11	13	9
OK to try taking cocaine to see what it's like	1	1	2	3	7	3
OK to drink alcohol once a week	13	21	35	54	65	40
OK to smoke cigarettes once a week	4	7	13	22	35	17
OK to get drunk once a week	2	4	10	20	32	15
OK to take cannabis once a week	0	1	2	7	13	5
OK to sniff glue once a week	2	3	3	4	5	3
OK to take cocaine once a week	1	1	1	2	3	1
Bases[a]	*1191*	*1552*	*1543*	*1468*	*1761*	*7515*

[a] Bases shown for pupils who answered whether it was OK for someone their age to try smoking once; bases for views about other behaviours may vary slightly.

Table 5.5

Attitudes to smoking by pupils' own age group, by when last smoked

All pupils *2009*

Attitudes to smoking	When last smoked			
	In the last week	Before that	Never	Total[a]
	Percentage of pupils who agreed with each statement			
OK to try smoking a cigarette to see what it's like	85	69	23	37
OK to smoke cigarettes once a week	67	30	8	17
Bases[b]	*630*	*1562*	*5275*	*7422*

[a] Total includes pupils who did not say answer the question about whether they had ever smoked.

[b] Bases shown for pupils who answered whether it was OK for someone their age to try smoking once; bases for views about smoking once a week may vary slightly.

Table 5.6

Attitudes to drinking alcohol by pupils' own age group, by when last drank alcohol

All pupils *2009*

Attitudes to drinking alcohol	When last drank alcohol			
	In the last week	Before that	Never	Total[a]
	Percentage of pupils who agreed with each statement			
OK to try drinking alcohol to see what it's like	91	82	36	61
OK to drink alcohol once a week	78	51	18	40
Bases[b]	*1323*	*2505*	*3607*	*7499*

[a] Total includes pupils who did not answer the question about when they last drank alcohol.

[b] Bases shown for pupils who answered whether it was OK for someone their age to try drinking alcohol once; bases for views about drinking once a week may vary slightly.

Table 5.7

Attitudes to cannabis use by pupils' own age group, by when last took cannabis

All pupils *2009*

Attitudes to cannabis use	When last took cannabis				
	In the last month	In the last year	Before that	Never	Total[a]
	Percentage of pupils who agreed with each statement				
OK to try taking cannabis to see what it's like	66	51	35	4	9
OK to take cannabis once a week	50	25	15	2	5
Bases[b]	*365*	*292*	*116*	*6635*	*7496*

[a] Total includes pupils who did not answer the question about when they last took cannabis.

[b] Bases shown for pupils who answered whether it was OK for someone their age to try taking cannabis once; bases for views about taking cannabis once a week may vary slightly.

Table 5.8

Attitudes to sniffing volatile substances by pupils' own age group, by when last sniffed volatile substances[a]

All pupils *2009*

Attitudes to sniffing glue[a]	When last sniffed volatile substances[a]				
	In the last month	In the last year	Before that	Never	Total[b]
	Percentage of pupils who agreed with each statement				
OK to try sniffing glue to see what it's like	50	37	33	5	9
OK to sniff glue once a week	30	12	11	2	3
Bases[c]	*175*	*231*	*537*	*6436*	*7497*

[a] Behaviour was measured by asking about sniffing glue, gas, aerosols or solvents so is more inclusive that the attitude question which asked whether it was 'OK for someone of your age to sniff glue'.

[b] Total includes pupils who did not answer the question about when they last sniffed glue, gas, aerosols or solvents.

[c] Bases shown for pupils who answered whether it was OK for someone their age to try sniffing glue once once; bases for views about sniffing glue once a week may vary slightly.

Table 5.9

Sources of helpful information about smoking cigarettes, drinking alcohol and drug use

2009

Sources of helpful information	Subject area		
	Smoking cigarettes	Drinking alcohol	Drug use
Parents	75	77	63
Siblings	31	35	29
Other relatives	51	50	40
Friends	51	47	43
GP	33	30	32
Teachers	70	63	63
Other adults at school	38	34	35
Police	34	38	40
TV	79	75	71
Radio	33	35	34
Newspapers or magazines	55	52	48
Internet	54	50	49
FRANK	32	24	36
Helplines	18	17	18
Bases[a]	*7232*	*7183*	*7176*

[a] Bases shown are for 'Parents', bases for other sources are of similar size.

Appendix A: Survey design, fieldwork and response

1 Sample design

Since 2001, the target sample for the survey has been 10,000 children of secondary school age in England. The survey population comprises pupils in Years 7 to 11 in secondary schools, or at an equivalent level in middle and upper schools. The survey covers almost all types of secondary school in both the maintained and non-maintained sectors of education. Special schools, hospital special schools and pupil referral units are excluded from the survey.

The 2009 sample specification assumed that around 70% of schools would co-operate, and that 90% of selected pupils would agree to take part in the survey. On this basis, 460 schools were selected with the aim of selecting an average of 35 pupils per participating school. For this reason, schools with fewer than 40 pupils in the eligible age range were excluded from selection.

The sample was selected in two stages. At the first stage 460 schools (the primary sampling units) were selected from the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) database[1] which was first sorted by type of school (comprehensive, secondary modern, grammar and private), then by whether schools were single sex or mixed, then by local authority and finally by number of pupils. For each school, the probability of selection was proportional to the numbers of pupils aged 11 to 15 recorded on Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) Form 7 census data collected in January 2008, so that larger schools had a higher chance of inclusion.[2]

At the second stage, approximately 35 pupils were then selected in each school. The sample was selected from all classes in Years 7 to 11 using probability methods to give an appropriately sized group for conducting the survey in one place during a single lesson. Clearly, at this stage, each pupil in larger schools had a relatively small chance of being selected. This counter-balanced the method of selecting schools to fulfil the criterion that, overall, every pupil had an equal chance of being selected.

2 Probabilities of selection

Given the requirement that each child in the target population should have the same probability of being selected to take part in the survey, the overall probability of selection (or sampling fraction) is the product of the sampling fractions at the first and second stages, i.e.

$$F = f_1 \times f_2$$

where f_1 = probability of selecting the school
f_2 = probability of selecting the pupil.

Schools were sampled with probability proportional to the number of pupils aged 11 to 15, so that roughly equal numbers of pupils could be sampled from each selected school. Thus:

$$f_1 = n_1 \times \frac{s_i}{S}$$

where n_1 = total number of schools to be selected
s_i = number of pupils in an individual school aged 11-15
S = total number of pupils in England aged 11-15

and $$f_2 = \frac{n_2}{s_i}$$

where n_2 = number of pupils to be selected from each school

Overall, therefore, for each pupil the sampling fraction is:

$$F = (n_1 \times \frac{s_i}{S}) \times (\frac{n_2}{s_i}) = \frac{n_1 \times n_2}{S}$$

and thus all pupils have an equal probability of selection.

3 Stratification of the sampling frame

Schools in England were stratified by school type, using four categories: comprehensive, grammar, secondary modern, independent. Within these categories schools were further stratified by sex of intake: boys only, girls only, mixed. In each of the 12 major strata formed, schools were ordered by local authority within region.

Table A1 shows the estimated number of schools in each stratum, based on the number of pupils in each stratum compared with the total number of pupils in England, and the number of schools actually selected. **(Table A1)**

4 Sampling within selected schools

Within schools, pupils were sampled from school registers. For each school, a sampling fraction was calculated using the information about the school's population from the January 2008 school census to provide a sample of 35 pupils per school. A random start (an integer between 1 and the sampling fraction) was also generated for each school.

Sampling was done in the following way. Registers including all pupils from Years 7 to 11 were sorted systematically (pupils alphabetically within class or tutor groups, classes or groups within school years and school years in order from 7 to 11). The random start identified the first pupil to be selected, and then every nth pupil was selected, where n was the sampling interval. As the pupils were sampled from a different academic year (2009-2010) from the sample of schools (2007-2008), the number of pupils selected varied to the extent to which the size of the school had changed in the interim.

5 Fieldwork procedures

All 460 schools were approached and invited to take part.[3] Schools were sent an initial letter during the summer term of 2009, explaining that they had been selected to take part in the survey and that they would be contacted by NFER or the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) at the start of the Autumn term. This letter also included a form which schools could return indicating their willingness to take part.

NFER telephoned all schools from the beginning of the autumn term to ask them to take part and to ask them to provide an electronic copy of their registers. NFER contacted schools over the following four weeks and then all information was passed to NatCen's interviewers. At this stage schools were classified into five types and the following procedures were followed.

Once a sample of pupils had been selected, schools were given letters about the survey for pupils to take home and give to their parents or guardians. Parents were asked to reply only if they did not want their child to take part in the survey.

Interviewers arranged with schools a convenient time to conduct the survey. The selected pupils were gathered together in a classroom for one school period to complete the questionnaire under the interviewer's supervision. He or she gave a brief introduction explaining why the survey was being carried out, and explained how the questionnaire should be filled in. The questionnaire used is reproduced in Appendix C.

Questionnaires were completed in 'exam conditions'; pupils were not allowed to discuss the questions with each other or look at others' answers. Pupils could request and receive help if they did not understand questions. If possible, teachers were not present during the completion of questionnaires in order to encourage pupils to give honest answers. Where schools insisted on a teacher being present in the room, he or she was not allowed to see

Type A	School participating, and electronic register supplied	Systematic sample of pupils taken by NFER and details of the selected pupils were passed back to the school and onto interviewers
Type B	School participating and register supplied but too late to sample	Registers sent to interviewers who took manual sample of pupils
Type C	School participating, but no register supplied	Interviewers contacted schools and arranged an initial visit to take a manual sample of pupils
Type D	School not contacted/decision about participation not made	Interviewers were passed details of any contact with schools so that they could contact schools and persuade them to take part, then interviewers took a manual sample of pupils
Type E	School refused	Refusals were reissued to interviewers (with reasons for refusal) for them to contact and persuade schools to change their minds and participate, then interviewers took a manual sample of pupils

pupils' questionnaires at any stage of the survey. Interviewers stressed that pupils' answers would be completely confidential and that their answers would not reflect on them or their school. Questionnaires were serial numbered for administrative purposes, but serial numbers were not linked to pupils' names.

6 Achieved response rate and sample size

In total, 247 schools agreed to take part in the survey out of the 460 selected, a response rate of 54%. The response from selected pupils in participating schools was 87%, yielding a total of 7,674 completed usable questionnaires. The product of the school and pupil rates gave an overall response of 47%.[4] **(Table A2)**

The main reasons given by schools for refusing to participate in the survey included:

- No available time for pupils to complete the survey;
- The burden of participation on staff or pupils; and
- A reaction to the large number of school surveys currently being conducted.

In a significant number of schools, interviewers found it difficult to make contact with an appropriate person; consequently, by the time survey participation had been agreed in principle, there was no suitable time available to carry the survey out with the selected pupils within the fieldwork period (September to December 2009).

Interviewers conducted the survey where possible in a single visit to each school. All selected pupils completed a questionnaire in exam conditions within one school period under the supervision of an interviewer. To maximise pupil response, a second visit to the school was undertaken if four or more pupils were absent. Follow-up visits were carried out in 46% of schools, and pupils included in this way accounted for 9% of the sample.

Response rates were lower among pupils in higher school years, declining from 90% of pupils in Years 7 and 8 to 81% in Year 11. This pattern of variation by school year has been seen in previous surveys in the series. **(Tables A3-A4)**

7 Data cleaning

Questionnaires were sent to an external keying agency to enter the data. The data from each questionnaire was entered and then entered again to verify that there were no mistakes in the first entry. The computerised data were then subjected to an additional edit check which included the following:

- Checking that filters were correctly followed
- Checking ranges on consumption variables and age of first use variables
- Checking whether answers given as 'other' answers could be back-coded into existing codes
- Resolving inconsistencies between answers.

An SPSS dataset was created for analysis purposes.

Notes and references

1 NFER maintains a database containing records for all schools in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. It also contains schools in the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands, Service Children's Education Authority (armed forces) schools and British schools around the world. In addition, details are held for all colleges in the further and higher education sectors and for all universities.

2 Responsibility for schools passed to the Department for Education on 12th May 2010.

3 Five schools were found to be ineligible after being approached.

4 The school response rate has declined since the 1990s; since 2003 it has fallen every year. This appears to be a common problem for school-based surveys. Although each school has its own reasons for participating or not, the increasing difficulty of persuading schools to take part has been ascribed to increasing curriculum demands on staff and pupils and also the large number of surveys, from a variety of sponsors, that schools are invited to participate in each year. For example, in the autumn term of 2009, schools in England were being asked to take part in the Tellus4 survey, the pan-national Health Behaviours of School-aged Children, and numerous locally-organised surveys focusing on health-related behaviours.

Table A1

Allocation of primary sampling units (PSUs)[a] to strata

2009

Type of school	Population[b]	Estimated PSUs	Actual PSUs[c]
Comprehensive			
Boys	70,042	12.4	12
Girls	107,977	19.1	19
Mixed	2,050,339	361.8	362
Grammar			
Boys	37,116	6.5	7
Girls	41,325	7.3	7
Mixed	29,278	5.2	5
Secondary Modern			
Boys	7,476	1.3	1
Girls	11,269	2.0	2
Mixed	55,962	9.9	9
Private			
Boys	29,623	5.2	6
Girls	52,644	9.3	9
Mixed	119,622	21.1	21
Total	**2,612,673**	**461.0**	**460**

[a] The primary sampling units for this survey were individual schools.

[b] DCSF census data, collected January 2008.

[c] Small strata have been combined in order to improve the efficiency of the sampling, so estimated and actual PSUs may differ.

Table A2i

School and pupil response: 1982-1999

1982-1999

Response	Survey year										
	1982	1984	1986	1988	1990	1992	1993	1994	1996	1998	1999
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
School	90	88	84	96	91	97	89	85	87	74	85
Pupil	94	93	93	91	90	92	90	92	89	90	90
Overall	87	82	77	87	83	89	80	77	78	70	76

Table A2ii

School and pupil response: 2000-2009

2000-2009

Response	Survey year									
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
School	72	69	72	74	70	68	65	61	58	54
Pupil	87	89	88	87	89	89	85	87	88	87
Overall	63	61	63	65	62	60	55	53	51	47

Table A3

Pupil response by sex and year: 2003-2009

All eligible pupils *2003-2009*

Pupil response	Survey year						
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys							
Year 7	91	91	92	90	89	91	91
Year 8	88	91	91	90	91	90	88
Year 9	89	90	90	87	87	89	89
Year 10	86	87	86	83	86	86	84
Year 11	80	84	81	78	82	83	82
Total	87	89	88	85	87	88	87
Girls							
Year 7	91	93	91	90	90	90	89
Year 8	92	91	93	88	91	92	89
Year 9	88	91	91	86	90	89	89
Year 10	86	88	89	83	86	85	88
Year 11	83	83	81	80	81	81	80
Total	88	89	89	85	87	87	87
Total							
Year 7	91	92	92	90	90	91	90
Year 8	90	91	92	89	91	91	89
Year 9	89	91	91	86	88	89	89
Year 10	86	88	87	83	86	86	86
Year 11	81	83	81	79	81	82	81
Total	87	89	89	85	87	88	87
Bases							
Boys							
Year 7	*1193*	*1163*	*1052*	*904*	*917*	*902*	*839*
Year 8	*1190*	*1193*	*1072*	*950*	*960*	*910*	*926*
Year 9	*1218*	*1130*	*1107*	*943*	*906*	*889*	*917*
Year 10	*1174*	*1116*	*1072*	*998*	*974*	*948*	*891*
Year 11	*1185*	*1045*	*1039*	*936*	*932*	*900*	*912*
Total	*5987*	*5708*	*5342*	*4731*	*4689*	*4565*	*4485*
Girls							
Year 7	*1178*	*1094*	*993*	*931*	*829*	*842*	*876*
Year 8	*1177*	*1056*	*976*	*974*	*844*	*888*	*891*
Year 9	*1164*	*1027*	*1043*	*952*	*872*	*850*	*856*
Year 10	*1123*	*1008*	*1067*	*1004*	*841*	*892*	*889*
Year 11	*1130*	*1013*	*992*	*1020*	*908*	*898*	*876*
Total	*5787*	*5244*	*5071*	*4881*	*4294*	*4388*	*4388*
Total							
Year 7	*2388*	*2258*	*2045*	*1835*	*1746*	*1744*	*1715*
Year 8	*2388*	*2250*	*2048*	*1924*	*1804*	*1798*	*1817*
Year 9	*2397*	*2157*	*2150*	*1895*	*1778*	*1739*	*1773*
Year 10	*2311*	*2126*	*2139*	*2002*	*1815*	*1840*	*1780*
Year 11	*2328*	*2059*	*2031*	*1956*	*1840*	*1798*	*1788*
Total	*11854*	*10957*	*10413*	*9612*	*8983*	*8953*	*8873*

Table A4

Pupil response, by school year and sex

All eligible pupils *2009*

Response	School year					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boys						
Questionnaire completed	91	88	89	84	82	87
Parent refusal	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pupil refusal	1	0	2	2	2	1
Sick	2	4	3	4	2	3
Truant	0	0	0	1	1	0
Unknown	3	4	4	6	4	4
Other	1	2	1	3	7	3
Girls						
Questionnaire completed	89	89	89	88	80	87
Parent refusal	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pupil refusal	2	2	2	2	3	2
Sick	3	3	3	3	5	3
Truant		0	0	1	0	0
Unknown	3	3	3	3	6	4
Other	1	2	1	3	5	3
Total						
Questionnaire completed	90	89	89	86	81	87
Parent refusal	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pupil refusal	2	1	2	2	3	2
Sick	3	3	3	3	3	3
Truant	0	0	0	1	1	0
Unknown	3	4	4	5	5	4
Other	1	2	1	3	6	3
Bases						
Boys	*839*	*926*	*917*	*891*	*912*	*4485*
Girls	*876*	*891*	*856*	*889*	*876*	*4388*
Total	*1715*	*1817*	*1773*	*1780*	*1788*	*8873*

Appendix B: Analysis methods and design effects

1 Logistic regression analysis

Logistic regression modelling has been used in this report to examine the factors associated with selected outcome variables, after adjusting for other factors. Models were constructed for outcomes of interest: regular smoking, drinking alcohol in the last week and taking drugs in the last year. The models included a variety of explanatory variables relating to both individual pupil characteristics (e.g. age, sex, smoking, drinking, drug use, family deprivation) and whole-school characteristics (e.g. the percentage of pupils receiving free school meals, Government Office Region). Although models used comparable variables as far as possible, they also included variables specific to particular outcomes; for example the drug use model included families' attitudes to pupils' drug taking and recall of lessons on drugs. Variables related to smoking, drinking and drug use were each included in the models relating to the other two.

The explanatory variables include categorical variables, which group cases into a number of discrete categories, and continuous variables, which present a continuous ranges of values. Missing values for explanatory variables were included in the model. For categorical variables, they were coded as a single category, though not reported on. For continuous variables, they were set as the mean value of the range.[1]

The results of the regression analyses are presented in tables showing odds ratios for the final models, together with the probability that each association is statistically significant. The explanatory variable is significantly associated with the outcome variable if $p<0.05$. (The p-values shown for each variable exclude missing values.)

The models show the relative odds of the outcome of interest (e.g. regular smoking) for each category of the explanatory variable (e.g. being a boy or a girl). For categorical variables, odds are expressed relative to a reference category, which has a given value of 1. Odds ratios greater than 1 indicate higher odds (increased likelihood), and odds ratios less than 1 indicate lower odds (reduced likelihood). 95% confidence intervals for the odds ratios are shown. Where the interval does not include 1, this category is significantly different from the reference category. For continuous variables, there is a single p-value. Continuous variables do not have a reference category; the odds ratio represents the change in odds associated with each additional point in the range (for example each extra year of age, or unit of alcohol drunk).[2] Again, the 95% confidence interval is shown, and the odds ratio is significant if the interval does not include 1.

The three models included, as far as possible, the same or comparable explanatory variables. Variables which were not significantly associated with the outcome but which were included in the models are listed in the text, although they are not shown in the tables for reasons of space and clarity.

2 Population estimates

This report includes estimates of the numbers of young people in England who smoked regularly, drank alcohol in the last week, took drugs in the last year or took drugs in the last month (see Section 5.3). These were based on the Office for National Statistics 2008-based projections of the 2009 mid-year population for England.[3] The estimated population of young people aged between 11 and 15 in England for mid-2009 was 3,056,000.[4]

Percentage estimates of prevalence were calculated to one decimal place, and then multiplied by the population estimates. 95% confidence intervals were calculated as plus or minus 1.96 times the true standard errors of the estimates, once the effects of clustering and stratification had been taken into account (see Section 3 of this appendix). Estimates of the numbers of young people who smoked, drank or took drugs were rounded to the nearest 10,000.

3 Precision of results

Since the data in this report were obtained from a sample of the population, they are subject to sampling error. Any sample is only one of an almost infinite number that might have been selected, all producing slightly different estimates. Sampling error stems from the probability that any selected sample is not completely representative of the population from which it is drawn.

Sampling error shows the amount by which the value of a sample estimate of a variable can be expected to differ from the true value of that variable in the population. With a simple random sample, the formula for calculating the sampling error for a percentage p, is:

$$\sqrt{\frac{p(100-p)}{n}}$$

where n is the sample size.

The formula for calculating sampling errors of differences in percentages p1 and p2 between surveys (assuming simple random samples) is:

$$\sqrt{\frac{p_1\,(100-p_1)}{n_1}+\frac{p_2\,(100-p_2)}{n_1}}$$

In general, attention is drawn to differences between estimates only when they are significant at the 95% confidence level, thus indicating that there is less than 5% probability that the observed difference could be due to random sampling variation when no difference occurred in the population from which the sample is drawn.

The survey used a multi-stage sample design which involved both clustering within schools and stratification (see Appendix A). Consequently, sampling errors are not the same as they would have been for a simple random sample of the same size, and this needs to be taken into account when calculating standard errors. Tables B1 to B5 give true standard errors and 95% confidence intervals for this complex sample design for five key variables. The calculation of the standard errors and design effects (defts) was carried out in Stata using a Taylor Series expansion method. **(Tables B1-B5)**

It is important to recognise that sampling error is only one of the sources of error which affect the accuracy of any survey results. Other sources of inaccuracy include non-response bias, as well as over- and under-reporting, both of which are difficult to quantify. Since the results compared in this report are from surveys in the SDD series conducted in a similar way and using the same methods of collecting information, other types of error should be similar on each survey and so will not affect comparisons. However, it is also possible that social desirability of these behaviours may affect whether pupils over-report or under-report, and as social desirability may change over time this may affect comparability.

Notes and references

1 Excluding missing values for explanatory variables tends to cause significant sample attrition, since cases are lost if they have a missing value for any one of the relevant variables. This reduces precision of estimates and may introduce bias.

2 Because these are ratios, they do not increase in a simple linear way. For example, compared with an 11 year old, the odds of a 12 year old being a regular smoker are multiplied by 1.68 (see Section 3.3.3). Similarly, compared with a 12 year old, a 13 year old's odds of being a regular smoker are increased by 1.68 as well. The increase in the odds of being a regular smoker for a 13 year old compared with an 11 year old is 1.68 x 1.68 (=2.82).

3 http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/NPP2008/wEng08singyear.xls

4 This includes young people not in formal education, and therefore not included in the population sampled by the survey; for example, those being educated at home, as well as pupils in special schools, hospital schools and pupil referral units. The population sample was also based on school year (Years 7 to 11) rather than age and included a few pupils younger than 11 or older than 15. For the sake of simplicity, in the analysis these pupils have been grouped with pupils aged 11 and 15 respectively.

Table B1

True standard errors and 95% confidence intervals for the prevalence of regular smoking, by sex and age

All pupils *2009*

	Sample size	%	True standard error	Confidence interval Lower	Confidence interval Upper	Deft
Boys						
11 years	598	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.50	0.999
12 years	795	1.01	0.35	0.32	1.70	0.989
13 years	799	2.63	0.55	1.55	3.70	0.965
14 years	722	5.40	0.88	3.66	7.14	1.048
15 years	906	14.02	1.29	11.47	16.56	1.120
Total	3820	5.13	0.42	4.30	5.96	1.179
Girls						
11 years	615	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.48	1.003
12 years	778	0.51	0.26	0.01	1.02	0.994
13 years	767	3.91	0.77	2.39	5.43	1.103
14 years	761	9.59	1.12	7.39	11.80	1.049
15 years	871	16.07	1.35	13.41	18.74	1.087
Total	3792	6.54	0.43	5.68	7.40	1.083
Total						
11 years	1213	0.16	0.12	0.00	0.39	1.000
12 years	1573	0.76	0.22	0.34	1.19	0.983
13 years	1566	3.26	0.50	2.28	4.23	1.104
14 years	1483	7.55	0.72	6.14	8.96	1.043
15 years	1777	15.03	0.96	13.14	16.91	1.130
Total	7612	5.83	0.31	5.22	6.45	1.162

Table B2

True standard errors and 95% confidence intervals for the proportion who drank alcohol in the last week, by sex and age

All pupils *2009*

	Sample size	%	True standard error	Confidence interval Lower	Confidence interval Upper	Deft
Boys						
11 years	598	3.01	0.75	1.54	4.48	1.068
12 years	790	6.96	0.96	5.08	8.84	1.054
13 years	801	12.23	1.24	9.79	14.68	1.071
14 years	716	25.42	1.92	21.63	29.21	1.181
15 years	907	39.25	1.62	36.06	42.44	0.997
Total	3812	18.60	0.74	17.14	20.06	1.177
Girls						
11 years	612	2.45	0.64	1.18	3.72	1.031
12 years	773	4.27	0.78	2.73	5.80	1.071
13 years	767	11.86	1.28	9.34	14.39	1.098
14 years	758	23.88	1.67	20.60	27.16	1.075
15 years	873	36.54	1.77	33.06	40.03	1.085
Total	3783	16.89	0.70	15.52	18.27	1.146
Total						
11 years	1210	2.73	0.48	1.78	3.67	1.027
12 years	1563	5.63	0.62	4.41	6.85	1.065
13 years	1568	12.05	0.89	10.31	13.80	1.076
14 years	1474	24.63	1.30	22.06	27.19	1.161
15 years	1780	37.92	1.26	35.43	40.41	1.100
Total	7595	17.75	0.56	16.65	18.85	1.273

Table B3

True standard errors and 95% confidence intervals for mean alcohol consumption in the last week, by sex and age

Pupils who drank alcohol in the last week *2009*

	Sample size	Mean number of units	True standard error	Confidence interval Lower	Confidence interval Upper	Deft
Boys						
11-13 years	126	9.42	1.70	6.08	12.76	1.028
14 years	136	10.82	1.10	8.65	12.99	1.006
15 years	283	13.54	0.87	11.83	15.26	1.033
Total	545	11.91	0.70	10.54	13.28	1.077
Girls						
11-13 years	110	9.24	1.02	7.24	11.24	1.020
14 years	144	9.98	0.86	8.29	11.68	0.935
15 years	270	12.90	0.89	11.15	14.64	0.979
Total	524	11.33	0.57	10.21	12.45	0.992
Total						
11-13 years	236	9.33	1.00	7.35	11.31	1.012
14 years	280	10.39	0.73	8.95	11.82	1.024
15 years	553	13.23	0.61	12.02	14.43	0.992
Total	1069	11.62	0.45	10.74	12.51	1.040

Table B4

True standard errors and 95% confidence intervals for the proportion who have taken drugs in the last month, by sex and age

All pupils *2009*

	Sample size	%	True standard error	Confidence interval Lower	Confidence interval Upper	Deft
Boys						
11 years	545	2.75	0.80	1.18	4.33	1.139
12 years	707	3.68	0.72	2.26	5.09	1.013
13 years	720	5.83	0.91	4.04	7.63	1.042
14 years	673	9.51	1.07	7.40	11.62	0.945
15 years	848	20.99	1.46	18.11	23.87	1.044
Total	3493	9.30	0.53	8.26	10.35	1.081
Girls						
11 years	572	1.57	0.50	0.58	2.56	0.964
12 years	721	3.05	0.63	1.80	4.30	0.988
13 years	722	5.68	0.92	3.87	7.49	1.065
14 years	714	10.50	1.07	8.39	12.62	0.935
15 years	835	12.81	1.19	10.48	15.15	1.025
Total	3564	7.13	0.45	6.25	8.01	1.038
Total						
11 years	1117	2.15	0.46	1.25	3.05	1.049
12 years	1428	3.36	0.50	2.38	4.34	1.041
13 years	1442	5.76	0.69	4.39	7.12	1.132
14 years	1387	10.02	0.77	8.50	11.55	0.960
15 years	1683	16.93	0.97	15.02	18.85	1.064
Total	7057	8.20	0.37	7.48	8.93	1.123

Table B5

True standard errors and 95% confidence intervals for the proportion who have taken drugs in the last year, by sex and age

All pupils *2009*

	Sample size	%	True standard error	Confidence interval Lower	Confidence interval Upper	Deft
Boys						
11 years	547	5.30	1.04	3.25	7.35	1.085
12 years	710	7.46	0.95	5.59	9.34	0.962
13 years	723	9.54	1.11	7.35	11.73	1.016
14 years	679	18.85	1.29	16.32	21.39	0.857
15 years	861	31.82	1.74	28.40	35.25	1.096
Total	3520	15.71	0.65	14.43	16.99	1.057
Girls						
11 years	574	3.83	0.86	2.13	5.54	1.078
12 years	722	5.68	0.87	3.97	7.38	1.004
13 years	723	10.10	1.21	7.71	12.48	1.078
14 years	716	18.30	1.45	15.44	21.16	1.004
15 years	845	27.46	1.54	24.42	30.49	1.002
Total	3580	13.94	0.59	12.78	15.10	1.015
Total						
11 years	1121	4.55	0.68	3.21	5.89	1.094
12 years	1432	6.56	0.66	5.27	7.85	1.000
13 years	1446	9.82	0.85	8.15	11.49	1.081
14 years	1395	18.57	0.98	16.64	20.50	0.941
15 years	1706	29.66	1.15	27.40	31.92	1.037
Total	7100	14.82	0.46	13.90	15.73	1.100

NatCen

nfer

P2916
Blue Team

SN 1001-06, Card 1007-08, Batch 1009-13

STICK SERIAL NUMBER LABEL

Date of interview 1014-15 | AM interview 1018: 1 | 1st visit 1019: 1

Month of interview 1016-17 | PM interview 1018: 2 | 2nd visit 1019: 2

SURVEY OF SMOKING, DRINKING AND DRUG USE AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ENGLAND 2009

WE PROMISE THAT YOUR ANSWERS ARE CONFIDENTIAL. THEY WILL NOT BE SHOWN TO *ANYONE* THAT YOU KNOW

Most of the questions can be answered by putting a tick in the box next to the answer that applies to you. You are sometimes told to skip over some questions in this survey. When this happens, you will see an arrow with a note that tells you what question to answer next, like this:

Yes ☑1 → **Q4**

No ☐2 → **Q5**

Or sometimes you have to write a number in the box, for example:

14 days

Or sometimes you have to tick a box and write in an answer, for example:

Something else (Tick and write in) ☑

Chocolate

Q1 Are you a boy or a girl?

1020

Boy 1

Girl 2

Q2 Which year are you in at school?

1021

Year 7 1

Year 8 2

Year 9 3

Year 10 4

Year 11 5

Q3 How old are you now?

1022-23

10 years old 01

11 years old 02

12 years old 03

13 years old 04

14 years old 05

15 years old 06

16 years old 07

17 years old 08

Q4 When were you born?

Month 1024-25 / **Year** 1026-27

Q5 What is your ethnic group?

1028-29

White British 01

White Irish 02

Any other White background **(please write in)** 03

White and Black Caribbean 04

White and Black African 05

White and Asian 06

Any other Mixed background **(please write in)** 07

Indian 08

Pakistani 09

Bangladeshi 10

Any other Asian background **(please write in)** 11

Caribbean 12

African 13

Any other Black background **(please write in)** 14

Chinese 15

Any other ethnic group **(please write in)** 16

Q6 The next questions are about cigarettes. Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers.

Q7 Do you smoke cigarettes at all nowadays?

1030

Yes ☐ 1

No ☐ 2

Q8 Now read the following statements carefully and tick the box next to the one which best describes you.

1031

I have never smoked ☐ 1 → **Q9**

I have only ever tried smoking once ☐ 2 → **Q10**

I used to smoke sometimes but I never smoke a cigarette now ☐ 3 → **Q10**

I sometimes smoke cigarettes now but I don't smoke as many as one a week ☐ 4 → **Q10**

I usually smoke between one and six cigarettes a week ☐ 5 → **Q10**

I usually smoke more than six cigarettes a week ☐ 6 → **Q10**

Q9 Just to check, read the statements below carefully and tick the box next to the one which best describes you.

1032

I have never tried smoking a cigarette, not even a puff or two ☐ 1 → **Q11 on page 6**

I did once have a puff or two of a cigarette, but I never smoke now ☐ 2 → **Q10**

I do sometimes smoke cigarettes ☐ 3 → **Q10**

Q10 How old were you when you first tried smoking a cigarette, even if it was only a puff or two? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

1033-34

I was ☐☐ years old

Q11 The next questions are about alcohol. Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers.

Q12 Have you ever had a proper alcoholic drink – a whole drink, not just a sip? **Please don't count drinks labelled low alcohol.**

1035

Yes ☐ 1 → **Q13**

No ☐ 2 → **Q36 on page 12**

Q13 How old were you when you had your first proper alcoholic drink? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

1036-37

I was ☐☐ years old

Q14 How often do you **usually** have an alcoholic drink?

1038

Every day or almost every day ☐ 1

About twice a week ☐ 2

About once a week ☐ 3

About once a fortnight ☐ 4

About once a month ☐ 5

Only a few times a year ☐ 6

I never drink alcohol now ☐ 7

Q15 When did you **last** have an alcoholic drink?

1039

Today ☐ 1 → **Q16**

Yesterday ☐ 2 → **Q16**

Some other time during the last 7 days ☐ 3 → **Q16**

1 week, but less than 2 weeks ago ☐ 4 → **Q34 on page 11**

2 weeks, but less than 4 weeks ago ☐ 5 → **Q34 on page 11**

1 month, but less than 6 months ago ☐ 6 → **Q36 on page 12**

6 months ago or more ☐ 7 → **Q36 on page 12**

Q16 On which of these days during the **last seven days** did you have an alcoholic drink?
Tick all that apply

1040-53

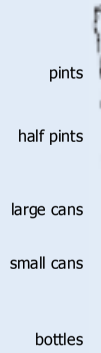
Sunday 01
Monday 02
Tuesday 03
Wednesday 04
Thursday 05
Friday 06
Saturday 07

Q17 During the **last 7 days**, how much BEER, LAGER AND CIDER have you drunk? Please don't include drinks labelled low alcohol.

1054

Half a pint or more 1 → **Q18**
Less than half a pint 2 → **Q20 on page 8**
Have not drunk beer, lager or cider in the last 7 days 3 → **Q20 on page 8**

Q18 Write in the boxes below the number of pints, half pints, large cans, small cans and bottles of BEER, LAGER AND CIDER drunk in the last 7 days.



pints 1055-56
half pints 1057-58
large cans 1059-60
small cans 1061-62
bottles 1063-64

Q19 Do you usually drink normal strength or strong beer? If you usually drink both normal and strong beer, please tick the type you drank most recently.

1065

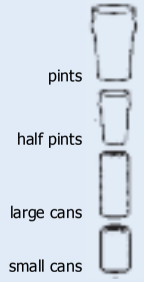
Normal strength beer 1
Strong beer 2

Q20 During the **last 7 days**, how much SHANDY have you drunk?

1066

Half a pint or more 1 → **Q21**
Less than half a pint 2 → **Q23**
Have not drunk shandy in the last 7 days 3 → **Q23**

Q21 Write in the boxes below the number of pints, half pints, large cans and small cans of SHANDY drunk in the last 7 days.



pints 1067-68
half pints 1069-70
large cans 1071-72
small cans 1073-74

Q22 Was the SHANDY you drank in the last 7 days mostly lemonade, mostly lager or beer, or about half and half of each?

1075

Mostly lemonade 1
Mostly lager or beer 2
About half and half of each 3

Q23 During the **last 7 days**, how much WINE have you drunk?

1076

One glass or more 1 → **Q24**
Less than a glass 2 → **Q25 on page 9**
Have not drunk wine in the last 7 days 3 → **Q25 on page 9**

Q24 Write in the box below the number of glasses of WINE drunk in the last 7 days.

glasses 1077-78 [ ]

Q25 During the **last 7 days**, how much MARTINI AND SHERRY have you drunk?

1079

One glass or more [1] → **Q26**

Less than a glass [2] → **Q27**

Have not drunk martini or sherry in the last 7 days [3] → **Q27**

Q26 Write in the box below the number of glasses of MARTINI AND SHERRY drunk in the last 7 days.

glasses 1080-81 [ ]

Q27 During the **last 7 days**, how much SPIRITS and LIQUEURS (*eg whisky, vodka, gin, tequila, Baileys, Tia Maria*) have you drunk?
By a glass we mean a single pub measure.

1082

One glass or more [1] → **Q28**

Less than a glass [2] → **Q29**

Have not drunk spirits or liqueurs in the last 7 days [3] → **Q29**

Q28 Write in the box below the number of glasses of SPIRITS and LIQUEURS (*eg whisky, vodka, gin, tequila, Baileys, Tia Maria*) drunk in the last 7 days.

glasses 1083-84 [ ]

Q29 During the last 7 days, how many ALCOPOPS (*eg Bacardi Breezer, Red Square, Reef, Smirnoff Ice, WKD, Archers*) have you drunk?

1085

One bottle or more [1] → **Q30 on page 10**

Less than a bottle [2] → **Q31 on page 10**

Have not drunk alcopops in the last 7 days [3] → **Q31 on page 10**

Q30 Write in the boxes below the number of cans and bottles of ALCOPOPS (*eg Bacardi Breezer, Red Square, Reef, Smirnoff Ice, WKD, Archers*) drunk in the last 7 days.

small cans 1086-87 [ ]

bottles 1088-89 [ ]

Q31 Have you drunk any other types of alcoholic drink in the last 7 days?

1090

Yes [1] → **Q32**

No [2] → **Q34 on page 11**

Q32 What other alcoholic drink(s) have you drunk? Please write in the name(s) below. 1091-1100

Q33 Write in the boxes below the number of pints, half pints, large cans, small cans, bottles and glasses of this other alcoholic drink that you have drunk in the last 7 days.

pints 1101-112 [ ]

half pints 1113-114 [ ]

large cans 1115-116 [ ]

small cans 1117-118 [ ]

bottles 1119-120 [ ]

glasses 1121-122 [ ]

Q34 Have you been drunk **in the last 4 weeks**?

1123

Yes [2] → **Q35**

No [3] → **Q36 on page 12**

Q35 How many times have you been drunk **in the last 4 weeks**?
Write the **number** in the box.

1124-125

I have been drunk [ ] times

Q36 The next questions are about drugs (apart from cigarettes and alcohol). Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers.

Q37 The next questions are about **Cannabis**, also called **Marijuana, Dope, Pot, Blow, Hash, Skunk, Puff, Grass, Draw, Ganja, Spliff, Smoke, Weed, Wacky Backy.**

Q38 Have you ever **heard of** Cannabis?

1126

Yes [1] → **Q39**

No [2] → **Q44 on page 13**

Q39 Have you ever been **offered** Cannabis?

1127

Yes [1]

No [2]

Q40 Have you ever **tried** Cannabis (even if only once)?

1128

Yes [1] → **Q41**

No [2] → **Q44 on page 13**

Q41 How old were you when you first **tried** Cannabis? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

1129-130

I was [ ] years old

Q42 When did you last **use** or **take** Cannabis?

1131

In the last month [1]

In the last year [2]

More than a year ago [3]

Q43 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Cannabis?

1132

Once [1]

2-5 occasions [2]

6-10 occasions [3]

More than 10 occasions [4]

Q44 The next questions are about **Speed** and other **Amphetamines**, also called **Whizz, Sulphate, Billy, Methamphetamine, Crystal Meth, Dexies.**

Q45 Have you ever **heard of** Speed or other Amphetamines?

1133
Yes [1] → **Q46**
No [2] → **Q52 on page 14**

Q46 Have you ever been **offered** Speed or other Amphetamines?

1134
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q47 Have you ever **tried** Speed or other Amphetamines (even if only once)?

1135
Yes [1] → **Q48**
No [2] → **Q52 on page 14**

Q48 How old were you when you first **tried** Speed or other Amphetamines? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was [1136-137] years old

Q49 When did you last **use** or **take** Speed or other Amphetamines?

1138
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
Longer ago [3]

Q50 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Speed or other Amphetamines?

1139
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q51 How do you usually take Speed or other Amphetamines? Please tick any that apply.

1140-141
I sniff or swallow them [1]
I inject them [2]

Q52 The next questions are about **LSD**, also called **Acid, Trips, Dots, Flash, Smilies.**

Q53 Have you ever **heard of** LSD?

1142
Yes [1] → **Q54**
No [2] → **Q59 on page 15**

Q54 Have you ever been **offered** LSD?

1143
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q55 Have you ever **tried** LSD (even if only once)?

1144
Yes [1] → **Q56**
No [2] → **Q59 on page 15**

Q56 How old were you when you first **tried** LSD? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was [1145-146] years old

Q57 When did you last **use** or **take** LSD?

1147
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q58 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** LSD?

1148
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q59 The next questions are about **Ecstasy**, also called **'E', Mitsubishis, Rolex's, Dolphins, XTC.**

Q60 Have you ever **heard of** Ecstasy?

1149
Yes [1] → **Q61**
No [2] → **Q66 on page 16**

Q61 Have you ever been **offered** Ecstasy?

1150
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q62 Have you ever **tried** Ecstasy (even if only once)?

1151
Yes [1] → **Q63**
No [2] → **Q66 on page 16**

Q63 How old were you when you first **tried** Ecstasy? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was [1152-153] years old

Q64 When did you last **use** or **take** Ecstasy?

1154
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q65 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Ecstasy?

1155
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q66 The next questions are about **Semeron**, also called **Sem.**

Q67 Have you ever **heard of** Semeron?

1156
Yes [1] → **Q68**
No [2] → **Q73 on page 17**

Q68 Have you ever been **offered** Semeron?

1157
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q69 Have you ever **tried** Semeron (even if only once)?

1158
Yes [1] → **Q70**
No [2] → **Q73 on page 17**

Q70 How old were you when you first **tried** Semeron? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was [1159-160] years old

Q71 When did you last **use** or **take** Semeron?

1161
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q72 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Semeron?

1162
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q73 The next questions are about **Poppers**, also called **Amyl nitrite, Liquid Gold, Ram.**

Q74 Have you ever **heard of** Poppers?

1163
Yes [1] → **Q75**
No [2] → **Q80 on page 18**

Q75 Have you ever been **offered** Poppers?

1164
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q76 Have you ever **tried sniffing** Poppers (even if only once)?

1165
Yes [1] → **Q77**
No [2] → **Q80 on page 18**

Q77 How old were you when you first **tried sniffing** Poppers?
Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was 1166-1167 years old

Q78 When did you last **sniff** Poppers?

1168
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q79 On how many occasions have you **sniffed** Poppers?

1169
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q80 The next questions are about **Tranquilisers**, also called **Downers, Moggies, Jellies, Roofies, Benzos.**

Q81 Have you ever **heard of** Tranquilisers?

1170
Yes [1] → **Q82**
No [2] → **Q87 on page 19**

Q82 Have you ever been **offered** Tranquilisers?

1171
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q83 Have you ever **tried** Tranquilisers (even if only once)?

1172
Yes [1] → **Q84**
No [2] → **Q87 on page 19**

Q84 How old were you when you first **tried** Tranquilisers?
Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was 1173-1174 years old

Q85 When did you last **use** or **take** Tranquilisers?

1175
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q86 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Tranquilisers?

1176
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q87 The next questions are about **Heroin**, also called **Brown, Smack, Skag, Horse, Gear, 'H'.**

Q88 Have you ever **heard of** Heroin?

1177
Yes 1 → **Q89**
No 2 → **Q94 on page 20**

Q89 Have you ever been **offered** Heroin?

1178
Yes 1
No 2

Q90 Have you ever **tried** Heroin (even if only once)?

1179
Yes 1 → **Q91**
No 2 → **Q94 on page 20**

Q91 How old were you when you first **tried** Heroin? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was 1180-1181 years old

Q92 When did you last **use** or **take** Heroin?

1182
In the last month 1
In the last year 2
More than a year ago 3

Q93 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Heroin?

1183
Once 1
2-5 occasions 2
6-10 occasions 3
More than 10 occasions 4

Q94 The next questions are about **Magic Mushrooms**, also called **Shrooms, Magics, Liberties.**

Q95 Have you ever **heard of** Magic Mushrooms?

1184
Yes 1 → **Q96**
No 2 → **Q101 on page 21**

Q96 Have you ever been **offered** Magic Mushrooms?

1185
Yes 1
No 2

Q97 Have you ever **tried** Magic Mushrooms (even if only once)?

1186
Yes 1 → **Q98**
No 2 → **Q101 on page 21**

Q98 How old were you when you first **tried** Magic Mushrooms? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was 1187-188 years old

Q99 When did you last **use** or **take** Magic Mushrooms?

1189
In the last month 1
In the last year 2
More than a year ago 3

Q100 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Magic Mushrooms?

1190
Once 1
2-5 occasions 2
6-10 occasions 3
More than 10 occasions 4

Q101 The next questions are about **Methadone**, also called **Linctus, Physeptone, Meth.**

Q102 Have you ever **heard of** Methadone?

1191
Yes [1] → **Q103**
No [2] → **Q108 on page 22**

Q103 Have you ever been **offered** Methadone?

1192
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q104 Have you ever **tried** Methadone (even if only once)?

1193
Yes [1] → **Q105**
No [2] → **Q108 on page 22**

Q105 How old were you when you first **tried** Methadone? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was [1194-195] years old

Q106 When did you last **use** or **take** Methadone?

1196
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q107 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Methadone?

1197
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q108 The next questions are about **Crack**, also called **Rocks, Stones, Freebase, Wash.**

Q109 Have you ever **heard of** Crack?

1198
Yes [1] → **Q110**
No [2] → **Q115 on page 23**

Q110 Have you ever been **offered** Crack?

1199
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q111 Have you ever **tried** Crack (even if only once)?

1200
Yes [1] → **Q112**
No [2] → **Q115 on page 23**

Q112 How old were you when you first **tried** Crack? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was [1201-202] years old

Q113 When did you last **use** or **take** Crack?

1203
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q114 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Crack?

1204
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q115 The next questions are about **Cocaine**, also called **Charlie, 'C', Snow, Percy, Toot.**

Q116 Have you ever **heard of** Cocaine? 1205

Yes [1] → **Q117**

No [2] → **Q122 on page 24**

Q117 Have you ever been **offered** Cocaine? 1206

Yes [1]

No [2]

Q118 Have you ever **tried** Cocaine (even if only once)? 1207

Yes [1] → **Q119**

No [2] → **Q122 on page 24**

Q119 How old were you when you first **tried** Cocaine? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words. 1208-1209

I was [ ] years old

Q120 When did you last **use** or **take** Cocaine? 1210

In the last month [1]

In the last year [2]

More than a year ago [3]

Q121 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Cocaine? 1211

Once [1]

2-5 occasions [2]

6-10 occasions [3]

More than 10 occasions [4]

Q122 The next questions are about **Ketamine**, also called **Green, 'K', super K.**

Q123 Have you ever **heard of** Ketamine? 1212

Yes [1] → **Q124**

No [2] → **Q129 on page 25**

Q124 Have you ever been **offered** Ketamine? 1213

Yes [1]

No [2]

Q125 Have you ever **tried** Ketamine (even if only once)? 1214

Yes [1] → **Q126**

No [2] → **Q129 on page 25**

Q126 How old were you when you first **tried** Ketamine? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words. 1215-1216

I was [ ] years old

Q127 When did you last **use** or **take** Ketamine? 1217

In the last month [1]

In the last year [2]

More than a year ago [3]

Q128 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Ketamine? 1218

Once [1]

2-5 occasions [2]

6-10 occasions [3]

More than 10 occasions [4]

Q129 The next questions are about **Anabolic Steroids**, also called **Roids.**

Q130 Have you ever **heard of** Anabolic Steroids?

1219
Yes [1] → **Q131**
No [2] → **Q136 on page 26**

Q131 Have you ever been **offered** Anabolic Steroids?

1220
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q132 Have you ever **tried** Anabolic Steroids (even if only once)?

1221
Yes [1] → **Q133**
No [2] → **Q136 on page 26**

Q133 How old were you when you first **tried** Anabolic Steroids? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was 1222-1223 [ ] years old

Q134 When did you last **use** or **take** Anabolic Steroids?

1224
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q135 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** Anabolic Steroids?

1225
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q136 The next questions are about **Glue, gas (butane, lighter refills), aerosols or solvents (to inhale or sniff).**

Q137 Have you ever **heard of** Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents?

1226
Yes [1] → **Q138**
No [2] → **Q143 on page 27**

Q138 Have you ever been **offered** Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents to inhale or sniff?

1227
Yes [1]
No [2]

Q139 Have you ever **tried sniffing** Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents (even if only once)?

1228
Yes [1] → **Q140**
No [2] → **Q143 on page 27**

Q140 How old were you when you first **tried sniffing** Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was 1229-1230 [ ] years old

Q141 When did you last **sniff** Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents?

1231
In the last month [1]
In the last year [2]
More than a year ago [3]

Q142 On how many occasions have you **sniffed** Glue, gas, aerosols or solvents?

1232
Once [1]
2-5 occasions [2]
6-10 occasions [3]
More than 10 occasions [4]

Q143 The next questions are about **other drugs** (other than those that you could get from a doctor or chemist).

Q144 Have you ever **heard of** any other drugs that would **not** be given to you by a doctor or chemist?

1233

Yes 1 → **Q145**

No 2 → **Q151 on page 28**

Q145 What other drugs have you heard of? Please write in the names below.

1234-283

Q146 Have you ever been **offered** these other drugs?

1284

Yes 1

No 2

Q147 Have you ever **tried** these other drugs (even if only once)?

1285

Yes 1 → **Q148**

No 2 → **Q151 on page 28**

Q148 How old were you when you first **tried** these other drugs? Write in the box your **age then**, in numbers not words.

I was 1286-1287 years old

Q149 When did you last **use** or **take** these other drugs?

1288

In the last month 1

In the last year 2

More than a year ago 3

Q150 On how many occasions have you **used** or **taken** these other drugs?

1289

Once 1

2-5 occasions 2

6-10 occasions 3

More than 10 occasions 4

Q151 Just to check, have you ever **used** or **taken** any drugs, including sniffing glue or solvents? (even if only once).

1290

Yes 1 → **Q152**

No 2 → **Q175 on page 37**

Spare 1291-1299

Q152 Thinking about the **first time** you **tried** any drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents but not cigarettes or alcohol), which of the following did you take?
Please tick all that you tried.

1300-1331

Cannabis, also called Marijuana, Dope, Pot, Blow, Hash, Skunk, Puff, Grass, Draw, Ganja, Spliff, Smoke, Weed, Wacky Backy 01

Speed and other **Amphetamines**, also called Whizz, Sulphate, Billy, Methamphetamine, Crystal Meth, Dexies. 02

LSD, also called Acid, Trips, Dots, Flash, Smilies 03

Ecstasy, also called 'E', Mitsubishis, Rolex's, Dolphins, XTC 04

Semeron, also called Sem 05

Poppers, also called Amyl nitrite, Liquid Gold, Ram 06

Tranquilisers, also called Downers, Moggies, Jellies, Roofies, Benzos 07

Heroin, also called Brown, Smack, Skag, Horse, Gear, 'H' 08

Magic Mushrooms, also called Shrooms, Magics, Liberties 09

Methadone, also called Linctus, Physeptone, Meth 10

Crack, also called Rocks, Stones, Freebase, Wash 11

Cocaine, also called Charlie, 'C', Snow, Percy,Toot 12

Ketamine, also called Green, 'K', super K 13

Anabolic Steroids, also called Roids 14

Glue, gas (butane, lighter refills), aerosols or **solvents** (to inhale or sniff) 15

Other drugs that would **not** be given to you by a doctor or chemist
(Please tick box write below the name of the drugs) 16

Q153 The **first** time you tried the drugs, who did you get them from?

1332-1333

- My brother or sister 01
- A friend of my own age 02
- A friend older than me 03
- A friend younger than me 04
- My boyfriend or girlfriend 05
- My mother, father or step-parent 06
- Someone I knew of, but didn't know personally 07
- A stranger 08
- Someone else (please tick the box and write below how you knew the person) 09

Q154 Why did you try the drugs, the **first** time? **You may tick more than one box.**

1334-1355

- I wanted to get high or feel good 01
- Because my friends were doing it 02
- Because it's cool 03
- It was a dare 04
- I had nothing better to do 05
- I wanted to see what it was like 06
- I wanted to forget my problems 07
- Just because I was offered it 08
- Other reasons (please tick the box and write in below) 09

- I don't remember 10
- I don't know 11

Q155 The **first** time you used or took drugs, how did they make you feel?
You may tick more than one box.

1356-371

- I felt sad 01
- I felt fantastic 02
- I felt sick 03
- I felt confident 04
- I felt guilty 05
- I felt relaxed 06
- I felt out of control 07
- None of these 08

Q156 The first time you took drugs, overall how did you feel?

1372

- I felt good 1
- I felt bad 2
- I felt no different 3

Q157 When did you last take drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents)?

1373

- In the last four weeks 1 → **Q158**
- In the last year 2 → **Q159 on page 31**
- More than a year ago 3 → **Q175 on page 37**

Q158 **In the last four weeks,** how many times have you taken drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents)?

1374-375

- None 01
- Once 02
- Twice 03
- Three times 04
- Four times or more 05

Q159 **Last time** you used or took drugs, which of the following drugs did you use or take? If you used or took more than one drug at the same time, please tick all those you used or took.

1376-1407

- **Cannabis**, also called Marijuana, Dope, Pot, Blow, Hash, Skunk, Puff, Grass, Draw, Ganja, Spliff, Smoke, Weed, Wacky Backy — 01
- **Speed** and other **Amphetamines**, also called Whizz, Sulphate, Billy, Methamphetamine, Crystal Meth, Dexies — 02
- **LSD**, also called Acid, Trips, Dots, Flash, Smilies — 03
- **Ecstasy**, also called 'E', Mitsubishis, Rolex's, Dolphins, XTC — 04
- **Semeron**, also called Sem — 05
- **Poppers**, also called Amyl nitrite, Liquid Gold, Ram — 06
- **Tranquilisers**, also called Downers, Moggies, Jellies, Roofies, Benzos — 07
- **Heroin**, also called Brown, Smack, Skag, Horse, Gear, 'H' — 08
- **Magic Mushrooms**, also called Shrooms, Magics, Liberties — 09
- **Methadone**, also called Linctus, Physeptone, Meth — 10
- **Crack**, also called Rocks, Stones, Freebase, Wash — 11
- **Cocaine**, also called Charlie, 'C', Snow, Percy, Toot — 12
- **Ketamine**, also called Green, 'K', super K — 13
- **Anabolic Steroids**, also called Roids — 14
- **Glue, gas (butane, lighter refills), aerosols** or **solvents** (to inhale or sniff) — 15
- **Other** drugs that would **not** be given to you by a doctor or chemist (Please tick box write below the name of the drugs) — 16

Q160 The **last** time you used or took drugs, were you also drinking alcohol?

1408

- Yes — 1
- No — 2

Q161 The **last** time you used or took drugs, who did you get them from?

1409-410

- My brother or sister — 01
- A friend of my own age — 02
- A friend older than me — 03
- A friend younger than me — 04
- My boyfriend or girlfriend — 05
- My mother, father or step-parent — 06
- Someone I knew of, but didn't know personally — 07
- A stranger — 08
- Someone else (please tick the box and write below how you knew the person) — 09

Q162 Where were you when you bought or were given the drugs the **last** time?

1411

- At home — 1
- In someone else's home — 2
- At a party, club, disco or rave — 3
- At school — 4
- Out on the street, in a park or other outdoor area — 5
- Other place (please tick the box and write in where you were) — 6

Q163 Why did you use or take drugs that day?
You may tick more than one box.

1412-433

I wanted to get high or feel good	01
Because my friends were doing it	02
Because it's cool	03
It was a dare	04
I had nothing better to do	05
I wanted to see what it was like	06
I wanted to forget my problems	07
Just because I was offered it	08
Other reasons (please tick the box and write in below)	09
I don't remember	10
I don't know	11

Q164 The **last** time you used or took drugs, were you with other people or were you on your own?

1434

I was with other people	1	→ **Q165**
I was on my own	2	→ **Q166**

Spare 1435-1451

Q165 Which of the following people were you with the **last** time you used or took drugs.
You may tick more than one box.

1452-465

My girlfriend or boyfriend	01
Friends of the same sex as me	02
Friends of the opposite sex	03
A group of friends of both sexes	04
My parents (or step-parents)	05
My brother, sister or other relatives	06
Someone else (tick the box and write below how you knew the person)	07

Q166 The **last** time you used or took drugs, how did they make you feel?
You may tick more than one box.

1466-481

I felt sad	01
I felt fantastic	02
I felt sick	03
I felt confident	04
I felt guilty	05
I felt relaxed	06
I felt out of control	07
None of these	08

Q167 The last time you took drugs, overall how did you feel?

1482

I felt good 1

I felt bad 2

I felt no different 3

Q168 Would you like to stop using or taking drugs altogether?

1483

Yes, I would like to give up now 1

Yes, I would like to give up in the future 2

No 3

Not sure 4

Q169 Have you ever felt that you needed to get help or treatment because you were using or taking drugs?

1484

Yes 1

No 2

Q170 For the next set of questions, you should include sniffing glue or other solvents but not smoking cigarettes or alcohol. Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers.

Q171 On how many occasions have you taken drugs (including sniffing glue or other solvents but not including cigarettes or alcohol)?

1485

Once 1 → **Q175 on page 37**

2-5 occasions 2 → **Q172**

6-10 occasions 3 → **Q172**

More than 10 occasions 4 → **Q172**

Q172 How often do you usually take drugs (including sniffing glue or other solvents but not including cigarettes or alcohol)?

1486

I take drugs most days 1

I take drugs at least once a week 2

I take drugs once or twice a month 3

I take drugs a few times a year 4

I take drugs about once a year or less often 5

Q173 How does your family feel about you taking drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents but not cigarettes or alcohol)?

1487

They try to stop me 1 → **Q176 on page 37**

They try to persuade me not to take drugs 2 → **Q176 on page 37**

They do nothing 3 → **Q176 on page 37**

They encourage me to take drugs 4 → **Q176 on page 37**

They don't know I take drugs 5 → **Q174**

Don't know 6 → **Q176 on page 37**

Q174 How do you think your family would feel if they knew that you took drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents but not cigarettes or alcohol)?

1488

They would try to stop me 1 → **Q176 on page 37**

They would try to persuade me not to take drugs 2 → **Q176 on page 37**

They would do nothing 3 → **Q176 on page 37**

They would encourage me to take drugs 4 → **Q176 on page 37**

Don't know 5 → **Q176 on page 37**

Q175 How do you think your family would feel if you started taking drugs?

1489

They would try to stop me 1
They would try to persuade me not to take drugs 2
They would do nothing 3
They would encourage me to take drugs 4
Don't know 5

Q176 The next questions should be answered by ALL pupils. You should include sniffing glue or other solvents but not smoking cigarettes or drinking alcohol. Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers.

Q177 Have you ever refused a drug that was offered to you (including sniffing glue or other solvents but not including cigarettes or alcohol)?

1490

Yes 1 → **Q178**
No 2 → **Q179 on page 38**
Never been offered drugs 3 → **Q179 on page 38**

Q178 Which of the following are reasons why you have refused to take drugs?
You may tick more than one box.

1491-1506

They are too expensive 01
I was frightened of taking them 02
I thought they were dangerous 03
I didn't want to get addicted 04
I didn't know enough about the drugs 05
I thought I would get into trouble if I took drugs 06
I think taking drugs is wrong 07
I just didn't want to take them 08

Q179 How easy would it be for **you** to get illegal drugs if you wanted to?

1507

Very easy 1
Fairly easy 2
Fairly difficult 3
Very difficult 4
Don't know 5

Q180 How easy would it be for **you** to get heroin if you wanted to?

1508

Very easy 1
Fairly easy 2
Fairly difficult 3
Very difficult 4
Don't know 5

Q181 How easy would it be for **you** to get cocaine or crack if you wanted to?

1509

Very easy 1
Fairly easy 2
Fairly difficult 3
Very difficult 4
Don't know 5

Q182 The next questions are about people your own age, such as people at your school and other schools. Remember that no-one who knows you will find out your answers.

Q183 Thinking about people your own age, how many of them do you think smoke cigarettes?

1510

- All of them 1
- Most, but not all 2
- About half 3
- Only a few 4
- None of them 5

Q184 How many people your own age do you think drink alcohol?

1511

- All of them 1
- Most, but not all 2
- About half 3
- Only a few 4
- None of them 5

Q185 How many people your own age do you think take drugs (including sniffing glue or other solvents)?

1512

- All of them 1
- Most, but not all 2
- About half 3
- Only a few 4
- None of them 5

Spare 1513-1516

Q186 Do you think it is OK for someone your age to do the following?
Tick one box per row.

	It's OK	It's not OK	Don't know
Try smoking a cigarette to see what it's like	1517 1	2	3
Try drinking alcohol to see what it's like	1518 1	2	3
Try getting drunk to see what it's like	1519 1	2	3
Try sniffing glue to see what it's like	1520 1	2	3
Try taking cannabis to see what it's like	1521 1	2	3
Try taking cocaine to see what it's like	1522 1	2	3

Q187 Do you think it is OK for someone your age to do the following?
Tick one box per row.

	It's OK	It's not OK	Don't know
Smoke cigarettes once a week	1523 1	2	3
Drink alcohol once a week	1524 1	2	3
Get drunk once a week	1525 1	2	3
Sniff glue once a week	1526 1	2	3
Take cannabis once a week	1527 1	2	3
Take cocaine once a week	1528 1	2	3

Q188 Have you got helpful information about **smoking cigarettes**, from any of these people?
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No
Parents	1529 1	2
Brothers or sisters	1530 1	2
Other relatives	1531 1	2
Friends	1532 1	2
Family doctor or GP	1533 1	2
Teachers	1534 1	2
Other adults at school (e.g. school nurse, Connexions advisors, counselling service)	1535 1	2
The police	1536 1	2

Q189 Have you got helpful information about **drinking alcohol** from any of these people?
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No
Parents	1537 1	2
Brothers or sisters	1538 1	2
Other relatives	1539 1	2
Friends	1540 1	2
Family doctor or GP	1541 1	2
Teachers	1542 1	2
Other adults at school (e.g. school nurse, Connexions advisors, counselling service)	1543 1	2
The police	1544 1	2

Q190 Have you got helpful information about **taking drugs** from any of these people?
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No
Parents	1545 1	2
Brothers or sisters	1546 1	2
Other relatives	1547 1	2
Friends	1548 1	2
Family doctor or GP	1549 1	2
Teachers	1550 1	2
Other adults at school (e.g. school nurse, Connexions advisors, counselling service)	1551 1	2
The police	1552 1	2

Q191 Have you got helpful information about **smoking cigarettes**, from any of these places?
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No
TV	1553 1	2
Radio	1554 1	2
Newspapers or magazines	1555 1	2
The internet	1556 1	2
FRANK	1557 1	2
Helplines	1558 1	2

Q192 Have you got helpful information about **drinking alcohol** from any of these places?
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No
TV	1559 1	2
Radio	1560 1	2
Newspapers or magazines	1561 1	2
The internet	1562 1	2
FRANK	1563 1	2
Helplines	1564 1	2

Q193 Have you got helpful information about **taking drugs** from any of these places?
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No
TV	1565 1	2
Radio	1566 1	2
Newspapers or magazines	1567 1	2
The internet	1568 1	2
FRANK	1569 1	2
Helplines	1570 1	2

Q194 In the last twelve months have you had any lessons, videos or discussions in class on the following topics:
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Smoking?	1571 1	2	3
Alcohol?	1572 1	2	3
Drugs in general?	1573 1	2	3

Q195 Just to check, in the last twelve months have you had **any** lessons about drugs (including sniffing glue or other solvents, but not including cigarettes or alcohol) in your school?

Yes 1574 1 → **Q196**

No 2 → **Q197 on page 45**

Q196 Did the school lessons about drugs (including sniffing glue or other solvents, but not including cigarettes or alcohol) help you do any of these things?
Tick one box on each row.

	Yes	No
They helped me find out more about drugs	1575 1	2
They helped me think about the risks of taking drugs	1576 1	2
They helped me realise that taking some drugs is against the law	1577 1	2
They helped me think about what I would do if someone offered me drugs	1578 1	2
They helped me see that not as many young people take drugs as I thought	1579 1	2
They helped me find out where to go to get information or help about drugs	1580 1	2
They helped me understand why people take drugs	1581 1	2
They helped me to avoid drugs	1582 1	2

Q197 The last set of questions are more general questions. Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers.

Q198 Do you get free school meals or vouchers for free school meals?

1583

Yes 1

No 2

Q199 Have you ever stayed away from school without permission (truanted)?

1584

Yes 1 → **Q200**

No 2 → **Q201 on page 46**

Q200 How often have you played truant in the last 12 months?

1585

Not played truant in the last 12 months 1

Once or twice 2

3 or 4 times 3

5-10 times 4

More than 10 times 5

Q201 Have you ever been excluded from school?

1586

Yes 1 → **Q202**

No 2 → **Q203**

Q202 How often have you been excluded from school in the last 12 months?

1587

Not been excluded in the last 12 months 1

Once or twice 2

3 or 4 times 3

5-10 times 4

More than 10 times 5

Q203 How many books are there in your home? (Do not count newspapers, magazines or your school books)

1588

None 1

Very few (1-10 books) 2

Enough to fill one shelf (11-50 books) 3

Enough to fill one bookcase (51-100) 4

Enough to fill two bookcases (101-200) 5

Enough to fill three or more bookcases (more than 200 books) 6

Q204 Finally, just to check, have you smoked any cigarettes in the last seven days ending yesterday?

1589

Yes [1] → **Q205**

No [2] → **Q206**

Q205 How many cigarettes did you smoke on each day in the last seven days ending yesterday. If you **did not smoke** on a day write 0.

1590-591 Last **Monday** I smoked [ ] cigarettes

1592-593 Last **Tuesday** I smoked [ ] cigarettes

1594-595 Last **Wednesday** I smoked [ ] cigarettes

1596-597 Last **Thursday** I smoked [ ] cigarettes

1598-599 Last **Friday** I smoked [ ] cigarettes

1600-601 Last **Saturday** I smoked [ ] cigarettes

1602-603 Last **Sunday** I smoked [ ] cigarettes

Q206 Were there any questions you meant to go back and complete? Please check.

Thank you very much for your help.

If you still have some time left you might want to try this puzzle

The Funfair word search

Words can go in all directions and may overlap.

C	Z	X	N	A	G	H	L	T	Z	D	B	B	D	H	E	B	O	P	F	M	V	G	X	V
B	F	M	B	S	V	E	V	U	O	J	N	N	A	Z	D	A	R	T	S	R	I	Q	V	I
A	B	P	P	I	E	M	L	Y	P	F	U	A	T	Q	A	W	N	S	O	C	U	Q	E	I
Y	K	I	D	H	Y	Z	X	S	D	O	F	T	B	F	S	Q	S	N	N	Y	Q	E	L	E
N	H	E	W	Q	X	O	S	N	R	G	M	E	K	T	Y	Z	A	L	P	O	O	H	Q	D
C	O	G	D	M	D	E	Q	O	H	X	D	S	E	R	S	E	P	V	C	E	E	Q	C	W
G	I	C	Y	A	Y	Y	G	O	A	C	C	P	A	A	M	I	V	T	O	A	D	Q	W	M
B	R	F	V	W	A	Y	S	L	V	F	I	B	Z	H	P	R	R	M	M	N	D	Y	S	M
K	V	G	J	O	R	T	B	L	Q	I	V	K	M	E	B	P	G	W	O	X	R	U	E	W
L	K	I	H	R	T	W	T	A	E	V	L	L	R	R	M	E	L	O	I	Z	A	Q	H	Q
U	K	W	E	R	H	W	D	B	Y	P	K	F	T	E	J	D	I	E	L	W	W	F	T	Z
O	H	M	A	H	I	Y	X	D	V	T	B	G	B	T	G	W	W	B	S	D	Z	Y	F	R
O	L	I	N	R	V	T	J	B	I	K	A	I	X	S	A	N	F	N	R	I	F	S	S	M
N	N	V	H	U	P	T	H	V	D	S	R	O	T	A	R	E	N	E	G	W	A	I	K	N
C	F	P	Q	N	W	X	C	L	O	P	O	S	L	O	T	M	A	C	H	I	N	E	S	T
A	Q	O	E	S	L	E	L	V	D	Z	K	Q	V	C	K	Z	P	B	L	C	H	V	O	H
N	A	A	I	P	O	E	U	S	G	A	J	K	I	R	X	W	T	Y	K	O	M	S	I	V
D	R	M	W	L	W	U	P	O	E	V	M	B	Y	E	T	M	S	B	T	I	N	V	K	J
Y	C	A	R	O	U	S	E	L	M	T	H	O	I	L	O	X	U	D	L	D	T	X	M	W
F	D	C	F	K	V	L	T	B	S	C	G	Z	J	L	U	I	O	E	P	Y	L	H	Z	T
L	O	U	G	S	R	Y	W	U	J	P	O	D	M	O	W	G	J	A	A	Y	I	V	W	R
O	E	H	R	A	K	Z	N	Y	N	L	T	P	Q	R	S	Y	T	K	A	M	I	S	L	J
S	J	M	O	Z	A	E	O	Y	L	O	G	R	X	V	W	X	H	T	A	V	P	V	T	X
S	U	M	R	X	S	Z	R	S	F	W	D	Z	C	G	L	M	B	E	R	E	E	L	E	Y
L	N	Q	M	A	A	J	V	T	B	C	O	F	W	A	T	V	V	H	Y	L	K	J	L	W

BALLOONS
BIG WHEEL
CANDY FLOSS
CAROUSEL
CHIPS
DARTS
DODGEMS
DONUTS
GENERATORS
GHOST TRAIN
GOLDFISH
HOOPLA
HOTDOGS
KIOSKS
MERRY GO ROUND
ROLLER COASTER
WRIST BAND
TOFFEE APPLES
SLOT MACHINES

Appendix D: School policy questionnaire

NatCen

nfer

P2916: Blue Team

School Serial Number 1001-1004 [ ][ ][ ][ ]

Card 1005-1006
Batch 1007-1011
Spare 1012

Survey of Smoking, Drinking and Drug use among secondary school children in England 2009

School Policy Information

Q 1 Does your school teach **pupils** about drugs (both illegal and prescribed), alcohol and tobacco?

	Yes	No
Teach pupils about drugs	1013 [ ] 1	[ ] 2
Teach pupils about alcohol	1014 [ ] 1	[ ] 2
Teach pupils about tobacco	1015 [ ] 1	[ ] 2

Q 2 Does your school have a policy on teaching **pupils** about drugs, including illegal and prescribed drugs, alcohol and tobacco?

1016

Yes [ ] 1 → **Q 3**

No [ ] 2 → **Q 5**

Q 3 When did your school last update the policy on teaching **pupils** about drugs, including illegal and prescribed drugs, alcohol and tobacco?

1017

- In the last year [1]
- 1-2 years ago [2]
- 3-5 years ago [3]
- Longer ago [4]

Q 4 Who contributes to developing the school policy on teaching **pupils** about drugs? **Tick one box per row**

	Yes	No
School Drug Advisor / Local Authority	1018 [1]	[2]
PSHE Co-ordinator (member of school staff)	1019 [1]	[2]
School governors	1020 [1]	[2]
Head teacher	1021 [1]	[2]
Other teachers	1022 [1]	[2]
Parents	1023 [1]	[2]
Pupils	1024 [1]	[2]
Someone else (Please write in)	1025 [1]	[2]

Q 5 Does your school have a policy that covers smoking for **adults**, that is teaching staff, non-teaching staff and adult visitors?

1040

- Yes [1] → **Q 6**
- No [2] → **Q 10**

Q 6 Which statement best describes the school smoking policy for **adults during school hours**?

1041

- Smoking is **prohibited** anywhere on school premises (including the school grounds) [1]
- Smoking is **permitted** in the school grounds [2]

Q 7 Does the smoking policy apply at all times, or is it different outside schools hours?

1042

- Smoking policy applies at all times [1] → **Q 9**
- Smoking policy is different outside school hours [2] → **Q 8**

Q 8 Which statement best describes the school smoking policy for adults **outside school hours**?

1043

- Smoking is **prohibited** anywhere on school premises (including the school grounds) [1]
- Smoking is **permitted** in the school grounds [2]

Q 9 Who is responsible for deciding the school smoking policy for **adults? Tick one box per row**

	Yes	No
School Drug Advisor / Local Authority	1044 [1]	[2]
PSHE Co-ordinator (member of school staff)	1045 [1]	[2]
School governors	1046 [1]	[2]
Head teacher	1047 [1]	[2]
Other teachers	1048 [1]	[2]
Parents	1049 [1]	[2]
Pupils	1050 [1]	[2]
Someone else (Please write in)	1051 [1]	[2]

Q 10 Does your school have a written policy on managing incidents involving **pupils** smoking?

1063

- Yes [1]
- No [2]

Q 11 What action(s) would be taken if pupils were found smoking on school premises? **Tick one box per row.**

	Yes	No
Detention	1064 [1]	[2]
Verbal or written warning	1065 [1]	[2]
Loss of privileges	1066 [1]	[2]
Parents contacted	1067 [1]	[2]
Police contacted	1068 [1]	[2]
Note on the pupil's record	1069 [1]	[2]
Counsellor or agency contacted	1070 [1]	[2]
Temporary exclusion	1071 [1]	[2]
Permanent exclusion	1072 [1]	[2]
Other (Please write in)	1073 [1]	[2]

Q 12 Does your school have a written policy on managing incidents involving **pupils** drinking alcohol?

	1085
Yes	1
No	2

Q 13 What action(s) would be taken if pupils were found drinking alcohol on school premises? **Tick one box per row.**

	Yes	No
Detention	1086 1	2
Verbal or written warning	1087 1	2
Loss of privileges	1088 1	2
Parents contacted	1089 1	2
Police contacted	1090 1	2
Note on the pupil's record	1091 1	2
Counsellor or agency contacted	1092 1	2
Temporary exclusion	1093 1	2
Permanent exclusion	1094 1	2
Other (Please write in)	1095 1	2

Q 14 Does your school have a written policy on managing incidents involving **pupils** taking drugs (both illegal and prescribed)?

	1107
Yes	1
No	2

Q 15 What action(s) would be taken if pupils were found taking drugs (both illegal and prescribed) on school premises? **Tick one box per row.**

	Yes	No
Detention	1108 1	2
Verbal or written warning	1109 1	2
Loss of privileges	1110 1	2
Parents contacted	1111 1	2
Police contacted	1112 1	2
Note on the pupil's record	1113 1	2
Counsellor or agency contacted	1114 1	2
Temporary exclusion	1115 1	2
Permanent exclusion	1116 1	2
Other (Please write in)	1117 1	2

Thank you for your help

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