

# The National Primary School Survey

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June 25, 2007



## OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

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- To determine the children's knowledge/awareness of drugs;
  - To determine the children's attitude towards drug use/abuse;
  - To determine the children's practice regarding drug use/abuse and related issues;
  - To determine the prevalence of drug use.
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# Methodology

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- A sample of one thousand, nine hundred and seventy five (1975) Class 3 and Class 4 students were drawn from fifty-one (51) public and private primary schools across the eleven parishes.
  - The research instrument used was a self-administered questionnaire which mainly consisted of closed-ended questions and one open-ended question.
  - Overall, the questionnaire comprised 41 questions (73 variables) and was structured according to the following areas: Biographical Data, Knowledge of Drugs, Beliefs on Drugs, Drug Use/Practices and Attitudes and Access towards Drugs Use.
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# SAMPLE DESIGN & SELECTION

<b>SEX</b>	<b>% of Sample</b>	<b>Number in Sample</b>
Male	50.7%	1,002
Female	48.9%	965
No Answer/Did not Indicate	0.4%	8
<b>AGE</b>	<b>% of Sample</b>	<b>Number in Sample</b>
9 years	18.7%	370
10 years	45.9%	906
11 years	32.6%	643
12 years	1.5%	30
Erroneous Responses	0.7%	11
No Answer/Did not Indicate	0.8%	15

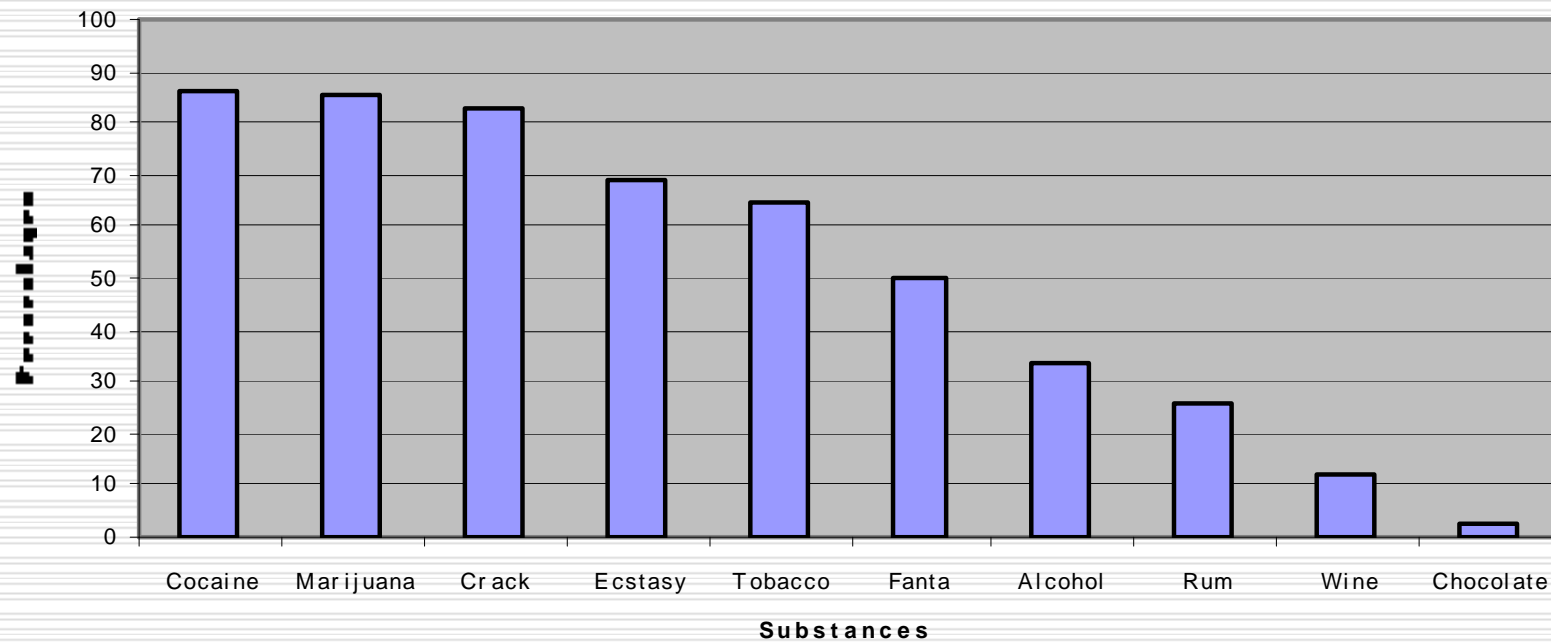
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# KEY FINDINGS

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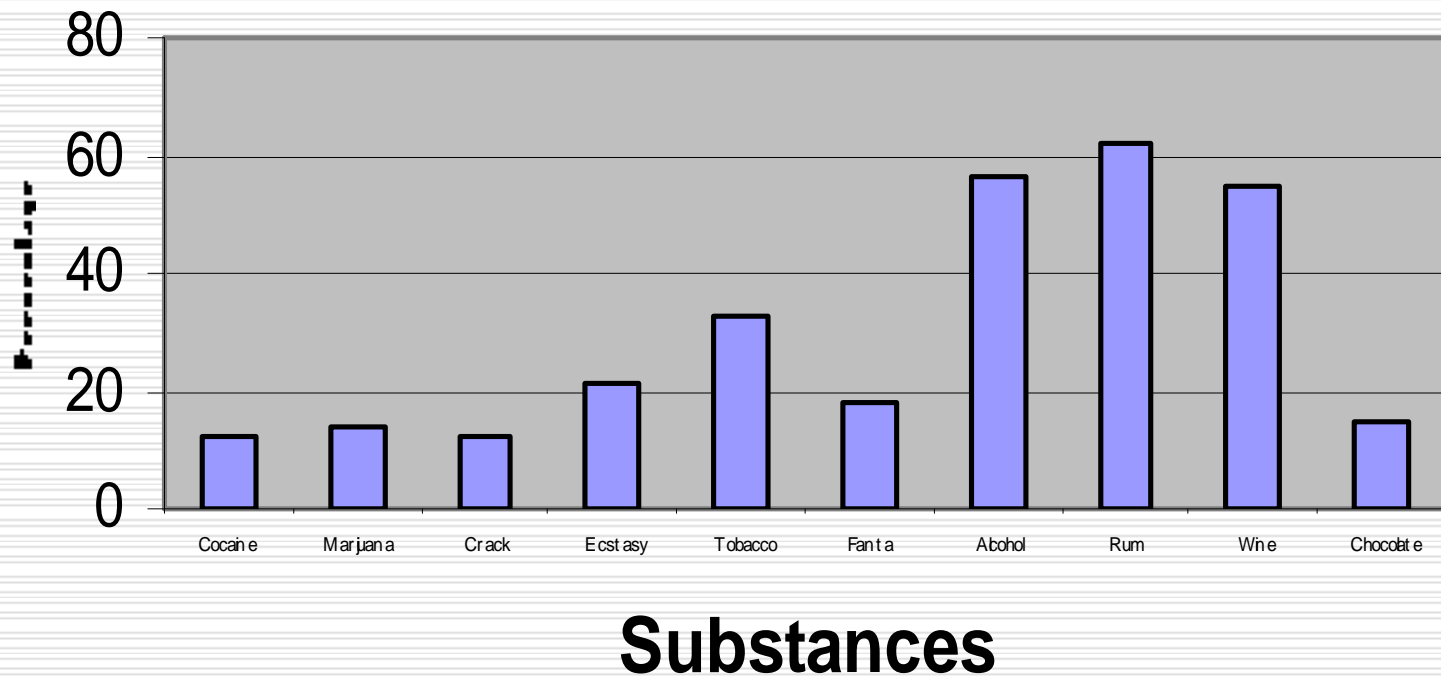
# Knowledge of Illegal Drugs

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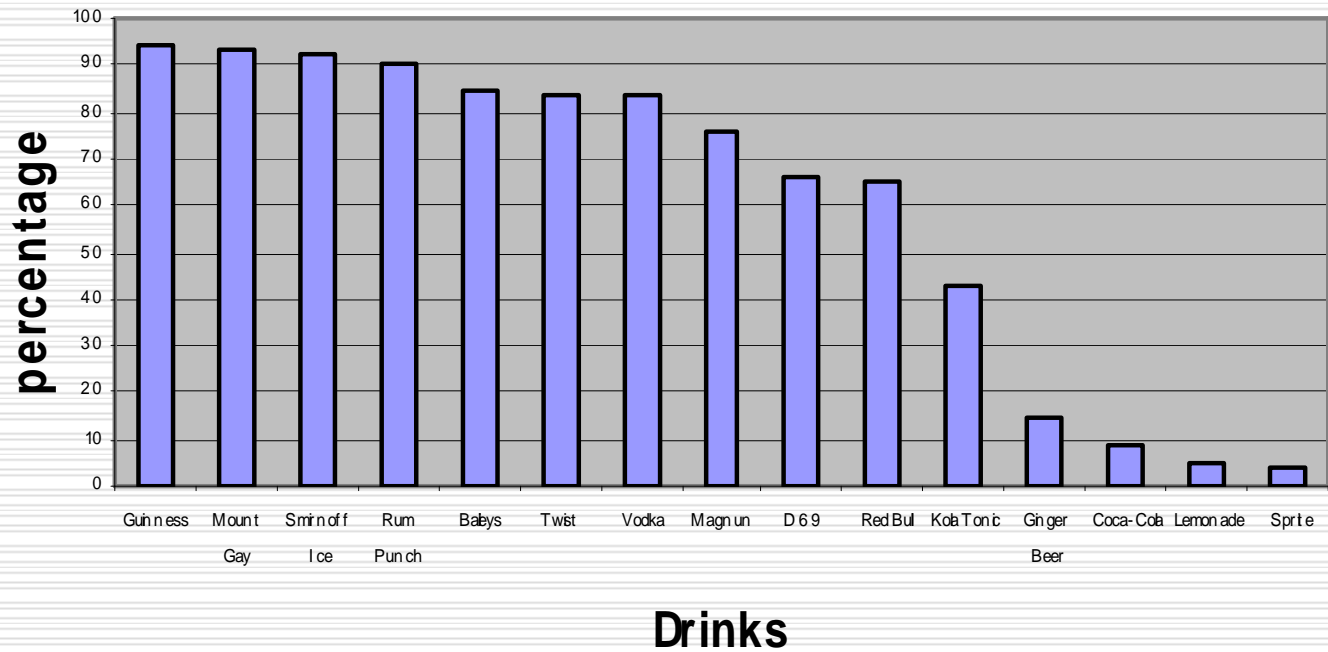
# Knowledge of Legal Drugs

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# Drinks Containing Alcohol

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# Agreement with Statements on Drug Use

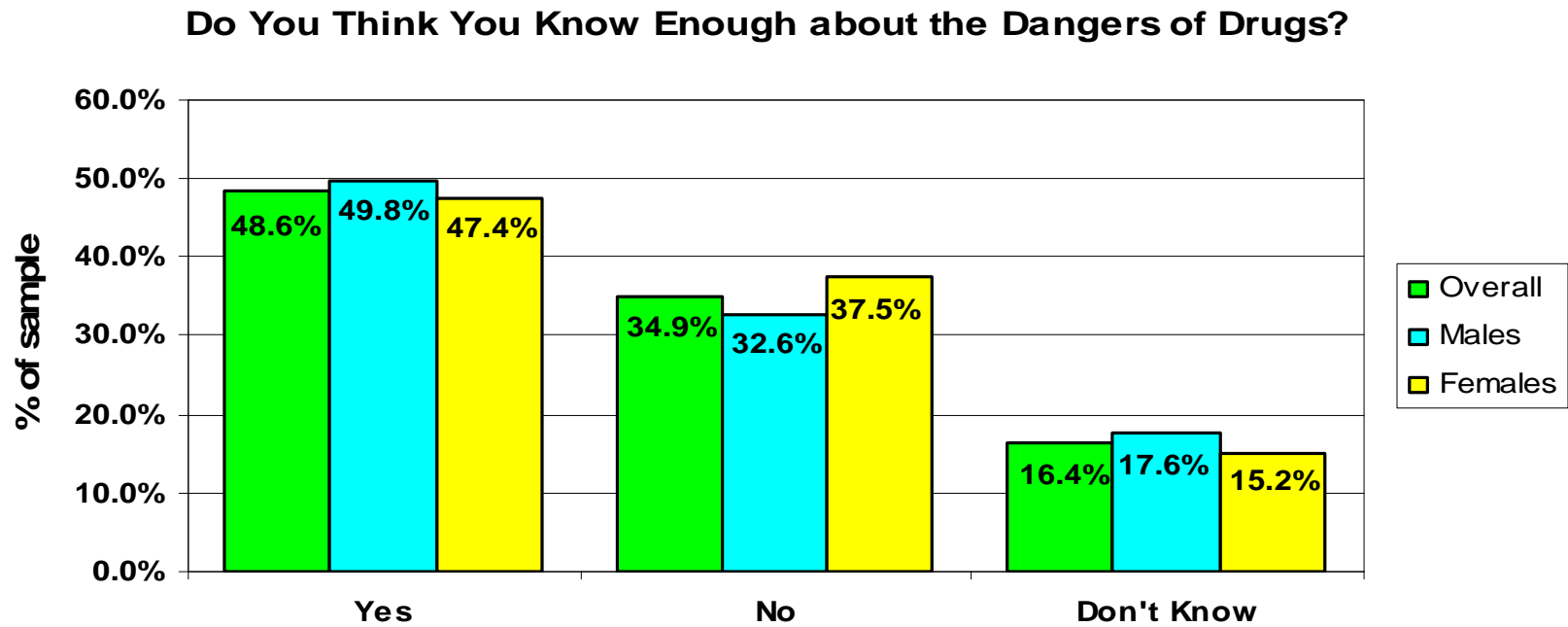
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STATEMENTS	Dis-agree	Agree	Don't Know
If someone offers me drugs I would take them	93.8%	2.8%	3.3%
If a friend offers me drugs I would say "Thank You."	93.3%	2.7%	3.9%
Using drugs make you look cool	92.3%	3.8%	3.9%
If someone offers me drugs I would tell my teacher or parents	7.9%	88.9%	3.2%
If a friend offers me drugs I would refuse to take them	11.8%	84.4%	3.8%
<b>You have to use a drug lots of times before you get addicted</b>	<b>44.1%</b>	<b>40.8%</b>	<b>15.0%</b>

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# Knowledge of Dangers of Drugs by Gender

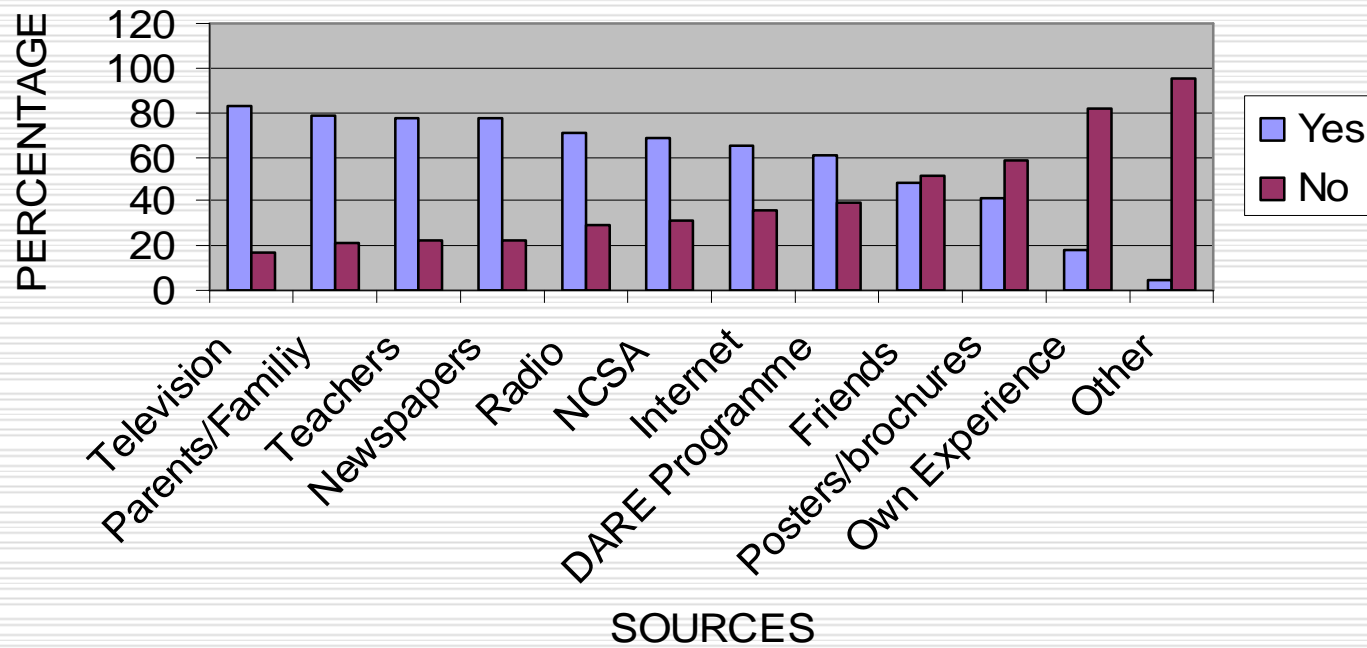
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# Sources of Drug Information

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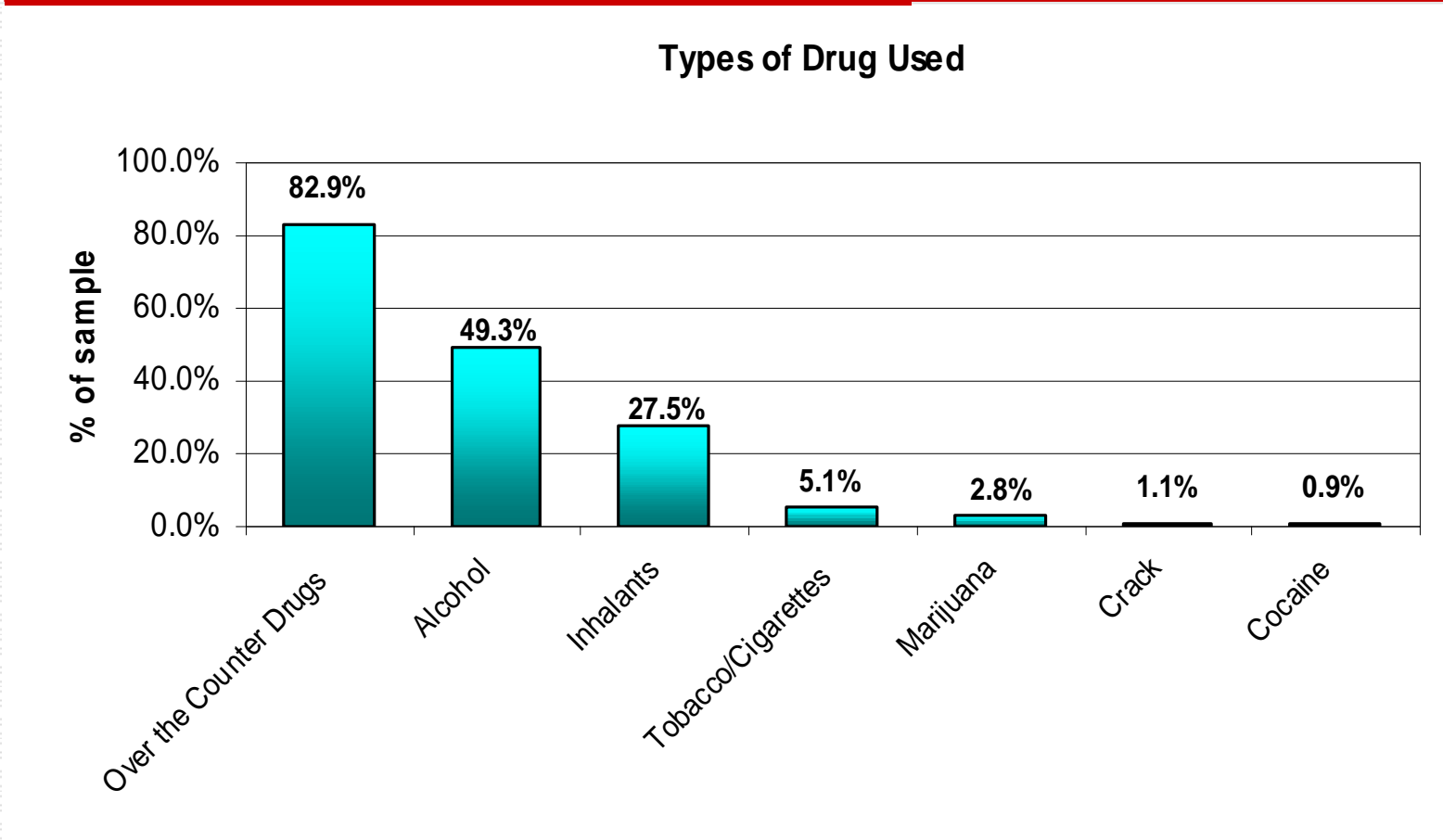
Sources of Drug Information



# Effects of Drugs on Health

	Effects on Health			
	Very Harmful	Slightly Harmful	Not Harmful	Don't Know
Taking cocaine	84.10%	7.10%	2.30%	6.60%
Taking crack	77.70%	7.00%	4.00%	11.30%
Sometimes smoking cigarettes	39.30%	51.40%	2.80%	6.50%
Frequently smoking cigarettes	73.60%	14.00%	1.90%	10.50%
Frequently smoking marijuana	82.20%	8.60%	2.70%	6.60%
Sometimes smoking marijuana	58.50%	33.30%	1.90%	6.30%
Frequently drinking alcohol	68.70%	19.60%	4.00%	7.70%
Frequently sniffing paints, glue, markers, liquid paper	58.10%	20.20%	7.90%	13.90%
Sometimes sniffing paints, glue, markers, liquid paper	28.90%	46.60%	13.60%	10.90%
Frequently taking medication e.g. Panadols, cough syrup	34.00%	26.20%	26.20%	13.50%
Sometimes taking medication e.g. Panadols, cough syrup	6.80%	20.80%	62.40%	9.90%

# Types of Drugs Used



# LIFE TIME USE

## Primary vs. Secondary

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### Lifetime Prevalence

	Primary School Survey 2006 (Ages 9-11)	Secondary School Survey 2002 (Ages 11-17)
Alcohol Use	49.3%	78.6 %
Marijuana Use	2.8%	23.5%
Use of Inhalants	27%	12-14 5.9%
		15-16 6.1 %
		17 and over 2.0 %

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# Offered Drugs by Sex and Age

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	Overall	SEX		AGE GROUP		
		Males	Females	9-years	10-years	11-years
Yes	9.6%	12.9%	6.2%	8.3%	9.9%	9.2%
No	85.1%	81.1%	89.3%	86.2%	85.4%	84.7%
Can't Say	5.3%	6.0%	4.5%	5.5%	4.7%	6.2%

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# Friends Who Use Drugs by Sex and Age

	SEX			AGE GROUP		
	Overall	Males	Females	9-years	10-years	11-years
None of my friends	44.0%	42.2%	45.9%	47.5%	46.9%	38.7%
One of my friends	6.7%	7.3%	6.1%	6.4%	7.2%	6.0%
Two or more of my friends	9.8%	12.0%	7.6%	7.6%	7.8%	13.4%
Don't Know	39.6%	38.6%	40.4%	38.5%	38.1%	41.8%

# Comments to Friends Who Use Drugs

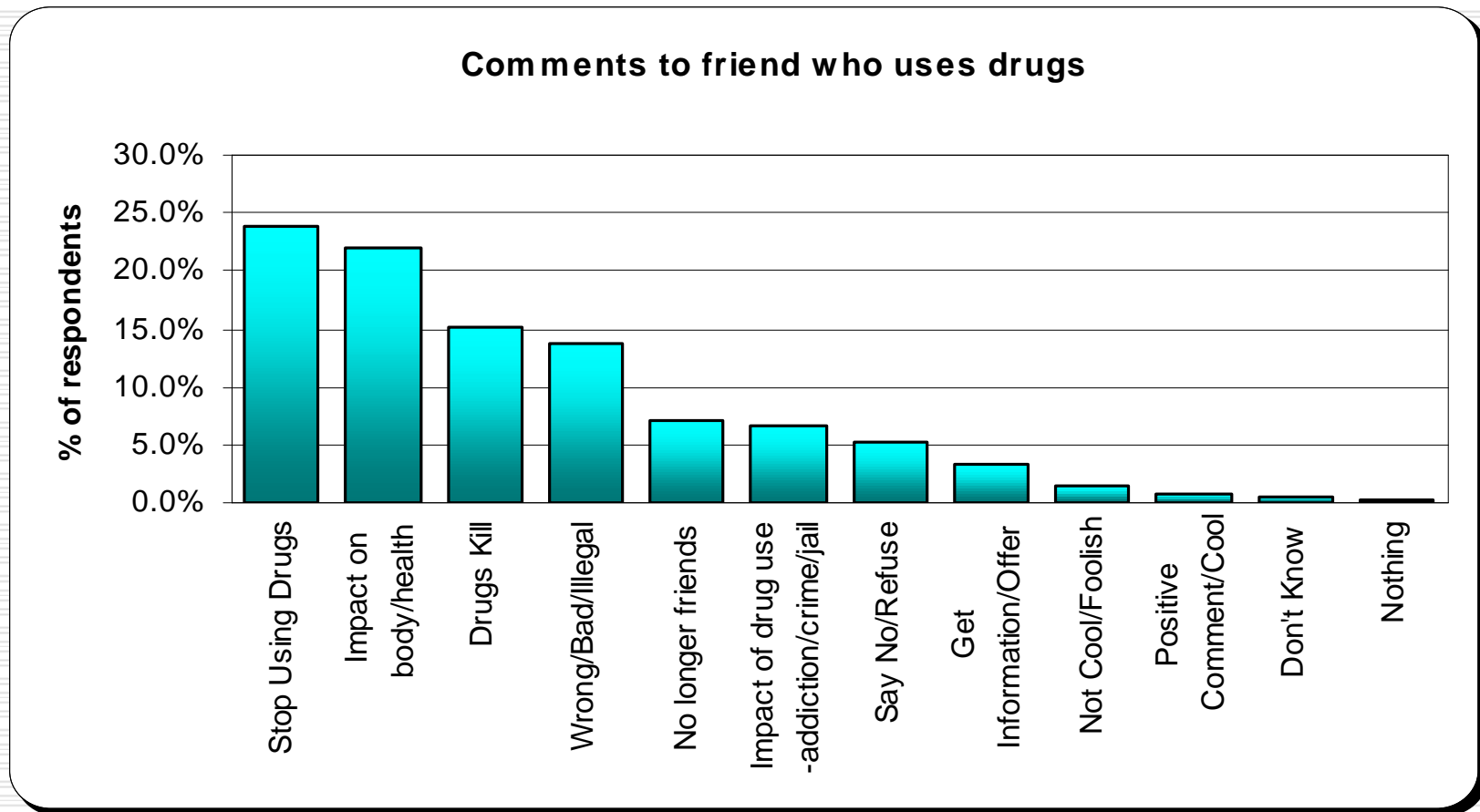
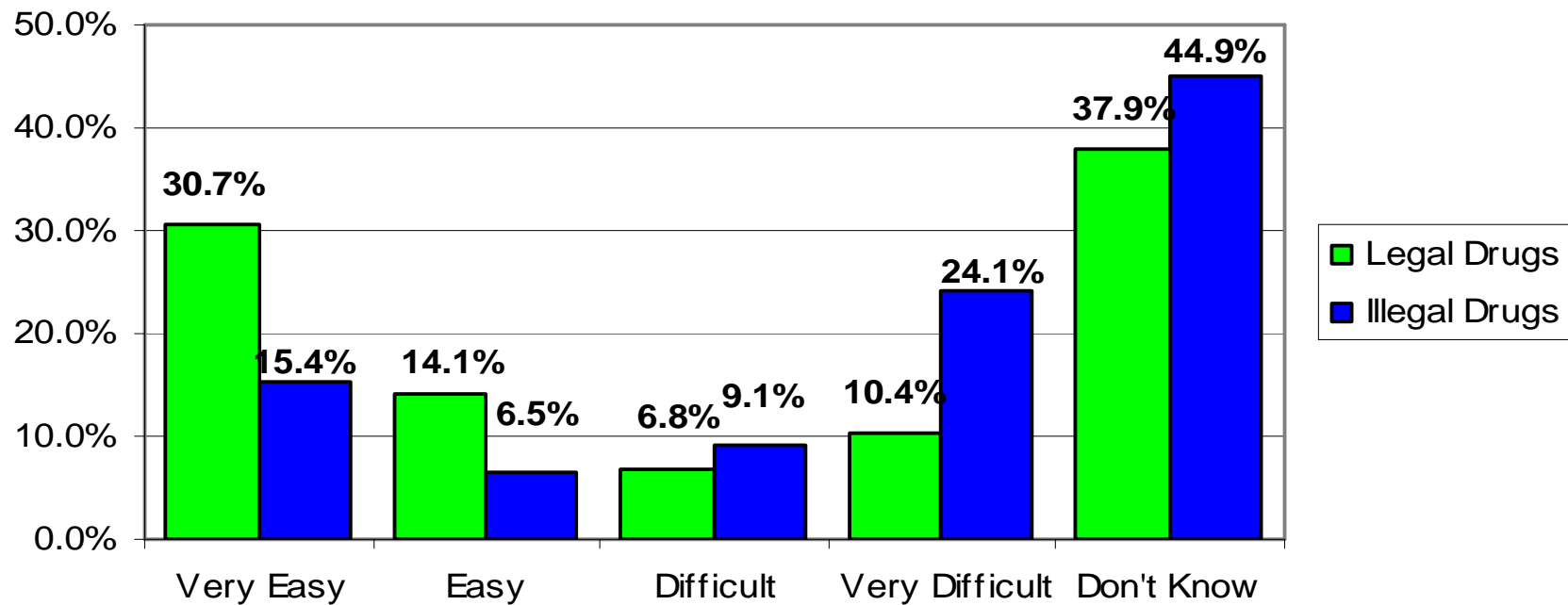


Chart 11: Responses to friends using drugs

# Ease of Obtaining Drugs

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Ease of Obtaining Drugs



# Recommendations

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- The creative use of television as a medium for drug education and awareness.
  - Enhanced drug education to all primary school students with particular targeting of 11 year olds.
  - The introduction of a formal Peer-Support drug education programme in primary schools.
  - A standardised approach to drug education in primary schools.
  - The continued incorporation of the teaching fraternity in drug education.
  - The continuation of Drug Education and Awareness programmes with particular focus on lesser known alcoholic drinks and synthetic drugs particularly ecstasy.
  - Legal and social preventative frameworks to safeguard young children against legal and illegal drug use
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**○ END OF PRESENTATION**

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