

National School

Survey 2006

NCDA &

OAS/CICAD

Jamaica

May 3, 2006-June 16, 2006

Context and rationale



- ΩContinue the tradition of research
- ΩProvide current information about the school population-prevalence, incidence,
- ΩAssist the policy development process
- ΩMake meaningful input into the development of secondary school curricula
- ΩEstablish the basis for additional school based initiatives; sustenance of ongoing school based initiative, e. g counselling
- ΩCapacity building within agency
- ΩPure research interest





Preparation

- Ω Project proposal
- Ω Request for school profile from MOEY
- Ω Submission to OAS/CICAD for sample selection
- Ω Permission sought and received from MOEY to enter schools
- Ω Ethical clearance from MOH
- Ω Packages with information sent to selected schools including advice to parents

• Research Objectives

- Ω To ascertain the prevalence and incidence of the consumption of various substances, both legal and illegal
- Ω To understand the reasons for use and abuse of selected substances, when and how users were introduced
- Ω To discern the web of influence surrounding the use of drugs on the



Design

Ω Cross-sectional survey in 70 schools-4536 students

Ω Grades 8, 10, 11

§ Grades identified by Group of Experts

§ Regional comparability

§ Double data entry

Ω Universe

§ Students attending public and private schools in Jamaica in grades 8, 10,11- (61981)

§ Schools selected by OAS sampling methodology

§ Classroom teachers surveyed for grades sampled



Limitations

- ⌘ Self administered questionnaire can pose difficulties for some students
- ⌘ Refusal to participate can interfere with validity
- ⌘ Absent students
- ⌘ Drops outs
- ⌘ Period of execution-
 - | problematic access to grade 11s
 - | Violence flare ups



Preparation to enter field

Selection of researchers (38)

- | Students from UWI, Teachers colleges, NCDA core of volunteer researchers and some NCDA staff
- | Training
- | Arrangements with schools for time convenient
- | Coordination of research teams -2 per school
- | Preparation of script
- | Identification of data entry personnel(6)



Questionnaire

- ⌘ 53 questions per instrument
- ⌘ Range of questions similar to 1997 instrument
 - | Different grades 9, 11, 13
- Some independent variables
- Age, gender, parental presence, academic performance, perceived risk of harm, availability and accessibility, stated intention to use



Data entry

- ⌘ Double data entered in excel
- ⌘ Sent to OAS/CICAD for preparation of tables
- ⌘ Returned to NCDA for analysis



Demographics

☪ Grades 8, 10, 11

☪ Males 48.8%

☪ Females 51.2%

☪ Grades

| 8- 42.8%-

| 10- 29.1%

| 11- 28.0%

Age band (14-17)

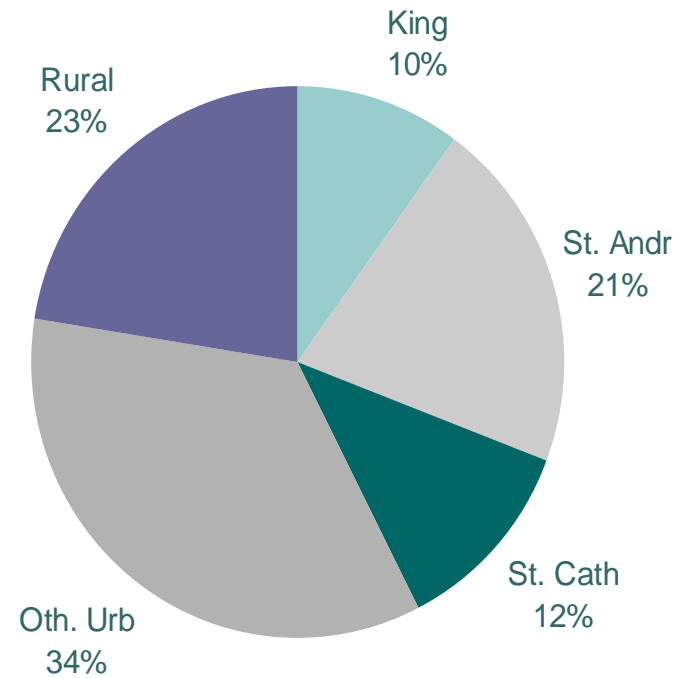


Response Rates

- ☒ Schools-70 schools (95%)
- ☒ Participants-4536 respondents (78%)
 - | By Grade :
 - 8 (42.8%);
 - 10 (29.1%);
 - 11 (28.0%)

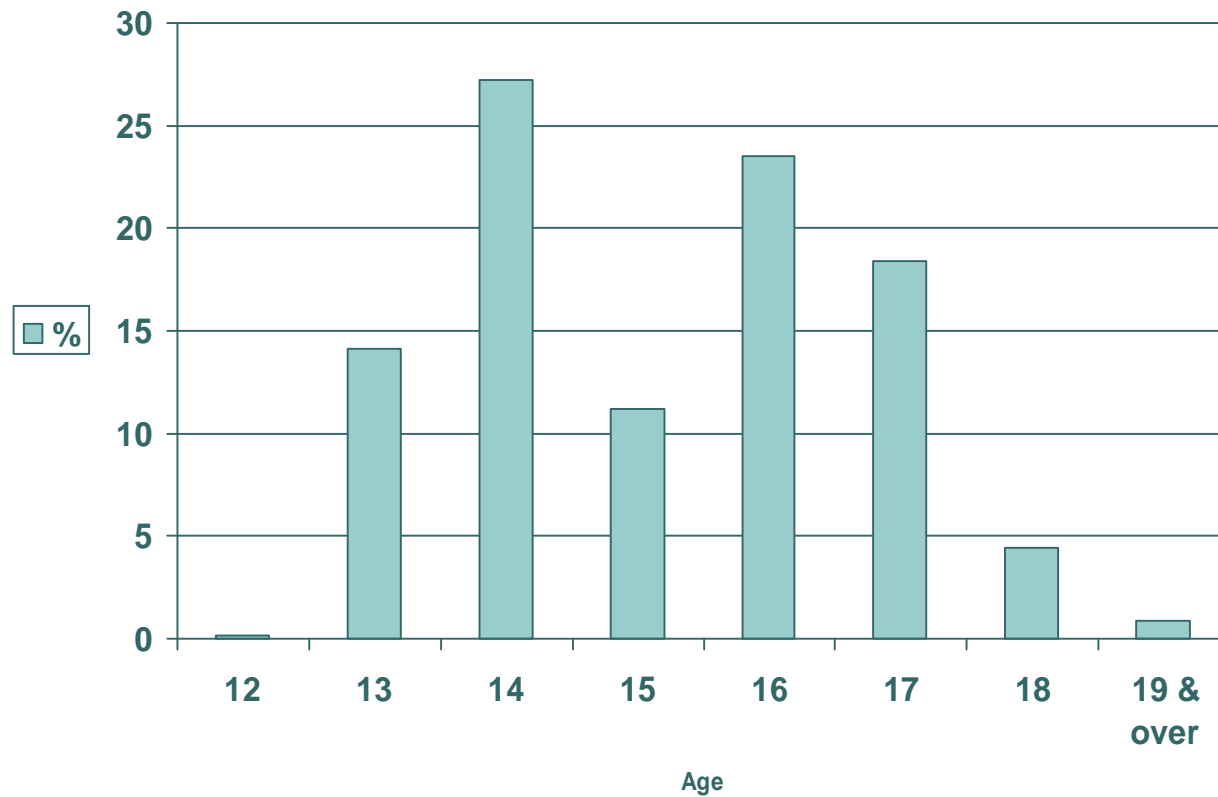
● ● ● | **Region**

Region	Percent
Kingston	9.9
St. Andrew urban	20.8
St. Catherine urban	11.7
Other urban	35.1
Rural	22.5





Frequency by Age



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LONG-TERM TRENDS IN PREVALENCE OF USE OF VARIOUS
TYPES OF SUBSTANCES, STUDENTS IN GRADE 11- 1987, 1997, 2006 (Per cent who used)

Substance	Lifetime			Annual			30-Day		
	1987	1997	2006	1987	1997	2006	1987	1997	2006
Cigarettes									
Grade 8			21.04	n/c	n/c	7.09			3.84
Grade 10			35.14	n/c	n/c	13.01			7.05
Grade 11	51.7	33.7	28.67	n/c	n/c	9.50	6.5	8.2	4.72
Alcohol									
Grade 8			59.16	n/c	n/c	40.76			29.53
Grade 10			79.30	n/c	n/c	59.67			42.86
Grade 11	88.6	76.8	77.68	n/c	n/c	61.95	33.3	29.5	40.79
Cannabis – smoked									
Grade 8			16.29	n/c	n/c	9.72			5.74
Grade 10			32.04	n/c	n/c	19.49			11.12
Grade 11	22.7	29.0	27.19	3.9	13.4	13.96	4.5	8.4	8.43
Crack/Cocaine									
Grade 8			4.00			2.95			2.11
Grade 10			1.76			.85			.33
Grade 11	4.5	4.1	3.24	0.6	1.6	1.86	2.1	1.6	1.30
Beady									
Grade 8			11.61			5.88			3.53
Grade 10			16.66			8.43			4.27
Grade 11			14.67			6.31			3.72

Note: *n/c – not collected

*n/r – not reported

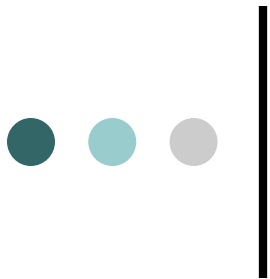
Source *National Schools' Drug Survey – 1987, 1997

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PREVALENCE OF USE OF VARIOUS
TYPES OF SUBSTANCES, by gender (Per cent who used)

Substance	2006		
	Lifetime	One-year	One month
Cigarettes			
Male	28.20	9.45	5.14
Female	26.63	9.60	4.90
Alcohol			
Male	74.16	58.22	40.64
Female	67.52	47.68	33.48
Cannabis			
Male	29.19	16.47	10.23
Female	19.40	11.35	6.15
Tranquilizers			
Male	4.10	1.63	1.09
Female	5.22	2.81	1.40
Stimulants			
Male	6.02	3.39	2.00
Female	5.85	3.26	2.25
Cocaine/Crack			
Male	3.92	2.72	1.88
Female	2.33	1.37	.87

Source *National Schools' Drug Survey - 2006



PREVALENCE OF USE OF VARIOUS
TYPES OF SUBSTANCES, by gender (Per cent who used)

Substance	Lifetime	One Year	30 day
Inhalant			
Male	21.79	8.46	5.36
Female	34.19	18.96	13.35
Beady			
Male	17.14	7.81	4.54
Female	11.25	5.83	3.14
Season Spliff			
Male	6.73	3.11	1.52
Female	5.11	2.59	1.86
Any illegal drug			
Male	44.44	23.25	15.73
Female	43.83	25.39	17.31

Source *National Schools' Drug Survey – 2006

PREVALENCE OF USE OF VARIOUS
TYPES OF SUBSTANCES, by gender (Per cent who used)

Substance						
	1997 Lifetime	2006 Lifetime	1997 One-Year	2006 One-year	1997 One month	2006 One month
Cigarettes	34.7	28.20		9.45	6.4	5.14
Male	21.1	26.63		9.60	3.5	4.90
Female						
Alcohol	78.0	74.16		58.22	37.1	40.64
Male	63.5	67.52		47.68	22.0	33.48
Female						
Cannabis	37.3	29.19	18.9	16.47	12.4	10.23
Male	18.4	19.40	7.1	11.35	3.8	6.15
Female						
Tranquilizers	6.4	4.10		1.63	2.6	1.09
Male	4.6	5.22		2.81	2.0	1.40
Female						
Stimulants	1.9	6.02		3.39	1.2	2.00
Male	1.2	5.85		3.26	0.8	2.25
Female						
Cocaine/Crack	5.2	3.92	2.5	2.72	2.0	1.88
Male	1.5	2.33	0.5	1.37	0.4	.87
Female						

Source *National Schools' Drug Survey - 2006

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PREVALENCE OF USE OF VARIOUS
TYPES OF SUBSTANCES, by gender (Per cent who used)

Substance	Lifetime 1997	Lifetime 2006	One Year 1997	One Year 2006	30 day 1997	30 day 2006
Inhalant Male Female	15.1 16.4	21.79 34.19		8.46 18.96	7.6 11.2	5.36 13.35
Beady Male Female		17.14 11.25		7.81 5.83		4.54 3.14
Season Spliff Male Female		6.73 5.11		3.11 2.59		1.52 1.86
Any illegal drug Male Female		44.44 43.83		23.25 25.39		15.73 17.31

Source *National Schools' Drug Survey -1997, 2006



INCIDENCE OF USE OF VARIOUS
TYPES OF SUBSTANCES, AMONG STUDENTS IN GRADES 8,10,11 (Per cent who used)

Substance		
	2006 Annual	2006 30-day
Cigarettes	9.39	3.78
Alcohol	43.26	26.13
Cannabis – smoked	10.89	5.33
Crack/cocaine	1.99	1.04
Inhalants	17.11	10.98
Tranquilizers	2.41	1.01
Stimulants	2.95	1.49
Beady	6.99	3.38
Season spliff	3.08	1.34
Other drugs	4.43	2.54
Any illegal drug	24.63	13.53

Lower age when drug consumed

Substance	Age
Cigarettes	11.78
Alcohol	11.75
Cannabis - (smoked)	12.9
Crack/Cocaine	11.79
Tranquilizers	11.52
Stimulants	11.61
Inhalants	11.41
Any illegal drug	11.79

Time of last offer

	More than a year ago	More than 1 month, less than a year	During the last 30 days	No offer
Ecstasy	1.7	1.2	1.6	95.6
Cocaine/Crack	1.7	1.2	0.6	96.5
Marijuana	10.4	7.6	11.7	70.3



Perception of availability by percent

	Cocaine	Ecstasy	Marijuana	
Easy	8.1	4.5	38.4	
Difficult	21.2	11.5	15.3	
Impossible	22.7	17.2	12.8	
Do not know	48.0	66.8	33.6	

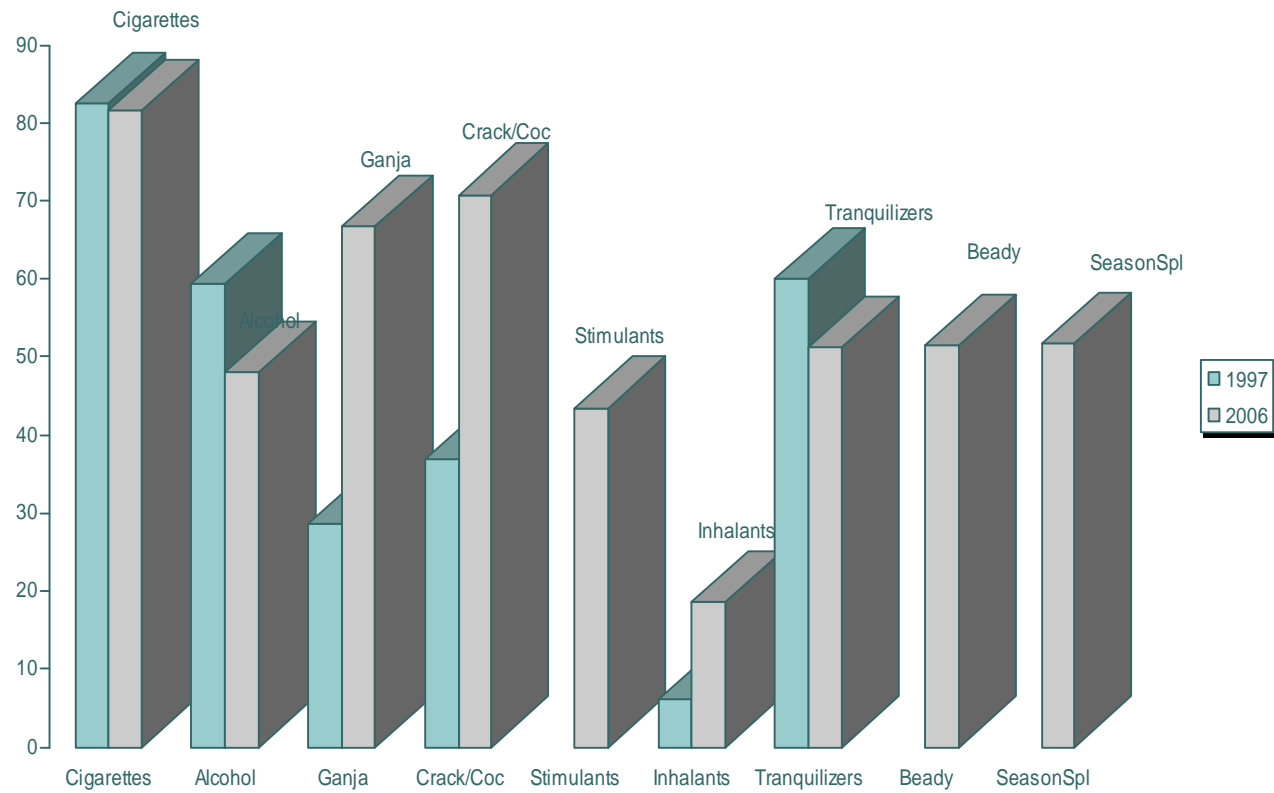
Perception of harm by

percent

	Cig 1	Cig 2	Alcoh 1	Alcoh 2	Inhala 1	Inhala 2	Canna 1	Canna 2	Coc 1	Coc 2	Ecst 1	Ecsta 2	
	Some	Freq	Freq	Drunk									
Not harmful	7.5	4.3	9.7	5.9	13.5	8.7	10.9	6.5	4.0	3.6	4.9	4.5	
Slight harm	20.2	5.1	14.3	10.1	24.9	15.3	16.6	6.6	3.8	3.1	9.3	6.0	
Moderate harm	15.2	6.0	12.9	9.6	15.2	16.2	19.6	10.4	10.9	4.9	13.2	9.4	
Very harmful	43.0	69.5	52.2	61.7	26.7	38.8	38.0	61.1	64.0	69.9	29.8	38.9	
Do not know	14.2	15.0	1.1	12.6	19.7	21.0	14.9	15.3	17.3	18.5	42.9	41.1	



Discontinuation rates



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Additional information

☞ Consumption per regional category

☞ Education

- Consumption vs parental level of education
- Behavioural problems in school
- Repeating grades or courses
- Probability of completing school
- Reasons for initiation



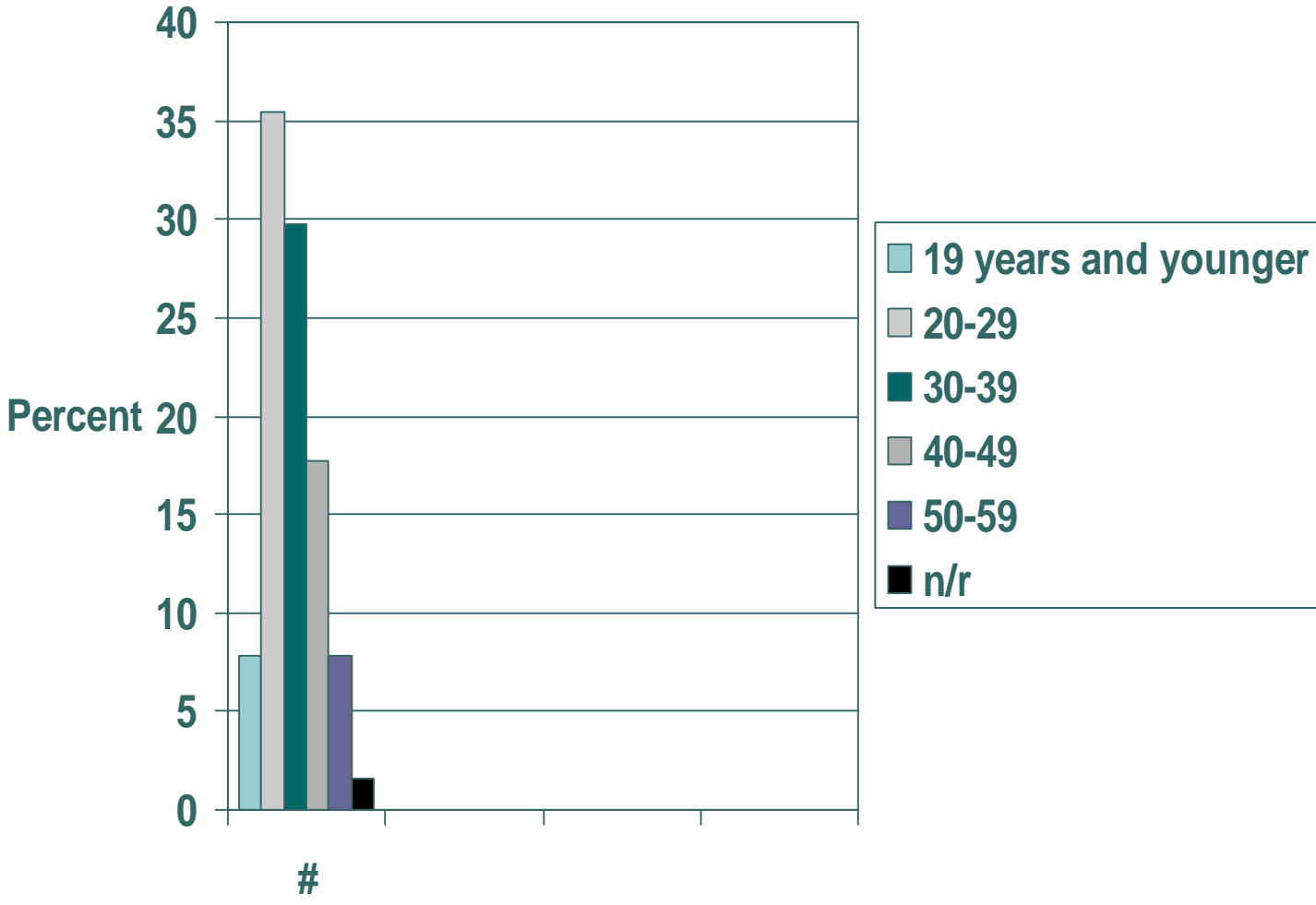
Teachers Survey

LOCAL OF INSTITUTIONS		
	Frequency	Percent
URBAN	96	50
RURAL	87	45.3
REMOTE RURAL	5	2.6
NON RESPONSE	4	2.08
TOTAL	192	100



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Age distribution of respondents





Gender distribution

Male 30.2%

Female 67.7%



Primary position



	Primary Position	
	Frequency	Percent
Teacher	151	83.9
Grade Supervisor	16	8.3
Guid counsellor	15	7.8
Total	192	100



Estimation of drug problem

Is there a drug problem in your school	Frequency	Percent
Yes	120	62.5
No	51	26.6
Non response	21	10.9
Total	192	100



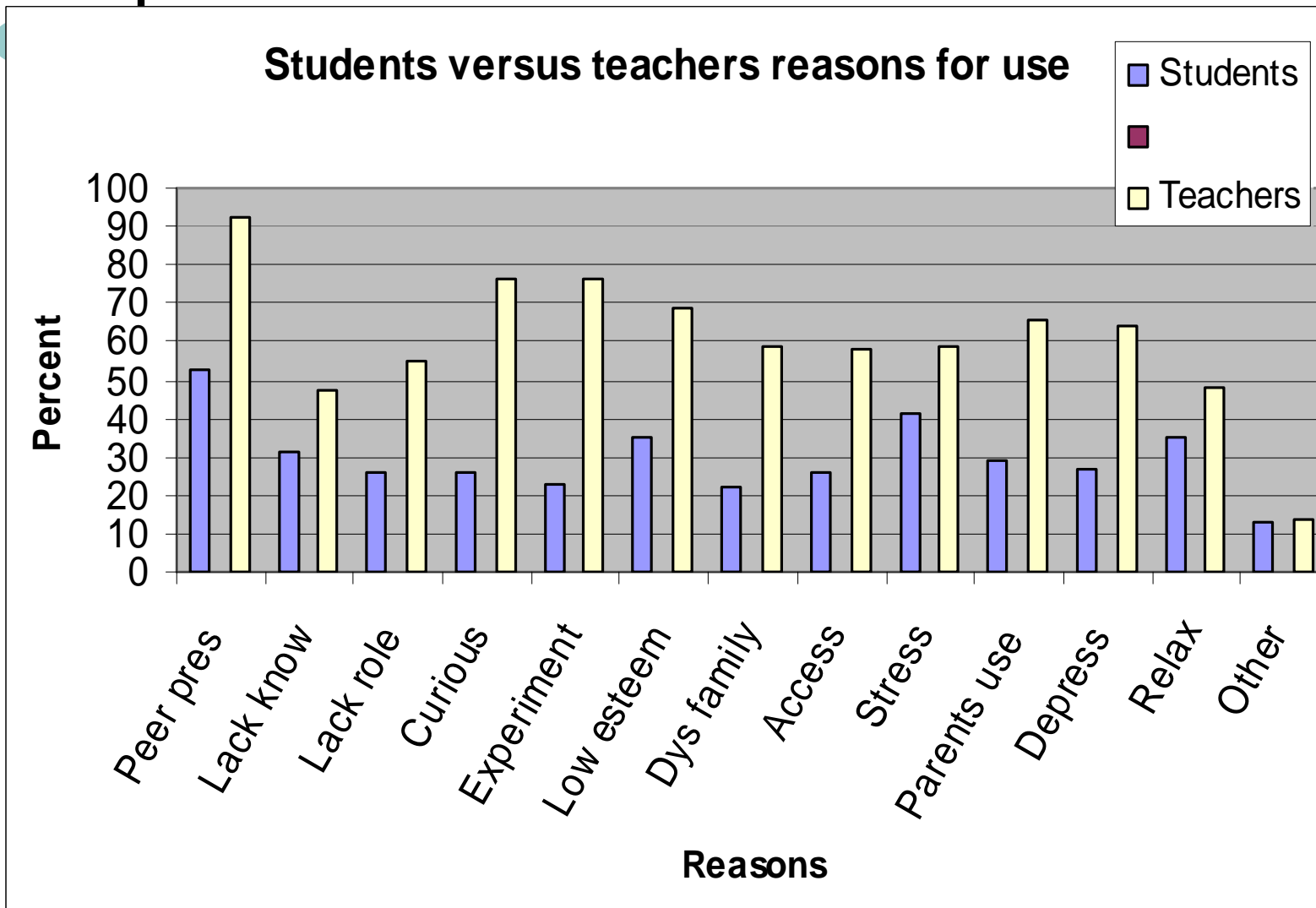
Drug Use

Have you ever used any of the following drugs?			Have you used any of the following drugs on the school premises during the past year?		
	Frequency	Percent		Frequency	Percent
Alcohol	20	10.4	Alcohol	3	1.6
Tobacco	4	2.1	Tobacco	1	0.5
Beady	1	0.5	Beady	6	3.1
Seasoned Spliff	1	0.5	Seasoned Spliff	1	0.5
Ganja	3	1.6	Ganja	1	0.5
None	46	24	cocaine	1	0.5
Non response	117	60.9	Crack	1	0.5
Total	192	100	Ecstasy	1	0.5
			Inhalants	1	0.5
			None	111	57.8
			Non response	65	33.9
			Total	192	100



Perceptions of reasons for use

Why do you feel people start to use drugs?		
	Frequency	Percent
Peer pressure	177	92.2
Low self-esteem	133	69.3
Curiosity	145	75.5
Dysfunctional family	114	59.4
Lack of knowledge	90	46.9
Lack of positive role model	106	55.2
Easy access	112	58.3
Parental/guardian use drugs	126	65.6
Experimentation	145	75.5



What would you do if you saw a student using drugs?

	Male	%	Female	%
Reprimand the student	14	24.1	28	21.5
slap the student	1	1.7	0	0
Refer the student for counselling	33	56.9	94	72.3
Counsel the student	24	41.4	46	35.4
Leave the student alone	0	0	4	3.1
Other	2	3.4	2	1.5



Drug use avoidance

What are some of the ways one can avoid using drugs?		
	Frequency	Percent
Getting involved in school based activities	133	69.3
Being part of a faith based group	118	61.5
Participating in sports at the community level	95	49.5
Being part of a music/dance group	65	33.9
Being a member of a service/youth club	123	64.1
Other	31	16.1



General Observations

- ☪ Alcohol and tobacco continue to be the drugs most used by adolescents
- ☪ New drugs are emerging on the Jamaican scene. These require aggressive monitoring
- ☪ Cocaine and crack cocaine use exhibit a plateau effect-
- ☪ Gaps between male and female use have narrowed

Recommendations

Bold and innovative action

- § Revamp the National Schools Policy
- § Public education to ‘denormalize” and “deglamorize” alcohol and tobacco use
- ⌘ Continued “culturally sensitive” approach to the “denormalization” of ganja use
- ⌘ Strategies to reduce drugs at plateau
- ⌘ Effective prevention programmes that unplug the perception of drug use for sustained pleasure and stress release.



Recommendations

Bold and innovative action

- ⌘ Restriction on bill board placement and other promotional activities within schools
- ⌘ Drug free zones within school environs
- ⌘ Gender targetting
- ⌘ Publication of the Data Book-An authoritative reference source on substance abuse for Jamaica.



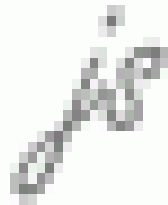
Lessons Learnt

- ⌘ Timing is important especially for students in Grades 10 and 11
- ⌘ Researchers need to be in touch with the base while on the field-”credit for cell phones.”
- ⌘ Training is critical
- ⌘ Young “volunteer” researchers are most enthusiastic



Crisis = Challenge +
Emerging opportunities

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Thank you



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