

A Perspective on Surveying Student Attitudes and Behavior

The following survey contains questions regarding whether or not students have ever used various drugs, their current use patterns, and their attitudes and beliefs about drugs. It is essentially the instrument given to students during the initial validation of Project ALERT.

It is crucial that each survey be anonymous (no student names or identification marked on it) and that students be guaranteed confidentiality. No one should be able to tell which survey goes with which student or be able to look over a shoulder as answers are written down. If the survey is carefully administered and if students really feel assured of anonymity and confidentiality, you will get a good picture of the extent of drug use among young people in your school or community. This information should help you diagnose the nature of the problem and decide what to do about it. If you repeat the survey in subsequent years, you will also be able to monitor trends over time and see whether drug use is increasing or decreasing among different ages and genders.

Though results of the survey provide valuable information, the responses alone will not indicate the level of effectiveness of a specific drug prevention program. The reason for this is that no matter where you live or what programs you are using, drug use rates increase as youth get older. The rates will be higher in eighth grade than in seventh and in seventh than in sixth. Therefore, if you look only at survey responses from youth that have participated in a specific program over time, you may be tempted to conclude that the program is ineffective, due to increasing drug use rates.

In actuality, the program may be very effective, in that it may have substantially slowed down the rate of increase compared to what would have happened without the program. To determine this, you will need to be able to compare drug use rates in schools or communities that are using a specific drug prevention program versus similar schools or communities that are not.

Survey of Student Attitudes and Behavior

Please answer each question honestly.

No one at school or home will see your answers.

If you need help, raise your hand and your teacher will come to your desk.

1. What grade are you in now? (Mark one)

- 7th grade
- 8th grade
- 9th grade

2. How old are you?

_____ years

3. When were you born?

_____/_____/_____
month/day/year

4. Are you male or female? (Mark one)

- Male
- Female

5. Are you? (Mark one)

- Black (or African-American)
- Chicano, Mexican or Mexican-American
- Other Latin American
- Chinese (or Chinese-American)
- Japanese (or Japanese-American)
- Filipino (or Filipino-American)
- Korean (or Korean-American)
- Other Asian or Pacific Islander
- Middle Easterner
- White or Caucasian
- American Indian (or Native- American)
- Other (please specify):

6. How often are you with kids who are smoking cigarettes? (Mark one)

- Often
- Sometimes
- Hardly ever
- Never

7. About what percent (%) of the 7th grade students in your school do you think smoked one or more cigarettes in the last month? Your best guess is fine.

_____ %

8. Do you think your best friend smokes cigarettes sometimes? (Mark one)

Yes No

9. If your friends found out that you smoked cigarettes sometimes, how do you think they'd feel? (Mark one)

- They would approve
- They would disapprove but still be my friends
- They would disapprove and stop being my friends
- They wouldn't care

10. On how many days did you smoke a cigarette in the last month? (Mark one)

- None
- 1 or 2 days in the last month
- 3 to 5 days in the last month
- 6 to 19 days in the last month
- 20 or more days in the last month

11. How many times have you smoked a cigarette in the last year? (Mark one)

- None
- 1 or 2 times
- 3 to 10 times
- 11 to 20 times
- More than 20 times

12. On the days you smoke cigarettes, how many do you usually smoke? (Mark one)

- Less than 1 cigarette a day
- 1 or 2 cigarettes a day
- 3 to 7 cigarettes a day
- About 1/2 pack of cigarettes a day
- A pack or more of cigarettes a day
- I don't smoke cigarettes

13. Have you ever smoked a cigarette – even just a few puffs? (Mark one)

Yes No

14. Do you think you will smoke a cigarette in the next six months? (Mark one)

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Probably no
- Definitely no

15. How many times have you been offered a cigarette? (Mark one)

- Never
- Once
- Twice
- 3 or 4 times
- 5 times or more

16. Who usually offers you a cigarette? (Mark one)

- My friends
- Kids I don't know well
- My brother or sister
- Adults I know well
- Adults I don't know well
- No one offers me a cigarette

17. How often are you with kids who are drinking alcohol?

(Mark one)

- Often
- Sometimes
- Hardly ever
- Never

18. About what percent (%) of 7th grade students in your school do you think drank alcohol one or more times in the last month? By alcohol we mean beer, wine or hard liquor. Your best guess is fine.

□□□□□□□ %

19. Do you think your best friend drinks alcohol sometimes? (Mark one)

- Yes
- No

20. If your friends found out that you drank alcohol sometimes, how do you think they'd feel? (Mark one)

- They would approve
- They would disapprove but still be my friends
- They would disapprove and stop being my friends
- They wouldn't care

21. On how many days did you have any alcohol in the last month? Do not include wine at religious services. (Mark one)

- None
- 1 or 2 days in the last month
- 3 to 5 days in the last month
- 6 to 19 days in the last month
- 20 or more days in the last month

22. How many times have you had any alcohol in the last year? do not include wine at religious services. (Mark one)

- None
- 1 or 2 times
- 3 to 10 times
- 11 to 20 times
- More than 20 times

23. On the days you drink alcohol, about how many drinks do you have? By a drink we mean a can of beer, a glass of wine or a shot of hard liquor. (Mark one)

- A few sips
- About half a drink
- 1 drink
- 2 drinks
- 3 or more drinks
- I don't drink alcohol

24. On how many days in the last month did you have three or more alcoholic drinks? (Mark one)

- None
- 1 day in the last month
- 2 to 4 days in the last month
- 5 to 8 days in the last month
- More than 8 days in the last month

25. Have you ever had even a few sips of alcohol? Do not include wine at religious services. (Mark one)

- Yes
- No

26. Do you think you will drink any alcohol in the next six months? Do not include wine at religious services. (Mark one)

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Probably no
- Definitely no

27. How many times have you been offered any alcohol? Do not include wine at religious services. (Mark one)

- Never
- Once
- Twice
- 3 or 4 times
- 5 or more times

28. Who usually offers you alcohol? (Mark one)

- My friends
- Kids I don't know well
- My brother or sister
- Adults I know well
- Adults I don't know well
- No one offers me alcohol

29. How often are you with kids who are using marijuana? (Mark one)

- Often
- Sometimes
- Hardly ever
- Never

30. About what percent (%) of the 7th grade students in your school do you think used marijuana one or more times in the last month? Your best guess is fine.

%

31. Do you think your best friend uses marijuana sometimes? (Mark one)

- Yes
- No

32. If your friends found out that you used marijuana sometimes, how do you think they'd feel? (Mark one)

- They would approve
- They would disapprove but still be my friends
- They would disapprove and stop be my friends
- They wouldn't care

33. On how many days did you use any marijuana in the last month? (Mark one)

- None
- 1 or 2 days in the last month
- 3 to 5 days in the last month
- 6 to 19 days in the last month
- 20 or more days in the last month

34. How many times have you used marijuana in the last year? (Mark one)

- None
- 1 or 2 times
- 3 to 10 times
- 11 to 20 times
- More than 20 times

35. On the days you use marijuana, about how many times do you use it? (Mark one)

- Once a day
- Twice a day
- 3 or more times a day
- I don't use marijuana

36. Have you ever tried marijuana? (Mark one)

- Yes
- No

37. Do you think you will use any marijuana in the next six months? (Mark one)

- Probably yes
- Definitely yes
- Probably no
- Definitely no

38. How many times have you been offered marijuana? (Mark one)

- Never
- Once
- Twice
- 3 or 4 times
- 5 or more times

39. Who usually offers you marijuana? (Mark one)

- My friends
- Kids I don't know well
- My brother or sister
- Adults I know well
- Adults I don't know well
- No one offers me marijuana

40. Have you done the following things in the last two days, including today? (Mark Yes or No for each item)

- a. Smoked a cigarette in the last two days, including today - even just a few puffs?
 Yes No
- b. Had any alcohol in the last two days, including today? This includes beer, wine or hard liquor.
 Yes No
- c. Used any marijuana in the last two days, including today?
 Yes No

41. Have you ever sniffed (not just smelled) glue, paint, gasoline, or other inhalants to get high?

- Yes
- No

**48. Which adults do you live with now?
Please mark the box next to each adult
you live with now. (Mark all that apply)**

- My mother
- My father
- My stepmother
- My stepfather
- Adult female (relative or other)
- Adult male (relative or other)
- Someone else – Who is that? Please
print.
-
-
-
-
-
-

**49. Counting yourself, how many people
live in your household? Please include
adults, babies, and children who
usually live in the same place with you.
(Circle one)**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 +

**50. What grades do you get in school?
(Mark one)**

- Mostly A's
- Mostly B's
- Mostly C's
- Mostly D's
- Mostly F's

**51. What is the highest level of school you
plan to finish? (Mark one)**

- I may not finish high school
- I plan to finish high school
- I plan to go to vocational or
trade school after high school
graduation
- I plan to go to college
- I plan to go to graduate school or
professional school (law, medicine)

**52. Suppose you are offered a cigarette and
you do not want to smoke. What would
you do in these situations?
(Mark one box for each item)**

Suppose:

- a. Your best friend is smoking
 - I would definitely smoke
 - I would smoke
 - I would probably not smoke
 - I would definitely not smoke

- b. Your date is smoking
 - I would definitely smoke
 - I would probably smoke
 - I would probably not smoke
 - I would definitely not smoke

- c. You are bored at a party
 - I would definitely smoke
 - I would probably smoke
 - I would probably not smoke
 - I would definitely not smoke

- d. All your friends at a party are
smoking
 - I would definitely smoke
 - I would probably smoke
 - I would probably not smoke
 - I would definitely not smoke

**53. Suppose you are offered alcohol and you do not want to use it. What would you do in this situation?
(Mark one box for each item)**

Suppose:

- a. Your best friend is drinking alcohol
- I would definitely drink
 - I would probably drink
 - I would probably not drink
 - I would definitely not drink
- b. Your date is drinking alcohol
- I would definitely drink
 - I would probably drink
 - I would probably not drink
 - I would definitely not drink
- c. You are bored at a party
- I would definitely drink
 - I would probably drink
 - I would probably not drink
 - I would definitely not drink
- d. All your friends at a party are drinking alcohol
- I would definitely drink
 - I would probably drink
 - I would probably not drink
 - I would definitely not drink

**54. Suppose you are offered marijuana and you do not want to use it. What would you do in this situation?
(Mark one box for each item)**

Suppose:

- a. Your best friend is using marijuana
- I would definitely use marijuana
 - I would probably use marijuana
 - I would probably not use marijuana
 - I would definitely not use marijuana
- b. Your date is using marijuana
- I would definitely use marijuana
 - I would probably use marijuana
 - I would probably not use marijuana
 - I would definitely not use marijuana
- c. You are bored at a party
- I would definitely use marijuana
 - I would probably use marijuana
 - I would probably not use marijuana
 - I would definitely not use marijuana
- d. All your friends at a party are using marijuana
- I would definitely use marijuana
 - I would probably use marijuana
 - I would probably not use marijuana
 - I would definitely not use marijuana

**55. Here is a list of things kids your age have said about smoking cigarettes. How strongly do you agree or disagree with each statement?
(Mark one box for each item)**

SMOKING CIGARETTES:

- a. Relaxes you
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- b. Makes you do poorly in sports
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- c. Gets you into trouble at school
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- d. Helps you get away from your problems
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- e. Makes other people not want to be around you
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- f. Helps you stay thin
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

**56. Here are some things kids your age have said about drinking alcohol. How strongly do you agree or disagree with each statement?
(Mark one box for each item)**

DRINKING ALCOHOL:

- a. Relaxes you
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- b. Makes you do poorly in sports
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- c. Let's you have more fun
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- d. Gets you into trouble
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- e. Helps you get away from your problems
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

- f. Slows down your reaction time
 - Strongly agree
 - Sort of agree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Sort of disagree

57. In the past year, how many times have the following things happened to you because of drinking alcohol? Alcohol includes beer, wine or hard liquor. (Mark one box for each item)

a. You felt really sick because of drinking alcohol

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20+ |

b. You got into a physical fight because of drinking alcohol

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20+ |

c. You got into trouble at school because of drinking alcohol

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20+ |

d. You got into trouble at home because of drinking alcohol

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20+ |

e. You did something you later felt sorry for because of drinking alcohol

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20+ |

58. Here are some things kids your age have said about using marijuana. How strongly do you agree or disagree with each statement? (Mark one box for each item)

USING MARIJUANA:

a. Relaxes you

- Strongly agree
- Sort of agree
- Strongly disagree
- Sort of disagree

b. Makes it hard to remember things

- Strongly agree
- Sort of agree
- Strongly disagree
- Sort of disagree

c. Let's you have more fun

- Strongly agree
- Sort of agree
- Strongly disagree
- Sort of disagree

d. Makes you do poorly in school

- Strongly agree
- Sort of agree
- Strongly disagree
- Sort of disagree

e. Helps you get away from your problems

- Strongly agree
- Sort of agree
- Strongly disagree
- Sort of disagree

f. Makes you do things you might regret

- Strongly agree
- Sort of agree
- Strongly disagree
- Sort of disagree

**59. How old were you when you first did each of the following?
(Give one response for each item)**

- a. How old were you when you first smoked a cigarette?
 Years
- Never did this
- b. How old were you when you first drank any alcohol?
 Years
- Never did this
- c. How old were you when you first tried marijuana?
 Years
- Never did this