

2008 Parent Survey Report Westport, Connecticut

**Report Prepared by:
Archie C. Swindell, PhD, Quantitative Services**

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This parent survey was sponsored by Positive Directions-The Center for Prevention & Recovery, and Positive Youth Development. It was administered in Spring of 2008, through the coordinated efforts of all the sponsors, to parents of students in Bedford Middle School, Coleytown Middle School and Staples High School. This parent survey is part of the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG) program administered by Positive Directions. Results of the parent survey will be compared with certain responses given by youth in a prior survey of health classes in grades 8 and 12 in Westport. Questions on the parent survey were not coordinated beforehand with the youth survey. Results of the youth survey have been reported elsewhere [1].

The parent survey uses language about parental perceptions taken directly from the Connecticut Governor's Prevention Initiative for Youth (GPIY) survey [2], and also uses questions from the CASA National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse X: Teens and Parents [3], and from parent surveys administered recently in other Connecticut towns. All respondents to the parent survey are anonymous, and information is reported only in summary form. The organization of this report draws upon reports of GPIY youth surveys for formatting and structure.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	1
Public Domain Notice	1
Disclaimer	1
Table of Contents	3
Executive Summary	5
Methods	7
Results	9
References	13
Section 1. Demography	
Table 1. Youth referenced by parent in survey	14
Table 2. Gender of parent and youth	14
Table 3. Children in families of surveyed parents	14
Table 4. Race / ethnicity of surveyed parents	15
Table 5. Youth of parents included in the analysis	15
Section 2. Family Structure and Practices	
Table 6. Family management	16
Table 7. Child without adult, by gender	17
Table 8. Positive family involvement	17
Table 9. Issues facing parents of teenagers	18
Table 10. Issues facing teenagers	19
Table 11. Family structure	21
Section 3. Substance Use – Parents	
Table 12. Concerns for family youth	22
Table 13. Substance use and the law	22
Table 14. Adult practices in the family	23
Table 15. Perception of harm, comparison with other parents	24
Section 4. Substance Use – Youth	
Table 16. Reasons teens begin drinking	25
Table 17. Reasons teen choose not to drink	26
Table 18. Perceptions of practices of youth in family	27
Table 19. Peer use of substances	28
Table 20. Perception of strategies to prevent alcohol use	29

Section 5. School and Community

Table 21.	Perceptions about the schools	31
Table 22.	Perceptions about normative substance use	32
Table 23.	Perceptions of neighborhood environment	32
Table 24.	Neighborhood drug involvement	33
Table 25.	Availability of alcohol, tobacco, drugs and guns	34

Section 6. Comparisons

Table 26.	Comparison. Westport parent survey vs. CASA survey	35
Table 27.	Comparison of Westport parent survey with CASA survey. Issues facing parents of teenagers	36
Table 28.	Comparison of Westport parent survey with CASA survey. Issues facing teenagers	37

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Parents of Westport, Connecticut, public school students in grades 6-12 (middle school, high school) were invited to participate in a survey about community perceptions and practices regarding substance use by youth and adults. The parent survey was given following a youth survey on use and perceptions of substances. The two surveys were not coordinated beforehand, but some comparisons are nevertheless possible – for example, between perceptions of parents versus reports by youth in grade 12 on the use of alcohol. Comparisons are also drawn between Westport parents and national statistics for parents of youth aged 12-17 on perceptions related to substances and school. Finally, results from the parent survey constitute a baseline for measuring future changes in attitudes and practices.

All parents of students in grades 6-12 were urged and invited through various channels to complete the survey, and 479 did so. Approximately two-thirds of parents responded in the first two weeks, with steady participation during the remaining four weeks. Demographics of the parent sample was a reasonable match to the Town of Westport in the U.S. Census 2000. Only two surveys were excluded from analysis, from parents of 5th graders. An examination of responses, described in this report, ruled out the likelihood of spurious entries. The analysis included 477 parents, distributed so that there were more than 100 per grade-group: 6-8, 9-10, and 11-12.

The parent and youth surveys in Westport were conducted independently and wording of questions differed, so that parental perceptions of the community's youth could not always be compared directly with what the youth reported themselves. However, indirect comparisons were possible. Westport parents appeared to underestimate the prevalence of alcohol consumption by 12th grade youth, based on comparisons with two neighboring towns of similar demography, Wilton and Weston. Parents estimated recent alcohol use by their 12th graders at 37.5%, whereas the actual prevalence was probably in the range of 56-71%.

Westport parents were asked to estimate the prevalence of use of alcohol and illicit drugs by youth in their own child's grade – a "social norm" type of question. Median estimates of use calculated for each grade group increased with increasing age of the youth. But even the highest estimates, for 11th and 12th graders, were substantially less than 12th graders reported in the youth survey. For example, the median estimate of alcohol use by parents of youth in grades 11-12 was 56%, but 12th graders reported a prevalence of 86%. There was a similar discrepancy with illicit drugs. Under the social norm concept, it can be argued that accurate local information about prevalence of substance use can be employed by a parent to influence the children to be less tempted by peers to abuse substances. Youth in all grades (even grades 11-12) typically report that they discuss problems and generally heed advice from their parents, even though parents often underestimate their own influence.

The self-reported pattern of alcohol use by parents followed a roughly bell-shaped distribution, with the majority of parents using alcohol in moderate amounts. Among parents of students in grade 11-12, there were negative correlations: parents who consumed more alcohol themselves tended to estimate less consumption by their children, and also perceived less harm from regular alcohol consumption by teenagers. Among all parents, perceived harm was great from cigarettes and marijuana, and was less for alcohol. Parents who estimated higher alcohol usage among their child's classmates also tended to perceive less harm from regular drinking by teens. Parents were generally willing to provide an estimate of their child's peers' use of cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana, but many professed not to know about inhalants, illegal drugs other than marijuana, and abuse of prescription drugs.

Westport parents had very positive feelings about the safety of their neighborhoods and schools, and most were satisfied with the quality of the education their child is receiving. The belief that the community provides ample opportunity for constructive youth activities was high among parents of younger youth, but not of older youth. In many communities, this pattern is mirrored by perceptions of the youth themselves.

METHODS

The survey instrument used to collect data for this report incorporates questions from several sources: the Connecticut GPIY survey [2], the national CASA survey [3], and parent surveys from other Connecticut towns, including Wilton [5]. Demographic items were included to allow for the possibility of weighting of survey responses to match the parent sample to the population of the youth or of the town as a whole.

The parent survey was implemented via computer on-line, using the SurveyMonkey.com® web site and software. Extensive efforts were undertaken to encourage parents to participate, including written notices sent from school, emails, and announcements in the local print media and on the local public web sites. Entries from all IP (Internet Protocol) addresses were accepted, subject to screening described below. Most IP addresses generated only one response, and three addresses appeared to be centrally accessible sites, generating multiple responses. The tally of entries was:

Number of:	
Respondents	IP Addresses
1	363
2	20
3	3
8	1
27	1
32	1

Because there was no way to monitor parent survey respondents, an “extreme response” metric was devised to check for spurious submissions. Each of 49 individual survey items to which an answer was given contributed a value of 1 if the answer was “extreme”, and 0 otherwise. Extreme responses were answers judged to be possibly due to prankish entries or “hacking” of the survey. Four examples of extreme Q/A are: (1) Q=How safe do you feel your child’s school is?; A=Very unsafe; (2) Q=If your child breaks family rules, is he/she usually disciplined?; A=Definitely not true; (3) Q=How concerned are you that your child might try an illicit drug (like cocaine or amphetamine) at some point?; A=Not concerned at all; (4) Q=How many of the past 30 days do you think your child drank alcoholic beverages?; A=6 or more days.

An extreme value score for each respondent was the sum of scores of the 49 items divided by the count of items answered. An appropriate distribution (lognormal or gamma) was fitted to the data (after adding 0.1 to all scores to move them off zero), to identify outliers. In this data set, the highest extreme value score was 30.6% of the 49 items, which lay within two standard deviations of the lognormal distribution. Thus, there was no evidence of spurious responses, and trimming of extreme-value respondents was not necessary with the Westport data set.

There was no correlation between extreme value scores and number of entries per IP address, further evidence for absence of spurious responses. It was not considered necessary to determine where the three multiple-entry IP sites were located (e.g., in the schools or the public library). Sampling variance for each grade-group in the parent survey is 4-5%, based on sizes of samples and populations (Table 5), and standard methods of estimation [6].

A scale for parental alcohol consumption was calculated by adding up the Likert scores for the five alcohol-related questions in Table 13 for each respondent, and subtracting 5. The score was in the range 0-15, and was normalized to range 0-100 for presentation.

Youth survey respondents were students in grades 8 and 12 enrolled in health classes [1], and can be considered a random sample of the student populations in those grades. Parent responders were self-selected, not random. Two methods of weighting results were considered, based on family structure and on respondents per grade. Prevalence of single-parent families in the sample was 8.6% (Table 10), which was close to the U.S. Census figure of 6.8% for the Town of Westport. Therefore, no weighting on this basis was carried out. There was slight imbalance in numbers of parent responders per grade, and weights were used in analyses (Table 5). Initial estimates of weights were reciprocals of the fraction of parents responding in each grade, with final weights satisfying the formula:

$$\sum_i kN_i W_i = N, \text{ where}$$

N_i = Number of respondents in sample from Grade- i ,

W_i = Weight for all respondents in Grade- i ,

N = Total number of respondents, and

k = correction factor.

Responses of Westport parents are compared to responses to the identical questions in the national (CASA) survey, in Tables 26-28. Questions in Tables 27-28 were asked somewhat differently in the two surveys. CASA parents were asked to choose the one most important issue from the list of possible issues, and Westport parents were asked to rate each issue on a 3-point scale. CASA scores are as reported [3], and Westport scores are calculated by assigning values: Great Concern = 2, Some Concern = 1, and Little Concern = 0. Values are summed over all respondents for each issue, and the sums are converted to a scale which totals to 100 for all issues. Quantitative differences obviously exist between the two scales, but the relative rankings can be compared.

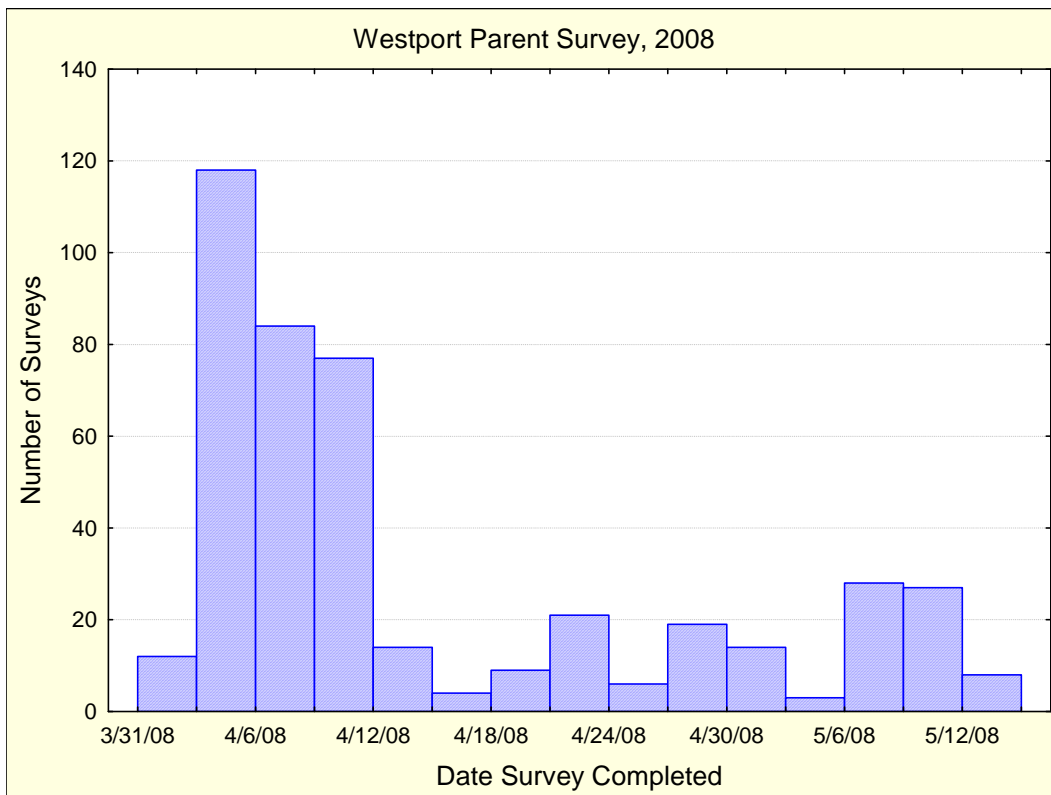
All statistical and tabulation computations were carried out using Statistica® version 8.0 (StatSoft, Tulsa, OK). Data checking and formatting operations were carried out in Microsoft Excel®, and the final report was produced in Microsoft Word®. All software is licensed to Quantitative Services.

RESULTS

Demographics.

The Westport parent survey was open on-line for six weeks, from March 31 to May 15, 2008. Survey subjects were parents of public school students, grades 6-12 (median ages of youth, 12-17), in Westport, Connecticut. For analysis and tabulation, respondents are grouped by grade: Group 1 = grades 6, 7, 8; Group 2 = grades 9, 10; and Group 3 = grades 11, 12. As stipulated in the survey, the “reference youth” was the oldest child in the family enrolled in public school in grades 6 through 12. A breakdown by gender and by percent of total sample is found in Table 1. Results from the two 5th-grade parents are not included in the analyses.

The youth survey was conducted prior to the parent survey, and the two surveys were not coordinated beforehand. The sample of youth is considered to be random [1], and therefore is representative of all Westport youth. The parent responders were self-selected, not random. Weighting of parent data according to race and to family structure were considered, but were not necessary. A modest correction was applied, by adjusting for numbers of responding parents of youth in each grade, as described in METHODS. The survey was available to parents for six weeks, in April through mid-May, 2008. Approximately two-thirds of surveys were completed in the first two weeks, and one-quarter of surveys were completed in the final two weeks. The fairly steady participation throughout the period supports the idea that a parent survey should be kept open a relatively long time.



Of parents responding to the survey and giving their gender (14% declined to give their gender), 88% were female, compared with 75% female in the national survey (Table 2). The gender of the youth referred to in the survey was 47% female. There was no significant “gender matching” – e.g., mothers predominantly responding if their child was a daughter (Table 2). Many of the families had other children in earlier grades in school (Table 3). Race was not given by 14% of parents. Of those who did so, 95.0% were White (Table 4), compared to 95.2% Whites in the Town of Westport [7,9]. No breakdown of results by race has been attempted in this report.

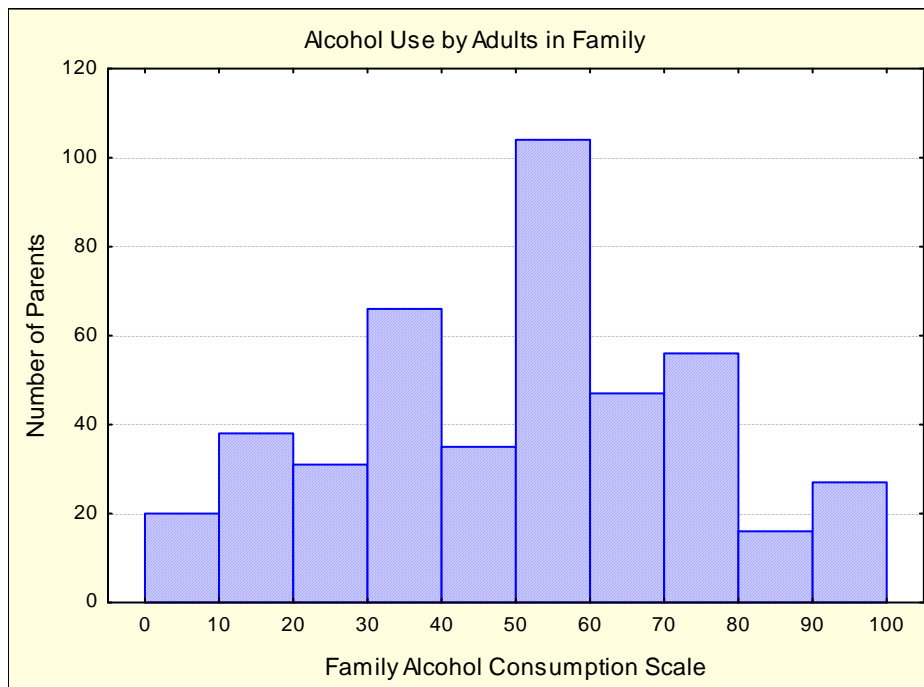
Family structure and practices.

The time youths spent alone without an adult present increased with increasing age, both weekdays and weekends (Table 6). Boys spent somewhat more time alone than girls on weekends, but the two genders were nearly identical during the week, according to parents (Table 7). Time spent in the absence of adults has been correlated with higher prevalence of drinking or drug use. A large majority of parents answered questions about family management in a positive manner (e.g., we usually know where our child is and with whom, or we would know if our child had been drinking) (Table 6). More than 10% of parents thought it “mostly not true” that they share thoughts and feelings with their teenager (Table 8). In other surveys, younger youth often have felt that feelings were being shared with parents more than the parents thought themselves [5].

The most important issues parents of teenagers safety, drugs and alcohol, quality of education, driving, and making the right choices for their futures (Table 9). Issues of least concern were dropping out of school, religion, and financial issues. Opinions of Westport parents differed from national concerns, which were weighted more heavily toward dropping out of school and moral/family issues (Table 27). For the teens themselves, Westport parents felt that fitting in/peer pressure, self acceptance, independence, and making good decisions were the top issues (Table 10). Nationally, drugs and alcohol, and dropping out of school, placed higher on that list (Table 28).

Substance use – parents.

There was concern by parents of youth of all ages that their child might try drugs at some point (Table 12). Concerns were higher for the harder drugs than for marijuana, especially among parents of younger youth. Overall concern of Westport parents was similar to national averages (Table 26), and Westport parents were somewhat less confident than parents nationally that they would know what to do if they believed their child was using an illicit drug. More than 95% of parents of high school youth said they were aware of the recently enacted law prohibiting serving alcohol to underage youth who are not members of their own families, but 14% of parents of 11th and 12th graders said there had been a party with alcohol at their home during the past year (Table 13). In 70-75% of families, adults had alcohol with meals sometimes or frequently, and more than half attended or hosted parties with alcohol (Table 14). Drinking at bars and before meals were less common. Alcohol consumption scale scores are described in METHODS, and the distribution of scores is displayed in the graph below. Perception of risk of harm is a core measure which has been linked to prevalence of use. Parents generally felt that all substances carry substantial risk, with “great risk” in the order of marijuana \cong cigarettes (greater risk) > alcohol (less risk) (Table 15).



Substance use – youth.

Parents’ perception of why youth begin drinking alcohol are shown (Table 16): fitting in with friends, curiosity, and having fun were the top three reasons. These same reasons have been given by parents of other towns [5]. Leading reasons why non-drinkers make this choice, according to parents, were disapproval of parents, and personal and lifestyle choices (Table 17).

Town	Alcohol Consumption Time-Frame	12 th Grade Youth Who Drink	
		Estimated by Parents	Reported by Youth
Wilton	Recent	40.4	71.2
	Lifetime	*	86.7
Weston	Recent	33.9	56.0
	Lifetime	*	80.6
Westport	Recent	37.5	*
	Lifetime	*	86.0

Perceptions of Westport parents about prevalence of substance use (Table 18) can be compared with reports from the survey of their own youth [1], and with other towns with similar demography. In the table above, results from surveys of youth and parents in three towns are compared. Prevalence of recent (within the past 30 days) alcohol consumption, a “core measure”, was consistently estimated by parents in all three towns at 34-40% of 12th graders. Lifetime alcohol consumption was reported in youth surveys in all three towns at 81-87%. Recent alcohol consumption was not included in the Westport youth survey, but was consistently underestimated by parents – compared to reports by their own youth – in

Wilton and Weston. Given the similarity of the three towns, and the similarity of those statistics which can be compared, it seems very likely that youth alcohol recent (current) consumption in Westport is greater than parents are aware.

Parental beliefs about substance use by their child’s peers is tabulated (Table 19). Few parents checked “I Don’t Know” for cigarettes, alcohol, and marijuana, but about one-third professed not to know if their child’s peers used inhalants, other illegal drugs, or prescription drugs without a doctor’s orders. The order of prevalence of use perceived by parents was the same as reported by youth on their own survey: alcohol > marijuana > cigarettes.

A “social norm” question [8] from the CASA survey was asked of Westport parents: “How many students in your child’s grade do you think use illicit drugs or abuse prescription drugs?” (Tables 22, 26). The median prevalence of estimated usage by youth aged 12-17 (the prevalence which 50% of parents believe to be the usage level, estimated by interpolation) was 17.9% in Westport, and 17.7% nationally, figures which are in close agreement. Parents estimated the use of alcohol by youth in their own child’s grade, and results are found in Table 22. Median estimates of alcohol use, computed by linear interpolation, are presented in the table below. Westport youth, in their survey [1], reported that 86% of 12th graders had used alcohol, confirming the likelihood that parents tend to underestimate teenage drinking. Parents were also asked to estimate the use of illicit and prescription drugs by youth in their child’s grade, results also in Table 22 and median estimates in the table below. Westport 12th graders reported that 58% of them had used illicit or prescription drugs at some time.

Grades	Median Estimate of Use of:	
	Alcohol	Illicit Drugs
	%	%
6-8	5.9	2.9
9-10	22.8	10.5
11-12	56.0	25.0

The social norm concept argues that youth who believe that “everybody does it” tend to do it themselves – with “it” being the use of substances. Given the influence of parents on their children, providing parents with accurate, credible data could be a strong influence for reducing the likelihood of usage by their own child.

Parents were asked about strategies to prevent underage drinking, and the influence of friends was considered the most effective, along with suspension of driving privileges and deterrents like ID checking and breathalyzer tests (Table 20). Parental strictness was thought to be effective by parents of younger youth, but less by parents of 11th and 12th graders. The three top reasons reported not using illegal drugs were the illegality, fear, and parental influence [1].

School and Community.

Westport parents were generally satisfied with the quality of education their child receives, and all but a few felt their child’s school is safe in school (Table 21). The degree of satisfaction with both quality of education and safety of schools was higher in Westport than in the national survey (Table 26). Westport parents were more concerned that their

children might try harder drugs than marijuana, and they were somewhat less confident than national averages that they would know what to do if they believed their child was using. With regard to underage drinking, few parents felt themselves less concerned than average, or more lenient toward their own child (Table 26).

Most Westport parents believed their neighborhoods to be safe, but parents of older youth generally did not think there were many things for young people to do in the community (Table 23). Parents think that a lot of bullying behavior – by teasing and taunting – goes on, and that marijuana and other drugs are frequently sold and used in their community (Table 24). Ease of acquiring substances, in parents' opinions, were alcohol > cigarettes > marijuana > harder drugs > a gun (Table 25).

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SECTION I. DEMOGRAPHY

Table 1. Youth referenced by parent in survey

Grade	Gender				Total	
	Female	Male	Both*	Missing		
	count	count	count	count	count	%
5	0	2	0	0	2	0.4
6	34	26	1	1	62	12.9
7	38	33	3	1	75	15.7
8	22	29	0	0	51	10.6
9	34	35	0	0	69	14.4
10	31	38	0	1	70	14.6
11	36	39	1	0	76	15.9
12	27	47	0	0	74	15.4
Total	222	249	5	3	479	100.0

* Both genders, in case of siblings in same grade

Table 2. Genders of parents and youth

Gender of Parent	Gender of reference child				Total	
	Female	Male	Both*	Missing		
	count	count	count	count	count	%
Female	170	189	5	0	364	76.0
Male	20	28	0	0	48	10.0
Missing	32	32	0	3	67	14.0
Total	222	249	5	3	479	100.0

* Both genders, in case of siblings in same grade

Table 3. Children in families of surveyed parents

Grade of Other Children	Grade of reference child				Total
	5	6-8	9-10	11-12	
	count	count	count	count	count
Pre-school	0	5	1	0	6
K - 5	0	102	28	16	146
6	0	58	18	19	95
7-8	1	113	57	43	214
9-10	0	8	117	44	169
11-12	1	7	4	124	136
Total	2	293	225	246	766

Table 4. Race / ethnicity of surveyed parents

	count	%
Hispanic/ Latino?		
No	399	83.3
Yes	9	1.9
Missing	71	14.8
Race		
White	390	81.4
Black/African American	1	0.2
Asian	9	1.9
Other	12	2.5
Missing	67	14.0

Table 5. Youth of parent included in analysis

Grade	Total Enrollment	Survey Sample		Analysis Weight
	count	count	%	
6	448	62	13.8	1.1005
7	464	75	16.2	0.9422
8	430	51	11.9	1.2841
9	488	69	14.1	1.0771
10	413	70	16.9	0.8986
11	433	76	17.6	0.8677
12	390	74	19.0	0.8027
Total/Average	3066	477	15.6	0.9961

SECTION 2. FAMILY STRUCTURE & PRACTICES

Table 6. Family management

Question/Answer	Grades		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
On a regular weekday, how many hours does your child spend after school without an adult present?			
None	36.0	26.0	11.5
Less than 1 hour	41.3	44.9	39.9
1 to 2 hours	15.6	22.0	24.3
Up to 4 hours	5.7	2.4	17.9
More than 4 hours	1.4	4.7	6.4
On a typical weekend, how many hours does your child spend without an adult present?			
None	27.0	7.9	3.5
Less than 1 hour	31.3	14.2	7.7
1 to 2 hours	29.4	41.7	29.6
Up to 4 hours	11.6	29.1	38.7
Up to 8 hours	0.7	6.3	15.5
More than 8 hours	0.0	0.8	4.9
When my child is away from home, I or my spouse knows where and with whom.			
Definitely not true	0.0	0.0	0.7
Mostly not true	0.0	0.0	4.9
Mostly true	7.8	23.8	39.1
Definitely true	92.2	76.2	55.2
If my child break family rules, he/she is usually disciplined.			
Definitely not true	0.6	0.8	1.4
Mostly not true	3.9	4.0	2.9
Mostly true	42.8	44.8	37.9
Definitely true	52.7	50.4	57.8
Our family has clear rules discouraging our child from smoking.			
Definitely not true	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mostly not true	0.0	0.8	0.7
Mostly true	2.3	4.0	6.5
Definitely true	97.7	95.2	92.8
Our family has clear rules discouraging our child from drinking alcohol.			
Definitely not true	0.5	1.6	0.7
Mostly not true	1.5	1.6	2.1
Mostly true	11.1	11.2	25.5
Definitely true	86.9	85.6	71.6
Our family has clear rules governing responsible use of alcohol.			
Definitely not true	2.4	5.0	5.9
Mostly not true	0.0	0.8	2.2
Mostly true	8.2	7.5	11.9
Definitely true	89.4	86.7	80.0

Table 7. Child without adult, by gender

Question/Answer	Gender (all grades)	
	Female	Male
On a regular weekday, how many hours does your child spend after school without an adult present?		
None	26.3	25.7
Less than 1 hour	42.9	41.7
1 to 2 hours	17.9	20.9
Up to 4 hours	8.8	8.0
More than 4 hours	4.1	3.6
On a typical weekend, how many hours does your child spend without an adult present?		
None	18.0	11.5
Less than 1 hour	20.0	19.0
1 to 2 hours	30.2	35.7
Up to 4 hours	22.5	26.6
Up to 8 hours	7.0	6.0
More than 8 hours	2.2	1.2

Table 8. Positive family involvement

Question/Answer	Grades		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
Has lots of chances to do fun things with our family.			
Definitely not true	0.0	0.0	0.7
Mostly not true	2.6	6.3	4.2
Mostly true	27.4	37.0	43.3
Definitely true	70.0	56.7	51.8
Receives help and support when he/she needs it.			
Definitely not true	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mostly not true	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mostly true	8.5	13.0	11.4
Definitely true	91.5	87.0	88.6
Shares thoughts and feelings with me or my spouse.			
Definitely not true	1.8	0.8	1.4
Mostly not true	9.4	10.2	20.0
Mostly true	47.6	55.9	50.7
Definitely true	41.3	33.1	27.9
We usually ask if our child's homework is done.			
Definitely not true	1.2	3.2	7.7
Mostly not true	0.6	4.0	10.6
Mostly true	13.1	30.1	27.5
Definitely true	85.1	62.8	54.2
I or my spouse participate in school activities			
Definitely not true	0.0	1.6	0.7
Mostly not true	2.7	4.0	5.7
Mostly true	28.0	21.4	25.3
Definitely true	69.2	73.0	68.3

Table 9. Issues facing parents of teenagers

Question/Answer	Grades		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
What do you feel are the most important problems you face as the parent of a teenager?	%	%	%
Safety			
Of great concern	48.3	42.0	52.1
Of some concern	45.5	54.0	43.0
Not an issue	6.3	4.0	4.9
Violence/Crime			
Of great concern	17.7	15.3	16.2
Of some concern	42.5	42.7	47.2
Not an issue	39.7	41.9	36.6
Drugs/Alcohol			
Of great concern	45.7	44.0	39.7
Of some concern	42.2	46.4	50.3
Not an issue	12.0	9.6	10.0
Education			
Of great concern	53.8	40.0	52.2
Of some concern	25.6	40.0	27.1
Not an issue	20.7	20.0	20.7
Dropping Out of School			
Of great concern	4.6	5.6	2.8
Of some concern	6.4	4.8	9.2
Not an issue	89.0	89.7	88.0
Peer Pressure			
Of great concern	58.2	40.8	41.8
Of some concern	39.0	52.0	48.3
Not an issue	2.8	7.2	9.9
Communication with Teen			
Of great concern	46.5	38.1	39.4
Of some concern	44.2	46.8	47.9
Not an issue	9.3	15.1	12.7
Pregnancy/Sexuality			
Of great concern	27.7	33.6	21.2
Of some concern	50.3	46.4	57.0
Not an issue	22.0	20.0	21.8
Morals/Family Values			
Of great concern	32.2	36.3	38.8
Of some concern	36.7	31.5	28.1
Not an issue	31.1	32.2	33.1
Media/Cultural			
Of great concern	48.2	40.2	40.5
Of some concern	45.2	50.3	44.6
Not an issue	6.6	9.5	14.9
Financial Issues			
Of great concern	25.4	15.3	21.3
Of some concern	46.9	54.9	47.6
Not an issue	27.7	29.8	31.2

Table 9. Issues facing parents of teenagers, continued

Question/Answer	Grades		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
What do you feel are the most important problems you face as the parent of a teenager?			
Right Choices for Future			
Of great concern	53.8	48.8	55.6
Of some concern	39.5	46.4	39.5
Not an issue	6.7	4.8	4.9
Driving			
Of great concern	43.8	59.5	54.8
Of some concern	40.1	34.1	42.3
Not an issue	16.1	6.4	2.8
Religion			
Of great concern	6.7	7.1	2.1
Of some concern	27.2	30.2	28.2
Not an issue	66.1	62.7	69.7

Table 10. Issues facing teenagers

Question/Answer	Grades		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
From viewpoint of teens like yours, what are most important issues they face?			
Fitting in			
Of great concern	58.9	54.4	50.3
Of some concern	31.6	30.4	38.5
Not an issue	9.5	15.2	11.1
Peer Pressure			
Of great concern	54.1	40.9	41.2
Of some concern	41.8	45.5	48.6
Not an issue	4.1	13.6	10.2
Acceptance of Self			
Of great concern	48.5	42.4	50.2
Of some concern	40.1	38.4	35.4
Not an issue	11.4	19.2	14.4
Drugs/Alcohol			
Of great concern	25.0	25.4	35.0
Of some concern	52.5	49.9	49.7
Not an issue	22.5	24.6	15.3
Education			
Of great concern	29.7	42.4	35.5
Of some concern	44.2	38.4	51.4
Not an issue	26.1	19.2	13.1
Dropping Out of School			
Of great concern	1.1	1.6	1.5
Of some concern	6.3	4.8	13.8
Not an issue	92.6	93.6	84.7

Table 10. Issues facing teenagers, continued

Question/Answer	Grades		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
From viewpoint of teens like yours, what are most important issues they face?			
Sexual Issues			
Of great concern	25.1	29.6	31.2
Of some concern	57.2	56.7	57.2
Not an issue	17.8	13.6	11.6
Gangs/Violence			
Of great concern	1.3	0.0	1.5
Of some concern	19.6	12.1	16.0
Not an issue	79.1	87.9	82.6
Independence			
Of great concern	36.3	38.9	46.7
Of some concern	51.9	42.8	45.9
Not an issue	11.9	18.3	7.4
Communication			
Of great concern	21.3	22.3	23.6
Of some concern	56.7	52.3	58.0
Not an issue	22.0	25.4	18.5
Coping with Stress			
Of great concern	48.7	61.1	68.0
Of some concern	39.9	33.3	31.2
Not an issue	11.3	5.5	0.7
Finding a Job			
Of great concern	5.6	12.1	16.8
Of some concern	38.2	51.6	54.8
Not an issue	56.1	36.3	28.4
Morals/Family Values			
Of great concern	9.8	9.0	13.9
Of some concern	49.7	48.7	46.6
Not an issue	40.5	42.3	39.5
Media Influence			
Of great concern	28.3	21.5	22.1
Of some concern	47.9	50.7	42.6
Not an issue	23.8	27.8	35.2
Financial Issues			
Of great concern	9.4	8.1	10.2
Of some concern	40.7	45.6	52.6
Not an issue	49.8	46.3	37.2
Making Good Decisions			
Of great concern	29.1	36.0	50.4
Of some concern	58.7	54.4	43.1
Not an issue	12.2	9.6	6.6
Driving			
Of great concern	20.5	40.0	33.0
Of some concern	41.7	41.5	46.3
Not an issue	37.7	18.4	20.7

Table 10. Issues facing teenagers, continued

Question/Answer	Grades		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
From viewpoint of teens like yours, what are most important issues they face?			
Religion			
Of great concern	0.5	2.4	0.7
Of some concern	26.5	24.4	21.2
Not an issue	73.0	73.2	78.0

* Items included in parent question (Table 7) but not in teen question of CASA survey.

Table 11. Family structure

Thinking of the structure of your family, do the adults in your household include:		
	count	%
Both biological parents	375	86.0
Two adoptive parents	7	1.5
On biological and one step-parent	13	3.1
Two foster parents	0	0.0
Only one parent or guardian	17	3.9
One parent, frequent visits by other	20	4.7
Relatives who act as parents	2	0.5
Other	0	0.0
No response	2	0.4

SECTION 3. SUBSTANCE USE – PARENTS

Table 12. Concerns with family youth

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
How concerned are you that your child might: Try marijuana at some point			
Very concerned	22.3	15.7	13.5
Somewhat concerned	51.5	44.9	38.9
Not very concerned	19.4	26.0	35.5
Not concerned at all	5.6	11.8	12.1
No opinion	1.3	1.6	0.0
Try a drug like cocaine or amphetamine at some point			
Very concerned	33.7	18.9	19.0
Somewhat concerned	31.0	26.0	30.9
Not very concerned	26.0	29.1	30.4
Not concerned at all	8.0	24.4	19.7
No opinion	1.3	1.6	0.0
How confident are you that you would know what to do if you believed your child as using illicit drugs?			
Very confident	26.3	40.9	32.8
Somewhat confident	52.8	45.6	52.2
Not very confident	15.4	12.6	12.1
Not confident at all	4.9	0.8	2.2
No opinion	0.6	0.0	0.7

Table 13. Substance use and the law

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
Do you know about the Conn. Law prohibiting serving alcohol to non-family minors?			
Yes	87.6	95.2	96.4
During the past year, has there been a party at your home with alcohol consumed by your child's teen friends?			
Yes	0.0	4.7	14.1

Table 14. Adult practices in the family

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
Do adults in our household smoke cigarettes?			
Yes	7.1	7.9	5.6
Use of alcohol by parent(s):			
With meals			
Never	5.2	10.4	5.7
Rarely	20.8	22.2	19.0
Sometimes	38.7	37.3	33.7
Frequently	35.3	30.1	41.6
Cocktails before meals			
Never	45.4	42.1	39.6
Rarely	24.6	25.4	30.9
Sometimes	22.2	26.9	20.2
Frequently	7.7	5.5	9.3
At parties outside home			
Never	1.5	10.3	3.6
Rarely	18.8	21.5	21.0
Sometimes	49.6	46.8	47.4
Frequently	30.2	21.4	28.0
Host parties with alcohol			
Never	6.1	14.3	10.0
Rarely	32.1	31.7	27.7
Sometimes	42.8	38.1	45.4
Frequently	19.0	15.8	17.0
At bars			
Never	26.2	28.0	25.6
Rarely	29.6	36.8	32.6
Sometimes	32.7	25.6	30.4
Frequently	11.5	9.6	11.4

Table 15. Perception of harm, comparison with other parents

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
How much harm do you think teens risk if they: Smoke several cigarettes per day?			
No risk	3.6	7.2	3.6
Slight risk	2.7	4.0	4.4
Moderate risk	13.7	13.6	19.0
Great risk	80.0	75.1	72.9
Have at least 1 or 2 drinks per week?			
No risk	4.3	8.0	2.2
Slight risk	3.3	6.4	10.9
Moderate risk	23.1	19.2	36.9
Great risk	69.2	66.4	49.9
Use marijuana regularly?			
No risk	3.6	6.5	0.0
Slight risk	1.8	1.6	6.6
Moderate risk	9.9	13.8	16.2
Great risk	84.6	78.0	77.1
Compared to other parents I know: My concerns about underage drinking are:			
More concerned	17.3	35.0	27.6
About the same concern	74.3	58.5	53.6
Less concerned	8.3	6.5	18.9
My monitoring my child's drinking, I am:			
More strict	46.7	57.4	48.9
About the same	51.4	40.1	44.6
More lenient	1.9	2.5	6.6

SECTION 4. SUBSTANCE USE – YOUTH

Table 16. Reasons teens begin drinking

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
What do you think are most important reasons teens begin drinking alcohol?			
Fit in with friends			
Very important	81.6	78.9	84.0
Somewhat important	18.4	17.9	16.0
Not very important	0.0	3.3	0.0
Parents drink			
Very important	22.1	29.7	23.6
Somewhat important	59.1	43.0	47.0
Not very important	18.8	27.3	29.4
Alcohol easily available			
Very important	37.3	30.7	39.1
Somewhat important	50.3	51.6	44.3
Not very important	12.4	17.7	16.6
Family tradition for special occasions			
Very important	7.8	15.3	5.1
Somewhat important	40.5	40.6	40.1
Not very important	51.7	44.1	54.8
Personal choice			
Very important	15.8	21.0	31.9
Somewhat important	68.6	60.5	57.0
Not very important	15.7	18.6	11.1
Fits chosen lifestyle			
Very important	12.0	18.6	24.4
Somewhat important	53.6	45.8	46.7
Not very important	34.5	35.6	28.9
Boredom			
Very important	42.7	47.5	43.6
Somewhat important	40.9	38.5	43.4
Not very important	16.4	13.9	12.9
Relieve stress			
Very important	35.2	44.3	42.0
Somewhat important	35.8	36.0	41.4
Not very important	28.9	19.7	16.6
Cope with personal issues			
Very important	38.0	41.8	38.2
Somewhat important	37.2	39.3	44.1
Not very important	24.8	18.9	17.7
Curiosity			
Very important	71.2	62.6	61.6
Somewhat important	28.2	33.3	36.9
Not very important	0.6	4.0	1.5

Table 16. Reasons teens begin drinking, continued

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
What do you think are most important reasons teens begin drinking alcohol?			
To have fun			
Very important	59.0	56.9	65.6
Somewhat important	36.3	36.6	32.9
Not very important	4.7	6.5	1.4
Not sure why			
Very important	16.0	16.0	15.1
Somewhat important	47.6	50.0	40.8
Not very important	36.4	33.9	44.1

Table 17. Reasons teens choose not to drink

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
What are most important reasons that influence teens not to drink?			
Personal choice			
Very important	72.1	72.1	79.0
Somewhat important	26.1	27.0	20.3
Not very important	1.8	0.8	0.7
Disapproval of parents			
Very important	47.5	52.0	45.9
Somewhat important	45.7	42.4	41.0
Not very important	6.8	5.6	13.1
Disapproval of friends			
Very important	55.6	39.9	33.2
Somewhat important	37.0	47.2	45.9
Not very important	7.4	13.0	20.9
Bad experiences			
Very important	43.2	36.3	36.3
Somewhat important	49.5	49.2	54.8
Not very important	7.2	14.5	8.9
Education about alcohol			
Very important	50.1	40.3	29.4
Somewhat important	45.3	44.3	52.9
Not very important	4.6	15.3	17.7
Health reasons			
Very important	50.1	40.3	29.4
Somewhat important	45.3	44.3	52.9
Not very important	4.6	15.3	17.7
Legal reasons			
Very important	33.1	30.9	25.7
Somewhat important	47.4	44.7	52.2
Not very important	19.6	24.4	22.1

Table 17. Reasons teens choose not to drink, continued

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
What are most important reasons that influence teens not to drink?			
Ethical/moral reasons			
Very important	51.1	39.6	39.4
Somewhat important	36.8	41.9	40.1
Not very important	12.2	18.6	20.5
Does not fit chosen lifestyle			
Very important	59.0	59.0	57.2
Somewhat important	33.7	34.5	39.2
Not very important	7.3	6.6	3.6
Alcohol not available			
Very important	28.9	25.0	20.5
Somewhat important	46.6	41.2	34.3
Not very important	24.6	33.8	45.2

Table 18. Perception of practices of youth in family

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
In the past 30 days, how many days did your child probably:			
Smoke at least one cigarette?			
None	99.5	100.0	95.6
1-2 Days	0.0	0.0	0.7
3-5 Days	0.0	0.0	0.7
6-10 Days	0.0	0.0	2.2
More than 10 days	0.5	0.0	0.7
Drink an alcoholic beverage (more than a sip)?			
None	98.5	88.9	68.1
1-2 Days	0.7	7.2	9.6
3-5 Days	0.0	1.6	9.7
6-10 Days	0.0	0.0	6.7
More than 10 days	0.0	0.0	1.5
I don't know	0.7	2.4	4.4
In the past year, how often has your child ridden as passenger with driver who been drinking?			
Never	50.9	60.0	42.9
Rarely	33.4	32.5	46.6
Several times	14.4	6.7	9.0
Fairly often	1.3	0.8	1.5

Table 19. Peer use of substances

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
How many of your child's close friends do you think: Smoke cigarettes?			
None	89.2	75.2	48.9
Some	4.3	17.3	43.1
Most	0.0	0.8	2.2
I don't know	6.5	6.6	5.8
Drink alcoholic beverages?			
None	78.1	41.4	17.7
Some	12.9	40.4	43.2
Most	0.0	6.6	35.5
I don't know	9.0	11.6	3.6
Use marijuana?			
None	85.2	48.5	21.4
Some	4.8	32.4	54.0
Most	0.0	3.3	6.7
I don't know	10.0	15.8	17.8
Use inhalants?			
None	86.2	62.8	53.7
Some	2.6	11.5	9.5
Most	0.0	0.0	0.0
I don't know	11.2	25.6	36.8
Have tried a drug like cocaine, LSD, heroin, etc.?			
None	86.8	72.3	49.6
Some	0.6	7.5	15.6
Most	0.0	0.0	0.8
I don't know	12.6	20.1	34.1
Have used prescription drugs without doctor's orders?			
None	80.0	53.8	37.0
Some	4.9	20.6	28.2
Most	0.0	0.0	1.5
I don't know	15.1	25.6	33.3
Play games for money (e.g., poker)?			
None	50.6	34.7	19.8
Some	29.3	33.8	34.6
Most	4.4	10.7	22.1
I don't know	15.7	20.7	23.5
Are considered bullies?			
None	54.8	69.4	57.7
Some	37.5	22.4	24.5
Most	0.6	0.8	0.0
I don't know	7.1	7.4	17.8

Table 20. Perception of strategies to prevent alcohol use

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
How important do you think the following are in preventing teens from drinking alcoholic beverages?			
High price			
Very important	17.4	18.0	14.9
Somewhat important	36.4	24.8	32.6
Not important	44.4	53.8	50.3
I don't know	1.8	3.4	2.2
Checking IDs in stores, bars			
Very important	73.6	69.5	63.0
Somewhat important	21.4	25.4	24.4
Not important	5.0	5.1	11.1
I don't know	0.0	0.0	1.5
Ads showing problems			
Very important	41.5	39.0	26.6
Somewhat important	40.5	44.9	45.2
Not important	16.6	16.1	27.5
I don't know	1.4	0.0	0.8
Friends who don't drink			
Very important	93.9	85.0	83.6
Somewhat important	5.6	15.0	14.1
Not important	0.0	0.0	2.3
I don't know	0.5	0.0	0.0
Friends who disapprove drinking			
Very important	77.8	74.6	66.6
Somewhat important	21.1	17.8	25.3
Not important	0.0	6.8	7.5
I don't know	1.2	0.8	0.7
Parental strictness			
Very important	64.0	65.9	48.8
Somewhat important	32.3	29.0	44.4
Not important	3.7	4.3	6.0
I don't know	0.0	0.8	0.8
Driver's license suspension			
Very important	73.1	78.7	77.0
Somewhat important	22.8	17.9	20.0
Not important	3.6	2.6	2.2
I don't know	0.5	0.8	0.7
Fine of \$200			
Very important	32.3	33.4	31.9
Somewhat important	34.2	40.3	37.8
Not important	28.9	24.5	25.8
I don't know	4.6	1.7	4.5

Table 20. Perception of strategies to prevent alcohol use, continued

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
How important do you think the following are in preventing teens from drinking alcoholic beverages?			
Alcohol education in school			
Very important	54.0	52.6	37.3
Somewhat important	41.9	39.8	47.7
Not important	4.2	7.6	14.2
I don't know	0.0	0.0	0.8
Alcohol-free activities			
Very important	64.6	53.8	40.9
Somewhat important	28.6	29.4	40.2
Not important	6.2	15.1	17.4
I don't know	0.6	1.7	1.5
Fear of addiction			
Very important	31.5	27.5	22.2
Somewhat important	32.5	36.3	26.7
Not important	32.8	35.4	49.6
I don't know	3.3	0.9	1.5
Breathalyzer tests			
Very important	41.9	46.2	53.8
Somewhat important	38.9	42.5	29.6
Not important	15.3	7.8	13.6
I don't know	3.9	3.5	3.0

SECTION 5. SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Table 21. Perceptions about the schools

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
How satisfied are with the quality of education your child is receiving?	%	%	%
Very satisfied	54.7	62.2	66.9
Somewhat satisfied	40.1	30.7	26.0
Somewhat dissatisfied	4.7	6.3	4.2
Very dissatisfied	0.5	0.8	2.8
No opinion	0.0	0.0	0.0
How safe do you feel your child's school is?			
Very safe	61.6	64.5	50.1
Fairly safe	37.4	33.9	47.1
Fairly unsafe	0.0	0.8	0.7
Very unsafe	0.5	0.0	1.4
No opinion	0.5	0.8	0.7
What grades does your child mostly get?			
A's	24.1	32.3	35.1
A's and B's	52.4	26.0	26.7
B's	18.1	27.6	27.6
B's and C's	4.1	6.3	6.3
C's	1.2	5.5	3.6
C's and D's	0.0	1.6	0.7
D's	0.0	0.8	0.0
D's and F's	0.0	0.0	0.0
F's	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 22. Perceptions about normative substance use

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
How many students in your child's grade would you guess drink alcohol at least once a week?			
Fewer than 10%	69.2	11.4	7.2
10-25%	9.6	38.8	7.1
25-50%	3.3	21.7	22.9
50-75%	0.0	12.1	40.3
75-90%	0.0	4.8	13.7
More than 90%	0.0	0.0	2.2
I don't know	17.9	11.3	6.5
How many students in your child's grade would you guess use illicit drugs, including marijuana?			
None	15.0	0.8	2.2
Fewer than 5%	50.8	17.7	5.9
5-10%	6.6	22.7	8.1
10-20%	3.3	16.0	12.5
20-30%	1.5	10.0	29.6
30-50%	0.0	13.4	20.0
More than 50%	0.0	3.3	8.9
I don't know	22.8	16.0	12.6

Table 23. Perceptions of neighborhood environment

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
How true are the following?			
There are lots of things for young people to do in our community.			
Definitely not true	9.4	13.3	12.5
Mostly not true	16.4	27.5	38.6
Mostly true	40.2	45.0	40.0
Definitely true	33.5	14.2	8.9
No opinion	0.6	0.0	0.0
Our community is a safe place.			
Definitely not true	0.5	0.8	1.5
Mostly not true	4.8	3.4	6.6
Mostly true	67.5	73.3	72.1
Definitely true	26.4	20.0	18.4
No opinion	0.8	2.5	1.5
Kids in our community are often teased or taunted so much feelings are hurt.			
Definitely not true	2.0	1.7	2.2
Mostly not true	34.7	40.0	38.5
Mostly true	25.9	26.6	23.6
Definitely true	32.1	21.7	26.7
No opinion	5.3	10.0	8.9

Table 24. Neighborhood drug involvement

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
How true are the following?	%	%	%
A lot of drugs are sold in our community.			
Definitely not true	2.4	1.7	0.7
Mostly not true	18.0	24.1	18.0
Mostly true	36.1	35.4	44.4
Definitely true	23.2	25.1	24.1
No opinion	20.3	13.8	12.8
A lot of kids in our community use marijuana and other drugs.			
Definitely not true	2.8	0.0	0.7
Mostly not true	18.3	21.7	16.1
Mostly true	34.9	42.4	50.8
Definitely true	28.0	26.7	25.1
No opinion	16.0	9.2	7.4
People in our community are trying to keep kids off drugs.			
Definitely not true	0.0	0.8	2.2
Mostly not true	6.5	12.5	11.2
Mostly true	43.5	50.8	51.5
Definitely true	46.6	33.3	27.7
No opinion	3.4	2.5	7.4

Table 25. Availability of alcohol, tobacco, drugs , and guns

Question/Answer	Grade		
	6-8	9-10	11-12
	%	%	%
If you child wanted to, how easy do you think it would be to get:			
Alcoholic beverages?			
Very easy	44.0	56.1	62.2
Sort of easy	30.2	32.3	34.2
Sort of hard	14.6	5.8	3.6
Very hard	5.6	2.5	0.0
I don't know	5.7	3.3	0.0
Cigarettes?			
Very easy	22.3	42.8	61.4
Sort of easy	27.5	36.2	28.4
Sort of hard	21.8	10.1	5.8
Very hard	20.4	5.1	2.2
I don't know	8.0	5.9	2.2
Marijuana?			
Very easy	17.0	35.0	43.8
Sort of easy	22.1	33.3	34.4
Sort of hard	23.8	20.0	11.6
Very hard	24.1	5.8	2.2
I don't know	13.0	5.8	8.0
A drug like cocaine, LSD, amphetamine, etc.?			
Very easy	4.3	5.0	11.7
Sort of easy	10.7	20.0	25.5
Sort of hard	25.8	31.7	22.7
Very hard	36.5	21.7	13.8
I don't know	22.7	21.7	26.3
A gun?			
Very easy	0.6	0.8	2.2
Sort of easy	3.4	4.2	5.8
Sort of hard	15.8	20.0	19.0
Very hard	59.3	46.7	37.2
I don't know	20.9	28.4	35.8

SECTION 6. COMPARISONS

Table 26. Comparison. Westport Parent Survey vs. CASA Survey

Question/Answer	Westport	CASA
	%	%
Gender of responding parent		
Female	88	75
Male	12	25
How satisfied are you with the quality of education for your child?		
Very satisfied	60	50
Somewhat satisfied	33	39
Somewhat dissatisfied	5	8
Very Dissatisfied	1	4
How safe do you feel your child's school is?		
Very safe	59	49
Fairly safe	39	46
Fairly unsafe	0	4
Very unsafe	1	1
No opinion	1	*
How concerned are you that your child might try marijuana?		
Very concerned	18	*
Somewhat concerned	46	*
Not very concerned	26	*
Not concerned at all	9	*
No opinion	1	*
How concerned are you that your child might try another illegal drug?		
Very concerned	25	23
Somewhat concerned	30	34
Not very concerned	28	30
Not concerned at all	16	13
No opinion	1	*
How confident are you that you would know what to do if you believed your child was using an illegal drug?		
Very confident	32	51
Fairly confident	51	41
Not too confident	14	7
Not confident at all	3	*
No opinion	0	1
My concerns about underage drinking, compared to other parents are:		
More concerned	25	*
About the same	64	*
Less concerned	11	*
In monitoring my child's drinking, compared to other parents, I am		
More strict	50	61
About the same	46	29
More lenient	3	9

Table 26. Comparison. Westport Parent Survey vs. CASA Survey, continued

Question/Answer	Westport	CASA
	%	%
How many students in your child's grade do you think use illicit drugs or abuse Rx drugs?		
None	7	6
Fewer than 5%	28	*
1-10%		25
5-10%	12	*
10-20%	10	*
10-25%		26
20-30%	12	*
25-50%		20
30-50%	10	*
More than 50%	4	10
Don't know	18	13

* Categories not included in CASA survey.

**Table 27. Comparison of Westport Parent Survey with CASA Survey
Issues facing parents of teenagers**

Question/Answer	Composite Score	
	Westport	CASA
What do you feel are the most important problems you face as the parent of a teenager?		
Safety	9.3	7
Violence/Crime	5.1	3
Drugs/Alcohol	8.7	25
Education	8.4	14
Dropping Out	1.0	14
Peer Pressure	9.3	4
Communication with Teen	8.5	5
Pregnancy/Sexuality	6.9	11
Morals/Family Values	6.8	5
Media/Cultural	8.7	*
Financial Issues	6.0	1
Right Choices for Future	9.6	4
Driving	9.3	1
Religion	2.6	1

* Items not included in CASA survey.

**Table 28. Comparison of Westport Parent Survey with CASA Survey
Issues facing teenagers**

Question/Answer	Composite Score	
	Westport	CASA
	5	
From viewpoint of teens like yours, what are most important issues they face?		
Fitting in	8.4	9
Peer Pressure	8.0	48
Acceptance of Self	7.7	4
Drugs/Alcohol	6.3	13
Education	6.7	9
Dropping Out	0.6	9
Sexual Issues	6.6	4
Gangs/Violence	1.1	3
Independence	7.5	1
Communication	5.9	1
Coping with Stress	8.8	1
Finding a Job	4.0	1
Morals/Family Values	4.1	*
Media Influence	5.6	*
Financial Issues	3.7	*
Making Good Decisions	7.5	3
Driving	6.0	*
Religion	1.5	*

* Items not included in CASA survey.