

**Herkimer County**  
**2005**  
**T**een  
**A**ssessment  
**P**roject  
**REPORT**



**TAPPING into**  
**TEEN CONCERNS.**  
**PERCEPTIONS and**  
**BEHAVIORS**

**November 2005**

*Survey Sponsored by:*

Herkimer County DSS/  
Education Liaison Committee

*Survey Administered and Report Prepared by:*



Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive  
Planning Program



**Herkimer County**  
**2005 TAP**  
**(Teen Assessment Project)**  
**Report**

November 2005

*Tapping into Teen Concerns, Perceptions and  
Behaviors in Herkimer County, New York*

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Comprehensive Planning Program



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Acknowledgements</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	3
▪ Background .....	3
▪ Purpose .....	3
▪ Process .....	3
▪ Report Content .....	4
▪ Reliability and Validity .....	6
<b>Demographics</b> .....	9
<b>I. Tobacco Use</b> .....	10
<b>II. Alcohol Use</b> .....	13
<b>III. Marijuana and Other Drug Use</b> .....	16
<b>IV. Sexuality and Sexual Behaviors</b> .....	19
<b>V. Mental Health and Well Being</b> .....	22
<b>VI. Perceptions of School and Future</b> .....	26
<b>VII. Parent/Child Relationships</b> .....	28
<b>VIII. Perceptions of Self, Peers and Community</b> .....	31
<b>IX. Personal Safety</b> .....	33
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	35
<b>Appendices</b> .....	39

**Appendix A:** *A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001 & 2005 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2005.*

**Appendix B:** *A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data (1997, 2001 & 2005) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) (1997 & 2003) and for United States (1997, 2001 & 2003) for 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grades.*



## Acknowledgements

The Herkimer County TAP Survey Report is the culmination of a long process that involves forming agreements, designing the survey instrument, organizing the survey administration, administering the survey, analyzing the data and writing the report. This process depends on the efforts of a lot of people and organizations, and requires the cooperation of school officials and students. All of these people and organizations deserve recognition and a note of appreciation, particularly the students, who sometimes spent as long as 45 minutes filling out the survey. Below is the list of those that contributed to this effort. Unfortunately, it is not a complete list. Because it is an anonymous and confidential survey, we could not list all of the almost 2300 students who participated in the survey.

This is the third time in eight years that the Herkimer County DSS/Education Liaison Committee has sponsored the Herkimer County TAP Survey. Both the Herkimer County Department of Social Services and the Herkimer BOCES again helped fund the survey. As in the past three surveys, the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program organized and conducted the survey. Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, just as they had in 2001, lent significant staff support toward helping organize the administration of the survey. The Cornell Cooperative Extension Area Youth Development Program, as in the past, assisted in training survey administrators and in administering the survey.

In short, the Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey is made possible through a community effort that involves various people who care about our youth and who value documenting what our young people are experiencing. The long list below of people and organizations demonstrates the level of collaboration and cooperation that this survey entailed.

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Herkimer County DSS (Department of Social Services)/Education Liaison Committee

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## Introduction

### Background

The Teen Assessment Project (TAP) Survey is a voluntary and anonymous student survey that communities throughout the United States have used to document the concerns, perceptions and behaviors of teens. Dr. Stephen Small from the University of Wisconsin, Cooperative Extension, developed the survey in 1988. In New York State, the Community and Rural Development Institute at Cornell University coordinates the local distribution. In this capacity, they provide technical assistance, electronically scan the answer sheets and compile the databases. In the case of the Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey, the Herkimer County DSS (Department of Social Services)/ Education Liaison Committee sponsored it; the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program administered it; and the Herkimer County TAP Steering Committee, made up of representatives from schools, agencies and county government, oversaw the survey instrument revision and the survey implementation.

### Purpose

The best way to know how our youth are doing is to ask them directly. The TAP Survey provides a safe, confidential and anonymous way for a large number of youth to respond directly to a wide range of questions. The questions cover such topics as - how they spend their time, the importance of their education, what worries them, how closely parents monitor their behavior, substance abuse, sexuality and much more. Their responses to these questions are documented and analyzed in this report. This provides a unique assessment on the status of youth in Herkimer County. Current, accurate information that comes directly from our youth is essential to identifying changing trends in youth behavior, concerns and needs, and this is a critical step in planning for ways to better serve children, youth and families. The report is shared with the community at large. Copies are distributed to schools, government and community agencies, local libraries and the media. In addition, each school district that participated in the survey receives the data for their students, so that they can compare the responses of their students to that of all of the students who participated in the Herkimer County TAP Survey. In short, the purpose of the TAP Survey is to provide youth, parents, schools, government, and agencies with accurate, timely information about our young people, so that together as a community we can identify the issues facing them, assess areas of need and respond appropriately.

### Process

It has been the intention of the Herkimer County DSS/Education Liaison Committee, as the sponsor, and of the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program, as the survey administrator, to conduct the survey every four years. The 2005 TAP Survey is the third of successive surveys. The first one was conducted in 1997; the second in 2001; and the next one, the fourth, will be in 2009.

For the 2005 TAP Survey, just under 2300 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders from the 12 school districts, plus Pine Grove Academy, participated. The 12 school districts represent all, except one, of the schools located in Herkimer County. The one exception, Richfield Springs Central School District, participates in another student survey administered in Otsego County where the majority of their students reside. In 1997, some 2300 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students from 11 school districts and Pine Grove Academy participated in the TAP Survey. In 2001, 2165 students from 12 districts, plus Pine Grove Academy, participated. The one additional school district that joined in 2001 is the Town of Webb Union Free School, which is in Herkimer County though not associated with Herkimer BOCES.

Each time, the TAP Survey has been administered the same way. The process is spelled out in a Memorandum of Understanding that the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program (HOCCPP) and each of the participating schools sign for each survey. In brief, this process entails the following steps:

- The TAP Steering Committee approves the survey instrument, which is then shared with schools;
- HOCCPP arranges a survey time with each school;
- Staff from Catholic Charities of Herkimer County recruits volunteer survey administrators;
- The volunteers receive a two hour training;
- Schools inform parents, staff and students about the survey;

- Over a two week period (April 4 → April 15, 2005) the survey is conducted – each day at different schools;
- Cornell University receives the answer sheets, which they electronically scan;
- Cornell University compiles the databases, and then sends the database for the county to HOCCPP and each school's database to the respective school; and
- HOCCPP analyzes the data for Herkimer County and issues a report.

### **Report Content**

To present the results of the 2005 TAP Survey, the report begins with a description of the demographics of the survey participants, i.e. age, gender, grade and family-type. Next, the body of the report contains the analysis of the results organized by nine focus areas:

1. Tobacco Use
2. Alcohol Use
3. Marijuana and Other Drug Use
4. Sexuality and Sexual Behaviors
5. Mental Health and Well Being
6. Perceptions of School and Future
7. Parent/Child Relationships
8. Perceptions of Self, Peers and Community
9. Personal Safety

The conclusion highlights the trends and noteworthy findings, plus suggests some possible ramifications.

In addition there are two appendices:

- *Appendix A: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001 & 2005 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2005;*
- *Appendix B: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data (1997, 2001 & 2005) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) (1997 & 2003) and for United States (1997, 2001 & 2003) for 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grades.*

In the body of the report under each of the nine focus areas, the analysis includes the following sections:

- Bullets that highlight the most recent results based on responses to the questions in the 2005 TAP Survey related to the focus area;
- A "Time Series Analysis" that compares significant 2005 TAP Survey results to those of the 1997 and 2001 TAP Surveys;
- A "Cohort Analysis" that compares students from the Class of 2006 to the Class of 2002; and
- A "US/NYS/HC Comparative Analysis" which for certain questions, primarily related to risk behaviors, compares for 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders the Herkimer County TAP Survey results to those found both for New York State and United States from the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey administered by the National Center for Disease Control.

The Time Series Analysis, Cohort Analysis and US/NYS/HC Comparative Analysis require further explanation.

### *Time Series Analysis*

Each time the survey is administered, the TAP Screening Committee reviews the survey instrument, and each time they have recommended changes and improvements. Major changes were made to the survey instrument between the 1997 and 2001 surveys because new questions were added to better assess the risk factors identified by *Communities That Care*, the community development model adopted by Herkimer County Integrated Planning in 1999. The survey instrument used for the 2005 TAP Survey included 139 questions and was very similar to the one used in 2001, however, there were 22 questions added and 37 eliminated. *Appendix A: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001 & 2005 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2005* provides the response pattern for each question in the 2005 TAP Survey, and if the question was in either the 1997 or the 2001 survey, includes the response pattern of all participants for those years.

### Cohort Analysis

The 2005 TAP Report includes a new section, entitled *Cohort Analysis*, which is possible now because we have done the survey for the third time in Herkimer County. Doing the survey on a four year cycle allows for comparisons to be done between cohorts as well as within cohorts. Both are done here for many of the foci of the survey. Cohort analysis is an appealing and useful technique because it is highly flexible – it provides insight into the effects of maturation as well as the social, cultural, and political changes taking place around subjects.

Analysis within a given cohort (defined here by their association with a particular high school class, e.g. the Class of 2006) was done for some of the topics in order to provide new views of how any given age group's behaviors and attitudes changed over time. By looking at the Class of 2006 over time (they participated as 7<sup>th</sup> graders in 2001 and then as 11<sup>th</sup> graders in 2005), it allows for conclusions to be drawn about how they have changed and matured.

Analysis between cohorts (e.g. the Class of 2006 versus the Class of 2002) provides an opportunity to see if this maturation appears to have varied from a comparative group, specifically the Class of 2002, which took the 1997 TAP Survey as 7<sup>th</sup> graders and the 2001 survey as 11<sup>th</sup> graders. So, not only is there an opportunity to see if the behaviors and attitudes of this cohort changed over four years, but whether or not that change was similar to what a previous class experienced.

While not every focus area has this analysis attached, those that do are typically ones in which the changes appear significant between cohorts. There were some limitations to this analysis – for example, not every topic or question was asked in the same way to allow for comparisons across each of the three TAP Surveys.

Cohort analysis in the 2005 TAP report allows us to see potential trends as we have never seen them before. But it is important to recognize that we are working with the bare minimum requirement (three data sets) for this analysis. As such, trends that appear to be present should be viewed cautiously – neither discounted because of the limited number of data sets involved, nor seen as definitive, for exactly the same reason. But they do provide us with an indication, and as good a one as we have had available, as to the changes that many of our young people are experiencing.

### US/NYS/HC Comparative Analysis

The Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey included 26 questions that are similar to ones in the National Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey. These 26 questions are all related to risk behaviors, specifically: tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and other drugs use; suicide ideation and attempts; and sexual activity. For these focus areas, there is a section entitled *US/NYS/HC Comparative Analysis*. This analysis does not look at the total population of the survey participants, but instead focuses on just the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders. These are the only two grades both the Herkimer County TAP Survey and the National YRBS Survey have in common. High school students, 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades, take the YRBS Survey; and of course, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders take the TAP Survey. It is important that we look at similar aged populations when making these comparisons. This comparison, when possible, is made for multiple years, so that we can compare local to national and to statewide trends. The National YRBS Survey is reported for 1997, 2001 and 2003; the Herkimer County TAP Survey covers 1997, 2001 and 2005. The New York State YRBS Survey data is available only for 1997 and 2003. Unfortunately, a few questions were not included either prior to 2005, in the case of the Herkimer County TAP Survey, or prior to 2003, in the case of the National YRBS Survey, but still a comparison can be made between the most recent surveys. Also unfortunately, the National 2005 YRBS Survey results were not yet available at the time of this report, so the Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey data could only be compared to the most recent national data, namely, the 2003 YRBS Survey data. For a more complete accounting of this comparison, one can look at the tables at the end of this report in *Appendix B: Comparison of Herkimer County 1997, 2001 and 2005 TAP Survey Results to the Results of the National 1997, 2001 and 2003 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey for 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grades*.

### **Reliability and Validity**

A question sometimes asked about surveys is "how valid and reliable ARE they?" In other words, how accurate is the information? There is no simple answer, but this section tries to clarify some of the relevant issues and discusses the TAP data's accuracy and limitations.

Validity and reliability are two distinct concepts in survey research. In its simplest sense, validity is usually defined by the question - "Are we measuring what we intended to measure?" How accurate is the instrument at assessing a given behavior or belief? Reliability, on the other hand, refers to the consistency or reproducibility of a measure. For example, if students take a survey that has a low reliability on two consecutive days, their responses would likely not be the same. In essence, reliability can be thought of as measuring consistency of responses. Reliability is a necessary, but not sufficient, precondition for validity.

One way to increase the reliability and validity of a survey question is to use a well-established measure that has demonstrated reliability and validity over time. Whenever possible, this was done in the TAP Survey. Many of the questions in the survey are established measures that have demonstrated fairly high reliability and validity based on respected and documented research. For instance, most of the drug use, sexuality, depression, and suicide questions come directly from the national Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey, administered by the National Center for Disease Control in Atlanta. This survey has been used for decades and is well established as having a high level of reliability and validity.

Most of the remaining questions come from the original TAP Survey designed by Dr. Stephen Small at the University of Wisconsin. This survey has been administered throughout the country and has been repeatedly tested for its validity and reliability. Questions which did not originate in either the YRBS survey or the original Wisconsin TAP Survey were developed specifically for this survey with local input from agencies and local school personnel. These questions were reviewed several times and, for the most part, have been used over several years to establish some baseline response rates. Survey questions that have shown inconsistent response patterns or that appeared to fail to get at intended issues have been dropped over the years. As a result, the survey contains mostly questions that have had an established history of being both reliable and valid.

Not surprisingly, survey research literature has found that teenagers are more likely to lie than adults. This is an accepted fact and one which all researchers must be wary of. For example, it had been found according to some research that on average teenagers vary within two years of reporting when they first tried a particular drug. Males are also more likely to vary their responses.

While these factors make examining self-reported behavior patterns more tenuous, it doesn't make them untenable. Such variability is found in all surveys – national surveys of teen behavior are subject to the same variability (or standard error as it were), as are local surveys like TAP. Because TAP is largely based on these very same national surveys, the variability of responses for the TAP Survey is unlikely, at least in terms of the survey instrument itself, to be much different.

Despite all prudent efforts, with any self-reported survey, particularly those aimed at teenagers, there will always be a small percentage that will not take the survey seriously. Fortunately, most teenagers, who do not take the survey seriously, are not subtle with their responses. They typically exaggerate their responses or use patterned responses to such an extent that their surveys are easy to spot and remove. In a typical survey, one may find that as many as one to one and a half percent of all the surveys have such decipherable patterns.

In terms of the TAP Survey, the researcher at the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program made thorough efforts using "markers" to identify any surveys that showed unusual responses. Drug use patterns, for example, served as one of these markers in the 2005 TAP Survey. Surveys that indicated the student had used EVERY drug EVERY day were tagged as containing potentially spurious responses. In essence, it is very unlikely that this is an actual experience of a any teen. However, these particular responses were then cross-referenced against other markers (such as indicating an age that would

be extremely unlikely to be associated with a particular grade level – e.g. being 17 years or older and being in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or being 13 years or younger and being in 11<sup>th</sup> grade). Cross-referenced markers included age-grade discrepancies, as well as sexual experience discrepancies and suicide experience discrepancies. If responses were found to conflict on two or more of these four markers, the surveys were then removed. In reality, while some surveys were red flagged for each individual sets of questions, no surveys were removed as a result of matching up on multiple markers.

Given these efforts to ensure the validity of the TAP Survey instrument, we have considerable confidence that the questions are getting at some of our teens' concerns, perceptions and behaviors.

The other major factor that needs to be addressed is the reliability of the survey – in essence, the ability of the survey to generate consistent responses over time and between settings. Several steps are taken to increase the reliability of the survey.

To begin with, trained volunteers rather than school personnel administer the survey. This helps to ensure that the survey participants feel a sense anonymity and confidentiality. The volunteers receive advanced training and are given explicit instructions to read during each survey session. The survey is also administered within each grade level and within each school during a very short timeframe. This limits the opportunity for students to talk about the survey with others prior to taking it. In addition, surveys were administered in a controlled setting, mainly classrooms, where school personnel are able to establish and maintain order. While some variability undoubtedly does creep into the survey experience of each respondent, every effort was made, in cooperation with school officials, to minimize this.

In conclusion, no survey is without some measure of error. Anecdotal examples of individuals, who claim to have not taken the survey seriously, are always present when dealing with sensitive issues such as drug use and sexuality. Minimizing the degree to which such claims appear to be accurate is why tests for validity and reliability are important. Through the use of established survey questions, a review of response patterns, and control of the survey environment, the administrators of this survey hope to have bolstered the reliability and validity of survey responses. Based on our review of the data from the Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey and in conjunction with a comparison to both past Herkimer County TAP data and national data, we feel confident in the reliability and validity of this information.



## Demographics

Two thousand one hundred and eighty-three (2183) youth in 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades participated in the Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey. This represents about 80% of the targeted population, a sample more than large enough to ensure it accurately reflects the concerns, perceptions and behaviors of Herkimer County youth.

The TAP Survey included several demographic questions. Four related to the respondents directly: gender, age, grade level and whether they had any special needs. Three more questions concerned their living situation: who they lived with, parents' level of education, and whether their family qualified for free or reduced lunch. Given the predominately homogeneous racial composition of the population, there were no questions concerning their cultural or racial background because this could compromise their confidentiality.

In terms of gender, the population was evenly split between males and females. The three grade levels were well represented, but as the grade progressed from 7<sup>th</sup> (36%) to 9<sup>th</sup> (34%) and to 11<sup>th</sup> (29%), the percentage decreased. The age distribution reflects this grade breakdown. The great majority of respondents (83%) reported that they had no special needs or disabilities. The disability most often cited was learning disability (7%), and next was emotional/behavioral disability (2%).

Figure 1: Percent Male & Female

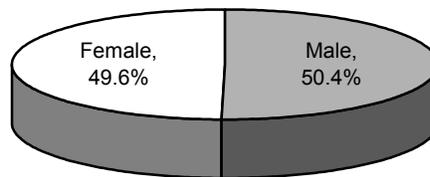


Figure 2: Percent by Grade

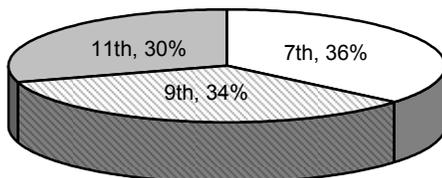
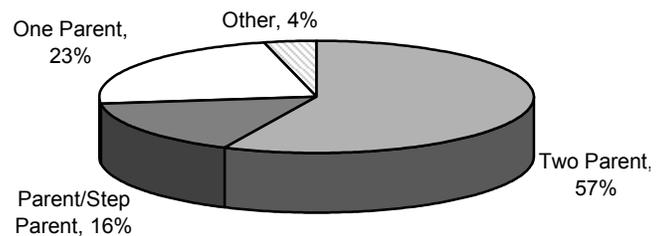


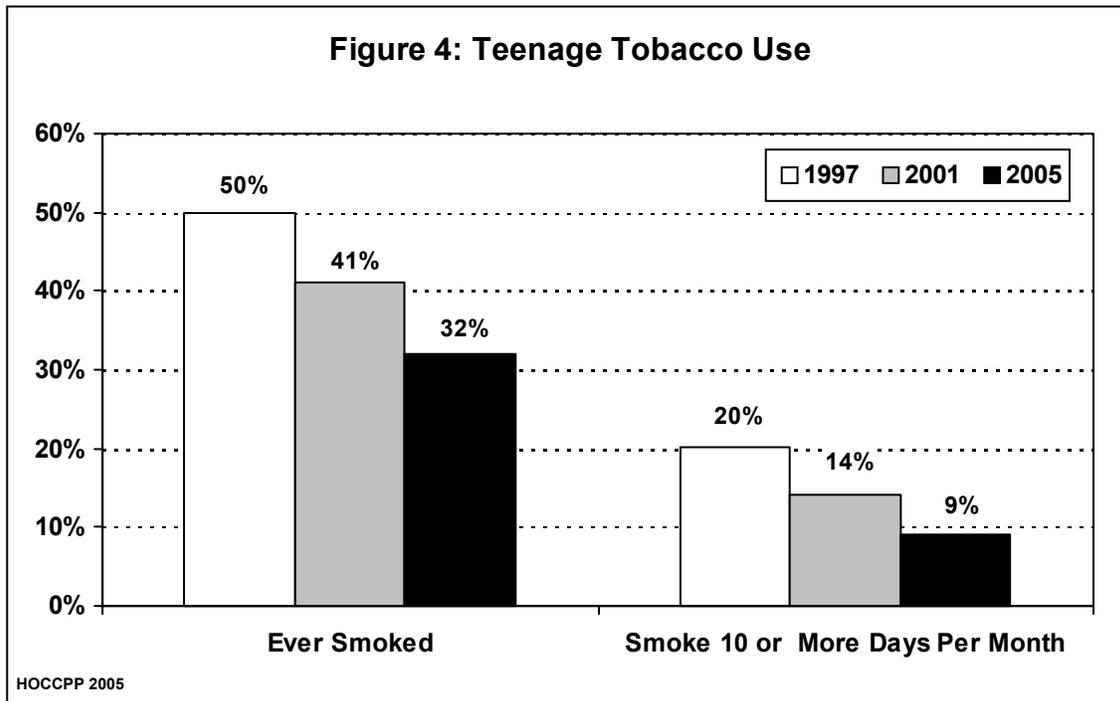
Figure 3: Percent by Family Type



Out of all of the survey participants, 57% indicated that they lived with both of their natural or adoptive parents. This is lower than found either in the 1997 (64%) or in the 2001 (59%) TAP Survey. Over the eight year period of the three TAP Surveys, there has been a slight, but steady, increase in the percent of those who lived in either a parent/step-parent household (1997 – 12%, 2001 – 15% and 2005 – 16%) or lived in a single-parent household (1997 – 18%, 2001 – 21% and 2005 – 23%). The remaining youth (less than 4%) lived with other relatives, in a foster home or alone.

Nearly one-third of youth (30%) in 2005 indicated that they qualified for either free or reduced price lunch. The percent that qualified has increased each survey (1997 – 25% and 2001 – 27%). When asked what was the highest level of education completed by either one of their parents, just 9% reported that neither had completed high school; 26% said the highest level was high school; and 22% reported that the highest level was a four year college degree. This is very similar to the levels found in the 1997 TAP Survey.

## I. Tobacco Use



### Among All Youth

- Two-thirds (67%) of all teens said they had never smoked a whole cigarette.
- About one in ten youth (9%) said they smoked on a regular basis (10 or more days per month).
- Almost one out of five teens (18%) said they had their first smoking experience at age 12 or younger.
- Twenty percent of all teens said they had either quit smoking (12%) or had tried to quit but failed (8%).

### Among Youth That Have Smoked Cigarettes

- One in three teens that smoked (30%) did so on a regular basis (at least 10 days per month).
- More than half (56%) of smokers started at the age of 12 or younger.
- About three-quarters (77%) of all those that had smoked either tried to quit (32%) or quit (45%) smoking.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

Tobacco Usage: Data from the three Herkimer County TAP Surveys confirms that fewer teens are being exposed to the dangers of smoking. Significantly lower percentages of teens in 2005 claimed to have ever smoked a cigarette when compared to the TAP results for 1997, 2001 and 2005. The percent that said they never smoked continued to increase from 50% in 1997, to 59% in 2001, and to 68% in 2003.

Not only has the number of teen smokers declined, but there are fewer teens who are regular smokers, and, consequently, the frequency that teen smokers actually smoke has also declined. While in 1997 as many as 20% of all teens used cigarettes regularly (smoked at least 10 of the last 30 days), only 14% were 'regular' smokers in 2001. By 2005, less than one in ten teens (9%) smoked regularly. This is not simply a function of

having fewer smokers in 2005 either. The same pattern holds true among teens that use tobacco. In 1997 about 63% of all smokers were regular users of cigarettes; but 2001 that had fallen to 58%. In the 2005 TAP Survey, only slightly more than half of all smokers (53%) did so on a regular basis.

Age of Introduction: The age at which teen smokers were introduced to tobacco appears to be getting older. While more than a quarter (29%) of all youth had tried a cigarette for the first time before the age of 13 in 1997, this number declined over the intervening years. In 2001 about 23% and in 2005 only about 18% of teens had ever tried smoking by that age.

### **Cohort Analysis**

The Class of 2006 appears to show significant differences in their experience with, and exposure to, smoking. As 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, only about 26% of this cohort had ever tried smoking a cigarette. As they grew older more of them became exposed to cigarette smoking and began using tobacco. By the time they were juniors, as many as 45% of the Class of 2006 had tried smoking. These numbers are significantly lower than a comparative group in the 1997 TAP Survey.

Similarly, the Class of 2006 does not appear to have been introduced to tobacco at as early an age as youth in previous surveys. About 19% of the Class of 2006 in the 2005 TAP Survey stated that they had tried their first cigarette before the age of 13; in comparison, with the Class of 2002 as many as 21% of their cohort had tried cigarettes by that age. This represents a significant decline in age of first use of tobacco among these two cohorts.

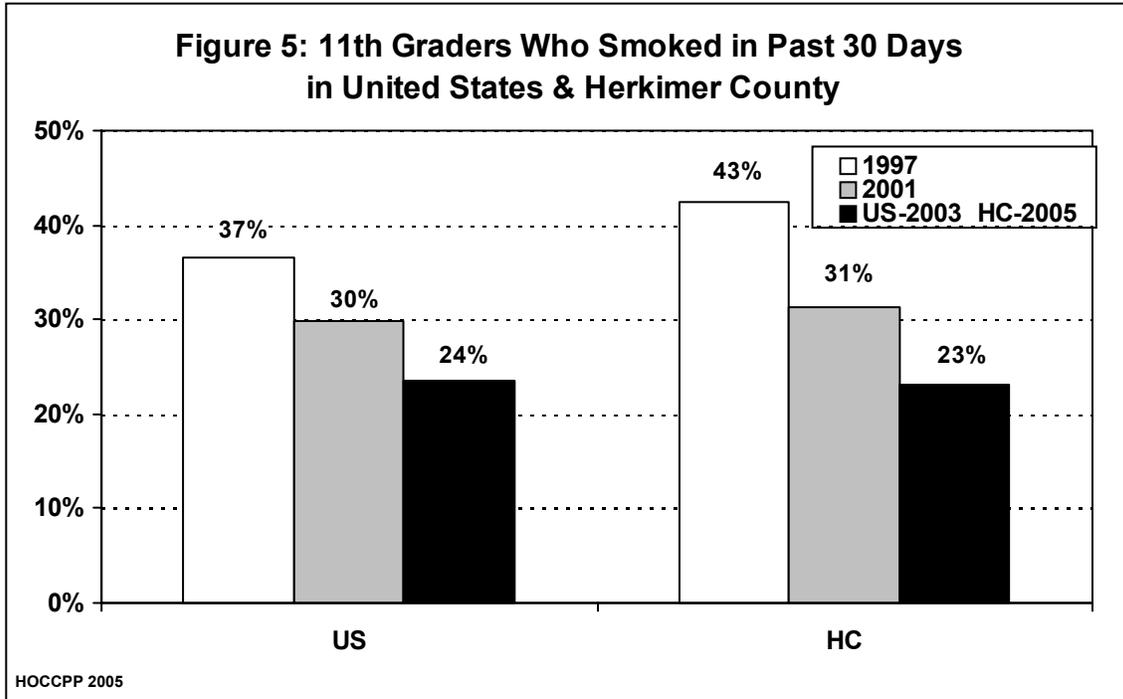
The frequency of use also declined significantly. The percentage of 11<sup>th</sup> graders who were regular users of tobacco dropped precipitously. In 2001, as many as 21% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders used tobacco at least 10 out of the last 30 days; by 2005, as few as 14% of the Class of 2006 were regular smokers. The data seem to suggest that the Class of 2006 is less likely to use tobacco, and even if they do, they use it with less frequency than have previous classes.

### **Comparing Herkimer County with United States and New York State (excluding New York City)**

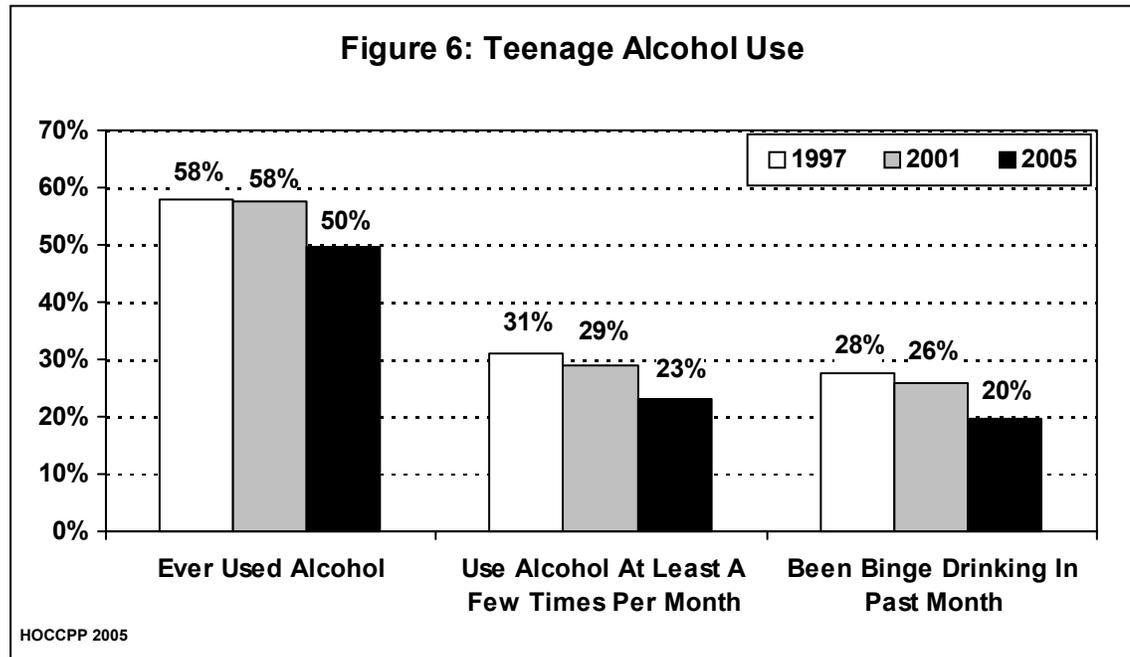
Since 1977, cigarette smoking amongst youth across the country has dramatically declined. Herkimer County, as well as New York State, teen smoking habits reflect this change. Nationwide for 11<sup>th</sup> graders the percent who ever tried smoking decreased from 69% in 1997 to 60% in 2003. For Herkimer County 11<sup>th</sup> graders, the decline was even steeper – 67% in 1997 to 44% in 2005.

This trend was also evident when inspecting the percentage of 11<sup>th</sup> graders who smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days. For the country as a whole, 37% indicated in 1997 that they had smoked in the last 30 days; this dropped to 24% by 2004. For Herkimer County, it dropped from 43% in 1997 to 23% in 2005.

Chewing tobacco (or snuff) is used mostly by males. While its popularity across the United States had dipped slightly, in Herkimer County its use has held steady. Amongst 11<sup>th</sup> grade boys, nationwide 17% used chewing tobacco in 1997; by 2003 this decreased to 13%. In Herkimer County in 1997, 18% used chewing tobacco, and by 2005 still 17% used it. In short, there has been a significant decline in cigarette smoking across the country, and this is also evident in Herkimer County. On the other hand, there has been a smaller drop in the use of chewing tobacco nationwide, and no significant decline for Herkimer County.



## II. Alcohol Use



### Among All Youth

- More than half (54%) of all teens said either they had never used alcohol, or that they no longer do.
- About a quarter (23%) of all teens said that they used alcohol at least a few times per month.
- Almost a quarter of all teens (24%) said they had their first drink at age 12 or younger.
- One in five teens (20%) said they had gone binge drinking in the past month.
- The most common source of alcohol was through a legal aged buyer (14%).

### Among Youth That Have Used Alcohol

- Half of all teens that had used alcohol (50%) did so on a regular basis (at least a few times per month).
- About 44% of alcohol users did so by the age of 12 or younger.
- More than a third of all alcohol users (36%) said they had been binge drinking in the past month.
- One out of every eight alcohol users (12%) said they had been binge drinking multiple times in the past month.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

Alcohol Usage: While there were no statistical differences in the likelihood that teens had ever used alcohol between the 1997 and 2001 surveys, by the 2005 TAP Survey, the likelihood of alcohol use by teens significantly declined. About 58% of teens in both the 1997 and 2001 surveys indicated they ever used alcohol. By 2005, that number dropped for the first time to less than half of the survey sample. Just under 50% of all teens in 2005 said they had tried alcohol. This is a significantly lower percentage of teens than in the previous two surveys.

In addition, not only are teens in 2005 less likely to have ever used alcohol, but they also appear to be using alcohol less frequently than in previous surveys. Looking at drinking frequency among **alcohol users only**, the percent of teens using alcohol with any regularity (at least a few times per month) has dropped from a high of 57% in 1997 to slightly less than half (49.7%) in 2005. This represents a significant change in alcohol use behavior.

**Age of Introduction:** The age at which teen drinkers in 2005 were introduced to alcohol remains similar to the levels found in the 2001 survey. In both cases, about 43% of all teens said that they had their first drink at age 12 or less. While this number seems to be rather high, it represents a significant decline from what was found in 1997 when as many as half of all drinkers said they first used alcohol at age 12 or less. Based on this, it is reasonable to conclude that teens in the 2005 TAP Survey are waiting longer before trying alcohol than did teens in 1997.

**Binge Drinking:** Binge drinking has steadily declined among **all** teens since 1997. As many as 28% of all teens had experienced binge drinking in the past month in the 1997 survey; less than 20% had in the 2005 survey. Binge drinking has also become less frequent among alcohol users. **Among drinkers**, as many as 46% had been binge drinking in the past month in 1997. In 2001, 42% said that they had; and by 2005, only 36% of alcohol users had gone binge drinking in the past month. This indicates there has been a steady decline in binge drinking among those who use alcohol.

### **Cohort Analysis**

When comparing the alcohol use patterns of the Class of 2006 with the Class of 2002, there is an apparent statistically significant decline in the introduction age of teens to alcohol, as well as a decline in the overall use of alcohol among the Class of 2006, and this appears to be more than something simply inherent to this particular set of teens.

As 7<sup>th</sup> graders in the 2001 TAP Survey, about two-thirds (69%) of the Class of 2006 indicated that they had never had a drink of alcohol. This was identical to the percentage of 7<sup>th</sup> graders from the Class of 2002 that were non-alcohol users in the 1997 survey. In other words, 7<sup>th</sup> grade alcohol use did not change much from 1997 to 2001 in the surveys. However, by 2005, 77% of all 7<sup>th</sup> grade respondents indicated that they had never used alcohol. This represents a significant increase in the percentage of 7<sup>th</sup> graders choosing not to use alcohol.

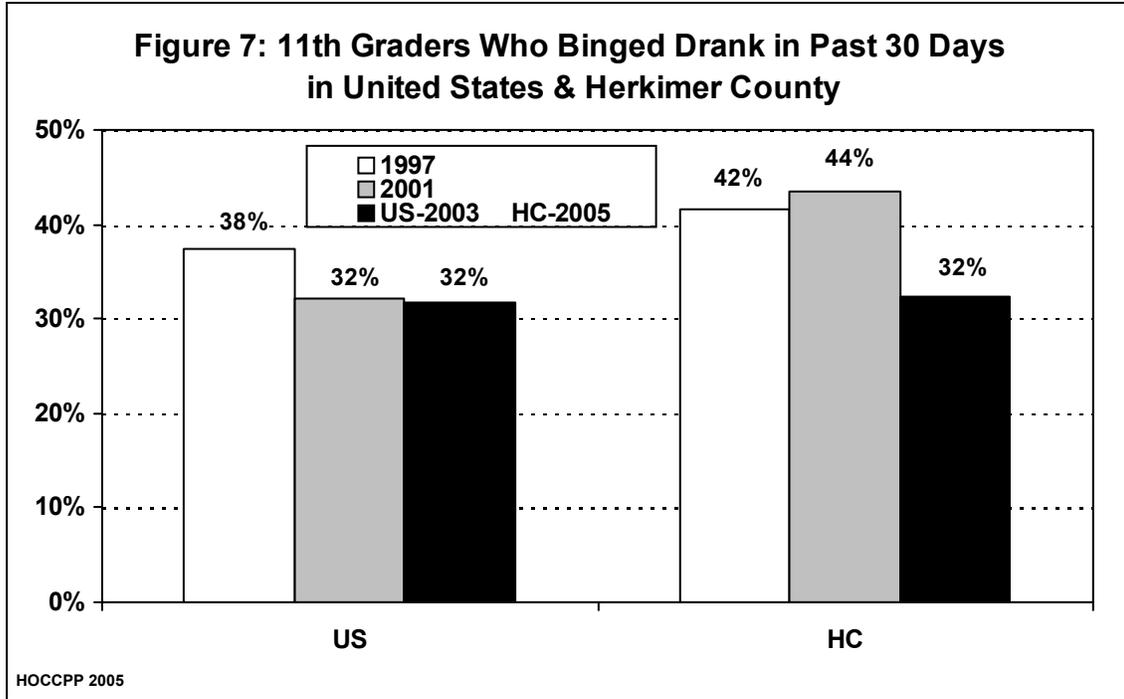
Yet, by the time the Class of 2006 became 11<sup>th</sup> graders (as part of the 2005 survey), they seemed to be a group representing transition, in that they showed significant change in terms of alcohol use. For example, if you compare the overall introductory age for alcohol, the Class of 2006 was significantly less likely to have used alcohol by age 12 than 11<sup>th</sup> grade peers from other survey years. In 1997, as many as 25% of all 11<sup>th</sup> graders had used alcohol as early as age 12; by 2001, the figure for 11<sup>th</sup> graders was 21%. In 2005, only 19% of the Class of 2006 indicated that they had used alcohol by the age of 12. Clearly this is a shift away from early alcohol use.

In addition, there was a decline in the frequency of use of alcohol when you compare from 1997 to 2005 the 11<sup>th</sup> graders who drink alcohol. Whereas as many as 62% of 11<sup>th</sup> grade alcohol users said that they used alcohol at least a few times per month in 1997, this number declined to only 55% for the Class of 2006. This is a significant decline in regular alcohol consumption among 11<sup>th</sup> graders. Again, it suggests that while they were younger, the Class of 2006 was perhaps a class in transition in terms of alcohol use. By the 2005 TAP Survey, they appear to represent a class leading the way toward more responsible behavior among our youth.

### **Comparing Herkimer County with United States and New York State (excluding New York City)**

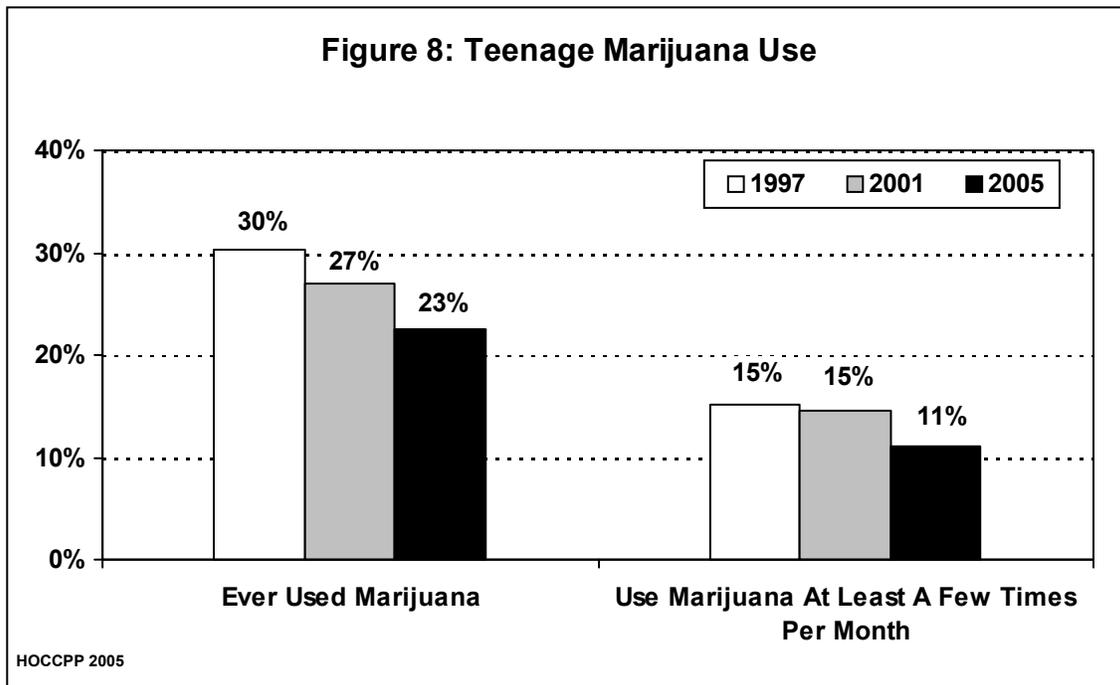
Alcohol use, since 1997, in the United States, New York State and in Herkimer County has not dropped as dramatically as tobacco use, but almost. Looking at the percent of 9<sup>th</sup> graders who had at least one drink of alcohol during their life, it dropped for the United States from 72% in 1997 to 65% in 2003; for New York

State it was also 72% in 1997 and dropped to 66% in 2003; and for Herkimer County, 68% of 9th graders in 1997 had tried alcohol during their life, by 2005 this dropped to 58% - a 10 point drop. Just as a comparison, the percent of 9<sup>th</sup> graders in Herkimer County who tried cigarette smoking decreased from 53% to 36% between 1997 and 2005 – a 17 point drop.



This same trend is seen when examining the percent of 11<sup>th</sup> graders, who during the past 30 days had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple of hours (aka: binge drinking). This dangerous behavior also declined across the board. In the United States, 38% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders had drunk like this in 1997, by 2003 this dropped to 32%; in New York State it dropped from 41% to 34% during those six years; and in Herkimer County between 1997 and 2005 for youth in 11<sup>th</sup> grade binge drinking declined from 42% to 32% - another 10 point drop.

### III. Marijuana and Other Drug Use



#### Among All Youth

- About one in four youth (23%) had ever tried marijuana.
- Only about one in six (16%) considered themselves marijuana users.
- Slightly more than one in ten teens (11%) used marijuana at least a couple times per month.
- Almost one out of ten teens (9%) said they first tried marijuana at age 12 or younger.
- The most common source of marijuana was through friends (9.2%) or dealers/sellers (4.6%).
  
- About one in ten youth (10%) had ever tried inhalants; the same (10%) had tried other people's prescriptions.
- About 5% of all respondents said they had ever tried the following: methamphetamines; cocaine; steroids; or Ecstasy.
- As many as 16% of all respondents said they had used over the counter medications to get high.

#### Among Youth That Have Used Marijuana

- About 70% of teens that used marijuana did so at least a few times per month.
- Among teens that had ever tried marijuana, more than a third (34%) started at the age of 12 or younger.

#### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

Marijuana Usage: The respondents of the 2005 TAP Survey, by all appearances, were less likely to use marijuana than their predecessors. More than 30% of the 1997 TAP respondents indicated that they ever used marijuana; by 2005 that dropped to only about 23%. This is a significant decline in exposure. While this

appears to be good news, marijuana use patterns among teens that were regularly using marijuana suggest a slightly different story.

In comparing the use patterns of teens that tried marijuana, more recent TAP participants were significantly more likely to use the drug on a daily basis than their counterparts in 1997. In 1997, 17% of users stated that they smoked marijuana daily. In 2005, as many as 28% of users smoked marijuana on a daily basis. While this number is considerably higher than the number in 1997, it actually is similar to the 2001 figure among marijuana users (29%). What appears to be happening is fewer teens are using marijuana, but those using marijuana are doing so more regularly.

Other Drug Usage: There are questions that appear in all three past TAP Surveys about the use of three other drugs - cocaine, steroids and inhalants. The percentage of teens found to have ever tried cocaine (6%) or steroids (4%) in 2005 remained statistically similar to what was found in 1997 and 2001. One noteworthy change, however, occurred regarding inhalant use. Between the 1997 and 2001 surveys, there was a significant decrease in the percentage of teens using inhalants (from 13% to 9%, respectively). This decrease continued: as few as 4% of teens indicated that they have ever used inhalants in 2005.

### **Cohort Analysis**

The use pattern of the Class of 2006 began like past cohort groups in that as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, a similar percentage (10%) had ever tried marijuana as the 7<sup>th</sup> graders in the 1997 TAP Survey. However, as these youth aged, their use patterns began to differ from those of their earlier cohort. As 11<sup>th</sup> graders in the 2005 TAP Survey, only 34% of the Class of 2006 had tried marijuana, while in 2001 as many as 40% of the Class of 2002 had done so by 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Comparing Herkimer County with United States and New York State (excluding New York City)**

#### Marijuana

Marijuana use since 1997 declined nationwide and in New York State. However, though it appears to have also declined in Herkimer County, the picture is not as clear as with tobacco and alcohol use for a couple of reasons. First, the drop in marijuana use nationwide is not as dramatic as with tobacco and alcohol; and second, the Herkimer County TAP results are inconclusive. There have been questions in the TAP Survey since 1997 regarding both tobacco and alcohol use during the past 300 days, however this question for marijuana regarding 30 day use was first introduced with the 2005 TAP Survey. Thus, this information across the three survey years is not possible to collect. The one question that has always been asked in the TAP Survey that corresponds to the national survey is marijuana use in their lifetime, so this information is available. It suggests that 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students, just as seen nationwide and statewide, have decreased their use of marijuana, but this decrease is not clear.

For example, for 9<sup>th</sup> graders nationwide the percent that ever used marijuana went from 39% in 1997, to 33% in 2001, to 31% in 2003 – a steady decline. For Herkimer County 9<sup>th</sup> graders, this followed a different pattern. It went from 31% in 1997, to 36% in 2001 to 29% in 2005 – so, up and then down.

For 11<sup>th</sup> graders the nationwide trend was similar to the 9<sup>th</sup> graders, a steady decline (1997–50%, 2001–47%, 2003–45%), and in Herkimer County the percent who tried marijuana stayed the same between 1997 and 2001, but then declined significantly in 2005 (1997–52%, 2001–52%, 2005–44%).

Of note, in the end for both 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders, the rates of marijuana use in both the United States in 2003 (9<sup>th</sup> - 31%, 11<sup>th</sup> - 45%) and Herkimer County in 2005 (9<sup>th</sup> - 29%, 11<sup>th</sup> - 44%) were similar with Herkimer County being just slightly lower.

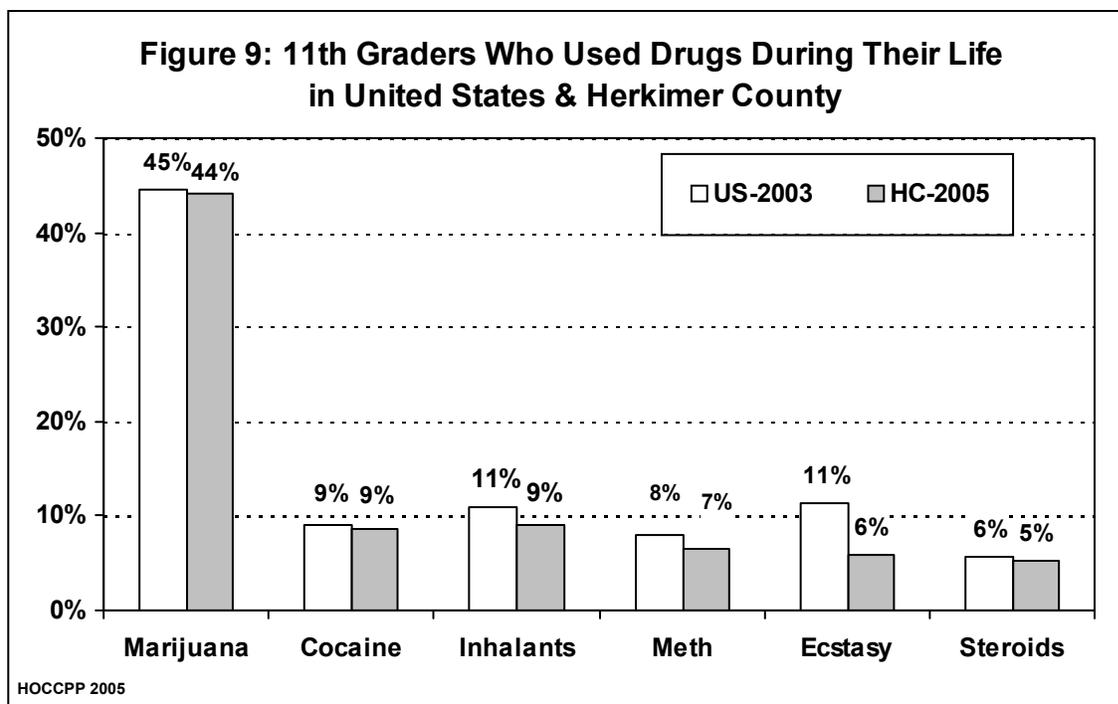
#### Other Drugs

Three illegal drugs, cocaine, inhalants and steroids, can be tracked since 1997 comparing the Herkimer TAP Survey to national survey results. Cocaine use amongst 11<sup>th</sup> grade students has remained constant nationally since 1997 between 9% and 10%; in Herkimer County it also remained relatively constant from 8%

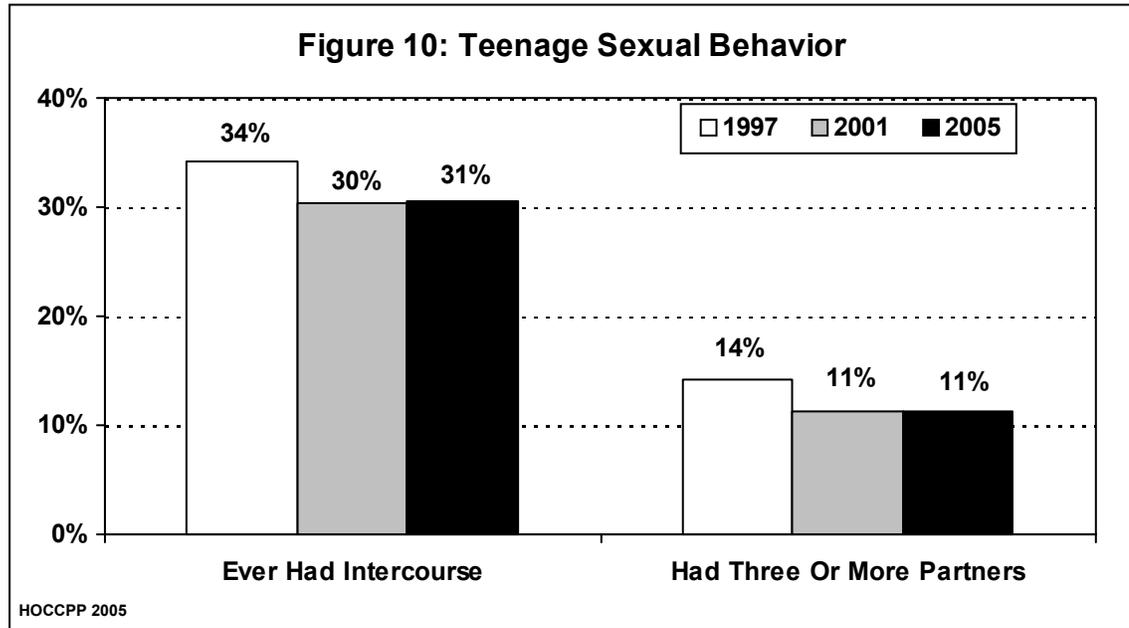
in 1997 to 7% in 2001, and to 9% in 2005. Inhalant use steadily declined nationally since 1997 for both 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders. For 11<sup>th</sup> graders across the country inhalant use went from 15% in 1997, to 14% in 2001, to 11% in 2003. In Herkimer County for both grades there was a decline between 1997 and 2001, but a slight, if any, increase in 2005 (9<sup>th</sup> grade: 1997 - 15%, 2001 - 9% and 2005 - 10%; 11<sup>th</sup> grade: 12%, 8% and 9%). Steroid use, though not prevalent, increased nationally from 3% in 1997 to 6% in 2003 amongst 11<sup>th</sup> graders. In Herkimer County, 4% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders used steroids in both 1997 and 2001, and by 2005 it increased just slightly to 5%. Based on both national and Herkimer County survey results, it is evident that boys are about twice as likely as girls to use steroids.

When comparing the most recent survey results at the national, state and Herkimer County levels, the Herkimer County 11<sup>th</sup> graders use the drugs - cocaine, inhalants and steroids - slightly less than found nationwide, but slightly more than found across New York State (except New York City).

The use pattern for methamphetamines and ecstasy (MDMA) is available nationally and statewide in 2003 and for Herkimer County for only 2005. Based on these comparisons, Herkimer County youth again appear to be using these drugs less than seen nationally but more than found throughout New York State (except New York City). For methamphetamines, the rate of use amongst 11<sup>th</sup> graders is as follows: United States - 8%, New York State - 4%, Herkimer County - 7%. For ecstasy, it is as follows: United States - 11%, New York State - 5%, Herkimer County - 6%.



## IV. Sexuality and Sexual Behaviors



### Among All Youth

- Seven out of every ten youth (69.3%) never had sexual intercourse.
- About 17% of all youth had more than one sexual partner.
- About two out of every five teens (40.7%) said they considered themselves to be actively abstinent.
- About 15% of all teens experienced unwanted sexual attention.
- Almost 60% of all teens said access to a condom was either “easy” or “very easy.”
- Slightly more than 4% of all teens said they considered themselves something other than heterosexual; 3.3% were not sure what their sexual orientation was.

### Among Youth That Have Had Sexual Intercourse

- About one out of every four sexually active teens (26.4%) had at least 3 sexual partners.
- About one in seven (14.2%) teens that had been sexually active considered themselves sexually abstinent.
- The most common methods of birth control the last time a sexually active teen had intercourse was a condom (54%), followed by the use of birth control pills (16%).
- Almost one in five teens (18.6%) used no chemical or barrier method of birth control the last time they had intercourse.
- One in twelve (8%) of all sexually active teens considered themselves either bisexual or homosexual.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

Sexual Activity: The percent of teens that had never been sexually active remained at a similar level between 2001 and 2005. Approximately 69% of all teens in 2005 indicated that they had never had sexual intercourse; in 2001, 70% said they had never had sex. This is significantly higher than in 1997 when about 65% indicated that they never had sexual intercourse.

**Introductory Age to Sexual Intercourse:** For those that have had sexual intercourse, youth in 2005 appeared to have waited longer for the first experience than those in 1997. In 1997, 14% had sexual intercourse at or below the age of 13. By 2005, this number dropped significantly to 11.8% of sexually active teens.

**Number of Sexual Partners:** The proclivity of youth to have had more than a single partner does not appear to have changed significantly between 1997 to 2005. The likelihood that sexually active teens in 2005 have had several lifetime partners is not different, statistically speaking, from those who participated in 1997 or 2001.

### **Cohort Analysis**

The degree to which the Class of 2006 was sexually active naturally increased from 2001 (when they were 7<sup>th</sup> graders) to 2005 (when they were 11<sup>th</sup> graders). As 7<sup>th</sup> graders, only 13% of the Class of 2006 had been sexually active, whereas in 2005 more than 50% had experienced sexual intercourse. This huge jump, however, does not represent anything out of the ordinary in terms of previous survey results. The percentage of 11<sup>th</sup> graders who had been sexually active is not statistically different from either the 1997 or the 2001 TAP Survey.

In comparing their 7<sup>th</sup> grade experiences and their 11<sup>th</sup> grade experiences to the earlier cohort (Class of 2002), there is no statistical difference in terms of the age of their initial sexual experience. Hence, the age of first intercourse does not appear to be substantially different between these two cohorts.

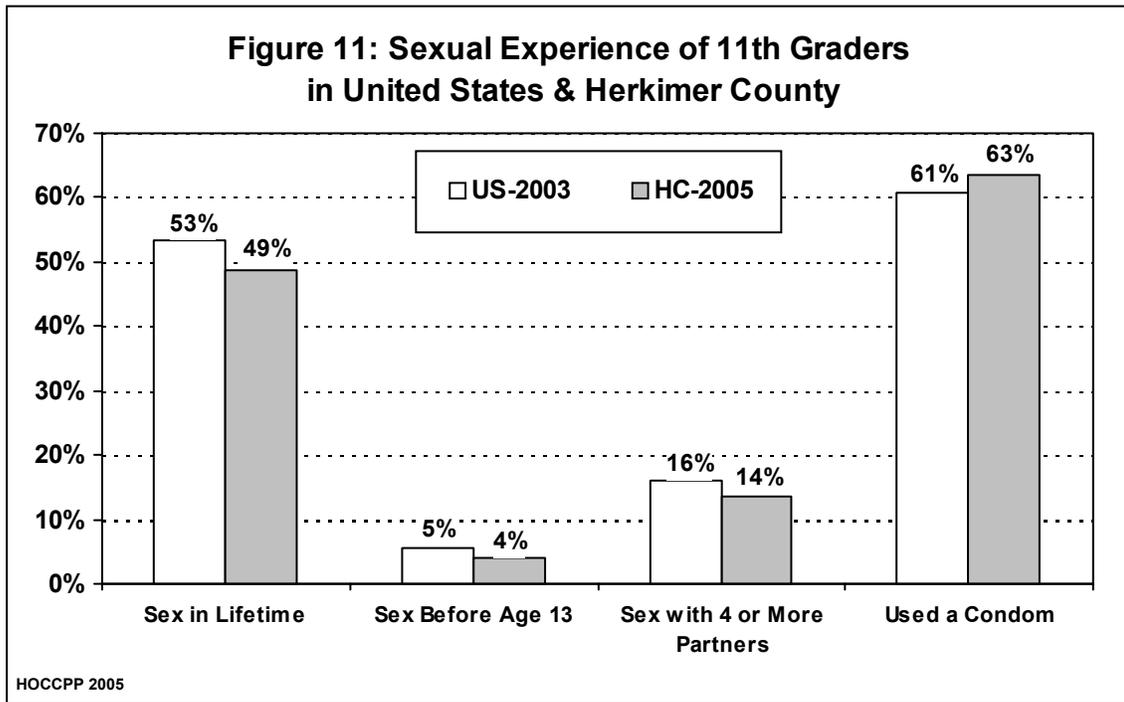
Also, the Class of 2006 was no more or less likely to have had multiple lifetime partners than the previous cohort.

### **Comparing Herkimer County with United States and New York State (excluding New York City)**

In examining national, statewide and Herkimer County Survey results, there are no significant changes regarding teen's sexual activity since 1997. There are three questions regarding sexual activity that have been in the Herkimer County TAP Survey since 1997 that are common to the national survey. The first asks whether they have had sexual intercourse in their lifetime; the second asks what age they had sexual intercourse for the first time; and third asks with how many people they have had intercourse in their life. Two other questions from the national survey regarding condom use and birth control were added to the Herkimer County TAP Survey in 2005

As far as the percent of 9<sup>th</sup> graders that had sexual intercourse - for the United States, the percent went down from 38% in 1997 to 33% in 2003 - and for Herkimer County, it went down between 1997 (34%) and 2001 (30%) but up again in 2005 (35%), to match the 2003 national rate. For 11<sup>th</sup> graders, the percent of teens across the country that had sex increased from 50% in 1997, to 52% in 2001, and to 53% in 2003. In Herkimer County, the percent went down from 57% in 1997 to 49% in 2001, and stayed at 49% in 2005. What seems unusual was the variations among Herkimer County 11<sup>th</sup> graders, both male and females, over the course of these three years in the level of their sexual activity. The percent of 11<sup>th</sup> grade boys that had sexual intercourse in Herkimer County dropped from 56% in 1997 to 44% in 2001 and then jumped back up to 55% in 2005. For Herkimer County 11<sup>th</sup> grade girls, it dropped from 57% in 1997 to 53% in 2001, and then sunk to 43% in 2005.

Just as there was no clear change with the percent of teens who had sexual intercourse, likewise when looking at the percent of youth who had sexual intercourse before age 13, the rates moved up and down at the national, state and local levels. Over the three years, 1997, 2001 and 2003, the percent of 9<sup>th</sup> graders that report they had sexual intercourse prior to age 13 nationally averaged at 10%. In Herkimer County, the average over the three years, 1997, 2001 and 2005 was 7%.

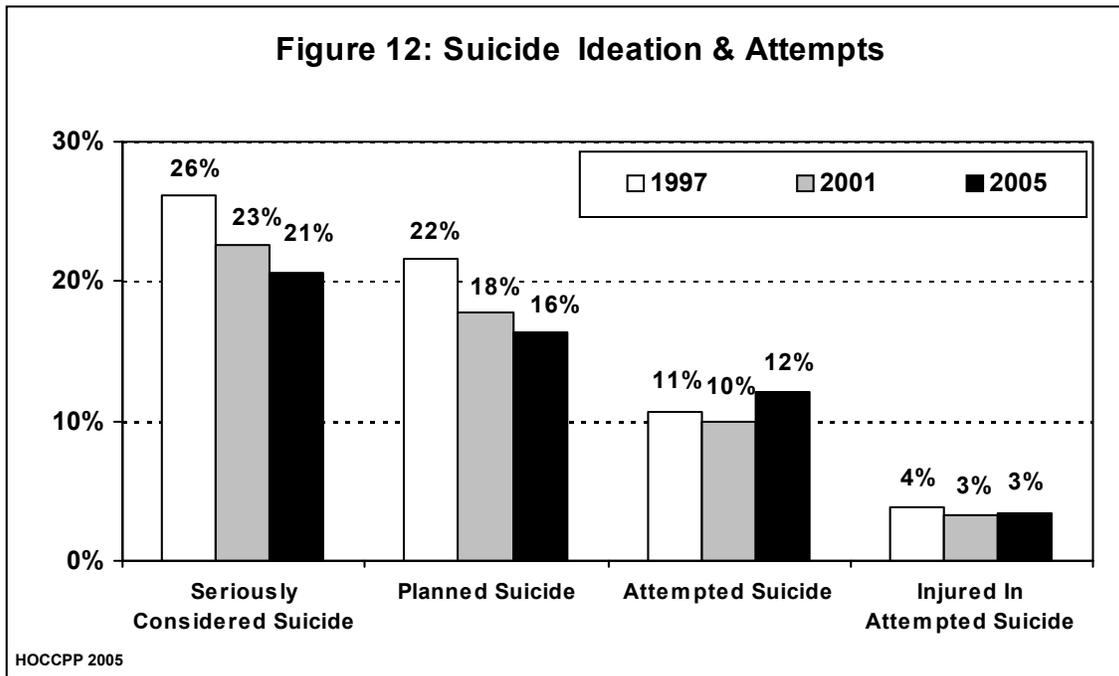


Nor is there a significant change when examining the percent of students who claim to have had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life. Looking at 11th graders, on average 16% nationally claimed this, and there was little variation; and in Herkimer County, the average over the three years was 14%, but the rate dropped from a high of 16% in 1997, to a low of 12% in 2001 and then up to 14% in 2005.

Based on the most recent surveys, condom use amongst boys and birth control pills use amongst girls were very similar in Herkimer County in 2005 to that in the United States in 2003. The percent of 11<sup>th</sup> grade boys who indicated that they used a condom the last time they had sex was 70% in Herkimer County and 67% in the United States. The percent of 11<sup>th</sup> grade girls who reported that they used birth control pills the last time they had sex was 26% in Herkimer County and 24% in the United States.

Though there was no clear change since 1997 regarding sexual behavior, in just comparing Herkimer County youth to those in the United States, in every measure they were doing a little better, meaning they were slightly less sexually active and less promiscuous, and slightly more likely to use protection when sexually active.

## V. Mental Health and Well Being



### Among All Youth

- One in every five youth (20.6%) seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months.
- About 16% of all youth planned out how they might commit such an act over the same period.
- Almost one in eight teens attempted suicide.
- About 3.5% of all youth had injured themselves attempting suicide to the point it required medical assistance.
- The top three reasons youth felt suicidal are:
  - Parental problems or problems at home.
  - Failed relationships.
  - Feelings of isolation and aloneness.

### Among those Youth That Have Seriously Considered Suicide

- About two out of every three (63.3%) made a plan as to how to commit suicide.
- More than one in three (35.6%) actually attempted suicide.
- More than ten percent (11.3%) injured themselves attempting suicide to the point it required medical assistance.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997-2005

Suicide Ideation: The percent of teens seriously considering suicide appears to have dropped significantly for the second time since the initial 1997 TAP Survey. About 20% of all youth said that they had ever considered suicide in the 2005 TAP Survey. This is down from 26% in 1997 and 23% in 2001.

Suicide Planning and Attempts: The percent of youth who planned how they would commit suicide also continued to decline. In 1997 about 22% of all youth said they had planned how they would commit suicide.

In 2001 this percentage dropped to about 18%. In 2005 about 16% of all youth said they had planned how they would commit suicide. This is a significant drop in the percentages of youth taking this second step in suicide ideation.

There is no significance difference in the percent of youth that actually attempted suicide in the past 12 months when you look at the 1997 and 2005 survey data: about 11% of teens in 1997, versus 12% of teens in 2005, indicated they ever attempted suicide. However, if the focus is limited only to youth who indicated that they had seriously considered suicide, the percent of youth attempting suicide in 2005 versus 1997 has seen a significant increase. In 1997 about 32% of youth who said they had seriously considered suicide in the past 12 months indicated that they had actually attempted suicide. In 2005 that number rose to 36%, thus there has been a statistically significant rise in the likelihood that youth, who are seriously considering suicide, will act out on those thoughts.

Injury from Suicide: While the percent of all youth suffering injury from a suicide attempt appears to have declined (3.9% in 1997 to 3.4% in 2005), this does not represent a significant difference among youth with active suicide ideations. Among teens saying that they had seriously considered suicide, they were no more or less likely to have actually injured themselves from a suicide attempt in 2005 than in 1997.

### **Cohort Analysis**

Suicide as a serious consideration did not change statistically for the Class of 2006 between 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades. While a slightly larger percentage of this cohort indicated that they had seriously considered suicide as 11<sup>th</sup> graders in the 2005 TAP Survey versus as 7<sup>th</sup> graders in the 2001 survey (22.6% versus 18.9%), this is not a statistically significant difference. Hence, the percentage of this cohort with active suicide ideation does not appear to have increased or decreased since the 2001 survey.

Similarly, the percentage of youth who indicated they actually planned how they might commit such an act, as well as those who said that they had actually attempted a suicide in the past twelve months, did not change significantly over the past four years. The only seeming change since 2001 appears to be among youth actually sustaining an injury requiring medical attention from a suicide attempt.

While the overall number of youth actually injuring themselves is relatively small, about 2.1% of Cohort 2006 as 7<sup>th</sup> graders said that they had needed medical attention as a result of a suicide attempt in 2001; in 2005 as 11<sup>th</sup> graders that percentage rose to 2.9%. Statistically, this appears to be a significant increase in the percentage of this cohort that sustained injuries from suicide attempts during this four year period of maturation. This may be a function of age and access to potentially dangerous means of self harm more than something unusual about Cohort 2006.

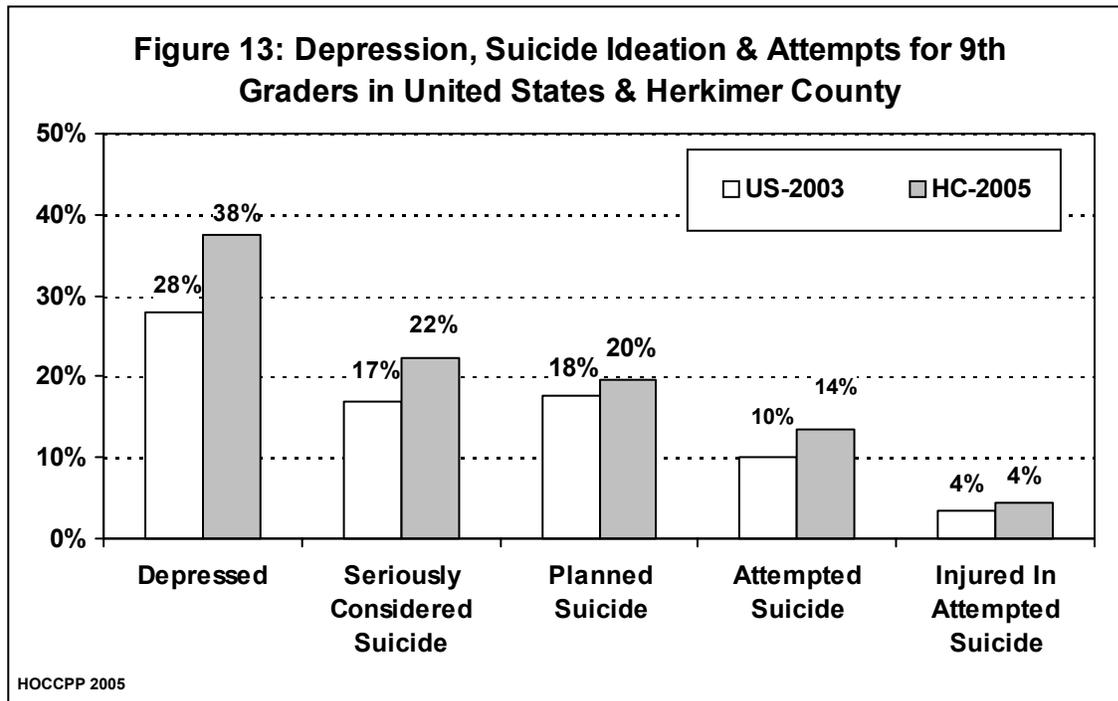
A comparison of the data from the last three Herkimer County TAP Surveys suggests that the injury rate for Cohort 2006 is, in fact, not significantly different from other 11<sup>th</sup> grade classes. Specifically, the percentage of all youth suffering injuries from suicides dropped from 3.2% in 1997 to 2.8% in 2001, and then rose slightly to 2.9% in 2005. These numbers are NOT statistically significantly different. That could lead to the conclusion that while there appears to be an increase over the last four years within Cohort 2006 for injuries resulting from suicide attempts, this increase seems to be in line with age specific comparisons from previous TAP Surveys.

### **Comparing Herkimer County with United States and New York State (excluding New York City)**

The Herkimer County TAP Survey, since its inception in 1997, has contained the same four questions as found in the national survey concerning suicide ideation and attempts. Plus, there is one question concerning depression that is taken from the national survey, but with changes in the wording in the national survey after 1997, comparisons can only be made on the most recent survey results – 2003 for United States and New York State, 2005 for Herkimer County.

The question on depression asked whether “during the past 12 months, they felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activity.” In comparing the 2005 Herkimer County TAP Survey results to the national and statewide results for 2003, the percent of local 9<sup>th</sup> graders who were depressed was higher, while the percent of local 11<sup>th</sup> graders indicating depression was about the same. Almost 35% of Herkimer County 9<sup>th</sup> graders (44% of female 9<sup>th</sup> graders) indicated having these feelings of depression, whereas nationally it was 28% (36% female) and statewide 24% (female 28%). For 11<sup>th</sup> graders, there was little difference (United States-30%, New York State-31%, Herkimer County 31%).

The four questions regarding suicide proceed as follows: 1. seriously considered suicide; 2. made a plan about how; 3. actually attempted suicide; and 4. attempted suicide that results in an injury requiring medical help. Just as Herkimer County youth, particularly 9<sup>th</sup> graders, are more apt to be depressed, it is also evident from the recent survey results that local youth are more likely to harbor suicidal thoughts than youth in the United States and New York State. Across the country, the percent of youth who indicate they seriously considered suicide has declined; for 9<sup>th</sup> graders it went from 22% in 1997 to 17% in 2003; and for 11<sup>th</sup> graders-21% in 1997 to 16% in 2003. In Herkimer County the percent also went down for both grades (9<sup>th</sup>: 29% in 1997 to 22% in 2005; 11<sup>th</sup>: 29% in 1997 to 23% in 2005). However, despite the significant decline in the percent of Herkimer County youth in both grades who reported seriously considering suicide, it remains well above the national level.



Logically, given that more locally than nationally are seriously considering suicide, the percentages of Herkimer County youth, who indicated they made a plan, actually attempted suicide and made a suicide attempt that caused injury, would also be higher than the percentages in the United States and New York State, however they are not as high as might be expected. The percentage of 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders, in the United States in 2003 and for Herkimer County in 2005, who made a plan during the past 12 months about how they would attempt suicide are as follows:

- 9<sup>th</sup> graders – United States - 18%, Herkimer County - 20%;
- 11<sup>th</sup> graders - United States - 16%, Herkimer County - 17%.

The percentage who actually attempted suicide in the past 12 months:

- 9<sup>th</sup> graders – United States - 10%, Herkimer County - 14%;

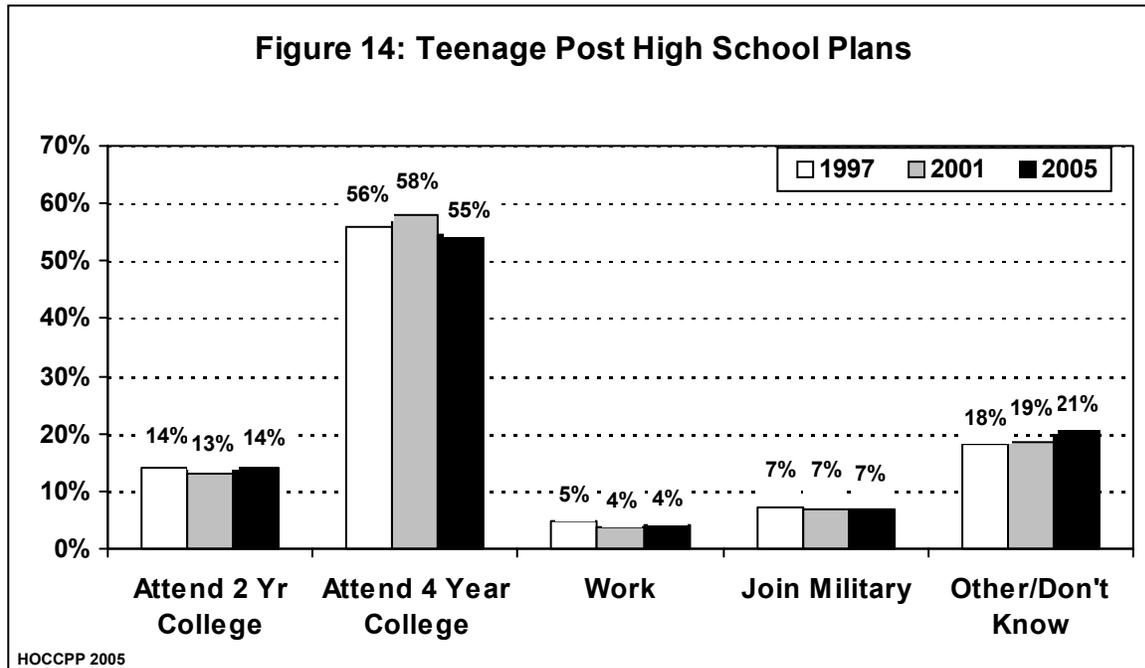
11<sup>th</sup> graders - United States - 7%, Herkimer County - 8%.

Finally, the percentage whose attempted suicide during the past 12 months resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that required medical attention:

9<sup>th</sup> graders – United States - 4%, Herkimer County - 4%;

11<sup>th</sup> graders - United States - 2%, Herkimer County - 3%.

## VI. Perceptions of School and Future



### Among All Youth

- Almost all teens (95%) said they worried “at least a little” about their grades in school.
- As many as 78% of youth felt their teachers cared about them, and nearly as many (77%) felt that teachers also had high expectation for them in school.
- One in eight teens (12%) had been suspended during the last school year.
- One in six teens (17%) said they had attended school “high” on some drug in the past year; and 10% said they attended school high three or more times in the past year.
- The vast majority of teens (74%) felt safe at school, but as many as 13% of youth said that they missed school in the past year because they felt unsafe either at school or on the way to school.
- More than two-thirds of all youth (68%) said they planned to go on to college after high school.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

**Grades:** Most teens indicated that they were concerned over grades, and the level of concern remained similar to what was found in the 2001 survey. About 95% of all youth in both the 2001 and 2005 surveys said that they worried at least “a little” about their school grades. This is slightly more than worried about grades in 1997. At that point, 93% said that they worried about grades. However, the degree to which teens have worried has somewhat declined since the 1997 survey. Whereas 40% of teens worried “a lot” about grades in 1997, only about 37% worried as much about their grades in the 2005 survey. So while slightly more youth are worried at all about grades in 2005, their level of angst appears to be somewhat lower than in previous surveys.

**Safety at School:** The sense of safety while at school is important to learning. Clearly, most students indicated they felt safe while at school. Between the years 1997 and 2001, this sense of being safe while at school declined somewhat from about 78% to 70%. However by 2005, the sense of safety in the school

environment significantly increased from its 2001 levels with as many as 74% of all teens indicating that they either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that they felt safe at school.

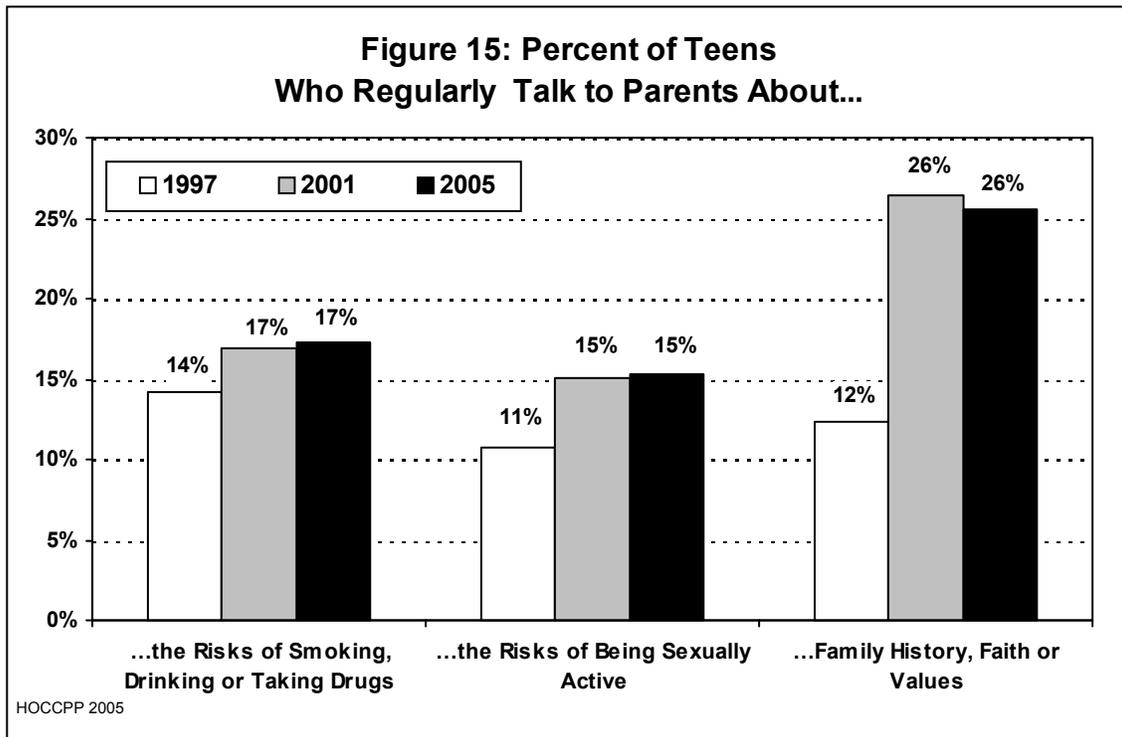
### **Cohort Analysis**

The Class of 2006's perspective on the school experience changed since they were 7<sup>th</sup> graders, but this does not appear to be unusual. For example, their level of enjoyment at attending school declined significantly as they progressed from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade. As 7<sup>th</sup> graders in 2001, about 65% said they enjoyed school; as 11<sup>th</sup> graders in 2005, only about 60% said they enjoyed school. In each of the surveys, the percent of 11<sup>th</sup> graders who said they enjoyed going to school has remained basically the same. In both the 2001 and 2005 surveys, about 60% of all 11<sup>th</sup> grade teens said that they enjoyed school. So, while the Class of 2006's perception of their enjoyment of school has declined over four years, it is not out of line with the experiences of other 11<sup>th</sup> grade students in the previous surveys.

Since entering high school as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, their sense of safety has significantly increased. As 7<sup>th</sup> graders, 65% reported they felt safe in the school setting. By the time they became 11<sup>th</sup> graders, as many as 82% said that they felt safe. The fact is that this is a group that expressed an unusually high level of anxiety over school safety as 7<sup>th</sup> graders. While almost three-quarters (74%) of 7<sup>th</sup> graders in 1997 said that they felt safe at school, only about 65% of the Class of 2006 as 7<sup>th</sup> graders in 2001 indicated that they felt safe at school. However, by the time these two cohort groups reached 11<sup>th</sup> grade, the degree to which they felt safe at school converged, with about 8 out of every 10 teens saying that they felt safe.

From the time the Class of 2006 grew from 7<sup>th</sup> graders to 11<sup>th</sup> graders, a significantly greater number saw a college education in their future. While about 64% of the Class of 2006 said that they were interested in a college education when they were in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, more than 80% stated this intention as 11<sup>th</sup> graders in the 2005 survey. This is a significant increase, but again, not an unusual one. The percentage of the Class of 2006 that said that they were interested in attending college is not significantly different than 11<sup>th</sup> graders in other survey years.

## VII. Parent/Child Relationships



### Among All Youth

- More than 75% of all teens worried about getting along with their parents; and as many as 70% worried about how well their parents got along with each other.
- Forty percent of teens said they worried at least “a little” that their parents used drugs or alcohol.
- Almost one out of every four teens (24%) said they worried at least “a fair amount” that no one loved or cared about them.
- Almost all teens (94%) said they felt safe at home.
- About two-thirds (66%) of teens said their parents regularly set rules for them to follow; more than half (51%) said they were disciplined if they broke those rules.
- Almost 80% of all teens said they could turn to their parents with a serious problem.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

Relationship with Parents and Parents Relationships with One Another: The degree to which teens appear to be concerned about getting along with their parents has increased since 1997, but seems fairly level since 2001. In 1997 about 72% of all teens worried at least a little about how they got along with their parents. By 2001, this percentage had increased to as much as 79% of all teens. In the 2005 TAP Survey, 78% of all teens said they there were at least a little concerned about how well they were relating to their parents. This parallels the degree to which youth are worried about how well their parents got along with each other. While slightly more than half (53%) of all teens worried about their parents’ relationship to one another in 1997, more than two-thirds (71%) were as worried about this in 2001 and 2005.

Parents and Drug Use: Youth also appear to be significantly more concerned about whether their parents are using drugs or alcohol than they were in the 1997 TAP Survey. While about one in four teens (23%) said they were worried at least a little about parental use of drugs or alcohol in 1997, almost twice as many (40%)

were concerned in 2005. This is a significant increase in the level of concern that teens are expressing about this issue.

Safety at Home: While overall the number of teens who felt safe at home had not changed significantly (93% in 1997 versus 94% in 2005), the strength of their sense of being safe HAS in fact significantly increased. When asked in 1997 if they agreed with the statement that they felt safe at home, about 59% stated that they strongly agreed with that statement. In 2005, the number of students that strongly agreed with that statement was 64%. This represents a significantly stronger sense of home safety in the 2005 TAP Survey for teens than in previous surveys.

Parental Boundaries and Discipline: Parental boundaries continue to be important to teens in Herkimer County. When asked about whether their parents set rules for them to follow, 95% said yes - at least occasionally. As many as 63% said their parents did so with some regularity. While these numbers are very similar to what was found in the 2001 TAP Survey, they still represent a considerable change from what was found in the 1997 survey. In 1997, only about 90% of all teens said that they had rules established for them by their parents, and about 63% had them set on a regular basis. So, statistically, teens appear to be experiencing since 1997 greater parental involvement.

Boundaries come with responsibilities, naturally, and often lead to discipline in the event that the rules are broken. And the degree to which youth are being disciplined for rule infractions appears to have significantly increased since 1997 as well. In the 1997 TAP Survey, 83% of youth stated that parents disciplined them if they did not follow the rules. By 2005, 88% expected to be disciplined if they broke family rules. So, parents became not only more involved in establishing these boundaries, but also apparently became more proactive in terms of meting out discipline in the event that the rules were not followed.

Other Involvement: Significant increases in parental influence were felt in other areas as well. For example, more parents in 2005 expected their teens to call them if they were not going to be home than was the case in 1997. About 73% expected calls in 1997; by 2005 as many as 81% expected calls. Parents were also more likely to have talked regularly to their kids about the dangers of drinking, smoking, using drugs and being sexually active than they were in 1997. In each case, a significantly greater percentage of teens said that they had had such conversations with their parents either "often" or "very often" in the past year.

### Cohort Analysis

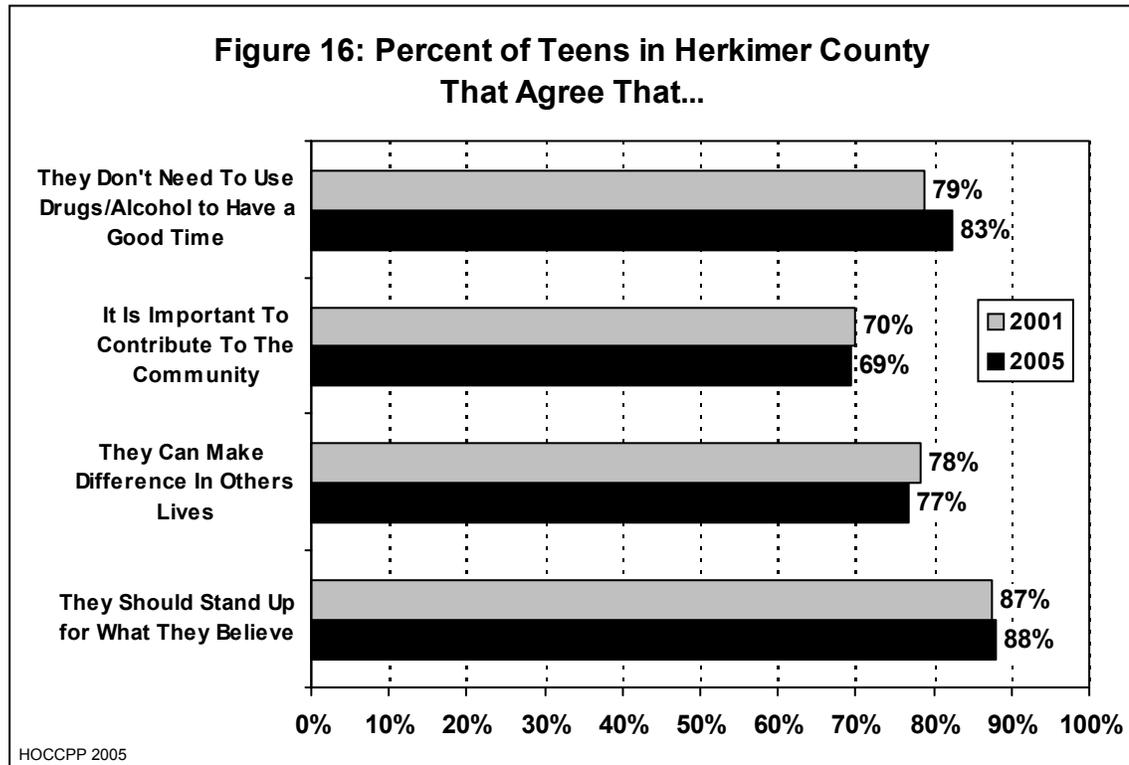
Parental relations with teens seemed to have changed significantly for the Class of 2006 since they were first surveyed in 2001. However, these changes are generally in line with what the other cohort experienced. For example, between the time the Class of 2006 was surveyed in 2001 and 2005, their level of concern about getting along with their parents increased. In 2001 as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, 77% worried at least a little about how well they got along with their parents. By 2005 as 11<sup>th</sup> graders, about 80% worried about their relationship with their parents. While there was this increase in the level of concern expressed by the Class of 2006 between when they were 7<sup>th</sup> graders and 11<sup>th</sup> graders, this was not statistically different than the concerns expressed by the Class of 2002 in the 1997 and 2001 surveys.

All teens seemed to be expressing more feelings of alienation (i.e. more feel that "no one loves or cares" about them). This appears to be a trend that began in 2001 and continued in the most recent TAP data. Between 1997 and 2001 the degree to which all teens said that they felt that no one loved or cared about them "a fair amount" or "a lot" jumped from about 19% to 22% of survey participants. This went up again in 2005 to as many as 24%. This jump of just two percentage points in 2005 was still statistically significant and represents a further degree to which teens are expressing a sense of alienation.

Data suggest that the Class of 2006 expressed greater levels of alienation than the Class of 2002, when each were 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. As 7<sup>th</sup> graders, the Class of 2006 expressed significantly higher levels of concern that no one cared about or loved them than did the Class of 2002 (25% of the Class of 2006 versus only 20% of the Class of 2002). However, by the time the two cohorts were 11<sup>th</sup> grade survey participants, their numbers were statistically similar. While 17% of the Class of 2002 said as 11<sup>th</sup> graders that they felt that

no one cared or loved them, the percent of the Class of 2006 expressing that concern was about 19%. This is statistically no different. So, although the Class of 2006 initially felt, as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, more alienated, by the time they were 11<sup>th</sup> graders, their level of alienation appears to have dissipated to a level more similar to the 2002 Cohort.

## VIII. Perceptions of Self, Peers and Community



### Among All Youth

- Two-thirds of all teens (66%) worried “at least a little” about not fitting in with school peers.
- Almost 90% said it is important to stand up for what they believe in.
- More than three-quarters (76%) felt they could make a difference in other people’s lives.
- More than two-thirds (69%) felt it was important to contribute to the community.
- The vast majority (83%) agreed they did not need to use drugs or alcohol to have fun.
  
- Friends were the most cited person that teens turn to when they wanted to talk about problems (47%).
- More than eight in ten (84%) felt their friends would be available if they had a serious problem.
- Slightly more than half (51%) felt their friends thought it was important to contribute to the community.
- Almost 75% said their friends believed that they did not need to use drugs or alcohol to have fun.
  
- Almost 80% of all teens felt safe in their community.
- About 57% of respondents said they felt that their community valued kids their age.
- Slightly more than a third (38%) said they felt that there were fun things to do in their community.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

Perceptions of Self: A large percent of respondents continued to have concerns over how well they fit in with their peers at school. In 1997, 52% of all respondents said that they worried at least a little about how well

they fit in at school. By 2001, the percentage of students' worry about this increased to 72% of all students. In 2005, that number declined somewhat to 68% of survey participants.

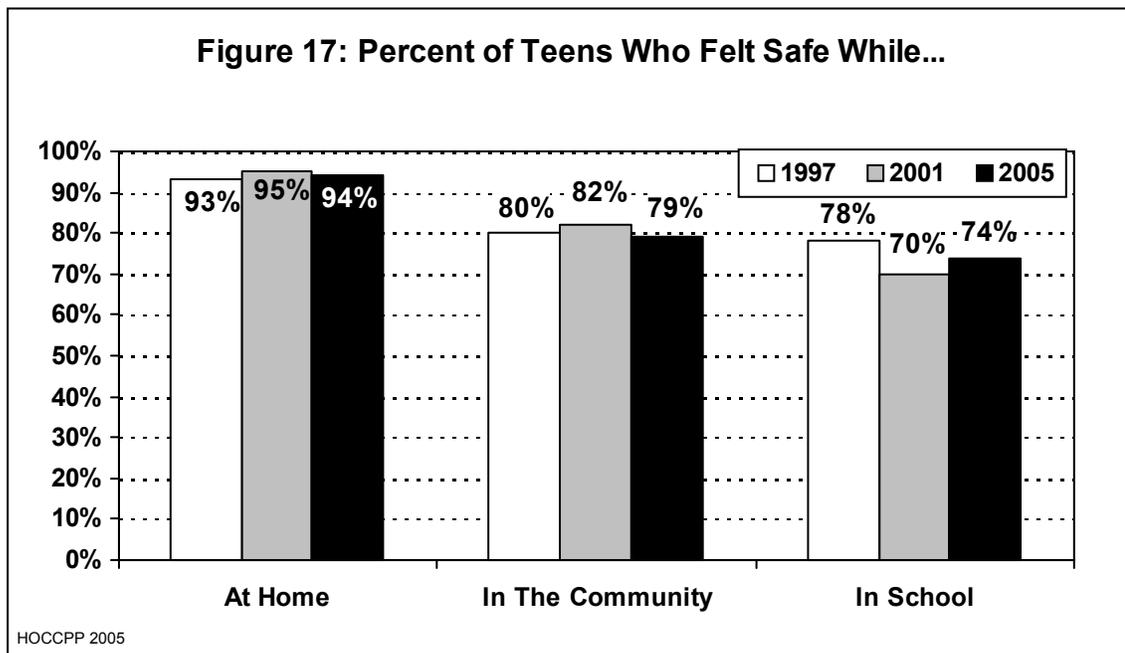
Perceptions of Community: While in 2005 considerably less than half of all youth (38%) indicated that there were "fun things to do" in the community, this was still a significant improvement over previous survey years. In 1997, only about 27% of teens felt the community held the opportunity for fun times; but 2001 this had increased to about 32%. So, the percentage of youth who see the community as at least having the potential for teenage fun has significantly increased.

Perhaps it is not surprising that fewer teens reported that they felt safe within their communities in 2005 than previously, given the news over the past years about terrorist attacks and school shootings. This is the first Herkimer County TAP Survey conducted since 9/11. Between 1997 and 2001 the percent of teens who said they felt safe in their community went from 80% to 82%. In 2005, this percentage dropped to 79%. While this appears to be only a slight decline, it is, statistically speaking, a significant change. So, while the number of teens who indicated they felt safe was rather high in each of the past survey years, it has declined during the last four years.

### **Cohort Analysis**

When responding to the question about how worried they were about fitting in at school, the Class of 2006 as 7<sup>th</sup> graders appeared to be less self-confident than the Class of 2002 as 7<sup>th</sup> graders. But four years later, as 11<sup>th</sup> graders, the confidence of the Class of 2006 grew while it decreased for the Class of 2002. The Class of 2002, as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, was a fairly confident bunch – only about 58% of them worried about fitting in socially - while the Class of 2006, as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, was less confident – as many of 72% of their classmates worried about fitting in. However, between 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades, the Class of 2002 seemingly experienced a decrease in confidence – 69% said that they worried at least a little about how they fit in at school with their peers - while the Class of 2006 grew more confident - only 62% worried about fitting in. So, while they started out worrying more about their place among their peers, they came to worry less, as 11<sup>th</sup> graders, than the previous cohort.

## IX. Personal Safety



### Among All Youth

- The vast majority of youth (94%) felt safe at home; almost 80% of teens felt safe in their communities; 74% felt safe at school.
- Almost a third of all teens (32%) felt they had been sexually harassed in the past year; as many as one in eight (12%) said they had been harassed multiple times.
- About one in five teens (18%) reported they received unwanted physical/sexual contact at some point in their lives.
- As many as 18% said an adult threatened someone within their home in the past year; 13% indicated they personally had been hurt physically by an adult while at home.
- One out of every five teens (20%) stated they had felt “constantly teased, threatened or harassed” by other youth.
- A total of 18% of teens said they used the threat of physical force to get their way “often,” or “very often” in the past year.

### Time Series Analysis: 1997- 2001 - 2005

Safe Havens – Home, Community, and School: As a general matter, teens continue to see their surroundings as safe. Of the three environments, home, community and school, the highest percentage felt safe at home. Nearly all youth in the 2005 TAP Survey said that they felt safe while at home (94%). This number is very similar to other years.

While overall the number of teens who felt safe at home has not changed significantly, the strength of their sense of being safe HAS, in fact, significantly increased. When asked in 1997 if they agreed with the statement that they felt safe at home, about 59% stated that they strongly agreed with that statement. In 2005, the number of students that strongly agreed with that statement was 64%. Thus, the participants in the 2005 TAP Survey indicated a stronger degree of feeling safe at home than did teens in 1997.

In the 2005 TAP Survey, about 80% of youth said they felt safe in their communities. The strength of this sense of “safeness” has dissipated somewhat since the 1997 survey. While as many as 25% of all teens said that they strongly agreed with the statement that they felt safe in their communities, only 17% said the same thing in 2005. Despite this, the overall sense of “safeness” in the community remains high for our youth.

The sense of safety teens expressed for the school setting, albeit less than the other two settings, still remains solid. In 1997 - 78% indicated they felt safe at school; in 2001 the percentage had dropped to about 70%; but by 2005, as many as 74% reported that they felt safe while at school.

## CONCLUSION

The TAP Survey provides a unique means for documenting what young people are doing, how they feel, and how they perceive their relationships with those around them. Because of this, it is a valuable tool for youth services planning. To this end, it is helpful to identify, first, where significant changes are evident based on the first survey in 1997 to the subsequent surveys in 2001 and 2005, and second, how Herkimer County's youth compare to youth nationally. It is also helpful for those that live and work with young people to explore how youth perceive their relationships with their parents, peers, school and community, and how they feel these relationships help them navigate this journey from childhood to independence. By examining these relationships, we can all do a better job in supporting and guiding our youth.

### **Decline of Risk Behaviors**

Based on the comparative analysis of the TAP data, there have been improvements in the behaviors, choices, and actions of many of our young people. Compared to 1997 and 2001, significantly fewer of the participants in the 2005 TAP Survey: have tried alcohol; have used it with any regularity; have gone binge drinking; have tried smoking tobacco; or have smoked with any regularity. There are other positives as well. For example, more than two out of every five teens (41%) actively claimed that they are abstinent, meaning they do not intend to have intercourse until they are married. In addition, as many as 77% of all teens that had smoked cigarettes tried to quit, with 46% of them doing so successfully.

But many of the findings also provide a mixed bag when the results are looked at more closely. For example, significantly fewer teens than in 1997 tried marijuana, but those that used marijuana in 2005 were more likely to have used it on a daily basis. Also, significantly fewer survey participants than in past surveys had "seriously considered" suicide or had "planned about how they would commit" a suicide, but those that had thoughts of suicide in 2005 were somewhat more likely to have "attempted" suicide. Finally, significantly fewer teens ever had sexual intercourse in 2005, but those that were sexually active were just as likely to have had multiple life-time partners and to have started having intercourse at as early an age as were teens in the 1997 survey.

Despite these seemingly conflicting issues, the overall sense one gets from the data is that the teens in the region do seem to be less likely to be participating in dangerous and destructive behaviors. Not that teens are no longer drinking, getting high or having sex. Rather, fewer seem to be engaging in those behaviors than in the recent past. Those that are involved in some of these behaviors, as the data above suggest, are still of great concern. Their propensity to harm themselves, be involved with drugs on a daily basis, or have sexual relations at an early age, remains a significant issue for community leaders, educators, and parents, as well as for the teens themselves.

### **Four Social Domains**

Teens coexist within four social domains. Each plays a potential role in supporting young people as they make their journey from childhood to independence. The first and most important domain is their family. Teens continue to see family and involved parents as being the single greatest influence in keeping them from getting into trouble. Almost nine in ten teens (89%) said that involved parents and families helped keep them from being involved in dangerous and destructive behaviors. The second, and for some youth the most important, domain is their peers. When teens face serious problems, more times than not they turn to their friends before a parent or another significant adult. The third domain is their school, and the fourth is the community. Based on the survey results, it is possible to some extent to evaluate how youth perceive these domains and how well these domains help them navigate this often perilous journey through adolescents.

### **Family Domain**

Based on the results of the 1997, 2001 and 2005 TAP Surveys, changes within the Family Domain are evident. Some are good, some bad. One worrisome pattern has been the gradual change in the status of the respondents' families in regard to the family structure and financial security. Fewer respondents reported they lived in two-parent families (1997 – 64%, 2001 – 59%, 2005 – 57%); and more in single-parent families (1997- 18%, 2001 – 21%, 2005 – 23%). More indicated their family qualified for free or reduced lunch (1997

– 25%, 2001 – 27%, 2005 – 30%); and an increasing percent reported they worried at least a little about whether their family had enough money to get by (1997 – 53%, 2001 – 67%, 2005 - 71%).

Along with changes in family status, respondents between 1997 and 2001 became increasingly concerned about relationships within the family. In 2005, the percentage remained similar to 2001 levels. For instance, the percent of teens that said they worried at least a little about getting along with their parents rose from 72% in 1997 to 79% in 2001, but then in 2005 this dropped just one percentage point to 78%. This same pattern was evident for those that reported they were at least a little worried about how well their parents got along with each other (1997 – 53%, 2001 – 71%, 2005 - 71%), and for those that were at least a little worried about their parents drinking and using drugs (1997 – 23%, 2001 – 40%, 2005 - 40%). Based on the responses to two other questions, there appears to be a small, but increasing, number of youth that found conditions at home difficult. Those that indicated they seriously thought about running away from home actually decreased between 1997 and 2001, but then increased in 2005 (1997 – 39%, 2001 – 37%, 2005 - 40%); and the percent that said they had been physically hurt by an adult at home in the past year has steadily increased (1997 – 5%, 2001 – 11%, 2005 - 13%).

Where there is evidence of some positive changes within the Family Domain is that more parents seem to be monitoring their children's behavior, holding them accountable and generally engaged in their children's lives. This increase was most evident in 2001 and since then has held steady. For example, when asked if their parents set clear rules for them to follow, the percent of teens that said that they did at least "occasionally" went from 90% in 1997 to 95% in 2001 and 2005. And, the percent that said their parents at least "occasionally" disciplined or punished them when they broke the rules went from 83% in 1997 to 88% in 2003 and 2005. There are several other questions that explore whether parents are engaged in their children's lives, and based on their children's response to these question, it appears that the great majority of parents clearly are engaged. About 95% of respondents indicated that their parents at least "occasionally": know their friends; expect them to call if not at home; know what they are doing after school; ask where they are going when going out; and, encourage them in their school work. Along with this, some 79% of the survey participants indicated that they could talk to their parents if they had a serious problem. What is interesting to note, however, is that when asked who they generally talk to when they have a problem, most said a friend, though the percentage relying on friends has decreased (1997 – 53%, 2001 – 49%, 2005 - 47%), and fewer said their parent, though that percentage has increased (1997 – 21%, 2001 – 22%, 2005 - 24%). Another indication that more teens are talking to their parents when faced with a serious problem is found in their response to the question about what they usually did when they had thoughts of committing suicide; an increasing percentage reported that they talked to their parent or another caring adult (1997 – 2%, 2001 – 1%, 2005 - 7%) while a decreasing percentage said they talked with a friend (1997 – 7%, 2001 – 5%, 2005 - 3%). Finally, more youth seem to feel safe at home. The percent that indicated that they strongly agreed with the statement that they feel safe in their home has steadily increased (1997 – 59%, 2001 – 61%, 2005 - 64%).

### **Individual/Peer Domain**

The Individual/Peer Domain covers the perceptions, attitudes and behaviors of youth towards themselves and their peers. Outside of the Family Domain, many young people view the Individual/Peer Domain as most important. It is evident from the three TAP Surveys that young people, by a large majority, feel good about themselves and about their friendships and share with their friends positive social values. However, it is also evident that most are anxious about how they fit in with their peers, and clearly some experience harassment and bullying by other youth, and some suffer with depression and suicide ideation. So, it would have to be said that the Individual/Peer Domain also presents a mixed picture in how supportive it is of young people.

When asked whether they are happy with themselves most of the time, 80% said "yes" both in 2001 and 2005. On the other hand, 31% reported in 2005 that they felt so depressed almost every day for two weeks or more in the past year that they stopped doing some usual activity. And, 21% indicated that they had seriously considered suicide in the past year. The good news is that this percentage that seriously considered suicide has declined over the past three surveys (1997 – 26%, 2001 – 23%, 2005 – 21%); the bad news is that these percentages are still above the national figures. Based on the results of the 2003

National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 17% of 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders across the United States seriously considered suicide. In the 2005 TAP Survey, 22% of 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders in Herkimer County seriously considered suicide.

As far as social values, the great majority of teens indicated they agreed it is important: to contribute to their community (69%); to speak up and take a stand for what they believe (88%); to be honest (94%); and, to be considerate and respectful of others (90%). Most also believed that their friends share these values. However, as perhaps only natural, more teens tend to believe they personally have these positive social values than do the percent that believe their friends share these values, even though their friends were most likely the same ones filling out the survey about themselves. For example, 69% of the respondents reported that they felt it was important to contribute to their community, whereas only 51% said that their friends felt that way. One area where there was a positive and significant change in their attitude between 2001 and 2005 was in regard to drinking and drugs. As noted, fewer teens reported drinking or using marijuana. In line with this, the percent of respondents that indicated that they did not need to drink or use drugs to have fun increased (2001 – 79%, 2005 – 83%), and those that indicated that their friends believed this also increased (2001 – 65%, 2005 – 74%).

Despite the fact that most teens felt good about their friends, 66% of the respondents indicated that they worried at least a little about how well they fit in with other kids at school. Certainly, much of this anxiety can be attributed to typical teenage feelings of self-consciousness, but some of this can also be caused by actual threats, harassment and abuse. Almost one in five (20%) of young men and women, respectively, indicated in the 2005 survey that they felt constantly teased, threatened or harassed by other youth. And, 18% said that they occasionally to very often used force or threats in the past six months to get their own way. Some 44% of the female respondents and 19% of the male respondents indicated that they had experienced sexual harassment, and 27% of young women and 9% of young men reported that someone had done something sexual to them that they did not want. Clearly, for some youth, the peer domain provides important support and guidance, but for others it does not.

### **School Domain**

The results from the three TAP Surveys show that the great majority of youth enjoy school, appreciate their teachers, and care about doing well. There is, however, a minority for which this is not true, and some who have concerns regarding their safety at school.

In the 2001 and 2005 surveys, 59% of the respondents reported that they agreed or strongly agreed that they enjoy going to school. Almost four out of five (78%) said that they agreed or strongly agreed with two different positive statements about their teachers: one, that their teachers have high expectations for them; and two, that their teachers care about them and how well they do. About half (1997 – 48%, 2001 – 51%, 2005 – 48%) said in the three surveys that the rules at school are the same for everyone. Almost all of the respondents (1997 – 93%, 2001 – 95%, 2005 – 95%) indicated that they worried "at least a little" about getting good grades; 80% said they worried about this "a fair amount to a lot."

In 2005, most (74%) either agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at school. This is higher than found in 2001 when 70% indicated they felt safe, but below the rate in 1997 when 78% reported they felt safe at school. Some of this fluctuation may be on account of the well publicized school shootings that occurred across the nation just prior to the 2001 survey, but some of this fear is clearly more immediate and visceral. In 2005, more than one in eight (13%) respondents indicated that they had missed school at least one day in the past year because they feared for their safety either at school or on their way to and from school. Fortunately, this is below the percent found in 2001 when 16% indicated they had missed school for this reason. Another positive sign is that fewer students indicated that they had attended school during the school year high on alcohol, marijuana or other illegal drugs (1997 – 21%, 2001 – 20%, 2005 – 17%).

Overall, local students for the most part enjoy school, appreciate their teachers and care about doing well. Schools provide the great majority of students a safe environment to interact with their peers and teachers, and most are happily engaged in the positive pursuit of learning, though there are some that indicate concerns for their safety at school.

### **Community Domain**

The Community Domain is where youth spend a lot of their free, often unsupervised, time, and where young people can either fall into trouble or become engaged in positive pursuits. There are a select number of questions related to how youth perceive their community, how safe they feel there, and how important they believe it is to contribute to their community. Taken together, it is safe to say that a significant number of youth question the opportunities their community affords them and question the level that adults really care and value them; on the other hand, most feel safe within their community and most feel it is important to contribute to their community.

More specifically, when asked whether there are fun things to do in their community, just 38% of the 2005 respondents agreed, the rest (62%) either disagreed or strongly disagreed, with this notion. Though this seems bad, over the past three TAP Surveys the percent of youth that felt there were fun things to do in the community has actually increased (1997-27%, 2001-32%, 2005-38%). Along with this, over one half (2001-55%, 2005-56%) stated they believed there are opportunities for teens their age to earn money and find a job. And, just over one half (2001-55%, 2005-57%) indicated that they think that adults in the community care about and value young people their age. Of course, this means there remains a sizeable number of youth who failed to see opportunities for work (44%) and who believed adults do not care much about them (43%).

Four out of five young people said they feel safe in the community, and this has been consistent over the three TAP Surveys (1997 - 80%, 2001 - 82%, 2005 - 79%). And, there are some indicators that the community, by restricting youth access to tobacco, alcohol and marijuana, has become more protective of our young people. When asked how easy it is for them to get these substances, in each case between 2001 and 2005 fewer indicated that it was either "easy" or "very easy" for: tobacco (2001 - 56%. 2005 - 47%); alcohol (2001 - 60%. 2005 - 56%); and marijuana (2001 - 43%. 2005 - 37%).

Most youth (2001 - 70%, 2005 - 69%) agreed that it was important to contribute to their community. Conversely, once in four (25%) acknowledged in the 2005 survey that they had committed a crime, such as shoplifting, vandalism, or assault, in the past year.

Much as with the other domains, the Community Domain also appears to present a mixed picture. Most youth (79%) at least view their community as safe. A growing, yet still a low, percentage (38%) believes there are fun things to do in the community. A majority, though small majority (57%), feel adults in the community care about and value young people. Perhaps some of this dissatisfaction toward their community can be attributed to teenage angst, but it also may mean that some communities are not effectively reaching out to their young people. On the other hand, it appears that the community has done more to restrict youth access to tobacco, alcohol and marijuana.

The intention of viewing the results of the TAP Survey in the context of these four social domains is to assess how parents, peers, schools and the community are doing in supporting our youth. Clearly, the great majority of our young people are doing fine, and given some of the changes evident in the results of the 2005 survey, particularly with the decline in tobacco, alcohol and marijuana use and with reduction of those that seriously considered suicide, there is reason for optimism, and there is reason for many to feel good about their work with youth. Of course, there is always room for improvement. We can all do more to reach out to our young people; to provide them opportunities for fun, for work and for meaningful engagement in community and school development and planning; and to provide support for those young people and their families that face financial problems, addictions and emotional problems.

## APPENDICES

Appendix A: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001 & 2005 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2005, pages 1 – 40.

This Appendix shows the response rate for each question of the Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey for the total participants, then broken down by gender and by grade (7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>). For those survey questions that were also in the Herkimer County 1997 and 2001 TAP Surveys, the response rate for those years is also shown for the total participants.

Appendix B: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data (1997, 2001 & 2005) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) (1997 & 2003) and for United States (1997, 2001 & 2003) for 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grades, pages 1 – 7.

The Herkimer County 2005 TAP Survey included 26 questions that are identical to questions in the National Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey that is administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The tables in Appendix B present the results of these 26 questions for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders separately for the United States for 1997, 2001 and 2003, for New York State (minus New York City) for 1997 and 2003, and for Herkimer County for 1997, 2001 and 2005. The reason the focus is on 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders is because high school students, grades 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, participate in the YRBS Survey, while 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders take the TAP Survey. In order to ensure that we look at a like population of students, we compared the two grades common to both surveys. The reason for different years for the three surveys is because the results of the 2005 YRBS Survey are not yet available for the United States and New York State; plus, there are no YRBS Survey results for New York State for 2001.

The results are shown in a table that is divided between 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade. For each grade the results are shown for the United States (US), for New York State, minus New York City (NYS (~~NYC~~)), and for Herkimer County (HC) first for the Total (T), second for Males (M) and third for Females (F).



## Appendix A: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001 & 2005 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2005

### About Yourself

1. What is your sex?  
0 = male

1 = female

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Male	51.1%	50.4%	49.6%			50.3%	47.7%	49.0%
Female	48.9%	49.6%	50.4%			49.7%	52.3%	51.0%
N =	2282	2165	2183	1082	1101	771	736	635

2. How old are you?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
11 or less	.2%		.4%	.5%	.3%	.4%	.3%	.5%
12	11.6%	12.5%	14.1%	14.3%	14.3%	39.4%	.4%	
13	18.9%	17.6%	19.2%	19.5%	18.8%	52.5%	.5%	.5%
14	16.4%	17.2%	16.0%	13.6%	18.5%	6.9%	39.5%	.2%
15	20.2%	19.8%	17.0%	18.2%	16.3%	.8%	48.9%	.5%
16	14.3%	16.5%	16.0%	15.9%	15.7%		8.8%	42.9%
17	15.6%	14.2%	15.0%	15.3%	14.7%		1.2%	49.2%
18+	2.7%	2.3%	2.3%	2.6%	1.5%	.1%	.3%	6.3%
N =	2285	2163	2183	1082	1100	770	736	636

3. What grade level or status below best describes you?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
7 <sup>th</sup>	34.8%	33.2%	35.3%	35.9%	34.8%			
9 <sup>th</sup>	36.0%	36.8%	33.8%	32.4%	35.0%			
11 <sup>th</sup>	28.1%	28.6%	29.1%	28.7%	29.5%			
Other	1.1%	1.4%	1.8%	3.0%	.6%			
N =	2248	2161	2183	1682	1099			

4. Which of the following special needs apply to you?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I don't have any special needs	87.7%	85.5%	83.1%	82.2%	85.0%	81.3%	84.9%	84.9%
learning disability	4.9%	4.8%	7.1%	6.9%	7.2%	7.3%	6.4%	7.5%
emotional/ behavioral disability	2.3%	2.8%	2.4%	2.4%	2.2%	2.8%	3.0%	1.1%
physical disability	2.2%	1.1%	.6%	.7%	.6%	.9%	.4%	.6%
English as a second language	1.2%	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%	1.3%	1.6%	.7%	1.3%
some other disability applies to me	*	2.6%	2.9%	3.6%	2.0%	3.8%	1.9%	2.5%
more than one of these applies to me	1.7%	1.7%	2.5%	3.2%	1.7%	2.4%	2.7%	2.0%
N =	2256	2145	2170	1073	1095	758	735	636

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "some other disability applies to me," but did include all other.

## Your Living Situation

5. Who do you live with **most** of the time?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
two parents (biological or adoptive)	63.7%	59.5%	57.0%	56.9%	57.8%	58.6%	56.0%	57.4%
a parent and a step-parent	2.6%	15.4%	16.3%	16.0%	16.5%	14.3%	19.3%	15.0%
father most of the time	3.6%	3.7%	4.8%	6.1%	3.4%	3.5%	4.2%	6.9%
mother most of the time	12.4%	13.8%	14.4%	13.4%	15.4%	15.2%	13.3%	14.7%
mother part of the time, father part of the time	14.4%	3.9%	3.9%	4.4%	3.6%	5.9%	3.4%	2.4%
with relatives (aunt, uncle, grandparents, etc.)	2.0%	2.4%	2.6%	2.4%	2.5%	2.2%	2.7%	2.4%
group home or foster home	*	.5%	.3%	.2%	.3%	.3%	.4%	
alone or with friends only	1.5%	.9%	.7%	.7%	.6%		.7%	1.3%
N =	2274	2156	2197	1080	1098	768	736	634

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "group home or foster home," but did include all others.

6. Which of the following describes the highest level of education that was completed by either one of your parents?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
no high school	1.4%		.7%	.8%	.7%	.4%	1.2%	.6%
some high school	8.1%		6.5%	5.2%	7.8%	6.3%	7.3%	5.8%
high school graduate	23.7%		20.7%	18.8%	22.6%	17.3%	22.0%	23.3%
some technical training or college courses	15.2%		9.3%	10.0%	8.6%	6.8%	9.9%	11.5%
two-year college graduate	16.4%	**	12.6%	13.4%	12.2%	10.5%	12.7%	15.6%
four-year college graduate	22.8%		17.9%	18.0%	17.9%	14.1%	18.8%	21.6%
master's or doctorate degree	12.4%		12.6%	12.3%	12.4%	12.2%	12.1%	12.8%
I don't know	*		19.8%	21.6%	17.8%	32.3%	15.9%	8.8%
N =			2172	1072	1098	761	735	635

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "I don't know," but did include all others.

\*\* 2001 TAP Survey asked two questions similar to this, first about the highest level of education of the "mother," and then the "father."

7. Which statement is true for your family?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
we qualify for free lunch	17.0%	17.3%	18.7%	17.4%	19.7%	22.9%	17.9%	14.2%
we qualify for reduced price lunch	7.5%	9.3%	11.1%	10.8%	11.5%	12.0%	11.6%	9.6%
we do not qualify for free or reduced price lunch	59.8%	59.6%	55.4%	57.0%	54.3%	47.6%	57.7%	62.9%
I do not know if we qualify for free or reduced lunch	15.8%	13.8%	14.7%	14.7%	14.5%	17.5%	12.7%	13.4%
N =	2264	2143	2186	1066	1093	756	730	636

## Student Worries

*How much do you worry about the following issues?*

8. Getting good grades

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	6.8%	4.5%	4.7%	6.6%	2.8%	5.1%	4.8%	3.6%
A little	13.1%	12.7%	15.0%	17.1%	13.1%	16.8%	12.5%	14.7%
Fair amount	40.0%	41.4%	42.8%	46.2%	39.4%	36.7%	46.0%	47.6%
A lot	40.2%	41.4%	37.4%	30.1%	44.7%	41.5%	36.6%	34.1%
N =	2276	2155	2175	1079	1094	769	734	633

9. Not fitting in with the other kids at school

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	47.5%	27.5%	33.8%	37.3%	30.4%	31.9%	31.3%	38.0%
A little	27.6%	31.7%	32.7%	30.5%	34.9%	31.3%	33.4%	34.2%
Fair amount	14.6%	24.1%	20.5%	19.4%	21.5%	20.7%	21.8%	19.1%
A lot	10.4%	16.7%	13.0%	12.7%	13.2%	16.1%	13.4%	8.8%
N =	2275	2154	2175	1077	1096	764	737	635

10. Getting along with your parent(s) at home

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	28.1%	20.7%	22.3%	20.4%	24.1%	25.7%	20.8%	20.2%
A little	19.8%	20.5%	19.9%	18.4%	21.4%	15.8%	20.8%	24.0%
Fair amount	28.5%	31.7%	30.1%	29.4%	30.8%	27.2%	30.8%	33.0%
A lot	23.6%	27.1%	27.7%	31.8%	23.7%	31.3%	27.7%	22.9%
N =	2274	2148	2177	1076	1099	766	737	634

11. How well your parents get along with each other

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	46.8%	28.7%	29.0%	28.6%	29.4%	27.2%	27.3%	33.5%
A little	18.7%	18.3%	19.1%	16.6%	21.6%	16.2%	21.3%	20.0%
Fair amount	15.8%	23.0%	21.8%	22.2%	21.4%	22.0%	21.6%	21.4%
A lot	18.8%	29.9%	30.1%	32.6%	27.6%	34.7%	29.9%	25.1%
N =	2256	2135	2156	1066	1089	755	733	630

12. That your parent(s) drink or use drugs

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	76.5%	59.9%	59.7%	59.9%	59.7%	59.2%	60.2%	59.7%
A little	10.1%	18.0%	17.3%	16.3%	18.2%	16.4%	16.8%	18.9%
Fair amount	5.2%	8.7%	8.4%	9.3%	7.6%	7.4%	9.1%	8.7%
A lot	8.3%	13.4%	14.5%	14.5%	14.5%	17.0%	13.9%	12.7%
N =	2265	2141	2161	1065	1094	758	734	631

13. That your family has enough money to get by

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	47.2%	33.1%	29.0%	30.1%	27.8%	27.5%	30.2%	30.0%
A little	20.0%	17.8%	19.2%	16.4%	21.8%	15.5%	19.0%	23.5%
Fair amount	16.3%	25.3%	25.9%	26.8%	25.1%	27.1%	23.9%	26.5%
A lot	16.4%	23.8%	25.9%	26.7%	25.2%	30.0%	26.9%	20.0%
N =	2271	2145	2167	1067	1099	761	736	630

14. That you might get AIDS or another sexually transmitted disease

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	50.7%	61.6%	56.4%	58.4%	54.5%	59.2%	56.2%	52.8%
A little	21.4%	18.2%	16.3%	15.7%	16.7%	13.3%	16.2%	20.3%
Fair amount	10.6%	8.0%	8.7%	7.9%	9.4%	7.7%	9.4%	9.2%
A lot	17.4%	12.3%	18.7%	18.0%	19.3%	19.8%	18.2%	17.7%
N =	2271	2134	2160	1066	1093	758	735	631

15. Being pressured into having sex

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	63.0%	70.5%	67.5%	75.7%	59.3%	65.2%	65.0%	72.6%
A little	19.4%	15.7%	15.5%	11.4%	19.6%	13.9%	18.4%	14.4%
Fair amount	8.3%	7.0%	8.4%	6.1%	10.6%	7.2%	9.8%	8.1%
A lot	9.4%	6.8%	8.6%	6.8%	10.4%	13.7%	6.8%	4.9%
N =	2263	2137	2164	1071	1092	761	735	632

16. That no one loves or cares about you

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all	65.7%	61.8%	59.6%	63.4%	56.0%	57.2%	60.5%	61.0%
A little	15.8%	16.4%	16.4%	14.0%	18.7%	13.9%	16.0%	20.0%
Fair amount	8.7%	9.0%	10.6%	10.2%	11.1%	9.9%	11.0%	11.3%
A lot	9.7%	12.8%	13.4%	12.3%	14.3%	19.1%	12.5%	7.8%
N =	2267	2131	2163	1069	1092	761	736	631

17. That I am too fat or too thin

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Not at all		35.7%	42.9%	59.4%	26.7%	42.9%	42.8%	41.9%
A little		25.1%	23.7%	21.0%	26.3%	22.7%	23.8%	25.3%
Fair amount	Not Asked	17.3%	14.6%	10.4%	18.6%	14.5%	13.0%	16.9%
A lot		21.9%	18.8%	9.1%	28.4%	19.9%	20.4%	16.0%
N =	-	2137	2173	1075	1096	767	737	633

## Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drug Use

18. How old were you when you smoked a whole cigarette for the first time?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never smoked a whole cigarette	50.1%	58.8%	68.0%	67.3%	68.8%	82.7%	64.1%	56.4%
8 years old or younger	5.0%	4.7%	3.9%	6.0%	1.7%	2.8%	4.9%	3.8%
9 or 10 years old	6.9%	5.3%	4.7%	5.2%	4.1%	3.8%	5.9%	4.1%
11 or 12 years old	16.7%	13.4%	9.4%	8.4%	10.4%	7.9%	9.4%	10.9%
13 or 14 years old	15.4%	13.2%	9.5%	7.6%	11.2%	2.6%	13.0%	13.4%
15 or 16 years old	5.2%	4.2%	4.1%	4.9%	3.4%	.1%	2.6%	10.7%
17 years old or older	.7%	.5%	.5%	.7%	.3%	.1%	.1%	.8%
N =	2268	2147	2167	1072	1094	762	732	635

19. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
0 days	67.8%	75.7%	82.7%	83.2%	82.2%	91.0%	80.8%	76.9%
1 or 2 days	6.0%	5.6%	4.1%	2.9%	5.4%	4.3%	3.5%	4.9%
3 to 5 days	3.6%	2.6%	2.3%	2.5%	2.2%	1.4%	3.0%	2.4%
6 to 9 days	2.5%	2.0%	1.3%	.9%	1.7%	.5%	1.8%	1.6%
10 to 19 days	3.8%	2.3%	1.7%	1.9%	1.6%	.9%	1.8%	2.5%
20 to 29 days	4.3%	3.2%	1.9%	2.5%	1.4%	.7%	1.9%	3.2%
all 30 days	12.1%	8.6%	5.8%	6.0%	5.6%	1.2%	7.2%	8.5%
N =	2281	2151	2174	1077	1096	768	735	633

20. Have you ever tried to quit smoking cigarettes?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never smoked	58.8%	66.5%	73.4%	72.7%	74.2%	84.3%	69.2%	66.2%
I smoke and have never tried to quit smoking	*	6.8%	6.0%	5.7%	6.3%	3.0%	7.4%	7.7%
yes, I quit smoking, and haven't smoked since	*	14.4%	12.2%	13.1%	11.3%	9.0%	13.6%	14.9%
yes, I have quit smoking before but I started smoking again	*	12.4%	8.4%	8.5%	8.3%	3.7%	9.8%	11.2%
N =	2269	2142	2163	1074	1088	765	734	625

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices were "never smoked" (58.8%), "yes" (28.1%), and "no" (13.1%).

21. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use chewing tobacco or snuff (like Redman, Levi Garrett, Beechnut, Skoal, Skoal Bandits, or Copenhagen)?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
0 days	92.7%	92.2%	93.0%	88.2%	97.6%	96.2%	92.8%	90.7%
1 or 2 days	3.2%	2.4%	2.3%	3.6%	.9%	1.3%	1.9%	3.0%
3 to 5 days	.8%	1.2%	1.3%	1.9%	.6%	1.4%	1.4%	1.1%
6 to 9 days	.8%	1.1%	.8%	1.6%	.1%	.3%	.8%	1.4%
10 to 19 days	.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.7%	.4%	.7%	1.1%	1.3%
20 to 29 days	.4%	.5%	.5%	.8%	.2%		.7%	.6%
all 30 days	1.4%	1.7%	1.1%	2.1%	.2%	.1%	1.4%	1.9%
N =	2272	2152	2177	1077	1099	768	735	634

22. If you drink, about how often do you have at least one drink of alcohol ?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I don't drink	42.0%	42.5%	50.4%	49.3%	51.5%	77.0%	42.5%	28.7%
I did drink, but not anymore	4.0%	3.8%	3.1%	2.9%	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%	2.8%
A few times a year	23.1%	24.5%	23.4%	22.3%	24.5%	12.7%	28.5%	30.9%
A few times a month	19.1%	19.1%	16.0%	16.7%	15.2%	5.1%	18.0%	26.1%
A few times a week	9.6%	7.6%	5.2%	5.7%	4.7%	1.4%	5.0%	9.4%
Almost every day	2.2%	2.4%	1.9%	3.0%	.8%	.5%	3.1%	2.0%
N =	2270	2149	2184	1083	1098	771	737	635

23. If you drink, how old were you when you had your first drink of alcohol other than a few sips?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never had a drink of alcohol other than a few sips	40.7%	38.1%	45.7%	44.8%	46.6%	71.6%	39.1%	23.5%
8 years old or younger	6.5%	6.7%	5.0%	6.5%	3.5%	3.9%	5.7%	5.0%
9 or 10 years old	6.5%	5.4%	5.9%	7.5%	4.3%	6.4%	7.2%	3.6%
11 or 12 years old	16.3%	14.4%	12.9%	12.8%	13.0%	12.8%	14.4%	10.1%
13 or 14 years old	21.0%	24.6%	19.9%	17.7%	22.1%	5.0%	28.6%	27.6%
15 or 16 years old	8.2%	10.0%	9.9%	10.1%	9.7%	.1%	4.9%	27.6%
17 years old or older	.7%	.7%	.8%	.7%	.9%	.1%		2.5%
N =	2253	2148	2172	1074	1097	764	734	634

24. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
0 days			68.9%	67.7%	70.1%	89.3%	64.9%	50.2%
1 or 2 days			14.3%	12.8%	15.8%	6.1%	15.1%	23.5%
3 to 5 days			6.9%	7.3%	6.5%	2.1%	9.1%	9.7%
6 to 9 days			4.2%	5.1%	3.4%	.9%	4.1%	8.1%
10 to 19 days	Not Asked	Not Asked	3.1%	3.2%	3.0%	.8%	3.0%	5.5%
20 to 29 days			1.1%	1.5%	.6%	.4%	1.2%	1.4%
all 30 days			1.5%	2.4%	.6%	.4%	2.5%	1.6%
N =			2172	1075	1097	768	733	631

25. During the past month, have you had 5 or more alcoholic drinks within a two or three hour period?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
No	72.4%	74.2%	80.3%	76.8%	83.8%	93.4%	78.7%	67.7%
Yes, once	9.3%	8.8%	7.3%	8.1%	6.5%	3.1%	7.5%	11.8%
Yes, 2 or 3 times	10.4%	9.0%	7.5%	8.5%	6.5%	2.6%	8.2%	12.2%
Yes, 4 or more times	7.8%	7.9%	4.9%	6.5%	3.3%	.9%	5.6%	8.3%
N =	2264	2141	2167	1070	1097	767	734	629

26. If you drink, where do you usually get the alcohol that you drink?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I don't drink	47.0%	46.3%	53.3%	53.5%	53.2%	78.1%	45.7%	33.3%
From my house without parents knowing	6.9%	4.8%	4.5%	4.9%	4.2%	3.8%	6.8%	2.6%
From a friend's house, without their parents knowing	9.8%	6.9%	5.8%	4.5%	7.2%	3.5%	8.6%	5.6%
Someone of legal age buys for me or gives it to me	26.0%	15.6%	13.6%	12.7%	14.5%	1.8%	12.9%	28.3%
I buy it at a store or bar	2.9%	2.3%	.9%	1.4%	.4%	.3%	.1%	2.4%
My parents give it to me	5.5%	5.6%	5.4%	5.7%	5.0%	3.8%	6.0%	6.9%
My friend's parents give it to me	2.0%	1.7%	2.1%	1.6%	2.6%	.1%	2.7%	3.4%
Some other source		16.7%	14.3%	15.8%	12.9%	8.5%	17.1%	17.5%
N =	2233	2134	2157	1066	1090	763	731	622

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "some other source."

27. If you use marijuana, about how often do you smoke it?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I don't use marijuana	69.8%	73.1%	77.5%	74.8%	80.2%	91.6%	74.6%	65.7%
I did use marijuana, but not anymore	9.1%	6.9%	6.9%	7.2%	6.7%	3.1%	7.9%	10.2%
a few times a year	6.0%	5.5%	4.6%	4.0%	5.1%	1.8%	4.1%	8.1%
a few times a month	6.5%	5.3%	4.4%	4.8%	4.0%	1.4%	5.8%	6.0%
a few times a week	5.0%	3.3%	2.3%	3.0%	1.5%	.8%	2.9%	3.0%
almost every day	3.7%	5.9%	4.4%	6.2%	2.5%	1.3%	4.8%	7.0%
N =	2273	2150	2174	1075	1097	770	736	629

28. If you have tried marijuana, how old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never tried marijuana	68.8%	67.4%	73.2%	71.0%	75.6%	90.9%	71.0%	55.9%
8 years old or younger	1.6%	1.9%	1.9%	3.4%	.5%	1.7%	2.2%	1.6%
9 or 10 years old	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%	2.0%	.8%	.8%	2.4%	.8%
11 or 12 years old	6.1%	6.2%	5.9%	6.4%	5.3%	3.5%	8.2%	5.7%
13 or 14 years old	12.8%	14.0%	11.0%	10.9%	11.2%	3.1%	12.9%	18.2%
15 or 16 years old	8.5%	8.2%	5.9%	5.7%	6.2%		3.3%	16.0%
17 years old or older	.7%	.9%	.6%	.7%	.5%			1.7%
N =	2279	2149	2174	1075	1097	769	735	631

29. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
0 times			86.4%	84.1%	88.7%	95.3%	84.2%	79.3%
1 to 2 times			4.1%	3.5%	4.6%	1.6%	4.6%	6.5%
3 to 9 times	Not Asked	Nor Asked	3.2%	3.5%	3.0%	1.0%	3.8%	4.8%
10 to 19 times			1.6%	2.1%	1.1%	.7%	1.8%	2.4%
20 to 39 times			1.6%	2.5%	.7%	.4%	2.2%	2.1%
40 or more times			3.1%	4.3%	1.9%	1.0%	3.4%	4.9%
N =			2169	1071	1097	768	736	628

30. If you use marijuana, where do you usually get it from?

	Totals			2005					
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th	
I don't use marijuana			74.5%	79.3%	77.1%	81.6%	91.4%	76.6%	69.0%
a friend			12.9%	9.2%	8.2%	10.1%	3.3%	10.0%	14.8%
a brother or sister			6.8%	.9%	1.0%	.7%	1.0%	1.0%	.5%
a parent		Not Asked	0.4%	.6%	.7%	.5%	.1%	.5%	1.0%
an adult relative other than my parents			6.2%	.3%	.2%	.5%		.3%	.6%
some other adult			0.4%	.2%	.4%		.1%	.1%	.3%
a seller/dealer			5.5%	4.6%	5.6%	3.5%	1.4%	5.1%	7.5%
I grow it			2.1%	2.0%	3.4%	.7%	1.2%	2.7%	2.1%
some other source			3.2%	3.0%	3.5%	2.5%	1.4%	3.7%	4.3%
N =			2142	2170	1073	1096	768	732	630

Please indicate how often you use each of the following substances.

31. Cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never used	94.1%	94.9%	94.1%	93.0%	95.2%	97.0%	94.4%	91.3%
Did use, but stopped	2.5%	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	1.6%	1.9%	1.7%
A few times a year	1.1%	1.3%	1.4%	1.7%	1.2%	.5%	1.2%	2.7%
A few times a month	.6%	.4%	.7%	.7%	.8%	.1%	.5%	1.6%
A few times a week	.5%	.3%	.5%	.4%	.5%	.4%	.3%	.5%
About every day	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%	2.4%	.3%	.4%	1.6%	2.2%
N =	2279	2153	2176	1075	1099	768	736	632

32. Inhalants (sniffed glue, aerosol spray cans, gasoline, paint, etc.)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never used	87.3%	91.2%	90.3%	89.6%	91.1%	90.9%	89.8%	91.0%
Did use, but stopped	5.6%	3.8%	3.5%	3.3%	3.6%	3.0%	4.6%	2.8%
A few times a year	4.2%	2.2%	2.9%	3.0%	2.7%	2.6%	2.6%	2.8%
A few times a month	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.8%	.5%	.9%
A few times a week	.6%	.4%	.8%	.7%	.8%	.8%	.8%	.6%
About every day	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%	2.2%	.6%	.9%	1.6%	1.7%
N =	2280	2155	2175	1075	1098	767	736	632

33. Steroids (pill form, cream or by injection)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Never used	96.3%	96.0%	96.2%	94.5%	97.8%	97.5%	96.6%	94.8%
Did use, but stopped	1.3%	1.2%	.9%	1.3%	.5%	.8%	.4%	1.4%
A few times a year	.7%	1.0%	.6%	.6%	.5%	.1%	.8%	.6%
A few times a month	.3%	.4%	.8%	1.0%	.5%	.5%	.4%	1.1%
A few times a week	.2%	.2%	.2%	.2%	.2%	.4%	.1%	
About every day	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%	2.4%	.5%	.7%	1.6%	2.1%
N =	2280	2154	2175	1075	1099	769	736	630

34. Methamphetamines (also called speed, crystal, crank, or ice)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Never used			95.5%	94.3%	96.7%	98.0%	95.4%	93.4%
Did use, but stopped			1.4%	1.7%	1.2%	.8%	1.4%	2.1%
A few times a year			.9%	.8%	1.0%	.3%	1.0%	1.7%
A few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	.6%	.6%	.5%	.3%	.4%	.8%
A few times a week			.3%	.3%	.3%	.3%	.1%	.2%
About every day			1.3%	2.3%	.3%	.4%	1.8%	1.9%
N =			2176	1075	1099	768	736	632

35. Ecstasy (also called MDMA)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Never used			95.8%	94.4%	97.3%	97.9%	95.8%	94.1%
Did use, but stopped			1.2%	1.5%	.8%	1.2%	1.4%	.8%
A few times a year			1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	.4%	.8%	1.9%
A few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	.4%	.7%	.2%		.4%	.8%
A few times a week			.2%	.2%	.1%	.1%		.5%
About every day			1.4%	2.2%	.6%	.4%	1.6%	1.9%
N =			2172	1073	1098	768	733	631

36. Other illegal drugs (like LSD, PCP, etc.)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Never used			94.1%	92.1%	96.1%	96.7%	93.1%	92.6%
Did use, but stopped			1.6%	1.9%	1.4%	1.2%	2.2%	1.3%
A few times a year			1.7%	2.4%	1.1%	.5%	1.6%	3.2%
A few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	.7%	.6%	.7%	.3%	1.0%	1.0%
A few times a week			.6%	.8%	.5%	.8%	.5%	.5%
About every day			1.2%	2.2%	.3%	.5%	1.6%	1.6%
N =			2172	1074	1096	767	736	631

37. Medicines prescribed for someone other than yourself (such as Ritalin, codeine, etc.)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never used		89.7%	90.3%	90.2%	90.3%	93.6%	90.5%	86.7%
Did use, but stopped		3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%	2.0%	3.1%	3.5%
A few times a year	Not Asked	3.2%	3.3%	2.8%	3.8%	2.3%	2.4%	4.9%
A few times a month		1.9%	1.6%	1.3%	1.8%	1.0%	1.2%	2.5%
A few times a week		0.7%	.5%	.7%	.4%	.3%	.8%	.5%
About every day		1.4%	1.5%	2.2%	.7%	.8%	1.9%	1.9%
N =			2153	2175	1076	1097	769	736

38. Over the counter, non-prescription medications used in a way not intended (like diet pills, cold medicines, cough syrup, etc.)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never used			83.9%	87.4%	80.5%	88.4%	82.2%	80.9%
Did use, but stopped			4.0%	3.3%	4.7%	2.6%	4.9%	4.7%
A few times a year	Not Asked	Not Asked	5.5%	3.9%	7.1%	4.7%	5.9%	6.2%
A few times a month			3.5%	2.5%	4.6%	2.7%	3.7%	4.0%
A few times a week			1.2%	.8%	1.5%	.9%	1.5%	1.1%
About every day			1.8%	2.1%	1.6%	.7%	1.9%	3.2%
N =					2170	1073	1095	765

39. How often during this (2004 – 2005) school year have you been high on alcohol, marijuana, or any other illegal drugs while at school during school hours?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
0 times	78.2%	79.5%	82.9%	79.8%	86.0%	92.1%	79.9%	76.6%
1 or 2 times	7.9%	7.5%	6.6%	6.7%	6.6%	2.9%	9.0%	8.2%
3 to 9 times	5.5%	4.1%	3.9%	4.2%	3.6%	2.2%	4.1%	5.5%
10 to 19 times	2.5%	2.5%	1.8%	1.9%	1.6%	.5%	1.9%	3.2%
20 to 39 times	1.9%	2.1%	1.2%	1.5%	1.0%	.9%	1.0%	1.7%
40 or more times	4.0%	4.3%	3.5%	5.9%	1.1%	1.4%	4.2%	4.7%
N =	2270	2148	2174	1079	1096	769	735	632

How easy would it be for you to get each of the following?

40. Beer, wine, or hard liquor

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Very Easy	Not Asked	31.2%	30.3%	31.4%	29.3%	17.9%	31.4%	42.6%
Easy		28.9%	25.3%	23.2%	27.5%	16.4%	29.0%	31.9%
Not so easy		10.0%	9.0%	8.7%	9.2%	8.3%	9.3%	9.5%
Difficult		5.7%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	6.2%	5.1%	4.1%
Very difficult		9.0%	10.4%	11.6%	9.2%	18.2%	8.6%	3.5%
I don't know		15.2%	19.8%	19.9%	19.7%	33.0%	16.6%	8.4%
N =		2147	2162	1069	1091	760	730	631

41. Marijuana (pot, weed)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Very Easy	Not Asked	25.0%	22.2%	24.8%	19.7%	8.9%	24.6%	33.3%
Easy		18.2%	14.9%	14.1%	15.6%	6.4%	15.1%	24.9%
Not so easy		7.3%	6.8%	6.7%	6.8%	4.3%	8.7%	7.3%
Difficult		4.1%	4.2%	3.8%	4.6%	4.2%	4.3%	4.3%
Very difficult		16.9%	20.3%	19.2%	21.4%	33.1%	17.7%	8.7%
I don't know		28.5%	31.7%	31.4%	32.0%	43.0%	29.7%	21.4%
N =		2142	2160	1070	7089	762	728	630

42. Tobacco products

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Very Easy	Not Asked	37.2%	31.3%	35.1%	27.7%	16.0%	32.3%	46.4%
Easy		18.7%	15.4%	14.4%	16.4%	8.5%	17.3%	21.7%
Not so easy		7.0%	6.4%	6.1%	6.7%	5.1%	7.5%	6.5%
Difficult		4.8%	4.6%	4.7%	4.5%	6.4%	4.2%	3.0%
Very difficult		12.0%	15.9%	15.2%	16.4%	26.0%	13.8%	6.5%
I don't know		20.3%	26.4%	24.5%	28.4%	37.8%	24.8%	15.8%
N =		2142	2163	1070	1092	761	730	631

## About Your School

Please read each statement carefully and decide whether you agree or disagree.

43. I enjoy going to school

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	10.9%	9.4%	10.4%	9.7%	11.1%	13.7%	9.0%	8.1%
Agree	51.4%	49.9%	48.3%	44.3%	52.2%	46.0%	48.8%	51.9%
Disagree	23.7%	25.6%	26.2%	25.7%	26.5%	24.0%	26.3%	28.8%
Strongly disagree	14.0%	15.2%	15.2%	20.3%	10.2%	16.3%	15.8%	11.2%
N =	2773	2149	2172	1073	1098	767	733	632

44. Rules in my school are the same for everyone.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	17.9%	14.9%	14.1%	15.7%	12.5%	27.2%	9.4%	4.6%
Agree	30.3%	36.1%	35.0%	34.7%	35.4%	38.4%	36.2%	30.5%
Disagree	29.6%	30.9%	30.2%	28.9%	31.5%	21.3%	33.3%	36.5%
Strongly disagree	22.2%	18.1%	20.6%	20.7%	20.6%	13.1%	21.1%	28.4%
N =	2274	2153	2172	1076	1094	765	735	633

45. I feel safe in my school.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	27.2%	14.5%	16.9%	20.6%	13.4%	21.9%	14.3%	14.4%
Agree	51.2%	55.8%	57.5%	52.3%	62.5%	47.6%	59.8%	68.0%
Disagree	13.6%	20.6%	16.4%	14.9%	18.0%	19.1%	17.3%	12.0%
Strongly disagree	8.0%	9.1%	9.1%	12.2%	6.1%	11.5%	8.7%	5.7%
N =	2276	2143	2167	1070	1095	759	736	634

46. Teachers in my school generally have high expectations of me.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree		23.9%	24.3%	25.6%	23.1%	26.4%	24.5%	21.8%
Agree		54.9%	53.9%	51.1%	56.6%	49.8%	55.8%	57.6%
Disagree	Not Asked	15.0%	15.0%	14.0%	15.9%	15.3%	13.7%	15.8%
Strongly disagree		6.2%	6.8%	9.3%	4.4%	8.5%	6.0%	4.9%
N =		2142	2166	1070	1094	757	736	634

47. My teachers generally care about me and how well I do in school.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree		23.0%	23.6%	23.8%	23.5%	30.7%	19.0%	20.3%
Agree		53.7%	54.1%	52.7%	55.6%	49.1%	56.2%	59.3%
Disagree	Not Asked	15.0%	14.7%	14.0%	15.3%	13.1%	16.3%	14.3%
Strongly disagree		8/4%	7.5%	9.6%	5.6%	7.0%	8.4%	6.2%
N =		2184	2163	1068	1093	761	735	631

48. What grades do you usually get in school?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
90-100	31.5%	31.1%	31.7%	26.6%	36.7%	34.5%	30.5%	30.7%
80-89	39.6%	36.8%	35.6%	33.6%	37.6%	32.5%	37.1%	38.8%
70-79	22.5%	22.7%	21.3%	24.0%	18.6%	18.8%	22.4%	23.0%
65-69	4.6%	6.5%	7.2%	9.4%	5.1%	8.9%	6.6%	4.9%
below 65	1.9%	2.9%	4.2%	6.5%	2.0%	5.3%	3.4%	2.5%
N =	2267	2133	2160	1069	1089	760	731	631

49. Which do you think you likely will do after you finish high school?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Go to vocational/technical school or 2 year college	13.9%	13.1%	14.2%	15.7%	12.7%	9.9%	13.9%	20.0%
Go to a 4 year college/university	55.8%	57.9%	54.5%	45.1%	63.7%	48.4%	55.7%	61.5%
Go to work full-time	4.7%	3.7%	4.1%	6.0%	2.3%	3.0%	5.0%	4.3%
Join the military	7.3%	6.8%	6.7%	11.6%	1.8%	9.0%	7.1%	3.5%
Get married and be supported by my husband/wife	1.2%	.6%	.9%	.7%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	.2%
Go on public assistance (welfare)	.8%	.6%	.4%	.5%	.3%	.1%	.4%	.6%
Don't know yet	14.7%	16.0%	17.9%	18.8%	17.0%	26.7%	15.8%	8.6%
Don't plan to finish high school	1.6%	1.3%	1.3%	1.7%	1.0%	1.7%	1.0%	1.3%
N =	2278	2146	2172	1076	1095	768	736	629

50. In the past year, have you been suspended from school?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
No, never		91.1%	88.7%	83.8%	93.4%	89.2%	86.4%	91.9%
Yes, once	Not Asked	4.8%	6.3%	8.4%	4.3%	6.3%	7.8%	4.4%
Yes, more than once		4.1%	5.0%	7.8%	2.3%	4.6%	5.9%	3.7%
N =		2148	2171	1071	1099	768	734	630

51. How often in the past year have you not gone to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never		84.4%	86.5%	85.9%	87.0%	83.5%	87.1%	90.8%
Once		7.2%	7.6%	6.5%	8.7%	9.8%	7.2%	4.4%
Several Times	Not Asked	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%	2.8%	3.6%	2.4%	1.9%
Many Times		1.7%	3.1%	4.7%	1.5%	3.1%	3.3%	2.8%
N =		2070	2178	1079	1098	768	737	633

## About Your Community

Please read each statement carefully and decide whether you agree or disagree.

52. In my community, there are fun things for kids my age to do.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	9.9%	7.4%	7.4%	9.4%	5.4%	12.8%	4.5%	4.0%
Agree	17.5%	24.4%	30.4%	31.8%	29.0%	42.0%	27.5%	20.3%
Disagree	28.2%	33.1%	31.4%	30.1%	32.7%	25.9%	32.6%	36.8%
Strongly disagree	44.5%	35.1%	30.8%	28.6%	32.9%	19.3%	35.4%	39.0%
N =	2260	2141	2170	1072	1097	767	734	631

53. In my community, there are many opportunities for kids my age to earn money or find a job.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree		8.6%	10.3%	12.2%	8.5%	12.0%	9.3%	9.2%
Agree		46.4%	45.3%	44.3%	46.2%	41.4%	44.4%	51.8%
Disagree	Not Asked	29.5%	27.2%	26.0%	28.4%	27.8%	28.0%	25.8%
Strongly disagree		15.5%	17.2%	17.5%	16.9%	18.8%	18.4%	13.2%
N =		2147	2172	1073	1098	766	735	631

54. I feel safe in my community.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	25.0%	16.6%	17.1%	21.1%	13.0%	20.8%	12.9%	17.1%
Agree	55.1%	65.6%	61.9%	58.3%	65.4%	53.5%	65.1%	69.4%
Disagree	13.5%	12.9%	14.5%	12.7%	16.3%	17.5%	15.4%	9.0%
Strongly disagree	6.5%	4.8%	6.6%	7.9%	5.3%	8.2%	6.5%	4.4%
N =	2275	2149	2170	1074	1094	766	734	631

55. Adults in my community care about and value kids my age.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	Not Asked	8.3%	9.2%	9.6%	8.9%	16.2%	6.6%	3.7%
Agree		46.5%	48.1%	46.3%	49.8%	51.6%	46.3%	46.5%
Disagree		31.9%	29.6%	26.4%	32.7%	20.9%	31.8%	38.0%
Strongly disagree		13.4%	13.1%	17.7%	8.6%	11.3%	15.3%	11.8%
N =		2127	2154	1064	1090	761	730	626

56. If I had a problem, there are adults in my community whom I could count on to help me.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	Not Asked	21.3%	25.4%	25.2%	25.7%	33.2%	22.1%	20.0%
Agree		52.8%	49.9%	47.3%	52.3%	45.2%	51.0%	54.4%
Disagree		16.2%	14.9%	15.8%	14.0%	12.2%	15.8%	17.6%
Strongly disagree		9.8%	9.8%	11.7%	8.0%	9.4%	11.2%	7.9%
N =		2138	2164	1069	1095	764	734	630

## You and Your Parents

Please read each statement and decide if you agree or disagree.

57. I feel safe in my home.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	58.9%	61.3%	64.2%	67.2%	61.3%	65.0%	60.3%	67.5%
Agree	34.3%	33.8%	29.8%	27.1%	32.3%	28.3%	32.9%	28.5%
Disagree	3.0%	2.7%	3.8%	3.1%	4.6%	5.1%	3.3%	2.9%
Strongly disagree	3.7%	2.2%	2.2%	2.6%	1.8%	1.6%	3.5%	1.1%
N =	2275	2151	2174	1076	1097	769	736	631

58. I can turn to one of my parents if I have a serious personal problem and need someone to talk to.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly agree	Not Asked	Not Asked	47.1%	48.5%	45.8%	53.4%	42.4%	45.7%
Agree			31.7%	31.6%	31.8%	26.6%	34.6%	34.3%
Disagree			12.6%	11.3%	14.0%	12.0%	13.5%	12.2%
Strongly disagree			8.5%	8.7%	8.4%	8.0%	9.5%	7.8%
N =			2170	1073	1096	766	734	632

\* 2001 TAP Survey asked two questions similar to this, first if they can turn to their "mother," and then "father."

From your point of view, indicate how much the following are true for you. If you do not live with your mother or father, answer about the male or female adult you live with. Please fill in the one response that best describes your situation.

My parent(s)...

59. ...set clear rules for me to follow.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	10.0%	4.8%	4.9%	6.0%	3.9%	4.6%	5.2%	5.1%
Occasionally	26.9%	27.5%	28.3%	29.8%	26.7%	26.5%	27.8%	30.4%
Often	33.1%	32.2%	30.9%	31.1%	30.7%	28.4%	30.9%	34.4%
Always	30.0%	35.5%	35.9%	33.1%	38.6%	40.5%	36.1%	30.1%
N =	2263	2147	2169	1073	1096	767	734	631

60. ...discipline or punish me when I break the rules.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	17.2%	12.1%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	11.8%	10.1%	15.4%
Occasionally	33.9%	32.8%	36.3%	37.5%	35.1%	34.2%	36.0%	39.7%
Often	26.7%	28.6%	27.7%	27.6%	27.8%	28.0%	28.5%	26.5%
Always	22.1%	26.6%	23.5%	22.3%	24.6%	26.0%	25.4%	18.4%
N =	2262	2147	2168	1071	1097	765	733	630

61. ...expect me to call if I am not at home.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	8.6%	5.1%	5.7%	6.9%	4.5%	5.1%	8.2%	3.3%
Occasionally	18.2%	12.2%	13.2%	16.0%	10.6%	13.1%	11.7%	14.8%
Often	22.6%	22.4%	19.0%	22.6%	15.5%	16.2%	20.7%	19.7%
Always	50.6%	60.3%	62.1%	54.5%	69.4%	65.7%	59.4%	62.1%
N =	2252	2142	2174	1074	1099	766	734	633

62. ...know my friends.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	5.7%	4.6%	5.2%	7.5%	3.0%	4.8%	6.0%	4.3%
Occasionally	14.9%	14.2%	15.3%	15.3%	15.2%	13.5%	17.8%	14.2%
Often	34.2%	36.5%	35.4%	36.3%	34.5%	29.2%	36.8%	41.1%
Always	45.1%	44.7%	44.1%	40.9%	47.3%	52.5%	39.4%	40.3%
N =	2257	2145	2170	1069	1100	765	734	632

63. ...usually know what I am doing after school.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	Not Asked	5.3%	5.0%	6.3%	3.6%	5.3%	5.0%	3.8%
Occasionally		13.8%	11.2%	13.8%	8.6%	9.6%	12.9%	11.1%
Often		31.4%	28.8%	31.2%	26.5%	21.8%	30.7%	35.0%
Always		49.6%	55.1%	48.7%	61.2%	63.2%	51.4%	50.2%
N =		2140	2175	1075	1099	769	734	632

64. ...ask me where I'm going, when I go out.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	Not Asked	3.3%	4.7%	6.7%	2.7%	5.3%	4.8%	3.5%
Occasionally		8.8%	8.3%	10.3%	6.3%	6.1%	9.5%	9.2%
Often		19.0%	16.5%	19.5%	13.6%	15.6%	15.8%	17.6%
Always		68.8%	70.5%	63.5%	77.4%	72.9%	69.8%	69.6%
N =		2143	2168	1073	1093	767	733	629

65. ...care about and encourage me in my interests and activities.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	Not Asked	6.2%	6.4%	7.3%	5.6%	6.7%	7.2%	4.6%
Occasionally		12.2%	11.7%	11.8%	11.5%	9.2%	13.6%	12.2%
Often		25.4%	22.8%	24.0%	21.6%	18.4%	24.1%	26.5%
Always		56.1%	59.2%	56.9%	61.3%	65.8%	55.0%	56.7%
N =		2138	2171	1073	1097	765	734	633

66. ...are interested and encourage me in my school work.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	9.8%	4.9%	5.6%	6.5%	4.7%	6.1%	5.1%	4.9%
Occasionally	19.7%	9.5%	10.7%	10.8%	10.6%	7.7%	12.1%	12.9%
Often	27.8%	23.6%	21.1%	22.8%	19.4%	17.9%	22.4%	24.0%
Always	42.7%	62.0%	62.7%	59.9%	65.4%	68.3%	60.5%	58.3%
N =	2255	2138	2164	1069	1094	767	729	630

How often in the past year have you had a talk with at least one parent or adult you live with about each of the following?

67. Risks of smoking, drinking, or taking drugs

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	27.8%	31.5%	32.0%	35.1%	29.0%	35.7%	32.2%	26.9%
Rarely	*	22.6%	23.3%	22.9%	23.8%	22.1%	22.9%	26.1%
Sometimes	37.5%	29.0%	27.4%	24.9%	29.9%	25.4%	27.4%	30.1%
Often	20.5%	10.4%	10.1%	9.0%	11.1%	8.5%	11.9%	9.8%
Very Often	14.2%	6.5%	7.1%	8.1%	6.2%	8.2%	5.6%	7.1%
N =	2257	2139	2168	1072	1095	764	733	632

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "rarely," but did include all others.

68. The risks of being sexually active (getting AIDS, HIV, or STDs, pregnancy, birth control, abstinence, etc.)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	40.8%	41.7%	41.8%	46.3%	37.5%	50.4%	38.0%	36.1%
Rarely	*	21.4%	22.8%	23.6%	22.1%	19.1%	23.9%	25.7%
Sometimes	35.3%	21.8%	20.0%	17.8%	22.2%	17.0%	21.5%	22.3%
Often	13.2%	8.8%	8.2%	6.4%	9.8%	6.0%	10.1%	8.4%
Very Often	10.7%	6.2%	7.2%	6.0%	8.4%	7.6%	6.5%	7.4%
N =	2258	2142	2170	1074	1095	766	735	631

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "rarely," but did include all others.

69. About our family's history, faith and/or values

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	28.7%	24.9%	24.3%	28.7%	20.0%	23.3%	25.3%	24.6%
Rarely	*	21.8%	21.7%	23.1%	20.3%	19.0%	22.8%	22.8%
Sometimes	38.7%	26.9%	28.4%	26.6%	30.2%	28.3%	28.5%	29.2%
Often	20.2%	16.2%	15.9%	12.9%	18.8%	16.0%	14.7%	17.6%
Very Often	12.4%	10.3%	9.7%	8.6%	10.7%	13.4%	8.7%	5.9%
N =	2252	2137	2159	1067	1091	756	734	631

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "rarely," but did include all others.

70. About how many nights a week does your family sit down to dinner together?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never		9.5%	11.9%	11.9%	11.9%	10.6%	13.5%	10.9%
Occasionally (for example, once every few weeks)		11.4%	16.2%	14.9%	17.4%	14.5%	15.7%	18.8%
One night a week	Not Asked	5.7%	5.6%	6.1%	5.0%	5.6%	5.6%	5.7%
Two nights a week		8.1%	7.0%	6.1%	7.7%	5.0%	7.0%	9.2%
Three nights a week		9.2%	8.6%	9.3%	7.9%	6.3%	8.3%	11.6%
Four nights a week		9.4%	8.0%	8.5%	7.5%	7.3%	8.7%	7.9%
Five nights a week		13.6%	11.6%	10.5%	12.6%	9.5%	13.1%	12.8%
Six nights a week		9.4%	8.1%	8.5%	7.7%	8.6%	8.9%	6.8%
Every night of the week		23.7%	23.2%	24.2%	22.2%	32.7%	19.2%	16.3%
N =			2145	2173	1075	1097	767	733

71. How many times in the past five years have you had to change schools because you moved to a different community or neighborhood?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
None		75.4%	77.0%	77.4%	76.8%	72.8%	76.7%	83.7%
Once		14.1%	11.9%	10.9%	12.9%	13.1%	12.4%	9.2%
Twice	Not Asked	3.7%	4.5%	4.2%	4.6%	6.3%	3.7%	3.3%
Three times		2.8%	2.9%	3.1%	2.6%	3.7%	3.4%	1.1%
Four times		1.5%	1.7%	2.0%	1.5%	2.1%	1.2%	1.9%
Five times or more		2.5%	2.1%	2.5%	1.6%	2.1%	2.6%	.8%
N =			2142	2172	1074	1097	765	734

## You and Your Friends

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

72. I can turn to my friend(s) if I have a serious personal problem and need someone to talk with.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly Agree		39.5%	45.7%	34.3%	56.8%	41.8%	45.1%	51.1%
Agree		42.8%	38.3%	44.9%	31.8%	39.0%	39.5%	37.1%
Disagree	Not Asked	11.3%	9.5%	12.5%	6.7%	11.4%	9.0%	7.1%
Strongly Disagree		6.4%	6.5%	8.3%	4.7%	7.8%	6.4%	4.6%
N =		2135	2142	1075	1096	766	736	630

73. My friend(s) feel it is important to get good grades and work hard in school.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	17.4%	16.8%	14.6%	19.0%	23.0%	13.1%	13.7%
Agree		54.5%	54.2%	49.7%	58.7%	52.2%	54.5%	58.0%
Disagree		21.5%	21.5%	24.4%	18.6%	17.6%	23.8%	22.7%
Strongly Disagree		6.6%	7.5%	11.3%	3.7%	7.2%	8.6%	5.6%
N =		2129	2163	1067	1095	765	732	626

74. My friend(s) think you don't need to drink or do drugs in order to have a good time.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	26.3%	34.1%	31.9%	36.4%	54.1%	27.5%	18.2%
Agree		38.9%	39.6%	39.2%	40.0%	29.1%	45.4%	46.9%
Disagree		23.9%	16.7%	16.8%	16.6%	8.6%	18.0%	24.1%
Strongly Disagree		10.8%	9.5%	12.1%	7.0%	8.2%	9.2%	10.8%
N =		2134	2165	1066	1096	767	732	627

75. My friend(s) and I talk about going to college or getting a job after high school.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	29.1%	27.7%	23.6%	31.8%	26.5%	25.3%	31.4%
Agree		51.8%	46.8%	46.2%	47.3%	40.9%	48.5%	53.4%
Disagree		13.5%	17.0%	19.1%	14.9%	20.7%	18.4%	10.7%
Strongly Disagree		5.6%	8.5%	11.1%	6.0%	11.9%	7.8%	4.5%
N =		2135	2164	1069	1095	767	732	627

76. My friend(s) feel it is important to help others and contribute to our community.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	10.4%	11.4%	10.6%	12.1%	15.8%	8.8%	8.8%
Agree		43.5%	39.7%	35.5%	43.9%	44.0%	35.6%	41.1%
Disagree		34.3%	33.8%	34.5%	33.0%	27.9%	37.3%	37.1%
Strongly Disagree		11.8%	15.1%	19.4%	10.9%	12.4%	18.4%	13.1%
N =		2123	2156	1066	1090	761	730	626

## Personal Issues

Please fill in the responses on your answer sheet that best describe your situation or feelings.

77. Who do you generally talk to when you have a problem?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
a friend	52.9%	49.0%	46.7%	38.3%	55.0%	39.7%	46.7%	55.4%
an adult friend	2.4%	4.8%	4.7%	5.9%	3.6%	5.6%	4.2%	4.1%
a parent/step-parent	20.5%	22.4%	24.2%	28.0%	20.5%	32.3%	22.0%	17.5%
a brother/sister	5.3%	7.6%	8.0%	7.2%	8.8%	7.6%	8.7%	7.8%
an adult relative (not a parent or step-parent)	1.2%	2.6%	3.2%	3.4%	3.1%	3.4%	3.3%	2.7%
a school staff person (teacher, guidance counselor, etc.)	1.8%	.9%	1.2%	1.3%	1.0%	1.4%	.8%	1.1%
a counselor or religious leader	.9%	1.1%	.9%	1.1%	.7%	1.0%	1.2%	.5%
an adult leader (e.g. 4-H, church youth group, scouts, coach, etc.)	.1%	.5%	.6%	.4%	.8%	.4%	.8%	.5%
no one, because I can't or don't want to	12.7%	9.8%	8.9%	12.8%	5.1%	7.5%	10.1%	9.1%
no one, because I have no one to talk to	2.1%	1.2%	1.5%	1.7%	1.4%	1.0%	2.2%	1.3%
N =	2252	2122	2186	1071	1097	765	736	628

78. During the past 30 days which one of the following methods have you **most often used** in order to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I did not try to lose weight or keep from gaining weight			43.6%	55.2%	32.1%	44.6%	41.0%	45.1%
I went without eating for 24 hours or more (also called fasting)	Not	Not	38.4%	30.2%	46.4%	36.6%	40.2%	38.7%
I vomited after eating	Asked	Asked	5.9%	3.4%	8.3%	6.6%	6.0%	4.9%
I used diet products (e.g., diet pills, diet drinks like Slimfast)			2.0%	1.7%	2.4%	1.1%	2.3%	2.7%
I used some other method not listed above			1.7%	.7%	2.7%	1.2%	1.8%	2.2%
N =			2163	1070	1092	760	736	630

79. During the past year, have you seriously thought about running away from home?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
no	61.1%	62.6%	59.8%	65.2%	54.4%	60.2%	55.8%	64.9%
yes, once	17.5%	17.0%	19.2%	16.0%	22.2%	18.6%	21.3%	17.0%
yes, more than once	16.3%	16.9%	17.3%	13.6%	20.8%	18.2%	18.8%	14.3%
I did run away	4.4%	2.9%	3.1%	4.4%	1.8%	2.5%	3.4%	2.7%
I did not live at home during the last year	.7%	.7%	.7%	.7%	.7%	.5%	.7%	1.1%
N =	2271	2140	2167	1072	1094	763	736	630



84. If you attempted suicide during the past 12 months, did any attempt result in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I did not attempt suicide during the past 12 months	82.7%	84.8%	86.1%	87.1%	85.0%	85.4%	83.0%	90.6%
yes	3.9%	3.3%	3.4%	3.3%	3.5%	2.5%	4.4%	2.9%
no	13.4%	11.9%	10.5%	9.6%	11.5%	12.1%	12.6%	6.6%
N =	2258	2117	2144	1054	1089	755	729	625

85. If you have had thoughts about committing suicide, what was the main reason you had these thoughts the last time ?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I do not have these thoughts		71.9%	72.8%	77.3%	68.5%	79.2%	70.3%	69.0%
Because of a failed relationship		4.6%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	3.1%	4.2%	6.1%
I had problems with my parents or home life		7.1%	6.1%	4.0%	8.3%	5.0%	8.6%	4.3%
Because of pressure to perform at school (grades, tests, homework, etc.)		2.0%	1.7%	2.0%	1.5%	1.7%	1.2%	2.2%
I felt too much pressure about something in my life (like school, sports, or work)	Not Asked	3.4%	3.2%	2.6%	3.7%	1.1%	3.4%	4.6%
I had been verbally abused or harassed by someone		0.5%	.9%	.9%	.8%	1.2%	.8%	.6%
I had been physically or sexually abused		0.8%	.6%	.5%	.6%	.3%	.5%	1.0%
Because I have a drug or alcohol addiction problem		0.4%	.6%	.9%	.3%	.1%	1.1%	.6%
I had feelings of alone-ness or isolation		3.8%	3.9%	3.0%	4.7%	2.8%	4.5%	4.6%
Because of some other reason		5.5%	5.8%	4.3%	7.3%	5.6%	5.2%	6.9%
N =		2117	2148	1058	1088	754	730	626

86. If you have had thoughts about committing suicide, what do you **usually** do in response to those thoughts?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I do not have these thoughts	70.2%	71.1%	72.0%	76.6%	67.7%	78.9%	70.0%	67.1%
nothing	*	6.4%	6.1%	5.7%	6.4%	6.3%	5.0%	6.2%
I talk to a parent or other caring adult	2.2%	1.4%	7.1%	6.5%	7.8%	5.1%	7.2%	9.5%
I talk to a teen friend only	7.1%	5.0%	3.1%	2.1%	4.0%	2.1%	3.5%	3.8%
I seek professional help	*	0.4%	2.6%	2.4%	2.7%	1.1%	3.0%	3.7%
I drink or use other drugs	2.6%	2.9%	1.6%	1.1%	2.1%	1.1%	1.4%	2.1%
I withdraw from people and activities	2.8%	3.3%	4.8%	2.9%	6.7%	3.3%	6.3%	5.2%
I try to solve my own problems, I don't talk to anyone	11.0%	6.8%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.1%	.3%	
I make a plan for how I would do it	2.5%	2.5%	.0%	.1%				.2%
I call an appropriate hotline	*	0.2%	2.5%	2.4%	2.6%	2.0%	3.3%	2.2%
N =	2258	2126	2159	1062	1096	758	734	629

\* 1997 TAP Survey responses did not include these options but did include all others.

The next eleven questions ask about sexual activity.

87. If you have ever had sexual intercourse, how old were you the first time?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
never had sexual intercourse	65.5%	70.2%	69.3%	64.9%	73.7%	87.7%	67.3%	51.2%
11 or under	4.4%	2.8%	3.6%	5.8%	1.5%	3.4%	4.5%	2.7%
12	3.4%	3.2%	3.1%	4.3%	1.9%	5.0%	2.5%	1.3%
13	6.3%	4.7%	5.2%	5.0%	5.4%	3.0%	8.6%	3.8%
14	8.4%	7.0%	6.3%	5.7%	6.8%	.4%	10.8%	7.8%
15	5.8%	5.6%	6.6%	7.3%	5.9%	.3%	5.3%	15.6%
16	5.2%	5.0%	4.6%	5.2%	4.0%		1.0%	13.7%
17 or older	1.0%	1.5%	1.3%	1.7%	.8%	.1%		4.0%
N =	2261	2131	2157	1062	1094	759	731	629

88. If you have ever had sexual intercourse, with how many people have you had sexual intercourse during your life?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never had sexual intercourse	65.9%	69.7%	69.5%	65.3%	73.7%	87.8%	67.2%	51.3%
1 person	14.2%	13.7%	13.4%	15.1%	11.9%	7.0%	14.8%	19.7%
2 people	6.0%	5.5%	5.8%	6.0%	5.5%	1.8%	6.0%	10.2%
3 people	3.7%	3.8%	3.2%	3.3%	3.0%	1.1%	3.6%	5.1%
4 people	2.7%	1.8%	1.9%	1.6%	2.1%	.5%	2.0%	3.2%
5 people	1.5%	1.0%	1.2%	.9%	1.5%	.3%	1.4%	1.9%
6 or more people	6.0%	4.6%	5.0%	7.7%	2.4%	1.6%	5.1%	8.6%
N =	2260	2129	2157	1061	1094	761	732	628

89. Whether you have ever had sexual intercourse or not, how would you characterize your current sexual status?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never had sexual intercourse and I am abstinent meaning that I do not intend to have sexual intercourse until I am married.			35.8%	31.2%	40.4%	53.3%	29.7%	22.8%
I have never had sexual intercourse, but I am not planning	Not Asked	Not Asked	34.5%	36.1%	32.9%	35.0%	39.3%	29.3%
I have had sexual intercourse, but I am currently abstinent (meaning that I do not intend to have sexual intercourse again until I am married).			4.9%	4.4%	5.5%	3.7%	5.5%	5.3%
I have had sexual intercourse, and plan to continue to have			24.7%	28.3%	21.2%	8.0%	25.6%	42.6%
N =			2143	1054	1087	752	731	624

90. The last time you had sexual intercourse, did you or your partner use a condom?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never had sexual intercourse			69.5%	65.3%	73.6%	87.6%	67.4%	51.4%
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	20.3%	24.5%	16.3%	9.1%	22.2%	30.8%
No			10.2%	10.2%	10.1%	3.3%	10.4%	17.8%
N =			2147	1055	1091	758	731	624

91. The last time you had sexual intercourse, what one method did you or your partner use to prevent pregnancy? (Select only one response.)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
I have never had sexual intercourse			69.4%	65.0%	73.7%	87.5%	67.1%	51.8%
No method was used to prevent pregnancy			3.8%	4.6%	2.9%	2.6%	4.8%	3.7%
Birth control pills			4.9%	4.7%	5.1%	1.1%	3.7%	10.5%
Condoms	Not Asked	Not Asked	16.9%	20.7%	13.2%	7.9%	19.3%	24.4%
Depo-Prevera (injectable birth control)			.8%	.7%	.9%		.8%	1.8%
Withdrawal			2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	.1%	1.8%	4.8%
Morning after pill			.2%	.1%	.3%	.1%		.5%
Some other method			.8%	.8%	.7%		1.0%	1.6%
Not sure			1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	.7%	1.5%	1.0%
N =			2149	1069	1087	758	729	626

92. Regardless of whether you are sexually active, how easy would it be for you to get condoms or other contraception?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very easy		41.0%	38.4%	43.1%	33.8%	20.1%	40.4%	56.9%
Easy		21.8%	20.5%	19.4%	21.6%	12.6%	25.2%	24.9%
Not so easy	Not Asked	7.2%	7.5%	6.7%	8.3%	8.7%	8.6%	5.1%
Difficult		3.8%	3.6%	3.9%	3.3%	5.8%	3.1%	1.6%
Very difficult		4.9%	6.6%	6.5%	6.8%	13.4%	4.4%	1.1%
I don't know		21.3%	23.4%	20.4%	26.2%	39.3%	18.3%	10.4%
N =		2132	2154	1062	1092	760	731	627

93. What is your sexual orientation?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
heterosexual – attracted to the opposite sex			92.4%	92.5%	92.3%	92.0%	92.6%	92.8%
homosexual – attracted to the same sex			1.5%	2.2%	.9%	.9%	2.6%	1.1%
bi-sexual – attracted to both sexes	Not Asked	Not Asked	2.8%	2.3%	3.3%	1.3%	2.9%	4.3%
not sure			3.3%	3.0%	3.5%	5.7%	1.9%	1.8%
N =			2140	1055	1085	750	730	626

94. How often in the past year have you experienced some form of sexual harassment? (Sexual harassment is unwanted sexual attention such as sexual comments, jokes, graffiti, blocking or cornering)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never			68.1%	80.8%	55.7%	74.3%	64.4%	65.6%
Once	Not Asked	Not Asked	10.9%	6.1%	15.7%	9.2%	12.9%	10.6%
2 or 3 times			9.6%	5.2%	14.0%	8.0%	9.5%	11.8%
4 times or more			11.3%	7.9%	14.6%	8.6%	13.2%	11.9%
N =			2138	1057	1081	754	728	620

\* 1997 and 2001 TAP Survey asked two questions similar to this, first perpetrated by a “youth,” next by an “adult.”

95. Has another person ever done something sexual to you that you didn't want?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
no			81.6%	90.8%	72.7%	87.1%	78.0%	79.6%
yes, unwanted kissing			1.7%	1.4%	2.0%	1.4%	1.9%	1.9%
yes, unwanted touching	Not Asked	Not Asked	8.5%	3.6%	13.4%	5.9%	10.4%	9.9%
yes, unwanted kissing and touching			3.9%	1.4%	6.3%	2.5%	4.9%	4.0%
yes, unwanted sexual intercourse			2.4%	1.8%	3.0%	.8%	2.7%	3.8%
yes, other			81.6%	1.0%	2.6%	2.2%	2.1%	.8%
N =			2157	1065	1092	760	731	628

\* 1997 and 2001 TAP Survey asked two questions similar to this, first if a “youth,” then if an “adult” had ever done something sexual to them.

96. Have you ever told anyone that you were physically hurt or received unwanted sexual activity?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
it has never happened	82.2%	85.0%	84.7%	91.8%	77.8%	88.2%	82.9%	82.9%
yes, I told a parent	3.6%	3.3%	3.6%	1.8%	5.4%	2.8%	3.3%	5.1%
yes, I told a school staff person	.7%	.9%	.9%	.8%	.9%	1.7%	.5%	.2%
yes, I told a doctor, social worker or religious leader	.6%	.4%	.3%	.4%	.2%		.3%	.5%
yes, I told an adult friend or youth group leader	.8%	.6%	.6%	.1%	1.0%	.1%	.8%	.2%
yes, I told a teen friend, but no adults	6.1%	4.8%	5.4%	1.4%	9.2%	3.6%	6.2%	6.7%
no, I never told anyone when it happened	6.0%	5.0%	4.6%	3.7%	5.5%	3.6%	6.0%	4.5%
N =	2263	2134	2153	1060	1091	757	730	626

97. What happened as a result of telling someone about the physical or sexual activity described above?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
it has never happened to me	81.7%	84.5%	82.1%	87.9%	76.5%	85.8%	79.2%	81.6%
action was taken and it stopped	4.5%	4.1%	5.2%	2.3%	8.0%	4.9%	5.2%	5.4%
action was taken but it continued	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%	1.7%	1.0%	1.2%	1.8%	.8%
I told someone but nothing ever happened	6.9%	4.7%	6.1%	3.6%	8.5%	3.3%	6.8%	8.0%
I never told anyone	5.8%	5.4%	5.3%	4.6%	6.0%	4.9%	7.0%	4.2%
N =	2259	2134	2155	1062	1093	760	731	625

The next set of questions asks about your personal experiences with violence, the law, and weapons.

98. In the past year, has an adult in your home made a threat, which you believed to be serious, to the safety of another family member, including yourself?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	18.0%	18.1%	17.9%	15.1%	20.2%	18.3%
No			82.0%	81.9%	82.1%	84.9%	79.8%	81.7%
N =			2136	1046	1089	748	728	624

99. In the past year, have you been physically hurt by an adult at home (e.g., beat up, hit with an object, kicked, etc.)?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
no	94.8%	89.4%	86.7%	86.9%	86.5%	87.8%	83.4%	90.4%
yes, once	2.9%	5.8%	8.1%	7.9%	8.3%	7.4%	9.8%	6.2%
yes, more than once	2.4%	4.8%	5.2%	5.2%	5.1%	4.8%	6.9%	3.4%
N =	1157	2125	2150	1057	1092	757	728	626

100. Do you feel constantly teased, threatened or harassed by other youth?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
No	Not Asked	82.1%	79.8%	80.2%	79.4%	75.9%	79.7%	84.6%
Yes	Not Asked	17.9%	20.2%	19.8%	20.6%	24.1%	20.3%	15.4%
N =		2101	2139	1047	1091	751	725	625

101. How often in the past 6 months have you used physical force or threatened people in order to win an argument or get your own way?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never		54.9%	55.3%	49.0%	61.4%	62.2%	50.5%	53.3%
Rarely		26.3%	26.7%	28.0%	25.5%	22.4%	29.2%	28.9%
Occasionally	Not Asked	11.1%	10.4%	13.0%	7.8%	7.5%	11.2%	12.2%
Often		4.6%	3.9%	5.3%	2.6%	4.3%	4.5%	2.7%
Very often		3.1%	3.7%	4.7%	2.7%	3.6%	4.5%	2.9%
N =		2126	2154	1060	1094	759	730	629

102. In your family in the past year, has there been a family member (other than yourself) arrested or charged with a crime?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
No		80.4%	77.1%	78.3%	75.9%	79.9%	72.8%	79.2%
Yes, a parent		3.1%	4.3%	4.4%	4.3%	3.9%	5.3%	3.7%
Yes, a brother or sister	Not Asked	5.2%	6.6%	5.9%	7.2%	5.6%	7.5%	6.5%
Yes, another family member (i.e., grandparent, aunt or uncle, cousin)		8.3%	9.7%	8.5%	10.9%	9.2%	11.7%	8.0%
Yes, more than one family member listed above		3.1%	2.3%	2.9%	1.7%	1.5%	2.6%	2.6%
N =		2123	2143	1052	1090	752	729	626

103. In the past year, have you ever done something that you could have been arrested for such as shoplifting, vandalism, assault, etc.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
No			75.5%	69.0%	81.7%	83.3%	70.2%	73.2%
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	24.5%	31.0%	18.3%	16.7%	29.8%	26.8%
N =			2143	1051	1092	753	727	626

\* 2001 TAP Survey asked two questions similar to this first about shoplifting and then about vandalism.

104. In the past year have you ever carried a weapon, such as a gun or knife, with the intent to harm someone or to protect yourself or others?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
No			87.3%	79.1%	95.1%	88.9%	86.9%	87.1%
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	12.7%	20.9%	4.9%	11.1%	13.1%	12.9%
N =			2132	1043	1088	751	725	621

\* 1997 and 2001 TAP Survey asked two questions similar to this about carrying a weapon first "on school property" and then "in the community."

## How You Spend Your Time

Here are some things teens do after school and on weekends. How much time do you spend...

*NOTE:* For questions 105-120 the response choices for the 2005 TAP Survey are different than for the 1997 and 2001 TAP Survey when it asked for the number of hours per week.

105. ...staying at home with no adults present

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	11.2%	9.6%	8.6%	9.8%	7.5%	12.8%	7.4%	4.9%
Less than once per month			13.6%	12.9%	14.4%	16.9%	11.0%	12.6%
Few times a month			30.2%	31.0%	29.4%	28.0%	31.3%	31.6%
Few times a week			29.6%	28.9%	30.4%	26.3%	32.6%	30.5%
Daily			17.9%	17.4%	18.3%	16.0%	17.6%	20.4%
N =	2240	2122	2141	1050	1090	750	726	627

106. ...watching TV, playing video or computer games

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	7.3%	5.6%	5.0%	4.4%	5.6%	5.5%	4.7%	4.8%
Less than once per month			5.3%	4.9%	5.8%	4.7%	4.7%	6.4%
Few times a month			12.7%	11.9%	13.4%	11.3%	13.2%	13.9%
Few times a week			32.4%	31.5%	33.2%	33.0%	30.9%	33.3%
Daily			44.7%	47.4%	42.1%	45.5%	46.6%	41.7%
N =	2229	2120	2145	1049	1095	751	726	628

107. ...doing homework or studying

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	12.7%	10.5%	7.5%	10.8%	4.4%	6.8%	8.0%	6.7%
Less than once per month	-	-	6.4%	8.4%	4.4%	4.9%	6.0%	7.8%
Few times a month	-	-	8.9%	10.7%	7.2%	5.8%	10.2%	11.3%
Few times a week	-	-	28.4%	28.6%	28.3%	26.4%	27.1%	32.6%
Daily	-	-	48.7%	41.5%	55.7%	56.0%	48.8%	41.6%
N =	2234	2127	2149	1054	1094	753	728	628

108. ...reading for pleasure

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never		45.7%	30.3%	40.4%	20.6%	31.0%	34.1%	24.2%
Less than once per month		-	19.5%	19.1%	19.9%	19.0%	17.0%	23.6%
Few times a month	Not Asked	-	19.3%	17.0%	21.4%	16.1%	19.0%	23.1%
Few times a week		-	17.1%	13.6%	20.4%	18.2%	16.9%	16.2%
Daily		-	13.9%	9.9%	17.7%	15.7%	13.0%	13.0%
N =		2120	2144	1050	1093	752	728	624

109. ...talking to friends on the telephone

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never		16.3%	7.8%	11.8%	4.0%	9.7%	7.3%	5.9%
Less than once per month	Not Asked	-	9.2%	12.4%	6.0%	8.9%	8.1%	10.6%
Few times a month		-	16.0%	19.3%	12.9%	15.0%	16.3%	16.6%
Few times a week		-	29.2%	28.9%	29.5%	28.6%	29.0%	30.2%
Daily		-	37.8%	27.6%	47.6%	37.7%	39.2%	36.6%
N =		2117	2139	1046	1092	751	724	625

110. ...being online (chatting, surfing, IMing, etc)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never		20.9%	17.5%	21.1%	14.2%	23.7%	14.0%	13.1%
Less than once per month			7.0%	8.0%	6.1%	7.2%	6.9%	7.0%
Few times a month	Not Asked		12.5%	13.1%	11.8%	14.9%	11.1%	11.5%
Few times a week			24.1%	23.3%	24.9%	22.5%	23.8%	25.9%
Daily			38.8%	34.6%	42.9%	31.6%	44.3%	42.4%
N =		2114	2137	1044	1092	750	723	625

111. ... text messaging on a cell phone

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never			53.5%	61.7%	45.7%	65.2%	50.5%	42.6%
Less than once per month			9.0%	9.1%	8.9%	8.4%	7.6%	11.4%
Few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	9.6%	7.0%	12.1%	7.2%	9.5%	13.1%
Few times a week			12.1%	10.8%	13.3%	7.6%	15.0%	13.8%
Daily			15.8%	11.3%	20.1%	11.6%	17.4%	19.2%
N =			2145	1050	1093	751	728	625

112. ...dating a boyfriend/girlfriend

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never			37.6%	37.8%	37.4%	48.0%	34.3%	29.7%
Less than once per month			16.4%	15.7%	17.1%	15.9%	16.9%	15.9%
Few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	11.7%	12.0%	11.4%	10.8%	13.3%	11.3%
Few times a week			9.6%	10.6%	8.7%	6.7%	10.0%	12.4%
Daily			24.7%	23.9%	25.4%	18.6%	25.6%	30.7%
N =			2133	1046	1086	748	723	622

113. ...hanging out with friends

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never			4.2%	5.3%	3.1%	5.2%	3.6%	3.3%
Less than once per month			5.2%	5.2%	5.3%	5.6%	5.0%	5.1%
Few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	15.8%	15.6%	15.9%	15.1%	15.2%	16.9%
Few times a week			34.4%	33.9%	34.8%	30.9%	35.1%	38.4%
Daily			40.5%	40.1%	40.9%	43.2%	41.2%	36.2%
N =			2139	1047	1090	748	726	627

114. ...participating in school and community sponsored activities, including clubs, dances, etc.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never		33.6%	23.2%	27.8%	18.9%	23.2%	26.0%	19.4%
Less than once per month	Not Asked	-	20.6%	20.8%	20.3%	20.1%	19.4%	23.0%
Few times a month		-	27.2%	24.4%	29.9%	26.2%	27.9%	27.7%
Few times a week		-	16.2%	13.8%	18.5%	15.7%	14.0%	18.9%
Daily		-	12.8%	13.2%	12.5%	14.9%	12.7%	11.0%
N =		2110	2139	1046	1092	747	427	625

115. ... participating in organized sports (school or community sponsored teams or contests)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	33.0%	32.7%	27.3%	26.1%	28.4%	25.6%	28.3%	28.1%
Less than once per month	-	-	9.7%	10.0%	9.5%	8.4%	10.6%	10.1%
Few times a month	-	-	11.1%	8.9%	13.2%	12.9%	10.8%	8.8%
Few times a week	-	-	16.3%	18.1%	14.6%	19.6%	13.7%	15.9%
Daily	-	-	35.6%	37.0%	34.2%	33.5%	36.6%	37.1%
N =	2232	2103	2132	1044	1087	746	724	623

116. ...exercising for fun and fitness

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	19.7%	19.1%	11.5%	13.1%	10.0%	11.1%	11.9%	10.9%
Less than once per month	-	-	10.8%	11.2%	10.3%	10.7%	9.8%	11.8%
Few times a month	-	-	18.9%	15.8%	22.0%	15.8%	21.7%	20.2%
Few times a week	-	-	30.5%	29.4%	31.6%	29.7%	31.0%	30.9%
Daily	-	-	28.3%	30.5%	26.1%	32.7%	25.7%	26.2%
N =	2225	2101	2134	1046	1087	747	725	625

117. ...doing fun things with your parent(s) or family

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	21.9%	21.5%	11.0%	11.6%	10.4%	11.2%	10.7%	10.7%
Less than once per month	-	-	14.8%	13.8%	15.9%	11.6%	16.9%	15.8%
Few times a month	-	-	31.9%	30.9%	32.8%	23.4%	33.8%	40.0%
Few times a week	-	-	31.6%	32.0%	31.2%	36.5%	29.8%	28.2%
Daily	-	-	10.7%	11.7%	9.7%	17.2%	8.7%	5.3%
N =	2236	2104	2136	1047	1088	748	727	625

118. ...attending religious services, education, prayer or activities

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	55.5%	51.2%	44.3%	46.5%	42.3%	43.0%	43.7%	46.4%
Less than once per month	-	-	16.1%	16.7%	15.5%	14.6%	16.1%	18.0%
Few times a month	-	-	21.2%	19.3%	23.1%	20.2%	23.0%	20.5%
Few times a week	-	-	14.1%	12.2%	15.8%	16.4%	12.8%	12.7%
Daily	-	-	4.4%	5.3%	3.4%	5.7%	4.4%	2.4%
N =	2212	2099	2132	1046	1084	748	726	621

119. ...working at a job for pay

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	56.9%	58.3%	47.7%	41.3%	53.9%	55.3%	49.5%	37.0%
Less than once per month	-	-	13.8%	14.5%	13.1%	14.6%	13.9%	12.6%
Few times a month	-	-	13.1%	14.5%	11.8%	11.4%	14.4%	14.1%
Few times a week	-	-	14.8%	16.3%	13.3%	10.3%	12.4%	22.5%
Daily	-	-	10.6%	13.3%	7.9%	8.4%	9.9%	13.9%
N =	2232	2103	2131	1046	1084	747	728	619

120. ...helping with family business or farm, or doing household chores

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Never	18.4%	22.7%	18.0%	20.6%	15.6%	19.2%	17.8%	16.4%
Less than once per month	-	-	10.2%	9.9%	10.6%	10.1%	10.3%	10.0%
Few times a month	-	-	14.9%	15.0%	14.8%	14.0%	15.4%	15.9%
Few times a week	-	-	26.7%	26.1%	27.3%	25.1%	26.2%	29.8%
Daily	-	-	30.1%	28.4%	31.7%	31.7%	30.3%	27.9%
N =	2231	2102	2128	1045	1083	745	726	621

## Your Personal Feelings and Opinions

121. Do you have a hero or role model?

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
no	40.1%	28.8%	28.4%	31.8%	25.2%	27.2%	28.1%	30.0%
yes, my parent(s)	21.6%	17.9%	18.9%	16.6%	21.2%	19.5%	18.5%	18.8%
yes, some other relative	*	9.7%	10.6%	9.1%	11.9%	10.5%	10.1%	10.7%
yes, another youth or friend	*	6.2%	6.2%	3.8%	8.6%	5.5%	8.6%	4.6%
yes, a teacher or other adult at school	3.0%	2.0%	2.0%	1.9%	2.0%	1.6%	1.2%	3.4%
yes, a youth group leader, religious leader or other local adult	3.2%	1.0%	1.5%	1.3%	1.7%	1.2%	1.4%	2.1%
yes, a current celebrity, sport or music star	28.5%	21.2%	18.8%	20.6%	17.2%	21.2%	20.1%	14.7%
yes, a cultural, historic, or literary figure	3.6%	2.4%	2.7%	3.7%	1.6%	3.1%	1.8%	3.2%
Yes, some other person	*	10.8%	10.9%	11.1%	10.8%	10.1%	10.2%	12.5%
N =	2266	2102	2139	1050	1087	749	725	624

\* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include "yes, some other relative" or "yes, another youth or friend" or "yes, some other person;" and the second response choice read – "yes, my parent or another relative."

How effective do you think each of these things are in keeping you from engaging in negative, illegal or harmful activities?

122. counselors/social worker you can talk with

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Very Helpful	16.2%	12.6%	13.4%	14.3%	12.6%	20.7%	9.8%	8.5%
Some Help	24.7%	21.5%	16.6%	15.1%	17.9%	15.7%	17.7%	16.4%
Helpful	18.8%	23.8%	20.0%	18.8%	21.1%	19.3%	20.9%	19.6%
Minimal Help	18.1%	17.3%	18.0%	16.7%	19.2%	15.2%	19.1%	20.4%
No Help	22.2%	24.7%	32.1%	35.1%	29.2%	29.1%	32.5%	35.0%
N =	2239	2039	2130	1043	1087	745	723	622

123. involved family/parents

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Very Helpful	36.7%	31.0%	36.0%	35.2%	36.8%	43.2%	31.0%	33.6%
Some Help	17.4%	20.0%	18.2%	18.4%	17.9%	16.5%	19.6%	18.3%
Helpful	26.2%	29.0%	25.2%	24.4%	26.1%	21.3%	26.6%	28.3%
Minimal Help	7.4%	10.8%	9.8%	9.6%	10.1%	6.7%	11.9%	11.4%
No Help	12.3%	9.2%	10.7%	12.5%	9.1%	12.3%	10.9%	8.4%
N =	2230	2091	2132	1043	1089	746	725	622

124. after school and weekend activities at school

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Very Helpful	23.7%	19.2%	25.0%	24.1%	25.9%	30.5%	22.5%	21.8%
Some Help	19.6%	21.5%	18.0%	17.8%	18.2%	17.8%	17.9%	19.6%
Helpful	26.8%	26.7%	22.9%	20.8%	24.9%	22.5%	21.4%	25.2%
Minimal Help	11.1%	13.4%	12.4%	11.0%	13.7%	9.0%	13.3%	15.4%
No Help	18.8%	19.3%	21.6%	26.3%	17.1%	20.2%	25.0%	18.1%
N =	2229	2090	2133	1041	1091	747	721	624

125. school programs concerning drug and alcohol prevention awareness (in-class instructions, assemblies)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Very Helpful	17.5%	12.5%	14.1%	15.4%	12.9%	24.7%	9.2%	7.9%
Some Help	16.2%	15.6%	14.9%	13.1%	16.6%	16.1%	14.3%	14.1%
Helpful	21.8%	22.4%	18.7%	17.6%	19.9%	19.5%	20.1%	16.7%
Minimal Help	19.1%	19.7%	18.9%	16.3%	21.5%	12.6%	21.2%	24.7%
No Help	25.4%	29.8%	33.3%	37.6%	29.1%	27.2%	35.2%	36.6%
N =	2229	2084	2123	1037	1085	740	721	623

126. peer support groups

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very Helpful	15.4%	13.2%	12.4%	13.7%	11.1%	19.1%	9.6%	7.3%
Some Help	21.0%	17.8%	14.0%	12.3%	15.6%	17.8%	11.0%	13.8%
Helpful	21.0%	20.9%	19.2%	17.0%	21.2%	17.9%	20.3%	19.3%
Minimal Help	14.4%	18.0%	17.9%	15.4%	20.4%	12.9%	19.7%	22.5%
No Help	28.5%	30.1%	36.5%	41.6%	31.6%	32.2%	39.4%	37.2%
N =	2229	2080	2117	1039	1078	742	719	618

127. positive role models

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very Helpful	27.2%	24.8%	31.5%	30.1%	32.9%	41.3%	26.3%	26.4%
Some Help	22.5%	21.5%	17.2%	15.6%	18.7%	14.7%	19.5%	17.6%
Helpful	24.3%	26.3%	23.1%	23.1%	23.1%	18.9%	23.2%	28.2%
Minimal Help	10.0%	12.3%	10.9%	10.7%	11.1%	7.5%	13.3%	12.5%
No Help	16.1%	15.1%	17.2%	20.5%	14.1%	17.6%	17.7%	15.4%
N =	2229	2083	2130	1039	1090	746	723	625

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

128. It is important to me to contribute to my community and society.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	14.4%	17.4%	16.2%	18.5%	23.8%	13.0%	14.9%
Agree		55.4%	51.9%	49.4%	54.2%	51.1%	51.4%	54.5%
Disagree		21.3%	20.7%	21.2%	20.3%	16.0%	24.4%	22.3%
Strongly Disagree		8.9%	10.0%	13.2%	7.0%	9.1%	11.3%	8.3%
N =		2031	2119	1031	1085	744	718	618

129. I don't need to drink or do drugs to have fun.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	40.5%	47.1%	44.5%	49.6%	65.1%	39.9%	35.6%
Agree		38.2%	35.4%	34.8%	36.0%	22.4%	40.7%	44.3%
Disagree		13.1%	10.7%	11.0%	10.5%	6.1%	13.1%	13.5%
Strongly Disagree		8.2%	6.7%	9.7%	3.9%	6.5%	6.4%	6.6%
N =		2028	2122	1035	1085	742	720	623

130. I value my time spent in church or temple.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	12.2%	12.4%	13.0%	11.9%	15.3%	10.6%	10.9%
Agree		35.1%	30.4%	28.5%	32.1%	30.9%	29.8%	30.7%
Disagree		26.9%	27.0%	25.8%	28.1%	26.8%	29.0%	25.3%
Strongly Disagree		25.7%	30.3%	32.7%	28.0%	27.1%	30.6%	33.1%
N =		2004	2107	1026	1080	739	718	613

131. I believe I can someday make a real difference in the lives of others.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	27.6%	30.6%	28.9%	32.1%	34.1%	26.8%	31.3%
Agree		50.6%	46.2%	44.7%	47.7%	42.1%	46.7%	50.0%
Disagree		14.7%	14.9%	15.3%	14.6%	14.3%	17.1%	13.9%
Strongly Disagree		7.2%	8.3%	11.1%	5.6%	9.6%	9.4%	4.8%
N =		2031	2121	1032	1088	743	721	620

132. I feel it is important to speak up and take a stand for what I believe in.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Strongly Agree	Not Asked	40.8%	45.8%	43.3%	48.1%	51.9%	40.1%	45.3%
Agree		46.6%	42.3%	42.0%	42.6%	35.1%	47.4%	45.6%
Disagree		8.0%	7.0%	8.1%	6.1%	7.8%	6.9%	6.2%
Strongly Disagree		4.6%	4.9%	6.6%	3.2%	5.2%	5.7%	2.9%
N =		2027	2131	1040	1089	744	724	625

133. Most of the time, I am happy with myself.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Strongly Agree	22.5%	26.2%	29.4%	31.8%	27.1%	36.0%	24.9%	27.0%
Agree	51.8%	53.7%	50.2%	50.5%	49.7%	44.8%	53.4%	53.1%
Disagree	16.9%	13.7%	13.2%	10.9%	15.3%	11.2%	14.0%	14.4%
Strongly Disagree	8.9%	6.3%	7.3%	6.8%	7.9%	8.1%	7.7%	5.4%
N =	2267	2025	2129	1037	1090	744	723	625

134. I am able to do things as well as most other people.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Strongly Agree		34.8%	36.2%	37.5%	35.2%	41.7%	32.2%	34.8%
Agree		53.6%	51.8%	50.7%	52.9%	44.1%	55.2%	57.2%
Disagree	Not Asked	8.4%	7.8%	7.2%	8.4%	9.6%	8.6%	4.6%
Strongly Disagree		3.2%	4.1%	4.6%	3.6%	4.6%	4.0%	3.4%
N =		2029	2127	1036	1089	741	723	626

*With respect to your own personal values, how important do you feel it is to...*

135. ...be honest and keep my word.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very Important		40.4%	52.7%	48.4%	56.7%	54.2%	45.7%	59.4%
Important	Not Asked	54.1%	41.4%	43.1%	39.8%	39.1%	47.8%	36.4%
Not Very Important		4.0%	3.7%	4.6%	2.8%	4.6%	4.0%	2.2%
Not Important At All		1.6%	2.3%	3.9%	.6%	2.1%	2.5%	1.9%
N =			2131	1042	1088	745	724	626

136. ...show respect towards adults.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very Important		37.3%	45.1%	44.0%	46.2%	53.5%	38.3%	43.5%
Important	Not Asked	52.1%	43.6%	41.7%	45.2%	34.9%	49.4%	47.2%
Not Very Important		8.0%	8.3%	10.0%	6.8%	8.3%	9.3%	7.4%
Not Important At All		2.6%	3.0%	4.3%	1.7%	3.2%	3.0%	1.9%
N =		2031	2133	1042	1090	747	724	625

137. ...be considerate and respectful of other people.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very Important		36.1%	40.5%	37.3%	43.7%	46.3%	33.9%	42.1%
Important	Not Asked	54.5%	49.9%	49.4%	50.3%	44.8%	54.8%	50.8%
Not Very Important		6.8%	7.3%	9.9%	4.9%	7.0%	9.1%	5.3%
Not Important At All		2.6%	2.2%	3.4%	1.0%	2.0%	2.2%	1.8%
N =		2031	2137	1044	1091	748	725	624

138. ...be abstinent (postpone sexual intercourse until marriage)

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very Important		25.7%	25.1%	21.9%	28.1%	37.3%	19.5%	17.6%
Important		28.9%	24.5%	23.1%	25.8%	28.3%	25.8%	18.2%
Not Very Important	Not Asked	29.1%	28.5%	27.7%	29.3%	19.3%	32.1%	36.1%
Not Important At All		16.4%	21.9%	27.3%	16.8%	15.0%	22.6%	28.1%
N =		2010	2111	1026	1085	745	713	615

139. ...look out for the safety and well-being of others.

	Totals			2005				
	1997	2001	2005	Male	Female	7th	9th	11th
Very Important		33.5%	40.0%	37.9%	42.0%	50.2%	32.2%	36.4%
Important	Not Asked	58.1%	50.3%	49.5%	51.1%	41.2%	54.2%	57.0%
Not Very Important		5.9%	6.4%	7.5%	5.3%	4.9%	9.5%	4.9%
Not Important At All		2.6%	3.3%	5.1%	1.6%	3.7%	4.1%	1.6%
N =		1989	2093	1023	1069	737	708	610

**Appendix B: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data (1997, 2001 & 2005) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) (1997 & 2003) and for United States (1997, 2001 & 2003) for 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grades**

1. Percentage of students who ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	67.7	66.5	69.1	64.9	64.2	65.3	53.3	51.3	55.2	68.8	70.2	67.1	76.4	76.8	76.4	67.3	67.7	66.9
2001	58.4	61.3	55.9	-	-	-	43.4	42.5	44.4	65.9	68.2	63.5	-	-	-	54.8	54.6	55.0
2003	52.0	53.0	50.9	40.6	43.9	37.4	-	-	-	60.0	60.1	59.8	54.4	53.8	54.1	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	35.9	35.2	36.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	43.6	44.5	42.6

2. Percentage of students who smoked a whole cigarette for the first time before age 13

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	32.0	34.9	28.8	28.1	30.2	25.3	30.5	32.6	28.2	22.2	17.1	26.3	25.0	28.6	21.4	27.7	30.2	25.1
2001	26.2	28.9	23.9	-	-	-	25.3	28.0	22.6	18.5	20.9	16.1	-	-	-	21.1	22.8	19.5
2003	19.3	21.1	17.4	18.7	20.3	17.2	-	-	-	16.0	18.0	14.1	13.5	16.7	15.7	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	20.2	21.9	18.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	18.8	19.4	17.9

3. Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	33.4	34.2	32.6	29.5	29.9	28.6	33.0	28.0	38.2	36.6	40.7	31.7	41.3	40.4	42.4	42.5	41.9	43.2
2001	23.9	24.2	23.6	-	-	-	26.0	25.7	26.4	29.8	32.3	27.3	-	-	-	31.4	28.2	34.2
2003	17.4	16.0	18.9	16.1	17.8	14.3	-	-	-	23.6	24.0	23.2	23.2	19.6	25.3	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.2	17.4	20.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	23.1	23.4	22.8

4. Percentage of students who used chewing tobacco or snuff on one or more of the past 30 days

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	9.7	16.6	2.1	5.4	8.1	2.4	7.7	14.4	0.5	10.0	16.5	2.1	7.2	13.9	0.5	9.3	17.5	0.3
2001	6.6	12.2	1.5	-	-	-	8.0	12.8	2.9	9.0	16.5	1.7	-	-	-	11.5	20.1	4.2
2003	6.6	9.1	3.8	4.2	6.2	2.2	-	-	-	7.8	13.3	2.0	5.4	8.8	2.8	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.2	12.3	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.3	16.8	2.2

5. Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more days during their life

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	72.0	70.5	73.6	71.7	75.8	67.3	66.7	68.8	64.6	81.9	83.4	80.1	82.6	80.5	85.0	82.3	82.4	82.3
2001	73.1	74.5	72.0	-	-	-	68.6	67.3	69.9	80.4	81.4	79.3	-	-	-	83.1	79.9	85.9
2003	65.0	64.0	66.2	65.8	64.9	66.6	-	-	-	78.6	80.9	76.4	83.1	82.4	83.4	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	57.5	57.3	57.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	71.3	71.1	71.5

6. Percentage of students who had their first drink of alcohol other than a few sips before age 13

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	41.9	44.9	38.6	38.9	48.2	28.9	33.9	38.0	29.5	29.9	35.4	23.3	27.4	20.1	34.7	25.2	32.5	17.4
2001	39.7	45.6	34.5	-	-	-	-	33.2	22.8	23.4	29.3	17.6	-	-	-	-	25.0	17.1
2003	36.4	39.4	33.3	34.8	37.6	31.8	-	-	-	23.0	27.6	18.2	22.5	27.3	18.4	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.3	31.4	23.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	18.7	22.3	15.5

7. Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	44.2	44.7	43.7	44.2	46.2	41.8	-	-	-	53.2	57.8	47.8	57.9	56.2	60.0	-	-	-
2001	41.1	42.2	40.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	49.3	53.6	45.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	36.2	33.9	38.5	35.2	32.8	37.4	-	-	-	47.0	47.3	46.8	54.0	56.1	50.9	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	35.1	35.4	34.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	49.8	53.1	46.6

8. Percentage of students who had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours, on one or more of the past 30 days

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	25.7	25.5	25.8	25.2	28.5	21.5	32.1	33.7	30.3	37.5	45.2	28.2	40.8	46.4	35.2	41.5	49.1	33.3
2001	24.5	26.2	23.0	-	-	-	28.2	28.5	27.9	32.2	38.5	26.1	-	-	-	43.5	52.2	36.7
2003	19.8	18.8	20.9	18.5	19.6	17.5	-	-	-	31.8	34.1	29.4	34.2	38.2	29.4	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	21.3	23.2	19.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.3	39.3	25.6

9. Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during their life

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	38.8	41.3	36.1	31.8	34.3	28.7	31.4	35.3	27.4	50.3	55.6	43.8	53.0	58.2	47.9	51.6	58.5	48.6
2001	32.7	37.3	28.6	-	-	-	36.4	41.4	31.2	47.2	42.6	51.7	-	-	-	51.2	54.9	48.0
2003	30.7	33.1	28.1	26.6	33.2	19.9	-	-	-	44.5	45.4	43.5	45.8	50.7	39.8	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.0	30.3	27.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.1	46.4	41.7

10. Percentage of students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	14.9	18.9	10.6	9.7	12.5	6.9	11.6	14.9	8.1	8.3	11.3	4.6	5.5	7.2	3.9	6.3	8.2	3.9
2001	11.6	15.0	8.6	-	-	-	11.1	15.1	7.1	8.5	10.4	6.5	-	-	-	9.4	11.3	7.8
2003	11.7	13.6	9.7	9.1	13.2	4.8	-	-	-	8.1	10.9	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.0	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.8	15.4	10.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.1	12.1	4.3

11. Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during the past 30 days

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	23.6	26.8	20.1	18.6	20.5	16.1	-	-	-	29.3	34.7	22.9	32.1	39.8	24.4	-	-	-
2001	19.4	22.6	16.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.8	30.2	21.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	18.5	19.6	17.2	15.7	19.2	12.1	-	-	-	24.1	27.3	20.9	26.4	30.4	20.8	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	15.8	18.3	13.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	20.7	22.4	19.1

12. Percentage of students who used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase one or more times during their life

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	6.7	6.6	6.8	4.7	4.9	4.1	6.7	8.4	5.0	9.1	10.1	7.9	8.4	10.5	6.4	7.5	8.6	6.1
2001	7.2	7.3	7.1	-	-	-	4.2	4.2	4.2	10.4	12.1	8.7	-	-	-	7.1	8.1	6.3
2003	6.8	6.1	7.6	5.0	5.1	4.9	-	-	-	9.0	10.2	7.7	7.6	5.7	9.7	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.6	5.4	5.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.7	10.4	6.8

13. Percentage of students who sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high one or more times during their life

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	19.0	18.2	19.9	18.7	19.7	17.0	15.1	12.2	17.8	15.4	18.9	11.2	19.5	21.5	17.7	11.6	15.4	7.4
2001	17.4	15.5	19.1	-	-	-	8.7	9.1	8.3	13.8	14.8	12.9	-	-	-	7.8	11.3	4.8
2003	13.6	12.7	14.6	12.4	11.1	13.8	-	-	-	11.0	12.6	9.4	8.1	9.4	6.8	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.2	9.4	10.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.0	10.1	7.7

14. Percentage of students who took steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	4.3	4.7	3.9	4.5	5.5	2.7	4.6	4.8	4.3	2.7	4.2	0.9	2.7	4.4	1.0	4.1	6.8	1.0
2001	5.8	6.8	5.0	-	-	-	3.8	4.7	2.9	4.3	5.3	3.3	-	-	-	4.4	6.0	3.0
2003	7.1	6.9	7.3	3.0	3.9	2.0	-	-	-	5.6	6.8	4.3	4.0	5.8	2.2	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.4	5.7	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.2	7.5	4.0

15. Percentage of students who used methamphetamines one or more times during their life

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	8.1	8.5	7.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.2	9.4	8.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	6.7	6.3	7.1	5.2	6.6	3.7	-	-	-	8.0	9.4	6.7	3.6	2.8	4.4	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.6	5.4	3.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.6	8.1	4.9

16. Percentage of students who have used ecstasy (also called MDMA)

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	10.9	11.2	10.6	4.9	6.3	3.4	-	-	-	11.4	12.0	10.8	4.8	3.7	5.9	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.2	5.7	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.9	7.5	4.0

17. Percentage of students who, during the past 12 months, ever felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	29.4	22.4	35.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.7	23.4	33.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	28.0	21.0	35.7	24.2	21.0	27.6	-	-	-	28.9	22.1	35.9	31.0	21.9	40.3	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.6	24.8	43.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.5	25.5	35.3

18. Percentage of students who seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	22.2	16.1	28.9	19.5	16.4	22.1	28.7	20.3	37.1	21.0	16.6	26.2	25.8	20.8	30.9	28.7	24.8	32.6
2001	20.8	14.7	26.2	-	-	-	25.6	18.5	33.0	18.9	14.1	23.6	-	-	-	22.9	18.0	27.0
2003	16.9	11.9	22.2	15.0	10.9	19.5	-	-	-	16.4	12.9	20.0	15.8	6.8	24.6	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.2	17.8	26.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.6	23.9	21.4

19. Percentage of students who made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	16.3	13.0	19.9	13.9	11.2	16.8	23.4	17.6	29.4	16.9	13.5	21.0	18.9	16.0	22.0	23.2	22.8	23.3
2001	16.0	12.7	18.9	-	-	-	19.6	17.3	21.8	15.2	12.0	18.5	-	-	-	16.6	16.0	17.1
2003	17.7	14.8	20.9	11.2	8.3	14.8	-	-	-	16.2	14.4	17.9	11.9	5.8	17.6	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.5	16.2	22.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.6	18.6	14.6

20. Percentage of students who actually attempted suicide one or more times during the past 12 months

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	10.5	6.3	15.1	8.6	7.5	9.8	12.4	6.2	8.4	7.6	4.4	11.3	8.7	9.4	8.2	9.4	8.3	10.4
2001	11.0	8.2	13.2	-	-	-	12.2	7.4	17.2	8.3	4.9	11.5	-	-	-	9.4	9.5	9.3
2003	10.1	5.8	14.7	6.7	3.4	10.0	-	-	-	7.3	4.6	10.0	9.8	3.7	12.1	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.5	12.1	14.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.4	9.5	7.4

21. Percentage of students whose attempted suicide during the past 12 months resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	4.1	3.2	5.0	2.2	2.1	2.3	4.3	2.4	6.1	2.7	2.6	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.4	2.9
2001	3.2	2.6	3.8	-	-	-	4.4	3.1	5.8	2.2	1.6	2.8	-	-	-	2.8	2.1	3.3
2003	3.5	3.1	3.9	2.3	2.4	2.1	-	-	-	2.4	2.0	2.9	2.1	1.5	2.7	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.4	3.8	5.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.9	3.6	2.2

22. Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	38.0	41.8	34.0	27.1	34.0	19.6	34.2	35.2	32.7	49.7	49.3	50.3	46.9	42.2	51.5	56.5	55.7	57.1
2001	34.4	40.5	29.1	-	-	-	30.0	28.8	31.2	51.9	54.0	49.7	-	-	-	49.0	44.2	53.2
2003	32.8	37.3	27.9	26.7	33.6	19.7	-	-	-	53.2	53.4	53.1	41.2	37.2	44.0	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.7	37.1	28.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	48.8	54.6	43.2

23. Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	10.8	14.7	6.5	7.3	11.2	3.5	9.0	10.3	7.3	6.1	8.2	3.5	2.8	4.4	1.1	3.8	4.9	2.5
2001	9.2	13.7	5.4	-	-	-	5.9	7.8	3.9	4.6	6.4	2.9	-	-	-	5.0	6.7	3.6
2003	9.3	13.2	5.3	6.9	10.5	3.3	-	-	-	5.4	7.5	3.2	2.5	3.2	2.0	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.0	11.7	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.0	7.2	0.9

24. Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	12.2	16.2	7.9	7.4	10.9	4.1	10.6	11.5	9.4	16.7	17.4	15.8	10.7	12.6	8.9	15.8	16.1	15.3
2001	9.6	13.9	5.8	-	-	-	7.3	9.1	5.5	15.2	17.8	12.6	-	-	-	11.5	10.6	12.3
2003	10.4	14.2	6.4	7.2	12.1	2.3	-	-	-	16.0	18.6	13.4	11.0	8.2	14.0	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.5	11.1	6.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.7	16.5	11.1

25. Of students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	58.8	59.2	58.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	60.1	64.8	55.4	70.3	-	-	-	-	-
2001	67.5	68.9	66.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	58.9	65.3	52.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	69.0	71.2	66.1	73.2	72.0	75.0	-	-	-	60.8	66.7	55.5	64.6	77.4	57.6	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	68.1	70.8	65.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	63.4	69.7	56.3

26. Of students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage who used birth control pills during last sexual intercourse

	9 <sup>th</sup> grade									11 <sup>th</sup> grade								
	US			NY (NYC)			HC			US			NY (NYC)			HC		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1997	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	7.6	5.6	9.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	18.6	14.8	22.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	8.7	6.6	11.6	6.1	7.6	3.8	-	-	-	19.6	14.8	24.1	21.9	11.5	28.3	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.3	8.6	14.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	21.9	18.5	25.9