

2009

Herkimer County

Teen Assessment Project

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

January 2010

Survey administered by:
**Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program with help from
Catholic Charities of Herkimer County**

Funded by:
**Herkimer BOCES
Herkimer County Department of Social Services
Herkimer County Traffic Safety/STOP DWI Program**



Report prepared by:
**Herkimer-Oneida Counties
Comprehensive Planning Program**

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Report prepared by:
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Comprehensive Planning Program

The Herkimer County 2009 TAP Report is posted on the Herkimer-Oneida Counties
Comprehensive Planning Program Website. To access this website go to:

www.ocgov.net

Under “DEPARTMENT,” click on “PLANNING,” then click on “HUMAN SERVICES.”

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Appendix A: *A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001, 2005 & 2009 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2009*

Appendix B: *A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2009) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2007) and for United States (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2007) for 9th and 11th Grades*

Acknowledgements

The Herkimer County 2009 Teen Assessment Project (TAP) Survey represents the fourth in the series of TAP Surveys the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program (HOCCPP) has conducted every four years since 1997. Herkimer County now has valuable local information regarding the concerns, perceptions and behaviors of our youth that spans 12 years. Several organizations and many individuals deserve credit for this accomplishment.

The first to be acknowledged are the schools. In advance of the survey, school administrators notified students, teachers and parents and then reorganized their class schedules. During the survey, administrators and teachers helped monitor students. Due to their efforts, the survey ran smoothly at all schools. Each time the survey has been repeated, more and more school personnel have expressed support for the survey and for the information it provides.

Since the TAP Survey's inception, Herkimer BOCES has provided a strong endorsement and critical financial support. Herkimer County Department of Social Services, through a contract with HOCCPP, has contributed the planning staff that organizes the survey, analyzes the data and prepares the report. The Herkimer County Department of Social Services/Education Liaison Committee, as a collaboration of county, school and community agencies, was essential in getting the TAP Survey initially off the ground.

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County deserves special recognition for their numerous roles in supporting the TAP Survey. A staff member recruited and coordinated the volunteer survey administrators. They hosted both the TAP Steering Committee meetings and survey administrators training sessions, and many of their staff helped administer the survey. Catholic Charities has been essential to the success of each of the four surveys.

In preparation of each survey, the staff of HOCCPP organizes a Steering Committee to advise on scheduling, logistics and survey content. The Herkimer County 2009 TAP Survey Steering Committee was instrumental in helping improve the survey administration and update the survey instrument.

We would be remiss in not recognizing the contribution of the students who participated in the survey. One thousand eight hundred and seventy-four (1,874) students, representing over 80% of the students in 7th, 9th and 11th grades, voluntarily took the survey. Based on witnessing their participation, on scanning their anonymous answer sheets and on analyzing the data, most all of the students appear to have answered the questions sincerely and honestly.

What is evident from these acknowledgements of organizational support and from the long list below of individuals who contributed to the success of the TAP Survey is that this is an enterprise involving the collaboration of many in the community. Schools, county agencies, community agencies, community residents and youth all played an important part.

Sponsor:

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

Funding and Organizational Support:

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County
Herkimer BOCES
Herkimer County Department of Social Services
Herkimer County Stop DWI Program

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Russ Kissinger, High School Principal

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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 distribution. In this capacity, they provide technical assistance, electronically scan the answer sheets and compile the databases. In the case of the Herkimer County 2009 TAP Survey, the Herkimer County DSS (Department of Social Services)/ Education Liaison Committee sponsored it; the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program administered it; Catholic Charities of Herkimer County coordinated the volunteer survey administrators; 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 2009 TAP Survey is the fourth of successive surveys. The first one was conducted in 1997.

For the 2009 TAP Survey, 1,874 7th, 9th and 11th graders from the eleven school districts participated. The eleven school districts represent all, except one, of the schools located in Herkimer County. The one exception, Richfield Springs Central School District, has never participated in the TAP Survey; instead, they participate in another student survey administered in Otsego County where the majority of their students reside. In 1997, some 2,300 7th, 9th, and 11th grade students from 10 school districts and Pine Grove Academy participated in the TAP Survey. In 2001, 2,165 students from 11 districts, plus Pine Grove Academy, participated. The one additional school district that joined in 2001 was the Town of Webb Union Free School, which is in Herkimer County though not associated with Herkimer BOCES. The composition of schools was the same in 2005 as in 2001, and just under 2,300 students participated. In 2009, the composition of schools changed.

First, Pine Grove Academy closed in 2006, so it could no longer be included. Second, while Mount Markham Central School District participated, their School Board changed their parental consent requirements. This affected the sampling process and decreased the percentage of students from Mount Markham that participated, thus they were not included within the dataset analyzed for this report.

The other schools, and previously Mount Markham Central School District, required only “passive parental consent” meaning parents/guardians are informed of the survey and can choose to have their son or daughter not take the survey. The Mount Markham School Board, consistent with an option set forth in the federal *No Child Left Behind* legislation, decided to require for any student survey “active parental consent” – meaning in order for a student to take a survey, a parent/guardian must provide written permission. The issue from the standpoint of data

analysis of the 2009 TAP Survey is that Mount Markham's change from a passive parental consent process to an active parental consent requirement has potentially resulted in the selection of a statistically different sampling of their district than was taken from the other participating schools which used a passive parental consent process. It is the potential differences in these two samples that have made the inclusion of Mount Markham's data in the analysis of the 2009 TAP Survey problematic. Just reviewing the response rates in Mount Markham versus other districts suggests that their sample of students is most likely different from other participating districts. For example, in the case of Mount Markham, just 42% of the students from the three grades participated, compared to 84% for the other schools, and only 30% of their 11th graders took the survey, compared to 78% for the other schools. In the end, to ensure data reliability, a decision was made to exclude Mount Markham's responses from the dataset.

The TAP Survey has generally been administered the same way each time. The process is spelled out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program (HOCCPP) and each of the participating schools. 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 (March 30th to April 9th, 2009) 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.

TAP Report Contents

The report begins with a description of the demographics of the survey participants, i.e. age, gender, grade and family-type. Next, in the body of the report, the analysis of the results is organized according to eleven 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, Community and Peers
9. Personal Safety
10. The Internet and Technology
11. Gambling

Under each of the eleven focus areas, the analysis examines the results in several ways. First, the results from the 2009 TAP Survey are compared to the results from three previous Herkimer County TAP Surveys from 1997, 2001 and 2005.

Second, when applicable, the analysis looks at the population at-risk, i.e. users of tobacco, alcohol and drugs, sexually active youth, those who seriously considered suicide, and users of the Internet.

Third, the Herkimer County TAP Survey results are compared to the results of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey for the United States. The Herkimer County TAP Survey includes 29 questions that are similar to ones in the national YRBS Survey. These 29 questions are all related to risk behaviors, specifically: tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and other drug use; suicide ideation and attempts; sexual activity and dating violence. This analysis compares the 9th and 11th grade students from Herkimer County with 9th and 11th grade students from the United States. The 9th and 11th grades are the only two grades the Herkimer County TAP Survey and the national YRBS Survey have in common for comparison purposes. When

making these comparisons, it is important to look at similar aged populations.

At the end, the conclusion highlights the trends and potential areas of concerns.

In addition, there are two appendices:

Appendix A: *A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001, 2005 & 2009 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2009*

Appendix B: *A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2009) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) and for United States (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2007) for 9th and 11th 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 re-

sponses 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 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 7th grade or being 13 years or younger and being in 11th 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.

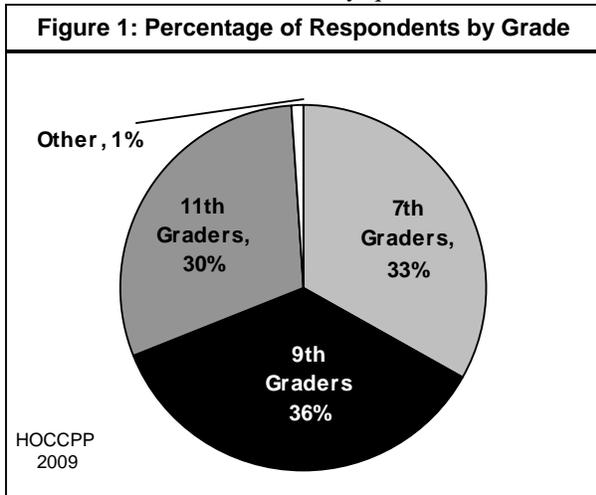
To begin with, trained volunteers rather than school personnel administer the survey. This helps to ensure that the survey participants feel a sense anonymity and confidentiality. The volunteers receive advanced training and are given explicit instructions to read during each survey session. The survey 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 2009 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

Eighteen hundred and fifty (1850) teens in 7th, 9th and 11th grade participated in the 2009 Herkimer County TAP Survey. This represents over 80% of all of the students enrolled in the three grades of the participating schools. This is a response rate large enough to ensure it accurately reflects the concerns, perceptions and behaviors of the targeted population.

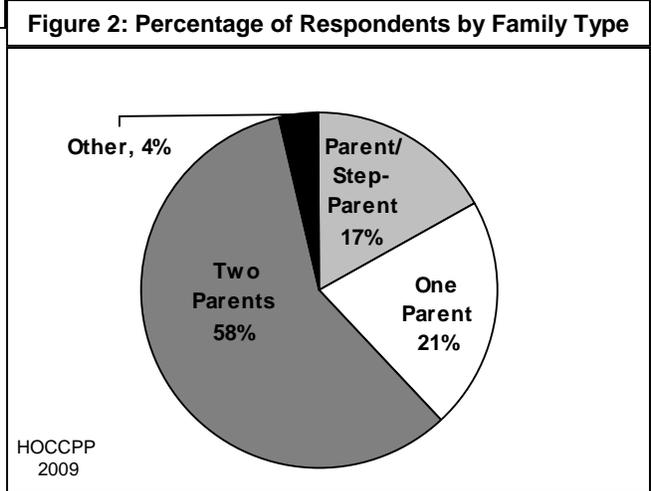
The TAP survey includes several demographic questions. Four relate to the respondents directly: gender, age, grade level, and whether they have special needs. Five additional questions focus on the teens' living situation: who they live with, whether their family or they themselves experienced homelessness, their parents' level of education, and whether their family qualifies for free or reduced priced lunch. There were no questions concerning ethnic or racial background.



In terms of gender, there were slightly more females (53%) than males (47%). In the past three TAP Surveys, the split was closer to even, meaning 50/50. A third (33%) of the respondents were 7th graders; 36% - 9th graders; and 30% - 11th graders (See Figure 1). The age distribution corresponds to this grade level breakdown. Some 85% of teens stated they had no special needs. The most commonly cited special need was a learning disability (6%), followed by emotional/behavioral disability (3%). This is similar to the prior TAP Surveys.

Of all of the survey participants, 58% indicated they lived with either both their natural or adoptive parents (See Fig-

ure 2). Between the 1997 and the 2005 TAP Surveys the percent that reported living with both parents had been consistently declining from 64% in 1997 down to 57% in 2005, but in 2009 it stayed about the same as 2005 at 58%. The percentage of teens that live in single parent households (living with either their mother only, father only, or mother part-time and father part-time) has been around 21% since 2001; in 1997 it was 18%. The remaining youth, less than 4%, stated that they lived with other relatives, in a group or foster home, or alone.



Almost a third of all youth (30%) indicated they qualified for either free or reduced priced lunch. The percentage that said they qualified increased between 1997, when it was 25%, and 2005, when it was 30%, but stayed at 30% in 2009. When asked what was the highest level of education completed by either one of their parents, 8% reported their parents had not completed high school, 18% said they had completed high school, 9% reported some college or technical training, 12% said their parents have a 2-year college degree, 18% reported a four-year college degree, and 13% said they had an advanced degree. More than one out of five respondents (22%) did not know how much education their parents had completed.

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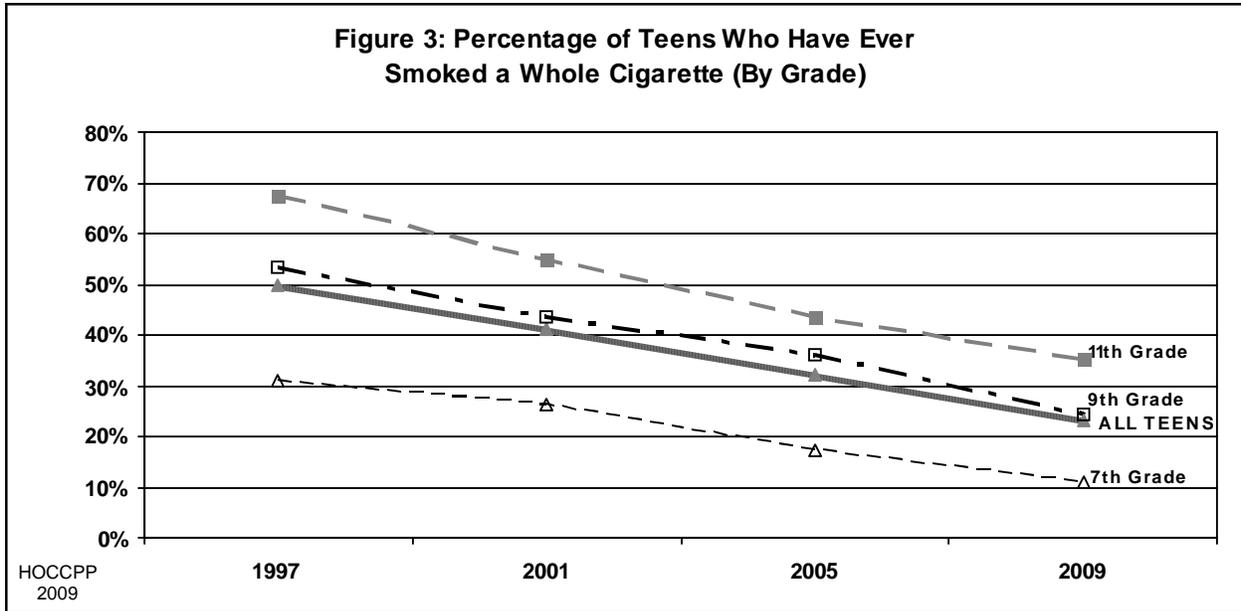
For the first time, there were two questions in the TAP Survey regarding homelessness. The first asked if during the past year they and their family had been homeless, and 2% responded yes. The second questions asked whether they, during the last year, had left home and been homeless for a day or longer, and 4% answered yes.

I. Tobacco Use

Herkimer County Trends

- **TREND: Fewer teens are smoking.**

⇒ In 2009, teens were significantly less likely to have smoked than when the survey was conducted in 1997, 2001 or 2005. In 2009, only 24% of teens said they had ever smoked. This is down from the 2005 TAP Survey when 33% of teens said they had smoked, and significantly lower than the initial TAP Survey data in 1997 when half of all teens (50%) said they ever smoked. This same trend is true regardless of the grade level of the respondents. (See Figure 3)



- **TREND: Teen smokers appear to now be waiting longer before they start smoking.**

⇒ Among teens that smoke, the number that reported that they had their first cigarette at age 12 or younger has been quite consistent in the first three TAP Surveys (1997, 2001, and 2005). In each of these surveys, about 56% of all teen smokers said that they smoked their first whole cigarette at or before the age of twelve. In 2009, that percentage has dropped significantly. Only 45% of all teen smokers said they had smoked a cigarette by the age of twelve in the most recent survey.

- **TREND: The percent of teens who smoke and are “regular smokers” has not changed significantly since 2001.**

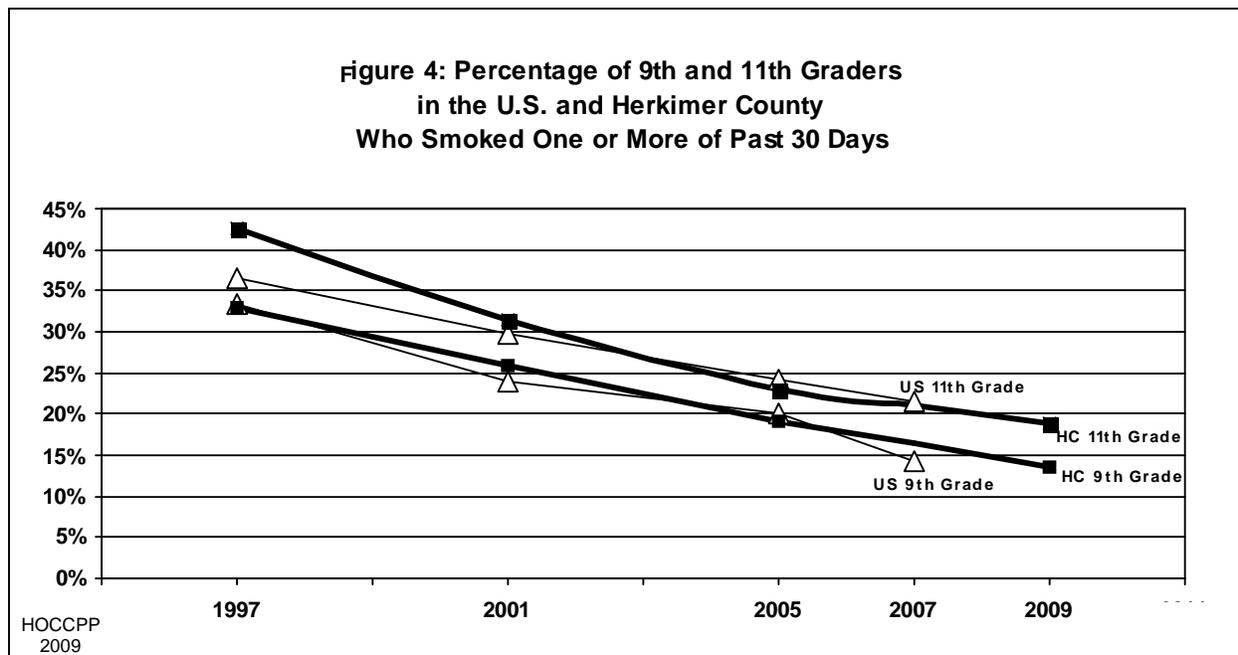
⇒ While fewer teens are smoking overall, there has been no real change among smokers in terms of the percentage that reported smoking regularly. In the last three TAP Surveys (2001, 2005 and 2009) about 30% of all smokers said they smoked ten or more days out of the past 30 days. While this is significantly lower than the percentage reported among smokers in 1997 (40%), it represents no change over the last eight years.

- **TREND: The percent of teens who smoke and have attempted to quit smoking has not changed significantly since 2001.**

⇒ Among smokers, about 21% reported in each of the last three TAP Surveys (2001, 2005, and 2009) that they have tried to quit smoking. These percentages are significantly lower than what was found in the 1997 survey. In 1997, the percent of teens that smoked who reported that they had ever tried to quit smoking was about 32%.

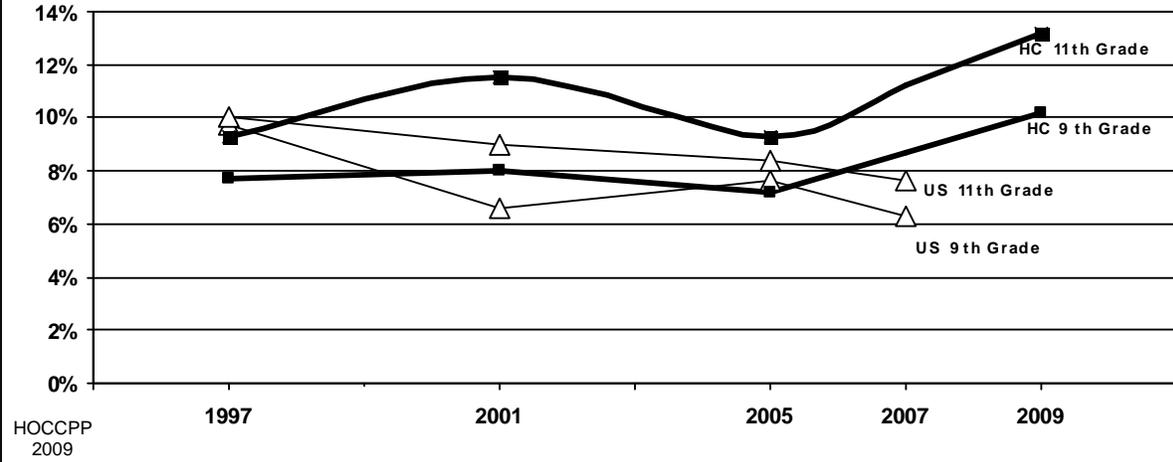
Herkimer County Compared to the United States

- COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Since 1997, the percent decline of 9th and 11th graders who ever smoked has been greater in Herkimer County than in the United States.**
 - ⇒ Just as for Herkimer County, the percent of teens who said they ever smoked declined in the United States. However, the rate of decline has been more pronounced in Herkimer County. For U.S. 9th graders, the percent that ever tried smoking decreased from 68% in 1997 to 43% in 2007, a decline of 37% over ten years. For Herkimer County 9th graders, the percent decreased from 53% in 1997 to just 24% in 2009, a decline of 55% over 12 years. The same holds true for 11th graders when comparing Herkimer County with the United States.
- COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Since 1997, the percent of 9th and 11th graders who smoked one or more days in the past 30 days has been cut in half for Herkimer County and the United States. (See Figure 4)**
 - ⇒ In 1997 for the United States, 37% of 11th graders and 33% of 9th graders and for Herkimer County 43% of 11th graders and 33% of 9th graders reported smoking at least once in the past 30 days. In the United States by 2007, 22% of 11th graders and 14% of 9th graders and in Herkimer County by 2009, 19% of 11th graders and 14% of 9th graders reported this level of smoking.



- COMPARATIVE TRENDS: The percent of 9th and 11th graders who used chewing tobacco or snuff on one or more of the past 30 days increased between 2005 and 2009 in Herkimer County but between 2005 and 2007 decreased in the United States. (See Figure 5)**
 - ⇒ The use of chewing tobacco or snuff by 9th and 11th graders in the United States declined slightly from about 10% for both grades in 1997 down to 6% for 9th graders and to 8% for 11th graders by 2007. Herkimer County teens have on the other hand become more likely to use chewing tobacco or snuff since 1997. Between 1997 and 2009, the percent increased for 9th graders from 8% to 10% and for 11th graders from 9% to 13%.

**Figure 5: Percentage of 9th and 11th Graders
in the U.S. and Herkimer County
Who Used Chewing Tobacco or Snuff One or More of Past 30 Days**

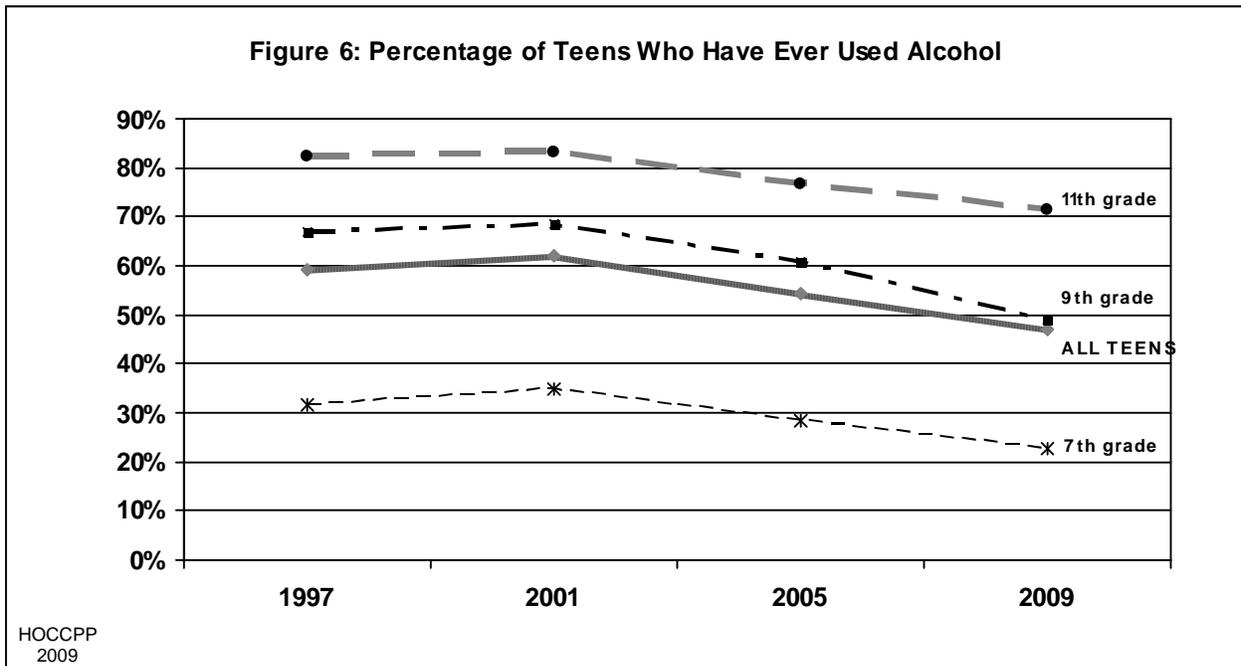


II. Alcohol Use

Herkimer County Trends

- **TREND: Fewer teens are drinking alcohol.**

⇒ In 2009, teens were significantly less likely to have ever had a drink of alcohol than when the survey was conducted in 1997, 2001 or 2005. In 2009, for the first time, less than half of all teens (47%) said they had ever drunk alcohol. This is down from the 2005 TAP Survey when 54% of teens said they had ever drunk, and significantly lower than the initial TAP Survey data in 1997 when nearly 60% of teens said they ever used alcohol. This same trend is seen for each of the three grades. (See Figure 6)



- **TREND: Teen drinkers appear to now be waiting longer before they start drinking.**

⇒ Among teens that drink, the percent that began drinking at a young age has declined since 1997. In the 1997 TAP Survey, half of all teen drinkers (50%) said that they had their first drink at or before the age of twelve. This dropped to about 43% in both the 2001 and 2005 surveys. By 2009, that percentage had dropped significantly once again. Only 38% of all teen drinkers said they had used alcohol by the age of twelve in the most recent survey.

- **TREND: The percent of teen drinkers who drink “regularly” has steadily declined.**

⇒ Not only are fewer teens drinking overall, but the percentage that reported drinking “regularly” has also declined. Since 1997, when 52% of teen drinkers said that they drank regularly—meaning at least a few times per month or more - the percentage of teens drinking regularly has dropped. In 2001, less than half (47%) of all drinkers said they drank at least a few times per month or more; in 2005 it was down to 42%; in this year’s survey the number of teen drinkers who reported using alcohol regularly had declined to 39%.

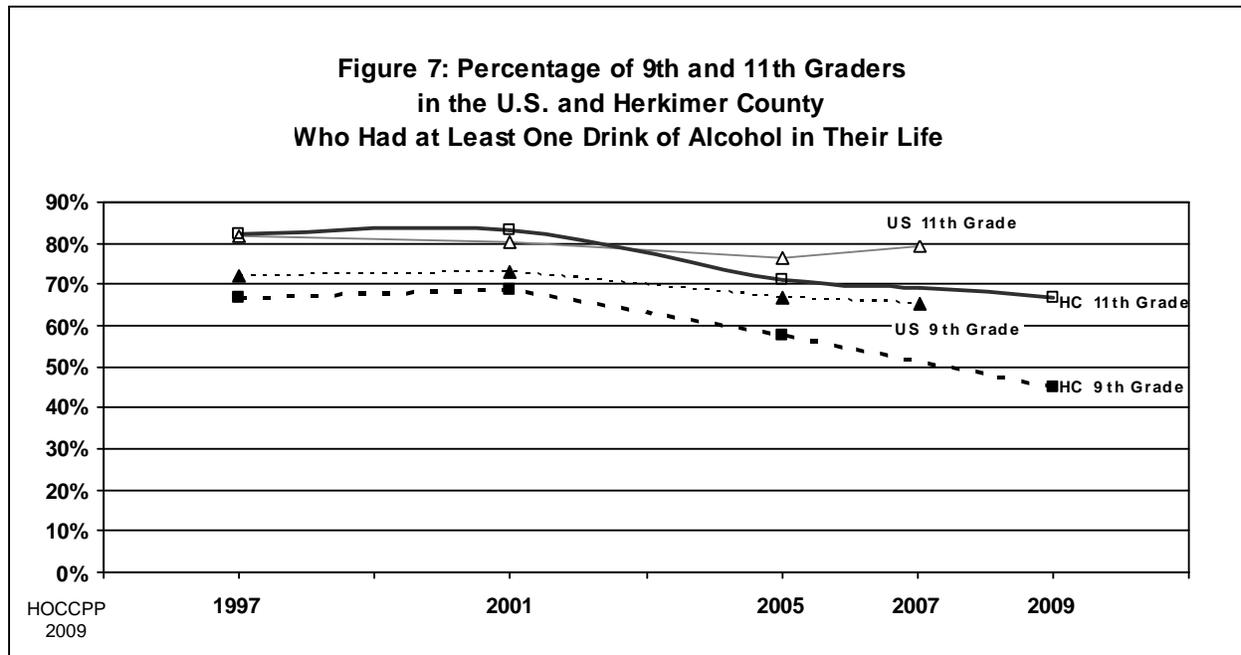
- **TREND: The percent of teens drinkers who “binge” drink has significantly declined.**

⇒ Since 1997 when 46% of all teen drinkers indicated that they had gone “binge drinking” in the past month—meaning they had 5 or more drinks within two to three hours. Significantly fewer teens in

2009 drank in this manner. In this last survey, only 31% of all teen drinkers reported they had gone binge drinking in the past 30 days. Even though the majority of binge drinkers have done so multiple times in the last 30 days, the percentage has declined, over the last 12 years, from as many as 66% in 1997 to 61% in 2009.

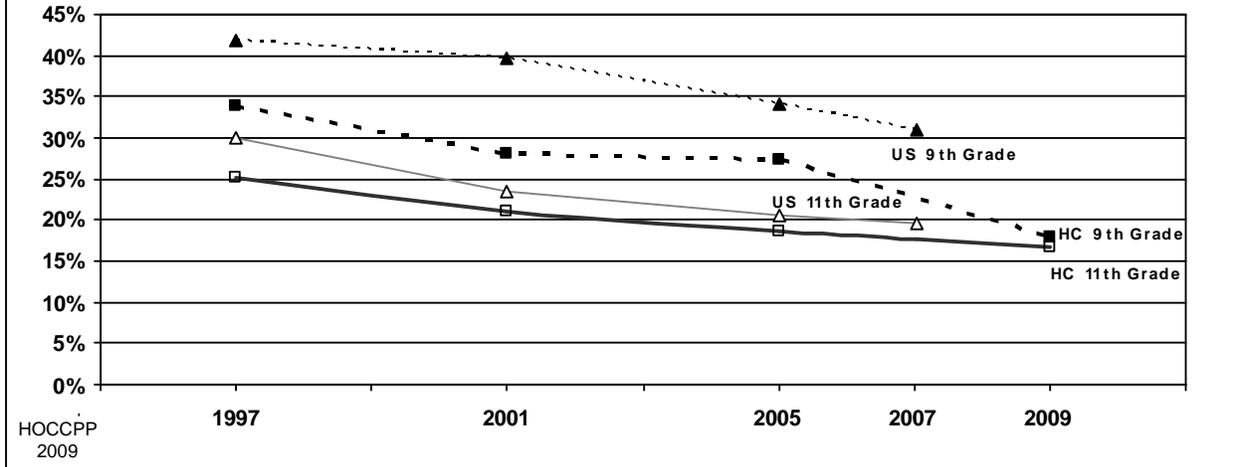
Herkimer County Compared to the United States

- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: A lower percent of 9th and 11th graders across the country have tried alcohol, but the decline is greater in Herkimer over last eight years.**
 - ⇒ The percent of teens who ever drank alcohol has also been going down across the country, however not to the extent seen in Herkimer County over the last eight years (See Figure 7). In 2007, 66% of the 9th graders in the U.S. had ever had at least one drink of alcohol - down from 73% in 2001. In 2009, 45% of the 9th graders in Herkimer County had ever drank, and this is down from 69% in 2001. For 11th graders, the percent who have ever drank in the U.S. has been consistently near 80% since 1997, whereas in Herkimer County the percent for 11th graders has been steadily declining from a high of 83% in 2001 to a low of 67% in 2009.



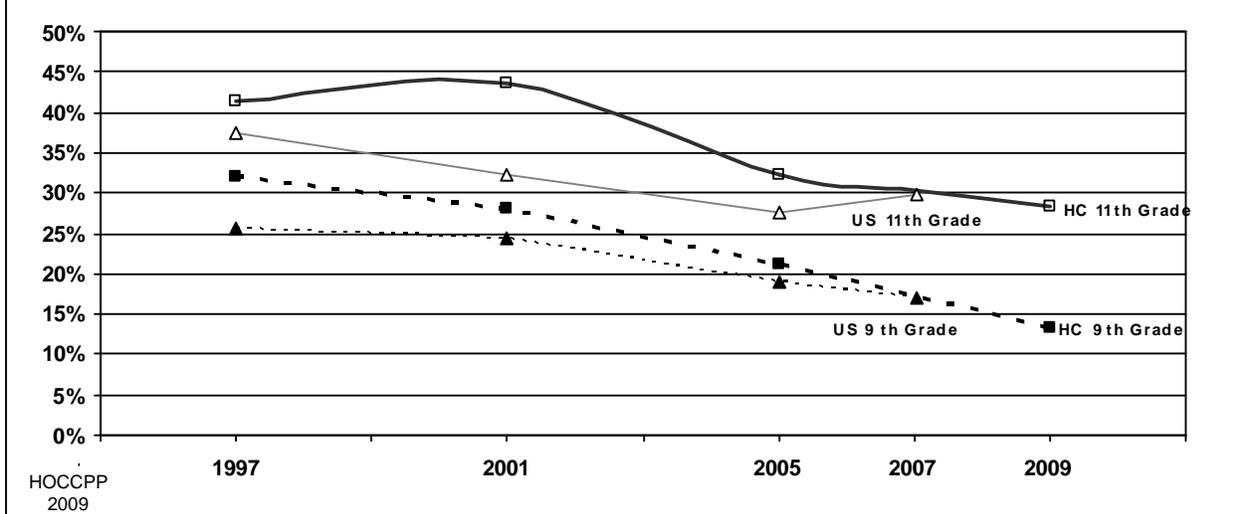
- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Teen drinkers appear to be waiting longer to start drinking both locally and in the United States. (See Figure 8)**
 - ⇒ The percent of all 9th and 11th graders who had their first drink of alcohol before age 13 has declined over the past 12 years in both Herkimer County and the U.S. For 9th graders, who probably have a better memory than 11th graders of when they were younger than 13 years old, just under a third (31%) in the U.S. in 2007 and in Herkimer County in 2009 just under one-fifth (18%) reported drinking before age 13. Since 1997, the percentage for 9th graders in Herkimer County, who drank before age 13, has been significantly lower (on average 9% points lower) than the percentage for the U.S.

Figure 8: Percentage of 9th and 11th Graders in the U.S. and Herkimer County Who Had Their First Drink of Alcohol Before Age 13



- COMPARATIVE TRENDS: The percent of 9th and 11th graders who “binge” drink in Herkimer County declined below the 2007 national rate. (See Figure 9)**
 - ⇒ Since 1997, the percent of 9th and 11th graders who reported binge drinking in the past month has been consistently higher in Herkimer County than in the U.S. – at least up until this last survey. Given the drop in the rate of binge drinking in Herkimer County, the percent of both 9th and 11th graders who report binge drinking in 2009 appears to be similar to the national trend – at least based on the national trend up to 2007 and assuming that trend continues down at the same rate over the two years from 2007 to 2009. (For 9th graders: Herkimer County in 2009 – 13% and the U.S. in 2007 – 17%; for 11th graders: Herkimer County in 2009 – 28% and the U.S. in 2007 – 30%)

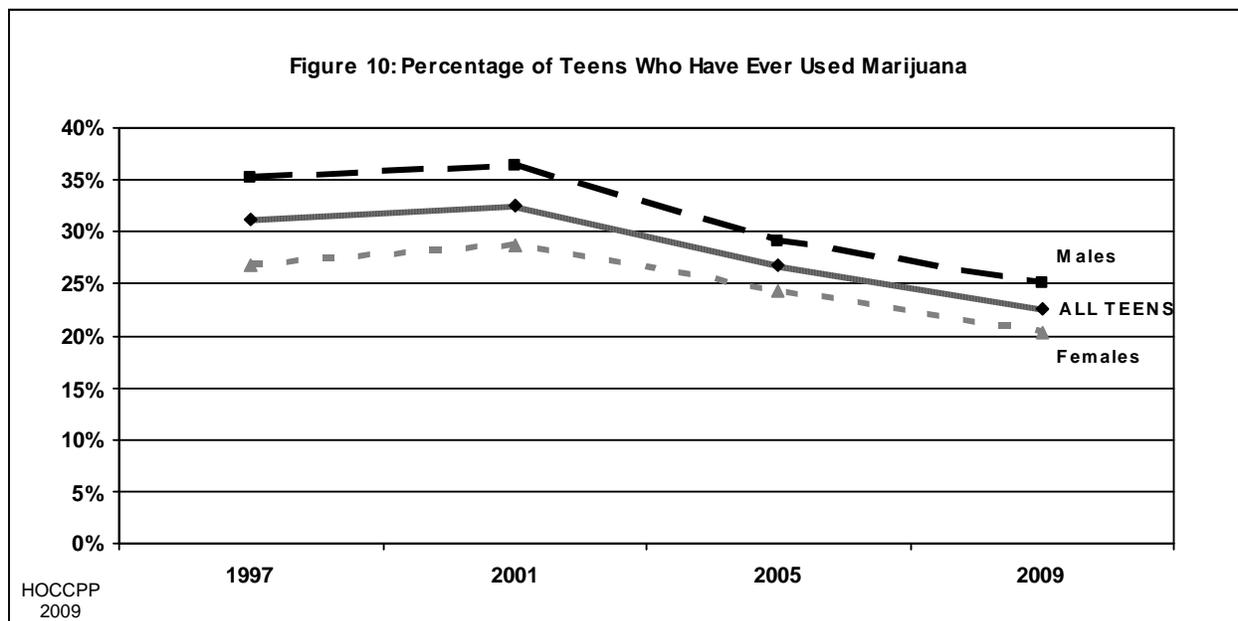
Figure 9: Percentage of 9th and 11th Graders in the U.S. and Herkimer County Who Had Binged Drank in the Past 30 Days



III. Marijuana and Other Drug Use

Herkimer County Trends

- **TREND: Fewer teens have tried marijuana since 2001. (See Figure 10)**
 - ⇒ While the percent of teens who reported having tried marijuana in 1997 and 2001 was statistically similar (about 32%), a significantly fewer number of teens said they had ever tried the drug in 2005 or in 2009. In 2005, only about 27% of teens said they had ever used marijuana. By 2009 the percentage dropped to 23%. This trend is true regardless of gender, though females have consistently been less likely to have tried marijuana.

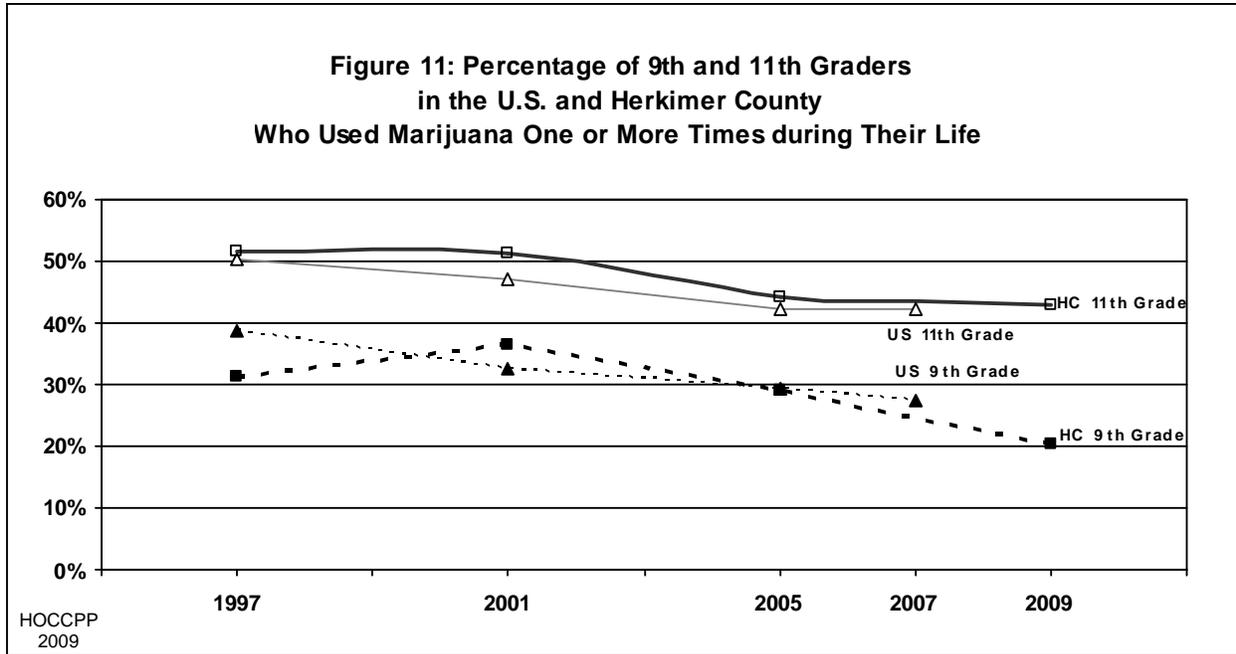


- **TREND: The introduction of marijuana at a young age (before age 13) appears to have spiked in 2005.**
 - ⇒ While the overall use of marijuana appears to be declining, the percent of teen marijuana users who have tried the drug before age 13 has remained pretty steady (30%). However, in 2005 that number appeared to spike significantly when as many as 34% of teen marijuana users said they had initially tried the drug before age 13.
- **TREND: There is no significant difference in the percent of marijuana users who smoke regularly.**
 - ⇒ The percent of pot smokers that use marijuana regularly has not significantly changed since 1997. In 2009, about 41% of pot smokers report that they used it at least a few times per week or every day—the same percentage as in 1997. The percent of marijuana users who frequently used the drug in 2001 and 2005 was slightly higher (46% and 43%, respectively), but this was not statistically significantly different.
- **TREND: Significantly fewer teens are trying cocaine, inhalants, or steroids.**
 - ⇒ In terms of cocaine and steroids, the pattern of use between 1997 and 2005 had been steady, with about 6% of all teens saying they had ever tried coke, and 4% reporting they had ever tried steroids. According to the most recent survey, significantly fewer teens tried those drugs. The percent of teens who reported ever trying cocaine dropped to about 4% while the percent saying they tried steroids went down to about 3%. While these drops are small, they are statistically significant.
 - ⇒ Inhalant use has steadily declined since the first survey in 1997, dropping from 12.7% that year, to only 6.9% in the 2009 survey responses.

Herkimer County Compared to the United States

- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Marijuana use for both 9th and 11th graders is very similar to national findings. (See Figure 11)**

⇒ In comparing 9th and 11th graders in Herkimer County to those in the United States, since 1997, the percent of marijuana users have been, for the most part, similar and there has been the same trend of fewer users. An exception to this general trend is in Herkimer County where the percent of 9th grade users spiked at 36% in 2001 and then steadily declined to 29% in 2005 and to just 20% in 2009. For the U.S. 9th graders, it was highest in 1997 at 39% and has since gradually declined to 28% in 2007.



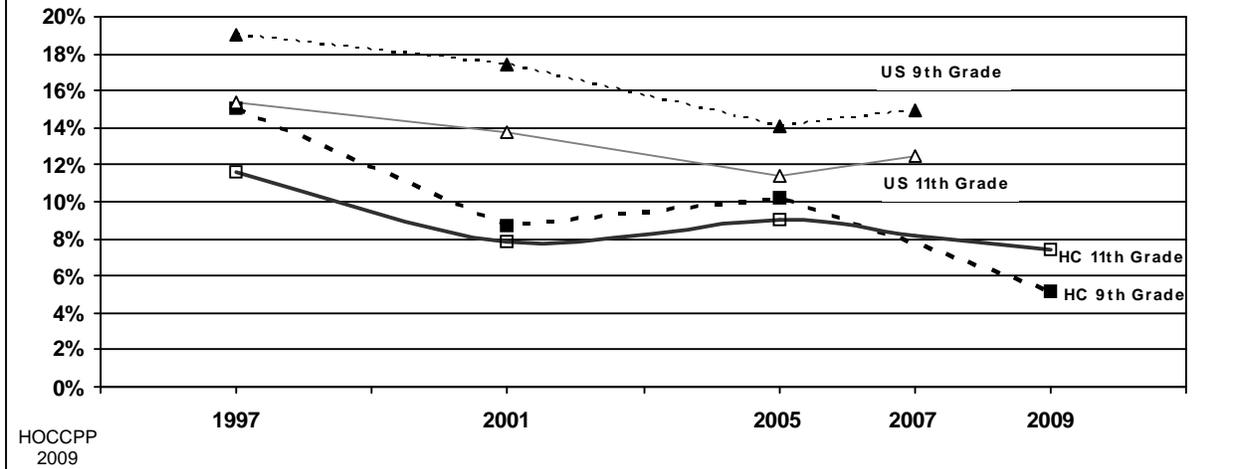
- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Cocaine use dropped more for 9th than 11th graders both in the United States and Herkimer County.**

⇒ When comparing cocaine use by 9th and 11th graders in Herkimer County to those in the U.S., two trends become evident. First, reported cocaine use for 9th graders was the same (7%) for both Herkimer County and the U.S. in 1997. By 2007, it dropped to 5% in the U.S., and by 2009, it went down to 3% in Herkimer County. Second, for 11th graders the percent reporting cocaine use has remained about the same since 1997 for both Herkimer County (between 7% and 8%) and the U.S. (between 8% and 10%).

- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Fewer 9th than 11th graders are using inhalants in Herkimer County—not so in the United States. (See Figure 12)**

⇒ Use of inhalants in Herkimer County has been consistently below that in the U.S.; and, whereas the use has not diminished much at all since 1997 in the U.S., it has in Herkimer County, particularly for 9th graders. The percent of 9th graders who reported ever sniffing glue or breathing paints or sprays declined in the U.S. from 19% in 1997 to 15% in 2007; and in Herkimer County it declined from 15% in 1997 to just 5% in 2009. For 11th graders, it decreased in the U.S. from 15% in 1997 to 13% in 2007; and in Herkimer from 12% in 1997 to 7% in 2009.

**Figure 12: Percentage of 9th and 11th Graders
in the U.S. and Herkimer County
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**



- COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Steroid use has remained relatively constant in both the U.S. and Herkimer County.**

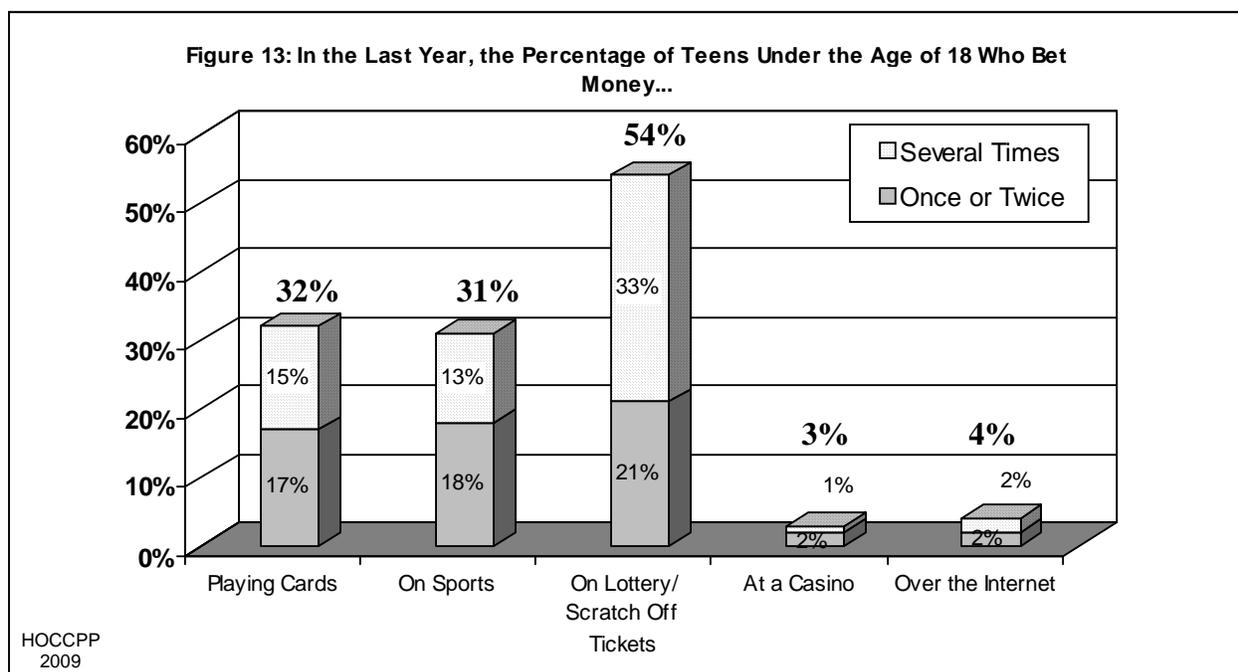
⇒ Since 1997, the use of steroids for 9th and 11th graders has generally been just at or below 5% for both the U.S. and Herkimer County. For 9th graders in Herkimer County, it was 5% in 1997, 4% in 2001 and 3% in 2005 and 2009. In the U.S. for 9th graders, it was 5% in both 2005 and 2007. The percent of 11th graders that reported using steroids has not changed statistically since 1997 in either Herkimer County (4% - 5%) or the U.S. (3% - 4%).
- COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Methamphetamine use among 9th and 11th graders appears not to be a growing problem, in fact – just the opposite.**

⇒ At one point methamphetamine use was viewed as a growing national problem, but based on the recent results of both the CDC YRBS Survey and the TAP Survey, it appears safe to say that “meth” use is not a growing problem at least among 9th and 11th graders in the U.S. or Herkimer County. For the U.S., meth use declined from 8% in 2001 to 4% in 2007 for 9th graders; and for 11th graders it went down from 9% in 2001 to 5% in 2007. And, for Herkimer County it decreased from 5% in 2005 to 2% in 2009 for 9th graders; for 11th graders it went down from 7% in 2005 to 4% in 2009.

IV. Gambling

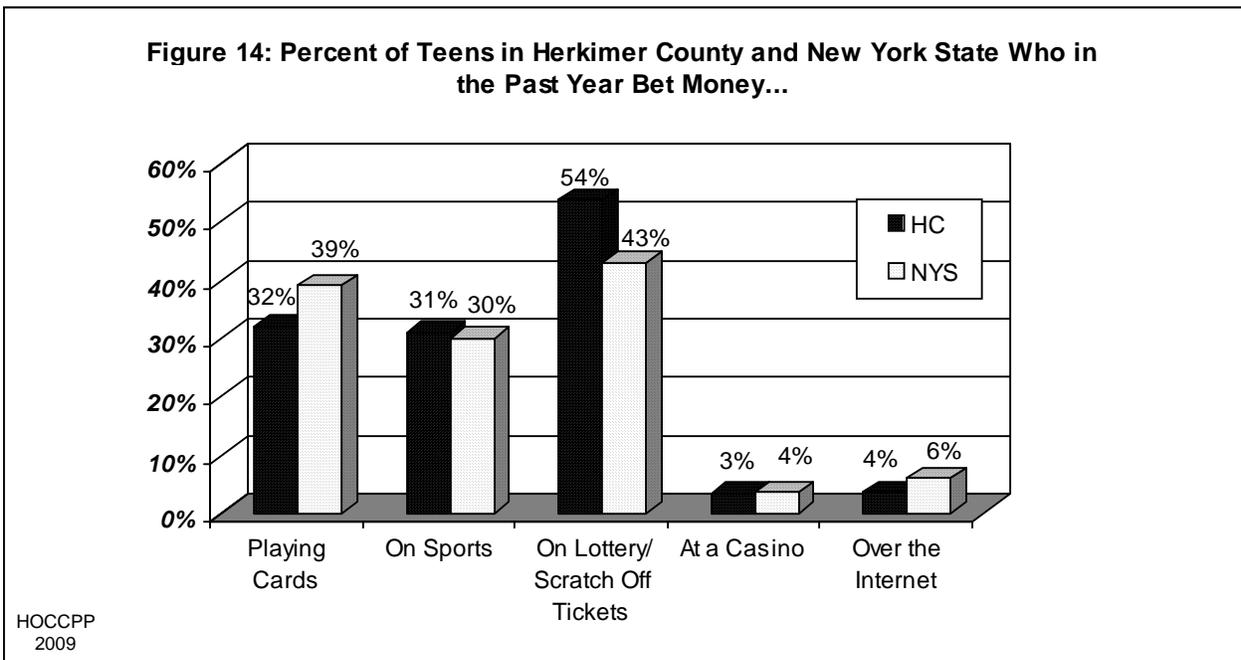
Herkimer County—2009

- **2009: Two-thirds of all teens gambled in the last year.**
 - ⇒ In analyzing unique cases of teens who have either played cards for money, bet money on sports, played the lottery, or bet at a casino, two thirds (66%) of all teens have gambled in the last year.
 - ⇒ As many as 41% of all teens gambled several times in the last year.
- **2009: The most common form of gambling among teens under age 18 is the lottery or scratch off tickets.** (See Figure 13)
 - ⇒ Over half (54%) played the lottery, Lotto, or scratch off tickets in the last year. About a third (32%) of all teens in the last year played cards for money or bet on sporting events. And, very small percentages bet money at a casino (3%) or bet money over the internet (4%).



- **2009: Among teen gamblers, one out of twelve have borrowed money or sold property in the past year in order to pay for their gambling.**
 - ⇒ Looking at any teen that has gambled in the past year, 8% said that they had borrowed money or sold off property (like an iPod or clothing) in order to pay for their gambling.
 - ⇒ One out of twenty-five teen gamblers (4%) said that in the past year they had lied to someone about either how much they gamble or about how much money they've lost gambling.
- **2009: Among males and females that gamble...**
 - ⇒ Males make up 55% of teen gamblers; their most common venues for gambling are lotto/lottery tickets (83%), playing cards for money (73%); and betting on sporting events (66%).
 - ⇒ Lotto/scratch off tickets are the only form of gambling surveyed where female gamblers were more likely than male gamblers to have played. Almost 95% of all female gamblers have tried various forms of lottery gambling versus 83% of males. Besides lotteries, the next most common gambling options for females were playing cards for money (42%) and betting on sports (40%).

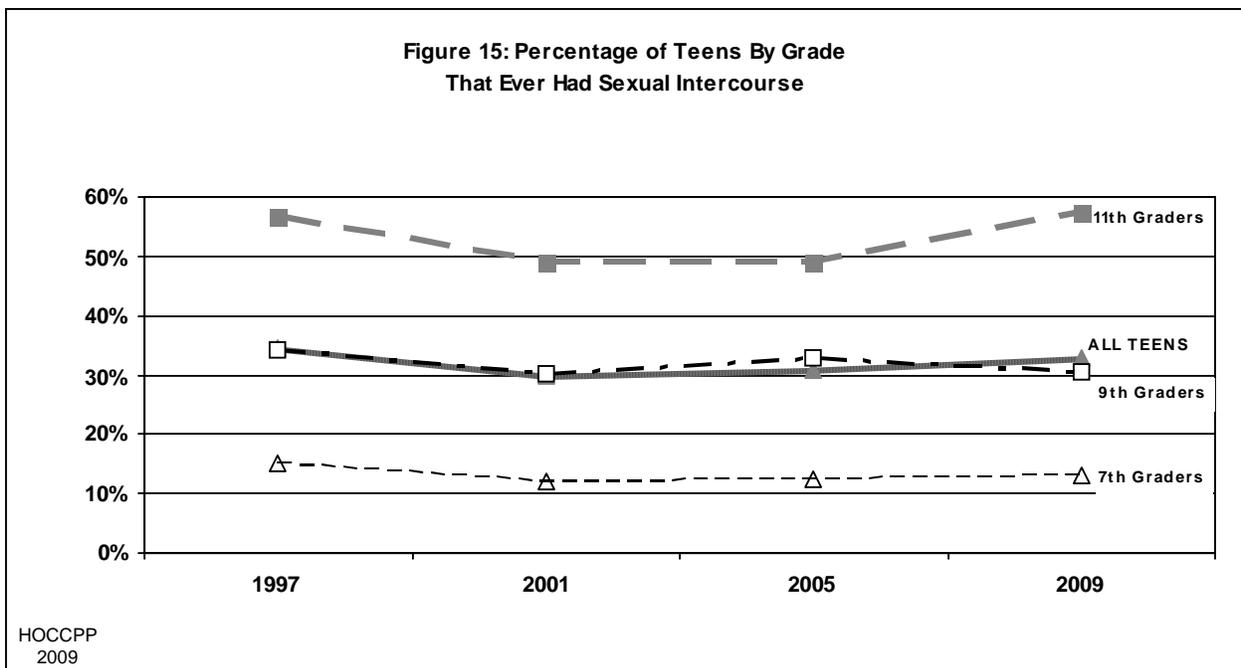
- 2009: The only venue where older teens were more likely to participate is gambling at a casino.**
 - ⇒ Teens in the 11th grade were about twice as likely to gamble at a casino than teens in the other grades. This is undoubtedly due to their age and appearance.
 - ⇒ In terms of all other forms of gambling (e.g. playing cards for money, betting on sports, lotto/scratch off tickets, and the internet), there was no difference in the participation rates of 7th, 9th, or 11th grade gamblers.
- 2009 Herkimer County Compared to 2006 New York State: The participant rate in the various forms of gambling for Herkimer County teens in 2009 was about the same as for teens across New York State in 2006. (See Figure 14)**
 - ⇒ The New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (OASAS) conducted a school survey in 2006 that included a host of questions regarding gambling. The questions in the 2009 TAP Survey about gambling are from this OASAS Survey. Though taken three years apart, the comparison of results from these two survey suggests that teens in Herkimer County are just as likely as their counterparts in New York State to have bet money in the past year on sports teams or sporting events (HC—31% vs. NYS—30%), to have gambled at the casino (HC—3% vs. NYS—4%) or over the internet (HC—4% vs. NYS—6%), less likely to have bet money playing cards (HC—32% vs. NYS—39%), and more likely to have played the lottery, Lotto or scratch off tickets (HC—54% vs. NYS—43%).



V. Sexuality and Sexual Behaviors

Herkimer County Trends

- **TREND: The percent of teens who have had sexual intercourse has remained statistically similar since 2001. (See Figure 15)**
 - ⇒ Thirty-five percent (35%) of all teens reported ever having had intercourse in the 1997 TAP Survey. By 2001 that percentage had dropped to 30% of all teens. Since 2001, the percentage who have ever been sexually active has remained relatively constant. In 2005, 31% said that they had ever had intercourse, while in 2009 about 32% said they had ever had sex. This change is not statistically significant from the 30% found in 2001. However, among 11th graders since 2005, there has been a significant increase in the percent that reported having had sexual intercourse from 49% in 2005 to 57% in 2009.

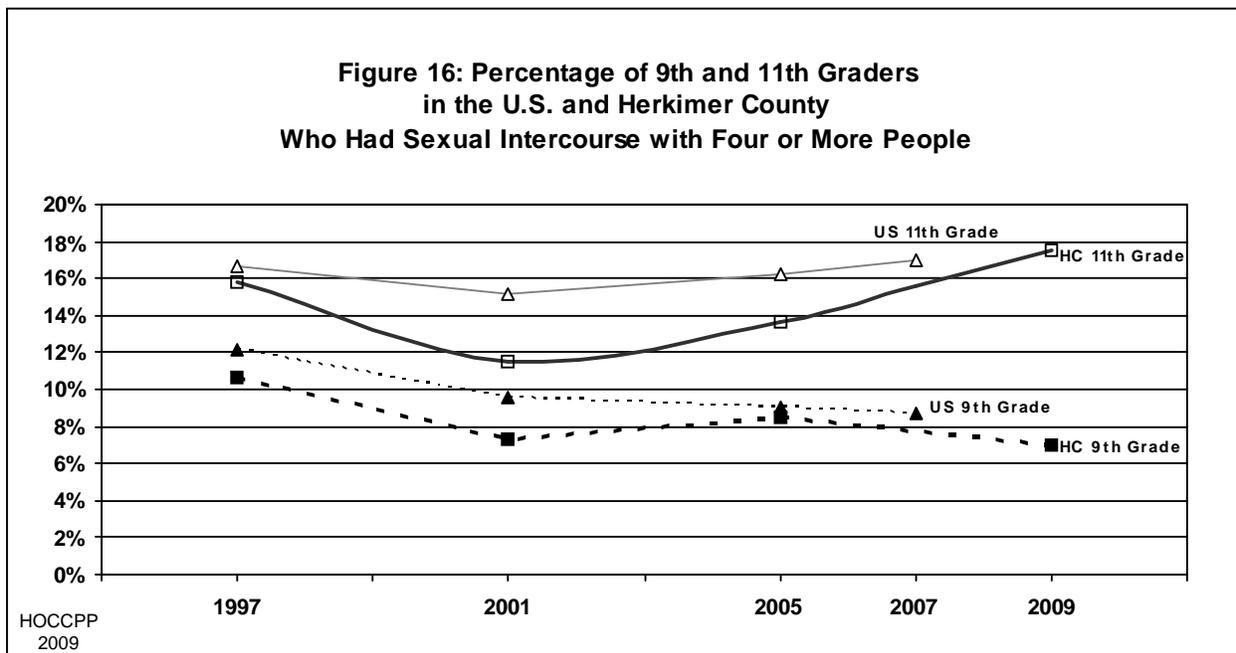


- **TREND: Among sexually active teens, the overall percentage that have had 3 or more sexual partners has remained the same since 1997.**
 - ⇒ Each year the survey has been conducted, the percent of sexually active teens that say they have had 3 or more partners has remained at about 38%. This ranges from a high of 41% in 1997 to a low of 37% in 2001. Statistically, there is no difference in these percentages.
 - ⇒ One noteworthy difference is that the percentage of seventh graders who have had 3 or more partners significantly declined in 2001. In 2001 (which is similar to 1997), about 41% of all sexually active seventh graders said that they had 3 or more sexual partners in their life; by 2009, that percentage has dropped to only 19%.
- **2009: The majority of teens having sex used a condom the last time they had intercourse.**
 - ⇒ Two out of every three sexually active teens (68%) reported that they used a condom the last time they had intercourse. Almost half of all sexually active teens who didn't use a condom (48%) said that they didn't worry about contracting AIDS/HIV or an STD at all.

- **2009: Almost 40% of all teens say they are purposefully sexually abstinent.**
 - ⇒ A third (33%) of all teens reported that they never had intercourse and intended to wait until they married before they do. Another 5% said that they had intercourse but intended now to be abstinent until they marry.
 - ⇒ These respondents who were sexually active but now want to remain abstinent until they married represent about one out of every seven sexually active teens (14%).
 - ⇒ The percentage of teens who presently report being abstinent (whether they had been previously sexually active or not) varies significantly by grade. While almost 60% of all 7th graders, only about 25% of all 11th graders, said they were currently abstinent.
- **2009: One out of every ten teens (10%) reported being something other than heterosexual.**
 - ⇒ Almost 2% of all teens said they considered themselves homosexual; another 5% reported they were bisexual in their orientation. The remaining 3% said they were unsure of their sexual orientation.

Herkimer County Compared to the United States

- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: The percent of 9th than 11th graders that have ever had sexual intercourse is similar in Herkimer County to the national level.**
 - ⇒ Since 1997, the trend nationally regarding the percent of teens who have had sexual intercourse has been declining slightly for 9th graders (U.S.: 1997 – 38%; 2007 – 33%) but increasing slightly for the 11th graders (U.S.: 1997 – 50%; 2007 – 56%). In Herkimer County, there has been no clear trend over the 12 years since 1997. For both grades, the percent who reported having had sexual intercourse was relatively high in 1997 and then went down in 2001. After that, it leveled off for the 9th graders but went up again in 2009 for the 11th graders. Over the 12 year span, 1997 - 2009, despite the ups and downs, the percent of teens in Herkimer County who have ever had sexual intercourse has been close to the national average.
- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Regarding the percent that have had intercourse with four or more people, the Herkimer County trend for 9th than 11th graders has been similar to the national trend. (See Figure 16)**
 - ⇒ The percent that have had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life for 9th graders in 1997 for Herkimer County was 11% and for the U.S. – 12%; and in 2009 for Herkimer County – 7% and in 2007 for the U.S. – 9%. The percent for 11th graders in 1997 for Herkimer County was 16% and for the U.S. – 17%; and in 2009 for Herkimer County -18% and in 2007 for the U.S. – 17%.

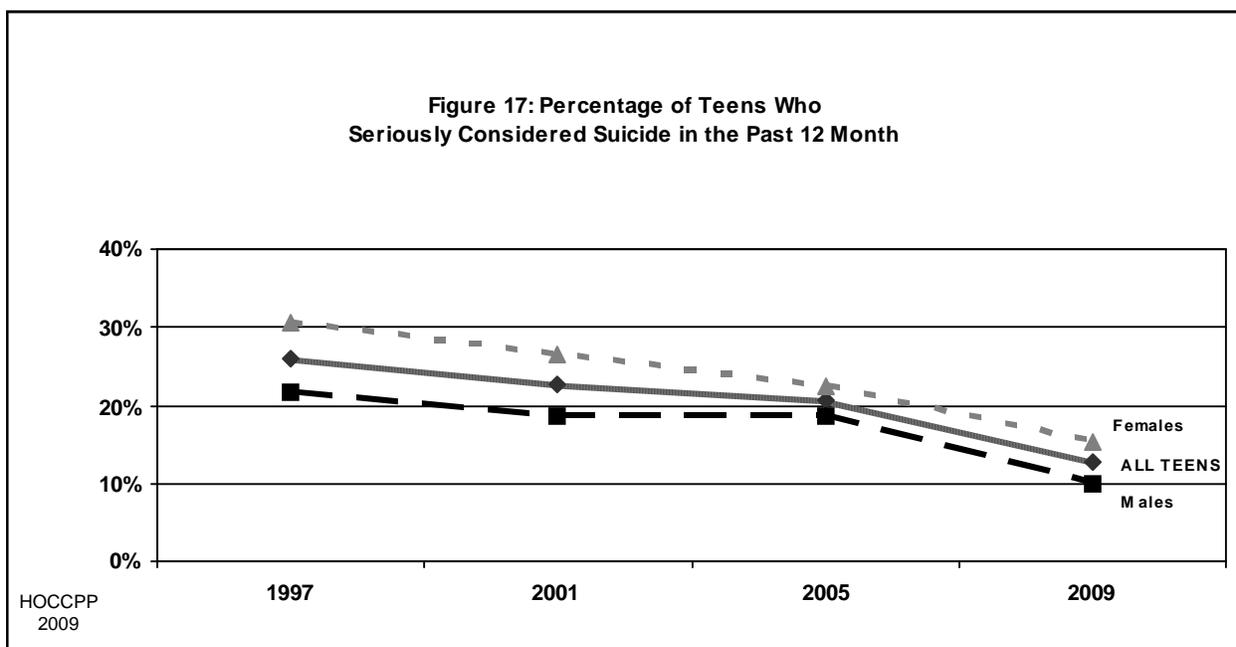


- **2009 Herkimer County compared to 2007 U.S.: The percentages that had sexual intercourse during the past three months are similar.**
 - ⇒ Based on the 2009 TAP Survey, 19% of the 9th graders and 39% of the 11th graders reported having had intercourse in the past three months in Herkimer County. Based on the 2007 CDC YRBS, the national figures for this are similar: 20% of the 9th graders and 42% of the 11th graders.
- **2009 Herkimer County compared to 2007 U.S.: Of those that had sexual intercourse during the last three months, the percentages that used a condom are similar.**
 - ⇒ For 9th graders who had intercourse in the past three months, 69% of those in the U.S. in 2007 and 65% of those in Herkimer County in 2009 indicated they used a condom. For 11th graders, it was 62% for the U.S. and 67% for Herkimer County.

VI. Mental Health and Well Being

Herkimer County Trends

- **TREND: The percent of teens who report feelings of depression has continued to decline.**
 - ⇒ While as many as 40% of all teens in the 1997 and 2001 TAP Surveys reported that they had felt during the past year “so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activity,” that number has declined steadily since 2001. During the 2005 survey, 31% of teens said that they felt this level of “depression.” In the 2009 TAP Survey, the number of teens saying they had been depressed for two weeks or longer in the past year was down to 22%, almost half of what was reported eight years earlier.
- **TREND: Suicide ideation continues to decline significantly among respondents.**
 - ⇒ The percent of teens that said in the past year they seriously thought about suicide has declined in every survey since 1997 when 26% of teens said they had considered suicide. In 2005, this number had dropped to about 21%. By 2009, the percent of teens who said they seriously considered suicide declined significantly to only 13% of all respondents. Females have consistently been more likely than males to report having considered suicide. (See Figure 17)



- ⇒ The percent of teens that said they had actually planned how they would attempt suicide in the past year has declined as well in every survey since 1997. While there was a steady decline in the percent of teens that said they planned how they could commit suicide from 1997 to 2005 (22% to 16%, respectively), in 2009 the percent dropped by half. Only 8% of all teens in 2009 reported that they had planned how they might commit suicide in the past year.
- ⇒ The percentage of teens that reported they attempted suicide in the past year had not changed significantly between 1997 and 2005 (1997—11%, 2001—10%, 2005—12%), but in 2009 the percentage dropped down significantly to 5%.
- ⇒ The percent of all teens who in the past year attempted suicide and as a result required medical attention dropped, but it is not statistically different in 2009 than it was in 1997 (1997—4%, 2009—1%).

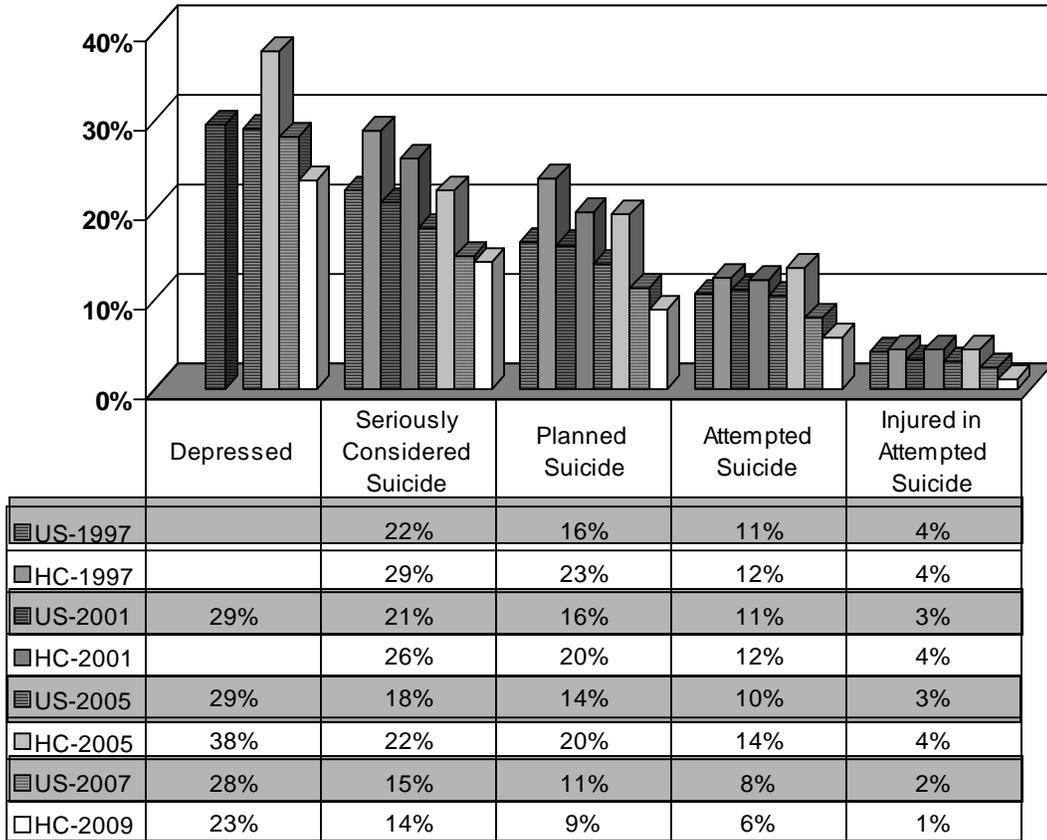
- **TREND: Of teens who seriously considered suicide, the percent that plan a suicide has declined significantly, but not the percent who act out on the suicide ideation.**
 - ⇒ While the percent of teens who have thought about committing suicide has declined sharply, so has the percentage of teens who carry this ideation to the next level—planning a suicide. In 1997 seven out of every ten teens (70%), who thought about suicide, made a plan as to how they could do it. In 2009 less than half of all teens (49%) who thought about suicide reported planning how it might be done.
 - ⇒ The movement from suicide ideation, to action remains statistically unchanged since first reported in the 1997 TAP. About a third (33%) of all teens, who think about suicide, end up acting on that thought in some way.
 - ⇒ While the self reported percent of attempted suicides requiring some form of medical treatment is lower in 2009 than in any other year (8% in 2009 versus typically around 12% in previous TAP Survey results), there is no statistical difference in these reported numbers.
- **2009: When thinking about suicide, most teens either try to solve their problems on their own without talking to anyone, or do nothing.**
 - ⇒ As many as 60% of all teens, who said they have suicide ideations, reported they withdrew, did nothing, or tried to solve their own problems but without talking to anyone else. Another 20% said they turned to teen friends for help. Only about one in twenty (5%) turned to a professional or sought a parent's help.

Herkimer County Compared to the United States

- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Comparative analysis of 1997, 2001 and 2005 TAP Survey data with national YRBS Survey data had previously revealed that local youth were more likely to be depressed and more likely to have seriously considered suicide, however, no more likely to attempt suicide than youth nationwide. Comparing 2009 TAP Survey data to the most recent 2007 YRBS Survey data tells a different and more positive story. (See Figure 18)**
 - ⇒ As for depression (or the percent of 9th and 11th graders who during the past year felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activity), the big decline in Herkimer County was with the 9th graders. The percent reporting experiencing this defined depression dropped from 38% in 2005 to 23% in 2009. The percent of Herkimer County 11th graders reporting this did not drop significantly. It was 30% in 2005 and 29% in 2009. The levels of depression in the U.S. have remained statistically the same (29%) since 2001 for both grades, 9th and 11th.
 - ⇒ As for the percent of 9th and 11th grade students who seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, for both the U.S. and Herkimer County, the percentages since 1997 have gotten lower across the board, but particularly for Herkimer County and particularly for the 9th graders. In 1997, the percent of 9th and 11th graders who seriously considered suicide in Herkimer County was substantially higher than the national average (Herkimer County – 29% versus the U.S. – 22%). By 2009, the percent of Herkimer County 9th graders reporting suicide ideation dropped to 14%, while it was 15% for 9th graders in the U.S. in 2007. For the 11th graders, it dropped from 29% in 1997 to 16% in 2009 in Herkimer County and for the U.S from 21% in 1997 to 14% in 2007.
 - ⇒ There was a large decline in the percent of 9th and 11th graders reporting they made a plan in the past year about how they would attempt suicide. In 1997, this stood at 23%, or almost one-quarter, of all 9th and 11th grade students in Herkimer County, whereas in the U.S. for both grades, it was 19%. By 2009 in Herkimer County, this dropped down to 9% for 9th graders and 10% for 11th graders. For the U.S. in 2007, it stood at 11% for 9th graders and 10% for 11th graders.
 - ⇒ The drop in the percent of youth reporting thoughts of suicide both in the U.S. and in Herkimer County since 1997 is reflected in a similar decline in the percent reporting actually attempting suicide. Between 1997 and 2007, the percent of 9th graders in the U.S. who indicated they had attempted suicide in the past year dropped from 11% to 8%. For Herkimer County between 1997 and 2009, the percent went down even more from 12% to just 6%. For 11th graders, the percent that re-

ported attempting suicide went down in the U.S. from 8% in 1997 to 6% in 2007; but, in Herkimer County it again went down more from 9% in 1997 to 5% in 2009.

Figure 18: Percent of 9th Graders in the U.S. and Herkimer County Who Felt Depressed, Seriously Considered Suicide, Planned or Attempted Suicide



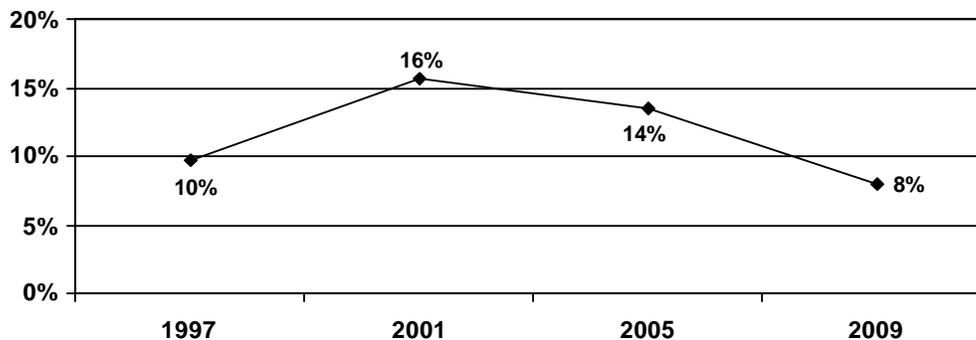
HOCCPP
2009

VII. Perceptions of School and Future

Herkimer County Trends

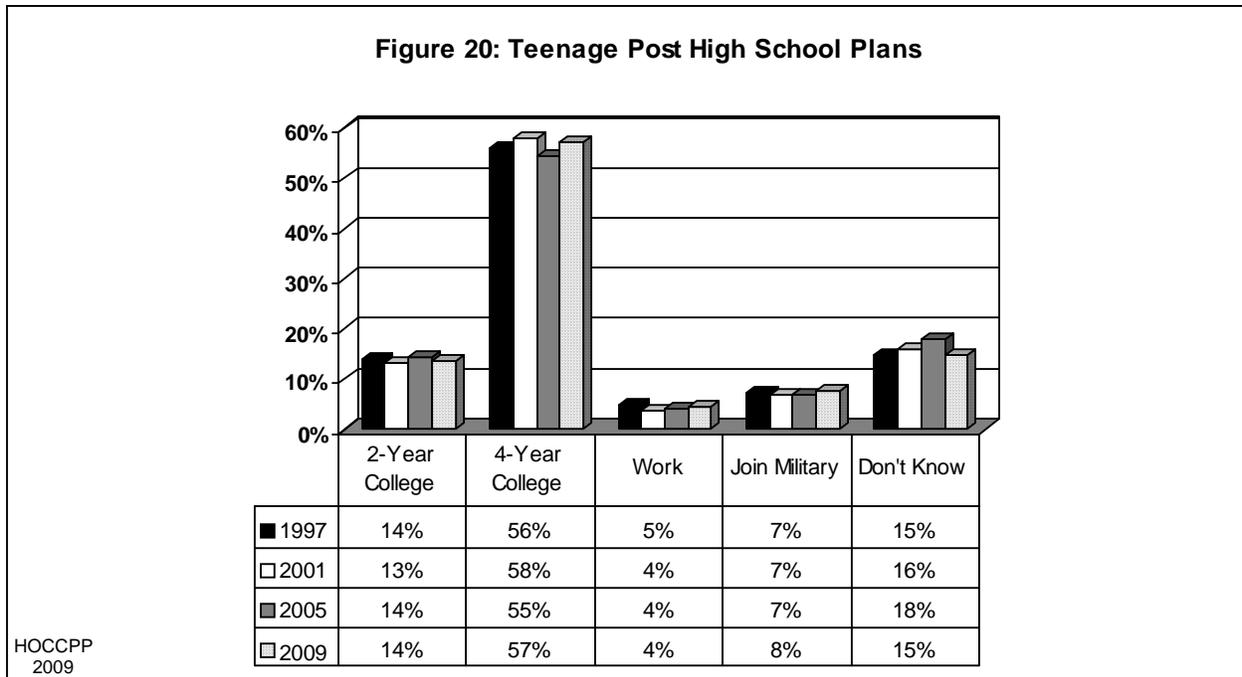
- **TREND: Teens are worrying less about getting good grades.**
 - ⇒ While in previous TAP Surveys about 80% of teens said they worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” about getting good grades, in the 2009 TAP only about 67% said that they worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” about their grades.
- **TREND: Teens are worrying less about fitting in with their peers at school.**
 - ⇒ Since 2001, teens are worrying less about fitting in with other kids at school. In 2001 about 40% of all teens said that they worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” about fitting in with other kids at school. In 2005 only a third (33%) and by 2009 just 20% of all teens worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” about fitting in with their peers.
- **TREND: Teens continue to generally enjoy going to school and feel rules are applied equally to everyone.**
 - ⇒ In each survey since 1997, around 60% of respondents said that they agreed with the statement “I enjoy going to school.” Each year the survey was administered, about half of all students (53%) also said they felt the rules at school are applied equally to everyone.
- **TREND: Teens spend less time doing homework or studying.**
 - ⇒ About half of the teens in both 1997 and 2001 admitted they did one hour or less of homework or studying per week. In 2009, even more (63%) reported they spent just one hour or less on homework.
- **TREND: Teens seem to feel safer at school. (See Figure 19)**
 - ⇒ The percent of teens that reported they missed school due to feeling unsafe either at school, or on the way to or from school, has declined from 16% in 2001 to 8% in 2009, a level not seen since the 1997 TAP Survey when it was 10%. This same trend is seen for the percent of students that say they feel safe in their school.

Figure 19: Percentage of Teens Who Missed School Because They Felt Unsafe



HOCPP
2009

- **TREND: Fewer teens are coming to school high on drugs or alcohol.**
 - ⇒ Significantly fewer teens are coming to school under the influence of a drug or alcohol. In 1997, 22% of all teens said that they had attended school while high at least once in the past school year. Based on the 2009 TAP Survey, this declined to a low of 16% .
- **TREND: Most teens continue to plan to go to college after school. (See Figure 20)**
 - ⇒ Just as in previous TAP Surveys, about 71% of all teens in the 2009 survey said they planned to either go to a two- or four-year college following graduation. This is not significantly different from the responses in prior surveys.



- **2009: One in four teens said they have skipped school in the past year.**
 - ⇒ More than a quarter of all respondents (26%) said they have skipped school without their parents permission at least once in the past school year. About one in twenty (4.5%) said they had done so at least 10 days during the last year.
- **2009: Almost one in ten teens had an out of school suspension in the past year.**
 - ⇒ Almost one out of every ten teens (9%) said they had an out of school suspension in the last school year. About a third of these (3.4% of all students) reported being suspended more than once.

Herkimer County Compared to the United States

- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Fewer Herkimer County than U.S. 9th and 11th graders said that they had been offered, sold or given illegal drugs while on school property.**
 - ⇒ About 12% of all Herkimer County teens said that they had been offered, given or sold drugs while on school property during the last school year. For 9th graders, 14% in Herkimer County in 2009 compared to 21% in the United States in 2007, and for 11th graders 17% in Herkimer County versus 23% in the United States indicated they had been offered, given or sold drugs while on school property.

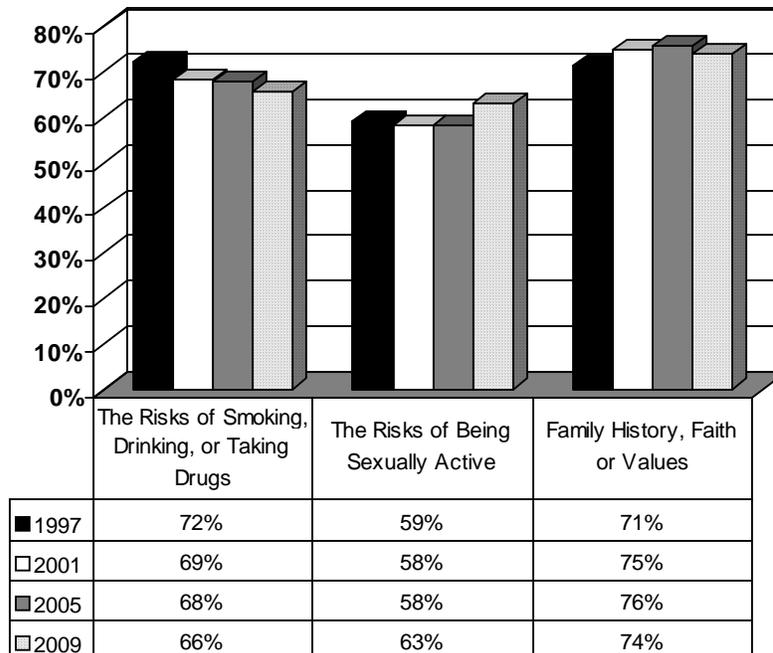
VIII. Parent/Child Relationships

Herkimer County Trends

- **TREND: The percentage of teens that understand the rules their parents set for them and the percentage of teens that expect to be punished if they break those rules have not really changed since the 2001 TAP Survey.**
 - ⇒ There was an increase between the 1997 and 2001 TAP Surveys in the percent of teens that indicated their parents set clear rules for them and that reported their parents will punished them if they break the rules. However, since that time, teens understanding of their rules and their expectations for punishment have remain statistically unchanged—about two thirds (67%) understand what the rules are, and slightly more than half (from 52% to 56%) say they expect to be punished if they break those rules.

- **TREND: Parents are less likely to talk with their teens about the dangers of alcohol and drugs than in previous years, and more likely to talk about the risks of being sexually active. (See Figure 21)**
 - ⇒ Most parents are talking at least “rarely,” if not more often, to their kids about sex, drugs and family values/history. In 2009, fewer were talking at all about the risks of smoking, drinking or taking drugs and more were talking at all about the risks of being sexually active than in past surveys. However, less than half of teens reported they regularly, meaning at least “sometimes,” talked to their parents about the dangers of either drug use (42%) or sexual activity (38%).

Figure 21: Percentage of Teens Who Have Ever Talked to Their Parents About...



HOCCPP
2009

- **TREND: Fewer teens are regularly at home with no adult present.**
 - ⇒ In 2009, less than one in ten (9%) of all teens reported they stayed at home for more than ten hours per week with no adults there. This is below the 1997 level, which was 15%, and the 2001 level, which was 13% of all teens.

- **COMPARATIVE TRENDS: Herkimer County teens are less likely than teens across the country to regularly have dinner with their families.**
 - ⇒ Since 2001, the percent of teens (12 to 17 year olds) in the United States that annually report having dinner with their families at least five times a week has been around 58%. For the 7th, 9th and 11th graders in Herkimer County, the percent of teens that had dinner at least five times a week with their families in 2001 was 47%; then, in 2005, it went down to 43%; and it stayed at 43% in 2009. This raises some concern beyond just nutritional implications, research has detected a positive relationship between frequent family dinners and good behavioral outcomes. More time around the dinner table corresponds to less fighting, smoking, drinking and using drugs, to getting better grades, and to being less likely to consider suicide.

- **TREND: Teens are worrying less today than they did in the last few years about how well their parents get along, as well as how well they get along with their parents.**
 - ⇒ Between 1997 and 2001 the TAP Survey saw a distinct increase in the percentage of teens who worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” about how well their parents got along with each other (from 35% in 1997 to 53% in 2001). In 2005, the percentage remained fairly similar to the 2001 TAP result. However, in 2009 the percent of teens who said they worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” about how well their parents related to one another dropped significantly to just 28%.
 - ⇒ Similarly, the percent of teens that said they worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” about how they get along with their parents went from 52% in 1997 to 59% in 2001. About 58% said they had this level of concern in 2005, but by 2009 the percent that worried a “fair amount” to “a lot” dropped to only 32% of all teens.

- **TREND: While the vast majority of teens feel safe at home, the strength of that feeling has significantly increased since 2001, and fewer report being either threatened or hurt at home.**
 - ⇒ Overall, more than 90% of all teens said they feel safe at home. Since 2001, significantly more teens have stated that they strongly agree with the statement that they “feel safe at home.” In 2001, 59% of teens strongly agreed that they felt safe at home. By 2009, that number climbed to 68%. Corresponding to more teens feeling safe, between 2005 and 2009, fewer teens reported an adult had seriously threatened anyone, including themselves, in their home, and fewer said they had been physically hurt by an adult at home. In 2005, 18% indicated an adult had made a serious threat to someone in their home; in 2009, only 8% reported this. Likewise, 13% in 2005, whereas just 10% in 2009, said an adult had hurt them at home.

- **TREND: Fewer teens seriously thought about running away from home and fewer ran from home.**
 - ⇒ In 1997 and 2001, 34% indicated they had seriously thought about running away from home in the past year; this bumped up to 37% in 2005 and then went down to 31% in 2009. As far as the percent that reported they actually ran from home in the past year, this went from 4% in 1997, to 3% in 2001 and 2005, and to 2% in 2009.

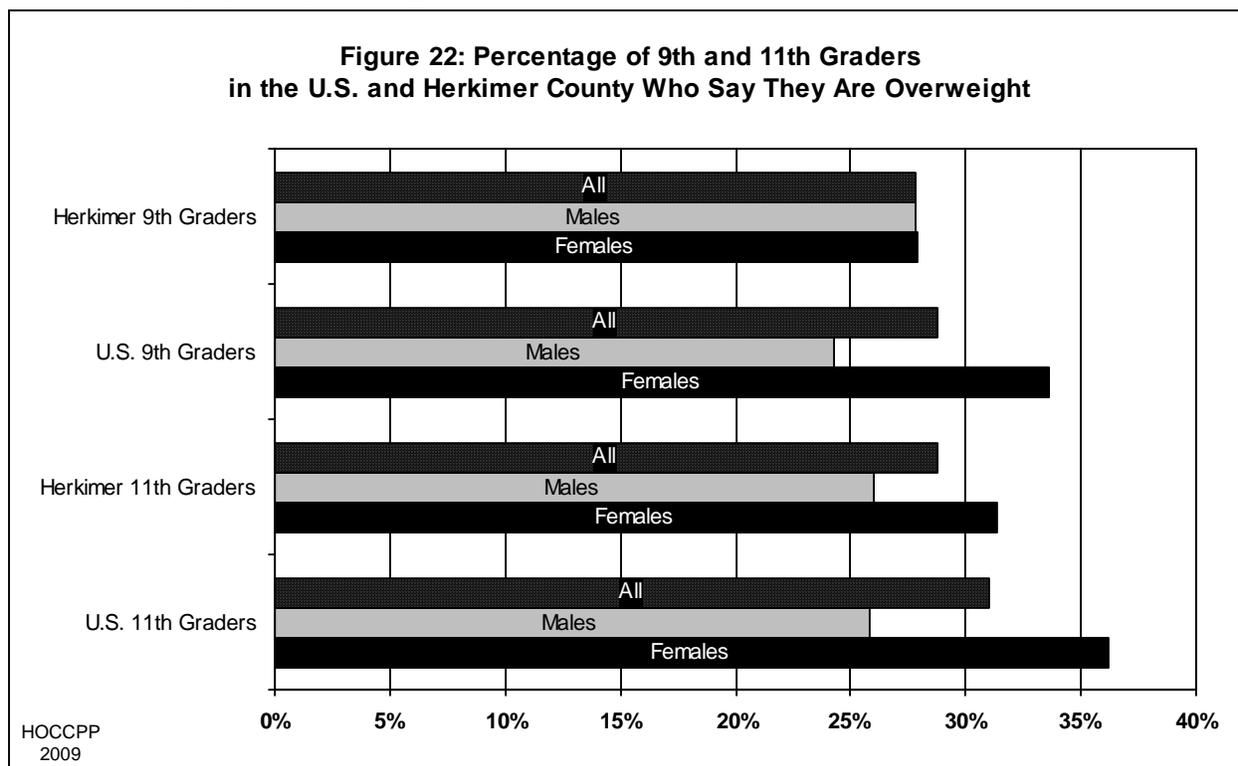
- **2009: Some teens (4%) reported they experienced homelessness; fewer (2%) indicated their families went homeless—in the past year.**
 - ⇒ The 2009 TAP Survey was the first to have questions regarding homelessness. Based on the responses, 4% of teens in Herkimer County reported they left home and were homeless for a day or longer during the past year, and 2% said their families were homeless for at least that long in the past year.

IX. Perceptions of Self, Community and Peers

Herkimer County Trends

Perceptions of Self

- **TREND: Teens are less concerned in 2009 that no one loves or cares about them than in past surveys.**
 - ⇒ Between 1997 and 2005 the percent of teens that said they worried a “fair amount” or “a lot” that no one cared about them rose from 19% to 24%. In the 2009 TAP Survey, the percent of teens who indicated they felt this way dropped to 18%.
- **TREND: More teens appear to feel happy about themselves, and their reported level of self-confidence has remained high.**
 - ⇒ The percent of teens who indicated they “agree” or “strongly agree” they are happy with themselves most of the time has been increasing from 74% in 1997 to 80% in both 2001 and 2005 and to 86% in 2009.
 - ⇒ Since 2001, almost 90% of all respondents, as an indicator of self-confidence, reported they “agree” or “strongly agree” they can do things as well as most people.
- **2009 Herkimer County compared to 2007 U.S.: Generally more females than males say they are overweight, but the discrepancy between genders, at least for 9th and 11th graders, is not as pronounced for Herkimer County as for the United States. (See Figure 22)**
 - ⇒ For 9th graders, the same percentage (28%) of males as females in Herkimer County described themselves as overweight, whereas in the United States significantly more females (34%) than males (24%) said they were overweight. For 11th graders in both Herkimer County and the United States, females were more likely than males to describe themselves as overweight, but the difference is not as great in Herkimer as it is for the nation. For Herkimer County, 31% of females and 26% of males versus, for the United States, 36% of females and 26% of males described themselves as either slightly or very overweight.



- **2009: Most teens who see themselves as overweight try to use proper exercise and diet to either lose weight or not gain additional weight.**
 - ⇒ Of the 27% of all Herkimer County teens who described themselves as either slightly overweight or very overweight, more than half (53%) reported using proper diet and exercise as a way to lose weight or keep from gaining weight. An additional 22% said they were doing nothing in regard to weight loss. One in ten overweight teens (10%) reported they either fasted for 24 hours, vomited, took laxatives, or used diet products as a weight loss means.
 - ⇒ Self described overweight females were more likely than their male counterparts to employ healthy options, such as exercise and diet, in order to try to lose weight (58% for females and 48% for males). Overweight females, on the other hand, were also more likely to have used unhealthy ways, such as fasting for 24 hours, vomiting, taking laxatives, or using diet products, as a weight loss means (12% for females versus 7% for males).

- **2009: About one out of every six teens said they had hurt themselves on purpose in the past year.**
 - ⇒ About 17% of all teens said that they had hurt themselves on purpose, but not with the intent of committing suicide, in the past year by such actions as cutting, burning, biting or bruising themselves. About 6% said they had done this “several” or “many” times in the past year.
 - ⇒ Females were significantly more likely than were males to have hurt themselves on purpose at least once in the past year (21% for females versus 13% for males).

- **TREND: Based on a host of questions aimed at assessing teens’ personal values, the great majority of teens (90% or over) since 2001 appear to be ethical, respectful and morally responsible.**
 - ⇒ Below is the list of questions and the percent of teens that indicated on average over the last three TAP Surveys that this was either “important” or “very important:”

How important do you feel it is to be honest and keep your word?	95%
How important do you feel it is to show respect towards adults?	90%
How important do you feel it is to be considerate and respectful of other people?	91%
How important do you feel it is to look out for the safety and well-being of others?	92%
How important do you feel it is to speak up and take a stand for what you believe in?	90%

Perceptions of Community

- **TREND: More teens agree there are fun things to do in their communities.**
 - ⇒ While fewer than half of all teens felt there were fun things to do in their communities in 2009, the percentage that have felt this way has been growing. In 1997, only about a quarter of all teens (27%) agreed that there were fun things to do. In 2001, that rose to 31%. By 2005, as many as 38%, and by 2009, 43% of teens said there were fun things for kids their age to do in the community.

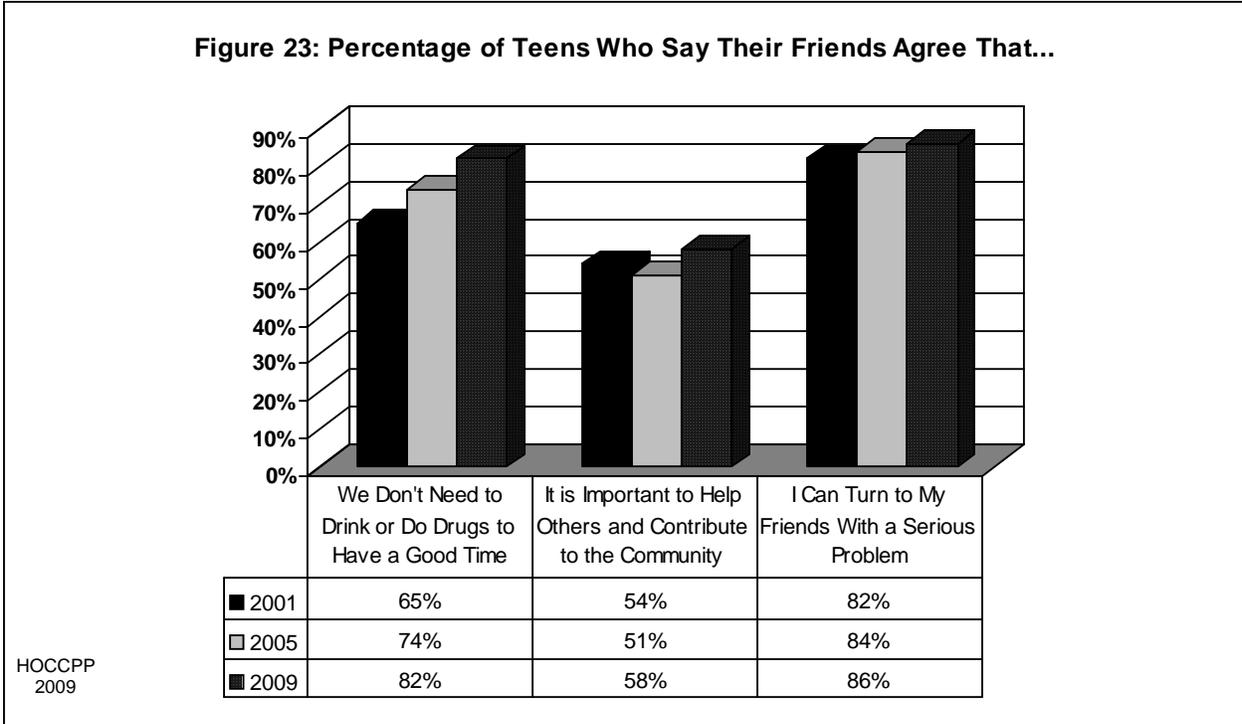
- **TREND: Fewer teens see opportunities in their community to earn money or find a job.**
 - ⇒ Over half (55%) of respondents in 2001 and 2005 said there were opportunities to earn money or find a job. By 2009, just 43% indicated they saw such opportunities in the community.

- **TREND: The same percent of teens (69%) have said it is important to contribute to their community and society.**
 - ⇒ For each of the last three TAP Surveys since 2001, 69% of teens indicated they felt it was either important or very important to contribute to their community and society.

- **TREND: More teens agree adults in their community care about and value teens.**
 - ⇒ In 2001 - 55%, in 2001 - 57%, and in 2009 - 62% said they agreed or strongly agreed that adults in their community care about and value teens.

Perceptions of Peers

- **TREND: Fewer teens worry about not fitting in with their peers at school.**
 ⇒ One-quarter (25%) indicated in 1997 they worried a “fair amount” or “a lot” about not fitting in with other kids at school. In 2001, this rose to 41%; in 2005, it went down to 34%; and in 2009, it went down even further to just 20%, or just one in five.
- **TREND: Increasing percentage of teens feel their friends would agree that they don’t need drugs/ alcohol to have a good time, that it is important to contribute to their communities, and that they can turn to their friends with serious issues and problems. (See Figure 23)**

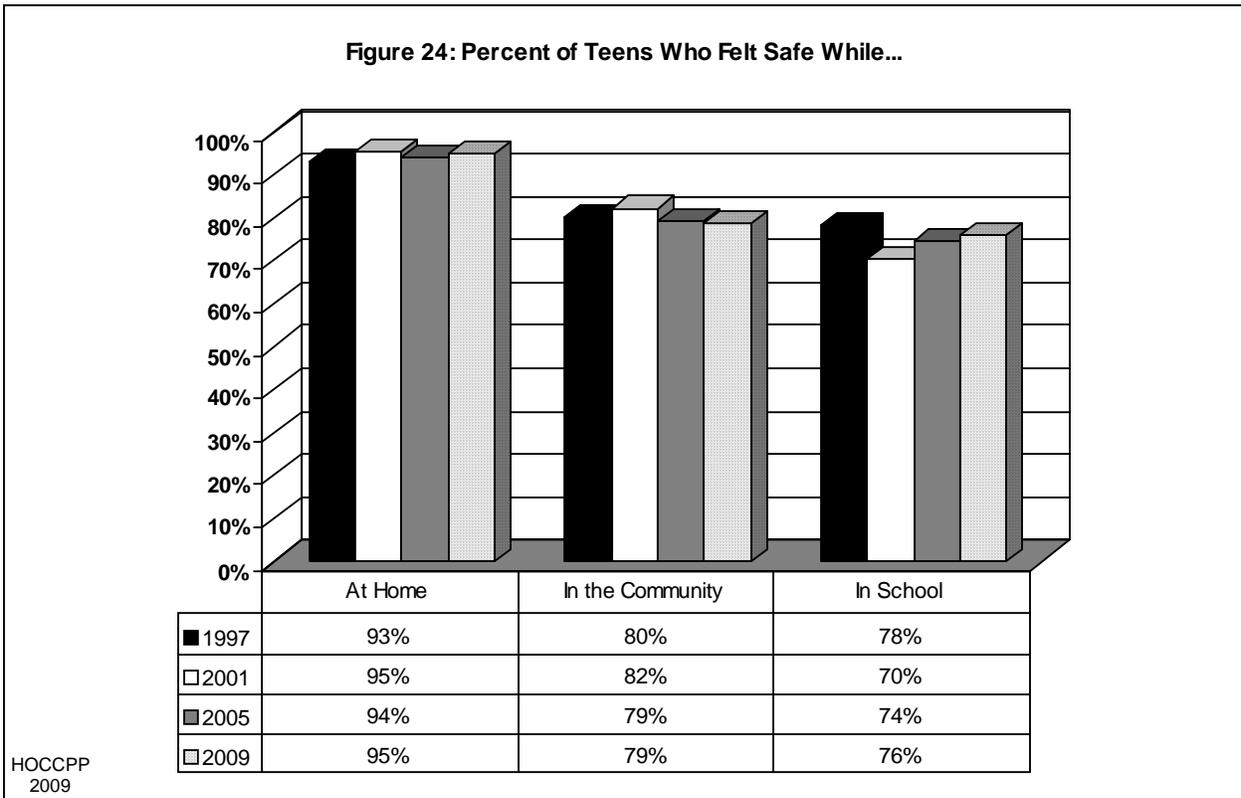


- **2009: When faced with a problem, teens more often turn to their friends than immediate family.**
 ⇒ About half (48%) turn to their friends when faced with a problem. Less than one in five (19%) indicated they talk to a parent, and 7% said they talk to a brother or sister. Females appear to be more likely to rely on friends than males (females - 53% versus male - 43%), and also more likely to talk to several different people for support (females - 17% versus male - 9%).

X. Personal Safety

Herkimer County Trends

- **TREND: There has been little change in students' sense of safety at home, in the community or at school, except for 2001 when fewer students felt safe at school. (See Figure 24)**
 - ⇒ Since 1997, all but 5% of teens have consistently said they feel safe at home, and four out of five (80%) have consistently indicated they feel safe in the community. Teens sense of safety at school took a dip between 1997 and 2001. The percent who agreed they felt safe at school went from 78% down to 70% . Since 2001, the percent gradually increased to 74% in 2005 and then to 76% in 2009. This dip in 2001 may have been caused by the string of school shooting that occurred across the country around that time.



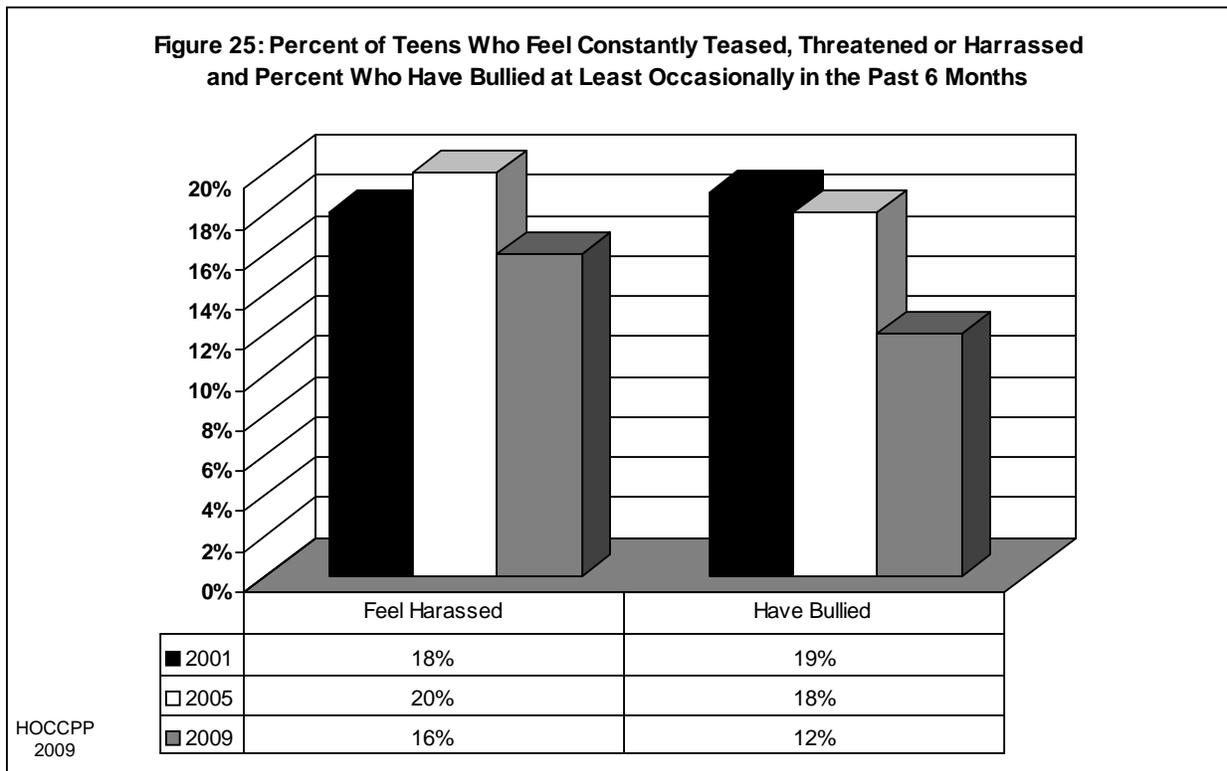
- **TREND: Slightly fewer teens have been subject to sexual harassment and unwanted sexual contact.**
 - ⇒ In 2005, 32% of all teens said that they had been subject to sexual harassment. By 2009, this had decreased to 25% of all teens.
 - ⇒ In 2009, a third of all females (32%) were subject to sexual harassment, with 20% of all females experiencing it multiple times. This is better than in 2005 when 44% of all females said they had been sexually harassed, and 21% had experienced harassment multiple times.
 - ⇒ Nearly one out of every five teens (18%) in 2005 reported that they had been subject to some form of unwanted physical/sexual contact, such as kissing, touching or forced intercourse. In 2009, 16% of teens reported similar unwanted sexual contact.
 - ⇒ According to the 2009 TAP Survey, more than one out of every five girls (22%) had unwanted sexual contact; one out of every thirty-five (2.8%) has been raped. This is better than in 2005 when more than a quarter of all females (27%) reported they experienced unwanted sexual contact, and 3.0% said they had been raped.

- TREND: Teens that turned to adults when they had been physically hurt or received unwanted sexual activity were at least three times as likely to have had that activity stop than were teens that turned to other teens, or that did nothing .**

⇒ Teens that turned to adults for help over unwanted physical/sexual contact were far more likely to have had the unwanted contact end. In 1997, 60% of teens that turned to adults had the unwanted contact stop. Only 10% of teens that turned to other teens had the contact end. In 2001, 2005 and 2009, the contact was three times as likely to end if teens went to adults to report the assault. On average, about 63% of cases during these years resulted in the contact stopping when a teen went to an adult, versus about 19% of cases ending when a teen turned to another teen or simply if they did nothing at all.
- TREND: More teens are being physically hurt by an adult at home.**

⇒ In 1997, only 5% of all teens said that they had been physically hurt by someone in the home; by 2005, that number had risen to 13% of all teens. In 2009, one in ten teens (10%) reported being physically hurt by an adult in the home.
- TREND: Fewer teens reported feeling “constantly teased, threatened or harassed,” and fewer say they have bullied others. (See Figure 25)**

⇒ In 2001 about 18% of all teens said that they felt constantly teased, threatened or harassed by another youth. As many as one in five teens (20%) reported feeling this way in 2005. By 2009, the number of youth who reported feeling bullied dropped to 16%. Likewise, the percent that admitted they had “used physical force or threatened people in order to win an argument or get their own way” also dropped in 2009. In 2001 and 2005 it was about the same percentage, 19% and 18% respectively, but by 2009 just 12% said they had bullied others.



- TREND: About one out of every eight teens said that they had carried a weapon in the past year.**

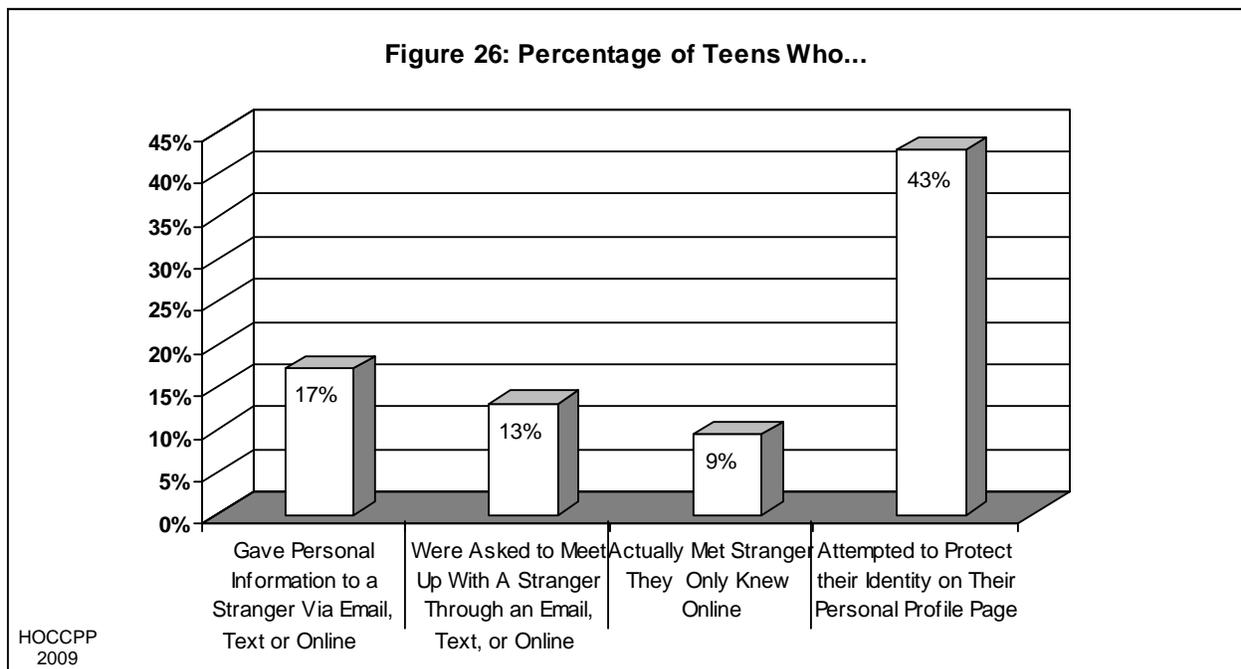
⇒ About 12% of all teens said they had carried a weapon with the “intent to harm someone or to protect” themselves in the past year. This is the same percent that reported this in the 2005 TAP Survey.

- **2009: Almost one in five teens said they have been harassed or threatened through a cell phone or web based source.**
 - ⇒ As many as 23% of all teens said they had ever been personally harassed or threatened through an instant message, email, text message, or online post.
- **2009: About one in seven teens said that they have harassed or threatened someone else through a cell phone or web based source.**
 - ⇒ About 14% of all teens said they had ever personally harassed or threatened another person through an instant message, email, text message, or online post.

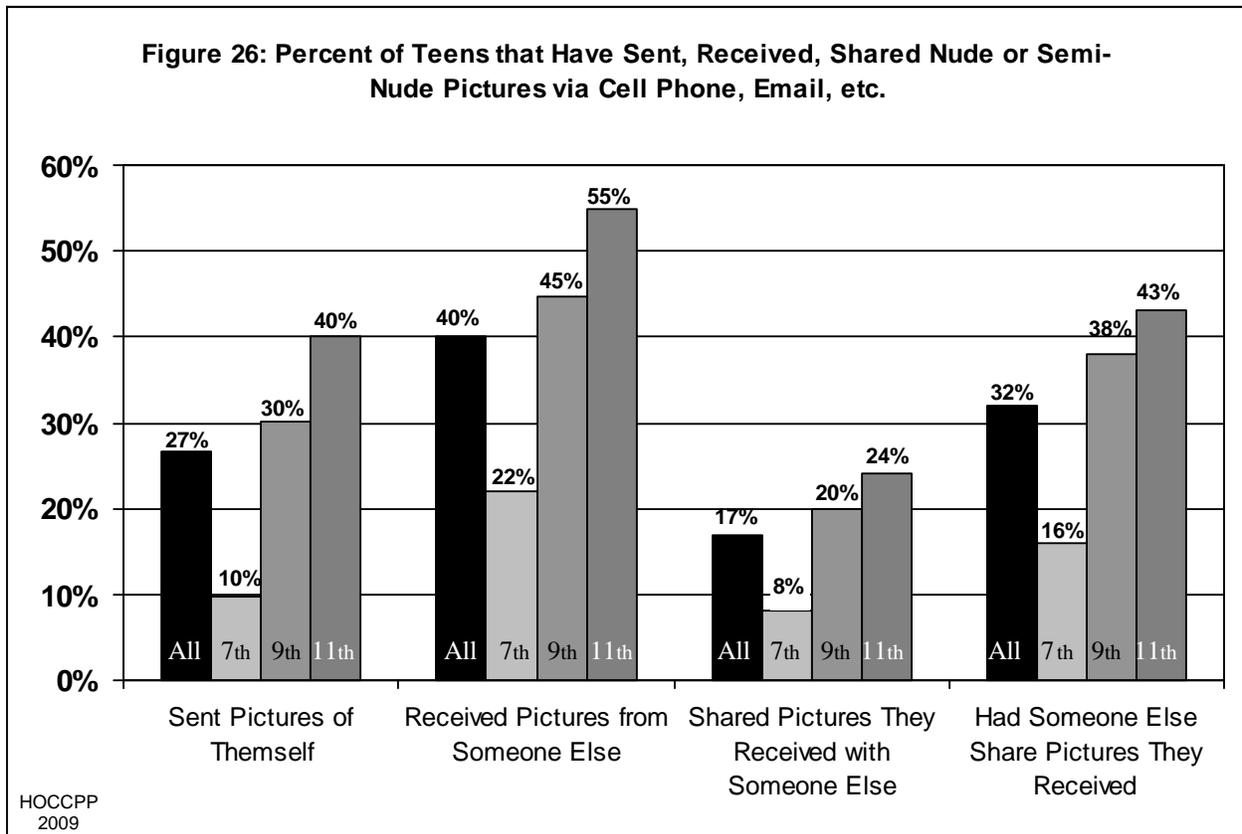
XI. The Internet and Technology

Herkimer County—2009

- **2009: Most teens have a web presence, including personal email and a personal profile page.**
 - ⇒ About four out of every five teens (79%) reported they have a personal email address that is exclusively theirs.
 - ⇒ Nearly three in four (72%) have a personal profile page on places such as Facebook or MySpace.
 - ⇒ Females were significantly more likely than males to have personal email addresses (82% versus 76%), to use instant messaging (79% versus 67%), and to have a personal profile page (75% versus 69%).
 - ⇒ Almost 90% of 11th graders reported having personal email addresses. Almost as many (85%) said they had a personal profile page.
 - ⇒ Among all teens that said they had a personal profile page, about 70% said they were comfortable with their parents seeing their page.
- **2009: Some teens, while online, have shared personal information and even arranged to meet with total strangers; less than half have attempted to protect their identity on their personal profile page. (See Figure 26)**
 - ⇒ About one in six (17%) respondents reported they had given out personal information to a stranger through email, a text message or online chatting. (Stranger was defined as “someone they did not personally know and someone with whom they had no common friends or associates.”)
 - ⇒ Almost one in eight (13%) indicated they had been asked to meet up with a stranger through email, a text message or online chatting.
 - ⇒ Nearly one in ten (9%) said they had actually met up with a stranger who they only knew from email, a text message or online chatting.
 - ⇒ Only 43% reported they had “ever left off, made private, or purposefully put wrong information on their personal profile or webpage” in order to protect themselves or hide their identity from others online.

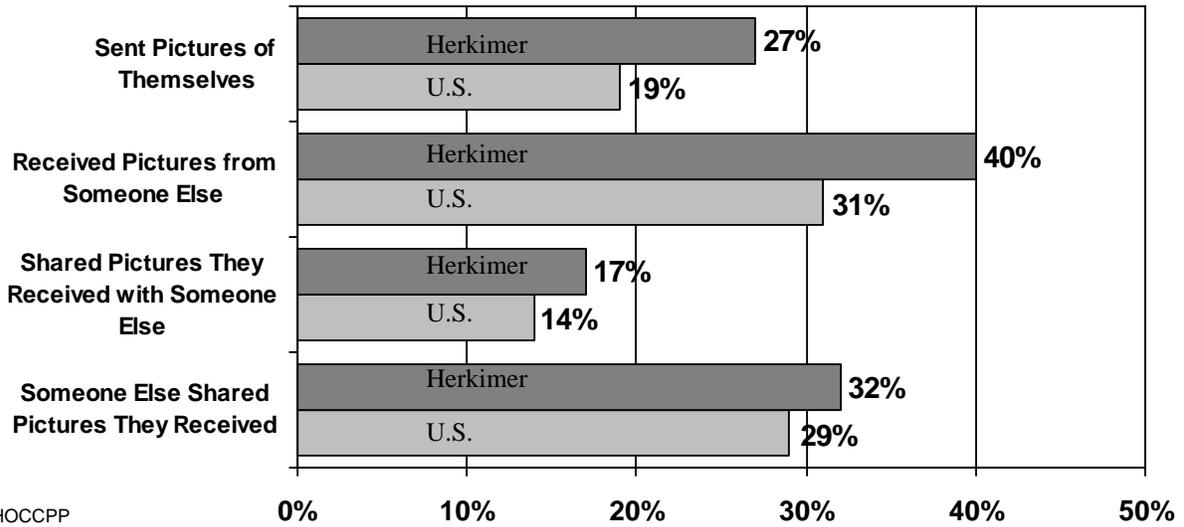


- 2009: As many as 40% of all teens have been involved in some form of “sexting” involving nude or semi-nude pictures of themselves or others. This activity increases in the higher grades. (See Figure 26)**
 - ⇒ More than a quarter of all teens (27%) said that they had shared a nude or seminude picture of themselves via an email, cell phone or through instant messaging.
 - ⇒ Two out of every five teens (40%) said that they had received a nude or seminude picture of someone else through email, their cell phone or instant messaging.
 - ⇒ Seventeen percent (17%) of all teens said they shared a nude or seminude picture that someone had sent them with others.
 - ⇒ A third of all teens (32%) said that other people had shared with them nude or seminude pictures they had received from someone else.



- 2009 Herkimer County Compared to 2008 U.S.: Teens in Herkimer County appear to be more involved with sexting than teens nationally. (See Figure 27)**
 - ⇒ The four questions regarding sexting in the 2009 TAP Survey come from a 2008 national survey commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and *CosmoGirl.com*. Based on the responses to the two surveys, Herkimer County teens were more likely to have: 1. sent nude or semi-nude pictures of themselves (HC—27% vs. US— 19%); 2. received nude or semi-nude pictures that someone sent of themselves (HC - 40% vs. US—31%); 3. shared nude or semi-nude pictures they had received with someone else (HC—17% vs. US—14%); and 4. received these types of pictures from someone who had received the pictures from someone else (HC—32% vs. US—29%).

Figure 27: Percent of Teens in Herkimer County and the U.S. that Have Sent, Received, Shared Nude or Semi-Nude Pictures via Cell Phone, Email, etc.



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2009

Conclusion

After twelve years and four Herkimer County TAP Surveys, what can be said about our teens? How are they doing? Are there areas of concern?

In general, the great majority of young people in Herkimer County appear to be doing fine – leading healthy, responsible and promising lives. In fact, since 1997 when the first Herkimer County TAP Survey was conducted, it is safe to say that our teens are actually doing better. Fewer teens report involvement in risky or illegal behaviors; more teens perceive their relations with family, peers, school and community as positive; fewer say they have been violated by incidents of harassment or violence; more feel safe; and, perhaps most importantly, fewer – by a large difference - indicate they have had thoughts of depression or suicide. Certainly, there are still areas of concern, but these pale in comparison to these positive developments.

This finding – that teens are actually doing better – seems to fly in the face of popular perception. Prior to the release of this report, the survey results were shared with some select groups of service providers, educators and students. Not all, but many, were skeptical that teens’ behaviors, perceptions and concerns have actually improved. As much as this skepticism is understandable, it is misplaced. The TAP Survey documents the lives of our young people and gives us a snapshot every four years of what they are doing, how they are feeling and what they are thinking. The results show clearly that our youth are doing better and that, when compared to national surveys, local teens are following national trends - teens across the country are generally doing better. This skepticism fueled by a misperception about our youth speaks to the reason for the TAP Survey – to actually document the behaviors, thoughts and feeling of teens and replace assumptions with survey data.

Just to emphasize these positive developments for Herkimer County youth – here is the good news. In twelve years:

- Fewer teens, by half, have ever tried smoking (1997 – 50%; 2009 – 24%).
- Fewer, by over one-fifth, have ever tried alcohol (1997 – 60%; 2009 – 47%).
- Fewer, by almost half, indicated they had five or more drinks within a two or three hour period in the past 30 days (1997 – 28%; 2009 – 15%).
- Fewer, by one-quarter, have ever tried marijuana (1997 – 31%; 2009 – 23%).
- Fewer, by half, have ever tried inhalants (1997 – 13%; 2009 – 7%).

And, here is the really good news:

- Fewer teens, by nearly a third, indicated they had feelings of depression in the past year (2005 – 31%; 2009 – 22%).
- Far fewer, by half, said they seriously considered suicide in the past year (1997 – 26%; 2009 – 13%).
- Far fewer, by almost three-quarters, reported they made a plan about how they would attempt suicide in the past year (1997 – 22%; 2009 – 8%).
- Far fewer, by over half, said they attempted suicide in the past year (1997 – 11%; 2009 – 5%).

Related to this good news is the fact that youth report feeling better about their relationships with family, friends, school and community. In each domain they report feeling safer and more supported.

In the family domain:

- More teens strongly agree they feel safe at home (1997 – 59%; 2009 – 68%)
- Fewer report they had been physically hurt by an adult at home in the past year (2005 – 13%; 2009 – 10%).
- Fewer indicated they had seriously thought about running away from home in the past year (1997 – 34%; 2009 – 31%).
- Fewer report they are worried a fair amount to a lot about getting along with their parents (1997 – 52%; 2009 – 32%).
- More teens say their parents always set clear rules for them (1997 – 30%; 2009 – 38%).
- More teens say their parents are always interested and encourage them in their school work (1997 – 43%; 2009 – 66%).

In the peer domain:

- Fewer youth report they feel constantly teased, threatened or harassed by other youth (2001 – 18%; 2009 – 16%).
- Fewer say they experienced sexual harassment in the past year (2005 – 32%; 2009 – 25%).
- Fewer say they are worried a fair amount to a lot about fitting in with other kids at school (2001 – 41%; 2009 – 20%).
- More agree they can turn to a friend if they have a serious personal problem and need someone to talk with (2001 – 82%; 2009 – 86%).

In the school domain:

- Fewer students say they missed school because they felt they would be unsafe at school or on their way to or from school (2001 – 16%; 2009 – 8%).
- More agree that teachers generally have high expectations of them, care about them and care how well they do in school (2001 – 79%; 2009 – 82%).

In the community domain:

- Their sense of safety in the community has not changed in 12 years – 80% say they feel safe.
- More agree that there are fun things to do in their community (1997 – 27%; 2009 – 43%).
- More say they agree that adults in their community care about and value kids their age (2001 – 55%; 2009 – 62%).

Not only have Herkimer County teens done better over time, they are also generally doing better, or at least no worse, than teens nationally – at least in the areas where there are comparative data. A fewer proportion of Herkimer County youth are using harmful and illegal substances, about the same are sexually involved, and, for the first time that the TAP Survey was conducted, about the same are depressed or suicidal – previously Herkimer County youth were more apt to be depressed or suicidal. A comparison between Herkimer County 11th graders in 2009 to 11th graders across the United States in 2007, the latest year national results from the Center of Disease Control Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey are available, presents a generally favorable impression of local teens compared to teens across the United States.

- Fewer Herkimer County 11th graders have tried cigarette smoking (HC – 35%; US – 53%).
- Fewer have tried alcohol (HC – 67%; US – 79%).
- About the same percentage have tried marijuana (HC – 43%; US – 42%).
- About the same percentage have tried cocaine (HC – 7%; US – 8%).
- Fewer have tried inhalants (HC – 7%; US – 13%).
- About the same percentage have had sexual intercourse (HC – 57%; US – 56%).
- About the same percentage have had sexual intercourse with four or more people (HC – 18%; US – 17%).
- Of the teens who had sexual intercourse during the last three months, slightly more used a condom during their last sexual intercourse (HC – 67%; US – 62%).
- The same percentage have felt depressed almost every day for two weeks or more in a row during the past year (HC – 29%; US – 29%).
- Slightly more Herkimer County 11th graders have seriously considered suicide in the past year (HC – 16%; US – 14%).
- The same percentage said they made a plan about how they would attempt suicide in the past year (HC – 10%; US – 10%).
- About the same reported they had attempted suicide in the past year (HC – 5%; US – 6%).

Though the overall impression is that Herkimer County youth are doing better both over time and in comparison to teens nationally, there are some areas of concern. There are some areas where the trend is not favorable. There are a few areas where Herkimer County youth appear to be doing worse than teens nationally or in New York State, and there were some new topics explored in this latest Herkimer County TAP Survey that raise some concerns. These areas of concern cut across different behaviors and domains. There is no one primary area of concern and no discernable pattern among these areas.

As far as teen behaviors, as noted above, the trends are mostly positive and local youth generally compare favorably to those nationally. There are just a couple of areas where this is not true. One is the use of chewing tobacco or snuff. An increasing percentage of teens, mostly boys, reports using chewing tobacco or snuff in the past 30 days. And, whereas the rate had been similar to national averages, the 2009 rate of use for 9th and 11th graders in Herkimer County is above the rate seen for those grades in the United States in 2007 (HC – 12%; US – 7%). The other behavior that appears troubling is the sexual behavior of 11th graders. There has been little change in the sexual behaviors of the 7th and 9th graders, but for the 11th graders more have had sexual intercourse, more have had intercourse with four or more people, and whereas they used to compare favorably to 11th graders nationally, Herkimer County 11th graders in 2009 are on par with their 2007 United States' peers in both categories. (Percent of 11th graders who had sexual intercourse: HC – 57%; US – 56%) (Percent of 11th graders who had sexual intercourse with four or more people: HC – 18%; US – 17%)

For the first time, the Herkimer County 2009 TAP Survey contained questions regarding gambling as well as questions about the use of the internet and cell phones. Being the first time these behaviors were explored in a local survey means no trends can be discerned; however, for the gambling questions there are comparable data for New York State teens, and for the cell phone questions regarding sexting there are national data. In both behavioral areas, Herkimer County youth do not compare favorably. Actually, Herkimer County youth gamble, including all forms, at about the same rate as youth across New York State, though more play the Lotto or Scratch Off tickets (HC – 54%; NYS - 43%) and less bet money on cards (HC – 32%; NYS - 39%). One out of 12 (8%) Herkimer County teens that gambled in the past year reported they borrowed money or sold property to pay for their gambling.

There is no trend data or comparable data for the use of the internet, but it seems troubling that as many as one out of ten teens (9%) in Herkimer County said they had actually met up with a stranger that they only knew from email, a text message or online chatting. There is national data with which to compare Herkimer County youth in regards to sexting, and for each of the four related questions, local youth appear to be more involved in this activity than U.S. teens:

- More sent a nude or semi nude picture of themselves to someone via email, text message, IM, etc. (HC – 27%; US – 19%).
- More received such pictures from someone else (HC – 40%; US – 31%).
- More shared such pictures that they received from someone else (HC – 17%; US – 14%).
- More received such pictures from someone who had received the pictures from someone else (HC – 32%; US – 29%).

In the family domain, there is one troubling indicator, particularly when it is compared to national data. Herkimer County youth are significantly less likely than teens nationally to have regular dinners with their families, and research shows that family dinners are important to children's emotional and social development. Just 43% of teens in Herkimer County said they have dinner with their families at least five times per week. This compares to 58% for the nation.

In the school domain, students seem to be doing less homework and seem less worried about grades than in the past. In the 2009 survey, 67% of Herkimer County teens reported they worried a fair amount to a lot about their grades. This is down from 80% who expressed this concern in the previous three surveys. In addition, as many as 63% of students admitted they spent one hour or less on homework per week. In 1997 and 2001, about one-half (50%) admitted this.

In the community domain, perhaps not surprisingly given the economy, fewer teens see the opportunity to earn money or find a job in their community. Over half (55%) said there were these opportunities in 2001 and 2005, but just 43% indicated this in 2009.

The fact that the TAP Survey, as well as national surveys, show that teens in most respects are doing better begs the question of why. Neither this report nor the survey are prepared to answer this question in any definitive way; however, there is a strong correlation between how teens feel about their relationships in the four main domains of family, peers, school and community and their behavior. In general, teens who feel more positive about their relationships in these domains are the same ones that exhibit fewer problem behaviors and a healthier mental state. So,

it is little wonder that if, as a group, youth feel better about their relationships in these domains then, as a group, fewer will be involved in risky behaviors, fewer will have feelings of depression or suicide and more will feel good about themselves. In short, it is like the old adage says – “It takes a whole village to raise a child.” There has been a county-wide effort modeled on the “Communities That Care” approach, which has promoted youth development and prevention services. Public and private agencies have worked with schools to provide a clear and consistent message about safe, healthy and positive behaviors. No doubt these efforts and others like them have born fruit. Undoubtedly, there are other, and probably stronger, social forces that are positively influencing young people. It would be helpful to have a better sense of what these forces may be. Perhaps it is the internet, cell phones and other technology that has allowed instant communication and the explosion of information. Whatever it is, our youth seem to be benefiting.

Appendices

Appendix A: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data for 1997, 2001, 2005 & 2009 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2009

This Appendix shows the response rate for each question of the Herkimer County 2009 TAP Survey for the total participants, then broken down by gender and by grade (7th, 9th and 11th). For those survey questions that were also in the Herkimer County 1997, 2001 and 2005 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 & 2009) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2007) and for United States (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2007) for 9th and 11th Grades

The Herkimer County 2009 TAP Survey included 29 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 29 questions for the 9th and 11th graders separately for the United States and New York State (minus New York City) for 1997, 2001, 2005 and 2007, and for Herkimer County for 1997, 2001, 2005 and 2009. The reason the focus is on 9th and 11th graders is because high school students, grades 9th through 12th, participate in the YRBS Survey, while 7th, 9th and 11th graders take the TAP Survey. In order to ensure that we look at a like population of students, this analysis compares the two grades common to both surveys. The final years for the two surveys is different (TAP - 2009 and YRBS - 2007) because the results of the 2009 YRBS Survey are not yet available for the United States and New York State.

The results are shown in a table that is divided between 9th and 11th grades. 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 & 2009 and a Breakdown by Gender and Grade for 2009

About Yourself

Fill in the circles on your answer sheet that best describe you.

1. What is your sex?
0 = male

1 = female

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Male	51.1%	50.4%	49.6%	47.1%	----	----	47.0	45.7	48.6
Female	48.9%	49.6%	50.4%	52.9%	----	----	53.0	54.3	51.4
N =	2282	2165	2183	1877	----	----	619	676	555

2. How old are you?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
11 or less	.2%		.4%	.3%	.3	.3	.5	.3	.2
12	11.6%	12.5%	14.1%	14.0%	11.4	16.4	41.7	.3	.2
13	18.9%	17.6%	19.2%	16.6%	18.6	14.7	48.3	1.0	0
14	16.4%	17.2%	16.0%	17.7%	14.8	20.5	7.6	41.4	.4
15	20.2%	19.8%	17.0%	17.8%	19.4	16.4	1.0	47.6	.2
16	14.3%	16.5%	16.0%	16.9%	17.6	16.1	.3	8.6	45.4
17	15.6%	14.2%	15.0%	15.1%	15.7	14.4	.5	.6	48.8
18+	2.7%	2.3%	2.3%	1.7%	2.1	1.1	.2	.1	4.9
N =	2285	2163	2183	1878	870	980	619	678	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
7 th	34.8%	33.2%	35.3%	33.0%	33.4	33.5	----	----	----
9 th	36.0%	36.8%	33.8%	36.1%	35.5	37.4	----	----	----
11 th	28.1%	28.6%	29.1%	29.6%	31.0	29.1	----	----	----
Other	1.1%	1.4%	1.8%	1.3%			----	----	----
N =	2248	2161	2183	1876	870	980	----	----	----

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I don't have any special needs	87.7%	85.5%	83.1%	85.3%	86.2	85.0	84.7	85.7	86.3
learning disability	4.9%	4.8%	7.1%	5.7%	5.2	5.8	5.2	5.8	5.8
emotional/ behavioral disability	2.3%	2.8%	2.4%	3.3%	3.1	3.4	4.4	3.1	2.2
physical disability	2.2%	1.1%	.6%	.9%	.3	1.2	.8	1.0	.5
English as a second language	1.2%	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%	1.4	.9	1.5	1.2	.7
some other disability applies to me	*	2.6%	2.9%	2.4%	2.0	2.5	2.4	1.9	2.3
more than one of these applies to me	1.7%	1.7%	2.5%	1.4%	1.7	1.2	1.0	1.3	2.2
N =	2256	2145	2170	1870	865	977	613	676	554

* 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?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
two parents (biological or adoptive)	63.7%	59.5%	57.0%	57.9%	56.6	59.1	55.7	58.1	60.1
a parent and a step-parent	2.6%	15.4%	16.3%	17.2%	16.9	17.4	17.4	18.6	15.2
father most of the time	3.6%	3.7%	4.8%	4.3%	5.3	3.3	3.7	4.9	4.0
mother most of the time	12.4%	13.8%	14.4%	12.3%	13.4	11.5	12.2	11.5	13.5
mother part of the time, father part of the time	14.4%	3.9%	3.9%	4.5%	3.9	4.9	5.5	4.4	3.4
with relatives (aunt, uncle, grandparents, etc.)	2.0%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%	2.4	3.1	3.9	2.1	2.3
group home or foster home	*	.5%	.3%	.5%	.7	.3	.5	.4	.5
alone or with friends only	1.5%	.9%	.7%	.6%	.8	.5	1.1	.0	.9
N =	2274	2156	2197	1874	868	977	616	677	554

* 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?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
no high school	1.4%		.7%	1.0%	1.4	.6	2.1	.6	.2
some high school	8.1%		6.5%	7.0%	5.4	8.2	4.8	7.1	9.0
high school graduate	23.7%		20.7%	18.4%	18.5	18.3	14.8	20.3	20.0
some technical training or college courses	15.2%		9.3%	9.1%	8.8	9.2	7.5	9.5	10.3
two-year college graduate	16.4%	**	12.6%	11.8%	13.2	10.7	7.0	12.6	16.2
four-year college graduate	22.8%		17.9%	18.2%	18.2	18.4	16.2	17.2	21.8
master's or doctorate degree	12.4%		12.6%	13.0%	12.6	13.3	12.5	13.4	13.2
I don't know	*		19.8%	21.6%	21.8	21.3	35.1	19.3	9.2
N =			2172	1865	863	974	610	674	554

* 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?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
we qualify for free lunch	17.0%	17.3%	18.7%	20.1%	19.2	20.8	20.9	20.9	18.1
we qualify for reduced price lunch	7.5%	9.3%	11.1%	9.9%	10.9	9.2	10.6	9.0	10.5
we do not qualify for free or reduced price lunch	59.8%	59.6%	55.4%	52.7%	50.7	54.2	46.1	52.4	59.9
I do not know if we qualify for free or reduced lunch	15.8%	13.8%	14.7%	17.2%	19.1	15.9	22.4	17.6	11.6
N =	2264	2143	2186	1868	869	971	612	675	554

8. During the PAST YEAR have you or your family been homeless, meaning you lost your home (like a house, apartment, trailer, etc. for a day or longer)?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				98.1%	98.2	98.2	98.7	97.6	98.2
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	1.9%	1.8	1.8	1.3	2.4	1.8
N =				1874	869	977	619	675	553

9. During the PAST YEAR, have you left home and been homeless for a day or longer?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				96.3%	95.0	97.4	97.1	96.3	95.5
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	3.7%	5.0	2.6	2.9	3.7	4.5
N =				1868	865	974	614	674	553

Student Worries

How much do you worry about the following issues?

10. Getting good grades

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	6.8%	4.5%	4.7%	9.3%	12.1	6.4	11.2	9.3	6.7
A little	13.1%	12.7%	15.0%	23.1%	25.3	21.1	28.6	20.4	20.2
Fair amount	40.0%	41.4%	42.8%	40.3%	39.5	40.9	33.5	41.7	45.9
A lot	40.2%	41.4%	37.4%	27.3%	23.1	31.6	26.7	28.7	27.2
N =	2276	2155	2175	1874	866	979	615	677	555

11. Not fitting in with the other kids at school

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	47.5%	27.5%	33.8%	49.5%	53.1	46.2	46.0	50.6	51.6
A little	27.6%	31.7%	32.7%	30.1%	27.1	33.1	30.1	29.3	31.6
Fair amount	14.6%	24.1%	20.5%	12.6%	12.3	12.6	14.2	11.8	11.6
A lot	10.4%	16.7%	13.0%	7.8%	7.5	8.2	9.7	8.3	5.2
N =	2275	2154	2175	1875	867	979	618	676	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	28.1%	20.7%	22.3%	44.6%	46.7	42.4	47.2	44.2	41.7
A little	19.8%	20.5%	19.9%	23.0%	20.6	25.6	21.0	25.3	23.4
Fair amount	28.5%	31.7%	30.1%	19.9%	18.2	21.6	17.7	19.8	22.6
A lot	23.6%	27.1%	27.7%	12.5%	14.6	10.3	14.1	10.7	12.3
N =	2274	2148	2177	1870	865	976	615	676	552

13. How well your parents get along with each other

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	46.8%	28.7%	29.0%	49.7%	53.4	46.4	50.5	50.5	47.7
A little	18.7%	18.3%	19.1%	22.1%	19.0	24.9	22.2	19.9	24.9
Fair amount	15.8%	23.0%	21.8%	13.8%	13.1	14.8	12.3	13.8	16.1
A lot	18.8%	29.9%	30.1%	14.5%	14.6	13.9	15.0	15.9	11.4
N =	2256	2135	2156	1868	864	975	612	675	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	76.5%	59.9%	59.7%	70.5%	70.7	70.1	66.3	71.3	74.0
A little	10.1%	18.0%	17.3%	11.2%	10.0	12.4	15.3	9.5	9.0
Fair amount	5.2%	8.7%	8.4%	8.2%	8.7	7.9	7.1	8.7	9.0
A lot	8.3%	13.4%	14.5%	10.1%	10.5	9.6	11.3	10.5	8.0
N =	2265	2141	2161	1863	858	976	608	675	553

15. That your family has enough money to get by

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	47.2%	33.1%	29.0%	46.1%	50.1	42.1	49.3	48.0	39.4
A little	20.0%	17.8%	19.2%	26.3%	24.7	28.3	27.0	24.4	28.7
Fair amount	16.3%	25.3%	25.9%	14.3%	12.6	15.8	11.6	15.4	16.1
A lot	16.4%	23.8%	25.9%	13.3%	12.6	13.8	12.1	12.1	15.9
N =	2271	2145	2167	1867	863	976	612	675	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	50.7%	61.6%	56.4%	59.5%	59.6	59.1	59.7	58.6	59.9
A little	21.4%	18.2%	16.3%	16.9%	16.0	17.7	16.8	15.2	18.9
Fair amount	10.6%	8.0%	8.7%	9.3%	9.6	9.3	8.8	10.1	9.4
A lot	17.4%	12.3%	18.7%	14.4%	14.8	13.9	14.7	16.1	11.8
N =	2271	2134	2160	1867	864	974	613	676	551

17. Being pressured into having sex

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	63.0%	70.5%	67.5%	71.6%	81.4	62.5	65.1	70.9	79.0
A little	19.4%	15.7%	15.5%	15.2%	9.5	20.7	17.7	15.8	12.3
Fair amount	8.3%	7.0%	8.4%	6.9%	5.0	8.4	7.4	7.2	5.8
A lot	9.4%	6.8%	8.6%	6.3%	4.2	8.3	9.8	6.1	2.9
N =	2263	2137	2164	1866	866	971	610	676	553

18. That no one loves or cares about you

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Not at all	65.7%	61.8%	59.6%	69.8%	73.8	66.3	67.9	72.4	69.0
A little	15.8%	16.4%	16.4%	12.8%	9.6	15.5	13.5	11.2	13.5
Fair amount	8.7%	9.0%	10.6%	7.7%	6.8	8.6	7.8	6.8	8.8
A lot	9.7%	12.8%	13.4%	9.7%	9.8	9.6	10.7	9.6	8.6
N =	2267	2131	2163	1873	867	977	614	677	555

Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drug Use

The next four questions ask about tobacco use.

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never smoked a whole cigarette	50.1%	58.8%	68.0%	76.7%	74.7	78.9	89.2	75.7	64.9
8 years old or younger	5.0%	4.7%	3.9%	2.4%	3.5	1.2	1.8	3.4	1.6
9 or 10 years old	6.9%	5.3%	4.7%	2.7%	3.3	2.2	2.8	1.9	3.6
11 or 12 years old	16.7%	13.4%	9.4%	5.4%	5.9	5.1	2.9	6.5	7.0
13 or 14 years old	15.4%	13.2%	9.5%	7.9%	8.2	7.4	2.9	9.5	11.0
15 or 16 years old	5.2%	4.2%	4.1%	4.4%	4.0	4.5	.3	2.7	10.6
17 years old or older	.7%	.5%	.5%	.5%	.3	.6	.0	.3	1.3
N =	2268	2147	2167	1871	867	973	613	674	555

20. Have you ever tried to quit smoking cigarettes?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never smoked	58.8%	66.5%	73.4%	80.2%	78.6	82.1	90.3	78.6	71.6
I smoke and have never tried to quit smoking	*	6.8%	6.0%	4.0%	4.4	3.6	1.9	5.2	4.9
yes, I quit smoking, and haven't smoked since	*	14.4%	12.2%	9.9%	11.2	8.5	5.3	10.8	13.4
yes, I have quit smoking before but I started smoking again	*	12.4%	8.4%	6.0%	5.9	5.8	2.4	5.5	10.1
N =	2269	2142	2163	1877	869	977	617	678	553

* 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 smoke cigarettes?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
0 days	67.8%	75.7%	82.7%	87.3%	86.9	88.2	94.5	86.4	81.1
1 or 2 days	6.0%	5.6%	4.1%	3.2%	2.6	3.6	1.3	3.1	5.2
3 to 5 days	3.6%	2.6%	2.3%	1.4%	1.7	1.1	.6	1.5	2.2
6 to 9 days	2.5%	2.0%	1.3%	1.0%	.9	1.0	.5	1.6	.7
10 to 19 days	3.8%	2.3%	1.7%	1.3%	1.4	1.3	.5	1.9	1.6
20 to 29 days	4.3%	3.2%	1.9%	1.2%	.9	1.3	.5	.4	2.7
all 30 days	12.1%	8.6%	5.8%	4.5%	5.5	3.5	2.1	5.0	6.5
N =	2281	2151	2174	1881	870	980	619	678	555

22. 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)?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
0 days	92.7%	92.2%	93.0%	90.6%	84.4	96.1	94.8	89.8	86.8
1 or 2 days	3.2%	2.4%	2.3%	2.6%	3.8	1.5	1.8	2.8	3.2
3 to 5 days	.8%	1.2%	1.3%	1.5%	2.4	.7	.8	1.3	2.5
6 to 9 days	.8%	1.1%	.8%	1.5%	2.3	.6	1.0	.9	2.5
10 to 19 days	.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.2%	2.2	.4	.5	1.8	1.4
20 to 29 days	.4%	.5%	.5%	1.1%	2.0	.3	.3	1.9	.9
all 30 days	1.4%	1.7%	1.1%	1.5%	3.0	.3	.8	1.5	2.5
N =	2272	2152	2177	1880	870	980	619	677	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I don't drink	42.0%	42.5%	50.4%	56.9%	56.5	57.6	80.7	55.1	33.2
I did drink, but not anymore	4.0%	3.8%	3.1%	2.9%	2.4	3.3	2.3	3.2	3.1
A few times a year	23.1%	24.5%	23.4%	21.7%	21.1	22.2	11.0	23.9	30.7
A few times a month	19.1%	19.1%	16.0%	13.4%	13.0	13.2	4.1	12.4	24.2
A few times a week	9.6%	7.6%	5.2%	4.3%	5.6	3.3	1.6	4.7	7.0
Almost every day	2.2%	2.4%	1.9%	.9%	1.4	.4	.3	.6	1.8
N =	2270	2149	2184	1877	869	977	617	677	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never had a drink of alcohol other than a few sips	40.7%	38.1%	45.7%	52.7%	52.0	53.6	77.1	50.9	28.3
8 years old or younger	6.5%	6.7%	5.0%	4.4%	5.4	3.5	4.4	4.4	4.3
9 or 10 years old	6.5%	5.4%	5.9%	4.5%	5.4	3.7	6.0	4.0	3.4
11 or 12 years old	16.3%	14.4%	12.9%	8.8%	8.7	8.7	7.6	9.5	8.8
13 or 14 years old	21.0%	24.6%	19.9%	19.0%	17.9	20.3	4.5	25.9	27.3
15 or 16 years old	8.2%	10.0%	9.9%	10.0%	10.0	9.8	.2	5.3	26.4
17 years old or older	.7%	.7%	.8%	.5%	.6	.4	.2	.0	1.4
N =	2253	2148	2172	1875	867	977	616	676	554

25. During the PAST 30 DAYS, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
0 days			68.9%	73.0%	72.0	74.2	89.8	71.7	56.4
1 or 2 days			14.3%	13.8%	12.9	14.6	5.5	16.7	19.5
3 to 5 days			6.9%	5.5%	5.3	5.7	1.5	5.2	10.5
6 to 9 days			4.2%	3.8%	4.4	3.1	.6	3.4	7.4
10 to 19 days	Not Asked	Not Asked	3.1%	2.6%	3.5	1.7	1.6	1.8	4.7
20 to 29 days			1.1%	.7%	.9	.5	.6	.4	1.1
all 30 days			1.5%	.5%	1.0	.1	.3	.7	.5
N =			2172	1877	868	978	617	676	555

26. During the PAST 30 DAYS, have you had 5 or more alcoholic drinks within a two or three hour period?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No	72.4%	74.2%	80.3%	85.3%	81.8	88.5	96.1	86.7	71.7
Yes, once	9.3%	8.8%	7.3%	5.7%	6.0	5.3	1.0	6.2	10.1
Yes, 2 or 3 times	10.4%	9.0%	7.5%	5.6%	6.9	4.3	1.5	5.2	10.5
Yes, 4 or more times	7.8%	7.9%	4.9%	3.5%	5.2	1.8	1.5	1.9	7.6
N =	2264	2141	2167	1872	865	976	616	675	552

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I don't drink	47.0%	46.3%	53.3%	59.2%	59.5	59.3	83.2	56.9	35.9
From my house without parents knowing	6.9%	4.8%	4.5%	5.1%	5.1	4.9	4.7	5.8	4.3
From a friend's house, without their parents knowing	9.8%	6.9%	5.8%	5.0%	5.2	4.8	2.8	6.8	5.3
Someone of legal age buys for me or gives it to me	26.0%	15.6%	13.6%	10.4%	9.1	11.4	1.3	8.1	23.2
I buy it at a store or bar	2.9%	2.3%	.9%	.7%	1.3	.2	.3	.3	1.6
My parents give it to me	5.5%	5.6%	5.4%	4.8%	3.9	5.6	2.8	4.7	7.2
My friend's parents give it to me	2.0%	1.7%	2.1%	1.4%	1.5	1.4	.5	2.2	1.6
Some other source		16.7%	14.3%	13.4%	14.4	12.3	4.4	15.1	20.8
N =	2233	2134	2157	1870	864	975	614	675	552

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

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I don't use marijuana	69.8%	73.1%	77.5%	80.3%	78.5	82.2	94.3	82.0	63.1
I did use marijuana, but not anymore	9.1%	6.9%	6.9%	5.6%	6.0	5.0	1.9	5.0	9.9
a few times a year	6.0%	5.5%	4.6%	4.4%	4.3	4.5	.6	3.8	9.2
a few times a month	6.5%	5.3%	4.4%	3.9%	3.7	4.2	1.6	2.8	7.9
a few times a week	5.0%	3.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.6	2.0	.6	2.5	4.0
almost every day	3.7%	5.9%	4.4%	3.5%	4.9	2.0	.8	3.8	5.9
N =	2273	2150	2174	1881	870	980	619	678	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never tried marijuana	68.8%	67.4%	73.2%	77.4%	75.0	79.9	93.7	79.6	57.0
8 years old or younger	1.6%	1.9%	1.9%	.7%	1.5	.1	.5	.6	1.3
9 or 10 years old	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	2.6	.3	1.3	1.9	.9
11 or 12 years old	6.1%	6.2%	5.9%	3.9%	4.6	3.1	2.1	3.8	5.6
13 or 14 years old	12.8%	14.0%	11.0%	8.5%	7.7	9.1	1.9	10.6	13.2
15 or 16 years old	8.5%	8.2%	5.9%	7.6%	7.9	7.2	.5	3.4	20.6
17 years old or older	.7%	.9%	.6%	.4%	.6	.3	.0	.0	1.4
N =	2279	2149	2174	1880	869	980	619	678	554

30. During the PAST 30 DAYS, how many times did you use marijuana?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
0 times			86.4%	87.3%	85.7	89.0	96.4	87.9	76.7
1 to 2 times			4.1%	4.4%	3.6	5.0	1.0	3.5	9.0
3 to 9 times	Not Asked	Nor Asked	3.2%	3.0%	3.3	2.8	.6	3.7	4.9
10 to 19 times			1.6%	1.1%	1.7	.6	.6	.6	2.3
20 to 39 times			1.6%	2.1%	2.4	1.8	.8	2.4	3.2
40 or more times			3.1%	2.0%	3.2	.8	.5	1.9	3.8
N =			2169	1880	869	980	619	678	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I don't use marijuana		74.5%	79.3%	81.8%	81.0	82.9	95.0	82.4	67.0
a friend		12.9%	9.2%	8.4%	7.0	9.6	2.3	7.2	16.6
a brother or sister		6.8%	.9%	1.1%	1.0	1.1	.3	1.0	2.0
a parent	Not Asked	0.4%	.6%	.1%	.2	.0	.2	.0	.2
an adult relative other than my parents		6.2%	.3%	.1%	.1	.1	.0	.1	.2
some other adult		0.4%	.2%	.2%	.2	.2	.0	.1	.5
a seller/dealer		5.5%	4.6%	4.3%	4.4	4.0	1.1	4.1	7.8
I grow it		2.1%	2.0%	1.4%	2.9	.1	.5	1.6	2.2
some other source		3.2%	3.0%	2.5%	3.1	1.9	.6	3.3	3.6
N =		2142	2170	1878	869	978	619	676	554

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

32. Cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never used	94.1%	94.9%	94.1%	96.3%	94.8	97.5	98.5	97.0	92.6
Did use, but stopped	2.5%	1.8%	1.9%	1.5%	1.7	1.3	.6	1.6	2.5
A few times a year	1.1%	1.3%	1.4%	.9%	1.0	.7	.2	.6	2.0
A few times a month	.6%	.4%	.7%	.6%	1.1	.1	.5	.1	1.3
A few times a week	.5%	.3%	.5%	.2%	.1	.3	.0	.1	.5
About every day	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%	.5%	1.1	.0	.2	.4	1.1
N =	2279	2153	2176	1880	870	979	619	677	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never used	87.3%	91.2%	90.3%	93.1%	92.2	93.8	91.4	94.8	92.6
Did use, but stopped	5.6%	3.8%	3.5%	3.0%	2.5	3.5	3.4	2.8	2.9
A few times a year	4.2%	2.2%	2.9%	2.2%	2.9	1.6	2.6	1.2	3.1
A few times a month	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	.8%	.9	.7	1.5	.4	.5
A few times a week	.6%	.4%	.8%	.3%	.6	.1	.5	.3	.2
About every day	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%	.6%	.9	.3	.6	.4	.7
N =	2280	2155	2175	1879	870	978	619	676	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never used	96.3%	96.0%	96.2%	97.1%	95.1	98.9	97.9	97.0	96.2
Did use, but stopped	1.3%	1.2%	.9%	1.0%	1.4	.5	.6	1.2	.9
A few times a year	.7%	1.0%	.6%	.5%	1.1	.0	.6	.4	.5
A few times a month	.3%	.4%	.8%	.4%	.6	.2	.3	.	.4
A few times a week	.2%	.2%	.2%	.3%	.3	.2	.5	.0	.4
About every day	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%	.8%	1.5	.2	.0	.9	1.6
N =	2280	2154	2175	1879	870	979	619	677	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never used			95.5%	97.9%	96.4	99.1	99.0	98.4	95.9
Did use, but stopped			1.4%	.7%	1.0	.5	.2	.7	1.4
A few times a year			.9%	.5%	.8	.3	.3	.4	.9
A few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	.6%	.2%	.2	.1	.3	.0	.2
A few times a week			.3%	.2%	.3	.0	.2	.0	.4
About every day			1.3%	.5%	1.2	.0	.0	.4	1.3
N =			2176	1879	869	979	618	677	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never used			94.1%	95.7%	93.6	97.5	98.4	96.5	91.5
Did use, but stopped			1.6%	1.3%	1.4	1.3	.0	1.5	2.7
A few times a year			1.7%	1.1%	1.8	.5	.6	.7	2.2
A few times a month	Not Asked	Not Asked	.7%	1.0%	1.6	.5	.8	.7	1.6
A few times a week			.6%	.3%	.3	.1	.0	.1	.7
About every day			1.2%	.6%	1.3	.0	.2	.4	1.3
N =			2172	1878	869	979	618	677	555

* 2005 TAP Survey read "Other illegal drugs (like LSD, PCP, etc.)" and did not include ecstasy. Instead, there was a separate question for ecstasy.

37. Medicines prescribed for someone other than yourself (such as Ridalin, codiene, Oxycodone, etc.)

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never used		89.7%	90.3%	91.8%	90.1	93.4	96.9	93.1	84.5
Did use, but stopped		3.0%	2.9%	2.1%	2.6	1.7	.5	2.5	3.6
A few times a year	Not Asked	3.2%	3.3%	2.7%	2.8	2.5	1.1	1.8	5.4
A few times a month		1.9%	1.6%	1.9%	2.0	1.7	.5	1.9	3.2
A few times a week		0.7%	.5%	.6%	.8	.3	.3	.1	1.3
About every day		1.4%	1.5%	1.0%	1.7	.4	.6	.6	2.0
N =		2153	2175	1879	869	979	618	677	555

* 2005 TAP Survey read “Medicines prescribed for someone other than yourself (such as Ritalin, codeine, etc.)” and did not include Oxycodone.

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never used			83.9%	89.1%	89.0	89.3	91.3	89.5	86.1
Did use, but stopped			4.0%	3.0%	2.4	3.5	2.1	3.6	3.2
A few times a year	Not Asked	Not Asked	5.5%	4.4%	4.6	4.2	3.9	4.1	5.2
A few times a month			3.5%	2.0%	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	2.5
A few times a week			1.2%	.5%	.6	.4	.5	.3	.7
About every day			1.8%	1.0%	1.5	.6	.3	.7	2.2
N =			2170	1878	869	978	619	675	555

39. How often during this (2008 – 2009) school year have you been high on alcohol, marijuana, or any other illegal drugs while at school during school hours?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
0 times	78.2%	79.5%	82.9%	84.5%	82.0	86.7	94.3	82.7	75.6
1 or 2 times	7.9%	7.5%	6.6%	5.4%	5.4	5.3	2.3	7.2	6.5
3 to 9 times	5.5%	4.1%	3.9%	4.0%	4.0	4.0	1.6	3.7	7.2
10 to 19 times	2.5%	2.5%	1.8%	2.1%	2.7	1.5	.6	1.3	4.5
20 to 39 times	1.9%	2.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.6	.9	.3	1.5	2.0
40 or more times	4.0%	4.3%	3.5%	2.8%	4.3	1.5	.8	3.6	4.2
N =	2270	2148	2174	1874	865	978	616	676	553

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

40. Beer, wine, or hard liquor

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Easy		31.2%	30.3%	23.3%	25.8	20.7	16.2	23.3	30.6
Easy		28.9%	25.3%	25.8%	24.9	27.1	16.5	27.7	34.5
Not so easy	Not Asked	10.0%	9.0%	11.4%	10.7	12.0	9.3	12.2	12.8
Difficult		5.7%	5.1%	7.2%	6.8	7.7	8.0	7.7	6.0
Very difficult		9.0%	10.4%	11.4%	10.4	12.4	21.2	8.9	3.8
I don't know		15.2%	19.8%	20.8%	21.4	20.1	28.9	20.2	12.3
N =		2147	2162	1869	866	972	613	674	553

41. Marijuana (pot, weed)

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Easy		25.0%	22.2%	16.7%	19.4	13.9	7.1	16.2	27.4
Easy		18.2%	14.9%	14.9%	13.5	16.0	5.4	16.2	23.5
Not so easy	Not Asked	7.3%	6.8%	7.2%	8.0	6.6	5.3	8.2	8.3
Difficult		4.1%	4.2%	5.1%	5.5	4.9	3.6	7.1	4.5
Very difficult		16.9%	20.3%	22.6%	19.7	25.3	36.8	20.0	10.1
I don't know		28.5%	31.7%	33.5%	33.9	33.3	41.8	32.3	26.2
N =		2142	2160	1865	865	969	608	674	554

42. Tobacco products

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Easy		37.2%	31.3%	25.4%	31.1	19.9	13.4	25.2	38.3
Easy		18.7%	15.4%	16.0%	16.1	15.8	10.3	15.7	22.4
Not so easy	Not Asked	7.0%	6.4%	7.7%	6.5	8.9	6.1	10.5	6.1
Difficult		4.8%	4.6%	5.3%	5.0	5.8	4.3	6.8	4.9
Very difficult		12.0%	15.9%	17.8%	15.2	20.2	30.1	15.1	7.6
I don't know		20.3%	26.4%	27.9%	26.1	29.6	35.8	26.7	20.8
N =		2142	2163	1869	867	971	611	675	554

Gambling

During the PAST YEAR, how often (if at all) have you:

43. Played cards for money?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never				68.0%	54.8	79.3	73.1	66.4	63.9
Once or Twice	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	16.5%	21.1	12.6	14.8	17.8	17.0
Sometimes				10.8%	15.8	6.3	9.5	10.7	12.3
Often				4.8%	8.3	1.7	2.6	5.2	6.9
N =				1871	863	977	613	675	554

44. Bet money on sports teams or sporting events?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never				69.0%	58.4	78.5	70.6	67.7	69.0
Once or Twice	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	18.1%	22.0	14.6	17.7	20.4	15.7
Sometimes				8.6%	12.0	5.5	7.5	8.3	10.3
Often				4.3%	7.6	1.3	4.2	3.7	5.1
N =				1877	868	978	616	678	554

45. Played the lottery, Lotto, or scratch off tickets?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never				46.3%	48.6	43.9	50.3	44.0	44.1
Once or Twice	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	21.4%	17.4	25.4	21.8	22.3	20.5
Sometimes				23.4%	22.9	23.7	19.4	24.6	26.1
Often				9.0%	11.1	6.9	8.4	9.1	9.2
N =				1880	870	979	618	678	555

46. Purchased lottery, Lotto, or scratch off tickets?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never				88.3%	86.1	90.5	91.2	90.0	83.4
Once or Twice	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	5.1%	6.1	4.1	3.4	4.6	7.4
Sometimes				4.2%	4.4	3.9	3.4	3.4	5.8
Often				2.4%	3.4	1.5	1.9	2.1	3.4
N =				1878	870	977	616	678	555

47. Bet money at a casino?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never				96.6%	95.4	97.9	98.5	97.6	93.5
Once or Twice	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	1.7%	2.5	.9	1.3	.9	3.1
Sometimes				.8%	.8	.7	.2	.6	1.6
Often				.9%	1.3	.5	.0	.9	1.8
N =				1879	870	978	618	678	554

48. Bet money over the internet?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never				96.4%	94.8	97.8	95.9	96.9	96.2
Once or Twice	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	1.8%	2.2	1.4	2.6	1.2	1.6
Sometimes				.5%	.7	.4	.8	.4	.4
Often				1.3%	2.3	.4	.6	1.5	1.8
N =				1879	869	979	617	678	555

49. In the PAST YEAR, have you ever borrowed money or sold property (like I-Pod, clothing, etc.) to gamble?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				94.5%	92.8	95.9	93.9	93.9	95.8
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	5.5%	7.2	4.1	6.1	6.1	4.2
N =				1872	864	977	618	673	552

50. In the PAST YEAR, have you ever lied to others about how much you gamble or how much money you've lost gambling?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				97.4%	95.7	98.9	97.6	97.6	96.9
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	2.6%	4.3	1.1	2.4	2.4	3.1
N =				1857	857	969	614	669	545

About Your School

Please read each statement carefully and decide whether you agree or disagree. Fill in the circles on the answer sheet that best describe your feelings.

51. I enjoy going to school

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree	10.9%	9.4%	10.4%	10.1%	9.9	10.1	12.8	8.0	9.4
Agree	51.4%	49.9%	48.3%	51.5%	45.9	56.4	50.2	50.1	54.3
Disagree	23.7%	25.6%	26.2%	24.9%	27.2	23.2	22.0	28.0	24.9
Strongly disagree	14.0%	15.2%	15.2%	13.5%	17.1	10.2	14.9	13.9	11.4
N =	2773	2149	2172	1876	868	977	617	676	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree	17.9%	14.9%	14.1%	13.5%	15.0	12.5	23.0	9.0	9.0
Agree	30.3%	36.1%	35.0%	39.8%	39.1	40.9	42.7	43.5	32.8
Disagree	29.6%	30.9%	30.2%	28.2%	25.7	29.8	21.8	28.9	33.5
Strongly disagree	22.2%	18.1%	20.6%	18.4%	20.2	16.9	12.5	18.6	24.7
N =	2274	2153	2172	1876	867	978	614	678	555

53. I feel safe in my school.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree	27.2%	14.5%	16.9%	18.7%	22.3	15.1	21.8	15.9	17.9
Agree	51.2%	55.8%	57.5%	57.3%	53.7	61.0	51.1	59.0	62.9
Disagree	13.6%	20.6%	16.4%	15.9%	14.8	17.0	18.4	16.6	12.5
Strongly disagree	8.0%	9.1%	9.1%	8.0%	9.2	6.9	8.6	8.6	6.7
N =	2276	2143	2167	1871	866	974	614	675	553

54. Teachers in my school generally have high expectations of me, care about me and care how well I do in school.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001*	2005*	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree		23.9%	24.3%	28.5%	28.0	29.2	36.8	23.9	25.3
Agree		54.9%	53.9%	53.0%	51.9	53.9	46.7	54.8	57.7
Disagree	Not Asked	15.0%	15.0%	12.3%	12.2	12.4	10.6	15.1	10.7
Strongly disagree		6.2%	6.8%	6.2%	7.9	4.5	5.9	6.3	6.3
N =		2142	2166	1864	863	970	612	670	553

* This question combines two questions from the 2001 and 2005 TAP Surveys. The two read as follows: 1. "Teachers in my school generally have high expectations of me;" and 2. "My teachers generally care about me and how well I do in school." Both times the questions had virtually the same response pattern, thus they were combined. Shown here is the response pattern for question #1.

55. What grades do you usually get in school?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
90-100	31.5%	31.1%	31.7%	33.5%	26.9	39.6	34.1	33.4	33.6
80-89	39.6%	36.8%	35.6%	36.2%	37.9	34.6	37.1	33.1	38.7
70-79	22.5%	22.7%	21.3%	21.3%	24.0	18.8	18.8	23.4	21.5
65-69	4.6%	6.5%	7.2%	5.9%	7.5	4.4	6.3	6.3	4.9
below 65	1.9%	2.9%	4.2%	3.0%	3.7	2.5	3.8	3.9	1.3
N =	2267	2133	2160	1860	858	971	607	671	553

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Go to vocational/technical school or 2 year college	13.9%	13.1%	14.2%	13.6%	14.6	12.7	8.6	11.2	21.8
Go to a 4 year college/university	55.8%	57.9%	54.5%	57.3%	48.1	65.3	53.7	58.8	59.1
Go to work full-time	4.7%	3.7%	4.1%	4.4%	5.9	3.1	3.6	4.6	5.0
Join the military	7.3%	6.8%	6.7%	7.7%	13.0	2.9	8.8	8.7	4.9
Get married and be supported by my husband/wife	1.2%	.6%	.9%	1.2%	1.5	1.0	1.6	.9	1.3
Go on public assistance (welfare)	.8%	.6%	.4%	.2%	.5	.0	.5	.1	.0
Don't know yet	14.7%	16.0%	17.9%	14.7%	15.2	14.5	22.0	14.0	7.9
Don't plan to finish high school	1.6%	1.3%	1.3%	1.0%	1.3	.6	1.1	1.6	.0
N =	2278	2146	2172	1874	864	979	613	677	555

57. During this school year (2008-2009), how many days have you skipped classes all day or part of the day without your parents' permission?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
0 times				74.4%	72.6	76.5	82.0	73.5	67.9
1 or 2 times				14.0%	14.4	13.1	12.6	13.6	15.0
3 to 9 times	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	7.1%	8.2	6.3	3.6	7.5	10.8
10 to 19 times				2.3%	2.4	2.3	.8	2.7	3.8
20 to 39 times				1.2%	1.2	1.2	.5	1.6	1.4
40 or more times				1.0%	1.3	.5	.5	1.2	1.1
N =				1880	869	980	618	678	555

58. During this school year (2008-2009), have you had an out of school suspension?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001*	2005*	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No, never		91.1%	88.7%	90.9%	87.2	94.4	93.0	86.8	93.7
Yes, once	Not Asked	4.8%	6.3%	5.7%	7.5	4.0	2.9	8.9	4.7
Yes, more than once		4.1%	5.0%	3.4%	5.3	1.6	4.0	4.3	1.6
N =		2148	2171	1877	867	979	618	676	554

* 2001 and 2005 TAP Survey read - "In the past year, have you been suspended from school?"

59. How often in this school year (2008-2009), have missed school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never		84.4%	86.5%	92.1%	93.5	90.9	91.4	91.4	93.7
Once		7.2%	7.6%	6.1%	4.6	7.4	7.3	6.2	4.7
Several Times	Not Asked	2.9%	2.8%	1.1%	.9	1.1	.8	1.5	.9
Many Times		1.7%	3.1%	.7%	.9	.5	.5	.9	.7
N =		2070	2178	1879	868	980	618	677	555

60. During this school year (2008-2009), has anyone offered, sold, or given you an illegal drug on school property?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	88.1%	85.1	91.0	94.6	86.2	83.5
Yes				11.9%	14.9	9.0	5.4	13.8	16.5
N =				1863	857	975	614	669	551

About Your Community

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree	9.9%	7.4%	7.4%	9.5%	11.7	7.5	16.8	6.6	4.7
Agree	17.5%	24.4%	30.4%	33.5%	36.1	31.1	45.9	32.6	20.8
Disagree	28.2%	33.1%	31.4%	31.5%	26.6	35.9	25.3	31.9	37.9
Strongly disagree	44.5%	35.1%	30.8%	25.6%	25.7	25.5	11.9	28.9	36.6
N =	2260	2141	2170	1873	865	977	612	678	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree		8.6%	10.3%	8.0%	8.8	7.4	10.0	7.0	7.2
Agree		46.4%	45.3%	35.0%	36.7	33.3	38.3	33.7	32.5
Disagree	Not Asked	29.5%	27.2%	37.1%	33.0	40.9	37.2	38.0	36.3
Strongly disagree		15.5%	17.2%	19.9%	21.5	18.4	14.5	21.3	24.0
N =		2147	2172	1872	864	977	613	676	554

63. I feel safe in my community.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree	25.0%	16.6%	17.1%	17.4%	20.1	14.7	19.7	15.6	16.4
Agree	55.1%	65.6%	61.9%	61.5%	60.7	62.4	55.6	60.8	69.3
Disagree	13.5%	12.9%	14.5%	15.2%	13.3	17.0	18.2	15.7	11.4
Strongly disagree	6.5%	4.8%	6.6%	5.9%	5.9	5.9	6.5	7.9	2.9
N =	2275	2149	2170	1872	866	976	615	674	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree		8.3%	9.2%	10.7%	11.6	9.8	16.7	9.1	6.0
Agree	Not Asked	46.5%	48.1%	51.6%	50.1	53.3	57.0	50.6	47.6
Disagree		31.9%	29.6%	26.7%	26.3	26.7	18.7	28.0	33.2
Strongly disagree		13.4%	13.1%	11.0%	11.9	10.2	7.5	12.3	13.2
N =		2127	2154	1858	862	965	603	674	552

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly Agree		39.5%	45.7%	46.8%	33.8	58.3	45.6	48.7	45.8
Agree		42.8%	38.3%	39.2%	47.8	31.9	38.5	38.8	40.9
Disagree	Not Asked	11.3%	9.5%	8.4%	11.2	5.6	9.6	6.6	8.6
Strongly Disagree		6.4%	6.5%	5.6%	7.3	4.2	6.3	5.8	4.7
N =		2135	2142	1877	868	978	616	677	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly Agree		26.3%	34.1%	41.6%	35.5	47.2	60.9	36.0	27.4
Agree		38.9%	39.6%	40.7%	43.6	38.1	30.9	45.8	44.9
Disagree	Not Asked	23.9%	16.7%	12.5%	13.3	11.6	5.4	13.4	19.0
Strongly Disagree		10.8%	9.5%	5.2%	7.6	3.2	2.8	4.7	8.7
N =		2134	2165	1869	863	975	611	677	552

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly Agree		10.4%	11.4%	11.6%	9.1	13.8	16.3	9.4	9.0
Agree		43.5%	39.7%	45.9%	40.9	51.0	48.9	43.3	46.8
Disagree	Not Asked	34.3%	33.8%	30.9%	35.2	26.8	25.1	34.2	32.9
Strongly Disagree		11.8%	15.1%	11.5%	14.8	8.3	9.8	12.9	11.2
N =		2123	2156	1868	864	973	614	672	553

You and Your Parents

68. I feel safe in my home.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree	58.9%	61.3%	64.2%	67.9%	70.0	66.0	70.5	65.3	68.0
Agree	34.3%	33.8%	29.8%	27.1%	26.3	28.3	24.5	28.9	28.6
Disagree	3.0%	2.7%	3.8%	3.4%	2.1	4.3	3.7	3.5	2.5
Strongly disagree	3.7%	2.2%	2.2%	1.5%	1.6	1.4	1.3	2.2	.9
N =	2275	2151	2174	1875	867	978	616	678	553

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly agree			47.1%	47.4%	49.5	45.3	52.7	43.9	45.4
Agree			31.7%	33.4%	33.3	33.7	30.0	35.1	35.6
Disagree	Not Asked	Not Asked	12.6%	11.6%	10.1	13.1	11.0	11.5	12.7
Strongly disagree			8.5%	7.5%	7.0	7.9	6.3	9.5	6.3
N =			2170	1875	867	977	617	676	553

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

My parent(s)...

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never	10.0%	4.8%	4.9%	6.0%	6.8	5.1	5.7	5.5	6.9
Occasionally	26.9%	27.5%	28.3%	26.6%	26.6	25.9	19.7	27.9	31.4
Often	33.1%	32.2%	30.9%	29.0%	29.6	29.0	30.9	29.3	27.3
Always	30.0%	35.5%	35.9%	38.4%	37.0	40.0	43.7	37.3	34.5
N =	2263	2147	2169	1873	865	977	615	675	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never	17.2%	12.1%	12.5%	11.3%	11.8	10.7	8.6	11.2	14.1
Occasionally	33.9%	32.8%	36.3%	34.3%	32.5	35.6	31.9	33.9	37.0
Often	26.7%	28.6%	27.7%	28.4%	29.8	27.3	29.8	29.0	26.5
Always	22.1%	26.6%	23.5%	25.9%	25.9	26.4	29.8	25.9	22.4
N =	2262	2147	2168	1877	868	979	618	676	554

72. ...know my friends.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never	5.7%	4.6%	5.2%	3.9%	5.3	2.2	4.2	3.6	3.2
Occasionally	14.9%	14.2%	15.3%	13.0%	16.0	10.2	14.1	11.7	13.4
Often	34.2%	36.5%	35.4%	31.8%	32.6	31.4	25.0	35.9	34.7
Always	45.1%	44.7%	44.1%	51.3%	46.1	56.1	56.6	48.8	48.7
N =	2257	2145	2170	1874	865	978	615	676	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never		5.3%	5.0%	4.3%	5.4	3.2	3.4	4.7	4.5
Occasionally	Not Asked	13.8%	11.2%	12.4%	14.4	10.4	9.9	13.0	14.1
Often		31.4%	28.8%	26.4%	28.9	24.5	20.8	26.8	32.4
Always		49.6%	55.1%	56.8%	51.3	61.9	65.8	55.5	48.9
N =		2140	2175	1873	863	979	614	678	552

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never		3.3%	4.7%	4.5%	5.0	4.0	4.1	4.9	4.3
Occasionally	Not Asked	8.8%	8.3%	7.5%	9.5	5.4	7.4	7.4	7.2
Often		19.0%	16.5%	15.6%	20.7	11.2	13.2	16.0	17.9
Always		68.8%	70.5%	72.4%	64.8	79.4	75.3	71.8	70.5
N =		2143	2168	1871	863	977	612	677	553

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never	9.8%	4.9%	5.6%	5.9%	7.0	4.6	5.0	5.8	6.5
Occasionally	19.7%	9.5%	10.7%	10.1%	9.6	10.2	7.5	10.5	11.8
Often	27.8%	23.6%	21.1%	18.1%	19.5	16.8	14.2	19.1	21.4
Always	42.7%	62.0%	62.7%	66.0%	63.9	68.4	73.3	64.6	60.3
N =	2255	2138	2164	1871	866	974	614	676	552

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?

76. Risks of smoking, drinking, or taking drugs

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never	27.8%	31.5%	32.0%	34.4%	40.7	28.4	36.0	32.1	34.7
Rarely	*	22.6%	23.3%	23.3%	21.2	25.4	22.3	23.3	25.0
Sometimes	37.5%	29.0%	27.4%	27.2%	26.2	28.6	24.4	30.6	27.1
Often	20.5%	10.4%	10.1%	10.4%	7.6	12.8	11.9	9.9	9.2
Very Often	14.2%	6.5%	7.1%	4.7%	4.3	4.7	5.4	4.1	4.0
N =	2257	2139	2168	1873	867	975	614	677	553

* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include “rarely,” but did include all others.

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never	40.8%	41.7%	41.8%	37.1%	46.1	28.7	42.7	33.8	34.3
Rarely	*	21.4%	22.8%	24.9%	23.7	25.9	24.5	24.4	25.8
Sometimes	35.3%	21.8%	20.0%	21.9%	18.9	24.7	18.8	24.0	23.1
Often	13.2%	8.8%	8.2%	10.4%	7.7	12.9	9.0	12.3	9.0
Very Often	10.7%	6.2%	7.2%	5.8%	3.6	7.7	5.1	5.5	6.9
N =	2258	2142	2170	1871	866	974	613	675	554

* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include “rarely,” but did include all others.

78. About our family’s history, faith and/or values

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never	28.7%	24.9%	24.3%	26.0%	31.9	20.9	26.9	25.9	25.5
Rarely	*	21.8%	21.7%	23.7%	23.4	24.5	23.6	24.3	23.9
Sometimes	38.7%	26.9%	28.4%	27.0%	25.1	28.3	25.6	27.4	27.5
Often	20.2%	16.2%	15.9%	13.7%	12.3	15.0	12.9	13.6	14.9
Very Often	12.4%	10.3%	9.7%	9.5%	7.2	11.4	11.1	8.9	8.2
N =	2252	2137	2159	1870	867	973	614	676	552

* 1997 TAP Survey response choices did not include “rarely,” but did include all others.

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never		9.5%	11.9%	13.1%	14.6	11.6	12.5	12.9	13.9
Occasionally (for example, once every few weeks)		11.4%	16.2%	12.6%	12.1	12.9	10.3	12.3	15.2
One night a week		5.7%	5.6%	5.3%	4.5	6.1	4.4	5.8	5.8
Two nights a week		8.1%	7.0%	7.3%	7.5	7.2	7.2	6.4	8.7
Three nights a week	Not Asked	9.2%	8.6%	10.9%	11.6	10.4	8.5	11.5	12.8
Four nights a week		9.4%	8.0%	7.9%	8.4	7.6	7.4	7.5	9.0
Five nights a week		13.6%	11.6%	12.4%	11.3	13.7	14.0	13.5	9.9
Six nights a week		9.4%	8.1%	7.7%	6.6	8.5	6.9	8.0	8.0
Every night of the week		23.7%	23.2%	22.7%	23.3	22.1	28.7	22.2	16.6
N =		2145	2173	1865	861	975	609	676	553

80. How many times in the PAST FIVE YEARS have you had to change schools because you moved to a different community or neighborhood?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None		75.4%	77.0%	77.4%	77.6	77.5	72.5	77.1	83.6
Once		14.1%	11.9%	13.2%	12.0	14.1	16.4	12.9	9.9
Twice		3.7%	4.5%	4.1%	4.4	3.9	4.8	5.0	2.3
Three times	Not Asked	2.8%	2.9%	2.7%	2.5	2.5	3.6	1.9	2.0
Four times		1.5%	1.7%	1.2%	2.0	.6	1.6	1.2	.9
Five times or more		2.5%	2.1%	1.4%	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.9	1.3
N =		2142	2172	1870	866	973	610	677	554

Personal Issues

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
a friend	52.9%	49.0%	46.7%	48.2%	42.8	53.2	41.7	51.3	51.8
my parent/step-parent	20.5%	22.4%	24.2%	19.2%	24.4	14.5	28.8	16.8	11.2
a brother/sister	5.3%	7.6%	8.0%	7.1%	7.7	6.5	6.9	7.6	6.5
a relative outside of my immediate family (uncle, aunt, cousin, etc)	1.2%	2.6%	3.2%	3.7%	4.1	3.4	4.6	3.9	2.5
an adult at my school (teacher, counselor, etc)	1.8%	.9%	1.2%	.7%	1.0	.4	1.1	.6	.4
some other adult (religious leader, coach, counselor, etc)	3.4%*	6.4%*	6.2%*	.4%	.6	.3	.3	.4	.5
I usually turn to several of these people for support	**	**	**	13.1%	8.9	17.1	10.3	12.2	17.9
no one, because I can't or don't want to	12.7%	9.8%	8.9%	5.5%	8.0	3.1	3.9	4.9	7.8
I have no one I feel I can talk to about any problems I might be facing	2.1%	1.2%	1.5%	2.0%	2.6	1.5	2.3	2.2	1.4
N =	2252	2122	2186	1864	858	976	611	671	554

* 1997, 2001 and 2005 TAP Surveys response choices included "an adult friend," "a counselor or religious leader" and "an adult leader (e.g. 4-H, church youth group, scouts, coach, etc.);" for 2009 TAP Survey these three response choices were combined to one choice, "some other adult (religious leader, coach, counselor, etc)."

** 1997, 2001 and 2005 TAP Surveys response choices did not include "I usually turn to several of these people for support."

82. How do you describe your weight?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very underweight				1.8%	2.2	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.6
Slightly underweight				11.0%	12.0	10.3	12.6	9.7	11.0
About the right weight	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	60.0%	60.7	59.1	60.0	60.9	58.6
Slightly overweight				22.7%	20.3	24.7	21.7	22.6	23.7
Very overweight				4.6%	4.8	4.4	3.6	5.1	5.1
N =				1853	852	971	605	667	553

83. 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?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005*	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I did not try to lose weight or keep from gaining weight			43.6%	44.6%	54.4	35.2	49.4	43.7	39.2
I ate a balanced diet and/or I exercised			----	42.2%	33.8	50.3	38.1	43.4	46.3
I went without eating for 24 hours or more (also called fasting)	Not Asked	Not Asked	----	4.0%	2.7	5.1	2.9	4.0	5.1
I vomited after eating or took laxatives			----	.8%	1.0	.5	.5	.9	.9
I used diet products (e.g., diet pills, diet drinks like Slimfast)			----	.9%	.3	1.2	.3	1.3	.7
I used some other method not listed above			----	7.6%	7.8	7.6	8.7	6.7	7.8
N =			2163	1864	859	974	611	671	553

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices did not include "I ate a balanced diet and/or I exercised" but did include "I vomited after eating" however made no reference to "laxatives."

84. During the PAST YEAR, have you seriously thought about running away from home?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
no	61.1%	62.6%	59.8%	66.3%	72.8	60.7	68.0	63.4	68.1
yes, once	17.5%	17.0%	19.2%	17.2%	13.9	19.9	16.8	19.0	15.0
yes, more than once	16.3%	16.9%	17.3%	14.0%	10.9	16.9	13.4	15.0	13.9
I did run away	4.4%	2.9%	3.1%	2.0%	2.0	2.0	1.6	2.1	2.3
I did not live at home during the last year	.7%	.7%	.7%	.4%	.3	.5	.2	.4	.7
N =	2271	2140	2167	1869	861	977	612	673	555

85. How often in the PAST YEAR have you hurt yourself **on purpose** (by cutting, burning, biting or bruising, for example) without intending to commit suicide?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never				82.8%	86.6	79.4	85.4	81.4	81.4
Once or Twice	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	10.7%	8.3	12.9	9.2	11.9	11.0
Several Times				3.6%	3.3	3.8	3.1	3.7	3.8
Many Times				2.9%	1.9	3.9	2.3	3.0	3.8
N =				1866	858	977	611	672	554

Sometimes people feel so depressed and hopeless about the future that they may consider attempting suicide, that is, taking some action to end their own life. The next six questions ask about suicide.

86. During the PAST YEAR, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activity?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	30.9%	22.1%	16.8	26.8	14.6	23.2	29.3
No			69.1%	77.9%	83.2	73.2	85.4	76.8	70.7
N =			2147	1862	865	977	610	671	553

87. During the PAST YEAR, did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Yes	26.1%	22.6%	20.6%	12.7%	9.8	15.1	8.2	14.2	15.7
No	73.9%	77.4%	79.4%	87.3%	90.2	84.9	91.8	85.8	84.3
N =	2257	2110	2160	1862	855	977	609	671	553

88. During the PAST YEAR, did you make a plan about how you would attempt suicide?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Yes	21.6%	17.8%	16.3%	8.0%	7.1	8.7	5.3	8.8	9.9
No	78.4%	82.2%	83.7%	92.0%	92.9	91.3	94.7	91.2	90.1
N =	2259	2107	2154	1860	857	974	609	669	554

89. During the PAST YEAR, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
0 times	89.4%	90.0%	87.9%	95.4%	95.9	94.9	96.9	94.3	95.0
1 time	5.7%	5.5%	7.0%	2.2%	2.0	2.4	1.6	2.7	2.2
2 or 3 times	2.9%	2.7%	2.7%	1.4%	1.2	1.7	.8	1.9	1.6
4 or 5 times	.4%	.5%	1.1%	.3%	.2	.3	.0	.4	.4
6 or more times	1.6%	1.3%	1.2%	.7%	.7	.7	.7	.6	.9
N =	2268	2133	2165	1868	861	977	612	672	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I did not attempt suicide during the past 12 months	82.7%	84.8%	86.1%	91.8%	93.4	90.4	90.7	92.8	91.9
= yes	3.9%	3.3%	3.4%	1.3%	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	2.0
no	13.4%	11.9%	10.5%	6.9%	5.4	8.2	8.4	6.1	6.1
N =	2258	2117	2144	1862	859	973	610	668	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I do not have these thoughts		71.9%	72.8%	81.3%	85.8	77.4	88.1	79.4	76.2
Because of a failed relationship		4.6%	4.4%	3.1%	2.7	3.4	1.6	3.2	4.7
Because of a poor performance at school*		2.0%*	1.7%*	.7%	.7	.7	.3	1.4	.4
I felt too much pressure about something in my life (like school, sports, or work)	Not Asked	3.4%	3.2%	2.7%	1.3	4.1	1.8	2.6	4.2
I had problems with my parents or home life		7.1%	6.1%	3.0%	1.6	4.2	2.6	3.6	2.7
I had been verbally abused or harassed by someone		0.5%	.9%	1.0%	.5	1.4	1.0	1.4	.5
I had been physically or sexually abused		0.8%	.6%	.9%	.5	1.3	.5	1.1	1.3
Because I have a drug or alcohol addiction problem		0.4%	.6%	.2%	.4	.0	.2	.2	.2
I had feelings of alone-ness or isolation		3.8%	3.9%	3.2%	3.0	3.2	2.1	2.7	4.7
Because of some other reason		5.5%	5.8%	3.9%	3.5	4.2	1.8	4.7	5.2
N =		2117	2148	1860	855	975	611	666	554

* 2001 and 2005 TAP Surveys response choice read "Because of pressure to perform at school (grades, tests, homework, etc.)."

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I do not have these thoughts	70.2%	71.1%	72.0%	81.0%	85.0	77.4	87.6	79.1	75.8
nothing	*	6.4%	6.1%	6.2%	5.1	7.1	4.3	6.6	7.8
I talk to a parent or other caring adult	2.2%	1.4%	7.1%	.8%	.8	.8	.3	.7	1.4
I talk to a teen friend only	7.1%	5.0%	3.1%	3.6%	2.2	4.8	1.6	4.8	4.3
I seek professional help	*	0.4%	2.6%	.3%	.2	.3	.2	.6	.0
I drink or use other drugs	2.6%	2.9%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7	1.5	.8	1.3	3.1
I withdraw from people and activities	2.8%	3.3%	4.8%	1.6%	1.3	1.9	1.5	1.5	2.0
I try to solve my own problems, I don't talk to anyone	11.0%	6.8%	.1%	4.1%	3.1	5.0	3.3	4.3	4.9
I make a plan for how I would do it	2.5%	2.5%	.0%	.7%	.5	.9	.5	.9	.7
I call an appropriate hotline	*	0.2%	2.5%	.1%	.0	.1	.0	.1	.0
N =	2258	2126	2159	1864	859	975	611	671	553

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

The next eleven questions ask about sexual activity.

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
never had sexual intercourse	65.5%	70.2%	69.3%	67.2%	64.2	69.8	86.8	69.4	42.7
11 or under	4.4%	2.8%	3.6%	2.9%	4.4	1.6	3.3	2.2	3.4
12	3.4%	3.2%	3.1%	3.1%	4.7	1.6	3.3	3.6	2.2
13	6.3%	4.7%	5.2%	5.6%	6.6	4.7	5.1	6.3	5.4
14	8.4%	7.0%	6.3%	8.3%	7.6	9.1	1.0	12.5	11.8
15	5.8%	5.6%	6.6%	7.1%	6.1	8.0	.5	5.1	16.8
16	5.2%	5.0%	4.6%	4.8%	5.2	4.3	.2	.7	14.6
17 or older	1.0%	1.5%	1.3%	1.0%	1.2	.8	.0	.1	3.1
N =	2261	2131	2157	1865	858	976	612	671	553

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never had sexual intercourse	65.9%	69.7%	69.5%	67.5%	64.6	70.0	87.0	69.9	43.0
1 person	14.2%	13.7%	13.4%	13.4%	13.8	13.1	70.2	13.5	20.3
2 people	6.0%	5.5%	5.8%	6.2%	6.8	5.6	3.3	5.1	10.7
3 people	3.7%	3.8%	3.2%	4.5%	5.6	3.6	1.0	4.5	8.5
4 people	2.7%	1.8%	1.9%	2.7%	2.1	3.1	.5	2.4	5.4
5 people	1.5%	1.0%	1.2%	1.5%	1.9	1.2	.2	1.0	3.6
6 or more people	6.0%	4.6%	5.0%	4.1%	5.2	3.3	.8	3.6	8.5
N =	2260	2129	2157	1859	854	974	610	667	53

95. During the PAST 3 MONTHS, with how many people did you have sexual intercourse?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never had sexual intercourse				67.5%	65.3	69.7	86.9	69.5	43.9
I have had sexual intercourse, but not during the past 3 months				11.1%	12.2	9.9	6.4	10.2	17.0
1 person				16.2%	15.9	16.4	5.1	14.3	30.7
2 people	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	2.6%	2.8	2.4	1.0	3.0	3.8
3 people				.9%	.9	.9	.0	.7	2.2
4 people				.4%	.6	.3	.2	.3	.9
5 people				.4%	.7	.1	.2	.3	.7
6 or more people				.9%	1.6	.3	.3	1.6	.7
N =				1862	855	976	611	669	553

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never had sexual intercourse and I am abstinent.			35.8%	32.9%	28.8	36.5	52.8	26.2	19.4
I have never had sexual intercourse, but I am not planning on waiting for marriage to have intercourse.	Not Asked	Not Asked	34.5%	35.1%	36.5	34.0	35.3	43.9	24.3
I have had sexual intercourse, but I am currently abstinent.			4.9%	4.8%	3.7	5.6	4.2	4.6	5.3
I have had sexual intercourse, and plan to continue to have intercourse even though I am not married.			24.7%	27.2%	31.0	24.0	7.7	25.2	51.0
N =			2143	1844	846	968	597	667	551

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never had sexual intercourse			69.5%	67.5%	64.0	70.7	87.7	69.9	42.8
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	20.3%	22.5%	26.4	19.3	9.3	21.4	38.8
No			10.2%	9.9%	9.5	10.0	3.0	8.7	18.5
N =			2147	1852	851	970	604	667	552

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I have never had sexual intercourse			69.4%	67.6%	64.9	70.0	87.5	70.1	42.6
No method was used to prevent pregnancy			3.8%	3.3%	2.8	3.7	1.2	4.0	4.7
Birth control pills			4.9%	6.8%	5.6	7.8	1.0	5.4	14.9
Condoms	Not Asked	Not Asked	16.9%	18.1%	22.2	14.7	8.2	16.4	31.3
Depo-Prevera (injectable birth control)			.8%	.2%	.0	.3	.2	.0	.4
Withdrawal			2.2%	1.8%	1.6	1.7	.5	1.0	3.8
Morning after pill			.2%	.3%	.2	.3	.0	.4	.4
Some other method			.8%	.8%	.6	1.0	.5	.6	1.5
Not sure			1.1%	1.1%	2.0	.4	1.0	1.9	.4
N =			2149	1856	852	973	608	670	549

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very easy		41.0%	38.4%	37.7%	44.1	32.2	20.2	39.7	54.8
Easy		21.8%	20.5%	19.4%	17.9	20.7	11.8	21.3	25.4
Not so easy	Not Asked	7.2%	7.5%	7.6%	7.8	7.4	6.6	9.7	6.2
Difficult		3.8%	3.6%	3.7%	3.4	4.1	5.1	4.5	1.5
Very difficult		4.9%	6.6%	5.6%	4.7	6.4	11.7	3.6	1.3
I don't know		21.3%	23.4%	26.0%	22.0	29.2	44.6	21.3	10.9
N =		2132	2154	1860	854	975	608	672	551

100. What is your sexual orientation?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
heterosexual – attracted to the opposite sex			92.4%	90.3%	92.7	88.4	90.9	91.0	89.1
homosexual – attracted to the same sex			1.5%	1.5%	1.4	1.4	.8	1.5	2.0
bi-sexual – attracted to both sexes	Not Asked	Not Asked	2.8%	4.9%	2.2	7.3	3.8	4.3	6.9
not sure			3.3%	3.3%	3.6	2.9	4.5	3.1	2.0
N =			2140	1854	853	971	604	669	552

101. 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)

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never			68.1%	74.7%	82.6	67.9	80.9	72.7	70.4
Once	Not Asked	Not Asked	10.9%	8.8%	5.4	11.6	7.8	9.0	9.4
2 or 3 times			9.6%	7.6%	4.2	10.7	4.8	8.6	10.0
4 times or more			11.3%	9.0%	7.8	9.8	6.6	9.8	10.2
N =			2138	1851	849	973	606	666	551

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

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
no			81.6%	83.9%	91.2	77.8	89.5	82.9	79.5
yes, unwanted kissing			1.7%	2.0%	1.1	2.9	1.6	2.5	1.8
yes, unwanted touching	Not Asked	Not Asked	8.5%	7.8%	4.4	10.5	6.4	7.3	9.4
yes, unwanted kissing and touching			3.9%	3.1%	1.2	4.6	.8	3.9	4.5
yes, unwanted sexual intercourse			2.4%	1.7%	.5	2.9	.7	1.6	3.1
yes, other			1.9%	1.5%	1.6	1.3	1.0	1.8	1.6
N =			2157	1858	854	974	608	671	551

* 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.

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
it has never happened	82.2%	85.0%	84.7%	86.9%	93.6	81.4	91.3	86.1	83.3
yes, I told a parent	3.6%	3.3%	3.6%	3.2%	1.4	4.6	2.1	3.4	3.8
yes, I told a school staff person	.7%	.9%	.9%	.8%	.8	.7	.8	.4	1.1
yes, I told a doctor, social worker or religious leader	.6%	.4%	.3%	.3%	.1	.4	.3	.3	.2
yes, I told an adult friend or youth group leader	.8%	.6%	.6%	.3%	.2	.4	.3	.3	.4
yes, I told a teen friend, but no adults	6.1%	4.8%	5.4%	4.9%	.9	8.4	2.3	5.8	6.7
no, I never told anyone when it happened	6.0%	5.0%	4.6%	3.6%	2.9	4.1	2.8	3.6	4.5
N =	2263	2134	2153	1861	853	977	609	671	552

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
it has never happened to me	81.7%	84.5%	82.1%	86.2%	92.5	80.8	90.3	84.8	83.5
action was taken and it stopped	4.5%	4.1%	5.2%	3.9%	1.9	5.5	3.0	4.5	4.0
action was taken but it continued	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%	.8%	.7	.9	1.0	.7	.7
I told someone but nothing ever happened	6.9%	4.7%	6.1%	5.2%	1.8	8.1	2.3	5.7	7.6
I never told anyone	5.8%	5.4%	5.3%	4.0%	3.2	4.6	3.5	4.3	4.2
N =	2259	2134	2155	1858	851	976	606	671	552

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

105 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?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No			82.0%	92.3%	93.3	91.6	91.8	92.7	92.7
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	18.0%	7.7%	6.7	8.4	8.2	7.3	7.3
N =			2136	1853	850	974	607	667	551

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
no	94.8%	89.4%	86.7%	90.5%	91.3	90.1	91.4	90.1	90.4
yes, once	2.9%	5.8%	8.1%	5.2%	4.9	5.3	4.4	5.5	5.4
yes, more than once	2.4%	4.8%	5.2%	4.4%	3.8	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.2
N =	1157	2125	2150	1857	850	977	608	667	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No	Not Asked	82.1%	79.8%	83.9%	83.5	84.2	78.9	85.2	87.8
Yes		17.9%	20.2%	16.1%	16.5	15.8	21.1	14.8	12.2
N =		2101	2139	1850	851	970	60	664	551

108. During the PAST YEAR, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	92.1%	91.3	93.0	93.6	93.0	89.6
Yes				7.9%	8.7	7.0	6.4	7.0	10.4
N =				1850	847	974	605	667	550

109. 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?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Never		54.9%	55.3%	65.6%	62.0	68.8	68.5	63.5	64.9
Rarely		26.3%	26.7%	22.1%	22.4	21.7	20.0	24.1	21.9
Occasionally	Not Asked	11.1%	10.4%	7.7%	10.0	5.7	6.6	7.8	8.9
Often		4.6%	3.9%	2.7%	3.4	2.1	2.8	2.8	2.5
Very often		3.1%	3.7%	1.9%	2.2	1.6	2.1	1.8	1.8
N =		2126	2154	1859	853	977	609	669	553

110. In your family in the PAST YEAR, has there been a family member (other than yourself) arrested or charged with a crime?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No		80.4%	77.1%	81.1%	80.3	81.9	80.3	81.3	82.1
Yes, a parent		3.1%	4.3%	3.9%	3.5	4.2	5.4	4.3	1.6
Yes, a brother or sister	Not Asked	5.2%	6.6%	4.1%	4.2	4.0	3.6	4.5	4.2
Yes, another family member (i.e., grandparent, aunt or uncle, cousin)		8.3%	9.7%	8.8%	9.9	7.8	9.4	7.6	9.4
Yes, more than one family member listed above		3.1%	2.3%	2.1%	2.1	2.1	1.3	2.2	2.7
N =		2123	2143	1855	851	975	608	667	552

111. In the PAST YEAR, have ever done something that you could have been arrested for such as shoplifting, vandalism, assault, etc.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No			75.5%	77.8%	71.6	83.7	84.8	75.3	74.0
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	24.5%	22.2%	28.4	16.3	15.2	24.7	26.0
N =			2143	1844	845	971	604	664	549

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

112. 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?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No			87.3%	88.4%	81.1	95.0	88.7	89.3	87.2
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	12.7%	11.6%	18.9	5.0	11.3	10.7	12.8
N =			2132	1846	846	971	603	666	549

* 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.

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005*	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None	11.2%	9.6%	8.6%	13.3%	13.7	12.7	20.5	9.8	9.4
About 1 Hour	22.7%	25.2%	----	28.5%	26.8	30.4	37.0	27.8	20.7
2 – 10 Hours	51.4%	52.0%	----	49.7%	49.6	49.6	38.1	54.4	56.4
11 – 20 Hours	8.4%	8.5%	----	5.7%	5.9	5.4	2.6	5.0	9.8
More Than 20 Hours	6.4%	4.7%	----	2.8%	3.9	1.8	1.8	3.0	3.6
N =	2240	2122	2141	1850	846	975	606	665	551

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None	7.3%	5.6%	5.0%	5.7%	5.7	5.5	7.1	5.0	4.9
About 1 Hour	29.4%	28.2%	----	31.7%	24.7	37.9	41.0	30.5	23.1
2 – 10 Hours	45.9%	50.1%	----	48.0%	49.5	46.7	39.7	50.5	54.0
11 – 20 Hours	11.2%	11.4%	----	9.2%	11.3	7.4	5.9	9.6	12.3
More Than 20 Hours	6.2%	4.7%	----	5.4%	8.8	2.5	6.3	4.4	5.8
N =	2229	2120	2145	1853	849	976	607	665	554

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

115. ...doing homework or studying

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None	12.7%	10.5%	7.5%	14.8%	19.2	10.8	14.0	16.1	13.9
About 1 Hour	37.9%	37.8%	----	48.1%	48.4	47.4	54.8	45.6	43.0
2 – 10 Hours	41.6%	43.2%	----	33.3%	29.4	37.1	29.1	34.2	37.4
11 – 20 Hours	5.5%	6.7%	----	3.0%	2.2	3.8	1.3	3.2	4.9
More Than 20 Hours	2.4%	1.8%	----	.9%	.8	.9	.8	.9	.9
N =	2234	2127	2149	1854	851	974	608	664	554

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

116. ...reading for pleasure

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None		45.7%	30.3%	49.6%	63.1	37.5	51.2	50.6	46.0
About 1 Hour		32.9%	----	26.5%	22.4	30.2	29.9	24.7	25.1
2 – 10 Hours	Not Asked	17.6%	----	19.0%	11.2	26.0	15.9	19.6	22.0
11 – 20 Hours		2.8%	----	2.9%	2.5	3.4	1.5	2.6	5.1
More Than 20 Hours		1.6%	----	1.9%	.9	2.9	1.5	2.6	1.8
N =		2120	2144	1855	850	976	609	664	554

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None		33.6%	23.2%	41.2%	49.1	34.0	35.7	44.2	43.0
About 1 Hour		22.3%	----	21.4%	17.5	25.2	25.2	21.1	18.3
2 – 10 Hours	Not Asked	37.4%	----	31.5%	27.2	35.1	34.4	29.5	30.4
11 – 20 Hours		4.6%	----	4.1%	4.4	3.9	3.1	3.8	5.6
More Than 20 Hours		2.0%	----	1.8%	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.5	2.7
N =		2110	2139	1853	850	974	607	665	553

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None	33.0%	32.7%	27.3%	34.2%	34.9	33.8	31.1	34.8	37.3
About 1 Hour	11.7%	13.2%	----	11.0%	9.8	12.0	15.6	8.6	8.7
2 – 10 Hours	33.8%	35.8%	----	34.7%	30.7	38.0	37.5	36.1	29.5
11 – 20 Hours	14.0%	13.2%	----	13.7%	16.8	11.2	10.0	14.0	17.8
More Than 20 Hours	7.5%	5.1%	----	6.4%	7.8	5.0	5.8	6.5	6.7
N =	2232	2103	2132	1852	849	974	608	664	552

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

119. ...exercising for fun and fitness

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None	19.7%	19.1%	11.5%	17.8%	19.0	16.8	16.7	17.9	19.1
About 1 Hour	30.2%	36.0%	----	34.4%	29.1	38.9	40.7	31.6	30.5
2 – 10 Hours	38.3%	35.2%	----	36.8%	36.9	36.8	32.5	38.3	39.7
11 – 20 Hours	8.3%	7.2%	----	7.9%	10.2	6.0	7.1	8.6	8.1
More Than 20 Hours	3.5%	2.5%	----	3.1%	4.8	1.5	3.0	3.6	2.5
N =	2225	2101	2134	1852	849	974	609	661	554

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None	21.9%	21.5%	11.0%	17.8%	18.9	16.5	16.0	19.4	17.5
About 1 Hour	27.7%	30.6%	----	30.6%	29.3	31.9	29.8	28.7	34.0
2 – 10 Hours	40.0%	40.4%	----	39.8%	39.2	40.5	39.9	41.4	38.0
11 – 20 Hours	6.3%	5.4%	----	8.9%	9.8	8.1	10.4	8.0	8.3
More Than 20 Hours	4.2%	2.2%	----	2.9%	2.8	3.0	4.0	2.6	2.2
N =	2236	2104	2136	1854	850	975	607	666	553

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None	55.5%	51.2%	44.3%	60.6%	64.9	57.2	55.0	62.6	64.9
About 1 Hour	25.7%	28.7%	----	23.1%	21.3	24.5	27.8	19.8	21.5
2 – 10 Hours	14.7%	16.6%	----	14.7%	12.2	16.6	15.2	16.2	11.9
11 – 20 Hours	2.2%	2.0%	----	.9%	.5	1.2	.8	.8	1.1
More Than 20 Hours	1.9%	1.5%	----	.8%	1.1	.5	1.2	.6	.5
N =	2212	2099	2132	1854	849	976	607	666	553

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

122. ...working at a job for pay or helping with a family business or farm

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
None				63.7%	58.2	68.3	68.2	66.4	55.3
About 1 Hour				12.0%	13.2	11.0	14.8	12.4	8.3
2 – 10 Hours	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	15.6%	16.6	14.9	12.0	16.0	19.2
11 – 20 Hours				5.4%	6.8	4.2	2.8	2.8	11.4
More Than 20 Hours				3.2%	5.2	1.6	2.1	2.2	5.8
N =				1855	850	976	607	667	553

* 2005 TAP Survey response choices were “Never,” “Less than once per month,” “Few times a month,” “Few times a week” and “Daily.”

The Internet, Technology and You

123. Do you presently have a personal email address (an email address that is just for you and you only)?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				20.9%	23.7	18.6	33.3	17.2	11.9
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	79.1%	76.3	81.4	66.7	82.8	88.1
N =				1838	839	970	604	658	548

124. Do you presently have an instant messenger screen name (like on AOL, AIM, Yahoo, MSN, etc.)?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				26.7%	33.1	21.0	35.0	24.2	20.4
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	73.3%	66.9	79.0	65.0	75.8	79.6
N =				1838	842	967	600	662	548

125. Do you presently have a profile or personal webpage on a networking site, such as MySpace, Facebook, Xanga, etc.?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				27.7%	30.7	25.1	44.1	22.7	15.6
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	72.3%	69.3	74.9	55.9	77.3	84.4
N =				1820	833	958	596	651	545

126. How comfortable would you be in letting your parents see everything on your personal profile or webpage?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
I don't have a personal profile or webpage				24.3%	28.2	20.8	35.5	20.4	16.6
Very Comfortable				31.5%	29.5	33.3	22.8	32.8	39.5
Somewhat Comfortable	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	23.7%	20.6	26.5	21.2	26.4	23.2
Somewhat Uncomfortable				12.5%	12.7	12.1	11.4	12.6	13.3
Very Uncomfortable				8.1%	9.0	7.3	9.1	7.8	7.4
N =				1855	851	975	605	667	555

127. Have you ever given out personal information to a stranger through an email, a text message or online chatting?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				82.9%	85.7	80.3	90.1	80.1	78.3
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	17.1%	14.3	19.7	9.9	19.9	21.7
N =				1849	848	972	604	663	554

128. Have you ever been asked to meet up with a stranger through an email, a text message or online chatting?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				86.9%	90.3	84.0	92.9	85.8	81.7
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	13.1%	9.7	16.0	7.1	14.2	18.3
N =				1848	848	971	603	664	553

129. Have you ever actually met a stranger who you only knew previously from an email, text or online chatting?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				90.6%	90.6	90.6	95.5	89.2	86.9
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	9.4%	9.4	9.4	4.5	10.8	13.1
N =				1846	843	974	603	664	551

Please indicate if you have ever done any of the following:

130. Sent a nude or semi nude picture/video of yourself to someone via email, text message, IM, etc.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				73.4%	75.5	71.9	90.3	69.8	59.9
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	26.6%	24.5	28.1	9.7	30.2	40.1
N =				1843	845	969	599	663	553

131. Received a nude or semi nude picture/video from someone of themselves via email, text message, IM, etc.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				59.9%	56.2	63.0	78.1	55.4	45.1
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	40.1%	43.8	37.0	21.9	44.6	54.9
N =				1844	847	968	603	661	552

132. Shared a nude or semi nude picture/video with someone other than the one the picture/video was originally meant for.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				82.8%	79.9	85.2	91.7	79.7	76.4
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	17.2%	20.1	14.8	8.3	20.3	23.6
N =				1843	844	970	603	661	551

133. Had a nude or semi-nude picture/video (originally privately sent to someone else) shared with you.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				67.9%	63.3	71.7	84.0	61.6	57.5
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	32.1%	36.7	28.3	16.0	38.4	42.5
N =				1842	844	969	599	662	553

134. In order to protect yourself or hide your true identity from other people online, have you ever left off, made private, or purposefully put wrong information on your personal profile or webpage?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				57.2%	66.2	49.3	62.2	55.4	53.8
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	42.8%	33.8	50.7	37.8	44.6	46.2
N =				1840	842	969	596	664	552

135. Has anyone ever personally threatened or harassed you through an instant message, email, chat room comment, cell phone text message, or online post?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				77.2%	81.4	73.5	83.4	76.2	71.4
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	22.8%	18.6	26.5	16.6	23.8	28.6
N =				1839	842	968	598	661	552

136. Have you ever personally threatened or harassed someone through an instant message, email, chat room comment, cell phone text message, or online post?

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
No				85.8%	85.8	85.9	91.4	84.0	82.1
Yes	Not Asked	Not Asked	Not Asked	14.2%	14.2	14.1	8.6	16.0	17.9
N =				1839	840	970	596	663	552

Your Personal Feelings and Opinions

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

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly Agree	22.5%	26.2%	29.4%	33.6%	37.1	29.7	40.8	32.4	25.8
Agree	51.8%	53.7%	50.2%	52.2%	52.1	52.9	48.7	52.4	56.7
Disagree	16.9%	13.7%	13.2%	9.9%	6.4	13.1	6.8	10.5	12.8
Strongly Disagree	8.9%	6.3%	7.3%	4.3%	4.4	4.3	3.7	4.7	4.7
N =	2267	2025	2129	1842	843	970	600	660	554

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Strongly Agree		34.8%	36.2%	37.9%	43.0	32.9	41.7	36.6	34.5
Agree		53.6%	51.8%	51.7%	47.9	55.5	49.6	52.0	54.3
Disagree	Not Asked	8.4%	7.8%	7.3%	5.8	8.8	6.2	7.7	8.3
Strongly Disagree		3.2%	4.1%	3.0%	3.3	2.8	2.5	3.6	2.9
N =		2029	2127	1842	844	969	599	661	554

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

139. ...be honest and keep my word.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Important		40.4%	52.7%	52.5%	46.8	56.8	51.3	48.5	57.5
Important	Not Asked	54.1%	41.4%	42.9%	45.8	40.8	43.5	46.4	38.9
Not Very Important		4.0%	3.7%	3.3%	5.2	1.5	3.2	3.9	2.5
Not Important At All		1.6%	2.3%	1.4%	2.1	.8	2.0	1.2	1.1
N =		2027	2131	1841	842	970	598	660	555

140. ...show respect towards adults.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Important		37.3%	45.1%	48.1%	47.3	48.7	54.8	44.1	45.6
Important	Not Asked	52.1%	43.6%	43.3%	41.3	44.9	37.2	45.6	46.8
Not Very Important		8.0%	8.3%	6.2%	8.4	4.5	5.8	7.6	5.4
Not Important At All		2.6%	3.0%	2.4%	3.0	1.9	2.2	2.7	2.2
N =		2031	2133	1842	843	970	599	660	555

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Important		36.1%	40.5%	46.3%	43.5	48.5	49.4	43.3	46.2
Important	Not Asked	54.5%	49.9%	45.8%	46.8	45.1	43.4	47.3	46.9
Not Very Important		6.8%	7.3%	6.3%	7.3	5.5	5.7	8.4	4.5
Not Important At All		2.6%	2.2%	1.6%	2.4	.9	1.5	1.1	2.4
N =		2031	2137	1831	839	963	595	658	550

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

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001	2005	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Important		33.5%	40.0%	41.6%	39.4	42.9	47.3	37.2	39.7
Important	Not Asked	58.1%	50.3%	50.6%	50.7	51.2	47.0	52.6	53.2
Not Very Important		5.9%	6.4%	5.9%	6.9	4.9	4.7	7.6	4.9
Not Important At All		2.6%	3.3%	1.9%	3.0	1.0	1.0	2.6	2.2
N =		1989	2093	1829	837	963	594	658	549

143. ...contribute to my community and society.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001*	2005*	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Important		14.4%	17.4%	22.8%	21.5	23.6	27.8	19.0	21.5
Important	Not Asked	55.4%	51.9%	46.5%	43.3	49.4	48.3	45.2	46.3
Not Very Important		21.3%	20.7%	23.1%	25.5	21.2	17.3	27.9	24.0
Not Important At All		8.9%	10.0%	7.6%	9.7	5.7	6.6	7.9	8.2
N =		2031	2119	1824	834	961	590	657	549

* 2001 and 2005 the response choices were “Strongly Agree,” “Agree,” “Disagree,” and “Strongly Disagree” to the question - “It is important to me to contribute to my community and society.”

144. ...to speak up and take a stand for what I believe in.

	Total				2009				
	1997	2001*	2005*	2009	Male	Female	7 th	9 th	11 th
Very Important		40.8%	45.8%	52.1%	47.5	55.8	54.9	46.7	55.0
Important	Not Asked	46.6%	42.3%	39.3%	40.8	38.2	35.7	43.3	38.7
Not Very Important		8.0%	7.0%	6.6%	9.1	4.5	7.0	8.1	4.6
Not Important At All		4.6%	4.9%	2.0%	2.6	1.5	2.4	1.9	1.7
N =		2027	2131	1798	823	946	586	644	540

* 2001 and 2005 the response choices were “Strongly Agree,” “Agree,” “Disagree,” and “Strongly Disagree” to the question - “I feel it is important to speak up and take a stand for what I believe in.”

Appendix B: A Comparison of Herkimer County TAP Data (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2009) with Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Data for New York State (excluding New York City) (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2007) and for United States (1997, 2001, 2005 & 2007) for 9th and 11th Grades

1. Percentage of students who ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #19)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	48.7	49.8	47.7	38.1	35.6	40.4	35.9	35.2	36.6	57.5	59.6	55.3	54.6	46.4	62.5	43.6	44.5	42.6
2007	42.7	46.0	39.2	33.3	33.4	33.3	---	---	---	53.4	55.4	51.4	50.0	48.0	52.4	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	24.3	26.7	22.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	35.1	35.2	35.1

2. Percentage of students who smoked a whole cigarette for the first time before age 13 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #19)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	18.6	21.3	15.8	12.5	10.8	14.3	20.2	21.9	18.7	14.4	16.2	12.7	11.9	13.8	9.5	18.8	19.4	17.9
2007	16.3	19.2	13.2	11.2	10.0	12.6	---	---	---	12.0	14.6	9.2	9.8	10.8	8.8	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	11.7	15.0	9.1	---	---	---	---	---	---	12.6	11.9	12.2

3. Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #21)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	19.7	18.9	20.5	12.6	10.2	15.1	19.2	17.4	20.8	24.3	24.2	24.3	26.4	24.9	27.6	23.1	23.4	22.8
2007	14.3	16.2	12.3	8.8	7.5	10.1	---	---	---	21.6	23.4	19.6	16.5	15.9	17.2	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	13.5	13.6	13.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	18.9	17.8	20.0

4. Percentage of students who used chewing tobacco or snuff on one or more of the past 30 days (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #22)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	7.6	11.8	3.4	3.2	4.8	1.3	7.2	12.3	2.6	8.4	14.8	2.1	5.0	9.0	1.0	9.3	16.8	2.2
2007	6.3	10.4	2.0	4.7	7.0	2.3	---	---	---	7.6	13.3	2.0	5.9	8.9	2.9	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	10.2	17.5	4.1	---	---	---	---	---	---	13.2	21.5	5.3

5. Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more days during their life (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #23)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	66.5	66.6	66.5	71.2	70.3	71.9	57.5	57.3	57.9	76.3	75.5	77.1	81.1	80.1	81.9	71.3	71.1	71.5
2007	65.5	65.0	66.1	58.5	56.2	60.8	---	---	---	79.4	79.7	79.1	77.1	76.6	77.5	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	44.9	41.9	47.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	66.8	66.7	66.9

6. Percentage of students who had their first drink of alcohol other than a few sips before age 13 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #24)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	---	---	---	28.0	33.2	22.8	23.4	29.3	17.6	---	---	---	21.1	25.0	17.1
2005	33.9	36.4	31.3	27.9	27.1	28.5	27.3	31.4	23.7	20.5	24.2	17.0	19.9	24.5	15.5	18.7	22.3	15.5
2007	30.9	34.5	27.1	26.1	25.4	27.0	---	---	---	19.6	25.1	13.8	18.6	22.9	14.5	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	18.0	19.8	16.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	16.6	16.7	16.6

7. Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #25)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	36.2	36.3	36.2	40.3	40.3	39.9	35.1	35.4	34.7	46.0	47.8	44.2	51.8	48.6	54.8	49.8	53.1	46.6
2007	35.7	34.3	31.2	34.4	30.0	38.8	---	---	---	49.0	51.5	46.5	50.9	50.3	51.6	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	28.2	26.6	29.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	43.6	43.7	43.5

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 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #26)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	19.0	20.7	17.3	21.1	23.3	18.4	21.3	23.2	19.5	27.6	30.4	25.0	32.8	34.5	30.8	32.3	39.3	25.6
2007	17.0	17.0	17.2	18.2	18.8	17.3	---	---	---	29.9	33.1	26.7	30.6	32.1	29.4	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	13.2	16.9	10.1	---	---	---	---	---	---	28.3	32.5	24.3

9. Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during their life (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #29)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	29.3	30.9	27.8	26.4	29.2	23.1	29.0	30.3	27.8	42.3	45.1	39.4	45.5	43.8	46.9	44.1	46.4	41.7
2007	27.5	38.0	21.7	25.6	22.9	28.4	---	---	---	42.4	48.2	36.6	46.0	44.2	47.7	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	20.3	22.7	18.3	---	---	---	---	---	---	43.0	44.6	41.4

10. Percentage of students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #29)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	11.2	13.3	9.0	7.6	10.6	4.4	12.8	15.4	10.4	7.1	9.7	4.7	6.0	9.3	2.8	8.1	12.1	4.3
2007	9.8	13.3	6.1	8.7	10.6	6.8	---	---	---	7.2	10.1	4.2	7.9	9.3	6.5	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	6.3	10.1	3.3	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.8	9.3	6.3

11. Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during the past 30 days (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #30)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	17.4	18.6	16.2	15.2	15.4	14.5	15.8	18.3	13.5	21.0	23.5	18.5	24.9	24.9	24.4	20.7	22.4	19.1
2007	14.7	16.9	12.5	13.7	14.1	13.2	---	---	---	21.4	25.2	17.5	25.0	27.0	23.1	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	12.0	14.6	9.8	---	---	---	---	---	---	23.3	23.4	23.2

12. Percentage of students who used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase one or more times during their life (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #32)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	6.0	6.0	6.1	4.8	5.9	3.1	5.6	5.4	5.7	8.7	10.1	7.2	7.1	6.5	7.2	8.7	10.4	6.8
2007	4.8	5.0	4.7	5.1	4.8	5.4	---	---	---	7.7	8.0	7.4	8.9	11.8	5.9	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.8	3.6	2.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.4	9.6	5.3

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 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #33)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	14.1	11.0	17.3	10.5	7.4	13.3	10.2	9.4	10.9	11.4	11.3	11.6	8.9	7.7	10.1	9.0	10.1	7.7
2007	15.0	13.0	17.2	11.5	11.2	11.9	---	---	---	12.5	12.6	12.4	12.9	15.5	10.2	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.2	6.5	4.1	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.4	8.1	6.7

14. Percentage of students who took steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #34)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	4.8	4.7	4.8	3.4	3.9	2.8	3.4	5.7	2.9	3.7	4.5	2.8	4.4	4.3	4.6	5.2	7.5	4.0
2007	4.8	5.7	3.8	3.7	5.6	1.7	---	---	---	3.1	4.4	1.9	3.8	6.1	3.3	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.0	5.5	0.8	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.8	5.6	2.1

15. Percentage of students who used methamphetamines one or more times during their life (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #35)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	5.7	5.4	6.0	2.7	3.1	2.2	4.6	5.4	3.9	6.7	6.1	7.2	4.3	5.2	2.9	6.6	8.1	4.9
2007	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.5	4.8	2.2	---	---	---	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.7	4.1	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.6	2.9	0.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.1	5.9	2.5

16. Percentage of students who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property during the 12 months before the survey (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #60)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	31.4	34.5	28.0	24.9	25.4	24.2	---	---	---	33.2	38.8	26.4	35.7	43.3	28.2	---	---	---
2001	29.0	35.1	23.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	28.7	34.6	22.8	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	24.0	26.9	21.0	22.5	24.2	20.3	---	---	---	24.9	28.4	21.3	20.3	23.6	16.6	---	---	---
2007	21.2	25.0	17.2	24.3	26.8	21.8	---	---	---	22.8	25.7	19.8	29.1	33.2	25.1	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	13.8	16.6	11.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	16.5	21.9	11.3

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 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #86)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	29.0	19.9	38.5	24.0	16.2	31.8	34.6	24.8	43.5	28.8	19.4	38.0	23.1	14.7	31.1	30.5	25.5	35.3
2007	28.2	22.1	34.8	23.4	11.9	35.2	---	---	---	29.4	19.5	34.5	23.6	18.2	28.8	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	23.2	15.8	29.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	29.3	24.5	33.8

18. Percentage of students who seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #87)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	17.9	12.2	23.9	15.5	9.7	21.1	22.2	17.8	26.3	16.8	11.9	21.6	12.3	10.6	13.5	22.6	23.9	21.4
2007	14.8	10.8	19.0	13.9	8.0	20.2	---	---	---	13.5	10.7	16.3	8.5	7.7	9.0	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	14.2	10.2	17.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	15.7	13.1	18.2

19. Percentage of students who made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months
(2009 HCTAP Survey Question #88)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	13.9	10.2	17.6	11.2	7.4	15.0	19.5	16.2	22.5	12.9	9.5	16.3	9.3	8.4	10.2	16.6	18.6	14.6
2007	11.2	9.2	13.4	9.3	5.7	13.1	---	---	---	10.4	9.2	11.6	9.0	9.0	9.0	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	8.8	6.9	10.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.9	9.6	10.2

20. Percentage of students who actually attempted suicide one or more times during the past 12 months (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #89)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	10.4	6.8	14.1	7.8	6.5	9.1	13.5	12.1	14.8	7.8	4.5	11.0	4.7	2.2	6.3	8.4	9.5	7.4
2007	7.9	5.3	10.5	9.0	6.8	11.1	---	---	---	5.8	3.7	7.8	6.1	6.1	5.9	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.7	4.6	6.6	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.0	5.2	4.9

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 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #90)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	3.0	2.1	4.0	1.7	1.7	1.5	4.4	3.8	5.0	2.2	1.4	2.9	2.1	1.4	2.7	2.9	3.6	2.2
2007	2.3	1.9	2.6	3.1	2.3	3.9	---	---	---	1.6	1.4	1.7	2.6	2.7	2.2	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.0	0	1.9	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.0	2.2	1.8

22. Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #93)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	34.3	39.3	29.3	24.2	30.5	17.7	32.7	37.1	28.7	51.4	50.6	52.1	46.6	43.0	50.0	48.8	54.6	43.2
2007	32.8	38.1	27.4	24.4	25.7	23.2	---	---	---	55.5	57.3	53.6	51.9	54.7	49.2	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	30.5	33.9	27.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	57.3	56.9	57.7

23. Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #93)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	8.7	12.0	5.4	5.9	7.5	4.0	7.0	11.7	2.6	5.2	8.0	2.6	2.7	3.9	1.4	4.0	7.2	0.9
2007	9.2	13.5	4.9	6.9	9.9	4.1	---	---	---	6.6	9.9	3.4	5.3	8.0	2.8	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.8	10.2	2.0	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.6	7.4	3.9

24. Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #94)

	9 th grade									11 th 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
2005	9.4	13.2	5.7	6.9	9.9	3.7	8.5	11.1	6.0	16.2	18.1	14.2	11.3	15.5	7.3	13.7	16.5	11.1
2007	8.7	11.9	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.2	---	---	---	17.0	20.6	13.1	12.2	13.8	10.9	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.0	9.6	4.6	---	---	---	---	---	---	17.5	15.2	19.7

25. Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #95)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	24.2	25.9	22.4	16.2	18.5	13.2	---	---	---	37.8	34.8	41.5	34.4	31.7	36.7	---	---	---
2001	22.7	25.9	19.9	---	---	---	---	---	---	38.1	37.8	38.1	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	21.9	24.5	19.5	15.3	19.3	11.1	---	---	---	39.4	37.9	40.8	33.0	29.4	36.1	---	---	---
2007	20.1	22.2	18.0	15.1	12.4	17.7	---	---	---	41.8	42.0	41.5	37.9	37.1	38.4	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	18.6	22.1	20.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	39.1	37.2	40.8

26. Of students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse (2009 HCTAP Survey Questions #95 & 97)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	74.5	77.1	71.5	---	---	---	68.1	70.8	65.1	61.7	66.0	57.8	---	---	---	63.4	69.7	56.3
2007	69.3	75.8	61.0	70.8	---	---	---	---	---	62.0	69.3	55.1	66.1	74.3	58.6	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	65.4	73.4	57.1	---	---	---	---	---	---	66.7	70.4	63.5

27. Of students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage who used birth control pills during last sexual intercourse (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #95 & 98)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	7.5	6.4	8.8	---	---	---	11.3	8.6	14.5	18.5	16.6	20.2	---	---	---	21.9	18.5	25.9
2007	8.7	8.3	9.2	7.7	---	---	---	---	---	15.0	11.0	18.9	18.7	15.2	21.7	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	20.7	14.9	26.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	29.1	23.5	33.9

28. Percentage of students who were hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the 12 months before the survey (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #108)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	8.5	7.7	9.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.5	9.6	9.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	7.4	7.0	7.7	6.7	7.0	6.3				9.9	10.4	9.4	7.0	6.8	7.2				
2007	8.5	10.5	6.3	8.2	9.6	6.7	---	---	---	10.6	10.8	10.2	14.0	17.9	10.3	---	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	6.9	6.7	7.1	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.2	11.6	10.4	

29. Percentage of students who described themselves as slightly or very overweight (2009 HCTAP Survey Question #82)

	9 th grade									11 th 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	27.1	22.2	31.2	25.8	19.1	33.0	---	---	---	28.1	25.0	31.9	27.0	20.8	33.4	---	---	---	---
2001	28.8	23.7	33.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	29.0	22.7	35.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
2005	30.2	24.3	36.2	30.4	25.5	35.3				32.6	26.0	39.1	33.1	27.7	38.8				
2007	28.8	24.3	33.6	30.1	29.2	31.1	---	---	---	31.0	25.8	36.2	32.3	26.4	37.7	---	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---	27.8	27.8	27.9	---	---	---	---	---	---	28.8	26.0	31.4	