

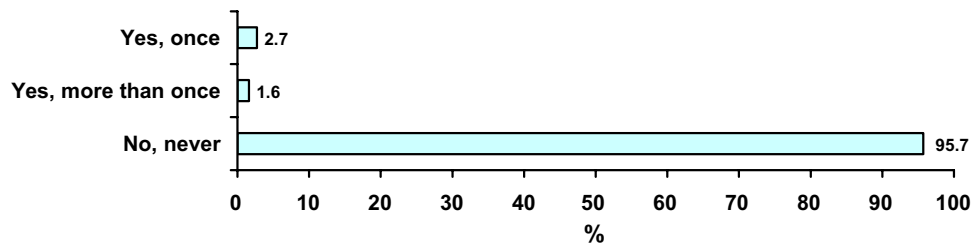
2.12 Crack

The following section presents the results from those questions relating to crack. Other terms which are used to describe crack include: rock; sand; stones; and pebbles.

2.12.1 Ever Offered Crack

Overall, 4% of pupils reported ever being been offered crack, with 3% saying that they had been offered crack in the one occasion and a further 2% saying that they had been offered crack on more than one occasion (Figure 46).

Fig 46: Have you ever been offered crack? (n= 6882)



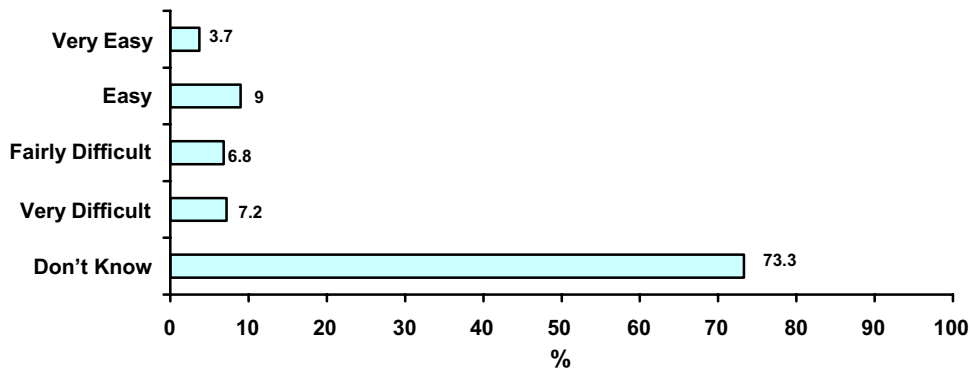
The likelihood of having been offered crack was found to be significantly associated with age, with younger aged pupils (aged 12 or younger) less likely to say that they had been offered this drug (2%) (Table 2.77).

| | | Have you been offered crack? | | |
|--|---------------|------------------------------|------|------|
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 4.3 | 95.7 | 6882 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 2.1 | 97.9 | 1368 |
| | 13 | 5.4 | 94.6 | 1240 |
| | 14 | 4.6 | 95.4 | 1313 |
| | 15 | 4.2 | 95.8 | 1388 |
| | 16 or older | 5.4 | 94.6 | 1133 |
| Sex | Male | 4.6 | 95.4 | 3417 |
| | Female | 4.1 | 95.9 | 3464 |
| School | Secondary | 4.1 | 95.9 | 4196 |
| | Grammar | 4.7 | 95.3 | 2686 |
| Education & Library Board | BELB | 4.6 | 95.4 | 1253 |
| | WHSSB | 3.6 | 96.4 | 1241 |
| | NEELB | 4.8 | 95.2 | 1616 |
| | SEELB | 3.8 | 96.2 | 1202 |
| | SELB | 4.6 | 95.4 | 1570 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals | Yes | 4.5 | 95.5 | 1321 |
| | No | 4.3 | 95.7 | 5552 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | |

2.12.2 Ease Of Getting Crack

The majority of survey respondents (73%) didn't know how easy or difficult it would be to get crack if they wanted to, with 13% of the view that it would be either 'very easy' or 'easy', with a similar proportion (14%) saying it would be either 'very difficult' (7%) or 'difficult' (7%) (Figure 47).

Fig 47: How easy would it be to get some crack if you wanted it?
(n= 6802)



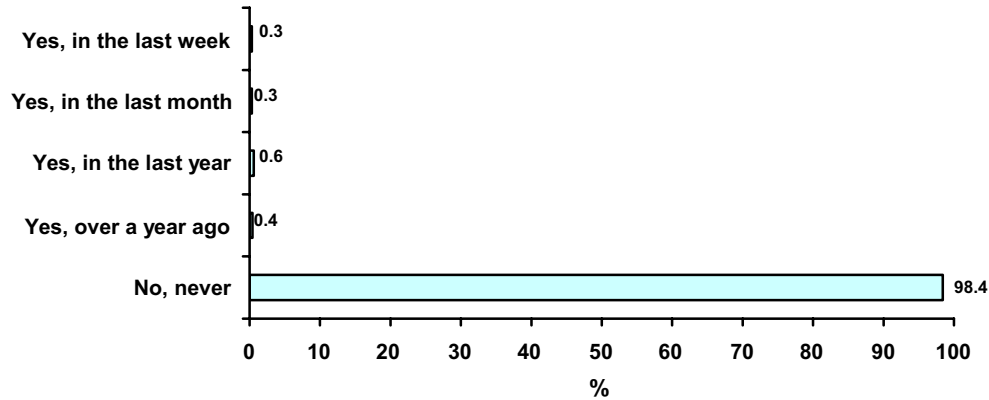
There were some difference in the perception of how easy or difficult it would be to get crack, with older pupils and those attending grammar schools, more likely to say it would be easy (Table 2.78).

| | | Easy | Difficult | Don't know | n |
|--|---------------|------|-----------|------------|------|
| | | % | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 12.7 | 14.0 | 73.3 | 6802 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 6.2 | 12.3 | 81.5 | 1344 |
| | 13 | 11.6 | 13.2 | 75.3 | 1229 |
| | 14 | 13.1 | 14.4 | 72.5 | 1302 |
| | 15 | 13.5 | 15.8 | 70.7 | 1376 |
| | 16 or older | 21.0 | 15.6 | 63.4 | 1127 |
| Sex | Male | 12.2 | 14.7 | 73.1 | 3371 |
| | Female | 13.1 | 13.4 | 73.5 | 3432 |
| School** | Secondary | 11.8 | 13.6 | 74.6 | 4122 |
| | Grammar | 14.1 | 14.7 | 71.2 | 2681 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | | |

2.12.3 Using Crack

Two percent (2%) of all pupils said that they had used crack, with pupils attending grammar school more likely to report using crack (Figure 48).

Fig 48: Have you ever used crack?
(n= 6717)



The likelihood of having used crack was found to be significantly associated with school type, with proportionately more pupils attending secondary (2%) school saying that they had used the drug, compared with those attending grammar schools (1%) (Table 2.79).

| | | Ever used crack? | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------|------|
| | | Yes % | No % | n |
| All Respondents | | 1.6 | 98.4 | 6717 |
| Age | 12 or younger | 0.9 | 99.1 | 1341 |
| | 13 | 2.1 | 97.9 | 1213 |
| | 14 | 1.5 | 98.5 | 1292 |
| | 15 | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1346 |
| | 16 or older | 1.7 | 98.3 | 1102 |
| Sex | Male | 1.6 | 98.4 | 3224 |
| | Female | 1.5 | 98.5 | 3392 |
| School** | Secondary | 1.9 | 98.1 | 4116 |
| | Grammar | 1.0 | 99.0 | 2602 |
| Education & Library Board | BELB | 1.7 | 98.3 | 1216 |
| | WHSSB | 1.4 | 98.6 | 1200 |
| | NEELB | 1.6 | 98.4 | 1595 |
| | SEELB | 1.1 | 98.9 | 1177 |
| | SELB | 1.8 | 98.2 | 1530 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals* | Yes | 1.6 | 98.4 | 1297 |
| | No | 1.6 | 98.4 | 5412 |

* (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$)

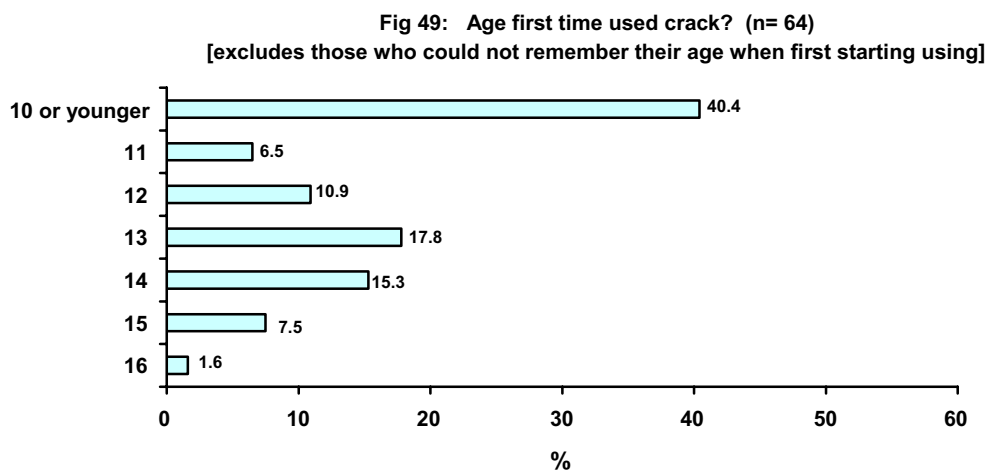
2.12.4 Regularity Of Using Crack

Amongst those pupils who said that they had ever used crack, 10% reported to be daily users, with the majority (52%) saying that they either rarely (25%) or do not use the drug any more (27%) (Table 2.80).

| | % |
|---------------------|------|
| Daily | 10.4 |
| A few times a week | 8.0 |
| A few times a month | 18.8 |
| A few times a year | 11.4 |
| Rarely | 24.8 |
| Not any more | 26.7 |
| n | 102 |

2.12.5 Age First Started Using Crack

Among those who could remember what age they started using crack, 40% said they were aged 10 or younger (Figure 49).



2.12.6 Number Of Times Used Crack

Users of crack were asked how many times they had used the drug in their lifetime. In response, one in three (33%) had used the drug only once, with a further 19% reporting using crack on two occasions (Table 2.81).

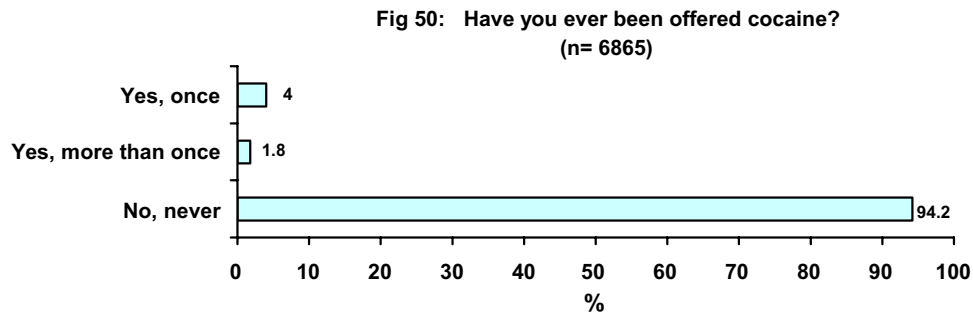
| | % |
|------------------|------|
| Once | 32.8 |
| Twice | 19.0 |
| 3 times | 10.2 |
| 4-10 times | 12.1 |
| 11-24 times | 18.8 |
| 25 times or more | 7.1 |
| n | 100 |

2.13 Cocaine

The following section presents the results from those questions relating cocaine which has also been defined as 'Coke' and 'Charlie' in the questionnaire.

2.13.1 Ever Offered Cocaine

Overall, 6% of pupils reported ever being been offered cocaine, with 4% saying that they had been offered cocaine on only one occasion and 2% saying that they had been offered the drug on more than one occasion (Figure 50).



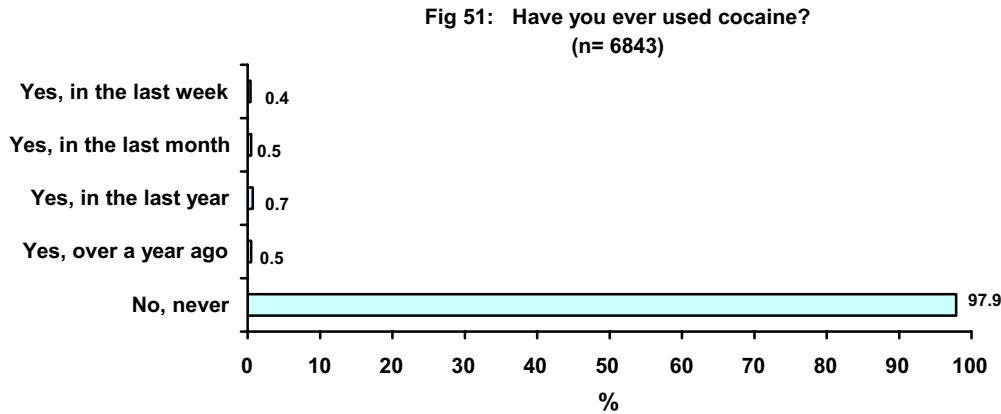
The likelihood of having been offered cocaine was found to increase significantly with age, with pupils aged 16 or older most likely (10%) to report being offered cocaine compared with those aged 12 or younger who were least likely to have been offered this drug (3%). Pupils attending schools in the WHSSB area were least likely to report being offered cocaine (4%) (Table 2.82).

| Table 2.82 Ever offered cocaine by pupil characteristics | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------------------------|------|------|
| | | Have you been offered cocaine? | | |
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 5.8 | 94.2 | 6865 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 2.9 | 97.1 | 1365 |
| | 13 | 5.4 | 94.6 | 1236 |
| | 14 | 4.9 | 95.1 | 1315 |
| | 15 | 5.8 | 94.2 | 1385 |
| | 16 or older | 9.8 | 90.2 | 1130 |
| Sex | Male | 5.5 | 94.5 | 3411 |
| | Female | 6.1 | 93.9 | 3453 |
| School | Secondary | 6.2 | 93.8 | 4187 |
| | Grammar | 5.2 | 94.8 | 2677 |
| Education & Library Board** | BELB | 6.7 | 93.3 | 1243 |
| | WHSSB | 4.0 | 96.0 | 1242 |
| | NEELB | 6.5 | 93.5 | 1617 |
| | SEELB | 6.9 | 93.1 | 1197 |
| | SELB | 5.0 | 95.0 | 1566 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals | Yes | 6.4 | 93.6 | 1320 |
| | No | 5.6 | 94.4 | 5535 |

* (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$)

2.13.2 Using Cocaine

Two percent (2%) of all pupils said that they had used cocaine, with older pupils (aged 16 or older, 4%), those attending secondary schools (3%), and those entitled to free school meals more likely to report having used this drug (Figure 51, Table 2.83).



| | | Ever used cocaine? | | n |
|--|---------------|--------------------|---------|------|
| | | Yes % | No % | |
| All Respondents | | 2.1 | 97.9 | 6843 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1354 |
| | 13 | 2.4 | 97.6 | 1231 |
| | 14 | 1.8 | 98.2 | 1312 |
| | 15 | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1386 |
| | 16 or older | 4.0 | 96.0 | 1129 |
| Sex | Male | 2.4 | 97.6 | 3400 |
| | Female | 1.9 | 98.1 | 3443 |
| School** | Secondary | 2.5 | 97.5 | 4173 |
| | Grammar | 1.6 | 98.4 | 2671 |
| Education & Library Board | BELB | 2.7 | 97.3 | 1242 |
| | WHSSB | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1238 |
| | NEELB | 2.2 | 97.8 | 1611 |
| | SEELB | 2.4 | 97.6 | 1194 |
| | SELB | 2.2 | 97.8 | 1558 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals* | Yes | 2.9 | 97.1 | 1319 |
| | No | 2.0 | 98.0 | 5515 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | |

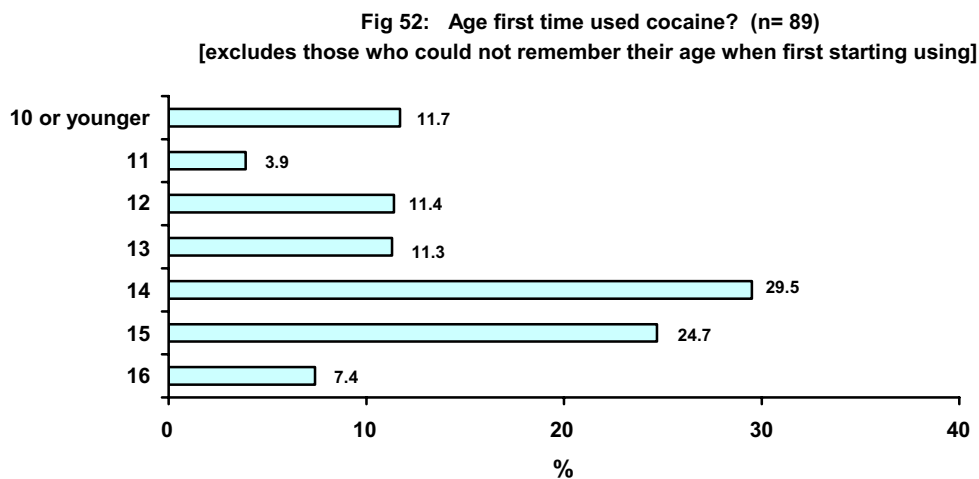
2.13.3 Regularity Of Using Cocaine

Among those who had ever used cocaine, 8% indicated that they use the drug on a daily basis, with 9% using the drug a few times a week. The majority (60%) of users of cocaine reported that they either no longer use the drug (38%) or use it rarely (22%) (Table 2.84).

| | % |
|---------------------|------|
| Daily | 7.7 |
| A few times a week | 9.3 |
| A few times a month | 16.6 |
| A few times a year | 6.5 |
| Rarely | 21.7 |
| Not any more | 38.2 |
| n | 146 |

2.13.4 Age First Started Using Cocaine

Among those who could remember what age they started using cocaine, 30% were aged 14 with one quarter (25%) aged 15 (Figure 52).



2.13.5 Number Of Times Used Cocaine

Users of cocaine were asked how many times they had used the drug in their lifetime. In response, 43% had used cocaine only once, with a further 17% reporting using the drug on two or more occasions (Table 2.85).

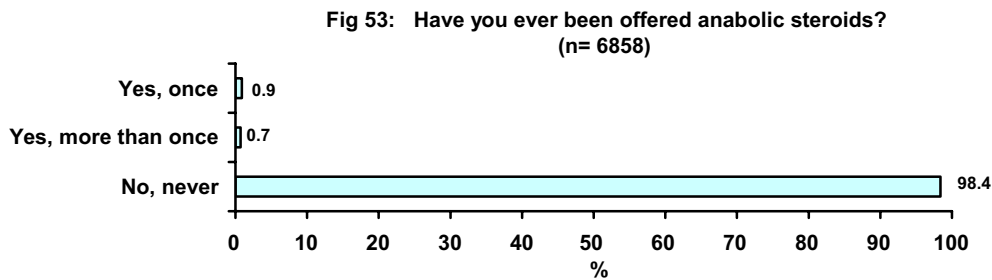
| | % |
|------------------|------|
| Once | 43.3 |
| Twice | 16.8 |
| 3 times | 12.7 |
| 4-10 times | 11.7 |
| 11-24 times | 3.8 |
| 25 times or more | 11.7 |
| n | 140 |

2.14 Anabolic Steroids

The following section presents the results from those questions relating anabolic steroids.

2.14.1 Ever Offered Anabolic Steroids

Two percent (2%) of pupils reported ever being been offered anabolic steroids, with 1% saying that they had been offered them on only one occasion and 1% saying that they had been offered this drug on more than one occasion (Figure 53).



The likelihood of having been offered anabolic steroids was found to be significantly associated with age, with pupils aged 16 or older most likely to report having being offered this drug (3%). Also pupils entitled to free school meals were also significantly more likely to record that they had been offered anabolic steroids (Table 2.86).

| Table 2.86 Ever offered anabolic steroids by pupil characteristics | | | | |
|--|---------------|--|------|------|
| | | Have you been offered anabolic steroids? | | |
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 1.6 | 98.4 | 6858 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 1.2 | 98.8 | 1358 |
| | 13 | 1.4 | 98.6 | 1234 |
| | 14 | 0.8 | 99.2 | 1313 |
| | 15 | 1.4 | 98.6 | 1388 |
| | 16 or older | 2.7 | 97.3 | 1130 |
| Sex | Male | 2.3 | 97.7 | 3406 |
| | Female | 0.9 | 99.1 | 3452 |
| School | Secondary | 1.7 | 98.3 | 4178 |
| | Grammar | 1.4 | 98.6 | 2681 |
| Education & Library Board | BELB | 1.8 | 98.2 | 1244 |
| | WHSSB | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1241 |
| | NEELB | 2.1 | 97.9 | 1615 |
| | SEELB | 1.8 | 98.2 | 1195 |
| | SELB | 0.9 | 99.1 | 1563 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals* | Yes | 2.2 | 97.8 | 1318 |
| | No | 1.4 | 98.6 | 5531 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | |

2.14.2 Using Anabolic Steroids

One percent (1%) of all pupils said that they had ever used anabolic steroids, with older pupils (aged 16 or older, 1%), and those entitled to free school meals (1.3%), more likely to report having used this drug (Figure 54, Table 2.87).

Fig 54: Have you ever used anabolic steroids?
(n= 6840)

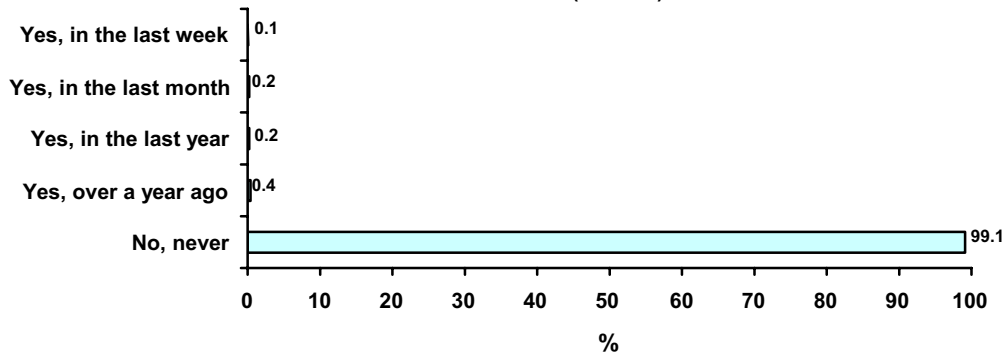


Table 2.87 Ever used anabolic steroids by pupil characteristics

| | | Ever used anabolic steroids? | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|------|------|
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 0.9 | 99.1 | 6840 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 1.0 | 99.0 | 1353 |
| | 13 | 0.8 | 99.2 | 1229 |
| | 14 | 0.5 | 99.5 | 1312 |
| | 15 | 0.6 | 99.4 | 1387 |
| | 16 or older | 1.2 | 98.8 | 1129 |
| Sex | Male | 1.3 | 98.7 | 3396 |
| | Female | 0.4 | 99.6 | 3443 |
| School | Secondary | 1.0 | 99.0 | 4164 |
| | Grammar | 0.6 | 99.4 | 2675 |
| Education & Library Board | BELB | 0.6 | 99.4 | 1238 |
| | WHSSB | 0.8 | 99.2 | 1237 |
| | NEELB | 0.9 | 99.1 | 1608 |
| | SEELB | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1194 |
| | SELB | 0.6 | 99.4 | 1561 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals* | Yes | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1312 |
| | No | 0.7 | 99.3 | 5519 |

* (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$)

2.14.3 Regularity Of Using Anabolic Steroids

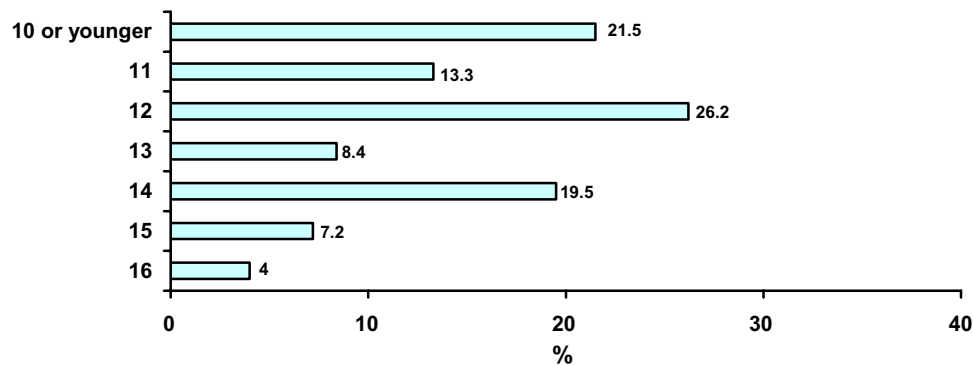
Among those who had ever used anabolic steroids, almost half (46%) indicated that they no longer use the drug, with just 8% reporting that they use it on a daily basis (Table 2.88).

| | % |
|---------------------|------|
| Daily | 7.8 |
| A few times a week | 15.5 |
| A few times a month | 6.7 |
| A few times a year | 11.4 |
| Rarely | 12.3 |
| Not any more | 46.3 |
| n | 53 |

2.14.4 Age First Started Using Anabolic Steroids

Among those who could remember what age they started using anabolic steroids, 22% were aged 10 or younger. As with some other drugs, this figure is likely due to over-reporting within this age group (Figure 55).

Fig 55: Age first time used anabolic steroids? (n= 34)
[excludes those who could not remember their age when first starting using]



2.14.5 Number Of Times Used Anabolic Steroids

Users of anabolic steroids were asked how many times they had used the drug in their lifetime. In response, 41% had used them only once, with a further 32% reporting using them on two occasions (Table 2.89).

| | % |
|------------------|------|
| Once | 41.4 |
| Twice | 32.1 |
| 3 times | 5.6 |
| 4-10 times | 7.3 |
| 11-24 times | 4.5 |
| 25 times or more | 9.1 |
| n | 56 |

2.15 Age First Offered Drugs (Excluding Solvents)

Among the whole sample, more than seven out of ten pupils (71%) said that they had never been offered drugs (excluding solvents), with 7% unable to remember what age they were when they were first offered drugs. Six percent of pupils said they were offered drugs at the age of 13, with 5% first offered drugs at the age of 14 (Table 2.90).

| | % |
|---------------------|------|
| 10 or younger | 1.9 |
| 11 | 2.4 |
| 12 | 4.2 |
| 13 | 5.9 |
| 14 | 4.9 |
| 15 | 2.4 |
| 16 | 0.2 |
| Can't remember | 6.9 |
| Never offered drugs | 71.2 |
| n | 6582 |

Analysis of the age first offered drugs by pupil age shows that the likelihood of being offered drugs increases with age, with proportionately more boys having been offered drugs at a younger age compared with girls (Table 2.91).

| | | Age first offered drugs (not counting solvents) | | | | | | | | | n |
|---|---------------|---|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|----------------|---------------|------|
| | | 10 or younger | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | Can't remember | Never Offered | |
| | | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 1.9 | 2.4 | 4.2 | 5.9 | 4.9 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 6.9 | 71.2 | 6582 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 2.0 | 1.7 | 0.4 | | | | | 1.9 | 93.9 | 1287 |
| | 13 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 1.0 | | | | 3.2 | 85.3 | 1189 |
| | 14 | 1.1 | 2.7 | 7.0 | 7.6 | 1.9 | | | 6.3 | 73.4 | 1258 |
| | 15 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 5.5 | 10.3 | 11.4 | 3.0 | | 11.1 | 54.8 | 1347 |
| | 16 or older | 1.3 | 2.5 | 3.9 | 10.0 | 11.9 | 10.5 | 1.0 | 12.1 | 46.8 | 1088 |
| Sex*** | Male | 2.4 | 3.5 | 5.1 | 6.5 | 4.9 | 2.2 | 0.3 | 6.3 | 68.9 | 3249 |
| | Female | 1.4 | 1.3 | 3.3 | 5.4 | 4.9 | 2.7 | 0.1 | 7.5 | 73.5 | 3333 |
| * (X ² , p<0.05); ** (X ² , p<0.01); *** (X ² , p<0.001) | | | | | | | | | | | |

2.16 Being Offered Drugs (Not Counting Solvents)

Almost three out of ten (29%) pupils reported being offered drugs (not counting solvents), with the likelihood of being offered drugs significantly associated with age, gender and entitlement to free school meals. Those more likely to have been offered drugs were older pupils (aged 16 or older, 53%), boys (31%), those entitled to free school meals (31%) and those living in the Belfast area (38%) (Table 2.92).

| Table 2.92 Ever offered drugs (not counting solvents) by pupil characteristics | | | | |
|---|---------------|---|------|------|
| | | Ever offered drugs (not counting solvents)? | | |
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 28.8 | 71.2 | 6582 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 6.1 | 93.9 | 1288 |
| | 13 | 14.7 | 85.3 | 1189 |
| | 14 | 26.6 | 73.4 | 1257 |
| | 15 | 45.2 | 54.8 | 1347 |
| | 16 or older | 53.2 | 46.8 | 1088 |
| Sex*** | Male | 31.1 | 68.9 | 3249 |
| | Female | 26.5 | 73.5 | 3333 |
| School | Secondary | 28.4 | 71.6 | 3956 |
| | Grammar | 29.4 | 70.6 | 2625 |
| Education & Library Board*** | BELB | 38.0 | 62.0 | 1179 |
| | WHSSB | 25.1 | 74.9 | 1200 |
| | NEELB | 27.8 | 72.2 | 1556 |
| | SEELB | 33.2 | 66.8 | 1131 |
| | SELB | 22.2 | 77.8 | 1515 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals* | Yes | 31.1 | 68.9 | 1230 |
| | No | 28.2 | 71.8 | 5344 |
| * (X ² , p<0.05); ** (X ² , p<0.01); *** (X ² , p<0.001) | | | | |

2.16.1 First Person To Offer Drugs (Not Counting Solvents)

A friend or other person around the pupils own age was the first to offer drugs in the majority of cases (60%), with one in five (20%) pupils saying that the someone their own age whom the didn't really know was to the first to offer them drugs (Table 2.93).

| Table 2.93 Who offered drugs (not counting solvents) to you the first time | |
|---|------|
| | % |
| A friend or other person around my own age I knew | 60.1 |
| Someone my own age I didn't really know | 19.7 |
| An adult I did not know | 8.4 |
| An adult I knew | 4.0 |
| A relative (e.g. brother, sister, uncle, cousin etc) | 3.9 |
| Someone else | 2.2 |
| No one offered me drugs, I got them myself | 1.7 |
| n | 1840 |

2.16.2 Where Were You First Time Offered Drugs (Not Counting Solvents)

In the majority of cases (59%) pupils were 'somewhere outside' the first time they were offered drugs, with 12% saying that they were at 'someone else's house' (Table 2.94).

| | % |
|---|------|
| Somewhere outside e.g.: park, street, in an entry, under a bridge | 58.8 |
| At someone else's house (not a party) | 12.2 |
| At a rave, disco, club or concert | 8.6 |
| At a party | 8.5 |
| At school | 4.4 |
| Somewhere else | 4.4 |
| In my own house | 2.5 |
| At a pub | 0.5 |
| Don't Know | 0.1 |
| n | 1833 |

2.16.3 Who With The Last Time You Took Drugs (Not Counting Solvents)

The most common pattern (89%) was for pupils to be with their friends the last time they took drugs, with 61% with a group of friends and just over a quarter with a single friend (28%) (Table 2.95).

| | % |
|----------------------------------|------|
| With a group of friends | 61.2 |
| With a friend | 27.6 |
| By myself | 4.9 |
| With someone else | 3.0 |
| With brother(s) and/or sister(s) | 1.4 |
| With relatives | 1.4 |
| With parents | 0.6 |
| N | 1095 |

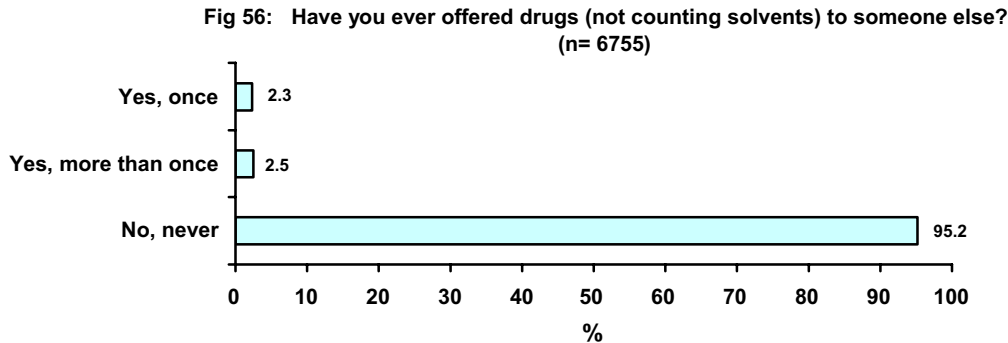
2.16.4 Location The Last Time You Took Drugs (Not Counting Solvents)

In the majority of cases (54%) the last time pupils took drugs they did so somewhere outside, with just over one fifth (22%) taking drugs at someone else's house (Table 2.96).

| | % |
|--|------|
| Somewhere outside e.g.: park, street in an entry, under a bridge | 53.8 |
| At someone else's house (not a party) | 21.7 |
| At a party | 8.2 |
| At home | 5.5 |
| At a rave, disco, club or concert | 3.7 |
| Somewhere else | 3.2 |
| At school | 2.1 |
| At a pub | 1.6 |
| Don't Know | 0.1 |
| n | 1076 |

2.16.5 Ever Offered Drugs (Not Counting Solvents) To Someone Else

One in twenty (5%) pupils reported that they had offered drugs to someone else, with 2% saying that they had offered drugs on one occasion and 3% saying that they had offered drugs to someone else on more than one occasion (Figure 56).



The likelihood of having offered drugs (not counting solvents) to someone else increased with pupil age, with those aged 16 or older 9 times more likely to have offered drugs to someone else compared with youngest pupil age group (aged 12 or under, 1%). The survey also revealed that boys (6%) were twice as likely to report offering drugs to someone else compared with girls (3%). Also pupils attending schools in the BELB area (7%) were more likely to say that they had offered drugs to others (Table 2.97).

| | | Ever offered drugs to someone else | | |
|--|---------------|------------------------------------|------|------|
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 4.8 | 95.2 | 6755 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 1.3 | 98.7 | 1329 |
| | 13 | 1.8 | 98.2 | 1212 |
| | 14 | 3.5 | 96.5 | 1297 |
| | 15 | 6.9 | 93.1 | 1373 |
| | 16 or older | 9.7 | 90.3 | 1123 |
| Sex*** | Male | 6.2 | 93.8 | 3349 |
| | Female | 3.3 | 96.7 | 3406 |
| School | Secondary | 5.0 | 95.0 | 4094 |
| | Grammar | 4.4 | 95.6 | 2662 |
| Education & Library Board*** | BELB | 7.4 | 92.6 | 1214 |
| | WHSSB | 3.9 | 96.1 | 1221 |
| | NEELB | 4.3 | 95.7 | 1591 |
| | SEELB | 6.2 | 93.8 | 1193 |
| | SELB | 2.7 | 97.3 | 1535 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals* | Yes | 6.0 | 94.0 | 1284 |
| | No | 4.5 | 95.5 | 5463 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | |

2.17 Ever Got Into Trouble Because Of Using / Tried Drugs

Almost one in four pupils (24%) who had taken drugs said that they got into trouble, with 16% citing parents or another family member and 15% saying that they got into trouble with friends (2.98).

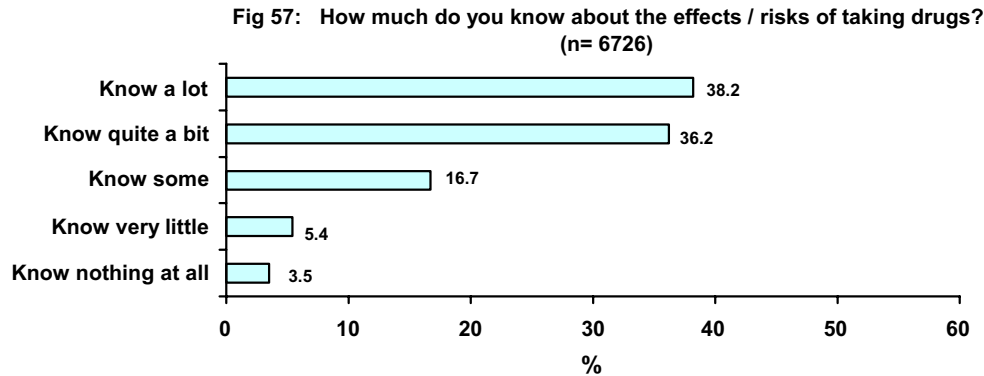
| | Yes | No | n |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|
| | % | % | |
| Parent (s) or other family member | 15.6 | 84.4 | 1049 |
| Friends | 14.7 | 85.3 | 1030 |
| Police | 7.3 | 92.7 | 1023 |
| Local people | 7.2 | 92.8 | 1009 |
| School | 2.7 | 97.3 | 999 |
| Any of the above | 23.5 | 76.5 | 1360 |

The likelihood of getting into trouble was found to be associated with age, with older pupils (aged 16 or older, 29%) more than twice as likely to get into trouble compared with younger pupils (aged 12 or younger, 13%) (Table 2.99).

| | | Ever got into trouble because of drugs? | | |
|--|---------------|---|------|------|
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 23.5 | 76.5 | 1360 |
| Age** | 12 or younger | 13.2 | 86.8 | 68 |
| | 13 | 22.8 | 77.2 | 123 |
| | 14 | 20.4 | 79.6 | 226 |
| | 15 | 20.5 | 79.5 | 425 |
| | 16 or older | 28.5 | 71.5 | 414 |
| Sex | Male | 23.9 | 76.1 | 774 |
| | Female | 23.0 | 77.0 | 587 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | |

2.18 Knowledge Of The Effects /Risks Of Taking Drugs

Approximately three out of four pupils (74%) said that they either 'know a lot' (38%) or 'know quite a bit' (36%) about the effects / risks of taking drugs, with 17% saying they 'know some' and 9% saying they know either 'very little' (5%) or 'nothing at all' (4%) (Figure 57).



Self-reported knowledge about the effects / risks of taking drugs varied significantly by pupil age, gender, school type, Education and Library Board area and eligibility for free school meals. Those most likely to say that they knew quite a lot or quite a bit were likely to be older pupils (aged 16 or older, 81%), boys (75%), attending grammar school (71%), not entitled to free school meals (75%), and be attending schools in the BELB area (80%) (Table 2.100).

| | | How much do you know about the effects / risks of taking drugs? | | | |
|--|---------------|---|-----------|----------------------------|------|
| | | Know a lot / quite a bit | Know some | Know very little / nothing | n |
| | | % | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 74.4 | 16.7 | 8.9 | 6726 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 69.6 | 16.4 | 14.0 | 1308 |
| | 13 | 70.9 | 18.8 | 10.2 | 1222 |
| | 14 | 75.6 | 17.3 | 7.1 | 1305 |
| | 15 | 78.4 | 16.6 | 5.1 | 1365 |
| | 16 or older | 80.5 | 13.9 | 5.5 | 1105 |
| Sex*** | Male | 75.2 | 15.1 | 9.7 | 3314 |
| | Female | 73.6 | 18.3 | 8.1 | 3411 |
| School*** | Secondary | 70.6 | 17.7 | 11.7 | 4059 |
| | Grammar | 80.1 | 15.3 | 4.6 | 2667 |
| Education & Library Board*** | BELB | 79.6 | 14.0 | 6.4 | 1211 |
| | WHSSB | 74.2 | 17.0 | 8.8 | 1221 |
| | NEELB | 70.7 | 19.2 | 10.1 | 1585 |
| | SEELB | 76.1 | 14.3 | 9.6 | 1178 |
| | SELB | 72.9 | 17.9 | 9.2 | 1530 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals*** | Yes | 71.6 | 14.4 | 14.0 | 1277 |
| | No | 75.1 | 17.2 | 7.7 | 5441 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | | |

2.18.1 Knowledge Of Drugs That Are Illegal

More than nine out of ten (94%) pupils correctly identified heroin as being illegal, with similarly high proportions correctly identifying the legal status of cocaine (92%) and ecstasy (91%). Conversely, just 78% of pupils said that poppers are illegal (Table 2.101).

| | % |
|---------------------|------|
| Heroin | 93.9 |
| Cocaine | 91.9 |
| Ecstasy | 90.8 |
| Crack | 88.1 |
| Speed (amphetamine) | 87.4 |
| LSD | 85.5 |
| Cannabis | 81.6 |
| Magic Mushrooms | 80.2 |
| Poppers | 78.3 |
| n | 6502 |

2.18.2 Perceived Dangers Of Different Drugs

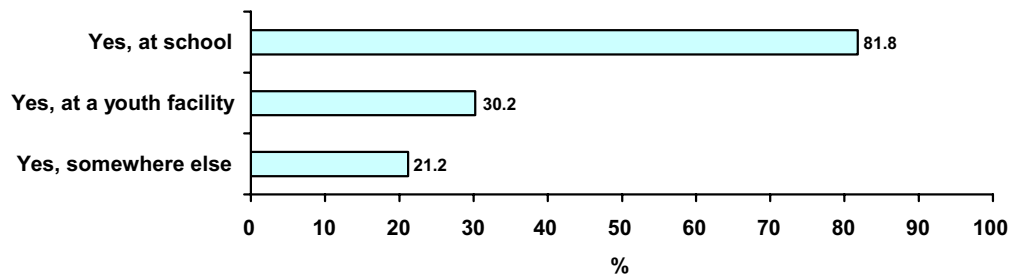
Pupils were presented with a number of statements relating to smoking, alcohol and drug behaviours. For each behaviour they were asked how dangerous it was for people. In response, 82% felt it was very dangerous to take ecstasy regularly, whereas just 18% felt that it was very dangerous to have one or two drinks nearly every day. To generate a more sensitive response indicator, those who recorded 'don't know' to this question were excluded and mean scores were computed based on the four remaining categories. A high mean score indicates a high level of perceived danger with the behaviour. The mean scores have been presented below in ascending order of perceived danger, and show that taking ecstasy regularly was perceived to be most dangerous, whereas having one or two drinks every day was perceived to be least dangerous (Table 2.102).

| | Mean Score | Not at all dangerous | A little dangerous | Quite dangerous | Very dangerous | Don't know | n |
|---|------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|------|
| | | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Take ecstasy regularly | 3.86 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 5.4 | 82.2 | 9.5 | 6649 |
| Take cocaine or crack regularly | 3.83 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 7.6 | 79.4 | 9.9 | 6652 |
| Take speed regularly | 3.81 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 8.3 | 77.1 | 11.3 | 6633 |
| Take LSD regularly | 3.80 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 8.3 | 75.5 | 12.7 | 6651 |
| Take solvents regularly | 3.80 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 9.1 | 78.5 | 8.7 | 6655 |
| Smoke one or more packs cigarettes a day | 3.72 | 1.4 | 3.4 | 16.9 | 76.1 | 2.2 | 6692 |
| Smoke cannabis regularly | 3.69 | 2.8 | 3.9 | 12.9 | 73.9 | 6.6 | 6661 |
| Have four or five drinks nearly every day | 3.49 | 2.3 | 7.6 | 27.5 | 59.7 | 2.9 | 6670 |
| Try ecstasy once or twice | 3.44 | 2.1 | 9.0 | 26.2 | 53.4 | 9.3 | 6655 |
| Try solvents once or twice | 3.33 | 2.7 | 11.9 | 29.4 | 47.3 | 8.7 | 6658 |
| Smoke cannabis occasionally | 3.32 | 3.8 | 11.5 | 29.1 | 49.3 | 6.3 | 6663 |
| Try cocaine or crack once or twice | 3.32 | 2.4 | 11.3 | 31.2 | 45.1 | 10.0 | 6659 |
| Try speed once or twice | 3.28 | 2.4 | 12.7 | 30.9 | 42.7 | 11.4 | 6649 |
| Try LSD once or twice | 3.27 | 2.5 | 13.3 | 29.4 | 41.9 | 13.0 | 6646 |
| Have five or more drinks each | 3.09 | 6.2 | 18.7 | 30.7 | 40.2 | 4.2 | 6672 |
| Smoke cigarettes occasionally | 3.02 | 2.7 | 23.4 | 40.5 | 30.7 | 2.8 | 6722 |
| Try cannabis once or twice | 2.87 | 10.9 | 23.4 | 25.4 | 33.3 | 7.0 | 6673 |
| Have one or two drinks nearly every day | 2.74 | 7.7 | 28.1 | 42.5 | 18.2 | 3.5 | 6670 |

2.19 Education On Use Of Alcohol / Drugs

In the year before the survey, pupils were most likely to have received education on the use of alcohol / and or drugs at school (82%), with 30% mentioning youth facilities and 21% mentioning having received education on alcohol and / or drugs somewhere else (Figure 58).

Fig 58: Any education on the use of alcohol and / or drugs (e.g. talks/lessons, packs, leaflets, drama workshops, TV ads) in the last year?
At School n=6558, At Youth Facility n=5326, Somewhere else n=4490



Analysis by key pupil background characteristics showed that older pupils (aged 16 or older) were more likely to report receiving education on alcohol and / or drugs at school (92%) and in youth facilities (38%), with girls also more likely to report this pattern (83% and 32% respectively). Pupils attending grammar schools (88%), and schools in the BELB area (85%), were also more likely to say that they had received education on the use of alcohol and / or drugs at school. Those pupils attending BELB schools (38%), compared with pupils attending schools in other areas, were significantly more likely to say that they had received education on alcohol and drug use at a youth facility (Table 2.103).

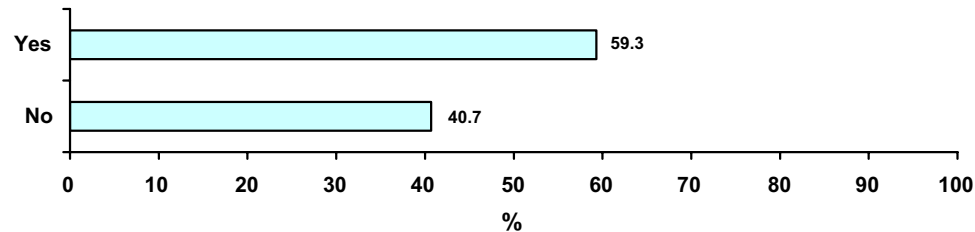
| | | Any education on the use of alcohol and / or drugs (e.g. talks/ lessons, packs, leaflets, drama workshops, TV ads)? | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| | | Yes, at school | Yes, at a youth facility | Yes, somewhere else |
| | | % | % | % |
| All Respondents | | 81.8 | 30.2 | 21.2 |
| Age | 12 or younger | 67.7* | 23.1*** | 20.7* |
| | 13 | 80.9 | 29.4 | 25.3 |
| | 14 | 84.1 | 30.4 | 20.9 |
| | 15 | 88.3 | 31.9 | 21.2 |
| | 16 or older | 91.6 | 38.2 | 18.0 |
| Sex | Male | 80.7* | 28.1** | 21.3 |
| | Female | 82.8 | 32.1 | 21.1 |
| School | Secondary | 77.4*** | 31.1 | 21.5 |
| | Grammar | 88.2 | 28.9 | 20.7 |
| Education & Library Board | BELB | 84.8* | 37.7*** | 21.3 |
| | WHSSB | 82.8 | 30.3 | 21.3 |
| | NEELB | 80.8 | 25.1 | 21.0 |
| | SEELB | 79.8 | 36.1 | 23.3 |
| | SELB | 81.2 | 25.2 | 19.4 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals | Yes | 75.8*** | 30.0 | 20.3 |
| | No | 83.1 | 30.2 | 21.4 |

* (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$)

2.19.1 Perceived Impact Of Education On Alcohol Consumption

Most pupils who had been exposed to some form of education on the use of alcohol said that it would make them less inclined to drink alcohol, with 41% saying that it would not make them less inclined in this regard (Figure 59).

Fig 59: Has the education you received on the use of alcohol and / or drugs made you less inclined to drink alcohol (n= 5400)



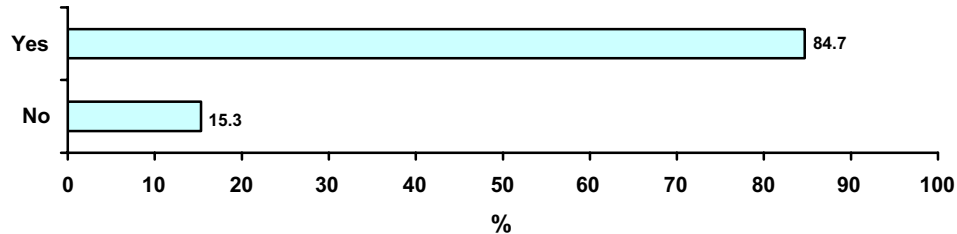
The likelihood of exposure to education on alcohol making pupils less inclined to drink alcohol, was found to decline with age, with 80% of those aged 12 or under saying that it would make them less inclined compared with 41% of those age 16 or older. Pupils attending schools in the WHSSB area (62%) were also more likely to say that such exposure would affect their behaviour (Table 2.104).

| | | Less inclined to take alcohol? | | |
|--|---------------|--------------------------------|---------|------|
| | | Yes % | No % | n |
| All Respondents | | 59.3 | 40.7 | 5400 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 79.8 | 20.2 | 860 |
| | 13 | 69.9 | 30.1 | 995 |
| | 14 | 62.1 | 37.9 | 1082 |
| | 15 | 49.2 | 50.8 | 1184 |
| | 16 or older | 40.5 | 59.5 | 1002 |
| Sex | Male | 58.2 | 41.8 | 2593 |
| | Female | 60.4 | 39.6 | 2807 |
| School | Secondary | 60.3 | 39.7 | 3033 |
| | Grammar | 58.2 | 41.8 | 2367 |
| Education & Library Board* | BELB | 57.1 | 42.9 | 992 |
| | WHSSB | 61.9 | 38.1 | 999 |
| | NEELB | 59.4 | 40.6 | 1259 |
| | SEELB | 56.3 | 43.7 | 938 |
| | SELB | 61.5 | 38.5 | 1210 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals | Yes | 57.9 | 42.1 | 908 |
| | No | 59.6 | 40.4 | 4483 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | |

2.19.2 Perceived Impact Of Education On Taking Drugs

The overwhelming majority of those pupils who were exposed to education on the use of alcohol and / or drugs said that it had made them less inclined to take drugs, with just 15% saying that it had not make them less inclined to (Figure 60).

Fig 60: Has the education you received on the use of drugs made you less inclined to take drugs? (n= 5380)



Exposure to education on alcohol and / or drugs was found to be significantly associated with pupil age, gender, school type, Education and Library Board area and eligibility for free school meals. For example, pupils more likely to say that exposure to such education would make them less inclined to take drugs were more likely to be younger, female, attending grammar schools, not availing of free school meals and be attending schools in the WHSSB area (Table 2.105).

| | | Less inclined to take drugs? | | |
|--|---------------|------------------------------|------|------|
| | | Yes | No | n |
| | | % | % | |
| All Respondents | | 84.7 | 15.3 | 5380 |
| Age*** | 12 or younger | 88.3 | 11.7 | 855 |
| | 13 | 86.3 | 13.7 | 986 |
| | 14 | 85.7 | 14.3 | 1082 |
| | 15 | 82.8 | 17.2 | 1173 |
| | 16 or older | 81.3 | 18.8 | 1008 |
| Sex** | Male | 82.0 | 18.0 | 2573 |
| | Female | 87.3 | 12.7 | 2806 |
| School* | Secondary | 83.8 | 16.2 | 3001 |
| | Grammar | 85.8 | 14.2 | 2379 |
| Education & Library Board* | BELB | 82.5 | 17.5 | 997 |
| | WHSSB | 86.7 | 13.3 | 992 |
| | NEELB | 85.4 | 14.6 | 1249 |
| | SEELB | 83.1 | 16.9 | 933 |
| | SELB | 85.4 | 14.6 | 1209 |
| Eligible for Free School Meals* | Yes | 82.6 | 17.4 | 895 |
| | No | 85.2 | 14.8 | 4477 |
| * (X^2 , $p < 0.05$); ** (X^2 , $p < 0.01$); *** (X^2 , $p < 0.001$) | | | | |

2.19.3 Source Of Information On Drugs And Alcohol

School (88%), TV (75%) and parents (72%) were found to be pupil's main sources of information about drugs and alcohol, with churches mentioned by 22% and youth clubs by 26% of pupils (Table 2.106).

| Table 2.106 Where do you get information about drugs and alcohol from? | |
|---|------|
| | % |
| School | 88.2 |
| TV | 75.2 |
| Parents | 71.9 |
| Books/magazines | 57.2 |
| Doctor | 50.2 |
| Posters/billboards | 42.6 |
| Friends | 42.4 |
| Internet | 41.7 |
| Other relatives | 33.7 |
| Police | 30.5 |
| Radio | 29.2 |
| Brothers/sisters | 29.0 |
| Helpline | 26.7 |
| Youth club | 26.0 |
| Church | 21.6 |
| Other | 1.5 |
| n | 6539 |