

Twelve percent of the seniors regularly drove after drinking alcohol; 12 percent regularly drove after smoking marijuana.

RISKS

Driver Risks

Twelve percent of the Pennsylvania seniors drove at least once a month after drinking alcohol (Table 10, Fig 35). Of the seniors *who drove and who reported drinking regularly*, 28 percent reported having had driven after drinking monthly or more often.

Twelve percent of the seniors regularly drove after smoking marijuana. Of the seniors *who drove and who reported smoking marijuana at least once a month*, two-thirds (65 percent) reported driving after smoking marijuana monthly or more often.

Seven percent of the seniors drove at least once a month after drinking alcohol AND smoking marijuana.

TABLE 10
DRIVER RISKS
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE			
	6th	7th	9th	12th
N =				13,805
Regularly (monthly or more often) drove after drinking				11.9
Regularly drove after smoking marijuana				12.2
Regularly drove after drinking AND smoking marijuana				6.8

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

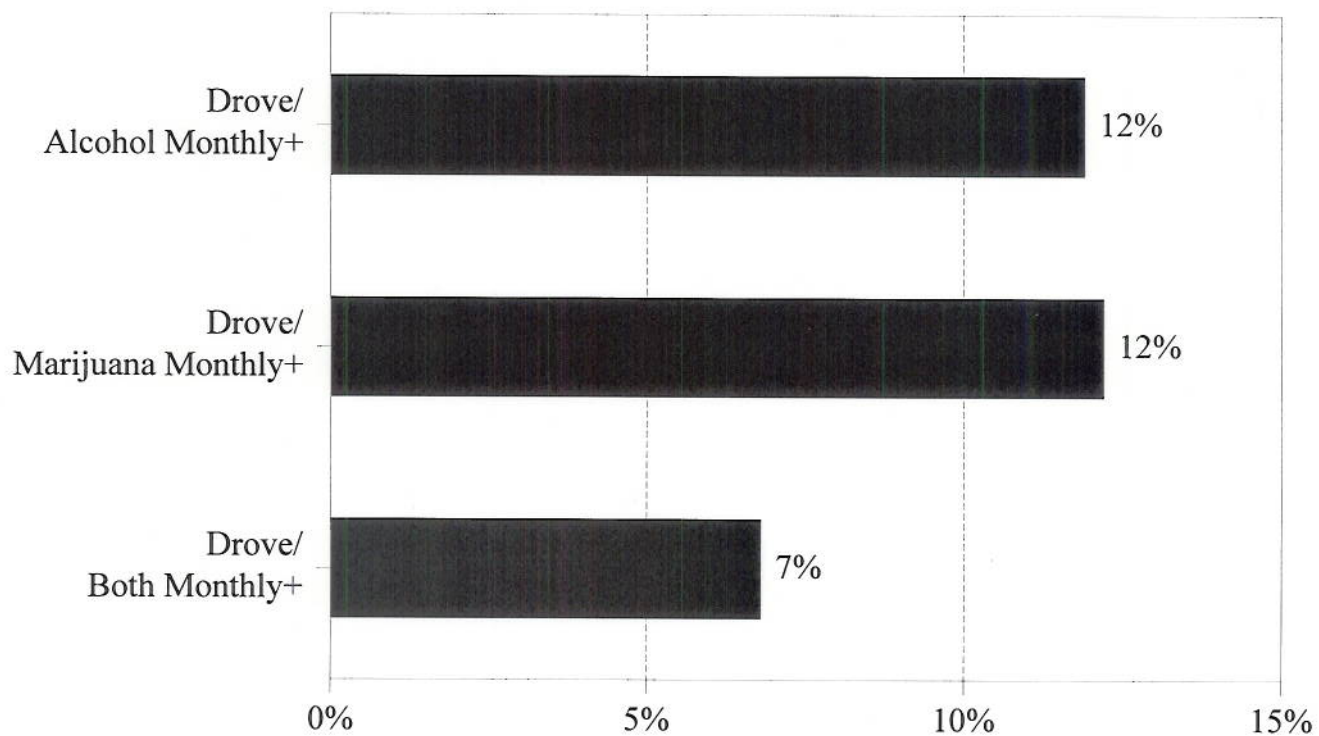


Figure 35: Pennsylvania seniors who reported driving after drinking alcohol or after smoking marijuana. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

The percentage of student drivers taking alcohol- or marijuana-related risks has increased since 1991. For the first time in the statewide biennial survey, the percentage of marijuana-impaired drivers slightly surpassed that of alcohol-impaired drivers.

TABLE 10A
DRIVER RISKS
Pennsylvania Statewide Biennial Surveys 1989 - 1997

RISK	GRADE						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DRANK AND DROVE, Monthly +							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997							11.9
Pennsylvania 1995							11.1
Pennsylvania 1993							10.6
Pennsylvania 1991							9.4
Pennsylvania 1989							14.5
SMOKED MARIJUANA AND DROVE, Monthly +							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997							12.2
Pennsylvania 1995							10.7
Pennsylvania 1993							7.2
Pennsylvania 1991							4.7
Pennsylvania 1989							7.5
DRANK & SMOKED AND DROVE, Monthly +							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997							6.8
Pennsylvania 1995							6.3
Pennsylvania 1993							4.6
Pennsylvania 1991							3.4
Pennsylvania 1989							5.8

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus, 1989 - 1997.

Note: If data are not given for a particular item in a particular survey year, it indicates that either that item was not included in that survey, comparisons across years are not valid, or data is not available.

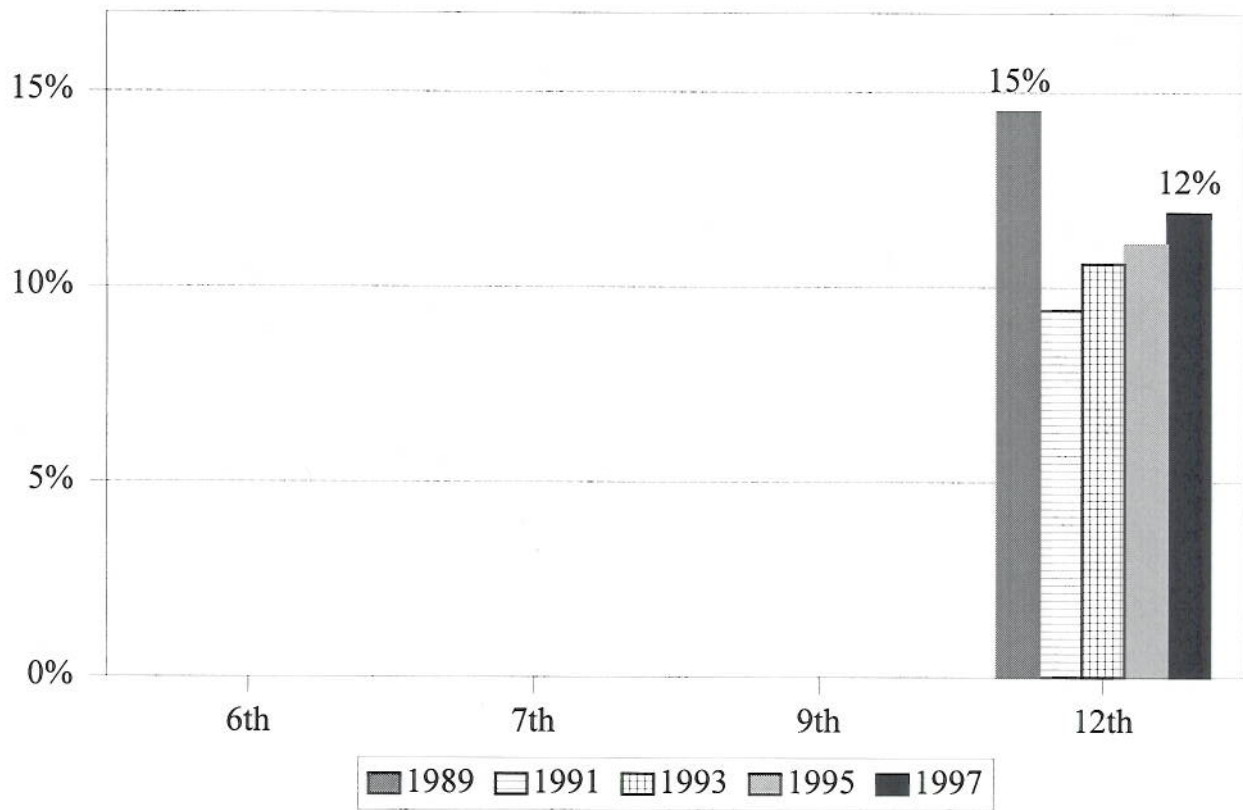


Figure 36: Pennsylvania seniors who reported driving after drinking (monthly or more often). *Statewide biennial surveys, 1989-1997.*

Eighteen percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and nine percent of the sixth and seventh graders regularly rode in a vehicle in which the driver had been drinking alcohol.

Passenger Risks

An average of 18 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and nine percent of the sixth and seventh graders regularly rode in a vehicle in which the driver had been drinking alcohol (Table 11, Fig. 37). Twenty-three percent of the seniors, 13 percent of the ninth graders, and an average of three percent of the sixth and seventh graders were passengers monthly or more often of drivers who had been smoking marijuana. Fourteen percent of the seniors, seven percent of the ninth graders, and an average of two percent of the sixth and seventh graders indicated that they regularly rode with a driver who had both been smoking marijuana *and* drinking alcohol.

**TABLE 11
PASSENGER RISKS
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey**

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N =	15,435	16,279	17,105	13,815	62,634
Regularly (monthly or more) rode with drinking driver	7.2	10.1	14.9	21.8	13.3
Regularly rode with driver smoking marijuana	2.3	4.6	13.1	23.0	10.4
Regularly rode with driver drinking AND smoking pot	0.8	2.1	7.2	14.4	5.9

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

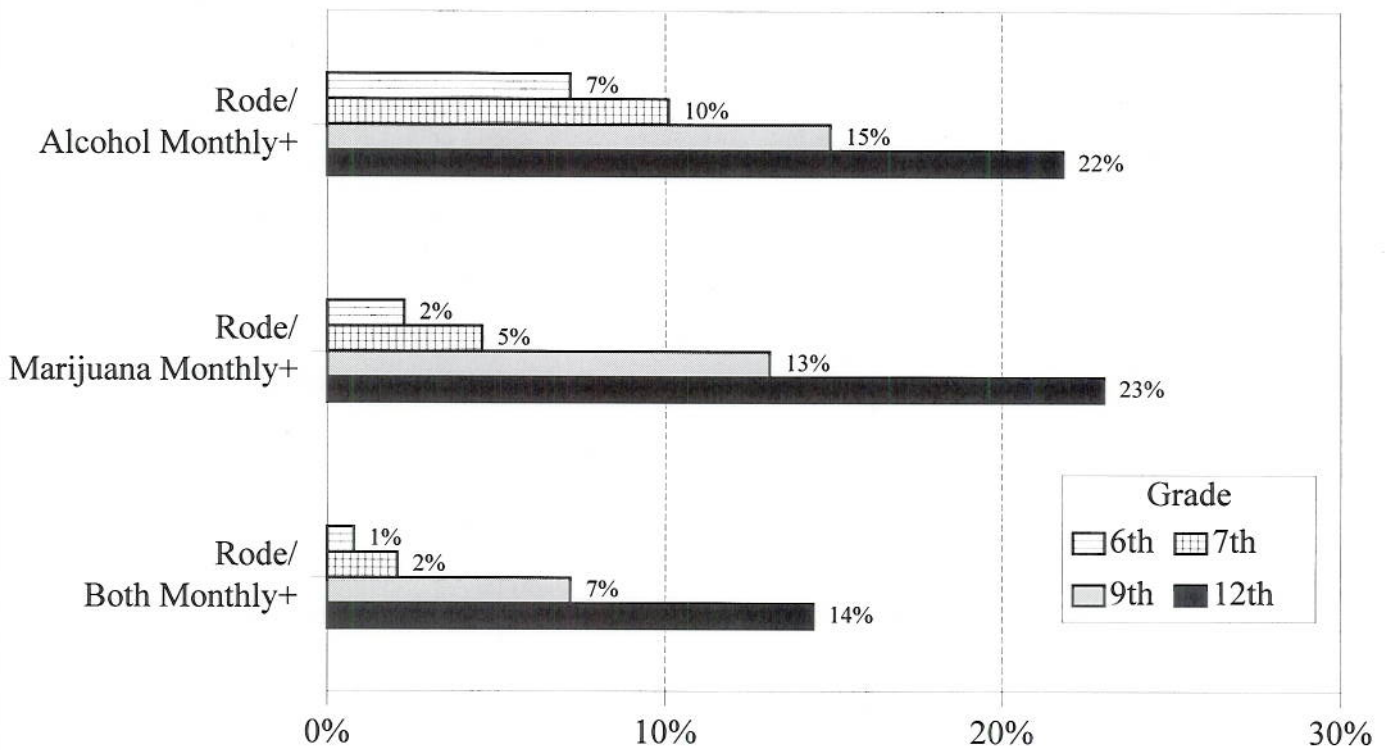


Figure 37: Pennsylvania students who reported riding with a driver drinking alcohol or smoking marijuana. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

In the past two biennial surveys, the percentage of seniors riding with marijuana-impaired drivers surpassed that of students riding with alcohol-impaired drivers.

TABLE 11A
PASSENGER RISKS
Pennsylvania Statewide Biennial Surveys 1989 - 1997

PASSENGER RISK	GRADE						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
RODE WITH DRINKER, Monthly+							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	7.2	10.1		14.9			21.8
Pennsylvania 1995	8.7	11.9		16.3			21.4
Pennsylvania 1993	9.0	11.0		14.8			20.9
Pennsylvania 1991	8.0	10.4		13.5			20.3
Pennsylvania 1989	9.2	10.3		15.9			25.7
RODE WITH MARIJUANA SMOKER, Monthly+							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	2.3	4.6		13.1			23.0
Pennsylvania 1995	2.4	4.5		13.2			22.0
Pennsylvania 1993	2.0	3.1		7.7			14.6
Pennsylvania 1991	1.6	2.3		4.9			11.3
Pennsylvania 1989	2.2	2.6		7.5			15.4
RODE WITH SOMEONE DRINKING AND SMOKING, Monthly+							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	0.8	2.1		7.2			14.4
Pennsylvania 1995	1.2	2.6		7.9			14.2
Pennsylvania 1993	0.9	1.7		5.1			9.8
Pennsylvania 1991	0.7	1.4		3.2			7.9
Pennsylvania 1989	1.3	1.5		5.0			11.0

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus, 1989 - 1997.

Note: If data are not given for a particular item in a particular survey year, it indicates that either that item was not included in that survey, comparisons across years are not valid, or data is not available.

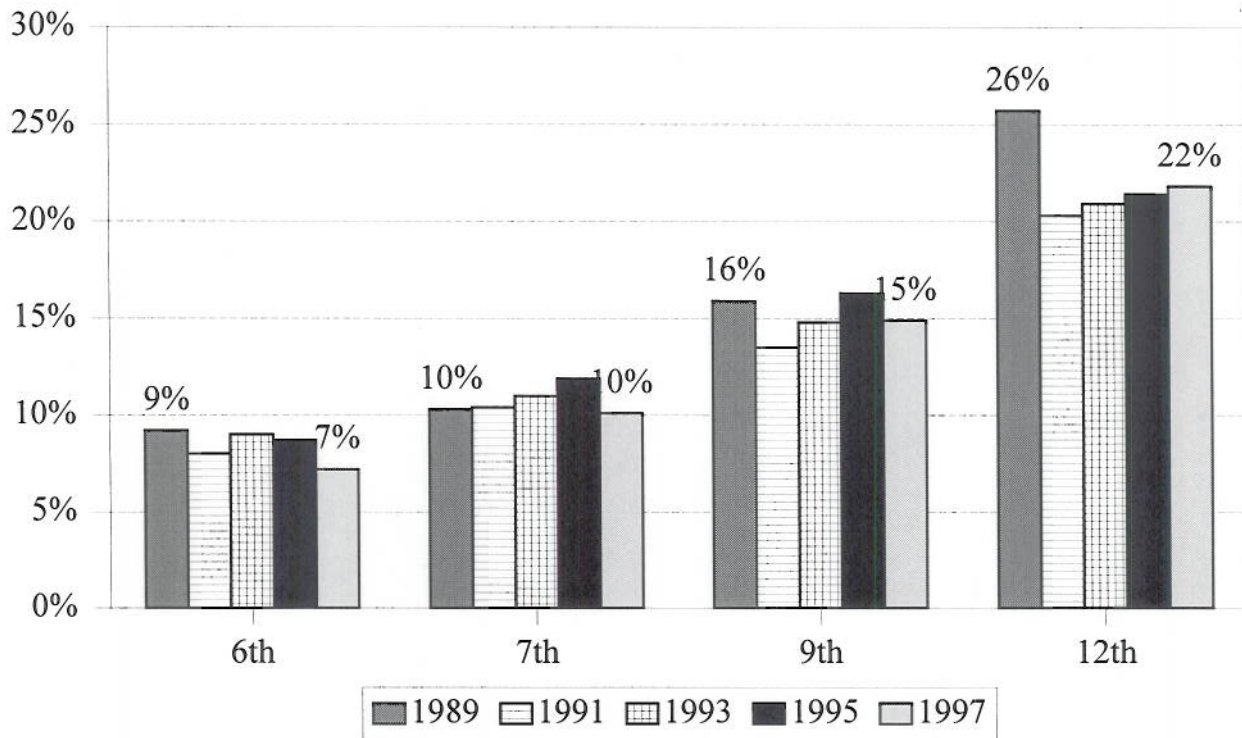


Figure 38: Pennsylvania students who reported riding (monthly or more often) with drivers who had been drinking alcohol. *Statewide biennial surveys, 1989-1997.*

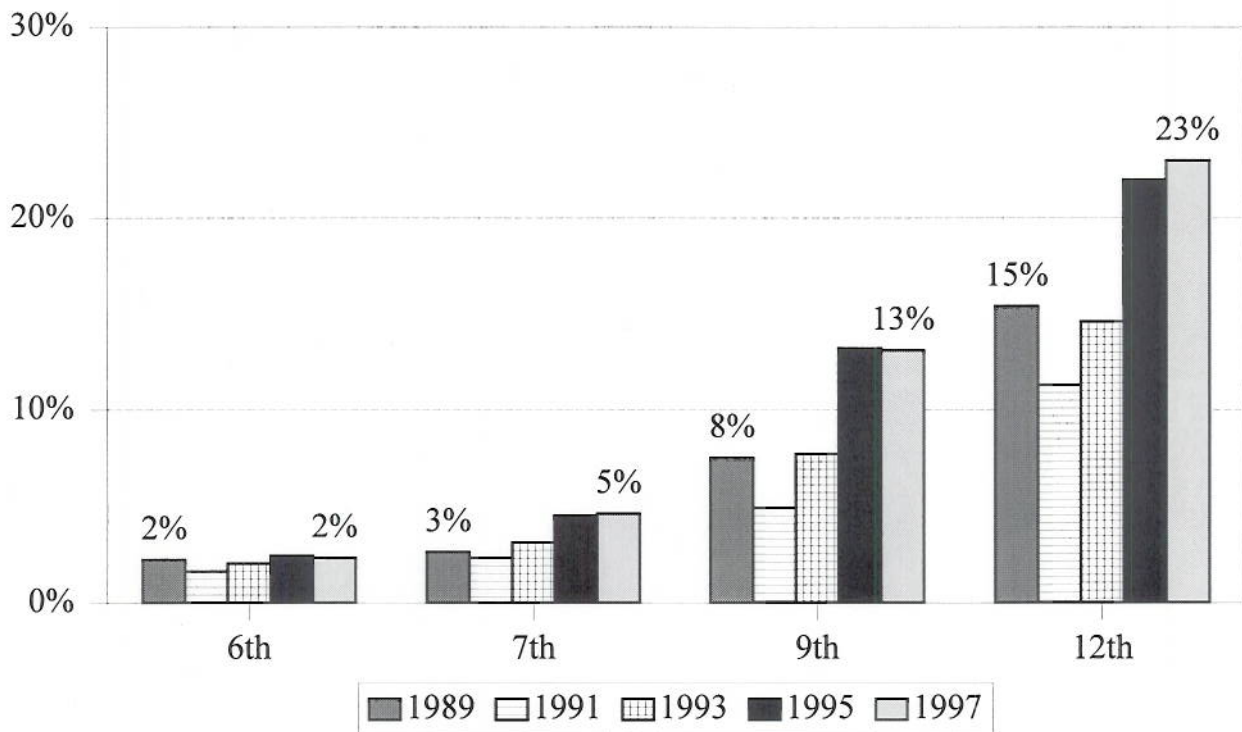


Figure 39: Pennsylvania students who reported riding (monthly or more often) with drivers who had been smoking marijuana. *Statewide biennial surveys, 1989-1997.*

An average of 16 percent of the students surveyed cheated on a test at least once a month; nine percent “pushed others around,” seven percent skipped school; six percent shoplifted; and two percent sold drugs.

PROBLEM BEHAVIORS

Cheating, Bullying, Shoplifting, Skipping School, Selling Drugs

An average of one-fourth (23 percent) of the Pennsylvania ninth graders and seniors regularly (once a month or more) cheated on tests; 12 percent of the seventh graders and five percent of the sixth graders cheated monthly or more often. An average of nine percent of the students surveyed reported that they regularly “push[ed] others around to get something you want or to make them afraid.” Eighteen percent of the seniors, seven percent of the ninth graders, and an average of three percent of the sixth and seventh graders regularly skipped school. An average of six percent of all students surveyed said they had shoplifted (“stole something from a store”) at least once a month; an average of two percent of the students regularly sold drugs. (Table 12, Fig. 40)

TABLE 12
PROBLEM BEHAVIORS
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Regularly (monthly or more often):	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	15,472	16,319	17,113	13,807	62,711
Cheated on tests	5.4	11.9	23.2	23.1	15.8
Bullied others	8.2	10.8	9.7	7.0	9.0
Skipped school	1.8	3.7	6.8	17.8	7.2
Shoplifted	3.1	5.8	7.7	5.5	5.6
Sold drugs	0.4	1.3	3.7	4.1	2.4
Got drunk	1.9	5.6	21.7	37.3	16.1
Got high	1.2	4.3	15.1	20.0	9.9
Weekly or more often:					
Got drunk	0.9	2.5	9.3	18.1	7.4
Got high	0.7	2.4	8.9	12.8	6.0

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

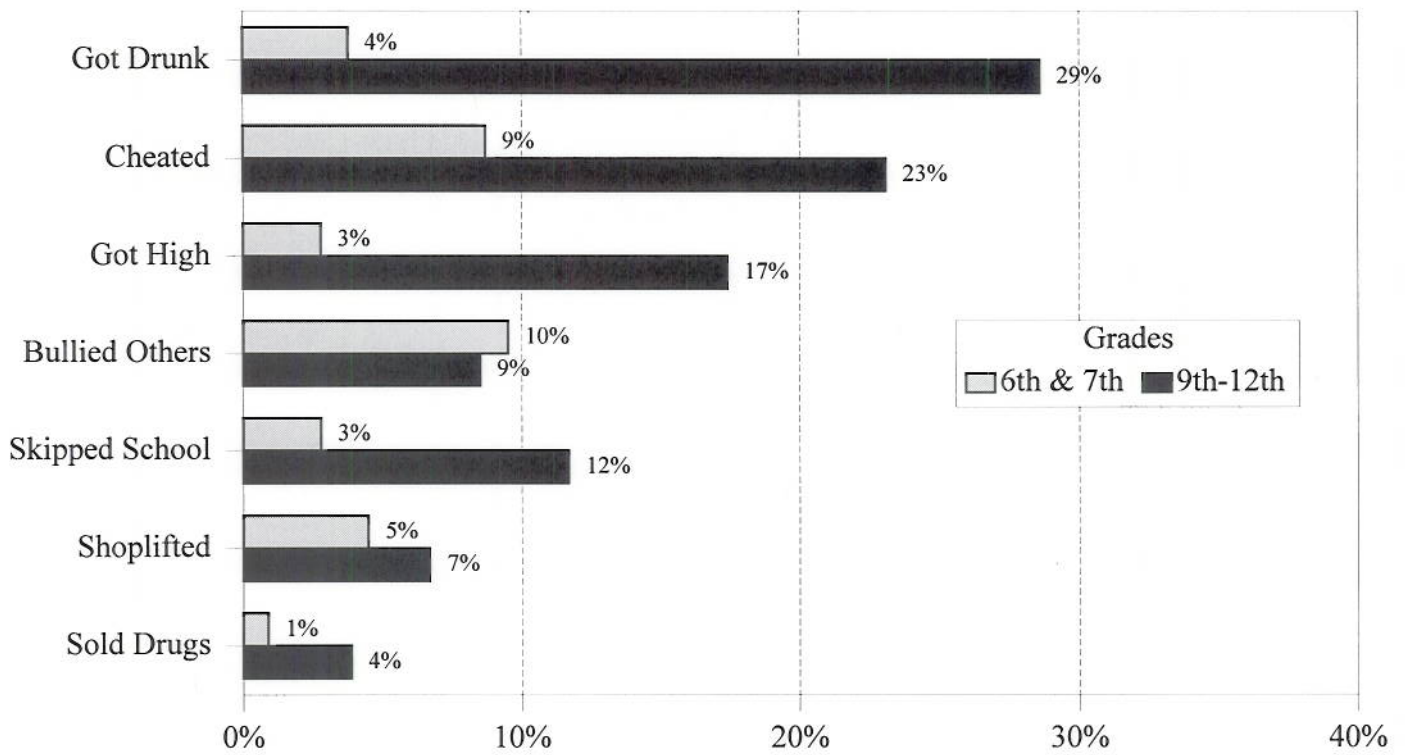


Figure 40: Pennsylvania students' self-reported problem behaviors (monthly or more often). *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

More than one-third of the seniors got drunk at least once a month; 16 percent of the seniors got drunk at least once a week. Nineteen percent of the seniors got high at least once a month; 12 percent got high at least once a week.

Getting Drunk

More than one-third (36 percent) of the Pennsylvania seniors got drunk at least once a month; 18 percent got drunk at least once a week. Twenty-two percent of the ninth graders got drunk regularly; nine percent got drunk weekly or more often. Six percent of the seventh graders and two percent of the sixth graders said they had gotten drunk monthly or more often.

Drinking and Getting Drunk Figure 41 allows a comparison of the percentage of students who drink alcohol to the percentage who get drunk. The information in the figure is taken from two individual *PPAAUS* items: self-reported frequency of use of alcohol and self-reported frequency of getting drunk. Another method with which to look at this relationship is to isolate *only those students who reported drinking at least once a month* and to generate a frequency of response for only those regular drinkers: this demonstrates that, overall, 58 percent of the Pennsylvania students who drank monthly or more often reported getting drunk at least once a month. Seventy-two percent of the seniors who drank at least once a month reported getting drunk at least once a month. In ninth grade, 60 percent of the regular drinkers got drunk monthly or more often; in seventh grade, 36 percent; and in sixth grade, 24 percent.

Getting High

Twenty percent of the seniors got high at least once a month; 13 percent got high at least once a week. In ninth grade, 15 percent of the students got high regularly; nine percent got high at least once a week. Four percent of the seventh graders and one percent of the sixth graders got high regularly.

Smoking Marijuana and Getting High Figure 42 shows a comparison of the percentage of students who reported smoking marijuana to the percentage who reported getting high. An average of 82 percent of the students *who smoked marijuana regularly* said they got high at least once a month: 87 percent of the seniors; 84 percent of the ninth graders; 67 percent of the seventh graders; and 58 percent of the sixth graders.

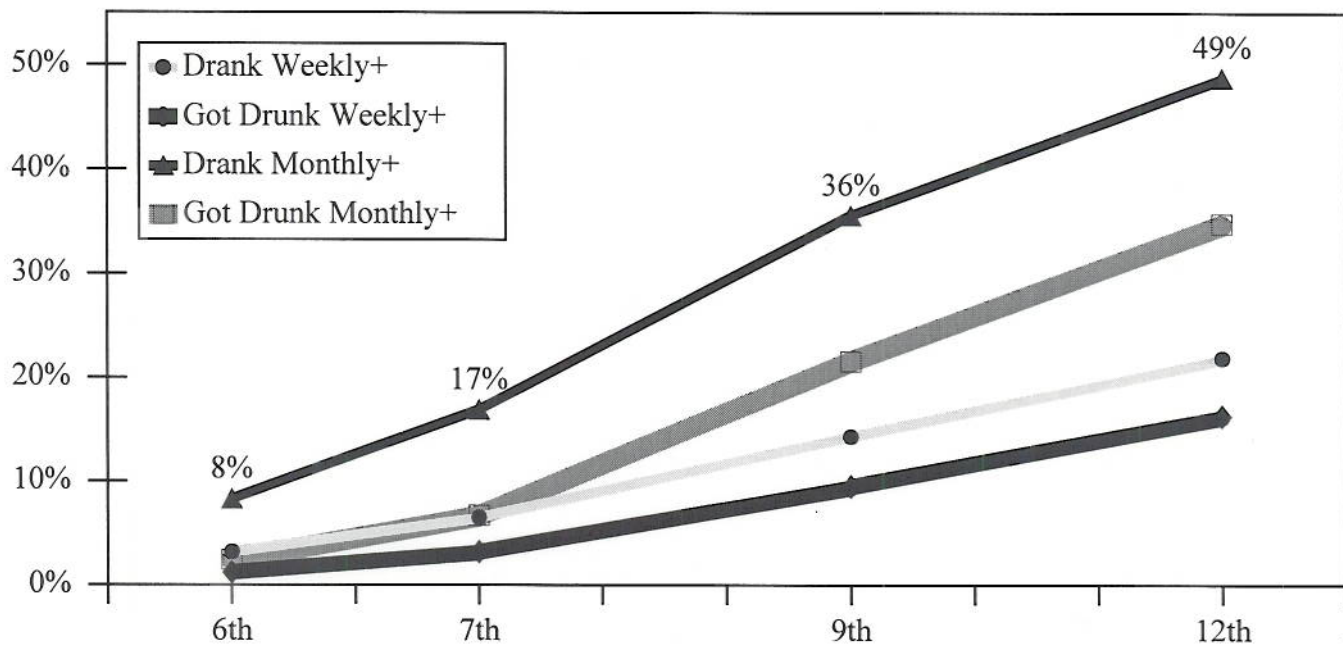


Figure 41: Pennsylvania students' self-reported use of alcohol and frequency of getting drunk (weekly or more often and monthly or more often). *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1995.*

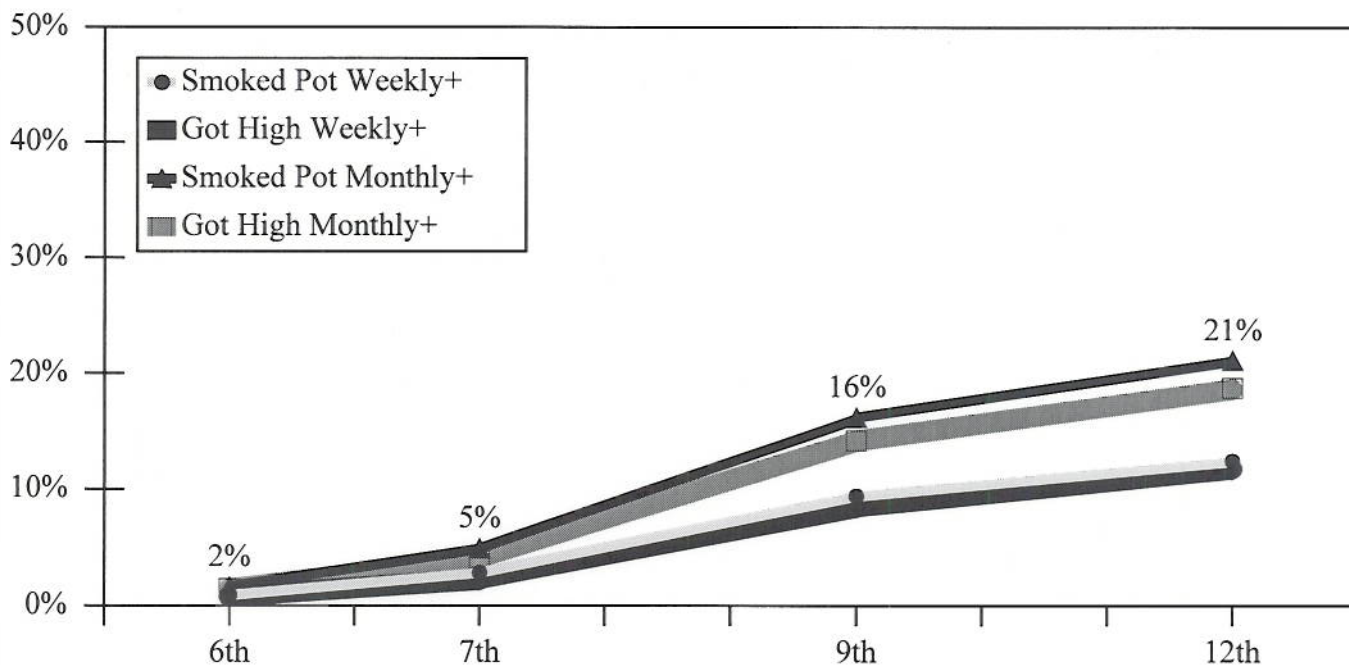


Figure 42: Pennsylvania students' self-reported use of marijuana and frequency of getting high (weekly or more often and monthly or more often). *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

TABLE 12A
PROBLEM BEHAVIORS
 Pennsylvania Statewide Biennial Surveys 1989 - 1997

BEHAVIOR	GRADE						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

CHEATED ON A CLASS TEST							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	5.4	11.9		23.2			23.1
Pennsylvania 1995	6.0	14.1		26.4			23.1
Pennsylvania 1993	5.3	11.8		22.9			21.2
Pennsylvania 1991	4.9	11.2		23.1			25.0
Pennsylvania 1989	5.2	10.5		24.1			26.2
SKIPPED SCHOOL							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	1.8	3.7		6.8			17.8
Pennsylvania 1995	2.3	4.5		8.7			20.5
Pennsylvania 1993	2.0	3.2		6.8			16.9
Pennsylvania 1991	1.6	2.6		5.9			13.5
Pennsylvania 1989	2.0	2.7		6.9			13.9
SHOPLIFTED							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	3.1	5.8		7.7			5.5
Pennsylvania 1995	4.3	7.3		9.1			5.4
Pennsylvania 1993	3.2	6.5		8.5			5.3
Pennsylvania 1991	3.2	5.7		7.7			5.0
Pennsylvania 1989	2.8	4.1		6.0			4.4
GOT DRUNK							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	1.9	5.6		21.7			36.3
Pennsylvania 1995	2.4	6.7		21.6			34.8
Pennsylvania 1993	1.9	4.9		16.9			31.4
Pennsylvania 1991	2.1	5.0		19.1			35.1
Pennsylvania 1989	2.3	5.1		18.9			38.5
GOT HIGH							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	1.2	4.3		15.1			20.0
Pennsylvania 1995	1.4	4.1		14.2			18.7
Pennsylvania 1993	0.7	1.8		7.6			12.9
Pennsylvania 1991	0.3	1.2		4.7			10.7
Pennsylvania 1989	0.6	1.4		7.0			13.9

Reported Weekly or More Occurrence							

GOT DRUNK							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	0.9	2.5		9.3			18.1
Pennsylvania 1995	1.2	3.2		9.5			16.3
Pennsylvania 1993	1.0	2.5		7.1			13.9
Pennsylvania 1991	0.8	2.0		7.6			16.1
GOT HIGH							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	0.7	2.4		8.9			12.8
Pennsylvania 1995	0.8	2.3		8.5			11.8
Pennsylvania 1993	0.4	1.3		4.3			7.2
Pennsylvania 1991	0.1	0.8		2.2			6.0

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus, 1989 - 1997.*

Note: If data are not given for a particular item in a particular survey year, it indicates that either that item was not included in that survey, comparisons across years are not valid, or data is not available.

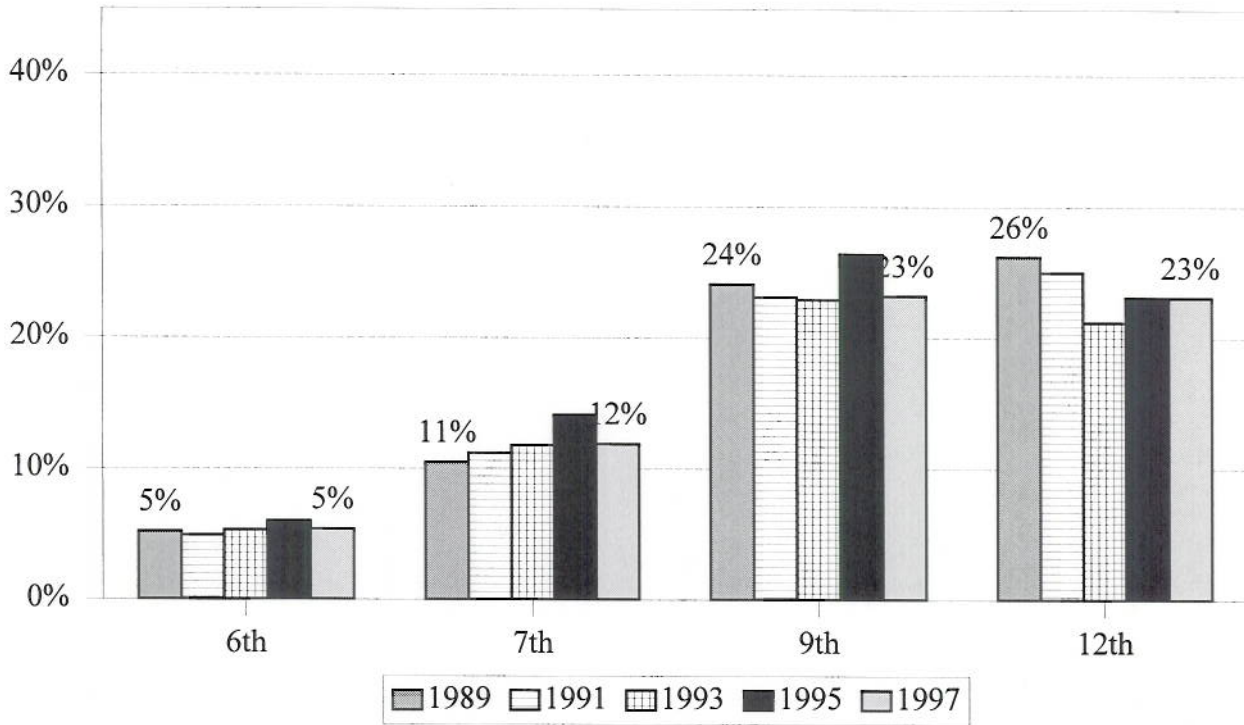


Figure 43: Pennsylvania students who reported cheating on tests (monthly or more often). *Statewide biennial surveys, 1989-1997.*

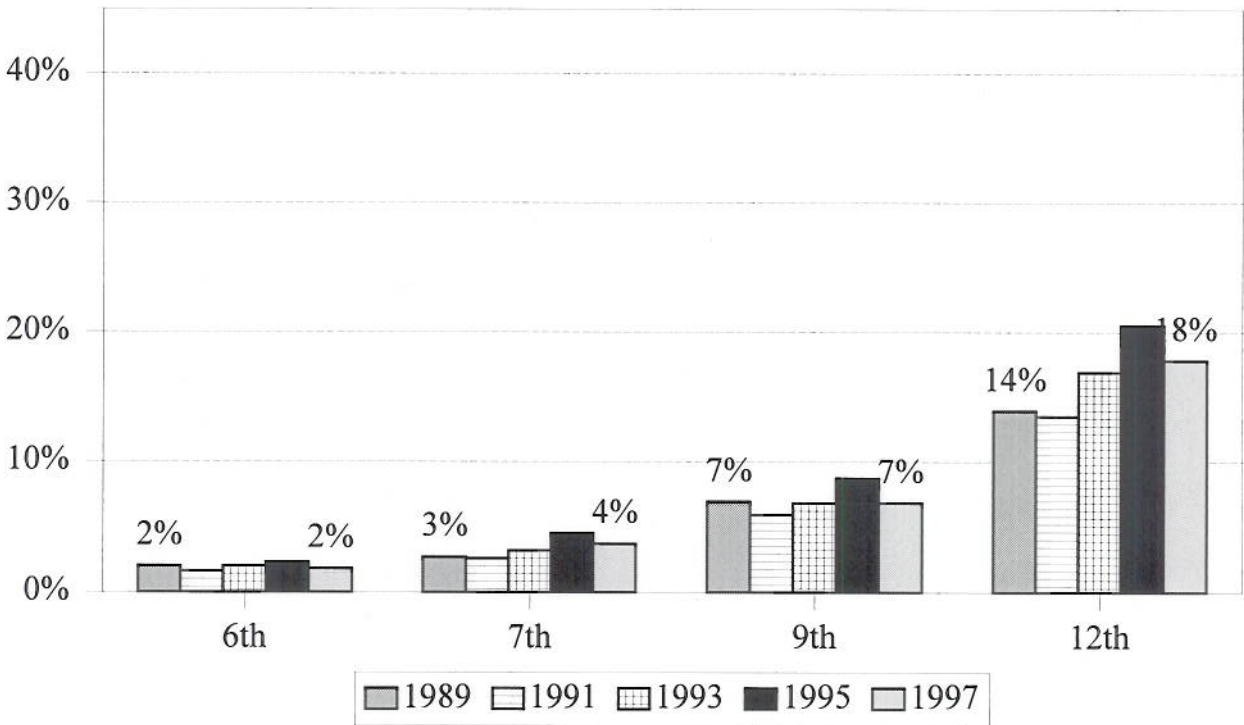


Figure 44: Pennsylvania students who reported skipping school (monthly or more often). *Statewide biennial surveys, 1989-1997.*

In grades nine and twelve, the occurrence of getting high regularly has increased each survey occasion since 1991. In grade twelve, the percentage of students reporting that they got drunk has increased since 1993.

PROBLEM BEHAVIOR TRENDS

- * In grades six and seven, from 1995 to 1997, occurrence of these problem behaviors has decreased: cheating on tests, skipping school, shoplifting, and getting drunk.
- * In grades nine and twelve, the occurrence of getting high regularly has increased each survey occasion since 1991.
- * In grade twelve, the percentage of students reporting to get drunk has increased since 1993.
- * In grade nine, the occurrence of cheating, skipping school, and shoplifting has decreased since 1995; occurrence of getting high has increased.

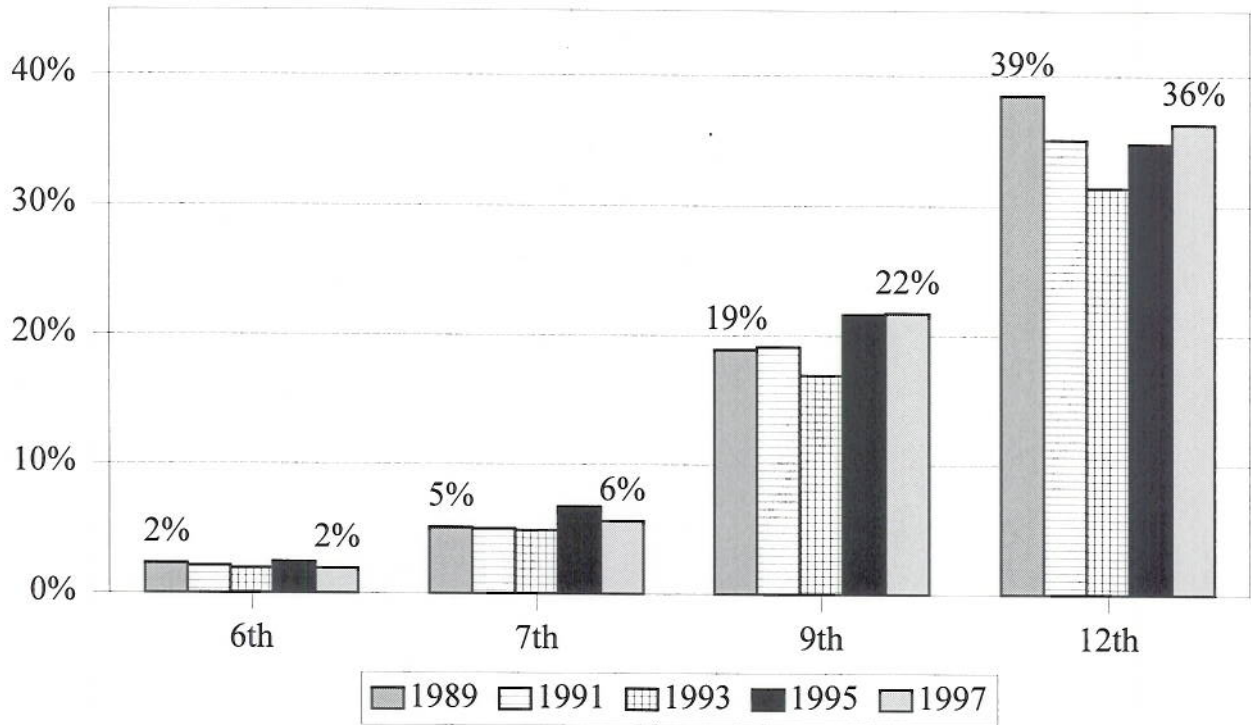


Figure 45: Pennsylvania students who reported getting drunk (monthly or more often).
Statewide biennial surveys, 1989-1997.

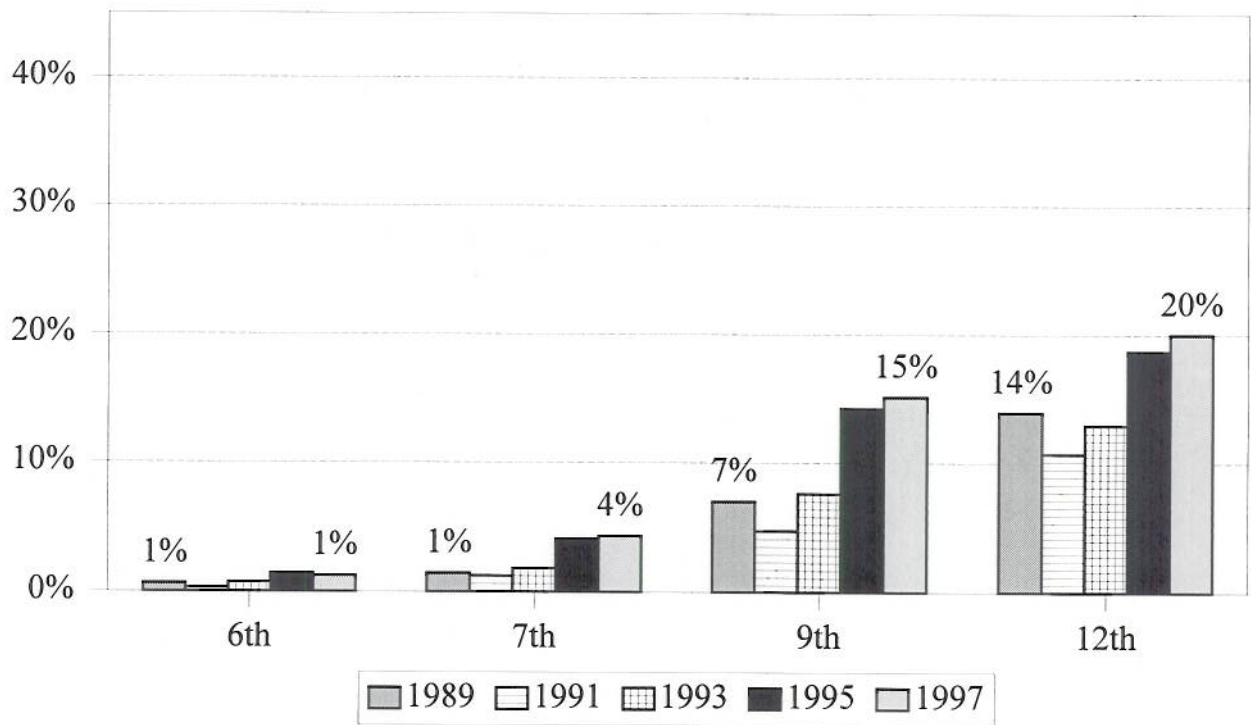


Figure 46: Pennsylvania students who reported getting high (monthly or more often).
Statewide biennial surveys, 1989-1997.

Almost one-half of the sixth, seventh, and ninth graders and 33 percent of the seniors engaged in at least one physical fight in the year before the survey. Thirty percent of the sixth and seventh graders, 21 percent of the ninth graders, and 11 percent of the seniors fought at school.

PHYSICAL FIGHTING AND FEAR

Fear

When asked, "During the past 30 days, have you been afraid of being hurt by someone in your school or on school property?" an average of 16 percent of the sixth and seventh graders, 12 percent of the ninth graders, and six percent of the seniors responded "Yes."

Physical Fights

Victims: In the twelve months prior to the *PPAAUS* survey, an average of 48 percent of the sixth, seventh, and ninth graders and 35 percent of the seniors were threatened at least once to be hit. An average of 20 percent of the students indicated that they were threatened only once; 25 percent, two times or more.

An average of 19 percent of the students indicated that they had been attacked physically within the previous year: ten percent were hit or beaten up only once; nine percent, two times or more.

Perpetrators: In the year before the *PPAAUS* survey, an average of 42 percent of the students threatened another person with physical violence. Seventeen percent threatened someone only once; 25 percent of the students used threats of physical violence two times or more.

An average of 41 percent of the sixth, seventh, and ninth graders and 29 percent of the seniors said they had hit someone or beat up someone in the year before the survey: 17 percent only once, and 21 percent, two times or more.

Victim or perpetrator of physical violence: Computing a variable for involvement in physical fights -- as either a victim or a perpetrator -- shows that an average of 48 percent of the sixth, seventh, and ninth graders and 33 percent of the seniors were personally involved in fighting at least once in the previous year: 19 percent only once, 19 percent two to nine times, and six percent ten times or more.

ANY association with physical violence: Combining the four variables discussed above (see Alcohol, page 14) gives a computed variable to show whether a student had been threatened or attacked or had threatened or attacked someone. An average of two-thirds (66 percent) of the students surveyed indicated that they had been associated with physical violence at least once in the year before the *PPAAUS* survey: 22 percent only once, 31 percent two to nine times, and 13 percent ten times or more.

Physical Fights at School

An average of 30 percent of the sixth and seventh graders, 21 percent of the ninth graders, and 11 percent of the seniors reported that they had engaged in a physical fight at school at least once in the year prior to the *PPAAUS* survey. An average of 12 percent of the students surveyed fought at school only once, ten percent two to nine times, and one percent ten times or more.

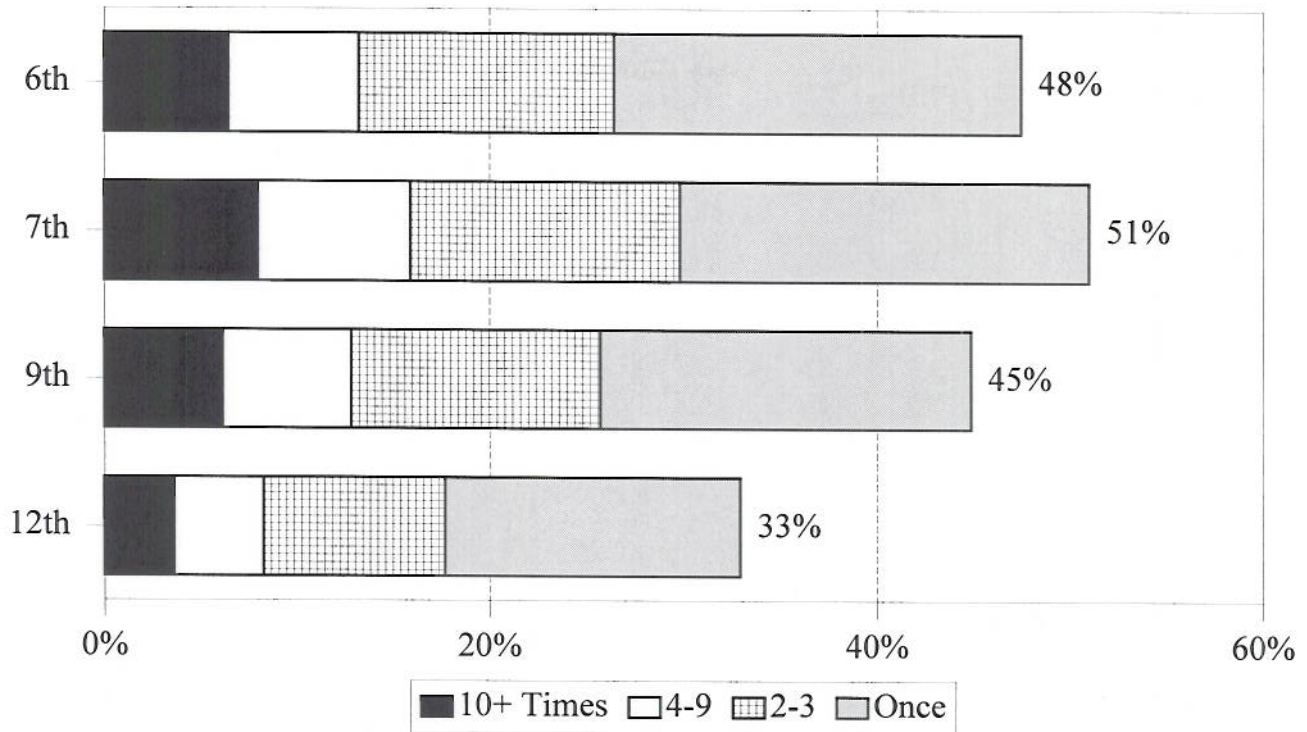


Figure 47: Pennsylvania students who reported fighting at least once during the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

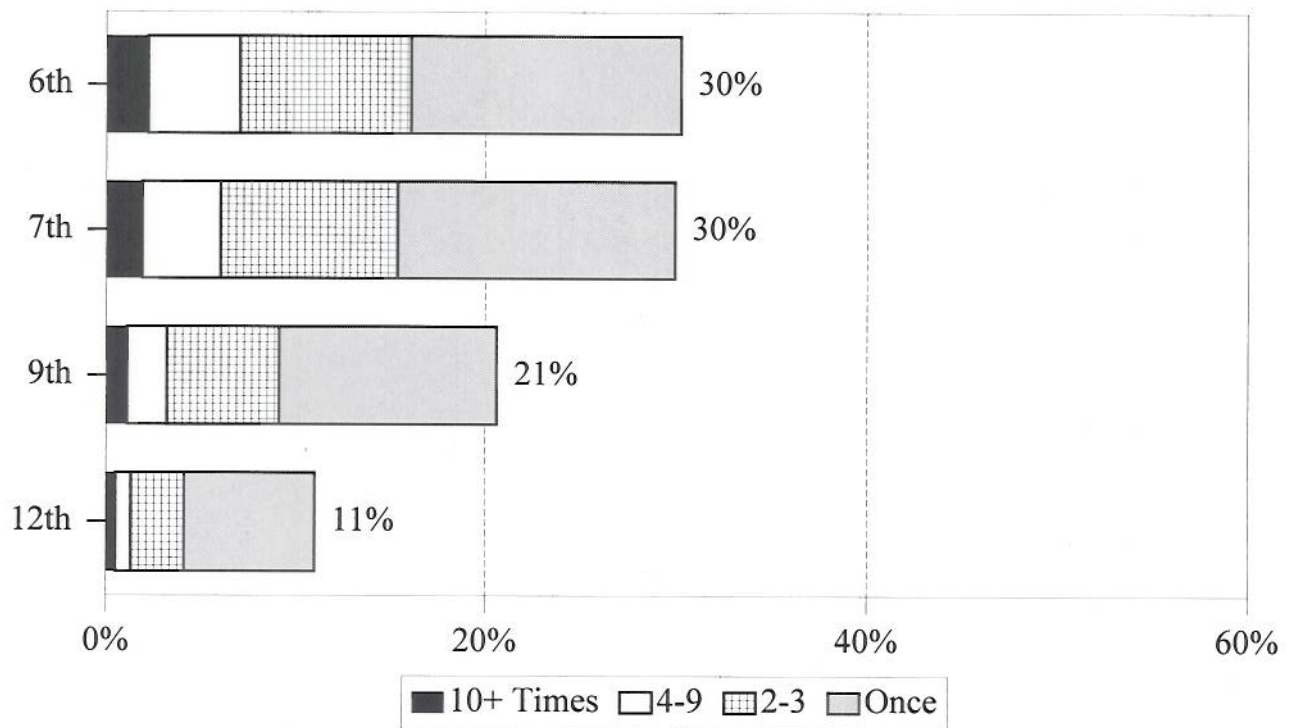


Figure 48: Pennsylvania students who reported fighting at school during the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

TABLE 13
 PHYSICAL FIGHTING
 1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N =	15,329	16,104	16,950	13,697	62,080
In the previous 12 months:					
Was threatened	46.5	49.7	47.4	34.5	55.1
Was hit or beat up	21.7	21.6	17.9	12.9	18.7
Threatened to beat up someone	37.3	44.4	45.7	38.8	41.8
Hit or beat up someone	39.4	44.2	39.7	28.5	38.3
Was involved in a fight	47.4	51.5	44.9	32.9	44.5
Victim OR perpetrator of threat OR attack	66.2	71.0	67.6	55.9	65.5
Fought at school	30.3	29.9	20.5	11.0	23.7

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

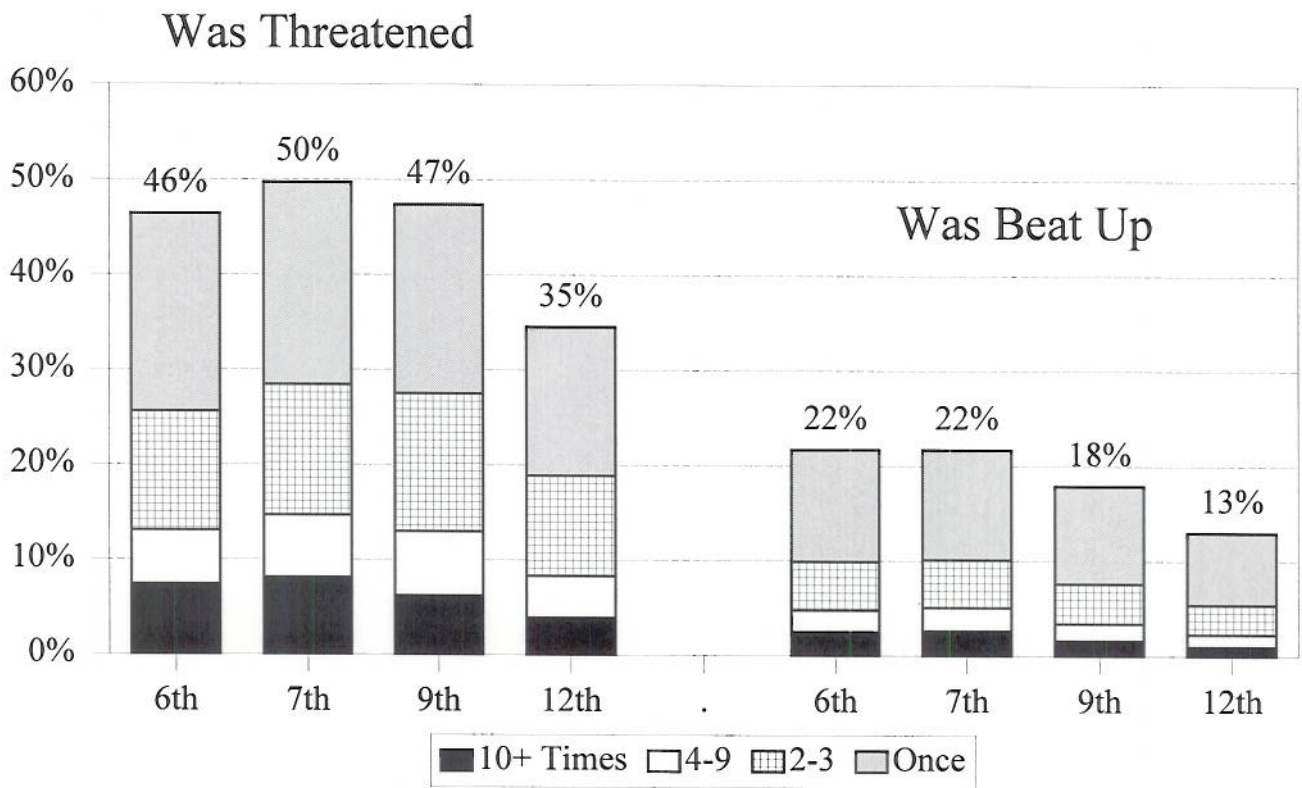


Figure 49: Pennsylvania students who reported they were victims of physical aggression during the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

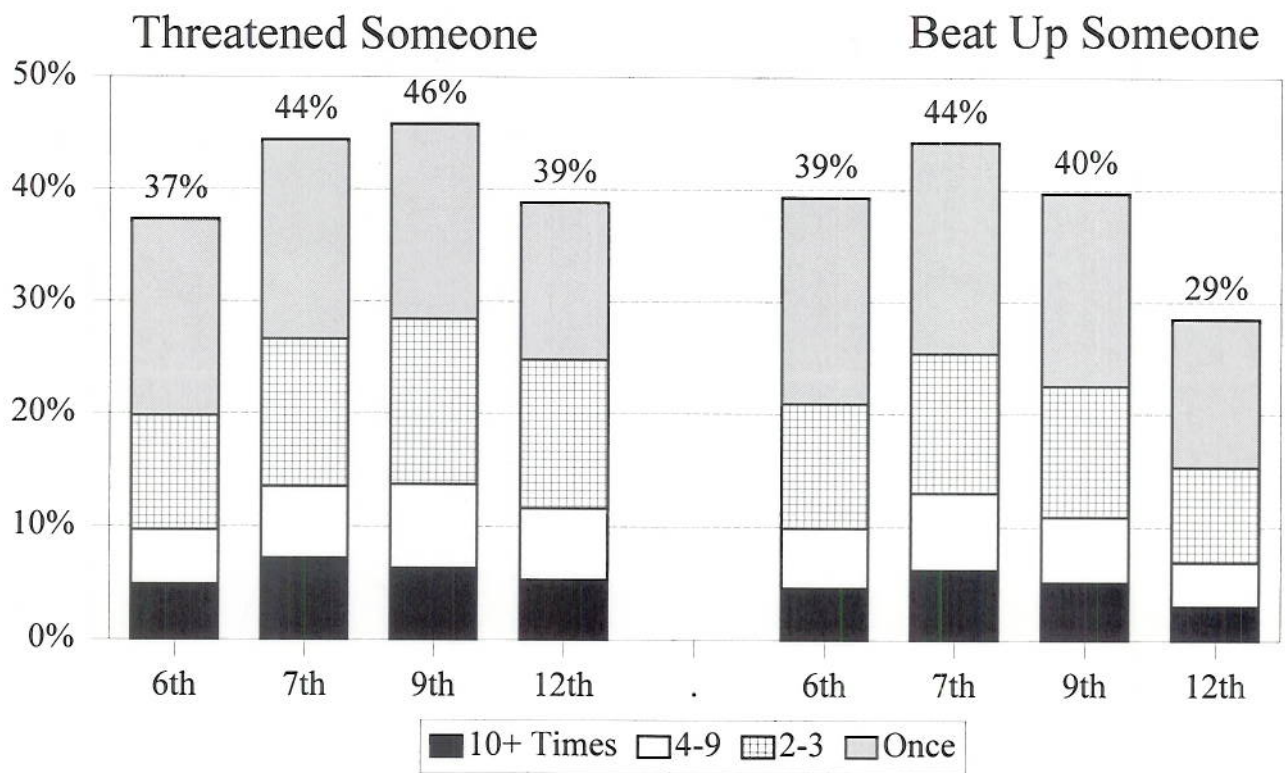


Figure 50: Pennsylvania students who reported they threatened or physically assaulted someone during the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

From 1995 to 1997, the percentage of students who reported to fight at school decreased slightly.

TABLE13A
 PHYSICAL FIGHTS AND FEAR
 Pennsylvania Statewide Biennial Surveys 1993 - 1997

	GRADE						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
IN PAST 12 MONTHS:							
WAS INVOLVED IN PHYSICAL FIGHT							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997**	47.4	51.1		44.9			32.9
Pennsylvania 1995	54.2	55.3		45.3			31.4
Pennsylvania 1993	48.8	49.6		43.5			29.9
WAS IN A PHYSICAL FIGHT AT SCHOOL							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	30.3	29.9		20.5			11.0
Pennsylvania 1995	33.1	31.9		21.5			12.3
IN PAST 30 DAYS:							
WAS FEARFUL OF BEING HURT AT SCHOOL							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	15.3	16.4		12.3			5.8
Pennsylvania 1995	15.0	16.1		13.4			5.3

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus, 1993 - 1997.

Note: If data are not given for a particular item in a particular survey year, it indicates that either that item was not included in that survey, comparisons across years are not valid, or data is not available.

** Prior to 1997, this was asked as a single item on the survey. 1997 figures were derived from the percentages who indicated they were either a victim OR a perpetrator of being beat up or hit.

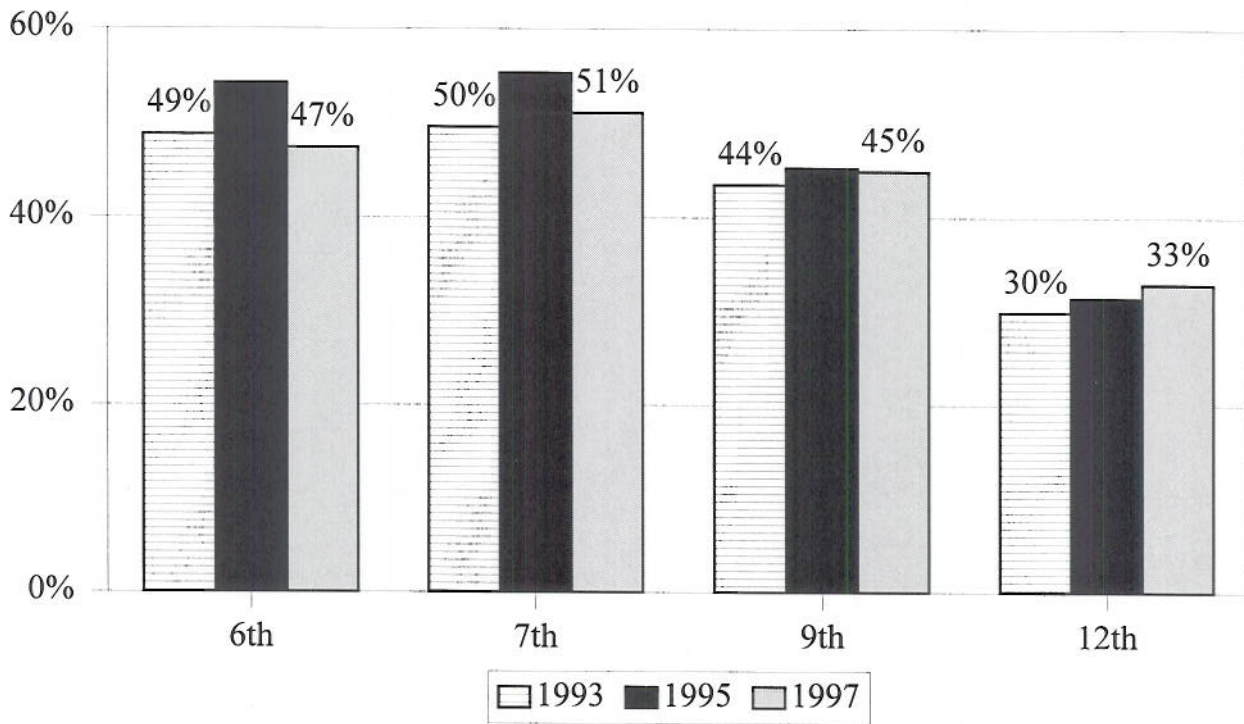


Figure 51: Pennsylvania students who reported fighting at least once in the past year. *Statewide biennial surveys, 1993-1997.*

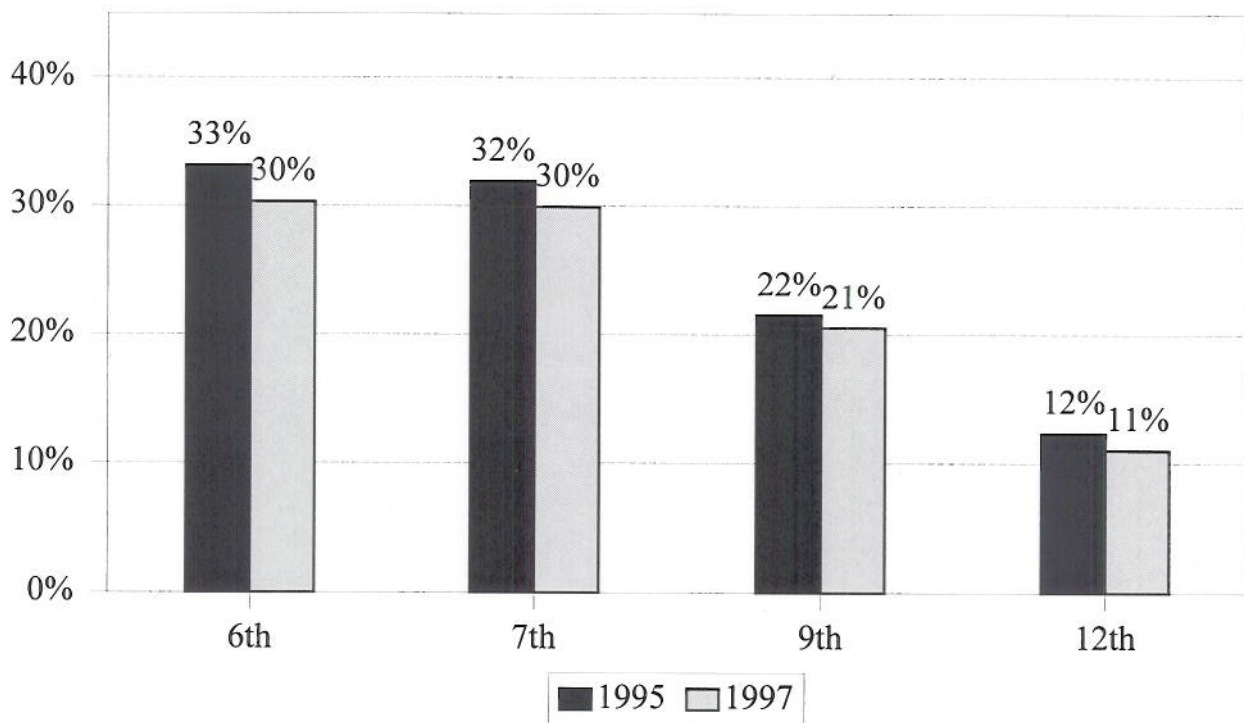


Figure 52: Pennsylvania students who reported fighting at school at least once in the past year. *Statewide biennial surveys, 1995-1997.*

Most students who were in physical fights fought with friends or family members.

Students were asked to identify the person(s) with whom they were most recently in a physical fight. An average of 59 percent of the Pennsylvania students surveyed indicated that they had been in at least one physical fight in their lives. Most students who fought did so with friends or family members: an average of 28 percent of the students surveyed said that their most recent physical fight had been with a friend, and 15 percent said they had fought most recently with a family member. (Table 14)

Of those students who reported to have been in at least one fight, 48 percent identified their most recent adversary as a friend; 26 percent as a family member; seven percent as a stranger; and two percent as a boyfriend or girlfriend. Ten percent did not identify the specific person with whom they last fought, and seven percent reported that their last physical fight had involved more than one person. (Fig. 53)

TABLE 14
 MOST-RECENT ADVERSARY IN PHYSICAL FIGHT
 (Fighters Only - 59% of Students surveyed)
 1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	8,517	9,460	9,959	7,516	35,452
Friend	50.1	48.8	48.1	45.4	48.2
Family member	28.5	27.9	25.4	20.2	25.7
Stranger	4.9	5.3	7.5	11.7	7.2
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	1.1	1.3	1.9	5.0	2.2
More than one person	8.0	7.1	6.0	5.5	6.7
Other	7.4	9.6	11.1	12.1	10.0

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

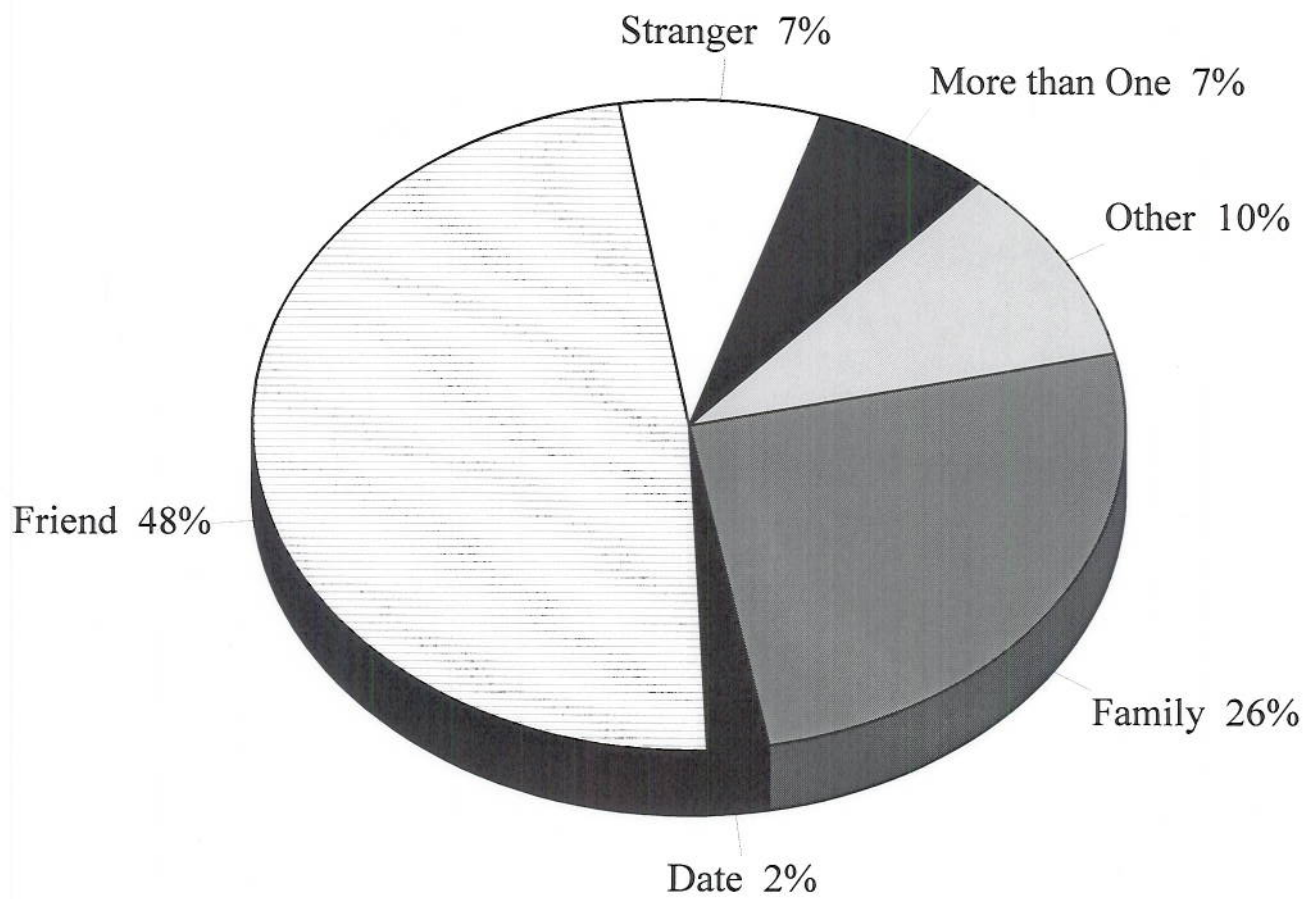


Figure 53: (Self-reported fighters only) Pennsylvania students' most recent adversary in a physical fight . *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey, 1997.*

An average of eight percent of the students surveyed carried a weapon to school at least once in the year before the survey.

WEAPONS

Seventeen percent of the students surveyed carried [what they considered to be] a weapon in the 30 days prior to the *PPAAUS* survey.

An average of 19 percent of the students carried a weapon at least once in the prior twelve months: seven percent only once, four percent three to nine times, and eight percent ten times or more. (Table 15, Fig.54)

Eight percent of the students surveyed reported that they had carried a weapon to school at least once in the year before the *PPAAUS* survey. Four percent indicated they had carried a weapon to school only once, one percent three to nine times, and two percent ten times or more. (Fig 55)

TABLE 15
CARRYING WEAPONS
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	15,276	16,122	16,991	13,773	62,162
Carried a weapon in prior 30 days	16.3	20.1	17.9	13.2	17.0
Carried a weapon at least once in prior 12 months	17.7	22.3	20.7	15.8	19.3
Once or twice	7.7	9.0	6.7	4.3	7.0
3 to 9 times	4.6	5.3	4.7	2.7	4.4
10 times or more	5.4	7.9	9.2	8.7	7.9
Carried to school at least once in prior 12 months	4.9	8.0	8.7	7.5	7.7
Once or twice	3.5	4.9	3.9	2.3	3.7
3 to 9 times	0.7	1.4	1.6	1.0	1.2
10 times or more	0.7	1.8	3.2	4.2	2.4

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

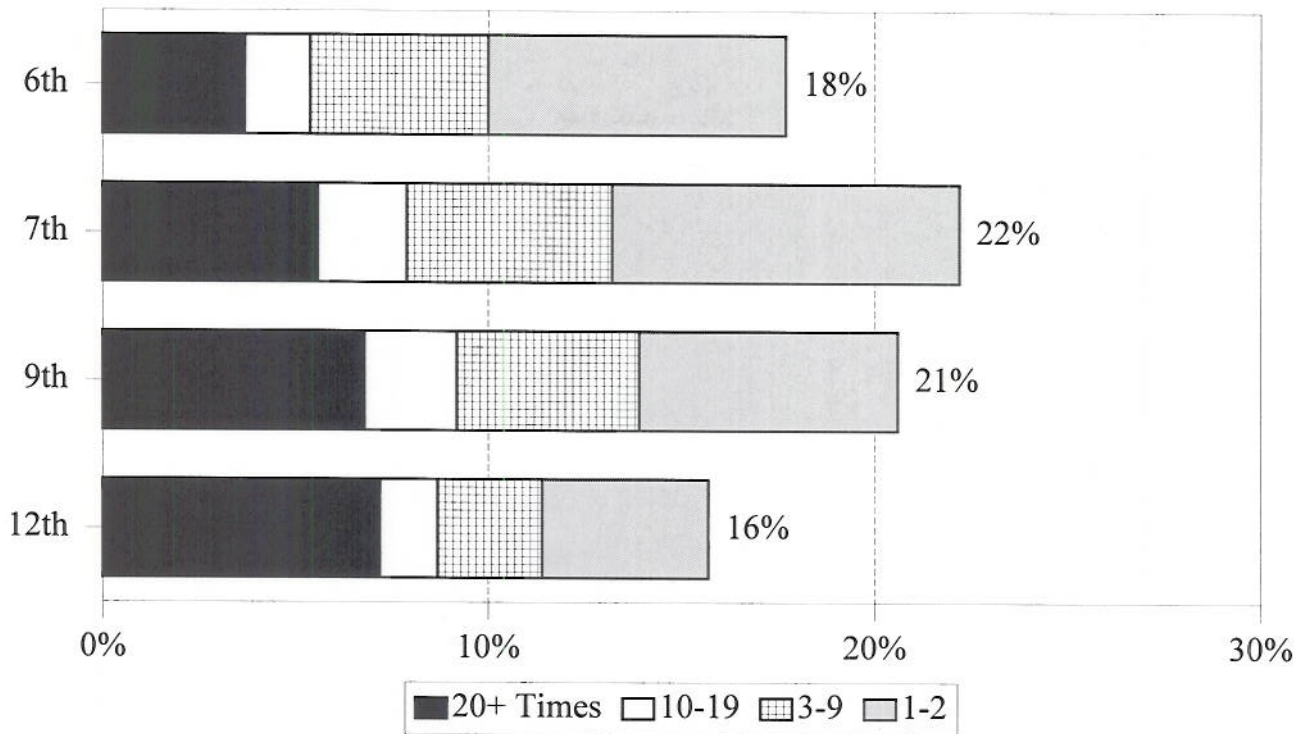


Figure 54: Pennsylvania students who reported carrying a weapon during the past year .
Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.

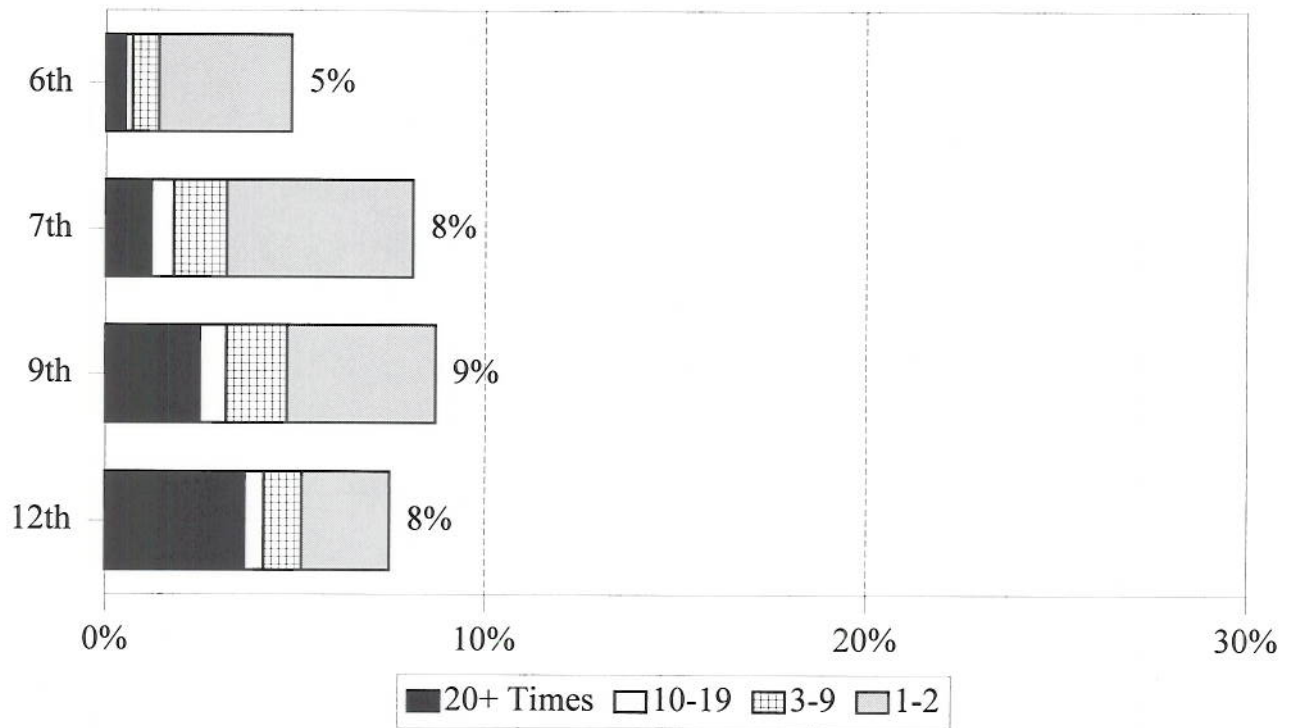


Figure 55: Pennsylvania students who reported carrying a weapon to school during the past year
Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.

From 1995 to 1997, the incidence of carrying weapons to school declined by approximately one-third.

TABLE 15A
CARRYING WEAPONS
 Pennsylvania Statewide Biennial Surveys 1993 - 1997

	GRADE						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
CARRIED A WEAPON IN PAST 30 DAYS							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	16.2	20.1		17.9			13.2
Pennsylvania 1995	13.7	16.8		16.5			13.5
Pennsylvania 1993	16.5	21.5		23.8			18.9
CARRIED A WEAPON IN PAST 12 MONTHS							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	17.7	22.3		20.7			15.8
Pennsylvania 1995	18.8	24.0		25.0			20.5
CARRIED A WEAPON TO SCHOOL IN PAST 12 MONTHS							
PENNSYLVANIA 1997	4.9	8.0		8.7			7.5
Pennsylvania 1995	7.4	11.5		12.8			10.6

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus, 1993 - 1997.

Note: If data are not given for a particular item in a particular survey year, it indicates that either that item was not included in that survey, comparisons across years are not valid, or data is not available.

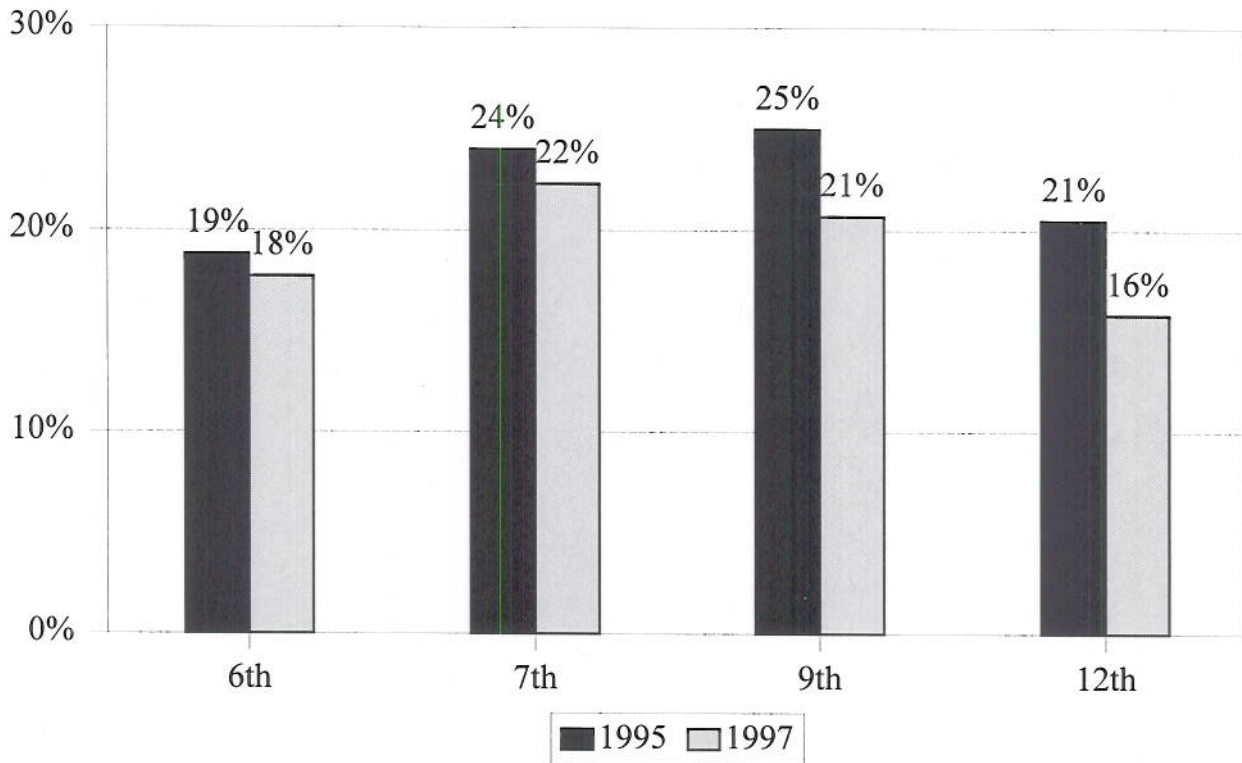


Figure 56: Pennsylvania students who reported carrying a weapon at least once in the past year. *Statewide biennial surveys, 1995-1997.*

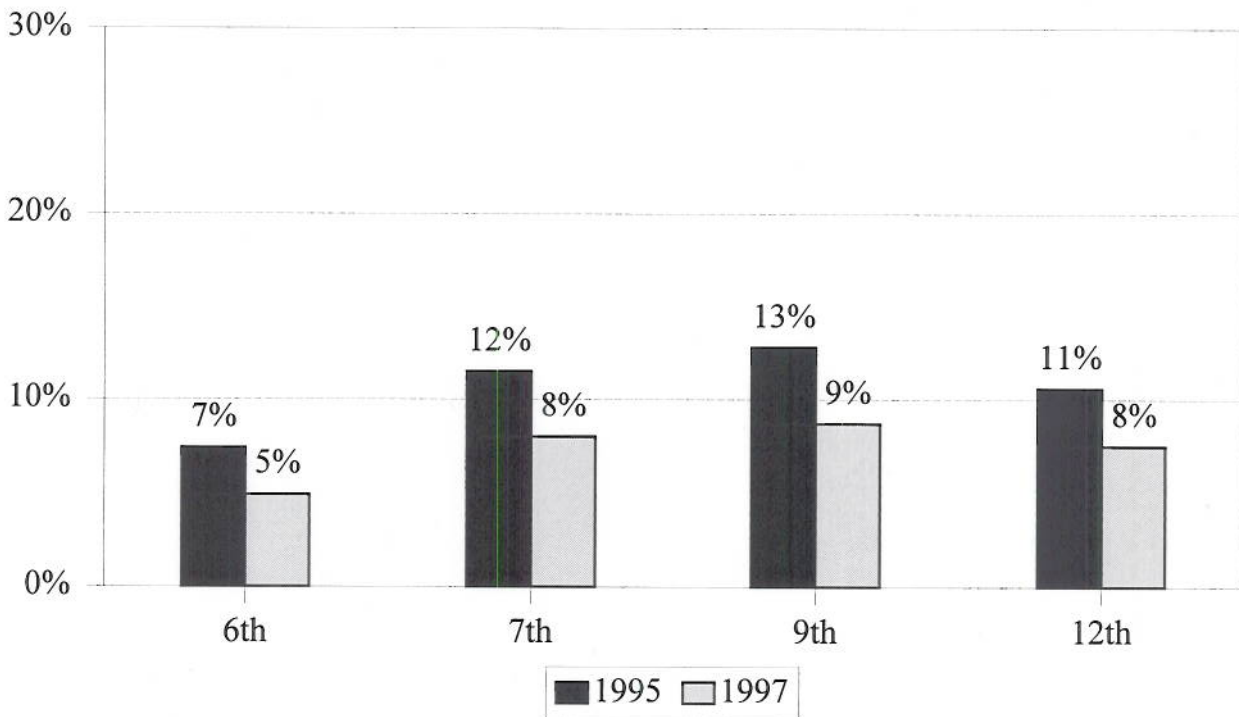


Figure 57: Pennsylvania students who reported carrying a weapon to school at least once in the past year. *Statewide biennial surveys, 1995-1997.*

An average of 16 percent of the students surveyed indicated that they had been involved with aggression and weapons at least once in the year before the *PPAAUS* survey: nine percent once; five percent two to nine times; and two percent ten times or more

Weapons and Aggression

Victims: In the twelve months prior to the *PPAAUS* survey, an average of 11 percent of the students surveyed were threatened at least once with a weapon. An average of seven percent of the students indicated that they were threatened once; four percent were threatened two times or more.

An average of five percent of the students indicated that they had been attacked at least once in the previous year by someone carrying a weapon. Two percent were attacked more than once.

Perpetrators: In the year before the *PPAAUS* survey, an average of seven percent of the students indicated that they had threatened another person with a weapon. Four percent of the students indicated that they had threatened others more than once in the previous year.

An average of four percent of the students surveyed had attacked someone with a weapon in the year before the *PPAAUS* survey; two percent more than once.

Victim or perpetrator of a weapon attack: Computing a variable for involvement in physical fights -- as either a victim or a perpetrator -- shows that an average of eight percent of the students surveyed were personally involved in at least one incident of a weapon attack in the previous year: four percent once, three percent two to nine times, and one percent ten times or more.

ANY association with weapons and aggression: Combining the four variables discussed above (see Alcohol, page 14) gives a computed variable to show whether a student had been threatened or attacked by someone with a weapon or had used a weapon to threaten or attack someone. An average of 16 percent of the students surveyed indicated that they had been involved with aggression and weapons at least once in the year before the *PPAAUS* survey: nine percent once; five percent two to nine times; and two percent ten times or more.

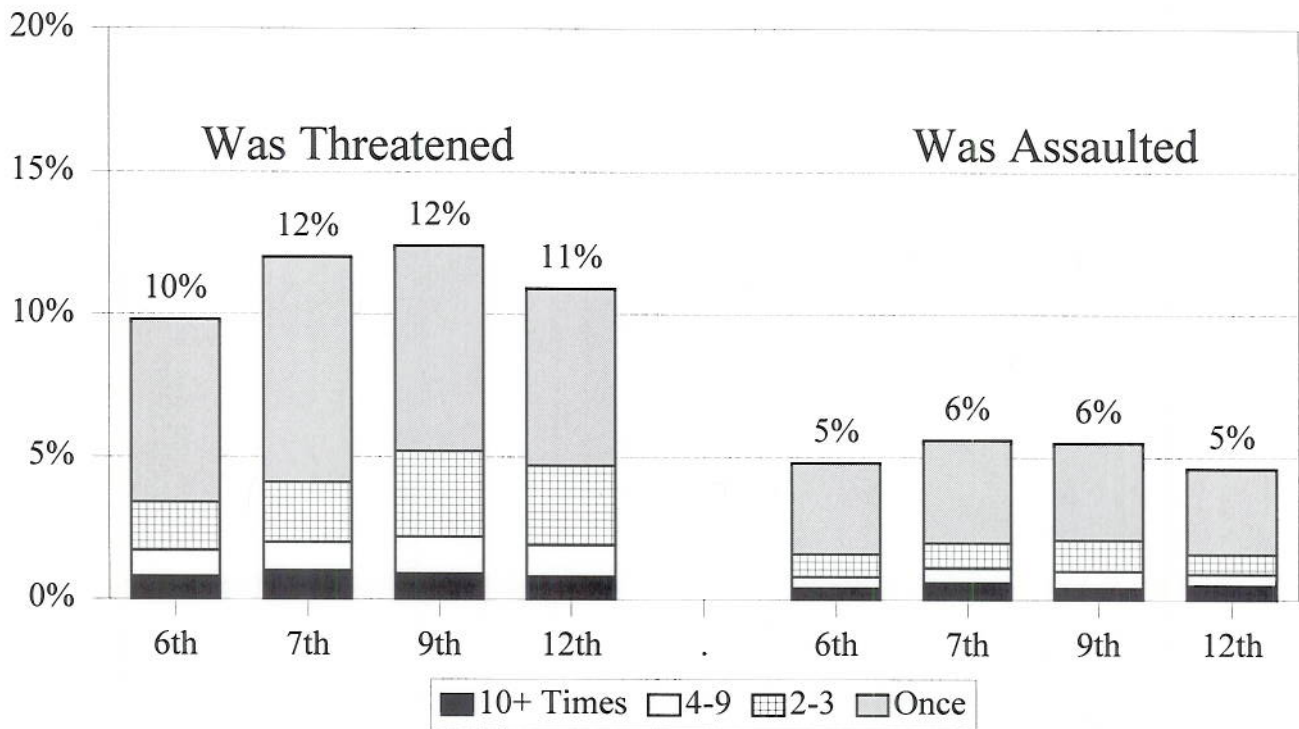


Figure 58: Pennsylvania students who reported they were victims of a threat or assault with a weapon during the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

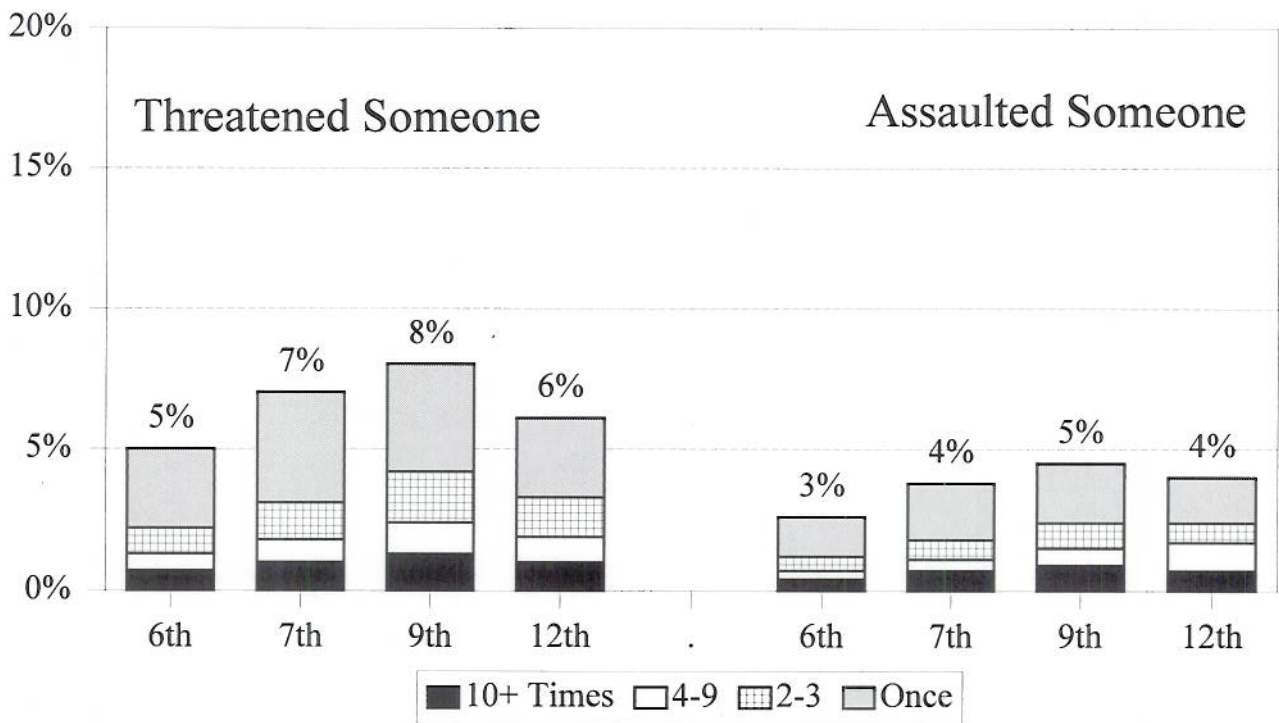


Figure 59: Pennsylvania students who reported they threatened or assaulted someone with a weapon during the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

“Protection” was the reason most often given by students for carrying a weapon. In grades nine and twelve, approximately one-half of the students who carried weapons said they did so for protection. The second most-often mentioned reason for carrying was “hunting.”

Reason(s) for Carrying a Weapon

Twenty-four percent of the Pennsylvania students surveyed gave at least one reason for carrying [or having had carried or wanting to carry] a weapon. Of those, 46 percent had used weapons for protection. (Table 16, Fig. 60)

Thirty-eight percent cited hunting as a reason for carrying a weapon, and ten percent carried a weapon because they had been threatened before. Eight percent regarded weapons as part of an image (“for show”). Eight percent of the students who gave a reason for carrying a weapon said they had seen someone injured by a person carrying a weapon, and seven percent said they were afraid. Six percent of the students who carried a weapon indicated that they did so because they had been injured by a weapon, and five percent because their friends carried weapons. Four percent said they carried weapons to intimidate others (“for pushing around other people”).

**TABLE 16
REASONS FOR CARRYING WEAPON(S)
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey**

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	3631	4534	4383	2852	15,400
Protection	31.5	38.5	43.7	50.5	40.6
Hunting	40.5	38.8	39.3	36.5	38.9
Was threatened	7.5	9.1	11.3	10.0	9.5
For “show”	7.2	8.1	9.3	6.3	7.9
Saw someone injured by weapon	7.5	8.1	7.8	6.3	7.5
Fear	8.4	7.7	7.0	5.8	7.3
Was injured by person w/weapon	6.0	6.5	6.0	5.4	6.0
Friends carry	4.3	4.9	4.7	3.5	4.5
For intimidation	2.7	3.5	5.4	5.5	4.2
Other	30.0	29.3	28.7	28.4	29.2

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

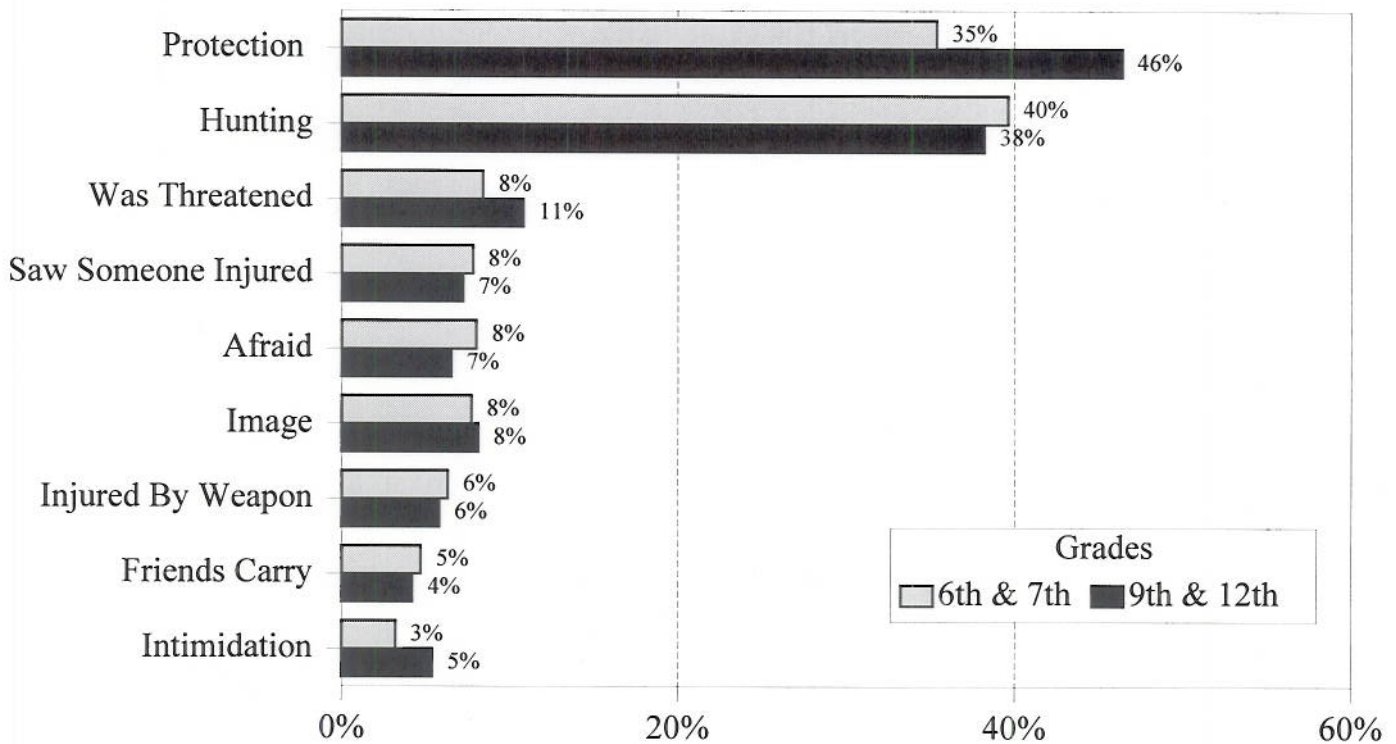


Figure 60: (Carriers only) Pennsylvania students' reported reasons for carrying weapon(s). *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey 1997.*

Knives/blades were by far the type of weapon most often carried by students.

Preferred Weapon

Students were asked to cite the weapon they carried most often. The response options in *PPAAUS* are: didn't carry a weapon; a handgun; other gun, such as a rifle or shotgun; a knife, razor or box cutter; a club, stick, bat, or pipe; a martial-arts weapon; a semi-automatic weapon; and some other weapon. By giving a preferred-weapon response to this item, 19 percent of the students indicated that they had at least once carried at least one weapon.

Of those students who DID carry a weapon, the one most often used was a blade: More than one-half (56 percent) of the students **who carried a weapon most often** carried a knife, razor, or box cutter. Hunting-type weapons are next on the preferred weapon list: 11 percent of the students **who carried a weapon most often** carried a rifle or shotgun. Eight percent **most often** carried a club or a bat, and six percent **most often** carried a handgun. Four percent of those **who carried a weapon most often** carried a semi-automatic weapon, and four percent **most often** carried a martial-arts weapon. (Fig. 61)

To put some of these figures into a different perspective: Eleven percent of *all students surveyed* carried **at least** a knife at least once; two percent carried **at least** a rifle or shotgun, two percent carried **at least** a club or bat, and one percent carried **at least** a handgun. Because of the wording of this *PPAAUS* question, the percentages listed above are not necessarily mutually exclusive. (Table 17)

TABLE 17
PREFERRED WEAPON
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	15,140	15,710	16,488	13,372	60,710
Did not carry a weapon	81.9	77.8	79.7	83.9	80.7
Knife, razor, or box cutter	10.3	12.8	11.3	8.2	10.8
Rifle or shotgun	2.1	2.7	2.3	1.6	2.2
Club or bat	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.3	1.6
Handgun	0.7	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.1
Semi-automatic weapon	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8
Martial-arts weapon	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8
Other	2.5	2.6	1.9	1.4	2.1

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

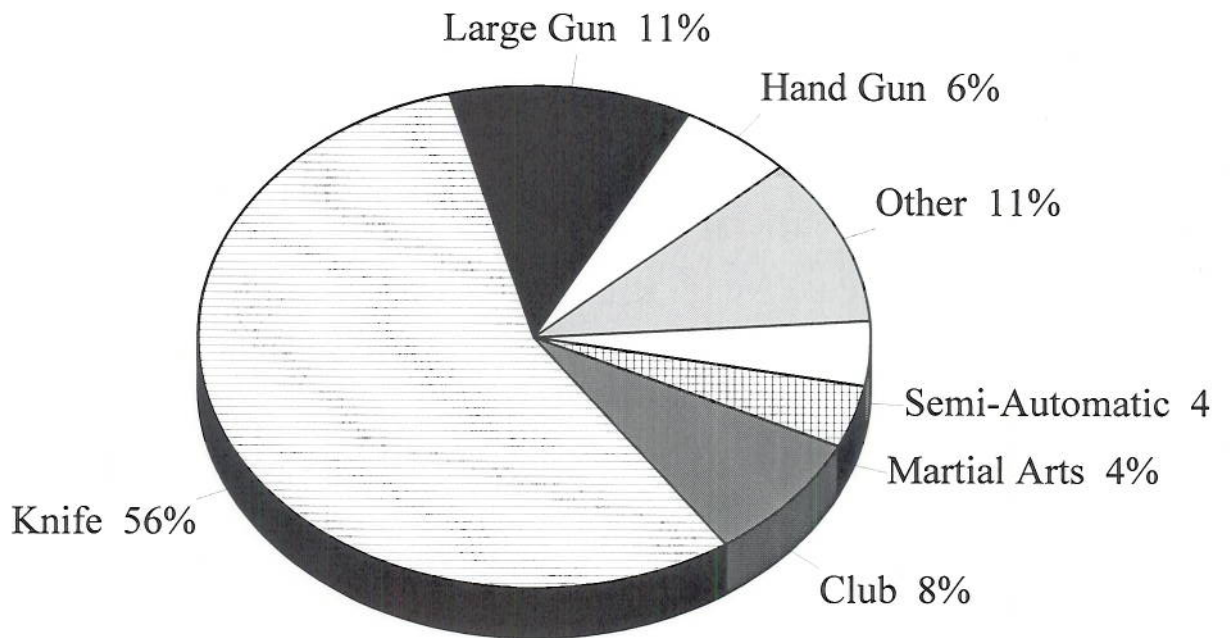


Figure 61: (Carriers only) Pennsylvania students' preferred weapon. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey, 1997.*

Because hunting is a popular sport in Pennsylvania, it is interesting to look at the weapons preferred by students who indicated that hunting was their ONLY reason for carrying a weapon and students who indicated that hunting was NOT a reason for carrying a weapon.

Among those students who gave hunting as the *only* reason for carrying a weapon (N=3,501), 47 percent indicated -- through the preferred weapon item -- that they did not carry a weapon. Table 18 and Figures 62 and 63 show that, for the remainder of the "hunters," the three most-preferred weapons were rifles or shotguns (52 percent), blades (34 percent), and semi-automatics (two percent). Among students who did not hunt (N=8,577), 15 percent indicated that they did not carry a weapon. For the remainder, the three most-preferred weapons were blades (60 percent), clubs (11 percent), and handguns (seven percent).

TABLE 18
PREFERRED WEAPON AMONG HUNTERS AND NON-HUNTERS
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
CARRIERS					
Hunters only N=	507	574	519	267	1,867
Non-hunters N =	1,664	2,183	2,078	1,401	7,326
Knife, blade, box cutter					
Hunters	36.5	31.7	33.7	33.7	33.9
Non-hunters	62.9	63.7	58.0	52.3	59.7
Rifle or shotgun					
Hunters	45.4	54.4	55.3	55.4	52.3
Non-hunters	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.0	1.5
Club or bat					
Hunters	2.4	0.3	1.9	1.5	1.5
Non-hunters	9.9	7.3	9.7	17.7	10.5
Handgun					
Hunters	1.8	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.6
Non-hunters	5.0	6.6	9.0	7.9	7.2
Semi-automatic weapon					
Hunters	1.6	1.4	2.5	4.1	2.1
Non-hunters	2.3	3.7	5.7	4.9	4.2

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

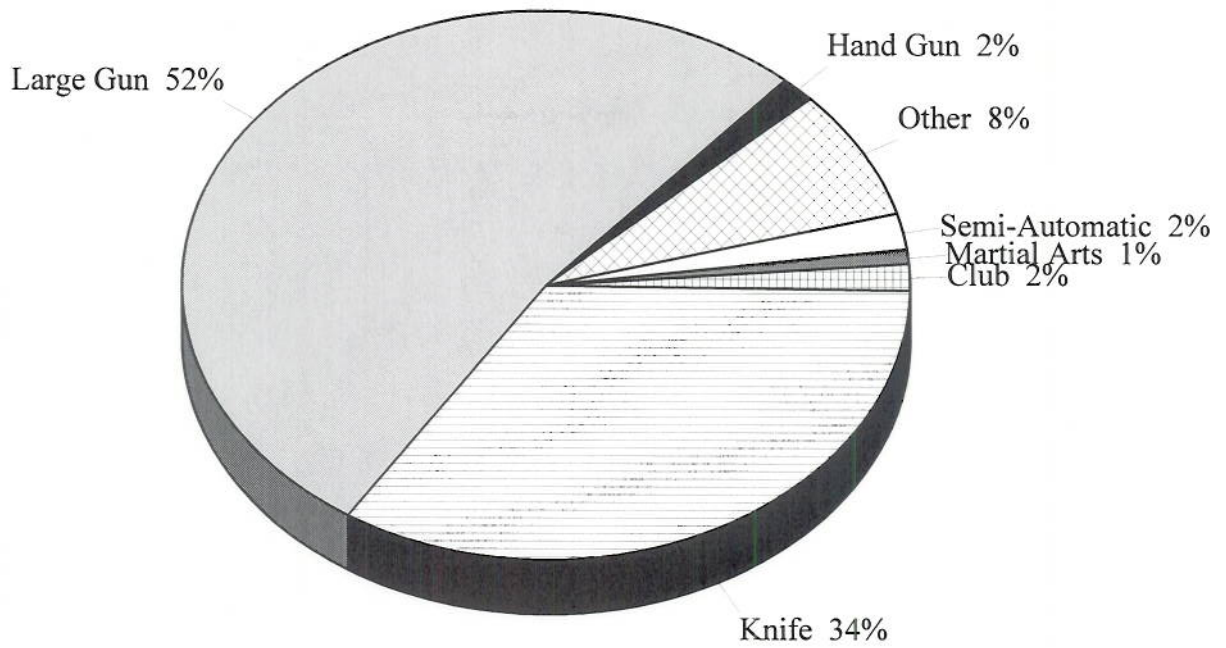


Figure 62: (Hunters only) Pennsylvania students' preferred weapon. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey, 1997.*

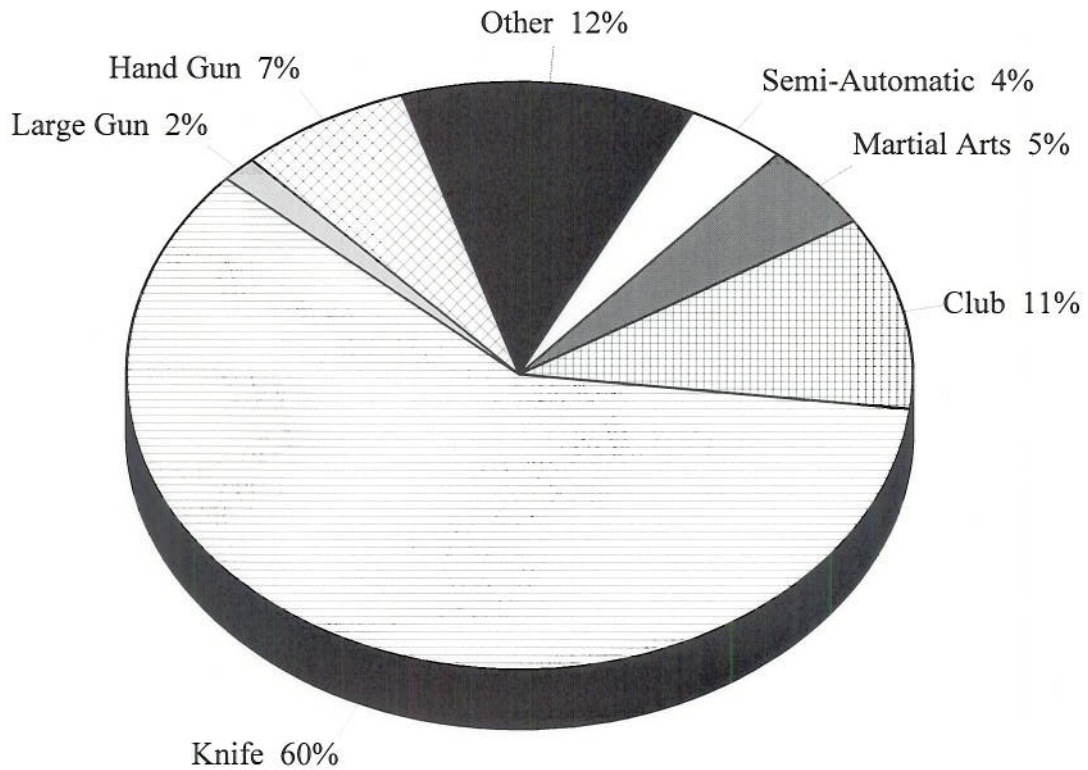


Figure 63: (Non-hunters only) Pennsylvania students' preferred weapon. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey, 1997.*

Students most often got their weapons from stores or from family members or friends.

Sources for Weapons

Of the students who indicated that they had obtained a weapon someplace (20 percent of all students surveyed), 45 percent said they purchased the weapon(s) at a store. Forty-four percent had gotten a weapon from a family member, and 31 percent from a friend. Thirteen percent of the students who carried a weapon said they had obtained it/them from adults, 11 percent from students at other schools, and seven percent from students at their own school. Three percent cited college students as a source for weapons and three percent co-workers. Six percent of the weapon carrying students said they had shoplifted the weapons. (Table 19, Fig. 64)

**TABLE 19
SOURCES FOR WEAPON(S)
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey**

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N =	2795	3651	3590	2275	12,311
Bought at store	40.3	39.7	44.6	57.2	44.5
Family	49.5	46.8	42.8	34.5	44.0
Friends	22.8	29.9	35.8	33.2	30.6
Adults	11.0	13.1	13.9	12.3	12.7
Students at other schools	7.8	11.8	13.9	10.6	11.3
Stole from store	5.9	8.8	10.4	7.2	8.3
Students at school	4.3	5.3	8.7	7.9	6.5
College students	2.0	2.8	3.8	3.8	3.1
People at work	1.6	1.5	2.6	6.2	2.7

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

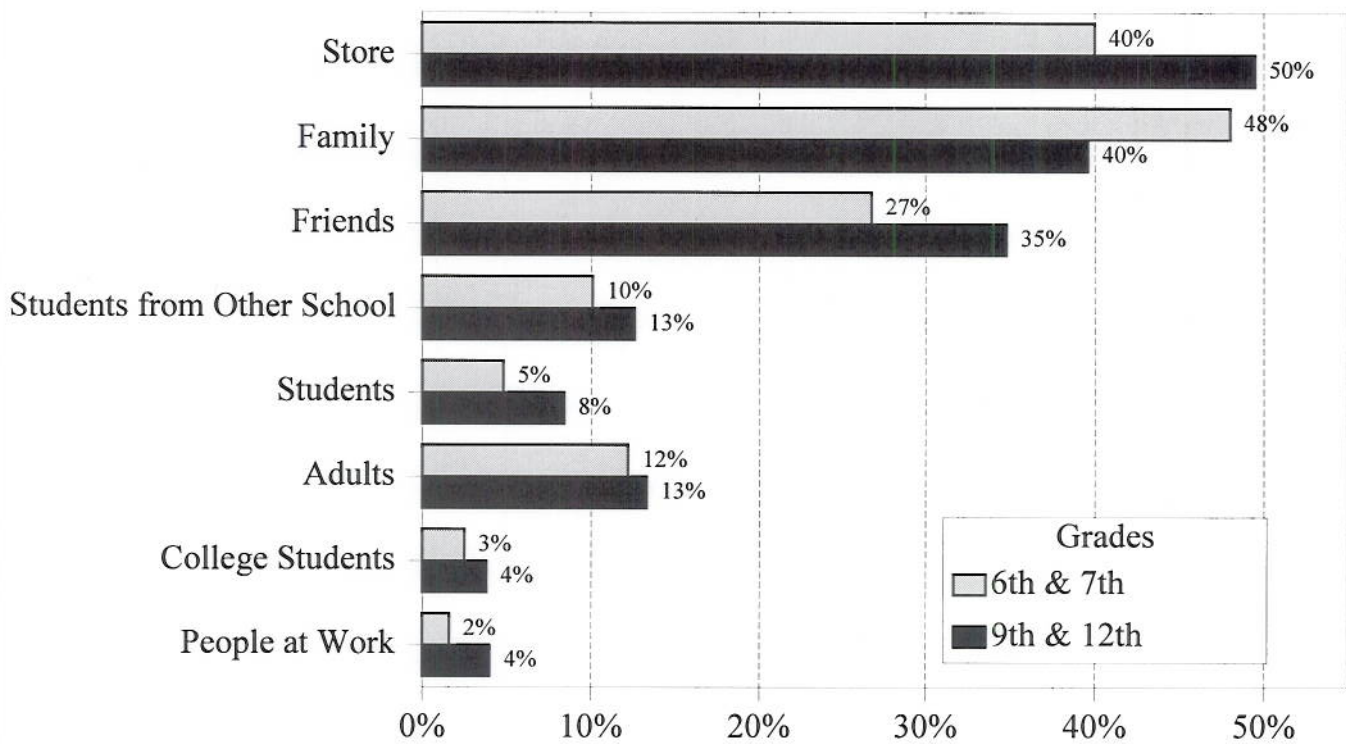


Figure 64: (Carriers only) Pennsylvania students' reported sources for weapons. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

Of those students who carried a weapon to school, the majority of them said they most often carried a blade: knife, razor, box cutter, etc. Students who took weapons to school reported carrying all types of weapons.

Weapons at School

Students were asked to cite the weapon they carried most often to school. The response options in *PPAAUS* are: didn't carry a weapon; a handgun; other gun, such as a rifle or shotgun; a knife, razor or box cutter; a club, stick, bat, or pipe; a martial-arts weapon; a semi-automatic weapon; and some other weapon. By giving a preferred-weapon response to this item, seven percent of the students indicated that they had at least once carried at least one weapon to school.

Of those students who DID take a weapon to school, the one most often used was a blade: Almost two-thirds (63 percent) of the students **who carried a weapon to school most often** carried a knife, razor, or box cutter. Guns are second: seven percent of the students **who carried a weapon to school most often** carried a handgun; six percent **most often** carried a semi-automatic weapon. Five percent of those **who carried a weapon to school most often** club or bat, and four percent **most often** carried a martial-arts weapon. (Fig. 65)

To put some of these figures into a different perspective: Five percent of *all students surveyed* carried **at least** a knife to school at least once; one percent carried **at least** a handgun or semi-automatic. Because of the wording of this *PPAAUS* question, the percentages listed above are not necessarily mutually exclusive. (Table 20)

TABLE 20
WEAPON MOST-OFTEN CARRIED TO SCHOOL
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	15,231	15,695	16,291	13,263	60,480
Did not carry a weapon to school	95.2	92.4	91.6	92.3	92.9
Knife, razor, or box cutter	3.0	4.9	5.2	4.8	4.5
Handgun	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5
Semi-automatic	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.5
Club or bat	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.4
Martial-arts weapon	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Rifle or shotgun	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Other	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.9

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

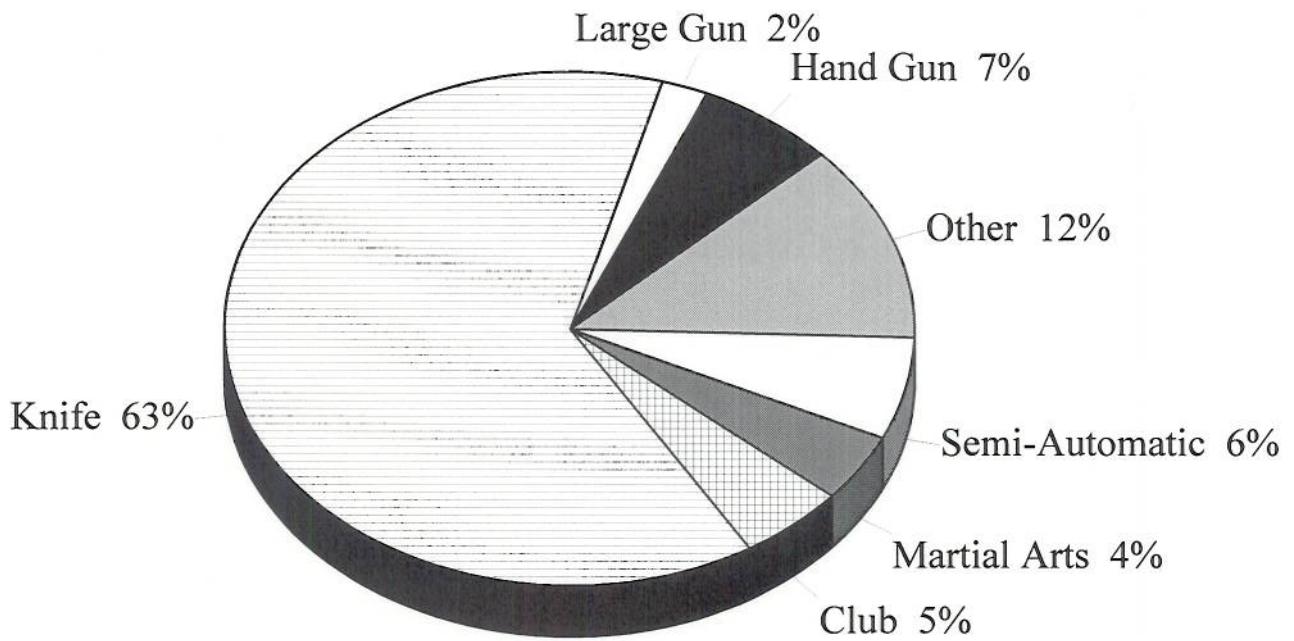


Figure 65: (Carriers only) Pennsylvania students' preferred weapon to carry to school. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey, 1997.*

Twenty-nine percent of the students surveyed said they thought that gangs were present in their school; eleven percent said they were or had been a member of a gang; and seven percent said they had been threatened at or to/from school by a gang member.

GANGS

Gangs at School

Only one-third (33 percent) of the students surveyed responded “No” to the question, “Are there gangs at your school?” Twenty-nine percent thought that gangs were present at their school, and 38 percent were not sure. (Table 21)

Four percent of the seniors and an average of eight percent of the sixth, seventh, and ninth graders reported that they had been threatened by a gang member at school or on the way to or from school. An average of four percent of the students were not sure.

Six percent of the seniors and an average of twelve percent of the sixth, seventh, and ninth graders indicated that they did or had at one time belonged to a gang. Eight percent of the seniors and an average of 14 percent of the sixth, seventh, and ninth graders reported that they had at least one best friend within the past year who had been in a gang. The correlation ($r = .593$) between being a member of a gang and having friends in a gang is significant ($p = .000$). (See Figures 66 and 67)

TABLE 21
PREVALENCE OF GANGS
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

		GRADE				
		6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=		15,173	15,685	16,279	13,281	60,418
Gangs at school?	Yes	26.4	30.8	34.9	24.0	29.3
	Not sure	40.0	41.2	38.5	31.0	37.9
Threatened by gang?	Yes	8.1	8.4	6.4	4.3	6.9
	Not sure	4.6	4.6	3.3	2.0	3.7
Have best friends in gang		15.8	17.0	15.6	7.6	14.3
	One	6.4	6.3	5.9	2.5	5.4
	Two-three	4.2	4.9	4.2	2.0	3.9
	Four or more	5.1	5.8	5.6	3.1	5.0
Was ever member of a gang		12.4	13.3	11.0	6.3	10.9

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

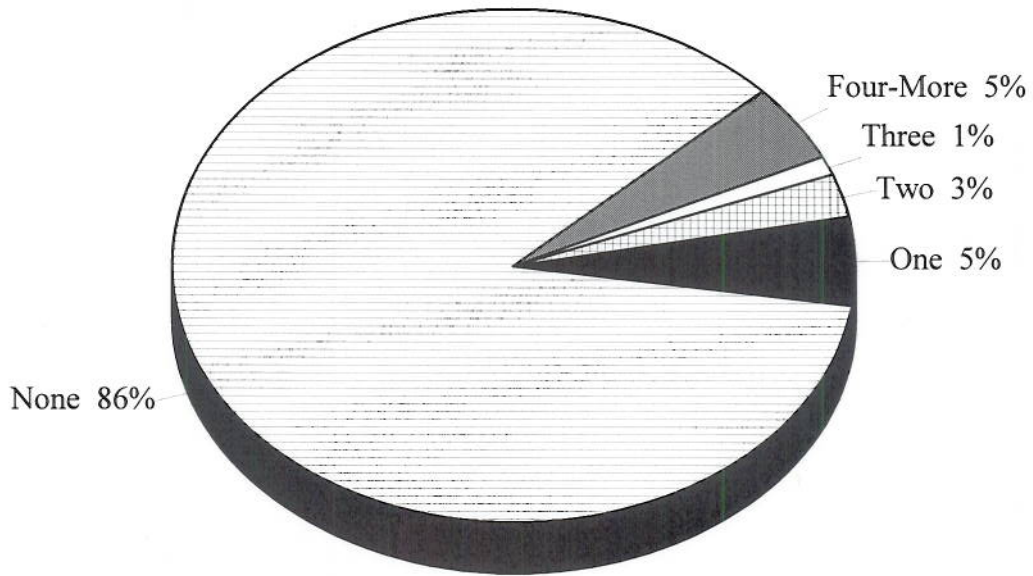


Figure 66: Pennsylvania students' indication of the number of their closest friends who were members of gangs. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey, 1997.*

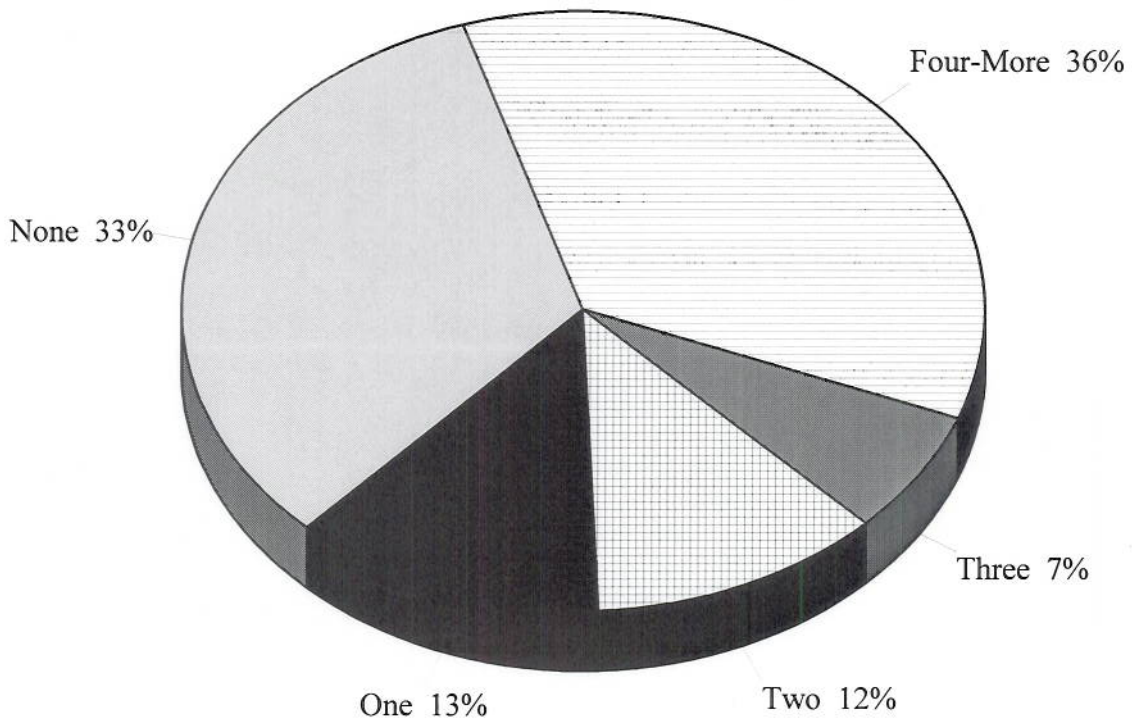


Figure 67: (Pennsylvania gang members only) Members' indication of the number of their closest friends who were members of gangs. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey, 1997.*

Of the students who said they had been in a gang, 77 percent indicated that their gang had a name. Approximately one-half of all gang members vandalized property or stole money or objects at least once in the past year.

Gang Behavior

Of the eleven percent of the students surveyed who said they had been a member of a gang, 77 percent reported that their gang had a name. An average of 83 percent of the ninth- and twelfth-grade gang members and 73 percent of the sixth- and seventh-grade gang members belonged to a gang which had a name. (Table 22)

Students who indicated they were a member of a gang were asked and how often -- as part of a gang -- in the past 12 months they did the following: steal money or things; fight; take money or things by force from people; sell drugs; and vandalize property. An average of 48 percent of the gang members had stolen as part of a gang; 73 percent had been in fights; 30 percent had robbed people; 22 percent had sold drugs; and 56 percent had vandalized property. (Table 22, Figure 68)

TABLE 22
GANG BEHAVIOR
Gang Members Only - 11% of the Survey Population
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	1863	2066	1777	836	6542
Gang had name	72.2	74.5	83.1	82.5	77.2
In past 12 months, as part of a gang, did the following:					
Fought	73.1	76.7	75.5	64.7	73.3
Vandalized property	43.1	57.4	66.6	58.1	55.9
Stole money or objects	38.7	49.4	56.8	43.6	47.6
Took things/money by force	20.5	28.9	37.7	33.1	29.5
Sold drugs	8.2	17.6	35.0	37.8	22.2

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

Gang-related items in *PPAAUS* were adapted from survey items provided by Developmental Research and Programs, Inc., Seattle, Washington.

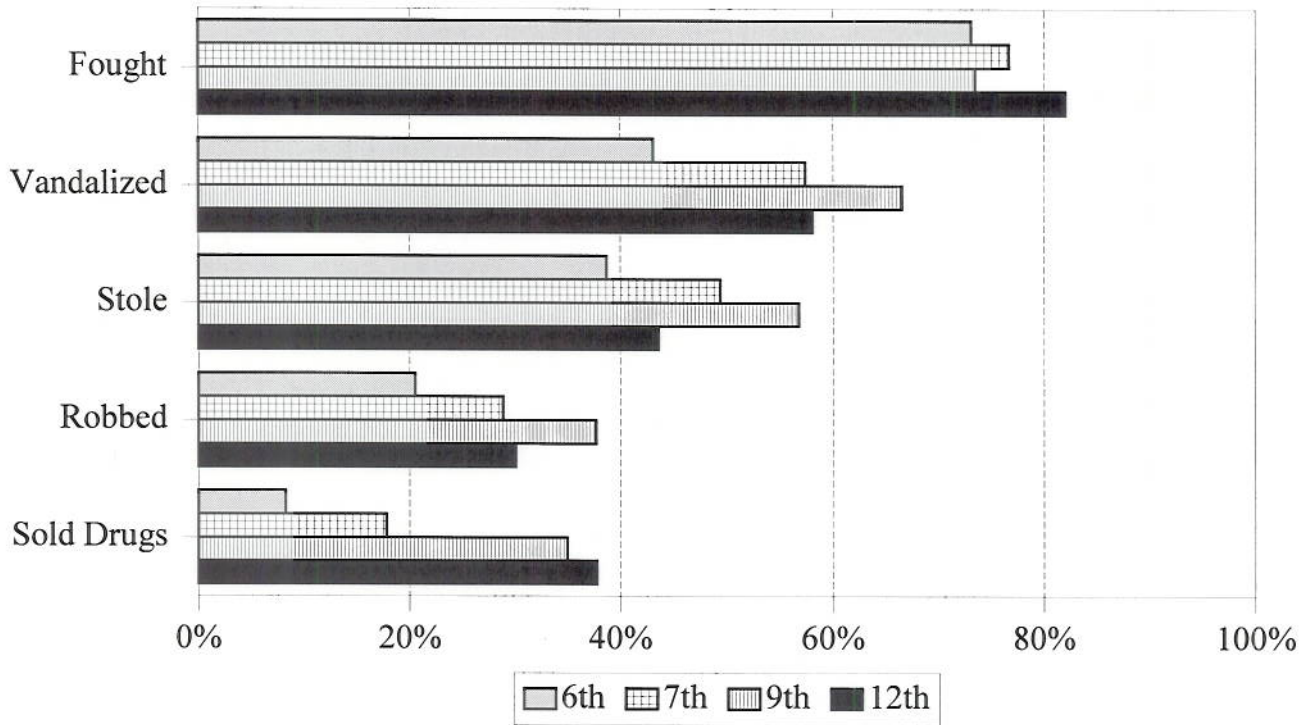


Figure 68: Pennsylvania **gang members'** reported gang-related activities in the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

Students who were a member of a gang with a name were more likely to engage in gang behavior than those students who were a member of a gang with no name.

Conducting statistical tests to discern differences in gang behavior for members of named gangs and member of non-named gangs shows significant differences ($p = .000$) for all five *PPAAUS* gang activities. Members of gangs with a name were more likely to engage in gang activities than members of gangs with no name. (See Table 23 and Figures 69 and 70).

**TABLE 23
GANG BEHAVIOR
Gang Members Only - 11% of the Survey Population
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey**

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	1863	2066	1777	836	6542
In past 12 months, as part of a gang, did the following:					
Fought					
All gang members	73.1	76.7	75.5	64.7	73.3
Named gang	76.6	80.8	74.6	66.1	75.9
Gang with no name	63.6	64.3	67.7	57.0	64.1
Vandalized property					
All gang members	43.1	57.4	66.6	58.1	55.9
Named gang	46.6	61.1	68.4	58.3	59.0
Gang with no name	33.5	45.9	56.4	56.6	44.7
Stole money or objects					
All gang members	38.7	49.4	56.8	43.6	47.6
Named gang	40.8	52.9	58.6	45.0	50.3
Gang with no name	32.8	38.8	47.1	35.9	38.1
Took things/money by force					
All gang members	20.5	28.9	37.7	33.1	29.5
Named gang	22.9	32.9	39.3	35.1	32.4
Gang with no name	14.2	16.8	29.5	22.7	19.0
Sold drugs					
All gang members	8.2	17.6	35.0	37.8	22.2
Named gang	10.0	20.8	36.6	39.4	25.0
Gang with no name	3.3	7.9	26.8	29.7	12.1

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

Gang-related items in *PPAAUS* were adapted from survey items provided by Developmental Research and Programs, Inc., Seattle, Washington.

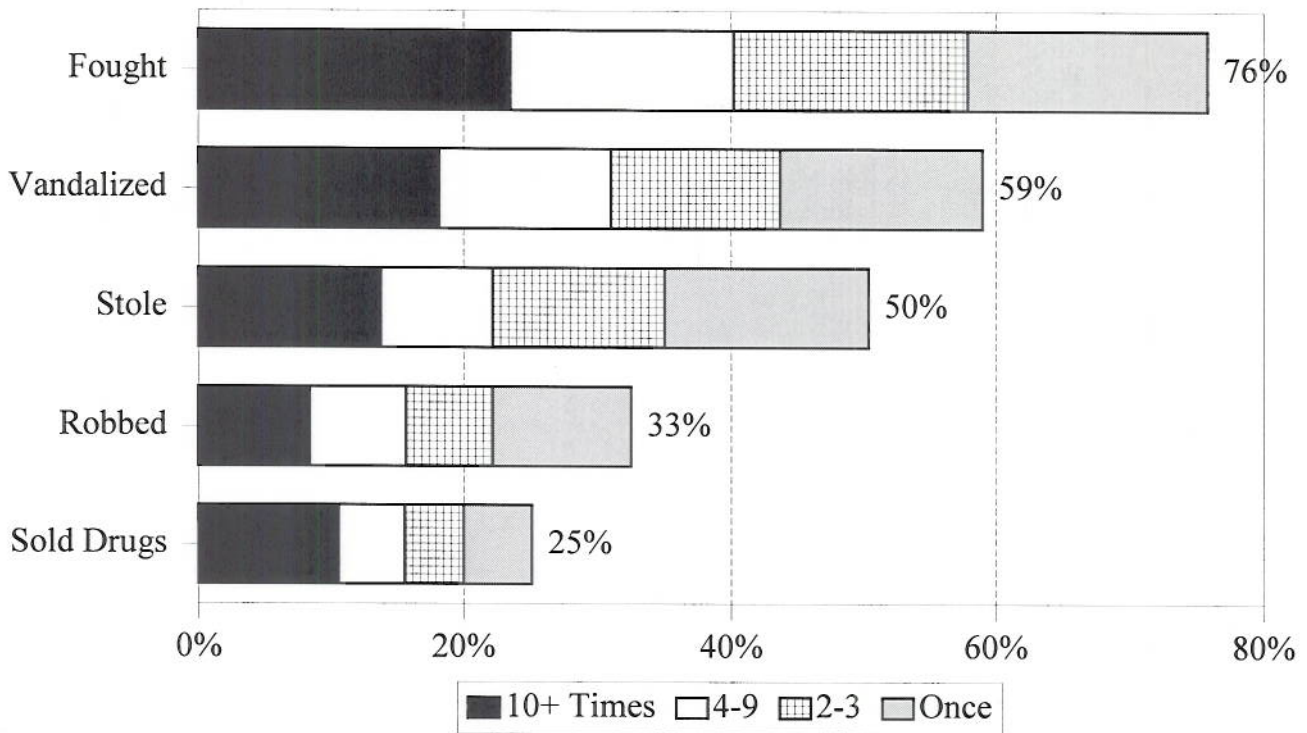


Figure 69: (Members of **named** gangs - average across all surveyed grades) Pennsylvania gang members reported gang-related activities in the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

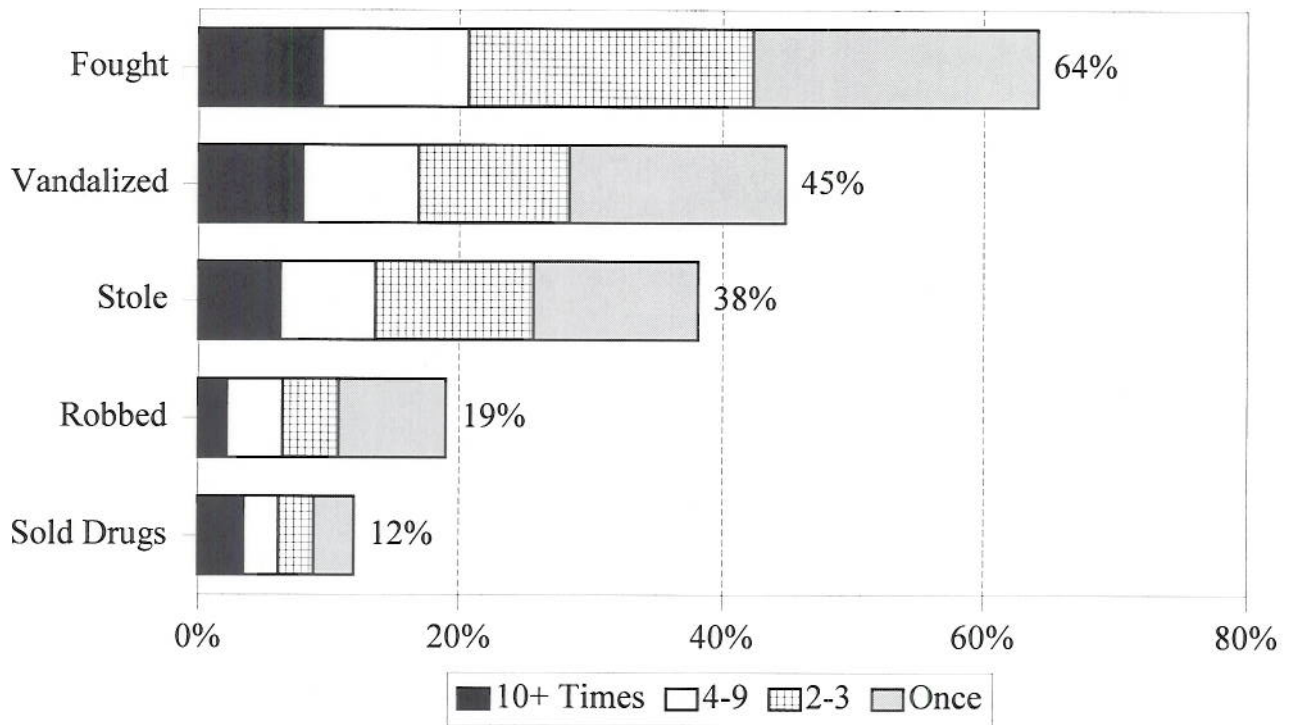


Figure 70: (Members of **gangs with no name** - average across all surveyed grades) Pennsylvania gang members reported gang-related activities in the past year. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

When asked where they used alcohol, cigarettes, and/or marijuana in the past year, approximately three-fourths of the seniors, two-thirds of the ninth graders, one-half of the seventh graders, and one-third of the sixth graders cited at least one location. The locations most often cited were parties, friends' homes, and home.

LOCATIONS OF USE, SOURCES FOR SUBSTANCES

Locations

More than three-fourths (81 percent) of the Pennsylvania seniors and 69 percent of the ninth graders indicated that they had used alcohol, cigarettes, or marijuana. The term "use" is flexible for individual interpretation: for example, a student who drinks only on special occasions may consider him(her)self a drinker, while a student who drinks wine with every special-occasion dinner may not. Forty-seven percent of the seventh graders and 33 percent of the sixth graders indicated that they had used alcohol, cigarettes, or marijuana. This information is from a combination of three multiple-choice *PPAAUS* items: "In the past year or so, where did you drink alcohol? ...smoke cigarettes? ...smoke marijuana?"

The "user"/"nonuser" category for the three location items and the three items concerning sources for substances is constructed by computer. Any student who replied that (s)he used a given substance at ANY of the given locations was included in the "user" category; only if the student replied "No" to ALL of the given options, or did not respond to ANY of the given locations/sources options was (s)he included in the "nonuser" category.

Alcohol Seventy-eight percent of the Pennsylvania seniors, 64 percent of the ninth graders, 39 percent of the seventh graders, and 26 percent of the sixth graders indicated that they had drunk alcohol. Of those, an average of 74 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and 46 percent of the sixth and seventh graders drank at parties. Approximately three-fourths (71 percent) of the ninth and twelfth graders who drank and 39 percent of the sixth and seventh graders who drank did so at the homes of friends. More than one-half (55 percent) of the students who drank alcohol did so at home, and more than one-third (36 percent) at a hangout. An average of 24 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and six percent of the sixth and seventh graders who drank indicated that they had drunk in vehicles; 21 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and seven percent of the sixth and seventh graders before/after a school activity. An average of ten percent of the drinkers had drunk in a mall or other public place, four percent at school, and four percent at work. (Table 24, Fig. 71)

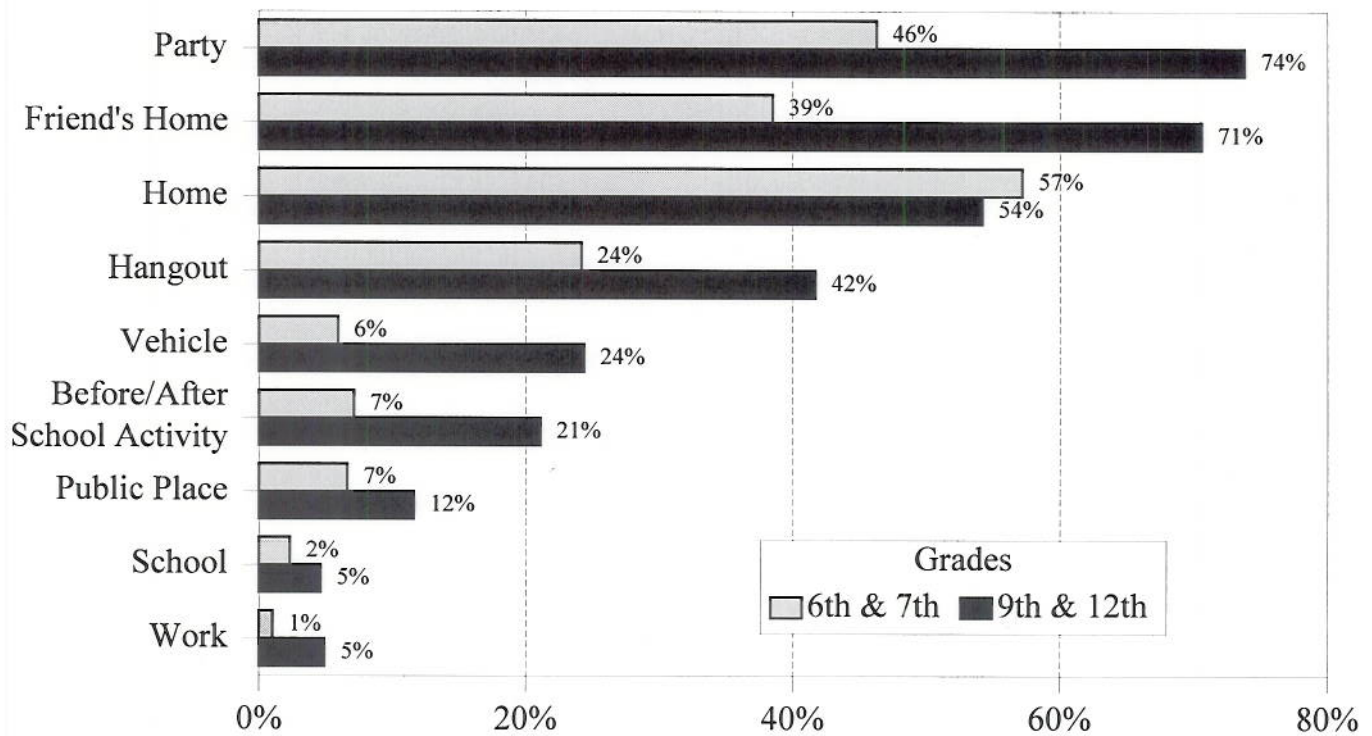


Figure 71: (Self-perceived users only) Locations at which Pennsylvania students reported drinking alcohol. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

TABLE 24
LOCATIONS OF USE - ALCOHOL
 1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	4,042	6,377	11,032	10,827	32,278
At a party	41.4	49.4	66.2	81.6	64.9
At friend's home	27.9	45.2	65.7	75.6	60.2
At home	58.4	56.5	55.6	52.8	55.2
At a hangout	19.0	27.4	40.4	43.0	36.0
In a vehicle	3.8	7.2	15.9	33.1	18.4
Before/after a school activity	5.3	8.2	16.0	26.4	16.6
In a public place	5.8	7.1	10.4	12.8	10.0
At school	2.3	2.4	4.6	4.6	3.9
At work	0.9	1.1	2.2	7.7	3.6

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

Cigarettes An average of 45 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and 25 percent of the sixth and seventh graders reported that they had smoked in at least one of the locations listed in *PPAAUS*. Of those, 76 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and 55 percent of the sixth and seventh graders had smoked cigarettes at friends' homes. An average of 65 percent of the students who smoked cigarettes smoked at hangouts; 58 percent at home; 57 percent at parties; 49 percent in a vehicle; and 47 percent in a public place. Of the cigarettes smokers, 40 percent smoked before or after a school activity; 23 percent at school; and 22 percent at work. (Table 25, Fig.72)

Marijuana More than one-third (36 percent) of the Pennsylvania seniors, one-fourth (27 percent) of the ninth graders, and an average of seven percent of the sixth and seventh graders indicated that they had smoked marijuana. Of those, an average of 73 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and 49 percent of the sixth and seventh graders smoked marijuana at parties. An average of 67 percent of the marijuana smokers smoked at friends' homes and 59 percent at hangouts. An average of 46 percent of the marijuana smokers smoked in a vehicle; 37 percent at home; and 28 percent before or after a school activity. Of the marijuana smokers, 21 percent smoked in a public place; 11 percent at school; and eight percent at work. (Table 26, Fig.73)

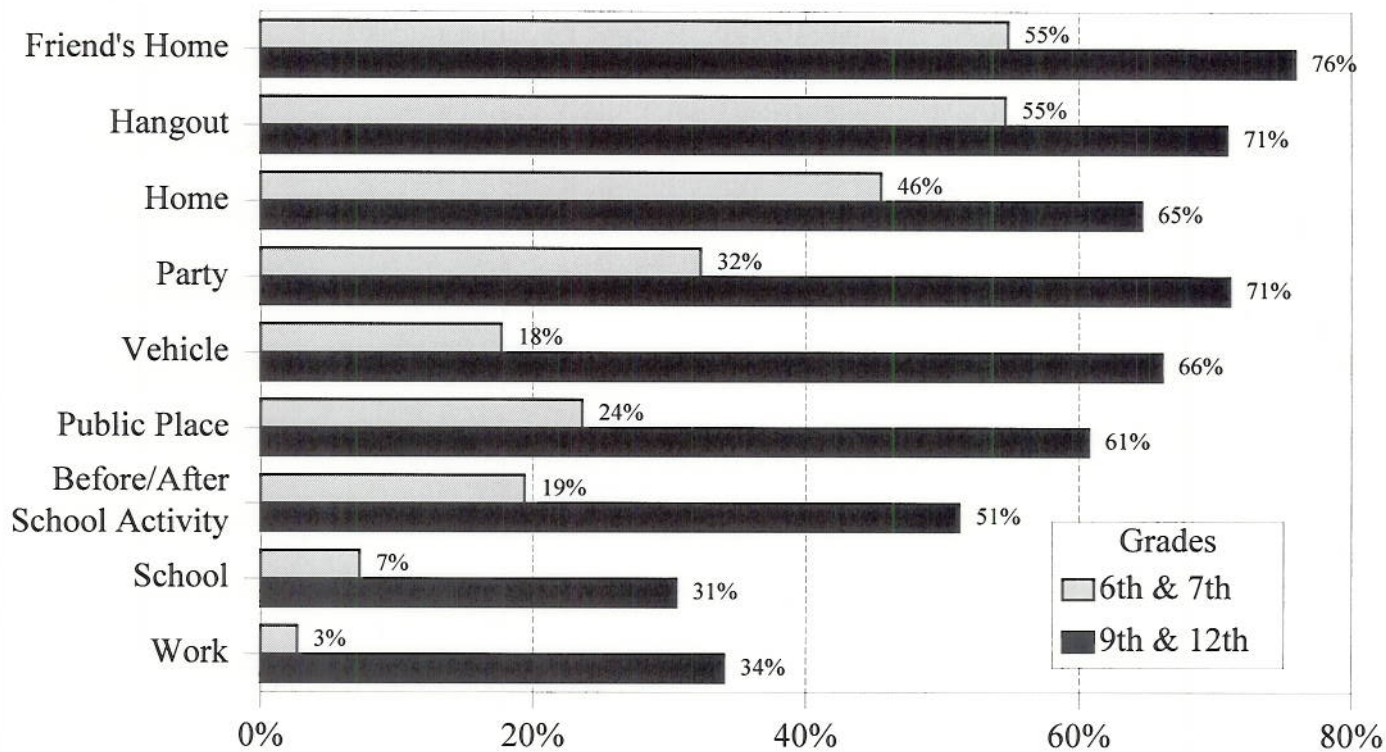


Figure 72: (Self-perceived users only) Locations at which Pennsylvania students reported smoking cigarettes . *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

TABLE 25
LOCATIONS OF USE - CIGARETTES
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	3,005	4,981	7,383	6,659	22,028
At friend's home	47.1	59.5	74.3	77.7	68.3
At a hangout	51.4	56.5	69.0	73.1	65.0
At home	38.8	49.6	63.6	65.8	57.7
At a party	24.1	37.2	62.5	80.5	57.0
In a vehicle	10.2	22.1	52.9	80.9	48.5
In a public place	16.5	27.9	55.0	67.1	47.3
Before/after a school activity	14.0	22.7	45.1	57.9	39.7
At work	1.8	3.21	15.4	54.7	22.7
At school	5.0	8.6	28.8	32.3	22.0

TABLE 26
LOCATIONS OF USE - MARIJUANA
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	593	1,639	4,618	4,999	11,849
At a party	40.3	52.2	55.5	78.4	68.3
At a friend's home	39.5	56.7	68.6	72.8	67.3
At a hangout	52.3	58.3	62.8	56.0	58.8
In a vehicle	13.2	19.5	40.3	63.1	45.7
At home	24.6	28.7	39.6	39.5	37.3
Before/after a school activity	13.8	14.7	26.6	35.2	28.0
In a public place	11.1	14.0	21.6	23.1	20.7
At school	7.8	5.7	9.8	13.3	10.6
At work	2.7	2.1	3.8	13.9	7.8

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

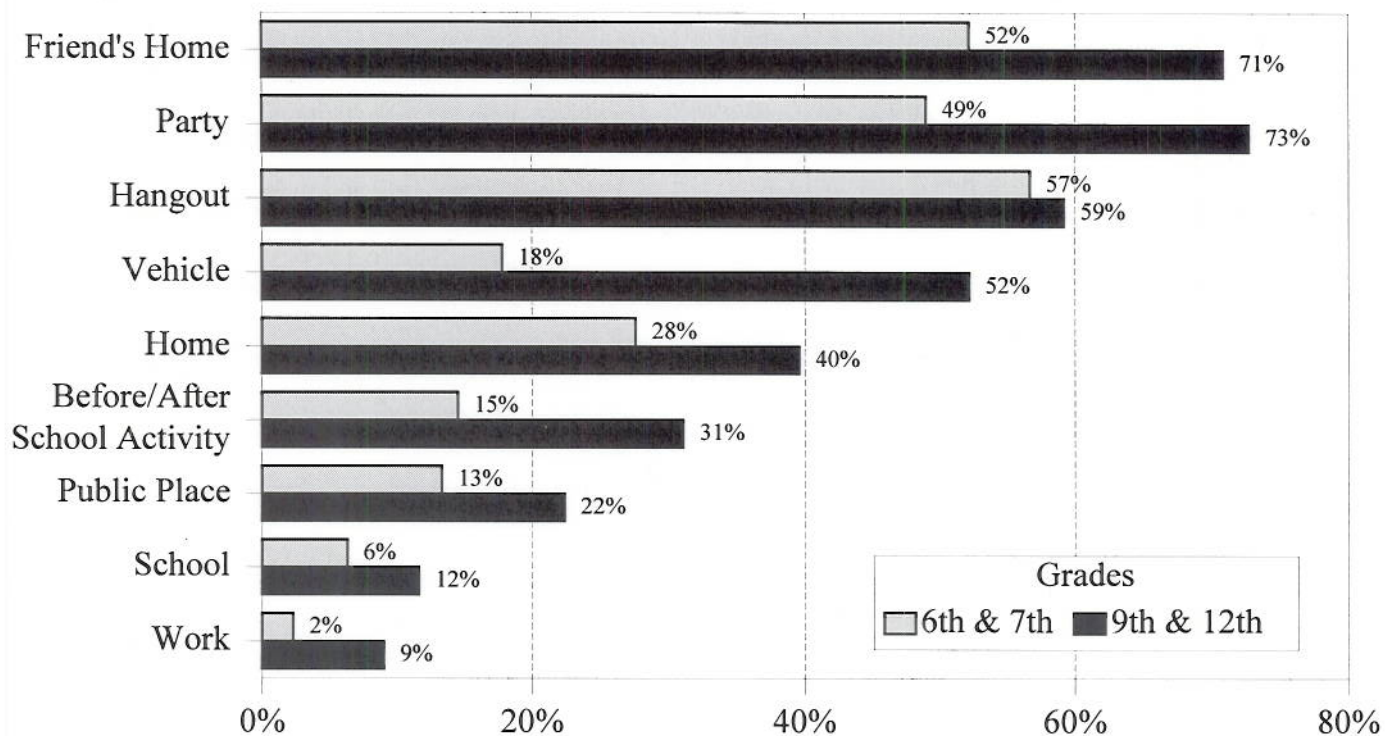


Figure 73: (Self-perceived users only) Locations at which Pennsylvania students reported smoking marijuana. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

Sources

Alcohol Seventy-eight percent of the Pennsylvania seniors, 63 percent of the ninth graders, 39 percent of the seventh graders, and 27 percent of the sixth graders obtained alcohol from at least one source. Of those, three-fourths (76 percent) of the ninth and twelfth graders and 43 percent of the sixth and seventh graders got alcohol from friends. One-third (34 percent) of the ninth- and twelfth-grade drinkers and 57 percent of the sixth- and seventh-grade drinkers got alcohol from someone in their family. An average of 29 percent of the drinkers indicated that they had gotten alcohol from adults and 28 percent from students at other schools. Of the drinkers, 16 percent got alcohol from college students; 13 percent from students at school; and six percent from co-workers. Twelve percent bought alcohol at a store; ten percent stole it from others; and three percent said they had stolen alcohol from a store. (Table 27, Fig. 74)

TABLE 27
SOURCES FOR ALCOHOL
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	4,128	6,355	10,889	10,808	32,180
Friends	32.1	49.9	71.2	80.0	65.0
Family	62.7	52.8	37.5	30.5	41.4
Adults	18.0	20.9	29.4	37.4	28.9
Students at other schools	9.3	15.2	27.1	43.2	27.9
College students	2.5	4.0	12.7	31.2	15.9
Students at school	3.8	7.2	15.2	18.8	13.4
Purchased at store	3.7	4.6	9.8	21.9	12.0
Stole from other	7.9	12.4	12.8	6.4	10.0
People at work	0.7	0.9	2.61	13.1	5.5
Shoplifted	2.6	3.6	3.3	1.3	2.6

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

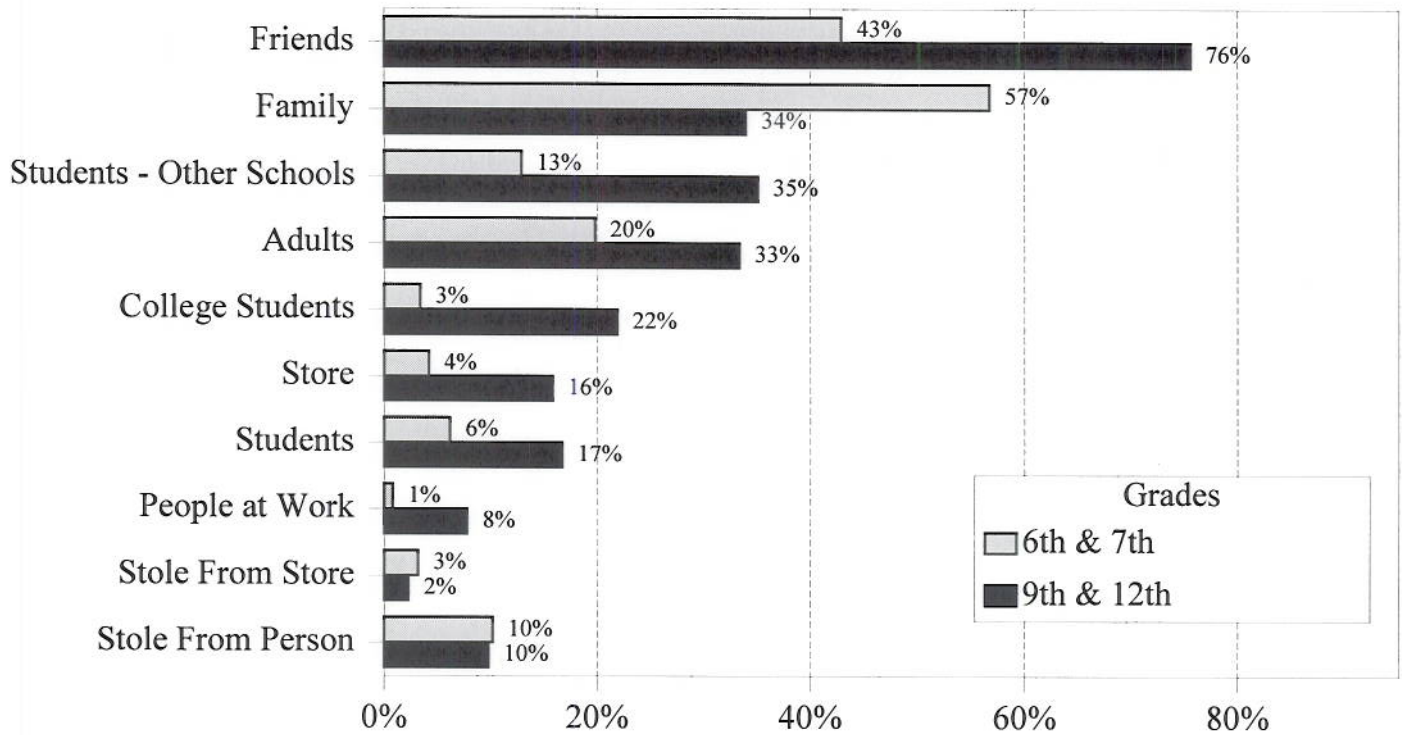


Figure 74: (Self-perceived users only) Pennsylvania students' reported sources for alcohol. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

Cigarettes An average of 45 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and 25 percent of the sixth and seventh graders indicated that they had gotten cigarettes from at least one of the *PPAAUS* sources. An average of 75 percent of the smokers got cigarettes from friends. Of the cigarettes smokers, an average of 62 percent of the ninth and twelfth graders and 16 percent of the sixth and seventh graders bought them at a store. An average of 31 percent of the smokers got cigarettes from students at school; 28 percent from students at other schools; 26 percent from vending machines; and 24 percent from family members. An average of 22 percent of the smokers got cigarettes from adults; 11 percent from people at work, and 11 percent from college students. Fifteen percent of the smokers said they had stolen cigarettes from others, and 11 percent of the smokers said they had shoplifted cigarettes. (Table 28, Fig. 75)

TABLE 28
SOURCES FOR CIGARETTES
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	3,037	4,479	6,523	5,501	19,540
Friends	71.3	76.8	84.6	65.3	75.2
Store (purchased)	11.3	18.7	44.3	81.1	45.1
Students	14.4	26.3	44.2	29.0	31.4
Students at other schools	16.8	24.7	36.1	25.9	27.8
Vending machine	13.2	21.0	34.5	27.3	26.3
Family	21.5	23.4	27.6	21.3	23.9
Adults	13.6	18.8	29.7	20.9	22.4
Stole from others	17.0	20.8	17.2	5.7	14.5
Shoplifted	8.9	12.7	14.7	6.4	10.9
College students	3.2	5.6	12.4	16.1	10.7
People at work	1.4	2.2	9.6	22.4	10.6

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

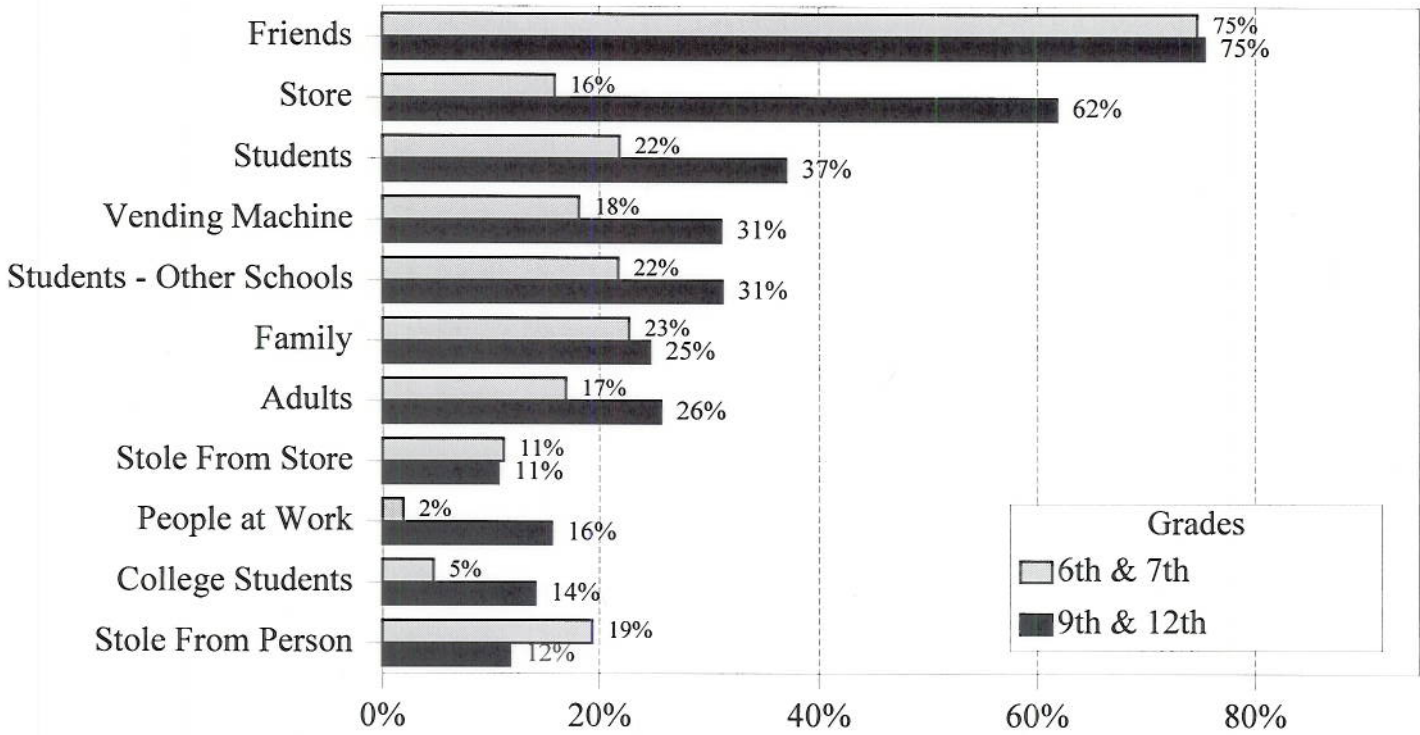


Figure 75: (Self-perceived users only) Pennsylvania students' reported sources for cigarettes
Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.

Marijuana One-third (36 percent) of the Pennsylvania seniors, one-fourth (27 percent) of the ninth graders, ten percent of the seventh graders, and four percent of the sixth graders cited at least one *PPAAUS* marijuana source. Of those, an average of 89 percent got marijuana from friends; 41 percent from students at other schools; and 35 percent from students at their own school. An average of 23 percent of the marijuana smokers obtained it from adults; 16 percent from college students; 12 percent from family members; and eight percent from co-workers. Nine percent of the smokers stole marijuana from others. (Table 29, Fig.76)

TABLE 29
SOURCES FOR MARIJUANA
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Note: These figures show responses of only students who gave at least one answer to this multiple-choice item

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	581	1,631	4,583	4,993	11,788
Friends	72.1	81.1	90.4	92.2	89.0
Students at other schools	29.6	34.2	41.1	45.4	41.4
Students at school	14.5	22.7	39.8	37.9	35.4
Adults	16.9	21.6	23.3	23.4	22.8
College students	6.0	8.0	12.5	23.1	16.1
Family	15.5	14.5	12.7	10.0	11.9
Stole from others	13.1	13.0	9.9	5.8	8.7
People at work	3.4	2.8	3.9	14.0	8.0

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

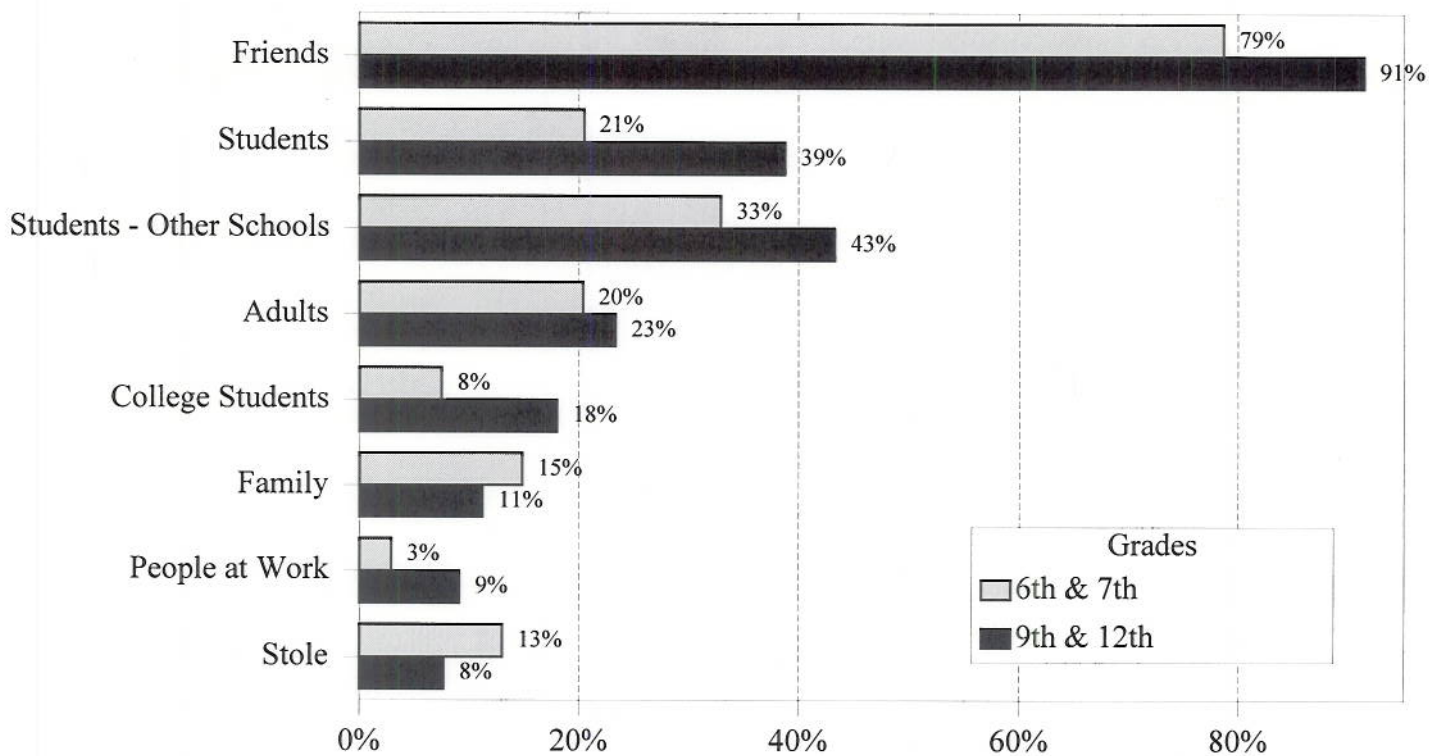


Figure 76: (Self-perceived users only) Pennsylvania students' reported sources for marijuana. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

An average of 49 percent of the students surveyed liked school in general; 62 percent liked their teachers; and 40 percent thought their subjects were interesting.

SCHOOL CLIMATE

Post-High-School Goal

In the statewide survey, students are asked to choose the **one** option they think is most important to **them**.

An average of 73 percent of the Commonwealth students surveyed hoped to attend college after they finished high school; another three percent said they would like to go to technical school. Eight percent wanted to get a job after they graduated; ten percent were uncertain. Four percent of the Pennsylvania students hoped to join the military; one percent wanted to get married; and one percent thought that they would drop out before they finished their senior year. (Table 30, Fig. 77)

TABLE 30
POST HIGH-SCHOOL PLAN OR GOAL
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N =	14,245	14,365	15,252	12,083	55,945
Go to college	76.3	73.3	71.0	70.1	72.7
Go to tech school	1.1	2.0	4.9	5.5	3.3
Get a job	5.6	7.2	7.4	12.8	8.1
Join the military	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3
Get married	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3
Drop out	.6	1.1	1.2	.3	.8
Uncertain	10.9	10.9	9.9	5.6	9.5

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

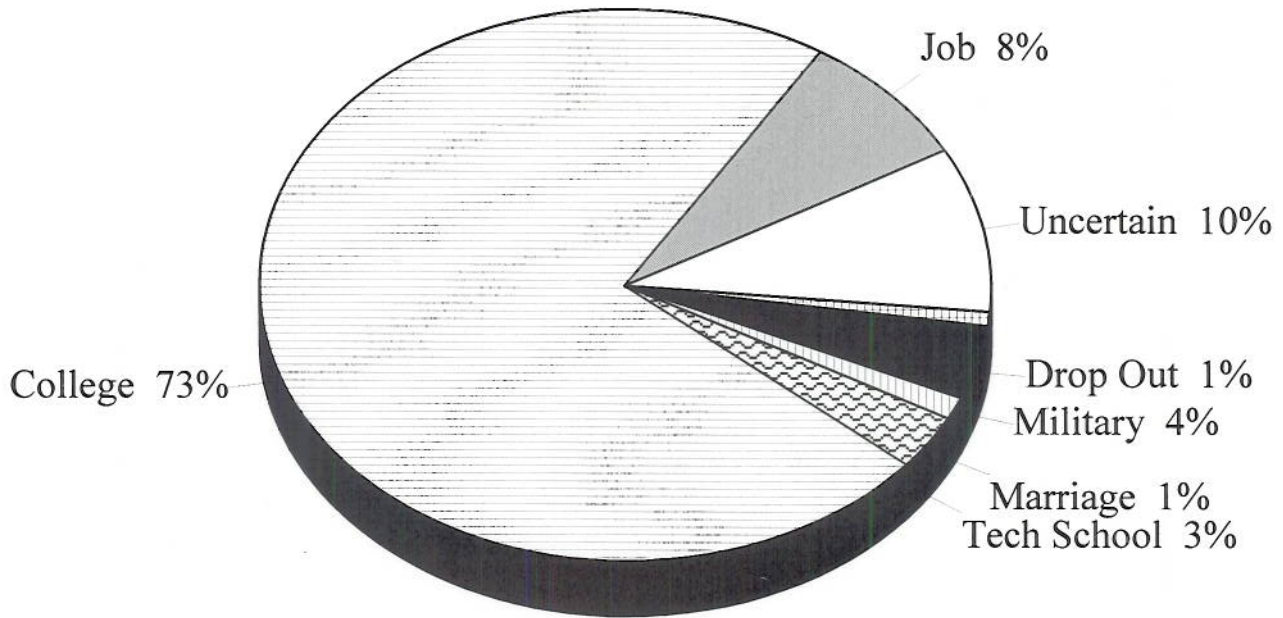


Figure 77: Pennsylvania students' self-reported post-high-school goal. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

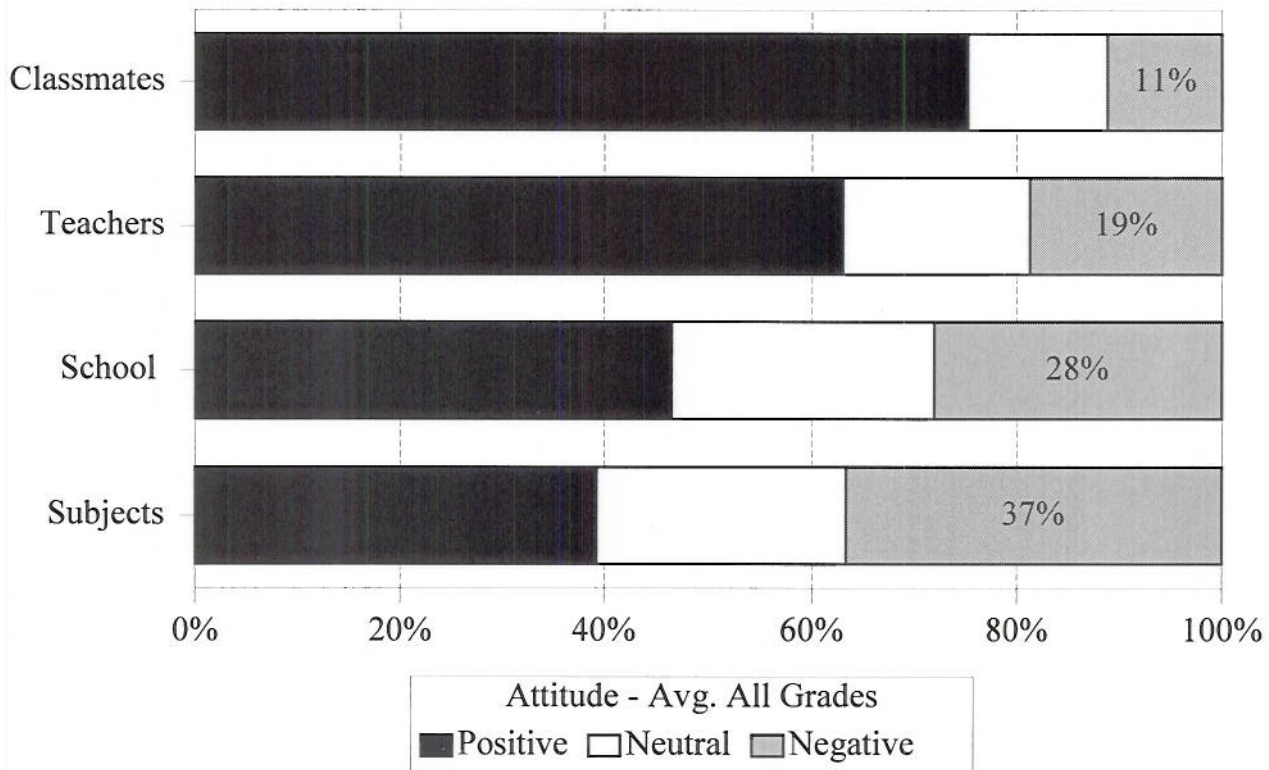


Figure 78: Pennsylvania students' self-reported attitudes about school. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

Attitudes About School

The terms "favorable" and "positive" here refer to response options 5 through 7 on a 1- to 7-point scale in *PPAAUS*. (See Appendix A)

An average of 62 percent of the Pennsylvania students thought their teachers were helpful. Students in grade six were most positive about their teachers: 77 percent thought their teachers were helpful. Least favorable responses came from seventh and ninth graders: 53 percent thought their teachers were helpful. An average of 49 percent of the students surveyed had a positive attitude about school in general.

An average of 40 percent of the students had a favorable attitude toward their subjects. Forty-seven percent of the sixth graders and an average of 37 percent of the seventh, ninth, and twelfth graders thought their subjects were interesting.

Almost three-fourths (74 percent) of all students surveyed thought their classmates were friendly.

TABLE 31
ATTITUDES ABOUT SCHOOL
1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

Positive attitude about:	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N =	14,260	14,386	15,289	12,127	56,062
Classmates	75.3	75.4	76.0	69.9	74.3
Teachers	76.5	62.2	52.9	57.1	62.2
School in general	53.0	47.0	46.8	48.5	48.8
Subjects	47.2	38.4	34.8	39.4	39.9

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

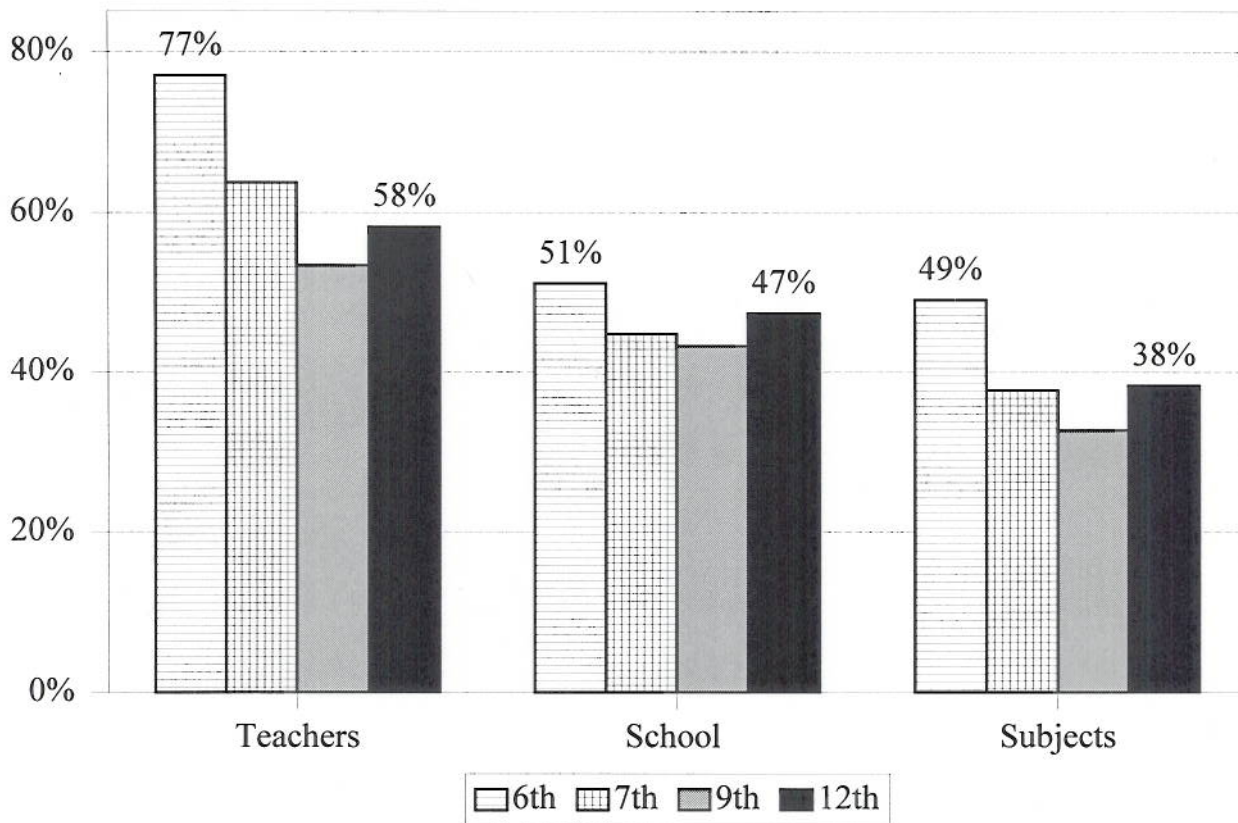


Figure 79: Pennsylvania students' self-reported positive attitudes about teachers, school, and subjects. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

Most Pennsylvania students knew that nicotine increases desire to smoke and that inhalants cause lung damage. Approximately one-half of the students were aware that even one drink of alcohol affects coordination. Approximately one-fourth of the students knew that marijuana speeds heart rate.

KNOWLEDGE OF EFFECTS OF DRUGS

The 1997 PPAAUS includes four basic knowledge items about the effects of marijuana, alcohol, cigarettes, and inhalants. The items, with the listed responses (correct responses in bold-face type), are:

Smoking marijuana: **speeds up your heart rate**; slows down your heart rate; don't know.

If someone has just one drink of alcohol: it doesn't affect their coordination; **it affects their coordination**; don't know.

Nicotine is a chemical in cigarettes. **It makes cigarette smokers want to smoke more**; It makes cigarette smokers want to quit smoking; don't know.

Inhalants: **cause lung damage**; don't get into the lungs; don't know.

Overall, 26 percent of the Pennsylvania students surveyed knew that marijuana speeds heart rate; 45 percent knew that even one drink of alcohol affects coordination; 85 percent were aware that nicotine increases desire for cigarettes; and 68 percent knew that inhalants cause lung damage. (Table 32, Fig. 78)

In response to the items about cigarettes and inhalants, the percentage of students who gave correct answers increased through the grades; the percentage who indicated they did not know the correct response decreased; and the percentage who gave incorrect answers remained consistently low.

In response to the item concerning alcohol, the correct-response and don't-know patterns follow those of the cigarette and inhalant items; however, the percentage of students who gave *incorrect* responses *increased* through ninth grade, before decreasing between ninth and twelfth grade.

Patterns for the knowledge item about marijuana show a decrease through the grades in the percentage of students who did not know the correct response; a slight increase in the percentage who gave the correct response; and an *increase* from grade seven to nine and from nine to twelve in the percentage who gave the *incorrect* response.

Marijuana

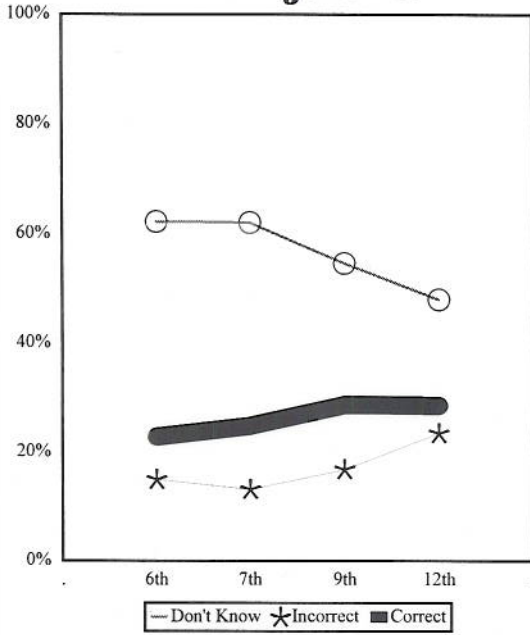


Fig. 80a

Alcohol

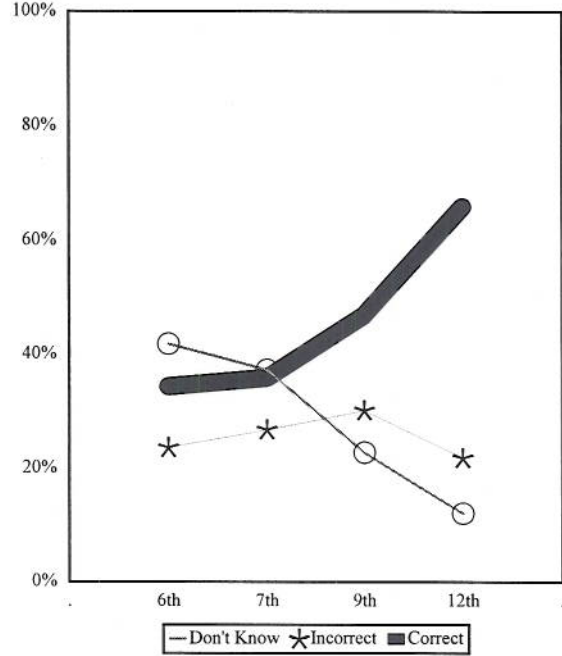


Fig. 80b

Cigarettes

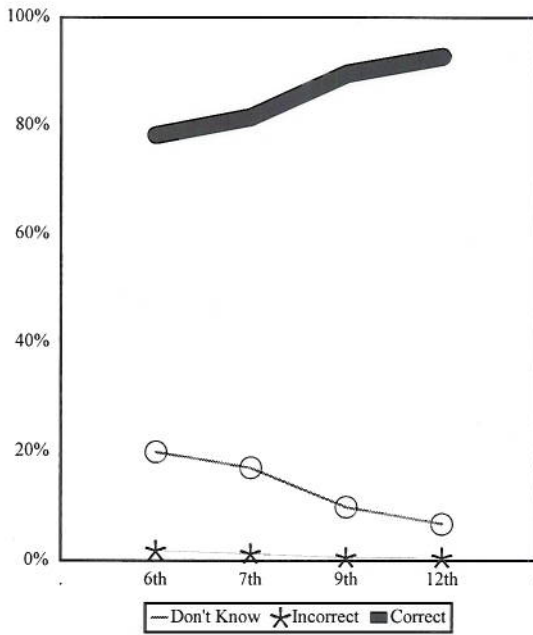


Fig. 80c

Inhalants

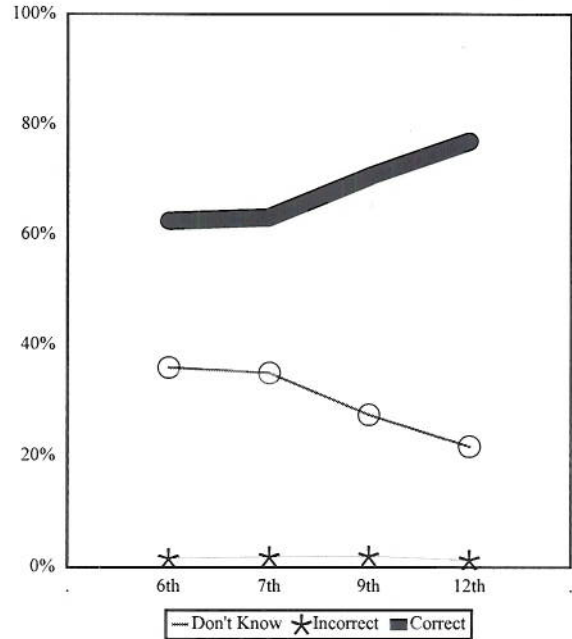


Fig. 80d

Figures 80a-80d: Pennsylvania students' responses to four items about the effects of drugs. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

TABLE 32
 KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF DRUGS
 1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	15,096	15,626	16,314	13,298	60,334
Smoking MARIJUANA:					
Speeds up your heart rate	22.8	24.8	28.7	28.5	26.1
Slows up your heart rate	15.0	13.2	16.8	23.5	16.9
Don't know	62.2	62.0	54.6	48.0	56.9
If someone has just one drink of ALCOHOL:					
It affects their coordination	34.4	35.9	47.0	66.0	45.1
It doesn't affect coordination	23.7	26.8	30.2	21.9	25.9
Don't know	41.9	37.3	22.8	12.1	29.0
Nicotine ... in CIGARETTES					
Makes smokers want to smoke more	78.2	81.6	89.6	92.8	85.4
Makes smokers want to quit	1.9	1.3	.6	.5	1.1
Don't know	19.9	17.0	9.8	6.7	13.5
INHALANTS					
Cause lung damage	62.5	63.2	70.6	77.0	68.1
Don't get into the lungs	1.6	1.9	2.0	1.3	1.7
Don't know	35.9	34.9	27.4	21.7	30.2

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey*, Diagnostics Plus 1997.

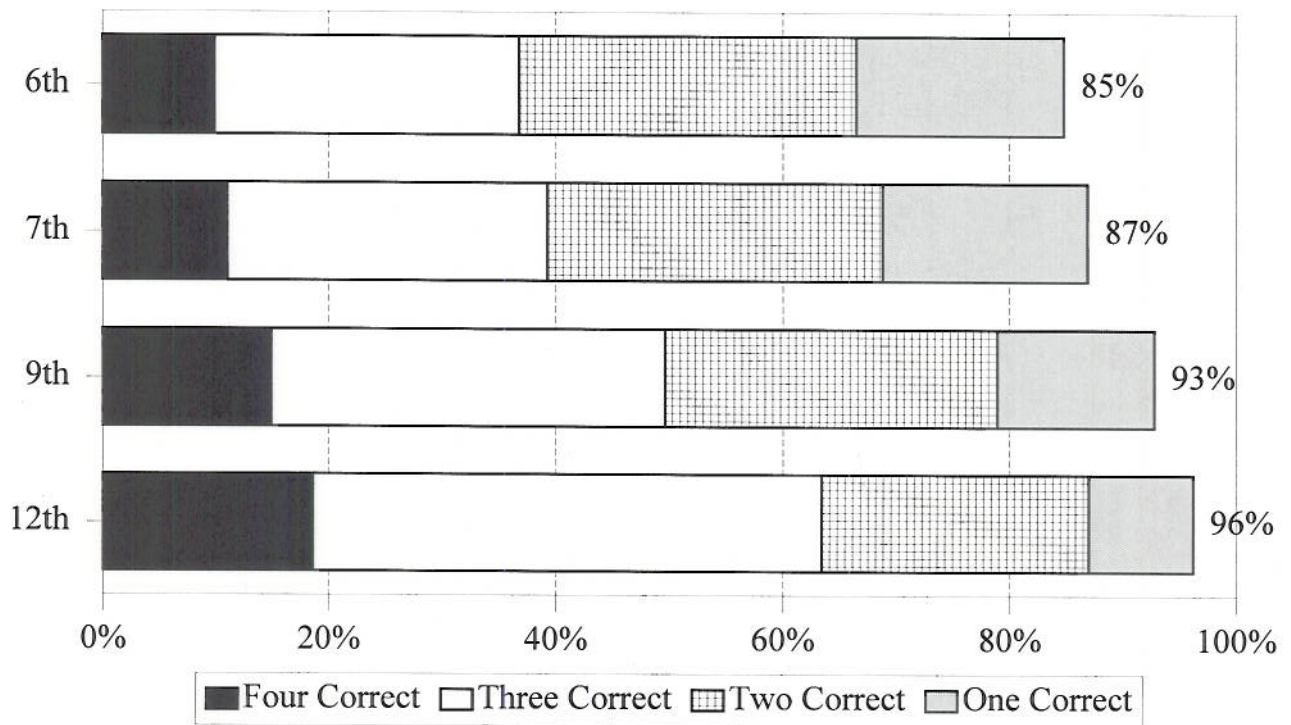


Figure 81: Number of correct responses to four knowledge-of-risk items. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude & Use Survey, 1997.*

TABLE 33
 KNOWLEDGE-OF-EFFECTS SCORES
 1997 Pennsylvania Statewide Youth-Risk Survey

	GRADE				
	6th	7th	9th	12th	ALL
N=	13,486	14,035	14,898	12,338	54,757
No correct responses	15.2	13.0	7.1	3.8	9.9
ONE correct response	18.3	18.1	13.9	9.2	15.0
TWO correct responses	29.7	29.5	29.3	23.6	28.2
THREE correct responses	26.9	28.3	34.7	44.8	33.4
All FOUR correct responses	9.9	11.0	14.9	18.6	13.5
Mean score	1.98	2.06	2.37	2.65	2.26

Source: *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, Diagnostics Plus 1997.*

To determine possible relationships between each of the four *PPAAUS* knowledge items and reported use of and willingness to use the substance in question, statistical tests of difference (t-tests) were conducted on two groups of students: 1) those who correctly answered a knowledge item, and 2) those who answered incorrectly or gave an I-don't-know answer. The tests showed significant differences ($p < .005$) for all grades for the items asking about marijuana, cigarettes, and alcohol; and for grades nine and eleven for the item asking about inhalants. Figures 82a through 82d show these relationships.

T-tests on knowledge items about alcohol, cigarettes, and inhalants indicate that *knowledge* of the risks of use is related to *less reported use* of the substance and *less willingness to use* the substance. The t-tests on the knowledge item about marijuana show the opposite: *knowledge* is related to *greater use* and *greater willingness* to use.

In looking at the results above and the apparent contradiction, two facts in particular need to be considered: 1) The percentage of students answering the marijuana item correctly is approximately one-fourth of the students surveyed; perhaps the t-tests show a circular relationship. 2) The knowledge scale is unproved and reliabilities are not excellent: reliabilities range from .5928 in sixth grade to .4926 in twelfth grade. These results, however, show a strong need for further investigation.

Marijuana

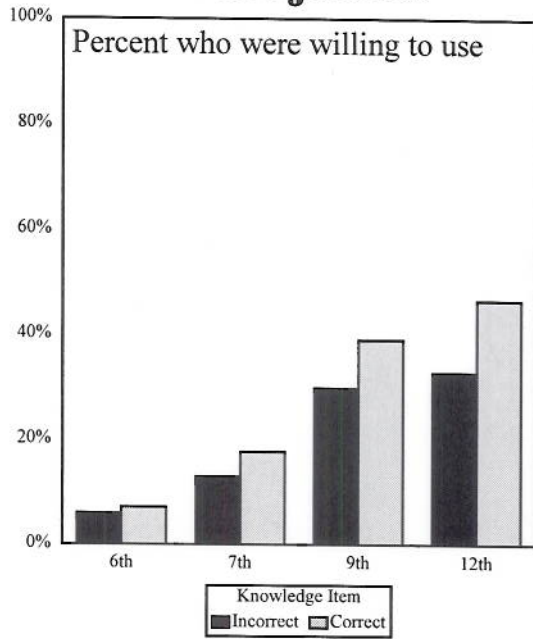


Fig. 82a

Alcohol

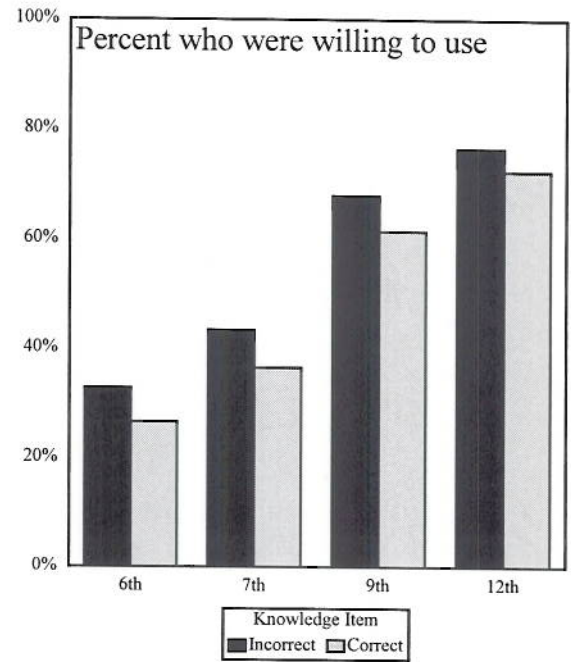


Fig. 82b

Cigarettes

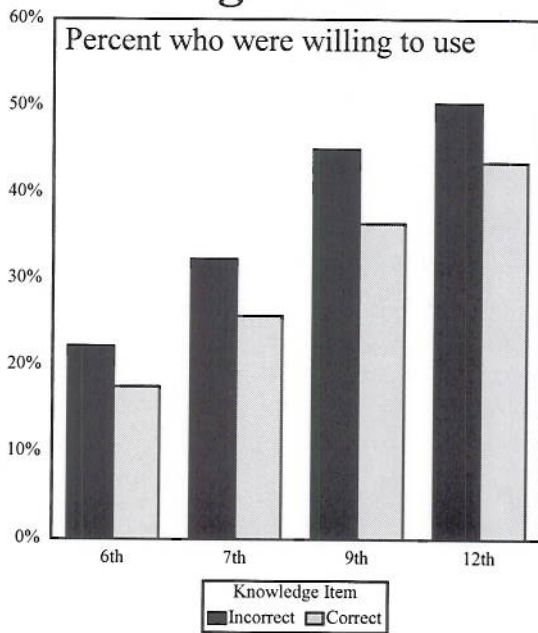


Fig. 82c

Inhalants

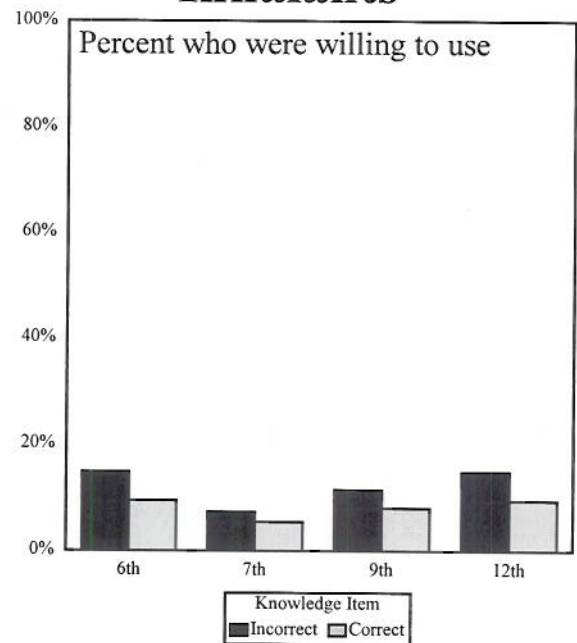


Fig. 82d

Figures 82a-82d: Pennsylvania students' willingness to use substances, based on their knowledge of risks of use. *Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey, 1997*