

Pride Survey – A Summary (May 2012)

The Pride Survey was last given May, 2012 to students in 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades in all districts in Licking County. This is the third year in a row that all districts have participated and the fourth in which 8 of the 11 districts have been surveyed. This growing collection of data is useful in being able to track any changes in student perceptions and reports about alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) use in Licking County.

Each district receives it's own individual report and makes use of that data as they see best. *Our Futures* receives only the aggregate data for the county on which this summary is based. The aggregate data is available to districts if they want to compare it with their own results and is also available to other agencies within the county.

Both the executive summary and the full report are available on the *Our Futures* website in PDF form for viewing and downloading -- www.ourfutures.org .

The Pride Survey is a highly recognized tool for assessing student perceptions. More information can be found on their website -- www.pridesurveys.com .

If you have other questions, contact me: Sewall Phelps, Project Evaluator – *Our Futures* fphelps@roadrunner.com

Key Observations:

1. Alcohol and tobacco are still the most commonly used substances.

	10 th grade	12 th grade
Alcohol	38.8%	39.8%
Tobacco	31.7%	33.5%
Marijuana	25.0%	25.7%
Any Illicit Drug	27.5%	29.4%

2. Alcohol and tobacco use is on the decline at grades 8, 10, and 12.

I should probably say "holding stable" at grade 12 but it's still a decline from 4 years ago.

We looked at 30-day use. This is student report of use during the last 30 days. Annual use is higher but it seems to me that 30-day use drops out those who have just "experimented".

3. Alcohol is highest in use, then tobacco, and then marijuana.

The pride survey has information about a variety of other substances that might merit a closer look by others with access to other relevant information.

- 4. Student perception of risk for alcohol and marijuana declines as grade levels increase except for the perceived risk of tobacco use that stays high.**

Roughly 90% of students at 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade perceive tobacco as risky.

- 5. Kids are using at other places – not at school. And they're using tobacco in the car but not alcohol.**

The most frequent place of use is at home and at a friend's house

- 6. Over 60% of our students are not using anything at all grade levels.**

It's important to not forget this observation. And, this is a very conservative estimate – more than 95% of sixth graders report no use during the last 30 days.

The full report has additional information about what they call **risk, protective, and safety factors** and their relationship to reported substance use. It is beyond the scope of this summary other than to say that students who are making good grades (the highest), in school and community activities, involved in a religious organization, and whose parents talk with them about the dangers of using these substances are most protected.

Another Observation:

According to 12th grade students, 40% of their parents do not disapprove of alcohol use (relatively unchanged over 4 years) and 35% of 12th graders have been given alcohol for a party by an adult at least one time.

Supplemental Questions establish some baseline data and raise questions:

- 1. There is a drop in students' sense of recognition at 10th and 12th grade – more research is needed.**
- 2. Roughly half of parents do not have contact information for their child's friends, according to youth self-report.**
- 3. Most Licking County students are not getting adequate sleep, and most high school students do not have any restrictions on media use in their bedrooms.**

Only 5% of high school students and 24% of middle school students reported getting the recommended 9 or more hours of sleep on an average school night

71% of 10th graders and 84% of 12th graders say their parents don't have any rules about media use in their bedroom (TV, internet, video games, cell phones, iPod, etc.)