

TABLE 9
Long-Term Trends in Harmfulness of Drugs as Perceived by Twelfth Graders

<i>How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they . . .</i>	Percentage saying "great risk" ^a														
	Class of:														
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Try marijuana once or twice	15.1	11.4	9.5	8.1	9.4	10.0	13.0	11.5	12.7	14.7	14.8	15.1	18.4	19.0	23.6
Smoke marijuana occasionally	18.1	15.0	13.4	12.4	13.5	14.7	19.1	18.3	20.6	22.6	24.5	25.0	30.4	31.7	36.5
Smoke marijuana regularly	43.3	38.6	36.4	34.9	42.0	50.4	57.6	60.4	62.8	66.9	70.4	71.3	73.5	77.0	77.5
Try LSD once or twice	49.4	45.7	43.2	42.7	41.6	43.9	45.5	44.9	44.7	45.4	43.5	42.0	44.9	45.7	46.0
Take LSD regularly	81.4	80.8	79.1	81.1	82.4	83.0	83.5	83.5	83.2	83.8	82.9	82.6	83.8	84.2	84.3
Try PCP once or twice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55.6	58.8	56.6
Try MDMA (Ecstasy) once or twice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Try cocaine once or twice	42.6	39.1	35.6	33.2	31.5	31.3	32.1	32.8	33.0	35.7	34.0	33.5	47.9	51.2	54.9
Take cocaine occasionally	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	54.2	66.8	69.2	71.8
Take cocaine regularly	73.1	72.3	68.2	68.2	69.5	69.2	71.2	73.0	74.3	78.8	79.0	82.2	88.5	89.2	90.2
Try crack once or twice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	57.0	62.1	62.9
Take crack occasionally	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70.4	73.2	75.3
Take crack regularly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84.6	84.8	85.6
Try cocaine powder once or twice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45.3	51.7	53.8
Take cocaine powder occasionally	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56.8	61.9	65.8
Take cocaine powder regularly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	81.4	82.9	83.9
Try heroin once or twice	60.1	58.9	55.8	52.9	50.4	52.1	52.9	51.1	50.8	49.8	47.3	45.8	53.6	54.0	53.8
Take heroin occasionally	75.6	75.6	71.9	71.4	70.9	70.9	72.2	69.8	71.8	70.7	69.8	68.2	74.6	73.8	75.5
Take heroin regularly	87.2	88.6	86.1	86.6	87.5	86.2	87.5	86.0	86.1	87.2	86.0	87.1	88.7	88.8	89.5
Try heroin once or twice without using a needle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Take heroin occasionally without using a needle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Try amphetamines once or twice	35.4	33.4	30.8	29.9	29.7	29.7	26.4	25.3	24.7	25.4	25.2	25.1	29.1	29.6	32.8
Take amphetamines regularly	69.0	67.3	66.6	67.1	69.9	69.1	66.1	64.7	64.8	67.1	67.2	67.3	69.4	69.8	71.2
Try crystal meth. (ice) once or twice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Try barbiturates once or twice	34.8	32.5	31.2	31.3	30.7	30.9	28.4	27.5	27.0	27.4	26.1	25.4	30.9	29.7	32.2
Take barbiturates regularly	69.1	67.7	68.6	68.4	71.6	72.2	69.9	67.6	67.7	68.5	68.3	67.2	69.4	69.6	70.5
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	5.3	4.8	4.1	3.4	4.1	3.8	4.6	3.5	4.2	4.6	5.0	4.6	6.2	6.0	6.0
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	21.5	21.2	18.5	19.6	22.6	20.3	21.6	21.6	21.6	23.0	24.4	25.1	26.2	27.3	28.5
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	63.5	61.0	62.9	63.1	66.2	65.7	64.5	65.5	66.8	68.4	69.8	66.5	69.7	68.5	69.8
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	37.8	37.0	34.7	34.5	34.9	35.9	36.3	36.0	38.6	41.7	43.0	39.1	41.9	42.6	44.0
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	51.3	56.4	58.4	59.0	63.0	63.7	63.3	60.5	61.2	63.8	66.5	66.0	68.6	68.0	67.2
Use smokeless tobacco regularly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.8	30.0	33.2	32.9
Take steroids	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63.8

Approx. N = 2804 2918 3052 3770 3250 3234 3604 3557 3305 3262 3250 3020 3315 3276 2796

^aAnswer alternatives were: (1) No risk, (2) Slight risk, (3) Moderate risk, (4) Great risk, and (5) Can't say, drug unfamiliar.

(Table continued on next page)

TABLE 9 (cont.)
Long-Term Trends in Harmfulness of Drugs as Perceived by Twelfth Graders

<i>How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they . . .</i>	Percentage saying "great risk" ^a														'02-'03 change
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
	Class of:														
Try marijuana once or twice	23.1	27.1	24.5	21.9	19.5	16.3	15.6	14.9	16.7	15.7	13.7	15.3	16.1	16.1	0.0
Smoke marijuana occasionally	36.9	40.6	39.6	35.6	30.1	25.6	25.9	24.7	24.4	23.9	23.4	23.5	23.2	26.6	+3.4s
Smoke marijuana regularly	77.8	78.6	76.5	72.5	65.0	60.8	59.9	58.1	58.5	57.4	58.3	57.4	53.0	54.9	+1.9
Try LSD once or twice	44.7	46.6	42.3	39.5	38.8	36.4	36.2	34.7	37.4	34.9	34.3	33.2	36.7	36.2	-0.5
Take LSD regularly	84.5	84.3	81.8	79.4	79.1	78.1	77.8	76.6	76.5	76.1	75.9	74.1	73.9	72.3	-1.6
Try PCP once or twice	55.2	51.7	54.8	50.8	51.5	49.1	51.0	48.8	46.8	44.8	45.0	46.2	48.3	45.2	-3.1
Try MDMA (Ecstasy) once or twice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.8	34.5	35.0	37.9	45.7	52.2	56.3	+4.1s
Try cocaine once or twice	59.4	59.4	56.8	57.6	57.2	53.7	54.2	53.6	54.6	52.1	51.1	50.7	51.2	51.0	-0.2
Take cocaine occasionally	73.9	75.5	75.1	73.3	73.7	70.8	72.1	72.4	70.1	70.1	69.5	69.9	68.3	69.1	+0.8
Take cocaine regularly	91.1	90.4	90.2	90.1	89.3	87.9	88.3	87.1	86.3	85.8	86.2	84.1	84.5	83.0	-1.4
Try crack once or twice	64.3	60.6	62.4	57.6	58.4	54.6	56.0	54.0	52.2	48.2	48.4	49.4	50.8	47.3	-3.5
Take crack occasionally	80.4	76.5	76.3	73.9	73.8	72.8	71.4	70.3	68.7	67.3	65.8	65.4	65.6	64.0	-1.6
Take crack regularly	91.6	90.1	89.3	87.5	89.6	88.6	88.0	86.2	85.3	85.4	85.3	85.8	84.1	83.2	-0.9
Try cocaine powder once or twice	53.9	53.6	57.1	53.2	55.4	52.0	53.2	51.4	48.5	46.1	47.0	49.0	49.5	46.2	-3.2
Take cocaine powder occasionally	71.1	69.8	70.8	68.6	70.6	69.1	68.8	67.7	65.4	64.2	64.7	63.2	64.4	61.4	-2.9
Take cocaine powder regularly	90.2	88.9	88.4	87.0	88.6	87.8	86.8	86.0	84.1	84.6	85.5	84.4	84.2	82.3	-1.9
Try heroin once or twice	55.4	55.2	50.9	50.7	52.8	50.9	52.5	56.7	57.8	56.0	54.2	55.6	56.0	58.0	+2.0
Take heroin occasionally	76.6	74.9	74.2	72.0	72.1	71.0	74.8	76.3	76.9	77.3	74.6	75.9	76.6	78.5	+1.9
Take heroin regularly	90.2	89.6	89.2	88.3	88.0	87.2	89.5	88.9	89.1	89.9	89.2	88.3	88.5	89.3	+0.9
Try heroin once or twice without using a needle	—	—	—	—	—	55.6	58.6	60.5	59.6	58.5	61.6	60.7	60.6	58.9	-1.7
Take heroin occasionally without using a needle	—	—	—	—	—	71.2	71.0	74.3	73.4	73.6	74.7	74.4	74.7	73.0	-1.7
Try amphetamines once or twice	32.2	36.3	32.6	31.3	31.4	28.8	30.8	31.0	35.3	32.2	32.6	34.7	34.4	36.8	+2.4
Take amphetamines regularly	71.2	74.1	72.4	69.9	67.0	65.9	66.8	66.0	67.7	66.4	66.3	67.1	64.8	65.6	+0.8
Try crystal meth. (ice) once or twice	—	61.6	61.9	57.5	58.3	54.4	55.3	54.4	52.7	51.2	51.3	52.7	53.8	51.2	-2.6
Try barbiturates once or twice	32.4	35.1	32.2	29.2	29.9	26.3	29.1	26.9	29.0	26.1	25.0	25.7	26.2	27.9	+1.7
Take barbiturates regularly	70.2	70.5	70.2	66.1	63.3	61.6	60.4	56.8	56.3	54.1	52.3	50.3	49.3	49.6	+0.3
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	8.3	9.1	8.6	8.2	7.6	5.9	7.3	6.7	8.0	8.3	6.4	8.7	7.6	8.4	+0.7
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	31.3	32.7	30.6	28.2	27.0	24.8	25.1	24.8	24.3	21.8	21.7	23.4	21.0	20.1	-0.9
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	70.9	69.5	70.5	67.8	66.2	62.8	65.6	63.0	62.1	61.1	59.9	60.7	58.8	57.8	-1.0
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	47.1	48.6	49.0	48.3	46.5	45.2	49.5	43.0	42.8	43.1	42.7	43.6	42.2	43.5	+1.3
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	68.2	69.4	69.2	69.5	67.6	65.6	68.2	68.7	70.8	70.8	73.1	73.3	74.2	72.1	-2.1
Use smokeless tobacco regularly	34.2	37.4	35.5	38.9	36.6	33.2	37.4	38.6	40.9	41.1	42.2	45.4	42.6	43.3	+0.8
Take steroids	69.9	65.6	70.7	69.1	66.1	66.4	67.6	67.2	68.1	62.1	57.9	58.9	57.1	55.0	-2.1

Approx. N = 2553 2549 2684 2759 2591 2603 2449 2579 2564 2306 2130 2173 2198 2466

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001. '—' indicates data not available. Any apparent inconsistency between the change estimate and the prevalence of use estimates for the two most recent classes is due to rounding error.

SOURCE: The Monitoring the Future Study, the University of Michigan.