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Drug use continues to decline,
according to U-M survey; cocaine
down for third straight year.

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EDITORS: Results of these 1989 national surveys will be presented at 1 p.m. Tuesday (Feb. 13) at a news conference in Washington, D.C., in the Hubert Humphrey Building, headquarters of the Department of Health and Human Services. Lloyd D. Johnston, principal investigator of the study, will be joined by William Bennett, director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; Louis W. Sullivan, M.D., secretary of health and human services; and Lauro D. Cavazos, secretary of education. For further information about the study's findings, contact Johnston at the U-M Institute for Social Research, (313) 763-5043.

ANN ARBOR—Drug use is becoming more unfashionable among the mainstream of young Americans, according to University of Michigan social scientists.

Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley and Jerald G. Bachman—reporting on their 15th annual national survey of American high school seniors, and their 10th national survey of American college students—conclude that the longer-term trend away from the use of marijuana, cocaine and other drugs continued in 1989. "In fact," Johnston says, "the likelihood of a young person in high school or college today actively using illicit drugs is only about half of what it was a decade ago."

Among the findings reported from the 1989 survey are the following:

—Marijuana: Current use of marijuana, defined as any use in the prior 30 days, is down from a peak of 37 percent in 1979 to 17 percent in 1989 among high school seniors, and among college students the decline between 1980 (the earliest year for which college data are available) and 1989 was from 34 percent to 16 percent. The proportional drop in daily marijuana use has been even greater in both populations.

—Cocaine: Cocaine use, which remained at peak levels throughout much of the 80's, began an important decline in 1987 and 1988 that has continued into 1989. Among high school seniors the proportion who are current users of cocaine fell by more than half between 1986 and 1989, from 6.2 percent to 2.8 percent. An even larger proportional drop in current use has been observed among American college students over the same interval—from 7 percent to 2.8 percent.

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--Amphetamines: Amphetamines, which also have been widely used throughout the drug epidemic of the past two decades, have shown an even larger and longer-term decline than cocaine. Current amphetamine use (again, defined as any use in the prior 30 days) peaked among high school seniors in 1980 at more than 12 percent, but was down to approximately 4 percent by 1989. For college students current use in 1980 was also about 12 percent, but by 1989 it had fallen to slightly more than 1 percent.

--Tranquilizers, barbiturates and methaqualone: A number of drugs have reached such low levels in the high school and college populations that they are no longer showing much decline. These include the non-medical use of a number of sedating drugs, including tranquilizers (current use in 1989, for seniors and college students, respectively, of 1.3 percent and 0.8 percent), barbiturates (1.4 percent and 0.2 percent), and methaqualone or quaaludes (0.6 percent and 0.0 percent). All three of these classes of drugs had shown appreciable declines in earlier years. In fact, the decline in use of tranquilizers and barbiturates goes back at least to 1975 when the study began.

"It is still true that a large proportion of young people have tried drugs. In 1989 some 51 percent of the high school seniors and 56 percent of the college students in the survey reported having at least tried an illicit drug use during their lifetime. However, an increasing proportion of users are discontinuing their use," the U-M researchers note.

--Young adults ages 19 to 28: "These conclusions are not confined to high school and college students," the investigators add. "Our panels of high school graduates, covering an age range from 19 to 28, show these same general improvements." The investigators note that the late teens and 20s tend to be the ages of greatest risk for drug abuse in this country.

--Dropouts: "We are quite aware that the segment of the population missing from these samples--namely, those who fail to complete high school--is at higher-than-average risk for drug involvement," Johnston states. "While it is possible that this dropout segment could be trending in ways that are different than those in the 80 percent to 85 percent of the age group that we do cover, our available evidence suggests that this may not be the case. We find at least as great an improvement among the seniors who are most like the dropouts, that is, among those who are frequently truant or have poor grades, as among students who are seldom truant or have excellent grades. This suggests to us that the improvements tend to be very broad." [See Figures C and D.] (According to government statistics, the national dropout rate has shown little overall change in the past 15 years.)

--Crack: Crack--the smokable form of cocaine that comes in chunks or rock form--has not shown as large a decline as did powdered cocaine, but the investigators report that the movement seems to be in the downward direction. Among high school seniors, the proportion having used any crack in their lifetime fell from 5.4 percent in 1987 to 4.7 percent in 1989, and the proportion using any in the past year fell from 3.9 percent in 1987 to 3.1 percent in 1989. Current use--use in the past 30 days--has remained fairly stable over this interval at 1.3 percent and 1.4 percent, respectively.

Declines in crack use were also observed among the college student sample and the total sample of high school graduates 19 to 28 years old in the 1987-89 interval.

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"Two facts are noteworthy in the data on crack use," Johnston observes. "First, compared with a number of the other drugs, relatively small proportions of these populations have ever become involved with crack, no doubt in large part due to the rapid recognition and dissemination of the dangers associated with its use. Second, all three populations have been showing some decline in their use of crack.

"However, we know we are not going to capture many heavy crack users in these surveys," he adds, "and it is clear from other types of information that there are plenty of heavy users out there. What may be most significant here is the fact that crack has not heavily penetrated these mainstream populations of American young people and that the initiation rates among them appear to be on the decline."

—Ice: "Ice," or crystal methamphetamine, is another stimulant drug that can be smoked and which has many of the same euphoric and adverse effects as crack. Because of increasing concern about the spread of this drug, the U-M researchers have begun to ask about its use. "We will have more questions about crystal methamphetamine in the 1990 survey, and we plan to watch this drug carefully," Johnston notes, "but what we have so far suggests rather limited levels of use." Annual prevalence use within the past year—the only usage statistic currently available for this drug) was found to be about 1.2 percent nationally among high school seniors, although it was more than twice that (3 percent) in the West, the region that was expected to be most affected to date. The annual prevalence rates for college students and young adults are about the same as for high school seniors at this point: 1.5 percent of the college students and 1.4 percent of the 19- to 28-year-old sample report any use of ice in the prior year.

"Because ice is probably just as dangerous as crack, we think it important that its hazards become documented and known to the population as quickly as possible," Johnston says. "Over the past decade our research on trends in marijuana, cocaine, and PCP use have led us to the conclusion that concerns about the hazards of a drug play a pivotal role in deterring use. Thus one way of containing threatened epidemics of new substances like ice is to gather good clinical, laboratory and epidemiological evidence fast and to get it out to the relevant populations as quickly and credibly as possible; in other words, to accelerate and reinforce a natural self-correction process that otherwise may take years.

"Another approach may be to teach our youngsters a more general lesson about mood-altering drugs, and that is that all of the ones we know about to date have eventually exacted a high toll on their users. It may take years to show up, as in the case of cocaine, or even decades, as in the case of cigarettes, but eventually there is a price to be paid. That means that whatever next year's new offering may be, it almost surely holds false promise and quite possibly tragic consequences. I hope we can get today's young people to learn from our recent history with drugs, and not to repeat the errors of their predecessors when the next seemingly 'safe' drug comes along."

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—Ecstasy: MDMA or "ecstasy" may be one such drug. Like ice, it was included for the first time in the 1989 study in order to assess how widespread its use is among college students and young adults. (Questions about its use were not asked of high school students.) "So far, relatively small proportions of these samples have used ecstasy," Johnston says. Among the 19- to 28-year-olds, 3.3 percent had tried it (4.5 percent of males and 2.3 percent of females) and only 0.4 percent had used it actively in the prior 30 days. Among college students, 3.8 percent had tried it and only 0.3 percent reported use in the prior 30 days.

--Steroids: Finally, a somewhat different type of drug—namely, anabolic steroids—was added to the study for the first time in 1989. "While these drugs are not generally used to alter mood and consciousness, as are all the other drugs we have been studying, they are controlled substances that can be abused by young people and which pose a definite risk to their health," Johnston says. "While the prevalence of use we find among high school seniors is not as high as some other studies led us to expect, it is clear that there is enough use to be the basis of some concern." The lifetime prevalence among seniors in 1989 was 3 percent; however, since these drugs are used largely by males to enhance muscle development and athletic performance, there is a large difference between the sexes in levels of use. Among male seniors, 4.7 percent reported ever using steroids and 1.4 percent reported use in the prior 30 days. Among females, the corresponding numbers are 1.3 percent and 0.3 percent.

—Causes of the Trends: "We think that the forces leading to the continued downward trends in marijuana and cocaine are much the same as they have been in the past," Johnston adds. "That is, a heightened concern about the health and other effects of these drugs. The proportion of seniors and young adults in their 20s concerned about the adverse consequences of cocaine use—particularly experimental and occasional use—continues to increase, as does the proportion concerned about the use of crack cocaine specifically." Of the seniors surveyed, 54 percent now see "great risk" of the user harming himself physically or in other ways even if he uses powder cocaine only once or twice, and 63 percent now feel that way about experimenting with crack.

"Peer norms have tended to move in parallel to perceived risk, with growing proportions saying they disapprove of the use of these drugs," Johnston notes. "We think these norms shift in part because they have come to see the drugs as more dangerous."

Changes in reported availability have not accounted for the downturns, since the proportion saying they could get cocaine or crack "fairly easily" actually has increased, and because very large proportions of these age groups continue to say marijuana is "readily available" to them. In fact, in the 1989 survey there were significant increases in the perceived availability of LSD, PCP and heroin as well as cocaine and crack.

"The broad trends we are seeing are due almost entirely to a change in demand, not supply," Johnston comments. "This reduced demand is attributable largely to the important changes occurring in the attitudes, beliefs, and social norms among our young people." [See Figures A and B for a simultaneous charting of the trends in use, perceived risk, and availability for two drugs: marijuana and cocaine.]

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—PCP: "While most of the story from the 1989 survey is positive, there are several troublesome findings. One is that the use of PCP [an animal tranquilizer used for its hallucinogenic effects] increased slightly in 1989, with current prevalence among high school seniors rising from 0.3 percent to 1.4 percent. While the present rates of use are far below what they were in the late 1970s, any increase in the use of this particularly damaging drug should be the basis for some concern," Johnston says. An increase was observed in all four regions of the country.

--Inhalants: "Another troublesome finding is that the use of inhalant drugs (glues, aerosols, nitrous oxide, etc.), although not particularly high, has resisted the more general decline in drug use in recent years (despite the decline in use of the component class of inhalants--the amyl and butyl nitrites ('snappers' and 'poppers'))." The overall proportion of students reporting use of this class of drugs has remained fairly stable through most of the 1980s. Approximately 7 percent of high school seniors indicate using some inhalant drug during the prior year. The comparable figure for college students is 4 percent, and for the 19- to 28-year-old sample, 2 percent.

—Cigarette smoking: "By far the most disappointing part of the story," Johnston concludes, "is the fact that over most of the decade there has been practically no improvement in smoking rates among American high school seniors. In 1989, 29 percent of them were current smokers, which is the same proportion as in the class of 1981." (Based on other research it is known that a much higher proportion of the dropouts smoke.)

"The implications for their generation, in terms of unnecessary death and disease, are enormous," Johnston argues. Asked what can be done, he points to advertising. "Anybody who thinks that two and one-half billion dollars a year in the advertising and promotion of cigarettes doesn't contribute to the smoking rates among our children and adolescents simply hasn't given very much thought to the subject."

—Alcohol use: A more encouraging picture emerges for alcohol use. "While clearly a large proportion of American teen-agers drink, and, indeed, many drink to the point of inebriation with some regularity, these statistics have been moving in a constructive direction of late," the investigators conclude. The proportion of seniors indicating that they had consumed any alcoholic beverage during the prior 30 days has fallen by one-sixth, from the peak level of 72 percent in 1980 to 60 percent in 1989 (including a 4 percent decline in 1989). The proportion of seniors reporting recent occasions of heavy drinking (that is, having five or more drinks in a row during the prior two weeks) also has declined, from a high of 41 percent in 1983 to a low of 33 percent in 1989.

"While the numbers are certainly still too high, particularly since purchasing alcohol is illegal for all high school students, they are at least moving in a constructive direction," Johnston concludes. Among college students and young adults in their 20s, however, declines in alcohol use have been much more modest.

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The study, titled "Monitoring the Future," is also widely known as the National High School Senior Survey. It has been conducted under a series of research grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to the U-M Institute for Social Research. Surveys of American high school seniors have been carried out each year since 1975, and of American college students each year since 1980.

The annual senior samples are comprised of roughly 17,000 seniors in 135 public and private high schools nationwide, selected to be representative of all high school seniors in the continental United States. They complete self-administered questionnaires given to them in their classrooms by U-M researchers.

The annual college samples are part of the follow-up studies of previous participating graduating classes, all of whom are resurveyed by mail. College students are defined as high school graduates one to four years past high school enrolled full time in a two-year or four-year college or university. Each year the national sample of college students numbers about 1,200 cases, while the sample of high school graduates, one to 10 years past high school, numbers about 6,600.

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(ISR;Johnston;Bachman;O'Malley)(R1-3;ISR;Ed1-3;X1A,2A,9;RTsp)(TC/1-8)[5872]

TABLE 1
Trends in Lifetime Prevalence of Eighteen Types of Drugs

	Percent ever used															'88-'89 change	
	Class of 1975	Class of 1976	Class of 1977	Class of 1978	Class of 1979	Class of 1980	Class of 1981	Class of 1982	Class of 1983	Class of 1984	Class of 1985	Class of 1986	Class of 1987	Class of 1988	Class of 1989		
Approx. N =	(9400)	(15400)	(17100)	(17800)	(15500)	(15900)	(17500)	(17700)	(16300)	(15900)	(16000)	(15200)	(16300)	(16300)	(16700)		
Any Illicit Drug Use ^a Adjusted Version ^b	55.2	58.3	61.6	64.1	65.1	65.4	65.6	65.8	64.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	-3.0 _{ss}
Any Illicit Drug Other Than Marijuana ^c Adjusted Version ^b	36.2	35.4	35.8	36.5	37.4	38.7	42.8	45.0	44.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	-1.1
Marijuana/Hashish	47.3	52.8	56.4	59.2	60.4	60.3	59.5	58.7	57.0	54.9	54.2	50.9	50.2	47.2	43.7	—	-3.5 _{ss}
Inhalants ^d	NA	10.3	11.1	12.0	12.7	11.9	12.3	12.8	13.6	14.4	15.4	15.9	17.0	16.7	17.8	—	+0.9
Inhalants Adjusted ^e	NA	NA	NA	NA	18.2	17.3	17.2	17.7	18.2	18.0	18.1	20.1	18.6	17.5	18.6	—	+1.1
Amyl & Butyl Nitrites ^{f,g}	NA	NA	NA	NA	11.1	11.1	10.1	9.8	8.4	8.1	7.9	8.6	4.7	3.2	3.3	—	+0.1
Hallucinogens	16.3	15.1	13.9	14.3	14.1	13.3	13.3	12.5	11.9	10.7	10.3	9.7	10.3	8.9	9.4	—	+0.5
Hallucinogens Adjusted ^h	NA	NA	NA	NA	17.7	15.6	15.3	14.3	13.6	12.3	12.1	11.9	10.6	9.2	9.9	—	+0.7
LSD ⁱ	11.3	11.0	9.8	9.7	9.5	9.3	9.8	9.6	8.9	8.0	7.5	7.2	8.4	7.7	8.3	—	+0.6
PCP ^{f,g}	NA	NA	NA	NA	12.8	9.6	7.8	6.0	5.6	5.0	4.9	4.8	3.0	2.9	3.9	—	+1.0
Cocaine	9.0	9.7	10.8	12.9	15.4	15.7	16.5	16.0	16.2	16.1	17.3	16.9	15.2	12.1	10.3	—	-1.8 _{ss}
"Crack" ⁱ	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.4	4.8	4.7	—	-0.1
Other cocaine ^f	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14.0	12.1	8.5	—	-3.6 _{sss}
Heroin	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.3	—	+0.2
Other opiates ^j	9.0	9.6	10.3	9.9	10.1	9.8	10.1	9.6	9.4	9.7	10.2	9.0	9.2	8.6	8.3	—	-0.3
Stimulants ^j	22.3	22.6	23.0	22.9	24.2	26.4	32.2	35.6	35.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	—	NA
Stimulants Adjusted ^{b,j}	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27.9	26.9	27.9	26.2	23.4	21.6	19.8	19.1	—	-0.7
Sedatives ^j	18.2	17.7	17.4	16.0	14.6	14.9	16.0	15.2	14.4	13.3	11.8	10.4	8.7	7.8	7.4	—	-0.4
Barbiturates ^j	16.9	16.2	15.6	13.7	11.8	11.0	11.3	10.3	9.9	9.9	9.2	8.4	7.4	6.7	6.5	—	-0.2
Methaqualone ^j	8.1	7.8	8.5	7.9	8.3	9.5	10.6	10.7	10.1	8.3	6.7	5.2	4.0	3.3	2.7	—	-0.6
Tranquilizers ^j	17.0	16.8	18.0	17.0	16.3	15.2	14.7	14.0	13.3	12.4	11.9	10.9	10.9	9.4	7.6	—	-1.8 _{ss}
Alcohol	90.4	91.9	92.5	93.1	93.0	93.2	92.6	92.8	92.6	92.6	92.2	91.3	92.2	92.0	90.7	—	-1.3
Cigarettes	73.6	75.4	75.7	75.3	74.0	71.0	71.0	70.1	70.6	69.7	68.8	67.6	67.2	66.4	65.7	—	-0.7

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001. NA indicates data not available.

^a Use of "any illicit drugs" includes any use of marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

^b Based on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

^c Use of "other illicit drugs" includes any use of hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

^d Data based on four questionnaire forms in 1976-1988; N is four-fifths of N indicated. Data based on five questionnaire forms in 1989; N is five-sixths of N indicated.

^e Adjusted for underreporting of amyl and butyl nitrites. See text for details.

^f Data based on a single questionnaire form; N is one-fifth of N indicated in 1979-1988 and one-sixth of N indicated in 1989.

^g Question text changed slightly in 1987.

^h Adjusted for underreporting of PCP. See text for details.

ⁱ Data based on two questionnaire forms; N is two-fifths of N indicated in 1987-1988 and two-sixths of N indicated in 1989.

^j Only drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

TABLE 2
Trends in Annual Prevalence of Eighteen Types of Drugs

	Percent who used in last twelve months															'88 - '89 change	
	Class of 1975	Class of 1976	Class of 1977	Class of 1978	Class of 1979	Class of 1980	Class of 1981	Class of 1982	Class of 1983	Class of 1984	Class of 1985	Class of 1986	Class of 1987	Class of 1988	Class of 1989		
Approx. N =	(9400)	(15400)	(17100)	(17800)	(15500)	(15900)	(17500)	(17700)	(16300)	(15900)	(16000)	(15200)	(16300)	(16300)	(16700)		
Any Illicit Drug Use ^a Adjusted Version ^b	45.0	48.1	51.1	53.8	54.2	53.1	52.1	50.8	49.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	-3.1 _{sss}
Any Illicit Drug Other Than Marijuana ^c Adjusted Version ^b	26.2	25.4	26.0	27.1	28.2	30.4	34.0	33.8	32.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	-1.1
Marijuana/Hashish	40.0	44.5	47.6	50.2	50.8	48.8	46.1	44.3	42.3	40.0	40.6	38.8	36.3	33.1	29.6	-3.5 _{ss}	
Inhalants ^d	NA	3.0	3.7	4.1	5.4	4.6	4.1	4.5	4.3	5.1	5.7	6.1	6.9	6.5	5.9	-0.6	
Inhalants Adjusted ^e	NA	NA	NA	NA	8.9	7.9	6.1	6.6	6.2	7.2	7.5	8.9	8.1	7.1	6.9	-0.2	
Amyl & Butyl Nitrites ^{f,g}	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.5	5.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.7	2.6	1.7	1.7	0.0	
Hallucinogens	11.2	9.4	8.8	9.6	9.9	9.3	9.0	8.1	7.3	6.5	6.3	6.0	6.4	5.5	5.8	+0.1	
Hallucinogens Adjusted ^h	NA	NA	NA	NA	11.8	10.4	10.1	9.0	8.3	7.3	7.6	7.6	6.7	5.8	6.2	+0.4	
LSD ^{f,g}	7.2	6.4	5.5	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.1	5.4	4.7	4.4	4.5	5.2	4.8	4.9	+0.1	
PCP ^{f,g}	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.0	4.4	3.2	2.2	2.6	2.3	2.9	2.4	1.3	1.2	2.4	+1.2 _{ss}	
Cocaine	5.6	6.0	7.2	9.0	12.0	12.3	12.4	11.5	11.4	11.6	13.1	12.7	10.3	7.9	6.5	-1.4 _{ss}	
"Crack" ⁱ	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.1	3.9	3.1	3.1	0.0
Other cocaine ^f	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	9.8	7.4	5.2	-2.2 _{ss}	
Heroin	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	+0.1	
Other opiates ^j	5.7	5.7	6.4	6.0	6.2	6.3	5.9	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.9	5.2	5.3	4.6	4.4	-0.2	
Stimulants ^j	16.2	15.8	16.3	17.1	18.3	20.8	26.0	26.1	24.6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stimulants Adjusted ^{b,j}	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	20.3	17.9	17.7	15.8	13.4	12.2	10.9	10.8	-0.1	
Sedatives ^j	11.7	10.7	10.8	9.9	9.9	10.3	10.5	9.1	7.9	6.6	5.8	5.2	4.1	3.7	3.7	0.0	
Barbiturates ^j	10.7	9.6	9.3	8.1	7.5	6.8	6.6	5.5	5.2	4.9	4.6	4.2	3.6	3.2	3.3	+0.1	
Methaqualone ^j	5.1	4.7	5.2	4.9	5.9	7.2	7.6	6.8	5.4	3.8	2.8	2.1	1.5	1.3	1.3	0.0	
Tranquilizers ^j	10.6	10.3	10.8	9.9	9.6	8.7	8.0	7.0	6.9	6.1	6.1	5.8	5.5	4.8	3.8	-1.0 _{ss}	
Alcohol	84.8	85.7	87.0	87.7	88.1	87.9	87.0	86.8	87.3	86.0	85.6	84.5	85.7	85.3	82.7	-2.6 _{ss}	
Cigarettes	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: *s* = .05, *ss* = .01, *sss* = .001. NA indicates data not available.

^aUse of "any illicit drugs" includes any use of marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

^bBased on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

^cUse of "other illicit drugs" includes any use of hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

^dData based on four questionnaire forms in 1976-1988; N is four-fifths of N indicated. Data based on five questionnaire forms in 1989; N is five-sixths of N indicated.

^eAdjusted for underreporting of amyl and butyl nitrites. See text for details.

^fData based on a single questionnaire form; N is one-fifth of N indicated in 1979-1988 and one-sixth of N indicated in 1989.

^gQuestion text changed slightly in 1987.

^hAdjusted for underreporting of PCP. See text for details.

ⁱData based on a single questionnaire form in 1986; N is one-fifth of N indicated. Data based on two questionnaire forms in 1987-1989; N is two-fifths of N indicated in 1987-1988 and two-sixths of N indicated in 1989.

^jOnly drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

TABLE 3
Trends in Thirty-Day Prevalence of Eighteen Types of Drugs

	Percent who used in last thirty days															'88-'89 change	
	Class of 1975	Class of 1976	Class of 1977	Class of 1978	Class of 1979	Class of 1980	Class of 1981	Class of 1982	Class of 1983	Class of 1984	Class of 1985	Class of 1986	Class of 1987	Class of 1988	Class of 1989		
Approx. N =	(9400)	(15400)	(17100)	(17800)	(15500)	(15900)	(17500)	(17700)	(16300)	(15900)	(16000)	(15200)	(16300)	(16300)	(16700)		
Any Illicit Drug Use ^a Adjusted Version ^b	30.7	34.2	37.6	38.9	38.9	37.2	36.9	33.5	32.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	19.7	-1.6s
Any Illicit Drug Other Than Marijuana ^c Adjusted Version ^b	15.4	13.9	15.2	15.1	16.8	18.4	21.7	19.2	18.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	9.1	-0.9
Marijuana/Hashish	27.1	32.2	35.4	37.1	36.5	33.7	31.6	28.5	27.0	25.2	25.7	23.4	21.0	18.0	16.7	-1.3	
Inhalants ^d	NA	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.6	2.3	-0.3	
Inhalants Adjusted ^e	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.2	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.0	2.7	-0.3	
Amyl & Butyl Nitrites ^{f,g}	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.4	1.8	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.3	0.6	0.6	0.0	
Hallucinogens	4.7	3.4	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.4	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.2	2.2	0.0	
Hallucinogens Adjusted ^h	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.3	4.4	4.5	4.1	3.5	3.2	3.8	3.5	2.8	2.3	2.9	+0.6	
LSD ⁱ	2.3	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	
PCP ^{f,g}	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.4	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.6	1.3	0.6	0.3	1.4	+1.1sss	
Cocaine	1.9	2.0	2.9	3.9	5.7	5.2	5.8	5.0	4.9	5.8	6.7	6.2	4.3	3.4	2.8	-0.6s	
"Crack" ⁱ	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.3	1.6	1.4	-0.2	
Other cocaine ^f	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.1	3.2	1.9	-1.3s	
Heroin	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	+0.1	
Other opiates ^j	2.1	2.0	2.8	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.6	0.0	
Stimulants ^j	8.5	7.7	8.8	8.7	9.9	12.1	15.8	13.7	12.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stimulants Adjusted ^{b,j}	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10.7	8.9	8.3	6.8	5.5	5.2	4.6	4.2	-0.4	
Sedatives ^j	5.4	4.5	5.1	4.2	4.4	4.8	4.6	3.4	3.0	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.7	1.4	1.6	+0.2	
Barbiturates ^j	4.7	3.9	4.3	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.0	2.1	1.7	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.4	+0.2	
Methaqualone ^j	2.1	1.6	2.3	1.9	2.3	3.3	3.1	2.4	1.8	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	+0.1	
Tranquilizers ^j	4.1	4.0	4.6	3.4	3.7	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.5	1.3	-0.2	
Alcohol	68.2	68.3	71.2	72.1	71.8	72.0	70.7	69.7	69.4	67.2	65.9	65.3	66.4	63.9	60.0	-3.9ss	
Cigarettes	36.7	38.8	38.4	36.7	34.4	30.5	29.4	30.0	30.3	29.3	30.1	29.6	29.4	28.7	28.6	-0.1	

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001. NA indicates data not available.

^aUse of "any illicit drugs" includes any use of marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

^bBased on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

^cUse of "other illicit drugs" includes any use of hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

^dData based on four questionnaire forms in 1976-1988; N is four-fifths of N indicated. Data based on five questionnaire forms in 1989; N is five-sixths of N indicated.

^eAdjusted for underreporting of amyl and butyl nitrites. See text for details.

^fData based on a single questionnaire form; N is one-fifth of N indicated in 1979-1988 and one-sixth of N indicated in 1989.

^gQuestion text changed slightly in 1987.

^hAdjusted for underreporting of PCP. See text for details.

ⁱData based on two questionnaire forms; N is two-fifths of N indicated in 1987-1988 and two-sixths of N indicated in 1989.

^jOnly drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

TABLE 4
Trends in Thirty-Day Prevalence of Daily Use of Eighteen Types of Drugs

	Percent who used daily in last thirty days															'88-'89 change
	Class of 1975	Class of 1976	Class of 1977	Class of 1978	Class of 1979	Class of 1980	Class of 1981	Class of 1982	Class of 1983	Class of 1984	Class of 1985	Class of 1986	Class of 1987	Class of 1988	Class of 1989	
Approx. N =	(9400)	(15400)	(17100)	(17800)	(15500)	(15900)	(17500)	(17700)	(16300)	(15900)	(16000)	(15200)	(16300)	(16300)	(16700)	
Marijuana/Hashish	6.0	8.2	9.1	10.7	10.3	9.1	7.0	6.3	5.5	5.0	4.9	4.0	3.3	2.7	2.9	+0.2
Inhalants ^a	NA	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0
Inhalants Adjusted ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0
Amyl & Butyl Nitrites ^{c,d}	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.3	+0.2
Hallucinogens	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0 ⁱ
Hallucinogens Adjusted ^e	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3	+0.2 ^{ss}
LSD	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
PCP ^{c,d}	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	+0.1
Cocaine	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	+0.1
"Crack" ^f	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.1	0.1	+0.1
Other cocaine ^c	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.2	0.2	-0.1
Heroin	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	+0.1
Other opiates ^g	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0 ⁱ
Stimulants ^g	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.2	1.1	1.1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stimulants Adjusted ^{g,h}	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0
Sedatives ^g	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	+0.1 ⁱ
Barbiturates ^g	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0 ⁱ
Methaqualone ^g	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0 ⁱ
Tranquilizers ^g	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0 ⁱ
Alcohol																
Daily	5.7	5.6	6.1	5.7	6.9	6.0	6.0	5.7	5.5	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.2	4.2	0.0
5+ drinks in a row/ last 2 weeks	36.8	37.1	39.4	40.3	41.2	41.2	41.4	40.5	40.8	38.7	36.7	36.8	37.5	34.7	33.0	-1.7
Cigarettes																
Daily	26.9	28.8	28.8	27.5	25.4	21.3	20.3	21.1	21.2	18.7	19.5	18.7	18.7	18.1	18.9	+0.8
Half-pack or more per day	17.9	19.2	19.4	18.8	16.5	14.3	13.5	14.2	13.8	12.3	12.5	11.4	11.4	10.6	11.2	+0.6

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: $s = .05$, $ss = .01$, $sss = .001$. NA indicates data not available.

^aData based on four questionnaire forms in 1976-1988; N is four-fifths of N indicated. Data based on five questionnaire forms in 1989; N is five-sixths of N indicated.

^bAdjusted for underreporting of amyl and butyl nitrites. See text for details.

^cData based on a single questionnaire form; N is one-fifth of N indicated in 1979-1988 and one-sixth of N indicated in 1989.

^dQuestion text changed slightly in 1987.

^eAdjusted for underreporting of PCP. See text for details.

^fData based on two questionnaire forms; N is two-fifths of N indicated in 1987-1988 and two-sixths of N indicated in 1989.

^gOnly drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

^hBased on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

ⁱAny apparent inconsistency between the change estimate and the prevalence estimates for the two most recent classes is due to rounding error.

TABLE 5

**Trends in Annual Prevalence of Fourteen Types of Drugs
Among College Students 1-4 Years Beyond High School**

	Percent who used in last twelve months										'88-'89 change
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	
Approx. Wtd. N =	(1040)	(1130)	(1150)	(1170)	(1110)	(1080)	(1190)	(1220)	(1310)	(1300)	
Any Illicit Drug ^e	56.2	55.0	49.5	49.8	45.1	46.3	45.0	40.1	37.4	36.7	-0.7
Any Illicit Drug ^e Other than Marijuana	32.3	31.7	29.9	29.9	27.2	26.7	25.0	21.3	19.2	16.4	-2.8
Marijuana	51.2	51.3	44.7	45.2	40.7	41.7	40.9	37.0	34.6	33.6	-1.0
Inhalants ^b	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.4	3.1	3.9	3.7	4.1	3.7	-0.4
Hallucinogens	8.5	7.0	8.7	6.5	6.2	5.0	6.0	5.9	5.3	5.1	-0.2
LSD	6.0	4.6	6.3	4.3	3.7	2.2	3.9	4.0	3.6	3.4	-0.2
Cocaine	16.8	16.0	17.2	17.3	16.3	17.3	17.1	13.7	10.0	8.2	-1.8
Crack ^c	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.3	2.0	1.4	1.5	+0.1
Heroin	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Other Opiates ^a	5.1	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.8	2.4	4.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	+0.1
Stimulants ^a	22.4	22.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stimulants, Adjusted ^{a,d}	NA	NA	21.1	17.3	15.7	11.9	10.3	7.2	6.2	4.6	-1.6
Sedatives ^a	8.3	8.0	8.0	4.5	3.5	2.5	2.6	1.7	1.5	1.0	-0.5
Barbiturates ^a	2.9	2.8	3.2	2.2	1.9	1.3	2.0	1.2	1.1	1.0	-0.1
Methaqualone ^a	7.2	6.5	6.6	3.1	2.5	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.2	-0.3
Tranquilizers ^a	6.9	4.8	4.7	4.6	3.5	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.1	2.6	-0.5
Alcohol	90.5	92.5	92.2	91.6	90.0	92.0	91.5	90.9	89.6	89.6	0.0
Cigarettes	36.2	37.6	34.3	36.1	33.2	35.0	35.3	38.0	36.6	34.2	-2.4

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent years:
s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001.

NA indicates data not available.

^aOnly drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

^bThis drug was asked about in four of the five questionnaire forms. N is four-fifths of N indicated.

^cThis drug was asked about in one of the five questionnaire forms in 1986 (N is one-fifth of N indicated), and in two of the five questionnaire forms thereafter (N is two-fifths of N indicated).

^dBased on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

^eUse of "any illicit drug" includes any use of marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

TABLE 6

**Trends in Thirty-Day Prevalence of Fourteen Types of Drugs
Among College Students 1-4 Years Beyond High School**

	Percent who used in last thirty days										'88-'89 change
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	
Approx. Wtd. N =	(1040)	(1130)	(1150)	(1170)	(1110)	(1080)	(1190)	(1220)	(1310)	(1300)	
Any Illicit Drug ^e	38.4	37.6	31.3	29.3	27.0	26.1	25.9	22.4	18.5	18.2	-0.3
Any Illicit Drug ^e Other than Marijuana	20.7	18.6	17.1	13.9	13.8	11.8	11.6	8.8	8.5	6.9	-1.6
Marijuana	34.0	33.2	26.8	26.2	23.0	23.6	22.3	20.3	16.8	16.3	-0.5
Inhalants ^b	1.5	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.8	-0.5
Hallucinogens	2.7	2.3	2.6	1.8	1.8	1.3	2.2	2.0	1.7	2.3	+0.6
LSD	1.4	1.4	1.7	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.4	+0.3
Cocaine	6.9	7.3	7.9	6.5	7.6	6.9	7.0	4.6	4.2	2.8	-1.4 _s
Crack ^c	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.4	0.5	0.2	-0.3
Heroin	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Other Opiates ^a	1.8	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.4	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.7	-0.1
Stimulants ^a	13.4	12.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stimulants, Adjusted ^{a,d}	NA	NA	9.9	7.0	5.5	4.2	3.7	2.3	1.8	1.3	-0.5
Sedatives ^a	3.8	3.4	2.5	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	-0.4
Barbiturates ^a	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.2	-0.3
Methaqualone ^a	3.1	3.0	1.9	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Tranquilizers ^a	2.0	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.9	1.0	1.1	0.8	-0.3
Alcohol	81.8	81.9	82.8	80.3	79.1	80.3	79.7	78.4	77.0	76.2	-0.8
Cigarettes	25.8	25.9	24.4	24.7	21.5	22.4	22.4	24.0	22.6	21.1	-1.5

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent years:
s = .05. ss = .01, sss = .001.

NA indicates data not available.

^a Only drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

^b This question was asked in four of the five questionnaire forms. N is four-fifths of N indicated.

^c This question was asked in two of the five questionnaire forms. N is two-fifths of N indicated.

^d Based on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

^e Use of "any illicit drug" includes any use of marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

TABLE 7

Trends in Annual Prevalence of Fourteen Types of Drugs
Among Respondents of Modal Age 19-28

	Percent who used in last twelve months				'88-'89 change
	1986	1987	1988	1989	
Approx. Wtd. N =	(6900)	(6800)	(6700)	(6600)	
Any Illicit Drug ^h	41.9	39.3	36.3	32.8	- 3.5sss
Any Illicit Drug ^h Other than Marijuana	27.0	23.9	21.3	18.3	- 3.0sss
Marijuana	36.5	34.8	31.8	29.0	- 2.8sss
Inhalants ^b	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1
Inhalants, Adjusted ^{b,e}	3.0	2.8	2.4	NA	NA
Nitrites ^f	2.0	1.3	1.0	NA	NA
Hallucinogens	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.6	- 0.3
Hallucinogens, Adjusted ^g	4.9	4.1	3.9	NA	NA
LSD ^f	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.7	- 0.2
PCP ^f	0.8	0.4	0.4	NA	NA
Cocaine	19.7	15.7	13.8	10.8	- 3.0sss
Crack ^c	3.2	3.1	3.1	2.5	- 0.6
Other Cocaine ^f	NA	13.6	11.9	10.3	- 1.6
Heroin	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Other Opiates ^a	3.1	3.1	2.7	2.8	+ 0.1
Stimulants, Adjusted ^{a,d}	10.6	8.7	7.3	5.8	- 1.5sss
Sedatives ^a	3.0	2.5	2.1	1.8	- 0.3
Barbiturates ^a	2.3	2.1	1.8	1.7	- 0.1
Methaqualone ^a	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.3	- 0.2
Tranquilizers ^a	5.4	5.1	4.2	3.7	- 0.5
Alcohol	88.6	89.4	88.6	88.1	- 0.5
Cigarettes	40.1	40.3	37.7	38.0	+ 0.3

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent years:

s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001.

NA indicates data not available.

^aOnly drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

^bThis drug was asked about in four of the five questionnaire forms. N is four-fifths of N indicated.

^cThis drug was asked about in one of the five questionnaire forms in 1986 (N is one-fifth of N indicated), and in two of the five questionnaire forms thereafter (N is two-fifths of N indicated).

^dBased on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

^eAdjusted for underreporting of amyl and butyl nitrites. See text.

^fThis drug was asked about in one questionnaire form. N is one-fifth of N indicated.

^gAdjusted for underreporting of PCP. See text.

^hUse of "any illicit drug" includes any use of marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

TABLE 8

**Trends in Thirty-Day Prevalence of Fourteen Types of Drugs
Among Respondents of Modal Age 19-28**

	Percent who used in last thirty days				'88-'89 change
	1986	1987	1988	1989	
Approx. Wtd. N =	(6900)	(6800)	(6700)	(6600)	
Any Illicit Drug ^h	25.8	23.4	20.5	17.7	-2.8 _{sss}
Any Illicit Drug ^h					
Other than Marijuana	13.0	10.7	9.5	7.5	-2.0 _{sss}
Marijuana	22.0	20.7	17.9	15.5	-2.4 _{sss}
Inhalants ^b	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5	-0.1
Inhalants, Adjusted ^{b,e}	0.7	0.9	0.9	NA	NA
Nitrites ^f	0.5	0.5	0.4	NA	NA
Hallucinogens	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.0
Hallucinogens, Adjusted ^g	1.4	1.2	1.1	NA	NA
LSD ^f	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0
PCP ^f	0.2	0.1	0.3	NA	NA
Cocaine	8.2	6.0	5.7	3.8	-1.9 _{sss}
Crack ^c	NA	1.0	1.2	0.7	-0.5
Other Cocaine ^f	NA	4.8	4.8	3.4	-1.4
Heroin	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Other Opiates ^a	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.0
Stimulants, Adjusted ^{a,d}	4.0	3.2	2.7	2.1	-0.6 _s
Sedatives ^a	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.5	-0.2
Barbiturates ^a	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	-0.2
Methaqualone ^a	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Tranquilizers ^a	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.2	-0.2
Alcohol	75.1	75.4	74.0	72.4	-1.6 _s
Cigarettes	31.1	30.9	28.9	28.6	-0.3

NOTES: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent years:
s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001.

NA indicates data not available.

^aOnly drug use which was not under a doctor's orders is included here.

^bThis drug was asked about in four of the five questionnaire forms. N is four-fifths of N indicated.

^cThis drug was asked about in two of the five questionnaire forms. N is two-fifths of N indicated.

^dBased on the data from the revised question, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

^eAdjusted for underreporting of amyl and butyl nitrites. See text.

^fThis drug was asked about in one questionnaire form. N is one-fifth of N indicated.

^gAdjusted for underreporting of PCP. See text.

^hUse of "any illicit drug" includes any use of marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, and heroin, or any use of other opiates, stimulants, sedatives, or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

TABLE 9

Trends in Harmfulness of Drugs as Perceived by Seniors

Percentage saying "great risk"^a

Q. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they . . .

	Class of 1975	Class of 1976	Class of 1977	Class of 1978	Class of 1979	Class of 1980	Class of 1981	Class of 1982	Class of 1983	Class of 1984	Class of 1985	Class of 1986	Class of 1987	Class of 1988	Class of 1989	'88 - '89 change
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	+4.6 _{sss}
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	+4.8 _{ss}
Smoke marijuana regularly	43.3	38.6	36.4	34.9	42.0	50.4	57.8	60.4	62.8	66.9	70.4	71.3	73.5	77.0	77.5	+0.5
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	+0.3
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	+0.1
Try PCP once or twice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	55.6	58.8	56.6	-2.2
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	+3.7 _s
Take cocaine occasionally	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	54.2	66.8	69.2	71.8	+2.6
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	+1.0
Try "crack" once or twice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	57.0	62.1	62.9	+0.8
Take "crack" occasionally	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	70.4	73.2	75.3	+2.1
Take "crack" regularly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	84.6	84.8	85.6	+0.8
Try cocaine powder once or twice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	45.3	51.7	53.8	+2.1
Take cocaine powder occasionally	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	56.8	61.9	65.8	+3.9 _s
Take cocaine powder regularly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	81.4	82.9	83.9	+1.0
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	-0.2
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	+1.7
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	+0.7
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	+3.2 _s
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	+1.4
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	+2.5
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	+0.9
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	0.0
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	+1.2
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	+1.3
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	+1.4
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	-0.8
Approx. N =	(2804)	(2918)	(3052)	(3770)	(3250)	(3234)	(3604)	(3557)	(3305)	(3262)	(3250)	(3020)	(3315)	(3276)	(2796)	

NOTE: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001. NA indicates data not available.

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

TABLE 10
Trends in Proportions of Seniors Disapproving of Drug Use

Percentage "disapproving"^a

<i>Q. Do you disapprove of people (who are 18 or older) doing each of the following?^b</i>	Class of <u>1975</u>	Class of <u>1976</u>	Class of <u>1977</u>	Class of <u>1978</u>	Class of <u>1979</u>	Class of <u>1980</u>	Class of <u>1981</u>	Class of <u>1982</u>	Class of <u>1983</u>	Class of <u>1984</u>	Class of <u>1985</u>	Class of <u>1986</u>	Class of <u>1987</u>	Class of <u>1988</u>	Class of <u>1989</u>	'88-'89 change
Try marijuana once or twice	47.0	38.4	33.4	33.4	34.2	39.0	40.0	45.5	46.3	49.3	51.4	54.6	56.6	60.8	64.6	+3.8 _s
Smoke marijuana occasionally	54.8	47.8	44.3	43.5	45.3	49.7	52.6	59.1	60.7	63.5	65.8	69.0	71.6	74.0	77.2	+3.2 _s
Smoke marijuana regularly	71.9	69.5	65.5	67.5	69.2	74.6	77.4	80.6	82.5	84.7	85.5	86.6	89.2	89.3	89.8	+0.5
Try LSD once or twice	82.8	84.6	83.9	85.4	86.6	87.3	86.4	88.8	89.1	88.9	89.5	89.2	91.6	89.8	89.7	-0.1
Take LSD regularly	94.1	95.3	95.8	96.4	96.9	96.7	96.8	96.7	97.0	96.8	97.0	96.6	97.8	96.4	96.4	0.0
Try cocaine once or twice	81.3	82.4	79.1	77.0	74.7	76.3	74.6	76.6	77.0	79.7	79.3	80.2	87.3	89.1	90.5	+1.4
Take cocaine regularly	93.3	93.9	92.1	91.9	90.8	91.1	90.7	91.5	93.2	94.5	93.8	94.3	96.7	96.2	96.4	+0.2
Try heroin once or twice	91.5	92.6	92.5	92.0	93.4	93.5	93.5	94.6	94.3	94.0	94.0	93.3	96.2	95.0	95.4	+0.4
Take heroin occasionally	94.8	96.0	96.0	96.4	96.8	96.7	97.2	96.9	96.9	97.1	96.8	96.6	97.9	96.9	97.2	+0.3
Take heroin regularly	96.7	97.5	97.2	97.8	97.9	97.6	97.8	97.5	97.7	98.0	97.6	97.6	98.1	97.2	97.4	+0.2
Try amphetamines once or twice	74.8	75.1	74.2	74.8	75.1	75.4	71.1	72.6	72.3	72.8	74.9	76.5	80.7	82.5	83.3	+0.8
Take amphetamines regularly	92.1	92.8	92.5	93.5	94.4	93.0	91.7	92.0	92.6	93.6	93.3	93.5	95.4	94.2	94.2	0.0
Try barbiturates once or twice	77.7	81.3	81.1	82.4	84.0	83.9	82.4	84.4	83.1	84.1	84.9	86.8	89.6	89.4	89.3	-0.1
Take barbiturates regularly	93.3	93.6	93.0	94.3	95.2	95.4	94.2	94.4	95.1	95.1	95.5	94.9	96.4	95.3	95.3	0.0
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	21.6	18.2	15.6	15.6	15.8	16.0	17.2	18.2	18.4	17.4	20.3	20.9	21.4	22.6	27.3	+4.7 _{ss}
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	67.6	68.9	66.8	67.7	68.3	69.0	69.1	69.9	68.9	72.9	70.9	72.8	74.2	75.0	76.5	+1.5
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	88.7	90.7	88.4	90.2	91.7	90.8	91.8	90.9	90.0	91.0	92.0	91.4	92.2	92.8	91.6	-1.2
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	60.3	58.6	57.4	56.2	56.7	55.6	55.5	58.8	56.6	59.6	60.4	62.4	62.0	65.3	66.5	+1.2
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	67.5	65.9	66.4	67.0	70.3	70.8	69.9	69.4	70.8	73.0	72.3	75.4	74.3	73.1	72.4	-0.7
Approx. N =	(2677)	(2957)	(3085)	(3686)	(3221)	(3261)	(3610)	(3651)	(3341)	(3254)	(3265)	(3113)	(3302)	(3311)	(2799)	

NOTE: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001.

^aAnswer alternatives were: (1) Don't disapprove, (2) Disapprove, and (3) Strongly disapprove. Percentages are shown for categories (2) and (3) combined.

^bThe 1975 question asked about people who are "20 or older."

TABLE 11

Trends in Perceived Availability of Drugs, All Seniors

Q. How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?	Percentage saying drug would be "Fairly easy" or "Very easy" for them to get ^a															'88-'89 change
	Class of 1975	Class of 1976	Class of 1977	Class of 1978	Class of 1979	Class of 1980	Class of 1981	Class of 1982	Class of 1983	Class of 1984	Class of 1985	Class of 1986	Class of 1987	Class of 1988	Class of 1989	
Marijuana	87.8	87.4	87.9	87.8	90.1	89.0	89.2	88.5	86.2	84.6	85.5	85.2	84.8	85.0	84.3	-0.7
Amyl & Butyl Nitrites	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	23.9	25.9	26.8	+0.9
LSD	46.2	37.4	34.5	32.2	34.2	35.3	35.0	34.2	30.9	30.6	30.5	28.5	31.4	33.3	38.3	+5.0 _{ss}
PCP	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	22.8	24.9	28.9	+4.0 _{ss}
Some other psychedelic	47.8	35.7	33.8	33.8	34.6	35.0	32.7	30.6	26.6	26.6	26.1	24.9	25.0	26.2	28.2	+2.0
Cocaine	37.0	34.0	33.0	37.8	45.5	47.9	47.5	47.4	43.1	45.0	48.9	51.5	54.2	55.0	58.7	+3.7 _s
"Crack"	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	41.1	42.1	47.0	+4.9 _{ss}
Cocaine powder	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	52.9	50.3	53.7	+3.4 _s
Heroin	24.2	18.4	17.9	16.4	18.9	21.2	19.2	20.8	19.3	19.9	21.0	22.0	23.7	28.0	31.4	+3.4 _s
Some other narcotic (including methadone)	34.5	26.9	27.8	26.1	28.7	29.4	29.6	30.4	30.0	32.1	33.1	32.2	33.0	35.8	38.3	+2.5
Amphetamines	67.8	61.8	58.1	58.5	59.9	61.3	69.5	70.8	68.5	68.2	66.4	64.3	64.5	63.9	64.3	+0.4
Barbiturates	60.0	54.4	52.4	50.6	49.8	49.1	54.9	55.2	52.5	51.9	51.3	48.3	48.2	47.8	48.4	+0.6
Tranquilizers	71.8	65.5	64.9	64.3	61.4	59.1	60.8	58.9	55.3	54.5	54.7	51.2	48.6	49.1	45.3	-3.8 _s
Approx. N =	(2627)	(2865)	(3065)	(3598)	(3172)	(3240)	(3578)	(3602)	(3385)	(3269)	(3274)	(3077)	(3271)	(3231)	(2806)	

NOTE: Level of significance of difference between the two most recent classes: s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001. NA indicates data not available.

^a Answer alternatives were: (1) Probably impossible, (2) Very difficult, (3) Fairly difficult, (4) Fairly easy, and (5) Very easy.

TABLE 12

NEW DRUGS IN THE 1989 SURVEY
 (entries are percentages)

STEROID USE
Among High School Seniors, 1989

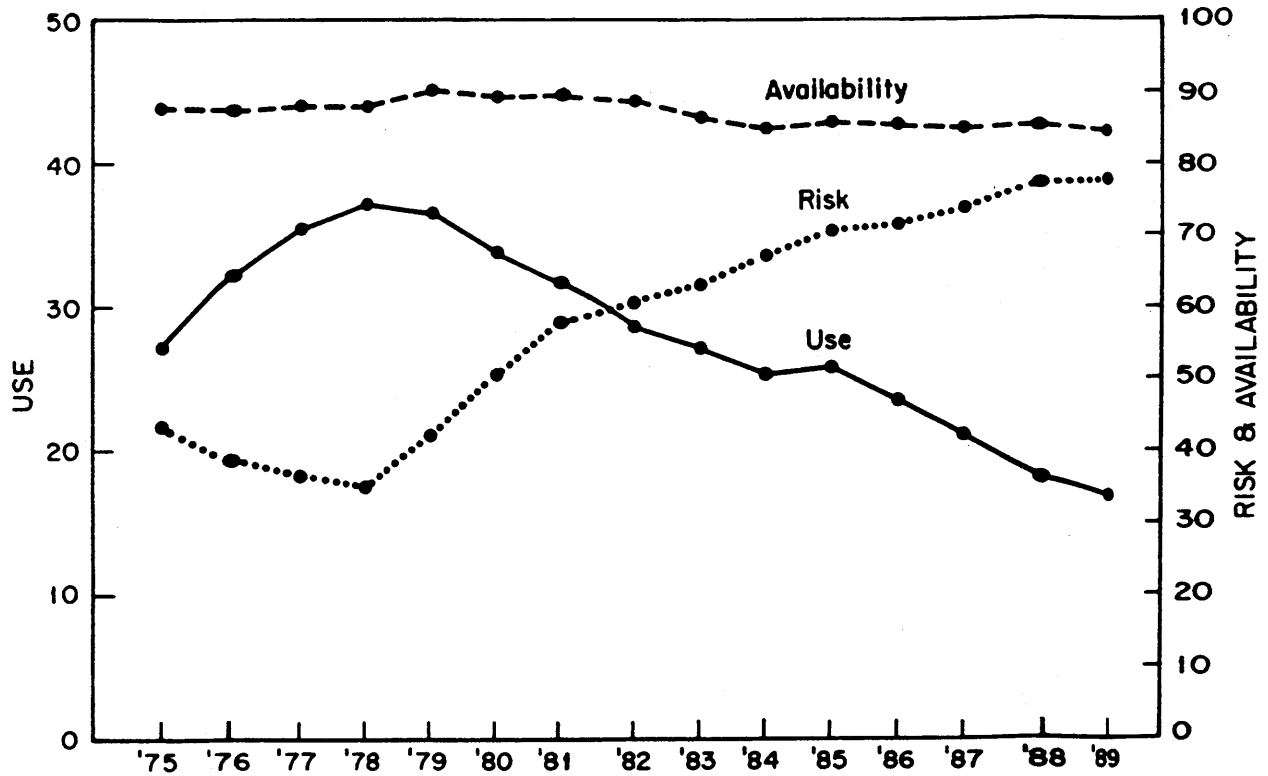
	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Lifetime Use	3.0	4.7	1.3
Past Year Use	1.9	2.8	0.9
Past 30-Day Use	0.8	1.4	0.3

"ICE" (Crystal Methamphetamine)
Among High School Seniors, 1989

	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Lifetime Use	NA	NA	NA
Past Year Use	1.2	1.4	0.6
Past 30-Day Use	NA	NA	NA

FIGURE A

Marijuana: Trends in Perceived Availability,
Perceived Risk of Regular Use,
and Prevalence of Use in Past Thirty Days



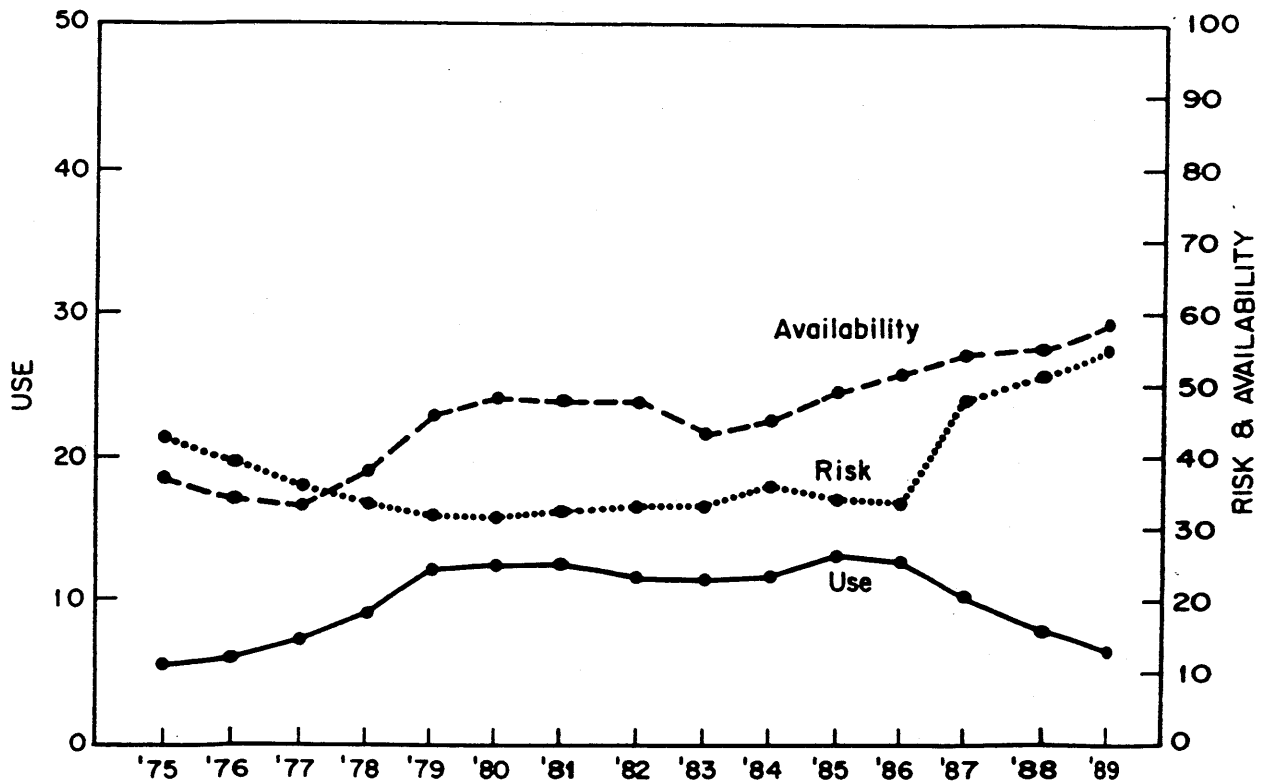
Use: % using once or more in past 30 days

Risk: % saying great risk of harm in regular use

Availability: % saying fairly easy or very easy to get

FIGURE B

Cocaine: Trends in Perceived Availability, Perceived Risk of Trying, and Prevalence of Use in Past Year



Use: % using once or more in past 12 months

Risk: % saying great risk of harm in using once or twice

Availability: % saying fairly easy or very easy to get

FIGURE C

Trends in Annual Marijuana Use
by Level of Truancy, 1979-1989
High School Seniors

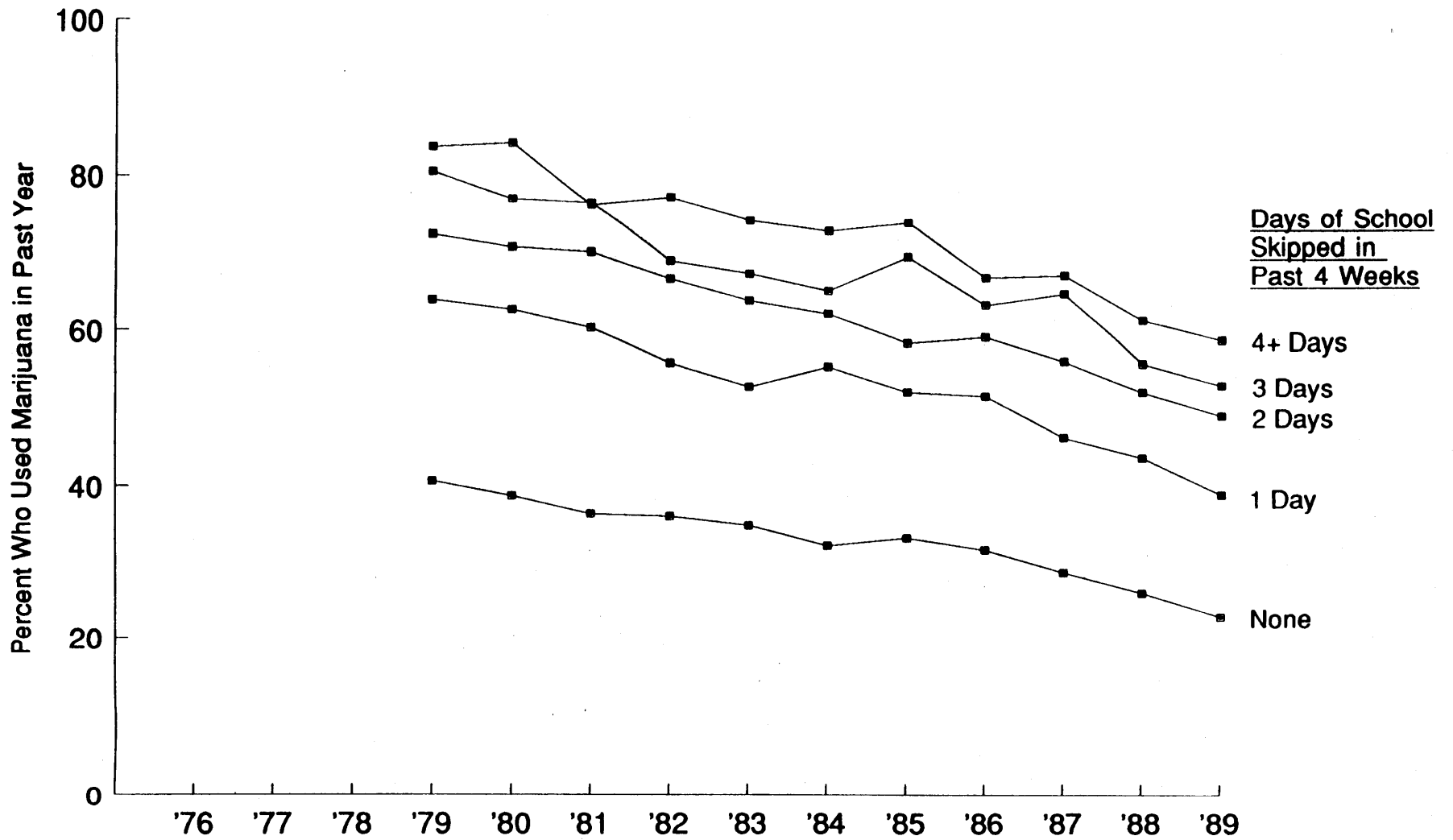


FIGURE D

Trends in Annual Cocaine Use
by Level of Truancy, 1986-1989
High School Seniors

