

**Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs**  
Grade 11 / Year 12  
Fast Track Project Technical Report  
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December 2, 2010

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**Citation**

Instrument

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 cohort, 1997-2001. 2002. Produced by the National Opinion Research Center, the University of Chicago and distributed by the Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University.

Elliot, D.S., Huizinga, D. & Ageton, S. S. 1985. Explaining delinquency and drug use. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage.

Report

Sandoval, J. M. (2010) Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project Web site, <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

**Data Sources**

Raw: C12Z

Scored: TAD12

**I. Survey Description**

The Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs survey is a 57-item instrument based on measures used in the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. This measure was first added to the Fast Track Protocol in study year 12. This measure assesses tobacco, alcohol and illegal drug use. Report of use of legal and illegal drugs prompts further questions about frequency of use and type of substances used. The response options vary based on the type of question asked (e.g., yes-no and open-ended responses).

**II. Report Sample**

These analyses were conducted on the first cohort on the high-risk Control sample (n = 112) and the Normative sample (n = 233, N = 463 with overlap) for the twelfth year of the study. One-hundred eighteen records were missing for the complete measure. The distribution of respondents by site was as follows: for the Control sample, 34 were from Durham, 23 were from Nashville, 31 were from Pennsylvania and 24 were from Washington. For the Normative sample, 74 were from Durham, 43 were from Nashville, 65 were from Pennsylvania and 51 were from Washington.

Table 1 shows the number of participants who used tobacco, drug and alcohol. The most commonly used substance was tobacco (i.e., cigarettes). The second most commonly use substance was alcohol. Very



### III. Differences Between Groups

Tables 4 and 5 display measures of association between sample type and substance use. With regard to tobacco use members of the Control sample are more likely to have tried tobacco than those from the Normative sample. No significant association was found between sample type and trying alcohol two or three times.

Table 4

Association between Tobacco Use and Group

N=345, $\chi^2 = 6.65$ , $p < 0.009$			
Count Row Percentage	No	Yes	Total
Control	36 (32.14)	76 (67.86)	112
Normative	109 (46.78)	124 (53.22)	233
Total Cohort 1	145 (42.03)	200 (52.97)	345

Table 5

Association between Alcohol Use and Group

N=164, $\chi^2 = 0.56$ , $p < 0.46$			
Count Row Percentage	No	Yes	Total
Control	62 (55.36)	50 (44.64)	112
Normative	119 (51.07)	114 (48.93)	233
Total Cohort1	181 (52.46)	164 (47.54)	345

### IV. Recommendations for Use

The Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey allows for the standardization of data collection regarding the participant's substance and illegal drug use. The survey measures key factors related to the participant's Tobacco, Drug and Alcohol use. Group mean comparisons are available for the researcher to compare the frequency and onset of drug, tobacco, and alcohol use which might differ between the Normative samples and Control samples. The user is encouraged to examine the sizes of the cells. The high standard errors displayed below are indicative of very low counts.

### V. Item Frequencies. Means and SDs

Table 6 and 7 shows frequencies for dichotomous items, means and standard deviations for each of the continuous items not previously discussed. The listed items do not show a significant difference between Control and Normative sample groups.

Table 6

## Item Means and Standard Deviations for Answered Items

Question	Control	Control	Normative	Normative
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Age when smoked first full cigarette.	13.18	2.81	13.24	2.56
Age first smoked cigarette regularly	14.04	2.08	13.78	2.44
Number of days smoked cigarettes in the past month	14.87	12.75	11.71	13.27
Number of cigarettes smoked in your life time.	14648.44	628388.57	5091.09	20556.52
Number of cigarettes smoked per day in the past month	9.23	7.08	8.46	7.41
Number of days you smoked cigars in the past month.	0.88	4.03	0.26	1.42
Age you smoked your first cigar?	15.36	1.21	14.44	1.71
Number of days used chewing tobacco in the past month	0.90	4.90	0.52	3.47
Age you first used chewing tobacco/snuff	13.00	2.00	14.22	2.73
Age of first alcoholic drink without adult permission	14.02	1.82	14.97	1.79
Number of days you drink alcohol in past year	9.90	23.71	12.08	35.83
Number of drinks consumed each time in the past year	6.07	6.87	5.32	5.86
Number of days had 5+ drinks in a row in the past year	8.07	25.19	4.30	12.25
Number of days gotten drunk on alcohol	8.31	25.50	3.30	6.89
Age when tried marijuana for the first time	13.84	1.71	14.13	2.21
Number of time used marijuana in lifetime	1885.05	7842.83	1033.20	5531.41
Number of time used marijuana in past month	8.34	17.50	10.35	23.95
Age you first tried any cocaine	15.40	1.14	15.00	2.45
Number of time used cocaine in lifetime	2.40	1.14	5.60	5.08
Number of time used cocaine in past month	0.22	0.44	4.00	5.87
Age when tried inhalants for the first time	13.00	1.00	13.50	0.71
Number of times used inhalants in lifetime	5.54	5.22	6.50	7.78
Number of times used inhalants in past month	0	.	5.50	7.78
Age first used any illegal drug	15.00	1.32	15.22	1.86
Number of times used illegal drugs in lifetime	18.22	24.84	23.88	48.13
Number of times used illegal drugs in the past month	4.22	8.61	1.00	2.35

Table 7

## Frequency of Responses for Drug and Alcohol Use

Question	Control n=112		Normative n=233	
	No	Yes	Yes	No
Have you tried cigarette smoking?	36	76	109	124
Ever smoked cigarette regularly?	19	48	43	52
Smoked 100+ cigarettes in your lifetime?	27	40	50	45
Tried to Quit Smoking in the Past 6 Months?	15	21	16	23
Had drink of alcohol more than 2-3 times?	62	50	119	114
Ever had a drink when not with parents or adults?	13	37	23	91
Ever tried psychedelic drugs?*	2	7	0	9
Ever tried pills not prescribed by a doctor?*	1	8	3	6
Have you ever injected illegal drugs?*	9	0	8	1
Own your own Needle or Syringe?*	0	0	0	0

\* Note: These questions are subject of a logical step. Respondents are asked first at what age they attempted consumption. Only respondents with valid answers are included in this table.