

Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs
Grade 8 / Year 9
Fast Track Project Technical Report
Jose Miguel Sandoval
November 30, 2010

Table of Contents

- I. Scale Description
- II. Report Sample
- III. Differences between Groups
- IV. Recommendations for Use
- V. Item Means and Standard Deviations

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. 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: C9Z

Scored: TAD9

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 8. 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 = 126) and the Normative sample (n = 242) for the ninth year of the study. The distribution of respondents by site was as follows: for the Control sample, 34 were from Durham, 31 were from Nashville, 33 were from Pennsylvania and 28 were from Washington. For the Normative sample, 72 were from Durham, 43 were from Nashville, 70 were from Pennsylvania and 57 were from Washington. Ninety five records were missing for year 9.

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 the association between sample and tobacco and alcohol use. With regard to tobacco use there is no association with regard to sample type. Respondents from the Control sample are more likely to use alcohol than members of the Normative sample.

Table 4.

Measure of Association between Sample and Tobacco Use

| N=368, $\chi^2 = 1.91$, $p < 0.167$ | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| Count Row Percentage | No | Yes | Total |
| Control | 55 (43.65) | 71 (56.35) | 126 |
| Normative | 124 (51.24) | 118 (48.76) | 242 |
| Total Cohort 1 | 179 (48.64) | 189 (51.36) | 368 |
| | | | 100 |

Table 5.

Measure of Association between Sample and Alcohol Use

| N= 368, $\chi^2 = 5.397$, $p < 0.02$ | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| Count Row Percentage | No | Yes | Total |
| Control | 75 (59.52) | 51 (40.48) | 126 |
| Normative | 173 (71.49) | 69 (28.51) | 242 |
| Total Cohort 1 | 248 (67.39) | 120 (32.61) | 368 |
| | | | 100 |

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

Tables 6 and 7 display 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. | 11.45 | 2.13 | 11.86 | 2.15 |
| Age first smoked cigarette regularly. | 12.35 | 1.87 | 11.74 | 2.28 |
| Number of days smoked cigarettes in the past month | 8.72 | 11.03 | 5.79 | 10.06 |
| Number of cigarettes smoked in your life time. | 62.87 | 107.45 | 55.77 | 108.99 |
| Number of cigarettes smoked per day in the past month | 11.69 | 11.92 | 8.25 | 8.03 |
| Number of days you smoked cigars in the past month. | .35 | 1.51 | .16 | 1.67 |
| Age you smoked your first cigar? | 12.30 | 1.89 | 12.67 | 1.51 |
| Number of days used chewing tobacco in the past month | 0.17 | 1.07 | 0.03 | 0.25 |
| Age you first used chewing tobacco/snuff | 12.00 | 1.26 | 13.00 | 0.82 |
| Age of first alcoholic drink without adult permission | 11.88 | 2.05 | 11.91 | 2.14 |
| Number of days you drink alcohol in past year | 4.92 | 7.09 | 10.13 | 30.25 |
| Number of drinks consumed each time in the past year | 4.17 | 4.62 | 3.57 | 3.89 |
| Number of days had 5+ drinks in a row in the past year | 2.85 | 4.23 | 6.65 | 19.91 |
| Number of days gotten drunk on alcohol | 4.80 | 14.43 | 6.52 | 20.99 |
| Age when tried marijuana for the first time | 12.56 | 1.58 | 12.51 | 1.29 |
| Number of time used marijuana in lifetime | 27.35 | 40.39 | 91.97 | 174.59 |
| Number of time used marijuana in past month | 4.94 | 13.44 | 3.67 | 10.70 |
| Age you first tried any cocaine | 14.00 | . | . | . |
| Number of time used cocaine in lifetime | 1.0 | . | . | . |
| Number of time used cocaine in past month | 0 | 0 | . | . |
| Age when tried inhalants for the first time | 13.33 | 1.15 | 10.14 | 2.97 |
| Number of times used inhalants in lifetime | 1.33 | 0.58 | 3.00 | 3.42 |
| Number of times used inhalants in past month | 0 | . | 0 | . |
| Age first used any illegal drug | 11.25 | 4.27 | 12.14 | 1.57 |
| Number of times used illegal drugs in lifetime | 43.00 | 56.29 | 14.29 | 22.74 |
| Number of times used illegal drugs in the past month | 6.00 | 9.52 | 3.75 | 8.66 |

Note: The N's for rows vary. User is encouraged to examine frequency tables.

Table 7.

Frequency of Responses for Drug and Alcohol Use

| Question | Control n=126 | | Normative n=242 | |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| | No | Yes | Yes | No |
| Have you tried cigarette smoking? | 55 | 71 | 124 | 118 |
| Ever smoked cigarette regularly? | 31 | 23 | 48 | 23 |
| Smoked 100+ cigarettes in your lifetime? | 34 | 20 | 54 | 17 |
| Tried to Quit Smoking in the Past 6 Months? | 6 | 7 | 13 | 8 |
| Had drink of alcohol more than 2-3 times? | 75 | 51 | 173 | 69 |
| Ever had a drink when not with parents or adults? | 24 | 27 | 29 | 40 |
| Ever tried psychedelic drugs?* | 4 | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| Ever tried pills not prescribed by a doctor?* | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Have you ever injected illegal drugs?* | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 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.