Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs
Grade 7 / Year 8
Fast Track Project Technical Report
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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.,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: C8Z

Scored: TAD8

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 for the first cohort on the high-risk ControlControl sample (n = 131) and the NormativeNormative sample (n = 254) for the eighth year of the study.. The distribution of respondents by site was as follows: for the ControlControl sample, 34 were from Durham, 34 were from Nashville, 34 were from Pennsylvania and 29 were from Washington. For the NormativeNormative sample, 76 were from Durham, 49 were from Nashville, 73 were from Pennsylvania and 56 were from Washington. Seventy-eight records were missing for year 8.

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

Very few of the participants in the ControlControl (n=10) and NormativeNormative (n=9) samples engaged in illegal drug use.

Table 1.

Frequency of Responses for Use of Tobacco, Drugs and Alcohol

Question	ControlControl (Yes)	ControlControl (No)	NormativeNormative (Yes)	NormativeNormative (No)
Have you ever tried cigarette smoking?	69	62	96	158
Have you ever had a drink of alcohol?	41	90	55	199
Have you ever tried psychedelic drugs?*	1	2	1	3
Have you ever tried uppers?*	2	1	2	2
Have you ever tried heroin?*	2	1	2	2
Have you ever tried pills not prescribed by a doctor?*	3	0	3	1
Have you ever injected any illegal drug?*	2	1	1	3

* 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. .

Table 2 shows the age of members of the ControlControl group at first use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs. First use is more prevalent from age 12 and older.

Table 2.

ControlControl Sample Age Distribution of First Use of Tobacco, Drugs and Alcohol

Question	Age									
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Age first smoked cigarettes regularly?		1		1	1	1	1	6	4	
Age you smoked your first cigar?	1			1			2	2	4	
Age first used alcohol without a parent or adult?		2	2			3		5	2	
Age when tried marijuana for first time?	1			1		2	3	1	6	
Age when tried inhalants for the first time?			1					1	2	
Age when first injected illegal drugs?				1						

Table 3 shows the age of members of the NormativeNormative group at first use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs. For the NormativeNormative sample, first use is more prevalent from age 11 and older.

Table 3.

NormativeNormative Sample Age Distribution of First Use of Tobacco, Drugs and Alcohol

Question	Age									
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Age first smoked cigarettes regularly?			1	1			4	6	3	
Age you smoked your first cigar?					1		5	3	4	
Age first used alcohol without a parent or adult?				1		3	3	9	4	1

Age when tried marijuana for first time?		1	5	10	4	1
Age when tried inhalants for the first time?	1		1	3	2
Age when first injected illegal drugs?			1		

III.   Differences Between Groups

Table 4 shows the association between sample and tobacco use. Respondents from the ControlControl sample are more likely to use tobacco than those from the NormativeNormative sample.

Table 4.

Association Between Tobacco Use and Sample

N=385, X^2 = 7.81, p< 0.0052			
Count Row Percentage	No	Yes	Total
ControlControl	62 (47.33)	69 (52.67)	131
NormativeNormative	158 (62.20)	96 (37.80)	254
Total Cohort 1	220 (57.14)	165 (42.86)	381 100

Table 5 shows the association between sample and alcohol use. Respondents from the ControlControl sample are more likely to use alcohol than those from the NormativeNormative sample.

Table 5

Association Between Alcohol Use and Sample .

N=385, X^2 = 4.29 p< 0.0382			
Count Row Percentage	No	Yes	Total
ControlControl	90 (68.70)	41 (31.30)	131
NormativeNormative	199 (78.35)	55 (21.65)	254
Total Cohort 1	289 (75.06)	96 (24.94)	385 100

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 comparisons are available for the researcher to compare the frequency and onset of drug, tobacco, and alcohol use which might differ between the NormativeNormative and ControlControl 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 displays means and standard deviations for continuous items, Table 7 displays frequencies for dichotomous items.

Table 6 Means and Standard Deviations for Selected Items

Question	ControlControl Mean	ControlControl SD	NormativeNormative Mean	NormativeNormative SD
Age when smoked first full cigarette.	11	1.93	11.31	1.88
Age first smoked cigarette regularly.	11.2	2.08	11.33	1.72
Number of days smoked cigarettes in the past month	5.57	9.79	5.41	9.08
Number of cigarettes smoked in your life time.	56.47	107.27	56.28	132.43
Number of cigarettes smoked per day in the past month	6.18	5.64	8.09	11.99
Number of days you smoked cigars in the past month.	.58	2.67	.21	1.55
Age you smoked your first cigar?	11.09	2.51	11.69	1.18
Number of days used chewing tobacco in the past month	0.11	0.71	0.04	0.34
Age you first used chewing tobacco/snuff	10.40	1.52	11.20	3.49
	10.27	2.55	11.67	1.35
Age of first alcoholic drink without adult permission	2.10	5.32	2.69	5.02
Number of days you drink alcohol in past year				
Number of drinks consumed each time in the past year	4.24	7.36	3.47	5.30
Number of days had 5+ drinks in a row in the past year.	1.78	5.59	1.45	3.61
Number of days gotten drunk on alcohol.	1.32	2.86	0.84	2.26
Age when tried marijuana for the first time	11.33	2.09	11.95	0.92
Number of time used marijuana in lifetime	30.44	54.30	39.86	109.36
Number of time used marijuana in past month	1.39	2.43	1.57	3.38
Age you first tried any cocaine	10.50	2.12	12.00	1.41
Number of time used cocaine in lifetime	1.0	0.00	1.50	0.71
Number of time used cocaine in past month	0	0	0.50	0.71
Age when tried inhalants for the first time	11.25	2.87	11.71	1.38
Number of times used inhalants in lifetime	4.75	3.59	5.00	4.80
Number of times used inhalants in past month	5.25	3.50	4.29	3.45
Age first used any illegal drug	10.67	2.31	11.75	1.26
Number of times used illegal drugs in lifetime	39.00	53.36	7.75	11.53
Number of times used illegal drugs in the past month	1.33	1.53	3.00	4.08

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

Table 7

Frequency of Responses for selective items on Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Use

Question	ControlControl n=131		NormativeNormative n=254	
	No	Yes	Yes	No
Have you tried cigarette smoking?	62 (47.33%)	69 (52.67%)	158 (62.20%)	96 (37.80%)
Ever smoked cigarettes regularly?*	34 (25.95%)	15 (11.45%)	43 (16.93%)	15 (5.91%)
Smoked 100+ cigarettes in your lifetime?*	40 (30.53%)	9 (6.87%)	46 (18.11%)	12 (4.72%)
Tried to quit smoking in the past 6 months?*	6 (4.58%)	5 (3.82%)	6 (2.36%)	5 (1.97%)
Had a drink of alcohol more than 2-3 times?	90 (68.70%)	41 (31.30%)	199 (78.35%)	55 (21.65%)
Ever had a drink when not with parents or adults?*	26 (19.85%)	15 (11.45%)	34 (13.39%)	21 (8.27%)
Ever tried psychedelic drugs?*	2 (1.53%)	1 (0.76%)	3 (1.18%)	1 (0.39%)
Ever tried pills not prescribed by a doctor?*	0 (0.00%)	3 (2.29%)	1 (0.40%)	3 (1.18%)
Have you ever injected illegal drugs?*	1 (0.76%)	2 (1.52%)	3 (1.18%)	1 (0.39%)
Own your own needle or syringe?*	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (0.40%)	0 (0.00%)

* Note: These questions are subject of a logical step. Respondents are asked first if they ever tried tobacco, alcohol or drugs. Only respondents with valid answers are included in the respective row. .