

# Chapter 1

## A Demographic Profile

Issues related to substance abuse take place within the framework of the community. The community provides the context in which these issues evolve, are debated, and efforts to solve them are made. An understanding of some of the basic characteristics of our community is an essential first step in beginning to deal collectively with our problems. The following provides data on some general characteristics of Porter County, including population, race and ethnicity, wealth or lack of it, educational attainment, occupations, the nature of housing, and mobility. It also presents data on how residents of Porter County view the strengths and issues in the community.

**Population Characteristics.** Table 1.1 displays general population characteristics of Porter County and some comparisons to national data. The percentage of males (49.1%) and females (50.9%) is virtually identical to the national data. The median age of 37.2 years is slightly higher than the national median age of 36.4 years. The 120,320 people age 18 and over in Porter County account for 76.1% of the population, which is slightly higher than the national figure. Those individuals 65 years and older account for 11.4% of the population, which is lower than the 12.5% figure at the national level. Almost all residents (98.6%) identify themselves as “one race.” A total of 93.0% of Porter County residents label themselves white, 6.2% “Hispanic or Latino,” and 2.4% consider themselves “Black or African American.” Porter County is substantially less diverse than the nation as a whole.

**Table 1.1**  
**Porter County Population Characteristics**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	<b>Number (Estimate)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
<b>Total Population</b>	158,169	--	--
Male	77,643	49.1%	49.2%
Female	80,526	50.9%	50.8%
<b>Median Age (Years)</b>	37.2	--	36.4
Under 5 years	9,729	6.2%	6.9%
18 and Older	120,320	76.1%	75.3%
65 and Older	17,957	11.4%	12.5%
<b>One Race</b>	155,976	98.6%	97.9%
White	147,175	93.0%	74.1%
Black or African American	3,758	2.4%	12.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native	334	0.2%	0.8%
Asian	1,614	1.0%	4.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	--	--	0.1%
Some Other Race	3,095	2.0%	6.2%
Two or More Races	2,193	1.4%	2.1%
Hispanic or Latino	9,838	6.2%	14.7%

**Education Characteristics.** Table 1.2 presents data on the patterns of education among Porter County residents. The total number of individuals over 3 years old currently enrolled in school is 43,058. Of that total, 16,936 or 39.3%, are in grades 1 through 8. Those persons in college or graduate school make up 28.0%, and 37.4% are enrolled in high school (including equivalency classes). Of residents over 25, 91.1% have at least a high school degree, 21.6% have some college but without a degree, 15.7% have a bachelor's degree, 24.7% have a bachelor's degree or higher, and only 8.9% have not attained at least a high school degree.

**Table 1.2**  
**Porter County Education Characteristics**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	Number (Estimate)	Percentage
<b>School Enrollment</b>		
Population 3 years and over Enrolled in School	43,058	100.0%
Nursery school, Preschool	2,482	5.8%
Kindergarten	2,448	5.7%
Elementary School (grades 1-8)	16,936	39.3%
High School (grades 9-12)	9,128	21.2%
College or Graduate School	12,064	28.0%
<b>Educational Attainment</b>		
Population 25 years and over	103,806	100.0%
Less than 9th grade	2,635	2.5%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	6,646	6.4%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	38,784	37.4%
Some college, no degree	22,391	21.6%
Associate's degree	7,695	7.4%
Bachelor's degree	16,309	15.7%
Graduate or professional degree	9,346	9.0%
Percent high school graduate or higher	--	91.1%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	--	24.7%

**Mobility.** Table 1.3 presents data on the mobility of Porter County residents. As indicated, the population is relatively stable with 86% of the residents living in the same house as they did a year ago. A total of 7.7% of residents moved within the county, 5.9% moved in from a different county, 2.6% came from a different state, and .3% came from a different country.

**Table 1.3**  
**Porter County Mobility**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

<b>Residence 1 Year Ago</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Population 1 year and over	156,494	100.0%
Same House	134,605	86.0%
Different House in U.S.	21,362	13.7%
Same County	12,086	7.7%
Different County	9,276	5.9%
Same State	5,208	3.3%
Different State	4,068	2.6%
Abroad	527	0.3%

**Employment Status.** Table 1.4 displays data on the employment status of Porter County residents that was assembled prior to the recent economic downturn. Roughly two-thirds (66.9%) of the population over 16 years old are in the labor force. Only 4.3% of this population is officially unemployed. The number of people employed in the civilian labor force is 83,247 or 62.5%. A total of 41,292 people over 16 are not in the labor force. The armed forces account for only 0.1% of employment.

**Table 1.4**  
**Porter County Employment Status**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Population 16 years and over</b>	124,645	100.0%
In labor force	83,353	66.9%
Civilian labor force	83,247	66.8%
Employed	77,920	62.5%
Unemployed	5,327	4.3%
Armed Forces	106	0.1%
Not in labor force	41,292	33.1%

**Occupation.** Table 1.5 presents a breakdown of the number and percentage of Porter County residents in various occupations. A total of 31.5% of all employed persons work in management, professional and other related occupations, 24.6% work in sales and office occupations, 16% in service occupations, and 15.5% are employed in production, transportation, and material moving occupations. Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair occupations account for another 12.3% of employed individuals.

**Table 1.5**  
**Porter County Occupations**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

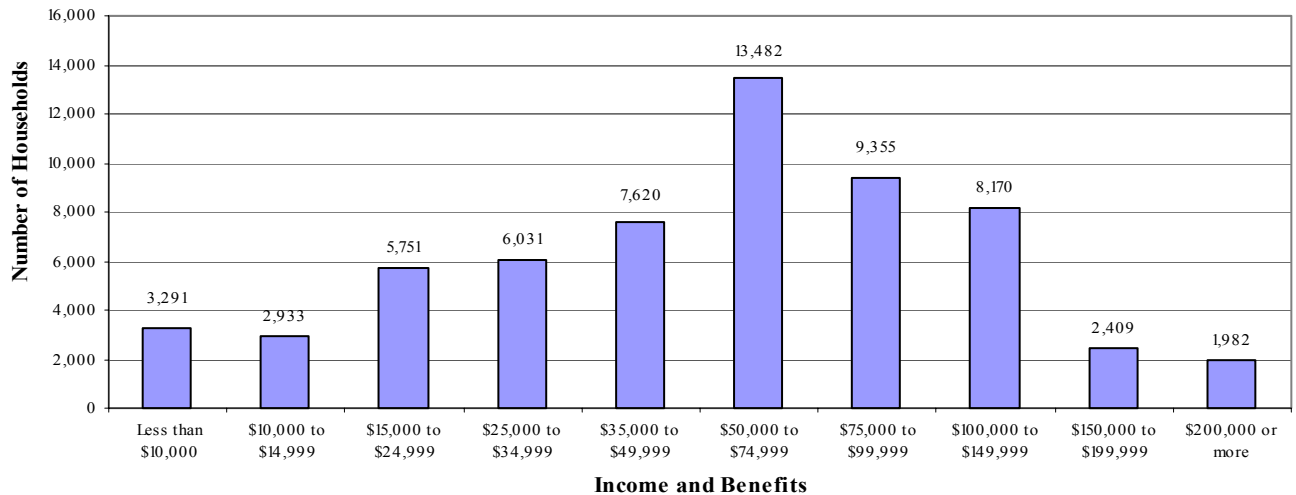
Occupations	Number	Percentage
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and Over	77,920	100.0%
Management, Professional, and Related	24,523	31.5%
Sales and Office	19,167	24.6%
Service	12,430	16.0%
Production, Transportation, and Material Moving	12,088	15.5%
Construction, Extraction, Maintenance and Repair	9,564	12.3%
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	148	0.2%

**Household Income and Benefits.** Table 1.6 presents data on household income in Porter County. The income is presented in 2007 inflation-adjusted dollars. The median household income in Porter County is \$59,245, which compared to the same figure at the state level (\$47,034) makes Porter County one of the wealthier counties in the state. Looking only at the aggregate figures, however, masks the large number of households that are not included in that image of prosperity. The data in Table 1.6 makes this clear, but it is more vividly demonstrated in Figure 1.1. While 22.1% of households earn \$50,000 to \$74,999, 10.2% (6,124 households) earn less than \$14,999. Another 9.4% (5,751) households earn between \$15,000 and \$24,999. Obviously there exist very large differences between the income of households in Porter County.

**Table 1.6**  
**Porter County Household Income and Benefits**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Less than \$10,000</b>	3,291	5.4%
<b>\$10,000 to \$14,999</b>	2,933	4.8%
<b>\$15,000 to \$24,999</b>	5,751	9.4%
<b>\$25,000 to \$34,999</b>	6,031	9.9%
<b>\$35,000 to \$49,999</b>	7,620	12.5%
<b>\$50,000 to \$74,999</b>	13,482	22.1%
<b>\$75,000 to \$99,999</b>	9,355	15.3%
<b>\$100,000 to \$149,999</b>	8,170	13.4%
<b>\$150,000 to \$199,999</b>	2,409	3.9%
<b>\$200,000 or more</b>	1,982	3.2%

**Figure 1.1**  
**Porter County Household Income and Benefits in 2007 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007



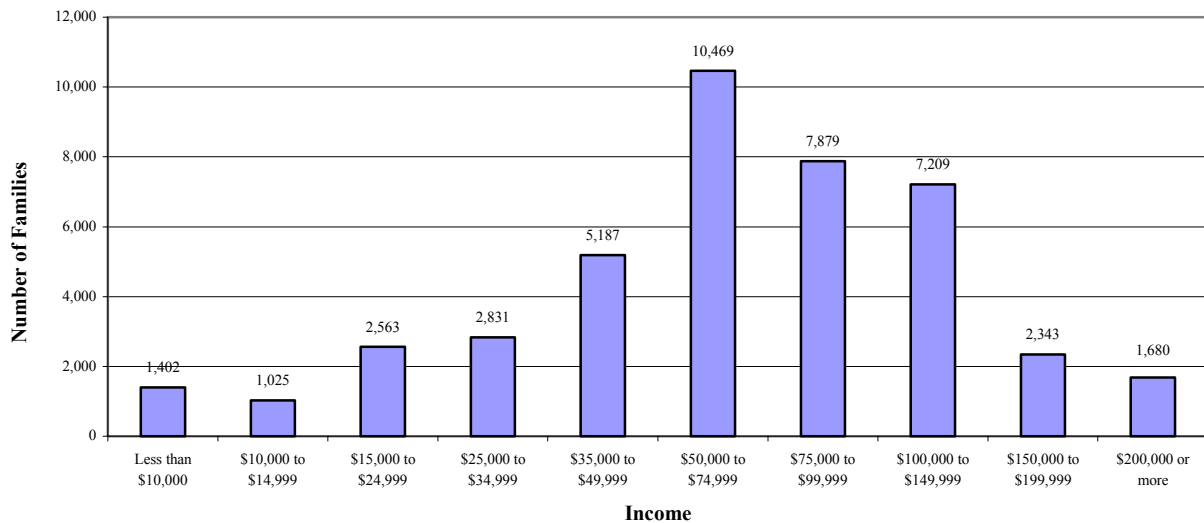
**Family Income and Benefits.** Table 1.7 displays the breakdown of income and benefits for families in Porter County. The median family income in Porter County is \$70,038 and for the state it is \$57,602. Again looking at the aggregate figures Porter County is one of the wealthiest counties in the state. At the same time, as with the distribution of household income,

the distribution of wealth in the county is relatively unequal. This is represented graphically in Figure 1.2. A quarter of the families in the County earn between \$50,000 and \$74,999, and 18.5%, or 7,879 families, earn between \$75,000 and \$99,999, and 16.9% earn between \$100,000 and \$149,000 a year. However, 11.7% of families, or more specifically, 4,990 families, earn less than \$24,999. Additionally, 5.7% (2,427 families) earn less than \$15,000.

**Table 1.7**  
**Porter County Family Income and Benefits**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Less than \$10,000</b>	1,402	3.3%
<b>\$10,000 to \$14,999</b>	1,025	2.4%
<b>\$15,000 to \$24,999</b>	2,563	6.0%
<b>\$25,000 to \$34,999</b>	2,831	6.6%
<b>\$35,000 to \$49,999</b>	5,187	12.2%
<b>\$50,000 to \$74,999</b>	10,469	24.6%
<b>\$75,000 to \$99,999</b>	7,879	18.5%
<b>\$100,000 to \$149,999</b>	7,209	16.9%
<b>\$150,000 to \$199,999</b>	2,343	5.5%
<b>\$200,000 or more</b>	1,680	3.9%

**Figure 1.2**  
**Family Income and Benefits in 2007 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007



**Poverty.** Table 1.8 presents statistics on the rates of poverty in Porter County. As indicated, 6.7% of all families in Porter County live under the poverty threshold and 9.7% of the individuals live in poverty. Again this data is prior to the current economic downturn. Statewide, 8.9% of all families and 12% of individuals live in poverty. Poverty figures vary, however, by age and types of living arrangements. As indicated in Table 1.8, over a quarter (26.5%) of families with female head of household and no husband present live below the poverty line. This percentage increases to 33.8% for such families with children younger than 5 and 37.7% for those families with children under 18 years old. The rate of poverty for those younger than 18 is 14.9%. For those individuals age 18 to 64, the poverty rate is 8.6%. This decreases to 5.4% of those 65 or older.

**Table 1.8**  
**Percentage of Population Living Below the Poverty Line, Porter County**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

Type of Relationship	Percentage
<b>All Families</b>	6.7%
With Related Children under 18 years	12.2%
With Related Children under 5 years only	4.3%
<b>Married Couple Families</b>	2.8%
<b>With Related Children under 18 years</b>	4.3%
With Related Children under 5 years only	9.4%
<b>Families with Female Householder, no Husband Present</b>	26.5%
With Related Children under 18 years	37.7%
With Related Children under 5 years only	33.8%
<b>All People</b>	9.7%
Under 18 years	14.9%
Related Children under 18 years	14.5%
Related Children under 5 years only	16.5%
Related Children 5 to 17 years	13.8%
18 Years and Over	8.1%
18 to 64 years	8.6%
65 Years and Over	5.4%
People in Families	7.4%
Unrelated Individuals 15 years and over	21.7%

**Housing Structure Age.** The ages of housing structures in a community give an indication of the patterns of development that have occurred and potential problems with existing housing. As Table 1.9 shows, housing construction has occurred in spurts across time. For example, almost a fourth of the housing stock in Porter County was constructed in the 1970s, a time when there was an influx of new jobs related to the steel industry. Economic growth in the 90s also saw a considerable expansion of the housing stock. On the other hand, during both the 60s and the 80s there was relatively slow expansion of the housing market. Data like this also give an indication of potential problems with the quality of housing. For example, structures built prior to 1979 account for 58.1% of housing. These houses therefore were all constructed prior to the banning of the use of lead paint in this country and more than likely still have the potential of causing a variety of lead hazard related problems, primarily to the physical and emotional health of young children.

**Table 1.9**  
**Year Housing Structure was Built, Porter County**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Built 2005 or Later</b>	1,147	1.8%
<b>Built 2000 to 2004</b>	6,052	9.4%
<b>Built 1990 to 1999</b>	12,090	18.7%
<b>Built 1980 to 1989</b>	7,752	12.0%
<b>Built 1970 to 1979</b>	14,712	22.8%
<b>Built 1960 to 1969</b>	8,226	12.8%
<b>Built 1950 to 1959</b>	6,701	10.4%
<b>Built 1940 to 1949</b>	2,441	3.8%
<b>Built 1939 or Earlier</b>	5,383	8.3%

**Selected Monthly Home Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income.** One of the major expenses for any family or household is the cost of housing. Generally affordable housing is defined as housing costs that are below 30% of the household or family income. Table 1.10 shows what percentage of the monthly income of persons with mortgages goes to pay for housing. Most Porter County residents in this category live in what would be considered affordable housing. Of owner occupied households with a mortgage in Porter County, 44.9% pay less than 20% of their income for housing. A total of 17.4% of households have housing costs between 20 and 24.9% and only 8% of households face housing costs greater than 30.0% and less than 35.0% of their monthly income. A total of 18.1% of the households in this category pay more than 35% of household income for housing.



**Table 1.10**  
**Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income, Porter County**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Owner-occupied Units</b>	47,049	--
<b>Housing Unit with a Mortgage</b>	33,738	--
<b>Less than 20.0 Percent</b>	15,150	44.9%
<b>20.0 to 24.9 Percent</b>	5,880	17.4%
<b>25.0 to 29.9 Percent</b>	3,910	11.6%
<b>30.0 to 34.9 Percent</b>	2,720	8.0%
<b>35.0 Percent or More</b>	6,105	18.1%
<b>Not Computed</b>	18	--
<b>Housing Unit without a Mortgage</b>	13,266	--

**Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income.** Table 1.11 displays data on the percentage of income devoted to rent payments. Again costs in excess of 30% of income are said to be the threshold of affordable housing. You see a quite different picture on affordable housing when the issue turns to those who rent. For example, 39.6% of renting households spend more than 35.0% of their monthly income for housing. Another 6.7% have housing costs below 35% but still over 30%. Another 12.1% have costs between 25 and 30%, 11.4% have costs between 20 and 24.9%, 12.9% have costs between 15 and 19.9%, and 13% have costs under 15%.

**Table 1.11**  
**Porter County Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income**  
 US Census Bureau Estimates, 2005-2007

	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Renter-Occupied Units</b>	13,975	--
<b>Less than 15.0 percent</b>	1,823	13.0%
<b>15.0 to 19.9 Percent</b>	1,797	12.9%
<b>20.0 to 24.9 percent</b>	1,596	11.4%
<b>25.0 to 29.9 percent</b>	1,688	12.1%
<b>30.0 to 34.9 percent</b>	931	6.7%
<b>35.0 percent or more</b>	5,539	39.6%
<b>Not Computed</b>	601	--

## Strengths and Issues in the Community

In addition to a look at the demographic profile of the community, it is important to examine public perceptions of the community in terms of its strengths, issues and how the quality of life overall is viewed. In 2007 the Porter County United Way and the Porter County Community Foundation commissioned a survey of Porter County to help better understand some of these issues. Some of the results from that survey are presented below. It should be noted that some of the tables result from an independent analysis of the survey data presented.

**Porter County Strengths.** Table 1.12 presents data from the survey on how persons perceived the strengths of the community. The data presented includes the listing of the top three strengths and then the total of those three. That is, the total column is simply the result of the total percentage of persons who saw this as one of the top three strengths in the community.

**Table 1.12**  
**Community Views of Porter County Strengths**  
Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007

<b>Strength</b>	<b>Total (% Respondents)</b>	<b>Top Strength (% Respondents)</b>	<b>Second Strength (% Respondents)</b>	<b>Third Strength (% Respondents)</b>
<b>Schools</b>	24.1%	10.6%	8.6%	4.9%
<b>People/Family</b>	18.0%	5.9%	8.0%	4.1%
<b>Community/Neighborhood</b>	11.4%	6.0%	2.8%	2.6%
<b>Location</b>	9.6%	5.6%	2.4%	1.6%
<b>Beaches</b>	8.6%	4.3%	2.3%	2.0%
<b>Shopping</b>	7.8%	2.1%	3.1%	2.6%
<b>Employment</b>	7.2%	2.6%	2.8%	1.8%
<b>Parks</b>	6.3%	1.9%	2.8%	1.6%
<b>Rural</b>	5.7%	3.3%	1.5%	0.9%
<b>Close to Chicago</b>	4.5%	2.0%	1.6%	0.9%
<b>Clean</b>	4.0%	2.1%	1.4%	0.5%
<b>Good Place to Raise a Family</b>	3.4%	1.8%	1.1%	0.5%
<b>Familiarity</b>	3.1%	2.4%	0.4%	0.3%
<b>Development</b>	3.1%	0.8%	1.4%	0.9%
<b>Economy</b>	2.6%	1.4%	0.3%	0.9%
<b>Environment</b>	2.5%	1.0%	0.6%	0.9%
<b>Cost of Living</b>	2.4%	1.3%	0.5%	0.6%
<b>Police</b>	2.4%	1.3%	1.0%	0.1%
<b>Low Crime</b>	2.2%	1.3%	0.5%	0.4%
<b>Area</b>	2.0%	0.5%	0.9%	0.6%
<b>Business</b>	1.7%	0.5%	0.9%	0.3%
<b>Other</b>	40.9%	15.6%	15.4%	9.9%
<b>Unsure/Not Available</b>	--	26.0%	40.0%	61.3%

Clearly the top strength of the community in the eyes of the public is the schools; this is followed by reference to the people and families and then the sense of community and neighborhoods. Location, beaches, shopping, employment, being rural yet close to Chicago, being clean, and a good place to raise a family also received high marks.

**Porter County Strengths by Sex.** Table 1.13 takes a closer look at the evaluation of the strengths in the community by controlling for sex to see if males and females view the strengths of the community the same. Because of the amount of data involved, the comparisons in this table are only of the totals and the top ranked strength. Overall, the rankings are quite similar. There is a tendency for males to view employment and the police as greater strengths than females. At the same time, females are more likely to see shopping and the cleanliness of the community as more important.

**Table 1.13**  
**Community View of Porter County Strengths by Sex**  
 Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007

Strength	Total (% Respondents)				Top Strength (% Respondents)			
	Male	Rank	Female	Rank	Male	Rank	Female	Rank
<b>Schools</b>	20.6%	1	27.5%	1	9.3%	1	11.9%	1
<b>People/Family</b>	18.2%	2	17.8%	2	7.2%	2	4.6%	3
<b>Location</b>	11.1%	3	8.3%	5	7.2%	2	4.1%	4
<b>Beaches</b>	9.8%	4	7.2%	6	4.9%	4	3.6%	5
<b>Community/Neighborhood</b>	9.0%	5	13.6%	3	4.4%	5	7.5%	2
<b>Employment</b>	8.5%	6	5.8%	9	2.8%	7	2.4%	9
<b>Rural</b>	6.4%	7	4.8%	10	3.6%	6	2.9%	8
<b>Parks</b>	5.9%	8	6.5%	7	1.3%	13	2.4%	9
<b>Close to Chicago</b>	4.6%	9	4.4%	11	2.6%	8	1.5%	12
<b>Raise a Family</b>	3.4%	10	3.4%	12	2.1%	10	1.5%	12
<b>Shopping</b>	3.1%	11	12.4%	4	0.8%	18	3.4%	6
<b>Development</b>	3.1%	11	3.0%	14	1.0%	15	0.5%	19
<b>Police</b>	3.1%	11	1.7%	19	2.1%	10	0.5%	19
<b>Familiarity</b>	2.6%	15	3.4%	12	2.6%	8	2.2%	11
<b>Economy</b>	2.6%	15	2.5%	17	1.3%	13	1.5%	12
<b>Low Crime</b>	2.6%	15	1.7%	19	1.5%	12	1.0%	17
<b>Environment</b>	2.1%	17	3.0%	14	0.5%	19	1.5%	12
<b>Area</b>	2.1%	17	2.0%	18	0.5%	19	0.5%	19
<b>Clean</b>	1.8%	19	6.1%	8	1.0%	15	3.2%	7
<b>Business</b>	1.8%	19	1.4%	21	0.3%	21	0.7%	18
<b>Cost of Living</b>	1.8%	19	3.0%	14	1.0%	15	1.5%	12
<b>Other</b>	41.6%	--	40.1%	--	14.4%	--	16.8%	--
<b>Unsure/Not Available</b>	--	--	--	--	27.8%	--	24.3%	--

**Porter County Strengths by Income.** To look even closer at the views of the strengths of the community and how they may differ among various groups, the sample was broken down by income with one group including those with family incomes below \$34,000, a second group of those earning between \$34,000-\$75,000, and a third group of those making more than \$75,000. These data are presented in Table 1.14. Overall the view of the strengths of the community are quite similar. Differences do occur over the view of “location” as a strength, with those persons in the middle range of income ranking it lower than the other groups. Persons in lower income categories are more likely to rank “familiarity” and the environment as strengths more so than persons in higher income categories. On the other hand, persons in the highest income categories are more likely to say that Porter County is a good place to raise children. Also, a greater percentage (20 percentage points difference) of those that make \$75,000+ per year rank schools as a strengths when compared to those that earn less than \$34,000.

**Table 1.14**  
**Community View of Porter County Strengths by Annual Pre-Tax Income**  
 Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007

Strength	Total (% Respondents)					
	Under \$34,000	Rank	\$35-74,000	Rank	\$75,000+	Rank
People/Families	18.7%	1	19.3%	2	16.2%	2
Schools	15.1%	2	27.7%	1	35.7%	1
Location	9.5%	3	9.0%	7	11.3%	4
Community/Neighborhood	8.4%	4	12.9%	3	13.5%	3
Shopping	7.0%	5	9.7%	5	7.6%	8
Beaches	6.4%	6	11.1%	4	9.7%	5
Familiarity	5.3%	7	1.1%	21	2.1%	18
Employment	4.3%	8	9.7%	5	8.7%	6
Parks	4.3%	8	8.9%	9	6.5%	0
Close to Chicago	4.0%	10	5.1%	10	4.9%	12
Rural	3.2%	11	9.0%	7	5.3%	11
Environment	3.2%	11	1.5%	19	3.2%	16
Good Place to Raise a Family	2.9%	13	1.5%	19	7.5%	9
Clean	2.8%	14	2.2%	14	8.6%	7
Area	2.8%	14	1.8%	17	1.0%	21
Development	2.2%	16	2.2%	14	4.9%	12
Police	2.2%	16	2.1%	16	2.1%	18
Cost of Living	1.8%	18	2.6%	13	3.7%	15
Business	1.8%	18	1.8%	17	1.6%	20
Economy	0.0%	20	4.0%	11	4.8%	14
Low Crime	0.0%	20	2.8%	12	3.2%	16
Other	32.4%	--	47.3%	--	44.9%	--
Unsure/NA	--	--	--	--	--	--

**Issues in Porter County.** Porter County residents also were asked to list the most important issues in the community. The responses to this question are presented in Table 1.15. Far and above the most important issue is employment, followed by issues related to substance abuse, health care, crime, schools, housing and transportations. Important for the concern of this report is that citizens have listed substance abuse as the second most pressing issue in the County.

**Table 1.15**  
**Top Issues for Citizens in Porter County**  
 Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007

<b>Issues</b>	<b>% Respondents</b>
<b>Employment</b>	14.0%
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	6.9%
<b>Health Care</b>	6.4%
<b>Crime</b>	5.4%
<b>Schools</b>	4.9%
<b>Housing</b>	4.8%
<b>Transportation</b>	2.5%
<b>Youth Concerns</b>	1.6%
<b>Senior Citizen Concerns</b>	1.4%
<b>Poverty</b>	0.9%
<b>Mental Health</b>	0.6%
<b>Teen Pregnancy</b>	0.5%
<b>Child Care</b>	0.3%
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	0.3%
<b>Child Abuse</b>	0.1%
<b>Other</b>	13.4%
<b>Unsure/Not Available</b>	15.9%

**Issues in Porter County by Sex.** Responses to the question about the most important issues in the community when controlled by sex are presented in Table 1.16. Overall the rankings are quite similar except for a few issues. For example, women are more likely to see the schools, teen pregnancy and child care as more important issues than do males. On the other hand, males are more likely to see issues like housing and mental health to be more important than do females. Substance abuse remains the issue receiving the second most references for both males and females.

**Table 1.16**  
**Top Issues for Citizens in Porter County by Sex**  
 Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007

Issue	% Respondents			
	Male	Rank	Female	Rank
Employment	16.2%	1	11.9%	1
Substance Abuse	7.2%	2	6.6%	2
Health Care	6.7%	3	6.1%	3
Crime	5.4%	4	5.4%	5
Housing	5.4%	4	4.1%	6
Schools	3.6%	6	6.1%	3
Transportation	2.3%	7	2.7%	7
Senior Citizen Issues	1.8%	8	1.0%	9
Youth Concerns	1.3%	9	1.9%	8
Poverty	1.3%	9	0.5%	10
Mental Health	1.0%	11	0.2%	13
Teen Pregnancy	0.5%	12	0.5%	10
Domestic Violence	0.3%	13	0.2%	13
Child Care	0.0%	14	0.5%	10
Child Abuse	0.0%	14	0.2%	13
Other	12.6%	--	14.1%	--
Unsure/NA	15.2%	--	16.5%	--

**Issues in Porter County by Income.** When the rankings of the most important issues are broken down by the same three income categories used earlier, we once again see a good deal of similarity. However, we also see some important differences among income groups as to the most important issues. For example, employment is still the number 1 issue for all three groups, but note that 20.4% of persons making under \$34,000 rank it as number 1, 10% of those making between 34,000 and \$75,000 rank it 1, and 12.4% of those making more than \$75,000 rank it number 1. Obviously, a greater number of persons in the lower income bracket are more concerned about this issue. Substance abuse drops down to number 3 for the two lower income brackets and it is replaced by health care. Health care is number 5 for the highest income bracket and substance abuse remains number 2. Schools are the third most important issue for the \$75,000+ group, but drops to 6<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively for the next two lower income brackets. Lower income brackets are more concerned about senior citizen issues and the highest income bracket is more concerned about domestic violence. Thus various income groups do share much in common when it comes to the importance of issues, but they also diverge in certain areas.

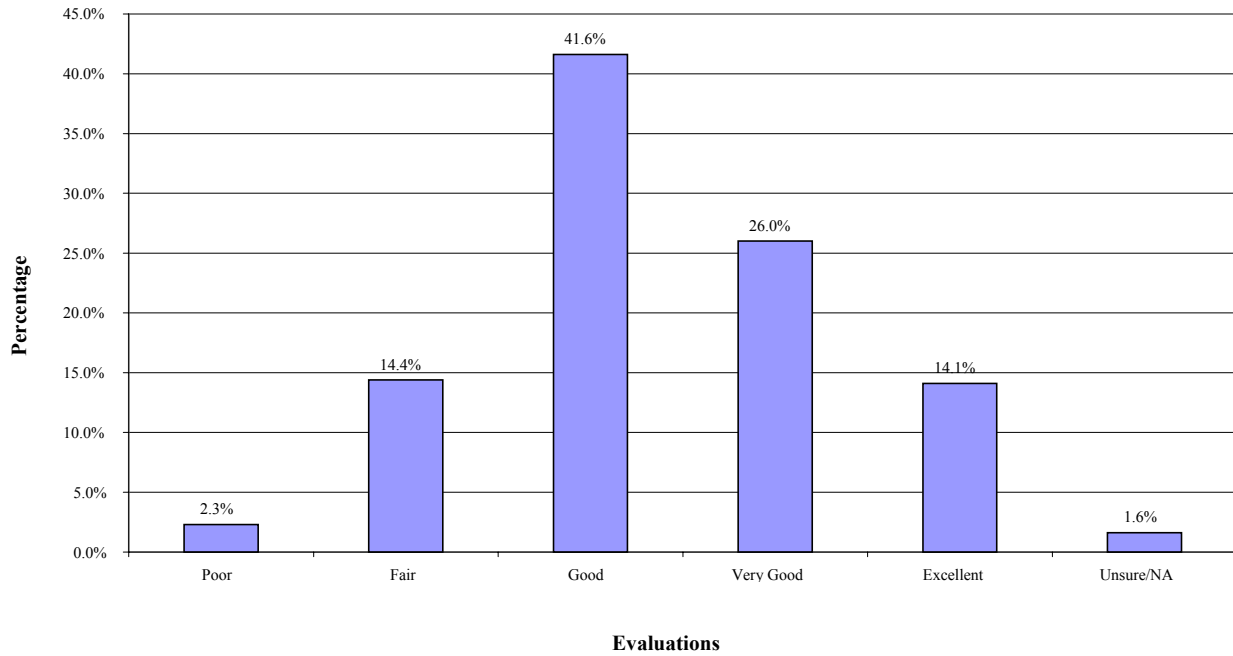
**Table 1.17**  
**Top Issues of Citizens in Porter County by Annual Pre-Tax Income**  
Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007

Issue	% Respondents					
	Under \$34,000	Rank	\$35-74,000	Rank	\$75,000+	Rank
Employment	20.4%	1	10.0%	1	12.4%	1
Health Care	6.0%	2	9.0%	2	4.3%	5
Substance Abuse	5.6%	3	5.7%	5	8.6%	2
Schools	4.9%	4	3.6%	6	6.5%	3
Housing	4.2%	5	6.5%	3	4.3%	5
Crime	3.9%	6	6.1%	4	5.4%	4
Transportation	2.8%	7	2.5%	7	2.2%	7
Senior Citizen Concerns	2.5%	8	1.1%	9	0.0%	13
Youth Concerns	1.1%	9	2.2%	8	2.2%	7
Poverty	0.7%	10	1.1%	9	0.5%	9
Mental Health	0.7%	10	0.7%	11	0.5%	9
Teen Pregnancy	0.4%	12	0.7%	11	0.5%	9
Child Abuse	0.4%	12	0.0%	15	0.0%	13
Domestic Violence	0.0%	14	0.4%	14	0.5%	9
Child Care	0.0%	14	0.7%	11	0.0%	13
Other	14.4%	--	12.5%	--	14.6%	--
Unsure	17.3%	--	16.5%	--	11.9%	--

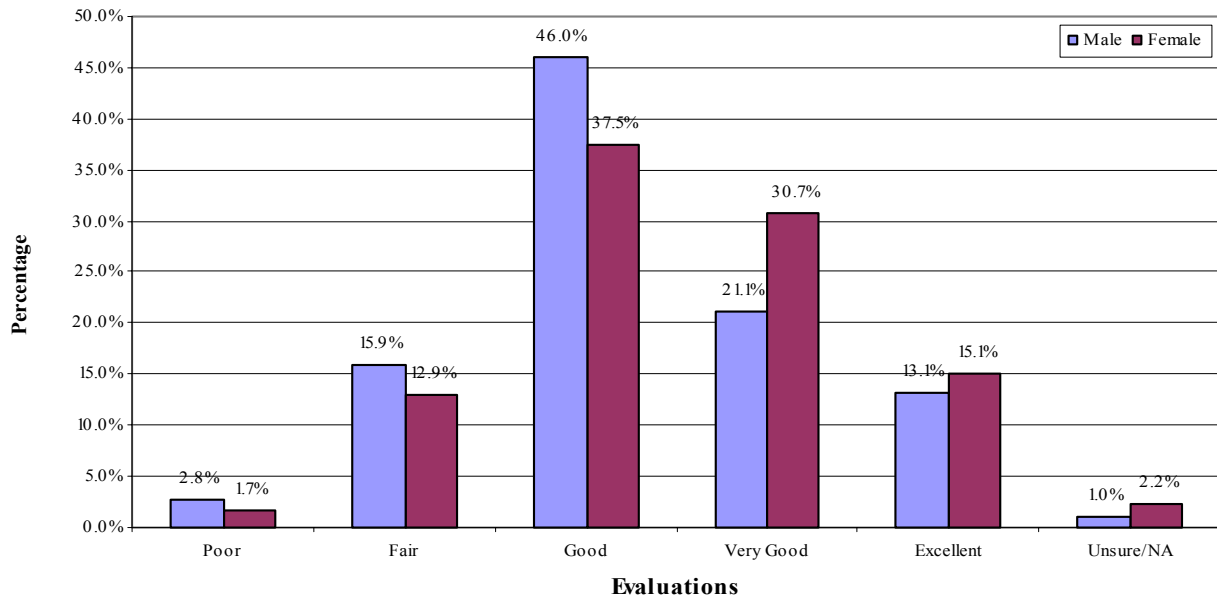
**Perceptions of the Quality of Life in Porter County.** Citizens also were asked to rate the overall quality of life in Porter County by rating it on a scale as to whether it was poor, fair, good, very good, or excellent. The responses to this question are presented in Figure 1.3. As indicated, most persons (41.6%) rate the community good, 26.0% say very good, and 14.1% rate the community as excellent. A total of 14.4% of the community only rank it is fair and 2.3% say the quality of life is poor.

**Perceptions of the Quality of Life in Porter County by Sex.** Figure 1.4 presents the evaluations of the quality of life in Porter County when controlled for sex. As indicated there are some similarities, but also important differences. For example, males tend to outnumber females in their evaluation of the community as good, fair, and poor, while females evaluate the community in considerably more favorable terms. In particular, 30.7% of females rate the community as very good compared to 21.1% of males. So while there are some similarities, males and females do diverge in their overall evaluation of the quality of life in the community.

**Figure 1.3**  
**Quality of Life in Porter County**  
 Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007



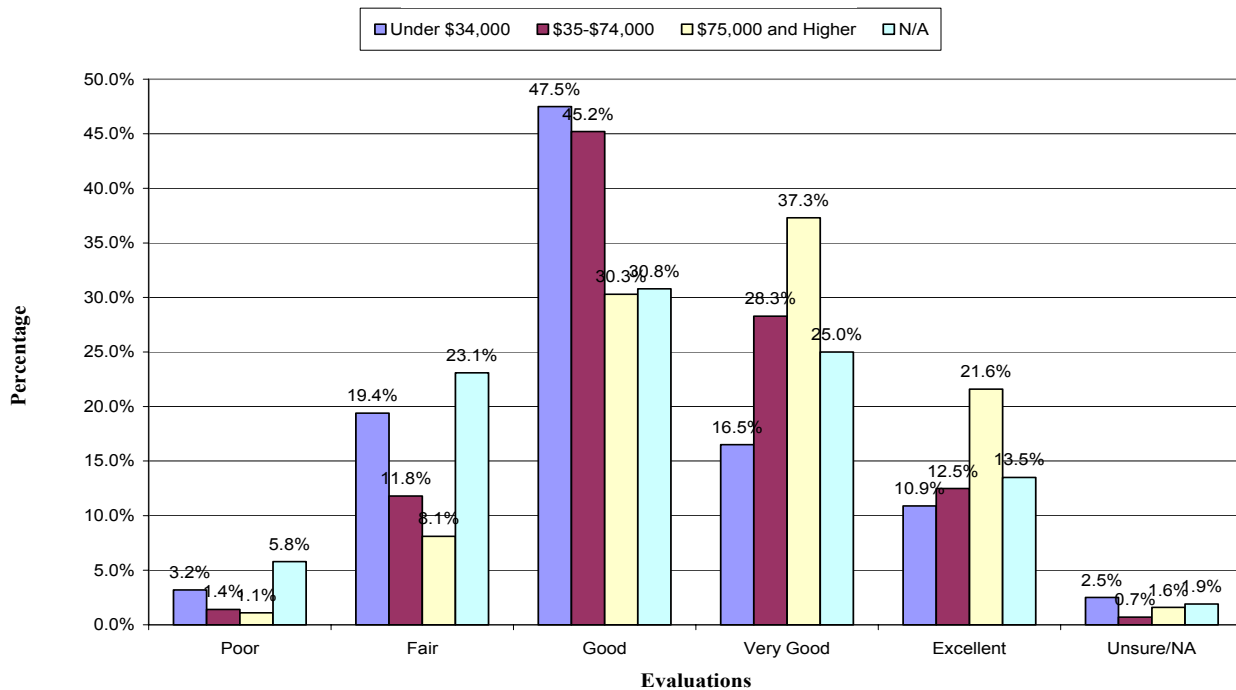
**Figure 1.4**  
**Evaluations of Quality of Life by Sex**  
 Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007





**Perceptions of the Quality of Life in Porter County by Income.** The evaluations of the quality of life by residents of Porter County were broken down by income and the results are presented in Figure 1.5. As indicated, there is a good deal of variability. As income goes up, the evaluation of the quality of life goes up accordingly. For example, 21.6% of persons making more than \$75,000 evaluate the quality of life as excellent compared to 12.5% of those in the \$35-74,000 bracket and 10.9% in the under \$35,000 category. Similarly, 37.3% of persons in the highest income bracket evaluate the quality of life as very good, while 28.3% and 16.5% evaluate it very good in the next two lower income brackets. Conversely, 19.4% of those in the lowest income category only evaluate the quality of life as fair, compared to 11.8% and 8.1% of the next two highest income categories respectively. Despite the variability by income, most persons evaluate the community to be at least good, but we cannot ignore the discrepancies generated by the differences in wealth.

**Figure 1.5**  
**Quality of Life by Income**  
 Porter County Needs Assessment Survey, 2007



## Chapter 2 Alcohol

### Introduction

In this section we examine the consumption and consequences of the use of alcohol. First, patterns of consumption are examined by looking at the data reported in the Porter County ATOD survey, the Porter County Survey, and The College Age Student Survey. Secondly, certain risk factors are examined. Thirdly, data on the consequences of alcohol consumption are examined by looking at treatments at the hospital, mental health facilities, arrests, accidents, and data on alcohol related deaths from the office of the Porter County Coroner.

### Consumption Patterns: The ATOD Survey

The following data is taken from the *2008 Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drug Survey* referred to generally as the ATOD Survey. The Survey was given to all Porter County students in grades 6-12 during the spring of 2008. A total of 10,924 surveys were collected and 10,260 of these were useable.<sup>1</sup> The number of responses per grade averaged close to 1,500 with a high of 1,697 9<sup>th</sup> grade responses and a low of 1,043 responses from 12<sup>th</sup> graders. It is important to emphasize that data is only available for 2008 and we do not have longitudinal data across time. The data and analysis are purely cross sectional. Keep this in mind when comparisons are made across different grades.

The questions concerning the consumption of alcohol asked about daily use, monthly use, annual use, lifetime use, and binge drinking. The following section presents the responses to questions related to these issues.

**Daily Use of Alcohol.** The response of students to a question asking about their daily use of alcohol is presented in Table 2.1. As indicated, very few students in 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade report the daily use of alcohol. In the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 2.9% say they drink daily and that figure gradually increases to 5.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who report daily drinking.

**Table 2.1**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Daily Use of Alcohol**  
ATOD, 2008

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
.2	.8	1.6	2.9	3.2	3.3	5.2

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<sup>1</sup> The data is the property of the Indiana Prevention Resource Center and the Trustees of Indiana University and are copyrighted. We have been given permission to use this data. All ATOD survey data used in this report come from that source.

**Monthly Use of Alcohol.** The data in Table 2.2 indicate that monthly consumption of alcohol increases for every consumption level as grade levels increase. While 91.8% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report never consuming alcohol in the past month, only 49.9% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report not consuming alcohol during the same span of time. The percentage of students who report drinking alcohol 1 to 5 times in the past month increases from 5.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 17.6% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders to 28.4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Similar increases are seen in all other consumption groups. In the 6-19 times category, consumption increased from 0.5% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 11.8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Table 2.2**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008

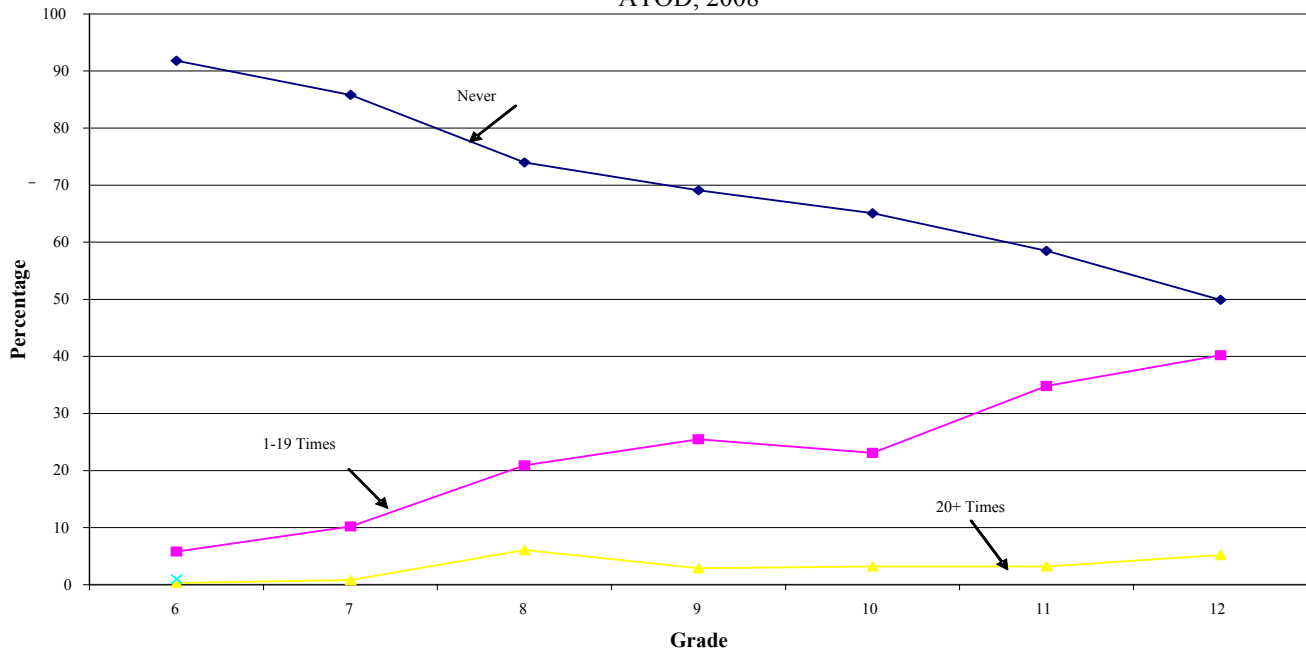
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	91.8	85.8	74.0	69.1	65.1	58.5	49.9
<b>1-5 Times</b>	5.3	8.5	17.6	20.3	22.5	27.6	28.4
<b>6-19 Times</b>	0.5	1.7	3.3	5.2	6.0	7.2	11.8
<b>20-40 Times</b>	0.1	0.5	0.6	1.9	2.2	2.1	4.0
<b>40+ Times</b>	0.2	0.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2

In order to see these relationships more clearly, Figure 2.1 condenses the data presented in Table 2.1 and displays it in a graph. The responses of those students who reported consuming alcohol 1-5 times in the past month were combined with the data from those who reported consuming alcohol 6-19 times in the past month. The responses of those who reported drinking alcohol 20-40 times in the past month and those who reported consuming alcohol 40+ times in the past month were also combined. The Figure demonstrates clearly the trend that the number of students who report consuming alcohol in the past month increases as the grade level increases. Only 5.8% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report consuming alcohol 1-19 times in the past month, but 40.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report drinking alcohol 1-19 times within the past month. Consumption of alcohol 20 or more times increased from 0.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 5.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Annual Consumption of Alcohol.** Table 2.3 presents data on the reported annual consumption of alcohol among Porter County students. Similar to patterns on monthly consumption of alcohol, the percentage of students who report consuming alcohol in the past year increases as their grade level increases. Most 6<sup>th</sup> graders (83.1%) report never using alcohol

in the past year, but that figure declines to only 30.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who report never consuming alcohol in the past 12 months. While only 12.9% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report consuming alcohol 1-5 times in the past year, over 26.0% of students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade or higher report drinking alcohol in the past year. Under 1.0% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report consuming alcohol 20 or more times in the past 12 months, but the percentage of students reporting that level of consumption increases to 24.0% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Figure 2.1**  
**Porter County Students, Monthly Alcohol Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

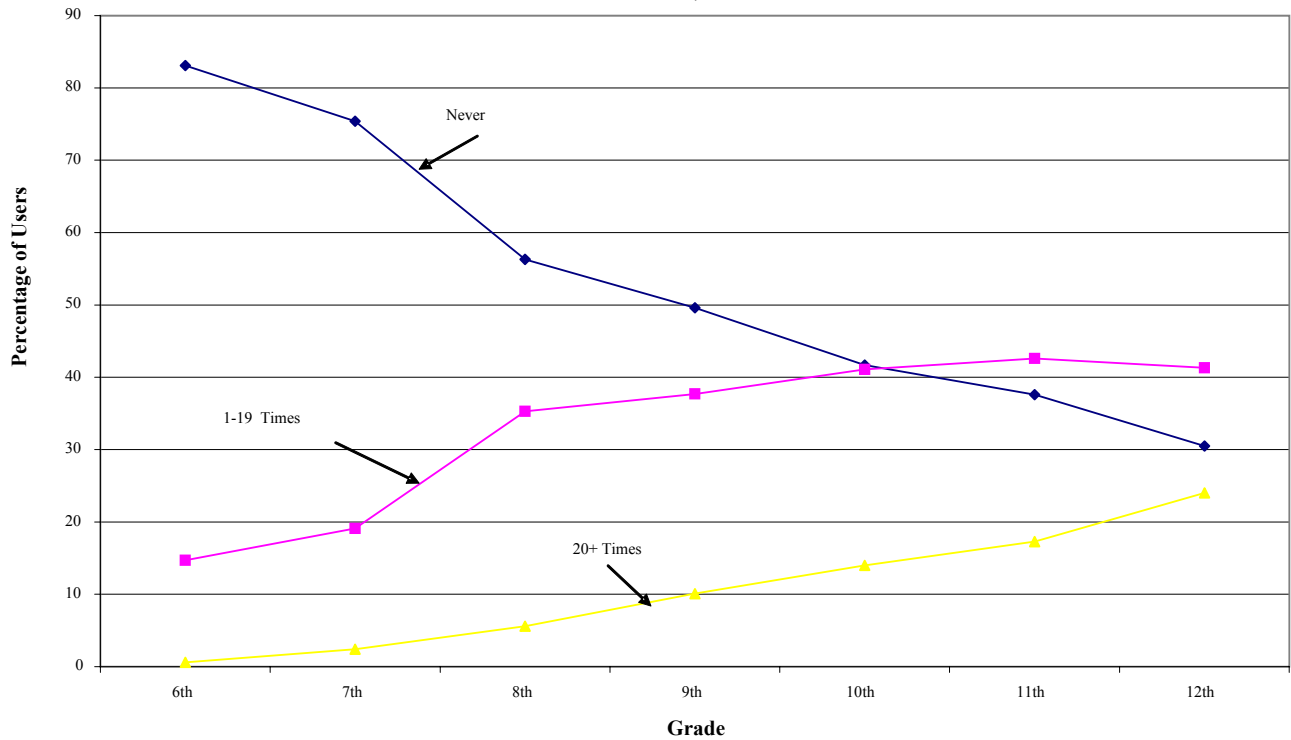


**Table 2.3**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students' Reporting Annual Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	83.1	75.4	56.3	49.6	41.7	37.6	30.5
<b>1-5 Times</b>	12.9	15.2	26.8	27.2	27.8	27.3	26.2
<b>6-19 Times</b>	1.8	3.9	8.5	10.5	13.3	15.3	15.1
<b>20-40 Times</b>	0.2	1.2	3.5	4.8	7.3	8.6	11.6
<b>40+ Times</b>	0.4	1.2	2.1	5.3	6.7	8.7	12.4

Similar to what was done previously, the data from Table 2.3 was collapsed and represented graphically in Figure 2.2. The data from those consuming alcohol 1-5 times and those consuming alcohol 6-19 times were combined. The data from those consuming alcohol 20-40 times and those consuming alcohol 40+ times were also combined. The Figure 2.2 clearly demonstrates that the percentage of students who report never drinking in the past year decreases dramatically as the grade level increases, while those who report drinking at all increases. The percentage of students who report drinking 1-19 times in the past year increases from 14.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 41.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. The percentage of students who reported consuming alcohol 20 or more times in the past year also increased. Only 0.6% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders reported such consumption levels while 24% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders did.

**Figure 2.2**  
**Porter County Students' Annual Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



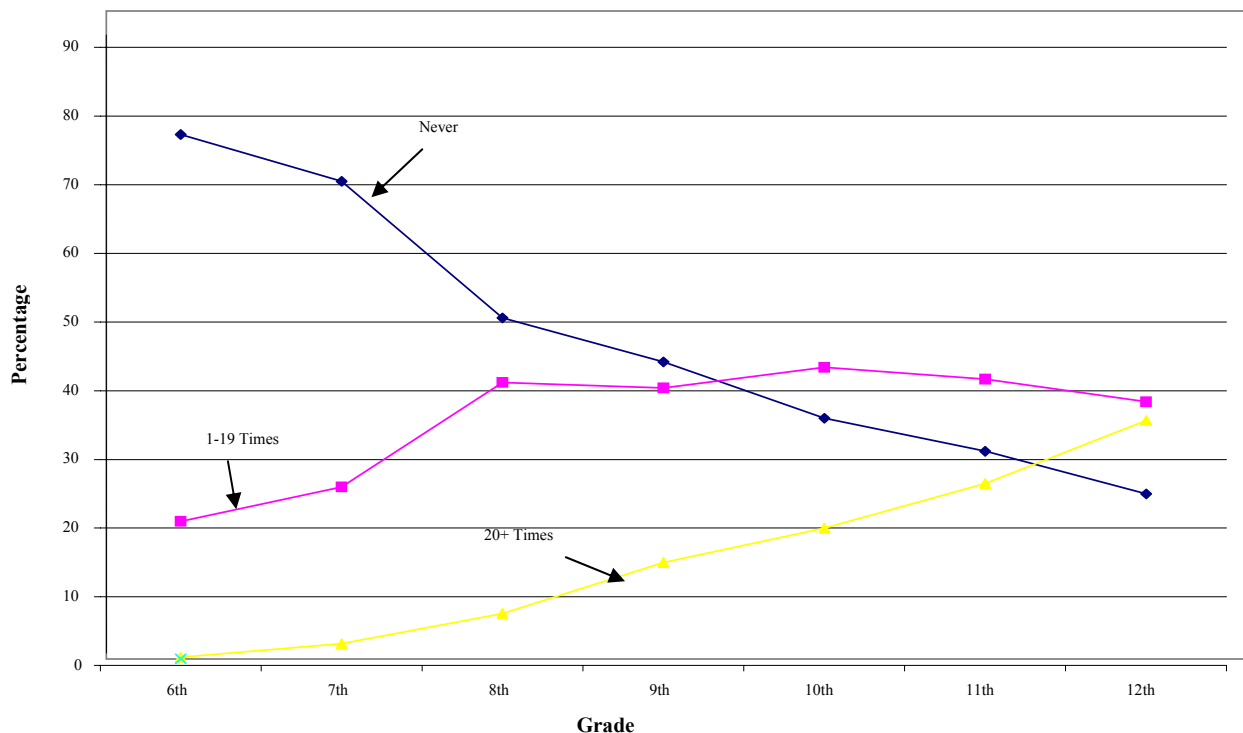
**Lifetime Consumption of Alcohol.** The data in Table 2.4 demonstrates that lifetime consumption of alcohol increases across grade levels. Over three-quarters (77.3%) of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students report never consuming alcohol in their lifetime. The percentage drops to 25.0% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who report never consuming alcohol in their lifetime. Only 0.6% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report drinking alcohol over 40 times in their lives, but by the time they reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 23.6% report drinking more than 40 times in their lifetime.

**Table 2.4**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	77.3	70.5	50.6	44.2	36.0	31.2	25.0
<b>1-5 Times</b>	18.9	21.0	31.0	27.3	28.5	25.6	22.0
<b>6-19 Times</b>	2.1	5.0	10.2	13.1	14.9	16.1	16.4
<b>20-40 Times</b>	0.7	1.5	4.4	6.8	8.7	11.2	12.1
<b>40+ Times</b>	0.6	1.7	3.2	8.2	11.3	15.3	23.6

Once again the data in the previous table was condensed and represented graphically in Figure 2.3. Responses from the 1-5 times category and the 6-19 times category were combined. The responses from the 20-40 times and 40+ times categories were likewise combined. The Figure clearly demonstrates the increase of reported lifetime alcohol consumption across grade levels. Consumption of alcohol over 20 times rose from 1.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 35.7% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Figure 2.3**  
**Porter County Students' Lifetime Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



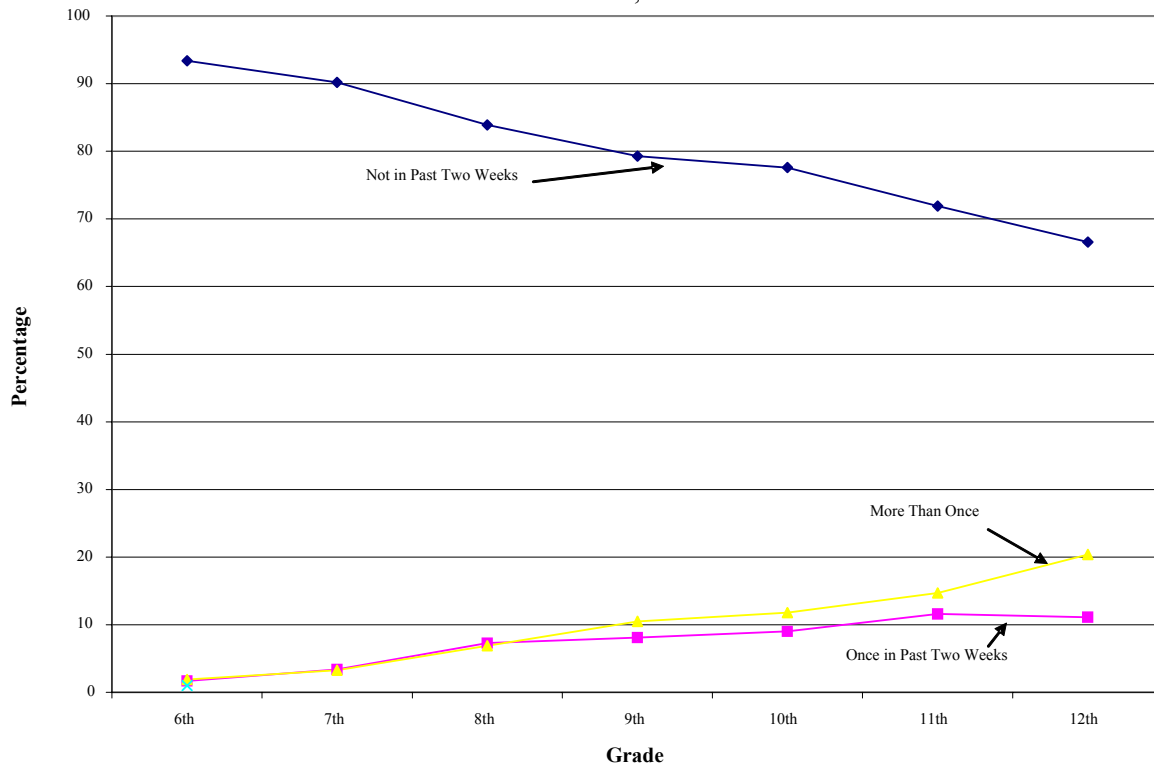
**Binge Drinking.** Students were asked about the amount of binge drinking they had done in the past two weeks. Binge drinking is defined as having 5 or more drinks in a row. As presented in Table 2.5, the percentage of students who report binge drinking in the past two weeks increases across grade levels. While 93.4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report not binge drinking in the past two weeks, the percentage drops to 79.3% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders and 66.6% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Turning this around, by the time Porter County students reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, about one-third (33.4%) of them report binge drinking in the past two weeks. The percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who reported binge drinking 3-5 times in the previous two weeks was 8.6%.

Following the same pattern as done with other tables, Figure 2.4 displays graphically a condensed version of the data from Table 2.5. The data was divided into three categories: those who did not binge drink in the past two weeks, those who had engaged in binge drinking, and those who had engaged in binge drinking more than once. The Figure demonstrates that as the grade level increases, the amount of binge drinking increases. By the time students reach the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, more than 11% report binge drinking; by the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 20% of them report binge drinking more than once in the past two weeks.

**Table 2.5**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Binge Drinking in the Past Two Weeks**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>None</b>	93.4	90.2	83.9	79.3	77.6	71.9	66.6
<b>Once</b>	1.7	3.4	7.3	8.1	11.6	11.6	11.1
<b>Twice</b>	0.9	1.5	3.2	3.9	7.1	7.1	8.0
<b>3-5 Times</b>	0.4	1.0	2.0	3.2	5.2	5.2	8.6
<b>6-9 Times</b>	0.1	0.3	1.0	1.9	1.3	1.3	2.2
<b>10+ Times</b>	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.6

**Figure 2.4**  
**Porter County Students Reporting Binge Drinking**  
 ATOD, 2008





## State and Porter County Comparisons

In the previous section, data was presented that demonstrated patterns of consumption of alcohol among students in Porter County schools. Another way of looking at the data from the ATOD survey is to compare the responses of local students to those from across the state. In Figures 2.5 to 2.8, data is presented that compares local students with statewide students on monthly, annual, lifetime, and binge drinking. The data in the Figures represent the absolute size of the difference between local and state rates expressed in percentage points. Differences are presented only when there is statistically significant difference between state and local numbers at the  $p < .05$  level. What this means is that differences this large would occur less than 5 times out of 100 by pure chance, suggesting that it is not chance or error due to sampling. Rather differences this large suggest very likely actual differences in the populations.

Note there are no percentages on data related to the daily consumption of alcohol because there were no statistically significant differences on this measure.

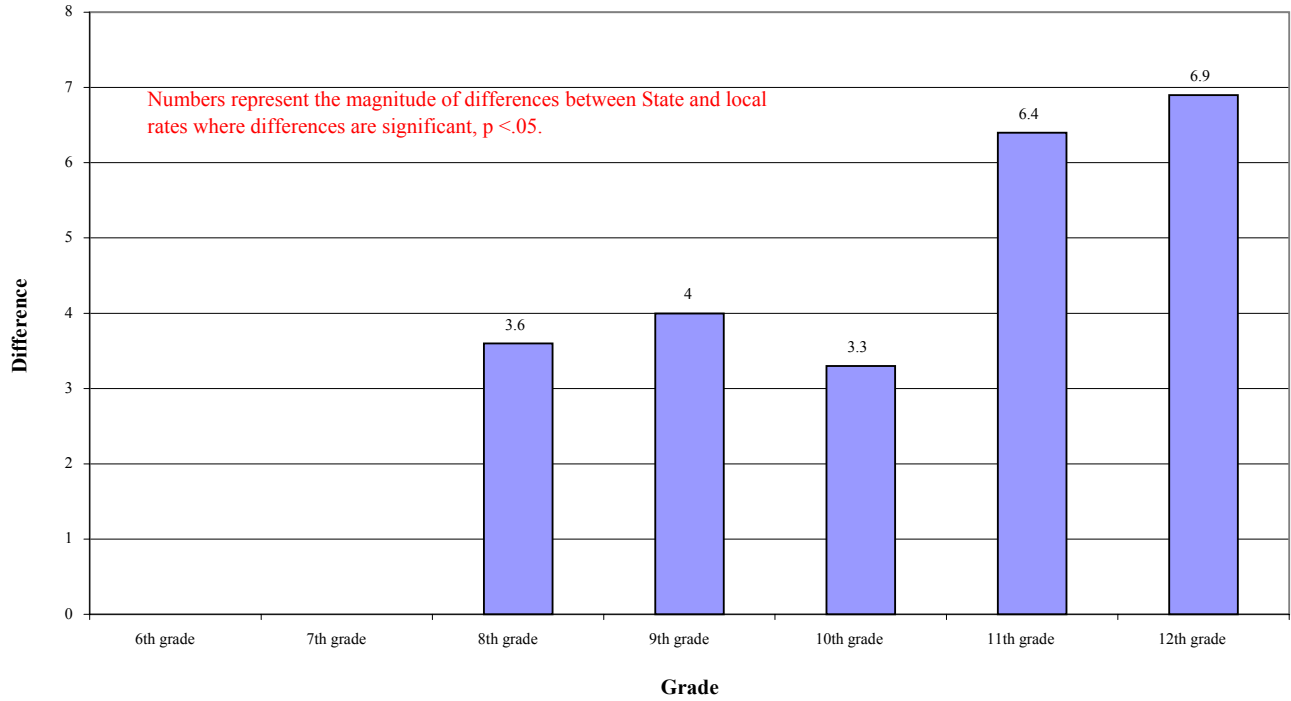
**Monthly Drinking.** In Figure 2.5 data comparing Porter County with statewide data on the monthly consumption of alcohol indicates that there are no differences at the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade level, but when you hit the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade, Porter County students report a rate of consumption that exceeds state averages by 3.6 and 4.0 percentage points respectively. In the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, the figure drops slightly to 3.3 percentage points, but then rises to 6.4 in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and to a 6.9 percentage point difference in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Annual Drinking.** Figure 2.6 focuses on yearly consumption and there is a similar pattern. There are no differences in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, but once you hit the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades, Porter County students exceed the state level by 5.1 percentage points in each grade level, with one exception: the percentage drops to 4.9 in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. It then rises again to a 6.8 point difference in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and a 5.5 point difference in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

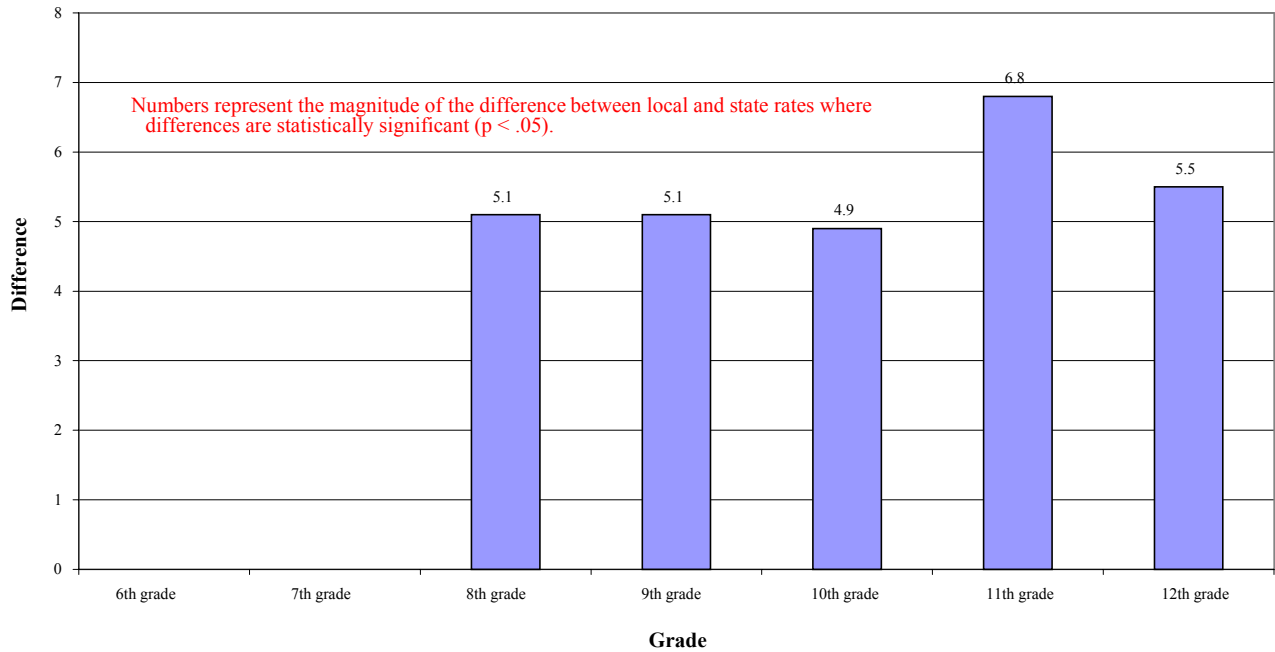
**Lifetime Drinking.** Once again we see a very similar pattern when we look at the consumption of alcohol in one's lifetime. There are no differences in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade, but when Porter County students get to the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade, they report a 4.9 point difference. This figure drops to 4.6 in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade and then rises to 5.9 in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and 5.5 percentage points in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Binge Drinking.** When it comes to the data on binge drinking reported in Figure 2.8, there are no differences at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grade levels. Porter County students exceed state averages by 1.9 and 2.4 percentage points at the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades respectively, and 3.5 and 4.6 points at the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade levels.

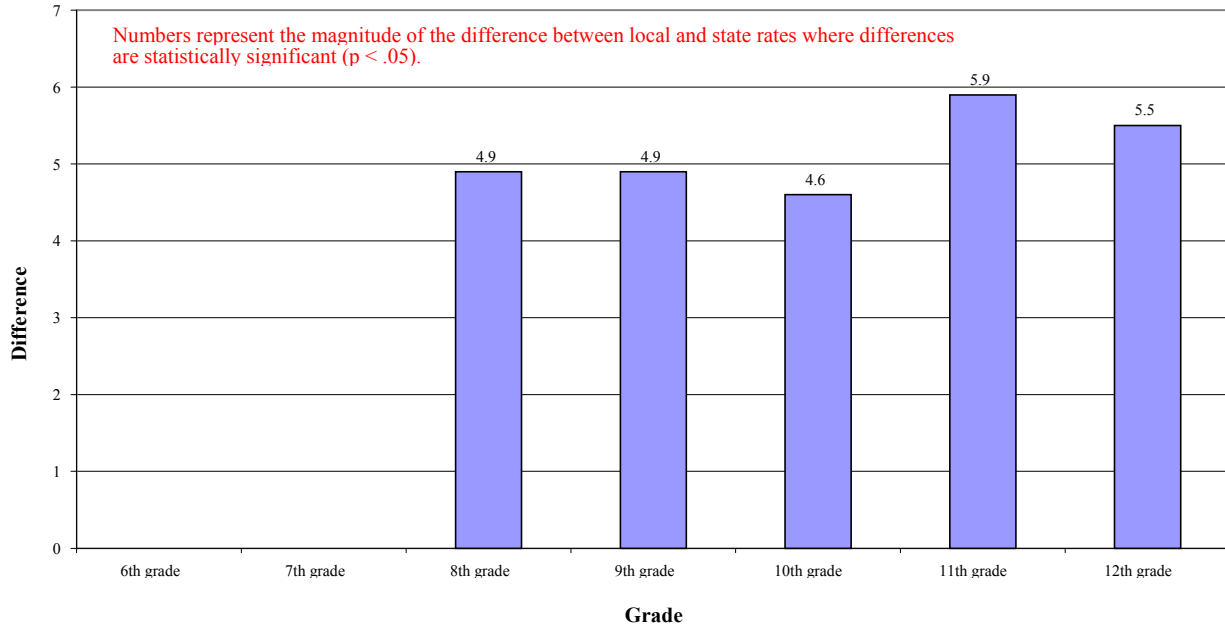
**Figure 2.5**  
**Percentage Difference Between Statewide and Porter County Students in**  
**Monthly Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



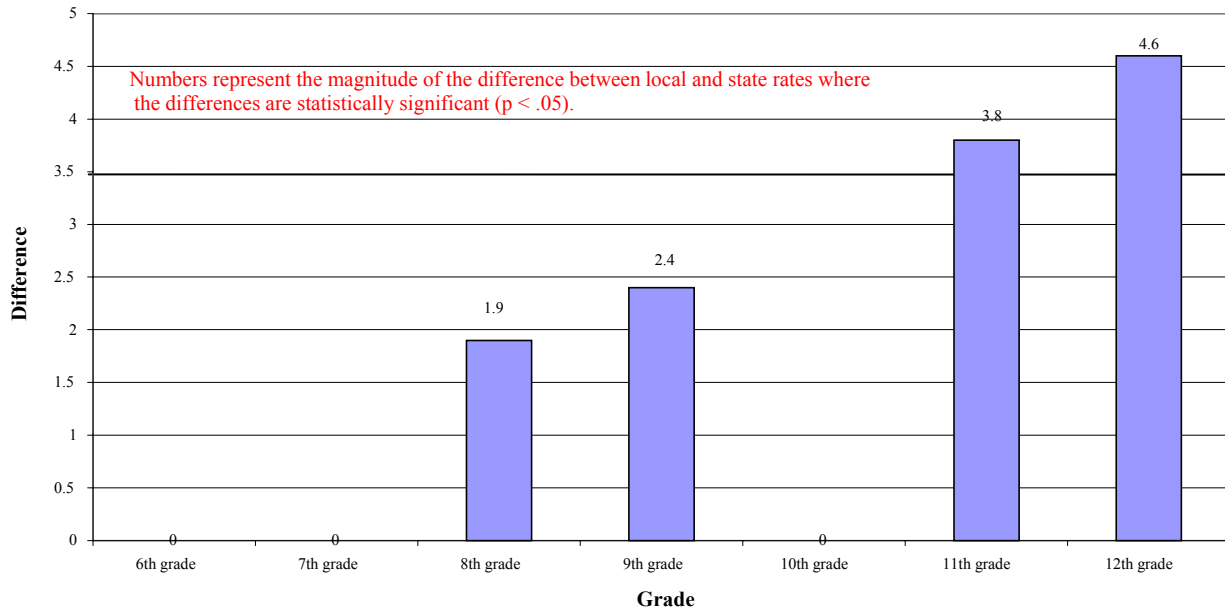
**Figure 2.6**  
**Percentage Difference Between Statewide and Porter County Students in**  
**the Annual Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Figure 2.7**  
**Percentage Difference Between Statewide and Porter County Students in the Lifetime Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Figure 2.8**  
**Percentage Difference Between Statewide and Porter County Students in Daily Binge Drinking of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



## Consumption Patterns: Porter County Survey Data

The Indiana Prevention Resource Center at Indiana University conducted a survey in the fall of 2008 in Porter and other counties and they shared their analysis of the Porter County data with us. It was divided into two parts: the county as a whole and then a subset of persons between 18-24 years of age. Given that there were only a total of 55 persons in this category, extreme caution needs to be exercised in drawing conclusions from this data.<sup>2</sup> The following is a summary of that data as it relates to alcohol consumption patterns in Porter County.

Respondents were asked, “in general how acceptable do you think it is for people to use alcohol?” The responses to that question are presented in Table 2.6. As indicated, 20.3% of all persons in Porter County see it as very acceptable to use alcohol and 60.3% think it acceptable. Only 4.4% are unsure, 8.1% find it somewhat unacceptable, and 6.5% find in very unacceptable. There is a quite different, and surprising, pattern among 18-24 years. They are similar to the rest of the County in that 23.6% find it very acceptable, but after that there are some differences. Only 18.3% find it somewhat acceptable, 14.4% are unsure, another 14.4% find it somewhat unacceptable, and a full 27.5% find it very unacceptable. Given the patterns of responses we have seen from others, this result is quite surprising. You would have expected a greater tendency to find it acceptable among the younger group. It could be that the small sample of persons in this group skews the data somewhat.

**Table 2.6**  
**The Acceptability of Using Alcohol in Porter County**  
 Porter County Survey, 2008

<b>In general how acceptable do you think it is for people to use alcohol?</b>		
<b>Acceptability Level</b>	<b>All Porter County</b>	<b>18-24 year olds in Porter County</b>
<b>Very acceptable</b>	20.3%	23.6%
<b>Somewhat acceptable</b>	60.3	18.3
<b>Neither acceptable or unacceptable</b>	4.4	14.4
<b>Somewhat unacceptable</b>	8.1	14.4
<b>Very unacceptable</b>	6.5	27.5
<b>Don't know</b>	.3	1.8
<b>Total</b>	390	55

<sup>2</sup> In addition, several persons have raised concerns about the data because it produced results that varied considerably from other data. The IPRC staff has issued an additional caution about using the data.

Table 2.7 presents more responses to alcohol related questions. Contrary to reports from high school students (reported later), most Porter County residents, including those between the ages of 18 and 25 have not driven recently under the influence of alcohol. When asked if they consider themselves “normal drinkers,” 57.5% of all Porter County residents say yes and 62.5% of 18-24 year olds say yes. It is not exactly clear what that means because persons could say no if they did not drink or if they drank too much. There seems to be little concern among these respondents about how their friends, relatives, and spouses view their drinking. Most think these people see them as relatively normal and do not complain much about their drinking. Additionally, most respondents in both groups do not feel bad about their drinking and are able to stop when they want.

### College Age Student Survey

**Patterns of Consumption.** We also were able to secure responses from an additional 142 college age students about their drinking habits. The non-random survey was done in the fall of 2008. Because it was based on a sample of convenience, it does not provide the opportunity to generalize to all college age students in the County. However, it does provide some additional information about how some college age students (18-22) see the consumption of alcohol and drugs. The data can be compared to other data gathered to help confirm or question some of our conclusions. As indicated in Table 2.8, 75.9% of these persons consumed alcohol in the past year and 61.9% consumed alcohol in the past 30 days. Nearly 44% of these students consumed

**Table 2.7**  
**Consumption of Alcohol and Related Issues**  
Porter County Survey, 2008

Questions	All Porter County		18-24 year olds in Porter County	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
<b>During past 12 months have you Driven while under the influence of alcohol?</b>	11.3	88.7	10.1	89.9
<b>Thinking about the past 6 months do you feel you are a normal drinker?</b>	57.5	39.2	62.5	37.5
<b>Do your friends and relatives think of you as a normal drinker?</b>	63.9	36.1	63.1	36.9
<b>Do your spouse/partner or other family members worry or complain about your drinking?</b>	4.6	95.4	9.7	90.3
<b>Do friends or relatives think of you as a normal drinker?</b>	64.0	36.0	62.5	34.4
<b>Do you ever feel bad about your drinking?</b>	5.0	95.0	9.4	91.0
<b>Are you always able to stop drinking when you want to?</b>	97.0	2.9	94.0	6.3
<b>Totals</b>	390	390	55	55

alcohol illegally in the past month. Finally, 39.3% of these persons engaged in binge drinking in the past two weeks. These figures are quite compatible with the data from the ATOD surveys presented earlier, but are a bit different than what you would expect from reading the Porter County Survey.

**Why Drink and the Effects of Drinking.** Table 2.9 presents responses of college age students to questions about why they drink and what effect drinking has on them. As indicated, over 2/3 say it “helps break the ice” (67.9%), others say it “enhances social activity” (65.7%) and gives them something to do (66.4%). Over half say it “facilitates male bonding” (54.0%), others say it allows for more fun (52.2%) and “facilitates peer connections” (55.6%). Over a third say it “helps them with stress (37.7%), others say it” facilitates female bonding” (40.1%), and facilitates sexual opportunity (38.0%). Less than 20% say it “makes food taste better” (17.5%), others say it makes women (18.4%), men (17.9%), and themselves (13.2%) sexier.

**Table 2.8**  
**Patterns of Alcohol Consumption in College Age Students**  
 College Age Student Survey, 2008

<b>Alcohol Related Activity</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Consumed Alcohol in Past Year</b>	75.9%
<b>Consumed Alcohol in Past 30 Days</b>	61.9%
<b>Underage persons Consumed in Past 30 Days</b>	43.6%
<b>Binge Drinking in Previous Two Weeks</b>	39.3%

**Table 2.9**  
**The Effects of Alcohol and Why College Age Students Drink**  
 College Age Student Survey, 2008

<b>Effect</b>	<b>% Yes</b>	<b>Effect</b>	<b>% Yes</b>
<b>Breaks ice</b>	67.9%	<b>Allows for more fun</b>	52.2%
<b>Enhances social activity</b>	65.7%	<b>Gives something to do</b>	66.4%
<b>Easier to deal with stress</b>	37.7%	<b>Makes food taste better</b>	17.5%
<b>Facilitates peer connections</b>	55.6%	<b>Makes women sexier</b>	18.4%
<b>Something to talk about</b>	64.0%	<b>Makes men sexier</b>	17.9%
<b>Facilitates male bonding</b>	54.0%	<b>Makes me sexier</b>	13.2%
<b>Facilitates female bonding</b>	40.1%	<b>Facilitates sexual opportunity</b>	38.0%

**Sex Differences in Alcohol Consumption**

Tables 2.10 and 2.11 and Figures 2.9 to 2.12 present data on the differences between male and female students in Porter County on a variety of measures including monthly, annual, and lifetime use of alcohol, as well as patterns of binge drinking. There is a good deal of data and the patterns are not easy to discern. In an effort to display more clearly the patterns in the data, the figures are limited to presenting data on 12<sup>th</sup> grade students because these data tend to reflect general patterns in other grade levels. Overall, the patterns of consumption between males and females are quite similar. For example, in Figure 2.9 for use of alcohol in the past month there is virtually no difference between males and females. What does seem to happen, however, is that generally females delay initial consumption of alcohol until later grades; yet, when they begin, their patterns are quite similar to males. When it comes to more frequent use, males generally consume a good deal more. For example, in Figure 2.11 on lifetime consumption note that women indicate more frequent percentage use at the lower consumption levels. However, when it comes to using alcohol more than 40 times, males far exceed females in this category.

**Table 2.10**  
**Sex Differences in Monthly and Annual Use of Alcohol by Porter County Students,**  
 ATOD, 2008

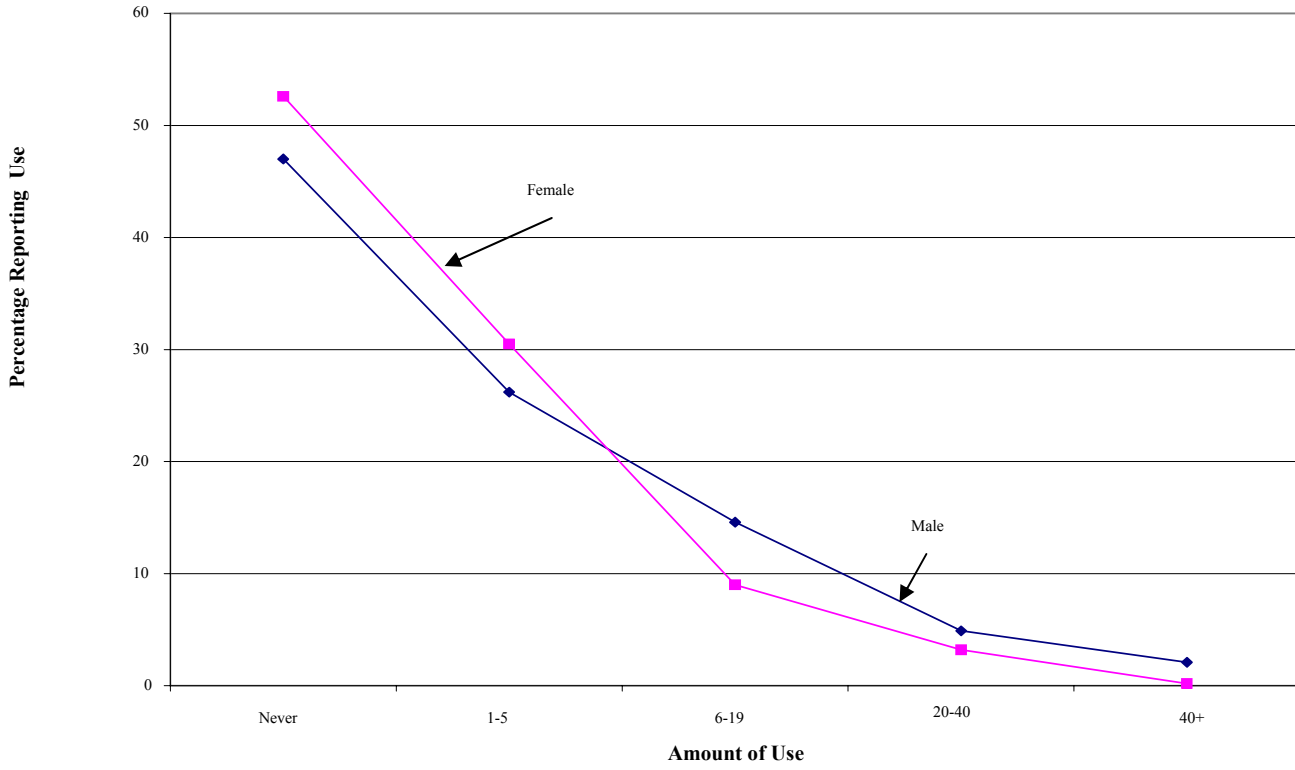
		Monthly Use of Alcohol by Porter County Schools 6th - 12th Graders by Sex, 2008					Annual Use of Alcohol by Porter County Schools 6th - 12th Graders by Sex, 2008				
Grade	Sex	Number of Times									
		Never	1-5	6-19	20-40	40+	Never	1-5	6-19	20-40	40+
6th	Male	90.9	5.3	0.8	0.1	0.4	81.0	13.8	2.4	0.1	0.7
	Female	92.8	5.3	0.1	--	--	85.5	11.8	1.2	0.3	--
7th	Male	87.0	7.6	0.8	0.5	0.1	77.9	13.0	3.5	0.8	1.0
	Female	84.8	9.4	2.5	0.5	0.4	73.1	17.4	4.0	1.6	1.4
8th	Male	72.8	16.9	3.8	0.3	0.8	56.4	25.2	8.4	4.2	2.0
	Female	75.1	18.2	2.8	0.8	1.1	56.2	28.4	8.6	2.7	2.3
9th	Male	70.4	17.5	5.3	2.4	1.2	52.9	23.0	8.7	5.3	6.5
	Female	68.0	23.1	4.8	1.5	0.8	46.6	31.6	11.9	4.1	4.2
10th	Male	63.9	21.5	6.4	2.3	1.2	45.0	22.8	12.3	7.5	8.3
	Female	66.3	23.5	5.6	2.0	0.8	38.4	32.7	14.3	7.2	5.1
11th	Male	58.8	24.6	7.9	3.1	1.3	41.0	20.6	14.7	9.1	11.3
	Female	58.3	30.5	6.6	1.1	0.8	34.5	33.6	15.9	8.0	6.2
12th	Male	47.0	26.2	14.6	4.9	2.1	30.5	20.4	14.4	12.8	16.5
	Female	52.6	30.5	9.0	3.2	0.2	30.6	31.4	15.7	10.6	8.5

**Table 2.11**  
**Sex Differences in Lifetime and Binge Drinking of Alcohol by Porter County Students,**  
 ATOD, 2008

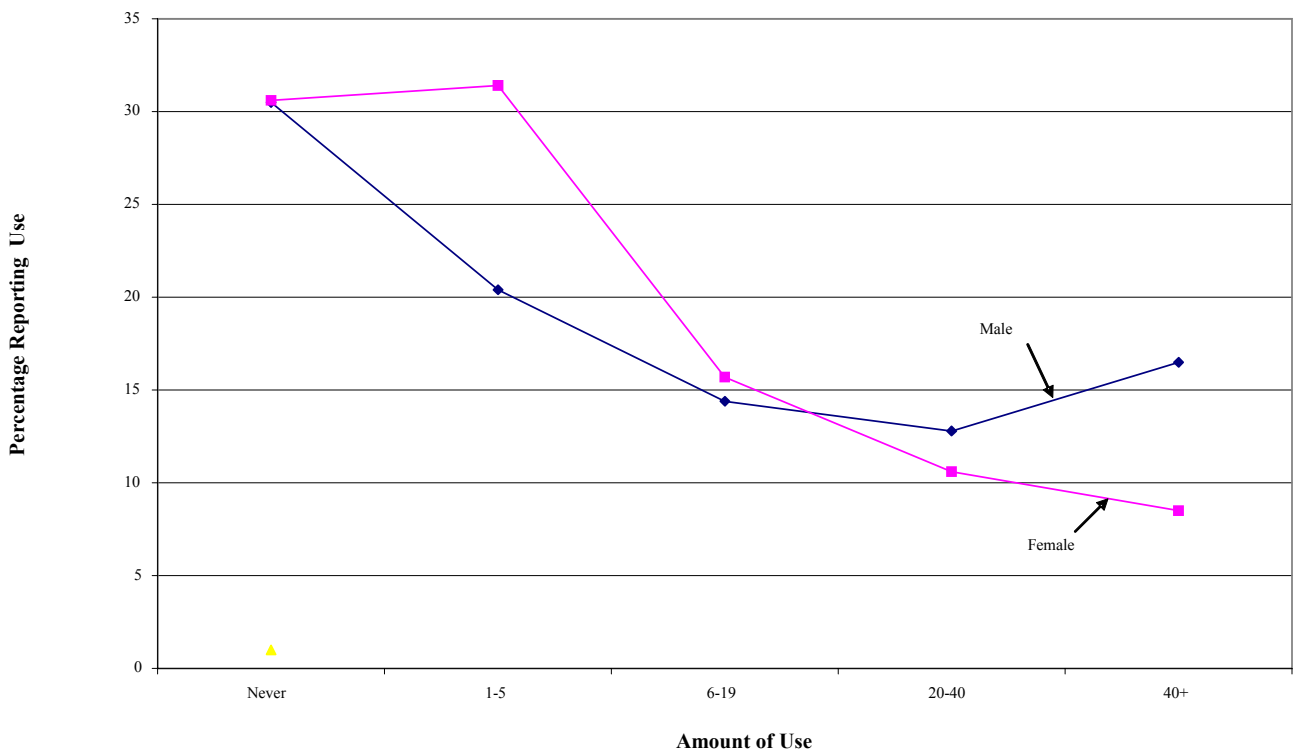
		Lifetime Use of Alcohol by Porter County Schools 6th - 12th Graders by Sex, 2008					Binge Drinking in the Past Two Weeks by Porter County Schools 6th - 12th Graders by Sex, 2008					
Gr.	Sex	Number of Times										
		Never	1-5	6-19	20-40	40+	None	Once	Twice	3-5	6-9	10+
6th	Male	73.7	21.8	2.5	0.6	1.1	91.5	1.9	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.7
	Female	81.2	15.8	1.7	0.8	0.1	95.5	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.1	--
7th	Male	71.9	21.1	4.8	0.8	1.2	91.0	3.2	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
	Female	69.2	20.8	5.2	2.2	2.2	89.6	3.6	2.3	1.3	--	0.5
8th	Male	50.7	29.0	11.9	4.5	3.1	83.1	7.4	3.5	1.8	1.0	0.6
	Female	50.2	33.1	8.5	4.4	3.4	84.6	7.2	2.7	2.1	1.0	0.8
9th	Male	47.2	23.6	12.0	6.7	9.9	77.6	7.6	4.0	3.7	2.4	1.7
	Female	41.5	31.3	13.9	6.7	6.4	81.1	8.5	3.9	2.7	1.4	0.9
10th	Male	39.0	25.4	13.5	7.9	13.4	75.6	9.4	5.9	3.6	1.2	2.5
	Female	33.0	31.7	16.2	9.5	9.2	79.6	8.7	4.2	3.7	2.2	0.5
11th	Male	35.4	20.9	14.4	11.2	17.6	69.0	11.3	7.8	5.9	1.6	1.6
	Female	27.5	29.8	17.8	11.2	13.1	74.9	11.7	6.5	4.4	1.1	0.4
12th	Male	25.8	18.1	15.3	10.1	29.7	60.4	12.6	8.2	9.9	3.5	2.3
	Female	24.5	25.4	17.3	13.9	18.0	72.4	9.9	7.6	7.2	1.1	1.1



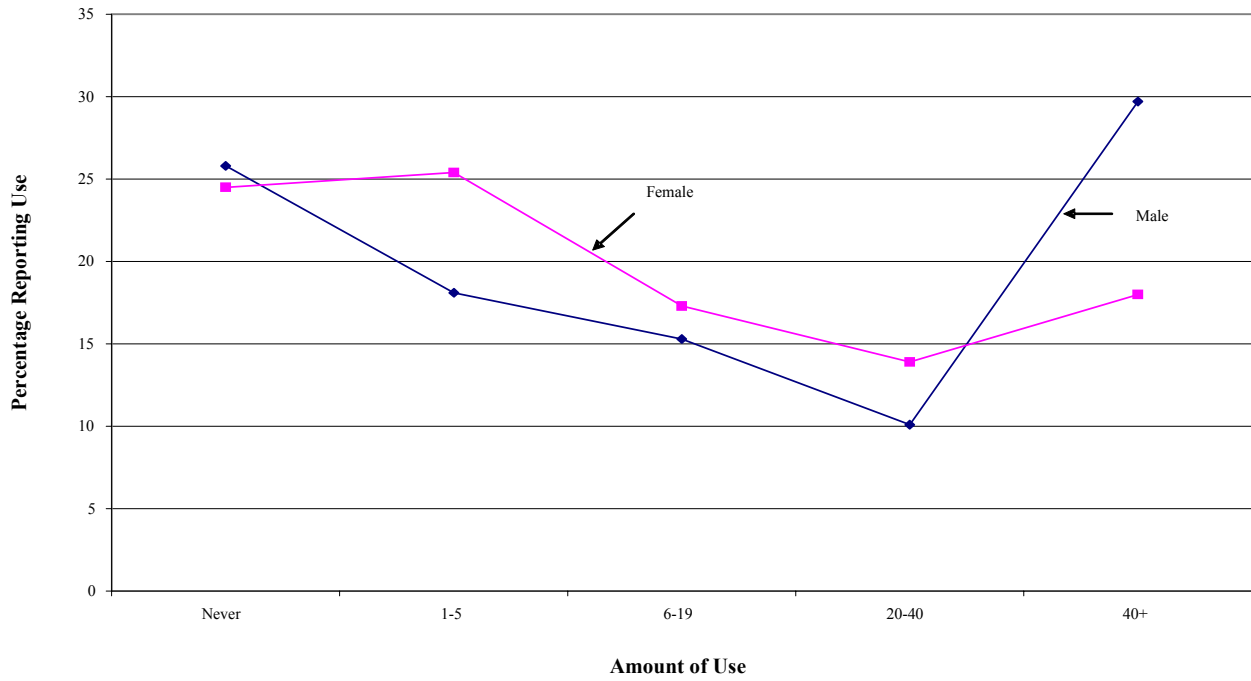
**Figure 2.9**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Monthly Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



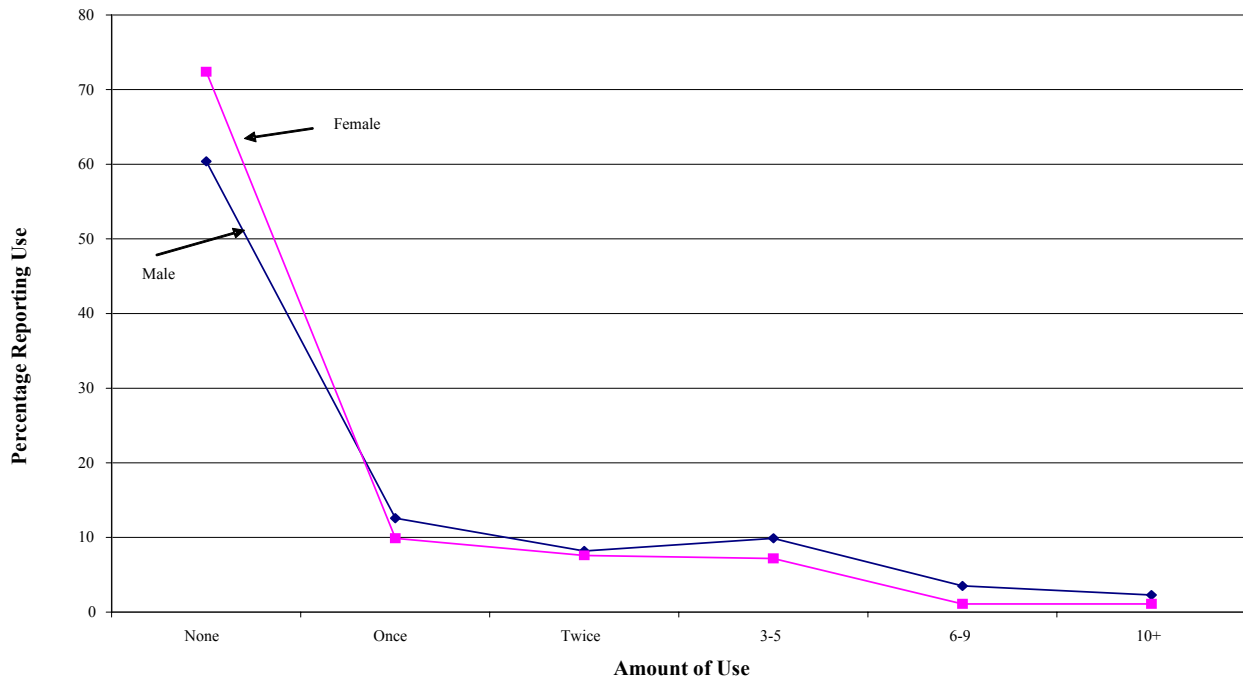
**Figure 2.10**  
**Sex Differences Porter County 12th Graders: Annual Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Figure 2.11**  
**Sex Differences in 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Porter County Students' Lifetime Use of Alcohol**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Figure 2.12**  
**Sex Differences among Porter County 12th Graders: Binge Drinking**  
 ATOD, 2008



## Risk Factors

**ATOD Survey Data.** The five tables on the next several pages present data from the 2008 ATOD survey related to risk factors and the consumption of alcohol. They begin to paint a picture of the reported reasons why students drink, where they get their alcohol, the perception of the risk associated with occasional drinking and binge drinking, and their perception of both their peer's and parent's approval of occasional and binge drinking.

**Why Do they Drink.** Table 2.12 presents data on the reported reasons why Porter County students drink. While the patterns do change across grades, focusing on the reasons for drinking for 12<sup>th</sup> graders, you see that the number one reason by far is “to have a good time with friends.” A total of 24.9% of students give this as a reason to drink. The second most frequent reason is because it tastes good (16.4%), followed by a distant third place (7.8%) boredom.

**Table 2.12**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Most Important Reasons for Drinking**  
ATOD, 2008

Reasons for Drinking	Grade						
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
To feel good or get high	.2	.3	.8	.9	.8	1.2	1.1
To seek deeper insights or understanding	.1	--	.1	.3	.8	.3	.7
To have a good time with friends	.8	2.7	6.8	10.7	13.3	18.0	24.9
To fit in with a group I like	.3	.6	.5	.4	1.0	1.4	1.1
To get away from my problems	.1	1.0	2.0	1.8	2.6	2.6	3.3
Because of boredom	1.3	1.4	2.9	5.3	6.3	6.3	7.8
Because of anger	.7	1.1	3.0	3.1	2.8	3.0	2.9
To get through the day	.3	.3	.7	.5	.3	.8	.4
To increase the effects of other drugs	.1	.1	.3	.5	1.6	1.3	.9
To decrease the effects of other drugs	--	--	--	.1	.3	.1	--
To get to sleep	.3	.2	.9	.9	1.1	1.1	1.2
Because it tastes good	3.1	6.0	11.9	14.6	16.5	17.6	16.4
Because I am hooked	.5	.8	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.0	2.5

**Sources of Alcohol.** Also important to know is where under age persons get their alcohol. Table 2.13 reports on student responses to this question. For comparative purposes state averages are also included in the table. The shaded numbers are responses from Porter County students and directly below these numbers are the state averages. As indicated, the most important sources among those in 12<sup>th</sup> grade are, not surprisingly, having someone else buy it (11.8%) and getting it from a person over 21 (11.6%). The amount received from family members varies over time from a high of 6.8% in 8<sup>th</sup> grade to 4.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. There are only slight differences between local and state responses.

**Table 2.13**  
**Percentage Reporting the Source of Alcohol: Porter County and State Averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

*Porter County figures are shaded*

Source		6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Main Sources of Alcohol	No Answer	9.1	7.6	5.5	6.2	7.5	7.1	8.6
		8.6	10.5	8.7	8.3	8.4	8.9	9.3
	No drink	84.3	80.9	71.4	65.8	63.0	58.2	50.9
		85.0	78.3	72.9	68.4	64.5	61.7	55.4
	Liquor Stores/supermarkets	.1	.1	.1	.4	.5	1.0	1.4
		--	.1	.2	.3	.5	.8	1.3
	Restaurants/bars/clubs	--	--	.1	.2	.3	.4	.9
		.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	.5
	Public events	.1	--	.1	.1	--	--	.1
		--	--	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1
	Had someone else buy it	.2	.8	3.2	5.8	8.5	11.0	11.8
		.3	.9	2.1	4.5	7.2	9.8	12.4
	Person 21 or older	.7	1.0	2.4	3.4	5.0	8.5	11.6
		.8	1.5	2.5	3.7	5.5	6.7	9.2
	Took it from a store	.2	.1	.3	.3	.3	.4	.2
		.1	.2	.3	.4	.5	.5	.4
	Family members	2.5	3.8	6.8	6.1	5.2	4.7	4.4
		2.7	3.6	5.4	5.0	4.3	3.3	3.3
Other ways	3.0	5.7	10.2	11.7	9.7	8.7	10.1	
	2.5	4.9	7.6	9.4	8.8	7.9	8.2	

**Perceived Risk of Occasional and Binge Drinking.** Table 2.14 presents data on the perceived risk of occasional and binge drinking. For comparative purposes state averages are also included in the table. The shaded numbers are responses from Porter County students and directly below these numbers are the state averages. When looking first at occasional drinking, there is a clear pattern where the perception of the risk involved goes down as grade level goes up. For example, 22.4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders perceive no risk and this figure grows to 38.7% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Table 2.14**  
**Percentage Reporting Perceived Risk of Occasional and Binge Drinking:**  
**Porter County and State Averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

*Porter County figures are shaded*

Activity	Risk	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Occasionally Consume 1-2 Drinks	None	22.4	23.4	30.6	36.9	32.5	34.5	38.7
		22.3	23.4	28.8	31.7	32.3	35.4	38.8
	Slight	39.5	35.5	39.1	36.5	41.9	41.8	40.1
		37.6	37.0	37.4	35.9	36.5	35.5	35.5
	Moderate	17.4	19.6	15.0	14.0	14.2	12.2	10.9
		18.4	17.8	15.0	13.7	13.1	11.6	10.1
	Great	15.1	17.2	11.6	10.1	8.6	8.7	7.4
	16.9	16.7	14.9	13.9	13.1	11.6	10.1	
Binge Drink Weekly	None	8.3	7.0	6.9	9.8	7.3	6.3	7.7
		9.5	9.1	9.8	10.0	9.6	9.0	9.6
	Slight	11.0	10.6	15.9	17.5	17.0	17.2	19.8
		11.7	11.9	15.1	16.4	17.3	18.7	19.9
	Moderate	28.9	29.0	30.6	34.1	34.4	35.4	34.6
		28.0	28.5	29.8	30.5	30.3	31.0	31.8
	Great	47.0	49.2	43.2	36.5	38.9	38.6	35.5
	46.8	46.0	41.8	38.8	38.2	36.5	34.3	

At the same time, 15.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders perceive a great risk in occasional drinking, but this number is more than halved to 7.4% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. By the time students reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 78.8% perceive either no or only a slight risk in occasionally having 1-2 drinks. There are not a lot of differences between Porter County students and state averages, but overall there is a slight tendency for Porter County students to perceive less risk in both occasional and binge drinking.

**Peer Approval of Occasional Drinking.** Critical to understanding why students drink is their perception of their peer's approval of drinking. Students were asked if they thought their peers strongly approved to strongly disapproved of either occasional or binge drinking. The results are presented in Table 2.15. For comparative purposes state averages are also included in the table. The shaded numbers are responses from Porter County students and directly below these numbers are the state averages. As indicated in Table 2.15, the percentage of students who perceive their peers strongly approving of occasional drinking increases across grade levels reaching 12.8% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. At the same time, the number who perceive their peers as approving runs from 5.4% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 41.1% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Also, the perception of the

number of their peers who strongly disapprove drops from 54.6% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 14.7% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Peer Approval of Binge Drinking.** When it comes to binge drinking the patterns are similar, but the numbers are not quite as large. Interestingly, while still quite low, the percentage of students who perceive that their peers *strongly approve* of binge drinking rises from 2.3% in 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 8.6% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The perception of the number of their peers who *approve* of binge drinking runs from 1.8% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 23.2% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The perception of their peers as strong disapprovers declines from 69.4% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 29.0% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Overall, there is a slight tendency for Porter County students to perceive their peers as being more approving and less strongly disapproving of occasional drinking and binge drinking.

**Table 2.15**  
**Percentage Reporting Perceived Peer Approval of Occasional & Binge Drinking:**  
**Porter County and State Averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

*Porter County figures are shaded*

		6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Occasionally consume 1-2 alcoholic drinks</b>	Strongly Approve	2.5	3.5	5.6	8.6	9.1	11.9	12.8
		3.8	4.6	6.1	7.6	8.9	10.1	12.2
	Approve	5.4	7.9	19.3	27.5	31.9	35.2	41.1
		5.0	8.9	15.7	21.5	26.5	29.1	33.5
	Do Not Know	14.7	18.1	23.6	21.5	21.1	19.7	17.8
		15.6	17.4	21.3	22.0	22.4	22.0	20.8
	Disapprove	14.9	14.2	14.1	14.8	14.2	10.8	10.6
		14.0	13.6	13.4	13.7	12.1	11.0	10.2
	Strongly Disapprove	54.6	50.3	32.8	25.0	21.1	18.4	14.7
		54.4	48.9	38.2	29.7	24.4	22.0	17.9
<b>Binge Drink Weekly</b>	Strongly Approve	2.3	2.9	4.3	6.2	6.8	7.9	8.6
		3.5	4.1	5.0	6.2	7.2	7.8	8.6
	Approve	1.8	2.8	8.7	12.6	16.3	18.8	23.2
		1.7	3.8	7.2	10.9	14.2	16.2	19.6
	Do Not Know	9.3	14.2	17.0	21.1	19.3	19.2	19.7
		10.9	13.1	16.9	19.9	20.9	21.0	20.9
	Disapprove	9.2	10.6	13.8	17.0	18.2	17.0	16.3
		9.4	10.6	13.3	14.0	14.6	15.0	15.2
	Strongly Disapprove	69.4	63.7	52.1	40.4	36.9	33.3	29.0
		67.2	61.9	52.5	43.5	37.5	34.2	30.2

**Parental Approval of Occasional Drinking.** Responses to the questions about perceived parental approval of occasional and binge drinking are presented in Table 2.16. For comparative purposes state averages are also included in the table. The shaded numbers are responses from Porter County students and directly below these numbers are the state averages. Students do not see their parents as strongly approving of occasional drinking, but the perception that parents approve to some degree rises as grade level increases. For example, 2.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders perceive their parents as approving, but by the time they are 12<sup>th</sup> graders, 13.8% say their parents would approve of occasional drinking and another 14.4% do not know what their parents think on this. Interestingly, the perception that their parents disapprove increases across grades beginning with 7.2% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 17.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. On the other hand, the percentage perceiving their parents as strongly disapproving drops from 75.2% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 49.0% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. There are not any substantial differences perceived in parental approval between state and Porter County students.

**Table 2.16**  
**Percentage Reporting Perceived Parental Approval of Occasional & Binge Drinking:**  
**Porter County and State Averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

*Porter County figures are shaded*

Question	Approval	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Occasionally consume 1-2 alcoholic drinks	Strongly Approve	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.6	1.9
		3.1	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.7	2.4	2.6
	Approve	2.1	3.6	5.6	7.2	8.1	12.1	13.8
		2.9	3.7	5.2	6.5	7.3	9.3	12.5
	Do Not Know	6.1	7.5	10.0	10.4	9.9	10.7	14.4
		6.9	7.6	9.3	10.0	10.9	11.6	13.9
	Disapprove	7.2	6.4	10.7	12.1	14.0	16.3	17.4
		6.0	6.6	9.1	10.6	12.2	13.7	15.5
Strongly Disapprove	75.2	74.5	67.7	66.4	63.2	55.7	49.0	
	74.2	72.7	68.7	64.7	61.2	57.2	50.1	
Binge Drink Weekly	Strongly Approve	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.7
		3.0	2.8	2.4	2.2	2.5	2.1	2.0
	Approve	.4	.8	1.2	1.1	2.1	2.5	3.0
		.6	.8	1.3	1.9	2.0	2.7	3.5
	Do Not Know	3.5	4.0	4.9	6.8	6.7	5.6	9.1
		4.4	5.0	6.0	6.9	7.7	8.2	10.0
	Disapprove	2.7	4.1	6.2	7.8	7.3	10.4	14.1
		3.3	3.9	5.4	7.0	8.0	9.7	12.4
Strongly Disapprove	84.1	9.0	81.8	80.6	79.3	76.6	68.4	
	81.5	80.8	79.7	76.3	74.0	71.4	66.6	

Except for the magnitude, the pattern in the way students perceive parental approval for binge drinking is similar to that for occasional drinking. As indicated in Table 2.16, only .4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders perceive parental approval of binge drinking and that figure only rises to 3.0% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. While perception of parental disapproval rises across the grades the number of students perceiving their parents as strongly disapproving of binge drinking drops from 84.1% to 68.4%. Interestingly, by the 12<sup>th</sup> grade almost 10% of the students do not know if their parents approve or disapprove of their binge drinking. There is a slight tendency for Porter County students to see their parents approving of binge drinking more than state averages, but this is offset a bit because Porter County students perceive their parents as more strongly disapproving of binge drinking than state averages.

**Participation in After School Activities: Camps or Programs.** Data on student participation in camps or after school programs is presented in Table 2.17. For comparative purposes state averages are also included in the table. The shaded numbers are responses from Porter County students and directly below these numbers are the state averages. What is immediately apparent is the general lack of participation in these programs across all grade levels. Additionally, there is a decline in participation across grade levels and a tendency for Porter County students to participate in less of these programs.

**Table 2.17**  
**Participation in a Camp or Program: Porter County and State Averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

*Porter County figures are shaded*

Camp	Grade						
	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>No Participation in Camps</b>	93.4	79.6	83.1	85.7	84.7	84.7	85.1
	75.1	76.6	79.8	81.3	81.2	80.5	82.7
<b>Afternoons R.O.C.K. in Indiana</b>	4.8	4.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	.4	.5
	6.1	4.9	3.5	1.8	1.2	.8	.6
<b>Youth Leadership Programs</b>	5.6	9.3	9.7	6.5	8.9	10.5	8.3
	8.9	10.9	10.6	9.6	9.5	9.8	8.7
<b>S.A.D.D., S.T.A.N.D. or other prevention programs</b>	5.2	6.2	5.1	5.9	4.8	3.8	4.8
	8.4	6.1	4.9	5.8	6.6	7.1	6.2
<b>Participated in 2+ types of camps</b>	1.0	.7	.8	.9	.7	.6	1.2
	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.8

**Participation in Organized Family Events.** Data on student participation in organized family events is presented in Table 2.18. For comparative purposes state averages are also included in the table. The shaded numbers are responses from Porter County students and



directly below these numbers are the state averages. As indicated, 16% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Porter County students never participate in organized family events and that number increases to 22.1% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Similarly, the frequency of such events declines as grade level increases. Comparing Porter County to state averages is not easy because of differences in some areas, but overall the pattern is for Porter County students to be less involved in organized family events.

**Table 2.18**  
**Participation in Organized Family Events:**  
**Porter County and State Averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

*Porter County figures are shaded*

	<b>Grade</b>						
	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Never</b>	16.0	16.9	18.7	22.5	19.8	21.9	22.1
	15.4	17.3	19.7	20.6	20.6	20.6	20.8
<b>Once per Week</b>	37.8	40.1	41.8	44.4	46.8	46.5	46.5
	38.9	40.7	41.7	42.5	44.1	15.3	46.7
<b>Twice per Week</b>	19.8	22.0	20.4	17.0	18.2	16.1	16.1
	20.1	19.4	18.8	18.2	18.1	17.2	17.1
<b>3+ Times per Week</b>	21.3	16.6	15.6	14.2	12.7	13.2	12.2
	21.1	18.7	16.7	16.1	14.6	14.4	13.1

**Participation in Afterschool Activities.** Data on student participation in afterschool activities is presented in Table 2.19. For comparative purposes state averages are also included in the table. The shaded numbers are responses from Porter County students and directly below these numbers are the state averages. In the top part of the table, the percentages of students who are involved in activities without adult supervision are presented. The percentage of 6<sup>th</sup> graders reporting no days in after school activities without adult supervision is 29% and that figure drops to only 3.5% for students in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. At the other end, 7.8% of Porter County 6<sup>th</sup> graders report no adult supervision for 130-180 days per year and that number increases to 20.7% for students in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Overall, Porter County students spend a good deal of time after school without adult supervision. Additionally, they report spending more unsupervised time than other students from across the state.

The bottom half of Table 2.19 reports the percentage of students who report spending various amounts of time at home with adult supervision. Porter County students spend a good deal of time both with adult supervision at home and without it. Not surprisingly, the amount of time spent at home with adult supervision declines with grade level. For example, 25.5% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report spending 130-180 days at home with adult supervision, while 14.9% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report spending that much time with adult supervision. Contrary to the data on unsupervised time after school, Porter County students appear to spend more time overall at home with adult supervision than do students across the rest of the state. For example, 6.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in Porter County spend no days at home with adult supervision compared to 10.8% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders across the rest of the state.

**Table 2.19**  
**Percentage of Students Reporting Participation in Various After School Activities**  
**Porter County and State averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

*Porter County figures are shaded*

Activity	# of Days	Grade						
		6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Socialization Without Adult Supervision</b>	<b>None</b>	29.0	17.7	9.7	8.4	5.4	3.8	3.5
		36.8	23.6	16.0	12.1	9.4	7.8	6.6
	<b>1-9 Days</b>	18.2	18.3	15.0	11.8	9.9	6.7	6.2
		19.6	18.5	16.5	14.5	10.7	8.3	7.9
	<b>10-29 Days</b>	11.9	14.6	15.6	13.0	12.7	9.5	9.7
		11.2	13.4	14.5	14.0	12.3	11.3	10.7
	<b>30-59 Days</b>	9.1	12.0	13.5	16.1	16.2	14.7	16.3
		7.8	11.0	12.8	14.5	14.9	15.3	16.1
	<b>60-89 Days</b>	7.9	9.9	14.2	16.2	18.2	18.4	18.7
		5.4	8.4	11.4	13.6	15.1	16.6	17.1
	<b>90-129 Days</b>	6.4	10.4	13.8	15.0	16.3	21.7	20.5
		5.1	7.8	10.6	12.2	15.4	17.0	17.4
	<b>130-180 Days</b>	7.8	11.2	14.0	16.3	18.1	21.0	20.7
	6.7	10.1	12.6	12.7	15.6	17.3	17.7	
<b>At Home With Adult Supervision</b>	<b>None</b>	6.1	7.7	5.8	6.1	4.9	4.8	5.4
		10.8	9.5	9.2	8.4	8.4	8.0	8.2
	<b>1-9 Days</b>	11.6	8.6	8.7	8.0	7.6	7.5	10.6
		11.7	10.4	10.2	9.2	8.7	8.7	9.4
	<b>10-29 Days</b>	8.7	8.8	11.1	10.1	13.4	11.7	12.3
		9.4	9.0	9.9	10.1	10.3	11.0	11.5
	<b>30-59 Days</b>	9.2	10.8	14.8	16.0	15.8	16.0	19.1
		8.4	10.1	11.6	12.7	13.7	14.7	15.7
	<b>60-89 Days</b>	10.4	12.8	13.8	16.3	19.0	19.4	14.9
		9.1	11.0	12.8	14.3	15.2	16.3	15.6
	<b>90-129 Days</b>	17.3	19.0	21.4	20.9	20.5	19.4	17.4
		15.5	17.7	18.7	19.0	19.0	18.2	17.1
	<b>130-180 Days</b>	25.5	24.2	17.9	17.9	14.4	16.1	14.9
	26.0	23.1	20.0	18.4	16.8	15.3	14.6	

**College Age Survey Data: Perceived Peer Approval.** Students in the college age survey also were asked about their perception of peer approval of their drinking. The responses to these questions are reported in Table 2.20. As indicated, 66.7% perceive that their peers would disapprove of taking 1 or 2 drinks daily. Additionally, 94.2% believe their peers would disapprove of drinking 4 or 5 drinks a day and 58.7% believe their friends would disapprove of having 5 or more drinks at one sitting. The questions are not directly comparable to the questions in the ATOD survey, but overall there is a tendency to see their peers as less disapproving than do the high school students. At the same time, when asked about daily binge drinking there does not seem to be much support for that among these persons.

**Table 2.20**  
**Peer Approval of Alcohol Use**  
College Age Survey, 2008

Activity	% of Friends Disapproving
<b>Took 1 or 2 drinks everyday</b>	66.7%
<b>Took 4 or 5 drinks everyday</b>	94.2%
<b>Had 5+ drinks at 1 sitting</b>	58.7%

**College Age Survey Data: Resistance and Pressure.** Table 2.21 presents responses to questions about pressures and resistance to drug and alcohol use. As indicated, 62.5% refused offers of alcohol or drugs, 22.5% bragged about alcohol or drug use, 84.7% heard others brag about drug or alcohol use, 38.2% have experienced peer pressure to use drugs or alcohol, 9.6% have held a drink to reduce pressure to drink, 17.0% thought a sexual partner less attractive because they were drunk, and 8.9% told a sexual partner that they were not attractive because they were drunk.

**Table 2.21**  
**Alcohol Related Experiences**  
College Age Survey, 2008

Responses past 30 days	%Yes
<b>Refused offer of alcohol or drugs</b>	62.5%
<b>Bragged about alcohol or drug use</b>	22.6%
<b>Heard others brag about alcohol or drug use</b>	84.7%
<b>Experience peer pressure to use drugs or alcohol</b>	38.2%
<b>Held drink to reduce pressure to drink</b>	9.6%
<b>Thought sexual partner less attractive cause drunk</b>	17.0%
<b>Told sexual partner not attractive cause drunk</b>	8.9%

## Consequences of Alcohol Consumption: ATOD Study Data

The ATOD survey also asked questions concerning the consequences of ATOD consumption. The actual survey did not generally distinguish if the consequences were from drugs or alcohol or both. The following data has been put into the section on alcohol, but keep in mind the data includes results from drugs, tobacco, and/or alcohol.

Table 2.22 reports the responses from Porter County students on how often they had nausea, memory loss, did poorly on a test, got into a fight, damaged property, or had a hangover from ATOD use. As clearly indicated, there are reported negative consequences from ATOD use.

Those reporting consequences from ATOD use increase with grade level. For example, 90.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report never experiencing nausea from ATOD consumption, but that figure drops to 53.8% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. At the same time, a quarter of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report having had nausea multiple times. Similarly, 91.6% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students report never having had a hangover, but for 12<sup>th</sup> graders that figure drops to 55.3% and over a quarter of them report having had hangovers multiple times, including 6.1% reporting having hangovers more than 11 times.

Following the same pattern, 91.5% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report never having a memory loss and that figure drops to 68.9% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. However, when asked about having done poorly on a test, missed school, or damaged property, the increases across grade levels are minimal. At the same time, by the time they reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, approximately 12% of the students report having done poorly on a test or missing school, and almost 10% report having damaged property as a result of ATOD consumption. When asked about getting into a fight the number increases across grade levels and over 20% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders indicate they have gotten into a fight because of ATOD consumption; over 10% indicate fighting on multiple occasions.

Additional data on the consequences of ATOD use are presented in Table 2.23. Rather than asking the relative frequency of the particular consequence, these questions simply asked for yes or no responses. As indicated, the negative consequences of ATOD consumption go up with grade level. So, when asked if they had driven under the influence, 80.4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders say no but that figure drops to 49.1% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders. It also is clear, but not as dramatic a change from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, that use of alcohol and drugs to fit in increases from 3% to 27%, use of substances alone increases from 3.3% to 24%, forgetting things when high increases from 2.1% to 27.1%, and getting into trouble increases from 2.4% to 14.3%. When it comes to being told to cut down on consumption, 1.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report being told and that figure increases to 8.5% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

To illustrate further some of the changes that occur in the reported consequences of ATOD use among Porter County students, the responses to the questions about hangovers and driving under the influence were plotted on separate graphs. The data on reported hangovers from ATOD use are presented in Figure 2.13. As indicated, there is a significant decline in those who report never having had a hangover at the same time there are increases in the number of students reporting having had either 1, between 2-10, and more than 11 hangovers.

**Table 2.22**  
**Consequences of Alcohol and Drug Consumption**  
 ATOD, 2008

Condition	Frequency	Grade						
		6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Had nausea	Never	90.7	89.2	81.2	75.7	70.7	63.8	53.8
	Once	2.7	4.1	8.7	11.5	13.5	15.3	17.2
	2-10 times	1.3	2.1	5.8	9.2	12	16.8	23.5
	11 + times	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	2.2
Had a memory loss	Never	91.5	91.2	85.3	80.5	75.5	72.3	68.9
	Once	1.8	2.2	5.4	7.4	8.6	11.1	10.9
	2-10 times	0.7	1.6	4.9	7.5	9.9	10.9	13.4
	11 + times	0.2	0.8	0.6	1.8	2.8	2.8	3.5
Poor on school test	Never	91.2	91.7	88.2	89	88.3	88.5	88.5
	Once	1.2	2.5	3.2	3.2	2.6	2.8	1.9
	2-10 times	1.4	1.2	3.6	3.8	4.5	4.3	4.3
	11 +times	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.4	2	1.5	1.8
Missed school	Never	91.2	91.7	90.4	90.7	88.7	89.2	87.2
	Once	1	1.4	2.5	2.5	3.2	2.2	2.6
	2-10 times	1.4	2.2	2.8	3.2	4.6	4.2	4.8
	11 + times	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.4	1.6
Got into a fight	Never	89.7	89.2	83.6	82.4	81.1	81.3	79
	Once	1.5	3.3	5.7	7.2	6.8	7	6
	2-10 times	1.9	2.5	5.6	6.6	7.7	7.2	9.7
	11 + times	0.8	0.8	1	1.1	1.7	1.5	1.8
Damaged Property	Never	92.4	93.6	90.5	91	91.1	92.2	91.8
	Once	0.7	1.2	2	2.5	2	1.8	1.4
	2-10 times	0.4	0.7	2.6	2.8	1.5	2	2.1
	11 + times	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	1	0.6	1.2
Had a Hangover	Never	91.6	88.8	78.1	70.4	68.4	61.4	55.3
	Once	2.0	3.5	7.2	11.1	14.2	14.2	13.6
	2-10 times	1.3	3.8	9.5	13.3	16.7	18.5	21.4
	11 + times	.2	.5	1.5	3.2	2.4	3.6	6.1

The same thing was done for the responses to the question of whether or not students had ever driven while under the influence. This data is presented in Figure 2.14. What the figure clearly demonstrates is the substantial rise in those reporting having driven under the influence and the corresponding drop in those reporting never having driven under the influence. In an

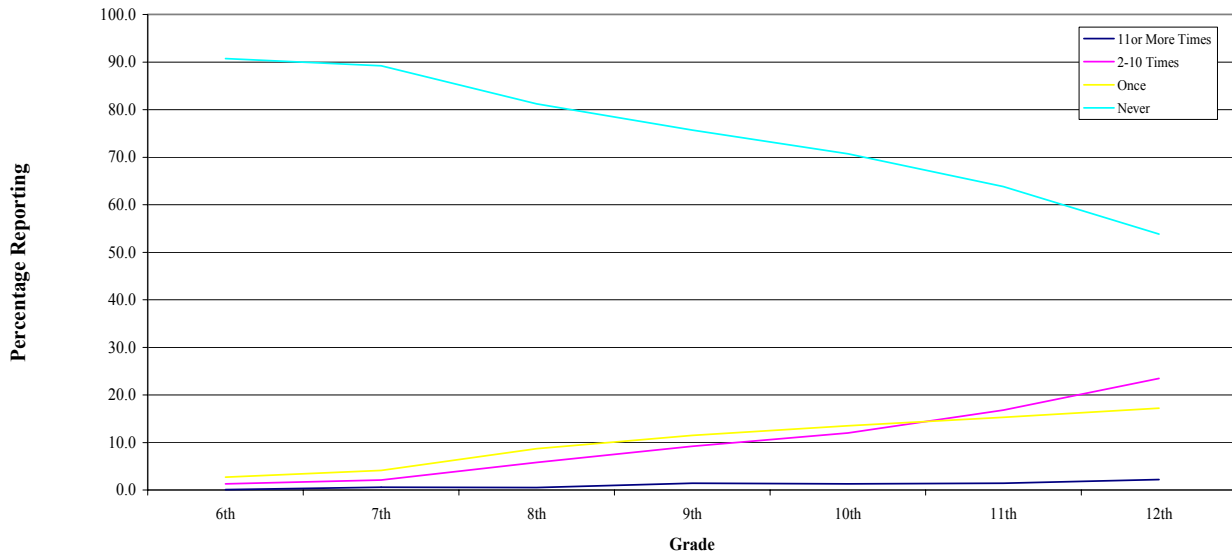
effort to grasp the magnitude of this, keep in mind that we are talking about almost one-half of all 12<sup>th</sup> graders in Porter County reporting having driven under the influence of either drugs or alcohol. Without projecting to the entire population of Porter County students at that age and just focusing on the number of persons who responded in this survey, that would mean that 494 12<sup>th</sup> grade students actually say they had driven under the influence of drugs or alcohol. When you add in the same figure for 11<sup>th</sup> graders, you get an additional 594 students. This is not counting those persons who have said they have done this multiple – 6.1% say 11 or more – times.

**Table 2.23**  
**Additional Consequences of Alcohol or Drug Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

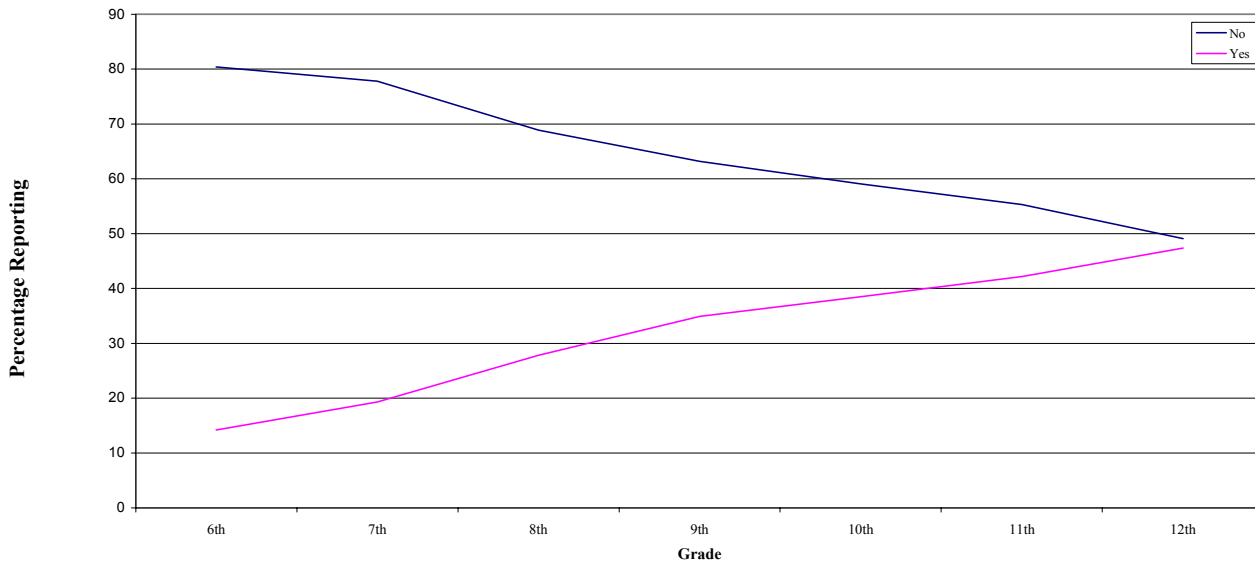
Condition	Grade							
		6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Driven under the influence	No	80.4	77.8	68.9	63.2	59.1	55.3	49.1
	Yes	14.2	19.3	27.8	34.9	38.5	42.2	47.4
Used alcohol/drugs to relax/ fit in	No	91.5	90.5	85.3	82.4	76.1	74.6	69.6
	Yes	3	5.9	11.3	15.5	21.6	22.4	27
Used alcohol or drugs alone	No	90.7	90.3	82	79.9	77	77.6	72.8
	Yes	3.3	5.8	14.2	18.1	20.6	19.5	24
Forgot things you did while high	No	90.3	90.1	83.1	80.3	74	70.5	69
	Yes	2.1	4.4	12.3	17.3	23	26.4	27.1
Had been told to cut down	No	89	91	90.2	91	88.3	88.1	87.7
	Yes	1.7	2.5	4.2	6.2	8.5	8.5	8.5
Got into trouble	No	87.9	89	85.4	85.3	83.2	80	81.9
	Yes	2.4	4.1	8.7	12.1	13.6	16.8	14.3

To illustrate the extent of the problem of driving under the influence, Figure 2.15 plots the percent of students who report driving under the influence by grade level and then compares these numbers to those reported by students across the state. As is very clear, with the exception of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, Porter County students drive under the influence more than other students across the state and the magnitude of the difference increases with grade level.

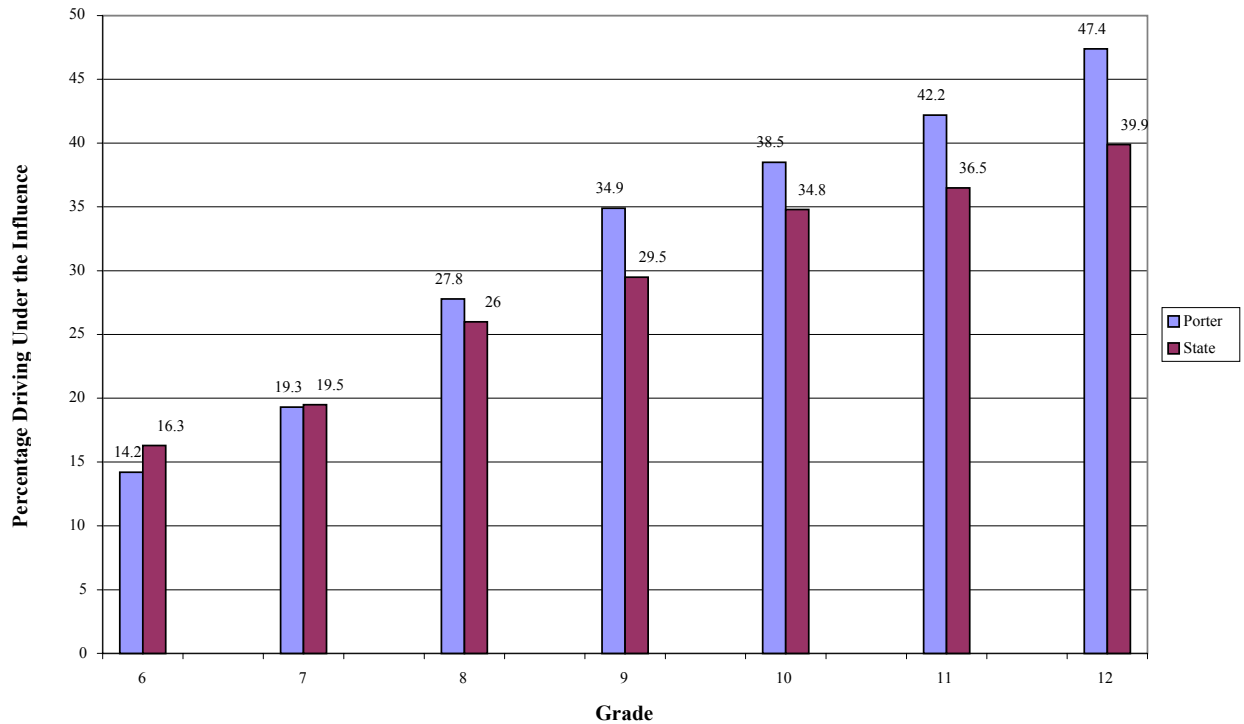
**Figure 2.13**  
**Porter County Students Reporting Nausea**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Figure 2.14**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Driving Under the Influence**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Figure 2.15**  
**Students Driving Under the Influence: Porter v. State**  
 ATOD, 2008

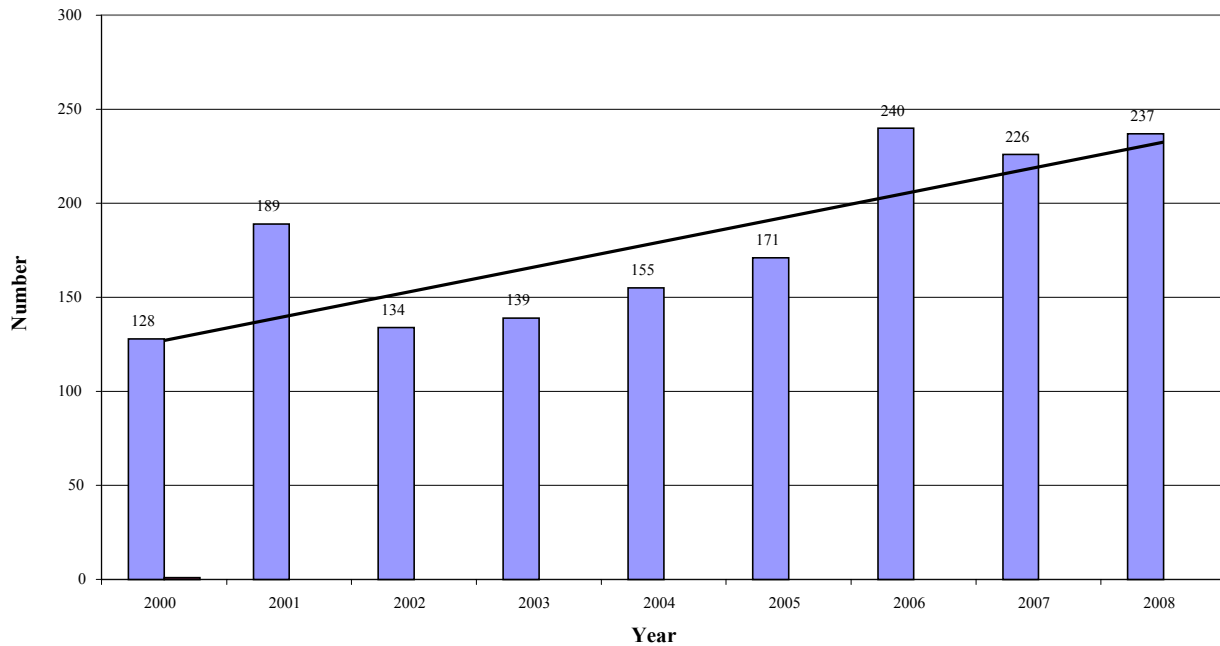


**Consequences: School Suspensions and Expulsions.**

Figure 2.16 reports the total number of suspensions and expulsions from all Porter County Schools. The data presented on the Department of Education’s web site does not separate the data by alcohol, drugs, or weapons, but puts them all into one category. In addition, in this category they do not distinguish suspensions from expulsions. Given the data presented here, there appears to be a small but relatively steady increase from a low of 128 in 2000 to a high of 240 in 2006. Over the past three years, the number has remained steady at this higher level.



**Figure 2.16**  
**Drug, Alcohol, and Weapons Suspensions and Expulsions Porter County Schools,**  
 Indiana Department of Education, 2009



**Consequences: Porter County Residents Admitted to Porter-Starke Services for Alcohol Abuse.** The data in Table 2.24 presents a breakdown by age and sex of the persons treated at Porter-Starke Services for alcohol abuse. The table is quite detailed and the trends in it are difficult to discern. To illustrate the patterns more clearly the data were broken down and put into two separate figures. In Figure 2.17 you can see the trends over time for all persons and then see the differences between males and females. As indicated, there has been a steady increase in the total number of patients treated from a low of 392 patients in 2005 to 619 in 2008 which represents an increase of 58%. While there are far fewer females in the entire group, over the same time period, their numbers have increased by 82%. The largest increases for all categories occurred in the past year.

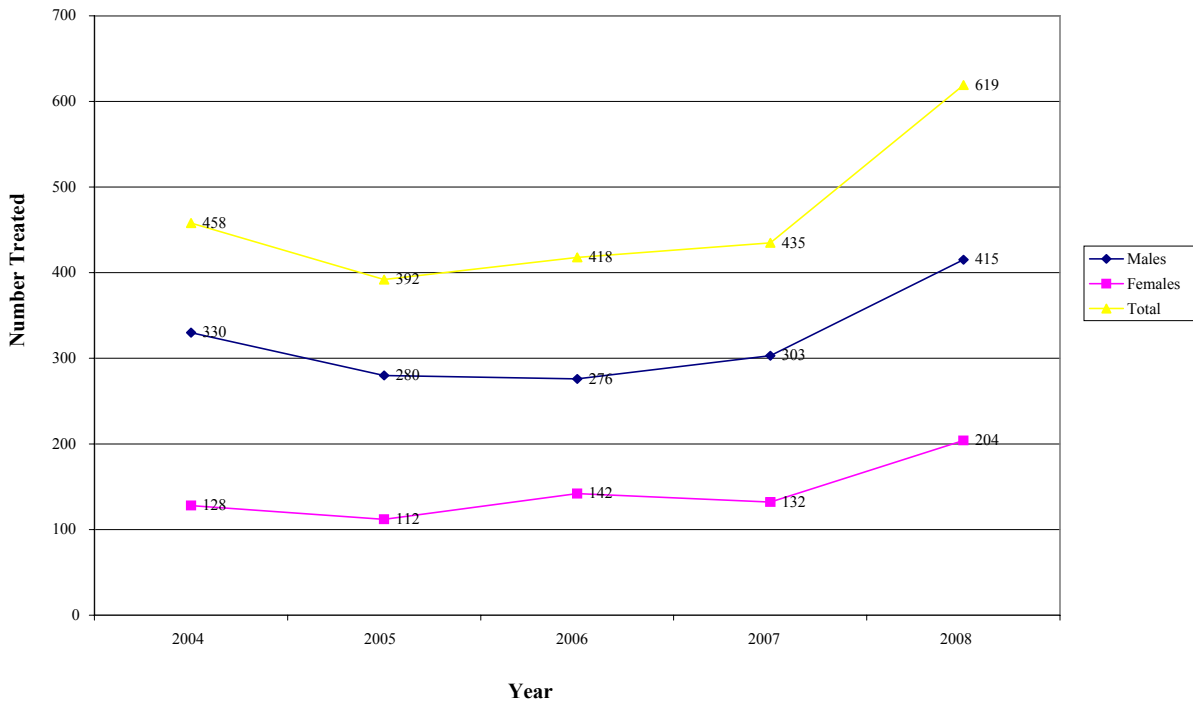
The data presented in Figure 2.18 is broken down by the ages of clients across time. Most age groups have remained steady over time except for the increases among persons between 25 and 44 and those over 55. The 18-25 year old group has remained steady throughout the period, generally running between 70 or 80 per year and treatments among this age group have even decreased in the past year.

**Table 2.24**  
**Porter County Resident Substance Abuse Clients Seen Yearly at**  
**Porter-Starke Services: Alcohol, 2004-2008**

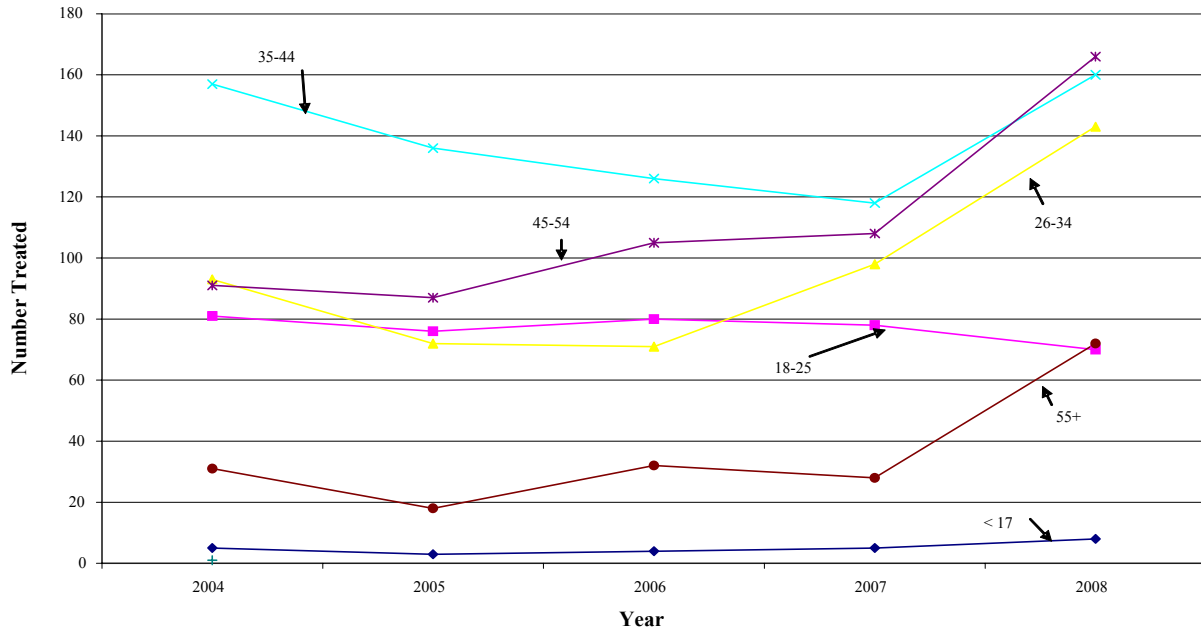
Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008

	Age	12 & under	13-17	18-25	26-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
<b>2008</b>	<b>Females</b>	0	4	21	38	53	66	18	4	0
	<b>Males</b>	0	4	49	105	107	100	36	9	5
	<b>Total</b>	0	8	70	143	160	166	54	13	5
<b>2007</b>	<b>Females</b>	0	3	17	27	42	35	7	1	0
	<b>Males</b>	0	2	61	71	76	73	16	3	1
	<b>Total</b>	0	5	78	98	118	108	23	4	1
<b>2006</b>	<b>Female</b>	0	3	26	20	49	35	8	1	0
	<b>Males</b>	0	1	54	51	77	70	17	3	3
	<b>Total</b>	0	4	80	71	126	105	25	4	3
<b>2005</b>	<b>Female</b>	0	0	14	16	51	24	5	2	0
	<b>Male</b>	0	3	62	56	85	63	10	1	0
	<b>Total</b>	0	3	76	72	136	87	15	3	0
<b>2004</b>	<b>Female</b>	0	3	10	22	50	34	7	0	2
	<b>Male</b>	0	2	71	71	107	57	17	4	1
	<b>Total</b>	0	5	81	93	157	91	24	4	3

**Figure 2.17**  
**Porter-Starke Services Alcohol Related Treatments: 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008



**Figure 2.18**  
**Porter-Starke Services Alcohol Treatments by Age and Year**  
 Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008



**Emergency Room Treatments: Alcohol and Drug-Related.** Another perspective on the consequences of alcohol and drug use in Porter County can be seen from the number of persons treated at the emergency room at Porter Hospital. A new data collection system has been established at the hospital entitled DAWN, which stands for Drug Abuse Warning Network. Sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services, the system collects data on all drug related treatments at emergency rooms as a means to track drug use. This is the first year the data is available so we do not have any trend data. However, in the future, data will be able to be tracked across time.

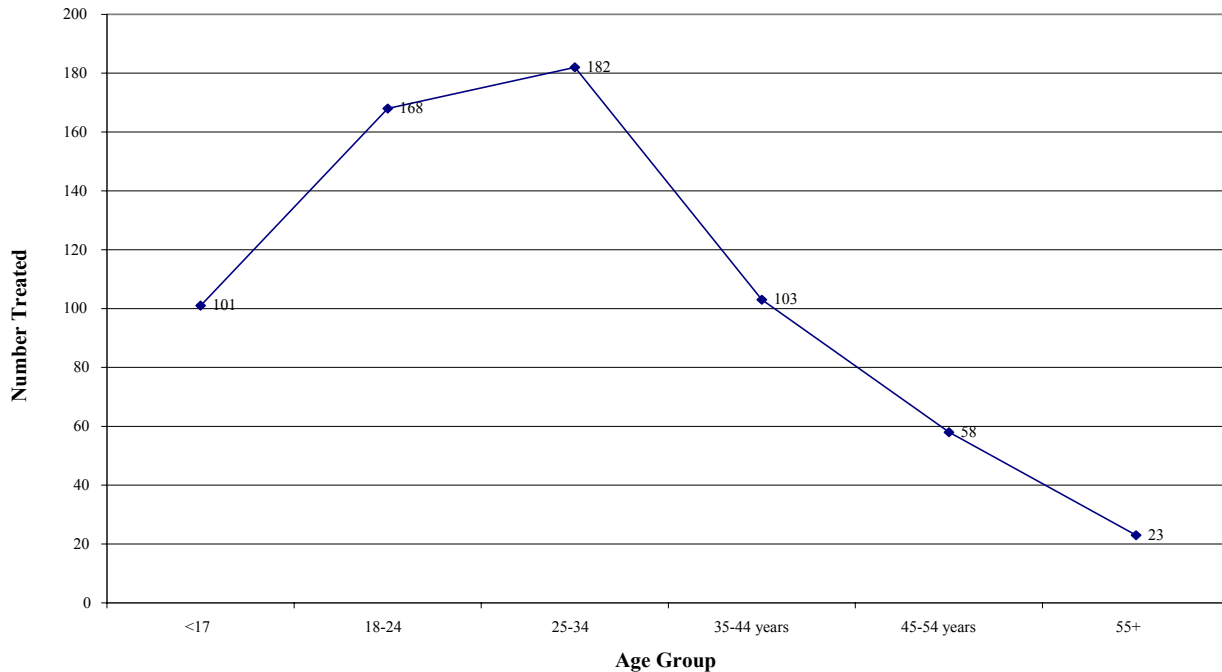
Table 2.25 presents data on all drug and alcohol related treatments at both campuses of Porter Hospital. As indicated, there were a total of 635 treatments, 441 at the Valparaiso

**Table 2.25**  
**Treatments at Porter Hospital Emergency Room: Alcohol and Drug Related, 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008

<b>TYPE OF CASE</b>	<b>Valparaiso</b>	<b>Portage</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Suicide attempt</b>	73	38	111
<b>Seeking detox</b>	134	10	144
<b>Alcohol only (age &lt; 21)</b>	43	19	62
<b>Malicious poisoning</b>	--	--	--
<b>Other</b>	191	127	318
<b>TOTAL</b>	441	194	635
<b>SEX</b>			
<b>Male</b>	242	112	354
<b>Female</b>	199	82	281
<b>TOTAL</b>	441	194	635
<b>AGE</b>			
<b>5 years and younger</b>	--	--	--
<b>6-11 years</b>	--	1	1
<b>12-17 years</b>	63	37	100
<b>18-20 years</b>	60	35	95
<b>21-24 years</b>	50	23	73
<b>25-29 years</b>	66	23	89
<b>30-34 years</b>	68	25	93
<b>35-44 years</b>	79	24	103
<b>45-54 years</b>	39	19	58
<b>55-64 years</b>	10	4	14
<b>65 years and older</b>	6	2	8
<b>Not documented</b>	--	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	441	194	635

Campus and 194 at the Portage Campus. A total of 111 of these were labeled suicide attempts and 144 of them labeled as persons seeking detoxification. A total of 354 (55.7%) were male and 281 (44.3%) were female. The data is broken down by age in Figure 2.19. As indicated, there were 101 persons under 17 years of age, 168 in the 18-24 age group, 182 in the 25-34 age group, 103 in the 45-54 age group, and 23 in the 55 and over group.

**Figure 2.19**  
**Porter Hospital Emergency Room Treatments: Alcohol and Drug Related 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008

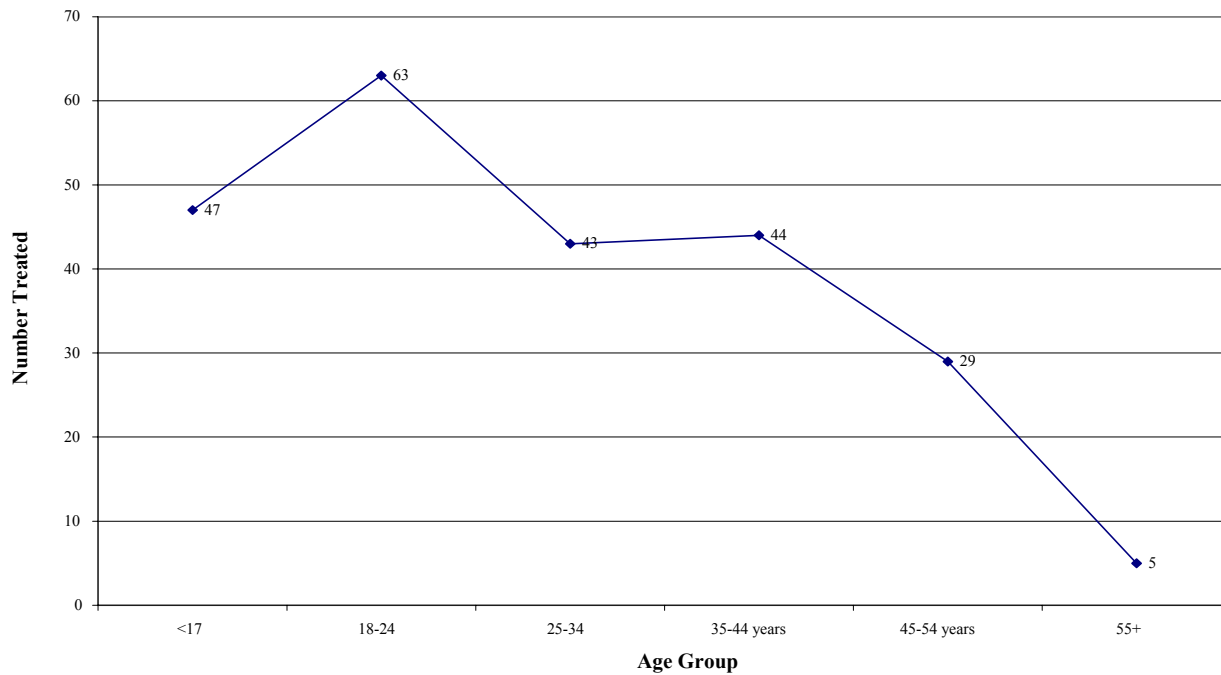


**Emergency Room Treatments for Alcohol.** The data on the alcohol related treatments at Porter Hospital is presented in Table 2.26. As indicated, there were a total of 231 treatments, 166 at the Valparaiso Campus and 65 at the Portage Campus. Of these, 41 were considered suicide attempts and another 38 were classified at persons seeking detoxification. A total of 140 (60.6%) of these were male and 91 (39.4%) female. The data were broken down further by age in Figure 2.20. There were 47 persons 17 and under, 63 between 18-24, 43 between 25-34, 44 between 35-44, 29 between 45-55, and 5 over the age of 55. So when it comes to purely alcohol related treatments at the hospital emergency room, the 18-24 year age group has the most treatments. The second most frequent age group includes those 17 years of age and under.

**Table 2.26**  
**Treatments at Porter Hospital Emergency Room: Alcohol Related, 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Valparaiso</b>	<b>Portage</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alcohol	166	65	231
Alcohol	166	65	231
<b>TYPE OF CASE</b>			
Suicide attempt	29	12	41
Seeking detox	34	4	38
Alcohol only (age < 21)	43	19	62
Malicious poisoning	--	--	--
Other	60	30	90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>231</b>
<b>GENDER</b>			
Male	100	40	140
Female	66	25	91
Not documented	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>231</b>
<b>AGE</b>			
5 years and younger	--	--	--
6-11 years	--	1	1
12-17 years	30	16	46
18-20 years	26	13	39
21-24 years	17	7	24
25-29 years	17	5	22
30-34 years	16	5	21
35-44 years	35	9	44
45-54 years	23	6	29
55-64 years	2	2	4
65 years and older	--	1	1
Not documented	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>231</b>

**Figure 2.20**  
**Emergency Room Treatments: Alcohol Related 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008



**Consequences: Hospital Costs Related to Alcohol.** Another consequence of the consumption of alcohol is actual monetary cost. While difficult to determine, data is available on the diagnosis, the amount of time spent, and the total cost of each person discharged at each hospital in the State of Indiana. The data in Table 2.27 is for persons discharged from Porter Hospital between 2003 and 2006 for alcohol related illnesses (Indiana Hospital Discharge Data, 2009). More recent data is not currently available. The number of patients over the time period has gone down gradually from a high of 295 patients in 2005 to 220 in 2006. Similarly, the total number of days spent in the hospital for alcohol related illnesses has gone down from a high of 867 in 2004 to 675 days in 2006. At the same time, the average number of days has gone up very slightly from 2.9 to 3.1. However, despite the lower number of persons and number of days the total cost of alcohol related illnesses has gone up from \$1,568,099 in 2003 to \$1,834,825 in 2006, a 14.5% increase despite an almost 20% decrease in the number of patients treated. During the entire period alcohol related illnesses cost a total of \$6,793,299.

**Table 2.27**  
**Porter Hospital Discharge Statistics for Alcohol-Related Incidents, 2003-2006**  
 Indiana Hospital Discharge Data, 2007

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Number of Patients</b>	274	295	245	220	1034
<b>Total Money</b>	\$1,568,099	\$1,772,472	\$1,617,903	\$1,834,825	\$6,793,299
<b>Total Days</b>	800	867	764	675	3106
<b>Average Days</b>	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.0
<b>Average Charge</b>	\$5,722.99	\$6,008.38	\$6,603.69	\$8,340.11	\$6,569.92

**Consequences: Alcohol Related Collisions and Death.**

Table 2.28 presents data on motor vehicle collisions and deaths by County for 2007 (State Epidemiological Report, 2008). The table includes data from the most populated counties in the state, those which have a population of over 100,000 persons. In Porter County in 2007, there were 5,085 reported collisions with 264 of them being alcohol related. There were 23 fatal collisions with 4 of them being alcohol related. The rate of alcohol related crashes per 1,000 people in Porter County is 1.64, which is higher than the state rate of 1.57 and ranks Porter County 8<sup>th</sup> of the 16 most populous counties in the state.

**Consequences: Alcohol Related Arrests.**

**Porter County.** The data in Table 2.29 report the arrests and arrest rates for driving under the influence (DUI), public intoxication, and liquor law violations in all counties in Indiana with a population greater than 100,000 for the year 2007 (State Epidemiological Report, 2008). Porter County ranks 9<sup>th</sup> of the 16 counties in their DUI arrest rate with a rate of 5.44 arrests per 1,000 people. This is a lower rate than the state's total figure of 6 per 1,000. Porter County's arrest rate for public intoxication is 2.56 per 1,000 persons, which places it 10<sup>th</sup> among the counties listed and less than the state average of 3.48. As to arrests for liquor law violations, Porter County has a rate of 4.42 per 1,000, which ranks 4<sup>th</sup> highest among the listed counties and substantially higher than the state average of 2.64.



**Table 2.28**  
**Alcohol-Related Collisions and Fatalities in Indiana by County, 2007**  
 State Epidemiological Report, 2008

<b>County</b>	<b>Total Collisions</b>	<b>Alcohol-Related Collisions</b>	<b>Total Fatal Collisions</b>	<b>Alcohol-Related Fatal Collisions</b>	<b>Population Estimate 2007</b>	<b>Alcohol-Related Crash Rate (Per 1,000 population)</b>
<b>Hamilton</b>	6,778	245	22	4	261,661	0.94
<b>Hendricks</b>	3,696	129	17	5	134,558	0.96
<b>Johnson</b>	2,979	136	15	5	135,951	1.00
<b>Marion</b>	27,954	1,087	79	21	876,804	1.24
<b>Elkhart</b>	7,724	287	47	10	197,942	1.45
<b>State Total</b>	<b>204,943</b>	<b>9,935</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>6,345,289</b>	<b>1.57</b>
<b>Madison</b>	4,360	208	18	6	131,312	1.58
<b>Monroe</b>	4,056	210	4	--	128,643	1.63
<b>Porter</b>	<b>5,085</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>160,578</b>	<b>1.64</b>
<b>Allen</b>	12,257	575	21	5	349,488	1.65
<b>Clark</b>	4,383	203	7	2	105,035	1.93
<b>Delaware</b>	4,681	229	27	4	115,419	1.98
<b>Tippecanoe</b>	7,475	337	22	7	163,364	2.06
<b>Vanderburgh</b>	5,667	361	16	5	174,425	2.07
<b>Vigo</b>	3,663	217	14	7	104,915	2.07
<b>Lake</b>	18,587	988	53	23	490,093	2.02
<b>Saint Joseph</b>	588	15	6	2	266,088	*0.06

**Table 2.29**  
**Arrest Rates for DUI, Public Intoxication and Liquor Law Violations Select Counties, 2007**  
 State Epidemiological Report, 2008

County	Number of Arrests for DUI	DUI Arrest Rate	Number of Arrests for Public Intoxication	Public Intoxication Arrest Rate	Number of Arrests for Liquor Law Violations	Liquor Law Violation Arrest Rate
Allen	2,239	6.47	826	2.39	230	0.66
Clark	597	5.84	461	4.51	182	1.78
Delaware	409	3.49	285	2.43	89	0.76
Elkhart	966	4.9	365	1.85	663	3.37
Hamilton	1,337	5.52	276	1.14	639	2.64
Hendricks	639	4.98	147	1.15	395	3.08
Johnson	755	5.82	112	0.86	750	5.78
LaGrange	106	2.86	40	1.08	109	2.94
Lake	3,712	7.48	2,152	4.33	1,635	3.29
Madison	641	4.88	575	4.38	327	2.49
Marion	3,523	4	5,317	6.12	377	0.43
Monroe	514	4.12	483	3.95	1,002	8.20
Porter	864	5.44	406	2.56	702	4.42
Saint Joseph	1,045	3.9	183	0.68	503	1.88
Tippecanoe	884	5.71	926	5.98	884	5.71
Vanderburgh	1,014	5.82	758	4.35	108	0.62
Vigo	648	6.27	347	3.36	347	3.36
<b>State Total</b>	<b>35,884</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21,987</b>	<b>3.48</b>	<b>16,659</b>	<b>2.64</b>

**Porter County Jurisdictions.** The data in Table 2.30 presents the number of arrests for all alcohol related cases including adult and juveniles from 2004-2008 in various jurisdictions in Porter County. Obviously, the data file is not complete because we were not able to get data from all jurisdictions for all years. Also the data from Valparaiso University is collected by academic rather than fiscal year and they had not yet completed the 2008-2009 academic year. Even with the limitations of the data, there are still some identifiable trends. The patterns in many communities, such as Hebron, Portage, Porter, Beverly Shores, and Valparaiso, are relatively inconsistent with shifts from year to year. Burns Harbor has had gradual increases, while Kouts was rather constant over the years. The only place with a dramatic increase in alcohol related arrests was Chesterton, which has experienced a steady increase over the years and then a dramatic increase between 2007 and 2008.

**Table 2.30**  
**Alcohol Related Arrests in Various Jurisdictions in Porter County, 2004-2005\***

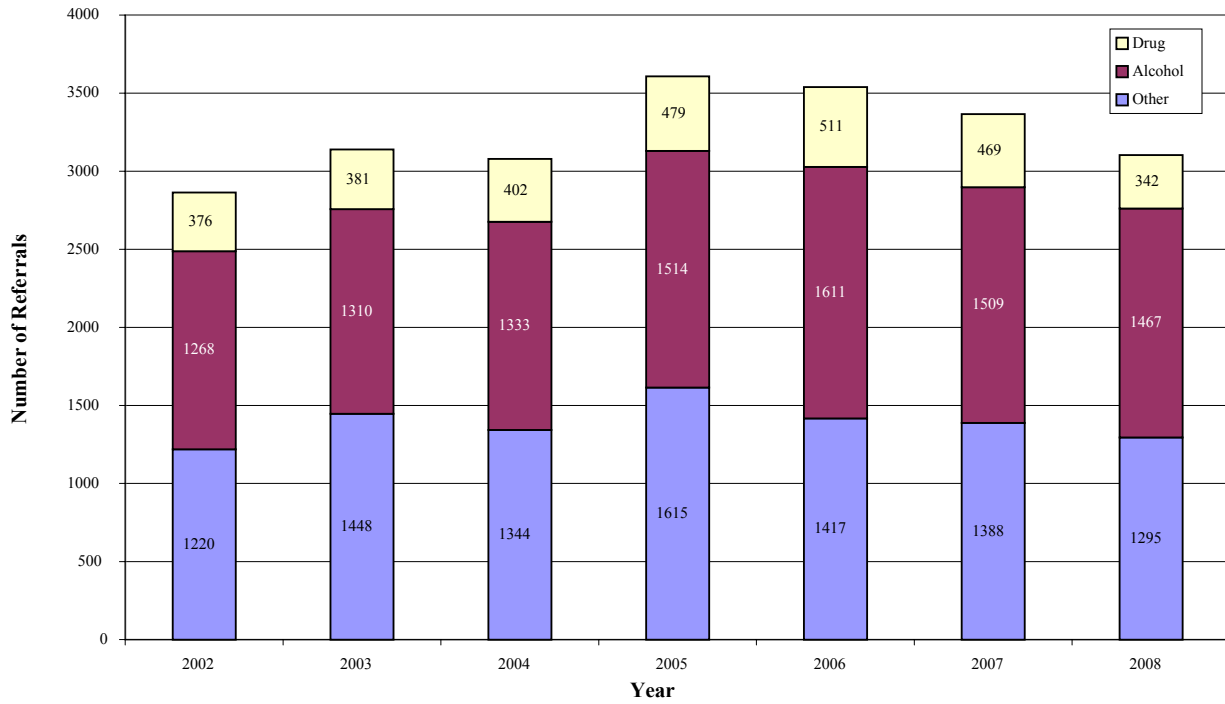
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Burns Harbor	58	69	63	78	75
Chesterton	78	109	106	138	218
Valparaiso	545	466	563	496	430
Valpo University	*	130	91	31	*
Kouts	46	56	65	41	47
Beverly Shores	0	1	0	0	*
Porter	70	41	41	63	*
Portage	452	467	490	590	534
Ogden Dunes	*	*	*	*	13
Hebron	56	106	86	85	41
Porter County	*	*	*	*	534

*\*Data not available for this year. Much of this data was provided by Sharon Cawood of the Substance Abuse Council. The data from Valparaiso University is available at <http://ope.ed.gov/security>*

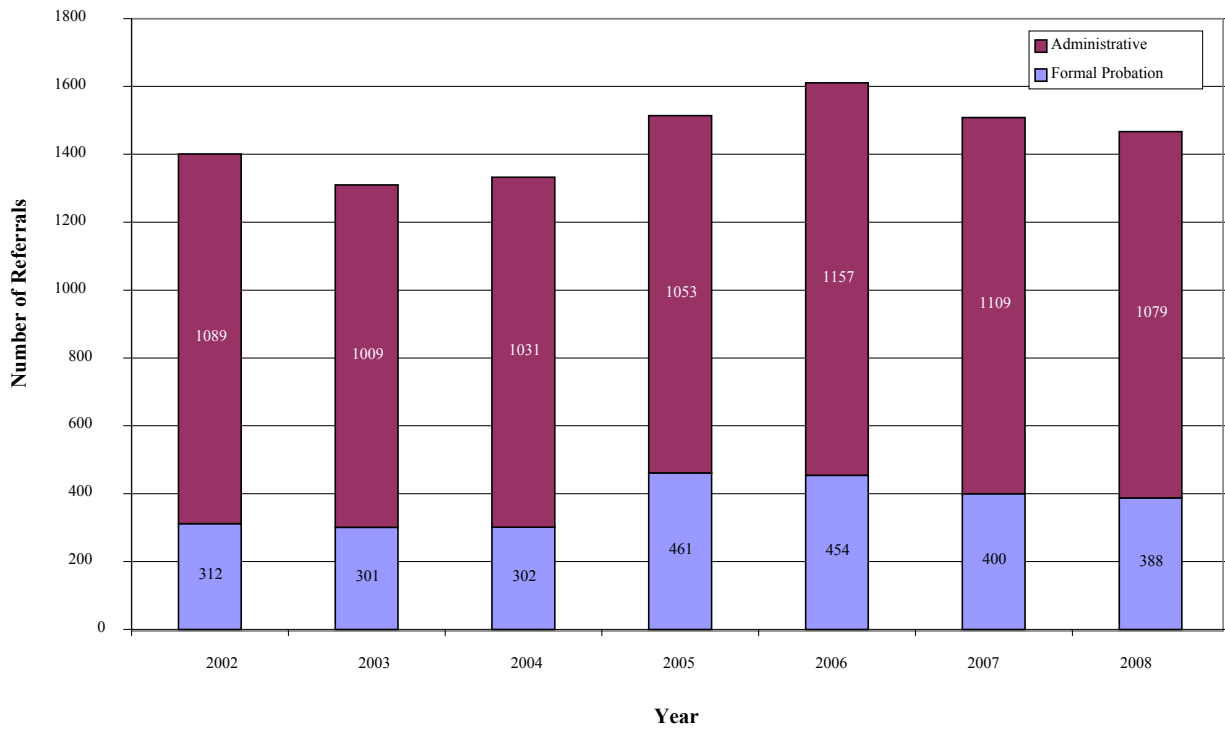
**Consequences: Alcohol Related Referrals to Adult Probation.** Another way of looking at the consequences of alcohol consumption is to look at the number of referrals to the Porter County Adult Probation Department for alcohol related offenses (Porter County Adult Probation Report, 2008). These represent persons who were actually convicted rather than simply arrested for alcohol related offenses. The data for all referrals for the years 2002 through 2008 is presented in Figure 2.21. As indicated, the number of total referrals is relatively constant but has seen a slight increase over time. On average there are 3,243 referrals per year with the average year having 1,430 referrals for alcohol related offenses and 423 drug-related offenses. In the average year, 14% of the referrals are for drug related issues and 50% of the referrals are for alcohol related cases. Thus, in the average year, almost 2/3 of the referrals are for drug and alcohol related issues.

Figure 2.22 presents data on only alcohol related referrals to Adult Probation. The data is divided into two parts, formal probation where regular reporting is required and administrative probation where this reporting is not required. The number of alcohol referrals has increased slightly over the years. As indicated, most probation is of a less formal, administrative type. On average, 26% of referrals per year are put on formal probation.

**Figure 2.21**  
**Referrals to Porter County Adult Probation**  
 Porter County Adult Probation, 2008

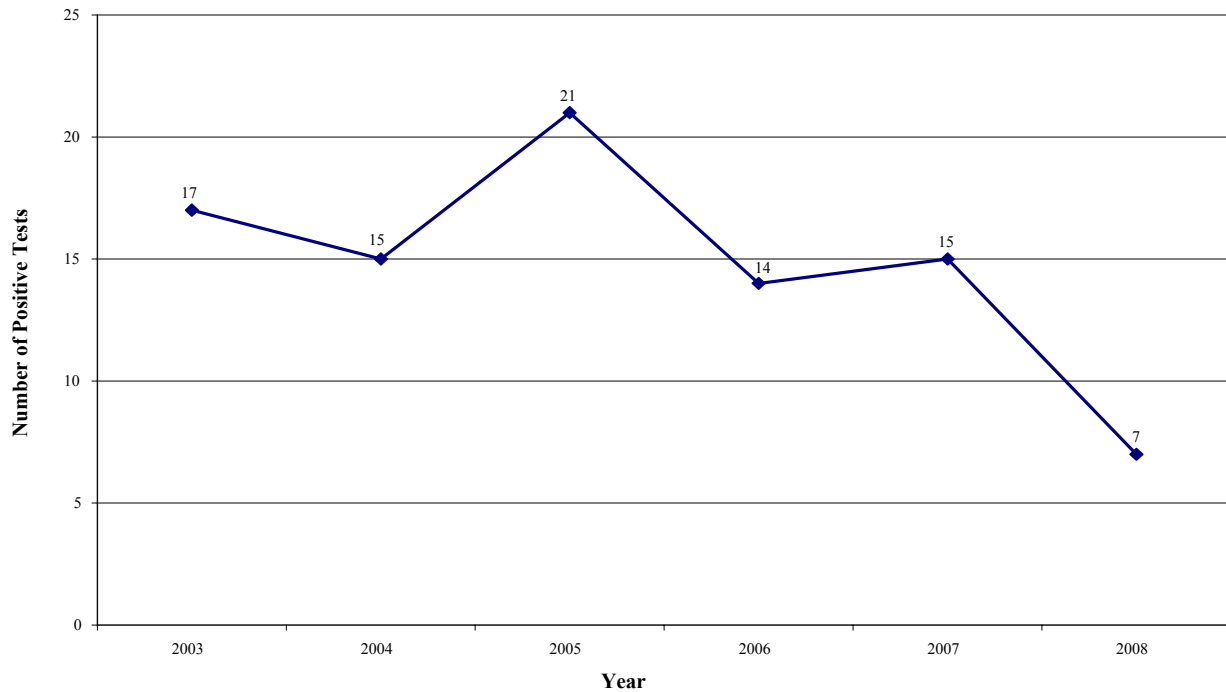


**Figure 2.22**  
**Alcohol Referrals to Porter County Adult Probation**  
 Porter County Adult Probation, 2008



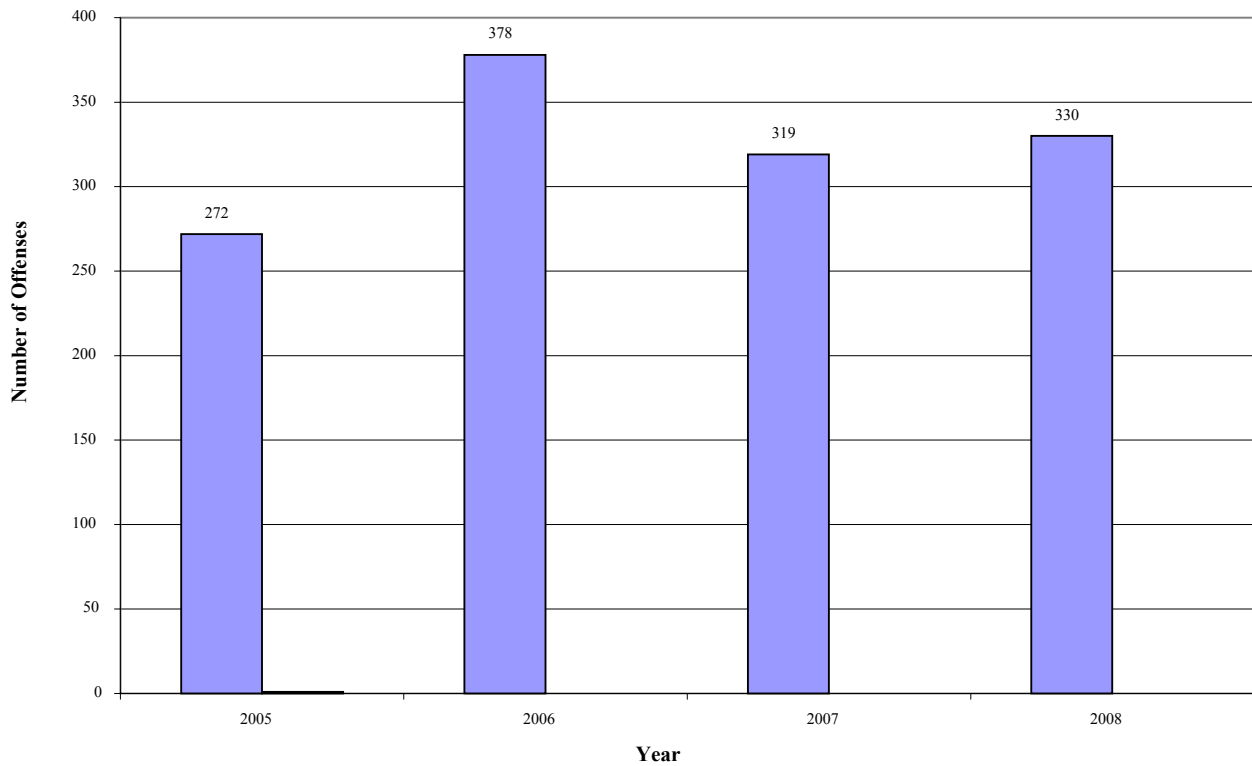
Persons on probation are tested regularly for using drugs and/or alcohol. Figure 2.23 reports data on the number of persons on probation who test positive for alcohol. There are not many people who test positive for alcohol and the number is declining.

**Figure 2.23**  
**Positive Tests for Alcohol Porter County Adult Probation**  
Porter County Adult Probation, 2008



**Consequences: Alcohol Related Referrals to Juvenile Probation.** Figure 2.24 presents data on the number of alcohol related offenses referred to Porter County Juvenile Probation from 2005-2008 (Porter County Juvenile Probation Report, 2008). As indicated, there were 272 in 2005, 378 in 2006, 329 in 2007, and 330 in 2008.

**Figure 2.24**  
**Alcohol Related Offenses Referred to Porter County Juvenile Probation, 2005-2008**  
Porter County Juvenile Probation Report, 2008



**Consequences: Alcohol Related Deaths in Porter County.** According to the Porter County Coroner’s Report, there were 4 deaths in Porter County in 2008 that were due to alcohol toxicity (Porter County Coroner’s Report, 2008). The report also indicates whether or not there was “alcohol involved” in the death. This does not mean that alcohol was the “cause” of death, but there was some involvement of alcohol. The alcohol blood level also is reported for each of these deaths. Table 2.31 represents our analysis of the Coroner’s data and lists all the deaths labeled as alcohol toxicity and also those where alcohol was “involved.” It is important to emphasize that this is our analysis of the data and not the Coroner’s office.

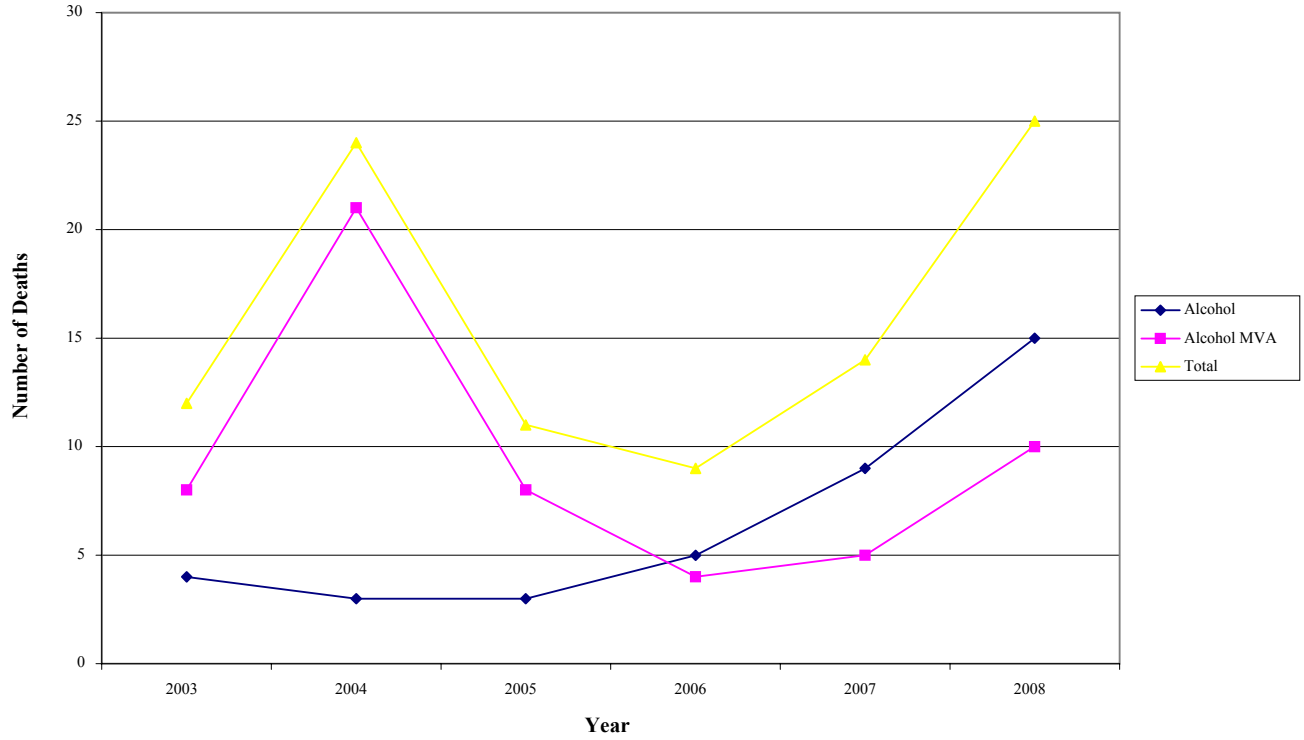
**Table 2.31**  
**Porter County Alcohol Related Deaths**  
Porter County Coroner's Report, 2008

<b>Cause of Death</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Alcohol Level</b>
<b>Alcohol Toxicity</b>	18	M	.39
	34	M	.35
	63	M	.23
	29	F	.28
<b>Alcohol Involved: Other incidents</b>			
<b>Drowning</b>	14	M	.03
	13	M	.05
<b>Accident</b>	52	M	.22
	53	M	.08
	41	F	.27
<b>Motor Vehicle Accidents</b>	49	M	.21
	22	M	.17
	28	M	.20
	37	M	.14
	43	F	.16
	32	M	.26
	20	F	.108
	30	M	OD
	41	M	.23
	27	M	.41
<b>Natural Causes</b>	55	M	.17
	51	M	.07
	41	F	.21
	56	M	.13
<b>Suicide</b>	55	M	.06
	17	M	.09

From this perspective there were 25 alcohol related deaths reported by the Coroner's office in 2008. Four of these related to alcohol toxicity. In the cases of two children ages 14 and 13 who drowned, while low, they both had elevated alcohol blood levels of .03 and .05. Of the motor vehicle accidents that resulted in deaths, 10 had alcohol "involved." As indicated in the table, most persons involved in these accidents were quite intoxicated with blood levels of several of them in the .20 or above and one with a .41 level. Even in some of the cases where death was determined to be "natural," alcohol was involved to some degree. In two deaths determined to be suicides, they had elevated blood alcohol levels.

Figure 2.25 looks at alcohol related deaths reported by the Coroner's office from 2003 through 2008. The yellow line includes the total number of alcohol related deaths, the blue line is deaths where alcohol was involved, and the pink line is motor vehicle deaths where alcohol was involved. Alcohol related deaths were on the decline until 2006 when they began to increase and that increase has continued through 2008.

**Figure 2.25**  
**Alcohol Related Deaths in Porter County: 2003-2008**  
Porter County Coroner's Report, 2008





# Chapter 3 Tobacco

## Introduction

The following reports on tobacco use in Porter County. The primary focus is on youth and this section relies almost exclusively on the ATOD survey given to all students in grades 6-12 in Porter County. This data is supplemented by some data from the Porter County Survey.

### Consumption: ATOD Study

The ATOD survey discussed in the previous chapter asked Porter County students about their use of tobacco. The focus was on the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and smokeless tobacco. The use of pipes referred to smoking tobacco in a pipe, the use of a water pipe, or a Hookah. Students were asked about their daily, monthly, annual, and lifetime use of most of these various types of activities. In addition, they were asked about their perception of the risk, peer approval, and parental approval of smoking cigarettes. The data also were broken down and comparisons made by sex. The following presents the responses to these questions. All of the responses come from the 2008 survey.

### Cigarettes

The ATOD survey included questions about the daily, monthly, annual, and lifetime use of cigarettes. In addition, students were asked about their perception of the risk, peer approval, and parental approval of smoking cigarettes. The following provides a summary of the responses to these questions.

**The Daily Use of Cigarettes.** Table 3.1 presents Porter County students responses to the question about the daily use of cigarettes. As indicated, there is a steady increase in the number of students who smoke cigarettes daily. Only .8% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report the daily use of cigarettes, while 2.1% of the 7<sup>th</sup> graders, 5.0% of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 8.2% of the 9<sup>th</sup> graders, 12.3% of the 10<sup>th</sup> graders, 15.8% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders, and 17.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report using cigarettes on a daily basis.

**Table 3.1**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Daily Use of Cigarettes**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Daily	.8	2.1	5.0	8.2	12.3	15.8	17.2

**Monthly Use of Cigarettes.** Table 3.2 reports the responses of Porter County students to questions about the use of cigarettes in the past month. Cigarette use increases with grade level. The percentage of students who never used cigarettes in the past month in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade is 97% and that number drops to 72.6% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. When asked if they have smoked cigarettes a few times in the past month, only 1.2% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders say yes and that figure increases to almost 10% (9.9%) for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Only .4 of a percent of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report using from 1-5 cigarettes daily in the past month and that figure increases to 7.9% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders. The percentage of students that report smoking ½ pack per day increases from .2% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 4.8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Similar patterns are found for persons smoking 1 ½ packs and more than 2 packs per day. Only 1.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders smoke 1 ½ packs per day and only .4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported smoking more than 2 packs per day in the past month.

**Table 3.2**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Cigarettes**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.0	94.5	87.8	83.5	78.7	74.9	72.6
<b>Few Times</b>	1.2	2.5	6.1	7.2	8.5	8.7	9.9
<b>1-5/day</b>	.4	1.3	2.7	4.2	5.8	7.4	7.9
<b>½ pack/per day</b>	.2	.3	1.4	2.3	3.2	4.2	4.8
<b>1 Pack per day</b>	.1	.1	.4	.9	2.0	2.8	3.0
<b>1 1/2 per day</b>	.1	--	.1	.1	.5	.5	1.2
<b>2+ Pack/day</b>	.1	.4	.4	.7	.8	.9	.4

**The Annual Use of Cigarettes.** Students also were asked if they had smoked cigarettes in the past year and, if so, how many they had smoked. The percentage of persons not smoking in the past year drops from 94.4% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 59.0% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Those who smoked a few times increases from 3.1% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 20.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Only .7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders smoked 1-5 cigarettes per day in the past year and that number gradually increases and

reaches 9.7% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. As the number of cigarettes smoked per day goes up, the number of students who smoke that many declines. No 6<sup>th</sup> graders reported smoking up to a pack a day. While the number gradually increases, it only reaches 5.6% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Similarly, when you get up to a pack a day, 1½ per day, or even two packs per day, the percentages of persons who reported smoking that much increases with each grade, but never gets very high. For example, only 3.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders smoke a pack a day, .8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders smoke 1 ½ packs a day, and .4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders smoke 2 or more packs a day.

**Table 3.3**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Cigarettes**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>None</b>	94.4	90.0	80.1	75.1	68.3	64.6	59.0
<b>Few Times</b>	3.1	6.1	11.4	13.6	16.7	16.5	20.4
<b>1-5/day</b>	.7	1.9	4.4	5.8	7.2	8.2	9.7
<b>½ pack/per day</b>	--	.3	1.6	2.7	3.9	5.8	5.6
<b>1 Pack per day</b>	.1	.2	.9	1.1	1.8	2.8	3.5
<b>1 1/2 per day</b>	.1	--	--	.1	.6	.6	.8
<b>2+ Pack/day</b>	.1	.3	.4	.5	.8	.6	.4

**Lifetime Use of Cigarettes.** Table 3.4 presents the responses to questions about the lifetime use of cigarettes. The possible responses are different than in previous tables. As indicated, 90.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders have never smoked cigarettes in their lifetimes and that figure drops to 48.1% of students in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The use of cigarettes increases for all levels of use and accelerates a bit when students get to high school and increases through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The responses indicate that 10.2% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders, 13.5% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders, and 14.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders consider themselves regular users of cigarettes. Similarly, 11.1%, 12.4%, and 15.4% of 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders respectively consider themselves occasional users of cigarettes.

**Table 3.4**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Cigarettes**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	90.7	85.4	71.6	67.0	58.3	54.7	48.1
<b>Once or twice</b>	6.8	8.3	14.7	13.6	15.4	14.4	15.0
<b>Occasionally</b>	.7	2.7	5.7	9.2	11.1	12.4	15.4
<b>Past Regularly</b>	.9	1.9	3.4	3.5	4.7	4.8	6.6
<b>Current Regularly</b>	.5	1.2	4.3	6.2	10.2	13.5	14.3

**State and Porter County Comparisons.** Table 3.5 presents comparisons between monthly cigarette use by Porter County students and other students across the state. As with the case of the comparisons with alcohol use, the numbers in the table represent the absolute size of the difference between local and state rates expressed in percentage points. Differences are presented only when there is a statistically significant difference between state and local numbers at the  $p < .05$  level. What this means is that differences this large would occur less than 5 times out of 100 by pure chance, suggesting that it is not chance or error due to sampling. Rather, differences this large suggest very likely actual differences in the populations.

**Table 3.5**  
**Percentage Difference Between Statewide and Porter County Students: Cigarettes**  
 ATOD, 2008

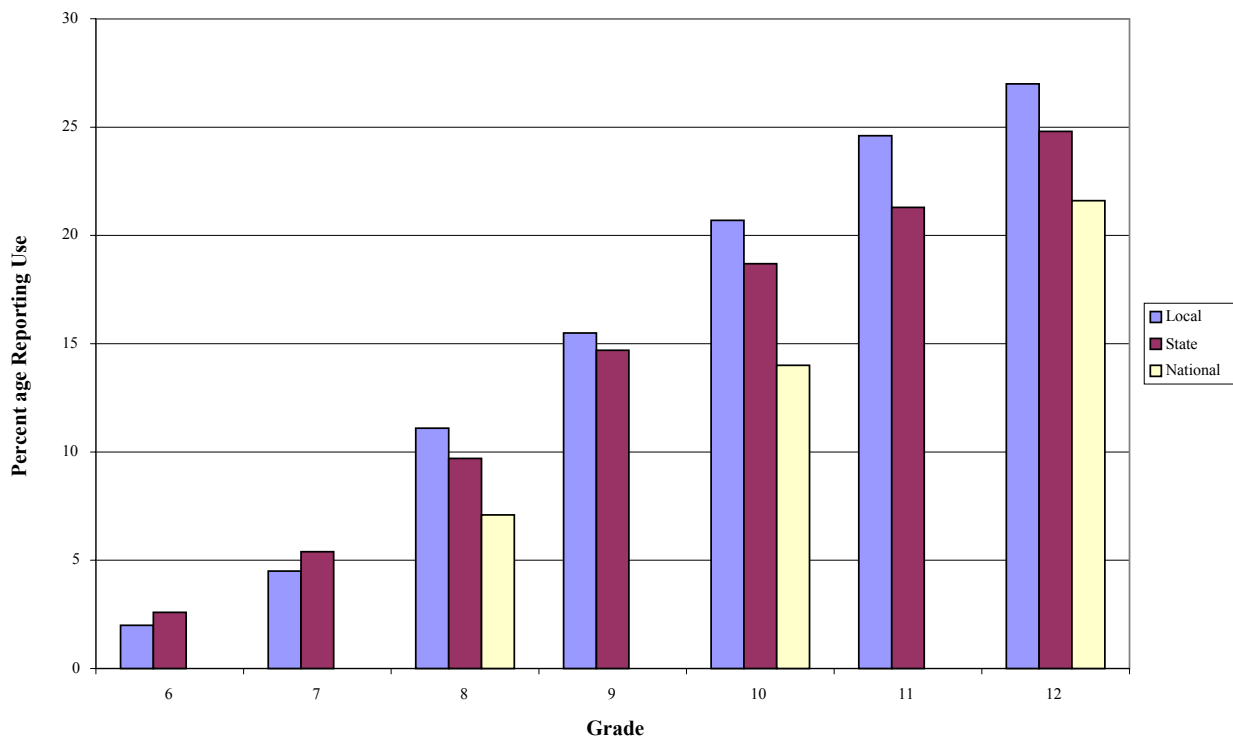
<b>Lifetime</b>	--	-2.3	2.6	--	--	--	3.3
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	2.2	--	3.1	3.2	4.5
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	--	--	--	3.3	--
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	--	--	2.6	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

Note where no numbers are presented, there are no statistically significant differences on this measure. Positive numbers indicate Porter County students have a greater pattern of usage and negative numbers indicate cigarette use at a lesser rate than the state. Most cells in Table 3.5 are blank indicating that patterns of usage at those levels are statistically identical to state averages.

In one incidence, lifetime use by 7<sup>th</sup> graders, Porter County students are significantly below state averages. At the same time, Porter County students exceed state averages in this category at the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Other areas where Porter County students exceed state averages include annual usage by 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12 graders, monthly use by 11<sup>th</sup> graders, and daily use by 11<sup>th</sup> graders.

To get a more visual picture of the comparisons in Table 3.5, Figure 3.1 compares Porter County data on the monthly consumption of alcohol with state averages and (where available) national figures. As indicated, with the exception of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, consumption patterns among Porter County students exceed those at the state and national level. Keep in mind that the data presented in Table 3.5 shows that only the 11<sup>th</sup> grade differences are statistically significant. However, there is clearly a trend in the direction of Porter County students exceeding both state and national figures on the monthly use of cigarettes.

**Figure 3.1**  
**Porter County Students' Monthly Use of Cigarettes: Comparisons to State and Nation**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Sex Differences in Cigarette Smoking.** Data comparing smoking between males and females is presented in Tables 3.6 through 3.8. As indicated, when you look at monthly, annual, and lifetime cigarette smoking there is not always a great deal of difference between males and females. The one relatively consistent pattern is that males tend to smoke more in all categories and the gaps, while not often large between males and females, tend to increase the higher the grade level and the larger quantities of use.

**Table 3.6**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Monthly use of Cigarettes**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	Percentage Reporting Use						
		None	Few times	1-5 Cigarettes/day	1/2 pack/day	1 pack/day	1&1/2 pack/day	2+ pack/day
6th	Male	96.3	1.2	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
	Female	97.8	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
7th	Male	94.7	1.9	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.6
	Female	94.4	2.9	1.9	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
8th	Male	87.4	5.4	2.5	1.8	0.7	0.1	0.4
	Female	88.4	6.9	2.8	1.0	0.0	0.1	0.4
9th	Male	83.6	5.5	4.3	3.5	1.0	0.1	0.8
	Female	83.8	8.8	4.2	1.1	0.8	0.1	0.5
10th	Male	78.0	8.8	4.4	3.8	2.7	0.5	1.4
	Female	79.4	8.3	6.9	2.7	1.4	0.4	0.3
11th	Male	72.8	8.8	8.1	4.1	3.5	0.7	1.5
	Female	77.1	8.6	6.6	4.3	2.2	0.3	0.3
12th	Male	68.5	12.4	7.4	4.3	4.3	1.9	0.8
	Female	76.2	7.7	8.3	5.2	1.8	0.4	0.0

**Table 3.7**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Annual Use of Cigarettes**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	Percentage Reporting Use						
		None	Few times	1-5 Cigarettes/day	½ pack/day	1 pack/day	1&1/2 pack/day	2+ pack/day
6th	Male	93.9	2.6	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1
	Female	95.1	3.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7th	Male	90.9	5.3	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.4
	Female	89.2	6.9	2.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3
8th	Male	79.6	10.9	4.1	2.3	1.3	0.0	0.4
	Female	80.8	12.0	4.8	1.0	0.6	0.0	0.4
9th	Male	75.4	11.7	5.2	4.1	1.4	0.2	0.6
	Female	75.2	15.2	6.4	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.2
10th	Male	67.9	16.4	6.2	4.5	2.3	0.7	1.5
	Female	68.8	17.0	8.2	3.4	1.3	0.5	0.1
11th	Male	63.5	16.3	7.8	6.5	3.2	0.7	1.2
	Female	65.6	16.7	8.6	5.1	2.5	0.6	0.0
12th	Male	57.5	20.0	8.7	5.6	4.9	1.2	0.8
	Female	60.4	20.7	10.6	5.6	2.0	0.4	0.0

**Table 3.8**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Lifetime Use of Cigarettes**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	Percentage Reporting Use				
		Never	Once or twice	Occasionally	Past Regularly	Current Regularly
6th	Male	89.4	7.7	0.7	1.1	0.7
	Female	92.1	5.9	0.6	0.8	0.3
7th	Male	86.0	8.5	2.7	1.2	1.2
	Female	84.9	8.1	2.7	2.6	1.2
8th	Male	70.3	16.7	4.1	3.5	5.0
	Female	72.7	12.7	7.4	3.3	3.7
9th	Male	67.5	12.7	8.6	3.4	7.5
	Female	66.9	14.5	9.6	3.6	5.0
10th	Male	58.0	15.2	11.6	4.5	10.5
	Female	58.6	15.8	10.6	4.9	9.8
11th	Male	55.3	13.2	13.4	3.2	14.6
	Female	54.3	15.5	11.5	6.4	12.3
12th	Male	46.0	14.0	17.7	5.8	15.7
	Female	50.1	15.9	13.3	7.7	13.0

**Risk Factors: ATOD Study**

**Perceived Risk of Smoking.** Students also were asked about the perceived risk of smoking cigarettes. These responses are presented in Table 3.9. Those students thinking there is no risk increases from 22.4% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 38.7% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Persons thinking smoking constitutes a slight risk remains quite stable across the grades at around 40%. Those believing it involves a moderate risk declines from 17.4% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 10.9% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The percentage of students thinking that smoking cigarettes is a great risk declines by more than half from 15.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 7.4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. As grade levels increase, the perceived risk of harm decreases.



**Table 3.9**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Perceived Risk of Smoking**  
 ATOD, 2008

		Grade						
Activity	Risk	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>1 + Pack per day</b>	None	22.4	23.4	30.6	36.9	32.5	34.5	38.7
	Slight	39.5	35.5	39.1	36.5	41.9	41.8	40.1
	Moderate	17.4	19.6	15.0	14.0	14.2	12.2	10.9
	Great	15.1	17.2	11.6	10.1	8.6	8.7	7.4

**Perceived Peer Approval of Cigarette Smoking.** Students were asked whether or not they thought their peers approved or disapproved of smoking more than one pack of cigarettes a day. The responses are presented in Table 3.10. The perception of their peers as strongly approving remains relatively low and constant, but the percentage who see their peers approving increases from 1.1% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 9.5% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Those who don't know what their peers think rises from 9.6% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 15.3% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Those who believe their peers as disapproving increases from 14.0% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 24.0% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. At the same time, those who see their peers as strongly disapproving declines from 66.1% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 46.5% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Table 3.10**  
**Percentage of Porter County Youth Perceiving Peer Approval of Smoking**  
**1 + Pack of Cigarettes Per Day**  
 ATOD, 2008

		Grade						
		6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Perceived Peer Approval</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	2.2	2.5	2.3	1.9	2.8	2.0	1.6
	<b>Approve</b>	1.1	1.5	3.8	6.3	8.8	8.8	9.5
	<b>Do Not Know</b>	9.6	13.0	17.3	18.0	17.0	15.3	15.3
	<b>Disapprove</b>	14.0	16.2	18.3	20.4	20.6	23.0	24.1
	<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	66.1	61.4	54.4	51.0	48.4	47.6	46.5

**Perceived Parental Approval of Smoking.** Not surprisingly most students do not perceive their parents as approving of them smoking more than one pack of cigarettes per day. As seen in Table 3.11, by the time they reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade only 3.7% of students perceive their parents as approving and 1.2% see their parents as strongly approving. The percentage of students who do not know what their parents think increases from 2.6% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 7.1% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The proportion of students who perceive their parents as disapproving increases from 3.5% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 12.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Those perceiving their parents as strong disapprovers remains high, but does decline a bit over time from a high of 84.5% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 74.6% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Table 3.11**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Perceiving Parental Approval of**  
**Smoking 1 + Pack of Cigarettes Per Day**  
 ATOD, 2008

		Grade						
		6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Parental Approval</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.2
	<b>Approve</b>	1.1	.9	2.2	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.7
	<b>Do Not Know</b>	2.6	3.2	3.5	5.4	5.0	5.5	7.1
	<b>Disapprove</b>	3.5	3.7	5.1	6.8	8.0	9.5	12.4
	<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	84.5	84.6	84.7	83.5	81.6	79.0	74.6

**Perceived Risk: Porter County Survey Data**

In addition to the ATOD survey, the Porter County Survey also asked questions related to the risk and acceptability of smoking cigarettes (Porter County Survey, 2008). In particular, they asked about the acceptability of smoking 1 or 2 packs of cigarettes per day. As indicated in Table 3.12, most Porter County residents (71.4%) perceive a great risk in smoking this much and another 23.2% see at least a moderate risk. While the majority of persons (58.1%) in the 18-24 year old age group agree that this constitutes a great risk, this is a substantially smaller number than the rest of County residents. Nearly 42% of this younger group sees smoking 1 or 2 packs of cigarettes a day as a moderate or slight risk rather than a great risk.

**Table 3.12**  
**Perceived Harm in Smoking One or Two Packs of Cigarettes Per Day,**  
 Porter County Survey, 2008

<b>Acceptability Level</b>	<b>All Porter County</b>	<b>18-24 year olds in Porter County</b>
<b>No risk</b>	0.05%	0.0%
<b>A slight risk</b>	4.9%	10.9%
<b>Moderate risk</b>	23.2%	31.0%
<b>Great risk</b>	71.4%	58.1%
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	100.0%

In addition, Porter County residents were asked about how acceptable they thought it was for people to use tobacco. Table 3.13 presents these results. The largest group of Porter County residents (39.0%) see the use of tobacco as very unacceptable and another 15.6% find it somewhat unacceptable. On the acceptable side, 25.8% see it as somewhat acceptable, and 12.5% find it very acceptable. Comparing these responses to the 18-24 year old group, fewer persons (27.9%) find it very unacceptable and more (24.0%) find it very acceptable. So in addition to seeing smoking as less risky, the 18-24 year old also find it generally more acceptable to smoke.

**Table 3.13**  
**Acceptability of Tobacco Use**  
 Porter County Survey, 2008

<b>In general how acceptable do you think it is for people to use Tobacco?</b>		
<b>Acceptability Level</b>	<b>All Porter County</b>	<b>18-24 year olds in Porter County</b>
<b>Very acceptable</b>	12.5%	24.0%
<b>Somewhat acceptable</b>	25.8%	18.6%
<b>Neither acceptable or unacceptable</b>	7.1%	14.7%
<b>Somewhat unacceptable</b>	15.6%	14.7%
<b>Very unacceptable</b>	39.0%	27.9%
<b>Don't know</b>	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	100.0%

## Cigars

The ATOD survey asked a similar series of questions to students about their use of cigars. They did not, however, ask about perceived risk, peer approval, and parental approval, but they did ask about daily, monthly, annual, lifetime use of cigars.

**Daily Use of Cigars.** Table 3.14 presents Porter County student responses to the question about the daily use of cigars. There is not much daily use of cigars by students in Porter County. As indicated, only .2% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students report daily use of cigars and that number slowly increases to 4.0% in both the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Table 3.14**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Daily Use of Cigars,**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Daily</b>	.2	.4	1.6	2.1	3.1	4.0	4.0

**The Monthly Use of Cigars.** Table 3.15 presents the responses of Porter County students about their monthly use of cigars. Overall there is not a lot of regular use of cigars. A total of 96.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report not using cigars in the past month and that figure drops to 73.2% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. When asked about using cigars 1-5 times in the past month, 1.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report use and this figure increases to 15.1% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. When it comes to using cigars between 6 times to over 40 times, the highest reported use is from 12<sup>th</sup> graders and 3.2% of them report using cigars 6-19 times, 1.3% report using cigars between 20 and 40 times and 2.7% report using cigars more than 40 times in the past month.

**Table 3.15**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Cigars,**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	96.7	94.3	89.1	88.5	82.2	78.9	73.2
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.1	1.8	5.2	5.2	9.1	10.4	15.1
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.4	.7	1.7	1.8	2.8	3.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.1	.4	.9	1.3	1.5	1.3
<b>40+ Times</b>	.2	.3	1.1	1.2	1.8	2.6	2.7

**The Annual Use of Cigars.** When asked about use of cigars in the past year most Porter County Students report they have not used cigars during that time period. As indicated in Table 3.16, the percentage of 6<sup>th</sup> graders who have never used cigars is 95.5% and it is 59.1% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. When asked about using cigars 1-5 times in the past year, 3.4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders say they have used cigars that often and that number increases to 19.4% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. For more frequent use of cigars, the percentage claiming use increases with each grade level. For example, at the 6-19 times per year usage level, only .4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders have used cigars that often and 7.4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders have used that often. At the 20-40 times level, .1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report using cigars that often and 3.8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders say they have used cigars that frequently.

**Table 3.16**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Cigars,**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	95.5	93.3	85.6	82.0	73.6	67.6	59.1
<b>1-5 Times</b>	2.4	3.1	6.8	9.0	12.7	16.5	19.4
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.4	.5	1.9	3.2	4.4	5.0	7.4
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.8	3.8
<b>40+ Times</b>	.2	.7	1.8	2.4	4.3	5.5	6.1

**Lifetime Use of Cigars.** Table 3.17 presents the responses of Porter County students to questions about their use of cigars during their entire lifetime. Overall, the use of cigars increases with grade level. As indicated, 95.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report never using cigars and that figure drops to 54.3% when you look at 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. A similar pattern exists for all levels of usage. For example, only .2% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders have used cigars 40 or more times in their lifetime and that number increases to 8.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Table 3.17**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Cigars**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
Never	95.7	93.7	83.2	79.4	72.1	64.3	54.3
1-5 Times	3.5	4.8	10.8	13.2	16.7	18.3	23.4
6-19 Times	.5	.4	2.6	3.0	4.1	7.7	8.6
20-40 Times	.1	.5	.9	1.8	2.6	3.4	5.2
40+ Times	.2	.4	2.0	2.2	4.1	6.2	8.2

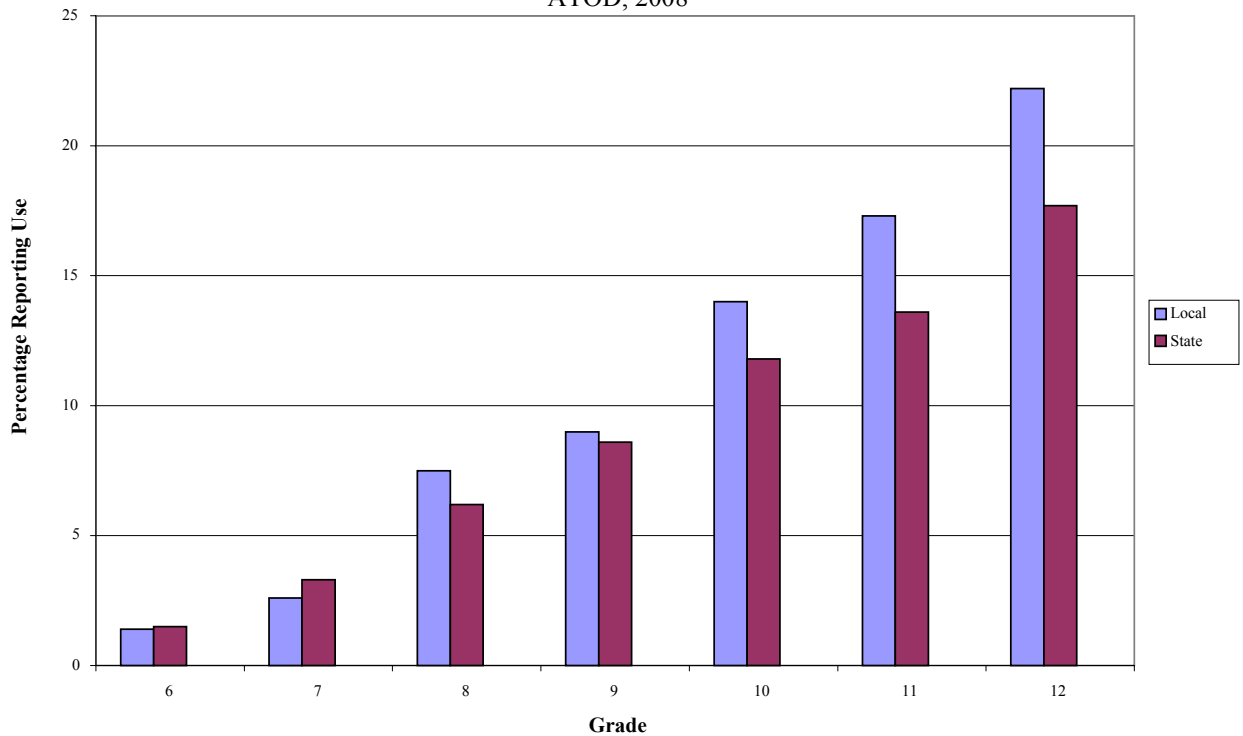
**State and Porter County Comparisons.** Table 3.18 presents difference between Porter County and state averages for various grades and levels of use of cigars. Only differences that are statistically significant at the < .05 level are reported. If no numbers are reported, there are no differences. If the number is preceded by a negative sign (-) that means Porter County students are below the state average. If positive, it means they are above the state average. There are no differences for daily use. Eighth graders and 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders exceed the state averages for monthly use of cigars and in 12<sup>th</sup> grade they exceed the state average by 4.5 percentage points. For annual use of cigars for 7<sup>th</sup> graders are under the state average, but 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders exceed the average, and in the case of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders they exceed it by 6 and 6.1 points respectively. As to lifetime use, 7<sup>th</sup> graders fall below the average and 9<sup>th</sup> graders are above the average by 2.2 percentage points.

**Table 3.18**  
**Percentage Difference Between Statewide and Porter County Students: Cigars**  
 ATOD, 2008

Lifetime	--	-2.2	--	2.1	--	--	--
Annual	--	-1.5	--	--	3.2	6.0	6.1
Monthly	--	--	1.3	--	2.2	3.7	4.5
Daily	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

To get a more visual picture of some of this data, Figure 3.2 graphs the comparison of monthly use of cigars between local and state levels presented in Table 3.18. As indicated, with the exception of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, Porter County students' use of cigars exceeds state uses at every grade level. Note in particular that the figures for the 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> are all statistically significantly greater.

**Figure 3.2**  
**Porter County Students' Monthly Use of Cigars: Comparisons to State**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Sex Differences in the Use of Cigars.** For monthly, annual, and lifetime use of cigars, the difference between males and females grows as the respondents get older. For example, 97.6% of female 6<sup>th</sup> graders have never smoked a cigar and 93.9% of male 6<sup>th</sup> graders have never smoked a cigar. However, when they get to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, the difference is much larger with 66.8% of females never having smoked a cigar and 40.2% of males never having smoked a cigar. This is a difference of 26.6 percentage points. And while 14.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade males have smoked a cigar 40+ times in their lifetime, only 2.7% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade females have smoked a cigar on this many occasions. This data is presented in Tables 3.19 and 3.20.

**Table 3.19**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Monthly and Annual Use of Cigars**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	Monthly Use of Cigars by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Sex, 2008					Annual Use of Cigars by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Sex, 2008				
		Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times	Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times
6th	Male	95.6%	1.6%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%	93.9%	3.2%	0.8%	0.1%	0.5%
	Female	97.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	97.3%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7th	Male	93.2%	1.8%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	92.7%	2.8%	0.6%	0.3%	0.9%
	Female	95.6%	1.8%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	94.0%	3.4%	0.4%	0.1%	0.5%
8th	Male	86.0%	6.7%	1.0%	0.4%	1.7%	80.9%	8.4%	3.0%	1.8%	2.3%
	Female	92.4%	3.8%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%	90.4%	5.2%	0.8%	0.8%	1.3%
9th	Male	84.7%	6.3%	2.7%	1.4%	1.4%	77.0%	11.0%	3.4%	2.0%	3.6%
	Female	92.3%	4.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0.9%	87.4%	6.8%	3.0%	0.7%	1.1%
10th	Male	76.1%	11.8%	2.9%	1.9%	2.2%	65.5%	14.8%	5.9%	3.1%	6.3%
	Female	88.0%	6.8%	0.8%	0.8%	1.3%	81.1%	10.7%	3.1%	1.1%	2.4%
11th	Male	72.8%	14.0%	4.1%	1.8%	2.6%	57.9%	20.4%	7.5%	3.8%	6.9%
	Female	84.8%	7.2%	1.5%	1.2%	2.3%	76.8%	13.0%	2.8%	1.7%	4.3%
12th	Male	61.9%	21.4%	6.0%	2.1%	3.3%	44.7%	21.9%	11.8%	6.8%	9.1%
	Female	83.4%	9.2%	0.7%	0.7%	2.0%	71.9%	17.3%	3.4%	1.1%	3.4%

**Table 3.20**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Lifetime Use of Cigars**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	Lifetime Use of Cigars by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Sex, 2008				
		Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times
6th	Male	93.9%	4.7%	0.7%	0.1%	0.5%
	Female	97.6%	2.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
7th	Male	93.3%	5.0%	0.3%	0.9%	0.4%
	Female	94.2%	4.7%	0.5%	0.1%	0.4%
8th	Male	78.9%	12.3%	3.7%	1.3%	3.3%
	Female	87.4%	9.3%	1.6%	0.6%	0.7%
9th	Male	73.5%	15.5%	4.7%	2.7%	3.3%
	Female	85.6%	10.7%	1.4%	0.8%	1.3%
10th	Male	64.3%	19.8%	5.3%	4.1%	6.0%
	Female	79.3%	13.9%	3.1%	1.1%	2.2%
11th	Male	54.0%	20.6%	11.0%	5.6%	8.7%
	Female	74.0%	16.3%	4.6%	1.2%	3.7%
12th	Male	40.2%	22.5%	14.2%	8.9%	14.2%
	Female	66.8%	24.3%	3.8%	1.8%	2.7%



**Pipes: Tobacco, Hookah, Water-pipes**

The ATOD survey asked a similar series of questions to students about their use of pipes. Pipes in this context referred to smoking tobacco in a pipe, the use of a water pipe, or the use of a Hookah. The questionnaire did not include questions about the daily use, perceived peer approval, and parental approval, but they did ask about monthly, annual, and lifetime use of a pipe.

**The Monthly Use of Pipes.** Table 3.21 presents Porter County student responses to the question about the monthly use of a pipe. Overall there is not a lot of heavy use of pipes among students. For example, 97.0% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report never using a pipe. While that number drops across grades, still 78.8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders did not use a pipe in the past month. Only .4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders used a pipe between 1-5 times in the past month, but figure increases to 10.5% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. At the 6-19 times per month level, .2% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report using it that often and that figure increases to 3.1% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. The highest percentage of students using a pipe 20-40 times per month or more than 40 times per month is for 12<sup>th</sup> graders where 2.3% say that they have used a pipe that often.

**Table 3.21**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Pipes**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.0	95.7	92.2	90.5	86.1	84.4	78.8
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.4	.6	3.0	4.4	5.7	8.2	10.5
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.2	.1	.1	1.5	2.3	1.4	3.1
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.4	.5	1.0	.6	1.5
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.4	.6	.8	.6	.8

**Annual Use of a Pipe.** Table 3.22 reports the responses of students to the question of the use of a pipe in the past year. As indicated, most (97.1%) 6<sup>th</sup> graders have not used a pipe in the past year and that number drops to 66.0% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Most students who have used a pipe have only used it a few times. For example, by the time they have reached 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 16.3% report using a pipe 1-5 times, 3.4% report using a pipe 20-40 times, and 3.7% report using a pipe more than 40 times in the past year.

**Table 3.22**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Pipes**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	97.1	95.8	90.8	86.5	79.3	75.2	66.0
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.9	1.2	3.5	5.8	8.3	13.0	16.3
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.4	.2	1.5	2.4	3.8	3.8	6.4
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.6	1.0	2.6	2.8	3.4
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.3	.6	1.6	2.4	2.3	3.7

**Lifetime Use of a Pipe.** When asked if they had ever used a pipe in their entire lifetime, most Porter County Students say no. For example, as presented in Table 3.23, 98.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders say they have never used a pipe and almost 2/3 (65.0%) of 12<sup>th</sup> graders say they have never used a pipe. Even when students do use a pipe, they do not use it that much. Only .1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders have used a pipe more than 40 times and by the time students reach 12<sup>th</sup> grade that number increases to a total of 6%.

**Table 3.23**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Pipes**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	98.1	97.6	91.5	85.9	78.3	73.9	65.0
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.0	1.4	4.8	7.3	11.4	12.1	14.3
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.5	.3	1.6	2.7	3.4	6.5	8.7
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.3	.7	1.2	3.1	3.1	4.6
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.8	2.2	2.9	3.7	6.0

**State and Porter County Comparisons.** While there does not appear to be a lot of use of pipes by students in Porter County, use patterns generally exceed levels of use across the rest of the state. These results are presented in Table 3.24. Reported lifetime use by 7<sup>th</sup> graders actually is 2.2 percentage points less than the rest of the state, but by the time Porter County students reach the 8<sup>th</sup> grade they exceed state averages for lifetime use by 2.1 percentage points. In the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, they exceed state averages by 5 and 7.6 points respectively. In the annual and monthly use categories, that pattern continues where the local use patterns exceed state averages and the differences are quite substantial. For example, at the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade levels, annual usage for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders exceeds state averages by 8.4 and 11.1 percentage points respectively.

**Table 3.24**  
**Significant Differences Between Porter County Students and State Averages**  
 ATOD, 2008

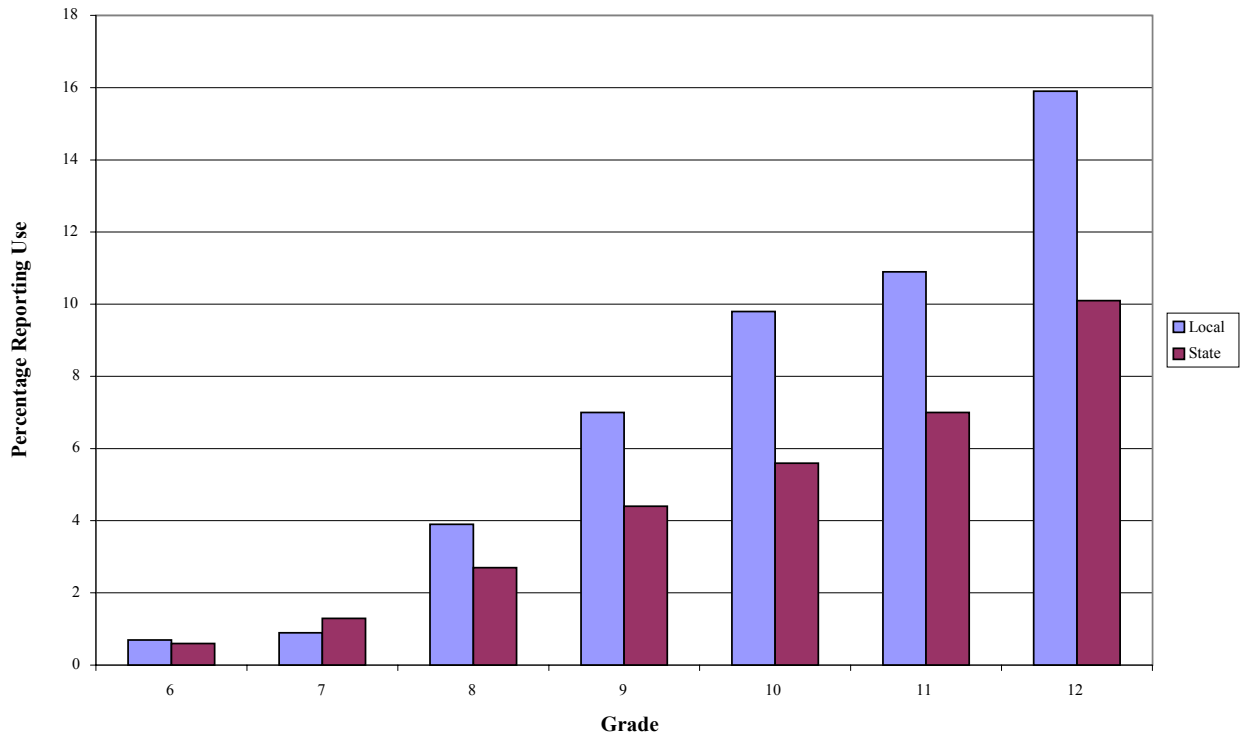
<b>Lifetime</b>	--	-2.2	2.1	--	--	5.0	7.6
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	1.6	3.4	6.8	8.4	11.1
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	1.2	2.6	4.2	3.9	5.8
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

To once again get a more visual description of the relationship between local and state use of pipes, the comparisons from Table 3.24 are represented in graphic form in Figure 3.3. As clearly indicated, when students reach the 8<sup>th</sup> grade their use of pipes exceeds state averages and the magnitude of the difference tends to increase across grade levels.

### **Smokeless Tobacco**

The ATOD survey asked a similar series of questions about student use of smokeless tobacco. They did not ask about perceived risk, peer approval, and parental approval, but they did ask about daily, monthly, annual, and lifetime use of smokeless tobacco.

**Figure 3.3**  
**Porter County Students' Monthly Use of Pipes: Comparisons to State**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Daily Use of Smokeless Tobacco.** Table 3.25 presents data on the percentage of students who use smokeless tobacco on a daily basis. As indicated, only .2% of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders report daily use, while .5% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 1.1% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders, 1.5% of 10<sup>th</sup> and 2.3% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders. The percentage doubles in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade where 4.6% report using smokeless tobacco daily.

**Table 3.25**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Daily Use of Smokeless Tobacco**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Daily</b>	.2	.2	.5	1.1	1.5	2.3	4.6

**The Monthly Use of Smokeless Tobacco.** Table 3.26 reports responses to the question about use of smokeless tobacco in the previous month. Most students in Porter County do not use smokeless tobacco. The highest rate of use is among 12<sup>th</sup> graders and even at that level only 8.2% report actually using smokeless tobacco. Almost one half of that group (3.9%) report using

it only 1-5 times in the past month. Only 1.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders used it more than 40 times in the past month.

**Table 3.26**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Smokeless Tobacco**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.3	96.4	94.7	93.2	90.3	88.9	86.9
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.4	.3	.9	2.8	3.6	3.6	3.9
<b>6-19 Times</b>	--	.1	.5	.6	.8	1.6	1.7
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	--	.1	.5	.5	.9	1.3
<b>40+ Times</b>	.2	.2	.4	.5	1.0	1.4	1.3

**Annual Use of Smokeless Tobacco.** Table 3.27 reports the data on the annual use of smokeless tobacco. As indicated, 97.6% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders have never used smokeless tobacco and that figure drops to 81.6% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Less than 1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report using smokeless tobacco 1-5 times in the past year and that number increases to 6.1% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Similarly, less than 1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders used smokeless tobacco 6-19 times in the past year and that figure increases only to 2.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Again, less than 1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders use smokeless tobacco either 20-40 times or more than 40 times, and that number increases to only 4.3% and 5.6% for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students respectively.

**Table 3.27**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Smokeless Tobacco**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.6	96.7	93.3	90.6	86.6	85.2	81.6
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.7	.8	2.5	4.1	6.4	6.2	6.1
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.2	.7	1.1	1.6	1.7	2.5
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.3	.7	.6	1.3	1.2
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.7	1.6	1.8	3.0	4.4

**Lifetime Use of Smokeless Tobacco.** Students also were asked how often they had used smokeless tobacco in their lifetime. Responses are presented in Table 3.28. Most Porter County students have never used smokeless tobacco. While lifetime usage increases across grades, even by the time students reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 81.9% say they have never used smokeless tobacco. And most usage of smokeless tobacco amounts to only a few instances. For example, the largest percentage of reported use occurs for use 1-5 times in the 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades and use there is limited to 7.5% and 8.6% of students respectively. There is a small group of persons in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade (5.4%) who have used smokeless tobacco more than 40 times in their lifetime.

**Table 3.28**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Smokeless Tobacco**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	98.6	98.2	94.1	91.5	88.1	85.2	81.9
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.2	1.3	4.4	4.9	7.5	7.5	8.6
<b>6-19 Times</b>	--	.2	.4	1.3	1.7	2.5	1.9
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	--	.4	.4	.6	1.3	2.0
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.3	1.6	1.8	3.3	5.4

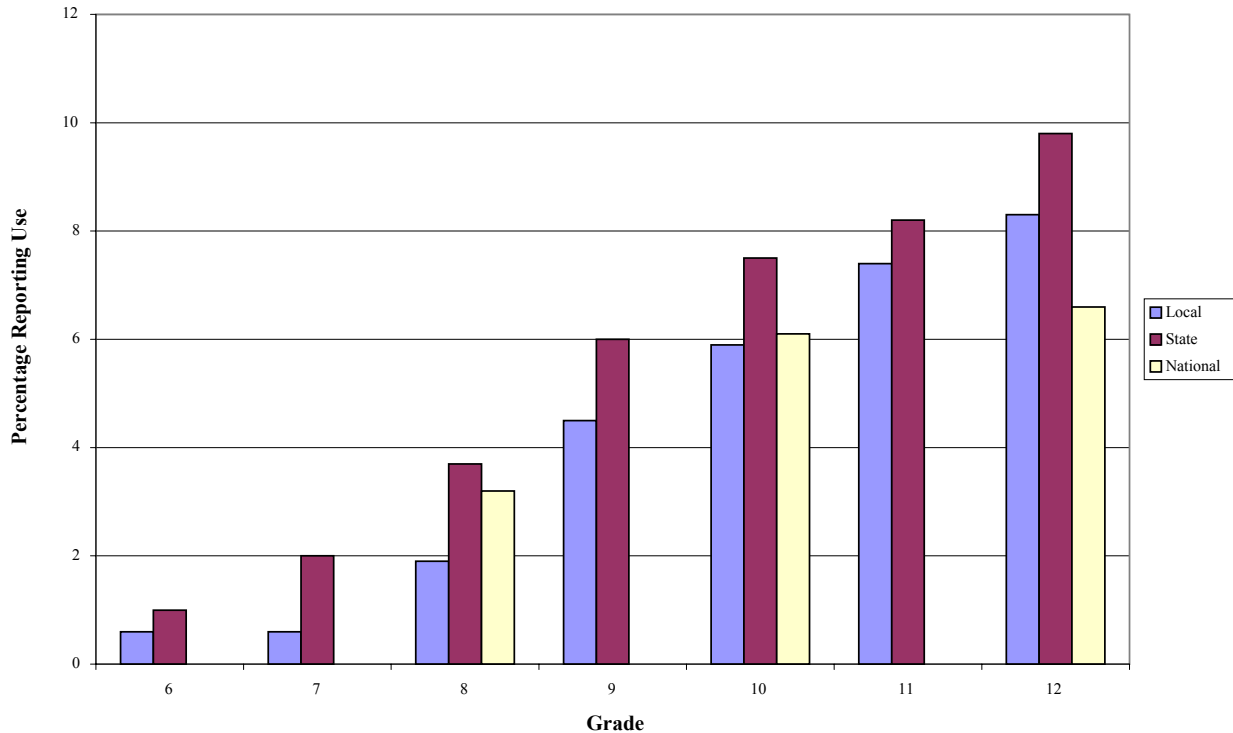
**State and Porter County Comparisons.** Not surprisingly given the lower level of use of smokeless tobacco among Porter County students, that in most categories, especially in the younger grades, Porter County students use smokeless tobacco to a significantly lesser degree than students in the rest of the state. For example, as the data in Table 3.29 indicates, there is not one category of use where Porter County students exceed state averages and in most categories they are statistically, significantly lower.

**Table 3.29**  
**Significant Differences Between Porter County Students and**  
**State Figures: Smokeless Tobacco**  
 ATOD, 2008

<b>Lifetime</b>	-1.2	-2.8	-2.5	-3.5	-3.7	-2.6	--
<b>Annual</b>	-0.7	-2.3	-2.2	-2.1	-1.7	--	--
<b>Monthly</b>	--	-1.4	-1.8	-1.5	-1.6	--	--
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	-0.08	-1.4	-1.3	-1.9
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

To once again get a more visual description of the relationship between local and state use of smokeless tobacco, the comparisons are represented in graphic form in Figure 3.4. As suggested by the data in Table 3.29, Porter County students report less use of smokeless tobacco at every grade level than state averages. What is interesting, however, is that where data is available to compare to national patterns in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, Indiana averages exceed national levels and at the 12<sup>th</sup> grade level, Porter County levels exceed national averages. Thus while Porter County students use smokeless tobacco less than state averages, in some instances they exceed or are about the same as national use patterns.

**Figure 3.4**  
**Porter County Students' Monthly Use of Smokeless Tobacco: Comparisons**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Sex Differences in the Use of Smokeless Tobacco.** The differences in use of smokeless tobacco between males and females follows the patterns in other tobacco use. However, the gap is larger in this area and continues to get larger as the students move to higher grades. For example, 97.8 % of 6<sup>th</sup> grade males have never used smokeless tobacco and 99.5% of females have never used smokeless tobacco. When they reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 69.5% of males have never used smokeless tobacco and 93% of females have still never used smokeless tobacco. The same pattern can be seen when looking at annual, monthly, and lifetime use of smokeless tobacco. For example, for lifetime use, 11.1% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade males have used smokeless tobacco 40+ times, whereas only 0.4% of females have used smokeless tobacco 40+ times. These results are presented in Tables 3.30 and 3.31.

**Table 3.30**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Monthly and**  
**Annual Use of Smokeless Tobacco**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	Monthly Use of Smokeless Tobacco by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Sex, 2008					Annual Use of Smokeless Tobacco by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Sex, 2008				
		Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times	Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times
6th	Male	96.7%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	97.0%	0.8%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
	Female	98.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	98.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7th	Male	95.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	96.1%	0.9%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%
	Female	97.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	97.3%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
8th	Male	93.2%	1.1%	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%	90.8%	3.5%	1.1%	0.3%	0.8%
	Female	96.3%	0.7%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%	95.9%	1.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%
9th	Male	89.8%	4.0%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	85.7%	6.0%	1.8%	1.0%	2.8%
	Female	96.6%	1.8%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	95.3%	2.2%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
10th	Male	83.4%	6.6%	1.5%	1.0%	1.8%	78.0%	10.3%	2.9%	1.2%	3.4%
	Female	96.7%	0.9%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	94.5%	2.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%
11th	Male	81.5%	7.2%	2.5%	1.8%	2.5%	75.7%	10.1%	2.9%	2.4%	5.6%
	Female	96.1%	0.1%	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%	94.3%	2.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%
12th	Male	77.7%	7.4%	3.7%	2.5%	2.9%	68.9%	8.9%	4.9%	2.7%	9.1%
	Female	95.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	92.8%	3.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%



**Table 3.31**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Lifetime Use of Smokeless Tobacco,**  
**ATOD, 2008**

Grade	Sex	Lifetime Use of Smokeless Tobacco by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Sex, 2008				
		Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times
6th	Male	97.8%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
	Female	99.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7th	Male	98.3%	1.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
	Female	98.2%	1.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%
8th	Male	92.1%	6.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.6%
	Female	96.2%	2.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%
9th	Male	86.6%	7.6%	2.2%	0.6%	2.5%
	Female	96.0%	2.3%	0.5%	0.1%	0.7%
10th	Male	80.0%	11.8%	3.3%	1.2%	3.6%
	Female	95.5%	3.7%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%
11th	Male	74.3%	11.9%	4.3%	2.8%	6.5%
	Female	95.6%	3.5%	0.7%	0.0%	0.3%
12th	Male	69.5%	11.3%	3.9%	4.1%	11.1%
	Female	93.0%	6.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%

## Chapter 4 Marijuana

In this section the focus turns to the consumption and consequences of the use of marijuana. The same pattern is followed as in previous sections. First, patterns of consumption are examined by looking at the data reported in the Porter County ATOD survey, the Porter County Survey, and The College Age Student Survey. The data examining risk factors will be reported followed by data on the consequences of marijuana consumption as seen in treatments at the hospital, mental health facilities, and data from the probation department.

### Patterns of Consumption: ATOD Data

**Daily Use of Marijuana.** Table 4.1 presents the data on the reported daily use of marijuana by Porter County students. As indicated, the percentage of reported use goes up by grade from .2% of students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, .4% in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, 2% in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 4.5% in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 5.8% in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 5.9% in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, and 6.9% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Table 4.1**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Daily Use of Marijuana**  
ATOD 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Daily	.2	.4	2.0	4.5	5.8	5.9	6.9

**Monthly Use of Marijuana.** Students also were asked whether they had used marijuana in the past month. Table 4.2 reports the responses to this question. The number of students reporting that they had never used marijuana dropped gradually across grades from 96.5% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 72.7% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. At the same time, the number of students reporting use 1-5 times in the past month increased from .7% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 10.5% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Similar increases were reported in the other levels with the trend definitely moving to much greater use as students moved to higher grades. For 12<sup>th</sup> graders, 6.9% report using marijuana more than 20 times in the past month, and 3.5% say they used it more than 40 times in the past month.

**Table 4.2**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Marijuana**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	96.5	93.3	87.9	83.1	77.9	77.1	72.7
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.7	2.6	4.8	7.2	8.0	9.1	10.5
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.2	.4	1.4	2.7	5.2	4.0	4.5
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.8	2.1	3.0	2.8	3.4
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.3	1.2	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.5

**Annual Use of Marijuana.** Table 4.3 reports the responses of students to whether they had used marijuana in the past year. Not surprisingly given the data in the previous tables, we see marijuana use increase with the grade level. Of 6<sup>th</sup> graders, 96.4% report not having used marijuana in the past year, but that figure drops substantially to 61.6% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. It also is clear that a substantial number of 12<sup>th</sup> graders have used marijuana on multiple occasions. A total of 13.4% report using it 1-5 times and a total of 11.5% report using marijuana 40 or more times.

**Table 4.3**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Marijuana**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	96.4	92.3	82.4	75.7	67.7	66.3	61.6
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.0	2.4	7.3	9.9	10.4	11.7	13.4
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.6	1.6	3.5	3.3	4.8	5.8	4.8
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.2	.4	1.4	2.9	4.3	3.8	4.0
<b>40+ Times</b>	.2	.5	2.8	5.8	9.7	9.6	11.5

**Lifetime Use of Marijuana.** Students also were asked if they ever had and how often they have used marijuana in their entire lives. These responses are reported in Table 4.4. The same pattern emerges in this area as in the others. Lifetime consumption of marijuana goes up quite substantially as they get older. By the time students reach the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, more than one fourth of them have tried marijuana and many of them multiple times. Similarly, by the time they reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade almost 45% of Porter County students have tried marijuana and 17.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students have used it 40 or more times.

**Table 4.4**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Marijuana**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.2	93.7	81.7	72.9	65.9	61.3	56.1
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.6	3.9	9.1	11.8	11.1	12.1	14.2
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.4	1.0	3.7	3.8	5.2	6.5	5.9
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.6	1.3	2.8	4.1	4.9	5.5
<b>40+ Times</b>	.4	.6	3.8	8.1	13.0	14.2	17.5

**Comparison to State.** As part of the ATOD survey, comparisons are made between patterns of usage at the state level and local level. The results of these comparisons are presented in Table 4.5. The numbers listed in the table indicate the difference between usage of marijuana at the state level and in Porter County. All numbers reported, unless preceded by a negative sign, indicate greater usage in Porter County than the state averages. Only figures that are statistically, significantly different at the  $p < .05$  level are reported. As indicated, with the exception of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade and daily usage in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, more students in Porter County report more frequent use of marijuana than the state averages. Beginning in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Porter County students report much greater use and the percentage difference becomes greater as students become older; so that by the time students are in 12<sup>th</sup> grade, they exceed state figures in several categories by almost 7 percentage points.

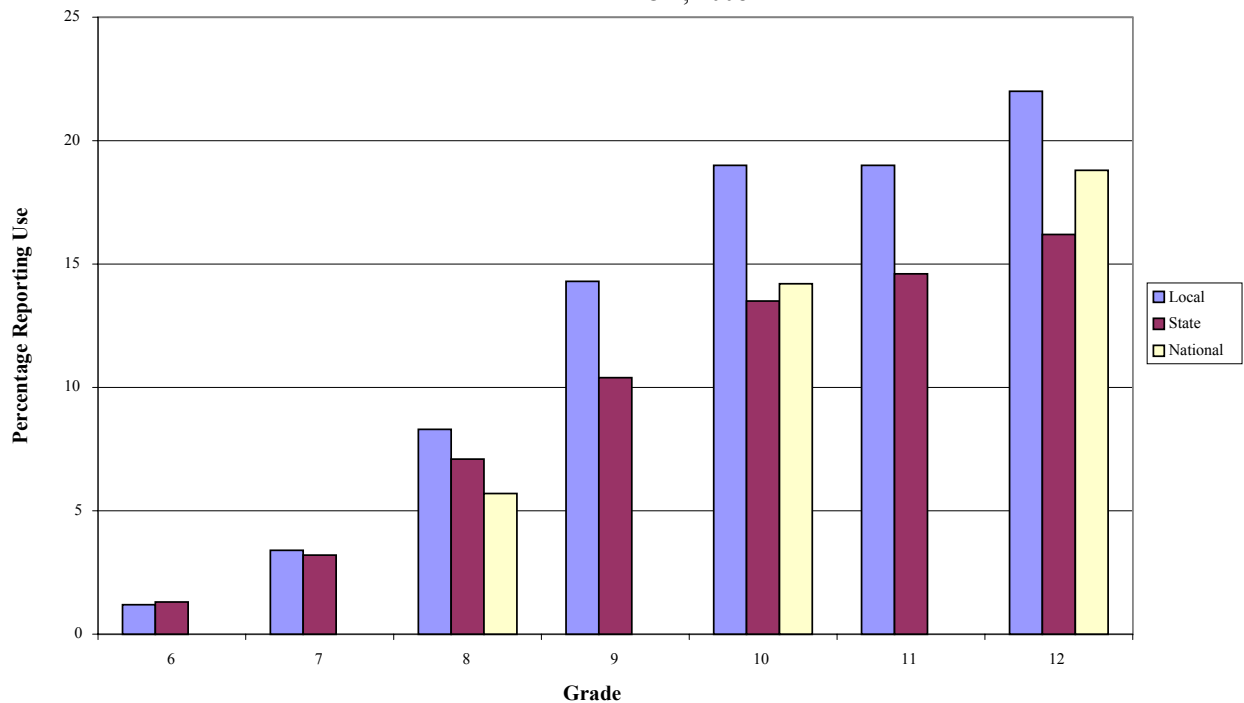
**Table 4.5**  
**Porter County and State Differences in Marijuana Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

<b>Lifetime</b>	--	--	3.4	5.2	5.1	5.3	6.6
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	3.3	4.9	6.9	5.9	6.6
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	--	3.9	5.5	4.4	5.8
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	1.4	1.7	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

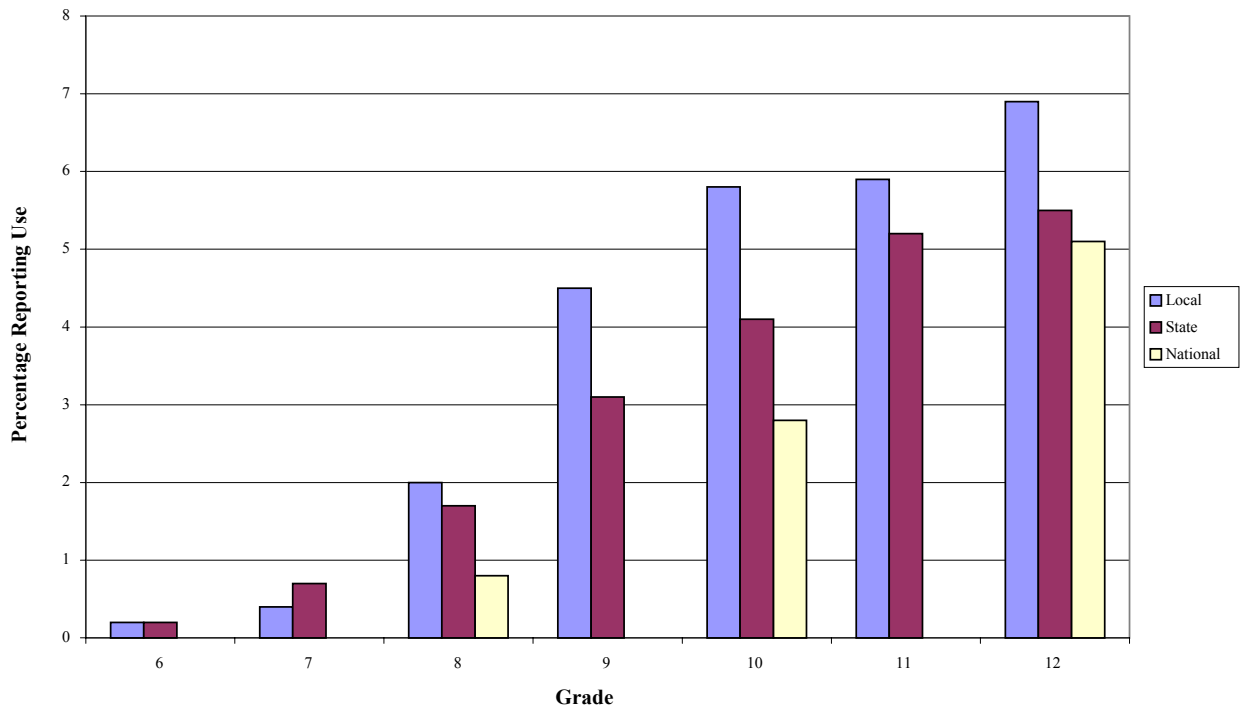
To provide a more visual image of the differences between local, state, and in some instances (where available), national figures, the data on monthly use of marijuana was graphed in Figure 4.1. As clearly indicated, beginning in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade the percentage of local users of marijuana exceeds both the state and national averages. The differences in most grades also are quite substantial.

Figure 4.2 plots a comparison of the daily use of marijuana. As indicated, at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level local consumption of marijuana exceeds state and national figures and continues through the higher grade levels.

**Figure 4.1**  
**Porter County Students' Monthly Use of Marijuana: Comparisons to State**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Figure 4.2**  
**Porter County Students' Daily Use of Marijuana: Comparisons to State,**  
 ATOD 2008



**Consumption: College Age Survey.** The college age student survey discussed earlier asked about the use of marijuana in the past month and the past year. A total of 15.6% said they used it in past year and 7.1% said they had used marijuana in the past month. Interestingly, these figures are lower than the figures reported by 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in Porter County schools.

**Sex Differences in Marijuana Use: ATOD Data.** Table 4.6 reports data from the ATOD survey on sex differences in the use of marijuana. The presentation is limited to the differences for monthly use because the patterns in the daily, monthly, annual, and lifetime use were all quite similar and the monthly data best typified the patterns in the data. Overall, there is not a great deal of difference in the consumption patterns of males or females. There are, however, some minor differences. As indicated in Table 4.6, at the lower grade levels most students have not used marijuana in the past month, but generally when they get to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, males are more likely to have used marijuana in the past month than females by about 5 percentage points. Similar to the patterns of usage found with alcohol consumption, females tend to exceed males in the use of marijuana on a few occasions and males tend to exceed females in the use of marijuana at the more frequent levels. For example, in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, females exceed males for use of marijuana 1-5 times by 2 percentage points, whereas males exceed females by 3 percentage points for usage of more than 40 times.

**Table 4.6**  
**Monthly Use of Marijuana by Porter County Students by Sex**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	% Monthly Use of Marijuana by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Sex				
		Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times
6th	Male	95.2	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.2
	Female	97.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
7th	Male	93.3	2.3	0.1	0.0	0.4
	Female	93.4	3.0	0.6	0.1	0.3
8th	Male	85.6	5.0	1.6	1.4	1.6
	Female	90.4	4.7	1.3	0.3	0.8
9th	Male	82.7	5.2	3.3	2.8	2.7
	Female	84.2	8.5	2.0	1.5	2.1
10th	Male	73.9	7.4	6.4	2.7	3.8
	Female	79.8	8.7	4.1	3.2	1.9
11th	Male	74.7	8.1	4.3	3.8	4.0
	Female	79.6	9.9	3.7	1.9	2.1
12th	Male	69.5	9.5	5.4	3.9	5.4
	Female	75.7	11.4	3.8	2.7	2.0

**Risk Factors: ATOD Survey**

**Perceived Risk of Marijuana Use.** It is reasonable to assume that whether or not someone would use marijuana relates to the amount of perceived risk. The ATOD survey included several questions related to the perceived risk of using marijuana. They asked about the perceived risk of occasional use and the perceived risk of regular use. Table 4.7 presents the responses of Porter County students to those two questions. When looking at the responses to the risk of *occasional* use of marijuana there are two clear trends. As students go up in grades, the percentage of students perceiving no risk goes up. For example, 8.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders say no risk and 20.8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders say no risk. At the same time, 40% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders perceive a great risk and that figure drops to 18.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who perceive a great risk in the consumption of marijuana.

When it comes to the perceived risk of the *regular* use of marijuana the pattern is quite similar, but with one notable difference: the percentage of students who perceive regular use of marijuana as having no risk does rise a bit in high school, but overall remains quite steady. For example, 7.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders see no risk and 8.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders see no great risk. As kids go through school, there is a tendency to see the slight and moderate risk levels go up, but the perception of a great risk to the regular consumption of marijuana goes down.

**Table 4.7**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting the Perception of Risk of**  
**Occasional and Regular use of Marijuana**

ATOD, 2008

		Grade						
Activity	Risk	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Occasionally</b>	None	8.1	7.4	13.5	18.8	19.5	18.9	20.8
	Slight	12.5	14.8	20.4	25.5	30.2	33.7	33.2
	Moderate	34.5	31.9	31.6	28.0	26.4	27.3	24.8
	Great	40.0	42.6	31.3	25.7	21.6	17.5	18.5
<b>Regular</b>	None	7.1	6.1	8.2	11.1	10.0	8.7	8.3
	Slight	3.6	4.5	9.0	12.3	15.1	15.8	17.6
	Moderate	15.1	15.7	18.6	23.3	25.1	29.1	30.3
	Great	69.1	70.4	60.8	51.3	47.3	43.5	40.9

**Perceptions of Peer Approval.** A primary motivating factor in much of teen behavior is the seeking of approval from one's peers. Understanding perceptions of peer approval then is an important factor in understanding their behavior. Table 4.8 presents Porter County student responses to questions related to their perception of their peer's approval or disapproval of both occasional and regular use of marijuana. As to occasional use of marijuana, the percentage of those seeing their peer's strong approval increases from 1.9% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 5.7% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. As to just simply approval, the change is more dramatic going from 1.6% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 21.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Interestingly, simple disapproval increases from 10% in the sixth grade to 18.5% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, but the rate of strongly disapprovers declines from 71.4% in the sixth grade to 32.9% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Overall, we see a gradual but steady increase in the perception that occasional use is approved by ones' peers, and a decrease in the perception that ones' peers disapprove of occasional use.

When it comes to the perception of their peer's approval of the regular use of marijuana we see similar patterns, but there is a sense that their peer's would be less approving of regular use. For example, in Table 4.7 we see that the perception of strong approval from peers increases from 2.2% in 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 5.3% in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Similarly, perception of approval goes from .9% in 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 11.6% in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The perception of disapproval from peers goes up from 6.7% in 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 18.8% in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. However, once again we see the percentage of students seeing their peers as strongly disapproving of marijuana use declines from 76.0% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 45.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.



**Table 4.8**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Perceiving Peer Approval**  
**Of Occasional and Regular use of Marijuana**  
 ATOD, 2008

		Grade							
			6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Perceived Peer Approval</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	1.9	2.8	4.1	4.9	7.0	6.0	5.7
		<b>Approve</b>	1.6	2.5	9.0	14.3	18.0	19.9	21.4
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	7.8	10.2	14.5	17.1	16.7	17.4	18.5
		<b>Disapprove</b>	10.0	12.1	13.3	16.4	16.7	17.7	18.5
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	71.4	66.9	54.9	44.7	39.0	35.6	32.9
	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	2.2	2.9	3.7	4.5	7.1	6.3	5.3
		<b>Approve</b>	.9	1.3	6.0	8.9	10.4	10.9	11.6
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	6.6	9.5	13.3	14.9	15.1	14.3	15.5
		<b>Disapprove</b>	6.7	7.7	10.4	14.7	14.6	18.3	18.8
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	76.0	72.9	62.5	54.2	50.1	46.6	45.4

**Perceptions of Parental Approval.** Students also were asked about their perception of their parent’s approval of both occasional and regular use of marijuana. These results are presented in Table 4.9. Most students perceive that their parents would not approve of the occasional use of marijuana. While the view that their parents approve of occasional use increases overall, it reaches its highest level in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade at 3.3%. The percentage of students reporting that they think their parents would disapprove increases across grades levels, but the percentage believing that their parents strongly disapprove actually declines, but still 75.6% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders believe their parents would strongly disapprove of occasional use of marijuana. Interestingly, the percentage of students who do not know what their parents think increases from 2.6% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 7.1% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

When it comes to the perception of parental approval of regular use of marijuana, the pattern is quite similar and again, overwhelmingly, students see their parents as not approving of the regular use of marijuana. For example, when you combine the approvers and strong approvers, 88.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders see their parents as not approving and 88.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders see their parents as not approving. Once again as with occasional use, the number of persons who do not know what their parents think increases across grade levels. In this case, the increase is from 2.2% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 5.7% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Table 4.9**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Perceiving Parental Approval of**  
**Occasional and Regular Use of Marijuana**  
 ATOD, 2008

			Grade						
			6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Perceived Parental Approval</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4
		<b>Approve</b>	.1	.5	1.4	1.5	3.0	3.3	2.9
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	2.6	3.2	3.5	5.4	5.0	5.5	7.1
		<b>Disapprove</b>	3.0	2.8	4.5	6.5	7.8	8.8	9.9
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	85.3	86.1	84.7	82.9	80.2	77.6	75.6
	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4
		<b>Approve</b>	--	.2	.6	.8	1.5	1.8	1.5
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	2.2	1.9	3.0	4.9	6.2	6.3	5.7
		<b>Disapprove</b>	2.7	3.3	3.8	4.8	4.6	4.0	6.5
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	86.0	86.8	86.6	85.6	83.7	83.0	81.8

**Risk Factors: Porter County Survey**

**Acceptability of Marijuana Use.** The Porter County Survey (2008) provides some additional information on factors contributing to the use or non-use of marijuana. The survey included a question on how acceptable people thought it was for people to use marijuana. Table 4.10 presents the responses to this question. It is presented in two parts: all respondents and then the 18-24 year olds. As indicated, most persons in Porter County (62.8%) find using marijuana to be very unacceptable and another 15.3% find it somewhat unacceptable. Only 3.2% find it very acceptable and another 13.3% find in somewhat acceptable. The numbers for 18-24 year olds are different and fewer persons in this age group than county residents as a whole tend to find the use of marijuana to be very unacceptable. However, more persons in the younger age group do find the use of marijuana to be somewhat unacceptable. So the differences seem to be a matter of degree with younger persons feeling less strongly about the unacceptability of using marijuana.

**Table 4.10**  
**Acceptability of Marijuana Use**  
Porter County Survey, 2008

<b>Acceptability Level</b>	<b>All Porter County</b>	<b>18-24 year olds in Porter County</b>
<b>Very acceptable</b>	3.2%	4.6%
<b>Somewhat acceptable</b>	13.3	15.5
<b>Neither acceptable or unacceptable</b>	5.3	4.6
<b>Somewhat unacceptable</b>	15.3	20.1
<b>Very unacceptable</b>	62.8	55.3
<b>Don't know</b>	--	--
<b>Total</b>	390	55

**Perceived Harm in Using Marijuana.** Porter County residents also were asked about the perceived harm of using marijuana once or twice a week. The responses to this question are presented in Table 4.11. As indicated, among all Porter County residents, 51.1% believe it to be a great risk while another 30.1% see it as a moderate risk. Only 2.8% perceive that there is no risk and 16.0% think there is a slight risk. As with the previous data, the 18-24 year olds in Porter County see that there is a risk involved, but they see it as much less a “great risk” compared to the rest of the County. For example, approximately 20 percentage points fewer 18-24 year olds (31.5%) perceive the regular use of marijuana a great risk compared to the rest of Porter County residents (51.1%).

**Table 4.11**  
**Perceived Harm in Smoking Marijuana Once or Twice a Week**  
 Porter County Survey, 2008

Acceptability Level	All Porter County	18-24 year olds in Porter County
No risk	2.8%	2.9%
A slight risk	16.0	28.2
Moderate risk	30.1	37.3
Great risk	51.1	31.5
Total	390	55

**Risk Factors: College Age Student Data**

**Perception of Friends.** Persons in the College Age Student Survey (2008) were asked several questions about how their friends would view their use of marijuana. A total of 58.7% said their friends would disapprove of using marijuana once or twice, 79% said their friends would disapprove of occasional use of marijuana, and 89.1% said their friends would disapprove of regular use of marijuana.

**Consequences of Marijuana Use**

**Porter-Starke Services Treatments.** One valuable source of data to help understand the impact and consequences of drug use is to track the number of persons treated at local mental health facilities for specific problems. Porter-Starke Services is the largest mental health treatment center in Porter County. The data in Table 4.12 are the number of clients treated at Porter-Starke from 2004 through 2008 by age and sex. Throughout the entire period, there were 730 treatments for marijuana use. Table 4.11 presents a good deal of data in a quite complex format. To clarify these relationships, some of the data is reproduced in Figure 4.3 to demonstrate the change across time in the number of males and females seeking treatment. As indicated, the numbers remained quite stable across time running between a high of 140 clients in 2004 to 112 in 2006. This past year, however, there was a significant shift in number of clients seen for both males and females. The increase amounted to a 55% increase overall, which included a 33% increase for males and a 123% increase for females.

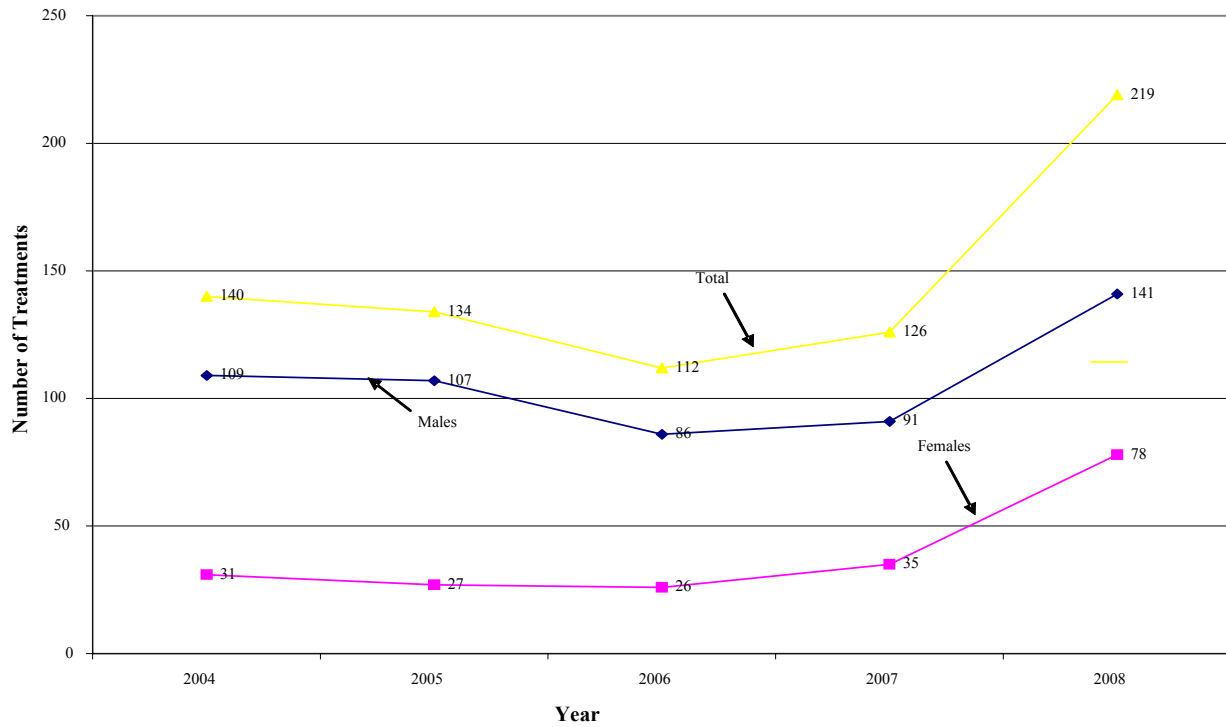
To look at the data more closely, it is broken down across time by age. As indicated in Figure 4.4, the 19-25 year old age group contributes the most to the marijuana related treatments

at Porter-Starke Services. This particular age group contributes the largest proportion of treatment cases of any age group. It also is interesting to note that almost every age group contributed to the increase in number of clients during 2008.

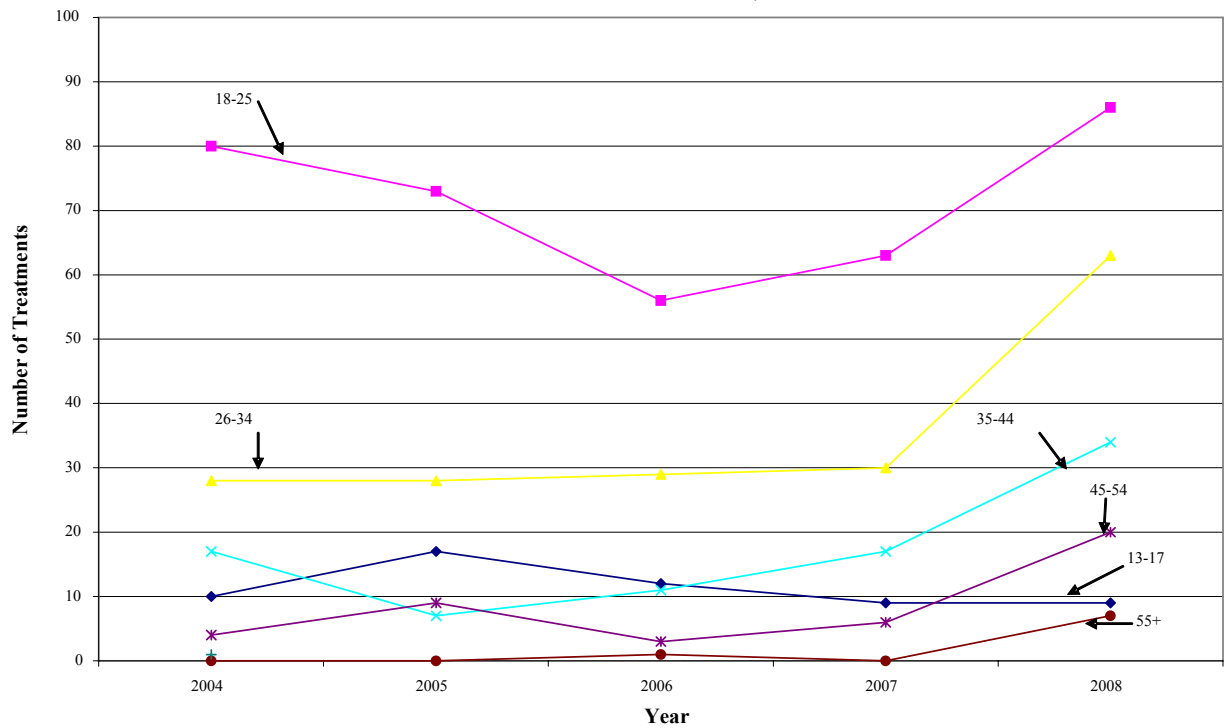
**Table 4.12**  
**Patients Treated at Porter-Starke for Marijuana Use: 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services, 2008

		<13	13-17	18-25	26-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
<b>2008</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	2	63	35	24	12	5	0	0	141
	<b>Females</b>	0	7	23	28	10	8	2	0	0	78
	<b>Total</b>	0	9	86	63	34	20	7	0	0	219
<b>2007</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	8	48	17	12	5	0	0	0	90
	<b>Females</b>	0	1	15	13	5	1	0	0	0	35
	<b>Total</b>		9	63	30	17	6	0	0	0	125
<b>2006</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	7	45	22	10	2	0	0	0	86
	<b>Females</b>	0	5	11	7	1	1	1	0	0	26
	<b>Total</b>		12	56	29	11	3	1	0	0	112
<b>2005</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	11	60	24	5	7	0	0	0	107
	<b>Females</b>	0	6	13	4	2	2	0	0	0	27
	<b>Total</b>		17	73	28	7	9	0	0	0	134
<b>2004</b>	<b>Males</b>	1	8	64	23	10	3	0	0	0	109
	<b>Females</b>	0	2	16	5	7	1	0	0	0	31
	<b>Total</b>	1	10	80	28	17	4	0	0	0	140

**Figure 4.3**  
**Porter-Starke Marijuana Related Treatments by Gender and Year, 2004-2008,**  
 Porter-Starke Services, 2008



**Figure 4.4**  
**Porter-Starke Marijuana Related Treatments by Age and Year, 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services, 2008



**Consequences: Porter Hospital Emergency Room Treatments.** The consequences of marijuana consumption also can be seen by looking at the number of persons treated at the emergency rooms of Porter Hospital (DAWN, 2008). This data is only available for 2008 so we can not examine trends. The number of persons treated at the emergency in 2008 for marijuana related issues is presented in Table 4.13. As reported, there were a total of 103 persons (57 at the Valparaiso Campus and 46 at the Portage Campus) treated for marijuana use. Seven of these cases were labeled suicide attempts and another 8 persons were said to be seeking detoxification. Sixty-four of these persons were male and 39 were female. To look at the distribution of cases by age, the data were broken down and put into Figure 4.5. As indicated, most persons treated at the emergency room for use of marijuana are under 24 and the largest group is the 18-24 year old group. This data is quite consistent with what was found at Porter-Starke. Problems and treatment for marijuana use begin to decline substantially when persons reach their mid twenties and beyond. This, of course, is a pattern quite similar to treatment for alcohol with the 18-24 year old group being the most frequently treated group.

**Consequences: Positive Tests for Marijuana (THC) Among Adults on Probation.** Persons on probation are regularly tested for the use of drugs and alcohol. Despite knowing this many probationers test positive for various substances. The data on the number of positive tests for THC is presented in Figure 4.6 (Porter County Adult Probation Report, 2008). As indicated, there were a quite consistent number of positive tests. For example, the average number of positive tests between 2003 and 2008 was 359, with a high of 391 in 2004 and a low of 323 in 2006.

**Table 4.13**  
**Treatments at Porter Hospital Emergency Room: Marijuana Related, 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008

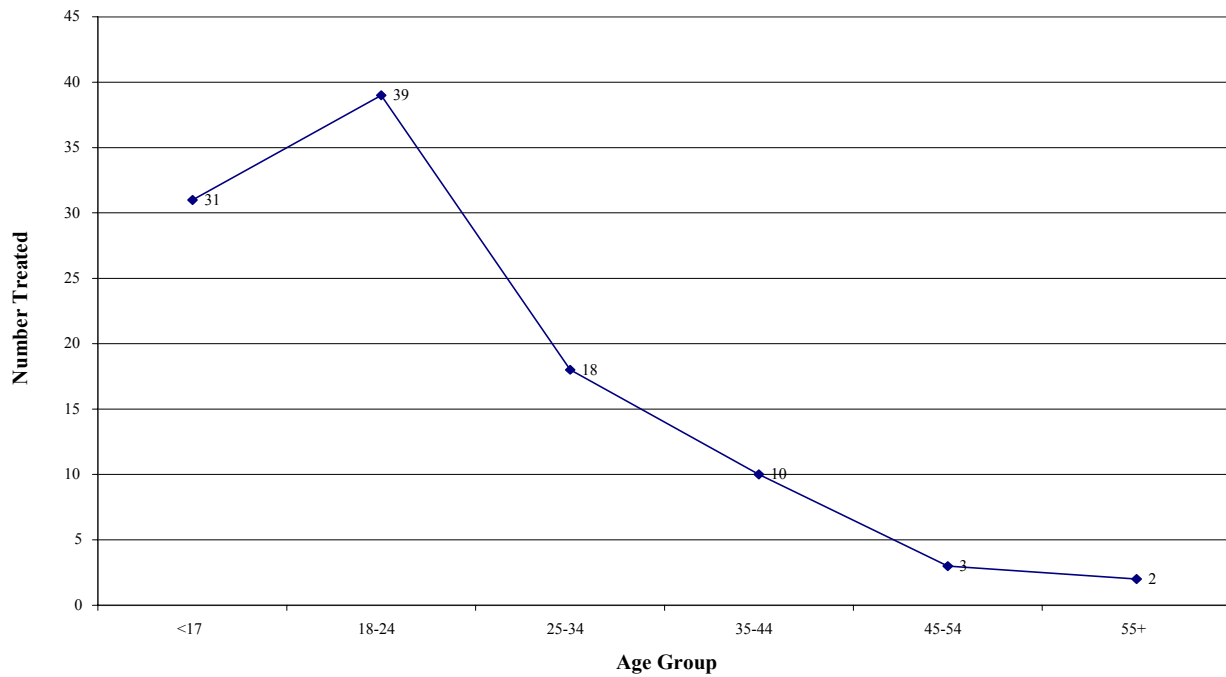
<b>DRUG</b>	<b>Valparaiso</b>	<b>Portage</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Marijuana</b>	57	46	103
<b>Cannabinoids</b>	18	17	35
<b>Marijuana</b>	36	26	62
<b>Pot</b>	2	2	4
<b>THC</b>	1	1	2
<b>TYPE OF CASE</b>			
<b>Suicide attempt</b>	5	2	7
<b>Seeking detox</b>	6	2	8
<b>Malicious poisoning</b>	--	--	--
<b>Other</b>	46	42	88
<b>TOTAL</b>	57	46	103

**Table 4.13 Continued**  
**Treatments at Porter Hospital Emergency Room: Marijuana Related, 2008**  
 DAWN 2008

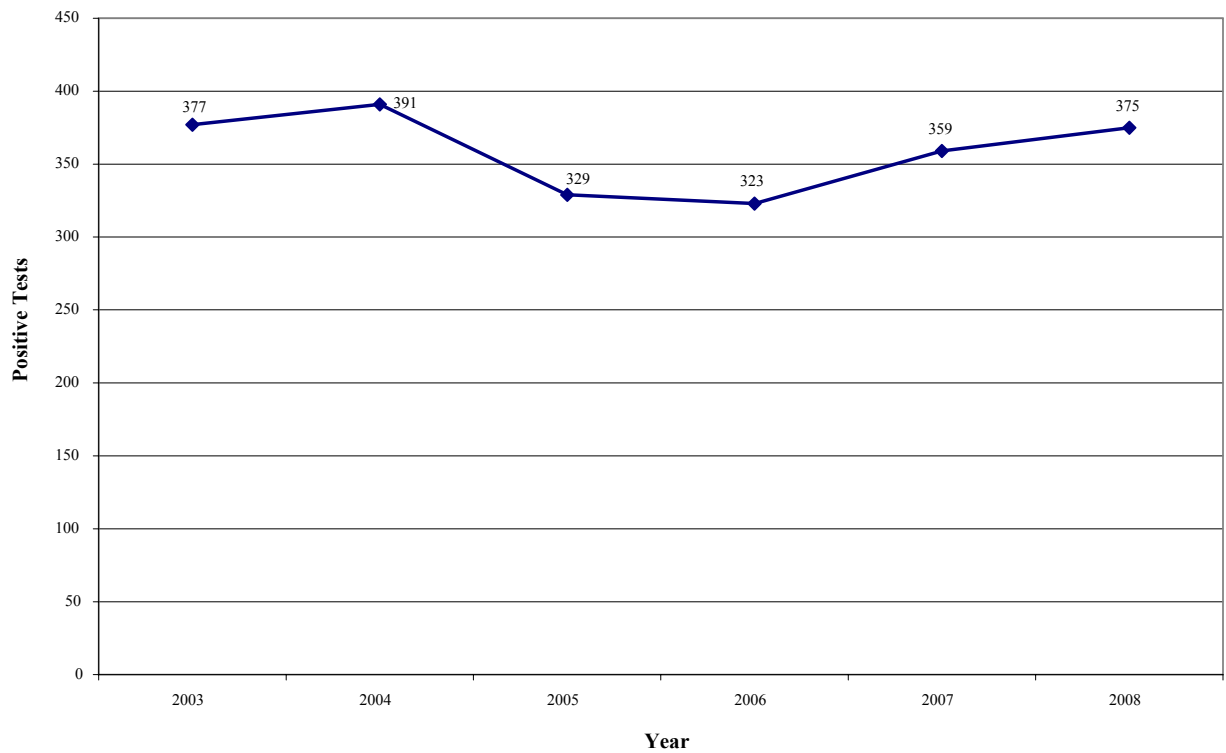
<b>DRUG</b>	<b>Valparaiso</b>	<b>Portage</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>GENDER</b>			
<b>Male</b>	33	31	64
<b>Female</b>	24	15	39
<b>Not documented</b>	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	57	46	103
<b>AGE</b>			
<b>5 years and younger</b>	--	--	--
<b>6-11 years</b>	--	--	--
<b>12-17 years</b>	17	14	31
<b>18-20 years</b>	9	12	21
<b>21-24 years</b>	10	8	18
<b>25-29 years</b>	9	4	13
<b>30-34 years</b>	3	2	5
<b>35-44 years</b>	6	4	10
<b>45-54 years</b>	2	1	3
<b>55-64 years</b>	1	1	2
<b>65 years and older</b>	--	--	--
<b>Not documented</b>	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	57	46	103



**Figure 4.5**  
**Porter Hospital Emergency Room Treatments by Age: Marijuana Related, 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008

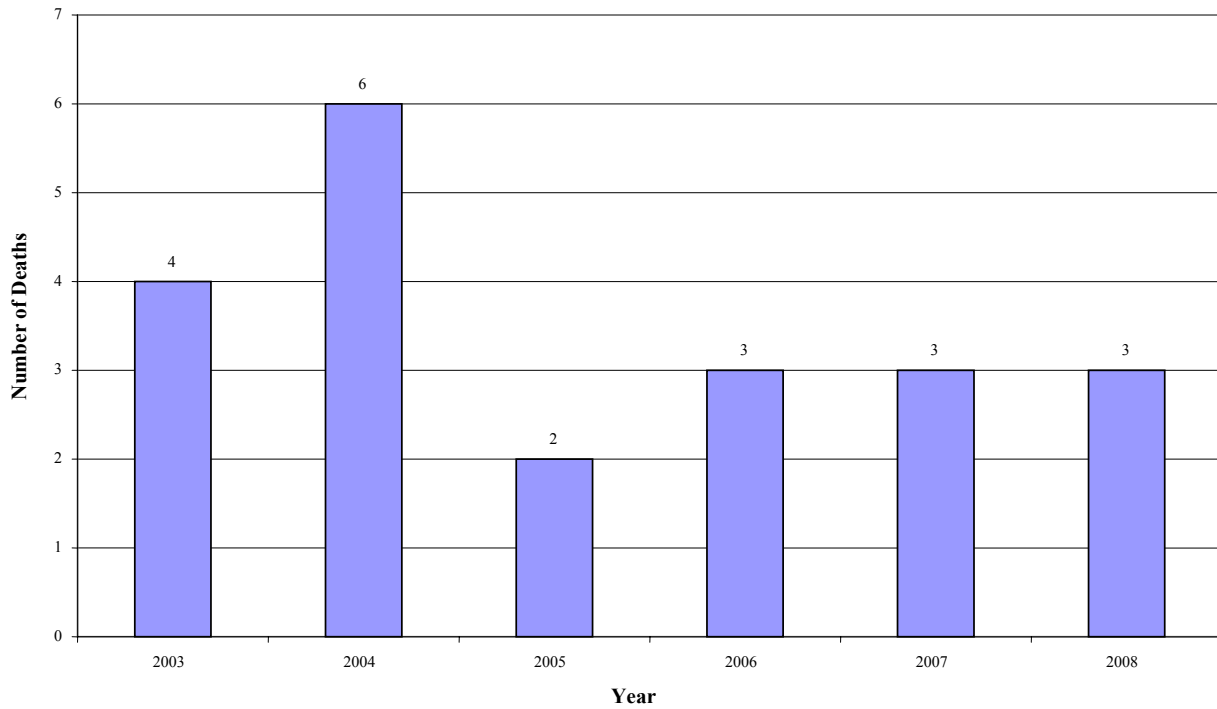


**Figure 4.6**  
**Porter County Adult Probation Positive Tests for THC**  
 Porter County Adult Probation Report, 2008



**Marijuana Related Deaths.** There is no precise data on marijuana caused deaths in Porter County. A review of the reports from the Porter County Coroner’s Office does indicate that marijuana (THC) was “involved” in some deaths. The number of deaths where marijuana was involved is presented in Figure 4.7. As indicated, there are not a large number of deaths and they run from a high of 6 in 2004 to a low of 2 in 2005. In the past three years there have been 3 marijuana related deaths each year.

**Figure 4.7**  
**Marijuana Related Deaths in Porter County, 2003-2008**  
Porter County Coroner’s Report, 2008



## Chapter 5 Heroin

### Introduction

In this section the focus is on the consumption and consequences related to the use of heroin. First, patterns of consumption are examined by looking at the ATOD survey. The consequences of heroin use are examined by looking at treatments at mental health facilities and Porter Hospital. Finally, heroin related deaths as reported by the Coroner's Office are examined.

### Patterns of Consumption: ATOD Data

**Monthly Use of Heroin.** The ATOD survey did not ask questions about daily use. Responses to the question if they had used heroin in the past month are reported in Table 5.1. Recall the data does not add up to 100% in each column because some students did not answer the question. As indicated, most students have not used heroin in the past month. Only .2% of students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade report using heroin and the highest number is recorded in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade where a total of 1.5% report ever using heroin and most of those have used it 1-5 times. A total of .8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders have used heroin in the past month.

**Table 5.1**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Heroin**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	96.8	96.5	95.2	96.7	94.8	95.0	94.1
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.1	.2	.3	.2	.8	.4	.5
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.2	--	.3	.4	.1	.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	--	.1	.1	.3	.1	--
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	--	.1	.1	--	.1	.1

**Annual Use of Heroin.** The percentages of students reporting various levels of the use of heroin in the past year are presented in Table 5.2. Once again there is not a lot of reported use and most students have not used heroin in the past year. The greatest number of students reporting use is in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade where 1.9% report having used it in the past year. A total of 97.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report never using heroin and that figure drops to 94.0% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Table 5.2**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Heroin**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.3	97.0	96.5	96.8	94.6	95.7	94.0
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.3	.4	.5	.9	.7	1.0
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.1	.3	.2	.4	.2	.3
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	--	.1	.3	.2	--
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	.1	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2

**Lifetime Use of Heroin.** As indicated in Table 5.3, when asked if they have ever used heroin in their entire life, most students say no. The rate of use across all grades is around 98% who say they have not used heroin and most persons who report the use of heroin say they have used it between 1–5 times.

**Table 5.3**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Heroin**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	98.9	99.2	98.7	98.0	97.4	97.9	97.4
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.3	.4	.7	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3
<b>6-19 Times</b>	--	.1	.1	.1	.5	.1	.5
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.1	.1	.2	.3	.2	.3
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.1	.4	.8	.5	.4

**Sex Differences in Heroin Use.** Table 5.4 presents the results from the ATOD study on the differences between males and females in the monthly use of heroin. Only the monthly comparisons are presented here because the patterns are similar for the annual and lifetime use data. As indicated, there is not a lot of reported use of heroin in the past month among these persons. What differences there are between males and females mirror the patterns found with other substances. More males tend to use slightly more heroin, but the differences in most cases do not appear to be significant.

**Table 5.4**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Heroin by Sex**  
 ATOD, 2008

Grade	Sex	Monthly Use of Heroin by Porter County Schools 6th-12th Graders by Gender, 2008				
		Never	1-5 times	6-19 times	20-40 times	40+ times
6th	Male	96.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
	Female	97.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7th	Male	95.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
	Female	97.3	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0
8th	Male	93.8	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1
	Female	96.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
9th	Male	95.5	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.0
	Female	97.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
10th	Male	92.1	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.0
	Female	97.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.0
11th	Male	93.4	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1
	Female	96.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
12th	Male	92.6	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.0
	Female	95.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2

### Consequences of Heroin Use

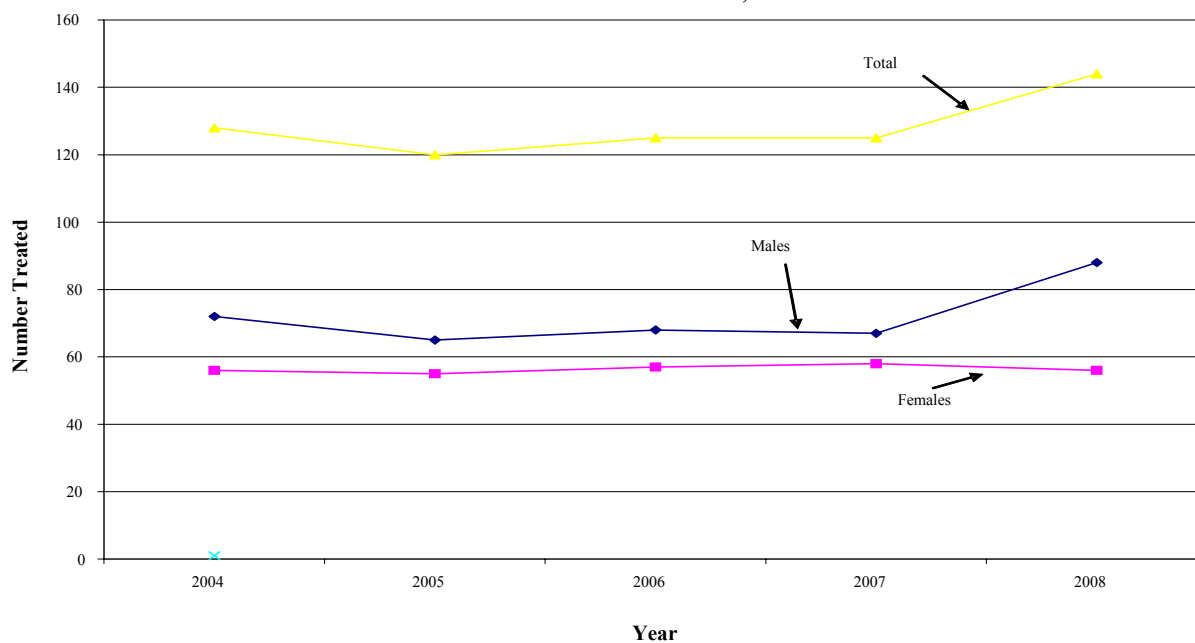
**Porter-Starke Services Treatments.** One way to assess the consequences of the consumption of heroin is to examine the number of treatments at local mental health facilities. The number of persons treated by Porter-Starke Services for heroin use over the past four years is presented in Table 5.5 (Porter-Starke Services, 2008). Because the data in Table 5.5 is quite detailed, it is broken down and presented visually in Figures 5.1 and 5.2. Interestingly, despite the relatively low level of reported use among Porter County students, there are a significant number of treatments for heroin related problems and the number is increasing. For example, in 2004 there were a total of 128 treatments and in 2008 there were 144 treatments. As indicated in Figure 5.1, the increase in treatments in the past year comes primarily from an increase in the number of male clients. In 2007 66 males were treated and in 2008, 88 were treated, an increase of 33%. Figure 5.2 provides data to show that the increase also comes most from the 26-34 year

old category, an increase between 2005 and 2008 of almost 60%. The 18-25 year old group actually declined over the past several years from 62 in 2004 to 35 in 2008.

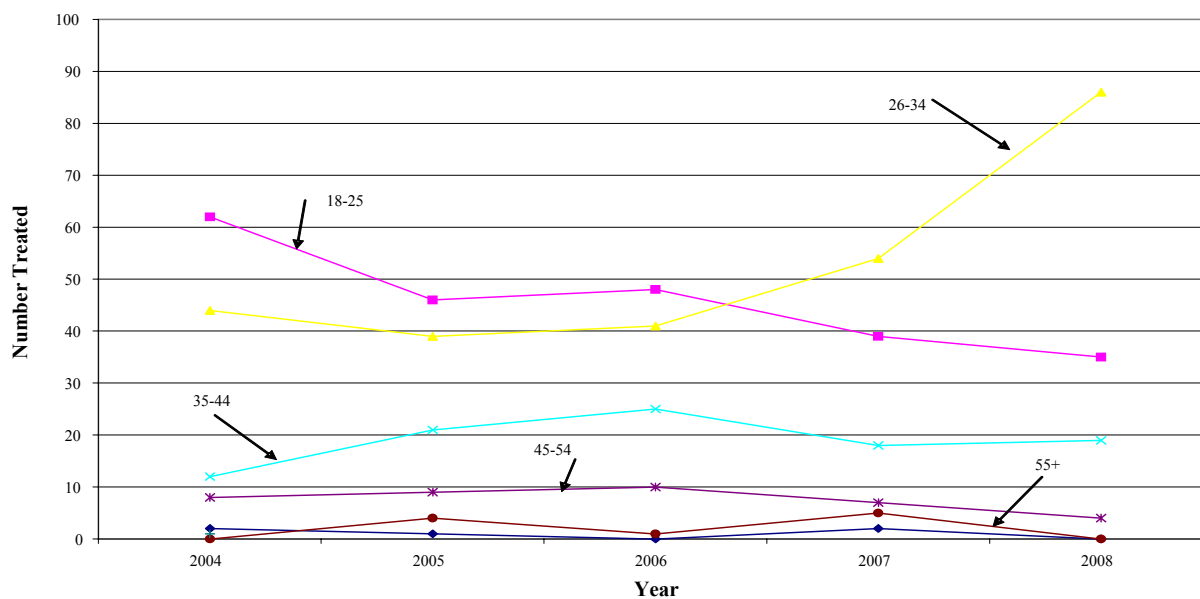
**Table 5.5**  
**Porter-Starke Data Treatments for Heroin, 2004-2008,**  
 Porter-Starke Services, 2008

		<13	13-17	18-25	26-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
<b>2008</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	0	16	62	8	2	0	0	0	88
	<b>Females</b>	0	0	19	24	11	2	0	0	0	56
	<b>Total</b>	0	0	35	86	19	4	0	0	0	144
<b>2007</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	2	19	31	10	4	0	1	0	67
	<b>Females</b>	0	0	20	23	8	3	3	1	0	58
	<b>Total</b>	0	2	39	54	18	7	3	2	0	125
<b>2006</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	0	29	23	10	6	0	0	0	68
	<b>Females</b>	0	0	19	18	15	4	1	0	0	57
	<b>Total</b>	0	0	48	41	25	10	1	0	0	125
<b>2005</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	0	22	25	9	6	3	0	0	65
	<b>Females</b>	0	1	24	14	12	3	1	0	0	55
	<b>Total</b>	0	1	46	39	21	9	4	0	0	120
<b>2004</b>	<b>Males</b>	0	0	36	27	5	4	0	0	0	72
	<b>Females</b>	0	2	26	17	7	4	0	0	0	56
	<b>Total</b>	0	2	62	44	12	8	0	0	0	128

**Figure 5.1**  
**Porter-Starke Heroin Treatments by Sex: 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services, 2008



**Figure 5.2**  
**Porter-Starke Heroin Related Treatments by Age: 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services, 2008



**Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS).** The data in Table 5.6 represents the number of persons treated in mental health facilities for opiate use in 2007 in all counties in Indiana with a population over 100,000 (TEDS, 2007). The data are the rates of treatment per 100,000 persons. The data did not distinguish between various types of opiate use and is limited to treatments that were funded in whole or in part or treated at agencies that receive federal or state money. It is, therefore, limited. In addition, the data is presented with a warning that some of the calculations are based on situations where there were fewer than 20 cases and, therefore, may not be completely accurate. Given these limitations, the data does prove interesting in that it allows for comparison with other counties. As indicated, despite other data that suggests a good deal of opiate related use in Porter County, in terms of the number of treatment episodes per 100,000, Porter County ranks 11<sup>th</sup> out of the 17<sup>th</sup> counties with populations over 100,000. When all the counties are considered together, Porter County ranks in the lower 25% of all counties in reported treatments for opiate use.

**Table 5.6**  
**Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS): Opiates, 2007**  
 TEDS, 2007

County	Opiate Treatment Rate per 100,000 Population
<b>Delaware</b>	135.2
<b>Madison</b>	123.4
<b>Vanderburgh</b>	92.9
<b>Monroe</b>	89.4
<b>Clark</b>	84.7
<b>Vigo</b>	45.8
<b>Marion</b>	38.3
<b>Lake</b>	35.8
<b>Tippecanoe</b>	35.5
<b>Johnson</b>	34.6
<b>Porter</b>	<b>33.6</b>
<b>LaPorte</b>	26.4
<b>Saint Joseph</b>	25.6
<b>Hamilton</b>	22.5
<b>Hendricks</b>	20.1
<b>Elkhart</b>	12.1
<b>Allen</b>	5.7



**Consequences: Porter Hospital Emergency Room Treatments.** The consequences of heroin use also can be seen by the number of persons who are treated in local emergency rooms for heroin related problems. The data in Table 5.7 presents the number of persons treated in the Porter Hospital Emergency Rooms in 2008. As indicated, a total of 128 persons were treated. Most of those treated (90) were male. The age of those treated are represented in Figure 5.3. As indicated, the largest number of persons is in the 25-34 (65) year old category with the 18-24 (40) year old group being the next most frequently treated group.

**Table 5.7**  
**Treatments at Porter Hospital Emergency Room: Heroin Related, 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008

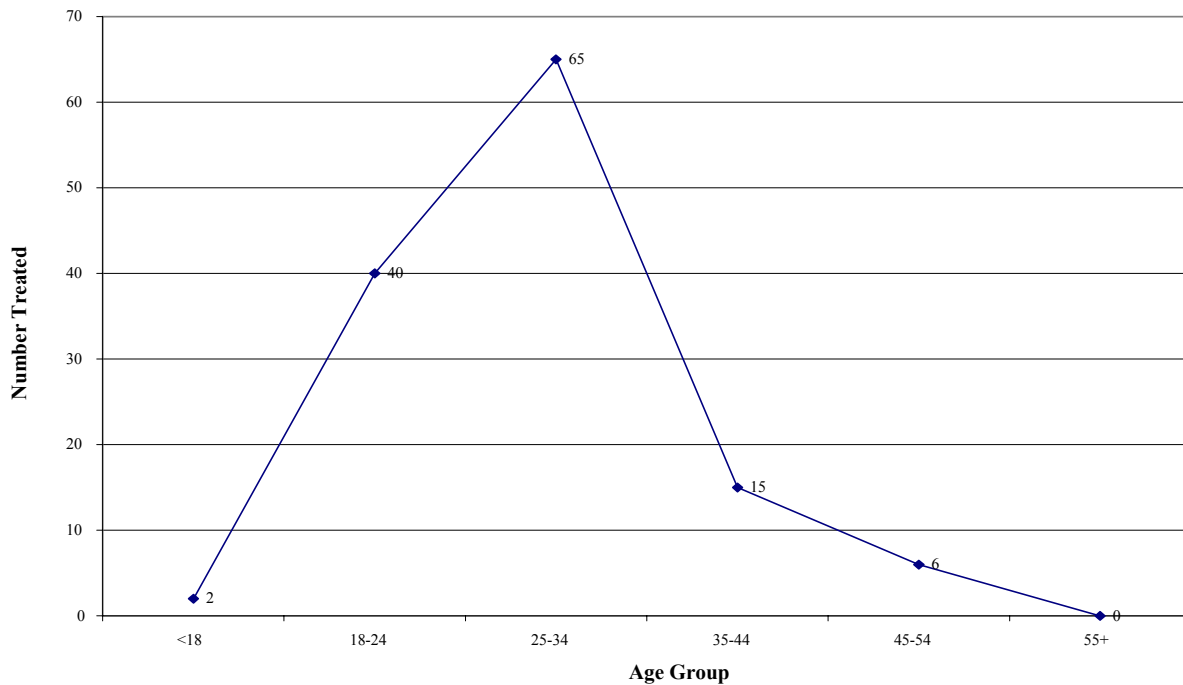
<b>DRUG</b>	<b>Valparaiso</b>	<b>Portage</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Heroin</b>	103	25	128
<b>Heroin</b>	102	25	127
<b>Smack</b>	1	--	1
<b>TYPE OF CASE</b>			
<b>Suicide attempt</b>	2	--	2
<b>Seeking detox</b>	65	4	69
<b>Other</b>	36	21	57
<b>TOTAL</b>	103	25	128
<b>GENDER</b>			
<b>Male</b>	69	21	90
<b>Female</b>	34	4	38
<b>Not documented</b>	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	103	25	128
<b>AGE</b>			
<b>5 years and younger</b>	--	--	--
<b>6-11 years</b>	--	--	--
<b>12-17 years</b>	1	1	2
<b>18-20 years</b>	8	3	11
<b>21-24 years</b>	24	5	29
<b>25-29 years</b>	30	6	36
<b>30-34 years</b>	22	7	29
<b>35-44 years</b>	14	1	15
<b>45-54 years</b>	4	2	6
<b>55-64 years</b>	--	--	--
<b>65 years and older</b>	--	--	--
<b>Not documented</b>	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	103	25	128

**Consequences: Positive Tests for Opiates Among Adults on Probation.** Adults on probation are required to submit to periodic drug and alcohol tests. The data provided does not report specifically for heroin, but does report data on positive tests for opiates (Porter County Adult Probation, 2008). The number of positive tests for opiates between 2003 and 2008 is presented in Figure 5.4. From 2006 to the present, more than 400 positive tests for opiates were

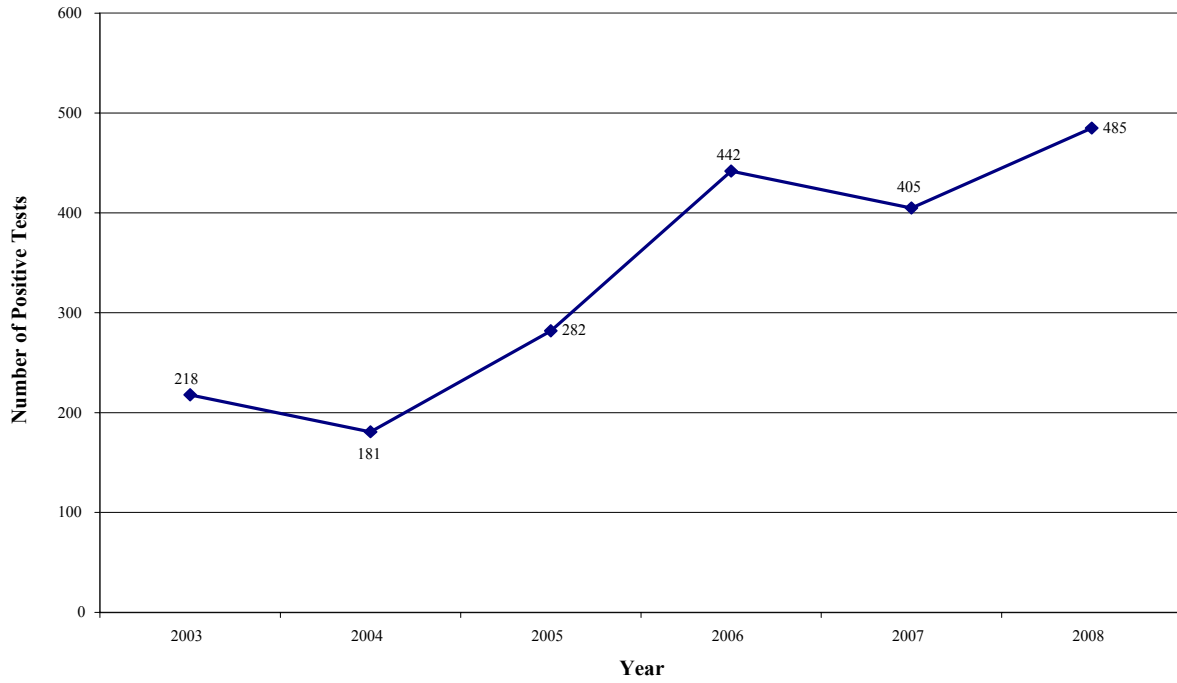
reported each year. Consistent with what we have seen with other data, there has been an increase in the number of positive tests for opiates. This increase has been much larger than the increase seen in other data and the positive tests have more than doubled from 2003 to 2008 going from 218 testing positive in 2003 to 485 testing positive in 2008

**Heroin Related Deaths.** The Porter County Coroner’s Office provides a report on the causes of a number of deaths (Coroner’s Report, 2008). A review of the reports from the Porter County Coroner’s Office indicates that heroin was “involved” in 11 deaths in 2008. This is a substantial increase in the number reported in previous years. This data is presented in Figure 5.5. A problem in determining heroin deaths is that heroin converts to morphine in the body and the cause of death is sometimes reported as morphine. The Coroner determines if it is a heroin related death with reference to other evidence. It is difficult sometimes in just reading the reports to determine what might have been the actual “cause” of death. The data reported in Figure 5.5 is based on a literal reading of the actual listed cause of death. The data reported for 2008 was adjusted from 9 to 11 based on clarifications provided by the Coroner’s Office.

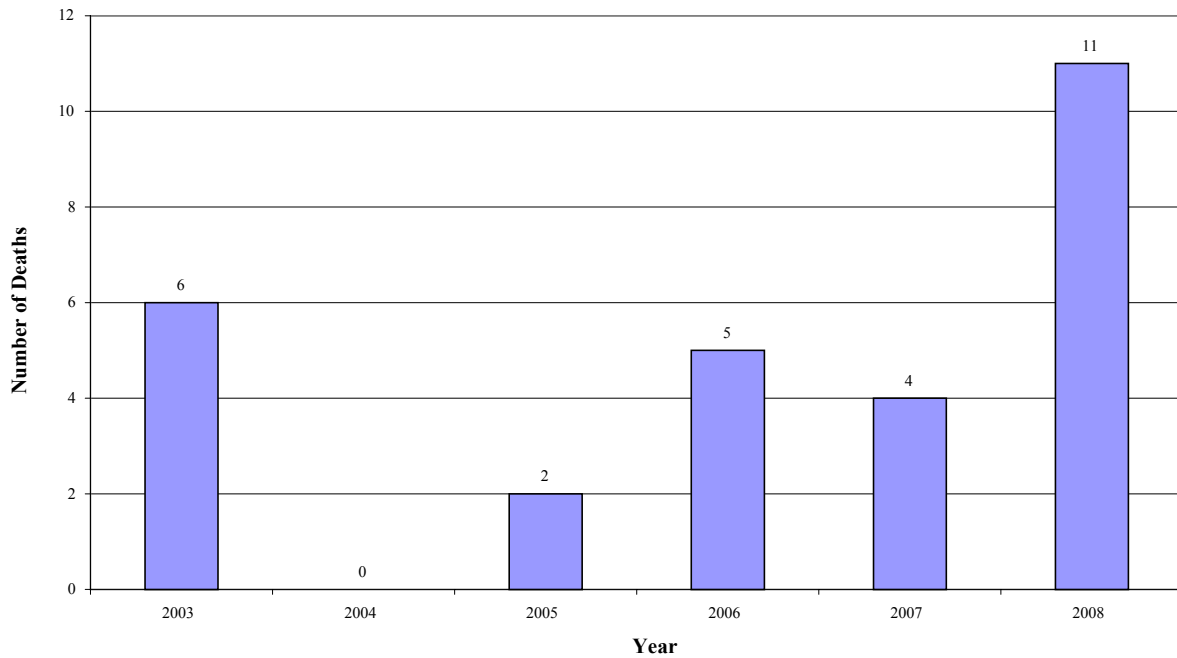
**Figure 5.3**  
**Porter Emergency Room Treatments for Heroin by Age: 2008**  
Porter County Adult Probation, 2008



**Figure 5.4**  
**Porter County Adult Probation Positive Tests for Opiates: 2003-2008**  
Porter County Adult Probation Report, 2008



**Figure 5.5**  
**Heroin Related Deaths in Porter County 2003-2008**  
Porter County Coroner's Report, 2008



## Chapter 6 Cocaine

In this section the focus is on the consumption and consequences related to the use of cocaine. First, patterns of consumption are examined by looking at the ATOD survey and the Porter County Survey. Risk factors are then examined by using the same data sources. The consequences of cocaine use are examined by looking at treatments at mental health facilities and Porter Hospital. Finally, cocaine related deaths as reported by the Coroner's Office are examined.

**Monthly Use of Cocaine.** Table 6.1 presents data regarding the reported monthly use of cocaine. There is not a lot of use of cocaine at any grade level. The highest level of use is in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade where a total of 2.6% report having used cocaine in the past month. The percentage of use in the 1-5 times per month category increases with the grade level. The percentage of 6<sup>th</sup> graders who report using cocaine 1-5 times monthly is .4%, this drops slightly in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade to .1% then increases to 2.0% by the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Table 6.1**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Cocaine**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.4	96.5	94.9	96.2	93.4	93.8	92.5
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.4	.1	.5	.6	1.6	1.3	2.0
<b>6-19 Times</b>	--	.1	.4	.4	.7	.4	.4
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	--	.1	.2	.2	--
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	.1	.1	.2	.1	.1	--

**Annual Use of Cocaine.** Students also were asked about annual use of cocaine and these results are reported in Table 6.2. Again, usage patterns reflect an increase in higher grade levels. Additionally, the percentage of students who report never using cocaine during the past year declines at higher grade levels. While 97.9% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report never using cocaine during the past year, the number decreases to 89.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who report no use of cocaine. Only .3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report using cocaine 1-5 times per year, while 12<sup>th</sup> graders show an increase to 4.1%.

**Table 6.2**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Cocaine**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.9	97.2	95.3	94.6	92.1	91.6	89.5
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.3	.3	1.0	1.9	2.8	3.5	4.1
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.2	.1	.4	.4	.7	.9	1.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	--	.1	.3	.7	.8	.4
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	.1	.4	.2	.3	.4	.5

**Lifetime Use of Cocaine.** Table 6.3 presents students reported lifetime use of cocaine. Almost all (99.4%) 6<sup>th</sup> grade students report never using cocaine, and this drops to 95.5% of reporting 9<sup>th</sup> graders and 90.7% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Incidence of reported users in the 1-5 times per year category rises from .2% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 2.8% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Of 12<sup>th</sup> graders, 5.2% report having used cocaine 1-5 times in their lifetime.

**Table 6.3**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Cocaine**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	99.4	98.8	97.4	95.5	93.6	92.3	90.7
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.8	1.4	2.8	4.0	3.8	5.2
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.2	.1	.4	.7	.5	1.0	2.4
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.1	.2	.3	.8	1.2	.3
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.3	.4	.9	1.3	1.2

**Comparison to State.** The ATOD study reports comparisons of cocaine use at the state and local levels. These comparisons are presented in Table 6.4. Listed in the table are the differences between usage of cocaine at the state and Porter County levels. Only differences that are statistically significant ( $p < .05$ ) are shown. As indicated, 7<sup>th</sup> graders show a slightly greater monthly usage of cocaine. Tenth graders show a greater lifetime, annual, and monthly use of cocaine. Eleventh graders show a greater annual cocaine use, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders show a higher than state average use of cocaine annually and during their lifetime.

**Table 6.4**  
**Porter County and State Differences in Cocaine Use**  
ATOD, 2008

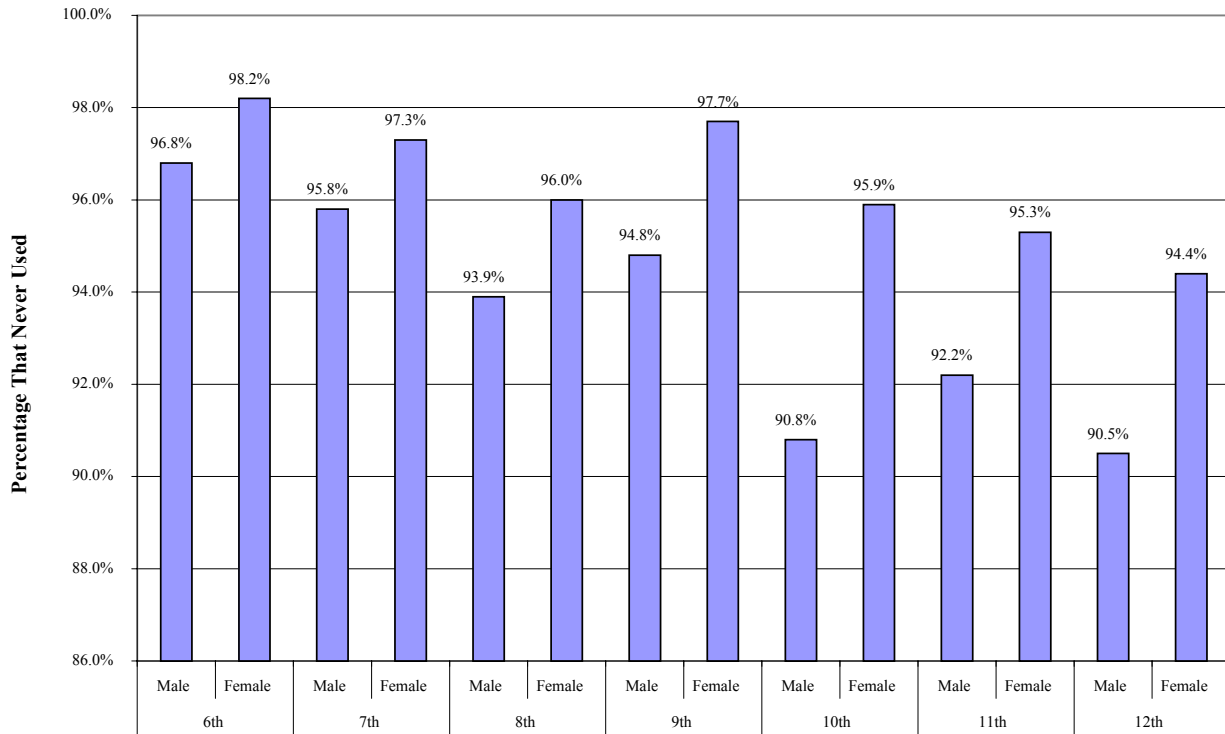
<b>Lifetime</b>	--	--	--	--	1.3	--	1.7
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	--	--	1.1	1.3	1.5
<b>Monthly</b>	--	0.3	--	--	0.8	--	--
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

**Sex Differences in Cocaine Use.** Figure 6.1 presents data on the differences between male and female students in their reported use of cocaine. The table includes only references to “never” having used cocaine. As indicated, there are consistent differences between males and females with males reporting more use than females. Note that the differences become larger for 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders with males reporting around 3 to 5 percentage points more use.

## Risk Factors

**Perceived Risk.** Students also were asked to report their perception of the perceived risk of both occasional and regular cocaine use. These results are presented in Table 6.5. Overall, students’ perception of risk increased as students moved to higher grades with 47% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students perceiving a great risk of occasional use to 60.4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who perceived a great risk associated with occasional use. Additionally, 6.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students perceived no risk of regular use, while only 1.6% of 12<sup>th</sup> grades reported perceiving no risk for regular use. Overall, students report an increased perception of risk at higher grade levels.

**Figure 6.1**  
**Sex Differences in Porter County Students' Cocaine Use: Percentage Never Using Cocaine**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Table 6.5**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting the Perception of Risk of Cocaine**  
 ATOD, 2008

		Grade						
Activity	Risk	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Occasionally	None	6.8	6.9	5.2	7.2	5.6	3.8	2.1
	Slight	7.5	6.0	6.4	6.9	6.6	5.7	8.0
	Moderate	31.9	27.7	33.9	29.5	28.0	27.5	25.2
	Great	47.0	53.5	50.0	54.5	57.0	59.4	60.4
Regular	None	6.7	7.3	5.2	5.9	5.2	3.1	1.6
	Slight	2.3	1.9	1.6	2.0	1.5	1.3	1.6
	Moderate	11.0	8.1	8.9	8.9	7.3	5.9	8.2
	Great	72.4	75.7	78.2	79.3	81.7	85.6	83.1

**Perceived Peer Approval.** Table 6.6 presents Porter County youths' perception of peer approval of using cocaine. Students in grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> were asked if they thought their peers approved of the use of cocaine on a regular or occasional basis. Overall, students perceived

their peers as disapproving of the use of cocaine. For example, 67.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students believe that their peers would strongly disapprove of occasional cocaine use and this drops only slightly to 66.8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who believe their peers would strongly disapprove. The numbers increase slightly for perception of peer disapproval when students were asked about regular cocaine use. Over 70% (72.5%) of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students reported that they believe their peers would disapprove of regular cocaine use and 73.8% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders believe that their peers would strongly disapprove.

**Table 6.6**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Perceiving Peer Approval of Cocaine Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

		Grade							
		6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	
<b>Perceived Peer Approval</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	1.6	3.3	2.8	1.9	2.1	1.9	1.4
		<b>Approve</b>	1.0	0.5	0.8	.18	2.5	2.8	1.9
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	8.6	10.9	13.9	15.2	11.2	12.5	12.2
		<b>Disapprove</b>	12.1	11.1	11.8	12.9	14.4	12.6	12.2
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	67.3	66.0	65.3	65.3	66.5	65.1	66.8
	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	2.0	3.5	3.1	1.7	2.1	1.8	1.4
		<b>Approve</b>	.7	.1	.7	1.8	1.6	1.0	.8
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	8.5	11.1	12.7	14.5	11.4	11.5	11.1
		<b>Disapprove</b>	7.3	7.1	9.2	9.2	9.0	8.8	7.0
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	72.5	69.9	68.1	69.3	72.4	71.6	73.8

**Perceived Parental Approval.** In addition to peer approval, students were asked about perceived parental approval. As indicated in Table 6.7, most students do not perceive their parents as approving the use of cocaine either occasionally or regularly. For example, 1.6% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students reported that their parents would strongly approve of occasional cocaine use, 2.6% reported that they did not know if their parents would approve, and 83.4% report strong parental disapproval. Less than 2% (1.9%) of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report a perception of strong parental approval of occasional use. A higher percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students (6%) report not knowing if their parents would approve of occasional cocaine use and 84.1% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report strong parental disapproval. A very similar pattern is evident for perceived parental approval of regular use of cocaine.



**Table 6.7**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Perceiving Parental Approval of Cocaine Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

			Grade						
			6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Perceived Parental Approval</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	1.6	7.7	2.1	1.7	1.8	1.3	1.9
		<b>Approve</b>	.1	.3	.1	.4	.4	.6	--
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	2.6	3.5	3.0	5.3	4.2	3.7	6.0
		<b>Disapprove</b>	3.1	2.1	3.0	3.1	4.2	3.7	2.7
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	83.4	83.4	86.0	86.4	86.2	85.6	84.1
	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	1.7	2.7	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.2	1.9
		<b>Approve</b>	--	.3	.1	.1	.3	.4	--
		<b>Do Not Know</b>	2.6	3.5	3.0	5.2	4.4	3.7	5.8
		<b>Disapprove</b>	2.4	1.7	2.7	2.9	4.1	3.2	2.3
		<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	84.2	85.7	86.0	86.7	85.6	86.0	84.3

**Risk Factors: Porter County Data**

**Acceptable Use.** Residents of Porter County were asked how acceptable they thought it was for people to use cocaine or crack cocaine. These results are presented in Table 6.8 (Porter County Survey, 2008). Most thought it very unacceptable to use cocaine, but there were some differences between age groups. Among the 18-24 year old group, 90.8% thought use was very unacceptable, while 94.8% of all Porter County adults thought it was very unacceptable. For all adults, 1.4% thought it was somewhat acceptable to use cocaine or crack, while 4.6% of the 18-24 year old group thought it was somewhat acceptable.

**Table 6.8**  
**Acceptability of Using Crack or Cocaine**  
 Porter County Survey, 2008

<b>In general how acceptable do you think it is for people to use Crack or Cocaine?</b>		
<b>Acceptability Level</b>	<b>All Porter County</b>	<b>18-24 year olds in Porter County</b>
<b>Very acceptable</b>	---	---
<b>Somewhat acceptable</b>	1.4%	4.6%
<b>Neither acceptable or unacceptable</b>	.3	---
<b>Somewhat unacceptable</b>	3.5	4.6
<b>Very unacceptable</b>	94.8	90.8
<b>Total</b>	390	55

**Harm to Self.** Porter County residents were asked, “how much do you think you risk harming yourself physically and in other ways when you smoke crack or cocaine once or twice a week?” These results are presented in Table 6.9. As indicated, most think there is a great risk in using cocaine this often. There is some difference between the general population and the 18-24 year old group with the younger persons tending to see a lesser amount of risk in the use of cocaine. For example, 8.4% of 18-24 years see a moderate risk and 3.3% of all residents see a moderate risk. No one said that there would be no risk.

### **Consequences**

**Porter-Starke Services Treatments.** Table 6.10 presents data on the number of treatments at Porter-Starke Services for cocaine by age and sex between 2004 and 2008 (Porter-Starke Services, 2008). The table is simplified in Figures 6.2 and 6.3. As indicated in Table 6.10 and Figure 6.2, the number of treatments varies across the years from a high of 124 in 2004 and a low of 99 in 2005. There were 114 treatments for cocaine in 2008. While the pattern of treatment tends to vary across time, there does seem to be a steady increase in the number of treatments for women to the point that the number of treatments for women exceeds those of men in 2007 and 2008 and has been steadily increasing since 2004. Male treatments have been steadily declining over the same period.

**Table 6.9**  
**Perceptions of Physical Harm from Cocaine**  
 Porter County Study, 2008

<b>How Much do you think risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they smoke Crack or Cocaine once or twice a week?</b>		
<b>Acceptability Level</b>	<b>All Porter County</b>	<b>18-24 year olds in Porter County</b>
<b>No risk</b>	---	---
<b>A slight risk</b>	.8%	---
<b>Moderate risk</b>	3.3	8.4%
<b>Great risk</b>	95.9	91.6
<b>Total</b>	390	55

**Table 6.10**  
**Porter-Starke Treatments by Age and Sex for Cocaine, 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008

	<b>Age</b>	<b>&lt;12</b>	<b>13-17</b>	<b>18-25</b>	<b>26-34</b>	<b>35-44</b>	<b>45-54</b>	<b>55-64</b>	<b>65-74</b>	<b>75+</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>Females</b>	0	0	8	17	21	17	0	0	0	63
	<b>Males</b>	0	0	5	10	21	15	0	0	0	51
	<b>Total</b>	0	0	13	27	42	32	0	0	0	114
<b>2007</b>	<b>Females</b>	0	0	8	26	14	7	0	0	0	55
	<b>Males</b>	0	0	6	14	13	8	0	0	0	41
	<b>Total</b>	0	0	14	40	27	15	0	0	0	96
<b>2006</b>	<b>Female</b>	0	0	8	19	18	9	1	0	0	55
	<b>Males</b>	0	0	16	18	13	11	4	0	0	62
	<b>Total</b>	0	0	24	37	31	20	5	0	0	117
<b>2005</b>	<b>Female</b>	0	1	3	10	18	6	0	0	0	38
	<b>Male</b>	0	0	12	16	21	11	1	0	0	61
	<b>Total</b>	0	1	15	26	39	17	1	0	0	99
<b>2004</b>	<b>Female</b>	0	1	10	12	17	4	0	0	0	44
	<b>Male</b>	0	0	18	20	30	11	0	1	0	80
	<b>Total</b>	0	1	28	32	47	15	0	1	0	124

**Figure 6.2**  
**Porter-Starke Treatments for Cocaine by Sex and Year: 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008

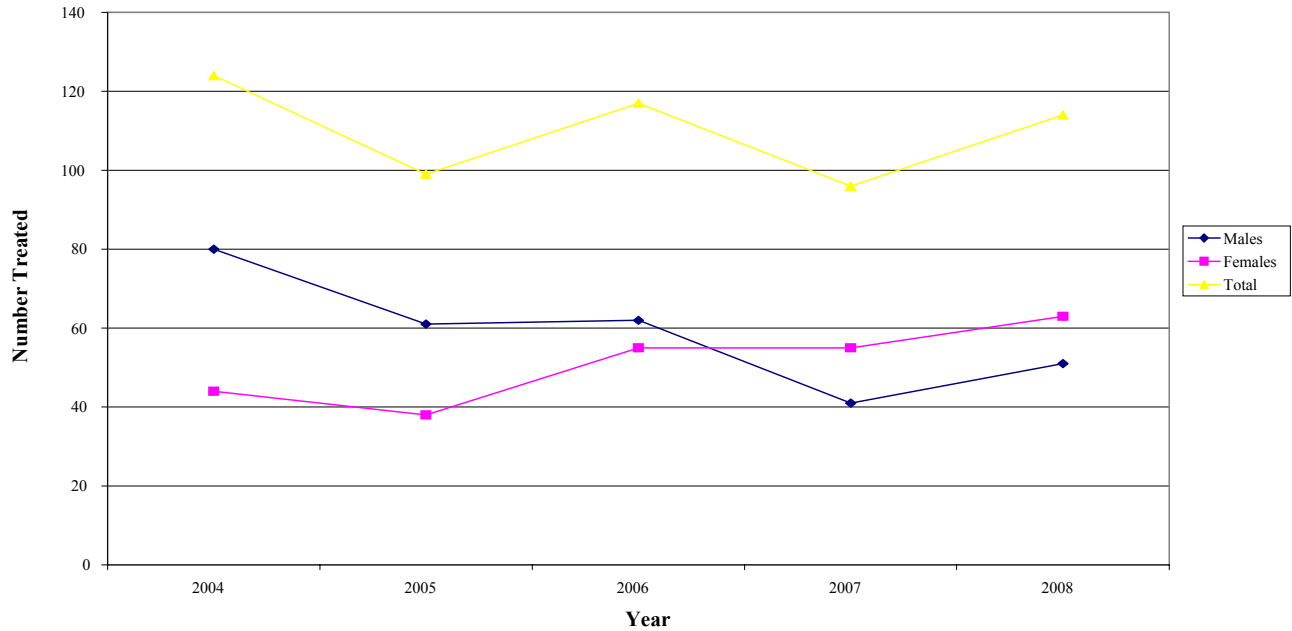
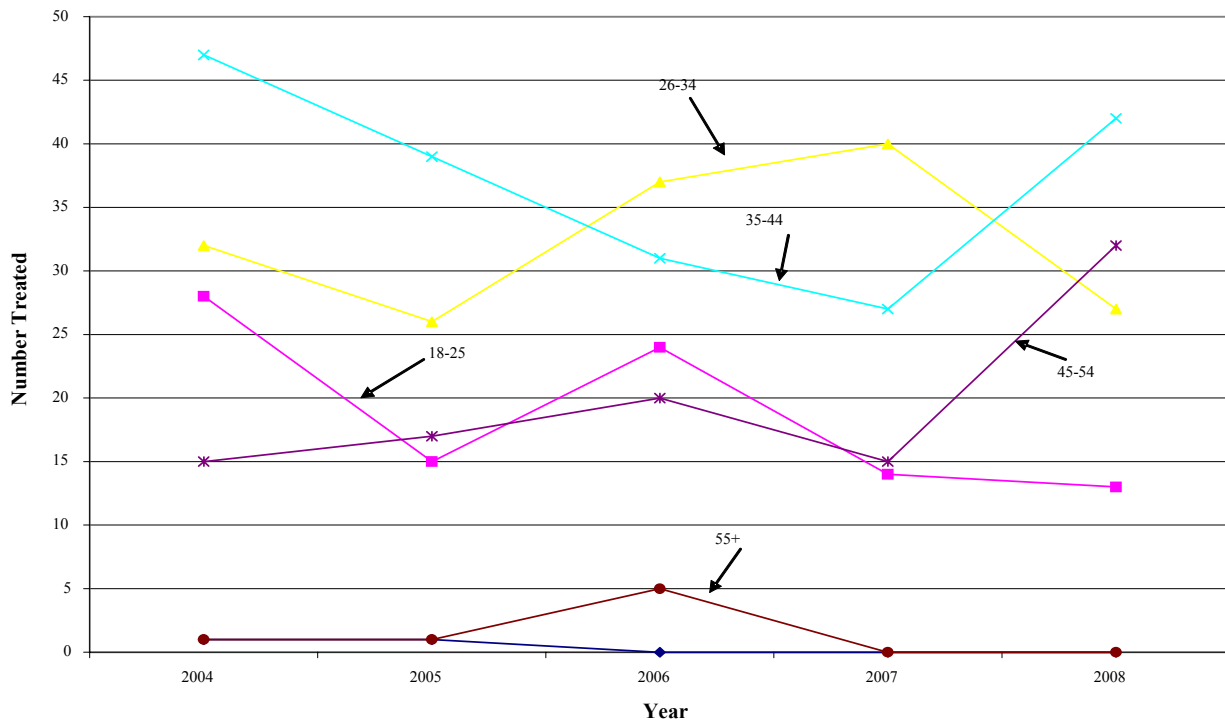


Figure 6.3 breaks the data down more clearly by age. Similar to the previous figure, the treatments for age groups vary considerably across time. Treatments are highest among the 26-34 year old group and the 35-44 year olds for most years, but in 2008 there was a large increase in treatments for persons in the 45-54 year age group to the point that treatments for this group in 2008 exceeded those in the 26-34 year old group. The number of treatments for persons in the 18-25 year age group varies considerably from year to year with a high of 28 treatments in 2004 and a low of 13 in 2008. If anything, the treatments for persons in this age group seem to be declining.

**Figure 6.3**  
**Porter-Starke Treatments by Age and Year: Cocaine**  
 Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008

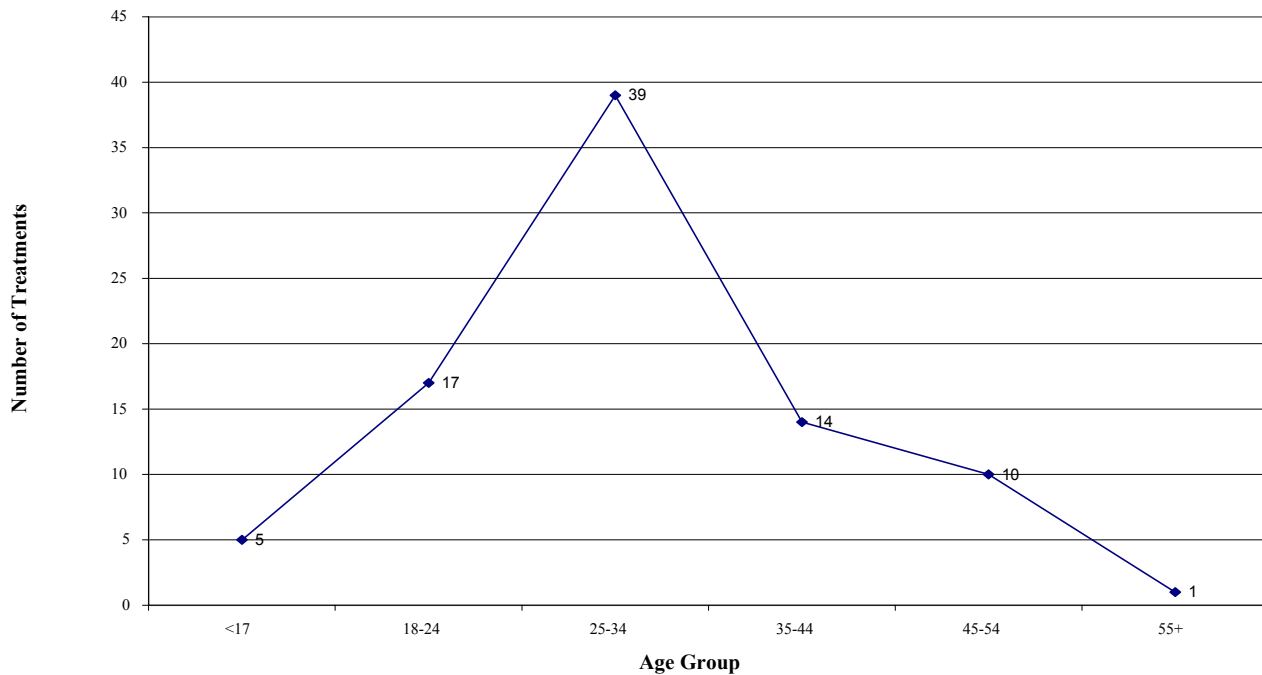


**Emergency Room Treatments.** The number of treatments for cocaine related issues at Porter Hospital Emergency Room for 2008 is presented in Table 6.11 (DAWN, 2008). As indicated, there were a total of 87 treatments (55 at the Valparaiso Campus and 32 at the Portage Campus). Four were related to suicide attempts and 20 of these persons were seeking detox. The majority (62%) were males. Figure 6.4 breaks the data down by age. Clearly more emergency room treatments for cocaine are in the 26-35 year old age bracket with 39 (45%) of the treatments, followed by the 18-25 year olds with 17 (20%), and the 35-44 year olds with 14 (16%).

**Table 6.11**  
**Porter Hospital Emergency Room Treatments for Cocaine, 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008

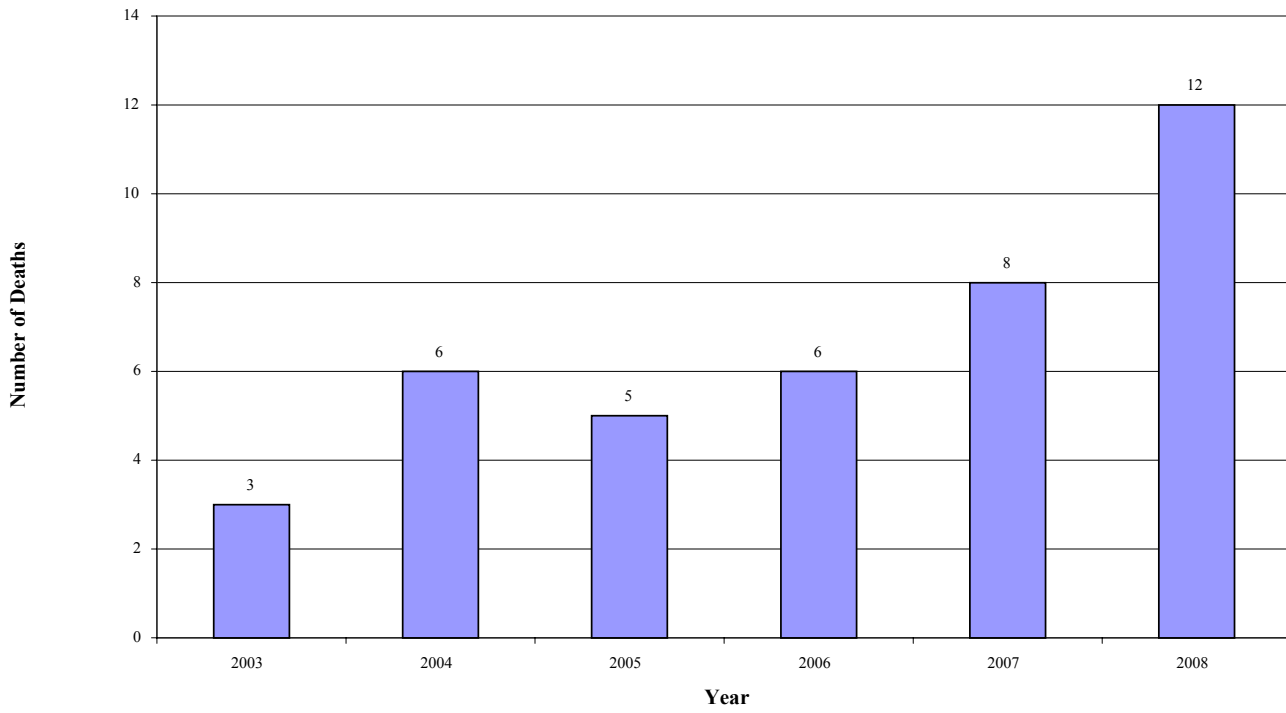
<b>DRUG</b>	<b>Valpo</b>	<b>Portage</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cocaine	55	32	87
8-Ball Cocaine	1	31	32
Cocaine	44	--	44
Crack	3	--	3
Crack Cocaine	7	1	8
<b>TYPE OF CASE</b>			
Suicide attempt	4	--	4
Seeking detox	17	3	20
Malicious poisoning	--	--	--
Other	34	29	63
TOTAL	55	32	87
<b>GENDER</b>			
Male	32	21	53
Female	23	11	34
Not documented	--	--	--
TOTAL	55	32	87
<b>AGE</b>			
5 years and younger	--	--	--
6-11 years	--	--	--
12-17 years	4	1	5
18-20 years	5	2	7
21-24 years	7	3	10
25-29 years	11	5	16
30-34 years	16	7	23
35-44 years	9	5	14
45-54 years	3	7	10
55-64 years	--	1	1
65 years and older	--	--	--
Not documented	--	1	1
TOTAL	55	32	87

**Figure 6.4**  
**Porter Hospital Emergency Room Treatments for Cocaine by Age, 2008**  
DAWN, 2008



**Cocaine Related Deaths.** The Coroner's Office releases regular reports of deaths and the causes of deaths. Most deaths reported by the coroner are caused by multiple factors. The data presented in Figure 6.4 is the number of deaths where cocaine was involved. This is the result of our analysis of the reports and not necessarily that of the Coroner's Office. This does not mean it was the cause of death, but simply that it was involved and the toxicology report indicated a presence of cocaine in the person's system at the time of death. As indicated in Figure 6.5, there has been a steady increase in the number of deaths in Porter County where cocaine was involved from a low of 3 in 2003 to a high of 12 in 2008.

**Figure 6.5**  
**Cocaine Related Deaths 2003-2008**  
Porter County Coroner's Report, 2008





## **Chapter 7: Other Drugs**

### **Amphetamines, Methamphetamines, Inhalants, and MDMA**

This section reports on the use, and where available, the consequences of the use of amphetamines, methamphetamines, inhalants, and MDMA. Patterns of consumption are examined by looking at the ATOD survey. The consequences of cocaine use are examined by looking at treatments at mental health facilities.

#### **Consumption Patterns: Amphetamines**

**Monthly, Annual, and Lifetime Use.** Tables 7.1, 7.2, and 7.3 present the data on monthly, annual, and lifetime use of amphetamines. They have been grouped together in this section because there is not a lot of consumption reported and the patterns are quite similar. The bottom row in each of these tables represents the total percentage of students in each grade reporting that they have used the drug.

Table 7.1, which reports use in the past month, indicates that only .5% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report use, 1.8% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 4.4% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and 3.1% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report usage in the past month. Note that most of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher levels of use.

The pattern is similar when asked about use in the past year. Only .4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders have used amphetamines in the past year. At the 9<sup>th</sup> grade level, that figure increases to 4.2%, and then to 7%, 7.8%, and 7.6% in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades respectively. About half of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher levels of use.

When students are asked about lifetime use of amphetamines, the pattern is also similar. Less than 1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report using amphetamines in their lifetime and this number jumps to 6.1% in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 8.5% in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 9.6% in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, and 10.6% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. About half of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher frequencies of use.

**Table 7.1**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Amphetamines**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	95.2	96.4	94.5	95.2	91.8	92.5	91.5
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.3	.3	1.1	1.2	3.0	2.0	1.9
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	--	.3	.8	.9	.6	.7
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.2	.3	.3	.4	.5
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	--	--	--	.2	.1	--
<b>Total Use</b>	0.5	0.4	1.6	2.3	4.4	3.1	3.1

**Table 7.2**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Amphetamines**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	96.0	96.8	94.6	93.3	89.4	89.4	88.2
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.3	1.4	2.2	3.9	4.2	3.9
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.1	.4	1.2	1.6	2.1	1.7
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	--	.3	.4	.9	.8	1.0
<b>40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.1	.4	.6	.7	1.0
<b>Total Use</b>	0.4	0.5	2.2	4.2	7	7.8	7.6

**Table 7.3**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Amphetamines**  
 ATOD, 2008

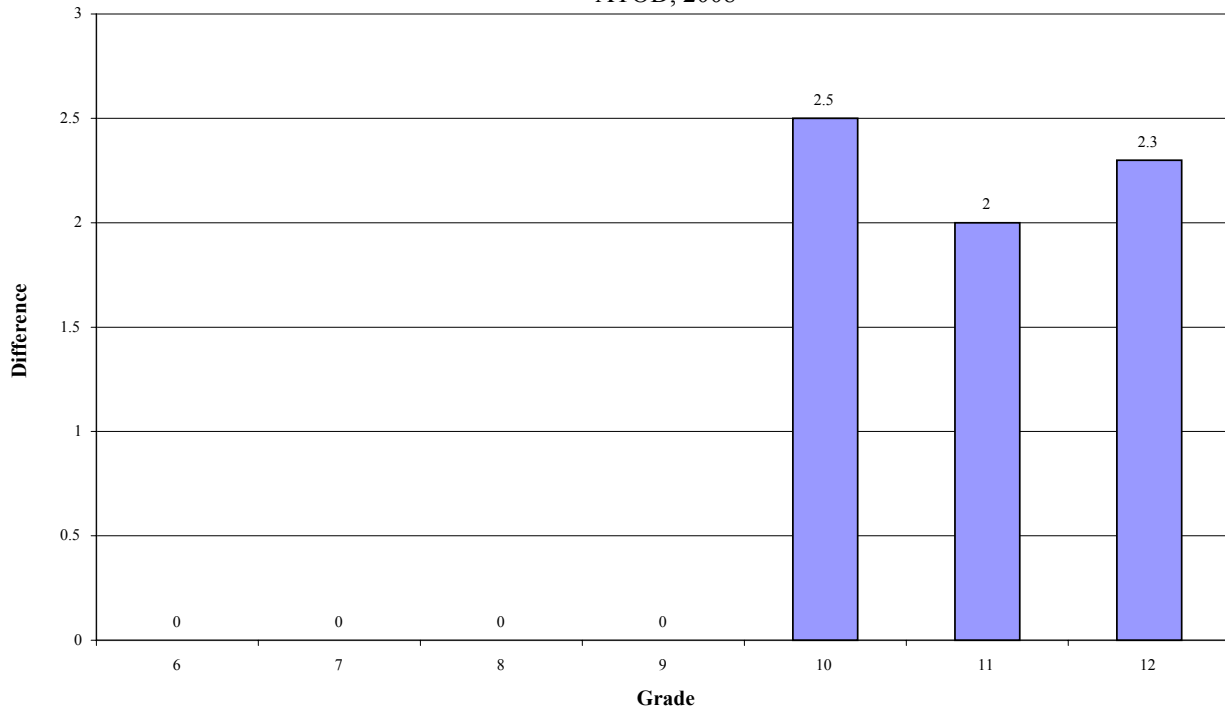
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.3	98.8	96.4	94.0	89.8	89.2	88.0
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.3	.4	1.8	2.8	4.5	4.9	5.2
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.1	.7	1.6	2.6	2.3	3.1
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.1	.4	.8	.9	1.5	1.4
<b>40+ Times</b>	.3	.4	.4	.9	.5	.9	.9
<b>Total Use</b>	0.7	1	3.3	6.1	8.5	9.6	10.6

**Comparisons to State Usage Patterns.** Table 7.4 and Figure 7.1 present a comparison between the use of amphetamines by Porter County youth and youth across the state. As in past sections, the only figures presented are those that represent a statistically significant difference at the  $p < .05$  level. Where there are no numbers, there is no difference between local youth and state averages. The only differences reported are for lifetime and annual use. The numbers represent the differences in percentages between Porter County and the state averages. If the number is positive, it indicates greater consumption among Porter County youth. The 10<sup>th</sup> grade through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade Porter County youth use amphetamines more than other youth in Indiana. In annual use, the differences are 1.8, 2.1, and 2 percentage points respectively. At the lifetime use level, the differences are 2.5, 2, and 2.3 points respectively.

**Table 7.4**  
**Porter County and State Differences in Amphetamine Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

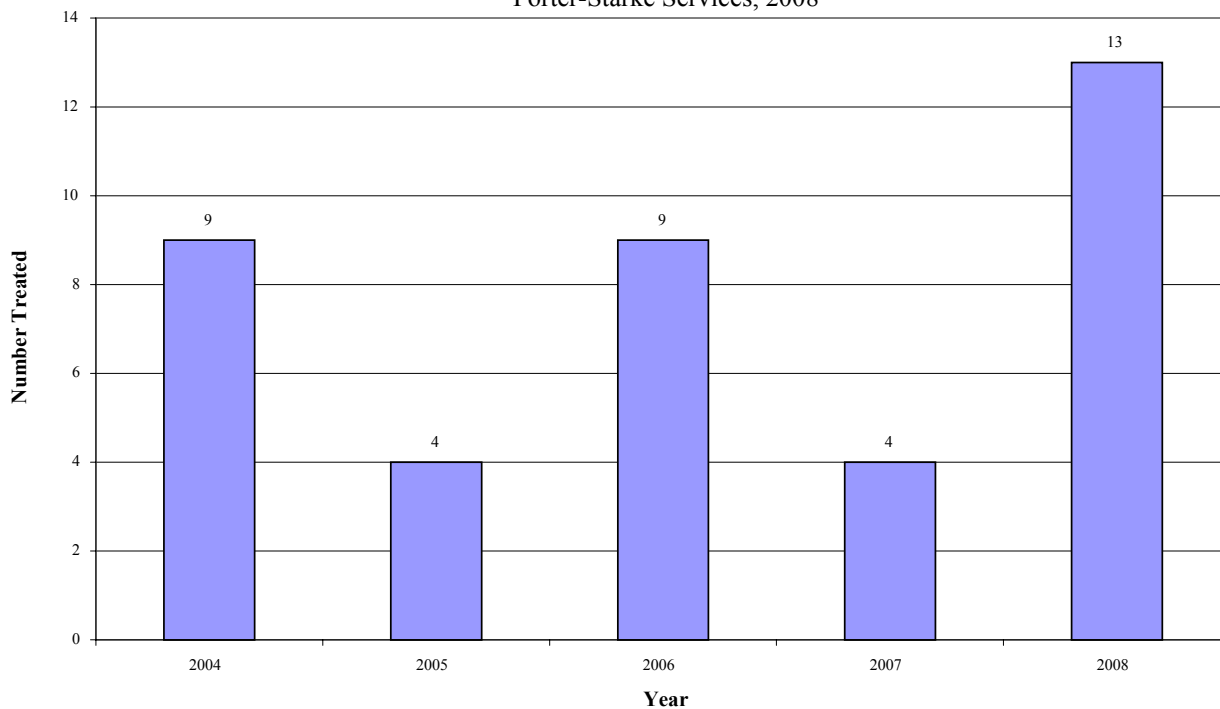
<b>Lifetime</b>	--	--	--	--	2.5	2.0	2.3
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	--	--	1.8	2.1	2.0
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

**Figure 7.1**  
**Significant Differences in Lifetime Use of Amphetamines: Porter County and State**  
 ATOD, 2008



**Porter-Starke Services Treatments for Amphetamine Use.** Overall, as indicated in Figure 7.2, there have not been many treatments at Porter-Starke for amphetamine or methamphetamine use. Contrary to the ATOD survey that treats amphetamines and methamphetamines separately, the Porter-Starke data combines the two. Between 2003 and 2008 the number of patients treated varied from 4 per year to 13, with the largest number occurring in 2008.

**Figure 7.2**  
**Porter-Starke Treatments for Meth and other Amphetamines, 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services, 2008



**Consumption Patterns for Methamphetamines.**

**Monthly, Annual, and Lifetime Use.** Tables 7.5, 7.6, and 7.7 present the data on monthly, annual, and lifetime use of amphetamines. They have been grouped together in this section because there is not a lot of use of methamphetamines and the patterns are quite similar. As with the discussion of amphetamines, the bottom row in each of these tables represents the total percentage of students in each grade reporting that they have used the drug.

As indicated in Table 7.5, when asked about meth use in the past month most students say they have not used it. The highest reported usage is by 10<sup>th</sup> graders and only 1.5% of them say they have used it in the past month.

The results for annual use of meth are reported in Table 7.6. Once again the reported usage is very low. In no grade level does the reported use reach 2% of the students. Similarly, Table 7.7 reports the response to the question concerning even lifetime use of meth. Once again, in no grade level does the reported use by students reach even 2% of the students.

**Comparisons to State Usage Patterns.** There are no statistically significant differences reported in the ATOD survey for methamphetamines.

**Table 7.5**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Methamphetamines**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	96.2	96.5	95.5	96.8	94.8	94.7	94.1
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.1	.2	.4	.4	1.0	.6	.3
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.2	.1	--	.4	.3	--	.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	--	.1	--	.1	.1	--
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	--	--	.1	.1	.1	--
<b>Total Use</b>	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.9	1.5	0.8	0.5

**Table 7.6**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Methamphetamines**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	96.8	97.0	96.5	96.3	94.2	95.3	94.5
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.3	.4	.8	1.0	.9	.6
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	--	.2	.5	.3	.4	.3
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	--	--	.3	.1	.2
<b>40 Times</b>	--	.1	.1	.1	.3	.4	.1
<b>Total Use</b>	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.2

**Table 7.7**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Methamphetamines**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	98.4	99.3	98.3	97.7	97.3	97.7	97.8
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.1	.1	.7	1.1	1.6	1.0	.9
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.3	.2	.5	.3	.3	.5
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.3	.1	.3	.1	.3
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	--	.2	.4	.6	.3
<b>Total Use</b>	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.2

**Consumption Patterns: Inhalants.**

**Monthly, Annual, and Lifetime Use.** Tables 7.8, 7.9 and 7.10 present the data on monthly, annual, and lifetime use of inhalants. They have been grouped together in this section because, while there is a good deal more use here than with the two previous drugs, the patterns across monthly, annual, and lifetime use are quite similar. As with amphetamines, the bottom row in each of these tables represents the total percentage of students in each grade reporting that they have used the drug.

As indicated in Table 7.8, while usage is not very high, there is a curvilinear relationship relative to grade level. Use begins low in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade (2.3%), peaks in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade (4%), and then drops back down in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade to 2.2%. Additionally, most who do use inhalants report only using it 1-5 times in the past month.

The results for annual use of inhalants are reported in Table 7.9. Somewhat similar to the data on monthly use, reported use begins low in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade (3.9%), peaks in the middle grades where the reported use in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grades is 7.1%, 7%, and 7.1% respectively, and then drops down a bit, but not as low as the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, to 5.5% reported use in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Once again, most reported use is only 1-5 times in the past year.

The results for lifetime use of inhalants are reported in Table 7.10. The pattern of use is somewhat different from that reported for monthly and annual use and, not surprisingly, higher than for monthly or annual use. Similar to other patterns of use, it begins lower in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade (5.1%), raises to 10.2% in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and then, rather than dropping off, remains quite stable through the high school years at around 10% reporting lifetime use. Once again it is important to note that most of the reported use is in the 1-5 times category and not at the higher levels of use.

**Table 7.8**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Inhalants**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	94.6	94.4	92.2	93.6	92.7	93.4	92.7
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.7	1.7	3.1	2.8	2.6	1.6	1.7
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.4	.6	.6	.8	.5	.6	.3
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	--	--	.2	.2	--	.2
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.2	.2	.1	.2	--
<b>Total Use</b>	2.3	2.4	3.9	4	3.4	2.4	2.2

**Table 7.9**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Inhalants**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	93.6	93.6	90.1	90.6	89.5	91.3	90.4
<b>1-5 Times</b>	2.7	2.6	4.9	4.2	4.6	3.6	4.0
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.9	.6	1.3	1.8	1.6	.9	1.1
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.2	.2	.5	.5	.5	.9	.1
<b>40 Times</b>	.1	.3	.4	.5	.4	.5	.3
<b>Total Use</b>	3.9	3.7	7.1	7	7.1	5.9	5.5



**Table 7.10**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Inhalants,**  
 ATOD, 2008

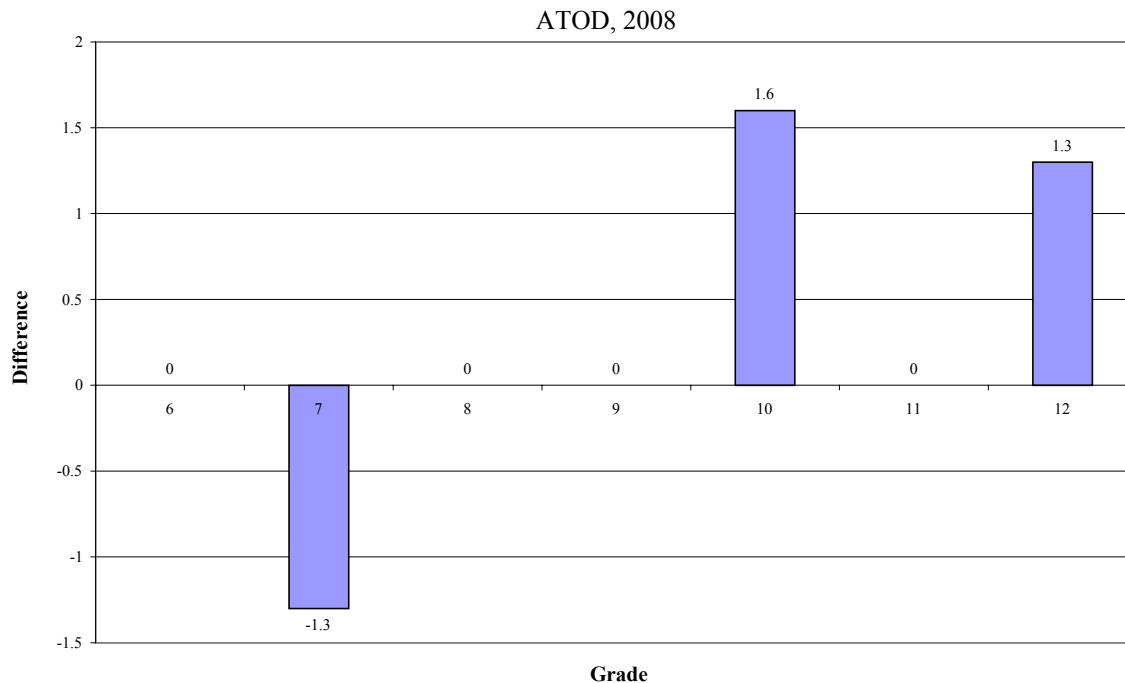
	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	93.8	93.6	89.3	89.2	89.2	90.1	89.5
<b>1-5 Times</b>	3.6	4.7	6.7	6.5	7.1	5.9	6.4
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.9	.6	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.6
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.3	.5	1.0	.6	.9	.9	1.2
<b>40+ Times</b>	.3	.4	.4	.9	.5	.9	.9
<b>Total Use</b>	5.1	6.2	10.2	10.5	10.7	9.8	10.1

**Comparisons to State Usage Patterns.** Table 7.11 and Figure 7.3 present a comparison between the use of inhalants by Porter County youth and youth across the state. As in past sections, the only figures presented are those that represent a statistically significant difference at the  $p < .05$  level. Where there are no numbers, there is no difference between local youth and state averages. The numbers represent the differences in percentages between Porter County and the state averages. If the number is positive, it indicates greater consumption among Porter County youth. The only differences reported are in annual usage where 7<sup>th</sup> graders fall 1.3 percentage points below state averages and 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students fall 1.6 and 1.3 points respectively above state averages.

**Table 7.11**  
**Porter County and State Differences in Inhalant Use, ATOD, 2008**  
 ATOD, 2008

<b>Lifetime</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Annual</b>	--	-1.3	--	--	1.6	--	1.3
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

**Figure 7.3**  
**Differences Between Porter County and State Students in**  
**Annual Use of Inhalants**



### Consequences

**Porter-Starke Services Treatments for Inhalant Use.** Between 2003 and 2008 there was only one person admitted to Porter Starke Services for an issue related to the use of inhalants (Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008).

### Consumption Patterns: Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), “Ecstasy”

**Monthly, Annual, and Lifetime Use.** Tables 7.12, 7.13, and 7.14 present the data on monthly, annual, and lifetime use of MDMA, often referred to as “Ecstasy.” These tables have been grouped together in this section because, while there is a good deal more use here than with some of the earlier discussed drugs in this section, the patterns across monthly, annual, and lifetime use are quite similar. As with previous drugs in this section, the bottom row in each of these tables represents the total percentage of students in each grade reporting that they have used the drug.

As indicated in Table 7.12, there is not a lot of reported use of MDMA by students in the past month. Less than 1% each of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders report using MDMA in the past month and that figure reaches 2.1% for 9<sup>th</sup> graders. By 10<sup>th</sup> grade use peaks at 4.2% and then drops down a bit to 3.4% and 3.3% in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades respectively. Additionally, most who report use report only using it 1-5 times in the past month.

The results for annual use of MDMA are reported in Table 7.13. Somewhat similar to the data on monthly use, reported use is below 1% for both 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Only 1.5% of 8<sup>th</sup>

graders report use, but this figure increases to 3.7% for 9<sup>th</sup> graders, and then reported use more than doubles to 7.7% in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. After that it drops to 6.9% and 7.1% in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Once again, most reported use is only 1-5 times in the past year.

The results for lifetime use of MDMA are reported in Table 7.14. The pattern of use is somewhat different from that reported for monthly and annual use. As before it begins low in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade (5.1%), raises to 10.2% in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and then, rather than dropping off, remains quite stable through the high school years at around 10% reporting lifetime use. Once again it is important to note that the majority of the reported use is in the 1-5 times category and not at the higher frequencies of use.

**Table 7.12**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of MDMA**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	94.7	96.5	94.9	95.3	91.9	92.4	91.3
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.1	.1	.6	1.5	2.8	2.6	2.3
<b>6-19 Times</b>	--	.1	.1	.5	.8	.4	.8
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	--	.1	.1	.3	.2	.2
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	--	.1	--	.3	.2	--
<b>Total Use</b>	0.2	0.2	0.9	2.1	4.2	3.4	3.3

**Table 7.13**  
**Percentage of Students Reporting Annual Use of MDMA**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	95.4	96.8	95.4	94.0	89.0	90.1	88.2
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.5	.8	2.5	5.0	4.6	4.5
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	--	.2	.9	1.2	1.0	1.5
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.3	.1	.7	.6	.7
<b>40 Times</b>	.1	--	.2	.2	.8	.7	.4
<b>Total Use</b>	0.5	0.6	1.5	3.7	7.7	6.9	7.1

**Table 7.14**  
**Percentage of Students Reporting Lifetime Use of MDMA**  
 ATOD, 2008

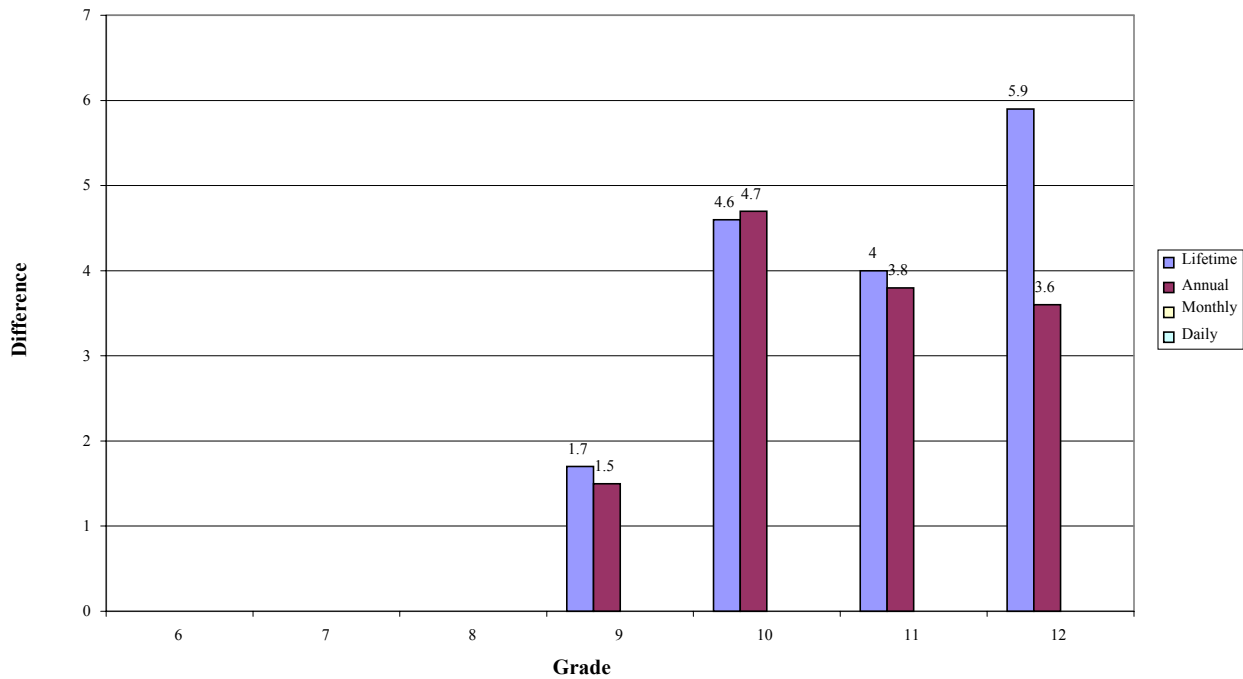
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	97.0	99.1	97.5	94.9	90.8	91.0	88.5
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.5	1.1	3.5	5.3	5.5	5.9
<b>6-19 Times</b>	--	--	.3	.9	1.5	1.4	2.6
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.1	.2	.2	.8	.8	1.4
<b>40+ Times</b>	.2	.1	.3	.4	.7	.6	.6
<b>Total Use</b>	0.4	0.7	1.9	5	8.3	8.3	10.5

**Comparisons to State Usage Patterns.** Table 7.15 and Figure 7.4 present a comparison between the use of MDMA by Porter County youth and youth across the state. As in past sections, the only figures presented are those that represent a statistically significant difference at the  $p < .05$  level. Where there are no numbers there is no difference between local youth and state averages. The numbers represent the differences in percentages between Porter County and the state averages. If the number is positive, it indicates greater consumption among Porter County youth. As indicated, there are no differences at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels for daily, monthly, annual, or lifetime use. Small differences begin to emerge in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade for annual and lifetime use and then they swell to 4.6 and 4.7 percentage points for lifetime and annual use respectively. For lifetime use the differences drop down to 4 points for 11<sup>th</sup> graders, but then jumps to 5.9 points for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. For annual use the differences for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders are 3.8 and 3.6 points respectively. Thus, the data indicate that local students seem not to vary from state patterns in more regular use (monthly), but local high school students seem to consume at a much greater rate at the annual and lifetime levels relative to other youth across the state.

**Table 7.15**  
**Porter County and State Differences in MDMA Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

<b>Lifetime</b>	--	--	--	1.7	4.6	4.0	5.9
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	--	1.5	4.7	3.8	3.6
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

**Figure 7.4**  
**Significant Differences Between Porter County Students and State: MDMA**  
 ATOD, 2008



## Consequences

**Consequences of MDMA Use.** There is currently no data available about treatments at the Porter Hospital or at mental health facilities for the use of MDMA.

## Consequences of Other Drugs in General

Some data gathered for this project did not specifically identify the drug or numerous drugs were put into a generic category called “drugs.” The following reports on data in this category from hospital discharges and the Juvenile Probation Department.

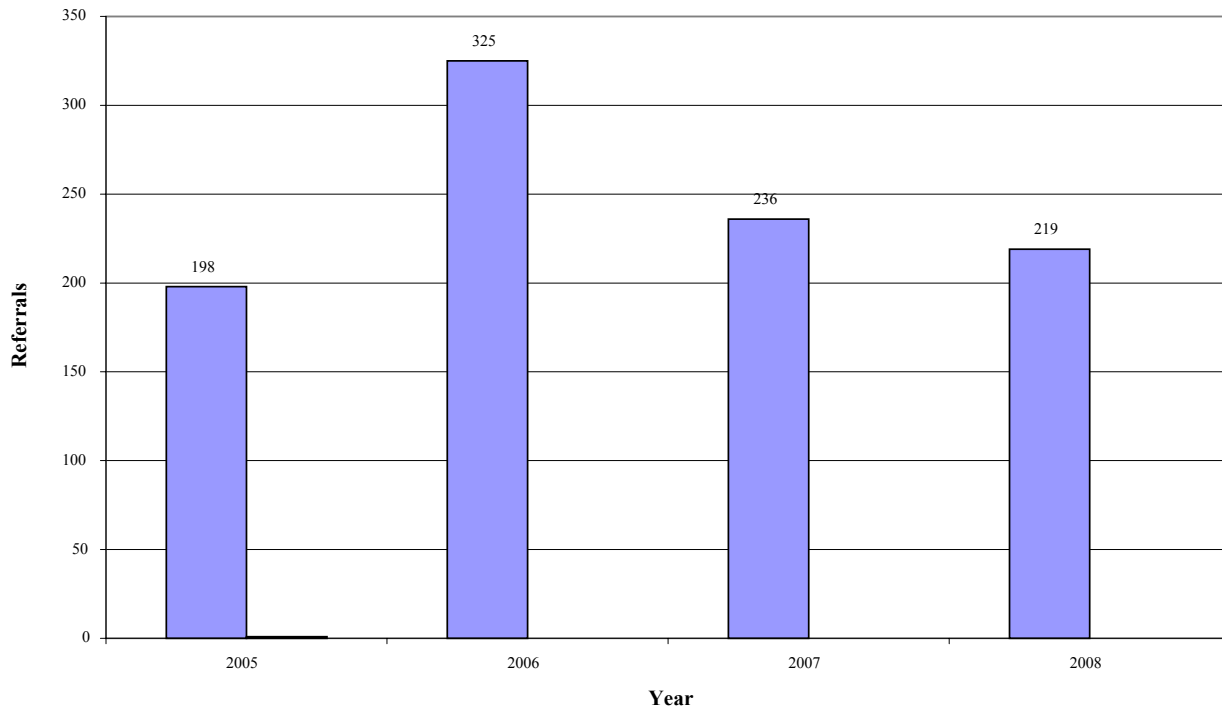
**Hospital Discharge Data for Other Drug-Related Incidents.** Results were reported earlier on hospital discharge data from Porter Hospital on specific drug related treatments. Because this section deals with “other drugs” a separate category that included less frequently referenced drugs or where the drug was unspecified was created. Table 7.16 reports these results for the years 2003 to 2006. As indicated, a total of 410 persons were treated during this period for a total of 1,148 days with a total charge of \$2,835,024. The average stay was 2.80 days and the average charge was \$6,914.69. The only pattern in the data is that there seems to be a decline in the number of patients treated along with the total cost per year.

**Table 7.16**  
**Porter Hospital Discharge Statistics for Other Drug-Related Incidents, 2003-2006**  
 Indiana Hospital Discharge Data, 2007

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Number of Patients</b>	231	225	227	183	410
<b>Total Money</b>	\$1,280,050	\$1,307,074	\$1,636,516	\$1,198,508	\$2,835,024
<b>Total Days</b>	656	645	634	514	1,148
<b>Average Days</b>	2.84	2.87	2.79	2.81	2.80
<b>Average Charge</b>	\$5,541.34	\$5,809.22	\$7,209.32	\$6,549.22	\$6,914.69

**Drug Related Referrals to Juvenile Probation.** Figure 7.5 reports the number of drug related offenses reported to the Porter County Juvenile Probation Department between 2005 and 2008 (Juvenile Probation Report, 2008). The data reports offenses and not persons, which means that some persons may have multiple offenses and be counted two or more times in the Figure below. The number of reported offenses varies across time with a low of 198 in 2005 and a high of 325 in 2006. In the past two years the number of drug related offenses has declined to 236 in 2007 and 219 in 2008, although still higher than 2005.

**Figure 7.5**  
**Drug Related Offenses Porter County Juvenile Probation: 2005-2008**  
 Juvenile Probation Report, 2008



## **Chapter 8: Other Drugs II**

### **Over the Counter Drugs, Ritalin and Adderall, Sedatives, Benzoids, and other Tranquilizers**

#### **Introduction**

This section reports on the use, and where available, the consequences of using over the counter drugs, Ritalin and Adderall, and a group of related sedatives, benzoids, and other tranquilizers.

#### **Consumption Patterns: Over the Counter Drugs**

**Monthly, Annual, and Lifetime Use.** Tables 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 present the data on monthly, annual, and lifetime use of over the counter drugs (OCDs). These tables have been grouped together in this section because the patterns are quite similar. Like the last chapter, the bottom row in each of these tables represents the total percentage of students in each grade reporting that they have used the drug.

In Table 8.1, which reports use in the past month, 2.6% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders report use of OCDs, 3% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 6.6% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders, and 7.3% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders. After that, the percentages drop a bit and 5.4% of 11<sup>th</sup> and 5.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders respectively report usage in the past month. Note that most of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher frequencies of use.

When students were asked about use of OCDs in the past year, 3.5% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders, 4.5% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and 7.3% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders reported use of OCDs. In 9<sup>th</sup> grade reported use jumps to 10.4% and then 12.8% in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. In the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, the percentages decline a bit to 11.9% and 10.6% respectively. Once again the majority of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher frequencies of use.

When students are asked about lifetime use of OCDs, the pattern is similar to the annual use, but the numbers are a bit larger. In the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 3.9% report use of OCDs and that percentage gradually increases and in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade it reaches 10%. Reported use then jumps to 13.7% in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 16.6% in both the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades, and 16.2% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. As with the other tables, the majority of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher frequencies of use.

**Table 8.1**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Over the Counter Drugs**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	93.8	93.1	90.0	90.5	88.7	90.0	89.1
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.7	2.2	3.9	4.8	5.2	3.8	3.4
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.5	.5	1.1	1.1	1.2	.9	1.0
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.2	.6	.5	.4	.8
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.2	.4	.1	.4	.3	.3
<b>Total Use</b>	2.4	3	5.6	6.6	7.3	5.4	5.5

**Table 8.2**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Over the Counter Drugs**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	93.3	92.2	89.3	87.4	83.3	85.4	84.7
<b>1-5 Times</b>	2.2	2.8	3.7	5.7	7.1	7.0	6.2
<b>6-19 Times</b>	1.0	1.2	2.0	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.3	.6	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.0
<b>40 Times</b>	.2	.2	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.2
<b>Total Use</b>	3.5	4.5	7.3	10.4	12.8	11.9	10.6



**Table 8.3**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Over the Counter Drugs**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	94.6	93.2	89.1	85.7	83.0	83.0	83.2
<b>1-5 Times</b>	2.5	3.7	6.3	7.5	8.9	9.1	9.2
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.7	1.2	1.7	3.2	3.9	4.0	3.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.5	.5	.8	1.0	1.5	.9	1.2
<b>40+ Times</b>	.2	.5	1.2	2.0	2.3	2.6	2.6
<b>Total Use</b>	3.9	5.9	10	13.7	16.6	16.6	16.2

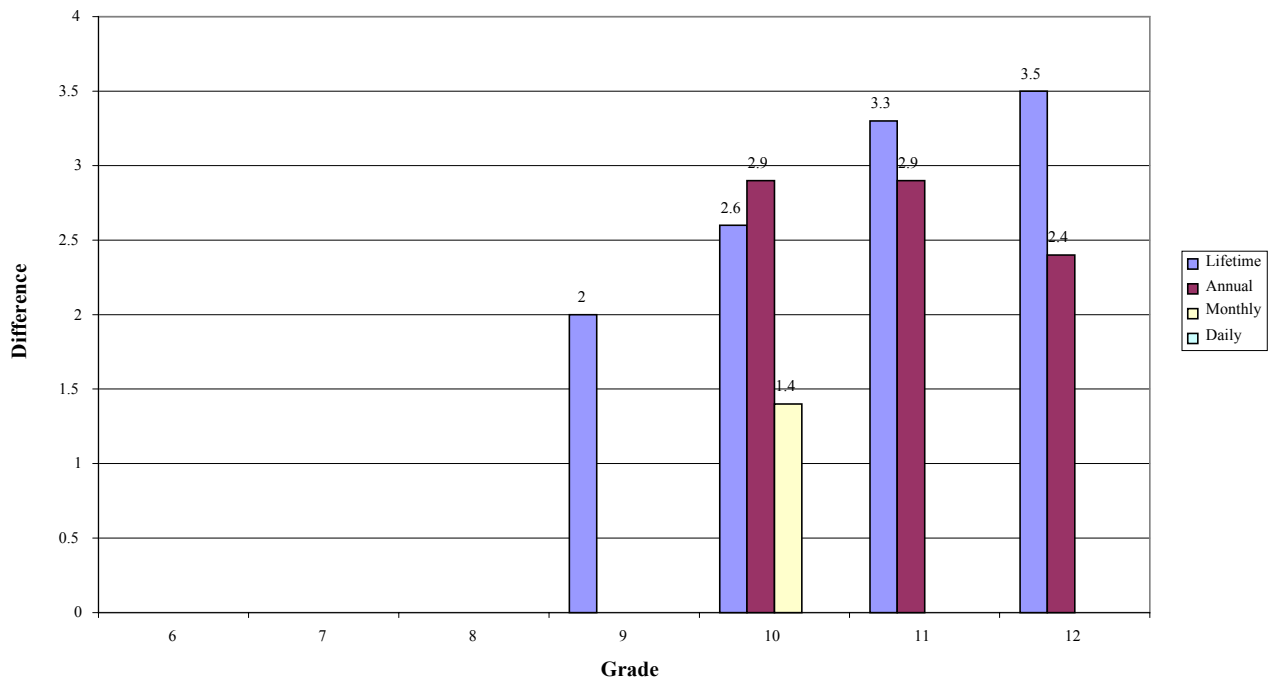
**Comparison to State.** Another way to look at this data is to compare Porter County youth with others across the state. Table 8.4 and Figure 8.1 present these comparisons on lifetime, annual, and daily use of OCDs. As in past sections, the only figures presented are those that represent a statistically significant difference at the  $p < .05$  level. Where there are no numbers, there is no difference between local youth and state averages. The numbers represent the differences in percentages between Porter County and the state averages. If the number is positive, it indicates greater consumption among Porter County youth.

As indicated, there are no differences at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels. Where there is a difference it indicates Porter County students exceed others across the state. There is a 2 point difference for lifetime use among 9<sup>th</sup> graders. At the 10<sup>th</sup> grade level, there are differences of 1.4, 2.9, and 1.4 percentage points at the lifetime, annual, and monthly levels respectively. For 11<sup>th</sup> graders, there are differences of 3.3 and 2.9 points at the lifetime and annual levels respectively. Similarly at the 12<sup>th</sup> grade level, there are differences of 3.5 and 2.4 percentage points for lifetime and annual use.

**Table 8.4**  
**Porter County and State Differences in OCD Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

<b>Lifetime</b>	--	--	--	2.0	2.6	3.3	3.5
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	--	--	2.9	2.9	2.4
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	--	--	1.4	--	--
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

**Figure 8.1**  
**Significant Differences Between Porter County Students and State Averages, OCDs**  
 ATOD, 2008



### Consequences

**Porter-Starke Services Treatments.** There is not a lot of data on the consequences of OCD use and, where there is data, there does not seem to be a lot of treatments. Between 2004 and 2008, there were only 7 admissions for treatment at Porter-Starke for the use of over the counter drugs and there were no reported treatments in 2008 (Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008)

**Statewide Treatment Episode Data (TEDS).** Data is also gathered for treatments for various drugs when federal or state funds are involved in the treatment either for payment of services or when the services take place in a government funded facility. Table 8.5 contains data for 2007 for all counties in Indiana with a population of more than 100,000 for persons treated for the use of prescription drugs (TEDS, 2007). The rates for treatment episodes are per 100,000 people. As indicated, Porter County ranks 10<sup>th</sup> out of the 17 counties in the state with a rate of treatment for the use of prescription drugs of 47.3 per 100,000. Obviously, the ATOD and TEDS data are not measuring precisely the same activity. The ATOD survey focuses on responses to survey questions about the use of OCDs among students, and the TEDS data on treatments for prescription drug use. We would expect some parallels here, but this may explain the different pictures that emerge from the different sets of data. The ATOD data indicates use generally exceeds state averages and the TEDS data indicates use in Porter County may lag behind other similar counties. At the same time, the TEDS data may mean that people are not getting treated for use.

**Table 8.5**  
**Statewide Treatment Episodes (TEDS) for Prescription Drug Use, 2007**  
 TEDS, 2007

County	Prescription Drug Treatment Rate
Madison	223.9
Delaware	181.9
Vanderburgh	143.9
Monroe	108.1
Clark	102.8
Vigo	86.7
Tippecanoe	81.4
Marion	59.6
Johnson	51.5
Porter	47.3
Lake	46.5
Hamilton	41.7
Saint Joseph	36.8
LaPorte	31.0
Hendricks	29.0
Elkhart	17.7
Allen	8.3

## Consumption Patterns: Ritalin and Adderall

**Monthly, Annual, and Lifetime Use.** Tables 8.5, 8.6, and 8.7 present the data on monthly, annual, and lifetime use of Ritalin and Adderall. These tables have been grouped together in this section because the patterns are quite similar. Like the previous tables in this chapter, the bottom row in each of these tables represents the total percentage of students in each grade reporting that they have used the drugs.

In Table 8.6, which reports use in the past month, there is not a lot of reported use of Ritalin or Adderall in the 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Students in high school, however, use more. For example, 4.2% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders report the use of Ritalin/Adderall and that figure rises to 6.5% among 10<sup>th</sup> graders. The figure drops to 4.8% for 11<sup>th</sup> graders and 4.6% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Note that a large proportion of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher levels of use.

When students are asked about use of Ritalin or Adderall in the past year, very few in the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade report much use. By the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 3.7% report use in the past year and that number nearly doubles in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade to 7.7%. The number reporting use rises to 11.8% in 10<sup>th</sup> grade and then drops to 11.2% and 9.9% in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Over half of this use is limited to 1-5 times.

**Table 8.6**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Ritalin/Adderall**  
ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	95.1	95.9	94.0	93.0	89.6	90.8	89.9
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.3	1.3	2.7	5.1	3.0	3.5
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.1	.4	1.1	.7	1.3	.7
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.3	.2	.2	.4	.3	.3
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	--	--	.2	.3	.2	.1
<b>Total Use</b>	0.4	0.7	1.9	4.2	6.5	4.8	4.6

When students are asked about lifetime use of Ritalin or Adderall the pattern is similar to the annual use. In the 6<sup>th</sup> grade through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade there is very little use. In the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, the number reporting lifetime use jumps to 6.7% and then 10.3% in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Reported use continues to climb and reaches 12.4% in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, but declines a bit to 11.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. As with the other tables, the majority of this use is limited to 1-5 times. However, more so than with some of the other drugs, there are larger numbers of students using these drugs with greater frequency.

**Table 8.7**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Ritalin/Adderall**  
 ATOD, 2008

	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Never</b>	95.9	95.9	93.4	90.0	84.9	86.1	85.6
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.2	.8	2.8	4.1	6.6	5.8	5.8
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.2	.1	.3	2.2	2.4	2.8	2.1
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.1	.3	.6	1.6	1.6	.8
<b>40 Times</b>	.1	.3	.3	.8	1.2	1.0	1.2
<b>Total Use</b>	0.5	1.3	3.7	7.7	11.8	11.2	9.9

**Table 8.8**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Ritalin/Adderall**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	96.8	97.4	94.4	89.7	85.2	84.8	84.1
<b>1-5 Times</b>	.6	.3	.9	2.1	3.1	4.0	3.5
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.1	.3	.9	2.1	3.1	4.0	3.5
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.2	1.1	1.7	1.7	1.9
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.3	.5	1.4	2.4	2.7	2.5
<b>Total Use</b>	0.9	1	2.5	6.7	10.3	12.4	11.4

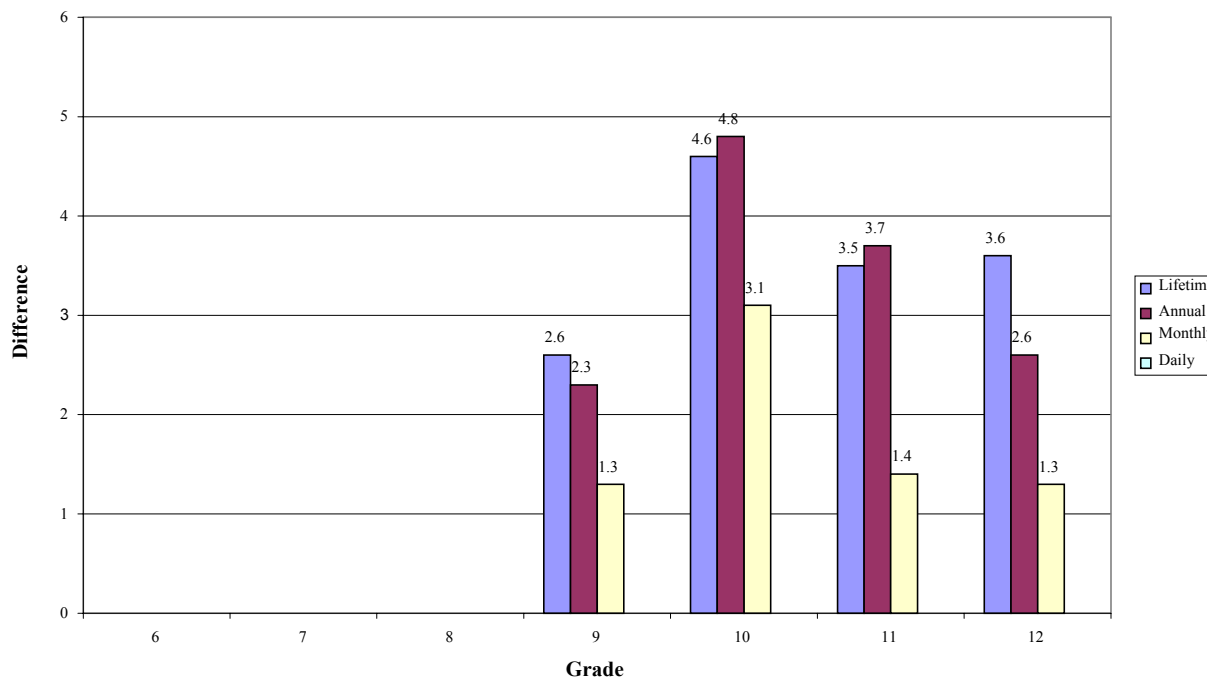
**Comparison to State.** A comparison of Porter County youth with others across the state is presented in Table 8.9 and Figure 8.2. As in past sections, the only numbers presented are those that represent a statistically significant difference at the  $p < .05$  level. Where there are no numbers, there is no difference between local youth and state averages. The numbers represent the differences between Porter County and the state averages. If the number is positive, it indicates greater consumption among Porter County youth.

As indicated, there are no differences at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels. However, beginning with 9<sup>th</sup> graders, there are differences in all levels of use in all four grades. The largest differences are in the lifetime and annual use in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 4.6 percentage points for lifetime and 4.8 points for annual use. There continue to be large differences in these categories in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

**Table 8.9**  
**Porter County and State Differences in Ritalin/Adderall Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

<b>Lifetime</b>	--	--	--	2.6	4.6	3.5	3.6
<b>Annual</b>	--	--	--	2.3	4.8	3.7	2.6
<b>Monthly</b>	--	--	--	1.3	3.1	1.4	1.3
<b>Daily</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

**Figure 8.2**  
**Significant Differences Between Porter County Students and State: MDMA**  
 ATOD, 2008



### Consumption Patterns: Sedatives/Benzoids/other Tranquilizers

**Monthly, Annual, and Lifetime Use.** Tables 8.10, 8.11, and 8.12 present the data on monthly, annual, and lifetime use of Sedatives/Benzoids/other tranquilizers, which for simplicity, we group these together in a category we will call tranquilizers. These tables have been grouped together in this section because the patterns are quite similar. Like the last section, the bottom row in each of these tables represents the total percentage of students in each grade reporting that they have used the drug.

In Table 8.10, which reports use in the past month, very few 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders use tranquilizers, but that figure jumps to 4.1% in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and continues to rise in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. It drops a bit to 4.9% in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, but then rises again to 5.6% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Note that most of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher frequencies of use.

When students are asked about use of tranquilizers in the past year, we find very little use in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, but the number jumps to 8.1% in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and continues to rise to 11.9% in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The number of users drops to 11.2% in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and 10.7% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Once again most of this use is limited to 1-5 times and not in the higher levels of use.

When students are asked about lifetime use of tranquilizers, the pattern is similar to the annual use, but there also are some differences. There is not much use in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades

and the figure jumps to 10.3% in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and rises to 14.8% in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Unlike annual and monthly use, the number of students reporting lifetime use increases in both 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, and by the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 16.3% are reporting use. As with the other tables, in most grades use is limited to 1-5 times. However, by the 12<sup>th</sup> grade more than one-half of those reporting use are reporting use more than 1-5 times per year.

**Table 8.10**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Monthly Use of Tranquilizers**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	95.1	95.2	92.0	92.3	90.9	91.0	88.9
<b>1-5 Times</b>	1.4	1.0	3.0	3.3	3.9	3.6	3.6
<b>6-19 Times</b>	--	.3	.9	1.1	1.2	.9	1.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	--	.1	.5	.3	.2	.8
<b>40+ Times</b>	.1	.1	.1	.3	.1	.2	--
<b>Total Use</b>	1.5	1.4	4.1	5.2	5.5	4.9	5.6

**Table 8.11**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Annual Use of Tranquilizers**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	94.8	94.3	89.0	88.9	84.6	86.2	84.3
<b>1-5 Times</b>	2.0	2.0	5.5	5.4	7.8	6.8	6.4
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.3	.7	1.6	1.8	2.1	3.1	2.2
<b>20-40 Times</b>	.1	.1	.6	.8	1.1	.8	1.2
<b>40+ Times</b>	--	.1	.4	.8	.9	.5	.9
<b>Total Use</b>	2.4	2.9	8.1	8.8	11.9	11.2	10.7



**Table 8.12**  
**Percentage of Porter County Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Tranquilizers**  
 ATOD, 2008

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>Never</b>	96.0	95.6	89.1	88.3	84.9	84.1	83.6
<b>1-5 Times</b>	2.6	3.2	7.1	6.7	8.7	8.3	7.4
<b>6-19 Times</b>	.3	.6	2.0	2.7	2.8	4.0	4.5
<b>20-40 Times</b>	--	.3	.6	.8	1.5	1.7	2.2
<b>40+ Times</b>	.2	.2	.6	1.4	1.8	1.8	2.2
<b>Total Use</b>	3.1	4.3	10.3	11.6	14.8	15.8	16.3

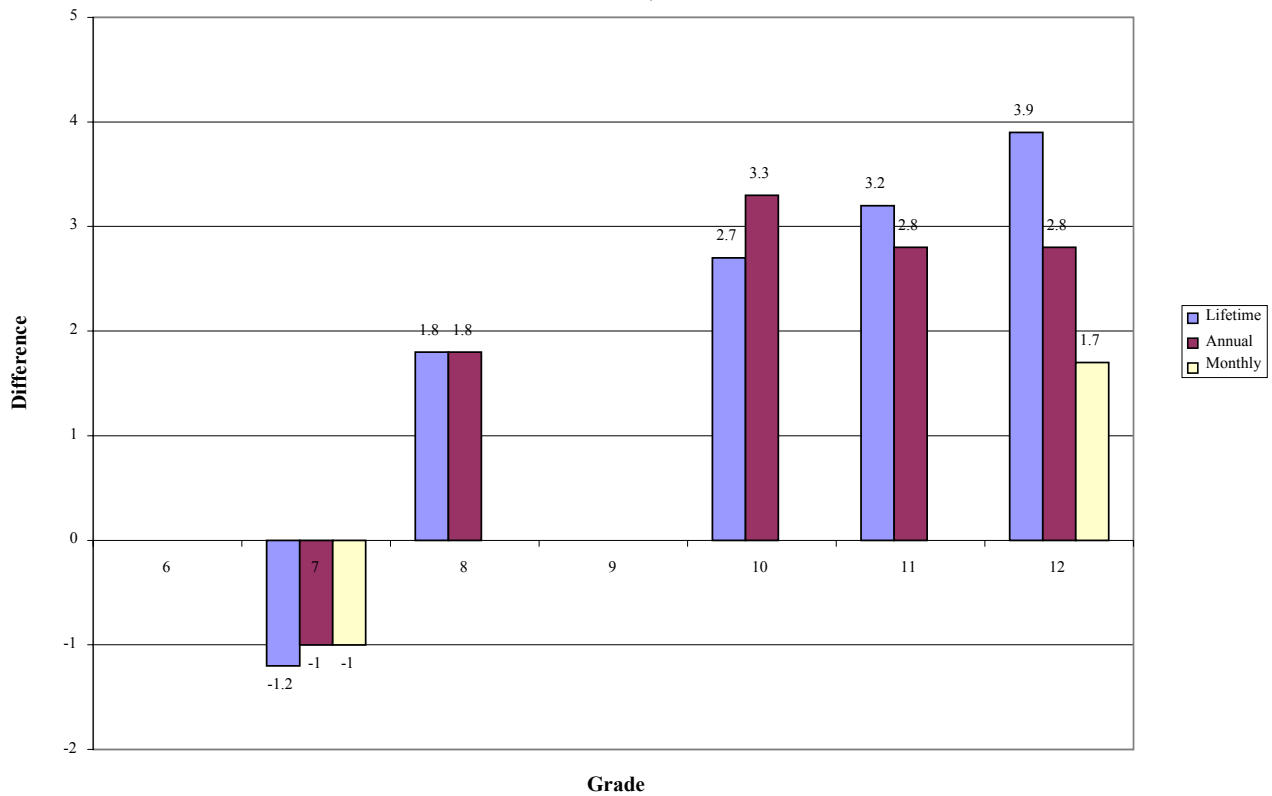
**Comparison to State.** A comparison of Porter County youth with others across the state is presented in Table 8.13 and Figure 8.3. As in past sections, the only numbers presented are those that represent a statistically significant difference at the  $p < .05$  level. Where there are no numbers, there is no difference between local youth and state averages. The numbers represent the differences between Porter County and the state averages. If the number is positive, it indicates greater consumption among Porter County youth. If it is negative, it indicates Porter County rates are less than state averages.

As indicated, there are no differences in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade; Porter County students are slightly below the state averages at all levels. In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, local students exceed state averages by 1.8 percentage points for both lifetime and annual use. There are no differences in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, but differences of 2.7 points and 3.3 points emerge in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade for lifetime and annual use respectively. Similar differences continue for lifetime and annual use in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, and a 1.7 point difference emerges for the first time in monthly use in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Table 8.13**  
**Porter County and State Differences in Tranquillizer Use**  
 ATOD, 2008

<b>Lifetime</b>	--	-1.2	1.8	--	2.7	3.2	3.9
<b>Annual</b>	--	-1	1.8	--	3.3	2.8	2.8
<b>Monthly</b>	--	-1	--	--	--	--	1.7
<b>Grade</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

**Figure 8.3**  
**Significant Differences Between Porter County Students and State**  
 ATOD, 2008



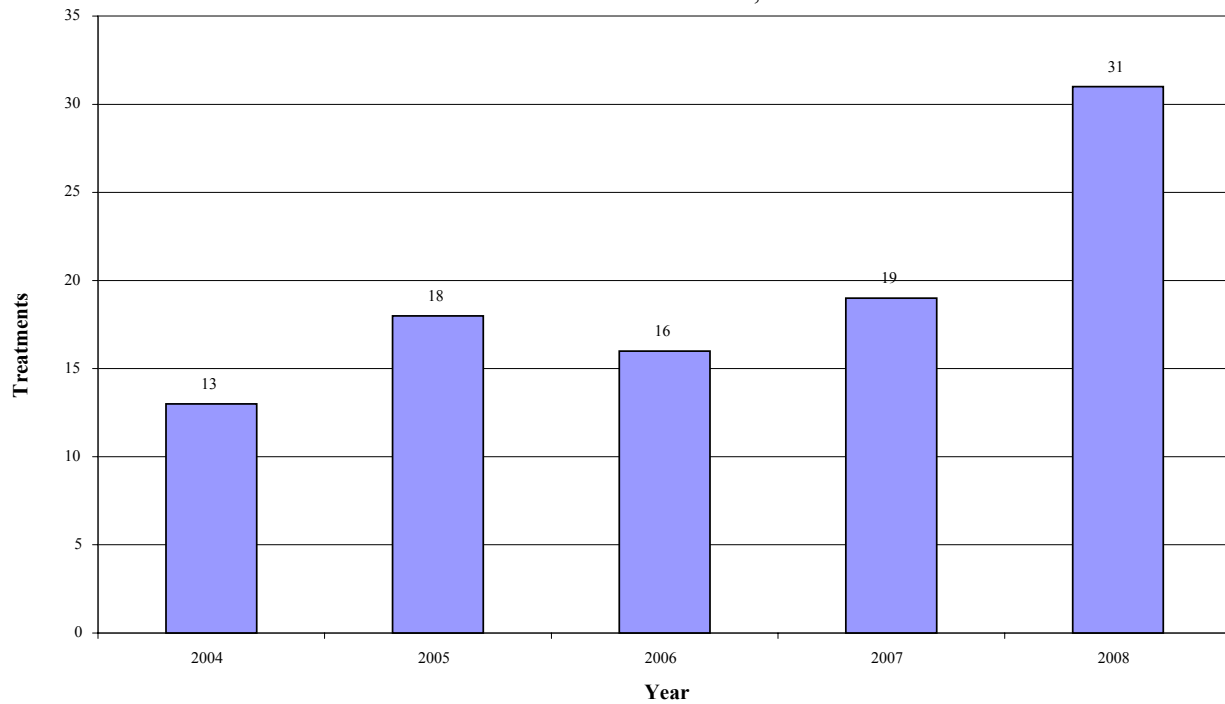
**Consequences**

**Porter-Starke Services Treatments.** Figure 8.4 presents data for treatments at Porter-Starke Services for tranquilizers and related substances from 2004-2008. As indicated, the

number of clients treated has increased across time, particularly in 2008 when 31 patients were treated (Porter-Starke Services, 2008).

**Statewide Treatment Episode Data (TEDS).** Data is also gathered for treatments for various drugs when federal or state funds are involved in the treatment, either for payment of services or when the services take place in a government funded facility. Table 8.5 contains data for 2007 for all counties in Indiana with a population of more than 100,000 for persons treated for the use of tranquilizers and related drugs. The rates for treatment episodes are per 100,000 people. As indicated, Porter County ranks 11<sup>th</sup> out of the 17 counties in the state with a rate of treatment for the use of tranquilizers and other drugs of 16.2 per 100,000 (TEDS, 2007).

**Figure 8.4**  
**Treatments at Porter-Starke, Tranquilizers 2004-2008**  
Porter-Starke Services, 2008



**Table 8.14**  
**Statewide Treatment Episodes for Tranquilizer and other Drug Use, 2007**  
 TEDS, 2007

County	Rate of Treatment
Madison	124.1
Delaware	69.3
Vanderburgh	67.7
Tippecanoe	48.4
Vigo	47.7
Clark	35.2
Monroe	27.2
Marion	24.7
Hamilton	21.0
Johnson	16.9
Porter	16.2
Lake	14.4
Saint Joseph	11.3
Elkhart	6.1
Hendricks	5.9
LaPorte	4.6
Allen	1.4

## Chapter 9 Summary and Conclusions

The inevitable question is, what does all this mean and what are the implications of all this information? Unfortunately, it's not exactly clear. There are, however, some discernable patterns in the data that allow us to make some general conclusions and some suggestions about things to consider.

**Alcohol as the Drug of Choice.** Clearly alcohol is the drug of choice for people in Porter County. This applies especially to younger persons and this has had significant impacts on the lives of many in Porter County.

In most instances in the previous material various substances were considered separately. For the purposes of review and summary some of the data can be combined to see the patterns more clearly. For example, Table 9.1 presents data from the ATOD survey limited to 12<sup>th</sup> graders and their reported monthly, yearly, and annual use of substances considered. The focus on only 12<sup>th</sup> graders makes sense because they are a critical part of the 18-25 year group that is the focus of this project. Note that the reference in the table is to whether they have used the substance at all during the specified time interval and not how much they have used. The right side of Table 9.1 presents only data where it is statistically, significantly different from youth in the entire state. The numbers are the magnitude of the difference between Porter County students and state averages expressed in percentage points. In all cases where there are numbers they indicate Porter County exceeds state averages. Figure 9.1 presents the data for monthly use to more clearly see the patterns. Monthly use is emphasized here because it is perhaps a better indicator of more recent, but also potentially more regular, use of the particular substance.

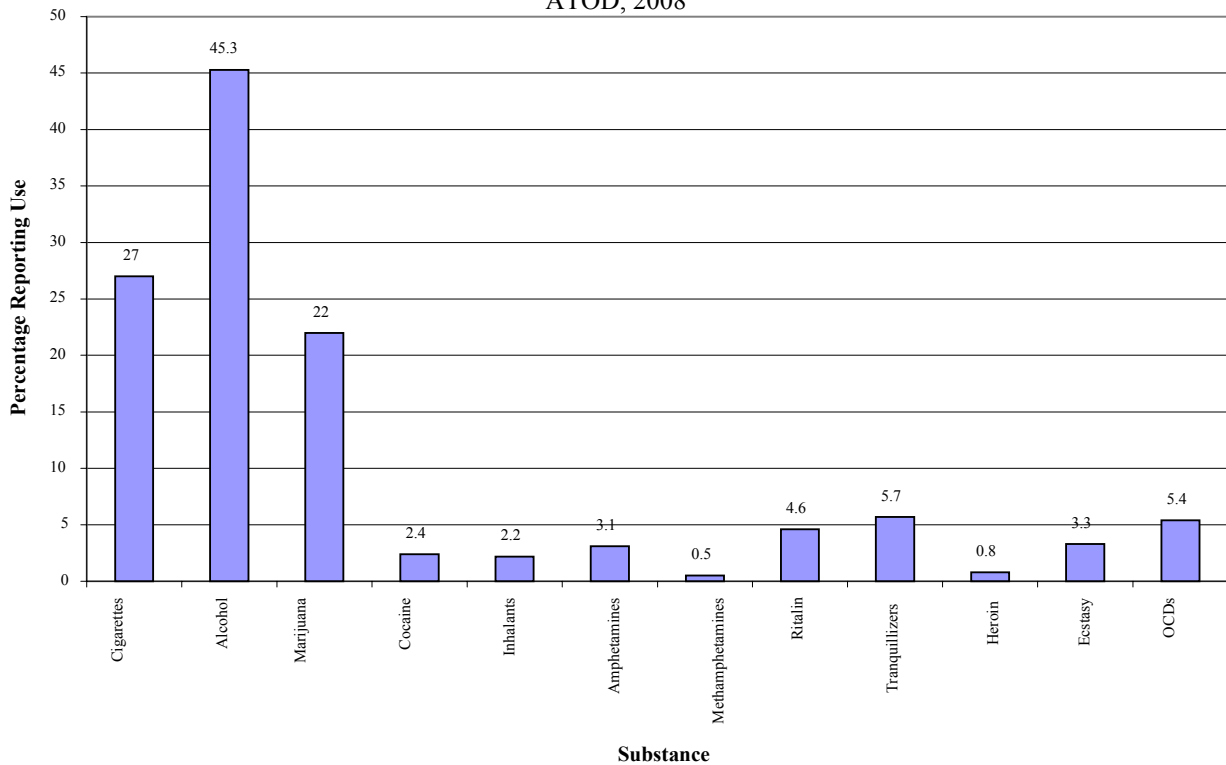
**Table 9.1**  
**Porter County 12<sup>th</sup> Graders Use of ATOD**  
ATOD, 2008

	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Use			Significant Differences 12 Graders		
	Monthly	Yearly	Lifetime	Monthly	Yearly	Lifetime
<b>Cigarettes</b>	27	40.3	51.5	--	4.5	3.3
<b>Alcohol</b>	45.3	65.3	74	6.9	5.5	5.5
<b>Marijuana</b>	22	33.7	43.1	5.8	6.6	6.6
<b>Cocaine</b>	2.4	6.1	9.1	--	1.5	1.7
<b>Inhalants</b>	2.2	5.5	10.2	--	1.3	--
<b>Amphetamines</b>	3.1	7.6	11.6	--	2	2.3
<b>Methamphetamines</b>	0.5	1.2	1.9	--	--	--
<b>Ritalin</b>	4.6	9.8	15.4	1.3	2.6	3.6
<b>Tranquillizers</b>	5.7	10.7	16.3	1.7	2.8	3.9
<b>Heroin</b>	0.8	1.4	2.5	--	--	--
<b>Ecstasy</b>	3.3	7.1	11.4	1.7	3.6	5.9
<b>OCDs</b>	5.4	10.6	16.4	--	2.4	3.5

Clearly the consumption of alcohol dwarfs the rest of the substances, followed by cigarettes as a distant second, and in third place, marijuana. Clearly the consumption of alcohol is the drug of choice among 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Note also that the use by Porter County students at the monthly level is 6.9 percentage points higher than the state average and almost equally as high for yearly and lifetime use. Undoubtedly, a large number Porter County youth are involved in the regular consumption of alcohol and they do this at a much greater rate than do students across the entire state.

Recall also the earlier discussion of the ATOD survey where 31.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students reported they had engaged in binge drinking in the past two weeks, and 8.6% of them had engaged in binge drinking 3-5 times in the same time period. Additionally, recall that almost one-half of 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported driving under the influence of either drugs or alcohol in the past year, almost one-half reported having experienced nausea, over a quarter reported having had nausea multiple times, over 30% reported having a memory loss, 12% reported having done poorly or missed school, 10% reported having damaged property, over 20% reported having gotten into a fight, and over 10% indicate fighting on multiple occasions as a result of alcohol consumption.

**Figure 9.1**  
**Monthly Use of Drugs and Alcohol by 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Porter County Students**  
 ATOD, 2008

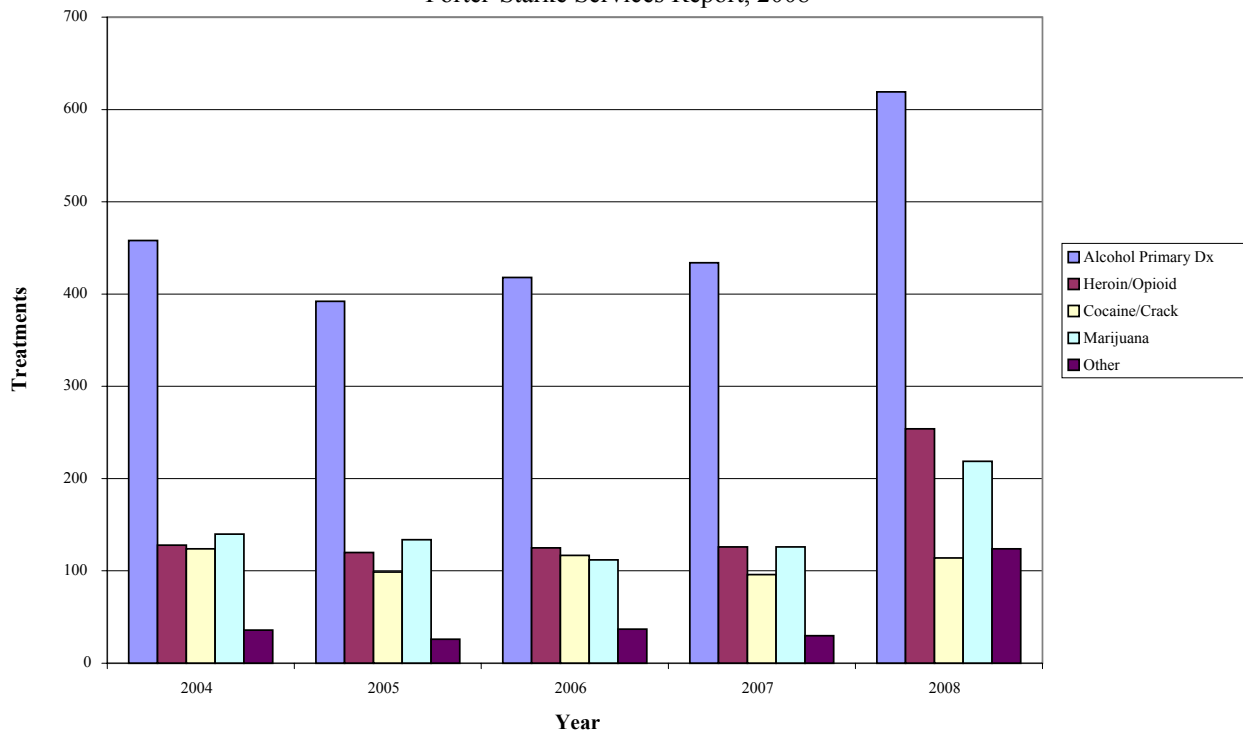


In addition to fighting, nausea, and the other aforementioned consequences, additional consequences of the consumption of alcohol are also evident when we look at the data on Porter-Starke and Porter Emergency Room treatments. Figure 9.2 combines some of the data looked at earlier on the treatment at Porter-Starke for alcohol, marijuana, heroin, cocaine, and all other drugs together in one category (Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008). Again it is clear that treatment for alcohol trumps all other substances. Two other patterns are noteworthy in this figure. First, the overall increase of the number of all treatments, including alcohol, in 2008. And secondly, the increase in treatments for heroin and for marijuana, also in 2008.

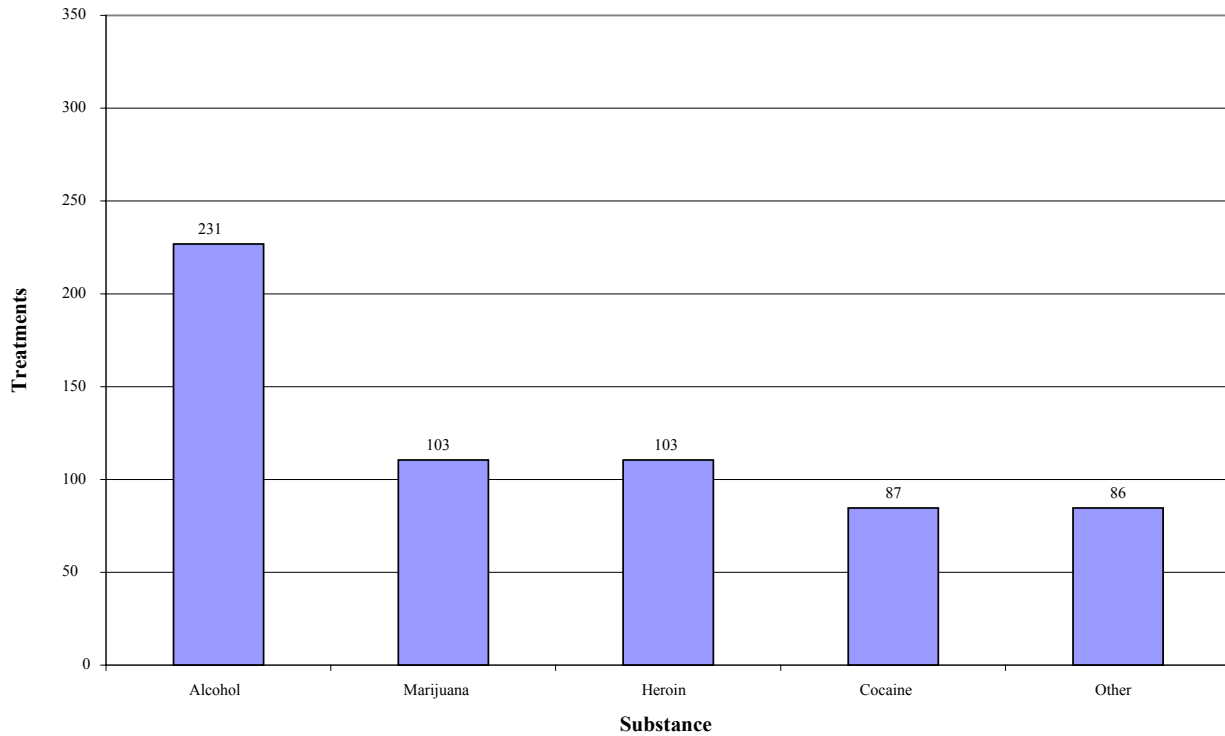
The data for treatments at Porter Hospital present a similar picture in Figure 9.3 (DAWN, 2008). Again, treatments for alcohol dwarf treatments for any other substance. This data is only for 2008 and so trends are not discernable, but the second most frequently treated substance abuse problems at Porter are for heroin and Marijuana tied at 103 treatments.

Recall also the data from adult probation summarized in Figure 9.4 where once again referrals for alcohol far exceed referrals for other substances. It also should be recalled that there were 25 deaths last year in Porter County related to Alcohol.

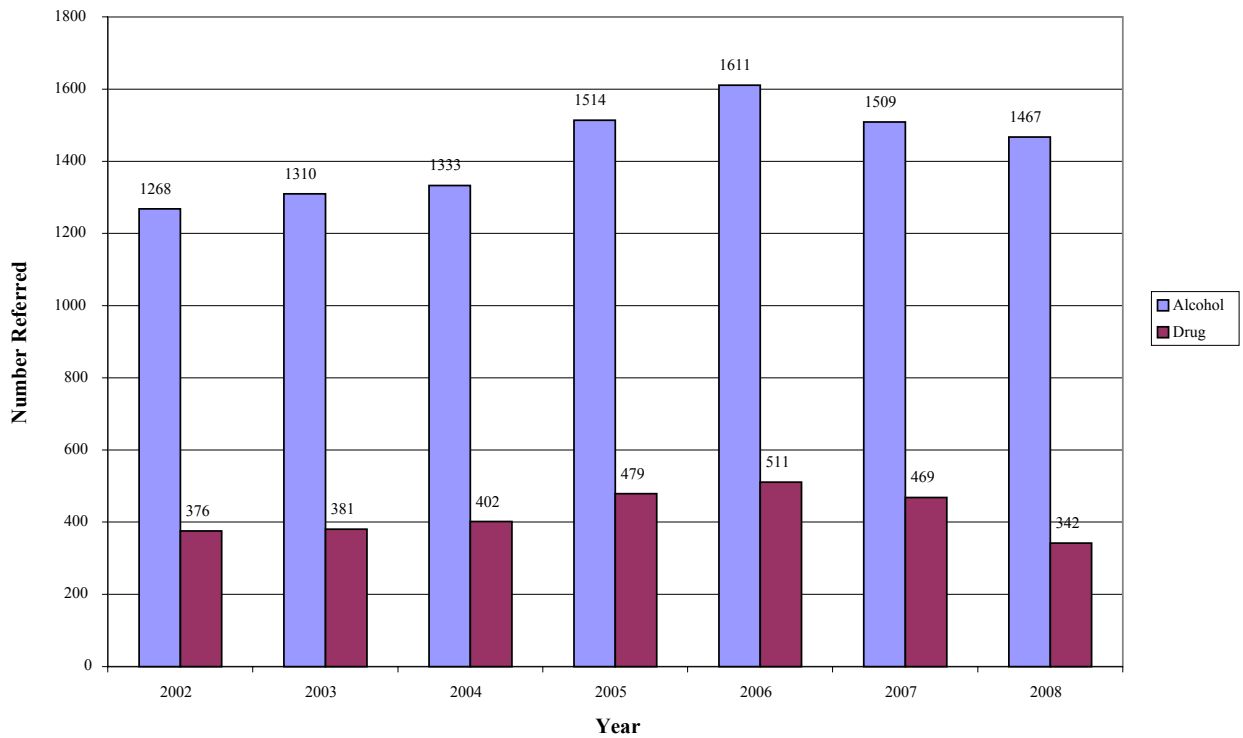
**Figure 9.2**  
**Porter Starke Treatments: Drugs and Alcohol 2004-2008**  
 Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008



**Figure 9.3 Porter Hospital Emergency Room Treatments: Alcohol and Drugs**  
DAWN, 2008



**Figure 9.4 Alcohol and Drug Referrals Porter County Adult Probation**  
Porter County Adult Probation, 2008





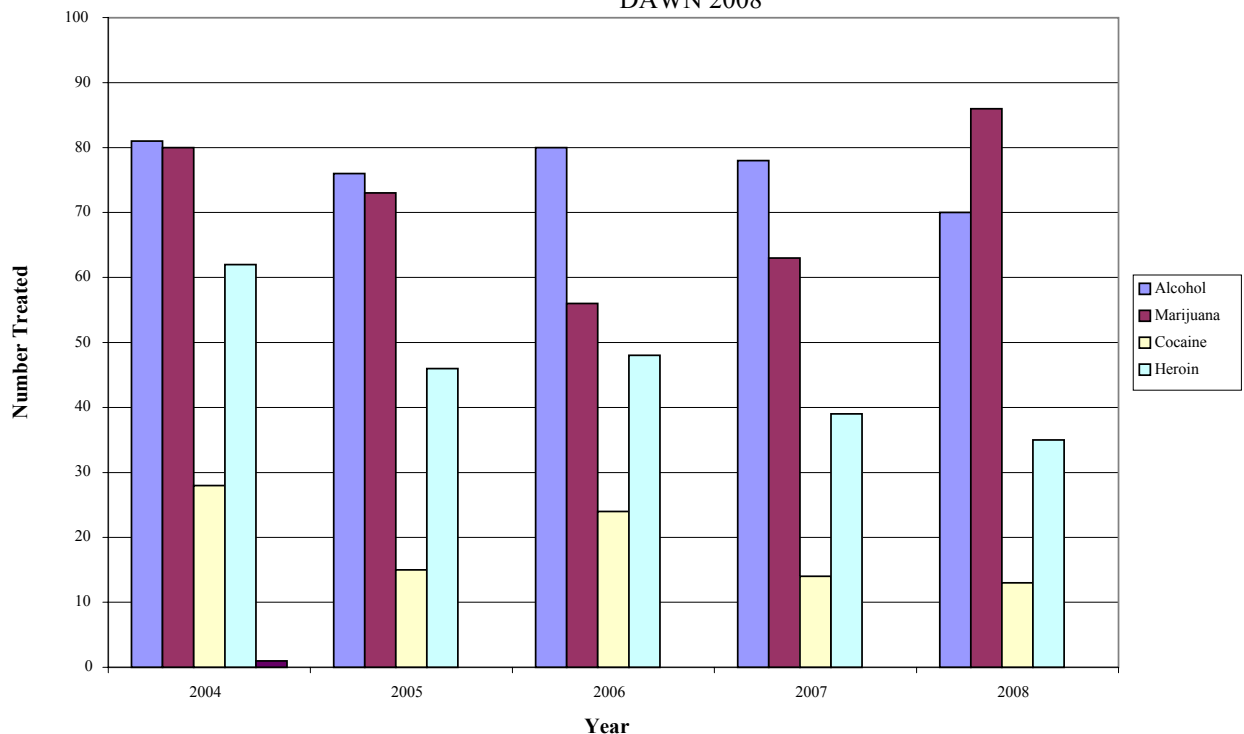
## The 18-25 Year Old Population

Focusing more specifically on 18-25 year olds, and looking at the data from Porter-Starke treatments over the past four years in Figure 9.5, the impact of the reported consumption of alcohol becomes clear. In most years, the greatest number of treatments are for alcohol related problems with marijuana a close second. This pattern changed abruptly in 2008 when there were more treatments for marijuana than for alcohol. Yet the impact of alcohol consumption remains clear. Also notable, despite the publicity given to heroin in the community, is the decline of treatments for heroin over the past five years among this population.

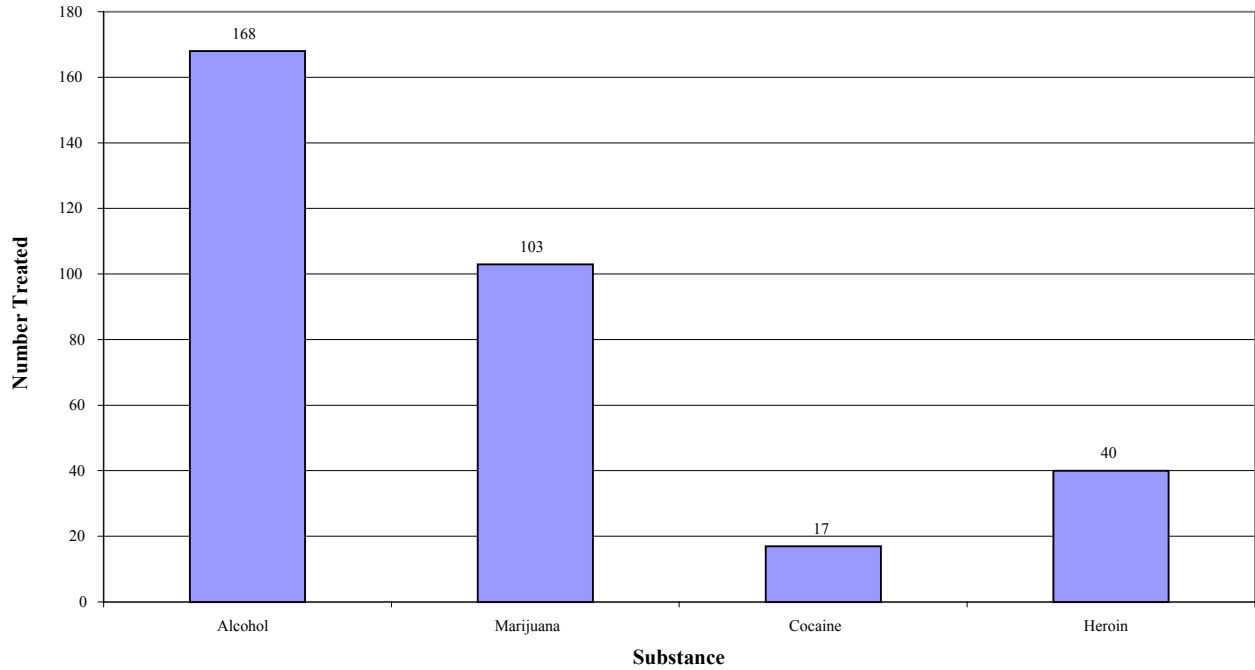
A similar pattern emerges when the data for treatments at Porter Hospital Emergency Room are examined in Figure 9.6. Again treatments for alcohol are significantly higher than for other substances. One difference in this data is that when it comes to treatment at the emergency room among 18-25 year olds; there were more treatments for marijuana than for heroin among this age group.

Note also in Figure 9.7 that there are a large number of referrals to juvenile probation for alcohol and these account for more referrals than for any of the other drugs combined.

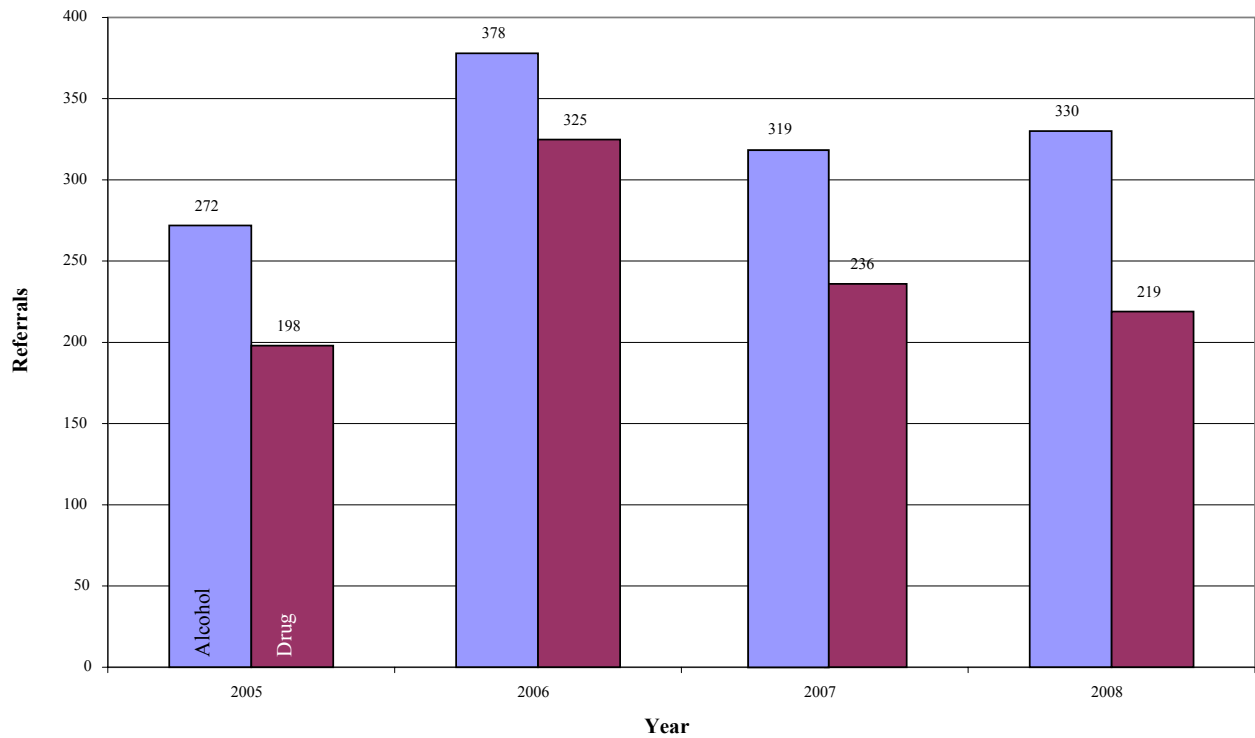
**Figure 9.5**  
**Alcohol & Drug Treatments at Porter-Starke for 18-25 year olds, 2004-2008**  
DAWN 2008



**Figure 9.6**  
**Porter Hospital Alcohol & Drug Emergency Room Treatments, 18-25 Year Olds, 2008**  
 DAWN, 2008



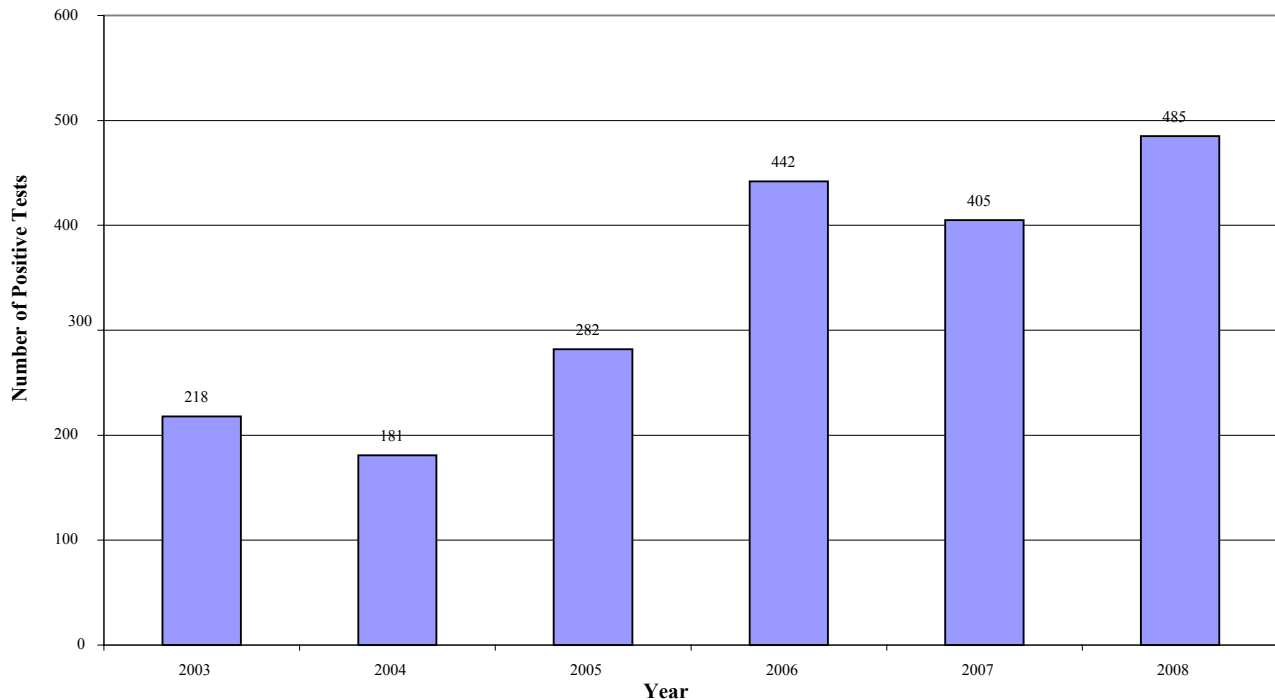
**Figure 9.7**  
**Drug and Alcohol Referrals to Porter County Juvenile Probation, 2005-2008,**  
 Porter County Juvenile Probation Report, 2008



**Marijuana and Other Drugs.** In addition, there is a high and regular use of marijuana among Porter County youth. This is indicated in Table 9.1 where marijuana use rates are high and statistically, significantly higher than other youth across the state in monthly, yearly, and lifetime use. Porter County youth don't report much use of heroin and methamphetamines and are not any different than youth across the state in their patterns of use of these drugs. However, while they use less of other drugs than alcohol and marijuana, they still exceed state averages in the use of drugs like Ritalin, tranquilizers, ecstasy, and in some areas, of cocaine, inhalants, amphetamines, and over the counter drugs. Clearly Porter County youth far exceed the rest of the state in the consumption of most drugs.

**Heroin.** It would be remiss not to speak specifically about the use of heroin given the publicity given recently to this drug. As already argued, alcohol and marijuana appear to be used more frequently and there are more treatments at various places for these drugs. But, it also is clear that despite the low rate of use reported in the ATOD study, there are other signs indicating increased use. First, the Coroner reports 11 deaths in the County last year caused by heroin overdoses. In addition, data in Figure 9.8 demonstrates the large number of positive tests for opiates from persons on probation and that they are increasing at a substantial rate (Porter County Adult Probation Report, 2008). Treatments for heroin related issues at Porter Emergency room exceed treatment for marijuana (DAWN, 2008) and there has been a sudden rise in treatments at Porter-Starke for heroin and opiate use (Porter-Starke Services Report, 2008). At the same time, there has been a decline in the treatment for heroin use among 18-25 year olds at Porter-Starke and treatments at Porter Hospital Emergency Room are much lower than for alcohol or marijuana among this age group.

**Figure 9.8**  
**Positive Probation Tests for Opiates, Adult Probation Department, 2003-2008**  
 Porter County Adult Probation, 2008



## Suggested Actions

What do we do about this? There is not a lot in the data that suggests precisely what might be done to solve these problems. Some guidance on this, however, comes from last year's *2008 Epidemiological Report*. Three basic principles emerged from this report: that certain factors have an impact on substance abuse behavior (economic, neighborhood attachment, family bonding), that perceptions (individual, peers, parents) have an impact on behavior, and that early use of gateway drugs can lead to significant problems with that substance or a progression into additional substances. In the *2009 Epidemiological Report*, we have expanded upon these ideas to paint a more accurate picture of the mediating and moderating variables that may exist within our county that may promote underage and binge drinking and the negative consequences that occur as a result. Putting together this year's data within that framework highlights the following areas where attention might be directed.

### Culture of Consumption

What the report up to this point makes abundantly clear is that no matter how you might want to measure it, we have a problem. Youth in Porter County consume a significant amount of alcohol in the absolute sense and compared to their cohorts across the state. Many experiment with alcohol and drugs at an early age and use tends to accelerate when they get to high school. Use of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana, generally referred to as gateway drugs, is high among Porter County youth. The use of other drugs is also high among Porter County youth relative to students across the state.

### Community Context

The data provide some direction concerning the factors that contribute to and precipitate the consumption of alcohol and drugs: why youth consume, community beliefs about drinking, and the availability of alcohol.

**Drinking Context and Drinking Beliefs.** People drink and use drugs for a variety of reasons. According to the data provided here, 24.9% of Porter County 12<sup>th</sup> graders say they drink to have a good time with friends, 16.4% say it's because of the taste, and 7.8% claim they drink because they are bored (ATOD, 2008).

Similar patterns exist among the college age level (College Age Survey, 2008). For example, 67.9% drink because it helps break the ice, 65.7% says it enhances social activity, 66.4% says it gives them something to do, 50% say it facilitates male bonding, 52.2% says it allows for more fun and 55.6% says it facilitates peer connections.

While the methods of collecting the data among these different age groups was different, the patterns of reasons for use in high school mirror the reasons for use in college: the social aspects of drinking are most appealing, including relief from boredom and giving them something to do.

**Consumption is Acceptable in the Community.** Certainly those drinking beliefs can be influenced by the community at-large. The vast minority (14.6%) of Porter County residents feel that alcohol use is very unacceptable or unacceptable (hereafter referred to as ‘unacceptable’). Compare this to the fact that over half (54.6%) the population feels that tobacco use is unacceptable, 78.1% of the population believes that marijuana use is unacceptable, and 98.3% of the population believes that cocaine use is unacceptable. Of the only two legal substances cited here, 40 percentage points separates alcohol and tobacco (Porter County Survey, 2008). Interestingly, our youth use these substances in the order in which Porter County residents rate them to be acceptable. For example, the most use is alcohol, followed by cigarettes, marijuana, and cocaine (ATOD, 2008).

**Availability of Alcohol to Youth.** Not surprisingly, having someone else buy alcohol, getting it from someone 21 or older, and getting it from family members are the most common ways of obtaining alcohol for those under the age of eighteen. However, some interesting patterns exist. For example, in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 6.8% of students receive their alcohol from a family member and in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 6.1% of students get their alcohol from a family member. Both of these percentages are substantially higher than their state cohorts. Among older age groups, specifically 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders, a higher percentage of students receive their alcohol from a person 21 or older. In short, a higher percentage of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders receive alcohol from another person (having someone else buy it, receiving it from a person 21 or older, or a family member) than the state average. This social availability surely impacts consumption, but also could reinforce the perceived perception of peer (and possibly) parental approval (ATOD, 2008).

Retail availability of alcohol to Porter County students under the age of eighteen is very limited. For example, only 2.6% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders obtained alcohol from a liquor store, supermarket, other store, restaurant, bar, club or public event. This percentage is not significantly higher than the state average (ATOD, 2008).

However, this information is only limited to those in high school and access to the college-age population, specifically those between the ages of 18-20, is limited. The fact that Porter County ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the number of liquor law violations could suggest retail availability is higher among this population than the state average, but without meaningful data as to the nature of those violations, no conclusion can be made (State Epidemiological Report, 2008).

## **Personal, Peer, and Family Influences**

**Perception of Risk.** One would assume, and the data supports this, that consumption of drugs and alcohol would vary depending upon the perception of risk involved. What the data here shows is that, as grade levels increase, the perception of risk involved in the consumption of alcohol and most drugs goes down. For example, when asked about occasional drinking, there is a clear pattern where the perception of the risk involved goes down as grade level goes up. Specifically, 22.4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders perceive no risk and this figure grows to 38.7% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. And by the time students reach the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 78.8% perceive either no or only a slight risk in occasionally having 1-2 drinks. While there are not a lot of differences between Porter County students and state averages, there is a slight tendency for Porter County students to

perceive less risk in both occasional and binge drinking. Similar patterns exist for most other drugs (ATOD, 2008).

**Perception of Peer Approval.** We also would assume, and the data supports this, that the consumption of drugs and alcohol varies with the perception of peer approval. Many students in Porter County either see their peers as approving or not disapproving the consumption of certain drugs and alcohol, and the perception of approval increases and disapproval decreases as students advance in grade levels. For example, the percentage of students who see their peers strongly approving of occasional drinking increases across grade levels reaching 12.8% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Similarly, the percentage of students who perceive their peers as approving of occasional drinking runs from 5.4% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 41.1% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Also, the perception of the number of their peers who strongly disapprove of occasional drinking drops from 54.6% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 14.7% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders (ATOD, 2008).

The same pattern emerges with binge drinking. The perception of the number of their peers who approve of binge drinking runs from 1.8% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 23.2% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The perception of strongly disapprovers among their peers declines from 69.4% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 29.0% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. In addition, we see that overall there is a tendency for Porter County students to perceive their peers as being more approving and less strongly disapproving of occasional drinking and binge drinking than other students across the state. Similar patterns exist for other drugs (ATOD, 2008).

**Perception of Parental Approval.** The data indicate that the consumption of drugs and alcohol is related to the perception of parental approval. In Porter County, most students do not see their parents as approving of the consumption of drugs and/or alcohol. However, a negative message to youth against the consumption of drugs or alcohol has not been internalized by all youth in Porter County. For example, while students do not see their parents as strongly approving of occasional drinking, the perception that parents approve to some degree rises as grade level increases. For example, 2.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders see their parents as approving, but by the time they are 12<sup>th</sup> graders, 13.8% say their parents would approve of occasional drinking and another 14.4% don't know what their parents think on this. Interestingly, the perception of their parents disapproving increases across grades beginning with 7.2% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 17.4% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. On the other hand, the percentage perceiving their parents as strongly disapproving drops from 75.2% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 49.0% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. There are not any substantial differences perceived in parental approval between state and Porter County students. And once again, similar patterns exist for the use of other drugs (ATOD, 2008).

**Supervised Activities.** Participation in adult supervised activities and engaging in regular activities with family are related to lower levels of the consumption of drugs and alcohol. Overall, Porter County students spend a good deal of time after school without adult supervision. Additionally, they report spending more time in unsupervised afterschool activities than other students from across the state. For example, when asked about the participation in some type of afterschool camp or group, 93.4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders in Porter County report they do not participate in these activities compared to 75.1% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders statewide. The gap between Porter County students and others across the state closes among 12<sup>th</sup> graders, but still 85.1% of Porter County 12<sup>th</sup> grade students do not participate in various afterschool camps or groups. Of particular

significance is the lower levels of participation in groups like “Afternoons ROCK” and SADD, two programs specifically designed to prevent the use of drugs and alcohol (ATOD, 2008).

**Afterschool Activities without Adult Supervision.** Porter County students spend a good deal of time in after school activities without adult supervision. For example, 7.8% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students report spending almost every day after school in activities without adult supervision. The percentage for 7<sup>th</sup> graders is 11.2% and that number increases to 22.1% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. These percentages are higher than averages across the rest of the state (ATOD, 2008).

**At home with Adult Supervision.** Porter County students spend a good deal of time at home afterschool without adult supervision. When asked about how often they are home after school with adult supervision, 25.5% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders, 24.2% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and 14.9% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report having adult supervision virtually every day. At the same time, 46% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 48% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders report having no adult supervision almost every day of the school year. These percentages generally exceed the state levels (ATOD, 2008).

**Organized Family Events.** When asked about the participation in organized family events on a weekly basis, some students do participate in organized family events on a weekly basis, but many do not. For example, 16% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 22.1% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report never participating in an organized family event every week. However, 37.8% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 46.5% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report participating in at least one event per week, and 21.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 12.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders report participating in 3 or more per week. These figures are about the same as averages across the state (ATOD, 2008).

## **Implications**

While certainly much needs to be done to address the various aspects of the problems outlined in this report, the preceding discussion suggests there are several immediate steps that can be taken.

1. Increase the understanding of the risks involved in the consumption of drugs and alcohol through measurable or evidence-based prevention programs aimed at 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders.
2. Reduce the perception that their peers approve (or do not disapprove) of the consumption of alcohol and drugs by encouraging youth to take an active role in prevention of use, abuse and the additional risky behaviors that may result (e.g. drunk driving).
3. Encourage strong family management to increase youth’s perception of parental disapproval and to offer them a support network that encourages positive afterschool activities.
4. Promote early intervention by identifying and referring known users to measurable or evidence-based treatment for behavioral health issues to prevent future relapse and/or use of additional substances.

## **Future Research**

One thing that is very clear after this year's report is that we need additional and more specific information. First, as already pointed out, it would help to get more complete access to the ATOD and the County surveys so that the data could be broken down more and specific relationships among the variables examined. As it stands now, we only have access to the tables already created and no access to the original data files. If we did have access we would be in a better position to answer very specific questions. For example, is it the same persons who are using all these drugs or are there different groups with different preferences? What is the specific effect of an individual's perception of peer approval and their individual rate of consumption among these students? Does low peer approval of the use of a particular substance actually lead to lesser levels of consumption for specific individuals? Does participation in various activities actually reduce the amount of consumption? How does the role of perceived risk of the use of various substances actually affect patterns of consumption? These and many more questions could be answered more specifically with greater access to the original data file.

Similarly, we need more data on the target 18-25 year old group. This is a difficult group to study. We could use greater cooperation from the colleges and universities in the area for access to their students for study. If not, serious consideration must be given to doing a larger survey focusing on this specific group.

We also could use more specific data on the patterns of arrests for various substance abuse issues indicating the specific drug at issue, the age, race, and sex of the persons arrested, as well as the location of the arrest. We need this data over time so as to be able to an assessment of various trends.

The data gathered from both probation departments proved very informative. Next year we will ask for more specific information. For example, what drugs were involved in the referrals and what were the age, race, and sex of those persons referred to them. In addition, we need similar information about those persons testing positive after they have been referred to probation. This will provide another very important piece of information in assessing emerging trends and patterns.

The data from Porter-Starke Services proved invaluable. We did receive small quantities of information from other facilities in the County and in the future we hope to obtain more.

Similarly, the DAWN data provided a critical piece of information. Next year we will seek more information about specific drugs and more detailed information about the characteristics of those persons treated.

We also will seek specific information about the use of methadone by Porter County residents at various clinics.

All of this additional information will add significantly the continued understanding of drug and alcohol abuse in Porter County.



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