

Table 2.103

Students' perceptions of availability of drugs

By type of drug and student grade level, United States, 1993-96

Question: "How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?"

(Percent saying "fairly easy" or "very easy" for them to get^a)

Type of drug	Eighth grade				Tenth grade				Twelfth grade			
	1993 (N=16,775)	1994 (N=16,119)	1995 (N=15,496)	1996 (N=16,318)	1993 (N=14,652)	1994 (N=15,192)	1995 (N=16,209)	1996 (N=14,887)	1993 (N=2,670)	1994 (N=2,526)	1995 (N=2,552)	1996 (N=2,340)
Marijuana	43.8%	49.9%	52.4%	54.8%	68.4%	75.0%	78.1%	81.1%	83.0%	85.5%	88.5%	88.7%
LSD	21.8	21.8	23.5	23.6	35.8	36.1	39.8	41.0	49.2	50.8	53.8	51.3
PCP ^b	18.5	17.7	19.0	19.6	23.4	23.8	24.7	26.8	31.7	31.4	31.0	30.5
Crack	25.9	26.9	28.7	27.9	33.0	34.2	34.6	36.4	43.6	40.5	41.9	40.7
Cocaine powder	25.9	26.4	27.8	27.2	34.1	34.5	35.3	36.9	45.4	43.7	43.8	44.4
Heroin	19.8	19.4	21.1	20.6	24.3	24.7	24.6	24.8	33.7	34.1	35.1	32.2
Other opiates ^b	19.0	18.3	20.3	20.0	24.9	26.9	27.8	29.4	37.5	38.0	39.8	40.0
Amphetamines	31.4	31.0	33.4	32.6	46.4	46.6	47.7	47.2	61.5	62.0	62.8	59.4
Crystal methamphetamine (ice) ^b	15.1	14.1	16.0	16.3	16.4	17.8	20.7	22.6	26.6	25.6	27.0	26.9
Barbiturates	26.1	25.3	26.5	25.6	38.8	38.3	38.8	38.1	44.5	43.3	42.3	41.4
Tranquilizers	21.4	20.4	21.3	20.4	30.5	29.8	30.6	30.3	41.1	39.2	37.8	36.0
Alcohol	73.9	74.5	74.9	75.3	88.9	89.8	89.7	90.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
Steroids	22.7	23.1	23.8	24.1	33.6	33.6	34.8	34.8	44.8	42.9	45.5	40.3

Note: See Note, table 2.98. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1992 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 7.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1996*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1997). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aAnswer alternatives were: (1) probably impossible, (2) very difficult, (3) fairly difficult, (4) fairly easy, and (5) very easy. For eighth and tenth grades the response "can't say, drug unfamiliar" was also available.

^bData for eighth and tenth grades are based on a single questionnaire form; N is one-half of N indicated in 1993-96.