

Table 8.28A Perceived Risk and Availability of Substances among Persons Aged 12 to 17: Numbers in Thousands, 2002-2008

Risk/Availability	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
PERCEPTIONS OF GREAT RISK¹							
Cigarettes							
Smoke One or More Packs Per Day	15,493 ^b	15,899 ^b	16,871 ^a	17,158	17,290	17,186	17,198
Marijuana							
Smoke Once a Month	7,918 ^b	8,614	8,699 ^a	8,487	8,667 ^a	8,575	8,320
Smoke Once or Twice a Week	12,614 ^b	13,449 ^b	13,637 ^b	13,777 ^b	13,606 ^b	13,634 ^b	13,037
Cocaine							
Use Once a Month	12,296	12,628 ^b	12,320	12,151	12,196	12,256	12,142
Use Once or Twice a Week	19,463	19,835 ^b	19,842 ^b	19,894 ^b	19,754 ^b	19,543	19,372
Heroin							
Try Once or Twice	14,211	14,400 ^a	14,077	13,994	14,164	14,006	14,021
Use Once or Twice a Week	20,073 ^a	20,244 ^b	20,150 ^b	20,276 ^b	20,129 ^b	19,956	19,769
LSD							
Try Once or Twice	12,499 ^b	12,805 ^b	12,692 ^b	12,445 ^b	12,424 ^b	12,134	11,925
Use Once or Twice a Week	18,156 ^b	18,475 ^b	18,470 ^b	18,361 ^b	18,020 ^b	17,639	17,477
Alcohol							
Have Four or Five Drinks Nearly Every Day	15,288 ^b	15,277 ^b	15,468 ^b	16,028	16,265	16,277	16,279
Have Five or More Drinks Once or Twice a Week	9,379 ^b	9,528 ^b	9,514 ^b	9,636 ^a	9,887	9,834	10,002
PERCEIVED AVAILABILITY²							
Fairly or Very Easy to Obtain ³							
Marijuana	13,299 ^b	13,084 ^b	12,843 ^b	12,601 ^b	12,397 ^b	12,034	11,905
Cocaine	5,981 ^b	6,010 ^b	5,917 ^b	6,073 ^b	6,323 ^b	5,905 ^b	5,279
Crack	6,324 ^b	6,286 ^b	6,069 ^b	6,149 ^b	6,377 ^b	6,104 ^b	5,537
Heroin	3,765 ^b	3,649 ^b	3,373 ^b	3,384 ^b	3,479 ^b	3,390 ^b	3,083
LSD	4,562 ^b	4,154 ^b	4,035 ^b	3,732 ^b	3,310	3,376	3,221
Approached in the Past Month by Someone Selling Drugs	4,121 ^b	4,013 ^b	4,103 ^b	3,926 ^b	3,879 ^b	3,659 ^a	3,402

*Low precision; no estimate reported.

^a Difference between estimate and 2008 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

^b Difference between estimate and 2008 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.01 level.

¹ Response categories for the Perception of Risk questions include "No risk," "Slight risk," "Moderate risk," and "Great risk." The estimates in this table correspond to persons reporting "Great risk." Respondents with unknown Perception of Risk data were excluded.

² Respondents with unknown Perceived Availability data were excluded.

³ Response categories for the Perceived Availability questions include "Probably impossible," "Very difficult," "Fairly difficult," "Fairly easy," and "Very easy." The estimates in this table correspond to persons reporting "Fairly easy" or "Very easy."

Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008.

Table 8.28B Perceived Risk and Availability of Substances among Persons Aged 12 to 17: Percentages, 2002-2008

Risk/Availability	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
PERCEPTIONS OF GREAT RISK¹							
Cigarettes							
Smoke One or More Packs Per Day	63.1 ^b	64.2 ^b	67.5 ^b	68.3 ^a	68.7	68.8	69.7
Marijuana							
Smoke Once a Month	32.4 ^a	34.9	35.0	34.0	34.7	34.5	33.9
Smoke Once or Twice a Week	51.5 ^a	54.4 ^a	54.7 ^b	55.0 ^b	54.2	54.7 ^b	53.1
Cocaine							
Use Once a Month	50.5	51.4 ^b	49.6	48.8	49.0	49.6	49.7
Use Once or Twice a Week	79.8	80.7 ^b	79.8	79.9	79.2	78.9	79.2
Heroin							
Try Once or Twice	58.5	58.8	57.0	56.5 ^a	57.2	57.0	57.7
Use Once or Twice a Week	82.5 ^a	82.6 ^a	81.4	81.8	81.2	81.0	81.3
LSD							
Try Once or Twice	52.6 ^b	53.4 ^b	52.6 ^b	51.7	51.6	51.2	50.5
Use Once or Twice a Week	76.2 ^b	76.9 ^b	76.4 ^b	76.1 ^b	74.7	74.2	73.9
Alcohol							
Have Four or Five Drinks Nearly Every Day	62.2 ^b	61.6 ^b	61.8 ^b	63.8 ^b	64.6 ^a	65.2	65.9
Have Five or More Drinks Once or Twice a Week	38.2 ^b	38.5 ^b	38.1 ^b	38.4 ^b	39.4	39.4	40.5
PERCEIVED AVAILABILITY²							
Fairly or Very Easy to Obtain ³							
Marijuana	55.0 ^b	53.6 ^b	52.2 ^b	51.0 ^b	50.1	49.1	49.2
Cocaine	25.0 ^b	25.0 ^b	24.4 ^b	24.9 ^b	25.9 ^b	24.5 ^b	22.1
Crack	26.5 ^b	26.2 ^b	25.0 ^b	25.3 ^b	26.2 ^b	25.3 ^b	23.2
Heroin	15.8 ^b	15.3 ^b	14.0 ^a	14.0 ^a	14.4 ^b	14.1 ^a	13.0
LSD	19.4 ^b	17.6 ^b	16.9 ^b	15.7 ^b	14.0	14.4	13.8
Approached in the Past Month by Someone Selling Drugs	16.7 ^b	16.1 ^b	16.3 ^b	15.5 ^b	15.3 ^b	14.5	13.7

*Low precision; no estimate reported.

^a Difference between estimate and 2008 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

^b Difference between estimate and 2008 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.01 level.

¹ Response categories for the Perception of Risk questions include "No risk," "Slight risk," "Moderate risk," and "Great risk." The estimates in this table correspond to persons reporting "Great risk." Respondents with unknown Perception of Risk data were excluded.

² Respondents with unknown Perceived Availability data were excluded.

³ Response categories for the Perceived Availability questions include "Probably impossible," "Very difficult," "Fairly difficult," "Fairly easy," and "Very easy." The estimates in this table correspond to persons reporting "Fairly easy" or "Very easy."

Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008.