

Fight Crime – Invest in Kids

National Survey of Teens

August 2001

Teens at Risk:

- **Perception of Risks: In School & After**
- **Incident of High Risk Behaviors: Drugs, Sex, Crime**
- **Need for After School Programs**

Conducted by

Mason-Dixon Polling & Research
10805 Hickory Ridge Road
Suite 200 B
Columbia, MD 21044
301-596-0259

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens

Methodology:

This survey was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. from August 22 through 28, 2001. A total of 800 teenager between the ages of 14 and 17 were interviewed nationwide by telephone. Those interviewed were selected by a random variation of the last four digits of telephone numbers. A cross-section of telephone exchanges was utilized to ensure an accurate reflection of the demographic profile of the US.

The margin for error, according to standards customarily used by statisticians, is no more than ± 3.5 percentage points for the entire sample. This means that there is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figure would fall within that range if all US teenagers in the target age group were interviewed. The margin for error is larger for any subgroup of the sample.

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Findings:

Teenagers: Nationwide- 14-17 years of age

1. How many days of the week are you unsupervised by a parent or other adult during all or part of the hours between the end of school and 6 p.m.?

NONE	39.9%
1 DAY	14.1%
2 DAYS	10.3%
3 DAYS	7.5%
4 DAYS	10.0%
5 DAYS	17.4%
DON'TKNOW/REFUSED	0.9%

2. When you are without adult supervision, are you more likely to be by yourself or more likely to be with other teenagers?

ALONE	54.0%
WITH OTHER TEENS	38.1%
OTHER/NONE	6.3%
DK/REF	1.6%

3. Are you more afraid of being a victim of violence or crime during school or after school?

DURING SCHOOL	22.1%
AFTER SCHOOL	75.6%
DK/REF	2.3%

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens

4. I am now going to read you a list of things some teens do. Please tell me how often you have done each: frequently, sometimes, seldom, or never.

a. Smoked cigarettes

FREQUENTLY	7.6%
SOMETIMES	9.3%
SELDOM	1.3%
NEVER	81.0%
DK/REF	0.9%

b. Drank beer or other alcohol

FREQUENTLY	14.3%
SOMETIMES	17.3%
SELDOM	0.8%
NEVER	66.8%
DK/REF	1.0%

c. Used marijuana or other drugs

FREQUENTLY	5.5%
SOMETIMES	6.8%
SELDOM	1.3%
NEVER	86.1%
DK/REF	0.4%

d. Done something that could have gotten you arrested

FREQUENTLY	1.6%
SOMETIMES	7.6%
SELDOM	2.3%
NEVER	88.1%
DK/REF	0.4%

e. Been beaten up, robbed, or otherwise been a victim of a crime

FREQUENTLY	0.6%
SOMETIMES	1.3%
SELDOM	0.4%
NEVER	97.6%
DK/REF	0.1%

f. Had Sex

FREQUENTLY	7.6%
SOMETIMES	11.1%
SELDOM	0.9%
NEVER	79.9%
DK/REF	0.5%

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National Survey of Teens**

5. Do you regularly spend time at school or community based after-school activities that are supervised by an adult?

YES	59.5%
NO	32.8%
SOMETIMES	6.4%
DK/REF	1.4%

6. Are there enough after-school programs in your area that interest you?

YES	37.6%
NO	54.0%
DK/REF	8.4%

7. If there were after-school programs that offered activities that you were interested in, how likely would you be to participate?

VERY LIKELY	33.0%
SOMEWHAT LIKELY	32.4%
NOT TOO LIKELY	14.9%
NOT AT ALL	16.1%
DK/REF	3.6%

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National Survey of Teens**

Demographics:

AGE

14.....	22.1%
15.....	25.6%
16.....	26.2%
17.....	26.0%

SEX

MALE	49.5%
FEMALE	50.5%

RACE

WHITE	78.3%
BLACK	12.0%
OTHER/REFUSED	9.8%

REGION

NORTHEAST	23.1%
MIDWEST	21.0%
SOUTH	30.1%
WEST	25.8%

GRADE LEVEL

8TH GRADE	1.4%
9TH GRADE	21.3%
10TH GRADE	25.8%
11TH GRADE	27.3%
12TH GRADE	23.3%
NONE/REFUSED	1.1%

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National Survey of Teens**

CROSS TABULATIONS:

SMOKED CIGARETTES

	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	TOTAL FREQUENTLY/ SOMETIMES	SELDOM	NEVER	DK/REF
DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
NONE	3.1%	6.0%	9.1%	0.9%	90.0%	0.0%
1 DAY	5.3%	7.1%	12.4%	2.7%	83.2%	1.8%
2 DAYS	8.5%	9.8%	18.3%	1.2%	80.5%	0.0%
3 DAYS	8.3%	15.0%	23.3%	0.0%	75.0%	1.7%
4 DAYS	12.5%	10.0%	22.5%	0.0%	76.3%	1.3%
5 DAYS	15.8%	15.8%	31.6%	2.2%	64.0%	2.2%
DON'TKNOW/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
<3 DAYS A WEEK	4.5%	6.8%	11.3%	1.4%	87.0%	0.4%
3+ DAYS A WEEK	13.3%	14.0%	27.3%	1.1%	69.9%	1.8%
DK/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
SUPERVISED AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES?						
YES	4.0%	6.1%	10.1%	1.3%	87.8%	0.8%
NO	15.3%	14.1%	29.4%	1.1%	68.3%	1.1%
AGE						
14	5.1%	5.6%	10.7%	2.3%	85.9%	1.1%
15	4.9%	7.3%	12.2%	0.0%	87.3%	0.5%
16	10.0%	11.9%	21.9%	0.5%	77.6%	0.0%
17	10.1%	11.5%	21.6%	2.4%	74.0%	1.9%
SEX						
MALE	8.6%	11.6%	20.2%	1.3%	77.8%	0.8%
FEMALE	6.7%	6.9%	13.6%	1.2%	84.2%	1.0%

**Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens**

DRANK BEER OR ALCOHOL

	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	TOTAL FREQUENTLY/ SOMETIMES	SELDOM	NEVER	DK/REF
DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
NONE	6.9%	12.2%	19.1%	0.0%	79.9%	0.9%
1 DAY	10.6%	21.2%	31.8%	1.8%	63.7%	2.7%
2 DAYS	13.4%	18.3%	31.7%	1.2%	67.1%	0.0%
3 DAYS	21.7%	21.7%	43.4%	1.7%	55.0%	0.0%
4 DAYS	22.5%	18.8%	41.3%	1.3%	57.5%	0.0%
5 DAYS	26.6%	21.6%	48.2%	0.7%	49.6%	1.4%
DON'TKNOW/REFUSED	14.3%	28.6%	42.9%	0.0%	57.1%	0.0%

DAYS UNSUPERVISED

<3 DAYS A WEEK	8.8%	15.2%	24.0%	0.6%	74.3%	1.2%
3+ DAYS A WEEK	24.4%	20.8%	45.2%	1.1%	53.0%	0.7%
DK/REFUSED	14.3%	28.6%	42.9%	0.0%	57.1%	0.0%

**SUPERVISED
AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES?**

YES	10.1%	12.6%	22.7%	1.1%	75.2%	1.1%
NO	22.1%	24.0%	46.1%	0.4%	52.3%	1.1%

AGE

14	10.7%	9.6%	20.3%	1.1%	78.0%	0.6%
15	9.3%	17.6%	26.9%	1.0%	71.7%	0.5%
16	14.3%	23.8%	38.1%	0.5%	60.5%	1.0%
17	22.1%	16.8%	38.9%	0.5%	58.7%	1.9%

SEX

MALE	17.9%	22.0%	39.9%	1.0%	58.1%	1.0%
FEMALE	10.6%	12.6%	23.2%	0.5%	75.2%	1.0%

**Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens**

USED MARIJUANA OR OTHER DRUGS

	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	TOTAL FREQUENTLY/ SOMETIMES	SELDOM	NEVER	DK/REF
DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
NONE	2.2%	3.1%	5.3%	0.6%	94.0%	0.0%
1 DAY	2.7%	4.4%	7.1%	2.7%	88.5%	1.8%
2 DAYS	4.9%	7.3%	12.2%	0.0%	87.8%	0.0%
3 DAYS	6.7%	11.7%	18.4%	0.0%	81.7%	0.0%
4 DAYS	7.5%	10.0%	17.5%	3.8%	78.8%	0.0%
5 DAYS	13.7%	12.9%	26.6%	1.4%	71.2%	0.7%
DON'TKNOW/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%

DAYS UNSUPERVISED

<3 DAYS A WEEK	2.7%	4.1%	6.8%	1.0%	91.8%	0.4%
3+ DAYS A WEEK	10.4%	11.8%	22.2%	1.8%	75.6%	0.4%
DK/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%

SUPERVISED

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES?

YES	2.7%	4.0%	6.7%	0.2%	92.6%	0.4%
NO	11.5%	11.1%	22.6%	3.1%	74.0%	0.4%

AGE

14	3.4%	6.2%	9.6%	1.1%	88.7%	0.6%
15	3.4%	5.4%	8.8%	0.5%	90.7%	0.0%
16	6.7%	7.6%	14.3%	0.5%	85.2%	0.0%
17	8.2%	7.7%	15.9%	2.9%	80.3%	1.0%

SEX

MALE	6.6%	8.8%	15.4%	1.3%	83.1%	0.3%
FEMALE	4.5%	4.7%	9.2%	1.2%	89.1%	0.5%

**Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens**

DONE SOMETHING COULD BE ARRESTED FOR	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	TOTAL FREQUENTLY/ SOMETIMES	SELDOM	NEVER	DK/REF
DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
NONE	0.3%	5.3%	5.6%	2.8%	91.5%	0.0%
1 DAY	0.0%	9.7%	9.7%	1.8%	86.7%	1.8%
2 DAYS	0.0%	4.9%	4.9%	2.4%	92.7%	0.0%
3 DAYS	3.3%	3.3%	6.6%	3.3%	90.0%	0.0%
4 DAYS	5.0%	15.0%	20.0%	0.0%	80.0%	0.0%
5 DAYS	3.6%	10.8%	14.4%	2.2%	82.7%	0.7%
DON'TKNOW/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
<3 DAYS A WEEK	0.2%	6.2%	6.4%	2.5%	90.7%	0.4%
3+ DAYS A WEEK	3.9%	10.4%	14.3%	1.8%	83.5%	0.4%
DK/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
SUPERVISED AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES?						
YES	0.4%	3.4%	3.8%	1.9%	93.9%	0.4%
NO	4.2%	15.6%	19.8%	2.7%	77.1%	0.4%
AGE						
14	2.3%	7.9%	10.2%	1.1%	88.1%	0.6%
15	1.5%	6.8%	8.3%	2.4%	89.3%	0.0%
16	1.0%	5.7%	6.7%	3.3%	90.0%	0.0%
17	1.9%	10.1%	12.0%	1.9%	85.1%	1.0%
SEX						
MALE	2.8%	9.6%	12.4%	2.8%	84.6%	0.3%
FEMALE	0.5%	5.7%	6.2%	1.7%	91.6%	0.5%

**Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens**

BEEN VICTIM OF CRIME	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	TOTAL FREQUENTLY/ SOMETIMES	SELDOM	NEVER	DK/REF
DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
NONE	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	0.0%	99.1%	0.0%
1 DAY	0.0%	1.8%	1.8%	0.9%	97.3%	0.0%
2 DAYS	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
3 DAYS	1.7%	1.7%	3.4%	0.0%	96.7%	0.0%
4 DAYS	1.3%	1.3%	2.6%	2.5%	95.0%	0.0%
5 DAYS	0.7%	2.9%	3.6%	0.0%	95.7%	0.7%
DON'TKNOW/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%

DAYS UNSUPERVISED						
<3 DAYS A WEEK	0.2%	0.8%	1.0%	0.2%	98.8%	0.0%
3+ DAYS A WEEK	1.1%	2.2%	3.3%	0.7%	95.7%	0.4%
DK/REFUSED	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%

	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	HAS EVER BEEN A VICTIM OF CRIME	SELDOM	NEVER	DK/REF
SUPERVISED AFTER- SCHOOL ACTIVITIES?						
YES	0.4%	0.6%	1.0%	0.0%	98.9%	0.0%
NO	1.1%	2.7%	4.9%	1.1%	94.7%	0.4%

AGE						
14	1.7%	1.1%	2.8%	0.0%	96.6%	0.6%
15	0.5%	2.0%	2.5%	0.5%	97.1%	0.0%
16	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%	98.6%	0.0%
17	0.5%	1.4%	1.9%	0.0%	98.1%	0.0%

SEX						
MALE	1.3%	1.5%	2.8%	0.8%	96.5%	0.0%
FEMALE	0.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%	98.8%	0.2%

**Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens**

HAD SEX		FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES		SELDOM	NEVER	DK/REF
DAYS UNSUPERVISED							
NONE		4.1%	5.3%	9.4%	0.6%	89.3%	0.6%
1 DAY		6.2%	8.8%	15.0%	1.8%	83.2%	0.0%
2 DAYS		6.1%	11.0%	17.1%	0.0%	82.9%	0.0%
3 DAYS		10.0%	16.7%	26.7%	1.7%	71.7%	0.0%
4 DAYS		8.8%	21.3%	30.1%	1.3%	68.8%	0.0%
5 DAYS		15.8%	18.7%	34.5%	0.7%	63.3%	1.4%
DON'TKNOW/REFUSED		14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
DAYS UNSUPERVISED							
<3 DAYS A WEEK		4.9%	7.0%	11.9%	0.8%	87.0%	0.4%
3+ DAYS A WEEK		12.5%	19.0%	31.5%	1.1%	66.7%	0.7%
DK/REFUSED		14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
SUPERVISED AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES?							
YES		4.6%	7.8%	12.4%	1.1%	86.1%	4.0%
NO		13.4%	17.9%	3.1%	4.0%	67.9%	4.0%
AGE							
	14	5.6%	7.3%	12.9%	0.6%	85.9%	0.6%
	15	4.9%	7.3%	12.2%	1.5%	85.9%	0.5%
	16	10.0%	12.9%	22.9%	0.5%	76.2%	0.5%
	17	9.6%	16.3%	25.9%	1.0%	72.6%	0.5%
SEX							
MALE		10.9%	13.1%	24.0%	0.8%	74.7%	0.5%
FEMALE		4.5%	9.2%	13.7%	1.0%	84.9%	0.5%

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National Survey of Teens

Survey Instrument:

Teenagers: Nationwide- 14-17 years of age

Hello, my name is _____ at Mason-Dixon Polling & Research., a national survey research firm. We are talking to teenagers today about some important issues that affect teens. Is there someone in your household between the ages of 14 and 17, and may I speak to them?

Please keep in mind that we are not trying to sell you anything and we will not ask you for your name or record your phone number, which was selected randomly by computer.

1. How many days of the week are you unsupervised by a parent or other adult during all or part of the hours between the end of school and 6 p.m.?

1=	ONE DAY
2=	TWO DAYS
3=	THREE DAYS
4=	FOUR DAYS
5=	FIVE DAYS
6=	NONE
7=	DK/REFUSED

2. "When you are without adult supervision, are you more likely to be by yourself or more likely to be with other teenagers?"

1=	More likely to be by myself
2=	More likely to be with other teenagers
3=	None
4=	DK/Refused

3. Are you more afraid of being a victim of violence or crime during school or after school?

1=	DURING SCHOOL
2=	AFTER SCHOOL
3=	DK/REFUSED

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
National Survey of Teens

4. I am now going to read you a list of things some teens do. Please tell me how often you have done each: frequently, sometimes, seldom, or never. The first is <CHOICE>. Have you done this frequently, sometimes, seldom or never? [ROTATE ORDER]
- a. Smoked cigarettes
 - b. Drank beer or other alcohol
 - c. Used marijuana or other drugs
 - d. Done something that could have gotten you arrested
 - e. Been beaten up, robbed, or otherwise been a victim of a crime
 - f. Had sex

1=	FREQUENTLY
2=	SOMETIMES
3=	SELDOM
4=	NEVER
5=	DK/REFUSED

5. Do you **regularly** spend time at school or community based after-school activities that are supervised by an adult?

1=	YES
2=	NO
3=	A LITTLE/SOMETIMES (DO NOT READ)
4=	DK/REFUSED

6. Are there enough after-school programs in your area that interest you?

1=	YES
2=	NO
3=	DK/REFUSED

7. If there were after-school programs that offered activities that you were interested in, how likely would you be to participate?

1=	VERY LIKELY
2=	SOMEWHAT LIKELY
3=	NOT TOO LIKELY
4=	NOT AT ALL LIKELY
5=	DK/REFUSED