Alcohol and Cigarette Use Continues to Decline Among Junior and Senior High Students; Marijuana Use Stable

Alcohol and cigarette use among students continues to decline, according to data released last month by the Parents’ Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE). Since 1996-97, the percentage of junior high school students reporting past-year alcohol use declined 18% (from 45% in 1996-97 to 37% in 2000-01), while the percentage reporting past-year cigarette use declined 40% (from 32% in 1996-97 to 19% in 2000-01). Similar declines were seen among senior high school students. Past-year marijuana use, which had been declining since 1996-97, remained stable at around 9% for junior high students and 32% for senior high students.

Percentage of Junior and Senior High School Students Reporting Past-Year Use of Alcohol, Cigarettes, and Marijuana, 1990-2001 School Years