

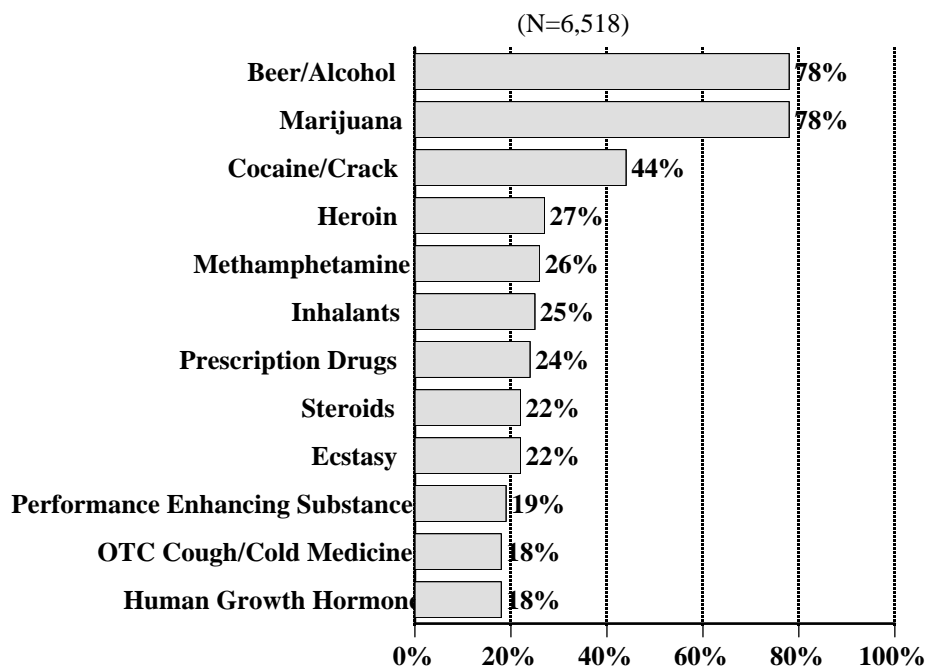
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

***Parents Most Likely to Discuss Alcohol, Marijuana, and Cocaine Use with Their Children;
Less Likely to Discuss Inhalants and Prescription Drugs***

Parents are most likely to discuss the risks of alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine use with their children, according to data from the 2008 Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS). The majority of teens (78%) reported that their parents had discussed the risks of using beer, other alcoholic beverages, or marijuana with them. Forty-four percent of teens reported that their parents had discussed the dangers of cocaine and crack use with them. Significantly less teens, however, reported that their parents discussed the risks of inhalant (25%) and prescription drug abuse (24%), despite the fact that these substances were the most prevalent substances used by teens, after marijuana (see *CESAR FAX*, Volume 18, Issue 9). Other substances less commonly discussed included performance enhancing drugs used without a prescription (such as steroids and human growth hormone), ecstasy, and over-the-counter cold or cough medicines used to get high.

**Percentage of U.S. Teens (Grades 7 to 12) Reporting That Their Parents
Discussed the Risk of Substance Use/Abuse with Them, 2008**



NOTES: Abuse of inhalants and OTC cough medicine is defined as using the substance to get high. Abuse of prescription drugs, steroids, performance enhancing substances, and human growth hormone is defined as use without a doctor's prescription. The margin of error is +/- 1.3%.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from The Partnership for a Drug-Free America, *The Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS): Teens 2008 Report*, 2009. Available online at http://www.drugfree.org/Files/full_report_teens_2008. For more information, contact the Partnership at 212-922-1560.