

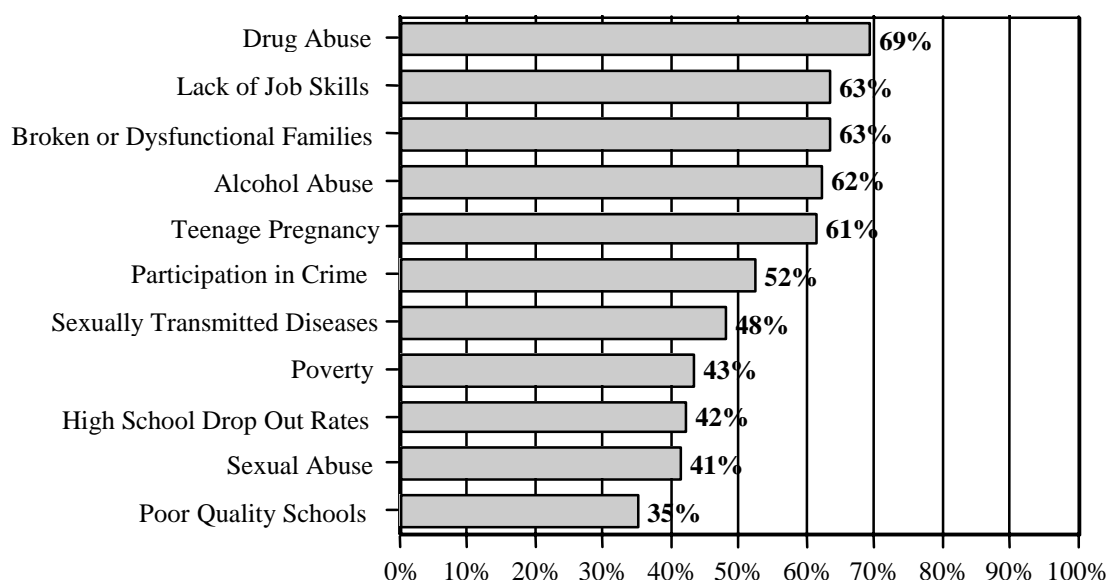
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Substance Abuse, Lack of Job Skills, and Dysfunctional Families Seen as Most Serious Problems Facing Young Adults

Recently released data from a May 1995 national telephone survey show that substance abuse is thought to be one of the most serious problems among young adults. Of the 2,801 householders surveyed, 69% believe that drug abuse is a fairly or very serious problem among young adults (aged 17-21) in their community, while 62% believe this is true of alcohol abuse. Dysfunctional families (63%), a lack of job skills (63%), and teenage pregnancy (61%) were also seen as serious problems by a majority of householders.

Percentage of U.S. Adult Householders Reporting Problems as "Fairly" or "Very" Serious Among Young Adults Aged 17-21*



* Data were collected from national telephone interviews of 2,801 Americans aged 21 and older, conducted between April 29 and May 9, 1995. The sampling error is $\pm 3\%$.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from "Young Adults at-Risk: Public Perceptions about a Growing National Problem and What Should be Done." Prepared by Yankelovich Partners, Inc. for Covenant House, July 1995.

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