

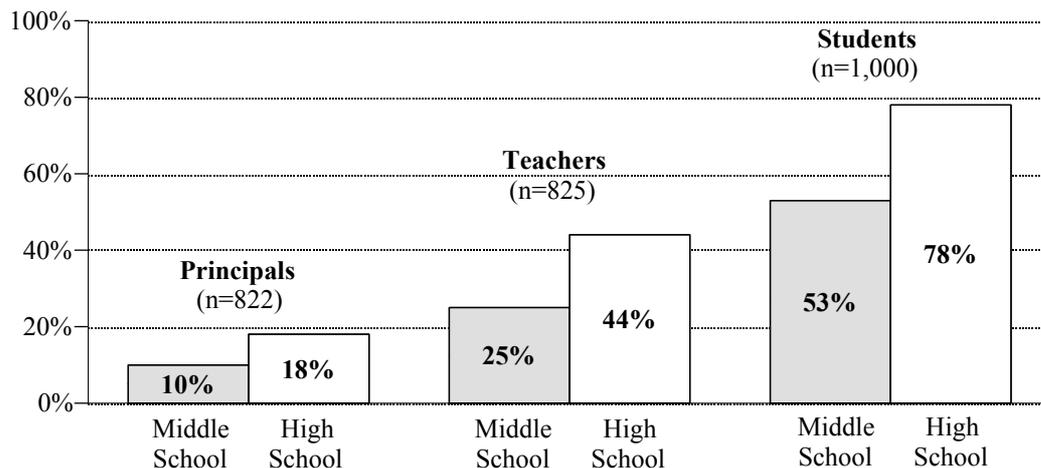
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Teachers and Principals Less Likely than Students to Think Drugs Are in Schools

Principals' and teachers' perception of drug use and availability in their schools is dramatically lower than that of students, according to two national surveys released this month by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA). Ten percent of middle school principals and 25% of middle school teachers believe that students at their school keep, use, or sell drugs on school grounds, compared to 53% of students. In high schools, 18% of principals and 44% of teachers say that drugs are in their school, compared to 78% of students. For more information, contact CASA at 212-841-5200 or visit www.casacolumbia.org.

Percentage of Middle and High School Principals, Teachers, and Students Reporting That Students at Their School Keep, Use, or Sell Drugs on School Grounds, 1998



NOTE: The survey of teachers and principals was conducted by telephone in May and June 1998 using a random sample selected from a commercial list of persons in these occupations. The survey of students was conducted by telephone in June and July 1998 using a random sample of households in the 48 contiguous states. Middle school students were students age 12-14; high school students were students age 15-17.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA), "Back to School 1998--National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse IV: Teens, Teachers and Principals," September 1998.

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CESAR FAX is supported by a grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention.
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