# Results of the 2013 Student Substance Use and Safety Survey

## September, 2013

Department of Research and Evaluation
AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## LBJ HIGH SCHOOL

### Description of Survey

Every year, the self-reported student substance use and safety survey (SSUSS) is administered to a random, representative sample of Austin Independent School District (AISD) students. The survey is used to track students' knowledge, attitudes, and self-reported behavior over time. In the spring of 2013, a sample of 8,846 students in grades 6 through 12 submitted valid responses to the district's annual SSUSS, yielding a response rate of 75%.[1] Respondent demographics and all item results are included in this report. The survey questions are presented by topic and maps of results are included for certain items.

### How should sample data be interpreted?

When it is not feasible to survey an entire population, samples are used instead. However, when a sample is used to make inferences about a population the results must be interpreted with caution. For example, although 87% of a sample may select a particular survey response, this does not necessarily mean 87% of the entire population feels the same way. To interpret the sample data cautiously, we have used the following information to construct an interval that describes the range within which the result for your campus population is likely to fall:

- Population size: In this case, the number of students at your campus.
- Sample size: In this case, the number of survey respondents from your campus.
- Desired level of confidence: In this case, 95%.

The 95% confidence interval is commonly used, indicating that you can be 95% confident that the true population result will fall within the constructed interval.

### How should confidence intervals be used to interpret your campus data?

***Based on the LBJ High School sample of 197 students and population enrollment of 891, the 95% confidence interval for LBJ is + and – 6 percentage points.***

***The 95% interval for all high schools is + and -1 percentage point.***

To make inferences about your campus population using the sample data, the results should be interpreted with the computed confidence interval of 6 percentage points on each side of the sample statistics. For example, in 2013, 23% of respondents from your campus indicated that their friends belonged to gangs (see Q16, p.10). Applying the confidence interval (i.e., adding and subtracting 6 percentage points) to the 23% yields a range of 17% - 29%. Therefore, you can be 95% confident that somewhere between 17% - 29% of all students at your campus would indicate that their friends belong to a gang. When making comparisons between item results from year to year, please remember that small changes may have occurred by chance alone. The confidence interval for 2012 was 7 percentage points. Therefore, only differences of 13 (6% + 7%) percentage points or greater should be considered statistically significant when comparing the results from two different years. In addition, differences of 7 (6% + 1%) percentage points or greater should be considered statistically significant when comparing the results between the campus and all high schools.

[1] A total of 9,256 surveys were returned to the Department of Research and Evaluation from an original sample of 11,860 students. Of those returned, 410 surveys were removed from analysis due to invalid responses.

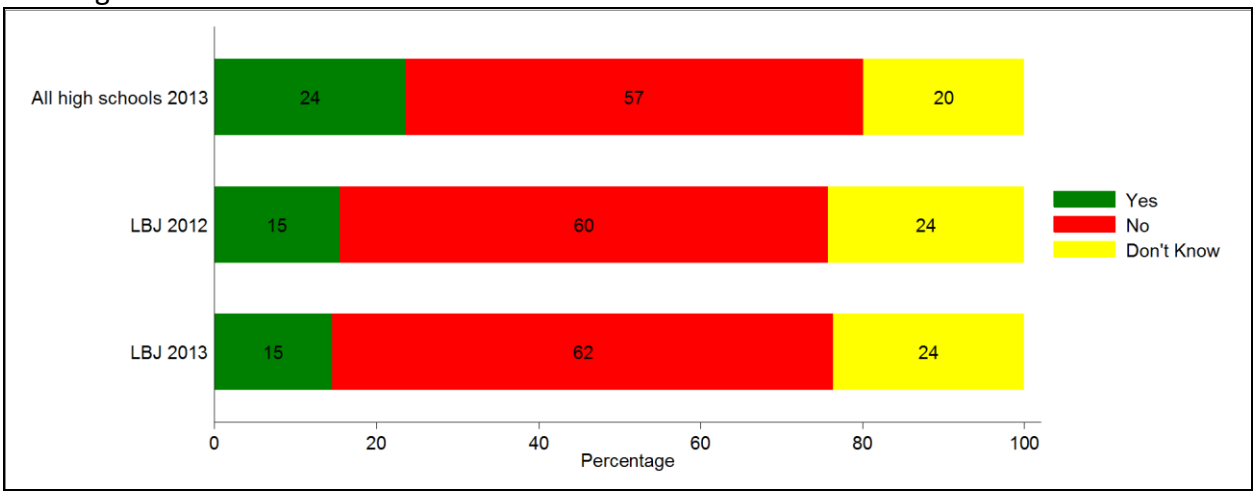
## RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS AND ITEMS THAT ADDRESS BOTH SUBSTANCE USE AND SAFETY

Survey Sample Demographics

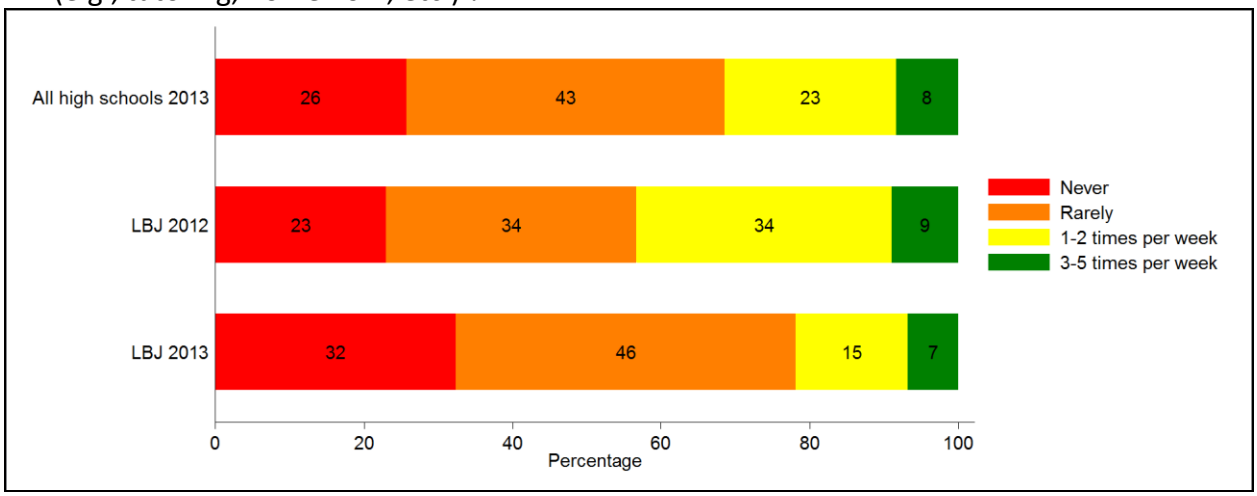
| | Gender | | Grade | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Male | Female | 9th | 10th | 11th | 12th | |
| **LBJ 2012** | 111 | 123 | 66 | 44 | 68 | 29 | 235 |
| | 47% | 53% | 28% | 19% | 29% | 24% | |
| **LBJ 2013** | 90 | 107 | 70 | 49 | 49 | 29 | 197 |
| | 46% | 54% | 35% | 25% | 25% | 15% | |
| **All high schools 2013** | 1,839 | 1,999 | 1,264 | 895 | 940 | 763 | 3,862 |
| | 48% | 52% | 33% | 23% | 24% | 20% | |

Note: Numbers may not sum to total because some students skipped the demographic questions.

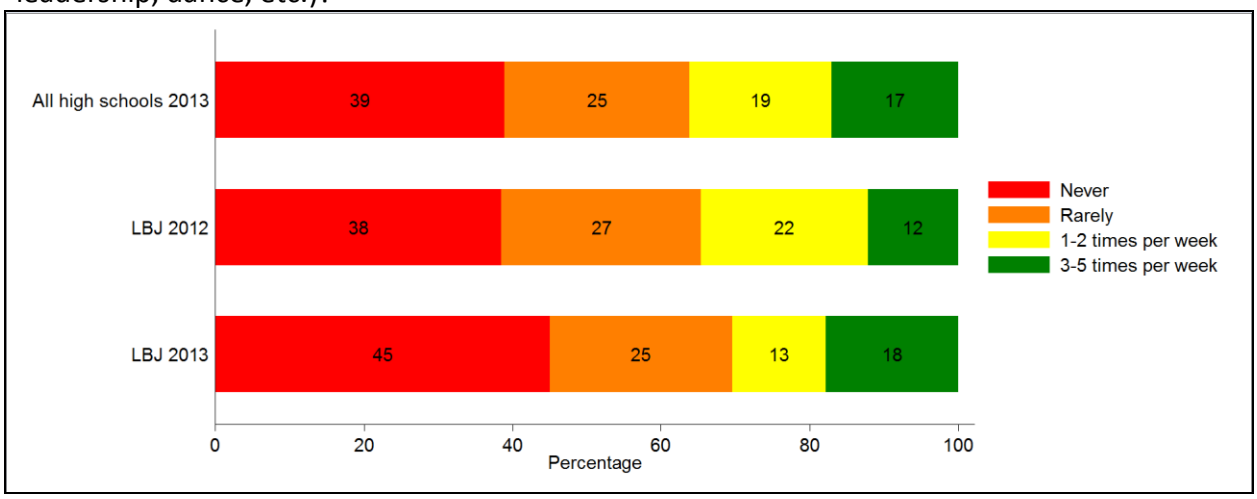
Q22: Do one or both of your parents usually attend school sponsored open houses, PTA meetings or other school events?



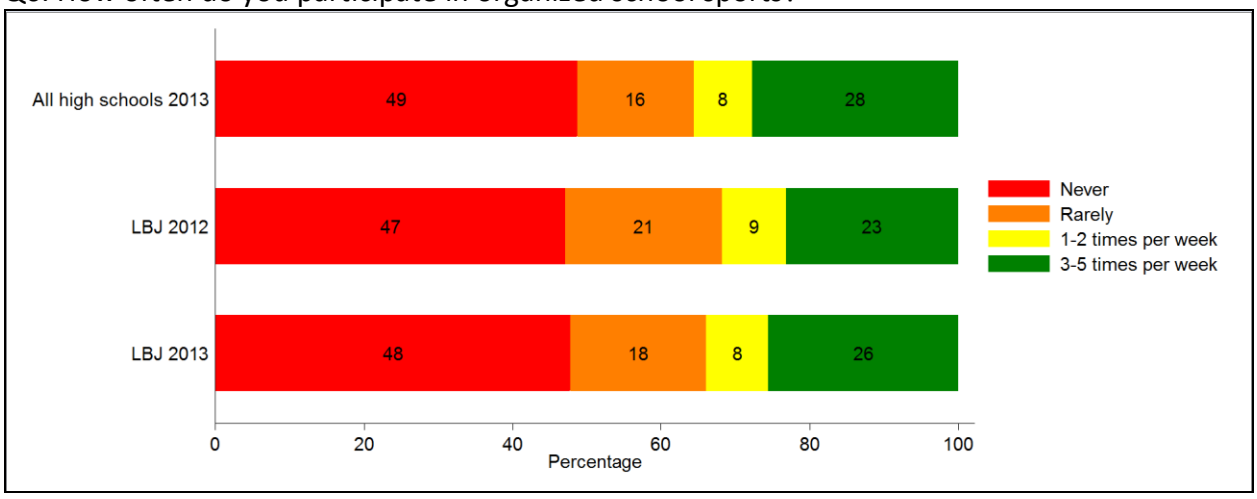

Q4. How often do you participate in after school programs to help you with your school work (e.g., tutoring, homework, etc.) ?



Q5. How often do you participate in other after school programs (e.g. clubs, art, technology, leadership, dance, etc.)?




Q6. How often do you participate in organized school sports?




Q23: During this school year, have you brought any of the following items to school?

| | LBJ 2012-2013 | Percentage point change from 2011-2012* | All high schools 2012-2013 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Illegal drugs** | 8% | -3 | 8% |
| **Tobacco** | 3% | -7 | 6% |
| **Knives** | 4% | -6 | 7% |
| **Prescription drugs** | 5% | -3 | 5% |
| **Alcohol** | 6% | 0 | 5% |
| **Other weapons** | 4% | -2 | 4% |
| **Gun** | 2% | -2 | 2% |
| **None of the above** | 87% | 6 | 84% |

Note. Percentages are of students who reported bringing those items to school.
*Negative percentage point changes indicate fewer students reported bringing those items to school in 2012-2013 than in 2011-2012.

Q26: Of the following, which do you consider to be the most serious problem on your campus?

| | LBJ 2012-2013 | Percentage point change from 2011-2012* | All high schools 2012-2013 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Marijuana use** | 27% | -4 | 31% |
| **Student fighting and physical aggression** | 22% | 11 | 12% |
| **Student harassment, threats, and intimidation** | 6% | -1 | 8% |
| **Alcohol use** | 0% | -4 | 5% |
| **Prescription drug use** | 6% | 1 | 4% |
| **Student vandalism, criminal mischief** | 1% | -7 | 3% |
| **Student weapon possession** | 5% | 1 | 3% |
| **Tobacco use** | 1% | 0 | 2% |
| **Violence or threats toward staff** | 4% | 4 | 2% |
| **None of these are serious problems on my campus** | 29% | 1 | 33% |

Note. Percentages are of students who reported those items as the most serious problem on their campus. Percentages may sum to more than 100% because respondents were allowed to choose multiple items.
* Negative percentage point changes indicate fewer students reported those items as the most serious problem on their campus in 2012-2013 than in 2011-2012.

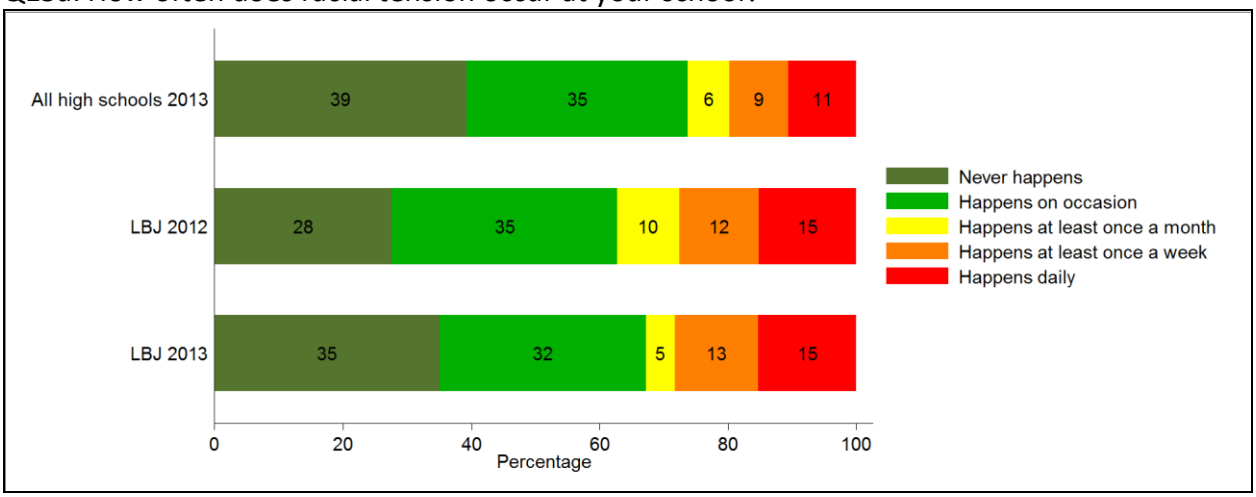
Q7. During this school year, have you received any information on drugs, alcohol, or violence from any of the following school sources?

| | LBJ 2012-2013 | Percentage point change from 2011-2012* | All high schools 2012-2013 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Advisory/seminar class** | 37% | -15 | 39% |
| **Health class** | 57% | 2 | 40% |
| **Science class** | 40% | -15 | 33% |
| **Another class** | 38% | 3 | 33% |
| **Special school event about tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or violence** | 23% | -13 | 24% |
| **Guidance counselor** | 20% | -1 | 16% |
| **School nurse** | 22% | 1 | 13% |
| **Afterschool program** | 18% | 0 | 12% |
| **Student support group meetings at school** | 20% | -2 | 13% |
| **Other school source not mentioned above** | 20% | 1 | 18% |
| **Coach or P.E. teacher** | 46 | 2 | 38 |
| **None of the above** | 18% | 4 | 20% |

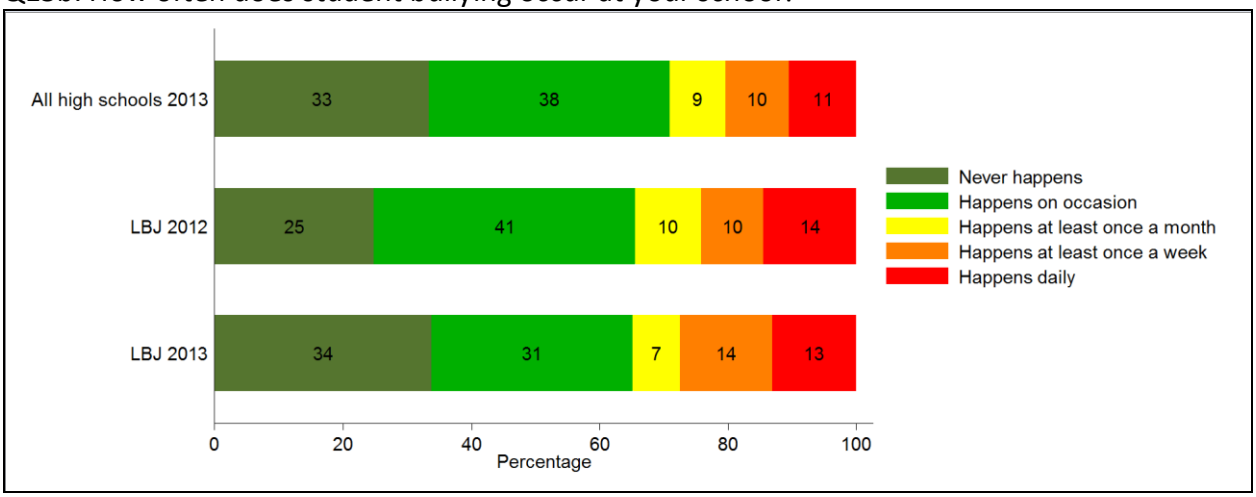
Note. Percentages are of students who reported having received information on drugs, alcohol, or violence. Percentages may sum to more than 100% because respondents were allowed to choose multiple items.
* Positive percentage point changes indicate more students reported having received information on drugs, alcohol, or violence from school sources in 2012-2013 than in 2011-2012.

## SCHOOL SAFETY ITEMS

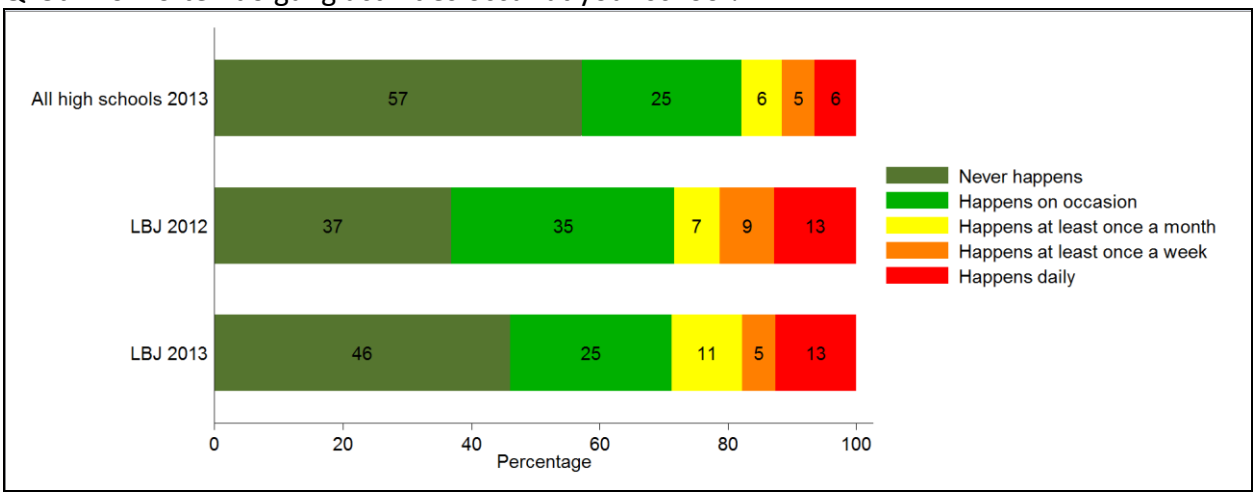
Q15a: How often does racial tension occur at your school?



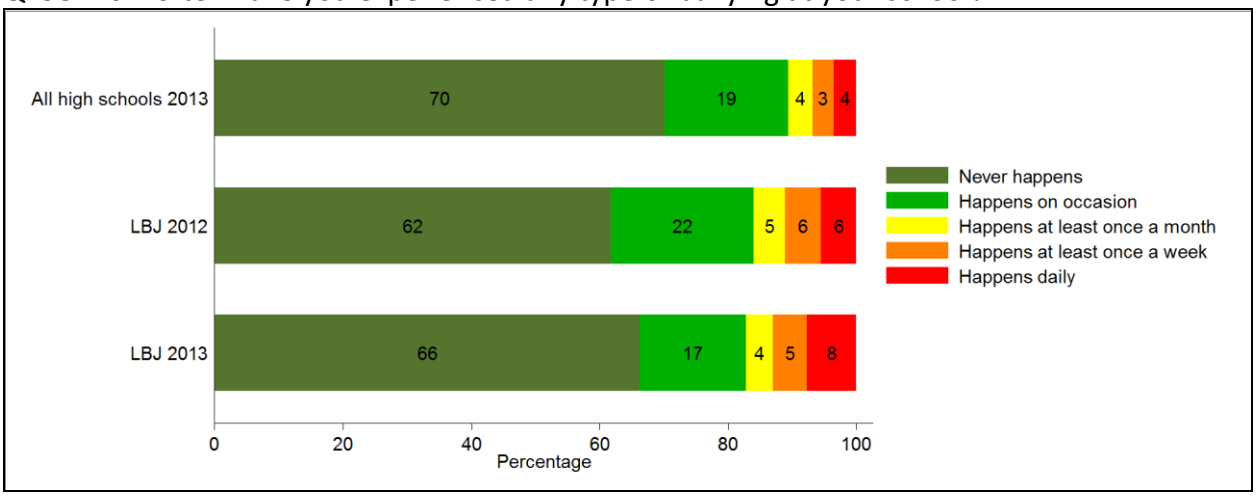

Q15b: How often does student bullying occur at your school?



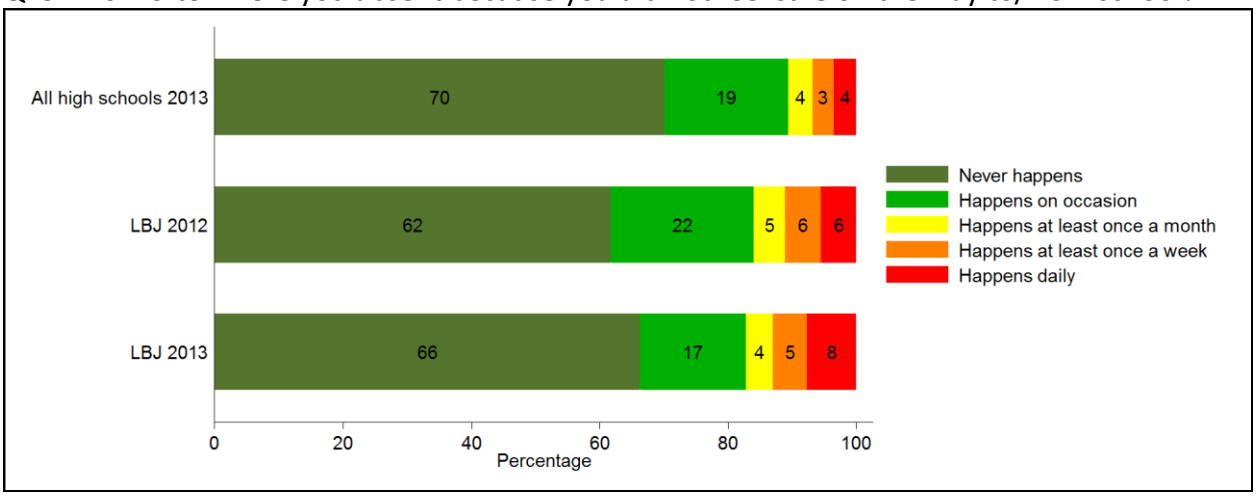

Q15d: How often do gang activities occur at your school?



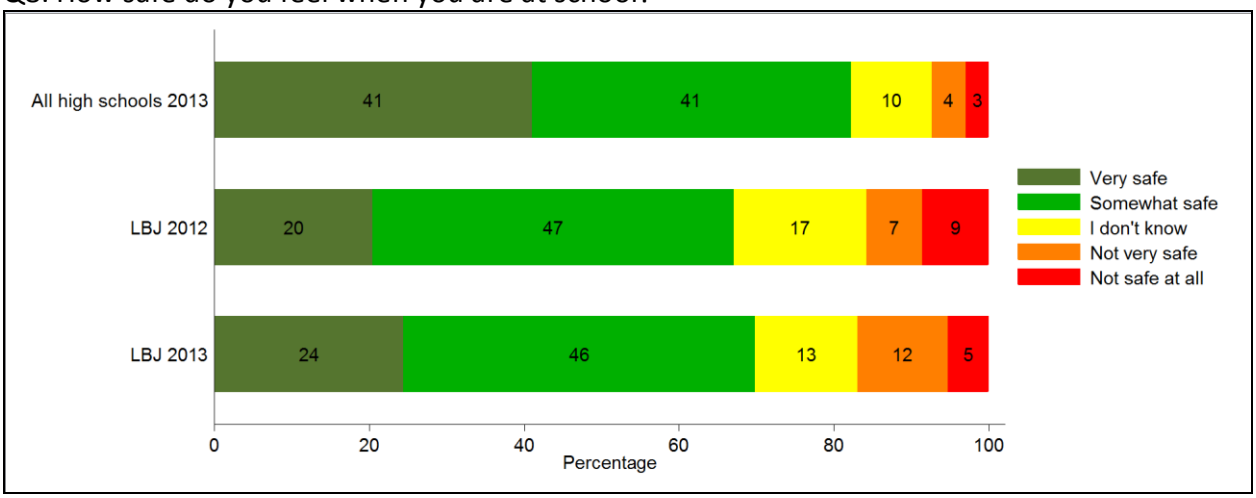
Q15e: How often have you experienced any type of bullying at your school?

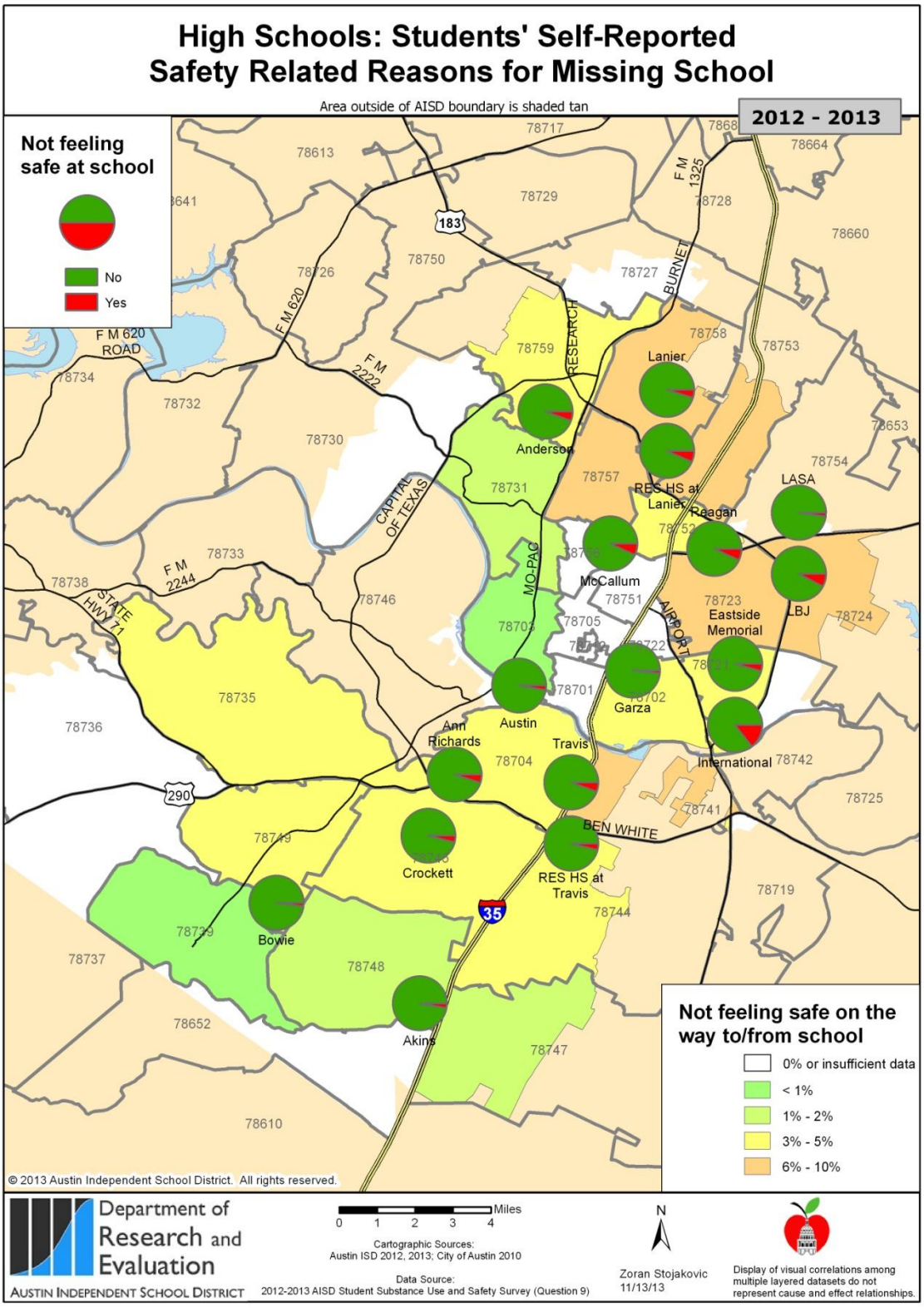



Q15f: How often were you absent because you did not feel safe on the way to/from school?




Q8: How safe do you feel when you are at school?




High Schools: Students' Self-Reported Safety Related Reasons for Missing School
Area outside of AISD boundary is shaded tan
2012 - 2013
Not feeling safe at school
No
Yes
Lanier
Anderson
RES HS at Lanier
Reagan
LASA
LBJ
McCallum
Eastside Memorial
Austin
Garza
Ann Richards
Travis
International
Crockett
RES HS at Travis
Bowie
Akins
Not feeling safe on the way to/from school
0% or insufficient data
< 1%
1% - 2%
3% - 5%
6% - 10%
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Miles
0 1 2 3 4
Cartographic Sources:
Austin ISD 2012, 2013; City of Austin 2010
Data Source:
2012-2013 AISD Student Substance Use and Safety Survey (Question 9)
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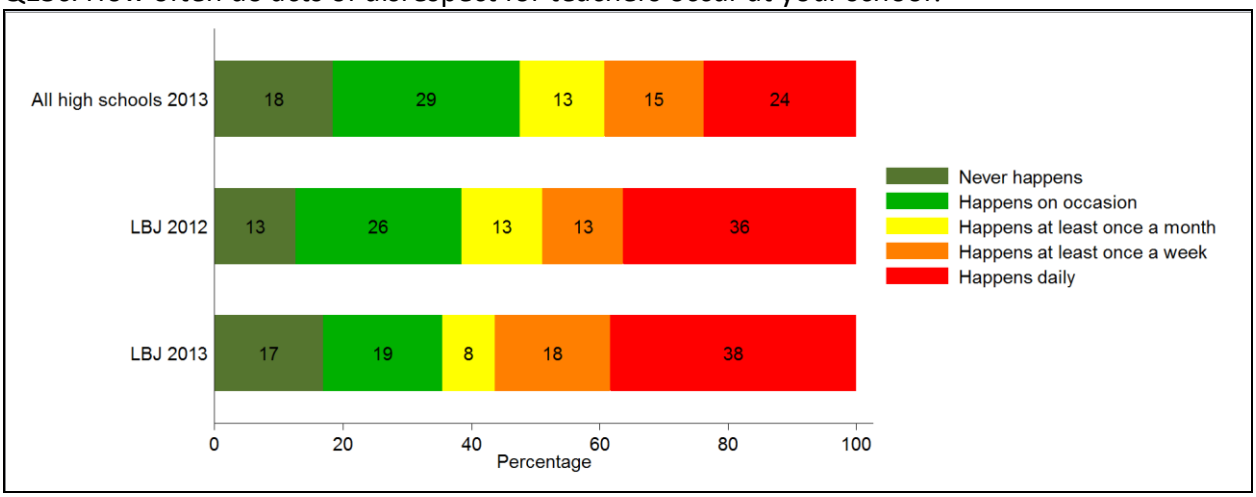
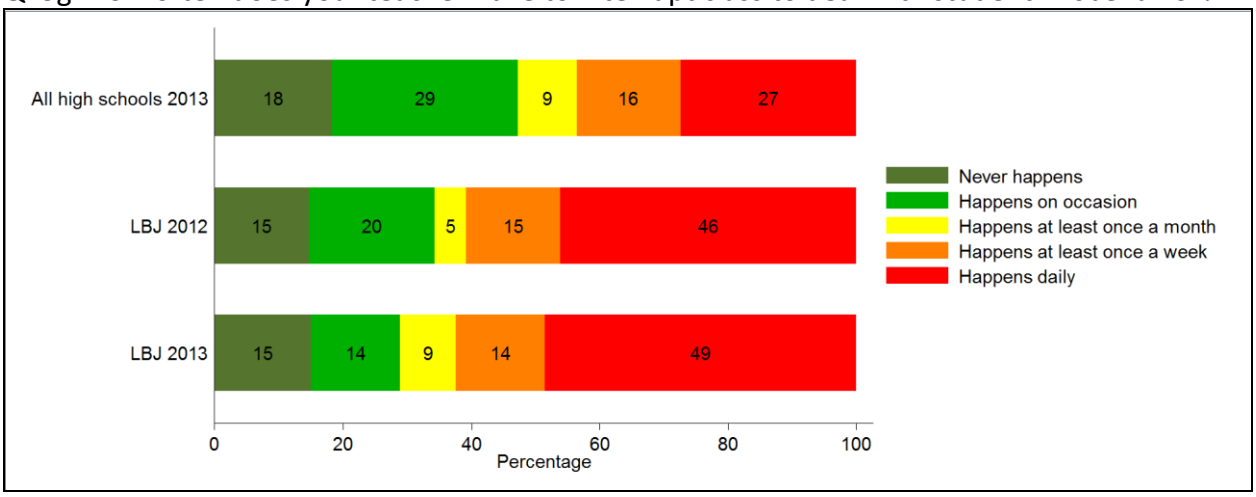
Zoran Stojakovic
11/13/13
Display of visual correlations among multiple layered datasets do not represent cause and effect relationships.

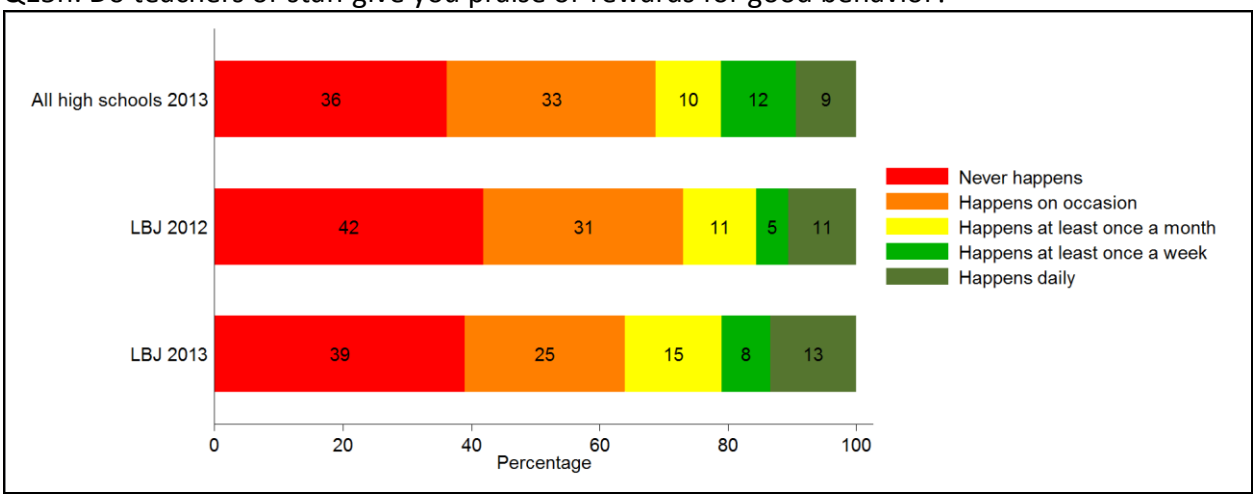
Q15c: How often do acts of disrespect for teachers occur at your school?




Q15g: How often does your teacher have to interrupt class to deal with student misbehavior?




Q15h: Do teachers or staff give you praise or rewards for good behavior?



Q9: During the last month, did you miss one or more school days due to any of the following reasons?

| | LBJ 2012-2013 | Percentage point change from 2011-2012* | All high schools 2012-2013 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Was sick** | 60% | 3 | 60% |
| **Had to do something with family** | 39% | 2 | 38% |
| **Was too tired** | 39% | 10 | 33% |
| **Wanted to hang out with friends** | 16% | -5 | 18% |
| **Felt too sad or depressed to attend** | 13% | -1 | 16% |
| **Didn't have a way to get to school** | 19% | -1 | 14% |
| **Didn't get along well with teachers** | 14% | 0 | 9% |
| **Had to go to work** | 11% | 4 | 7% |
| **Didn't feel safe at school** | 7% | 1 | 5% |
| **Didn't feel safe on the way to/from school** | 10% | 2 | 5% |
| **None** | 19% | -6 | 24% |

Note. Percentages are of students who reported missing school due to any of the above reasons. Percentages may sum to more than 100% because respondents were allowed to choose multiple items.

* Negative percentage point changes indicate fewer students reported missing school due to any of the above reasons in 2012-2013than in 2011-2012.

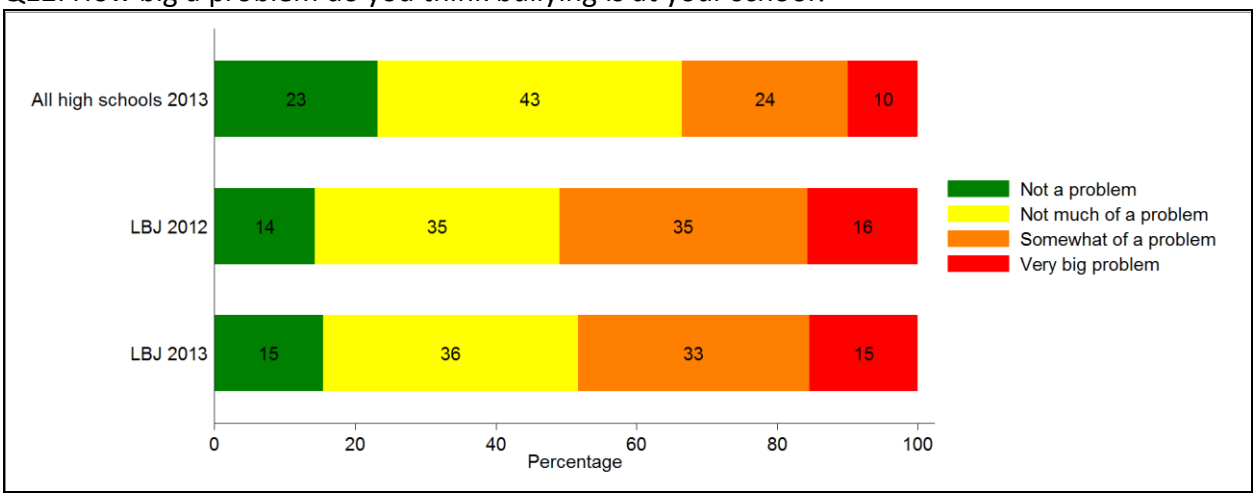
Q10: During this school year, have you experienced any of the following types of bullying at school?

| | LBJ 2012-2013 | Percentage point change from 2011-2012* | All high schools 2012-2013 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Verbal** | 24% | 1 | 18% |
| **Social** | 21% | -5 | 19% |
| **Racial or ethnic harassment** | 14% | -5 | 11% |
| **Physical** | 15% | 1 | 9% |
| **Sexual harassment** | 10% | 0 | 8% |
| **Cyber bullying** | 9% | -4 | 7% |
| **Hurtful or controlling dating behavior** | 7% | -5 | 6% |
| **Written** | 6% | -3 | 5% |
| **Hazing/Initiation** | 4 | -3 | 4 |
| **None** | 65% | 9 | 8% |

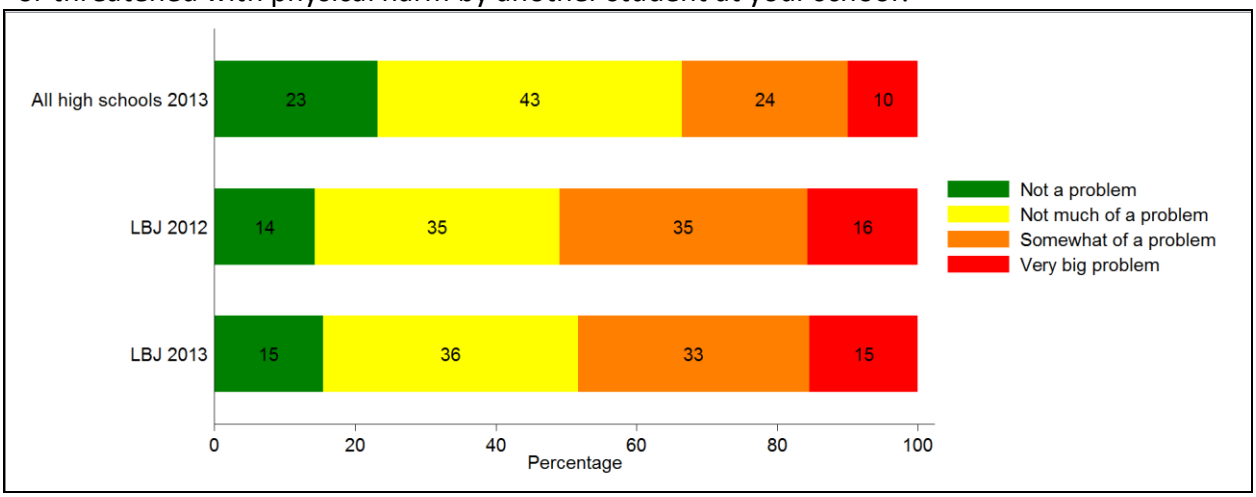
Note. Percentages are of students who reported experiencing types of bullying listed above. Percentages may sum to more than 100% because respondents were allowed to choose multiple items.

* Negative percentage point changes indicate fewer students reported experiencing types of bullying in 2012-2013 than in 2011-2012.

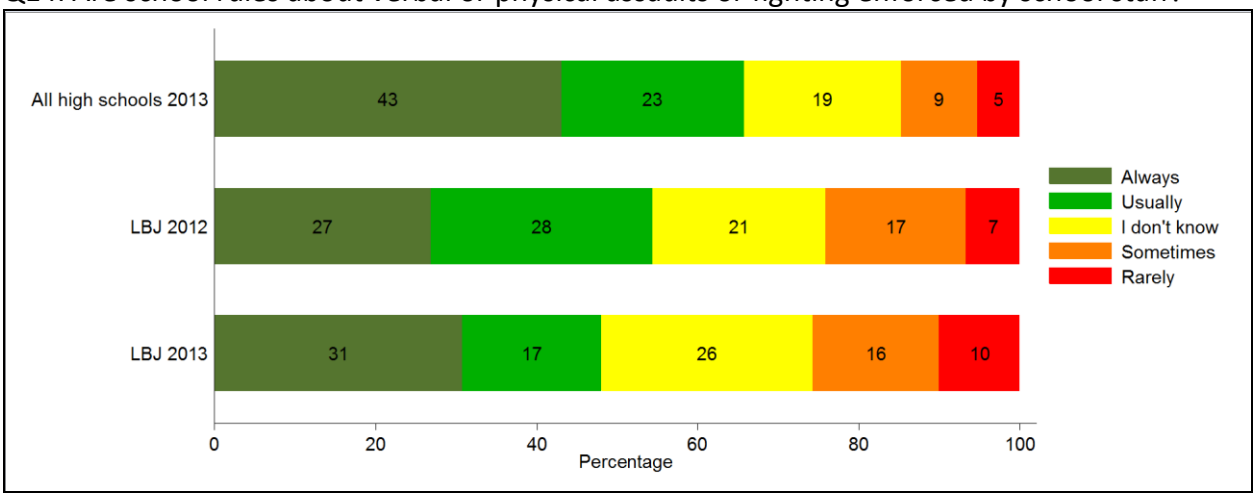
Q12: How big a problem do you think bullying is at your school?



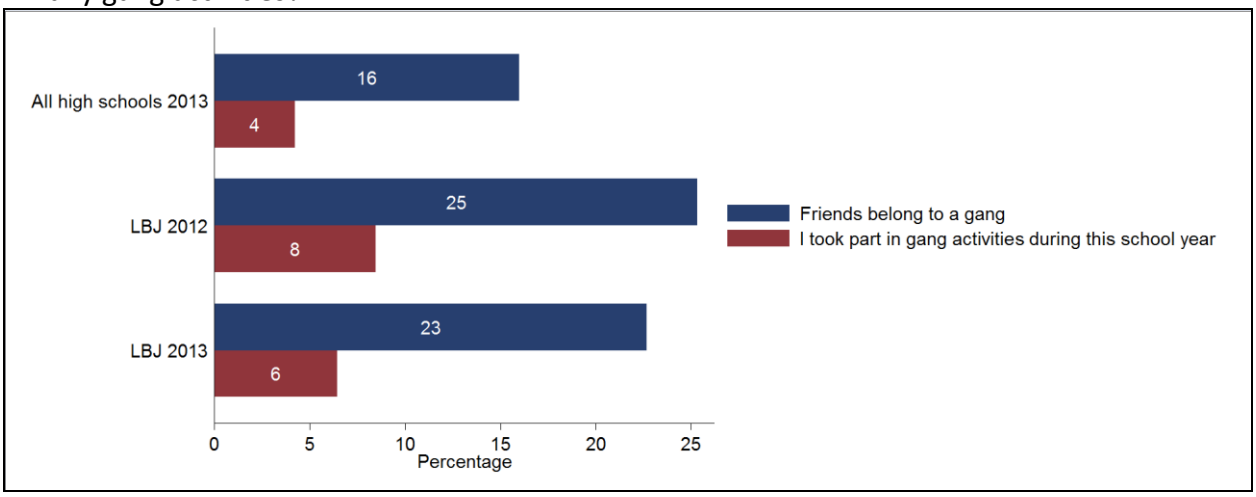

Q11: During this school year, how often have you or your close friends been physically harmed or threatened with physical harm by another student at your school?



Q14: Are school rules about verbal or physical assaults or fighting enforced by school staff?



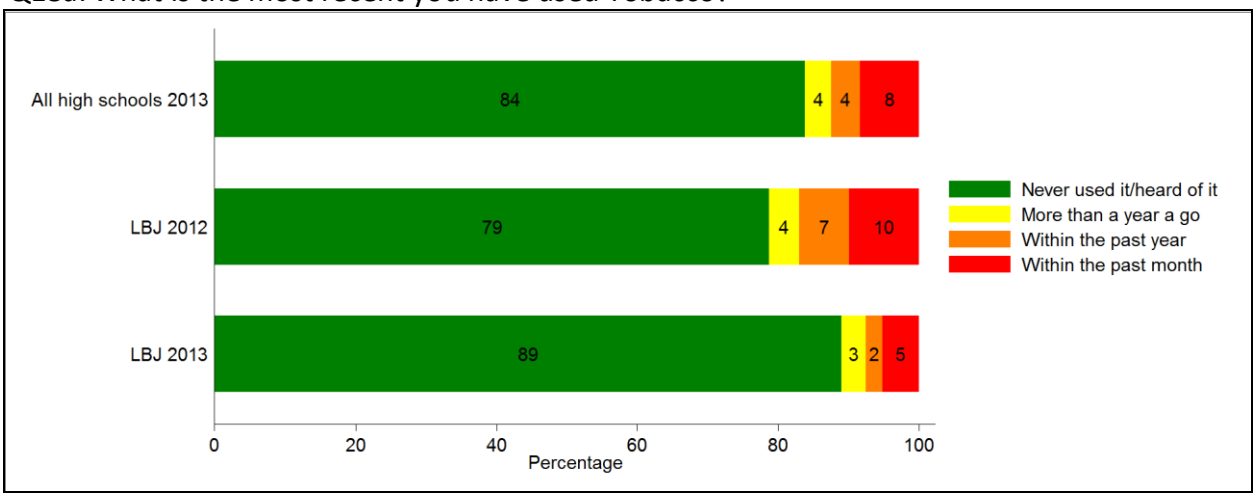

Q16 & Q17: Do any of your friends belong to a gang? During this school year, did you take part in any gang activities?



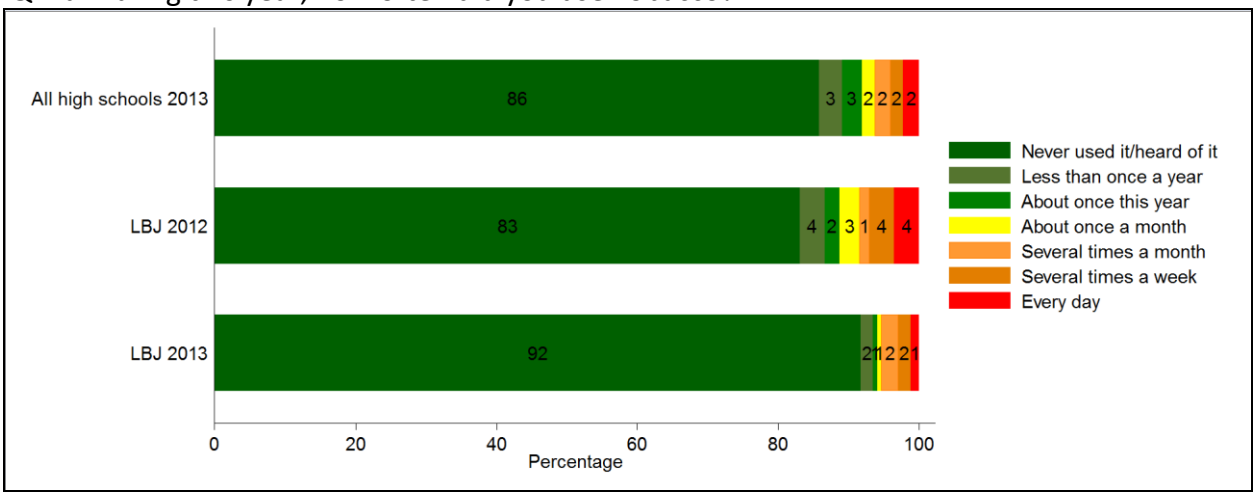
## SUBSTANCE USE ITEMS

**TOBACCO:**

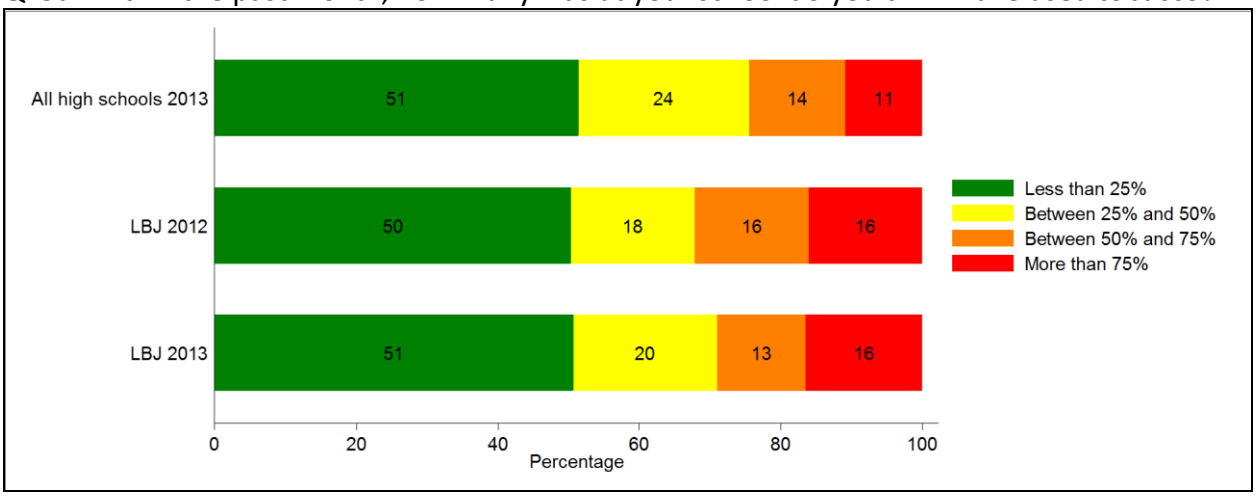
Q18a: What is the most recent you have used Tobacco?



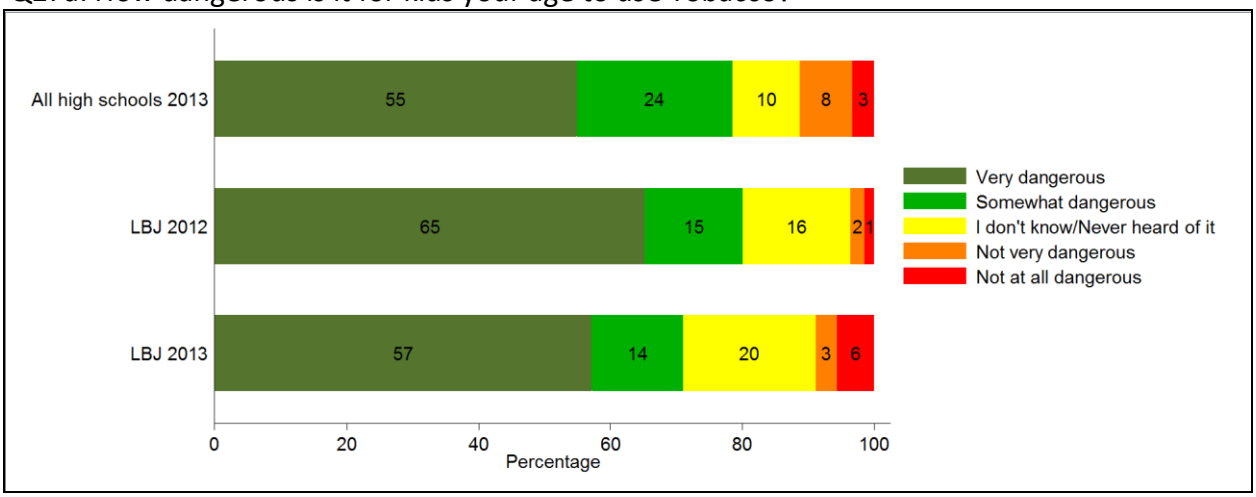

Q21a: During this year, how often did you use Tobacco?



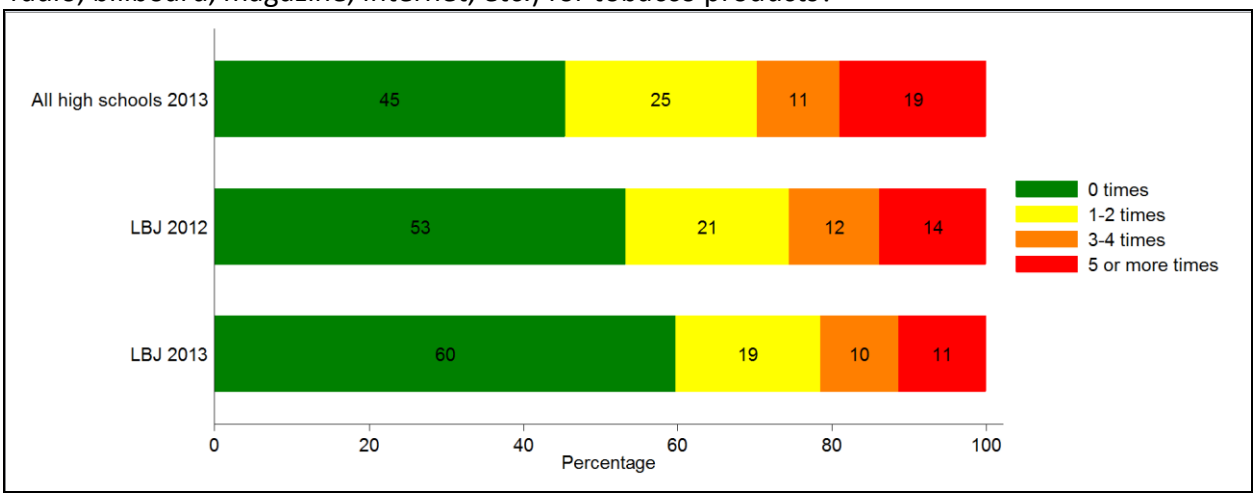

Q29a. Within the past month, how many kids at your school do you think have used tobacco?

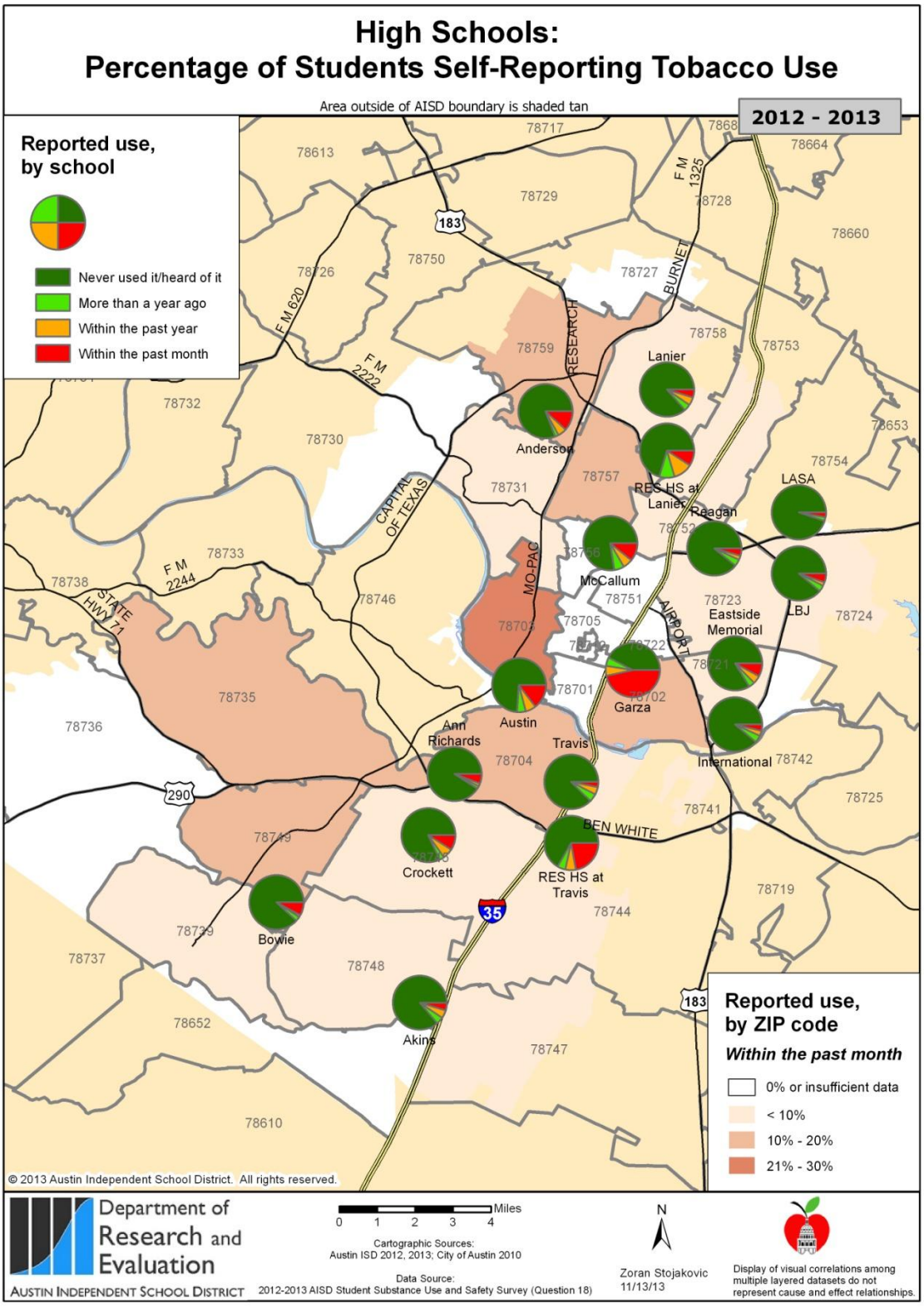


Q27a: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use Tobacco?




Q28g. During the school year, how many times have you experienced advertisements (TV, radio, billboard, magazine, internet, etc.) for tobacco products?




High Schools:
Percentage of Students Self-Reporting Tobacco Use
Area outside of AISD boundary is shaded tan
2012 - 2013
Reported use, by school
Never used it/heard of it
More than a year ago
Within the past year
Within the past month
Reported use, by ZIP code
Within the past month
0% or insufficient data
< 10%
10% - 20%
21% - 30%
Lanier
Anderson
RES HS at Lanier
Reagan
LASA
McCallum
LBJ
Eastside Memorial
Austin
Garza
Ann Richards
Travis
International
Crockett
RES HS at Travis
Bowie
Akins
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Austin Independent School District
Miles
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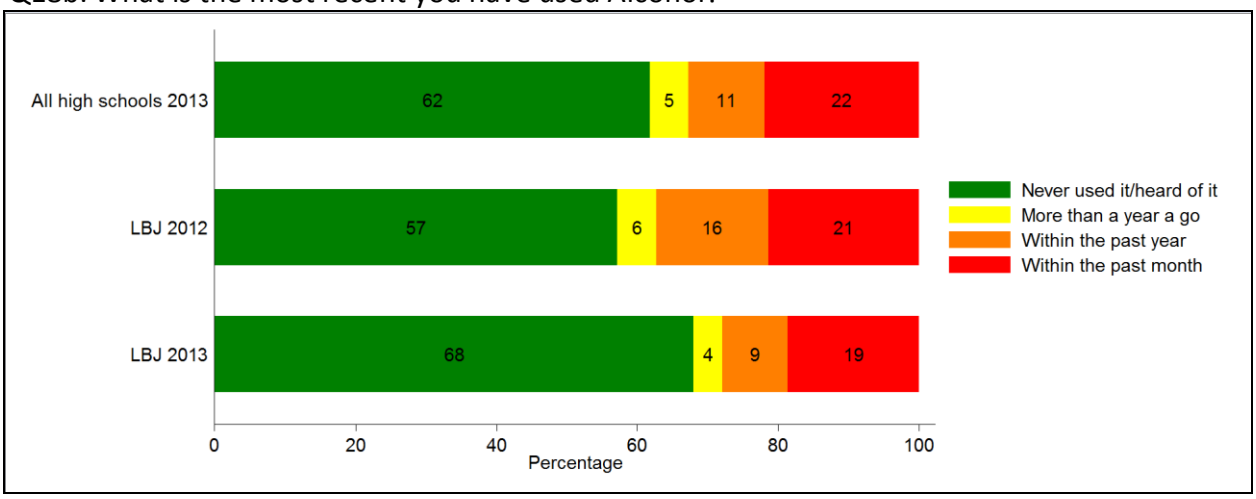
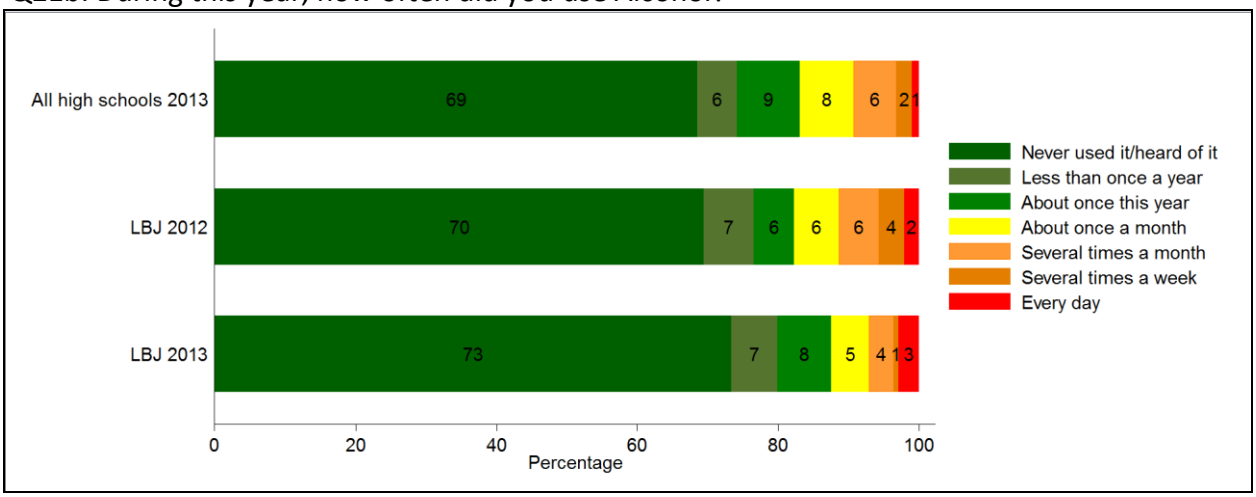
Data Source:
2012-2013 AISD Student Substance Use and Safety Survey (Question 18)
N
Zoran Stojakovic
11/13/13
Display of visual correlations among multiple layered datasets do not represent cause and effect relationships.

**ALCOHOL:**

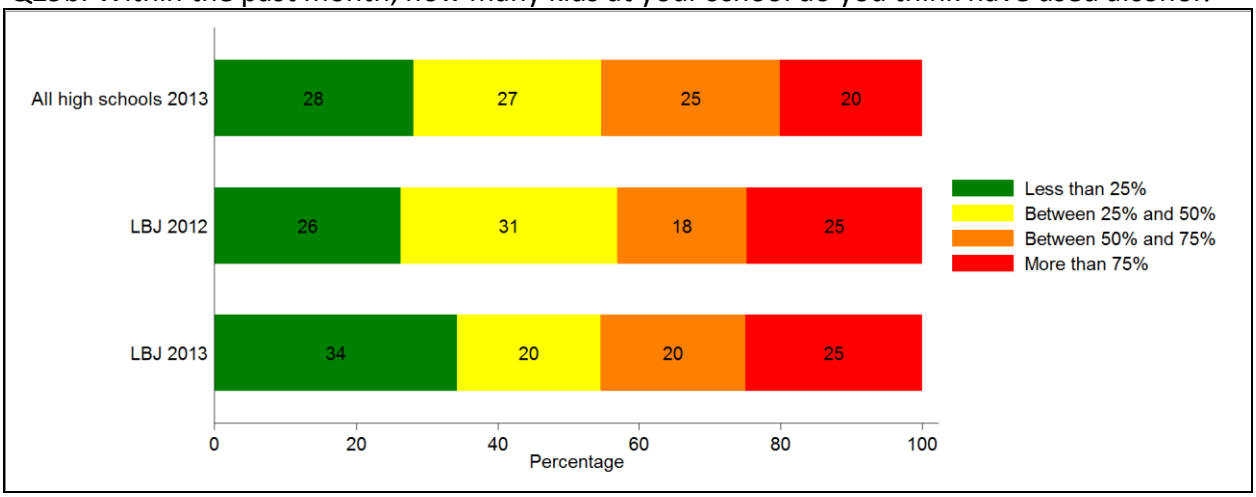
Q18b: What is the most recent you have used Alcohol?



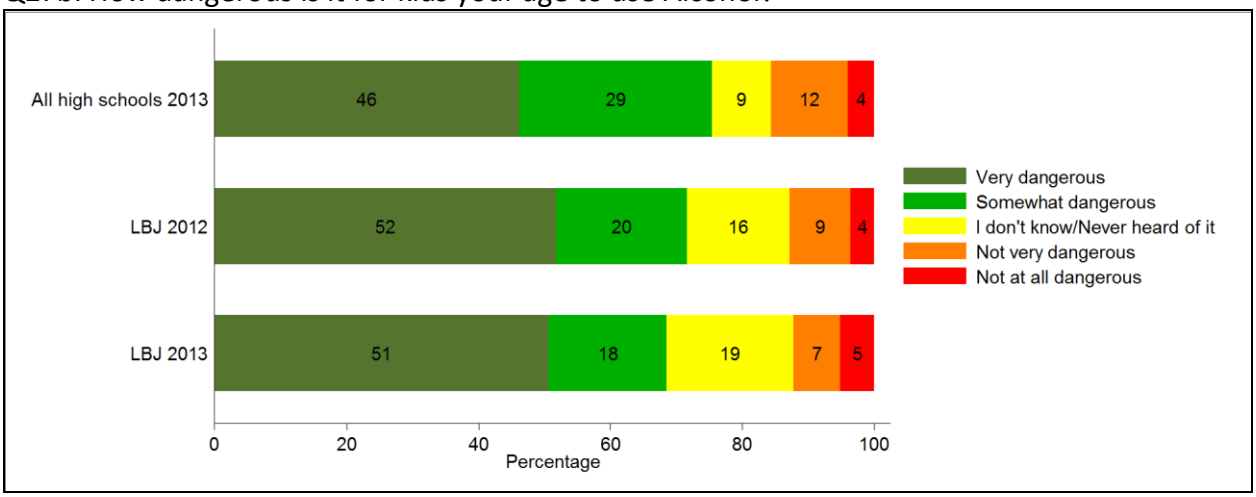

Q21b: During this year, how often did you use Alcohol?



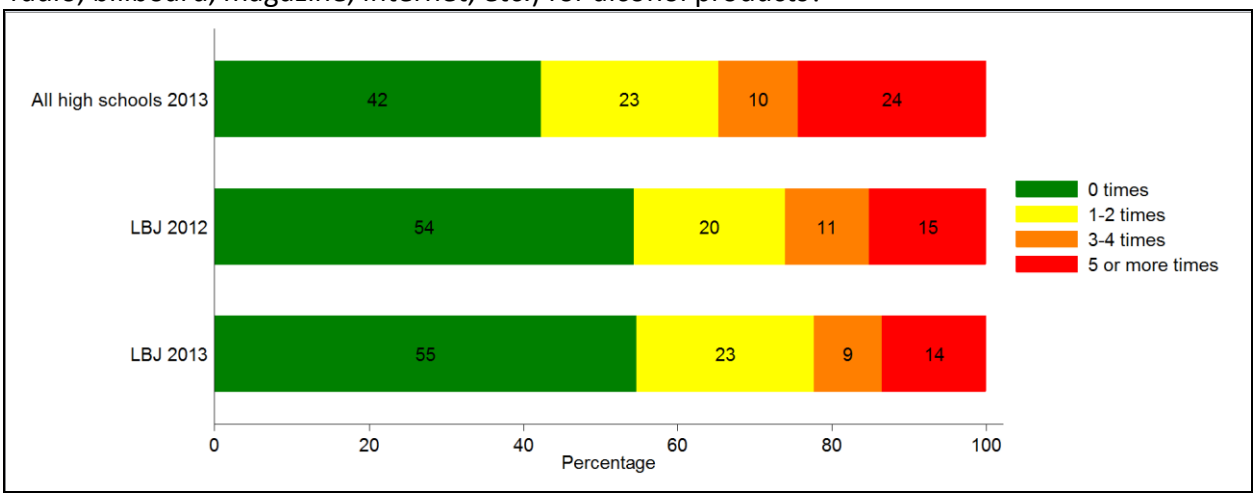

Q29b. Within the past month, how many kids at your school do you think have used alcohol?

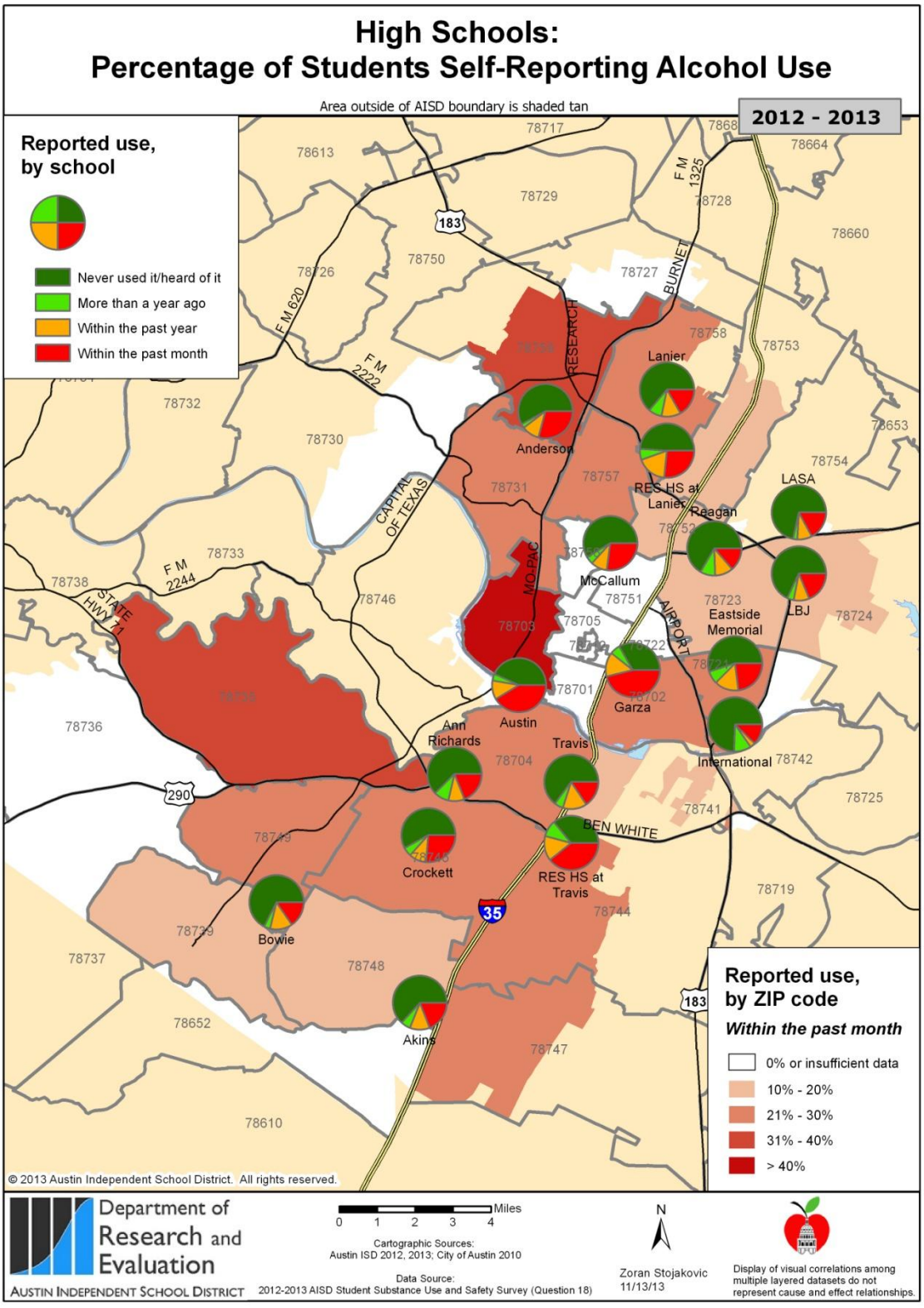


Q27b: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use Alcohol?




Q28f. During the school year, how many times have you experienced advertisements (TV, radio, billboard, magazine, internet, etc.) for alcohol products?

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Reported use, by school
Never used it/heard of it
More than a year ago
Within the past year
Within the past month
Lanier
Anderson
RES HS at Lanier
Reagan
LASA
McCallum
LBJ
Eastside Memorial
Austin
Garza
Ann Richards
Travis
International
Crockett
RES HS at Travis
Bowie
Akins
Reported use, by ZIP code
Within the past month
0% or insufficient data
10% - 20%
21% - 30%
31% - 40%
> 40%
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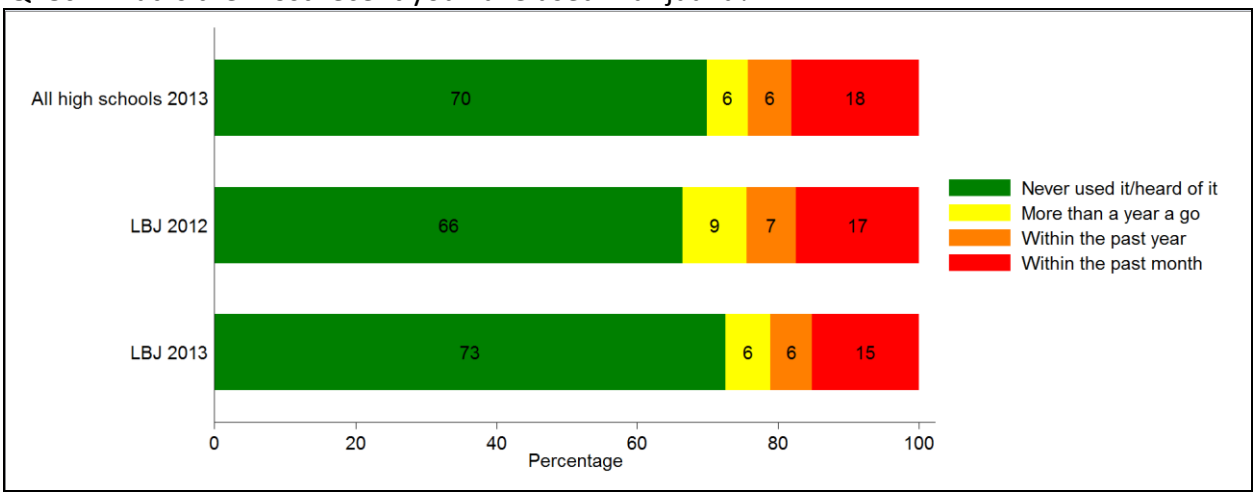
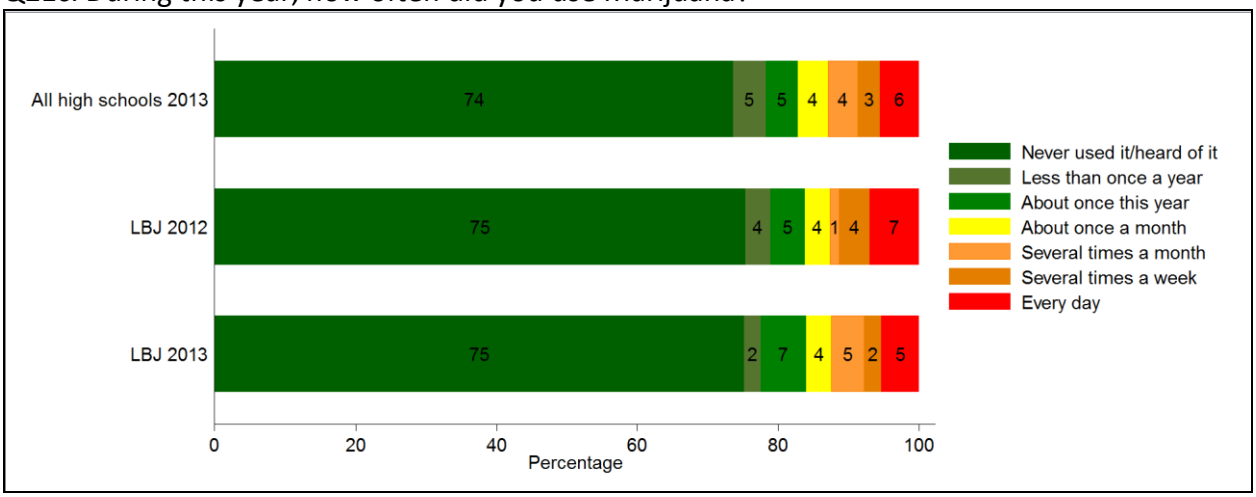
Department of Research and Evaluation
Austin Independent School District
Miles
0 1 2 3 4
Cartographic Sources:
Austin ISD 2012, 2013; City of Austin 2010
Data Source:
2012-2013 AISD Student Substance Use and Safety Survey (Question 18)
N
Zoran Stojakovic
11/13/13
Display of visual correlations among multiple layered datasets do not represent cause and effect relationships.

**MARIJUANA:**

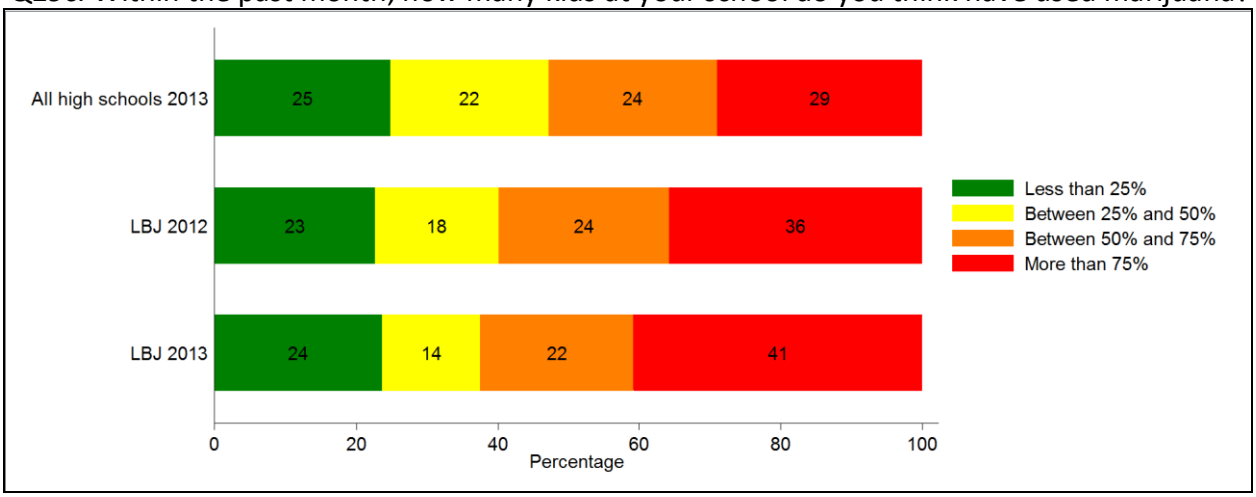
Q18c: What is the most recent you have used Marijuana?



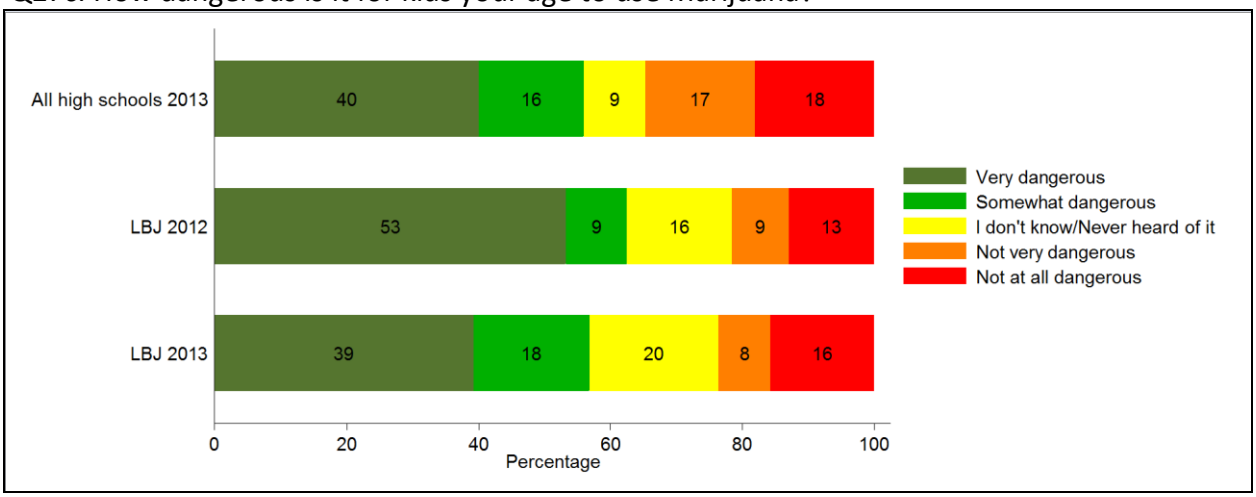

Q21c: During this year, how often did you use Marijuana?

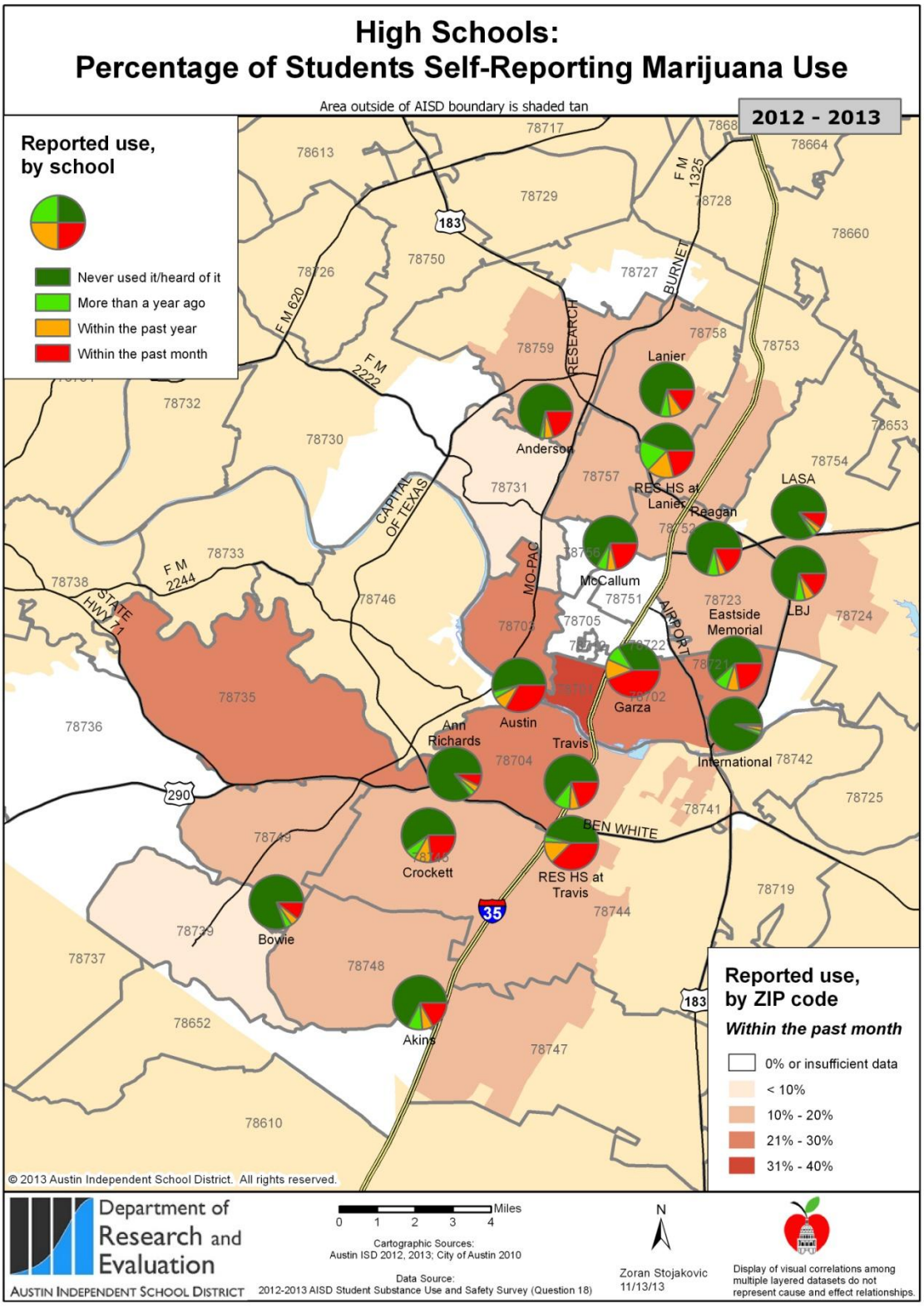



Q29c. Within the past month, how many kids at your school do you think have used marijuana?



Q27c: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use Marijuana?




High Schools:
Percentage of Students Self-Reporting Marijuana Use
Area outside of AISD boundary is shaded tan
2012 - 2013
Reported use, by school
Never used it/heard of it
More than a year ago
Within the past year
Within the past month
Reported use, by ZIP code
Within the past month
0% or insufficient data
< 10%
10% - 20%
21% - 30%
31% - 40%
Lanier
Anderson
RES HS at Lanier
Reagan
LASA
McCallum
LBJ
Eastside Memorial
Garza
Austin
Ann Richards
Travis
International
Crockett
RES HS at Travis
Bowie
Akins
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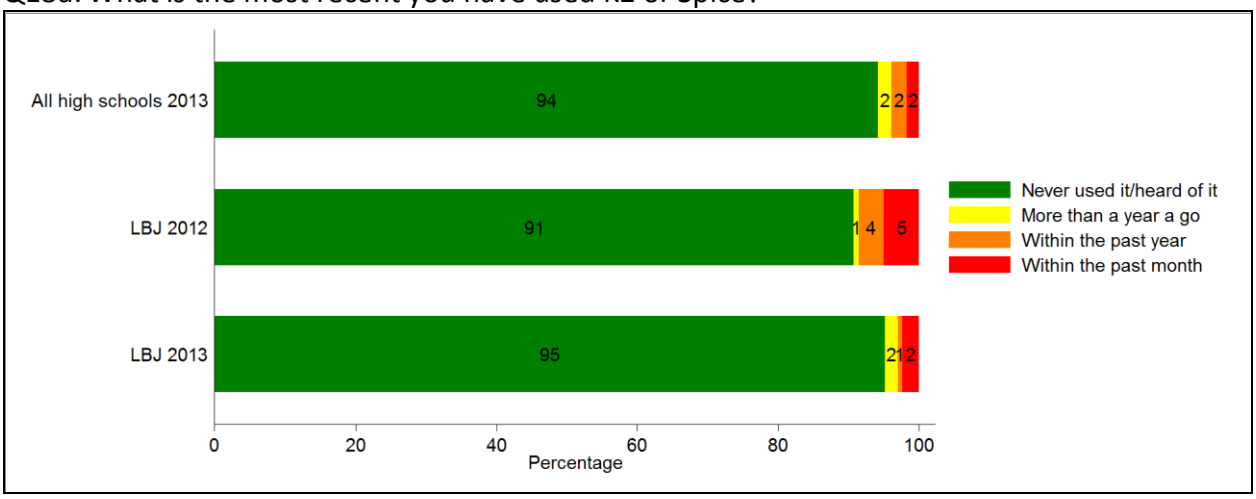
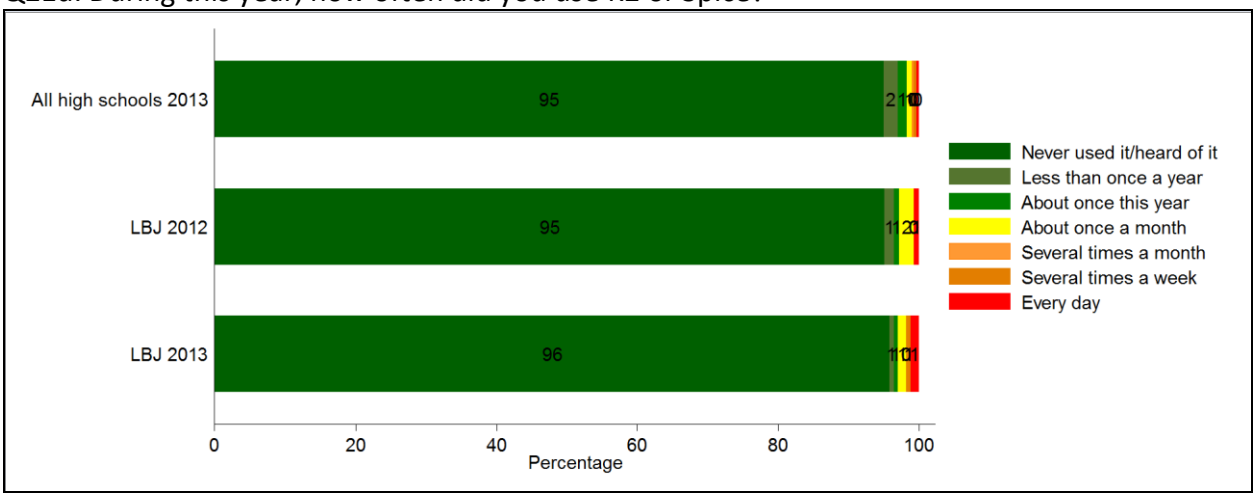
Department of Research and Evaluation
Austin Independent School District
Miles
0 1 2 3 4
Cartographic Sources:
Austin ISD 2012, 2013; City of Austin 2010
Data Source:
2012-2013 AISD Student Substance Use and Safety Survey (Question 18)
N
Zoran Stojakovic
11/13/13
Display of visual correlations among multiple layered datasets do not represent cause and effect relationships.

**K2 OR SPICE:**

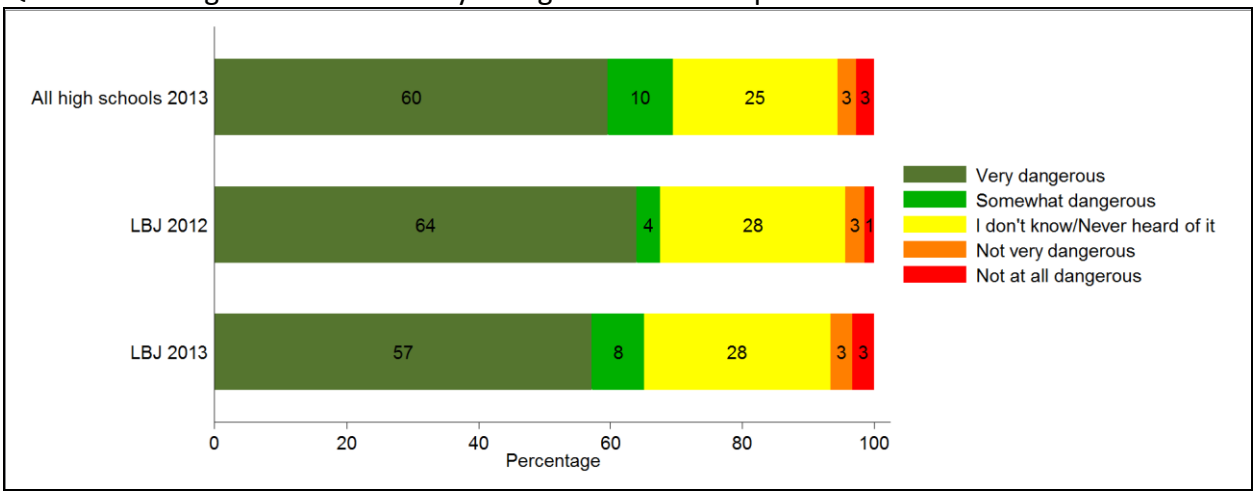
Q18d: What is the most recent you have used K2 or Spice?




Q21d: During this year, how often did you use K2 or Spice?

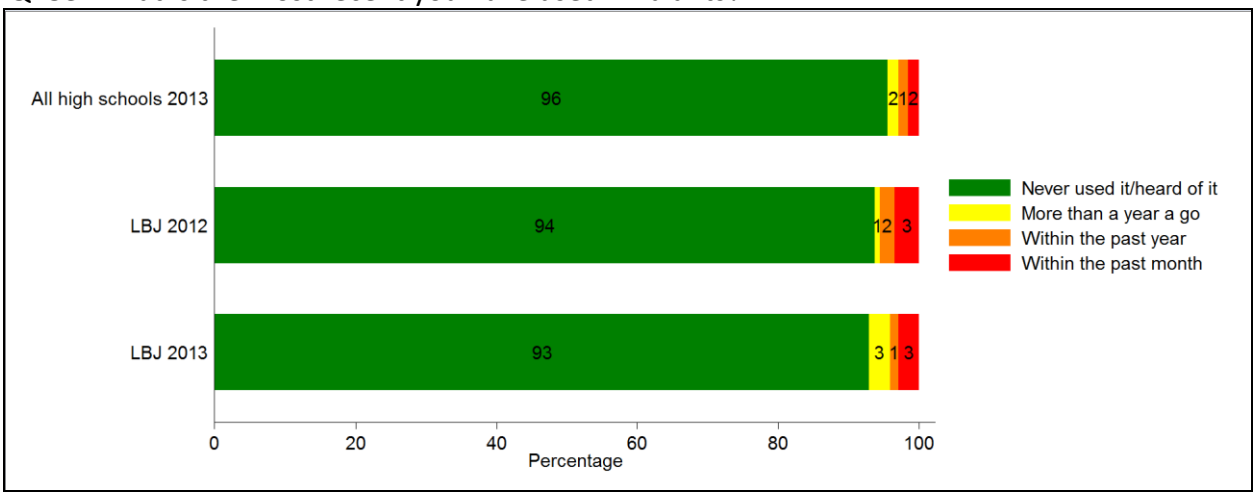



Q27d: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use K2 or Spice?

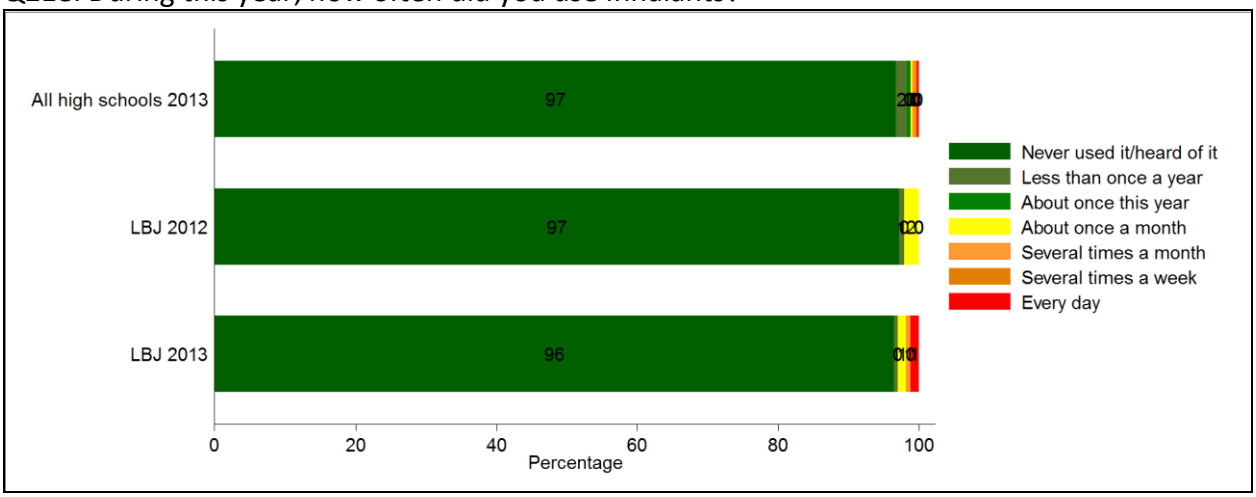


**INHALANTS:**

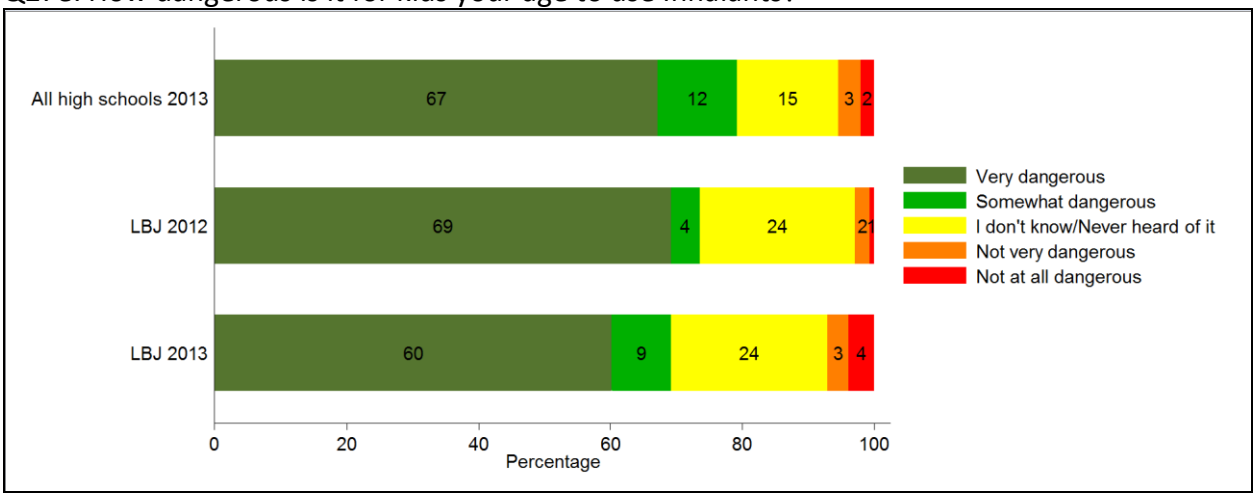
Q18e: What is the most recent you have used Inhalants?




Q21e: During this year, how often did you use Inhalants?

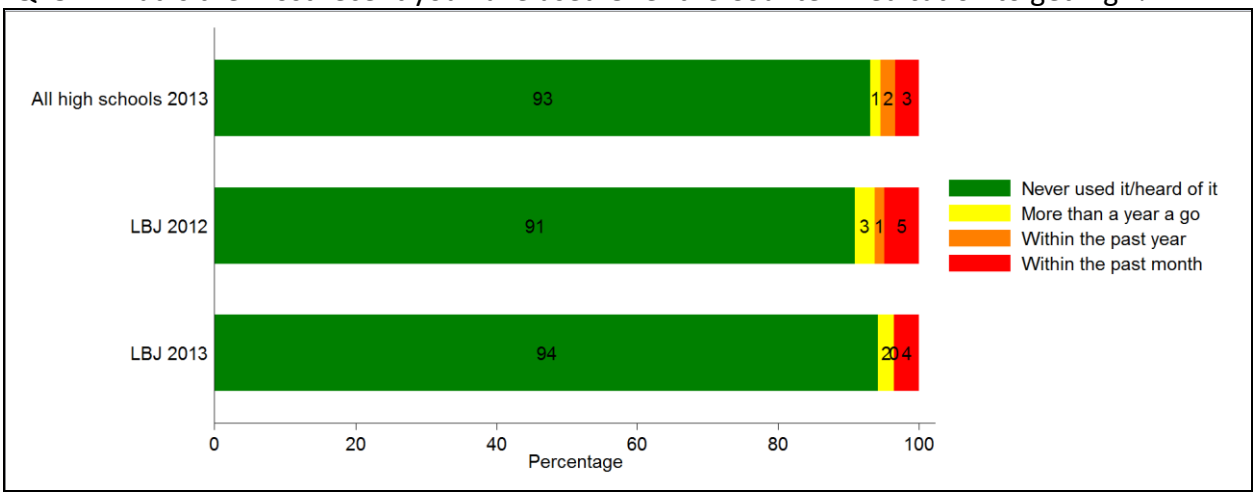



Q27e: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use Inhalants?

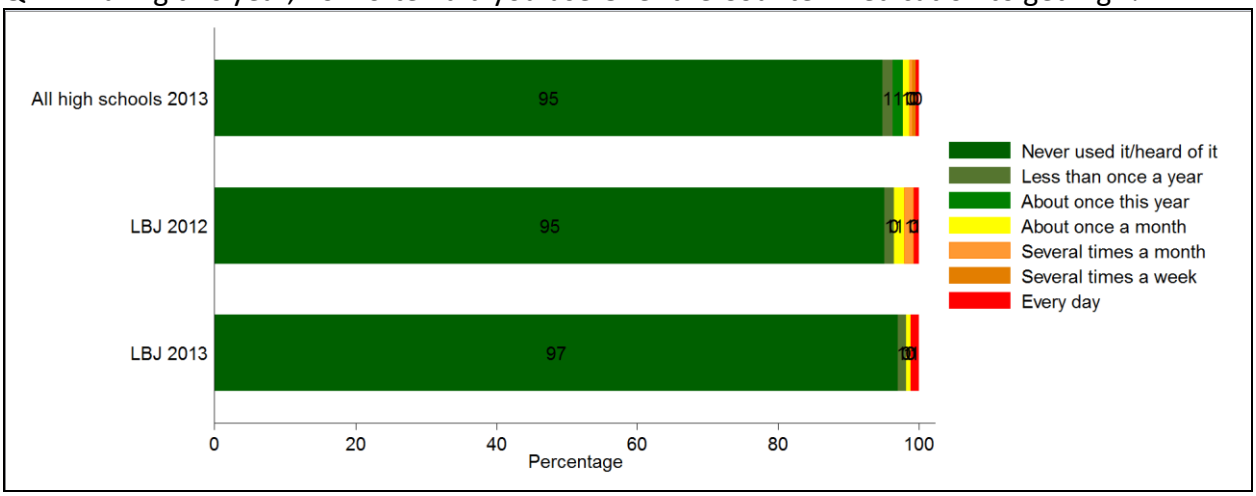


**OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATION:**

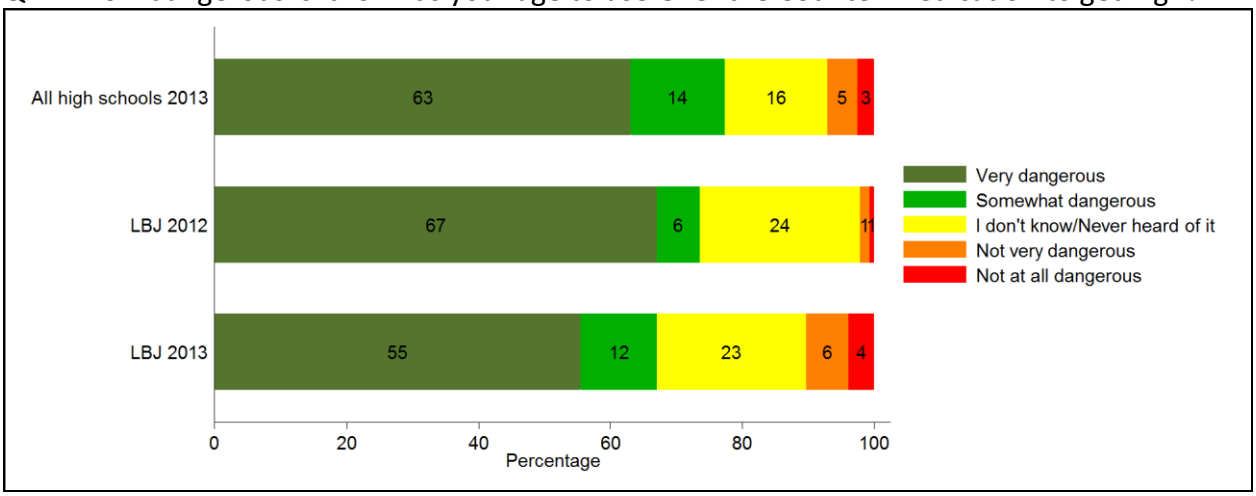
Q18f: What is the most recent you have used Over the Counter Medication to get high?




Q21f: During this year, how often did you use Over the Counter Medication to get high?

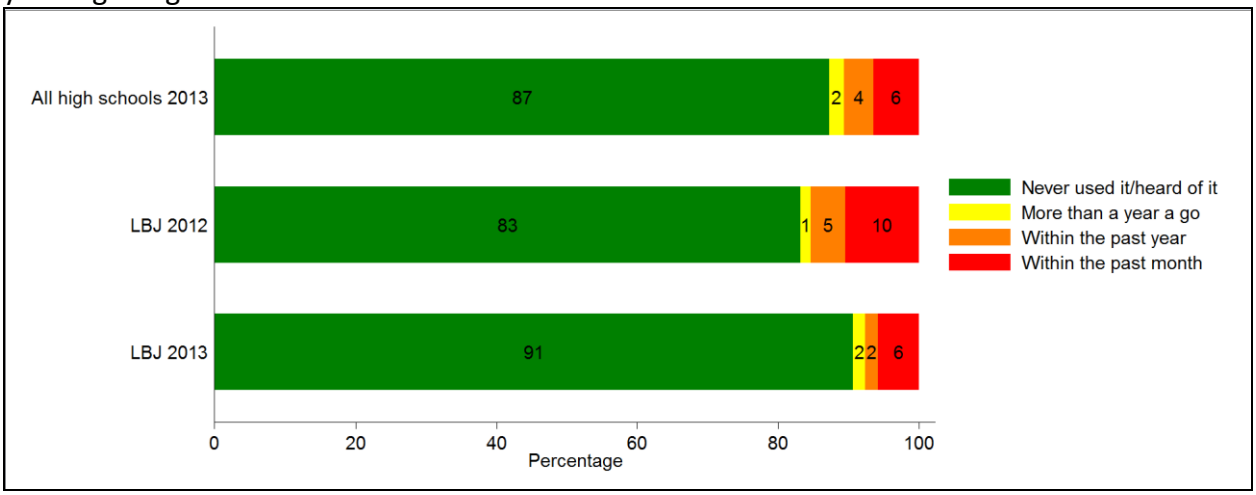



Q27f: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use Over the Counter Medication to get high?

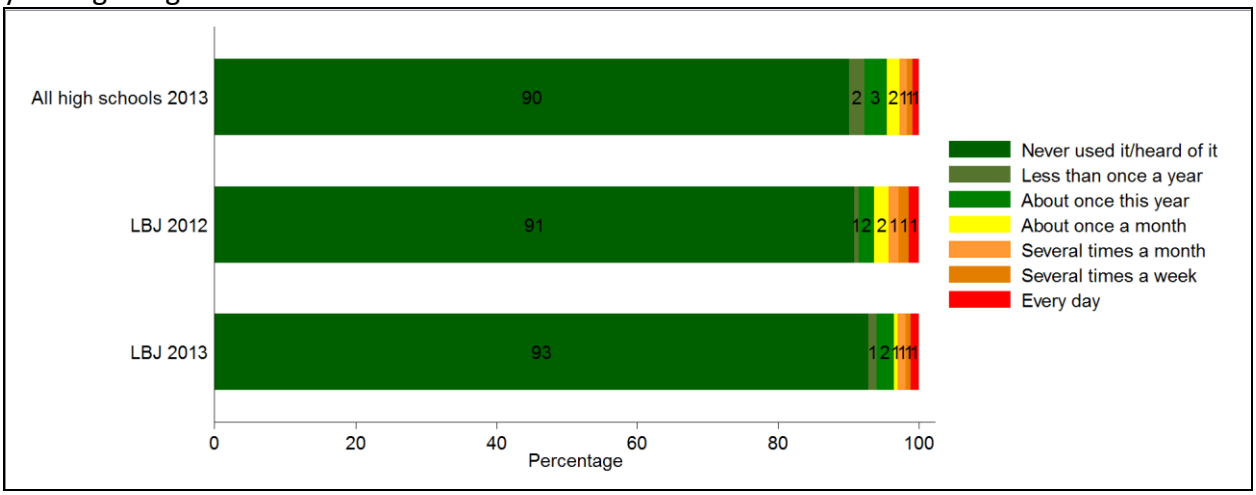


**PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:**

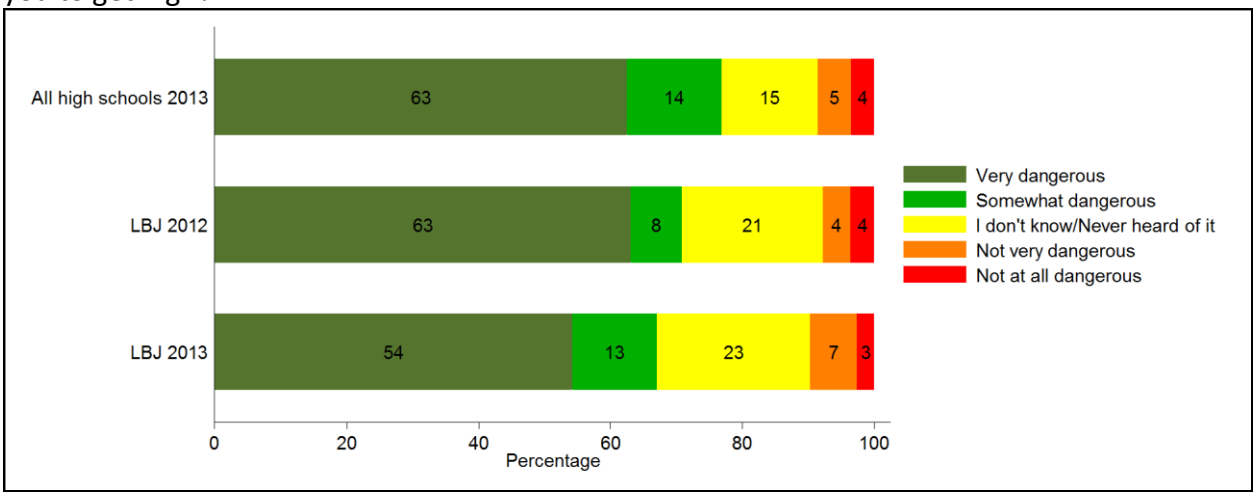
Q18g: What is the most recent you have used Prescription Drugs that were not prescribed to you to get high?




Q21g: During this year, how often did you use Prescription Drugs that were not prescribed to you to get high?

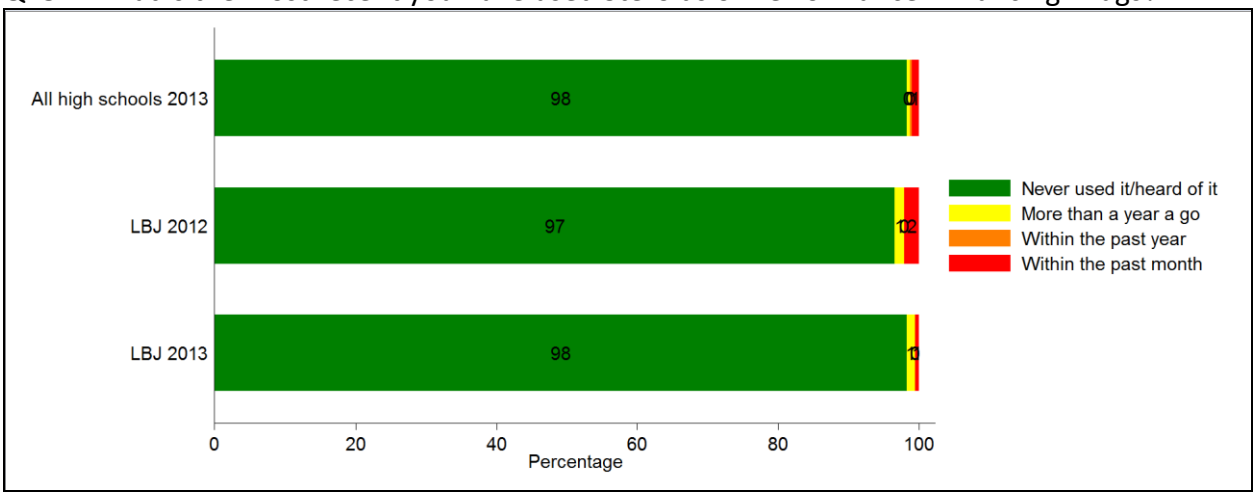



Q27g: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use Prescription Drugs that are not prescribed to you to get high?

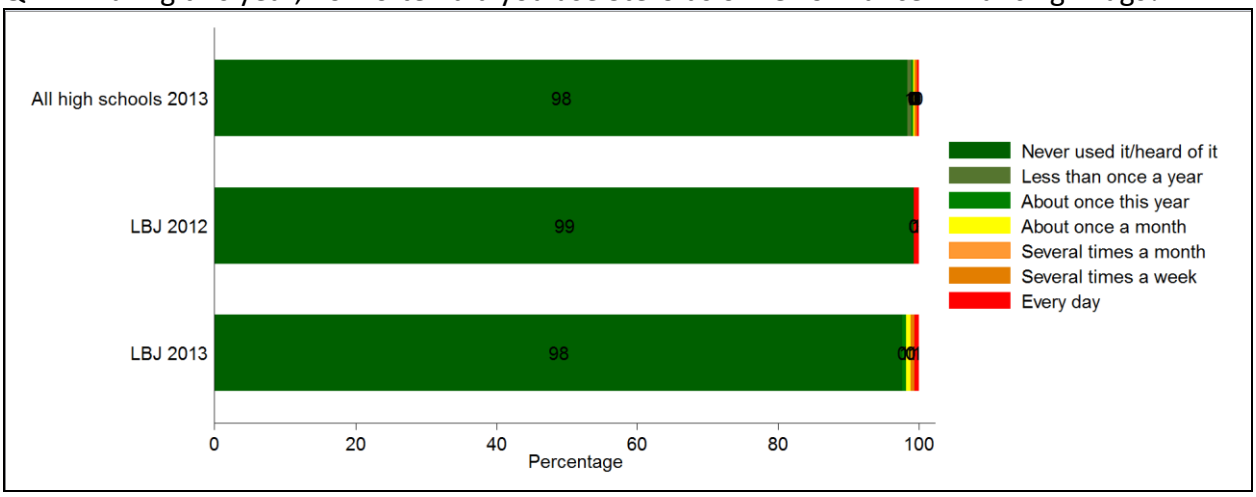


**STEROIDS OR PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS:**

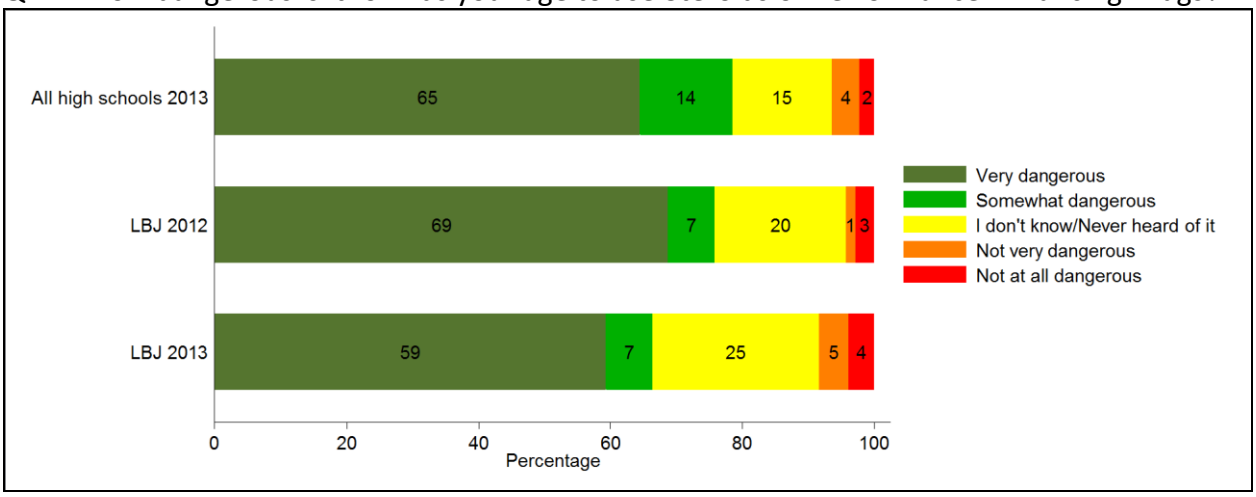
Q18h: What is the most recent you have used Steroids or Performance Enhancing Drugs?




Q21h: During this year, how often did you use Steroids or Performance Enhancing Drugs?

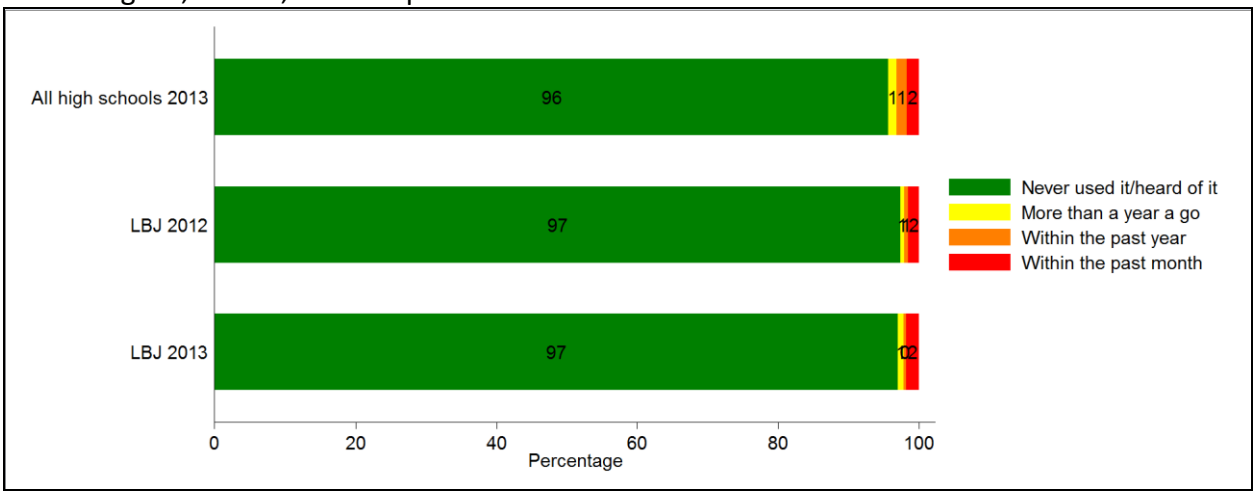



Q27h: How dangerous is it for kids your age to use Steroids or Performance Enhancing Drugs?

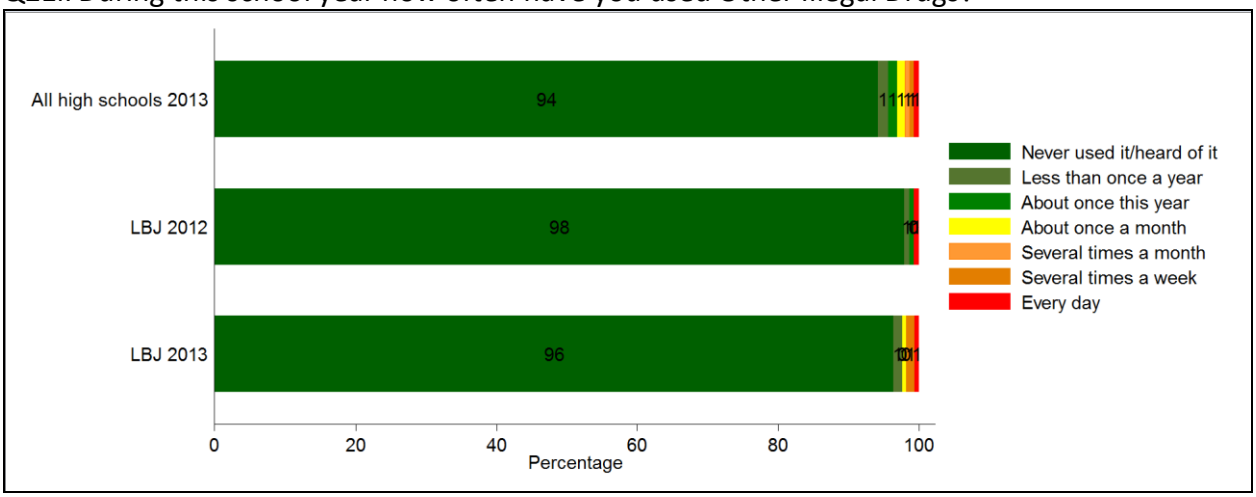


**OTHER ILLEGAL DRUGS:**

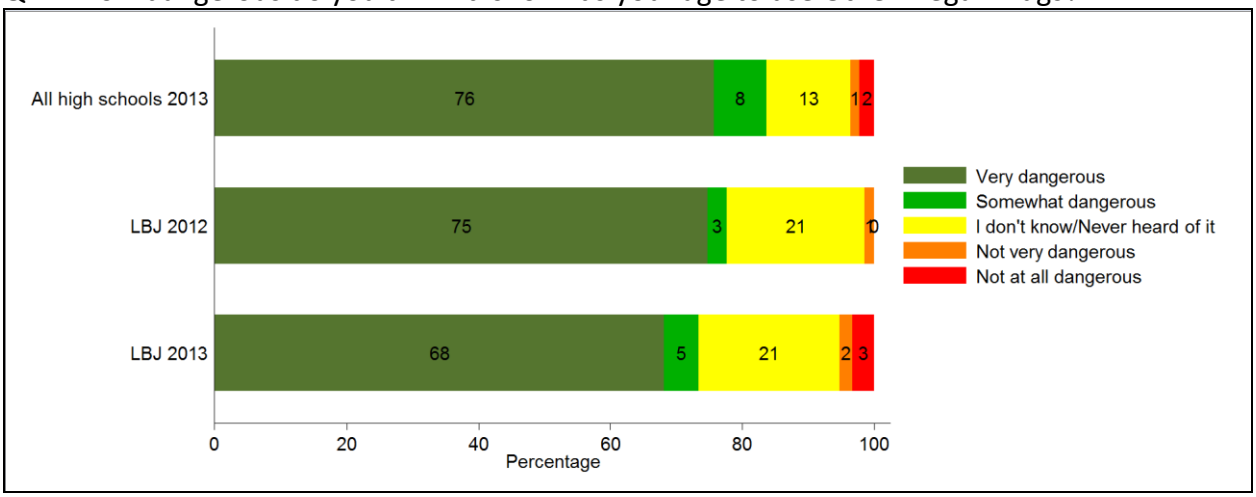
Q18i: What is the most recent you have used Other Illegal Drugs (e.g. cocaine, ecstacy, hallucinogens, heroin, methamphetamines?



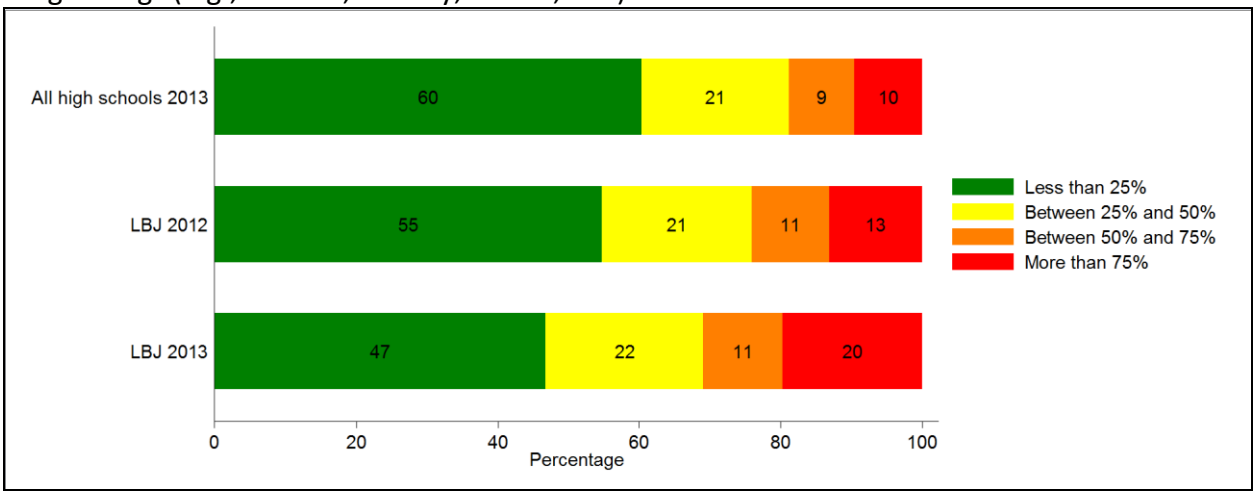

Q21i: During this school year how often have you used Other Illegal Drugs?




Q27i: How dangerous do you think it is for kids your age to use Other Illegal Drugs?

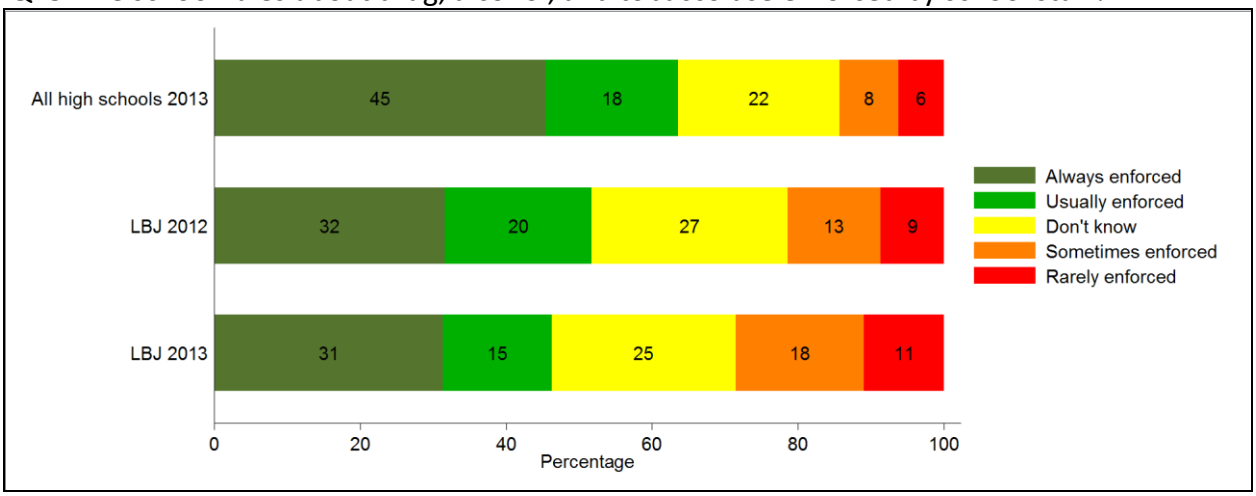


Q29d. Within the past month, how many kids at your school do you think have used other illegal drugs (e.g., cocaine, ecstasy, heroin, etc.) ?

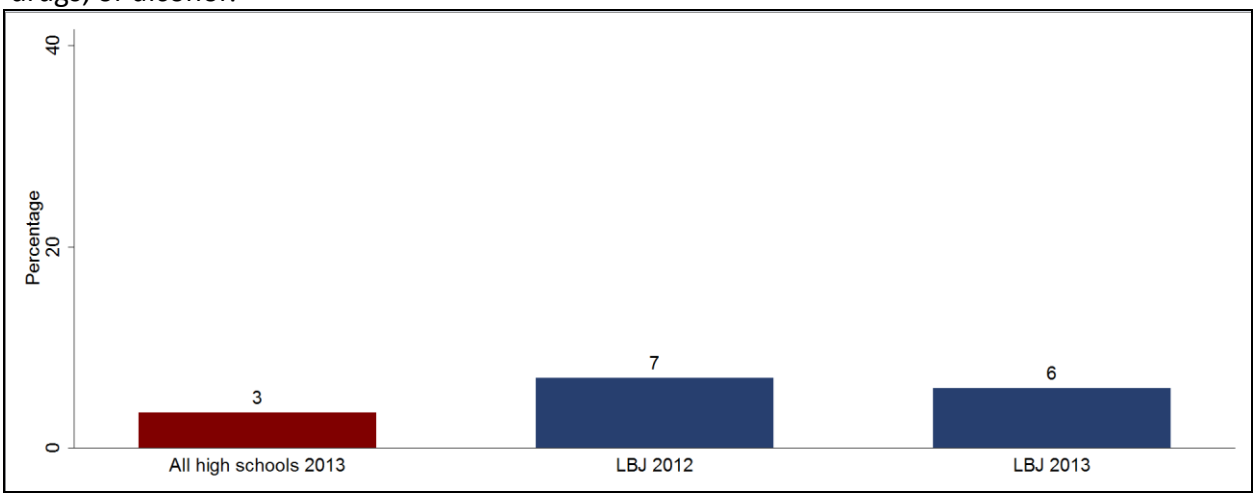


**OPINIONS, EXPERIENCE, AND EXPOSURE:**

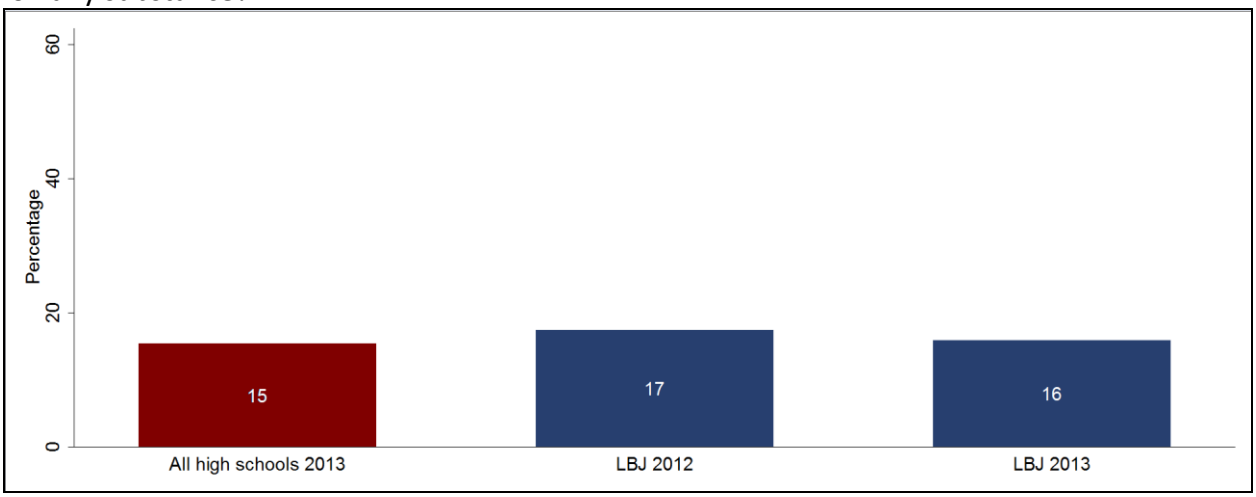
Q13: Are school rules about drug, alcohol, and tobacco use enforced by school staff?




Q19: During this school year, have you gotten into trouble with the police because of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol?




Q20: During this school year, have you attended any class while "high", "stoned", or "drunk" on any substance?



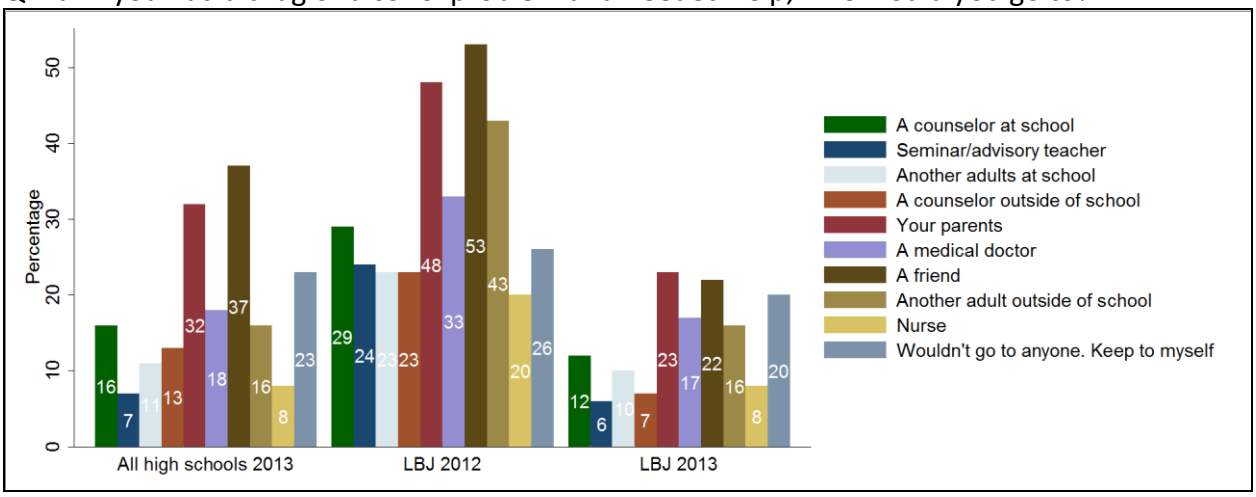
Question 24 was expanded for the 2012-2013 SSUSS. In addition to asking students who they would go to if they experienced problems with drugs or alcohol, they were also asked who they would go to if they experienced problems related to schoolwork or academics; bullying, violence, or personal safety; friends or family; and health.

Overall, at both the high school and middle school levels it appeared that survey respondents would largely approach friends, parents, and/or counselors if they experienced problems with drugs or alcohol; bullying, violence, or threats to personal safety; or issues with family or friends.

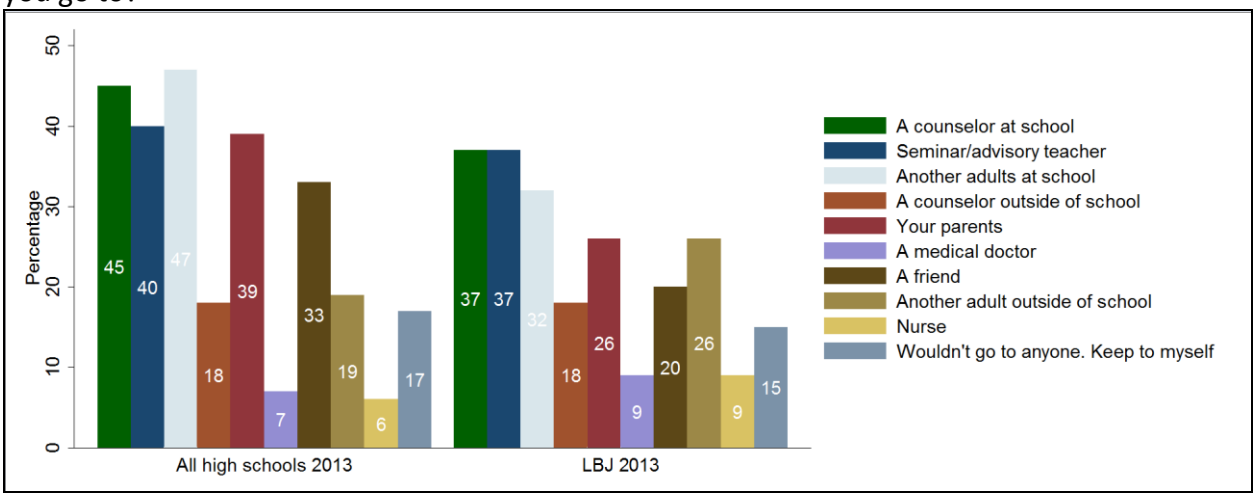
At both levels, the majority of respondents reported they would go to a teacher at school if they experienced problems with schoolwork or academics.

Lastly, at both levels, most survey respondents reported they would go to a doctor or school nurse if they experienced health issues.

Q24a: If you had a drug or alcohol problem and needed help, who would you go to?

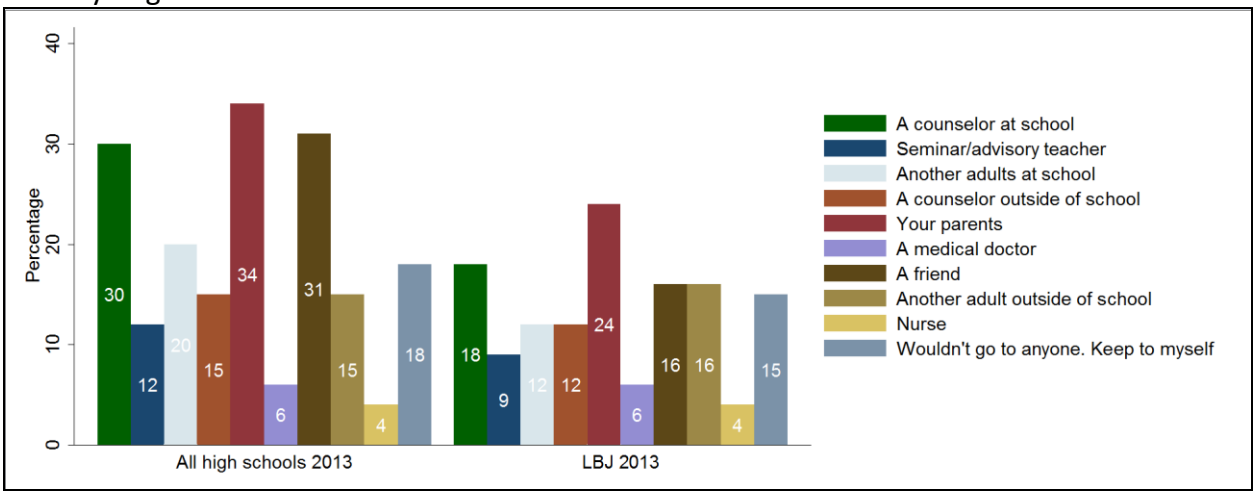



Q24b: If you had problems with your schoolwork or academics and needed help, who would you go to?



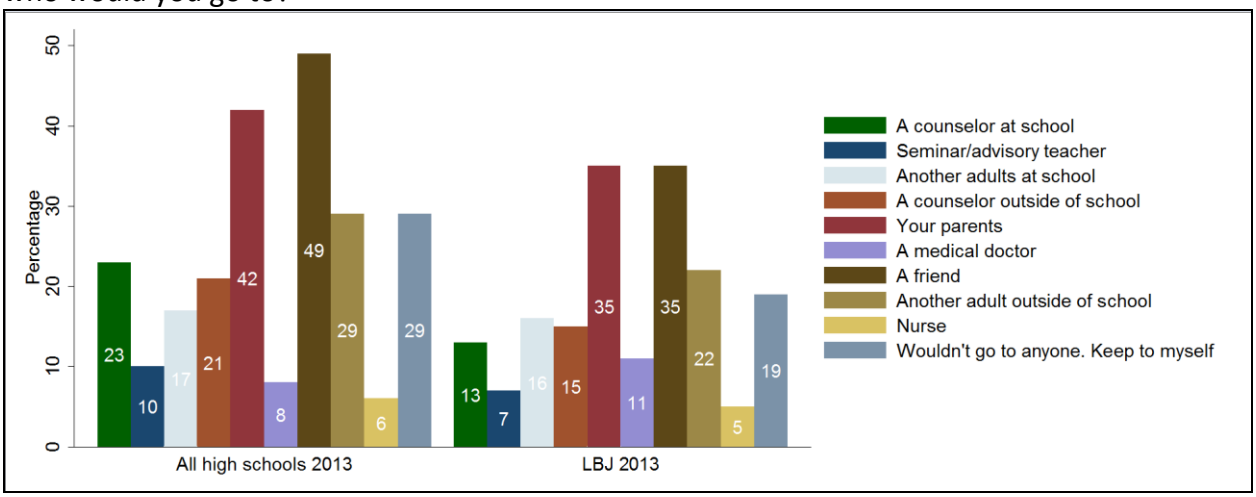

Note. This question was not asked in the 2011-2012 survey.

Q24c: If you experienced bullying, violence, or threats to personal safety and needed help, who would you go to?



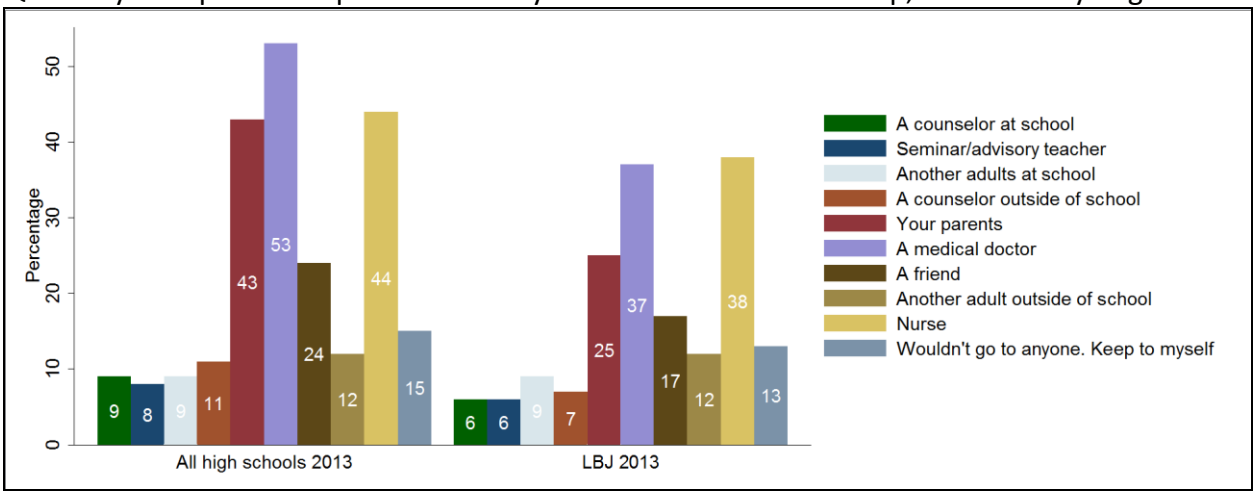

Note. This question was not asked in the 2011-2012 survey.

Q24d: If you experienced social problems or problems with friends or family and needed help, who would you go to?



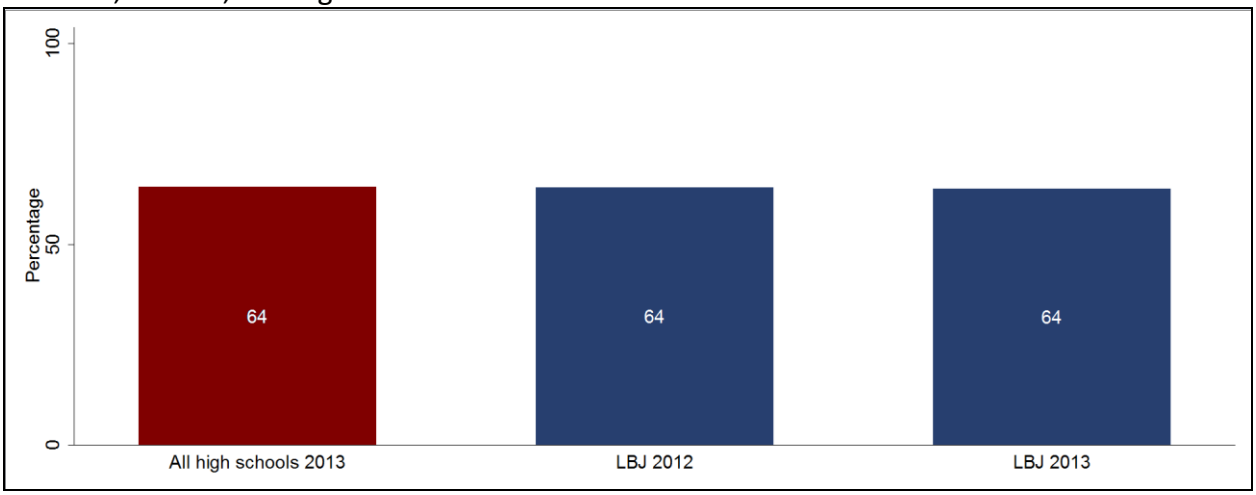

Note. This question was not asked in the 2011-2012 survey.

Q24e: If you experienced problems with your health and needed help, who would you go to?

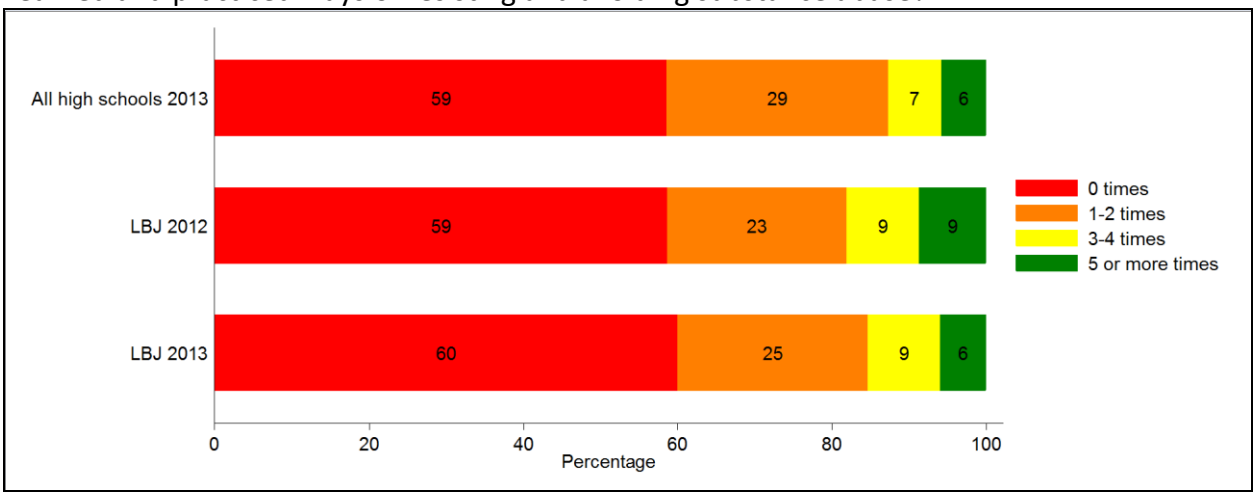



Note. This question was not asked in the 2011-2012 survey.

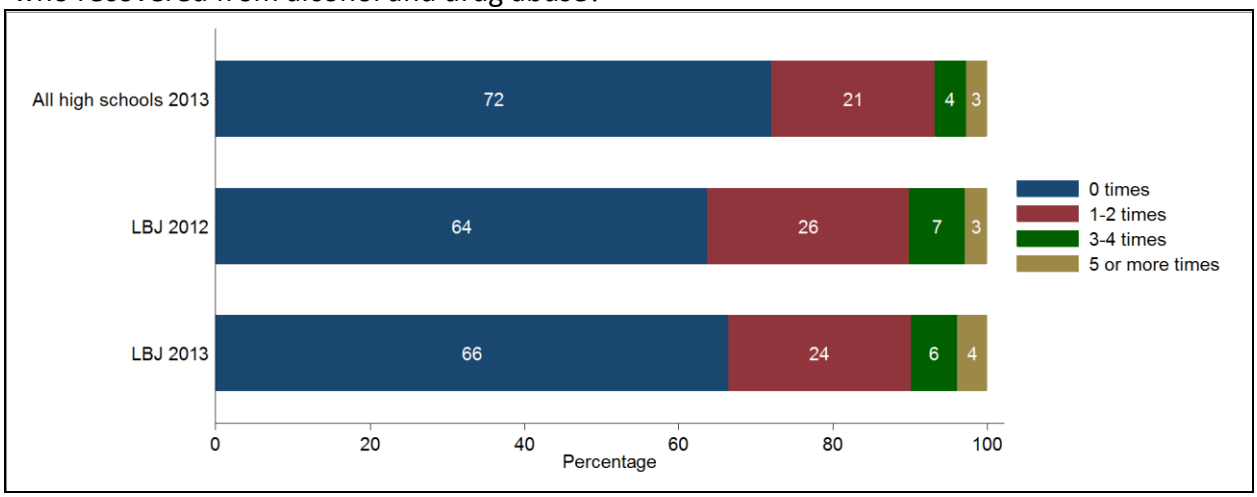
Q25: Within the past year, has your parent/guardian talked with you about the dangers of tobacco, alcohol, or drug use?



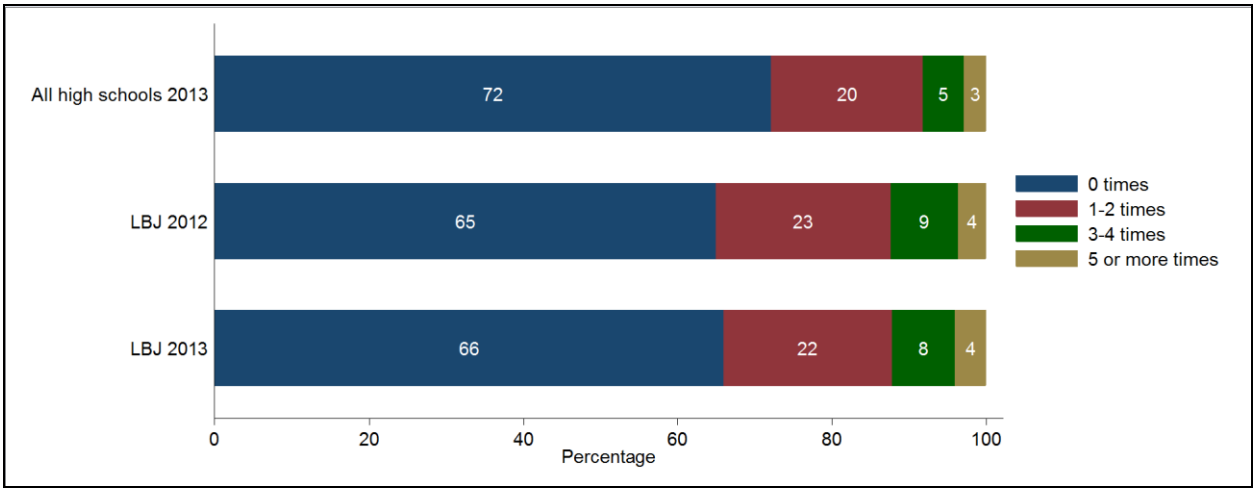

Q28a. During the school year, how many times have you experienced classes in which you learned and practiced ways of resisting and avoiding substance abuse?



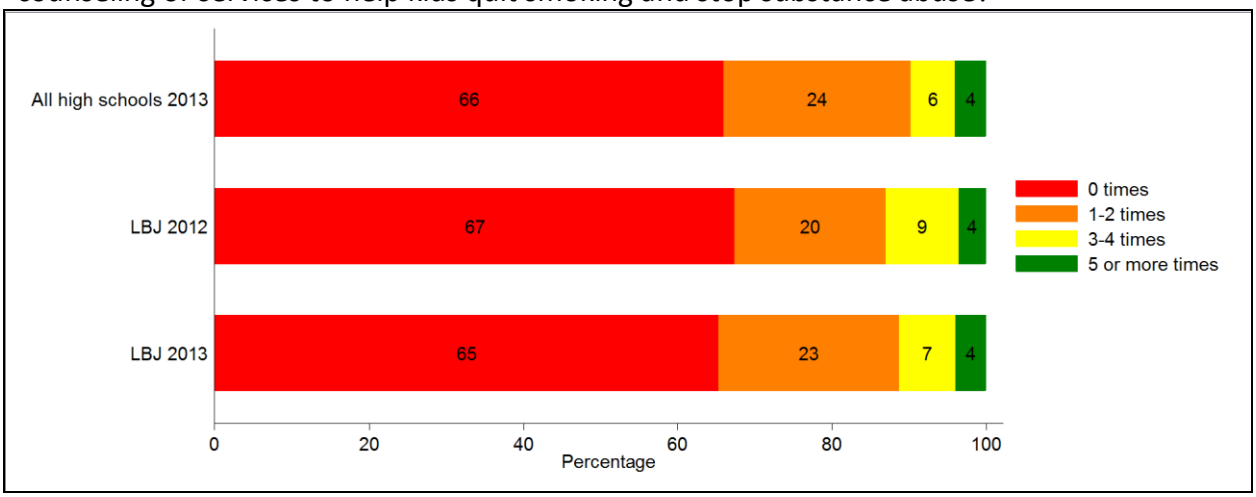

Q28b. During the school year, how many times have you experienced presentations by people who recovered from alcohol and drug abuse?



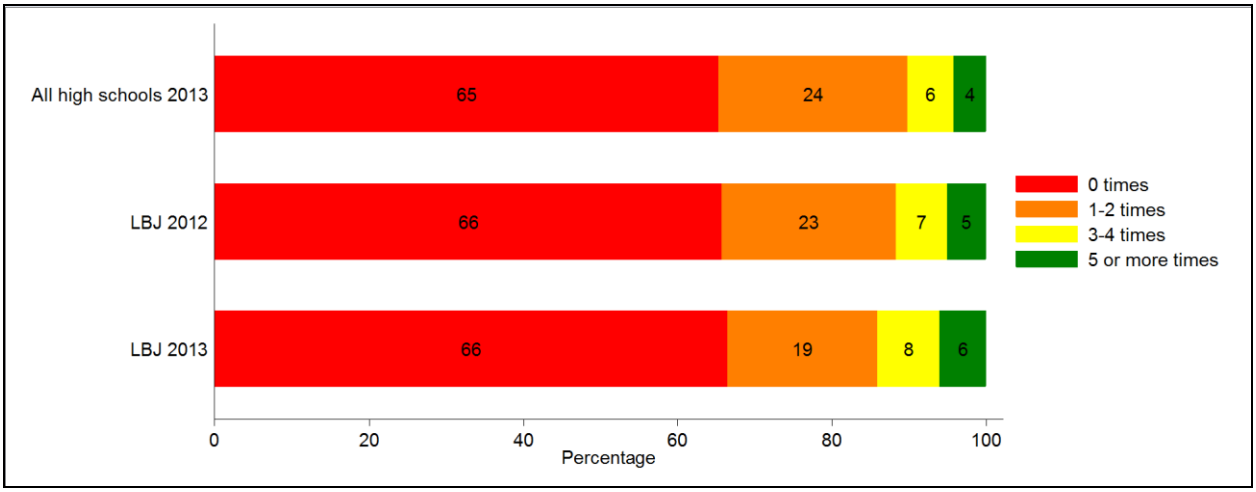
Q28c. During the school year, how many times have you experienced presentations by students who tell about how to avoid substance abuse?

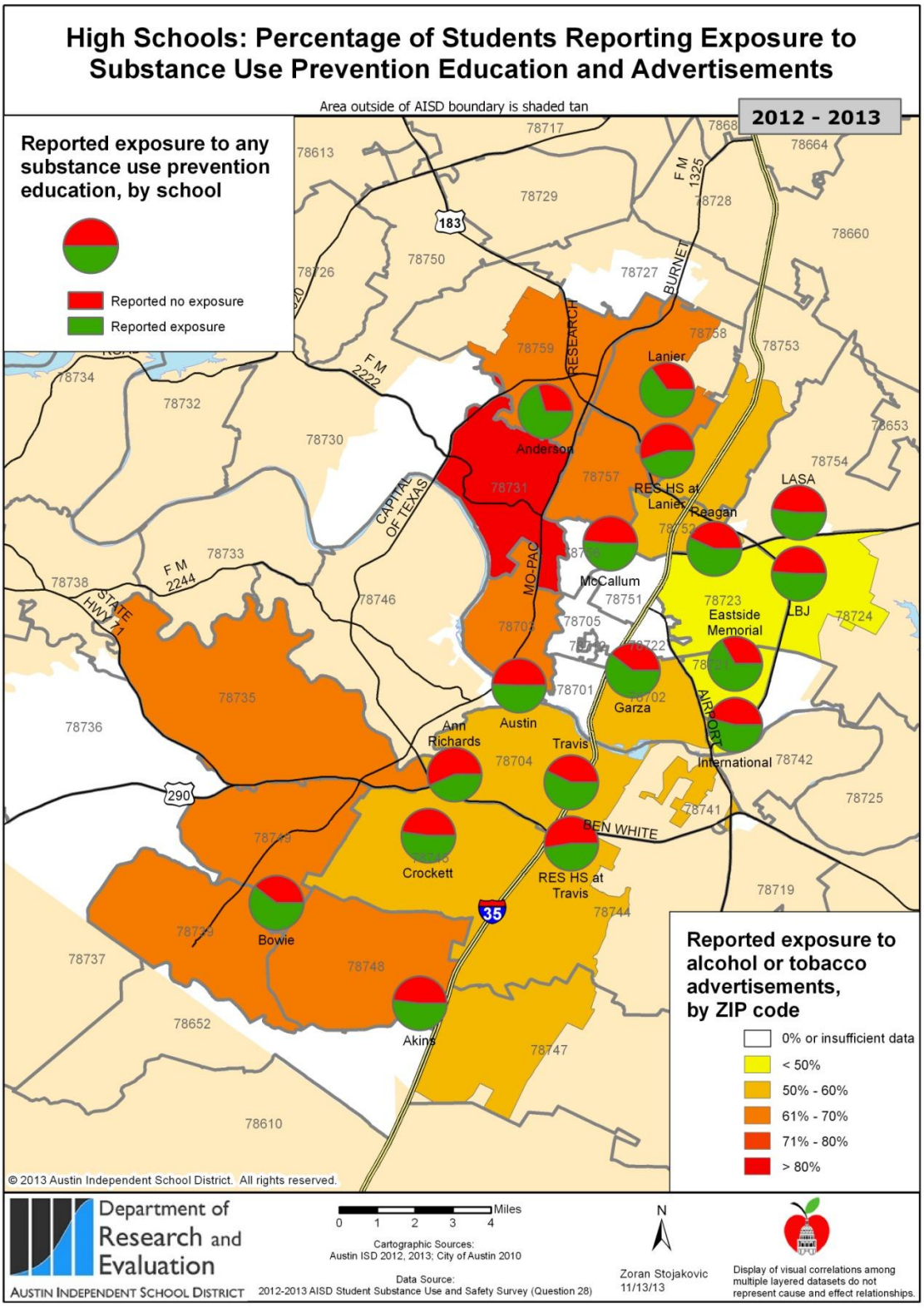



Q28d. During the school year, how many times have you received information about counseling or services to help kids quit smoking and stop substance abuse?




Q28e. During the school year, how many times have you experienced printed materials with cartoons and stories about how students avoid substance abuse?




High Schools: Percentage of Students Reporting Exposure to Substance Use Prevention Education and Advertisements
Area outside of AISD boundary is shaded tan
2012 - 2013
Reported exposure to any substance use prevention education, by school
Reported no exposure
Reported exposure
Anderson
Lanier
RES HS at Lanier
LASA
Reagan
McCallum
LBJ
Eastside Memorial
Austin
Ann Richards
Travis
Garza
International
Crockett
RES HS at Travis
Bowie
Akins
Reported exposure to alcohol or tobacco advertisements, by ZIP code
0% or insufficient data
< 50%
50% - 60%
61% - 70%
71% - 80%
> 80%
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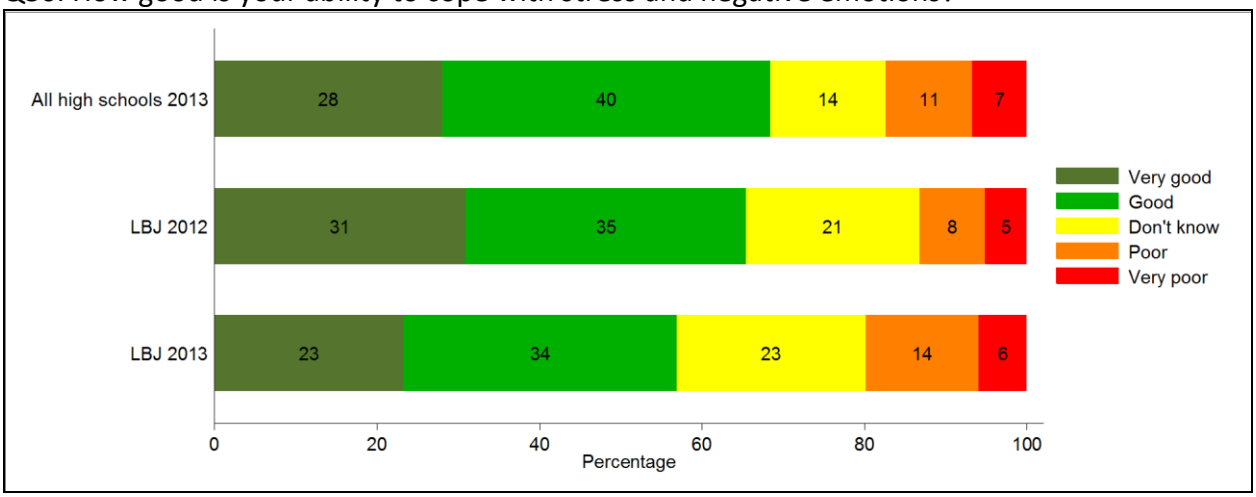
Department of Research and Evaluation
Austin Independent School District
Miles
0 1 2 3 4
Cartographic Sources:
Austin ISD 2012, 2013; City of Austin 2010
Data Source:
2012-2013 AISD Student Substance Use and Safety Survey (Question 28)
N
Zoran Stojakovic
11/13/13
Display of visual correlations among multiple layered datasets do not represent cause and effect relationships.

Q30. How good is your ability to cope with stress and negative emotions?



## APPENDIX: CONFIDENCE INTERVALS BY ZIP CODES FOR AISD HIGH SCHOOL RESPONDENTS TO 2013 STUDENT SUBSTANCE USE AND SAFETY SURVEY

| ZIP code | Number of high school survey respondents | Total AISD high school residents | Confidence interval |
|---|---|---|---|
| 78610 | 1 | 6 | * |
| 78652 | 7 | 88 | +/- 35.74% |
| 78701 | 4 | 29 | * |
| 78702 | 179 | 712 | +/- 6.34% |
| 78703 | 72 | 378 | +/- 10.41% |
| 78704 | 138 | 705 | +/- 7.49% |
| 78705 | 8 | 49 | +/- 32.02% |
| 78721 | 127 | 388 | +/- 7.14% |
| 78722 | 17 | 72 | +/- 20.92% |
| 78723 | 186 | 739 | +/- 6.22% |
| 78724 | 127 | 559 | +/- 7.65% |
| 78725 | 7 | 25 | +/- 32.08% |
| 78727 | 36 | 263 | +/- 15.2% |
| 78730 | 3 | 21 | * |
| 78731 | 93 | 546 | +/- 9.26% |
| 78735 | 41 | 275 | +/- 14.14% |
| 78736 | 15 | 247 | +/- 24.57% |
| 78737 | 18 | 172 | +/- 21.92% |
| 78738 | 1 | 1 | * |
| 78739 | 108 | 951 | +/- 8.88% |
| 78741 | 145 | 670 | +/- 7.21% |
| 78744 | 268 | 1833 | +/- 5.53% |
| 78745 | 271 | 1499 | +/- 5.39% |
| 78746 | 4 | 7 | * |
| 78747 | 65 | 614 | +/- 11.5% |
| 78748 | 199 | 1572 | +/- 6.49% |
| 78749 | 172 | 1256 | +/- 6.94% |
| 78750 | 25 | 136 | +/- 17.77% |
| 78751 | 26 | 141 | +/- 17.42% |
| 78752 | 133 | 494 | +/- 7.27% |
| 78753 | 232 | 1067 | +/- 5.69% |
| 78754 | 11 | 32 | +/- 24.32% |
| 78756 | 33 | 153 | +/- 15.16% |
| 78757 | 77 | 414 | +/- 10.09% |
| 78758 | 188 | 1073 | +/- 6.49% |
| 78759 | 117 | 563 | +/- 8.07% |

*Source*. AISD Student Records as of March 2013, and 2013 Student Substance Use and Safety Survey
*Note*. To make inferences about the ZIP code population using the sample data, the results should be interpreted by adding and subtracting the confidence interval to the observed statistic (see page 1 for more information regarding interpretation of confidence intervals).
* Where confidence intervals for a ZIP code are greater than +/- 15%, or when five or fewer students responded, survey items were not mapped by ZIP code due to insufficient data.

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