

Table 2.83

High school seniors' perceptions of availability of drugs

By type of drug, United States, 1980, 1990, and 1993-2003

Question: "How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?"

(Percent responding "fairly easy" or "very easy"^a)

Type of drug	Class of 1980 (N=3,240)	Class of 1990 (N=2,549)	Class of 1993 (N=2,670)	Class of 1994 (N=2,526)	Class of 1995 (N=2,552)	Class of 1996 (N=2,340)	Class of 1997 (N=2,517)	Class of 1998 (N=2,520)	Class of 1999 (N=2,215)	Class of 2000 (N=2,095)	Class of 2001 (N=2,120)	Class of 2002 (N=2,138)	Class of 2003 (N=2,391)
Marijuana	89.0%	84.4%	83.0%	85.5%	88.5%	88.7%	89.6%	90.4%	88.9%	88.5%	88.5%	87.2%	87.1%
Amyl and butyl nitrites	NA	24.4	25.9	26.7	26.0	23.9	23.8	25.1	21.4	23.3	22.5	22.3	19.7
LSD	35.3	40.7	49.2	50.8	53.8	51.3	50.7	48.8	44.7	46.9	44.7	39.6	33.6
PCP	NA	27.7	31.7	31.4	31.0	30.5	30.0	30.7	26.7	28.8	27.2	25.8	21.9
Other psychedelics/hallucinogens ^b	35.0	28.3	33.5	33.8	35.8	33.9	33.9	35.1	29.5	34.5	48.5	47.7	47.2
MDMA (ecstasy)	NA	22.0	28.1	31.2	34.2	36.9	38.8	38.2	40.1	51.4	61.5	59.1	57.5
Cocaine powder	NA	49.0	45.4	43.7	43.8	44.4	43.3	45.7	43.7	44.6	40.7	40.2	37.4
Crack	NA	42.4	43.6	40.5	41.9	40.7	40.6	43.8	41.1	42.6	40.2	38.5	35.3
Cocaine	47.9	54.5	48.5	46.6	47.7	48.1	48.5	51.3	47.6	47.8	46.2	44.6	43.3
Heroin	21.2	31.9	33.7	34.1	35.1	32.2	33.8	35.6	32.1	33.5	32.3	29.0	27.9
Other narcotics (including methadone)	29.4	38.1	37.5	38.0	39.8	40.0	38.9	42.8	40.8	43.9	40.5	44.0	39.3
Amphetamines	61.3	59.7	61.5	62.0	62.8	59.4	59.8	60.8	58.1	57.1	57.1	57.4	55.0
Crystal methamphetamine (ice)	NA	24.1	26.6	25.6	27.0	26.9	27.6	29.8	27.6	27.8	28.3	28.3	26.1
Barbiturates	49.1	45.9	44.5	43.3	42.3	41.4	40.0	40.7	37.9	37.4	35.7	36.6	35.3
Tranquilizers	59.1	44.7	41.1	39.2	37.8	36.0	35.4	36.2	32.7	33.8	33.1	32.9	29.8
Steroids	NA	NA	44.8	42.9	45.5	40.3	41.7	44.5	44.6	44.8	44.4	45.5	40.7

Note: See Note, table 2.79. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1979, 1981 through 1989, 1991, and 1992 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston et al., *Monitoring the Future National Survey Results on Drug Use, 1975-2003*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students (Bethesda, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2004), p. 365. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^a Answer alternatives were: (1) probably impossible, (2) very difficult, (3) fairly difficult, (4) fairly easy, and (5) very easy.

^b In 2001, the question text was changed from "other psychedelics" to "other hallucinogens" and "shrooms" was added to the list of examples. These changes likely explain the increase in the 2001 result.