## GEORGIA 2016

EUROPEAN SCHOOL SURVEY PROJECT ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

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## Georgia

## Country Report

## PREFACE

The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) is an International Survey Project implemented in more than 35 countries. Georgia joined the Project in 2015 and became the ESPAD member Country.

The Project was implemented by the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Survey Project was done and the preparation of the report was made possible through the financial support of The European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). ESPAD Group provided technical support in developing survey methodology and approval of survey questionnaire, as well as in providing training, data-analayses and report preparation.

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## BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH DESIGN

## GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE ESPAD 2015 IN GEORGIA

The main purpose of the ESPAD project in Georgia is to collect comparable data on substance use among students born in 1999. By adopting the ESPAD protocol, comprehensive and comparable data on alcohol, tobacco and drug use among Georgian students are produced. That would be used to monitor trends in substance use among students in Europe and to compare trends between countries and between groups of countries. ESPAD data should be used in public debate and as a basis for policy measures and preventive activities targeting young people. The collected data will also be analyzed in depth for a better understanding of young peoples' alcohol and drug behaviour.

In relations to the EU-Georgia Association Agreement and National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part and Association Agenda Between the European Union and Georgia ESPAD project provides data that will be used as a part of the evaluation of these charters.

In 2015 Georgia participated in ESPAD survey for the first time and it should be noted that study was supported by EMCDDA in the framework of the ENP technical cooperation project in terms of financial and professional support.

This report presents the results of the 2015 survey for Georgia.

## RESEARCH DESIGN

Student population, sampling frame and coverage
Due to several matters the survey in Georgia was conducted in November 2015.
In Georgia secondary school is available for all and ends with grade 9. Schooling is compulsory for all citizens until the grade 9 finishes. A very limited number of students drop out after the primary school as well. Most of the 1999 born students were included at Grade 10. All school types both public and private were covered.

The sampling frame is nationally representative for students in grade 10, where 73\% of the 1999 born ESPAD target group students are located (or for 64\% of all 1999 born persons).

Two stage (school and class) proportionate simple random sample was used. In the first step schools were sampled proportionate to school size (in order to avoid over-representation of small schools). One class per school was then sampled in the second step, and this was done proportionate to class size (in order to avoid over-representation of small classes). 193 schools (168 public and 25 private) were sampled and contacted. 190 schools and classes participated; 3 private schools refused to participate claimed no time for any more surveys and that they are not interested in issues the survey is about. This corresponds to $1.55 \%$ of the sampled schools and is in correspondence what was expected. The vast majority of schools took part and showed a willingness to cooperate. Participating schools did not differ from the net sample in regard to region, school size. Hence, non-responding schools did not pose a problem on represenativity. The school cooperation was very good, the proportion of non-responding schools were minimal. There were no particular problems related to non-participation, thus the collected data is representative for Georgian students in grade 10. The data do not need to be weighted due to un-proportionate sample and skewed non-response as well.

## Field procedures

First contact with sampled schools was performed by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia. The official letter signed by the Deputy Minister that was attached by the letter from the National Centre for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC) and informed consent form for parental consent were distributed to all sampled schools. NCDC used telephone; and e-mail when needed. The questionnaires to the schools were distributed by the
researchers. Individual envelopes for each student were used. The material from the schools to the research centre (questionnaires in envelopes and Classroom reports) was returned by researchers. The sampled classes that participated were controlled by checking the Classroom Reports. No particular problem in the field procedure was discovered.

Time devoted to the survey was typically 45 minutes (1 lesson). According the classroom reports there were no disturbances at all and all students worked seriously. Student cooperation was quite good. Only 3 ( $0.12 \%$ ) of the students refused to participate. Another 50 (2\%) didn't participate as their parents refused to give permission. None of the researchers reported that they thought some of the students in their classes found the questionnaire difficult. No language-related problems were reported as questionnaires in Armenian and Azeri were used.

## Student Questionnaire

All questions in the core segment were used. Module questions MA1 and MA2 were not used; optional questions OC13c, 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 009, 011, 012, 013, 014 were used. None cultural adjustments of the questionnaire was done. None of the ESPAD items was considered to be non-standard due incorrect translations, use of incorrect response categories etc. None of non-ESPAD questions were included. Translation and back translation was done in Georgian, Armenian and Azeri languages. Questionnaire pre-testing was performed in 2 focus groups that led only to minor adjustments. An English back translated questionnaire (appendix 1) is attached.

## Data processing

Data entry was done manually. All of the entered data has been re-checked by study supervisor. Hence, all of the entered data is correct and is exactly the same as it was registered on paper-based questionnaires. The data was analysed by using SPSS statistical software. There were 2477 completed questionnaires; 1961 were born in 1999.

## SUMMARY

This summary presents key results from the Georgian ESPAD 2015.

## Cigarettes

Lifetime-prevalence rates of cigarette smoking in Georgian students is $43 \%$. Overall experience of smoking seems less prevalent among girls (30\%) than boys (54\%). 18\% of students have reported that they have used cigarettes during the last 30 days. In Georgia prevalence of last month smoking among boys (26\%) is almost three times higher than among girls (9\%). Regularly smokes 12\% (19\% boys and 4\% girls) of students.
$21 \%$ of students ( $28 \%$ of boys and $13 \%$ of girls) had tried cigarettes at the age of 13 or younger. $4 \%$ of students ( $6 \%$ of boys and $2 \%$ of girls) reported that they have started to smoking on daily bases at the age of 13 or earlier. 60\% of students declared that it is fairly easy or very easy to get of cigarettes if they want to do so.
$19 \%$ ( $25 \%$ boys compare to $11 \%$ girls) have ever used electronic cigarettes and $9 \%$ ( $13 \%$ boys compare to $4 \%$ girls) used it during the last 30 days. $33 \%$ ( $43 \%$ boys compare to $21 \%$ girls) of students ever used water pipes and $14 \%$ ( $22 \%$ boys compare to $6 \%$ girls) used it during 30 days prior the survey.
$4 \%$ of students first time used e-cigarette 13 years or younger ( $5 \%$ boys and $2 \%$ girls) and $1 \%$ at this age started to use it on a daily basis ( $2 \%$ boys and none of girls).

## Alcohol

$85 \%$ of students ( $86 \%$ of boys and $83 \%$ of girls) have reported that they have drunk alcohol at least once during their lifetime. Most of those who have tried alcohol at least once have used alcohol for 40 or more occasions 22\%; boys (31\%) had almost three times higher consumption levels than girls (12\%).
$43 \%$ of students have reported alcohol use during the 30 days immediately prior to the survey.
The most commonly reported type of beverage was wine (40\%), followed by beer (36\%), spirits (30\%), and alcopops (14\%); all beverages are used most frequently by boys than girls.
$41 \%$ reported heavy episodic drinking during the last 30 days. Heavy drinking was much more pronounced among boys with $51 \%$, as compared to $30 \%$ of girls.

Wine is the most common early alcoholic beverage and 64\% of students reported that they had drunk at least one glass of wine at the age of 13 or younger. Wine is followed by beer (57\%), spirits (36\%) and alcopops (30\%). Early consumption of all kinds of alcoholic beverages was much higher among boys than girls.
$43 \%$ of Georgian students ( $50 \%$ boys and $35 \%$ girls) reported that they had been (drunk) at least once in their lifetime; $25 \%$ of students ( $29 \%$ boys and $209 \%$ girls) reported that they have drunk during the last 12 months; and $10 \%$ ( $13 \%$ boys and $7 \%$ girls) during the last 30 days. The proportion of students reporting that they were drunk at the age of 13 or younger is $22 \%$, with $29 \%$ of boys and $13 \%$ of girls.
$33 \%$ of students were at home, $23 \%$ were at someone else's home and $20 \%$ were at restaurant when drank alcohol last time.

The most commonly stated reason for drinking was "because it's fun" (41\%), followed by because it helps you enjoy a party" (40\%), "because it improves parties and celebrations" (40\%).

The most indicated problem due to drinking were "being harassed or bothered at private setting" (32\%), "being harassed in public place" (33\%).
$73 \%$ of students have reported that they have drunk energy drinks at least once during their lifetime. 60\% have drunk during the last 12 months; $48 \%$ of students have reported use of energy drinks during the 30 days immediately prior to the survey. Frequent last month users were boys.
$11 \%$ of students have reported that they have used marijuana or hashish (cannabis) at least once during their lifetime. $8 \%$ of students use of marijuana or hashish (cannabis) during the last 12 months; $4 \%$ of students during the 30 days prior to the survey. Prevalence in boys is much higher. The proportion of Georgian students who had tried marijuana or hashish (cannabis) at the age of 13 or younger was $2 \%$.

The most prevalent drug other than marijuana or hashish (cannabis) among Georgian students are - tranquillisers or sedatives (without a doctor's prescription) - 11\% followed by Magic mushrooms (3\%), alcohol together with pills (3\%), Spice "BIO" (2.6\%), hallucinogens (2\%) and painkillers to get high (2\%).

Cannabis (21\%), tranquillizers/sedatives (12\%), ecstasy (9\%) and spice "bio" (7\%) are perceived as most available illicit drugs by students.
$4 \%$ of students have tried ecstasy at least once during their lifetime; $2 \%$ of have tried amphetamines and cocaine. Prevalence of inhalants and new psychoactive substances (NPS) are quite high. 12\% have tried inhalants at least once during their lifetime, 6\% during the last 12 months. Inhalants are the only substances more used by girls than boys. 7\% have ever used NPS at least once during their lifetime.

Regular use of either marijuana (60\%), amphetamines (58\%) ecstasy (57\%) or cigarettes (51\%) is perceived as great risk

## Internet, Gaming and Gambling

The mean days of internet use during the last 7 days was 3.8 days ( 3.9 days in boys and 3.7 days in girls). The most popular daily activities are communicating with others on the Internet (64\%); followed by streaming/downloading music, videos, films etc. (48\%) and reading, surfing, searching for information etc. (36\%).

Students mostly agree with statements on Social Media "I think I spend too much time on Social Media" (58\%) and "My parents say that I spend way too much time on Social Media" (49\%).
$14 \%$ of students reported gambling during the 12 months prior to survey.

## Psycho-social patterns

Most of the students and their parents are born in Georgia. As reported most of the parents have completed high or secondary education. Majority of students live with father, mother, brothers, sisters and grandparents.

Students almost always can easily get warmth and caring from their mother and/or father and from their best friend; they almost always easily get emotional support from their best friend. Mostly parents know whom and where their children are with in the evenings. Getting money from the parents also is not perceived as a problem. Parents almosy always know where students spend Saturday nights.

Most of the students describe their average grade at the end of the last term as higher than average. 94\% are very satisfied or satisfied by relationship with mother, father and friends.

The majority thinks that their parents would not like if they get drunk, use marijuana/hashish and ecstasy.
Vast majority of the students reported that their friends smoke cigarettes (83\%), drink alcohol (85\%) and get drunk (77\%). About half of the students reported that their friends smoke marijuana or hashish (cannabis).

## RESULTS

## CIGARETTES

This section provides the main results related to all of the variables relating to cigarette smoking.
In first questions students were asked to indicate how difficult it would be for them to get cigarettes if they wanted to. The response categories were: "impossible", "very difficult", "fairly difficult", "fairly easy", "very easy" and "don't know".
$60 \%$ of students declared that it is fairly easy or very easy to get of cigarettes if they want so. More male students reported that they can get cigarettes easily than females ( $61 \%$ as compared to $59 \%$ ).

## Lifetime use of Cigarettes

Lifetime-prevalence rates of cigarette smoking in Georgian students is $43 \%$. Overall experience of smoking seems less prevalent among girls (30\%) than boys (54\%). Regular smokers, if defined as those who had been smoking 40 times or more in lifetime, made up 12\%; more boys ( $18 \%$ ) than girls ( $5 \%$ ) are regularly smoking.

Table 1. Frequency of lifetime cigarette use by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 46 | 70 | 57 |
| $1-2$ | 18 | 13 | 15 |
| $3-9$ | 11 | 7 | 9 |
| $10-19$ | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| $20-39$ | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| $40+$ | 18 | 5 | 12 |

## Cigarette smoking during the last 30 days

On average, $18 \%$ of students have reported that they have used cigarettes during the last 30 days. In Georgia prevalence of last month smoking among boys (26\%) is almost three times higher than among girls (9\%). Regularly smokes $12 \%$ ( $19 \%$ boys and $4 \%$ girls) of students.

The majority of students reported that they had smoked less than one cigarette per day followed by those saying they had smoked 5 cigarettes or less on average per day in the last 30 days.

Table 2. Frequency of cigarette use during the last 30 days by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Not at all | 74 | 91 | 82 |
| Less than 1 cigarette per day | 7 | 5 | 6 |
| $1-5$ cigarettes per day | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| $6-10$ cigarettes per day | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| $11-20$ cigarettes per day | 5 | 0 | 3 |
| $21+$ | 3 | 0 | 2 |

## Age of Onset of Cigarette Use

Adolescents start occasionally to smoke early in life, and some of those continue later in life while others do not. The proportion of Georgian students who had tried cigarettes at the age of 13 or younger was $21 \%$ ( $28.2 \%$ of boys and $12.3 \%$ girls).

Table 3. Age of onset for cigarette use. Proportion of boys and girls having tried cigarettes and having smoked cigarettes on a daily basis at the age of 13 or younger. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| First cigarette | 28 | 13 | 21 |
| Daily cigarette use | 6 | 2 | 4 |

$4 \%$ of students (6\% of boys and $2 \%$ girls) reported that they have stated to smoking on daily bases at the age of 13 or earlier.

## E-cigarettes and water pipes

Students were asked about usage of electronic cigarettes and water pipes; and when (if ever) they started using ecigarette occasionally and daily basis.
$19 \%$ ( $25 \%$ boys compare to $11 \%$ girls) have ever used electronic cigarettes and $9 \%$ ( $13 \%$ boys compare to $4 \%$ girls) used it during the last 30 days. $33 \%$ ( $43 \%$ boys compare to $21 \%$ girls) of students ever used water pipes and $14 \%$ ( $22 \%$ boys compare to $6 \%$ girls) used it during 30 days prior the survey.

Table 4. Frequency of lifetime use of electronic cigarettes and water pipes by gender. Percentages.

| Time | Water pipe |  |  | E- Cigarettes |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| Yes, in the last 30 days | 22 | 6 | 14 | 13 | 4 | 9 |
| Yes, in the last 12 months | 12 | 8 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 6 |
| Yes, but more than 12 months ago | 9 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| Never | 57 | 79 | 67 | 75 | 89 | 81 |

$4 \%$ of students first time used e-cigarette 13 years or younger ( $5 \%$ boys and $2 \%$ girls) and $1 \%$ at this age started use it on a daily basis ( $2 \%$ boys and none of girls).

Table 5. Age of onset for cigarette use. Proportion of boys and girls having tried e-cigarettes and having smoked ecigarettes on a daily basis at the age of 13 or younger. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| First e-cigarette | 5 | 2 | 4 |
| Daily e-cigarette use | 2 | 0 | 1 |

## ALCOHOL

## Perceived availability of alcoholic Beverages

The students were asked separately how difficult they would find it to get beer, cider, alcopops, wine and spirits if they wanted to.

Table 6. Perceived availability of various alcoholic beverages by gender. Percentages responding "fairly easy" or "very easy" to obtain.

|  | Get beer | Get alcopops | Get wine | Get spirits |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | fairly easy / very <br> easy | fairly easy / very <br> easy | fairly easy / very <br> easy | fairly easy / very <br> easy |
| Male | 75 | 45 | 69 | 59 |
| Female | 73 | 44 | 70 | 58 |
| Total | 74 | 45 | 69 | 59 |

$74 \%$ ( $75 \%$ boys and $73 \%$ girls) stated that it would be "fairly easy" or "very easy" to get beer if they wanted to do so. $69 \%$ ( $69 \%$ boys and $70 \%$ girls) responded that it is fairly easy or very easy to get wine. $59 \%$ ( $59 \%$ and $58 \%$ girls) stated that it would be "fairly easy" or "very easy" to get spirits. $45 \%$ ( $45 \%$ boys and $44 \%$ girls) stated that it would be "fairly easy" or "very easy" to get alcopops if they wanted to do so.

No significant gender differences were reported.

## Lifetime and Last 12 Months Use of Alcohol

$85 \%$ of students have reported that they have drunk alcohol at least once during their lifetime. There are some differences between boys and girls in lifetime alcohol use - $86 \%$ of boys have reported that they have used alcohol at least once in their lifetime while this percentage among girls is $83 \%$.

Table 7. Frequency of lifetime use of use of any alcoholic beverages by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 14 | 17 | 15 |
| $1-2$ | 10 | 16 | 13 |
| $3-9$ | 19 | 31 | 25 |
| $10-19$ | 14 | 15 | 14 |
| $20-39$ | 12 | 9 | 11 |
| $40+$ | 31 | 12 | 22 |

Most of those who have tried alcohol at least once have used alcohol for 40 or more occasions $-22 \%$. Boys (31\%) had almost three times higher consumption levels than girls (12\%).
$76 \%$ have used alcohol during the last 12 months. Again differences between boys and girls were high with $80 \%$ of boys compared to only $72 \%$ of girls.

Of those who have used alcohol in last 12 months majority have used it only 1-2 times $-28 \% ; 18 \%$ have used it 39 times; $12 \%$ have used it 10-19 times; 18\% have used it 20 and more times. During the last year Boys are using alcohols more frequently than girls do.

Table 8. Frequency of use of any alcoholic beverages during the last 12 months by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 20 | 28 | 24 |
| $1-2$ | 24 | 33 | 28 |
| $3-9$ | 16 | 20 | 18 |
| $10-19$ | 15 | 8 | 12 |
| $20-39$ | 11 | 6 | 9 |
| $40+$ | 14 | 4 | 9 |

## Use of alcohol in last 30 Days

43 percent of students have reported alcohol use during the 30 days immediately prior to the survey. Out of those majority have used it once or twice $-25 \%$. Frequent users (those drinking over 20) were $2 \%$. More boys ( $53 \%$ ) than girls (33\%) drank alcohol during last 30 days.

Table 9. Frequency of use of any alcoholic beverages during the last 30 days by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 47 | 67 | 57 |
| $1-2$ | 26 | 24 | 25 |
| $3-5$ | 14 | 5 | 10 |
| $6-9$ | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| $10-19$ | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| $20+$ | 2 | 1 | 2 |



Figure 1. Use of alcohol during lifetime, in last 12 months and in the last 30 days by gender. Percentages.

The students were asked if they had drunk beer, wine, spirits, alcopops, and cider during the last 30 days, the most commonly reported type of beverage was wine (40\%), followed by beer (36\%), spirits (30\%), and alcopops (14\%). No one mentioned cider.

In terms of gender differences, all beverages are used most frequently by boys than girls. The most frequently used beverage for girls is wine and for boys beer and wine with almost the same rates.


Figure 2. Use of different types of beverages in the last 30 days by gender. Percentages.

## Non-consumers

$12 \%$ of students reported that they never drink alcohol at all, when asked about consumption on their latest drinking day. Number of those reporting that they never drink alcohol among girls is higher than among boys with $14 \%$ and $10 \%$ respectively.

From those who have reported used alcohol most students reported that they have used it one month to one year ago (26\%) and 1 to 7 days ago (25\%), followed by those who have stated that they used alcohol 15 to 30 days ago (15\%). There were differences in terms of gender, where most frequent category for boys was 1 to 7 days ago with $31 \%$ of boys reporting use in the last week, while percentage of girls in this category was $18 \%$. For girls the most frequent category was one month to one year ago (32\%).

Table 10. Last occasion of alcohol use by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| never | 10 | 14 | 12 |
| 1-7 days ago | 31 | 18 | 25 |
| $8-14$ days ago | 13 | 9 | 11 |
| $15-30$ days ago | 16 | 14 | 15 |
| 1 month - 1 year ago | 21 | 32 | 26 |
| More than 1 year | 8 | 13 | 10 |

## The last alcohol-drinking day

The students were asked if they had drunk beer, wine, spirits and alcopops on the latest day when alcohol was used. The most commonly reported type of beverage was wine (43\%) and by beer (44\%). The most frequently used beverage for girls is wine and for boys beer and wine with almost the same rates.


Figure 3. Use of different types of beverages at the last drinking day by gender. Percentages.
The students were asked to report quantities of various beverages, they consumed on the last drinking day. The response categories were based on fixed quantities relevant to each beverage type in terms of centiliters (cl).

Table 11. Beer quantities among students reporting any last day alcohol consumption by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $<50 \mathrm{cl}$ | 18 | 26 | 22 |
| $50-100 \mathrm{cl}$ | 17 | 8 | 13 |
| $101-200 \mathrm{cl}$ | 8 | 1 | 5 |
| $201+\mathrm{cl}$ | 8 | 0 | 4 |

Table 12. Wine quantities among students reporting any last day alcohol consumption by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $<20 \mathrm{cl}$ | 9 | 26 | 17 |
| $20-40 \mathrm{cl}$ | 11 | 12 | 11 |
| $41-74 \mathrm{cl}$ | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| $75+\mathrm{cl}$ | 14 | 2 | 9 |

Table 13. Spirits quantities among students reporting any last day alcohol consumption by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $<8 \mathrm{cl}$ | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| $8-15 \mathrm{cl}$ | 4 | 10 | 7 |
| $16-24 \mathrm{cl}$ | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| $25+\mathrm{cl}$ | 6 | 2 | 4 |

Table 14. Alcopops quantities among students reporting any last day alcohol consumption by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $<50 \mathrm{cl}$ | 1.2 | 3.7 | 2 |
| $50-100 \mathrm{cl}$ | 1.3 | 0.3 | 1 |
| $101-200 \mathrm{cl}$ | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| $201+\mathrm{cl}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Calculations regarding excessive alcohol use was done assumed excessive consumption for beer and alcopops as 101 cl and higher, for wine -41 cl and higher and for spirits -16 cl and higher.

On the last drinking day males drank much higher quantities than girls did. $10 \%$ of students ( $8 \%$ of boys and $12 \%$ of girls) have never drank alcohol.


Figure 4. Consumption of beer, cider, alcopops, wine and spirits in centiliters among students reporting any last day alcohol consumption, by gender. Percentages.

The amount of alcohol consumed was calculated as the average volume of ethanol (in cl) consumed on the last drinking day. The students drank an average of 4.7 cl ethanol at the last drinking day. Boys ( 5.9 cl ) reported higher volumes than girls ( 3.3 cl ) with significant difference ( 2.6 cl ).

## Heavy episodic drinking

The students were asked how many times during the last 30 days they had had five drinks or more on one occasion. $41 \%$ of students reported that there were one or more occasions when they used more than five drinks ${ }^{1}$ in one occasion during last 30 days. 20\% reported that they used more than five drinks in one occasion during last 30 days; $12 \%$ in 2 occasions and $7 \%$ in 3 to 5 occasions. $2 \%$ had five drinks in 6 to 9 occasions and $1 \%$ in more than 10 occasions. Heavy drinking was much more pronounced among boys with $51 \%$ of boys reporting heavy drinking in one or more occasions during last 30 days, as compared to $30 \%$ of girls.

Table 15. Frequency of having had five or more drinks on one occasion during the last 30 days. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 48.8 | 69.3 | 58.4 |
| 1 | 19.9 | 19.8 | 19.8 |
| 2 | 15.8 | 7.0 | 11.7 |
| $3-5$ | 9.8 | 2.9 | 6.6 |
| $6-9$ | 3.1 | 0.2 | 1.7 |
| $10+$ | 2.1 | 0.2 | 1.2 |

[^0]
## Drunkenness

## Level of drunkenness on the latest drinking day

The students were asked to indicate on a ten-point scale how drunk they felt on their latest drinking day. Mean intoxication rate was 3 ( 3.5 in boys and 2.5 in girls).
$21 \%$ of students selected the level above 5 in the scale of intoxication; boys reported higher levels of intoxication with $29 \%$ while girls reported level was $12 \%$. $2 \%$ selected level 10 of heavily intoxication.

Table 16. Self-estimated level of intoxication during the last alcohol drinking day by gender. Percentages.

|  | Level of drunkenness |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Male | 29 | 13 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Female | 34 | 21 | 11 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Total | 32 | 17 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |

## Lifetime and last 12 months intoxication

The students were asked to indicate how many times they had been intoxicated from alcohol drinking during their lifetime, in the last 12 months and in the last 30 days, respectively. 43\% of Georgian students (50\% boys and 35\% girls) reported that they had been intoxicated (drunk) at least once in their lifetime.
$25 \%$ of students ( $29 \%$ boys and $20 \%$ girls) reported that they have drunk and had been intoxicated during the last 12 months. $10 \%$ ( $13 \%$ boys and $7 \%$ girls) reported that they have drunk and had been intoxicated during the last 30 days.

Gender differences are observed in all intoxication levels.
Table 17. Frequency of lifetime, last 12 months and last 30 days drunkenness. Percentages.

| Number of <br> occasions | Drunk: Lifetime |  |  | Drunk: Last 12 months |  |  | Drunk: Last 30 days |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| 0 | 50 | 65 | 57 | 71 | 80 | 75 | 87 | 93 | 90 |
| $1-2$ | 28 | 27 | 27 | 21 | 18 | 19 | 9 | 6 | 8 |
| $3-9$ | 16 | 8 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| $10-19$ | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| $20-39$ | 2 | 0 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $40+$ | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## Age of onset for use of different alcoholic beverages and drunkenness

Wine is the most common early alcoholic beverage and 64\% of students reported that they had drunk at least one glass of wine at the age of 13 or younger. Wine is followed by beer (57\%), spirits (36\%) and alcopops (30\%). Cider was not reported.

Early consumption of all kinds of alcoholic beverages was much higher among boys than girls. For example early consumption of wine was reported by $67 \%$ of boys compared to $59 \%$ of girls; beer by $67 \%$ of boys as compared to $46 \%$ of girls; spirits by $43 \%$ of boys compared to $29 \%$ of girls; and alcopops by $38 \%$ of boys as compared to $21 \%$ of girls.

The proportion of students reporting that they were drunk at the age of 13 or younger is $22 \%$, with $29 \%$ of boys and $13 \%$ of girls.

Table 18. Proportion of students having been drunk and have tried various alcoholic beverages at the age of 13 or younger. Percentages.

| Use of alcoholic beverages/get drunk | Male | Female | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Beer | 67 | 46 | 57 |
| Alcopops | 38 | 21 | 30 |
| Wine | 69 | 59 | 64 |
| Spirits | 43 | 29 | 36 |
| Get drunk | 29 | 13 | 22 |

## Purchase of alcoholic beverages

## Off-premise consumption

The students were asked to think back over the last 30 days and to indicate on how many occasions they had bought "beer, cider, alcopops, wine or spirits in a store (grocery store, liquor store, kiosk or petrol station)" for their own consumption. They gave a separate answer for each beverage. According to the results beer (34\%) is the most commonly bought alcoholic beverage, followed by wine (17\%) and spirits (17\%); alcopops (12\%) was the least purchased alcoholic beverage.

There are marked differences between boys and girls, with boys reporting significantly higher levels of purchase of all kinds of alcoholic beverages than girls. More than $43 \%$ of boys have reported purchase of beer from a store over the last 30 days while this percentage among girls was $22 \%$. Similarly, purchase of wine was reported by $21 \%$ of boys as compared to $12 \%$ of girls. Spirits was third most popular alcoholic beverage purchased with differences between boys ( $23 \%$ ) and girls (10\%). The least purchased alcoholic beverage alcopop was purchased by $12 \%, 18 \%$ of boys and $6 \%$ of girls.


Figure 5. Purchase of alcoholic beverages during the last 30 days in a store for own consumption (off-premise). Percentages.

## Place of last drinking

Students were asked about where were they when drank alcohol last time. According to the results the majority of students ( $33 \%$ ) stated the were at home at last drinking occasion, $23 \%$ were at someone else's home, $20 \%$ were at restaurant, $7 \%$ - at street, $7 \%$ - at bar or pub, and $5 \%$ - at disco. Gender differences are apparent; more girls drank at home; and more boys drank out on the open area, bar/pub, disco and restaurant.


Figure 6. Place of last alcoholic drink. Percentages.

## Personal consequences of alcohol use during the last 12 months

The students were asked to indicate the number of occasions during the last 12 months on which they had experienced any problems related to their alcohol use. Fourteen negative consequences were proposed: "physical fight", "accident or injury", "damaged or lost objects or clothing", "serious arguments", "victimized by robbery or theft", "trouble with police", "hospitalised or admitted to an emergency room because of severe intoxication", "hospitalised or admitted to an emergency room because of accident or injury", "engaged in sexual intercourse without a condom", "being a victim of unwanted sexual advance", "hurt yourself", "driven a moped, car or other motor vehicle", "being involved in an accident while driving yourself" and "been swimming in swimming pool, river, lake or sea".

The most indicated problem was "been swimming in swimming pool, river, lake or sea" (28\%), followed by "damaged or lost objects or clothing" (17\%), "trouble with police" (15\%), "physical fight" (14\%), "hurt yourself" (10\%), and "victimized by robbery or theft" ( $10 \%$ ). The problems the least often indicated were "hospitalised or admitted to an emergency room because of accident or injury" (4\%), "being involved in an accident while driving yourself" (4\%), "accident or injury" (4\%), "being a victim of unwanted sexual advance" (3\%), etc.


Figure 7. Experienced individual, sexual and delinquency problems related to personal alcohol use during the last 12 months. Percentages.

## Personal consequences of someone's alcohol use during the last 12 months

The students were asked to indicate various negative consequences that happened during the last 12 months when someone else (stranger, friend/acquaintance or somebody else close to him/her) drank alcohol. Seven negative consequences were proposed: "has someone who had been drinking harassed or bothered you at a party or some other private setting", "has someone who had been drinking harassed or bothered you on the street or in some public place", has someone who had been drinking harmed you physically", "has someone who had been drinking ruined your clothes or other belongings", "has someone who has been drinking been responsible for a traffic accident you were involved in", "have you been a passenger with a driver who had had too much to drink" and "has someone who had been drinking made you afraid when you encountered them on the street".


Figure 8. Experienced problems related to someone's alcohol use during the last 12 months. Percentages.
The most indicated problems were "has someone who had been drinking harassed or bothered you at a party or some other private setting" (32\%), "has someone who had been drinking harassed or bothered you on the street or in some public place" (33\%), "have you been a passenger with a driver who had had too much to drink" (29\%); and "has someone who had been drinking made you afraid when you encountered them on the street" (16\%). The problems the least often indicated were "has someone who had been drinking ruined your clothes or other belongings" (6\%); "has someone who has been drinking been responsible for a traffic accident you were involved in" (4\%); and "has someone who had been drinking harmed you physically" (3\%).

## Excessive drinking of person close to student

Students were asked whether anyone close to them drinks excessively and if so if that cause any problem in student's life. $25 \%$ of respondents answered that someone close to them drinks excessively; $27 \%$ boys and $22 \%$ girls. $15 \%$ answered that this causes problems in their life; $12 \%$ boys and $17 \%$ girls.

## The reasons of drinking during the last 12 months

Students were asked about the reasons they drunk during the last 12 months. According to the results the most commonly stated reason was "because it's fun" (41\%), followed by because it helps you enjoy a party" (40\%), "because it improves parties and celebrations" (40\%), "and "because it makes social gatherings more fun" (29\%); least mentioned statements were "be liked" (8\%); "to get high" (10\%) and "so you won't feel left out" (10\%).


Figure 9. The reasons of drinking during the last 12 months. Percentages.

Lifetime, last 12 months and last 30 days use of energy drinks
$73 \%$ of students have reported that they have drunk energy drinks at least once during their lifetime; Most of those who have ever tried at least once have used energy drinks for only 1-2 times. Boys (81\%) had higher consumption levels than girls (63\%). 60\% have drunk during the last 12 months; again differences between boys and girls were high with $70 \%$ of boys reporting alcohol use in last 12 months compared to $49 \%$ of girls.


Figure 10. Use of energy drinks lifetime, in last 12 months and in the last 30 days by gender. Percentages. $48 \%$ of students have reported that they have drunk energy drinks in the last 30 days; most of them (15\%) have done it once or twice.

Table 19. Frequency of lifetime, last 12 months and last 30 days use of energy drinks by gender. Percentages.

| Number of <br> occasions | Lifetime |  |  |  | Last 12 months |  |  | Last 30 days |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |  |
| 0 | 19 | 37 | 27 | 30 | 51 | 40 | 42 | 64 | 52 |  |
| $1-2$ | 15 | 19 | 17 | 14 | 16 | 15 | 17 | 0 | 15 |  |
| $3-5$ | 9 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 8 |  |
| $6-9$ | 8 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 |  |
| $10-19$ | 10 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 3 |  |
| $20-39$ | 8 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |
| $40+$ | 18 | 5 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 |  |

## Tranquillisers and sedatives prescribed by doctors

Tranquillizers or sedatives are a widely used group of prescription medication but these drugs may also be obtained without a doctor's prescription to be used for the purpose of getting high rather than for medical reasons. The questionnaire asks about lifetime use of tranquillizers or sedatives both with and without a doctor's prescription.

Students were asked on use about tranquilizers, whether they have used them and how long.
Majority of students (91\%) have never taken tranquillisers and sedatives prescribed by doctors. 1\% reported that they have used in a period more than 3 weeks, while $7 \%$ have used it less than 3 weeks.

More girls than boys than girls have taken tranquillisers and sedatives prescribed by doctors.
Table 20. Frequency of use of ttranquillisers and sedatives prescribed by doctors by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Never | 93 | 89 | 91 |
| Yes, but for less than 3 weeks | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| Yes, but for more than 3 weeks | 1 | 2 | 1 |

## ILLICIT DRUGS

## Marijuana or hashish (cannabis)

$21 \%$ of students find cannabis readily available as they indicate that it is fairly easy or very easy to find cannabis. Boys consider cannabis much more easily obtainable than girls do, with $23 \%$ of boys reporting this and $18 \%$ of girls.

Table 21. Perceived availability of cannabis by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Impossible | 26 | 23 | 26 |
| Very difficult | 11 | 13 | 12 |
| Fairly difficult | 13 | 13 | 12 |
| Fairly easy | 16 | 13 | 14 |
| Very easy | 7 | 6 | 7 |
| Don't know | 26 | 31 | 28 |

## Lifetime, last 12 months and last 30 days use of marijuana or hashish (cannabis)

$11 \%$ of students have reported that they have used marijuana or hashish (cannabis) at least once during their lifetime; Most of those who have ever tried at least once have used it for only 1-2 times (5\%) followed by those used marijuana 40 or more times (2\%). Boys (19\%) had much higher consumption levels than girls (3\%).

Table 22. Frequency of lifetime use of marijuana or hashish use by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 81.01 | 96.95 | 88.51 |
| $1-2$ | 7.07 | 2.51 | 4.93 |
| $3-9$ | 4.75 | 0.33 | 2.67 |
| $10-19$ | 2.71 | 0.00 | 1.44 |
| $20-39$ | 1.55 | 0.00 | 0.82 |
| $40+$ | 2.91 | 0.22 | 1.64 |

$8 \%$ of students have reported that they have used marijuana or hashish (cannabis) during the last 12 months; most of them have used it for only 1-2 times (4\%). Again differences between boys and girls were high with $14 \%$ of boys reporting alcohol use in last 12 months compared to only $2 \%$ of girls.

Table 23. Frequency of use of marijuana or hashish use during the last 12 months by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 86.09 | 98.46 | 91.93 |
| $1-2$ | 6.07 | 1.10 | 3.73 |
| $3-5$ | 1.86 | 0.22 | 1.09 |
| $6-9$ | 2.45 | 0.00 | 1.29 |
| $10-19$ | 1.37 | 0.11 | 0.78 |
| $20-39$ | 2.15 | 0.11 | 1.19 |
| $40+$ | 86.09 | 98.46 | 91.93 |

$4 \%$ of students ( $7 \%$ boys and $1 \%$ boys) have reported use of marijuana or hashish (cannabis) during the 30 days immediately prior to the survey. Frequent users (those smoking on 10 and more occasions) were $1 \%$. Frequent users were mostly boys (1.6\%) compare to girls (0.2\%).

Table 24. Frequency of use of marijuana use during the last 30 days by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 90.6 | 98.7 | 94.4 |
| $1-2$ | 3.2 | 0.3 | 1.8 |
| $3-5$ | 1.1 | 0 | 0.6 |
| $6-9$ | 1.2 | 0 | 0.7 |
| $10-19$ | 0.8 | 0 | 0.4 |
| $20-39$ | 0.5 | 0 | 0.3 |
| $40+$ | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 |

## Age of onset of marijuana use

The proportion of Georgian students who had tried marijuana or hashish (cannabis) at the age of 13 or younger was $2 \%$ ( $4 \%$ boys and $1 \%$ girls). Mostly students try marijuana at age 15 (4\%; boys $8 \%$ and girls $2 \%$ ).

Table 25. Age at first use of marijuana or hashish (cannabis) by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Never | 81 | 96 | 87 |
| 9 years old or less | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 10 years old | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 years old | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12 years old | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 13 years old | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 14 years old | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| 15 years old | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| 16 years or older | 4 | 2 | 3 |

## Opportunities to Try Cannabis

All students were asked: "Have you ever had the possibility to try marihuana or hashish (cannabis) and you didn't use it"? $24 \%$ was offered cannabis and did not try. This percentage was higher among boys with $33 \%$ of them having the possibility to try cannabis while this percentage among females was $16 \%$.

Most of them were offered 1 to 2 times (boys 20\%, girls $13 \%$ ), followed by 3 to 5 times (boys $13 \%$, girls 3\%).
Table 26. Possibility to try marihuana or hashish (cannabis) by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 67 | 84 | 76 |
| $1-2$ | 20 | 13 | 16 |
| $3+$ | 13 | 3 | 8 |

## Cannabis-related problems among adolescents

Those students who have used cannabis last 12 months were asked about frequency of different patterns of cannabis use. For each statement, the response categories were: "never", "rarely", "from time to time", "fairly often" and "very often".

Table 27. Frequency of different patterns of cannabis use during the last 12 months. Percentages.

|  | never | rarely | from time <br> to time | fairly often | very <br> often |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Have you smoked cannabis before midday? | 27 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Have you smoked cannabis when you were alone? | 29 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Have you had memory problems when you smoked <br> cannabis? | 29 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Have friends or members of your family told you that <br> you ought to reduce or stop your cannabis use? | 29 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Have you tried to reduce or stop your cannabis use <br> without succeeding? | 29 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Have you had problems because of your use of <br> cannabis (argument, fight, accident, bad result at | 30 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Among those students reporting having used cannabis in the last 12 months and who answered the question, $85 \%$ stated that they never smoked before midday and $9 \%$ reported that this happened rarely. The proportion of adolescents answering positively on the question was given by $6 \%$.
$92 \%$ of students reported that they never smoked cannabis when they were alone and $3 \%$ did so only rarely. A positive response to this item was given by $5 \%$.
$95 \%$ indicated that they never had memory problems when they smoked cannabis. Because experiencing cognitive impairments is considered more problematic than smoking before midday and when being alone, the positive response threshold for this item is set at "rarely" instead of "from time to time". Thus, 5\% of all past year users rated positively on this item.

The intervention of friends or family members telling the user to stop or cut down on smoking cannabis is an important social indicator of problematic use patterns. $92 \%$ reported that they never experienced such interventions; for a total sample of $8 \%$ this has happened rarely.

Among those students with 12 month cannabis use, $92 \%$ have never tried to reduce or stop without succeeding. The remaining $8.1 \%$ positive responses comprise the single answers "rarely" (2\%), "from time to time" (3\%), "fairly often" (1.5\%) and "very often" (1.5\%).

The majority of past year users (95\%) have never experienced negative consequences like arguments, fights, accidents or bad results at school because of cannabis use. The proportion of students with a positive answer for this question was 5\%.

Sometimes adolescents are part of a clique of friends, where using cannabis is part of your behaviour when they meet. Those who are part of such clique were asked how often they meet. Among those who answered the question $29 \%$ responded that they meet almost daily, $12 \%-3-4$ times a week; $10 \%-1-2$ times a week; $13 \%-1-3$ times a month; and $36 \%$ - less than once a month.

## Perceived Availability of Various Substances

The students were asked: "How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following if you wanted" and presented with a list of seven substances (amphetamines, methamphetamines, tranquillizers/sedatives, ecstasy, cocaine, crack and spice "bio"). For each of the listed substances, the response categories were: "impossible", "very difficult", "fairly difficult", "fairly easy", "very easy" and "don't know". The proportions of students who answered "very easy" or "fairly easy" to this question are presented in this section.

Table 28. Perceived availability of various substances by gender. Percentages.

| Substances |  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amphetamines | fairly easy / very easy | 7 | 4 | 6 |
| Methamphetamines | fairly easy / very easy | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| Tranquillizers/sedatives | fairly easy / very easy | 12 | 13 | 12 |
| Ecstasy | fairly easy / very easy | 11 | 8 | 9 |
| Cocaine | fairly easy / very easy | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Crack | fairly easy / very easy | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Spice "Bio" | fairly easy / very easy | 10 | 4 | 7 |

Tranquillizers/sedatives (12\%), ecstasy (9\%) and spice "bio" (7\%) are considered as most available by students. Amphetamines (6\%), methamphetamines (4\%), cocaine (3\%) and crack (3\%) are not considered as readily available as other drugs.

Boys consider substances much more easily obtainable than girls do; e.g. $11 \%$ of boys and $82 \%$ of girls reported this about ecstasy, $10 \%$ of boys and $4 \%$ of girls reported this about spice "Bio". Similar to these results other substances were perceived as easily available much more from boys than girls, while there were no differences in perceptions of availability of tranquilizers/sedatives.

Students were asked if they had ever used marijuana or hashish (cannabis), would they have said so in this questionnaire. $9 \%$ answered they have already done so; $39 \%$ replied that they would definitely do so; $26 \%$ replied they would probably do so and $10 \%$ that they would probably do not do so. $11 \%$ are sure they would not do so.

## Lifetime and last 12 months use of illicit drugs

In this chapter the concept of "illicit drug" includes ecstasy, amphetamines, methamphetamines, cocaine, crack, inhalants and other substances.

Table 29. Frequency of lifetime and last 12 months use of ecstasy, amphetamines, methamphetamines, cocaine, crack, LSD, and GHB by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ecstasy | 7 | 1 | 4 |
| Amphetamines | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Methamphetamines | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Cocaine | 2 | 1 | 2 |

The most prevalent drug is ecstasy. 4\% of students (7\% of the boys and $1 \%$ of the girls) have tried ecstasy at least once during their lifetime; followed by amphetamines (2\%) and cocaine (2\%).

Lifetime use of inhalants and new psychoactive substances (NPS) are quite high. 12\% of students (10\% of the boys and $14 \%$ of the girls) have tried inhalants at least once during their lifetime. $6 \%$ ( $5 \%$ of the boys and $7 \%$ of the girls) have tried inhalants during the last 12 months. $3 \%$ ( $3 \%$ of the boys and $4 \%$ of the girls) have tried inhalants during the last 30 days. Inhalants are the only substances more used by girls than boys.

Table 30. Frequency of lifetime, last 12 months and last 30 days use of inhalants by gender. Percentages.

| Number of <br> occasions | Lifetime |  |  | Last 12 months |  |  | Last 30 days |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| 0 | 90 | 86 | 88 | 95 | 93 | 94 | 97 | 96 | 97 |
| $1-2$ | 5 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| $3+$ | 5 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

In this chapter the concept of "illicit drug" includes Tranquillisers or sedatives (without a doctor's prescription), LSD or some other hallucinogens, Relevin, Heroin, "Magic mushrooms", GHB, Anabolic steroids, Drugs by injection with a needle (like heroin, cocaine, amphetamine), Alcohol together with pills (medicaments) in order to get high, Painkillers in order to get high, Spice ("BIO").

Table 31. Lifetime use of various illicit drugs by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tranquillisers or sedatives | 10 | 13 | 11 |
| LSD or other hallucinogens | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Heroin | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| "Magic mushrooms" | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| GHB | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Anabolic steroids | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Drugs by injection with a needle | 0.49 | 0.22 | 0.36 |
| Alcohol together with pills | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Painkillers | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Spice ("BIO") | 4 | 2 | 3 |

The most prevalent drug other than marijuana or hashish (cannabis) among Georgian students are - tranquillisers or sedatives (without a doctor's prescription) - $11 \%$ followed by Magic mushrooms (3\%), alcohol together with pills (medicaments) in order to get high (3\%), Spice "BIO" - (3\%), hallucinogens (2\%), painkillers in order to get high (2\%) and Heroin (2\%). GHB and anabolic steroids were reported by 1\%. Drugs by injection with a needle (like heroin, cocaine, amphetamine) were reported by $0.4 \%$ of Georgian students. All drugs are more used by boys except tranquillisers (without a doctor's prescription).

## Age of Onset for Various substances

Experience of various substances at the age of 13 or younger is quite rare: inhalants $-3 \%$; tranquillisers/sedatives (without prescription) - 1\%; alcohol together with pills - 1\%; ecstasy - 1\%; cocaine or crack - 1\%; amphetamines or methamphetamines $-1 \%$.

Table 32. Age of onset for various substances and mixing alcohol with pills. Proportion answering at the age of 13 or younger by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Marijuana / hashish | 3.65 | 0.87 | 2.35 |
| Tranquillizers / sedatives | 1.44 | 0.88 | 1.18 |
| Amphetamines/Methamphetamines | 0.58 | 0.33 | 0.46 |
| Cocaine/Crack | 0.86 | 0.33 | 0.62 |
| Ecstasy | 1.06 | 0.22 | 0.67 |
| Inhalants | 3.45 | 2.85 | 3.17 |
| Alcohol together with pills | 0.96 | 0.55 | 0.77 |

## New Substances

New substances that imitate the effects of illicit drugs [such as cannabis or ecstasy] may be available. They can come in different forms, for example - herbal mixtures, spices, powders, crystals or tablets. Students were asked about lifetime use of such substances. $7 \%$ ( $10 \%$ of boys and $3 \%$ of girls) answered positively.

Students were also asked about the form of the new substance they used in the last 12 months. $14 \%(17 \%$ of boys and $10 \%$ of girls) reported that they have not used such substances in the last 12 months. $5 \%$ reported use of herbal smoking mixtures with drug-like effects; $4 \%$ reported use of liquids with drug-like effects; $3 \%$ reported use of powders, crystals or tablets with drug-like effects and $10 \%$ reported use of other form of new substance.

Table 33. Use of new psychoactive substances (NPS) last 12 months and (among 12-month users) form of NPS. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Herbal smoking mixtures | 7.80 | 1.79 | 5.06 |
| Liquids | 5.24 | 1.53 | 3.55 |
| Powders, crystals, tablets | 3.63 | 1.41 | 2.62 |
| Other | 11.32 | 10.48 | 10.48 |
| Used NPS last 12 months | 17.41 | 10.23 | 14.14 |

## Perceived Risks of Legal and Illegal Substance Use

The students were asked: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they..." followed by twelve items regarding cigarette smoking, alcohol consumption and use of illicit drugs suggesting different intensities of use. The response categories were "no risk", "slight risk", "moderate risk", "great risk" and "don't know". The comments in this section are based only on answers indicating a "great risk" for each item.

Table 34. Perceived risks of legal and illegal Substance use by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| smoke cigarettes occasionally | 15 | 17 | 16 |
| smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day | 44 | 60 | 51 |
| have one or two drinks nearly every day | 21 | 34 | 27 |
| have four or five drinks nearly every day | 35 | 59 | 46 |
| have five or more drinks in one occasion nearly each weekend | 31 | 44 | 37 |
| try marijuana or hashish (cannabis) once or twice | 40 | 62 | 50 |
| smoke marijuana or hashish (cannabis) occasionally | 23 | 37 | 30 |
| smoke marijuana or hashish (cannabis) regularly | 48 | 73 | 60 |
| try ecstasy once or twice | 25 | 28 | 26 |
| take ecstasy regularly | 48 | 67 | 57 |
| try an amphetamine (uppers, pep pills, speed) once or twice | 31 | 39 | 35 |
| take amphetamines regularly | 51 | 66 | 58 |

The average values for the risk assessment vary considerably across substances. The highest average value is noted for regular use of either marijuana (60\%), amphetamines (58\%) ecstasy (57\%) or cigarettes (51\%).

Girls perceive great risk much more than boys, for example while $73 \%$ of girls think that regular use of cannabis is great risk, only $48 \%$ of boys think so; $66 \%$ of girls think that regular use of amphetamine is great risk, only $52 \%$ of boys think so. Similarly smoking one pack a day is perceived as great risk by $60 \%$ of girls and $44 \%$ of boys.

## Internet

Young people in the world have access to a wealth of information sources through the Internet, which they use as a key means of keeping themselves up to date, entertained and in touch with their social lives. Young people are becoming more and more attached to the Internet as a means of communicating, learning and seeking new challenges, while at the same time they are becoming more introverted and more suspicious of face-to-face communication with others, which they often consider too demanding and even unnecessary. Nowadays, the adoption of digital technologies is known to be higher in young adolescents than adults. Internet addiction appears as a potential problem in adolescents.

## Internet use during the last 7 days

Students were asked which days (if any) were they on the Internet (on a computer, tablet, smartphone or any other electronic device) during the last 7 days. Saturdays and Sundays were more popular among internet users. The mean days of internet use during the last 7 days was 3.8 days ( 3.9 days in boys and 3.7 days in girls).

Students also were asked about how many days (if any) were they on the Internet during the last 7 days. Whether they were using Social Media (communicating with others on the Internet, using for example WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook, Skype, Blogs, Snapchat, Instagram, Kik etc.); Playing online games (war, strategy and first-person shooter games, World of Warcraft, Call of Duty, Grand Theft Auto, MMO, MMORPG etc.); Playing games in which they may win money (poker, scratch, dice, new slot etc.; Reading, surfing, searching for information etc.; Streaming/downloading music, videos, films etc.; Searching for, selling or buying products, games, books etc. (Amazon, Ebay etc.).

The most popular activities are communicating with others on the Internet (64\%); streaming/downloading music, videos, films etc. (48\%) and reading, surfing, searching for information etc. (36\%).

6\% are playing games in which they may win money (poker, scratch, dice, new slot etc.).
Table 35. Internet use during the last 7 days (4 days and more) by activities. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| On Social Media | 60 | 67 | 64 |
| Playing online games | 23 | 2 | 13 |
| Playing games in which you may win money | 10 | 1 | 6 |
| Reading, surfing, searching for information etc. | 31 | 42 | 36 |
| Streaming/downloading music, videos, films etc. | 47 | 49 | 48 |
| Searching for, selling or buying products, games, books etc. | 13 | 6 | 10 |

More boys are playing online games (war, strategy and first-person shooter games, World of Warcraft, Call of Duty, Grand Theft Auto, MMO, MMORPG etc.); Playing games in which they may win money (poker, scratch, dice, new slot etc.; Reading, surfing, searching for information etc. No other major differences are observed.

## Internet use during the typical day

Students also were asked about number of hours spent on the internet on a typical day. The most popular daily activities are communicating with others on the Internet - $28 \%$ of students do so 6 and more hours per typical day; followed by streaming/downloading music, videos, films etc. $-15 \%$ do so 6 and more hours per day; the third most popular internet daily activity is reading, surfing, searching for information etc. $-9 \%$ do so about 6 and more hours per day.
$3 \%$ are playing games in which they may win money (poker, scratch, dice, new slot etc.) and do so about 6 and more hours per day.

Students were asked to agree or disagree with several statements on Social Media (communicating with others on the Internet, using for example WhatsAapp, Twitter, Facebook, Skype, Blogs, Kik, Snapchat, Instagram etc). For each statement, the response categories were: "strongly agree", "partly agree", "neither-nor", "partly disagree" and "strongly disagree". The proportions of students who answered "strongly agree" and "partly agree" to this question are presented in this section as "agree"; and the proportions of students who answered "strongly disagree" and "partly disagree" to this question are presented as "disagree".

Students mostly agree with statements on Social Media "I think I spend too much time on Social Media" (58\%; 54\% of boys and $63 \%$ of girls) and "My parents say that I spend way too much time on Social Media" (49\%; 48\% of boys and $51 \%$ of girls).

Table 36. Agreement with several statements on Social Media by gender. Percentages.

| I think I spend too much time on Social Media | Male | Female | Total |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Agree | 54 | 63 | 58 |
| I get in bad mood when I cannot spend time on <br> Social Media | Disagree | 28 | 24 | 26 |
|  | Agree | 29 | 28 | 29 |
| My parents say that I spend way too much time on <br> Social Media | Agree | 50 | 56 | 53 |

## Gaming and Gambling

Adolescent gaming and gambling, and substance use are viewed as a public health concern internationally. The early onset age of gambling is a known risk factor for developing gambling problems later in life. For most adolescents, gaming is a pleasurable entertainment activity. However, research suggests that excessive online gaming may in extreme cases lead to symptoms commonly experienced by substance addicts. Like adult gambling, adolescent gambling is linked with a number of negative outcomes including criminal behavior, poor academic achievement, school truancy, financial problems, depression, suicide, deterioration of social, and substance abuse.

Students were asked to agree or disagree with several statements on gaming on a computer, tablet, smartphone or other electronic device. For each statement, the response categories were: "strongly agree", "partly agree", "neither-nor", "partly disagree" and "strongly disagree". The proportions of students who answered "strongly agree" and "partly agree" to this question are presented in this section as "agree"; and the proportions of students who answered "strongly disagree" and "partly disagree" to this question are presented as "disagree".

Students mostly disagree with all gambling statements "I get in bad mood when I cannot spend time on games" (69.3\%), "My parents say that I spend way too much time on gaming" (62.1\%) and "I think I spend way too much time playing games" (59.1\%). More girls disagreed on the statements than boys did.

Table 37. Agreement with several statements on gambling by gender. Percentages.

|  |  | Male | Female | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I think I spend way too much time playing games | Agree | 41 | 15 | 29 |
|  | Disagree | 47 | 73 | 59 |
| I get in bad mood when I cannot spend time on <br> games | Agree | 24 | 8 | 17 |
|  | Disagree | 60 | 80 | 69 |
|  | Agree | 37 | 15 | 26 |

Questionnaire included questions on frequency of gambling money in the last 12 months. 14\% of students reported gambling during the 12 months prior to survey; $24 \%$ boys and $3 \%$ girls. More than $4 \%$ ( $8 \%$ boys and $1 \%$ girls) does so 4 and more times a week.

Table 38. Frequency of gambling money during the last 12 months by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 76 | 97 | 86 |
| Monthly or less | 7 | 1 | 4 |
| $2-4$ times a month | 6 | 1 | 3 |
| $2-3$ times a week | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| $4-5$ times a week | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| $\geq 6$ times a week | 5 | 1 | 3 |

On the question regarding the types of games played on the internet ["Slot machines (fruit machine, new slot etc.)"; "Play card or dice (poker, bridge, dice etc.)"; "Lotteries (scratch, bingo, keno etc.)"; "Betting on sports or animals (horses, dogs etc.)"] and frequency ["I have not played these games"; "monthly or less"; "2-4 times a month"; "2-3 times a week"; "4-5 times a week"; "6 or more times a week"]. In this chapter frequencies "monthly or less" and "2-4 times a month" are grouped as "monthly" and "2-3 times a week"; "4-5 times a week"; " 6 or more times a week" as "weekly".

Most of the students reported playing card or dice and betting on sports or animals on internet $-19 \%$; $14 \%$ plays in traditional setting.

Table 39. Frequency of internet/ traditional setting gambling during the last 12 months by gender. Percentages.

|  | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Internet | 28 | 8 | 19 |
| traditional setting | 21 | 7 | 14 |

The same question was asked regarding the games played not on the internet but in traditional setting. The same grouping of answers were done.

Most of the students reported playing card or dice (7\%) and betting on sports or animals (3\%) in traditional setting.
Table 40. Frequency of gambling in traditional setting during the last 12 months by several games by gender. Percentages.

| Slot machines | Male | Female | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Monthly | 4 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Weekly | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Lotteries | Monthly | 9 | 5 | 7 |
|  | Weekly | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| Betting on sports or animals | Monthly | 3 | 1 | 3 |
|  | Weekly | 2 | 0 | 1 |

## PSYCHO-SOCIAL PATTERNS

## Family

96\% of students are born in Georgia, 1\% - in Azerbaijan, 1\% - in Armenia and 2\% in other countries. Vast majority of students reported that their mother (96) and father (96\%) are born in Georgia.

As reported most of the fathers have completed high (48\%) or completed secondary education (34\%); and mothers have completed high (53\%) or completed secondary education (33\%).

On the question how well does their family live compared to other families in Georgia, most of the students reported that they live about the same as other families' do (47\%); 23\% reported living better and $16 \%$ very much better.

Majority of students live with father (72\%) mother (87\%); brother (47\%), sister (37\%) and grandparents (36\%) in the household

Students were asked how often the statements apply to them. For each statement, the response categories were: "almost always", "often", "sometimes", "seldom" and "almost never". Students almost always can easily get warmth and caring from their mother and/or father ( $65 \%$; $58 \%$ boys and $72 \%$ girls) and from their best friend ( $62 \%$; $54 \%$ boys and $70 \%$ girls); they almost always easily get emotional support from their best friend (64\%; 60\% boys and $68 \%$ girls). Mostly parents know whom their children are with in the evenings - almost always (53\%; $36 \%$ boys and $71 \%$ girls) or often (18\%; $21 \%$ boys and $14 \%$ girls) and where their children are in the evenings - almost always ( $58 \%$; $41 \%$ boys and $77 \%$ girls) or often ( $19 \%$; $24 \%$ boys and $13 \%$ girls). Getting money from the parents also is not perceived as a problem: they almost always can easily borrow money from parents (46\%; 42\% boys and 50\% girls) or get money as a gift from them ( $36 \%$; $33 \%$ boys and $40 \%$ girls).

In $71 \%$ parents ( $57 \%$ boys and $87 \%$ girls) always and in $18 \%$ ( $26 \%$ boys and $10 \%$ girls) quite often know where students spend Saturday nights. Just in $2 \%$ ( $2 \%$ boys and $1 \%$ girls) they do not know.

## Student's judgement of themselves and others

Most of the students describe their average grade at the end of the last term as higher than average (61\%; $59 \%$ boys and $64 \%$ girls) followed by high ( $23 \%$; $18 \%$ boys and $28 \%$ girls).

Regarding their relationships with parents and friends - 94\% of students (93\% boys and 94\% girls) are very satisfied or satisfied by relationship with mother; $87 \%$ of students ( $89 \%$ boys and $86 \%$ girls) are very satisfied or satisfied by relationship with father; and $94 \%$ of students ( $95 \%$ boys and $94 \%$ girls) are very satisfied or satisfied by relationship with friends.

Students were asked about their mother's and father's reaction if they do the several things (get drunk, use marijuana/hashish and use ecstasy). For each statement, the response categories were: "they would not allow it", "they would discourage it", "they would not mind", "they would approve of it" and "don't know".

Table 41. Student's perceived reaction of their mother and father on several issues by gender. Percentages.

|  |  | Get drunk |  |  | Use marijuana/hashish |  |  | Use ecstasy |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Male | Femal e | Total | Male | Femal e | Total | Male | Femal e | Total |
| would not allow | Mother | 23 | 35 | 29 | 68 | 83 | 75 | 71 | 83 | 76 |
|  | Father | 25 | 45 | 35 | 65 | 81 | 72 | 67 | 80 | 73 |
| would discourage | Mother | 50 | 41 | 46 | 17 | 8 | 13 | 13 | 6 | 10 |
|  | Father | 33 | 29 | 31 | 17 | 6 | 12 | 14 | 6 | 10 |

Vast majority of students responded that their parents would not like (would discourage or would not allow) if they get drunk, if they use marijuana/hashish and if they use ecstasy.

## Perceived drug use among friends

Students were asked about prevalence of several behaviours among their friends. Those behaviours are: smoking cigarettes; drinking alcoholic beverages (beer, cider, alcopops, wine, and spirits); get drunk; smoke marijuana or hashish (cannabis); take tranquillisers or sedatives (without a doctor's prescription); take ecstasy; use inhalants. For each phenomena, the response categories were: "None", "A few", "Some", "Most" and "All".

Vast majority of the students reported that their friends smoke cigarettes (83\%), drink alcohol (85\%) and get drunk (77\%)

About half of the students (49\%) reported that their friends smoke marijuana or hashish (cannabis). 25\% responded that their friends take tranquillisers or sedatives (without a doctor's prescription); 17\% reported their friends are taking ecstasy and $14 \%$ said their friends are taking inhalants.

Table 42. Perceived drug use among friends by gender. Percentages.

|  |  | None | A few | Some | Most | All |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | 15 | 27 | 25 | 27 | 3 |
| Smoking cigarettes | Female | 18 | 23 | 31 | 25 | 2 |
|  | Total | 17 | 26 | 29 | 26 | 3 |
|  | Male | 13 | 31 | 22 | 25 | 6 |
| Drinking alcoholic beverages | Female | 16 | 27 | 28 | 24 | 4 |
|  | Total | 15 | 30 | 26 | 25 | 5 |
|  | Male | 19 | 32 | 26 | 15 | 4 |
| Get drunk | Female | 25 | 35 | 24 | 13 | 2 |
|  | Total | 23 | 34 | 26 | 15 | 3 |
|  | Male | 43 | 28 | 16 | 7 | 2 |
| Smoke marijuana or hashish (cannabis) | Female | 57 | 21 | 15 | 3 | 1 |
|  | Total | 51 | 26 | 16 | 5 | 2 |
|  | Male | 68 | 19 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| Take tranquillisers or sedatives | Female | 78 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
|  | Total | 75 | 16 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
|  | Male | 74 | 16 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Take ecstasy | Female | 87 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Total | 83 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Male | 78 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Use inhalants | Female | 87 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Total | 86 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Students were asked about how often students do several activities: Play computer games; Actively participate in sports, athletics or exercising; Read books for enjoyment (do not count schoolbooks); Go out in the evening (to a disco, cafe, party etc.); Other hobbies (play an instrument, sing, draw, write); Go around with friends to shopping centres, streets, parks etc. just for fun; Use the Internet for leisure activities (chats, music, games, social networks, videos etc.); Play on slot machines (in which you can win money). For each phenomena, the response categories were: "Never", "A few times a year", "Once or twice a month", "At least once a week" and "Almost everyday".

Table 43. Frequency of several activities by gender. Percentages.

|  |  | Never | A few times a year | Once or twice a month | At least once a week | Almost everyday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Play computer games | Male | 8 | 9 | 12 | 28 | 42 |
|  | Female | 24 | 18 | 15 | 19 | 23 |
|  | Total | 16 | 13 | 13 | 24 | 34 |
| Actively participate in sports, athletics or exercising | Male | 6 | 7 | 10 | 29 | 47 |
|  | Female | 11 | 14 | 17 | 34 | 22 |
|  | Total | 8 | 10 | 14 | 32 | 36 |
| Read books for enjoyment | Male | 12 | 26 | 28 | 19 | 13 |
|  | Female | 3 | 15 | 28 | 27 | 24 |
|  | Total | 8 | 21 | 29 | 23 | 19 |
| Go out in the evening | Male | 34 | 29 | 19 | 10 | 4 |
|  | Female | 52 | 27 | 15 | 3 | 2 |
|  | Total | 43 | 29 | 18 | 7 | 3 |
| Other hobbies (play an instrument, sing, draw, write) | Male | 35 | 14 | 14 | 18 | 15 |
|  | Female | 14 | 13 | 19 | 25 | 26 |
|  | Total | 26 | 14 | 17 | 22 | 21 |
| Go around with friends to shopping centres, streets, parks etc. just for fun | Male | 8 | 10 | 23 | 33 | 23 |
|  | Female | 7 | 9 | 30 | 34 | 17 |
|  | Total | 8 | 10 | 27 | 34 | 21 |
| Use the Internet for leisure activities | Male | 8 | 4 | 5 | 16 | 65 |
|  | Female | 5 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 72 |
|  | Total | 7 | 4 | 5 | 15 | 70 |
| Play on slot machines | Male | 81 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
|  | Female | 95 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Total | 89 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 |

Majority of the students (93\%) reported using the Internet for leisure activities (chats, music, games, social networks, videos etc.); followed by actively participating in sports, athletics or exercising (92\%) and playing computer games (58\%). The rarely done activities are playing on slot machines (in which you can win money) and go out in the evening (to a disco, cafe, party etc.).

Table 44. Frequency of missing days at school during the last 30 days by gender. Percentages.

|  | Because of illness |  |  | Because you skipped or "cut" |  | For other reasons |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| None | 42 | 36 | 41 | 56 | 63 | 64 | 31 | 40 | 37 |
| 1 day | 20 | 24 | 23 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 24 | 24 | 25 |
| 2 days | 17 | 15 | 17 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 18 | 15 | 17 |
| 3-4 days | 10 | 15 | 13 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 15 | 13 | 14 |
| 5-6 days | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 4 |
| 7 days or more | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 |

$59 \%$ of students missed lessons for 1 or more days during the last 30 days because of illness; $36 \%$ because skipped or "cut"; 63\% missed lessons for other reasons.

## COMPARATIVE ANALYZES - GEORGIA AND ESPAD AVERAGE

Georgian results are compared with the unweighted ESPAD averages according the eight key variables are (cigarette use during the last 30 days; alcohol use during the last 30 days; heavy episodic drinking during the last 30 days; lifetime use of cannabis (marijuana or hashish); lifetime use of illicit drugs other than cannabis (ecstasy, amphetamines, cocaine, crack, LSD or other hallucinogens and GHB); lifetime use of tranquillizers or sedatives without a doctor's prescription; lifetime use of inhalants in order to get high; lifetime use of new psychoactive substances (NPS).

Georgian students reported prevalence rates higher or slightly higher than the ESPAD average for five of the eight key variables studied. Heavy episodic drinking in the last 30 days, for example, was reported by $41 \%$ of the students in Georgia, compared to the ESPAD average of $35 \%$. In addition, the results for lifetime use of illicit drugs other than cannabis, tranquilizers or sedatives without prescription, inhalants and NPS were all above average. For three of the variables the results were below average. This was true for last-30-day use of cigarettes, last-30-day use of alcohol and for lifetime use of cannabis.

The substance-use habits of Georgian students did not differ greatly from the ESPAD average, even though the prevalence rates more often were above rather than below average.


Figure 11. Georgia and ESPAD averages according the eight key variables. Percentages.

Availability of substances - Perceived availability of other illicit drugs was relatively low. Georgia has one of the lowest rates on nearly all illicit drugs.


Figure 12. Perceived availability of substances: prevalence of students responding substance 'fairly easy' or 'very easy' to obtain. Percentages. Georgia and ESPAD averages 2015.

Early onset of substance use - Prevalence of early onset of substance use in Georgia is lower compare to the ESPAD average except alcohol.


Figure 13. Early onset of substance use: prevalence of students experiencing substance use (cigarettes, daily smoking, alcohol, intoxication) at the age of 13 or younger. Percentages. Georgia and ESPAD averages 2015.

Cigarette use - Lifetime and past 30 days smoking prevalence rates in Georgian boys are higher than ESPAD average; prevalence rates in Georgian girls are lower than ESPAD average. There is noticeable gender difference with higher rates in boys than girls ( $26 \%$ versus $9 \%$ ).


Figure 14. Cigarette use: prevalence of lifetime and 30-day use. Percentages. Georgia and ESPAD averages 2015.

Alcohol use - Lifetime and past 30 days alcohol use prevalence rates in Georgian boys as well as lifetime prevalence in girls are higher than ESPAD average; 30 days alcohol use prevalence rate in Georgian girls is lower than ESPAD average. On average, more boys than girls have drunk alcohol during the 30 days prior to the survey; gender difference is quite large (20\%) in Georgia.


Figure 15. Alcohol use: prevalence of lifetime and 30-day use. Percentages. Georgia and ESPAD averages 2015.

Illicit drug use - Lifetime use of any drug is lower in Georgia compare to ESPAD average. Noticeable gender difference were found in Georgia ( $24 \%$ for boys and $6 \%$ for girls). The most prevalent illicit drug in all ESPAD countries is cannabis. One of the largest gender difference was found in Georgia ( $19 \%$ for boys and $3 \%$ for girls). Lifetime use of illicit drugs except ecstasy is equivalent of ESPAD average; prevalence of ecstasy use is 2-times higher. The highest gender differences are seen in Georgia (ecstasy: 7\% for boys and 1\% for girls).


Figure 16. Illicit drug use: lifetime prevalence. Percentages. Georgia and ESPAD averages 2015.

Inhalants and new psychoactive substances (NPS) use - Lifetime use of inhalants as well as NPS is higher in Georgian students compare to ESPAD average. Noticeable gender difference were found in NPS use in Georgia (10\% of boys and $3 \%$ of girls).


Figure 17. Inhalants and new psychoactive substances (NPS): prevalence of lifetime use. Percentages. Georgia and ESPAD averages 2015.

Internet use, gaming, gambling - The frequency of internet use within the last seven days prior to the survey was low in Georgia compare to ESPAD average. Regular online games were not so common in Georgia but the proportion for online money gambling was 2-times higher in Georgia.


Figure 18. Average number of days on the internet (mean number of days) and prevalence of internet activities on 4 or more days in the last 7 days. Percentages. Georgia and ESPAD averages 2015.


Figure 19. Cigarette use: prevalence of 30-day use. Percentages.


Figure 20. Frequency of alcohol intake in the last 30 days by gender (mean number of occasions among users).

All students (\%)
Czech Republic (37)
France (31)
Monaco (31)
United States (31)
Liechtenstein (30) 40
Italy (27)
Bulgaria (27)
Spain (27)
Slovakia (26)
Estonia (25)
Slovenia (25)
Poland (24)
Netherlands (22)
Croatia (21)
Austria (20)
Ireland (19)
Lithuania (18)
Belgium (Flanders) (17)
Latvia (17)
Portugal (15)
Hungary (13)
Malta (13)
Denmark (12)
Georgia (11)
Ukraine (9)
Greece (9)
Finland (8)
Romania (8)
Montenegro (8)
Iceland (7)
Cyprus (7)
Albania (7)
Sweden (7)
Norway (7)
Faroes (6)
FYR Macedonia (5)
Moldova (4)

Boys (\%) Girls (\%)
$36 \square 38$
34 ए 29
34 ■ 29


22
23
25
25

$30 \square 21$

























Figure 21. Lifetime prevalence of cannabis use, by gender. Percentages.


Figure 22. Average frequency of cannabis use in the last 12 months, by gender (mean number of occasions among users).


Figure 23. Prevalence of cannabis use in the last 30 days by gender. Percentages.


Figure 24. Prevalence of new psychoactive substance use in the last 12 months, by gender. Percentages.

```
            All students (%)
                Boys (%) Girls (%)
            Denmark (45)
                    6 428
```



```
Albania (19)
Montenegro (18)
Slovenia (18)
Ireland (18)
Greece (18)
Ukraine (17)
Moldova (16)
FYR Macedonia (16)
Georgia (13)
```

Figure 25. Prevalence of gaming on the internet on 4 or more days in the last 7 days, by gender. Percentages.

```
All students (\%) Boys (\%)
Greece (30) 4912
```



```
Cyprus (23) \(39 \square 8\)
Slovenia (21)
Finland (20)
Croatia (19)
Bulgaria (18)
France (17)
Hungary (16)
Ireland (16)
Denmark (16)
Spain (16)
Latvia (16)
Italy (15)
Georgia (14)
Slovakia (14)
Monaco (14)
Netherlands (14)
FYR Macedonia (14)
Sweden (13)
Romania (13)
Estonia (12)
Lithuania (12)
Faroes (11)
Poland (10)
Czech Republic (9)
Liechtenstein (9)
Portugal (8)
Albania (8)
Norway (7)
Malta (7)
Ukraine (7)
Iceland (7)
Austria (7)
Moldova (5)
```

































Figure 26. Prevalence of gambling in the last 12 months, by gender. Percentages.

## APPENDIX 1

LIST OF INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTED THE SURVEY

Ministry of labour, Health and Social Affaires
Ministry of Education and Science
Ministry of Justice
National Center for Disease Control and Public Health
Participant School Administrations

# Statistics Expert: Sophiko Alavidze MD 

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| Researchers: | Data Entry personnel: |
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| Nino Buadze | Mariam Eliauri |
| Nino Gugushvili | Guliko Lomsadze |
| Nato Dvali | Tamar Philauri |
| Elene Eristavi | Keti Kitiashvili |
| Nino Zedginidze | Susana shakhbudagiani |
| Teona Todua | Tsimi Chanadiri |
| Marina Topuridze | Lela Tsertsvadze |
| Archil Mjavia | Nino Tsetskhladze |
| Nana Odisharia | Lia Khutchua |
| Nino Sarashvili |  |
| Lela Sashikashvili |  |
| Lia Skhirtladze |  |
| Alina Pakhuridze |  |
| Natia Kakutia |  |
| Anzor Kobalia |  |
| Dali Kobuladze |  |
| Eka Korchashvili |  |
| Lela Shengelia |  |
| Lia Sheyiladze |  |
| Maka Tsilosani |  |
| Neli Khizanishvili |  |
| Nino Khurtsia |  |

APPENDIX 3

ESPAD QUESTIONNAIRE
emcdda.europa.eu

The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs www.espad.org

## Questionnaire on substance use

## Read this first please!

This questionnaire is part of an international study on substance use among European students. It will be answered by more than 100,000 students in over 35 countries. The study is called ESPAD.

This is a totally anonymous questionnaire. You should not state your name or any other information which identifies you. You should place your completed questionnaire in the enclosed envelope and seal it yourself. Your survey leader will collect the envelopes after completion.

Your class has been randomly selected to take part in this study. In Geiorgia the survey is carried out by National Center fir Disease Control and Public Health. It is voluntary to take part. If there is any question you find objectionable for any reason, just leave it blank. It is important that you answer as thoughtfully and frankly as possible. The results will not be presented by single classes and remember your answers are totally anonymous.

If you do not find an answer that fits exactly, indicate the one that comes closest. Please, mark the appropriate answer to each question by making an " X " in the box. If you have a question, please raise your hand and your survey leader will assist you.

Thank you in advance for your participation! Please begin.

01 What is your sex?

02 When were you born?

Year 19


03 How often (if at all) do you do each of the following activities?


04 During the LAST 30 DAYS on how many days have you missed one or more lessons?
e box for each line.


The following questions are about cigarette smoking

05 How difficult do you think it would be for you to get cigarettes if you wanted?

${ }^{1}$| $\square$ |
| :--- |
| Impossible |
| $2 \square$ |
| 2 |

${ }_{3} \square$ Very difficult
${ }_{4} \square$ difficult
${ }_{5} \square$ easy
${ }_{6} \square$ Very easy

06 How many times (if any) during your lifetime have you smoked cigarettes?


07 During the LAST 30 DAYS how frequently have you smoked cigarettes?
${ }_{1} \square$ Not at all
$2 \square$ Less than 1 cigarette per week
${ }_{3} \square$ Less than 1 cigarette per day
${ }_{4} \square 1-5$ cigarettes per day
${ }_{5} \square$ $0-10$ cigarettes per day
${ }_{6} \square 11-20$ cigarettes per day
${ }_{7} \square$ More than 20 cigarettes per day

08
How old were (if ever) you, when you FIRST do each of the following things?
Mark one box for each line.


The next questions are about alcoholic beverages - including beer, alcopops (premixed drinks), wine and spirits

09 How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following, if you wanted?


## 10 On how many occasions (if any) have you had any alcoholic beverage to drink?

 ne box for each line.Number of occasions


11 Think back over the LAST 30 DAYS. On how many occasions (if any) have you had any of the following to drink?
Mark one box for each line.
Number of occasions


The following questions are about the last day you drank alcohol

12 When was the last day you drank alcohol?

| 1 | I have never drink alcohol |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | 1-7 days ago |
| 3 | 8-14 days ago |
| 4 | 15-30 days ago |
| 5 | 1 month - 1 year ago |
| 6 | More than 1 year ago |

13 Think of the LAST DAY that you drank any alcohol. Which of the following beverages did you drink on that day?
Mark all that apply.I have never drink alcohol Beer
Alcopops
Wine Spirits

13a If you drank beer that last day you drank any alcohol, how much did you drink?I have never drink beer
I did not drink beer on the last day that I drank alcohol

$<50 \mathrm{cl}$
50-100 cl
101-200 c
$>200 \mathrm{cl}$
13b If you drank wine that last day you drank any alcohol, how much did you drink?I never drink wine
I did not drink wine on the last day that I drank alcohol$<20 \mathrm{cl}$
$20-40 \mathrm{cl}$ $41-74 \mathrm{cl}$ $>74 \mathrm{cl}$

13c If you drank alcopops that last day you drank any alcohol, how much did you drink? *


I never drink alcopops
I
I did not drink alcopops on the last day that I drank alcohol

$<50 \mathrm{cl}$
50-100 cl
$101-200 \mathrm{cl}$
$>200 \mathrm{cl}$
13d If you drank spirits that last day you drank any alcohol, how much did you drink?
 I never drink spirits I did not drink spirits on the last day that I drank alcohol
 $<8 \mathrm{cl}$ 8-15 cl $16-24 \mathrm{cl}$ $>24 \mathrm{cl}$

13e Please indicate on this scale from 1 to 10 how drunk you would say you were that last day you drank alcohol. (If you felt no effect at all you should mark "1".)

Heavily intoxicated, for


I never drink alcohol
11

14 Think back over the LAST 30 DAYS. How many times (if any) have you had five or more drinks on one occasion? (A "drink" is 1 bottle $/ 500 \mathrm{ml}$ beer, 1 glass ( 125 ml ) wine, 1 glass ( 100 ml .) coctai, 1 glass ( 50 ml .) of spirits.)
 3-5 6-9
10 or more times

## The next questions are also about alcohol

15 On how many occasions (if any) have you been intoxicated from drinking alcoholic beverages, for example staggered when walking, not being able to speak properly, not remembering what happened? Mark one box for each line.

Number of occasions


16 When (if ever) did you FIRST do the following things?
$=$ box for each line.


17 During the LAST 12 MONTHS how often have you experienced the following WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALKOHOL?

Mark one box for each line.


18 Have you experienced problems during the LAST 12 MONTHS that happened because of someone else's drinking?
Mark one or more boxes for each line


## 19

In your opinion, does a person close to you drink excessively?


Tranquillisers and sedatives, like [Diazepam, relanium, valium...], are sometimes prescribed by doctors to help people to calm down, get to sleep or to relax. Pharmacies are not supposed to sell them without a prescription.

20 Have you ever taken tranquillisers or sedatives by doctor's prescription?No, never Yes, but for less than 3 weeks Yes, for 3 weeks or more

The next questions ask about marijuana or hashish (cannabis)

## 21 How difficult do you think it would be for you to get marijuana or hashish (cannabis) if you wanted?

$1 \square$ ImpossibleVery difficult difficult


22 On how many occasions (if any) have you used marijuana or hashish (cannabis)? e box for each line.


23
How old were you, when (if ever) you FIRST try marijuana or hashish (cannabis)?


Never
9 years old or less 10 years old
11 years old
12 years old
$\square$ 13 years old 14 years old

路

24 Have you ever had the possibility to try marijuana or hashish (cannabis) and you didn't use it?


## 25 How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following, if you wanted?

e box for each line.


26 On how many occasions (if any) have you used ecstasy?
Mark one box for each line.
Number of occasions


On how many occasions (if any) have you used amphetamines?
Mark one box for each line.


On how many occasions (if any) have you used methamphetamines [jeff, vint]?
28
Mark one box for each line. ar of occasions


## 29 On how many occasions (if any) have you used cocaine?

Mark one box for each line.
a) In your lifetime ...........................................................................................
b) During the last 12 months $\qquad$

On how many occasions (if any) have you used crack?
30
Mark one box for each line.
Number of occasions



32 On how many occasions in your lifetime (if any) have you used any of the following drugs?
Mark one box for each line
Number of occasions

h) Drugs by injection with a needle (like heroin, cocaine,


33 n (if ever) did you FIRST do each of the following things?
te box for each line.


The next questions are about new substances

34 New substances that imitate the effects of illicit drugs [such as cannabis or ecstasy] may now be sometimes available. They can come in different forms, for example - herbal mixtures, powders, crystals or tablets.

Have you ever used such substances?


Yes, I have used such substances
No, I never used such substances
Don't know/ Not sure

## 35

## What was the form of the new substance you used in the LAST 12 MONTHS?

 Mark one or more boxes.

I have not used such substances in the last 12 months
Herbal smoking mixtures with drug-like effects
Powders, crystals or tablets with drug-like effects
Liquids with drug-like effects
Other

## The next questions are about about various substances

36


37
During the LAST 7 DAYS, which days (if any) were you on the Internet (on a computer, tablet, smartphone or any other electronic device)? Please include all kinds of Internet activities. Mark one or more boxes.


38 During the LAST 7 DAYS, how many hours (if any) were you on the Internet (on a computer, tablet, smartphone or any other electronic device) on a TYPICAL WEEKDAY and a TYPICAL
WEEKEND DAY? Please include all kinds of Internet activities.
Mark one box for each line.

b) Typical weekend day (Friday-Sunday) $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$


39 During the LAST 7 DAYS, on how many days (if any) were you on the Internet?
Mark one box for each line.

$$
\text { None } \quad 1 \text { day } 2 \text { days } 3 \text { days } 4 \text { days } \quad 5 \text { days } \quad 6 \text { days } 7 \text { days }
$$

a) On Social Media (communicating with others on the Internet, using for example WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook,
Skype, Blogs, Snapchat, Instagram, Kik etc).


$\square$

$\square$

$\square$$\ldots$
b) Playing online games (war, strategy and first-person shooter games, World of Warcraft, Call of Duty, Grand
Theft Auto, MMO, MMORPG etc)........................................
c) Playing games in which you may win money (poker, scratch,

f) Searching for, selling or buying products, games, books etc [Amazon, Ebay etc]


40 During the LAST 30 DAYS, how many hours (if any) did you spend on the Internet on a TYPICAL DAY?
Mark one box for each line.
a) On Social Media (communicating with others on the Internet, using for example WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook, Skype, Blogs, Snapchat, Instagram, Kik etc)..
b) Playing online games (war, strategy and first-person shooter games, World of War craft, Call of Duty, Grand Theft Auto, MMO, MMORPG etc) $\qquad$


How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements on Social Media
(communicating with others on the Internet, using for example WhatsAapp, Twitter, Facebook, Skype, Blogs, Kik, Snapchat, Instagram etc).
Mark one box for each line.

|  | Strongly agree | Partly agree | Neither <br> nor | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Partly } \\ & \text { disagree } \end{aligned}$ | Strongly disagree |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a) I think I spend too much time on Social Media |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) I get in bad mood when I cannot spend time on Social Media |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) My parents say that I spend way too much time on Social Media................. | 1 | 2 | $3$ |  | $\frac{-}{5}$ |

42 How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about gaming on a computer, tablet, smartphone or other electronic device? Mark one box for each line.
a) I think I spend way too much time playing games.
b) I get in bad mood when I cannot spend time on games
c) My parents say that I spend way too much time on gaming.


43 How often (if ever) did you gamble money in the LAST 12 MONTHS?


I have not gambled money during the last 12 months Monthly or less 2-4 times a month

2-3 times a week 4-5 times a week 6 or more times a week

## 44 If you have gambled money in the LAST 12 MONTHS, which games have you played ON THE

 INTERNET?

45 If you have gambled money in the LAST 12 MONTHS, which games have you played NOT ON THE INTERNET (in traditional settings)?


The next questions ask about your parents. If mostly foster parents, step-parents or others brought you up answer for them. For example, if you have both a stepfather and a natural father, answer for the one that is the most important in bringing you up

46 In which country were you and your parents born?
Mark one box for each line.


## 47 What is the highest level of schooling your father completed?

```
1 \._ Completed primary school or less
```

```Some secondary school
```

```Completed secondary school
```

```Some college or university
```

```Completed college or university
```

```Don't know
```

```Does not apply
```


## 48 What is the highest level of schooling your mother completed?

Completed primary school or less Some secondary schoolCompleted secondary school
Some college or university
Completed college or university
Don't know
Does not apply

49 well does your family live compared to other families in your country?Very much better Much better
Better
About the same
Less well
Much less well
Very much less well

50 h of the following people live in the same household with you?Brother(s)Sister(s)Grandparent(s)Other relative(s)Non-relative(s)
often do the following statements apply to you?
Mark one box for each line.


## 52 Do your parents know where you spend Saturday nights?



Know always Know quite often Know sometimes Usually don't know

53 If you had ever used marijuana or hashish (cannabis), do you think that you would have said so in uns questionnaire?
 I have already said that I have used it Definitely yes Probably yes Probably not Definitely not

## This section includes some more questions about cannabis

## 54 Have you used cannabis during the LAST 12 MONTHS?



Mark one box for each line.


Are you part of a clique of friends, where using cannabis is part of your behaviour when you meet?
$\qquad$ How often per month do you meet with members of this clique?

| 1 | (Almost) daily |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | 3-4 times a week |
| 3 | 1-2 times a week |
| 4 | 1-3 times a month |
| 5 | Less than once a month |

The next questions are about yourself and what you think about others

56
$1 \square$ High (10 scores)
$2 \square$ Higher than average (7,8,9 scores)
${ }_{3} \square$ Average (5,6 scores)
${ }_{4} \square$ Low than average (3,4 scores)
${ }_{5} \square$ Low (1,2 scores)

57 How satisfied are you usually with ...


58 What do you think your mother's reaction would be if you do the following things?
Mark one box for each line.
She would
not allow it



Now follow another two questions about smoking and tobacco
61 Have you ever used e-cigarettes or water pipe?
Mark one box for each line.


62 When (if ever) did you FIRST do each of the following things?
Mark one box for each line.


The next questions ask once more about alcohol

63 Think back over the LAST 30 DAYS. On how many occasions (if any) have you bought beer, alcopops, wine or spirits in a store (grocery store, liquor store, kiosk or petrol station) for your own consumption (off-premise)?

Mark one box for each line.
Number of occasions


64 Think of that last day on which you drank alcohol. Where were you when you drank? Mark all that apply.I have never drink alcohol At home At someone else's home Out on the street, in a park, beach or other open area At a bar or a pub In a disco In a restaurant Other places (please describe)

## 65 In the LAST 12 MONTHS, you drank...



## The next question is about energy drinks

66 On how how many occasions (if any) have you had any energy drink [for example: "red-bull"]?

## Mark one box for each line.

Number of occasions


# European School Survey Project on <br> Alcohol and Other Drugs <br> ESPAD 

National Center for Disease
Control and Public Health

Ministry of Labour, Health
And Social Affairs of Georgia

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1} 1$ drink -1 glass/bottle/can of beer -500 ml ; 1 glass of wine -125 ml ; 1 glass of spirits -50 ml ; 1 glass of cocktail - 100 ml .

