

N.C. Drug Education Schools 2009-2010

The N. C. Drug Education Schools provide a statewide system of schools empowered through N.C. General Statute to operate as an alternative to jail for persons with simple drug offenses. The goal is that as a result of completing the school, the student will be able to identify a personal plan reflective of an informed self-assessment, resulting in the elimination, avoidance and/or reduction of substance usage and related consequences, including recidivism. There is standardized information collected with each student who enters a Drug Education School. This report reflects findings from this information obtained during the fiscal year 2009-2010 from the 1466 students recorded as enrolled in the state's Drug Education Schools that year. Key findings from the data are highlighted here for consideration in learning, growing, improving, and planning related to Drug Education Schools.

Summary: Most DES students are single, white, and male in their teens or twenties who have completed 12 or more years of schooling. Slightly more than half of them have some form of employment. Most DES students pass their classes and are eligible for expungement of charges.

Key Findings

- *45.3% of DES students were born in 1980's; 33.3%, in '90's*
- *74.2% of DES students were male.*
- *64% of DES students were white.*
- *85.7% of DES students were single.*
- *52.5 % of DES students were employed either full-time, part-time, or seasonally*
- *42.6% of DES students had completed 12 grades of schooling; 32.5% had completed more than this number of years of education.*
- *99.9% of DES students in the state passed their DES classes.*
- *93.2% of the DES students in the state were eligible for expungement of their legal charges.*
- *31.5% were convicted of possession of controlled substance (such as marijuana) or drug paraphernalia.*
- *2.6% had family members who audited the class(es).*

Almost one third of students were convicted of possession of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia. A small percentage of students had family members who audited classes.