

<i>N.C. Drug Education Schools 2009-2010</i>
<i>Student Reports of DES helpfulness</i>

At the conclusion of class, students were requested to answer evaluative questions regarding personal outcomes from their Drug Education School participation. Responses follow*:

How helpful has DES been in... very helpful / somewhat helpful/ not helpful/ not applicable

(a) improving the quality of life?	57.7%	36.5%	3.1%	2.7%
(b) decreasing illegal drug use	67.9%	24.7%	2.8%	4.6%
© decreasing tobacco use	22.5%	27.7%	25.2%	24.6%
(d) decreasing alcohol use	43.4%	35.0%	7.6%	14.0%
(e) teaching new life skills that can be used	57.8%	36.1%	3.5%	2.7%
(f) increasing control over life	59.9%	33.7%	3.1%	3.3%
(g) staying out of jail or prison	79.7%	12.0%	1.2%	7.0%

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
The student reports to have decreased substance usage by the conclusion of class compared to when he was referred to class.	87.9%	3.1%	9.0%
The student predicts he/she will decrease substance abuse in the future.	87.1%	2.1%	10.8 %

*1466 students = 100%

Summary Analysis of DES Student Reports:

- Indicators that the classes are helpful to students are all in a positive direction for the 7 outcomes for which questions were asked.
- When one combines the “very helpful” responses with “somewhat helpful” responses for “improving the quality of life,” “decreasing illegal drug use,” “teaching new life skills that can be used,” “increasing control over life,” and “staying out of jail or prison,” over 90% of students report helpfulness on all of these outcomes.
- 87.9% of students report to have decreased substance usage by the conclusion of class compared to when they were referred to class.
- 87.1% of students predict they will decrease substance abuse in the future.

Summary Analysis of DES Demographic Data Collected:

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. 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. The median age of DES students who enrolled in classes from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 was 23 years, and the average age was 26.6 years. In statistically comparing the 2009-2010 data with the data from 2008-2009, in the area of “unemployment”, a statistically significant increase was noted in the students in 2009-2010 reports. More DES students were unemployed in the more recent year, and this finding remained of statistical significance even when comparisons were only made between students between the ages of 18 and 64 from year to year.