

Grand County Parent Survey 2010-2011 Summary Results

The Grand Futures Prevention Coalition collected data on parents' beliefs and perceptions about the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by their youth in Grand County in order to inform youth substance use prevention efforts in the county. Data collection began in December 2010 and was completed in February 2011. Data was collected through a questionnaire that was administered on paper and online. Although there are two school districts in Grand County, West Grand County chose not to participate in the survey effort thus; all responses came from parents in East Grand school district. The Colorado Department of Education October 2010 pupil count indicated that the East Grand County school district enrollment is 633 which represents 73.9% of students in grades 6-12 in Grand County. This report presents a brief summary of the results.

Sample size and representation~

A total of 72 valid surveys were collected. As can be seen in the table below, most of the surveys were completed online and slightly over one-quarter were completed on paper (73.6% and 26.4%, respectively).

Type of Survey

	Count	Percent
Paper Surveys	19	26.4%
Online Surveys	53	73.6%
Total	72	100%

Parents with students in middle school made up the majority of the responses and close to one-fifth of responses came from parents with youth in high school (81.9% and 18.1%, respectively).

School Name

	Count	Percent
East Grand MS	59	81.9%
Middle Park HS	13	18.1%
Total	72	100%

The grade levels of the respondents' children were varied; with 30.6% of responses coming from parents with children in 6th grade followed by 29.1% in 8th grade and 22.2% in 7th grade. Parents of 11th grade students provided 6.9% of the responses and parents of 9th and 10th grade students each provided 5.6% of the responses. There were no responses from parents of 12th grade students.

Grade of student

	Count	Percent
6th grade	22	30.6%
7th grade	16	22.2%
8th grade	21	29.1%
9th grade	4	5.6%
10th grade	4	5.6%
11th grade	5	6.9%
12th grade	0	0%
Total	72	100%

Grand County Parent Survey 2010-2011 Summary Results

Communication~

The survey asked parents how often they discuss the family rules around alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Response options were given in the form of a scale with Never=1, Once=2, Two or three times=3, Four or five times=4, and More than five times=5. These responses were averaged to produce a mean score with a higher score indicating that parents communicated with their youth about these family rules more often. As can be seen in the table below, with the exception of prescription drugs, on average, parents indicated communicating with their youth about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs at least two or three times in the past year. Approximately 40% of parents reported discussing tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana more than five times in the past year (47.2%, 44.4%, and 40.3%, respectively).

Survey question 3. During the past 12 months, how often (if ever) have you participated in a discussion on family rules about _____?

Substance	More than five times		Four or five times		Two or three times		Once		Never		Total	Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Alcohol	32	44.4%	10	13.9%	21	29.2%	5	6.9%	4	5.6%	72	3.85
Tobacco	34	47.2%	10	13.9%	18	25.0%	6	8.3%	4	5.6%	72	3.89
Marijuana	29	40.3%	11	15.3%	18	25.0%	6	8.3%	8	11.1%	72	3.65
Prescription Drugs (not prescribed to you)	14	19.4%	8	11.1%	18	25.0%	10	13.9%	22	30.6%	72	2.75
Other Illegal Drugs	23	31.9%	12	16.7%	16	22.2%	6	8.3%	15	20.8%	72	3.31

The survey gathered information about parents' attitudes towards communication with their children around the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Response options were given in the form of a scale with Strongly disagree=1, Disagree=2, Neither agree or disagree=3, Agree=4, and Strongly agree=5. As shown in the table below, most parents strongly agreed that parents should communicate with their children about the importance of not using alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; alcohol had the lowest mean score indicating that on average, parents were somewhat less likely to agree that parents should communicate with their children about this substance in comparison to tobacco and other drugs.

Survey question 4. How do you feel about this statement: "Parents should clearly communicate with their children about the importance of not using _____?"

Substance	Strongly agree		Agree		Neither agree or disagree		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Total	Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Alcohol	45	62.5%	7	9.7%	2	2.8%	2	2.8%	16	22.2%	72	3.88
Tobacco	61	84.7%	6	8.3%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	4	2.6%	71	4.67
Marijuana	60	83.3%	8	11.1%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	4.2%	71	4.70
Prescription Drugs (not prescribed to you)	59	81.9%	9	12.5%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	4.2%	71	4.68
Other Illegal Drugs	60	83.3%	8	11.1%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	4.2%	72	4.69

Grand County Parent Survey 2010-2011 Summary Results

Use and Limits~

The survey gathered information regarding parents' attitudes and behaviors around allowing children to use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs in their home. On an agreement scale numbered 1-5 where Strongly disagree=1, Disagree=2, Neither agree or disagree=3, Agree=4, and Strongly agree=5, the majority of parents strongly agreed that parents should not allow their children or their children's friends to use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs in their homes; other illegal drugs had the lowest mean score indicating that on average, parents were slightly less likely to agree that parents should not let their children's friends use this substance at home in comparison to the other substances.

Survey question 5. To what extent do you would agree or disagree with this statement: "*Parents should not let their children and their children's friends use _____ at home.*"

Substance	Strongly agree		Agree		Neither agree or disagree		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Total	Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Alcohol	57	79.2%	11	15.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	5.6%	72	4.63
Tobacco	63	88.7%	4	5.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	5.6%	71	4.72
Marijuana	63	88.7%	4	5.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	5.6%	71	4.72
Prescription Drugs (not prescribed to you)	62	87.3%	5	7.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	5.6%	71	4.70
Other Illegal Drugs	57	79.2%	4	5.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	11	15.3%	72	4.33

When asked what limits they placed on their child when it comes to drinking alcohol in their homes, nearly all parents indicated that no drinking is allowed with the exception of a few sips at a family or religious gathering and only one parent indicated that they allow some drinking if parents or family members are present (98.6%, and 1.4% respectively).

Survey question 7. What limits (if any) do you apply to your child about drinking alcohol in your home?

	Count	Percent
No drinking is allowed (other than a few sips in a family or religious gathering)	69	98.6%
Some drinking is allowed with a parent when only family members are present	1	1.4%
Some drinking with friends is allowed if a parent is present	0	0%
Drinking is allowed without a parent present as long as my child does not get drunk or drive afterwards	0	0%
No limits	0	0%
Total	70	100%

Grand County Parent Survey 2010-2011 Summary Results

In addition to asking about limits applied to drinking behaviors, the survey also asked parents how many times (if any) they had allowed their child to drink alcohol in their home in the past 12-months. Results indicated that in the past year all but one of the parents never allowed their child to drink alcohol in their home (98.6%).

Survey question 6. During the past 12 months, how often (if ever) have you allowed your child to drink alcohol (at least one full drink rather than a few sips) at your home?

	Count	Percent
Never	71	98.6%
Once	1	1.4%
Two or Three Times	0	0%
Four or Five Times	0	0%
More than Five Times	0	0%
Total	72	100%

Behaviors~

The survey asked parents questions regarding their perceptions of their child's behavior in the past year. Please note that these responses are not necessarily indicative of what children actually are or are not doing. As can be seen in the table below, when asked if they believed their child had ever ridden in a car with someone who was impaired due to drinking alcohol or smoking marijuana, the majority of parents indicated that they believed their child had never engaged in either of these behaviors (95% and 98.6%, respectively). When asked if they believed their child had ever driven a car while impaired as a consequence of drinking alcohol or smoking marijuana, nearly all parents indicated that they believed their child had never engaged in either of these behaviors (100% and 98.6%, respectively).

Survey questions 9a-10b. During the last 12 months, how often (if ever) do you think that your child.....

	Never		Once		Two or three times		Four or five times		More than five times		Total	Means
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
rode in a motor vehicle driven by someone who was impaired as a consequence of drinking alcohol?	68	95.8%	1	1.4%	2	2.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	71	4.93
rode in a motor vehicle driven by someone who was impaired as a	69	98.6%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	70	4.99
drove impaired as a consequence of drinking alcohol?	71	100%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	71	5.00
drove impaired as a consequence of smoking marijuana?	70	98.6%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	71	4.99

Grand County Parent Survey 2010-2011 Summary Results

School Concerns~

The survey asked parents how many times in the past year their child had been harassed or bullied at school that they were aware of. Overall, most parents indicated that their child had been bullied or harassed on school property at least once in the last year and approximately one-quarter indicated that their child had been bullied two or three times (65.6% and 28.1%, respectively).

Survey question 8. During the past 12 months, how many times has your child been harassed or bullied on school property that you are aware of?

	Count	Percent
Never	22	34.4%
Once	15	23.4%
Two or Three Times	18	28.1%
Four or Five Times	7	10.9%
More than Five Times	2	3.1%
Total	64	100%

Familiarity and Importance of Community Based Prevention Efforts~

The survey asked parents about their familiarity with any community agencies in Grand County that work to prevent youth drug use. Familiarity varied, but overall over half of the respondents reported being at least somewhat familiar with a community agency in Grand County that addresses prevention of youth alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription drug, and other illegal drug use (54.9%).

Survey question 11. How familiar are you with any community agencies in Grand County that work to prevent youth alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription and other illegal drug use?

	Count	Percent
Very Familiar	3	4.2%
Familiar	11	15.5%
Somewhat Familiar	25	35.2%
Unfamiliar	22	31.0%
Completely Unfamiliar	10	14.1%
Unfamiliar	22	31.0%
Total	71	100%

Grand County Parent Survey 2010-2011 Summary Results

The survey asked parents about their exposure to different types of media addressing the issues of alcohol and drug use among the youth in Grand County. The results of this question are presented below. The most common form of media recognized by respondents were posters in schools with 32.4% of parents reporting seeing these messages a few times and 12.7% reporting seeing them often; followed by electronic media (e.g., email, websites, or newsletters) with 32.4% reporting seeing these messages a few times and 2.8% reporting seeing them often through electronic media. The least seen form of media was postcards with only 1.4% of parents reporting seeing prevention messages in that format. Newspaper advertisements were reported as being seen at least a few times by 32.4% of parents and 21.1% of parents reported hearing prevention messages on the radio either a few times or often.

Survey question 13. How often (if ever) have you seen the following types of media that address alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription and other illegal drug use among youth in Grand County?

Medium	Often		A few times		Not sure		Rarely		Never		Total	Means
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Posters in schools	9	12.7%	23	32.4%	16	22.5%	14	19.7%	9	12.7%	71	3.13
Radio advertisements	3	4.2%	12	16.9%	19	26.8%	13	18.3%	24	33.8%	71	2.39
Newspaper advertisements	1	1.4%	22	31.0%	12	16.9%	17	23.9%	19	26.8%	71	2.56
Postcards	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	23	32.4%	14	19.7%	33	45.8%	71	1.89
Electronic media (email, websites, newsletters)	2	2.8%	23	32.4%	12	16.9%	11	15.5%	23	32.4%	71	2.58

The majority of parents (83.1%) responding to the survey indicated that it is very important to have prevention groups working locally in their community. This is followed by 15.5% of parents who indicated that it is somewhat important. A small percentage (1.4%) indicated that it was not at all important to have prevention groups working locally in their community.

Question 12. How important is it to you to have local groups in your community working to prevent problems associated with youth alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription and other illegal drug use?

	Count	Percent
Very Important	59	83.1%
Somewhat Important	11	15.5%
Of Little Importance	0	0.0%
Not at all Important	1	1.4%
Don't Know	0	0%
Total	71	100%