

Moffat 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 Moffat 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 at community events. This report presents a brief summary of the results.

Sample size and representation~

A total of 60 surveys were collected.

The survey asked participants to indicate "What grade will your child be starting in the fall of 2010?" and 4 participants responded "N/A", 3 participants responded "None", and 8 participants indicated having children either below 6th or above 12th grade. These 15 responses were excluded from the analyses in this report.

The grades of the respondents' children were varied; with majority of the responses coming from parents with children in high school and just under half coming from parents of middle school youth (60.0% and 40.0%, respectively).

Grade of student

| | Count | Percent |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 6th grade | 5 | 11.1% |
| 7th grade | 7 | 15.3% |
| 8th grade | 6 | 13.3% |
| 9th grade | 9 | 20.0% |
| 10th grade | 9 | 20.0% |
| 11th grade | 3 | 3.6% |
| 12th grade | 6 | 6.7% |
| Total | 45 | 100% |

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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, on average, parents indicated communicating with their youth about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs at least two or three times in the past year. Over half of parents indicated communicating with their youth about tobacco and alcohol more than five times in the past twelve months (57.8% and 53.3%, 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 | 24 | 53.3% | 9 | 20.0% | 6 | 13.3% | 3 | 6.7% | 3 | 6.7% | 45 | 4.07 |
| Tobacco | 26 | 57.8% | 8 | 17.8% | 5 | 11.1% | 3 | 6.7% | 3 | 6.7% | 45 | 4.13 |
| Marijuana | 22 | 50.0% | 3 | 6.8% | 8 | 18.2% | 7 | 15.9% | 4 | 9.1% | 44 | 3.73 |
| Prescription Drugs (not prescribed to you) | 17 | 38.6% | 6 | 13.6% | 6 | 13.6% | 6 | 13.6% | 9 | 20.5% | 44 | 3.36 |
| Other Illegal Drugs | 19 | 43.2% | 5 | 11.4% | 10 | 22.7% | 5 | 11.4% | 5 | 11.4% | 44 | 3.64 |

The survey gathered information about parents' attitudes towards communication with their child around the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs on an agreement scale numbered 1-5 where Strongly disagree=1, Disagree=2, Neither agree or disagree=3, Agree=4, and Strongly agree=5. As shown in the table below, the majority of participants strongly agreed that parents should communicate with their children about the importance of not using alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; illegal drugs had a slightly higher mean score indicating that on average, parents were somewhat more likely to agree that parents should communicate with their children about this substance in comparison to alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription 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 | 36 | 81.8% | 5 | 11.4% | 0 | 0% | 1 | 2.3% | 2 | 4.5% | 44 | 4.64 |
| Tobacco | 36 | 83.7% | 5 | 11.6% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4.7% | 43 | 4.70 |
| Marijuana | 37 | 86.0% | 4 | 9.3% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4.7% | 43 | 4.72 |
| Prescription Drugs (not prescribed to you) | 38 | 86.4% | 1 | 2.3% | 2 | 4.5% | 1 | 2.3% | 2 | 4.5% | 44 | 4.64 |
| Other Illegal Drugs | 39 | 88.6% | 3 | 6.8% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4.5% | 44 | 4.75 |

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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; marijuana and illegal drugs had the highest mean scores indicating that on average, parents were more likely to agree that parents should not let their child or children's friends use these substances at home in comparison to alcohol, tobacco, and prescription drugs.

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 | 35 | 77.8% | 6 | 13.3% | 2 | 4.4% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4.4% | 45 | 4.60 |
| Tobacco | 35 | 77.8% | 7 | 15.6% | 1 | 2.2% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4.4% | 45 | 4.62 |
| Marijuana | 40 | 88.9% | 3 | 6.7% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4.4% | 45 | 4.76 |
| Prescription Drugs (not prescribed to you) | 37 | 82.2% | 4 | 8.9% | 1 | 2.2% | 1 | 2.2% | 2 | 4.4% | 45 | 4.62 |
| Other Illegal Drugs | 40 | 88.9% | 3 | 6.7% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4.4% | 45 | 4.76 |

When asked what limits they placed on their child when it comes to drinking alcohol in their homes, the majority of parents indicated that no drinking is allowed with the exception of a few sips at a family or religious gathering and two parents responded that they allow some drinking if parents or family members are present (95.3% and 4.7% 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) | 41 | 95.3% |
| Some drinking is allowed with a parent when only family members are present | 2 | 4.7% |
| 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 | 43 | 100% |

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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 almost all of the parents never allowed their child to drink alcohol in their home (93.3%). Two parents reported allowing their child to have an alcoholic drink once and one parent reported allowing their child to have a drink at home two or three times (4.4% and 2.2%, respectively).

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 | 42 | 93.3% |
| Once | 2 | 4.4% |
| Two or Three Times | 1 | 2.2% |
| Four or Five Times | 0 | 0% |
| More than Five Times | 0 | 0% |
| Total | 45 | 100% |

Familiarity and Importance of Community Based Prevention Efforts~

The survey asked parents about their familiarity with any community agencies in Moffat County that work to prevent youth drug use. Familiarity varied, but overall slightly more than half of the respondents reported having some level of familiarity with a community agency in Moffat County that addresses prevention of youth alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription drug, and other illegal drug use (55.6%).

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 | 6.7% |
| Familiar | 7 | 15.6% |
| Somewhat Familiar | 15 | 33.3% |
| Unfamiliar | 13 | 28.9% |
| Completely Unfamiliar | 7 | 15.6% |
| Total | 45 | 100% |

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The survey asked parents about their exposure to different types of media addressing the issues of alcohol and drug use among youth in Grand County. The results of this question are presented below. The most common form of media recognized by respondents were newspaper advertisements with 31.1% of parents reporting seeing these messages a few times and 40.0% reporting seeing them often; this was followed by electronic media such as email, websites, or newsletters with 20.5% reporting seeing these messages a few times and 34.1% reporting seeing them often. The least seen form of media was postcards with 42.2% of parents reporting never seeing prevention messages in this format. Radio advertisements were reported as being seen a few times or often by slightly more than half of parents while close to half of parents reported seeing prevention messages on posters in schools a few times or often (53.5% and 44.5%, respectively).

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 | 8 | 17.8% | 12 | 26.7% | 10 | 22.2% | 5 | 11.1% | 10 | 22.2% | 45 | 3.07 |
| Radio advertisements | 10 | 22.2% | 14 | 31.1% | 11 | 24.4% | 8 | 17.8% | 2 | 4.4% | 45 | 3.49 |
| Newspaper advertisements | 18 | 40.0% | 14 | 31.1% | 3 | 6.7% | 8 | 17.8% | 2 | 4.4% | 45 | 3.84 |
| Postcards | 2 | 4.4% | 7 | 15.6% | 10 | 22.2% | 7 | 15.6% | 19 | 42.2% | 45 | 2.24 |
| Electronic media (email, websites, newsletters) | 15 | 34.1% | 9 | 20.5% | 8 | 18.2% | 5 | 11.4% | 7 | 15.9% | 44 | 3.45 |

Parents were asked how important they felt it is to have groups in the community working to prevent the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by youth. Nearly all parents responding to the survey reported that it is very important to have prevention groups working locally in their community (91.1%). Two parents reported that it is somewhat important and one indicated that it was of little importance to have prevention groups working locally in their community (4.4% and 2.2%, respectively).

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 | 41 | 91.1% |
| Somewhat Important | 2 | 4.4% |
| Of Little Importance | 1 | 2.2% |
| Not at all Important | 0 | 0% |
| Don't Know | 1 | 2.2% |
| Total | 45 | 100% |