

Town of Norwood

Parent Survey of Norms, Attitudes, and Behaviors



Funded by the MA- DPH Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (SAPC) grant program

Dedham- Needham-Norwood- Norwood SAPC

Table of Contents

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS.....	3
BACKGROUND AND METHODS.....	7
SAMPLE.....	7
FINDINGS.....	7
COMMUNICATION ABOUT UNDERAGE DRINKING AND SUBSTANCE USE.....	8
Communication – Family Dinners.....	8
Communication – Attitudes about the Effectiveness of Parent-Child Communication.....	8
Communication – Parent-Child Communication about Underage Drinking and Substance Use.....	9
Communication – Communicating with Child about Safety Strategies.....	9
Communication – Communicating with Other Parents.....	10
ATTITUDES AND BELIEFS ABOUT UNDERAGE DRINKING AND SUBSTANCE USE.....	11
Parent Attitudes about Underage Drinking and Youth Marijuana Use.....	11
Attitudes about Youth Using Alcohol or Marijuana at Home.....	12
Attitudes about Receiving Calls from Other Parents.....	13
Attitudes about Police Involvement in Underage Drinking Situations.....	13
Parent Beliefs about the Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drugs.....	14
Parental Disapproval of Youth Substance Use.....	15
Parent Beliefs about Community Substance Use Norms.....	15
Beliefs about Why Some Other Parents Allow Underage Drinking.....	16
Parent Attitudes about School-Based Substance Abuse Prevention.....	17
Effective Ways/Places to Reach Parents with Prevention Messages.....	18
PERCEPTIONS OF UNDERAGE DRINKING AND SUBSTANCE USE.....	19
Parent Perception of Substance Use and Related Issues in Norwood.....	19
Parent Perception of Usual Source of Alcohol among Underage Drinkers.....	20
Parent Perception of Usual Source of Rx Drugs among Non-Medical Users.....	21
Parent Perception of Other Parents’ Attitudes and Behaviors.....	21
BEHAVIORS ASSOCIATED WITH UNDERAGE DRINKING AND SUBSTANCE USE	
PREVENTION.....	22
Means Restriction.....	22
Parties and Gatherings	23
Calling Other Parents	24
Parental Monitoring	24
Actions Parents Support When Other Parents Violate Underage Drinking Laws.....	26

Table of Figures

- Figure 1: Days Ate Dinner at Home with Child in Last 7 Days
- Figure 2: Attitudes about the Effectiveness of Parent-Child Communication
- Figure 3: Parent-Child Communication about Underage Drinking and Substance Use
- Figure 4: Safety Strategies Parents Discuss with their Child
- Figure 5: Parental Attitudes About Underage Alcohol Use
- Figure 6: Parental Attitudes about Underage Marijuana Use
- Figure 7: Attitudes about Youth Using Alcohol or Marijuana at Home
- Figure 8: I Would Like Other Parents to Call Me if Their Child is Coming to My House
- Figure 9: Action(s) Parents Would Support If Norwood Teens Were Caught Drinking

Figure 10: Parent Beliefs about the Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drugs
Figure 11: Parent Beliefs about Community Substance Norms
Figure 12: Beliefs about Why Some Parents Allow Children to Drink Alcohol at Home
Figure 13: Parent Attitudes about School-Based Substance Abuse Prevention
Figure 14: Grade(s) When Substance Abuse Prevention Should be Delivered at School
Figure 15: Effective Ways/Places to Reach Norwood Parents with Prevention Messages
Figure 16: Alcohol and Prescription Drugs Means Restriction Efforts
Figure 17: Parties and Gatherings
Figure 18: Frequency of Calling Other Parents
Figure 19: Parental Monitoring (While Child is with Friends)
Figure 20: Parental Monitoring (After Child is Out with Friends)
Figure 21: Parent Action(s) if Other Parents Were Allowing Youth to Drink Alcohol

Index of Tables

Table 1: Parental Disapproval of Youth Substance Use
Table 2: Parent Perception of Substance Use and Related Issues in Norwood
Table 3: Parent Perception of Usual Source of Alcohol among Underage Drinkers
Table 4: Parent Perception of Usual Source of Rx Drugs among Non-Medical Users
Table 5: Parent Perception of Other Parents' Attitudes and Behaviors

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Demographics

- A total of 361 parents who have at least one child in grades 6-12 provided responses to the parent survey.

Communication about Underage Drinking and Substance Use

- Family Dinners—63.9% of respondents reported that they ate dinner at home with their child on 5 or more of the past 7 days.
- Attitudes about the Effectiveness of Parent-Child Communication—91.4% of parents believe that they can have an influence on whether their child uses alcohol or drugs.
- Parent-Child Communication about Underage Drinking and Substance Use—93.7% of respondents have communicated their family's guidelines and expectations around youth alcohol and drug use to their child, 90.0% have talked to their child at least once about illegal drugs other than marijuana and inhalants, 66.1% have talked to their child at least once about electronic tobacco products, 65.6% have talked to their child in the past 30 days about the potential negative consequences associated with alcohol use, 58.3% have talked with their child in the past 30 days about the potential negative consequences of using marijuana, 58.4% have talked to their child about the potential negative consequences of tobacco use, and 53.0% have talked to their child in the past 30 days about the potential negative consequences with the non-medical use of prescription drugs.
- Communicating with Child about Safety Strategies—Almost all parents (85.2%) have discussed one or more strategies with their child about alcohol and other drug use and how to protect themselves in a potentially unsafe situation.
- Communicating with Other Parents—61.7% of survey respondents report that they have talked with the parents of their child's close friends to share and compare parental philosophies and standards regarding alcohol and drugs.

Attitudes and Beliefs about Underage Drinking and Substance Use

- Attitudes about Underage Drinking and Youth Marijuana Use— 88.8% of parents believe youth drinking is never a good thing. A larger proportion of parents (95.5%) believe youth marijuana use is never a good thing.
- Attitudes about Youth Using Alcohol or Marijuana at Home— 88.46% of parents disagree or strongly *disagree* that it is okay to allow underage drinking and 95.5% *disagree* that it is okay to allow youth marijuana use at home as long as it is responsible and not excessive.

- Attitudes about Receiving Calls from Other Parents—90.5% of parents would like other parents to call them to see whether or not a parent will be home before allowing their child to come over for a social gathering.
- Attitudes about Police Involvement in Underage Drinking Situations—99.7% of parents think that police should take action against teens caught drinking alcohol. The action endorsed by the majority of parents (96.9%) was contacting the teens' parents.
- Parent beliefs about the Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drugs—45.1% of parents think that the non-medical use of prescription drugs is a problem among youth in Norwood. The majority of parents (48.2%) had no opinion about this issue.
- Parent Disapproval of Youth Substance Use—96.9% of parents think that it would be *very wrong* for their child to use prescription drugs not prescribed to them, 96.5% think that it would be very wrong for their child to have one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day, 88.5% think that it would be *very wrong* for their child to smoke marijuana, 83.6% think that it would be *very wrong* for their child to smoke tobacco, and 70.5% think that it would be *very wrong* for their child to drink alcohol occasionally.
- Parent Beliefs about Community Substance Use Norms—49.8% of parents think that many parents set a bad example for their children by their own excessive alcohol use, 35.8% think too many parents in Norwood either provide alcohol for their children or turn a blind eye to underage alcohol use, and 30.64% think too many parents in Norwood turn a blind eye to youth marijuana use.
- Beliefs about Why Some Parents Allow Underage Drinking—Respondents were most likely to believe that other parents may allow underage youth to drink alcohol in their home so the youth drinking is supervised (26.7%) or so the youth don't drink and drive (18.4%).
- Parent Attitudes about School-Based Substance Abuse Prevention—90.2% of parent respondents think that schools should provide education programs for their child's age that are designed to help prevent and reduce underage drinking and substance use. Forty-six percent (46.0%) feel that substance abuse awareness and prevention curricula should be delivered in 4-5th grade, 75.8% feel it should be delivered in 6th grade, 80.4% feel it should be delivered in 7-8th grade, 74.0% feel it should be delivered in 9-10th grade, and 70.9% feel it should be delivered in 11-12th grade.
- Effective Ways/Places to Reach Parents with Prevention Messages—The largest proportion of respondents indicated that the most effective ways to reach Needham parents with prevention messages are through the parent newsletter from the school (83.9%), school website (77.1%), Facebook or Twitter (71.1%), Doctor's office (61.1%), civic clubs/organizations (37.1%), and newspapers (33.9%).

Perceptions of Underage Drinking and Substance Use

- **Parent Perception of Substance Use and Related Issues in Norwood**—Parents estimated the percentage of Norwood youth who drank alcohol in the past 30 days, binge drank in the past 30 days, rode with a drinking driver in the past 30 days, used marijuana in the past 30 days, used illegal drugs without a doctor’s prescription. On average, parents correctly estimated alcohol use (30-day use and 30-day binge drinking) by Norwood youth. Parents over-estimated the percent of students who had rode with a drinking driver in the past 30 days, and used marijuana in the past 30 days. Parents underestimated the use of prescription drugs without a doctor’s prescription by youth in comparison to data from the 2015 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (Grades 9-12, N=879).
- **Parent Perception of Usual Source of Alcohol Among Underage Drinkers**—Parents believe that the most common source of alcohol for youth is from home without parent knowledge (41.0%), from someone they know over 21 giving it to them or buying it for them (30.7%) and from a party (16.8%).
- **Parent Perception of Usual Source of Prescription Drugs Among Non-Medical Users**—Parents believe that the most common source of prescription drugs for non-medical use is from home without parental knowledge (52.1%) and from a friend (25.6%).
- **Parent Perception of Other Parents’ Attitudes and Behaviors**—Respondents believe that 19.1% of parents knowingly allow their child to attend parties where underage drinking occurs, think that 13.5% knowingly allow their child to attend parties where marijuana use occurs, believe that 17.7% call to make sure a parent will be present when their child goes to a social gathering at another house, and believe that 29.5% of parents would like to be called if their own child was hosting a gathering to ensure that an adult will be present.

Behaviors Associated with Underage Drinking and Substance Use Prevention

- **Means Restriction**—Among those who keep alcohol in their home, 54.7% actively monitor or take stock of the alcohol and 12.1% secure or lock-up the alcohol. Among those who keep prescription medication in their home, 47.5% actively monitor or take stock of it and 21.6% secure or lock-up their prescription drugs.
- **Parties and Gatherings**—88.7% of parents report that they never knowingly allow their child to attend parties where underage drinking occurs and 90.2% never knowingly allow their child to attend parties where marijuana use occurs. In contrast, 36.1% report that they at least occasionally allow their child to have friends over when there are no parents at home.
- **Calling Other Parents**—49.0% of parents report that they call other parents either most of the time or all of the time to make sure a parent will be home before they let

their child attend a gathering at another house. An additional 22.0% make the call sometimes, 11.0% rarely call, and 11.4% never make the call.

- Parental Monitoring (While Child is with Friends)—69.8% of parents report that they monitor that activity of their child and his/her friends by walking through the area in which they are congregating and visually assessing for signs of substance use either most of the time or all of the time when their child has friends over the house, 95.7% require their child to tell them with whom and where they will be when they are out with friends, and 87.5% check-in with their child by phone or text message either most of the time or all of the time
- Parental Monitoring (After Child is Out with Friends)—Only 1.6% of parents report that they are asleep either most of the time or all of the time when their child returns from being out with friends, 52.3% visually assess their child for signs of substance use either most of the time or all of the time when their child returns from being out with friends, and 90.6% engage their child in a conversation to learn about their activities either most of the time or all of the time when their child returns home from being out with friends.
- Actions Parents Support When Other Parents Violate Underage Drinking Laws—If parents learned that another parent was allowing teens to drink alcohol at their home, 69.8% indicated that they would discuss it with their child, 69.4% would prohibit their child from going to that house, and 49.8% indicated that the action they would take depends on how well they know the other parents.

BACKGROUND AND METHODS

The Norwood Public Health Department conducted a survey of parents/guardians of students in grades 6-12 to learn more about their beliefs, perceptions, and behaviors regarding underage drinking and youth substance use. The survey was developed by Social Science Research and Evaluation, Inc., and asked questions in four broad domains: (1) communication about underage drinking and youth substance use, (2) attitudes and beliefs, (3) perceptions of the prevalence of underage drinking and youth substance use, and (4) parenting behaviors.

The anonymous survey, which consisted of 39 questions, was administered as an online questionnaire during the Spring of 2016. In order to participate in the survey, parents had to: (a) have at least one child in grades 6-12 in school in Norwood (regardless of residence) or (b) be a Norwood resident with at least one child in grades 6-12 in a school outside of Norwood.

SAMPLE

A total of 361 parents who have at least one child in grades 6-12 provided responses to the parent survey. The age of the respondents' oldest child in grades 6-12 is as follows:

	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Final Sample	16.8%	15.9%	13.6%	15.6%	13.35%	11.9%	12.8%
	59	56	48	55	47	42	45

Results are generalizable only to those individual who took part in the survey and may not reflect the attitudes, behaviors, and perceptions of other members of the Norwood community. According to the MA Department of Education, there were 3,452 students enrolled in Norwood Public Schools during the 2015-2016 academic year. Assuming some parents may have multiple children in grades 6-12, this survey likely captured 15-20% of all parents of Norwood Public School students in grades 6-12.

FINDINGS

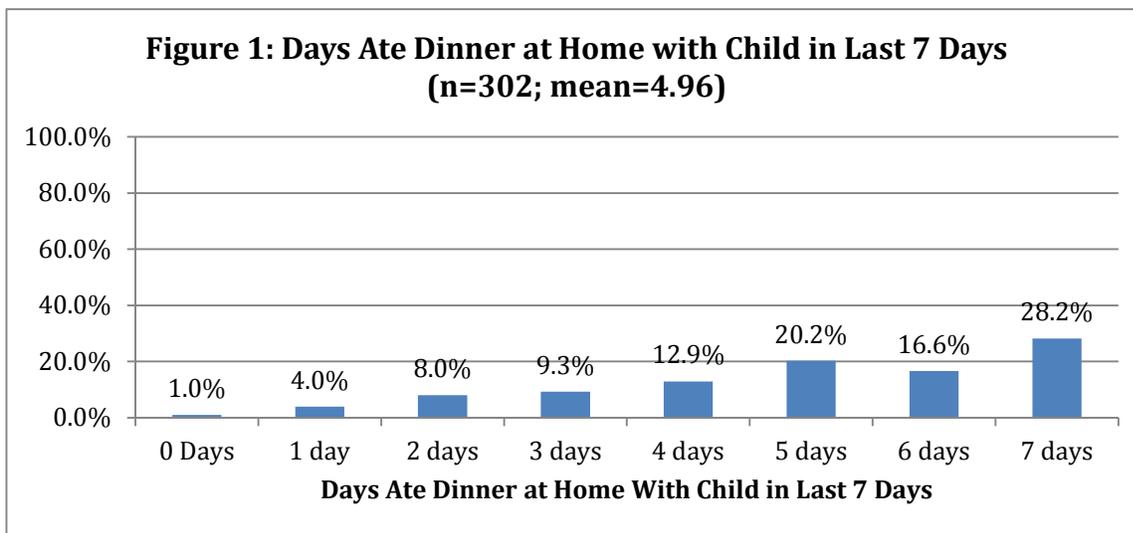
Respondent Demographics

The survey was open to residents of Norwood and to parents who live outside of Norwood that have a child in grades 6-12 in Norwood. Nearly all of the respondents (97.6%) reported that they live in Norwood, and 95.5% reported that their oldest child in grades 6-12 attends school in Norwood. Ninety-five percent (94.0%) reported that their oldest child in grades 6-12 goes to public school.

COMMUNICATON ABOUT UNDERAGE DRINKING AND SUBSTANCE USE

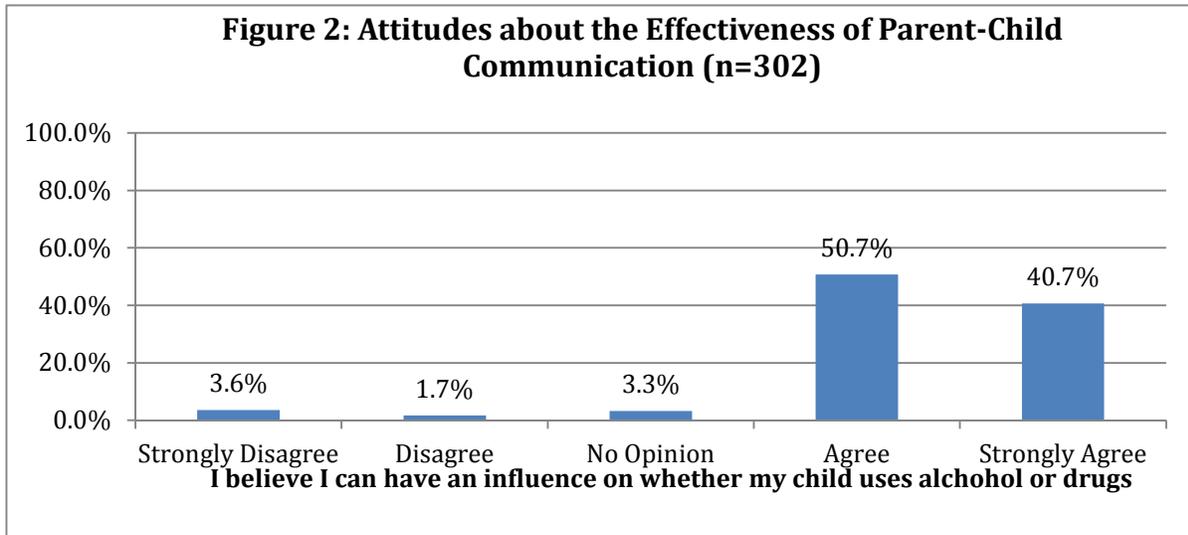
Family Dinners

According to the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (2005), children in families that ate dinner together at least five times per week were less likely to use substances compared to their peers. The survey asked, "During the past 7 days, on how many days did you eat dinner at home with your child?" Figure 1 depicts that 65% of respondents reported that they ate dinner at home with their child five or more of the past seven days. The average across the entire sample was 4.96 days.



Attitudes about the Effectiveness of Parent-Child Communication

The survey asked parents about their attitudes regarding the effectiveness of talking to their child about alcohol and drug use. Respondents were asked whether they agree or disagree with the following statement, "I believe that I can have an influence on whether my child uses alcohol or drugs."



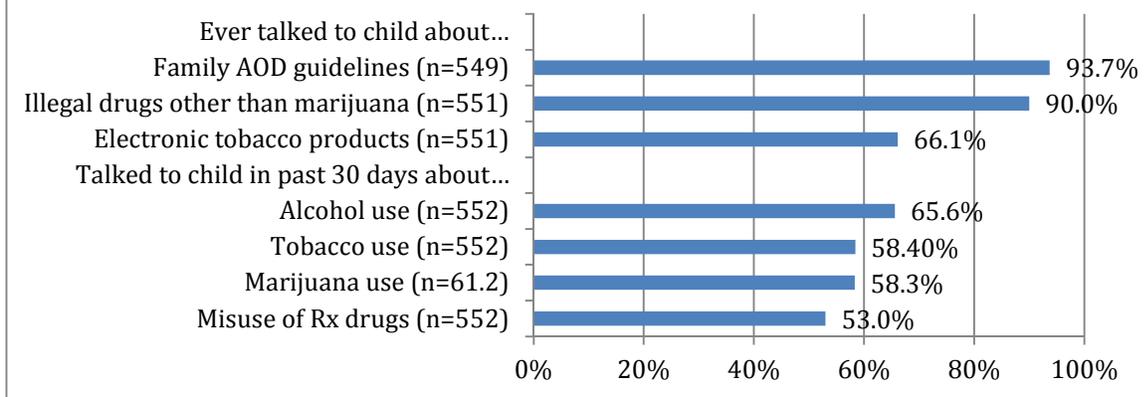
As seen Figure 2, most respondents (91.4%) *agreed* or *strongly agreed* with this statement and believed that they can have an influence on whether or not their child uses alcohol or drugs.

Parent-Child Communication about Underage Drinking and Substance Use

Several questions in the survey asked about parent-child communication about underage drinking and substance use. Figure 3 shows that a large percentage (93.7%) reported that they have communicated their family’s guidelines and expectations about youth alcohol and substance use to their child, and most parents (90.0%) have also spoken to their child at least once about the potential negative consequences associated with using illegal drugs other than marijuana and inhalants, and 66.1% have spoken to their child at least once about electronic tobacco products.

In the 30 days prior to taking the survey 65.6% of parents reported talking to their child about the potential negative consequences associated with underage alcohol use, roughly half talked to their child about marijuana use (58.3%) and tobacco use (58.4%) and 53.0% spoke to their child about non-medical use of prescription drugs.

Figure 3: Parent-Child Communication about Underage Drinking and Substance Use



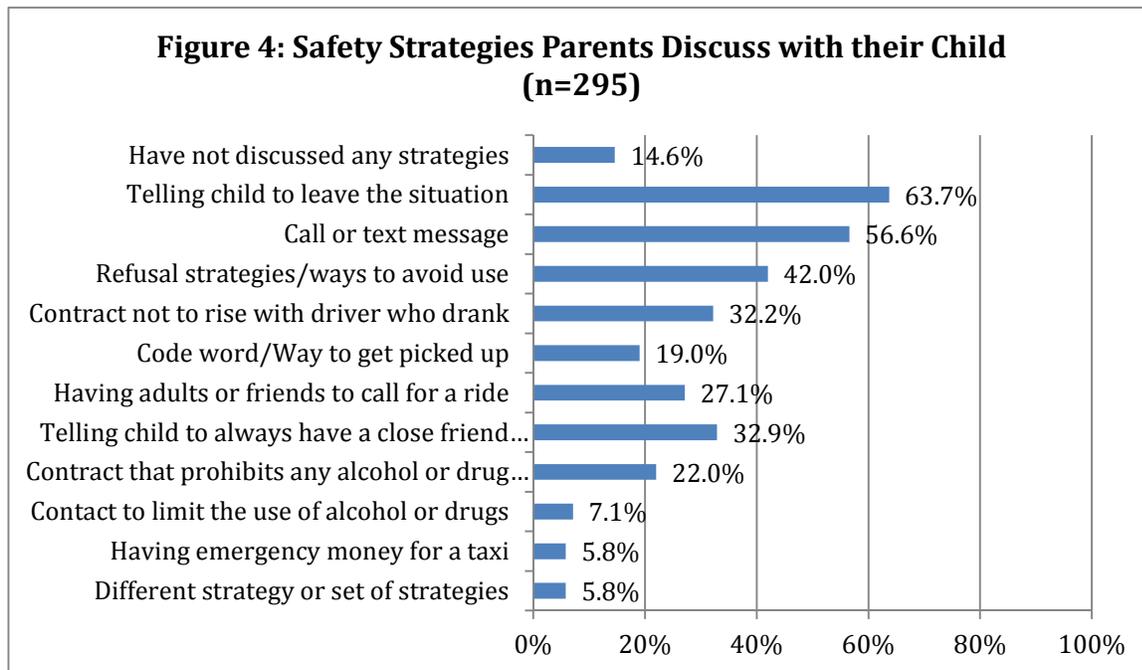
Communicating with Child about Safety Strategies

Parents were asked to identify which strategies, if any, they have discussed with their child about alcohol and other substance use and how to protect themselves in a potentially unsafe situation. The majority of respondents (85.4%) reported that they have discussed at least one-safety strategies with their child.

As Figure 4 shows, the largest percentage (63.7%) have instructed their child to leave a potentially unsafe situation, 56.6% have discussed calling or text messaging if they encounter a potentially unsafe situation, 42.0% have spoken to their child about refusal strategies and ways to avoid using alcohol or other drugs, 32.9% have told their child to always have a close friend with them, 32.2% have a written or verbal contract with their child to not ride in a vehicle driven by someone who has been drinking or using drugs, 27.2% have to talked to their child about having another adult or friends that they can call for a ride, 22.0% have a written or verbal contract with their child that prohibits them from using alcohol or other drugs, 19.0% have discussed using a code word or another way to signal the need for help, 7.1% have a written or verbal contract that limits alcohol or other drug use, 5.8% have told their child to have emergency money for a taxi, and 5.8% have discussed other strategies with their child.

Other safety strategies that parents identified included: Having a 24-hour period where they don't have to talk about the situation, advising their child to choose their friends carefully, having an Uber account, role play different scenarios, discussing how drugs and alcohol have killed family members, discussing examples in pop culture of the destruction alcohol and drugs cause people, and avoiding the situation in the first place, and have the

child blame their mother.



Communicating with Other Parents

Parents were asked if they have ever talked with the parents/guardians of their child's close friends to share and compare parental philosophies and standards about alcohol and drugs. Sixty-two percent (61.7%) reported that they have ever talked with other parents about alcohol and drug standards.

ATTITUDES AND BELIEFS ABOUT UNDERAGE DRINKING AND SUBSTANCE USE

Parent Attitudes about Underage Drinking and Youth Marijuana Use

Parents were asked to indicate which of four responses options best represented their beliefs regarding underage drinking and youth marijuana use. Figure 5 depicts that 88.8% of parents reported that they believe youth drinking is never a good thing and 8.4% believe that occasional youth drinking under supervision of a parent/guardian is okay. Less respondents believe occasional youth drinking without adult supervision is okay as long as there is no driving involved (2.5%) or that any type of youth drinking is okay (0.4%).

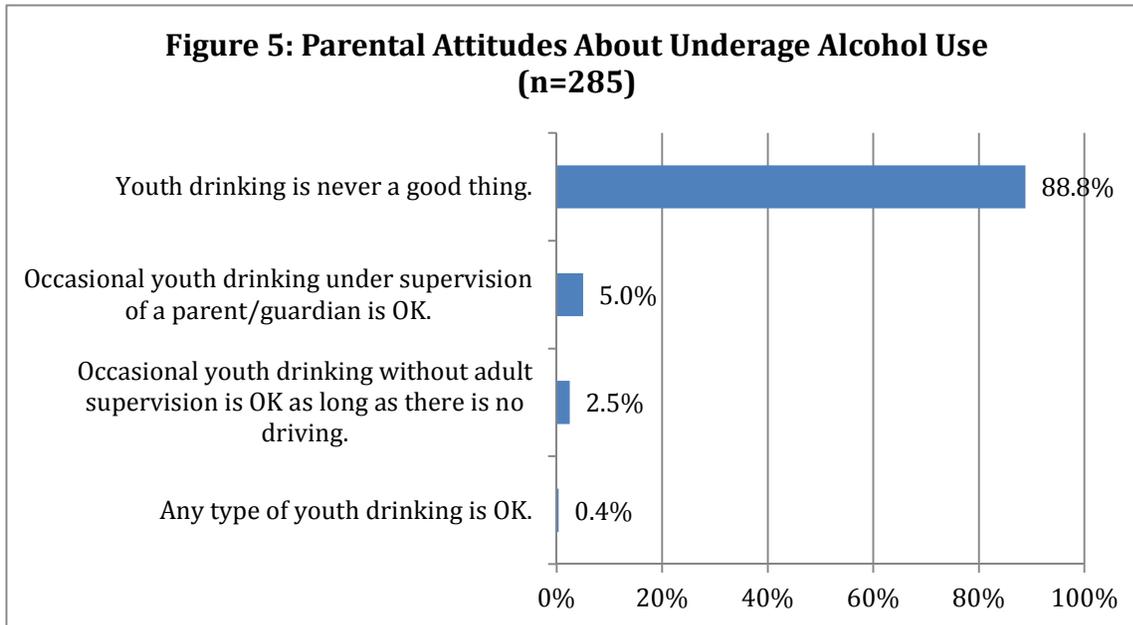
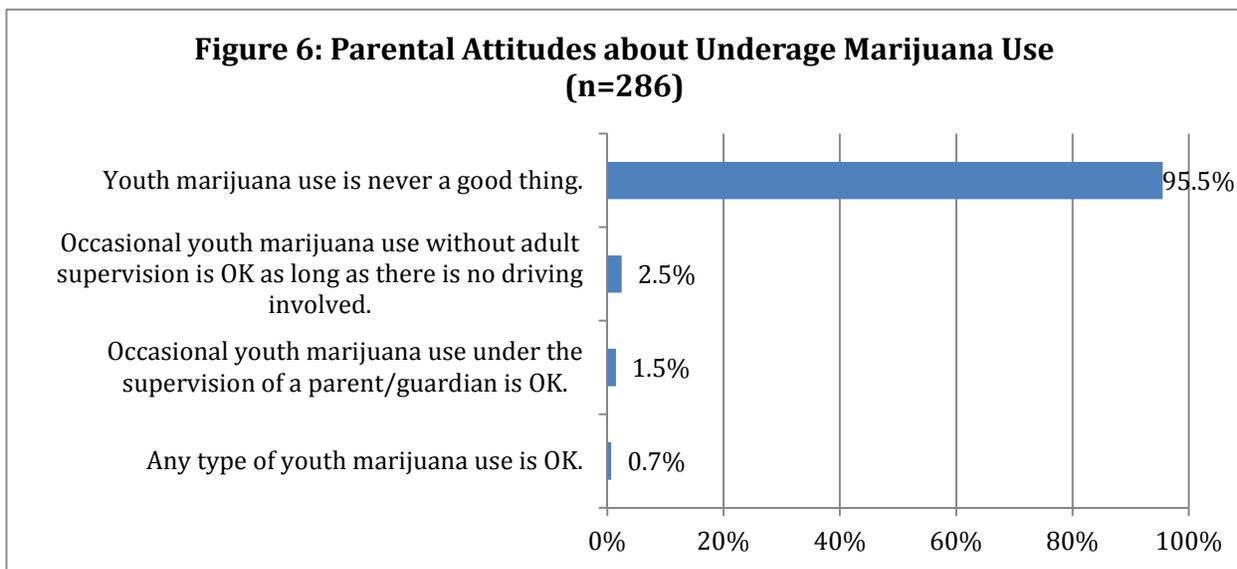


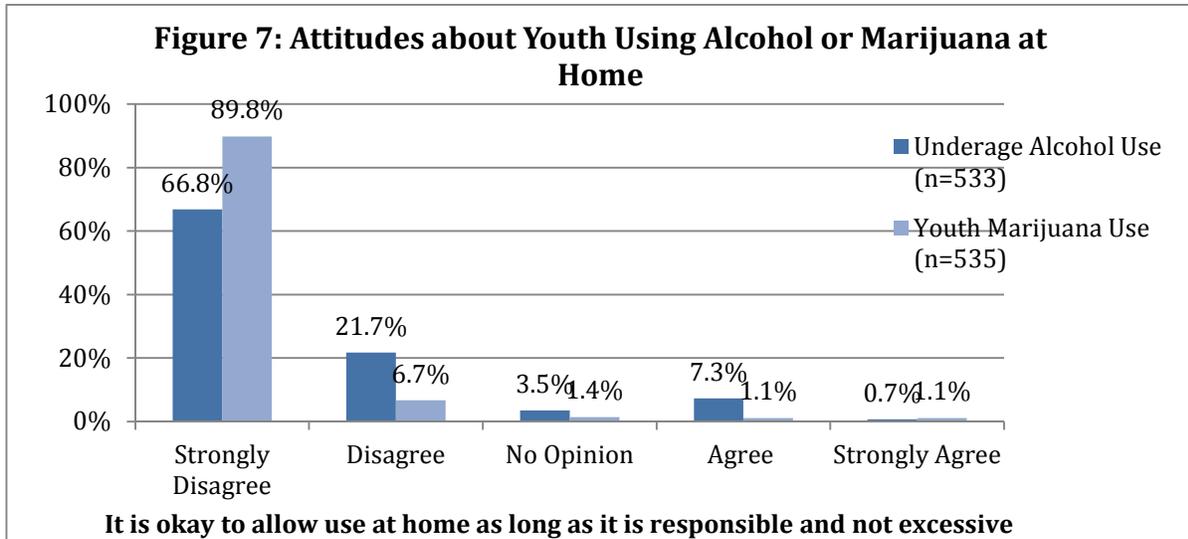
Figure 6 shows that 95.5% of parents reported that they believe youth marijuana use is never a good thing, 2.5% believe that occasional youth marijuana use without adult supervision is okay as long as there is no driving involved and 1.4% believe that occasional youth marijuana use under supervision of a parent/guardian is okay. Only 0.7% of the respondents believe that any type of youth marijuana use is okay.



Attitudes about Youth Using Alcohol or Marijuana at Home

The survey asked parents to rate their agreement with the following statement: “I think it is okay to allow [underage alcohol use/youth marijuana use] at home as long as it is responsible and not excessive.”

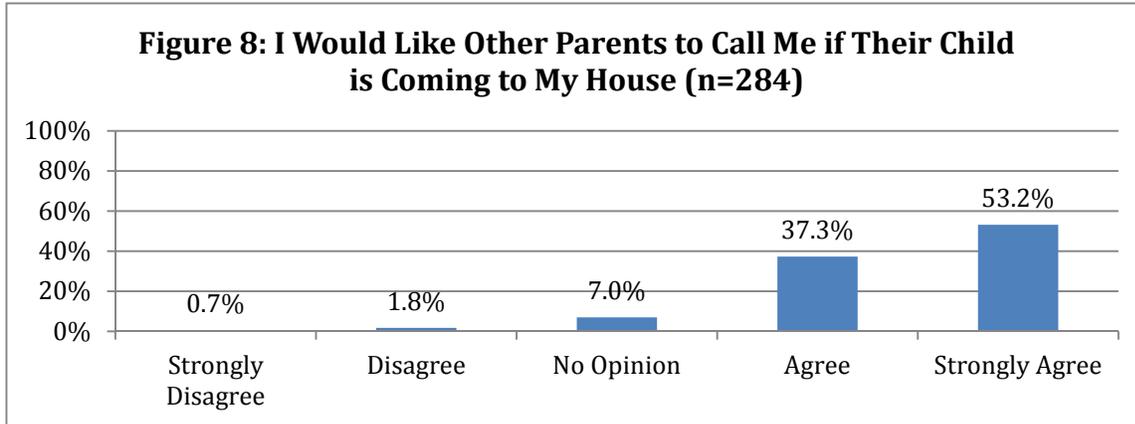
As seen in Figure 7, 88.5% of respondents either disagree or strongly disagree that it is okay to allow underage alcohol use at home as long as it is responsible and not excessive and 96.5% disagree or strongly disagree that it is okay to allow youth marijuana use at home.



Attitudes about Receiving Calls from Other Parents

Parents were asked to rate their level of agreement with the following statement: “I would like other parents/guardians to call me to see if I will be home if their child is coming to my home for a social gathering.”

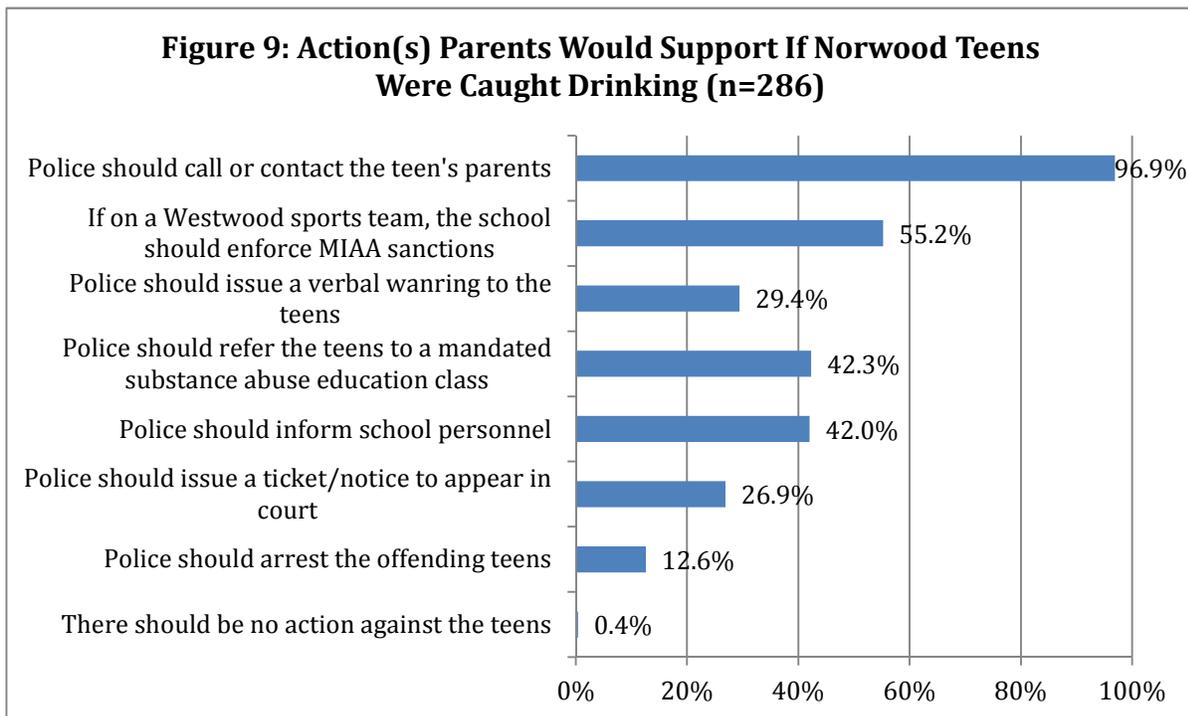
As depicted in Figure 8, most parents (90.5%) either agree or strongly agree that they would like other parents to call to see if an adult will be home if the other parent’s child is coming over for a social gathering. Five percent of respondents (7.0%) had no opinion, 1.8% reported that they disagree, and 0.7% reported that they strongly disagree.



Attitudes about Police Involvement in Underage Drinking Situations

The survey asked parents to indicate what law enforcement action(s), if any, they would support if the police became aware that Norwood teenagers were drinking alcohol.

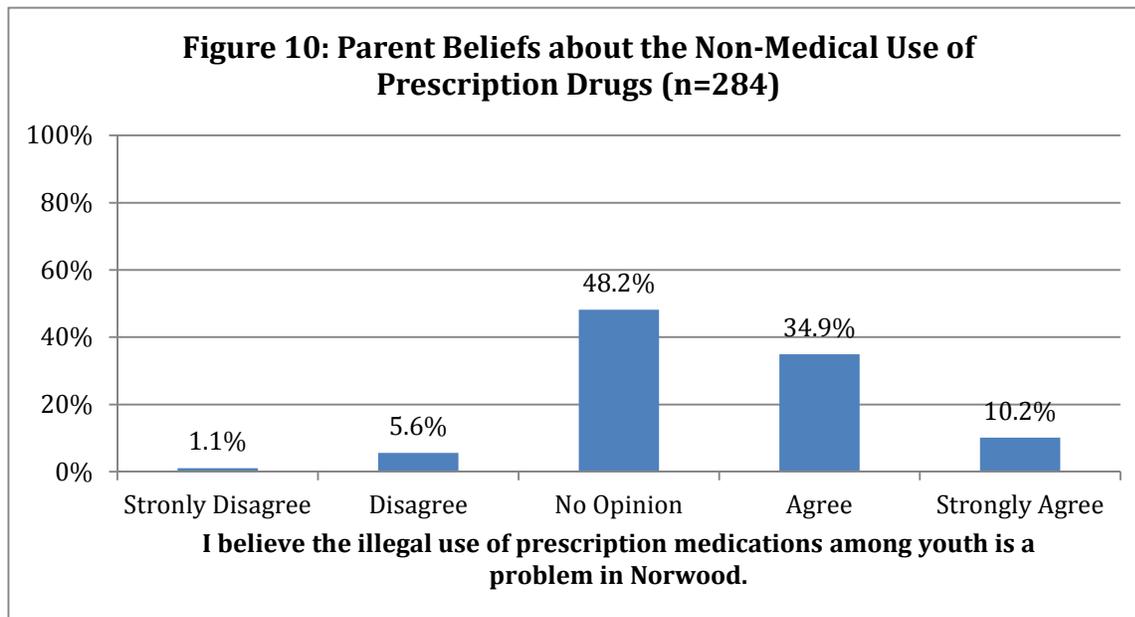
Figure 9 shows that 96.9% of respondents think the police should contact the teens' parents, 55.2% think the school should enforce MIAA sanctions if on a Norwood sports team, and 29.4% feel that the police should issue a verbal warning to the teens. Forty-two percent (42.3%) of parents think that the police should refer the teens to a mandated substance abuse education class, 42.0% think police should inform school personnel, and 26.9% think the police should issue a ticket/notice to appear in court. Only 12.6% think the police should arrest the teens and 0.4% think that there should be no action against the teens.



Parent Beliefs about the Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drugs

The respondents were asked to rate their level agreement with the following statement: “I believe the illegal use of prescription medications among youth is a problem in Norwood.”

Figure 10 shows that 45.1% reported that they agree or strongly agree that non-medical use of prescription drugs among youth in Norwood is a problem. Forty-eight percent (48.2%) reported that they had no opinion on this issue.



Parental Disapproval of Youth Substance Use

The survey asked respondents to indicate how wrong they think it would be for their child to: smoke tobacco, drink alcohol occasionally, have one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day, smoke marijuana, and use prescription drugs without a prescription.

Table 1 shows that 96.9% of all respondents think it would be very wrong for their child to use prescription drugs not prescribed to them, 96.5% think it would be very wrong for their child to have one or two drinks nearly every day, 83.6% think it would be very wrong for their child to smoke tobacco, 88.5% think it would be very wrong for their child to smoke marijuana, and 70.5% think it would be very wrong for their child to drink alcohol occasionally.

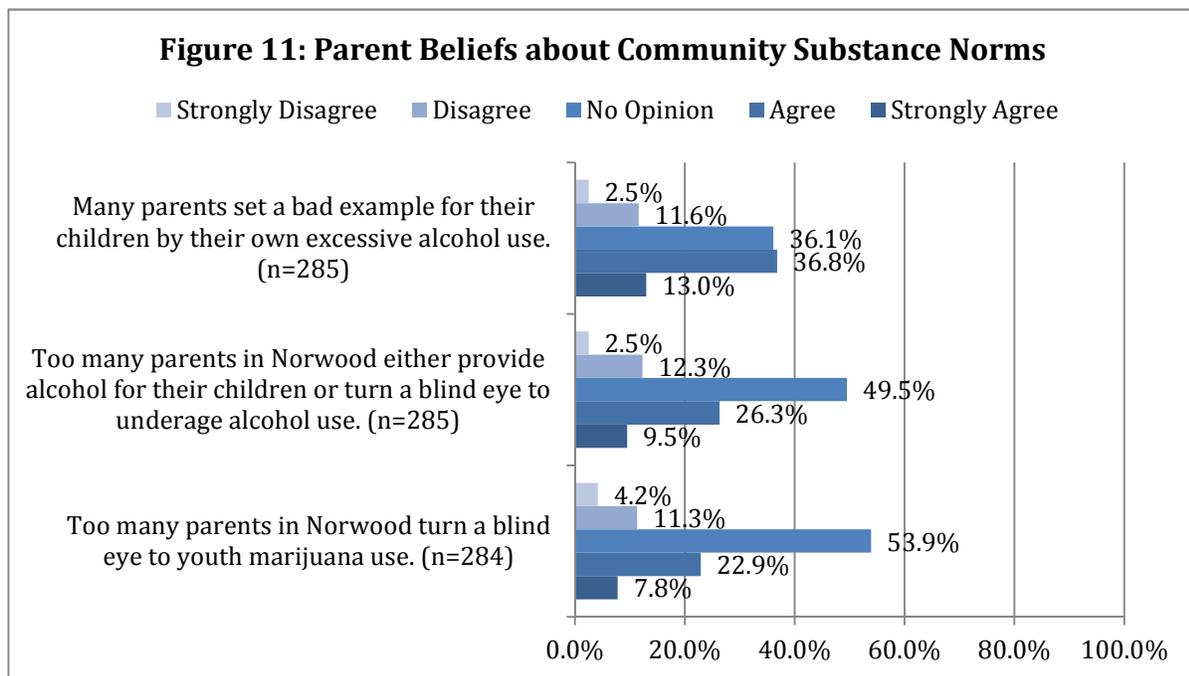
Table 1: Parent Disapproval of Youth Substance Use

How wrong do you think it would be for your child to...	Not At All Wrong	A Little Bit Wrong	Wrong	Very Wrong
Smoke tobacco (n=287)	1.4%	1.7%	13.2%	83.6%

Drink alcohol occasionally (n=285)	3.2%	7.0%	19.3%	70.5%
Have 1 or 2 alcoholic drinks nearly every day (n=286)	1.1%	.0.0%	2.5%	96.5%
Smoke marijuana (n=287)	1.4%	2.4%	7.7%	88.5%
Use prescription drugs not prescribed to them (n=286)	1.1%	0.0%	2.1%	96.9%

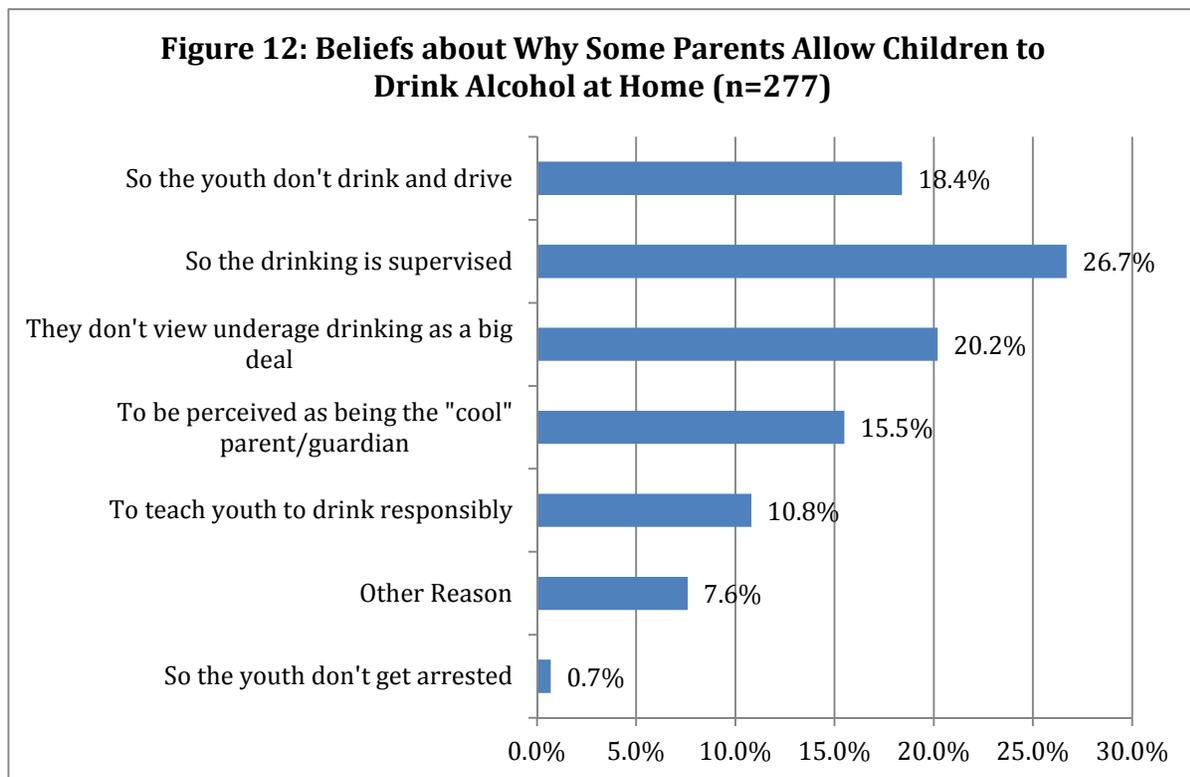
Parent Beliefs about Community Substance Use Norms

Respondents were asked about their beliefs regarding community substance use norms. As seen in Figure 11, half of respondents (49.8%) agree or strongly agree that many parents set a bad example for their children by their own excessive alcohol use. Thirty-six percent (36.1%) of respondents had no opinion regarding parental alcohol use setting a bad example for youth. Thirty-six percent (35.8%) either agree or strongly agree that too many parents in Norwood either provide alcohol for their children or turn a blind eye to underage alcohol use. Fifty percent (49.5%) of respondents had no opinion regarding parents providing or turning a blind eye to underage alcohol use. Thirty-one percent (30.5%) either agree or strongly agree that too many parents in Norwood turn a blind eye to youth marijuana use. Fifty-four percent (53.9%) of respondents had no opinion regarding parents turning a blind eye to marijuana use.



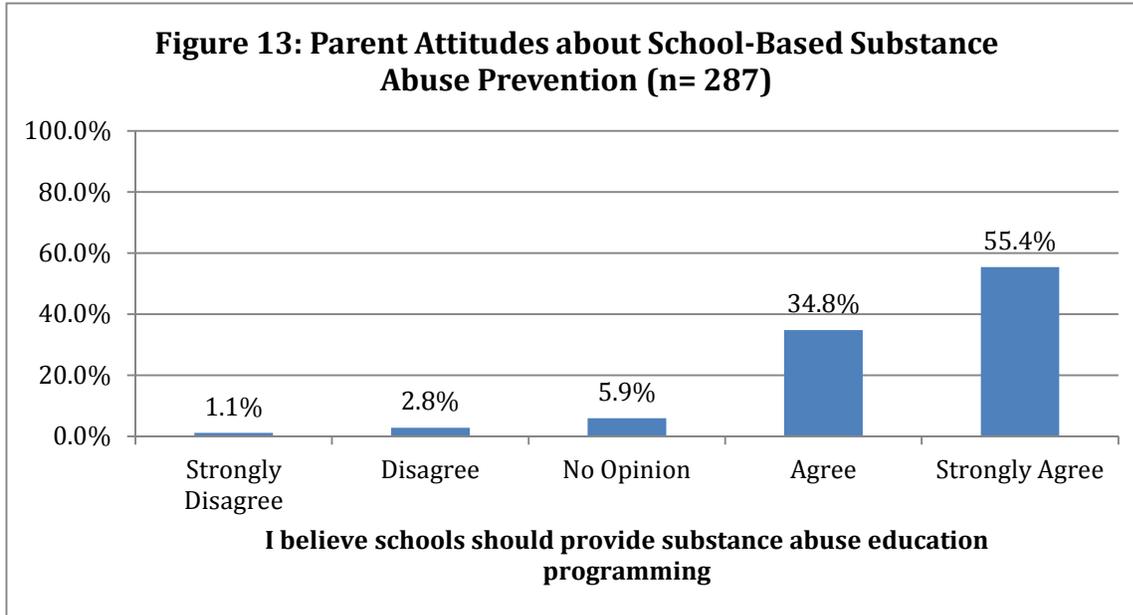
Beliefs about Why Some Other Parents Allow Underage Drinking

Parents were asked to indicate the main reason that they believe some parents may allow their own children and other children to drink alcohol in their home. As seen in Figure 12, 26.7% of respondents believe it is so the drinking is supervised, and 18.4% believe it is so that the youth don't drink and drive. Twenty percent (20.2%) think it is because these parents don't see underage drinking as a big deal, 15.52% think it's to be perceived as being a cool parent/guardian, 10.8% think it's to teach youth to drink responsibly, and 0.7% think it is so the youth don't get arrested. Eight percent (7.6%) of parents thought it was for a different reason, including teaching the youth to drink responsibly, for their child to be considered cool, for cultural reasons, parents are being irresponsible, they don't want to say no to their kids, and to show kids drinking isn't rebellious and elusive.

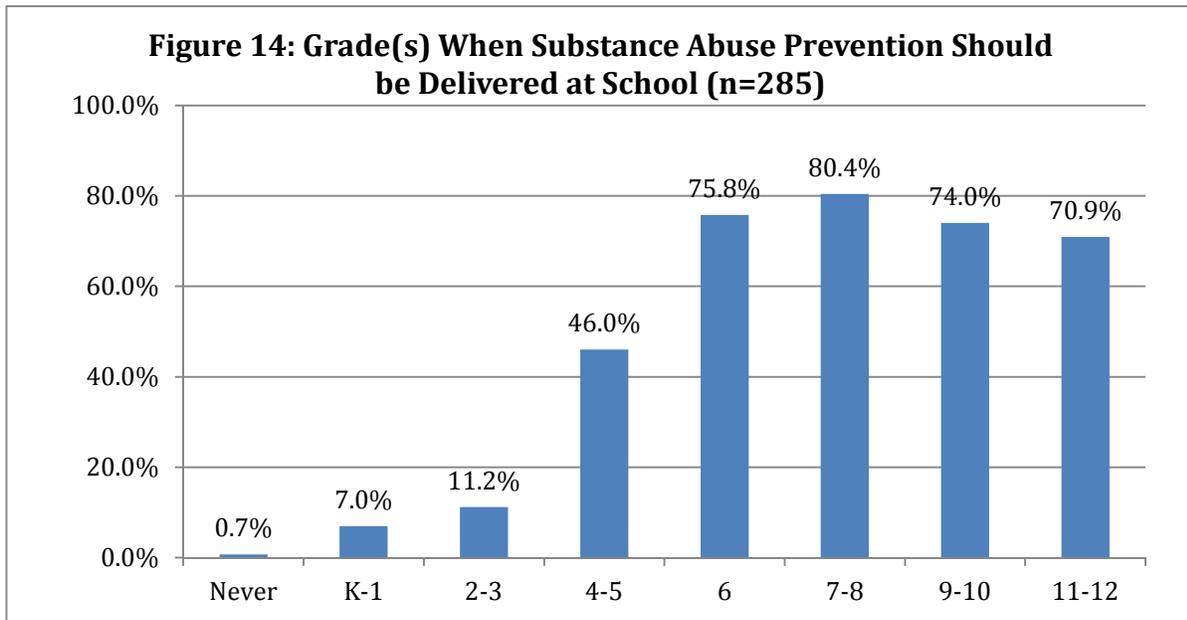


Parent Attitudes about School-Based Substance Abuse Prevention

The survey asked parents whether or not they feel that schools should provide substance abuse prevention programs and the grade(s) at which this content should be delivered. As depicted in Figure 13, 90.2% reported that they agree or strongly agree that schools should provide education programs for students their child's age that are designed to help prevent and reduce underage drinking and substance abuse.



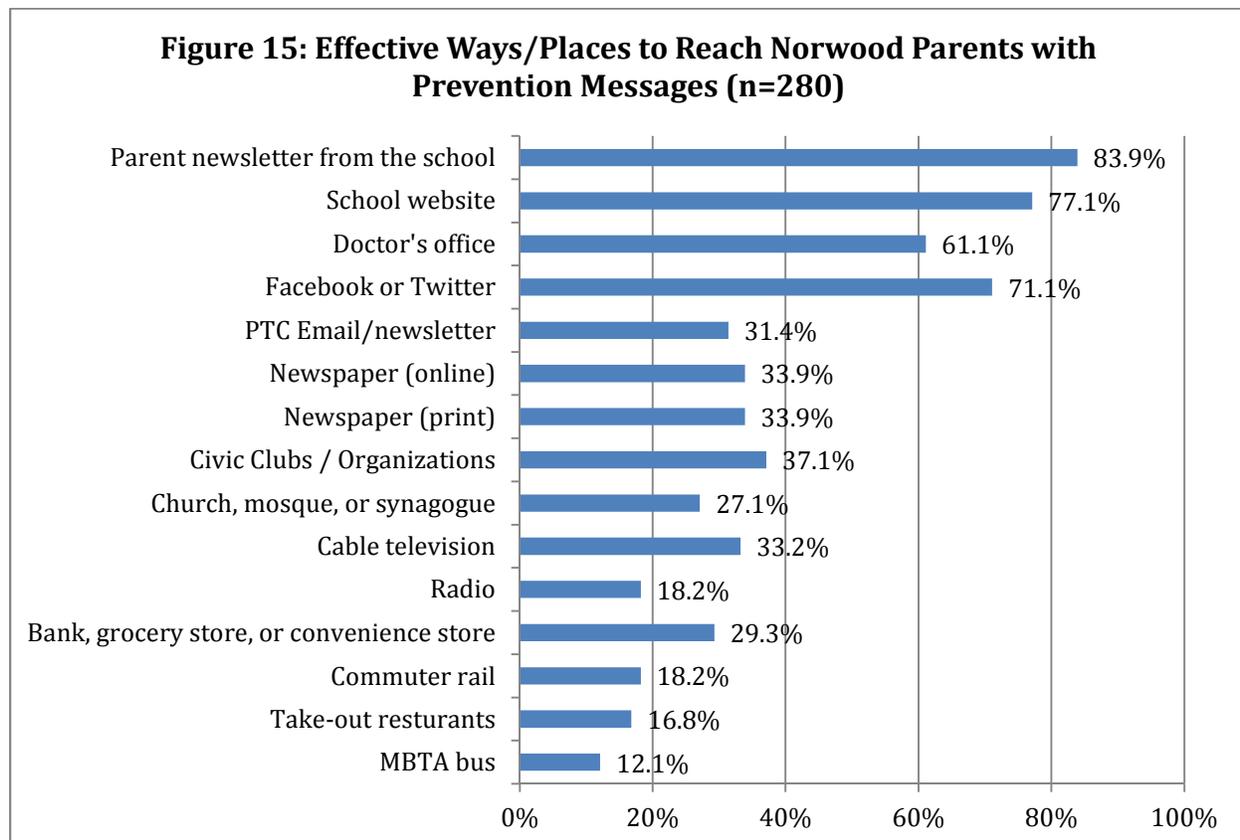
As shown in Figure 14, 46.0% felt that substance abuse prevention content should be given during grades 4-5, 75.8% felt that it should be given in grade 6, and 80.4% felt that it should be given in grades 7-8, 74.0% felt it should be given in grades 9-10, and 70.9% felt that it should be delivered in grades 11-12.



Effective Ways/Places to Reach Parents with Prevention Messages

Respondents were given a list of options and were asked to indicate what they think are effective ways/places to reach Norwood parents with prevention messages.

Figure 15 shows that the top seven most effective ways to reach Norwood parents with prevention messages are through the parent newsletter from the school (83.9%), school website (77.1%), doctor's offices (61.1%), Facebook or Twitter (71.1%), PTC email/newsletter (31.4), online newspapers (33.9%), and print newspapers (33.9%).



PERCEPTIONS OF UNDERAGE DRINKING AND SUBSTANCE USE

Parent Perception of Substance Use and Related Issues in Norwood

The survey asked parents to estimate the percentage of Norwood students who engage in substance use and related issues. On average, parents accurately estimated the percent of youth alcohol use. Parents estimated, on average, that 28.2% of Norwood youth who drank alcohol in the past 30 days. According to the 2015 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS; Grades 9-12; N=879), 29% of 9-12th graders reported drinking alcohol in the past 30 days. On average, parents estimated that 14.6% of youth binge drank in the past 30 days, while 15% of 9-12th graders reported binge drinking in the past month on the 2015 YRBS. Parents over-estimated the percent of youth who had driven with a drinking driver in the past 30 days. On average, parents estimated that 16.8% of youth rode with a drinking driver in the past 30 days, while the YRBS shows that 8% of 9-12th graders reported this behavior. Parents tended to slightly over-estimate the percent of youth using marijuana in the past month. On average, parents estimated that 23.8% of youth used marijuana in the past 30 days. According to the 2015 YRBS, 20% of 9-12th graders reported using marijuana

in the past month. Finally, parents tended to underestimate the percent of youth misusing prescription drugs. On average, parents estimated that 11.5% of youth used illegal drugs

Estimate % of Norwood Students Who...	Parent Estimate	Actual 2013 NHS
Drank at least one drink of alcohol (not including religious ceremonies) in last 30 days	28.2%	29.0%
Drank 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row (within a couple of hours) in the last 30 days	14.6%	15.0%
Rode in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been using alcohol in the last 30 days.	16.8%	8.0%
Used marijuana in the last 30 days	23.8%	20.0%
Ever used a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription	11.5%	15.0%

without a doctor's prescription, while 15% of 9-12th graders reported this behavior on the 2015 YRBS.

Table 2: Parent Perception of Substance Use and Related Issues in Norwood

Parent Perception of Usual Source of Alcohol among Underage Drinkers

The survey asked respondents to report what they think was the most usual source of alcohol among youth their child's age who drank alcohol in the last 30 days. Table 3 shows that respondents believe that the top three sources of alcohol among youth who drank alcohol in the last 30 days were from home without parental knowledge (41%), from someone they know over 21 giving it to them or buying it for them (30.7%), and from a party (16.8%).

Table 3: Parent Perception of Usual Source of Alcohol among Underage Drinkers

Among youth my child's age who drank alcohol in the last 30 days, I believe they usually acquired it...	Parent Estimate
From a party	16.8%
From a friend (not at a party)	4.5%
From home with parental knowledge	2.1%
From home without parental knowledge	41.0%
By him/herself from a store, tavern, bar, or public event (like a concert or sporting event)	0.4%
From a friend or someone s/he knows giving it to them or buying it from them	30.7%
From asking a stranger to buy it	1.6%
Having a friend purchase it or purchasing it themselves online	2.1%
Some other way	0.8%

Parent Perception of Usual Source of Prescription Drugs among Non-Medical Users

The survey asked respondents to report what they think was the most usual source of prescription drug use among youth their child’s age. Table 4 shows that respondents believe that the top sources of prescription drugs among youth who ever used them non-medically were from home without parent knowledge (52.1%) and from a friend (25.6%)

Table 4: Parent Perception of Usual Source of Rx Drugs among Non-Medical Users

Among youth my child’s age who ever used Rx drugs without a prescription, I believe they usually acquired them...	Parent Estimate
From home without parental knowledge	52.1%
From a friend	25.6%
From someone else without them knowing	11.6%
Purchasing them someplace else	0.8%
Purchasing them on the internet	6.6%
Some other way	3.3%

Parent Perception of Other Parents’ Attitudes and Behaviors

The survey asked parents to estimate the percentage of other parents at their child’s school who they think have certain attitudes and engage in certain behaviors. Table 5 shows that on average, parents think that 19.1% of other parents knowingly allow their child to go parties where underage drinking occurs, think that 13.5% of other parents allow their child to attend parties where marijuana use happens, think that 17.7% of parents call to check that a parent will be home before allowing their child to go to another home for a social gathering, and think that 29.5% of other parents would like to receive a call from other parents if their own child is having a social gathering.

Table 5: Parent Perception of Other Parents’ Attitudes and Behaviors

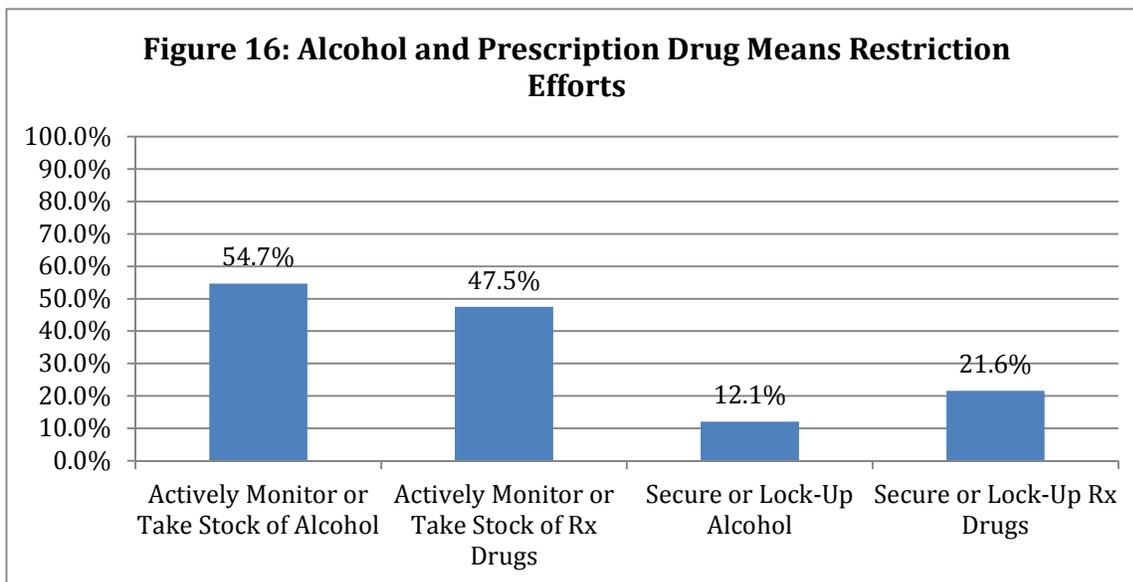
What % of PARENTS at your child’s school do you think...	Parents Estimate of Other Parents
Knowingly allow their children to attend parties where underage drinking occurs?	19.1%
Knowingly allow their child to attend parties where marijuana use occurs?	13.5%
Call to make sure that a parent is home before they allow their child to go to another parent’s home for a social gathering?	17.7%
Want to be called by other parents if they are hosting a gathering of students to make sure a parent will be home and that the child has permission for the gathering	29.5%

BEHAVIORS ASSOCIATED WITH SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION

Means Restriction

The survey asked respondents questions about their means restriction of alcohol and prescription medications in their home. Seventeen percent (16.8%) of parents reported that they do not keep any alcohol in their home and 26.7% reported that there are no prescription medications in their home.

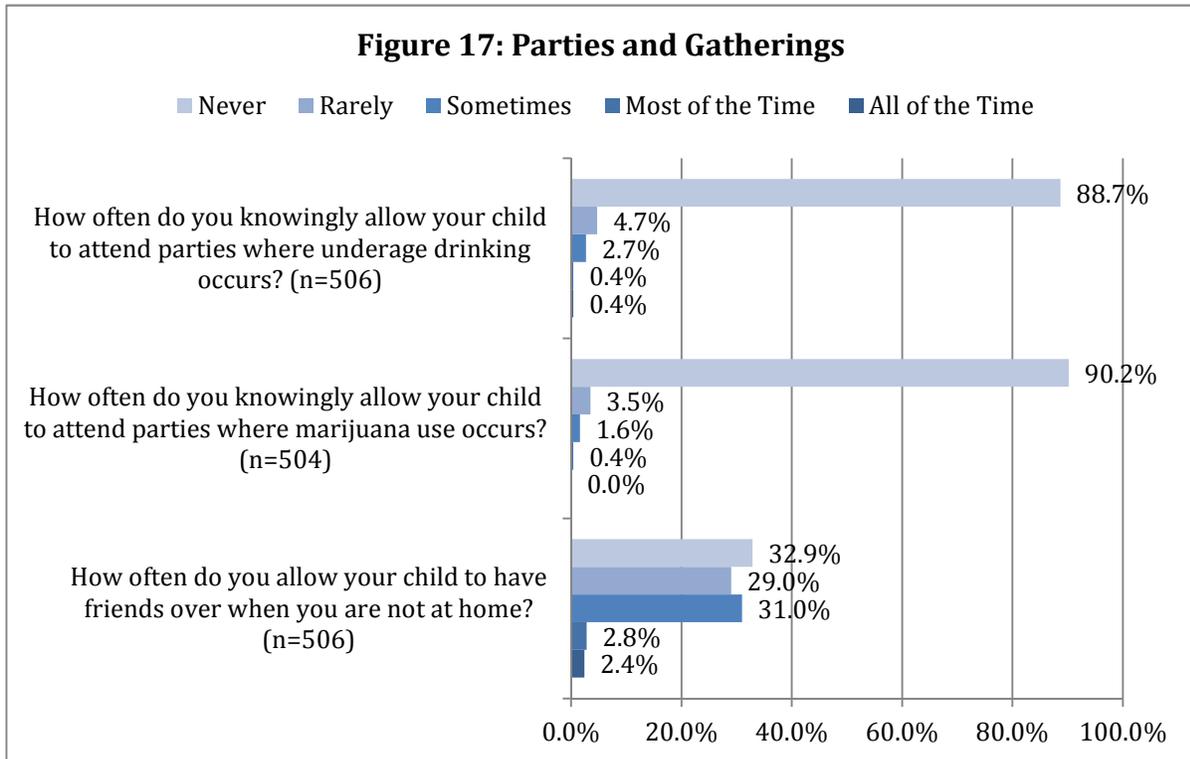
As seen in Figure 16, among the 83.2% of parents that do keep alcohol in their home, 54.7% report that they actively monitor or take stock of the alcohol and 12.1% report that they secure or lock-up their alcohol. Out of the 73.3% of parents who have prescription medications in their home, 47.5% report that they actively monitor or take stock of their prescription medications, and 21.6% report that they secure or lock-up their prescription medication.



Parties and Gatherings

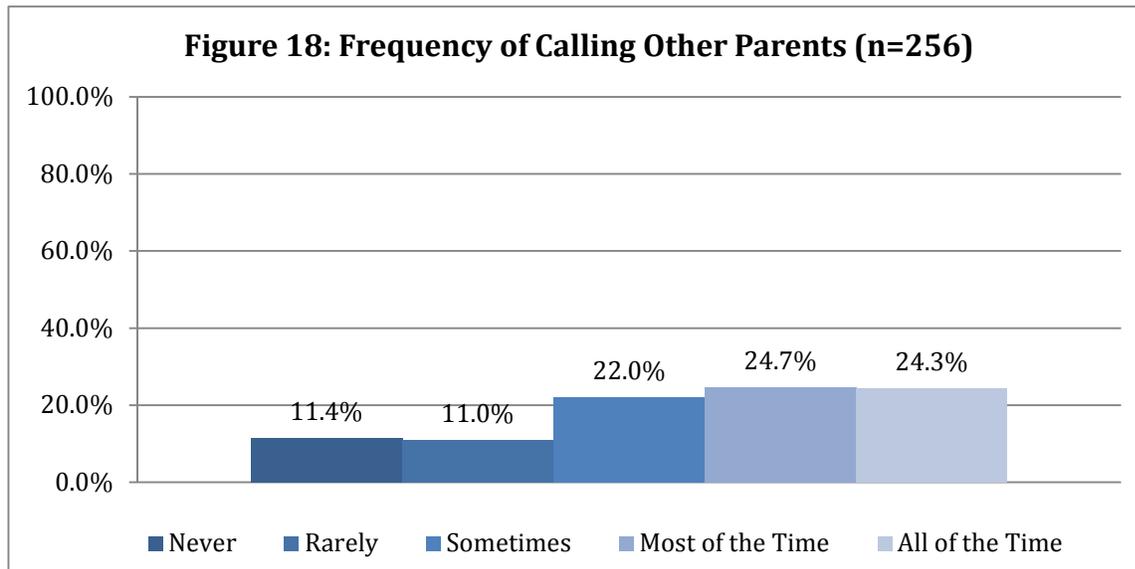
Parents were asked about allowing their child to go to parties and allowing their child to have friends over when they know there are no parents at home.

As shown in Figure 17, most parents (88.7%) report that they never knowingly allow their child to attend parties where underage drinking occurs and 90.2% report that they never knowingly allow their child to attend parties where marijuana use occurs. Thirty six percent (36.1%) reported that they at least occasionally allow their child to have friends over when there are no parents at home.



Calling Other Parents

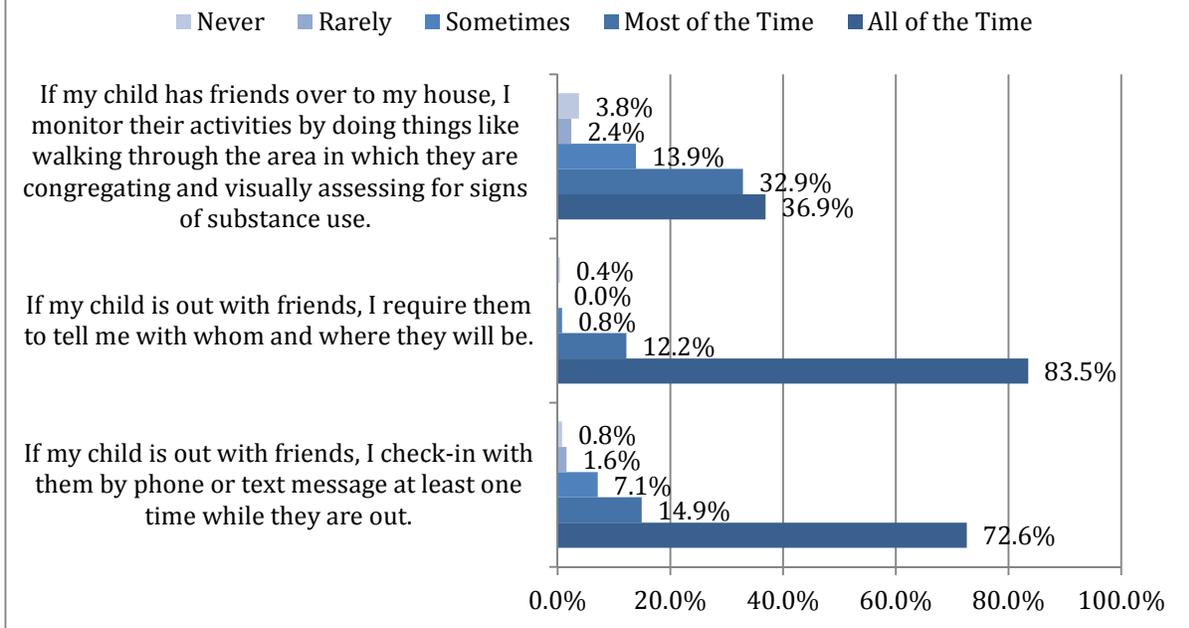
Parents were asked how often they call other parents before allowing their child to attend a social gathering. As shown in Figure 18, 49.0% report that they call other parents either most of the time or all of the time to check that a parent will be home. Additionally, 22.0% of parents report that they call sometimes, 11.0% reported they rarely call, and 11.4% never make the call.



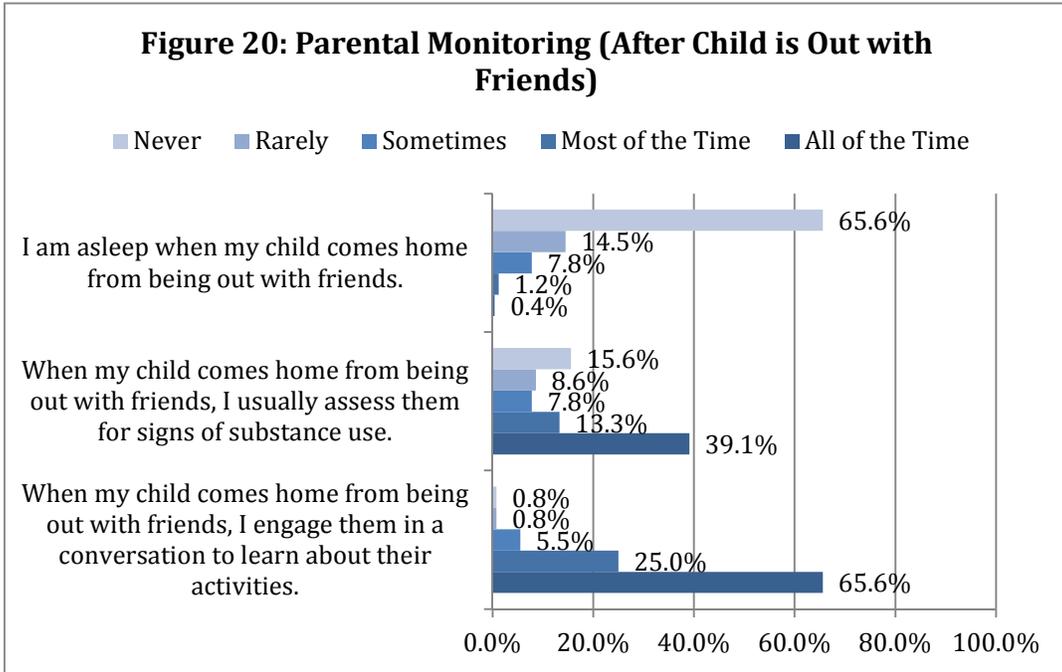
Parental Monitoring

The survey asked parents about parental monitoring when their child is with his or her friends. Figure 19 shows that 69.8% reported that they monitor the activity of their child and his or her friends by walking through the area in which they are together and visually assessing for signs of substance use either most of the time or all of the time when their child has friends in the home. Ninety-six percent (95.7%) reported that they require their child to tell them who they are with and where they will be either most of the time or all of the time when they are out with friends. Eighty-eight percent (87.5%) of parents reported that they check-in with their child by phone or text message either most of the time or all of the time when they are out with friends.

Figure 19: Parental Monitoring (While Child is with Friends)



The survey also asked parents about parental monitoring after their child comes home from being out with friends. Only 1.6% of parents reported that they are asleep either most of the time or all of the time when their child comes home from being out with friends (Figure 20). Fifty-two percent (52.3%) of parents report that they visually assess their child for signs of substance use either most of the time or all of the time when their child returns home from being out with friends. Ninety-one percent (90.6%) report that they talk to their child to learn about what they did either most of the time or all of the time when their child comes home from being out with friends.



Actions Parents Support When Other Parents Violate Underage Drinking Laws

The survey asked parents what they would do, if anything, if they learned that another parents of a child at their child’s schools allowed teenagers to drink alcohol at their home. As shown in Figure 21, 69.8% of parents report that they would discuss it with their child, 69.4% would prohibit their child from going to that house, 49.8% reported the action(s) they would take would depend on how well they know the other parents, 27.8% would call and talk to the other parent, 29.0% would call the other parents to let them know, 10.6% would call the police, 4.3% would call other authorities such as the Norwood Youth Commission, 6.3% would call someone at the school, 1.2% would not take any action, and 2.8% would take some other action.

Figure 21: Parent Action(s) if Other Parents Were Allowing Youth to Drink Alcohol (n=255)

