

While the cigarillo is losing popularity, poker is gaining ground among high school students

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Between 2006 and 2008, the proportion of cigarillo (or small cigar) smokers went from 22% to 18%. Poker is attracting more players; 21% of high school students had played poker for money with friends during a 12-month period in 2008 (vs. 15% in 2006). These are some of the findings of the Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students (QSSADGHSS) published by the *Institut de la statistique du Québec*.

The survey paints a biennial portrait of the magnitude and trends of tobacco use (since 1998), drug use (licit and illicit) (since 2000), and gambling (including lotteries) (since 2002) among Québec high school students. This newsletter presents the main findings of the 6th edition of the survey report.¹ Similar to previous editions, stakeholders will find that this newsletter contains quality data that is accurate and objective, and which provide a means of supporting the activities of workers in the field or examining the effectiveness of such activities. The data are representative of all students in Secondary 1 through 5 enrolled in public and private high schools, both French and English, in the province of Québec. Methodological aspects are presented in the box on page 2.

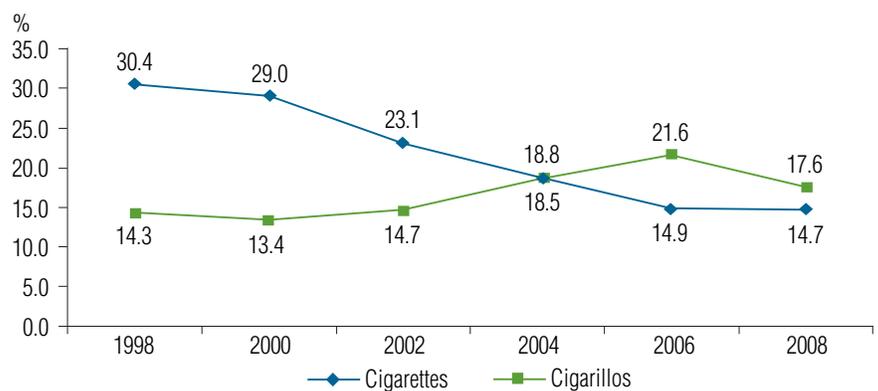
Tobacco use – the proportion of cigarette smokers in 2008 is similar to that in 2006

As seen in 2006, 15% of Québec high school students smoked² cigarettes in 2008. This is approximately 4 percentage points less than what was observed in 2004 (19%) and half of the figure in 1998 (30%) (Figure 1). The proportion of smokers varied with sex and grade level. Similar to previous editions

of the survey, girls were more likely than boys to smoke cigarettes (17% vs. 13%). Between Secondary 1 and Secondary 5, the proportion of smokers rose from 8% to 21%. Among smokers, 4.6% smoked cigarettes every day (daily smokers). This translates into approximately 21,000 Québec high school students. About 2.7% (12,200 students) smoked almost every day (occasional smokers) and 7% (34,100 students) were beginning smokers.

Figure 1

Trend in the Proportions of Cigarette and Cigarillo Smokers Among High School Students Between 1998 and 2008, Québec, 2008



Sources: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Québec Survey of Smoking in High School Students, 1998, 2000 and 2002* and *Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2004, 2006 and 2008*.

1. Gaëthane DUBÉ, et al. (2009). *Enquête québécoise sur le tabac, l'alcool, la drogue et le jeu chez les élèves du secondaire, 2008*, Québec, Institut de la statistique du Québec, 222 p.

2. Smoking status and cigarette smoking figures are based on the lifetime number of cigarettes smoked and the frequency of smoking in the 30 days preceding the survey.

Methodology

To ensure the validity of the comparisons, the survey methodology has remained the same since 1998.

The target population is all students enrolled in Québec high schools in the autumn of the survey year, with the exception of vocational and technical schools, schools in which the curriculum is taught in an aboriginal language, schools in remote regions, and schools comprising at least 30% handicapped students or students with learning deficits, and schools in the administrative region of Nord-du-Québec.

The sample was constructed using a cluster sample design with a two-level stratification. The selection of schools and classes was conducted independently for each grade level according to the following method:

1. The school population was stratified by language of instruction (French or English), the type of school (public or private) and geographical region (2006 census metropolitan areas).
2. Then a list of eligible classes was established for each selected school. One class was then randomly selected from the list, with equal probability.
3. Finally, all the students in the selected class were asked to participate in the survey.

Every two years since 1998, data have been collected between early November and mid-December, based on an anonymous, self-administered questionnaire with close-ended questions, filled out in class under the supervision of an ISQ interviewer.

Upon examining variations over time in the proportion of smokers by sex, grade level or smoking status, a significant decrease was observed in the proportion of smokers between 1998 and 2008 (see Figure 2 for variations by sex and Figure 3 for variations by smoking status, between 1998 and 2008).

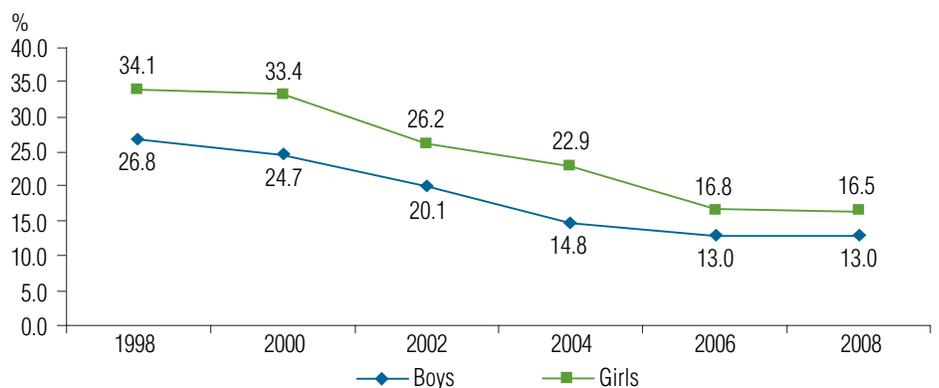
As expected, the quantity of cigarettes smoked every day was associated with smoking status. Beginning smokers smoked about two or fewer cigarettes a day (89%), occasional smokers smoked between two and five (50% smoked two or fewer and 36%, from three to five), whereas daily smokers smoked about six or more a day (44% smoked 6 to 10 and 10% smoked 11 or more).

Tobacco use – fewer students smoked cigarillos in 2008 compared to 2006

The proportion of cigarillo smokers fell between 2006 and 2008, going from 22% to 18%, the level observed in 2004 (Figure 1). Similar proportions of boys and girls smoked these small cigars in 2008. From Secondary 1 to Secondary 5, the proportion of cigarillo smokers rose from 8%*3 to 26%. Approximately 11% of high school students smoked both cigarettes and ciga-

Figure 2

Trend in the Proportions of Cigarette Smokers Among High School Students Between 1998 and 2008, Québec, 2008



Sources: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Québec Survey of Smoking in High School Students, 1998, 2000 and 2002* and *Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2004, 2006 and 2008*.

rillos. Approximately 7% smoked cigarillos exclusively versus 3.9% who smoked cigarettes exclusively. Combining all cigarette smoking and all cigarillo smoking, 22% of high school students engaged in tobacco use in 2008. Overall, among cigarillo smokers, 74% smoked two or fewer cigarillos a day, 16% smoked three to five a day and 10% smoked six or more.

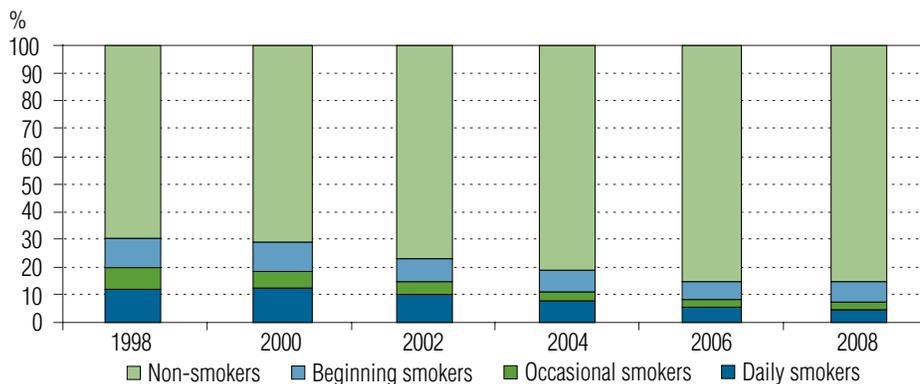
Not much change in smokers' habits since 1998

All four rounds of the survey to date have revealed that times students chose to smoke were during and after school hours (41% each) and weekends (54%). The sources of tobacco products remained the

3. Coefficient of variation between 15% and 25%; interpret with caution.

Figure 3

Trend in Smokers' Status Among High School Students Between 1998 and 2008, Québec, 2008



Sources: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Québec Survey of Smoking in High School Students, 1998, 2000 and 2002* and *Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2004, 2006 and 2008*.

same over time: purchased by oneself in a store (33%), purchased in a store by someone else (44%), and received them free from friends (47%). The first two sources were generally used by daily smokers and the third by beginning smokers.

Age, pocket money, family and friends – persistent factors that determine smoking status and habits

Compared to 1998, fewer students in 2008 were smokers when they entered high school (5% of 12-year-olds in 1998 vs. 1.2%^{**4} in 2008). Beginning at 14 years of

age, the proportion of smokers increased with age among high school students. In 2008, it went from 6% to 10% among 15-year-olds, to 12% among 16-year-olds, finally attaining 19% among 17-year-olds. The average age of starting smoking was 12.7 years in 2008 (vs. 12.1 years in 1998). There were proportionally more smokers among high school students who had a higher amount of pocket money per week (\$30 and more), among those who were living in a single-parent family,⁵ and among those who have parents, brothers, sisters or friends who smoke. Smokers' were also more likely to evaluate their

academic performance as under the class average. However, remarkable progress was made with regard to smokers living in single-parent families: current smokers (daily and occasional combined) in single-parent families declined from 29% to 13% during the decade.

Smokers' intent to quit is not a rare phenomenon

Among students who had smoked in the 12 months preceding the survey (namely 20% of all students), 56% had tried at least once to quit smoking. Among these, 48% had tried at least once, 29% had tried twice and 23% had tried three or more times to quit smoking. Close to 80% believed that they could cease smoking without help or could do so with the help of a friend.

Fewer and fewer students exposed to second-hand smoke in their family environment

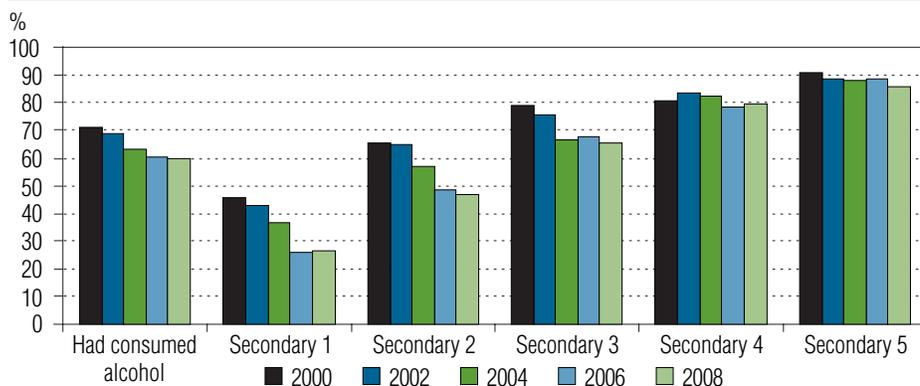
In 1998, 40% of students were exposed to second-hand cigarette smoke every day at home. Between 2006 and 2008, this proportion declined from 29% to 24%. Similar to previous editions of the survey, proportionally more smokers were living in a home where people were exposed to second-hand smoke (47% of daily and occasional smokers combined [current smokers] vs. 29% of beginning smokers vs. 21% of non-smokers). It should be noted that in 2008 it was completely forbidden to smoke in 55% of households in which non-smoking students were living, compared to 45% of households in which beginning smokers were living and 35% of those in which current smokers were living.

More than half of students had a low frequency of alcohol consumption

In 2008, as was observed in 2006, 60% of students (namely 272,400) had consumed alcohol at least once in the 12 months preceding the survey (Figure 4), a proportion significantly lower than that seen in 2004 (63%). No difference was observed between boys and girls in this regard in 2008. From Secondary 1 to Secondary 5, the proportion of students who had consumed alcohol climbed rapidly, going from 27% to 86%. However, similar to the whole

Figure 4

Trend in Alcohol Consumption Among High School Students in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Grade Level, 1998 to 2008, Québec, 2008



Sources: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Québec Survey of Smoking in High School Students, 1998, 2000 and 2002* and *Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2004, 2006 and 2008*.

4. Coefficient of variation higher than 25%; imprecise estimate for information purposes only.
 5. In the QSSADGHSS, a two-parent family structure includes students who are in daily contact with both of their parents or are in shared custody. Students living with only one of their parents, whether or not a new spouse/partner, are considered to be in a single-parent family structure.

of the study population, the proportions of male and female drinkers as well as the proportion in each grade level, significantly decreased between 2000 and 2008.

Approximately 45% of students had consumed alcohol at a low frequency. This proportion comprised the following: in the 12 months preceding the survey, 8% (namely 38,500) had consumed alcohol just once to try it (experimenters) and 37% (namely 167,900) had consumed it once or month or less (occasional drinkers). A lower proportion had consumed alcohol at a higher frequency, namely on the weekend or during the week, but without however having consumed some every day. Indeed, approximately 14% (namely 65,300) of high school students were regular drinkers, while a very small proportion drank every day in 2008 (0.2%^{**6} namely 7,000 were daily drinkers).

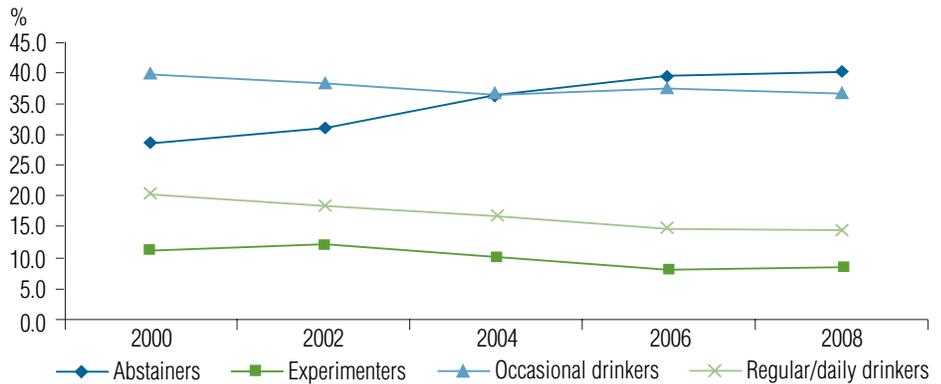
Girls were more likely than boys to have consumed alcohol on an occasional basis (40% vs. 34%). One in four students consumed alcohol at this frequency as of Secondary 1 (27%). Between Secondary 2 and Secondary 3, this proportion rose from 30% to 42%, attaining 50% among students in Secondary 4 and Secondary 5. In this regard, between 2004 and 2008, the proportion of abstainers surpassed that of occasional drinkers (Figure 5).

Alcohol consumption begins at an early age

In 2008, the average age of initiation to alcohol was 12.6 years. It seems unnecessary to have a big allowance or a lot of money to consume alcohol. Among high school students who had \$10 or less pocket money per week, the proportion of drinkers was approximately 40%. The proportion of drinkers increased with the amount of money available: 62% of students who had pocket money of \$11 to \$30 were drinkers, compared to 72% of those who had \$31 to \$50 and 83% of those who had \$51 or more. Similarly, the proportion of drinkers was higher among students who had a job (69% vs. 49%), among those whose language at home was French (62% compared to 47% for other languages) and among those living in a single-parent family (68% vs. 57% of those in a two-parent family).

Figure 5

Trend in the Type of Drinkers Among High School Students in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, 1998 to 2008, Québec, 2008



Sources: Institut de la statistique du Québec, Québec Survey of Smoking in High School Students, 1998, 2000 and 2002 and Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Drug use – students are increasingly aware of the effects

Notable progress was made between 2000 and 2008 in terms of this health indicator. The proportion of students who used drugs at least once in the 12 months preceding the survey significantly decreased, going from 43% in 2000 to 36% in 2004, then to 28% in 2008. This decline was seen in boys as well as girls and at each grade level, with the exception of Secondary 3 (a transitional grade level with regards to adopting risk behaviours).

As seen in previous cycles of the survey, cannabis, hallucinogens and amphetamines were the illicit drugs of choice among students. In 2008, 27% of students had used cannabis (47% of them were in Secondary 5), 8% hallucinogens and 7% amphetamines. The proportion of cannabis and hallucinogen users greatly decreased between 2000 and 2008 (Table 1). With respect to the proportion of amphetamine users, after having significantly increased between 2000 and 2004, in 2008 it was similar to the proportions observed in 2000 and 2002, mainly due to

Table 1

Trends in the Proportions of Users of Cannabis, Hallucinogens and Amphetamines Among High School Students, by Sex, 1998 to 2008, Québec, 2008

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008
	%				
Cannabis	40.6	39.1	35.5	29.4	27.2
Boys	42.6	40.0	35.0	28.9	28.4
Girls	38.4	38.2	36.1	29.9	25.9
Hallucinogens	15.6	12.5	11.2	8.8	7.6
Boys	15.8	13.8	11.1	8.5	7.3
Girls	15.4	11.2	11.3	9.0	8.0
Amphetamines	7.0	7.6	10.3	9.4	7.3
Boys	6.9	8.3	9.5	7.6	6.8
Girls	7.2	7.0	11.0	11.1	7.8

Sources: Institut de la statistique du Québec, Québec Survey of Smoking in High School Students, 1998, 2000 and 2002 and Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

6. Coefficient of variation higher than 25%; imprecise estimate for information purposes only.

a decrease in use among girls. No difference was observed between the sexes in 2008, as was the case in 2004 and 2006.

In the 12 months preceding the 2008 survey, 7% of students (namely 30,300) reported having tried cannabis just once for the experience and 11% (49,500) had used it on an occasional basis, i.e. less than once a month. Therefore, 18% of high school students had used cannabis at a low frequency. Nearly 7% of students (32,000) had used it on a regular basis and 2.6% every day (12,000). These findings mean that about 10% of secondary school students used cannabis at a high frequency. Proportionally more boys than girls used it at a high frequency (11% vs. 8%), as did students in Secondary 4 (13%) and Secondary 5 (17%).

With regards to hallucinogens, it was observed that 3.5% of students (namely 16,100) had experimented with these, 2.8% (12,600) had used these occasionally, and 1.4%*7 (6,300) had used them on a regular or daily basis. There was no difference observed between boys and girls.

In terms of amphetamines, 3.1% of students (14,200) had used them just once to try, 2.6% (12,100) had used them occasionally, and 1.5%*8 (7,000) had used them on a regular or daily basis. As seen in 2006, no difference was observed between the sexes.

Problematic alcohol consumption and drug use – a persistent phenomenon

Excessive alcohol consumption, namely having had five standard drinks or more on the same occasion during the 12 months preceding the survey, and repetitive excessive alcohol consumption, namely having repeated this level of intoxication at least five or more times during the reference period, are ongoing phenomena observed in high school students, as the 2008 and preceding cycles of the survey have demonstrated.

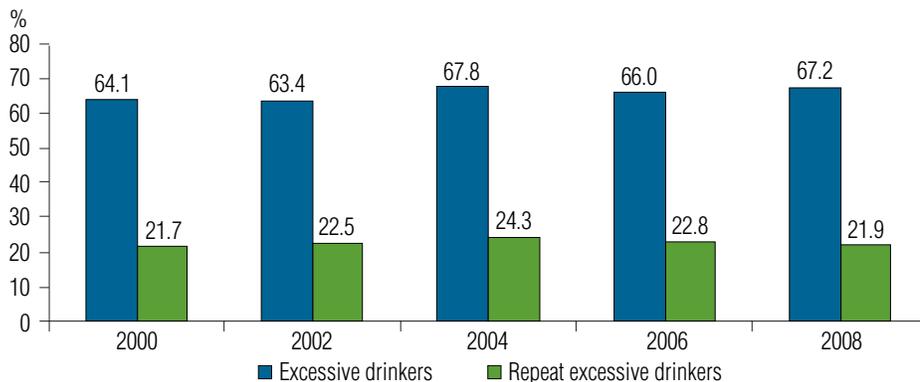
In 2008, among students who had consumed alcohol (namely 60%), 67% had done so in excess. Among these, 21%

had excessively consumed alcohol only once, 24% had done so two to four times, and 22% had done so at least five times or more in the 12 months preceding the survey. There was a slight increase in the proportion of drinkers who had drunk to excess compared to 2002 (63%), whereas that of repetitive excess drinkers was the same as what was observed in 2000 (Figure 6).

Proportionally more boys than girls had consumed alcohol excessively in the 12 months preceding the 2008 survey (69% vs. 65%) and similarly more had done so repetitively (25% vs. 19%). The phenomenon was fairly strong right from entry into high school. Of the 27% of Secondary 1 students who had consumed alcohol, 48% had engaged in at least one episode of excessive drinking. Between Secondary 1 and Secondary 3, the proportion of excessive drinkers rose from 48% to 60%. In Secondary 4 it attained 74%; in Secondary 5, nearly 80% of drinkers had done so excessively. Repetitive excess seems to be characteristic of older students. Between Secondary 3 and Secondary 5, the proportion of repeat excessive drinkers more than doubled, going from 15% to 26% to 39%.

Figure 6

Trends in the Proportions of Excessive Drinkers and Repeat Excessive Drinkers Among High School Students Who Had Consumed Alcohol in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, 1998 to 2008, Québec, 2008



Sources : Institut de la statistique du Québec, Québec Survey of Smoking in High School Students, 1998, 2000 and 2002 and Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

The vast majority of students did not seem to have problematic alcohol consumption or drug use according to the DEP-ADO⁹ scale, since 88% of all students were in the green light category. However, it is estimated that approximately 6% of students in 2008 may have had an emerging problem (yellow light), for which front-line intervention would be desirable (information, discussion, etc.). A similar proportion, 6%, seemed to respond to the criteria indicating a serious problem (red light), for which specialized intervention or intervention complementing this would be required. Table 2 shows the distribution of drinkers or drug users according to the DEP-ADO scale.

7. Coefficient of variation between 15% and 25%; interpret with caution.

8. Coefficient of variation between 15% and 25%; interpret with caution.

9. The guide used to score the DEP-ADO scale was the same one used for the *Grille de dépistage de consommation problématique d'alcool et de drogues chez les adolescents et adolescentes*, Version 3.1 – October 2005 © risq, 2003 © risq, 1999, 2000, 2003, 2005.

Parties in which poker is played for money are increasing in popularity

Two categories of gambling were examined in the survey, private gambling (such as card games including poker and internet gambling), and state-run gambling, (such as regular or instant lotteries with Loto-Québec, video lottery terminals, etc.). The criterion for gambling was having participated in at least one form of gambling, at least once in the 12 months preceding the survey.

In 2008, 37% of secondary school students (namely 167,100) had participated in gambling including lotteries, a significantly smaller proportion than was observed in 2004 (45%) and 2002 (51%). More boys than girls gambled for money (41% vs. 33%). Between Secondary 1 and 2, the proportion of gamblers increased from 24% to 35%, attaining 47% in Secondary 5. Both boys and girls reported having begun gambling at the age of 11.6 years. A greater proportion of boys compared to girls gambled in card games (24% vs. 17%), games of skill (20% vs. 11%), private gambling on sports (16% vs. 7%), internet gambling (7% vs. 3%) and Mise-O-Jeu¹⁰ (4% vs. 2%). More girls than boys participated in instant lotteries (20% vs. 15%).

From 2006 to 2008, the proportion of students who had played internet poker doubled, going from 2.5% to 5%, the proportion of those who had played poker with friends went from 15% to 21% and that of students who had participated in poker parties organized by people other than friends (private game rooms, underground poker parties, etc.) decreased slightly, going from 4.7% to 3.6%. Boys seemed to be more interested in poker than girls: 27% vs. 15% had played poker with friends, 7% vs. 2.9% had played poker on the internet, and 4.7% vs. 2.5% had played poker in organized parties. In Secondary 1, 13% of students reported playing poker among friends for money. This proportion climbed to 29% in Secondary 5.

Table 2

Distribution of High School Students Who Had Consumed Alcohol or Drugs, by Categories on the DEP-ADO1 Scale, 1998 to 2008, Québec, 2008

	Total	Green light	Yellow light	Red light
	%	%		
Alcohol	59.7	80.6	9.6	9.8
Drugs				
Cannabis	27.2	58.1	20.4	21.6
Hallucinogens	7.6	22.3	22.5	55.2
Amphetamines	7.3	22.4	21.5	56.1
Cocaine	3.4	21.3*	16.7*	62.0
Solvents	0.8*	—	—	75.1
Heroin	0.9*	18.0**	19.1**	62.9
Other drugs	2.2	22.1*	14.6*	63.3

1. The guide used to score the DEP-ADO scale was the same one used for the *Grille de dépistage de consommation problématique d'alcool et de drogues chez les adolescents et adolescentes*, Version 3.1 – October 2005 © RISQ, 2003 © RISQ, 1999, 2000, 2003, 2005.

— Infinitesimal datum.

* Coefficient of variation between 15% and 25%; interpret with caution.

** Coefficient of variation higher than 25%; imprecise estimate for information purposes only.

Source : Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students, 2008*.

In 2008, 31% of all Québec high school students were gamblers who had no gambling problem because of their attitudes and beliefs, according to DSM-IV-J¹¹ criteria. However, 4.1% of all students were gamblers at risk of developing an addiction if they did not change their attitudes and beliefs, and 2% were already manifesting certain characteristics according to certain criteria indicating pathological gambling. Among gamblers, 11% were categorized as being at risk and 5% were in the category of probable pathological gamblers.

Conclusion

Data collected in the autumn of 2008 indicated that the majority of Québec high school students were non-smokers. If cigarillos are excluded, 85% of students were non-smokers; this proportion drops to 78% if cigarillos are included. The findings with regards to alcohol consumption and drug use reveal problematic charac-

teristics of adolescence. Indeed, in the 12 months preceding the survey, approximately 60% of students had consumed alcohol and 28% had used drugs. Responses to questions based on the DEP-ADO scale indicated that the vast majority of students did not have an obvious problem with alcohol or drugs (88%). However, although in general students had drunk alcohol or used drugs on an occasional basis, stakeholders should reflect on the fact that 67% of drinkers had done so to excess and 22% of drinkers had drunk to excess repeatedly, 22% of students had used cannabis, and 7% had used hallucinogens and the same proportion amphetamines. The data also show that the majority of students had not participated in any form of gambling including lotteries (63%), and 31% were gamblers but not problem gamblers according to DSM-IV-J criteria. However, as observed since 2002, the persistent interest of students in card games for money, particularly poker games amongst friends or poker on

10. Mise-O-Jeu® ("Face-Off) is a hockey-based provincial-run lottery.

11. This is an adapted version of the DSM-IV questionnaire (American Psychiatric Association, 1994) comprising 12 questions, grouped into 9 fields related to problematic gambling and used as diagnostic criteria. For more details, see Chapter 5 on gambling in the 2008 report on the QSSADGHSS, page 151 (available in French only).

the internet, both of which are increasing in popularity, are in stark contrast to the apparent decline in gambling among students in general. As a society, we should question ourselves on the easy access to internet gambling and the promotion of it that is being conducted.

Of note is that in 2008, 31% of students did not manifest any of the four risk behaviours studied, 26% had only one, 22% two, 14% three, and 6% had multiple risk in exhibiting all four of these behaviours. Important progress has been made since 2002 with respect to these risk behaviours.

The most noteworthy are the proportions of students who have two, three or four risk behaviours. These proportions all declined in parallel with an increase in the proportion of students who manifested none of these behaviours and those who only manifested one. The variations between 2002 and 2008 reveal a positive change in attitude towards risk behaviours in both boys and girls and on the part of students in all grade levels attending high school.

Finally, in addition to counsellors and other personnel in the field who sensitize young people to the consequences of risk be-

haviours, the Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students responds to the need on the part of all stakeholders for ongoing estimates of the prevalence of such behaviours in this population. The findings can thereby facilitate efforts to improve prevention programs and address the social and health problems related to these behaviours among male and female adolescents 12 to 17 years of age.



About the survey

The Québec Survey of Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs and Gambling in High School Students (QSSADGHSS) is conducted by the *Institut de la statistique du Québec* (ISQ) (Québec Institute of Statistics) for the *ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux* (Ministry of Health and Social Services). Its main goal is to produce, on a biannual basis, an accurate portrait of trends in smoking, alcohol consumption, drug use and gambling including lotteries among Québec high school students from Secondary 1 through 5. The findings provide data for policymakers and other stakeholders to help them design policies and interventions and evaluate their effectiveness. Two indicators make this survey a unique tool – one covering problematic alcohol consumption and drug use, the DEP-ADO scale, the other covering problematic gambling, the DSM-IV-J scale. The data of this sixth edition of the survey were collected in the autumn of 2008 from 4,736 students in 176 classes among 144 high schools across the province.

To learn more

The full report (available in French only) can be downloaded from the following web page: <http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/publications/sante/index.htm#tabac> A printed version of the full report can also be ordered from the Information and Documentation Centre of the ISQ by telephoning 1 877 677-2087.

This Zoom santé can be downloaded from the following web page: http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/publications/sante/zoom_sante_an.htm A printed version of this Zoom santé can also be obtained by telephoning the Information and Documentation Centre of the ISQ at 1 877 677-2087.

Une version française de ce Zoom santé peut être téléchargée intégralement à l'adresse suivante : http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/publications/sante/zoom_sante.htm Une version imprimée de ce Zoom santé peut également être commandée au Centre d'information et de documentation de l'ISQ en composant le 1 877 677-2087.

The microdata files of the surveys from 1998 to 2008 can be accessed from the Centre d'accès aux données de recherche de l'ISQ (Research Data Access Centre of the ISQ) (CADRISQ) at <http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/cadrisq/default.htm> or by telephoning (514) 343-2299.

This newsletter was produced by the **Direction des statistiques de santé** (Department of Health Statistics) of the ISQ.

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