



Republic of Serbia  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Institute of Public Health  
of Serbia



## European Survey on the use of Alcohol and Other Drugs among young people in Serbia, 2008

**ESPAD**

The European School Survey Project on Alcohol  
and Other Drugs



European Monitoring Centre  
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

# **The European Survey on Alcohol and Other Drug Use among young people in Serbia 2008**

Report for the Republic of Serbia

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**Institute of Public Health of Serbia  
" Dr Milan Jovanovic-Batut"**

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**The European Survey  
on Alcohol and Other Drug Use  
among young people in Serbia 2008**

In cooperation with:

**ESPAD** (European School Project on Alcohol and other Drugs)

**EMCDDA** (European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction)

**CAN** (Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs)

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## FOREWORD

*For the first time in Serbia a survey was conducted on use of cigarettes, alcohol and other drugs among young people aged 16 years, on the national level, in accordance with the methodology that is being used in The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD). The survey was conducted during the year 2008 thanks to good cooperation between The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia, Institute of Public Health of Serbia and ESPAD and EMCDDA.*

*The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs among young people (ESPAD) has for its' goal to collect data on the use of these substances among students aged between 15 and 16 years, in order to follow the trends and the rules of comparison in this area between the European countries.*

*Survey in the accordance with the ESPAD methodology in the year 2008 has included 6.500 students of the first grade of secondary school (gymnasium, vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary school) in both urban and rural areas, in Serbia.*

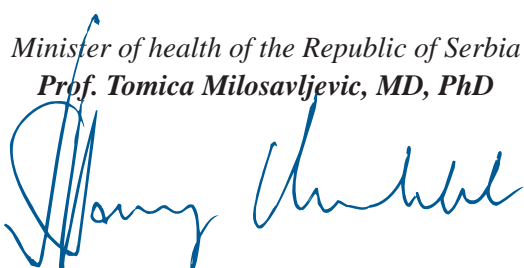
*Survey on the abuse of alcohol and other drugs among young people in Serbia which was realized in the year 2005 included 1600 secondary schools students, aged 16 years, from the big cities (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad).*

*The results of the survey will make room for possibilities of planning preventive activities based on evidence, monitoring the situation of the use of cigarettes, alcohol and other drugs among young people in Serbia, as well as comparing results with the results in 42 European countries. The received data will also be used to develop strategies in order to reduce, in the future, the use of cigarettes, alcohol and other drugs among young people.*

*The survey in the accordance with the ESPAD methodology will be conducted every four years and represents an important step in monitoring the use of cigarettes, alcohol and other drugs among young people. In this way a cooperation will be realized, an exchange of experience, as well as learning from the examples of good practice, in this area with the countries in the region and Europe.*

*This survey contributes to joining Serbia in the united efforts which the European countries with the help of institutions such as: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addictions- EMCDDA, European Cities in fight Against Drugs – ECAD, Pompidou Group, Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs – CAN and others, make in order to prevent the abuse of cigarettes, alcohol and other drugs.*

Minister of health of the Republic of Serbia  
**Prof. Tomica Milosavljevic, MD, PhD**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Planning and conducting the ESPAD survey in Serbia was a common effort of different partners in Serbia, as well as in Europe. In accordance with that, Institute of Public Health of Serbia “Dr. Milan Jovanovic-Batut” would like to take this opportunity to express its' gratitude to the institutions and individuals who have given support and made the realization of this survey possible.

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia, as the key user of this project, has given valuable support in order to asses the epidemiologic situation when it comes to the use of cigarettes, alcohol and other drugs among the young people in Serbia.

Institute of Public Health “Dr Milan Jovanovic Batut” has coordinated all expert and organizational activities in making and realization of the ESPAD survey in Serbia in cooperation with the ESPAD coordinator for Serbia, Spomenka Ciric-Jankovic.

The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia has approved the survey and provided help with the access to schools and cooperation with school management.

In the European context we owe great thanks to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction from Lisbon (EMCDDA) which enabled and supported the entire survey and which will use the results of this study in order to perceive the situation of the use of alcohol and other drugs in this part of the Balkans and will include our results in the year report.

We give our special thanks to the schools all over Serbia which participated in the survey, including students, teachers and parents, which helped us to collect our data in time.

The employees in the Strategic Marketing and Media Research Institute (SMMRI) in Belgrade gave their contribution in collecting data and statistical analysis.

We give our thanks to Spomenka Ciric-Jankovic, ESPAD coordinator for Serbia, who contributed to the quality of our study with her experience.

*Director of the  
Institute for Public Health of Serbia  
„Dr. Milan Jovanovic-Batut”  
Tanja Knezevic, MD, PhD*



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CAN	Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs
EAR	European Agency for Reconstruction
EMCDDA	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
ESPAD	European School Project on Alcohol and other Drugs
EU	European Union
GHB	Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate
GYTS	Global Youth Tobacco Survey
LSD	Lysergic Saure Diethylamide
IIAC	Psycho-Active Substances
PPS	Probability Proportional to Size
SMMRI	Strategic Marketing and Media Research Institute
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
PG	Pompidou Group
UNDCP	United Nations Drug Control Programme
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
WHO	World Health Organisation

# УВОД INTRODUCTION

This report is based on the European School Project on Alcohol and other Drugs among young people aged 16 years (ESPAD), which was conducted by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia, Institute of Public Health of Serbia „Dr. Milan Jovanovic Batut” and the Strategic Marketing and Media Research Institute, with the consent of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia and coordination of the ESPAD coordinator for Serbia.

Survey is a part of the international ESPAD project which is being conducted in more than 40 European countries. The survey in Serbia was conducted in cooperation and with the support of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction from Lisbon (EMCDDA) and the Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAN).

This is the fourth in the line of ESPAD studies which is being conducted in Europe. The first one was conducted in the year 1995 in 26 European countries, on the initiative of the Pompidou Group of the European Council, as the epidemiological study on use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs among young people. After that, the surveys have been conducted in the years 1999, 2003 and 2007.

In the year 2008, in Serbia, as well as in 4 other countries (Macedonia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Moldavia) the study was, for the first time, conducted in accordance with the ESPAD methodology and at the national level. The results presented in this report will also be presented in the international report with the international comparison of the results of all participating countries.

This study provides the largest individual source of data on alcohol and other drug use among secondary school students for reporting on progress in realization of goals and targets deriving from the recent national and international strategies and agreements, and with that it represents a rich foundation for further monitoring and reporting on progress in prevention of psychoactive substances abuse among young people and for planning preventive activities adjusted to young people. It was provided for the survey, in accordance with the European standards, to be repeated every 4 years.

## Survey Objectives

- The principal aim of the ESPAD project in Serbia is to collect data on prevalence and patterns of tobacco, alcohol and other drug use among the secondary school first graders born in 1992.
- Results of the survey will provide not only insight into tobacco, alcohol and other drug abuse on the territory of Serbia in whole (including rural areas) and comparison with the data obtained in other European countries, but will also enable the defining of the references and activities for solving the problems caused by the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco among young people.
- In the European context, the most important long-term aim of the project is to follow the trends related to the use of alcohol and other drugs with repeating the study every four years, as well as to exchange gained knowledge and experiences among the countries which participated in the project and with that enrich the preventive practice.
- Conduction of the ESPAD methodology in Serbia insures the participation of our country in this significant network that unites European countries in their attempt to prevent the use of alcohol and other drugs among young people.

## Implementation of the survey

The methodological basis of the Survey on alcohol and other drug use among young people was determined in accordance with the general instructions and recommendations of the international ESPAD project. In accordance with the features specific to the situation in the Serbia, small changes have been made.

A stratified one-stage sample of the secondary school first graders born in 1992 was used in the survey. The sample was selected to provide statistically reliable estimates of the indicators on alcohol and other drug use at the national level, for big cities, small cities and rural areas and for three regions: Vojvodina, Belgrade and Central Serbia. Besides that, applied sample design has provided reliable results of the indicators for the level of three school types: gymnasium, vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary school.

The sampling frame, the list of all secondary schools in Serbia was provided by the Ministry of Education, while the number of classes and number of students in classes was estimated based on the number of schools and classes in the previous period. In total, 290 classes were selected for the sample. Interview was conducted with all students present in the selected classes on the day of survey implementation. Special attention was provided to insuring anonymity to students who have participated in the interview.

Since secondary education in Serbia, is not compulsory, some young people born in the year 1992, did not, after completing obligatory primary education, continue with further education. Also, a certain number of students aged 16 years, due to starting school later in life, or for failing a class, are still in the primary school. Due to those reasons, obtained data are not representative for all young people in Serbia born in the year 1992, but only for the secondary school first grade students born in 1992.

The information on the alcohol and other drug use was obtained from interviews. A standardized questionnaire designed by the ESPAD was used in the survey, which enabled comparison of the findings with the results from other countries who participated in the project. Standardized ESPAD questionnaire is structured internationally approved questionnaire, which consists of core and optional parts. For the data collection a self-administered questionnaire was distributed to the secondary school first graders. Data collection was performed by the field researchers. Students answered questions anonymously, in their classrooms, under conditions similar to written tests. Each filled questionnaire, student put in an envelope which s/he would seal, in order to preserve complete anonymity of the respondent.

The following information was collected: cigarette smoking, use of alcohol, use of illicit drugs, characteristics of social interactions, relationship with parents and friends, leisure time activities and students' satisfaction with their own life.

Prior to conducting the interview, the contact was made and consent for survey implementation was obtained from the Parent Council in selected schools and the Ethical committee of the Institute of Public Health of Serbia.

## Presentation of results

This publication presents the key findings of the study according to the following information of the interviewed secondary school first graders born in the year 199 in Serbia: gender, school type: gymnasium, professional-vocational, and professional-handcraft secondary school, size of the city and geographic area. In order to follow trends a comparison of the results of the survey with the results of the survey «School Survey on Psychoactive Substance Abuse among Adolescents in Serbia» conducted in the year 2005, in three cities (regional centers) in Serbia: Belgrade, Novi Sad and Nis, by the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) with the support of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia. The study was conducted on 3000 students and it was in the accordance with the methodology recommended by ESPAD. In order to enable the results comparison all the key indicators from the 2008 survey are calculated for the level of the three mentioned regional centers in Serbia.

Every use of psychoactive substances that is not in the accordance with the social norms and laws is considered to be abuse. Abuse can have harmful effects on the user himself or on the people who surround him/her. In that way, for example, if one uses a medicine that is not prescribed by a doctor, or if he uses it in a higher dosage than the one prescribed, we are talking about the abuse of the medicine. In the report, when presenting the analyzed results, we used different terms to describe abuse of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, like: “use”, “consumption” and “abuse”.

## Response rate

Out of 290 schools which were chosen for the sample, 17 of them refused to participate in the survey. Out of 7,911 students present in the selected classes on the day of the interview, 6,553 questionnaires were successfully filled in, which corresponds to the response rate of 87%. Response rates are similar for boys and girls (87% and 88%, respectively).

## Data quality

Data reliability, which is one of the important conditions for validity and applicability of the collected data, is the extent to which repeated measurements of a certain phenomenon, under the same conditions, produce the same results, that is, the degree of «honesty» of students when filling in the questionnaire.

Field researchers have filled in a separate questionnaire after they have collected data in the class. Based on data analysis, it was noticed, in over 80% of classes selected for the sample, that students have answered the questions with great attention and honestly, that they have shown interest in participation in the study, and also, that they did not encounter any difficulties, but were able to answer the questions from the questionnaire very easily.

Results received on different questions from the questionnaire were used in order to confirm reliability of the collected data. Two measures of reliability were analyzed.

The first measure refers to inconsistency between the answers on two sets of questions referring to the number of times different drugs were used. Questionnaire contained questions about the number of times a certain drug was used. A later set of questions dealt with the age at first use of different drug. One of the possible answers to both questions was «never». In this way the comparison of the prevalence of users of each drug was made possible, based on these two different questions. The obtained inconsistency figures are lower than 2% and they slightly vary between regions and types of schools. For example, for the lifetime use of tobacco 0.9% of students gave inconsistent answers to the questions “How many times in your life (if ever) did you smoke cigarettes?” and “When did you (if ever) smoke your first cigarette?”. Somewhat higher percentage of students from regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) gave inconsistent answers to these two questions (1.1%). Level of inconsistency for the question about lifetime use of alcohol is identical like when it comes to the use of tobacco, 0.9% of students gave inconsistent answers. When it comes to the use of marihuana, inconsistency rate is slightly lower, 0.3%. The similar situation occurs when it comes to the use of other types of drugs, inconsistency rates vary from 0.1% for ecstasy to 2.3% for use of alcohol in combination with drugs.

The other measure of reliability is the quotient between the answers to two questions. One question analyzes the willingness of the students to admit the use of marihuana or hashish (the so called “honesty question”). The students were asked “If you have ever used marihuana or hashish (cannabis), do you think you would have said so in this questionnaire?”. One of the response alternatives to the question was “I have already said I have used it” and the proportion of students who answered like that has been compared to the proportion of students that reported marihuana use on the lifetime prevalence question. When calculating the quotient of inconsistency, the answer to the “honesty question” was used as the numerator, and the answer to the question about the lifetime use as the denominator. The value of the indicator 1.07 indicates that the proportion of answers to both questions was almost identical.

## Percentage of the missing data

In the instruction prepared for students the importance of giving honest answers to each question was emphasized. However, since participation in the survey was voluntary, the explanation was provided

to the students that they are free to leave some questions unanswered, in the case they are not willing to answer it for any reason. Therefore, the percentage of the missing data can also be interpreted as students' decision to report the use of alcohol and other drugs, but also as one of the basic measures of data quality. When analyzing the questionnaire it was noticeable that the proportion of the missing answers is low in all regions and all types of schools and that it does not go above 4%. When it comes to the questions concerning the use of alcohol and other drugs, the percentage of unanswered ones is significantly lower, below 0.5%.

# КЉУЧНИ KEY FINDINGS НАЛАЗИ

## Cigarette smoking

- Almost one half of the first grade secondary school students (46.0%) have smoked at least one cigarette during life. Gymnasium students, in significantly lower percentage reported smoking, compared to their peers from other types of secondary schools in Serbia. Young people from Vojvodina in the highest percentage reported smoking at least once in their lifetime (50.4%), while this percentage is slightly lower in Belgrade (48.2%) and Central Serbia (43.5%).
- Percentage of students who have smoked 40 or more times during life is 13.1%. Significantly higher number of boys, than girls has smoked 40 or more times during life (14.6%, to 11.8%). Students from vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary schools, as well as those from Vojvodina and Belgrade, in much higher percentage reported smoking 40 or more times during life.
- Every fifth secondary school first grade student in Serbia (21.0%) currently smokes, that is, they have smoked at least one cigarette during the last month, slightly higher percentage of girls (21.4%), than boys (20.6%). Daily (regularly – at least one cigarette per day) in the last 30 days 13.9% of students have smoked, approximately same number of boys and girls.
- Approximately one quarter (26.6%) of young people light their first cigarette at the age of 14 or younger, while 16.8% tries smoking at the age of 13 or younger. Boys start smoking at an earlier age than girls; 19.5% of boys and 14.5% of girls have smoked their first cigarette at the age of 13 or younger. These data indicate on the high potential of the use of tobacco later in life, as well as on the potentially high prevalence of tobacco caused illnesses.
- In the population of the first grade secondary school students in the regional centers in Serbia (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad), when we talk about the answer to the question about smoking in the last month, the results show that in the year 2008, smoking is reduced for 8.9%, compared to the year 2005 and it rates 22.1%. Similar to that, daily cigarette smoking in the regional centers in the last month has fallen from 22.0% in the year 2005, to 14.8% in the year 2008.

## Use of alcohol

- Nine out of ten students have had one or several alcoholic beverages at least once during lifetime, (89.1%). Boys have, in slightly higher percentage than girls, tried drinking alcohol, 89.9% of boys to 88.3% of girls has had at least one alcoholic beverage during lifetime.
- One quarter of students aged 16 years (24.9%) more regularly or frequently consumes alcohol, that is, report of drinking alcohol 40 or more times during life. Boys drink alcohol regularly in much higher percentage (36.7%) than girls do (14.7%). The highest percentage is of students from Vojvodina who have had at least 40 alcoholic beverages during lifetime (30.0%), while the percentages among students from Belgrade and Central Serbia are much lower and they rate 23.8% and 23.1%, respectively.
- During the last twelve months, three quarters of students (78.2%) have had at least one alcoholic beverage, significantly more boys than girls. More than one half of students (54.0%) have had at least one alcoholic beverage during the 30 days prior to the survey.
- During the last month students have most often drunk beer (47.2%) and wine (43.6%), while slightly lower percentage consumed spirits(31.4%) and significantly more in Vojvodina than in other regions.
- A positive trend is noticed when it comes to alcohol misuse in the regional centers in Serbia. Compared to the year 2005, the number of students from Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad who have consumed alcohol during the last 30 days has fallen significantly from 72.3% in the year 2005 to 53.2% in the year 2008.
- One third of students have reported that the last occasion they have had alcohol was in the last 7 days, significantly more boys (39.6%), than girls (27.9%).
- During the last occasion 42.9% of students have had beer, wine 30.9% and spirits 14.6%.
- Along with significantly more frequent and wider use of alcoholic beverages, boys try alcohol at a much earlier age than girls. In that way, every fifth boy (18.1%) tried beer for the first time (drank at least one glass/bottle/can of beer) at the age of 9 or younger, while almost twice as less girls did that (10.6%). Wine and spirits consumption most often starts at the age of 14 or older. Alcopops (mixed drinks with less than 5% alcohol content) are more consumed by students than other types of alcoholic beverages and the first consumption at the highest number of cases occurs at the age of 15 or 16.
- First consumption of beer at the age of 13 and younger was reported by 43.3% of students. Wine, with not completed 13 years or less, has tried 41.2% of students, while the first use of spirits or alcopops at this age is represented in significantly lower percentage and it rates 14.1% and 14.6%, respectively.

## Drunkenness

- 42.2% of students got drunk at least once in their lifetime, significantly more boys (51.8%), than girls (33.8%). Slightly less than one third of students (29.7%) got drunk at least once during the last 12 months (37.5% of boys and 23.0% of girls), while the percentage of young people who reported getting drunk in the last 30 days is 12.9% (18.3% of boys and 8.2% of girls).



- First drunkenness with not completed 13 years or younger was reported by 8.4% of students; 13.5% of boys and 4.1% of girls.
- As many as one third of students (32.0%) has had, at least once during the last month, 5 and more drinks in a row (so called „binge drinking” or excessive drinking). There are considerably more boys than girls who have had 5 and more drinks in a row during the last month. In the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) the percentage of students who have had 5 and more drinks in a row during the last month is 30.5%, which is significantly lower than in the year 2005, when that percentage was 37.3%.

## Use of other psychoactive substances

- As many as 15.1% of the secondary school first graders reported using one of the following psychoactive substances, at least once during lifetime: marihuana or hashish (cannabis), amphetamines, LCD or some other hallucinogens, crack, cocaine, ecstasy, heroine, magic mushrooms, Trodone or other analgetics, GHB, inhalants, alcohol combined with pills and tranquillizers (without doctor’s prescription). There are no significant differences in the use of illicit drugs among boys and girls, with somewhat higher percentage of girls (15.3%), than boys (14.8%) who reported the use of some illicit drug during lifetime.
- 6.7% of students have tried marihuana at least once during lifetime, 8.8% of boys and 4.9% of girls. A positive trend is noticed when it comes to the lifetime usage of marihuana among students from regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) in Serbia. While in the year 2005, 12.9% of students have tried marihuana at least once during lifetime, the percentage is 7,3 % in the year 2008.  
The use of marihuana 40 or more times during life was reported by 0.5% of first grade secondary school students. There are more boys than girls who used marihuana 40 or more times in life, 0.7% compared to 0.3%.
- The use of marihuana or hashish during the last 12 months in the population of the first grade secondary school students is statistically significantly lower than the proportion of the lifetime usage of marihuana and it rates 4.9%. Significantly higher percentage of boys than girls, used marihuana during the last 12 months, 6.8% to 3.2%.
- Marihuana or hashish use during the last 30 days, which can be an indication of a more regular use, was reported by 2.3% of students; including 3.3% of boys and 1.5% of girls.
- Every tenth first grade secondary school student (11.9%) has used some psychoactive substance during lifetime, excluding marihuana or hashish. Girls have used some psychoactive substance, other than marihuana, in higher percentage than boys.
- As many as 7.6% of young people have used sedatives without doctor’s prescription during their lives. Girls have used sedatives without doctor’s prescription in significantly higher percentage, as many as 10.0% of girls report of using them during life, compared to 4.8% of boys.
- In the population of the first grade secondary school students, 2.9% of them have used inhalants at least once in their lives (glue, gasoline, gas, bronze, lacquers and similar), 2.7% alcohol in combination with pills, while 1.6% of students tried ecstasy. Reported use of amphetamines and analgetics during life is 1.5% and 1.4%, respectively, while the use of other psychoactive substances was reported by less than 1% of students.

# ПУШЕЊЕ CIGARETTE SMOKING ЦИГАРЕТА

Smoking is a phenomenon of the epidemic sizes and the reasons for controlling that epidemic of smoking are its' effects on health, poverty as well as development. Tobacco smoke contains around 4000 chemical ingredients, including nicotine, 60 cancerogeneous substances and high concentrations of free radicals which change the metabolism of cells and lead to a series of diseases.

It is estimated that around 5 million deaths per year in the world are the result of the consequences of smoking. If the smoking epidemic would continue with this rate by the year 2020 the number of departed would double. In the last couple of years, in Serbia, a significant effort has been made, first of all by the Health Department of the Republic of Serbia, to reduce the number of smokers. Despite that, smoking in Serbia is still widely accepted social behavior. According to the data from the National Health Survey, Serbia, conducted in the year 2006, every third adult citizen of Serbia smokes, while 15.5% of children and youth aged between 15 and 19 do so. These data are significantly lower compared to the ones from the year 2005 from the same survey, when the smoking prevalence among adult population was 40.5% and among children and youth 22.9%.

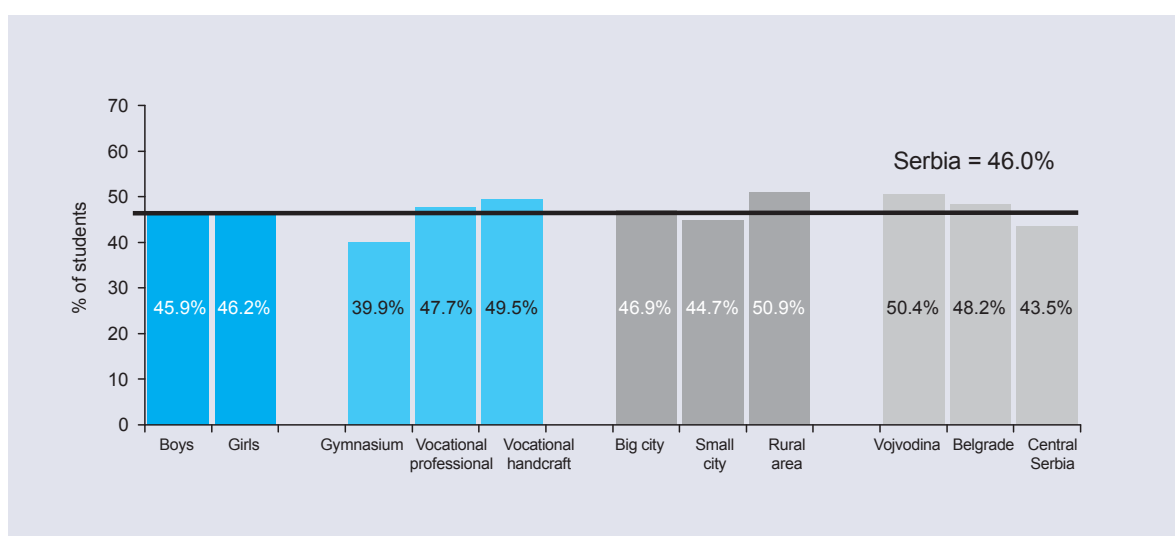
Danger from the abuse of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs among adolescents demands special attention, above all, because of the possible heavy or even fatal consequences on the young person, as well as the family. The first drug which children and young people encounter is nicotine. While the number of those who, due to health reasons, quit smoking, there is still a great number of young people who are starting to smoke. The road from the first cigarette to dependency is often very short and paved with risks of reaching for other chemicals which cause dependency. Even though young people are aware of the consequences of smoking, they do not relate them to their own smoking experience, considering, first of all, that it can not happen to them to become dependent and ill from any of the smoking related diseases (11, 12).

Main indicators about the use of tobacco analyzed in this section of the report are lifetime use of tobacco, percentage of students who have smoked 40 or more times during their lives, smoking prevalence during the 30 days prior to the survey, the prevalence of daily smokers among students of the first grade of secondary school, born in the year 1992 and availability of cigarettes to young people.

## Lifetime use of cigarettes

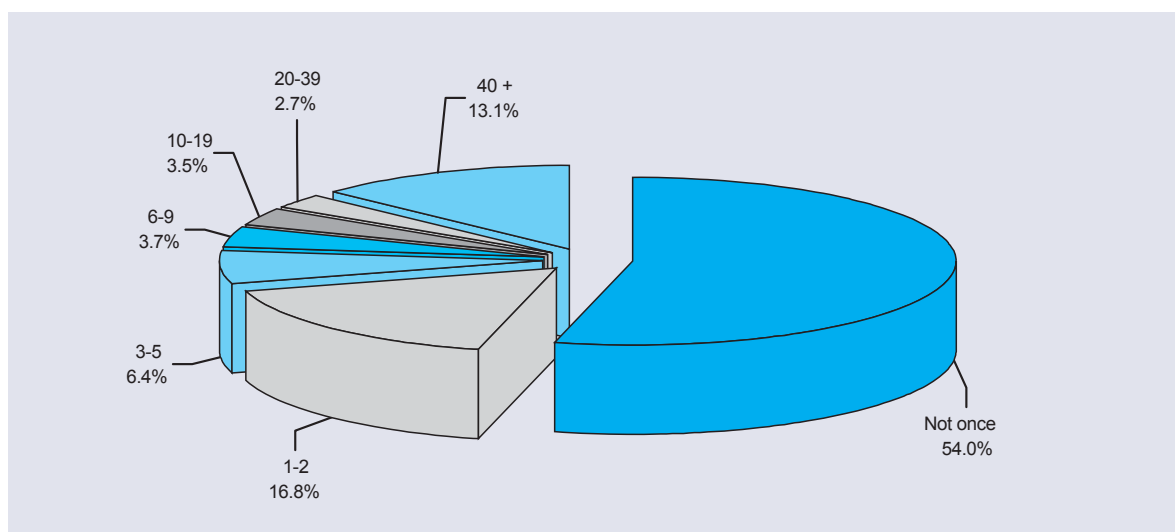
Almost one half of adolescents (46.0%) have smoked at least one cigarette during their life, out of which 46.2% of girls and 45.9% of boys. This percentage is a bit lower among gymnasium students (39.9%). Regional differences have shown to be significant (Graph 1). The highest percentage of young people who live in Vojvodina have reported that they have smoked at least one cigarette during their lives (50.4%), a bit lower percentage in Belgrade (48.2%), while the percentage of young people who have ever smoked is the lowest in Central Serbia and it is 43.5%. You can not see noticeable differences according to gender and the size of the area in which the student lives, but still a bit higher percentage of students from the rural areas reports lifetime smoking (Graph 1).

**Graph 1.** Students who have smoked at least one cigarette during their lives, Serbia, 2008 (%)



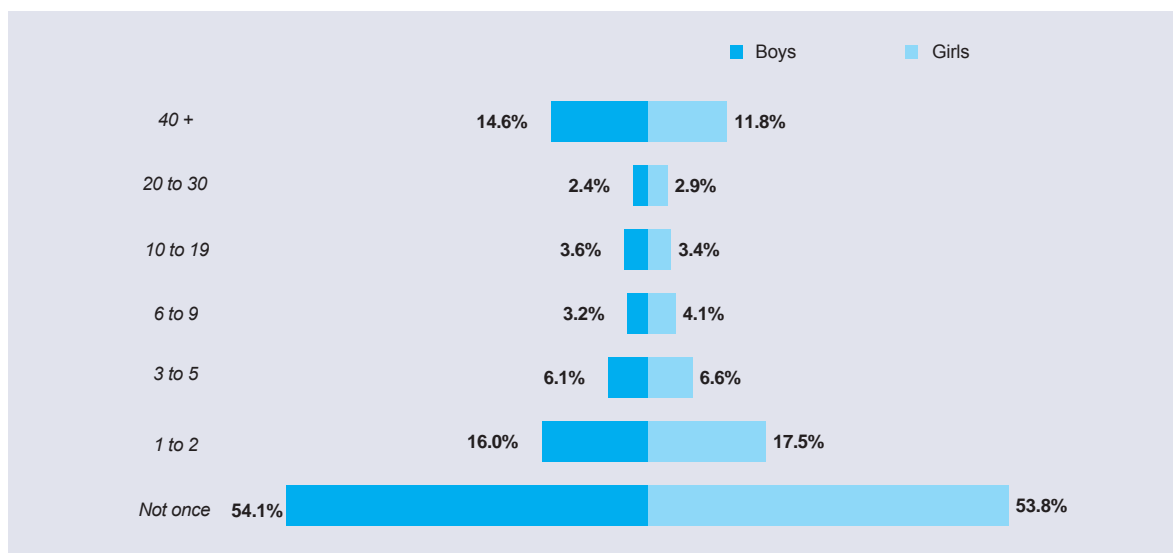
Percentage of students who have smoked cigarettes 40 or more times during lifetime is 13.1% (Graph 2).

**Graph 2.** Number of situations when secondary school students have smoked cigarettes, Serbia, 2008 (%)



According to gender (Graph 3) significantly higher number of boys than girls have smoked 40 or more times during their lives (14.6% to 11.8%)

**Graph 3.** Average number of times in life, during which secondary school students have been smoking cigarettes, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



According to the type of school gymnasium students have reported not ever smoking in significantly higher percentage (60.1%) compared to the students from vocational-professional (52.3%) and vocational-handcraft secondary schools (50,5%).

Other than that, gymnasium students have reported smoking 40 or more times in significantly lower percentage (9.9%) compared to the students from vocational-professional (14.3%) and vocational-handcraft secondary schools (13.3%).

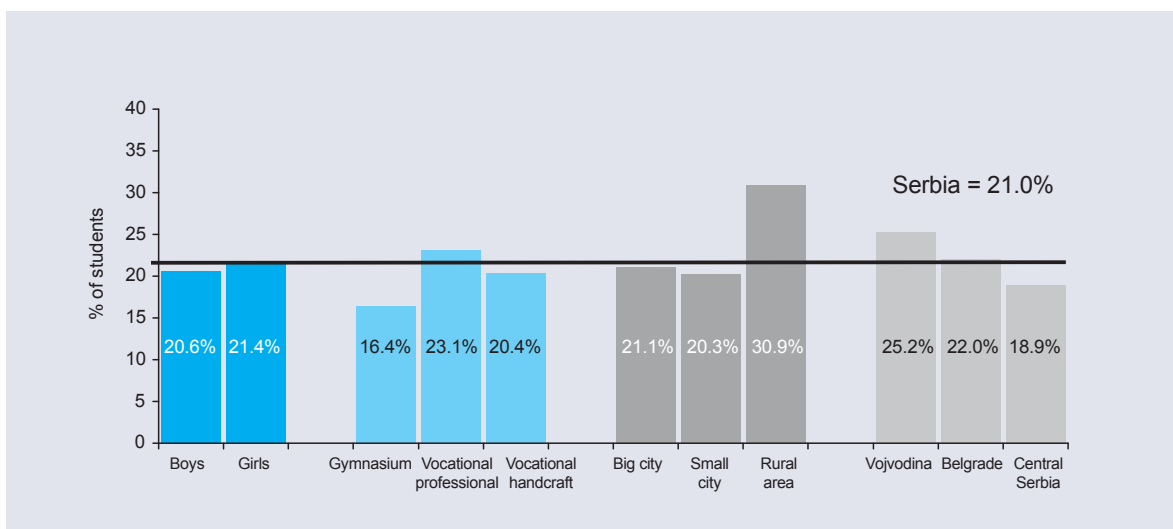
Regional differences are also noticed; 16.3% of students from Vojvodina have reported smoking cigarettes 40 or more times during life, 14.6% of students from Belgrade and 11.2% from Central Serbia.

Out of all students who have smoked at least one cigarette during their lives, the highest percentage is of those who have done that once or twice (35.5%). However, there is a great number of young people who have smoked 40 or more times during lifetime (28.4%). These data imply to the fact that among young people who have smoked during lifetime, two extreme forms of behavior are being developed, that is, among students who have ever smoked during lifetime, the highest percentage is of those who did not continue, or have smoked 40 or more times.

## Cigarette smoking in the last 30 days

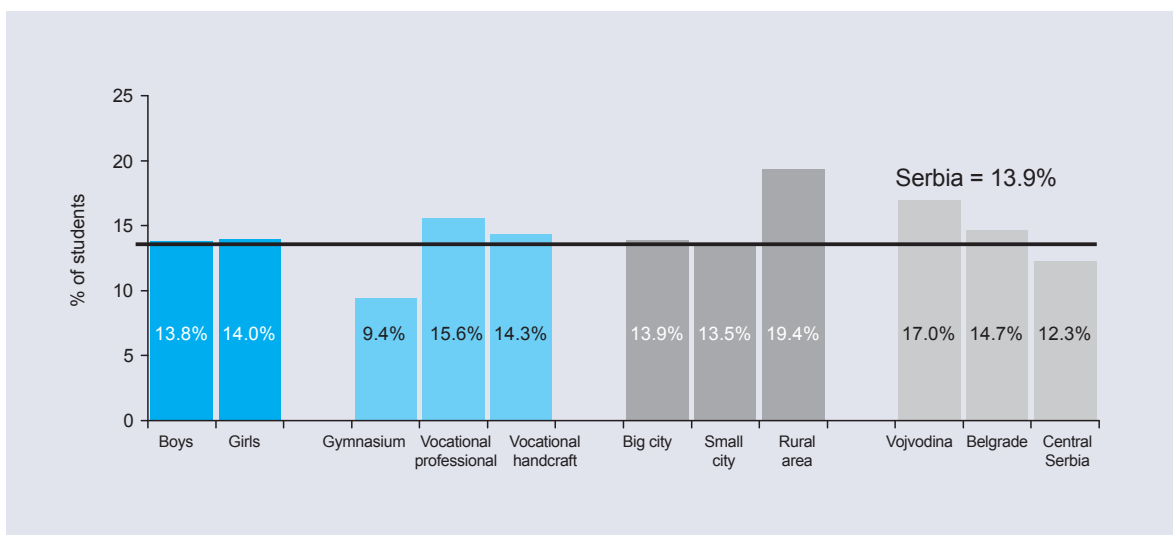
Every fifth student of secondary school in Serbia (21.0%) has smoked at least one cigarette within the 30 days prior to the survey. Cigarette smoking in the last 30 days is similar between girls and boys; 21.4% of girls have reported that they have smoked at least one cigarette in the last 30 days, compared to 20.6% of boys. Behavior patterns of smoking in the last 30 days show smoking habits in life. Therefore, percentage of students who have smoked at least one cigarette in the last 30 days is significantly lower among gymnasium students and young people living in Central Serbia (Graph 4).

**Graph 4. Cigarette smoking in the last 30 days, Serbia, 2008 (%)**



Daily (regularly – at least one cigarette per day) in the last 30 days 13.9% of students were smoking, approximately the same number of girls and boys. Among gymnasium students there is the smallest number of everyday smokers (9.4 %) compared to the students from vocational-professional secondary schools (15.6%) and vocational-handcraft secondary schools (14.3%). In rural areas there is the highest percentage of daily smokers, as many as every fifth adolescent (19.4%) has smoked, during the last month, at least one cigarette per day. Regional distribution indicates that the highest number of young daily smokers is in Vojvodina (17.0%), than Belgrade (14.7%) and Central Serbia (12.3%) (Graph 5).

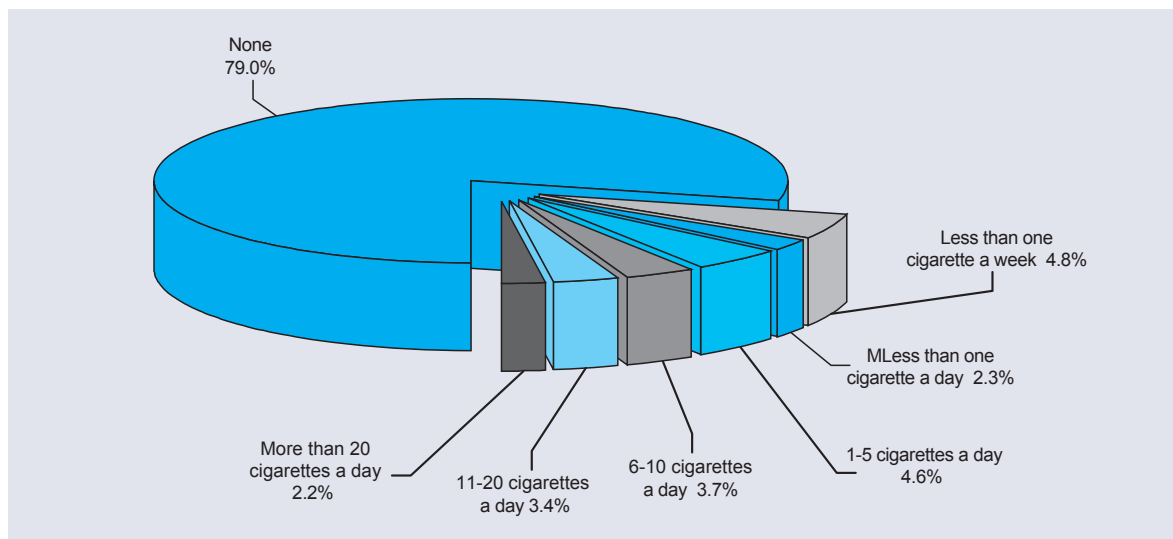
**Graph 5. Daily cigarette smoking in the last 30 days, Serbia, 2008 (%)**



In average 2.2% of students have smoked everyday 20 cigarettes or more (more than one package of cigarettes per day) during the last 30 days. Boys, in slightly higher percentage than girls, report having smoked everyday, during the last 30 days, more than 20 cigarettes, 2.4% of boys and 2.0% of girls report this frequency of the use of cigarettes. Variations between regions and different types of school are not relevant and only gymnasium students have reported somewhat lower daily use of over 20 cigarettes in the last month (1.0%). Slightly higher percentage of young people report smoking 11 to 20 cigarettes everyday,

during the last 30 days (3.4%). Students from Central Serbia in significantly lower percentage consume 11 to 20 cigarettes everyday, 2.7% of adolescents from Central Serbia report this smoking frequency, while the values among students from Vojvodina and Belgrade are 4.3% and 4.5%, respectively (Graph 6).

**Graph 6.** Frequency and the number of smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Smoking frequency of six or more cigarettes per day during the last 30 days was reported by more boys (10.2%), than girls (8.7%). Gymnasium students in the smallest extent report smoking 6 or more cigarettes per day, during the last 30 days (6.1%). On the other hand, daily use of 6 or more cigarettes is more often present among the students of vocational-professional (10.9%) and vocational-handcraft secondary schools (8.2%). When the size of the area is concerned, the highest percentage of students who have reported this smoking frequency is in the rural areas (12.5%). On the other hand, students from bigger and smaller cities in lower percentage report smoking so often (9.2% in both cases).

In regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) a significant fall in tobacco consumption in the last 30 days among adolescents is noticed. Percentage of students who have smoked at least one cigarette in the last 30 days in Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad, has fallen from 31.0%, in the year 2005 to 22.1% in the year 2008. A similar situation occurs when it comes to daily smoking of cigarettes in the last 30 days, while in the year 2005, 22.0% of students from the big cities smoked regularly in the last 30 days, that percentage, in the year 2008, is 14.8%.

## Age at first cigarette

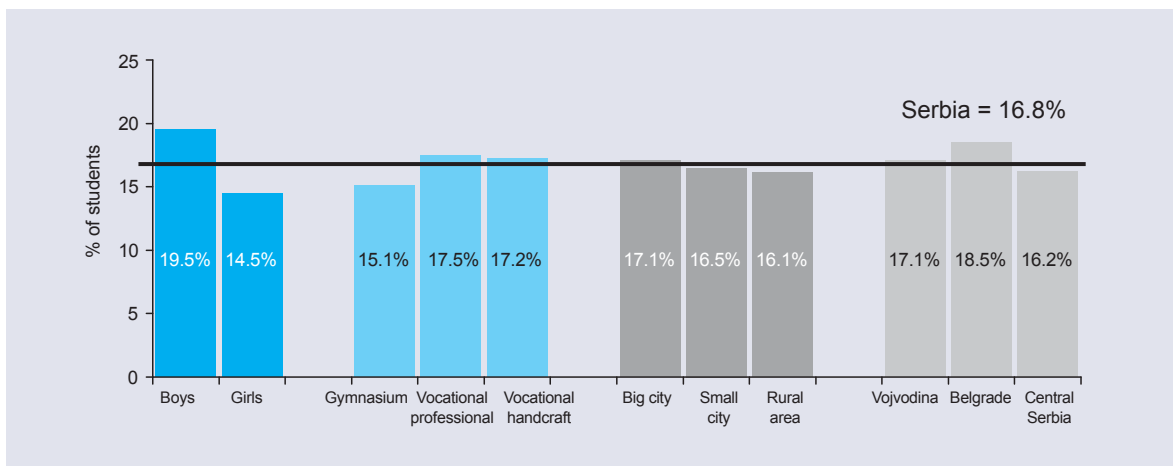
Young people, who start smoking early in their lives, are in great risks of becoming daily smokers nicotine dependents later in their lives.

Very important indicator is the percentage of young people who have tried cigarettes for the first time at the age of 13 and younger and the percentage of young people who have tried cigarettes at the age of 14 and younger.

Troubling data is that every fourth student (26.6%) has tried smoking cigarettes at 14 years or younger, while 16.8% of students have tried smoking at 13 years or younger. Students of vocational-professional

secondary schools and vocational-handcraft secondary schools start using tobacco at a younger age in higher percentage compared to the gymnasium students. Also, students from Vojvodina start smoking a bit earlier than their peers from other regions. Boys start smoking at a bit earlier age compared to the girls. There are noticeably more boys (19.5%) than girls (14.5%) who have tried smoking for the first time at the age of 13 and younger (Graph 7). Percentage of boys who have tried cigarettes at 14 years or younger is significantly higher than the percentage of girls, 29.5% to 24.2%.

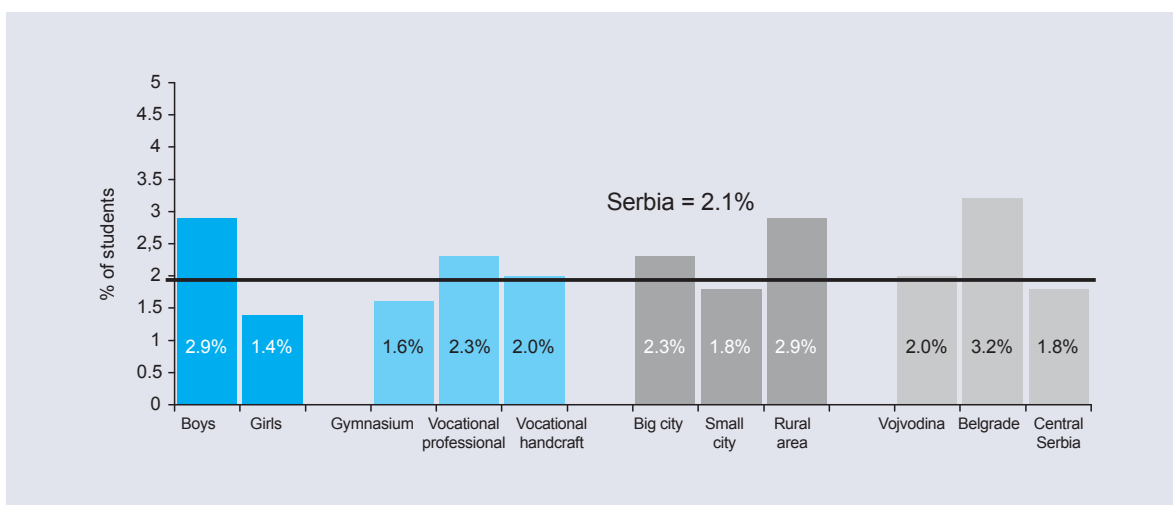
**Graph 7.** Students who have smoked their first cigarette at the age of 13 and younger, Serbia, 2008 (%)



When it comes to the age of starting daily tobacco use, the majority of students report to have started smoking every day at the age of 15 or 16, (7.7% and 3.7%, respectively). However 3.9% of young people have started the daily use of cigarettes earlier, at the age of 14 or younger.

Around 2.1% of students have started the daily use of cigarettes at the age of 13 or younger. Even when it comes to the daily use of tobacco at an early age, one can notice significant differences between boys and girls. Therefore, while 2.9% of boys have started to smoke every day at the age of 13 years or younger, 1.4% of girls did that. Also, students from the rural areas start daily tobacco use much earlier, 2.9% of adolescents from the rural areas have started to smoke everyday at the age of 13 or younger, while 2.3% of students from the big cities and 1.8% of students from the small cities have done that (Graph 8).

**Graph 8.** Students who have started daily cigarette smoking with 13 years and younger, Serbia, 2008 (%)



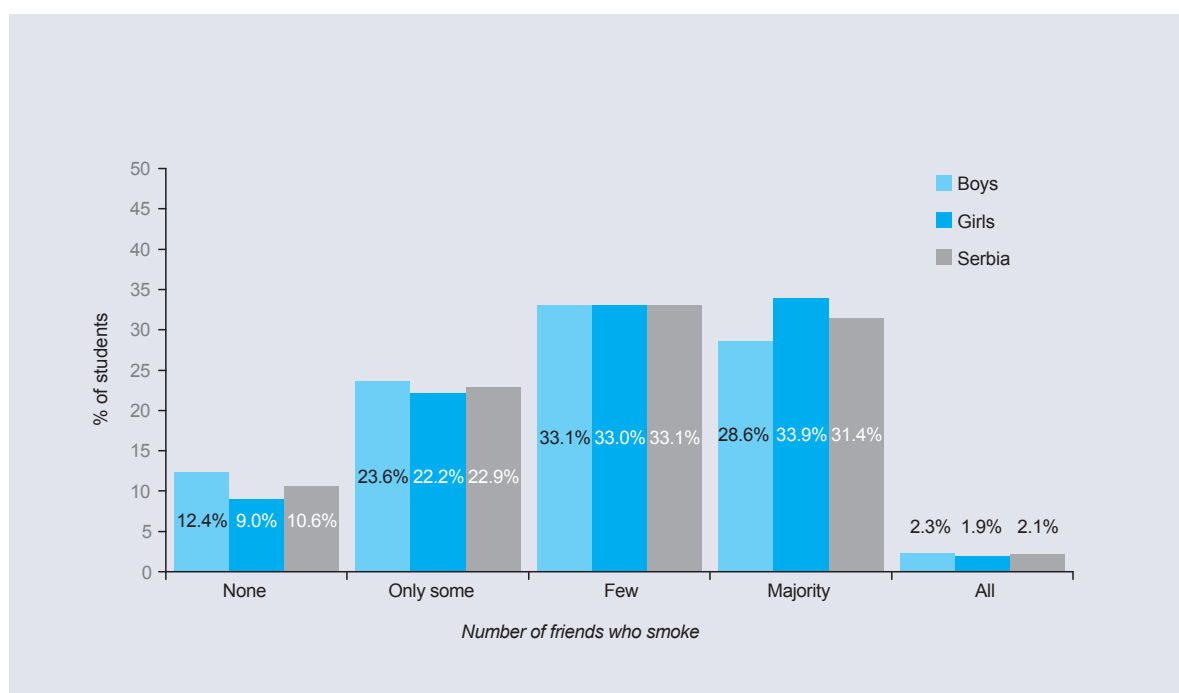
## Cigarette smoking among friends and older siblings

Relationship with peers is of great importance for the emotional and social development of the adolescent. Rejection, that is, preventing an adolescent to become a member of a group, is a very painful experience in this part of life. Teenagers are trying to adjust to their peers and it is natural that they want to be included and don't want to be left apart. The desire to belong to a certain group is fulfilled through friendship. In the crucial period of life, when transferring from childhood to adolescence, peer pressure, desire for self-affirmation, desire to be accepted in a group, as well as to be "cool" are often the reasons for which the young people accept that first offered cigarette.

Students were asked the questions: "How many of your friends, do you think smoke?" and "Do any of your older siblings smoke?"

The results of the survey show that as many as 89.4% of students of the first grade of secondary schools in Serbia report that at least one of his/her friends smokes, while every third (33.1%) has an older sibling that uses tobacco. The higher percentage of students from big cities reports that at least one of their friends smokes (92.1%) compared to their peers from small cities and rural areas. Higher percentage of girls report having at least one friend who smokes cigarettes (91.0%) compared to the boys (87.6%) (Graph 9).

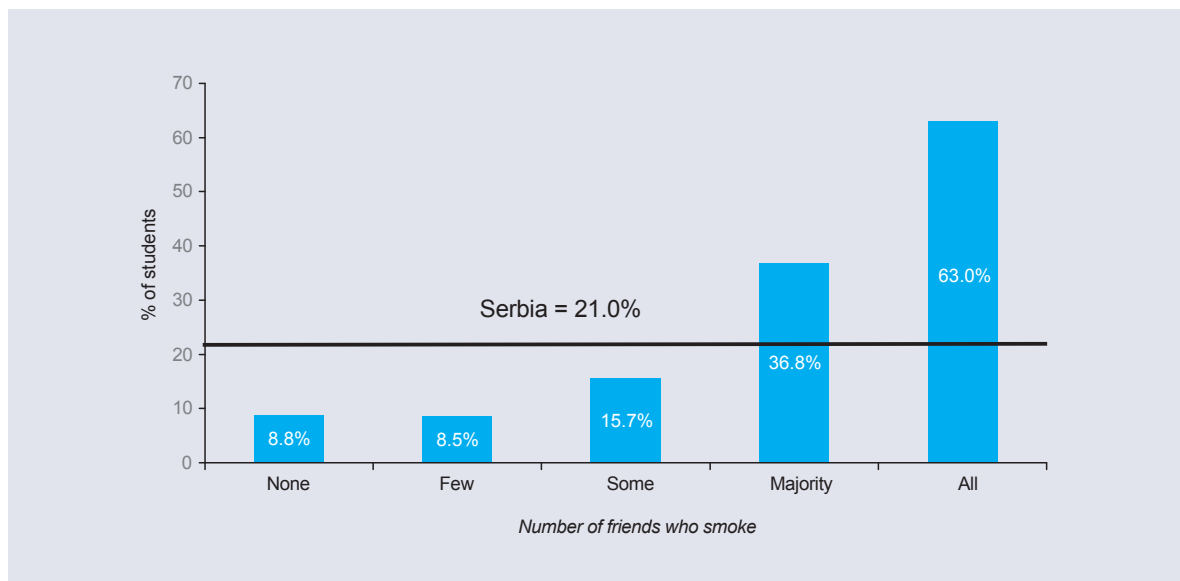
**Graph 9.** Number of friends who smoke, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



The correlation between students who smoke cigarettes and whose friends or siblings smoke is emphasized. There is as many as 63.0% of students, whose all friends smoke, who have smoked in the last 30 days, while that percentage is only 8.8% among students who claim that none of their friends smoke (Graph 10).



**Graph 10.** Students who have smoked in the last 30 days, according to the number of friends who use tobacco, Serbia, 2008 (%)



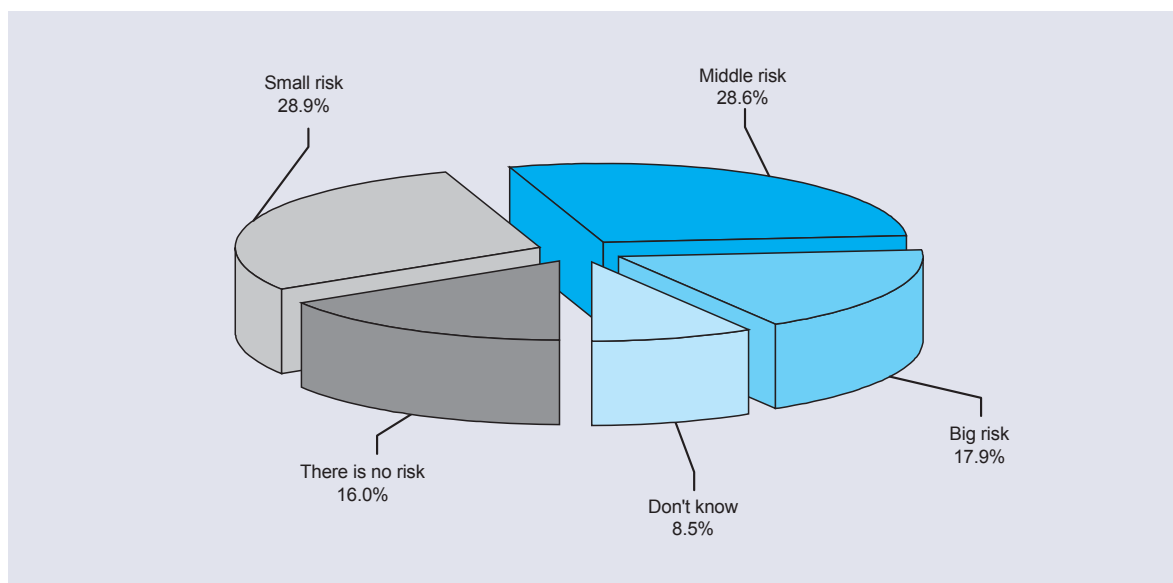
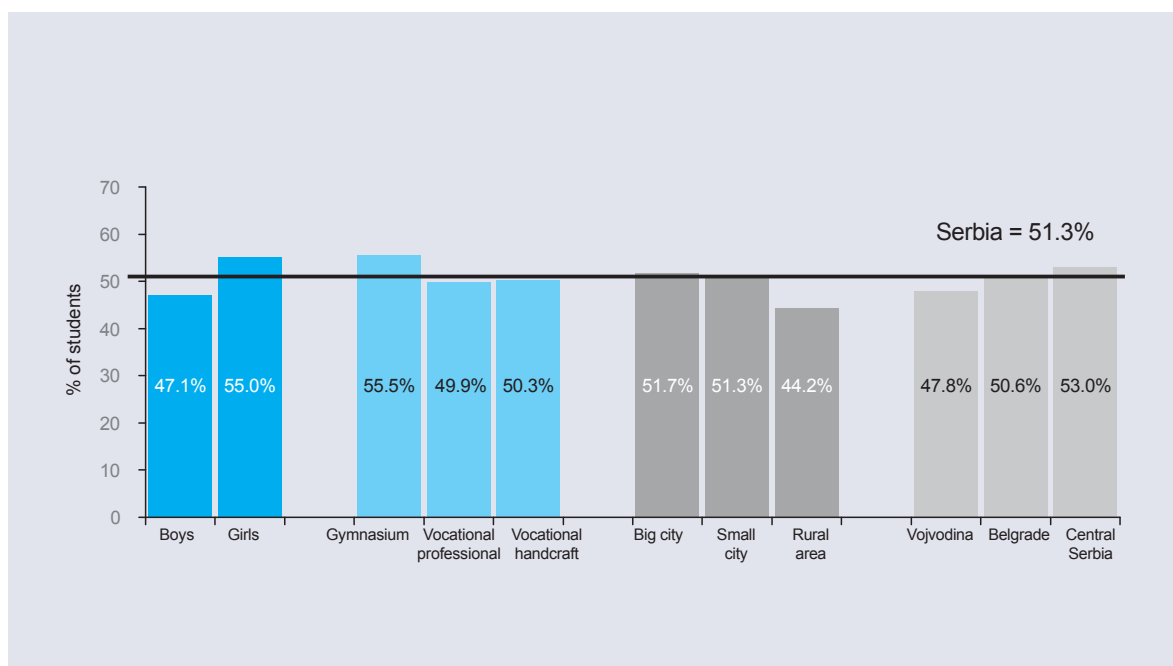
## Perceived risk of tobacco use

Smoking is one of the leading risk factors for developing the most often chronic non-contagious diseases, for the bad outcomes when it comes to the health of children and the health of young people, as well as injuries, death outcomes and the pollution of the environment. Also, numerous surveys show that young men who smoke show aggressive behavior more often, while as the young women who smoke more often develop tendencies towards depression.

Students of the first grade of secondary school were asked: “To what extent do you consider that people risk of harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they smoke cigarettes occasionally, or if they smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day?”

The risks of smoking cigarettes occasionally are noticeable to 75.4% of students (the risk of people harming themselves, physically or in other ways). However, the majority of adolescents consider that risk to be of small importance (28.9%) or moderated (28.6%). Only 17.9% see the great risks of occasional use of tobacco (Graph 11). Girls and gymnasium students and the young people of Belgrade are in a much higher percentage aware of the risks of occasional smoking. It is a positive fact that the awareness of the harmful consequences of the occasional use of tobacco is much more present among the students from regional centers, than it was the case in the year 2005. While every third pupil of Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad considered that there is no risk from the occasional tobacco use in the year 2005, the value of the indicator in the year 2008 is 18.3%.

A bit higher percentage of students considers that smoking one or more packs of cigarettes per day has the risk of people harming themselves, 84.9%. Out of that, smoking 20 and more cigarettes per day, seems to have big risks to 51.3% of students (Graph 12). The situation is similar like in noticing risks from the occasional tobacco use, girls, in significantly higher percentage, notice the risks from smoking one or more packs of cigarettes per day (88.9%, out of which big risk is noticed by 55.0%) compared to boys (79.9%, out of which big risk is noticed by 47.1%). Also, gymnasium students report more that the risks exist when consummating one or more packs of cigarettes per day (88.2%) than the students of other types of schools.

**Graph 11.** Students according to risk awareness due to occasional use of tobacco, Serbia, 2008 (%)**Graph 12.** Students who think that smoking 20 or more cigarettes per day is a big risk, Serbia, 2008 (%)

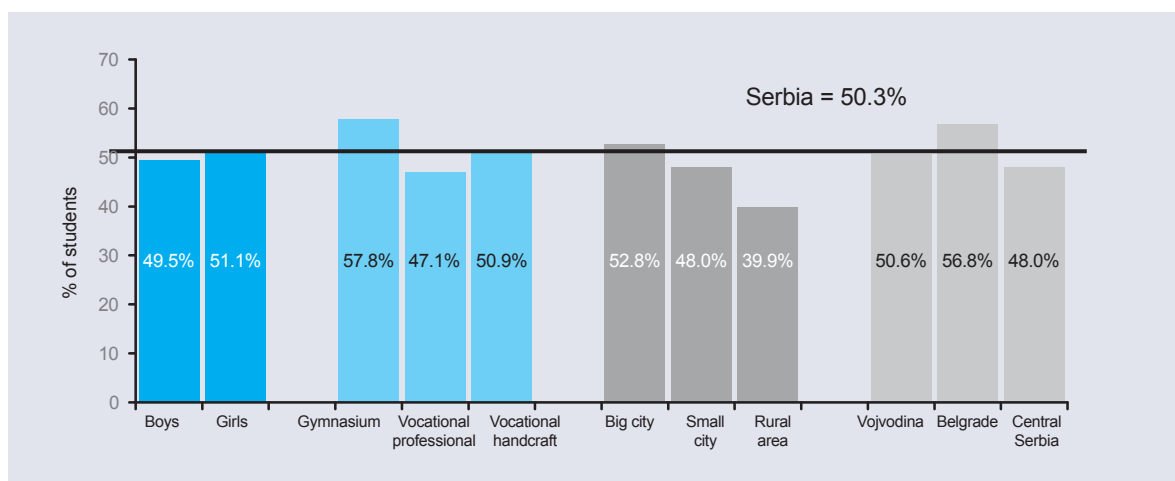
Although the awareness of the harmful consequences of smoking one or more packs of cigarettes per day is still not widely spread among adolescents, it is significantly bigger in cities than it was in the year 2005. While in the year 2005 only 77.0% of students were aware of the risks, in the year 2008 those risks are noticeable to 85.6% of young people from Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad. Also, a positive trend is noticeable when it comes to the percentage of students who find that risk to be big, while a bit more than a half of young people (51.8%) from the regional centers report that the risk from smoking one or more packs of cigarettes is big. In the year 2005 it was only noticeable to 39.8% of young people.

## Availability of cigarettes

Numerous surveys have shown that the availability of cigarettes and the low prices of tobacco products can encourage young people to start smoking. Even though the possibilities to buy tobacco and tobacco products, as well as their advertising, are not the only factors that can influence young people to start with the use of tobacco, they are certainly not negligible and the higher price of cigarettes as well as making them more difficult to obtain can significantly reduce the percentage of smokers among children and young people.

According to the tobacco law (“Sluzbeni Glasnik” RS number 101/05 and 90/07) that came into power in the year 2005, it is forbidden to sell tobacco products to minors, as well as to produce and sell candy, snacks and toys shaped like tobacco products. Also, according to this law, it is not allowed to advertise tobacco and tobacco products and it is obligatory to print clear and visible warning about the harmful consequences of smoking on health on each individual and group package of the tobacco products. Unfortunately, even though advertising cigarettes is in the large extent forbidden, tobacco companies still find their ways of advertising their products in an indirect, hidden way, like, for example, including their products in movies and fashion shows, by sponsoring cultural events and similar.

**Graph 13.** Students who believe that, if they would like to, they could obtain cigarettes very easily, Serbia, 2008 (%)



According to the survey data, despite the restrictions and precautions, adolescents claim that the cigarettes, if they wish to obtain them, are available to them. Significantly high percentage of students of the first grade of secondary schools report that they can obtain cigarettes easily if they wish to (66.7%); out of which cigarettes would be available to every second student (50.3%), while 16.4% consider that they could obtain cigarettes very easily if they would wish to. Gymnasium students, those who live in the regional centers, especially Belgrade, say that they could very easily obtain cigarettes in higher percentage compared to the other students in Serbia (Graph 13). On the other hand, only 6.8% of young people think that even if they would want to obtain cigarettes it would be impossible. Significantly higher percentage of boys (9.5%) than girls (4.4%) thinks that obtaining cigarettes would be impossible. Also, students of vocational-professional secondary schools consider in significantly higher percentage that obtaining cigarettes would be impossible (7.8%) compared to the students of other types of schools. However,

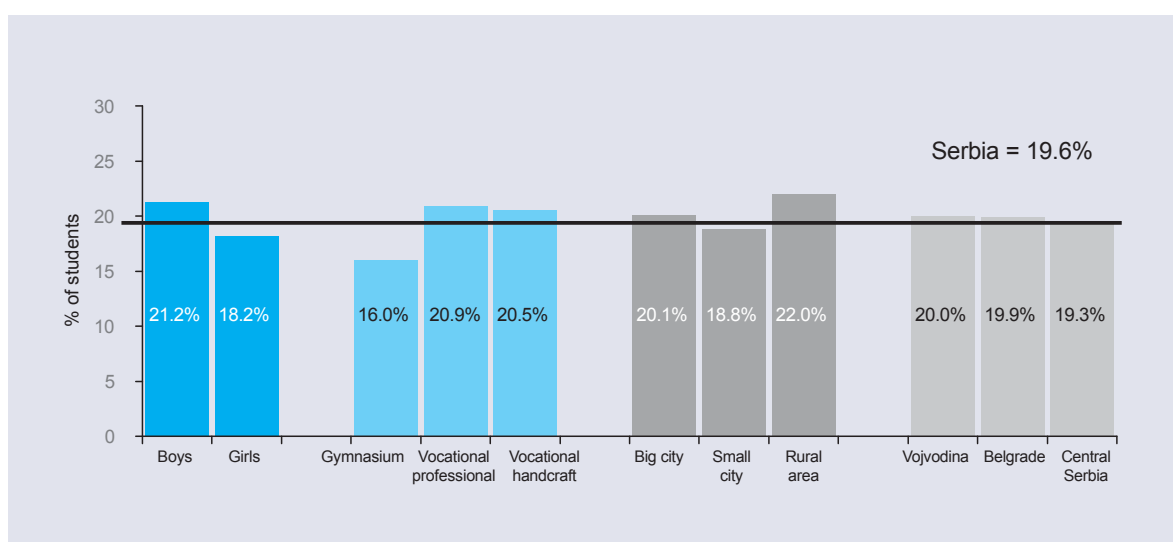
regardless of the high values, a positive trend is noticeable when it comes to the availability of cigarettes to the students who live in the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad). While in the year 2005 as many as 86.0% of students reported that they can obtain cigarettes easily (out of which 72.5% very easily), in the year 2008 71.8% of students reported that (out of which 56.1% very easily).

## Parental approval or disapproval

Parents' attitudes towards smoking are very important. If the parents send to their children and young people a clear message of disapproving smoking, there is a smaller possibility that their children will start to smoke. Students were asked a question: "If you would want to smoke (or if you already smoke), do you think your parents would approve of it?"

Percentage of students who think that their parents would approve or are already approving smoking is very high. As many as every fifth student (19.6%) believes that their father or mother would allow them, or already allows them tobacco consumption (Graph 14).

**Graph 14.** Students who believe that father or mother would allow them to smoke, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Adolescents consider in higher percentage that their mother would allow them to smoke. In that way, as many as 16.1% of students believe that their mother would allow them, or already allows them to smoke (13.9%).

Boys, in higher percentage than girls, consider that their parents would approve or already approve them smoking. Distribution according to the type of school indicates that gymnasium students in slightly lower percentage believe that father or mother would allow them to smoke (16.0%), compared to the students from vocational-professional (20.9%) and vocational-handcraft secondary schools (20.5%). Regional differences are not significant.

A positive trend is noticed in the regional centers when it comes to parental approval of smoking compared to the year 2005. Percentage of students who consider that their mother or father would allow them to smoke has fallen significantly; while in the year 2005, 20.9% considered that their father and 26.7% that their mother would allow them to smoke, in the year 2008 these percentages rate 15.0% and 16.5%, respectively.

# УПОТРЕБА ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION АЛКОХОЛА

Alcohol is considered a legal drug in most of the world countries. Social attitude towards alcohol varies from wide acceptance, through control of the places where one can buy and drink it, up to complete prohibition in the Muslim countries. Alcohol consumption is a part of tradition, customs and culture of many nationalities. Even moderated amounts of alcohol can create an illusion of increased possibilities, relaxation; they create an illusion of much better mental and physical strength. People most often drink because of that effect of the alcohol, but the fact is that alcohol is a poison and that it functions as the nerve system depressor. Proofs of the damaging effects of alcohol on human health, especially on the health of young people, are documented in professional literature.

In Serbia, drinking alcoholic beverages is a socially acceptable behavior, and the fact that there is a high level of tolerance towards this phenomenon contributes to wide outspread of this habit among the population of adults and young people.

In our conditions, experimenting with alcohol starts very early in the adolescence, when great physical and psychological changes occur and at the time when young people are particularly sensitive to the effects of alcohol. A certain number of young people chooses to drink in special circumstances (on parties, when going out in a club, discotheque, etc.) that is, in certain situations which maybe provoke too much excitement that they do not know how to control, boredom which they do not know how to surpass, or imitating the grownups they look up to. At the beginning of experimenting, there is still a dose of control of how much and when do you drink, but that borderline can easily be crossed when young people start drinking in order to eliminate bad feelings they can not deal with differently, which are the consequence of the problems that occur inevitably (problems in school, disagreements with parents, breakups with boyfriend/girlfriend, low self-esteem, insecurity, tension). Sometimes, it is a question of popularity among peers, based on how much one can drink. Also, a physical resistance to the effects of alcohol starts to develop and the body asks for even more alcohol in order to achieve the same effect, which is an important warning sign that the dependence is being developed, despite the early age. Alcohol consumption at an early age can open the door to other forms of addictions.

In the last couple of years certain efforts have been made when it comes to protection of young people from alcohol in the aspects of law regulations. The age limit for selling and serving alcohol beverages in the year 2005 was moved from 16 to 18 years. Also, in the year 2005, it was forbidden to advertise alcohol products in Serbia, including imitation of drinking. Ban on advertising is partially referred to advertisement of beer and wine, that is, it is allowed to advertise these products in the period from 18 hours to 6 hours in the morning, as long as it is never in the programmes that address directly children and young people. According to the same law it is forbidden for producers of the alcohol beverages (including

wine producers) to sponsor athletes and sporting events, minors, as well as persons whose public are mostly minors. It is also forbidden to advertise beer and wine on an open space that is close to institutions that are meant for children and young people, less than 100 meters of distance.

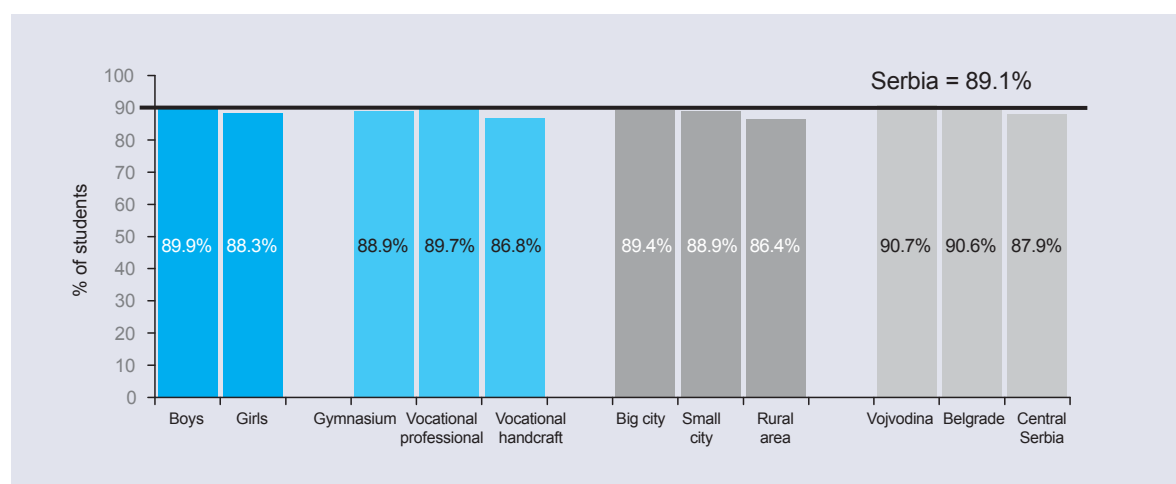
Alcohol consumption, when it comes to young people, is very specific. Every use of alcohol among young people is considered an abuse and has great consequences on the growth and development of children and young people. One of the main goals of the survey was to show frequency of alcohol consumption among young people of both sexes, to define particularities of alcohol consumption and to find the connection between alcohol consumption and cigarette smoking as well as use of other drugs.

Analyzed indicators in this section of the report are: lifetime use of alcohol, regular use of alcohol during life (consuming it 40 or more times), use of alcohol in the last 12 months, use of alcohol in the last 30 days, availability of alcohol, drunkenness and the place in which alcohol was consumed the last time, as well as drinking 5 or more drinks in a row, so called «binge drinking» or excessive drinking.

## Lifetime use of alcohol

Nine out of ten adolescents has at least once during their lives had one or several alcoholic beverages (89.1%). Boys have tried drinking alcohol in the slightly higher percentage than girls, 89.9% of boys, to 88.3% of girls claims to have tried alcohol at least once in their lives. Gymnasium students and students of vocational-professional secondary schools report having consumed alcohol more often during their lives compared to the students of vocational-handcraft secondary schools. The highest percentage of young people who has consumed alcohol is in Vojvodina (90.7%), than Belgrade (90.6%), while the smallest number of adolescents from Central Serbia (87.9%) has, at least once in their lives, consumed alcohol. Students from big and small cities more often try drinking alcohol, compared to the students from rural areas.

**Graph 15.** Students who have had at least one alcoholic beverage during life, Serbia, 2008 (%)



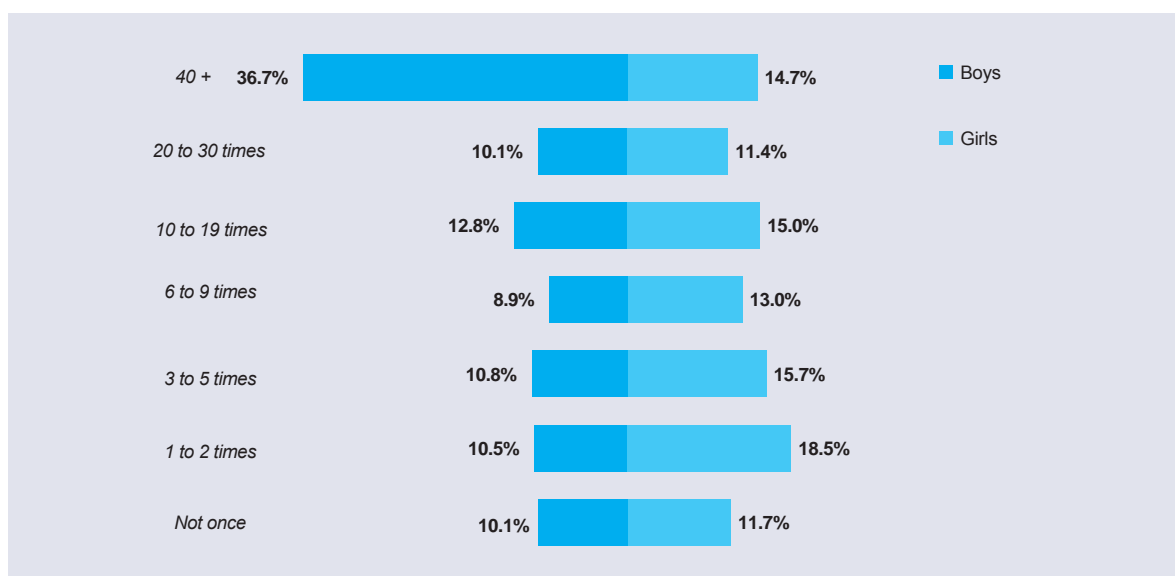
When comparing data to those from the year 2005, a slight fall in the percentage of students who have experimented with alcohol in the regional centers of Serbia (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) is noticed. While in the year 2005, 92.9% of young people from the big cities have tried drinking at least once in their lives; in the year 2008 89.2% of students do so.

Out of all students who have tried drinking alcohol during their lives, not all of them drink it regularly. Therefore, those students who have consumed alcohol beverages 40 or more times during their lives can be considered more than regular users.

One quarter of students (24.4%) claim to have used so far 40 or more times alcohol, which can be interpreted as the sign of regular use. A significantly higher percentage of boys (36.7%) is considered to be a regular user of alcoholic beverages (used alcohol 40 or more times during lifetime) compared to the girls (14.4%) (Graph 16).

The highest percentage of young people who have had at least 40 alcoholic beverages during their lives is found in Vojvodina, 30.0%, while the percentages in Belgrade and Central Serbia are significantly lower, 23.8% and 23.1%, respectively.

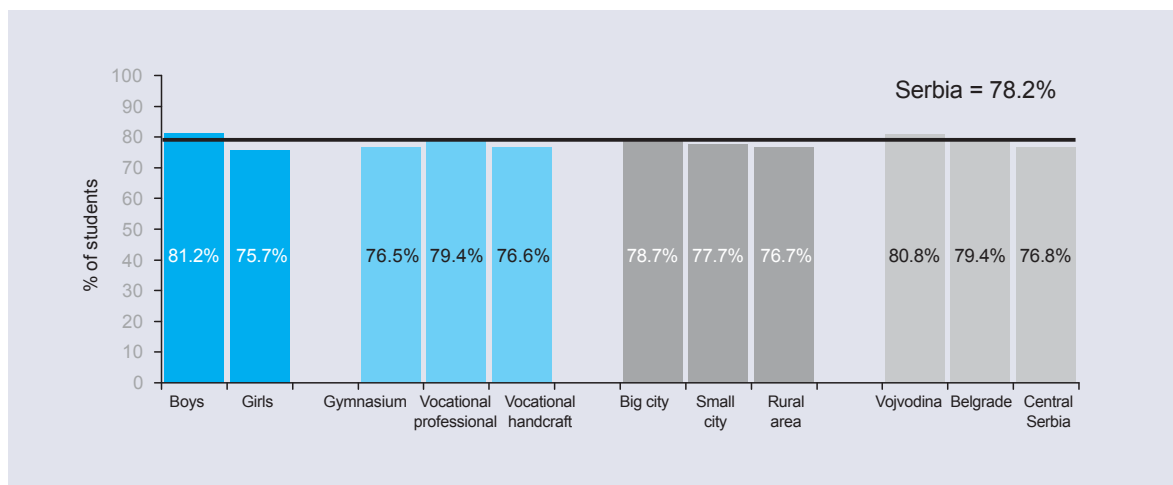
**Graph 16.** Number of times in life when secondary school students were drinking alcohol, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Similar to the lifetime use of alcohol, a descending trend is noticeable in regular alcohol consumption, with even more emphasized differences. Therefore, while in the year 2005 every third pupil from the regional centers in Serbia (33.0%) has reported to have consumed alcohol at least 40 times during life, in the year 2008 23.6% of young people report that. These data show that, despite the curiosity, which is still on the relatively high level, as well as the decision to try alcohol, a significantly lower percentage of young people continue to consummate it.

## Alcohol consumption in the last 12 months

Out of all students who have consumed alcohol sometimes during their lives, not all of them have consumed it during the last 12 months that forewent to the survey. Therefore, during the last 12 months, three quarters of students (78.2%) have had at least one alcoholic beverage. Gender distribution corresponds to the distribution of alcohol consumption sometimes during life, the percentage of boys who have reported alcohol consumption in the last 12 months is significantly higher than the percentage of girls, 81.2% to 75.5%. Young people from Vojvodina have, in significantly higher percentage, consumed alcohol during the last year, compared to the young people from other regions, which also corresponds and follows the distribution of the previously analyzed indicators (Graph 17).

**Graph 17.** Alcohol consumption in the last 12 months, Serbia, 2008 (%)

A descending trend in the alcohol consumption is noticeable during the last year in the regional centers in Serbia. The percentage of students from Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad who have had at least one alcoholic beverage during the previous year has fallen from 82.6% in the year 2005 to 78.1% in the year 2008.

## Alcohol consumption in the last 30 days

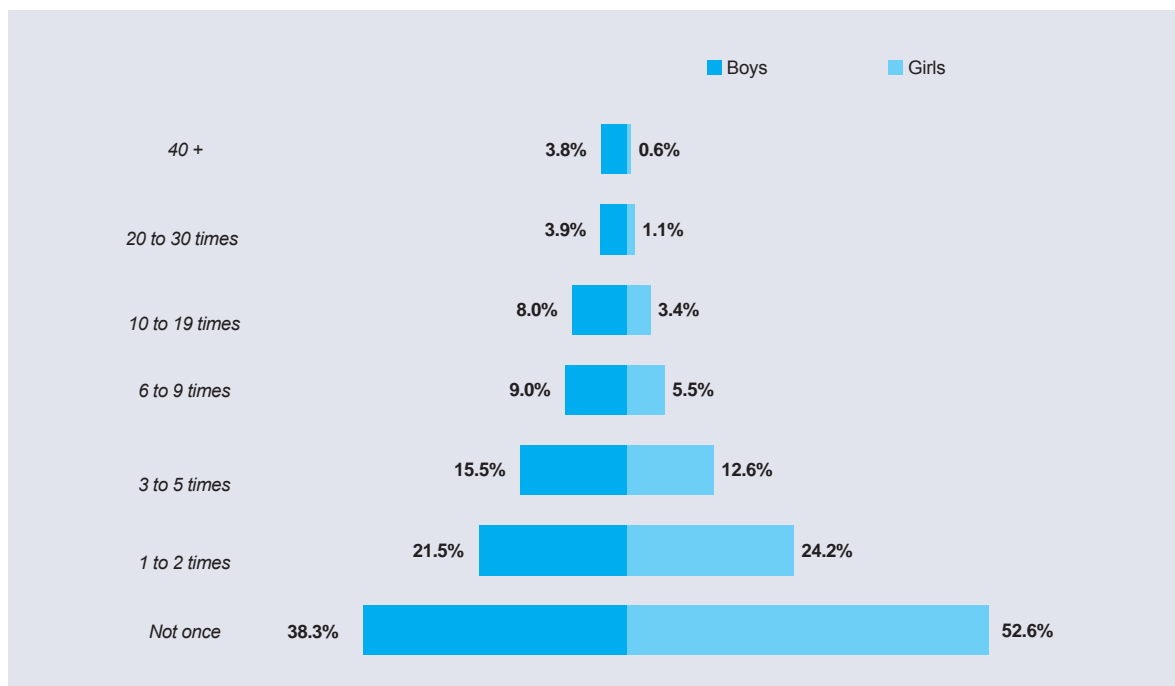
More than one half of students (54.0%) have had at least one alcoholic beverage during the 30 days prior to the survey. Gymnasium students and students of vocational-handcraft secondary schools have in smaller extent reported having at least one alcoholic beverage in the last month compared to the students of vocational-professional secondary schools. Young people from Vojvodina have in significantly lower percentage consumed alcohol during the last month; as many as 60.4% of adolescents from Vojvodina report having at least one alcoholic beverage, while 53.7% of young people from Belgrade and 51.3% from Central Serbia report that. (Graph 18)

**Graph 18.** Alcohol consumption in the last 30 days, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Boys have consumed alcohol in higher percentage than girls and they were also drinking bigger amounts of alcohol. While 61.7% of boys have had alcohol in the last 30 days, 47.4% of girls did so (Graph 19).

**Graph 19.** Number of times alcohol was consumed in the last 30 days, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



As a critical measure of the amount of consumed alcohol in the last month a percentage of young people who have had six or more alcoholic beverages during the 30 days was taken. Every sixth pupil of the first grade of secondary schools in Serbia reports precisely this alcohol consumption prevalence during the last month (17.1%), significantly more boys (24.7%) than girls (10.6%). As many as every fifth pupil from Vojvodina has had at least 6 alcoholic beverages in the last 30 days (21.4%), which is more than young people from Belgrade (14.7%) or Central Serbia (16.0%).

Young people report that in the last 30 days they were most often drinking beer (47.2%) and wine (43.6%), while somewhat lower percentage has consumed spirits (31.4%), significantly more in Vojvodina, than in other regions.

Two out of five adolescents have consumed alcohol one, two or three days, during the last month. This data is not referred to the successive abuse of alcohol, but to consuming alcoholic beverages at least once during one, two or three days, in the last month. Boys have done that more often than girls, and also, in Vojvodina, alcohol was more often consumed compared to Belgrade and Central Serbia. During 30 days prior to the survey, 8.6% of boys and 5.8% of girls have consumed alcohol once a week. Regional distribution of alcohol consumption once a week indicates that the greatest number of students from Vojvodina have done that, 9.7% and significantly smaller number of students from Belgrade and Central Serbia, 6.8% and 6.1%, respectively. On one average day alcohol was consumed, 29.9% of young people have had 1 to 2 drinks. More than 10 drinks during one day have had as many as 6.7% of boys and 8.6% of young people from the rural areas.

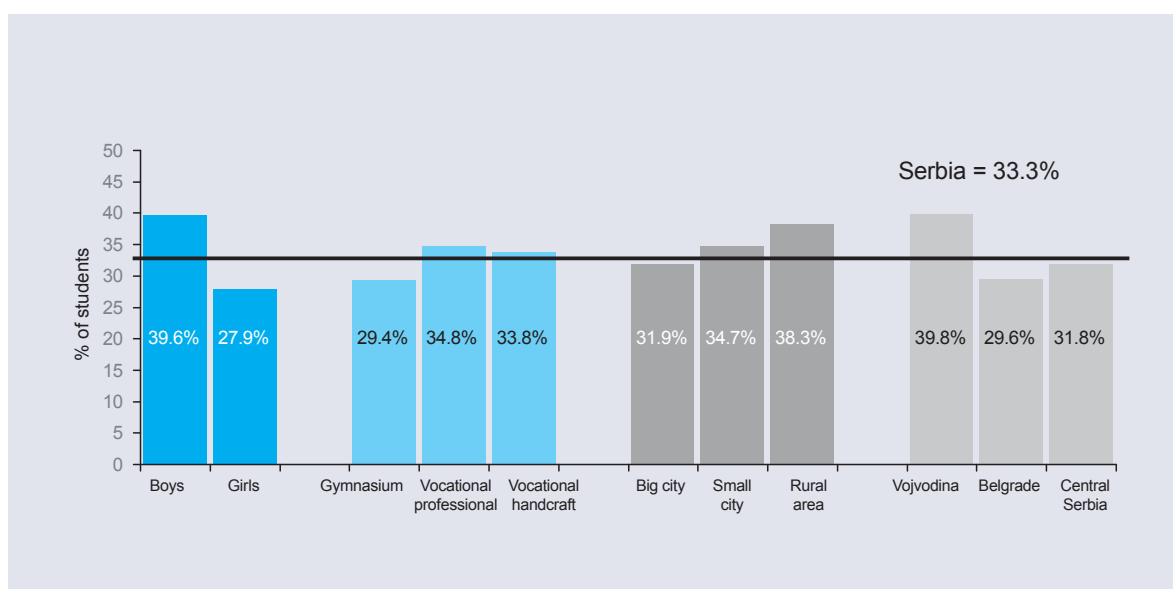
A positive trend is noticed when it comes to alcohol abuse. Compared to the year 2005, the number of young people in the regional centers who have consumed alcohol in the last 30 days became significantly

smaller; the percentage went from 72.3% in the year 2005, to 53.2% in 2008. Similar to that, the number of young people who have had, in the last 30 days, six or more alcoholic beverages, is smaller. While this prevalence on the monthly level was as much as 36.5% in the year 2005, 15.2% of young people from Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad drink at least six drinks per month in the year 2008.

## Alcohol consumption in the last 7 days

One third of students have reported that the last occasion in which they have had alcohol was during the 7 days prior to the survey and significantly more boys (39.6%), than girls (27.9%). Also, regional differences are noticed, as well as differences according to the type of school (Graph 20).

**Graph 20.** Alcohol consumption in the last 7 days, Serbia, 2008 (%)



In the last occasion, 42.7% of the examinees have had beer, most often boys (59.8%), students from vocational-professional secondary schools (47.6%) and students who go to schools in the rural areas (56.6%). On the other hand, as much as 39.0% of girls have had wine in the last occasion (unlike 21.4% of boys). 14.5% of adolescents have consumed spirits. That percentage is significantly higher in Vojvodina (20.4%) compared to the other Serbian regions. The lowest percentage of students has had alcopops, when last time consuming alcohol (7.5%).

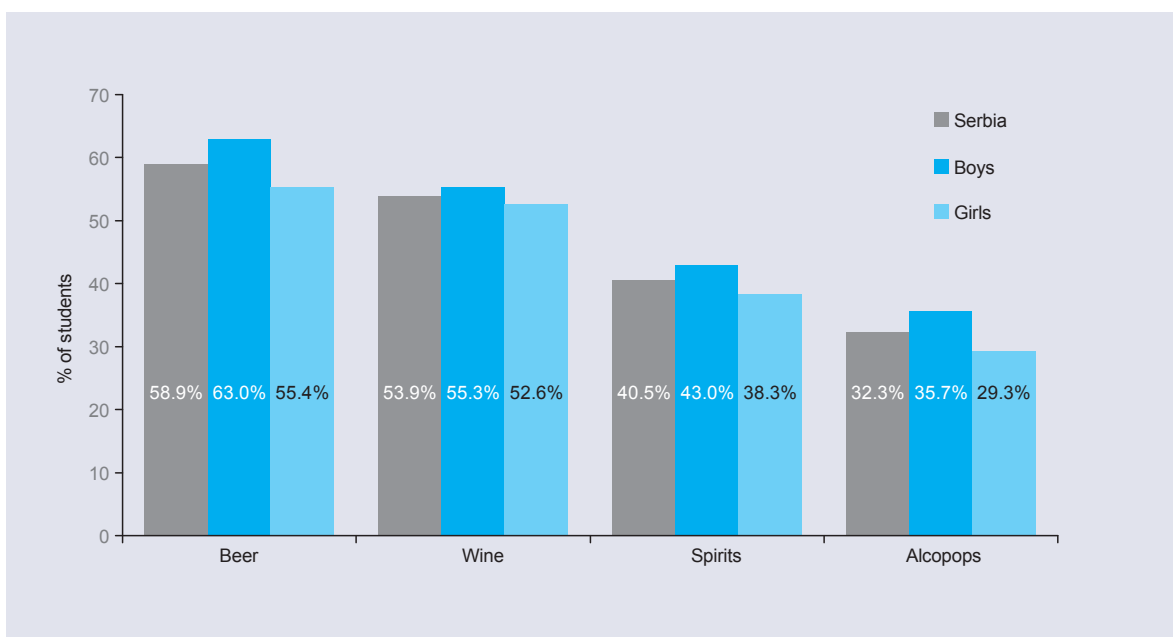
## Availability of alcohol

The law of the protection of consumers (“Sluzbeni Glasnik” RS 79/05) in the part regarding protection of minors, in the Article 8 says: “It is forbidden to sell and serve alcoholic beverages to minors.”

In the survey, students were asked a question: „How difficult do you think it would be for you to obtain the following items, if you would want to? – Beer, alcopops (mixed beverages with 5% of alcohol, for example Breezer, etc.), wine, spirits (brandy, scotch, cognac and similar) including cocktails“.

However, despite the bans and restrictions, more than a half of students think that they could very easily buy some of the alcoholic beverages, if they would want to. Therefore, as many as 58.9% consider that, if they would want to, they could buy beer very easily, 53.9% wine, while 40.5% of students think that spirits are easily available to them. One third of adolescents (32.3%) believe that, if they would want to, they can very easily buy alcopops (mixed beverages with the alcohol percentage of around 5%) (Graph 21).

**Graph 21.** Students who believe alcoholic beverages: beer, wine, hard liqueur and alcopops very easily obtainable, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Boys, gymnasium students and adolescents who live in Vojvodina and Belgrade in significantly higher percentage believe that they could obtain alcoholic beverages very easily, if they would want to.

Despite the fact that these results in the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) are a bit higher compared to the total level of Serbia (63.2% for wine, 56.0% for beer and 45.4% for spirits), a significant fall, compared to the year 2005 is noticeable, when 73.3% of students from big cities considered that they could obtain beer very easily, 71.4% wine, and as many as 62.1% spirits, if they would want to.

## Purchase of alcohol

A bit less than one third of students have reported buying alcohol in the last 30 days, outside facilities that serve alcohol, for their own consumption. Young people most often buy beer, 29.7% of students have reported buying beer at least once in the last 30 days. Boys have, in much higher percentage, bought beer than girls, as many as 44.1% of boys have bought beer at least once, while 17.2% of girls did so.

Every third pupil (33.6%) has had at least one beer within the facility that serves alcohol, during the last 30 days. Students have in the highest percentage had one to two beers (18.1%), while a more frequent use of beer at home was reported in smaller number of cases. Boys, students of vocational-professional secondary schools and young people from Vojvodina have had beer at home more frequently. Wine

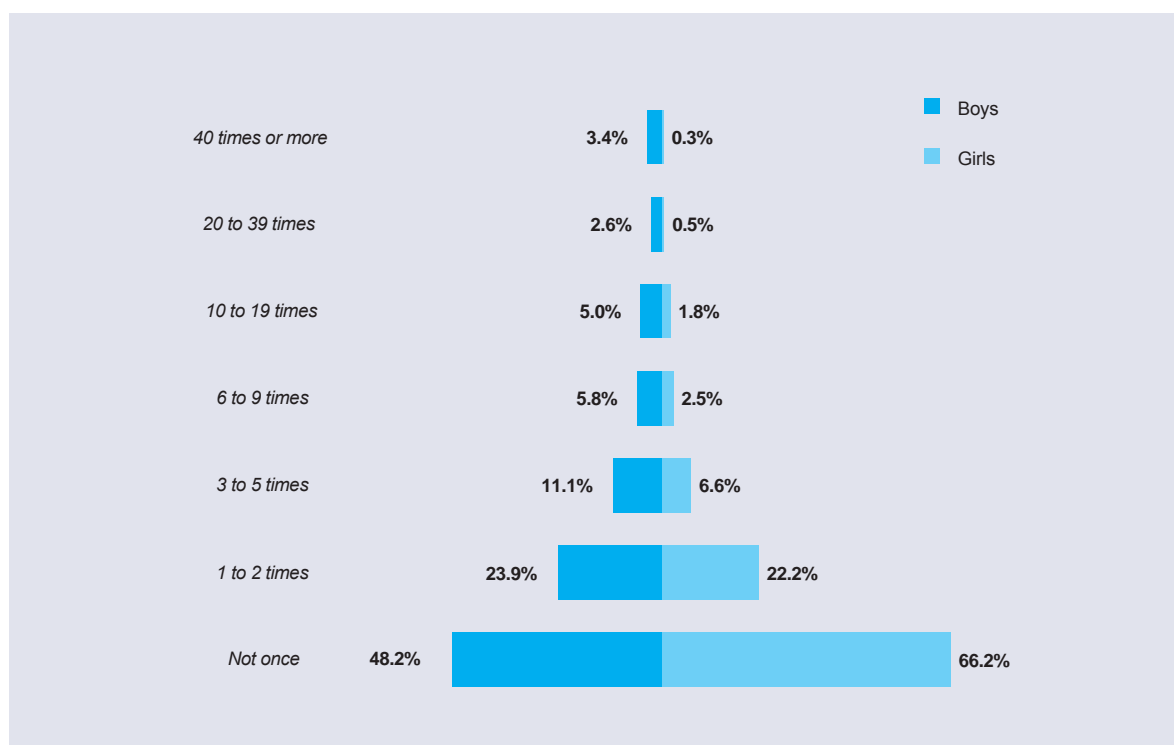
consumption, inside alcohol-serving facilities, was reported at least once in the last 30 days, by 26.0% of students, while 22.4% of young people have had at least one spirit in an alcohol-serving facility. Students from Vojvodina have had spirits in alcohol-serving facilities much more frequently, compared to the students from other regions.

## Drunkenness

Drunkenness was defined as a strong influence of an alcoholic beverage that includes instability while walking, not speaking regularly, vomiting and impossibility to remember some of the past events.

42.2% of students got drunk at least once in their lives, more boys (51.8%), than girls (33.8%). A bit less than a third of students (29.7%) got drunk at least once in the last 12 months (37.5% of boys and 23.0% of girls), while the percentage of young people who have reported being drunk at least once in the last 30 days prior to the survey is 12.9% (18.3% of boys and 8.2% of girls)(Graph 22).

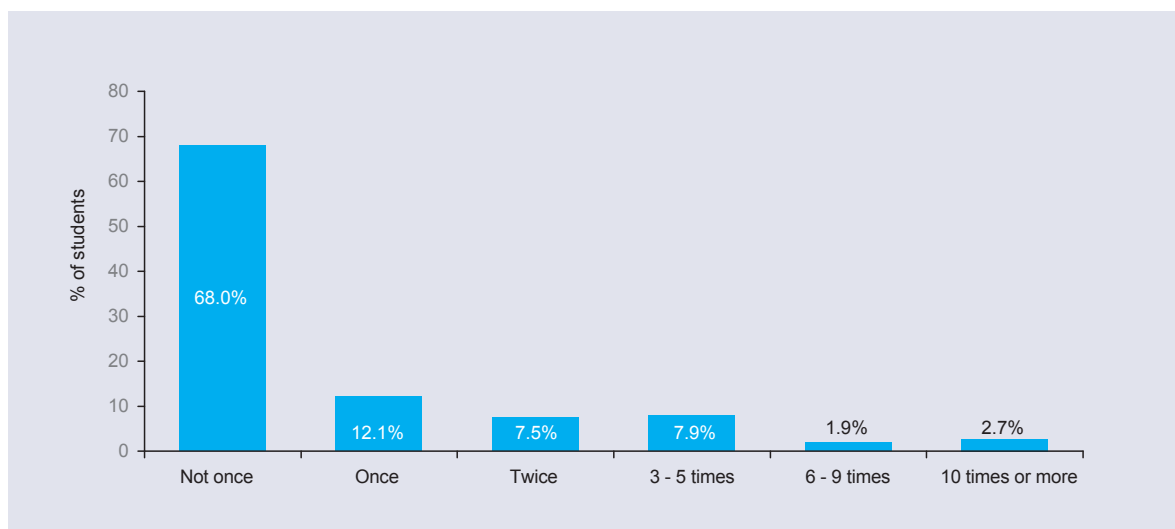
**Graph 22.** Drunkenness during life, percentage of students who got drunk at least once in their lives, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



The percentage of young people who live in the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) and who got drunk at least once in their lives is 42.6% (in the year 2005 that percentage was 66.9%). Also, a significant fall is noticeable in the percentage of adolescents who got drunk at least once in the last 12 months (from 52.7% in the year 2005 to 29.3% in the year 2008) and in the last 30 days (from 30.8% in the year 2005 to 11.3% in the year 2008).

Consuming 5 or more drinks in a row is considered drunkenness for the majority of students aged 16 years. As many as one third of students (32.0%) have, at least once during the last 30 days prior to the survey, had 5 and more drinks in a row (so called binge drinking, or excessive drinking)(Graph 23).

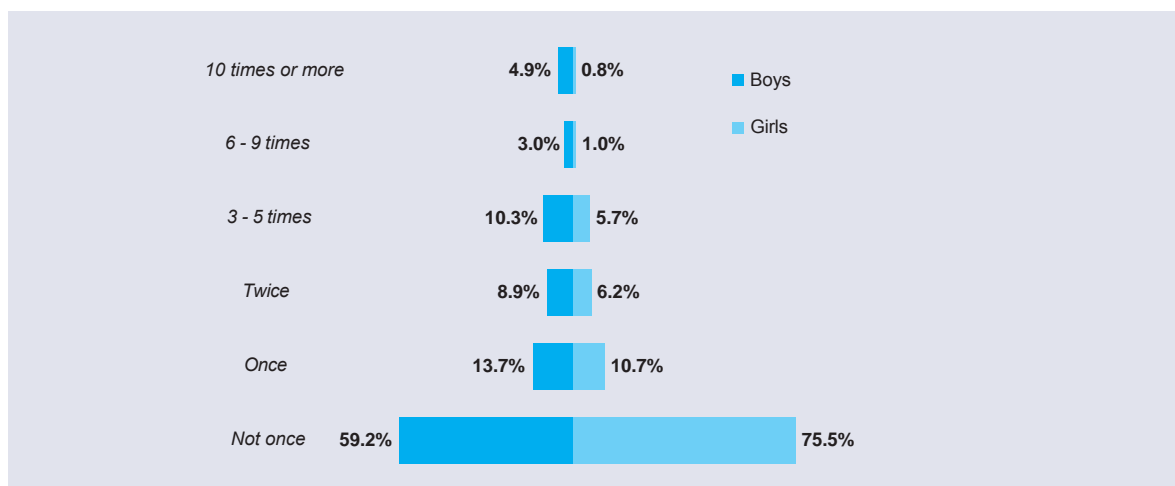
**Graph 23.** Frequency of consuming alcohol 5 or more times in a row, in the last 30 days, Serbia, 2008 (%)



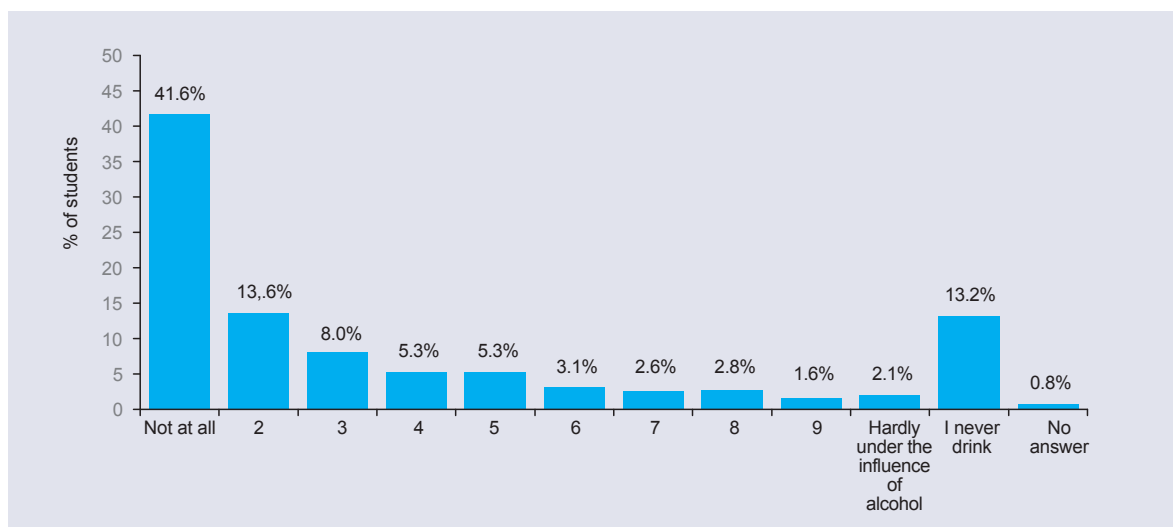
In the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad), the percentage of students who have, in the last 30 days, had 5 or more drinks in a row is 30.3%, which is significantly lower, compared to the year 2005, when that percentage was 37.3%.

Boys have, in significantly higher percentage, had at least once 5 or more drinks in a row, compared to the girls (40.8% of boys compared to the 24.5% of girls). Significant differences are noticed when it comes to the consumption prevalence. In that way, while 22.6% of boys and 16.9% of girls have reported occasional excessive drinking (1 to 2 times), more than three opportunities can be more often found among boys (18.2%), than girls (7.5%). Use of 5 or more drinks in a row 10 or more times during the last 30 days was reported by 2.7% of students, out of which more boys (4.9%), than girls (0.8%)(Graph 24).

**Graph 24.** Use of 5 or more alcoholic beverages in a row, Serbia, by gender, 2008 (%)



In the survey it was also asked how much, according to their own evaluation, on the scale from 1 (not at all) to 10 (under the great influence of alcohol, so much that they do not know what was going on) they were drunk during the last occasion in which they have consumed alcohol. Somewhat less than a half of students, (41.6%) has reported of not being drunk at all, while 2.1% of students was under heavy influence of alcohol (Graph 25).

**Graph 25.** Effects of alcohol, on the scale from 1 to 10, Serbia, 2008 (%)

Boys have been under the great influence of alcohol more often than girls. While 3.1% of boys report being under the heavy influence of alcohol, 1.3% of girls report that. Students from Vojvodina were drunk in much higher percentage during their last alcohol consumption, compared to the students from other regions.

## Age at first consuming alcohol

Along with significantly more frequent alcohol consumption, boys try alcohol in a much earlier age than girls. Therefore, every fifth boy (18.1%) has tried beer for the first time (had at least one glass/bottle/can of beer) at the age of 9 or younger, while almost twice as less girls did so (10.6%). Wine consumption most often starts at the age of 14 or older, and it is much more frequent among girls than boys. A similar situation can be seen when it comes to consuming spirits, the highest percentage of young people tries at least one glass of spirit at the age of 14 or older. However, young people from Vojvodina have in significantly higher percentage tried some spirit for the first time at the age of 14, compared to the students from other regions. Alcopops (mixed beverages with less than 5% of alcohol) are consumed much less than the other types of alcoholic beverages. 57.6% of young people have never tried alcopops, and first consumption happened, in the highest number of cases, at the age of 15 or 16.

## Perceived risk of alcohol consumption

On the question: “How likely is it that each of the next things could happen to you personally if you drink alcohol?”, as many as 58.2% of students believe that there is a possibility that they would feel relaxed, 56.2% that they would most likely be open and friendly, 49.4% happy, while 48.3% believe that there would be a possibility to forget about their problems. On the other hand, a very high percentage of students believe that it would be less likely or impossible to have trouble with the police if they drink alcohol (70.1%), that they would be incapable of giving up drinking (70.2%), that they would jeopardize their health (52.5%) or have a hangover (46.5%).

In the last 12 months, as the consequence of alcohol consumption, a high number of young people has had an injury/accident at least once (11.9%) or participated in a fight (11.5%), and 5.6% of students have had problems with the police, more often boys than girls. Problems with parents, friends in school or at work, as the consequence of the alcohol consumption, have had 10.6%, 9.6% and 10.7% of adolescents, respectively. 2.8% ended up in the hospital, while 1.7% of young people were a victim of a robbery. Even five times more boys than girls have had sexual relationships without a condom at least once (12.4% to 2.8%). Gymnasium students have had risk sexual relationships not so often as their peers in vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary schools – 4.4% of gymnasium students have had sexual relationships without a condom once or twice in the last year, while 4.5% of students from vocational-professional secondary schools has had that experience. Also, boys were more often involved in the sexual relationships they would regret the next day – 5.7% of boys and 1.4% of girls have regretted once or twice the next morning. Twice as less of gymnasium students (1.9%) and vocational-professional secondary school students (2.2%), than students from vocational-handcraft secondary schools (4.3%) have regretted having sexual relationships under the influence of alcohol.

Even though more than 90% of young people have reported that consuming great amounts of alcohol can effect mentioned problems (traffic and other accidents, family problems, violence and crime, health and financial problems), a significant percentage of people from rural areas, boys and students of vocational-professional secondary schools consider that it has no effect at all. In that way, for example, while 5.3% of students in Serbia believe that alcohol consumption does not influence on violence and criminal, as many as 8.3% of boys, 10.3% of students from the rural areas and 6.6% of students from the vocational-professional secondary schools share that opinion.

## **The place where alcohol is consumed**

In order to determine in what context students consume alcohol most often, they were asked: “Remember the last time you were drinking alcohol. Where were you?” The categories of answers are “I never drink alcohol”, “At home”, “In someone’s house”, “At the street, in the park, on the beach or some other open space”, “In a bar”, “In a discotheque”, “In the restaurant” and “In some other place”.

The greatest number of young people consumes alcohol in a discotheque (31.8%), at home (19.8%) and in a bar (18.1%). Girls drink more often at home (21.6%), compared to boys (17.7%). Adolescents from big cities drink more often in the friends’ houses (14.0%) than their peers in the small cities (10.6%) and rural (10.5%) areas. As many as 17.7% of people from Belgrade drink on the street, while that percentage in Vojvodina (9.7%) and Central Serbia (9.2%) is significantly lower.

# УПОТРЕБА USE OF ILLICIT DRUGS ИЛЕГАЛНИХ ДРОГА

Up to the few decades ago, there was a relatively small number of drugs which were misused and which created addiction. They were mostly of natural origins. From the fifties of the last century until today, with the sudden growth of the pharmaceutical industry, a great number of drugs and substances with the psychoactive effects appeared. In the illicit laboratories, all over the world, new drugs are being created with even faster and more destructive effects on the nervous system, which change one's conscience, perception, mood, opinion and behavior. In the last few years a trend of a clearer attitude is being noticed in the world when it comes to the use of illicit drugs in the sense of zero tolerance and also, a global partnership of help and cooperation on the level of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of the addicts is being formed.

How many young people will experiment with drugs depends also, among other things, on the availability of drugs, legal regulations, parents, school authorities, possibilities given by the local community for creative spending of spare time, skills which young people have for dealing with stressful situations, resolving problems, how informed young people are on the consequences of use of drugs, etc.

In the next section we focused on the prevalence of the use of illicit drugs or sedatives (whether they were obtained with the doctor's prescription or not), analgetics, anabolic steroids and inhalants. A special attention is given to the connection between the alcohol consumption and the use of other psychoactive substances.

Under the term use of illicit drugs it is implied to the use of marihuana or hashish (cannabis), amphetamines, LSD or other hallucinogens, crack, cocaine, ecstasy, heroine, magic mushrooms, Trodone and other analgetics and GHB.

Inhalants include substances which are inhaled, like, for example, glue or aerosols. Medical substances, like sedatives, anabolic steroids or analgetics are by definition not illicit substances, when used in accordance with the doctor's prescriptions. However, the use of medical substances without doctor's prescriptions is considered abuse and, according to the pharmaceutical rules, it is illicit.

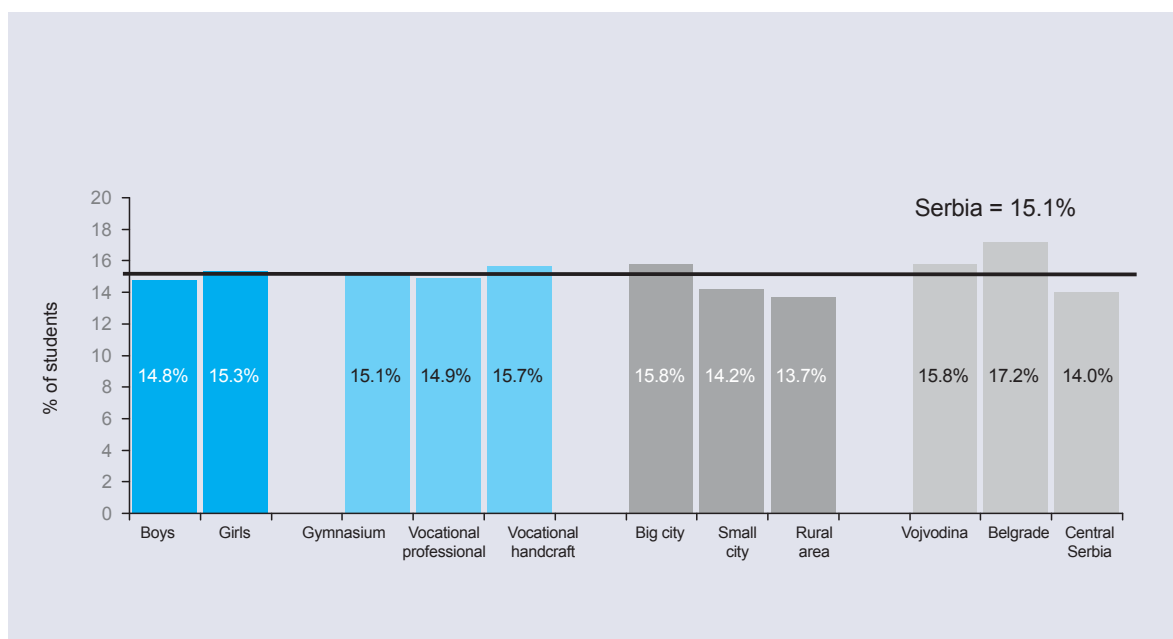
Definition of illicit drugs that is being used in this report implies to the abuse of the previously mentioned substances, that is, marihuana or hashish (cannabis), amphetamines, LSD or other hallucinogens, crack, cocaine, ecstasy, heroine, magic mushrooms, Trodone and other analgetics, GHB, inhalants, alcohol in combination with drugs and sedatives (without doctor's prescription).



## Lifetime use of illicit drugs

As many as 15.1% of students of the first grade of secondary school report to have tried, during their lives, at least once, one of the previously mentioned illicit drugs. Students from Belgrade in the highest percentage report to have used some illicit drug during their lives (17.1%). Also, use of illicit drugs during life is more often among young people from smaller or bigger cities (15.9% and 14.2%, respectively), compared to the young people from rural areas (13.3%). There are no significant differences in the use of illicit drugs among boys and girls, although a slightly higher percentage of girls (15.3%), than boys (14.8%) report the use of some illicit drug during their life (Graph 26).

**Graph 26.** Lifetime use of illicit drugs, Serbia, 2008 (%)



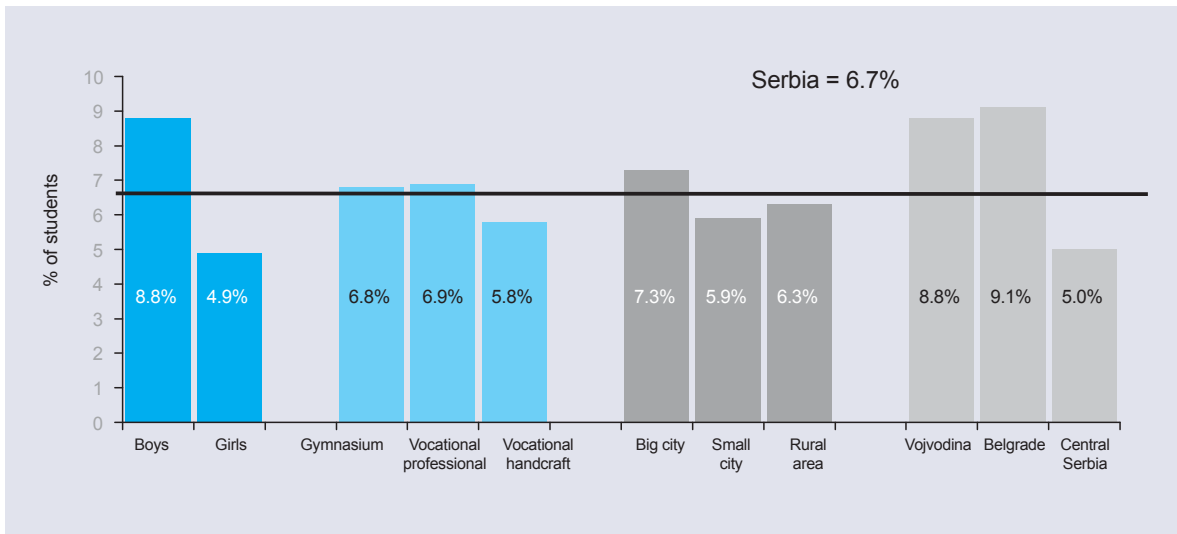
A great number of students have tried drugs once or twice, while the others have developed more or less of a regular habit of using drugs. In this way 1.6% of students have used drugs 20 times or more during their lives, out of which 2.1% of boys and 1.1% of girls have used illicit drugs 20 times or more during their lives. Young people from the big cities more often use illicit drugs regularly, compared to the adolescents from small cities and rural areas. Students from Belgrade in the highest percentage report the use of drugs 20 or more times in their life (2.7%), which is significantly higher compared to the students from Vojvodina or Central Serbia (1.3% in both regions).

## Lifetime use of marihuana

A special attention in the survey was given to gathering data related to marihuana (cannabis) since it is the substance which is, according to the data from the previous surveys conducted in our country, most frequently used among young people.

At least once in their lives 6.7% of students have tried marihuana, out of which 8.8% of boys and 4.9% of girls. Students from urban areas, Belgrade in particular, have reported in higher percentage having tried marihuana at least once in their lives (Graph 27).

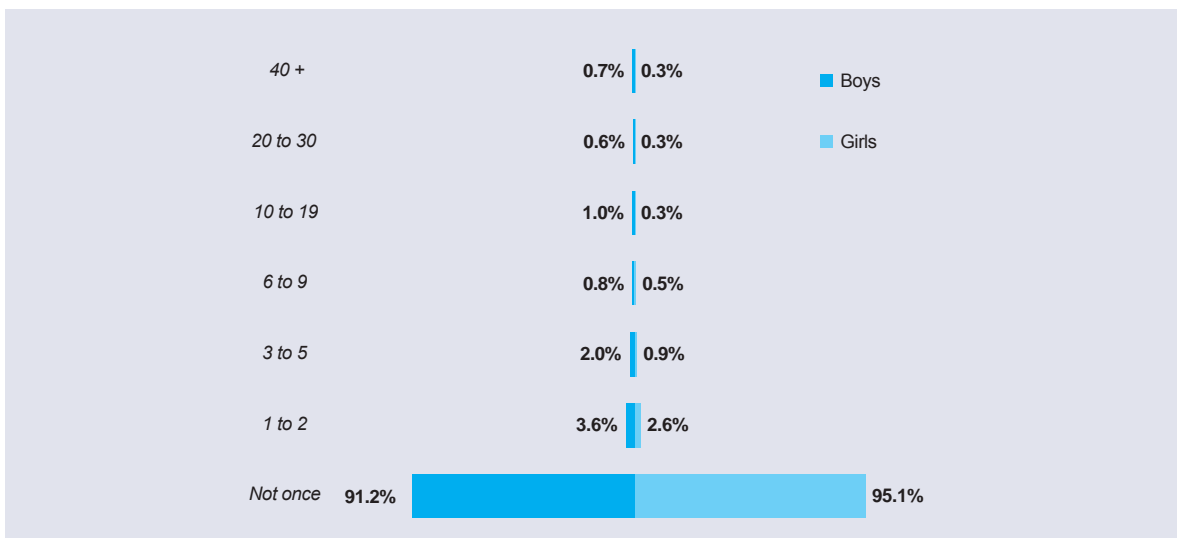
**Graph 27.** Lifetime use of marihuana or hashish, Serbia, 2008 (%)



When it comes to lifetime use of marihuana, a positive trend is noticed among students from regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) in Serbia. While in the year 2005, 12.9% of students have tried marihuana at least once in their lives, that percentage is 7.3% in the year 2008.

The indicator of regular use of marihuana is using it 40 or more times during life. In the first grade of secondary school, 0.5% of students have used marihuana 40 or more times during their lives, which can indicate the regular usage which represents a risk from abuse of other psychoactive substances as well. Boys have used marihuana 40 or more times during their lives in higher number than girls, 0.7% to 0.3% (Graph 28).

**Graph 28.** Number of times marihuana was used during life, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Significantly higher percentage of students from Belgrade use marihuana regularly, 1.1% of young people from Belgrade have reported using marihuana or hashish 40 or more times during their lives. Regular use of marihuana or hashish compared to the year 2005, among students from Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad is lower; percentage has fallen from 1.9% to 0.8% in the year 2008.

Significantly higher percentage of students from Belgrade use marihuana regularly, 1.1% of young people from Belgrade have reported using marihuana or hashish 40 or more times during their lives. Regular use of marihuana or hashish compared to the year 2005, among students from Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad is lower; percentage has fallen from 1.9% to 0.8% in the year 2008.

If we analyze the frequency of using marihuana among students of the first grade of secondary school who have used marihuana during life, it is noticed that almost one half of young people who have at least once during their lives tried marihuana or hashish (cannabis) did that 1 – 2 times (46.2%). Significantly lower percentage of students, who have used marihuana during life, did that 3 – 5 times (20.8%), while 10.4% of them did that 6 – 9 times. Percentage of young people who have used marihuana sometimes in their lives, and used it 40 or more times is 7.5%, that is, every fourteenth pupil of the first grade of secondary school who tried marihuana is enlisted in the category of regular user of marihuana or hashish.

There are more boys than girls who have used marihuana 40 or more times, 8.0% of boys who have ever used marihuana and 6.1% of girls report this consumption prevalence.

Use of marihuana among students of the first grade of secondary school occurred in the highest percentage once or twice and that prevalence of consumption is reported by 3.1% of young people. In the regional centers in Serbia (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad), within the population of students of the first grade of secondary school, use of marihuana once or twice was reduced from 5.4% in the year 2005, to 3.9% in the year 2008.

Out of the students who have reported the lifetime use of marihuana, as many as one half (50.6%) reported of having used some other illicit drug as well (44.6% of boys and 60.0% of girls). Most often, young people who have had experiences with marihuana, have also had them with sedatives (24.9%) or they used alcohol in combination with pills (23.0%). A bit lower percentage of these students reports the use of inhalants (18.1%), amphetamines (16.6%) or ecstasy (16.1%). Proportion of the use of other illicit drugs among these students varies from 3% to 10%.

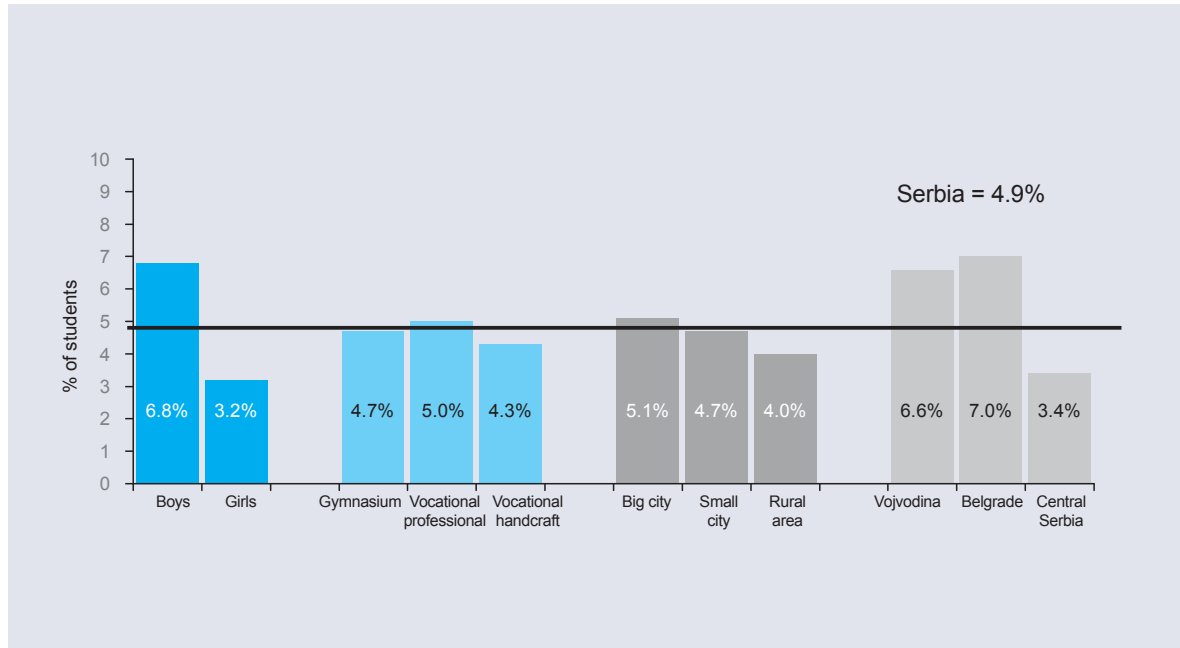
Also, among students who have used marihuana during their lives a higher percentage of cigarette users is noticed, as many as 91.4%, and more girls than boys (93.1 and 90.3%, respectively). Among these students there is also a significantly higher percentage of those who have smoked cigarettes 40 or more times during their lives (63.0%), while, let us remember, 13.1% of all students reported this frequency of consuming tobacco.

A similar situation occurs when it comes to the use of alcohol, while 89.0% of students have used alcohol sometimes (24.9% 40 or more times during their lives), almost every student who has used marihuana during life (99.0%) has also consumed alcohol, while as many as 65.8% did that 40 or more times during their lives.

## Use of marihuana in the last 12 months

Use of marihuana or hashish in the last 12 months in the population of the students of the first grade of secondary school is statistically significantly lower from the proportion of the use of marihuana during life, and it is 4.9%. There is a significantly higher percentage of boys than girls who have used marihuana in the last 12 months, 6.8% to 3.2%. Students from Belgrade and Vojvodina have consumed cannabis more often than their peers from Central Serbia. More significant differences when it comes to using marihuana in the last 12 months among students of different school type, or size of the city have not been noticed, still there is somewhat lower percentage of students from the rural areas who have reported using marihuana in the last 12 months (4.0%)(Graph 29).

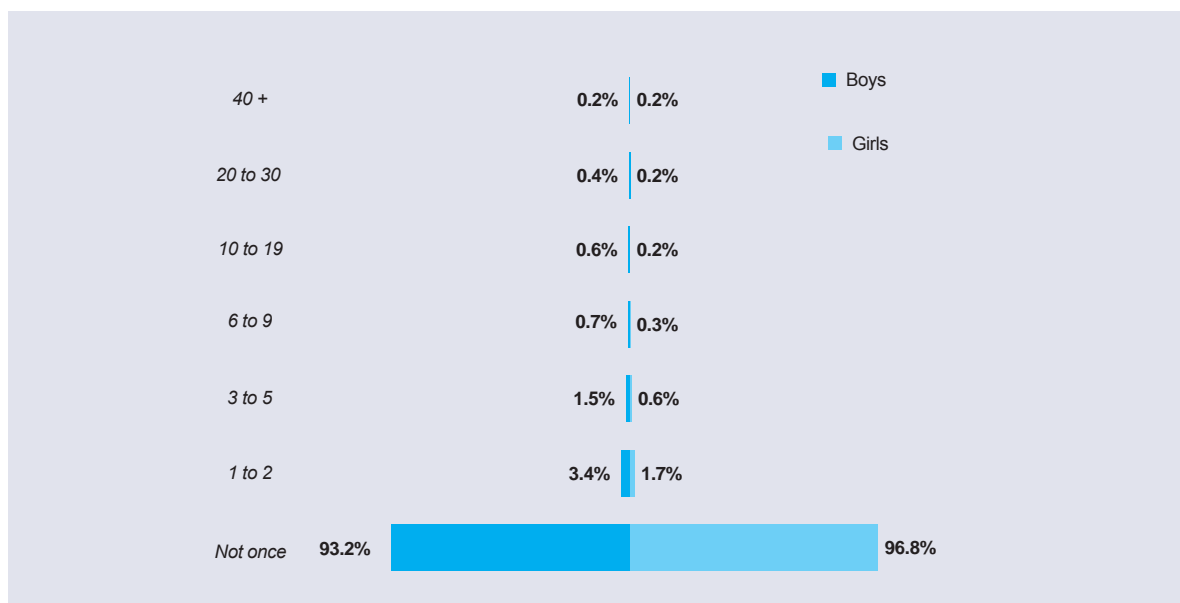
**Graph 29.** Use of marihuana or hashish in the last 12 months, Serbia, 2008 (%)



A positive trend is noticed compared to the year 2005, when 9.1% of students from the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) have reported the use of marihuana in the last 12 months, while in the year 2008 6.3% of students of the first grade of secondary school from the mentioned regional centers in Serbia report that.

Similar to the use of marihuana during life, it is noticed that the highest percentage of students has tried marihuana once or twice in the last 12 months (2.5%), more boys (3.4%), than girls (1.7%) (Graph 30).

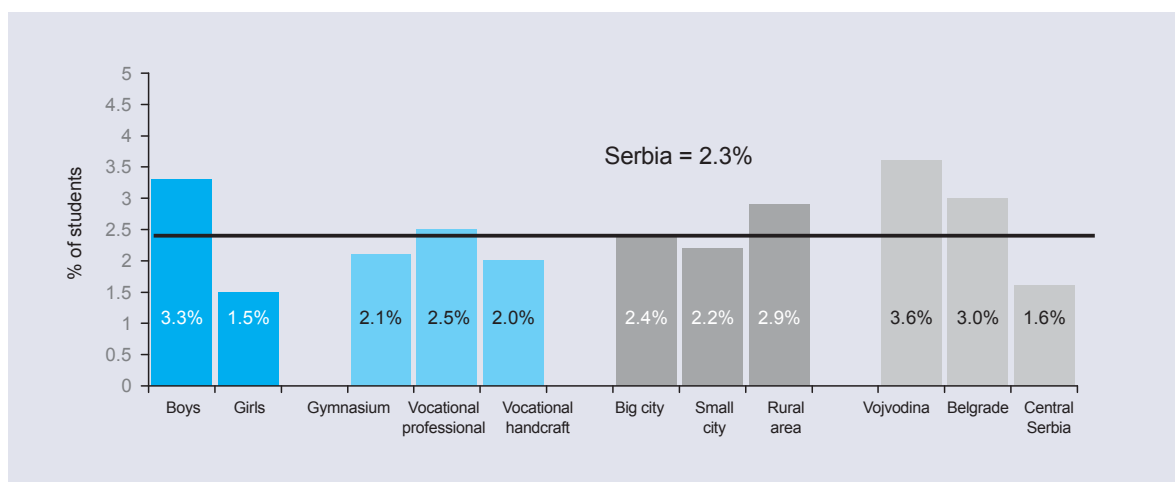
**Graph 30.** Number of times marihuana was consumed in the last 12 months, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



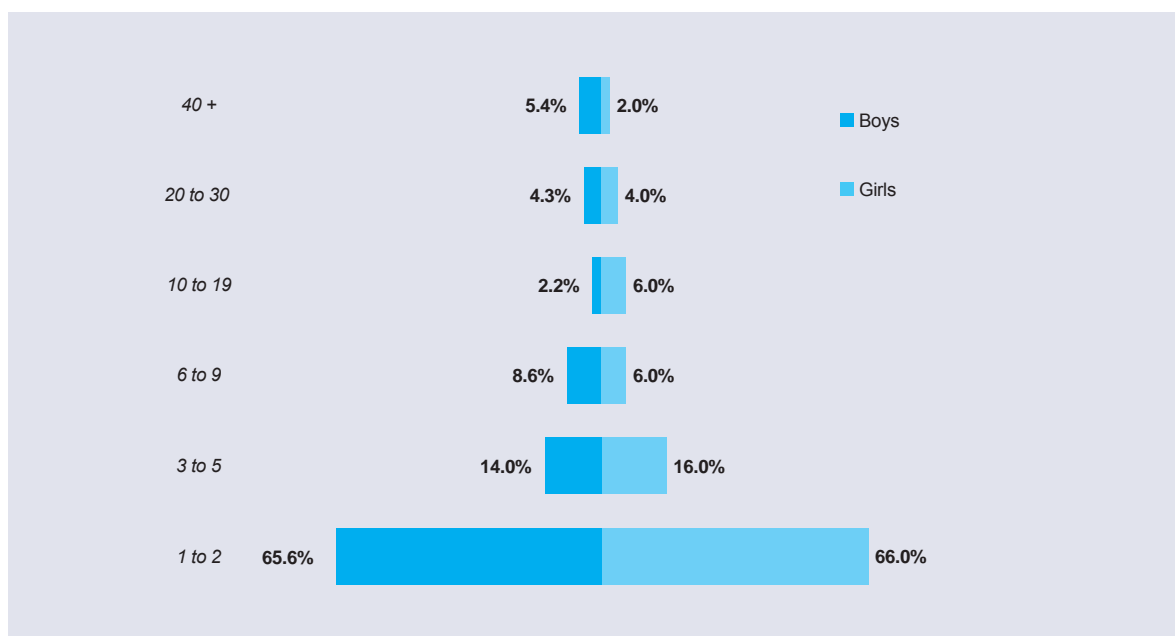
## Use of marihuana in the last 30 days

Marihuana or hashish, in the last 30 days, which can imply to the beginning of a more regular use, was used by 2.3% of students, and out of that 3.3% of boys and 1.5% of girls. Similar to the situation of using marihuana during life and during the last year, there are significantly more young people from Vojvodina (3.6%) and Belgrade (3.0%) who have used marihuana or hashish in the last month, compared to the adolescents from Central Serbia (1.6%) (Graph 31).

**Graph 31.** Use of marihuana in the last 30 days, Serbia, 2008 (%)



**Graph 32.** Number of times marihuana was consumed in the last 30 days, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (% of users)



A significant fall in the use of marihuana or hashish in the last 30 days in the population of students from the regional centers is noticed, compared to the year 2005. In the year 2005, 4.7% of young people have reported the use of marihuana in the last month, while in the year 2008, this percentage is 2.8%.

Frequency in the use of marihuana in the last month is most often occasional (once or twice), that is the statement of 65.7% of students who have used marihuana at least once in the last 30 days. However, the use of marihuana on the weekly bases (3 – 5 times per month) is reported by as many as 14.7% of young people who have used it during the last month. As many as 8.4% of students who have used marihuana in the last 30 days, have done it almost every day (20 or more times per month).

According to gender, differences are noticed in the number of situations in which marihuana was used (Graph 32).

Analyzed results show that all three indicators of the use of marihuana (during life, in the last 12 months, in the last 30 days) are significantly lower among girls.

Percentages of the recent use of marihuana or hashish (in the last 30 days) are lower compared to the prevalence during life, based on what it is possible to conclude that less than one half of students who have ever tried marihuana or hashish continue to use it (out of the students who have ever tried marihuana or hashish 34.3% has used marihuana in the last 30 days, out of which 37.5% of boys and 30.7% of girls), which represents a risk of using and experimenting with other illicit drugs as well. Young people who gain a habit of regular use of marihuana are exposed to a great risk of starting to experiment with other illicit drugs.

## **Age at first time marihuana consumption**

Less than one percentage of young people (0.9%) has had contact with marihuana at a very early age, even before turning 13. Among students who report trying marihuana at least once, there is the highest percentage of those who have tried it at the age of 15 (48.8%) and at the age of 16 (19.8%), while 3.0% of students, who have smoked marihuana during lifetime, did that before turning nine years.

## **Use of marihuana among friends and older siblings**

While two out of three students of the first grade of secondary school (69.1%) report that none of their friends uses marihuana or hashish, every fifth (21.3%) has only a few friends who use it, while 9.6% of young people report that some, majority or all of their friends, use marihuana. Among students of the first grade of secondary school 2.7% report that even majority or all of their friends consume marihuana. This percentage is significantly higher in the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad), where 14.1% of students have at least a few friends who use marihuana. Students from Belgrade in the highest percentage report to have at least a few friends who use marihuana, 16.3%.

The results of the survey show that among young people who have at least once during their lives tried marihuana, there are significantly more of those who report having at least one friend who also uses it. As many as 83.4% of students who have ever used marihuana have at least one friend who uses it as well. This percentage is higher among girls than boys, while 86.8% of girls who have ever used marihuana have at least one friend who uses it, 81.2% of boys who used it during their lives report that.

Percentage of young people whose siblings use marihuana or hashish is 5.3%. No differences were noticed when it comes to gender, type of school, size of the area or region when the use of marihuana among older siblings is concerned.

6.4% of students report to be a part of a group of friends who find marihuana consumption to be a regular activity. The highest percentage of students who belong to the group of friends, who find marihuana consumption normal, is from Belgrade (9.8%), and the lowest percentage is in Central Serbia (4.9%). As many as every fourth adolescent, who is a member of such group of friends (25.1%), meets with their friends every day, or almost every day.

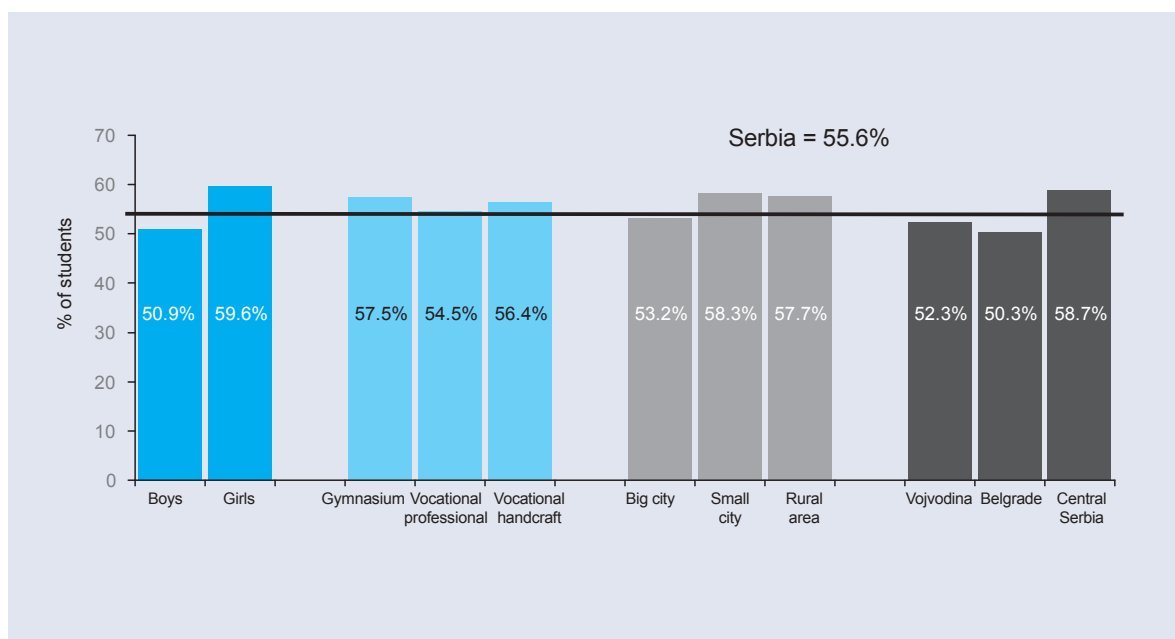
Similar to the case of the number of friends who use marihuana, among young people who have sometimes, during their lives, used marihuana or hashish, there is significantly higher percentage of those who are a part of a group of friends who find marihuana consumption to be a normal activity (34.9%).

## Perceived risk of marihuana consumption

Students of the first grade of secondary school were asked “In what extent do you think people risk of hurting themselves (physically or in other ways) if they try marihuana or hashish (cannabis) once or twice, if they smoke marihuana or hashish (cannabis) or regularly smoke marihuana or hashish (cannabis)?”

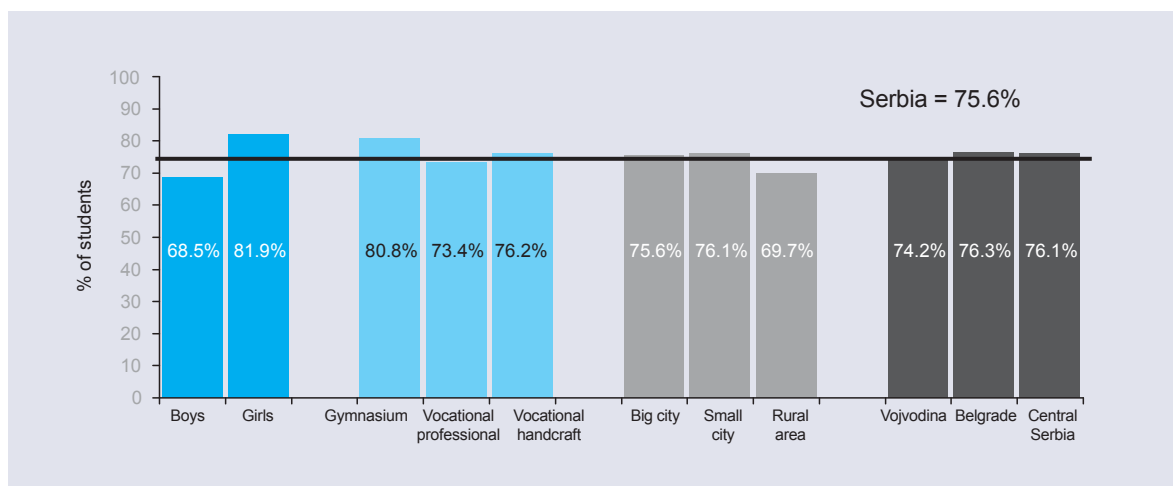
One half of students (51.4%) realize the great risk of trying marihuana or cannabis. This percentage is significantly higher among girls than among boys, 54.9% to 47.3%. Similar percentage of young people (55.6%) see the great risk of smoking marihuana (Graph 33).

**Graph 33.** Students who consider an occasional use of marihuana or hashish (cannabis) to be of great risk, Serbia, 2008 (%)



There is the greatest part of adolescents who consider that there is a great risk of harming yourself if you use marihuana or hashish regularly (75.6%). Girls in much higher percentage realize this risk as well (81.9%) compared to boys (68.5%) (Graph 34).

**Graph 34.** Students who find regular use of marihuana or hashish (cannabis) to be a great risk Serbia, 2008 (%)



Those students who have sometimes in their lives used marihuana or hashish are in much smaller extent aware of the risks of using marihuana. In that way only 12.5% of students who have at least once in their lives tried marihuana, consider that there is a great risk of people harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they try marihuana or hashish once or twice. Every fifth adolescent (19.2%) who has ever used marihuana is aware of the great risk of harming himself due to occasional marihuana consumption, while the risks of consuming marihuana or hashish regularly are familiar to 55.1% of these students.

As an answer to the question how likely is it for this to happen to you if you use cannabis, as the most probable consequences of cannabis consumption students in particular mentioned concentration difficulties (22.2%), possibility of being more open (20.9%) and less shy (20.9%), as well as enjoying the moment more intensively (19.6%) and have stronger feelings (18.3%).

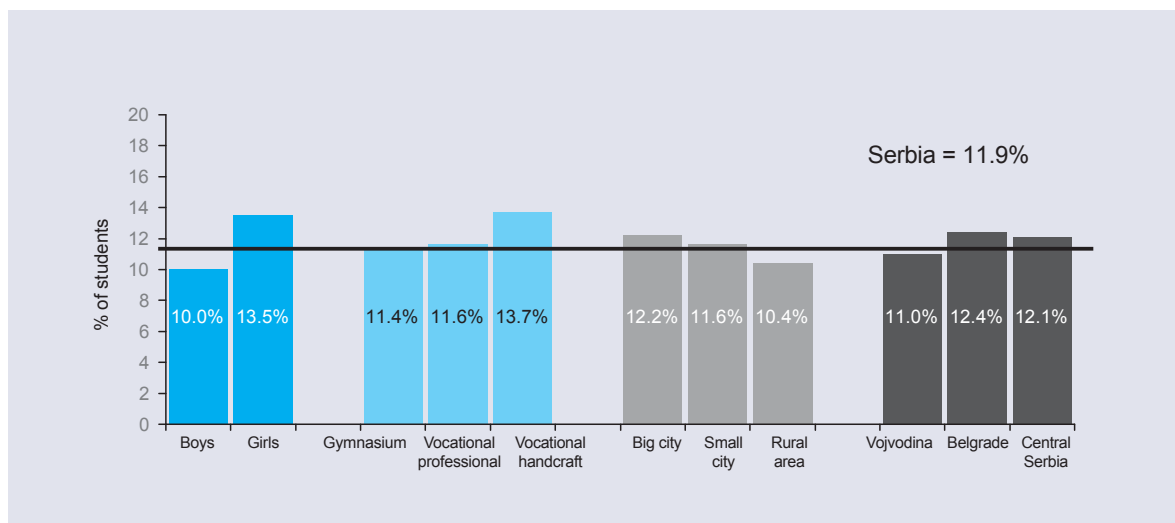
## Use of other psychoactive substances (other than marihuana or hashish)

In this section the results of the use of illicit drugs (other than marihuana or hashish) are presented and they are: ecstasy and inhalants, followed by amphetamines, LSD or other hallucinogens, crack, cocaine, heroine, magic mushrooms, drugs injected by needle, Trodone and other analgetics and GHB. In the case of ecstasy and inhalants we have shown the use in the last 12 months and the last 30 days.

Every tenth pupil of the first grade of secondary school (11.9%) has used, during life, some psychoactive substance, other than marihuana or hashish. Girls have, in much higher percentage than boys used some psychoactive substance, excluding marihuana. Also, students of the vocational-handcraft secondary schools, from the big cities, Belgrade in particular, have, in significantly higher percentage, reported the use of some drug, other than marihuana (Graph 35).

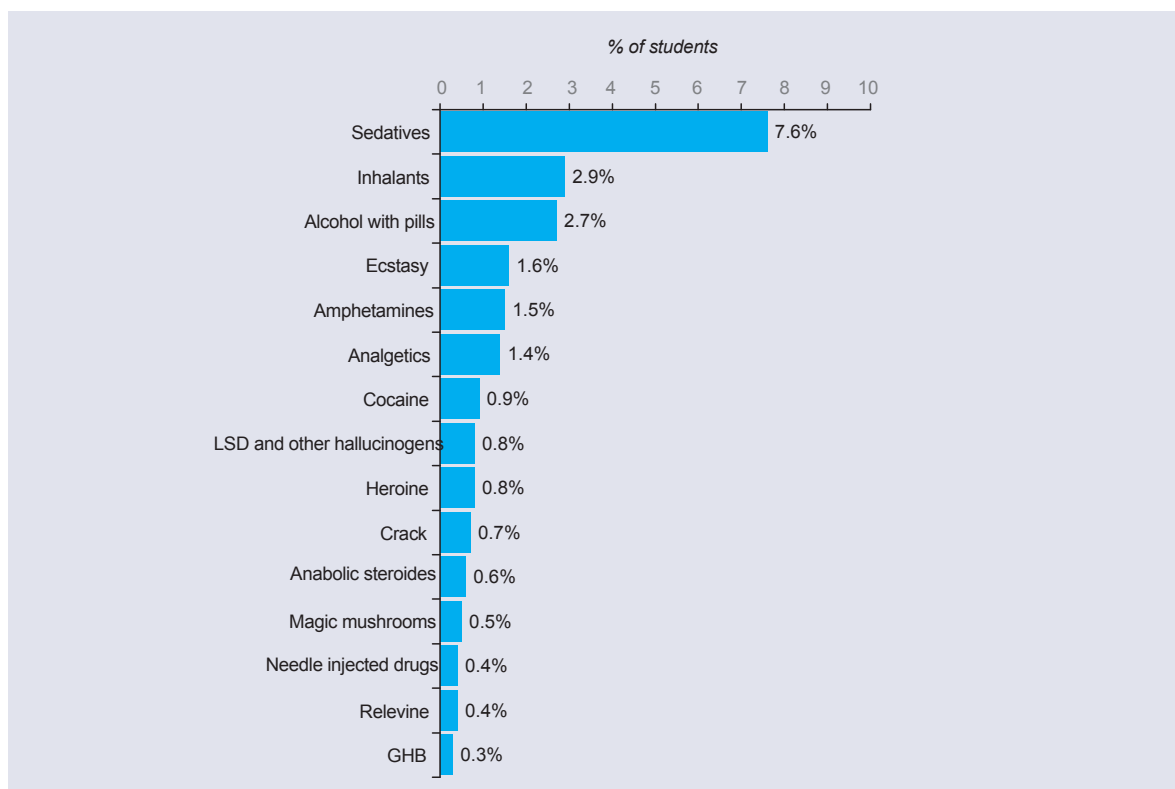


**Graph 35.** Use of other illicit drugs (other than marihuana or hashish) during life, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Generally speaking, prevalence of illicit drugs, other than marihuana or hashish is from 0% to 8% for different substances. Other than marihuana, the most often used psychoactive substances among young people are sedatives or tranquilizers. Sedatives or tranquilizers can be legally prescribed by a doctor, or abused due to their psychoactive effects. As many as 7.6% of young people have used, during life, sedatives without doctor’s prescription (Graph 36).

**Graph 36.** Use of 14 psychoactive substances (other than marihuana or hashish) during life, Serbia, 2008 (%)

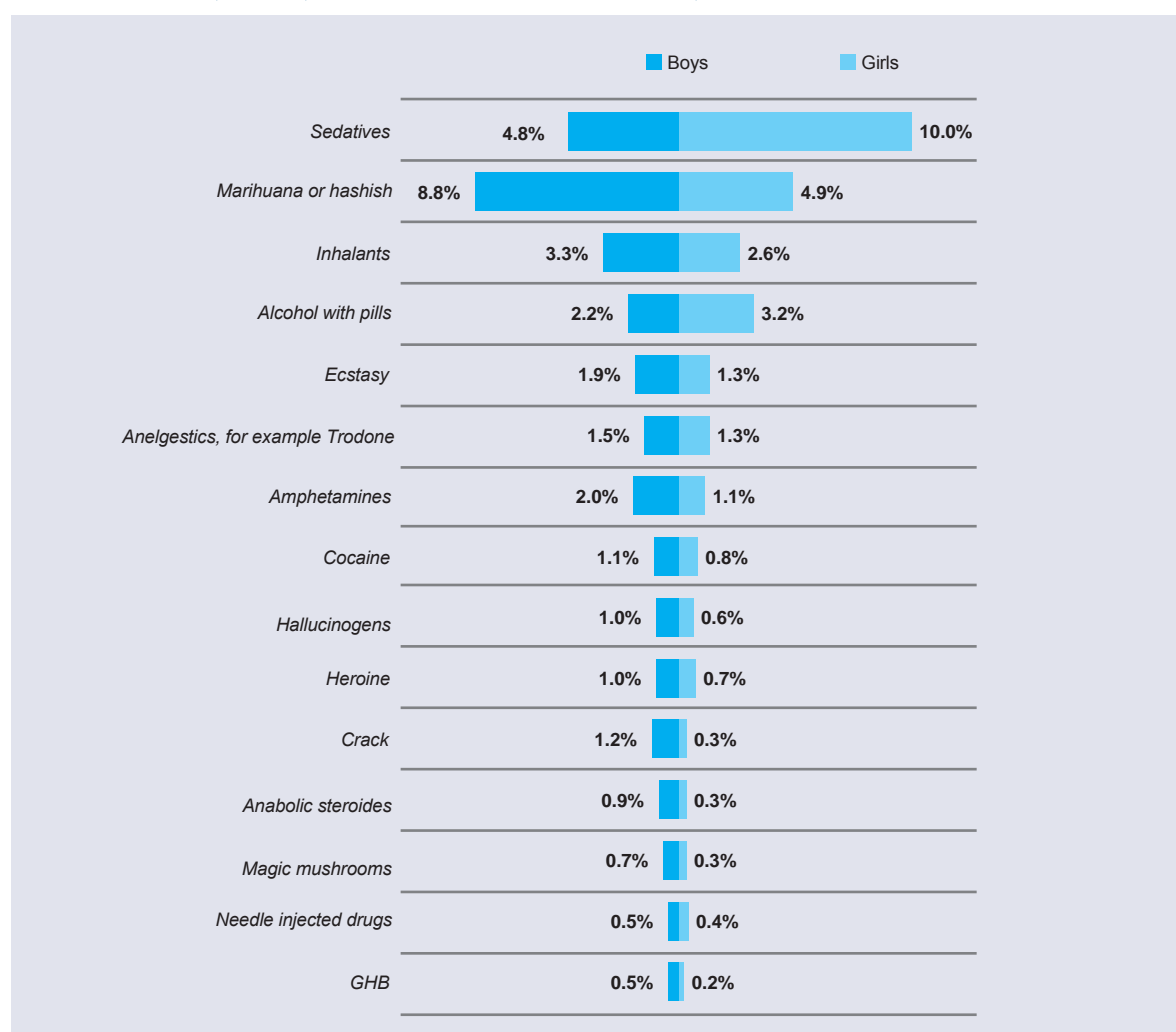


Every tenth pupil (9.9%) has taken tranquilizers or sedatives according to doctor's prescription, but only 1.2% was taking them longer than 3 weeks. No differences were noticed when it comes to gender, size of the city or region in the matter of using sedatives according to doctor's prescription. Students from gymnasium have used prescribed sedatives a bit more rarely compared to their peers from vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary schools, therefore 7.7% of gymnasium students has taken sedatives prescribed by a doctor, while 10.8% of vocational-professional and 9.9% of vocational-handcraft secondary school students did that.

2.9% of students report of having used inhalants during their lives (glue, gasoline, gas, bronze, lacquers and similar). In the last year inhalants were used by 1.4% and in the last month by 0.8%. 2.7% of students report of using alcohol combined with pills. Around 1.6% of adolescents have tried ecstasy during their lives, and 1.1% in the last 12 months, that is 0.6% in the last 30 days. Amphetamines were used by 1.5% of young people, while the prevalence of all other drugs is less than 1%.

Among those students who have reported the use of some illicit drug other than marihuana or hashish (11.8% of students of the first grade of secondary school), almost one third (28.6%) has had experience with marihuana, out of which 38.9% of boys and 21.8% of girls.

**Graph 37.** Use of 15 types of psychoactive substances during life, Serbia, by gender, 2008 (%)



Use of psychoactive substances during life varies according to gender. Experience with different substances is generally bigger among boys, with the exception of the use of tranquilizers (sedatives) without doctor’s prescription, which is significantly more present among girls. Also, a slightly higher percentage of girls has reported the lifetime use of alcohol in combination with pills (3.2%), compared to boys (2.2%). Girls have, in significantly higher percentage, used sedatives without doctor’s prescription, as many as 10.0% of girls report of using them during life, compared to 4.8% of boys (Graph 37).

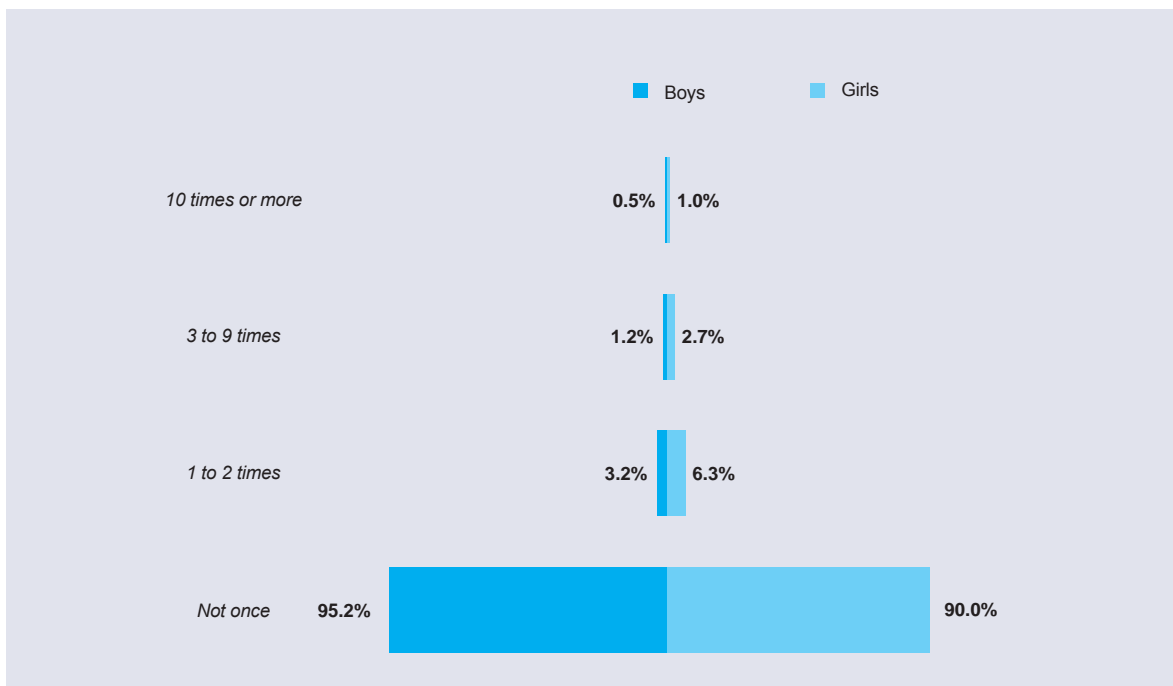
## Prevalence of using other psychoactive substances (other than marihuana or hashish)

Other than the prevalence of different illicit drugs during life, we also analyzed the consumption prevalence. Number of times when students used some drug goes from experimental usage (once or twice), occasional usage (3 to 9 times) to very frequent usage (10 times or more). Use of other illicit drugs (besides marihuana or hashish) in the last 12 months and the last 30 days was analyzed only in the case of ecstasy and inhalants.

### Tranquilizers, anabolic steroids - use without doctor’s prescription

Abuse of medicaments is every day a bigger problem among young people, but also among older generations. What contributes to this situation is certainly the possibility of obtaining the medicaments without doctor’s prescription. There is a miscomprehension with the certain number of young people that these substances are not harmful since doctors prescribe them and recommend them for treatment.

**Graph 38.** Frequency of the use of tranquilizers without doctor's prescription, during life, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



As it was emphasized before, tranquilizers or sedatives can be used legally, when prescribed by a doctor, but also as an illicit drug. Legal as well as illicit abuse of tranquilizers is very common among students of the first grade of secondary school.

As it was already emphasized, higher percentage of girls than boys has used, during life, tranquilizers without doctor's prescription. In the highest percentage it is the case of experimental use (once or twice) and it is reported by 4.9% of students, out of which 6.3% of girls and 3.2% of boys. Occasional use (three to nine times) is reported by 2.0% of students, out of which 2.7% of girls and 1.2% of boys, while high frequency (10 times or more) is reported by 0.5% of boys and 1.0% of girls (Graph 38). Majority of students have tried tranquilizers at the age of 15.

Percentage of the use of anabolic steroids is lower than 2%, and the use is more common among boys than girls. The frequency of use which is most often reported is 1 to 2 times and it is on a very low level (0.4%). More often use of anabolic steroids is very rare and it is reported only by boys.

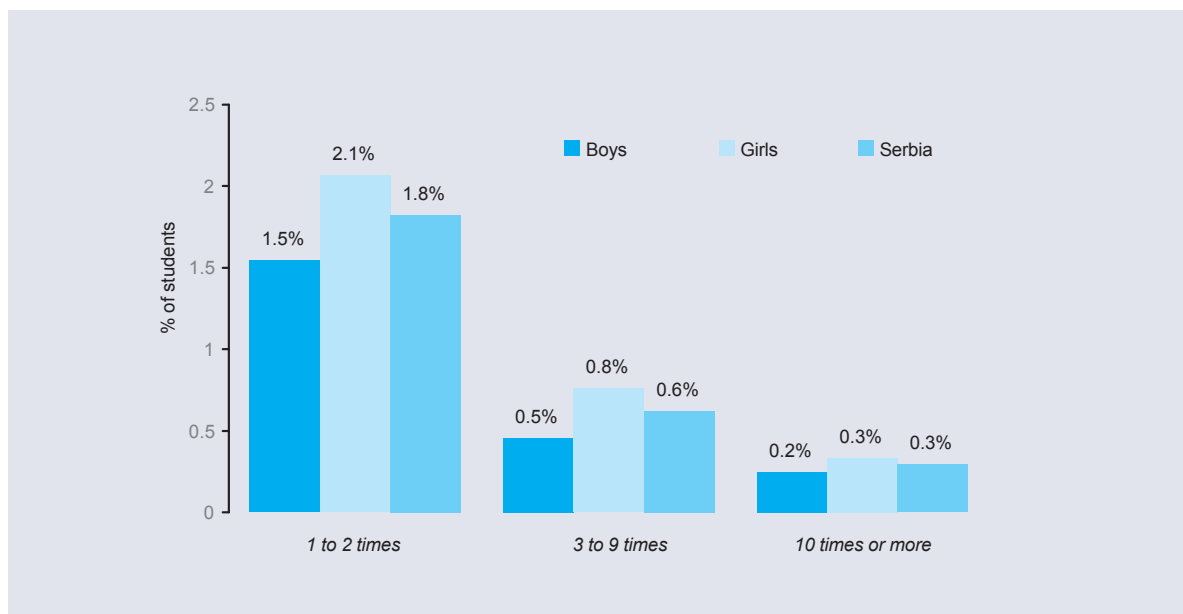
## Alcohol in combination with pills

Among students who have used any type of illicit drugs sometimes in their lives, the use of alcohol in combination with pills is right after the use of tranquilizers without doctor's prescription and marijuana or hashish consumption.

Similar to the use of sedatives, using alcohol in combination with pills is more frequent among girls than boys.

Experimental use of alcohol with pills occurs most often (1.8%), that way 2.1% of girls have reported using alcohol in combination with pills 1-2 times during their lives, while 1.5% of boys reported the same thing. The percentage of occasional and very frequent (10 or more times during life) alcohol consumption in combination with pills is below 1 % (Graph 39).

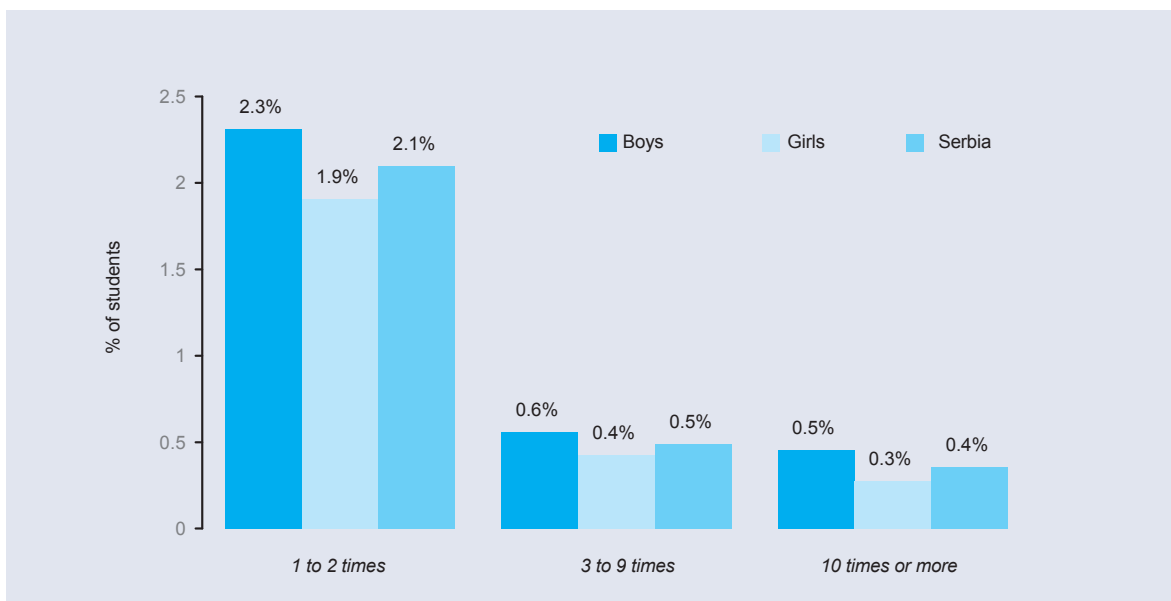
**Graph 39.** Frequency of using alcohol in combination with pills, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



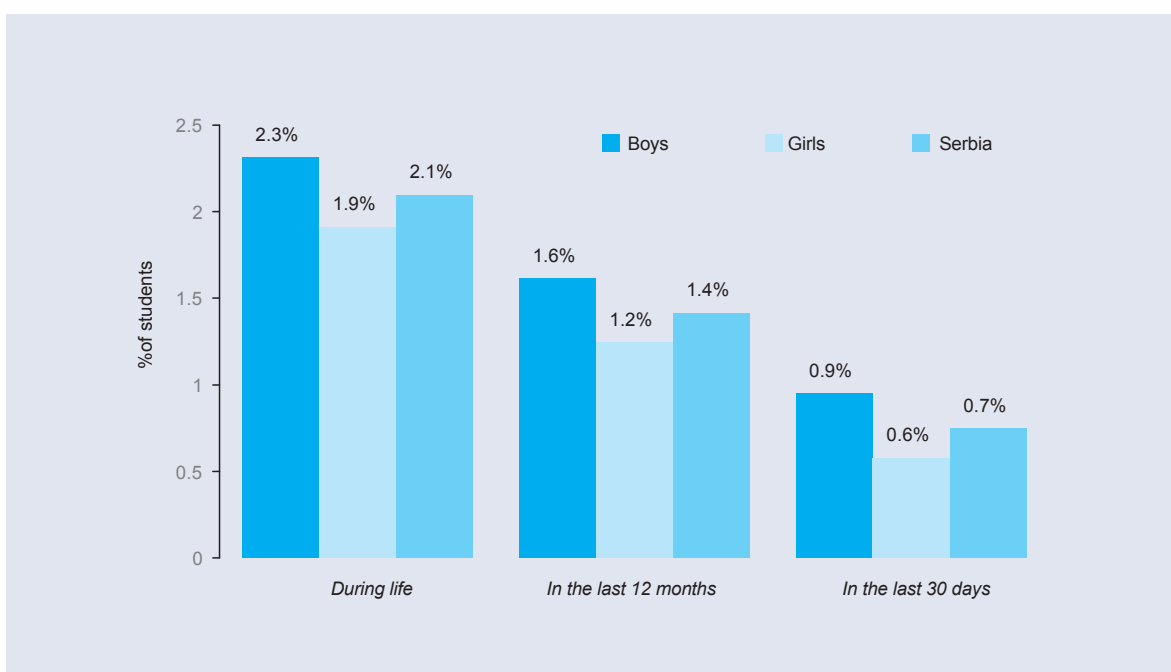
## Inhalants

Inhalants (vaporizing dissolvent) include a great number of industrial chemical products which can be found in everyday use, such as glue, gasoline, oil, gas, acetone, aperients, lacquers, paints, deodorants, bronze and similar. These products by vaporizing create vapors and once they are inhaled they lead to stupefaction. Using inhalants proves that using drugs can be both cheap and fatal.

**Graph 40.** Prevalence of the use of inhalants during life, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



**Graph 41.** Prevalence of using inhalants during life, in the last year and the last 30 days, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Students have reported the use of inhalants, such as glue, gasoline, gas, bronze, lacquers and similar in order to provoke a specific reaction, certain number of times during their lives, during the last year and during the last month.

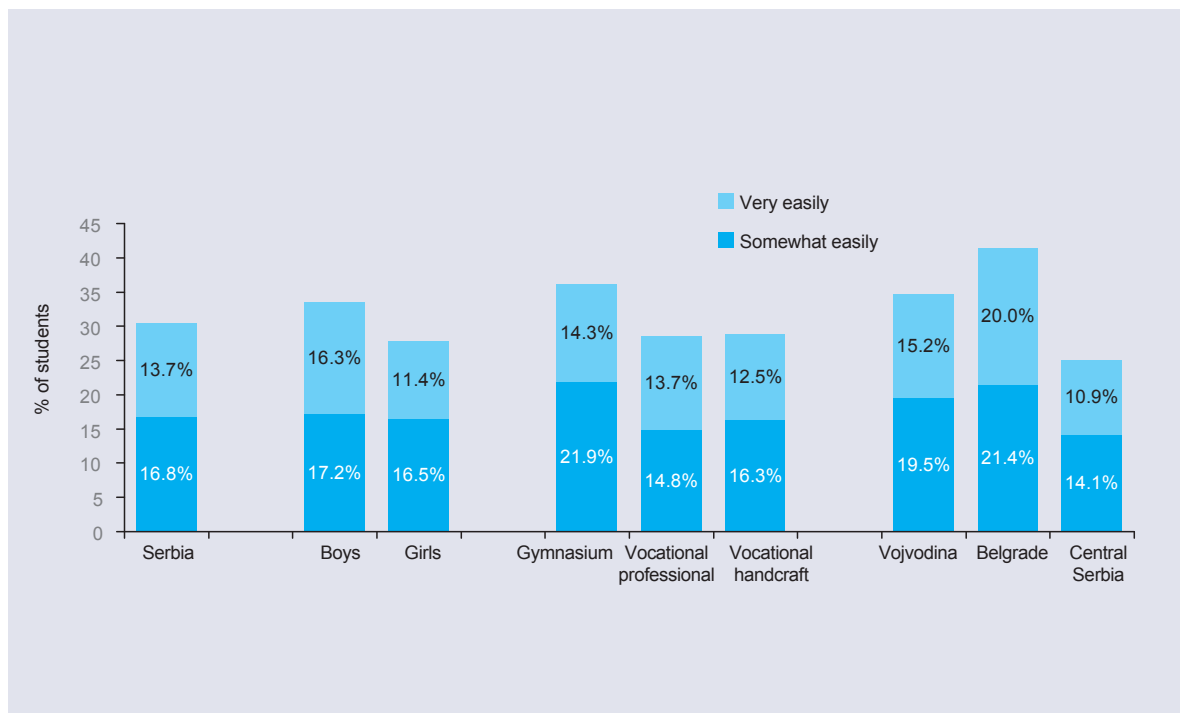
The majority of students (97.1%) have never in their lives used inhalants. Among those students who have used inhalants sometimes in their lives, there is a slightly greater number of boys (3.3%), than girls (2.6%). Experimental use of inhalants occurs most often. Using inhalants once or twice during life is reported by 2.1% of students, slightly more boys than girls (Graph 40).

## Availability of illicit drugs

### Availability of marihuana or hashish (cannabis)

Availability of marihuana (cannabis), was analyzed through the answers to the question:” How difficult do you think it would be for you to obtain marihuana or hashish (cannabis) if you would want to?”

**Graph 42.** Availability of marihuana or hashish (cannabis) to the students of the first grade of secondary school, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Almost one third of the students of the first grade of secondary school consider that, if they would like to, they could obtain marihuana easily (30.5%), very easily marihuana would be obtainable for 13.7% of adolescents, while 16.8% of students consider that they could obtain marihuana very easily if they would want to. Significantly higher number of boys than girls consider that they could obtain marihuana easily, 33.5% (very easily 16.3%) of boys to 27.9% (very easily 11.4%) of girls. Secondary school students in higher percentage report that marihuana would be easily obtainable to them compared to the students of other schools in Serbia. Also, students who live in big cities find marihuana to be more easily obtainable

than to those from smaller cities and rural areas – 15.6% of young people from the big cities consider that marihuana is very easy to obtain, unlike only 11.4% of young people from the smaller cities and 12.0% from rural areas. Regional differences are also important; while every fifth pupil from Belgrade considers marihuana to be very easily obtainable, 15.2% of young people from Vojvodina and 10.9% from Central Serbia share that opinion (Graph 42).

Unfortunately, in regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) occurred a significant growth in the number of young people who find marihuana easily available, compared to the year 2005. While in the year 2005, 28.4% of students from the big cities considered that they can obtain marihuana easily if they would want to (very easily 12.7%), in the year 2008, 39.5% of young people think that (very easily 18.6%).

One quarter of young people has had the opportunity to try cannabis, but they refused it. Boys had that opportunity more often than girls, and refused it (29.1% and 22.6%, respectively). Also, young people from big cities in higher percentage report of the opportunities they have had to try marihuana or hashish and refused it (28.7%) compared to the ones from small cities (22.2%) and rural areas (18.3%). Regional differences are important, while 35.5% of students from Belgrade have had this opportunity, 29.7% of students from Vojvodina and 20.5% from Central Serbia report having it.

One third of students (38.5%) know where they can buy marihuana. Slightly lower percentage of girls (35.5%) and adolescents from Central Serbia (33.8%) report knowing where they can obtain marihuana or hashish. From all the locations where one can buy marihuana students mention street (20.5%), discotheque (18.0%), dealer's house (11.7%), café (10.5%), school (9.2%) and by internet (4.3%).

### **Availability of other psychoactive substances**

As it was expected, availability of other psychoactive substances is, judging by pupil's reports, much lower than in the case of tobacco, alcohol and marihuana. That way, 15.9% of students believe that amphetamines are easily obtainable to them, if they would want to obtain them, out of which 6.3% thinks that they are very easily obtainable. Boys in higher percentage than girls find amphetamines very easily obtainable, 18.0% to 14.1%. Significantly higher number of gymnasium students (18.4%) compared to the students from vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary schools find this drug easily obtainable (15.5% and 13.5%, respectively). Also, in small cities and rural areas there is significantly lower number of young people who consider amphetamines easily obtainable (13.0% and 5.1%, respectively), compared to the ones from big cities (15.5%). Regional distribution shows that there is the highest percentage of students from Belgrade, as many as 26.2% who believe that amphetamines are easy to obtain, if they would want to, compared to the young people from Vojvodina (17.5%) or Central Serbia (11.8%).

Girls use pills more often and therefore it is not a surprising fact that 47.1% of them find sedatives easy to obtain (unlike only 37.0% of boys). Half of young people from Belgrade (50.4%) think that sedatives are easily obtainable, which is significantly above average for entire Serbia (42.4%). As many as 51.4% of secondary school students have reported that sedatives could be easy to obtain, which is not the case among their peers from vocational-handcraft secondary schools (38.4%). Compared to the year 2005, the number of young people who find sedatives easily obtainable has increased significantly (28.6% in the year 2005 and 42.4% in the year 2008).

Half of young people consider that ecstasy is unavailable to them or hardly available. In the small cities (34%) and rural areas (49.7%) there is significantly higher number of those who believe that ecstasy is difficult to obtain, compared to the big cities (29.1%). Similar to that, in Belgrade, as many as 27.6% of students consider ecstasy to be easily available, unlike Central Serbia where that percentage is significantly lower (14.1%). In the regional centers the percentage of students who find ecstasy easily available or very easily available has grown significantly compared to the year 2005, when the percentage of students who considered that was 17.8%.

Nearly one half of adolescents (47.7%) knows where they can obtain inhalants, and in the cities that percentage is slightly higher (52.9%), which represents a great rise compared to the year 2005, when only 28.7% of young people considered inhalants to be easily obtainable. This maybe speaks of their increased interest in glue, other vaporizers and similar, because availability of these drugs is big, that is, low percentage of students finds glue, gasoline and gas to even be drugs. To the majority of gymnasium students (56.9%) inhalants are easily obtainable, unlike to the students from vocational-professional secondary schools (44.3%). Twice as many of young people from rural areas (40%), than in the case of their peers from big cities (20.2%), find inhalants unavailable.



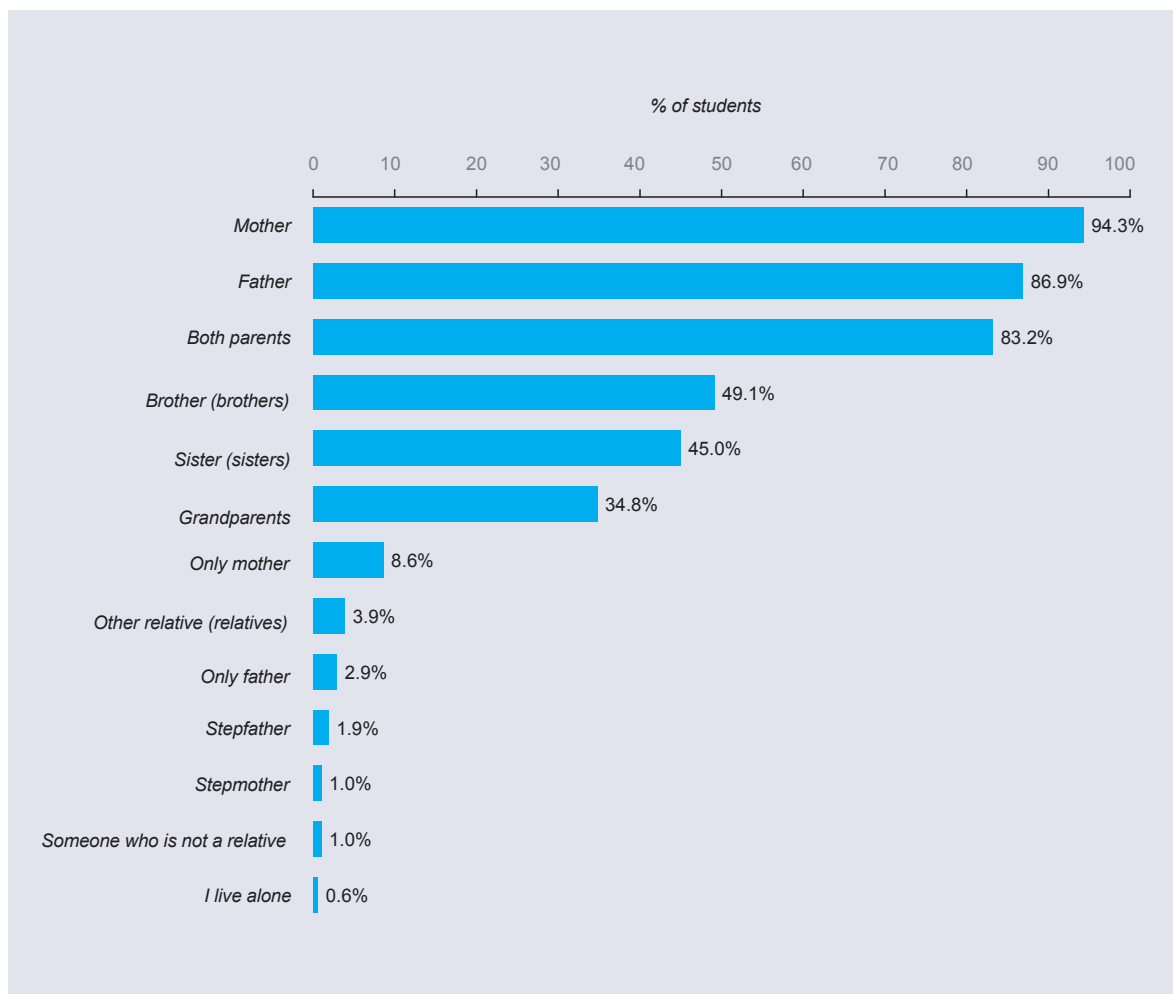
# РАЗЛИЧИТИ DIFFERENT RISK FACTORS ФАКТОРИ РИЗИКА

This section of the report analyses the influence of different socio-economical factors on the use of cigarettes, alcohol and other psychoactive substances. In the literature, on the use of psychoactive substances among adolescents, different factors are defined about the attitudes, use, that is, abuse and consumption prevalence, which are in great extent correlated with certain psychoactive substances.

Analysis that follows finds connections between the use of tobacco, alcohol and cannabis and different socio-economical characteristics. In accordance with the ESPAD model, the results of the use of previously mentioned psychoactive substances during life are presented.

## **Family structure**

Majority of the first grade students live in a complete family, that is, with both mother and father (83.2%) and approximately same percentage of boys and girls (83.4% and 83.0%, respectively). Around 15.6% of students live with only one parent and stepfather or stepmother, while 13.4% of students live with one of the parents (without the presence of stepfather or stepmother in the family), the same percentage of boys and girls. Only with their mother lives 8.6% of young people (8.3% of boys and 8.8% of girls), while the percentage of those students who live only with their father is significantly lower and it is 2.9% for boys as well as for girls. In Serbia, one third of young people live in a family with grandparents, (34.5%). While 82.3% of students report of living with a brother (brothers) or a sister (sisters), around 3.9% of young people lives in a household with other relatives (Graph 43).

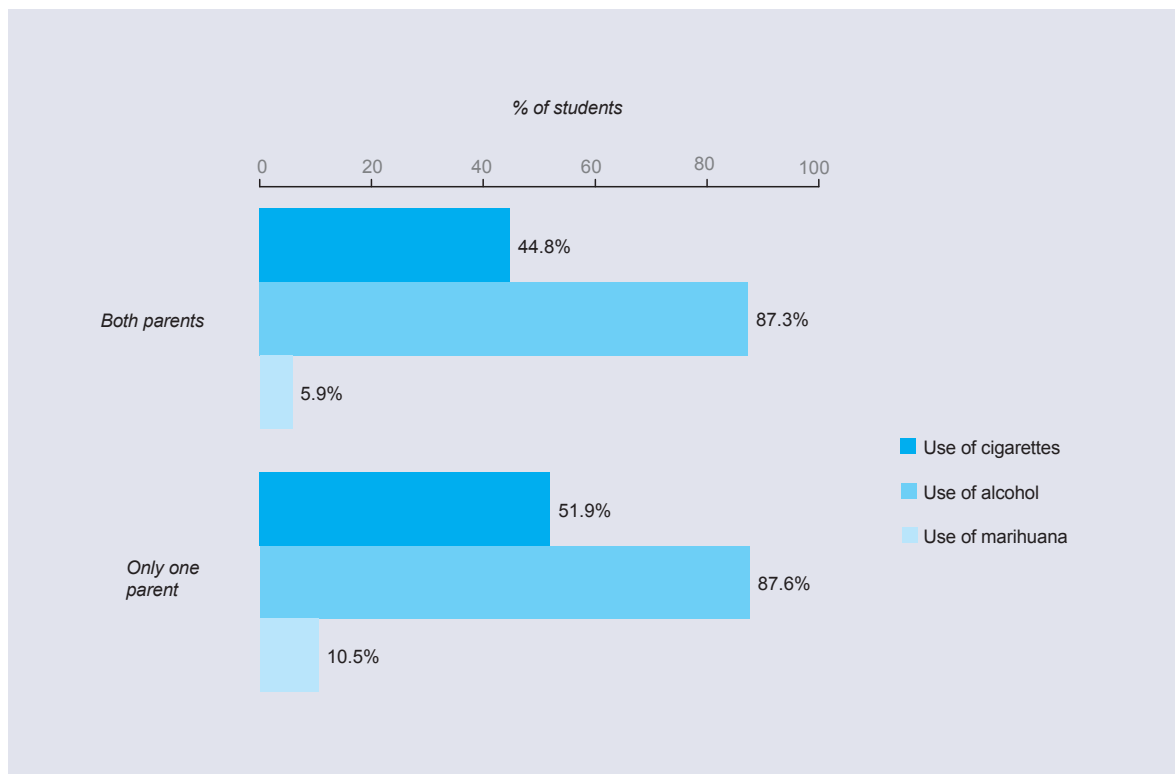
**Graph 43.** Family structure, students of the first grade of secondary school, Serbia, 2008 (%)

The results of the survey indicate that there is a connection between the use of psychoactive substances and the structure of the family in which young person lives. The results of the use of tobacco, alcohol and marihuana during life were analyzed among students who live with both parents and students who live with only one parent and/or stepfather or stepmother.

Use of tobacco and marihuana is significantly lower among students who live with both parents, 44.8% of young people who live with both parents have tried smoking, sometimes during their lives, while this percentage is significantly higher among students who live with only one parent and/or stepmother or stepfather, and it rates 51.9%. Similar case occurs when it comes to use of marihuana. In that way, while 5.9% of students who live with both parents have used marihuana sometimes during life, 10.5% of those who do not live in a household with both mother and father did that.

When we analyze the use of alcohol during life, it is noticed that there is no significant difference among population of students who live with both of their parents or without any of them. Received result is similar for both groups of young people and it rates 87.3% for students who live with both of their parents and 87.6% for those who live only with mother, that is, with father and/or stepmother and stepfather (Graph 44).

**Graph 44.** Use of PAS during life, by family structure, Serbia, 2008 (%)



## Relationships with parents and friends

Students were asked a question „How satisfied are you with your relationship with your mother and your relationship with your father? What about your relationship with your friends? “

Students are in great extent satisfied with their relationships with parents; 82.7% of young people are very satisfied with the relationship they have with their mother and 79.9% with their father. Boys are, in significantly higher percentage satisfied with the relationship they have with their parents, than it is a case with girls, around 68.3% of boys is very satisfied with their relationship with their mother, and 61.9% with their father; unlike 61.2% and 50.7% of girls, respectively.

61.3% of young people is very satisfied with their relationship with friends, and slightly higher number of girls than boys, however differences by gender are not statistically relevant.

Four out of five adolescents thinks that they receive easily (almost always or often) warmth and care (84.3%) and emotional support (82.5%) from their mother and/or father.

More than one half of students (55.8%) reports that they can borrow money from their parents almost always, more often girls (59.8%), than boys (51.1%). Similar situation occurs among young people who can get money as a gift from their mother and/or father easily, in average 51.7% of students of the first grade of secondary school report that they can, almost always, very easily receive money as a gift from their parents, out of which 54.6% of girls and 48.4% of boys.

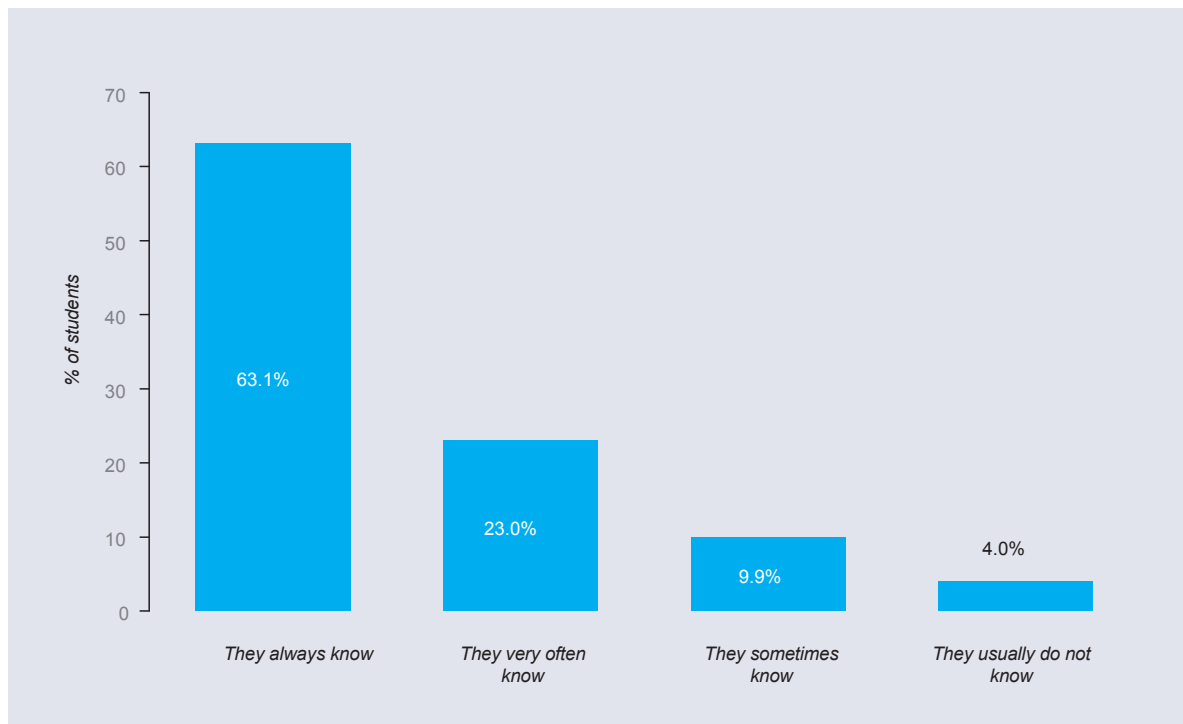
One quarter (26.7%) of students of the first grade of secondary school considers that their parents often or very often set up the rules about what may a student do at home. Girls, in lower percentage than boys, believe that the rules about their behavior at home are defined by their parents. In that way 23.1% of girls say that parents set up rules on what they are allowed to do at home, to 31.0% of boys. Students from the rural areas in the highest percentage believe that their parents are the ones who set up the rules on behavior at home (37.5%).

When it comes to the rules of behavior outside home, every third student considers that their parents are the ones who make those rules. There is a higher percentage of girls (32.6%), than boys (28.3%) that share this opinion. Students from vocational-professional secondary schools, those from rural areas and Central Serbia in higher percentage believe that the rules of behavior outside home are determined by their parents.

More than two thirds of young people (81.3%) report that their parents often or almost always know who they are going out with. This percentage is significantly higher among girls, 86.9%, than among boys, 74.6%. There is a similar percentage of students who claim that their parents often or almost always know where they are going out in the evening, and that percentage is 83.6% (77.2% for boys and 89.0% for girls).

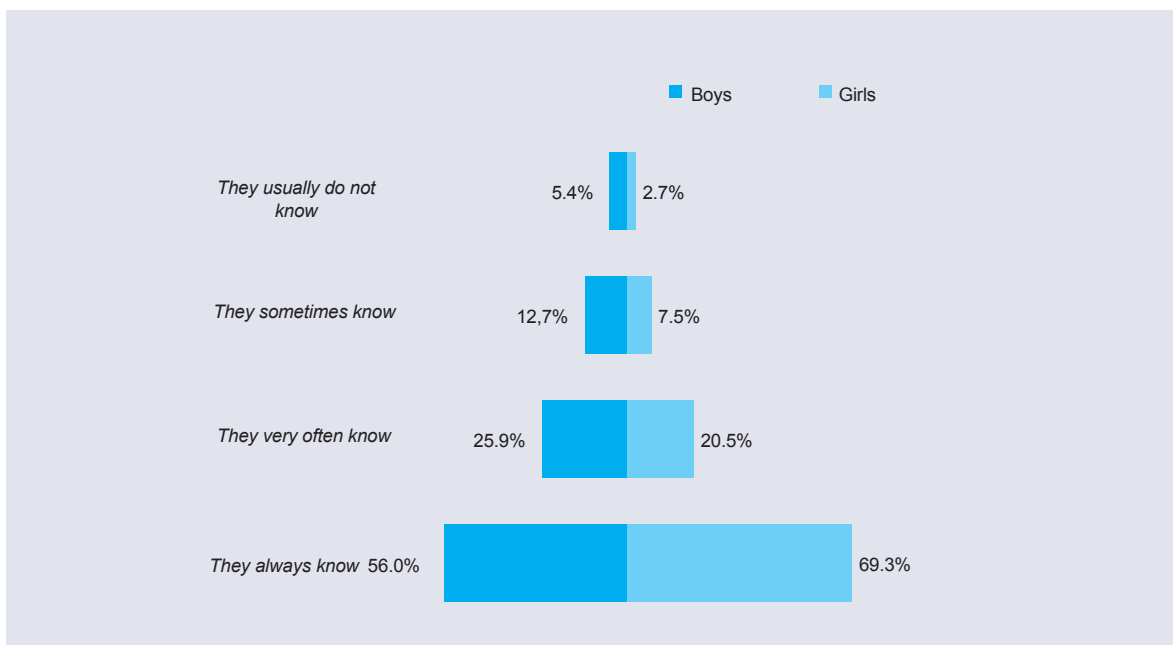
Students were asked a question: “Do your parents know where you spend Saturday night?” This question is of great importance and it represents the control criteria parents have, based on knowledge where and who with their children spend Saturday night. In average, 86.1% of students has reported high grades (always, almost always) of parental control, 13.9% has reported weak parental control (Graph 45).

**Graph 45.** Students' assessment on how familiar their parents are on where do they spend Saturday night, Serbia, 2008 (%)

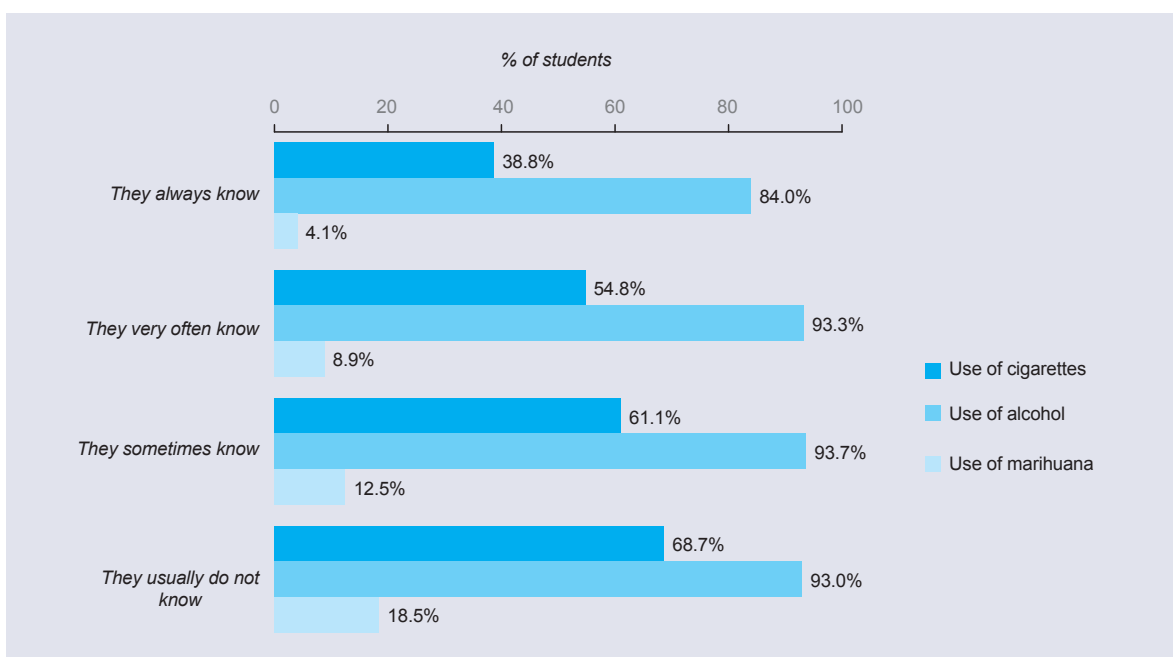


Distribution by gender indicates that the levels of parental control are different towards boys and girls. While 69.3% of girls report that their parents always know where and who with they are spending Saturday night, 56.0% of boys say the same thing (Graph 46).

**Graph 46.** Students' assessment on how familiar their parents are on where do they spend Saturday night, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



**Graph 47.** Use of PAS during life, by students' assessment on how familiar their parents are on where do they spend Saturday night, Serbia, 2008 (%)



We analyzed differences in the use of cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana on different levels of parental control. The biggest differences are noticed when it comes to consumption of cigarettes and marijuana, while the use of alcohol during life is equally present among all students, not related to the parental level of control. In that way, while around 38.0% of young people who report that their parents always know where and who with they spend Saturday night have consumed cigarettes sometimes during life, 68.7% of young people without strong parental control, that is, whose parents usually do not know where they are and who with on Saturday night.

Similar to that, as the level of parental control falls, the percentage of children who have tried marijuana or hashish, sometimes during life, rises. Percentage rises from 4.1% among those students whose parents always know where and who with they spend Saturday night, up to 18.5% among those whose parents usually do not know that (Graph 47).

## Parental attitudes towards the use of psychoactive substances

In the previous sections of the report we already analyzed the data on parental approval/disapproval of the use of different types of psychoactive substances. This chapter particularly concentrates on connections between the use of tobacco and alcohol during life and parental approval towards the use of these drugs. We also analyzed students' opinions on how would their parents react if the pupil was to get drunk, use marijuana/hashish or use ecstasy.

Every second pupil believes that his/her parents would not allow (or already do not allow) smoking. According to students' opinion mother has a less strict attitude towards smoking - 15.9% of students think that their mother would allow them to smoke, unlike 13.6% of those who think their father would allow it as well. There are significant differences when it comes to gender, while 50.4% of boys believe that their father would not allow them smoking at all, and as many as 15.8% believes that he would, corresponding percentages for girls are 56.8% and 11.7%. Cigarette consumption is more often forbidden by parents to secondary school students than to their peers from vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary schools.

On the other hand, economical situation in the family has a great influence on mother's attitudes, 28.6% of students from the poorest families believe that their mother would allow them to smoke. Compared to the year 2005, in the regional centers, percentage of students who believe that their mother or father would allow them to smoke has fallen significantly; while in the year 2005, 20.9% and 26.7% of students considered that their father, that is, mother would allow them to use cigarettes, that percentage is now 15.0% and 16.5%, respectively.

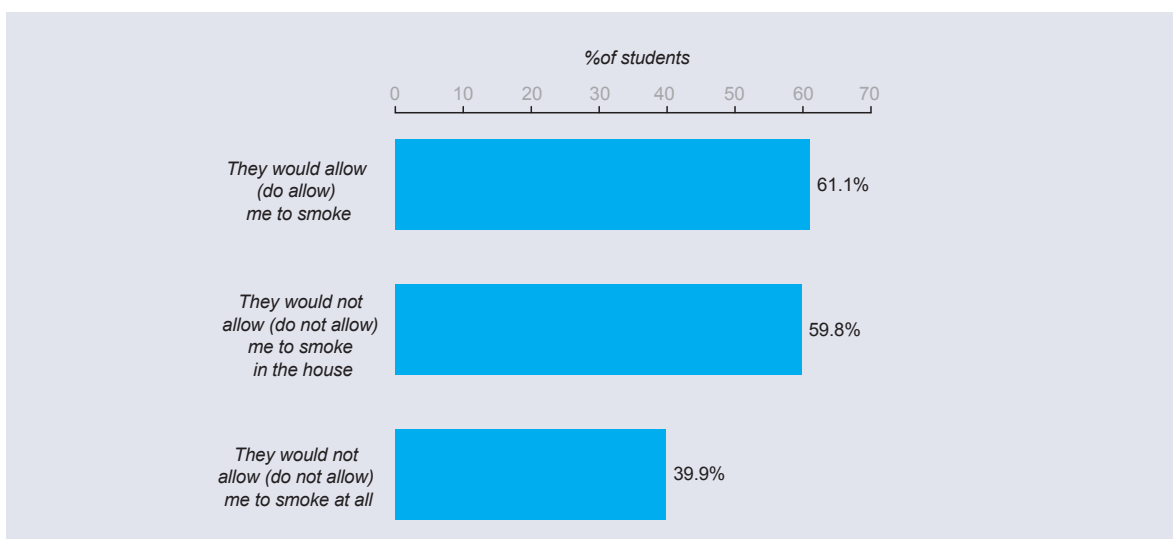
Also, when it comes to alcohol consumption, students believe that fathers have a stricter attitude than mothers. In that way, 51.5% and 46.7% consider that their father, that is, mother would not allow them to consume alcohol. However, only 26.5% of students believe that their father would try to prevent alcohol consumption, and as many as 5.3% of adolescents believe that it would make no difference for their father whether they consume alcohol or not (unlike 36.1% and 2.2% of mothers, respectively). Differences according to gender of the students are significant - 50.8% of mothers and 60.7% of fathers would not allow the use of alcohol to girls, while in the case of boys' parents these percentages are 41.9% and 40.9%, respectively. In Belgrade, the percentage of parents who would allow (or already allow) their children to drink alcohol is significantly above average and rates 3.4% for mothers, that is 5.7% for fathers. Percentage of mothers from the families with (much and very much) better economical situation who would try to

prevent their children from consuming alcohol is significantly lower than in the case of families with average or lower economical status.

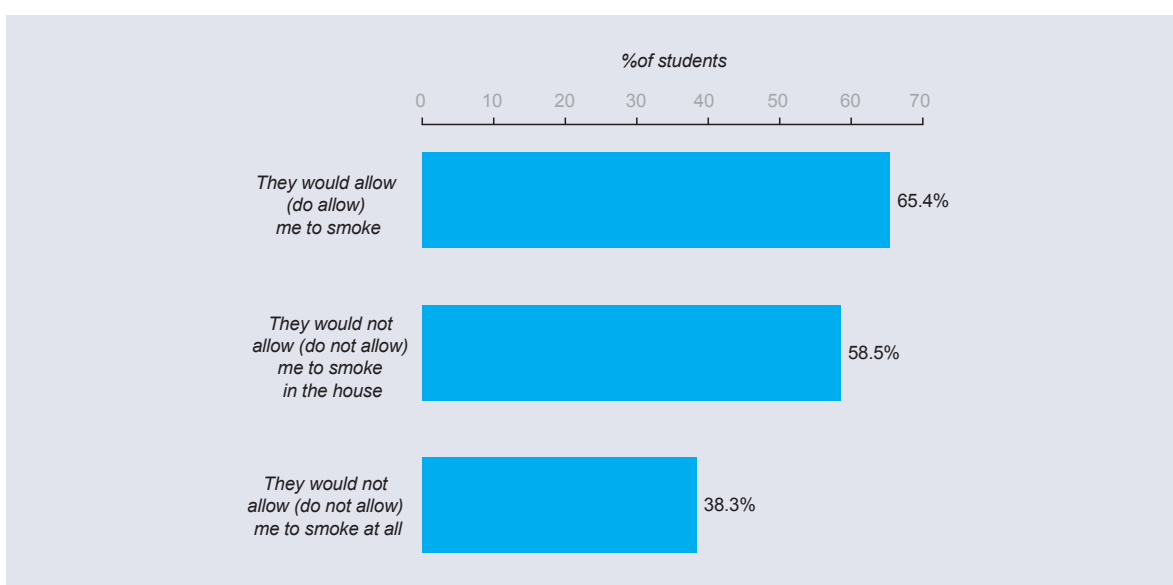
Five out of six parents would not allow the use of marihuana. Similar situation occurs with the use of ecstasy— 85% of mothers and 83.8% of fathers would not allow its use.

When the results of the use of tobacco, alcohol and marihuana are compared with the parental approval/disapproval it is noticed that these data are much correlated. In that way, the percentage of students who have ever used tobacco during life, is reduced from 61.1% among those students whose father would allow them to smoke (65.4% of those whose mother would allow them to smoke), to 39.9% of those whose father would not allow them to smoke (38.3% of those whose mother would not allow them to smoke (Graph 48, Graph 49).

**Graph 48.** Lifetime use of cigarette, by father's approval/disapproval, Serbia, 2008 (%)



**Graph 49.** Lifetime use of cigarettes, by mother's approval/disapproval, Serbia, 2008 (%)



When it comes to the use of alcohol, percentage of use sometimes during life is being significantly reduced. In that way, for example, percentage of young people who have ever used alcohol during life, has fallen from 93.6% of young people whose mother would allow them to use alcohol, to 82.7% of those whose mother would not allow them to use alcohol

Similar to that, the use of cannabis at least once during life goes from 6.0% among students whose mother would not approve of them using it, to 38.0% among students who believe that their mother would not mind, that is, 5.8% to 44.2% among students who believe that their father would disagree, that is, would not mind them using marihuana.

## Satisfaction with yourself and your surrounding

An important protection factor which protects young people from the misuse of all psychoactive substances is to be satisfied with yourself and your surroundings.

Half of adolescents grade their family's economical situation as average, 19.0% believes that they are wealthier than others, and 18.1% that they are poorer. According to students' assessment there is 5.5% of extremely rich families, and 6.5% of extremely poor ones. As many as 74.2% of young people are satisfied with their family's financial situation. Boys are more satisfied than girls – 36.0% of boys and 29.4% of girls are very satisfied with the financial situation. Also, as many as 48.0% of population from the rural areas have graded their financial situation as very satisfactory, which is significantly above Serbia's average (32.5%). Compared to the year 2005, young people in big cities are more satisfied with their financial situation – percentage of young people who grade their financial situation as satisfactory has grown from 54.9% to 74.1%.

In order to estimate pupil's health, special attention is devoted to their own perception of their health and to how satisfied they are with themselves.

Young people are very satisfied with their health – 55.9% has graded their own health as very satisfactory, and 33.8% as satisfactory. Particularly satisfied with their health were boys – as many as 62.3% has reported being very satisfied.

Every fifteenth adolescent (6.6%) is usually not satisfied with himself/herself. In total, 10.6% of young people are not satisfied with themselves – girls in significantly higher percentage than boys (12.5% and 8.2% respectively), and young people from Belgrade (13.1%) more than their peers from other parts of Serbia. In regional centers, the percentage of young people who are completely unsatisfied with themselves (12.0%) has doubled compared to the year 2005 (when it was 6.6%). As many as 46.6% of students, occasionally think that everything is wrong, 44.7% sometimes feels useless, and 27.2% think that they are failures. Unfortunately, these percentages are significantly higher than in the year 2005. On the other hand, 88.7% of young people think that they have a lot of good qualities, 92.3% is capable of doing things just as well as other people, 87.2% thinks that they are as valuable as other people and 89.6% has a positive attitude towards themselves. Every fourth adolescent thinks that there is no reason to feel proud – boys in significantly higher percentage than girls (29.3% and 23.3% respectively), and young people from rural areas (36.5%) more than their peers from the big cities (24.4%) – as many as three quarters of young people from Belgrade disagree with this statement. Young people today mostly lack self-respect – 63.3% of young people have wished to have more self-respect, most of them from Central Serbia (66.1%), and least of them from Belgrade (56.8%). Gymnasium students have more self-respect than their peers from other vocational secondary schools – 42.9% believes they have enough self-respect, while 31.7% of students from vocational-professional and 32.8% of students from vocational-handcraft secondary schools consider that.



In the last 7 days, 29.3% of adolescents have occasionally lost appetite or refused to eat, and 13.2% even more than few times – girls more often than boys. Every tenth pupil has had trouble concentrating during last week – twice as many girls (13.7% compared to 6.7% of boys).

Gymnasium students have had more trouble with the concentration compared to their peers from vocational-professional secondary schools– 22.2% and 17.5% of students, respectively, while young people from the rural areas (40.6%) and Central Serbia (31.9%) rarely or never have these problems.

As many as 49.8% of young people have felt depressed in the last 7 days. Most depressed were girls and students from vocational-professional secondary schools – 11.7% and 10.3% respectively, have spent most of their time feeling depressed.

Boys (25.2%), students from vocational-professional secondary schools (29.9%) and young people from rural areas (40.0%) rarely or never had to invest a lot of effort in order to fulfill their responsibilities, while girls (78.2%), gymnasium students (76.6%) and young people from big cities (73.0%) had to make extra efforts.

Three quarters of adolescents were sad at least once during last week – girls more often than boys (83.8% and 68.0% respectively), and gymnasium students (75.2%) and students from vocational-professional secondary schools (77.6%) more often than students from vocational-handcraft secondary schools (69.0%). Also, boys were more prepared to work – only 42.2% could not do their work at home, on job, or at school, unlike 58.8% of girls.

## Social behavior

In accordance with their age, young people are rebellious towards the rules that are imposed to them – more than one third of young people (39.8%) believe that they can break the majority of rules, 72.1% only respects the rules they want to respect, and one half (51.9%) thinks that in life there are only a few of the absolute rules. Majority of adolescents do not think of life as a sure thing – 59.3% of young people hardly believe in anything, because everything changes, 56.2% considers that no one knows what is expected out of him in life, while 61.2% of students are not sure about anything in life.

In the regional centers, delinquent behavior of young people occurs less often than in the year 2005, boys were more incline to delinquent behavior than girls.

4.0% of young people have reported that they have at least once run away from home longer than one day. As many as 22.6% of young people has thought of hurting themselves – girls in higher number than boys, while in the regional centers this percentage is doubled compared to the year 2005, when it was 10.6%. Concerning fact is that the number of suicide attempts in the regional centers has also increased, compared to the year 2005 – at that time 3.5% of adolescents have tried suicide once to twice, according to their own testimony, and today that percentage is higher and it rates 6.9%.

## Everyday obligations

Every tenth boy and every thirteenth girl do no chores around the house.

Three quarters of adolescents go shopping – more often in big (75.5%), than in small cities (69.1%) and rural areas (68.6%).

Girls more often take care of their younger siblings (27.5%), cook (19.8%), clean house/apartment (65.7%), do laundry (16.9%) and dishes (60.1%), while boys work in the garden (25.5%), take care of domestic animals (16.1%) and older members of the household (10.0%). Every second adolescent takes out garbage, while every fourth takes care of his/her pets. Students from vocational-professional secondary schools are more included in house chores than their peers from other schools.

Daily 72.5% of young people watches television for 2 hours and longer. Boys spend more time in front of the TV than girls – 18.4% of boys and 15.0% of girls watch TV for 5 hours and more. In rural areas every fourth student (23.4%) spends 5 and more hours watching television, but in Vojvodina, there is the highest number of those who watch television for half an hour or less, or do not watch it at all (9.5% and 3.4% respectively). Compared to the year 2005, there are no significant changes.

## Close persons who are users of psychoactive substances

92.2% of adolescents are satisfied with the relationship they have with their friends and they easily receive from them care and warmth (74.8%) as well as emotional support (76.0%). Every tenth student has a friend who does not smoke – there is significantly more of those in Central Serbia (12.2%), than Vojvodina (8.5%) and Belgrade (7.9%), as well as in rural areas (19.4%) and small cities (13.1%) compared to the big ones (7.8%). It is an interesting fact that only 8.9% of girls have no friends who smoke (unlike 12.8% of boys), while as many as one third of them reported that the majority of their friends smoke.

Compared to the year 2005, when only 2.3% of young people did not have any friends who consume alcoholic beverages, in the regional centers that percentage has doubled (4.7%). In Vojvodina one half of young people declared that the majority of their friends consume alcohol, while 14.0% is a part of a group in which everybody drinks. Students from the rural areas have the smallest number of friends who drink alcohol – 17.7% has no friends who drink it, while only 5.8% of young people from big cities also has no friends who consume alcohol. As many as 82.3% of young people have at least one friend who gets drunk – in Vojvodina one third of young people (31.8%) have a couple of friends like that, and in Central Serbia 26.1%.

Every fifth student, and in big cities every fourth, has some friends who smoke marihuana. In Belgrade, 28.9% of young people have several of friends like that, which is significantly higher than in Central Serbia (17.7%) and Vojvodina (23.0%).

Girls have used sedatives more often, and because of that it is expected for them to have more friends who also use them – 17.9% of girls, unlike 11.5% of boys, have reported that only some of their friends use sedatives.

In urban areas, Belgrade in particular, there is the highest number of young people who have several friends who take ecstasy (11.3% and 17.9% respectively) and inhalants (8.1% and 12.2% respectively). Compared to the year 2005, there have been no significant changes.

One third of students have older siblings who smoke, which is a significant fall, compared to the year 2005, when that percentage was 39.7%.

Parental education and the economical situation of the family have no influence on smoking.

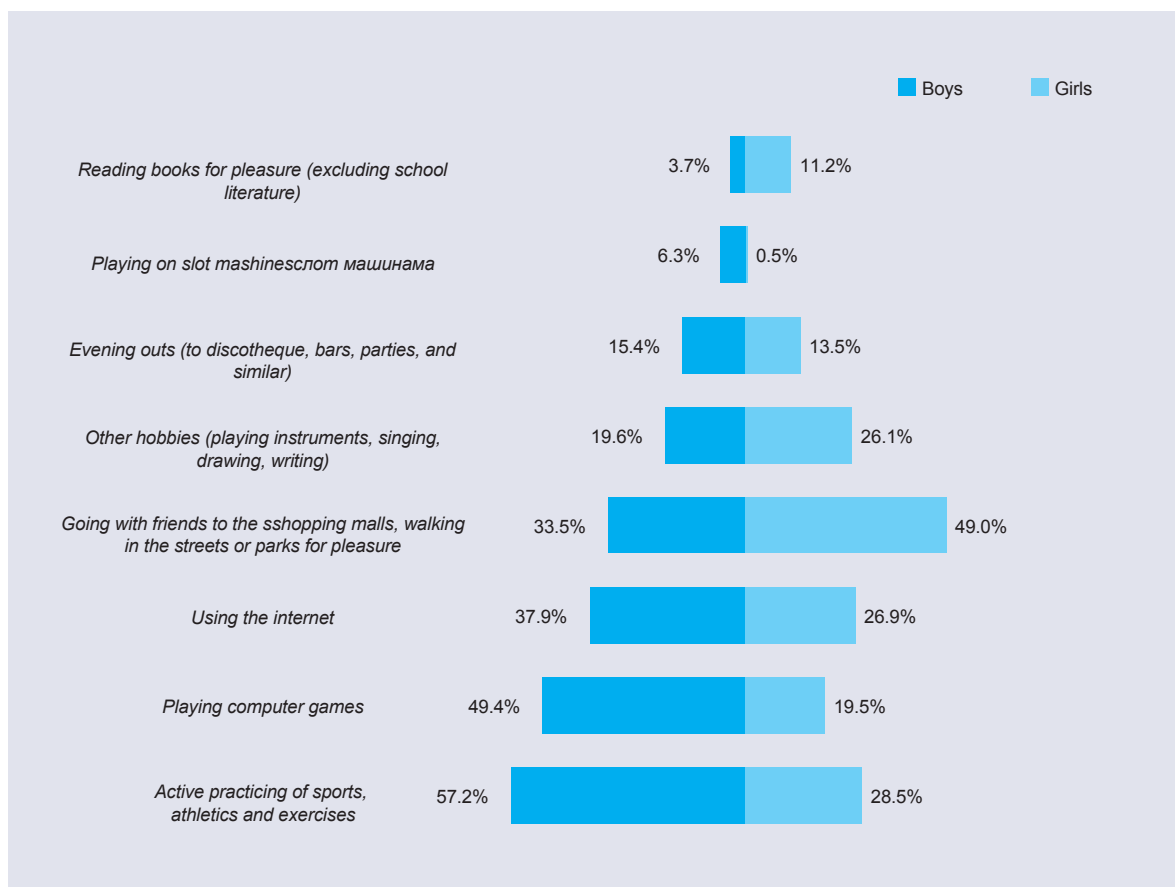
43.3% of young people have siblings who consume alcohol and 17.9% of them get drunk (in regional centers 17.5%, which is significantly lower than in the year 2005 – 24.8%). In households where at least one parent has unfinished college there is significantly lower number of children who do not consume alcoholic beverages (28.1%), then it is the case in families where unfinished elementary school is the highest level of education (37.6%).

Even though only 5.3% of young people have older siblings who consume marihuana, 5.5% sedatives, 4.3% ecstasy and 4.0% inhalants, compared to the year 2005 there has been a significant increase in the use of these substances. Mentioned psychoactive substances are more available to children from very rich families, in that way every tenth pupil from these families has an older sibling who uses them.

## Spear time

Adolescence represents a special period between childhood and maturity, a phase of significant changes which help a young person to step into the world of adults. Spear time activities give the opportunities to experiment with new roles and develop new strategies and skills which have a significant influence on development and socialization. Spear time represents a good foundation which makes it possible for adolescents to gain control of different processes, to learn from relationships with their closest ones, family and friends, but it also bears with itself potential risks, such as participating in risky activities.

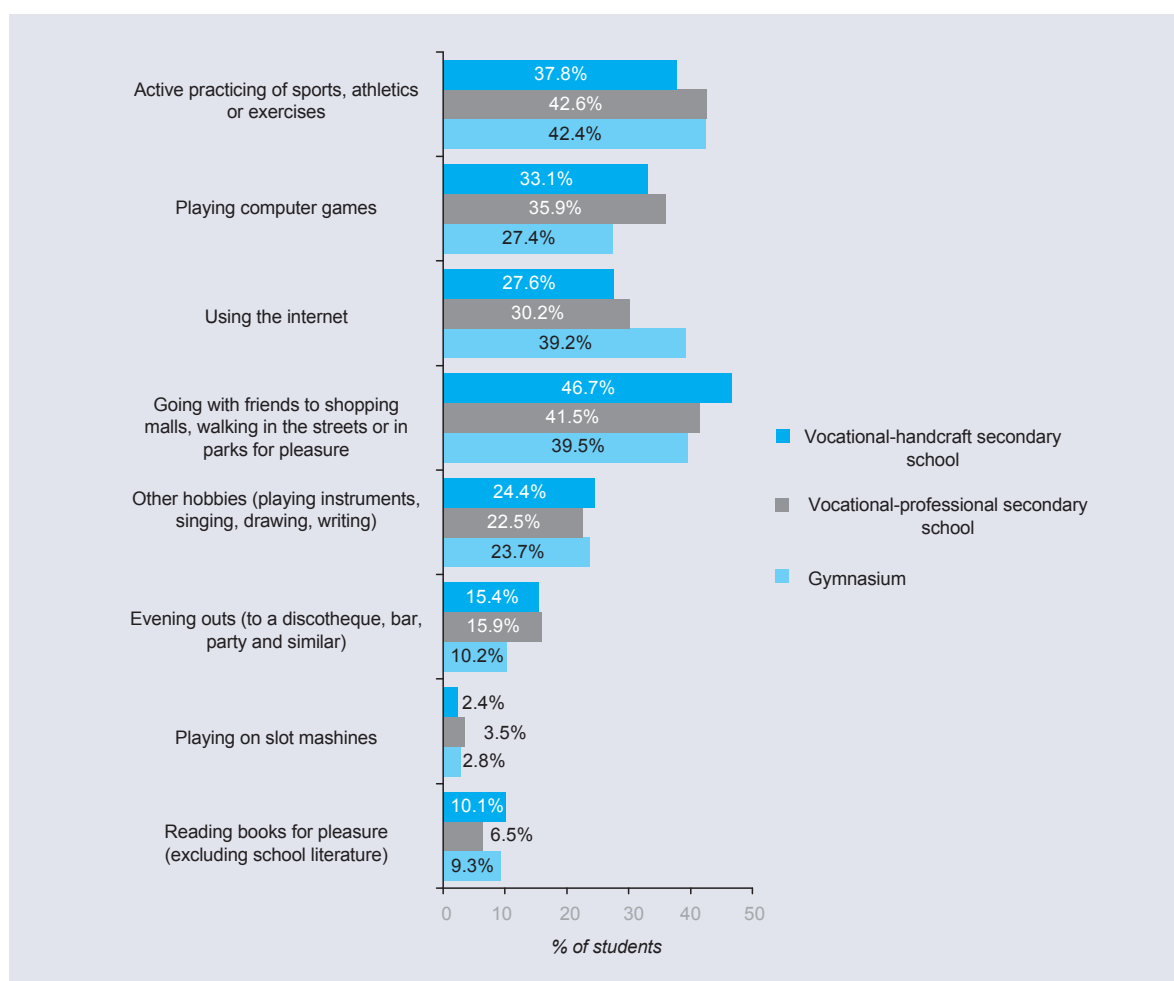
Graph 50. Daily activities in the spear time, students of the first grade of secondary school, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)



In order to get a better perspective of the possibilities for proper development and risks which adolescent encounter in their spare time, this section of the report analyses activities that are most present in everyday spare time of the students of the first grade of secondary schools in Serbia. Students were asked a question: “How often (if ever) do you practice the following activities? – play computer games, practice sports actively, athletics or exercises, read books out of pleasure (excluding school literature), go out in the evening (to a discotheque, cafe, on a party and similar), other hobbies (do you play any instruments, sing, dance, draw, write), go with your friends in shopping malls, walk in the streets or parks out of pleasure, use the internet, play on the slot machines”. Analyzed data give a very significant contribution to the survey and to discussion of critical topics, such as use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

Out of the activities that the first grade students report as the ones that they perform every day, the most often one is going with friends to a shopping mall, walking in the streets or in the parks out of pleasure (41.8%). There is a significantly higher number of girls who spend their spare time this way, than boys, 49.0% to 33.5%, respectively (Graph 50). Considerably high percentage of adolescents spend their spare time actively practicing sports, athletics or exercises; 41.8%. In this activity, as well, a significant difference is noticed between boys and girls, considerably higher percentage of boys practices sports every day (57.2%) compared to girls (28.5%).

**Graph 51.** Daily activities in the spare time, students of the first grade of secondary school, by school type, Serbia, 2008 (%)



Spending time in front of a computer and playing computer games is every day more frequent among adolescents. Every third pupil of the first grade of secondary school plays computer games every day, and it is every second boy and every fifth girl. A similar situation occurs when it comes to spending spare time on the internet. Over one half of students, at least once a week, spends their time on the internet (out of which 32.0% every day).

Evening outs to a discotheque, bar, on parties and similar, are very frequent among young people, as many as 14.4% of students report of spending their spare time in that way every day, while a bit more than one half of secondary school students goes out in the evening at least once a week.

There is a very low percentage of secondary school students who read books out of pleasure in their spare time (excluding school literature), only 7.5%.

Along with the significant differences that can be noticed in the activities of boys and girls, the differences among students of different types of schools are also evident. Gymnasium students in higher percentage practice sports, read books, or have some other hobby (playing an instrument, singing, writing or drawing), while they spend considerably smaller amount of time playing video games or going to discotheques and bars in the evening, compared to the students from other schools in Serbia (Graph 51).

Certain differences are noticed when it comes to how do young people from the big cities (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad) spend their spare time in the year 2008, compared to the year 2005. There is a significantly lower percentage of young people from the regional centers who play computer games almost every day (while in the year 2005, 38.3% of students reported spending their spare time, almost every day, this way, in the year 2008, 33.4% of students report this). Also, a significant growth in the youth who practices sports every, or almost every day is noticed (43.0%) in the year 2008, to 35.7% in the year 2005), and it is this indicator in particular that represents one of the key conditions for a healthy life – life without drugs.

## **Absence from class**

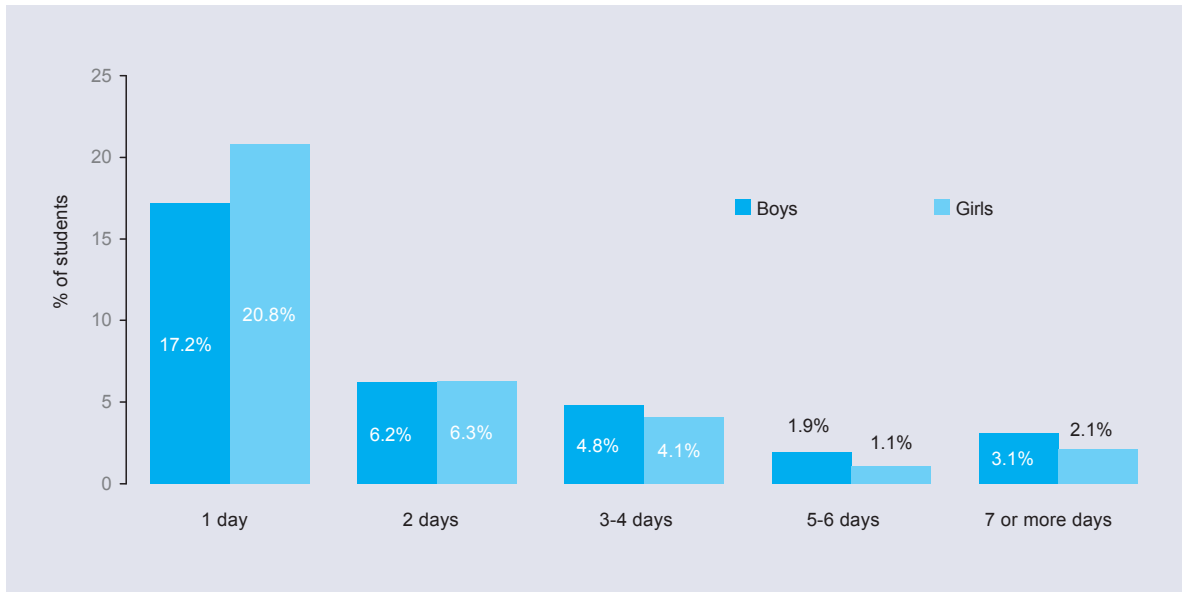
Despite the fact that secondary school education is not obligatory, student who starts the school year has to attend classes. In the case of absence from classes there is a risk that student can not achieve relevant educational goals, and the question of where does the student spend time which is scheduled for classes, in the case of non justified absence, appears. Presence is also necessary in order for the teacher to conduct proper and objective evaluation of student's knowledge.

In the survey, students were asked a question how many times, during the last 30 days, did they miss one or several classes due to illness, skipping classes, or some other reason. Almost one half of students (46.7%) have missed classes, during the month that forewent to the survey, due to illness. Every third pupil (33.9%) reports of skipping classes at least once, while 36.2% gives some other reasons for being absent.

A significantly smaller number of secondary school students has been absent from classes due to any of the previously mentioned reasons, compared to the students from the other types of school. Skipping one or several classes, in the month prior to the survey, was in greater extent noticed among students from the big cities (35.7%) Belgrade in particular (39.7%), compared to the students from smaller cities (31.5%) or rural areas (33.8%). High percentage of adolescents who have been absent due to skipping classes,

is from the regional centers (Belgrade, Nis and Novi Sad), where as many as 38.6% of students have reported of being absent from at least one class, during the last month, due to skipping it. An alarming fact is that this data is significantly higher than the one from the year 2005, when 34.9% of students from the regional centers gave this reason for being absent. There are no significant differences in being absent from classes due to skipping them among boys and girls (Graph 52).

**Graph 52.** *Skipping classes, students of the first grade of secondary school, by gender, Serbia, 2008 (%)*



# ЗАКЉУЧЦИ CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS И ПРЕПОРУКЕ

Survey on the use of alcohol and other drugs among young people in Serbia (2008) (ESPAD) gives the first and detailed data on the use of alcohol and other drugs among students aged 16 years on the territory of the Republic of Serbia. Data from the survey are an important guide and support when it comes to determining priorities and planning preventive activities for the following period.

Completed analyses of the ESPAD study which are represented in this report are a frame from which preventive strategies and recommendations for further surveys can be developed.

More restrictive laws, reduced availability of all psychoactive substances, increasing the price of legal drugs, including more young people into educational programmes and programmes for development of social skills, organizing preventive activities in schools and local communities for young people, their parents and teachers, as well as other adults and increasing the possibilities for creative use of spare time, would definitely contribute to reducing the number of young people, aged 16 years, who start using drugs. Media role is very important; therefore it is significant for the media to continue informing young people and adults on the importance of a healthy life style and the dangers of the use of psychoactive substances.

When observed by regions, significant differences are noticed when it comes to patterns for consuming different psychoactive substances, which is necessary to take into consideration when planning preventive activities in different areas on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

## Conclusions

- Percentage of cigarette smoking during life among first grade secondary school students is high; almost one half of the first grade secondary school students (46.0%) have smoked at least one cigarette during life.
- Students from vocational-professional and vocational-handcraft secondary schools smoke in higher percentage compared to the gymnasium students who smoke, but also start tobacco consumption at a younger age, so the need for more intensive preventive activities in vocational-professional and vocational – handcraft secondary schools is necessary.
- In accordance with the average values, smoking is particularly threatening for boys and students from the rural areas, who are, at the same time, less aware of the risks of occasional smoking.
- There is a high percentage of young people who have tried their first cigarette at the age of 14 or younger and because of that, it is necessary to enforce preventive programmes at an early age.
- Two thirds of students state that cigarettes, if they would like to obtain them, are available to them. This fact emphasizes the necessity to apply already existing law regulations, which forbid selling tobacco products to minors, even more strict.
- Percentage of students who believe that their parents would allow, or already allow them to smoke is very high. Therefore it is necessary to include the parents into preventive activities even more.
- Special problem among students is consumption of alcoholic beverages which is indicated by the data that nine out of ten students (89.1%) have had at least one alcoholic beverage during life and one quarter of students (24.9%) consumes alcoholic beverages more regularly.
- The problem of alcohol abuse emphasizes the fact that 42.2% of students got drunk at least once during their lives, slightly less than one third (29.7%) got drunk at least once during the last 12 months, as many as one third (32.0%) has had 5 or more drinks in a row, during the last month (so called “binge drinking” or excessive drinking).
- The significance of an early start of a preventive programme is also emphasized by the fact that 8.4% of students have reported their first drunkenness at the age of 13 and sooner.
- Despite legally regulated prohibition of selling and serving alcoholic beverages to minors, as many as 40.5% of students think that spirits are easily available to them, while more than a half of students think that they could easily buy beer and wine.
- Gymnasium students and students from vocational-professional secondary schools more often state the use of alcohol during life, compared to the students from vocational-handcraft secondary schools.
- Students from big and small cities more often try drinking alcohol, than students from the rural areas.
- Along with the curiosity and the decision to try alcohol, which is on a relatively high level, significantly lower percentage of young people continues to use it.
- Boys drink more often and more than girls, they get drunk more often and they try alcohol at a much earlier age.



- Young people are not aware enough of the risks of using alcoholic beverages.
- As many as 15.1% of first grade secondary school students state of using some of the psychoactive substances at least once during their lives (excluding tobacco and alcohol) and most often used psychoactive substances are sedatives (without doctor's prescription) 7.6% and marihuana, which was tried at least once during life by 6.7% of students.
- Girls, in significantly higher percentage, use sedatives compared to the boys, which indicates the need for more intensive activities in the goal of reducing sedative misuse, with the special emphasis on the girls.
- Students from the urban areas, Belgrade in particular, have stated of using marihuana at least once during their lives, in much higher percentage.
- Among young people who have tried marihuana at least once in their lives, there is significantly higher number of those who state that at least one of their friends also uses it; therefore it is necessary to conduct a programme which is specifically based on developing skills to resist peer pressure.

## Recommendations

Key findings of the ESPAD study indicate that for further protection of children and young people from developing addictions it is necessary to:

- Intensivate preventive activities at an early (preschool and elementary school) age, in order to prevent the use of psychoactive substances at an early age.
- Make it possible for the children and young people to develop social skills and to be informed about the effects and long-term consequences of the use of PAS;
- Include children and young people, who are at risk of developing an addiction illness, in specifically developed programmes and insure a more intensive work with that population;
- Intensivate work with parents and other important adults from children and young people's surroundings;
- Create and enforce sensitive programmes, as well as other specific programmes which satisfy the needs of a particularly sensitive groups of population;
- Include entire community in the programmes of PAS use reduction among children and young people, work on the replacement of the legal regulative, work on a more strict application of the current laws, reduce availability of PAS, build up inter-sector coordination and define the budget lines for preventive activities on the level of the local community;
- Include young people in teams for creating preventive programmes and education of peers, as the key messengers of health;
- Include the media in preventive activities and educate the journalists to send preventive messages which instigate health;
- Ensure regular repetition of the ESPAD study in accordance with the European standards.

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# ПРИЛОГ

## ANNEX

Tables

Table 1. Frequency of lifetime use of cigarettes, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times in your life (if at all) have you smoked cigarettes?									Lifetime use of cigarettes	Number of students
	0	1-2	3-5	6-9	10-19	20-39	40 +				
Gender											
	Boys	54.1	16.0	6.1	3.2	3.6	2.4	14.6	45.9	2842	
	Girls	53.8	17.5	6.6	4.1	3.4	2.9	11.8	46.2	3292	
Type of school											
	Gymnasium	60.1	15.6	5.5	2.8	3.6	2.6	9.9	39.9	1518	
	Vocational professional school	52.3	16.7	6.4	4.0	3.6	2.6	14.3	47.7	3673	
	Vocational handcraft school	50.5	19.4	7.5	3.6	2.9	2.9	13.3	49.5	943	
Size of the city											
	Big city	53.1	16.7	6.2	4.2	3.7	2.9	13.0	46.9	3274	
	Small city	55.3	17.1	6.6	2.9	3.1	2.2	12.9	44.7	2685	
	Rural areas	49.1	15.4	5.7	3.4	5.1	4.6	16.6	50.9	175	
Region											
	Vojvodina	49.6	16.6	6.5	3.4	4.5	3.1	16.3	50.4	1482	
	Belgrade	51.8	16.3	6.3	3.9	4.0	3.1	14.6	48.2	1157	
	Central Serbia	56.5	17.1	6.3	3.7	2.9	2.3	11.2	43.5	3495	
Total		54.0	16.8	6.4	3.7	3.5	2.7	13.1	46.0	6134	

Table 2. Cigarette smoking during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

		How many times did you smoke cigarettes during the last 30 days?										Cigarette smoking during the last 30 days	Percentage of daily smokers – at least one cigarette per day	Number of students
		Not at all	Less than 1 cigarette per week	Less than 1 cigarette per day	1-5 cigarettes per day	6-10 cigarettes per day	11-20 cigarettes per day	More than 20 cigarettes per day						
Gender	Boys	79.4	4.6	2.2	3.6	4.0	3.8	2.4	20.6	13.8	2850			
	Girls	78.6	5.1	2.3	5.3	3.5	3.1	2.0	21.4	14.0	3296			
Type of school	Gymnasium	83.6	4.9	2.0	3.3	2.5	2.6	1.0	16.4	9.4	1520			
	Vocational professional school	76.9	5.0	2.5	4.7	4.5	3.8	2.6	23.1	15.6	3678			
	Vocational handcraft school	79.6	4.2	1.8	6.1	2.5	3.4	2.3	20.4	14.3	948			
Size of the city	Big city	78.9	4.9	2.2	4.7	3.9	3.4	1.9	21.1	13.9	3282			
	Small city	79.7	4.6	2.3	4.3	3.3	3.4	2.4	20.3	13.5	2689			
	Rural areas	69.1	7.4	4.0	6.9	5.1	4.0	3.4	30.9	19.4	175			
Region	Voivodina	74.8	5.6	2.6	5.0	4.9	4.3	2.8	25.2	17.0	1486			
	Belgrade	78.0	5.0	2.3	4.4	3.4	4.5	2.3	22.0	14.7	1160			
	Central Serbia	81.1	4.5	2.2	4.4	3.3	2.7	1.9	18.9	12.3	3500			
Total		79.0	4.8	2.3	4.6	3.7	3.4	2.2	21.0	13.9	6146			

**Table 3. Age at first use of cigarettes, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	When did you (if at all) smoke your first cigarette?											Number of students				
	Never	9 years old or less	10 years old	11 years old	12 years old	13 years old	14 years old	15 years old	16 years old or older	13 years or younger	14 years or younger					
Gender																
	Boys	53.4	6.8	2.5	1.6	3.2	5.4	9.9	14.1	3.1	19.5	29.5	2847			
	Girls	52.8	5.2	1.5	1.1	2.0	4.7	9.6	18.8	4.2	14.5	24.2	3291			
Type of school	Gymnasium	59.5	5.6	1.6	1.5	2.2	4.3	7.3	15.9	2.2	15.1	22.4	1520			
	Vocational professional school	51.1	6.3	2.1	1.3	2.7	5.1	10.4	16.8	4.3	17.5	27.8	3670			
	Vocational handcraft school	50.5	5.3	2.1	1.4	2.5	5.9	11.4	17.0	3.9	17.2	28.6	948			
Size of the city	Big city	52.1	5.9	2.2	1.4	2.7	5.0	9.9	17.2	3.7	17.1	27.0	3280			
	Small city	54.5	6.0	1.8	1.3	2.5	5.1	9.5	16.0	3.4	16.5	26.1	2684			
	Rural areas	49.4	8.0	1.7	0.6	1.7	4.0	11.5	15.5	7.5	16.1	27.6	174			
Region	Vojvodina	49.4	5.2	1.9	1.1	3.4	5.5	11.6	17.7	4.2	17.1	28.7	1482			
	Belgrade	50.6	5.1	2.5	1.9	2.9	6.1	9.9	18.8	2.2	18.5	28.3	1157			
	Central Serbia	55.4	6.6	1.8	1.3	2.1	4.4	9.0	15.4	3.9	16.2	25.2	3499			
Total		53.1	6.0	2.0	1.3	2.6	5.0	9.8	16.6	3.7	16.8	26.6	6138			



Table 4. Age of starting daily use of cigarettes, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

		When did you (if at all) smoke cigarettes every day for the first time?											Number of students
	Never	9 years old or less	10 years old	11 years old	12 years old	13 years old	14 years old	15 years old	16 years old or older	13 years or younger	14 years or younger		
Gender	Boys	84.5	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	1.6	2.1	6.9	3.7	2.9	4.9	2803
	Girls	84.9	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.7	8.3	3.7	1.4	3.1	3255
Type of school	Gymnasium	88.9	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.9	1.0	5.8	2.8	1.6	2.6	1507
	Vocational professional school	83.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.4	2.2	8.4	4.0	2.3	4.5	3615
	Vocational handcraft school	84.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.9	1.8	8.0	3.7	2.0	3.8	936
Size of the city	Big city	84.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.4	1.9	7.8	3.6	2.3	4.1	3236
	Small city	85.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	1.9	7.3	3.4	1.8	3.7	2651
	Rural areas	76.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	11.1	8.8	2.9	4.1	171
Region	Vojvodina	82.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.2	2.7	10.1	3.2	2.0	4.7	1468
	Belgrade	83.9	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	2.0	1.8	7.7	3.3	3.2	5.0	1139
	Central Serbia	86.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	1.5	6.6	4.0	1.8	3.3	3451
Total		84.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.2	1.9	7.7	3.7	2.1	3.9	6058

Table 5. Frequency of lifetime use of any alcoholic beverage, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times have you drunk any alcoholic drink (if at all)?										LifETIME use of any alcoholic beverage	Number of students
	– In your life											
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	40 +					
Gender												
	Boys	10.1	10.5	10.8	8.9	12.8	10.1	36.7	89.9	2798		
	Girls	11.7	18.5	15.7	13.0	15.0	11.4	14.7	88.3	3239		
Type of school												
	Gymnasium	11.1	16.0	12.5	11.5	15.0	11.2	22.8	88.9	1502		
	Vocational professional school	10.3	14.1	13.7	11.0	13.8	10.7	26.4	89.7	3610		
	Vocational handcraft school	13.2	15.9	13.8	11.0	13.1	10.5	22.5	86.8	925		
Size of the city												
	Big city	10.6	14.0	14.1	11.5	14.9	11.3	23.5	89.4	3220		
	Small city	11.1	15.7	12.6	10.7	13.0	10.0	26.7	88.9	2648		
	Rural areas	13.6	15.4	14.2	10.7	12.4	11.2	22.5	86.4	169		
Region												
	Vojvodina	9.3	13.9	11.2	9.8	12.7	13.0	30.0	90.7	1461		
	Belgrade	9.4	13.8	13.6	12.2	15.1	12.1	23.8	90.6	1131		
	Central Serbia	12.1	15.6	14.3	11.3	14.2	9.4	23.1	87.9	3445		
Total		10.9	14.8	13.4	11.1	14.0	10.8	24.9	89.1	6037		

Table 6. Frequency of use of any alcoholic beverage during the last 12 months, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times have you drunk any alcoholic drink (if at all)? – During the last 12 months										Use of any alcoholic beverage during the last 12 months	Number of students
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	40 +					
Gender												
	Boys	18.8	16.5	13.1	10.5	13.2	9.3	18.6	81.2	2765		
	Girls	24.3	24.3	16.2	11.4	12.2	6.7	4.8	75.7	3201		
Type of school												
	Gymnasium	23.5	18.7	14.8	12.0	13.5	7.9	9.5	76.5	1478		
	Vocational professional school	20.6	21.4	14.5	10.9	12.5	7.7	12.2	79.4	3571		
	Vocational handcraft school	23.4	21.0	15.6	9.5	12.0	8.7	9.7	76.6	917		
Size of the city												
	Big city	21.3	20.7	16.3	11.6	12.5	7.5	10.0	78.7	3192		
	Small city	22.3	20.5	13.0	10.3	13.0	8.6	12.5	77.7	2615		
	Rural areas	23.3	23.3	13.2	9.4	11.9	5.7	13.2	76.7	159		
Region												
	Vojvodina	19.2	17.3	12.6	11.3	14.2	11.0	14.3	80.8	1448		
	Belgrade	20.6	20.5	16.4	12.2	13.5	7.3	9.5	79.4	1115		
	Central Serbia	23.2	22.2	15.1	10.4	11.8	6.8	10.4	76.8	3403		
Total		21.8	20.7	14.8	11.0	12.7	7.9	11.2	78.2	5966		

**Table 7. Frequency of use of any alcoholic beverage during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	How many times have you drunk any alcoholic drink (if at all)? –									Use of any alcoholic beverage during the last 30 days	Number of students
	During the past 30 days										
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	40 +				
Gender											
	Boys	38.3	21.5	15.5	9.0	8.0	3.9	3.8	61.7	2767	
	Girls	52.6	24.2	12.6	5.5	3.4	1.1	0.6	47.4	3224	
Type of school											
	Gymnasium	48.7	24.0	12.6	7.8	3.7	2.1	1.1	51.3	1490	
	Vocational professional school	44.5	22.4	14.9	6.8	6.1	2.6	2.7	55.5	3583	
	Vocational handcraft school	47.6	23.2	12.4	7.4	6.1	2.0	1.3	52.4	918	
Size of the city											
	Big city	46.7	24.2	13.5	6.7	5.3	1.8	1.7	53.3	3206	
	Small city	45.2	21.4	14.7	7.7	5.8	2.9	2.3	54.8	2621	
	Rural areas	46.3	23.8	10.4	5.5	4.9	4.3	4.9	53.7	164	
Region											
	Vojvodina	39.6	23.7	15.3	9.0	7.0	3.3	2.2	60.4	1448	
	Belgrade	46.3	24.7	14.3	6.6	4.6	1.9	1.5	53.7	1129	
	Central Serbia	48.7	22.1	13.2	6.5	5.2	2.2	2.2	51.3	3414	
Total		46.0	23.0	13.9	7.1	5.5	2.4	2.1	54.0	5991	

Table 8. Frequency of beer drinking during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times in the last 30 days (if at all) did you drink beer?										Use of beer during the last 30 days	Number of students
	0	1-2	3-5	6-9	10-19	20-39	40+					
Gender												
	Boys	37.5	22.7	13.4	9.0	7.6	4.1	5.8	62.5	2836		
	Girls	66.0	19.8	7.5	3.5	1.9	0.8	0.6	34.0	3285		
Type of school	Gymnasium	60.0	19.0	8.1	5.3	3.6	1.7	2.3	40.0	1514		
	Vocational professional school	48.7	21.9	11.4	6.6	5.2	2.6	3.7	51.3	3662		
	Vocational handcraft school	56.7	21.6	9.2	5.4	3.5	2.1	1.5	43.3	945		
Size of the city	Big city	54.1	21.3	10.3	5.5	4.1	2.1	2.6	45.9	3267		
	Small city	52.0	20.6	9.9	6.6	5.1	2.5	3.3	48.0	2681		
	Rural areas	39.9	26.0	14.5	7.5	2.9	3.5	5.8	60.1	173		
Region	Vojvodina	53.3	19.6	9.2	7.0	5.2	2.4	3.4	46.7	1482		
	Belgrade	52.7	22.7	10.2	5.6	4.0	3.0	1.7	47.3	1152		
	Central Serbia	52.6	21.3	10.7	5.9	4.4	2.0	3.2	47.4	3487		
Total		52.8	21.1	10.2	6.1	4.5	2.3	3.0	47.2	6121		

Table 9. Frequency of wine drinking during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times in the last 30 days (if at all) did you drink wine?										Use of wine during the last 30 days	Number of students	
	0	1-2	3-5	6-9	10-19	20-39	40 +						
Gender													
	Boys	55.1	23.3	8.9	5.2	3.7	1.7	2.1				44.9	2810
	Girls	57.4	27.6	8.1	3.3	2.0	0.8	0.6				42.6	3264
Type of school	Gymnasium	58.2	25.2	8.6	4.1	2.0	1.1	0.7				41.8	1505
	Vocational professional school	55.4	25.7	8.8	4.1	3.2	1.3	1.6				44.6	3633
	Vocational handcraft school	57.1	26.2	7.1	4.9	2.6	1.4	0.9				42.9	936
Size of the city	Big city	58.3	25.3	8.0	4.1	2.5	0.9	1.0				41.7	3247
	Small city	54.4	26.0	8.9	4.4	3.1	1.8	1.5				45.6	2655
	Rural areas	49.4	27.9	11.0	4.7	2.9	0.6	3.5				50.6	172
Region	Vojvodina	53.4	27.2	8.9	4.4	3.1	1.5	1.4				46.6	1468
	Belgrade	58.8	24.2	9.3	3.9	2.0	0.7	1.0				41.2	1144
	Central Serbia	56.8	25.4	8.0	4.2	2.9	1.3	1.3				43.2	3462
Total		56.4	25.6	8.5	4.2	2.8	1.3	1.3				43.6	6074

Table 10. Frequency of drinking spirits during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times in the last 30 days (if at all) did you drink spirits?										Use of spirits during the last 30 days	Number of students
	0	1-2	3-5	6-9	10-19	20-39	40+					
Gender												
	Boys	65.3	17.1	6.3	4.2	3.3	2.1	1.7	34.7	2824		
	Girls	71.4	16.2	6.1	3.2	2.1	0.5	0.6	28.6	3279		
Type of school	Gymnasium	68.1	17.1	6.2	4.2	2.8	0.7	0.9	31.9	1512		
	Vocational professional school	68.7	16.6	5.7	3.7	2.5	1.6	1.2	31.3	3645		
	Vocational handcraft school	68.8	15.5	8.0	2.9	2.9	1.0	1.0	31.2	946		
Size of the city	Big city	68.9	16.8	6.2	4.0	2.5	1.0	0.7	31.1	3259		
	Small city	68.0	16.6	6.2	3.2	2.9	1.5	1.5	32.0	2671		
	Rural areas	71.1	12.1	5.8	4.6	2.3	1.2	2.9	28.9	173		
Region	Vojvodina	60.2	18.7	8.9	5.1	3.7	2.0	1.4	39.8	1478		
	Belgrade	67.3	18.7	6.0	3.5	2.7	1.0	0.9	32.7	1146		
	Central Serbia	72.5	15.0	5.1	3.1	2.2	1.0	1.1	27.5	3479		
Total		68.6	16.6	6.2	3.7	2.7	1.3	1.1	31.4	6103		

**Table 11. Quantities of beer consumed on the last alcohol drinking occasion, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

		If you drank beer the last day when you consumed any alcoholic drink, how many beers did you drink?						Number of students
		I never drink beer	I did not drink beer last I drank alcohol	Less than a regular bottle or can (<5 dl)	1-2 regular bottles or cans (5-10 dl)	3-4 regular bottles or cans (10-1-20 dl)	More than 4 regular bottles or cans (>20 dl)	
Gender	Boys	24.1	8.2	22.5	24.3	10.3	10.5	2841
	Girls	47.8	15.4	23.4	10.0	2.3	1.2	3279
Type of school	Gymnasium	44.8	12.5	19.4	14.5	4.6	4.2	1515
	Vocational professional school	32.8	11.7	24.2	17.8	7.1	6.4	3660
	Vocational handcraft school	39.9	12.5	24.0	15.4	4.0	4.1	945
Size of the city	Big city	37.0	12.6	22.8	17.2	5.7	4.7	3271
	Small city	37.4	11.6	22.4	16.0	6.2	6.4	2674
	Rural areas	25.1	8.0	36.0	14.9	8.0	8.0	175
Region	Vojvodina	39.9	12.9	17.3	17.0	6.9	5.9	1488
	Belgrade	36.6	12.0	23.2	19.2	5.0	3.9	1149
	Central Serbia	35.6	11.7	25.3	15.6	5.9	5.9	3483
Total		36.8	12.1	23.0	16.6	6.0	5.5	6120



Table 12. *Quantities of alcopops consumed on the last alcohol drinking occasion, Serbia, ESPAD 2008*

	If you drank alcopops (mixed drinks with circa 5% alcohol content) the last day when you consumed any alcoholic drink, how many alcopops did you drink?							Number of students
	I never drink alcopops	Number of students	Less than 2 regular bottles (<5 dl)	2-3 regular bottles (5-10 dl)	4-6 regular bottles (10.1-20 dl)	7 + regular bottles (>20 dl)		
Gender								
	59.8	21.6	11.6	4.3	1.3	1.4	2831	
	60.8	24.8	11.9	1.9	0.4	0.1	3264	
Type of school								
	59.4	24.8	12.3	2.2	0.9	0.5	1502	
	60.8	22.4	11.7	3.4	0.8	0.9	3658	
Size of the city								
	60.1	24.6	11.2	3.1	0.6	0.3	935	
	58.4	24.6	12.4	3.3	0.7	0.7	3258	
Region								
	62.6	22.1	11.0	2.7	1.0	0.6	2666	
	62.0	19.3	10.5	4.1	1.2	2.9	171	
	54.9	25.8	13.5	4.1	0.8	0.9	1475	
	54.5	26.6	14.1	3.3	0.8	0.7	1140	
	64.6	21.2	10.2	2.5	0.9	0.6	3480	
Total	60.3	23.3	11.7	3.0	0.8	0.7	6095	

**Table 13. Quantities of wine consumed on the last alcohol drinking occasion, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	If you drank wine the last day when you consumed any alcoholic drink, how many wines did you drink?						Number of students
	I never drink wine	I did not drink wine last I drank alcohol	Less than one glass (less than 2 dl)	1-1.5 glass (2 - 4 dl)	2-3 glasses (4 - 0.75 l)	More than 3 glasses (more than 0.75 l)	
Gender							
	Boys	21.8	18.9	12.8	6.9	7.0	2832
	Girls	17.6	25.5	16.1	7.4	3.5	3283
Type of school	Gymnasium	32.7	21.7	15.1	7.7	3.7	1509
	Vocational professional school	30.8	20.1	22.2	7.0	5.7	3665
	Vocational handcraft school	29.8	18.3	24.8	6.9	5.2	941
Size of the city	Big city	30.8	20.4	22.3	7.7	4.7	3267
	Small city	31.8	18.2	22.5	6.8	5.6	2676
	Rural areas	27.3	23.3	15.1	2.9	6.4	172
Region	Vojvodina	32.8	18.8	14.7	7.9	5.2	1481
	Belgrade	30.3	23.4	12.5	7.2	3.8	1146
	Central Serbia	30.7	18.6	15.2	6.9	5.6	3488
Total		31.1	19.6	14.5	7.2	5.2	6115

Table 14. Quantities of spirits consumed on the last alcohol drinking occasion, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	If you drank spirits the last day when you consumed any alcoholic drink, how many spirits did you drink?						Number of students
	I never drink spirits	I did not drink spirits last I drank alcohol	Less than 2 drinks (<0.7 dl)	2-3 drinks (0.8-1.5 dl)	4-6 drinks (1.6-2.4 dl)	More than 6 drinks (>2.5 dl)	
Gender							
	50.8	20.5	12.8	7.7	4.3	3.9	2836
	56.3	19.2	14.2	6.5	2.4	1.5	3274
Type of school							
	53.0	20.2	13.1	8.2	3.5	2.1	1505
	53.9	19.8	13.8	6.2	3.3	3.0	3663
	54.4	18.8	13.4	8.4	3.0	2.1	942
Size of the city							
	52.1	20.7	13.8	7.3	3.3	2.8	3264
	55.6	18.8	13.1	6.9	3.2	2.4	2674
	56.4	16.3	15.7	4.7	3.5	3.5	172
Region							
	47.5	19.2	15.7	10.2	4.3	3.1	1477
	48.1	23.0	14.5	8.1	3.8	2.5	1144
	58.2	18.9	12.3	5.4	2.7	2.5	3489
Total	53.7	19.8	13.6	7.0	3.3	2.6	6110

**Table 15. Alcohol consumption on the last drinking occasion, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	Proportion of students who had beer, wine or spirits to drink on the last drinking occasion			Proportion of students who consumed certain quantities of beer, wine or spirits on the last drinking occasion		
	Beer	Wine	Spirits	Beer – 1 l or more	Wine – 4.1dl or more	Spirits – 1.6 dl or more
Gender						
Boys	60.1	21.5	13.2	20.8	13.9	8.3
Girls	28.0	39.1	15.8	3.4	11.0	3.8
Type of school						
Gymnasium	35.4	31.0	17.3	8.8	11.4	5.6
Vocational professional school	47.8	29.9	13.3	13.5	12.8	6.3
Vocational handcraft school	35.9	34.9	15.1	8.1	12.1	5.1
Size of the city						
Big city	42.4	30.3	15.8	10.4	12.5	6.1
Small city	42.6	32.2	13.3	12.6	12.4	5.6
Rural areas	56.6	24.0	10.3	16.0	9.3	7.0
Region						
Vojvodina	40.0	30.3	20.5	12.8	13.1	7.4
Belgrade	44.7	28.1	14.5	9.0	11.1	6.3
Central Serbia	43.5	32.1	12.1	11.8	12.4	5.1
Total	42.9	30.9	14.6	11.5	12.3	5.9

Table 16. Lifetime frequency of being drunk, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times (if at all) did you get so intoxicated from alcoholic beverages that you, for example staggered as you walked, couldn't speak normally, threw up or didn't remember what had happened? – In your lifetime										Number of students	
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	40 +					
Gender												
	Boys	48.2	23.9	11.1	5.8	5.0	2.6	3.4	2821			
	Girls	66.2	22.2	6.6	2.5	1.8	0.5	0.3	3275			
Type of school	Gymnasium	62.0	21.2	8.4	3.2	2.7	1.1	1.5	1513			
	Vocational professional school	55.2	24.2	9.1	4.3	3.5	1.6	2.1	3643			
	Vocational handcraft school	61.3	21.1	7.6	4.4	3.3	1.5	1.0	940			
Size of the city	Big city	58.6	22.9	8.6	3.8	3.2	1.4	1.4	3256			
	Small city	57.1	23.1	8.6	4.2	3.4	1.3	2.2	2671			
	Rural areas	54.4	23.1	10.7	5.3	2.4	2.4	1.8	169			
Region	Vojvodina	51.2	25.4	11.4	4.7	3.7	1.6	2.0	1478			
	Belgrade	58.1	22.1	8.7	5.2	3.3	1.3	1.3	1149			
	Central Serbia	60.6	22.3	7.5	3.4	3.1	1.4	1.8	3469			
Total		57.8	23.0	8.7	4.0	3.3	1.4	1.8	6096			

**Table 17. Frequency of being drunk last 12 months, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	How many times (if at all) did you get so intoxicated from alcoholic beverages that you, for example staggered as you walked, couldn't speak normally, threw up or didn't remember what had happened? – During the last 12 months										Number of students		
	0	1-2	3-5	6-9	10-19	20-39	40 +						
Gender													
	Boys	62.5	20.9	7.9	3.7	2.5	1.4	1.2					2760
	Girls	77.0	16.8	3.7	1.7	0.5	0.2	0.0					3233
Type of school	Gymnasium	73.5	17.6	4.7	2.4	0.9	0.4	0.6					1481
	Vocational professional school	68.6	19.5	6.2	2.5	1.6	1.0	0.6					3582
	Vocational handcraft school	71.7	17.3	5.1	3.3	1.6	0.4	0.5					930
Size of the city	Big city	70.3	19.3	5.6	2.4	1.4	0.7	0.4					3210
	Small city	70.4	17.9	5.6	3.0	1.4	0.8	0.8					2615
	Rural areas	69.6	19.0	6.5	0.6	3.0	1.2	0.0					168
Region	Vojvodina	63.7	22.2	7.2	3.4	1.8	1.0	0.7					1448
	Belgrade	70.0	19.5	5.2	3.1	1.1	0.6	0.5					1126
	Central Serbia	73.2	16.8	5.1	2.1	1.4	0.8	0.6					3419
Total		70.3	18.7	5.6	2.6	1.4	0.8	0.6					5993

Table 18. Frequency of being drunk last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times (if at all) did you get so intoxicated from alcoholic beverages that you, for example staggered as you walked, couldn't speak normally, threw up or didn't remember what had happened? – During the past 30 days										Number of students	
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	40 +					
Gender												
	Boys	81.7	12.6	3.0	1.4	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	2780
	Girls	91.8	7.0	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	3249
Type of school	Gymnasium	89.7	8.1	1.1	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	1491
	Vocational professional school	86.0	10.0	2.1	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	3600
	Vocational handcraft school	87.4	9.9	1.8	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	938
Size of the city	Big city	88.0	9.1	1.7	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	3227
	Small city	86.2	9.9	2.0	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	2633
	Rural areas	84.0	11.8	1.2	1.8	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	169
Region	Vojvodina	83.7	12.1	2.3	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	1457
	Belgrade	87.5	9.4	1.7	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	1133
	Central Serbia	88.4	8.5	1.6	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	3439
Total		87.1	9.5	1.8	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	6029

**Table 19. Frequency of drinking 5 or more drinks in a row, during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	How many times during the last 30 days (if at all) did you have 5 or more drinks in a row?							Number of students
	Not once	1	2	3–5	6–9	10 +		
Gender								
	59.2	13.7	8.9	10.3	3.0	4.9	2847	
Boys								
Girls	75.5	10.7	6.2	5.7	1.0	0.8	3294	
Type of school								
Gymnasium	71.2	11.4	6.0	7.8	1.7	1.8	1520	
Vocational professional school	65.8	12.7	8.0	8.1	2.1	3.1	3674	
Vocational handcraft school	71.0	10.8	7.6	6.9	1.5	2.3	947	
Size of the city								
Big city	70.1	11.4	7.1	7.2	1.7	2.4	3279	
Small city	66.0	12.6	7.7	8.7	2.0	3.0	2689	
Rural areas	56.1	17.9	9.2	8.7	4.0	4.0	173	
Region								
Vojvodina	62.2	12.6	9.4	10.6	2.1	3.0	1488	
Belgrade	70.5	11.1	7.5	8.1	1.4	1.6	1154	
Central Serbia	69.6	12.2	6.6	6.6	2.0	2.9	3499	
Total	68.0	12.1	7.5	7.9	1.9	2.7	6141	



**Table 20. Age at first use of alcohol (at least one glass) and first drunkenness, percentages answering 13 years or younger, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	Beer	Wine	Spirits	Alcopops	First drunkenness at the age of 13 and younger
Gender					
Boys	52.5	49.2	20.6	18.9	13.5
Girls	35.3	34.3	8.6	10.8	4.1
Type of school					
Gymnasium	39.6	38.9	12.9	14.6	6.9
Vocational professional school	45.8	42.5	15.1	14.9	9.5
Vocational handcraft school	39.5	40.2	12.1	13.3	7.0
Size of the city					
Big city	43.0	41.8	14.5	15.0	8.0
Small city	43.6	40.6	13.7	14.1	8.8
Rural areas	43.9	40.0	13.2	12.8	10.1
Region					
Vojvodina	38.6	35.6	14.2	15.1	8.7
Belgrade	45.7	46.5	17.4	17.5	8.7
Central Serbia	44.5	41.9	13.0	13.4	8.2
Total	43.3	41.2	14.1	14.6	8.4

**Table 21. Drinking places on the last drinking day, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

		I would like you to think about the last occasion when you drank alcohol. Where did the drinking take place?							
		At home	At someone else's home	Street park. beach	Bar. pub	Disco	Restaurant	Other place(s)	Never been drinking
Gender	Boys	17.7	12.7	14.1	22.0	30.9	4.3	5.5	20.0
	Girls	21.6	12.1	8.2	14.8	32.5	2.5	5.0	21.3
Type of school	Gymnasium	18.1	12.7	11.3	18.1	31.1	3.6	5.3	21.2
	Vocational professional school	20.7	11.7	11.0	18.8	31.6	3.2	5.5	20.2
	Vocational handcraft school	19.1	14.4	9.9	15.5	33.5	3.1	4.0	21.4
Size of the city	Big city	20.4	14.0	11.9	17.3	30.2	3.2	5.3	20.8
	Small city	18.8	10.6	9.9	19.4	33.5	3.3	5.1	20.4
	Rural areas	25.1	10.5	8.8	15.2	35.7	4.7	5.3	22.2
Region	Vojvodina	14.9	12.4	9.7	21.4	40.8	2.7	4.2	18.7
	Belgrade	19.1	14.4	17.7	17.7	25.2	3.5	6.2	19.1
	Central Serbia	22.1	11.7	9.2	16.9	30.1	3.5	5.3	22.0
Total	19.8	12.4	10.9	18.1	31.8	3.3	5.2	20.7	

**Table 22. Expected personal consequences of alcohol consumption, Percentages among all students answering "Very likely" or "Likely", Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	How likely is it that each of the following things might happen to you as a result of drinking alcohol?										
	"Positive" expectation					"Negative" expectation					
	Feel relaxed	Feel Happy	Forget my problems	Feel more friendly and outgoing	Have a lot of fun	Not be able to stop drinking	Get a hangover	Do some thing I would regret	Harm my health	Feel sick	Get into trouble with the police
Gender											
	Boys	59.9	48.9	52.4	59.4	19.5	41.2	38.7	35.3	35.5	25.5
	Girls	56.8	49.9	44.8	53.5	12.5	37.4	34.0	34.3	37.1	14.8
Type of school	Gymnasium	62.3	51.6	48.5	57.1	12.2	38.4	37.4	32.8	38.4	17.5
	Vocational professional school	57.4	48.5	48.7	55.9	17.4	39.3	35.6	35.3	35.3	20.8
	Vocational handcraft school	54.5	49.8	46.4	56.2	15.0	39.7	36.2	35.6	37.3	19.1
Size of the city	Big city	59.0	49.3	47.6	56.5	14.1	38.6	36.0	33.8	36.2	20.1
	Small city	57.8	49.6	49.1	56.2	17.2	40.1	36.3	35.8	36.9	19.1
	Rural areas	47.6	50.0	50.3	50.9	25.5	35.5	37.1	36.1	32.1	22.4
Region	Vojvodina	62.9	52.7	51.6	59.7	16.7	40.9	36.5	33.6	36.3	18.6
	Belgrade	61.0	50.0	47.2	56.9	12.1	37.9	36.6	31.3	38.0	22.1
	Central Serbia	55.3	47.9	47.3	54.5	16.6	38.8	35.9	36.4	35.8	19.4
Total		58.2	49.4	48.3	56.2	15.7	39.1	36.2	34.7	36.4	19.7

**Table 23. Experienced problems caused by own alcohol use, Percentage of students that experienced at least once in the lifetime, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	How many times during the last 12 months did any of the following happen to you as a result of drinking alcohol?										
	Fight or injury	Accident or injury	Serious problems with your parents	Serious problems with your friends	Had poor results at school or work	Were the victim of robbery or theft	Had problem with Police	Were taken to hospital or emergency ward	Had sexual intercourse without condom	Had a sexual intercourse that you regretted the next day	
Gender											
	20.7	16.2	13.7	10.9	13.4	2.5	10.0	4.2	12.4	8.4	
Boys											
Girls	3.6	8.1	8.0	8.5	8.4	1.0	1.9	1.6	2.8	1.9	
Type of school											
Gymnasium	8.7	10.0	9.7	7.8	9.3	1.5	4.8	2.0	4.4	3.2	
Vocational professional school	13.7	13.0	11.0	10.1	11.7	2.0	6.3	3.2	8.9	6.1	
Vocational handcraft school	7.7	10.4	10.4	10.4	9.5	0.9	4.5	2.6	5.2	3.3	
Size of the city											
Big city	11.3	11.7	9.9	9.1	9.8	1.3	5.8	2.7	6.3	4.5	
Small city	11.5	12.0	11.6	10.2	11.7	2.0	5.4	2.9	8.2	5.2	
Rural areas	16.9	12.3	8.7	8.7	14.5	3.5	5.8	2.9	10.5	8.2	
Region											
Vojvodina	13.1	14.1	12.4	10.7	12.9	2.7	5.7	3.1	8.3	4.5	
Belgrade	11.6	11.7	9.1	8.9	9.4	0.9	7.1	3.0	5.8	4.6	
Central Serbia	10.9	10.9	10.4	9.3	10.3	1.5	5.2	2.6	7.3	5.2	
Total	11.5	11.9	10.6	9.6	10.7	1.7	5.6	2.8	7.3	4.9	

Table 24. Frequency of lifetime use of any illicit drug, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	Lifetime use of any illicit drug	Use of any illicit drug 20 or more times in lifetime
Gender		
Boys	14.8	2.1
Girls	15.3	1.1
Type of school		
Gymnasium	15.2	1.4
Vocational professional school	14.8	1.6
Vocational handcraft school	15.9	1.6
Size of the city		
Big city	15.9	1.9
Small city	14.2	1.1
Rural areas	13.3	0.6
Region		
Vojvodina	15.8	1.3
Belgrade	17.1	2.7
Central Serbia	14.1	1.3
Total	15.1	1.5

Table 25. Lifetime use of certain illicit drugs, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	Ecstasy	Tranquilizers or sedatives (without the doctor's prescription)	Amphetamines (speed)	LCD or some other		Crack	Cocaine	Heroin	"Magic mushrooms"	GHB	Anabolic steroids	Drugs which are administered by needle (like heroin, cocaine, amphetamines)	Alcohol combined with pills (drugs) in order to get euphoric	Analgesic, for example Trodon
				hallucinogens	hallucinogens									
Gender														
Boys	1.9	4.8	2.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.5	2.2	1.5
Girls	1.3	10.0	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	3.2	1.3
Type of school														
Gymnasium	1.2	7.4	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.4	2.4	1.1
Vocational professional school	1.5	7.3	1.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.5	2.8	1.5
Vocational handcraft school	2.3	9.2	1.7	1.1	0.7	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.4	3.0	1.5
Size of the city														
Big city	1.4	8.0	1.6	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.5	2.5	1.2
Small city	1.7	7.1	1.4	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.4	3.1	1.6
Rural areas	2.9	8.0	1.1	0.0	0.6	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.1	1.7	1.7
Region														
Vojvodina	1.9	6.2	1.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.3	3.9	1.2
Belgrade Central Serbia	2.0	8.3	2.5	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.4	2.3	1.3
Total	1.3	7.9	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5	2.4	1.5
	1.6	7.6	1.5	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.4	2.7	1.4

Table 26. Frequency of lifetime use of marijuana or hashish, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times (if at all) have you used marihuana or hashish (cannabis)? – In your lifetime							Lifetime use of marijuana or hashish	Number of students
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	40 +		
Gender									
Boys	91.2	3.6	2.0	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.7	8.8	2843
Girls	95.1	2.6	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.9	3290
Type of school									
Gymnasium	93.2	3.1	1.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.2	6.8	1523
Vocational professional school	93.1	3.2	1.4	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.7	6.9	3662
Vocational handcraft school	94.2	2.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.2	5.8	948
Size of the city									
Big city	92.7	3.4	1.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	7.3	3271
Small city	94.1	2.6	1.4	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.3	5.9	2688
Rural areas	93.7	4.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	6.3	174
Vojvodina	91.2	3.6	2.0	1.2	1.1	0.5	0.3	8.8	1484
Belgrade	90.9	3.8	1.6	0.9	0.7	1.0	1.1	9.1	1157
Central Serbia	95.0	2.6	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	5.0	3492
Total	93.3	3.1	1.4	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.5	6.7	6133

Table 27. Frequency of use of marijuana or hashish during the last 12 months, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times (if at all) have you used marihuana or hashish (cannabis)? – During the past 12 months									Use of marijuana or hashish during the last 12 months	Number of students
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	40 +				
Gender											
	Boys	93.2	3.4	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2	6.8	2826	
	Girls	96.8	1.7	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	3.2	3285	
Type of school	Gymnasium	95.3	2.6	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	4.7	1516	
	Vocational professional school	95.0	2.6	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	5.0	3650	
	Vocational handcraft school	95.7	1.9	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.0	4.3	945	
Size of the city	Big city	94.9	2.3	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	5.1	3256	
	Small city	95.3	2.7	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	4.7	2682	
	Rural areas	96.0	2.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	4.0	173	
Region	Vojvodina	93.4	3.5	1.5	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	6.6	1472	
	Belgrade	93.0	2.9	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.7	7.0	1157	
	Central Serbia	96.6	1.9	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	3.4	3482	
Total		95.1	2.5	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	4.9	6111	



Table 28. Frequency of use of marijuana or hashish during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times (if at all) have you used marihuana or hashish (cannabis)? – During the past 30 days							40 +	Use of marijuana or hashish during the last 30 days	Number of students
	0	1–2	3–5	6–9	10–19	20–39	20–39			
Gender										
	96.7	2.2	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	3.3	2826	
Boys										
Girls	98.5	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.5	3283	
Type of school										
Gymnasium	97.9	1.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	2.1	1515	
Vocational professional school	97.5	1.6	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.5	3649	
Vocational handcraft school	98.0	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	2.0	945	
Size of the city										
Big city	97.6	1.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.4	3256	
Small city	97.8	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.2	2680	
Rural areas	97.1	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	2.9	173	
Region										
Vojvodina	96.4	2.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.6	1471	
Belgrade	97.0	1.9	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.0	1157	
Central Serbia	98.4	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.6	3481	
Total	97.7	1.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.3	6109	

**Table 29. Frequency of lifetime use of any illicit drug other than marijuana or hashish Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

		Lifetime use of any illicit drug other than marijuana or hashish	Number of students
Gender	Boys	10.0	2826
	Girls	13.5	3271
Type of school	Gymnasium	11.4	1519
	Vocational professional school	11.6	3641
Size of the city	Vocational handcraft school	13.7	937
	Big city	12.2	3258
	Small city	11.6	2666
Region	Rural areas	10.4	173
	Vojvodina	11.0	1477
	Belgrade	12.4	1151
Total	Central Serbia	12.1	3469
		11.9	6097

Table 30. Frequency of lifetime use of inhalants, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times (if ever) have you used inhalants (glue, etc.) in order to become euphoric, to feel „high“? - In your life				Lifetime use of inhalants	Number of students
	0	1-2	3 +			
Gender						
	96.7	2.3	1.0	3.3	2853	
Boys						
	97.4	1.9	0.7	2.6	3298	
Girls						
Type of school						
	96.9	2.2	1.0	3.1	1524	
Gymnasium						
	97.2	2.0	0.8	2.8	3678	
Vocational professional school						
	96.7	2.3	0.9	3.3	949	
Vocational handcraft school						
	97.2	2.2	0.7	2.8	3283	
Size of the city						
	96.9	2.1	1.0	3.1	2693	
Small city						
	97.7	0.6	1.7	2.3	175	
Rural areas						
	97.2	1.9	0.9	2.8	1489	
Vojvodina						
	97.8	1.9	0.3	2.2	1160	
Belgrade						
	96.8	2.2	1.0	3.2	3502	
Central Serbia						
	97.1	2.1	0.8	2.9	6151	
Total						

**Table 31. Frequency of use of inhalants during the last 12 months, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	How many times (if ever) have you used inhalants (glue, etc.) in order to become euphoric, to feel „high“? – During the past 12 months?	Use of inhalants during the last 12 months (1 +)	Number of students
	0		
Gender			
	98.4	1.6	2853
	98.8	1.2	3294
Type of school			
	98.8	1.2	1523
	98.6	1.4	3676
	98.2	1.8	948
Size of the city			
	98.8	1.2	3279
	98.4	1.6	2693
	98.3	1.7	175
Region			
	98.3	1.7	1489
	99.2	0.8	1159
	98.4	1.6	3499
Total	98.6	1.4	6147

Table 32. Frequency of use of inhalants during the last 30 days, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

	How many times (if ever) have you used inhalants (glue, etc.) in order to become euphoric, to feel „high“? – During the past 30 days?		Number of students
	0	Use of inhalants during the last 30 days (1 +)	
Gender			
	98.4	1.6	2853
Boys			
	98.8	1.2	3294
Girls			
Type of school			
	98.8	1.2	1523
Gymnasium			
Vocational professional school			
	98.6	1.4	3676
Vocational handcraft school			
	98.2	1.8	948
Size of the city			
	98.8	1.2	3279
Big city			
	98.4	1.6	2693
Small city			
Rural areas			
	98.3	1.7	175
Vojvodina			
	98.3	1.7	1489
Belgrade			
	99.2	0.8	1159
Central Serbia			
	98.5	1.5	3499
Total	98.6	1.4	6147

Table 33. How marijuana or hashish, ecstasy or amphetamines were obtained, Serbia, ESPAD 2008

		If you have ever used any drug such as marijuana or hashish (cannabis), ecstasy or amphetamines, how did you obtain it?												
		I have never used any drug such as marijuana or hashish (cannabis), ecstasy or amphetamines	My older brother or sister gave it to me	A friend, a boyfriend or girlfriend older than me gave it to me	A friend of my age or younger gave it to me	It was given to me by someone that I heard about but never knew personally	An unknown person gave it to me	It was shared in a group of friends	I bought it from my friend	I bought it from someone I've heard about but never knew personally	I bought it from an unknown person	One of my parents gave it to me	I took it at home without my parents' permission	None of the above
Gender	Boys	91.9	1.7	4.3	3.4	1.9	1.6	3.0	2.3	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.1
	Girls	95.4	0.7	2.9	1.6	0.5	0.5	1.9	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1
Type of school	Gymnasium	93.5	0.7	3.6	2.2	1.0	0.7	2.5	1.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1
	Vocational professional school	93.7	1.4	3.8	2.5	1.2	1.2	2.5	1.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.1
	Vocational handcraft school	94.7	1.0	2.9	2.6	1.1	0.9	2.0	1.8	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.7	0.1
Size of the city	Big city	93.3	1.1	3.6	2.6	1.0	0.9	2.6	1.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.1
	Small city	94.2	1.2	3.6	2.2	1.3	1.2	2.3	2.5	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.1
	Rural areas	96.9	2.5	2.5	1.9	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.9	0.6	0.6	0.0
Region	Vojvodina	91.8	1.5	3.8	2.8	1.5	1.2	3.3	1.7	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.1
	Belgrade	91.4	0.6	4.7	3.6	1.1	1.0	2.9	2.7	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.0
	Central Serbia	95.4	1.2	3.1	1.9	1.1	1.0	1.9	1.2	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.1
Total		93.8	1.2	3.6	2.4	1.2	1.0	2.4	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.1

**Table 34. Age at time of first use of different substances (marijuana or hashish, ecstasy, amphetamines, tranquilisers or sedatives, inhalants). Percentages answering 13 years or younger, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

	Marihuana	Ecstasy	Amphetamines	Tranquilisers or sedatives	Inhalants	Alcohol combined with pills
Gender						
Boys	1.1	0.5	0.4	1.6	1.4	0.7
Girls	0.7	0.2	0.1	1.9	0.6	0.5
Type of school						
Gymnasium	0.9	0.3	0.3	2.0	1.1	0.5
Vocational professional school	0.9	0.4	0.3	1.7	1.0	0.7
Vocational handcraft school	1.0	0.2	0.2	2.0	0.6	0.3
Size of the city						
Big city	0.9	0.3	0.2	1.6	0.8	0.4
Small city	0.9	0.4	0.3	1.9	1.2	0.8
Rural areas	0.6	0.6	0.0	2.3	0.6	1.1
Vojvodina	0.7	0.2	0.3	1.5	0.7	0.6
Region						
Belgrade	1.1	0.2	0.3	1.6	0.8	0.4
Central Serbia	0.9	0.5	0.2	2.0	1.2	0.6
Total	0.9	0.3	0.3	1.8	1.0	0.6

**Table 35. Places where marijuana or hashish easily can be bought, according to students' opinion, Serbia, ESPAD 2008**

		In which of the following places do you expect you could easily buy marihuana (cannabis) or hashish if you wanted to?							
		Don't know of any such place	Street. park etc.	School	Disco. bar etc.	House of a dealer	Via Internet	Café	Other
Gender	Boys	60.0	24.3	10.7	17.5	13.4	4.8	10.9	4.4
	Girls	66.1	18.3	8.4	19.4	10.9	4.1	10.5	4.1
Type of school	Gymnasium	57.0	24.7	8.3	21.5	13.5	5.2	11.7	5.7
	Vocational professional school	64.8	20.4	9.9	17.3	11.7	4.4	10.2	3.9
	Vocational handcraft school	67.6	17.9	9.6	18.5	11.1	3.3	11.2	3.1
Size of the city	Big city	60.9	23.1	10.6	19.6	13.2	4.7	10.5	4.9
	Small city	65.6	18.9	8.0	17.6	10.8	4.1	11.1	3.5
	Rural areas	72.6	16.7	10.7	13.7	9.5	4.2	8.8	3.6
Region	Vojvodina	59.3	23.2	9.5	20.0	12.9	4.6	10.7	4.5
	Belgrade	53.5	29.9	13.4	20.4	15.5	5.5	10.0	5.9
	Central Serbia	68.3	17.2	8.2	17.3	10.6	4.0	10.9	3.5
Total		63.3	21.1	9.5	18.5	12.1	4.4	10.7	4.2