

COMPARISONS BETWEEN SURVEYS

Within the past two years, several surveys have been used to gather information regarding substance use among Sarasota youth. The survey used in the present study included some overlap with other surveys so that comparisons between survey findings would be possible. The FPRC survey administration differed from survey administration protocols for other surveys in that teachers had no role in administering the survey, and the survey was not completed via scantron sheets.

Table 38 summarizes comparisons between rates of smoking behaviors obtained from the FPRC survey and other surveys, where data were available to make such comparisons. Across grade levels and tobacco behaviors, rates obtained from the FPRC survey are higher than rates obtained from other local or statewide surveys.

Differences in rates between the FPRC survey and other local and statewide surveys may suggest that whether teachers administer surveys has an influence on survey results.

**TABLE 38
COMPARISONS BETWEEN SURVEYS**

	PRC Sarasota Youth Survey	National Statistic (CDC Sur- vey)	Sarasota County YRBS - 6th & 8th grade	Florida Youth Sub- stance Abuse Sur- vey	Monitoring the Future Study
Smoking Initiation					
6 th	29%	-	13.3%	18.4%	-
7 th	39%	-	-	27.9%	-
8 th	53%	-	24.6%	40.2%	44.1%
9 th	64%	61.8%	-	49.2%	-
10 th	70%	73.9%	-	50.8%	57.6%
Recent Smoking					
6 th	6%	-	3.8%	4.9%	-
7 th	13%	-	-	9.6%	-
8 th	20%	-	9.2%	14.9%	17.5%
9 th	24%	18.5%	-	18.9%	-
10 th	32%	27.0%	-	20.7%	25.7%
Ever Use Smokeless Tobacco					
6 th	3%	-	-	6.1%	-
7 th	6%	-	-	9.3%	-
8 th	12%	-	-	12.1%	-
9 th	13%	-	-	12.6%	-
10 th	19%	-	-	14.8%	-
Recent Use Smokeless Tobacco					
6 th	<1%	-	1.8%	2.5%	-
7 th	1%	-	-	4.7%	-
8 th	3%	-	1.7%	4.4%	-
9 th	3%	6.8%	-	5.4%	-
10 th	5%	7.1%	-	5.3%	-

* Smoked cigarettes on =20 of the 30 days preceding the survey

‡ Smoked at least one cigarette every day for the last 30 days