

Chapter Five

Substance Abuse and Crime

Section A. Substance Abuse of Youth

62. Reported Drug Abusers

Table 5.1: Statistics on drug abusers reported to the CRDA by age and sex, 1997-2001

| By age and sex | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Aged under 21 | | | | | |
| Male | 2390 | 2131 | 1852 | 2808 | 2850 |
| Female | 760 | 710 | 630 | 1211 | 1051 |
| Both sexes | 3150 | 2841 | 2482 | 4019 | 3901 |
| Age 21 and over | | | | | |
| Male | 13009 | 12707 | 12296 | 12545 | 12788 |
| Female | 1476 | 1444 | 1536 | 1770 | 1820 |
| Both sexes | 14485 | 14151 | 13832 | 14315 | 14608 |
| All ages | | | | | |
| Male | 15399 | 14838 | 14148 | 15353 | 15638 |
| Female | 2236 | 2154 | 2166 | 2981 | 2871 |
| Both sexes | 17635 | 16992 | 16314 | 18334 | 18509 |

Source: Statistics Unit, Security Bureau (2001)

Table 5.2: Statistics on drug abusers reported to the CRDA by age of first abuse, 1997-2001

| Age of first abuse | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Under 16 | 31.4 | 32.2 | 32.7 | 34.2 | 33.3 |
| 16-20 | 45.2 | 44.3 | 44.6 | 43.3 | 43.7 |
| 21-25 | 13.6 | 13.6 | 12.8 | 12.7 | 13.3 |
| 26-30 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 5.9 | 6.1 |

Source: Statistics Unit, Security Bureau (2001)

The number of youths who reported having ever used illicit drugs increased from 1999 to 2000, but declined from 2000 and 2001. Young drug abusers reported to the CRDA by age of first abuse slowly declined between 1997 and 2000, but then rose slightly in 2001.

62. Reported Drug Abusers

Table 5.3: Statistics on drug abusers reported to the CRDA by educational attainment, 1997-2001

| Educational attainment | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| No schooling/ kindergarten | 4.1 | 3.5 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 2.0 |
| Primary | 34.3 | 33.4 | 33.9 | 28.1 | 26.8 |
| Lower secondary | 48.9 | 49.7 | 49.4 | 52.5 | 51.8 |
| Upper secondary | 11.8 | 12.5 | 13.2 | 16.3 | 18.6 |
| Tertiary | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.8 |

Source: Statistics Unit, Security Bureau (2001)

Table 5.4: Statistics on drug abusers reported to the CRDA by whether previously convicted, 1997-2001

| Whether previously convicted | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Previously convicted | 81.4 | 81.1 | 81.8 | 74.2 | 72.4 |
| Not previously convicted | 18.6 | 18.9 | 18.2 | 25.8 | 27.6 |

Source: Statistics Unit, Security Bureau (2001)

According to the Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA), youth with educational attainment of primary and secondary school have higher proportion of drug abusers reported to the CRDA. An upward trend in the proportion of drug abusers not previously convicted had been observed since 1999 for all age groups including youth population, although the trend had shown signs of reversal in 1995.

63. Types Of Drug Abused

Table 5.5: Statistics on drug abusers reported to the CRDA by types of drug abused, 1997-2001

| Type of drug abused Aged under 21 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Male | | | | | |
| Heroin | 1411 | 1117 | 811 | 552 | 329 |
| Ketamine | 0 | 0 | 0 | 878 | 1411 |
| MDMA (Ecstasy) | 0 | 0 | 216 | 1302 | 1210 |
| Cannabis | 523 | 566 | 582 | 585 | 474 |
| Methyl amphetamine (Ice) | 267 | 272 | 222 | 216 | 204 |
| Female | | | | | |
| Heroin | 444 | 373 | 278 | 195 | 97 |
| Ketamine | 0 | 0 | 0 | 401 | 508 |
| MDMA (Ecstasy) | 0 | 0 | 74 | 646 | 491 |
| Cannabis | 105 | 112 | 89 | 151 | 83 |
| Methyl amphetamine (Ice) | 148 | 169 | 161 | 165 | 144 |
| Both sexes | | | | | |
| Heroin | 1855 | 1490 | 1089 | 747 | 426 |
| Ketamine | 0 | 0 | 14 | 1279 | 1919 |
| MDMA (Ecstasy) | 49 | 51 | 290 | 1948 | 1701 |
| Cannabis | 628 | 678 | 671 | 736 | 557 |
| Methyl amphetamine (Ice) | 415 | 441 | 383 | 381 | 348 |

Source: Statistics Unit, Security Bureau (2001)

According to the statistics on drug abusers reported to the CRDA, youth males aged under 21 are almost three times as likely to be current users of Heroin, Ketamine, and Ecstasy than are youth females. In addition, young males are also more likely than females to report current use of Cannabis, with 85% of young males and 15 % of young females reporting the use of these drugs in 2001.

63. Types Of Drug Abused

Table 5.6: Statistics on drug abusers (age<21) reported to the CRDA by reason for current drug use, 1997-2001

| Reason for current drug use | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Avoid discomfort for its absence | 50.5 | 51.4 | 54.9 | 46.5 | 45.9 |
| Peer influence/To identify with peers | 32.4 | 31.1 | 35.6 | 47.0 | 43.5 |
| Curiosity | 35.2 | 29.2 | 27.7 | 27.0 | 24.7 |
| Relief of boredom/Depression/Anxiety | 16.9 | 23.0 | 24.7 | 22.0 | 23.0 |
| To seek euphoria or sensory satisfaction | 16.9 | 20.1 | 18.4 | 23.8 | 22.6 |
| For self-medication | 2.4 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 2.6 | 2.6 |
| Under influence of the partner | 0.7 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Others | 2.6 | 5.0 | 2.5 | 1.6 | 1.2 |

Source: Statistics Unit, Security Bureau (2001)

Central Registry of Drug Abuse also indicated that among reported drug abusers, avoiding discomfort, peer influence and to identify with peers was the main reason for them to take drugs, followed by curiosity, and the feeling of boredom, depression, and anxiety.

64. Consumption Of Alcohol And Smoking

Table 5.7: Percentage of alcohol users among students by age and by sex

| | 1996 | 2000 |
|------------|------|------|
| | % | % |
| Age | | |
| Under 12 | 49.6 | 65.1 |
| 13 | 62.1 | 72.6 |
| 14 | 70.2 | 77.5 |
| 15 | 74 | 81.7 |
| 16 | 80.1 | 85.4 |
| 17 | 82.7 | 87.5 |
| 18 | 85.2 | 89 |
| Over 19 | 88.8 | 91.1 |
| Overall | 71 | 79.7 |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 72.9 | 80.2 |
| Female | 69.1 | 78.4 |
| Overall | 71 | 79.7 |

Source: Lau (2002)

Table 5.8: Percentage of tobacco users among students by age and by sex

| | 1996 | 2000 |
|------------|------|------|
| | % | % |
| Age | | |
| Under 12 | 9.2 | 9.4 |
| 13 | 17.5 | 15.5 |
| 14 | 24.7 | 21.9 |
| 15 | 27.5 | 25.2 |
| 16 | 30.2 | 28.3 |
| 17 | 29.3 | 26.4 |
| 18 | 27.5 | 26.9 |
| Over 19 | 35.6 | 34.4 |
| Overall | 23.7 | 22.2 |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 26.2 | 24.2 |
| Female | 21 | 19.9 |
| Overall | 23.7 | 22.2 |

Source: Lau (2002)

In 2000, 22.2 percent of students were smokers. These figures were slightly lower than those in 1996, where 26.2% of the students are smokers. Older youths aged over 19 were somewhat more likely than young people aged below 19 to be smokers, with 34.4% of older youths reporting regular smoking behaviour. A significant proportion of students are alcohol users. As compared to 71% of students in 1996, about 80% of students were alcohol users in 2000. As with adults, youth males are somewhat more likely than youth females to drink alcohol.

64. Consumption Of Alcohol And Smoking

Table 5.9: Percentage of heroin abusers among students by age and sex

| | 1996 | 2000 |
|----------------|------|------|
| | % | % |
| Age | | |
| Under 12 | 1.3 | 1.8 |
| 13 | 2.4 | 2.3 |
| 14 | 2.6 | 3.0 |
| 15 | 2.4 | 2.8 |
| 16 | 2.1 | 2.5 |
| 17 | 1.9 | 2.2 |
| 18 | 1.5 | 2.4 |
| Over 19 | 1.8 | 4.2 |
| Overall | 2.1 | 2.6 |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 2.7 | 3.0 |
| Female | 1.5 | 2.2 |
| Overall | 2.1 | 2.6 |

Source: Lau (2002)

Table 5.10: Percentage of psychotropic substance abusers among students by age and by sex

| | 1996 | 2000 |
|----------------|------|------|
| | % | % |
| Age | | |
| Under 12 | 0.7 | 1.9 |
| 13 | 1.5 | 2.8 |
| 14 | 3.0 | 3.9 |
| 15 | 3.6 | 4.5 |
| 16 | 4.2 | 5.3 |
| 17 | 3.7 | 5.1 |
| 18 | 2.9 | 4.3 |
| Over 19 | 2.8 | 6.0 |
| Overall | 2.7 | 4.1 |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 2.7 | 4.6 |
| Female | 2.8 | 3.4 |
| Overall | 2.7 | 4.1 |

Source: Lau (2002)

A similar trend of students abusing heroin and psychotropic substance was evident in 2000. Youth male student were more likely than youth female students to report abusing heroin and psychotropic substance. There are 3% male students and 2.2% of female students who were heroin abusers in 2000. Of psychotropic substance abusers among students, proportion of male students (4.6%) is more than female students (3.4%) in 2000. These figures were slightly higher than those in 1996, where 2.7% of the students are psychotropic substance abusers.

65. Smoking Prevalence

Table 5.11: Daily smokers by age and sex, 1988-1998

| | 1988 | | | 1990 | | | 1993 | | |
|---------------|-------|------|--------|-------|------|--------|-------|------|--------|
| | No.* | % | Rate** | No.* | % | Rate** | No.* | % | Rate** |
| 15-19 | 15.7 | 2.2 | 3.4 | 20.6 | 3.0 | 4.6 | 16.6 | 2.4 | 4.2 |
| Male | 12.7 | 1.9 | 5.5 | 18.1 | 2.9 | 7.8 | 14.8 | 2.4 | 7.5 |
| Female | 3.0 | 4.8 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 4.4 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 2.8 | 0.9 |
| 20-29 | 130.1 | 18.0 | 12.1 | 128.6 | 18.6 | 12.8 | 120.2 | 17.5 | 12.5 |
| Male | 121.9 | 18.4 | 22.4 | 118.7 | 18.7 | 23.5 | 109.0 | 17.5 | 23.8 |
| Female | 8.2 | 13.4 | 1.6 | 9.9 | 17.6 | 2.0 | 11.2 | 17.7 | 2.2 |

| | 1996 | | | 1998 | | |
|---------------|-------|------|--------|-------|------|--------|
| | No.* | % | Rate** | No.* | % | Rate** |
| 15-19 | 16.5 | 2.2 | 3.8 | 11.8 | 1.5 | 2.8 |
| Male | 14.1 | 2.1 | 5.9 | 9.1 | 1.3 | 4.2 |
| Female | 2.4 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 2.7 | 3.4 | 1.3 |
| 20-29 | 121.7 | 16.4 | 12.5 | 136.5 | 16.9 | 13.8 |
| Male | 99.7 | 15.1 | 23.0 | 114.3 | 15.7 | 24.1 |
| Female | 22.0 | 27.5 | 4.1 | 22.2 | 28.1 | 4.3 |

Source: Census and Statistics Department (1998)

Note: * in thousands ** as a percentage of all persons aged 15 and over in the respective age and sex sub-group.

Table 5.12: Daily smokers by age/sex and daily consumption of cigarettes

| Age group/sex | No. of cigarettes smoked per day | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|
| | 1-10 | | 11-20 | | 21 or above | | Total | | Average | |
| | No. of persons ('000) | % | No. of persons ('000) | % | No. of persons ('000) | % | No. of persons ('000) | % | Mar 1998 enquiry | Jan 1996 enquiry |
| Age group | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15-19 | 6.2 | 52.3 | 4.7 | 40.1 | 0.9 | 7.5 | 11.8 | 100.0 | 13 | 14 |
| 20-29 | 62.1 | 45.5 | 67.6 | 49.6 | 6.8 | 5.0 | 136.5 | 100.0 | 15 | 14 |
| 30-39 | 69.8 | 33.2 | 122.6 | 58.3 | 17.9 | 8.5 | 210.4 | 100.0 | 17 | 16 |
| 40-49 | 65.6 | 32.5 | 108.9 | 54.0 | 27.2 | 13.5 | 201.7 | 100.0 | 17 | 17 |
| 50-59 | 34.6 | 30.1 | 65.2 | 56.6 | 15.4 | 13.3 | 115.2 | 100.0 | 18 | 17 |
| 60 or above | 65.0 | 50.1 | 52.1 | 40.2 | 12.5 | 9.7 | 129.6 | 100.0 | 14 | 15 |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 255.6 | 35.2 | 395.0 | 54.4 | 75.7 | 10.4 | 726.3 | 100.0 | 16 | 16 |
| Female | 47.7 | 60.5 | 26.2 | 33.2 | 5.0 | 6.4 | 78.8 | 100.0 | 13 | 13 |
| Overall | 303.3 | 37.7 | 421.2 | 52.3 | 80.7 | 10.0 | 805.1 | 100.0 | 16 | 16 |

Source: Census and Statistics Department (1998)

The drop in smoking prevalence was mainly observed in young males aged 20-29 that it decreased from 18.4% in 1988 to 15.7% in 1998. The smoking prevalence in young females increased from 13.4% in 1988 to 28.1% in 1998.

65. Smoking Prevalence

Table 5.13: Daily smokers by reason for starting to smoke and sex

| Reason for starting to smoke | Male | | Female | | Overall | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | No. of persons ('000) | % | No. of persons ('000) | % | No. of persons ('000) | % |
| Influence of friends | 376.9 | 51.9 | 37.1 | 47.1 | 414.0 | 51.4 |
| Out of curiosity | 122.9 | 16.9 | 10.2 | 12.9 | 133.1 | 16.5 |
| Refreshing one's mind | 52.6 | 7.2 | 5.5 | 7.0 | 58.1 | 7.2 |
| Influence of family members | 49.4 | 6.8 | 7.4 | 9.4 | 56.8 | 7.1 |
| Necessity in social functions | 42.0 | 5.8 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 44.8 | 5.6 |
| Killing time | 32.4 | 4.5 | 8.7 | 11.1 | 41.1 | 5.1 |
| To look more mature/stylish | 24.1 | 3.3 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 25.6 | 3.2 |
| Easing tension | 20.4 | 2.8 | 4.6 | 5.8 | 25.0 | 3.1 |
| Others | 5.5 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 6.6 | 0.8 |
| Total | 726.3 | 100.0 | 78.8 | 100.0 | 805.1 | 100.0 |

Source: Census and Statistics Department (1998)

Table 5.14: Daily smokers by age started smoking weekly and sex

| | Male | | Female | | Overall | |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | No. of persons ('000) | % | No. of persons ('000) | % | No. of persons ('000) | % |
| < 15 | 59.7 | 8.6 | 5.8 | 8.6 | 65.5 | 8.6 |
| 15-19 | 363.9 | 52.7 | 31.1 | 46.3 | 395.0 | 52.1 |
| 20-24 | 215.4 | 31.2 | 21.6 | 32.2 | 237.0 | 31.3 |
| 25-29 | 52.0 | 7.5 | 8.6 | 12.8 | 60.7 | 8.0 |
| Total | 691.0 | 100.0 | 67.1 | 100.0 | 758.2 | 100.0 |

Source: Census and Statistics Department (1998)

Table 5.13 indicates that the reasons of daily smoker to start smoking are influence of friends, followed by curiosity. Table 5.14 compares the percentage of daily smokers by age started smoking weekly. More than half of the daily smokers (52.1%) is young people aged 15-19.

Section B. Youth Crime

66. Police Arrests And Offender Rates

Table 5.15: Persons Arrested for Crime* by Type of Offence and Sex

| Age group | Sex | 1991 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|-----------|-----|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 7-15 | F | 961 | 1 590 | 1 487 | 1 497 | 1 278 | 1 464 | 1 627 |
| | M | 6 083 | 4 889 | 4 477 | 4 337 | 4 208 | 4 765 | 4 282 |
| 16-20 | F | 811 | 1 198 | 1 008 | 956 | 968 | 1 162 | 1 141 |
| | M | 7 354 | 6 743 | 5 847 | 5 657 | 6 070 | 5 303 | 5 004 |
| 21-29 | F | 1 322 | 1 949 | 1 545 | 1 520 | 1 615 | 1 813 | 1 766 |
| | M | 10 790 | 10 092 | 9 128 | 9 025 | 8 927 | 8 262 | 7 603 |

Source: Hong Kong Police Force (2001)

*Notes: * Refers to reported crimes.*

Table 5.16: Juvenile Offenders (Aged 7-15) Arrested for Crime, 2002 (Jan-Jul)

| Crime | Persons Arrested |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Shop Theft | 1325 |
| Miscellaneous Thefts | 464 |
| Wounding & Serious Assault | 392 |
| Robbery | 308 |
| Unlawful Society Offences | 95 |
| Criminal Damage | 80 |
| Offences Against Public Order | 80 |
| Blackmail | 74 |
| Burglary | 68 |
| Disorder/Fighting in Public Place | 53 |
| Others | 424 |
| Total | 3363 |

Source: Hong Kong Police Force (2001)

In Hong Kong young men are considerably more likely than young women to be charged with criminal offences. In 2001, there were 7,603 youth males aged 21-29 charged with criminal offences as compared to 1,766 youth females. Thus, young males aged 21-29 comprised 81.2% of those charged with criminal offences in the Hong Kong. For both sexes, more charges were laid against older youths aged 21-29 than against younger people aged 16-20. Of all charges against youths aged 7-15, 39.3% were arrested for the crime of shop theft.

66. Police Arrests And Offender Rates

Table 5.17: Juvenile Offenders (Aged 7-15) Arrested for Serious Narcotics Offences, 2002 (Jan-Jul)

| Crime | Persons Arrested |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Trafficking in Dangerous Drugs | 16 |
| Possession of Dangerous Drugs | 20 |

Source: Hong Kong Police Force (2001)

Table 5.18: Persons Arrested for Crime by Age Group, 2002 (Jan-Jul)**

| Age Group | Persons Arrested (1) | Mid -2002 Population (2) | Offender Rate * {(1)/(2)}x 100 000 |
|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7 - 15 | 3 363 | 761 400 | 441.7 |
| 16 - 20 | 3 477 | 442 500 | 785.8 |
| 21 and over | 15 910 | 5 154 700 | 308.7 |
| Total | 22 750 | 6 358 600 | 357.8 |

Source: Hong Kong Police Force (2001)

Notes:: ** Children below the age of 7 bear no criminal responsibility.

* Provisional figures

Table 5.19: Persons Arrested for Narcotics Crime* by Sex

| Type of offence | Sex | 1991 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|---------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Serious narcotics offence | F | 391 | 671 | 535 | 475 | 417 | 457 | 466 |
| | M | 3 329 | 4 545 | 3 639 | 2 897 | 2 412 | 2 402 | 2 598 |

Source: Hong Kong Police Force (2001)

Notes: * Refers to reported crimes.

Young people aged 16-20 accounted for a relatively higher proportion of youth arrested for crime. Data collected in 2001 by the Hong Kong Police Force showed that youth aged 16-20 have the highest offender rate of 7.86 per 100,000 people. Juvenile offenders aged 7-15 arrested for serious narcotics offences comprise 1.2% of the overall persons charged with narcotics crimes.

67. Rehabilitation and Treatment

Table 5.20: Offenders ⁽¹⁾ Under the Custody/Supervision of Social Welfare Department by Age Group, Type of Order and Sex

| Age group/Type of order | Sex | 1991 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 16 or below: | | | | | | | | |
| Probation order-open supervision | F | 68 | 158 | 111 | 69 | 63 | 67 | 97 |
| | M | 797 | 610 | 429 | 481 | 412 | 520 | 499 |
| Probation order-with residential requirement | F | 18 | 38 | 20 | 30 | 25 | 26 | 38 |
| | M | 190 | 138 | 108 | 81 | 107 | 138 | 145 |
| Community service order | F | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| | M | 8 | 11 | 11 | 4 | 7 | 11 | 34 |
| School order ⁽²⁾ | F | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | M | 142 | 68 | 44 | 40 | 37 | 39 | 55 |
| 16-20: | | | | | | | | |
| Probation order-open supervision | F | 100 | 274 | 195 | 181 | 162 | 191 | 225 |
| | M | 962 | 1228 | 979 | 1 000 | 945 | 1 097 | 1 123 |
| Probation order-with residential requirement | F | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | M | 86 | 74 | 66 | 78 | 72 | 112 | 121 |
| Community service order | F | 2 | 30 | 29 | 22 | 26 | 50 | 60 |
| | M | 58 | 311 | 299 | 284 | 380 | 483 | 555 |
| 21 or above: | | | | | | | | |
| Probation order-with residential requirement | F | 149 | 248 | 201 | 238 | 299 | 340 | 320 |
| | M | 711 | 914 | 783 | 921 | 1 082 | 1 060 | 745 |
| Community service order | F | 4 | 63 | 87 | 93 | 146 | 208 | 227 |
| | M | 60 | 413 | 533 | 604 | 793 | 1 148 | 1 122 |
| Sub-total | F | 342 | 812 | 643 | 634 | 721 | 885 | 973 |
| | M | 3 014 | 3 767 | 3 252 | 3 493 | 3 835 | 4 608 | 4 399 |
| Total | | 3 356 | 4 579 | 3 895 | 4 127 | 4 556 | 5 493 | 5 372 |

Source: Social Welfare Department (2001)

Notes: (1) Figures refer to total number of new court orders made in the year. (2) School order is only applicable to male offenders aged under 16.

Table 5.20 indicates the number of offenders under the custody and supervision of Social Welfare Department by age group, type of order and sex over a ten-year period.

67. Rehabilitation and Treatment

Table 5.21: Receptions of Sentenced Persons by Age Group and Sex

| Age group | Sex | 1986 | 1991 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|-----------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 14-17 | F | 48 | 84 | 156 | 114 | 70 | 108 | 145 | 260 |
| | M | 527 | 768 | 590 | 433 | 383 | 403 | 399 | 404 |
| 18-20 | F | 130 | 204 | 533 | 452 | 337 | 309 | 512 | 1 148 |
| | M | 882 | 1 279 | 1 283 | 1 012 | 935 | 900 | 767 | 757 |
| 21-24 | F | 277 | 311 | 1 075 | 912 | 679 | 608 | 777 | 1 404 |
| | M | 1 731 | 2 519 | 2 246 | 1 926 | 2 045 | 1 862 | 1 717 | 1 795 |
| 25-29 | F | 224 | 254 | 862 | 842 | 817 | 845 | 877 | 1 252 |
| | M | 2 033 | 2 775 | 2 381 | 2 079 | 2 215 | 2 308 | 2 315 | 2 367 |

Source: Correctional Services Department (2001)

Table 5.22: Receptions of Sentenced Persons by Narcotics Offence and Sex

| Type of offence | Sex | 1981 | 1986 | 1991 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Narcotics offences | F | 71 | 207 | 126 | 483 | 348 | 359 | 313 | 279 | 302 |
| | M | 2 563 | 3 825 | 2 361 | 4 583 | 3 755 | 3 551 | 2 940 | 2 425 | 2 687 |

Source: Correctional Services Department (2001)

Table 5.23: Admission of Sentenced Persons by Sex by Age

| Sex/Age Group | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Male | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 -17 | 661 | 695 | 825 | 758 | 590 | 433 | 383 | 403 | 399 | 404 |
| 18 - 20 | 1 208 | 1 298 | 1 375 | 1 404 | 1 283 | 1 012 | 935 | 900 | 767 | 757 |
| 21 - 24 | 2 195 | 1 993 | 2 306 | 2 272 | 2 246 | 1 926 | 2 045 | 1 862 | 1 717 | 1 795 |
| 25 - 29 | 2 619 | 2 285 | 2 444 | 2 386 | 2 381 | 2 079 | 2 215 | 2 308 | 2 315 | 2 367 |
| Female | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 -17 | 80 | 104 | 147 | 163 | 156 | 114 | 70 | 108 | 145 | 260 |
| 18 - 20 | 210 | 218 | 429 | 615 | 533 | 452 | 337 | 309 | 512 | 1 148 |
| 21 - 24 | 371 | 367 | 759 | 1 209 | 1 075 | 912 | 679 | 608 | 777 | 1 404 |
| 25 - 29 | 321 | 354 | 585 | 937 | 862 | 842 | 817 | 845 | 877 | 1 252 |

Source: Correctional Services Department (2001)

Table 5.21 and 5.23 summarize the receptions and sentenced persons by age and sex over then year period. Table 5.22 indicates reception of sentenced persons by Narcotics offence over a twenty-year period.

68. Understanding Juvenile Gangs And Factors Influencing Deviant Behavior

Table 5.24: Acquaintances who often took heroin

| Whether knew anyone who often took heroin | 1996 | 2000 |
|---|-------|-------|
| Yes | 17.0 | 14.7 |
| No | 83.0 | 85.3 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Source: Lau (2002)

Table 5.25: Relationship of heroin abusers to students

| Relationship of heroin abusers to students | 1996 % | 2000 % |
|--|--------|--------|
| Friends / colleagues | 38.3 | 37.8 |
| Classmates / schoolmates | 38.9 | 37.2 |
| Other relatives | 30.8 | 30.2 |
| Neighbours | 17.4 | 12.8 |
| Parents | 13 | 11.7 |
| Brothers / sisters | 5.1 | 5.7 |

Source: Lau (2002)

Table 5.26: Relationship of psychotropic substance abusers with students

| | 1996 % | 2000 % |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| Friends / colleagues | 50.1 | 52.4 |
| Classmates / schoolmates | 36 | 37.5 |
| Other relatives | 12.8 | 12.4 |
| Neighbours | 11.2 | 6.7 |
| Brothers / sisters | 6.2 | 4.9 |
| Parents | 4.1 | 3.3 |

Source: Lau (2002)

Table 5.24 shows that more young people (over 80%) did not know anyone who often took heroin. Table 5.25 and 5.26 summarize that heroin abusers and psychotropic substance abusers are friends or colleagues of the student, followed by classmates and relatives.

68. Understanding Juvenile Gangs And Factors Influencing Deviant Behavior

Table 5.27: Acquaintances who often took psychotropic substances

| Whether knew anyone who often took psychotropic substances | 1996 % | 2000 % |
|--|--------|--------|
| Yes | 15.6 | 16.9 |
| No | 84.4 | 83.1 |
| Total | 100 | 100 |

Source: Lau (2002)

Table 5.28: Inclination to take psychotropic substances in the future by sex 2000

| Inclination to take psychotropic substances in the future | Male % | Female % | Overall % |
|---|--------|----------|-----------|
| Absolutely would take | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| Possibly would take | 8.7 | 9 | 8.9 |
| Possibly would not take | 14.2 | 15.2 | 14.7 |
| Absolutely would not take | 72.1 | 72.8 | 72.4 |

Source: Lau (2002)

Table 5.27 indicates that more respondents (over 80%) did not know anyone who often took psychotropic substances. Table 5.28 shows that more respondents absolutely would not take psychotropic substances in the future.

69. Convictions For Drug Use / Possession

Table 5.29: No. of Sentenced Persons Convicted of Narcotic Offence by Sex and Type of Narcotic Offence and Age (as at the end of year)

| Year: 1999 Sex / Type of Narcotic Offence | Age | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 14 - 20 | 21 - 24 | 25 - 29 |
| Male | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 88 | 194 | 318 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 56 | 129 | 156 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 10 | 18 | 31 |
| Total | 154 | 341 | 505 |
| Female | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 9 | 23 | 29 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 20 | 24 | 27 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Total | 30 | 47 | 60 |
| Both Sexes | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 97 | 217 | 347 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 76 | 153 | 183 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 11 | 18 | 35 |
| Total | 184 | 388 | 565 |
| Year: 2000 | Age | | |
| Sex / Type of Narcotic Offence | 14 - 20 | 21 - 24 | 25 - 29 |
| Male | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 66 | 161 | 321 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 41 | 112 | 110 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 5 | 13 | 33 |
| Total | 112 | 286 | 464 |
| Female | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 8 | 17 | 25 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 18 | 29 | 18 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| Total | 26 | 49 | 47 |
| Both Sexes | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 74 | 178 | 346 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 59 | 141 | 128 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 5 | 16 | 37 |
| Total | 138 | 335 | 511 |
| Year: 2001 | Age | | |
| Sex / Type of Narcotic Offence | 14 - 20 | 21 - 24 | 25 - 29 |
| Male | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 101 | 178 | 317 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 60 | 89 | 123 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 2 | 10 | 24 |
| Total | 163 | 277 | 464 |
| Female | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 9 | 13 | 23 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 16 | 21 | 27 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Total | 26 | 34 | 54 |
| Both Sexes | | | |
| Trafficking in D.D. | 110 | 191 | 340 |
| Simple Possession of D.D. | 76 | 110 | 150 |
| Other Narcotic Offences | 3 | 10 | 28 |
| Total | 189 | 311 | 518 |

Source: Correctional Services Department (2001)

69. Convictions For Drug Use / Possession

Table 5.30: No. of Sentenced Persons by Age and Sex and Whether Drug Depending

| Year: 1999 | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|------------------------|-----|-------|------------------------|-----|-------|------------------------|-----|-------|
| | Male | | | Female | | | Both Sexes | | |
| | Whether Drug Depending | | | Whether Drug Depending | | | Whether Drug Depending | | |
| Age | No | Yes | Total | No | Yes | Total | No | Yes | Total |
| 14 - 20 | 636 | 215 | 851 | 82 | 55 | 137 | 718 | 270 | 988 |
| 21 - 24 | 1 051 | 407 | 1 458 | 150 | 76 | 226 | 1 201 | 483 | 1 684 |
| 25 - 29 | 1 316 | 478 | 1 794 | 128 | 58 | 186 | 1 444 | 536 | 1 980 |
| Year: 2000 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Male | | | Female | | | Both Sexes | | |
| | Whether Drug Depending | | | Whether Drug Depending | | | Whether Drug Depending | | |
| Age | No | Yes | Total | No | Yes | Total | No | Yes | Total |
| 14 - 20 | 657 | 130 | 787 | 131 | 42 | 173 | 788 | 172 | 960 |
| 21 - 24 | 931 | 356 | 1 287 | 144 | 63 | 207 | 1 075 | 419 | 1 494 |
| 25 - 29 | 1 280 | 484 | 1 764 | 154 | 64 | 218 | 1 434 | 548 | 1 982 |
| Year: 2001 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Male | | | Female | | | Both Sexes | | |
| | Whether Drug Depending | | | Whether Drug Depending | | | Whether Drug Depending | | |
| Age | No | Yes | Total | No | Yes | Total | No | Yes | Total |
| 14 - 20 | 680 | 137 | 817 | 307 | 80 | 387 | 987 | 217 | 1 204 |
| 21 - 24 | 906 | 330 | 1 236 | 273 | 70 | 343 | 1 179 | 400 | 1 579 |
| 25 - 29 | 1 257 | 535 | 1 792 | 207 | 81 | 288 | 1 464 | 616 | 2 080 |

Source: Correctional Services Department (2001)

Table 5.30 compares the number of sentenced young persons by age and sex in 1999-2001. It can be seen that young persons constituted about 40% of the total number of sentenced persons each year.