

Things to Think About
2009 Palo Alto Reality Check Survey (PARCS)
Total participated 1797 12.3% filtered out (1576)

Gunn High School

General

The majority of students in Palo Alto are making healthy decisions and express healthy attitudes when it comes to alcohol, drug use and related high risk behaviors.

The majority of students are overestimating the degree to which their school peers are involved in these behaviors.

There are a number of students who report regular substance use and high risk behaviors and attitudes (like DUI, binge drinking, etc.).

The majority of students share school and community values regarding alcohol at dances, driving/riding under the influence, binge drinking, etc – yet express concern about the fairness and enforcement of particular policies on campus and in the community.

A large majority of students want youth voices to be included in future policies and decision making.

Palo Alto student’s perceptions of bullying are not the same as the reality.

2008	2009	What Gunn students think of drugs & alcohol
82.2%	85.4%	... of student alcohol use is limited to a few times a year or not at all.
76.3%	77.8%	... of students report never being drunk in the last 12 months.
78.8%	80.7%	... of students say they never use marijuana
90.9%	92%	... of students say they never use other illegal drugs.
86.9%	84.5%	... students would rather not date a smoker
72.8%)	71.8%	... would not want to date a marijuana user.
87.1%	88.8%	... of students express the attitude, “It is never okay to drink and drive”.
90.3%	91.5%	... of students say their parents do not allow them and their friends to drink alcohol in their home.
50.7%	50.4%	... of students say someone in their family had talked with them about alcohol and drug use.