
CHAPTER 8

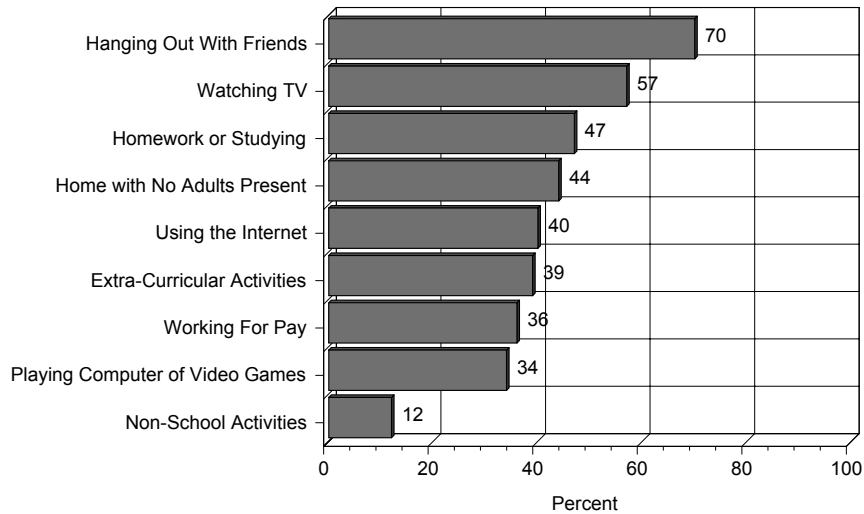
Student Time Use

This chapter is comprised of a series of charts showing how local youth spend their time outside of school. The charts allow for easy comparisons between the different ways local youth spend their time by illustrating the number of hours per week youth spend on each activity.

Student Time Use

Figure 8-1 shows the overall percentages of those students who spend five or more hours a week doing a particular activity; Figure 8-2 shows those who spend 16 or more hours a week in the same activity.

Figure 8-1: How Teens Spend Their Time
(5 or More Hours a Week)



Number Responding:
Ranges from 757-766

Figure 8-2: How Teens Spend Their Time
(16 or More Hours a Week)

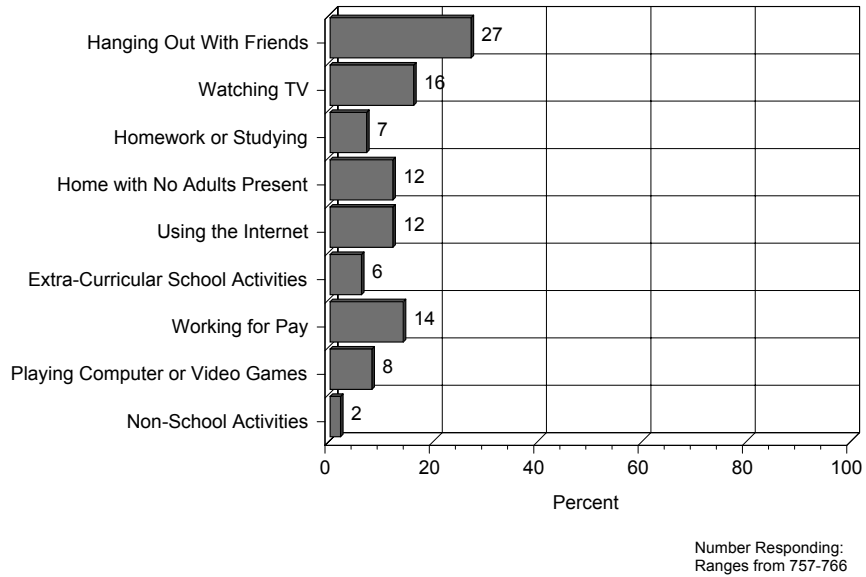


Figure 8-3 shows that junior high school students spend more time than high school students in extracurricular activities and playing computer or video games. High school students spend more time than junior high school students hanging out with friends, doing homework or studying, home alone, using the Internet, and working for pay.

Figure 8-3: How Teens Spend Their Time
(5 or More Hours a Week, by School Level)

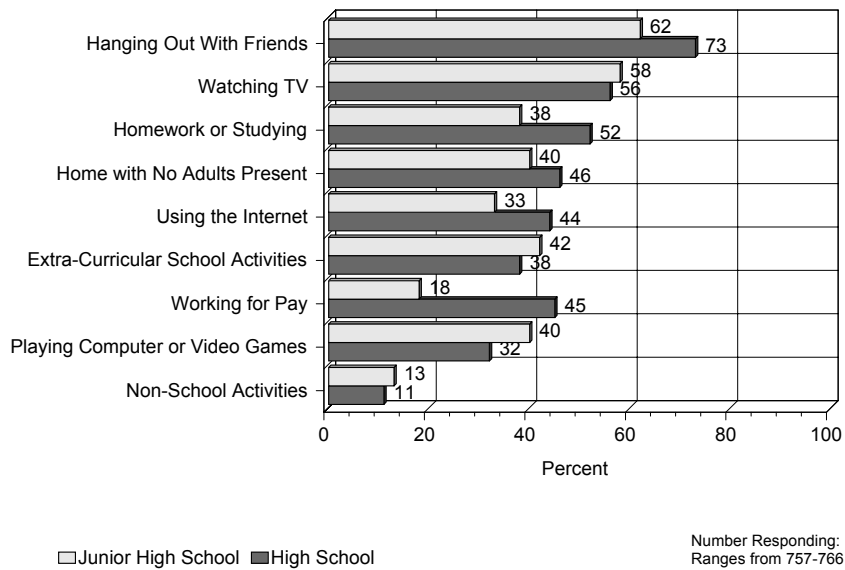


Figure 8-4, like Figure 8-3, shows that while junior high school students are more likely than high school students to watch TV and play computer or video games, high school students spend more time working for pay.

Figure 8-4: How Teens Spend Their Time
(16 or More Hours a Week, by School Level)

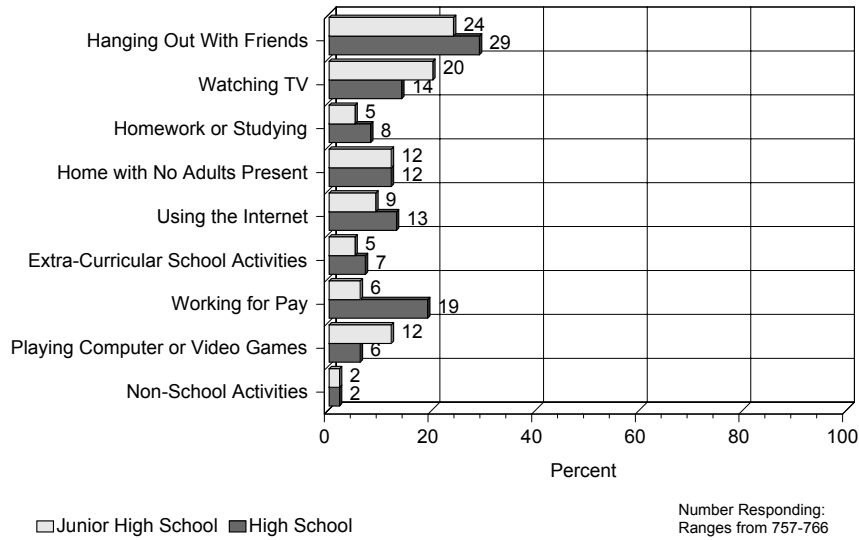
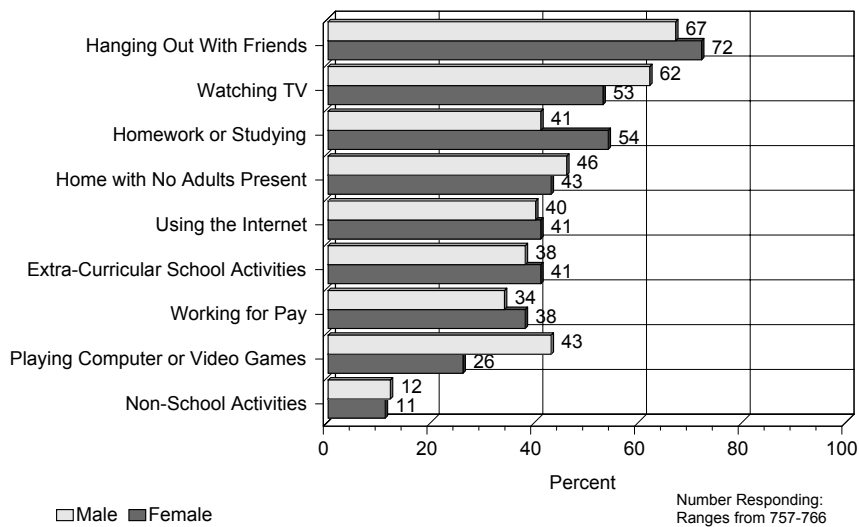


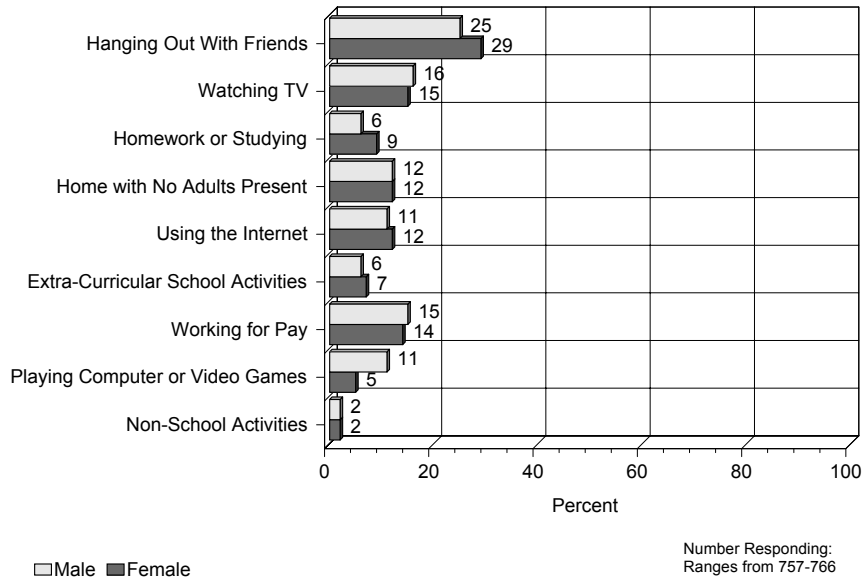
Figure 8-5 shows that males are more likely than females to spend time watching TV and playing computer or video games. Females are more likely to spend time hanging out with friends and doing homework or studying.

Figure 8-5: How Teens Spend Their Time
(5 or More Hours a Week, by Gender)



As with Figure 8-5, Figure 8-6 shows that males are more likely than females to play computer or video games. Females are slightly more likely than males to spend time doing homework or studying and hanging out with friends.

Figure 8-6: How Teens Spend Their Time
(16 or More Hours a Week, by Gender)



Having a part-time job can provide teens with a number of beneficial experiences including opportunities to develop responsibility and self-reliance. They also learn to deal more effectively with others and acquire knowledge about business and consumer matters. However, working more than 15-20 hours per week may entail costs. Working too many hours can diminish involvement in school activities and is associated with increased school absenteeism, decline in school performance, higher levels of emotional distress, substance use and earlier age of sexual activity (Greenberger and Steinberg, 1986; Resnick et al., 1997).