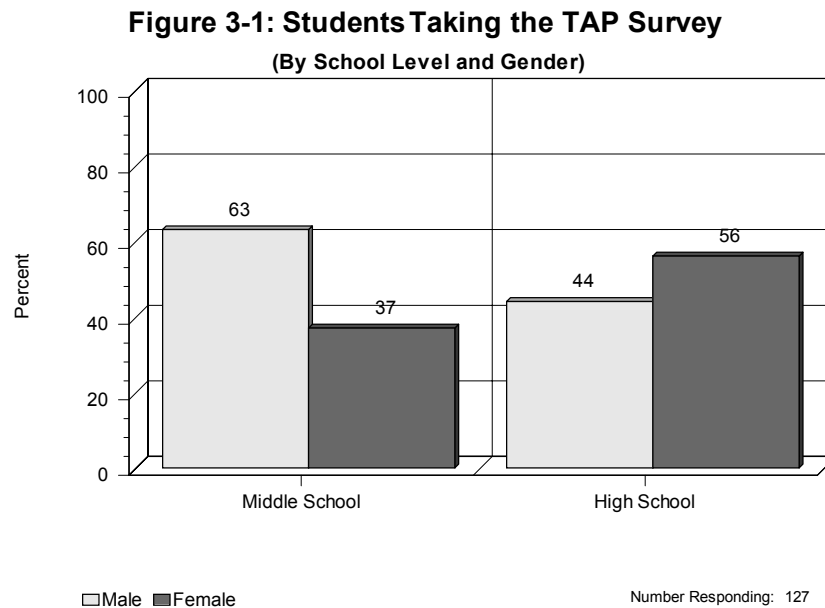

CHAPTER 3

Characteristics of the Lin-Wood Cooperative School District Students and Their Families

To give readers an overview of local teens, this chapter provides a summary of demographic and family characteristics of the Lin-Wood Cooperative School District students who participated in the survey.

This report reflects the survey results of 127 students. These youth represent 73% of the middle school and high school student population in April 2003. Of all the youth responding to the survey, 51% were male and 49% were female. Figure 3-1 shows the school level and gender breakdown of the sample. Middle school represents youth in grades 7 and 8; high school represents grades 9 through 12.



Note: Due to rounding, some graphs may not total 100%.

The following table shows the number of usable surveys from students in each grade.

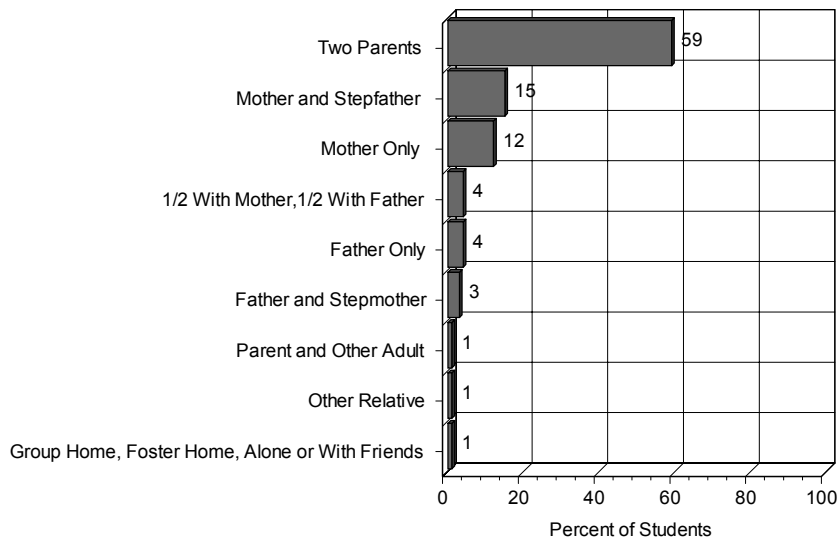
Table 3-1: Usable Surveys

Grade	Total	Male	Female
7	30	20	10
8	16	9	7
9	26	15	11
10	14	5	9
11	23	10	13
12	18	6	12

Family Characteristics

Students reported a number of different family living situations. Figure 3-2 shows most students (59%) live with two parents (biological or adoptive). Other common living situations are single parent households (16%) and step-family households (18%). The remaining 7% of students live in other living situations.

Figure 3-2: Family Living Situations



Number Responding 127

Thirty-six percent (36%) of students reported their parents have been involved in a separation or divorce. Fifty-five percent (55%) of youth indicated their parents have never been divorced or separated. As Figure 3-3 shows, the length of time since divorce ranges from currently happening now to more than ten years ago.

Figure 3-3: Parents Divorced or Separated

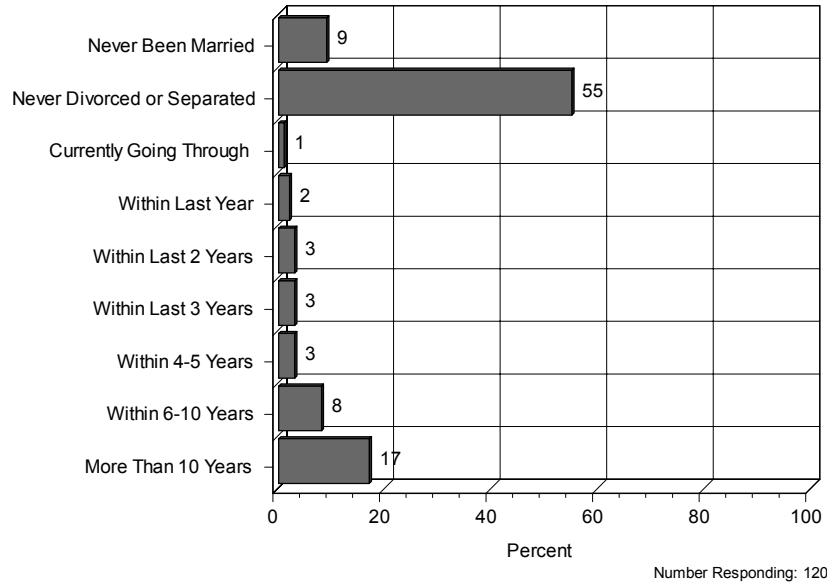
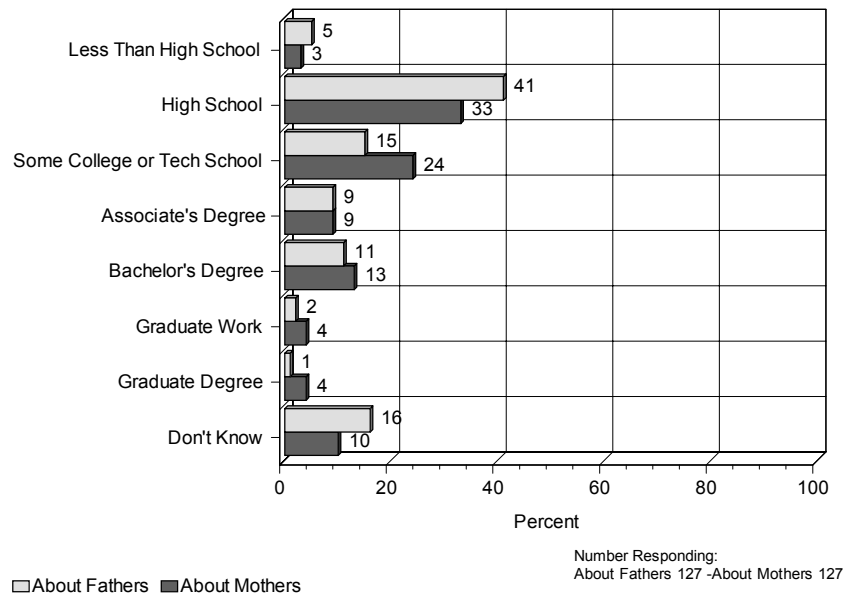


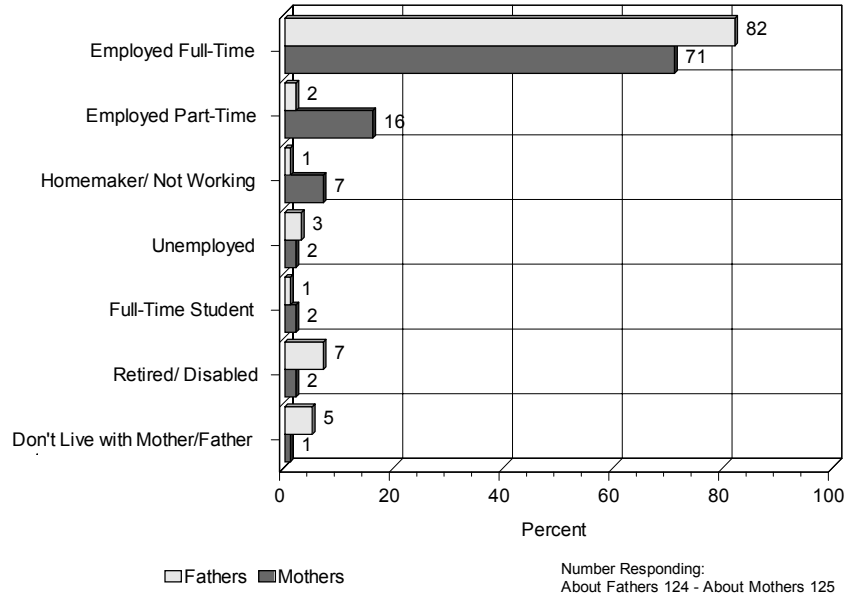
Figure 3-4 shows the range of parental education. Five percent (5%) of all fathers and 3% of all mothers were reported to have less than a high school education. In addition, 14% of the fathers and 21% of the mothers were reported to have a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Figure 3-4: Parental Education Levels



Teens reported 84% of their fathers were employed outside the home on either a full-time (82%) or a part-time (2%) basis. Eighty-seven percent (87%) of mothers were reported employed on a full-time (71%) or a part-time (16%) basis. Figure 3-5 shows the breakdown of parental employment.

Figure 3-5: Parental Employment



School Characteristics

Most youth (81%) taking the survey reported they usually receive an average grade of “C” or better on their report cards. Fifty-one percent (51%) of the students reported having a “B” average or higher. Figure 3-6 shows the range of answers for the average letter grade teens receive.

Figure 3-6: Average Student Letter Grade

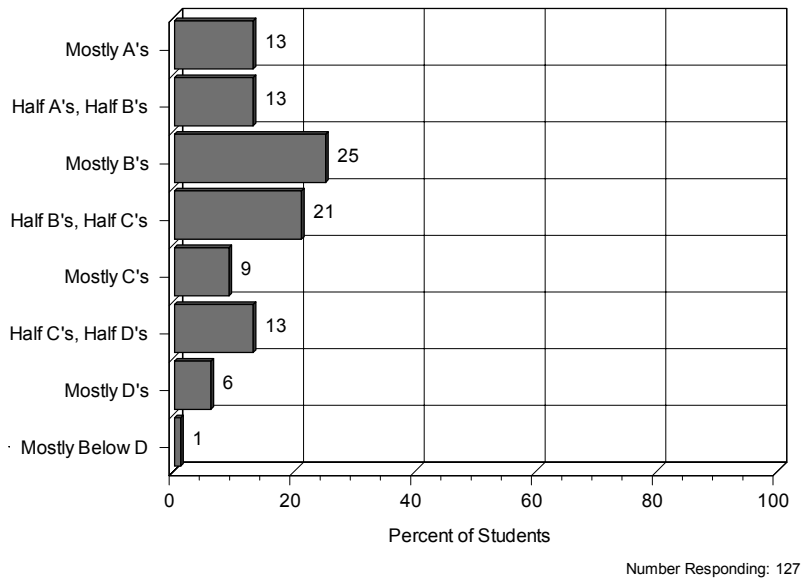


Figure 3-7 shows the differences in average letter grades by school level. Similar percentages of middle school and high school youth reported averaging a “B” average or higher (middle school, 52%; high school, 51%).

Figure 3-7: Average Student Letter Grade (By School Level)

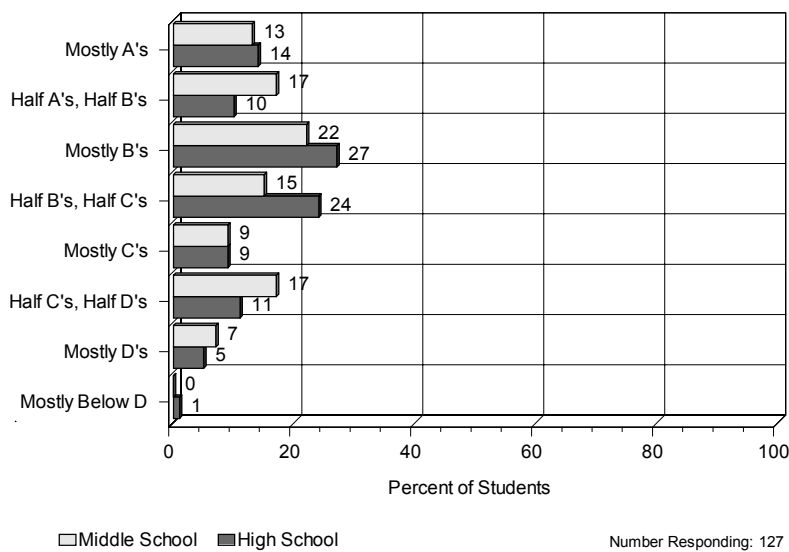


Figure 3-8 shows the differences in average letter grades by gender. Fifty-five percent (55%) of females reported a “B” average or higher, while 48% of males reported this.

**Figure 3-8: Average Student Letter Grade
(By Gender)**

