
CHAPTER 9

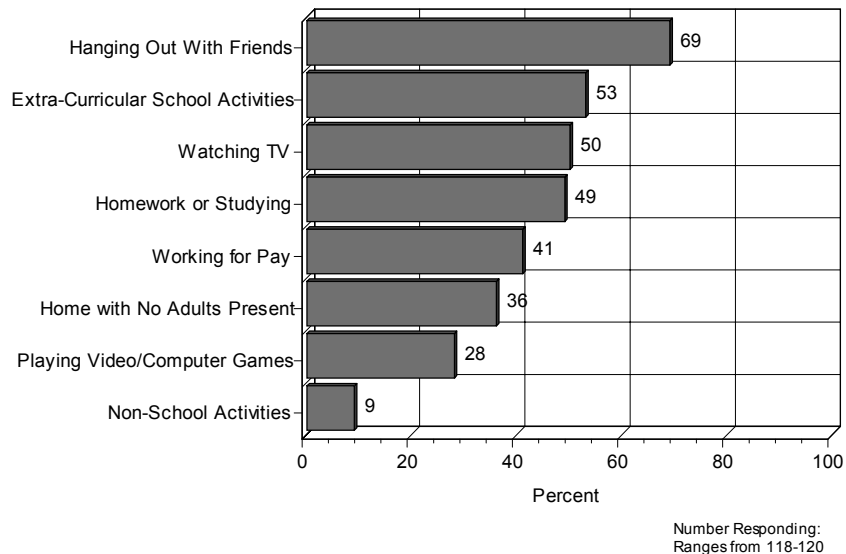
Student Time Use

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

Student Time Use

Figure 9-1 shows the overall percentages of those students who spend five or more hours a week doing a particular activity.

**Figure 9-1: How Teens Spend Their Time
(5 or More Hours a Week)**



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

Figure 9-2 shows that males are more likely than females to spend time watching TV and playing video (or computer) games.

Figure 9-2: How Teens Spend Their Time (5 or More Hours a Week, by Gender)

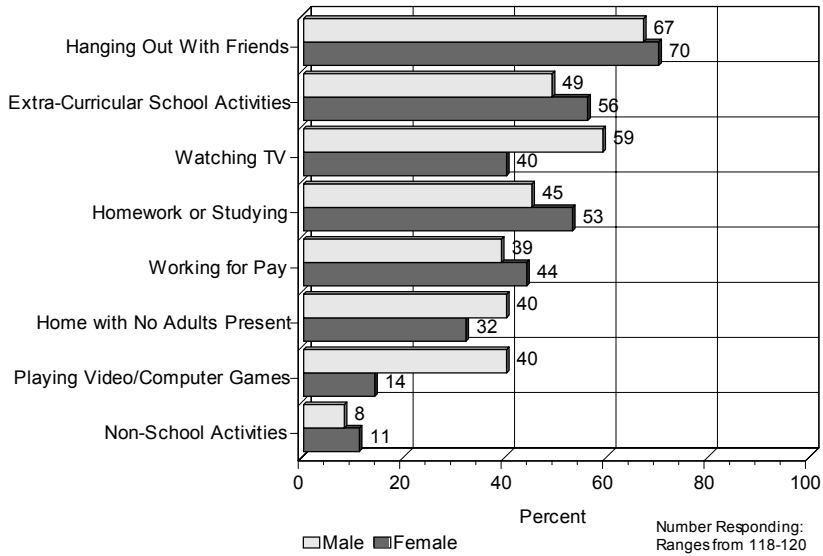


Figure 9-3 shows that a greater percentage of high school than middle school students reported working for pay for 5 or more hours per week.

Figure 9-3: How Teens Spend Their Time (5 or More Hours a Week, by School Level)

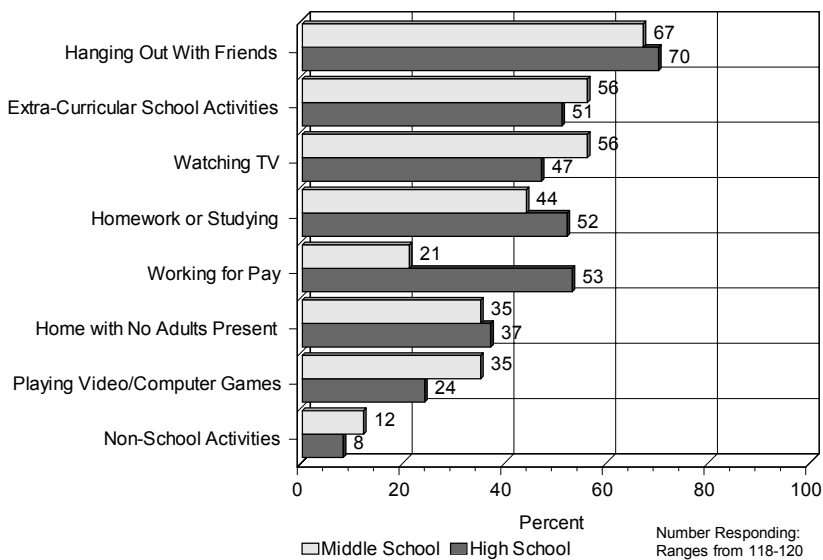


Figure 9-4 shows the overall percentages of those students who spend 16 or more hours a week doing the same activity.

**Figure 9-4: How Teens Spend Their Time
(16 or More Hours a Week)**

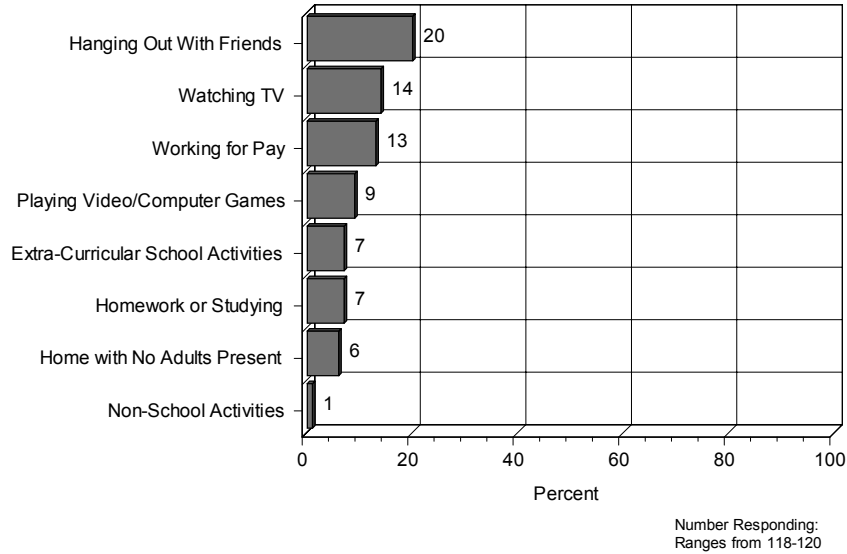


Figure 9-5 shows as in Figure 9-2 that a greater percentage of males than females reported watching TV and playing video (or computer) games.

**Figure 9-5: How Teens Spend Their Time
(16 or More Hours a Week, by Gender)**

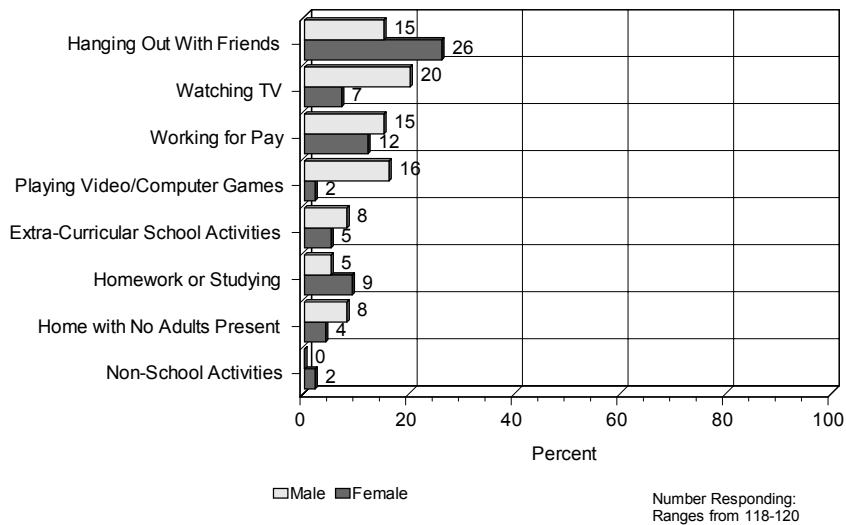
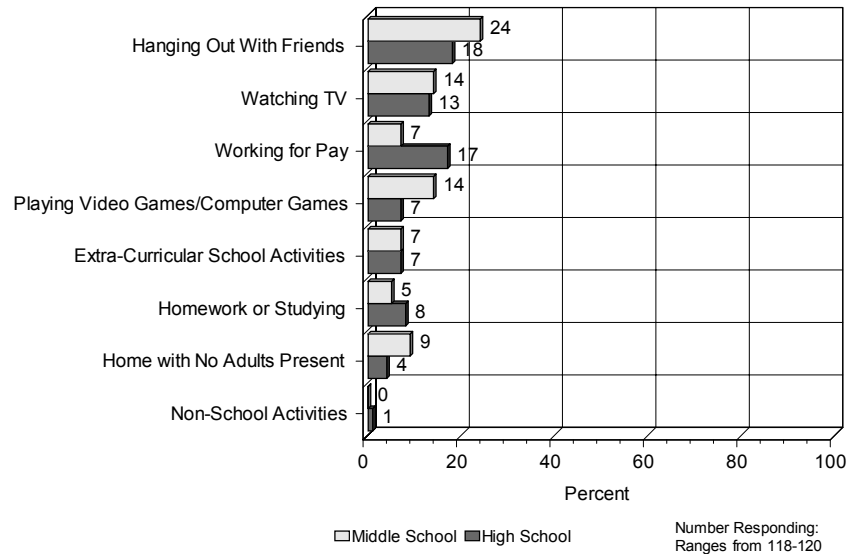


Figure 9-6 shows responses by school level.

Figure 9-6: How Teens Spend Their Time
(16 or More Hours a Week, by School Level)



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).