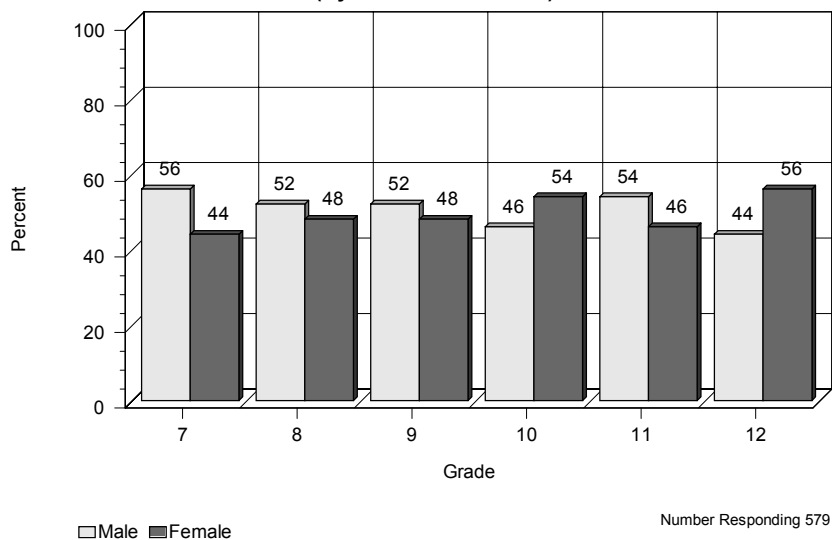

CHAPTER 3

Characteristics of the Newfound Area 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 students who participated in the survey.

This report reflects the survey results of 579 students. These youth represent approximately 83% of the Newfound Area middle school and high school student population in March 2003. Of all the youth responding to the survey, 51% were male and 49% were female. Figure 3-1 shows the grade and gender breakdown of the sample.

Figure 3-1: Grade and Gender of Students Taking the TAP Survey
(By Grade and Gender)



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

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

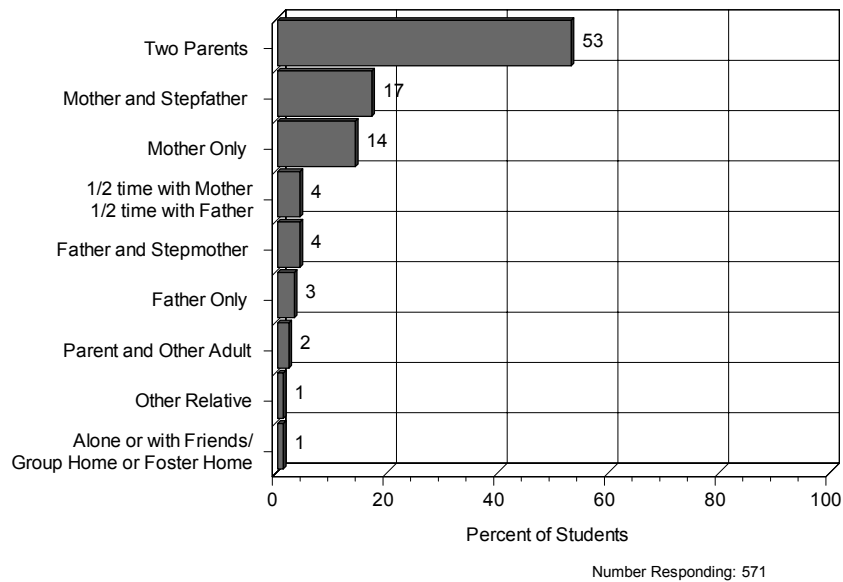
Table 3-1: Usable Surveys

Grade	Total	Male	Female
7	108	60	48
8	95	49	46
9	108	56	52
10	100	46	54
11	80	43	37
12	88	39	49

Family Characteristics

Students reported a number of different family living situations. Figure 3-2 shows most students (53%) live with two parents (biological or adoptive). Other common living situations are single parent households (17%) and step-family households (21%). The remaining 9% of students live in other living situations.

Figure 3-2: Family Living Situations



Thirty-three percent (33%) of students reported their parents have been involved in a separation or divorce. Fifty-six (56%) 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

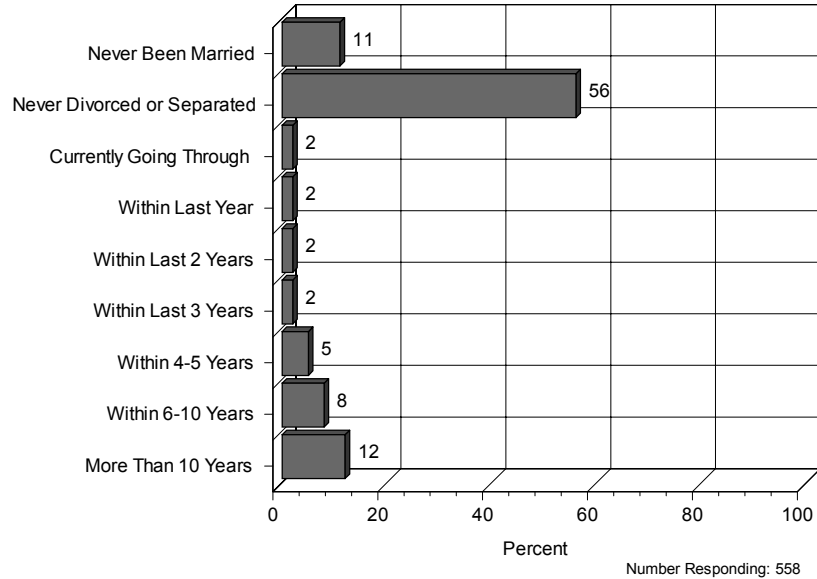
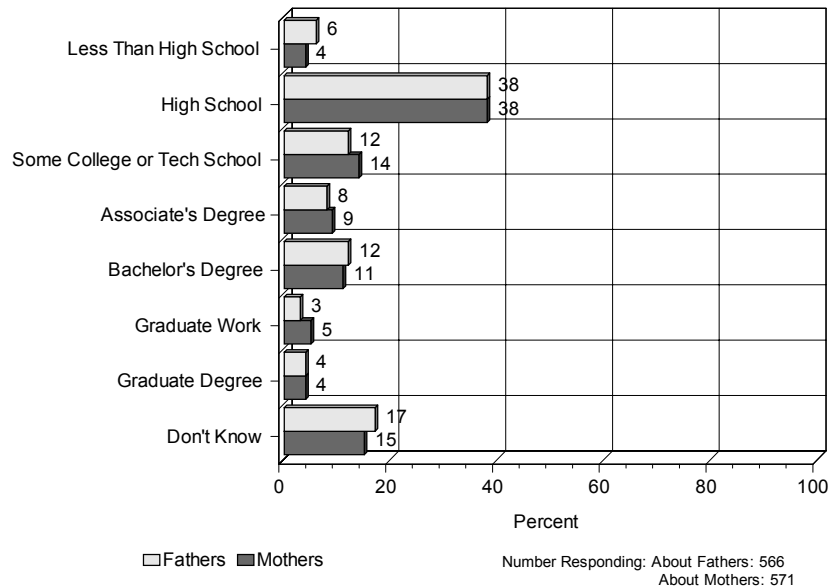


Figure 3-4 shows the range of parental education. Six percent (6%) of all fathers and 4% of all mothers were reported to have less than a high school education. In addition, 19% of the fathers and 20% of the mothers were reported to have a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Figure 3-4: Parental Education Levels



School Characteristics

Most youth (84%) taking the survey reported they usually receive an average grade of “C” or better on their report cards. Fifty percent (50%) of the students reported having a “B” average or higher. Figure 3-5 shows the range of answers for the average letter grade teens receive.

Figure 3-5: Average Student Letter Grade

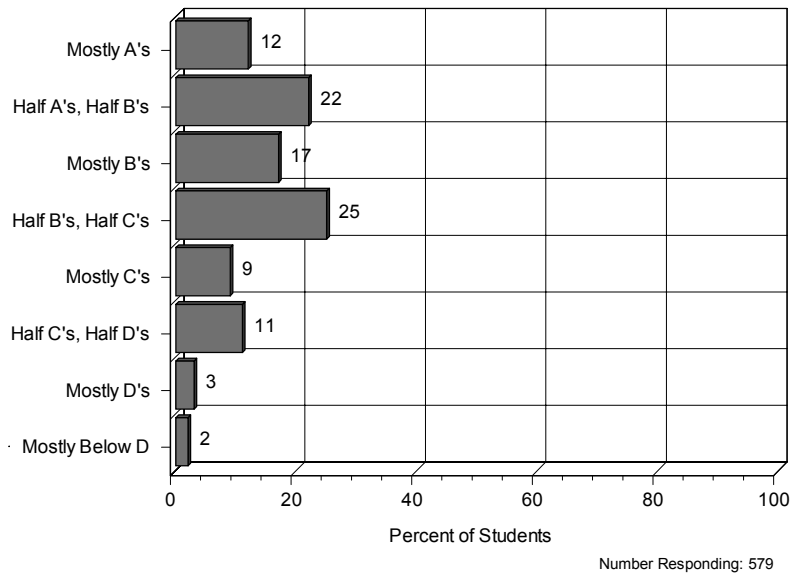


Figure 3-6 shows the differences in average letter grades by gender. It shows females reported higher average grades than males. Fifty-six percent (56%) of females reported a “B” average or higher, versus 44% of males.

Figure 3-6: Average Student Letter Grade (By Gender)

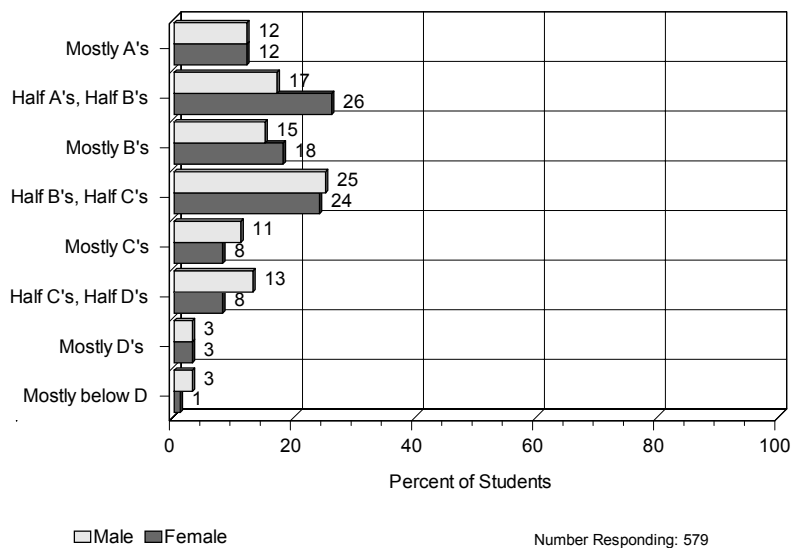
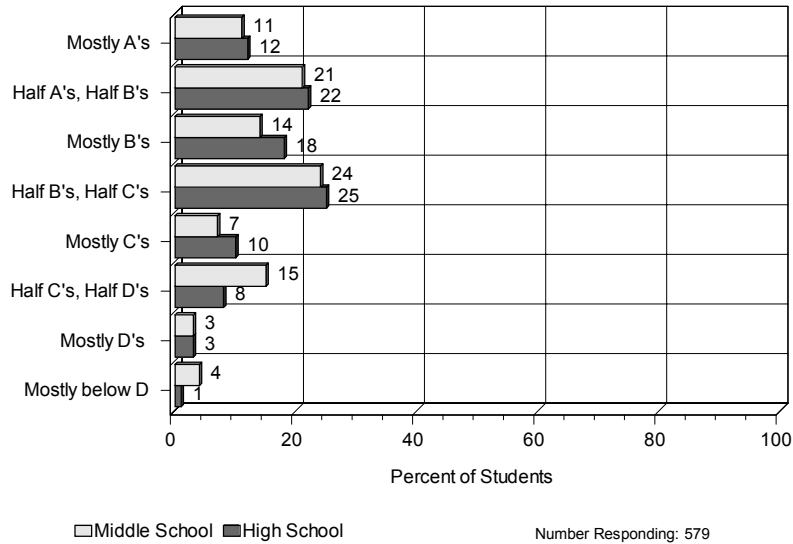


Figure 3-7 shows the differences in average letter grades by school level. Forty-six percent (46%) of middle school youth reported a “B” average or higher, while 53% of high school youth reported this.

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



We asked teens how honest they were when answering the questions in the survey. Figure 3-8 shows most teens (76%) were honest on all questions. Thirteen percent (13%) of teens were honest on all but a few questions. There were 9 students who answered that they were “Not honest at all”. The data for those 9 students were eliminated for all analyses except this one.

Figure 3-8: Honesty of Students in Answering Survey Questions (by Gender)

