

7. Lessons about use of tobacco, alcohol and illicit substances in the previous school year

Students were asked to indicate if they could recall receiving any lessons on the use of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs in the previous school year (2007). The proportion of students receiving more than one lesson about tobacco, alcohol and illicit drug use in the previous school year is shown in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1: Percentage of students indicating they had received more than one lesson about the use of illicit substances in the previous school year, Australia 2008

	Age						Total (%)
	12 (%)	13 (%)	14 (%)	15 (%)	16 (%)	17 (%)	
Tobacco							
<i>More than one lesson</i>	40.8	47.6	53.2	50.6	40.4	28.5	44.5
Alcohol							
<i>More than one lesson</i>	37.9	46.0	56.5	63.2	55.9	42.1	50.6
Illicit substances							
<i>More than one lesson</i>	27.3	36.5	49.6	60.4	53.7	39.2	44.5

Across all age groups, lessons about alcohol use were more common in 2007 than lessons about tobacco use or use of illicit substances. Younger students were slightly more likely to receive more than one lesson about tobacco use than alcohol use and illicit substance use. From the age of 15, students were more likely to receive more than one lesson about alcohol use than tobacco use. However from the age of 15, students were about equally likely to receive more than one lesson about alcohol use as they were to receive lessons about illicit substance use.

These findings indicate that schools participating in this survey were most likely to include lessons about the use of alcohol, tobacco and illicit substances in the curriculum of students in Years 8, 9 and 10.