

**Summary of Conexiones LaCanada Data  
November 2007**

**Number of cases**      213 at baseline  
                                  143 at 6 month follow up  
 Individual items may have different numbers due to missing data

**Demographics**

Gender:      Male            70%  
                   Female        30%

Age:            13-17, average age=16

Ethnicity:    Hispanic        47%                      African American    5%  
                   Caucasian      39%                      Native American    2%  
                   Biracial        6%                        Asian/Pac. Islander 1%

**Educational level by age at baseline**

<i>Last grade completed</i>	<i>Age</i>					<i>Total</i>
	13	14	15	16	17	
6	1	2	1	0	0	4
7	2	4	9	3	4	22
8	0	5	24	15	12	56
9	0	0	13	22	12	47
10	0	1	2	24	30	57
11	0	0	0	2	25	27
<i>Total</i>	3	12	49	66	83	213

**Lived with in the year prior to treatment**

<i>Type of person</i>	<i>% (n=213)</i>
Parents	82
Siblings	58
Spouse, significant companion or other sexual partner	11
Children	1
Other relatives	31
Other adult roommates	26
Foster parents	1
Institutional staff	38

**Living situation past 30 days at baseline and 6 month follow-up**

<i>Type of situation</i>	<i>% at baseline (n=213)</i>	<i>% at 6 month follow-up (n=143)</i>
House/apartment either with parents, partner, roommate or alone	61	67
Jail or detention center	18	18
A friend or relative's house/apartment	8	6
Hospital, inpatient or residential facility	7	3
Group home	4	2
Foster home	1	0
Other	1	3

**Physical health at baseline and 6 month follow-up**

<i>Self-reported level of health</i>	<i>% at baseline (n=213)</i>	<i>% at 6 month follow-up (n=143)</i>
Excellent	14	22
Very good	24	29
Good	43	34
Fair	16	13
Poor	3	4

Although not a statistically significant difference, there was general improvement in self-perceptions of health from baseline to the six month follow-up.

**Mental health related physical symptoms or feelings at baseline**

<i>Type of symptom or feeling, not due to alcohol or drugs</i>	<i>% (n=213)</i>
Headaches, faintness, dizziness, tingling, numbness, sweating, hot/cold spells	34
Sleep trouble, such as bad dreams, sleeping restlessly or falling asleep during the day	50
Having dry mouth, loose bowel movements, constipations, trouble controlling your bladder or related itching	16
Pain or a heavy feeling in your heart, chest, lower back, arms, legs or other muscles	31
Feeling very trapped, lonely, sad, blue, depressed or hopeless	43
Having no energy and losing interest in work, school, friends, sex or other things you cared about	33
Remembering, concentrating, making decisions, or having your mind go blank	52
Feeling very shy, self-conscious or uneasy about what people thought or were saying about you	30
Thoughts that other people did not understand you or appreciate your situation	43
Feeling easily annoyed, irritated, or having trouble controlling your temper	68

**Abuse history at baseline**

<i>Type of abuse</i>	<i>% (n=213)</i>
Ever abused emotionally	39
Ever abused physically resulting in bruises, cuts or broken bones	44
Ever attacked with a gun, knife, stick, bottle or other weapon	61
Abuse ever result in oral, vaginal or anal sex	7
Last time attacked with a weapon, beaten, sexually or emotionally abused	
Never	26
In the past week	3
1-4 weeks ago	6
1-3 months ago	14
4-12 months ago	24
Over a year ago	27

**Self-harming thoughts and actions in year prior to baseline**

<i>Type of thought or activity</i>	<i>% (n=213)</i>
Cut, burned or hurt yourself on purpose	19
Needed medical treatment after you cut, burned or hurt yourself on purpose	3
Felt like you couldn't stop yourself from cutting, burning or hurting yourself	6
Thought about ending your life or committing suicide	25
Had a plan to commit suicide	6
Gotten a gun, pills or other things to carry out plan	3
Attempted to commit suicide	5

**Sexual activity at baseline**

<i>Sexual behavior of those reporting having had sex in the past year</i>	<i>% (n=198)</i>
Have sex while you or your partner was high on alcohol or drugs	72
Have sex without using any kind of condom, dental dam or other barrier to protect you and your partner from diseases or pregnancy	65
Have two or more sexual partners during the year	64
Use alcohol or drugs to make sex last longer or hurt less	18
Have sex with someone who was an injection drug user	7
Trade sex to get drugs, gifts or money	3
Use drugs, gifts, or money to purchase sex	2
Have sex with a man who might have had sex with other men	2

The majority of youth reporting sexual activity had sex while high and without using any barrier form of protection against disease and pregnancy. More than half also had more than one partner over the course of a year.

### Illegal activity and violence at baseline

Type of activity in year prior to baseline interview	% (n=162)
Purposely damaged or destroyed property that did not belong to you	47
Intentionally set a building, car or other property on fire	14
Taken something from a store without paying for it	49
Other than from a store, taken money or property that didn't belong to you	37
Broken into a house or building to steal something or just to look around	32
Taken a car that didn't belong to you	31
Hit someone or got into a physical fight	59
Hurt someone badly enough they needed bandages or a doctor	28
Used a knife or gun or some other thing (like a club) to get something from a person	12
Made someone have sex with you by force when they did not want to have sex	<1
Traded sex for food, drugs, or money	5
Been involved in the death or murder of another person (including accidents)	7
Driven a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs	47
Sold, distributed or helped to make illegal drugs	54
Been a member of a gang	38

Just 23 youth (11%) said that they had never done anything that they thought might get them in trouble or be against the law besides using drugs or alcohol prior to treatment. A total of 162 youth (77%) reported last committing one or more activities in the 12 months preceding treatment. Of those, 126 (59%) reported last committing activities in the 3 months prior to baseline. At the six month follow-up, 55 youth (38%) reported last committing one or more of these activities in the preceding three months. There was a significant decrease, therefore, in those reporting recent illegal activity or violence.

### Substance abuse history

Half of the study participants had never been in drug or alcohol treatment or counseling prior to this time. An additional 30% had one previous episode of treatment or counseling. The remaining 20% of participants reported between 2 and 7 prior admissions to treatment or counseling for the use of drugs/alcohol.

### Substance abuse

Percent of participants reporting when last used each drug at baseline (0, n=213) and 6 months (6, n=143)

Type of drug	Never (%)	1-7 days ago (%)		1-4 weeks ago (%)		1-3 mos ago (%)	
		0	6	0	6	0	6
Alcohol	1	24	22	18	15	29	12
Marijuana	1	36	20	16	8	27	13
Cocaine	18	14	5	8	5	17	5
Pain killers	42	4	1	6	4	9	5

Hallucinogens	42	2	<1	6	1	10	6
Amphetamines	44	11	1	4	5	15	5
Barbituates	47	7	1	7	1	9	4
Inhalants	62	1	1	2	<1	5	<1
Anti-anxiety	67	2	0	2	<1	5	2
Crack cocaine	69	1	<1	3	2	6	3
PCP	76	2	0	<1	<1	3	0
Heroin	81	0	<1	1	<1	2	2
Non-prescription methadone	81	1	0	1	0	1	0

Recent alcohol use is relatively consistent from baseline to six months. Smaller percentages of youths reported recent marijuana and other drug use six months after entry into treatment. It is important to note that the sample at 6 months did not include 73 of the original participants (33%). We do not know how this group may differ from the participants who were interviewed at 6 months.

*Of those reporting drug use in the past three months, the percent of participants reporting how many of the past 90 days they used each drug at baseline (0, n=193) and 6 months (6, n=89)*

Type of drug	None (%)		<2x week (%)		2-3x week (%)		4-5x week (%)		Daily (%)	
	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6
Alcohol	30	51	51	40	11	6	5	3	3	0
Marijuana	22	58	24	19	12	8	25	12	18	4
Cocaine	58	85	34	12	4	2	2	<1	2	0
Pain killers	81	90	17	10	<1	0	1	0	0	0
Hallucinogens	83	93	14	7	<1	0	<1	0	<1	0
Amphetamines	70	89	17	8	4	<1	5	2	3	<1
Barbituates	80	94	16	6	2	0	2	0	0	0
Inhalants	92	97	7	3	0	0	<1	0	0	0
Anti-anxiety	96	97	3	3	<1	0	0	0	0	0
Crack cocaine	91	95	7	3	<1	1	1	<1	<	0
PCP	94	99	5	<1	<1	0	<1	0	0	0
Heroin	93	99	3	<1	0	<1	<1	0	0	0
Non-prescription methadone	98	100	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

At baseline, the average number of days that participants reported using any drug was 45 of the previous 90 days. At the 6 month follow-up, this average decreased to 18 days. Eighteen percent of the youth who reported recent drug use six months following entry into treatment are using marijuana daily. Forty two percent have used marijuana at least once in the past three months and 49% have used alcohol. Only 15% of those reporting recent drug use have used cocaine, down from 42% at baseline.