

N.C. Drug Education Schools 2008-2009

The N. C. Drug Education Schools provide a statewide system of schools empowered through N.C. General Statute to operate as an alternative to jail for persons with simple drug offenses. The goal is that as a result of completing the school, the student will be able to identify a personal plan reflective of an informed self-assessment, resulting in the elimination, avoidance and/or reduction of substance usage and related consequences, including recidivism. There is standardized information collected with each student who enters a Drug Education School. This report reflects findings from this information obtained during the fiscal year 2008-2009 from the 1452 students recorded as enrolled in the state's Drug Education Schools that year. Key findings from the data are highlighted here for consideration in learning, growing, improving, and planning related to Drug Education Schools.

Key Findings

- *56% of DES students were born in the 1980's*
- *74% of DES students were male.*
- *65% of DES students were white.*
- *83% of DES students were single.*
- *59% of DES students were employed either full-time, part-time, or seasonally*
- *45% of DES students had completed 12 grades of schooling; 26% had completed more than this number of years of education.*
- *90% of DES students had not had prior participation in drug school.*
- *99% of DES students in the state passed their DES classes.*
- *91% of the DES students in the state were eligible for expungement of their legal charges.*
- *32% were convicted of possession of controlled substance (such as marijuana) or drug paraphernalia*
- *2% had family members who audited the class(es)*