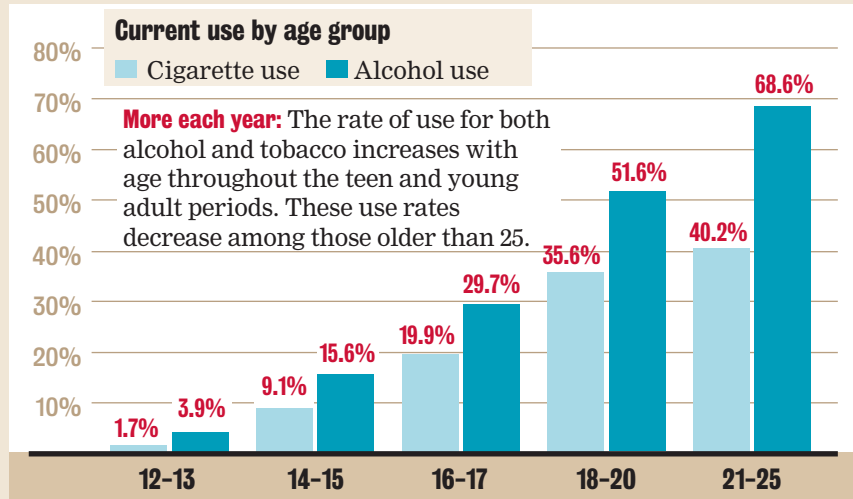


NO CHANGE IN ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO USE

Few gains in fighting underage drinking and tobacco use were noted in the government's survey of teens. In 2006, nearly 11 million of the 12- to 20-year-olds surveyed, or 28.3%, reported drinking alcohol the previous month. Of them, approximately 7.2 million, or 19%, said they were binge drinkers and 2.4 million, or 6.2%, said they were heavy drinkers.



SHIFTING TRENDS ON STREET DRUG USE

The latest survey on substance abuse offered a good-news/bad-news picture. Teens ages 12 to 17 have decreased their use of illicit drugs, but 18- to 25-year olds are increasingly abusing prescription drugs. And aging boomers continue to get high with a little help from their friends.

