



Narcotics engagement and criminality among school-attending adolescents in Bissau: Cross-sectional analysis

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Aims:

1. Describe criminality and drug behaviours among school-attending adolescents in Bissau, Guinea-Bissau.
2. Identify social determinants of problematic behaviours.

Methods:

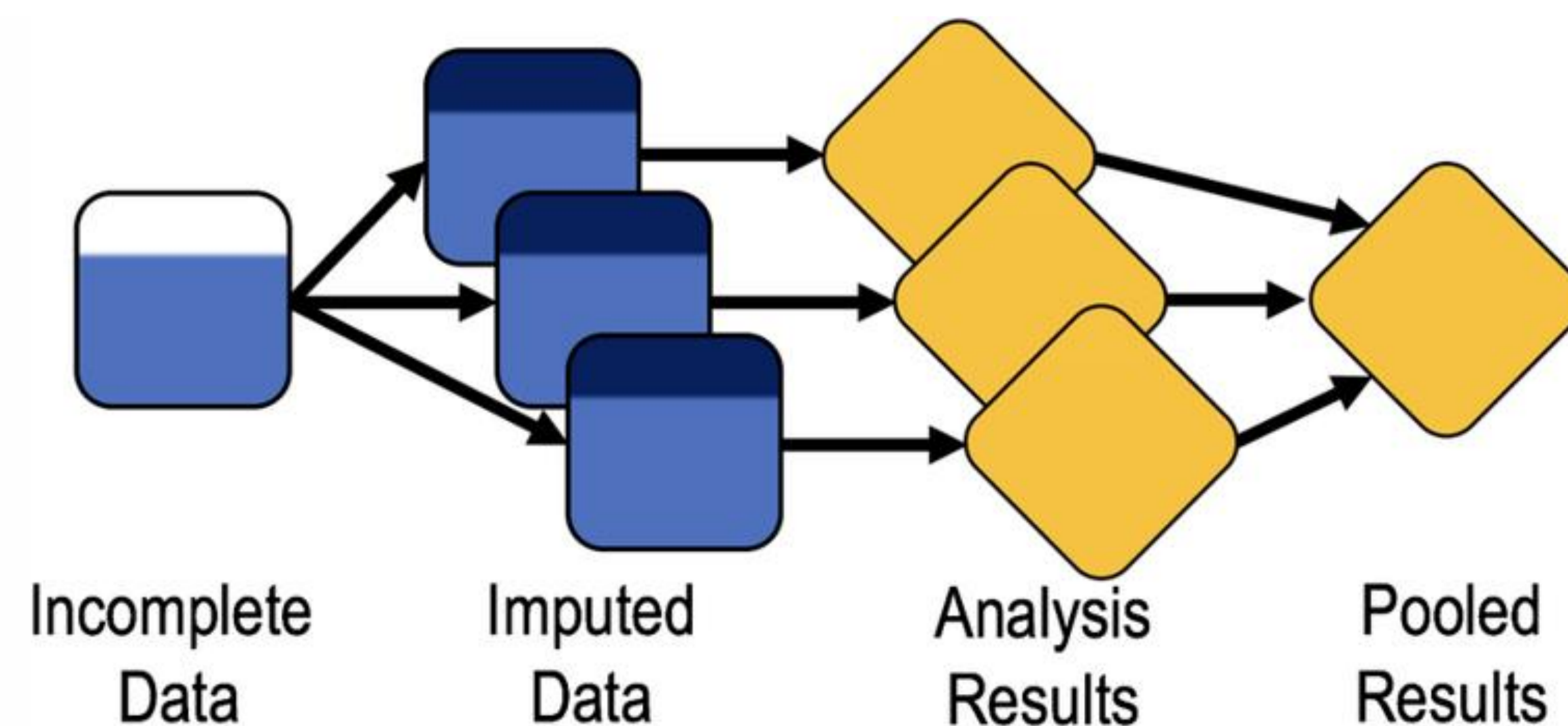
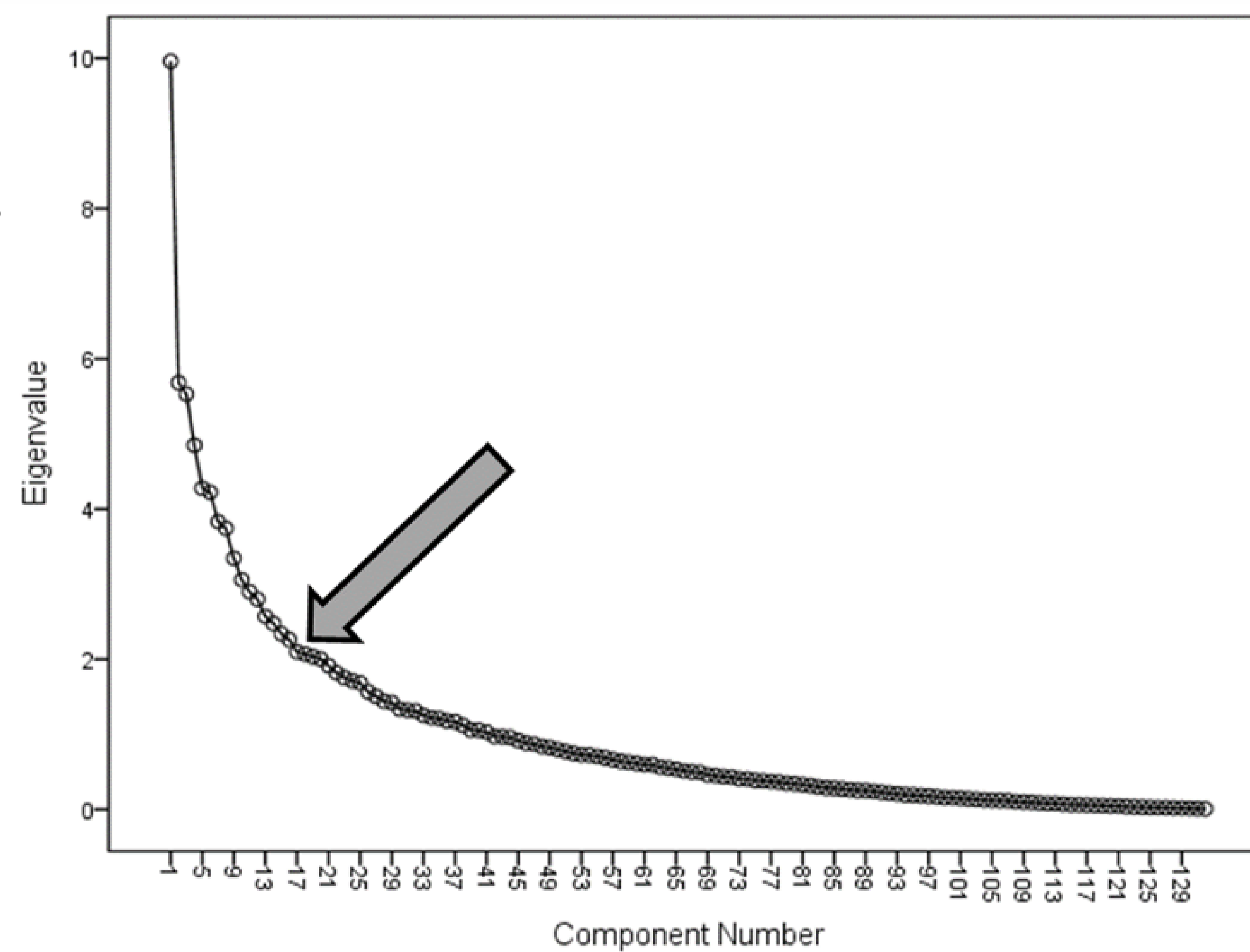
- In June 2017, survey data collected through locally-adapted *Planet Youth* questionnaire in 16 secondary schools in Bissau (12 public, 4 private).
- 2,039 adolescents randomly chosen from registry of 114 classes with 4,470 students aged 14-19 years.

Dependent variables:

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA), >0.3.
- Cronbach's Alpha, >0.7.
- 3 dependents;
 - Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) use,
 - Violent crime,
 - Economic crime.

Independent variables:

- Identified in literature;
 - Socioeconomic status
 - Economic inequality,
 - Peer influence,
 - Familial influence,
 - Self-esteem,
 - Recreational behaviour.



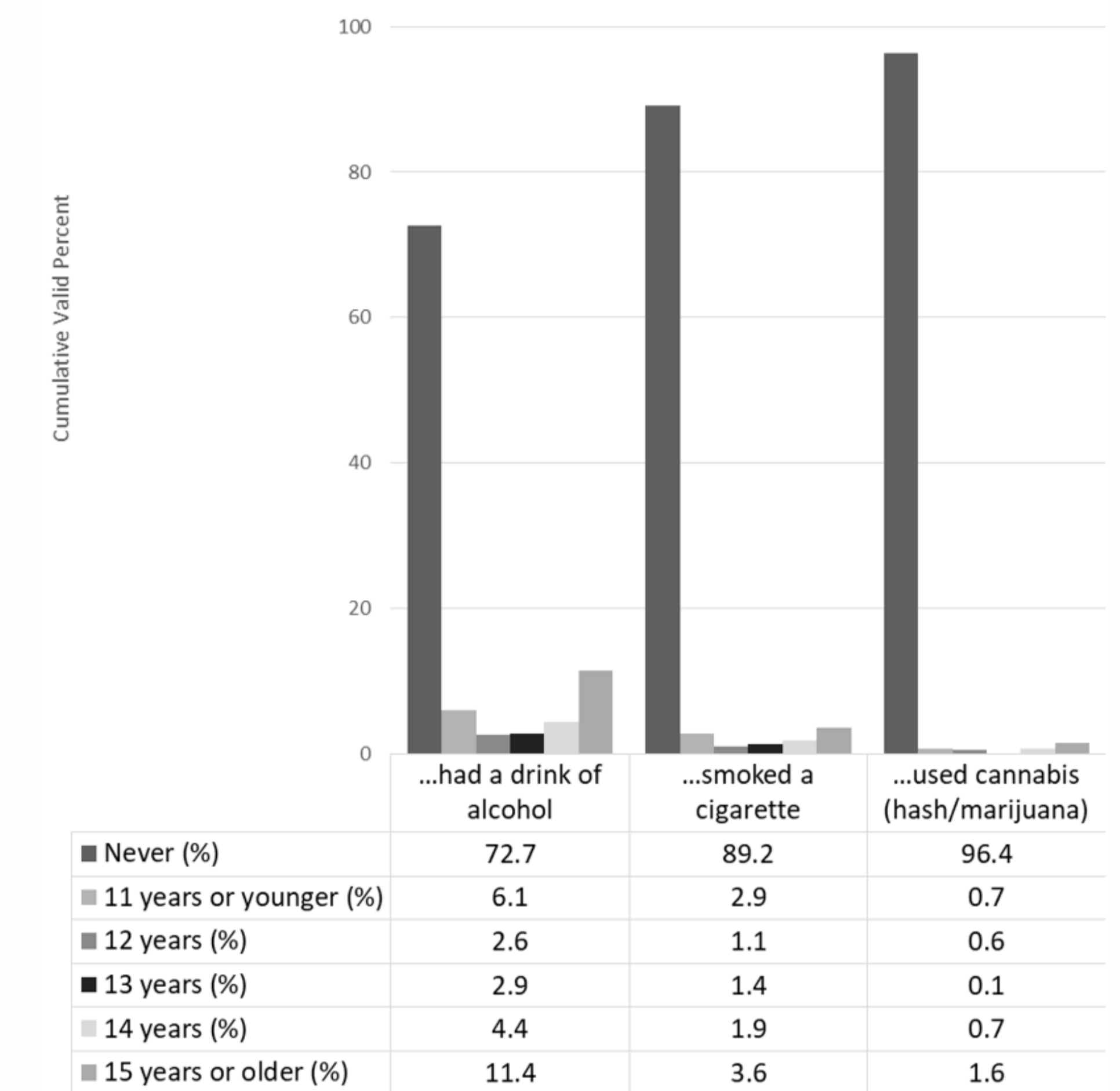
Descriptive statistics:

- Mixed age classes.
- Gender ratio reflects Bissau-Guinean society at the 15-24 years bracket (0.96 male/female).
- High parental education (64.7%).
- Declining use from alcohol, tobacco to cannabis.
 - Initiation rises with age.
- Parental attitudes, or awareness of them is low (mean=2.4516, range of 1-5).

Conclusions:

- Overlap in impact of independent variables.
- Variable 'AOD use' suggest multiple patterned drug use.
- Differentiation in social determinants implies socioeconomic and cultural significance.
- PCA offer alternatives to singular quantifications of drug use.
 - Context specific component variables.

At what age (if ever) did you do any of the following for the first time?



Independent variable	Dependent variable (B)		
	AOD use	Violent crime	Economic crime
Gender (male)	-0.61	-.110	
Gender (female)			.060
Drug use		.133	.142
Violent crime		.059	.071
Economic crime		.171	.190
Parental oversight		.042	
Romantic relationship breakdown		-.035	
Wrongful police accusation		.169	.093
Peer influence		*	
Frequent school dismissal		-.048	
Drinking behaviour	.395	.101	-.049
Group violence		.195	
Group violence victimisation	.094		.080
Sexual abuse victimisation		.154	.214
Changing schools	.041		-.053
Lower comparative family financial status			-.019