



Fact Sheet

A Few Facts about Underage Use of Alcohol

- 32% of 1,525 parents surveyed and 37% of 1,040 teens surveyed indicated that they know of parents who host teen alcohol parties.
(Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, December 2003)
- 29% of 1,040 teens surveyed indicated that they have attended a party where alcohol is served to underage youth in the past two months; 35% of the 303 youth who had attended a party maintained that they drank alcohol at the party; 2% of the remaining youth who did not attend a party said they would had drunk if they had attended a party.
(Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, December 2003)
- 64% of 1,525 parents surveyed and 55% of 1,040 teens surveyed said that it is generally easy for underage youth to get alcohol.
(Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, December 2003)
- An overwhelming number of Americans (96%) are concerned about underage drinking, and a majority support measures that would help reduce teen drinking, such as stricter controls on alcohol sales, advertising, and promotion.
(Source: Wagenarr AC, Harwood E, Bernat D. 2002. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2001. Youth Access to Alcohol Survey: Summary Report. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, Alcohol Epidemiology Program.)
- Studies reveal that alcohol consumption by adolescents results in brain damage—possibly permanent—and impairs intellectual development.
(Source: Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research (Volume 24, Number 2 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, February 2000)
- Illegal alcohol consumption by underage youth account for up to \$22 billion a year in sales.
(Source: Alcohol Consumption and Expenditures for Underage Drinking and Adult Excessive Drinking, National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, Columbus University, published in JAMA, 2003)
- The consequences of underage drinking are a tremendous expense to the U.S. economy and total more than \$53 billion per year, by far the most costly of all drug problems.
(Source: Institute of Medicine, Reducing Underage Drinking-A Collective Responsibility, September 2003)

NY Parents Who Host Lose the Most

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area

www.ncadd-ra.org



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- Adolescents drink less and have fewer alcohol-related problems when their parents discipline them consistently and set clear expectations.
(Source: Hawkins JD, Graham JW, Maguin E, et al. 1997 Exploring the effects of age of alcohol use initiation and psychosocial risk factors on subsequent alcohol misuse. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*. 58(3): 280-290)
- If drinking is delayed until age 21, a child's risk of serious alcohol problems is decreased by 70 percent.
(Source: Calculated from information contained in: Grant BF, Dawson DA. 1997, Age at onset of alcohol use and its association with DSM-IV alcohol abuse and dependence. Results from the National Longitudinal AlcoholEpidemiologic Survey. *Journal of Substance Abuse* 9:103-110.)

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