

Joint Commission on Health Care

Overview of Underage Drinking

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Presentation Outline

- Defining the Problem
- Prevention Strategies
- Policy Options





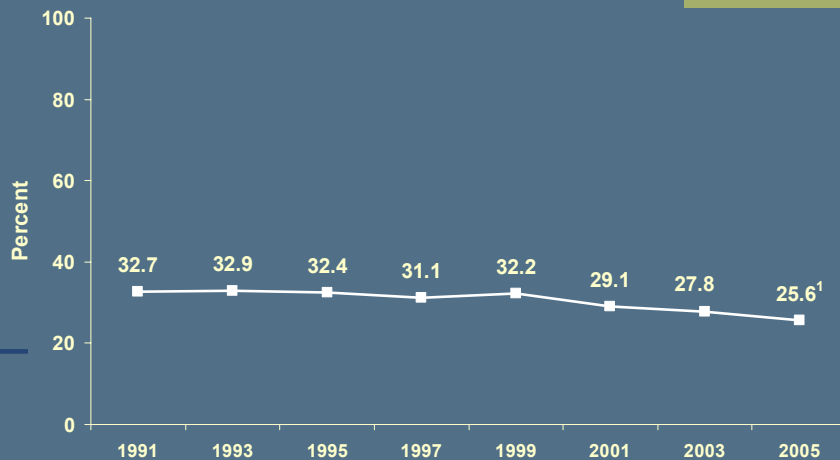
Defining the Problem

- Alcohol is the drug of choice among youth
- Drinking begins early
- Heavy and binge drinking are prevalent
- Alcohol is easy to obtain
- Underage drinking is linked to increases in
 - Driving Accidents
 - Developmental Problems
 - Academic Problems
 - Suicide
 - Other Risky Behavior
 - Unintended sex, injury to self & others, memory loss

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Percentage of High School Students Who Drank Alcohol for the First Time Before Age 13 Years,* 1991 – 2005



* Other than a few sips

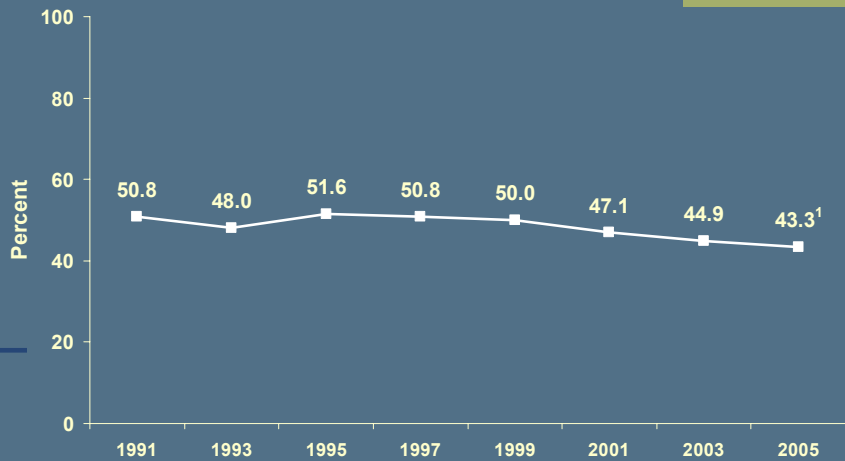
¹ Significant linear decrease and quadratic change, $P < .05$

National Youth Risk Behavior Surveys, 1991 – 2005

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Percentage of High School Students Who Reported Current Alcohol Use,* 1991 – 2005



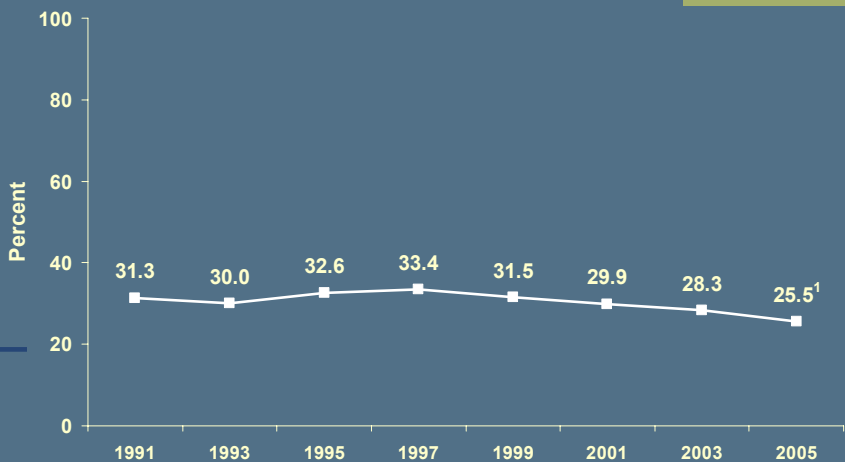
* Had at least 1 drink of alcohol on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey
¹ Significant linear decrease and quadratic change, $P < .05$

National Youth Risk Behavior Surveys, 1991 – 2005

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Percentage of High School Students Who Reported Episodic Heavy Drinking,* 1991 – 2005



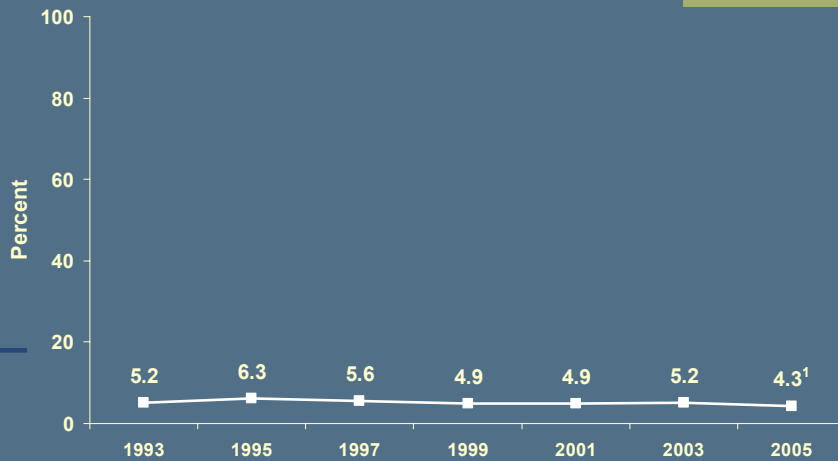
* Had ≥ 5 drinks of alcohol in a row (i.e., within a couple of hours) on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey
¹ Significant linear decrease and quadratic change, $P < .05$

National Youth Risk Behavior Surveys, 1991 – 2005

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Percentage of High School Students Who Drank Alcohol on School Property,* 1993 – 2005



* At least one drink of alcohol on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey

¹ Significant linear decrease, $P < .05$

National Youth Risk Behavior Surveys, 1993 – 2005

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The brain images below show how alcohol may harm teen mental function. Compared with a young non-drinker, a 15-year-old with an alcohol problem showed poor brain activity during a memory task. This finding is noted by the lack of pink and red coloring.

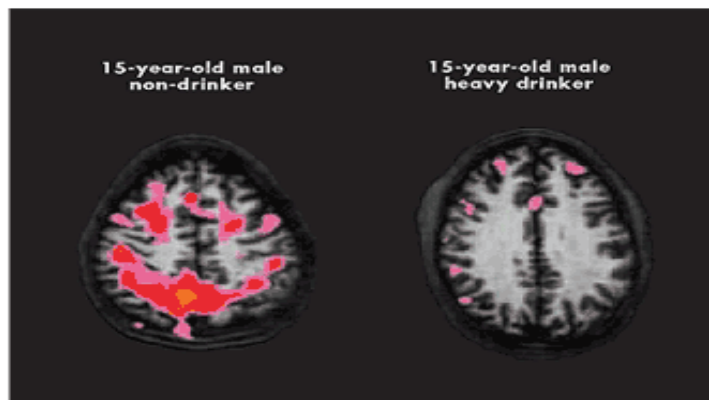


Image from Susan Tapert, PhD, University of California, San Diego.



Prevention Strategies: The Multi-Pronged Approach

1. Reduce Availability
2. Increase Enforcement
3. Change Social Norms



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Prevention Strategies: Reducing the Availability of Alcohol

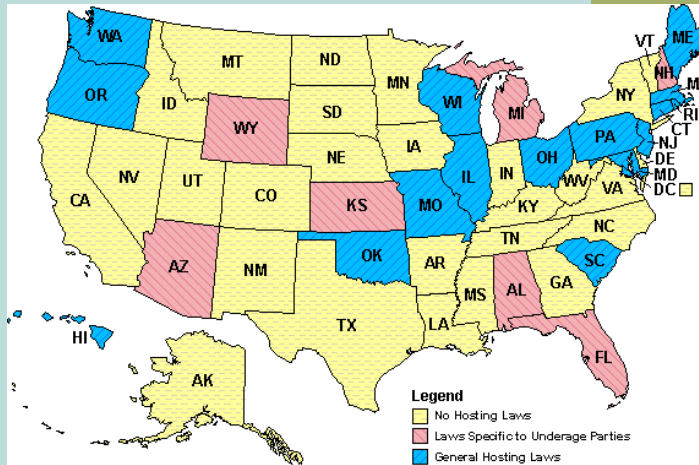
- Promote responsible adult behavior & hold adults accountable when they provide alcohol to minors
 - Parents Who Host Lose the Most
 - Keg Registration



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Hosting Underage Drinking Parties: Criminal Liability as of January 1, 2007

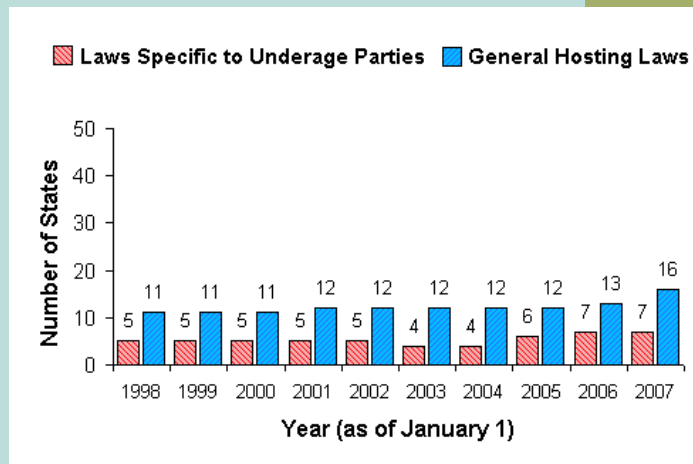


National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism - National Institutes of Health - Department of Health and Human Services

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Number of States with Criminal Liability for Hosting Underage Drinking Parties, 1998-2007

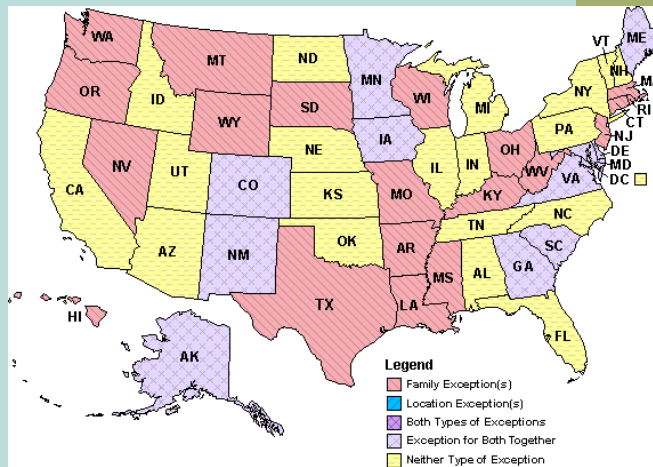


National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism - National Institutes of Health - Department of Health and Human Services

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Exceptions to Prohibitions on Furnishing of Alcohol to Persons under Age 21 as of January 1, 2007

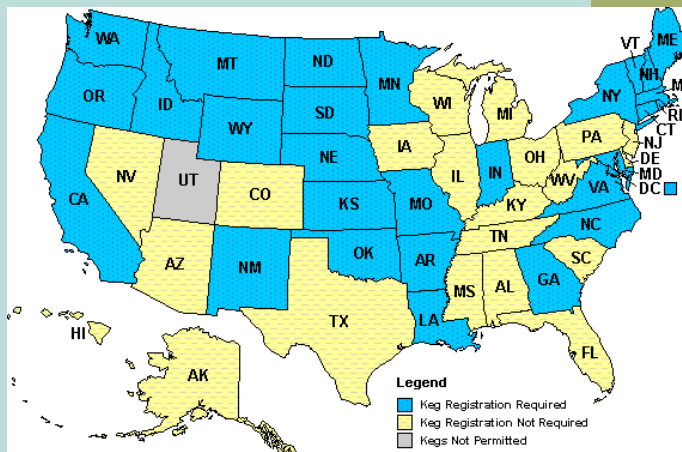


National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism - National
Institutes of Health - Department of Health and Human Services

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Keg Registration Laws as of January 1, 2007



National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism - National
Institutes of Health - Department of Health and Human Services

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Prevention Strategies: Increasing Enforcement

- School Campuses
- Sale of alcohol to minors
- Drinking and Driving
 - HB 719 (Patron: Delegate Bill Janis)



Prevention Strategies: Change Social Norms

- Social norms marketing programs
 - Informing students that most of their peers do NOT drink should lower drinking rates
- Limiting advertising of alcohol to youth
- Educate parents & community
 - Effects of alcohol on development
 - Change "Right of Passage" norms





Policy Options

Option 1: Take no action

Option 2: Introduce legislation to address the hosting of underage drinking parties

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Policy Options

Option 3: Designate a percentage or fixed amount (to be determined) of the additional revenue collected by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for prevention of underage drinking and other substance abuse by youth. Additional revenue is expected to be generated through Sunday sales and additional retail locations.

- ▶ Funds would be transferred to DMHMRSAS which would be responsible for contracting with local public and private agencies for provision of services.

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Public Comments

- Written public comments on the proposed options may be submitted to JCHC by close of business on August 22, 2008. Comments may be submitted via:
 - E-mail (sareid@leg.state.va.us)
 - Facsimile (804/786-5538) or
 - Mail to Joint Commission on Health Care
P.O. Box 1322
Richmond, Virginia 23218

- Comments will be summarized and presented to JCHC's Behavioral Health Care Subcommittee during its October 23th meeting.

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Additional Resources

National-Level Organizations/Groups

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) (www.niaaa.nih.gov)
Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Preventing Underage Drinking (ICCPUD)
Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free (www.alcoholfreechildren.org)
Join Together (www.jointogether.org)
Smart and Sober (www.smartandsober.org)
STOP Underage Drinking Bill. Passed Congress in 2006.

National-Level Studies on Underage Drinking

National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
College Drinking Initiative (National Institutes of Health)
Monitoring the Future Study (National Institute on Drug Abuse)

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Additional Resources

State-Level Organizations/Groups

Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS), Office of Prevention Services.

Drug-Free Action Alliance. Columbus, Ohio. Created “Parents Who Host Lose the Most” Campaign. (www.drugfreeactionalliance.org)

State-Level Studies on Underage Drinking

2005 Virginia Community Youth Survey (DMHMRSAS)

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Additional Resources

Local-Level Organizations/Groups

Community Builders Network of Prevention Coalitions on Underage Drinking.

Contact: Freddie Simons, Prevention Director for Hampton Newport News CSB.

The Party Crashers (Henrico County Police Office)

I Care (www.hanovericare.org)

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References

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