

FAST FACTS ON TEEN ALCOHOL ABUSE

In spite of billions of dollars spent on educational and prevention programs, alcohol continues to be the most abused control substance among teenagers.

Boys under seventeen drink more heavily than any other group. 29% of boys drink six or more alcoholic beverages each time they drink.¹ Teens who start drinking before the age of fifteen are four times more likely to become alcohol dependent.²

Girls are now outpacing boys in risky behavior with alcohol.

Eighth and ninth grade girls are drinking more than their counterparts and some studies show they are binge drinking more often than boys.³ One out of four girls who drank alcopops or maltahols admitted driving later or riding with someone who had been drinking.⁴

Drinking and partying make a bad mix.

Half of all teens attend parties where drugs or alcohol are present. One third of the parties have parents present.⁵

Teens who drink are more likely to have unprotected sex.⁶

1. Sub. Abuse & Mental Health Svcs. Admin., 1998. 2. National Center on Addiction & Substance Abuse, 2002. 3. Amer. Medical Assoc., 2004. 4. ibid. 5. Nat. Ctr. on Addiction & Sub. Abuse, 2002. 6. Psychology of Addictive Behav., vol.4, 1994.

BY THE NUMBERS

30% of all 16-18 year olds regularly drink with their friends.¹

49% of mothers say it is okay for their teenage daughters to drink.²

66% of all sexual assaults and date rapes among teens involve alcohol.³

39% of high school males say it is okay to force sex with a girl who is drunk.⁴

Teen girls who binge drink are 63% more likely to become teen mothers.⁵

24% of teens have done more sexually than they planned because of drugs or alcohol.⁶

More than 70,000 teens are victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape each year.⁷

26% of teens admit drinking while driving or on drugs.⁸

11 is the average age boys first try alcohol.⁹

22% of 9th grade males are likely to be binge drinkers.

1. www.centurycouncil.com. 2. ibid. 3. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 1992. 4. ibid. 5. Kaiser Family Foundation, 2002. 6. ibid. 7. Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 2002. 8. www.webmd.com, 2006. 9. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 1990.

BOOZE FOR BIRTHDAY

A birthday should be a day to celebrate but the 21st birthday becomes a day of excess.

98.7% of young adults drank to celebrate their 21st birthday.¹

78% drank so much they became sick.

44% of birthday drinkers blacked out from the excess.

The next day 39% couldn't recall how they got home.

22% found out later they had sex with someone but couldn't remember it happening.

34% of men and 24% of women drank 21 or more drinks on the night of their birthday.²

Sadly, nearly 600,000 of all college-aged students are unintentionally injured each year as a result of drinking alcohol. Of those 1700 die from their injuries.³

1. http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2008-08-27-drinking21_N.htm 2. <http://www.apa.org/releases/21birthday0508.html> 3. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

