



Report to the  
Pennsylvania General Assembly  
on High-Risk and Underage Drinking  
by the  
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board

Pennsylvania Liquor  
Control Board   
*Alcohol Education*

As prescribed by Act 85 of 2006

February 2009

## **Acknowledgements**

This report, mandated by Act 85 of 2006, was compiled by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) to serve as a resource for the General Assembly detailing the current status of underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking throughout the Commonwealth. However, the development of this report would not have been possible without the collaboration of other state agencies with the PLCB's Bureau of Alcohol Education. It is for this reason the PLCB gratefully acknowledges the assistance from the following state agencies:

- Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency
- Pennsylvania Department of Education
- Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
- Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement

As a result of these collaborative efforts and the utilization of science-based and effective programs, Pennsylvania continues to be viewed as a national leader in the prevention of high-risk and underage use of alcohol.

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## **General Requirements of Act 85 of 2006**

1. Biennial Reports. -- The PLCB's Bureau of Alcohol Education shall prepare a report on underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking in this Commonwealth to be submitted to the Legislature by February on odd numbered calendar years.
2. The report shall address the following:
  - a. Current levels and trends of underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking in this Commonwealth;
  - b. Current programs conducted by State agencies to prevent underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking; and
  - c. Current science that better defines and suggests proven prevention strategies for underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking.

## **General Issues Covered in This Report**

1. National trends on underage and high-risk drinking.
2. Pennsylvania trends on underage and high-risk drinking.
3. Pennsylvania statistics related to underage and high-risk drinking.
4. Current efforts to address this issue by state governmental agencies.
5. Emerging efforts to address the prevention of underage and high-risk drinking.

**ACT 85 of 2006 as proposed**

**in the General Assembly**

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**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

## **HOUSE BILL**

# **No. 2383**

**Session of 2006**

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INTRODUCED BY DONATUCCI, BELARDI, RAYMOND, BLACKWELL,  
 CALTAGIRONE, CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, CREIGHTON, DeWEESE,  
 FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, GEIST, GOODMAN, W. KELLER, KOTIK, O'NEILL,  
 SHANER, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, TIGUE,  
 YOUNGBLOOD, JOSEPHS, BEYER AND COSTA, JANUARY 24, 2006

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AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AMENDMENTS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
 JUNE 30, 2006

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AN ACT

Amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L. 90, No. 21) entitled, as  
 reenacted, "An act relating to alcoholic liquors, alcohol and  
 malt and brewed beverages; amending, revising, consolidating  
 and changing the laws relating thereto; regulating and  
 restricting the manufacture, purchase, sale, possession,

consumption, importation, transportation, furnishing, holding in bond, holding in storage, traffic in and use of alcoholic liquors, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages and the persons engaged or employed therein; defining the powers and duties of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board; providing for the establishment and operation of State liquor stores, for the payment of certain license fees to the respective municipalities and townships, for the abatement of certain nuisances and, in certain cases, for search and seizure without warrant; prescribing penalties and forfeitures; providing for local option, and repealing existing laws,"

FURTHER PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; requiring the Bureau of Alcohol Education to make certain reports to the General Assembly; and further providing for special occasion permits AND FOR LIMITING THE NUMBER OF SPECIAL OCCASION PERMITS.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. The act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, reenacted and amended June 29, 1987 (P.L.32,

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No.14), is amended by adding a section to read:

SECTION 1. SECTION 102 OF THE ACT OF APRIL 12, 1951

(P.L.90, <--

NO.21), KNOWN AS THE LIQUOR CODE, REENACTED AND AMENDED JUNE , 1987 (P.L.32, NO.14), IS AMENDED BY ADDING DEFINITIONS TO READ:  
SECTION 102. DEFINITIONS.--THE FOLLOWING WORDS OR PHRASES, UNLESS THE CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE, SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS ASCRIBED TO THEM IN THIS SECTION:

\* \* \*

"PUBLIC HEARING" SHALL MEAN A HEARING HELD PURSUANT TO PUBLIC NOTICE.

"PUBLIC NOTICE" SHALL MEAN NOTICE PUBLISHED ONCE EACH WEEK FOR TWO SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE MUNICIPALITY. SUCH NOTICE SHALL STATE THE TIME AND THE PLACE OF THE HEARING AND THE PARTICULAR MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE HEARING. THE FIRST PUBLICATION SHALL NOT BE MORE THAN 30 DAYS AND THE SECOND PUBLICATION SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN SEVEN DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE HEARING.

\* \* \*

**SECTION 2. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:**

**Section 217. Biennial Reports.--(a) The board's Bureau of Alcohol Education shall prepare a report on underage alcohol drinking and high risk college alcohol drinking in this Commonwealth.**

**(b) A report shall be prepared biennially and shall address the following:**

- (1) Current levels and trends of underage alcohol drinking and high risk college alcohol drinking in this Commonwealth.**
- (2) Current programs conducted by State agencies to prevent underage alcohol drinking and high risk college alcohol drinking.**

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**(3) Current science that better defines and suggests proven prevention strategies for underage alcohol drinking and high risk college alcohol drinking.**

**(c) The first report to the General Assembly shall be presented prior to February 1, 2007. Additional reports shall be presented every two years thereafter. A copy of the report**



shall be sent to the chairman and the minority chairman of the law and Justice Committee of the Senate and the chairman and the minority chairman of the Liquor Control Committee of the House of Representatives.

Section 2 3. Section 408.4 of the act is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Section 408.4. Special Occasion Permits.--

\* \* \*

(q) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the board may issue a special occasion permit to an eligible entity located in a dry municipality if the board is provided with a copy of a resolution adopted by the municipality's governing body confirming support for the issuance of the special occasion permit. This subsection shall expire on January 1, 2007.

SECTION 4. SECTION 461(B.1) AND (B.3) OF THE ACT, AMENDED FEBRUARY 21, 2002 (P.L.103, NO.10) AND DECEMBER 8, 2004 (P.L.1810, NO.239), ARE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 461. LIMITING NUMBER OF RETAIL LICENSES TO BE ISSUED IN EACH COUNTY.--\* \* \*

(B.1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE RESTAURANT AND EATING PLACE RETAIL DISPENSER LICENSES AND RENEW LICENSES ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION WITHOUT REGARD TO THE QUOTA RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (A) FOR THE PURPOSE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN A

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MUNICIPALITY UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

(1) A LICENSE MAY ONLY BE ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IF THE APPLICANT HAS EXHAUSTED REASONABLE MEANS FOR OBTAINING A SUITABLE LICENSE WITHIN THE COUNTY.

(2) THE PROPOSED LICENSED PREMISES MUST BE LOCATED WITHIN  
EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

(I) A KEYSTONE OPPORTUNITY ZONE ESTABLISHED UNDER THE  
AUTHORITY OF THE ACT OF OCTOBER 6, 1998 (P.L.705, NO.92), KNOWN  
AS THE "KEYSTONE OPPORTUNITY ZONE AND KEYSTONE OPPORTUNITY  
EXPANSION ZONE ACT," OR AN AREA DESIGNATED AS AN ENTERPRISE  
ZONE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

(II) A MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH THE ISSUANCE OF A RESTAURANT OR  
EATING PLACE RETAIL DISPENSER LICENSE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE  
GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF LOCAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. UPON REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT LICENSE BY AN APPLICANT, AT LEAST ONE PUBLIC  
HEARING SHALL BE HELD BY THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNING BODY FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF RECEIVING COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF INTERESTED  
INDIVIDUALS RESIDING WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY CONCERNING THE  
APPLICANT'S INTENT TO ACQUIRE AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LICENSE  
FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD. THE GOVERNING BODY  
SHALL, WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL, RENDER  
A DECISION BY ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE  
APPLICANT'S REQUEST FOR AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LICENSE. IF THE  
MUNICIPALITY FINDS THAT THE ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSE WOULD  
PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, IT MAY APPROVE THE REQUEST;  
HOWEVER, IT MUST REFUSE THE REQUEST IF IT FINDS THAT APPROVAL OF  
THE REQUEST WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE WELFARE, HEALTH, PEACE  
AND MORALS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OR ITS RESIDENTS. A DECISION BY  
THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO DENY THE REQUEST MAY

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BE APPEALED TO THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH  
THE MUNICIPALITY IS LOCATED. A COPY OF THE APPROVAL MUST BE

SUBMITTED WITH THE LICENSE APPLICATION. FAILURE BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO RENDER A DECISION WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST FOR APPROVAL SHALL BE DEEMED AN APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION IN TERMS AS PRESENTED UNLESS THE GOVERNING BODY HAS NOTIFIED THE APPLICANT IN WRITING OF THEIR ELECTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME NOT TO EXCEED SIXTY DAYS.

FAILURE BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO RENDER A DECISION WITHIN THE EXTENDED TIME PERIOD SHALL BE DEEMED AN

(3) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE NO MORE THAN TWO LICENSES TOTAL IN EACH COUNTY OF THE FIRST THROUGH FOURTH CLASS AND NO MORE THAN ONE LICENSE TOTAL IN EACH COUNTY OF THE FIFTH THROUGH EIGHTH CLASS PER CALENDAR YEAR.

(4) AN APPLICANT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SELL FOOD AND NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES EQUAL TO SEVENTY PER CENTUM (70%) OR MORE OF ITS COMBINED GROSS SALES OF FOOD AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

(5) IN ADDITION TO RENEWAL AND LICENSE FEES PROVIDED UNDER EXISTING LAW FOR THE TYPE OF LICENSE ISSUED, AN APPLICANT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PAY AN INITIAL APPLICATION SURCHARGE AS FOLLOWS:

(I) FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000) IF THE LICENSED PREMISES IS LOCATED IN A COUNTY OF THE FIRST THROUGH FOURTH CLASS.

(II) TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000) IF THE LICENSED PREMISES IS LOCATED IN A COUNTY OF THE FIFTH THROUGH EIGHTH CLASS.

(III) THE INITIAL APPLICATION SURCHARGE MINUS A SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$700) PROCESSING FEE SHALL BE REFUNDED TO THE

APPLICANT IF THE BOARD REFUSES TO ISSUE A PROVISIONAL LICENSE

UNDER SUBSECTION (B.2). OTHERWISE, THE INITIAL APPLICATION SURCHARGE MINUS A SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$700) PROCESSING FEE SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE STATE STORES FUND. THE PROCESSING FEE SHALL BE TREATED AS AN APPLICATION FILING FEE AS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 614-A(1)(I) OF THE ACT OF APRIL 9, 1929 (P.L.177, NO.175), KNOWN AS "THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1929."

(6) A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AND A PROVISIONAL LICENSE ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (B.2) SHALL BE NONTRANSFERABLE WITH REGARD TO OWNERSHIP OR LOCATION.

(7) AN APPEAL OF THE BOARD'S DECISION REFUSING TO GRANT OR RENEW A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT ACT AS A SUPERSEDEAS OF THE DECISION OF THE BOARD IF THE DECISION IS BASED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, ON THE LICENSEE'S FAILURE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT ITS FOOD AND NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WERE AT LEAST SEVENTY PER CENTUM (70%) OF ITS COMBINED GROSS SALES OF FOOD AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

(8) A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE VALIDATED OR RENEWED UNLESS THE LICENSEE CAN ESTABLISH THAT ITS SALE OF FOOD AND NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING THE LICENSE YEAR IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING APPLICATION FOR VALIDATION OR RENEWAL IS EQUAL TO SEVENTY PER CENTUM (70%) OR MORE OF ITS FOOD AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SALES.

(B.3) AN INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF A LICENSE OR ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (B.1)(2)(I) MUST FIRST BE APPROVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE RECEIVING MUNICIPALITY WHEN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EXISTING RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSES AND EATING PLACE RETAIL DISPENSER LICENSES IN THE RECEIVING MUNICIPALITY EXCEED ONE LICENSE PER THREE THOUSAND

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INHABITANTS. UPON REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF A LICENSE OR ISSUANCE OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LICENSE BY AN APPLICANT, AT LEAST ONE PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE HELD BY THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNING BODY FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS RESIDING WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY CONCERNING THE APPLICANT'S INTENT TO TRANSFER A LICENSE INTO THE MUNICIPALITY OR ACQUIRE AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LICENSE FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD. THE GOVERNING BODY SHALL, WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL, RENDER A DECISION BY ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST FOR AN INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF A LICENSE OR ISSUANCE OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LICENSE. THE MUNICIPALITY MUST APPROVE THE REQUEST UNLESS IT FINDS THAT DOING SO WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE WELFARE, HEALTH, PEACE AND MORALS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OR ITS RESIDENTS. A DECISION BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO DENY THE REQUEST MAY BE APPEALED TO THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY IS LOCATED. A COPY OF THE APPROVAL MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE LICENSE APPLICATION. THE APPROVAL REQUIREMENT SHALL NOT APPLY TO LICENSES TRANSFERRED INTO A TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT CREATED PURSUANT TO THE ACT OF JULY 11, 1990 (P.L.465, NO.113), KNOWN AS THE "TAX INCREMENT FINANCING ACT," LOCATED IN A TOWNSHIP OF THE SECOND CLASS THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN A COUNTY OF THE SECOND CLASS IF THE DISTRICT WAS CREATED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, 2002, AND THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE TOWNSHIP HAS ADOPTED AN AGREEMENT AT A PUBLIC MEETING THAT CONSENTS TO THE TRANSFER OF LICENSES INTO THE TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT. FAILURE BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO RENDER A DECISION WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF THE APPLICANT'S

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL SHALL BE DEEMED AN APPROVAL OF THE

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APPLICATION IN TERMS AS PRESENTED UNLESS THE GOVERNING BODY HAS NOTIFIED THE APPLICANT IN WRITING OF THEIR ELECTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME NOT TO EXCEED SIXTY DAYS. FAILURE BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO RENDER A DECISION WITHIN THE EXTENDED TIME PERIOD SHALL BE DEEMED AN APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION IN TERMS AS PRESENTED.

Section 3 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

## **Abstract**

Underage and high-risk drinking by Pennsylvania's youth continues to be a primary concern of citizens throughout the Commonwealth. Since the last Act 85 report in 2007, Pennsylvania has seen some positive trends concerning the consumption of alcohol by youth, as well as the high-risk behaviors in which they participate. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, 2007 marked the lowest total number of underage drinking drivers involved in crashes in the Commonwealth (535). The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) reports that there is a continued decrease in 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders reporting a willingness to try alcohol. The 2007 Core survey reported that while the percentage of Pennsylvania college students participating in high-risk behaviors is typically greater than the national average, Pennsylvania's percentages are usually lower than the average reported by colleges that are situated in the Northeast United States. It is the purpose of this report to provide an overview of the current condition of underage and high-risk drinking in Pennsylvania, as well as highlight current science as it pertains to the prevention of underage and high-risk drinking by Pennsylvania's youth.

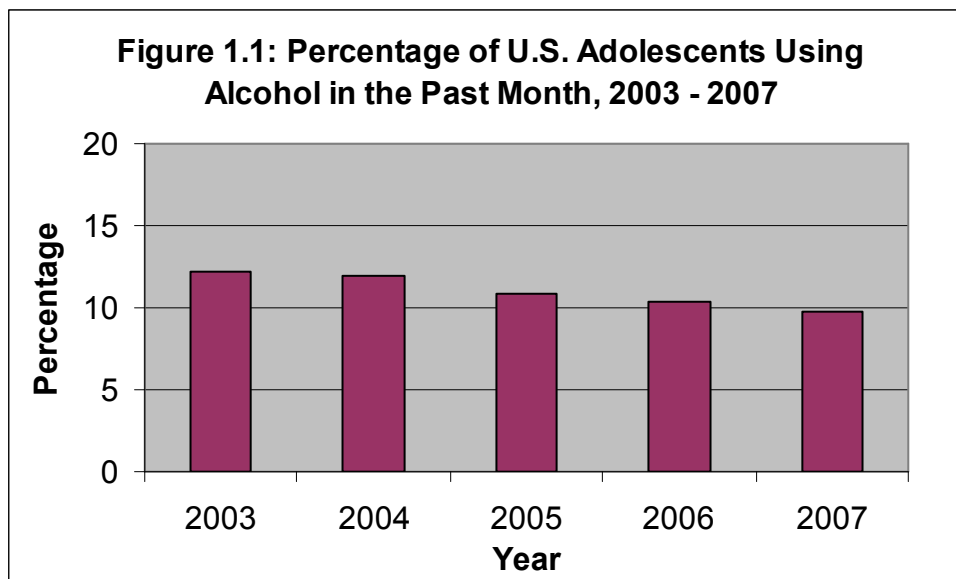
## **Current Status of Underage and High-Risk Drinking**

No substance is more widely abused in America by persons under the age of 21 than alcohol (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 1997). The widespread prevalence of underage drinking and the negative consequences it creates for youth, their families, communities, and society as a whole, remains a stubborn and destructive problem despite decades of efforts to combat it. This report to the General Assembly provides a statistical overview of the issue; an examination of the agencies and programs across the Commonwealth that are actively engaged in the prevention of underage and high-risk drinking; and a review of emerging prevention techniques to prevent high-risk and underage drinking.

### *Overview of Current Levels and Trends*

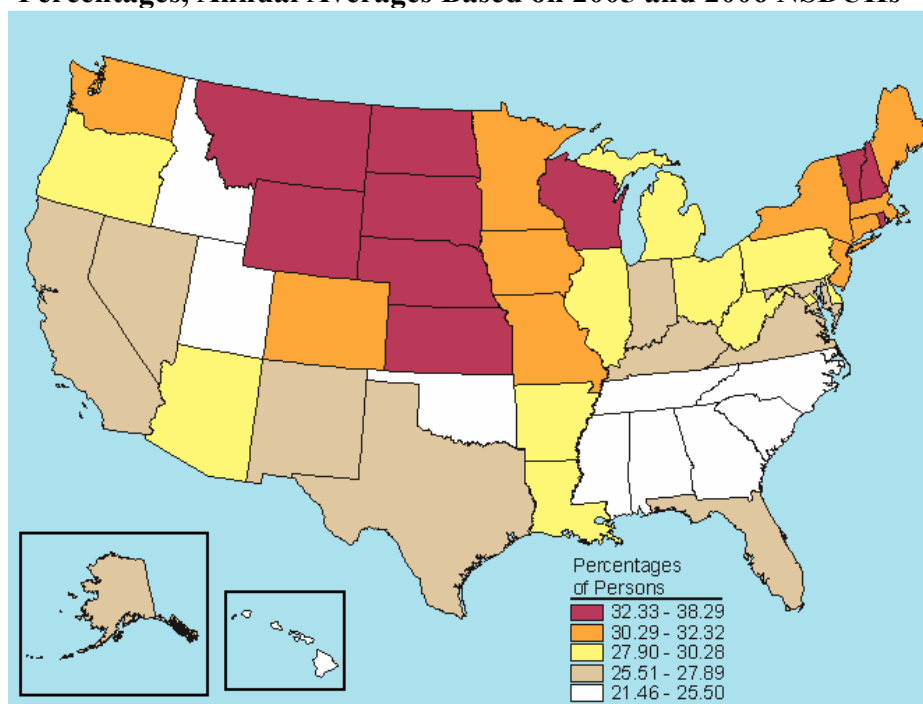
In 2007, our nation experienced yet another decline in the percentage of adolescents using alcohol in the past month and that figure is now under 10% (Figure 1.1) (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2008). According to Pennsylvania's annual averages from the 2005 and 2006 *National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (NSDUH), approximately 29% of Pennsylvanian's aged 12 to 20 report using alcohol in the past month (Figure 1.2) and nearly one in five Pennsylvanians aged 12 to 20 report binge alcohol use in the month prior to the survey (Figure 1.3) (Hughes, Sathe & Spagnola, 2008).





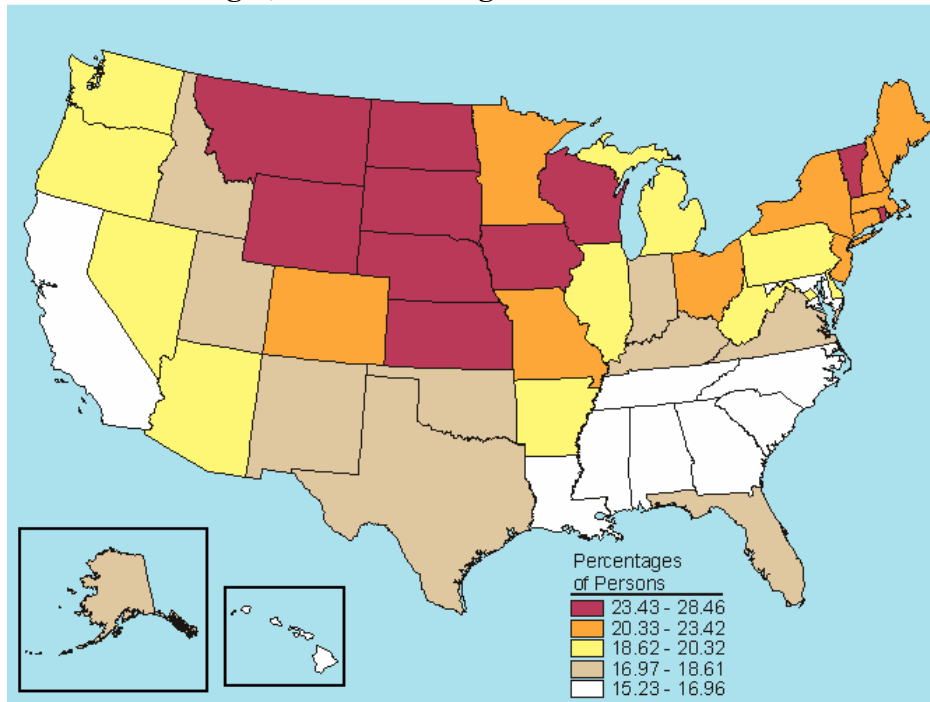
Source: SAMHSA (2008)

**Figure 1.2: Alcohol Use in Past Month among Persons Aged 12 to 20, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**



Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)

**Figure 1.3: Binge Alcohol Use in Past Month among Persons Aged 12 to 20, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**

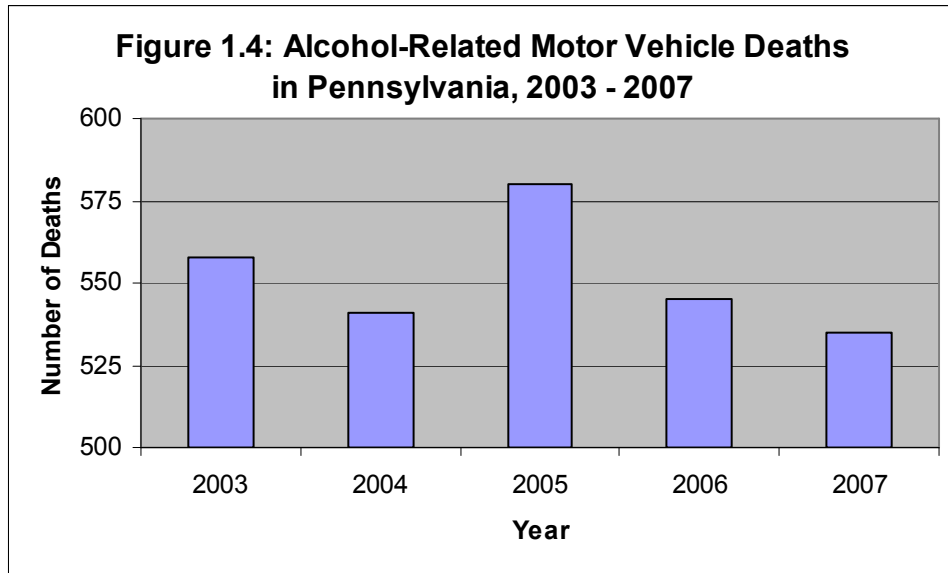


Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)

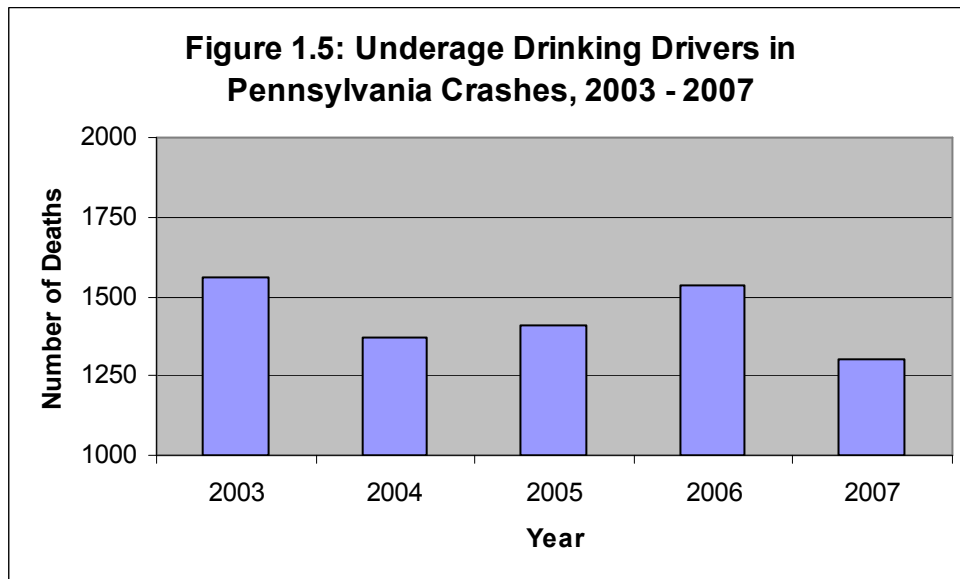
While one cannot conclude that the positive trends the Commonwealth has experienced over the past years can be attributed to this nationwide decline in the percentage of adolescents using alcohol in the past month, it is important to note that the state has also seen improvements in a number of measurable areas concerning high-risk and dangerous drinking.

### *Pennsylvania Roadways*

Since 2005, Pennsylvania has seen a further reduction in the number of alcohol-related deaths (535) on Pennsylvania roadways (Figure 1.4) (Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, 2008). Of particular note, the Commonwealth has also experienced a noticeable decline in underage drinking drivers involved in crashes, after an increase in 2006 (Figure 1.5) (PennDOT 2008).

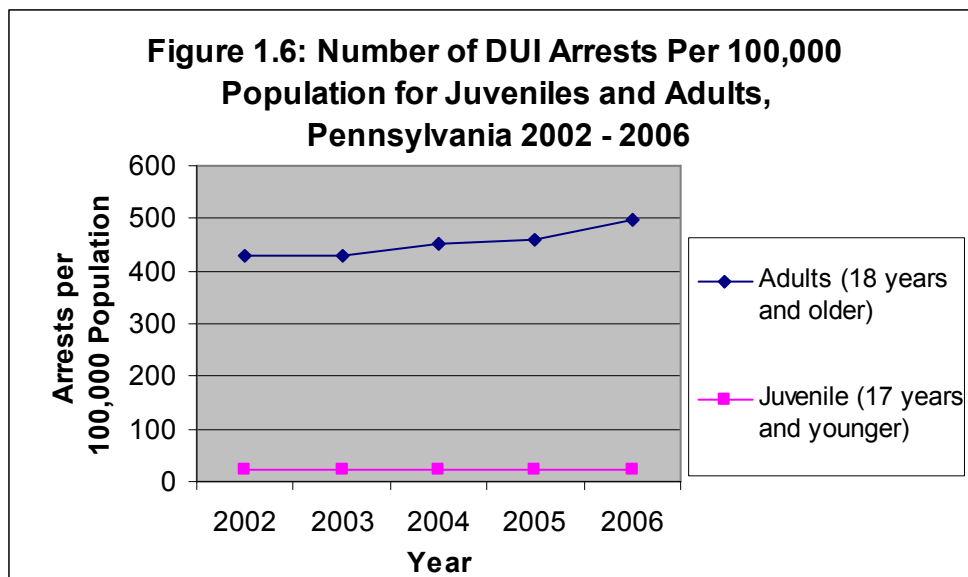


Source: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (2008)



Source: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (2008)

While such declines are impressive in their own right, Pennsylvania has seen an increase in the rate of adult arrests for Driving Under the Influence (Figure 1.6) (Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, 2008). Because this statistic can be influenced by increased enforcement efforts, we must remember that just because rates continue to increase, it does not necessarily represent a worsening of the issue.



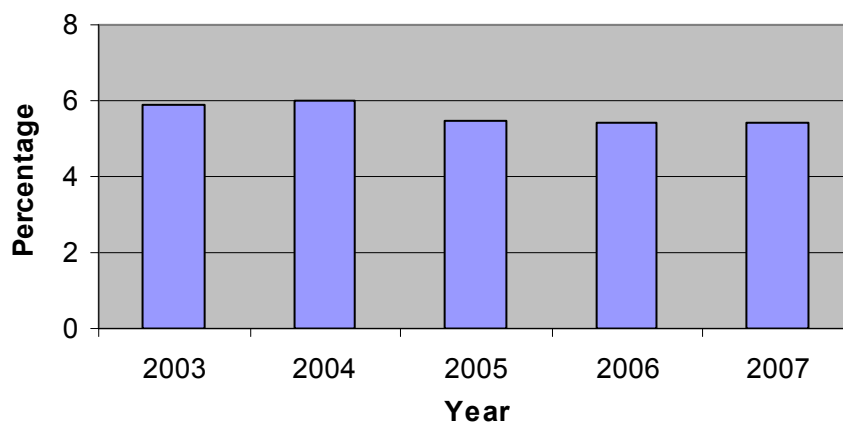
Source: PCCD, Juvenile and Adult Arrests (2008)

### *Alcohol Dependence and Abuse*

After two years of decline, in 2007, the percentage of U.S. adolescents who met the DSM-IV criteria for alcohol dependence or abuse remained at the same level as reported in 2006 (5.4) (Figure 1.7) (SAMHSA, 2008).

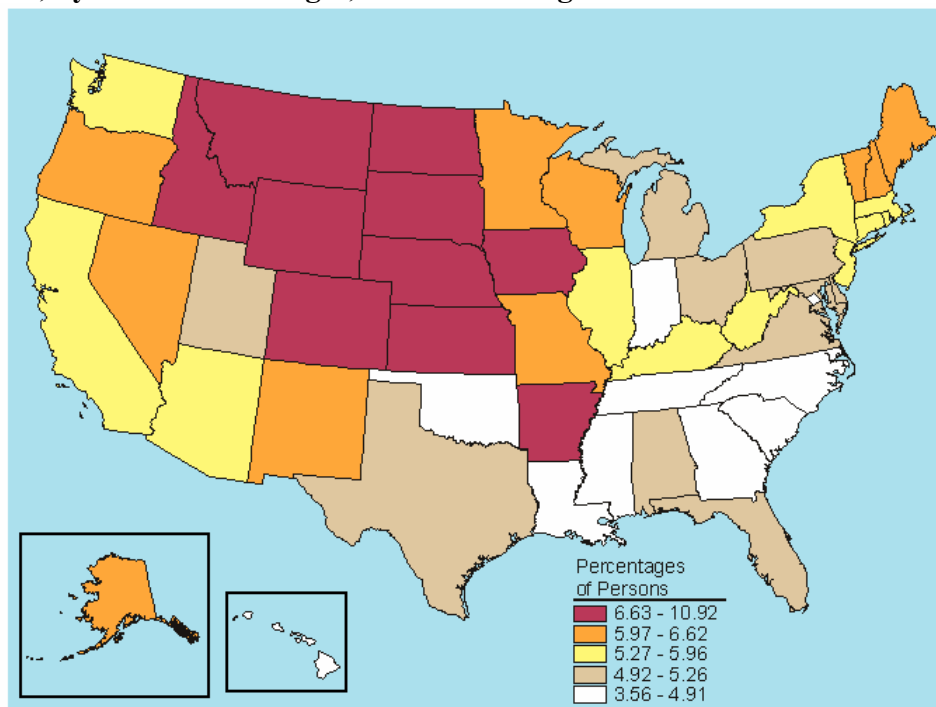
When comparing Pennsylvania to the nation, we find that Pennsylvania has a lower percentage of youths aged 12 to 17 who are considered alcohol dependent or who have abused alcohol within the past year (Figure 1.8) (SAMHSA, 2008). However, this number increases by about 13% for Pennsylvanians aged 18 to 25 (Figure 1.9) (SAMHSA, 2008).

**Figure 1.7: Percentage of U.S. Adolescents Meeting the Criteria for Alcohol Dependence or Abuse in the Past Year, 2003 - 2007**



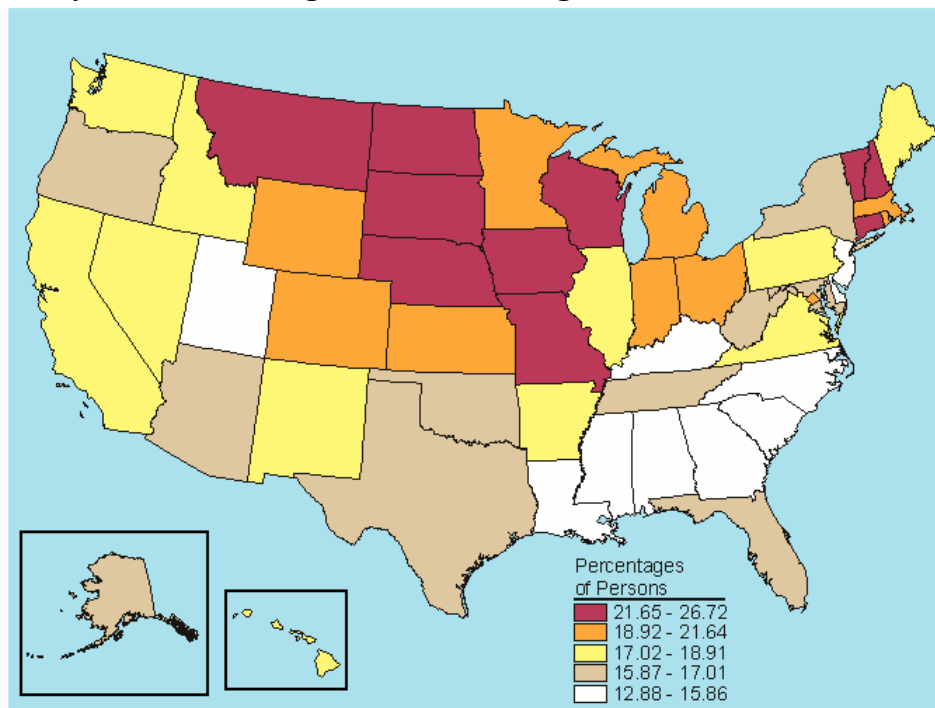
Source: SAMHSA (2008)

**Figure 1.8: Alcohol Dependence or Abuse in Past Year among Youths Aged 12 to 17, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**



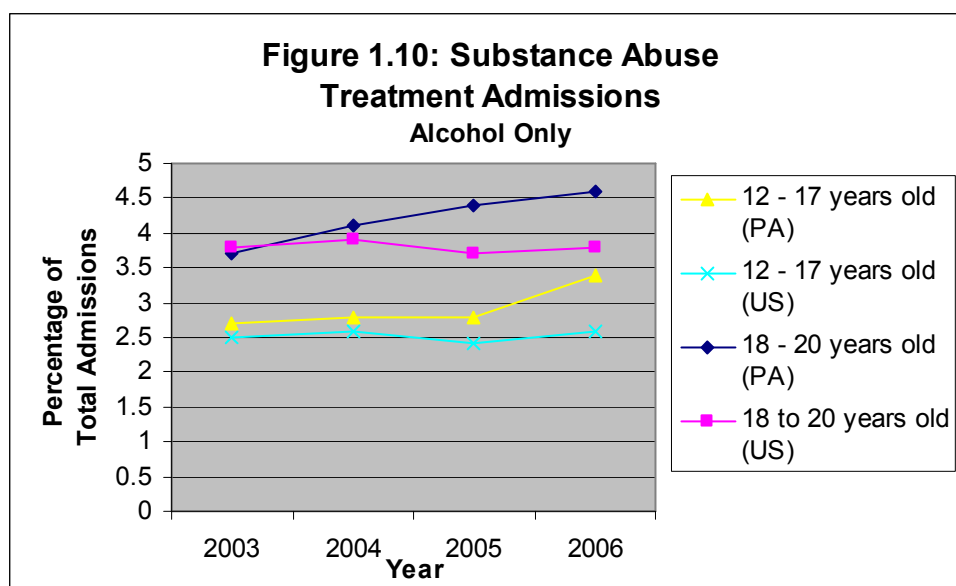
Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)

**Figure 1.9: Alcohol Dependence or Abuse in Past Year among Youths Aged 18 to 25, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**

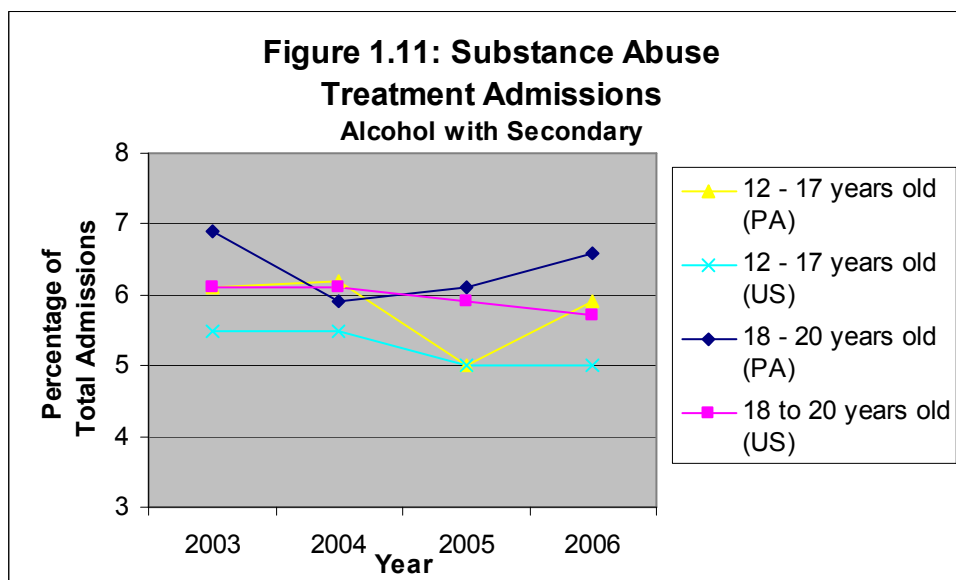


Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)

While these numbers may suggest that a smaller number of youth or young adults are being admitted to treatment centers, Pennsylvania actually continues to admit a larger percentage of youth and young adults to substance abuse centers for alcohol (Figure 1.10) and alcohol with secondary drug treatment (Figure 1.11) (SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set, 2003-2006). Once again, additional studies are needed to accurately determine if these figures are due to increased vigilance, sensitivity, and/or awareness of this issue, or if Pennsylvania truly has a larger number of youth and young adults who abuse alcohol.



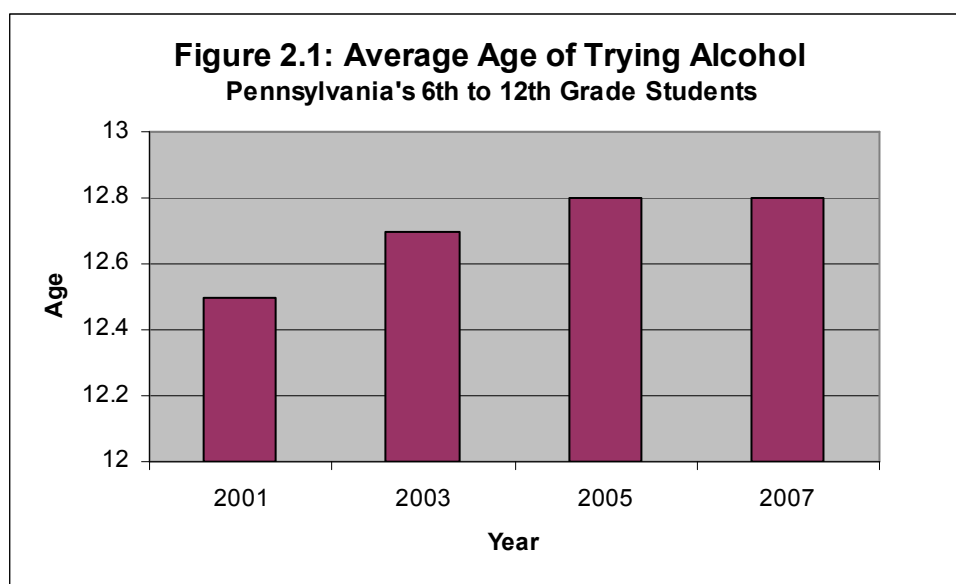
Source: SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (2003-2006)



Source: SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (2003-2006)

*Pennsylvania School Students: Grades K through 12*

In an effort to determine the effectiveness of school-based programs, agencies and organizations often look for changes and delays in when a youth first tries alcohol. Studies have shown that the earlier individuals consume alcohol, the more likely they are to become dependent or have difficulties relating to the consumption of alcohol (NIAAA, 2006). Since 2001, Pennsylvania statistics have demonstrated a delay in the average age of initiation by six months over the course of six years (Figure 2.1) (PCCD, Pennsylvania Youth Survey, 2008). Even this slight delay is an indicator that progress is in fact being made with regard to initial youth alcohol consumption.



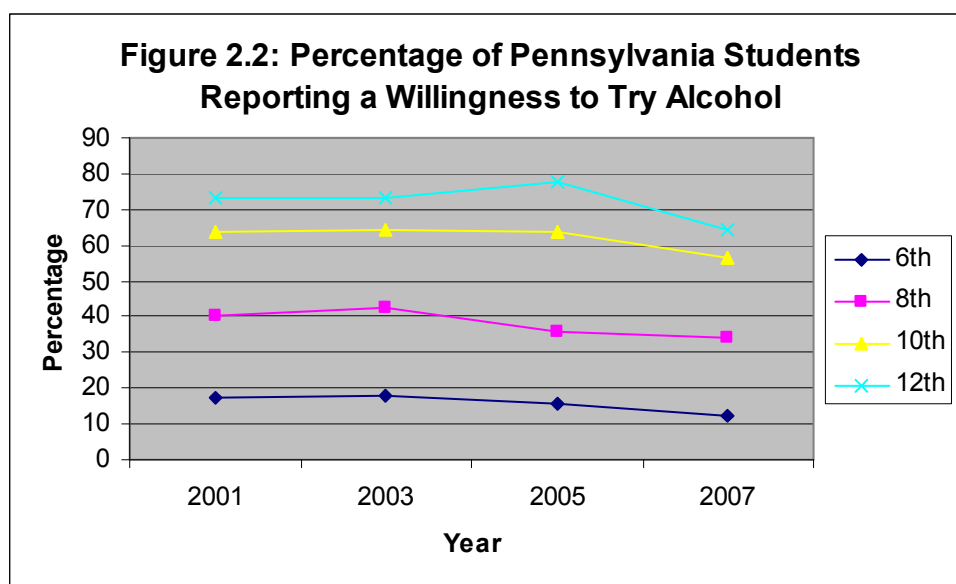
Source: PCCD, PAYS (2008)

It is difficult to compare numbers from Pennsylvania's Commission on Crime and Delinquency's (PCCD) Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) to findings from the NSDUH because the national reports often do not use the average age to determine the age of initiation. This is not to say that one study is more accurate than the other, but rather, that comparing these specific figures from these two studies could lead to errant conclusions.



### *Perceptions of Alcohol Usage*

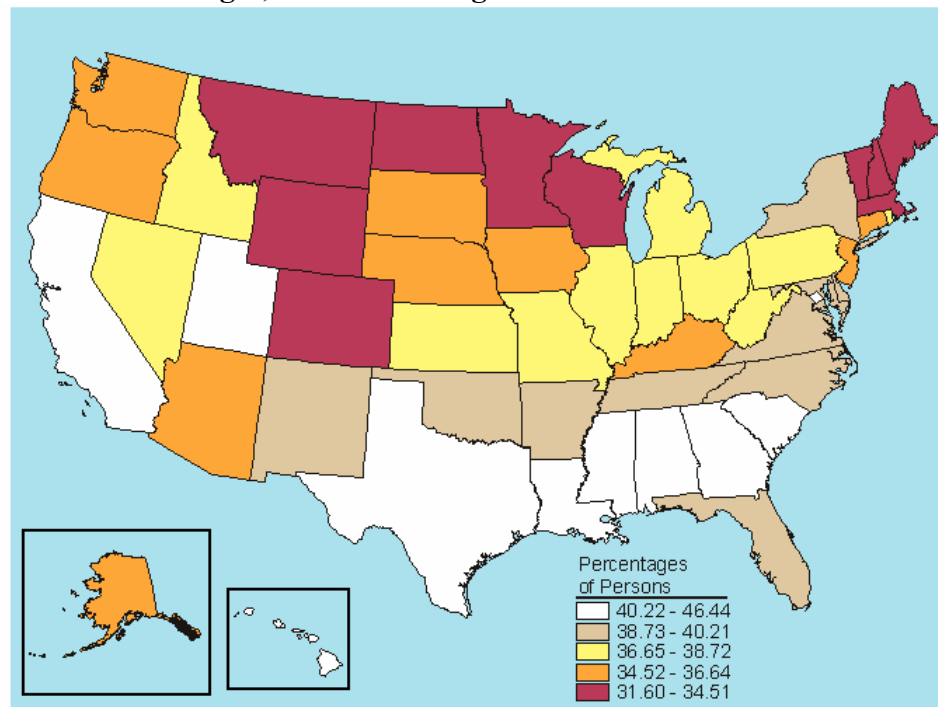
The most recent PAYS survey indicates that Pennsylvania has seen a decrease in the overall percentage of students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades who have a “willingness” to try alcohol (Figure 2.2) (PCCD, PAYS, 2008). It is not surprising that this report shows an increase in the students “willingness” to try alcohol with each academic grade level achieved from a low of 12% (6<sup>th</sup> graders) to a high of 64% (12<sup>th</sup> graders); however, this does not mean that we should condone such an increase by academic grade level as the Commonwealth continues to adhere to its zero-tolerance of high-risk and underage drinking (PCCD, PAYS, 2008).



Source: PCCD, PAYS (2008)

Just over one-third of Pennsylvania students aged 12 to 17 believe that there is “great risk” in drinking five or more alcoholic drinks once or twice a week (Figure 2.3) (Hughes, et al., 2008). When compared to other states, this percentage makes Pennsylvania just about average, as there are about 20 states that have higher percentages and about 20 states with lower percentages.

**Figure 2.3: Perceptions of Great Risk of Having Five or More Drinks of an Alcoholic Beverage Once or Twice a Week among Youths Aged 12 to 17, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**



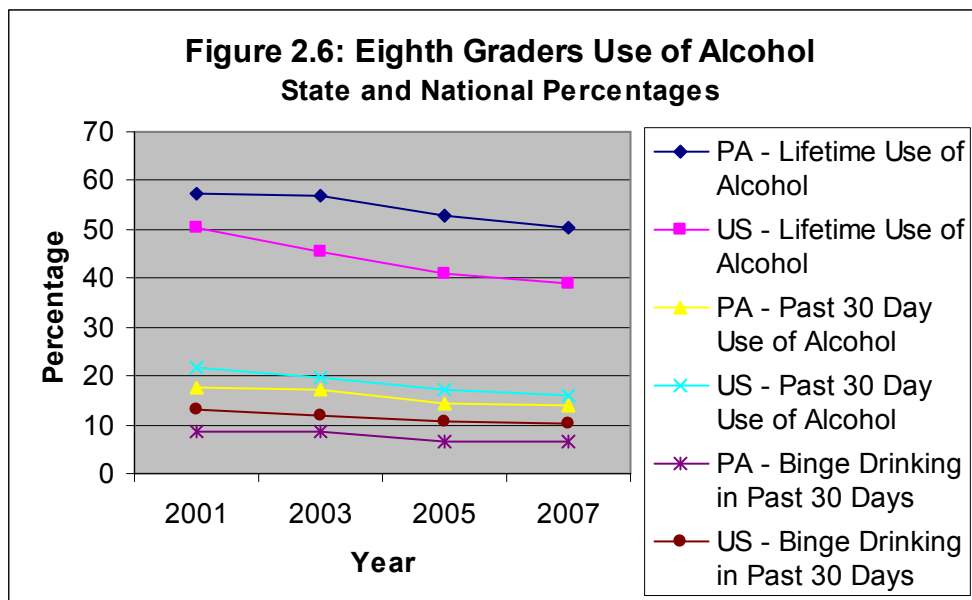
Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)

### *Alcohol Usage Rates*

Based upon the 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs, Pennsylvania is often considered average or better than average when discussing alcohol use by youths aged 12 to 17. The percentage of youths in Pennsylvania aged 12 to 17 who used alcohol in the past month (14.71 – 16.29%) is lower than more than half of the other states (Figure 2.4) (Hughes, et al., 2008). When comparing binge alcohol use across the same age range, Pennsylvania once again has a lower percentage than most other states (9.04 – 10.02%) (Figure 2.5) (Hughes, et al., 2008).

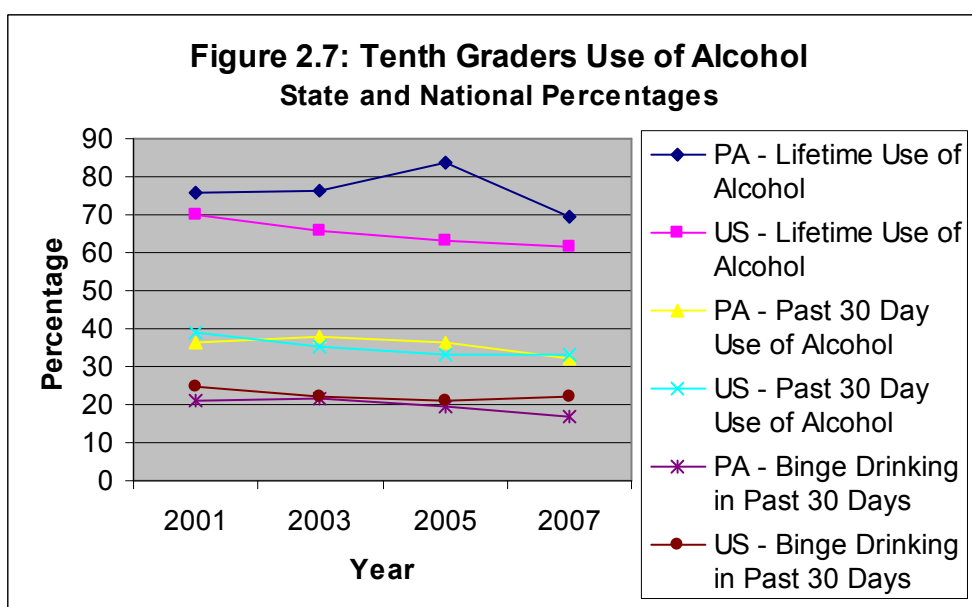






Source: PCCD, PAYS (2008)

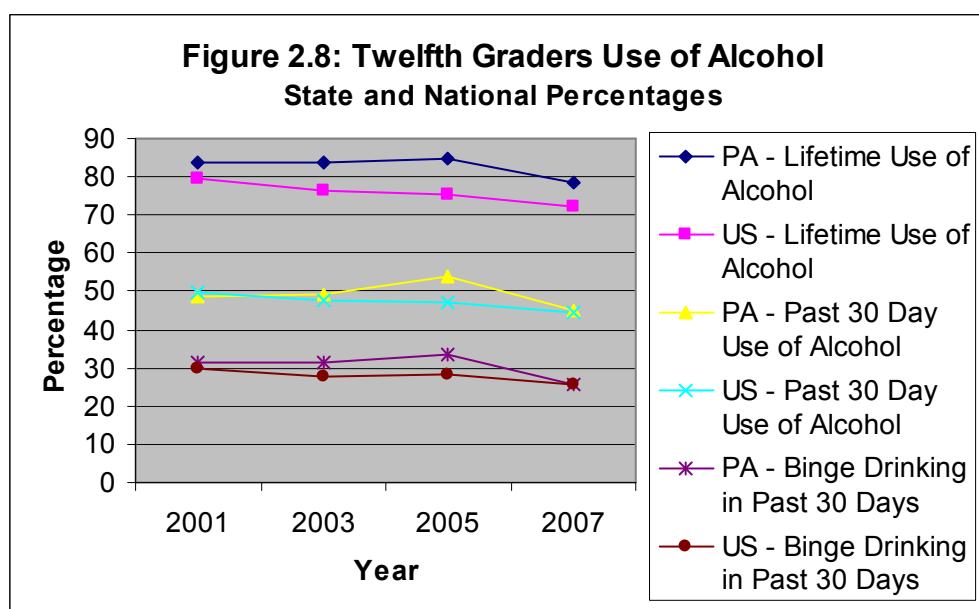
Pennsylvania's tenth graders reported lower usage rates in past 30-day use and binge drinking in the past 30 days than their national peers in 2007 and after a spike in 2005, there is only an 8% difference between Pennsylvania and the national lifetime usage rates (Figure 2.7) (PCCD, PAYS, 2008).



Source: PCCD, PAYS (2008)

Pennsylvania seniors (12<sup>th</sup> graders) are very similar to their national counterparts; in fact, 30-day usage rates and the binge drinking in the past 30 days were only tenths of a percentage different. As for lifetime usage, 6% more of Pennsylvania seniors indicated that they have had alcohol in their lifetime than those nationwide (Figure 2.8) (PCCD, PAYS, 2008).

Of particular note, we are seeing a downward trend in each of the usage rates across each of the surveyed Pennsylvania grades. Such a trend is further evidence that Pennsylvania continues to make positive strides in its schools to combat underage and high-risk usage of alcohol by its youth.



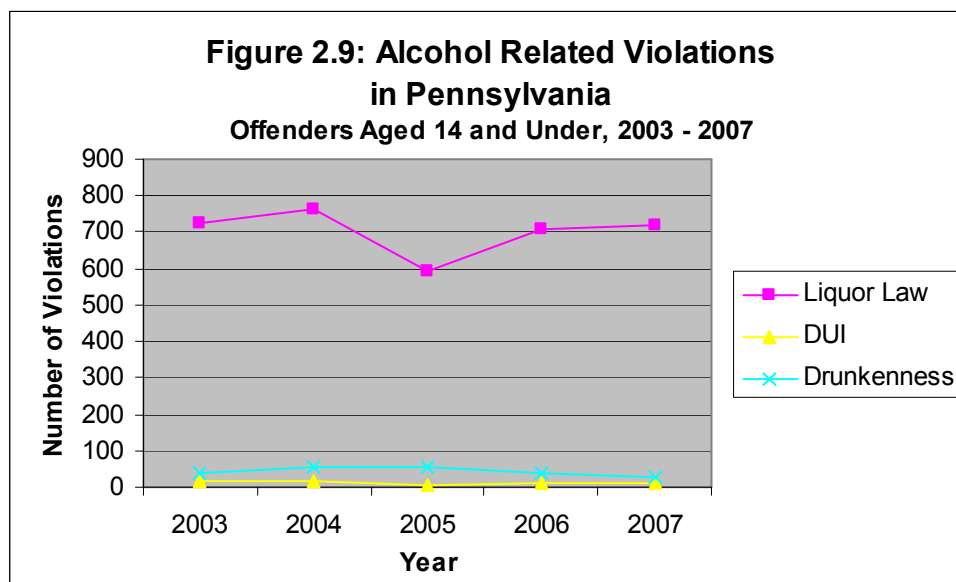
Source: PCCD, PAYS (2008)

### *Consequences of Alcohol Usage*

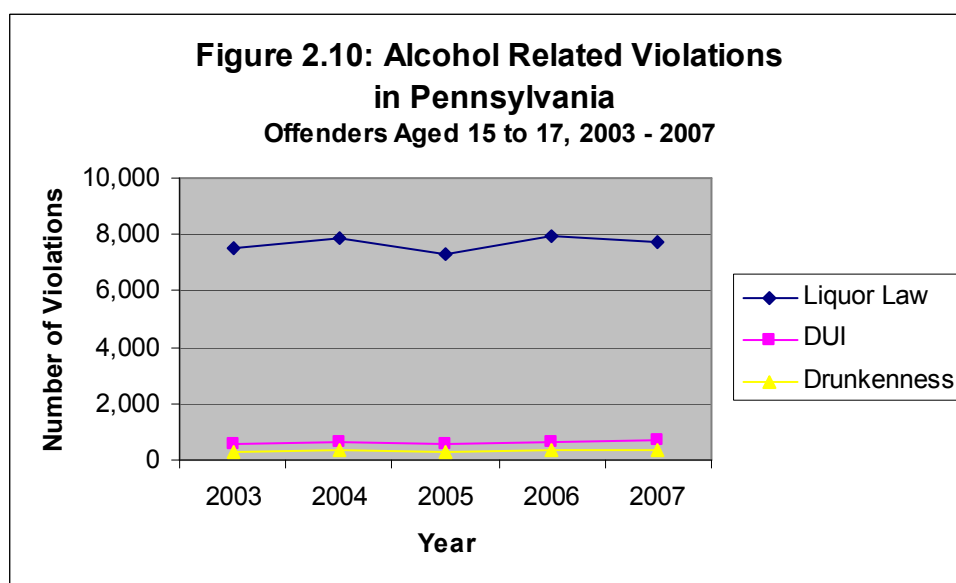
In Figure 2.9 we are able to see a disturbing upward trend since 2005 in liquor law violations by offenders who are aged 14 or younger. However, we once again need to keep in mind that this increase could be due in part to a possible increase in enforcement over the past two years.

From 2006 to 2007, offenders aged 15 to 17 saw a slight decrease in liquor law violations. There was also a very slight increase in the number of DUI violations, which is now at a five-

year high, 686 violations (Figure 2.10) (Pennsylvania State Police, 2008). Again, this increase could be attributable to an increase in enforcement efforts or an increase in the population amongst this age group.



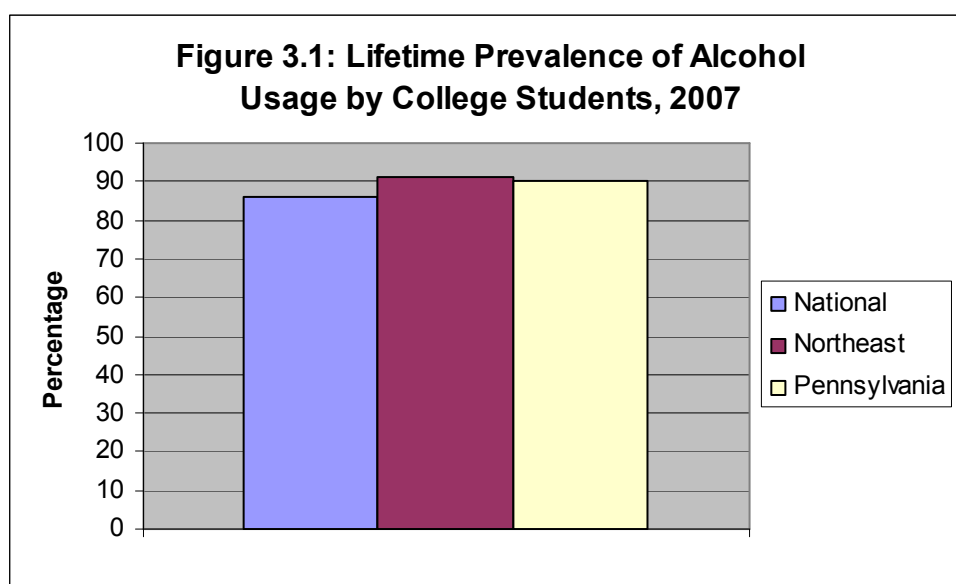
Source: Pennsylvania State Police (2008)



Source: Pennsylvania State Police (2008)

*Pennsylvania Young Adults and College Students*

Utilizing information gathered from the Core Institute at the Southern Illinois University of Carbondale (SIUC), we have been able to produce unique data sets that compare state data to regional and national data from the 2007 Core Drug and Alcohol Survey. Results from this survey show that approximately 3% more of Pennsylvania's college students have used alcohol in their life (89.9%) when compared to the national average of 86.2% (Figure 3.1) (Southern Illinois University at Carbondale/Core Institute, 2008).



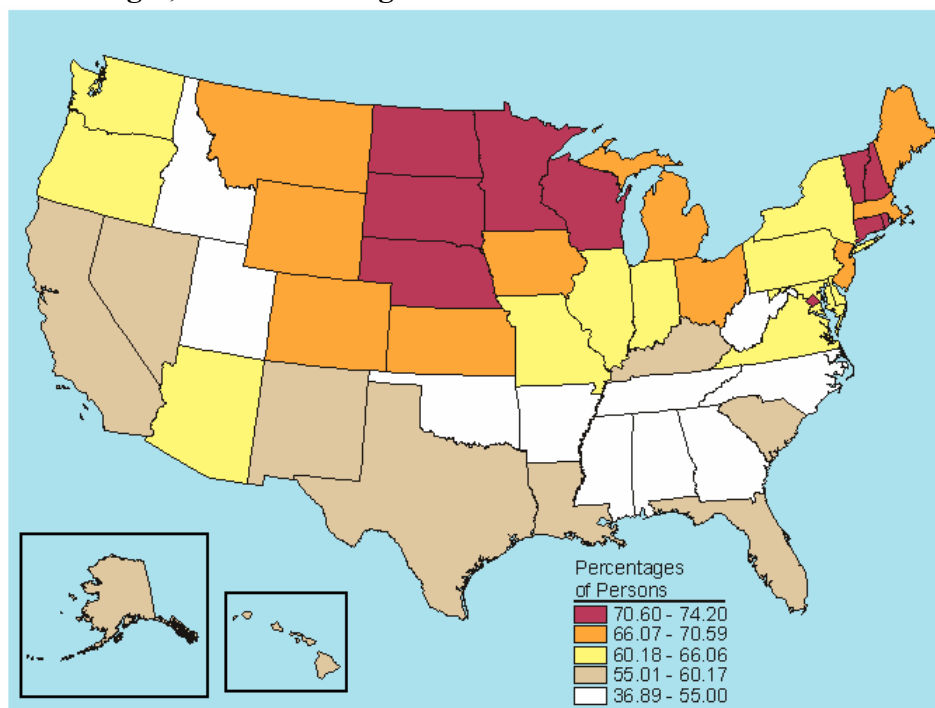
Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

While no direct inferences can be drawn, the above percentage can be put into further perspective when we review the annual averages from the 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs in which nearly two-thirds of Pennsylvanians aged 18 to 25 reported using alcohol in the past month (Figure 3.2) (Hughes, et al., 2008). This percentage of usage puts Pennsylvania in the middle 50%, as there are approximately 20 states with higher percentages and 20 states with lower usage percentages for the same age group. As for the average age of initiation by college students, it was found that nearly 75% of Pennsylvania's college students had their first alcoholic drink

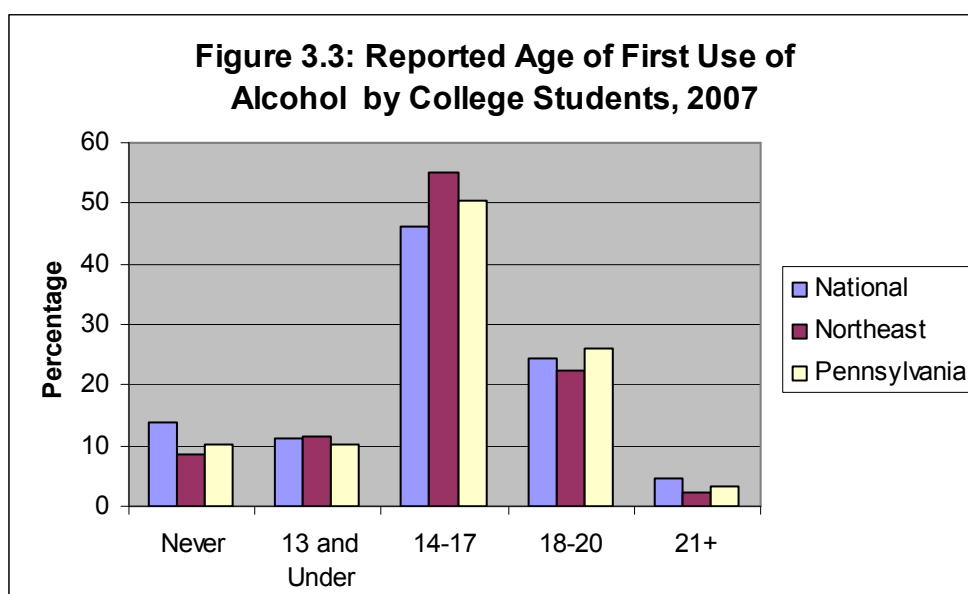


between the ages of 14 and 20 and that 75% of this figure had their first drink between the ages of 14 and 17 (Figure 3.3) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).

**Figure 3.2: Alcohol Use in Past Month among Persons Aged 18 to 25, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**



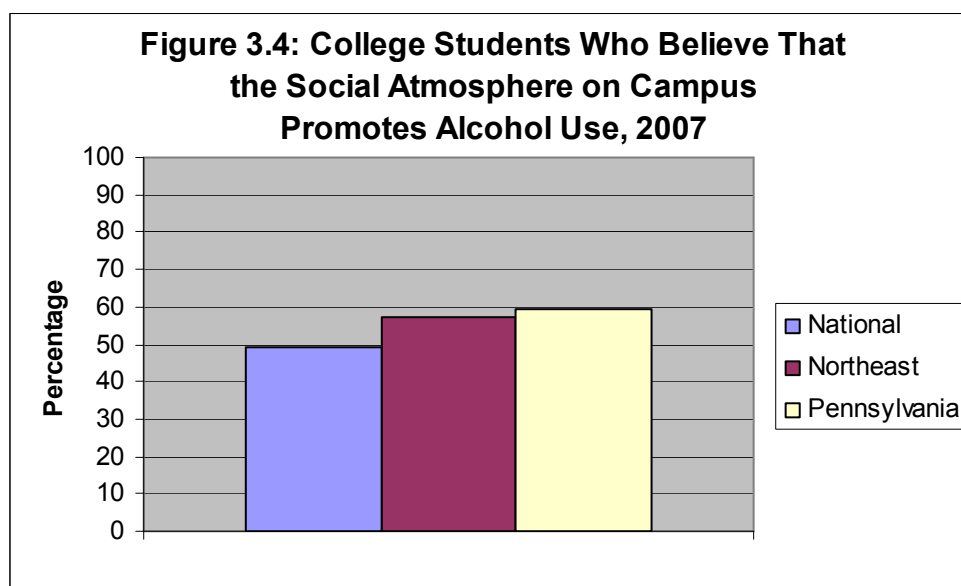
Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)



Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

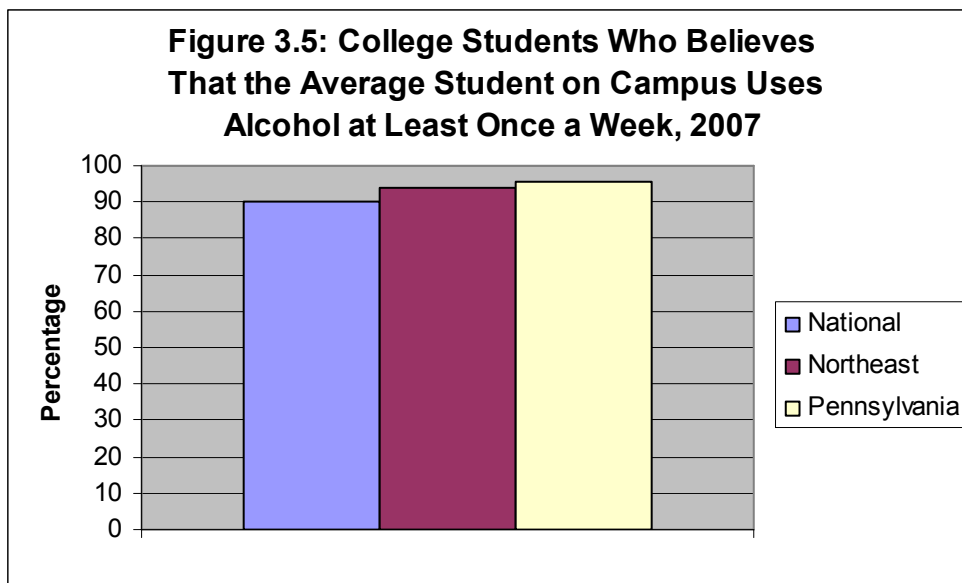
### *Perceptions of Alcohol Usage versus Actual Usage*

The college environment is a unique and complex atmosphere which offers many challenges in addition to dispelling typical collegiate stereotypes and “traditions”. In 2007, almost 60% of Pennsylvania college students who responded to the Core survey stated they believe that the social atmosphere on campus promotes alcohol use (Figure 3.4) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).



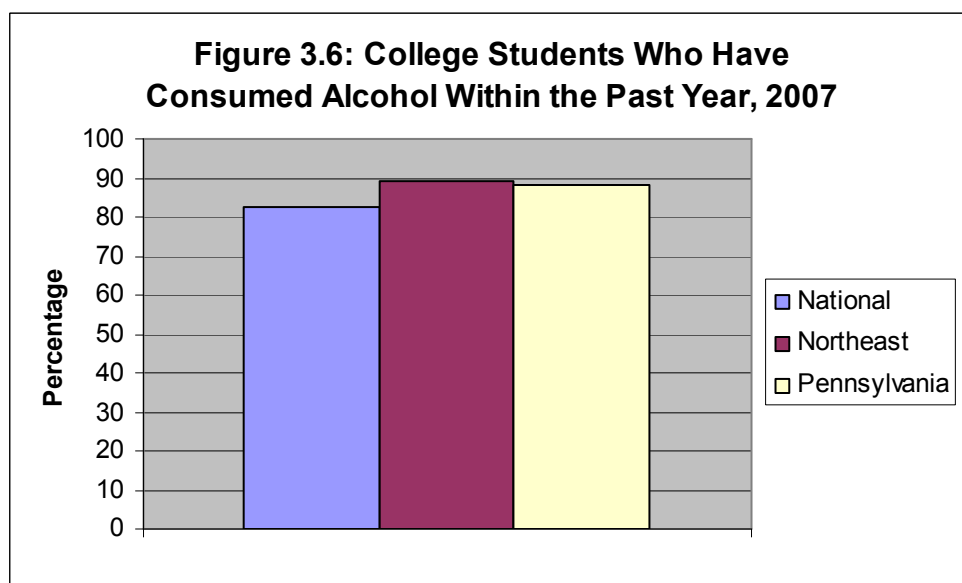
Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

As shown in Figure 3.5, Pennsylvania college students are more likely to believe that the average student on campus uses alcohol at least once a week more than their regional or national peers (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).



Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

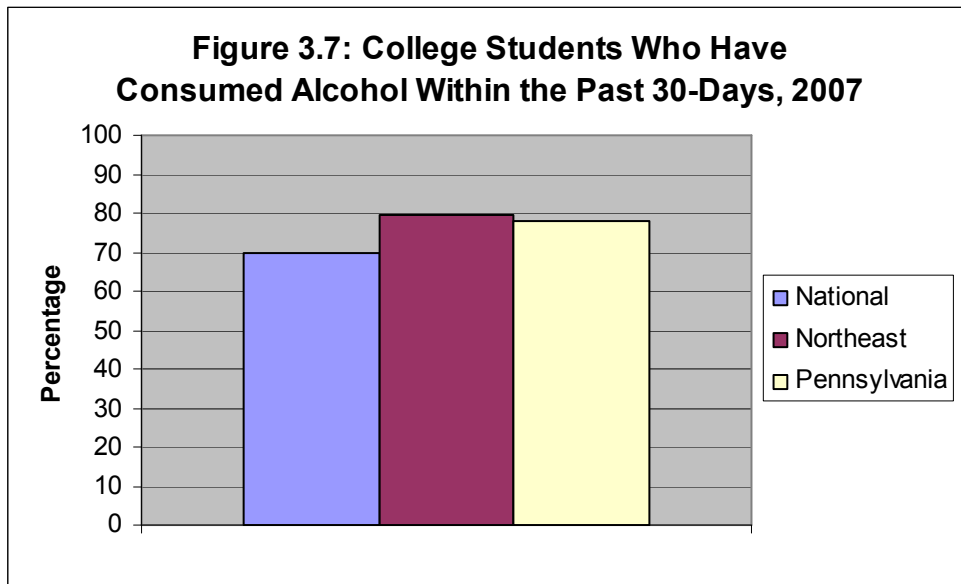
However, in Figure 3.6, we notice the actual number of Pennsylvanians who have consumed alcohol within the past year is slightly lower than the percentage believed to have consumed alcohol at least once a week.



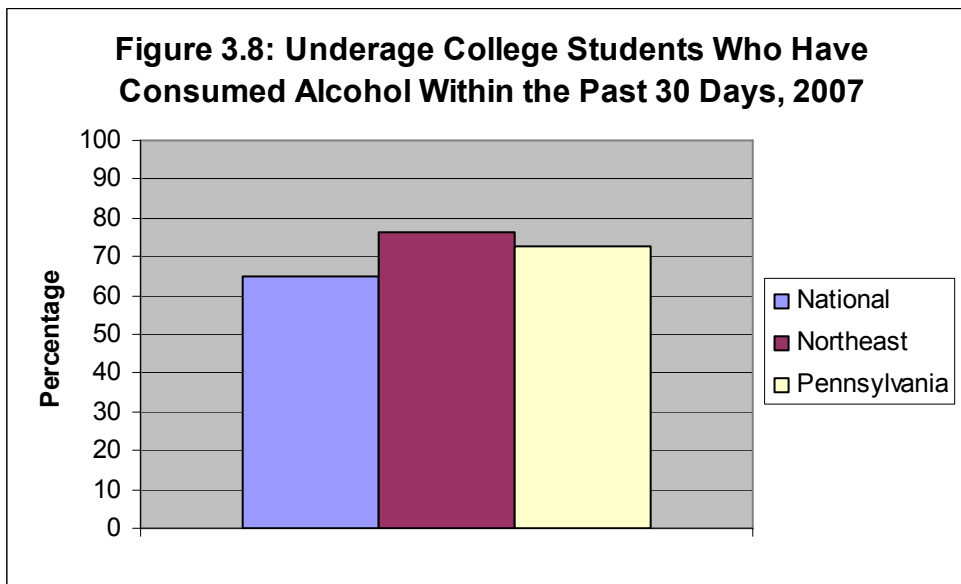
Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

When we focus our attention on the percentage of college students who consumed alcohol within the past 30 days in Figure 3.7, we notice that the percentage who consumed alcohol in the past 30 days is almost 20% lower than the percentage that was believed to have consumed

alcohol at least once a week (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008). If we look only at those underage drinkers who consumed alcohol within the past 30 days, there is an even greater difference between what is believed in Figure 3.5 and the actual percentage in Figure 3.8 (73%) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).

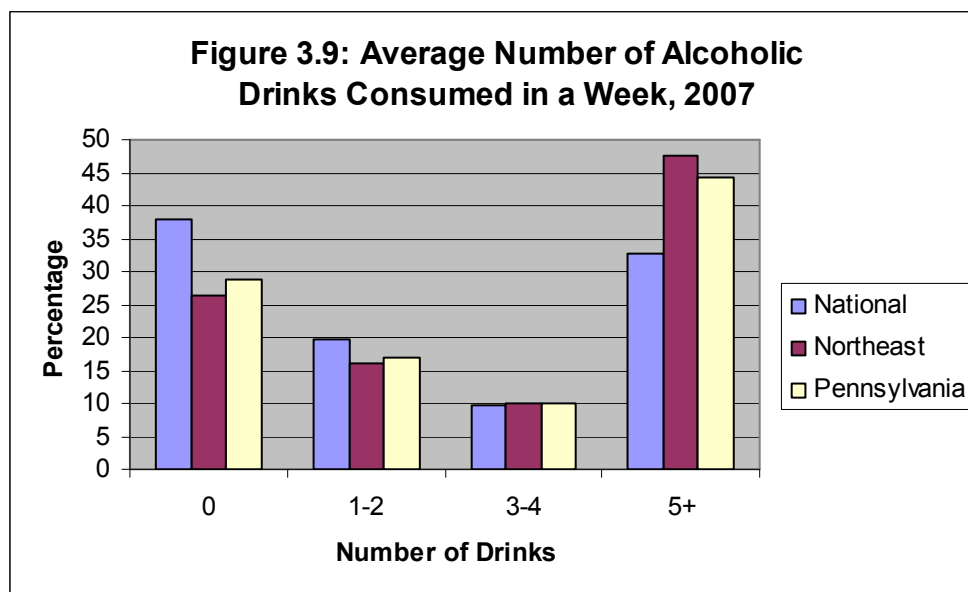


Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)



Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

The 2007 Core survey also reported that over half of Pennsylvania's college students drank less than five alcoholic drinks a week. In fact, almost half of Pennsylvania's college students report drinking two or fewer alcoholic drinks a week (Figure 3.9) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).

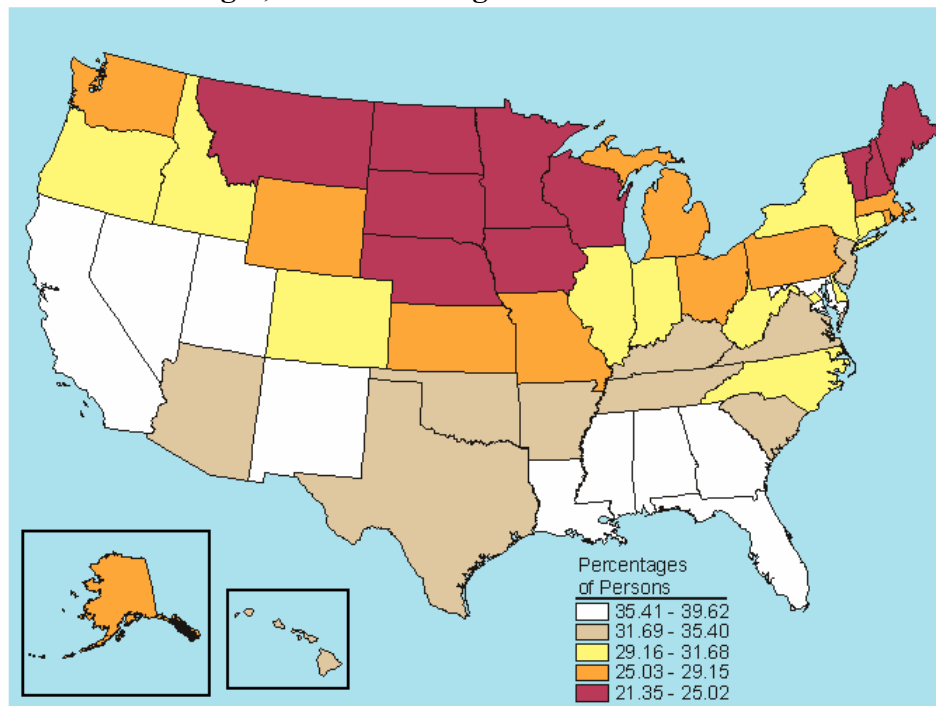


Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

### *Binge Drinking on Campus and by Young Adults*

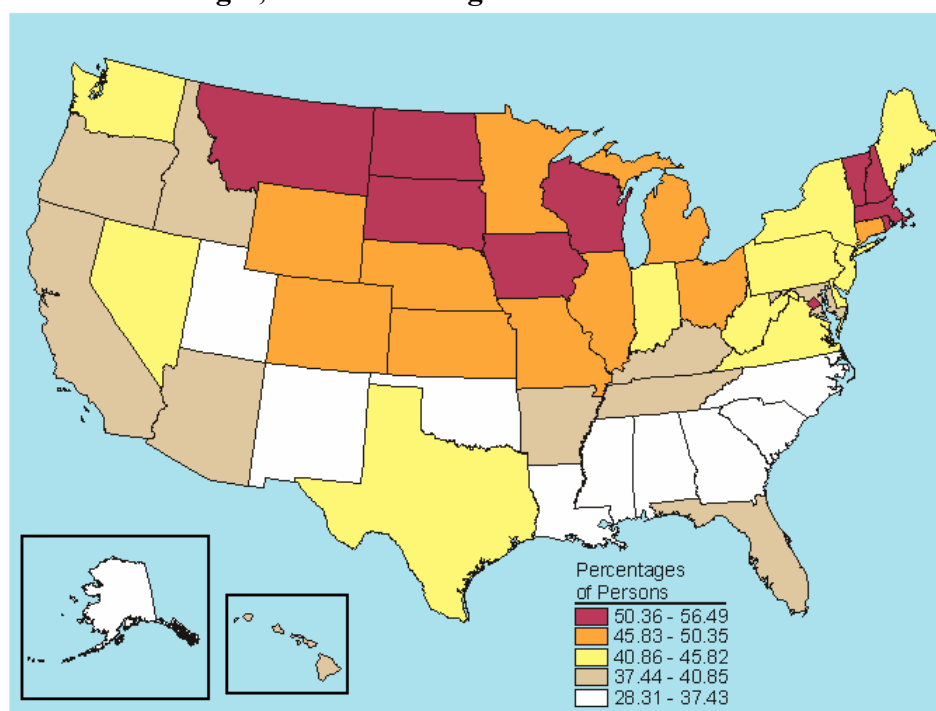
According to the annual averages from the 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs, approximately 27% of 18 to 25-year-old Pennsylvanians perceive having five or more alcoholic drinks once or twice a week as a great risk (Figure 3.10) (Hughes, et al., 2008). As Figure 3.11 shows, about 43% of Pennsylvanians reported binge alcohol use within the past month, which puts Pennsylvania roughly in the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile when compared to the other states (Hughes, et al., 2008).

**Figure 3.10: Perceptions of Great Risk of Having Five or More Drinks of an Alcoholic Beverage Once or Twice a Week among Persons Aged 18 to 25, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**



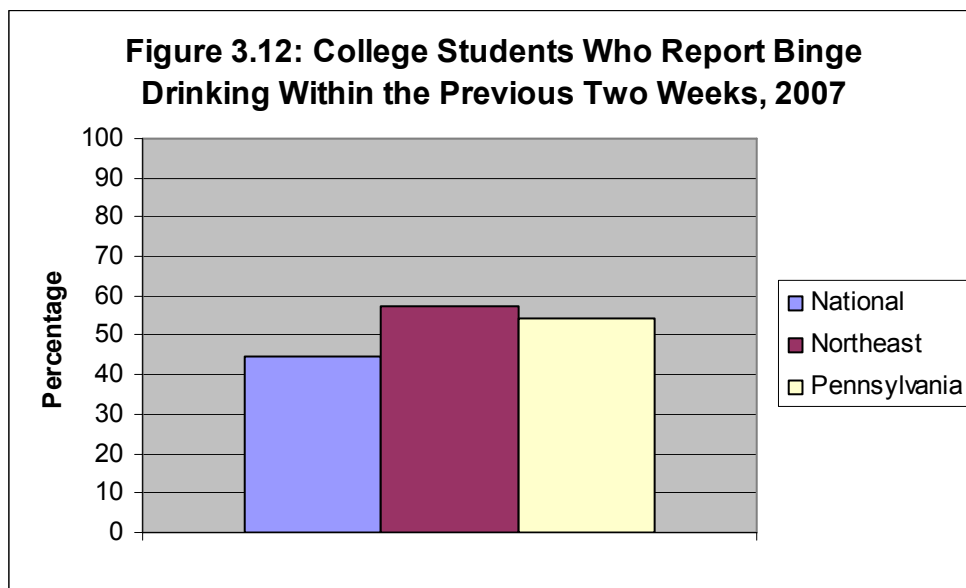
Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)

**Figure 3.11: Binge Alcohol Use in Past Month among Persons Aged 18 to 25, by State: Percentages, Annual Averages Based on 2005 and 2006 NSDUHs**



Source: Hughes, et al. (2008)

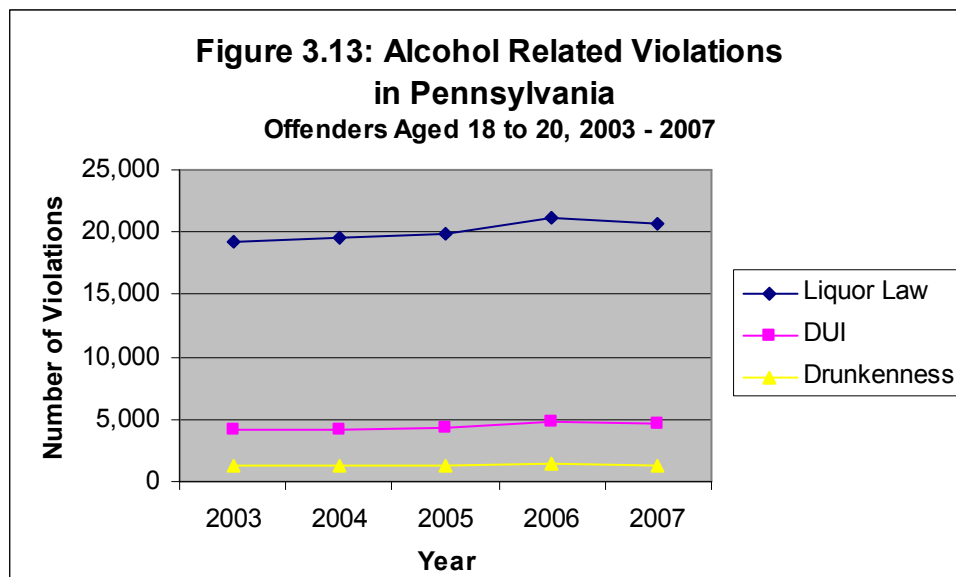
Among college students, the Core survey reports that about 54% of Pennsylvania college students reported binge drinking within the past two weeks, which is nearly 10% higher than the national average and a mere 3% lower than the Northeast percentage (Figure 3.12) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).



Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

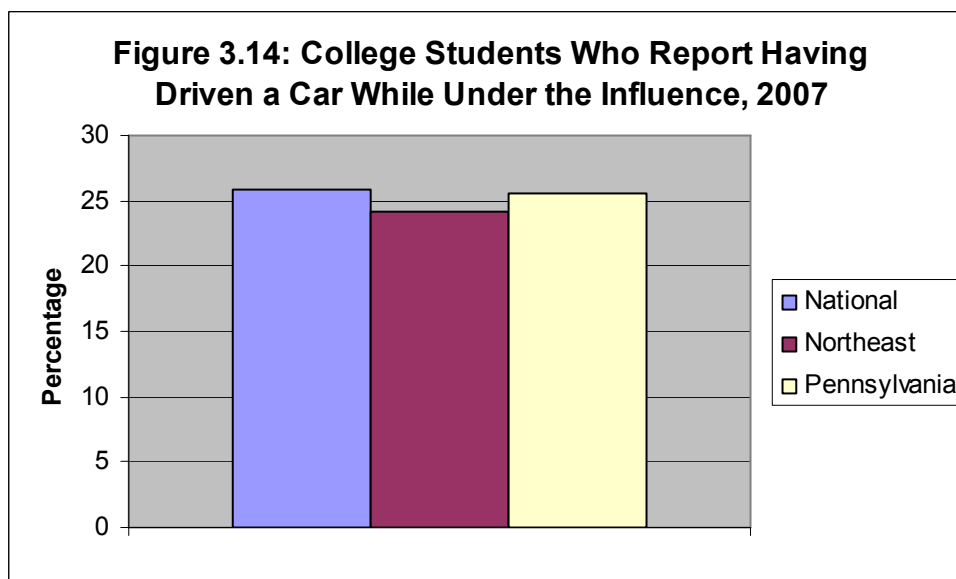
### *Consequences of Alcohol Usage*

From 2003 to 2006, there was a slight increase in alcohol-related violations throughout Pennsylvania by those persons aged 18 to 20 (Figure 3.13) (Pennsylvania State Police, 2008). The number of liquor law, DUI, and drunkenness violations has decreased, albeit slightly, from 2006 to 2007.



Source: Pennsylvania State Police (2008)

Nearly one-quarter of all college students, regardless of location, who responded to the 2007 Core survey reported that they have driven a car while under the influence (Figure 3.14) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).

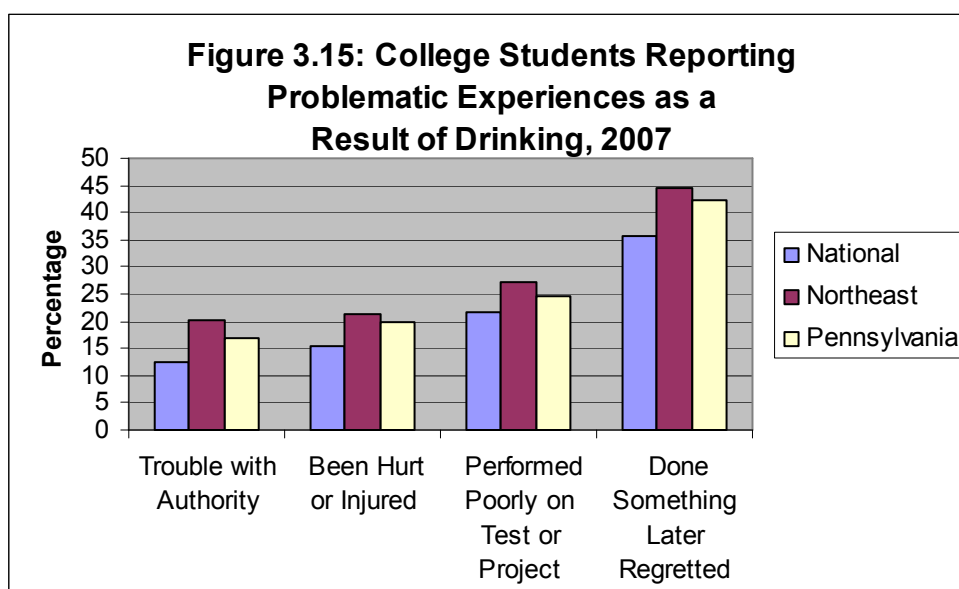


Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

With regard to the potentially problematic experiences that result from drinking, the Core survey shows that college students in Pennsylvania typically experience these negative results

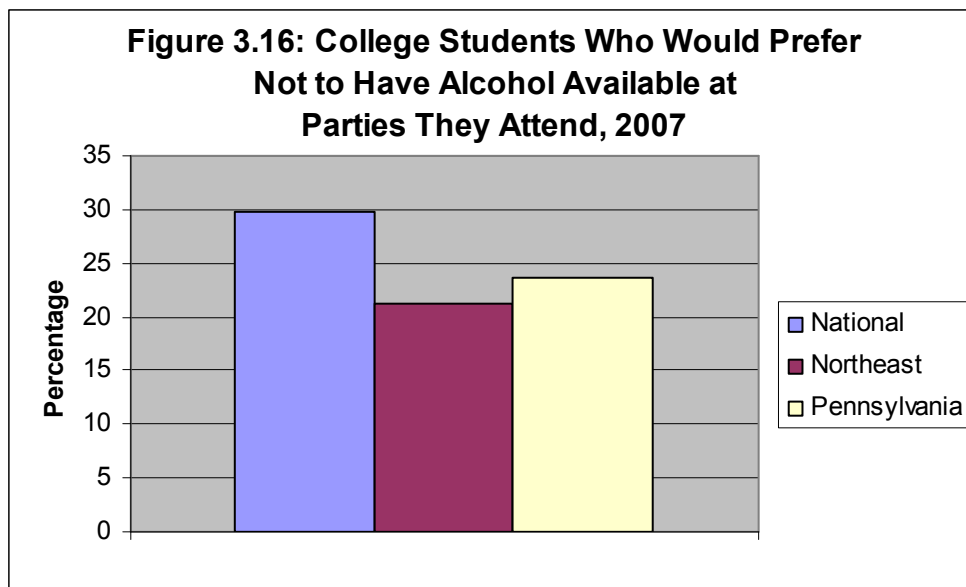


more than their national counterparts but less frequently than their Northeastern peers. Nearly 25% of Pennsylvania college students report that they have performed poorly on a test or project because of alcohol while just over 40% admit that they had done something that they later regretted (Figure 3.15) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).



Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

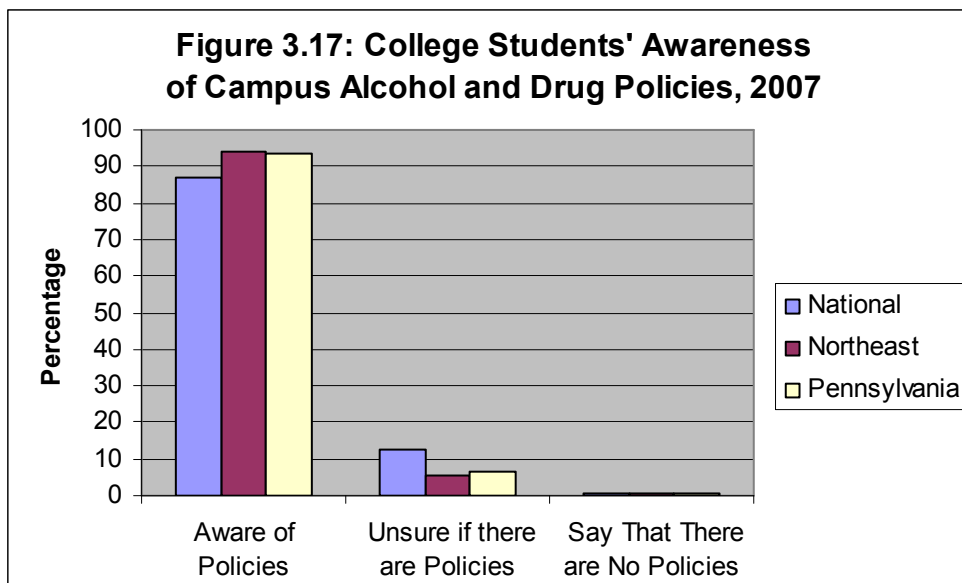
About one in four college students in Pennsylvania reported that they would support having a collegiate party without alcohol (Figure 3.16) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008). While it is difficult to interpret the reason why college students would prefer not to have alcohol available at parties they attend, it is possible that this decision or preference could be due in part to a negative experience that he or she had as the result of drinking.



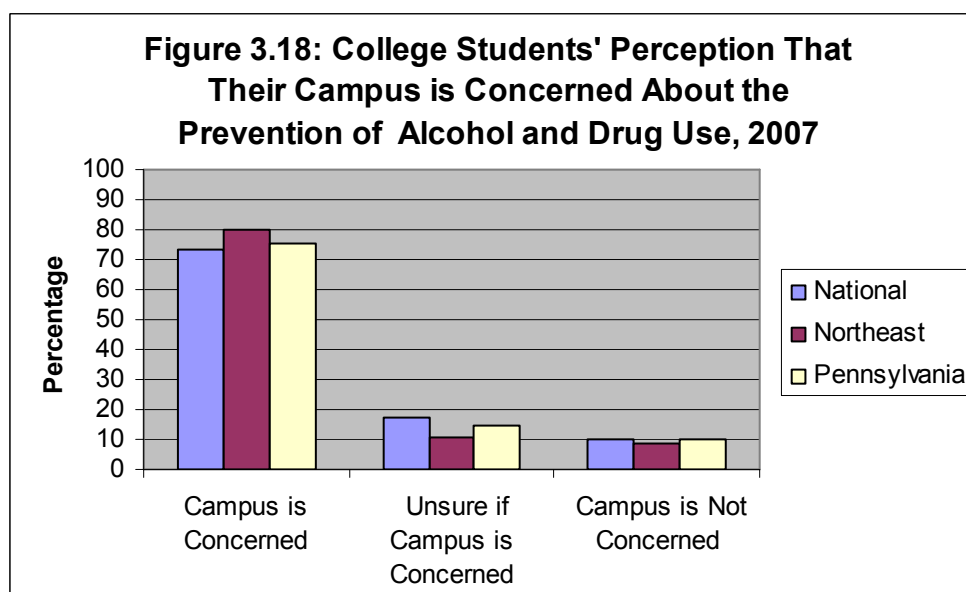
Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

### *College Students Awareness and Perception of Campus Programs*

It is often stated that just the simple awareness of the policies is sometimes a sufficient deterrent to prevent some students from participating in underage and/or high-risk alcohol consumption. According to the Core survey, over 90% of Pennsylvania's surveyed college students said that they were aware of campus alcohol and drug policies in 2007 (Figure 3.17) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008). Nevertheless, only about 70% of Pennsylvania college students reported that their campus is concerned about the prevention of alcohol and drug use and nearly one in ten reported that their campus is not concerned with the prevention of alcohol and drug use (Figure 3.18) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).



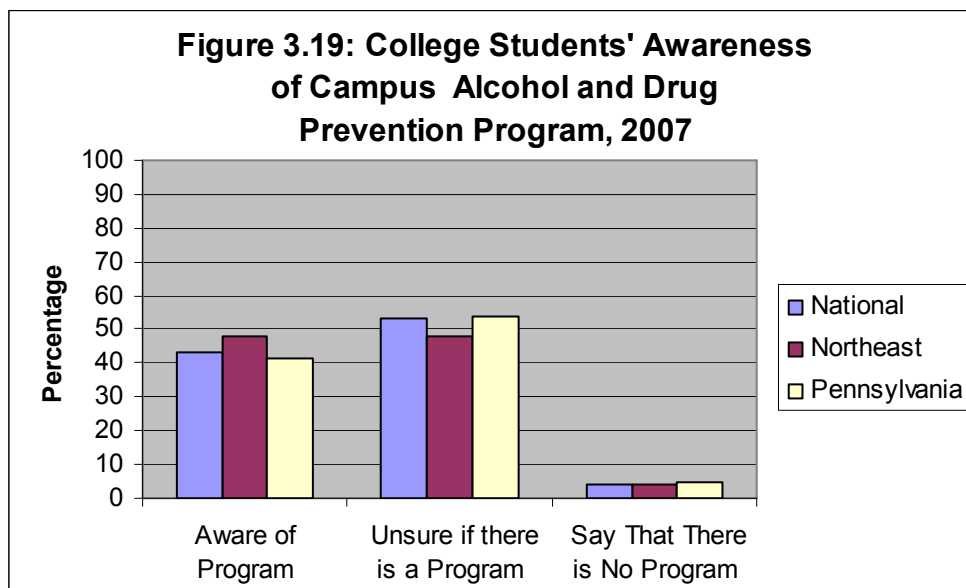
Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)



Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

Lack of awareness of the drug and alcohol programs offered on campus may be one factor that impacts students' perceptions of the campus' concerns towards the prevention of alcohol and drug use. The 2007 Core survey reports that over half of the college students surveyed in

Pennsylvania were unsure if their campus had any drug or alcohol prevention programs in place (Figure 3.19) (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008). Figure 3.19 also shows that only 40% of Pennsylvania college students reported that they were aware of such prevention and treatment efforts on their campus (SIUC/Core Institute, 2008).



Source: SIUC/Core Institute (2008)

## **Summaries of Current Programs**

*Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)*

PCCD supports the criminal and juvenile justice systems by providing system-wide criminal statistical and analytical services, by fostering interagency coordination and cooperation, and by rendering training and technical assistance. Appointed task forces, advisory groups and planning committees, encompassing commission and non-commission members, advise the commission in addressing specific problem areas. PCCD also administers a mix of state and federal grant programs that are designed to provide support to local elements of the criminal justice system and, through selective financing of proposals, demonstrate new solutions to statewide problems. PCCD fosters the development of criminal justice policy by conducting research on timely criminal justice issues and has established a link to Pennsylvania's academic community through the formation of an evaluation advisory committee composed of leading criminal justice researchers.

The PCCD provides a valuable resource concerning violence against women, criminal justice information projects, incarceration projections, and deputy sheriff training. Under the guidance of its gubernatorially-appointed Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Committee, PCCD has the responsibility of preparing and updating a comprehensive juvenile justice and delinquency prevention plan on behalf of the Commonwealth. PCCD plays a central role in collaborative initiatives involving the Department of Public Welfare, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, the Department of Education and other agencies in the development and implementation of policy and programming relative to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention—especially evidence-based prevention programs. The Research-Based Delinquency and Violence Prevention Program has supported these efforts since 1998-99.

PCCD is the Commonwealth's focal point for promoting local efforts to implement risk-

focused, community mobilization programming directed toward preventing delinquency, violence, substance abuse and other adolescent problem behaviors. PCCD administers the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Formula Grant Program, as well as the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program—both of which provide funds to support treatment/intervention programs and juvenile justice system improvement projects. PCCD also administers the Governor's portion of the Commonwealth's Federal Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act funding allocation used to support projects and programs that prevent drug use/abuse and violence among children and youth. PCCD administers Federal Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Block Grant funds, which support enforcement efforts and the Campus/Community Underage Drinking Prevention Coalition Project. PCCD also provides training to law enforcement agencies to implement drug education and law enforcement education in the schools and provides funds for School Resource Officers.

PCCD receives grant funds from the Federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to support and enhance efforts by state and local jurisdictions to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors and the purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors. (Minors are statutorily defined as individuals under 21 years of age). In turn, PCCD distributes these grant funds to the agencies within Pennsylvania who have primary responsibility for combating the problem of underage drinking. The Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement, and the PLCB are the primary recipients of these funds.

PCCD also utilizes state funds to support the implementation and operation of evidence based delinquency and violence prevention programs. A number of these programs target the use/abuse of alcohol by youth and summary descriptions are included below.

## *Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Initiatives (EUDL)*

### Pennsylvania State Police (PSP)

The Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (BLCE), utilizes these EUDL funds to combat underage drinking through the implementation of statewide minor patrols, concert details, age compliance details, and source investigations. These funds are used to cover the overtime costs associated with officers involved in the following activities.

#### *1. Minor Patrols*

An assignment of more than one Enforcement Officer within a District Enforcement Office to randomly inspect licensed establishments for the illegal sale of alcoholic beverages to minors.

#### *2. Concert Details*

An assignment of more than one Enforcement Officer within a District Enforcement Office to randomly patrol concert events for the illegal possession, consumption, or sale of alcoholic beverages to minors.

#### *3. Age Compliance Details*

An assignment of more than one Enforcement Officer within a District Enforcement Office to work with Underage Buyer Volunteers between the ages of 18 and 20 to purchase alcoholic beverages in a controlled environment. This program was developed over a two-year period and was implemented in Pennsylvania in January 2005. Underage Buyers, interns from the various colleges/universities throughout Pennsylvania, work in conjunction with Enforcement Officers to enter liquor-licensed establishments and attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages. If the establishment serves the Underage Buyer, an Enforcement Officer immediately notifies them about the Age Compliance check and administrative action is taken.



#### 4. *Source Investigation Project (SIP)*

The SIPs are designed to address furnishing alcohol to minors, the source of underage drinking. Enforcement Officers will cite minors for underage drinking, followed by an investigation into where the minor obtained the alcoholic beverages.

#### Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB)

The PLCB utilizes EUDL funds to educate and provide technical assistance to communities and organizations to assist with their prevention efforts. The following are programs/trainings facilitated by the PLCB:

##### 1. *Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention of College Students (BASICS) Program*

BASICS, a harm reduction approach, is a preventive intervention for college students 18 to 24-years-old. The program is aimed at students who drink alcohol heavily and have experienced or are at risk for alcohol-related problems such as poor class attendance, missed assignments, car accidents, sexual assault, and violence. The program's style is empathetic, not confrontational or judgmental, and:

- Reduces alcohol consumption and its adverse consequences;
- Promotes healthier choices among young adults; and
- Provides important information and coping skills for risk reduction.

BASICS is conducted over the course of two interviews, and these limited interventions prompt students to change their drinking patterns. While research also shows that, over time, the majority of students who drink heavily will reduce consumption without the intervention, BASICS speeds the process. The BASICS Program is designed to affect the individual; however, post-intervention students often comment that their friends respond differently as a result of participation.

## 2. *Controlled Party Dispersal Training*

Controlled dispersal is a systematic operational plan using the concepts of zero-tolerance and education to safely and efficiently close the underage-drinking party. It is a proactive strategy to reduce underage drinking-related problems. This six-hour course provides dispersal techniques, which enable a limited number of officers to better manage large groups. Ideally, this training will help to keep underage drinking participants from attempting to drive away from parties, helping to eliminate some occurrences of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and prevent crashes caused by intoxicated partygoers who panic when officers show up. Enforcement strategies that are covered during this training include topics such as Briefing, Approach, Entry, Sweep and Control, and Processing of Participants. The training also discusses preventing underage drinking parties, locating and acquiring community resources/assistance, how to involve the media, liability issues, and working with the various state and local laws and ordinances. The main objective of the course is to promote the best use of enforcement resources while keeping the safety of the officers, partygoers, and community in general in mind.

## 3. *Fraudulent Document Recognition Training*

Pennsylvania has a dedicated team of Fraudulent Document Recognition Training Specialists who are available to instruct other police officers and employees of licensed establishments to better recognize and stop the use of false IDs. This effort to prevent the use of false IDs by underage people will hopefully reduce the number of alcohol sales to minors and may benefit Pennsylvania in matters of homeland security as well. As state and national security issues are now everyday concerns, the proper identification of an individual is critical for homeland security as well as for

establishments selling alcoholic beverages. The Pacific Institute on Research and Education (PIRE) was instrumental in the development of this training. PIRE's Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center for the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention equips states and communities with practical, research-based tools to help them focus their efforts on prevention, intervention, and enforcement issues related to the retail and social availability of alcohol to minors, possession of alcohol by minors, and drinking and driving by minors.

#### 4. *Source Investigation Program (SIP)/Training*

This course uses investigation to attack the problem of dangerous drinking behavior by persons ages 16-25, and to prosecute the supplier of the alcohol. Furnishing alcohol to minors is a criminal offense, and along with dangerous drinking behavior, is at the forefront of community concern. To adequately address these problems, an aggressive and sustained campaign is essential. SIP has discovered that education and awareness through an extensive public relations campaign are key components to stressing the scope of the problem and to providing valuable information for introducing change in the mindset of young adults. Aggressive enforcement of all alcohol laws and of alcohol-associated crimes is likewise crucial to success in changing the behavior of young adults. Underage and binge drinking are not a "Rite of Passage." Increasing the risk of getting caught is an effective deterrent, which not only affects the minor but impacts the provider of the alcohol as well.

#### 5. *Project Same P.A.G.E. (Pennsylvania Alcohol Guidelines for Enforcement)*

The mission of Project Same P.A.G.E. is to provide a training manual and video for law enforcement, which facilitates and promotes legally sound and thorough

investigations, as well as successful prosecutions of underage drinking and related offenses in the Commonwealth. The program is meant to encourage police officers and court officials to work together in achieving more consistency in successfully prosecuting underage drinking violations. Successful prosecutions will help to educate the community and create a general deterrence to the use of alcohol by minors.

In addition to providing education/training on the above-mentioned programs, the PLCB uses a portion of these funds to continue supporting their Annual Statewide Underage Drinking Conference and to cover expenses associated with attending the Annual National Leadership Conference sponsored by the federal OJJDP. The National Leadership Conference is typically held in the late summer and is considered the premiere research-based conference on underage drinking prevention and enforcement.

#### Pennsylvania DUI Association

The Pennsylvania DUI Association utilizes these funds to continue supporting its multi-media marketing campaign for the 1-888-UNDER21 hotline. The anonymous toll-free hotline was established in Pennsylvania on October 23, 1998, as part of a partnership with parents, students, community leaders, law enforcement, and university officials to combat underage and excessive drinking activities. The calls provide tips about planned events, parties in progress, licensed establishments, and individuals who are selling or providing alcohol to minors.

In addition to the marketing of the hotline, the PA DUI Association also uses portions of these funds to support the following activities:

1. *Statewide Training on Underage Drinking* - a statewide training on underage drinking to be implemented in Fall 2008. The training focuses on addressing environmental change strategies by grass roots coalition members. These trainings will be held in partnership with the other trainings and events.
2. *Youth Leadership Institute* - This training, held in Harrisburg, focuses on environmental strategies to reduce underage drinking, leadership development, and the key leadership role youth can play in their communities. This is a working group with many responsibilities for the Youth Rally Day. Following this daylong training, youth serve as trainers for the Youth Rally Day. Youth are also encouraged to work with community coalitions addressing underage drinking following the training.
3. *Youth Rally Day & Training* - Youth leaders from across the Commonwealth attend training and a youth rally/press conference at the state capitol in Harrisburg. Following the press conference, youth visit with their local elected officials to educate them on the problems associated with underage drinking.
4. *Statewide Youth Leadership Conferences* - Two statewide conferences for youth leaders will be held in Fall 2008. The two events will be held in conjunction with Pennsylvania SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions). Workshops will include leadership trainings for youth and environmental solutions to underage drinking for youth to implement in their schools and communities.
5. *National Leadership Conference/Training* - DUI Association staff, up to two youth leaders, and grass roots advocates attended the National Leadership Conference-Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws training. This event is recognized as the premier training on underage drinking in the country. Attendance at the training

encourages the continued development of strategies to reduce underage drinking in the Commonwealth.

6. *Public Service Announcements* - Purchase of advertising space in newspapers, college publications, billboards, and/or radio and television. Upon reviewing data for 2007-2008 incoming calls to the 1-888-UNDER21 hotline, advertising space will be purchased to increase calls in areas lagging in usage of the hotline.
7. *Direct Mailing* - Public Service Announcements and hotline literature will be mailed to newspapers and the 501 school districts across the Commonwealth. Funds will be used for printing costs and postage.

#### Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) utilizes EUDL funds to provide “train the trainer” training to Counselor/Advocates at rape crisis centers and campus community members such as campus police, medical personnel, administrators, student leaders, risk managers of Greek Organizations, and policy makers.

This training is based on the PCAR curriculum "Reconstructing Norms: Preventing Alcohol Related Sexual Assault on College Campuses." It is held for one day in both the eastern and western parts of the state. The training provides participants with a solid educational foundation on the link between underage drinking and sexual violence. Participants come away from the training with ready to use workshops for their campus community, along with tools to develop a campus action plan including sample alcohol-facilitated sexual assault and sexual misconduct policies, creation of a sexual assault response team (SART), and the tools to examine existing institutionalized responses to alcohol-facilitated sexual assault.

### State College Borough Police Department

The State College Borough Police Department utilizes EUDL funds to collaborate with the Penn State University (PSU) Police Services to conduct Source Investigation Projects (SIP) and provide intense media surrounding the number of citations issued to both minors and the individual(s) or establishments who furnished the alcohol. The SIPs are designed to address furnishing alcohol to minors, the source of underage drinking. Enforcement Officers cite minors for underage drinking, followed by an investigation into where the minor obtained the alcoholic beverages.

### West Chester University

West Chester University (WCU) utilizes EUDL funds to continue the development and presentation of the Creative University Party-planning Program (CUPP) that began in 2007-2008 and to begin a social marketing campaign focusing on alcohol use safety.

1. *CUPP* - based on 1) Group motivational enhancement techniques (Talking with College Students about Alcohol, Walters and Baer 2006 and NIAAA 2002 Guidelines) and 2) PLCB Responsible Alcohol Management Program (RAMP) components.

The CUPP Program targets WCU students living off-campus in the Borough of West Chester. The CUPP Program uses interactive techniques to help the group identify low-risk and high-risk behaviors. Each student group develops a personal group plan that identifies specific strategies for decreasing risks associated with sponsoring social events with alcohol. Strategies include using sober monitors, limiting amounts and types of alcohol, monitoring music volume, and not serving visibly intoxicated guests. This approach is called “harm reduction” and is a strategy supported by the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA) Guidelines. Moderation of alcohol use and

associated behaviors generally decreases negative consequences to the individual and community.

2. *Alcohol Use Safety Social Marketing Campaign* – This campaign supports the professional development of programs promoting alcohol use safety behaviors (harm reduction behaviors) such as choosing not to drink, avoiding drinking games, limiting drinks per sitting, avoiding liquor shots. Harm reduction strategies and moderation of alcohol use generally decrease negative consequences to the individual and community. The Alcohol Use Safety Campaign will evolve over 12-18 months. The CUPP Program and Alcohol Use Safety Campaign are synergistic initiatives that address the negative consequences of alcohol use and abuse on a campus and surrounding community. These initiatives add both individual and population level strategies that will be disseminated (CUPP) or modeled (Alcohol Use Safety) to other colleges and universities in Pennsylvania.

### LaSalle University

LaSalle University utilizes EUDL funds to continue supporting the Collegiate Athletic Alcohol Prevention Project (CAPP). This project seeks to reduce the level of underage drinking and alcohol abuse by student athletes through team and individual programming efforts that will challenge the culture and expectations of first-year athletes that seem to place them at greater risk for alcohol abuse than their teammates and campus peers. The purpose of this project is to collect team specific and first-year athlete specific information about alcohol and other drug use during orientation and early weeks of fall semester – August/September 2008, and again in April 2009, to determine any changes in trends associated with the use of drugs and/or alcohol.



The CAPP Project includes the following activities:

- Engage coaches (20) in the project through initial group meetings and subsequent individual sessions to share information about project goals and objectives;
- Identify and train one to two team leaders from each of the 20 teams;
- Conduct training sessions for these team leaders in how to identify and intervene when a team member is abusing alcohol;
- Conduct an early semester education session for 100 first year athletes on understanding Blood Alcohol Levels and their effect;
- Conduct 20 team sessions which include 1) a review of E-Chug feedback forms, 2) a review of information in Alcohol and Athletic Performance brochures, and 3) a team discussion facilitated by identified team leaders on team plans to reduce underage drinking and alcohol use/misuse by team members; and
- Provide individual Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS) for athletes who have been identified as “at-risk” through the project initiatives outlined above and/or being found in violation of the university’s alcohol and other drugs policy.

*Evidence Based Delinquency and Violence Prevention Programs that Target alcohol*

*Use/Reduction*

Project Towards No Drug Abuse (TND)

TND is an interactive program designed to help high school youths (ages 14–19) resist substance use. This school-based program consists of twelve 40 to 50-minute lessons that include motivational activities, social skills training, and decision-making components that are delivered through group discussions, games, role-playing exercises, videos, and student

worksheets over a 4-week period. The instruction to students provides cognitive motivation enhancement activities to not use drugs, detailed information about the social and health consequences of drug use, and correction of cognitive misperceptions. It addresses topics such as active listening skills, coping skills, effective communication skills, stress management, tobacco cessation techniques, and self-control—all to counteract risk factors for drug abuse relevant to older teens. The program can be used in a self-instruction format or run by a health educator.

#### Strengthening Families Program: For Parents and Youth 10–14 (SFP 10–14)

SFP 10-14 is an adaptation of the Strengthening Families Program. Formerly called the Iowa Strengthening Families Program, the program aims to reduce substance use and behavior problems during adolescence through improved skills in nurturing and child management by parents and improved interpersonal and personal competencies among youth. SFP 10–14 consists of seven 2-hour sessions for parents and youths.

#### CASASTART- (Striving Together to Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows)

CASASTART, formerly known as Children at Risk, is a community-based, school-centered program designed to keep high-risk 8 to 13-year-old youths free of substance abuse and criminal involvement. It is based on the assumption that, while all pre-adolescents are vulnerable to experimentation with substances, those who lack effective human and social support are especially vulnerable. CASASTART seeks to build resiliency in youth, strengthen families, and make neighborhoods safer for children and their families.

### Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA)

CMCA is a community-organizing program designed to reduce young (18 to 24-year-old) adults' access to alcohol by changing community policies and practices. Initiated in 1991, CMCA has proven that effectively limiting the access to alcohol of people under the legal drinking age not only directly reduces teen drinking but also communicates a clear message to the community that underage drinking is inappropriate and unacceptable. CMCA employs a range of social organizing techniques to address legal, institutional, social, and health issues to reduce youth alcohol use by eliminating illegal alcohol sales to youth by retailers and obstructing the provision of alcohol to youth by adults. The organizing process includes 1) assessing the community; 2) creating a core leadership group; 3) developing an action plan; 4) building a mass base of support; 5) implementing the action plan; 6) maintaining the organization and institutionalizing change; and 7) evaluating changes. Program interventions target all community members. CMCA can be implemented in virtually any rural, suburban, or urban community.

### LifeSkills Training (LST)

LST is a classroom-based tobacco, alcohol, and drug abuse prevention program for upper elementary and junior high school students. LST targets individuals who have not yet initiated substance use. The program is designed to prevent the early stages of substance use by influencing risk factors associated with substance abuse, particularly occasional or experimental use.

### STARS (Start Taking Alcohol Risks Seriously) for Families

STARS for Families is a health promotion program for preventing alcohol use among at-risk middle and junior high school youths. The goal is for youths to postpone alcohol use until adulthood. The program is founded on the Multi-component Motivational Stages prevention model, which is theoretically based in the Health Belief Model, Social Learning Theory, and Behavioral Self-Control Theory. STARS for Families matches media-related, interpersonal, and environmental prevention strategies to each child's specific stages of alcohol initiation, stages of readiness for change, and specific risk and protective factors. The program has been tested and shown useful for youth ages 11 to 15 in both urban and rural schools, and for youths attending physical exams for sports teams.

### Guiding Good Choices (GGC)

GGC, formerly known as Preparing for the Drug-Free Years, is a multimedia family competency training program that promotes healthy, protective parent-child interactions, and reduces children's risk for early substance use. The program targets families of middle school children (ages 9–14) who reside in rural economically-stressed neighborhoods.

### Across Ages

Across Ages is a research-based mentoring initiative designed to increase the resiliency and protective factors of at-risk youths through a comprehensive intergenerational approach. The basic concept of the program is to pair older adult volunteers (55 and older) with students (10 to 13 years old) to create a special bonding relationship. The project also uses community service activities, provides a classroom-based life-skills curriculum, and offers parent-training workshops. Older mentors—acting as advocates, challengers, nurturers, role models, and

friends—help children develop the awareness, self-confidence and skills they need to resist drugs and overcome overwhelming obstacles.

### Project ALERT

Project ALERT teaches children to establish no-drug-use norms, to develop reasons not to use drugs, and to resist pro-drug pressures. The program consists of a 14-lesson curriculum, participatory activities, and videos. Guided classroom discussions and small group activities stimulate peer interaction and challenge students, while intensive role-playing encourages students to practice and master resistance skills. Parent-involved homework assignments extend the learning process for participants.

### Families and Schools Together (FAST)

FAST is a multifamily group intervention program designed to build protective factors for children (ages 4 to 12), to empower parents to be the primary prevention agents for their own children, and to build supportive parent-to-parent groups. It is based on research in several areas: social ecology of child development; child psychiatry; family stress; family systems; social support; family therapy; parent-led play therapy; group work; stress, isolation and poverty; and adult education and community development. The overall goal of the FAST program is to intervene early to help at-risk youth succeed in the community, at home, and in school and thus avoid problems such as adolescent delinquency, violence, addiction, and dropping out of school. The FAST program achieves its goals by respecting and supporting parents rather than by criticizing and undercutting their power. FAST offers youth structured opportunities for involvement in repeated relationship-building interactions with the primary caretaking parent,

other family members, other families, peers, school representatives, and community representatives.

#### The Skills, Opportunity, and Recognition (SOAR) Program

The SOAR Program, formerly known as the Seattle Social Development Project, has its roots in the Social Development Model, which posits that positive social bonds can reduce antisocial behavior and delinquency. It is a multidimensional intervention designed for the general population and high-risk children (those with low socio-economic status and low school achievement) who are attending grade school or middle school. The program seeks to decrease juveniles' problem behaviors by working with children and their parents and teachers. It intervenes early in children's development to increase pro-social bonds, to strengthen attachment and commitment to schools, and to decrease delinquency.

*Pennsylvania Department of Education*

The Division of Student and Safe School Services within the Pennsylvania Department of Education is the primary source of technical assistance and guidance to public and nonpublic schools on alcohol, tobacco, other drug use, and violence prevention activities. The legislative bases for these activities are: Act 211 of 1990, the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) Program under the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Act 26 of 1995, and Act 30 of 1997. In order to fulfill this responsibility, the Department of Education works cooperatively with the Department of Public Welfare, the Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board to insure that prevention and intervention services are provided in a timely, coordinated, and effective manner.

The primary source of funding for these efforts within the Department of Education is the federal SDFSC program. For the fiscal year 2007-2008, a little over \$10 million in federal SDFSC funds were distributed by formula grants to public and nonpublic schools throughout the Commonwealth. As a result, over 2 million Pennsylvania students were served by this program. As a condition of receiving these federal funds, school districts must provide documentation to the Department that they have consulted with staff, parents, students, and their Drug and Alcohol Single County Authority (SCA) prior to applying for funds. A copy of each school district's fully-approved contract is forwarded to their respective SCA.

The SDFSC program is the cornerstone of youth alcohol and other drug prevention and intervention efforts within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It provides effective programs, services and activities, such as K-12 science-based prevention curricula, student assistance programs, youth development support, peer counseling, bullying prevention, crisis management planning, safe school planning, parent programs, and gang prevention training. It also provides

training in drug and violence prevention to teachers and other school staff throughout the state. Funds from the program are used to recruit partners who commit additional resources and manpower to make programs optimally effective for their communities. This program has historically been a catalyst for community involvement, volunteerism, and the leveraging of funding from other sources to address alcohol, drug and violence prevention and intervention throughout Pennsylvania.

### *Pennsylvania's Academic Standards*

The use and abuse of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs by youth in our Commonwealth continues to pose one of the most serious problems facing educators, parents and communities. Section 1547 of the PA School Code, enacted as Act 211 of 1990, requires school districts to implement a comprehensive tobacco, alcohol and other drugs program, including instruction, in the classroom.

Section 1547 requires each public school student to receive instruction in alcohol, chemical and tobacco abuse in every year in every grade from kindergarten to grade 12. While the law requires universal instruction for all students, it does not prescribe the curriculum, methodology, or content of the courses of study. The law requires that the instruction be age appropriate, sequential, and that it discourages the use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, and communicates that the use of illicit drugs and the improper use of legally obtained drugs is wrong. The law does not require local schools to set up an independent course of study but encourages the integration of instruction in health or other appropriate courses of study.

The state academic standards are benchmark measures that define what students should know and what they should be able to do at specified grade levels, beginning in grade 3. The standards are promulgated as state regulations. As such, they must be used as the basis for curriculum and



instruction in Pennsylvania's public schools. The third grade academic standard under Concepts of Health, for example, states that students must know age appropriate drug information such as the definition of drugs and their effects, and be provided with the skills to avoid drug use. For twelfth graders, the academic standard requires students to be able to evaluate issues relating to the use/non-use of drugs, the psychology of addiction, the social impact of drugs, the effects of chemical use on fetal development, and the laws relating to alcohol use.

Although all school districts are required to provide alcohol, tobacco, and other drug education to every student in every grade, they are permitted to choose the curriculum that best fits their needs. Under the federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program, however, school districts are required to utilize programs that are grounded in scientifically-based research that clearly demonstrate their effectiveness in addressing the targeted behavior. The use of such scientifically-based programs to prevent the underage use of alcohol varies across the Commonwealth. Examples of the most widely used programs include Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS), Botvin's Life Skills Training, Lions Quest Skills for Adolescents, and Guiding Good Choices.

*Students Against Drunk Driving or Students Against Destructive Decision (S.A.D.D.)*

Many schools have S.A.D.D. groups that utilize peer influence to prevent alcohol use by underage individuals. These youth-led groups promote the development of leadership skills in their members while spreading the message that the use of alcohol by underage youth is not only illegal, but destructive to the health and well-being of our youth. The Pennsylvania D.U.I. Association provides a staff person to provide statewide coordination and activities to local S.A.D.D. groups. For example, the Association invites group members to come to Harrisburg once a year. The attendees receive training on such topics as how the media influences early

alcohol use and how to have your voice heard by state legislators. School districts can utilize their federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools funds to support these activities.

*Commonwealth Student Assistance Program (SAP)*

Act 211 of 1990 provides that: "...the Secretary of Education, shall recommend to the General Assembly a plan to require and assist each school district to establish and maintain a program to provide appropriate counseling and support services to students who experience problems related to the use of drugs, alcohol, and dangerous controlled substances." On April 19, 1991, the Secretary of Education named the Commonwealth Student Assistance Program (K-12) to fulfill the requirement to "...identify high risk students who are having problems due to alcohol or drug use, depression, or other mental health problems; and intervene and refer these students to appropriate community services."

The SAP team process revolves around a core team at the school building level. The team, composed of school staff and community-based drug and alcohol and mental health representatives, meets on a regular basis to process referrals from teachers, students, and parents. If the referral is deemed appropriate, the student's parent is contacted and permission is obtained to work with the student. During the 2006-2007 school year, a little over 78,000 students were referred to teams across the Commonwealth.

An Interagency Committee provides coordination and direction to the Commonwealth's Student Assistance Program. The committee is composed of representatives from the Departments of Education, Public Welfare, and Health. The committee meets on a regular basis to insure that all components of the SAP process are operating in conformance to applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines. The majority of school districts in the Commonwealth utilize some portion of their federal Safe and Drug-Free schools funds to support these activities.

*22 Pa. Code, Chapter 12: Students and Student Services*

Students may face a number of barriers to learning that include: bullying, child abuse/neglect, cultural diversity, divorce/blended families, drug and alcohol use/abuse, English language learning, family issues, grief and loss, homelessness, immigration status, low socioeconomic status, mental health issues, military deployment, physical illness, poor nutrition, relocation, sporadic parental involvement, teen pregnancy/parenting, unemployment of parent/guardian and being a victim or witness to violence. These barriers to learning need to be addressed in order to maintain student achievement, graduation rates, and the health and safety of students.

Student services, also known as learning supports, address these barriers in order to promote student achievement and well-being. 22 Pa. Code, Chapter 12, requires school districts to promote a comprehensive and integrated student services program based on the needs of its students, as evidenced by the submission of a Pre-K-12 Student Services Plan. Chapter 12 provides an opportunity for school districts to:

- Evaluate the different student support services provided and strategically connect with community resources to fill in gaps in services, particularly the Coordination/Consultation services tier where students with multiple needs are served.
- Develop a comprehensive, integrated, systemic view of student services that transcends beyond the specialized interventions of counselors, nurses, psychologists, and social workers.
- Integrate non-academic supports in school improvement planning.
- Strategically integrate student services and supports with effective practices toward successful student achievement.

- Prepare a Student Record Plan consistent with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and directives.
- Prepare a written Student Services Plan consistent with Strategic Plan requirements outlined in Chapter 4 and include developmental, diagnostic, and consultative services.
- Prohibit the use of corporal punishment as a form of student discipline.
- Set timelines for disciplinary hearings.
- Clarify students' rights and free expression.
- Plan and provide Student Assistance Programs for all school entities.

### *Student Drug Testing Programs*

The definition of “drug” includes controlled substances; the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and prescription drugs; and the harmful, abusive, or addictive use of substances, including inhalants, and anabolic steroids. School districts may utilize their federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools funds to support the development of student drug testing programs. The U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools also authorize discretionary grant funds to support the development of student drug testing programs. The drug testing funded by these grants must be part of a comprehensive drug-prevention programs in the school served. These programs are not viewed as disciplinary processes. They must provide referral to treatment or counseling of students identified as drug users. Two local educational agencies from Pennsylvania were successful in their bid to receive such funding. For the 2008-2009 school year, the Franklin Towne Charter High School in Philadelphia and the North Schuylkill School District each received student drug testing grants of around \$130,000. Although most drug testing protocols only check for the presence of illegal drugs such as amphetamines, marijuana, and heroin, alcohol screening can also be included in the battery of tests.

Additionally, schools can purchase hand-held alcohol breathalyzer devices for use in screening students.

### *School Safety and Drug/Alcohol Policy Violation Reporting*

The Safe Schools Act, Act 26 of 1995, requires school districts to report acts of annual violence and drug and alcohol violations to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. For the 2006-2007 school year, a total of 82,267 incidents were reported. Of this total, 714 or less than 1% were related to the “sale, possession, use, transfer or under the influence of alcohol.”

### *Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Student Assistance Program Websites*

The Pennsylvania Department of Education, either directly or through contractual agreements, maintains publicly accessible websites where information on alcohol abuse, underage drinking, and intervention services can be accessed. These consist of:

- Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities:
  - [www.pde.state.pa.us/sdfsc](http://www.pde.state.pa.us/sdfsc)
- Student Assistance Program:
  - [www.sap.state.pa.us](http://www.sap.state.pa.us)
- Center for Safe Schools:
  - [www.safeschools.info.about.php](http://www.safeschools.info.about.php)
- School Safety Data:
  - [www.safeschools.state.pa.us](http://www.safeschools.state.pa.us)
- Resiliency/Wellness:
  - [www.pde.state.pa.us/svcs\\_students](http://www.pde.state.pa.us/svcs_students)

### *The Resiliency/Wellness Approach*

The Resiliency/Wellness Approach is based upon six key environmental protective factors or positive human development domains. If these domains are strongly and well implemented in schools, they will promote positive social-emotional development, and will support student academic achievement in the *Standards-Aligned System*. The Resiliency/Wellness Approach also emphasizes the strengthening of individual personal protective factors such as self-motivation, humor, flexibility, creativity, perseverance, and love of learning. The “Resiliency Model for Organizing Schools” is a systemic approach for moving children and youth “from risk to resiliency,” with an emphasis on what educators can do to maximize protective factors in our youth.

Student Services Planning is an integral part of School Improvement Planning; for example, school districts should use guiding questions to determine if their schools are resiliency-building institutions. A resilient school has three tiers of intervention for their students:

- Developmental/Foundation Interventions are universal school-wide support and prevention programs designed for all students as part of the normal development, such as school-wide positive behavior supports.
- Diagnostic, Information and Referral/Selected and Targeted Interventions, such as the Student Assistance Program (SA), are designed for students who are experiencing problems.
- Consultation and Coordination Services/Intensive Interventions, such as assignment of students to Alternative Education, are designed for students experiencing chronic problems.

*The Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting Act*

The Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting Act (Act 180) requires that all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies shall report statistical information related to the number and nature of offenses occurring within their respective jurisdictions, the disposition of such matters and such other related information as the Pennsylvania State Police may require. Each institution of higher education shall annually report crime statistics and rates to the State Police in the form and manner required by the State Police, for publication in the Pennsylvania uniform crime report, *Crime in Pennsylvania*. (22 Pa. Code § 33.111a). The Uniform Crime Reporting Act requires that each institution of higher education shall provide, to every person who submits an application for admission, a statement of policy regarding the possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages.

Annually, each institution of higher education shall publish a crime report containing the crime statistics and crime rates for the most recent 3-year period. (22 Pa. Code § 33.111b). The institution shall distribute an updated crime report for the most recent 3-year period to all its students and employees. The report shall be distributed to students and employees by mail or some other means determined by the institution. (22 Pa. Code § 33.112).

Annually, on or before March 1, the president of each institution of higher education, or the president's designee, shall file with the Department of Education an assurance statement attesting to the institution's compliance with the Act and this chapter. (22 Pa. Code § 33.131a). An institution of higher education shall make its published crime reports and security procedures available to the Office of Attorney General or the Department of Education upon request. (22 Pa. Code § 33.131d).

*Pennsylvania Department of Health  
Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs*

*Structure*

In 1972, the General Assembly established a health, education, and rehabilitation program for the prevention and treatment of drug and alcohol abuse through the enactment of the Pennsylvania Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act, Act 1972-63, as amended, 71 P.S. § 1690.101 *et seq.* This law established the Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, which was to be chaired by the Governor. The Council was subsequently reorganized through Reorganization Plan 1981-4, which transferred its responsibilities and its administrative authorities to the Department of Health (Department). The Council was designated as the advisory body to the Department on issues surrounding drug and alcohol programs. Act 1985-119 amended Act 1972-63, changing the name of the Council to the Pennsylvania Advisory Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse and designated the Secretary of Health, or his designee, as the chairperson. The Pennsylvania Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act requires the Department to develop a state plan for the control, prevention, intervention, treatment, rehabilitation, research, education, and training aspects of drug and alcohol abuse and dependence problems. Since the Council's inception, the provision of publicly-funded drug and alcohol treatment and prevention services has had a strong community orientation through a system of Single County Authorities (SCAs). Some of the Commonwealth's 67 counties have opted to share administrative costs by creating multi-county administrative units, referred to as joiners, resulting in the established SCAs, which currently number 49.

As it is important to understand and address risk factors at the local level, the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Program's (BDAP's) defines the parameters for a statewide system of SCAs that have the responsibility of assisting BDAP in planning for community based drug and alcohol services, to include assessing needs, managing and allocating resources, and evaluating the



effectiveness of prevention, intervention, treatment, and case management services. BDAP oversees the network of SCAs and performs central planning, management, and monitoring duties, while the SCAs provide planning and administrative oversight for the provision of drug and alcohol services at the local level. Most SCAs contract with providers for treatment, prevention, intervention, and case management services, although some SCAs provide these services directly and are commonly referred to as "functional units."

#### *Planning and Delivery of Services by the SCAs*

It is the intent of BDAP to further the advancement and implementation of substance abuse prevention policies and practices throughout the Commonwealth based on proven methodologies. These methods are based on the latest research within the substance abuse field. This work is carried out in conjunction with SCAs and their contracted prevention providers and allows SCAs the flexibility to tailor service delivery based on identified needs and risk factors. Accomplishing strategic goals and objectives and the attainment of measurable outcomes is done in collaboration with local and state partners. BDAP mandates that the SCAs develop a comprehensive plan to advance community-based programs, policies and practices for substance abuse prevention and mental health promotion, and align them with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthier US initiative. The idea is to use public health research findings and apply this knowledge, along with evidence-based prevention programs that promote mental health and prevent substance abuse, to create healthier communities. BDAP is incorporating the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) model into the SCA planning process in order to enhance the process used by the SCAs to develop their plan. The SPF model provides a five-step process: a) assessment/prioritization; b) capacity; c) planning; d) implementation; and e) evaluation. Throughout all five steps, the process must address issues of cultural competence and sustainability.



### *Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG)*

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) has entered into a cooperative agreement with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) to administer a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) until June 30, 2012. The SPF SIG goals are to:

- Prevent the onset and reduce the progression of substance abuse, including childhood and underage drinking;
- Reduce substance abuse-related problems in the communities; and
- Build prevention capacity and infrastructure at the State/Tribal and community levels.

Seventeen Single County Authorities received funding for this initiative in 2008:

Armstrong/Indiana, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Chester, Crawford, Delaware, Erie, Greene, Huntingdon/Mifflin/Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Mercer, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Washington, and Westmoreland.

The focus of the SPF SIG is to reduce alcohol use and related problems among persons 11 through 21 years of age. Each grantee will be focusing on one or two of the following priorities:

- To prevent (reduce) the early initiation and regular use of alcohol in middle and high

school;

- To prevent (reduce) drinking and driving among persons ages 16 through 21; and
- To reduce the illegal use and misuse of alcohol among persons ages 18 through 21.

The success of State and community alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention efforts lies, in part, in the effective use of data to identify problems, plan and monitor the effectiveness of prevention strategies. To facilitate the use of data in prevention decision-making, Pennsylvania established and maintains the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW). The SEOW consists of a network of individuals and organizations that are knowledgeable about alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug data and prevention issues. The SEOW conducts careful data reviews and analyses on the causes and consequences of substance use to guide prevention decision-making.

The primary mission of the SEOW—improving prevention assessment, planning, implementation and monitoring efforts through the application of systematic, analytical thinking about the causes and consequences of substance use—is carried out by collecting, analyzing, interpreting and applying State and community level epidemiological data. The ongoing work and process of the SEOW operationalizes the SPF SIG objective to use data to improve the planning, implementation, and evaluation of prevention practice. The Pennsylvania SEOW completed the development of the State Epidemiological Profile in March 2007 and is available at [www.health.state.pa.us/bdap](http://www.health.state.pa.us/bdap) (prevention/SPF SIG and SEOW). The Epidemiological Profile for Pennsylvania will be updated in 2009.

### *Programs Addressing Underage Drinking*

SCAs plan and deliver program services by considering and addressing underage drinking

risk and protective factors, youth attitudes towards use, youth perceived risk attitudes concerning consumption, and by tracking social indicator data. SCAs and its service providers deliver programs, which are categorized as *Evidence-based, Innovative, and Generic programs*. These programs are defined as follows:

Evidence-based Programs include strategies, activities, approaches, and programs which are:

- Shown through research and evaluation to be effective in the prevention and/or delay of substance use/abuse;
- Grounded in a clear theoretical foundation and have been carefully implemented;
- Evaluation findings have been subjected to critical review by other researchers; and
- Replicated and produce desired results in a variety of settings.

Innovative Programs meet the following criteria:

- Program/principle has been identified or recognized publicly, and has received awards, honors, or mentions;
- Program/principle has appeared in a non-referenced professional publication or journal (it is important to distinguish between citations found in professional publications and those found in journals); and
- BDAP will consider programs that were purchased from a developer to be Innovative Programs (Examples of these types of programs include: Babes, Project Meds, Parent-to-Parent, etc).

Generic Programs are defined as programs which:

- Capture activities that are not otherwise specified as an evidence-based or innovative program; and

- Provide basic alcohol tobacco and other drug awareness/education as well as everyday alternative prevention activities.

Each of the three program categories listed above must include single services and/or recurring services types. Single and Recurring Services are defined as follows:

Single Service Type – single prevention services are one-time activities that, through the practice or application of recognized prevention strategies, are intended to inform or educate general and specific populations about substance use or abuse. (Examples: Health Fairs, Speaking Engagements).

Recurring Service Type – recurring prevention services are a pre-planned and recurring sequence of multiple, structured activities that, through the practice or application of recognized prevention strategies, are intended to inform, educate, develop skills, deliver services, and/or provide referrals to other services to enroll participants at risk for substance use or abuse. A recurring prevention activity needs to have an anticipated measurable outcome, to include but not limited to Pre/Post Test. (Ex. Classroom Education, Peer Leadership Programs, Peer Mentoring, and ATOD Free Activities Recurring.)

### *Innovative Programs*

#### Beginning Alcohol and Addictions Basic Education Studies (BABES)

A K-3 grade prevention program aimed at D&A issues, Self Image, Decision Making and Coping Skills.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
14410	-	4785	-

### Girls on Track

Girls on Track is a program designed for 6th - 8th grade girls that encourages positive emotional, social, mental, spiritual, and physical development. The goal of the program is fewer adolescent pregnancies and eating disorders, less depression and suicide attempts, as well as fewer substance/alcohol abuse problems and confrontations with the juvenile justice system.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
30	-	30	-

### Safe Homes Parents Network

The Safe Homes Parents Network is a project for all parents of children who are in pre-kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The network provides parents with the resources to unite in a clear NO USE message to youth that "there will be NO USE of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, other drugs or violence" in their homes or on their property. By committing to the Safe

Homes Pledge, parents will support other parents in the supervision and limit setting of their children and youth.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
-	3362	-	24

### Stay on Track

Stay on Track is a middle-school-targeted program administered by the National Guard Counter-Drug Program for 6th-8th grade, which combines sound prevention science principles with the popular appeal of motor sports. Stay on Track uses motor sport analogies throughout the program to introduce and reinforce important concepts.

Topics covered include:

- Consequences of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use
- Stress Management Skills
- Normative Behavior
- Decision-Making Skills
- Goal-Setting Skills
- Communication Skills
- Media Influence
- School, Peer, and Family Bonding

\*Special emphasis throughout the program is given to alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and

inhalant use, due to their prevalence among middle school students.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
2414	171	1139	3

### Student Assistance Program

Intervention service provided within the school setting intended to identify and address problems negatively impacting student academic and social growth such as underage drinking. Services include assessment, consultation, referral, and/or small group education for SAP identified youth. The services are provided by cross-disciplinary staff including substance abuse and mental health professionals.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
4685	150064	8041	45206

### Too Smart to Start

An underage alcohol use prevention initiative for parents, caregivers, and their 9 to-13 year-old children.



SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
Number of Participants / Attendees		Number of Services	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
55	-	74	-

### *Generic Programs*

#### DUI Education/Intervention Program

This program is used to educate individuals who have been convicted of DUI violations and provides intervention services when needed.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
Number of Participants / Attendees		Number of Services	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
1952	307	607	19

#### Underage Drinking Program

This program is used to raise awareness/educate those individuals who have been convicted of underage drinking and to provide intervention services when needed.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
Number of Participants / Attendees		Number of Services	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
3428	657	1682	115

### Parenting Programs

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
Number of Participants / Attendees		Number of Services	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
3424	15568	2421	2113

SCAs and SCA providers also provide other types of services throughout the Commonwealth which include a component on addressing alcohol issues and/or underage drinking such as After School Programs, Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Abuse Support, Alternative Activities, Community Events, Community Prevention Partnerships, Education Sessions, Environmental Prevention Projects, Information Dissemination, In-Service Training, Intervention Programs, Prevention Program Marketing and/or Development, Prevention Training, Employee Assistance Programs, and Leadership/ Mentoring Programs.

### *State Level Coordination of Services*

While SCAs and SCA providers deliver services at the local level, BDAP also provides State-level coordination of services to address underage drinking.

### Underage Drinking Town Hall Meetings

The BDAP works with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in collaboration with the Federal Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking (ICCPUD), in supporting Town Hall Meetings on underage drinking across the country during the last week of March. Since 2006, these meetings have

addressed the serious public health and safety problems of underage drinking within local communities. By holding the meetings on or around the same date, each community will not only address the issue locally, but will become part of the national effort. At least 45 agencies/coalitions throughout approximately 35 Pennsylvania counties held Town Hall Meetings within their communities in 2008. Each meeting was aimed toward bringing together public officials, parents and youth with community leaders and organizations in health, education, law enforcement, highway safety, and alcohol control to learn more about the science and consequences of underage drinking. These meetings discuss how communities can best prevent underage alcohol use by reducing demand, availability, and access.

#### Tutorial Program-Getting Back Alive

Getting Back Alive is a school-based prevention program focused on educating teenagers on the dangerous consequences of drinking and driving or riding with someone that has been drinking. The three main goals of the program are to inspire/motivate students to think about: making a plan for not drinking and driving, making a plan to call for a safe way home if they are out drinking, and to be less likely (following the program) to ride with someone who has been drinking. The program is targeted to students in grades 9-11 and is presented in the form of open discussion, a DVD of drunk driving TV spots, and personal testimonies of victims of drunk driving. The program was delivered to students during the spring semester of 2007. Based on evaluation forms, 2,152 students participated in the program.

#### Full Apologies.com

The Pennsylvania Department of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Governor's Office and Drug Free PA, Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board and the Pennsylvania

Department of Education have collaborated efforts to stop teens from drinking and driving and decrease the amount of fatalities/incidences amongst -- teens 14-17 years old. The goal is to educate teens about alternative plans of action after they have consumed alcohol -- contrary to them getting behind the wheel of a car. A campaign that includes TV and a new web site, FullApologies.com was created to accomplish these goals. The web site includes extended versions of the five 30-second TV spots to provide the back-story. The 5 spots are students apologizing to family members and/or friends for drinking and driving and being responsible for the alcohol related crash that killed their passenger. After reviewing the extended apologies, teens are able to post their own apologies to the site. The total number of hits received on the website during July 2007 was 16,794,762 and click through during July 2007 was 32,464.

In conclusion, BDAP encourages SCAs and prevention providers throughout the state to utilize evidence-based and innovative prevention programs as a part of their Comprehensive Program Plan within their counties and requires that at least 25% of services delivered within each SCA must be provided through a combination of evidence-based and innovative programs combined. This, along with the administering of “generic programs” developed by local prevention providers based on local community needs has proven to be a highly successful and effective way of reducing risk factors associated with substance use/abuse.

*List of programs used by SCAs and SCA service providers in Pennsylvania during the State Fiscal Years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008.*

#### Class Action

Class Action is part of the Project Northland school-based alcohol-use prevention curriculum series that significantly reduces increased alcohol use and binge drinking by high school students. A program for youth in grades 9 through 12, Class Action—Delays the onset of

alcohol use; Reduces use among youth who have already tried alcohol; Limits the number of alcohol-related problems experienced by young drinkers.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
147	-	88	-

#### Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA)

Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA) is a community-organizing program designed to reduce adolescent (13 to 20 years old) access to alcohol by changing community policies and practices. Initiated in 1991, CMCA has proven that effectively limiting the access of alcohol to people under the legal drinking age not only directly reduces teen drinking, but also communicates a clear message to the community that underage drinking is inappropriate and unacceptable.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
-	1993	-	166

### Girl Power!

Girl Power is a substance use–prevention program for girls 10–15 years old. The 32-week program teaches a strong “no use” message about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs while providing opportunities for girls to build skills and self-confidence in academics, arts, sports, and other endeavors.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
487	-	578	-

### Project ALERT

Project ALERT is a drug prevention curriculum for middle-school students (11 to 14 years old), which dramatically reduces both the onset and regular use of substances. The 2-year, 14-lesson program focuses on the substances that adolescents are most likely to use: alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and inhalants.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
13599	11114	5572	480

### Project Northland

Project Northland is a multilevel, multiyear program proven to delay the age at which young people begin drinking, reduce alcohol use among those who have already tried drinking, and limit the number of alcohol-related problems of young drinkers. Designed for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students (10 to 14 years old), Project Northland addresses both individual behavioral change and environmental change.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
2781	41	198	4

### Smart Leaders

SMART Leaders is a curriculum-based program that uses role-playing, group activities, and discussion to promote social and decision-making skills in racially diverse 14 to 17-year-olds. As participants advance in the program, they are involved in educational discussions on alcohol, tobacco, and drugs and have the opportunity to recruit other youth for the program and assist with sessions offered to younger boys and girls.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
23	2	24	2

### Too Good For Drugs (TGFD)

Too Good For Drugs (TGFD) is a school-based prevention program designed to reduce the intention to use alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs in middle and high school students.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
33091	-	14185	-

### Woodrock Youth Development Program

The Woodrock Youth Development Program (YDP) is a school-based substance abuse prevention program designed to prevent or reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, raise awareness about the dangers of use, improve self-esteem, school attendance, and attitudes toward racial and ethnic diversity, and reduce aggressive attitudes and behaviors among at-risk elementary and middle school minority youth. The YDP program model comprises three intervention components: (1) education, including human relations and life-skills seminars in which role playing and other simulations relevant to drug-use situations are incorporated; (2) a program of structured alternative extracurricular activities both after school and on weekends; and (3) peer mediation. YDP features comprehensive and integrated services that are implemented over the course of the school year.

- Human relations curriculum: Classes intended to raise self-awareness about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, promote healthy attitudes about use



and foster self-esteem are held weekly.

- After school program: mediator's club, mural arts, outdoor activities, and peer mediation program.
- Overnights: students participate in team building and resiliency activities at a training center.

SFY 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 combined			
<i>Number of Participants / Attendees</i>		<i>Number of Services</i>	
Recurring Services' Participants	Single Services' Attendees	Number of Recurring Services	Number of Single Services
273	310	74	15

*Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)*

Cops In Shops is an underage drinking prevention program developed by The Century Council. It is designed to deter minors from attempting to buy alcohol and to deter adults from purchasing alcohol for minors. During a Cops In Shops operation, local police in plain-clothes work undercover both inside and outside licensed establishments, beer distributors, and wine and spirits stores. In calendar year 2007, over one hundred (100) Cops In Shops operations were conducted with over four thousand (4,000) identification checks completed during these operations. Cops In Shops is a joint program between the PLCB and PennDOT, which provides grant moneys for officer overtime to do the operations. PennDOT also provides statistical information and data as requested by agencies such as the PLCB and the BLCE for grant proposals and reports.

*The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board  
Bureau of Alcohol Education*

Since the Bureau's creation in 1994, the Bureau of Alcohol Education has been promoting and delivering a message of "zero tolerance" and "no use" of alcohol for individuals under 21, as well as the responsible and moderate use of alcohol by adults age 21 or over. The Bureau continues to maintain its distinction as a nationally recognized leader among state beverage control agencies that are active in education and prevention.

To accomplish our objectives, the Bureau:

- Provides technical assistance, training, and funding to colleges, universities, school districts, non-profit organizations, and law enforcement agencies throughout the Commonwealth, to help them combat underage and high-risk alcohol use.
  - Since 1999, our Bureau has awarded over \$3 million in grants to more than 210 schools and communities throughout the Commonwealth to help combat underage and high-risk drinking.
  - Develop and disseminate a wide variety of free alcohol education materials.
- Distributes approximately 3 million educational materials every year; some of our materials and programs serve as models for other states' prevention efforts.
- Works closely with numerous state agencies and the federal government to implement effective and promising prevention programs and techniques.
- Conducts training programs, offer technical assistance and consultation services to school districts, colleges and universities, adults, and alcohol beverage licensees.
- Attends and participates in local, regional, state, and national events to disseminate and discuss appropriate messages.

- Utilizes the PLCB's resources to increase public awareness of our mission.
- Develops and maintains websites to deliver information and interact with the public.
- Promotes, trains, and offers guidance in developing responsible alcohol beverage services and practices among licensees and persons who serve alcoholic beverages in Pennsylvania.

*Pennsylvania State Police  
Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (BLCE)*

The BLCE's mission is to maintain or improve the quality of life for the citizens of the Commonwealth through education and ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Liquor Code, Title 40 and related statutes. The BLCE's purpose is to enforce the Commonwealth's liquor laws. To effectively achieve State Police goals and objectives, the BLCE must assist individual licensees, as well as the general community, in understanding the laws and regulations governing the proper and lawful operation of a licensed liquor establishment. In 2006, the BLCE investigated 15,662 incidents resulting in 2,998 violation letters, 2,604 warning letters, 1,848 non-traffic citations, and 128 criminal complaints. In 2007, the BLCE investigated 14,265 incidents resulting in 3,142 violation letters, 2,524 warning letters, 2,322 non-traffic citations, and 152 criminal complaints. As of September 30, 2008, the BLCE has investigated 11,579 incidents resulting in 2,448 violation letters, 1,915 warning letters, 2,521 non-traffic citations, and 134 criminal complaints.

The BLCE offers a number of programs to reduce and eliminate underage drinking. The programs include:

*Hotline Number*

The hotline was established by the BLCE as part of former Governor Ridge's partnership with parents, students, community leaders, law enforcement officers, and university officials to combat underage and high risk drinking across Pennsylvania. The information obtained from this line (1-888-UNDER 21 [1-888-863-3721]) is directed to the Pennsylvania State Police Consolidated Dispatch Center (CDC) in Harrisburg and forwarded to the appropriate agency. Callers, who can be anonymous, are encouraged to provide tips about planned events involving underage drinkers or about parties already underway. The Pennsylvania State Police refer calls

that require immediate attention directly to the proper agency for whatever action that agency deems appropriate. In 2005, the hotline received 248 calls about drinking parties and 39 calls regarding minors being served alcohol. In 2006, the hotline received 181 calls about drinking parties and 41 calls regarding minors being served alcohol. In 2007, the hotline received 162 calls about drinking parties and 42 calls regarding minors being served alcohol. As of September 30, 2008, the hotline received 122 calls about drinking parties and 33 calls regarding minors being served alcohol.

#### *Minor Patrols*

Minor patrols involve an assignment of more than one Enforcement Officer within a District Enforcement Office to randomly inspect licensed establishments for the illegal sales of alcoholic beverages to minors.

#### *Age Compliance Program*

The Pennsylvania State Police have been granted authority, under Act 141, to work with Underage Buyer volunteers between the ages of 18 and 20 to purchase alcoholic beverages in a controlled environment. This program was developed over a two-year period and was implemented in Pennsylvania starting in January 2005. Underage Buyers, interns from the various colleges/universities throughout Pennsylvania, work in conjunction with Liquor Enforcement Officers to enter liquor-licensed establishments and attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages. If the establishment serves the Underage Buyer, a Liquor Enforcement Officer immediately notifies them about the Age Compliance check and administrative action is taken. In 2006, 1,143 compliance checks were conducted resulting in 648 licensees being found in compliance and 495 (43.31%) in non-compliance. In 2007, 1,334 compliance checks were

conducted resulting in 751 licensees being found in compliance and 583 (43.70%) in non-compliance. As of September 30, 2008, 964 compliance checks were conducted resulting in 564 licensees being found in compliance and 400 (41.49%) in non-compliance.

### *Choices Program*

Choices is a culturally diverse alcohol awareness program, presented by the BLCE, which addresses the consequences of underage drinking. This program acknowledges that alcohol and other drugs are part of school life for many students and encourages them to educate themselves regarding the effects of alcohol and other substances on their mental, physical, and emotional well-being. The program's goals are to encourage students to make intelligent decisions and to consider a wide range of healthy alternatives. The program is presented to students at the middle and high school level, college and university level, throughout the Commonwealth's seven Catholic Dioceses, at health fairs and during Camp Cadet weeks.

Instructors are Pennsylvania State Police Liquor Enforcement Officers who discuss the law, penalties, peer pressure, and the consequences of choosing to engage in underage drinking. Additionally, the Officers are well-versed in alcoholic beverage consumption trends and issues related to educating youth.

The Choices Program at the college level provides a valuable opportunity for the BLCE to participate in campus community alliances. The program not only tries to motivate the college age students to make good choices, but it also provides an opportunity for Bureau representatives to explain the laws and consequences in the event incorrect choices are made. From the year 2001 thru 2005, over 1,900 programs in Choices were held reaching over 94,000 students. In 2006, 386 presentations were made reaching 13,487 students. In 2007, 234 presentations were made reaching 10,823 students. As of September 30, 2008, 196 presentations were made

reaching 11,615 students.

### *College Enforcement Initiative and Public Awareness Program*

In an effort to provide a more visible deterrent presence to students at select colleges and universities in Pennsylvania, the BLCE initiated a cooperative program with local and university law enforcement agencies. This initiative is undertaken as students begin the fall semester at colleges and universities across the Commonwealth, and its intent is to preempt alcohol-related problems at identified locations during the first thirty days of classes. This program was initiated at locations identified by each District Enforcement Office as a college or university town that has a higher than average rate of underage drinking violations when compared to other similar locations within the District Enforcement Office area. Incidents of underage drinking, underage driving under the influence, disorderly conduct, and other similar alcohol-related offenses were weighed when selecting locations to conduct this program. Also, specific requests for assistance from municipal police agencies are evaluated as received.

Tactics used by the BLCE included undercover officers, both inside and outside licensed liquor establishments, conducting surveillance for minors, uniformed officers stationed outside licensed liquor establishments to provide investigative and arrest support to municipal police agencies, conducting minor patrols in and around popular locations for underage drinking, and uniformed patrols in college dormitories to increase the awareness of BLCE presence on campus. In addition, meetings were scheduled with licensees close to college campus communities in order to educate them of this program and to increase the awareness regarding underage drinking. Finally, contact was made with State Police installations statewide in an effort to provide a coordinated response regarding this program and any enforcement efforts being planned by the local stations.



**Emerging Efforts to Combat Underage and High-Risk Drinking:  
Parent Interventions**

According to a recent report released by SAMHSA, a greater number of adolescents reported using alcohol in the past thirty days when compared to adolescents who used cigarettes or other illicit drugs (SAMHSA, 2008). In fact, nearly 60% more adolescents used alcohol when compared with cigarette usage in 2007. The fact is that today's youth are being bombarded with messages about drinking and it is not only from the alcohol industry. A recent report indicated that more than half of Walt Disney's movies from 1937 to 1997 portrayed the use of alcohol in some form or manner but they were not alone (Escobar-Chaves & Anderson, 2008). The same report also noted that more than half of the G-rated animated movies for purchase or rental before October 31, 2000, contained scenes of alcohol use. This is not to say that we should stop watching or renting these movies but rather as a society, we should take a greater responsibility for the messages that today's youth receive.

A recent study showed that individuals who saw just one more alcohol-related advertisement, had on average an increase of 1% in alcohol consumption per month (Snyder, Milici, Slater, Sun & Struzhakova, 2006). Understanding that 1% is not a very large increase, we must keep in mind that underage drinking cost the United States approximately \$60.3 billion in 2005, which translated to a cost of \$2,094 per year for each youth in the nation (The International Institute for Alcohol Awareness, 2006). Other research has reported that underage drinking costs our society approximately \$3 per illegal drink (Escobar-Chaves & Anderson, 2008). Also, research continues to show that the earlier youths begin to drink alcohol, the more likely they are to develop alcohol abuse or dependence issues. It is generally agreed upon by the scientific community that if a youth begins drinking before he or she turns 15, he or she is four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence and is two and a half times more likely to abuse alcohol than those who wait until they are 21 to begin drinking (NIAAA, 2006).

In addition to the monetary harm that alcohol has on society, there continues to be new and

emerging research on how exactly alcohol affects the adolescent mind and brain development. Drinking alcohol during adolescence and young adulthood has been found to have a profound effect on the development of the brain, especially the hippocampal volume, which is critical to one's learning new information and forming memories (Tapert, Caldwell & Burke, 2004). Heavy use of alcohol during these years as a youth has found to decrease the size of the hippocampi thus resulting in severe impairment of memory function and "could possibly represent an early stage in the continuum of alcohol-related brain damage" (Tapert, et al., 2004).

With all of these studies about costs, the knowledge of how alcohol affects brain, and with more adolescents meeting the DSM-IV criteria for alcohol dependence or abuse than for dependence or abuse of illicit drugs, it is amazing that a 2008 SAMHSA news release reported that more than 40% of our nation's current underage drinkers were provided free alcohol by adults (SAMHSA, 2008). The same news releases revealed that 650,000 of these youth were actually given alcohol by their own parents or guardians. Youths today are looking for role models and it is time for the parents to perform their role as a parent and take responsibility for their child's use of alcohol.

It is understood by the prevention community that youths often form their opinions about things, such as alcohol consumption, from a variety of factors including but not limited to parents' attitudes and use of alcohol, peers, advertising, and even their own siblings' behaviors and beliefs. There have been numerous articles that have highlighted what seems to be an effective method in curbing youths' underage, high-risk, and illegal use of alcohol. Dr. Turrissi, a professor of biobehavioral health at the Prevention Research Center at Penn State University, has noted the importance of parents talking openly with their children about alcohol in a recent article that appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* (Brink, 2008). In this article, Dr. Turrissi discusses his 2000 study in which he found that those incoming freshmen who viewed alcohol as a social

lubricant were more likely to suffer a negative consequence of drinking (i.e. fights, blackouts, and unwanted sexual situations). However, those students who learned at home that drinking was normal behavior were less likely to have suffered a negative consequence as the result of drinking. This is not to say that parents should provide their children with alcohol, but rather, they should open the lines of communication and discuss the responsibility that comes along with drinking alcohol. Dr. Turrisi's study also found that teens who drank with an adult present at a party were twice as likely to have engaged in binge drinking.

Dr. Turrisi's research includes the utilization of a scientifically-based parent intervention technique that has revealed drinking is lowest among teens who came from homes with above average monitoring and utilized his proposed parent intervention technique (Turrisi). This approach uses the parent as a "source" or "messenger" and provides the parent with a model on how to effectively communicate with his/her teen in a way which will have a positive impact on the teen's decisions regarding the use of alcohol. Further proof of the effectiveness of this program was discovered when drinking was "significantly higher for teens that came from homes that are above average in monitoring that have not participated in the intervention" (Turrisi). This finding is significant in that it shows a parent who merely monitors his or her teen will not have the same positive behavioral impact as those parents who utilize the parental intervention technique. It is through this technique that the parent is able to have a positive impact on his or her child's decisions regarding alcohol.

In addition to Dr. Turrisi's research, new research has begun to imply that parental monitoring of high school teens may have an impact on the mediation of the consumption of alcohol when his or her child goes off to college (Arria, et al., 2008). Although the authors of this study admit that parental monitoring had an indirect influence on college drinking through reductions in high school drinking, its findings could still prove to be beneficial. It is

conceivable that by applying Dr. Turrisi's parent intervention technique to families whose students are still in middle school or high school, it could be an effective tool in helping to prevent the underage, high-risk, and illegal consumption of alcohol that occurs by youth today. The programmatic efforts made by state agencies, community coalitions, and other non-profit groups have shown some success in helping to eliminate the underage and high-risk alcohol consumption by youth throughout Pennsylvania. It is through the dedication of these individuals and the efforts put forth by those such as Dr. Turrisi that will undoubtedly aid in combating underage and high-risk drinking by Pennsylvania's youth and college students.

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