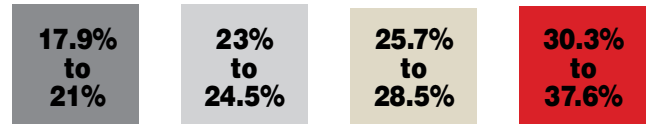


Facts About Underage Alcohol Use: Arizona

- Underage drinking is the #1 substance abuse problem facing youth in Arizona. It is the most commonly used substance by Arizona 8th, 10th and 12th graders. (*Arizona Youth Survey, 2006*)

- 24 percent of 8th graders, 39 percent of 10th graders and 47 percent of 12th graders report drinking within the past 30 days. (*Arizona Youth Survey, 2006*)

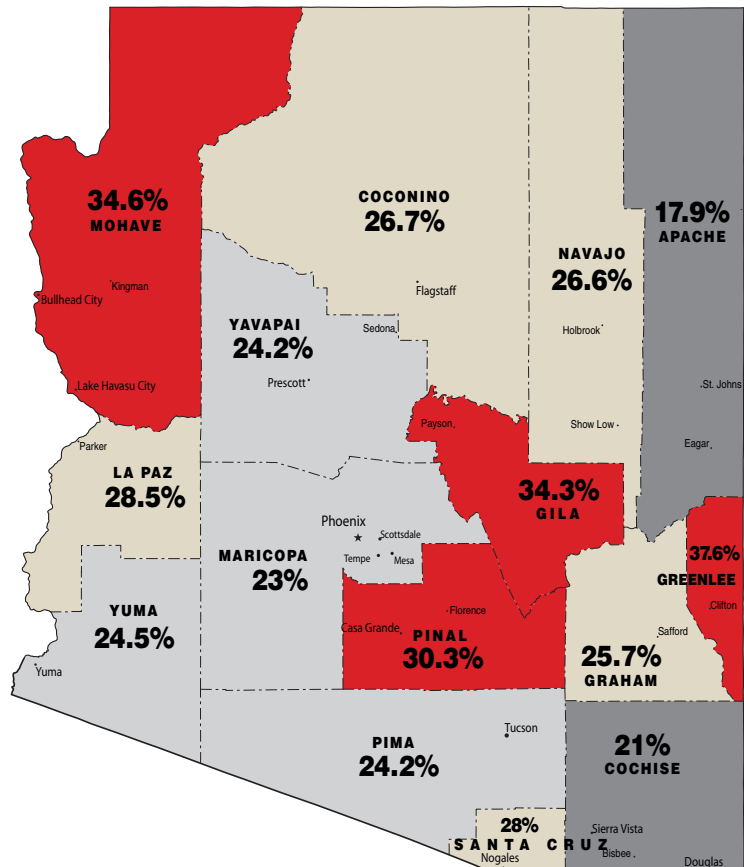


- 8th grade use is highest in Greenlee, Mohave and Gila counties, with more than 34 percent reporting use within the past 30 days. (*Underage Drinking in Arizona Data Findings & Analysis, 2007*)

- Use by 8th, 10th and 12th graders is higher in Arizona than it is nationwide. (*National Monitoring the Future, 2006*)

- Binge drinking among Arizona high school seniors is highest in Santa Cruz County, with 40 percent reporting such alcohol use. (*Underage Drinking in Arizona Data Findings & Analysis, 2007*)

- Arizona ranks 20th among all states for the percentage of youth (ages 12-20) who report binge drinking within the past 30 days, meaning only 19 states have more binge drinkers. (*SAMHSA, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2003-04*)



draw the line

Adult Perceptions & Practices

- Half (47%) of surveyed Arizona adults believe it is OK for youth to drink alcohol under parental or adult supervision. (*Arizona Attitudes on Youth Drinking Survey, 2006*)
- 88 percent of Arizona adults are concerned about underage drinking. (*Underage Drinking in Arizona Data Findings & Analysis, 2007*)
- Arizona parents believe that alcohol use among teens is a dangerous problem, and most also believe that their children had consumed alcoholic beverages at some point in time. (*Governor's Youth Commission Focus Groups, 2006*)
- Among high school students, most indicate that their parents do not speak to them about alcohol—with half of those saying it is because their parents trust them not to drink. (*Governor's Youth Commission Lead our World Surveys 2006*)
- Information that surveyed Arizona parents think all parents need to know about alcohol and youth:
 1. Effects of alcohol on youth development
 2. Strategies for communicating with youth
 3. That kids will experiment
 4. What your children are doing
 5. The importance of being a positive role model(*Governor's Youth Commission Focus Groups, 2006*)

Prevalence Nationwide

- Rates of drinking differ among racial and ethnic minority groups. Among high school students, nearly 30 percent of Caucasian, 25 percent of Hispanic, and 11 percent of African American students reported having more than five drinks in a row. (*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2005*)
- 21 percent of 6th graders reported they had drunk alcohol at least once in the past year. Yet, only 5 percent of their parents said their 6th grader had tried or is using alcohol. (*Center for Substance Abuse Research, University of Maryland 2006*)
- More than 68 percent of 12th graders reported alcohol use in the past year, while only 41 percent of parents thought their teen was using alcohol. (*Center for Substance Abuse Research, University of Maryland, 2006*)
- Among alcoholics nationwide, 15 percent report becoming dependent before age 18, and 47 percent became hooked before age 21. In all, two-thirds became dependent before age 25. (*Youth Alcohol Prevention Center, Boston University School of Public Health, 2006*)
- Underage drinkers (ages 12-20) consume on average five drinks per episode and six times per month, constituting regular "binge drinking." (*The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking, 2007*)