



# The Consumption and Consequences of Alcohol in Allen County, 2009

*\*Binge Drinking is defined as having five or more drinks for men and four or more drinks for women during one occasion.*

*\*Youth who obtained alcohol in Allen County reported that they received it primarily from someone older than 21 or had someone else buy it.*

*\*The consequences from alcohol abuse are devastating to young brains that have not yet finished the developmental process which continues until age 25.*

*\*Short-term or moderate drinking impairs learning and memory far more in youth than in adults. Adolescents need only drink half as much to suffer the same negative effects.*

*\*\$1,321.6 million - the cost of underage drinking in Indiana as of 2005.*

*Contact us for meeting schedules and volunteer opportunities.*

**Drug and Alcohol Consortium of Allen County**  
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## Prevalence of Underage Drinking

- 11.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed drank alcohol 40 or more times in the past year
- 18.4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed drank alcohol 40 or more times in their lifetime
- 18.3% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed drank alcohol at some time in their life
- 29% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed drank alcohol in the last year
- 28.7% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed binge drink
- 17.4% of all of those surveyed say the age of their first use of alcohol was 7 years or younger

## Impact: Health

- In 2007, 53% of Allen County residents in treatment for substance abuse listed alcohol as the primary substance at admission.
- In 2007, 91% of poly-substance abusers in treatment reported using alcohol in combination with other drugs.
- In 2008, the number of alcohol-related crashes slightly increased, the number of fatalities doubled, and the number of alcohol-related fatalities tripled.

## Impact: Criminal Justice

- Drug and alcohol-related arrests account for almost half (45%) of the total arrests in Allen County.
- In 2008, arrest tickets issued for possession/consumption/transporting of alcohol by a minor increased by 54%; arrest tickets to adults for inducing a minor to possess alcoholic beverages increased 63%.
- During a survey of 100 blood tests collected from individuals arrested for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, 68% of the tests were positive for alcohol and two or more drugs.
- From 2006 to 2007, Allen County college campuses reported the number of arrests or persons referred for disciplinary action for on campus liquor law violations increased by 45%.

## Perceptions:

- 25.7% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed feel that their peers approve of or strongly approve of binge drinking weekly
- 67.7% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed perceive that their parents would disapprove or strongly disapprove of 1-2 drinks occasionally