

# Teen Alcohol Trends

## Fast Facts

### BY THE NUMBERS

**30%** of all 16-18 year olds regularly drink with their friends.<sup>1</sup>

**49%** of mothers say it is okay for their daughters to drink.<sup>2</sup>

**66%** of all sexual assaults and date rates among adolescents involve alcohol.<sup>3</sup>

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

Teen girls who binge drink are **63%** more likely to become teen mothers.<sup>5</sup>

**24%** of teens have done more sexually than they planned because of use of drugs or alcohol.<sup>6</sup>

More than **70,000** teens are victims of alcohol related sexual assaults or date rape each year.<sup>7</sup>

**26%** of teens admit drinking while drunk or on drugs.<sup>8</sup>

**11** is average age boys first try alcohol.<sup>9</sup>

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

Teens girls are more widely exposed to alcohol advertising than any other demographic group. They saw **45%** more beer ads and **65%** more maltahol ads than females of legal age.

(The Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine, 2004).

Approx. **100,000** college age teens had sex last year who were so intoxicated they could not give consent (Kaiser Family Roundation, 2002).

Teens who begin drinking before the age of **15** are four times more likely to become alcohol dependent. (National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2002).

Boys under **17** drink more heavily than any other demographic group. **29%** drink six or more alcoholic beverages each time they drink (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin., 1998).

Half of teen partygoers attend parties where alcohol, drugs, or both are available; one third of the parties have parents in attendance (National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2002).

Girls who are heavy drinkers are more likely than boys to say they drink to escape problems or because of frustration (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism).

Regardless of age, there is no longer a gender gap among teen drinkers. Sadly 8th and 9th grader girls have even passed the boys in consumption, including binge drinking (Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2004).

One out of four girls who have drank alcopops or maltahols admit to either driving afterwards or riding in a car with someone who had been drinking. Girls are twice as likely to drink alcopops and maltahols than boys. (American Medical Association, 2004).

Adolescent males who drink take greater sexual risks than girls, including engaging in multiple sex partners, unprotected sex, and sex with strangers. (Psychology of Addictive Behavior, Vol. 8, 1994).

ADHD is a strong predictor of early drinking problems. Boys are diagnosed with this disorder more often than girls. (Crime Times: Research Reviews and Info. on Biological Causes of Criminal, Violent, Psychopathic Behavior).

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