

July 14, 2015

Alcohol Update Underage Drinking



SAMHSA report shows steady decline in underage drinking from 2002-2013

Yet alcohol still remains the most widely used substance of abuse among youths aged 12 to 20.

The report shows that level of current underage drinking among those aged 12 to 20 decreased from 28.8 percent in 2002 to 22.7 percent in 2013.

Likewise, the level of **current underage binge drinking** also declined from 19.3 percent in 2002 to **14.2 percent in 2013.** Binge drinking is defined as having five or more drinks on the same occasion (i.e., at the same time or within a couple of hours of each other) on at least one day in the past 30 days.

Despite this reduction, however, more youths aged 12 to 20 currently use <u>alcohol</u> (22.7 percent) than use <u>tobacco</u> (16.9 percent) or use <u>illicit drugs</u> (13.6 percent).

Read more: http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201506111200-2

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