

WHAT EVERY TEMPE PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT TEENAGE ALCOHOL USE

ACCORDING TO THE 2016 ARIZONA
YOUTH SURVEY:

Nearly 91% of Tempe teenagers say they are not interested in using drugs – **but many of them are using alcohol and drugs:**

- **50%** of Tempe teens use alcohol and drugs to have fun
- **More than 39%** of Tempe teens use alcohol and drugs to deal with stress

TEMPE TEEN ALCOHOL USE IS ON THE RISE:

- **Over 41%** of Tempe teens have tried alcohol
- **Nearly one in three** Tempe 12th graders have used alcohol during the past 30 days
- **More than 39%** of Tempe teens got alcohol at a party



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CONSEQUENCES OF UNDERAGE DRINKING



TEENS WHO DRINK ALCOHOL
ARE MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE:

- **School problems:** higher absence and poor or failing grades
- **Social problems:** fighting and lack of participation in youth activities
- **Legal problems:** arrest for driving or physically hurting someone while drunk
- **Physical problems:** hangovers or illnesses
- Unwanted, unplanned, and **unprotected sexual activity**
- **Disruption** of normal growth and sexual development
- **Physical and sexual assault**
- Higher risk for **suicide and homicide**
- Alcohol-related **car crashes** and other unintentional **injuries**
- **Memory problems**
- **Abuse of other drugs**
- **Changes in brain development** that may have life-long effects
- **Death** from alcohol poisoning

Teens who start drinking before age 15 are **six times more likely to develop alcohol dependence** or abuse later in life than those who begin drinking at or after age 21 years.

Visit TempeCoalition.org for tips and videos about how to talk to your teens, local resources and source material for the statistics in this flyer.