

State Report

District of Columbia

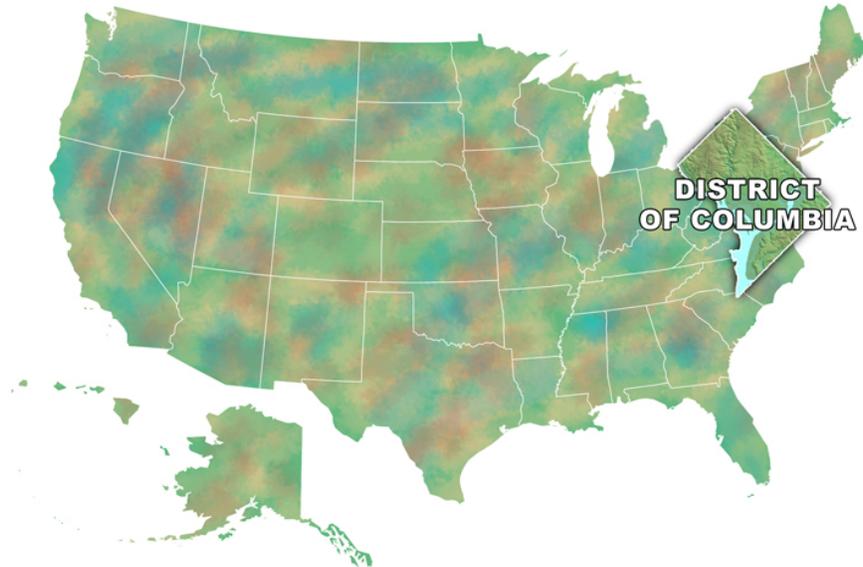
This state report is excerpted from:

The 2013 Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking

submitted to Congress by The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

To obtain more information and a copy of the full Report to Congress go to:

<https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov>



District of Columbia

State Profile and Underage Drinking Facts*

State Population: 617,996
Population Ages 12–20: 60,000

	Percentage	Number
Ages 12–20		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	31.3	19,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	17.8	11,000
Ages 12–14		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	6.4	1,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	2.7	1,000
Ages 15–17		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	24.3	4,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	11.6	000
Ages 18–20		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	52.3	13,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	32.0	8,000
Alcohol-Attributable Deaths (under 21)		23
Years of Potential Life Lost (under 21)		1,370
	Percentage of All Traffic Fatalities	Number
Traffic Fatalities, 15- to 20-Year-Old Drivers with BAC > 0.01	0.0	0

* See Appendix C for data sources.

Laws Addressing Minors in Possession of Alcohol

Underage Possession of Alcohol

Possession is prohibited—no explicit exceptions noted in the law.

Underage Consumption of Alcohol

Consumption is prohibited—no explicit exceptions noted in the law.

Internal Possession by Minors

Internal possession is not explicitly prohibited.

Underage Purchase of Alcohol

Purchase is prohibited and there is NO ALLOWANCE for youth purchase for law enforcement purposes.

False Identification for Obtaining Alcohol

Provision(s) Targeting Minors

- Use of a false ID to obtain alcohol is a criminal offense.
- Penalty may include driver's license suspension through a judicial procedure.

Provisions Targeting Retailers

- Specific affirmative defense—the retailer inspected the false ID and came to a reasonable conclusion based on its appearance that it was valid.

Laws Targeting Underage Drinking and Driving

BAC Limits: Youth (Underage Operators of Noncommercial Motor Vehicles)

- BAC limit: 0.00
- Any detectable alcohol in the blood is per se (conclusive) evidence of a violation
- Applies to drivers under age 21

Loss of Driving Privileges for Alcohol Violations by Minors (“Use/Lose Laws”)

Use/lose penalties apply to minors under age 21.

Type(s) of Violation Leading to Driver's License Suspension, Revocation, or Denial

- Underage purchase
- Underage possession
- Underage consumption

Authority To Impose Driver's License Sanction

- Mandatory

Length of Suspension/Revocation

- 90 days

Graduated Driver’s License

Learner Stage

- Minimum entry age: 16
- Minimum learner stage period: 6 months
- Minimum supervised driving requirement: 40 hours—must log additional 10 hours of nighttime driving at intermediate stage with driver over 21

Intermediate Stage

- Minimum age: 16 years, 6 months
- Unsupervised night driving
 - Prohibited after: 11 p.m. on Sunday–Thursday and 12:01 a.m. on Saturday–Sunday from September through June; 12:01 a.m. in July and August
 - Primary enforcement of the night-driving rule
- Passenger restrictions exist: First 6 months, one licensed driver at least 21, and any parent or sibling. After 6 months, no more than two passengers under 21 (except parents or siblings) until age 18
 - Primary enforcement of the passenger-restriction rule

License Stage

- Minimum age to lift restrictions: 18

Laws Targeting Alcohol Suppliers

Furnishing Alcohol to Minors

Furnishing is prohibited—no explicit exceptions noted in the law.

Compliance Check Protocols

No data

Penalty Guidelines

No data

Responsible Beverage Service

Mandatory Beverage Service Training for Managers

- Applies to both on-sale and off-sale establishments
- Applies to both new and existing outlets

Minimum Ages for Off-Premises Sellers

- Beer: 18
- Wine: 18
- Spirits: 18

Minimum Ages for On-Premises Sellers

- Beer: 18 for servers and 21 for bartenders
- Wine: 18 for servers and 21 for bartenders
- Spirits: 18 for servers and 21 for bartenders

Distance Limitations for New Alcohol Outlets Near Universities and Schools

Colleges and Universities

Limitations on outlet siting:

- Off-premises outlets: Yes—within 400 feet
- On-premises outlets: Yes—within 400 feet
- Alcohol products: Beer, wine, spirits

Note: Exceptions are (1) restaurant, hotel, club, caterer's, and temporary licenses; and (2) grocery stores with only incidental sale of alcoholic beverages.

Primary and Secondary Schools

Prohibitions against outlet siting:

- Off-premises outlets: Yes—within 400 feet
- On-premises outlets: Yes—within 400 feet
- Alcohol products: Beer, wine, spirits

Note: Exceptions are (1) restaurant, hotel, club, caterer's, and temporary licenses; (2) grocery stores with only incidental sale of alcoholic beverages; and (3) restaurants located inside hotels, apartment houses, clubs, or office buildings provided there are no signs or displays, and unless specifically approved and Board of Education has no objection.

Dram Shop Liability

- There is no statutory liability.
- The courts recognize common law dram shop liability.

Social Host Liability Laws

There is no statutory liability.

Host Party Laws

No state-imposed liability for hosting underage drinking parties

Retailer Interstate Shipments of Alcohol

No prohibitions on retailer interstate shipments

Direct Sales/Shipments of Alcohol by Producers

Direct sales/shipments from producers to consumers are permitted for beer, wine, and distilled spirits with the following restrictions:

Age Verification Requirements: None

State Approval/Permit Requirements: None

Reporting Requirements: None

Shipping Label Statement Requirements: None

Keg Registration

- Keg definition: 4 gallons or more
- Purchaser information collected:
 - Purchaser’s name and address
 - Verified by a government-issued ID
 - Address where keg will be consumed
- Warning information to purchaser: Active—purchaser action required (e.g., signature)
- Deposit: Not required
- Provisions specifically address disposable kegs

Alcohol Pricing Policies

Home Delivery

- Beer: Permitted
- Wine: Permitted
- Spirits: Permitted

Alcohol Tax

Beer (5 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax: \$0.09 per gallon
- Ad valorem excise tax (on-premises sales): 10 percent
- Ad valorem excise tax (off-premises sales): 10 percent

General sales tax rate of 6 percent does not apply to onsite or offsite sales. The onsite ad valorem retail tax is 10 percent. The “sales tax adjusted” onsite retail ad valorem rate is therefore 4 percent. The offsite ad valorem tax of 10 percent is applied at the retail level. The “sales tax adjusted” offsite retail ad valorem rate is therefore 4 percent.

Wine (12 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax: \$0.30 per gallon
- Ad valorem excise tax (on-premises sales): 10 percent
- Ad valorem excise tax (off-premises sales): 10 percent

General sales tax rate of 6 percent does not apply to onsite or offsite sales. The onsite ad valorem retail tax is 10 percent. The “sales tax adjusted” onsite retail ad valorem rate is therefore 4 percent. The offsite ad valorem tax of 10 percent is applied at the retail level. The “sales tax adjusted” offsite retail ad valorem rate is therefore 4 percent.

Spirits (40 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax: \$1.50 per gallon
- Ad valorem excise tax (on-premises sales): 10 percent
- Ad valorem excise tax (off-premises sales): 10 percent

General sales tax rate of 6 percent does not apply to onsite or offsite sales. The onsite ad valorem retail tax is 10 percent. The “sales tax adjusted” onsite retail ad valorem rate is therefore 4 percent. The offsite ad valorem tax of 10 percent is applied at the retail level. The “sales tax adjusted” offsite retail ad valorem rate is therefore 4 percent.

Drink Specials

- Free beverages: Not prohibited
- Multiple servings at one time: Not prohibited
- Multiple servings for same price as single serving: Prohibited
- Reduced price at specified day or time: Not prohibited
- Unlimited beverages: Not prohibited
- Increased volume: Not prohibited

Wholesale Pricing

Pricing restrictions exist.

Beer (5 percent alcohol)

- Retailer credit: Restricted—45 days maximum

Wine (12 percent alcohol)

- Retailer credit: Restricted—45 days maximum

Spirits (40 percent alcohol)

- Retailer credit: Restricted—45 days maximum

District of Columbia State Survey Responses

State Agency Information	
<i>Agency with primary responsibility for enforcing underage drinking laws:</i> Metropolitan Police Department, Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration	
<i>Methods by which local and state enforcement agencies coordinate their efforts to enforce laws prohibiting underage drinking:</i> Local agencies work together to conduct District-wide compliance and identification (ID) checks.	
Enforcement Strategies	
<i>State law enforcement agencies use:</i>	
Cops in Shops	Not applicable
Shoulder Tap Operations	Not applicable
Party Patrol Operations or Programs	Not applicable
Underage Alcohol-Related Fatality Investigations	Not applicable
<i>Local law enforcement agencies use:</i>	
Cops in Shops	Yes
Shoulder Tap Operations	No
Party Patrol Operations or Programs	No
Underage Alcohol-Related Fatality Investigations	Yes
<i>State has a program to investigate and enforce direct sales/shipment laws</i>	
Primary state agency responsible for enforcing laws addressing direct sales/shipments of alcohol to minors	Not applicable
Such laws are also enforced by local law enforcement agencies	Unknown
Enforcement Statistics	
<i>State collects data on the number of minors found in possession</i>	
Number of minors found in possession by state law enforcement agencies	Yes
Number pertains to the 12 months ending	65
Data include arrests/citations issued by local law enforcement agencies	01/02/2012
<i>State conducts underage compliance checks/decoy operations² to determine if alcohol retailers are complying with laws prohibiting sales to minors</i>	
Data are collected on these activities	No
Number of licensees checked for compliance by state agencies	Yes
Number of licensees that failed state compliance checks	937
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	89
<i>Local agencies conduct underage compliance checks/decoy operations to determine if alcohol retailers are complying with laws prohibiting sales to minors</i>	
Data are collected on these activities	09/30/2011
Number of licensees checked for compliance by local agencies	Yes
Number of licensees that failed local compliance checks	523
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	35
<i>State collects data on fines imposed on retail establishments that furnish minors</i>	
Number of fines imposed by the state ³	No
Total amount in fines across all licensees	Data not collected
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	Data not collected
<i>State collects data on license suspensions imposed on retail establishments specifically for furnishing minors</i>	
Number of suspensions imposed by the state ⁴	No
Total days of suspensions across all licensees	Data not collected
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	Data not collected
<i>State collects data on license revocations imposed on retail establishments specifically for furnishing minors</i>	
Number of license revocations imposed ⁵	No
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	Data not collected

Additional Clarification	
None given	

¹ Or having consumed or purchased per state statutes.

² Underage compliance checks/decoy operations to determine whether alcohol retailers are complying with laws prohibiting sales to minors.

³ Does not include fines imposed by local agencies.

⁴ Does not include suspensions imposed by local agencies.

⁵ Does not include revocations imposed by local agencies.

**Underage Drinking Prevention Programs Operated or Funded by the State:
Programs SPECIFIC TO Underage Drinking**

National Capital Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking	
Number of youth served	1,500
Number of parents served	20
Number of caregivers served	0
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	09/30/2011
Program has been evaluated	Yes
Evaluation report is available	Yes
URL for evaluation report	nparker@nccpud.net
URL for more program information	nparker@nccpud.net
<p>Program description: The National Capital Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking (NCCPUD) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing and reducing underage drinking and its related harms in the District of Columbia. A coalition of community-based organizations, government, youth, and colleges, NCCPUD has been in the vanguard of developing and implementing prevention programs aimed at reducing underage drinking since 1997. Its mission is to organize, advocate, educate, and build the capacity of local public and private organizations, youth, and the community to reduce underage drinking and related harm. NCCPUD’s vision is for a safe environment that embraces youth, supports healthy behaviors, and encourages youth leadership and community investment.</p> <p>The goals of NCCPUD are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for environmental policies and practices to reduce underage drinking and unhealthy outcomes related to all substance abuse. • Build the capacity of the community to develop and implement evidence-based strategies to protect young people from the risk of alcohol and drugs. • Use media and communications as educational tools to change public perspectives and attitudes, leading to the reduction of underage drinking and related harms. • Organize and support grassroots responses to the consequences of substance abuse in the community. • Involve youth at every level of the organization. <p>NCCPUD, through its Youth Advocates Peer Program, provides and sponsors weekly training/workshops to over 30 area youth on various alcohol-related laws, enforcement activities, and issues currently affecting their environment. NCCPUD Youth Advocates give peer presentations at various public and private senior high schools in the District of Columbia and sponsor yearly Prom Promise events that encourage youth not to make destructive decisions during prom season. NCCPUD also serves as the District Coordinator for the national Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) program. Since its inception, NCCPUD has trained over 530 youth advocates for the prevention of underage drinking and currently serves more than 1,500 youth each year in the District of Columbia.</p>	
Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA)	
Number of youth served	Not applicable
Number of parents served	Not applicable
Number of caregivers served	Not applicable
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	937 establishments checked/89 sales

Program has been evaluated	Yes
Evaluation report is available	Yes
URL for evaluation report	http://abra.dc.gov
URL for more program information	Not applicable
<p>Program description: ABRA issues and renews licenses that enable qualified businesses to sell and serve alcoholic beverages. ABRA monitors compliance with alcoholic beverage control (ABC) laws and takes appropriate enforcement action when licensees violate these laws. When appropriate, ABRA proposes new laws regulating the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the District. ABRA also offers educational programs that help ABC establishments prevent underage individuals from purchasing and consuming alcohol.</p>	
DC Prevention Centers	
Number of youth served	12,334
Number of adults served	8,624
Number of caregivers served	N/A
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	March 2012
Program has been evaluated	Yes
Evaluation report is available	No
URL for evaluation report	Not applicable
URL for more program information	Website under construction
<p>Program description: In 2010, the District of Columbia Department of Health's Addiction, Prevention, and Recovery Administration (APRA) funded four DC Prevention Centers that cover all eight wards through Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant-Prevention Set-Aside funds. Each Prevention Center has two designated wards (Wards 1 and 2; Wards 3 and 4; Wards 5 and 6; Wards 7 and 8) that serve as dynamic hubs that engage, support, and help connect the many community elements that are needed for promoting healthy children, youth, and families, as well as a drug-free city. Prevention Centers address three capacity-building functions in ways that reflect the characteristics and priorities of the populations and geographic areas served. The three functions—community education, community leadership, and community changes—are designed to address priority risk factors and the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase attitudes opposed to alcohol, tobacco, and drug use among children and youth. • Delay the onset or first use and progression of risk among children and youth. • Increase involvement of families, youth, and concerned citizens in their community's planning, decisionmaking, and evaluation for substance abuse prevention. <p>Data measures have been identified and are being tracked at the District and Ward levels. DC Prevention Centers have a primary role in the DC Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG).</p>	

<p>Underage Drinking Prevention Programs Operated or Funded by the State: Programs RELATED TO Underage Drinking</p>	
<p>DC Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG)</p> <p>URL for more program information: Judith.Donovan@DC.Gov</p>	
<p>Program description: The District of Columbia is part of the Cohort IV SPF SIG funded through SAMHSA with a \$10.6 million award. The SPF SIG goals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the onset and reduce the progression of substance abuse, including childhood and underage drinking and marijuana use, among youth in communities. • Reduce substance abuse problems, especially underage drinking and marijuana use, among youth in communities. • Build prevention capacity and infrastructure at the state and community levels to address priority areas, reduce risk, and increase protection for children and youth. 	

SAMHSA reviews and approves a data-driven strategic plan before 85 percent of all community-level funds can be allocated. Approval of the District of Columbia plan is pending; however, underage drinking is one of two District of Columbia priorities.

In April 2011, SAMHSA approved the District of Columbia Strategic Plan, which focuses on two priorities: underage drinking and the prevention of marijuana use by youth. Competitive grants totaling \$1.4 million were to be posted in spring 2012. A SPF SIG Coordinator for each District of Columbia Prevention Center was funded in 2011.

Additional Information Related to Underage Drinking Prevention Programs

<i>State collaborates with federally recognized Tribal governments in the prevention of underage drinking</i> Description of collaboration	No recognized Tribal governments Not applicable
<i>State has programs to measure and/or reduce youth exposure to alcohol advertising and marketing</i> Program description: Metro Teen AIDS Ward 8 Drug-Free Coalition (STOP ACT Grantee), and Public Charter School Center for Student Support Services	Yes
<i>State has adopted or developed best practice standards for underage drinking prevention programs</i> Best practice standards description: These codes are the foundation for all District of Columbia underage drinking programs and practices and serve as guiding standards for developing and implementing evidence-based prevention services:	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District of Columbia Official Code §25-765: No window advertisements within 400 feet of a church/school. • District of Columbia Official Code §25-782: Restrictions on hours of minors entering stores from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. during school days. • District of Columbia Official Code §25-781: Sale to minors or intoxicated persons prohibited. • District of Columbia Official Code §25-783: Production of valid identification document required; penalty. 	

Additional Clarification

None given

State Interagency Collaboration

<i>A state-level interagency governmental body/committee exists to coordinate or address underage drinking prevention activities</i>	Yes
<i>Committee contact information:</i> Name: Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL), Justice Grants Administration (JGA) E-mail: Brenda.Smith@dc.gov Address: 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004 Phone: 202-727-6331	
<i>Agencies/organizations represented on the committee:</i> Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration Bridging Resources In Communities, Inc. Metro TeenAIDS Metropolitan Police Department National Capital Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking Public Charter School-Center for Student Support DC Department of Health, Addiction Prevention and Recovery Administration	
<i>A website or other public source exists to describe committee activities</i> URL or other means of access	No Not applicable

Underage Drinking Reports	
<i>State has prepared a plan for preventing underage drinking in the last 3 years</i>	Yes
Prepared by: DC Department of Health, Addiction Prevention and Recovery Administration Plan can be accessed via: Judith.Donovan@DC.Gov	
<i>State has prepared a report on preventing underage drinking in the last 3 years</i>	Yes
Prepared by: Justice Grants Administration Plan can be accessed via: Brendae.Smith@dc.gov	
Additional Clarification	
None given	

State Expenditures for the Prevention of Underage Drinking	
<i>Compliance checks/decoy operations in retail outlets:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	\$ 80,000
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	01/02/2012
<i>Checkpoints and saturation patrols:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available
<i>Community-based programs to prevent underage drinking:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	\$50,000
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	09/30/2011
<i>K–12 school-based programs to prevent underage drinking:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available
<i>Programs targeted to institutes of higher learning:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available
<i>Programs that target youth in the juvenile justice system:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available
<i>Programs that target youth in the child welfare system:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available
<i>Other programs:</i>	
Programs or strategies included: National Capital Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking (NCCPUD), Bridging Resources In the Community (BRIC), Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), Public Charter School Center for Student Support (PCSCSS), and Metro TeenAIDS	
Estimate of state funds expended	\$300,000
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	09/30/2011

Funds Dedicated to Underage Drinking	
<i>State derives funds dedicated to underage drinking from the following revenue streams:</i>	
Taxes	No
Fines	No
Fees	No
Other	No
<i>Description of funding streams and how they are used:</i>	
No data	
Additional Clarification	
Justice Grants Administration (JGA) is one of several state administering agencies that passes through federal funds, and in this case funds are from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) for the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, JGA funded two intradistrict agencies and five community-based (CBO) not-for-profit agencies. The programs included but were not limited to alcohol compliance checks and alcoholic establishment enforcement and	

training, as well as training over 40 youth advocates (decoys) in the operation of compliance checks. Several CBOs canvassed their communities for media purposes and held daily/weekly youth meetings as well as social networking. In addition, JGA provided funding to one CBO that administered several SADD Chapters. Because the District of Columbia is not a state, it has offices operating as state administrations; JGA does receive funding under the Juvenile Justice System but not under Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws. There are other District agencies that may provide funding for prevention programs targeting K–12 schools, institutions of higher education, the juvenile justice system, and child welfare; however, they cannot be identified as to which agency provides these funds. Therefore, to indicate “Can’t answer this question; these data are not available in my state” may be an inaccurate response.