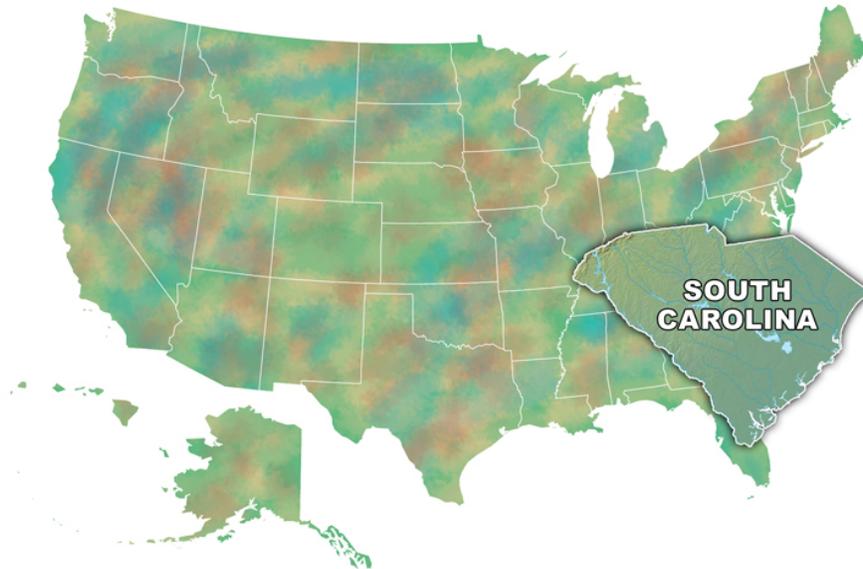


State Report

South Carolina

This document is excerpted from:

The June 2015 Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking



South Carolina

State Profile and Underage Drinking Facts*

State Population: 4,723,723
Population Ages 12–20: 538,000

	Percentage	Number
Ages 12–20		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	22.6	121,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	14.0	75,000
Ages 12–14		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	4.3	7,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	1.0	2,000
Ages 15–17		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	18.9	34,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	10.0	18,000
Ages 18–20		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	43.5	80,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	30.3	56,000
Alcohol-Attributable Deaths (under 21)		83
Years of Potential Life Lost (under 21)		4,999
	Percentage of All Traffic Fatalities	Number
Traffic Fatalities, 15- to 20-Year-Old Drivers with BAC > 0.01	26.0	35

* See Appendix C for data sources.

Laws Addressing Minors in Possession of Alcohol

Underage Possession of Alcohol

Possession is prohibited with the following exception(s):

- Parent/guardian’s home

Underage Consumption of Alcohol

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

Internal Possession by Minors

Internal possession is prohibited with the following exception(s):

- Parent/guardian’s home

Underage Purchase of Alcohol

Purchase is prohibited, but youth may 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.

Provision(s) targeting retailers

- Licenses for drivers under age 21 are easily distinguishable from those for drivers age 21 and older.
- No statutory affirmative defense—statutes do not provide an affirmative defense related to retailer’s belief that the minor was 21 years old or older.

Laws Targeting Underage Drinking and Driving

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

- BAC limit: 0.02
- BAC level at or above the limit 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

- 120 days

Graduated Driver's License

Learner stage

- Minimum entry age: 15
- Minimum learner stage period: 6 months
- Minimum supervised driving requirement: 40 hours, of which 10 must be at night

Intermediate stage

- Minimum age: 15 years, 6 months
- Unsupervised night driving
 - Prohibited after: 6 p.m.—may only drive unsupervised during daylight hours; nighttime is defined as starting at 6 p.m. EST or 8 p.m. EDT
 - Primary enforcement of the night-driving rule
- Passenger restrictions exist: No more than two nonfamily passengers under 21 unless supervised by driver at least 21 years (unless transporting students to school)
 - Primary enforcement of the passenger-restriction rule

License stage

- Minimum age to lift restrictions: 16 years, 6 months

Laws Targeting Alcohol Suppliers

Furnishing of Alcohol to Minors

Furnishing is prohibited with the following exception(s):

- Private residence AND EITHER
- Parent/guardian OR
- Spouse
- There is an affirmative defense if the minor is not charged

Note: South Carolina's Parent/Guardian and Spouse exceptions apply when the alcohol is furnished in the home of the spouse or in the home of the parent or guardian.

Compliance Check Protocols

No data

Penalty Guidelines for Sales to Minors

- Time period/conditions: Not specified
- First offense: \$500 fine
- Second offense: \$1,000 fine
- Third offense: \$1,500 fine and 15-day suspension
- Fourth offense: License revocation

Responsible Beverage Service

No beverage service training requirement

Minimum Ages for Off-Premises Sellers

- Beer: Not specified
- Wine: Not specified
- Spirits: 21

Note: Although no minimum age is specified to sell beer and wine at off-sale establishments licensed to sell beer and wine, an employee of a retail liquor establishment must be at least 21 years old.

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

- No distance limitation

Primary and secondary schools

- Prohibitions against outlet siting:
 - Off-premises outlets: Yes—within 300 feet if school is within a municipality; within 500 feet if school is outside of a municipality.
 - On-premises outlets: Yes—within 300 feet if school is within a municipality; within 500 feet if school is outside of a municipality.
 - Alcohol products: Beer, wine, spirits

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.
- The courts recognize common law social host liability.

Host Party Laws

Social host law is not specifically limited to underage drinking parties.

- Action by underage guest that triggers violation: Possession, consumption
- Property type(s) covered by liability law: Other
- Standard for hosts' knowledge or action regarding the party: Overt act—host must have actual knowledge and commit an act that contributes to the occurrence

Retailer Interstate Shipments of Alcohol

Retailer interstate shipments are prohibited for all types of beverages.

Direct Sales/Shipments of Alcohol by Producers

Direct sales/shipments from producers to consumers are permitted for wine with the following restrictions:

Age verification requirements: None

State approval/permit requirements

- Producer/shipper must obtain state permit.

Reporting requirements: None

Shipping label statement requirements

- Contains alcohol
- Recipient must be 21

Keg Registration

- Keg definition: 5.16 gallons or more
- Prohibited:
 - Possessing an unregistered, unlabeled keg—maximum fine/jail \$500/30 days
 - Destroying the label on a keg—maximum fine/jail \$500/30 days
- Purchaser information collected:
 - Purchaser’s name and address
 - Verified by a government-issued ID
- Warning information to purchaser: Active—purchaser action required (e.g., signature)
- Deposit: Not required
- Provisions do not specifically address disposable kegs

Home Delivery

- Beer: No law
- Wine: No law
- Spirits: No law

Alcohol Pricing Policies**Alcohol Tax*****Beer (5 percent alcohol)***

- Specific excise tax: \$0.77 per gallon

Wine (12 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax: \$1.08 per gallon

Spirits (40 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax: \$2.96 per gallon
- Ad valorem excise tax (on-premises retail): 5 percent

Note: Base tax rate is \$2.72 per gallon plus a 9 percent surtax of \$0.24 added to the base rate, for a total of \$2.96 per gallon.

Drink Specials

- Free beverages: Not prohibited—licensee may offer a free drink on a case-by-case basis.
- Multiple servings at one time: Not prohibited
- Multiple servings for same price as single serving: Prohibited
- Reduced price, specified day or time: Not prohibited—not permitted before 4 p.m. or after 8 p.m.
- Unlimited beverages: Not prohibited

Wholesale Pricing

Pricing restrictions exist.

Beer (5 percent alcohol)

- Retailer credit: Not permitted

Wine (12 percent alcohol)

- Retailer credit: Not permitted

Spirits (40 percent alcohol)

- Retailer credit: Not permitted

South Carolina State Survey Responses

State Agency Information	
<i>Agency with primary responsibility for enforcing underage drinking laws:</i>	
State Law Enforcement Division (SLED)	
Enforcement Strategies	
<i>State law enforcement agencies use:</i>	
Cops in Shops	No
Shoulder Tap Operations	No
Party Patrol Operations or Programs	No
Underage Alcohol–Related Fatality Investigations	Yes
<i>Local law enforcement agencies use:</i>	
Cops in Shops	No
Shoulder Tap Operations	Yes
Party Patrol Operations or Programs	Yes
Underage Alcohol–Related Fatality Investigations	No
<i>State has a program to investigate and enforce direct sales/shipment laws</i>	
Primary state agency responsible for enforcing laws addressing direct sales/shippments of alcohol to minors	Yes State Law Enforcement Division
Such laws are also enforced by local law enforcement agencies	No
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 137
Number pertains to the 12 months ending	6/30/2012
Data include arrests/citations issued by local law enforcement agencies	No
<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	Yes
Number of retail licensees in state ³	16,000
Number of licensees checked for compliance by state agencies (including random checks)	1,878
Number of licensees that failed state compliance checks	363
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	6/30/2012
Compliance checks/decoy operations conducted at on-sale, off-sale, or both retail establishments	Both on- and off-sale establishments
<i>State conducts random underage compliance checks/decoy operations</i>	
Number of licensees subject to random state compliance checks/decoy operations	Yes 1,878
Number of licensees that failed random state compliance checks	363
<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	Yes
Number of licensees checked for compliance by local agencies	7,422
Number of licensees that failed local compliance checks	1,076
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	6/30/2012
Sanctions	
<i>State collects data on fines imposed on retail establishments that furnish minors</i>	
Number of fines imposed by the state ⁴	Yes 237
Total amount in fines across all licensees	\$130,700
Smallest fine imposed	\$500
Largest fine imposed	\$1,000
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	6/30/2012

<i>State collects data on license suspensions imposed on retail establishments specifically for furnishing minors</i>	Yes
Number of suspensions imposed by the state ⁵	1
Total days of suspensions across all licensees	28
Shortest period of suspension imposed (in days)	28
Longest period of suspension imposed (in days)	28
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	6/30/2012
<i>State collects data on license revocations imposed on retail establishments specifically for furnishing minors</i>	Yes
Number of license revocations imposed ⁶	0
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	6/30/2012
Additional Clarification	
No data	

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 Excluding special licenses such as temporary, seasonal, and common carrier licenses.

⁴ Does not include fines imposed by local agencies.

⁵ Does not include suspensions imposed by local agencies.

⁶ Does not include revocations imposed by local agencies.

Underage Drinking Prevention Programs Operated or Funded by the State	
South Carolina Alcohol Enforcement Teams (AETs) – Enforcement Efforts	
Program serves specific or general population	Specific population
Number of youth served	435,378
Number of parents served	No data
Number of caregivers served	No data
Program has been evaluated	Yes
Evaluation report is available	Yes
URL for evaluation report: http://ncweb.pire.org/scdocuments/documents/301AnnualReport_12.pdf	
URL for more program information: http://www.scoutoftheirhands.org/environmental-enforcement-strategies.html	
Program Description: South Carolina’s AETs are a statewide network of local law enforcement and prevention agency partnerships. Each of 16 judicial circuits has an AET that conducts best-practice law enforcement operations while offering prevention activities and raising community awareness. Typical enforcement strategies include compliance checks, public safety checkpoints, and controlled party dispersals. The program is separated into two parts (enforcement and education) on this report to distinctly display the numbers served by enforcement efforts and education efforts. Given the population-level impact of the strategies conducted by AETs (with no individual being directly “served”), the state considers the affected population to be almost the entire population of 14- to 20-year-olds in South Carolina.	
South Carolina Alcohol Enforcement Teams (AETs) – Education Efforts	
Program serves specific or general population	General population
Number of youth served	Not applicable
Number of parents served	Not applicable
Number of caregivers served	Not applicable
Program has been evaluated	No
Evaluation report is available	Not applicable
URL for evaluation report: URL for more program information: http://www.scoutoftheirhands.org/index.html	

<p>Program Description: Typical education efforts include community presentations on underage drinking and youth alcohol trends, casual contacts with young people who educate them about ongoing enforcement, visits with alcohol retailers to discuss policy enhancements and ongoing enforcement, and media engagement. We have recorded a total number served in these efforts as 225,965. We cannot easily calculate how many of these were youth vs. adults. This total includes those reached with media efforts. Limiting numbers served to those in formal or informal speaking engagements/community contacts lowers the figure to 10,811. In addition to these citizen awareness efforts, the AETs also have an active training component primarily aimed at law enforcement on proper ways to enforce underage drinking laws. In FY 2012, 28 trainings were held across the state with a total audience of 591, mostly officers.</p>																	
<p>Substance Abuse Curricula Programs</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Program serves specific or general population</td> <td>Specific population</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of youth served</td> <td>10,227</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of parents served</td> <td>419</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of caregivers served</td> <td>No data</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Program has been evaluated</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Evaluation report is available</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>URL for evaluation report: http://ncweb.pire.org/scdocuments/documents/301AnnualReport_12.pc</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>f URL for more program information:</td> <td>No data</td> </tr> </table>		Program serves specific or general population	Specific population	Number of youth served	10,227	Number of parents served	419	Number of caregivers served	No data	Program has been evaluated	Yes	Evaluation report is available	Yes	URL for evaluation report: http://ncweb.pire.org/scdocuments/documents/301AnnualReport_12.pc		f URL for more program information:	No data
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<p>Program Description: Most of the 33 local prevention providers deliver one or more substance abuse prevention curriculum programs to youth, mostly for middle-school ages. These include curricula primarily focused on alcohol like Project Northland and Class Action and more general curricula like All Stars and Life Skills Training. Thirty-two curricula programs were offered in FY 2012 with approximately 10,000 reached in these programs. There were also five adult curricula offerings, typically aimed at parents to reduce youth substance use.</p>																	
<p>Palmetto Initiative for Campus and Community Collaborations (PICCC)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Program serves specific or general population</td> <td>General population</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of youth served</td> <td>Not applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of parents served</td> <td>Not applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of caregivers served</td> <td>Not applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Program has been evaluated</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Evaluation report is available</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>URL for evaluation report:</td> <td>Not applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>URL for more program information:</td> <td>No data</td> </tr> </table>		Program serves specific or general population	General population	Number of youth served	Not applicable	Number of parents served	Not applicable	Number of caregivers served	Not applicable	Program has been evaluated	Yes	Evaluation report is available	No	URL for evaluation report:	Not applicable	URL for more program information:	No data
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Program has been evaluated	Yes																
Evaluation report is available	No																
URL for evaluation report:	Not applicable																
URL for more program information:	No data																
<p>Program Description: PICCC (pronounced “Pisces”) is an OJJDP-funded discretionary grant awarded to South Carolina to address underage and high-risk drinking on college campuses through a comprehensive approach that includes considerable involvement from the community sector. The South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) gave minigrants to Clemson University, the University of South Carolina, Furman University, and the College of Charleston to implement a comprehensive series of work plans that include retail and social access, coalition building, impaired driving prevention, and policy. Project activities include providing an annual college alcohol issues conference. Given the nature of the multiple population- and systems-oriented approaches used by the colleges, the state cannot accurately estimate the number of people served or influenced.</p>																	
<p>Alcohol Education Program (AEP)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Program serves specific or general population</td> <td>Specific population</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of youth served</td> <td>1,082</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of parents served</td> <td>No data</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of caregivers served</td> <td>No data</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Program has been evaluated</td> <td>No</td> </tr> </table>		Program serves specific or general population	Specific population	Number of youth served	1,082	Number of parents served	No data	Number of caregivers served	No data	Program has been evaluated	No						
Program serves specific or general population	Specific population																
Number of youth served	1,082																
Number of parents served	No data																
Number of caregivers served	No data																
Program has been evaluated	No																

Evaluation report is available	Not applicable
URL for evaluation report:	Not applicable
URL for more program information:	No data
<p>Program Description: The AEP is a diversionary program option for youth charged with an alcohol-related offense. State law requires all 16 solicitors to operate an AEP, though each can determine the fines and programs that constitute the process. (The solicitors are equivalent to county district attorneys, but instead of serving one county, these elected officials serve multiple counties in the 16 judicial districts throughout the state. Some of the judicial circuits include two counties, and one of the circuits has up to five counties. The solicitor serves the counties that are covered by the judicial circuit they are elected to serve.) In most areas, the DAODAS local provider is contracted to deliver an 8-hour alcohol education program. There are only data for the number of youth who go through that system.</p>	
<p>Community Action for a Safer Tomorrow (CAST)</p>	
Program serves specific or general population	General population
Number of youth served	Not applicable
Number of parents served	Not applicable
Number of caregivers served	Not applicable
Program has been evaluated	Yes
Evaluation report is available	No
URL for evaluation report:	Not applicable
URL for more program information:	
<p>http://www.daodas.state.sc.us/prevention.asp</p>	
<p>Program Description: In 2009, the federal Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) awarded a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) to DAODAS. The SPF SIG is a 5-year, \$10 million grant intended to prevent the onset and reduce the progression of substance abuse; reduce substance abuse-related problems; and build prevention capacity and infrastructure at the state and community levels. Eighty-five percent of the funds will be distributed to communities in South Carolina. The South Carolina SPF SIG is titled “Community Action for a Safer Tomorrow” (CAST). CAST addresses two priority issues: alcohol-related (DUI) car crashes and underage alcohol use. These priority issues are two of four that were identified by the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) through an intensive prioritization process. Using a data-driven process and in collaboration with the department’s partners, 13 high-need counties were identified and funded in these priority areas. State-level staff and funded communities follow the steps of the SPF to address priority areas; assess prevention needs; build capacity; develop a comprehensive strategic plan; implement evidence-based prevention programs, policies, and practices; and evaluate the process and outcomes. Two cross-cutting components of the SPF are cultural competency and sustainability. CAST is coalition-driven at the local level. Due to the broad range of strategies, mostly environmental, it is not possible to determine a number served for CAST.</p>	
<p>Palmetto Retailer Education Program (PREP)</p>	
Program serves specific or general population	Specific population
Number of youth served	No data
Number of parents served	No data
Number of caregivers served	No data
Program has been evaluated	Yes
Evaluation report is available	No
URL for evaluation report:	Not applicable
URL for more program information:	
<p>http://www.prepmerchanted.com</p>	
<p>Program Description: PREP is a merchant education program designed and offered in South Carolina for those who sell alcohol or tobacco products. PREP is almost exclusively offered by local alcohol and drug service providers. DAODAS supports the program by purchasing most of the local materials, making content updates, maintaining the website, maintaining a database of participants and trainers, and sending out certification cards to those who pass the post-test. The program lasts 2.5 to 3 hours, with an additional section for on-premises alcohol retailers. 1,675 merchants were served in FY ‘12.</p>	

Additional Underage Drinking Prevention Programs Operated or Funded by the State	
No data URL for more program information: No data	
Program description: No data	
Additional Clarification	
No data	

Additional Information Related to Underage Drinking Prevention Programs	
<i>State collaborates with federally recognized Tribal governments in the prevention of underage drinking</i>	No
Description of collaboration: Not applicable	
<i>State has programs to measure and/or reduce youth exposure to alcohol advertising and marketing</i>	No
Description of program: Not applicable	
<i>State has adopted or developed best practice standards for underage drinking prevention programs</i>	Yes
Agencies/organizations that established best practices standards:	
Federal agency(ies): OJJDP	Yes
Agency(ies) within your state: SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services	Yes
Nongovernmental agency(ies):	No
Other:	No
Best practice standards description: The state relies heavily on OJJDP's Strategies to Reduce Underage Alcohol Use: Typology and Brief Overview. SC DAODAS has a Toolkit for Evidence-Based Programs and Strategies with an environmental section on underage drinking prevention that defines the effectiveness of a range of strategies. We are currently updating this list of strategies.	
Additional Clarification	
No data	

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: Steven Burritt	
E-mail: sburritt@daodas.sc.gov	
Address: P.O. Box 8268, Columbia, SC 29202-8268	
Phone: 803-896-1185	
<i>Agencies/organizations represented on the committee:</i>	
SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services	
State Law Enforcement Division	
State Department of Education	
Department of Public Safety	
Greenville County Sheriff's Office	
Phoenix Center	
University of South Carolina	
Clemson University	
Department of Juvenile Justice	
Joint Base Charleston	
LRADAC	
Circle Park Behavioral Health Services	
Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation	
Behavioral Health Services Association	
<i>A website or other public source exists to describe committee activities</i>	No
URL or other means of access: Not applicable	

Underage Drinking Reports	
<i>State has prepared a plan for preventing underage drinking in the last 3 years</i>	No
Prepared by: Not applicable	
Plan can be accessed via: Not applicable	
<i>State has prepared a report on preventing underage drinking in the last 3 years</i>	No data
Prepared by: No data	
Plan can be accessed via: No data	
Additional Clarification	
No data	

State Expenditures for the Prevention of Underage Drinking	
<i>Compliance checks in retail outlets:</i>	
Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available
<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	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available
<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:	
Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available

Funds Dedicated to Underage Drinking	
<i>State derives funds dedicated to underage drinking from the following revenue streams:</i>	
Taxes	No
Fines	No
Fees	Yes
Other:	No

<i>Description of funding streams and how they are used:</i>	
Part of the alcohol license fee goes to the State Law Enforcement Division for enforcement of those licenses, which includes doing alcohol compliance checks.	
Additional Clarification	
No data	