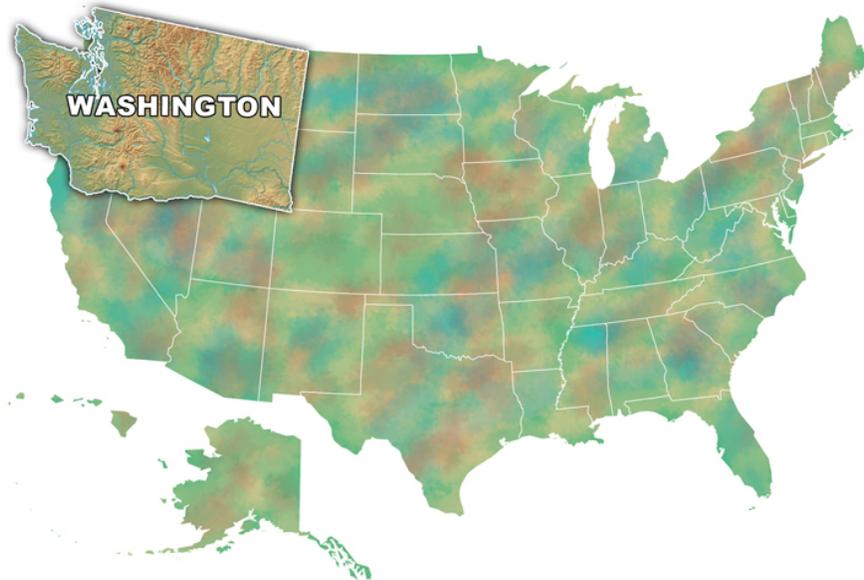


State Report

Washington

This document is excerpted from:

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



Washington

State Profile and Underage Drinking Facts*

State Population: 6,897,012
Population Ages 12–20: 819,000

	Percentage	Number
Ages 12–20		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	24.6	201,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	16.2	133,000
Ages 12–14		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	7.0	18,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	4.1	10,000
Ages 15–17		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	17.9	48,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	12.2	33,000
Ages 18–20		
Past-Month Alcohol Use	45.5	135,000
Past-Month Binge Alcohol Use	30.2	90,000
Alcohol-Attributable Deaths (under 21)		71
Years of Potential Life Lost (under 21)		4,291
	Percentage of All Traffic Fatalities	Number
Traffic Fatalities, 15- to 20-Year-Old Drivers with BAC > 0.01	34.0	17

* 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

Underage Consumption of Alcohol

Consumption is prohibited with the following exception(s):

- Parent/guardian

Internal Possession by Minors

Internal possession is not explicitly prohibited.

Note: Although Washington does not prohibit Internal Possession as defined in this report, it has a statutory provision that makes it unlawful for a minor to “be in a public place...while exhibiting the effects of having consumed liquor.” Laws that punish minors for displaying “indicators of consumption” or for “exhibiting the effects” of having consumed alcohol, but do so without reference to a blood, breath, or urine test, are not considered as prohibiting Internal Possession for purposes of this report.

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.

Provision(s) targeting suppliers

- It is a criminal offense to lend, transfer, or sell a false ID.
- It is a criminal offense to manufacture or distribute a false ID.

Provision(s) 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: 0.02
- 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 18.

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

- 365 days

Graduated Driver’s License

Learner stage

- Minimum entry age: 15
- Minimum learner stage period: 6 months
- Minimum supervised driving requirement: 50 hours, of which 10 must be at night

Intermediate stage

- Minimum age: 16
- Unsupervised night driving
 - Prohibited after: 1 a.m.
 - No primary enforcement of the night-driving rule
- Passenger restrictions exist: First 6 months, no passengers under age 20 not in the immediate family; after 6 months, no more than three passengers under age 20 not in the immediate family
 - No primary enforcement of the passenger-restriction rule

License stage

- Minimum age to lift restrictions: 17

Laws Targeting Alcohol Suppliers

Furnishing of Alcohol to Minors

Furnishing is prohibited with the following exception(s):

- Parent/guardian

Compliance Check Protocols

Age of decoy

- Minimum: 18
- Maximum: 20

Appearance requirements

- No sunglasses or hats
- Male: No beards
- Female: Little or no makeup

ID possession

- Required

Verbal exaggeration of age

- Permitted

Decoy training

- Mandated—orientation required prior to field work

Penalty Guidelines for Sales to Minors

- Time period/conditions: 2 years
- First offense: 5-day suspension or \$500 fine
- Second offense: 7-day suspension
- Third offense: 30-day suspension
- Fourth offense: Cancellation of license

Responsible Beverage Service***Mandatory beverage service training for managers, servers***

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

Responsible Beverage Service***Voluntary beverage service training***

- Applies only to off-sale establishments
- Applies only to new outlets

Incentive for training

- Mitigation of fines or other administrative penalties for sales to minors

Minimum Ages for Off-Premises Sellers

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

Condition(s) that must be met in order for an underage person to sell alcoholic beverages

- Manager/supervisor is present.

Note: There must be at least two adults 21 years old or older on duty supervising the sale of spirits at the licensed premises.

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

Condition(s) that must be met in order for an underage person to sell alcoholic beverages

- Manager/supervisor is present.

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 500 feet if the public elementary or secondary school objects after receiving written notice.
 - On-premises outlets: Yes—within 500 feet if the public elementary or secondary school objects after receiving written notice.
 - 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.

Note: In *Reynolds v. Hicks*, the court held that a social host who furnishes alcohol to a minor can be held liable for resulting harms to the minor who was furnished but is not liable for injuries caused by the minor to third parties.

Host Party Laws

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

- Action by underage guest that triggers violation: Consumption
- Property type(s) covered by liability law: Residence, outdoor, other
- Standard for hosts' knowledge or action regarding the party: Negligence—host must have known or should have known of the event's occurrence.
- Exception(s): Family

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

- Common carrier must verify age of recipient.

State approval/permit requirements

- Producer/shipper must obtain state permit.

Reporting requirements: None

Shipping label statement requirements

- Recipient must be 21.

Keg Registration

- Keg definition: 4 gallons or more
- Prohibited:
 - Possessing an unregistered, unlabeled keg—maximum fine/jail \$5000/1 year

- Destroying the label on a keg—maximum fine/jail \$5000/1 year
- 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 do not specifically address disposable kegs

Note: Under a special endorsement from the liquor control board, a grocery store licensee may sell malt liquor in containers no larger than 5½ gallons. Research revealed no similar container size restriction imposed on other licensees.

Home Delivery

- Beer: Permitted—to sell via the internet, a new license applicant must request internet sales privileges. Existing licensees must notify the board.
- Wine: Permitted—to sell via the internet, a new license applicant must request internet sales privileges. Existing licensees must notify the board.
- Spirits: Permitted—to sell via the internet, a new license applicant must request internet sales privileges. Existing licensees must notify the board.

Alcohol Pricing Policies

Alcohol Tax

Beer (5 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax: \$0.76 per gallon

Wine (12 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax: \$0.87 per gallon

Spirits (40 percent alcohol)

- Specific excise tax (On-Premises): \$9.23 per gallon
- Specific excise tax (Off-Premises): \$14.25 per gallon
- Ad valorem excise tax (on-premises retail): 17 percent
- Ad valorem excise tax (off-premises retail): 37.5 percent
 - Sales tax does NOT apply
 - Sales tax: 6.5 percent
 - Sales tax adjusted retail ad valorem rate: 31 percent
- Ad valorem excise tax (on-premises wholesale): 23.7 percent
- Ad valorem excise tax (off-premises wholesale): 10 percent

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

- Unlimited beverages: Not prohibited
- Increased volume: Not prohibited

Wholesale Pricing

Pricing restrictions exist.

Beer (5 percent alcohol)

- Volume discounts: Banned
- Minimum markup/maximum discount: Yes—no sales below cost
- Price posting requirements: Post
- Retailer credit: Not permitted

Wine (12 percent alcohol)

- Retailer credit: Not permitted

Spirits (40 percent alcohol)

- Minimum markup/maximum discount: Yes—no sales below cost
- Retailer credit: Not permitted

Washington State Survey Responses

State Agency Information	
<i>Agency with primary responsibility for enforcing underage drinking laws:</i>	
Washington State Liquor Control Board	
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	No
Party Patrol Operations or Programs	Yes
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/shippments of alcohol to minors	Washington State Liquor Control Board
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	16
Number pertains to the 12 months ending	12/31/2012
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	15,781
Number of licensees checked for compliance by state agencies (including random checks)	2,777
Number of licensees that failed state compliance checks	453
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	12/31/2012
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	2,777
Number of licensees that failed random state compliance checks	453
<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	No
Number of licensees checked for compliance by local agencies	Not applicable
Number of licensees that failed local compliance checks	Not applicable
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	12/31/2012
Sanctions	
<i>State collects data on fines imposed on retail establishments that furnish minors</i>	
Number of fines imposed by the state ⁴	105
Total amount in fines across all licensees	\$60,550
Smallest fine imposed	\$300
Largest fine imposed	\$2,500
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	12/31/2012

<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	19
Total days of suspensions across all licensees	102
Shortest period of suspension imposed (in days)	3
Longest period of suspension imposed (in days)	12
Numbers pertain to the 12 months ending	12/31/2012
<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	12/31/2012
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	
<i>Washington State Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking</i>	
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:	http://www.starttalkingnow.org
Program Description: This multi-agency, multipartner group provides cross-system coordination and leveraged resources in support of underage drinking prevention efforts. The coalition is co-led by the state alcohol and drug agency (Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery) and the state’s Liquor Control Board. The coalition also initiates and provides comments on communications efforts regarding underage drinking and policy initiatives.	
<i>Annual Let’s Draw the Line Between Youth and Alcohol Campaign</i>	
Program serves specific or general population	Specific population
Number of youth served	5,000
Number of parents served	2,000
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:	http://www.starttalkingnow.org
Program Description: This campaign provides minigrants to communities to partner with law enforcement to inventory alcohol advertising in their community and to increase community awareness about underage drinking and local policy initiatives. This year, 44 communities participated, involving more than 8,000 people across the state in underage drinking prevention efforts.	

Law Enforcement Partnerships Initiative	
Program serves specific or general population	Specific population
Number of youth served	50
Number of parents served	50
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:	http://www.starttalkingnow.org
Program Description: This initiative provides support in targeted, high-risk communities for law enforcement and community coalitions to coordinate implementation of compliance checks, alcohol purchase surveys, and public awareness efforts regarding the enforcement efforts.	
College Coalition on Substance Abuse Prevention	
Program serves specific or general population	Specific population
Number of youth served	3,000
Number of parents served	16,000
Number of caregivers served	200
Program has been evaluated	Yes
Evaluation report is available	No
URL for evaluation report:	Not applicable
URL for more program information:	http://ccsap.wsu.edu
Program Description: This organization provides training and professional development support to college counseling and student affairs offices regarding issues impacted by alcohol and other drug use among college students in the state. Their annual 1-day conference features presentations from some of the top names in national and international research about alcohol and other drug issues, brain development, impact of substances on college athletes, and so on.	
Start Talking Now Website	
Program serves specific or general population	General population
Number of youth served	No data
Number of parents served	2,000
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:	http://www.starttalkingnow.org
Program Description: This website is now our main vehicle for distributing news and materials regarding underage drinking to individuals and groups. The site features information about current trends in Washington State as well as information about biophysical impacts of substances on youth, guidance for parents in talking about substance use, and multiple free materials for download.	
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	
<p><i>State collaborates with federally recognized Tribal governments in the prevention of underage drinking</i></p> <p>Description of collaboration: The Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) provides direct funding to the state’s 29 federally recognized Tribes to support services that prevention or treat substance abuse problems. Most of the Tribes use these funds to support prevention efforts, most of which focus on youth issues including underage drinking.</p>	Yes
<p><i>State has programs to measure and/or reduce youth exposure to alcohol advertising and marketing</i></p> <p>Program description: In the past, EUDL funds supported statewide media campaigns. In 2011, the Washington State Coalition for Reducing Underage Drinking (RUaD Coalition) decided that the funding available for media campaigns—after budget cuts in the federal EUDL program as well as significant cuts to the budgets of partner agencies—were insufficient to support quality statewide campaign implementation. However, several community outreach efforts remain. For example, the DBHR communications manager arranged for a major billboard company to run a series of underage drinking messages in 2011, and that company continues to provide these messages free of charge.</p>	Yes
<p><i>State has adopted or developed best practice standards for underage drinking prevention programs</i></p> <p>Agencies/organizations that established best practices standards:</p> <p>Federal agency(ies): No</p> <p>Agency(ies) within your state: Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery Yes</p> <p>Nongovernmental agency(ies): No</p> <p>Other: No</p> <p>Best practice standards description: DBHR requires that 60 percent of the programs and strategies implemented with the prevention set-aside from the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) block grant be evidence based. DBHR has successfully converted its prevention delivery system so it focuses on providing services to 52 high-risk communities, at least one in each of the state’s 39 counties. Communities have been developing strategic plans for addressing their community priorities, which must include underage drinking. In that process, best practices for community coalitions are being practiced, and implementation of the Strategic Prevention Framework is used as the planning platform for communities. Each participating community is required to organize and support a community coalition, deliver both direct service and environmental prevention services, and provide prevention/intervention services in the community’s schools.</p>	Yes
Additional Clarification	
No data	

State Interagency Collaboration	
<p><i>A state-level interagency governmental body/committee exists to coordinate or address underage drinking prevention activities</i></p>	Yes
<p><i>Committee contact information:</i></p> <p>Name: Ray Horodowicz Email: horodr@dshs.wa.gov Address: P.O. Box 45330, Olympia, WA 98504-5330 Phone: 360-725-3807</p>	
<p><i>Agencies/organizations represented on the committee:</i></p> <p>College Coalition for Substance Abuse Prevention Juvenile court services/diversion Faith community Medical community Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Native American Tribes Office of Attorney General Treatment community</p>	

Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs Washington Association of Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention Washington Drug-free Communities Coalition of Coalitions Washington National Guard Counter Drug Task Force Washington State Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Washington State Department of Commerce Washington State Department of Health Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery) Governor's Office Washington State Liquor Control Board Lt. Governor's Office Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice Washington State Patrol Washington State Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Washington Traffic Safety Commission and Target Zero Task Forces	
A website or other public source exists to describe committee activities	Yes
URL or other means of access: http://www.starttlakingnow.org	

Underage Drinking Reports

State has prepared a plan for preventing underage drinking in the last 3 years Yes

Prepared by: Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery and Washington State Liquor Control Board in concert with the Washington State Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking
 Plan can be accessed via: <http://www.starttalkingnow.org>

State has prepared a report on preventing underage drinking in the last 3 years No

Prepared by: Not applicable
 Plan can be accessed via: Not applicable

Additional Clarification

No data

State Expenditures for the Prevention of Underage Drinking

Compliance checks in retail outlets:

Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available

Checkpoints and saturation patrols:

Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available

Community-based programs to prevent underage drinking:

Estimate of state funds expended	\$52,000
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	12/31/2012

K-12 school-based programs to prevent underage drinking:

Estimate of state funds expended	\$3,200,000
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	12/31/2012

Programs targeted to institutes of higher learning:

Estimate of state funds expended	\$23,000
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	12/31/2012

Programs that target youth in the juvenile justice system:

Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available

Programs that target youth in the child welfare system:

Estimate of state funds expended	Data not available
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	Data not available

Other programs:	
Programs or strategies included: Community Mobilization Against Substance Abuse and Violence, Family Health and Safety Networks	
Estimate of state funds expended	\$1,300,000
Estimate based on the 12 months ending	12/31/2012

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 data
<i>Description of funding streams and how they are used:</i>	
Not applicable	
Additional Clarification	
It is difficult to quantify dollars spent, because the programs have multiple focus points. The dollar amounts given represent whole budgets for programs, not the specific pieces of the programs that do underage drinking prevention work.	