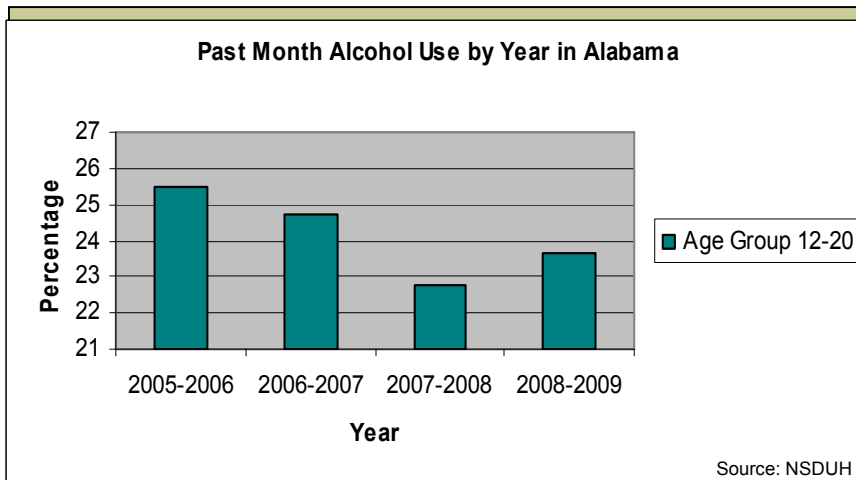




Underage Drinking in Alabama

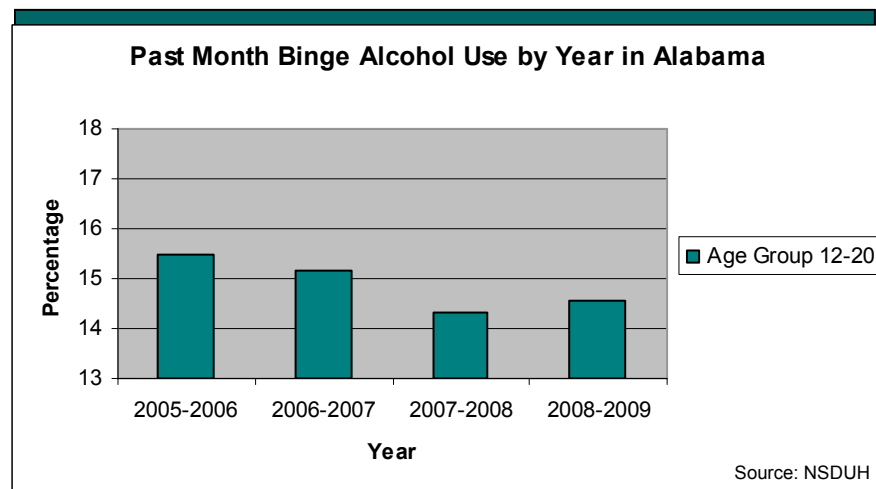
Prevention Factsheet

Although underage drinking is illegal 14.6% of all alcohol sold in Alabama is consumed by underage drinkers. In 2009, sales of alcohol to underage consumers totaled \$317 million. The average age of alcohol first use is 12.6.¹



In 2008-2009, 23.6% of persons aged 12 to 20 reported drinking alcohol in the past month which was an increase from 22.7% in 2007-2008.²

In 2008-2009, 14.6% of persons aged 12 to 20 reported binge drinking alcohol in the past month and 14.3% in 2007-2008.



In 2011, 9th –12th Graders in Alabama reported,³

- Alcohol use prior to age 13 in 2011—24%
- Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the past 30 days— 36%
- Had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple of hours on at least 1 day during the past 30 days— 21%
- Usually obtained the alcohol they drank by someone giving it to them—39%
- 67% had at least one drink of alcohol on one day during their life.



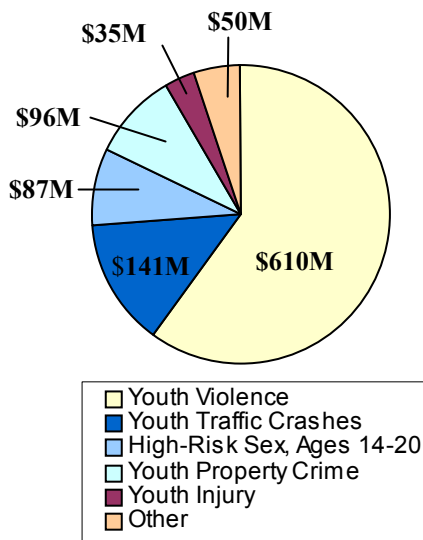
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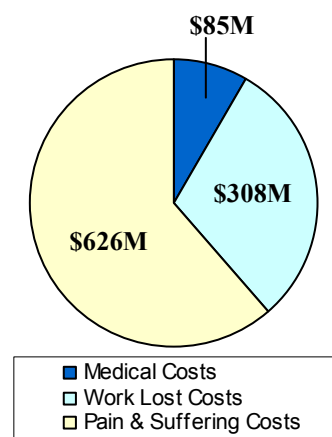
Consequences of Underage Drinking in Alabama^{3,4}

- Number of alcohol-related crashes in 2010 was reported among causal drivers age 16 to 20 years old—495
- Met criteria for alcohol abuse or dependence among ages 2-17 in 2007-2008—5%
- Identified as needing treatment for an alcohol problem but not receiving treatment among ages 12-17 in 2007-2008—4%
- Percentage of 12-20 years old admitted for treatment for alcohol as their primary substance in Alabama—5.7%

Underage Drinking Costs by Problem, Alabama 2010⁵



Underage Drinking Costs, Alabama 2010⁵



Underage drinking cost the citizens of Alabama \$1.0 billion in 2010 which for each youth in the state is a cost of \$2,222 per year. Work lost costs and medical costs account for 39% (\$393M) of cost related to underage drinking. By problem, youth violence (homicide, suicide, aggravated assault) represent the largest costs for Alabama followed by youth traffic crashes. Other problems that factor into the total cost of underage drinking include poisonings and psychoses (\$8.6M), fetal alcohol syndrome among mothers age 15-20 (\$23.4M), and youth alcohol treatment (\$17.6M).

References: ¹2009-2010 Alabama Pride Survey ²National Survey on Drug Use and Health

³Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System ⁴Alabama Dept. of Public Safety

⁵ Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center, Pacific Institute for Research & Evaluation (PIRE)