

## Profile of Iroquois County 10<sup>th</sup> Graders

**Source: 2016 Illinois Youth Survey – Iroquois County Report**

**45% of Iroquois County 10<sup>th</sup> graders report drinking alcohol in the past year**, a rate that shows a downward trend among 10<sup>th</sup> graders over the past six years. (Source: 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 [Illinois Youth Surveys](#))

According to the 2016 Illinois Youth Survey, among Iroquois County 10<sup>th</sup> graders:

- 20% report drinking alcohol during the past 30 days.
- 7% report binge drinking (five or more alcoholic drinks in a row) during the past 2 weeks.
- 15% report that they have already begun drinking alcohol regularly (at least once or twice a month).
- Just slightly over half (51%) say they have never had more than a sip or two of alcohol.
- 22% say it is very easy to get alcohol, with an additional 32% saying it is sort of easy.
- Among those who drink, beer and hard liquor are the most popular beverages.
- 6% report driving when they had been drinking alcohol.

The chart below indicates some reasons why teens drink alcohol, as well as some other related problem behaviors. While these rates are somewhat low among 10<sup>th</sup> graders, they more than double in most instances by the time the students are 12<sup>th</sup> graders:

**SUBSTANCE USE CONSEQUENCES: During the past 12 months:**

	10th	12th
Did you ever use alcohol or drugs to relax, feel better about yourself, or fit in	11%	28%
Did you ever use alcohol or drugs while you were by yourself, alone	12%	24%
Did you ever forget things you did while using alcohol or drugs	5%	19%
Did your family or friends ever tell you that you should cut down on your drinking or drug use	4%	6%
Have you gotten into trouble while you were using alcohol or drugs	3%	7%
Have you ever ridden in a car driven by someone (including yourself) who was "high" or had been using alcohol or drugs	18%	36%
<b>Experienced 2 or more consequences (indicating the potential need for substance abuse assessment according to the CRAFFT Screening Test )</b>	14%	35%

On the **positive** side, the vast majority (82%) of 10<sup>th</sup> graders overestimate the percentage of their peers who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days. Letting them know that the number of teens drinking alcohol is much lower than they think it is will help to change perceptions that everyone is doing it.

Other positive norms among 10<sup>th</sup> graders:

- 70% think it is wrong or very wrong for people their age to drink alcohol.
- Nearly two thirds (66%) think there is no to little chance they would be seen as cool if they drank alcohol.
- 78% recognize that there is moderate to great risk related to weekly binge drinking.
- More than three quarters (78%) think it is wrong to very wrong to drink alcohol nearly every day.
- While 85% think their parents would disapprove of them drinking alcohol once or twice a month, 97% recognize that their parents would disapprove of them drinking alcohol every day.

**Parents** play a very important role in preventing teen alcohol use. They have the greatest influence over their children's behavior, even greater than their peers. Yet, in the past year, only 52% of Iroquois County 10<sup>th</sup> graders say that their parents talked to them about not drinking alcohol.

Similarly, almost one third of parents are not perceived to be closely monitoring their teens. Among 10<sup>th</sup> graders:

- 29% believe they will never get caught going to a party where alcohol was served.
- 29% believe they will never get caught drinking alcohol.
- 28% think they will never get caught riding in a car with a teen who had been drinking alcohol.

**Other adults** play an important role in communicating the attitudes of the community. Iroquois County 10<sup>th</sup> graders believe that the majority (65%) of the adults (other than their parents) in the community think it is wrong or very wrong for them to drink alcohol.

The chart below indicates that major role parents and other adults play in knowingly and unknowingly providing alcohol to teens. It also shows that retail establishments are doing a relatively good job in not serving or selling alcohol to underage youth.

**ALCOHOL SOURCE TYPE ONLY AMONG ALCOHOL USERS: During the past year, did you usually get your own beer, wine or liquor from the following sources\*:**

	8th Grade	10th Grade	12th Grade
<b>Retail Purchase</b>			
<b>Any Retail Source</b>	0%	4%	6%
I bought it at a bar or restaurant	0%	4%	5%
I bought it at a gas station or store	0%	2%	4%
<b>Parent Supply</b>			
My parents WITH their permission	26%	45%	45%
<b>Social Access</b>			
<b>Any Social Source (excluding parents)</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>80%</b>
A friend gave it to me	16%	41%	60%
I got it at a party	15%	31%	58%
I gave a stranger money to buy it for me	5%	5%	14%
My older brother or sister gave it to me	8%	24%	33%
An adult (other than my parents) WITH that adult's permission	13%	25%	39%
<b>Accessed Without Permission</b>			
<b>Stole or Took Without Permission</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>36%</b>
I took it from a store	3%	4%	2%
My parents WITHOUT their permission	25%	27%	32%
An adult (other than my parents) WITHOUT that adult's permission	10%	11%	12%
<b># of Alcohol Users in the Past Year</b>	61	124	130

\*If you see an 'N/R' (Not Reported) noted in this table, it means that at least 50% of students skipped the question for no known reason, making the results too biased to report