

Alcohol Use among Youth in Leon County
 Provided by the Tallahassee/Leon County Responsible Decision Making Coalition

- *Adolescents*

- Information on underage drinking among adolescents in Leon County comes from the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS).
- DID YOU KNOW that in 2008:
 - Forty-one percent (41%) of middle school students reported trying alcohol or other illicit drugs.
 - Almost 60% of high school students reported trying alcohol or other illicit drugs.
 - Almost 48% of middle school students reported that it is “easy” to get alcohol!
 - Over 11% of middle school students think that they will be seen as “cool” if they drink alcohol regularly.
 - Over 18% of middle school students reported that they drink alcohol in their own home even though it is illegal in Florida for parents to give alcohol to a minor.
 - Forty-five percent (45%) of Leon County’s health professionals and school personnel noted that lack of parental involvement is a major risk factor in underage drinking.

- *Young Adults*

- Information on underage drinking among young adults (ages 17-24) comes from monthly Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH) Emergency Room Admissions reports. These reports provide data on the number of hospital admissions of young adults based on the amount of alcohol present in their blood, known as the Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC).
- DID YOU KNOW:
 - Under Florida law, one can be arrested for a DUI with a BAC level of .08%.
 - On average, about 13 young adults PER MONTH are admitted to TMH with a BAC level between 0.08% and 0.199%.
 - On average, a person with a BAC level of 0.20% is seriously intoxicated.
 - On average, about 20 young adults PER MONTH are admitted to TMH with a BAC level of 0.20% or higher.
 - The following chart shows 2008-2009 TMH admissions based on BAC level. Note the increase in admissions during football season.

