

State of the State on

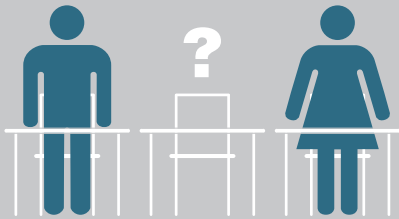
# Underage Drinking

Developed by Kansas Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free, a committee of Kansas Family Partnership

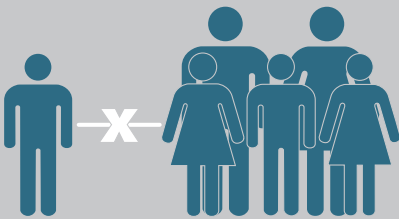
# By the Numbers

## Underage drinking can...

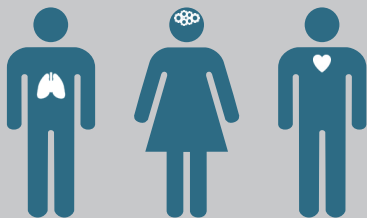
...interfere with school attendance<sup>1</sup>



...damage relationships with parents and peers<sup>1</sup>



...potentially alter brain functions and other aspects of development<sup>1</sup>



These effects can impact the success of youth in future physical, social, emotional, intellectual and professional situations

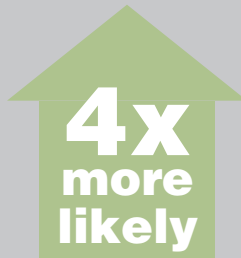
Research indicates that the human brain is not fully developed until the **mid 20s**<sup>2</sup>



Introducing alcohol to the developing brain puts youth at greater risk for

unintentional death  
injury  
sexual behavior<sup>2</sup>  
suicide  
risky behavior<sup>2</sup>

Young people who begin drinking before age 15:



to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21<sup>3</sup>



of having other substance abuse problems during adolescence<sup>4</sup>

# #1

The rank of alcohol among drugs frequently used by Kansas youth<sup>5</sup>

# 13 years old

The average age at which Kansas youth begin drinking alcohol (6<sup>th</sup> grade)<sup>5</sup>

# 41%

The percent of Kansas 12<sup>th</sup> graders who report drinking alcohol at least once in the last 30 days<sup>5</sup>

# 1 in 4

The number of alcohol abuse treatment admissions in Kansas that are attributed to youth under age 21<sup>6</sup>

# 13%

The percent of Kansas 10<sup>th</sup> graders who binge on alcohol at least once in the last 30 days<sup>5</sup>

# 1 in 5

The number of Kansas 12<sup>th</sup> graders who think it's "OK" for someone their age to drink alcohol regularly<sup>5</sup>

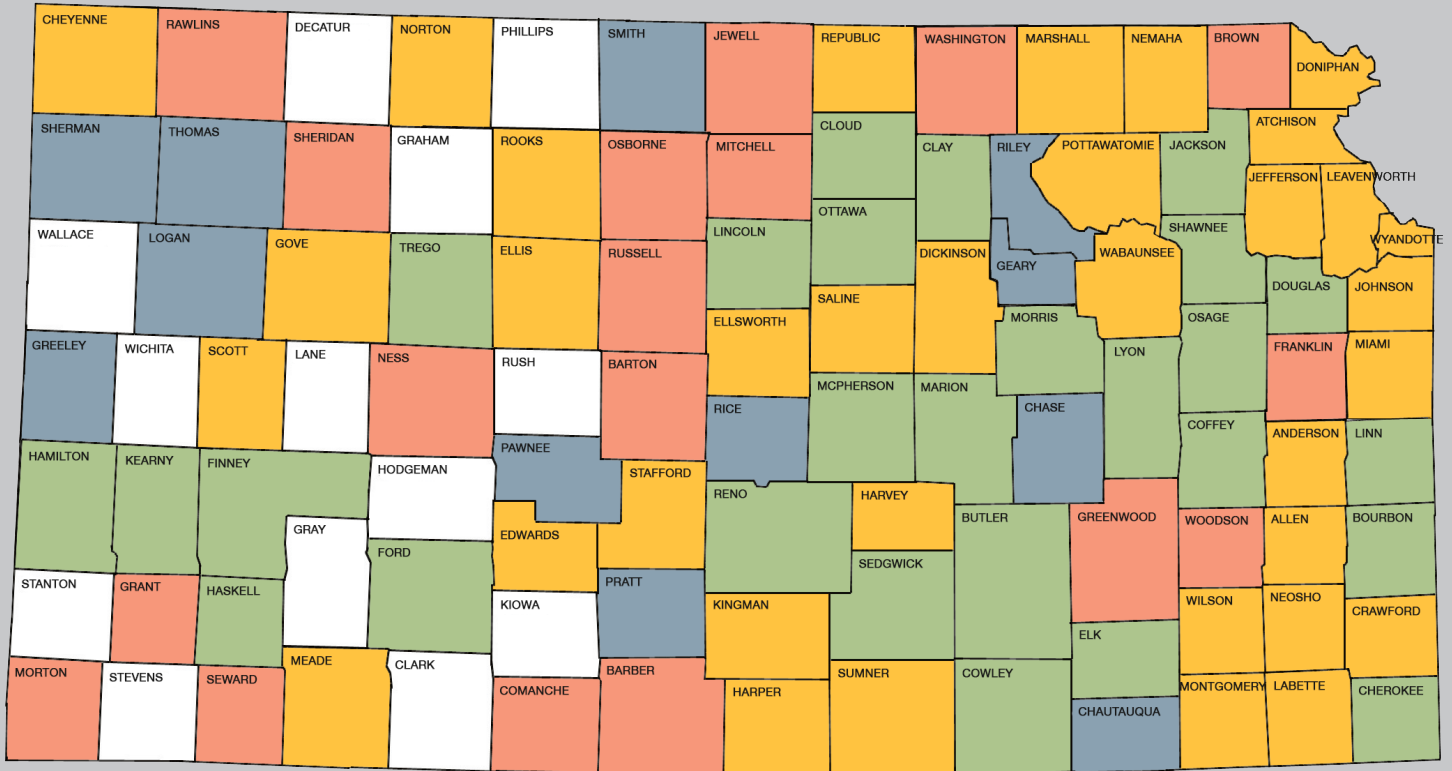
# 21%

The percent of Kansas high school students who at least once in the last 30 days have ridden with a driver who had been drinking<sup>7</sup>

# 254

The number of crashes in Kansas involving alcohol-impaired drivers between ages 15 and 20, resulting in 14 fatalities and 21 disabling injuries<sup>8</sup>

# 30-Day Alcohol Use in Kansas



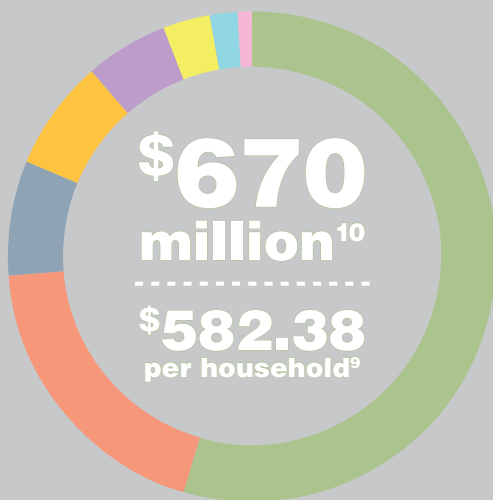
Percent of 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who report drinking alcohol at least once in the past 30 days<sup>5</sup>



**364,630**

The number of Kansas youth under age 18 who reside in counties where 30-day alcohol use is above the state average of 19.72%<sup>5,9</sup>

## Underage Drinking Costs to Kansans



- 55%, \$365,000,000 Youth Violence<sup>10</sup>
- 19%, \$129,200,000 Youth Traffic Crashes<sup>10</sup>
- 8%, \$50,800,000 High-Risk Youth Sex, Ages 14–20<sup>10</sup>
- 7%, \$48,900,000 Youth Property Crime<sup>10</sup>
- 5%, \$36,600,000 Youth Alcohol Treatment<sup>10</sup>
- 3%, \$20,900,000 Youth Injury<sup>10</sup>
- 2%, \$12,200,000 Children Born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome to Mothers, Ages 15–20<sup>10</sup>
- 1%, \$6,400,000 Poisonings and Psychoses<sup>10</sup>

These costs include medical care, work loss, and pain and suffering associated with multiple problems that result from youth alcohol use<sup>10</sup>

For references, visit [www.kansasfamily.com/kansas-leadership](http://www.kansasfamily.com/kansas-leadership)

## Kansas spends

**17.4%**

of its total state budget on the burdens of substance abuse and addiction<sup>11</sup>

but only

**.27%**

of its total state budget on substance abuse and addiction prevention, treatment and research<sup>11</sup>

Funded by Community Services and Programs/Behavioral Health Services, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services