

12/16/2005

Special points of interest:

- **What is the TAC**
- **Current Alcohol-related statistics**
- **How to contact the TAC**
- **Prevalence of Alcohol by African American Students**

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TAC Update

TAC Background

The Tampa Alcohol Coalition, TAC, is a non-profit organization that is determined to prevent and reduce underage drinking, high-risk or binge drinking and DUI's in Hillsborough County. Hillsborough County leads the state in crashes, injuries and fatalities that are alcohol related. Founded in 2001, the TAC is making a stand and working to get results that will move Hillsborough County statistics down away from alarming levels.

The main goals of the TAC are first, to increase the awareness of agencies, organizations and government officials about the

consequences and costs of underage drinking and high risk drinking in our community. Second, the TAC wants to promote community support of current alcohol policies and laws. Third, the TAC seeks to motivate key organizations, agencies, media and officials to join in their efforts. And, finally, they are seeking community support for new Alcohol policies and laws.

The TAC is comprised of many key organizations and officials throughout Hillsbor-

ough County and is lead by co-chairwomen, Ellen Snelling and Sue Carrington.



The Tampa Alcohol Coalition is committed to increasing the awareness of agencies, organizations and government officials about the consequences and costs of underage drinking.

Alcohol Statistics

- Alcohol is involved in 50% of all driving fatalities.
- In the United States, every 30 minutes, someone is killed in an alcohol related traffic accident.
- Over 15 million Americans are dependent of alcohol.
- Each year the liquor industry spends almost \$2 billion dollars

on advertising and encouraging the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

- Americans spend over \$90 billion dollars on alcohol each year.
- On average, Americans may consume over 25 gallons of beer, 2 gallons of wine and 1.5 gallons of distilled spirits per year.

- Each year students spend \$5.5 billion on alcohol. That is more than they spend on soft drinks, tea, milk, juice, coffee or books combined.

Statistics and Information provided by the Alcohol Statistics and Drug Rehabilitation website at www.usenodrugs.com



TAMPA ALCOHOL COALITION

The Tampa Alcohol Coalition meets monthly at the Tampa Police Department II, 30th Street one block north of Busch Blvd, Tampa on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

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We're on the web!
www.tampaalcoholcoalition.com

Prevalence of Alcohol Use by African American Students



African American College Students are the least likely to be heavy drinkers on campus

The Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study (CAS) reports that between 1993 and 2001, approximately 44 percent of college students were heavy drinkers. The CAS reports that African American students were the least likely to be heavy drinkers on campus, with 21.7 percent of them drinking heavily in 2001, compared with 50.2 percent of white students, 34.4 percent of Hispanic students, 33.6 percent of Native American students, and 26.2 percent of Asian and Pacific Islander students.

The Center for Substance Abuse

Treatment (CSAT) has conducted the largest investigation to date of alcohol, marijuana and tobacco use by HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) students, surveying more than 10,000 students from 39 campuses in two separate studies.

CSAT performed the studies between 1998 and 1999 and used different methods of data collection for them. According to the first study, 18.0 percent of students drank four or more alcoholic beverages in one sitting during the two weeks prior to the surveys; according to the second,

only 15.0 percent did so.

Other studies confirm that HBCU students drink less frequently and in smaller quantities than students at predominantly white institutions do. According to a 2001 survey of 1,587 students at three HBCUs in North Carolina, 10.1 percent of males and 7.8 percent of females drank heavily in the two weeks prior to the survey.

References:

1. Wechsler H. *Binge Drinking on American College Campuses: A new look at an old problem*. Boston: Harvard School of Public Health
2. Ford DS Carr P. *Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education*. 36 (1): 45-51