



Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

DIVISION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE SERVICES

Effective Care • Consumer Centered • Recovery Based



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TENNESSEE SPF-SIG COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

PUTNAM COUNTY

This document is funded under an agreement with the State of Tennessee through the Tennessee SPF-SIG Project from SAMHSA

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Research and
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March 2009

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Putnam County

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PUTNAM COUNTY ADULT AND YOUTH SURVEY REPORT

INTRODUCTION

This report presents results from the community survey conducted on-line between September and December 2008.* The primary purpose of the report is to measure intervening variables and contributing factors associated with the alcohol use and accessibility in your county, which were targeted through the Tennessee SPF-SIG. These results also examine the ease with which youth can obtain alcohol in your county. The information based on the Youth Survey and the Adult Survey is presented later in this report under the summary of results. The results are displayed in detail in tables. The data are often shown as the number and the percent of youth/adults choosing each response to the questions they were asked.

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection, Analysis and Technical Notes

The two web-based surveys were conducted with youth aged 5 -20 years old, and adults 21 years and older within Tennessee's SPF SIG counties. A total of 21 counties took part in the survey. SurveyMonkey, a web survey site, was contracted to run each of the two surveys in order to collect the data. The surveys were self-administered.

The data were obtained in MS Excel, which was then converted into SPSS for cleaning, verification and analysis. The process of analysis began with applying variable labels and value labels to the data, cleaning the data to include or exclude inappropriate data, and designating values representing missing data. The respondents who did not indicate one of the 29 SPF SIG counties as their residence were excluded from this analysis. Due to the lack of reliability of results, counties with less than 20 respondents were also excluded from these analyses.

A problem in a self-completed survey is that some respondents do not always complete all items (missing response/value). In order to provide correct proportions, the missing values were excluded from the denominator in our data analysis.

Questionnaire items for which multiple responses could be selected are presented in the tables below as the number of persons nominating each possible response option.

These surveys do not include randomly selected target populations; therefore, caution must be exercised when trying to generalize these results to the larger population in your county.

* Due to the different data collection time windows, these results may differ from those produced by CADCAT.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS: ADULT SURVEY

A total of 72 adults participated in the Adult Survey in Putnam County. The ages of the respondents ranged from 24 years to 65 years. More than 80 percent of the respondents belonged to 25-54 year age-category. Nearly all of the respondents reported to be white (97.2%). Females (81.7%) were more than four times as likely to participate as males (18.3%) in this survey. The detailed results are displayed in the following tables.

Demographics

Table 1. Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Male	13	18.3
Female	58	81.7
Total	71	100.0

Table 2. What do you consider yourself to be?

	Frequency	Percent
White	70	97.2
Black	1	1.4
Native American	0	0.0
Asian	0	0.0
Other	1	1.4
Total	72	100.0

Table 3. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	0	0.0
No	72	100.0
Total	72	100.0

Table 4. Age category

Age-category in years	Frequency	Percent
18-24	3	4.8
25 -34	15	23.8
35 – 44	21	33.3
45 – 54	15	23.8
55 – 64	8	12.7
65 and above	1	1.6
Total	63	100.0

Children in the Household

Table 5. Children in the household

	Frequency of response*
I do not have a child/children in my household	31
I am a parent or guardian of a child/children under the age of 11 in my household.	18
I am a parent or guardian of a child/children between the ages of 12 to 17 in my household.	22
I am a parent or guardian of a child/children between the ages of 18 to 20 in my household.	4
I am a parent or guardian of a child/children between the ages of 21 to 24 in my household	6
I am a parent or guardian of a child/children between the ages of 25 or older in my household.	2

*A respondent may have chosen more than one response

Alcohol Seen as a Problem

Table 6. In my opinion, alcohol use by youth under 21 in my County is...

	Frequency	Percent
A serious problem	36	50.0
Somewhat of a problem	29	40.3
A slight problem	7	9.7
Not a problem	0	0.0
Total	72	100.0

Table 7. Do you know or have first-hand knowledge of parents in this County who knowingly allow youth under 21 to drink alcohol in their homes?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	31	43.1
No	32	44.4
I do not know	9	12.5
Total	72	100.0

Table 8. If you have a child (or children) under the age of 21, did he or she drink more than a few sips of alcohol in the past 30 days?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	0	0.0
No	37	52.9
I don't know	1	1.4
Does not apply, I do not have children	32	45.7
Total	70	100.0

Access to Alcohol

Table 9. Youth get alcohol from a variety of settings. Please indicate up to 3 main ways that you know or have first-hand knowledge of how youth under 21 get alcohol in this County.

	Frequency of Response*
Steal it from their own home	51
Buy it from a grocery/convenience store	11
Steal it from a friend's home	12
Buy it from a liquor store	2
Steal it from a local store	2
Buy it from a bar/restaurant	6
Ask strangers or adults to buy it for them	41
Buy it a local festival/community event	3
Brother, sister, or friend (age 21 or older) buy it for them	60
Parents buy it for them	20

*A respondent may have chosen more than one response

Table 10. In your opinion, is it okay for parents to knowingly allow youth under 21 to drink more than a few sips of alcohol?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	7.0
No	66	93.0
Total	71	100.0

Table 11. I would support new and/or stiffer penalties in my County for the following...

	Frequency of Response*
Parents or adults who buy alcohol for youth under 21	63
Parents or adults who knowingly allow youth under 21 to drink in their home	52
Parents who unknowingly provide alcohol to youth under 21 or a place to drink alcohol in their homes (e.g. youth under 21 who drink alcohol in a private residence when the parents are absent)	28
Underage friends that provide alcohol to youth under 21	46
Strangers who buy alcohol for youth under 21	61
Bars and restaurants that sell to youth under 21	65
Grocery stores, mini-markets, gas stations, liquor stores or other local stores that sell to youth under 21	68

*A respondent may have chosen more than one response

Table 12. Possible solution(s) that would be effective in reducing underage drinking in your County.

	Frequency of Response*
Tag beer kegs with ID of buyer	32
Mandatory training in Responsible Beverage Service for waiters, bartenders, and sales clerks who serve or sell alcohol	41
A public awareness campaign	34
Limiting the number of stores that sell alcohol in the area	13
Limiting or banning "happy hours" or other alcohol-focused promotions	12
Allow police/sheriff to bill for responding to calls for home parties (cost of service)	38
Law enforcement to carry out routine sobriety road blocks or check points	47
Punish adult suppliers of alcohol at teen parties	63

Table 12 continued. Possible solution(s) that would be effective in reducing underage drinking in your County.

	Frequency of Response*
Law enforcement to carry out ongoing compliance checks to see if retailers are following the laws regarding the sale of alcohol to youth under 21	52
Law enforcement to carry out operations to reduce the likelihood of youth getting alcohol from	39
strangers or adults at a store that sells alcohol	25
Restrict youth's ability to get alcohol at community events	40
Limit alcohol sponsoring at community events and festivals	30
Ban participants in community events and festivals from bringing alcohol into the events	35
Educate and work with local store owners to help decrease theft of alcohol by youth under 21	34
Require local stores to install and use State drivers license scanners for easy detection of false identification	46
Breathalyzers at school events to check for underage drinking	32

*A respondent may have chosen more than one response

SUMMARY OF RESULTS: YOUTH SURVEY

A total of 567 youth participated in the Youth Survey in Putnam County. The ages of the respondents varied from 10 to 20 years. Nearly 80 percent of the respondents reported to be high school students, whereas 20.5 percent said they were middle/elementary school students. There were more than 89 percent white youth compared to 3.1 percent black youth. More than seven percent of the participants were Hispanics. More females (53.9%) than males (46.1%) participated in this survey. The detailed results are displayed in the following tables.

Demographics

Table 1. What is your gender?

	Frequency	Percent
Male	257	46.1
Female	301	53.9
Total	558	100.0

Table 2. What do you consider yourself to be?

	Frequency	Percent
White	497	89.2
Black	17	3.1
Asian	6	1.1
American Indian/Alaska/Hawaiian	3	1.3
Other	30	5.4
Total	557	100.0

Table 3. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	41	7.3
No	517	92.7
Total	558	100.0

Table 4. Grade

	Frequency	Percent
Middle School or Elementary School	116	20.5
High School	449	79.2
College	2	0.4
Total	567	100.0

Alcohol Seen as a Problem

Table 5. In your opinion, alcohol use in your county by youth under 21 is ...

	Frequency	Percent
A serious problem	142	25.5
Somewhat of a problem	160	28.8
A slight problem	129	23.2
Not a problem	125	22.5
Total	556	100.0

Alcohol Consumption Frequency

Table 6. Did you ever drink more than a few sips of alcohol?

	Frequency	Percent
Once	79	14.1
More than once	175	31.3
No	305	54.6
Total	559	100.0

Table 7. Did you drink more than a few sips of alcohol in the past 30 days?

	Frequency	Percent
Once	38	6.8
More than once	65	11.6
No	329	58.9
Does not apply	127	22.7
Total	559	100.0

Alcohol Access

Table 8. Have you seen youth under 21 drink alcohol in your county?

	Frequency	Percent
Once	56	10.1
More than once	354	63.6
No	147	26.4
Total	557	100.0

Table 9. Where do most youth under 21 who drink alcohol in your county usually get it*?

	Frequency of response*
Take it from store w/o paying	32
Stranger buys	56
A friend 21 or older buys	313
Given at a party/gathering	239
Family member buys	115
Take from parents/adults w/o telling	206
Buy from a store	51
Get from a brother/sister 21 or older	136
Do not know	180

*A respondent may have chosen more than one response

Table 10. Where do most youth under 21 in your county usually drink the alcohol they get?

	Frequency of response*
Usually most youth drink alcohol in their own home or a friend's home	350
Usually most youth drink alcohol in youth parties	317
Usually most youth drink alcohol in a car	91
Usually most youth drink alcohol in public parks/other public areas	81
Usually most youth drink alcohol at school during the day	22
Usually most youth drink alcohol at a school-related event (dance, sports event, other)	32
Do not know	174

*A respondent may have chosen more than one answer

Table 11. Do you know anyone under the age of 21 who has bought alcohol from a store in your county?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	177	32.0
No	376	68.0
Total	553	100.0

Table 12. If yes, did the store clerk or cashier ask for ID?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	32	5.9
No	96	17.9
I don't know	122	22.3
Does not apply	297	54.3
Total	547	100.0

Table 13. Do you know anyone under the age of 21 who has bought alcohol from a store using a fake ID in your county?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	141	25.5
No	411	74.5
Total	552	100.0

Table 14. If you or your friends drink alcohol at parties or other social events in your county, is there a parent or other adult present?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	85	15.3
No	224	40.4
Does not apply	245	44.2
Total	554	100.0

Table 15. Have you ever...

	Frequency of response*
Have you ever been absent from school because you drank alcohol?	34
Have you ever ridden in a car when the driver had been drinking?	154
Have you ever driven a car when you were drinking?	33
Have you ever been drunk at a party?	138
Have you ever been drunk at school?	27
Have you ever had an injury because you drank alcohol?	38
Have you ever been arrested because you drank alcohol?	18
Have you ever done poorly in school because you drank alcohol?	25
Have you ever been suspended/expelled from school because you drank alcohol?	14
Have you ever had family problems because you drank alcohol?	32

*A respondent may have chosen more than one answer