

# Cayman Islands Student Drug Use Survey CISDUS 2014

## TRENDS IN ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS 1998-2014



### Binge Drinking Facts:

Binge Drinking is defined as consuming five or more alcoholic drinks in one sitting. This pattern of drinking among youth warrants special attention because it increases the likelihood for harmful consequences such as injury, driving while intoxicated, violence and unsafe sex.

In 2014, the reported prevalence of binge drinking was 14.0%. Three hundred and fifty two (352) students who were surveyed reported binge drinking at least once, in the two weeks before the survey was administered.

Girls were more likely to binge drink. Binge drinking increased with grade levels, with more than one-third of 12th graders reporting such behaviour.

George Town (15.1%) and North Side (15.2%) were the districts with the most significant variation in binge drinking among all the districts in the Cayman Islands.

Drinking behaviours were correlated over time with reported alcohol availability and attitudes about alcohol.



### Resources:

To view the Cayman Islands Student Drug Surveys (CISDUS) or other Reports, please visit our web site: [www.ndc.ky](http://www.ndc.ky)



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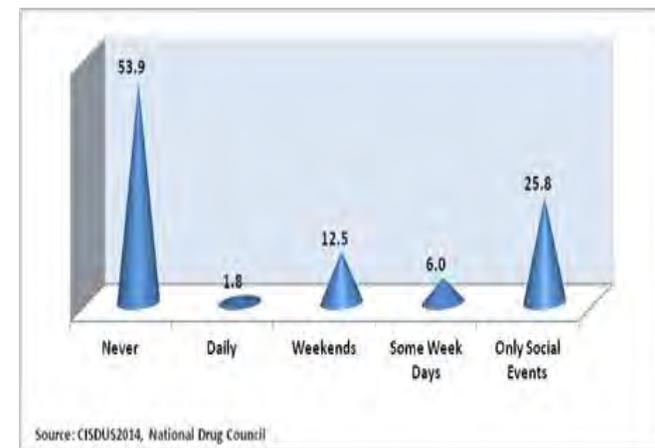
### Frequency:

Of the students that report drinking (N=1,444) in 2014, 25.8% reported alcohol use *only at social events* and 12.5% reported alcohol use during *weekends*. Just a small percentage (1.8%) reported *daily* alcohol use.

Females are more likely than males to use alcohol at *social events*.

The likelihood of drinking at *social events* increased notably with grade, from 6.1% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders to 38.7% of 12<sup>th</sup> Graders.

### Frequency of Alcohol Use in the Past Month:



### Age of first use:

Of students who reported ever drinking alcohol, the average age of first use was 12.7 years. In 2014, about 26.6% of drinkers reported "early onset" use. This indicates that they had their first drink between the ages of 6 and 11 years.

Since 1998 (11.67 yrs) the age of first use of alcohol has remained constant (2000: 11.47yrs, 2002: 11.57yrs, 2006: 11.68yrs, 2010: 11.6%) but in 2012 and 2014 an increase was identified (12.04yrs and 12.7yrs respectively).



# Alcohol Prevalence 2014:

- In 2014, almost four of every ten students (38.1%) reported having at least one drink of alcohol in the past 12 months.
- Males (37.9%) and females (38.0%) are equally likely to report alcohol use.
- The likelihood of drinking in the past year increased notably with grade, from 19.7% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders to 64.1% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Among districts, East End reported the highest prevalence in 2014 (43.3%).

# Change in Lifetime, Annual and Current Use of Alcohol 1998–2014.



- **Lifetime:** is defined as having ever drank any alcohol.
- **Annual:** is defined as drinking alcohol during the past 12 months.
- **Current:** is defined as drinking alcohol during the past 30 days.

# Trends in Alcohol Use:

In all surveys of the CISDUS cycle, the majority of the students from grade 7 to 12 had used alcohol in their lifetime. Lifetime and annual prevalence of alcohol use reported similar trends in 2012 and 2014; current prevalence decreased notably in 2014. Over previous years, Lifetime and annual prevalence were constant over the time (1998-2002), and in 2006 a notable increase was reported. Current prevalence in 2012 has double compared with 1998. In 2010, there is a significant decrease in lifetime, annual and current use.

# Trends in Past Year Alcohol Use (%) by Gender, Grade and District 1998-2014.

		1998	2000	2002	2006	2010	2012	2014
	(N=)	(1882)	(2134)	(2161)	(2435)	(2612)	(2928)	(2510)
<b>TOTAL</b>		39.9	38.0	38.1	45.5	39.2	40.2	38.1
<b>GENDER</b>	Male	41.6	40.7	37.7	45.3	38.4	37.8	37.9
	Female	38.4	35.6	38.6	45.7	40.1	42.8	38.0
<b>GRADE</b>	Grade 7	20.6	14.2	14.6	21.4	10.7	10.5	19.7
	Grade 8	32.4	20.1	21.1	31.9	20.7	25.2	23.7
	Grade 9	45.2	37.2	32.8	41.6	35.8	45.7	36.1
	Grade 10	42.0	45.8	48.8	53.8	50.2	50.0	48.6
	Grade 11	50.5	53.8	62.6	61.3	63.0	64.4	57.4
	Grade 12	57.5	64.4	61.5	69.7	65.8	67.6	64.1
<b>DISTRICT</b>	West Bay	39.8	41.2	43.2	45.8	41.2	40.0	39.4
	George Town	38.0	37.7	37.3	49.7	36.5	40.1	39.1
	Bodden Town	44.4	38.6	40.6	44.5	43.0	40.6	36.2
	East End	47.1	30.3	30.4	50.5	47.9	40.9	43.3
	North Side	45.9	35.1	34.7	36.9	27.7	41.7	39.1
	Cayman Brac	30.0	29.4	24.5	25.6	38.9	45.1	29.3

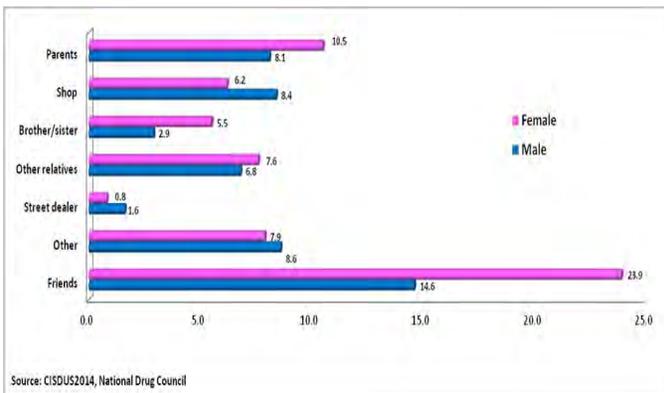
Source: CISDUS2014—National Drug Council

# Source of obtaining Alcohol and Place of Consumption:

Among students that reported alcohol use, males and females were equally likely to use alcohol. The main source of alcohol in the previous years (2010-2014) was through friends, followed by parents, other relatives and other sources, shop, brother/sister and street dealer.

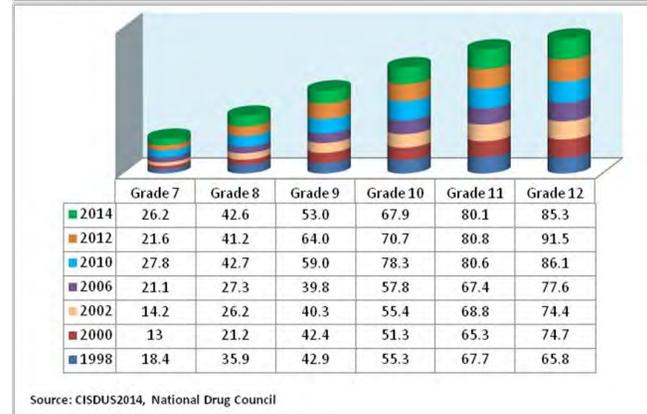
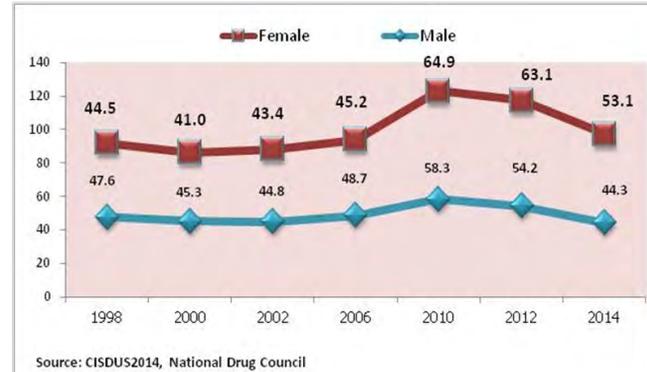
In 2014, 23.9% of female drinkers and 22.6% of male drinkers reported preferring using alcohol at social events

# Usual Source of Alcohol, by Gender 2014



# Perception of Availability:

In 2014, 47.8% of all students surveyed (53.1% of females and 44.3% of males) reported that it was “easy” or “very easy” to obtain alcohol. There was a notable increase by grades, from 26.2% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders to 85.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Over the years surveyed, there has been a significant increase of users among 7th graders.



# Perception of Risk:

Students were asked “how much risk does daily drinking has to one’s health and well being?”. In 2014, 28.0% of students (females 31.5% and males 25.0%) reported that they believe that daily drinking poses a great risk. However, 8.3% felt there was no risk involved with taking one or two drinks daily.

In previous years, the perception of risk decreased from 31.4% in 2000 to 24.6% in 2006, but increased again in the latest years (2010: 28.1%, 2012: 29.4% and 2014: 28.0%).

