

# Alcohol Statistics and Facts

Drugs and Alcohol

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Use your packet to answer the following questions about alcohol use and abuse. The answers may also be found using the following websites:

[http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/factsheets/general\\_information.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/factsheets/general_information.htm)

<http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/faqs.htm>

<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/>

## GENERAL ALCOHOL INFORMATION

1. What is **binge drinking**? Give three important facts about binge drinking.
2. What is **heavy drinking**? Give one important fact about heavy drinking.
3. What is **alcohol dependence**? What percentage of people reported being alcohol dependent in 2002?
4. What do the statistics tell us about **underage drinking**?
5. How do **underage males compare to underage females** with regard to drinking in general?  
What about with regard to binge drinking?
6. What do the statistics tell us about **drinking and driving**?
7. What are the 3 important facts about the **health effects of alcohol**?

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8. What is **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)**? How common is it? Give three differences in the facial features of someone with FAS (see illustration near end of packet or at <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov>).
  
9. What advice about drinking during **pregnancy** would you give to an expectant mother? Why?
  
10. How effective have **alcohol taxes** and **minimum drinking age laws** been on preventing drinking-related problems?

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

11. What is **ethyl alcohol**?
  
12. Why can it be dangerous to drink alcohol use while taking **medications** (either prescription or non-prescription)?
  
13. What is a **standard** drink? Specifically, what is the difference between moderate and heavy drinking?
  
14. What's the difference between **alcoholism** and **alcohol abuse**?
  
15. Why are some people **more affected** by alcohol than others?

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16. For people 21 and older, what is the **legal limit** for drinking alcohol in most states? What about for those under 21? Are the legal limits the same for everyone? Explain.

### NIAAA RESOURCES

17. What are the **three areas of the brain** that can be damaged *in utero* if the mother drinks alcohol?

18. Using the graph, describe how **per capita alcohol consumption** use has changed since 1935. Approximately when did the fewest people drink per capita? The most?

19. In terms of alcohol use, how does **Massachusetts** compare to other states? How might you explain this?

### SUMMING IT ALL UP

20. Based on the material in the packet (or on the websites from where the information was taken), write a **paragraph of at least 5 sentences** in which you give **advice and recommendations** to other teens about the safety and/or dangers using alcohol. In giving your advice, you must refer to at least five specific facts you have learned and include them in your answer.