

Delaware DATA

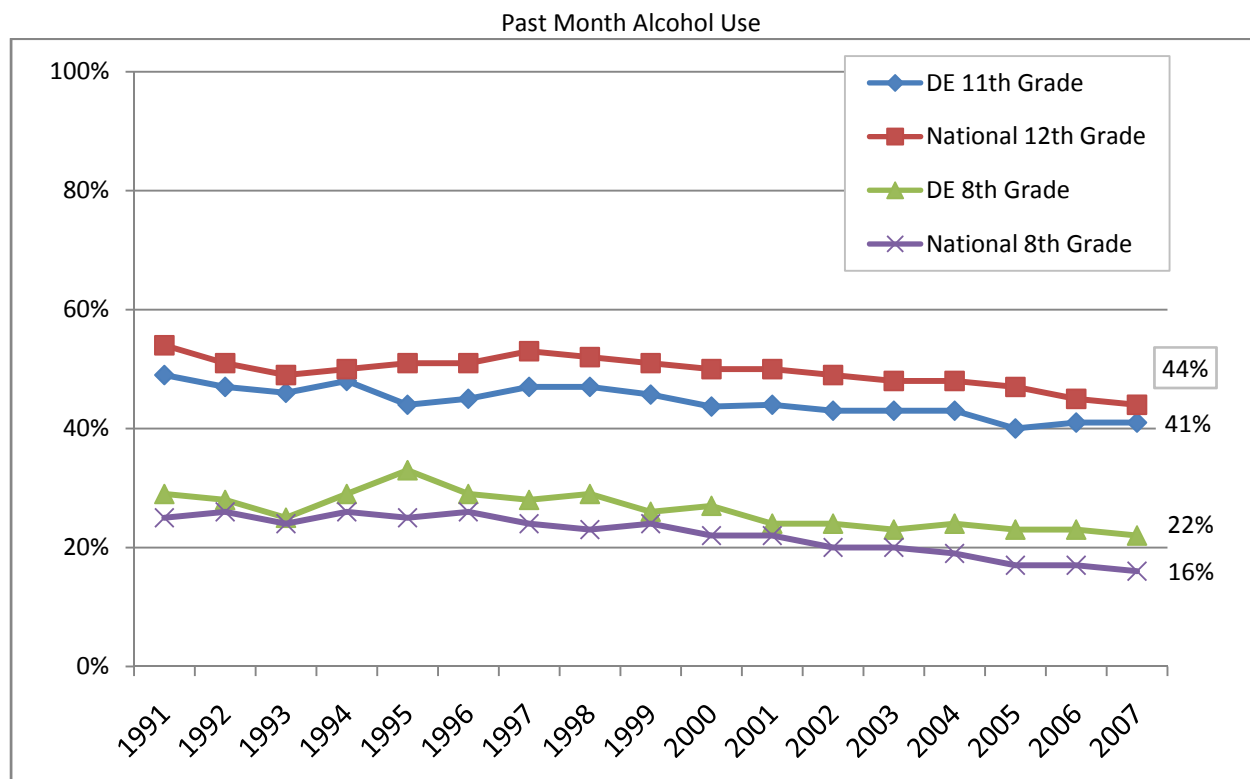
Delaware Drug and Alcohol Tracking Alliance

March 15, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 05

Alcohol Trends in Delaware and National Schools

For the past decade and a half, alcohol use by students has remained relatively steady. There has been a slight downward trend, but it is a slowly paced change. This remains true both nationally and in the state of Delaware. Among high school students, Delaware appears to be roughly similar in alcohol use when compared with the national average. Though this data show a lower alcohol use rate, the Delaware data are based a younger sample, so it is quite likely the rates would converge if the Delaware sample was also in 12th grade.



The same is not true for Delaware middle school students, however. Twenty-two percent of Delaware 8th grade students report using alcohol within the past 30 days, while only 16% of students report similar use nationally. Though alcohol use by DE middle school students has always been slightly higher than national rates, this gap appears to have grown in recent years when the downward national trend has not been observed locally.

Source: 2007 Monitoring the Future & 2007 Delaware School Survey, University of Delaware Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies

The Delaware School Survey is supported by the Delaware Health Fund and by the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Delaware Health and Social Services.

Delaware Datagrams may be copied without permission. Please cite D-DATA as source. ***302-831-3204*** basha@udel.edu
Additional Datagrams are available at: www.udel.edu/delawaredata