

## A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

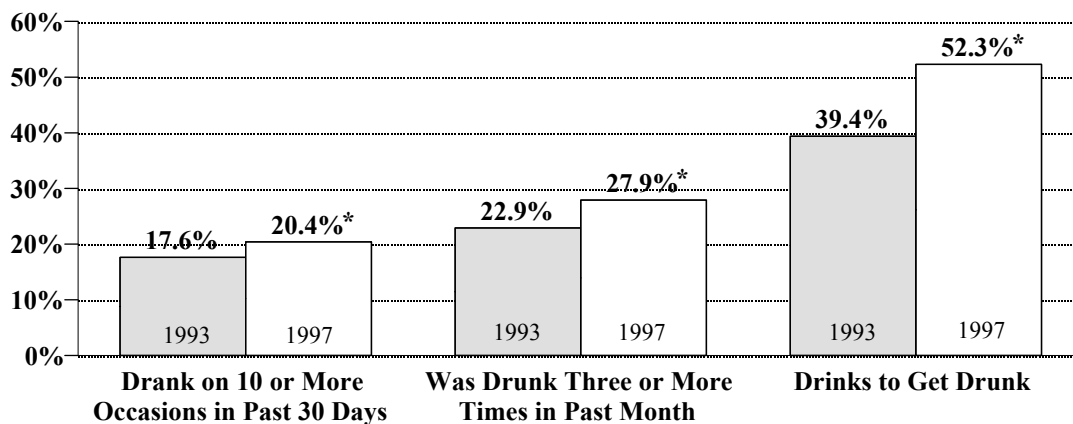
University of Maryland, College Park

### *Study Finds Intensification of Drinking Behavior Among College Students*

While the prevalence of drinking among college students has not changed dramatically over the past four years, the drinking behavior of students who do drink has intensified. Last year, the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study resurveyed colleges that participated in a 1993 study of student alcohol use. The 1997 survey found that, among drinkers, 28% reported being drunk three or more times in the past month, compared to 23% in 1993. In addition, the percentage of students who said they drink to get drunk jumped from 39% in 1993 to 52% in 1997. There were also increases in drinking-related problems, including drinking and driving, getting hurt or injured, and engaging in unplanned sexual activity. Copies of the report are available on-line at [www.hsph.harvard.edu/cas/](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/cas/).

#### Prevalence of Alcohol-Related Behaviors Among College Students Who Drank Alcohol in the Past Year, 1993 and 1997

(n=12,803 in 1993; 11,798 in 1997)



NOTE: The survey was a self-administered mail survey of a random sample of 14,521 students at 116 schools located in 39 states.

\*p<.001

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from the Henry Wechsler et al., "Changes in Binge Drinking and Related Problems Among American College Students Between 1993 and 1997: Results of the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study," *Journal of American College Health*, 47:57-68, September 1998.