

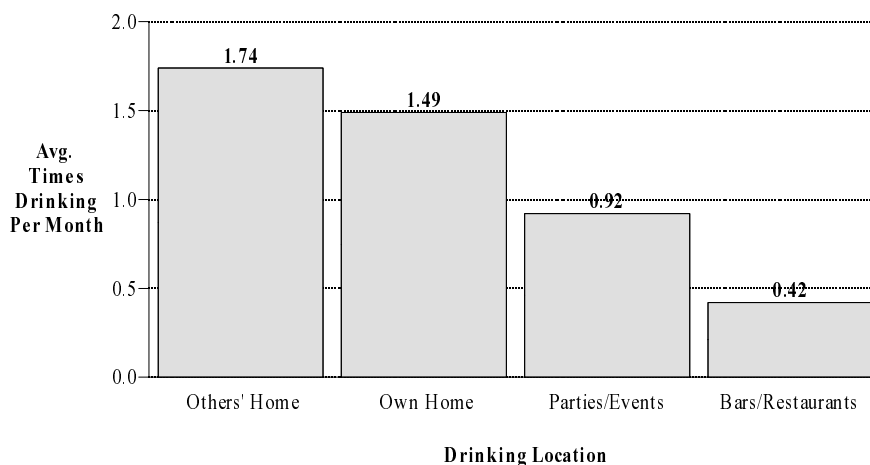
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Underage Drinkers More Likely to Drink at Own or Others' Home Than at Parties or Bars

Underage drinkers are most likely to drink at others' and their own homes, according to a study examining how drinking venues differ between gender, age, and ethnic groups. The study of nearly 25,000 current drinkers from four California and two South Carolina communities found that those younger than 21 reported drinking at others' home an average of 1.74 times per month. They were slightly less likely to report drinking at their own homes, perhaps reflecting the inhibiting effect of parental supervision. Underage drinkers were least likely to drink at parties and other social events and in retail establishments. Ultimately, the decisions underage youth make about where to drink should be taken into account by policy makers attempting to design interventions to alleviate underage drinking problems.

Average Number of Times Youth (Under Age 21) Reported Drinking Per Month, by Drinking Location



SOURCE: Treno, Andrew J.; Alaniz, Maria L.; and Gruenewald, Paul, "The use of drinking places by gender, age, and ethnic groups: An analysis of routine drinking activities," *Addiction* 95(4):537-551, 2000.

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