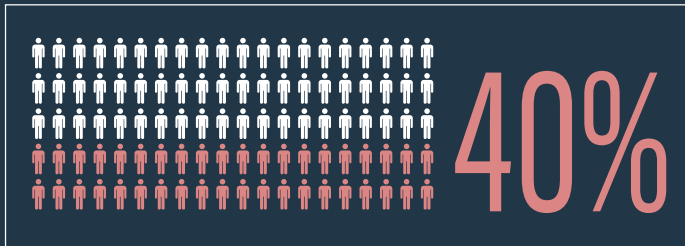


GETTING AHEAD OF A PROBLEM

Underage alcohol use can start early—
even as young as age 9. Prevention efforts
need to start just as early. Here's why:



In 2020, nearly 2 million 12- to 17-year-olds (approximately 40 percent) used alcohol for the first time.*

Despite what parents may think, children really hear their concerns when it comes to using substances, and it's important to discuss the risks of using alcohol and other drugs with them at every opportunity.

Informed, prepared parents/guardians and communities have the best chance of getting ahead of underage drinking and other substance misuse.

SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

LEARN MORE AT
[StopAlcoholAbuse.gov/CommunitiesTalk](https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/communities-talk)



*Numbers from the Detailed Tables have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2021). *Results from the 2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Detailed tables*. <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2020-nsduh-detailed-tables>