

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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**NATIONAL SAVE A TEEN MONTH, MAY, 2008**

- **Two Hundred Twenty-Two persons under the age of 21 died in alcohol-related crashes in California during 2007.**
- **May is a month when families should be celebrating landmark events such as high school and college graduations and a wide variety of outdoor community events.**
- **Everyone needs to work together to keep those events from being marred by alcohol-related collisions.**
- **Underage drinking in the United States is reaching a critical level.**
- **Statistics show that in 2005, about 10.8 million persons aged 12-20 (28% of the age group) reported drinking alcohol in the past month.**
- **Nearly 7.2 million (18.8%) were binge drinkers, and 2.3 million (6%) were heavy drinkers.**
- **<sup>1</sup> Data provided by the Monitoring the Future survey indicate that three out of every four students have consumed alcohol beyond just a few sips.**
- **Two fifths of students have consumed alcohol by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and more than half (58%) of the 12<sup>th</sup> graders report having been drunk at least once in their life.**
- **From the same survey, one fifth of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students report having been drunk at least once in their life.<sup>2</sup>**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2006). *Results from the 2005 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings* (Office of Applied Studies, NSDUH Series H-30, DHHS Publication No. SMA 06-4194). Rockville, MD. 2 Johnston, L.D., O'Malley, P.M., Bachman, J.G., & Schulenberg, J.E. (2006). *Monitoring the Future national results on adolescent drug use: Overview of key findings, 2005*. (NIH Publication No. 06-5882). Bethesda, MD: National Institute on Drug Abuse.