



Study Finds Teen Drinking Up in California

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WASHINGTON (AP) -- A new study released today shows that drug use among teens has dipped nationwide but underage drinking persists, with jumps in California and Wisconsin.

The report was released by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. It was based on interviews of more than 135,000 people and is the first to document state-by-state drug and alcohol use from 2002 to 2004.

It found that in 2004, 10.9 percent of young people age 12 to 17 reported that they had used an illegal drug in the past month, a drop from 11.4 percent in 2002.

But at the same time, teen alcohol use remained basically unchanged, and even rose in California from 24.7 percent to 26.3 percent.

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