

CANNABIS POLICY RESOURCE CENTER OVERVIEW

August 7, 2025

Funding provided in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery.

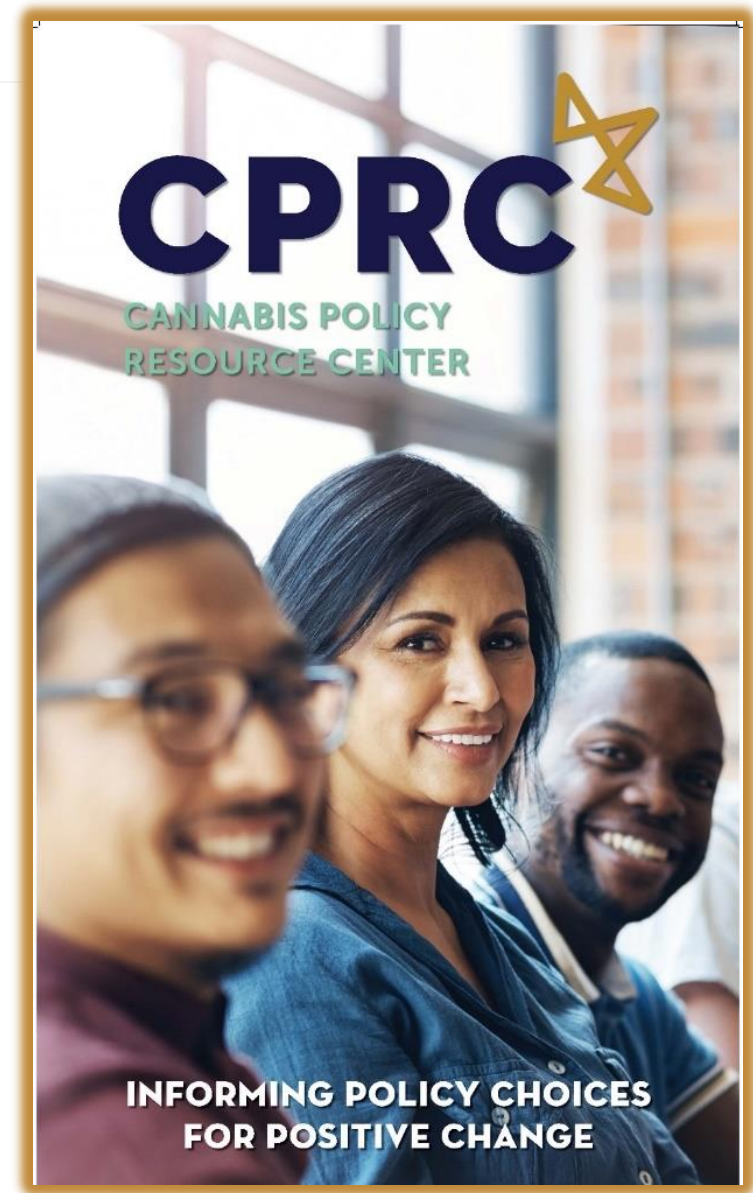
CPRC

Audience

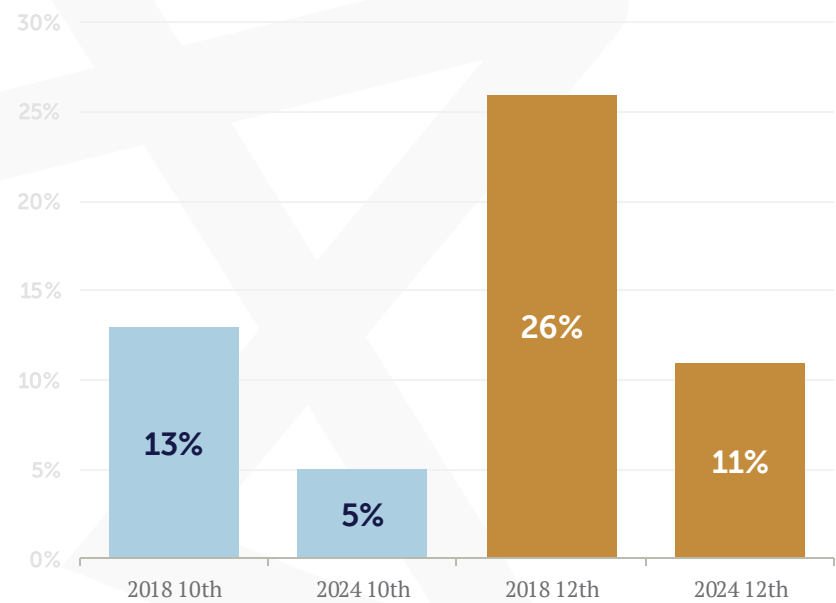
- Municipal leaders
- Community coalitions
- Law enforcement

Services

- Education
- Resources
- Support



CURRENT USE RATE TRENDS

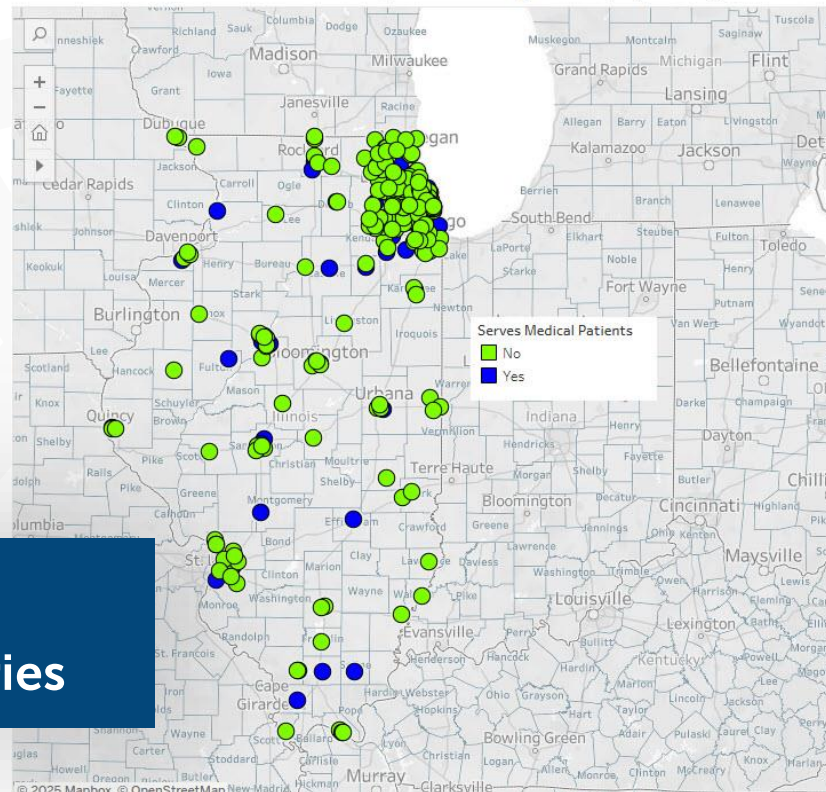


Drop is not fully explained

While most substance use has shown decreases, the perception of harm of cannabis would suggest use should have increased. More research will be needed over time to determine contributing factors.

DISPENSARIES IN ILLINOIS

Licensed Illinois Dispensaries (as of 7/9/2025)



259
Dispensaries

- Illinois has about 2 dispensaries per 100,000 residents.
- The highest per capita is Oklahoma, with about 36 per 100,000 residents.
- Nationally, the average is about 9.6 in states with adult-use laws where sales began 1+ years ago.
- In the Midwest, Michigan is highest with about 9.2 per 100,000 residents.



PUBLISHED RESOURCES

Found on our website at prevention.org, these resources can be downloaded free of charge and adapted for your own use.

Cannabis Derivatives

Resource guide on identifying cannabis derivatives in communities.

Environmental Scans

Guide to conducting cannabis environmental scans in communities.

Derivative Infographic

Intended to be displayed and used as a community education tool.

Communicating about Cannabis

Communication guide for municipal or other local officials when sharing cannabis messaging with residents.

ORDINANCE DIRECTORY

The CPRC hosts a directory of local cannabis ordinances designed to assist communities in examining and implementing their own effective policies.

Ordinances are categorized by policy area and continually updated.



Zoning

The number and placement of businesses



Opt-out

Can restrict cannabis business entirely



Taxation

Use cautiously, may exert two-way pressure



Special Use

Allows communities additional tools

AVAILABLE RECORDED WEBINARS

Environmental Scans for
Alcohol and Cannabis
Prevention

Cannabis Impaired Driving,
Prevention, and Policy

Community Responses to
Cannabis Legalization: The
Illinois Experience



Engaging Youth In
Prevention

Derived Intoxicating
Cannabinoids: Public
Health Issues and Policy
Solutions

The Layers of Cannabis
Policy and Where
Prevention Fits In

THANK YOU!

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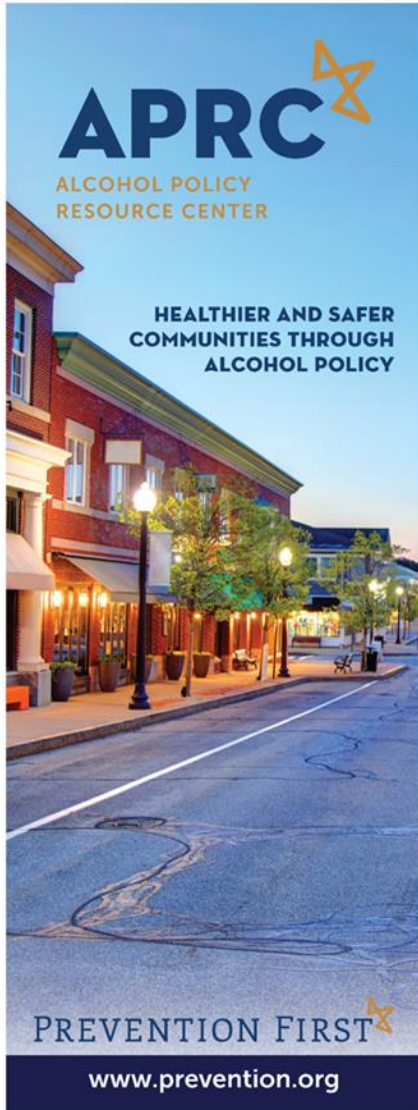
BRANCH OFFICE

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APRC OVERVIEW

August 7, 2025

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APRC FOCUS

Prevention First's Alcohol Policy Resource Center provides training, education, resources and tools on evidence-based alcohol policy strategies to municipal leaders, law enforcement and community coalitions focused on preventing or reducing underage drinking in communities throughout Illinois.

CORE SERVICES

- Webinars
- Law Enforcement Training
- Resources and Tools
- Technical Assistance
- Conferences, Exhibits and Meetings
- Workshops

ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY

2024 Frequency Report

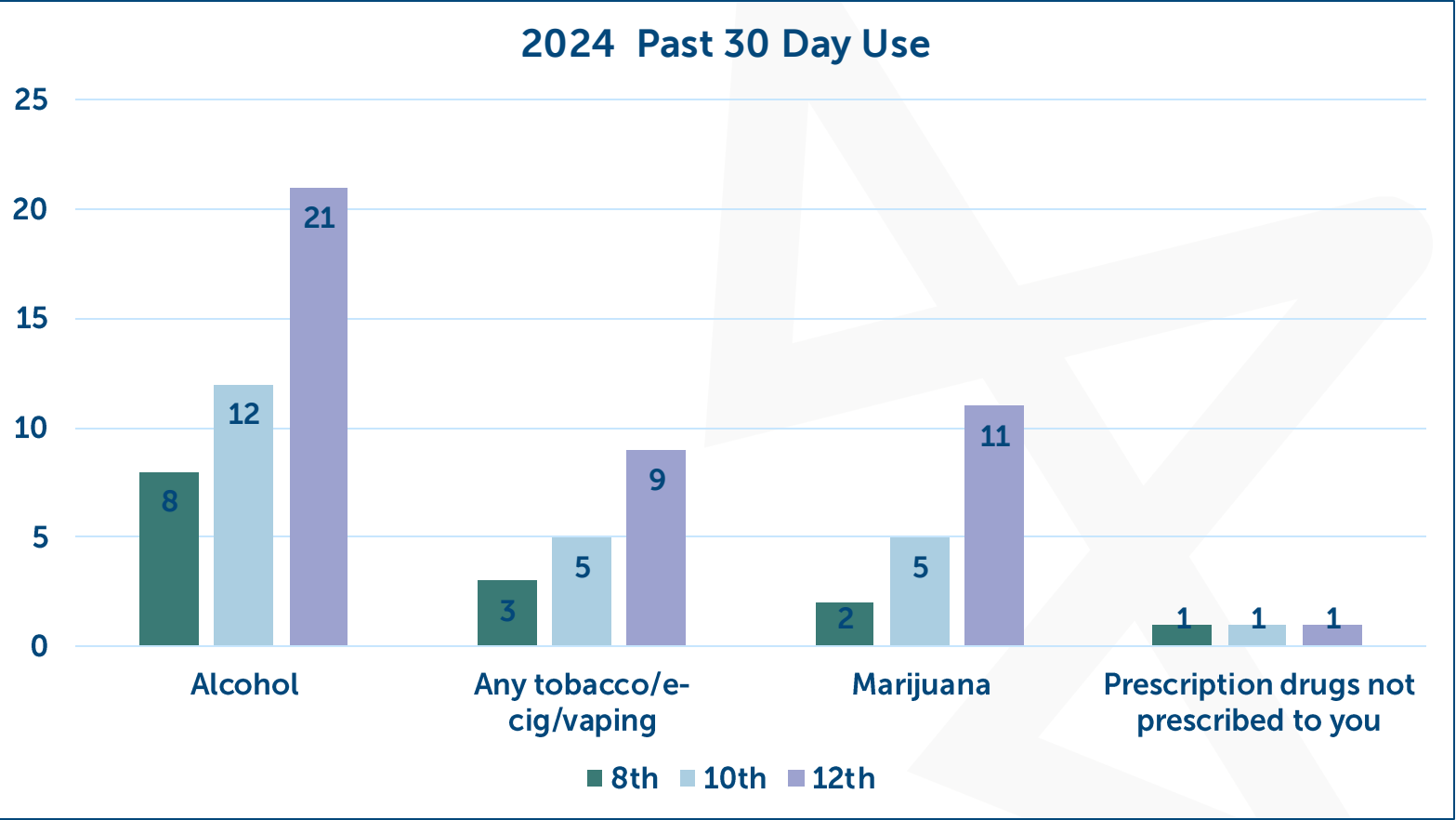
State of Illinois

Weighted Sample to Represent
the State of Illinois



ILLINOIS
CPRD | Center for Prevention
Research & Development
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Data collected Spring 2024



Center for Prevention Research and Development. (2025). Illinois Youth Survey 2024 Frequency Report: State of Illinois. Champaign, IL: CPRD, School of Social Work, University of Illinois.

ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES & TA

Easy Retail Access

Retail access is when youth purchase or take alcohol from a store or restaurant/bar.

Strategies and Policies to address easy retail access include:

*Compliance Checks
Mandatory Responsible Beverage
Service Training (Policy)
Alcohol Outlet Density (Policy)*



Easy Social Access

Social access is when youth get alcohol at a party, from their parents, or from a friend/sibling.

Strategies and Policies to address easy social access include:

*Shoulder Tap Operations
Controlled Party Dispersal/Party Prevention
Communication Campaign
Social Host Ordinance (Policy)
Event Restrictions (Policy)
Keg Registration (Policy)*



Permissive Social Norms

The expectations, behaviors, attitudes, or values that convey acceptance of alcohol use within the family, community, or peers.

Strategies and Policies to address permissive social norms include:

*Communication Campaign
Advertising Restrictions (Policy)
Event Restrictions (Policy)
Youth Prevention Education
(Individual Strategy)*



Low Perceived Risk

The perception among youth that there is little to no risk of physical harm and/or legal or social consequences of alcohol use.

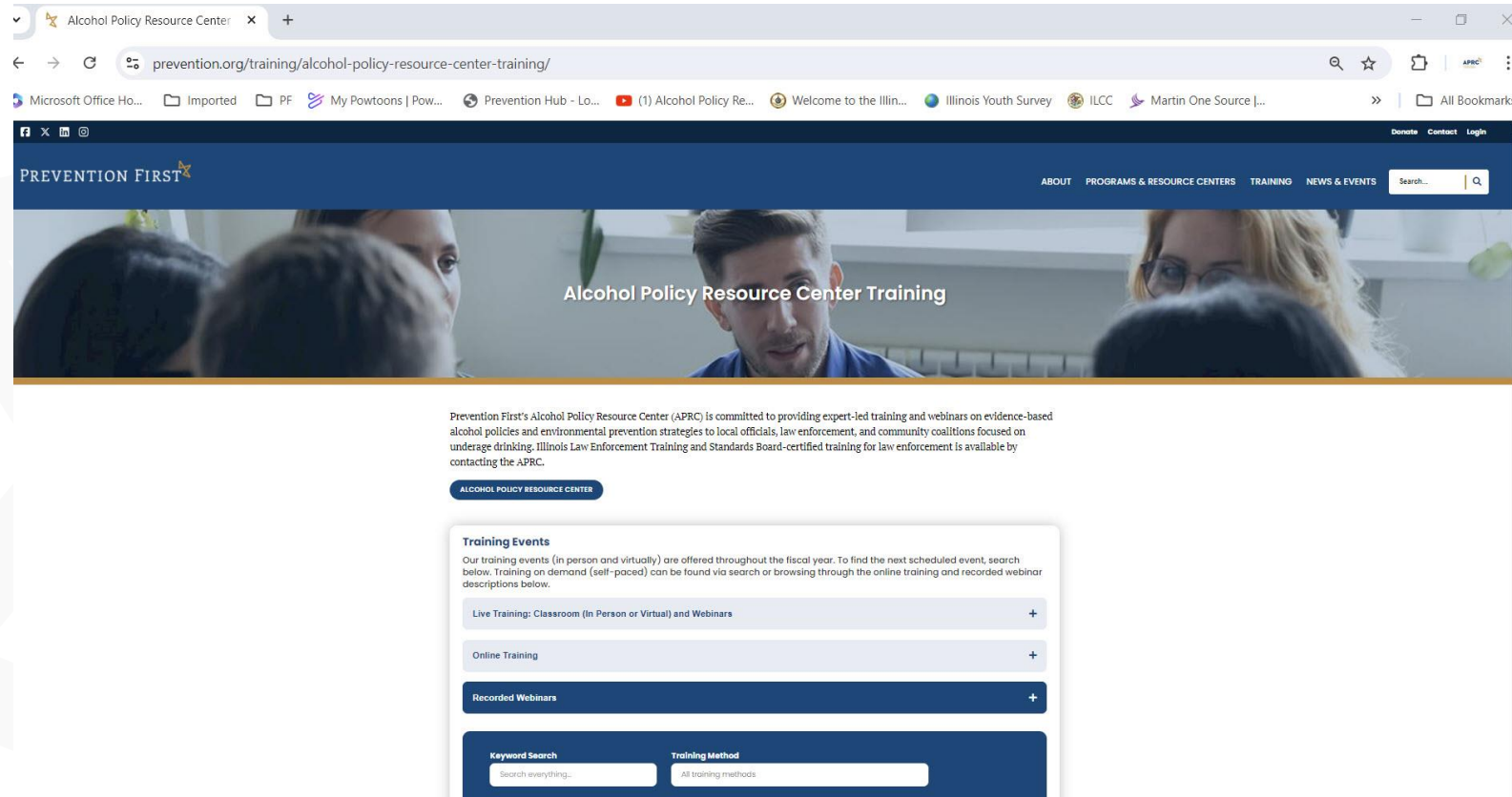
Strategies and Policies to address low perceived risk include:

*Roadside Sobriety Checkpoints
Communication Campaign
School-Based Policy
Local Minor in Possession Ordinance (Policy)
Youth Prevention Education
(Individual Strategy)*



RECORDED WEBINARS

ALCOHOL POLICY RESOURCE CENTER



<https://www.prevention.org/training/alcohol-policy-resource-center-training/>

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

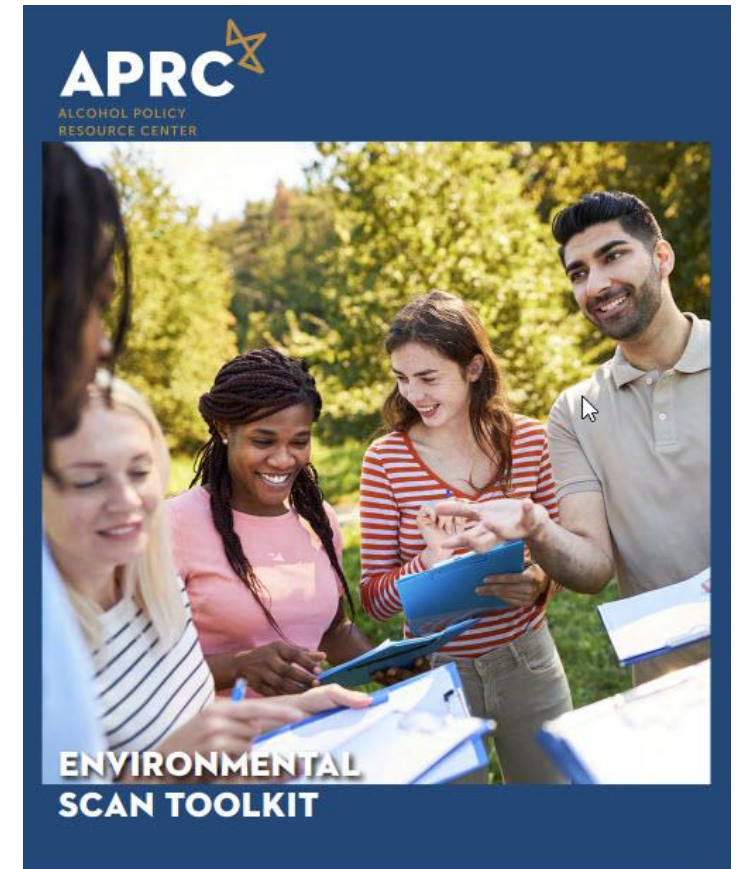
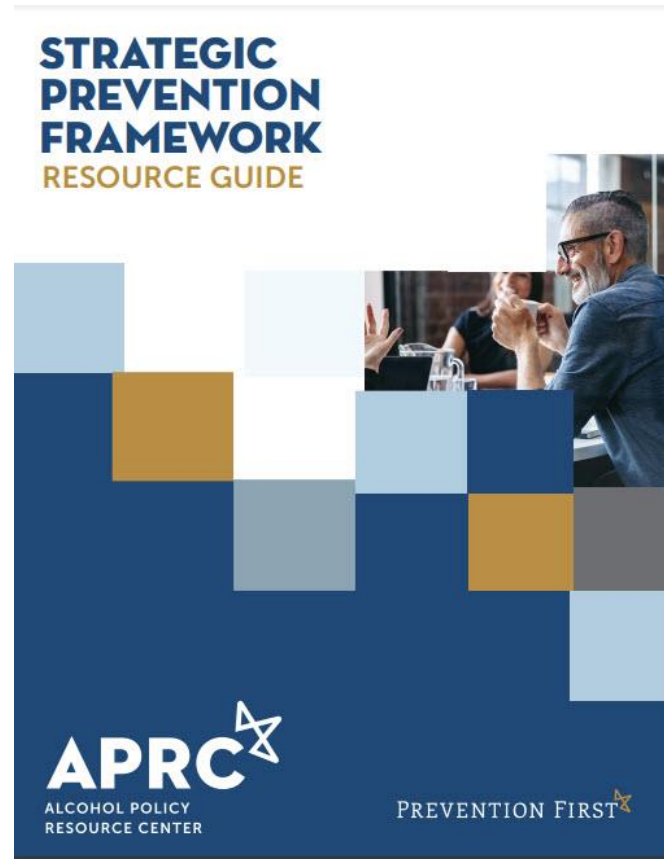
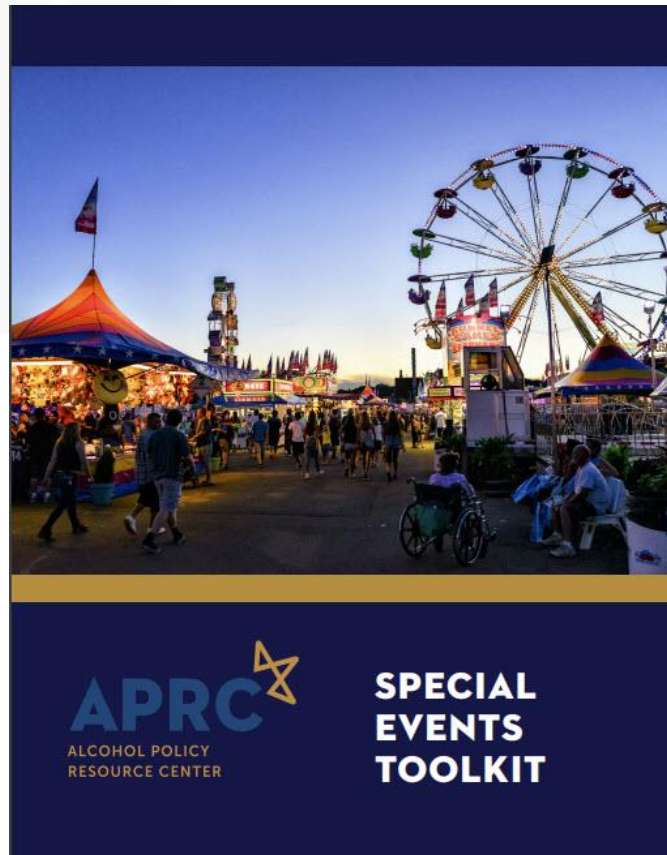
ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE CHECK INVESTIGATIONS



ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE CHECK INVESTIGATIONS


RESOURCES AND TOOLS

ALCOHOL POLICY RESOURCE CENTER




RESOURCES AND TOOLS

ALCOHOL POLICY RESOURCE CENTER




Alcohol Policies and Suicide

A review of the literature published in the *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* journal shows the protective effect of restrictive alcohol policies also has an effect on reducing suicide. "This review suggests alcohol policies may contribute to suicide prevention on a general population level and to a reduction of alcohol involvement among suicide deaths." Specific policies mentioned include Alcohol Price & Taxation, Alcohol Outlet Density, and Zero Tolerance Laws.



16%

of Illinois 10th graders "seriously" considered suicide.




35%

of Illinois 10th graders felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing usual activities.


Source: 2018 Illinois Youth Survey
https://ys.epi.ilhs.edu/UserFiles/Servers/Server_117052/File/state-reports/2018/Prevalence_10_15_Statewide.pdf

Policies That Can Impact Suicide




Alcohol Price & Taxation

Increasing alcohol taxes at the local level can help communities create social, physical, and economic environments that discourage excessive alcohol consumption, thereby reducing alcohol-related fatalities, costs, and other related harms. The review found a significant decrease in suicide rates where price/tax were higher.



Alcohol Outlet Density Regulation

Areas with higher alcohol outlet density have higher levels of heavy drinking and alcohol-related problems, including violence, crime, alcohol-involved traffic crashes, and injuries. The review found the higher number of outlets were associated with higher suicide rates.



Zero Tolerance Laws

Illinois Zero Tolerance Law states that any driver under 21 caught with even trace amounts of alcohol in their system will lose their driving privileges. The review found a reduction in suicides by males and females aged 15 to 19 when Zero Tolerance Laws were enacted.

Source: Xuan, Z., Naimi, T., Kaplan, M., Bagn, C., Few, L., Maisto, S., Saltz, R. and Freeman, R., 2016. Alcohol Policies and Suicide: A Review of the Literature. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 40(10), pp.2043-2055.

Funded in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.



MODERNIZING ALCOHOL TAXES



REDUCE ALCOHOL ACCESS TO REDUCE VIOLENT CRIME

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 47% of homicides were attributable to alcohol use (prior to the pandemic). Excessive alcohol use plays a large role in violent crime. The CityHealth report states communities with greater alcohol outlet density have more homicides, aggravated assaults and sexual assaults.

Use policy and regulation to create a healthier, safer community.

Source: CityHealth, an initiative of the de Beaumont Foundation and Kaiser Permanente, released a report in 2021, *Preventing Violence in American Cities with Safer Alcohol Sales: Three Cities Can Use to Address Increasing Alcohol Use and Violence Since the Onset of COVID-19*

1 Adopt Alcohol Policies

Reducing the number of alcohol outlets reduces harm to your community. Municipalities can improve their health by implementing ordinances such as alcohol outlet density, advertising restrictions, requiring more sales revenue from food than alcohol, and levying a nuisance abatement fee on alcohol outlets to pay for enforcement.

2 Commit to Health Equity

Low-income communities and communities of color historically have a higher alcohol outlet density—the greater the density, the greater the harm. Allow communities to raise their voices to restrict the number of alcohol outlets. Engage communities on neighborhood investments for a healthier future.

3 Require Training

Illinois requires all on-premise alcohol outlets to have BASSET-trained employees (servers, bartenders, and security staff). However, communities can adopt an ordinance requiring off-premise staff to be BASSET trained as well. According to the NLLEA, more significant harms are associated with off-premise sales, including violence, robberies, assaults, child abuse, and domestic violence.

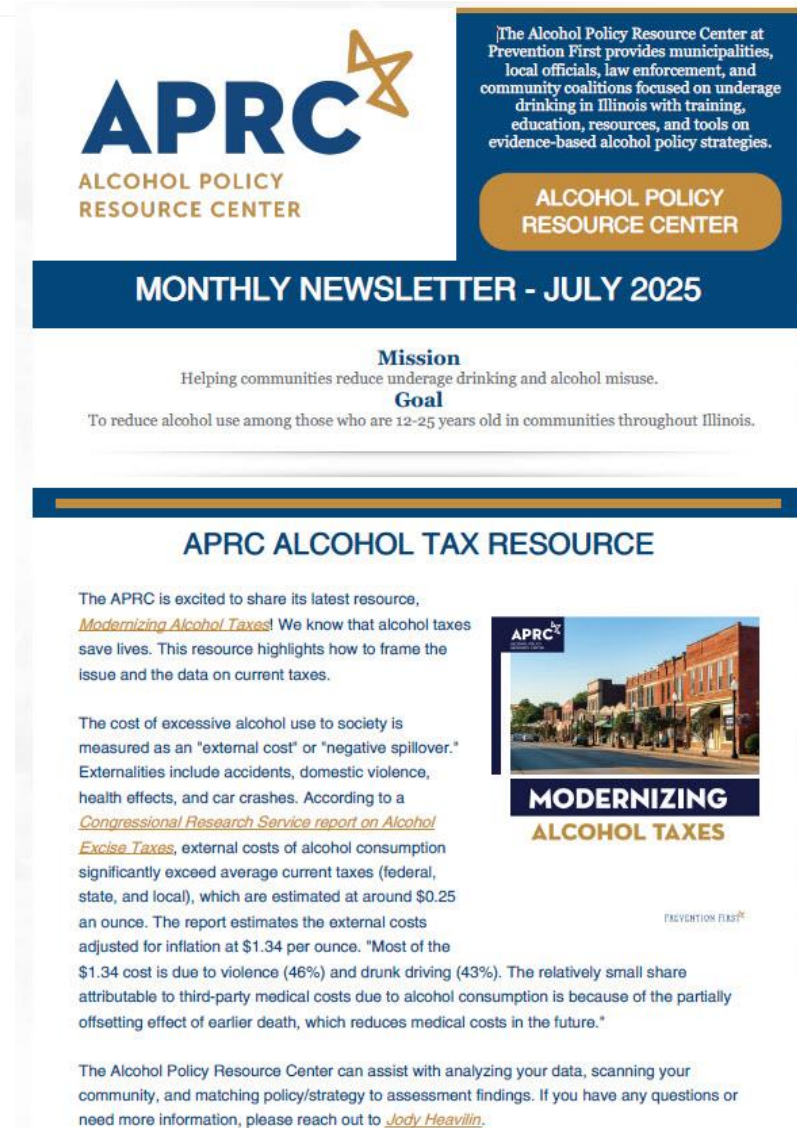
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APRC NEWSLETTER

Monthly newsletter

- Resources
- Webinars
- Other Training Opportunities
- Research
- Illinois Alliance
- Clearinghouse form
- Illinois Coalition Highlights
- National Partners

Sign up: <https://www.prevention.org/news-and-events/>



ILLINOIS ALLIANCE ON REDUCING YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

The Illinois Alliance on Reducing Underage Drinking was formed in early 2020. The Alliance expanded its focus to include youth cannabis use prevention and formally changed names in September 2022. The Alliance has been renamed to reflect the change - *Illinois Alliance on Reducing Youth Substance Use*.

The Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention & Recovery, leads the charge which allows stakeholders to:

- Share current youth substance use prevention efforts being implemented in Illinois
- Share information on best practices to reduce youth substance use
- Share data & research on efforts to reduce youth substance use
- Review the Illinois STOP ACT report
- Unify prevention efforts in the State of Illinois

FY 26 Meeting Dates

Thursday, September 11, 2025

Thursday, December 11, 2025

Thursday, March 12, 2026

Thursday, May 28, 2026

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

THANK YOU!

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YOUTH PREVENTION RESOURCE CENTER OVERVIEW



To help youth-centered organizations promote healthy behaviors throughout Illinois, the Youth Prevention Resource Center at Prevention First offers many resources to address the most significant issues facing today's young people.



Youth Advisory Board



Training



Webinars



Resources



YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

2025-2026 Freshman – Seniors


14 youth total

2-3 students from each
DHS Region


SAB Member Role and Expectations

- Term began on July 1, 2025, and will end on June 30, 2026.
- Attend an in-person, 2-day orientation and training retreat in Chicago.
- Attend and actively participate in at least 8 of the 11 monthly SAB virtual meetings. (75%)
- Assist and advise the YPRC team in developing new resources and program elements, as needed.
- Partner with other programs at Prevention First, as needed.

RESOURCES FOR ADULTS



YOUTH
PREVENTION
RESOURCE CENTER



NEURODIVERSITY

The Intersection of Neurodivergence
& Increased Risk Factors for Youth

PREVENTION FIRST



YOUTH
PREVENTION
RESOURCE CENTER

5 STEPS FOR PREVENTION STRATEGIES

With the support of key stakeholders, you can take 5 steps to move your prevention strategies from vision to practice.

GATHER
DATA

STEP
01

Profile population
needs, resources, and
readiness to address
problems and gaps in
service delivery.

A substance use issue must be assessed correctly through the collection and analysis of data that show the extent and location of a problem, risk and protective factors associated with it, community assets and resources, gaps in services and capacity, and readiness to act.

STEP
02

MOBILIZE

Build capacity to address
needs.

Key tasks include convening leaders and stakeholders, building coalitions, and training community stakeholders to help keep activities going.

PLAN

STEP
03

Develop a prevention
plan.

The strategic plan expresses a vision for prevention activities and a roadmap for conducting them. It describes policies and relationships, incentives for groups to work together, and evidence-based actions that will be taken. The plan also identifies milestones and outcomes for gauging performance.

STEP
04

ACTIVATE

Conduct prevention
activities.

Supported by training and technical assistance, local stakeholders select programs, policies, and practices proven to be effective in research settings and in communities. Culturally competent revisions are made without sacrificing core elements of the program.

EVALUATE

STEP
05

Monitor and evaluate
results and the ability to
continue.


Ongoing monitoring and evaluation are vital to determining whether the desired outcomes are achieved, assessing the quality of service delivery, and identifying improvements needed. Sustaining what has worked well should be an ongoing process.

Source: SAMHSA - Focus on Prevention.

Funding in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services,
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the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.


For more information visit prevention.org/yprc

PREVENTION FIRST



YOUTH
PREVENTION
RESOURCE CENTER

YEAR-ROUND Planning Guide



Funding in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.





NDAFW
National Drug & Alcohol
Facts Week

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

STUDIES SUGGEST THAT 9% OF PEOPLE WHO USE CANNABIS WILL BECOME DEPENDENT ON IT, RISING TO ABOUT 17% IN THOSE WHO START USING IN THEIR TEENS.

[Insert your logo here]

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



PREVENTION FIRST   **YPRC** YOUTH PREVENTION RESOURCE CENTER

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, RECRUITMENT, AND RETENTION

Bryant Laiche
Youth Prevention Resource Center Administrator

Randyl Wilkins
Mental Health & Youth Engagement Specialist

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PREVENTION FIRST   **YPRC** YOUTH PREVENTION RESOURCE CENTER

NEURODIVERSITY: THE INTERSECTION OF NEURODIVERGENCE & INCREASED RISK FACTORS FOR YOUTH

Bryant Laiche
Youth Prevention Resource Center Administrator

Randyl Wilkins
Mental Health & Youth Engagement Specialist

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- Youth Engagement, Recruitment, and Retention
- Neurodiversity: The Intersection of Neurodivergence & Increased Risk Factors for Youth
- Engaging Youth in Prevention
- Prevention 101 – Effective Youth Prevention Strategies
- Mental Health First Aid (*youth, teen, and adult*)
- Question, Persuade, Refer

ON-DEMAND ONLINE TRAINING AND RECORDED WEBINARS

- Authentic Youth Engagement
- Collaborating with Key Stakeholders
- The Dynamic Adolescent Brain
- Introduction to Engaging Youth in Prevention



Being Visible: A Look at What It Takes To Be An LGBTQ+ Ally (Recorded)

 This is an Archived Webinar event.

This webinar was hosted on June 15, 2022. There are no CEUs offered for viewing this recording.

IL YOUTH SURVEY PROMOTION

Support on:

- IYS Recruitment strategies
- IYS Data Interpretation
- Action Planning



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