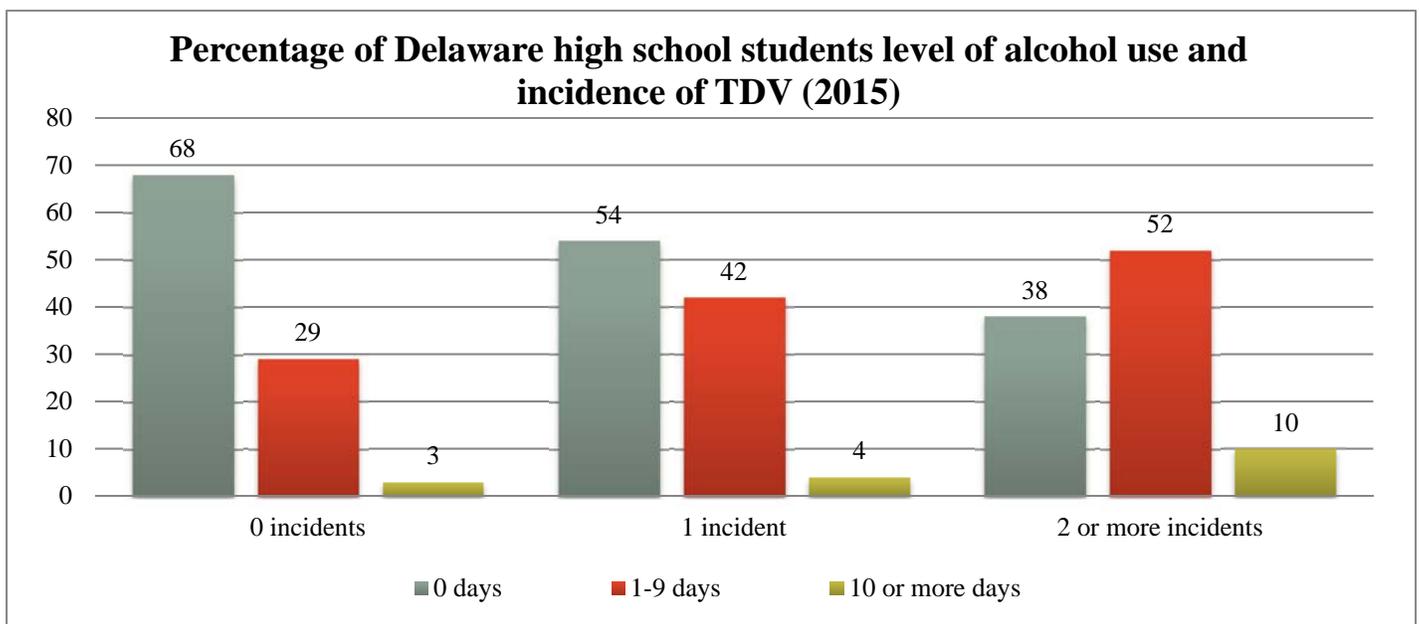




Victims of Teen Dating Violence Report Drinking Alcohol on More Days in the Past Month than Non-Victims

Understanding the prevalence and risk factors related to teen dating violence (TDV) is critical for developing effective programs to address its short- and long-term adverse impacts. In the spirit of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, this DDATAgram illustrates the frequency of TDV incidents (verbal/emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse in a dating/romantic relationship among adolescents) and severity of alcohol use among high school students in Delaware. Data from the Delaware Youth Risk Behavior Survey, shown below, illustrates that teens who reported experiencing TDV also reported higher rates of drinking within the past 30 days than those who did not report experiences of TDV. While 10% of students who experienced two or more incidents of TDV reported drinking on 10 or more days in the past 30 days, only 3% of those who did not report TDV reported such frequent past month drinking. Because of the survey’s design, we cannot say that TDV *causes* increased drinking. However, data indicates that teens who have experienced dating violence are more likely to drink frequently, and additional research is needed to understand the detailed contexts in which TDV happens so that prevention and intervention programs can be strategically developed and implemented.



Source: 2015 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Funding for this project has been provided by the Department for Health and Social Services, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health - State of Delaware through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA, SP020704). DDATAgrams may be copied without permission. Please cite SEOW as source. Additional DDATAgrams are available at: <https://www.cdhs.udel.edu/seow/publications>