

# Data Spotlight

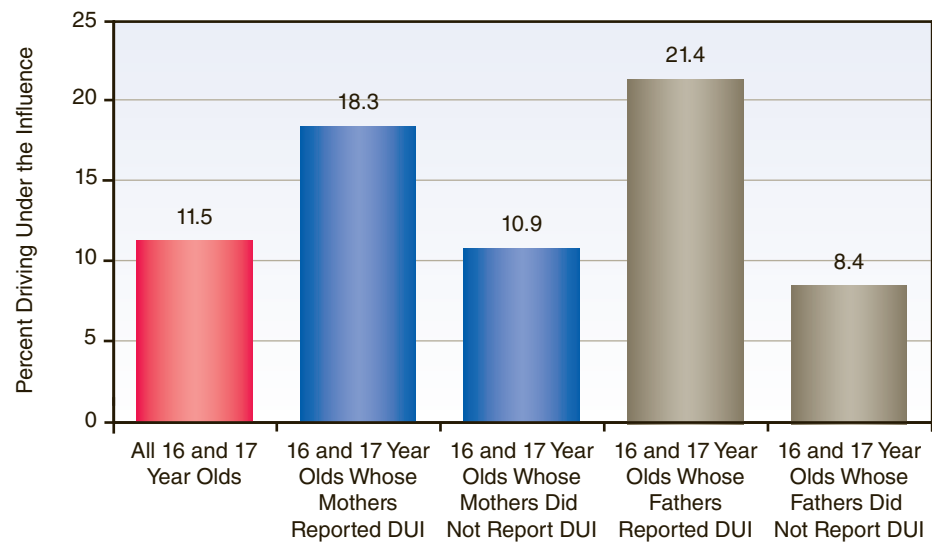
National Survey on Drug Use and Health

December 6, 2011

## Adolescents Living with a Parent Who Drives Under the Influence Are at Increased Risk for Driving Under the Influence Themselves

According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an annual average<sup>1</sup> of 932,000 16 to 17 year olds (11.5 percent) drove under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs in the 12 months prior to the interview. Youths in this age group were more likely to drive under the influence if they lived with a mother or father who also had driven under the influence in the past year (Figure).<sup>2</sup>

**Among 16 and 17 Year Olds, Percentages Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or Illicit Drugs (DUI) in the Past Year, by Whether or Not Their Parents Reported DUI: 2002 to 2009**



These data suggest the importance of parents as role models in promoting children's healthy behavior.

For more information on SAMHSA's efforts to prevent substance use, see <http://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/>. For strategies focusing on teen driver safety, see <http://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/CAMPAIGNS/Teen+Safety/Youth+Access+To+Alcohol>.

<sup>1</sup> Annual averages are from the 2002 to 2009 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health (NSDUHs).

<sup>2</sup> Estimates are based on one parent respondent per household.

Source: The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) is an annual survey sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The survey collects data by administering questionnaires to a representative sample of the population through face-to-face interviews at their places of residence.

