



## Oklahoma Alcohol Purchase Study 2023

The Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and Alcoholic Beverage Law Enforcement Commission recently completed the bi-annual Underage Access to Alcohol Purchase Study (APS). The purpose of this study is to determine the compliance rate of alcohol sales to underage buyers by conducting alcohol compliance checks. The list of licensed and eligible alcohol retailers was randomly selected from 17 regions across the state. Each region's sample was based on the percentage of licensed alcohol retailers located within that region compared to the state total.

A total of 799 checks were attempted from February 1, 2023, to May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, with 673 of those being eligible for compliance checks. The overall compliance rate for the state was 73.7%. Regional sales rates can be seen in Figure 1, which is attached. Below are additional notable results from the APS.

- On-premise alcohol consumption establishments, such as bars or restaurants, had a compliance rate of 59%.
- Off-premise alcohol consumption establishments, such as gas stations or grocery stores, had a compliance rate of 83.6%
- In all establishments, clerks/servers asked to see the underage buyer's identification in 81.3% of attempts.
- When the clerk/server did not ask for the youths ID, sales occurred in 93.5% of attempts.
- On-premise establishments checked the youth buyer's ID in 74.5% of attempts, with 23.8% of those resulting in a sale. Whereas off-premises establishments checked the youth buyer's ID in 91.5% of attempts, with 12.5% of those resulting in a sale.
- There was no difference in sales rates between the days of the week or the time of day when the check was completed.

The ODMHSAS will continue to focus on the prevention of underage youths' access to alcohol by focusing training and prevention efforts in properly reading and verifying identification in on and off-premise alcohol retailers and supporting training for the responsible sale of alcoholic beverages. For any questions regarding the Underage Access to Alcohol Purchase Study, please contact Lauren Kidwell at [Lauren.Kidwell@odmhsas.org](mailto:Lauren.Kidwell@odmhsas.org).

