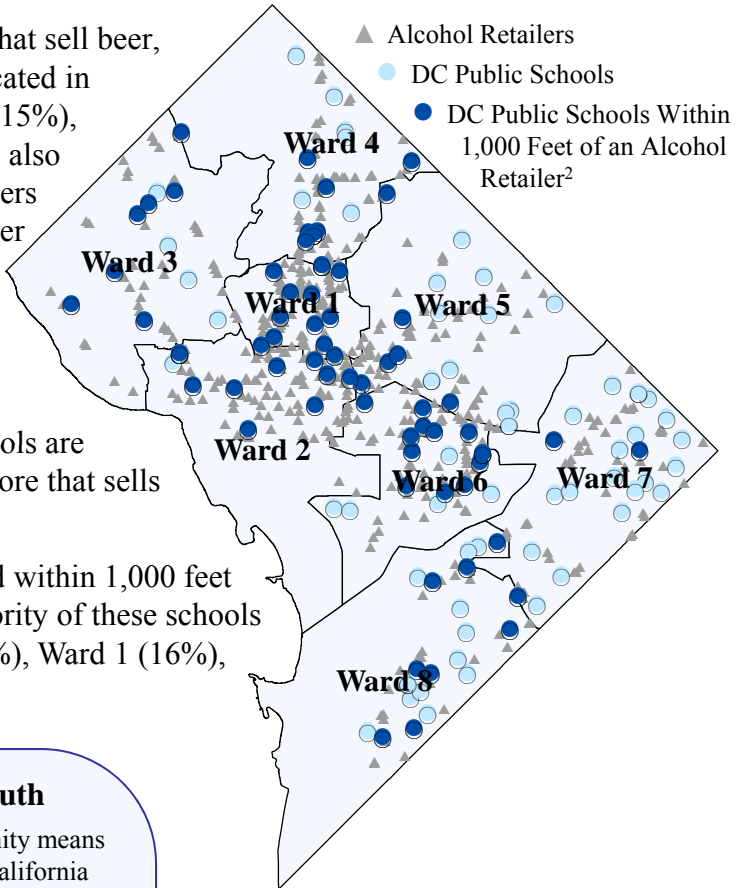


How Close Are DC Public Schools to Licensed Alcohol Stores?¹

- The majority of the 478 licensed stores that sell beer, wine, and/or liquor in the District are located in Ward 2 (18%), Ward 1, (16%), Ward 5 (15%), and Ward 6 (14%). Three of these wards also have the highest density of alcohol retailers per square mile (Ward 1: 28.0 retailers per square mile; Ward 6: 11.2; Ward 2: 9.3). All other wards have an alcohol retailer density ranging from 3.0 to 6.7 retailers per square mile.
- More than half (52%) of DC public schools are located within 1,000 feet of a licensed store that sells alcohol.
- Every ward has at least 2 schools located within 1,000 feet of an alcohol retailer. However, the majority of these schools are located in three wards—Ward 6 (19%), Ward 1 (16%), and Ward 4 (16%).²



Alcohol Retailer Density and Youth

- High levels of alcohol retailers in a community means that youth have more access to alcohol. A California study found that 14-to 16-year-olds living in areas with higher alcohol retailer density were more likely to purchase alcohol themselves, have a stranger buy it for them, or get alcohol from home, a family member, or another underage friend (compared to youth living in areas with lower alcohol retailer density).³
- The same study also found that youth living in areas with higher alcohol retailer density had higher levels of drinking as well as excessive drinking, particularly when youth had limited mobility (i.e., unable to drive and/or no access to someone with a car).⁴
- Another California study suggests that “living in close proximity to alcohol outlets is a risk factor for youth.” Youth living within walking distance (0.5 miles) of alcohol retailers had higher rates of binge drinking and drinking and driving.⁵

Data Notes & Sources

¹CESAR analysis of data from the DC Alcoholic Beverage Regulatory Administration (ABRA) Licensee database (updated 6/10/10), and the DC Public Schools (2009-2010 school year, updated 1/26/10) database obtained from the DC Geographic Information Systems Program website. ABRA data shown include only liquor and grocery stores licensed to sell beer, wine, and/or liquor. Public school data do not include charter schools.

²Ward 1: 11 schools within 1,000 feet of an alcohol retailer; Ward 2: 10 schools; Ward 3: 6 schools; Ward 4: 11 schools; Ward 5: 6 schools; Ward 6: 13 schools; Ward 7: 2 schools; Ward 8: 9 schools.

³Chen, MJ, Gruenewald, PJ, Remer, LG, “Does Alcohol Outlet Density Affect Youth Access to Alcohol?,” *Journal of Adolescent Health* 44(6):582-589, 2008.

⁴Chen, MJ, Grube, JW, Gruenewald, PJ, “Community Alcohol Outlet Density and Underage Drinking,” *Addiction* 105(2):270-78, 2010.

⁵Truong, KD, Sturm, R, “Alcohol Environments and Disparities in Exposure Associated with Adolescent Drinking in California,” *American Journal of Public Health* 99(2):264-270, 2009.