



# African American, African and Black Substance Use and Consequences in Minnesota, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

## KEY FINDINGS

- Binge drinking rates reported by youth declined 43% from 1998 to 2010
- 30-day cigarette-smoking rates reported by youth declined about 15% from 1998 to 2010
- Tranquilizer and sedative abuse among female adults was 6 times higher than the state average in 2004/2005

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## Alcohol Consumption

Reported 30-day alcohol use among African American, African and Black (Black) students was lower than the state average from 1998 to 2010. It held steady at 19% from 2001 to 2007, and decreased to 14% in 2010. This is primarily driven by reported rates of use among metro area students (*see graph below*). In 2010, rates were equal to the state average for

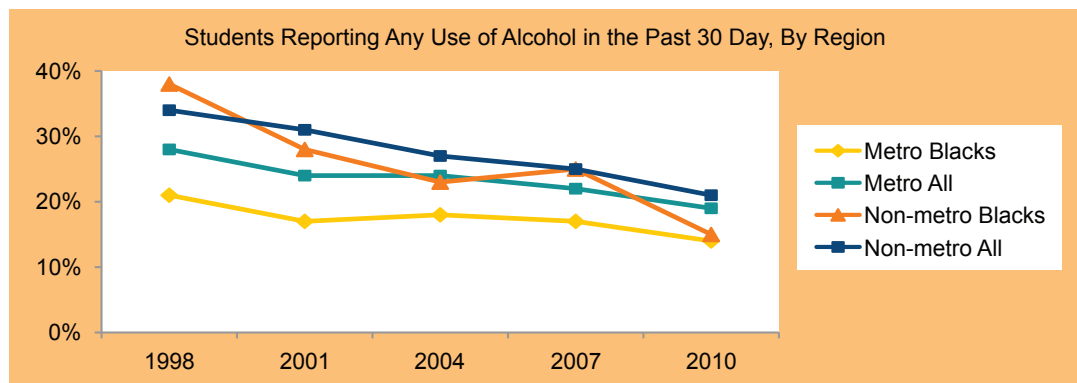
6th grade Black students (4%), but lower among 9th graders (17% vs. 19%) and 12th graders (27% vs. 41%). (MSS)

Reported adult 30-day alcohol use in 2004/2005 was lower than the state average for both men (44% vs. 67%) and women (24% vs. 53%). (MNSASU)

Reported binge drinking among Black students has also

been lower than the state average over the past twelve years. In 2010, 21% of 12th grade males reported binge drinking (vs. 29%) and 10% of 12th grade females (vs. 21% average).

In 2004/2005, binge drinking rates for the state as a whole were almost double that of the Black adult population in Minnesota (19% for the state vs. 10%.)



## Alcohol Consequences

African American, African and Black students were less likely to report having driven after using alcohol or other drugs than the state average. Both rates decreased 50% from 1998 to 2010. (MSS)

About 6% of Minnesota juveniles identified as African

American or Black (2009 Census estimates). The percent of juveniles arrested for DUI who were identified as African American increased from 2% in 2005 to 4% in 2009. For liquor law arrests, the rate increased about 4.5% in 2005 to 8.3% in 2009.

African American adults make up around 3% of the Minnesota adult population. The percent of adults arrested for DUI and liquor laws who were identified as African American was disproportionately high in 2009: 6.8% for DUI and 11.4% for liquor laws. (BCA)



According to the 2002 Survey of the Health of Adults, the Population, and the Environment (SHAPE), about 23% of U.S.-born African Americans and Blacks in Hennepin County are current smokers while 53% have never smoked. Among African-born African Americans and Blacks in Hennepin County, 7% are current smokers and 90% have never smoked.

From SHAPE 2002: Racial and Ethnic Data Book, Survey of the Health of Adults, the Population, and the Environment.

## Tobacco Consumption

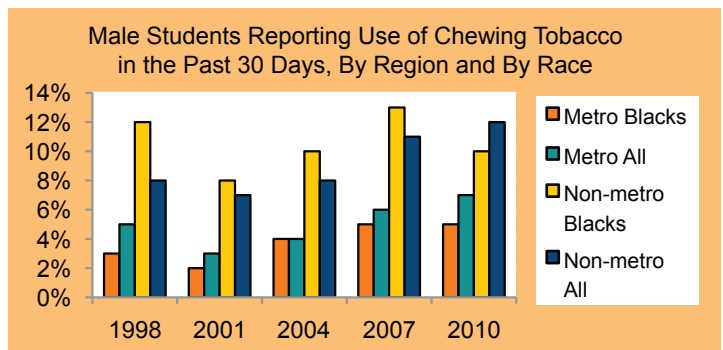
Overall, reported 30-day cigarette smoking among Black students was below the state average from 1998 to 2010. In 2010, rates of current smoking were slightly higher than the state average for Black 6th graders (3% vs. 2%), equal for 9th graders (10%), and lower for 12th graders (14% vs. 22%). (MSS)

In 2004/2005, reported adult 30-day cigarette smoking among African Americans and Blacks was highest for 21–24 year old males (50%) and 25–44 year old females (35%).

(MNSASU)

In 2010, Black students were more likely than average to report having smoked all or part of a cigarette for the first time before the age of 13 (metro:15% vs. 10%;

non-metro:19% vs. 14%). Reported past month use of chewing tobacco has been high among Black male students living outside the metro area—see graph (MSS).



## Tobacco Consequences

From 1999 to 2007, Black males in the US had the highest incidence of lung and bronchus cancer per 100,000 population and highest lung and bronchus cancer death rate—Black females had the second highest rates, after

white women<sup>1</sup>. (CDC)

An average of 2% of Minnesota lung cancer deaths in the past 9 years were Black or African American. The state average has been consistently less than the US average by approximately one death per

10,000 population.

It is estimated that 90% of lung cancer deaths among males and 79% of lung cancer deaths among females in the United States are smoking-related.

1. [www.cdc.gov/cancer/lung/statistics/race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/lung/statistics/race.htm)

## Population Snapshot

According to the 2010 US Census, there are approximately 274,412 persons living in Minnesota who identify as Black or African American only (not in combination with another race), accounting for 5% of the state population.

This population is consid-

erably younger than the state average; 35% are under the age of 18 compared to 23% of all Minnesotans, according to 2009 population estimates.

Data sources used for this fact sheet vary in terms of labels and definitions. African Americans, Africans and

Blacks in the U.S. include persons born in the U.S., Africa, and the Caribbean.

In 2010, about half of all Blacks in Minnesota lived in Hennepin County, 20% in Ramsey County, and 7% in Dakota County.

## Other Drug Consumption

From 1998 to 2010, reported 30-day marijuana use among 9th grade Black students dropped from 31% to 19% for males and from 20% to 13% for females use decreased from 18% to 17% for 12th grade females. (MSS). However, it increased among 12th grader males from 26% to 31%.

Reported adult use of marijuana in the past 30 days was lower than the state average among 18–24 year olds in 2004/2005, but higher than average among 25–44 year olds. (MNSASU)

Reported 12 month use

of a number of illicit drugs by students dropped or held steady from 1998 to 2010 (*see bar graph below*).

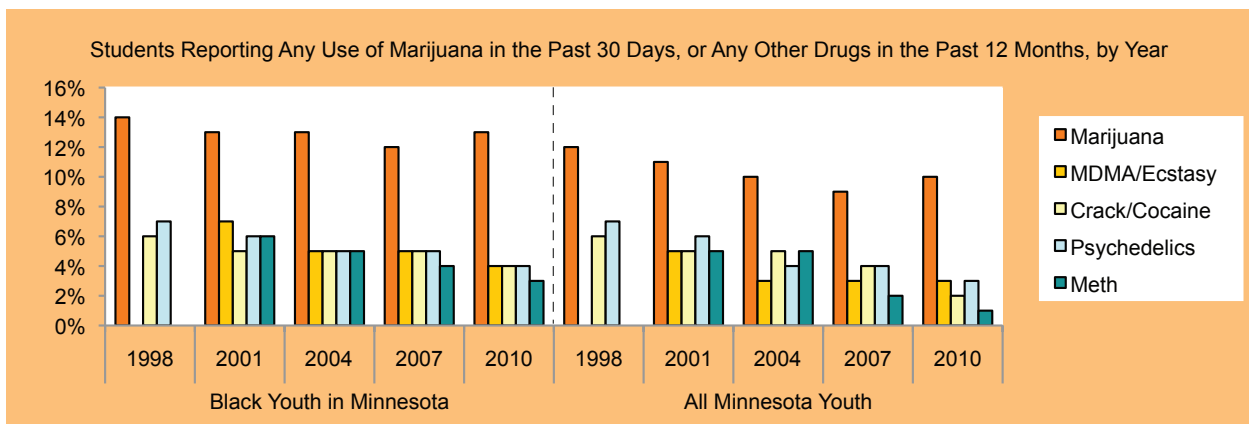
Not pictured: Reported inhalant use among Black students dropped from 7% in 1998 to 4% in 2010. Reported abuse of prescription pain killers was slightly lower than the state average (4% vs. 5%), equal to the state average for abuse of ADD/ADHD drugs (4%), but higher than the state average for reported abuse of stimulants and diet pills (4% vs. 3%), and tranquilizers and sedatives (3% vs.

2%). Reported heroin use in 2010 was higher than average among Black students—especially among 12th grade males (6% vs. 2%). (MSS)

In 2004/2005, African American and Black adults reported rates of other drug use that were similar to or lower than the state average. The exception was prescription drug abuse among women: 2% reported abuse of pain killers vs. the state average of 1% and 6% reported abuse of tranquilizers or sedatives vs. the state average of 1%. (MNSASU)

Among African-Americans admitted to Minnesota treatment facilities from 2002 to 2008, the highest percentage were admitted for alcohol or crack/cocaine as their primary substance of abuse. In 2008, 90% of Blacks under age 18 admitted to treatment were there for marijuana as their primary substance of abuse. The percent of African-Americans admitted for opioids has grown steadily, from 8% in 2002 to 11% in 2008.

*Drug and Alcohol Abuse Normative Evaluation System*



## Other Drug Consequences

The percent of juveniles arrested for narcotics who were African American decreased slightly from 21% in 2006 to 18% in 2009. According to the 2009 US Census estimates, about 6% of Minnesota’s juveniles are African American.

Approximately 27% to 31% of all adults arrested for narcotics offenses between 2006 and 2009 were African American. Based on the Census, only about 3% of all Minnesota’s adults are African American.

In 2007, about 27.4% of all adults prison inmates in Minnesota sentences for drug offenses were Black. This was a significant decrease from 37.9% in 2002.

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## What's Happening in Your County?



**Substance Use in Minnesota, located at [www.sumn.org](http://www.sumn.org), puts data on alcohol, tobacco and other drug use and consequences at your fingertips. The Web site was designed to help communities make decisions about substance abuse prevention efforts based on 55 indicators.**

**This site was developed by the Minnesota State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). SEOW membership includes: Minnesota's departments of Human Services, Health, Education, Public Safety and Corrections and the Minnesota Institute of Public Health, which maintains the Web site.**

## Data Sources

Population statistics are from the 2000 US Census. Counts include persons who identify as African American or Black alone (not in those in combination with one or more other races). 2001 to 2006 estimates from the Census show the population holding steady at 4%.

Youth alcohol, tobacco and other drug consumption data for students identifying as African American, African or Black are from the Minnesota Student Survey (MSS). Adult consumption data for African Americans or Blacks are from the MN Survey of Adult Substance Use (MNSASU). For both surveys, respondents were able

to select all race/ethnicity categories that applied. Binge drinking is defined as 5 or more drinks in a row on one occasion in the MSS, and 5 or more drinks for males or 4 or more drinks for females in the MNSASU.

Alcohol consequence data for African Americans are from the MSS and from Minnesota Crime Information, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. Race/ethnicity is often determined by law enforcement and therefore may not be as accurate as self-reported status.

Tobacco consequence data are from the Minnesota Center for

Health Statistics and CDC Wonder.

Drug consequence data are from the Inmate Profile and from the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

Detailed data source information can be found at [www.sumn.org](http://www.sumn.org). Data source fact sheets can be found under Tools. Links to each data source, when available, can be found under each table when using Data by Location or Data by Topic.

Aggregated data at the state and county level do not reveal disparities that may exist within a given geographic area.