



Aitkin County Substance Use and Consequences, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

KEY FINDINGS

- 11% of all motor vehicle crashes in Aitkin County are alcohol-related—twice the state rate.
- From 1998 to 2010 the smoking rate among Aitkin County students dropped from 23% to 13%.
- From 2001 to 2010, reported use of methamphetamines dropped from 12% to 1% among Aitkin County youth.

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Alcohol Consumption

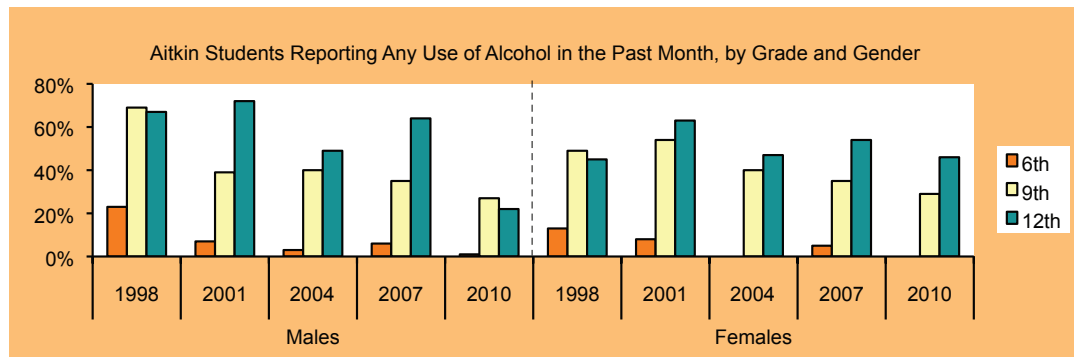
From 1998 to 2010, the rate of reported 30-day alcohol consumption by youth in Aitkin County was higher than both Minnesota’s Northeast Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Region and the state. Aitkin County’s rate decreased by 49% from 1998 to 2010 (39% down to 20%). Both the Northeast and state rates dropped by 36%.

In Aitkin County, reported use varied by grade and by gender (*see graph below*).

The percent of Aitkin County students reporting binge drinking in the past two weeks—having five or more alcoholic drinks in a row on one occasion—has also been higher than both the Northeast Region and Minnesota. Roseau rates dropped from 36% in

1998 to 23% in 2010.

In 2010, 20% of Aitkin 9th graders reported binge drinking (Northeast: 12%, Minnesota: 10%), as did 26% of 12th graders (NE: 26%, MN: 24%). Binge drinking was reported by 22% of Roseau male students and 23% of female students (MSS).



Alcohol Consequences

From 2005 to 2009, the average cost per capita of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, fatalities and injuries was \$138 in Aitkin County, \$96 in the Northeast and \$54 in Minnesota (OTS).

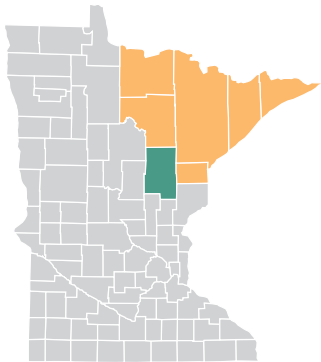
Over that same period, the driving while intoxicated (DWI) arrest rate with Aitkin

as the county of residence averaged 72.2 per 10,000 population. With Aitkin as the county of arrest, the average rate was 120.2 (OTS).

The percent of all motor vehicle crashes that were alcohol-related averaged 11% in Aitkin County—more than both the Northeast Region,

8%, and the state average, 5% (OTS).

The cirrhosis death rate per 100,000 population in Aitkin County averaged 10 from 2004 to 2008, as compared to 11 in the Northeast and 6 in the state (MCHS).



Statistics on adult substance use are available by region for 2004/2005:

- 30-day alcohol consumption was higher among 18–20 year-olds in the Northeast Region than in the state, but slightly lower among other age groups.

- Adults in Northeast Minnesota reported 30-day smoking rates higher than the state average: 27% vs. 24% for males and 25% vs. 21% for females.

- Reported 30-day use of marijuana was slightly lower than the state average in the Northeast : 3% vs. 4%. Past-year use of crack/cocaine and meth was the same in the Northeast as in Minnesota: 1%, as was reported abuse of pain relievers: 2%.

Minnesota Survey of Adult Substance Use

Tobacco Consumption

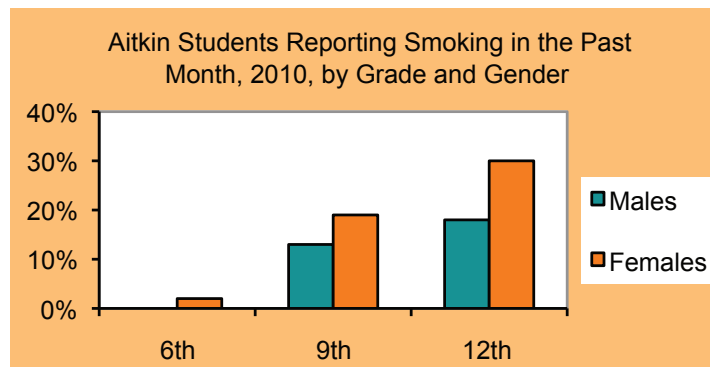
The percent of students reporting smoking any cigarettes in the past 30 days has been slightly higher in Aitkin County than in the Northeast Region or the state since 1998. Smoking rates dropped among Aitkin students from 23% in 1998 to 13% in 2010. In comparison, Northeast rates dipped from 21% to 13% and Minnesota rates from 19% to 10%.

In 2010, Aitkin County rates varied by grade and by gender (*see graph*).

Reported past-month snuff use increased among Aitkin males from 1998 to 2010: 20% to 23% for 12th graders and 15% to 17% for 9th

graders (MSS).

Statistics on adult smoking are not available at the county level.



Tobacco Consequences

The average annual rate per 100,000 population of lung, bronchus and trachea cancer deaths in Aitkin County was 85 from 2004 to 2008. Comparatively, the Northeast averaged 69 and the state 45 (MCHS).

The number of Aitkin County lung and bronchus cancer deaths averaged 8 among males and 6 among females from 2004 to 2008 (MCSS). Note: these rates exclude mesothelioma (ICD 10 Codes C45).

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.

Risk and Protective Factors

In 2010, students reporting past 30 day use of alcohol and tobacco were asked how they obtained those substances. Aitkin County students most often reported social access to alcohol (88%) and tobacco (80%). Aitkin County students were more likely (32%) than Northeast (25%) and all Minnesota students (26%) to report taking alcohol from someone or somewhere. They reported lower rates of buying

tobacco (Aitkin: 43%, NE: 53%, MN: 53%) but higher rates of taking tobacco (24%, 17%, 17%).

Students were also asked how much they thought people risked harming themselves by frequently binge drinking, smoking one or more packs of cigarettes per day, or smoking marijuana once or twice per week. Perception of great or moderate risk of alcohol harm was reported by 74% of Aitkin

County students, perception of tobacco harm was reported by 88% of Aitkin County students, and perception of marijuana harm was reported by 76% of Aitkin County students. Similarly, students were asked if they thought their parents or guardians would disapprove or greatly disapprove of such levels of substance use. Perception of disapproval was 86% for alcohol, 93% for tobacco and 94% for marijuana (MSS).

Other Drug Consumption

From 1998 to 2010, youth use of illicit drugs was higher in Aitkin County than in the state (*see graph below*). In 2010, marijuana use was reported by 12% of 9th graders and 23% of 12th graders—but no 6th graders. Aitkin male students were more likely than female students to report use in 2010: 12% vs. 9%.

From 2001 to 2010, reported use of methamphetamines dropped from 14% to 2% among Aitkin 9th graders, and from 11% to 1% among Aitkin 12th graders. From

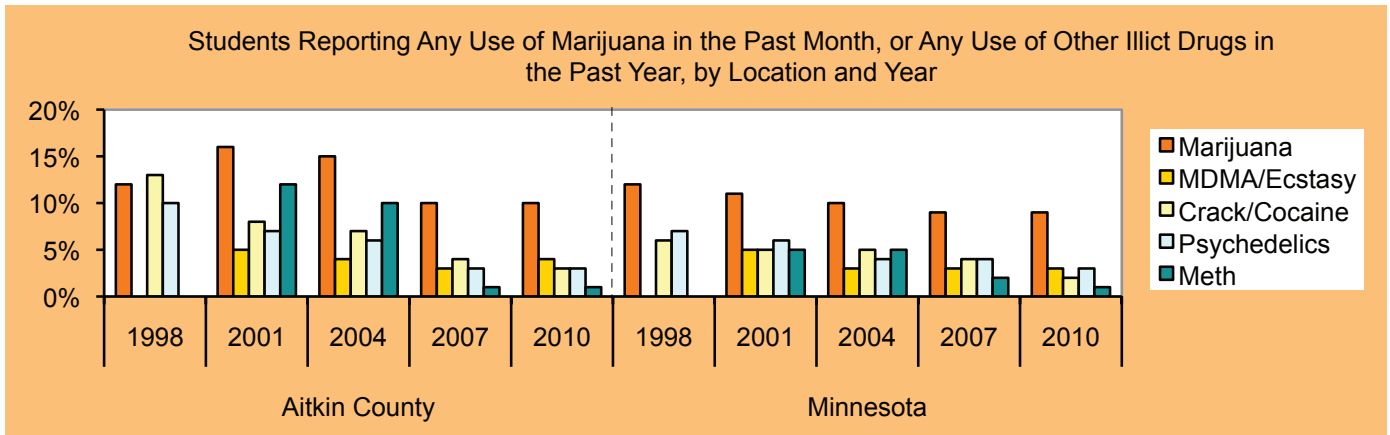
2004 to 2010, reported use of inhalants decreased among Aitkin 6th graders, 2% to 1%, and dropped from 9% to 6% for 9th graders and held steady at 7% for 12th graders. During that same time period, reported use of crack/cocaine dipped among Aitkin male students from 9% to 3%, and female students from 5% to 3%.

In 2010, no Aitkin County 6th graders reported past-year abuse of prescription drugs. Comparatively, 1% of Northeast and Minnesota 6th grad-

ers did so. Aitkin County 9th and 12th graders were asked about abuse of specific types of prescription drugs in 2010: painkillers (reported by 5% of 9th graders and 7% of 12th graders), ADD/ADHD drugs (4% of 9th graders and 8% of 12th graders), tranquilizers/sedatives (2% of 9th graders and 4% of 12th graders), and stimulants/diet pills: 3% of 9th graders and 4% of 12th graders (MSS).

Statistics on adult drug use are not available at the county level.

The US Census Bureau estimate for the 2008 Aitkin County population is 15,736. Aitkin County is approximately 96% White, 3% American Indian, and 1% Hispanic/Latino. In 2000, the percent of individuals living below the poverty level was 12% in Aitkin County as compared to 8% in Minnesota and 11% in the Northeast Region.



Other Drug Consequences

There were 26 Aitkin County narcotics arrests in 2009—of which 17 involved marijuana. Comparatively, the average number of annual arrests in Aitkin County from 2005 to 2009 was 28 (BCA). For probation and prison data related to drug offenses, see table below (DOC).

DRUG OFFENSES	AITKIN COUNTY			NORTHEAST REGION			MINNESOTA		
Rates per 1,000 Population	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Adults on Probation	4.5	4.5	3.7	3.1	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.5
Juveniles on Probation	1.0	0.3	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.5
Adults in Prison	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

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What's Happening in Your County?



Substance Use in Minnesota, located at 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 Minnesota Department of Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD). 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 U.S. Census Bureau.

Youth alcohol, tobacco and other drug consumption data are from the Minnesota Student Survey (MSS). The MSS is a confidential and anonymous self-administered survey given every three years to 6th, 9th and 12th grade students attending Minnesota public, charter and tribal schools. The Minnesota Student Survey Interagency Team is made up of four state agencies: the Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Department of Human Services, and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. Adult consumption data are

from the MN Survey of Adult Substance Use (MNSASU) from the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Performance Measurement and Quality Improvement. 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 are from the Office of Traffic Safety's (OTS) *Impaired Driving Facts and Crash Facts*, and from the National Safety Council.

Alcohol and tobacco mortality data are from the Minnesota Center for Health Statistics (MCHS) and the Minnesota Cancer Surveillance

System (MCSS).

Drug consequence data are from the Minnesota Department of Corrections' (DOC) *Inmate Profile and Probation Survey*, and from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's (BCA) *Minnesota Crime Information* reports.

Detailed data source information can be found at 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.