



Cass County Substance Use and Consequences, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

KEY FINDINGS

- Cass County's average annual cost per capita of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, fatalities and injuries is nearly three times that of the state average.
- Cass County youth were more likely than the state average to report first smoking by age 13 or younger: 25% vs. 12%.
- Reported past-year use of methamphetamines declined among Cass County youth from 12% in 2001 to 3% in 2010.

INSIDE

Tobacco Consumption 2
 Tobacco Consequences..... 2
 Risk & Protective Factors 2
 Other Drug Consumption 3
 Other Drug Consequences... 3
 MN SEOW 4
 Data Sources..... 4

Alcohol Consumption

The rate of reported past-month alcohol consumption by youth in Cass County dropped from 35% in 1998 to 26% in 2010. Comparatively, the rate for Minnesota's West Central Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Region dipped from 33% to 21%, and the state's from 31% to 20%.

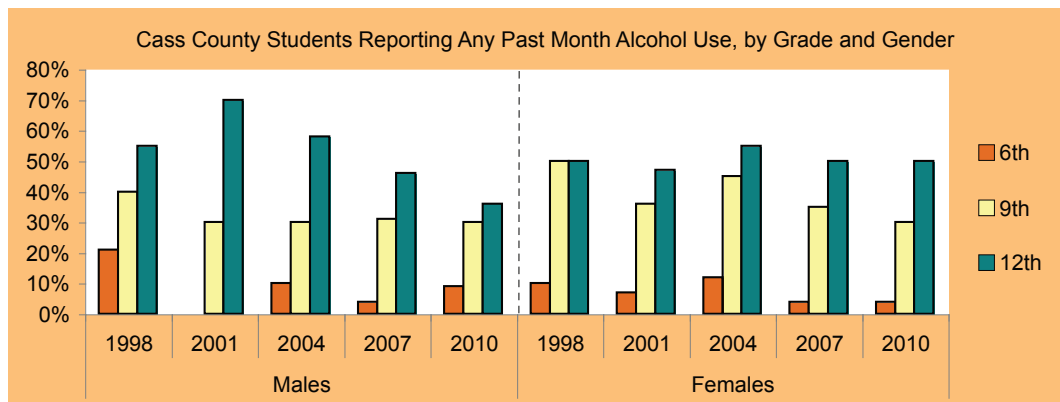
Within Cass County, reported use varied by grade and by gender (*see graph below*).

The percent of Cass County students reporting binge drinking in the past two weeks—having five or more alcoholic drinks in a row on one occasion—remained fairly flat from 1998 to 2007 (around 29%) then dropped to 21% in 2010. Comparatively, West Central rate fell steadily from 29% to 17% and state rate fell steadily from 26% to 16%.

In 2010, 16% of Cass

County 9th graders reported binge drinking, as did 26% of 12th graders. Binge drinking was reported by more male students in Cass County than female students: 23% vs. 19% (MSS).

Statistics on adult alcohol consumption are not available at the county level.



Alcohol Consequences

From 2005 to 2009, the average cost per capita of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, fatalities and injuries was \$134 in Cass County, \$91 in the West Central Region and \$54 in Minnesota (OTS).

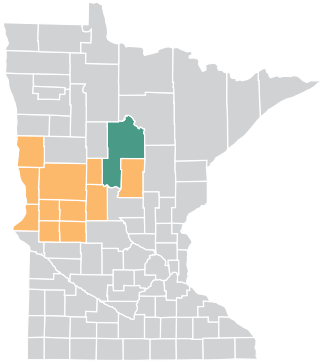
Over that same period, the driving while intoxicated

(DWI) arrest rate with Cass as the county of residence averaged 97.2 per 10,000 population. With Cass as the county of arrest, the average rate was 109.2 (OTS).

The percent of all motor vehicle crashes that were alcohol-related averaged 11%

in Cass County, 7% in the West Central Region, and 5% in Minnesota (OTS).

The cirrhosis death rate per 100,000 population in Cass County averaged 17 from 2004 to 2008, as compared to 8 in the West Central Region and 6 in the state (MCHS).



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

- Past-month alcohol use was lower among West Central women than the state average: 48% vs. 53%, and slightly lower among West Central men: 66% vs. 67%.
- West Central adults aged 18-24 reported slightly lower smoking rates than the state average, while adults aged 25-64 reported slightly higher than average smoking rates.
- Reported 30-day use of marijuana among West Central adults was equal to the state average : 4%. West Central rates of past-year pain reliever abuse, 2%, crack/cocaine use, 1%, and methamphetamine use, 1%, equaled the state average. Less than 1% of West Central adults reported past-year use of MDMA/Ecstasy.

Minnesota Survey of Adult Substance Use

Tobacco Consumption

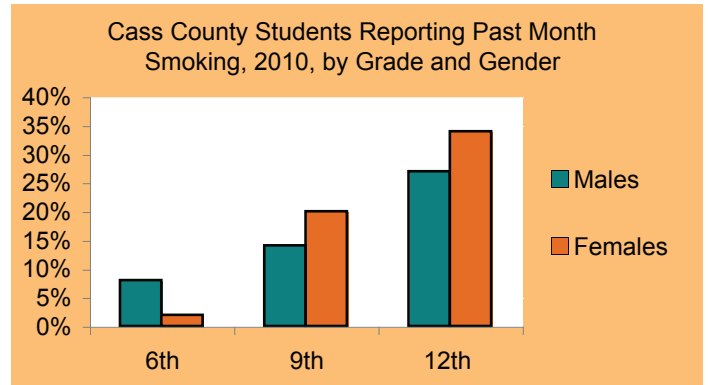
Smoking among youth declined statewide from 1998 to 2010: down from 24% to 17% in Cass County, 23% to 12% in the West Central Region, and 19% to 10% in Minnesota. In 2010, Cass County rates varied by grade and by gender (*see graph*).

From 2004 to 2010, reported past-month chewing tobacco use increased among Cass County males: 9th graders from 8% to 15% and 12th graders from 18% to 24%.

Cass County youth were more likely than the state average to report first smoking by age 13 or younger: 25% vs. 12%

(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 Cass County was 96 from 2004 to 2008. Comparatively, the West Central Region averaged 63 and the state aver-

aged 45 (MCHS).

The number of Cass County lung and bronchus cancer deaths averaged 17 among males and 11 among females from 2004 to 2008 (MCSS).

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. Cass County students most often reported social access to alcohol (87%) and tobacco (58%). Cass County students were slightly more likely (24%) than West Central (22%) but less likely than Minnesota students (26%) to report taking alcohol from someone or somewhere. They reported lower rates of

buying (Cass: 50%, WC: 51%, MN: 53%) tobacco, but slightly higher rates of taking (19%, 17%, 17%) tobacco.

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 76% of Cass

County students, perception of tobacco harm was reported by 88% of Cass County students, and perception of marijuana harm was reported by 74% of Cass 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 85% for alcohol, 91% for tobacco and 94% for marijuana (MSS).

Other Drug Consumption

Cass County students have been more likely than average to report illicit drug use (*see graph below*). In 2010, marijuana use was reported by 2% of Cass County 6th graders, 14% of 9th graders and 19% of 12th graders. Cass County male students were less likely than female students to report use in 2010: 11% vs. 12%.

From 2001 to 2010, reported use of methamphetamines dropped from 10% to 1% among Cass 9th graders, and 14% to 4% among 12th graders. From 1998 to 2010,

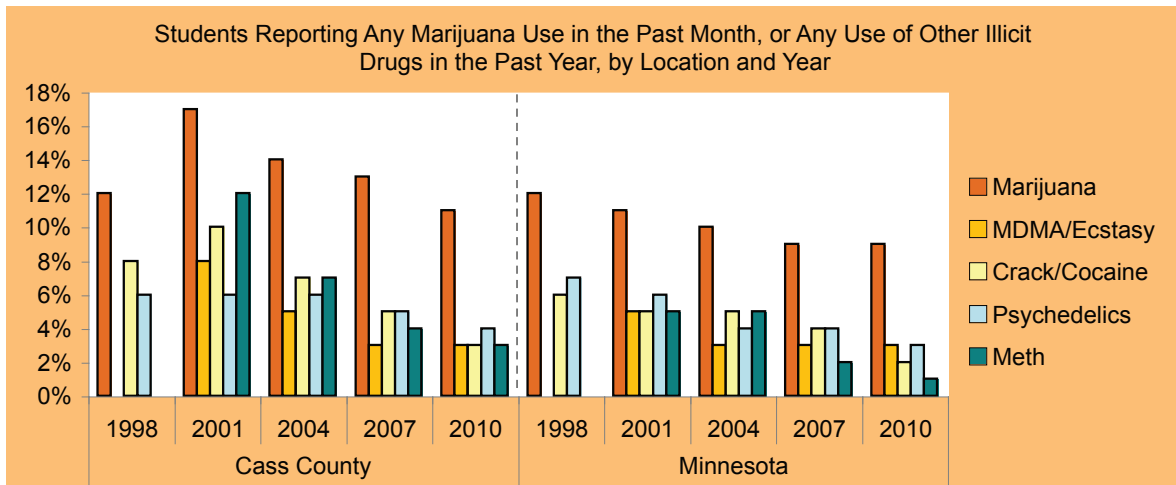
reported use of inhalants decreased among Cass 6th graders, 12% to 6%, and 9th graders, 12% to 3%, but held steady among 12th graders: 3%. During that same period, reported use of psychedelics dipped slightly for Cass male students, 7% to 4%, and female students, 5% to 4%, while reported use of crack/cocaine fell from 9% to 2% among males and 6% to 4% among females.

In 2010, one percent of 6th graders in Cass County, the West Central Region and

the state reported past-year abuse of prescription drugs. Cass County 9th and 12th graders were asked about abuse of specific types of prescription drugs in 2010: painkillers (reported by 4% of 9th graders and 10% of 12th graders), ADD/ADHD drugs (2% of 9th graders and 8% of 12th graders), tranquilizers/sedatives (1% of 9th graders and 6% of 12th graders), and stimulants/diet pills: 3% of 9th graders; 6% of 12th graders (MSS).

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

The US Census Bureau estimate for the 2008 Cass County population is 28,732. Cass County is approximately 87% White, 11% American Indian, and 1% Hispanic/Latino. In 2000, the percent of individuals living below the poverty level was 14% in Cass County, 11% in the West Central Region, and 8% in Minnesota..



Other Drug Consequences

There were 11 Cass County narcotics arrests in 2009—37% of which involved marijuana. Comparatively, the average annual number of narcotics arrests for Cass County from 2005 to 2009 was 42 (BCA). For probation and prison data related to drug offenses, see table below (DOC).

DRUG OFFENSES	CASS COUNTY			WEST CENTRAL REGION			MINNESOTA		
Rates per 1,000 Population	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Adults on Probation	4.1	4.6	4.6	2.9	1.7	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.4
Juveniles on Probation	1.6	1.0	1.3	0.7	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.5
Adults in Prison	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

Questions or comments? Contact:

Melissa Boeke, MS
Epidemiologist

Minnesota Institute of Public Health
2720 Highway 10 NE
Mounds View, MN 55112

Phone: 763.712.7615
Fax: 763.427.7841
E-mail: sumn@miph.org

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.