



Itasca County Substance Use and Consequences, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

KEY FINDINGS

- Itasca County's average cost per capita of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, fatalities and injuries has been more than double the state average.
- From 2004 to 2010 past-month snuff use has increased from 16% to 30% among Itasca County 12th graders.
- 8% of Itasca County 9th graders reported abuse of prescription pain relievers.

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Alcohol Consumption

From 1998 to 2010, the rate of reported 30-day alcohol consumption by youth in Itasca County dropped from 34% to 24%. During that same period, reported use in the Northeast Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Region dropped from 34% to 22% while state rates dipped from 31% to 20%.

In Itasca County, reported use varied by grade and by

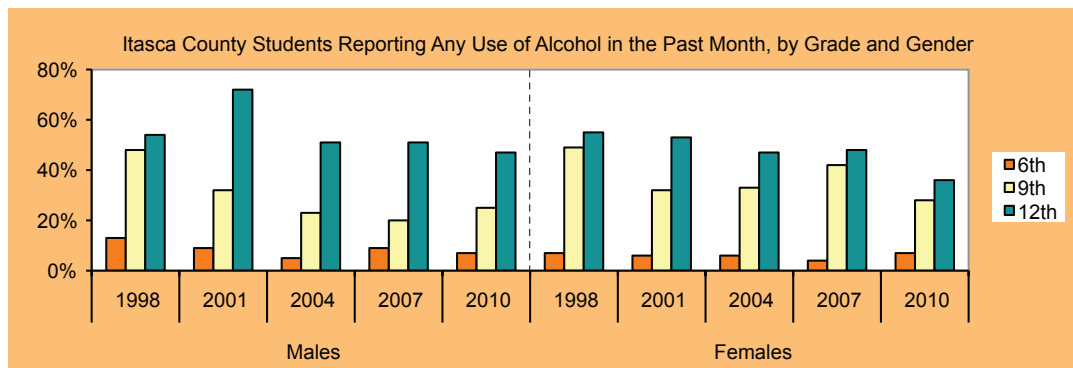
gender (*see graph below*).

The percent of Itasca County students reporting binge drinking in the past two weeks—having five or more alcoholic drinks in a row on one occasion—decreased from 28% in 1998 to 19% in 2010. Comparatively, the Northeast rate changed from 28% to 18% and the state rate from 26% to 16%.

In 2010, 16% of Itasca 9th

graders reported binge drinking (Northeast: 12%, Minnesota: 10%), as did 24% of 12th graders (NE: 26%, MN: 24%). Binge drinking was reported by 23% of Itasca male students and 15% of female students (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 \$115 in Itasca County, \$96 in the Northeast and \$54 in Minnesota (OTS).

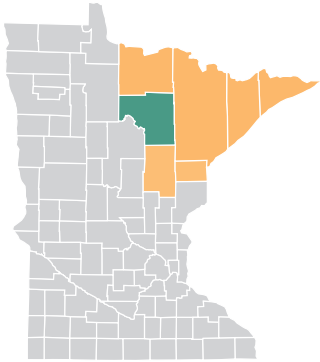
Over that same period, the driving while intoxicated (DWI) arrest rate with Itasca

as the county of residence averaged 87 per 10,000 population. With Itasca as the county of arrest, the average rate was 102 (OTS).

The percent of all motor vehicle crashes that were alcohol-related averaged 9% in Itasca County—more than both the Northeast Region,

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

The cirrhosis death rate per 100,000 population in Itasca County averaged 10 from 2004 to 2008, as compared to 12 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

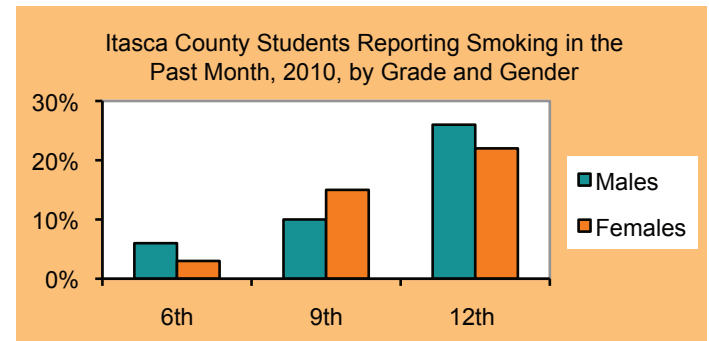
The percent of students reporting smoking any cigarettes in the past 30 days has been similar in Itasca County to the Northeast Region and the state since 1998. Smoking rates dropped among Itasca students from 23% in 1998 to 13% in 2007. In comparison, Northeast rates dipped from 21% to 13% and Minnesota rates from 19% to 10%.

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

Reported past-month snuff use increased among Itasca males from 2004 to 2010: 16% to 30% for 12th graders and 8% 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 Itasca County was 67 from 2004 to 2008. Comparatively, the Northeast averaged 69 and the state 45 (MCHS).

The number of Itasca County lung and bronchus cancer deaths averaged 19 among males and 11 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. Itasca County students most often reported social access to alcohol (85%) and tobacco (60%). Itasca County students were slightly more likely (27%) than Northeast (25%) and all Minnesota students (26%) to report taking alcohol from someone or somewhere. They reported similar rates of buy-

ing tobacco (Aitkin: 52%, NE: 53%, MN: 53%) and the same rate of taking tobacco (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 82% of Itasca County students, perception of

tobacco harm was reported by 92% of Itasca County students, and perception of marijuana harm was reported by 81% of Itasca 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 89% for alcohol, 94% for tobacco and 96% for marijuana (MSS).

Other Drug Consumption

Rates of illicit drug use have been, on average, higher in Itasca County than in the state (see graph below). In 2010, marijuana use was reported by 2% of 6th graders, 11% of 9th graders and 15% of 12th graders. Itasca female students were less likely than male students to report use in 2010: 7% vs. 11%.

From 2001 to 2010, reported use of methamphetamines dropped from 6% to 2% among Itasca 9th graders, and from 11% to 1% among Itasca 12th graders.

From 1998 to 2010, reported use of inhalants decreased among Itasca 6th graders, 8% to 4% and 12th graders, 4% to 3% but held steady at 9% among 9th graders.

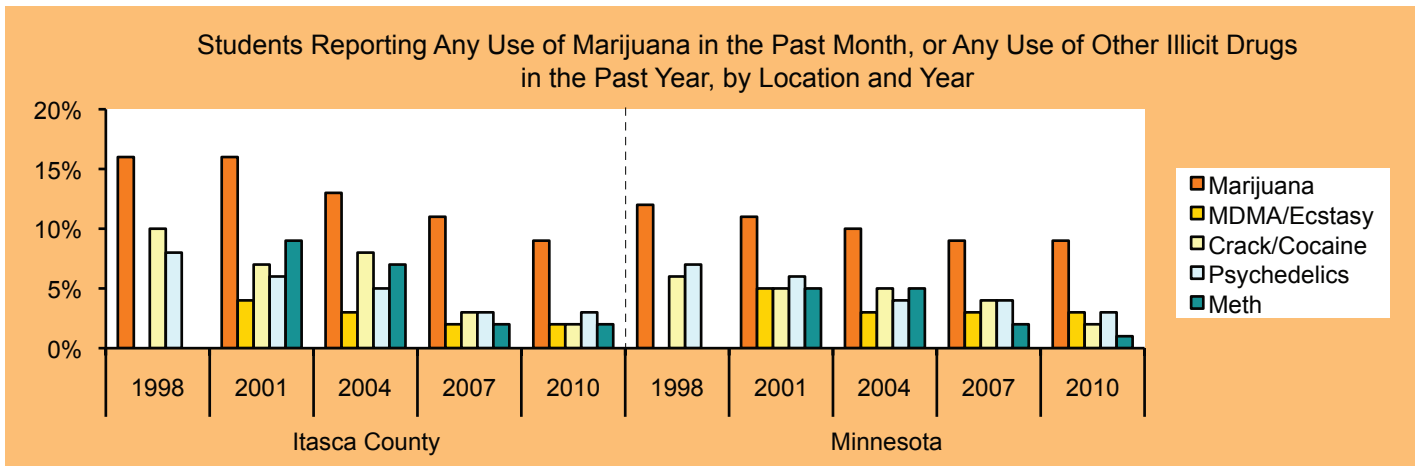
During that same time period, reported use of crack/cocaine dipped among Itasca male students from 10% to 2%, and among female students from 11% to 2%.

In 2010, 2% of Itasca County 6th graders reported past-year abuse of prescription drugs. Comparatively, 1% of Northeast and Minnesota 6th

graders did so. Itasca County 9th and 12th graders were asked about abuse of specific types of prescription drugs in 2010: painkillers (reported by 8% of 9th graders and 7% of 12th graders), ADD/ADHD drugs (8% of 9th graders and 7% of 12th graders), tranquilizers/sedatives (4% of 9th graders and 3% of 12th graders), and stimulants/diet pills: 5% 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 Itasca County population is 44,512. Itasca County is approximately 94% White, 4% American Indian, and 1% Hispanic/Latino. In 2000, the percent of individuals living below the poverty level was 11% in Itasca County as compared to 8% in Minnesota and 11% in the Northeast Region.



Other Drug Consequences

There were 32 Itasca County narcotics arrests in 2009—of which 16 involved marijuana. Comparatively, the average number of annual arrests in Itasca County from 2005 to 2009 was 49 (BCA). For probation and prison data related to drug offenses, see table below (DOC).

DRUG OFFENSES	ITASCA COUNTY			NORTHEAST REGION			MINNESOTA		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Rates per 1,000 Population									
Adults on Probation	3.2	0.6	4.6	3.1	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.5
Juveniles on Probation	1.8	1.9	3.2	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.5
Adults in Prison	0.4	0.5	0.4	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.