



# Nicollet County Substance Use and Consequences, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

## KEY FINDINGS

- Nicollet County's average annual cirrhosis death rate is half that of the state average.
- From 2004 to 2007, reported past-month chewing tobacco use increased among Nicollet County male students: 7% to 14%.
- The percent of Nicollet County youth reporting past-month marijuana use increased from 8% in 2004 to 12% in 2007.

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## Alcohol Consumption

The rate of reported past-month alcohol use by youth in Nicollet County dropped from 36% in 1998 to 25% in 2007. Comparatively, the rate for Minnesota's Southwest Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Region fell from 33% to 25%, and the state's from 31% to 23%.

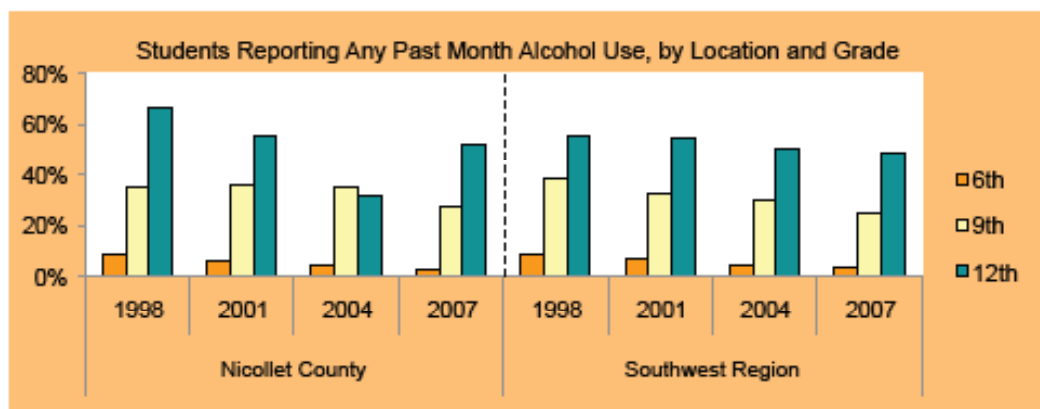
Reported use varied by grade (*see graph below*). In 2007, Nicollet male students were slightly more likely than fe-

male students to report past-month use: 26% vs. 25%. The percent of Nicollet County students reporting binge drinking in the past two weeks—having five or more drinks in a row on one occasion—fell from 38% in 1998 to 23% in 2007. In comparison, the Southwest rate fell from 28% to 21% and the state rate fell from 26% to 20%.

In 2007, 19% of Nicollet

County 9th graders reported binge drinking, as did 29% of 12th graders. Binge drinking was reported by slightly more male students than female students: 24% vs. 23% (MSS).

Minnesota Student Survey data on alcohol consumption among Nicollet County students are not available for 2010. Statistics on adult drug use 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 \$49 in Nicollet County, \$70 in the Southwest Region and \$54 in Minnesota (OTS).

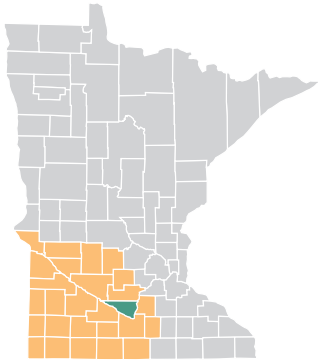
Over that same period, the driving while intoxicated

(DWI) arrest rate with Nicollet as the county of residence averaged 70.7 per 10,000 population. With Nicollet as the county of arrest, the average rate was 85.7 (OTS).

The percent of all motor vehicle crashes that were alcohol-related averaged 4% in

Nicollet County, 5% in Minnesota, and 6% in the Southwest Region (OTS).

The annual cirrhosis death rate per 100,000 population averaged 3 in Nicollet County, 6 in the state, and 7 in the Southwest Region from 2004 to 2008 (MCHS).



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

- Past-month alcohol use was lower than the state average for Southwest women, 50% vs. 53%, but equal for men: 67%.

- In the Southwest, past month smoking was reported by 41% of 18-20 year-olds, 41% of 21-24 year-olds, 26% of 25-44 year-olds, 19% of 45-64 year-olds, and 8% of persons aged 65+.

- Southwest adults were less likely than the state average to report past month use of marijuana, 2% vs. 4%. They were as likely as the state average to report past year use of crack/cocaine, 1%, but less likely to report past-year use abuse of prescription pain relievers: 1% vs. 2%. Less than one percent of Southwest adults reported past-year methamphetamine use.

*Minnesota Survey of Adult Substance Use*

## Tobacco Consumption

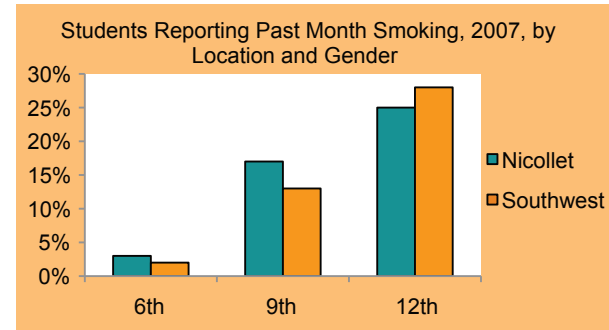
Smoking among youth declined statewide from 1998 to 2007: down from 21% to 14% in Nicollet County, 20% to 14% in the Southwest Region, and 19% to 12% in Minnesota.

In 2007, Nicollet County rates varied greatly by grade (*see graph*). Past month smoking was reported by 13% of Nicollet male students and 15% of female students in 2007.

From 2004 to 2007, reported past-month chewing tobacco use increased among

Nicollet County males: 7% to 14%. Nicollet youth were a bit less likely than average to report first smoking by age 13 or younger: 14% vs. 15% (MSS). Minnesota Student Survey

data on tobacco consumption among Nicollet county students are not available for 2010. Statistics on adult drug use 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 Nicollet County was 37 from 2004 to 2008. Comparatively, the Southwest rate averaged 51 and the state rate

averaged 45 (MCHS).

The number of Nicollet County lung and bronchus cancer deaths averaged seven among males and five 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 2007, students reporting past 30 day use of alcohol and tobacco were asked how they obtained those substances.

Nicollet County students most often reported social access to alcohol—getting it from someone or somewhere (87%), and buying tobacco from someone or somewhere (69%). Nicollet County students were about as likely (27%) as Southwest (25%) and all Minnesota students (27%) to report tak-

ing alcohol from someone or somewhere, but more likely to report taking tobacco (31%, 20%, 22%).

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 80% of Nicol-

let County students, perception of tobacco harm was reported by 87% of Nicollet students, and perception of marijuana harm was reported by 81% of Nicollet students. Similarly, students were asked if they thought their close friends would disapprove or greatly disapprove of such levels of substance use. Perception of disapproval was 75% for alcohol, 85% for tobacco and 82% for marijuana (MSS).

## Other Drug Consumption

Past-month marijuana use increased recently among Nicollet County youth (*see graph below*). In 2007, marijuana use was reported by 1% of Nicollet County 6th graders, 16% of 9th graders and 23% of 12th graders. Male students were slightly more likely than female students to report use: 13% vs. 12%.

From 2001 to 2007, reported past-year use of methamphetamines fell from 5% to 2% among Nicollet 9th graders, and 4% to 3% among 12th graders. From 1998 to 2007, reported past-year use

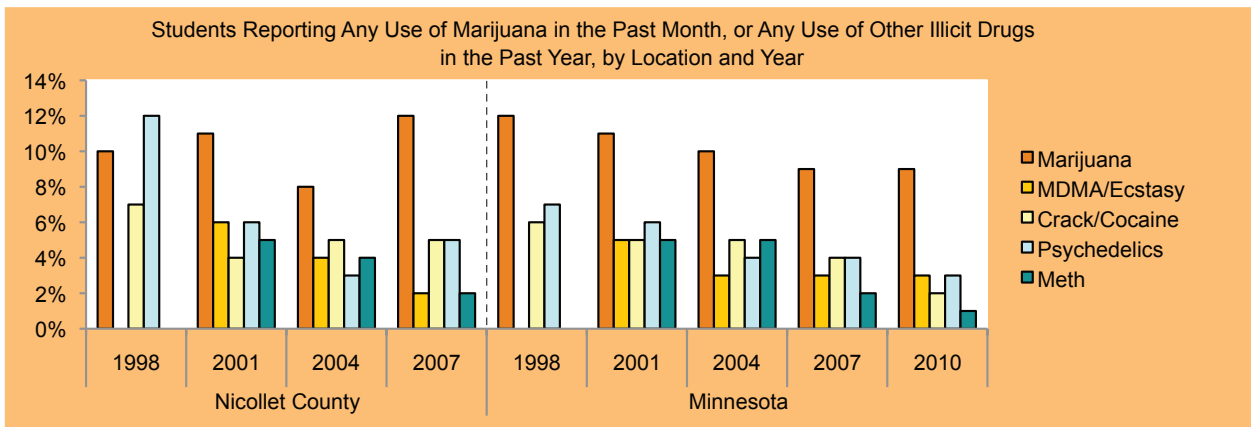
of inhalants fell among Nicollet 6th graders, 5% to 1%, and 9th graders, 8% to 5%, but increased slightly for 12th graders, 3% to 4%. During that period, reported past-year use of psychedelics fell among male students, 12% to 4%, and females, 12% to 6%. Reported use of crack/cocaine fell from 8% to 5% among males, holding at 5% among females.

In 2007, one percent of 6th graders in Nicollet County, the Southwest Region, and the state reported past-year abuse of prescription drugs. Nicollet County 9th and 12th graders were asked

about abuse of specific types of prescription drugs in 2007: painkillers (reported by 7% of both 9th and 12th graders), ADD/ADHD drugs (10% of 9th graders; 6% of 12th graders), tranquilizers/sedatives (4% of 9th graders; 3% of 12th graders), and stimulants/diet pills: 5% of 9th graders; 4% of 12th graders (MSS).

Minnesota Student Survey data on drug use among Nicollet County students are not available for 2010. Statistics on adult drug use are not available at the county level.

The US Census Bureau estimate for the 2009 Nicollet County population is 32,224. Nicollet County is approximately 95% White, 3% Hispanic, 2% Asian/Pacific Islander and 2% African-American. In 2000, the percent of individuals living below the poverty level was 8% in both Nicollet County and in the state compared to 9% in the Southwest Region.



## Other Drug Consequences

There were 32 Nicollet County narcotics arrests in 2007—78% of which involved marijuana. Comparatively, the average annual number of narcotics arrests for Nicollet County from 2005 to 2009 was 28 (BCA). For probation and prison data related to drug offenses, see table below (DOC).

DRUG OFFENSES	NICOLLET COUNTY			SOUTHWEST REGION			MINNESOTA		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Rates per 1,000 Population									
Adults on Probation	1.9	2.3	2.5	2.6	4.2	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.5
Juveniles on Probation	0.1	1.3	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5
Adults in Prison	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3

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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 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](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.