



# Substance Use and Consequences in the Southwest ATOD Prevention Region, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

## KEY FINDINGS

- In 2010, 41% of all Southwest 12th graders and 20% of 9th graders reported past month alcohol use.
- From 1999 to 2008, the number of West Central women who died from lung and bronchus cancer increased by 20%.
- Reported past-month marijuana use was lower than the state average among Southwest 9th and 12th graders 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

Reported 30-day alcohol use from 1998 to 2010 was slightly higher in the Southwest ATOD Prevention Region than in the state as a whole. The rate dropped from 31% to 20% in Minnesota, and from 33% to 21% in the Southwest. In 2010, 41% of all Southwest 12th graders and 20% of 9th graders reported past month alcohol use (MSS).

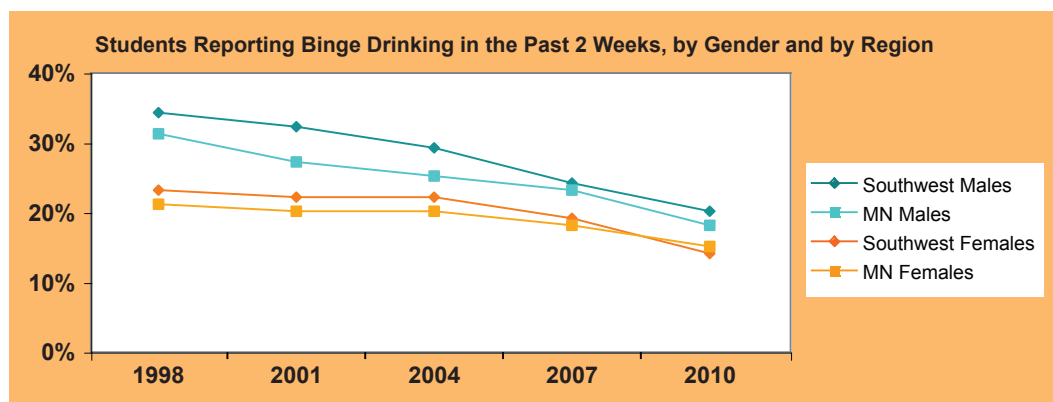
Among adults, reported 30-day alcohol use was equal

to the state average for Southwest men (67%) but lower than average for women (50% vs. 53%) in 2004/2005. Reported use by Southwest men was highest for 21-24 year olds, 85%, and by women was also highest for 21-24 year olds at 66% (MNSASU).

Reported binge drinking has also been higher than average among students in the Southwest (see graph below). In 2010, 12% of Southwest

9th grade males and 9% of females reported binge drinking. Among Southwest 12th graders, 29% of males reported binge drinking vs. 21% of females (MSS).

Adult males and females in the Southwest were more likely than the state average to report binge drinking in 2004/2005—26% vs. 24% for men; 14% vs. 13% for women (MNSASU).



## Alcohol Consequences

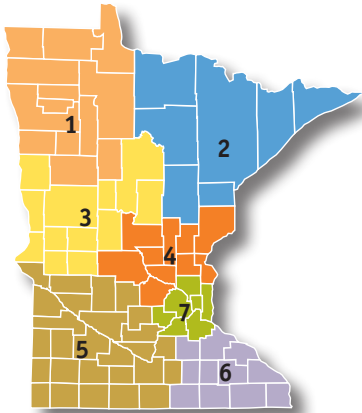
While the cost per capita of alcohol-related traffic crashes, fatalities and injuries has fluctuated, Southwest costs were higher than the state average for all but two years from 2000 to 2009. Southwest area costs ranged from \$54-\$94 per capita; the range was \$49-\$69

for Minnesota (OTS).

In 2009, the rate of arrests or incidents on record of driving while intoxicated (DWI) was 58.6 per 10,000 population for the Southwest as region of residence, and 62.6 per 10,000 population for Southwest as region of arrest (both

higher than the state rate of 59.5 per 10,000 population.)

From 2000 to 2009, 5%-7% of motor vehicle crashes in the Southwest were alcohol related. The alcohol-related motor vehicle fatality rate has been 0.3-0.6 per 10,000 population in the Southwest.



Minnesota is divided into seven Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Regions. The Southwest Region contains the counties of: Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Martin, Meeker, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Sibley, Swift, Waseca, Watonwan, and Yellow Medicine.

Minnesota's Prevention Region Coordinators support communities in their efforts to prevent alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) abuse. They help communities by building regional relationships to enhance prevention efforts, identifying and providing training opportunities, and providing technical assistance. For more information on the Southwest ATOD Prevention Region go to: [www.rpcmn.org](http://www.rpcmn.org)

## Tobacco Consumption

Reported 30-day cigarette smoking among Southwest students, though declining, has been higher than the state average over the past 12 years. Southwest rates dropped for: 9th grade males, 23% to 11%; 9th grade females, 22% to 10%; 12th grade males, 39% to 27%; and 12th grade females, 33% to 22% (MSS).

2004/2005 reported past-month smoking rates were higher than the state average for Southwest adults, except

for 21-24 year-old men, 38% vs. 47%, 25-44 year-old women, 22% vs. 24%, and 45-64 year-old women, 16% vs. 19% (MNSASU).

The percent of male students reporting past-month chewing tobacco use in 2010 in the Southwest was equal to the state average for 6th graders at 1%; higher than the state average for 9th graders, 11% vs. 8%; and 12th graders, 26% vs. 22% (MSS).

Southwest males were

slightly more likely than the state average to report first having smoked all or part of a cigarette by age 13 or younger: 14% vs. 13%, while females were the same as the state average at 11%. Southwest male students were more likely to report first having smoked a cigar or used chewing tobacco by the age of 13 or younger: 10% vs. 8% (MSS).

## Tobacco Consequences

From 1999 to 2008, the Southwest region's lung, bronchus and trachea cancer death rate fluctuated, but was higher than the state average. The Southwest rate ranged from 4.7 to 5.2 per 10,000 population; the state rate ranged

from 4.4 to 4.6 (MCHS).

Over that period, the number of Southwest region males who died from lung or bronchus cancer increased by 4% while the number of female deaths increased by 20% (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. Percent of smoking-attributable deaths may vary from one location to another.

## Risk and Protective Factors

In 2010, students who reported past 30 day use of alcohol and tobacco were asked how they obtained those substances. Similar to all students in the state, Southwest students most often reported social access to alcohol (89%) and tobacco (61%). In addition, 7% reported buying alcohol and 23% reported taking it; 56% reported buying tobacco and

14% reported taking it (MSS).

Student 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 79% of Southwest students, perception of

tobacco harm was reported by 89% of Southwest students, and perception of marijuana harm was reported by 81% of Southwest 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 88% for alcohol, 95% for tobacco and 97% for marijuana.

## Other Drug Consumption

The percent of Southwest students reporting 30-day marijuana use remained constant from 2007 to 2010 (7%).

Southwest rates were equal to the state average in 2010 for 6th graders, but lower for 9th graders, 7% vs. 10%, and 12th graders, 13% vs. 20% (MSS).

In 2004/2005, Minnesota adults were asked if they'd smoked marijuana in the past month—2% of Southwest men and 1% of Southwest women said they had, as com-

pared to 6% of men and 3% of women in the state (MNSASU).

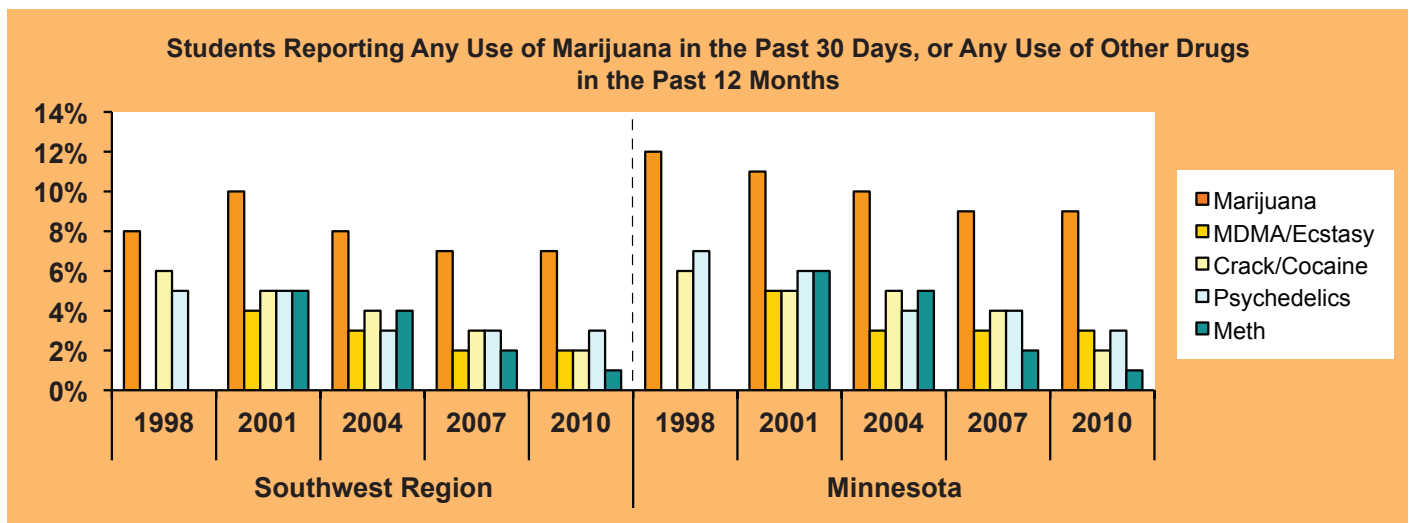
Reported 12 month use of a number of illicit drugs by students dropped from 1998 to 2010 (see bar graph below).

Not pictured: Reported rates of abuse of inhalants and tranquilizers/sedatives were the same for Southwest students as for all Minnesota students in 2010. Southwest students were less likely to report abuse of pain relievers, and Southwest 12th graders were less likely to

report abuse of ADD/ADHD drugs (MSS).

In 2004/2005, Southwest adults were less likely than the state average to report abuse of painkillers (1% vs. 3% for men; 0% vs. 2% for women) and tranquilizers/sedatives (6% vs. 7% for men; 3% vs. 4% for women). One percent or less of Southwest adults reported past-year use of methamphetamines, MDMA/Ecstasy, and/or psychedelics (MNSASU).

The US Census Bureau estimate for the 2008 Southwest region's population is 505,249—approximately 9.7% of the state's population. The population is about 96% White, 5% Hispanic/Latino, 1% African-American or Black, and 1% Asian/Pacific Islander.



## Other Drug Consequences

From 2005 to 2009, the rate of adult prison inmates from the Southwest region sentenced for drug offenses has been slightly higher than that of the state—4 to 8 per 10,000 population vs. 3 to 5. Among Southwest adults in prison for drug offenses

in 2007, approximately 67.4% were White, 5.2% were African-American or Black, 21.7% were Hispanic/Latino and 2.2% were American Indian/Alaska Native (DOC).

The rate per 1,000 population of Southwest adults

on probation for drug offenses as governing sentence has fluctuated during 2005-2009 ranging from 1.7 to 4.2. Juvenile rates have also fluctuated, from 0.2 to 0.6. Rates may be influenced by pretrial diversion programs (DOC).

## 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: [mboeke@miph.org](mailto:mboeke@miph.org)

## 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

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 Sub-

stance 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.

Tobacco consequence data are from the Minnesota Center for Health Statistics (MCHS) and the Minnesota Cancer Surveillance Sys-

tem (MCSS).

Drug consequence data are from the Minnesota Department of Corrections' *Inmate Profile and Probation Survey*.

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.