



Wadena County Substance Use and Consequences, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

KEY FINDINGS

- Wadena County's average annual cost per capita of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, fatalities and injuries is nearly double the state average.
- From 1998 to 2010, youth smoking rates dropped by 35% in Wadena County.
- Reported past-month use of marijuana dropped among Wadena County students from 9% in 1998 to 6% in 2007, while the state rate fell from 12% to 9%.

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 percent of Wadena County youth reporting past-month alcohol use fluctuated: falling from 29% in 1998 to 23% in 2001, rising to 27% in 2004 then falling again to 20% in 2010. Comparatively, the rate for Minnesota's West Central Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Region fell steadily from 33% to 21%, and the state's from 31% to 20%. Within the county, use

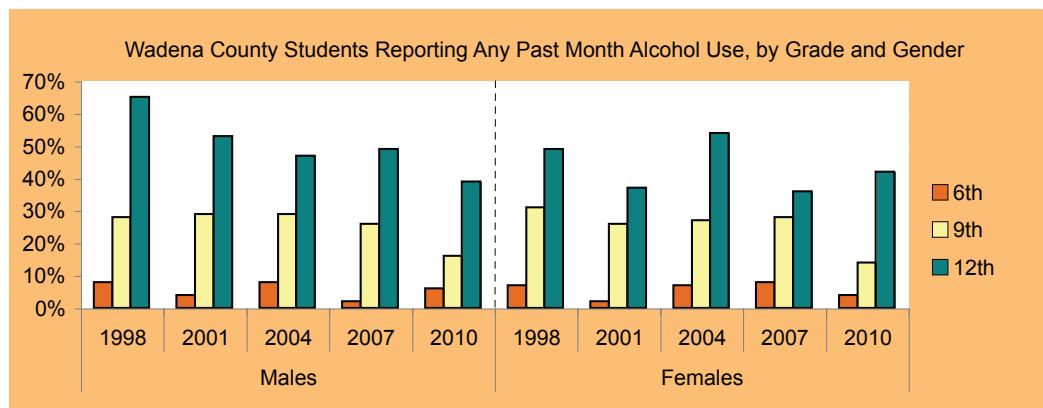
varied by grade and by gender (see graph below).

The percent of Wadena County students reporting binge drinking in the past two weeks—having five or more drinks in a row on one occasion—increased from 22% in 1998 to 24% in 2004, then fell to 16% in 2010. Comparatively, the West Central rate fell steadily from 29% to 17% and the state rate fell steadily

from 26% to 16%.

In 2010, binge drinking was reported by 11% of 9th grade males, 5% of 9th grade females, 30% of 12th grade males, and 18% of 12th grade females in Wadena County (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 \$102 in Wadena County, \$91 in the West Central Region and \$54 in Minnesota (OTS).

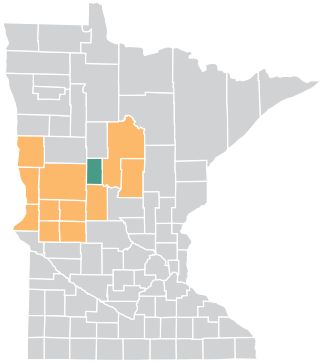
Over that same period, the driving while intoxicated

(DWI) arrest rate with Wadena as the county of residence averaged 80.2 per 10,000 population. With Wadena as the county of arrest, the average rate was 77.0 (OTS).

The percent of all motor vehicle crashes that were alcohol-related averaged 9%

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

The annual cirrhosis death rate per 100,000 population in Wadena County averaged 9 from 2004 to 2008, 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

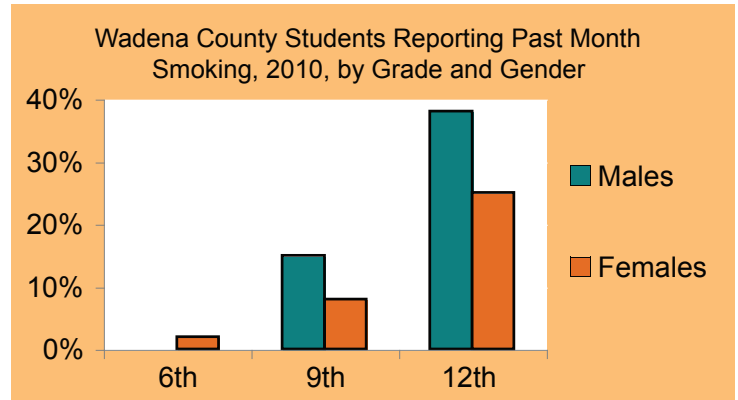
Smoking among youth declined statewide from 1998 to 2010: down from 20% to 13% in Wadena County, 23% to 12% in the West Central Region, and 19% to 10% in Minnesota. In 2010, Wadena County rates varied by grade and by gender (*see graph*).

From 2007 to 2010, reported past-month chewing tobacco use in Wadena County increased among 9th grade males, 13% to 15%, but decreased among 12th grade

males, 27% to 21%. Wadena youth were more likely than the state average to report first smoking by age 13 or younger:

17% 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 Wadena County was 59 from 2004 to 2008. Comparatively, the West Central Region averaged 63 and the

state averaged 45 (MCHS).

The number of Wadena County lung and bronchus cancer deaths averaged six among males and two 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. Wadena County students most often reported social access to alcohol (90%) and tobacco (62%). Wadena County students were less likely (21%) than West Central (22%) and all Minnesota students (26%) to report taking alcohol from someone or somewhere. They were less likely to report buy-

ing (Wadena: 44%, WC: 51%, MN: 53%) tobacco, and slightly less likely to report taking (16%, 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 80% of

Wadena County students, perception of tobacco harm was reported by 88% of Wadena students, and perception of marijuana harm was reported by 82% of Wadena 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, 95% for tobacco and 97% for marijuana (MSS).

Other Drug Consumption

Wadena County students have been less likely than average to report illicit drug use (*see graph below*). In 2010, marijuana use was reported by 1% of Wadena County 6th graders, 3% of 9th graders and 13% of 12th graders. Wadena male students were more likely than female students to report use: 8% vs. 4%.

From 2001 to 2010, reported use of methamphetamines dropped from 6% to 0% among Wadena County 9th graders, and 4% to 1% among 12th graders. From 1998 to 2010, reported use of inhalants

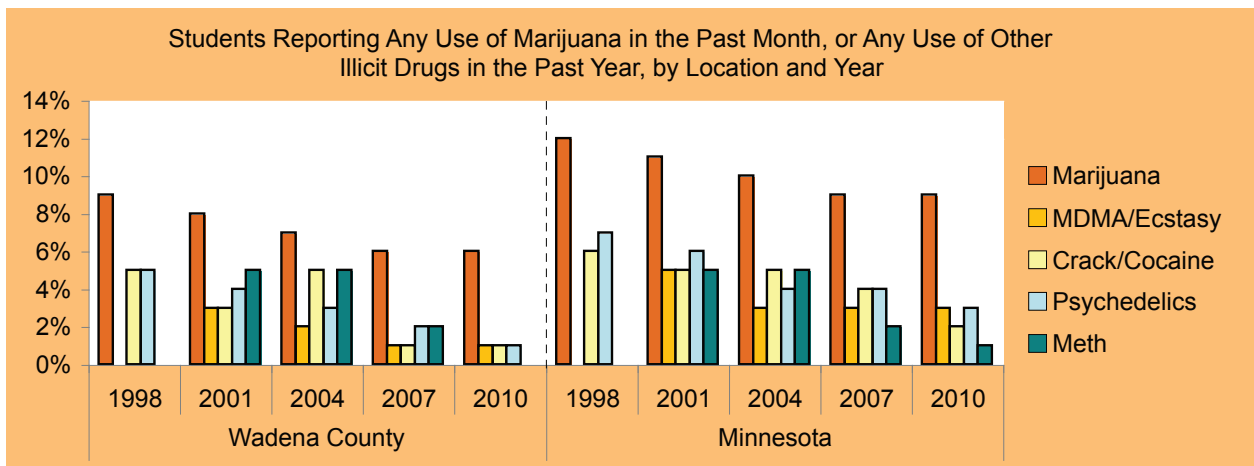
held steady among Wadena 6th graders at 4%, fell among 9th graders, 8% to 2%, and increased among 12th graders: 1% to 2%. During that period, reported use of psychedelics fell among Wadena male students, 8% to 3%, and female students, 2% to 1%. Reported use of crack/cocaine fell from 7% to 2% for males and 3% to 1% for females.

In 2010, one percent of 6th graders in Wadena County, the West Central Region and the state reported past-year abuse of prescription drugs. Wadena

County 9th and 12th graders were asked about abuse of specific types of prescription drugs in 2010: painkillers (reported by 2% of 9th and 12th graders), ADD/ADHD drugs (2% of 9th graders; 3% of 12th graders), tranquilizers/sedatives (2% of 9th graders; 1% of 12th graders), and stimulants/diet pills: 1% of 9th and 12th graders (MSS).

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

The US Census Bureau estimate for the 2009 Wadena County population is 13,269. Wadena County is approximately 98% White, 1% Hispanic/Latino, 1% American Indian and 1% African-American. In 2000, the percent of individuals living below the poverty level was 14% in Wadena County, 11% in the West Central Region, and 8% in Minnesota.



Other Drug Consequences

There were 34 Wadena County narcotics arrests in 2010—62% of which involved marijuana. This is higher than the average annual number of narcotics arrests for Wadena County, from 2005 to 2009: 25 (BCA). For probation and prison data related to drug offenses, see table below (DOC).

| DRUG OFFENSES | WADENA COUNTY | | | WEST CENTRAL REGION | | | MINNESOTA | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|------|------|---------------------|------|------|-----------|------|------|
| Rates per 1,000 Population | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
| Adults on Probation | 3.5 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 2.9 | 1.7 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.5 |
| Juveniles on Probation | 0.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Adults in Prison | 0.7 | 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.