



Wilkin County Substance Use and Consequences in Minnesota, 2011

MN STATE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES WORKGROUP

KEY FINDINGS

- From 1998 to 2010, reported binge drinking in the past two weeks decreased from 39% to 12% among 9th graders and 50% to 23% among 12th graders.
- Reported past 30-day chewing tobacco use declined among 12th grade males (34% in 1998 to 18% in 2010).
- Abuse of prescription drugs was reported more often by 9th graders than by 12th graders.

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Alcohol Consumption

The rate of reported past-month alcohol use by youth in Wilkin County decreased from 43% in 1998 to 21% in 2007 and held steady in 2010. Comparatively, the rate for Minnesota’s West Central Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Region fell from 33% to 21%, and the state from 31% to 20% during that time period.

Within Wilkin County, re-

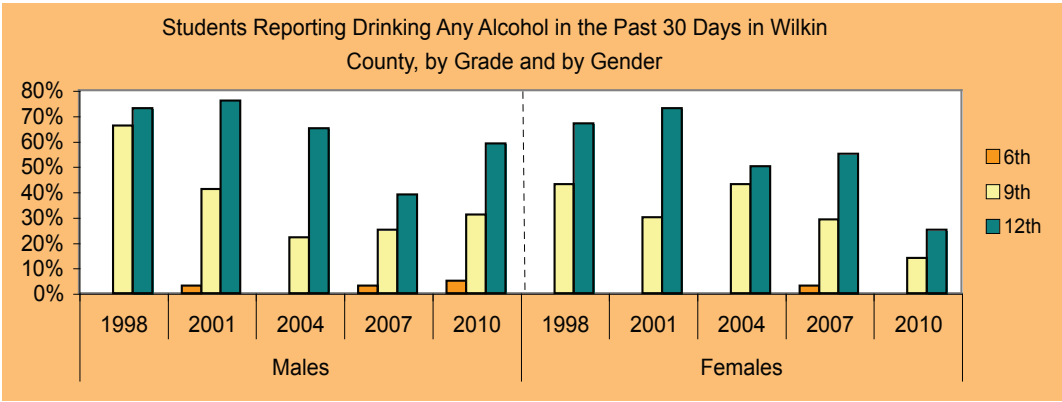
ported use varied by grade and by gender (*see graph below*).

While binge drinking among youth has been slightly higher than the state average in both Wilkin County and the West Central Region, it has decreased over time. From 1998 to 2010, reported binge drinking in the past two weeks decreased from 39% to 12% in Wilkin County among 9th graders and 50% to 23%

among 12th graders.

Reported binge drinking among Wilkin County male students was twice that of female students in 2001 (40% vs. 19%), the same in 2004 (28%), slightly lower in 2007 (21% vs. 22%), and again more than twice as high in 2010 (24% vs. 10%).

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 \$165 in Wilkin County, \$91 in the West Central Region and \$54 in Minnesota (OTS).

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

as the county of residence averaged 63.3 per 10,000 population. With Wilkins as the county of arrest, the average rate was 92.2 (OTS).

The percent of all motor vehicle crashes that were alcohol-related averaged 6% in Wilkin County, 7% in the West Central Region and 5%

in Minnesota (OTS).

The cirrhosis death rate per 100,000 population in Wilkin County averaged 15 from 2004 to 2008, as compared to 8 in the West Central Region and 6 in the state (MCHS).



Statistics on adult alcohol consumption are not available at the county level, though 2004/2005 data are available by region:

- 30-day alcohol consumption was higher among 18–24 year-olds in the West Central Region than in the state, but comparable among other age groups.
- Adults in West Central Minnesota reported 30-day smoking rates equal to the state average: 24% for males and 21% for females.
- Reported 30-day use of marijuana was the same in the West Central Region as in the state: 4%. Twelve month MDMA/Ecstasy use was slightly lower, and use of crack/cocaine, psychedelics and meth was the same in the West Central Region as in Minnesota.

Tobacco Consumption

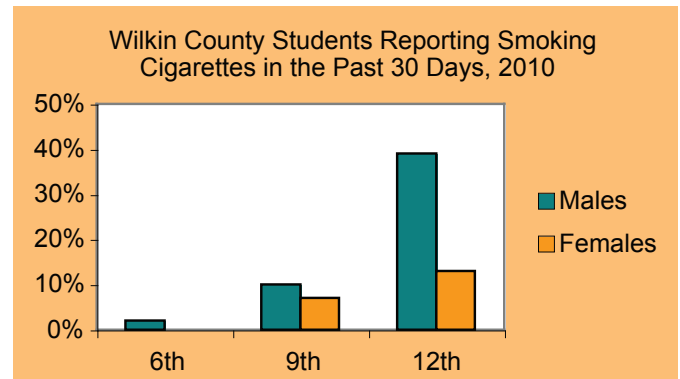
Smoking among youth declined statewide from 1998 to 2010: down from 24% to 10% in Wilkin County, 23% to 12% in the West Central Region, and 19% to 10% in Minnesota. In 2010, Wilkin County rates varied by grade and by gender (*see graph*).

From 1998 to 2010, reported past-month chewing tobacco use decreased among Wilkin County 12th grade males, 34% to 18%, and also decreased among 9th grade males: 19%

to 10%. Wilkin County youth were slightly less likely than the state average to report first smoking by age 13 or younger:

11% vs. 12% (MSS).

Statistics on adult smoking are not available at the county level.



In 2004/2005, adults in West Central Minnesota reported 30-day smoking rates equal to the state average: 24% for males and 21% for females.

Tobacco Consequences

The average annual rate per 100,000 population of lung, bronchus and trachea cancer deaths in Wilkin County was 59 from 2004 to 2008. Comparatively, the West Central Region averaged 63 and the

state averaged 45 (MCHS).

The number of Wilkin County lung and bronchus cancer deaths averaged 2 among males and 2 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.

Population Snapshot

Wilkin County is located in the West Central Region of Minnesota, and borders North Dakota. Wilkin County's 2000 population, according to the U.S. Census, was 7,128. Estimates put the 2008 population at 6,286.

The population density in 2000 was 10 persons per square mile, compared to the state's 62

persons per square mile.

In 2008, 98% of the Wilkin County population identified as white, compared to 96% in West Central Minnesota and 89% in the state. Wilkin's largest minority community are Hispanics/Latinos. Estimates show this population to have grown from 1% in 2000 to 3% in 2008.

The medium household income in Wilkin County was \$38,093 in 2000 (compared to \$35,928 in the West Central Region and \$47,111 in Minnesota). The number of individuals living below the poverty line in 2000 was approximately 8% in Wilkin County—the same as Minnesota, and lower than the West Central Region (11%).

Other Drug Consumption

Marijuana use was reported by more Wilkin County students than any other illicit drug (*see graph below*). In 2010, reported 30-day use of marijuana in Wilkin County was higher for males in 6th grade (5% vs. 0%), 9th grade (5% vs. 3%), and in 12th grade (14% vs. 9%).

Students were asked how old they were the first time they tried marijuana. In 2010, 3% of Wilkin students, 5% of West Central students and 6% of all students in the state reported first using by the age of 13 or younger.

Of particular note, reported methamphetamine use among Wilkin County students dropped from 10% in 2001 to 1% in 2007 but then increased to 3% in 2010. In comparison, reported use in Minnesota decreased from 2001 to 2010 at 5% to 1%.

Not pictured: In 2010,

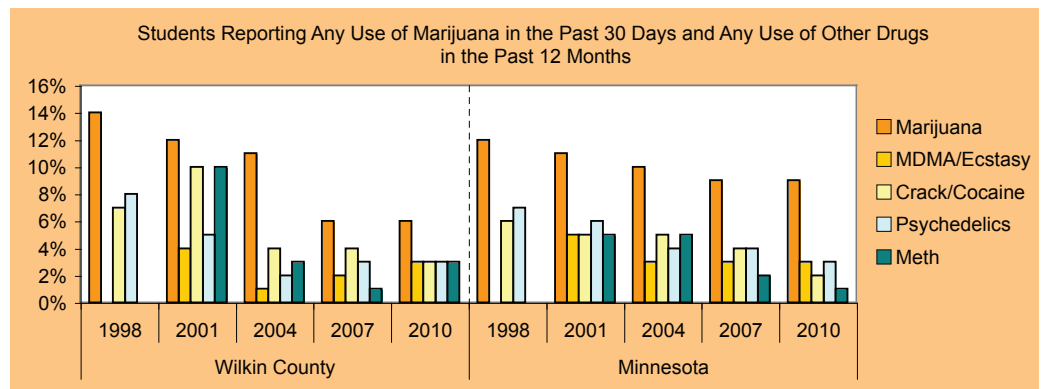
inhalant use in the past 12 months was higher for male than female 6th graders (7% vs. 0%), 9th graders (11% vs. 4%), and 12th graders (4% vs. 0%). In 2010, Wilkin County 9th and 12th graders were asked about abuse of specific prescription drugs—those not prescribed to them by their doctor, taken only to get high: painkillers (reported by 6% of 9th graders and 0% of 12th graders), ADD/ADHD drugs (8% for 9th graders and 2% for 12th graders), tranquiliz-

ers/sedatives (3% of 9th graders and 0% of 12th graders), and stimulants/diet pills (5% and 0%, respectively).

Statistics on adult drug use are not available at the county level. Reported 30-day adult use of marijuana in 2004/2005 was the same in the West Central Region as in the state: 4%. Adult 12 month MDMA/Ecstasy use was slightly lower, and adult use of crack/cocaine, psychedelics and meth was the same in the West Central Region as in Minnesota.

“The Wilkin County ATOD Coalition, on behalf of our children, will continue to make every effort to continue the trend of reduced alcohol, drug and tobacco usage by our youth. The bottom line is, that an increasing number of Wilkin County youth have decided to live a healthy life, free of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. The success of the ATOD Coalition belongs to the youth of our community. ‘I congratulate and thank them.’”

— Tim Fox, Wilkin County Attorney



Other Drug Consequences

There were nine Wilkin County narcotics arrests in 2009—55% of which involved marijuana. This is slightly higher than the average annual number of narcotics arrests for Wilkin County, from 2005 to 2009: 8 (BCA). For probation and prison data related to drug offenses, see table below.

DRUG OFFENSES	WILKIN COUNTY			WEST CENTRAL REGION			MINNESOTA		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Rates per 1,000 Population									
Adults on Probation	1.6	1.0	1.7	2.9	1.7	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.5
Juveniles on Probation	2.0	1.4	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.5
Adults in Prison	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	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 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

Population statistics are from the U.S. Census.

Youth alcohol, tobacco and other drug consumption data are from the Minnesota Student Survey (MSS). Adult consumption data are from the MN Survey of Adult Substance Use (MNSASU). 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, *Impaired Driving Facts, Crash Facts,*

and the Minnesota Health Statistics Annual Summary.

Tobacco consequence data are from the Minnesota Center for Health Statistics.

Drug consequence data are from the *Inmate Profile*, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, and *Minnesota Crime Information*.

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 community. Data by race/ethnicity are not available at the county level.