

Hennepin County
Public Health
Assessment Team

FACT SHEET



Hennepin County
Public Health

Adolescent alcohol use

Why is this indicator important?

Alcohol is the most commonly abused drug among youth in Hennepin County, Minnesota, and nationally. Youth who drink alcohol are at risk of academic, social, legal, physical and emotional problems.

Youth who binge drink are at risk of experiencing problems related to drinking more so than youth who drink alcohol but do not binge drink.

What is the current status?

In 2016, about one-fifth of 11th graders (21%) in suburban Hennepin County used alcohol at least once in the past 30 days. About one in ten 11th graders (11%) reported binge drinking in the past 30 days. Fewer 9th and 11th graders reported using alcohol in 2016 compared to previous years.

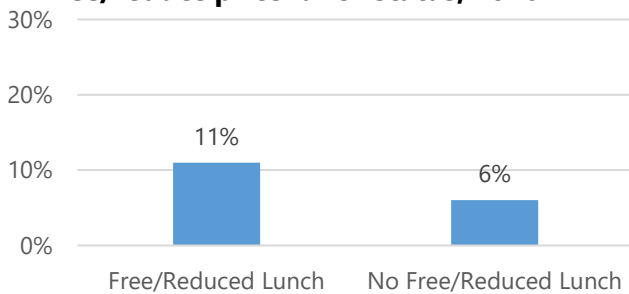
2016 Suburban Hennepin County students	8 th graders	9 th graders	11 th graders
Used alcohol in past 30 days	5%	7%	21%
Boys	5%	7%	21%
Girls	6%	7%	22%
Engaged in binge drinking in past 30 days	2%	3%	11%
Boys	2%	3%	12%
Girls	1%	3%	11%

For more information on the health of Hennepin County residents, visit: www.Hennepin.us/PublicHealthData or email: PublicHealthData@hennepin.us

What are the disparities?

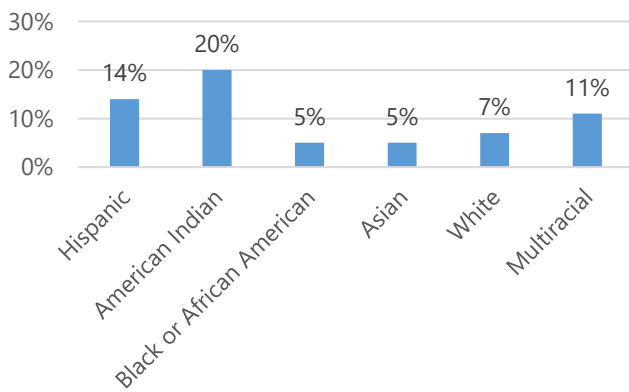
Ninth graders receiving free or reduced lunch were more likely to have used alcohol in the past 30 days compared to students not receiving free/reduced lunch. Students receiving free/reduced lunch were only slightly more likely to report binge drinking in the past 30 days compared to those not receiving free/reduced lunch (5% vs 2%) (figure 2).

Figure 2. Percentage of 9th graders drinking alcohol in past 30 days by free/reduce price lunch status, 2016



American Indian, Hispanic and multiracial students were more likely to drink in the past 30 days compared to other students. American Indian students were also more likely to report binge drinking compared to other students (figure 3).

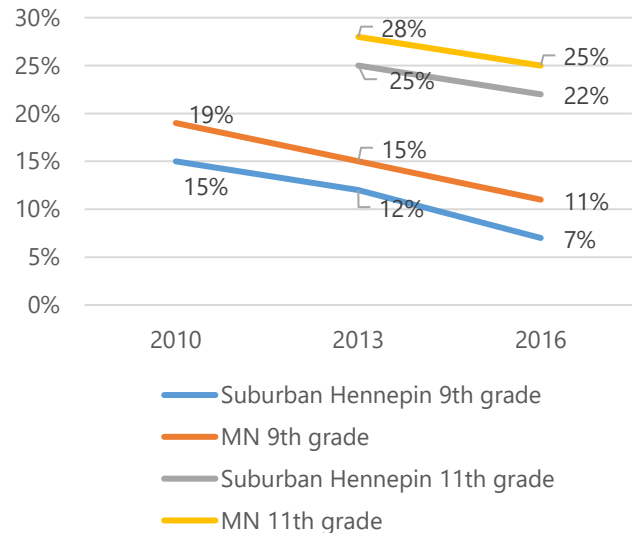
Figure 3. Percentage of 9th graders using alcohol in past 30 days by race/ethnicity, 2016



How do we compare?

Declines in use of alcohol in the past 30 days among suburban Hennepin County students is similar to declines seen across Minnesota (figure 4).

Figure 4. 30 day alcohol use: 2010, 2013, 2016



Note: 11th grade added in 2013

The data on students who reported they use alcohol were drawn from the Minnesota Student Survey – 2016, 2013, and 2010 data files. The survey questions included:

1. During the last 30 days, on how many days did you drink one or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage? 0 days; 1 or 2 days; 3 to 5 days; 6 to 9 days; 10 to 19 days; 20 to 29 days; all 30 days. Results were reported for days greater than 0 days.
2. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have 5 or more drinks in a row, that is, within a couple of hours? 0 days; 1 or 2 days; 3 to 5 days; 6 to 9 days; 10 to 19 days; 20 to 29 days; all 30 days. Results were reported for days greater than 0 days.

Note: Minneapolis Public School District did not participate in the survey in 2013 and had a very low response rate in 2016. As a result, they are not included in this report for 2010, 2013 or 2016. As a result, data included in this fact sheet are reflective of suburban Hennepin Students, not county wide.