



Trends in the Prevalence of Alcohol Use

National YRBS: 1991–2007

The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	Changes from 1991–2007 ¹	Change from 2005–2007 ²
Lifetime alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during their life.)										
81.6 (79.4–83.7) ³	80.9 (79.4–82.3)	80.4 (78.3–82.2)	79.1 (77.0–81.1)	81.0 (78.8–83.0)	78.2 (76.5–79.9)	74.9 (72.0–77.7)	74.3 (71.0–77.4)	75.0 (72.4–77.4)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Current alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)										
50.8 (47.9–53.7)	48.0 (45.9–50.2)	51.6 (49.2–54.1)	50.8 (47.9–53.6)	50.0 (47.4–52.7)	47.1 (44.8–49.3)	44.9 (42.5–47.4)	43.3 (40.5–46.1)	44.7 (42.4–47.0)	No change, 1991–1999 Decreased, 1999–2007	No change
Episodic heavy drinking (Had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple of hours on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)										
31.3 (28.7–34.1)	30.0 (28.2–31.9)	32.6 (29.5–35.7)	33.4 (31.2–35.6)	31.5 (29.6–33.5)	29.9 (27.8–32.0)	28.3 (26.3–30.4)	25.5 (23.3–27.9)	26.0 (24.0–28.0)	No change, 1991–1997 Decreased, 1997–2007	No change
Drank alcohol on school property (At least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)										
NA ⁴	5.2 (4.5–6.1)	6.3 (5.5–7.2)	5.6 (5.0–6.3)	4.9 (4.1–5.7)	4.9 (4.4–5.5)	5.2 (4.3–6.2)	4.3 (3.7–4.9)	4.1 (3.5–4.8)	Decreased, 1993–2007	No change

¹ Based on trend analyses using a logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade.

² Based on t-test analyses, $p < .05$.

³ 95% confidence interval.

⁴ Not available.



Where can I get more information?
Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss> or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).

