Great Plains IDeA-CTR
Statistical Data Brief

Time and Geographic Trends of Alcohol Use in the Great Plains Region and the U.S.

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Aim:
To examine the time and geographic trends of alcohol use in Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota compared to the U.S. where data are available.

Definitions:
• **Prevalence:** The proportion of people in the population affected by a (medical) condition
• **Binge drinking:** Drinking five or more drinks on the same occasion for males or four or more drinks on the same occasion for females on at least one day in the past 30 days

Data Source:
The brief used most recent data available through Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) and National Survey on Drug Use & Health (NSDUH).
• BRFSS is comprised of health-related telephone surveys that collect state data about U.S. residents (18 years and older) regarding their health-related risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, and use of preventive services. It is conducted annually by state health departments and collects data in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia and three U.S. territories.¹
• YRBSS comprises school-based surveys of representative samples of 9th through 12th grade students conducted every two years. It monitors six categories of health-related behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability. It includes a national school-based survey conducted by CDC and state, territorial, tribal, and local surveys conducted by state, territorial, and local education and health agencies and tribal governments.²
• NSDUH is conducted every year in all 50 states and the District of Columbia and provides information in the United States on health-related issues including tobacco, alcohol, drug use, and mental health. NSDUH is under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency in the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).³

¹ [https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/about/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/about/index.htm)
² [https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/index.htm)
³ [https://nsduhweb.rti.org/respweb/homepage.cfm](https://nsduhweb.rti.org/respweb/homepage.cfm)
County-Level Representation of Excessive Alcohol Use by County in 2015

Data Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), CDC.
County-Level Representation of Excessive Alcohol Use by County in 2016

Data Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), CDC.
County-Level Representation of Excessive Alcohol Use by County in 2017

2017

Percent Excessive Alcohol Use
- ≤35.9
- ≤24.2
- ≤21.0
- ≤18.7
- ≤16.2
- Missing Data

Data Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), CDC.
County-Level Representation of Excessive Alcohol Use by County in 2018

Data Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), CDC.
Alcohol consumption trends have been almost constant in all three GP-IDEA states between 2013-2018.

In 2018, 58% to 60% of adults in these states reported to have consumed at least one alcohol drink in the past 30 days.

The prevalence of binge drinking has remained constant in all three GP-IDEA states between 2013-2018.

In 2018, 21-22% of adults in these states met the criteria for binge drinking.
In 2018, compared to the national average of 51%, the percentage of individuals 12 years and older who consumed alcohol in the past 30 days was higher in the GP-IDeA states (57-60%).

Similarly, the prevalence of binge drinking was higher in the GP-IDeA states (30-32%) compared to the national average of 25%.

Data Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH).
In 2018, the prevalence of alcohol use in the past month was higher in the three GP-IDEA states than the national average except for those aged 12-17 years.

Similarly, the prevalence of binge drinking was higher in the GP-IDEA states compared to the national average except for the youngest age group.
Males had a higher prevalence of alcohol consumption in the past month as compared to females in all three GP-IDEA states in 2018.

In 2018, prevalence of binge drinking was much higher in males as compared to females in all three GP-IDEA states.
In 2018, in Nebraska and South Dakota, the prevalence of alcohol use was highest among Non-Hispanic whites while in North Dakota, the prevalence was highest among Non-Hispanic respondents who reported more than one race.

In 2018, the prevalence of binge drinking was highest among Hispanic respondents in all GP-IDEA states.
The prevalence of alcohol use among high school students has been consistently declining in North Dakota and South Dakota as well as nationally.

In Nebraska, the prevalence of alcohol use among high school students increased from 22% to 24%.
In 2017, 24% to 29% of high school students in the GP-IDeA states had at least one alcoholic drink, which was lower than the national average of 30%.

The prevalence of current alcohol was higher for females as compared to males in all three GP-IDeA states as well as nationally in 2017.
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