



## NEGATIVE OUTCOMES

# Alcohol Use (Youth)

### INDICATOR

Percent of youth who drink alcohol.

<b>Numerator</b>	Number of youth having 1 or more drink on at least one day in the past 30 days
<b>Denominator</b>	High school youth (all grades)

### DESCRIPTION

This represents the percent of high school youth who have used alcohol within the last 30 days. Alcohol is specified as beer, wine, wine coolers, and liquor such as rum, gin, vodka, or whiskey, not for religious purposes. Youth are asked, "During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?"

### IMPORTANCE

Underage drinking poses significant health risks to youth, including increased likelihood of physical or sexual assault, and future alcohol dependence or drug use (Anderson, 2009). In addition to engaging in risky behaviors while under the influence of alcohol, youth who engage in heavy drinking may experience stunted neurodevelopment, which can decrease overall brain function (Brown, 2000). Youth with a high frequency of drinking alcohol are more likely to have gotten drunk and to binge drink (having five or more drinks in a row), compounding potential problems (Windle, 2003).

### LIMITATIONS

- The following states are not included in the 2015 comparison: MN, AZ, CA, CO, IN, IA, MO, PA, UT.

#### YEAR:

#### WI: 2017 / US: 2015

WI	US	Best	Worst
30.4%	32.8%	22.0% AK	34.8% AZ

#### PAST YEAR: 2013

WI	US
32.7%	34.9%

### ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

#### Wisconsin Analyses

Race/Ethnicity	% Youth Who Drink Alcohol (2017)
Black, non-Hispanic	19.2%
Hispanic	27.3%
White, non-Hispanic	32.8%

#### National Analyses

Race/Ethnicity	% Youth Who Drink Alcohol (2015)
Black, non-Hispanic	23.8%
Hispanic	34.4%
White, non-Hispanic	35.2%

### SOURCE

Anderson, Peter, et al. (2009). Impact of alcohol advertising and media exposure on adolescent alcohol use: a systematic review of longitudinal studies. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 44(3), 229-243.

Brown, Sandra A., et al. (2000). Neurocognitive functioning of adolescents: Effects of protracted alcohol use. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 24(2), 164-171.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). Wisconsin 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey Summary Tables. Retrieved from <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrb>.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). Youth Risk Behavior Survey [Data file]. Retrieved from [nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline](https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline).

Windle, Michael. (2003). Alcohol use among adolescents and young adults. *Population*, 45(5), 19-15.