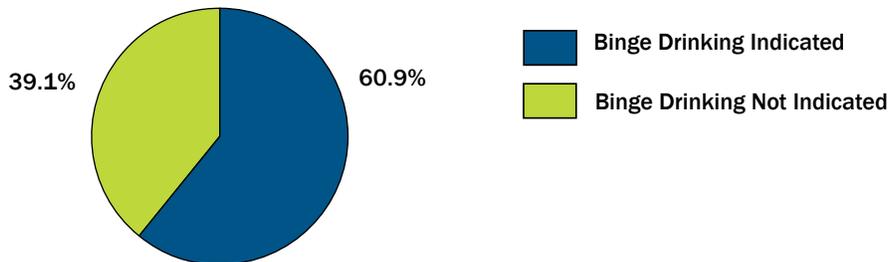




Three in Five High School Students Who Consume Alcohol Report Binge Drinking

Data collected by the 2009 National Youth Behavior Risk Survey (YRBS)¹ indicate that most youth who drink alcohol report binge drinking.² Four in ten high school students (41.8%) reported current alcohol use,³ and of these, three in five (60.9%) reported binge drinking. Overall, one in four students (24.2%) reported binge drinking. The percentage of students reporting any alcohol use increased with grade level: 31.5% of ninth grade students vs. 51.7% of twelfth grade students. The same trend held true among students reporting binge drinking: 15.3% of ninth grade students vs. 33.5% of twelfth grade students. The percent of students reporting current drinking and binge drinking decreased between 1993 and 2009. In 1993, almost half (48.0%) reported current drinking and 30.0% reported binge drinking. By 2009, 41.8% reported current drinking, and 24.2% reported binge drinking.

Percentage of High School Students Who Binge Drank Among Those Reporting Current Alcohol Use, 2009



Source:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2010). "Vital Signs: Binge Drinking Among High School Students and Adults – United States, 2009." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, 59(30), 1274-1279. Atlanta, GA: author.

Notes:

- ¹ The survey is conducted every two years by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and collects self-reported data from high school students at 158 public and private schools located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- ² Binge drinking is defined as consuming five or more alcoholic drinks within a couple of hours on at least one day during the preceding 30 days.
- ³ Current alcohol use is defined as having had at least one drink of alcohol on at least one day in the last 30 days.

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