Alcohol Consumption

Binge drinking:

Definition: For this survey, binge drinking is defined as having five or more alcoholic drinks on one occasion for men or four or more for women.

- Fifteen percent of Pennsylvania adults admitted in 2010 to binge drinking in the previous month.
- Pennsylvania women had a significantly lower percentage (10 percent, CI: 9-11) compared to Pennsylvania men (21 percent, CI: 19-23).
- Pennsylvania adults age 45-64 had a significantly lower percentage (13 percent, CI: 12-14) compared to Pennsylvania adults age 18-29 (26 percent, CI: 22-31).
- Pennsylvania adults age 45-64 had a significantly lower percentage (13 percent, CI: 12-14) compared to Pennsylvania adults age 30-44 (21 percent, CI: 19-24).
- Pennsylvania adults age 65 and older had a significantly lower percentage (3 percent, CI: 3-4) compared to Pennsylvania adults age 18-29 (26 percent, CI: 22-31).
- Pennsylvania adults age 65 and older had a significantly lower percentage (3 percent, CI: 3-4) compared to Pennsylvania adults age 30-44 (21 percent, CI: 19-24).
- Pennsylvania adults age 65 and older had a significantly lower percentage (3 percent, CI: 3-4) compared to Pennsylvania adults age 45-64 (13 percent, CI: 12-14).
- Pennsylvania adults with household incomes of less than $15,000 had a significantly lower percentage (10 percent, CI: 7-13) compared to Pennsylvania adults with household incomes of $75,000 or more (20 percent, CI: 18-22).
- Pennsylvania adults with household incomes of $15,000 to $24,999 had a significantly lower percentage (12 percent, CI: 10-15) compared to Pennsylvania adults with household incomes of $75,000 or more (20 percent, CI: 18-22).

At risk for problem drinking:

Definition: For this survey, being at risk for problem drinking is defined as having greater than two drinks per day for men and greater than one drink per day for women.

- During the 2010 survey, 4 percent of Pennsylvania adults were determined to be at risk for problem drinking.
- Pennsylvania adults age 65 and older had a significantly lower percentage (2 percent, CI: 2-3) compared to Pennsylvania adults age 65 and older (6 percent, CI: 4-8).

Chronic drinking:

Definition: For this survey, chronic drinking is defined as having an average of two or more drinks per day for the past 30 days.

- Six percent of Pennsylvania adults indicated that they were chronic drinkers in during the 2010 survey.
- Pennsylvania women had a significantly lower percentage (3 percent, CI: 3-4) compared to Pennsylvania men (9 percent, CI: 8-10).

Alcohol Consumption

Figure 12A: Chronic Drinking, Pennsylvania Adults, 2001-2010

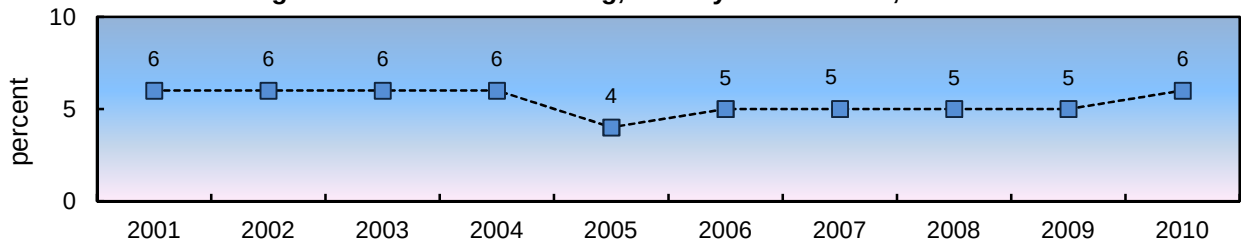

Table 12: Alcohol Consumption, Pennsylvania Adults, 2010 (with 95% confidence intervals)

	Binge Drinking* **		At Risk for Problem Drinking* ***		Chronic Drinking * ****	
	%	CI	%	CI	%	CI
All Adults	15	14-16	4	3-4	6	5-7
Gender:						
Male	21	19-23	5	4-6	9	8-10
Female	10	9-11	3	3-4	3	3-4
Age:						
18-29	26	22-31	6	4-8	6	4-9
30-44	21	19-24	4	3-5	6	5-8
45-64	13	12-14	4	3-5	6	5-7
65+	3	3-4	3	2-3	5	5-6
Education:						
<High School	12	9-16	4	2-7	8	5-11
High School	15	14-17	4	3-5	7	6-8
Some College	17	15-19	5	4-7	6	5-8
College Degree	15	13-16	3	2-4	5	4-6
Income:						
<$15,000	10	7-13	3	2-6	6	4-9
$15,000 to $24,999	12	10-15	4	2-5	5	4-7
$25,000 to $49,999	16	13-18	3	3-4	5	4-7
$50,000 to $74,999	16	13-18	5	3-6	6	5-8
$75,000+	20	18-22	5	4-6	6	5-7
Race:						
White, non-Hispanic	16	15-17	4	4-5	6	5-7
Black, non-Hispanic	13	9-18	3	2-6	6	4-9
Hispanic	11	7-19	2	0-6	8	4-14

* Excludes missing, don't know, and refused.
** Defined as having greater than five or more drinks on one occasion for men and having four or more drinks on one occasion for women.
*** Defined as adult men having more than twod rinks per day and adult women having more than one drink per day.
**** Defined as having an average of two drinks or more every day for the past 30 days.
Note: When comparing demographic estimates, confidence intervals that do not overlap indicate a significant difference.
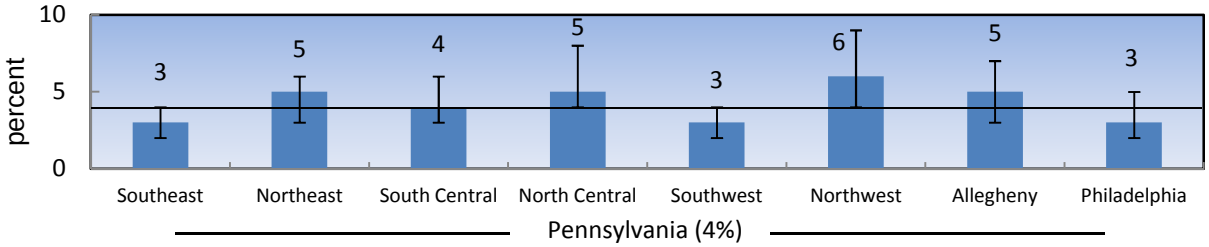
Figure 12B: At Risk for Problem Drinking, PA Health Districts vs. Pennsylvania, 2010