

CHAPTER 8: ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

Binge Drinking in 2006 *

Definition	Consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks for males, or four or more alcoholic drinks for females, on a single occasion during the past one month.
Prevalence	WV: 11.1% (95% CI: 9.7-12.6) in 2006. US: 15.0% (95% CI: 14.7-15.3) in 2006. West Virginia ranked 46 th highest among 50 US States and DC in 2006.
Time Trends	A change in the definition of binge drinking for the latest year of data, 2006, has prevented preparation of a time trend analysis for this report. In 2005 and before, binge drinking was defined as the consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks on one occasion in the past month, regardless of gender. In 2006, the definition criteria changed to only four drinks on one occasion for women, and five drinks on one occasion for men.
Gender	Men: 16.0% (95% CI: 13.6-18.4) in 2006. Women: 6.7% (95% CI: 5.1-8.2) in 2006. Men had a significantly higher prevalence of binge drinking than women in 2006.
Age	Younger adults had higher rates of binge drinking than those aged 55 and older. The prevalence ranged from a high of 24% among the 18-24 age group, to lows of only 2%-5% among those in the 55 and older age groups.
Education	There was no significant relationship between binge drinking and educational attainment.
Household Income	There was no consistent relationship between binge drinking and household income levels. The wealthiest income group (\$75,000 and above annually) had the highest 2006 prevalence at 14.7%, however, and this was significantly higher than the prevalence of binge drinking among those in the lowest income group (less than \$15,000 annually in household income).

WV HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010 OBJECTIVES

Objective 26.10	Reduce the rate of binge drinking reported among adults 18 and older (binge drinking defined as five or more drinks on any one occasion in the past month) by 20%. (Baseline: 8.4% in 1997; 2006 data is not comparable, because it was collected using a different definition.)
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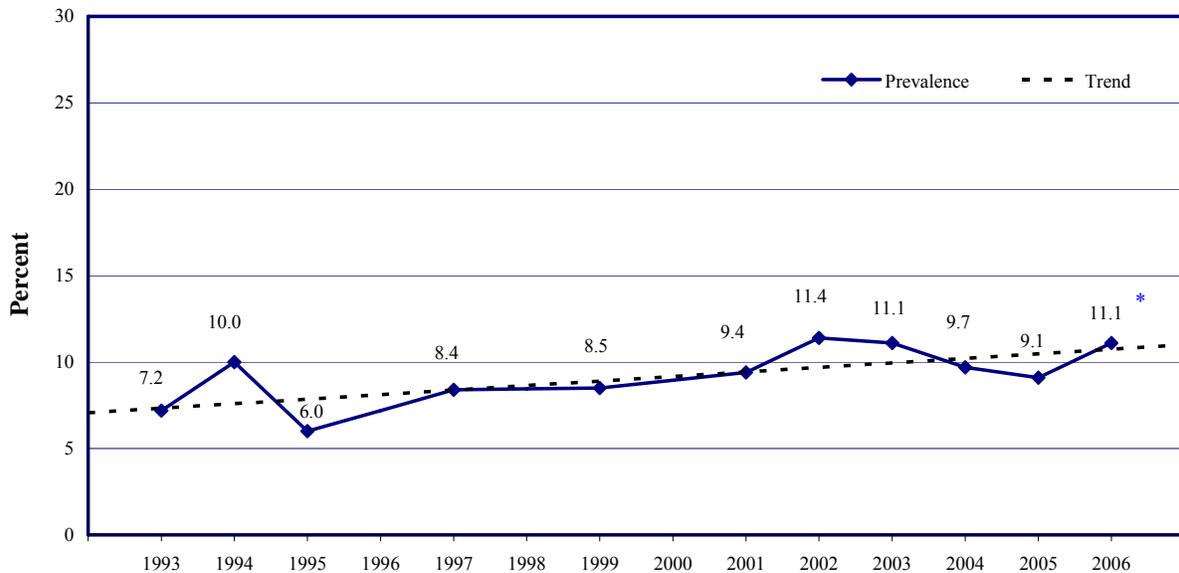
* Note: The definition of binge drinking changed in 2006 to males having five or more drinks on one occasion in the past month, and females having four or more drinks on one occasion in the past month. The previous definition was consumption of five or more drinks on at least one occasion in the past month, without regard to gender.

Table 8.1 Binge drinking by demographic characteristics: WVBRFSS, 2006

Characteristic	Men			Women			Total		
	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI
TOTAL	1,455	16.0	13.6-18.4	2,280	6.7	5.1-8.2	3,735	11.1	9.7-12.6
Age									
18-24	66	*28.7	17.5-40.0	77	*19.2	9.1-29.4	143	24.1	16.5-31.7
25-34	149	22.5	15.2-29.8	262	9.9	6.2-13.6	411	16.3	12.1-20.5
35-44	226	21.8	16.1-27.6	365	7.8	4.8-10.8	591	14.7	11.4-17.9
45-54	319	15.8	11.4-20.1	427	5.7	3.4-8.1	746	10.7	8.2-13.1
55-64	360	6.6	4.0-9.2	465	* 2.9	1.2-4.6	825	4.7	3.1-6.2
65+	331	3.5	1.6-5.5	671	* 0.9	0.2-1.5	1,002	2.0	1.1-2.9
Education									
Less than H.S.	251	12.2	6.3-18.0	359	* 4.6	1.8-7.5	610	8.5	5.1-11.8
H.S. or G.E.D.	574	16.5	12.6-20.4	893	5.3	3.4-7.3	1,467	10.8	8.6-13.0
Some Post-H.S.	278	16.9	11.4-22.5	538	9.6	5.3-14.0	816	12.8	9.3-16.2
College Graduate	348	17.2	12.5-21.8	487	7.0	4.2-9.7	835	12.0	9.3-14.7
Income									
Less than \$15,000	166	* 9.8	3.4-16.2	409	4.5	2.0-7.0	575	6.4	3.6-9.2
\$15,000- 24,999	258	10.1	5.5-14.8	458	4.3	2.1-6.5	716	6.8	4.4-9.3
\$25,000- 34,999	207	20.1	12.6-27.5	280	7.3	3.8-10.8	487	13.9	9.6-18.3
\$35,000- 49,999	230	17.3	11.5-23.2	287	11.0	5.1-17.0	517	14.3	10.2-18.5
\$50,000- 74,999	224	19.2	12.8-25.7	271	* 7.1	2.1-12.1	495	13.4	9.2-17.5
\$75,000+	244	17.6	12.2-23.0	261	11.0	5.8-16.2	505	14.7	10.9-18.4

* Use caution when interpreting and reporting this specific estimate. See the detailed discussion about estimates in the Methodology section.
 Source: West Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (WVBRFSS), West Virginia Health Statistics Center, February 2008.
 Population: Non-institutionalized adults age 18 and older residing in West Virginia.
 Definition for males (change as of 2006): consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks on one or more occasions during the past one month.
 Definition for females (change as of 2006): consumption of four or more alcoholic drinks on one or more occasions during the past one month.

Figure 8.1 Binge drinking by year: WVBRFSS, 1993-2006 *



Source: West Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (WVBRFSS), West Virginia Health Statistics Center, February 2008.
 Population: Non-institutionalized adults age 18 and older residing in West Virginia.

* **Definition Change in 2006:** Males having five or more drinks on one occasion, and females having four or more drinks on one occasion in the past one month. Definition in earlier years: Consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks on one or more occasions in the past one month.

Note: Data are not available for the years 1996, 1998, and 2000.

Heavy Drinking in 2006 **

Definition	Consumption of more than two drinks per day for men and more than one drink per day for women during the past one month.
Prevalence	WV: 3.2% (95% CI: 2.4-4.0) in 2006. US: 5.0% (95% CI: 4.8-5.1) in 2006. West Virginia ranked 49 th highest among 50 US States and DC in 2006.
Time Trends	From 1993 through 2006, the prevalence of heavy drinking among West Virginia adults has ranged from a low of 1.8% in 1995 to a high of 4.5% in 2002.
Gender	Men: 4.8% (95% CI: 3.3-6.2) in 2006. Women: 1.7% (95% 1.0-2.4) in 2006. Men had higher risks than women in 2006, and this difference was significant.
Age	Heavy drinking was most prevalent among the youngest adults, and least prevalent among the oldest.
Education	There was no significant relationship between heavy drinking and educational attainment.
Household Income	No association was found between heavy drinking and household income.

WV HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010 OBJECTIVES

Objective 26.9	Reduce the rate of heavy drinking reported among adults 18 and older by 20%. (Baseline: 2.2% in 1997 using a new definition; Current: 3.2% in 2006)
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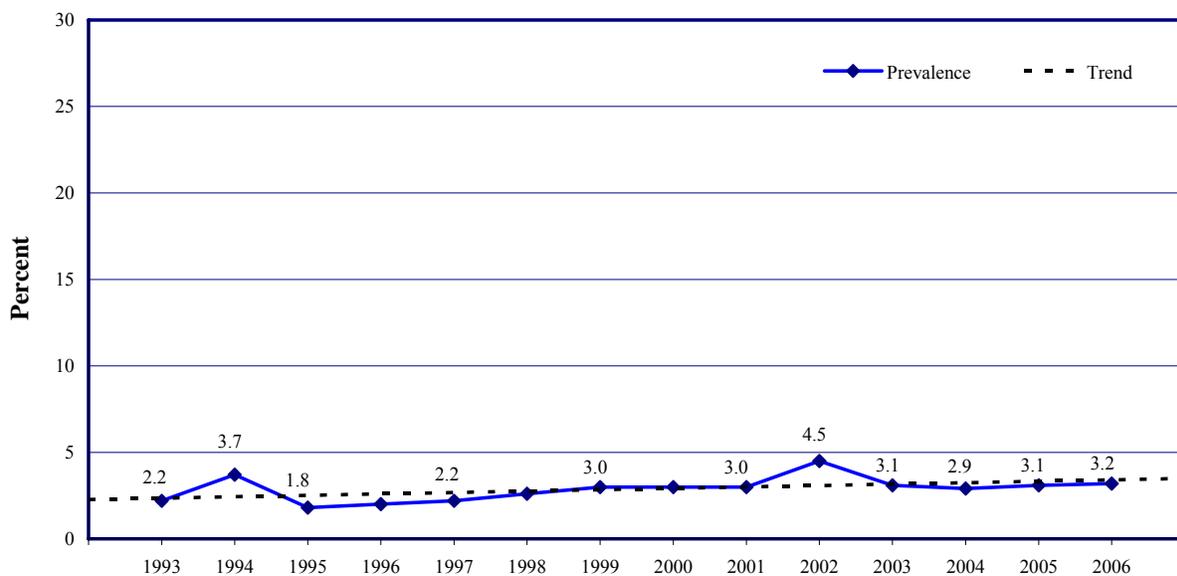
** Note: Prior to 2001, heavy drinking was defined as consuming 60 or more drinks during the past month regardless of gender. This report redefines the data prior to 2001 to match the current definition of heavy drinking. Therefore, numbers presented in this chapter may not agree with data published prior to 2003.

Table 8.2 Heavier drinking by demographic characteristics: WVBRFSS, 2006

Characteristic	Men			Women			Total		
	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI
TOTAL	1,454	4.8	3.3-6.2	2,276	1.7	1.0-2.4	3,730	3.2	2.4-4.0
Age									
18-24	65	*11.6	3.8-19.4	76	*2.9	0.0-7.1	141	*7.4	2.9-11.9
25-34	149	*5.5	1.7-9.4	260	*1.4	0.1-2.6	409	*3.5	1.4-5.5
35-44	226	6.2	2.8-9.6	365	*3.4	1.1-5.8	591	4.8	2.8-6.9
45-54	316	*3.4	1.3-5.6	426	*1.7	0.5-2.9	742	2.6	1.3-3.8
55-64	361	*2.2	0.5-3.8	465	*0.9	0.1-1.8	826	*1.5	0.6-2.4
65+	333	*1.5	0.4-2.7	671	*0.5	0.0-1.0	1,004	*0.9	0.4-1.5
Education									
Less than H.S.	250	*4.8	1.3-8.4	359	*0.9	0.0-2.0	609	*2.9	1.0-4.8
H.S. or G.E.D.	573	5.5	2.9-8.1	890	*1.5	0.5-2.5	1,463	3.5	2.1-4.8
Some Post-H.S.	279	*4.8	1.8-7.7	538	*2.3	0.3-4.2	817	3.3	1.6-5.0
College Graduate	348	*3.5	1.3-5.8	486	*1.9	0.7-3.0	834	2.7	1.4-3.9
Income									
Less than \$15,000	165	*4.6	0.0-9.8	408	*0.5	0.0-1.1	573	*2.0	0.1-3.8
\$15,000- 24,999	261	*2.1	0.6-3.7	458	*1.6	0.3-2.9	719	1.9	0.9-2.9
\$25,000- 34,999	208	*6.2	2.2-10.3	279	*1.7	0.1-3.2	487	4.1	1.8-6.3
\$35,000- 49,999	231	7.4	3.4-11.3	286	*2.7	0.0-5.7	517	5.1	2.6-7.7
\$50,000- 74,999	223	*3.8	0.6-7.0	271	*1.8	0.2-3.3	494	*2.8	1.0-4.6
\$75,000+	241	*3.0	0.6-5.4	261	*3.3	0.3-6.3	502	*3.1	1.2-5.0

* Use caution when interpreting and reporting this specific estimate. See the detailed discussion about estimates in the Methodology section.
 Source: West Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (WVBRFSS), West Virginia Health Statistics Center, February 2008.
 Population: Non-institutionalized adults age 18 and older residing in West Virginia.
 Definition: Consumption of more than two drinks per day for men and more than one drink per day for women during the past one month.

Figure 8.2 Heavier drinking by year: WVBRFSS, 1993-2006



Source: West Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (WVBRFSS), West Virginia Health Statistics Center, February 2008.
 Population: Non-institutionalized adults age 18 and older residing in West Virginia.
 Definition: Consumption of more than two drinks per day for men and more than one drink per day for women during the past one month.
 Notes: Data are not available for the years 1996, 1998, and 2000. This graph maintains a 30 percentage point Y axis range to facilitate comparability among a group of graphs presented together.