## Trends in the Prevalence of Alcohol Use

**National YRBS: 1991—2019**

The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors health behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

### Percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1991</th>
<th>1993</th>
<th>1995</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>1999</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drank alcohol before age 13 years (had their first drink other than a few sips)</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>32.9</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>31.1</td>
<td>32.2</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current alcohol use (at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey)</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>48.0</td>
<td>51.6</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>47.1</td>
<td>44.9</td>
<td>43.3</td>
<td>44.7</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>38.7</td>
<td>34.9</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>29.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reported that the largest number of drinks they had in a row was 10 or more (within a couple of hours, during the 30 days before the survey)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using logistic regression models controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade, p < 0.05. Significant linear trends (if present) across all available years are described first followed by linear changes in each segment of significant quadratic trends (if present).

2 Based on t-test analysis, p < 0.05.

3 Not available.

### Change from 1991–2019

- Decreased 1991–2019
- No change 1991–1999
- Decreased 1999–2019

### Change from 2017–2019

- No change