



## Trends in the Prevalence of Alcohol Use National YRBS: 1991–2013

The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health risk 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 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

| Percentages                                                                                                                             |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Change from<br>1991 2013 <sup>1</sup>                             | Change from<br>2011 2013 <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1991                                                                                                                                    | 1993 | 1995 | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 | 2003 | 2005 | 2007 | 2009 | 2011 | 2013 |                                                                   |                                       |
| <b>Ever had at least one drink of alcohol</b><br>(on at least 1 day during their life)                                                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                                                                   |                                       |
| 81.6                                                                                                                                    | 80.9 | 80.4 | 79.1 | 81.0 | 78.2 | 74.9 | 74.3 | 75.0 | 72.5 | 70.8 | 66.2 | Decreased 1991–2013<br>No change 1991–1999<br>Decreased 1999–2013 | Decreased                             |
| <b>Drank alcohol before age 13 years</b><br>(for the first time other than a few sips)                                                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                                                                   |                                       |
| 32.7                                                                                                                                    | 32.9 | 32.4 | 31.1 | 32.2 | 29.1 | 27.8 | 25.6 | 23.8 | 21.1 | 20.5 | 18.6 | Decreased 1991–2013<br>No change 1991–1999<br>Decreased 1999–2013 | Decreased                             |
| <b>Currently drank alcohol</b><br>(at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey)                |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                                                                   |                                       |
| 50.8                                                                                                                                    | 48.0 | 51.6 | 50.8 | 50.0 | 47.1 | 44.9 | 43.3 | 44.7 | 41.8 | 38.7 | 34.9 | Decreased 1991–2013<br>No change 1991–1999<br>Decreased 1999–2013 | Decreased                             |
| <b>Had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row</b><br>(within a couple of hours on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey) |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                                                                   |                                       |
| 31.3                                                                                                                                    | 30.0 | 32.6 | 33.4 | 31.5 | 29.9 | 28.3 | 25.5 | 26.0 | 24.2 | 21.9 | 20.8 | Decreased 1991–2013<br>Increased 1991–1999<br>Decreased 1999–2013 | No change                             |

<sup>1</sup> Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using logistic regression models controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade,  $p < 0.05$ .

<sup>2</sup> Based on t-test analysis,  $p < 0.05$ .

Where can I get more information? Visit [www.cdc.gov/yrbss](http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss) or call 800–CDC–INFO (800–232–4636).



National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention  
Division of Adolescent and School Health

