

2009 Georgia Data Summary:

ALCOHOL USE

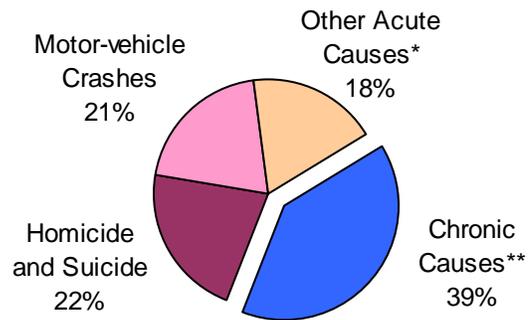


Alcohol use is the third leading actual cause of death in Georgia.

DEATHS

- Between 2001 and 2005, an average of **2,375** Georgians died per year from alcohol-related illness or injury.
- More males (**1,724**) (**73%**) than females (**651**) (**27%**) died per year from alcohol-related illness or injury between 2001 and 2005.
- Among Georgians, deaths due to chronic causes accounted for **39%** of all alcohol-attributable deaths between 2001 and 2005.
- Between 2001 and 2005, **22%** of all alcohol-attributable deaths were due to homicide and suicide, **21%** were due to motor-vehicle crashes, and **18%** were due to other acute causes.¹

Average Annual Deaths Attributed to Alcohol, Georgia 2001-2005



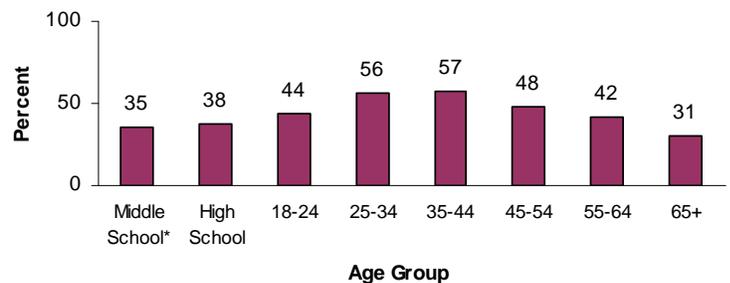
*Other acute causes: fall injuries, poisoning (not alcohol), fire injuries, drowning, other road vehicle crashes, alcohol poisoning, and others.

**Chronic causes: alcoholic liver disease, liver cirrhosis, alcohol dependence syndrome, alcohol abuse, stroke, hypertension, and others.

YOUTH ALCOHOL USE

- In 2007, **16%** of Georgia middle school students reported having their first drink before age 11.
- In Georgia, **123,000 (35%)** middle school students drank alcohol, other than a few sips in 2007. Among high school students, **155,000 (38%)** had at least one drink of alcohol in the last 30 days in 2007.
- Among Georgia high school students who consumed alcohol, **88%** did so at their own home or another person's home in 2007.
- Among Georgia high school students who consumed alcohol in 2007, **44%** usually drank liquor rather than malt beverages (**19%**), beer (**17%**), no usual type (**10%**), wine (**4%**), wine coolers (**4%**), or other beverages (**3%**).²

Alcohol Use by Age Group, Georgia 2007

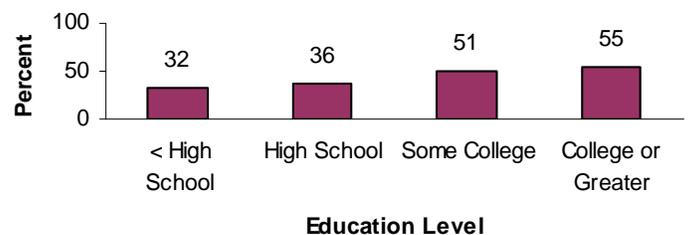


* Middle School percentage is based on lifetime alcohol use other than a few sips. For all other age groups, percentage is based on alcohol use in the last 30 days.

ADULT ALCOHOL USE

- In 2008, **3,273,309 (47%)** Georgia adults used alcohol in the last 30 days. Males (**54%**) were significantly more likely than females (**40%**) to use alcohol.³
- Alcohol use among women during the three months before pregnancy confirmation increases risk of unintentionally exposing the fetus to alcohol.
- In 2006, females with some college education (**51%**) and college or greater (**55%**) were significantly more likely to consume alcohol during the three months before pregnancy confirmation than females with high school (**36%**) or less than high school education (**32%**).⁴

Alcohol Use 3 Months Before Pregnancy Confirmation by Education, Georgia 2006



Excessive alcohol use and related harms can affect anyone, not just those who are chemically dependent on alcohol.

HEAVY DRINKING

- Heavy alcohol use (more than one drink per day for women and more than two drinks per day for men) increases one’s risk for chronic disease, sexually transmitted diseases, and injury.
- Between 2006 and 2008, those with a household income of \$75,000 or greater (**6%**) were significantly more likely to engage in heavy alcohol use compared to lower income groups (**3-4%**).³

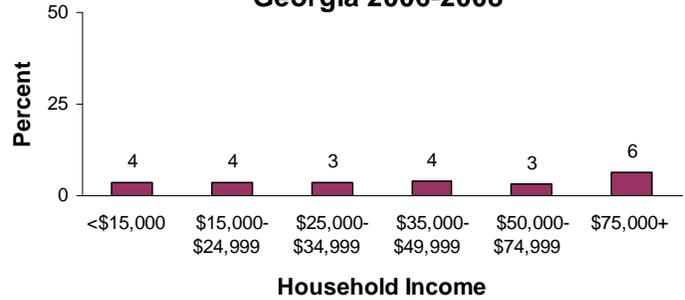
BINGE DRINKING

- Binge drinking (four or more drinks per occasion for women and five or more drinks per occasion for men) is associated with motor-vehicle crashes, injury, alcohol poisoning, unsafe sexual activity, and unintended pregnancy.
- Among high school students, **21%** of males and **17%** of females engaged in binge drinking in 2007. Adult males (**18%**) were significantly more likely to engage in binge drinking than adult females (**7%**) in 2007.
- In 2007, high school students (**19%**) and adults ages 18-24 (**19%**), 25-34 (**18%**), and 35-44 (**16%**) were significantly more likely to engage in binge drinking compared with adults ages 45-54 (**10%**), 55-64 (**7%**), and 65 and older (**3%**).^{2,3}

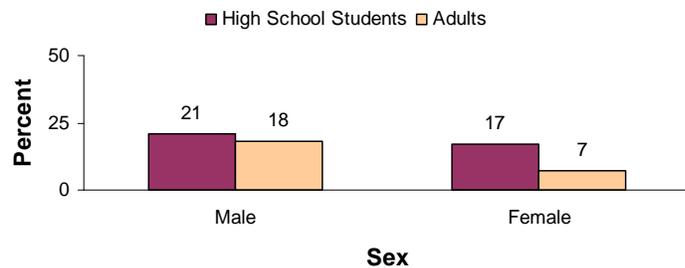
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

- Adults who engaged in heavy drinking (**13%**) or binge drinking (**11%**) were significantly more likely to drive under the influence compared with adults who did not drink heavily (**3%**) or binge drink (**1%**) in 2004, 2006, and 2008 combined.³
- In 2007, **21%** or **485** out of **2,296** of Georgia drivers in fatal motor vehicle crashes had a positive blood alcohol concentration.⁵

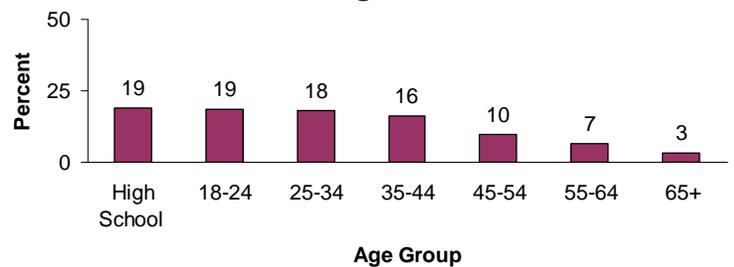
Heavy Drinking by Household Income, Georgia 2006-2008



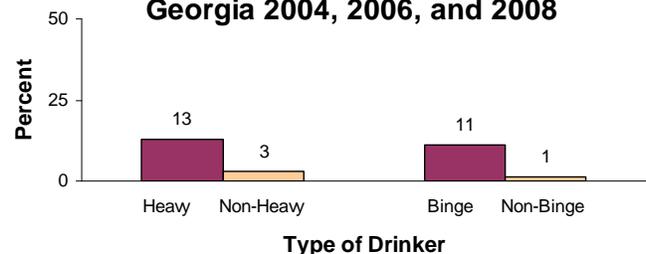
Binge Drinking by Sex, Georgia 2007



Binge Drinking by Age Group, Georgia 2007



Driving Under the Influence by Type of Drinker, Georgia 2004, 2006, and 2008



Data sources:

1. 2001-2005 Alcohol-Related Disease Impact (ARDI) Software, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<http://www.cdc.gov/Alcohol/ardi.htm>)
2. 2007 Georgia Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) (<http://health.state.ga.us/epi/cdiee/studenthealth.asp>).
3. 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008 Georgia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) (<http://health.state.ga.us/epi/brfss/publications.asp>).
4. 2006 Pregnancy Risk Assessment, Monitoring System (PRAMS) (<http://health.state.ga.us/epi/prams/index.asp>)
5. 2007 Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) (<http://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Main/index.aspx>)

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