

Alcohol Consumption

Binge drinking:

- ◆ Eighteen percent of Pennsylvania adults admitted in 2003 to binge drinking (five or more alcoholic drinks on one occasion) in the previous month.
- ◆ Eleven percent of female adults said that they had been binge drinking in the past month, a significantly lower percentage compared to the 26 percent of male adults.
- ◆ According to the 2003 survey, as age increased, the percentage of binge drinking significantly decreased (ages 18-29, 33 percent; ages 30-44, 23 percent; ages 45-64, 13 percent; age 65+, 4 percent).
- ◆ Adults with some college had a significantly higher percentage of binge drinking (21 percent) compared to adults with less than a high school education (12 percent).
- ◆ A significantly higher percentage of adults with household incomes of \$75,000+ were binge drinkers in the previous month (23 percent) compared to adults with a household income of \$15,000-\$24,999 (15 percent).
- ◆ No significant difference was seen for race/ethnicity.

At risk for problem drinking:

Definition: For the purposes of this report, being at risk for problem drinking is defined as having greater than 2 drinks per day for men and greater than 1 drink per day for women.

- ◆ During the 2003 survey, 7 percent of Pennsylvania adults were determined to be at risk for problem drinking.
- ◆ A significantly higher percentage of adults ages 18-29 were identified as being at risk for problem drinking (13 percent) compared to adults age 30+ (ages 30-44, 7 percent; ages 45-64, 5 percent; age 65+, 2 percent).
- ◆ No significant differences were seen for sex, education, income or race/ethnicity.

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Figure 13A: Binge Drinking, Pennsylvania Adults, 1995-2003

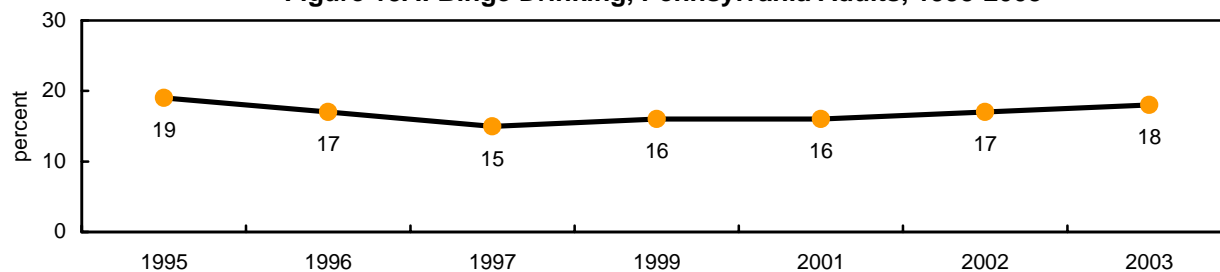


Figure 13B: Binge Drinking and Problem Drinking Pennsylvania Adults by Age, 2003

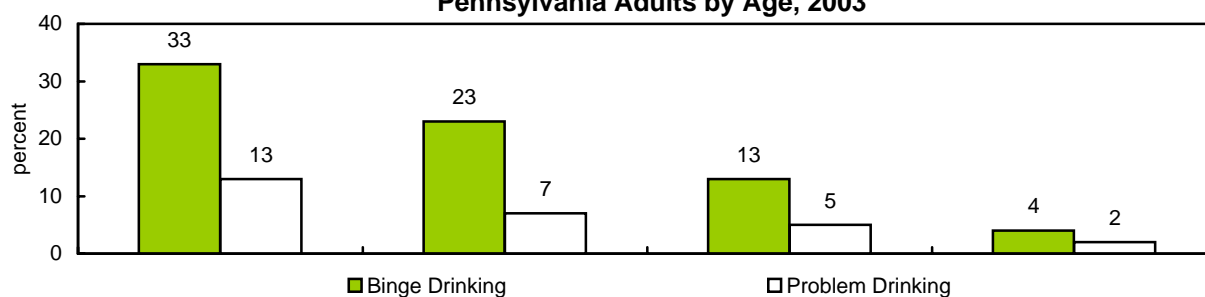


Table 13: Alcohol Consumption, Pennsylvania Adults, 2003 (with 95% confidence intervals)

	Binge Drinking*				At Risk for Problem Drinking**			
	Total No.	No.	%	CI	Total No.	No.	%	CI
All Adults	3,641	574	18	17-20	3,638	210	7	6-8
Male	1,443	374	26	24-29	1,442	95	7	6-9
Female	2,198	200	11	9-12	2,196	115	6	5-7
Age:								
18-29	479	155	33	29-38	476	58	13	10-17
30-44	1,030	235	23	20-26	1,034	67	7	5-9
45-64	1,310	162	13	11-15	1,306	72	5	4-7
65+	822	22	4	2-6	822	13	2	1-3
Education:								
<High School	305	27	12	7-16	303	13	5	3-8
High School	1,362	216	18	15-20	1,364	80	7	5-9
Some College	863	155	21	17-24	864	64	8	6-10
College Degree	1,106	175	18	16-21	1,102	52	6	4-8
Income:								
<\$15,000	311	41	18	13-24	313	23	9	6-15
\$15,000 to \$24,999	656	76	15	11-18	654	25	5	3-8
\$25,000 to \$49,999	1,058	181	19	16-22	1,059	67	7	5-9
\$50,000 to \$74,999	551	104	19	15-22	549	36	7	5-9
\$75,000+	613	122	23	19-26	612	34	6	4-9
Race:								
White, non-Hispanic	3,206	520	19	17-20	3,205	192	7	6-8
Black, non-Hispanic	238	32	15	9-20	236	7	4	2-9
Hispanic	77	12	17	7-27	77	7	11	3-18

*Excludes missing, don't know, and refused.

** Defined as having greater than 2 drinks per day for men and greater than 1 drink per day for women.