

Adult Alcohol Consumption

Key Findings

The results of this health assessment indicate that 13% of the Hancock County adults surveyed are considered frequent drinkers (drinking an average of 3 or more days). One third (33%) of the adults who drink have drunk five or more drinks on an occasion (binge drinking) in the past month increasing to 45% of those ages 19-29 and 50% of the age group of 30-39. Over one-third (35%) of the adults surveyed who drink report symptoms associated with alcohol addiction including drinking more than expected and needing to drink more to get the same effects. The 2003 Comprehensive Study of Social Service Needs in Hancock County, Ohio ranks alcohol abuse number 4 of the 20 social needs based on the estimated prevalence (3,886 individuals) and number needing services (3,319).

Hancock County Consumer Survey

- ❖ 5% of survey respondents using Hancock County Social Services had a problem with alcohol in the previous year.
 - 88% looked for an agency to help with their alcohol problem.
 - 60% found an agency and received the help they needed.
- ❖ Those who reported a problem with alcohol were significantly more likely than those without this issue to have been unemployed, homeless, poor, suffered a mental illness, or attempted suicide.
- ❖ Respondents with an alcohol problem were also more likely to have been victims of family violence, not able to get enough food, and to lack reliable transportation.

(Sources: The 2003 Comprehensive Study of Social Service Needs in Hancock County, Ohio, Section 8: Alcohol Abuse, page 6.)

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- ◆ Almost half (45%) of the Hancock County adults surveyed have had at least one alcoholic drink in the past month and 13% are frequent drinkers, defined as drinking an average of three or more days per week during the past month.
- ◆ About half (48%) of those who drink average one or two drinks per occasion and one in five (19%) average six or more per occasion.
- ◆ About 33% of those who drink have had five or more alcoholic drinks on an occasion in the last month and are considered binge drinkers. Adult drinkers, ages 19 to 29 and 30 to 39, have the highest tendency (45% and 50%) to binge drink.
- ◆ More than one-third (35%) of Hancock County adult drinkers report symptoms associated with alcohol addiction. The most commonly reported symptoms include drinking more than expected, spending a lot of time drinking and needing to drink more to get the same effects. The following groups are most likely to report symptoms associated with alcohol addiction:
 - Current smokers who drink (59%)
 - Adult drinkers ages 19 to 29 (47%)
 - Those drinkers with household incomes less than \$25,000 (40%)
- ◆ 5% of the Hancock County adults surveyed and 13% of those ages 19 to 29 said they have driven after drinking perhaps too much in the past month.

Estimated Number of Hancock County Residents Who Abuse Alcohol or Who Are At Risk for Serious Alcohol Related Problems

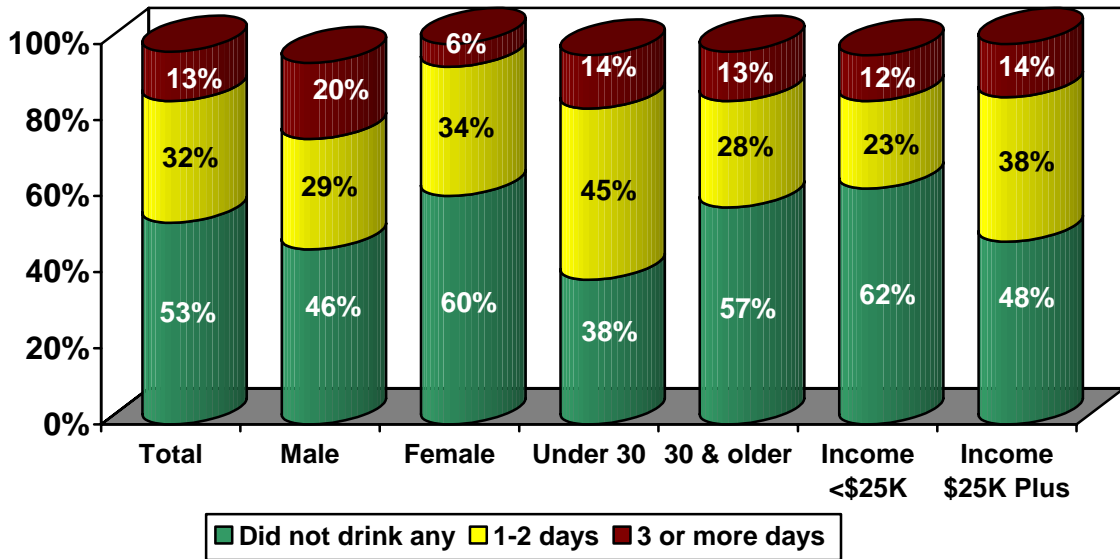
| Population Type | Estimated Number at Risk for Alcohol Abuse | Estimated Number at Risk for Other Serious Alcohol Related Problems |
|--|--|---|
| 8 th graders: Drunk in past month | 40 | 39 |
| High school students: Heavy Episodic use | 582 | 582 |
| Adults: Binge drinkers | 10,005 | |
| Adults: Heavy use | | 3,265 |
| Totals | 10,627 | 3,886 |

(Source: 2003 Comprehensive Study of Social Service Needs in Hancock County, Ohio, Section 8, page 8)

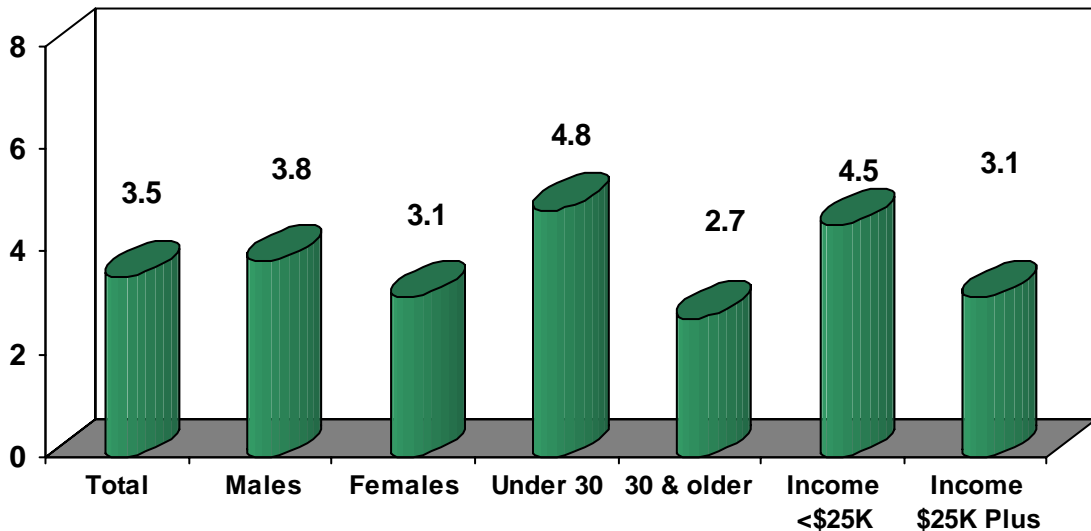
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The following graphs show the percentage of Hancock County adults surveyed consuming alcohol and the amount consumed on average. They show the number of residents in each segment giving each answer (i.e., the first graph shows that 53% of all adults did not drink alcohol and 32% drank an average of 1-2 days a week, 46% of males did not drink, 60% of females did not drink, etc.).

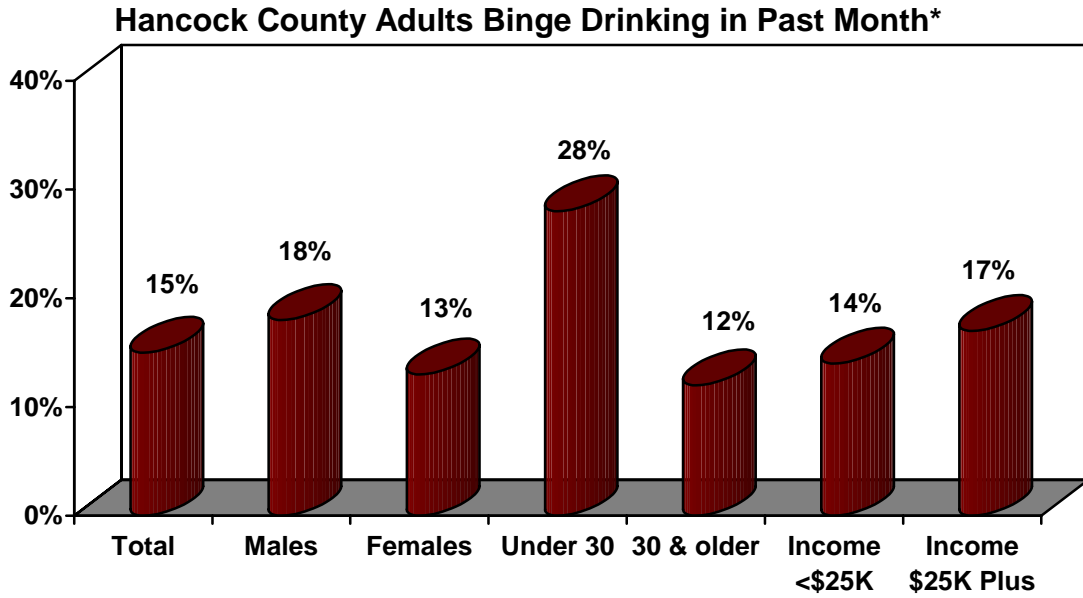
Adults Average Number of Days Drinking Alcohol in Past Month



Adults Average Number of Drinks Consumed Per Occasion



Adult Alcohol Consumption



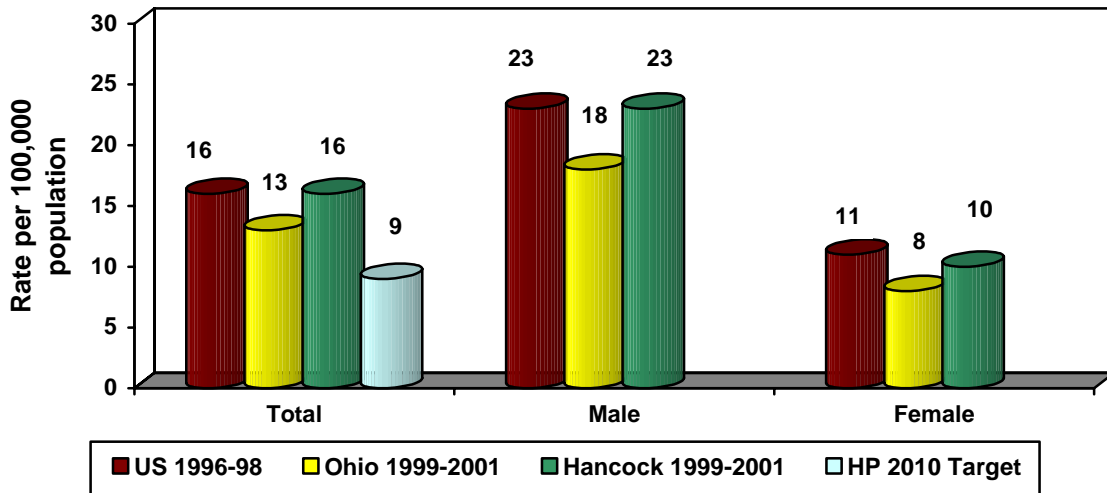
**Based on all adults. Binge drinking is defined as having five or more drinks on an occasion*

Adult and Youth Alcohol Consumption

The following graphs show Hancock County and Ohio age-adjusted motor vehicle mortality rates per 100,000 population with comparison to the Healthy People 2010 goal. The graphs show that:

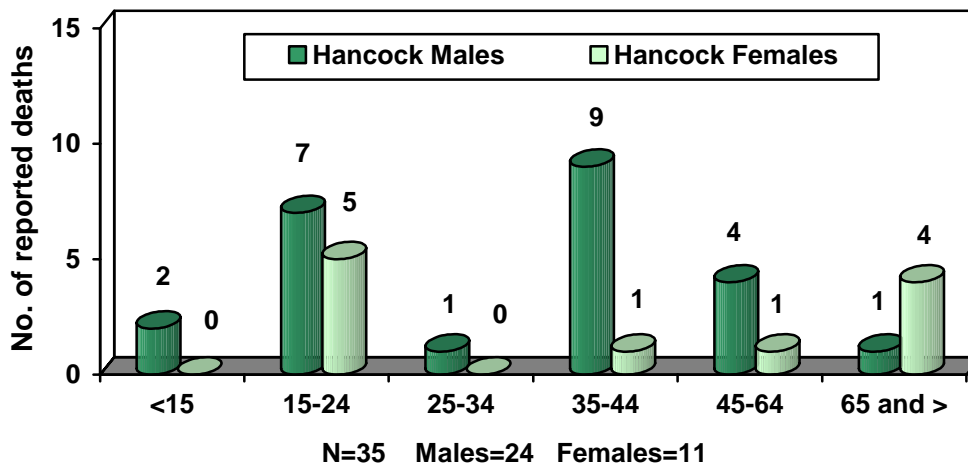
- ◆ From 1999-2001, the Hancock County motor vehicle age-adjusted mortality rate of 16 deaths per 100,000 population is higher than the state yet comparable to the nation, and it exceeds the Healthy People 2010 target goal of 9.
- ◆ The county motor vehicle age-adjusted mortality rate for males over twice the female rate.
- ◆ 69% of the motor vehicle accident deaths in 1999-2001 were males.
- ◆ Just over one-third (34%) of the motor vehicle accident deaths in 1999-2001 occurred to those ages 15-24.

Healthy People 2010 Objectives and Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Motor Vehicle Accidents



(Source: ODH Information Warehouse and CDC Wonder)

Hancock County Number of Motor Vehicle Accidents By Age and Gender, 1999-2001



(Source: ODH Information Warehouse)

Hancock County Crash Statistics

| | Findlay 2002 | Findlay 2001 | Hancock 2002 | Hancock 2001 | Ohio 2002 | Ohio 2001 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Accidents/1,000 people | 33.18 | 37.24 | 39.93 | 38.05 | 34.0 | 34.09 |
| Alcohol related accidents/1,000 people | 1.15 | 1.62 | 1.32 | 1.57 | 1.54 | 1.48 |
| Total crashes | 1,293 | 1,451 | 2,847 | 2,713 | 386,076 | 387,075 |
| Alcohol related total crashes | 45 | 63 | 94 | 112 | 17,461 | 16,794 |
| Fatal crashes | 2 | 2 | 10 | 9 | 1,284 | 1,258 |
| Alcohol related fatal crashes | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 341 | 342 |
| Injury crashes | 290 | 333 | 600 | 619 | 95,374 | 94,971 |
| Alcohol related injury crashes | 11 | 28 | 35 | 55 | 7,754 | 7,702 |
| Property Damage Only (PDO) | 967 | 1,085 | 2,155 | 2,017 | 278,378 | 278,083 |
| Alcohol related Property Damage Only (PDO) | 33 | 32 | 56 | 52 | 8,973 | 8,367 |
| Deaths | 2 | 2 | 12 | 10 | 1,417 | 1,379 |
| Alcohol related deaths | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 379 | 375 |
| Injuries | 420 | 478 | 867 | 901 | 143,258 | 138,847 |
| Alcohol related injuries | 24 | 40 | 57 | 79 | 11,479 | 11,131 |

(Source: Ohio Department of Public Safety)