



# PENNINGTON COUNTY

SUMN.org FACT SHEET

2017

## Substance Abuse Prevention

This fact sheet provides county level data on substance use and related factors to help guide decisions about prevention efforts. These data can be used to justify need for prevention funding, monitor substance-related trends, and plan programs and initiatives by establishing community level prevention priorities.

According to 2016 estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, Pennington County has 14,235 residents; 23% are under the age of 18.

*For more information on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, consequences, contributing factors, and treatment, as well as mental health data, visit [SUMN.org](http://SUMN.org)*

## Adult Substance Use

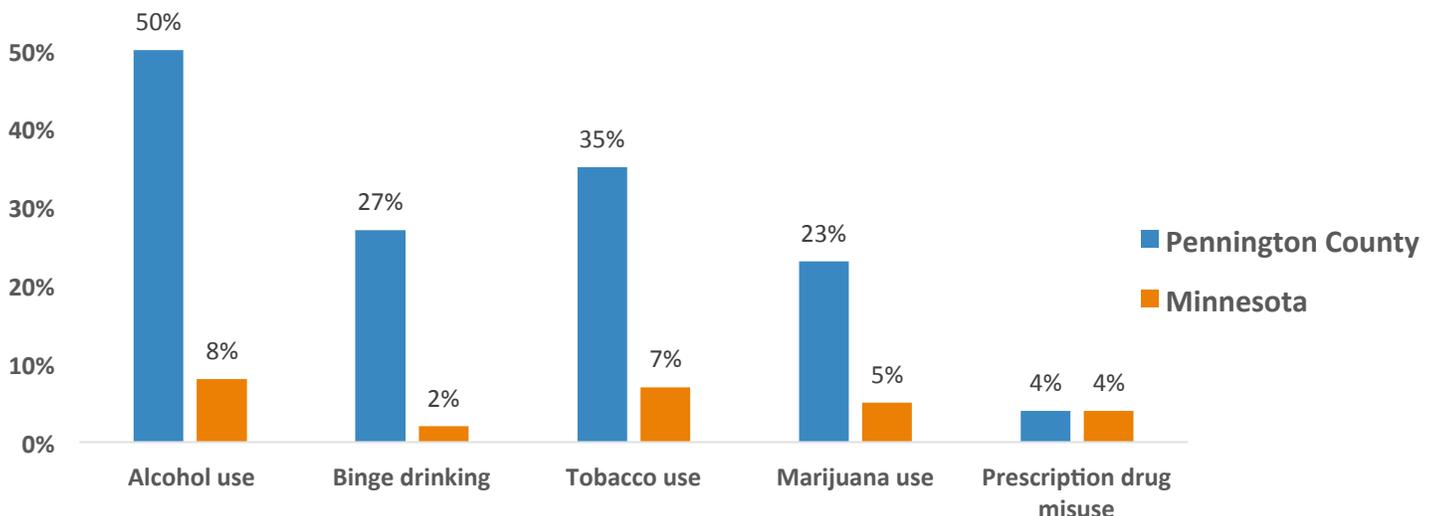
According to the 2015 Minnesota Survey on Adult Substance Use (MNSASU):

- Past-month binge drinking (women having 4+ drinks or men having 5+ drinks in a row on one occasion) was reported by 11% of adults in the Southwest region and 14% of Minnesota adults.
- Past-month cigarette smoking was reported by 16% of Southwest adults and 16% of Minnesota adults.
- Past-month marijuana use was reported by 2% of adults in the Southwest region compared to 5% of adults statewide.

## Youth Substance Use

Data on youth substance use are from the Minnesota Student Survey (MSS). Data are limited when a county doesn't have more than one participating district per grade. For more on Pennington County MSS data, visit <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Previous years' data may be available at [sumn.org](http://sumn.org).

Figure 1. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Past 30-Day Substance Use, 2016 Minnesota Student Survey (MSS)



\*\*Tobacco includes any past month use of cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, electronic cigarettes and/or hookah

## Alcohol

Past 30-day alcohol use was reported by 50% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Pennington County in 2016, compared to 8% in Minnesota. Past 30-day binge drinking (defined as having five or more drinks in a row on one occasion) was reported by 27% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

## Tobacco/Nicotine

Of Pennington County 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 35% reported any past 30-day tobacco use: 12% reported smoking cigarettes; 15% reported smoking cigars or cigarillos; and 8% reported chewing tobacco use. In addition, 15% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders reported e-cigarette use, and 4% reported hookah use; questions about these two methods of nicotine use were added to the survey in 2016.

## Other Drugs

Past 30-day marijuana use was reported by 23% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Past 30-day prescription drug misuse was reported by 4% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Pennington County in 2016. Specifically, in the past year, students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade reported the misuse of pain relievers (4%). They did not report misuse of stimulants, ADD or ADHD medication, or tranquilizers.

## Consequences

### Alcohol

- The DWI arrest rate for Pennington County residents was 69.7 per 10,000 population in 2015, with an average of 70.3 from 2006 to 2015. The state's average was 57.0 (Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety, DPS)
- In 2015, 6.8% of motor vehicle crashes in Pennington County were alcohol-related, compared to 4.7% throughout the state (*Crash Facts*, DPS)

### Tobacco

- The lung, bronchus and trachea cancer death rate for Pennington County has averaged 4.7 per 10,000 population from 2006 to 2015. That's just slightly higher than the state average of 4.5 (Minnesota Center for Health Statistics, MDH)

### Drugs

- From 2000 to 2015, there were 6 opioid deaths (non-exclusive) in Pennington County, of 2,273 total in Minnesota. Over that same 15-year period, there were no heroin deaths in Pennington County; there were 453 in the state as a whole (Minnesota Center for Health Statistics, MDH)
- In 2015, there were 16 arrests for marijuana in Pennington County, no arrests for opium or cocaine, or for synthetic drugs, and 35 arrests for other drugs, including methamphetamine (*Minnesota Crime Information*, DPS)

## SUMN.org

SUMN is a one-stop-shop for data, tools, and prevention resources. Visitors can search county, regional, and state level data by topic, by location, and by demographics. View and download data products, such as this fact sheet, and find tips on finding and using data.

- Use the 'Data by Topic' search function to access county level data, by grade and gender, for all measures included in this fact sheet.

## Contact Us

For questions or more information regarding the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup or SUMN.org, please email: [info@sumn.org](mailto:info@sumn.org)

To contact the Regional Prevention Coordinator for your region, please visit: [www.rpcmn.org](http://www.rpcmn.org)