

## AN ISSUE BRIEFING

### OLMSTED COUNTY 2013 MINNESOTA STUDENT SURVEY (MSS) SUMMARY

This briefing offers information on the 2013 Minnesota Student Survey as it relates to alcohol use

The 2013 MSS was administered in the first half of 2013 to public school students in grades 5, 8, 9 and 11, statewide. All public school districts in Minnesota were invited to participate.

#### BACKGROUND

Public school student participation was voluntary and surveys were anonymous. Across the state, approximately 66 percent of fifth graders, 71 percent of eighth graders, 69 percent of ninth graders and 62 percent of eleventh graders participated in the 2013 MSS. Overall participation across the four grades was approximately 67 percent of total enrollment. Many changes were made to the 2013 survey.

#### WHAT CHANGED?

- Grades surveyed changed from 6th, 9th and 12th graders to 5th, 8th, 9th and 11th grades
- Question regarding binge drinking was changed from past two weeks to past 30 days
- Questions dropped due to changes in priorities or to make room for new questions
  - Alcohol or drug use in school or being a problem for a family member
  - Sources of alcohol information
  - Use of fake ID to buy alcohol

#### OLMSTED COUNTY KEY FINDINGS

Students reporting any past 30 day alcohol use in Olmsted County

- 8th grade—6.9%
- 9th grade—14.7%
- 11th grade—27.7%

Olmsted 11<sup>th</sup> graders reporting how much they typically drink at one time:

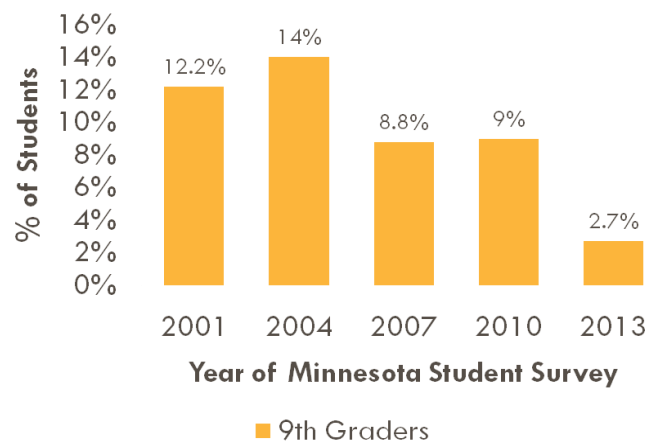


#### STATEWIDE KEY FINDINGS

- Fourteen percent of ninth graders reported that they drank alcohol one or more times in the past 30 days, a steady decline from 36.3 percent in 1998
- Seventeen percent of sexually-active 11th graders reported they had used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse
- “Many of the sort of risky things that the student survey measures like drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes or using marijuana in the past 30 days, every time we administer the survey fewer kids are saying they’ve done that” - Shelia Oehrlein (Minnesota Department of Education’s Safe and Healthy Learners Team)

#### SUCCESS!

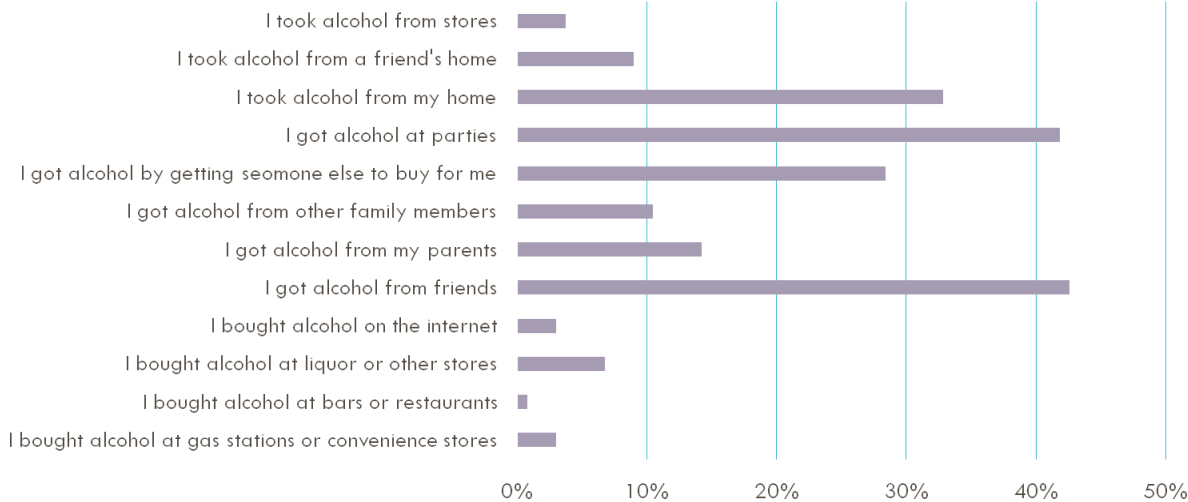
Trends from 2001 to 2013 show 9th grade Olmsted County students reporting having driven a motor vehicle, during the last 12 months, after using alcohol or other drugs has declined significantly!



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## WHERE OLMSTED COUNTY STUDENTS ARE GETTING ALCOHOL

**Alcohol Sources for Olmsted Students Reporting Any Past 30 Day Alcohol Use, 2013**



Olmsted County students are most likely to report getting alcohol from friends, at parties, or taking it from their homes. They are least likely to report buying it at bars or restaurants, at gas stations/ convenience stores, or on the internet.

## SELF-HARM + ALCOHOL USE

- Olmsted students who reported harming themselves (purposely cutting, burning, bruising) in the last 12 months were 2.5 times more likely to report past 30 day alcohol use and past 30 day binge drinking than those who didn't report self-harm
- Olmsted females are about twice as likely to report self-harm as males (regardless of grade-level)

	How Often Olmsted County Students Think MOST STUDENTS in Their School Drink	How Often Olmsted County Students Report Drinking
Never	26.1%	74.5%
Tried Once or Twice	20.4%	10.1%
Once or Twice a Year	6.6%	5.4%
Once a Month	9.7%	2.6%
Twice a Month	11.2%	3.5%
Once a Week	17.7%	2.9%
Daily	8.3%	0.9%

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT + ALCOHOL USE

Olmsted Students Reporting Any Past 30 Day Alcohol Use or Past 30 Day Binge Drinking, by Perception of Parental Caring, 2013

Students who perceive that their parents care for them only "some", "a little", or "not at all" are considerably more likely to report past 30 day alcohol use and past 30 day binge drinking as compared to students who feel their parents care for them a lot.

