



Epi Data Tables

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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Alcohol Use among New York City Adolescents in 2009

Data Tables

- Table 1.** NYC Adolescent Drinking Trends, 1997-2009, *Youth Risk Behavior Survey 1997-2009*
- Table 2.** NYC Adolescent Drinking Patterns by Demographics, *Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2009*
- Table 3.** NYC Adolescent Methods of Getting Alcohol, *Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2009*
- Table 4.** Top 4 Methods of Getting Alcohol by Borough (Among NYC Adolescents who Drink Currently), *Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2009*
- Table 5.** Prevalence of Risky Behaviors for Current and Non-Current Drinkers, *Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2009*

Data Sources

Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2009: The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a self-administered, anonymous survey conducted in NYC public high schools in odd years by the Department of Education and the Health Department. For more survey details, visit www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/episrv/episrv-youthriskbehavior.shtml

[To access the related Epi Data Brief, go to www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/epi/databrief9.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/epi/databrief9.pdf)

Table 1. NYC Adolescent Drinking Trends, 1997-2009

% Reported Drinking or Binge Drinking in the past 30 Days

Source: NYC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 1997-2009.

Year	% Currently Drinking	95% Confidence Interval		P-Value	% Binge Drinking	95% Confidence Interval		P-Value
		Lower Limit	Upper limit			Lower Limit	Upper limit	
1997	39.7	35.0	44.6	Referent	18.4	15.0	22.4	Referent
1999	37.8	33.4	42.4		16.6	14.2	19.3	
2001	41.8	38.1	45.6		17.9	15.6	20.4	
2003	35.5	33.5	37.5		15.7	14.6	17.0	
2005	35.5	32.8	38.2		13.6	12.2	15.1	
2007	33.5	31.2	35.9		14.8	13.1	16.6	
2009	32.0	30.0	34.2	0.001	14.0	12.6	15.5	0.014

Current drinking is defined as having at least 1 alcoholic drink during the past 30 days.

Binge drinking is defined as having 5 or more alcoholic drinks in a row (within a couple of hours) at least once during the past 30 days.

95% confidence intervals are a measure of estimate precision. The wider the interval, the more imprecise the estimate.

A p-value is a measure of statistical significance. A p-value less than .05 means there is a significant difference between that group and the referent (comparison) group.

Table 2. NYC Adolescent Drinking Patterns by Demographics*% Reported Drinking or Binge Drinking in the past 30 Days*

Source: NYC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 2009.

Characteristic	% Currently Drinking	95% Confidence Interval		P-Value	% Binge Drinking	95% Confidence Interval		P-Value
		Lower Limit	Upper limit			Lower Limit	Upper limit	
Sex								
Female	33.4	31.2	35.6	0.010	13.4	11.9	15.0	0.158
Male	30.5	28.0	33.2	Referent	14.6	12.9	16.6	Referent
Age Group								
≤ 14 years	24.1	21.6	26.9	< 0.001	9.1	7.9	10.6	< 0.001
15 years	30.7	27.4	34.3	0.394	12.5	10.5	14.8	0.284
16 years	32.6	29.7	35.6	Referent	14.0	12.0	16.3	Referent
17 years	42.4	39.3	45.6	< 0.001	21.6	19.3	24.0	< 0.001
≥ 18 years	43.0	36.3	50.1	0.004	21.5	16.6	27.4	0.006
Race/Ethnicity								
Hispanic	39.9	37.4	42.4	0.444	18.7	16.9	20.6	0.516
White Non-Hispanic	42.1	36.7	47.8	Referent	20.7	15.3	27.4	Referent
Black Non-Hispanic	28.6	26.2	31.2	< 0.001	9.8	8.7	11.1	< 0.001
Asian	14.3	10.6	19.0	< 0.001	6.7	4.4	10.0	< 0.001
Other	29.8	24.8	35.3	< 0.001	12.9	9.3	17.5	0.029
Borough								
Bronx	33.8	30.3	37.5	0.180	14.2	12.3	16.4	0.002
Brooklyn	30.0	25.1	35.4	0.024	12.5	9.0	17.1	0.003
Manhattan	36.4	32.3	40.7	0.750	15.8	13.8	18.0	0.017
Queens	28.3	25.0	31.8	< 0.001	12.3	10.2	14.8	< 0.001
Staten Island	37.3	33.7	41.1	Referent	20.7	17.5	24.4	Referent

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Table 3. NYC Adolescent Methods of Getting Alcohol**% Answering Yes to Various Methods of Obtaining Alcohol**

Source: NYC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 2009.

Method of Getting Alcohol	% Answering Yes	95% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Limit	Upper limit
Did not drink alcohol	67.6	65.5	69.7
Bought in store	4.3	3.7	5.0
Bought in rest/bar/club	1.2	0.9	1.6
Bought at public event	0.7	0.5	1.0
Gave someone money to buy	3.9	3.2	4.7
Someone gave it to me	10.5	9.7	11.4
Took from store or family	6.0	5.3	6.8
Got some other way	5.8	5.1	6.5

Method of getting alcohol was assessed by the question: "During the past 30 days, how did you usually get the alcohol you drank?"

95% confidence intervals are a measure of estimate precision. The wider the interval, the more imprecise the estimate.

Table 4. Top 4 Methods* of Getting Alcohol by Borough (Among Adolescents who Drink Currently)*% Answering Yes to Various Methods of Procuring Alcohol*** Other than "I got it some other way"*

Source: NYC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 2009.

	% Answering Yes	95% Confidence Interval		P-Value
		Lower Limit	Upper limit	
Someone gave it to me				
Bronx	45.3	39.2	51.5	0.092
Brooklyn	38.7	31.4	46.4	0.829
Manhattan	43.6	37.3	50.0	0.196
Queens	45.5	40.3	50.7	0.063
Staten Island	37.6	31.3	44.3	Referent
I took it from a store or family member				
Bronx	21.2	17.6	25.3	0.002
Brooklyn	31.2	25.9	37.1	< 0.001
Manhattan	23.3	18.3	29.3	0.002
Queens	23.6	17.9	30.4	0.003
Staten Island	12.3	8.8	16.9	Referent
I bought it in a store				
Bronx	16.4	12.7	20.9	0.003
Brooklyn	15.8	10.6	22.9	0.010
Manhattan	21.6	16.5	27.7	0.200
Queens	12.5	10.6	14.7	< 0.001
Staten Island	26.7	21.6	32.6	Referent
I gave someone else money to buy it for me				
Bronx	17.1	13.2	21.9	0.023
Brooklyn	14.3	9.0	22.0	0.014
Manhattan	11.5	8.5	15.4	< 0.001
Queens	18.4	14.8	22.7	< 0.001
Staten Island	23.5	20.3	27.0	Referent

Analysis done on adolescents who reported to be current drinkers and broken down into the top 4 methods of getting alcohol (other than "I got it some other way").

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Table 5. Prevalence of Risky Behaviors for Current Drinkers and Non-Current Drinkers

% Answering Yes to Engaging in Various Risky Behaviors

Source: NYC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 2009.

Risky Behavior	% of Current Drinkers	95% Confidence Interval		% of Non-Current Drinkers	95% Confidence Interval		P-Value
		Lower Limit	Upper limit		Lower Limit	Upper limit	
Currently sexually active	46.8	41.4	52.4	17.5	14.9	20.4	< 0.001
Use drug or alcohol before last sex	25.8	23.5	28.2	8.8	6.5	11.9	< 0.001
Ever forced to have sex	11.5	9.6	13.7	4.4	3.8	5.1	< 0.001
Use marijuana in last 30 days	35.4	32.6	38.3	4.8	3.9	5.9	< 0.001
Ever use cocaine	9.3	8.0	10.8	0.8	0.6	1.1	< 0.001
Ever use ecstasy	10.7	8.9	12.8	0.8	0.6	1.2	< 0.001
Ever use methamphetamines	5.9	4.8	7.2	0.6	0.3	1.0	< 0.001

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