

Health Behaviors: Adult Alcohol Consumption

Key Findings

Seventy-one percent (71%) of Wood County adults had at least one alcoholic drink in the past month and would be considered current drinkers. Over one-third (36%) of Wood County adults were considered binge drinkers (defined as five or more drinks for males or four or more for females on one occasion) in the past month.

67,889 Wood County adults had at least one alcoholic drink in the past month.

Adult Alcohol Consumption

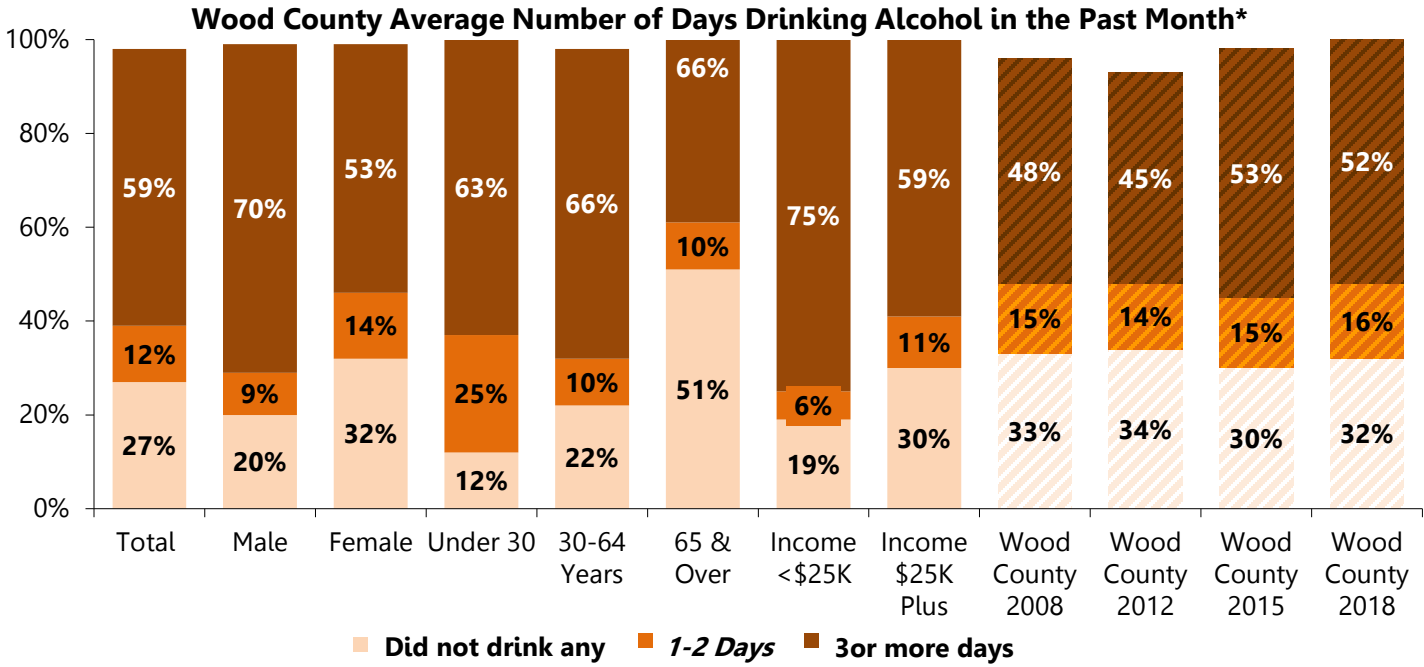
- Seventy-one percent (71%) of Wood County adults had at least one alcoholic drink in the past month, increasing to 81% of those with incomes less than \$25,000.
- Of those who drank, Wood County adults drank 3.5 drinks on average per drinking occasion, increasing to 6.6 drinks for those with annual incomes less than \$25,000.
- Over one-third (36%) of Wood County adults reported they had five or more alcoholic drinks for males or four or more drinks for females on an occasion in the last month and would be considered binge drinkers. Of those who drank in the past month, 46% had at least one episode of binge drinking.
- One-in-fourteen (7%) current drinkers reported driving after having too much to drink.

Adult Comparisons	Wood County 2008	Wood County 2012	Wood County 2015	Wood County 2018	Wood County 2021	Ohio 2019	U.S. 2019
Current drinker (drank alcohol at least once in the past month)	63%	59%	68%	68%	71%	53%	54%
Binge drinker (defined as consuming more than four [women] or five [men] alcoholic beverages on a single occasion in the past 30 days)	29%	24%	20%	27%	32%	18%	17%
Drove after having too much alcohol to drink	N/A	N/A	N/A	7%	7%	4%*	3%*

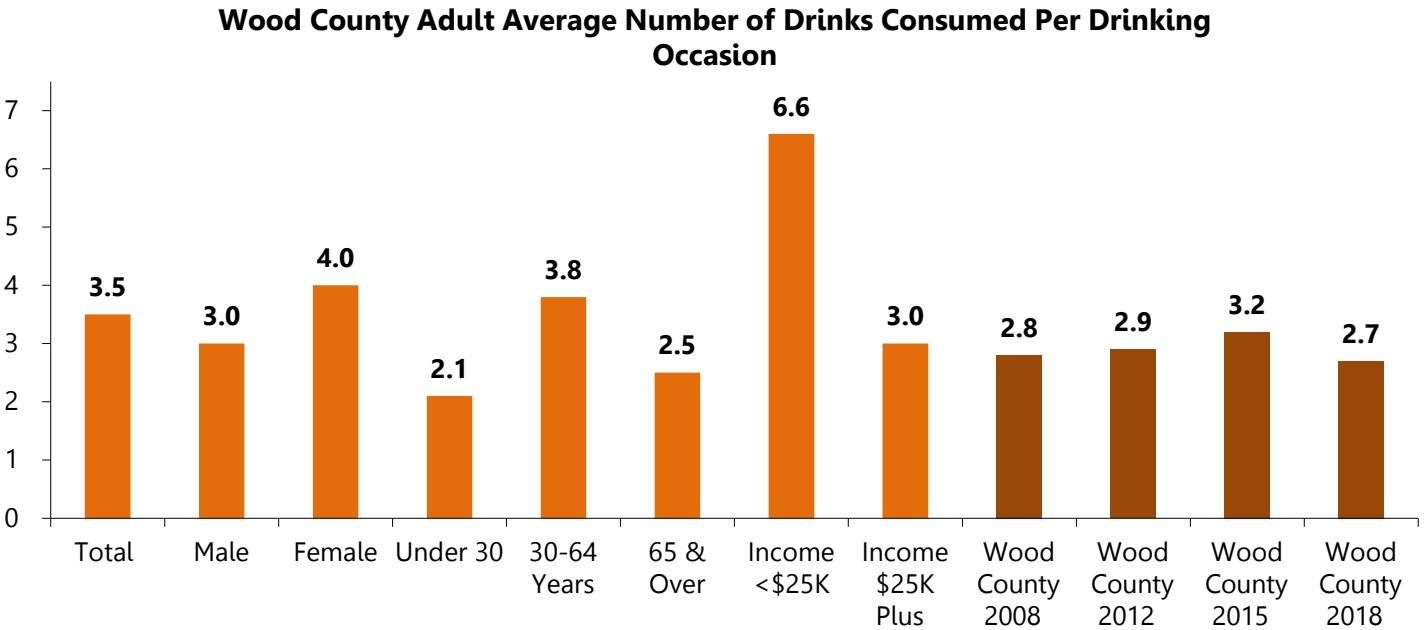
N/A-Not Available

*2018 BRFSS

The following graphs show the percentage of wood County adults consuming alcohol and the amount consumed on average in the past month. An example of how to interpret the information shown on the first graph include: 27% of all Wood County adults did not drink alcohol in the past month, including 20% of males and 32% of females.



*Percentages may not equal 100% as some respondents answered "don't know"

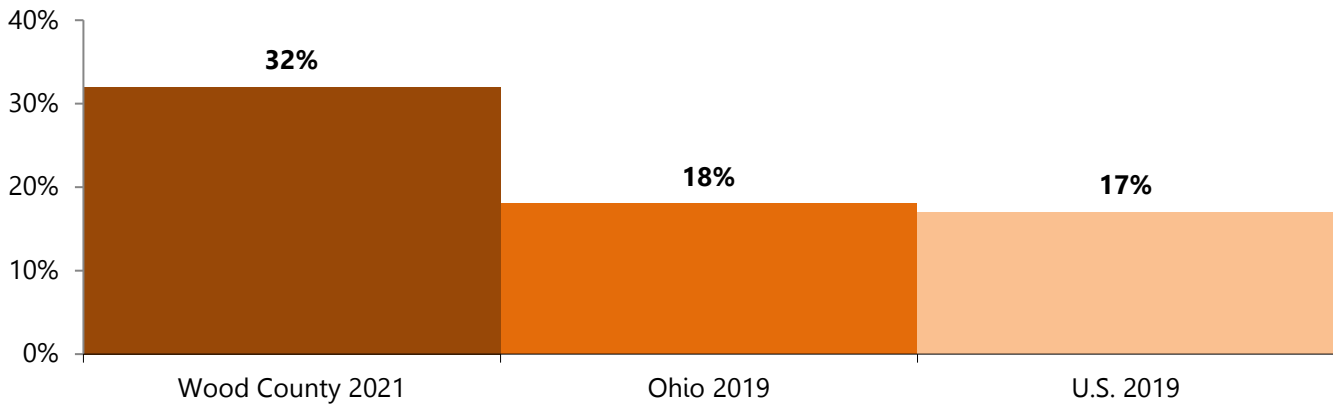


Note for graphs: Caution should be used when interpreting subgroup results as the margin of error for any subgroup is higher than that of the overall survey.

The following graph shows a comparison of Wood County binge drinkers with Ohio and U.S. binge drinkers.

- In 2021, Wood County had a larger percentage of binge drinkers in comparison to Ohio and U.S. rates.

Wood County Adult Binge Drinkers*



*Based on all adults. Binge drinking is defined as males having five or more drinks on an occasion, females having four or more drinks on one occasion.

(Source: 2019 BRFSS, 2021 Wood County Health Assessment)

Economic Costs of Excessive Alcohol Use

- Excessive alcohol consumption cost the United States \$249 billion in 2010. This cost amounts to about \$2.05 per drink, or about \$807 per person.
- Costs due to excessive drinking largely resulted from losses in workplace productivity (72% of the total cost), health care expenses (11%), and other costs due to a combination of criminal justice expenses, motor vehicle crash costs, and property damage.
- Excessive alcohol use cost states and DC a median of 3.5 billion in 2010, ranging from \$488 million in North America to \$35 billion in California.
 - Excessive alcohol consumption cost Ohio \$8.5 billion in 2010. This cost amounts to \$2.10 per drink or \$739 per person.
- Binge drinking, defined as consuming 4 or more drinks per occasion for women or 5 or more drinks per occasion for men, was responsible for 77% of the cost of excessive alcohol use in all states and DC.
- About \$2 of every \$5 of the economic costs of excessive alcohol use were paid by federal, state, and local governments.

(Source: CDC, Alcohol and Public Health – Excessive Drinking, updated September 21, 2020)

The following table shows Wood County and Ohio motor vehicle accident statistics. The table shows:

- In 2020, 3.7% of the total crashes in Wood County were alcohol-related, compared to 4.2% for Ohio.
- One-quarter (25%) of all fatal crashes in Wood County involved an alcohol-impaired driver, compared to 33% for Ohio in 2020.
- Of the total number of alcohol-related crashes (129) in Wood County, 57% were property damage only; 40% were non-fatal injury; and 3% were fatal injury.
- There were 10,268 alcohol-related crashes in Ohio in 2020. Of those crashes, 55% were property damage only; 41% were non-fatal injury; and 4% were fatal injury.

	Wood County 2020	Ohio 2020
Crash Severities		
Property Damage Only Crashes	2,102	180,721
Injury Crashes (suspected minor, suspected serious, & possible)	626	64,410
Fatal Crashes	15	1,165
Total Crashes	2,743	246,296
Person Injuries		
Property Damage Only Crashes	4,741	428,963
Injury Crashes (suspected minor, suspected serious, & possible)	894	92,342
Fatal Crashes	16	1,242
Total Injuries	5,750	538,809
Person Types		
Total Drivers in Crashes	4,308	406,309
Total Passengers in Crashes	1,422	129,817
Total Pedestrians in Crashes	20	2,683
Alcohol-Related		
Property Damage Only Crashes	74	5,650
Injury (non-fatal) Crashes	51	4,231
Fatal Crashes	4	387
Total Alcohol-Related Crashes	129	10,268
Total Impaired Drivers	129	10,198
Total Alcohol-Related Deaths	4	409

(Source: Ohio Department of Public Safety, Crash Reports, Traffic Crash Facts, Updated 7/12/2021)