

Youth Alcohol Use Fact Sheet 2025

Issaquah School District, All Grades

Students surveyed = 6th grade: 1,336; 8th grade: 1,293; 10th grade: 1,042; 12th grade: 439

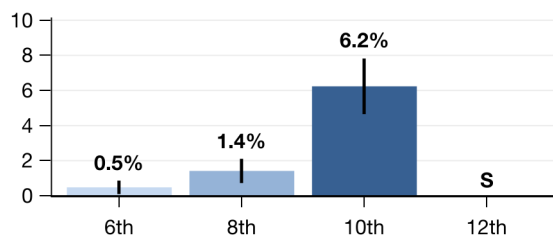
Introduction

- Alcohol is the most common substance used by youth younger than 21 in the United States. ¹
- Youth alcohol use is associated with violence, poor school performance, suicide, and risky sexual behavior.
- Important milestones in brain development start in adolescence and continue into the mid-to-late 20s. Research shows heavy alcohol use during teen years can permanently damage the still-developing brain.
- Researchers at the University of Washington Social Development Research Group (UW SDRG) developed a public health model for the prevention of youth substance use and other behaviors. Risk factors predict substance use or other behaviors, while protective factors can prevent substance use or protect against the effects of those risks. Effective prevention focuses on reducing risk and increasing protection. Additional details are available here: [Risk and Protective Factors on HYS](#)
- While youth substance use has declined nationwide over the last few decades, it is still important to monitor statewide and local trends for effective prevention.

Current Drinking

Students who report drinking at least once in the past month

% of students

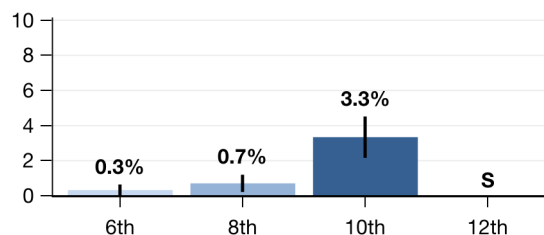


Grade	Current Drinking
6th	0.5% $\pm$ 0.4%
8th	1.4% $\pm$ 0.7%
10th	6.2% $\pm$ 1.6%
12th	suppressed

Experimental Drinking

Students who report drinking on 1-2 days in the past month, but no binge drinking

% of students

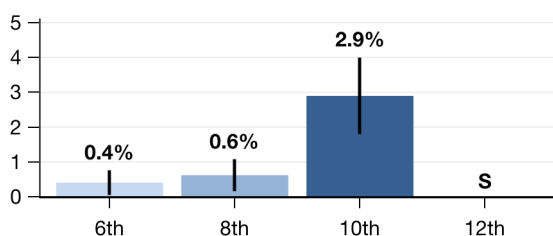


Grade	Experimental Drinking
6th	0.3% $\pm$ 0.3%
8th	0.7% $\pm$ 0.5%
10th	3.3% $\pm$ 1.2%
12th	suppressed

Problem or Heavy Drinking

Students who report drinking 3 or more days in the past month and/or one or more binge drinking episodes

% of students

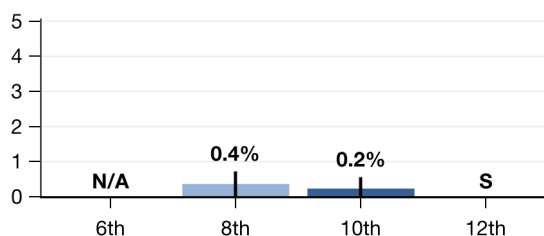


Grade	Problem or Heavy Drinking
6th	0.4% $\pm$ 0.4%
8th	0.6% $\pm$ 0.5%
10th	2.9% $\pm$ 1.1%
12th	suppressed

On school property

Students who report drinking on school property in the past month

% of students

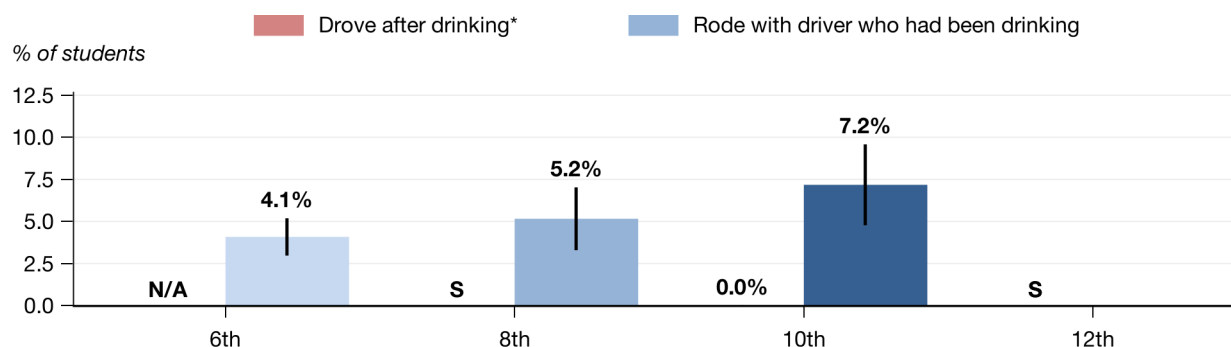


Grade	On school property
6th	not asked of grade
8th	0.4% $\pm$ 0.4%
10th	0.2% $\pm$ 0.3%
12th	suppressed

Binge drinking is drinking 5 or more drinks in a row in the past two weeks

Youth Who Drove After Drinking or Rode with a Drinking Driver

Students who report drinking and driving OR riding with a driver who had been drinking in the past 30 days

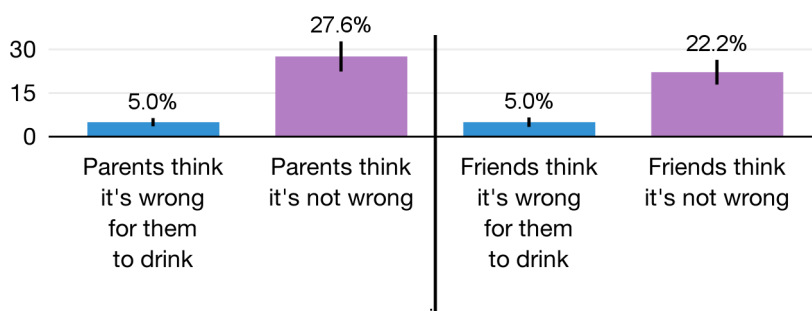


Measure	6th grade	8th grade	10th grade	12th grade
Drove after drinking*	not asked of grade	suppressed	0.0% ±0.0%	suppressed
Rode with driver who had been drinking	4.1% ±1.1%	5.2% ±1.9%	7.2% ±2.4%	suppressed

*Among those who drove a car or other vehicle during the past 30 days

Statewide Relationships between Parent & Friend Attitudes and Youth Alcohol Use Grade 10

% of 10th graders who drank alcohol (in the past 30 days), statewide



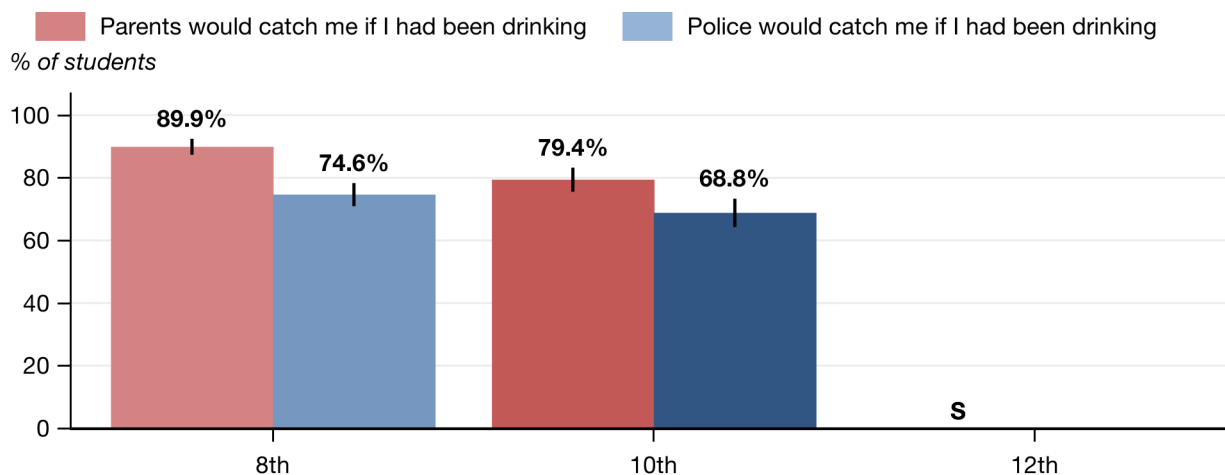
What does this chart say?

- Only 5% of youth drank alcohol if their parents think it's wrong, while 28% drink if their parents don't think it's wrong.
- Only 5% of youth drank alcohol if their friends think it's wrong, while 22% drink if their friends don't think it's wrong.

The chart above shows the Statewide Relationships between Parent & Friend Attitudes and Youth Alcohol Use

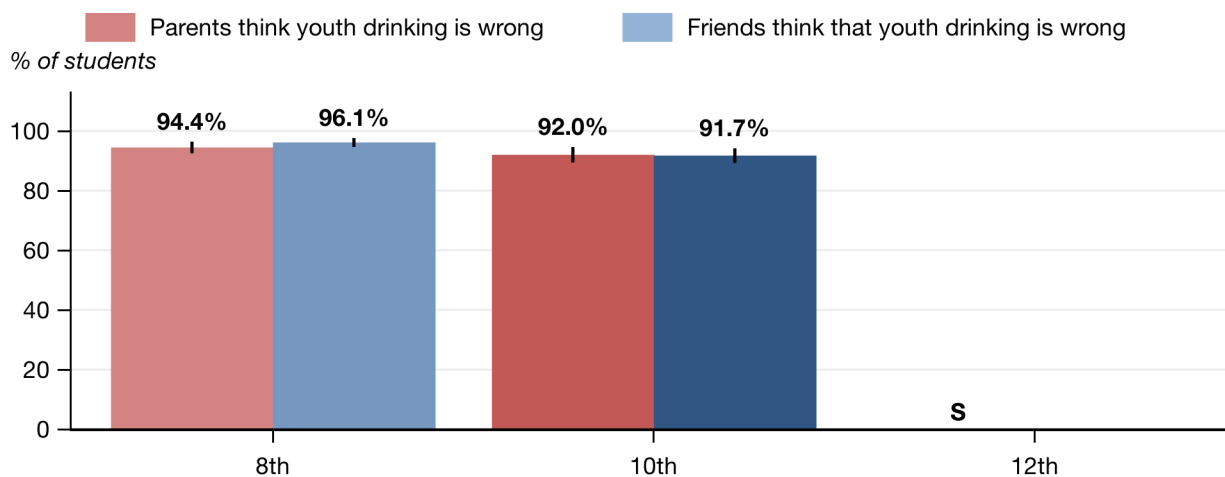
Measure	Results
Parents think it's wrong for them to drink	5.0% ±1.4%
Parents think it's not wrong	27.6% ±5.2%
Friends think it's wrong for them to drink	5.0% ±1.6%
Friends think it's not wrong	22.2% ±4.3%

Perceived Risk of Being Caught



Measure	8th grade	10th grade	12th grade
Parents would catch me if I had been drinking	89.9% $\pm$ 2.6%	79.4% $\pm$ 3.9%	suppressed
Police would catch me if I had been drinking	74.6% $\pm$ 3.7%	68.8% $\pm$ 4.5%	suppressed

Parent or Caregiver and Peer Attitudes Toward Youth Drinking

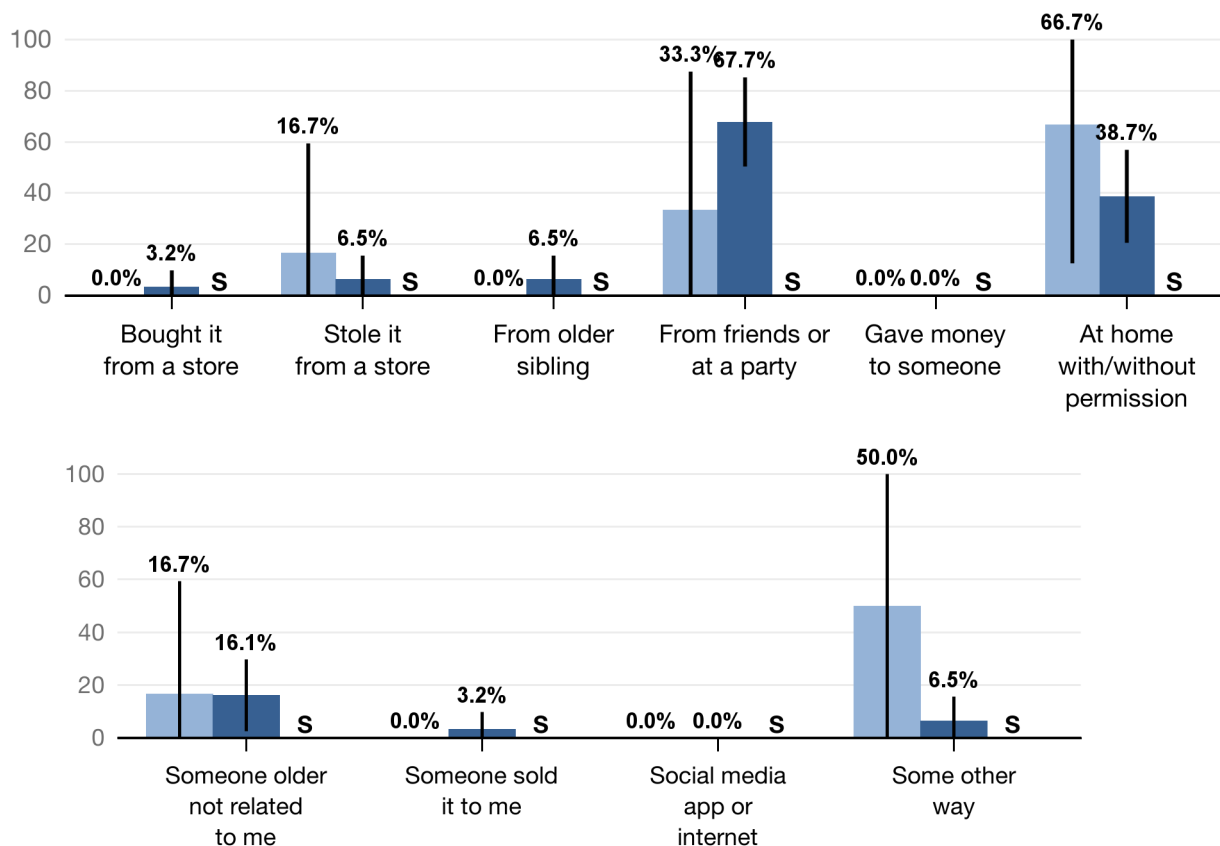


Measure	8th grade	10th grade	12th grade
Parents think youth drinking is wrong	94.4% $\pm$ 1.9%	92.0% $\pm$ 2.6%	suppressed
Friends think that youth drinking is wrong	96.1% $\pm$ 1.5%	91.7% $\pm$ 2.4%	suppressed

Youth Access to Alcohol

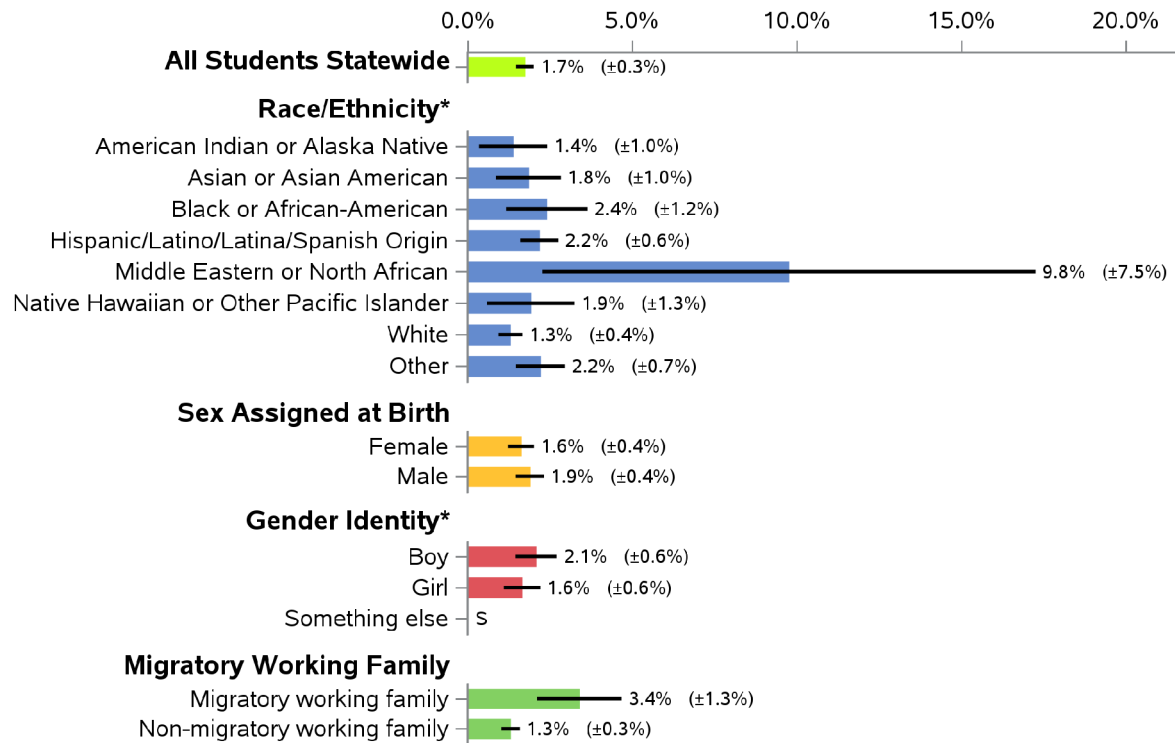
■ 8th ■ 10th ■ 12th

% of students who obtained alcohol



Source of alcohol	8th grade	10th grade	12th grade
Bought it from a store	0.0% ±0.0%	3.2% ±6.6%	suppressed
Stole it from a store	16.7% ±42.8%	6.5% ±9.2%	suppressed
From older sibling	0.0% ±0.0%	6.5% ±9.2%	suppressed
From friends or at a party	33.3% ±54.2%	67.7% ±17.4%	suppressed
Gave money to someone	0.0% ±0.0%	0.0% ±0.0%	suppressed
At home with/without permission	66.7% ±54.2%	38.7% ±18.2%	suppressed
Someone older not related to me	16.7% ±42.8%	16.1% ±13.7%	suppressed
Someone sold it to me	0.0% ±0.0%	3.2% ±6.6%	suppressed
Social media app or internet	0.0% ±0.0%	0.0% ±0.0%	suppressed
Some other way	50.0% ±50.0%	6.5% ±9.2%	suppressed

Statewide Relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics, Grade 6, 2025



*Categories in this demographic factor are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.

S - results are suppressed because less than 5 students answered this way

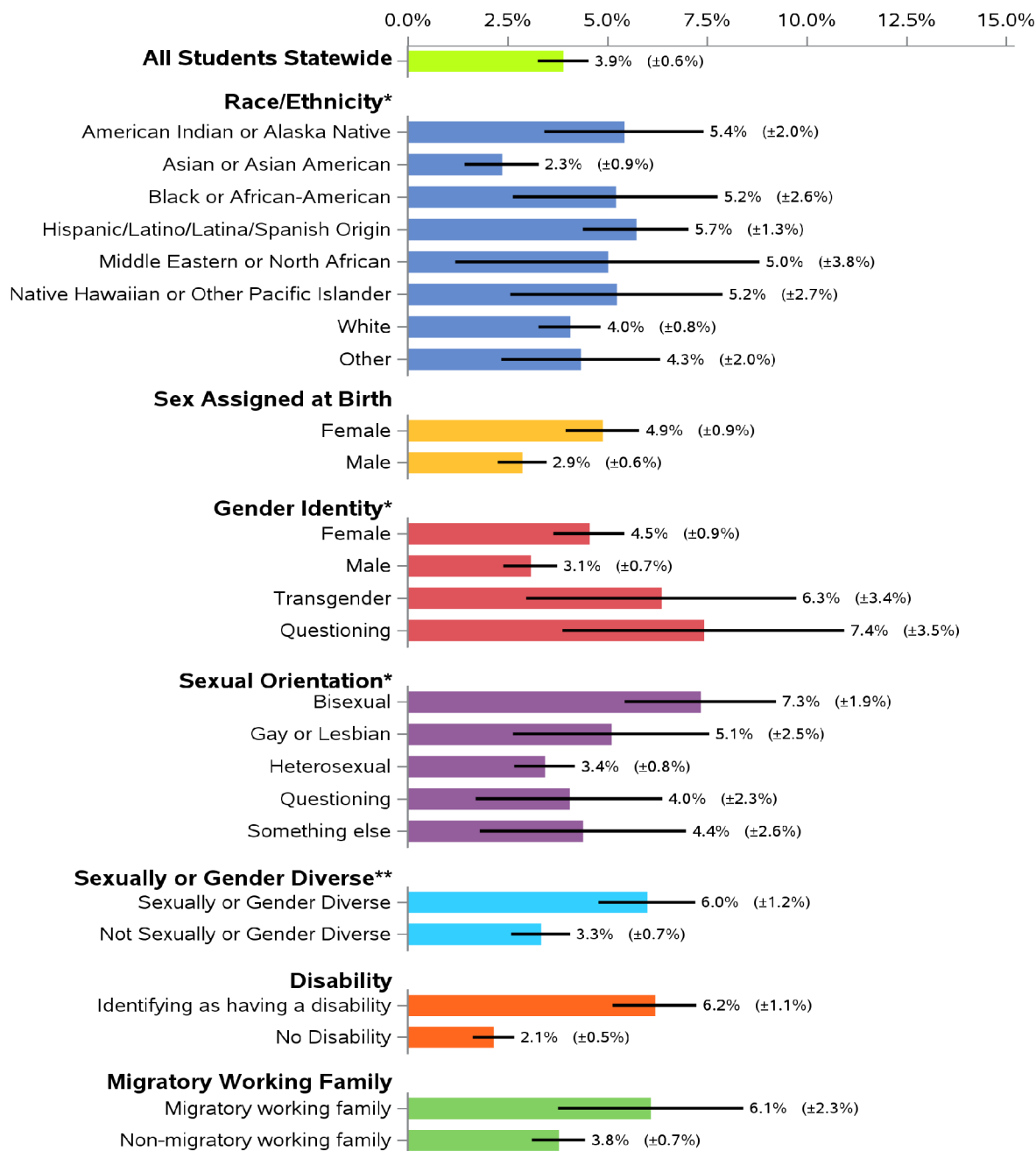
The bar chart above shows the statewide relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics for Grade 6, 2025

- Results for race/ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.
- Sexually or gender diverse youth are defined as any student selecting "transgender", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple options for gender identity, or any student selecting "gay or lesbian", "bisexual", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple response options for sexual orientation.
- Suppressed is displayed for results that are suppressed because less than 5 students answered this way.

The demographic categories and values are:

All Students Statewide	1.7% $\pm$ 0.3%
By Race/Ethnicity	
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.4% $\pm$ 1.0%
Asian or Asian American	1.8% $\pm$ 1.0%
Black or African-American	2.4% $\pm$ 1.2%
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Spanish Origin	2.2% $\pm$ 0.6%
Middle Eastern or North African	9.8% $\pm$ 7.5%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1.9% $\pm$ 1.3%
White	1.3% $\pm$ 0.4%
Other	2.2% $\pm$ 0.7%
By Sex Assigned at Birth	
Female	1.6% $\pm$ 0.4%
Male	1.9% $\pm$ 0.4%
By Gender Identity	
Boy	2.1% $\pm$ 0.6%
Girl	1.6% $\pm$ 0.6%
Something else	Suppressed
By Migratory Working Family	
Migratory working family	3.4% $\pm$ 1.3%
Non-migratory working family	1.6% $\pm$ 0.3%

Statewide Relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics, Grade 8, 2025



*Categories in this demographic factor are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.

**Sexually or gender diverse youth are defined as any student selecting “transgender”, “questioning/not sure”, “something else fits better”, or multiple options for gender identity, or any student selecting “gay or lesbian”, “bisexual”, “questioning/not sure”, “something else fits better”, or multiple response options for sexual orientation.

The bar chart above shows the statewide relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics for Grade 8, 2025

- Results for race/ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.
- Sexually or gender diverse youth are defined as any student selecting "transgender", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple options for gender identity, or any student selecting "gay or lesbian", "bisexual", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple response options for sexual orientation.
- Suppressed is displayed for results that are suppressed because less than 5 students answered this way.

The demographic categories and values are:

All Students Statewide 3.9% $\pm$ 0.6%

By Race/Ethnicity

American Indian or Alaska Native	5.4% $\pm$ 2.0%
Asian or Asian American	2.3% $\pm$ 0.9%
Black or African-American	5.2% $\pm$ 2.6%
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Spanish Origin	5.7% $\pm$ 1.3%
Middle Eastern or North African	5.0% $\pm$ 3.8%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	5.2% $\pm$ 2.7%
White	4.0% $\pm$ 0.8%
Other	4.3% $\pm$ 2.0%

By Sex Assigned at Birth

Female	4.9% $\pm$ 0.9%
Male	2.9% $\pm$ 0.6%

By Gender Identity

Female	4.5% $\pm$ 0.9%
Male	3.1% $\pm$ 0.7%
Transgender	6.3% $\pm$ 3.4%
Questioning	7.4% $\pm$ 3.5%

By Sexual Orientation

Bisexual	7.3% $\pm$ 1.9%
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By Sexual Orientation

Gay or Lesbian	5.1% $\pm$ 2.5%
Heterosexual	3.4% $\pm$ 0.8%
Questioning	4.0% $\pm$ 2.3%
Something else	4.4% $\pm$ 2.6%

By Sexually or Gender Diverse

Sexually or Gender Diverse	6.0% $\pm$ 1.2%
Not Sexually or Gender Diverse	3.3% $\pm$ 0.7%

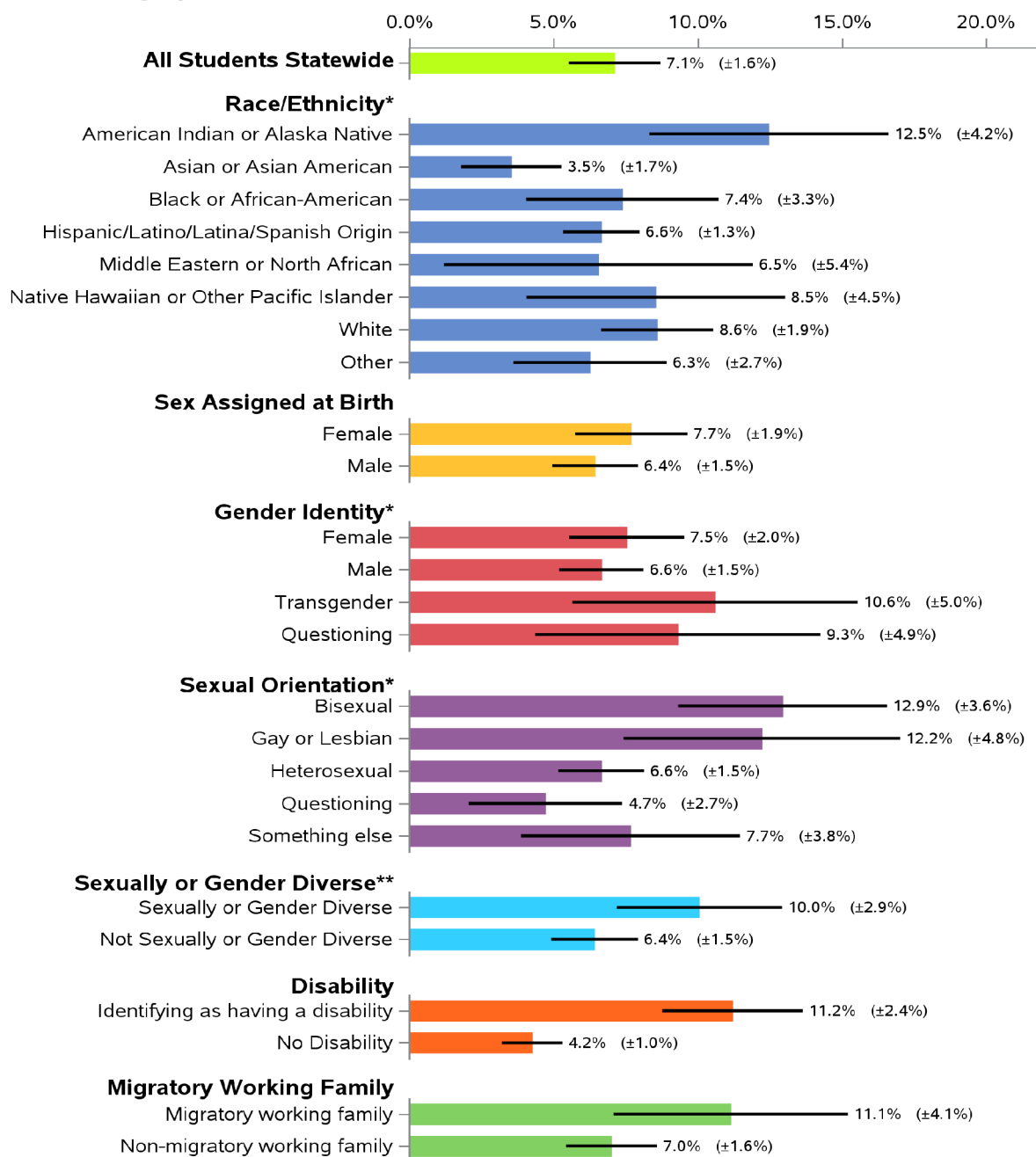
By Disability

Identifying as having a disability	6.2% $\pm$ 1.1%
No Disability	2.1% $\pm$ 0.5%

By Migratory Working Family

Migratory working family	6.1% $\pm$ 2.3%
Non-migratory working family	3.7% $\pm$ 0.6%
Non-migratory working family	3.7% $\pm$ 0.6%

Statewide Relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics, Grade 10, 2025



*Categories in this demographic factor are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.

**Sexually or gender diverse youth are defined as any student selecting “transgender”, “questioning/not sure”, “something else fits better”, or multiple options for gender identity, or any student selecting “gay or lesbian”, “bisexual”, “questioning/not sure”, “something else fits better”, or multiple response options for sexual orientation.

The bar chart above shows the statewide relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics for Grade 10, 2025

- Results for race/ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.
- Sexually or gender diverse youth are defined as any student selecting "transgender", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple options for gender identity, or any student selecting "gay or lesbian", "bisexual", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple response options for sexual orientation.
- Suppressed is displayed for results that are suppressed because less than 5 students answered this way.

The demographic categories and values are:

All Students Statewide 7.1% $\pm$ 1.6%

By Race/Ethnicity

American Indian or Alaska Native	12.5% $\pm$ 4.2%
Asian or Asian American	3.5% $\pm$ 1.7%
Black or African-American	7.4% $\pm$ 3.3%
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Spanish Origin	6.6% $\pm$ 1.3%
Middle Eastern or North African	6.5% $\pm$ 5.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	8.5% $\pm$ 4.5%
White	8.6% $\pm$ 1.9%
Other	6.3% $\pm$ 2.7%

By Sex Assigned at Birth

Female	7.7% $\pm$ 1.9%
Male	6.4% $\pm$ 1.5%

By Gender Identity

Female	7.5% $\pm$ 2.0%
Male	6.6% $\pm$ 1.5%
Transgender	10.6% $\pm$ 5.0%
Questioning	9.3% $\pm$ 4.9%

By Sexual Orientation

Bisexual	12.9% $\pm$ 3.6%
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By Sexual Orientation

Gay or Lesbian	12.2% $\pm$ 4.8%
Heterosexual	6.6% $\pm$ 1.5%
Questioning	4.7% $\pm$ 2.7%
Something else	7.7% $\pm$ 3.8%

By Sexually or Gender Diverse

Sexually or Gender Diverse	10.0% $\pm$ 2.9%
Not Sexually or Gender Diverse	6.4% $\pm$ 1.5%

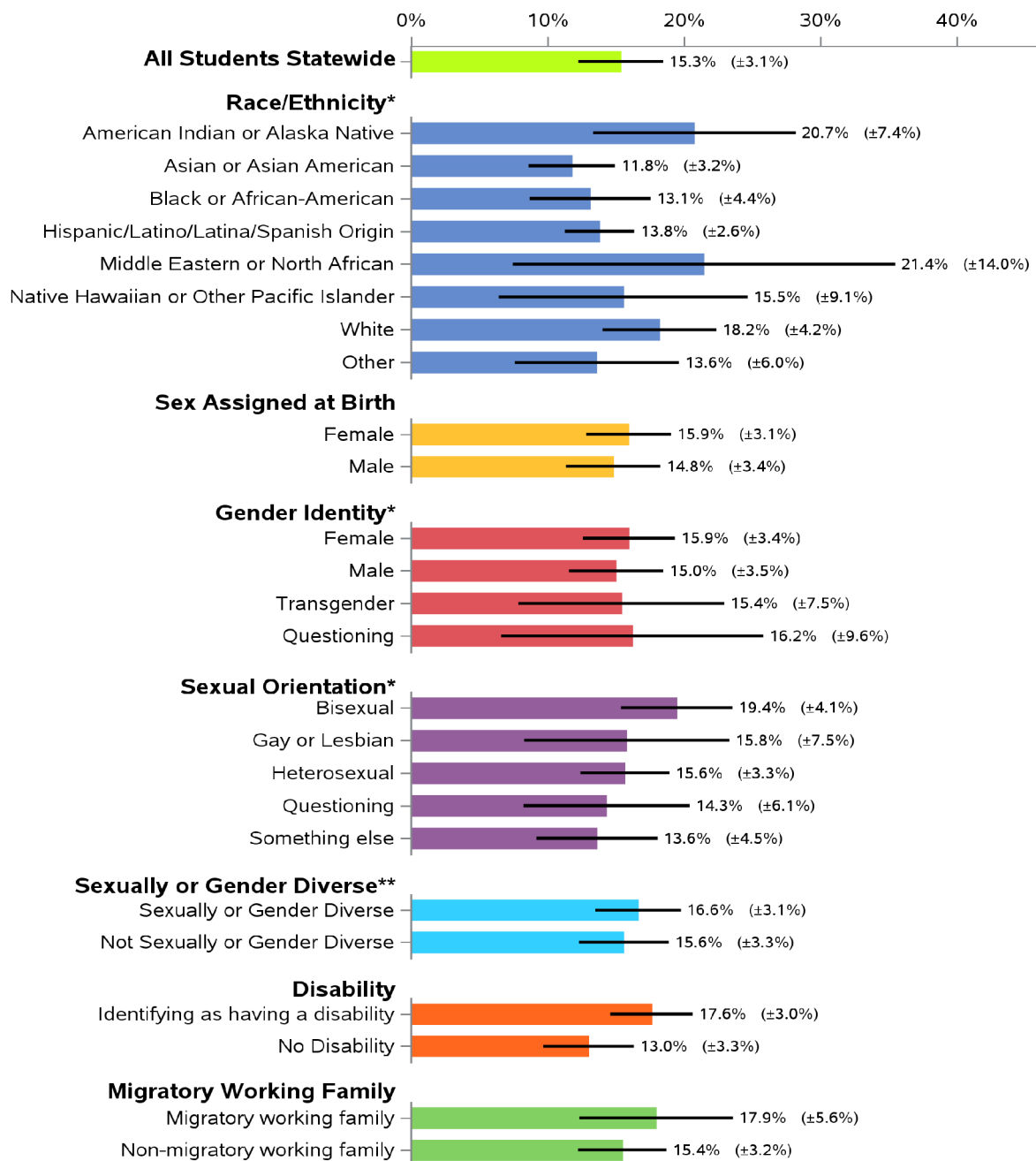
By Disability

Identifying as having a disability	11.2% $\pm$ 2.4%
No Disability	4.2% $\pm$ 1.0%

By Migratory Working Family

Migratory working family	11.1% $\pm$ 4.1%
Non-migratory working family	6.8% $\pm$ 1.5%
Non-migratory working family	6.8% $\pm$ 1.5%

Statewide Relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics, Grade 12, 2025



*Categories in this demographic factor are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.

**Sexually or gender diverse youth are defined as any student selecting “transgender”, “questioning/not sure”, “something else fits better”, or multiple options for gender identity, or any student selecting “gay or lesbian”, “bisexual”, “questioning/not sure”, “something else fits better”, or multiple response options for sexual orientation.

The bar chart above shows the statewide relationship between Current (past 30 days) Alcohol Use and Demographics for Grade 12, 2025

- Results for race/ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation are presented alone or in combination with other categories of the same factor; students who select more than one response are shown under each response.
- Sexually or gender diverse youth are defined as any student selecting "transgender", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple options for gender identity, or any student selecting "gay or lesbian", "bisexual", "questioning/not sure", "something else fits better", or multiple response options for sexual orientation.
- Suppressed is displayed for results that are suppressed because less than 5 students answered this way.

The demographic categories and values are:

All Students Statewide 15.3% $\pm$ 3.1%

By Race/Ethnicity

American Indian or Alaska Native	20.7% $\pm$ 7.4%
Asian or Asian American	11.8% $\pm$ 3.2%
Black or African-American	13.1% $\pm$ 4.4%
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Spanish Origin	13.8% $\pm$ 2.6%
Middle Eastern or North African	21.4% $\pm$ 14.0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	15.5% $\pm$ 9.1%
White	18.2% $\pm$ 4.2%
Other	13.6% $\pm$ 6.0%

By Sex Assigned at Birth

Female	15.9% $\pm$ 3.1%
Male	14.8% $\pm$ 3.4%

By Gender Identity

Female	15.9% $\pm$ 3.4%
Male	15.0% $\pm$ 3.5%
Transgender	15.4% $\pm$ 7.5%
Questioning	16.2% $\pm$ 9.6%

By Sexual Orientation

Bisexual	19.4% $\pm$ 4.1%
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By Sexual Orientation

Gay or Lesbian	15.8% $\pm$ 7.5%
Heterosexual	15.6% $\pm$ 3.3%
Questioning	14.3% $\pm$ 6.1%
Something else	13.6% $\pm$ 4.5%

By Sexually or Gender Diverse

Sexually or Gender Diverse	16.6% $\pm$ 3.1%
Not Sexually or Gender Diverse	15.6% $\pm$ 3.3%

By Disability

Identifying as having a disability	17.6% $\pm$ 3.0%
No Disability	13.0% $\pm$ 3.3%

By Migratory Working Family

Migratory working family	17.9% $\pm$ 5.6%
Non-migratory working family	15.2% $\pm$ 3.2%
Non-migratory working family	15.2% $\pm$ 3.2%

For More Information

- Start Talking Now www.StartTalkingNow.org

Data Notes

Prevalence on charts is displayed with 95% confidence intervals (as $\pm$ or black bar |)

▲ ▼ indicates a significant change from the previous year, $p < 0.05$. Color indicates a **positive** or **negative** difference

Missing Codes:

- S = results suppressed due to insufficient reporting from students of school
- N/G = grade not available
- N/S = question was not surveyed this year
- N/A = question was not asked of this grade
- ns = no significant difference between groups in the Statewide relationship charts

Acknowledgements

The Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) is a collaborative effort of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Department of Health, the Health Care Authority - Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, and the Liquor and Cannabis Board.

References

1. About underage drinking (2025, October 10). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [About Underage Drinking | Alcohol Use | CDC](#)