

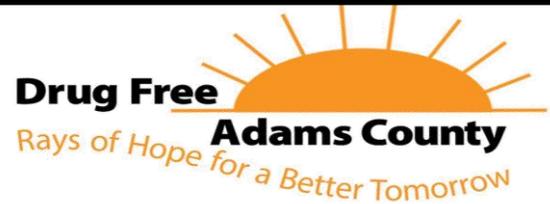
Drug Free Adams County

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Alcohol - The Most Frequently Used Substance

Did you know alcohol is the most frequently used substance in Indiana and the United States? Excessive alcohol consumption contributes to a number of health and economic consequences. Prolonged and compulsive use of alcohol can also lead to an alcohol use disorder.

The Indiana Epidemiological Profile for 2019 was recently released. Notable statistics are as follows:

- From 2000 through 2018, a total of 8,760 Hoosiers died from alcohol-induced causes, and mortality rates attributable to alcohol have climbed gradually in both Indiana and the United States.
- The Indiana Youth Survey indicates that in 2018, 29.5% of Indiana 12th grade students reported using alcohol at least once during the past 30 days.
- In 2018, nearly one-fourth of Indiana residents ages 12 or older reported binge drinking. The highest rate was among 18- to 25-year-olds.
- During State Fiscal Year 2019, there were a total of 8,738 removals of children from their homes. In 831 cases (9.5%), parental alcohol use was indicated as a reason for removal.
- There was a decrease in alcohol-related collisions, from 13,911 in 2003 to 7,213 in 2018.
- There are many conditions that are directly attributable to alcohol in Indiana. Those conditions that may not be as obvious include: homicide 47%; fire injuries 42%; hypothermia 42%; portal hypertension 40%; drowning 34%; fall injuries 32%; poisoning (not alcohol) 29%; acute pancreatitis 24%; and suicide 23%.



These numbers suggest that problematic alcohol use continues to plague various age groups in our society. Unfortunately, denial is a common trait among those struggling with alcohol use disorder, and the friends and family members who are uncomfortable acknowledging the reality of the situation.

Awareness about addiction and its harmful effects on our lives is necessary in order to protect our loved ones and ourselves.

**For more information, please visit our website:
www.DrugFreeAdamsCounty.org**