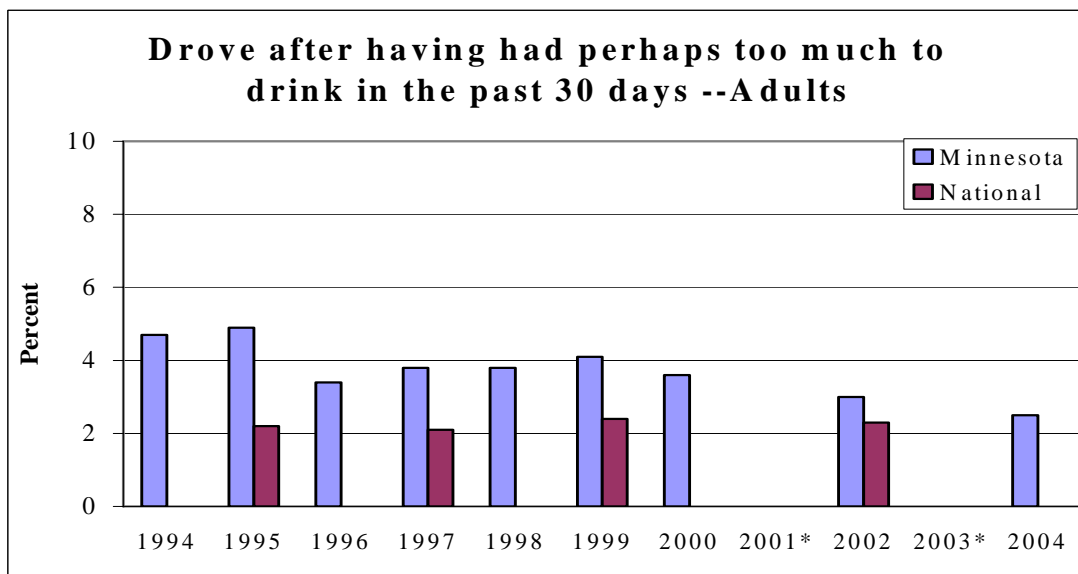


Alcohol Impaired Driving Among Minnesota Adults

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death of young people. Alcohol-related traffic deaths make up about one-third of all traffic crash deaths in Minnesota. The total economic cost of alcohol-related traffic crashes in Minnesota in 2004 is estimated to be \$288 million.¹

The rate of driving after having had perhaps too much to drink, among Minnesota adults aged 18 years and older, appears to be declining since 1999. In 2004, almost three percent of Minnesota adults reported alcohol-impaired driving. Minnesota adults are more likely to report alcohol-impaired driving than adults nationally.

The data source for adult alcohol use is the Minnesota Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey. This survey provides state-level estimates. Some counties have conducted their own behavior health surveys. For more information on the availability of county-level data on adult alcohol use, contact chemicalhealth@health.state.mn.us.



* National median data is only available for certain years. National data were most recently available in 2002. In 2000, Minnesota began asking the question only on even years.

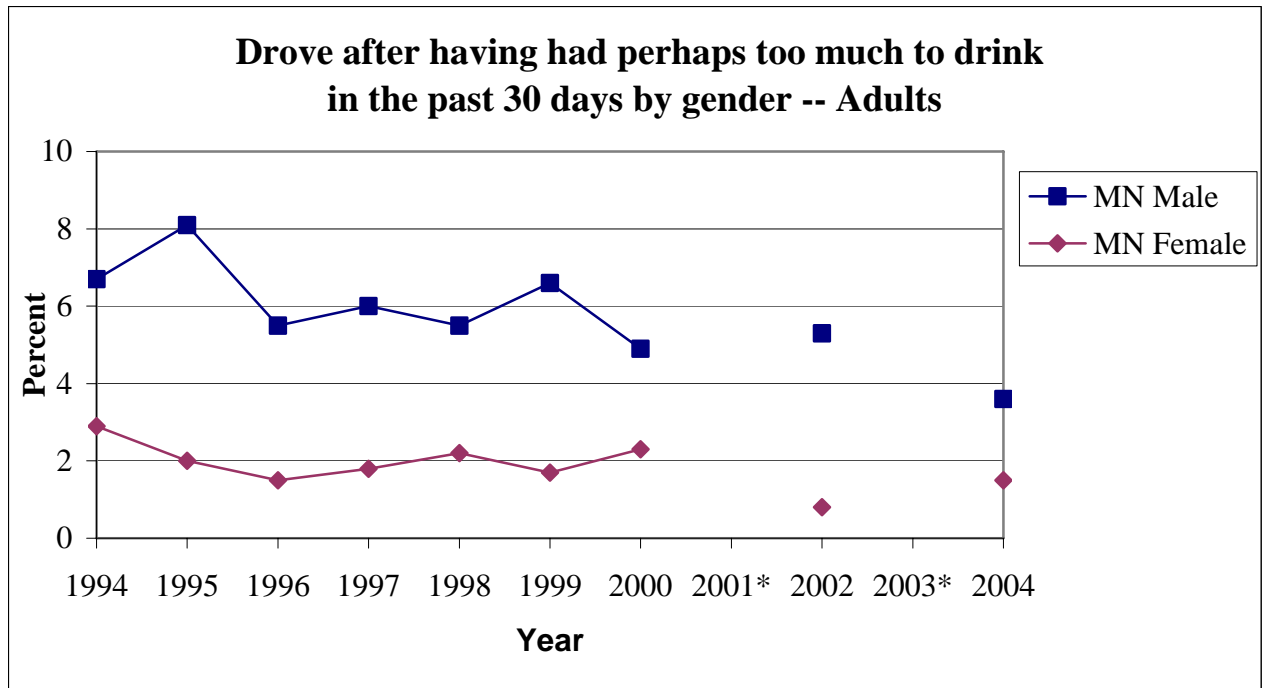
Drove after having perhaps too much to drink in the past 30 days -- Adults (percent)

	<u>Minnesota</u>	National <u>Median</u>
1994	4.7	N/A
1995	4.9	2.2
1996	3.4	N/A
1997	3.8	2.1
1998	3.8	N/A
1999	4.1	2.4
2000	3.6	N/A
2001*	N/A	N/A
2002	3.0	2.3
2003*	N/A	N/A
2004	2.5	N/A

* National median data is only available for certain years. National data were most recently available in 2002. In 2000, Minnesota began asking the question only on even years.

Alcohol Impaired Driving by Gender

Males are 2-3 times more likely to report alcohol-impaired driving than females. In 2004, almost four percent of males reported driving after having too much to drink compared to almost two percent of females.



* In 2000, Minnesota began asking the question only in even years.

**Drove after perhaps drinking too much in the past 30 days
by gender – Minnesota Adults
(Percent)**

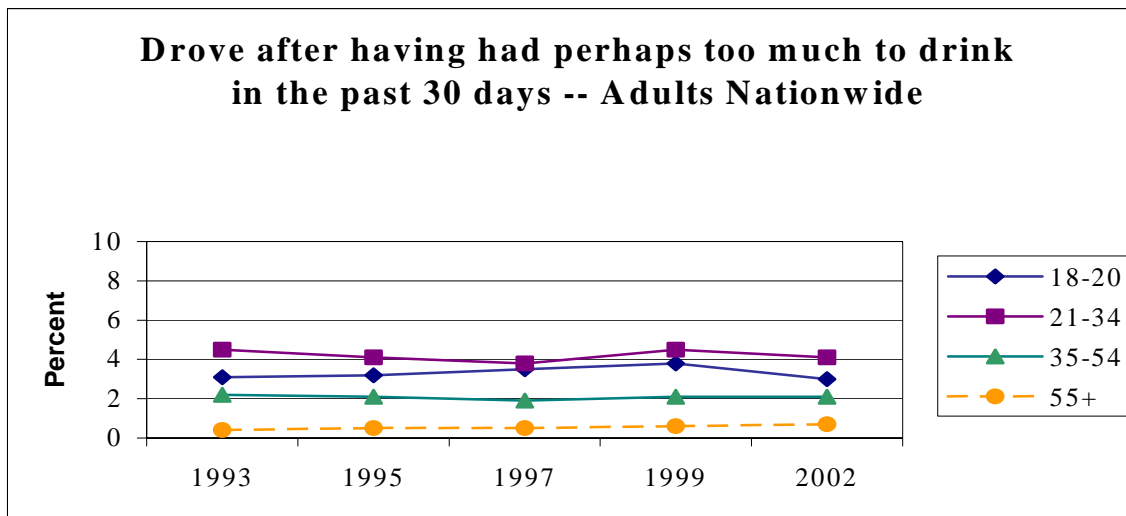
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1993	4.7	1.9
1994	6.7	2.9
1995	8.1	2.0
1996	5.5	1.5
1997	6.0	1.8
1998	5.5	2.2
1999	6.6	1.7
2000	4.9	2.3
2001*	N/A	N/A
2002	5.3	0.8
2003*	N/A	N/A
2004	3.6	1.5

* In 2000, Minnesota began asking the question in even years.

Alcohol Impaired Driving by Age

The legal drinking age is 21. Those under 21 who report alcohol-impaired driving are underage drinkers. The following presents national data on alcohol impaired driving. The data are only available for certain years. The percentage of underage drinkers who reported alcohol-impaired driving increased from 1993-1999; there was a decline in 2002. It is too soon to see if this decline represents a trend.

A higher percentage of 21-34 year olds report driving after perhaps drinking too much in the past 30 days than any other age group, and persons age 55+ are the least likely to report alcohol-impaired driving.



**Drove after having had perhaps too much to drink in the past 30 days --
Adults Nationwide**

	<u>18-20</u>	<u>21-34</u>	<u>35-54</u>	<u>55+</u>
1993	3.1	4.5	2.2	0.4
1995	3.2	4.1	2.1	0.5
1997	3.5	3.8	1.9	0.5
1999	3.8	4.5	2.1	0.6
2002	3.0	4.1	2.1	0.7

Data Sources:

Minnesota Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS), Center for Health Statistics, Minnesota Department of Health. National data from Quinlan, KP, Brewer, RD, Siegel, P, Sleet, DA, Mokdad, AH, Shults, RA, Flowers, N. “Alcohol-Impaired Driving Among U.S. Adults 1993-2002” American Journal of Preventive Medicine. 2005;28(4): 346-350. For more information about the data sources and their limitations, see “Data Sources and Limitations”.

¹“Minnesota Motor Vehicle Crash Facts, 2004” Office of Traffic Safety, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2005.