

Illinois Alcohol Abuse Statistics

How Illinois compares with the United States, Midwest, and the states it borders on alcohol consumption, drinking and binge drinking by age, alcohol use disorder, liver-disease deaths, and drunk driving.

KEY STATISTICS

2.33 Per-capita consumption (US 2.42)	24.4% Binge drinking (US 20.9%)	11.8% Alcohol use disorder (US 9.9%)
11.1 Liver disease death rate (US 12.7)	29% Alcohol-impaired share of road deaths (US 30%)	7.6% Teen drinking (US 6.8%)

QUOTABLE STATISTICS

Illinois has the second-lowest rate of alcohol-impaired-driving deaths in the Midwest, at 2.7 per 100,000 residents in the most recent year. Source: NHTSA State Alcohol-Impaired-Driving Estimates: 2024 Data (DOT HS 813 813).
Illinois has the second-lowest death rate from chronic liver disease and cirrhosis in the Midwest, at 11.1 per 100,000 in the most recent 12 months of provisional data. Source: NCHS Vital Statistics Rapid Release, quarterly provisional estimates (chronic liver disease and cirrhosis).
Illinois recorded the largest decline in the share of traffic deaths involving an alcohol-impaired driver among the states it borders, down 2 percentage points over the past decade. Source: NHTSA State Alcohol-Impaired-Driving Estimates: 2024 Data (DOT HS 813 813).
Illinois has 19% higher alcohol use disorder than the nation as a whole, at 11.8% vs 9.9%. Source: SAMHSA NSDUH state prevalence estimates, 2023-2024.
Illinois has 17% higher binge drinking than the nation as a whole, at 24.4% vs 20.9%. Source: SAMHSA NSDUH state prevalence estimates, 2023-2024.

DRINKING BY AGE

Age group	Drank, past month	Binge, past month	Alcohol use disorder
Ages 12-17	7.6% (US 6.8%)	4.0% (US 3.7%)	3.4% (US 3.0%)
Ages 18-25	52.2% (US 48.5%)	31.1% (US 27.7%)	16.2% (US 14.7%)
Ages 26+	54.9% (US 51.5%)	25.8% (US 21.8%)	12.2% (US 10.0%)
Underage 12-20	14.9% (US 14.0%)	9.1% (US 8.1%)	6.0% (US 5.4%)
All ages 12+	50.3% (US 47.1%)	24.4% (US 20.9%)	11.8% (US 9.9%)

DRUNK DRIVING

	A decade earlier	Most recent year
All traffic deaths	998	1,177
Deaths with an alcohol-impaired driver (BAC .08+)	309	338
Share of traffic deaths	31%	29%

COMPARED WITH BORDERING STATES

State	Alcohol / person (gal)	Binge (12+)	AUD	Liver disease deaths /100k	Drunk-driving share
Illinois	2.33	24.4%	11.8%	11.1	29%
Iowa	2.27	24.0%	11.5%	12.9	33%
Indiana	2.36	19.0%	9.3%	13.5	25%
Kentucky	2.12	18.1%	9.9%	17.1	24%
Michigan	2.22	22.6%	9.0%	12.5	28%
Missouri	2.77	23.0%	10.8%	13.9	27%
Wisconsin	3.07	24.5%	11.9%	11.1	33%

DATA YEARS

CDC BRFSS prevalence data: 2024; Census Bureau population estimates by state: 2024; FBI Crime Data Explorer arrests by state (DUI: 12 months to 09-2026; NHTSA State Alcohol-Impaired-Driving Estimates: 2024 Data (DOT HS 813 813): 2024; NIAAA Surveillance Report #124: 2024; SAMHSA NSDUH state prevalence estimates: 2023-2024; NCHS Vital Statistics Rapid Release: 2025 Q3.

SOURCES

- CDC BRFSS prevalence data, binge drinking (_RFBING6), 2024 (<https://data.cdc.gov/Behavioral-Risk-Factors/Behavioral-Risk-Factor-Surveillance-System-BRFSS-P/dttw-5yxu>)
- Census Bureau population estimates by state, age, and sex (Vintage 2024) (<https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2020s-state-detail.html>)
- FBI Crime Data Explorer arrests by state (DUI, drunkenness, liquor laws) (<https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/docApi>)
- NHTSA State Alcohol-Impaired-Driving Estimates: 2024 Data (DOT HS 813 813) (<https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813813>)
- NIAAA Surveillance Report #124, apparent per capita alcohol consumption by state, 2024 (<https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/surveillance-reports/surveillance124>)
- SAMHSA NSDUH state prevalence estimates, 2023-2024 (<https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/nsduh-national-survey-drug-use-and-health/state-releases/2023-2024>)
- NCHS Vital Statistics Rapid Release, quarterly provisional estimates (chronic liver disease and cirrhosis) (<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/mortality-dashboard.htm>)

All statistics are drawn from federal government publications and peer-reviewed research and may be quoted with attribution to the National Center for Alcohol Statistics and a link to alcoholabusestatistics.org/illinois/.