

Executive Summary

Composite Prevention Profile: Suburban Chicago Metro Area, Illinois

2008

Cook County (excluding the city of Chicago)

DeKalb County

DuPage County

Grundy County

Kane County

Kendall County

Lake County

McHenry County

Will County

Prepared by



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This publication and additional analyses of patterns of substance use and contributing factors for Illinois as a whole and within particular geographic areas are available at <http://www.cprd.illinois.edu/ildataprofiles>.

Executive Summary

The Center for Prevention Research and Development (CPRD) creates four Composite Prevention Profiles to provide communities across Illinois with data to prioritize and address the need for youth alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) prevention services in their geographic area. These Composite Prevention Profiles present data on substance use and attitudinal trends combined from similar counties across the state for use when community-level data is not available. CPRD groups the counties based on Federal definitions of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)¹.

Data for the Composite Prevention Profiles is derived from the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS). The survey is conducted every two years to gather information about the substance use patterns and attitudes of Illinois youth and is funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services. Participation in the survey is voluntary, yet available to all schools in the state.

This Executive Summary explains the process CPRD used to prioritize consumption patterns, contributing factors, and consequences; presents the resulting prevention priorities for the Suburban Chicago Metropolitan Area (not including the City of Chicago); and presents indicators for which trends show improvement.

Prioritization process

CPRD reviews the data in the Composite Prevention Profile to draw out key youth ATOD issues and behaviors. Analyses include prevalence, trends over time, and, in the case of alcohol consumption, how well contributing factors correlate to alcohol use. Priority issues in consumption, contributing factors, and consequences raised by these analyses are presented below.

CPRD has developed specific criteria as a guideline² for analyzing the data; however, it is not meant to be the only means for understanding and prioritizing the data.

Consumption priorities

The consumption priorities for youth in this strata are **alcohol** and **inhalants**. Alcohol use is the most prevalent substance in all grades, except 6th where inhalant use is one-tenth of a percent higher. Alcohol and inhalant use trends show the greatest increase of all consumption trends. More information about these consumption priorities are shown below.

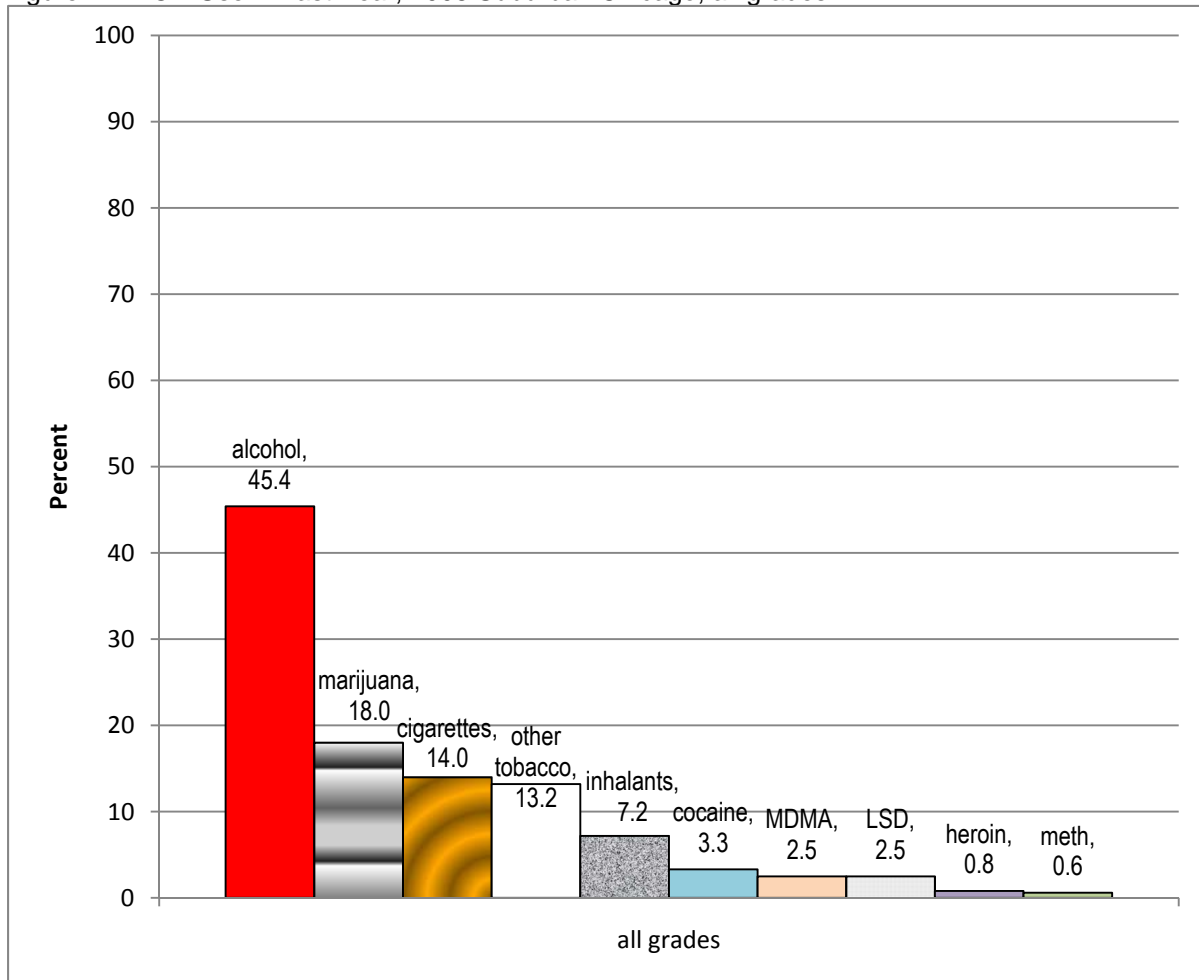
¹ Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) are defined by the Federal Office of Management and Budget as a county or group of counties that have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population with a high degree of social and economic integration. A full description of how CPRD groups the counties can be found in Appendix A.

² Full explanation of the prioritization process can be found on Pages 2-3.

Prevalence

Within Suburban Chicago, alcohol is the most prevalent drug among youth. The chart below ranks the prevalence of all drug use within the strata in the past year. The prevalence of alcohol use is more than double that of any other drug.

Figure 1: ATOD Use in Last Year, 2008 Suburban Chicago, all grades



Trend

Alcohol and inhalant consumption trends show statistical increases in all grades. Increases are the greatest for 8th graders.

The trend in cigarette use in the past 30 days is decreasing for all grades in Suburban Chicago. The greatest decrease is seen in the 12th grade.

Also improving are the percent of 12th graders reporting they were younger than 14 when they first used marijuana, cigarettes, alcohol, and alcohol regularly.

Contributing factors priorities

In Suburban Chicago the following contributing factors were statistically significant in the regression model for youth. The statistically significant factors for high school students in Suburban Chicago are slightly different than for middle school students. Statistically significant correlation ***does not imply that the factor causes*** alcohol use, but identifies those factors that have a strong relationship with alcohol use. For a complete list of indicators included in the statistical analysis of each factor, see Appendix B.

The analysis indicates that for Suburban Chicago these are the measureable risk and protective factors that most influence underage drinking. If possible, it would be ideal to address all of them collectively. When that is not possible, the factors at the top of the list show a stronger correlation than those at the bottom.

Middle School Priority Factors

- Social access to alcohol (More social access correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Retail access to alcohol (More retail access correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Parental approval of alcohol use (Higher approval correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Ease of access to alcohol (Perceived easy access to alcohol correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Hours home alone in a typical week (More hours home alone correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Parental monitoring (More parental monitoring correlates with *lower* alcohol use)
- Perceived risk (Higher perceived risk with alcohol use correlates with *lower* alcohol use)

High School Priority Factors

- Retail access to alcohol (More retail access correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Social access to alcohol (More social access correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Parents likely catch alcohol use (Perception that parents would catch use correlates with *lower* use)
- Perceived risk (Higher perceived risk with alcohol use correlates with *lower* alcohol use)
- Perception of peer use (Higher perceived peer alcohol use correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- Be seen as cool if drink (Higher perceived peer alcohol use correlates with *higher* alcohol use)
- School attachment (Stronger attachment correlates with *higher* alcohol use, perhaps pointing to the influence of peer pressure.)
- Parental approval of alcohol use (Higher approval correlates with *higher* alcohol use)

Consequences priorities

Within Suburban Chicago, riding with a driver who is under the influence of alcohol is the behavior with the highest prevalence. More than 35% of 12th graders report riding in a car driven by a teenager who had been drinking or using drugs. More than 25% of 10th graders report riding in a car driving by an adult who had been drinking or using drugs.

Appendix A: Composite Profile Strata

City of Chicago

City of Chicago; does not include remainder of Cook County

Suburban Chicago Metro Area (excluding City of Chicago)

Cook County (excl. Chicago)	DeKalb County	DuPage County
Grundy County	Kane County	Kendall County
Lake County	McHenry County	Will County

Urban/Suburban (excluding Chicago Metro Area)

Bond County	Boone County	Calhoun County
Champaign County	Clinton County	Ford County
Henry County	Jersey County	Kankakee County
Macon County	Macoupin County	Madison County
Marshall County	McLean County	Menard County
Mercer County	Monroe County	Peoria County
Piatt County	Rock Island County	Sangamon County
St. Clair County	Stark County	Tazewell County
Vermilion County	Winnebago County	Woodford County

Rural

Adams County	Alexander County	Brown County
Bureau County	Carroll County	Cass County
Christian County	Clark County	Clay County
Coles County	Crawford County	Cumberland County
DeWitt County	Douglas County	Edgar County
Edwards County	Effingham County	Fayette County
Franklin County	Fulton County	Gallatin County
Greene County	Hamilton County	Hancock County
Hardin County	Henderson County	Iroquois County
Jackson County	Jasper County	Jefferson County
Jo Daviess County	Johnson County	Knox County
LaSalle County	Lawrence County	Lee County
Livingston County	Logan County	Marion County
Mason County	Massac County	McDonough County
Montgomery County	Morgan County	Moultrie County
Ogle County	Perry County	Pike County
Pope County	Pulaski County	Putnam County
Randolph County	Richland County	Saline County
Schuyler County	Scott County	Shelby County
Stephenson County	Union County	Wabash County
Warren County	Washington County	Wayne County
White County	Whiteside County	Williamson County

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Appendix B: IYS Questions Related to Significant Risk & Protective Factors for Alcohol Use

Alcohol use

Dependent Variable:

On how many occasions (if any) have you had beer, wine or hard liquor during the past 30 days?

See Charts 1 and 2 and Tables 1, 2, and 3 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Social access to alcohol

Risk Factor: More frequent social access to alcohol correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days.

Middle school components

During the past year, how often did you usually get your own beer, wine, or liquor from the following sources?

A friend gave it to me.

I took it from a friend's home

I got it at a party.

I took it from home without my parents knowing.

How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to: drink beer, wine or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin) regularly?

High school components

During the past year, how often did you usually get your own beer, wine, or liquor from the following sources?

A friend gave it to me.

I took it from a friend's home.

I got it at a party.

I took it from home without my parents knowing.

I gave a stranger money to buy it for me.

How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to: drink beer, wine or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin) regularly?

See Charts 27, 28, 37, 38, and 42 and Tables 4, 5 and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Retail access to alcohol

Risk Factor: More frequent retail access to alcohol correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days.

Middle school components

During the past year, how often did you usually get your own beer, wine, or liquor from the following sources?

I bought it at a gas station.

I bought it at a store.

I bought it at a bar or restaurant.

High school components

During the past year, how often did you usually get your own beer, wine, or liquor from the following sources?

I bought it at a gas station.

I bought it at a store.

I bought it at a bar or restaurant.

If you bought beer, wine, or liquor during the past year, did you use a fake ID?

See Charts 39 and 40 and Tables 4, 5 and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Parental approval of alcohol use

Risk Factor: Higher parental approval of alcohol use correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days.

During the past year, how often did you usually get your own beer, wine, or liquor from the following sources? My parents gave them to me.

How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to: drink beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey or gin) regularly (at least once or twice a month)?

See Charts 31, 32, 43, and 44 and Tables 4, 5 and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Parental monitoring (middle school only)

Protective Factor: More parental monitoring correlates with lower alcohol use in the past 30 days.

Middle school components

When I am not at home, one of my parents know where I am and who I am with.

My parents want me to call if I'm going to be late getting home.

My parents ask if I've gotten my homework done.

If you drank some beer or wine or liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin) without your parents' permission would you be caught by your parents?

Would your parents know if you did not come home on time?

If you go to a party where alcohol is served, would you be caught by your parents?

See Tables 4, 5, and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Parents likely catch alcohol use (high school only)

Protective Factor: Higher perception that parents would catch alcohol use correlates with lower alcohol use in the past 30 days.

If you drank some beer or wine or liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin) without your parents' permission would you be caught by your parents?

Would your parents know if you did not come home on time?

If you go to a party where alcohol is served, would you be caught by your parents?

If you drank and drove, would you be caught by your parents?

If you rode in a car driven by a teen driver who had been drinking, would you be caught by your parents?

See Tables 5, and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Perception of peer use (high school only)

Risk Factor: Higher perceived peer alcohol use correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days.

What percent of students at your school do you think have had beer, wine, or hard liquor in the past 30 days?

Ease of access to alcohol (middle school only)

Risk Factor: More easy access to alcohol correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days.

If you wanted to get some beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin), how easy would it be for you to get some?

See Chart 35 and Tables 5 and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Hours home alone in a typical week (middle school only)

Risk Factor: More hours home alone in a week correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days.

Calculated hours home alone in a typical week from two questions.

How many days each week do you take care of yourself after school without an adult being there?

Think of those days that you are home after school without an adult being there. How many hours a day do you usually care for yourself after school?

See Chart 79 and Tables 5 and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

Perceived risk

Protective Factor: Higher perceived risk with alcohol use correlates with lower alcohol use in the past 30 days.

How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they: take one or two drinks of alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor) nearly every day?

How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they: have five or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage once or twice a week?

See Charts 29 and 30 and Tables 4, 5 and 6 for trends over time and comparison with state data.

School attachment (high school only)

Risk Factor: Agreeing more strongly with school attachment statements correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days, perhaps pointing to the influence of peer pressure.

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

I feel like a real part of my school.

People at this school are friendly to me.

I am treated with as much respect as other students.

I can really be myself at this school.

Be seen as cool if drink (high school only)

Risk Factor: A stronger chance of being seen as cool correlates with higher alcohol use in the past 30 days.

What are the chances you would be seen as cool if you began drinking alcohol regularly, that is, at least once or twice a month?

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