

PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT – ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS: CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

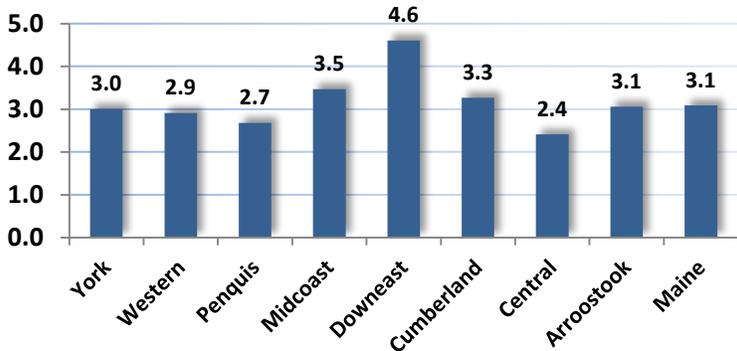
Quick Facts:

- More than half of the students within each PHD felt it would be easy to get alcohol or marijuana (MIYHS, 2011).
- From 2009 to 2011, all PHDs reported an increase in the proportion of high school students who felt binge drinking was harmful. The state average increased from 73% to 78% (MIYHS).
- From 2009 to 2011, perception of harm from smoking marijuana regularly decreased among high school students in every public health district (MIYHS).
- Over 80% of students within each PHD felt they would not be caught with alcohol by their parents or police (MIYH, 2011).

Availability

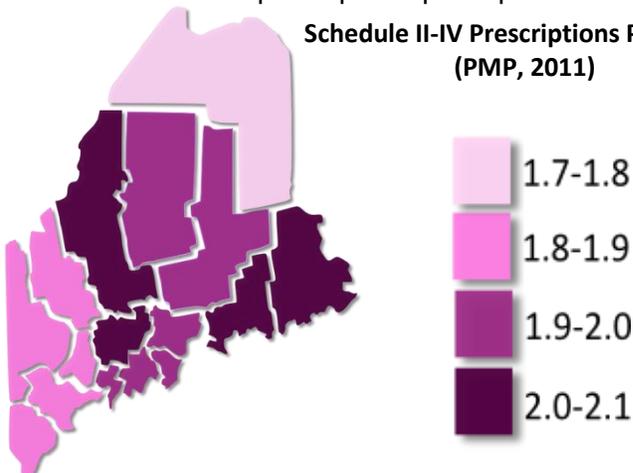
The statewide rate concerning liquor licensees has remained constant within the past few years. In 2011, Maine had 3.1 liquor licensees per every 1,000 residents (DPS, Liquor Licensing and Compliance, 2011). Downeast had the highest rate with 4.6 liquor licensees per 1,000 residents while Central had the lowest rate with 2.4 liquor licensees per 1,000 residents.

Liquor Licensees Per 1,000 Residents
(2011, DPS, Liquor Licensing and Compliance)



The indicator below reflects the number of narcotic, tranquilizer, stimulant, and other prescriptions filled per person. This includes only prescription drugs that are classified Schedule II-IV drugs, meaning those with a high potential for abuse. In 2011, Central and Downeast Public Health Districts observed the highest rates of schedule II-IV per capita with rates averaging between 2.0 and 2.1 prescriptions per person (PMP, 2011). The statewide rate for 2011 was 1.91 prescriptions per capita.

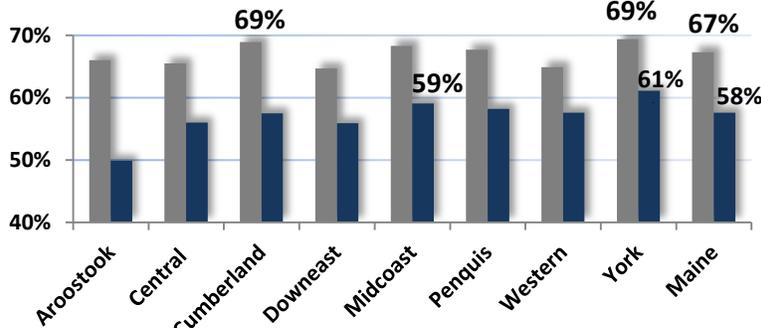
Schedule II-IV Prescriptions Per Capita
(PMP, 2011)



Perception of Access

High school rates concerning the perception of access to alcohol among PHDs have changed very little from 2009 to 2011. The highest rates of perception of access to alcohol were found in Cumberland (69%) and York (69%) (MIYHS). In 2011, 58% of Maine high school students felt that it would not be difficult to obtain marijuana, this rate hadn't change since 2009. York, had the highest rate for perception of access to marijuana for 2011 at 61%, followed by Midcoast (59%).

Perception of Access to Alcohol or Marijuana Among
High School Students (MIYHS, 2011)



Perception of Harm

The perception of harm from binge drinking among high school students has increased from 2009 to 2011 while the perception of harm from smoking marijuana regularly has decreased in all PHDs shown. The lowest rate for perception of harm of binge drinking in 2011 was reported in Downeast at 77% (MIYHS). The lowest rate for perception of harm from smoking marijuana regularly was reported in Midcoast (53%).

High School Perception Of Harm From Binge Drinking Or
Smoking Marijuana Regularly

