

Excessive Alcohol Use and Sexual & Intimate Partner Violence Among Michigan Women



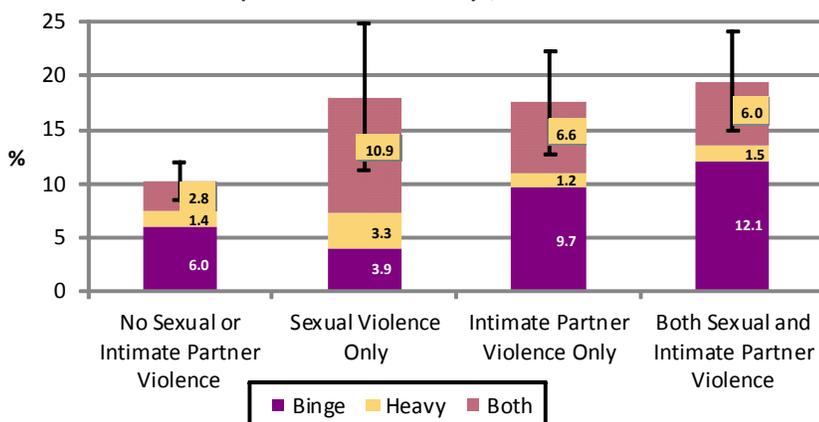
2005 & 2008 Michigan Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys

- Sexual and intimate partner violence may cause physical injuries, emotional harm, and harmful health behaviors.^{1,2}
- Sexual assault in Michigan cost \$29.6 billion in 2008 or \$2,930 per resident.³
- About 25% of American women have experienced sexual violence, and half of these situations involved alcohol use by the attacker, victim, or both.⁴
- Excessive alcohol use is linked to sexual violence and intimate partner violence.^{1,2}
 - It may increase a woman's risk of violence, it may be used as a coping mechanism after experiencing violence, or it may do both.

Among Michigan Women 18 Years and older:

- 41.1% reported ever experiencing sexual violence or intimate partner violence.
 - 19.0% reported ever experiencing sexual violence.
 - 30.3% reported ever experiencing intimate partner violence.
 - 14.9% reported ever experiencing both sexual and intimate partner violence.
- 12.4% reported excessive drinking in the past 30 days.
- 18.4% of women who experienced sexual and/or intimate partner violence drank excessively in the past 30 days, compared to only 10.2% of non-victimized women.

Figure 1. Percent of Michigan Women who Reported Excessive Alcohol Consumption in the Past 30 Days, 2005 & 2008 MiBRFSS.*



*Bars represent 95% confidence intervals for total column.

Sexual Violence = Ever experienced unwanted attempted or completed sex by anyone

Intimate Partner Violence = Ever experienced threatened, attempted, or completed physical violence by a current or former intimate partner

Excessive Drinking = One or both of the following in the past 30 days:

Binge Drinking = 4 or more drinks on an occasion

Heavy Drinking = average of more than 1 drink per day

Table 1. Proportional Odds of Past 30-Day Excessive Alcohol Consumption by Violence, MI Women, 2005 & 2008.

Type of Violence Experienced in Lifetime	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval
No Sexual or Intimate Partner Violence	Reference	Reference
Sexual Violence	1.94	(1.18, 3.21)
Intimate Partner Violence	1.89	(1.28, 2.76)
Both Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence	2.14	(1.51, 3.04)

- The odds of reporting excessive alcohol consumption in the past 30 days compared to women who did not report any sexual or intimate partner violence were:
 - 1.9 times higher for sexual violence or intimate partner violence victims
 - 2.1 times higher for victims of both types of violence

Prevention — What can be done?^{1,5}

Women and men can:

- Not use alcohol consumption as a defense for committing violence or a reason to blame the victim. Perpetrators are always legally and morally responsible for their attacks.
- Help victims of violence to find healthy ways of coping without using alcohol.
- Avoid binge and heavy drinking.

Doctors, nurses, and other healthcare providers can:

- Integrate excessive alcohol use screening and brief intervention into patient visits.
- Screen for sexual and intimate partner violence and refer victimized patients to help.

Michigan and local communities can:

- Increase availability of comprehensive sexual violence prevention programming in local communities.
- Increase the price of alcohol to reduce excessive alcohol consumption and related harms.
- Increase enforcement of laws prohibiting alcohol sales to minors and intoxicated patrons.
- Reduce alcohol availability by implementing community-wide interventions such as zoning to limit the number of retail alcohol outlets or the hours of sale.

Resources

The following national hotlines directly link callers to help from local Michigan programs:

Sexual Violence: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673) or <https://ohl.rainn.org/online>

Intimate Partner Violence: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or <http://www.thehotline.org/help>

For more information on alcohol and violence prevention in Michigan, please visit:
www.michigan.gov/substanceabuseepi or www.michigan.gov/injuryprevention

For more information about the Michigan Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, please visit: www.michigan.gov/brfs

¹Understanding Sexual Violence: Fact Sheet. Accessed on April 21, 2014 at <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/svfactsheet2012-a.pdf>

²Understanding Intimate Partner Violence: Fact Sheet. Accessed on April 21, 2014 at http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv_factsheet2012-a.pdf

³Miller T. Michigan Sexual Violence Cost, 2008. Unpublished manuscript; 2010.

⁴Alcohol Research & Health. Alcohol and Sexual Assault. Accessed on April 21, 2014 at: <http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/arh25-1/43-51.pdf>

⁵The Guide to Community Preventive Services. Preventing Excessive Alcohol Consumption. <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/alcohol/index.html>