The page features three decorative blue circles of varying sizes, each composed of concentric circles in different shades of blue. These circles are arranged in a descending diagonal line from the top right towards the bottom right. Thin blue lines extend from the top left and bottom right corners towards the center, framing the text.

CYFD Juvenile Justice Continuum FY24-FY25 Comprehensive Needs Assessment

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Valencia County Demographics – CYFD Juvenile Justice Continuum

Introduction:

The Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD) - Valencia County Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB) staff, contractors, and board members adhere to the substance abuse prevention planning procedures and the concepts outlined in the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF). SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) is a comprehensive approach to understanding and addressing substance misuse and other related behavioral health problems facing the county. The five steps and two guiding principles of the SPF offer prevention professionals a comprehensive course for assessing the nature and extent of risk factors impacting youth behaviors in four domains, community, school, family, and individual/peer. It allows prevention specialists to assess the relationship between these risk factors and the influence on various health outcomes including substance use, teen pregnancy, depression and anxiety, delinquency, school dropout, and violence (Risk and Protective Factors, Hawkins, and Catalano, 1994).

The five stages of the SPF include the following: Needs Assessment, Capacity Building, Program Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation. The two guiding principles embedded in each of the five steps of the SPF include: Cultural Competency and Sustainability. Although evaluation is not listed as a guiding principle within the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) model in 2024, this concept is very much embedded in all the stages of the SPF. Evaluation was also included as a precept that guides organizational change in its original development in 1990.

Valencia County JJAB uses the Institute of Medicine (IOM), a continuum of health services model that helps ensure that clients and other program participants receive the proper interventions needed to achieve well-being. It ensures that the strategies implemented by the Valencia JJAB match the objectives to the needs of the target population. In a 1994 report on prevention research, the Institute of Medicine (IOM 1994) proposed a new framework for classifying prevention based on Gordon's (1987) operational classification of disease prevention. The IOM model divides the continuum of services into three parts: prevention, treatment, and maintenance. The prevention category is divided into three classifications--universal, selective, and indicated prevention (2021 SAMHSA Definitions of the IOM Model).

The effectiveness of the SPF begins with a clear understanding of community needs and involves community partners in all stages of the planning process. The Valencia County JJAB, Grants Director, Jeremias Silva, JJAB Continuum Coordinator, Christine Arrellin, Lori Montoya, Epidemiologist/Data Manager, Montaña Consulting and Evaluation and the Lead Program Evaluator Concha Montaña created a process for collecting countywide and statewide data to develop, edit, and disseminate a comprehensive needs assessment. Along with the FY24 Needs Assessment, the team created a process for prioritizing data points and identified a tool to guide the ranking of the data. The Prioritization tool filters the statistics into Primary Considerations and Secondary Considerations to ensure that the information is ranked in order of urgency or significance. This will guarantee the program's ability to meet the needs of the community/county.

The Evaluation Team categorized the data by looking at specific criteria for prioritizing the data. For the Primary considerations, the team reviewed the following conditions: Severity (county ranking

within the state), Severity (Rate per 100,00), Burden (number or size of problem), Burden (economic and impact), and Burden (social impact, and Trend Characteristics-increasing, decreasing, stability – compared to the state trends).

For the Secondary considerations, the team reviewed the data’s preventability or changeability, the capacity of the staff and JJAB membership to create change and the resources available to address the need, perceived gaps between capacity/resources and need, and the community readiness, political will, and public concern for the problem.

Valencia County JJAB staff and the Evaluation Team in collaboration with the NM CYFD Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB), will bring together a collaborative group of county representatives, program staff, and key stakeholders to collect and review the data and use it to inform decisions about alcohol related outcomes including substance use/misuse, mental health, behaviors associated with violence, and other problem adolescent behaviors. The team will review the outcomes associated with the CYFD performance measures and determine whether the county was successful in creating change. The data informs inter-agency planning and collaboration. Program staff at Valencia County JJAB ensure that the data is maximized and that all planning for prevention and intervention is data driven. This group’s goal is to improve planning and evaluation and to ensure the access and leverage of community resources.

The Evaluation Team and program staff worked collaboratively to collect statistics from several sources including data from the Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS), NM Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile Report, NM Community Survey (NMCS), New Mexico Department of Transportation/University of NM Annual Report, The Office of The Courts (AOC), and from the Juvenile Justice Charges and Referrals Report by CYFD. The data was prioritized, resources to address those priorities were identified, and the gaps in service were determined. A prioritization process was used to assess primary and secondary considerations for defining the capacity and readiness of the agency to address those needs that were identified as priorities.

The Evaluation Team and program staff recognize that the Needs Assessment should be the foundation for all program planning in the county and that all the strategies selected for implementation must be data driven. The FY24 Needs Assessment is updated yearly to ensure that the most current data is available for program planning year to year. The Needs Assessment is also used to determine communitywide change and helps determine whether the objectives identified in the CYFD Scope of Work were met.

County Demographics and Agency Information:

Valencia County is geographically located in the central region of New Mexico. The extremely rural county is home to 79,141 people with a 71.4 population per square mile (July 1, 2023, NM Census Report). Persons <5 years old make up 5.4% of the population while 22.8% make up children <18 years old and 19.0% are persons 65+ years of age. The Village of Los Lunas has the largest population at 19,079 people. Hispanics are the largest percentage of the population in the county, at 61.1%, while Whites make up 30.9%. 2.2% are Black or African American while American Indian/Native Alaskan makeup 7.2% and 2.8% individuals identify with two or more races. Asians make up 1.1% of the population and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders are at 0.2%. 50.2% of the population are male and

49.8% are female (statistics collected in the NM census only identifies individuals by gender at birth and does not allow for others to respond by other gender identities).

A full 28.6% of Valencia County residents speak a language other than English at home. Valencia County is an underprivileged county with 18.8% of residents living below the federal poverty level (compared to 11.5% in the US and 24.0% in NM). A huge 23.6% of those residents living in poverty are children under the age of eighteen. The unemployment rate in Valencia County is 4.3% (May 2024) higher than the state of NM (3.8%) and the US, at 4.0%. 20.5% of children are receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Valencia County compared to 17.3% in New Mexico. It is common for children to live in single-parent families – 27.9% of all children in the County are living this scenario, compared to 43.8% in NM and 23.0% nationally; 18.6% of all grandparents that live in poverty are solely responsible for their grandchildren (2021 Kids Count).

The US Census Quick Facts report shows that 7.5% of its population is foreign born. 84.8% of its residents (25+ years of age) have acquired a high school education with 21.1% having received a Bachelor's degree or higher. In Valencia County, a significant number of children are without health insurance. 5.8% of children in the County are not covered by health insurance (12.6% families do not have insurance – 6.0% in NM). This issue is part of a broader trend seen across the United States where uninsured rates for children, especially those in poverty have been increasing. The medium household income is \$56,246.

New Mexico has continuously been at the bottom of national rankings for the overall health of children. New Mexico is once again ranked 49th out of the fifty states for child well-being. This is the fifth time the state has ranked last or second to the last in the nation (*New Mexico Kids Count*, 2021 and 2023). New Mexico also ranked last in education, and 45th in health, with 6% of children uninsured. The state also ranked 48th in family and community.

There are two school districts in Valencia County: Belen Consolidated Schools and Los Lunas Schools. Total enrollment in the two districts is 12,200 students. 100.0% of students attending both school districts qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the National School Lunch Program regardless of income. 86% of the students attending Belen Consolidated Schools are receiving free or reduced lunches while 71.3% are doing the same in Los Lunas Schools (NM Kids Count 2023). Both School Districts have been actively addressing truancy issues. While specific percentages can fluctuate, the districts have reported challenges with habitual truancy. 21.5% of students are habitually truant - missing more than 10 days in a school year (increased since COVID-19 – both school districts). The dropout rate is at 22.0% at Belen Consolidated Schools and 18.0% in Los Lunas School District (2023 Valencia County Education Attainment Report – Google CoPilot). These rates can vary slightly year to year, but they provide a general idea of the dropout challenges faced by each district.

Common to other rural communities in New Mexico, Valencia County's extremely rural nature and impoverished status results in service gaps in basic health care for many reasons: some relate to difficulties recruiting health providers because of low pay scales in the region, location of clinics in only more densely populated areas, lack of insurance by a large percent of families, and great geographic distances from schools, grocery stores, clinics, and community centers. Much of the county is considered a food desert, because of the lack of fresh and healthy food alternatives. In addition to

these basic services, prevention capacity and access to existing service capacity is low for similar reasons.

Valencia County Juvenile Justice Continuum: Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB) Information:

The Valencia County Juvenile Justice Continuum administers programs and services that are designed to increase protective factors, decrease risk factors, and that promote alternatives to alcohol misuse, other drug use/misuse, and other problem adolescent behaviors among youth entering the Juvenile Justice system and alternative intervention. The Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB) develops community relationships through coordinating, planning, and collaborative efforts. CYFD funds these efforts and prevention and intervention strategies.

As a CYFD funded Continuum Site, Valencia County JJAB has a statutory duty to administer all-inclusive youth prevention and intervention programs and services in Valencia County. JJAB developed a data driven Strategic Plan that addresses the measures outlined in the Scope of Work (SOW) and that are required by CYFD. A comprehensive Needs Assessment drives the planning and implementation of services to ensure that the needs of the County are being met. The Needs Assessment is updated yearly. An Evaluation Plan/Design tracks patterns and trends and program outcomes and impacts from year-to-year. A final evaluation report outlines successes and barriers to program implementation, and it reports on final evaluation results for all program initiatives being funded by CYFD.

The Valencia County JJAB's vision is: To instill quality of life, resiliency, teach life skills, promote belonging, and a sense of value for youth. The mission is to: Ensure youths' voice is heard, while implementing accurate analysis of data and compassion when problem solving youth at-risk that affect the community.

According to the applicable state statute, Valencia County's Continuum Site Model's youth population concentration is "juveniles arrested or referred to juvenile probation" or juveniles that exhibit risk to be referred. This is the primary goal for the Continuum Site.

Currently Valencia County has 5 programs and services operated by the co-contractor H2Academics. As a continuum site, the Valencia County JJAB ensures that the county remains in compliance with CYFD requirements.

To help program staff and the JJAB manage daily business, operate more effectively, and set standards for behavior and positive attitudes within the workplace, JJAB has established guiding principles that shape the culture of the work environment and ensures employee understanding of organizational values. The following are the Core Guiding Principles established by the JJAB. The Guiding Principles are important because they can help in decision-making and daily operations.

1. Endorse the Board Role of Delinquency Prevention
2. Instill Academic Engagement

3. Engage Youth & Their Families & Community
4. Remove Racial & Ethnic Disparities
5. Ensure Access to Quality Resources
6. Create Efficient & Effective Evidence-Based Programs
7. Evaluate & Improve Programs & Services
8. Prevent Youth to be Forwarded to Court/Jail
9. Continually strive to bridge the continuum of care between prevention and treatment so it is a seamless bridge for youth in need of those services.
10. Reflect the diversity of our state through materials, education, and messaging that are culturally inclusive and responsive to both providers and patients, regardless of their ethnicity or scope of practice.
11. Leverage all resources – private, not-for-profit, and state – to coordinate a comprehensive approach so as not to duplicate efforts and make best use of resources available for this work.
12. Ensure the program efforts are measurable so we can assess our impact, and redirect resources if an activity does not generate the desired outcomes.
13. Hold one another accountable for completing the work, and be transparent in the communications to demonstrate accountability to one another and among stakeholders, including but not limited to the JJAB.

The JJAB serves as planning and advisory bodies to the Continuum. Collaboration with several community organizations and individuals including law enforcement, government, agencies, community members, youth, and other systems in the community is paramount to the success of strategies implemented by the county.

Per state statute the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB) is comprised of entities from local/tribal government, district attorney’s office, children’s court, public defender’s office, Valencia County, law enforcement, and personnel from the local school districts (Los Lunas Schools, Belen Consolidated Schools, and School of Dreams Academy), and people from the local community. The JJAB’s objective is to help support and conduct New Mexico’s Three-Year Plan under Juvenile Justice Services. The JJAB also conveys community concerns, results, and barriers they are faced within Valencia County. The following individuals represent the key leadership in the Juvenile Justice Continuum:

Valencia County Grants Director:
Jeremias Silva

Valencia County Juvenile Justice Continuum Coordinator:
Christine Arrellin

Board Members:

- Heather Benavidez, NM Environment Department - JJAB Chair

- Open Seat - JJAB Co-Chair
- Judge Allen Smith, 13th Judicial District
- Randy Gutierrez, Valencia County Adult Detention Warden
- Estevan Gallegos, Juvenile Probation Office Supervisor
- Victoria Flores, YDI Teen Court
- Camille Griego, McKinney Vento-Los Lunas Schools
- Jhonathan Aragon, Valencia County Deputy Chief Manager
- Cassandra Kanyuck, Los Lunas Police Department, Deputy Chief
- Kaylee Jojola, Isleta Pueblo Truancy Department Coordinator

Youth Subcommittee:

- Phillip Montano
- Andrea Sasser
- Isaiah Jimenez
- Kyleigh Winters
- Sara Epley
- Rayven Ward
- Jacob Arrellin
- Josiah Vallejos
- Colten Robinson

COVID-19 continues to have a tremendous impact on Valencia County residents and New Mexico as a whole. People of color are the most disproportionately affected by the virus causing additional stress for individuals as health disparities rise. Job loss, frontline jobs, COVID-19 testing, healthcare, and health insurance are some of the most common disparities families in the county are experiencing. This may impact a rise in substance use and other health related outcomes among both youth and adults for years to come. Poverty in the county may also exacerbate inequities related to access for social support, housing, and food insecurities. Families are being burdened by housing and rent as finances in some households' decline.

39.1% of students who completed the 2021 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) reported frequent mental distress (35.7% in NM). 26.0% (23.0% in NM) of students said that a parent or other adult lost their job while another 18.5% said they experienced hunger during the pandemic (16.6% in NM). 66.0% of students found school to be more difficult (68.8% in NM).

In New Mexico 15.0% lost employment compared to 25.0% in the US. Many New Mexican households (21.0%) had little or no confidence in their ability to pay their next rent or mortgage payment on time. Some reported that they have not caught up with their rent or mortgage payments and fear they will have to leave their home or be evicted. 15.0% of New Mexican households with children did not have enough food to eat and 23% reported feeling depressed or hopeless during the pandemic. 40.0% delayed getting medical care during Covid-19. 53.0% of adults 18-24 years of age reported feeling anxious, nervous or at edge more than half of the days or nearly every day during and since the pandemic (Household Pulse Services 2020-2022, Population Reference Bureau Analysis – US Census).

The following tables, graphs, and narratives represent the needs highlighting the most current statistics for several indicators/measures that are captured in this Needs Assessment. The data shows the most current patterns and trends for the county and for New Mexico.

Alcohol Related and Drug Overdose/Opioid Outcome (Consequences)
2024 NM Substance Abuse Epidemiology Report, Rates per 100,000 (2017-2021
Data)

Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data Rate per 100,000 (June 2024)	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends 2014-2018	Patterns and Trends 2015-2019 and 2016 - 2020	Patterns and Trends 2017 -2021	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than The State
Positive Changes							
Adult Heavy Drinking	7.7	3rd	The rate increased from 3.1 in 2017 to 3.9 in 2018.	The rate increased from 3.9 in 2018 to 7.5 in 2019. The rate increased from 7.5 in 2019 to 9.7 in 2020.	The rate decreased from 9.7 in 2020 to a rate of 7.7 in 2021.	5.8	Higher
Alcohol Related Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Death	3.9	28th	The rate decreased from 6.8 in 2017 to 3.9 in.	The rate decreased from 3.9 in 2018 to 3.4 in 2019. The rate increased from 3.4 in 2019 to 5.2 in 2020.	The rate decreased from 5.2 in 2020 to a rate of 3.9 in 2021.	7.4	Lower
Adult Binge Drinking	14.6	13th	The rate decreased from 15.4 in 2017 to 11.6 in 2018.	The rate remained the same between 2018 and 2019 at 11.6. The rate increased from 11.6 in 2019 to 18.0 in 2020.	The rate decreased from 18.0 in 2020 to a rate of 14.6 in 2021.	14.0	Higher
Adult Drinking and Driving	2.9	1st	The rate remained the same between 2017 and 2018 at 0.0.	The rate increased from 0.0 in 2018 to 0.6 in 2019. The rate increased from 0.6 in 2019 to 2.9 in 2020.	The rate remained the same at a rate of 2.9 between 2020 and 2021.	0.6	Higher

Indicator	Most Current Data Rate per 100,000 (June 2024)	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends 2014-2018	Patterns and Trends 2015-2019 and 2016 - 2020	Patterns and Trends 2017 -2021	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than The State
Unexpected Findings							
Opioid Overdose (Related Emergency Dept. Visits).	84.6	8th	The rate increased from 67.2 in 2017 to 73.5 in 2018.	The rate increased from 73.5 in 2018 to 74.0 in 2019. The rate decreased from 74.0 in 2019 to 73.4 in 2020.	The rate increased from 73.4 in 2020 to a rate of 84.6 in 2021.	61.7	Higher
Drug Overdose	43.4	5th	The rate increased from 27.1 in 2017 to 29.2 in 2018.	The rate increased from 29.2 in 2018 to 30.7 in 2019. The rate increased from 30.7 in 2019 to 36.8 in 2020.	The rate increased from 36.8 in 2020 to a rate of 43.3 in 2021.	34.4	Higher
Alcohol Related Chronic Disease Rate	45.8	10th	The rate increased from 30.3 in 2017 to 32.8 in 2018.	The rate increased from 32.8 in 2018 to 35.2 in 2019. The rate increased from 35.2 in 2019 to 37.5 in 2020.	The rate increased from 37.5 in 2020 to a rate of 45.8 in 2021.	48.4	Lower
Alcohol Related Death	80.6	12th	The rate increased from 60.8 in 2017 to 63.6 in 2018.	The rate remained the same between 2018 and 2019 at 63.6. The rate increased from 63.6 in 2019 to 70.1 in 2020.	The rate increased from 70.1 in 2020 to a rate of 80.6 in 2021.	83.2	Lower
Alcohol Related Chronic Liver Disease Death	25.2	11th	The rate increased from 18.4 in 2017 to 20.1 in 2018.	The rate remained the same between 2018 and 2019 at 20.1. The rate increased from 20.1 in 2019 to 22.3 in 2020.	The rate increased from 22.3 in 2020 to a rate of 25.2 in 2021.	26.0	Lower
Suicide	27.9	14th	The rate decreased from 24.7 in 2017 to 22.2 in 2018.	The rate decreased from 22.2 in 2018 to 20.1 in 2019. The rate increased from 20.1 in 2019 to 21.3 in 2020.	The rate increased from 21.3 in 2020 to a rate of 27.9 in 2021.	26.3	Higher

Summary Of The 2024 New Mexico Epidemiology Profile:

One key data source that is used to drive and inform priorities for prevention professionals in Valencia County is the New Mexico Substance Use Epidemiology Profile. Its primary purpose is to support efforts related to the Statewide Epidemiological and Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW). The SEOW is intended to: develop resources to help communities conduct needs assessments regarding substance use and its consequences; build capacity to address those needs; and plan, implement, and evaluate evidence-based programs, policies, and practices designed to address the intervening variables related to identified substance-related problems (2024 SA NM EPI Profile).

All ten leading causes of death in New Mexico are at least partially attributable to the use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs. In 2021, the ten leading causes of death in New Mexico were diseases of the heart, cancer, COVID-19, unintentional injuries, chronic lower respiratory diseases, cerebrovascular diseases, diabetes, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, Alzheimer's disease, and suicide. Of these, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, unintentional injuries, and suicide are associated with alcohol use; chronic lower respiratory diseases are associated with tobacco use; heart disease, and cerebrovascular diseases are associated with both alcohol and tobacco use; and unintentional injuries and suicide are associated with the use of alcohol and other drugs (2022 SA NM EPI Profile).

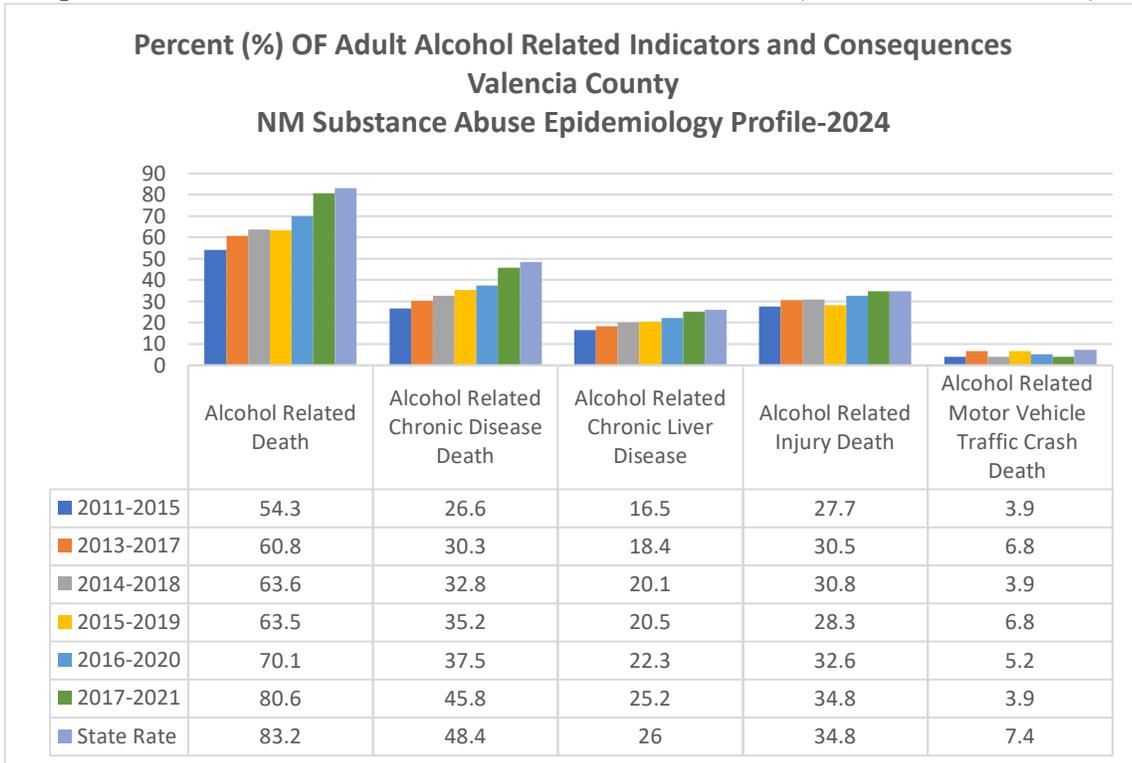
Over the past 30 years, New Mexico has consistently had among the highest alcohol-related death rates in the United States, and it has had the highest alcohol-related death rate since 1997. Valencia County ranks 12th in the state for alcohol-related deaths and the rate increased from 70.1 in 2020 to 80.6 in 2021. The negative consequences of excessive alcohol use in NM are not limited to death but also include domestic violence, crime, poverty, and unemployment, as well as chronic liver disease, motor vehicle crash and other injuries, mental illness, and a variety of other medical problems (2024 SA NM EPI Profile). In 2010, the economic cost of excessive alcohol consumption in NM was \$2.2 billion (\$2.77 per drink or an average of \$1,084 per person) (Sacks, Jeffrey J., et al. "2010 national and state costs of excessive alcohol consumption." *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 49.5 (2015): e73-e79) – 2024 SA NM EPI Profile.

New Mexico is experiencing the highest overdose rates in the nation. Fentanyl steady increase contributed to more than one-third of overdose deaths in NM. The 2024 NM Epidemiology Profile indicates that, "Suicide is a serious and persistent public health problem in New Mexico. Over the period 1981 through 2020, New Mexico's suicide rate was consistently among the highest in the nation, at 1.5 to 1.9 times the US rate. Male suicide rates were three to four times higher than those of females across all racial/ethnic groups, except Asian/Pacific Islanders. For the five-year period 2016-2020, all but eight counties had suicide rates that were at least one and a half times higher than the US rate". Prevalence of frequent mental distress and current depression, persistent sadness or hopelessness, suicidal ideation, and the association between risk factors are among the many causes associated with suicide.

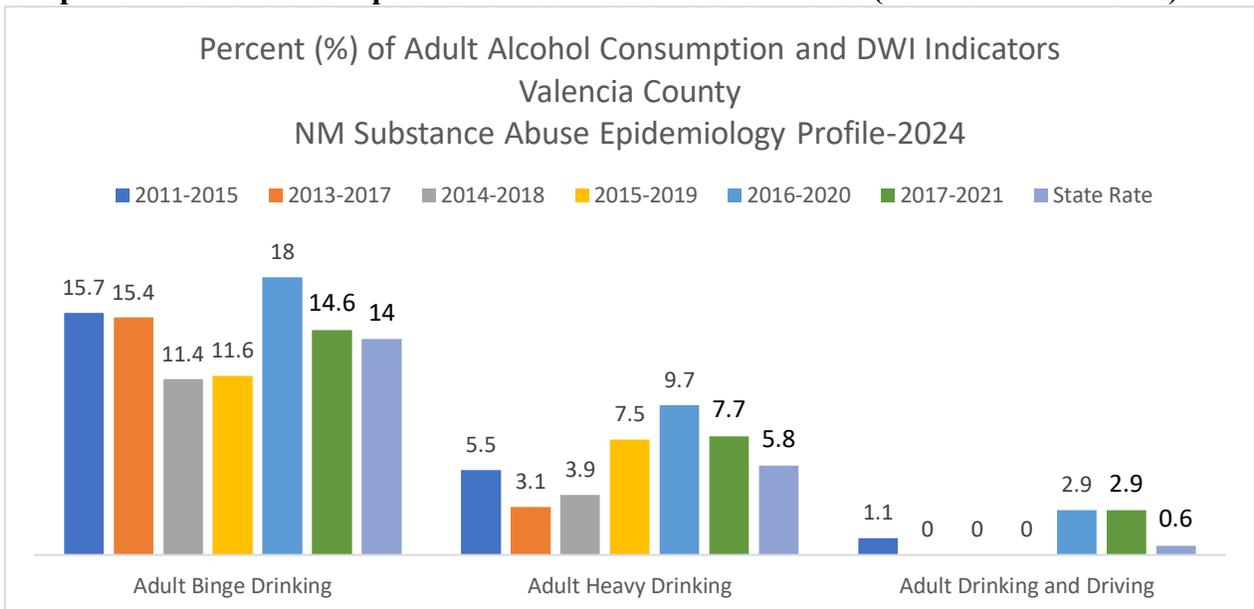
Three (3) of the eleven (11) alcohol related consequence indicators showed improvement between 2020 and 2021, adult heavy drinking, alcohol related motor vehicle traffic crash death, and adult binge drinking. Opioid overdose (related emergency Dept. visits), alcohol related chronic disease rate, alcohol related death, alcohol related chronic liver disease death, suicide, alcohol related injury death,

and adult drinking and driving all showed unexpected findings (negative). Please see tables above and/or graphs below.

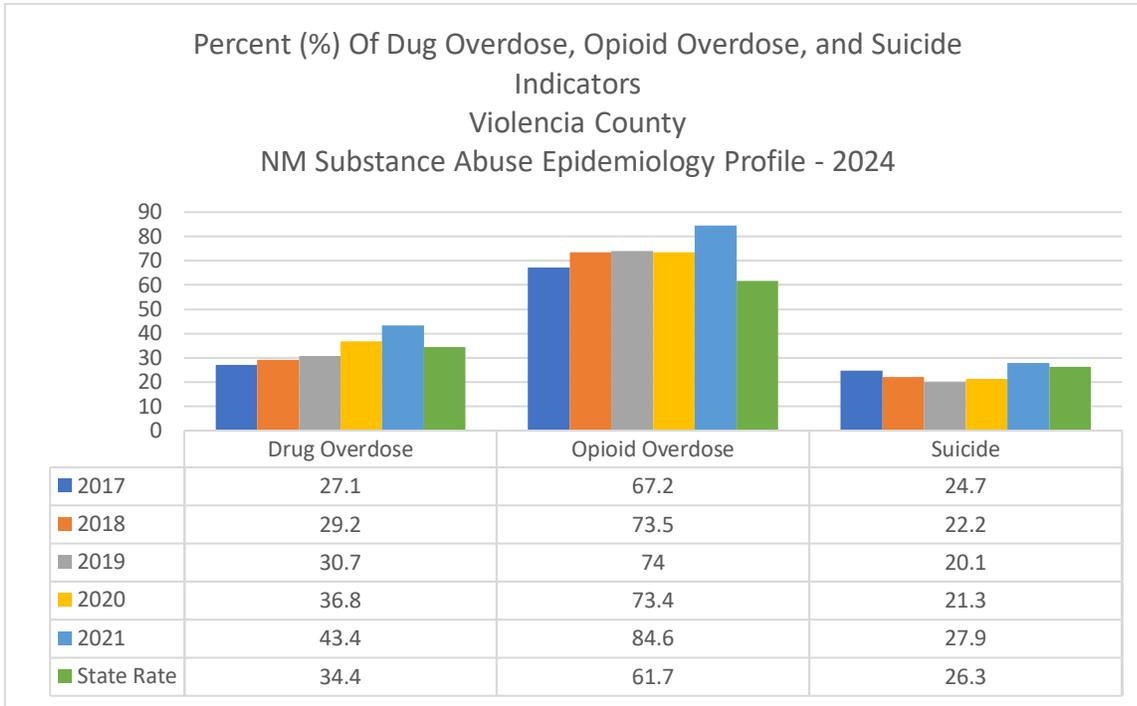
Graph 1: Alcohol Related Indicator Patterns and Trends (2024 NM EPI Profile)



Graph 2: Alcohol Consumption and DWI Patterns and Trends (2024 NM EPI Profile)



Graph 3: Drug Overdose, Opioid Overdose, and Suicide Patterns and Trends (2024 NM EPI Profile)



2022 Number of DWI Arrests, Convictions, and DWI Crashes
NM Department of Transportation and DWI Reports 2022

Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction for All Indicators – Increase on the Number Of Convictions and Arrests

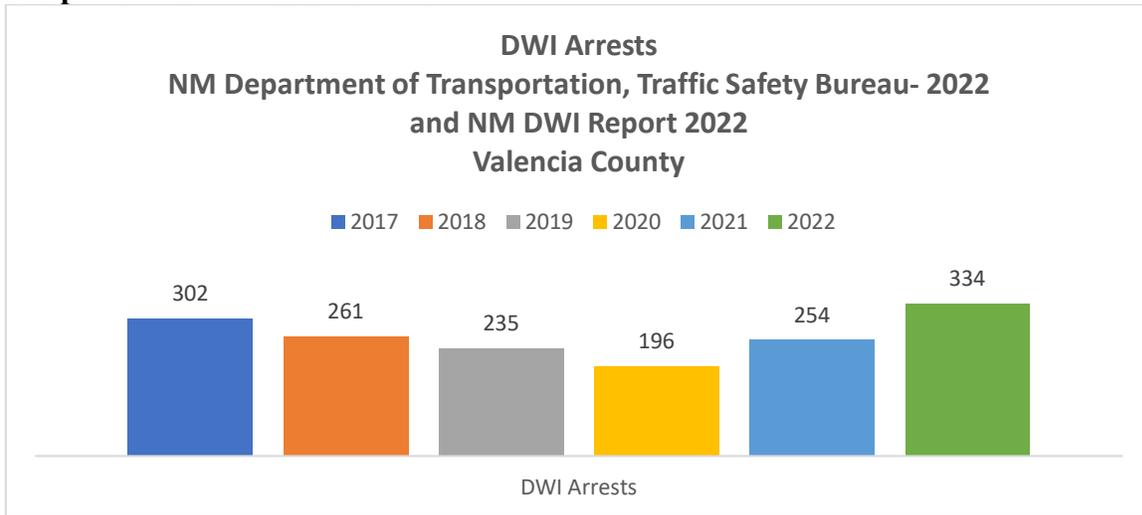
Indicator	Most Current Data (#)	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends 2018	Patterns and Trends 2019	Patterns and Trends 2020	Patterns and Trends 2021 and 2022	Current State Count	Higher -Lower Than State
Positive Changes								
Number of DWI Convictions – Increase is desired outcome (2.5 of all DWI	118	N/A	Decreased from 140 in 2017 to 130 in 2018,	Increased from 130 in 2018 to 149 in 2019.	Decreased from 149 in 2019 to 71 in 2020.	Increased from 71 in 2020 to 105 in 2021. It increased to 118 in 2022 (by 12.4%). Ranks 11 th in the State.	4,665	N/A

convictions in the state)								
Number of Drivers with Repeat DWI Convictions (1.9% of all DWI Repeat Convictions)	27	N/A	Decreased from 57 in 2017 to 40 in 2018.	Increased from 40 in 2018 to 43 in 2019.	Decreased from 43 in 2019 to 31 in 2020.	Increased from 31 in 2020 to 39 in 2021. Decreased to 27 in 2022 (by -30.7%).	1,398	N/A
Alcohol Related Fatal Crashes (1.9% of all state alcohol related fatal crashes)	3	N/A	Decreased from 3 in 2017 to 2 in 2018.	Increased from 2 in 2018 to 3 in 2019.	Remained the same at 3 between 2019 and 2020.	Remained the same at 3 between 2020, 2021, and 2022. Valencia County ranks 12 th in the state for alcohol related fatal crashes.	160	N/A
Number Of DWI Arrests (4.0% of all arrests in the state)	334	N/A	Decreased from 302 in 2017 to 261 in 2018.	Decreased from 261 in 2018 to 235 in 2019.	Decreased from 235 in 2019 to 196 in 2020.	Increased from 196 in 2020 to 254 in 2021. Increased to 334 in 2022 (by 31.5%).	8,381	N/A

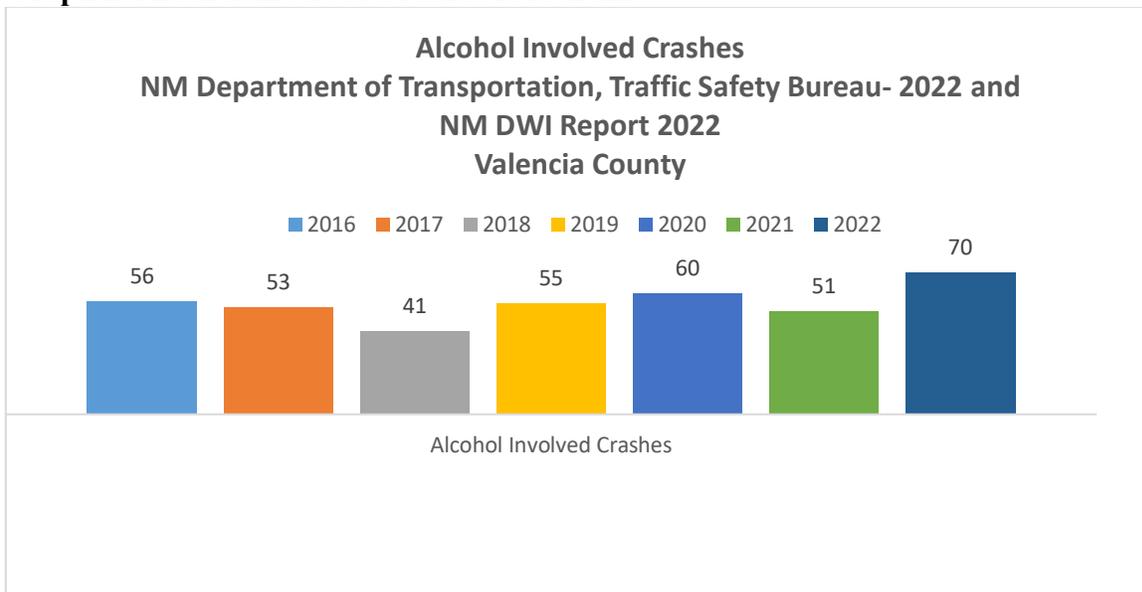
Indicator	Most Current Data (#)	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends 2018	Patterns and Trends 2019	Patterns and Trends 2020	Patterns and Trends 2021 and 2022	Current State Count	Higher -Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings								
Number of Alcohol Involved Crashes (3.1% of all alcohol involved crashes in the state)	70	N/A	Decreased from 53 in 2017 to 41 in 2018.	Increased from 41 in 2018 to 55 in 2019.	Increased from 55 in 2019 to 60 in 2020.	Decreased from 60 in 2020 to 51 in 2021 and increased to 70 in 2022 (by 37.3%). Ranks 8 th in the State.	2,233	N/A
Number of Drivers With First DWI Conviction	91	N/A	Increased from 83 in 2017 to 90 in 2018.	Increased from 90 in 2018 to 106 in 2019.	Decreased from 106 in 2019 to 40 in 2020.	Increased from 40 in 2019 to 66 in 2020 and to	3,267	N/A

(2.8 of all first DWI convictions)						91 in 2021 (by 37.9%).		
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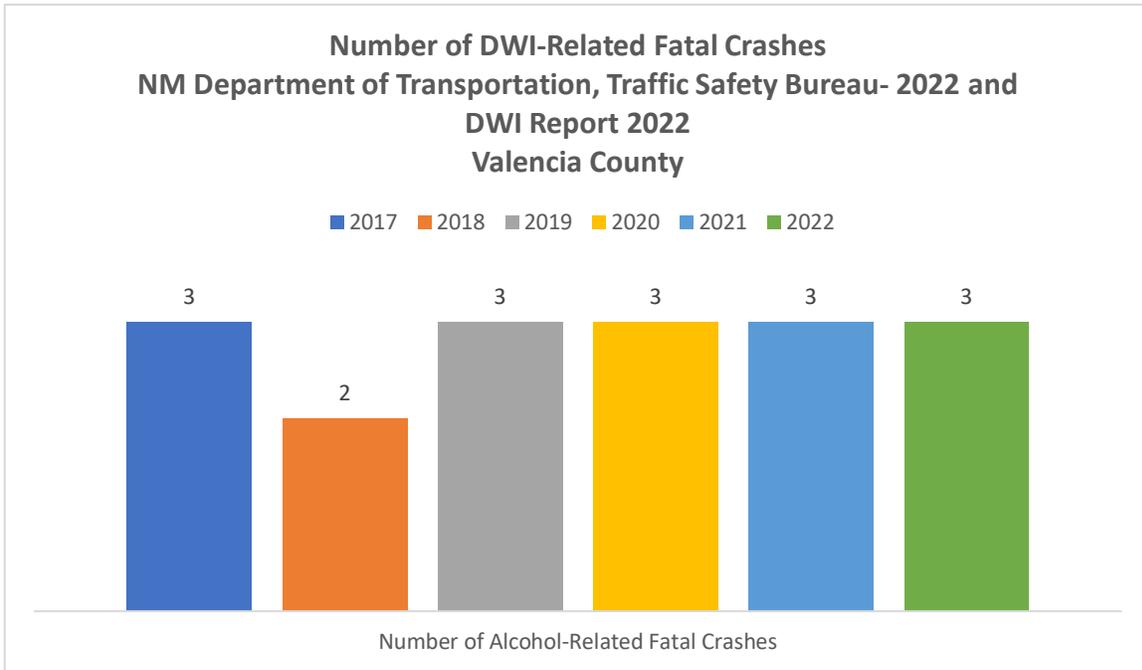
Graph 1: DWI Arrests 2017-2022



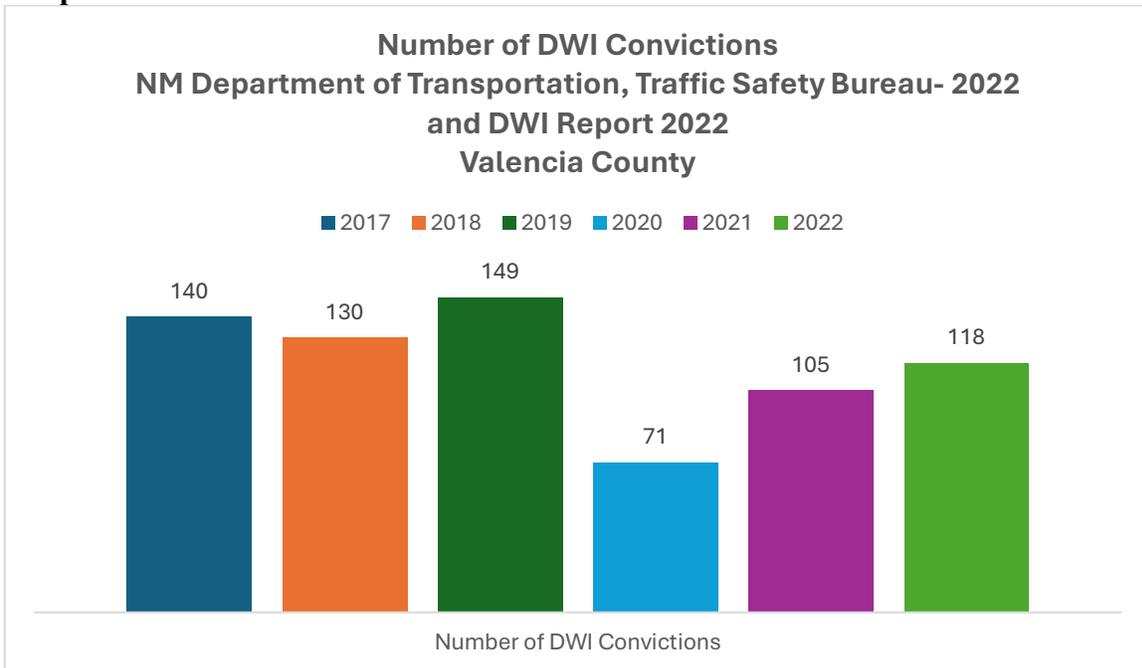
Graph 2: Alcohol Involved Crashes 2016-2022



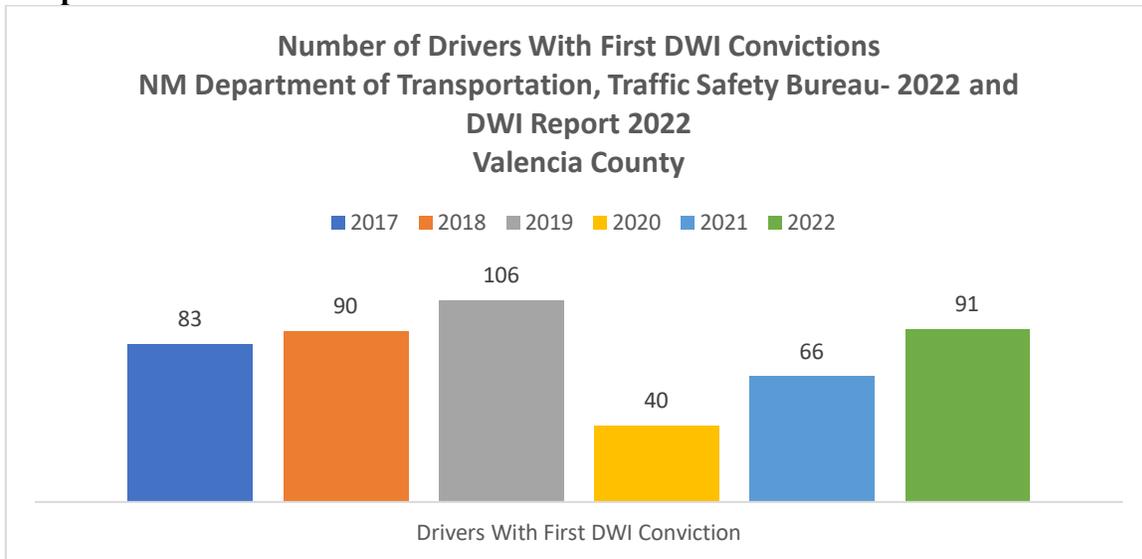
Graph 3: Number Of Alcohol-Related Fatal Crashes 2017-2022



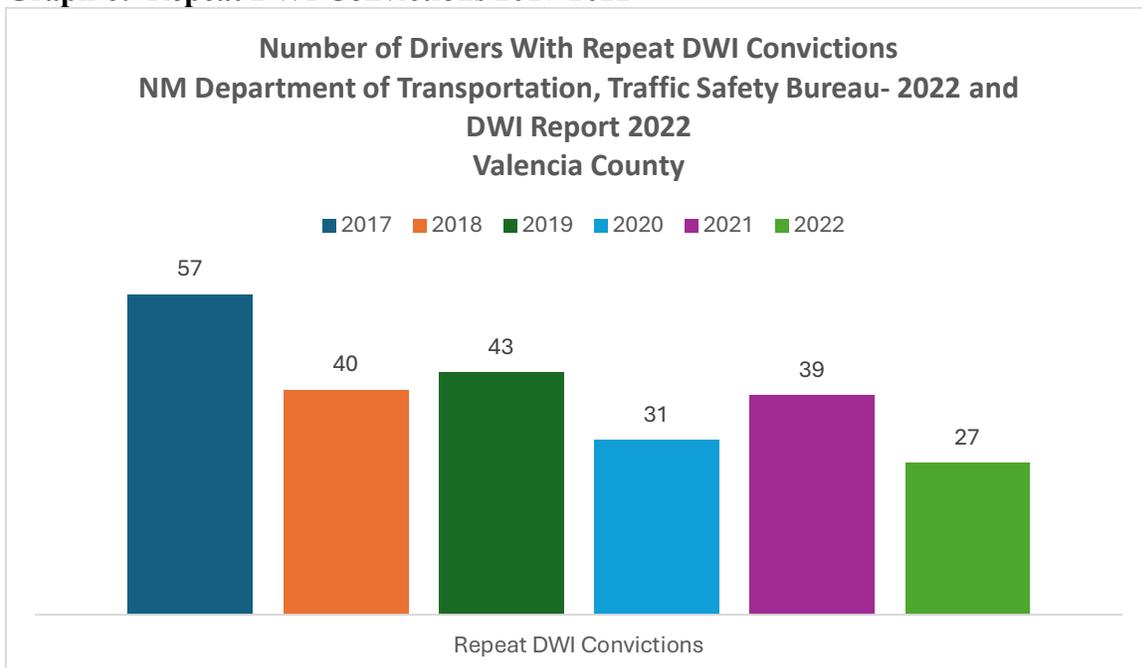
Graph 4: Number Of DWI Convictions 2017-2022



Graph 5: First Time DWI Convictions 2017-2022



Graph 6: Repeat DWI Convictions 2017-2022



Summary: 2022 Number of DWI Arrests, Convictions, and DWI Crashes:

The data listed above is referenced in the Local 2022 DWI Report for New Mexico and Valencia County. This report is produced by UNM for the New Mexico Department of Transportation, Traffic Safety Bureau. The information is also taken from the 2023 NM Judiciary, Administration of the Courts DWI Report referenced as AOC Report. The Arrests, Convictions, and alcohol-involved data were used to create the graphs above, reflecting the most current data available in the indicator categories listed.

Valencia County is responsible for 4.0% (334 of 8,381) of the total DWI Arrests in New Mexico during 2022. Belen is responsible for 82 DWI arrests while Los Lunas is responsible for 216 DWI arrests. The rate of DWI arrests in Valencia County, according to AOC DWI Reports 2021-2023, increased by 31.5% (2021 - 254 and 2022 - 334). The number of alcohol-involved crashes increased from 2021 (60) to (70) in 2022. This trend is interesting because the DWI arrests numbers increased from (196) in 2020 to (254) in 2021 and (334) in 2022, and the number of alcohol-involved crashes increased from 2021 to 2022. The increase in arrests might be the result of more DWI's being removed from the roadways through the increased police presence. Valencia County saw one of the highest alcohol-involved crashes in the state in 2022. It has also seen a steady increase in the last five years. It ranks 8th in the state for the top 10 ten counties with alcohol-involved crashes between 2018 and 2022.

The perception of police presence through increased numbers of arrests may also have deterred some from driving while intoxicated. The 2023 New Mexico Community Survey (NMCS) for Valencia County shows that the likelihood of being stopped by police if driving and drinking too much increased by 16.1% between 2023 and 2024 indicating data is moving in the right direction.

There is an increase in the number of DWI convictions showing positive outcomes. Unexpectedly however, there was also an increase in the number of drivers with a first DWI conviction 2021 and 2022. First time DWI convictions increased by 37.9% (66 in 2021 and 91 in 2022). The number of drivers with a repeat DWI conviction decreased by -30.7% (39 in 2021 and 27 in 2022).

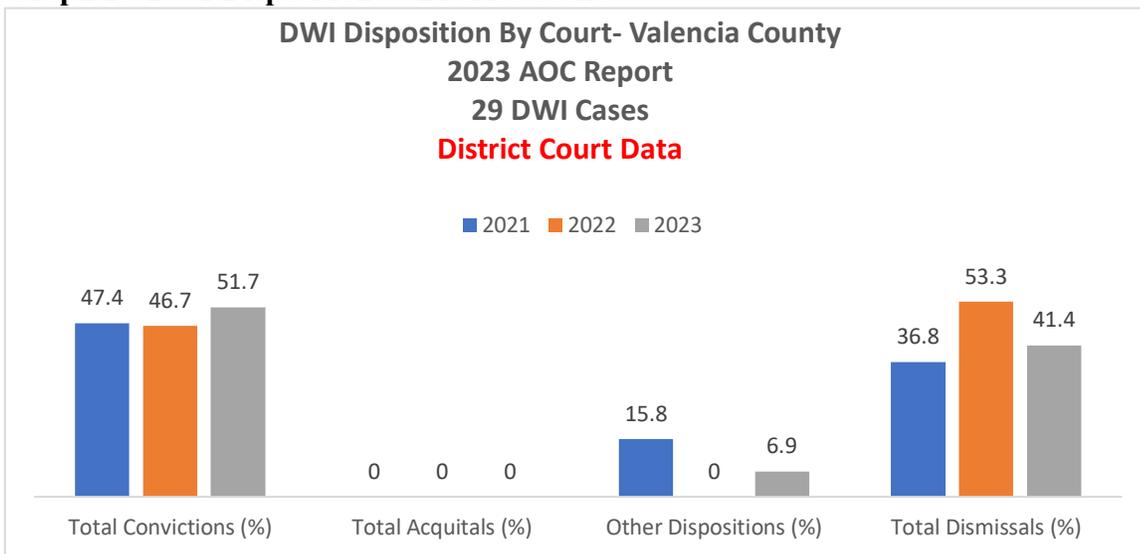
When the repeat DWI convictions are looked at as a percentage of the overall number of arrests, in 2021 there were 254 arrests with 105 DWI convictions or a rate of (41.3%) compared to 2022 where there were 334 arrests and 118 convictions at a rate of (46.4%). The rates remain steadily equal and can be considered an acceptable result. Unfortunately, in Valencia County, there is a low sentence rate for DWI arrests resulting in conviction (3.0% of statewide rate – 125 cases). There is a 5.1% of all DWI arrests that resulted in dismissal – 50 cases (4.8% are awaiting disposition – 159 cases) A low sentence rate can result in an increase in repeat DWI conviction rates. Fortunately, that was not the case in 2022. Repeat DWI offenders decreased by -30.7%. The value assigned to the data can be interpreted as positive or negative depending on how the translator or analyst wishes to skew the information. For example, if the DWI arrests are increasing, that could indicate extra law enforcement efforts/funding is being directed at DWI. On the other hand, one might see decreasing DWI arrests as a sign that less people are driving while under the influence. If increasing the number of DWI arrests

is the goal, then when comparing the most recent arrest numbers for 2021 (254) to 2022 (334) this is an increase (31.5%) in the number of arrests.

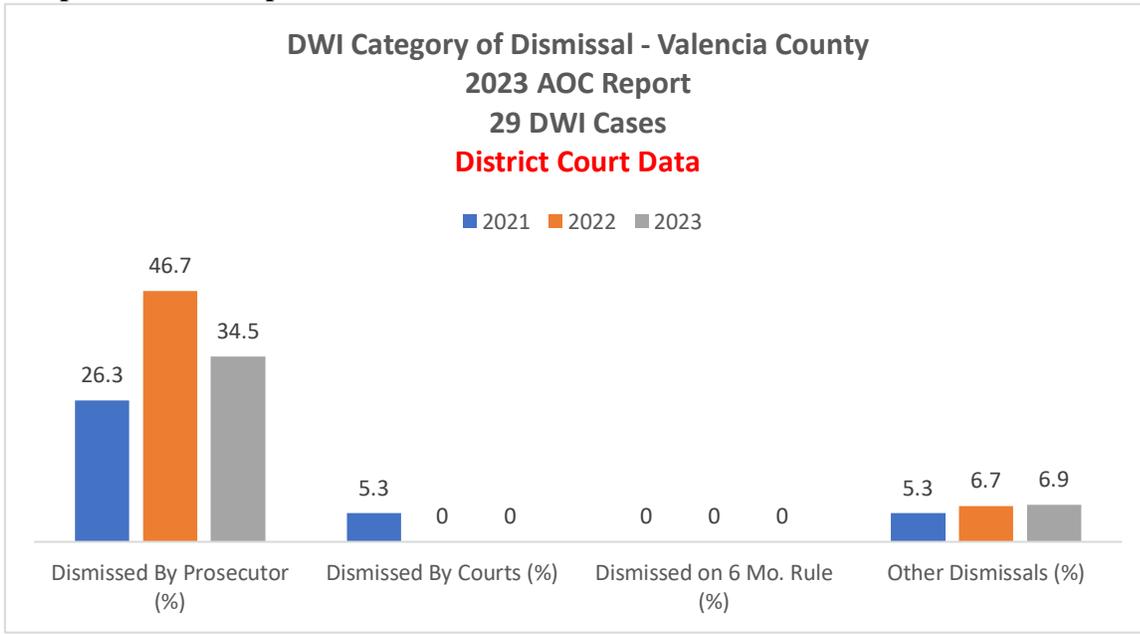
The number of alcohol related crashes in Valencia County increased between 2021 and 2022 by 37.3% (51 to 70). The adult alcohol-involved fatalities have remained the same (3 in 2021 and 3 in 2022). Sadly, the alcohol involved Teen fatalities which had remained at 0 since 2015 saw the first Teen involved alcohol fatality in 2021.

DWI Cases and Dispositions – New Mexico Judiciary, 2023 District and Magistrate Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Annual Statistical Report:

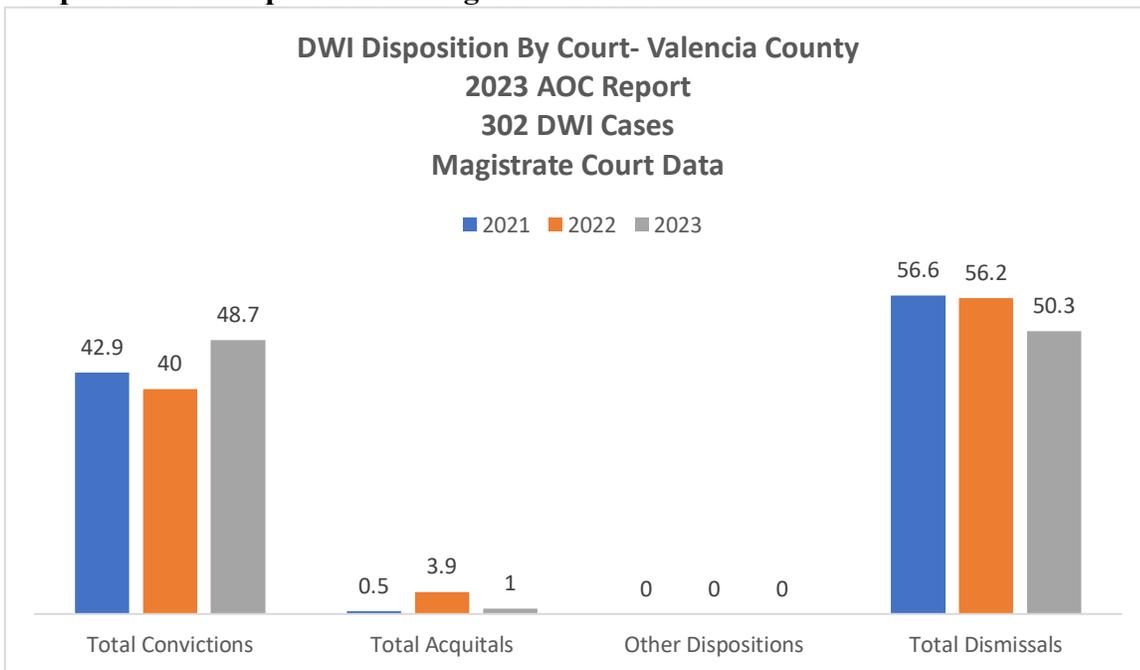
Graph 1: DWI Dispositions – District Court



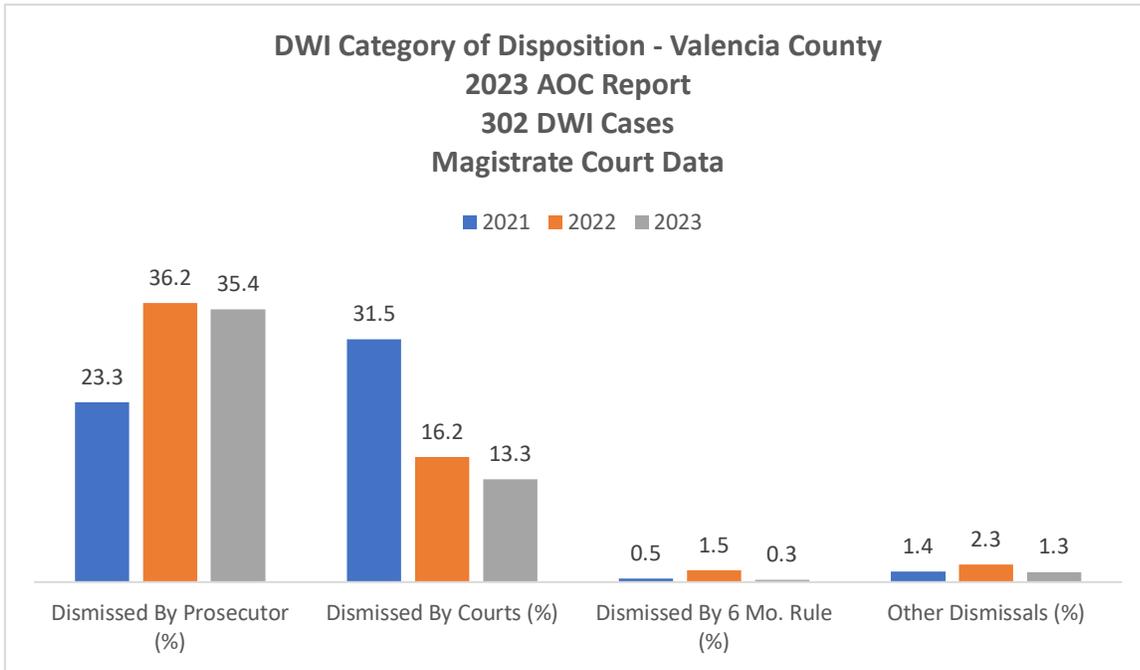
Graph 2: DWI Dispositions – District Court



Graph 3: DWI Dispositions – Magistrate Court



Graph 4: DWI Dispositions – Magistrate Court



Summary: DWI Cases and Dispositions – New Mexico Judiciary, 2023 District and Magistrate Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Annual Statistical Report:

In 2022, 51.7% of (29) DWI cases in District Court resulted in conviction, an increase of 10.7% from (46.7%) in 2022 to 51.7% in 2023. There were no Acquittals in either 2022 or 2023. There was a (53.3%) dismissal rate in 2022 and a 41.4% dismissal rate in 2023 which is a (-22.3%). This is a positive result moving in the right direction. In the District Court of the (41.4%) dismissal rate identified above, (34.5%) were dismissed by the Prosecutor. Perhaps working and collaborating with the District Attorney’s office to identify what is feeding that dismissal rate and to learn what solutions for change may be needed to lower the overall dismissal rate. 6.9% were dismissed by “other.”

In Magistrate Court, (48.7%) of the 302 cases resulted in convictions in 2023, an increase of 21.8% with data moving in the right direction. In 2023, there were (1.0%) acquittals versus the (3.9%) in 2022. That is a decrease of -74.4%, also moving in the right direction. Dismissals decreased by -10.5%. This too is moving in the right direction and is considered a positive result. Of the (50.3%) 2023 Magistrate dismissal rate, a total of (35,4%) were dismissed by the Prosecutor. 13.3% were dismissed by the courts, 0.3% were dismissed by the 6-month rule, and 1.3% were dismissed by “other”. The conviction rates for both Courts remain slightly higher than 50% which means more than half of those arrested for DWI in Valencia County are being convicted. The conviction rate is still considered low and remains a concern to the Valencia Community partners who work closely together to address DWI in the county including Valencia County, the Courts, DWI Planning Council,

Valencia County DWI Program, the District Attorney's office, Public Defender's office and local Law Enforcement agencies.

Alcohol Use Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – High School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

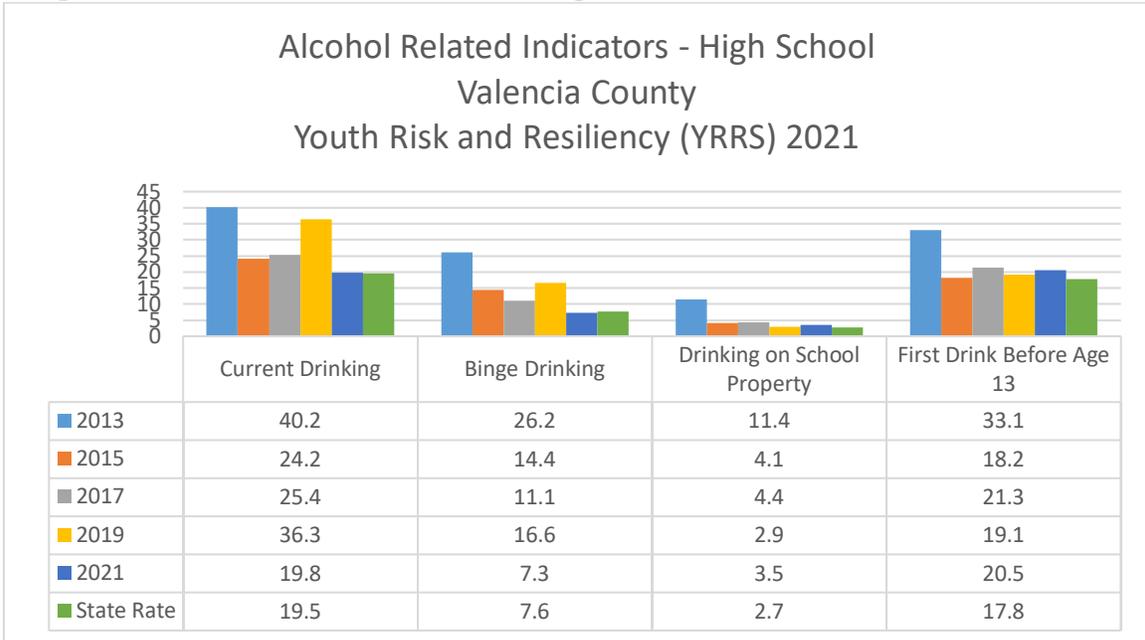
Indicator	Most Current Data (%)	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings							
Drinking On School Property	3.5%	Not Available	Increased from 4.1% in 2015 to 4.4% in 2017.	Decreased from 4.4% in 2017 to 2.9% in 2019.	Increased from 2.9% in 2019 to 3.5% in 2021 (by 20.7%).	2.7%	Higher
First Drink Before Age 13	20.5%	Not Available	Increased from 18.2% in 2015 to 21.3% in 2017.	Decreased from 21.3% in 2017 to 19.1% in 2019.	Increased from 19.1% in 2019 to 20.5% in 2021 (by 7.3%).	17.8%	Higher
Positive Findings							
Current Drinking	19.8%	17th	Increased from 24.2% in 2015 to 25.4% in 2017.	Increased from 25.4% in 2017 to 36.3% in 2019.	Decreased from 36.3% in 2019 to 19.8% in 2021 (by -45.5%).	19.5%	Higher
Binge Drinking	7.3%	20th	Decreased from 14.4% in 2015 to 11.1% in 2017.	Increased from 11.1% in 2017 to 16.6% in 2019.	Decreased from 16.6% in 2019 to 7.3% in 2021 (by -56.0%).	7.6%	Lower
Rode With Drinking Driver	16.8%	Not Available	Increased from 16.2% in 2015 to 17.7% in 2017.	Increased from 17.7% in 2017 to 19.0% in 2019.	Decreased from 19.0% in 2019 to 16.8% in 2021 (by -11.6%).	16.8%	Equal to State
Drinking and Driving	1.9%	28th	Decreased from 7.2% in 2015 to 5.9% in 2017.	Decreased from 5.9% in 2017 to 5.5% in 2019.	Decreased from 5.5% in 2019 to 1.9% in 2021 (by -65.5%).	4.6%	Higher

Alcohol Use Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – Middle School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (Middle School)						
Binge Drinking	7.1% (2019 Data – 2021 Not Available)	Not Available	Increased from 5.8% in 2017 to 7.1% in 2019. Data not available for 2015.	Data not available for 2021.	5.9% (2019 Data – 2021 Not Available)	Higher (2019)
First Drink Before Age 11	15.0%	Not Available	Increased from 11.1% in 2017 to 12.6% in 2019. Data not available for 2015.	Increased from 12.6% in 2019 to 15.0% in 2021 (by 19.0%).	10.6%	Higher
Positive Changes (Middle School)						
Current Drinking	10.4%	Not Available	Increased from 11.4% in 2017 to 13.8% in 2019. Data not available for 2015.	Decreased from 13.8% in 2019 to 10.4% in 2021 (by -24.6%).	7.6%	Higher
Rode With Drinking Driver	23.5%	Not Available	Increased from 21.4% in 2017 to 24.5% in 2019. Data not available in 2015.	Decreased from 24.5% in 2019 to 23.5% in 2021 (by -4.1%)	19.0%	Higher

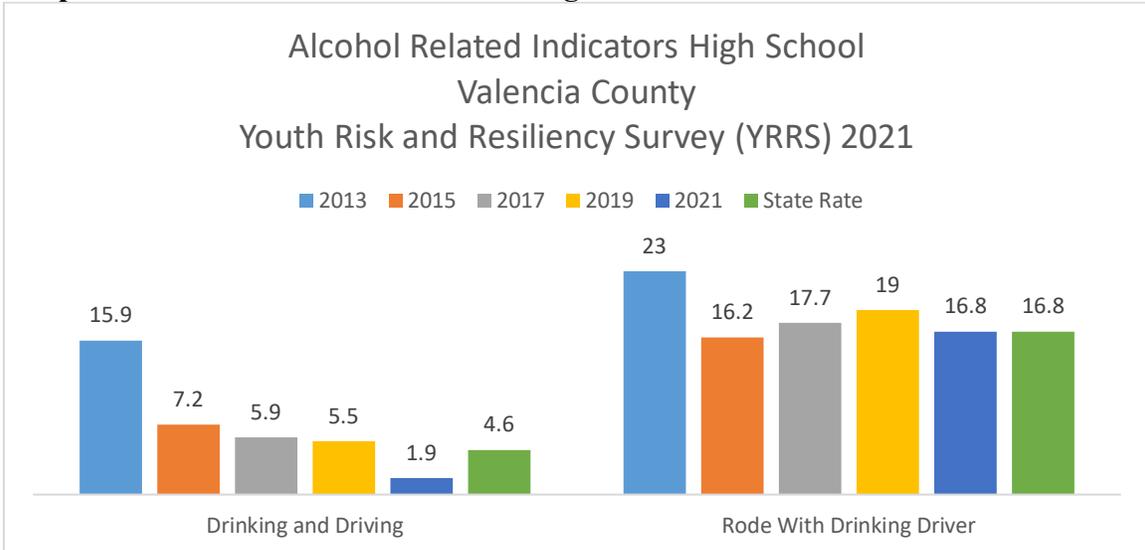
2021 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS): Alcohol Related Indicators
(Past 30 Days) – High School and Middle School

Graph 1: Alcohol Related Outcomes – High School



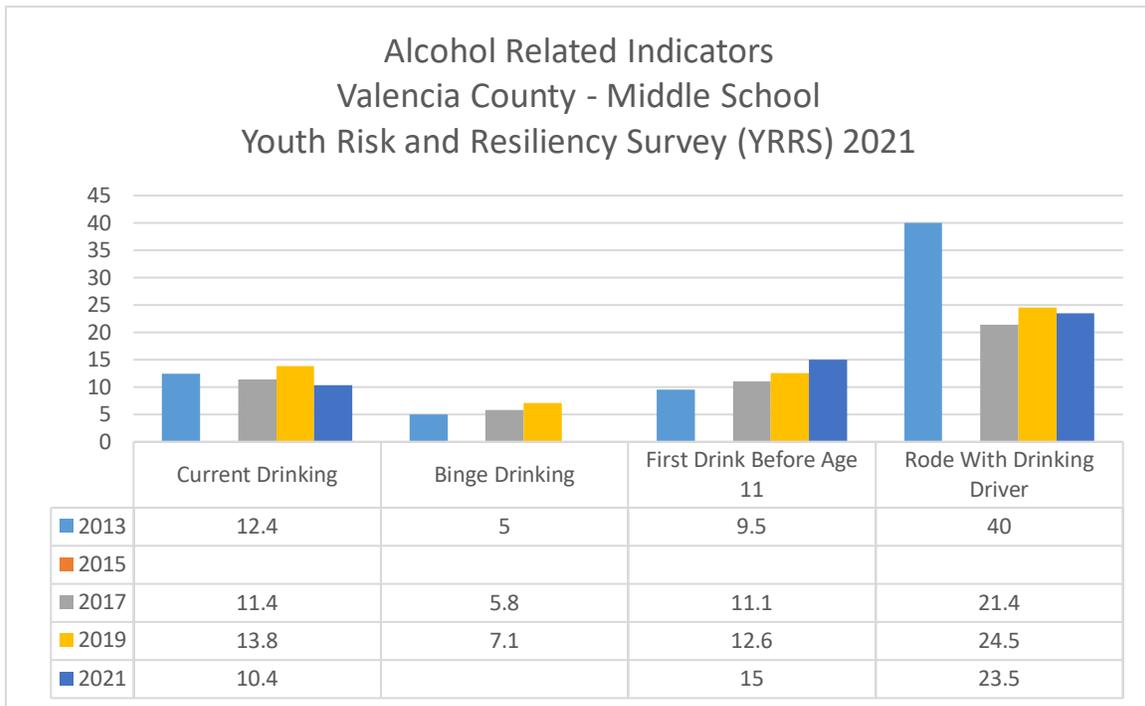
Decrease is the desired outcome.

Graph 2: Alcohol Related Outcomes – High School



Decrease is the desired outcome.

Graph 3: Alcohol Related Outcomes – Middle School



Decrease is the desired outcome.

Summary: 2021 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – Alcohol Related Outcomes for High School:

The Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) provides one of the most comprehensive and reliable forms of youth data available. The 2021 response rate for high school youth in Valencia County was 69.4%. According to the YRRS introduction, ‘a high response rate produces survey results that are more representative of the student population,’ and ‘a response rate of at least 60% allows generalization of results to the entire student body,’ and ‘a response rate of 70% is excellent and allows a high degree of confidence in results.’ The Valencia County High School response rate of (69.4%) is very impressive especially as the survey was administered while still dealing with various levels of Covid outbreaks. Also noted in the YRRS 2021 introduction, ‘The COVID-19 pandemic played a big part in the 2021 YRRS. When data were collected in the fall and winter of 2021, schools were facing COVID-related closures and high rates of absenteeism, resulting in decreased YRRS participation at the student and school level,’ and ‘COVID may also have altered student behavior, as there were fewer opportunities for social interaction, and fewer opportunities to engage in socially related high-risk behaviors.’ Additionally, it was noted that COVID may have affected the emotional well-being of students. All the above factors must be considered when comparing the 2021 data to the previous years.

2019 YRRS data shows Valencia County High School statistics trending in the right direction (decreasing rates) for three (3) of the six (6) alcohol indicators. The 2021 YRRS data showed a slight improvement with data improvements in four (4) of the six (6) measures.

Current drinking decreased by -45.5% (36.3% in 2019 and 19.8% in 2021). Females more than males reported current drinking (females: 24.2% and males: 15.9%). Binge drinking decreased by -56.0% (16.6% in 2019 and 7.3% in 2021). Females more than males reported binge drinking (females: 8.8% and males 6.2%). DWI decreased from (5.5%) in 2019 to (1.9%) in 2021 while riding with a drinking driver decreased by -11.6% (19.0% in 2019 and 16.8% in 2021). For DWI, 3.7% of females reported drinking and driving and there were no males who reported DWI. Of those who reported riding with a drinking driver, 17.3% were female and 16.9% were males. It is of noticeable concern that our female population of high school students are experiencing higher rates than the males in most of the harm indicators. There is a need to increase female specific prevention efforts. Finally, those indicators showing unexpected findings include drinking on school property and the onset of first drink (before the age of 13). Drinking on school property increased by 20.7% and the onset of first drink increased by 7.3% between 2019 and 2021.

Summary: 2021 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS – Alcohol Related Outcomes For Middle School): In 2021, The Middle School YRRS survey failed to produce statistics for binge drinking therefore comparisons for changes in data movement between 2019 and 2021 cannot be made. When comparing 2017 rates to 2019 rates, the Valencia County Middle School 2019 YRRS results show trending in the negative direction (increasing rates) for all four (4) of the alcohol indicators that were tracked. The 2021 Middle School YRRS in Valencia County showed positive results for current drinking where there was a decrease of -24.6% between 2019 and 2021 (decrease is the desired outcome). For those who reported riding with a drinking driver, the survey also showed positive outcomes with a decrease of -4.1% between 2019 and 2021. Unfortunately, both measures are higher than the state.

Data moving in the wrong direction in the 2021 Middle School YRRS for Valencia County are binge drinking (2019 data) and the onset of first drink before the age of eleven (11). First drink before the age of eleven (11) increased by 19.0% between 2019 and 2021. Binge drinking, although only 2019 information is available, there was a 22.4% increase (decrease is the desired outcome). These two measures are also higher than the state.

Illegal Drug Use Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – High School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (High School)							
No Unexpected Findings in 2021							
Positive Changes (High School)							
Improper Use of Prescription Pain-Killers	8.6%	2nd	Increased from 7.3% in 2015 to 8.0% in 2017.	Increased from 8.0 in 2017 to 15.8% in 2019.	Decreased from 15.8% in 2019 to 8.6% in 2021 (by -45.6%).	7.9%	Higher
Current Marijuana Use	21.2%	19th	Increased from 23.6% in 2015 to 32.4% in 2017.	Increased from 32.4% in 2017 to 40.8% in 2019.	Decreased from 40.8% in 2019 to 21.2% in 2021 (by -48.0%).	20.3%	Higher
Heroin Use	1.1%	15th	Increased from 3.7% in 2015 to 5.5% in 2017.	Decreased from 5.5% in 2017 to 2.0% in 2019.	Decreased from 2.0% in 2019 to 1.1% in 2021 (by -45.0%)	1.1%	Equal to State
Inhalant Use	3.8%	21st	Increased from 5.2% in 2015 to 7.4% in 2017.	Decreased from 7.4% in 2017 to 4.5% in 2019.	Decreased from 4.5% in 2019 to 3.8% in 2021 (by -15.6%).	3.4%	Higher
Cocaine Use	2.0%	17th	2015 data is not available.	Increased from 1.9% in 2017 to 4.6% in 2019.	Decreased from 4.6% in 2019 to 2.0% in 2021 (by -56.5%).	2.0%	Equal to State
Meth Use	1.1%	16th	Increased from 3.1% in 2015 to 5.9% in 2017.	Decreased from 5.9% in 2017 to 2.9% in 2019.	Decreased from 2.9% in 2019 to 1.1% in 2021 (by -62.1%).	1.4%	Lower

Illegal Drug Use Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – Middle School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (Middle School)							
No Unexpected Findings in 2021							
Positive Changes (Middle School)							
Improperly Took Prescription Pain Meds	6.5%	Not Available	2015 data is not available.	Increased from 1.8% in 2017 to 6.7% in 2019.	Decreased from 6.7% in 2019 to 6.5% in 2021 (by -3.0%).	5.7%	Higher
Current Marijuana Use	8.4%	Not Available	2015 data is not available.	Increased from 8.6% in 2017 to 9.8% in 2019.	Decreased from 9.8% in 2017 to 8.4% in 2021 (by -14.3%).	6.8%	Higher
Inhalant Use	8.6%	Not Available	Data is not available in 2015.	Increased from 1.9% in 2017 to 8.9% in 2019.	Decreased from 8.9% in 2019 to 8.6% in 2021 (by -3.4%).	6.6%	Higher
Cocaine Use	1.2%	Not Available	Data is not available for 2015.	Increased from 1.9% in 2017 to 3.0% in 2019.	Decreased from 3.0% in 2019 to 1.2% in 2021 (by -60.0%).	1.5%	Lower

Tobacco Use Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – High School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (High School)							
No Unexpected Findings in 2021							
Positive Changes (High School)							
Any Current Tobacco Use	30.0%	Not Available	Increased from 37.6% in 2015 to 42.8% in 2017.	Increased from 42.8% in 2017 to 51.7% in 2019	Decreased from 51.7% in 2019 to 30.0% in 2021 (by -45.5%).	27.3%	Higher
Current E-Cig Use	27.6%	Not Available	Increased from 29.7% in 2015 to 34.2% in 2017.	Increased from 34.2% in 2017 to 47.1% in 2019.	Decreased from 47.1% in 2019 to 27.6% in 2021 (by -41.4%).	25.3%	Higher
Current Smoking	4.0%	Not Available	Increased from 11.8% in 2015 to 14.6% in 2017.	Decreased from 14.6% in 2017 to 11.3% in 2019.	Decreased from 11.3% in 2019 to 4.0% in 2021 (by -64.6%).	4.3%	Lower

Tobacco Use Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – Middle School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (Middle School)							
No Unexpected Findings in 2021							
Positive Changes (Middle School)							
Any Current Tobacco Use	12.8%	Not Available	Data Not Available for 2015	Increased from 15.0% in 2017 to 21.1% in 2019.	Decreased from 21.1% in 2019 to 12.8% in 2021 (by -39.3%).	17.3%	Lower
Current E-Cig Use	15.3%	Not Available	Data Not Available for 2015	Increased from 11.8% in 2017 to 19.0% in 2019.	Decreased from 19.0% in 2019 to 15.3% in 2021 (by -19.4%).	15.1%	Higher
Current Smoking	3.5%	Not Available	Data Not Available for 2015	Increased from 4.1% in 2017 to 6.1% in 2019.	Decreased from 6.1% in 2019 to 3.5% in 2021 (by -42.6%).	4.3%	Lower

Behaviors Associated With Violence Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – High School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (High School)							
No Unexpected Findings in 2021							
Positive Changes (High School)							
Sexual Dating Violence	9.5%	Not Available	2015 Data is not available.	Increased from 9.7% in 2017 to 11.8% in 2019.	Decreased from 11.8% in 2019 to 9.5% in 2021 (by -18.5%).	8.9%	Higher
Physical Dating Violence	9.5%	Not Available	Data is not available for 2015.	Increased from 7.7% in 2017 to 11.6% in 2019.	Decreased from 11.6% in 2019 to 9.5% in 2021 (by -18.1%).	8.9%	Higher
Carried A Weapon	4.5%	Not Available	Decreased from 25.9% in 2015 to 23.6% in 2017.	Increased from 23.6% in 2017 to 26.9% in 2019.	Decreased from 26.9% in 2019 to 4.5% in 2021 (by -83.2%).	4.6%	Lower
In Physical Fight	21.9%	Not Available	Decreased from 25.2% in 2015 to 28.9% in 2017.	Decreased from 28.9% in 2017 to 25.9% in 2019.	Decreased from 25.9% in 2019 to 21.9% in 2021 (by -5.4%).	20.2%	Higher
Bullied on School Property	13.5%	Not Available	Decreased from 20.7% in 2015 to 19.3% in 2017.	Decreased from 19.3% in 2017 to 17.8% in 2019.	Decreased from 17.8% in 2019 to 13.5% in 2021 (by -24.2%).	13.6%	Lower
Electronic Bullying	7.7%	Not Available	Decreased from 13.7% in 2015 to	Decreased from 12.7% in 2019 to 12.0% in 2019.	Decreased from 12.0% in 2019 to 7.7% in 2021 (by	12.5%	Lower

			12.7% in 2017.		-35.8%).		
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Behaviors Associated With Violence Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data – Middle School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (Middle School)							
Carried a Weapon	45.6%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Decreased from 42.4% in 2017 to 40.5% in 2019.	Increased from 40.5% in 2019 to 45.6% in 2021 (by 12.6%).	35.9%	Higher
Bullied On School Property	46.5%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Decreased from 44.5% in 2017 to 42.0% in 2019.	Increased from 42.0% in 2019 to 46.5% in 2021 (by 10.7%).	41.5%	Higher
Electronic Bullying	30.8%	Not Available	Data not available for 2015.	Decreased from 22.6% in 2017 to 19.8% in 2019.	Increased from 19.8% in 2019 to 30.8% in 2021 (by 55.6%).	27.1%	Higher
Positive Changes (Middle School)							
In Physical Fight	46.9%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Increased from 49.6% in 2017 to 50.4% in 2019.	Decreased from 50.4% in 2019 to 46.9% in 2021 (by -6.9%).	39.8%	Higher

Mental Health Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data - High School

Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (High School)							
Felt Sadness or Hopeless	43.8%	7 th	Increased from 32.4% in 2015 to 34.7% in 2017.	Increased from 34.7% in 2017 to 42.5% in 2019.	Increased from 42.5% in 2019 to 43.8% in 2021 (by 3.1%).	44.2%	Higher
Seriously Considered Suicide	17.9%	19 th	Increased from 16.7% in 2015 to 17.0% in 2017.	Decreased from 17.0% in 2017 to 15.2% in 2019.	Increased from 15.2% in 2019 to 17.9% in 2021 (by 17.8%).	20.1%	Lower
Attempted Suicide	9.0%	19 th	Increased from 9.4% in 2015 to 10.0% in 2017.	Decreased from 10.0% to 7.8% in 2019.	Increased from 7.8% in 2019 to 9.0% in 2021 (by 15.4%).	10.4%	Lower
Positive Changes (High School)							
Non-Suicidal Self Injury	19.0%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Increased from 16.3% in 2017 to 20.1% in 2019.	Decreased from 20.1% in 2019 to 19.0% in 2021 (by -5.5%).	23.2%	Lower
Made Suicide Plan	9.0%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Increased from 12.1% in 2017 to 13.7% in 2019.	Decreased from 13.7% in 2019 to 9.0% in 2021 (by -34.3%)	10.4%	Lower
Frequent Mental Distress	28.3%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Data not available in 2017.	Baseline data for this measure is 28.3% - 2021	32.7%	Lower

Mental Health Outcomes
Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) – 2021 Data - Middle School
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate	Higher/Lower Than State
Unexpected Findings (Middle School)							
Seriously Considered Suicide	33.3%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Increased from 22.4% in 2017 to 25.9% in 2019.	Increased from 25.9% in 2017 to 33.3% in 2021 (by 28.6%).	27.1%	Higher
Attempted Suicide	13.3%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Increased from 9.5% in 2017 to 10.5% in 2019.	Increased from 10.5% in 2019 to 13.3% in 2021 (by 26.7%).	11.9%	Lower
Made a Suicide Plan	23.4%	Not Available	Data not available in 2015.	Data not available in 2017.	Baseline data for this measure is 23.4% - 2021.	19.3%	Higher
Positive Changes (Middle School)							
No Positive Changes in 2021.							

LGBTQ+ Demographics – Valencia County (Large Sample: N=386)

Gay or Lesbian	1.7%
Bisexual	9.4%
Other Sexual Identity	1.8%
Questioning (Not Sure)	2.7%
Don't Understand Question	5.0%
Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual	11.1%
All Indicators Combined	15.0%

LGBTQ+ Behaviors Associated With Violence - HS

	<u>NM LGBTQ+-NM</u>	<u>Valencia County</u>	<u>State Rate</u>
Carried a Weapon	4.1 %	4.5%	4.6%
Skipped School (Safety Concerns)	18.1%	8.5%	14.9%
In Physical Fight	19.0%	21.9%	20.2%
In Fight On School Property	4.5%	7.2%	5.7%
Forced to Have Sexual Intercourse	21.6%	11.2%	9.8%
Experienced Sexual Violence	22.1%	9.5%	8.9%
Experience Physical Dating Violence	13.8%	9.5%	8.9%
Bullied on School Property	19.9%	13.5%	13.6%
Electronic Bullying	21.1%	7.7%	12.5%

LGBTQ+ Mental Health Outcomes

	<u>NM LGBTQ+-NM</u>	<u>Valencia County</u>	<u>State Rate</u>
Felt Sadness of Hopeless	66.8%	43.8%	44.2%
Seriously Considered Suicide)	39.0%	17.9%	20.1%
Attempted Suicide	20.7%	9.0%	10.4%
Non-Suicidal Self Injury	47.0%	19.0%	23.2%
Made Suicide Plan	34.1%	9.0%	10.4%

Intercourse			
Frequent Mental Distress	-----	28.3%	32.7%

LGBTQ+ Alcohol and Other ATOD Use Outcomes – HS

	<u>NM LGBTQ+-NM</u>	<u>Valencia County</u>	<u>State Rate</u>
Current Drinking	26.2%	19.8%	19.5%
Binge Drinking	9.3%	7.3%	7.6%
Current Marijuana Use	30.5%	21.2%	20.3%
Prescription Drug Use	11.2%	8.6%	7.9%
Cocaine Use	2.4%	2.0%	2.0%
Meth Use	1.7%	1.1%	1.4%
Inhalant Use	5.3%	3.8%	3.4%
Heroin Use	1.4%	1.1%	1.1%
Any Tobacco Use	34.6%	30.9%	27.3%
E-Cig Use	32.0%	27.6%	25.3%
Current Smoking	5.8%	4.0%	4.3%

Summary: 2021 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS – Outcomes For Illegal Drug Use, Tobacco Use, Behaviors Associated With Violence, and Mental Health - High School and Middle School):

Mental Health Measures: Mental health indicators trending in an undesired direction continue to be a concern in Valencia County from 2019 to 2021 with increases in all measure but two (2) indicators among high school students (1) Non-suicidal self-injury decreased from (20.1%) in 2019 to (19.0%) in 2021 (-5.5% decrease) and (2) Made a suicide plan decreased from (13.7%) in 2019 to (9.0%) in 2021 (-34.3% decrease). All mental health outcomes for middle school students showed unexpected findings. There was an increase in those who seriously considered suicide by 28.6% from 2019 to 2021 and an increase of 26.7% in students who attempted suicide. 23.4% of middle school students reported making a suicide plan.

Teachers, Counselors, and those working with and serving youth have noted a drastic increase in students suffering mental health issues. Additionally, students who were already having issues academically along with a notable number of students that did not have problems in school prior to COVID are now struggling academically. High school students in Valencia County reported finding schoolwork more difficult during and following the pandemic (68.8% compared to 66.6% in the state). Students indicated that during the pandemic they went hungry some of the time more often (6.6%) and 23.0% said a parent or adult in the home lost their job due to COVID-19. Another 35.7% said they suffered frequent mental distress during the pandemic (2021 YRRS reported

28.3% of the students reporting frequent mental distress not pandemic related). COVID-19 and the aftermath continue to have a big negative impact on young people.

Behaviors Associated With Violence: Again, middle school students continue to show increases in all patterns and trends in behaviors associated with violence. Only being in a physical fight showed a decrease of -6.9% between 2019 and 2021. This rate, however, is higher than the state. Carrying a weapon increased by 12.6%, those who reported being bullied on school property increased by 10.7%, and those who reported being electronically bullied increased by 55.6%, a significant change moving in the wrong direction. Valencia County high school students fared differently. All the measures among this age group indicated positive changes with sexual dating violence decreasing by -18.5%, physical dating violence decreased by -18.1%, those carrying a weapon decreased by 83.2%, physical fighting by -5.4%, being bullied on school property by -24.2%, and finally being electronically bullied by -35.8% (decrease is the desired outcome).

Illegal Drug Use Outcomes: All the measures for illegal drug use for both high school and middle school show positive outcomes. Improper use of prescription painkillers decreased by -3.0% among middle school students while high school students showed a -45.6% decrease. Current marijuana use decreased by -14.3% among middle school students and -48.0% among high school students. Middle school inhalant use decreased by -3.4% and high school decreased by -15.6% cocaine use by -60.0% with middle school students and -56.5% with high school students. Additional drug use among high school students also decreased, heroin use by -45.0% and meth use by -62.1%.

Tobacco Use: Current smoking, any tobacco use, and e-cigarette use for high school students all decreased between 2019 and 2021. Any current tobacco use decreased by -45.5% while current smoking decreased by -64.6%. Current e-cigarette use decreased by -41.4%. All these indicators are moving in the right direction. Middle school student results showed positive results as well. Current tobacco use decreased by -39.3% while current e-cigarette use decreased by -19.4%. Current smoking also decreased by -42.6%.

LGBTQ+ Data for Behaviors Associated With Violence, Mental Health Outcomes, and Substance Use/Misuse Outcomes: All the outcomes for indicators in all three health related consequences for the LGBTQ+ community showed higher rates than Valencia County and the State except for those who reported being in a physical fight, fighting on school property, and carrying a weapon.

Alcohol Use Outcomes
New Mexico Community Survey (NMCS) – 2024 Data

Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate (FY23 Data)	Higher/Lower Than State (From FY23) NM State Data for 2024 not available yet
Unexpected Findings					
DWI	5.7%	Not Available	Increased to 0.3% in FY21 and to 2.8% in FY22. Decreased to 2.2% in 2023 and increased to 5.7% in 2024 (by 159.0%).	3.2%	Higher
Binge Drinking and Driving (Driving after having had 5 or more drinks).	2.6% (FY22)	Not Available	Decreased from 1.9% in 2018 to 1.5% in 2019 to 0.5% in 2020. Decreased to 0.3% in FY21 and increased to 2.6% in FY22 (by 766.6%).	2.3%	Higher (FY22) Data not available for FY23 and FY24
Positive Changes					
Binge Drinking (5 or more drinks in 1 occasion).	16.6%	Not Available	Increased from 15.5% in 2018 to 18.5% in 2019 and decreased to 11.2% in 2020. Decreased to 10.8% in FY21 and increased to 13.9% in FY22. Increased to 17.5% in 2023 and decreased to 16.6% in 2024 (by -5.1%).	16.6%	Equal
Past 30-Day Alcohol Use	43.5%	Not Available	Increased from 42.9% in 2018 to 43.2% in 2019 and increased to 47.5% in 2020. It decreased to 46.3% in FY21. Increased to 48.6% in FY22. Decreased to 45.7% in 2023 and decreased to 43.5% in 2024 (by -4.8%).	50.0%	Lower
Provided Alcohol for Minors Past Year	1.3%	Not Available	Decreased from 4.7% in 2018 to 1.9% in 2019 and increased to 2.2% in 2020. It decreased to 1.7% in FY21 and decreased to 1.3% in 2022. Increased to	4.1%	Lower

			3.0% in 2023. Decreased to 1.3% in 2024 (by -50.0%).		
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Access of Alcohol By Minors
New Mexico Community Survey (NMCS) – 2024 Data
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate (FY23 Data)	Higher/Lower Than State (From FY23) NM State Data for 2024 not available yet
Positive Changes – Easy Access					
No Positive Findings in 2024					
Unexpected Findings – Easy Access					
Ease of Access to Alcohol By Teens in The Community (Easy or Somewhat Easy) – Large Sample	77.0%	Not Available	Increased from 72.9% in 2018 to 73.5% in 2019 and decreased to 68.3% in 2020. It decreased to 62.5% in FY21. Increased to 71.1% in FY22 and decreased to 70.5% in 2023. Increased to 77.0 in 2024 (by 9.2%).	72.0%	Higher
Ease of Access to Alcohol by Teens in The Community From Stores and Restaurants (Easy or Somewhat Easy) – Large Sample	32.5%	Not Available	Decreased from 31.1% in 2018 to 26.1% in 2019 to 22.0% in 2020. It decreased to 20.5% in FY21 and increased to 26.3% in FY22. Decreased to 26.1% in 2023. Increased to 32.5% in 2024 (by 24.5%).	32.3%	Higher

2024 Perception of Access To Alcohol by Teens – 18-20 and 18-25 age group of Young Adults

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate (FY23 Data)	Higher/Lower Than State (From FY23) NM State Data for 2024 not available yet
Responses are Difficult or Somewhat Difficult Access - Desired Change: Increase					
Ease of Access to Alcohol By Teens in The Community — 18-20-Year-Old Sample	0.0%	Not Available	Increased from 2.7% in 2018 to 4.3% in 2019 and increased significantly to 16.7% in 2020. It remained the same in FY21. Increased to 50.0% in FY22. Decreased to 40.0% in 2023. Decreased to 0.0% in 2024.	24.5%	Lower
Ease of Access to Alcohol By Teens in The Community — 18-25-Year-Old Sample	9.1%	Not Available	Decreased from 8.2% in 2018 to 4.2% in 2019 and increased to 10.4% in 2020. It increased to 25.8% in FY21 and increased to 31.0% in FY22. Increased to 35.0% in 2023. Decreased to 9.1% in 2024.	22.3%	Lower
Ease of Access to Alcohol by Teens From Stores and Restaurants –18-20-Year-Old Sample	33.3%	Not Available	Decreased from 69.7% in 2018 to 60.0% in 2019 and increased to 90.5% in 2020. It decreased to 77.8% in FY21 and to 75.0% in FY22. Increased to 85.7% in 2023. Decreased to 33.3% in 2024.	62.7%	Lower
Ease of Access to Alcohol by Teens From Stores and Restaurants – 18-25-Year-Old Sample	38.9%	Not Available	Decreased from 63.9% in 2018 to 57.1% in 2019 and increased to 90.7% in 2020. It decreased to 71.4% in FY21 and increased to 75.9% in FY22. Increased to 82.4% in FY23. Decreased to 38.9% in 2024.	62.0%	Lower

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate (FY23 Data)	Higher/Lower Than State (From FY23) NM State Data for 2024 not available yet
Desired Change: Decrease/Reduction					
Purchased or Shared Alcohol With Minors (18-20-Year-Old Sample)	12.5%	Not Available	Decreased from 7.7% in 2018 to 0.0 in 2019 and increased to 3.4% in 2020. It decreased to 0.0 in FY21. Remained the same in FY22 and FY23. Increased to 12.5% in 2024.	6.0%	Higher
Purchased or Shared Alcohol With Minors (18-25-Year-Old Sample)	0.0%	Not Available	Decreased from 9.1% in 2018 to 2.0% in 2019 and increased to 5.8% in 2020. It decreased to 5.4% in FY21 and decreased to 0.0% in FY22. Increased to 9.5% in FY23. Decreased to 0.0% in 2024.	11.0%	Lower

Source of Access to Alcohol by Young Adults 18-20 age group – FY24

Source	% Valencia County	% NM State – 2023 Data – 2024 data not available yet
Got It At A College Party	50.0%	11.3%
Got It At Other Type Of Party	50.0%	19.0%
Someone <21 Bought or Gave it to Them	-----	5.3%
Bought It At A Restaurant, Bar, Public Place	-----	11.6%
Parent or Guardian	-----	13.4%
Someone >21 Bought It (Unrelated Adult)	-----	24.0%
Adult Family 21+ Bought It	50.0%	-----

Prescription Painkiller Misuse
New Mexico Community Survey (NMCS) – 2024 Data
Desired Change: See Notes Below

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate (FY23 Data)	Higher/Lower Than State (From FY23) NM State Data for 2024 not available yet
Positive Findings					
Decrease Is The Desired Outcome					
Prescription Drug Use Outcome: Past 30-Day Rx Painkiller Use For Any Reason	12.9%	Not Available	Increased from 10.9% in 2018 to 13.5% in 2019 and decreased to 7.4% in 2020. Increased to 12.7% in FY21. Increased to 14.1% in FY22 and increased to 19.4% in 2023. Decreased to 12.9% in 2024 (by -33.5%).	19.5%	Lower
Prescription Drug Use Outcomes: Prevalence of Receiving Rx Painkiller Past Year	17.1%	Not Available	Increased from 24.6% in 2018 to 25.4% 2019 and remained the same between 2019 and 2020. Decreased to 20.3% in FY21 and increased to 22.7% in FY22 and increased to 27.6% in 2023. Decreased to 17.1% in 2024 (by -38.0%).	25.0%	Lower
Prescription Drug Use Outcomes: Past 30-Day Painkiller Use to Get High	3.0%	Not Available	Decreased from 4.1% in 2018 to 2.2% in 2019 to 1.2% in 2020. Decreased to 0.5% in FY21 and increased to 3.5% in FY22 and decreased to 3.0% in 2023. Remained the Same at 3.0% in 2024.	5.9%	Lower

Positive Changes					
Increase Is The Desired Outcome					
Perceived Risk of Harm of Rx Painkillers	89.4%	Not Available	Decreased from 88.9% in 2018 to 86.7% in 2019 and increased to 91.3% in 2020. Decreased to 88.7% in FY21 and increased to 89.0% in FY22 and to 89.1% in FY23. Increased to 89.4% in 2024 (by 8.4%).	83.2%	Higher
Social Access of Rx Painkillers: Rx painkillers Stored In Locked Box/Cabinet (Responses to “Yes”)	47.5%	Not Available	Decreased from 47.7% in 2018 to 45.8% in 2018 and increased to 48.3%. Decreased to 35.8% in FY21 and decreased to 35.0% in FY22. Increased to 41.2% in FY23. Increased to 47.5% in 2024 (by 15.3%).	43.8%	Higher
Positive Changes					
Decrease Is The Desired Outcome					
Social Access of Rx Painkillers: Giving or Sharing	3.2%	Not Available	Decreased from 6.2% in 2018 to 4.2% in 2019 to 4.0% in 2020. Decreased to 1.6% in FY21 and increased to 20.3% in FY22 and decreased to 9.0% in 2023. Decreased to 3.2% in 2024 (by -64.4%).	6.7%	Lower

Perception Regarding the Legal Consequences For Breaking Alcohol Laws
New Mexico Community Survey (NMCS) – 2024 Data
Desired Change: Increase

Indicator	Most Current Data	Rank in The State (NM)	Patterns and Trends Between Years	Current State Rate (FY23 Data)	Higher/Lower Than State (From FY23) NM State Data for 2024 not available yet
Positive Changes					
Likelihood Of Being Stopped By Police If Driving After Drinking Too Much	63.6%	Not Available	Increased from 61.2% in 2018 to 64.2% in 2019 and decreased to 62.7% in 2020. Increased to 64.5% in FY21 and decreased to 58.3% in FY22. Decreased to 54.5% in FY23. Increased to 63.6% in 2024 (by 16.7%).	56.9%	Higher
Likelihood of Police Arresting An Adult For Giving Alcohol to Minors	56.1%	Not Available	Decreased from 53.0% in 2018 to 51.0% in 2019 to 48.3% in 2020. Decreased to 44.2% in FY21 and increased to 49.9% in FY22. Decreased to 46.2% in FY23. Increased to 56.1% in 2024 (by 21.4%).	46.5%	Higher
Likelihood of Police Breaking Up Parties Where Teens Are Drinking	47.8%	Not Available	Decreased from 45.3% in 2018 to 43.7% in 2019 and increased to 46.9% in 2020. Decreased to 40.1% in FY21 and increased to 41.1% in FY22. Increased to 42.2% in FY23. Increased to 47.8% in 2024 (by 13.2%).	42.7%	Lower
Likelihood of Being Convicted if Driving After Drinking Too	65.4%	Not Available	Increased from 64.5% in 2023 to 65.4% in 2024 (by 1.4%). Data not available prior to 2023.	Not Available	-----

Much and Being Charged With DWI					
Unexpected Findings					
No unexpected findings found in 2024					

Summary of 2024 New Mexico Community Survey (NMCS) Findings

INTRODUCTION:

After elimination of questionnaires from those under 18 years of age, those who are not Valencia County residents, and those without the New Mexico residency requirement, a total of 246 surveys were available for analysis. All surveys were collected online.

Regarding gender and race, the survey respondents were as follows – Hispanics or Latinos represented 56.2% of the sample, Whites 42.6%, Native Americans, or Alaska Natives 0.0%, Asian 0.8%, Blacks or African Americans 2.1%, and those that identified as “other” comprised 0.4% of the survey respondents. Gender was largely represented by females at 66.5% with males at 31.0%. 2.0% identified as transgender, nonbinary/gender/non-conforming, Two Spirit, or other gender category. 0.7% preferred not to answer the gender question. The data collected in this survey for Race and Ethnicity was balanced with surveys collected from those who identify as Hispanics and Whites, both being slightly higher than the population listed for “Race” in the NM Census of 2021. The data cannot be interpreted as biased in this survey.

An effort was made to reach the male population in FY24 given that in previous years this demographic scale has leaned heavily toward the female gender in terms of number of women reached. The Village of Los Lunas (VLL)-DWI and H2 Academic Solutions program staff worked diligently with all its partners to advertise, encourage participation, and request support for meeting its goal. It is not known why the program has had a difficult time reaching the male population and should be examined in the future to ensure a better balance between males and females in upcoming surveying. It did however increase the number of male participation from previous years.

Age distribution was well balanced with the largest sample representing the 51-60 age groups (24.4%). All other age group percentages follow closely behind. Reaching the target population of 18-25-year-old young adults was difficult in FY24. VLL-DWI typically reaches this population through UNM Valencia. In the return to school, the youth may have experienced difficulties as a result of the pandemic restrictions. This may have impacted the ability to reach students following limited operations on campus through June 2024. 3.3% of that age group was represented in this survey. These results are similar to what was indicated in 2023.

VLL-DWI Program and H2 Academic Solution volunteers and program staff provided potential survey participants with a postcard highlighting the online address for electronic surveying. They provided the Coalition membership and other partners with the link and URL so that it could be distributed in various Facebook accounts, twitter, e-mail, newsletters, and websites. Presbyterian Healthcare utilized their marketing links and contacts to market the survey.

29.3% of the sample reported having completed high school or GED. 28.9% indicated having some college, 4.6% are currently an undergraduate. 3.3% have less than high school education and 33.9% completed college or above.

Ninety-six-point-five percent (96.5%) said they have been living in stable housing for the past 30-days. Transitions and mobility are community risk factors for four of the problem adolescent behaviors; substance abuse, depression and anxiety, delinquency, and school drop-out. Community stability is important to the well-being in the county therefore the large number of individuals reporting having stable living arrangements represents resiliency and commitment to the community.

Alcohol Use Outcomes:

- The rating of the level of ease for accessing alcohol by teens in the community from stores and restaurants and from the community showed unexpected outcomes in 2024. The survey result seen in these samples show that 77.0% said “very easy” or “somewhat easy” for teens to access alcohol in the community indicating a 9.2% increase from 2023 (decrease is the desired outcome). 32.5% said the same for accessing alcohol from stores and restaurants. This was a 24.5% increase from 2023 as well. Both these indicators moved in an undesired direction. It continues to be a concern as these percentages are still very high and they showed changes moving in the wrong direction. A focus group conducted in 2022 with youth was conducted by TNT Boxing and Mentoring Program that may have some insight into the “why” easy access is still an issue in the county.

The data was broken down by age groups to determine if this indicator is showing better results. Only 9.1% of the 18-25-year-old young adults said it is very or somewhat difficult for teens to access alcohol in the community while 38.9% said it was very or somewhat difficult for teens to access alcohol from stores and restaurants. The rate for these two indicators for this age group decreased significantly between 2023 and 2024 (increase is the desired outcome).

1.3% of adults reported providing alcohol to minors (1.8% males and 1.3% females). This rate is a significant decrease of 50.0% from 2023 showing a positive finding (lower is the desired outcome).

Of the 18-25 age group, 0.0% young adults purchased or shared alcohol with minors (a 100.0% decrease). This is consistent with the data that is showing an increase among the large sample for the provision of alcohol to youth <21 (50.0% decrease) and a decrease in the perception of the likelihood of police arresting an adult for giving alcohol to minors increased (by 21.4%). Typically, when the perception of the risk and legal consequences for breaking alcohol laws increase, a decrease in the problem behaviors will rise.

- The collaborative partners measured alcohol consumption by total sample, gender and by age. Past 30-day use of alcohol was 43.5% in FY24 (61.4% for males and 37.9% for females).

There was a decrease of -4.8% between FY23 and FY24 indicating positive findings. Emerging but limited evidence is beginning to suggest that alcohol consumption has increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Data is also showing that changes in drinking habits during the pandemic may have also impacted other changes in behavior and a rise in pandemic-related stress. Research is also showing that reasons for increased drinking during COVID-19 is an increase in stress, increase in alcohol availability, and boredom. This will raise concerns from a public health perspective. Fortunately, Valencia County data is moving in the right direction for this indicator.

- For all respondents, the rate for binge drinking (5 or more drinks on one occasion) is 16.6% in FY24; 33.3% of males and 7.4% of females. This data shows a decrease of -5.1% indicating a positive result. The NM Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile shows an overall decrease in binge drinking in the county as well, down from a rate of 18.0 in 2020 to 14.6 in 2021, showing an unexpected finding and showing consistency between the two resources.
- Common to the state rates, there is still a concern with young adults ages 18-25 in Valencia County showing high rates of past 30-day binge drinking and driving under the influence. 62.5% of the 21-25 age group reported past 30-day drinking and 28.0% reported binge drinking. 28.0% of this 18-25-year-old age group reported past 30-day driving under the influence.
- 5.7% of all survey respondents in the total sample reported driving under the influence in FY24, this shows a significant increase of 159.0%. Alcohol use, binge drinking and past 30-day driving under the influence are higher among males.

Program staff coordinated quarterly meetings with the DWI Planning Council and Law Enforcement Agencies. At some of those meetings the group discussed funding possibilities and strategies for implementing party patrols, saturation patrols, shoulder taps, and checkpoints. Limited funding from DFA allowed for these initiatives in FY24. The VLL-DWI program ensured that enforcement efforts reinforced and supported a decrease in drinking and driving and binge drinking and driving. Although these initiatives took place in FY24, the results for DWI do not show promising changes.

The collaboration between the Underage Drinking Taskforce, the DWI Planning Council, the media, and other community partners regarding DWI and binge drinking, and driving were initiated in hopes of producing positive findings in the alcohol use outcomes measured in the NMCS.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention informed the country that studies they have completed following the pandemic indicate that individuals who experienced periods of economic or psychological stress, were often most likely to consume alcohol, resulting in increased symptoms of alcohol abuse and other behaviors associated with drinking. They reported that the use of alcohol may reflect individuals using this as a coping skill. Effects are not yet known, however.

- The collaborative partners measured the perception of risk and legal consequences for breaking alcohol laws and alcohol consumption for the total sample, gender, and age groups. 47.8% of the survey respondents indicated the likelihood of police breaking up parties where teens are drinking (an increase of 13.2% from FY23). This result is a positive outcome. The likelihood of police arresting and adults giving alcohol to someone under 21 increased by 21.4% indicating a positive change. This data is moving in the right direction (increase is the desired outcome). The likelihood of being stopped by police if driving and drinking too much also increased by 16.7%, also showing promising changes. The likelihood of being convicted if driving after drinking too much and being charged with a DWI produced positive outcomes as well with a 1.4% increase from 2023.

There was a focus on raising awareness regarding the risk and legal consequences for breaking alcohol laws including during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order. These activities were conducted by the Underage Drinking Taskforce, the DWI Planning Council, the Community Wellness Council, and other community partners. The provision of alcohol to minors decreased by 50.0%, a statistically significant change moving in the right direction. The increase in the likelihood of police arresting an adult for giving alcohol to someone under 21 may have influenced this positive finding. The expected finding is that providing alcohol to minors should decrease and the perception about the legal consequences for giving or serving alcohol to minors should increase. Both of these measures showed promising results.

- Fifty percent (50.0%) of the survey respondents reported that the source for obtaining alcohol is an adult family member 21+ who bought it for them. An even distribution of survey participants (50.0%) said they got alcohol at a college party and at some other type of party.
- 76.8% of the respondents “strongly agree” or “agree” that problems due to drinking hurt the community financially. This is encouraging given the obvious most visible problems associated with alcohol that the county is experiencing. 57.1% of young adults 18-25 reported the same.

Prescription Drug Use Outcomes:

Six (6) of the seven (7) prescription painkiller misuse indicators showed positive outcomes between 2023 and 2024.

- 89.4% of the participants said that there is risk of harm with misusing Rx painkillers, a 0.4% increase from FY23. Increase is the desired outcome. 83.3% of the 18-25 age group perceive moderate or great risk of harm with misusing Rx painkillers. Although there is a very small positive change in this measure, it is still encouraging to see that FY24 is showing movement in the right direction.
- A good number of survey participants are still indicating that they did not give or share Rx painkillers in the past year. This indicator revealed promising findings with a -64.4% decrease.

Only 3.2% of the respondents said they have given or shared Rx painkillers the past year in FY24.

- Taking a prescription drug that was not prescribed to you is considered prescription drug misuse. Prescription drug misuse also includes using a drug that was prescribed to you in greater amounts, more often, over a longer period, or in any other way not directed by a doctor. There was an increase of 15.3% in the data for the total sample in those survey participants who said they locked up their medications in a locked box or cabinet. 41.2% said they practiced this behavior in FY23 and 47.5% did the same in FY24. 18.2% of the 18-25 age group reported storing their Rx painkillers in a locked box or cabinet and 66.7% of the 26-30 age group said the same. 0.0% of parents reported sharing Rx drugs and 70.3% of parents reported locking up Rx painkillers.

The community was saturated through different media venues and campaigns with information on how to keep prescription drugs secure in areas that young people and others cannot access them. The information offered ideas for how to dispose of prescription drugs when they are no longer needed. Perhaps this has impacted a reduction in the sharing of Rx painkillers in the total sample.

- Prevalence of receiving Rx painkillers the past year decreased by -38.0% from 2023. 27.6% indicated prevalence of receiving Rx painkillers in FY23 compared to 17.1% in 2024 (decrease is the desired outcome). Past 30-day painkiller use to get high remained the same between 2023 and 2024 at 3.0%. 12.9% indicated 30-day Rx painkiller use for any reason a -33.5% decrease (this data includes use by legal means). All three prescription drug use outcomes decreased, showing positive outcomes.
- The largest reason given by respondents for taking medication was to treat pain (79.9%) that a doctor or dentist identified. 9.9% of the individuals used painkillers for pain not identified by a physician. 4.0% to cope with anxiety or stress, 19.0% for another reason, 9.0% to help with sleep, 3.0% to get high, and 0.0% to have fun socially. This data is disturbing because several respondents used painkillers for reasons the medication is not intended for. 79.0% were prescribed painkillers by a physician and 9.9% got painkillers from a family member, 9.9% acquired prescription painkillers by buying them, and 3.0% got at another place. This data is also alarming given the widespread use of opioids in the county and in New Mexico.

Given the illegal drug epidemic in NM, the risk of drug overdoses, and the need for the administration of Naloxone/Narcan on individuals who may be overdosing on opioids, it is becoming more apparent that the community have higher access to and knowledge about the law and about the proper use of Naloxone/Narcan. The following tables illustrate community survey findings for FY 2019-2024. The arrows indicate whether there was an increase or decrease between years. The table points out whether lower or higher is the desired outcome as it relates to the indicators outlined within its content category.

Percentages of alcohol use outcomes overall and by sex (Decrease is the desired outcome)

Outcomes	% of Yes 2019 N=281	% of Yes 2020 N=446	% of Yes 2021 N=679	% of Yes 2022 N=480	% of Yes 2023 N=269	% of Yes 2024 N=246	Increase or Decrease from 2023 (Illustrated by arrow)	Percentage Change from Between 2023 and 2024 (%)
Past 30-day alcohol use.	43.2%	47.5%	46.3%	48.6%	45.7%	43.5%	↓	-4.8%
Binge Drinking (5 or more drinks on 1 occasion).	18.5%	11.2%	10.8%	13.9%	17.5%	16.6%	↓	-5.1%
DWI.	1.5%	0.2%	0.3%	2.8%	2.2%	5.7%	↑	159.0%
Binge Drinking and Driving (Driving after having had 5 or more drinks.	1.5%	0.5%	0.3%	2.6%	Data not collected in 2023		—	—
Provided alcohol for minors past year.	1.9%	2.2%	1.7%	1.3%	3.0%	1.3%	↓	-50.0%

- Highlighted in Blue Are Positive Outcomes

Perceptions of risk/legal consequences of alcohol consumption

Access to Alcohol (Decrease is the desired outcome)	2020 N=446	2021 N=679	2022 N=480	2023 N=269	2024 N=246	Increase or Decrease from 2023 (Illustrated by arrow)	Percentage Change from Between 2023 and 2024 (%)
	Somewhat Easy or Very Easy	Somewhat Easy or Very Easy	Somewhat Easy or Very Easy	Somewhat Easy or Very Easy	Somewhat Easy or Very Easy		
Ease of access to alcohol by teens in the community.	68.3%	62.5%	71.1%	70.5%	77.0%	↑	9.2%
Ease of access to alcohol by teens in the community from stores and restaurants.	22.0%	20.5%	26.3%	26.1%	32.5%	↑	24.5%
Perception of risk/legal consequences (Increase is the desired outcome)	Very Likely or Somewhat Likely	Very Likely or Somewhat Likely	Very Likely or Somewhat Likely	Very Likely or Somewhat Likely	Very Likely or Somewhat Likely	Increase or Decrease from 2023 (Illustrated by arrow)	Percentage Change Between 2023 and 2024 (%)
Likelihood of police breaking up parties where teens are drinking.	46.9%	40.1%	41.1%	42.2%	47.8%		
Likelihood of police arresting an adult for giving alcohol to someone under 21.	48.3%	44.2%	49.9%	46.2%	56.1%	↑	21.4%
Likelihood of being stopped by police if driving after drinking too much.	62.7%	64.5%	58.3%	54.5%	63.6%	↑	16.7%
Likelihood of being convicted if driving after drinking too much and being charged with DWI.	Not measured in 2020	Not measured in 2021	Not measured in 2022	64.5%	65.4%	↑	1.4%

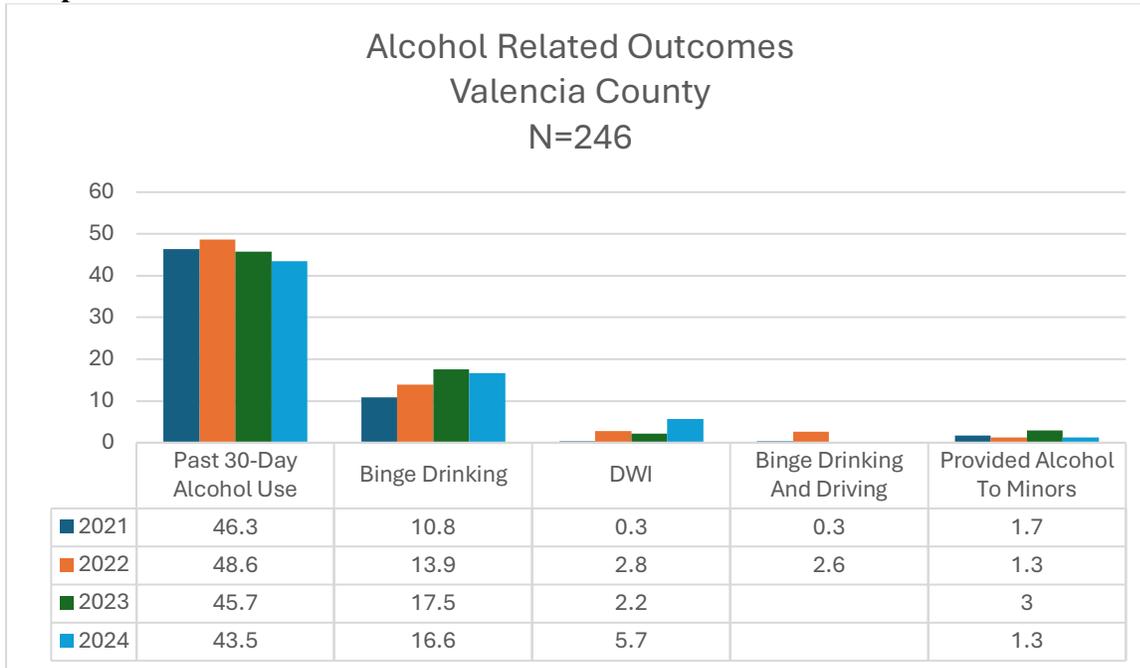
- Highlighted in Blue Are Positive Outcomes or no significant change.

Prescription Painkiller Misuse: N=246

	2021	2022	2023	2024	Increase or Decrease from 2023 (Illustrated by arrow)	Percentage Change from Between 2023 and 2024 (%)
Risk of Harm of Rx Painkillers (Increase is the desired outcome)	Moderate or Great Risk					
Perceived risk of harm/misuse Rx painkillers.	88.7%	89.0%	89.1%	89.4%	↑	0.4%
Perceived Risk of harm with using Rx pain medication and Rx benzodiazepine together	----	----	----	84.1%	Not measured prior to 2024	----
Social Access of Rx Painkillers (Decrease is the desired outcome)	YES	YES	YES	YES	Increase or Decrease from 2023 (Illustrated by arrow)	Percentage Change from Between 2023 and 2024 (%)
Giving or sharing Rx painkillers in the past year.	1.6%	20.3%	9.0%	3.2%	↓	-64.4%
Social Access of Rx Painkillers (Increase is the desired outcome)	YES	YES	YES	YES	Increase or Decrease from 2023 (Illustrated by arrow)	Percentage Change from Between 2023 and 2024 (%)
Rx painkillers are stored in a locked box or cabinet.	35.8%	35.0%	41.2%	47.5%	↑	15.3%
Prescription Drug Use Outcomes (decrease is the desired outcome)	YES	YES	YES	YES	Increase or Decrease from 2023 (Illustrated by arrow)	Percentage Change from Between 2023 and 2024 (%)
Prevalence of receiving Rx painkillers past year.	20.3%	22.7%	27.6%	17.1%	↓	-38.0%
Past 30-day RX painkiller use for any reason.	12.7%	14.1%	19.4%	12.9%	↓	-33.5%

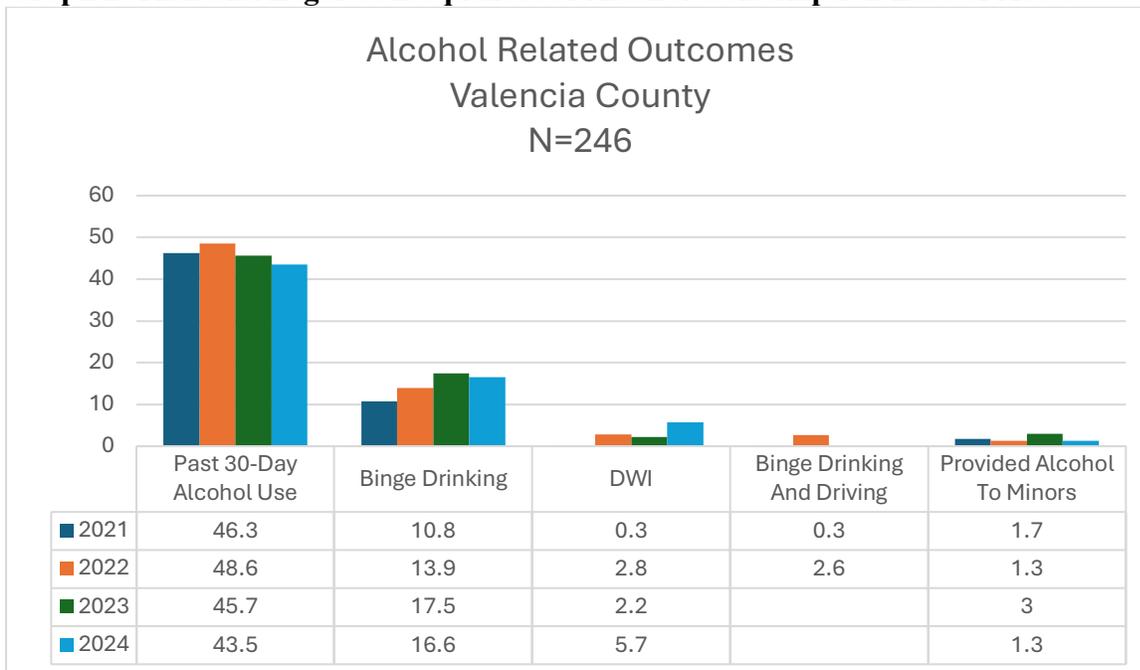
Past 30-day painkiller use to get high.	0.5%	3.5%	3.0%	3.0%	Remained the same	-----
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Graph 1: Alcohol Use Outcomes



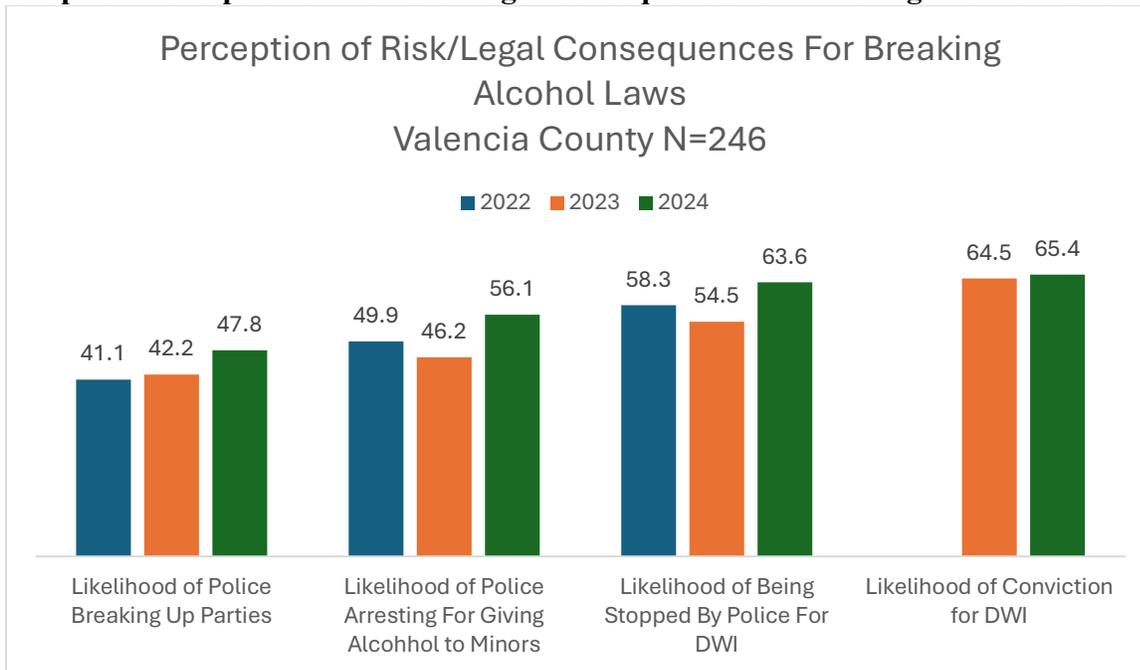
* Decrease is the desired outcome.

Graph 2: Risk and Legal Consequences of Alcohol Consumption/Ease of Access



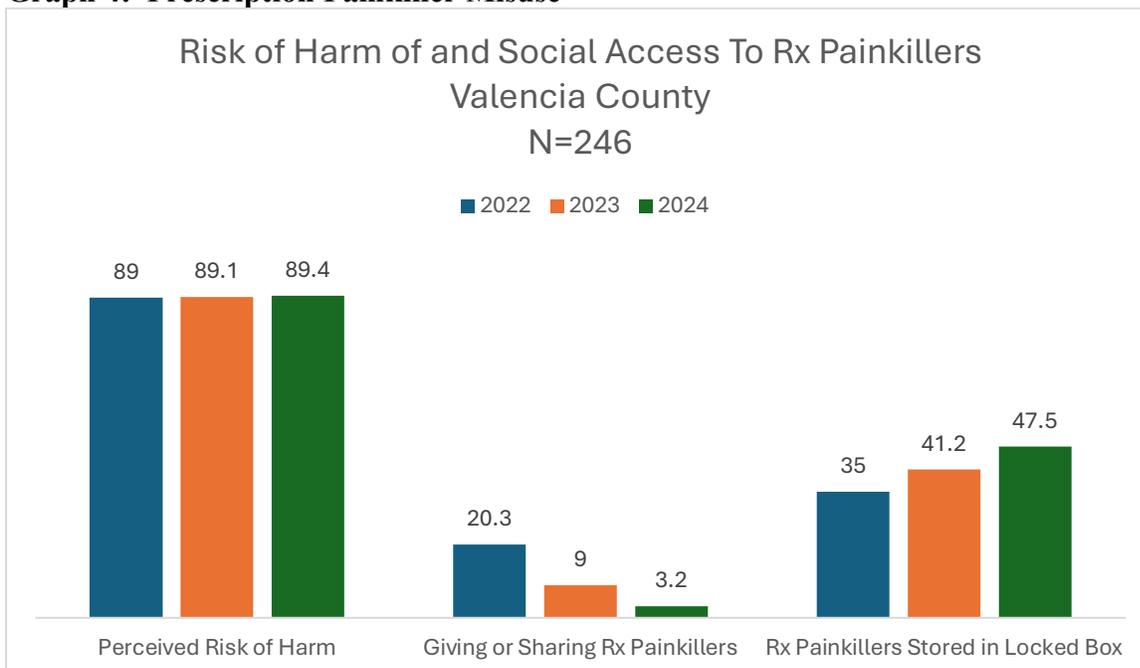
- Decrease is the desired outcome: % of those who answered, “Somewhat Easy or Very Easy.”

Graph 3: Perception of Risk and Legal Consequences for Breaking Alcohol Laws



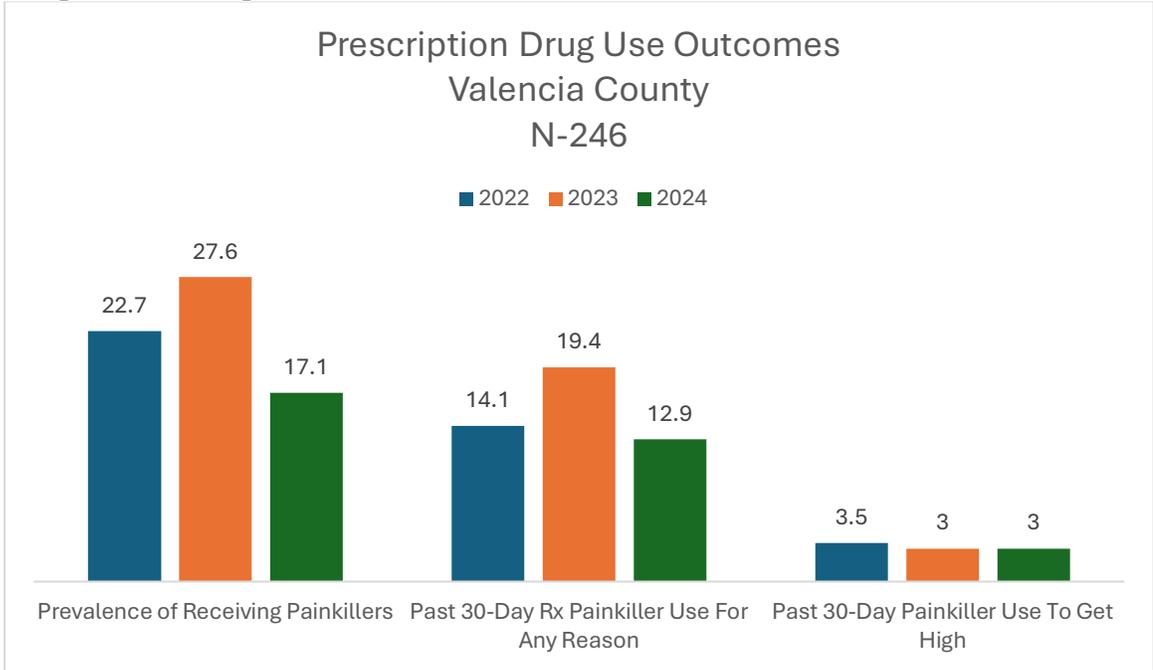
- **Increase is the desired outcome. % of those who answered “Very Likely” or “Somewhat Likely”**

Graph 4: Prescription Painkiller Misuse



- **Responses to Perceived Risk of Harm is Moderate or Great Risk and Response to Social Access of Rx Painkillers is “Yes” (Giving or Sharing Rx and Storing Rx painkillers)**

Graph 5: Prescription Painkiller Misuse



*** Responses to Prescription Drug Use Outcomes is “Yes.”**

FY22 Juvenile Justice Data: CYFD

Juvenile Referrals for Delinquent, Non-Delinquent, and Probation Violations (2015-2018 and 2021-2022 CYFD Juvenile Justice Services Reports):

The following data indicated the youth referrals to Juvenile Justice:

Type of Referral	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY21	FY22
Delinquent	451	233	247	253	122	238
Non-Delinquent	341	206	272	188	6	57
Probation Violation	47	25	28	22	11	13
Total:	839	464	547	463	139	308
Gender – FY22						
	Male			Female		
	213			95		
	69%			27%		

Demographics – By Age/2022

	1-7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Delinquent (2 did not identify age)	-	1	0	2	3	22	42	41	53	38	36	-
Non-Delinquent	8	2	3	2	3	8	8	9	6	5	3	-
Probation Violation	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	4	1

Demographics – By Ethnicity/Race/2022

Type of Referral	Hispanic	White	American Indian	Black/African American	2 or More	Missing
Delinquent	184	46	5	-	3	-
Non-Delinquent	44	13	-	-	-	-
Probation Violation	9	4	-	-	-	-

Top 16 Juvenile Offense Charges by Ethnicity/2022 – Some students were referred for more than one offense.

Charges	Hispanic	White	American Indian	2 Or More	Total
1. Truancy	36	10	-	-	46
2. Battery	33	9	2	-	44
3. Interference with Public Officials or General Public	26	3	1	-	30
4. Possession of Cannabis Product (Under 21 Years Old)	26	3	1	-	30
5. Criminal Damage to Property	17	4	1	2	24
6. Larceny (\$250 - \$500)	16	1	1	-	19
7. Battery (Household Member)	14	5	-	-	19
8. Possession Of Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor)	10	7	-	-	17
9. Use or Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	12	5	-	-	17
10. Public Affray	16	1	-	-	17
11. Deprivation of Property (Household Member)	8	3	-	-	11
12. Resisting, Evading or Obstructing an Officer	6	3	-	-	9
13. Trespass	7	7	-	1	9
14. Incurigible	7	1	-	1	9
15. Assault, Unlawful Acts, Threats	6	1	-	1	8
16. Shoplifting	4	4	-	-	8
Total	244	61	8	4	317