

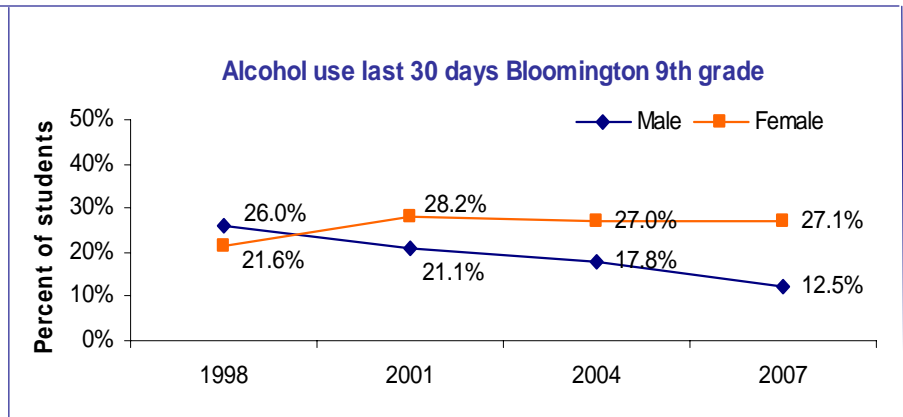
The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) is administered every three years to 6th, 9th, and 12th graders across the state. Student participation is voluntary. Ninth-grade data is used to monitor trends because these students historically have a high response rate. Survey results provide information about youth assets and risk behaviors. Data can be used as a tool for initiating & continuing conversations about youth health.

ALCOHOL USE

Alcohol consumption among Bloomington 9th grade females has remained stable since 2001. In males, alcohol use has decreased significantly since 2001.*

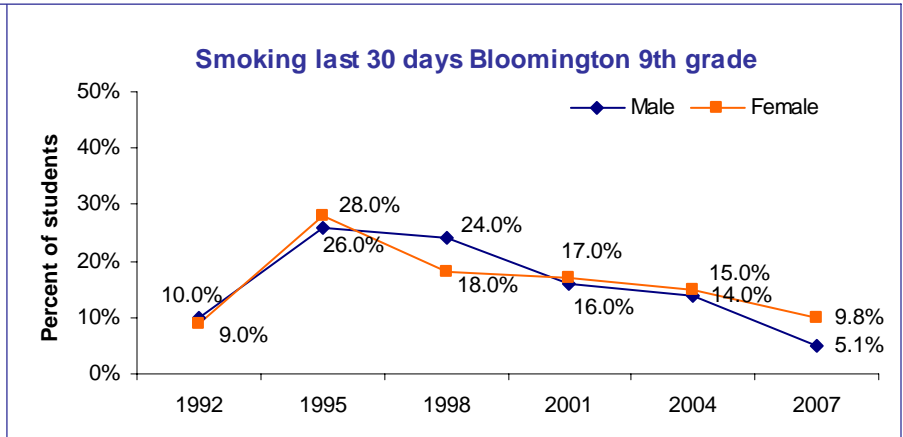
Since 2001, more females than males report drinking alcohol.

*The question format changed slightly from 2004 to 2007. There is no data for 1992.



TOBACCO USE

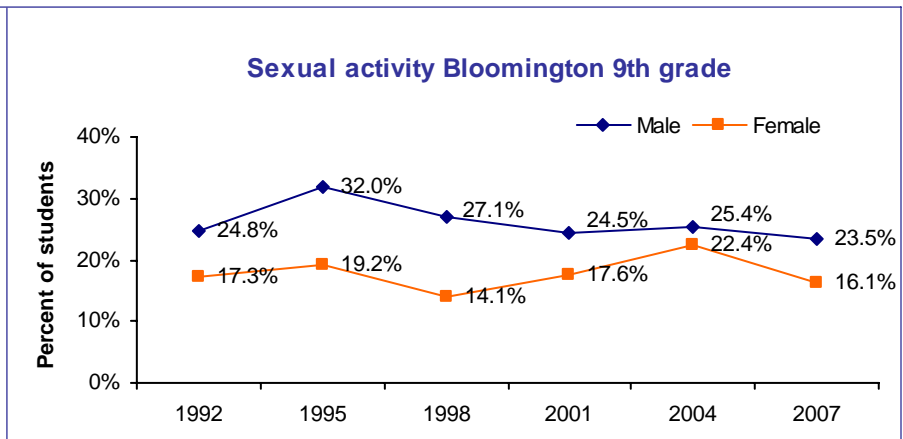
Tobacco use rates among Bloomington 9th graders has continued to decline with males reporting a greater decrease in use.



SEXUAL ACTIVITY

The percentage of Bloomington 9th grade males who report ever having sex has decreased steadily since 1995. The percentage of 9th grade females has seen fluctuation with a significant decrease in sexual activity since 2004.

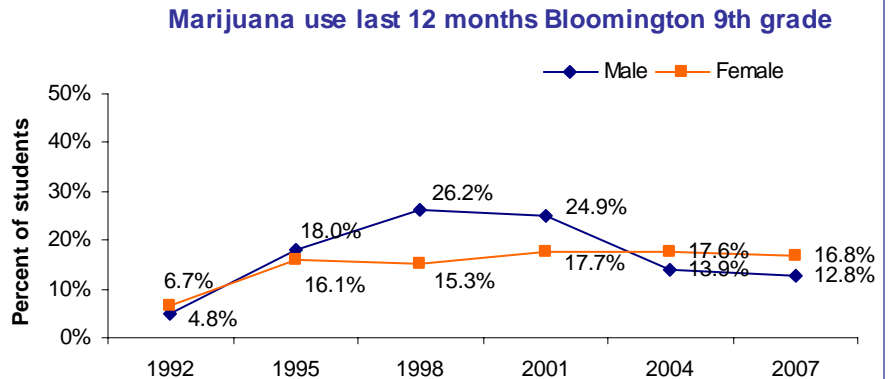
In 2007, this rate was one in five for 9th graders, with more males reporting sexual activity than females.



MARIJUANA USE

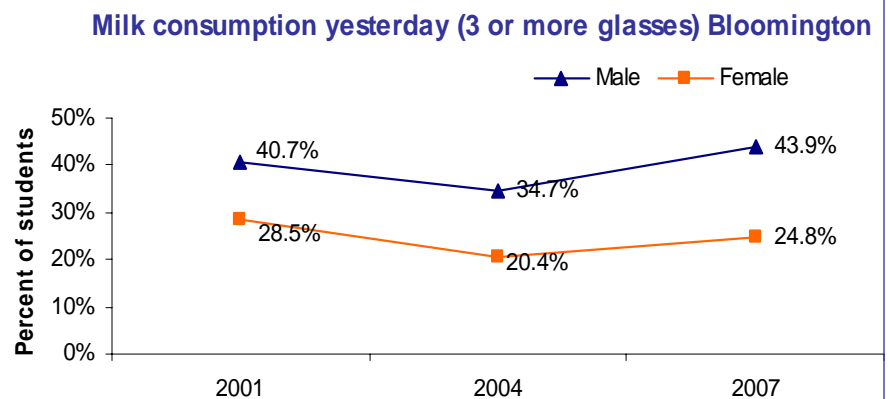
Marijuana use rates among Bloomington 9th graders has declined since 2001.

Use rates among males have steadily declined since 1998.



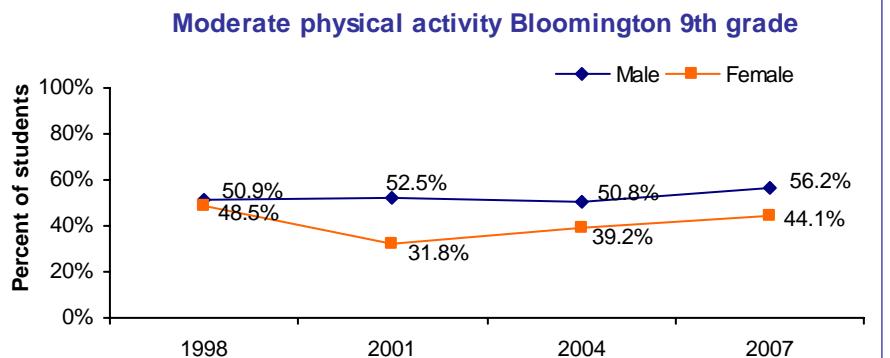
NUTRITION & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Significantly fewer Bloomington 9th grade females than males report adequate milk consumption (drinking three glasses or more of milk in the day prior to taking the survey).



On average in 2007, 50% of Bloomington 9th graders met recommendations for moderate physical activity (30 minutes a day, five or more days a week).

However, 9th grade females continue to lag behind 9th grade males in physical activity.



HEALTHY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

A greater percentage of Bloomington 9th grade males than females report being able to talk with both parents about problems.

Since 2004 there was an increase in connectedness among both genders.

