## Weld County 2016 Community Health Survey

# **Alcohol Use**

# **Key Findings**

- Alcohol is Colorado's most frequently abused substance, and is associated with health risks including injury, violence, liver disease, and cancer.
- Countywide, 48.9% of residents indicated they were current alcohol users. Statewide, 61% had at least one alcoholic drink in the past 30 days.
- Alcohol use was reported more often among residents who were younger or had more education (see chart to right).
- Alcohol abuse in the community was a concern for 71% of residents.



**Current Alcohol Use by Age and Education Level** 



#### Alcohol Use & Binge Drinking

- An episode of binge drinking is defined as five or more drinks on one occasion for men, and four or more drinks on one occasion for women.
- Among all residents (users and non-users), 31% reported at least one episode of binge drinking in the previous month. This is much higher than the statewide binge drinking rate of 18%.
- Countywide, 3% of residents reported alcohol or drug dependence as a health condition.
- In the past 12 months, 5% of Weld County residents needed treatment for alcohol or drug abuse.

#### **Questions?** Cindy Kronauge, MPH PhD, Data Specialist Weld County Department of Public Health & Environment <u>ckronauge@weldgov.com</u> 970-400-2221



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# About the Survey

# **Description of Responders**







## **The Survey Explained**

- In order to periodically assess the health status of county residents, between September 6, 2016 and November 17, 2016, Weld County Department of Public Health & Environment contacted 8,494 households by mail requesting an adult to complete the 55-item survey or complete it online.
- Question topics included health, health care access and insurance, health conditions and lifestyle habits, preventive screenings, environmental issues, community concerns and needs, and demographics.
- Households were selected randomly by first dividing the mailing list into **four regions (see map below)** and two household types (single-family vs. multi-family). The list was certified by the post office but did not contain residents' names.
- After multiple contacts, 2,080 community residents returned usable surveys for a 25 percent response rate. The results are representative of the population within a ±5.0 percent margin of error.
- To see the actual survey go to: www.weldhealth.org



