



Quick Reads

Gerd W. Clabaugh, MPA
Director, Iowa Department of Public Health

June 10, 2015

Iowa Legislature adjourns

The [2015 Iowa Legislative Session](#) adjourned Friday, June 5. The budget has gone to Governor Branstad for his review and signature. Please watch for a special Legislative Summary of enacted bills concerning public health in the coming weeks.

Get your bib on

Governor Branstad has declared June as "[Get Your Bib On](#)" month as part of a new [Healthiest State Initiative](#) campaign to educate Iowans about the importance of oral health, visiting the dentist, and taking advantage of dental insurance benefits. More details about the Get Your Bib On campaign will be announced at the [Healthiest State Conference](#) June 18 in Des Moines.

County-level dental service reports

New county-level [reports](#) are available on the IDPH Web site showing the number of Medicaid-enrolled children who received preventive dental services in FY2014. More than half of Iowans ages 0 through 20 received a dental service during the time period, almost 2,000 more children than the previous year.

A new era: the future is now

I hope you can join me at the 2015 Iowa HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Conference, [A New Era: The Future is Now](#), June 17 and 18, in Des Moines. More than 400 physicians, public health professionals, social workers, and advocates are expected to attend the

conference – the first such Iowa symposium of its kind in five years. The opening day’s keynote speaker will be Murray C. Penner, BSW, the Executive Director of the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors.

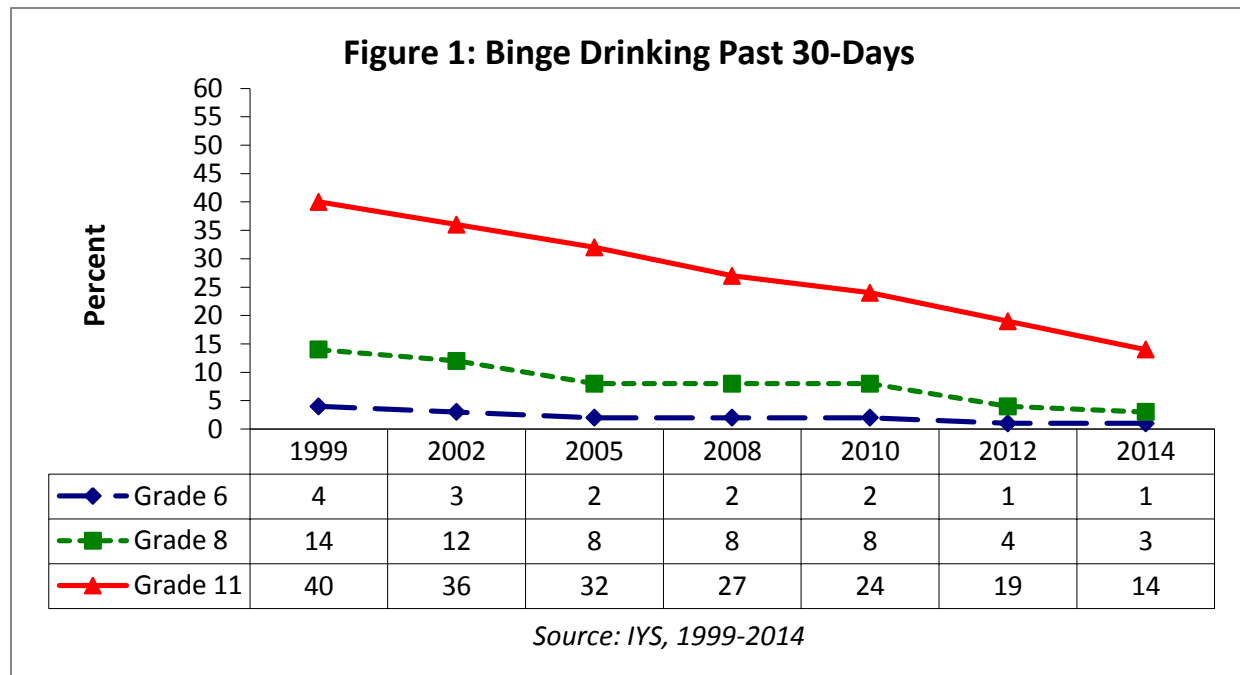
Direct care workforce study

IDPH has partnered with the University of Iowa to conduct a study on turnover among Iowa’s [Direct Care Workers](#). The survey has been sent to the employers of direct care workers and the data is currently being collected. The study will be completed by June 30th.

Monthly data snapshot

Data are essential to the practice of public health. Beginning this month, Quick Reads will highlight selected tidbits to help create awareness of IDPH data and epidemiology. To discover more of the important and useful data available from IDPH, please visit the [Public Health Data Tracking Portal](#).

Percent of Students Reporting Binge Drinking in the Past 30 Days, By Grade



This figure presents the percentage of students by grade who reported having five or more drinks of alcohol (glasses, bottles or cans of beer; glasses of wine, liquor, mixed drinks) within two hours in the last 30 days. Binge drinking appeared to be stable for students in grade 6, with a very low percentage reporting binge drinking. The 1999-2014 [Iowa Youth Survey](#) data show a 26 percentage point decrease in binge drinking among 11th grade students. Inquiries about the IYS may be emailed [here](#).

Congrats and kudos

Don Petsche of the IDPH [Bureau of Information Management](#) has received his security essentials (GSEC) certification, demonstrating his depth of understanding of IT security. With a score of 96 percent, Don exceeded the minimum passing score of 73 percent.

Iowa has been selected to participate in the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP)'s [Adolescent and Young Adult Health Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network](#). Iowa's application was one of just five chosen in a very competitive process.

Stay informed, share your story

To get *Quick Reads* directly in your inbox, please send a blank e-mail to join-quick_reads@lists.ia.gov. To contribute a news item or smart practice, please write to Polly Carver-Kimm at Polly.Carver-Kimm@idph.iowa.gov.

To everyone in public health and all our partners, keep up the great work!

— Gerd