

WISCONSIN CULTURAL INDICATORS 2008



DARRYN C. BECKSTROM



"Strengthening & preserving marriage, family, life & liberty in Wisconsin"

WISCONSIN CULTURAL INDICATORS 2008

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A publication of



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Executive Summary

In 1997, Wisconsin Family Council (formerly The Family Research Institute of Wisconsin) released the first edition of *Wisconsin Cultural Indicators*. It was a well received publication largely because it was the only document of its kind that brought together important statistics that gave a panoramic snapshot of Wisconsin. Modeled after William Bennett's *The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators* at the national level, our *Wisconsin Cultural Indicators* provides an overview of important indicators that impact Wisconsin's best natural resource: her traditional families. When Wisconsin's families are healthy, Wisconsin is healthy. When our state's families are weak and struggling, you can be sure that will be reflected in the overall health of the state.

This 2008 edition of *Wisconsin Cultural Indicators* tracks critical indicators typically over a substantial amount of time, as long as nearly 50 years in some instances. When we present these indicators graphically, we are able to see trends—trends that reveal how healthy or unhealthy our state is in specific areas, as well as in a general sense. As we look at these trends, we are also able to assess whether or not interventions have been helpful. This in turn can provide direction for policy and decision makers on whether or not to maintain such interventions or to introduce others.

The statistics provided here are the most recent available. Not all statistics are released at the same time, which can result in some 2007 statistics being available for one indicator, but not for another. These statistics are generally from the Wisconsin and/or national government agencies responsible for tracking these indicators. As such, the numbers speak for themselves.

As you use this resource, we hope you will bear in mind certain watershed moments in our state and national history (e.g., *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, US Supreme Court dismissal of prayer and Bible reading in public schools in the 1960s, no-fault divorce laws in the 1970s, etc.). Superimposing these dates over the data in this publication will prove to be very interesting and instructive.

We trust that public officials, educators at all levels, business leaders, pastors and ministry leaders, as well as lay citizens, will find this *Wisconsin Cultural Indicators 2008* instructive and helpful as they make decisions affecting Wisconsin's future. May they truly reflect in their choices and policies that they understand that healthy Wisconsin families result in a healthy Wisconsin.



Vital Statistics

- The population of Wisconsin is currently at 5.6 million, making it the 20th largest state in the nation.
- While the population in Wisconsin has increased over the past several decades, the birth rate has fallen steadily since 1960. The birth rate has been at or below the U.S. average for the past 35 years.
- Births to unmarried mothers have increased significantly over the past 25 years. In 2006, 1 out of every 3 babies born in Wisconsin was to an unmarried mother.

- Births to teenage mothers, aged 15 to 19, in Wisconsin has steadily decreased over the past 25 years. While the number of teenage mothers giving birth is below the U.S. average, there is a large disparity in the amount of births to white, black, and Hispanic teenagers.
- In 2007, there were 11 abortions performed in Wisconsin for every 100 live births.

Family

- Between 1960 and 2007, the marriage and divorce rates in Wisconsin were below the U.S. average. In 2007, Wisconsin's marriage and divorce rates were 22 percent and 19 percent below the U.S. average, respectively.
- Marriage rates in Wisconsin have fallen 20 percent since 1995 and 32 percent since 1985.
- Over half of the divorces granted in Wisconsin in 2007 involved children under the age of 18.
- Since 1985, there has been a 57 percent increase in the number of child abuse and neglect reports that have been investigated. However, during this same time period, there has been a 13 percent decrease in the substantiation rate of these reports.

Health

- Since 1997, there has been a 66 percent increase in the number of reported sexually transmitted diseases in Wisconsin.
- There were 407 reported cases of HIV in Wisconsin in 2007. Sixty-nine percent of these cases were attributed to men having sex with men.
- In a 2004-05 government survey, Wisconsin had the highest percentage of individuals in the U.S. who reported alcohol dependency or abuse problems within the past year.

Education

- Public school enrollment in Wisconsin has fluctuated over the past 45 years, while private school enrollment has decreased 37 percent between 1970 and 2007. Since 1980, there has been a 21 fold increase in the number of home-schooled students in Wisconsin.
- Between 2000 and 2007, per student spending in Wisconsin increased almost 37 percent. In 2005, Wisconsin's spending per student was 15 percent higher than the U.S. average.
- In 2005, 90.5 percent of adults in Wisconsin were high school graduates (10th highest in the U.S.) and 25.1 percent of adults held bachelors degrees or higher (33rd highest in the U.S.).
- In 2007, the average ACT composite score in Wisconsin was 22.3. Wisconsin's score ranked second among the states where college-bound high school students primarily take the ACT as a college entrance exam. The national average ACT composite score was 21.1.

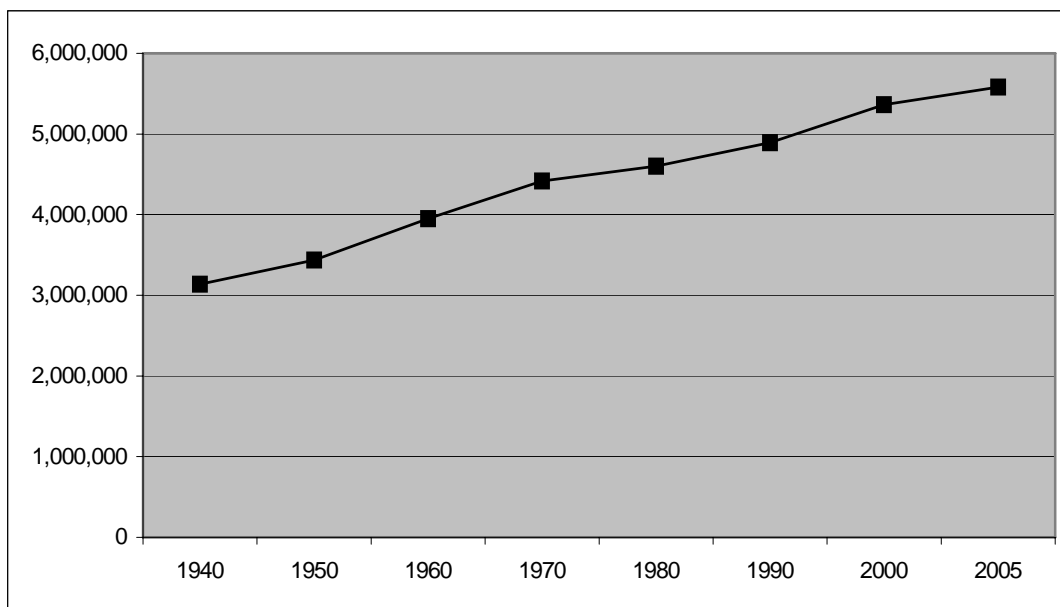
Crime

- Since 1960, there has been a nearly 4 fold increase in overall arrests for index offenses in Wisconsin. However, between 2000 and 2007, there was a 3 percent decrease in such arrests.
- In 2006, there were 289 violent crimes per 100,000 persons in Wisconsin compared to the U.S. average of 474 violent crimes per 100,000 persons.
- Between 2000 and 2007, there was a 19 percent decline in the number of arrests of juveniles in Wisconsin for index offenses. During this same period, there was a 7 percent decrease in violent crime arrests for juveniles.
- During the period between 2000 and 2006, there was a 5 percent increase in the number of arrests for sale, manufacturing, and possession of drugs in Wisconsin.
- Currently, the adult prison population in Wisconsin is over 22,000 inmates. Between 2000 and 2005, there was a 66.7 percent increase in the adult prison population.

Gambling

- Between 1994 and 2004, there was a 53.7 percent decrease in the amount of handle from dog tracks in Wisconsin.
- Since 1997, there has been an 84.7 percent increase in the amount of money individuals are wagering at casinos on Indian reservations in Wisconsin. In 2006, \$16 billion was wagered at such casinos.

Population of Wisconsin

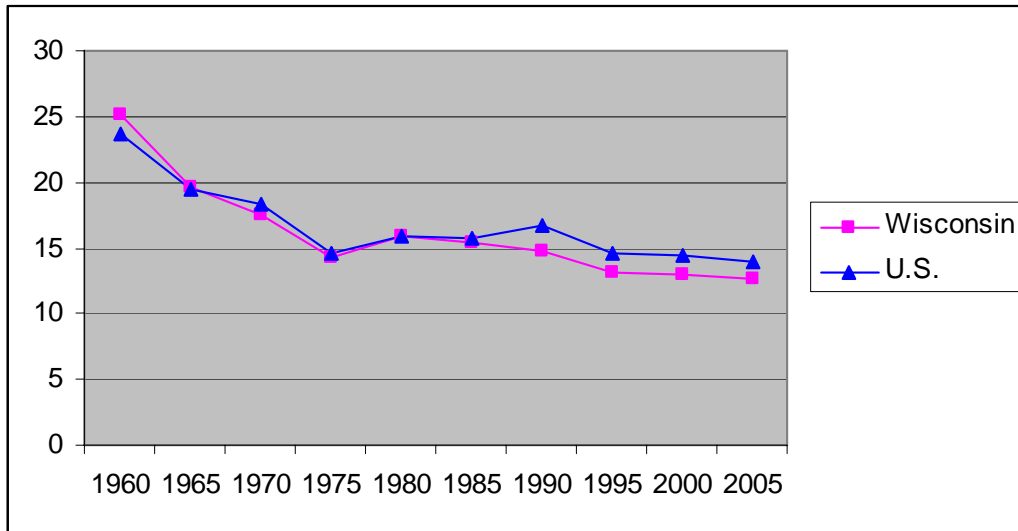


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	Population (WI)	Population (U.S.)
1940	3,137,587	132,164,569
1950	3,434,575	151,325,798
1960	3,951,777	179,323,175
1970	4,417,821	203,211,926
1980	4,602,299	226,545,805
1990	4,891,769	249,464,396
2000	5,363,715	281,421,906
2005	5,581,839	296,410,00

- The population of Wisconsin is currently at 5.6 million, making it the 20th largest state in the nation as of July 2006.¹
- Overall, there was a 3.6 percent increase in population between 2000 and 2006, and Wisconsin ranked 32nd among the states in the percentage increase during this period.² This percentage increase is lower than the overall U.S. increase of 6.4 percent.³
- In 2006, the largest age group in Wisconsin was between the ages 0-14 (1,078,955) followed by those aged 45-54 (861,359) and 55-64 (603,074).⁴ The last two age groups reflect the presence of the “baby boomer” generation and highlight the significant number of older individuals in the Wisconsin population. In 2005, Wisconsin ranked 22nd among the states in percentage of the state population 65 years old and over (13 percent)⁵ and 35th in percentage of the state population under the age of 18 (23 percent).⁶
- In 2005, approximately 86 percent of Wisconsin’s population was non-Hispanic white (13th among the states in percentage),⁷ 6 percent was black (29th among the states),⁸ and nearly 5 percent was Hispanic or Latino (31st among the states).⁹

Birth Rate and Live Births

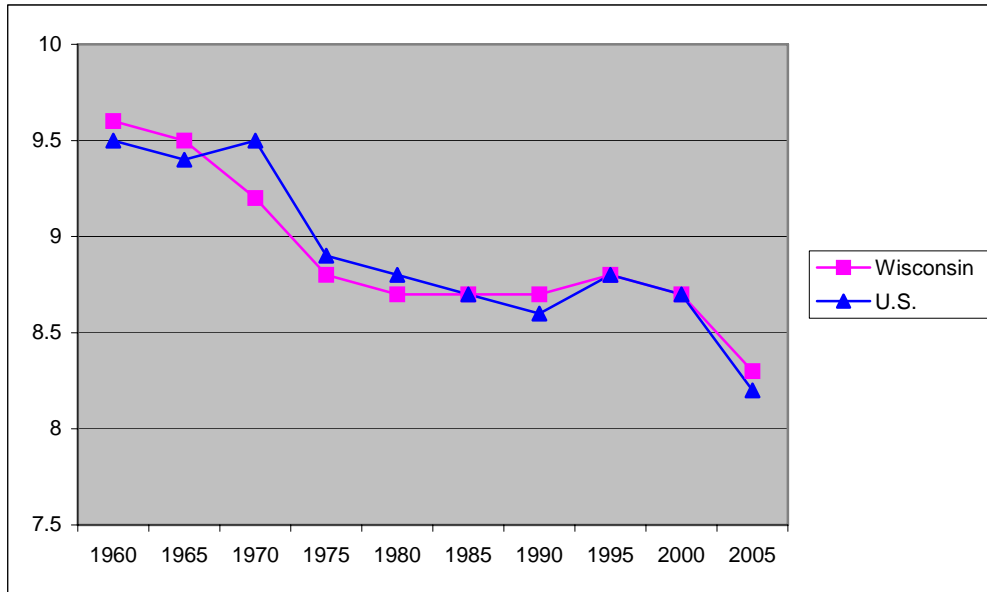


Sources: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, U.S. Census Bureau

Year	Live Births	Crude Birth Rate/1,000 Population (WI)	Crude Birth Rate/1,000 Population (U.S.)
1960	99,493	25.1	23.7
1965	82,919	19.7	19.4
1970	77,455	17.5	18.4
1975	65,145	14.3	14.6
1980	74,763	15.9	15.9
1985	73,647	15.4	15.8
1990	72,636	14.8	16.7
1995	67,493	13.2	14.6
2000	69,289	12.9	14.4
2001	69,012	12.7	14.1
2002	68,510	12.6	13.9
2003	69,999	12.7	14.1
2004	70,130	12.7	14.0
2005	70,934	12.7	14.0
2006	72,302	12.9	14.3

- Between 1960 and 2006, Wisconsin's crude birth rate decreased 49 percent. Wisconsin's birth rate has fallen steadily from 25.1 births per 1,000 persons in 1960 to 12.9 births per 1,000 in 2006.¹⁰ In comparison, the U.S. birth rate has fallen 40 percent during this same time period.¹¹
- The crude birth rate in Wisconsin has been at or below the U.S. crude birth rate since 1970.¹²
- In 2006, there were 72,302 live births to residents of Wisconsin, and 6,100 of these births were to women age 19 and under (8.4 percent of all births).¹³ In 2006, 5.8 percent of all births to white mothers were to mothers below the age of 20.¹⁴ In the same year, 21.9 percent of all births to black mothers were to mothers below the age of 20.¹⁵
- 8,104 of these births (11.2 percent) were premature (gestation of less than 37 weeks when born) in 2006.¹⁶ Of these, 15.3 percent were to mothers under age 18.¹⁷

Death Rates

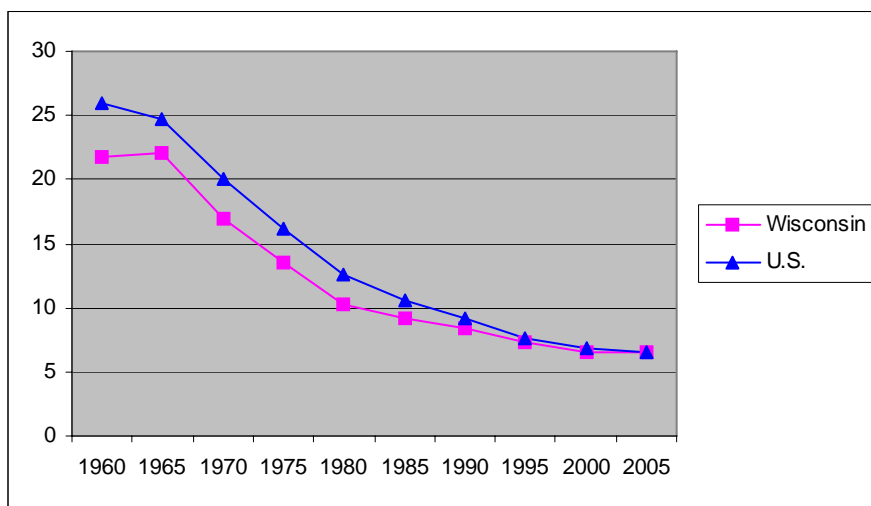


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	Death Rate/1,000 Population (WI)	Death Rate/1,000 Population (U.S.)
1960	9.6	9.5
1965	9.5	9.4
1970	9.2	9.5
1975	8.8	8.9
1980	8.7	8.8
1985	8.7	8.7
1990	8.7	8.6
1995	8.8	8.8
2000	8.7	8.7
2001	8.6	8.5
2002	8.6	8.5
2003	8.4	8.3
2004	8.2	8.0
2005	8.3	8.2
2006	8.2	8.0

- Since 1960, Wisconsin's death rate has decreased 14.6 percent while the national death rate has decreased nearly 15.8 percent.¹⁸ In 2006, 46,051 Wisconsin residents died for an average rate of 8.2 deaths per 1,000 persons compared to 9.6 deaths per 1,000 persons in 1960.¹⁹
- In 2006, heart disease was the most prevalent cause of death in Wisconsin.²⁰ Heart disease was the underlying cause of death for 24.8 percent of all deaths in Wisconsin, with a rate of 203.7 deaths per 100,000 persons.²¹ In 2004, the rate in Wisconsin was 214.5 deaths per 100,000 persons,²² nearly 4 percent lower than the national average of 222.7 deaths per 100,000 persons.²³
- Cancer was the second most prevalent cause of death. In 2006, cancer was the leading underlying cause of death for 23.7 percent of all deaths in Wisconsin, with a rate of 194.4 deaths per 100,000 persons.²⁴ In 2004, the rate in Wisconsin was 195.7 deaths per 100,000 persons, 4 percent higher than the national average of 187.4 deaths per 100,000 persons.²⁵
- In 2006, accidents and homicide were the leading underlying causes of death for those aged 15-24, with a rate of 36.3 deaths and 8.5 deaths, respectively, per 100,000 persons aged 15-24.²⁶

Infant Mortality Rate

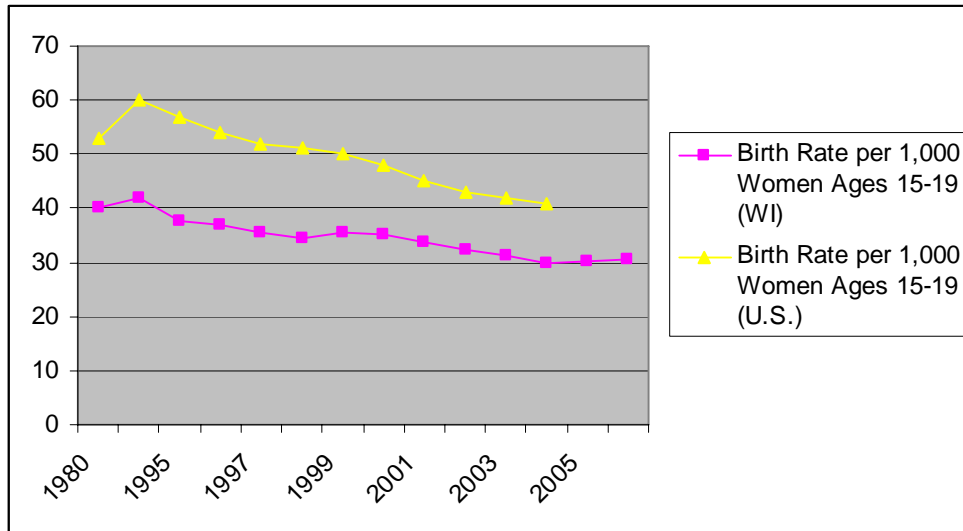


Sources: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, U.S. Census Bureau

Year	Infant Deaths (less than 12 months old)	Infant Deaths/ 1,000 Live Births (WI)	Infant Deaths/ 1,000 Live Births (U.S.)
1960	2,173	21.8	26.0
1965	1,829	22.1	24.7
1970	1,309	16.9	20.0
1975	882	13.5	16.1
1980	769	10.3	12.6
1985	674	9.2	10.6
1990	611	8.4	9.2
1995	493	7.3	7.6
2000	457	6.6	6.9
2001	491	7.1	6.8
2002	471	6.9	7.0
2003	454	6.5	6.9
2004	420	6.0	6.8
2005	469	6.6	6.8
2006	462	6.4	6.6

- Infant mortality rates have decreased substantially in Wisconsin and the U.S. within the past five decades.²⁷ Between 1960 and 2006, the infant mortality rate has decreased 71 percent and 75 percent in Wisconsin and the U.S. respectively.²⁸
- In 2006, there were 462 infant deaths in Wisconsin.²⁹ According to the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, conditions originating in the perinatal period (51 percent of all deaths) were the leading cause of death for babies who died within the first year of birth.³⁰ Congenital malformations (20 percent) and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (7 percent) were the second and third leading causes of death, respectively.³¹
- There is a disproportion in the infant mortality rate among races. In 2006, the infant mortality rate in Wisconsin for infants born to black mothers was 3.5 times higher than infants born to white mothers (17.2 and 4.9 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively).³²
- Between 1985 and 2006, the infant mortality rate among whites in Wisconsin decreased 30 percent (9.2 deaths to 6.4 deaths per 1,000 live births) compared to 2 percent for blacks (17.5 deaths to 17.2 deaths per 1,000 live births).³³

Births to Teens, Age 15-19



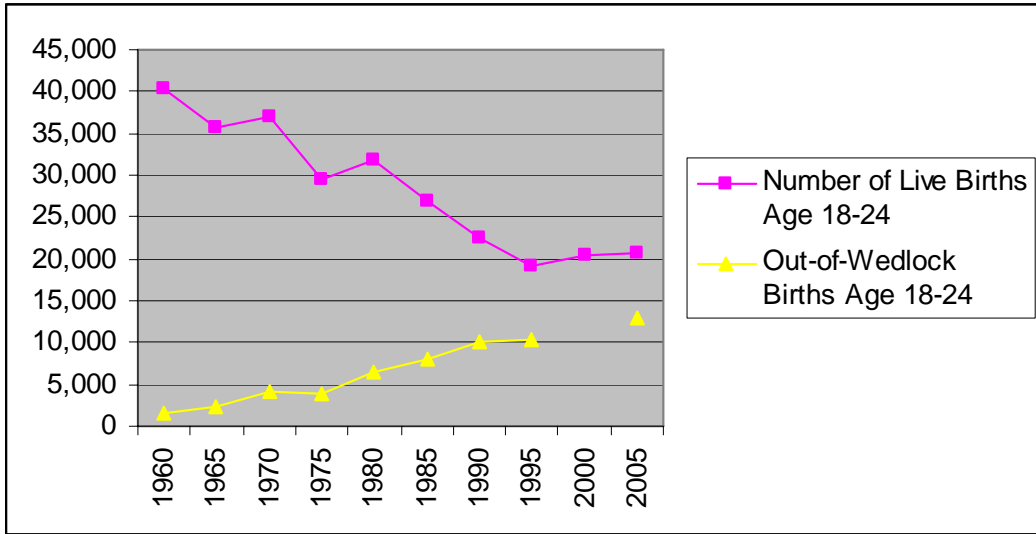
Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Women Ages 15-19 (WI)	Birth Rate per 1,000 Women Ages 15-19 (U.S.) ¹
1980	40.0	53
1990	42.0	60
1995	37.8	57
1996	36.8	54
1997	35.5	52
1998	34.5	51
1999	35.4	50
2000	35.2	48
2001	33.9	45
2002	32.2	43
2003	31.2	42
2004	30.0	41
2005	30.1	40
2006	30.6	n/a

¹Figures are rounded.

- The birth rate among Wisconsin teenagers aged 15 to 19 has decreased nearly 17 percent in the last decade while the national average has decreased nearly 30 percent.³⁴ In 2004, Wisconsin's birth rate among 15-19 year olds was nearly 27 percent below the national average.³⁵
- While the overall birth rate to teenagers has decreased, there is a significant disproportion of births to minority teenagers when compared to white teenagers.³⁶ In 2006, the birth rate among teens was five times higher for both blacks (93.8 births per 1,000 black females) and Hispanics (94.6 births per 1,000 Hispanic females) compared to non-Hispanic whites (19.1 births per 1,000 white females).³⁷
- Illegitimacy among teenagers is also an increasing problem in society. In 2006, there were 6,100 births to women age 19 and under in Wisconsin, and almost 9 out of 10 (87 percent) of these births were to unmarried women.³⁸
- The decline in the teenage pregnancy rate can be attributed to abstinence and abstinence education programs.³⁹ An April 2003 study in *Adolescent Family and Health* found that 67 percent of the decrease in the teen pregnancy rate among women between the ages of 15 and 19 can be attributed to abstinence.⁴⁰ Further, in August 2004 study published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* found that while increased contraceptive usage among teens has decreased the teen pregnancy rate, abstinence by teens has contributed more to the decline.⁴¹ Specifically, 53 percent of the decline is a result of abstinence compared to 43 percent for increased usage of contraception.⁴²

Births to Mothers, Age 18-24

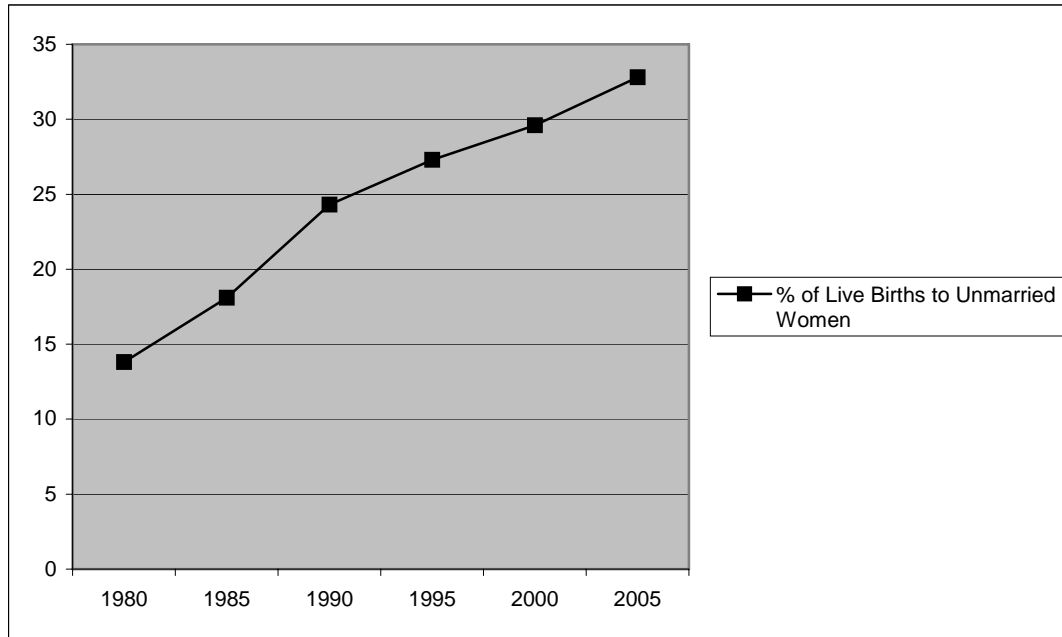


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	Number of Live Births Age 18-24	Out-of-Wedlock Births Age 18-24	Percent of Out-of-Wedlock Births Age 18-24
1960	40,372	1,435	3.6
1965	35,648	2,271	6.4
1970	36,910	4,251	11.5
1975	29,417	3,965	13.5
1980	31,698	6,450	20.3
1985	26,997	7,949	29.4
1990	22,402	10,160	45.4
1995	19,253	10,316	53.6
2000	20,359	n/a	n/a
2005	20,661	13,037	63.1

- In 2005, there were 20,661 births among individuals aged 18 to 24 in Wisconsin, and 63 percent of these births were out of wedlock.⁴³
- The number of births to unmarried mothers in this cohort is increasing significantly. The percentage of births to unmarried individuals has increased over fifteen-fold from 3.6 percent in 1960 to 63.1 percent in 2005.⁴⁴ Further, between 1995 and 2005, the number of out-of-wedlock births in this age cohort increased 26 percent.⁴⁵

Births to Unmarried Mothers

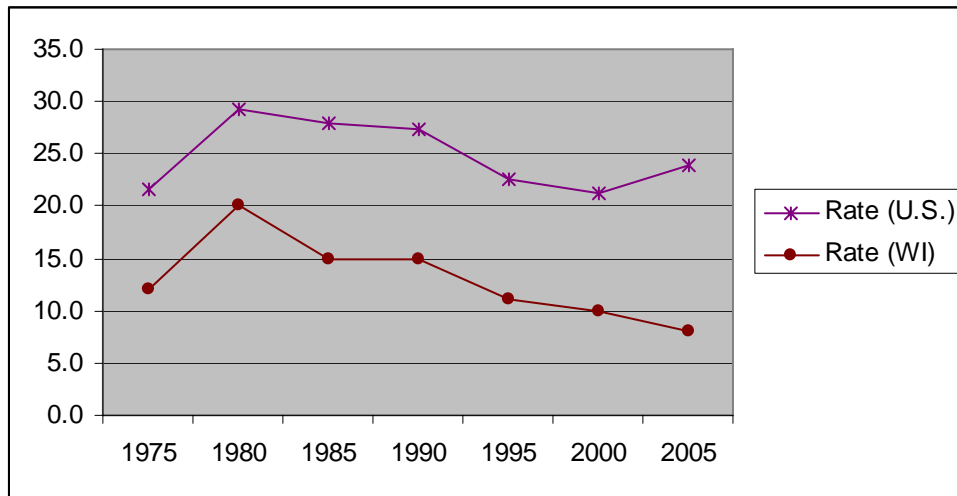


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	Out of Wedlock Births	% of Total Live Births
1980	10,352	13.8
1985	13,346	18.1
1990	17,615	24.3
1995	18,420	27.3
2000	20,543	29.6
2005	23,244	32.8
2006	24,809	34.3

- The number of babies born to unmarried mothers in Wisconsin has more than doubled in the last 25 years.⁴⁶
- In 2006, 1 out of every 3 babies born in Wisconsin was to an unmarried mother,⁴⁷ and the U.S. rate increased to a high of almost 4 out of 10 babies born out of wedlock in 2006.⁴⁸ This means that in the U.S. each year, approximately 1.5 million babies are born into homes without married moms and dads.⁴⁹
- An April 2006 brief by the Brookings Institution notes the difficulties unwed mothers face: "...women who have children outside marriage are less likely to marry, stay married, or marry well (particularly in economic terms). Put most starkly, out-of-wedlock childbearing reduces women's attractiveness in the marriage market."⁵⁰
- The same brief from the Brookings Institution concluded, "...the evidence is clear that out-of-wedlock childbearing—among both single persons and cohabiting couples—is a primary reason for the lack of family stability in children's lives and therefore deserves the nation's full attention."⁵¹

Abortion



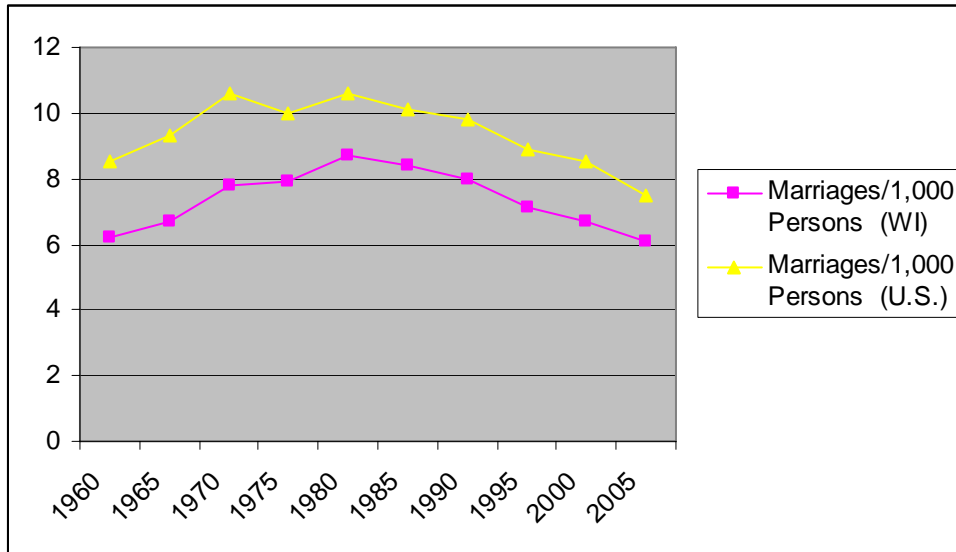
Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	# of Abortions	Ratio of Abortions per 100 Live Births	Rate of Abortions per 1,000 Women (15-44) (WI)	Rate of Abortions per 1,000 Women (15-44) (U.S.)
1975	12,319	19	12	21.7
1980	21,754	29	20	29.3
1985	17,309	24	15	28.0
1990	16,848	23	15	27.4
1995	12,782	19	11	22.5
2000	11,040	16	10	21.3
2001	10,925	16	9	21.1
2002	10,489	15	9	20.8
2003	10,557	16	9	20.8
2004	9,943	14	9	16.0
2005	9,817	14	8	n/a
2006	9,580	14	8	n/a
2007	8,267	11	7	n/a

- A total of 498,429 reported abortions occurred in Wisconsin between 1974, the year following *Roe v. Wade*, and 2007.⁵³ This figure is greater than the combined populations of Madison, Green Bay, Racine, and Eau Claire. In 2007, there were 8,267 abortions, or an average of about 23 abortions a day in Wisconsin.⁵⁴
- In 2007, 77 percent of the abortions performed in this state were to women who were never married.⁵⁵
- Dane and Milwaukee counties had the highest rate of abortions among all Wisconsin counties in 2006, with a rate of 10.8 and 16.1 abortions per 1,000 women respectively.⁵⁶ The statewide abortion rate of 7 was 57 percent lower than Milwaukee's rate of 16.1 in 2007.⁵⁷
- The abortion rate may be higher than reported because of the use of hormonal birth control pills. "The Pill" may increase the probability of an abortion by preventing a fertilized egg from implanting itself in the uterus of a mother. The use of "the Pill" in the U.S. is widespread. In the 2002 National Survey of Family Growth, among a sample of 54.2 million women who have ever had sexual intercourse, 82 percent of women had reported ever using birth control pills.⁵⁸

¹Based on 2004 data, the most recent available for the U.S.⁵²

Marriage

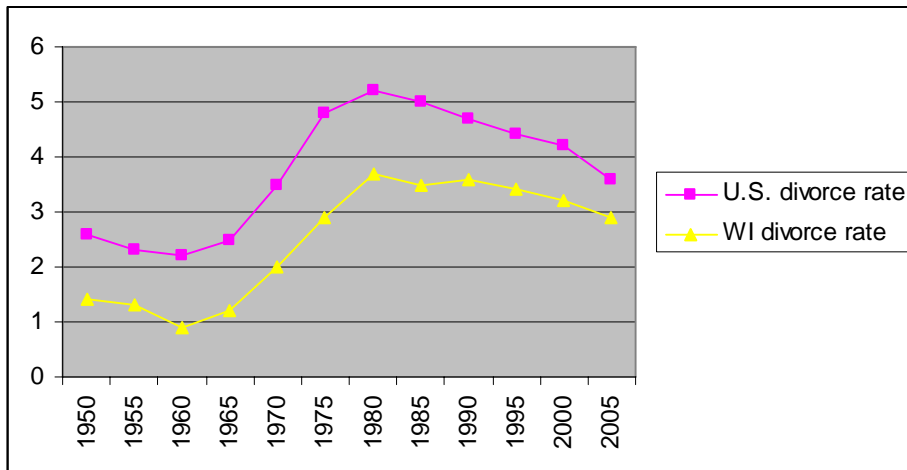


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	Number of Marriages	Marriages/1,000 Persons (WI)	Marriages/1,000 Persons (U.S.)
1960	24,573	6.2	8.5
1965	28,410	6.7	9.3
1970	34,415	7.8	10.6
1975	35,888	7.9	10.0
1980	41,113	8.7	10.6
1985	40,014	8.4	10.1
1990	38,934	8.0	9.8
1995	36,354	7.1	8.9
2000	36,100	6.7	8.5
2001	34,790	6.5	8.4
2002	34,241	6.3	7.9
2003	34,220	6.2	7.7
2004	34,056	6.2	7.8
2005	33,876	6.1	7.5
2006	33,437	6.0	7.3
2007	32,159	5.7	7.3

- In 2007, the marriage rate in Wisconsin was 5.7 marriages per 1,000 persons, which was 22 percent below the national average.⁵⁹ Wisconsin had the 10th lowest marriage rate in the nation in 2004.⁶⁰
- Since 1980, the marriage rate has decreased 34 percent in Wisconsin.⁶¹ This decrease is likely because of the increasing number of individuals choosing to cohabitate instead of enter into a marital union. In 2000, Wisconsin had the 12th highest cohabitation rate in the nation at 5.3 percent of all households.
- Social science research strongly indicates the positive benefits of marriage for adults and children alike over cohabitation. Marriage is associated with lower levels of poverty,⁶² increased levels of educational attainment,⁶³ decreased levels of child delinquency,⁶⁴ positive academic outcomes for children,⁶⁵ increased salary levels for men,⁶⁶ lower levels of domestic abuse,⁶⁷ and a decrease in alcohol and drug usage among adolescents,⁶⁸ in addition to many other benefits, after controlling for standard socioeconomic variables.

Divorce

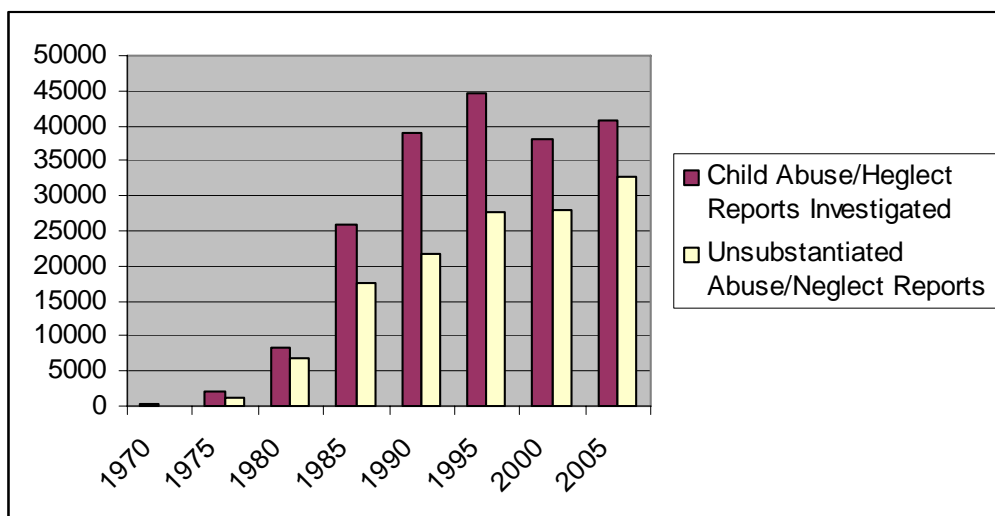


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Year	Number of Divorces	Divorces/ 1,000 Persons (WI)	Divorces/ 1,000 Persons (U.S)
1960	3,672	0.9	2.2
1965	5,232	1.2	2.5
1970	8,930	2.0	3.5
1975	13,187	2.9	4.8
1980	17,589	3.7	5.2
1985	16,596	3.5	5.0
1990	17,727	3.6	4.7
1995	17,313	3.4	4.4
2000	17,388	3.2	4.2
2001	17,457	3.3	4.0
2002	17,471	3.2	4.0
2003	17,150	3.1	3.8
2004	16,802	3.0	3.7
2005	16,297	2.9	3.6
2006	16,730	3.0	3.6
2007	16,458	2.9	3.6

- In 2007, the divorce rate in Wisconsin was 2.9 divorces per 1,000 persons compared to the U.S. rate of 3.6 divorces per 1,000 persons.⁶⁹
- Although the divorce rate in Wisconsin is lower than the U.S. average, the divorce rate in Wisconsin has increased steadily since the enactment of no-fault divorce legislation in 1978. In 1960, the divorce rate was right at 1 divorce per 1,000 population. This rate increased to nearly 3 divorces per 1,000 population in 2007.⁷⁰
- Over half of the divorces granted in Wisconsin in 2007 involved children under the age of 18.⁷¹
- Peer-reviewed research has attributed higher levels of poverty, decreases in educational attainment levels, and adolescent suicide, among other social problems, to divorce.

Child Abuse and Neglect



Source: Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

Year	Child Abuse/Neglect Reports Investigated ¹	Unsubstantiated Abuse/Neglect Reports	Substantiation Rate
1970	402	144	64%
1975	2,033	1,198	41%
1980 ²	8,286	6,856	19%
1985	26,011	17,427	33%
1990	38,842	21,798	37%
1995	44,661	27,690	38%
2000	38,021	27,877*	27% ³
2005	40,917	32,769*	20%

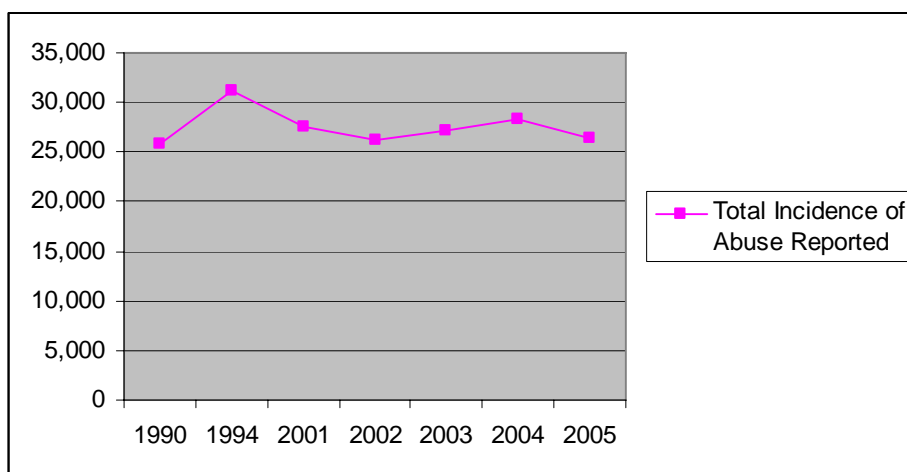
* Estimated figures based on reported substantiation rate.

Note: Child abuse and neglect cases were combined in 1979.

¹According to DHFS, a report is a “child identified in a screened-in referral as an alleged victim of maltreatment or threatened maltreatment is considered one CPS report. One CPS report can have multiple allegations involving the same child.”⁷² ²Child neglect was not reported in Wisconsin until 5/24/78. ³Policy changes regarding the ramifications of substantiated child abuse/neglect reports may have contributed to the decrease in the substantiation rate.⁷³

- In 2005, there were 40,917 reports of child abuse or neglect investigated by the state.⁷⁴ This equates to 30.1 reports for every 1,000 children under the age of 18 in Wisconsin.⁷⁵
- Since 1985, there has been a 57 percent increase in the number of child abuse/neglect reports that have been investigated; and since 1975, the substantiation rate has not risen above 50 percent. In 2005, the rate of substantiation reached its lowest point of 20 percent since 1980, when it was 19 percent.⁷⁶
- Social science research has found a relationship between child abuse and family structure. Specifically, children raised in a household with their married biological parents are, on average, less likely to experience child abuse or neglect when compared to children raised in single parent households.⁷⁷

Domestic Abuse



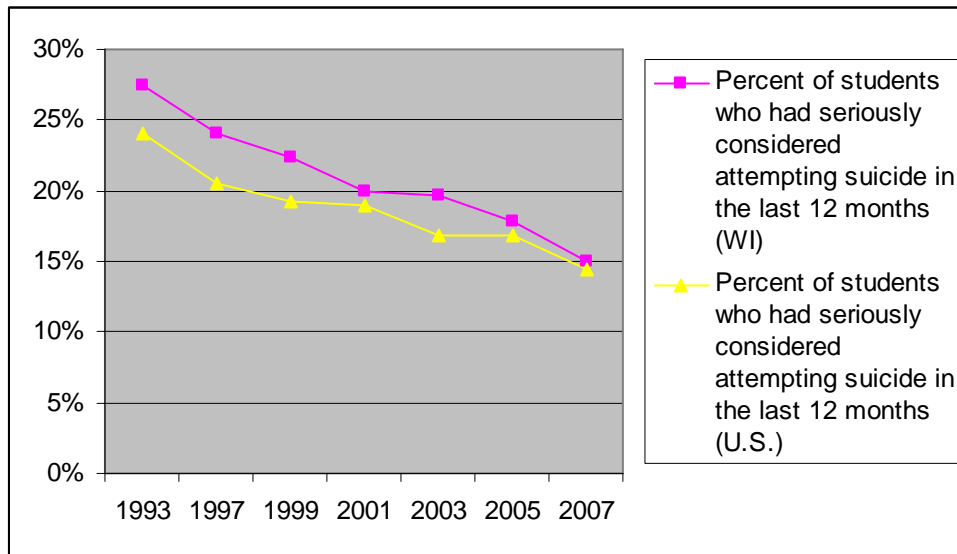
Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice, Office of Crime Victim Services

Year	Total Incidence of Abuse Reported ¹	Persons Arrested for Abuse
1990	25,779	10,882
1994	31,087	23,430
2001	27,454	19,835
2002	26,132	n/a ²
2003	27,102	16,461
2004	28,293	13,448
2005	26,323	17,899 ³
2006	25,531	12,259

¹Some of the data for total incidence of abuse is not complete, as some counties did not report. ²Arrest data was not compiled for 2002. ³Figure is approximate.

- Since 1990, there has been some fluctuation in the total incidence of abuse reported in Wisconsin. In 1990, there were 25,779 reports compared to 25,531 reports in 2006.⁷⁸ Both of these figures are lower than the high of 31,087 reports in 1994.
- In 2005, the arrest rate for the state was 68 percent of all reported incidences.⁷⁹ The frequency of arrest is higher in Wisconsin for domestic abuse incidents than other crimes because of Wisconsin’s Mandatory Arrest Law. The law states that an individual may be arrested if the “officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person is committing or has committed domestic abuse and that the person’s actions constitute the commission of a crime.”⁸⁰
- In 2004, 46 percent of victims of domestic abuse were in non-married relationships (24 percent were cohabitating or ex-cohabitating partners, and 22 percent were partners in dating relationships). Thirty-five percent (35%) were spouses or ex-spouses..⁸¹
- These figures demonstrate that the majority of domestic abuse incidents occur outside of a marital relationship in Wisconsin. Using data from the U.S. Department of Justice National Crime Victimization Survey, a 2004 report by the Heritage Foundation found that single or cohabitating mothers are, on average, twice as likely to experience domestic abuse when compared to married mothers.⁸² Further, this same report found that single or cohabitating mothers are also more likely to be the victims of violent crime committed by a significant other or stranger when compared to their married counterparts.⁸³

Adolescent Suicide

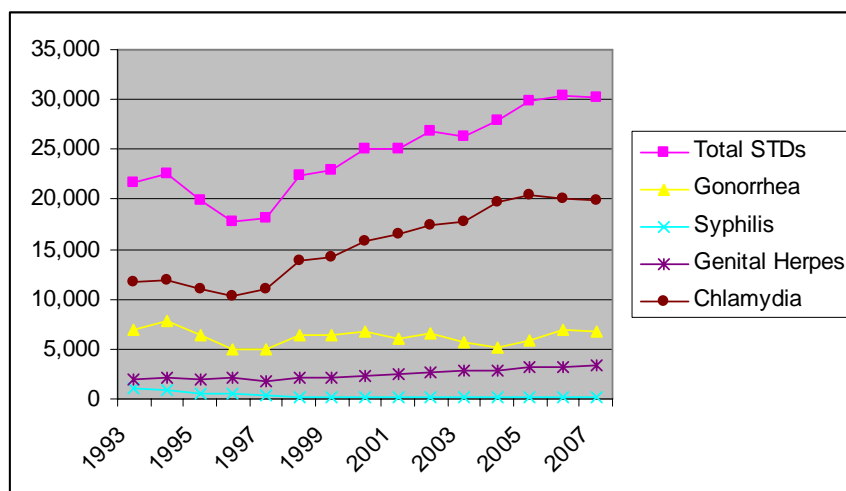


Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Year	Percentage of students who had seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months (WI)	Percentage of students who had seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months (U.S.)
1993	27.4%	24.1%
1997	24.1%	20.5%
1999	22.4%	19.3%
2001	19.9%	19.0%
2003	19.6%	16.9%
2005	17.8%	16.9%
2007	15.0%	14.5%

- In the study, “Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey,” a bi-annual survey administered to high school students throughout the state by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the number of high school students reporting that they had “seriously considered suicide during the past twelve months” decreased by nearly ten percent between 1993 (27.4 percent) and 2007 (15 percent).⁸⁴ The 2007 figure was slightly above the U.S. average of 14.5 percent.⁸⁵
- Wisconsin high school students reporting that they have actually attempted suicide with the last year has hovered around 8 percent for the last fourteen years.⁸⁶ This figure is near the U.S. average, and as with the Wisconsin figures, this figure has remained relatively stable between 1993 and 2005.⁸⁷
- The Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey found that females, on average, are more likely to consider or attempt suicide compared to males.⁸⁸
- Nationally, the suicide rate among those between the ages of 5-14 and 15-24 years has decreased steadily since 1990. Between 1990 and 2003, the rate of suicide among these cohorts decreased 25 and 27 percent, respectively.⁸⁹

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)



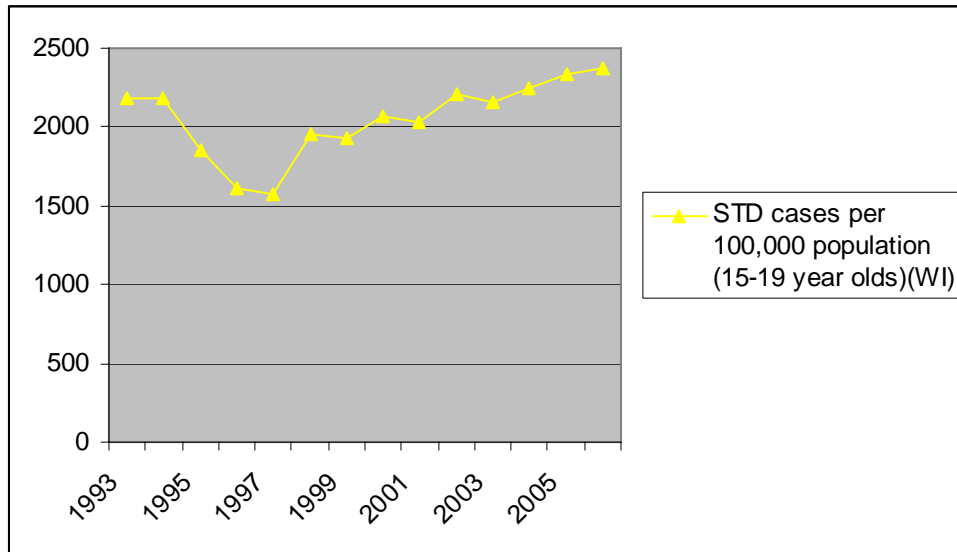
Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin STD Program

Year	Total STDs ¹	Gonorrhea	Syphilis	Genital Herpes	Chlamydia
1993	21,634	6,892	1,134	1,888	11,720
1994	22,604	7,806	824	2,136	11,838
1995	19,986	6,371	617	1,946	11,052
1996	17,762	4,911	505	2,080	10,266
1997	18,173	4,917	351	1,842	11,063
1998	22,422	6,319	216	2,046	13,841
1999	22,861	6,355	138	2,111	14,257
2000	24,962	6,735	181	2,321	15,725
2001	25,133	6,070	137	2,450	16,476
2002	26,759	6,499	137	2,684	17,441
2003	26,318	5,602	111	2,825	17,780
2004	27,866	5,163	129	2,912	19,662
2005	29,770	5,949	138	3,273	20,410
2006	30,398	6,883	160	3,263	20,092
2007	30,153	6,794	165	3,350	19,844

¹DHFS does not distinguish between sexually transmitted infections and sexually transmitted diseases when reporting cases of STDs.

- In Wisconsin, all cases of chlamydia, chancroid, genital herpes, gonorrhea, pelvic inflammatory disease, and syphilis must be reported to the state. Since 1997, the overall number of STDs has increased steadily in Wisconsin.⁹⁰ This increase is also seen in every STD category except for syphilis, which has decreased since 1993.⁹¹
- STDs disproportionately affect blacks. In 2007, there were 178 reported cases of the four reported STDs per 100,000 whites compared to 3,073 reported cases of these same STDs per 100,000 blacks.⁹² Further, in 2007, STDs also affect females more than males.⁹³

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) Age 15-19



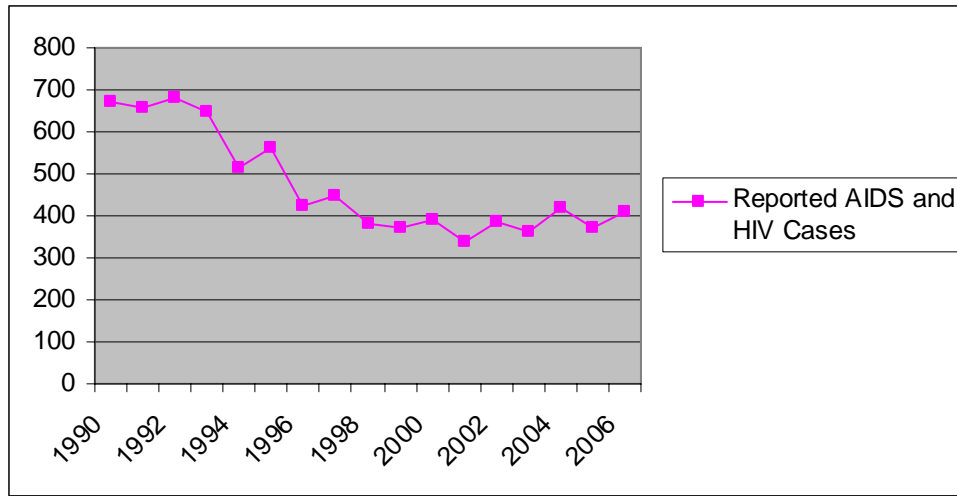
Source: Bureau of Health Information and Policy, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

Year	Total STDs ¹	Rate (per 100,000 population aged 15-19)
1993	7,659	2,177.5
1994	7,872	2,176.5
1995	6,947	1,854.0
1996	6,271	1,612.2
1997	6,331	1,579.0
1998	8,031	1,951.3
1999	8,064	1,933.3
2000	8,416	2,065.7
2001	8,311	2,032.7
2002	9,047	2,207.6
2003	8,848	2,161.1
2004	9,195	2,247.7
2005	9,552	2,335.0
2006	9,628	2,378.6

¹DHFS does not distinguish between sexually transmitted infections and sexually transmitted diseases when reporting cases of STDs.

- The number of reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases (chlamydia, genital herpes, gonorrhea, and syphilis) has steadily increased in Wisconsin between 1993 and 2006 among individuals aged 15-19.⁹⁴
- This increase does not seem to be attributed directly to the quality of education students are receiving in school. According to a bi-annual survey conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, among a random sample of 2,389 Wisconsin high school students, almost 93 percent of them responded that they have “been taught about ways to prevent pregnancy, AIDS/HIV, or other sexually transmitted diseases in school” in 2005.⁹⁵
- The rates for STDs among women aged 15-19 in 2006 are much higher than those for men.⁹⁶ In 2006, 2,121 of the reported STD cases were among males compared to 7,490 cases for females.⁹⁷
- There is a significant disparity in STD rates among races. In 2006, the STD rate for blacks was 13,146 cases per 100,000 population aged 15-19 compared to 684 and 1,633 cases per 100,000 population aged 15-19 for whites and Hispanics, respectively.⁹⁸

HIV/AIDS Rates



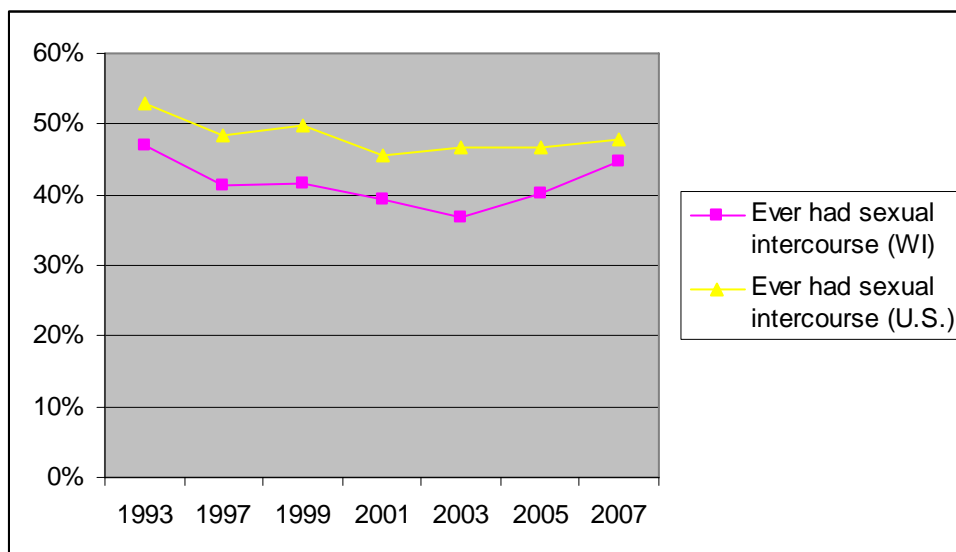
Source: Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health

Year	Reported HIV Cases ¹
1990	672
1991	656
1992	683
1993	650
1994	514
1995	562
1996	426
1997	447
1998	381
1999	372
2000	389
2001	336
2002	388
2003	364
2004	417
2005	373
2006	408
2007	407

¹According to DHFS, reported HIV cases “refers to all persons with laboratory confirmed HIV infection. This includes both AIDS and non-AIDS cases.”⁹⁹

- In 2007, there were 407 reported cases of HIV in Wisconsin, and 6,294 individuals with AIDS and HIV are assumed to be alive in Wisconsin.¹⁰⁰ According to the 2008 *Wisconsin AIDS/HIV Surveillance Annual Report* released by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, in 2005, Wisconsin’s AIDS rate was the seventh lowest in the United States.¹⁰¹
- Fifty-two percent of all reported cases of AIDS and HIV in Wisconsin since 1983 has been attributed to men who engage in sex with men (MSM), 14 percent to injecting drug use (IDU), 7 percent to MSM and IDU, and 12 percent to high-risk heterosexual contact.¹⁰²
- AIDS and HIV disproportionately affect men engaging in MSM. More specifically, in 2007, 69 percent of reported HIV cases were among men engaging in homosexual conduct.¹⁰³
- The percentage of HIV cases among men engaging in MSM has increased 34 percent over the last seven years, and this increase can be attributed to the increase in MSM among younger men.¹⁰⁴ This is highlighted by the fact that in 2007, 79 percent of all reported HIV cases were male.¹⁰⁵
- In February 2008, Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, told national conference attendees that “with 70 percent of the people in this country living with HIV being gay or bi (sexual), we cannot deny that HIV is a gay disease. We have to own that and face up to that.”¹⁰⁶

Sexual Activity among High School Students



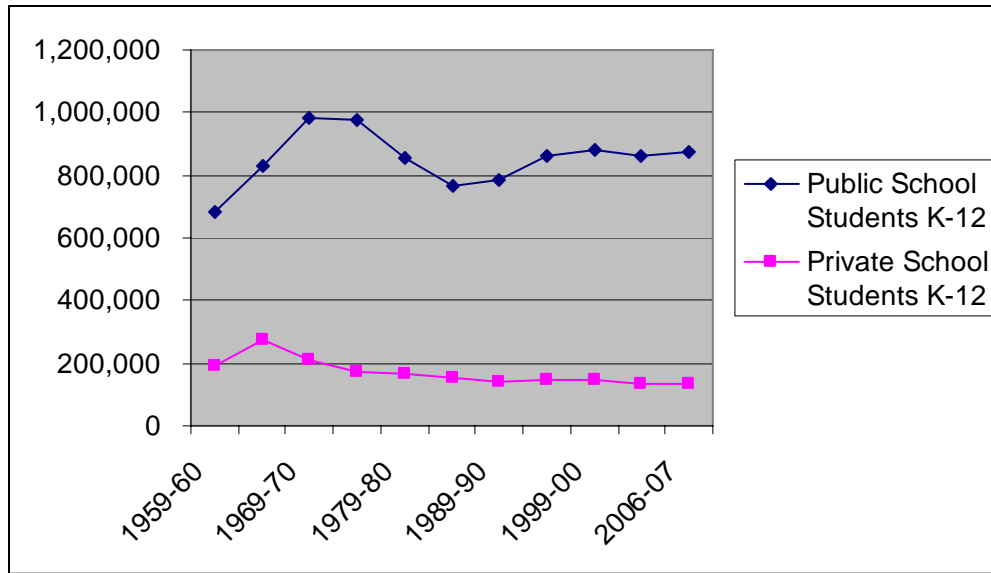
Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Year	Ever Had Intercourse (WI)	Ever Had Intercourse (U.S.)
1993	47.0%	53.0%
1997	41.3%	48.4%
1999	41.5%	49.9%
2001	39.3%	45.6%
2003	36.8%	46.7%
2005	40.3%	46.8%
2007	44.6%	47.8%

number

- A bi-annual survey conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the “Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey,” suggests a majority of Wisconsin high school students are practicing abstinence.¹⁰⁷
- Between 1993 and 2007, there was an almost 3 percent decrease in the number of students reporting that they have ever had sexual intercourse.¹⁰⁸ Further, the number of Wisconsin high school students who reported ever engaging in sexual intercourse has been lower than the national average since 1993.¹⁰⁹ In 2007, 44.6 percent of Wisconsin high school students had engaged in sex compared to 47.8 percent of high school students nationwide.¹¹⁰ The steady climb since 2003 should alarm educators and public officials. The increase in sexual activity tracks closely with the increase in STDs over the same period of time.
- In 2005, the Wisconsin state legislature passed a bill that requires all public schools that have a human growth and development curriculum to stress “abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior in relationship to all sexual activity” of students and that “abstinence from sexual activity before marriage is the most effective way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases...”¹¹¹

K-12 School Enrollment



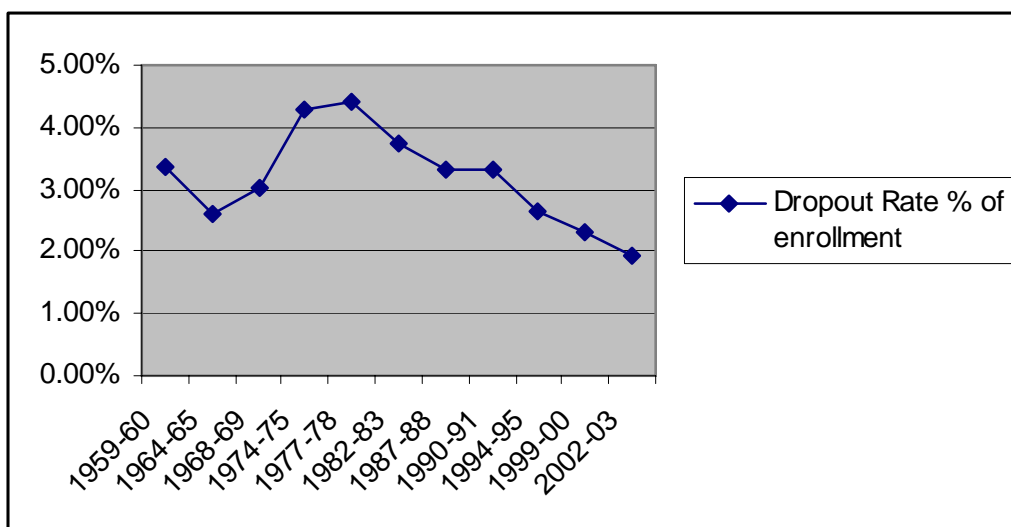
Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Year	Private School Students K-12	Public School Students K-12
1959-60	190,568	683,277
1964-65	272,619	831,415
1969-70	212,594	984,262
1971-75	173,297	974,333
1979-80	163,251	857,855
1984-85	153,661	767,542
1989-90	142,729	782,905
1994-95	148,002	860,686
1999-00	148,366	877,713
2000-01	148,336	879,476
2001-02	146,145	879,361
2002-03	142,619	881,231
2003-04	137,852	880,031
2004-05	136,792	864,757
2005-06	135,033	875,174
2006-07	133,419	876,700

- Enrollment trends in the state are associated with fluctuations in the number of school-aged children residing in Wisconsin. Between the 1999-00 and 2006-07 school years, there was a 10 percent decrease in student enrollment in private schools¹¹² and a slight decrease in public school enrollment.¹¹³
- While public school enrollment has fluctuated widely over the past five decades, private school enrollment has decreased continuously since the 1970s. Between 1970 and 2007, there has been a 37 percent decrease in private school enrollment in Wisconsin.¹¹⁴
- Since 1980, there has been a 21-fold increase in the number of home-schooled students in Wisconsin. During the 1984-85 school year, there were 966 home-schooled students in Wisconsin. This number increased to 20,743 during the 2004-05 school year. This increase suggests that parents are increasingly exercising some of the school choice options that are available in Wisconsin as an alternative to public or private schooling.

Year	Number of Home Schooled Students in WI
1984-85	966
1989-90	5,271
1994-95	12,480
1999-00	19,837
2004-05	20,743
2005-06	20,323

Public High School Student Dropouts

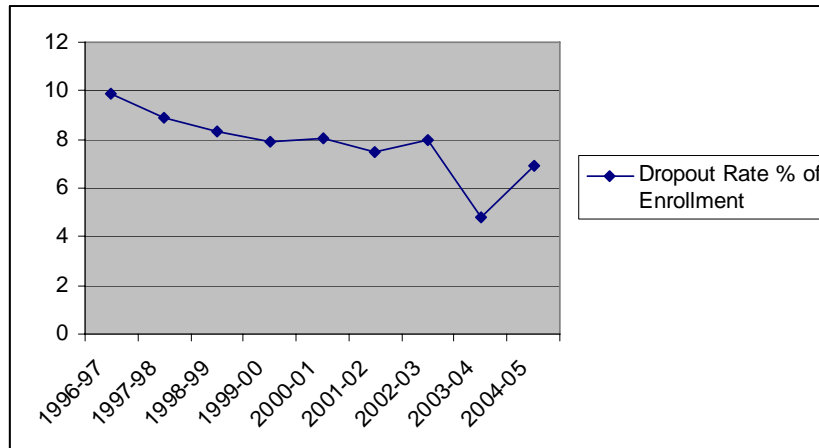


Sources: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau

Year	Number of High School Dropouts (grades 9-12)	Dropout Rate % of enrollment
1959-60	6,206	3.35%
1964-65	6,573	2.60%
1968-69	9,285	3.02%
1974-75	14,003	4.30%
1977-78	14,831	4.40%
1982-83	10,501	3.75%
1987-88	8,280	3.30%
1990-91	7,566	3.30%
1994-95	6,810	2.63%
1999-00	6,441	2.29%
2002-03	5,562	1.93%

- During the 1970s, the high school dropout rate in Wisconsin peaked at 4.4 percent. Since then, the dropout rate has steadily decreased to 1.9 percent in 2003.¹¹⁵
- Programs designed to prevent students from dropping-out of public high schools, such as alternative high school programs and campaigns could be contributing to the decrease in the dropout rate over the last three decades. Under state law, children between the ages of 6 and 18 are compelled to attend school.¹¹⁶
- In 2001, Jay Greene, Ph.D., of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research conducted a study of high school dropout rates for school districts around the nation. The study found that Milwaukee public high schools had significantly higher overall high school dropout levels and higher dropout levels among blacks than other large school districts in the study.¹¹⁷
- In 2005, 90.5 percent of Wisconsin adults were high school graduates compared to the national average of 85.2 percent. Wisconsin's rate was the 10th highest in the nation.¹¹⁸ During this same year, 25.1 percent of Wisconsin adults had obtained a bachelors degree compared to the national average of 27.6 percent and ranked 31st in the nation.¹¹⁹

Milwaukee Public Schools Student Dropouts (7th-12th Grade)



Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

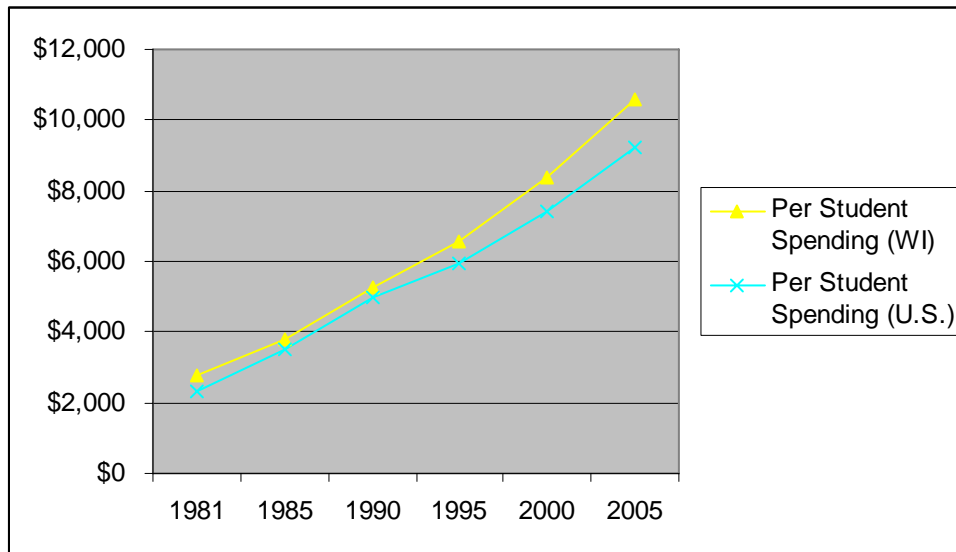
Year	Number of High School Dropouts (grades 7-12)	Dropout Rate % of Enrollment ¹
1996-97	3,715	9.85%
1997-98	3,384	8.87%
1998-99 ¹	3,099	8.32%
1999-00	2,986	7.93%
2000-01	3,038	8.07%
2001-02	2,889	7.50%
2002-03	3,174	8.00%
2003-04	1,974	4.80%
2004-05	2,699	6.89%
2005-06	2,793	6.72%

Year	Graduation Rate ²
1996-97	57.9%
1997-98	60.5%
1998-99	58.5%
1999-00	52.6%
2000-01	54.9%
2001-02	60.2%
2002-03	60.7%
2003-04 ²	65.6%
2004-05	59.9%

¹DPI changed its definition of “dropout” during the 1998-99 school year.

²DPI changed its definition of “graduation” in 2003-04. According to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, “This new formula tends to result in lower rates for 2003-04 and later years than the formula used prior to 2003-04 due to the inclusion of additional students in the denominator.”

Total Expenditures for Public Education (K-12)



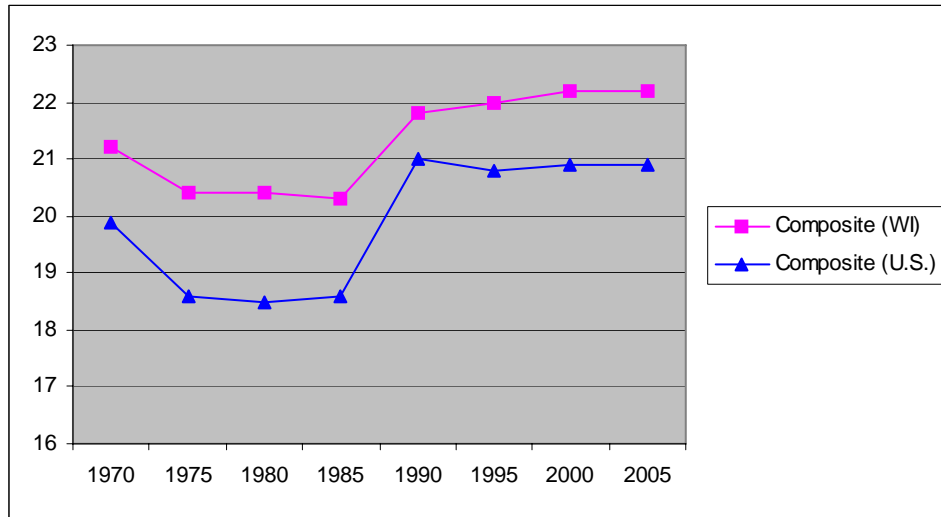
Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau

Year	Public School Expenditures (in millions of dollars)	Per Student Spending (WI)	Per Student Spending (U.S.)
1980-81	\$2,317.1	\$2,791	\$2,230 ¹
1984-85	\$2,918.2	\$3,802	\$3,483
1989-90	\$4,142.1	\$5,291	\$4,966
1994-95	\$5,848.2	\$6,549	\$5,957
1999-00	\$7,546.9	\$8,376	\$7,410
2000-01	\$7,899.5	\$8,765	\$7,859
2001-02	\$8,347.5	\$9,571	\$8,210
2002-03	\$8,749.9	\$10,023	\$8,619
2003-04	\$8,911.2	\$10,229	\$8,884
2004-05	\$9,216.2	\$10,605	\$9,207
2005-06	\$9,540.1	\$10,989	n/a
2006-07	\$9,940.4	\$11,452	n/a

¹ Figure for school year ending in June 1980. All other figures for per student spending in U.S. are from June of the specific school year stated.

- Expenditures on public primary and secondary education in Wisconsin have increased to \$9.9 billion for the 2006-07 school year.¹²⁰
- In 2005, Wisconsin's per student spending was 15 percent higher than the U.S. average per student spending.¹²¹ During this same year, Wisconsin's average spending per student was \$10,605 compared to the U.S. average of \$9,207.¹²²
- Although federal education expenditures have increased over the past several decades, evidence has suggested that these increases have not produced higher test scores from students, such as those on the National Assessment of Academic Progress (NAEP) exams.¹²³

ACT Scores

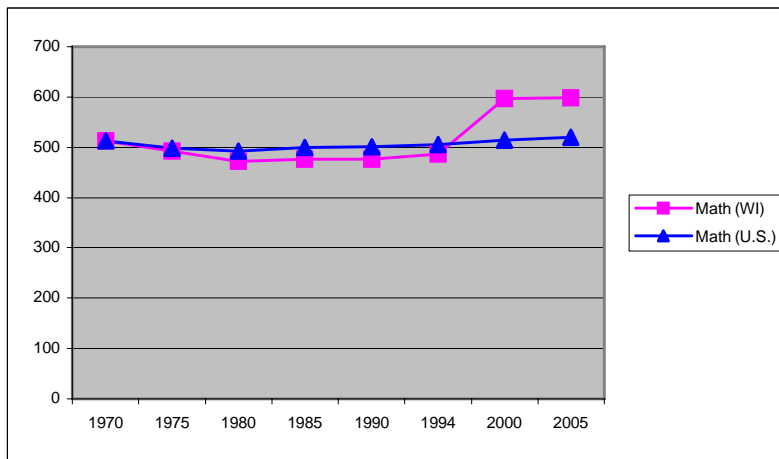
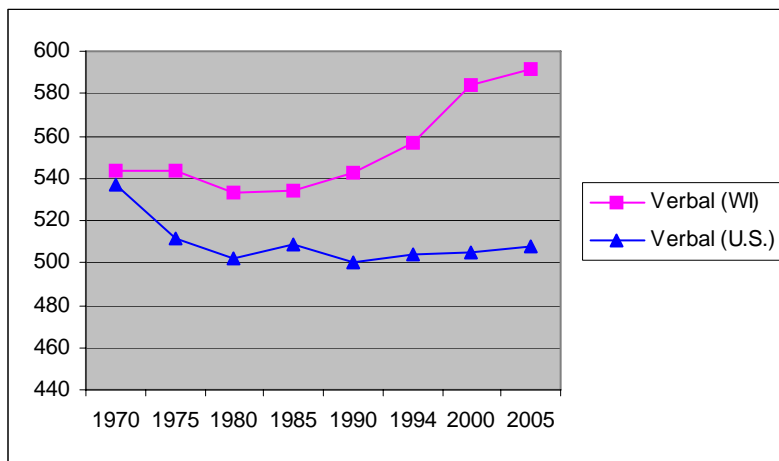


Sources: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, U.S. Census Bureau, ACT, Inc.

Year	Composite Score (WI)	Composite Score (U.S.)	# of Test Takers
1970	21.2	19.9	36,124
1975	20.4	18.6	13,179
1980	20.4	18.5	21,707
1985	20.3	18.6	24,402
1990	21.8	20.6	33,212
1995	22.0	20.8	37,194
2000	22.2	21.0	43,494
2001	22.2	21.0	43,691
2002	22.2	20.8	43,458
2003	22.2	20.8	45,669
2004	22.2	20.9	45,480
2005	22.2	20.9	45,700
2006	22.2	21.1	44,275
2007	22.3	21.1	46,430

- In 2007, Wisconsin high school students scored an average composite score of 22.3 on the ACT and an average score of 7.7 on the optional writing section. During this same year, the national average composite score was 21.1 and the national average writing score was 7.6.¹²⁴
- Between 1970 and 2007, Wisconsin consistently ranked higher than the national average composite score for the ACT college admissions exam.¹²⁵ Among the states where college-bound high school students primarily take the ACT as a college entrance exam, Wisconsin's composite score tied for 2nd in 2007.¹²⁶
- In 2007, 70 percent of Wisconsin graduating high school seniors took the exam; 11 percent of these test-takers were minority students, including 4.6 percent African-American.¹²⁷
- There is a disparity in composite scores among races. In 2007, the average composite score for whites was 22.7 compared to 17 and 20 for blacks and Hispanics, respectively.¹²⁸

SAT Scores



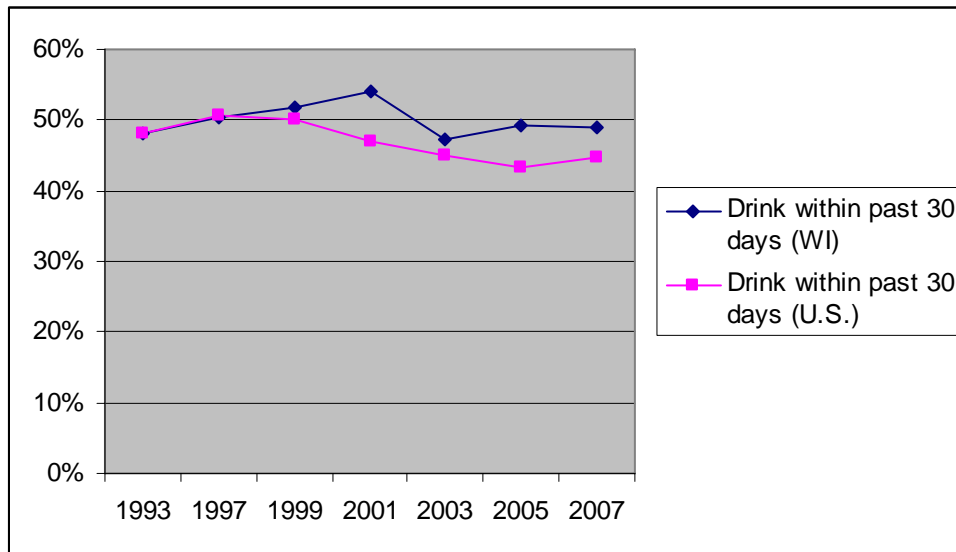
Sources: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, U.S. Census Bureau, College Board

Year	Verbal (WI)	Verbal (U.S.)	Math (WI)	Math (U.S.)
1970	544	537	512	512
1975	544	512	492	498
1980	533	502	472	492
1985	534	509	477	500
1990	543	500	476	501
1994	557	504	487	506
2000	584	505	597	514
2001	584	506	596	514
2002	583	504	599	516
2003	585	507	594	519
2004	587	508	596	518
2005	592	508	599	520
2006	588 ¹	503 ¹	600	518
2007	587	502	598	515

¹In 2006, the verbal section of the SAT became the critical reading section, and a third section (writing) was also added to the exam.

- Though the SAT is not used as the primary college-entrance exam for college-bound students in Wisconsin, the state has consistently ranked higher than the national average in verbal and near or above the average for math over the last three decades.¹²⁹
- In 2007, 3,816 Wisconsin high school students took the exam. Wisconsin students outperformed the national average by 85, 83, and 81 points on the critical reading, math, and writing sections of the exam, respectively.¹³⁰

Underage Drinking Among High School Students

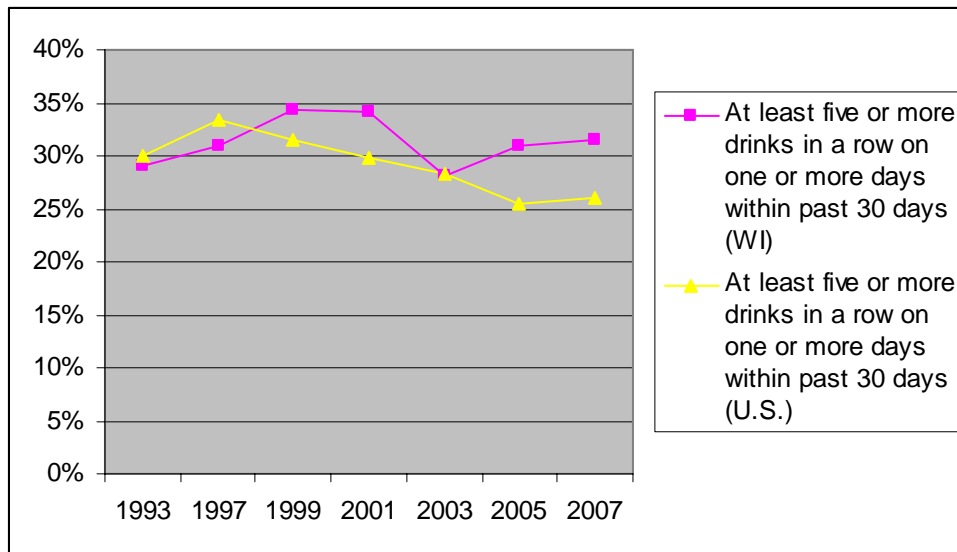


Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Year	Drink within past 30 days (WI)	Drink within past 30 days (U.S.)
1993	48.1%	48.1%
1997	50.5%	50.8%
1999	51.8%	50.0%
2001	54.1%	47.1%
2003	47.3%	44.9%
2005	49.2%	43.3%
2007	48.9%	44.7%

- According to the “Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey,” a bi-annual survey administered to high school students throughout the state by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the number of high school students reporting having a drink within the past 30 days has remained fairly steady at nearly 50 percent.¹³¹ In 2007, nearly half of all high school students in Wisconsin reported drinking within the past 30 days compared to nearly 45 percent for the national average.¹³²
- In 2004 and 2005, Wisconsin ranked 1st in the nation in underage drinking (those between the ages of 12 and 20) with an estimated 39.5 percent reporting drinking within the last month.¹³³
- Research suggests that adolescent drinking is related to family structure. Specifically, adolescents and teenagers raised in a household with their biological mother and father are, on average, less likely to engage in underage drinking when compared to those raised in a single-parent or blended family household.¹³⁴

Binge Drinking Among High School Students

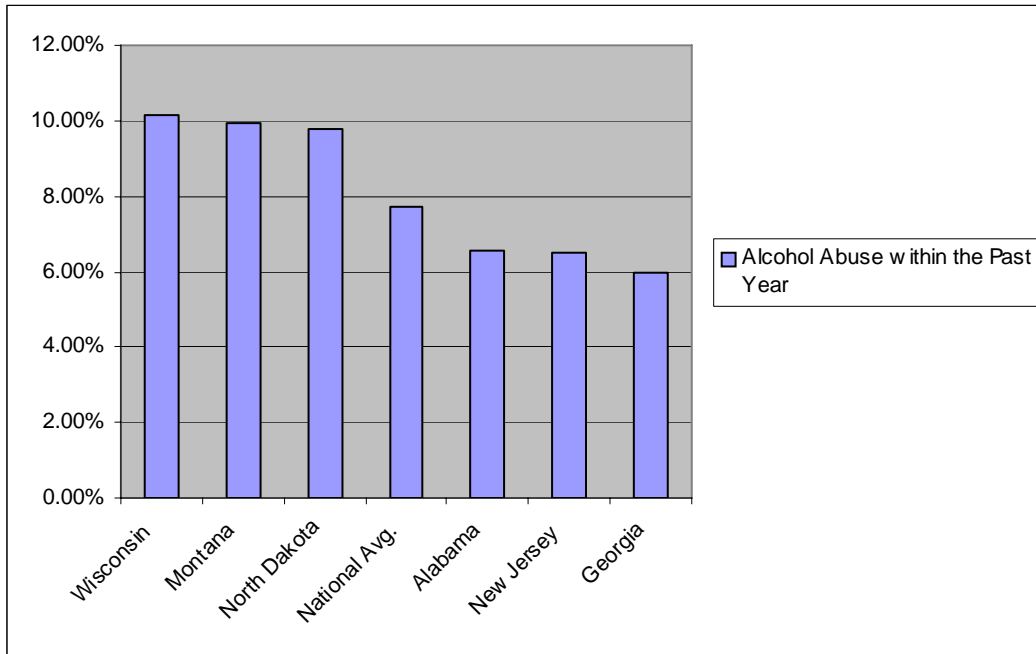


Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Year	At least five or more drinks in a row on one or more days within past 30 days (WI)	At least five or more drinks in a row on one or more days within past 30 days (U.S.)
1993	29.0%	30.0%
1997	31.0%	33.4%
1999	34.4%	31.5%
2001	34.2%	29.9%
2003	28.2%	28.3%
2005	31.0%	25.5%
2007	31.6%	26.0%

- In the study, “Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey,” a bi-annual survey administered to high school students throughout the state by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, there has been an increase in the amount of binge drinking among high school students between 1993 and 2007.¹³⁵
- In 1993, 29 percent of high school students reported drinking at least five or more drinks in a row within the past 30 days. This figure has increased 2.6 percent to 31.6 percent in 2007.¹³⁶ The national average in 2007 was 26 percent.¹³⁷ In a recent study released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 2007, Wisconsin ranked 1st in the nation in the number of youth aged 12 to 17 who drank within the past month at 22.6 percent¹³⁸ and also ranked near the top in number of youth between the ages of 12 and 17 who binge drank within the last month at 14.7 percent.¹³⁹
- Alcohol usage among Wisconsin adolescents and young adults is a problem. Wisconsin is consistently ranked above the national average in all categories that measure alcohol abuse. While education addressing the dangers of alcohol usage and abuse is needed, so is parental involvement in addressing this situation.

Alcohol Dependence and Abuse



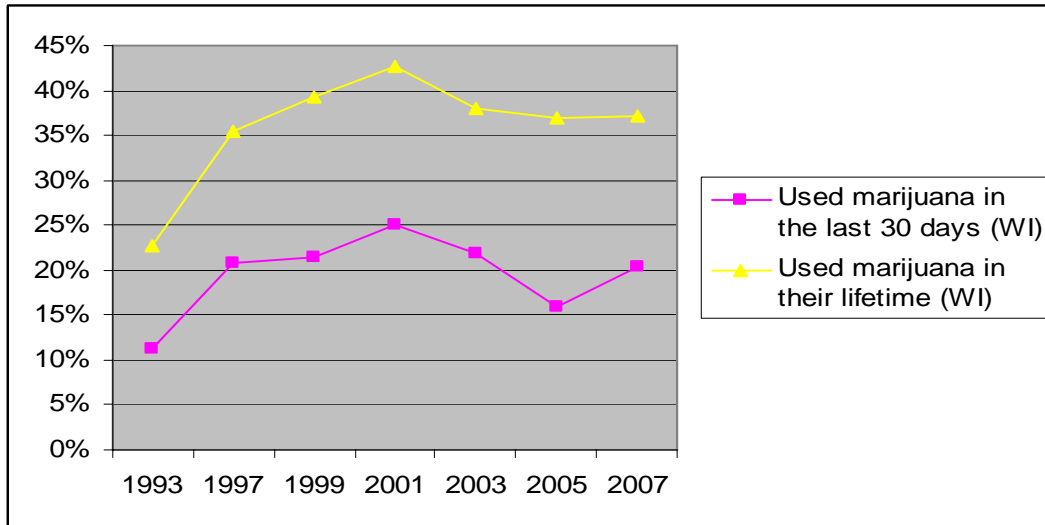
Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (Note: These represent the 3 highest and the 3 lowest, separated by the national average.)

State	Alcohol Dependency or Abuse within the Past Year ¹
Wisconsin	10.14%
Montana	9.94%
North Dakota	9.80%
National Avg.	7.71%
Alabama	6.55%
New Jersey	6.52%
Georgia	5.97%

¹Results include the three highest and lowest percentages of alcohol dependence or abuse along with the national average.

- Wisconsin had the highest percentage of individuals in the nation who reported alcohol dependency or abuse problems within the past year, according to the 2004 and 2005 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health.¹⁴⁰
- While Wisconsin had the highest rate of alcohol dependency or abuse in the nation at 10.1 percent, Georgia had the lowest rate at nearly 6 percent. Wisconsin's average is higher than the national average of 7.7 percent.¹⁴¹ Further, Wisconsin also had the highest rate of alcohol dependency or abuse among those 26 and older at 7.9 percent compared to the national average of 6.3 percent for this age group.¹⁴²
- The rate of alcohol dependence or abuse for those aged 12-17 and 18-25 in Wisconsin was 8.1 percent and 24.1 percent, respectively.¹⁴³ Comparably, the national average was 5.8 percent and 17.5 percent, respectively.¹⁴⁴
- Alcohol dependence and abuse is indeed a significant problem for Wisconsin. Studies have consistently shown that alcohol abuse creates significant economic problems for states, which are a result of decreased workplace productivity, absenteeism, and drunken driving, among other factors.

Marijuana Usage among High School Students



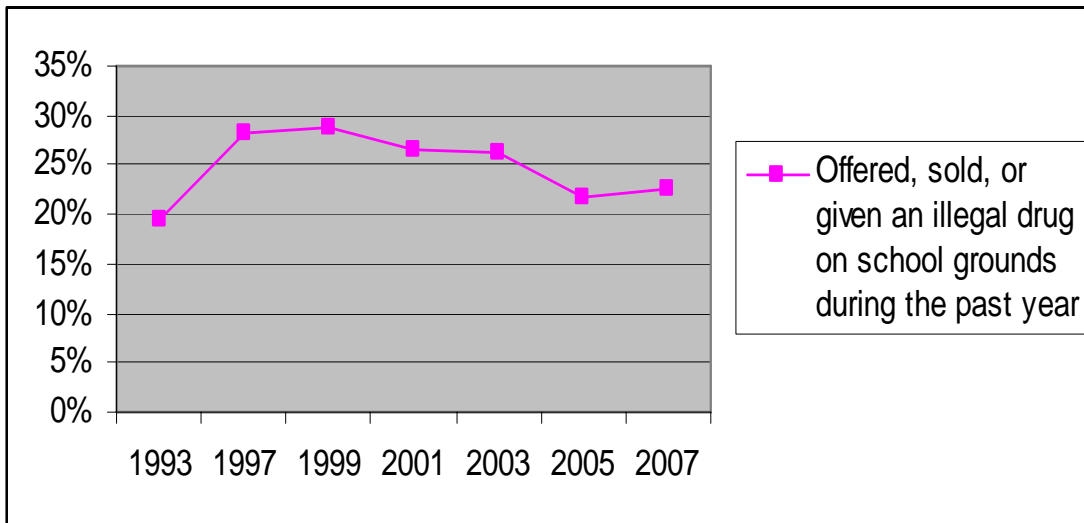
Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Year	Used marijuana in the last 30 days (WI)	Used marijuana in the last 30 days (U.S.)
1993	11.2%	17.7%
1997	20.9%	26.2%
1999	21.5%	26.7%
2001	25.1%	23.9%
2003	21.8%	22.4%
2005	15.9%	20.2%
2007	20.3%	19.7%

Year	Ever used marijuana in their life (WI)	Ever used marijuana in their life (U.S.)
1993	22.8%	32.8%
1997	35.5%	47.1%
1999	39.2%	47.2%
2001	42.7%	42.4%
2003	38.1%	40.2%
2005	36.9%	38.4%
2007	37.1%	38.1%

- Current marijuana usage among high school students in Wisconsin is around the national average; however, usage of the drug has increased 9 percent over the past fourteen years.¹⁴⁵
- In 1993, 11.2 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported using marijuana within the last 30 days compared to over 20 percent in 2007.¹⁴⁶ In 2007, the national average was 19.7 percent.¹⁴⁷
- In 2007, 37 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported ever using marijuana.¹⁴⁸ This marks a 14 percent increase in the number of students experimenting with marijuana between 1993 and 2007.¹⁴⁹ The national average is currently 38.1 percent.¹⁵⁰
- These results suggest that while drug education in high schools is working to some extent, more is needed to prevent individuals from engaging in this behavior. Many believe marijuana is a “gateway” drug to hard drug usage.

Illegal Drug Usage on High School Grounds

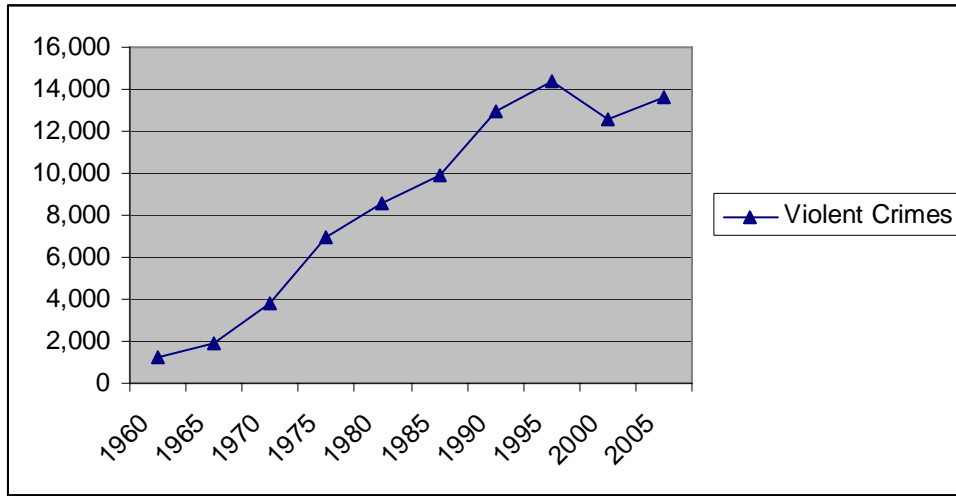


Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Year	Offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school grounds during the past year
1993	19.6%
1997	28.3%
1999	28.8%
2001	26.6%
2003	26.3%
2005	21.7%
2007	22.7%

- In 1993, nearly 20 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported offering, selling, or giving an illegal drug to someone on school grounds during the past year.¹⁵¹ This percentage peaked at nearly 29 percent in 1999, and is currently at almost 23 percent—about a 3 percent increase over the past fourteen years.¹⁵²
- Wisconsin is near the national average in overall illicit drug usage among adolescents.¹⁵³ Among those between the ages of 12 and 17, 5.8 percent of Wisconsin adolescents reported dependence or abuse of illicit drugs within the past year. This is near the national average of 5 percent.¹⁵⁴
- Since 1993, the number of Wisconsin high school students who reported ever using cocaine has steadily increased by over 3 percent from 4.6 percent in 1993 to 7.3 percent in 2007.¹⁵⁵ This is down from a high of 10 percent in 2003.¹⁵⁶ In 2007, the national average was 7.2 percent.¹⁵⁷

Violent Crime



Source: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center

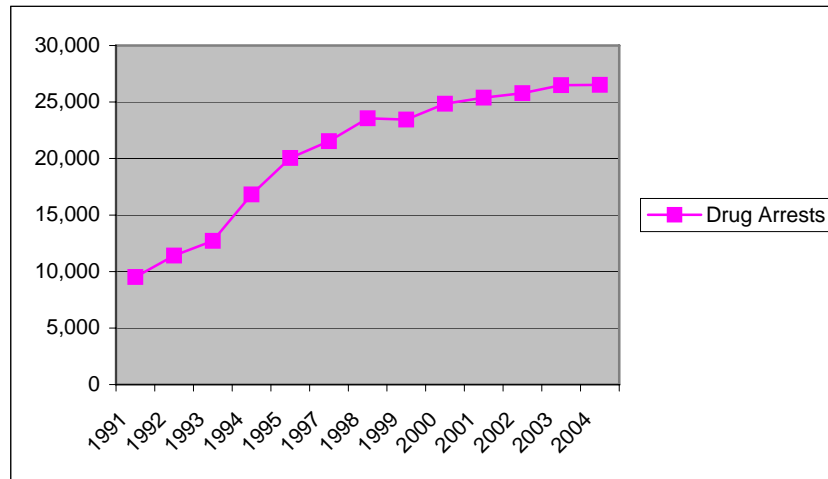
Year	Arrests for Index Offenses ¹	Violent Crimes ²	Violent Crime Offense Rates per 100,000 population
1960	45,270	1,261	30
1965	65,845	1,911	46
1970	120,128	3,837	87
1975	183,131	6,991	152
1980	226,505	8,546	182
1985	192,362	9,912	208
1990	216,431	12,965	265
1995	200,612	14,388	282
2000	171,271	12,581	237
2001	177,755	12,052	223
2002	175,703	12,136	223
2003	168,481	11,911	217
2004	160,184	11,655	211
2005	166,633	13,620	244
2006	174,931	16,223	289
2007	176,107	16,299	289

¹Index crimes are murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson.¹⁵⁸

²The Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance notes that “face-to-face confrontation between victim and perpetrator...are referred to as violent offenses. These are murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault.”¹⁵⁹

- The violent crime¹ rate has increased 8 fold in Wisconsin since 1960.¹⁶⁰ In 2005, Wisconsin ranked 43rd among the states in the number of violent crimes per 100,000 population.¹⁶¹ The rate of violent crimes in Wisconsin was below the national average. In 2005, there were 244 violent crimes per 100,000 persons in Wisconsin compared to 469 violent crimes per 100,000 persons for the U.S.¹⁶²
- Violent crimes comprised nearly 10 percent of index offenses in Wisconsin in 2007.¹⁶³
- According to the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, a violent offense was committed at a ratio of one every 32 minutes, 23 seconds in 2006.¹⁶⁴ In 2006, there were 165 homicides (one every 2 days, 5 hours, 5 minutes), 1,241 forcible rapes (one every 7 hours, 3 minutes), 5,634 robberies (one every 1 hour, 33 minutes) and 9,183 aggravated assaults (one every 57 minutes, 14 seconds).¹⁶⁵

Drug Offenses

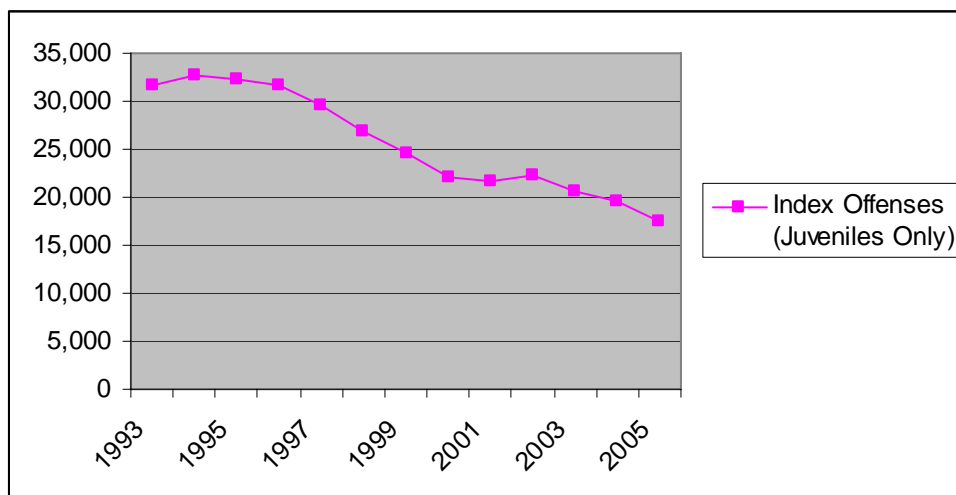


Source: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center

Year	Drug Arrests	Percent of Arrests from Juveniles
1991	9,518	10.0%
1992	11,407	10.2%
1993	12,714	14.4%
1994	16,815	18.4%
1995	20,044	21.9%
1996	n/a	n/a
1997	21,527	22.9%
1998	23,561	22.1%
1999	23,448	22.7%
2000	24,853	22.3%
2001	25,383	22.8%
2002	25,774	21.2%
2003	26,494	21.2%
2004	26,514	20.6%
2005	26,112	19.7%
2006	26,193	19.4%

- Between 1991 and 2006, the number of drug arrests in Wisconsin increased almost three-fold.¹⁶⁶ In 1991, there were 9,518 arrests for drug offenses compared to 26,193 arrests in 2006.¹⁶⁷ Further, the percentage of drug arrests attributed to juveniles has increased almost 10 percent between 1991 and 2006.
- In 2006, 80 percent of arrests were for drug possession compared to 20 percent for sale and manufacturing of drugs.¹⁶⁸
- Research suggests that illicit drug use among juveniles may be attributed to family structure. A 2004 study found that children from intact homes with both of their biological parents are, on average, less likely to try illegal drugs when compared to children from homes with no parents, a single parent, or a blended family, after controlling for standard socioeconomic variables.¹⁶⁹

Juvenile Arrests

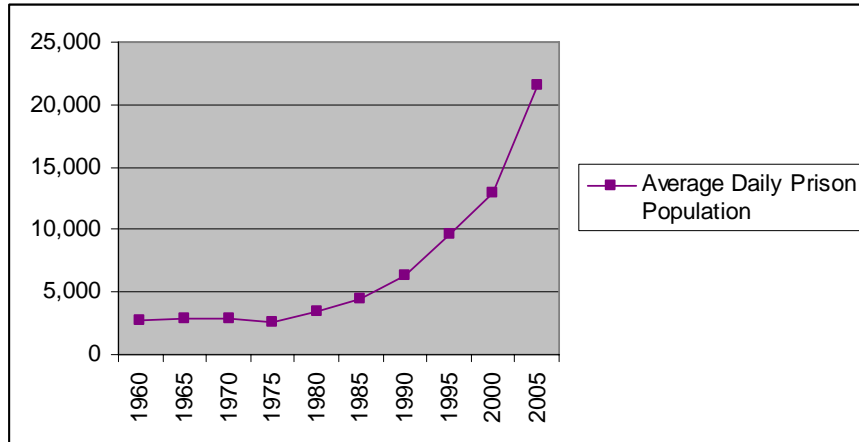


Source: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center

Year	Index Offenses (Juveniles Only)	Number of Juvenile Arrests (Violent Crime)
1993	31,662	2,307
1994	32,641	2,674
1995	32,341	2,547
1996	31,636	2,296
1997	29,567	2,323
1998	26,791	2,176
1999	24,528	2,282
2000	22,135	1,930
2001	21,682	1,943
2002	22,235	2,154
2003	20,652	1,969
2004	19,617	1,833
2005	17,481	1,584
2006	17,490	1,774
2007	17,882	1,792

- Between 1997 and 2007, there was a 40 percent decline in the number of arrests of juveniles in Wisconsin for index offenses. In 1997, there were 29,567 arrests among juveniles for index offenses compared to 17,882 arrests in 2007.¹⁷⁰ In 2007, 1,792 (10 percent) of arrests for index offenses were for violent offenses and 16,090 (90 percent) were for property offenses.¹⁷¹ There were 109,587 juvenile arrests overall in 2007—24 percent fewer arrests than in 1997.¹⁷²
- In 2007, among index offenses, there were 23 arrests for murder, 177 for forcible rape, 676 for robbery, and 916 for aggravated assault.¹⁷³ In addition to violent offenses, there were also 1,958 arrests for burglary, 12,962 for theft, 1,049 for motor vehicle theft, and 121 for arson.¹⁷⁴
- In 2006, most juveniles were arrested for disorderly conduct (20,314) followed by theft (12,294), liquor law violations (11,007), curfew violations (7,268), and drug laws (5,088).¹⁷⁵
- There is a disparity in arrests among sex. In 2006, 67 percent of all juvenile arrests were male compared to 33 percent female.¹⁷⁶

Adult Prison Population



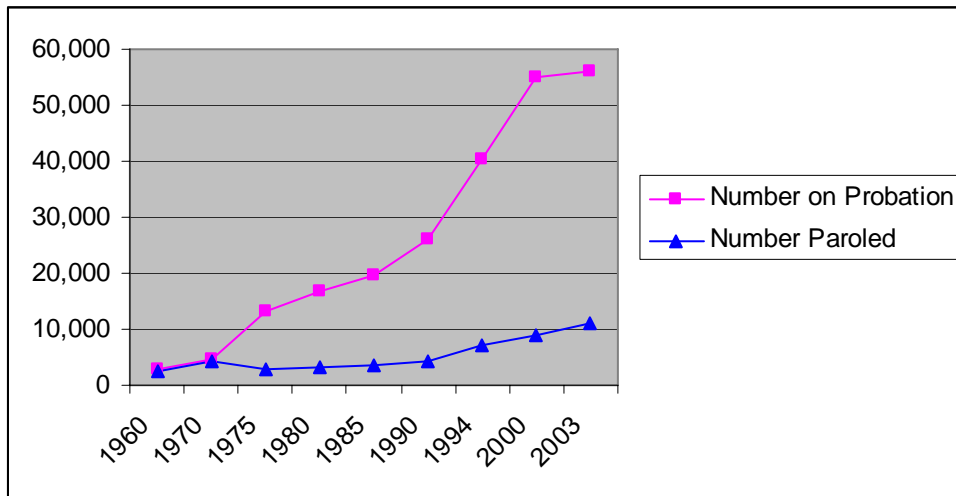
Sources: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center; Legislative Reference Bureau

Year	Daily Prison Population	Total Costs	Per Inmate Expenditures
1960	2,681	n/a	n/a
1965	2,892	n/a	n/a
1970	2,872	\$12,937,220	\$4,505
1975	2,644	\$23,241,992	\$8,790
1980	3,493	\$49,003,761	\$14,029
1985	4,418	\$79,130,584	\$17,911
1990	6,320	\$125,874,528	\$19,917
1995	9,680	\$192,512,299	\$19,888
2000	12,907	n/a	n/a
2005 ¹	21,521	\$906,725,000	\$40,096

¹Figures for total costs and per inmate expenditures are from 2003.

- Expenditures per inmate have increased over the last several decades. Between 1970 and 2003, per inmate expenditures increased nearly 9 fold in Wisconsin from \$4,505 to \$40,096 per capita.¹⁷⁷
- In 2003, Wisconsin ranked 15th among the states in the amount of total state corrections expenditures. During this year, Wisconsin spent over \$9 billion on state corrections.¹⁷⁸
- Since 1960, the adult prison population in Wisconsin has increased 8 fold, and between 2000 and 2005, there was a 66.7 percent increase in the adult prison population.¹⁷⁹
- In 2007, the prison population in Wisconsin was 22,392.¹⁸⁰ The rate of imprisonment for Wisconsin residents in state and federal prisons with sentences of one or more years was 394 inmates per 100,000 persons.¹⁸¹ This was 18.9 percent lower than the U.S. average of 486 inmates per 100,000 persons, yet 133 percent higher than neighboring Minnesota (169 inmates per 100,000 persons) and 12.9 percent higher than Illinois (349 inmates per 100,000 persons).¹⁸²

Parole/Probation

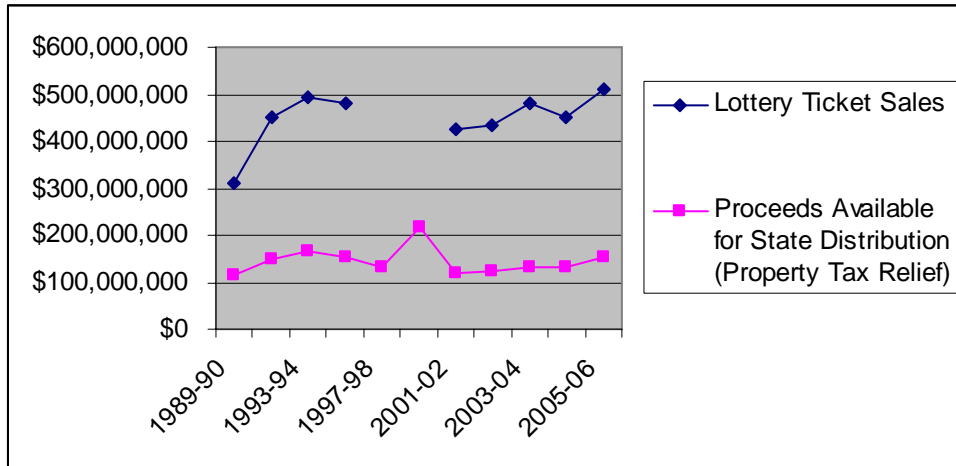


Sources: Wisconsin Department of Corrections; Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau

Year	Number on Probation	Number Paroled or Mandatory Release
1960	2,800	2,592
1970	4,530	4,329
1975	13,070	2,705
1980	16,797	3,045
1985	19,598	3,553
1990	25,907	4,217
1994	40,484	7,001
2000	55,046	8,951
2004	56,211	12,335

- Between 1960 and 2003, the number of Wisconsin residents on probation increased 20 fold from 2,800 in 1960 to 56,211 in 2004. Further, between 1994 and 2004, there was a 39 percent increase in the number of individuals on probation in Wisconsin.¹⁸³
- Between 1960 and 2004 the number of Wisconsin residents paroled or receiving mandatory release increased nearly 5 fold.¹⁸⁴ Further, between 1994 and 2004, there was a 76 percent increase in the number of individuals paroled or under mandatory release.¹⁸⁵ This figure correlates with an increase in the Wisconsin daily prison population.
- In 2004, 4.1 million adults were on probation and 765,355 adults were on parole in the U.S.¹⁸⁶ Between 1994 and 2004, there was a 39.3 percent and a 10.9 percent increase in the number of adults on probation and parole, respectively.¹⁸⁷

Wisconsin Lottery Ticket Sales

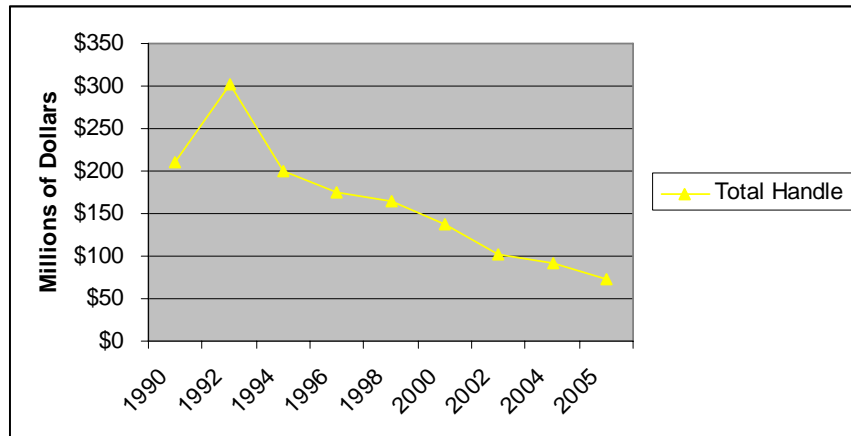


Source: Wisconsin Department of Revenue, Division of Lottery

Year (Fiscal)	Lottery Ticket Sales	Proceeds Available for State Distribution (Property Tax Relief) ¹⁸⁸
1989-90	\$309,597,918	\$114,074,977
1991-92	\$449,056,375	\$150,218,929
1993-94	\$495,520,911	\$166,176,354
1995-96	\$482,100,000	\$151,720,366
1997-98	n/a	\$130,122,761
1999-00	n/a	\$216,255,158
2001-02	\$427,550,343	\$118,993,392
2002-03	\$435,037,814	\$122,630,978
2003-04	\$482,920,339	\$132,371,845
2004-05	\$451,872,040	\$132,106,682
2005-06	\$508,909,619	\$152,570,292
2006-07	\$492,569,411	\$145,276,800
Wisconsin Lottery Advertising		
Year	Budget (Advertising)	Percent of Budget
2004	\$4,535,100	20.6%
2005	\$4,574,700	20.8%
2006	\$4,545,931	24.0%
2007	\$4,569,900	24.8%

- Before a constitutional amendment, state lotteries were constitutionally banned in Wisconsin. Under Article IV, Section 24 of the 1848 Constitution, “The Legislature shall never authorize any lottery...” However, the Constitution was amended in 1988 to read, “The legislature may authorize the creation of a lottery to be operated by the state as provided by law.”
- Under the state constitution, use of state revenue for advertising of the lottery is prohibited: “The expenditure of public funds or of revenues derived from lottery operations to engage in promotional advertising of the Wisconsin state lottery is prohibited.” However, between 2004 and 2007, an average of 22.5 percent of the Wisconsin State Lottery’s budgets from the state have been reserved for advertising and the posting of legal notices on these advertisements.¹⁸⁹ The constitutionality of such action has not been determined.
- A 1996 report by the Wisconsin Policy Research Institute analyzing the specific costs of gambling in Wisconsin, found that problem gamblers impose a social cost of approximately \$307 million (\$138 million attributed to casino gambling alone) on the state of Wisconsin as a result of loss of employment, criminal justice system costs, welfare, among other costs.¹⁹⁰
- According to Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, five to seven percent of Wisconsin’s population (268,000 to 375,000 residents) are problem or compulsive gamblers.¹⁹¹

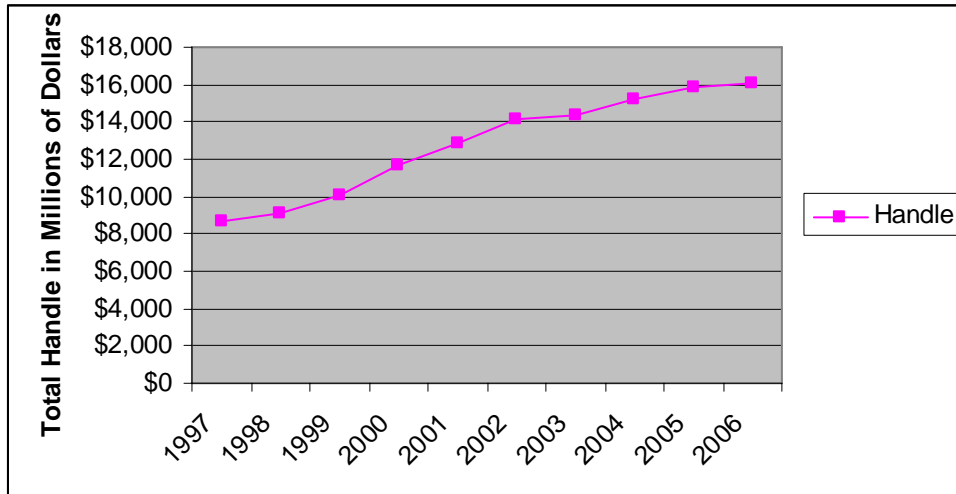
Dog Tracks



Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, Division of Gaming¹⁹²

Year	Total Handle
1990	\$210,622,341
1992	\$303,658,177
1994	\$200,006,784
1996	\$174,086,171
1998	\$164,341,669
2000	\$137,712,978
2002	\$102,704,384
2004	\$92,510,433
2005	\$78,994,172

Casino Gambling

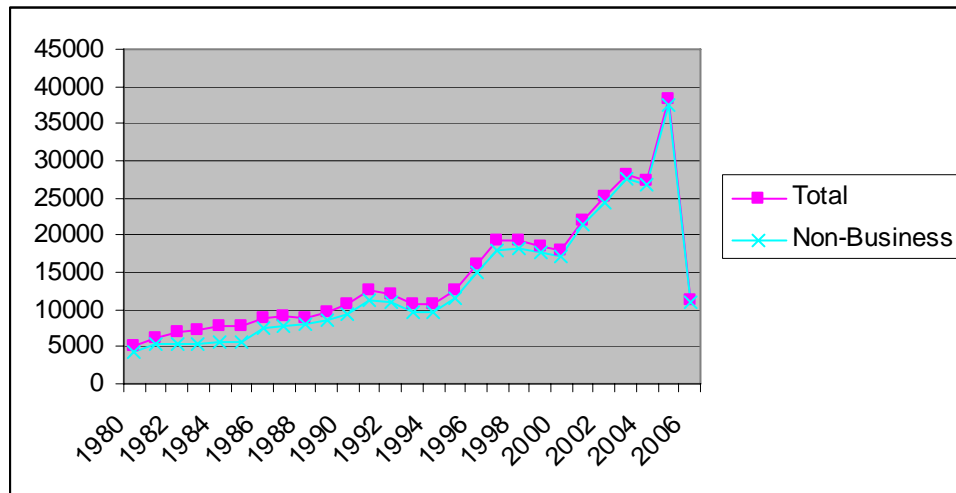


Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration

All Tribes		
Year	Handle	Net Win
1997	\$8,682,499,020	\$586,373,102
1998	\$9,133,160,026	\$664,145,659
1999	\$10,074,047,314	\$733,923,296
2000	\$11,710,097,885	\$818,908,925
2001	\$12,910,828,520	\$896,421,009
2002	\$14,189,343,411	\$972,436,603
2003	\$14,332,154,261	\$997,141,765
2004	\$15,228,544,887	\$1,092,544,513
2005	\$15,832,434,128	\$1,134,674,068
2006	\$16,040,704,156	\$1,185,645,140

- Between 1997 and 2006, there was an 84.7 percent increase in the amount of money wagered at Wisconsin casinos on Indian reservations.¹⁹³ In 2006, \$16 billion was wagered at casinos on reservations, or about \$2,855 per person in the state of Wisconsin in 2006.
- In 2006, the net win or “handle” (amount casinos take in before expenses but after paying out winnings) was nearly \$1.2 billion. This amounts to about \$211 per person in the state of Wisconsin in 2006.
- Recent research has found a relationship between the presence of casino gambling in a community and an increase in crime rates in Wisconsin.¹⁹⁴ The 2001 study, published in a peer-reviewed journal, found that the opening of a casino in a county increased the total number of index crime arrests in that county (violent and non-violent) by 8.6 percent and non-index crime arrests by 14.8 percent.¹⁹⁵ They also found that crime increased in counties without a casino but adjacent to two other counties with a casino and high-crime rates.¹⁹⁶

Appendix A: Wisconsin Bankruptcy

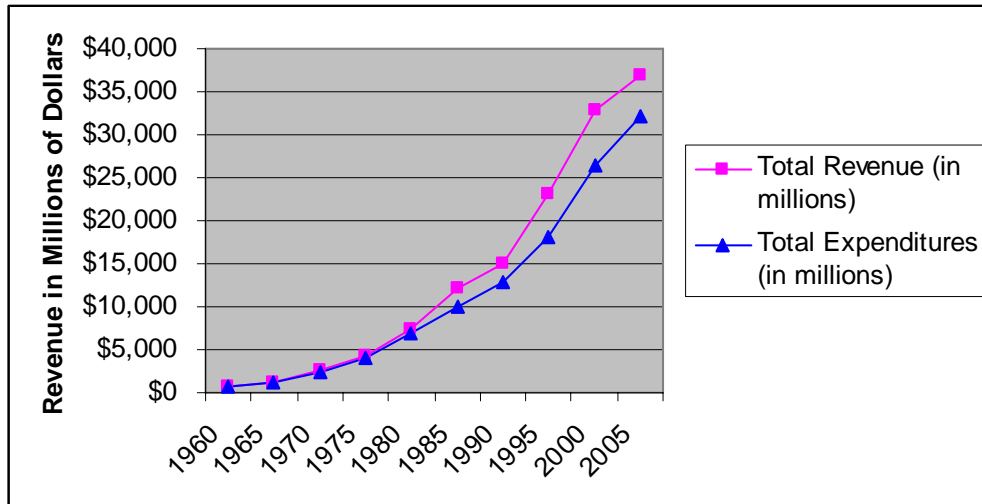


Source: American Bankruptcy Institute

Year	Total	Business	Non-Business	% Consumer (Non-Business)
1980	5,199	866	4,333	83.34%
1982	7,073	1,842	5,231	73.96%
1984	7,652	1,951	5,701	74.50%
1986	8,932	1,380	7,552	84.55%
1988	8,972	967	8,005	89.22%
1990	10,766	1,366	9,400	87.31%
1992	12,041	1,161	10,880	90.36%
1994	10,735	995	9,740	90.73%
1996	16,137	1,150	14,987	92.87%
1998	19,414	1,137	18,277	94.14%
2000	17,849	685	17,164	96.16%
2002	25,295	856	24,439	96.62%
2004	27,410	742	26,668	97.29%
2006	11,317	307	11,010	97.29%
2007	17,849	685	17,164	97.40%

- Since 1980, the number of bankruptcy filings in Wisconsin has increased significantly,¹⁹⁷ until 2005, when the U.S. Congress passed the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005.¹⁹⁸
- The Act made it more difficult for consumers and businesses to file for bankruptcy protection.¹⁹⁹ In 2005, there were 38,240 bankruptcy filings in Wisconsin, and this amount decreased to 11,317 filings in 2006.²⁰⁰ The significant increase of bankruptcy filings in 2005 can be attributed to the number of individuals desiring to file bankruptcy before the Act took effect towards the end of 2005.

Appendix B: Wisconsin Revenue and Expenditures



Source: Department of Administration; Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau²⁰¹

Year	Total Revenue	Total Expenditures
1960	\$736,442,147	\$686,862,395
1965	\$1,209,535,953	\$1,094,218,664
1970	\$2,535,050,554	\$2,278,578,176
1975	\$4,218,954,231	\$4,073,423,281
1980	\$7,381,599,000	\$6,836,970,000
1985	\$12,068,756,000	\$9,981,002,000
1990	\$14,902,360,000	\$12,752,292,000
1995	\$23,083,582,000	\$18,058,003,000
2000	\$32,873,310,000	\$26,444,639,000
2001	\$22,276,504,000	\$28,167,758,000
2002	\$26,770,315,000	\$31,644,122,000
2003	\$31,282,407,000	\$31,982,230,000
2004	\$41,585,437,000	\$33,893,733,000
2005	\$37,019,141,000	\$32,260,409,000
2006 ¹	\$39,933,320,000	\$33,784,080,000

¹As of June 30, 2006

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¹⁹⁷ Bankruptcy statistics are available at the American Bankruptcy Institute at <http://www.abiworld.org> [accessed on June 21, 2007]. Statistics are also available from the U.S. District Court at <http://www.uscourts.gov/bnkruptcystats/bankruptcystats.htm> [accessed on May 22, 2007].

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¹⁹⁹ The American Bankruptcy Institute provides a link to the annotated bill of the Bankruptcy Reform Act by the House Judiciary Committee detailing changes made in the new reform bill. This bill is available at <http://www.abiworld.org/pdfs/s256/changes.pdf> [accessed on May 22, 2007]. See also *supra* note 97 for a description of the aforementioned link and further annotations of the reform bill.

²⁰⁰ Bankruptcy statistics are available at the American Bankruptcy Institute at <http://www.abiworld.org> [accessed on June 21, 2007]. Statistics are also available from the U.S. District Court at <http://www.uscourts.gov/bnkruptcystats/bankruptcystats.htm> [accessed on May 22, 2007].

²⁰¹ Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau. "State Corrections and DHFS Institutions, Population, 1970-2004." *State of Wisconsin 2007-2008 Blue Book*. Madison, WI: Joint Committee on Legislative Organization, Wisconsin Legislature, at 830. Available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/bb/07bb/pdf/826-847.pdf> [accessed on July 13, 2008].



Founded in 1986, Wisconsin Family Council is a statewide not-for-profit organization whose mission is to forward Judeo-Christian principles and values by strengthening and preserving marriage, family, life and liberty in Wisconsin. Wisconsin Family Council works with citizens and churches in this important endeavor, informing and inspiring them to be involved in their community, state and nation. In addition to producing publications such as *Wisconsin Cultural Indicators 2008*, Wisconsin Family Council maintains an informative web site, produces a weekly radio commentary that airs on nearly 30 stations around the state, provides voter education materials, and information on other issues important to Wisconsin families.



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