Alcohol Use and COVID-19 in Wyoming

The Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center (WYSAC) at the University of Wyoming conducted a survey among a randomly selected sample of Wyoming residents who are members of the WYSAC WyoSpeaks panel of Wyoming citizens concerning behaviors and public opinion related to Coronavirus (COVID-19). This fact sheet highlights recently added questions about how people have changed their consumption of alcohol during the pandemic. The Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) and the Wyoming Department of Revenue (WDR) provided alcohol spirits and wine sales data for January through May in both 2019 and 2020 to see how product sales have changed.

Most Commonly Reported Reasons for Increase in Alcohol Consumption*

- Boredom: 60.4%
- Isolation: 46.2%
- Stress: 43.5%

Self-Reported Alcohol Consumption Increased During the Pandemic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increased Consumption</th>
<th>No Change in Consumption</th>
<th>Decreased Consumption</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>75.9%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
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There were 5% more wine and spirits sales in Wyoming between January and May 2020 than during that same period in 2019. This increase occurred even though during the COVID-19 restrictions in March through May, there were about half as many eligible liquor licenses that could sell wine and liquor (667 eligible vs 1383 issued).

*Only the top three responses for increased consumption of alcohol are listed.