

# Sleep duration varies by alcohol drinking patterns, race, and sex

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A new study found that alcohol-sleep relationship differed importantly by race and sex.

Compared to their white counterparts within each alcohol drinking pattern (never, moderate, excessive) investigated, black men and women were significantly more likely to get less than 6 hours of sleep, less likely to get 7 to 8 hours of sleep and generally more likely to get 9 or more hours of sleep. Short sleep disparity increased with increasing alcohol consumption between black and white men. Long sleep duration was more common among heavy drinkers, but only in [black men](#) and white women.

"Behavioral correlates like alcohol drinking patterns and sleep track together in a complex manner and could act in concert to exacerbate health disparities by race and sex," said lead author, Chandra L. Jackson, epidemiologist and research associate at Harvard Catalyst Clinical and Translational Science Center. "Investigating racial disparities could provide insight into the overall alcohol-sleep relationship, susceptibility differences in [sleep](#) homeostasis/architecture across groups, and its subsequent impact on health outcomes."

The research abstract was published recently in an online supplement of the journal *Sleep* and will be presented Monday, June 13, in Denver at SLEEP 2016, the 30th Anniversary Meeting of the Associated Professional Sleep Societies LLC (APSS).

Research was conducted by using a nationally representative sample of over 228,000 adults in the National Interview Survey (2004-2014), and applying various adjustment methods.

Provided by American Academy of Sleep Medicine

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