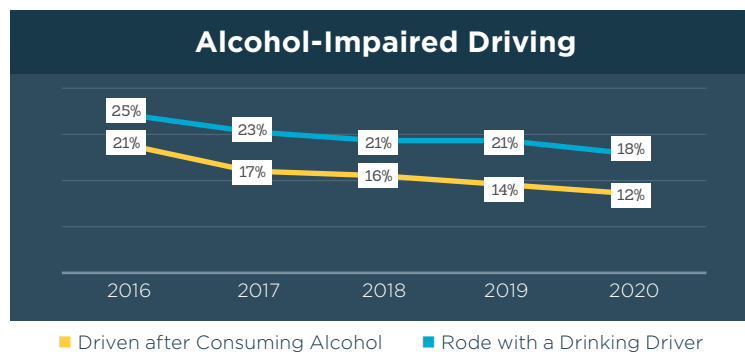


# Substance-Impaired Driving

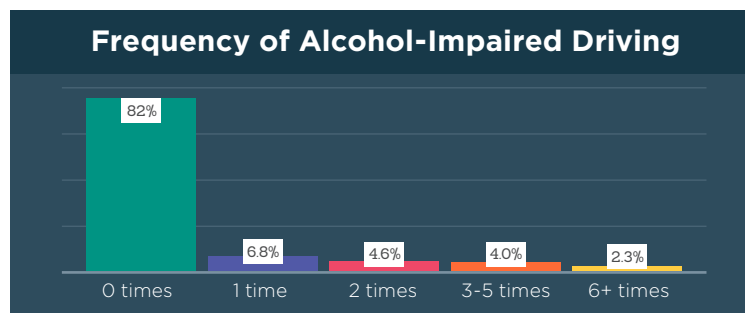
Partners in Prevention (PIP) is Missouri's higher education substance misuse consortium dedicated to creating healthy and safe college campuses. The coalition is comprised of 23 public and private colleges and universities in the state who work to prevent students' high-risk behaviors by implementing evidence-based strategies. To measure progress and obtain data needed for the implementation of programs, PIP created the Missouri Assessment of College Health Behaviors (MACHB) Survey. The MACHB is an annual, online survey that has been implemented each spring since 2007. This brief will focus on impaired driving behaviors of Missouri college students.

## Alcohol-Impaired Driving

Most Missouri college students report consuming alcohol in the past year (73%). Among those students in 2020, 18% reported driving after consuming any alcohol. Additionally, 26% of those students reported riding in a car with a driver who had been drinking. The percentage of students who report either behavior have steadily declined over the past 5 years.



The frequency of alcohol-impaired driving among students who drink is shown below. Though 18% of students reported driving after consuming alcohol, only 0.5% reported being arrested for DUI/DWI.



## Drug-Impaired Driving

On the MACHB, students report misuse of prescription drugs (both with or without a valid prescription). Approximately 8% of Missouri college students report misusing prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription and 4.2% report misusing their own prescription. Among students who reported prescription drug misuse of either type, 26% reported driving at least once after use in the past year.

**Driven after misusing prescription drugs**  
(among who misuse drugs)

0 times	74%
1 time	6.1%
2 times	6.1%
3-5 times	4.5%
6+ times	9.7%

Among Missouri college students, 29% reported using cannabis at least once in the past year. Among the students who used cannabis, 29% reported driving at least once after use in the past year.

**Driven after using cannabis**  
(among who use)

0 times	71%
1 time	6.4%
2 times	4.2%
3-5 times	5.5%
6+ times	13%

Those who use cannabis and those who misuse prescription drugs drive impaired at higher rates than those who consume alcohol. Impaired driving occurs most frequently with cannabis (13% of those who used drove impaired more than 5 times in past year). This is nearly 10% for those who misuse prescriptions, but much lower for those who use alcohol (2.3%).

## **Summary**

Rates of alcohol-impaired driving continue to decline among Missouri college students who consume alcohol. It is important to note that the rates of prescription drug and cannabis-impaired driving are higher than alcohol-impaired driving. Additionally, the frequency of drug-impaired driving is higher for both prescription drugs and cannabis than for alcohol-impaired driving. This highlights a need for continued education about drug-impaired driving.

## **Prevention Initiatives**

Institutions of higher education in Missouri have worked to prevent impaired driving using statewide initiatives funded by the Missouri Department of Transportation delivered through Partners in Prevention.

### **CHEERS**

CHEERS is a statewide program that works with bars, restaurants, and nightclubs to provide free non-alcoholic drinks to designated drivers. CHEERS also promotes messages on social media and on campuses to promote using sober designated drivers. Learn more at [cheers.missouri.edu](https://cheers.missouri.edu).

### **Drive Safe Drive Smart**

Drive Safe Drive Smart (DSDS) is an educational program that promotes safe driving behaviors to reduce impaired driving among college students in Missouri. Drive Safe Drive Smart provides resources and materials to campuses including brochures and handouts, social media, and more to assist in messaging and education. DSDS also promotes billboards in communities throughout the state. Learn more at [drivesafedrivesmart.missouri.edu](https://drivesafedrivesmart.missouri.edu).

### **SMART**

The State of Missouri Alcohol Responsibility Training (SMART) program is a free, online training for people who sell or serve alcohol in the state of Missouri. The training focuses on recognition of fake ID's, acceptable forms of identification, preventing service to minors and intoxicated individuals, and more. Learn more at [smart.missouri.edu](https://smart.missouri.edu).

### **Party Safe**

Party Safe is a free online training for college students to learn about hosting safe and responsible parties and events. The training focuses on general party planning, alcohol and host responsibilities, and dealing with issues that arise. Learn more at [mopiptraining.org/partysafe](https://mopiptraining.org/partysafe).

Contact Partners in Prevention at (573) 884-7551.

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