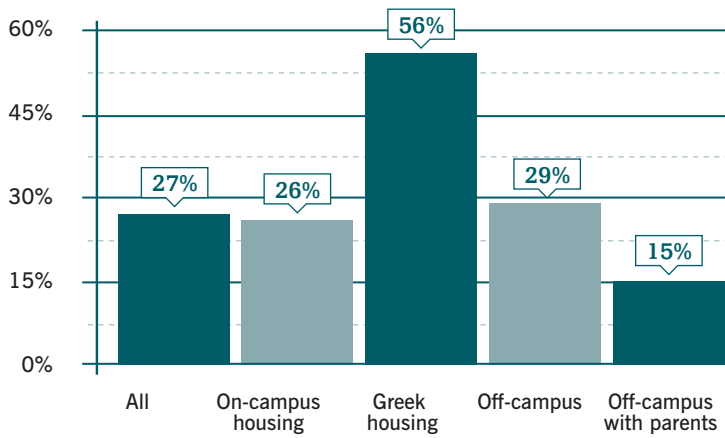


AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENT DRINKING BEHAVIOR IN COMPARISON TO STUDENT LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Partners in Prevention is a statewide coalition dedicated to creating healthy and safe college campuses in Missouri. The coalition is comprised of 21 public and private colleges and universities across the state. Partners in Prevention focuses on reducing high-risk behaviors and tracks progress through the implementation of the Missouri College Health Behavior Survey (MCHBS). Analysis of the 2013 MCHBS survey indicated noticeable differences in high-risk drinking based on the location of the students' living arrangements.

High-Risk Drinking by Living Location



DISCUSSION

The chart above indicates noticeable differences in high-risk drinking based on where students live. For this analysis, high-risk drinking is defined as students who reported consuming five or more standard drinks in a two-hour period within the past two weeks.

Twenty-seven (27%) of all Missouri students reported high-risk drinking in 2013. Students living in Greek housing reported the highest levels of risky drinking (56%), followed by students living without parents' off-campus (29%), students living on-campus (26%) and students living off-campus with parents (15%).

The chart above right provides additional information, depicting students' choice of drinking location compared to where they live. Two themes emerge from this analysis. First, where students live is strongly associated with their choice of drinking location.

All Students (Drinkers and Non-Drinkers)

		Where I live				
		On-Campus	Fraternity/Sorority	Off-Campus without parents	Off-Campus with parents	All
<i>N=</i>		3355	379	4498	1158	9390
Where I drink	Bars	27%	50%	57%	48%	54%
	Social Gatherings	73%	69%	64%	70%	67%
	Fraternity/Sorority	19%	55%	6%	3%	12%
	Residence Hall	16%	4%	1%	1%	6%
	Sporting Events	5%	14%	8%	6%	7%
	Where I Live	28%	30%	68%	19%	52%

Second, all groups report "Social gatherings or friend's houses" as a common drinking location.

SUMMARY

While it is imperative for colleges and universities to review their campus specific data, statewide results indicate noticeable differences in student drinking locations, high-risk drinking behaviors and student living environments. This information along with campus specific reviews of student drinking behaviors can provide guidance in refinement of programs, policies, and enforcement strategies to reduce risk and harm associated with alcohol use on our campuses.

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