

# Marijuana

Partners in Prevention (PIP) is a statewide coalition of 21 public and private colleges in Missouri with the mission of building safe and healthy campuses. PIP gathers data from the Missouri Assessment of College and Health Behaviors (MACHB) survey in order to assess high-risk behaviors occurring amongst college students. Data from the MACHB can be utilized to gain an understanding of programs that are currently established to inform individuals about marijuana use as well as the use of other drugs on college and university campuses.

## Discussion

According to the National Epidemiological Study of Alcohol Use and Related Disorders, it was found that adults who reported marijuana use during the first wave of the survey were more likely than non-users to develop an alcohol use disorder within 3 years. It was also found that marijuana users who already had an alcohol use disorder at the outset were at greater risk of their alcohol use disorder worsening (1). While marijuana is not the only substance that is correlated to users experimenting additionally with other substances, the ability for it to do so makes it critical for college and universities to continue to provide ongoing education about it.

## Prevalence

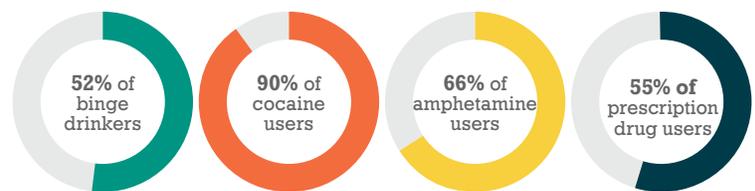
According to data recorded from the 2016 MACHB Survey, 24% of Missouri college students have reported using marijuana at least once in the past year. Most of the students who are using also reported that when they used marijuana it was done at a friend's house or social gathering (67%), in a car (46%), or in an apartment or house (46%). While campus is not the primary location for marijuana use to take place, it is still important that faculty and staff all play a role in helping to educate students about marijuana use so they can make better informed choices.

## Marijuana in Conjunction with Other Drugs

Data collected from the 2016 MACHB also notes that 52% of students that have binge drank (5+ drinks in a 2

hour period) in the last year have also used marijuana in the last year as well. 90% of students who have used cocaine in the last year have used marijuana and 66% of students who have used amphetamines in the last year have also used marijuana. However, 55% of students who are using prescription drugs are using marijuana at least once in the past year.

### Marijuana in Conjunction with Other Drugs



## PIP Resources

The following links are for brochures and fact sheets that contain more information about marijuana use, side effects, and other material concerning marijuana and drug use. These can be used for educational use by any PIP institution.

- [pip.missouri.edu/Marijuana](http://pip.missouri.edu/Marijuana)
- [pip.missouri.edu/docs/PDFs/Marijuana.pdf](http://pip.missouri.edu/docs/PDFs/Marijuana.pdf)
- [pip.missouri.edu/docs/PDFs/Parents.pdf](http://pip.missouri.edu/docs/PDFs/Parents.pdf)

<sup>1</sup> Weinberger AH, Platt J, Goodwin RD. Is cannabis use associated with an increased risk of onset and persistence of alcohol use disorders? A three-year prospective study among adults in the United States. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* February 2016. doi:10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2016.01.014.

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