At a Glance: Substance Use and Thoughts of Transferring

This data from the Missouri Assessment of College Health Behaviors examines substance use and thoughts of transferring among Missouri college students. Overall, students who misuse substances were more likely to have thought of transferring or discontinuing their education in the past year.

Binge Drinking

Students who binge drink (consume 5+ drinks in a 2-hour period at least once in the past 2 weeks) report that they had higher rates of thinking of transferring or discontinuing their education in the past year than students who do not binge drink.

Cannabis Use

There is a strong association between frequency of cannabis use and students’ thoughts of transferring or discontinuing their education in the past year.

Other Drug Use

Students who had used any illegal drug (other than cannabis) at least once in the past year were more likely to report that they had thought of transferring or discontinuing their education. Other drug use includes hallucinogens (LSD, PCP, psilocybin, ecstasy), synthetic cannabis (K2/spice), cocaine, methamphetamines, inhalants, and heroin.

Reasons for Thoughts of Transferring

Overall, students who misuse substances reported higher rates of difficulty keeping up with academics or their own drinking/partying as reasons for thoughts of transferring/discontinuing their education.