



PennState



The Partnership

Campus and Community united against dangerous drinking

Annual Assessment Report 2022-2023

Updated November 8, 2023

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Introduction

Since The Partnership - Campus and Community United Against Dangerous Drinking was first formed, strong support has existed for compiling information about dangerous drinking behavior and its consequences among Penn State students (University Park) and in the Centre County community. The goal of assembling these data in the Annual Alcohol Assessment Report is to better understand various aspects of dangerous drinking, including tracking changes over time in the levels of drinking and the resulting consequences.

While we recognize that the causes of high levels of dangerous drinking are complex, we hope by using data to assess the environment, we are able to create a body of evidence to determine appropriate intervention and assessment strategies. However, because high-risk drinking behavior is extremely complex, we caution against attributing causality to fluctuations in the data that appear in this report. We recognize also that each of the sources of evidence that we have assembled has its own potential difficulties in interpretation. For instance, there are fluctuations from year to year in the number of alcohol citations issued by both the State College and the University Police Departments. Do the data tell us that PSU students consume more alcohol in some years? Alternatively, do they tell us that the two police agencies are more or less aggressive in citing students? The data themselves cannot answer such questions. Similar problems in interpreting the meaning of trends apply to information gathered from Penn State's Student Affairs offices. With such difficulties in mind, we have presented the trends with caution. It is our intention that this information should provide the basis for broader discussion about whether the many efforts to combat dangerous drinking on our campus and in our community have had any observable impact.

This report is created with the assistance and collaboration of numerous people, including the representatives of the campus and community offices responsible for maintaining information about aspects of dangerous drinking and its consequences. They include:

- Jeff Zapletal, Penn State Student Activities
- Mark Rameker & Andrew Mitchell, Penn State Residence Life
- Brittney Woolsey, Penn State University Police & Public Safety
- Andrew Mitchell & Katy Larkin, Student Accountability and Conflict Response
- Brett Scofield, Penn State Counseling and Psychological Services
- Adam Hoover, Mount Nittany Medical Center
- Mike Miltenberger & Linda LaSalle, Penn State Health Promotion and Wellness
- Anna Raup-Kounousky & Adam Christensen, Penn State Student Affairs Research and Assessment

In addition, the original version of this report was assembled and formatted by John McCarthy and Jenny Dixon. Staff members from Health Promotion and Wellness are now responsible for assembling the report.

In the following sections, data are presented on University Park undergraduate students' drinking behaviors (including overall drinking behavior and high-risk drinking behavior) and the negative consequences of drinking (including alcohol-related emergency room visits, self-reported consequences, and sanctions and citations) as well as late night programming efforts at Penn State. Generally, data are presented for the last five years using a reporting year of June 1 through May 31. Due to the availability of data from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, data from the 2021-2022 fiscal year are included in this report. In the appendices, data from previous years are provided along with additional information on the data sources (in particular the Penn State Pulse survey program).

On March 11, 2020, Penn State announced it would move to remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The University remained in a remote learning mode through the entirety of spring and summer of 2020. For the 2020-21 academic year, students experienced a remote and hybrid learning environment. As a result of the pandemic and remote and hybrid learning, a number of the metrics decreased during 2020-21. Notable areas where the data declined include alcohol-related emergency department visits, police violations, and attendance at late night programming. For the 2021-22 academic year, the University returned to in-person learning and a residential experience. As a result, there were increases in many of the metrics discussed in this report.

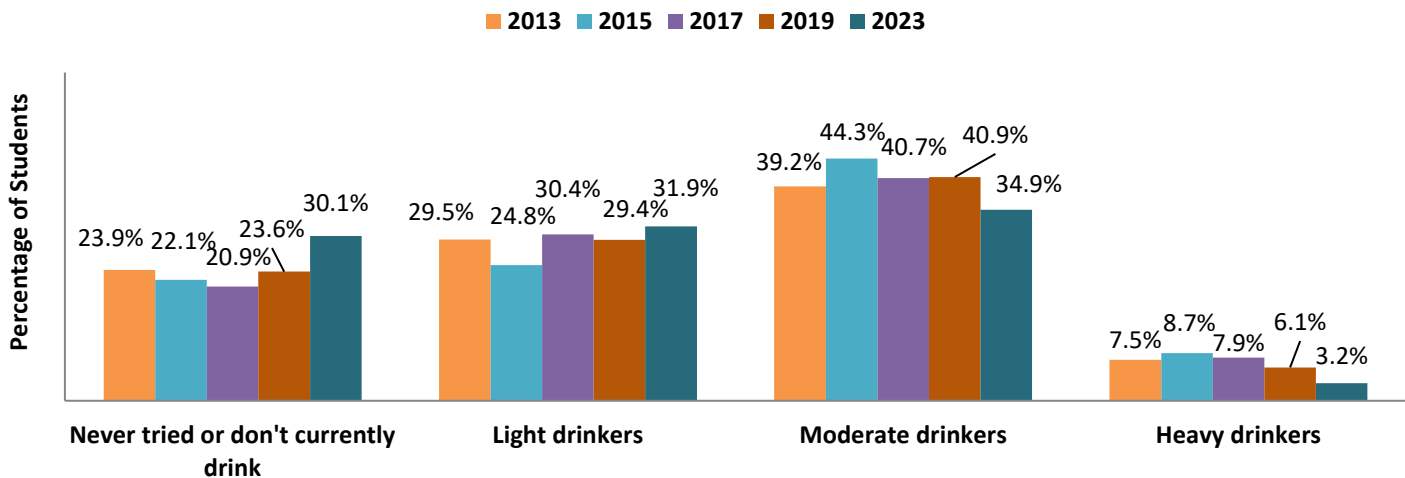
Penn State University Students' Drinking Behaviors

Information on students' self-reported consumption of alcoholic beverages is collected on a regular basis through the Penn State Pulse Student Drinking Survey. The data allow for comparisons of student alcohol consumption patterns since 1995. In 2008, the survey was significantly revised with the assistance of Dr. Rob Turrise and his staff at the Prevention Research Center. Although some pre-2008 comparisons can be made, other findings are only comparable to data gathered since 2008 (see the appendices for additional information about the Pulse data, methodology, and limitations). Data from the spring 2023 Pulse Student Drinking Survey are included in this report. The survey was also conducted in spring 2021; however, the response rate was unusually low due to the pandemic. Given the low response rate, which affects the ability to make comparisons to previous years' data, the 2021 survey data are not included in this report.

Overall Drinking Behaviors

Since the 2008 Student Drinking Survey, students have been asked to describe their alcohol consumption by choosing one of five possible responses: (1) never tried alcohol; (2) tried alcohol, currently don't drink; (3) light drinker; (4) moderate drinker; or (5) heavy drinker. This question was modified from the question in the 2002 to 2007 Pulse Surveys, when students were asked whether they consumed alcohol, resulting in one of two responses: (1) drink alcohol; or (2) do not drink alcohol. In 2023, 69.9% of students on the Penn State University Park campus reported they drink alcohol (the sum of positive responses to options 3, 4, and 5). This percentage is lower than in 2019 (76.4%) (Chart 1).

Chart 1. Students Self-Reported Drinking Behavior (%)



Quantity of Consumption

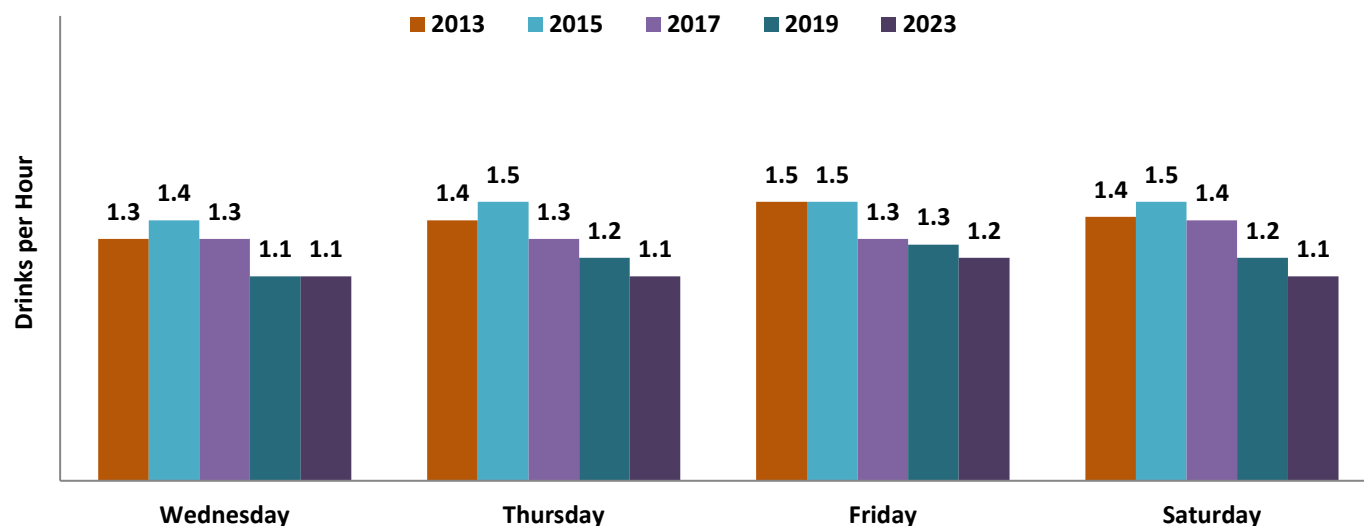
In 2023, 64.3% of students reported drinking on Friday nights and 63.0% on Saturday nights, whereas 21.4% reported drinking on Wednesday nights and 35.1% on Thursday nights (Table 1). Compared to 2019, this represents an increase in the percentage of students who are drinking Wednesday and Thursday nights. The average number of drinks consumed has declined slightly across Thursday through Saturday, with a small increase on Wednesdays; the average length of time spent drinking in 2023 is generally similar to 2019, with slight increases Wednesday through Friday. The average number of drinks per hour for students who drink on a given night is similar to previous years (Chart 2).

Table 1. Nightly Alcohol Use During a Typical Week*

Night	Percent Who are Drinking					Average # of Drinks					Average # of Hours				
	2013	2015	2017	2019	2023	2013	2015	2017	2019	2023	2013	2015	2017	2019	2023
Wednesday	13.5	17.0	12.5	10.2	21.4	3.09	3.48	2.88	3.00	3.44	2.59	2.49	2.29	2.98	3.37
Thursday	37.0	42.2	40.9	34.8	35.1	4.40	4.44	4.04	4.00	3.72	3.21	3.16	3.24	3.27	3.48
Friday	66.3	70.0	70.5	64.7	64.3	5.54	5.96	5.12	4.71	4.36	4.07	4.06	3.87	3.79	3.87
Saturday	66.6	70.0	67.4	63.7	63.0	5.85	6.13	5.89	5.22	4.88	4.26	4.31	4.54	4.56	4.55

* Average number of drinks and average number of hours both exclude any 0 values to calculate averages among those who do drink any amount.

Chart 2. Average Number of Drinks per Hour (Drinkers only)

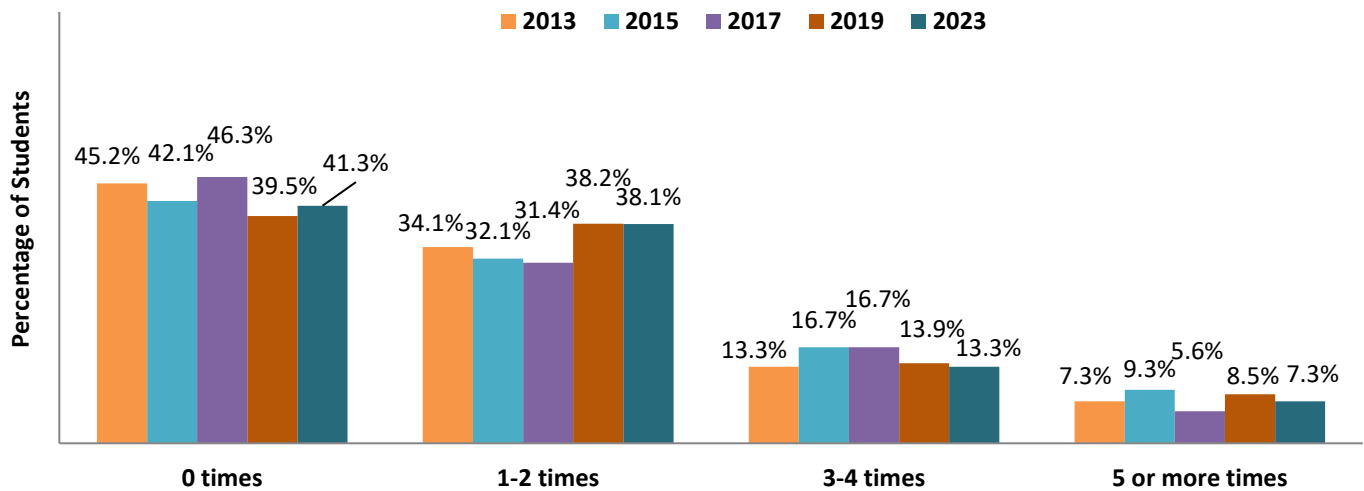


High-Risk Drinking Behavior

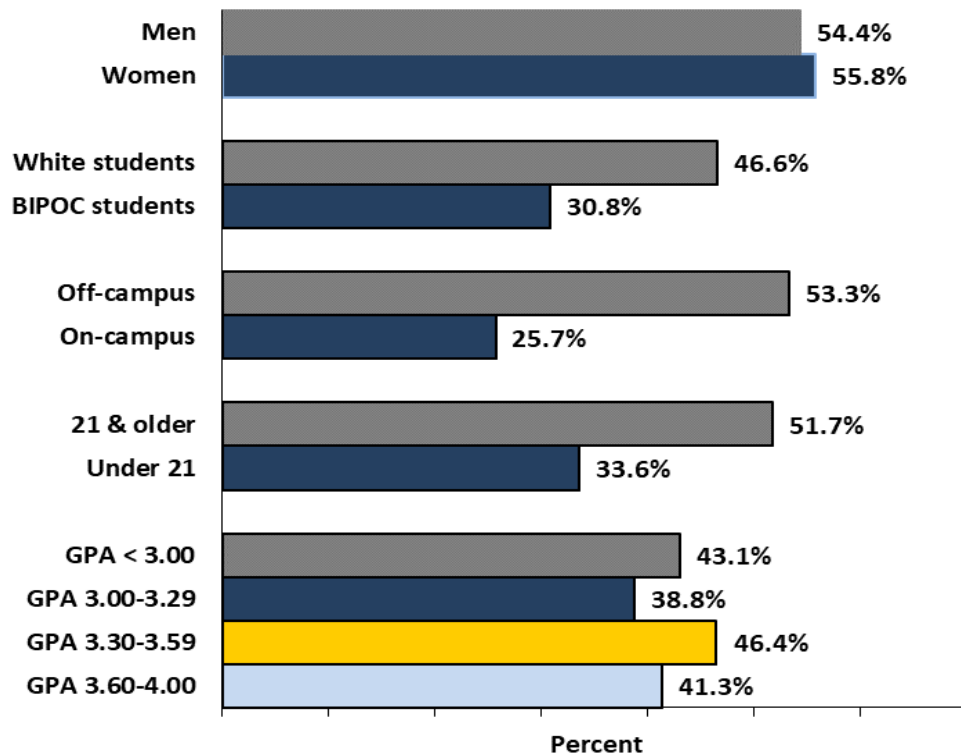
Another important indicator of students' drinking patterns is the level of high-risk behavior. High-risk drinking is defined as having four or more drinks in a two-hour period for women and five or more drinks in a two-hour period for men at least once over a two-week period. Occasional high-risk drinkers are those who reported drinking at this level one or two times during a two-week period. Frequent high-risk drinkers are those who reported drinking at this level three or more times during a two-week period.

In 2023, slightly less than half (42.3%) of all the respondents to the survey reported engaging in high-risk drinking in the previous two weeks, with 14.9% being classified as frequent high-risk drinkers. When looking at only students who reported having tried alcohol, 58.7% engaged in high-risk drinking, with 20.6% classified as frequent high-risk drinkers.

The percentage of students who reported not engaging in high-risk drinking behavior increased from 39.5% in 2019 to 41.3% in 2023. The percentage of students who engaged in high-risk drinking any number of times decreased slightly across all three categories between 2019 and 2023 (Chart 3).

Chart 3. Number of Times Students Engaged in High-Risk Drinking During a Two-Week Period

In 2023, women and white students were more likely to engage in high-risk drinking behavior than men and BIPOC students. Off-campus students were significantly more likely than on-campus students to report engaging in high-risk drinking behavior. Students 21 years of age and older engaged in high-risk drinking behavior more than those who were under 21 (Chart 4).

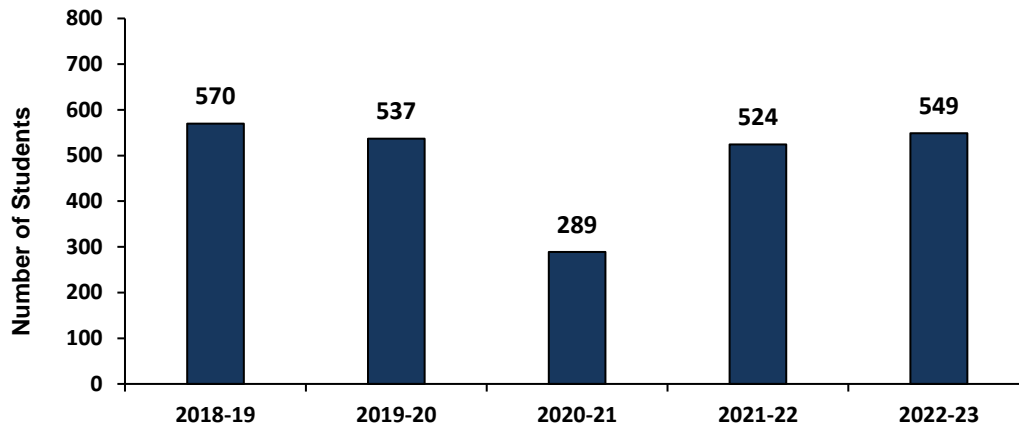
Chart 4. Percentage of High-Risk Drinkers within Groups

Negative Consequences of Drinking

Alcohol-Related Emergency Department Visits

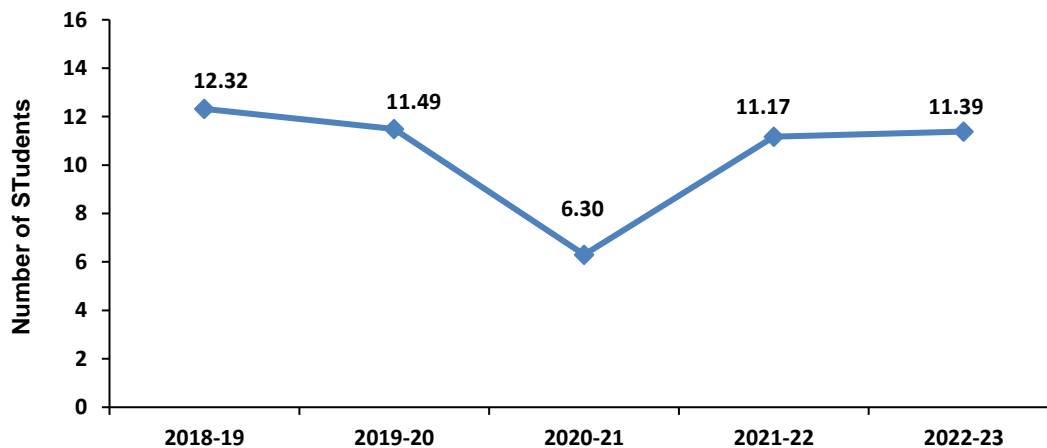
The Mount Nittany Medical Center's (MNM) Emergency Department (ED) provides information about Penn State students who seek care for alcohol-related reasons. The information includes evidence of alcohol consumption (including Blood Alcohol Concentration), age, and sex. The data from MNMC are aggregated from June 1 to May 31 to reflect consistent dates with other data provided in this report. In 2022-23, the number of alcohol-related visits to MNMC was 549, an increase in the number of visits reported for 2021-2022 (Chart 5).

Chart 5. Number of Penn State Student Alcohol-Related Visits to Mount Nittany Medical Center



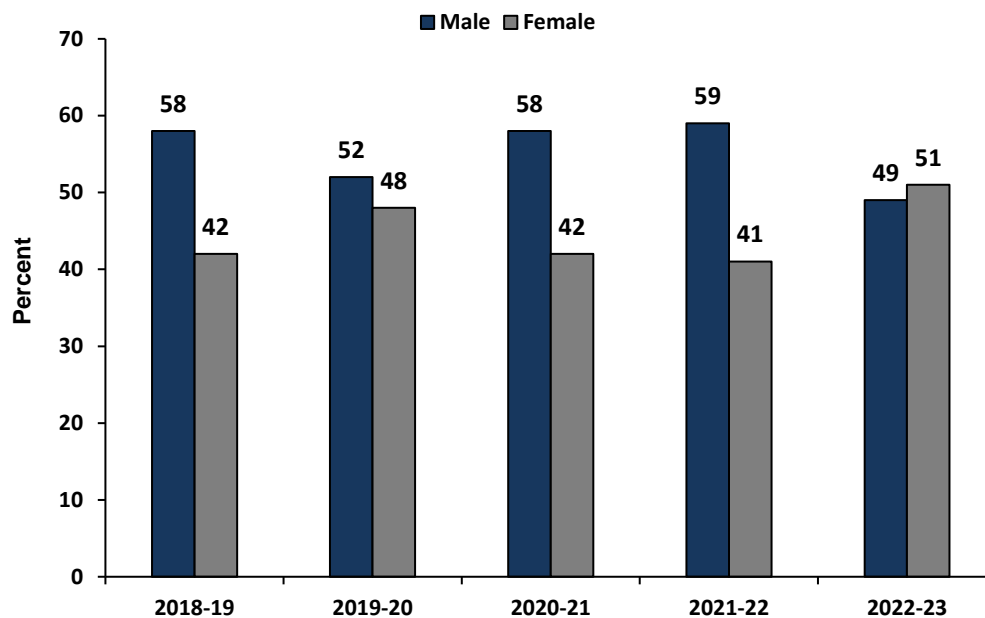
In Chart 6, the number of alcohol-related hospital visits is standardized to represent the number of visits per 1,000 students. This provides a control for the changing enrollment at Penn State. In 2022-23, 11.39 Penn State students per 1,000 students visited the emergency department for alcohol-related treatment compared to 11.17 Penn State students per 1,000 students in 2021-22.

Chart 6. Number of Students per 1,000 who used the ED for an Alcohol-Related Visit



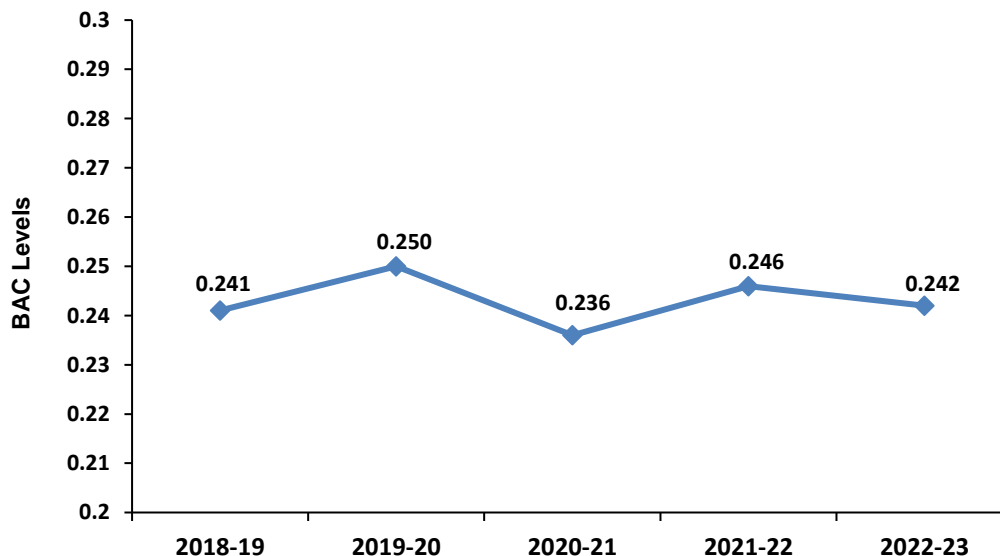
Examining the data by sex indicates that of Penn State students who had alcohol-related visits, the majority of visits were by male students in previous years. During the 2022-23 academic year, 51% of alcohol-related visits were made by female Penn State students (Chart 7).

Chart 7. Percentage of Penn State Student Alcohol-Related Visits to Mount Nittany Medical Center by Sex



In 2022-23, the average BAC level of Penn State students who visited the MNMC for alcohol-related reasons was 0.242. In 2021-22, the average BAC was 0.246 (Chart 8).

Chart 8. Average BAC Levels for Penn State Students' Alcohol-Related Visits to Mount Nittany Medical Center

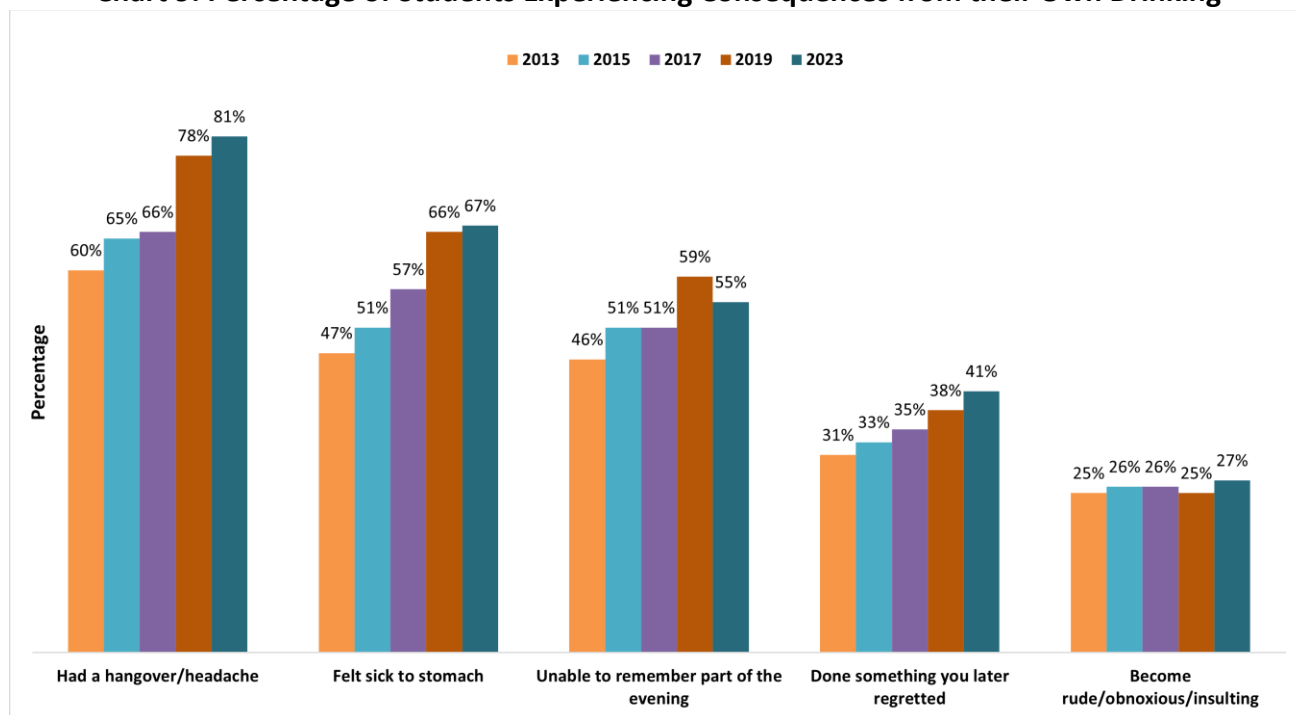


Self-Reported Consequences

As part of the Penn State Pulse Student Drinking Survey, students are asked about a series of consequences of alcohol use—both indirect (resulting from other students' drinking) and direct (resulting from their own drinking). The top five consequences students experienced as a result of their own drinking are presented in Chart 5. In 2023, the percentage of students

experiencing these consequences increased or stayed the same compared to 2019, with the exception of being unable to remember part of the evening, which decreased.

Chart 9. Percentage of Students Experiencing Consequences from their Own Drinking



With regard to the impact of other students' drinking, the data show that several indirect consequences (e.g., been insulted or humiliated, had a serious argument or quarrel, and been pushed, hit, or assaulted) increased from 2019 to 2023, while the percentage of students who reported having to "baby-sit" a student who drank too much decreased (Table 2).

Table 2. Percentage of Students Experiencing Consequences from Other Students' Drinking

Indirect Consequences	2013	2015	2017	2019	2023
Been insulted or humiliated	32%	34%	37%	34%	36%
Had a serious argument or quarrel	24%	28%	29%	26%	27%
Been pushed, hit, or assaulted	12%	14%	14%	12%	13%
Had your property damaged	18%	17%	13%	13%	14%
Had to "baby-sit" a student who drank too much	58%	63%	66%	73%	69%
Had your studying or sleep interrupted	56%	55%	55%	55%	57%
Been a victim of an unwanted sexual experience	6%	6%	6%	9%	12%

Sanctions and Citations

Four offices participate in issuing sanctions and citations for alcohol-related infractions: the Penn State Offices of Student Accountability and Conflict Response, Residence Life, University Police, and State College Police. This next section describes the efforts of each department and trends over the past five years.

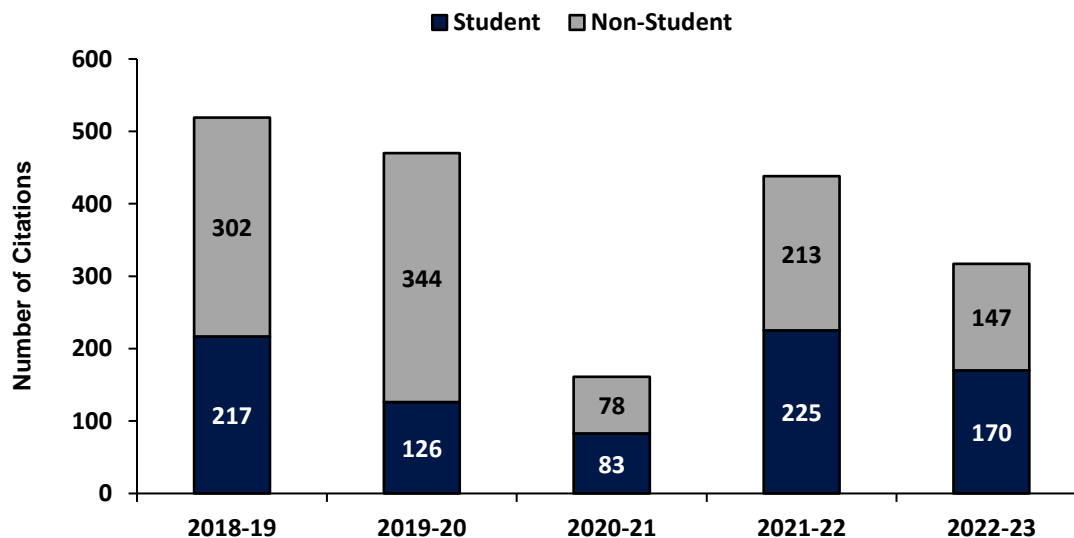
State College and University Park Police

Data for alcohol violations on the University Park campus and in the Borough of State College, as reported by State College and University Park police, are reported in three different categories: public drunkenness, liquor law violations, and driving under the influence (DUI) arrests. Public drunkenness is defined as a person who appears in any public place manifestly under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance to the degree that they may be a danger to themselves or other persons or property or annoy persons in their vicinity. A liquor law violation includes purchase, consumption, possession, or transportation of beverages containing alcohol by a person under 21 years of age. A DUI is defined as a violation that consists of driving under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or a combination of both to a degree that makes the person incapable of safe driving. A driver is also considered legally intoxicated when his or her blood alcohol content (BAC) is .08 or greater and age is 21 or older or if it is .02 or greater for a person age 20 or younger.

Data are aggregated using the dates June 1 through May 31. As a caveat, changes in the number of issued alcohol citations over the years may not be indicative of changes in behavior but rather a result of changes in the number of available police officers or fluctuations in the enforcement effort. During the 2018-19 academic year, the State College and University Park police began using a new records management system. Data from the old system was imported into the new system. The student designation data did not convert fully from the legacy Records Management System (RMS) to the new system which may have affected the reported number of student violations for 2018-19.

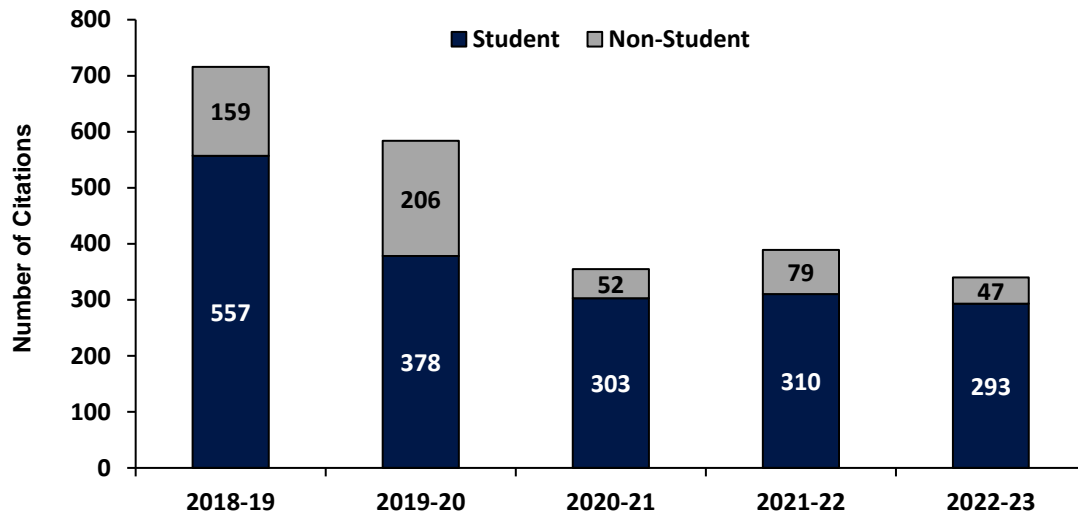
In 2022-23, the total number of police citations for public drunkenness decreased, with 317 citations for both students and non-students, compared to 438 citations in 2021-22. There was a decrease in the number of student citations from 225 in 2021-22 to 170 in 2022-23 (Chart 10).

Chart 10. Police Issued Citations for Public Drunkenness



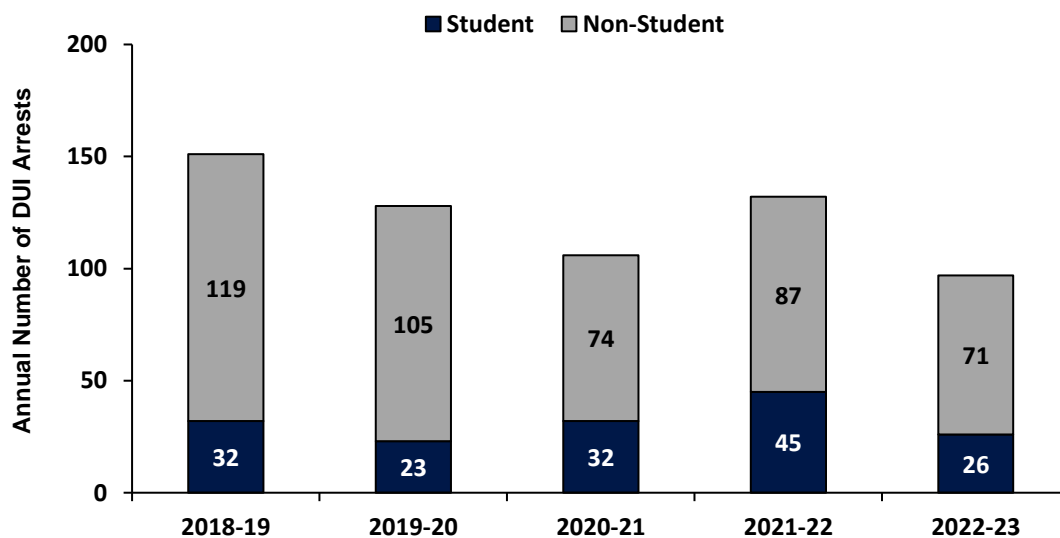
In 2022-23, there were a total of 340 citations for liquor law violations, a decrease from the 389 citations in 2021-22. Penn State students received 86% of the citations in 2022-23 (Chart 11).

Chart 11. Police Issued Citations for Liquor Law Violations



In 2022-23, the number of student arrests for DUI decreased to 26, compared to 45 in 2021-22. The number of arrests for non-students also decreased in 2022-23 compared to 2021-22, going from 87 to 71. Students comprised approximately 27% of all arrests for DUIs made by State College and University Police in 2022-23 (Chart 12).

Chart 12. Annual Number of Arrests by State College and University Police for DUI



The total number of alcohol-related violations (combining public drunkenness, liquor law citations, and DUI arrests) decreased in 2022-23 (754 violations compared to 959 in 2021-22). In 2022-23, students accounted for 65% of the citations and arrests (Chart 13). By standardizing the number of violations to represent the rate per 1,000 students, 2022-23 violations can be quantified as 10.15 per 1,000 students, a decrease compared to 2022-23 (Chart 14).

Chart 13. Annual Number of All Alcohol-Related Violations (Public Drunkenness, Liquor Law Citations and DUI Arrests)

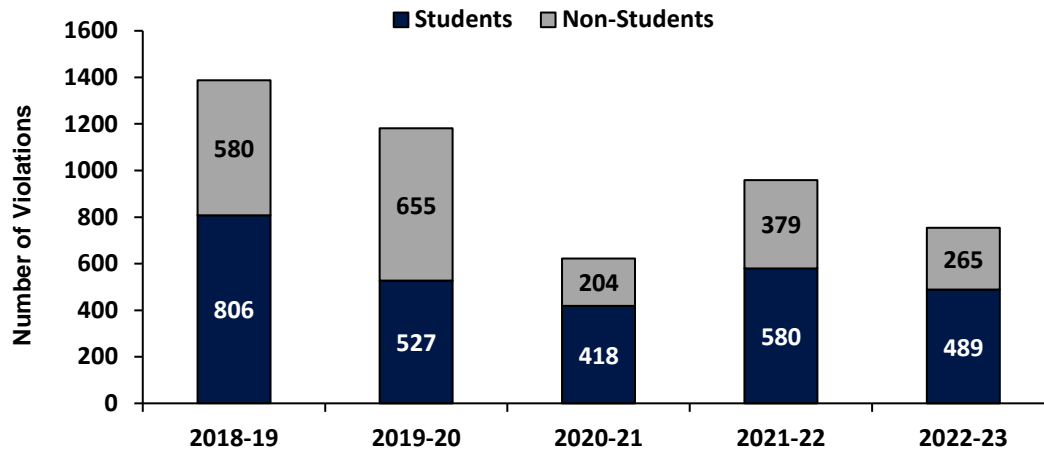
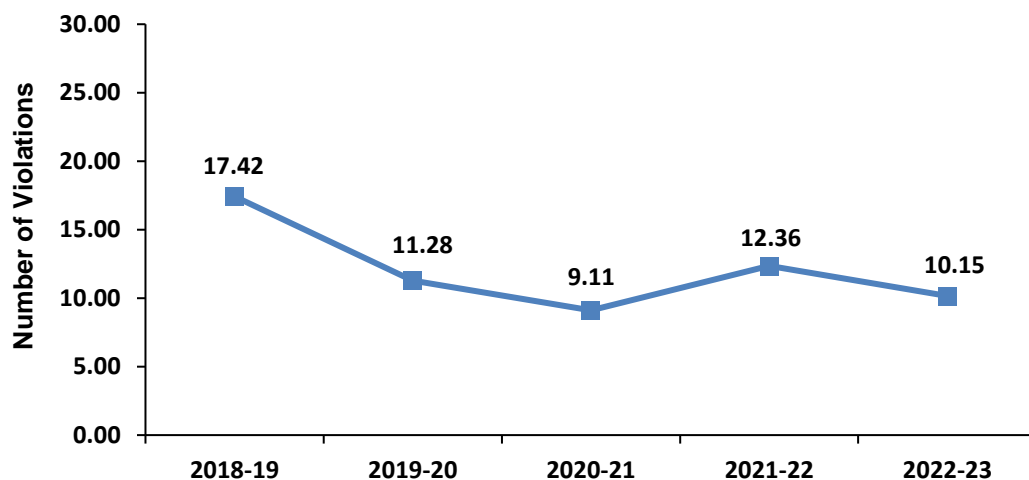
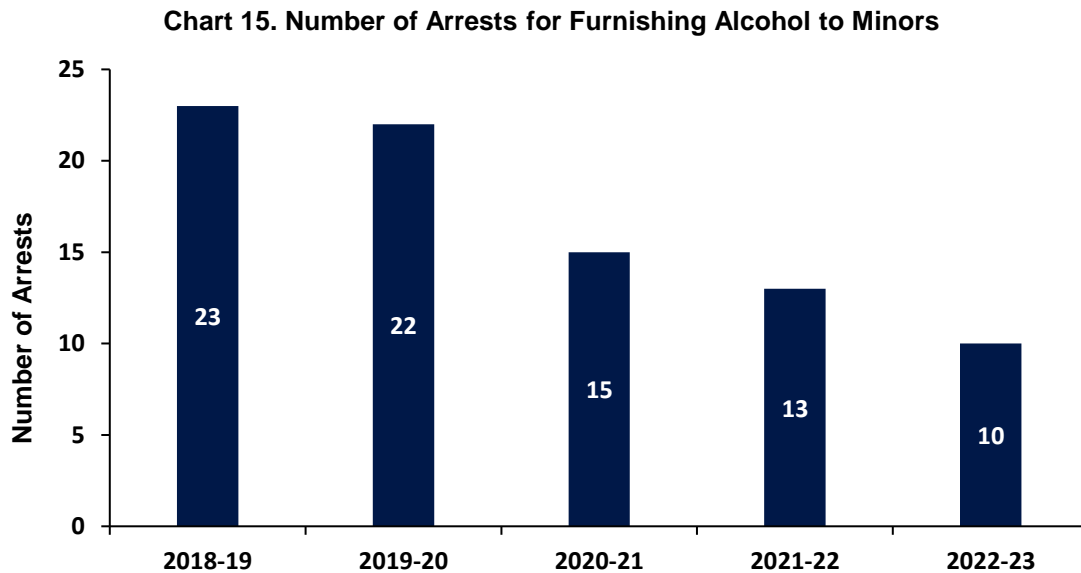


Chart 14. Alcohol-Related Police Violations per 1,000 Students



In 2022-23, there were 10 arrests for furnishing alcohol to minors (for State College and Penn State combined) compared to 13 arrests in 2021-22 (Chart 15).



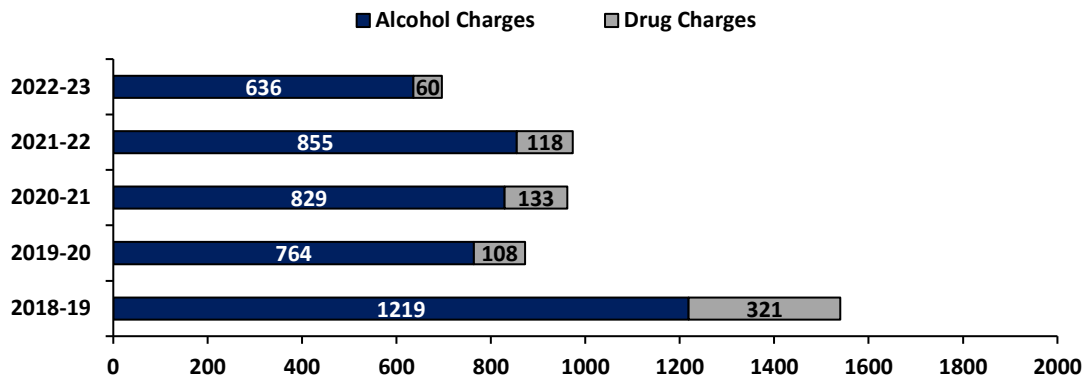
Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response

Staff in the Penn State Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response (OSACR) receive referrals concerning alcohol and drug violations from off-campus police, University Police, and Residence Life as well as from faculty, staff, students, administrators, and community members. In 2001, Penn State University began to address incidents of off-campus misconduct, including off-campus criminal violations. All reports of misconduct made to OSACR are reviewed to determine appropriate next steps. The majority of cases are resolved through adaptable resolutions that do not require a formal conduct process. Of those that do require a formal process, most are resolved by an acceptance of responsibility prior to a decision-making meeting.

OSACR uses a formalized adaptable resolution process for off-campus, minor alcohol and/or drug violations (e.g., first-time, underage possession or use of alcohol or possession of a small quantity of cannabis). Prior to Fall 2010, these referrals were closed out after providing the student a written warning. OSACR and Residence Life have used the Maxient database system to record reports and resolutions since switching from JACS in 2018.

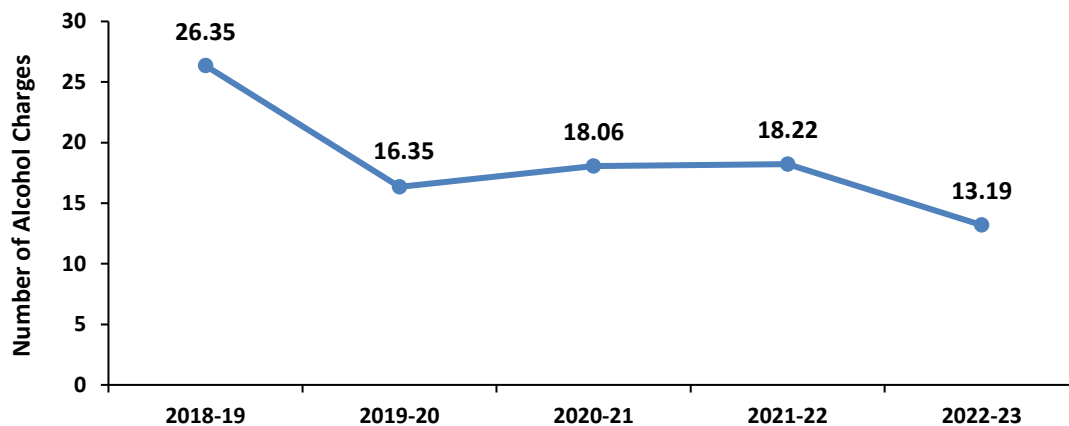
In 2022-23, OSACR processed 636 alcohol-related issues (the majority of which were underage possession or excessive consumption of alcohol) and 60 drug-related issues (the majority of which were use or possession of cannabis) (Chart 16).

Chart 16. Alcohol and Drug Charges Processed by the Officer of Student Accountability and Conflict Response



In Chart 17, the number of alcohol violations are standardized to represent the number of violations per 1,000 students. This provides a control for the changing enrollment at Penn State. In 2022-23, 13.19 violations were processed per 1,000 students, compared to 2021-22 when there were 18.22 violations per 1,000 students.

**Chart 17. Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response
Alcohol Charges per 1,000 Students**



Residence Life

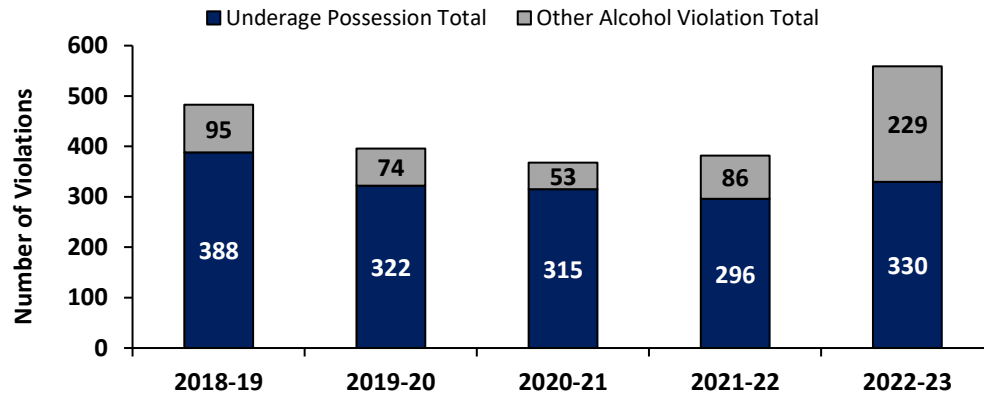
Following the 2006-07 academic year, data showed there was a steady increase in the number of alcohol-related incidents seen by Residence Life staff. New initiatives were introduced to inform and educate all students about alcohol, with a particular focus on first-year student environments, such as residence halls and student orientation events.

Beginning with the 2010-11 academic year, a substance-free policy was implemented for all first-year residential buildings on campus. In 2011-12, all undergraduate housing areas became substance-free. This means students are prohibited from possessing, using, distributing, manufacturing, or selling alcohol within undergraduate residential communities, regardless of

age. Further, being present in a residence hall room where a large quantity of alcohol is present and/or being served also violates Residence Life policy.

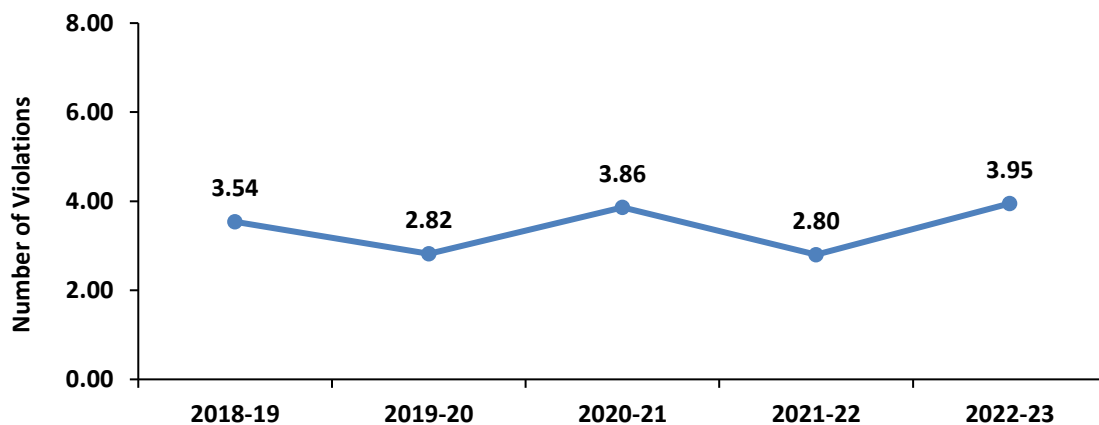
A total number of 559 alcohol-related incidents were reported in 2022-23, an increase from 382 in 2021-22. Each incident confirms an individual student. The majority of reported incidents were for underage possession (Chart 18).

Chart 18. Number of Alcohol-Related Incidents Processed by Residence Life



Standardizing the data to represent the number of incidents per 100 residents shows an increase in 2022-23 with 3.95 incidents per 100 residents compared to 2.80 in 2021-22 (Chart 19).

Chart 19. Number of Alcohol-Related Incident Processed by Residence Life per 100 Residents



Alcohol Intervention Programs

Effective fall 2010, Penn State students who have a first-time alcohol violation on or off-campus or an alcohol-related visit to the emergency department at Mount Nittany Medical Center are required to complete the Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS) program. Students may also be referred to BASICS by a county or district magistrate or may self-refer if they are concerned about their own drinking. BASICS is an evidence-based intervention program that is designed to reduce drinking and enhance awareness about alcohol-related issues. A student who is referred to BASICS initially completes two one-hour sessions with a community health educator in Health Promotion and Wellness (HPW). During the first session, students meet individually with the health educator and complete an online questionnaire. Students are

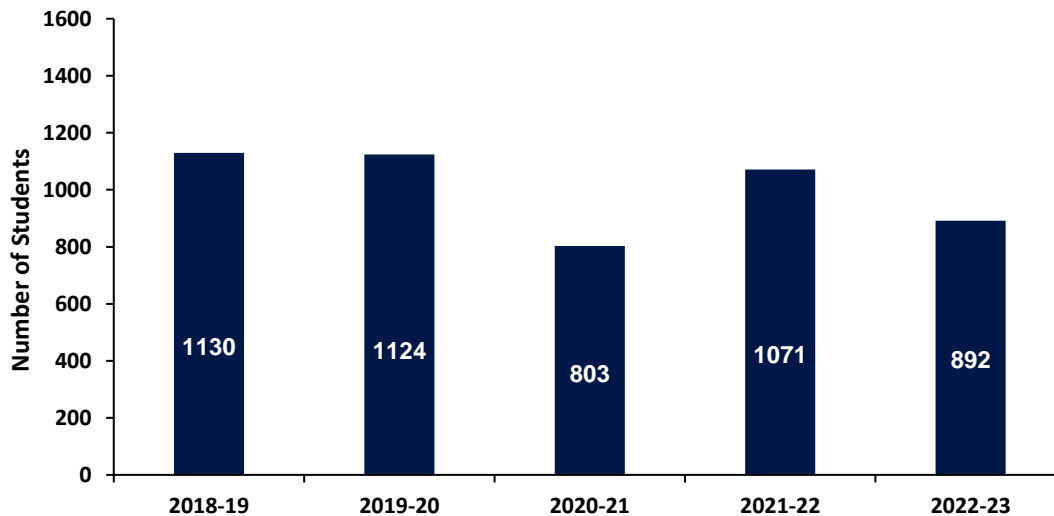
screened for alcohol abuse, depression, and anxiety, and, if needed, are referred to Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). In the second session, students discuss the questionnaire with the health educator and receive a personalized normative feedback report.

Students who complete the first two sessions of BASICS and have scores indicating a high level of alcohol use on the screening instrument, have multiple risk factors for alcohol misuse, or have a second alcohol-related incident are mandated by the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response (OSACR) to complete two additional sessions (BASICS 3 and 4). Previously, students were referred to CAPS to complete BASICS 3 and 4. In 2018-19, Health Promotion and Wellness became the sole provider for BASICS 3 and 4.

CAPS administers the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Program, previously referred to as the Alcohol Intervention Program (AIP). This service is provided by a professional counselor who specializes in drug and alcohol treatment. Students are referred to the AOD Program if they have already completed sessions in BASICS or Cannabis Screening and Education for College Students (CASECS) sessions and are exhibiting symptoms of a substance use disorder or a pattern of risky alcohol or other drug use. Typically, OSACR refers students to AOD who have a history of repeated substance-related incidents and are at risk of being separated from the University. The intervention is tailored to the student's needs and focuses on interventions such as: increasing the motivation to change, harm reduction, referral to higher levels of care if indicated, heightened self-awareness and support, co-occurring disorder treatment, and recovery maintenance. Students meet with the counselor for four to nine sessions.

The number of students seen in BASICS (sessions 1 and 2) was 892 in 2022-23 compared to 1071 in 2021-22 (Chart 20).

Chart 20. Number of Students who Completed BASICS



In 2022-23, a total of 170 students who completed BASICS 1 and 2 were further mandated for BASICS 3 and 4. For the AOD program, counselors met with 13 clients in 2022-23; the number of sessions attended by these 13 clients totaled 48 (Table 3).

Table 3. Students Completing BASICS 3 and 4 and the AOD Program

	AOD		BASICS 3 & 4	
	Appointments	Clients	Appointments	Clients
2018-19	21	20	380	194
2019-20	94	23	290	167
2020-21	20	6	193	98
2021-22	59	16	401	201
2022-23	48	13	320	170

Student Activities Late Night Programming

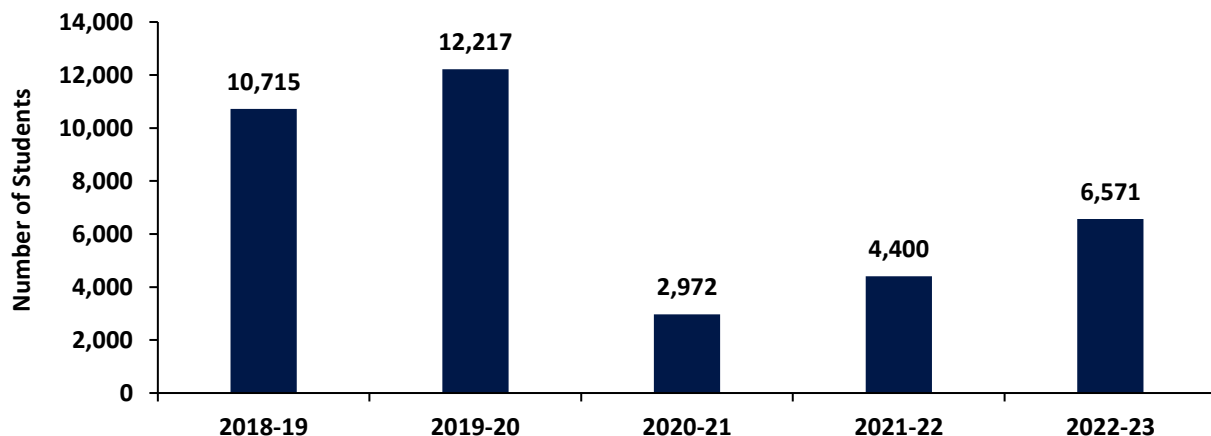
In 1996, the Late Night initiative was created to offer late night, alcohol-free activities for students. The mission of Late Night was to provide high-quality entertainment during prime social times, specifically from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, with a late movie offered on Thursdays. Events in the past have included movies, arts and crafts, dancing, live music, bingo, hypnotists, cultural showcases, casino nights, comedians, and magicians. For Fall 2008 through spring 2018, Late Night programming was coordinated by the Student Programming Association (SPA) in collaboration with Student Activities staff. Starting in Fall 2018, the Student Programming Association no longer sponsored Late Night and Student Activities staff coordinated the events with involvement from multiple student organizations.

Due to the shift in staff involvement, starting in 2018-2019, Student Activities no longer receives data for late night events sponsored by student organizations. Attendance data for the Association of Residence Hall Students (ARHS) Cinema events is also not consistently collected. These changes in the data collection and data reporting processes, in part, explain the decline in attendance starting in 2018-19.

Additionally, in the 2019-20 academic year, Student Activities moved away from the Late Night brand. The brand no longer appears in marketing materials. Some weekend programming continues to be provided including arts and crafts and ARHS cinema events. In Spring 2020, Student Activities launched a “Final Friday” series with a focus on programming during the final Friday of every month. Programming was offered in January and February until the University shifted to remote learning due to the pandemic. The activities offered in 2021-22 consisted of crafts and films on a weekly basis. These offerings occurred 14 weekends in both fall and spring semesters.

In 2022-23, there was an increase in the estimated attendance at late night programming. The estimated attendance in 2022-23 was 6,571, compared to attendance of 4,400 in 2021-22 (Chart 21).

Chart 21. Attendance at Late Night Events



Penn State Safe & Aware

The University launched a web-based alcohol education requirement for incoming first-year students during the 2011-12 academic year. The one-hour program was called Penn State SAFE (Student Alcohol Feedback and Education). During the 2018-19 academic year Student Affairs staff worked with staff from WPSU's Creative Services area to redesign the module to

make it more interactive and engaging for students. The new module combines the alcohol education content with the sexual misconduct content into one comprehensive program called Penn State Safe & Aware. The module includes information about the effects alcohol has on the brain and body, alcohol-related state laws, and university policies related to alcohol consumption. The module educates students about relationship violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sexual harassment. The module is designed to help students learn new information that will help them make healthy decisions and stay safe. The new module launched in spring 2019.

Table 4 shows the participation and completion rates for University Park students for the summer and fall implementations of the module. The 2016-19 data are for the original version of the Penn State SAFE program. Starting in 2019-20, data reflects the new version of the module. In 2022-23, 96.9% of all eligible, incoming first-year students at University Park completed some or most of Safe & Aware; 93.3% of first-year students completed the module in its entirety (Table 4).

Table 4. Participation and Completion Rates for Penn State Safe & Aware

	Number of Eligible Students	Participation	% Participation	Part 1 Completion	% Part 1 Completion
2018-19	8199	7951	97.0%	7421	90.5%
2019-20	8678	8179	94.2%	7535	86.8%
2020-21	9291	8513	91.6%	7951	85.6%
2021-22	8754	8662	98.9%	7097	81.1%
2022-23	9517	9219	96.9%	8880	93.3%

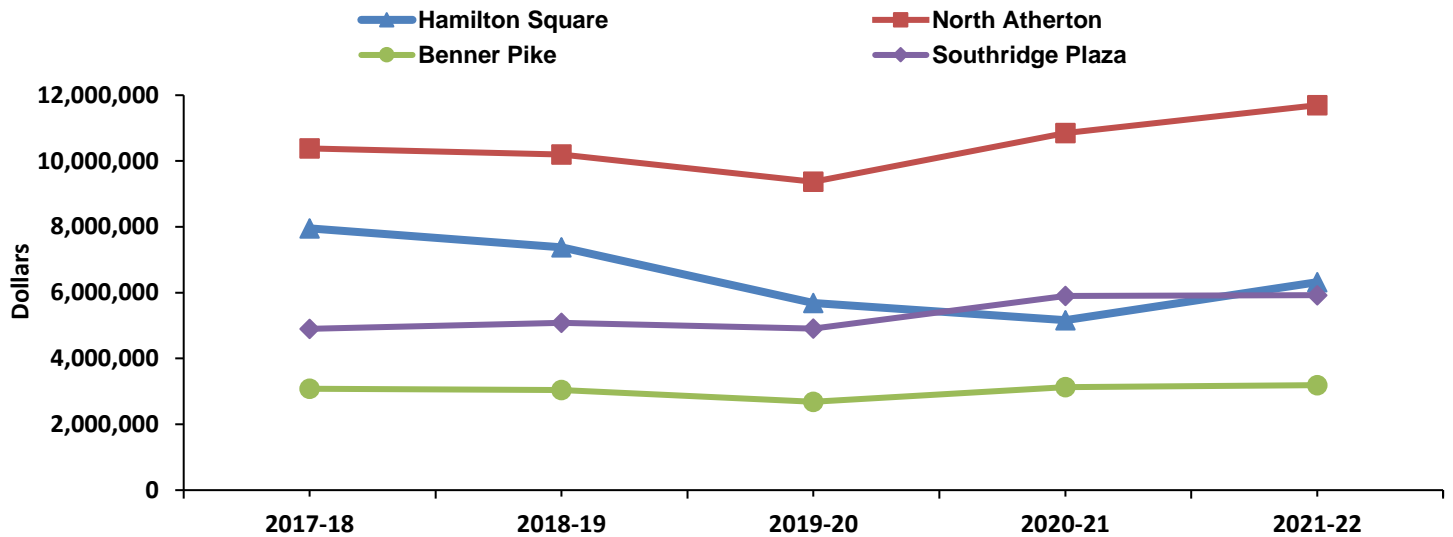
The tracking database for the new version of the module is set up to record a completed status when the student works through the final two steps of the module: 1) responding to a satisfaction survey; and 2) downloading a course completion certificate. The decline in the completion rate starting in 2019 may be due to some students not completing these two final steps even though they reviewed all of the educational content. Modifications were made for fall 2022 to educate students about how to complete the module which may explain the increased completion rate for 2022-23.

Alcohol Sales

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) is the Commonwealth's agency that manages the alcohol beverage industry in Pennsylvania. The PLCB is responsible for licensing and retailing as well as offering alcohol education. The 2020-21 alcohol sales information reported here are the most recent available data and were obtained from the PLCB annual sales report. Data are based on the fiscal year from July 1 to June 30.

The total sales volume for the State College Wine & Spirit shops are presented in Chart 22. The total sales across locations increased from \$25,042,044 in 2020-21 to \$27,133,304 in 2021-22.

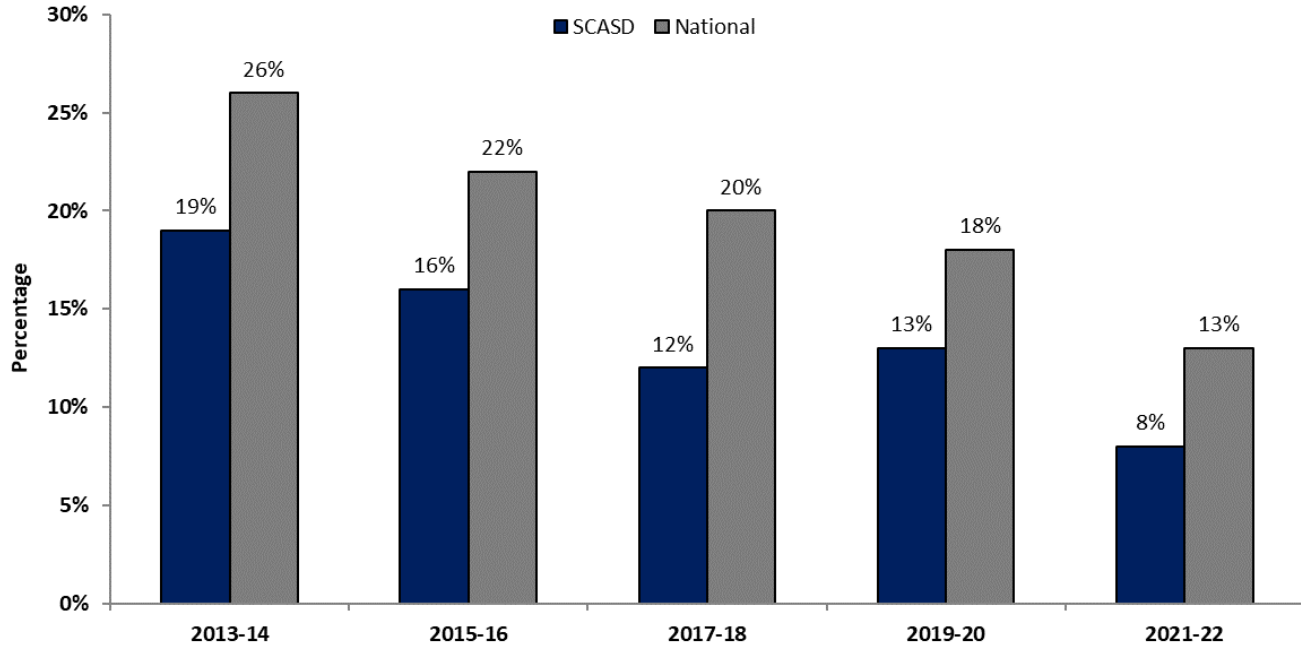
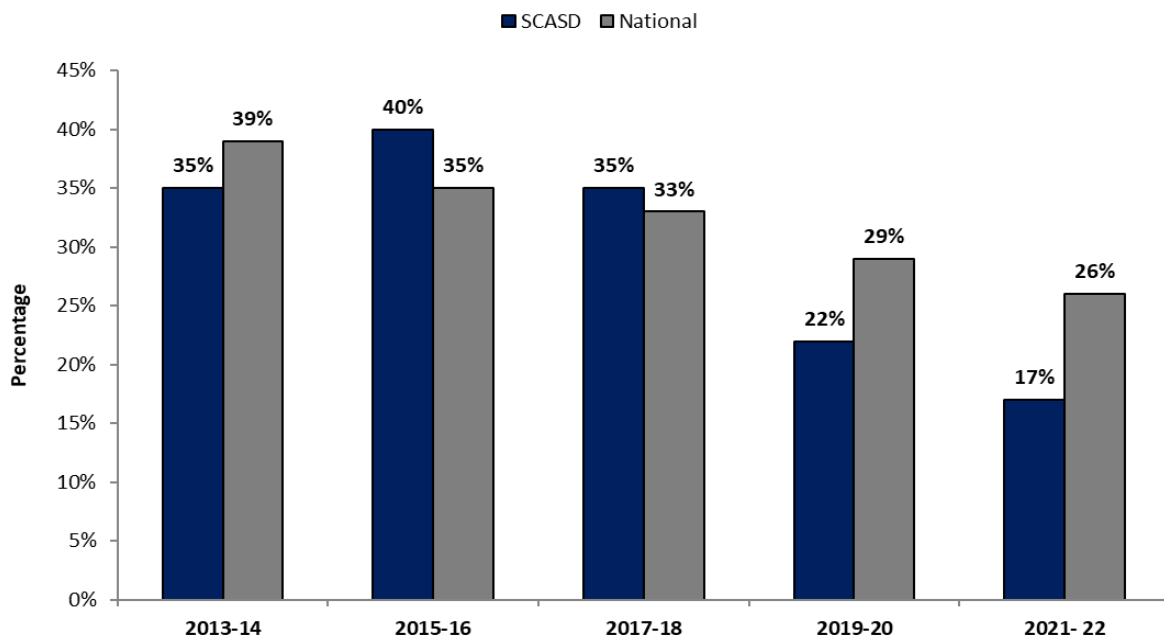
Chart 22. Total Sales Volume for State College Wine and Spirit Shops



State College Area High School Students' Alcohol Use

The communities surrounding Penn State are affected in numerous ways by what occurs on campus, including area high school students who may take advantage of the wide range of campus events and activities. As a result, these students may be exposed to the positive and negative influences of social interactions with university students. Similarly, with a large percentage of college-bound State College Area High School graduates attending Penn State, the behavior while in high school also influences the social atmosphere at Penn State. Hence, while Penn State is concerned with students' dangerous drinking behavior, so is the State College Area School District (SCASD). In 1999, SCASD began participating in the Pennsylvania Youth Survey that includes questions about alcohol consumption. These data provide an idea of the level of alcohol consumption among SCASD high school students. Because the Youth Survey is administered nationally, the alcohol use of SCASD students can be compared with national usage. The most recent survey data (2021-22) are presented below.

The percentages of 10th grade and 12th grade State College High School students who have consumed alcoholic beverages in the last 30 days are provided in Charts 23 and 24, respectively. In 2021-22, 8% of SCASD 10th graders reported drinking alcohol in the last 30 days compared to 13% nationally.

Chart 23. Percent of 10th Graders Who Drank in the Last 30 Days**Chart 24. Percent of 12th Graders Who Drank in the Last 30 Days**

Not since 2015-16 and 2017-18 have SCASD seniors reported drinking at levels above the national percentage. In 2021-22, 17% of SCASD seniors reported having consumed alcohol in the last 30 days compared to 26% nationally.

Appendix A - Penn State Pulse

Information on students' self-reported consumption of alcoholic beverages has been gathered from samples of Penn State University students since 1995. The Penn State Pulse Student Drinking Survey has allowed for a comparison of student alcohol consumption patterns over the past years. These findings are used to examine the effectiveness of prevention efforts, to identify at-risk populations, and to inform policy and practice. The survey is administered every two years.

The 2008 survey was significantly revised with the assistance of Dr. Rob Turrisi and his staff at the Prevention Research Center. While several comparisons to previous surveys are still applicable, many of the findings now reflect changes made in 2008. Between 2003 and 2008, surveys were administered by phone and also by web at the request of University Health Services. From 2009 on, the survey was administered by web only.

Table A-1: Percentage of Penn State Students Who Report Consuming Any Alcohol*

	2003	2004	2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2023
Number of Respondents	1620	1427	1315	1920	1951	1985	1798	1174	873	673	1440	978
Did Drink	82.8	80.8	84.4	82.3	80.7	80.7	76.8	76.1	77.9	79.1	76.4	69.9
Did Not Drink	17.2	19.2	15.6	17.7	19.3	19.3	23.3	23.9	22.1	20.9	23.6	30.1

*Data prior to 2002 are available upon request.

Table A-2: Percentage of Penn State Students Reporting Frequent High-Risk Drinking Behavior, by Sex

	2003	2004	2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2023
Female	14.3	14.1	14.7	8.4	11.0	12.4	8.4	7.1	11.6	11.4	12.3	18.7
Male	19.2	17.0	20.2	11.8	16.0	15.0	11.8	9.4	12.1	8.4	5.5	21.1

* The question was revised in the 2008 Pulse Survey and may account for the decline in the numbers of students reporting frequent high-risk drinking behavior; in 2008, the question was based on the number of drinks consumed "during a two-hour period" compared to "in one sitting" when asked in the previous years.

Table A-3: The Consequences of Other Students' Drinking and of One's Own Drinking*

	2023	2019	2017	2015	2013	2011	2010	2009	2008	2006	2004	2003
Insulted or humiliated	36%	34%	37%	34%	32%	36%	41%	41%	40%	37%	32%	27%
Serious argument	27%	26%	29%	28%	24%	31%	32%	33%	39%	44%	37%	32%
Pushed, hit, or assaulted	13%	12%	14%	14%	12%	14%	15%	15%	18%	20%	15%	13%
Property damaged	14%	13%	13%	17%	18%	17%	20%	20%	22%	31%	25%	23%
Baby-sat drunken student	69%	73%	66%	63%	58%	63%	63%	63%	66%	64%	60%	57%
Studying or sleep interrupted	55%	55%	55%	55%	56%	60%	63%	61%	66%	71%	65%	59%
Unwanted sexual experience	12%	9%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	7%	6%	6%	6%	4%
Had a hangover	81%	78%	66%	65%	60%	61%	68%	66%	68%	70%	60%	63%
Missed class	34%	30%	27%	25%	23%	25%	28%	26%	32%	38%	26%	30%
Got behind in schoolwork	26%	26%	26%	21%	18%	22%	24%	24%	26%	27%	21%	23%
Did something you later regretted	41%	38%	35%	33%	31%	30%	35%	34%	37%	44%	33%	34%
Got into trouble with campus or local police	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	4%	5%
Got hurt or injured	18%	17%	16%	17%	16%	12%	14%	16%	15%	21%	14%	15%

*The 2002-2019 data include students who do and do not drink.

**Table A-4: Consequences (Experienced One or More Times) Related to Alcohol Use:
Questions New to the Pulse Survey Revised in 2008**

	2023	2019	2017	2015	2013	2011
Felt sick to your stomach or thrown up	67%	66%	57%	51%	47%	45%
Gotten into a physical fight	3%	4%	4%	3%	5%	6%
Been unable to remember a part of the previous evening	55%	59%	51%	51%	46%	43%
Damaged property or set off a false alarm	3%	3%	3%	5%	4%	5%
Gotten in trouble at school (with Residence Life, Student Conduct, etc.)	3%	4%	3%	4%	4%	4%
Driven under the influence	3%	3%	3%	4%	5%	5%
Felt guilty about your drinking	40%	32%	31%	25%	22%	23%
Became rude, obnoxious, or insulting	27%	25%	26%	26%	25%	29%
Performed poorly on an assignment or test	18%	17%	12%	12%	11%	13%
Had difficulty concentrating in class	33%	23%	18%	18%	16%	20%
Had sex when you didn't really want to	11%	12%	10%	9%	7%	8%
Been pressured or forced to have sex with someone and were too drunk to prevent it	4%	5%	4%	4%	3%	3%
Pressured or forced someone to have sex with you after you had been drinking	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%

Table A-5: Percentage of PSU Students Who Experienced Negative Consequences by Risk Category

	Non-high-risk drinkers						Occasional high-risk drinkers						Frequent high-risk drinkers					
	2023	2019	2017	2015	2013	2011	2023	2019	2017	2015	2013	2011	2023	2019	2017	2015	2013	2011
Had a hangover	69%	60%	44%	42%	39%	39%	90%	89%	87%	84%	86%	80%	94%	95%	96%	89%	92%	92%
Missed a class	16%	11%	12%	10%	9%	9%	37%	37%	38%	29%	34%	35%	65%	53%	54%	52%	51%	56%
Got behind in schoolwork	15%	15%	12%	9%	9%	11%	29%	27%	36%	26%	24%	29%	44%	44%	49%	41%	39%	43%
Did something you later regretted	23%	22%	18%	15%	15%	14%	49%	41%	47%	40%	47%	40%	66%	63%	67%	62%	59%	60%
Got into trouble with the campus or local police	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%	5%	4%	2%	7%	4%	11%
Got hurt or injured	9%	4%	7%	7%	7%	4%	21%	19%	20%	17%	20%	15%	35%	33%	34%	36%	39%	32%

Appendix B - Mount Nittany Medical Center

Mount Nittany Medical Center has been recording data on alcohol-related emergency visits of Penn State students since 1996. Mount Nittany Medical Center examines all electronic medical files related to alcohol at the end of each weekend to generate a list of students who have visited the Emergency Department. This information makes it possible to examine trends in the annual number of alcohol-related Emergency Department visits by Penn State students. Mount Nittany Medical Center uses a variety of methods to determine if a patient is a Penn State student, including asking the patient at the time of registration, checking the Penn State identification card if the patient voluntarily provides one, and talking with the police if they brought the patient to the Emergency Department.

The date of incident, day of week, length of Emergency Department visit, age, sex, Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) level, injuries, and treatment are entered into a database categorized by month and year. If a doctor identifies alcohol on the breath of a patient, she or he might note this in the records as AOB (Alcohol on Breath) or note how many alcoholic drinks the patient reported having consumed. The doctor will also note any additional information, such as demeanor of the patient, evidence of other drug use, assault, sexual assault, and whether the incident is associated with a 21st birthday celebration.

The Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) of a patient is measured at the discretion of the doctor. BAC levels are measured if the doctor decides it will be helpful to the medical treatment of the patient. A BAC test is usually not taken if the patient is visiting the Emergency Department with other injuries, such as fractures or lacerations. Treating the most severe injury is the highest priority. Legal BAC measurements may be requested by the police and are drawn by hospital lab personnel. The specimen is then given to the police to have tested at their designated lab site.

Using this recording system, the status of an off-campus student could potentially be overlooked if the student is over 25, has private health insurance, or lives at an off-campus address. BAC levels are good indicators of the extent of alcohol consumption, but since this test is done at the discretion of each physician, BAC results are not consistently available for all alcohol-related emergency department visits by Penn State students. Therefore, the figures in Table B-1 that report average BAC level for student visits should be interpreted with great caution.

Data from previous years have been removed from the tables below to accommodate new data.

Table B-1: Mount Nittany Medical Center (MNMN) Emergency Department Data

	Total Number	Tested BAC	Missing	Avg BAC	Avg Age	Male	Female
2014-15	699	638	8.73%	0.255	19.84	61.90%	38.10%
2015-16	651	605	7.07%	0.258	19.77	62.21%	37.78%
2016-17	711	681	4.41%	0.254	19.92	53.87%	46.13%
2017-18	691	664	3.91%	0.253	19.82	58.61%	41.39%
2018-19	570	555	2.63%	0.241	19.99	57.72%	42.28%
2019-20	537	521	3.02%	0.250	19.72	52.32%	47.68%
2020-21	289	284	1.76%	0.236	19.74	58.13%	41.87%
2021-22	524	519	1.00%	0.246	19.94	58.59%	41.41%
2022-23	549	545	0.73%	0.242	20.10	49.36%	50.46%

Table B-2: Penn State Students Involved in Alcohol-Related Visits to MNMC Emergency Department by Month

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
June	12	13	6	5	5	3	7	8	2
July	39	22	38	40	18	13	8	10	15
August	87	65	47	75	60	49	16	51	50
September	115	103	120	130	98	121	39	92	92
October	89	92	117	98	74	90	60	93	99
November	59	55	68	47	44	74	22	41	41
December	28	28	40	32	41	54	3	24	32
January	59	55	66	59	55	42	9	55	43
February	57	96	67	61	55	77	34	51	81
March	54	34	43	57	51	11	34	22	26
April	70	81	89	78	62	0	39	60	60
May	30	7	10	9	7	3	18	17	8
Total	699	651	711	691	570	537	289	524	549

Appendix C - State College and University Police Departments

The Penn State University and State College Police Departments work from the same radio and computerized record management system, facilitating communication between departments and easing common reporting of violations on campus and in the community. Penn State University Police and the State College Borough Police have worked closely with the Partnership to provide data on certain alcohol-related violations for Penn State students.

The Penn State University Student Misconduct Policy went into effect July 2001. This policy facilitates cooperation between State College and other local police to make referrals to the Penn State Office of Student Conduct. Since off-campus violation referrals are now routinely made, it is possible for the State College Police to more accurately identify which alcohol violators are Penn State students. In previous years, a clear identification was more problematic. For the purposes of this report, we determined if the person cited for an alcohol offense was a Penn State student in two ways: first by residence type code and second by social security number. If the person who was cited was identified as a student by either method, we counted them as a student in this report. The percentage of correct identifications of Penn State students varies from year to year.

Data from previous years have been removed from the tables below to accommodate new data.

Table C-1: Annual Number of Citations Issued by State College and University Police to Students and Non-Students for Public Drunkenness

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Student	388	352	218	321	217	126	83	225	170
Non-Student	235	235	183	276	302	344	78	213	147
Total	623	587	401	597	519	470	161	438	317

Table C-2: Annual Number of Citations Issued by State College and University Police to Students and Non-Students for Liquor Law Violations

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Student	1014	902	709	792	557	378	303	310	293
Non-Student	208	189	169	154	159	206	52	79	47
Total	1222	1091	878	946	716	584	355	389	340

Table C-3: Annual Number of Arrests by State College and University Police of Students and Non-Students for DUI

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Student	71	57	66	66	32	23	32	45	26
Non-Student	125	118	142	163	119	105	74	87	71
Total	196	175	208	229	151	128	106	132	97

Table C-4: Percent of Combined Alcohol-Related Violations (Public Drunkenness, Liquor Law Citations, and DUI Arrests) Issued to Penn State Students and Non-Students

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Students	1473	1311	993	1179	806	527	418	580	489
Non-Students	568	542	494	593	580	655	204	379	265
Students	72.2%	70.8%	66.8%	66.5%	58.2%	44.6%	67.2%	60.5%	64.9%
Non-Students	27.8%	29.2%	33.2%	33.5%	41.8%	55.4%	32.8%	39.5%	35.1%
Total	2041	1853	1487	1772	1386	1182	622	959	754

*State College and University Park police began using a new records management system. Data from the old system was imported into the new system and the student designation data did not fully convert which may have affected the reported number of student violations.

Table C-5: Number of Alcohol-Related Police Violations per 1,000 students

	Violations	Enrollment	Rate
2014-15	1473	46,606	31.61
2015-16	1311	46,848	27.98
2016-17	993	47,261	21.01
2017-18	1179	46,610	25.30
2018-19	806	46,270	17.42
2019-20	527	46,723	11.28
2020-21	418	45,901	9.11
2021-22	580	46,930	12.36
2022-23	489	48,201	10.15

Appendix D – Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response

Data from previous years have been removed from the tables below to accommodate new data.

Table D-1: Number of Drug and Alcohol Charges Assigned

	Total	Alcohol	Drug
2014-15	1606	1258	348
2015-16	1427	1161	266
2016-17	1406	1154	252
2017-18	1548	1236	312
2018-19	1540	1219	321
2019-20*	817	764	108
2020-21	962	829	133
2021-22	1041	855	118
2022-23	696	636	60

Table D-2: Number of Referrals to the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response*

	University Police	Residence Life	Staff/Faculty	Off-Campus Police
2014-15	942	437	1427	1537
2015-16	910	363	1359	1316
2016-17^	768	751	7	730
2017-18^^	716	804	20	687
2018-19	482	679	19	500
2019-20	473	587	19	513
2020-21	307	542	4	227
2021-22	267	496	9	376
2022-23	581	802	8	292

*The data in Table D-2 reflect the number of students referred to the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response which include both cases resolved with charges and through alternative programs.

^Starting in 2016-2017 the data collected for staff/faculty referrals only reflects drug and alcohol incidents which indicates the significant decrease in number of referrals for staff/faculty.

^^The data for 2017-2018 was collected from two databases (JACS and Maxient). As of 2/3/18 all conduct data is stored in Maxient and incidents with multiple referral sources can only be tracked by the primary referral source. This may affect cases where more than one student is charged and may result in a decrease in referral numbers.

Table D-3: Total Number of Students Who Completed Alcohol Intervention Programs

	AIP*/BASICS 1&2	BASICS 3&4	AIP/AOD
2014-15	1374	315	25
2015-16	1370	300	16
2016-17	1203	247	18
2017-18	1339	260	16
2018-19 [^]	1130	194	20
2019-20 [#]	1115	167	23
2020-21	803	99	6
2021-22 ^{**}	1028	195	16
2022-23	892	170	13

*Prior to the introduction of the BASICS program in 2010, University Health Services provided both group and individual alcohol intervention programs. Yearly data for AIP group and AIP individual have been aggregated.

[^]In 2018-19 Health Promotion and Wellness became the sole providers for BASICS 3 and 4. Counseling and Psychological Services changed the name of AIP to AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs Program).

[#]In 2019-20 BASICS 1 and 2 appointments include 9 self-referrals. Students with BASICS 5 and 6 appointments are included in the numbers for BASICS 3 and 4.

^{**}In 2021-22 BASICS 1 and 2 appointments include 40 self-referrals. This is an increase of 166.6% when compared to the 15 self-referrals received in 2020-21.

Table D-4: Alcohol Education Sanctions by Provider*

	Student Accountability and Conflict Response				Residence Life			
	2019-2020	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Court Assigned Provider	4	2	8	2	0	1	0	0
Online Provider	19	3	17	71	6	4	2	186
Private Provider	46	13	1	20	0	0	26	0
University Provider	629	381	458	331	481	342	397	465

*Data from previous years are available on request.

Appendix E - Residence Life

Penn State houses 13,600 undergraduate students and 1,000 graduate students in residence halls, apartments, and student housing. There are 270 resident assistants assigned to the residence halls and apartments. Residence Life incident data are gathered through the Community Standards/Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response Incident Reports. Information about the student, nature of incident, location, time, and witnesses are recorded. A Residence Life Coordinator and/or Assistant Director will either schedule an educational conference/conduct meeting with the student or refer the case to the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response.

Table E-1: Residence Life Charge Code Comparison Table for University Park*

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Underage possession	445	368	269	328	388	322	315	296	330
Open container possession of a small quantity	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
Possession of a keg on campus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supplying to a minor	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	7
Party Responsibility	19	10	19	2	7	5	4	22	0
Excessive Consumption of Alcohol	173	113	141	117	85	69	48	61	71

*Data from previous years are available on request.

Appendix F – Student Activities Late Night Programming

Table F-1: Late Night Attendance*

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19^	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Fall	16,554	17,141	12,621	12,066	--	--	--	--	--
Spring	16,485	15,033	12,926	11,171	--	--	--	--	--
Total	33,039	32,174	25,547	23,237	10,715	12,217	2,972	4,400	6,571

*Data from previous years are available on request.

^Starting with 2018-20 data are not available by semester.

Appendix G – Penn State Safe & Aware

The University launched a web-based alcohol education requirement (Penn State SAFE) for incoming first-year students during the 2011-12 academic year. During the 2018-19 academic year Student Affairs staff worked with WPSU to redesign the module to make it more interactive and engaging for students. The 2014-19 data are for the original version of the Penn State SAFE program. The data for 2019-20 are for the new version of the module, Penn State Safe & Aware.

The educational content and the Personalized Normative Feedback (PNF) report are delivered in Part 1. In Part 1, students also complete a pre-program survey about their drinking behaviors, attitudes, and perceptions; 30 days after the start of classes a follow-up survey is completed (Part 2). Data for the Part 2 implementation in 2019-21 is not available.

The data contained in Table 4 shows the participation and completion rates for University Park students for the summer and fall implementations of the module.

Table G-1: Completion and Participation Rates for Penn State Safe & Aware*

	Number of eligible students	Participation	% Participation	Part 1 Completion	% Part 1 Completion	Part 2 Completion	% Part 2 Completion
2014-15	8570	8104	94.6%	7479	87.3%	5629	65.7%
2015-16	7787	7328	94.1%	6836	87.8%	4767	61.2%
2016-17	8873	8359	94.2%	8029	90.5%	6175	69.6%
2017-18	8176	7809	95.5%	7474	91.4%	5713	69.9%
2018-19	8199	7951	97.0%	7421	90.5%	4638	56.6%
2019-20	8678	8179	94.2%	7535	86.8%	n/a	n/a
2020-21	9291	8513	91.6%	7951	85.6%	n/a	n/a
2021-22	8754	8662	98.9%	7097	81.1%	n/a	n/a
2022-23	9517	9219	96.9%	8880	93.3%	n/a	n/a

*Data from previous years are available on request.

Appendix H – Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board

Table H-1 has been updated to include 2021-22 alcohol sales data.

Table H-1: Total Sales Volume for State College Wine & Spirit Shops

	Hills Plaza #1402	Hamilton Square #1404	North Atherton #1405	Benner Pike #1406	Southridge Plaza #1412	Total
2006-07	2,491,480	6,531,124	8,921,473	1,756,936		19,701,012
2007-08	2,621,125	6,793,692	9,403,873	1,974,050		20,792,739
2009-10	2,887,939	6,975,791	9,742,409	2,372,650		21,978,789
2010-11	3,320,392	7,314,325	10,187,155	2,514,460		23,336,332
2011-12	3,485,904	7,961,494	10,634,532	2,738,914		24,820,844
2012-13	3,376,049	8,263,499	11,002,603	2,894,297		25,536,448
2013-14	3,228,838	8,633,244	11,732,963	3,082,314		26,677,359
2014-15	3,733,508	8,844,120	11,867,868	3,068,391		27,513,887
2015-16	4,182,640	8,983,025	12,037,765	3,146,228		28,349,658
2016-17	639,574	8,698,081	11,313,776	3,167,233	4,026,364	27,845,028
2017-18	n/a	7,953,242	10,384,861	3,085,183	4,900,816	26,324,102
2018-19	n/a	7,376,678	10,201,894	3,040,779	5,087,452	25,706,803
2019-20	n/a	5,684,146	9,369,723	2,685,341	4,905,199	22,644,409
2020-21	n/a	5,164,203	10,846,624	3,126,860	5,904,357	25,042,044
2021-22	n/a	6,322,502	11,696,740	3,189,812	5,924,250	27,133,304

Appendix I - State College Area High School**Table I-1: State College Area School District High School Drinking Trends**

2009-10			2011-12		2013-14		2015-16		2017-18		2019-20		2021-22	
SCASD	National		SCASD	National	SCASD	National	SCASD	National	SCASD	National	SCASD	National	SCASD	National
Drink in the Last 30 Days														
10th	20%	30%	18%	27%	19%	26%	16%	22%	12%	20%	13%	18%	8%	13%
12th	40%	44%	33%	40%	35%	39%	40%	35%	35%	33%	22%	29%	17%	26%
Lifetime Drinking														
10th	45%	59%	42%	56%	54%	52%	45%	47%	39%	42%	43%	43%	33%	35%
12th	63%	72%	55%	70%	72%	68%	67%	64%	61%	62%	49%	59%	49%	54%
Binge Drinking														
10th	7%	18%	5%	15%	6%	14%	4%	11%	2%	10%	3%	9%	2%	6%
12th	24%	25%	18%	22%	18%	22%	20%	17%	17%	17%	7%	14%	3%	12%
N's														
10th	N/A		422		322		497		472		384		476	
12th	N/A		327		393		409		423		395		326	

*Data from previous years are available on request.

Source: PA Youth Survey Report, State College Area School District (www.scasd.org/Page/32051). National data is from *Monitoring the Future* (monitoringthefuture.org/).