

Student Drinking 2000

January 2000

[Purpose](#) • [Highlights](#) • [Findings](#)

Purpose

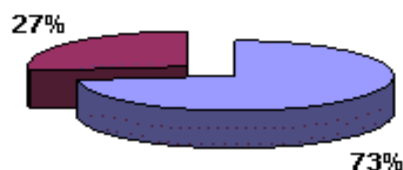
This survey continues to monitor drinking behaviors of Penn State students and includes many of the same questions from prior surveys. Additional questions focus on being a victim of a crime on or off campus and reaction to non-alcohol Late Night programs.

Highlights

One fifth of students overall said they do not drink alcoholic beverages. Most students disagree that one has to drink to 'fit in' at Penn State (75%) and feel that Late Night Programming exemplifies having fun without alcohol (78%).

Participation Rate

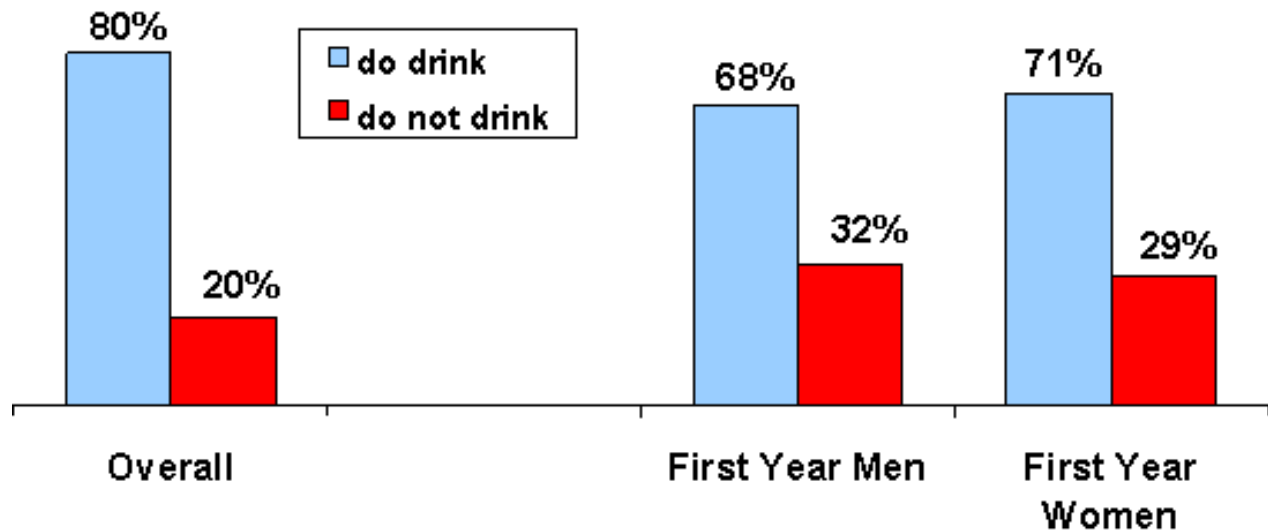
-  N = 746 (73%) agreed to participate
-  N = 270 (27%) did not agree to participate



Findings

- One fifth of students (20%) overall do not drink alcoholic beverages.

One Fifth of Penn State Students Overall Don't Drink



● More minority students (37%)*, more of those who do not belong to a fraternity or a sorority (21%)*, and more of those age 20 or younger (26%)* said they did not drink.

* Statistically significant at the .05 level

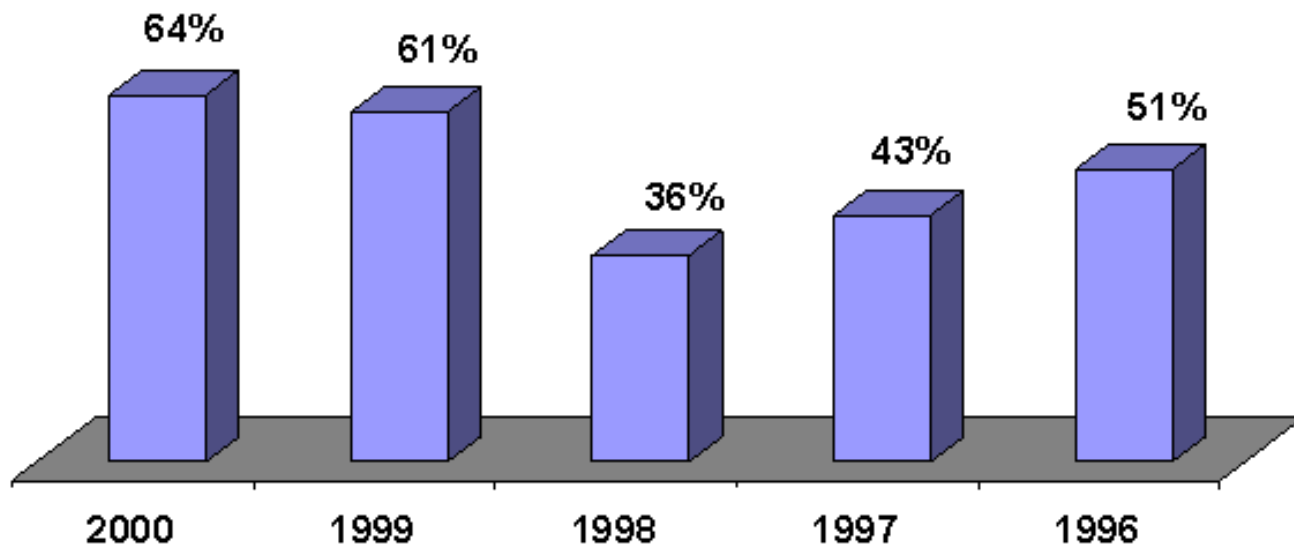
● Students did not consider "getting drunk regularly in college" to be unacceptable; at the same time, they did not think one had to drink in order to "fit in at Penn State."

	disagree	neutral	agree
getting drunk unacceptable	41%	29%	29%
non-drinkers don't fit in	75%	16%	9%

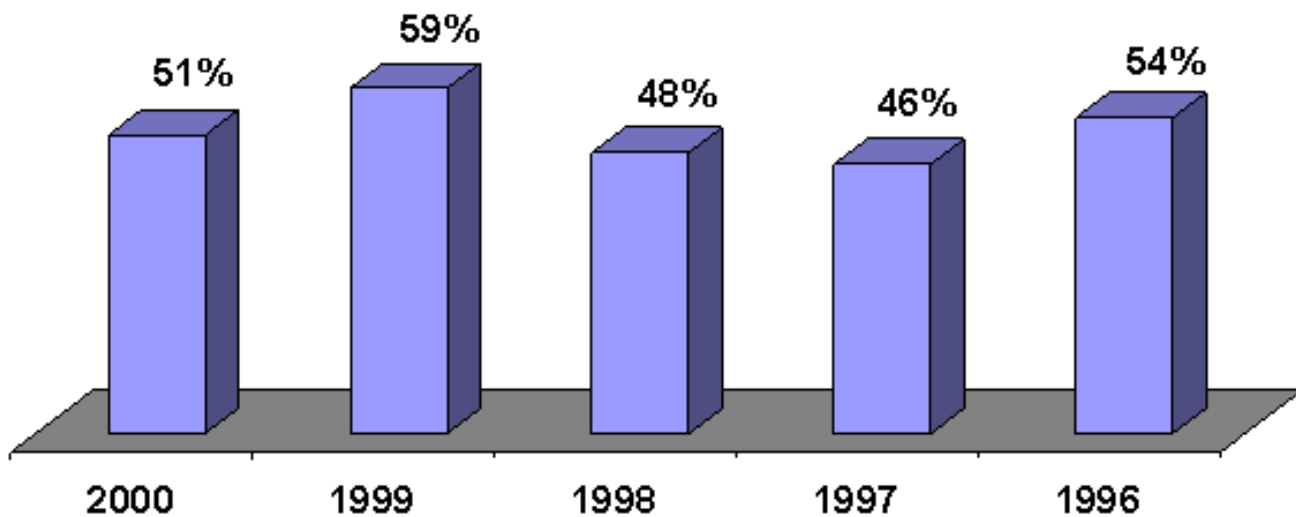
● Students who did drink reported that they consumed an average of 4.9 drinks over a period of 3.7 hours at any one time when they 'socialized.' They also estimated students 'other than themselves' drank more (average of 6.2 drinks) over a longer period of time (average of 4.4 hours).

● A significant number of students fulfill the description of being 'binge drinkers' which is defined as consuming 5 or more drinks (for men) or 4 or more drinks (for women) at one time.

Men (5 drinks or more)

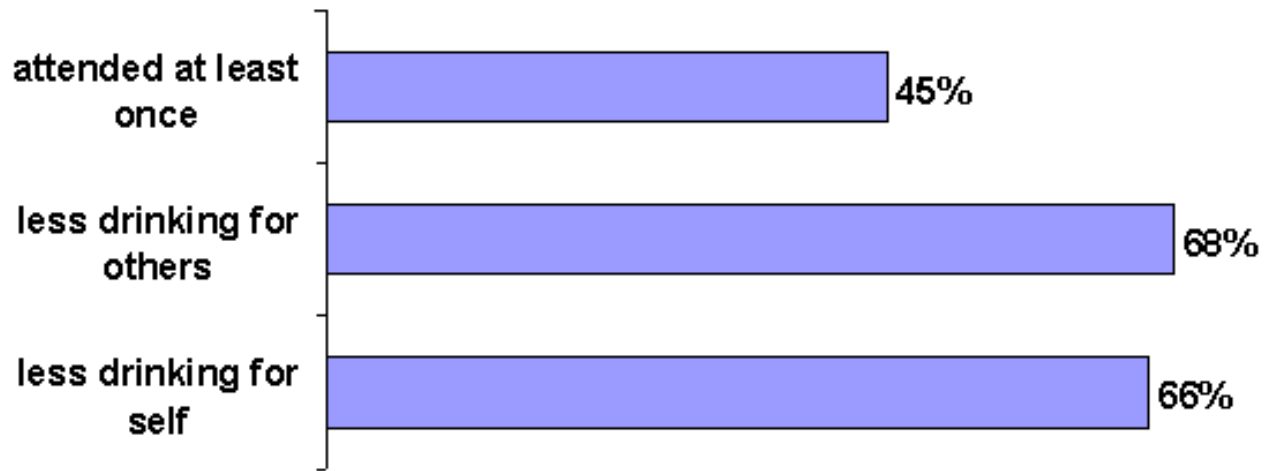


Women (4 drinks or more)



- Students were asked a series of questions pertaining to the Late Night Penn State program, which provides alcohol-free activities.
- Three fourths of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that Late Night programming is 'a good example of having fun without alcohol.'
- Many respondents (45%) indicated they had attended one or more Late Night programs. Two thirds felt that Late Night programming results in less drinking for themselves and for other students who attend.

Late Night Penn State



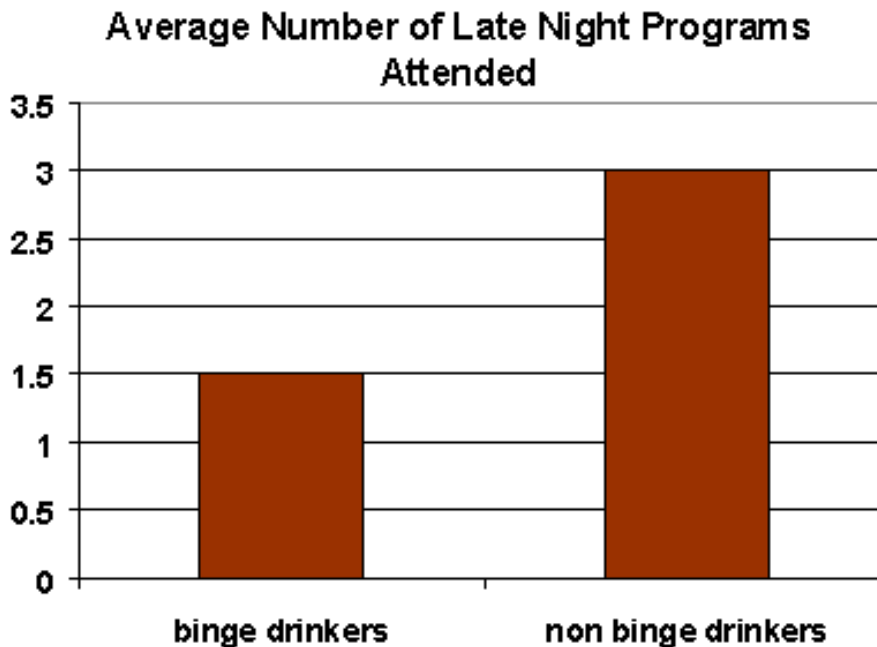
Number of Late Night Programs Attended Since Last August

none	n= 401	55%
1-5	n= 250	34%
6-10	n= 47	6%
11-15	n= 15	2%
16-20	n= 13	2%
21+	n= 7	1%

- Overall, students attended an average of 2.4 Late Night programs this year.
- Some student groups were more likely to attend Late Night programs.

minority students	(mean = 3.3)
non-minority students	(mean = 2.2) *
age 20 or younger	(mean =2.9)
age 21 or older	(mean =1.6) *
non-'greek'	(mean = 2.5)
'greek'	(mean = 1.4) *

● Those who are identified as 'binge drinkers' (males who consume 5 drinks or more and females who consume 4 drinks or more at any one setting) attend fewer Late Night programs.



Differences between Binge and Non Binge Drinkers

<i>statistically significant differences found *</i>	binge drinkers	non binge drinkers
feel getting drunk is acceptable	51%	35%
suffer hangovers	86%	53%
miss classes	45%	18%
get behind in school work	35%	14%
do something later regretted	54%	27%
forget where they were or what they did	46%	15%
argue with friends	41%	26%
get hurt or injured	16%	5%
damage property	10%	4%
engage in unplanned sexual activity	25%	7%
did not use protection when they had sex	12%	4%

● A small number of respondents reported having been a victim of a crime on campus (3%) or off campus (5%). Alcohol played a part especially for off campus crimes.

Victim of Crime while at Penn State

Crime		alcohol played a role
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on campus	n = 23	n = 4 (20%)
off campus	n = 34	n = 17 (53%)

● Those who reported having been a victim of a crime off campus were more likely to:

- say they drank *
- be upperclass Juniors or Seniors *
- have attended fewer Late Night programs *
- have had a serious argument because of drinking *
- have had to baby-sit other students who were drinking *
- be behind in their schoolwork,* do something they later regretted,* and forget where they were or what they did * because of their own drinking.

* Statistically significant at the .05 level

● With permission of the Harvard School of Public Health, Penn State has continued to replicate a series of questions from their 1993 study related to the overall impact of drinking behaviors.

Effect of Other Students' Drinking

Behaviors	Penn State Pulse Surveys						Harvard Study
	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1993 Penn State Data
Been insulted or humiliated	29%	30%	28%	18%	28%	32%	37%
Had a serious argument or quarrel	33%	38%	33%	20%	28%	40%	32%
Been pushed, hit or assaulted	12%	14%	9%	8%	13%	16%	20%
Had your property damaged	18%	23%	22%	11%	15%	17%	19%
Had to baby-sit drunken student	60%	62%	51%	45%	55%	69%	60%
Had your studying/sleep interrupted	56%	59%	59%	44%	54%	57%	64%
Experienced unwanted sexual advance	17%	20%	17%	13%	21%	26%	29%
Been a victim of unwanted sexual experience	6%	4%	5%	2%	3%	3%	2%

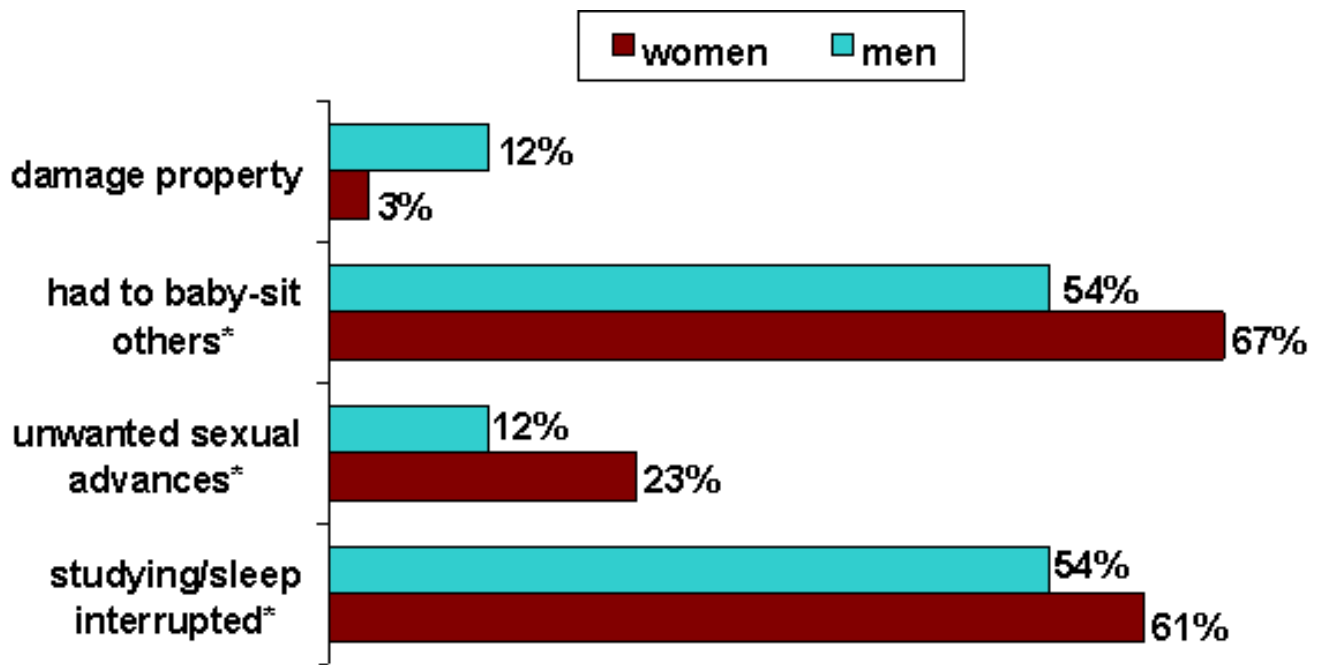
● Compared to those who are 'non-greeks,' those who belong to a fraternity or a sorority encounter more problem behaviors as a result of other students' drinking.

- more often having been insulted or humiliated * (43% vs. 26%)
- more often having a serious argument or quarrel * (57% vs. 30%)
- more often had to baby-sit others who were drinking * (70% vs. 59%)
- more often had studying or sleep interrupted * (72% vs. 54%)

Effect of Own Drinking

Behaviors	Penn State Pulse Surveys						Harvard Study
	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1993 Penn State Data
Have a hangover	73%	74%	72%	54%	65%	69%	72%
Miss a class	33%	39%	40%	19%	34%	27%	46%
Get behind in school work	26%	29%	28%	17%	27%	24%	30%
Do something you later regretted	43%	43%	38%	24%	35%	38%	44%
Forget where you are or what you did	33%	40%	28%	22%	29%	30%	45%
Argue with friends	35%	35%	32%	20%	32%	37%	27%
Engage in unplanned sexual activity	17%	20%	16%	8%	13%	19%	26%
Not use protection when you had sex	8%	8%	7%	3%	8%	7%	13%
Damage property	7%	10%	8%	5%	8%	9%	13%
Get into trouble with campus or local police	5%	8%	5%	4%	5%	7%	7%
Get hurt or injured	11%	16%	14%	10%	11%	14%	16%
Require medical treatment for an alcohol overdose	<1%	<1%	1%	-	1%	1%	-

● Women were more likely than men to have had to baby-sit others who were drinking,* to have their studying or sleep interrupted,* and to have experienced unwanted sexual advances.* Men were more likely than women to have damaged property because of their own drinking.*



(Statistically significant at the .05, * .01 ** or .001 *** level)

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