Data Dashboard (Updated: Fall 2021)

Alcohol is the most common drug consumed by college students. Most Cal students who drink or use other substances make safe choices and don’t experience negative consequences. We draw on several national college sources as well as our own campus data to inform and guide our policies, strategies and activities. Key data and facts are included here.

Consumption:
- 55% of Berkeley students drink (past month)
- 82% of Berkeley students who drink usually have 4 or fewer
- 18% of Berkeley students binge drink (past two weeks)
- 57% of new Berkeley students drink (past two weeks) - AlcoholEdu 2021
- 97% of student drinkers use one or more personal risk management techniques. (NCHA 2019)
  - 45% alternate non-alcoholic with alcoholic beverages
  - 76% keep track of how many drinks they consume
  - 39% pace drinks to one per hour
  - 38% set a limit in advance
- Among Berkeley students (past 3 months)
  - 29% use marijuana
  - 11% use tobacco or nicotine delivery products
  - 6% use hallucinogens
  - 3% use cocaine
  - 3% use stimulants

Risk and Harm:
- While 52% of student drinkers do not experience negative consequences due to their drinking, the range and scope of alcohol-related risk should not be underestimated. Adverse consequences related to substance use are well-documented, and they often impact more than just the users themselves. Adverse consequences include death, injuries, sexual and physical assault, hangovers, blackouts, impaired academic performance, student attrition, driving under the influence, legal fines, property damage, vandalism, high-risk sex, and dependence.
- Among students who drink:
  - 15% did something they later regretted
  - 18% drove under the influence
  - 10% had unprotected sex
  - 4% injured themselves
- Impacts on others include: Disrupted sleep or study; Property damage or theft; Harassment; Assault and/or injury.
- Student alcohol-related emergency transports (UCPD) place a disproportionate demand on city services, causing other residents longer waits and distances to receive the help they need:
  - Fall 2019 - 52
  - Fall 2018 - 50
  - Fall 2017 - 58
  - Fall 2016 - 64
  - Fall 2015 - 65
  - Fall 2014 - 83

- Public Nuisance Violations for loud, late parties (BPD):
  - Fall 2016 – 31
  - Fall 2015 – 59
  - Fall 2014 – 47
  - Fall 2013 – 76

Data Source (unless otherwise indicated): NCHA Survey, Spring 2021
For more information, contact partiesafe@berkeley.edu or (510) 643-9073.