

Chapter 7: Student Affairs Assessment Summaries

The Division of Student Affairs administers a wide variety of assessments each year to better understand student experiences in the areas of student life, achievement, and well-being. This chapter will highlight the surveys conducted during the past year and provide a portion of the results from these instruments. We have selected data that identifies a potential major challenge to the Truman community and pointing us in the direction of many opportunities. We have also provided some longitudinal and/or comparative data to better understand trends and context.

Within this chapter for 2019, you will find two assessment reports:

- Missouri Assessment of College Health Behaviors (MACHB) administered annually
- ACUHO-I/Skyfactor Benchworks Residence Life and Apartment Surveys

Note: the ACHA-NCHA survey was undergoing a significant revision, and in light of our recent partnership with JED, we continued to utilize the data acquired late 2018 from the Health Minds Survey report. The ACHA-NCHA survey will be conducted in Spring 2021 and will continue to be implemented every odd-year spring semester.

Missouri Assessment of College Health Behaviors (MACHB) 2019

Who takes it?

A random sample of approximately 25% of all undergraduate students

When is it administered?

Annually during the spring semester

The survey takes approximately 15 – 20 minutes to complete

What office administers it?

Vice President for Student Affairs Office

Who originates the survey?

Missouri Partners in Prevention (MOPIP) is a statewide coalition composed of institutions of higher education in Missouri and relevant state agencies to collaboratively develop strategies for promoting positive, healthy choices among Missouri's college students. MOPIP offices are located on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus.

Partners in Prevention

G202 MU Student Center

Columbia, MO 65211

(573) 884-7551

www.mopip.org

email: mastersj@missouri.edu

When are results typically available?

Raw data by Mid-summer; formal presentation late summer/early fall

What type of information is sought?

Information is gathered in many areas including alcohol and other drug use by students, awareness of the CHEERS program, campus policies, mental health concerns, abusive relationships, non-consensual sexual contact, retention, and overall flourishing of students.

From whom are the results available?

Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

To whom are the results regularly distributed?

Campus Partners in Prevention committee, Student Affairs, Student Health Center and University Counseling Service.

Are the results available by department or discipline?

Results may be made available by the following categories by submitting a special request to MOPIP:

- academic discipline
- gender identity and sexual orientation
- student athletes
- students of color
- veterans
- underage students

- students with disabilities
- sexual health behaviors

Are the results comparable to the data of other universities?

Results are reported for Truman State University in comparison to all MOPIP member institutions in aggregate form. We do not have direct comparison data regarding individual colleges and universities.

Selected MACHB 2019 Results and Interpretation:

General overview

Truman’s survey response rate of 40% (N = 598) in 2019 significantly exceeded the total PIP response rate of 22% (N = 9,752).

Alcohol use at Truman:

The percent of Truman respondents indicating they have used alcohol sometime in their lifetime increased 4% over the previous year, from 75% in 2018 to 79% in 2019. This is consistent with the aggregate MOPIP 2019 response of rate of 79%. The same pattern appears regarding the rate of students reporting they consumed alcohol in the past year. An increase from 73% of Truman students in 2018 reported consumption in the past year rose to 76% in 2019. The 2019 MOPIP aggregate rate is slightly lower at 74%.

The most frequent reasons cited for the 23% of respondents **not** consuming alcohol (ranked highest to lowest) include:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Don’t have to worry about consequences	68%	67% (1)
Against the law/policy	60%	59%. (3)
Don’t want to do something regretful	60%	51%. (4)
Personal beliefs/values	58%	67%. (1)
Academic responsibilities	50%	50% (5)
Personal responsibilities	46%	40%. (6)
I don’t like the taste	28%	30%. (7)

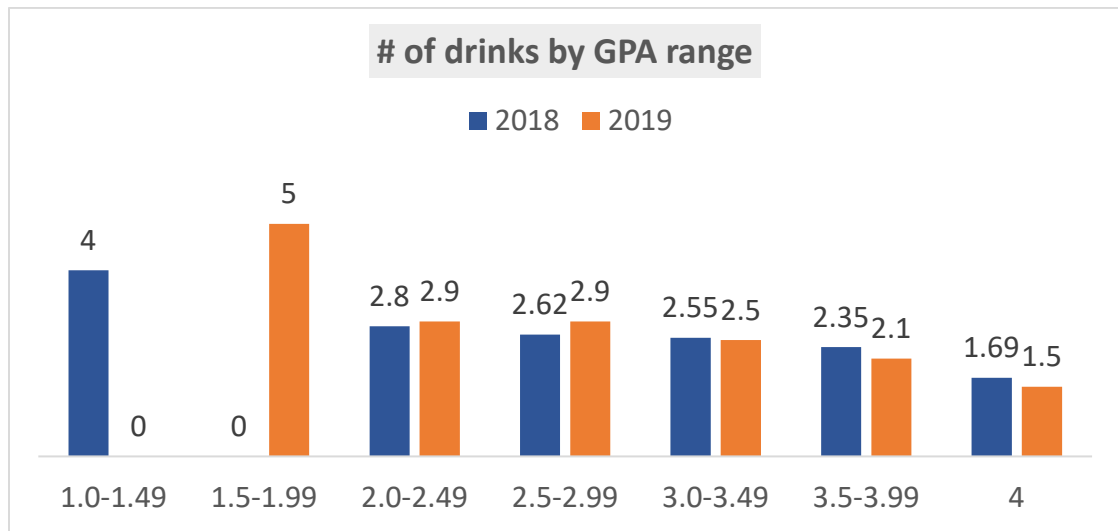
Results seem to indicate that students who choose to abstain from drinking are most concerned about avoiding negative consequences. While a similar proportion of students avoid drinking because it is against the law, there was a significant change in the role that personal beliefs and values play in their decision-making process. In addition, students seem more concerned about wanting to avoid doing something regretful and decisions are related to personal responsibilities at a greater level in 2019 than the previous year.

Twenty-five percent of students reported having their first drink at age 18, which coincides with the first year of college and greater independence that comes with moving away from home. Incoming students may believe drinking is part of the college experience and that everyone does it. A well-timed social norming campaign may be a means to reduce the number of people who have their first drink at age 18 and increase the number of students who report never having used alcohol (21%).

The most common locations for consumption for those who choose to drink include:

Social gatherings or friend's house	79%
Student's personal residence	47%
Bars and restaurants	35%
Fraternity houses	16%
Residence hall	4.6%

Survey results create a clear picture of alcohol consumption behaviors correlate to student's academic performance, however, other factors may be contributing to causation.



Range	1.0-1.49	1.5-1.99	2.0-2.49	2.5-2.99	3.0-3.49	3.5-3.99	4.0
2018 N	3	0	17	53	130	194	57
2019 N	0	1	10	67	155	197	53

Select Findings and Interpretation are provided below within two contexts:

- (1) longitudinal comparisons, and
- (2) results directly related to goals established as part of the 2018-19 strategic plan submitted to MOPIP.

Longitudinal findings and interpretations of the MACHB Data

The results and interpretations below continue the previous pattern of the assessment report for the annual MACHB survey.

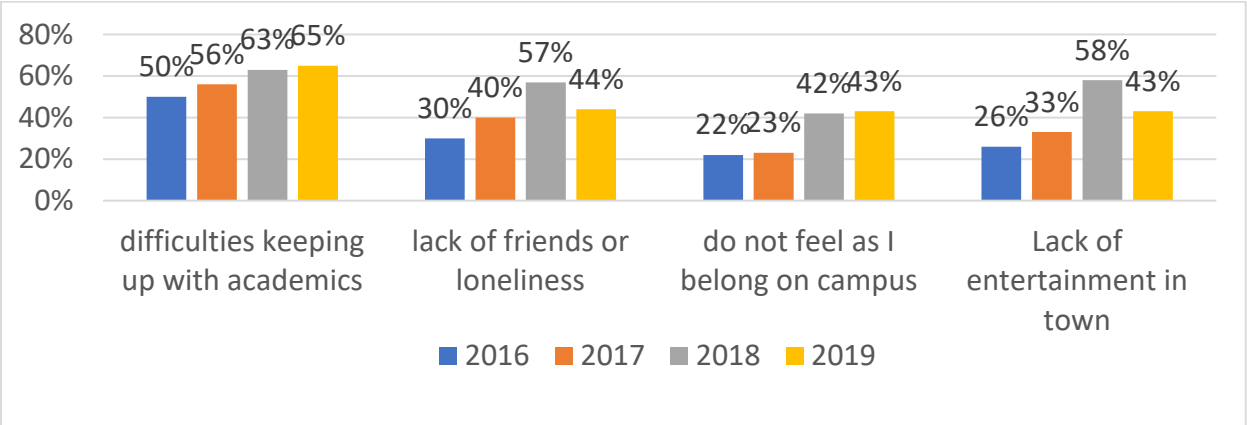
Response rates – 3 year trends

2017 Truman – n = 450 (% na)	vs.	PIP (21 institutions participating) – n = 10,781 (% na)
2018 Truman – n = 506 (34%)	vs.	PIP (21 institutions participating) – n = 9,357 (22%)
2019 Truman – n = 598 (40%)	vs.	PIP (21 institutions participating) – n = 9,752 (22%)

Item	Truman 2017	PIP 2017	Truman 2018	PIP 2018	Truman 2019	PIP 2019
Thought of leaving school in past year	30%	25%	32%	25%	25%	18%
Not involved in a campus activity/organization	10%	30%	13%	31%	12%	30%
Held a leadership position in any activities	50%	60%	49%	33%	53%	35%
Never used alcohol	24%	20%	25%	21%	21%	21%
Experienced major depression in the last year	29%	25%	27%	27%	31%	31%
Experienced chronic sleep issues in the last year	19%	17%	20%	19%	20%	20%
Experienced anxiety in the last year	60%	49%	51%	52%	58%	57%
Experienced suicidal thoughts in your lifetime	47%	39%	44%	41%	48%	44%
Experienced suicidal thoughts in the past year	22%	18%	24%	20%	27%	23%
Attempted suicide in the past year	1.9%	1.2%	1.8%	1.8%	0.4%	1.8%
Been concerned about a friend having suicidal thoughts or behaviors in the last year	47%	36%	54%	42%	56%	47%

The data points below continue to provide evidence that the primary reason students consider leaving Truman more frequently than other campuses is based on “difficulties keeping up with academics” (65% at Truman vs. 42% of the PIP participants). Other reasons students consider leaving Truman include “Lack of friends/loneliness” (44%), “Don’t feel as if I belong on campus” (43%) and “Lack of entertainment in town” (43%).

Reasons contributed to considering leaving current institution



Additional assessment to dig more deeply into students sense of belonging and lack of peer connections on campus may provide important insight into ways to enhance the student engagement experience. If students are more engaged, and feel a greater sense of belonging on campus, they may, as a result experience a more positive viewpoint on the academic rigor for which Truman has become well known.

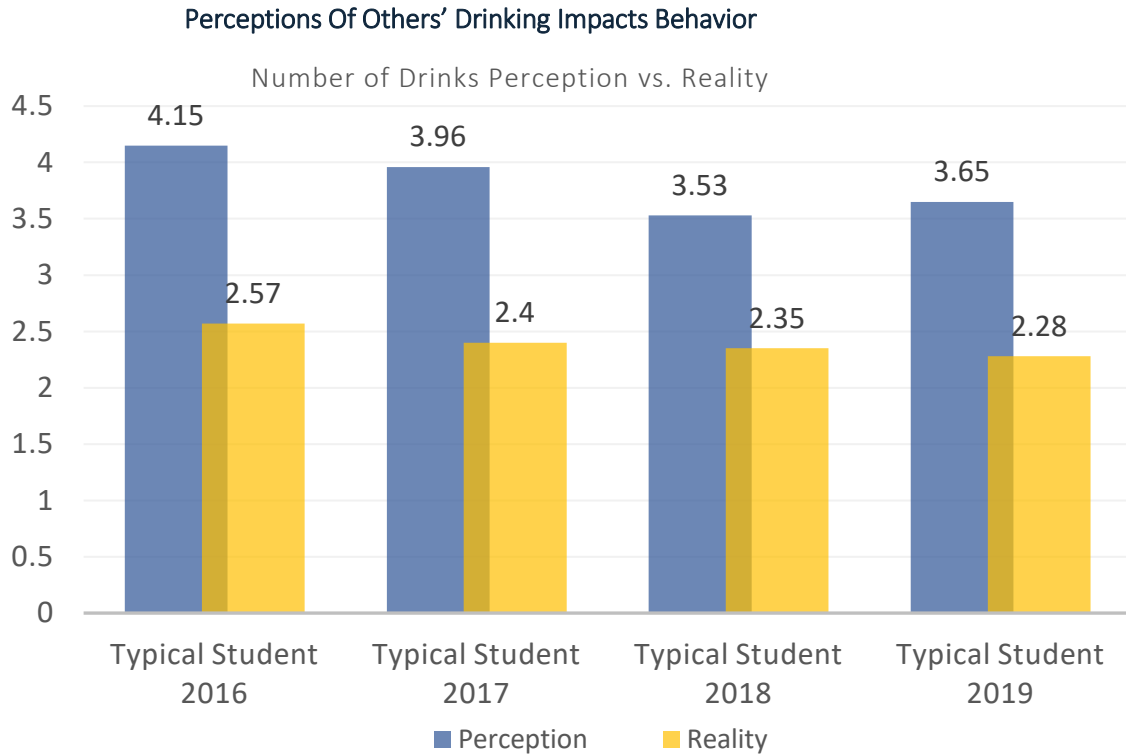
2018-19 Strategic Plan Focus Areas findings and interpretations

This portion of the report is intended to draw direct connections and results from the MOPIP strategic plan efforts for the identified year.

The 2018-19 strategic plan submitted to MOPIP identified three focus areas prioritizing efforts to effect positive change from the previous year’s MACHB survey results.

Focus Area 1: Alcohol and Substance Use

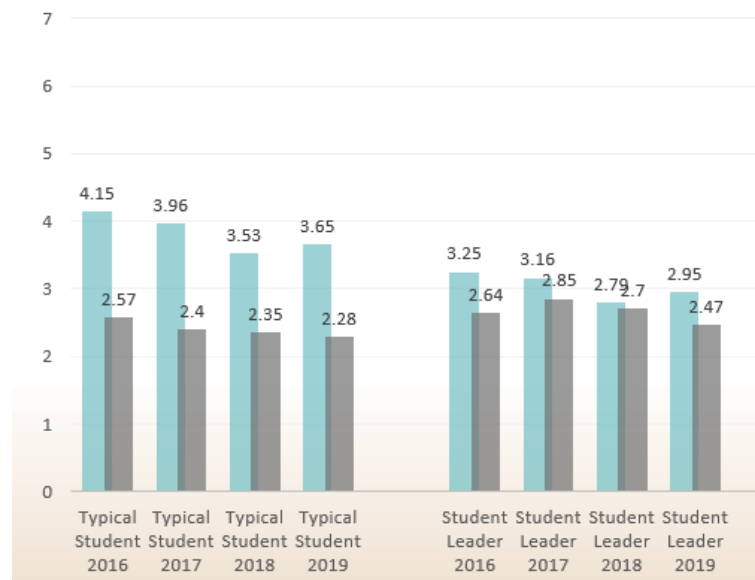
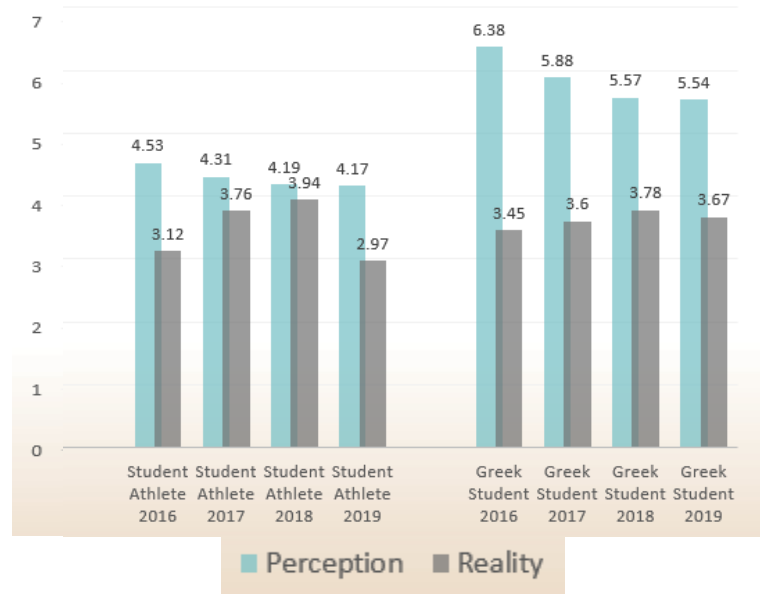
Concern 1: Students overestimate the number of students engaging in alcohol and substance use which correlates with higher rates of use. Based on 2019 results, students seem to be lowering their perception of how much other students drink, however the actual amount has remained quite constant over the years.



The survey breaks down the data further, examining perceptions vs. reality by subpopulations of student leaders, student athletes, fraternity and sorority members as compared to the typical student. Overall student perceptions of consumption within fraternity and sorority groups is much higher than any other sub-population. Between 2016 and 2019, perceptions of number of drinks consumed by this subgroup consistently decreased from 6.38 to 5.54, while the number of drinks consumed reported by respondents remained fairly constant within a range of 3.45 to 3.78. over the course of the four-year period examined.

Perceptions of Student Athletes' consumption was lower than that of the Greek community, also decreasing consistently decreased from 4.53 to 4.17 between 2016 and 2019. In reality, the amount of drinks consumed increased within the Student Athlete population between 2016 and 2018, before dropping off in 2019.

Perceptions Of Others' Drinking Impacts Behavior



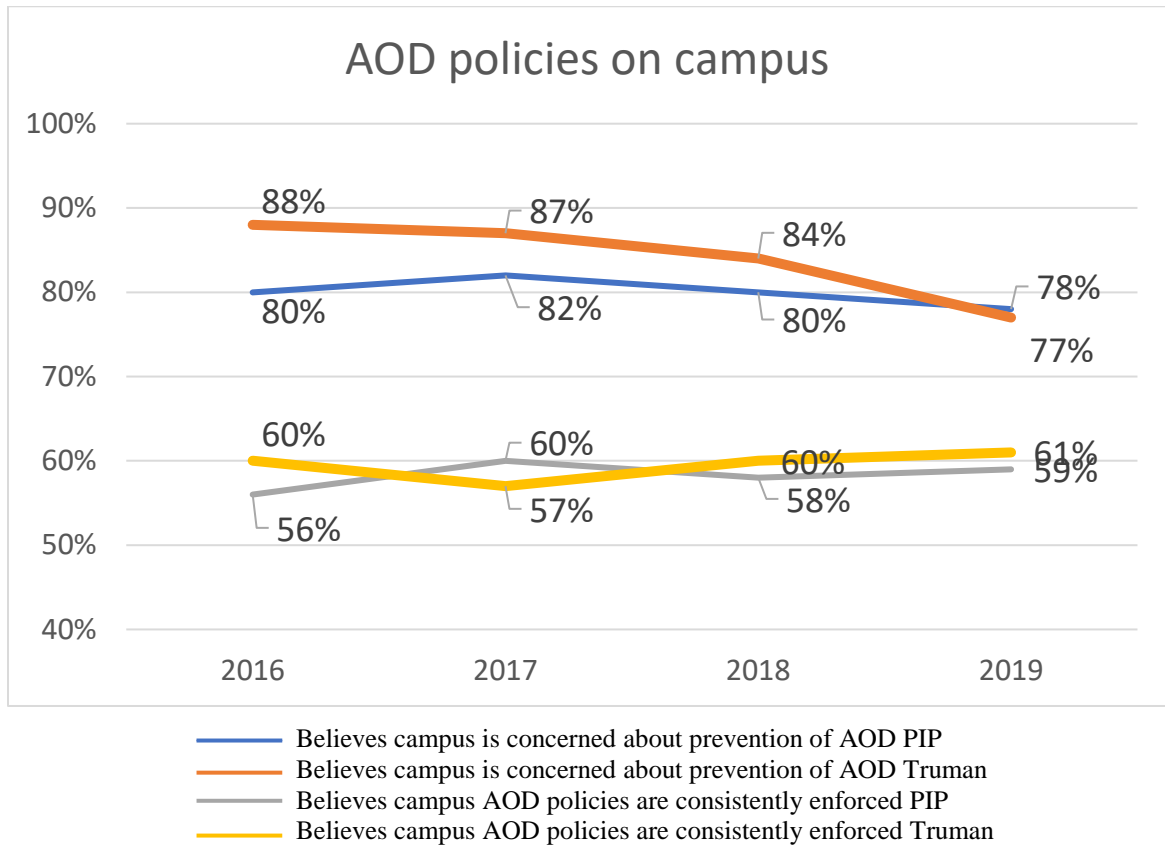
The data illustrates that in general student leaders are perceived as those who consume the least amount of drinks, but student leaders who took the survey reported drinking more than the number of drinks reported by the Typical student.

Concern 2: Students are ignorant about university policies and state and local laws concerning alcohol and substance use.

Only 64% of students reported knowing that Truman has a drug and alcohol prevention program, which is 3% less than respondents at other campuses (67%).

According to the survey results, the number of students who believe Truman is concerned about prevention of AOD at Truman dropped 10% in the past 4 years. In 2016, Truman respondents

were much more likely to believe the campus was concerned (8% higher than overall PIP response).



Concern 3: Students are misusing prescription drugs.

In the past year, which of the following prescription drugs have you used without a doctor's prescription?	Truman 2018	PIP 2018	Truman 2019	PIP 2019
Stimulants (e.g. Dexedrine, Adderall, Ritalin, Concerta)	6.3%	6.4%	5.7%	5.5%
Pain Medication (e.g., Vicodin, Oxycotin, Tylenol 3 with Codeine, Demerol, Morphine)	3.6%	4.2%	2.4%	3.5%
Sleeping Medications (e.g. Ambien Halcion, Restoril)	0.9%	1.5%	1.0%	1.5%
Benzodiazepines/sedatives	3.2%	2.6%	2.6%	2.0%
Other	0.7%	0.5%	1.0%	0.6%
I have not used any of these without a doctor's prescription	91%	89%	91%	91%
Any prescription drug use	9%	11%	9.0%	9.3%
I prefer not to respond	0	0%	1.5%	1.8%

Concern 4: Students are ignorant about serving sizes and their BAC and the health risks of binge drinking.

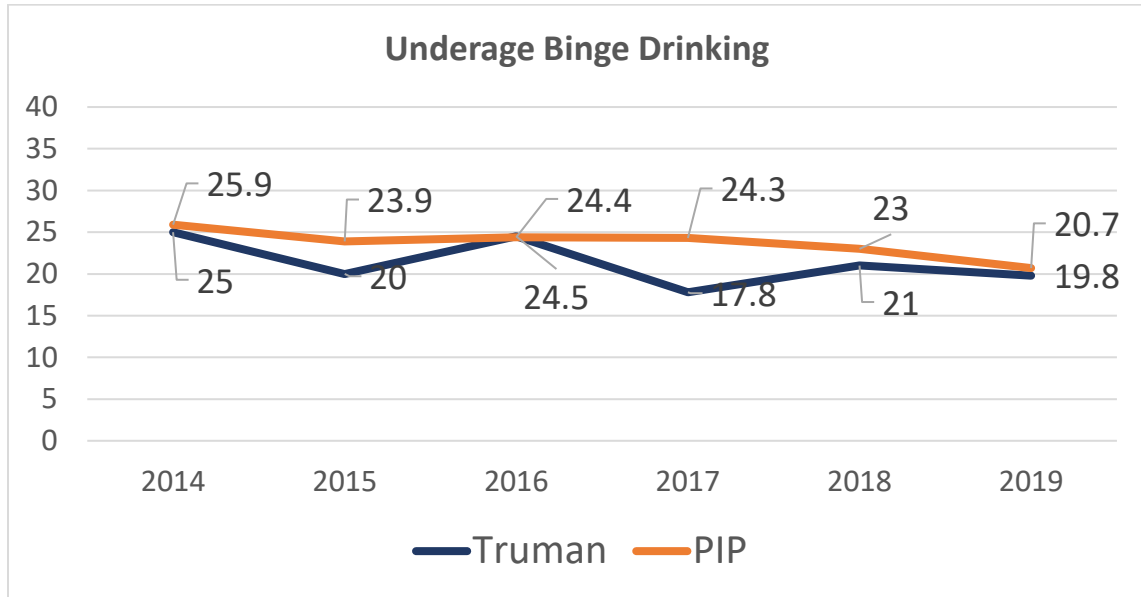
The MACHB has no data to support, dispute, or speculate about this statement.

Focus Area 2: High Risk Drinking Behaviors

Concern 1: Truman students engage in under-age drinking.

The MACHB has no data to support, dispute, or speculate about this statement, with exception of the data related to Concern #2 below.

Concern 2: Truman students engage in binge drinking behaviors.



66% underage students consumed alcohol in the past year

Survey results indicate that 19% of students who engage in underage drinking do so because their friends are drinking (vs. 25% of PIP responses); and 27% of Truman underage students indicated that drinking won't negatively affect their academics (vs. 24% of PIP respondents.)

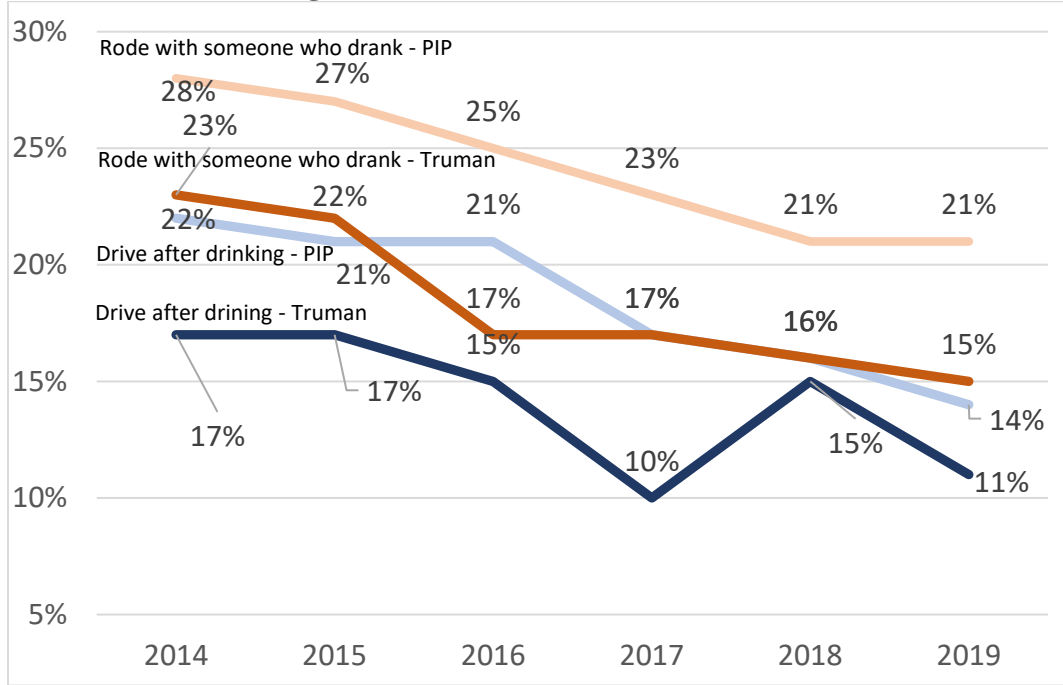
The graph below, provided by PIP demonstrates that over the past five years (2015 -2019) the percentage of first year students who engage in binge drinking in 2019 is comparable to those who reported doing so in 2015; however a sharp increase occurred in 2016, followed by a significant drop in 2017 then returning to 2015 rates. It is difficult to speculate as to the cause of such change during the middle years.

Binge drinking by year in school

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	All
2015	16%	23%	27%	37%	25%
2016	21%	33%	28%	32%	27%
2017	12%	20%	32%	48%	27%
2018	17%	25%	31%	34%	26%
2019	17%	25%	24%	35%	25%

Concern 3: Truman students report driving while under the influence.

Drive after Consuming Alcohol



As illustrated above, Truman students seem to be far less likely ride with someone who has been drinking, as well as to drive themselves safer drinking and those in the general PIP population. Although the percentage don't reflect significant change, it is positive to see these number decrease in both areas.

Focus Area 3: Bystander Intervention

Concern 1: Truman students reach out to their peers for support when they need help. Peers aren't always aware of how to help and how to respond properly.

What would you do if you were in the presence of a student whom you suspected had alcohol poisoning?				
	Truman 2018	PIP 2018	Truman 2019	PIP 2019
I would call 911.	57%	68%	60%	67%
I would take them to the hospital myself.	39%	29%	37%	29%
I would not do anything because I would be afraid I would get in trouble with campus officials or police.	1.3%	1.0%	1.5%	1%
I would not do anything because I would not feel comfortable getting involved,	2.4%	2.3%	1.3%	2.4%

Final observations

The MACHB has evolved over the years to include many behaviors related to student well-being. Some of the key data points, on a variety of topics may provide important opportunities from which we can learn and develop prevention and educational programming, include the following:

Topic	Truman 2018	PIP 2018	Truman 2019	PIP 2019
Most common nights to consume, in rank order are Thursday, Friday, Saturday				
Friend over 21 years of age	22%	28%	52%	47%
Students obtaining alcohol from Parents/family	5.9%	7.5%	8.3%	11%
Go where ID's not checked	4.5%	3.6%	5.8%	7.8%
How often in the past year have you been denied access while using your fake/borrowed ID? Responses for "Never"	75%	51%	73%	50%
Most frequent factor in deciding to drink alcohol – I want to have fun with friends	88%	84%	89%	84%
Second most frequent factor in deciding to drink alcohol – I like how it makes me feel			35% ⁽¹⁹⁾	32% ⁽¹⁹⁾
Second most frequent factor in deciding to drink alcohol – I want to relax	60% ⁽¹⁸⁾	55% ⁽¹⁸⁾		
How often in the past year, when consuming alcohol, have you been in trouble with campus administration? Responses for "0 times"	97%	97%	99%	98%
How often in the past year, when consuming alcohol, have you been arrested by campus police or other law enforcement? Responses for "0 times"	99%	99%	99%	99%
How often in the past year, when consuming alcohol, were you taken advantage of sexually? Responses for "at least one time in the past year"	5.5%	5.6%	4.9%	5.3%
How often in the past year, when consuming alcohol, have you engaged in risky sexual behavior? Responses for "at least one time in the past year"	14%	13%	12%	12%
How often in the past year, when consuming alcohol, have you experienced a "blackout"/memory loss? Responses for "at least one time in the past year"	24%	25%	23%	24%
In the past year, have you needed to take care of someone who drank too much?	61%	61%	60%	60%
In the past year, have you felt unsafe as a result of another person's alcohol use?	6.7%	8.6%	7.6%	9.9%
In the past year, as a result of another person's alcohol use have you been threatened with physical violence?	3.6%	3.2%	2.9%	3.7%
In the past year, as a result of another person's alcohol use have you been taken advantage of sexually?	2.9%	2.6%	1.9%	2.9%
Intention to change behavior "I see no need to change the way I drink alcohol"	64%	64%	66%	63%

Areas of focus for 2019-2020

Based on the results of the 2019 survey, the campus PIP committee identified the following goals for the 2019-2020 academic year:

1. Reduce the rate of binge drinking of Truman students to below the 2019 reported rate.
2. Reduce the rate of reported underage drinking of Truman students to below the 2019 reported rate.
3. Reduce the rate of reported regular cannabis use to below the 2019 reported rate.
4. Increase the percentage of students that believe that campus alcohol and drug policies are consistently enforced to above the 2019 reported rate.
5. Reduce the rate of reported driving after consuming alcohol among Truman students to below the 2019 reported rate.
6. Maintain and enhance the knowledge and skills of the Truman community to support someone with mental health concerns.
7. Coordinate with the Center for Academic Excellence (CAE) to ensure staff have adequate training to implement the new work-life requirement for first year students.
8. Monitor campus needs regarding prescription drug misuse.
9. Monitor changes in student behaviors regarding the tobacco and nicotine products they use.
10. Reduce the rate of texting and driving to below the 2019 reported rate.

Resident and Apartment Assessments from Skyfactor Benchmarks

RESIDENCE LIFE – TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY – 2019/20 ASSESSMENTS

Who takes it?

These assessments are given to all students living in on-campus housing (excluding residence hall and apartment student staff).

When is it administered?

The students were given a link to complete the assessments on November 11, 2019. The assessments closed on November 21, 2019.

How long does it take the student to complete the instrument?

20-40 minutes

What office administers it?

The Department of Residence Life administers the assessments.

Who originates this survey?

The assessments are national instruments created by Skyfactor Benchmarks and are used by hundreds of institutions around the nation.

When are results available?

Most are available immediately upon the closing of the assessment. Comparative data to other institutions won't be available until summer 2020.

What type of information is sought?

The assessments asks students to rate their satisfactions with various staff, services, processes, and values. It also asks students to what degree living on campus has impacted their learning in a variety of areas. Basic demographic information (age, gender, race) as well as location information (residence hall, house community) is collected as well.

From whom are the results available?

The Director of Residence Life

To whom are the results regularly distributed to?

Results are available to the University community through this almanac. More detailed breakdowns are available from the Director of Residence Life and are regularly shared with the residence hall directors for planning for second semester.

Are the results available by department or discipline?

Neither.

Are the results comparable to data of other universities?

Yes. Hundreds of institutions across the nation utilize these assessments.

The Resident Assessment and Apartment Assessment from Skyfactor Benchworks are administered nationally to residence life programs around the country. The assessments are designed to give residence life programs data about their operations compared internally over time and compared externally to other institutions. Scores from the many questions asked form scores for 18 different factors.

Satisfaction factors include student staff, programming, hall/apartment environment, facilities, services, room assignment, room change, safety and security, roommates, dining services, and community involvement.

Learning factors include personal interactions, sense of community, diverse interactions, self-management, alcohol and drug use, sustainability, academic success.

Skyfactor prepares a priority matrix of all the factors. The factors are grouped into four quadrants, each one showcasing whether or not performance is high and whether or not that factor seems to impact how students rate residence life overall. Truman's factors landed as follows:

Top Priority Quadrant: Factors that have a high impact on how students rate overall performance and that are not scoring as well as they could.	
Resident Assessment	Apartment Assessment
Learning: Personal Interactions Satisfaction: Dining Services Learning: Self-Management Learning: Alcohol and Drug Use Learning: Academic Success	Learning: Personal Interactions Satisfaction: Apartment Staff and Policies

Maintain or Improve Quadrant: Factors that have a high impact on how students rate overall performance that are scoring well.	
Resident Assessment	Apartment Assessment
Satisfaction: Room Assignment Learning: Sense of Community	

Maintain: Factors that have a low impact on how students rate overall performance and are scoring well.	
Resident Assessment	Apartment Assessment
Satisfaction: Hall/Apt Student Staff Satisfaction: Hall/Apt Environment Satisfaction: Facilities Satisfaction: Services Provided Satisfaction: Safety and Security Satisfaction: Community Environment	Satisfaction: Apartment Environment Satisfaction: Community Environment Learning: Sense of Community

Monitor Quadrant: Factors that have a low impact on how students rate overall performance and are not scoring well as well as they could.

Resident Assessment	Apartment Assessment
Satisfaction: Hall/Apt Programming Learning: Diverse Interactions Learning: Sustainability	Satisfaction: Contract and Lease Satisfaction: Apartment Condition Satisfaction: Services and Facilities Provided Satisfaction: Safety and Security Satisfaction: Apartment Programming Learning: Life Skills Learning: Alcohol and Drug Use Learning: Sustainability Learning: Diversity and Social Justice

All questions and factors are scored on a 7-point scale with 7 being highly satisfied, 4 being a neutral score, and 0 being a highly unsatisfied. A score of 5.5 is the recommended goal by Skyfactor Benchmarks for all questions and factors. In the Resident Assessment, there are the broad categories of overall satisfaction, learning, and program effectiveness. For 2019-2020 all three had a statistically insignificant drop in score from 2018-2019. All the broad categories are below the 5.5 goal with satisfaction at 5.41, learning at 4.93, and overall at 5.05.

Three top indicators were identified for the satisfaction category in the Resident Assessment. The first indicator, room assignment, was rated 5.65 and was lower by 0.11. The second factor, dining services, was rated 5.08 and was up 0.23. The third indicator, safety and security, was rated 5.94 and was lower by 0.34.

Four top indicators were identified for the learning category. The first indicator, self-management, was rated 4.75 and was lower by 0.11. The second indicator, personal interactions, was rated 5.32 and was lower by 0.04. The third indicator, academic success, was rated 4.39 and was unchanged from the year prior. The fourth indicator, alcohol and drug use, was rated 4.92 and was lower by 0.11.

Overall satisfaction was rated highest at Missouri Hall (5.65), with Ryle Hall (5.48) next, and then West Campus Suites (5.42), Blanton-Nason-Brewer (5.14), and Centennial (5.14). Individual houses (communities) across campus ranged from a high score of 6.24 to a low score of 4.17.

Notes: Most top indicators scores were down this year compared to the previous year, but nearly all changes were deemed statistically insignificant. One contributing matter may be the time the department operated with very few professional staff members. One top indicator that was statistically lower involved how students feel about their safety. It should be noted that these assessments were administered a few weeks after a law enforcement matter that occurred on a road running through the campus. Many students expressed they were not properly notified of the matter as it was occurring and afterward. Lingering feelings from this matter may have impacted the safety scores.

