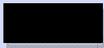


March 2011

How Does Missouri Compare in...

<p>Drunk Driving: In Missouri 34% of traffic fatalities result from alcohol impairment compared to a national average of 32%. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that about 350 individuals lose their lives annually on Missouri roadways due to drunk driving.¹</p>	
<p>Binge Drinking: Binge drinking is defined as drinking five or more drinks on the same occasion. Over 24% of Missourians age 12 and older engaged in binge drinking in the last month. This peaked in the 18-25 age group with almost 45% reporting bingeing in the last month.² The national average for binge drinking is 23%.</p>	
<p>Marijuana Use: Marijuana is the second most common substance of abuse (behind alcohol) for those entering treatment in Missouri. An estimated 5.5% of Missourians age 12 and older have used marijuana in the past month.² The national average is 5.9%.</p>	
<p>Tobacco Use: Almost 34% of Missourians age 12 and older are current tobacco users. 29% use cigarettes while the remainder use smokeless tobacco (i.e., chewing tobacco or snuff), cigars, or pipe tobacco.² This compares to a national tobacco use average of 25%.</p>	
<p>Prescription drug abuse: Prescription drug abuse is becoming an increasing concern across the country. For those Missourians age 18 to 25, an estimated 12.5% have used pain relievers for nonmedical purposes in the past year. For those 12 and older, the Missouri average is 5% and the national average is 5.1%.²</p>	
<p>Serious psychological distress: Serious psychological distress (SPD) is defined as having a score of 13 or higher on the K6 scale. 13% of Missourians age 18 or older report having had an episode of SPD in the last 30 days. This compares to a national average just below 11%.²</p>	
<p>Major Depressive episode: 8.6% of Missourians age 18 or older have reported a major depressive episode in the last year. This is compared to the national average of 7.3% for the same age group.²</p>	
<p>Bullying: 23% of Missouri high school students report being bullied on school property in the last year. The national average is 20%.³</p>	

¹ http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-30/nca/STSI/29_MO/2009/29_MO_2009.htm

² <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k7State/Missouri.htm>

³ <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Default.aspx> - 2009 data