



# VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

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Biennial Review

August, 2018 – August, 2020

Compiled by the Office of Health Promotions and Wellness  
Division of Student Affairs  
Valdosta State University

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## Valdosta State University Biennial Review 2018 – 2020 Summary

The Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations require an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) to certify it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

The issue of substance abuse on our nation's college campuses has long been recognized, studied, and addressed. The Biennial Review serves as an opportunity to examine the scope of the substance abuse problem on our campus and examine ways the VSU community can lessen the impact of alcohol and drug use/abuse on our students.

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the following prevalence was found:

- “52.5 percent of full-time college students ages 18–22 drank alcohol in the past month compared with 44.0 percent of other persons of the same age.”<sup>1</sup>
- “33.0 percent of college students ages 18–22 reported binge drinking in the past month compared with 27.7 percent of other persons of the same age.”<sup>1</sup>
- “8.2 percent of college students ages 18–22 reported heavy alcohol use in the past month compared with 6.4 percent of other persons of the same age.”<sup>1</sup>

“According to a national survey done by the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health, reported recent trends is the continued historic high levels in annual prevalence of marijuana use among college students, which reached 43% in both 2018 and 2019, a historic high since the mid-1980s; notably, the five-year trend from 2014 to 2019 showed a significant 8.6 percentage point increase. Vaping marijuana and vaping nicotine were found to dramatically increase among college students over the past three years (vaping questions were added to the surveys in 2017). Among college students, 30-day prevalence of vaping marijuana increased significantly from 5.2% in 2017 to 11% in 2018, and non-significantly to 14% in 2019, representing a significant 8.3 percentage point increase from 2017 to 2019. Among college students, 30-day prevalence of vaping nicotine increased significantly from 6.1% in 2017 to 16% in 2018, and then significantly again to 22% in 2019, thus more than tripling in just two years between 2017 and 2019. Regarding annual prevalence of use of any illicit drug other than marijuana, recent trends have been level for college and non-college respondents (at 17% for both in 2019).”<sup>2</sup>

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1 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration. 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Table 6.21B – Types of Illicit Drug, Tobacco Product, and Alcohol Use in Past Month among Persons Aged 18 to 22, by College Enrollment Status and Gender: Percentages, 2018 and 2019.

2 Schulenberg, J. E., Johnston, L. D., O'Malley, P. M., Bachman, J. G., Miech, R. A., & Patrick, M. E. (2019). Monitoring the Future national survey results on drug use, 1975-2018: Volume II, college students and adults ages 19-60. Ann Arbor: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan, 482 pp.

The results from the VSU EverFi AlcoholEdu 2018-2019 survey showed that of the 414 students completing the pre and post course survey, 16% were Moderate Drinker, 5% were Heavy Episodic Drinker and 2% were Problematic Drinker. Whereas the 2019-2020 survey, (n= 146) had 10% Moderate Drinker, 3% Heavy Episodic Drinker, and 1% Problematic Drinker.

The following chart provides crime statistics from the VSU 2019 Clery report for alcohol and drug offenses. The 2020 report was not available at the time of this report.

<b>Campus Arrests</b>					
Offense	Year	On-campus	Residential Facility	Non-Campus Building or Property	Public Property
Liquor Law Violations	2018	12	6	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	2018	17	5	0	8
<b>Disciplinary Referrals</b>					
Liquor Law Violations	2018	18	18	4	0
Drug Abuse Violations	2018	58	58	3	0

The EverFi surveys (see Appendix A) and the Clery report (see Appendix B) show that like many campuses alcohol and drug use does exist. And similar to national trends, the use of marijuana is on an uptake.



## **Features of Compliance with Board of Regents Concerning the Alcohol and Other Drug Policy at Valdosta State University**

Valdosta State university is in compliance with the University System of Georgia Board of Regents Policy as stated in Section 4 of the Policy manual:

### **4.6.4 Alcohol and Drugs on Campus**

*“In accordance with Georgia laws governing the manufacturing, sale, use, distribution, and possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs on college campuses and elsewhere, including the Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990, the Board of Regents encourages its institutions to adopt programs designed to increase awareness of the dangers involved in the use of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, or other illegal or dangerous drugs by University System of Georgia (USG) students and employees. Such programs shall stress individual responsibility related to the use of alcohol and drugs on and off the campus.*

*To assist in the implementation of such awareness programs and to enhance the enforcement of state laws at USG institutions, each institution shall adopt and disseminate comprehensive rules and regulations consistent with local, state and federal laws concerning the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs on campus and at institutionally-approved events off campus.*

*Disciplinary sanctions for the violation of such rules and regulations shall be included as a part of each institution’s disciplinary code of student conduct. Disciplinary sanctions for students convicted of a felony offense involving the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of marijuana, controlled substances, or other illegal or dangerous drugs shall include the forfeiture of academic credit and the temporary or permanent suspension or expulsion from the institution. All sanctions imposed by the institution shall be subject to review procedures authorized by Board of Regents Policy 8.6 on Application for Discretionary Review.*

*The rules and regulations adopted by each institution shall also provide for relief from disciplinary sanctions previously imposed against one whose convictions are subsequently overturned on appeal or otherwise.”*

The following departments are in compliance with the Board of Regents (BOR) concerning the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Policy:

- Student Conduct Office– Shall be responsible for disciplinary sanctions of students who violate the AOD policies of the university.
- Counseling Center – Shall be responsible for the psychological well-being of students and provide counseling/treatment services.
- University Police – Shall be responsible for the investigation and enforcement of laws governing the illegal possession of controlled substances on university property.

- Offices of Greek Life, Residence Life, Health Services, and Health Promotions and Wellness – Shall be responsible for providing drug and alcohol education activities for students in a learning environment.
- Athletic Department – Shall be responsible for drug and alcohol awareness workshops to maintain compliance with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) policies for student athletes.

As state in the VSU Student Handbook ([www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-code-of-conduct/appendix-b-student-misconduct/non-academic--student-conduct-code.php](http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-code-of-conduct/appendix-b-student-misconduct/non-academic--student-conduct-code.php)):

*“Valdosta State University expects the University community including students, faculty, staff and guests to make responsible decisions about the use of alcohol. The illegal use of alcohol by students will not be tolerated at Valdosta State University.*

*The law serves as the basic guideline for all citizens of the community. VSU encourages all members of the campus community to make informed decisions regarding their personal use of alcohol. Those who legally choose to use alcohol must use it in a responsible manner that will not interfere with the rights of others. Abuse is not a responsible choice.*

*Valdosta State University provides guidelines and programs to aid members of the University community in making responsible decisions in regards to the use of alcohol. These include appropriate rules and regulations concerning the use of facilities, guidelines for individual conduct both on and off- campus, as well as services designed to inform and support individuals and groups. These services include individual and group counseling and alcohol education programs.*

*Finally, the University recognizes the right of all members of the University community to be private citizens and to exercise all legal rights and privileges. However, when an individual, publicly identified as a member of the University community, engages in an illegal act involving the misuse of alcohol, the University, as an educational institution concerned with the welfare of its membership, can and will take appropriate disciplinary action. Every member of the University community should know the rules and procedures of the University involving the proper use of alcohol and conscientiously follow them.*

*University students are expected to assume responsibility for their behavior in regards to alcohol use. Students must understand that being under the influence of drugs and or alcohol does not lessen their accountability nor act as an excuse for behavior. All students in the University community will be held accountable for inappropriate behavior while under the influence of drugs and or alcohol via the appropriate campus and community disciplinary procedure.*

*Students shall obey all local, state, and federal laws regarding the possession, consumption, manufacture, and sale of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances. The United States Department of Education regulations stipulate that those "who engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, or use of any controlled substance" may lose their federal financial aid.*

**Crime Victim:** *If a victim of a crime is suspected of having used alcohol and/or drugs, amnesty would be extended to the victim and the person seeking assistance and he/she will be exempt from disciplinary sanctioning through the Student Conduct Office for violations of the Student Code of Conduct's Substance Abuse Policy. Prosecution of individuals under local, state or federal laws would be at the discretion of appropriate officials of the applicable jurisdiction.*

*Any student that believes she/he has been a victim of sexual assault is encouraged to notify the VSU University Police (229-333-7816), the Valdosta City Police (229-242-2606), the VSU Title IX Coordinator (229-333-5463), the VSU Counseling Center (229-333-5940), or The Haven Rape Crisis Center (229-244-4477).*

**Mandatory follow-up:** *All identified individuals present during the referral incident that are known to have consumed alcohol or drugs illegally or to a hazardous level, will undergo substance abuse education through VSU's Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Education (newly titled: Health Promotions and Wellness). If the referral incident was sponsored by a campus organization, substance abuse education will be mandated for all members of the organization.*

**Repeated Incidents:** *If an individual or campus organization is involved in multiple calls for assistance in the same academic year a greater level of intervention will be required, including parental notification for individuals under age 21, (in accordance with the Parental Notification Policy and made pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Family Act), VSU's Student Life Office would also be informed of campus organization guideline violations.*

#### ***"Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus Policy***

*The use of all forms of tobacco products on property owned, leased, rented, in the possession of, or in any way used by the University or its affiliates is expressly prohibited. "Tobacco Products" is defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipes, all forms of smokeless tobacco, clove cigarettes and any other smoking devices that use tobacco such as hookahs or simulate the use of tobacco such as electronic or vapor cigarettes.*

*Further, this policy prohibits any advertising, sale, or free sampling of tobacco products on University properties. This prohibition includes but is not limited to all areas indoors and outdoors, buildings and parking lots owned, leased, rented or otherwise used by the University or its affiliates. The use of tobacco products is prohibited in all vehicles – private or public vehicles - located on University properties.*

*This policy applies to all persons who enter the areas described above, including but not limited to students, faculty, staff, contractors and subcontractors, spectators, and visitors. All events hosted by a University entity shall be tobacco-free. All events hosted by outside groups on behalf of the University shall also be tobacco-free.*

## **University Drug Free Communities Policy**

*Valdosta State University, as a recipient of federal funds, supports and complies with all provisions of the Drug Free Communities Act of 1997. As an employer, Valdosta State University will aggressively promote and strive to maintain a drug free work place for its faculty and staff and a drug free zone for students.*

*Students of Valdosta State University are expected to adhere to the policies of the institution, observe the basic rules of good conduct and to meet appropriate standards of conduct. This policy, as with the other institutional policies, including state and federal laws, and the Board of Regents' policies shall be observed.*

### **A. Alcohol**

- 1. Possession, consumption, or transporting of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21 is prohibited.*
- 2. If a student is under the age of 21 and determined to be under the influence of alcohol he/she will be referred to the appropriate authorities.*
- 3. A student in a publically intoxicated state will be referred to the appropriate authorities for disposition.*
- 4. The consumption or possession of alcoholic beverage(s) or possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage on University property is prohibited in public areas. A public area is defined as any area outside of an individual's living quarters.*
- 5. No student shall furnish or cause to be furnished any alcoholic beverage to any person under the legal drinking age of 21.*
- 6. The serving of alcohol to someone visibly intoxicated and/or the facilitating of drinking games involving the consumption of alcohol is prohibited.*
- 7. Common source containers of alcoholic beverages e.g. beer kegs, hunch-punch, etc., may not be present at any registered University organization event.*
- 8. No alcohol may be purchased with student activity fee funds.*

### **B. Drugs**

- 1. The possession, use, manufacture, sale, distribution or delivery of illegal or dangerous drugs on or off campus is prohibited. This also includes prescription medication being used in a manner not consistent with the prescription or by someone other than the person for whom the prescription was written.*
- 2. Possession of drug paraphernalia is also prohibited on campus. This includes any item typically used to facilitate the use, manufacture, sale, distribution or delivery of a controlled substance including marijuana."*

Policy and Programs to Prevent Drug and Alcohol Abuse Source as stated in Employee Policy:  
[www.valdosta.edu/administration/policies/documents/drug-free-workplace.pdf](http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/policies/documents/drug-free-workplace.pdf)

## ***“Drug Free Workplace***

### ***1. Policy Statement***

*Valdosta State University as a recipient of Federal funds supports and complies with the provisions of the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988. As an employer, Valdosta State University will aggressively promote and strive to maintain a drug free work place for its faculty and staff. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of illegal drugs by Valdosta State University employees is prohibited. Violations of this policy, to include misdemeanor and/or felony drug convictions during the course of one's employment will result in appropriate disciplinary actions being imposed by the institution. Said penalties may include suspension or termination of employment. Employees who feel they have a potential substance abuse problem are encouraged to seek professional assistance. The Valdosta State University Counseling Center staff will treat such requests for evaluation or therapy confidentially and provide short-term assistance limited to five sessions where indicated. Longer term counseling or therapy will remain the individual's responsibility and use of private practitioners or rehabilitation facilities is encouraged by the institution. Faculty, staff members and student employees of Valdosta State University are expected to adhere to the policies of the institution, observe the basic rules of good conduct and to meet appropriate standards of performance. This policy, as with other institutional policies, including state and federal laws, and Board of Regents policies shall be observed. New employees of Valdosta State University shall have this policy communicated to them, and said policy shall be included in the Faculty Handbook, the Classified Personnel Policy Manual and the Student Handbook.*

### ***2. Affected Stakeholders***

*Indicate all entities and persons within the university affected by this policy: Alumni Graduate Students Undergraduate Students Staff Faculty Student Employees Visitors Vendors/Contractors Other:*

### ***3. Procedures***

*Pre-employment Drug Testing. Pre-employment drug testing of candidates selected for certain types of employment is mandated by O.C.G.A. 45-20-111, signed into law following the 1995 session of the General Assembly. Valdosta State University shall require pre-employment drug tests of individuals selected for positions which may directly impact the health, safety and welfare of others. Employment categories that are subject to pre-employment screening include: all certified police officer classifications, positions which Drug Free Workplace Drug Free require a commercial driver's license and all health related positions providing direct patient care in the Student Health Services Division, e.g., physicians, staff nurses, medical technologist, pharmacists, etc. New positions created by Valdosta State University will be evaluated to determine the necessity for pre-employment drug screening. Current positions not requiring such screening are subject to re-evaluation and may be added to the list of those effected. All positions requiring pre-employment drug testing must be approved by the Director of Human Resources. Any candidate selected for a covered position must submit to the pre-employment drug test prior to commencing employment or within ten days after commencing employment. The cost of pre-employment drug test will be borne by the employing department. Failure to report positive test results shall disqualify*

*the candidate from employment for a period of two years from the test offer of administrative date. Detailed instructions on the drug test procedure will be made available to those departments normally employing individuals who are covered by this policy.*

### **Random Drug Screening**

*Employment categories subject to such screening include Public Safety, Health and Childcare Providers and employees whose duties require a Commercial Driver's License. These employees are considered high risk in that inattentiveness while on duty, or errors in judgment, could result in harm to themselves or others. The Department of Human Resources initiates the random screening and notifies the appropriate departmental employee to have selected employees report for testing. Applicants and/or employees who refuse to report for a drug test or who test positive for the use of illegal substances will not be eligible for employment, or will be terminated from employment in accordance with the University's termination procedures.*

### **Voluntary Disclosure**

*Provisions set forth in Section 807.12, Voluntary Disclosure of Drug Use, shall not apply when an employee subject to random drug screening has been selected to report for random drug screening.*

*If, prior to arrest for an offense involving a controlled substance, marijuana, or a dangerous drug, an employee notifies his or her immediate supervisor that he or she illegally uses a controlled substance, marijuana, or a dangerous drug, and is receiving or agrees to receive treatment under a drug abuse and education program approved by the President of the institution, such employee shall be retained by the institution for up to one year as long as the employee follows the treatment plan. Retention of such employee shall be conditioned upon satisfactory completion of the program. The employee's work activities may be restructured if in the opinion of the immediate supervisor it is deemed advisable. The rights herein granted shall be available to a System employee only once during a five year period, and shall not apply to any employee who is selected for random drug screening, has refused to be tested or who has tested positive for a controlled substance, marijuana, or a dangerous drug.*

*Other employment categories may be added to those subject to pre-employment and random drug screening. Human Resources will review the position description(s) of newly created positions and request approval by the President for those determined to be safety sensitive.*

### **4. Resources**

*Substance Abuse Professionals <http://saplist.com/>*

### **5. Policy Attributes**

*Responsible Office(s) Human Resources and Employee Development, University Center, 1205 N. Patterson St., 229-333-5709, [hrstaff@valdosta.edu](mailto:hrstaff@valdosta.edu)*

*Approving Officer or Body President, President's Office, West Hall Suite 1004, 229-333-5952, [president@valdosta.edu](mailto:president@valdosta.edu)*

*Date Approved 08/15/2018*

*Last Reviewed 07/02/2020*

*Next Review Date 07/02/2022"*

## **Features of the Alcohol and Drug Education Program at Valdosta State University**

The Office of Health Promotion and Wellness serves as health and wellness advocates for the Blazer Family and strive to foster a campus atmosphere that helps cultivate and support healthy lifestyle choices. We believe in serving the needs of our diverse campus population to create positive transformational health and wellness opportunities. We collaborate with a variety of campus partners to support students' wellbeing and academic success. We accomplish this by accurate, up-to-date information in the areas of prevention, education, and referral. Additionally, we involve the student body in this process through peer education.

The Office of Health Promotions and Wellness coordinates with various departments across campus to provide education, programming and referral services as part of the Alcohol and Other Drug prevention program. These initiatives are outlined below.

### **1. Pro-active Education and Prevention Initiatives:**

- Require all incoming students to take the online AlcoholEdu educational course
- Provide prevention education programming efforts targeting all students throughout the academic year
- Target the leaders of fraternities and sororities and solicit their help in conducting programming on this issue
- Provide relevant activities throughout the academic year

**Pro-active Initiatives by the various departments include the following:**

#### Student Health

- The Health Center has a display table in the main lobby that promotes national health topics related to alcohol and drugs.
- Pamphlets and materials related to alcohol and drugs are provided and displayed in the Student Health Center.
- Pamphlets and materials are giving to students that complete an outreach form for an event their hosting on specific topics that include alcohol and drugs.
- Alcohol and drug use are routinely discussed during their visit as well as on their Health History form that each student must complete before their visit. The Health Center will refer students to the University Counseling Center and/or other community resources as needed.
- Outreach programming with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. at Health & Phitness Fair - 2/19/19

## University Police

October 2018:

- Filming underage drinking info: media students did a project about underage drinking that included UPD. Underage drinking laws in the state of Georgia were discussed.

November 2018:

- Water Pong at Patterson Hall: we played “beer pong” with the cups full of water instead and at the end, UPD went over the impaired driving and underage drinking law in the state of Georgia along with the medical issues of drinking too much.

March 2019:

- Alpha Phi Alpha Drunk Goggles Event: UPD went over the impaired driving and underage drinking law in the state of Georgia along with the medical issues of drinking too much. Then the students put the drunk goggles on and tried different activities with them on.
- DUI Simulation: driving the golf cart through cone course with drunk goggles on to demonstrate drunk driving.

April 2019:

- Street Drugs Presentation for a class in the ALS Program: UPD presented a power point of different street drugs.

October 2019:

- Eat, Drink and Be Scary (Alcohol Event): Student tried to drive the UTV through a cone course with the drunk goggles on (I was in the passenger seat w/ them) to demonstrate drunk driving.

November 2019:

- Spoke w/ C.A.M.P about alcohol and drugs: UPD did a power point presentation about drug and alcohol laws in the state of Georgia along with the medical issues.

March 2020:

- GOHS Alcohol Safety Event: students in pedal karts driving through a cone course with drunk goggles on to demonstrate drunk driving. The seat belt machine was there showing the students why it is important to wear a seat belt and additional vendors were present to share information from the DUI court, etc.



## Athletics

### **2018-19**

- Our Athletic Training program conducted education workshops with each team including, but not limited to: introduction to our drug testing policy, and education on the physical, social, psychological, financial and legal problems associated with alcohol abuse and drug use.
- Student athletes were given information on dates/programming on campus-wide events sponsored by the Alcohol and Other Drug Education Center.

### **2019-20**

- Athletics created its Student Athlete Experience Survey with a section dedicated to review student athletes' risky behaviors including, but not limited to: alcohol, drug, and tobacco use; gambling; hazing; and unprotected sex. Due to COVID-19, athletics was unable to conduct the survey at the end of the 2019-20 academic year but have plans to use it in 2020-21.
- The VSU Counseling Center personnel conducted individual counseling sessions with individuals who had violated our athletic department's Drug & Alcohol policies.
- The Athletic Training program conducted education workshops with each team including, but not limited to: introduction to our drug testing policy, and education on the physical, social, psychological, financial and legal problems associated with alcohol abuse and drug use.
- Per the partnership with the NCAA Sport Science Institute, we utilized UNC-Greensboro's online module called "myPlaybook" for our Sexual Violence Prevention education program. The Sexual Violence Prevention modules included an alcohol education portion. A link to the modules was sent to the head coaches. Coaches were responsible to forward the link to all student athletes on 4/10/2020 and all were completed by 4/27/2020.

## Greek Life

### **2018**

- August: Each chapter is required to participate in a review of the Greek life handbook and risk management policies. Paperwork is submitted as proof of completion.
- September: New Member Education: New members from each council receive information on alcohol and other drugs and resources on and off campus. In addition, they receive information and resources on sexual assault, Greek life expectations, and campus partners. GAMMA: Greeks Advocating for the Mature Management of Alcohol, Greek leaders from each chapter received information about how to safely tailgate at football games
- October: GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter received information on hosting safe halloween parties
- November: GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter participated in bystander intervention training

## 2019

- January: Leadership retreat: Greek leaders and council executive board members were educated on how to safely host parties and the registration process, as well as the Greek life handbook and alcohol and other drugs safety. Each chapter is required to participate in a review of the Greek life handbook and risk management policies. Paperwork is submitted as proof of completion.
- February: New Member Education: New members from each council receive information on alcohol and other drugs and resources on and off campus. In addition, they receive information and resources on sexual assault, Greek life expectations, and campus partners. Conferences: Greek leaders from each council participated in individual conferences in Atlanta that provided information on risk management and alcohol education and prevention. GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter received information on the social event registration policy updates and practice registering for events
- March: GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter received information on healthy and safe spring breaks to take back to their chapter for education purposes
- April: GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter participated in a roundtable discussion about challenges facing their chapter in regards to alcohol use and risk management
- August: Each chapter is required to participate in a review of the Greek life handbook and risk management policies. Paperwork is submitted as proof of completion. Hazing Prevention: All Greek students participated in an online training consisting of alcohol and other drug education and prevention, hazing education and prevention, and healthy habits.
- September: New Member Education: New members from each council receive information on alcohol and other drugs and resources on and off campus. In addition, they receive information and resources on sexual assault, Greek life expectations, and campus partners. GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter participated in a social event registration policy review
- October: GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter participated in a mock social situation to practice bystander intervention and healthy habits
- November: GAMMA: Greek leaders from each chapter received information about alcohol and other drug resources

## 2020

- January: Each chapter is required to participate in a review of the Greek life handbook and risk management policies. Paperwork is submitted as proof of completion.
- February: New Member Education: New members from each council receive information on alcohol and other drugs and resources on and off campus. In addition, they receive information and resources on sexual assault, Greek life expectations, and campus partners. Conferences: Greek leaders from each council participated in a conference in Atlanta that provided information about risk management and alcohol education.

### Counseling Center

- Students are typically referred by the Student Conduct Office, Residence Hall Directors, Athletic Department, Greek Life, Counseling Center, parents, self, or concerned instructors. Students with on-going legal issues can typically satisfy counseling requirements assigned by probation officers through our office.
- Students referred to the Counseling Center for problematic usage of drugs and/or alcohol are seen in individual therapy sessions in order to work through the causes of their use of these substances and to generate healthier behaviors.
- Pamphlets such as “Drinking and Driving,” “Alcohol and Advertising,” and “Problems of Alcoholism in the Family,” are displayed and available to students.

### Residence Life, GOHS Grant Taskforce, Health Promotions and Wellness

- Campus Awareness Events – Primary observances sponsored by our office are Alcohol Awareness in October and the Safe Spring Break Fair prior to students leaving campus for spring break. Additionally, information and activities are conducted during Orientations, Visitation Days, Great American Smoke-Out, and Employee Health and Benefits Fairs.
- E-Check Up To Go – The Alcohol eCHECKUP TO GO (eCHUG) on-line program is a brief self-assessment that provides an accurate and detailed information about: Personal risk patterns, individual level of alcohol tolerance, and unique family risk factors and Harm Reduction strategies. Referrals from Student Conduct and Greek Life are made to the Office of Health Promotions and Wellness for students use of the program.
- Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPS) – TIPS instruction is designed to equip students to recognize signs of intoxication among peers and to de-escalate potentially hazardous situations. This workshop is available upon request and traditionally offered to student leaders and athletes.
- Governor’s Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) grant aids the prevention/awareness message by funding DUI Simulators and speakers to campus.
- The Residence Life Staff provided students with alcohol and drug prevention educational opportunities. Resident Assistants were required to offer several hours of programming for their residents.

### Academic course offering

- KSPE 2000. Health and Wellness for Life- A course of study investigating the major health problems in modern society, with emphasis on methods of understanding and developing lifestyle changes for longer and healthier life. Information on topics such as alcohol, drugs, stress management, nutrition, sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy and parenthood, cigarette and tobacco use, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases will be discussed.
- All Residence Assistance receive training on recognition, intervention and referral for alcohol/drug abuse during their PSYC 4870 class. An intensive study of a topic relevant to applied psychology services provision. This course will specifically focus on contemporary issues facing college students.

## Human Resources

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is designed to help employees, employee family members and supervisors deal with personal issues that affect job performance, including alcohol and drug abuse. Information on the EAP is located on Human Resources website. Information is shared with every new employee at employee orientation.

### **2. Review and Revision of University Policies**

The Office of Student Conduct review policies annually and make recommendations for alterations as necessary. The administration of VSU reserves the right to modify the policies as indicated in this Biennial Review.

### **3. Use of Research Protocol**

During this biennial review period, the Division of Student Affairs utilized AlcoholEdu to provide an online preventative education and to survey students. (See Appendix A). In accordance with the University System of Georgia guidance the Office of Social Equity is responsible notifying and monitoring our Freshmen students of their requirement to complete Everfi AlcoholEdu. Additionally, the Clery reports were also reviewed. (See Appendix B)

### **4. Campus Distribution Policy**

In compliance with the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, below is a list of the different means in which we distribute to all faculty, students and staff Valdosta State University's Alcohol Policy and Georgia State and federal laws governing these Acts.

- VSU Human Resources distributes annual Drug Free Workplace information during the annual Compliance Training mandated for all employees to complete.
- New VSU employees are required to sign a form acknowledging the Drug Free Workplace Policy.
- The Office of Student Conduct sends an annual notification letter to all students informing them of the standard of conduct concerning alcohol and drugs and the legal and disciplinary sanctions for violating VSU Alcohol Policy through a student email distribution list.
- Freshmen students are mandated to complete the educational Everfi Module that teaches them about the effects of alcohol.
- The online Student Handbook includes VSU Alcohol Policy and Student Code of Conduct listing sanctions for violations of this policy which every freshman is made aware of at orientation.
- Safety and Security Report that is published annually by the Department of Public Safety is available online which includes VSU policies and Georgia state laws governing the use of alcohol and drugs.
- The Student Athlete Handbook is distributed to all student athletes which includes VSU and the Athletic Department's policies and sanctions for violations of these policies.
- Housing and Residence Life requires students living on campus to review the online Guidelines for Community Living which includes VSU Alcohol Policies.

- In coordination with the Counseling Center, Student Health Center, Student Life and Housing and Residence Life, the Office of Health Promotions and Wellness distributes alcohol and drugs educational materials throughout the campus through the many events that are sponsored on campus during the year.
- Sorority and Fraternity members are required to review the Greek Life Handbook and the Risk Management Policy that includes the VSU Alcohol Policy

**EDGAR Part 86: Compliance Checklist**

The compliance checklist highlights the legal requirements of the Drug-free Schools and Campuses (DFSCA) Regulations. Completing this checklist will ensure that your campus has a sense of what has been done to satisfy the minimum requirements of the DFSCA. To read the exact letter of the law, please visit the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations on the U.S. Department of Education website.

Completed by: Valdosta State University  
 Title: The Alcohol and Drug Biennial Review  
 Department: The Division of Student Affairs

	Students		Faculty and Staff	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
1. Does the institution maintain a copy of its drug prevention program?	✓		✓	
If yes, where is it located? <i>Within the Faculty and Student Handbooks available online and the University System of Georgia Handbook also available online.</i>				
2. Does the institution provide annually to each employee and each student, who is taking one or more classes for any type of academic credit except for continuing education units, written materials that adequately describe and contain the following?	Students		Faculty and Staff	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Standards of conduct that prohibit unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on its property or as a part of its activities	✓		✓	
b. A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol	✓		✓	
c. A description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law	✓		✓	
d. A description of applicable counseling treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs	✓		✓	
e. A clear statement of the disciplinary sanctions the institution will impose on students and employees, and a description of those sanctions	✓		✓	

	Yes	No	N/A	
3. Are the above materials distributed to <b>students</b> in one of the following ways?				
a. Mailed to each student (separately or included in another mailing)		✓		
b. Through campus post offices boxes		✓		
c. Class schedules which are mailed to each student		✓		
d. During freshman orientation	✓			
e. During new student orientation	✓			
f. In another Manner (describe): Available online	✓			
4. Does the means of distribution provide reasonable assurance that each student receives the materials annually? <i>All student completing classes at VSU receive the Substance Abuse Policy letter via e-mail.</i>	✓			
5. Does the institution's distribution plan make provisions for providing these materials to students who enroll at some date after the initial distribution? <i>Appendix A (Pre-amble) of the Students Code of Conduct states "As a student of Valdosta State University you are advised to read, understand, and abide by the Student Code of Conduct."</i>	✓			
6. Are the above materials distributed to <b>staff and faculty</b> in one of the following ways?	N/A		Yes	No
a. Mailed				✓
b. Through campus post office boxes				✓
c. During new employee orientation			✓	
d. In another manner (describe) Available online through handbooks			✓	
7. Does the means of distribution provide reasonable assurance that each staff and faculty member receives the materials annually? The material is distributed through Annual compliance training each year and completion of the course is required.			✓	
8. Does the institution's distribution plan make provisions for providing these materials to staff and faculty who are hired after the initial distribution? New hires are required to complete the training upon hire.			✓	

9. In what ways does the institution conduct biennial reviews of its drug prevention program to determine effectiveness, implement necessary changes, and ensure that disciplinary sanctions are enforced?	Students		Faculty and Staff	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Conduct student alcohol and drug use surveys (AlcoholEdu)	✓			✓
b. Conduct opinion survey of its students, staff, and faculty (AlcoholEdu)	✓			✓
c. Evaluate comments obtained from a suggestion box. (AlcoholEdu)	✓			✓
d. Conduct focus groups		✓		✓
e. Conduct intercept interviews.		✓		✓
f. Assess effectiveness of documented mandatory drug treatment referrals for <b>students</b> . <i>Upon completion of counseling sessions students access their current substance use.</i>	✓			
g. Assess effectiveness of documented cases of disciplinary sanctions imposed on students and employees. <i>This data would be collected through the Student Conduct Office for students and collected through the Human Resources Office for employees.</i>	✓		✓	
h. Other (please list) N/A				
10. Who is responsible for conducting these biennial reviews? <i>The biennial review is conducted by the Division of Student Affairs. The Office of Health Promotions and Wellness is currently the designated department to complete the review.</i>				
11. If requested, has the institution made available, to the Secretary and the public, a copy of each requested item in the drug prevention program and the results of the biennial review. <i>Valdosta State University has not received a request from the Secretary to audit our Biennial Reviews. However, Biennial Reviews are maintained and available for review in the Division of Student Affairs dating back to 1999.</i>				
12. Where is the biennial review documentation located? <i>The Office of Health Promotions and Wellness.</i>				
13. Comments: N/A				

**SUPPLEMENTAL CHECKLIST 2018-2020**

Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulation (EDGAR Part 86)

The Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations require an institution of higher education (IHE) to certify it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. **Failure to comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations may forfeit an institution’s eligibility for federal funding.**

EDGAR Part 86 establishes a set of minimum requirements for college substance use programs. Colleges and universities may have additional obligations under state law, including recent court decisions in lawsuits brought against IHEs by college and university students and employees. Consultation with an attorney knowledgeable in this area is highly recommended.

**A. Description of the AOD Program Elements**

**1. Alcohol-Free Options**

How does your campus provide an environment with alcohol-free options? Please check all that apply:

✓	Alcohol-free events and activities are created and promoted. <i>Student organization events and activities are alcohol free. Alcohol is not permitted in common areas of campus.</i>
✓	Student service learning or volunteer opportunities are created, publicized, and promoted. <i>Student volunteer opportunities are publicized via e-mail, web-sites, and flyers. Volunteer hours are tracked for students to be able to cite experiences.</i>
	Community service work is required as part of the academic curriculum.
✓	The campus offers a student center, recreation center, coffeehouse, or other alcohol-free settings. <i>All campus facilities are alcohol free, to include the Recreation Center and Student Union, with the exception of residence halls when the students are of legal age to consume alcohol.</i>
✓	The student center, fitness center, or other alcohol-free settings have expanded hours. <i>The Student Center, Recreation Center and Odum Library are open in the evenings and on weekends.</i>
✓	Non-alcoholic beverages are promoted at events. <i>Nonalcoholic beverages are served at student-oriented campus functions.</i>
	Does not promote alcohol-free options.
	Other: N/A



## 2. Normative Environment

How does your campus create a social, academic, and residential environment that supports health-promoting norms? Please check all that apply:

✓	College admissions procedures promote a healthy environment. <i>During Orientation sessions students are informed of university policies regarding alcohol/drug use and receive briefing on the Recreation's Center's programs advocating a healthy life-style.</i>
✓	The academic schedule offers core classes on Thursdays, Friday, and Saturdays. <i>Most classes are offered Monday – Friday. Doctoral students meet on Saturdays.</i>
✓	Exams/projects increasingly require class attendance and academic responsibility. <i>VSU has an official attendance policy and holds its students to high academic standards.</i>
	Substance-free residence options are available.
✓	The campus encourages an increase in academic standards.
	Faculty and staff are educated about behavioral indicators, student norms, and cultural attitudes related to high-risk or illegal alcohol use.
✓	Faculty are encouraged to engage in a higher level of contact with students. <i>VSU faculty members are encouraged to participate in a program sponsored by Housing and Residence Life called "House Calls." This initiative has faculty and administrators visit freshmen students in residence halls to check on their adjustment to college life and to see if they are experiencing any problems.</i>
✓	Students are educated about misperceptions of drinking norms. <i>Presentations are given by various groups as mentioned previously in this report.</i>
✓	Student leadership (e.g., orientation leaders, resident assistants, fraternity and sorority members, athletes, student organizations) promotes positive, healthy norms. <i>Resident Assistant receive training on how to recognize and respond to high-risk drinking behavior. RAs are required to provide educational instruction to their residents and call upon the Counseling Center to speak about substance abuse, to include social norms. Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol (GAMMA) also encourages the responsible of alcohol.</i>
✓	Students have opportunities to advise and mentor peers. <i>Internship opportunities exist through the Counseling Center and Health Promotions and Wellness.</i>
✓	Pro-health messages are publicized through campus and community media channels. <i>Pro-health messages are communicated to VSU students via bi-weekly electronic newsletters, e-mails, flyers, social media, presentations, special speakers, and other events. Numerous</i>

	<i>awareness fairs are sponsored by the Student Affairs division. VSU has an active and effective Wellness Committee.</i>
	Does not promote a normative environment.
	Other: N/A

### 3. Alcohol Availability

How does your AOD prevention program limit alcohol availability? Please check all that apply:

✓	Alcohol is banned or restricted on campus. <i>Restricted to students of legal age to drink in their residence hall rooms.</i>
✓	Alcohol use is prohibited in public places.
✓	Delivery or use of kegs or other common containers is prohibited on campus.
✓	Alcohol servers are required to be registered and trained. <i>In accordance with VSU's Alcohol Policy for Events, "the event caterer must have necessary alcohol licenses, supply a certified or licensed bartender, and provide beverage set ups. Under no circumstances will self-service be allowed. Access to alcoholic beverages must be through a licensed certified bartender."</i>
✓	Server training programs are mandatory. <i>"Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPS) for the University" is offered for students through the Health Promotions and Wellness office. Johnson's Distributors provides "TIPS on Premises" to VSU students that work in local drinking establishments.</i>
✓	Guidelines for off-campus parties are disseminated. <i>Greek Life chapters are provided guidelines regarding the use of alcohol at their functions.</i>
✓	The number and concentration of alcohol outlets near campus are regulated.
	The costs of beer and liquor licenses are raised.
✓	The days or hours of alcohol sales are limited. <i>"Last Call" and closing hours are established, as well as limited Sunday sales.</i>
	The container size of alcoholic beverages is reduced.
	Alcohol is regulated by quantity per sale.
✓	Keg registration is required.

	State alcohol taxes are increased.
	Does not limit alcohol availability.
✓	Other: <i>Additional guidelines forbid alcohol intended to be consumed on the premises from being taken off the premises; cannot require the purchase of subsequent drinks as a condition of being served the first one, and establishments cannot offer “all you can drink” specials. Drinking establishment flyers are banned on campus.</i>

#### 4. Marketing and Promotion of Alcohol

How does your AOD prevention program limit marketing and promotion of alcohol on and off campus?  
Please check all that apply:

✓	Alcohol advertising on campus is banned or limited. <i>Alcohol advertising is permitted in the campus newspaper The Spectator, but flyers are not allowed to be posted on campus promoting alcohol use.</i>
✓	Alcohol industry sponsorship for on-campus events is banned or limited.
✓	Content of party or event announcement is limited. <i>Flyers and posters are banned on VSU's campus. Parties and other events are not permitted to promote the availability of alcohol.</i>
	Alcohol advertising in the vicinity of campus is banned or limited.
✓	Alcohol promotions with special appeal to underage drinkers is banned or limited.
✓	Alcohol promotions that show drinking in high-risk contexts is banned or limited.
	Pro-health messages that counterbalance alcohol advertising are required.
	Cooperative agreements are endorsed to institute a minimum price for alcoholic drinks.
	“Happy hours” is eliminated from bars in the area.
	The sale of shot glasses, beer mugs, and wine glasses at campus bookstores is banned.
	Does not restrict marketing and promotion of alcohol.
	Other: N/A

## 5. Policy Development and Enforcement

How does your AOD prevention program develop and enforce AOD policies on and off campus? Please check all that apply:

✓	On-campus functions must be registered.
✓	<i>Registration guidelines for reserving campus facilities are strictly enforced.</i>
✓	ID checks at on-campus functions are enforced.
	Undercover operations are used at campus pubs and on-campus functions.
	<i>Patrols observe on-campus parties.</i>
✓	<i>Patrols observe off-campus parties. Identification checks for underage drinkers are conducted in local drinking establishments. Undercover operations and patrols by police are not coordinated with AOD or the Substance Abuse Task Force. Greek Life functions require private security.</i>
✓	Disciplinary sanctions for violation of campus AOD policies are increased. <i>Enforced, but not increased.</i>
✓	Criminal prosecution of students for alcohol-related offenses is increased. <i>Enforced, but not increased.</i>
✓	Driver's licensing procedures and formats are changed. <i>Driver's License issued to drivers under the age of 21 are vertical as opposed to horizontal.</i>
✓	Driver's license penalties for minors violating alcohol laws are enforced.
✓	Sellers/servers are educated about potential legal liability. <i>Training for Interventions Procedures (TIPS) is available and through Johnson Distributing Co. Drinking establishments are responsible for creating /enforcing their own server training.</i>
✓	ID checks at off-campus bars and liquor stores are enforced.
✓	Penalties for sale of liquor to minors are enforced.
✓	Laws against buying alcohol for minors are enforced.
✓	Penalties for possessing fake IDs are enforced.
✓	Undercover operations are used at retail alcohol outlets.
✓	DUI laws are enforced.

✓	Roadblocks are implemented. <i>Undercover officers conduct enforcement exercises and DUI checkpoints.</i>
	Open house assemblies are restricted.
✓	Dram shop laws that apply legal action for serving intoxicated drinkers or minors are established.
	Does not develop or enforce AOD policies.
	Other: N/A

### **B. AOD Program Goals and a Discussion of Goal Achievement**

The goal of the Alcohol and Other Drug program is to provide education and awareness of resources for the Valdosta State University community that lead to healthy lifestyle choices. This is accomplished by involving a multitude of departments dedicated to the health and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Additionally, the program enforces compliance with stated policies and provides referral for early treatment and intervention through Student Conduct and the use of the Maxient program and Behavioral Intervention Team.

#### **Please describe how the programs goals were achieved:**

The goals of the program have been achieved through the collaboration of several departments providing educational information involving the effects of excessive drinking and drug use on academic success and overall health and well-being. University Police, Counseling Center, Student Health, Residence Life and Health Promotions and Wellness have offered programming campus-wide. Athletics and Greek Life have provided education for their respective groups. The Student Conduct Office and the Behavioral Intervention Team provide referrals for needed intervention. The Maxient program serves as an integral component at VSU for overall early alert efforts, helping to identify students in distress and coordinates the efforts of various departments to provide follow-up to include the Student Conduct Office, Housing and Residence Life, the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT), and the Counseling Center.

If a student is cited with a violation of VSU's Substance Abuse Policy, the incident is entered into Maxient, and each department that is involved to assist the student with the completion of sanctions is notified of the incident. Disciplinary procedures are handled through the Student Conduct Office and these courses are used as sanctions for students that have violated the Valdosta State University's Alcohol/Drug Policies.

Each course is tailored for each user. Students receive a confidential profile that summarizes their personal substance abuse problem, compares habits with social norms and negative consequences, challenges personal expectations, and provides a range of strategies to quit.

## **On-Line Available Resources**

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium: Under the Influence

Under the Influence is a 3-hour online intervention course used as a sanction for on-campus student alcohol violations, such as underage drinking or public intoxication.

3rd Millennium courses can be accessed 24/7 from any computer, tablet, or smart phone without peer pressure or negative influences. Validation features within the course ensure honesty and certify identity.

Under the Influence was developed in 2001 as the first online alcohol intervention program in the U.S. Campuses employ the course as an educational sanction for student alcohol violations. The course includes 6 lessons on key issues such as effects on health, drinking and driving, state-specific laws, and alcohol/prescription interactions.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium: Marijuana 101

Marijuana 101 is a 4-hour online intervention course used as a sanction for on-campus student marijuana violations, such as possession of marijuana or drug paraphernalia.

Marijuana 101 was developed in 2004 at the request of a major university. The course is consistently updated with the latest and strongest drug research available. Six lessons cover a variety of key issues such as marijuana dependence, effects of marijuana, mental health issues, synthetic marijuana, local laws and legalization issues, and legal penalties associated with use.

eCHECKUPTOGO: VSU subscribes to eCHECK UP TO GO (eCHUG), to inform our students about the potential impact alcohol may have on their lives and provide them a perspective on how its use compares with their peers. This program is available free of charge to our students and may be accessed through the Health Promotions and Wellness website.

## **C. Summaries of AOD Program Strengths and Weaknesses**

What are the strengths and/or weaknesses of your AOD prevention program?

### ***(Strengths)***

One of the strengths of the AOD prevention program is that the administration has taken a proactive approach in dealing with substance abuse issues among Valdosta State University students. This is evidenced by the collaborative approach among many departments that recognize the importance of educating on the effects of excessive alcohol and other drugs use as it impacts well-being.

There is a comprehensive working relationship between Health Promotions and Wellness, the Campus Wellness Committee, the Student Health Center, the Counseling Center, Student Conduct Office, Greek Life, Athletics, Housing and Residence Life, Campus Recreation, and University Police.

AOD supplements its operating budget by having received a grant from the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety for sixteen consecutive years. This grant makes possible educational opportunities for Peer Education students as well as purchasing Certified Peer Education Manuals.

Campus awareness events with an alcohol/drug prevention theme such as the National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week and Safe Spring Break are well attended by students and endorsed by faculty. AOD is represented at campus Health Fairs and Staff Appreciation observances. AOD also brings nationally known substance abuse and motivational speakers to campus.

Educational opportunities/sanctions offered through AOD include “e-CHECK UP TO GO” (e-Chug) as well as video and print material.

Student Affairs mandates e-CHECK UP TO GO (eCHUG) for Greek Life students, which is provided at no charge to students.

***(Weaknesses)***

There remains much work to do regarding VSU’s relationship with area drinking establishments. Under-age drinking and over-serving of patrons are of continuous concern.

The Alcohol and Other Drug Taskforce should be re-established to provide on-going recommendations that will serve to maintain a consistent and strategic strategy for AOD programming and intervention.

The Peer Educator program had a temporary pause while the campus hired a new person to oversee that area. This has caused a decrease in peer-led presentations.

**D. AOD Policy**

**1. Policy Contents**

What information do you distribute to employees and students (taking one or more classes for academic credit, not including continuing education)? Please check all that apply:

✓	A description of the health risks associated with alcohol abuse and the use of illegal drugs.
✓	A description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal laws.
✓	A description of any treatment, counseling, rehabilitation, or re-entry programs available at your institution.
✓	A statement of the institution’s disciplinary measures regarding alcohol and illegal drug use by students and employees.

## 2. Policy Distribution

Where does your institution publicize its alcohol or other drug policy? Please check all that apply:

✓	Student handbook (On-line Student Code of Conduct)
✓	Staff and faculty handbook
✓	Course catalogs
	Class schedules
✓	Student's academic orientation
✓	Residence hall orientation
✓	Staff and faculty orientation
	Formal speaking engagements
✓	Other: <i>VSU student e-mail</i>
✓	Employee on-line Compliance Checklist through Human Resources

## E. Recommendations for Revising AOD Prevention Programs

Please offer any recommendations for revising AOD prevention programs and/or policies:

- With the increase in Marijuana use among college campuses including our own, the addition of the CANNABIS eCHECKUP TO GO would enhance our prevention initiatives. Funding is currently needed.
- The campus is currently reestablishing the Alcohol and Other Drug Taskforce. This will assist with on-going recommendations that will serve to maintain a consistent and strategic strategy for AOD programming and intervention.
- The campus is currently reestablishing the Peer Educator program and exploring a wellness coaching model that could assist with early identification of a problem and referral for resources prior to a disciplinary issue.
- The campus is exploring offering support groups again for students who have been negatively impacted by the addictive behavior of a significant person involved in their life and a group for those who have identified with personal addictions who are seeking support. In the past these groups have had a low participation rate. However, with the move to a focus on a more holistic wellness model, it might serve to reduce stigma and increase participation.



# Appendix A

# Valdosta State University

## AlcoholEdu for College

### Impact Report

2018

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2019

Academic Year

EVERFI

To our partners at Valdosta State University,

Colleges and universities have long sought to provide students with the knowledge and skills to care for themselves—and one another—by avoiding high-risk drinking, using prescription drugs safely, understanding consent, recognizing the signs of intimate partner violence, and engaging in effective bystander intervention. Today, heightened government scrutiny, increased student activism, and persistent media attention raises the bar ever higher for campus leaders and practitioners.

Thank you for choosing EVERFI as your partner in this important work. We're proud to provide the digital learning platform, education content, data insights, and reporting tools that help higher education institutions achieve lasting, large-scale change on the critical issues of safety, health, and well-being facing students, faculty, and staff.

In adopting and implementing AlcoholEdu for College you've joined a network of 1,500+ institutions and 5 million learners working to reinforce healthy decisions and promote positive attitudes and behaviors. The scale and impact of our network would not be possible without your partnership.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Buelow', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rob Buelow

Vice President, Impact & Education

EVERFI



This school year, 1,493 Valdosta State University students took part in AlcoholEdu for College. This course, developed by prevention education and compliance experts, uses relatable scenarios and interactive elements to provide students with alcohol information, strategies for healthy behavior, and skills to support bystander intervention.

### **Course Impact**

AlcoholEdu is designed to equip your students with knowledge and skills to support healthier decisions related to alcohol.

Valdosta State University students increased their knowledge of alcohol-related topics by 62%. When it comes to skills, 92% of your students agree that AlcoholEdu helped them establish a plan ahead of time to make responsible decisions about drinking, and 89% report that the education prepared them to help someone who may have alcohol poisoning.

### **Behavioral Intentions & Norms**

Intention is a key variable in predicting behavior change. Change is driven, in part, by an

# Executive Summary

individual's perception of the social environment surrounding behavior – the community norms.

Nationally, a growing number of students arriving on college campuses choose to regularly abstain from alcohol use, at your school, 50% of students surveyed are abstainers and 30% nondrinkers. Many perceive, though, that their peers are drinking more than they are, and may feel alienated by that perception.

Among students at Valdosta State University who took AlcoholEdu, 71% agreed that the course changed their perceptions of others' drinking behavior. And a substantial number of your students, after prevention education, report that they intend to limit their drinking frequency (68%) or the number of drinks they consume (70%).

### **Drinking Motivation**

At Valdosta State University, the top reason students choose to drink is "To celebrate" (49% of drinkers). 82% of nondrinkers say they don't drink because "I have other things to do" -- 63% of drinkers cite the same reason when they choose not to drink.

Your AlcoholEdu for College Impact Report includes detailed information about when, where, and why your students drink – and why they don't. This data can be invaluable in guiding your prevention programming for maximum impact.

# How To Use This Report

This report provides key insights from your AlcoholEdu for College data. We encourage you to explore the data in the report, think about how you can use it to inform prevention efforts across your institution, and share it with others on your campus.

To help you make the most of this report, we have included benchmarks to help you understand where you stand relative to peer institutions, provided recommendations throughout the report tied to a framework for prevention, and included a sharable snapshot of your data at the end of this report.

For deeper insights, the EVERFI Analytics Platform provides real-time access to your EVERFI data, in both graphical and raw data formats.

## Peer Institution Benchmarks

For select data points in this report, you will see comparisons to peer institution benchmarks. These peer institutions are similar to you in size,

and public or private status. Valdosta State University is a mid-size public, four-year institution, so your benchmarks reflect other public, four-year schools with 5,000 to 9,999 students.

## Campus Prevention Network Framework Tips

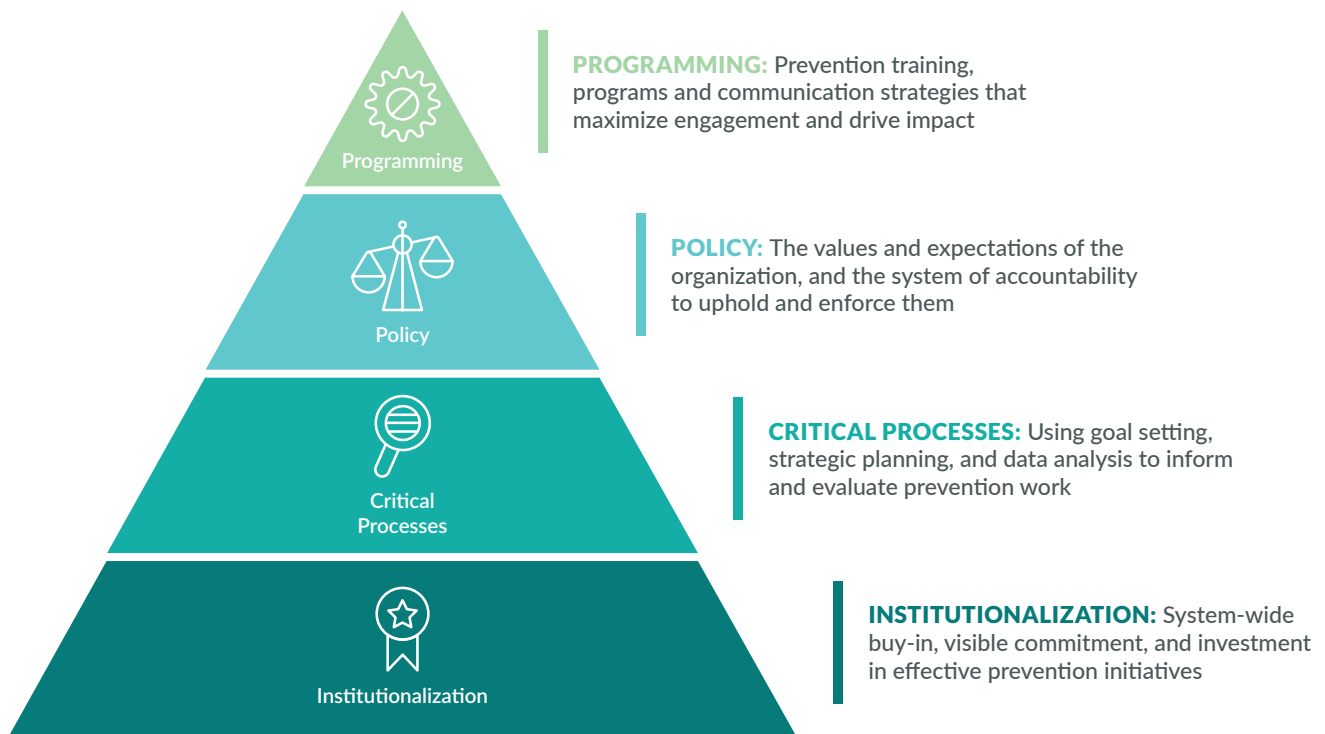
The Campus Prevention Network Framework for Prevention describes the elements of effective prevention efforts: *Institutionalization, Critical Processes, Policy, and Programming*. Throughout this report, you will find Tips and further research related to these prevention elements.

## Sharable Snapshot

At the end of this report, you will find a snapshot of select data from your report. This snapshot is designed to be shared with other stakeholders at your institution. We hope that you will print these pages out and pass them along to your Vice President of Student Affairs, Provost, or other members of your team.

# Prevention Framework

The Prevention Framework, developed by EVERFI's Campus Prevention Network, defines the elements of a comprehensive approach to prevention, and the ways in which those elements build to an effective prevention program.



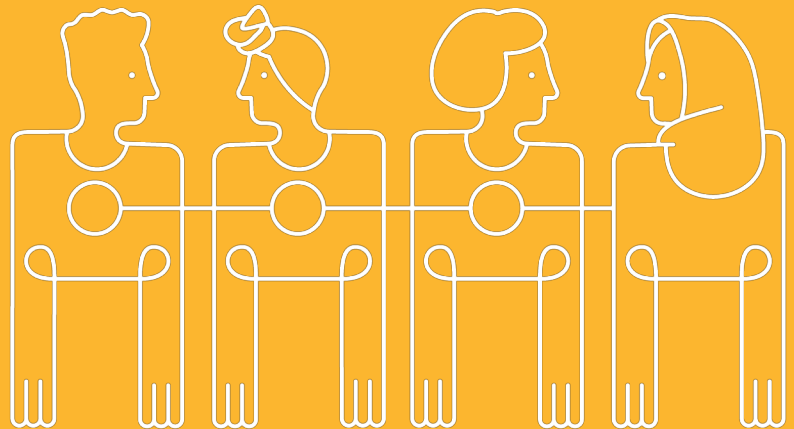
Throughout this report, you will see **Tips**. These Tips are color coded to indicate the stage of the prevention framework associated with the Tip. Most data and insights from this report will focus on the *Programming* and *Critical Processes* levels, for more information about *Policy* and *Institutionalization* on your campus, use our Diagnostic Inventories, available to all member of the Campus Prevention Network. (For additional information on this and other resources, see Resource Links on page 28.)



# AlcoholEdu and Your Students

*Demographics and Impact at Valdosta State University*

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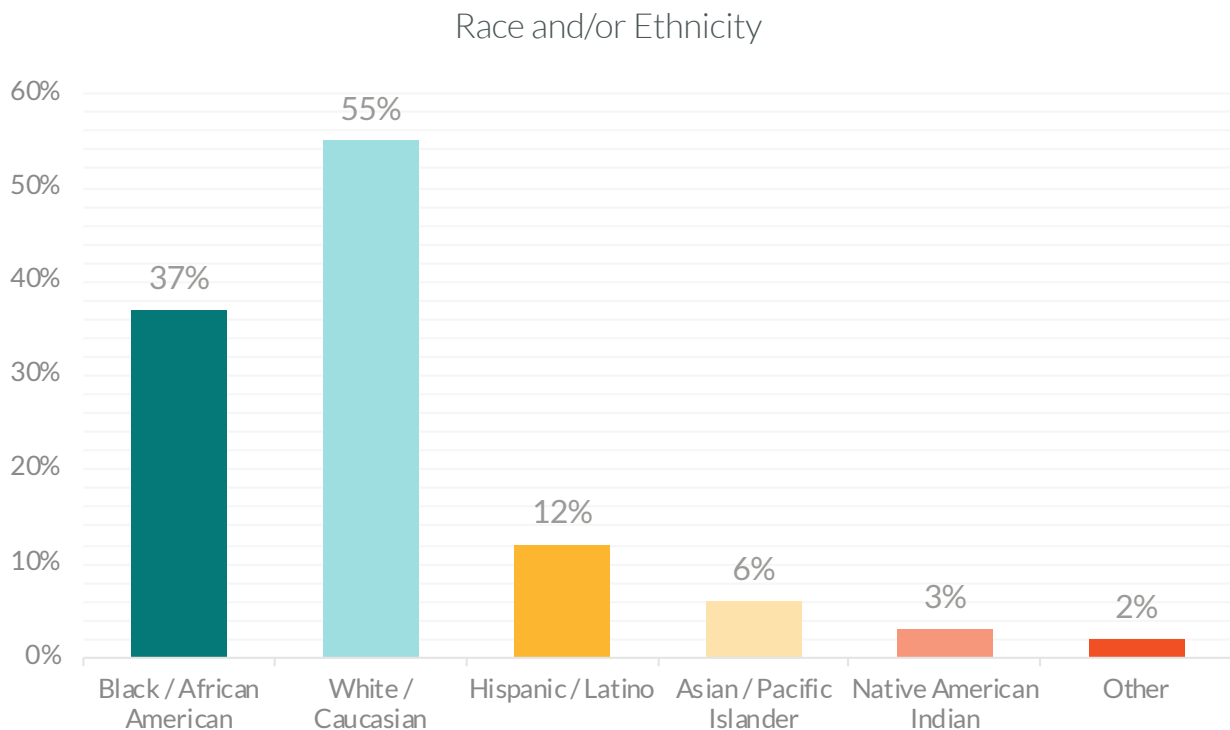


## Student Demographics

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The following is a summary of the demographics of students who participated in AlcoholEdu this year. Demographic information is self-reported by students as part of pre-course survey. All questions are optional and students may choose not to share demographic information.

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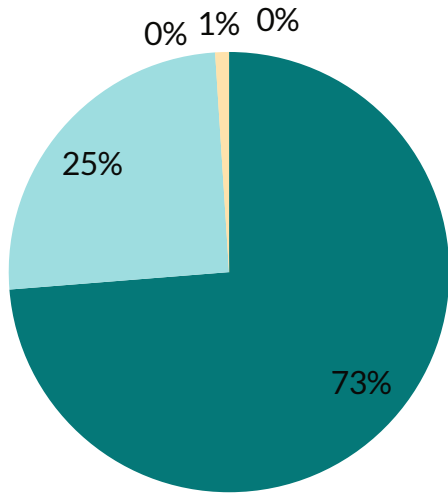
*Students could select more than one response; bars may sum > 100%.*

This report refers to several student surveys. Pre-course surveys are taken immediately before a student begins the course. Post-course surveys are taken after the course is complete and Follow-Up surveys are taken after an intersession period, typically four to six weeks, following the completion of the course. Only data from students who responded to all of the surveys are included in this report. (n=421)



# Student Demographics (Continued)

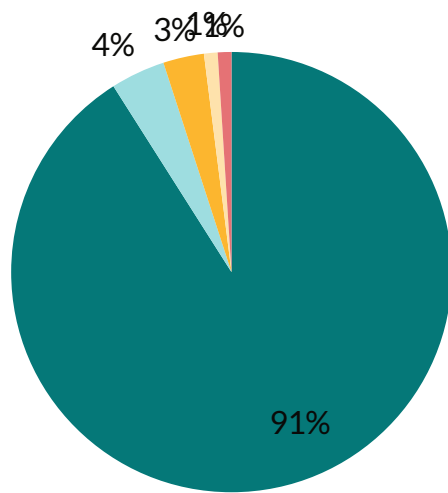
Gender Identity



<span style="color: #008080;">■</span> Female	73%	<span style="color: #80CBC4;">■</span> Male	25%
<span style="color: #FFC107;">■</span> Transgender	0%	<span style="color: #FFCC80;">■</span> Other	1%
<span style="color: #E57373;">■</span> Prefer not to answer	0%		

'Other' includes students who selected Genderqueer, Gender-nonconforming, or Not listed.

Year in School



<span style="color: #008080;">■</span> Freshman	91%	<span style="color: #80CBC4;">■</span> Sophomore	4%
<span style="color: #FFC107;">■</span> Junior	3%	<span style="color: #FFCC80;">■</span> Senior	1%
<span style="color: #E57373;">■</span> Other	1%		

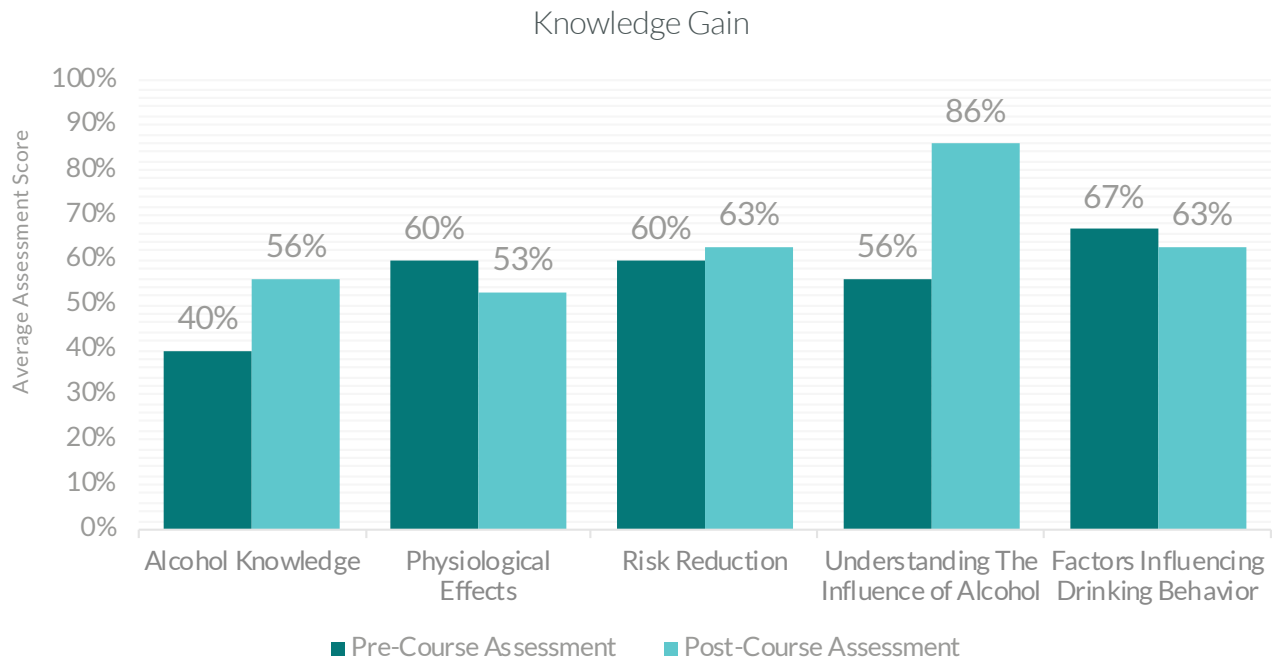
'Other' includes students who selected Graduate student, Continuing education student, Certificate program, Other, or Not a student.



**Critical Processes Tip:** Does this data reflect the overall demographic makeup of your students assigned to take AlcoholEdu? Demographic data can be used to identify challenges for underrepresented populations. You will see some demographic comparisons in this report and to further explore demographic differences, access your detailed data in the Higher Education Partner Center.

Additional demographics available to explore include: sexual orientation, age, current residence type, membership in student clubs or activities.

# Course Impact



## Learner Impact

Your students reported that AlcoholEdu for College:

Prepared them to prevent an alcohol overdose	<b>87%</b>
Prepared them to help someone who may have alcohol poisoning	<b>89%</b>
Helped them establish a plan ahead of time to make responsible decisions about drinking	<b>92%</b>
Changed their perceptions of others' drinking behavior	<b>71%</b>

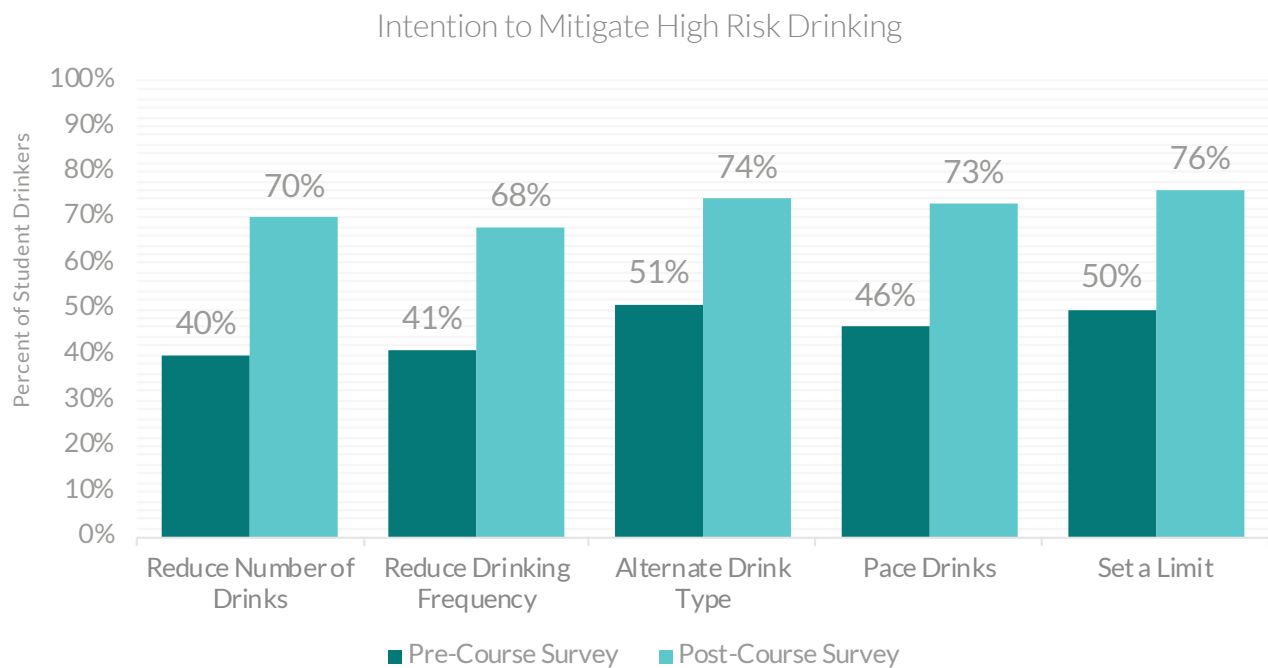
*Percentages represent the share of students who agreed with these statements in post-course surveys.*



**Programming Tip:** Where are your students knowledgeable and where are they lacking? AlcoholEdu is intended to provide foundational knowledge and skills that can be built upon. Knowledge data can inform what content areas should be built out or reinforced as part of your ongoing prevention efforts.

# The Importance of Behavioral Intentions

After completing AlcoholEdu for College, 246 students reported an increase in their intention to practice strategies to mitigate high-risk drinking.



Percentages represent the share of students who intend to engage in these behaviors in pre- and post-course surveys.

## Impact For High Risk Students

Among the 64% of high risk drinkers (16 students) who saw "no need to change the way they drink" before taking AlcoholEdu for College, 63% of those students (10 students) indicated their readiness to change after completing the course.

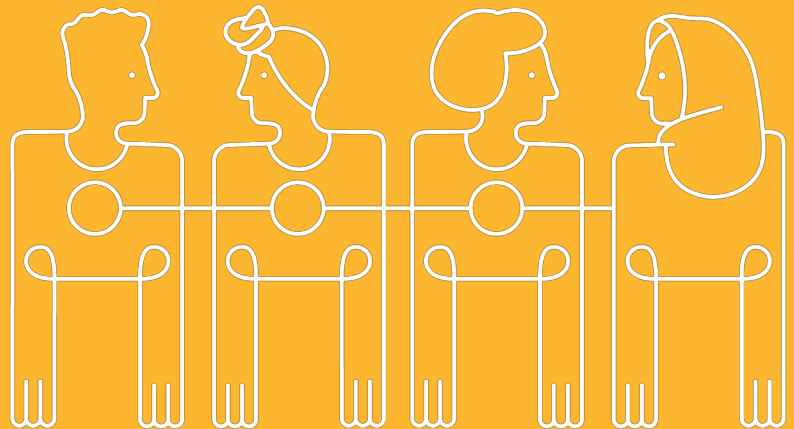


**Institutionalization Tip:** Intention has been shown to be the most important variable in predicting behavior change (Ajzen, 1991). Actual behavior change is driven, in part, by an individual's perception of the social environment surrounding the behavior (subjective norms). As such, a campus environment that reinforces safe and healthy norms can help support individual intentions and, ultimately, changes in behavior. Where unhealthy behaviors are perceived as accepted and even encouraged, individual intentions may not be sufficient to support change.

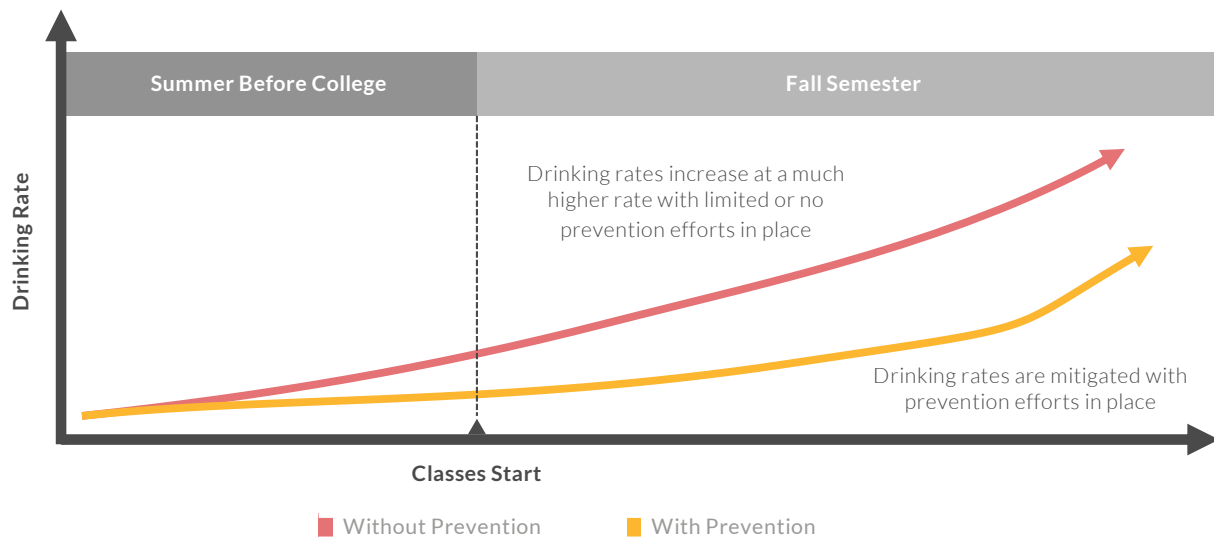
# Alcohol On Your Campus

*Data and insights from students at Valdosta State University*

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# College Effect



Nationally, student drinking rates follow a pattern: Alcohol use generally rises over the summer before students enter college, then increases substantially after their arrival on campus.

Institutions have a narrow window of opportunity for primary prevention. Through evidence-based education and prevention efforts, including AlcoholEdu for College, institutions can mitigate the impact of the College Effect.

To be most effective, these primary prevention efforts should address all students, not just those with a prior history of heavy or problematic drinking. Institutions should not overlook efforts to reinforce the behaviors of the healthy majority.



**Programming Tip:** Consider shifts in behavior that you see between pre- and post-course surveys within the context of the College Effect. This phenomenon will exist to a lesser or greater degree on your campus, depending on specific environmental and cultural influences, but in many cases, primary prevention efforts can be used to lessen the impact of the College Effect.

# Examination of Drinking Rates

Considering the College Effect, here is how your students (n = 414) reported their drinking rates on pre- and post-course surveys (separated by four to six weeks).

## Drinking categories include:

### Abstainer

Consumed no alcohol in the past year.

### Nondrinker

Consumed no alcohol in the past two weeks, but may have consumed in the past year.

### Moderate Drinker

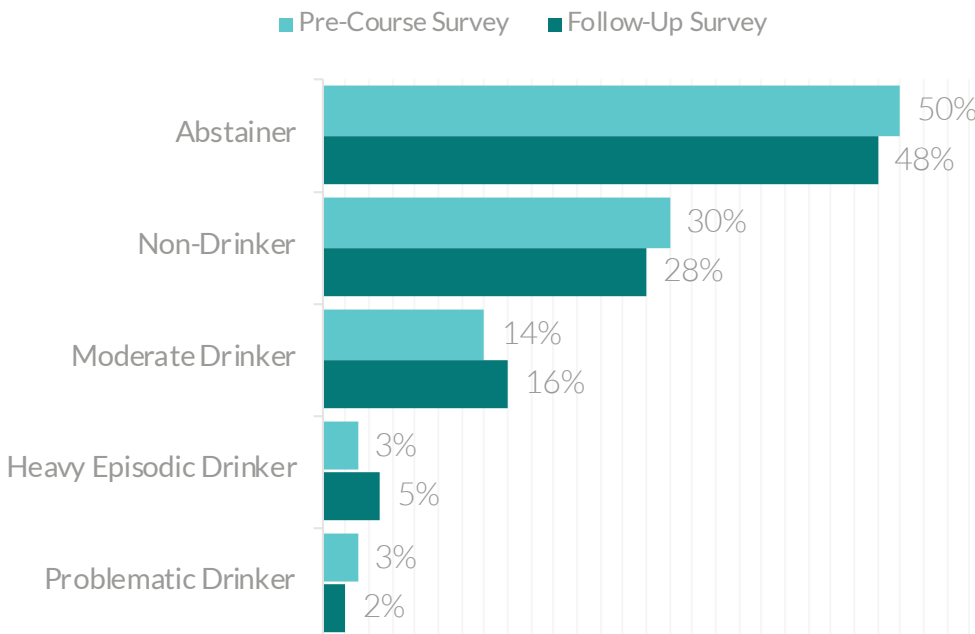
On their highest drinking day in the prior two weeks, consumed 1-4 drinks (males) or 1-3 drinks (females)

### Heavy Episodic Drinker

On their highest drinking day in the prior two weeks, consumed 5-9 drinks (males) or 4-7 drinks (females)

### Problematic Drinker

On their highest drinking day in the prior two weeks, consumed 10+ drinks (males) or 8+ drinks (females)



## Relative Change Survey 1 to Survey 3

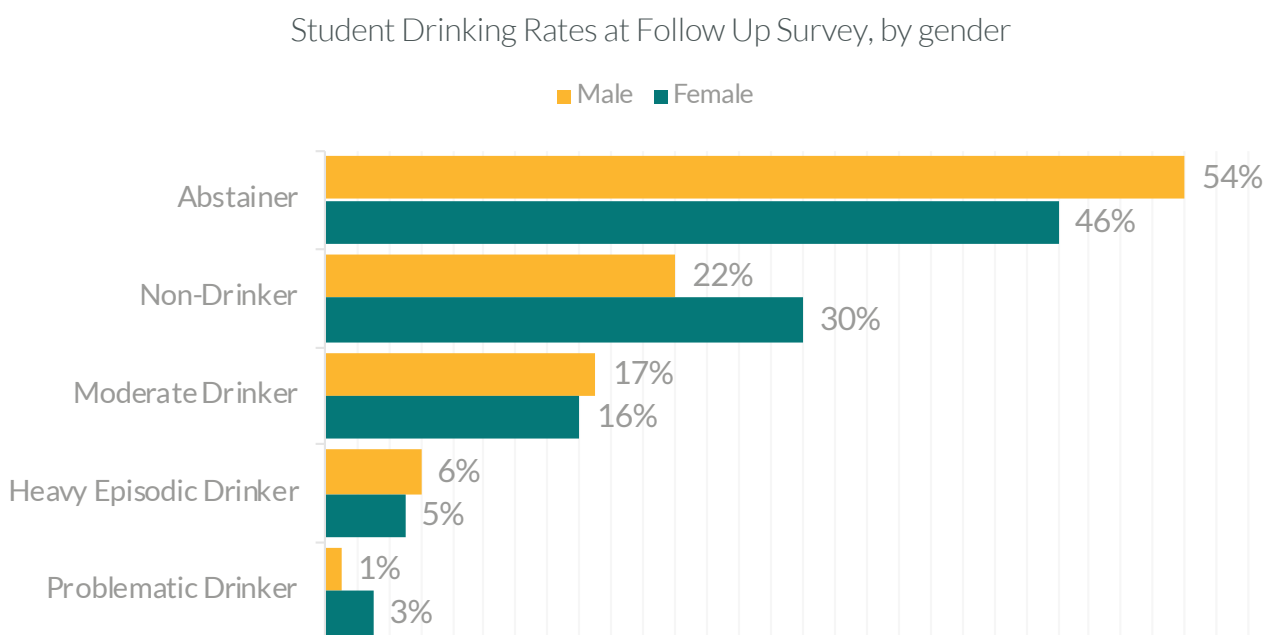
Your Institution	Peer Institutions
-4%	0%
-5%	-8%
+18%	+6%
+41%	+10%
-19%	+10%



**Programming Tip:** How did your students' drinking behavior change in the four to six weeks between these surveys? Keep in mind that even small percentage changes can reflect significant differences, especially for low-frequency behaviors like problematic drinking. Look at how you compare to similar institutions and think about how you can use this information to inform student programming. For example, a relative drop in the share of abstainers could indicate a need for programming to support incoming abstaining students.

## Drinking Rates By Gender Identity

Men and women often follow different drinking patterns and may experience the College Effect differently. Here are your students' drinking categories at the follow up survey (n = 414), broken down by gender identity.



**Critical Processes Tip:** Notice how drinking behaviors may be different for male and female students. Think about what other demographic characteristics may have an influence on drinking behavior at your institution, including Race, Ethnicity, Group Membership, Year in School, etc. This may inform how different subgroups of students are experiencing the College Effect and where supplemental resources will be necessary.

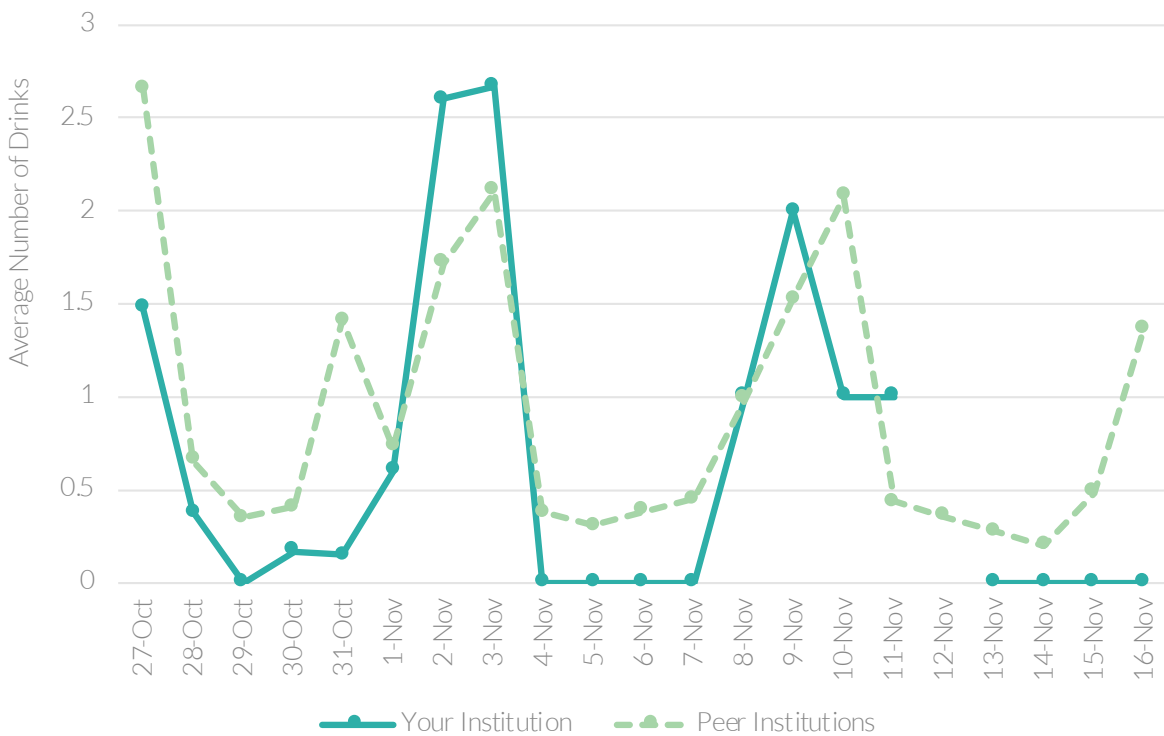
**Note:** This page shows comparisons between male and female students. In the context of drinking rates, male and female students are identified by their self-reported biological sex, as biological sex influences how individuals metabolize alcohol and therefore helps to determine their drinking behavior categories. EVERFI recognizes and appreciates that not all respondents identify with these binary constructs.

While this report presents comparisons only between students who identify as male or female – they are the most researched populations regarding personal alcohol use and related behaviors – students can select additional gender identities (transgender male or female, genderqueer) or choose not to identify. To examine drinking behavior by additional gender identities, access your institution's data through the Higher Education Partner Center.

# When Students Choose To Drink

The chart below shows student drinking rates over a three-week period of time. It represents the average number of drinks consumed by your students (drinkers only), compared to the average drinks consumed at peer institutions during that same three-week period.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 97)



The date range for the above graph was selected as the peak drinking period for our national aggregate and may not represent the highest drinking days for your particular institution.



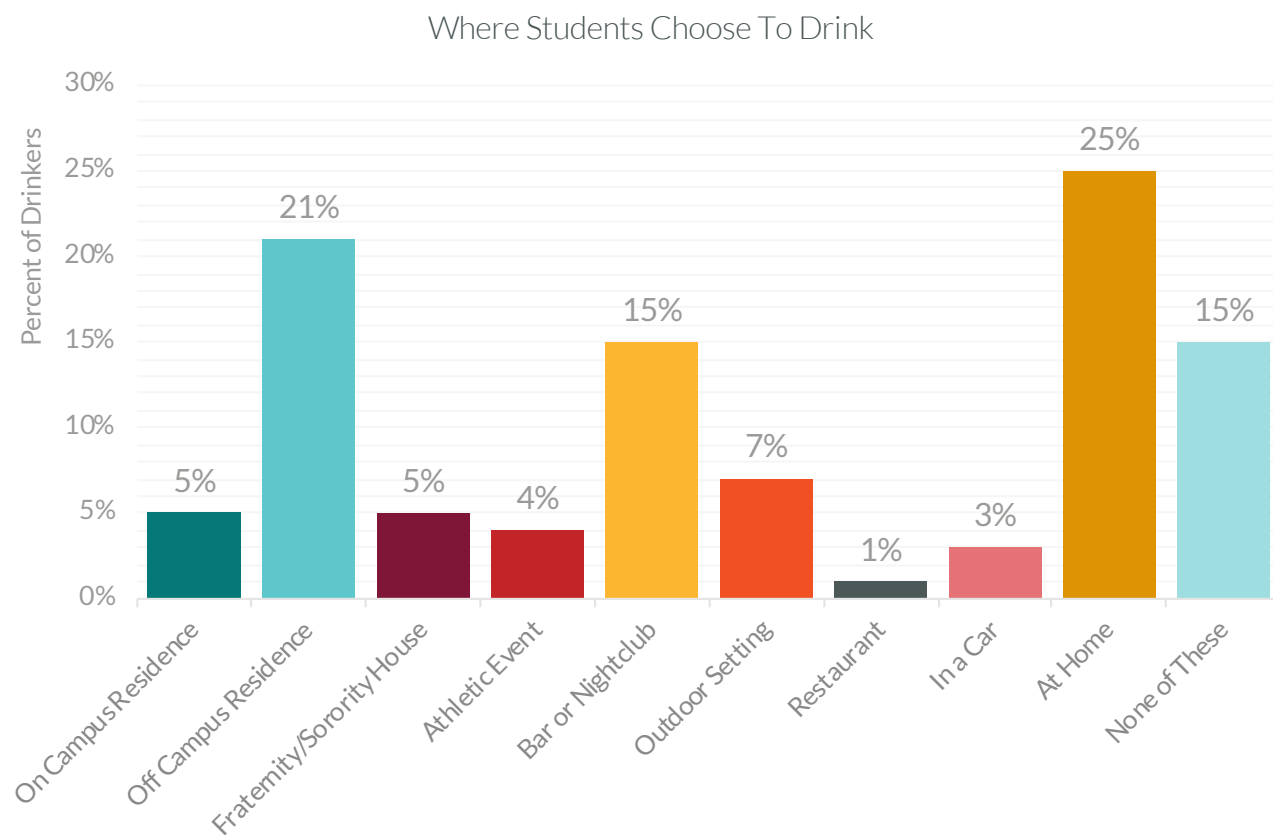
**Critical Processes Tip:** What is happening on or around your peak drinking days? Does this "pattern" seem reasonable for your campus? Can this data be used to reinforce or support other data you have collected to identify celebrations or events that encourage heavy drinking?



## Where Students Choose To Drink

The most common locations where your students reported consuming alcohol recently, among those who had a drink in the previous two weeks.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 97)



**Policy Tip:** Certain drinking locations – on campus pubs, off-campus house parties – have been shown to be associated with significant negative outcomes (EVERFI, 2012). The same study also indicated that certain locations (on-campus dances and concerts) have a greater relationship with sexual assault than other locations.

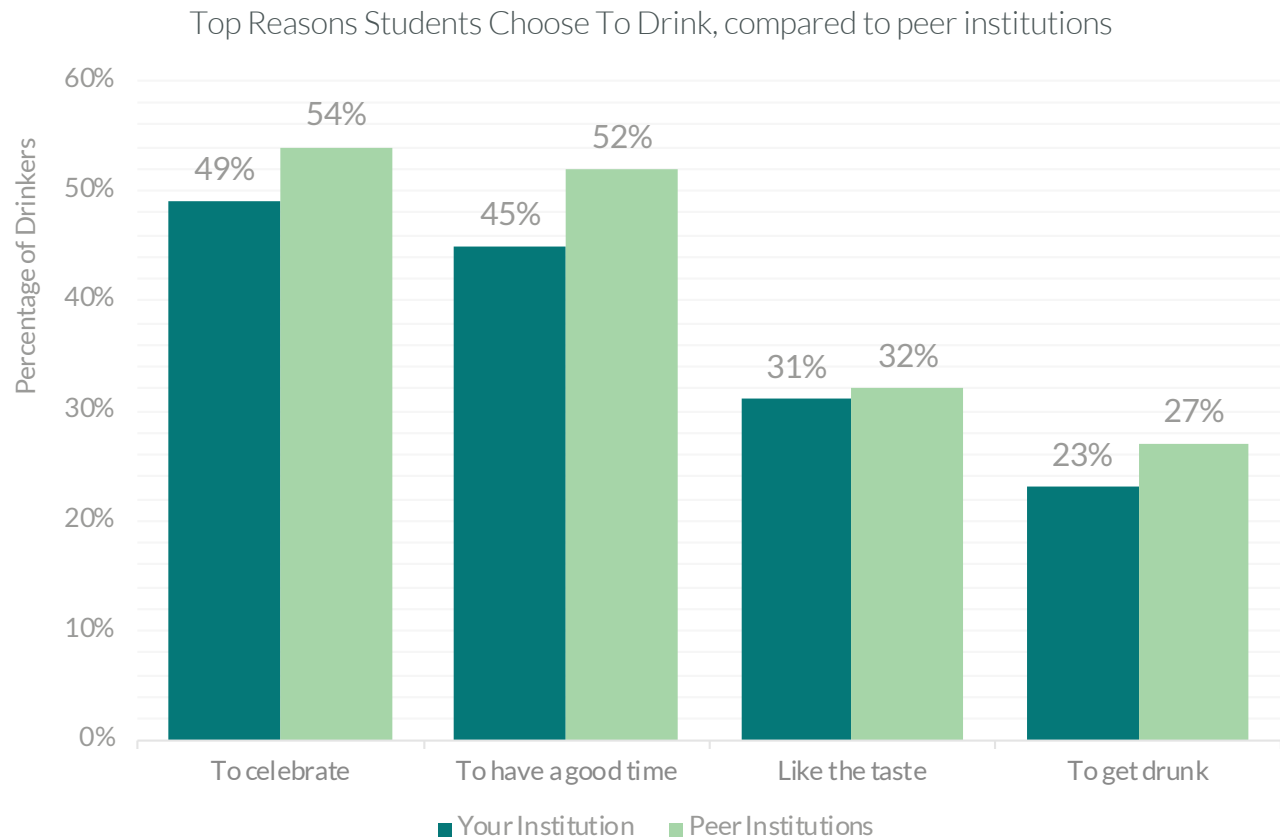
A more recent study found students living off-campus (without parents) report significantly more frequent alcohol consumption, drinking larger quantities, more frequent heavy drinking, and a greater number of negative alcohol-related outcomes than students living on-campus (Benz et al., 2017).

How can this research and drinking location data from your school inform housing and on-campus policy at your institution?

# Why Students Choose To Drink

Drinkers indicated their most important reasons for choosing to drink alcohol.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 97)



Percentages represent responses of 5-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Not at all important).



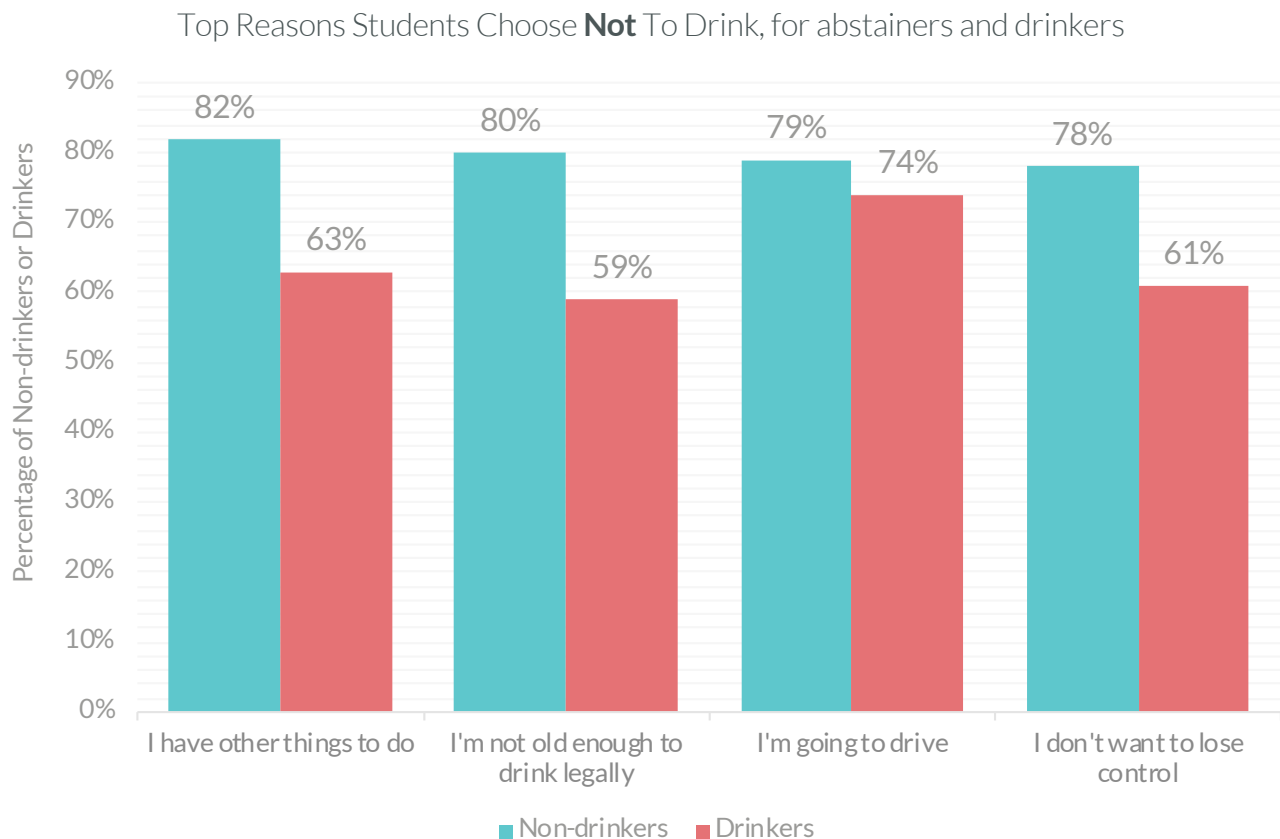
**Programming Tip:** Reasons for consuming alcohol vary greatly for institutions and across different groups of students. Consider the reasons why students are choosing to drink and investigate whether those challenges can be met with other strategies for these students.

With data available in the Higher Education Partner Center, you can also explore whether certain reasons for drinking are associated with higher-risk drinking behaviors and negative outcomes. These reasons could be candidates to target with social norm campaigns or other prevention efforts.

# Why Students Choose Not To Drink

Both drinkers and non-drinkers indicated their most important reasons for choosing whether or not to drink alcohol.

(Follow-Up Survey, non-drinkers, n = 317 and drinkers, n = 97)



Percentages represent responses of 5-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Not at all important).

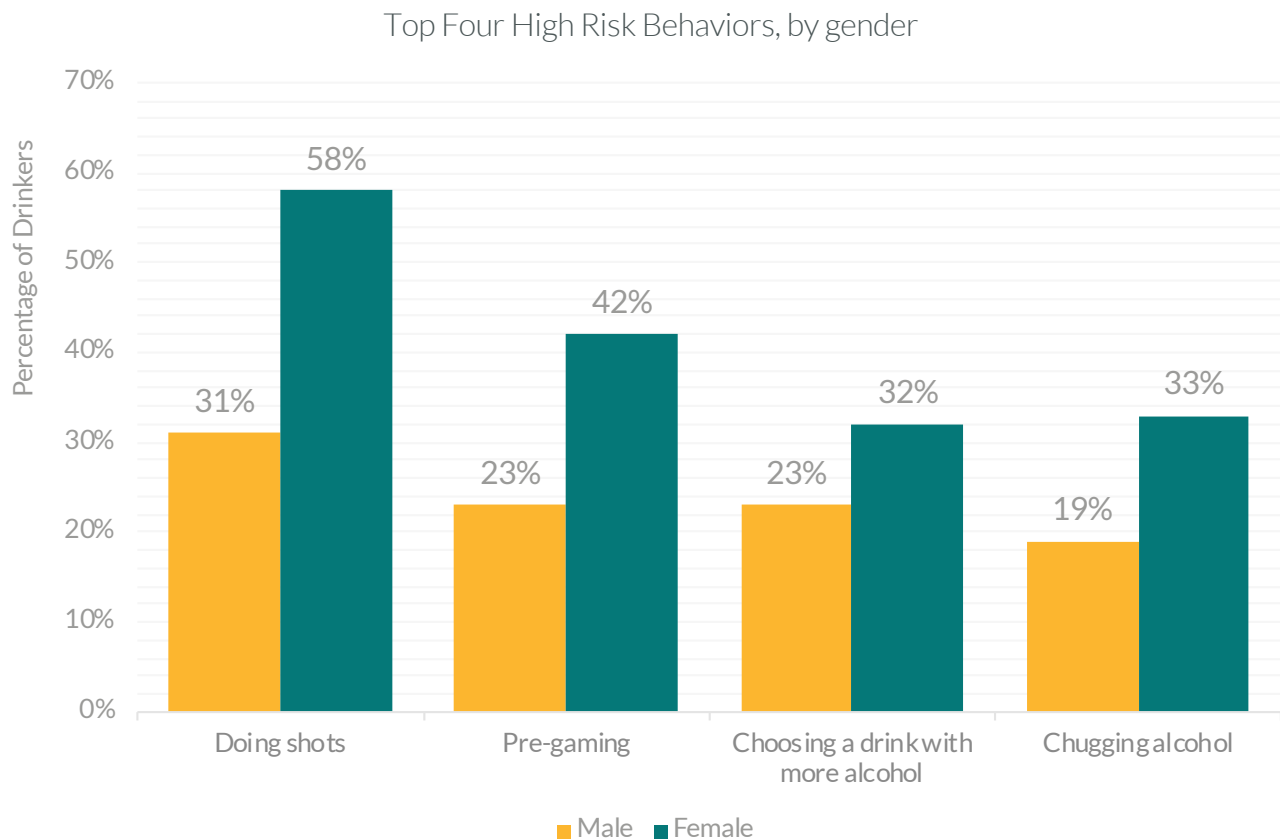


**Programming Tip:** "It would be far easier to increase the salience of existing reasons that drinkers have for restricting their alcohol use than to win their endorsement of still additional reasons that are primarily endorsed by abstainers (Huang et al., 2011)." Which reasons are most endorsed by drinkers on your campus? By non-drinkers? Consider those when designing campaigns focused on behavioral decision making for each of these groups of students.

# High-Risk Drinking Behaviors

These are some of the most common risk-related drinking behaviors reported by your students who had a drink in the two weeks prior to survey.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 97)



Percentages represent responses of 5-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Never engaged).

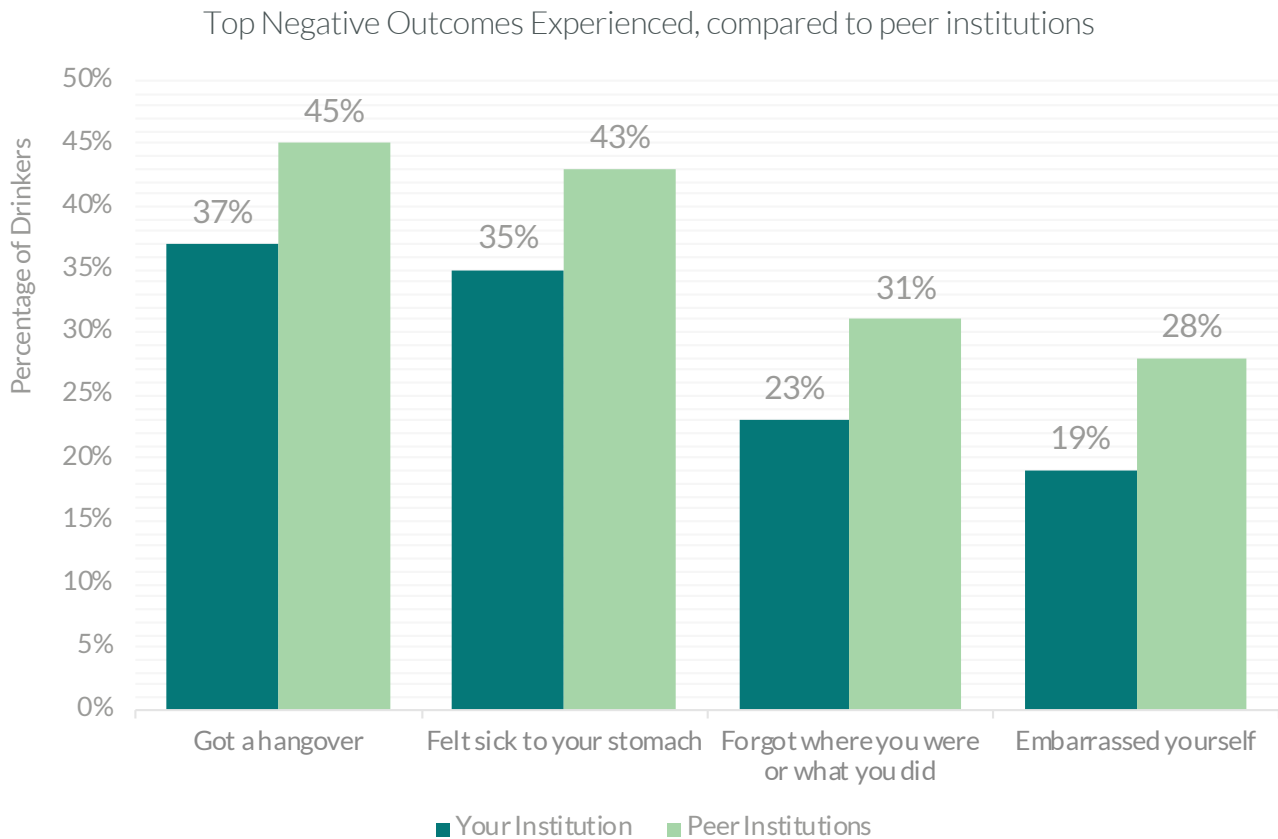


**Programming Tip:** More than other high-risk behaviors, pre-gaming has been shown to have a predictive relationship with a variety of negative outcomes (EVERFI, 2012). As such, participation in pre-gaming can potentially be used as a marker to identify students who are more likely to be at risk for experiencing negative outcomes.

# Impact of High-Risk Drinking

Students who reported drinking in the past two weeks experienced the following as a result of their drinking.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 97)



Percentages represent responses of 2-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Never experienced).



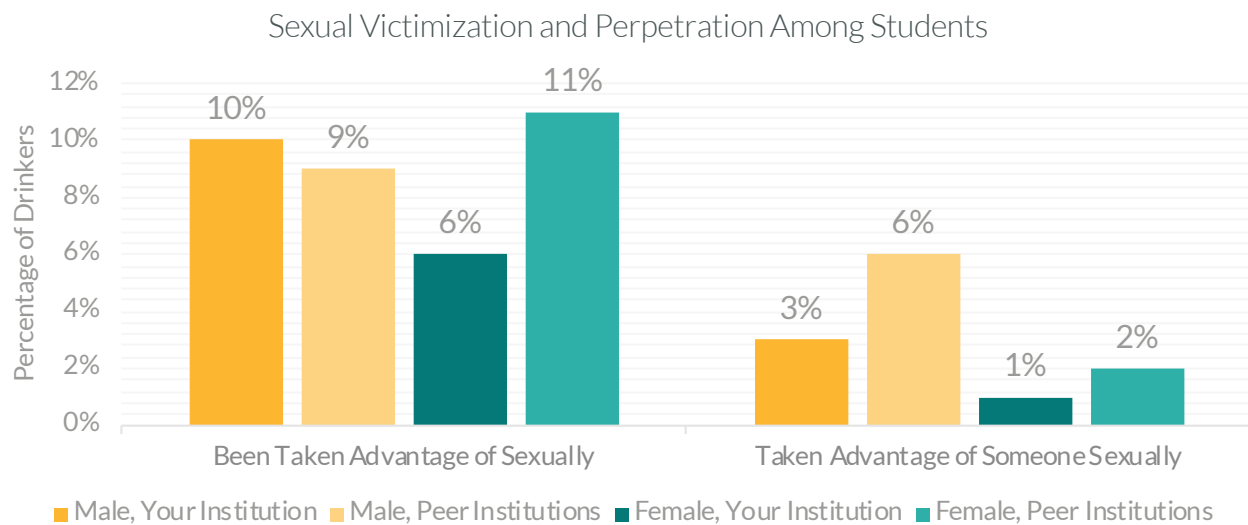
**Programming Tip:** The AlcoholEdu Partner Guide provides recommendations for campus programs that reinforce course content. It includes sample discussion topics and activities designed for use by trained facilitators, including ways to reduce the risk of experiencing negative outcomes.

For more on this topic: Download the AlcoholEdu Partner Guide from the Higher Ed Partner Center Resources Tab.

# Student Drinking and Sexual Assault

Students with unhealthy attitudes about sexual violence report higher rates of alcohol use. Students who drank in the past two weeks reported that the following occurred in conjunction with their drinking.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 97)



Percentages represent responses of 2-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Never experienced).

Students with unhealthy attitudes regarding sexual violence:

- Are much more likely to perpetrate sexual assault
- Have higher rates of alcohol use (frequency and quantity)
- Are much more likely to experience alcohol-related problems

“The fact that alcohol consumption and sexual assault frequently co-occur does not demonstrate that alcohol causes sexual assault.” **-ABBEY, 2008**



**Critical Processes Tip:** It is important to think about how we effectively identify and intervene with students at risk for being victimized or perpetrating sexual assault using the resources available, including this survey data available through the Higher Education Partner Center.

# Engaging Your Students

Student Engagement
<b>Abstaining Students</b>
39 students would like to be contacted by your school to learn more about connecting with other students who are interested in a social life that isn't focused around alcohol. <a href="#">View</a>   <a href="#">Export</a>
<b>Recovery Support</b>
26 students would like to be contacted by your school to learn more about alcohol and other drug addiction recovery related programs and services available on your campus. <a href="#">View</a>   <a href="#">Export</a>
<b>Entire Community</b>
48 students would like to get more involved in setting their own campus policies or improving the campus social climate. ( <a href="#">View</a>   <a href="#">Export</a> ) 161 students would like to attend events that do not focus on alcohol. ( <a href="#">View</a>   <a href="#">Export</a> ) 71 students would like to plan events that do not focus on alcohol. ( <a href="#">View</a>   <a href="#">Export</a> )

Screenshot from the Student Engagement Report in the Higher Education Partner Center.

Effective prevention includes actively engaging students to reinforce positive behavioral intentions of all students: drinkers and non-drinkers alike.

A growing number of students arriving on campus choose to regularly abstain from alcohol use. Research has shown that these students are more likely to be successful in their commitment to not drink if they are able to connect with like-minded peers. AlcoholEdu for College provides campuses with a unique tool to identify and assist students with that process. At Valdosta State University, 24 have opted in to be contacted by your institution about connecting peers who are interested in a social life that isn't focused on alcohol.

AlcoholEdu for College also enables students to indicate their interest in learning more about a school's programs and services to support recovery from alcohol or other substance use

disorders. Whether seeking information for themselves, a friend, or a family member, students may opt in to be connected with available resources.

So far 148 have expressed interest in planning or attending alcohol-free activities at your institution or helping to review/revise campus policies regarding alcohol. These students can be a valuable resource for making a positive impact on their peers and for creating a climate of health and safety at your institution.



**Programming Tip:** Your students provided their name and email address in order to be contacted regarding any or all of these opportunities, and also indicated what specific types of alcohol-free activities they are most interested in attending. All student lists can be downloaded from the Higher Education Partner Center. We also recommend looking to the AlcoholEdu for College Partner Guide as a resource for ways to utilize this student engagement data.

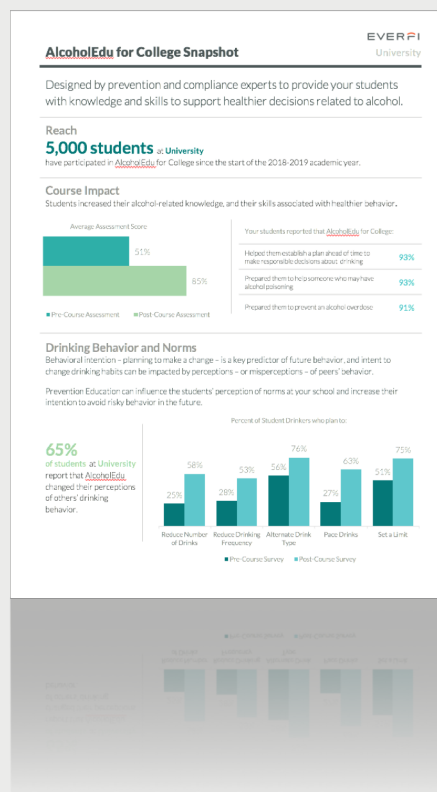


# Impact Snapshot

In order to make the content of this report easier to share with your colleagues and stakeholders, we have included a Snapshot section that highlights and visually displays the most salient data points from the full report.

This take-away can help your data get more traction and increase interest in the full report and the AlcoholEdu for College program at large.

We recommend cutting the Snapshot section from the full report and sharing with stakeholders, colleagues, and students who might be interested in the impact of the AlcoholEdu for College program, but have less direct experience in substance abuse prevention work.





Designed by prevention and compliance experts to provide your students with knowledge and skills to support healthier decisions related to alcohol.

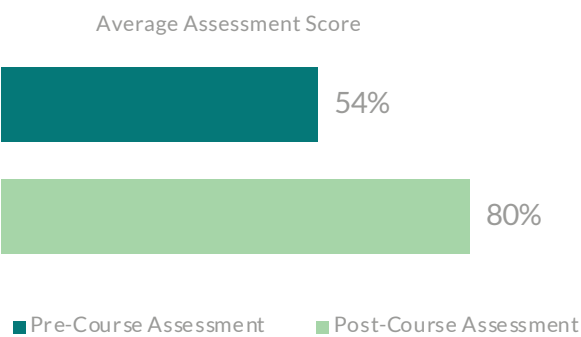
## Reach

**1,493 students** at Valdosta State University

have participated in AlcoholEdu for College since the start of the 2018-2019 academic year.

## Course Impact

Students increased their alcohol-related knowledge, and their skills associated with healthier behavior.



### Your students agree AlcoholEdu for College:

Helped them establish a plan ahead of time to make responsible decisions about drinking	<b>92%</b>
Prepared them to help someone who may have alcohol poisoning	<b>89%</b>
Prepared them to prevent an alcohol overdose	<b>87%</b>

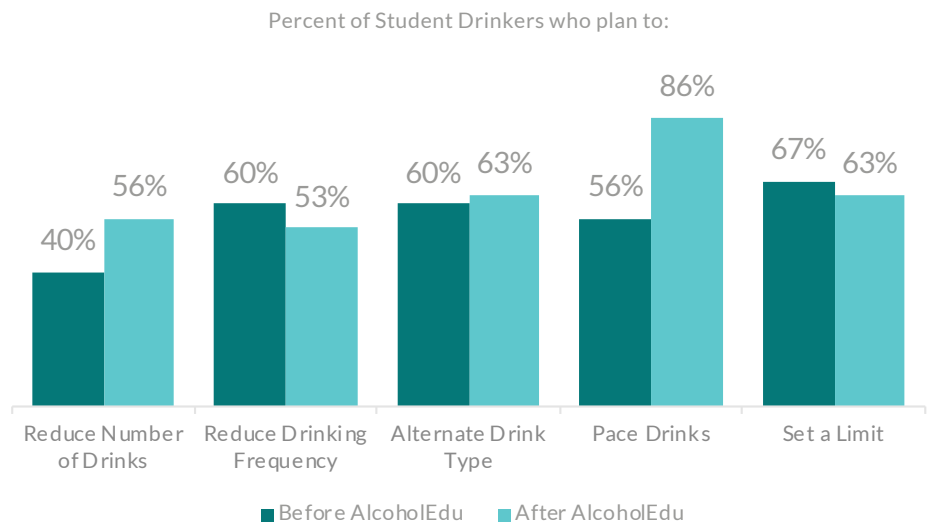
## Drinking Behavior and Norms

Behavioral intention – planning to make a change – is a key predictor of future behavior, and intent to change drinking habits can be impacted by perceptions – or misperceptions – of peers’ behavior.

Prevention Education can influence the students’ perception of norms at your school and increase their intention to avoid risky behavior in the future.

**71%**

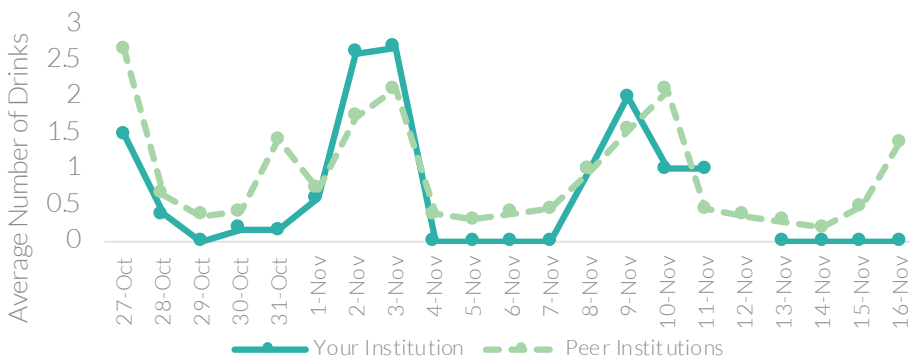
of students at Valdosta State University report that AlcoholEdu changed their perceptions of others’ drinking behavior.



AlcoholEdu you provides you with a wealth of information on your students' drinking habits: When, Where, Why (and Why Not) are they drinking.

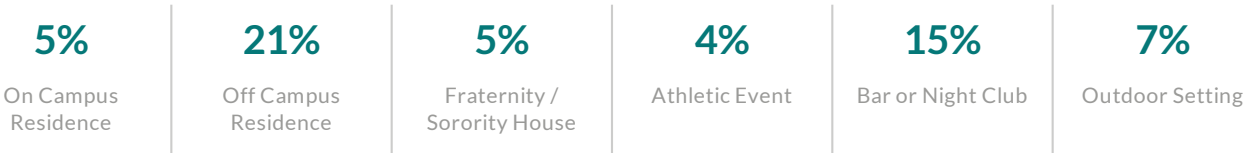
Valdosta State University can use this information to inform prevention program content, audience, and delivery.

## When



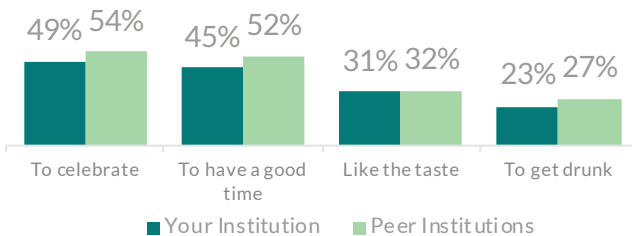
**Tip:** What is happening on or around your peak drinking days? Does this "pattern" seem reasonable for your campus? Can this data be used to reinforce or support other data you have collected to identify celebrations or events that encourage heavy drinking?

## Where



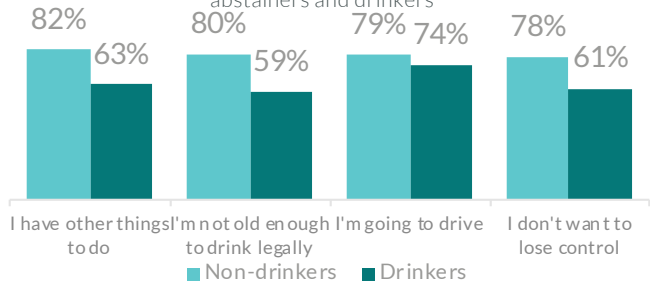
## Why

Top Reasons Students Choose To Drink



## Why Not

Top Reasons Students Choose **Not** To Drink, for abstainers and drinkers

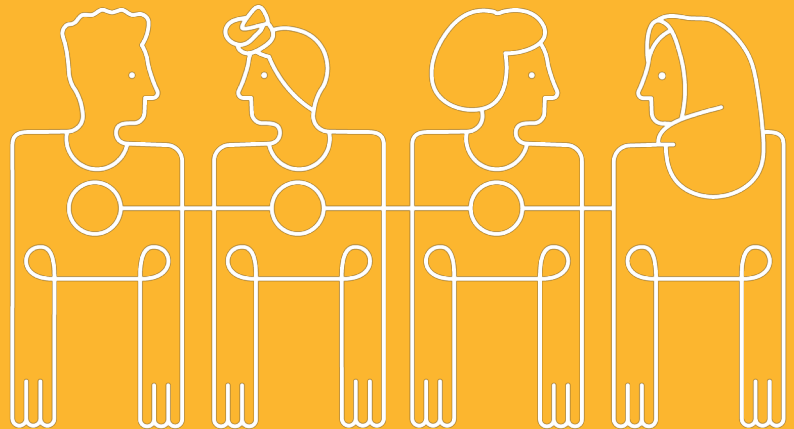


**Tip:** "It would be far easier to increase the salience of existing reasons that drinkers have for restricting their alcohol use than to win their endorsement of still additional reasons that are primarily endorsed by abstainers (Huang et al., 2011)." Which reasons are most endorsed by drinkers on your campus? By non-drinkers? Consider those when designing campaigns focused on behavioral decision making for each of these groups of students.

# Alcohol Edu for College

*Supplemental Information*

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# About AlcoholEdu for College

## The Benefits of Working with EVERFI

- Proven Efficacy: Nine independent studies have been published demonstrating the efficacy of EVERFI online programs. Our approach improves knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors.
- True Expertise: Our team includes public health professionals, administrators from student affairs, campus prevention offices, legal experts, and more. Extend your team by partnering with ours.
- Beyond Compliance: Our online programs are built by prevention and compliance experts to meet and exceed requirements from Title IX, Clery Act, and EDGAR part 86.
- Data Driven: Our data and analytics provide real-time access to attitudinal and behavioral data from your unique populations, and national benchmarks to assess needs and strengths.

## AlcoholEdu for College

- Developed in collaboration with leading prevention experts and researchers.
- Interactive content guided by recommendations from the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA).
- Informed by emerging research on evidence-based practice (e.g., social norms approach, bystander intervention).
- Cited as a top-tier strategy by NIAAA in their CollegeAIM Matrix.
- Most widely used universal online AOD prevention program since its development in 2000.



# About the Data in this Report

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## Data Accuracy

While learners are encouraged to answer all questions honestly and reminded that their responses are stored confidentially, all of the survey questions are optional and all data is self-reported. However, in our analysis of the responses, we find the data to be accurate, valid, and reliable. There is great consistency in the data from student cohorts over the years at specific institutions and our survey data correlates with external sources of information on these topic areas at the national and institutional level for college students.

## Matched Data

Data in this report are based on responses from students at your institution who completed all 3 AlcoholEdu for College surveys. This is to better show Impact of the course for students who completed the intervention and provided all necessary data points for analysis.

Including and Excluding Survey Responses: Survey responses were removed if they exhibited erroneous response patterns, such as answering all questions in a section with the same response.

Calculating Percent Change: Instead of just using Percent Difference, we calculate percent change in our reports to include the size the baseline measurement in the change score we report.

# AlcoholEdu for College Course Map

Part 1	<b>1. Getting Started</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory Video</li> <li>• Custom Welcome Letter</li> <li>• Custom Welcome Video</li> </ul>	<b>2. Standard Drink</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Alcohol Knowledge Interviews</li> <li>• Pre-Assessment</li> <li>• Standard Drink Definition</li> <li>• Identifying Standard and Non-Standard Drinks</li> <li>• Pouring Standard Drinks</li> </ul>	Survey 1		<b>3. Where Do You Stand?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Factors &amp; Choices</li> <li>• You Are Not Alone/Benefits of Not Drinking/Calories &amp; Cash/Support for Your Choice</li> <li>• Your Drinking Profile/Your Peak BAC/Reducing Your BAC/Drinking Consequences/Calories &amp; Cash/Your Drinking Habits</li> </ul>
	<b>4. Goal Setting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What's Important to You?</li> <li>• What Do You Want to Focus on this Year</li> <li>• My Choices</li> </ul>	<b>5. Drinking &amp; Motivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What Do You Think?</li> <li>• Factors That Can Influence Decisions</li> <li>• Why/Why Not Drink? Poll</li> <li>• Expectancy Theory &amp; Advertising</li> <li>• Ads Appealing to Men/Women</li> <li>• Alcohol &amp; Advertising Poll</li> <li>• Write a Tagline</li> </ul>	<b>6. Brain &amp; Body</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BAC Basics</li> <li>• What Factors Affect BAC</li> <li>• Risk/Protective Factors</li> <li>• BAC Calculator</li> <li>• Marijuana &amp; Drugs</li> <li>• Sexual Assault &amp; Understanding Consent</li> <li>• Brain &amp; Body Science</li> <li>• Biphasic Effect</li> <li>• A BAC Story</li> </ul>	<b>7. My Action Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drinker/Non-Drinker Plan</li> <li>• Choose Your Strategies</li> <li>• Activities on Campus</li> </ul>	
	<b>8. Laws &amp; Policies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol Related Laws</li> <li>• Campus Policies</li> <li>• Drinking &amp; Driving</li> </ul>	<b>9. Helping Friends</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking Care of Yourself &amp; Others</li> <li>• Alcohol Poisoning</li> <li>• Helping Your Friends Poll</li> <li>• Drinking &amp; Driving</li> <li>• Getting Help</li> </ul>	Exam		Intercession
Part 2	<b>10. Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Back</li> </ul>	Survey 3		<b>11. Recognizing Problems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking Care of Yourself &amp; Others – The Roommate</li> </ul>	<b>12. Course Conclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of Key Topics</li> <li>• Review Goals, Choices and Plan</li> </ul>

# Report References & Resource Links

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## Report References

### **Slide: The Importance of Behavioral Intentions**

Ajzen, I. (1991). The theory of planned behavior. *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 50, 179-211.

### **Slide: Where Students Drink**

EVERFI analysis of data from AlcoholEdu for College national database, 2012.

Benz, M. B., DiBello, A. M., Balestrieri, S. G., Miller, M. B., Merrill, J. E., Lowery, A. D., ... & Carey, K. B. (2017). Off-campus residence as a risk factor for heavy drinking among college students. *Substance use & misuse*, 52(9), 1236-1241.

### **Slide: Why Students Choose Not to Drink**

Huang, J-H, DeJong W, Schneider SK, & Towvim, LG. (2011). Endorsed reasons for not drinking alcohol: A comparison of college student drinkers and abstainers. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 34, 64-73.

### **Slide: High-Risk Drinking Behaviors**

EVERFI analysis of data from AlcoholEdu for College national survey database, 2012.

### **Slide: The Role of Alcohol in Sexual Assault**

Parkhill, M.R., & Abbey, A. (2008). Does alcohol contribute to the confluence model of sexual assault perpetration? *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, 27:6, 529-554.

## Resource Links

### **Higher Education Partner Center**

<https://admin.everfi.net/hepc>

### **AlcoholEdu for College Partner Guide**

[www.everfi.com/AlcoholEduPartnerGuide](http://www.everfi.com/AlcoholEduPartnerGuide)

### **Join the Campus Prevention Network**

<https://everfi.com/networks/campus-prevention-network/join-the-network/>

**Valdosta State University**

**AlcoholEdu  
for College**

**Impact Report**

**2019**

—

**2020**

**Academic Year**

**EVERFI**



Dear Valdosta State University partners,

Issues of health, wellness, and safety have been some of the most defining challenges facing higher education over the past 10 years. As we look ahead to a new decade, there is a tremendous need and opportunity for colleges and universities to revolutionize the way we serve and support our communities.

The good news is that we, as a field, know what works when it comes to behavior and culture change. There is robust and growing science behind prevention best practice, and EVERFI is committed to elevating the evidence base in our technology and across our partner network. We also know that investing in prevention has enormous impact at both the individual and institutional level. Issues of student drinking, sexual violence, discrimination, and mental health intersect with all facets of the student experience, from recruitment, to academic success, to retention, and beyond.

The question is how are we rising to the challenge and meeting the needs of our students? This report provides a snapshot of your community, presenting a curated set of insights that can inform your prevention strategy and elevate your impact. We encourage you to share this report with stakeholders across your institution to highlight your successes and focus your resources. We hope that you will also take advantage of the tools available in the EVERFI platform to dig deeper into your data, assess your prevention strategy, identify priority topics and populations, and contextualize your findings against peer or national benchmarks.

We are deeply grateful for our partnership with Valdosta State University and we look forward to expanding our collective impact in 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,



Rob Buelow

SVP, Campus Prevention Network

EVERFI

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# How To Use This Report

This report provides key insights from your AlcoholEdu for College data. We encourage you to explore the data in the report, think about how you can use it to inform prevention efforts across your institution, and share it with others on your campus.

To help you make the most of this report, we have included benchmarks to help you understand where you stand relative to peer institutions, provided recommendations throughout the report tied to a framework for prevention, and included a sharable snapshot of your data at the end of this report.

For deeper insights, the EVERFI Analytics Platform provides real-time access to your EVERFI data, in both graphical and raw data formats.

## Peer Institution Benchmarks

For select data points in this report, you will see comparisons to peer institution benchmarks. These peer institutions are similar to you in size, and public or private status. Valdosta State University is a medium public institution, so your benchmarks reflect other public schools with 3,000-10,000 students.

## Campus Prevention Network Framework Tips

The Campus Prevention Network Framework for Prevention describes the elements of effective prevention efforts: *Institutionalization*, *Critical Processes*, *Policy*, and *Programming*. Throughout this report, you will find Tips and further research related to these prevention elements.

## Sharable Snapshot

At the end of this report, you will find a snapshot of select data from your report. This snapshot is designed to be shared with other stakeholders at your institution. We hope that you will print these pages out and pass them along to your Vice President of Student Affairs, Provost, or other members of your team.

## Data in this Report

This report refers to several student surveys. Pre-course surveys are taken immediately before a student begins the course. Post-course surveys are taken after the course is complete and follow-up surveys are taken after an intersession period, typically four to six weeks, following the completion of the course. Only data from students who responded to all of the surveys are included in this report. (n=147)

## Data Accuracy

While learners are encouraged to answer all questions honestly and reminded that their responses are stored confidentially, all of the survey questions are optional and all data is self-reported. However, in our analysis of the responses, we find the data to be accurate, valid, and reliable. There is great consistency in the data from student cohorts over the years at specific institutions and our survey data correlates with external sources of information on these topic areas at the national and institutional level for college students.



# Executive Summary

This school year, 523 Valdosta State University students took part in AlcoholEdu for College. This course, developed by prevention education and compliance experts, uses relatable scenarios and interactive elements to provide students with alcohol information, strategies for healthy behavior, and skills to support bystander intervention.

## Course Impact

AlcoholEdu is designed to equip your students with knowledge and skills to support healthier decisions related to alcohol.

Valdosta State University students increased their knowledge of alcohol-related topics by 38%. When it comes to skills, 97% of your students agree that AlcoholEdu helped them establish a plan ahead of time to make responsible decisions about drinking, and 93% report that the education prepared them to help someone who may have alcohol poisoning.

## Behavioral Intentions & Norms

Intention is a key variable in predicting behavior change. Change is driven, in part, by an individual's perception of the social environment surrounding

behavior – the community norms.

Nationally, a growing number of students arriving on college campuses choose to regularly abstain from alcohol use. At your school, 62% of students surveyed are abstainers and 26% nondrinkers. Many perceive, though, that their peers are drinking more than they are, and may feel alienated by that perception.

Among students at Valdosta State University who took AlcoholEdu, 82% agreed that the course changed their perceptions of others' drinking behavior. And a substantial number of your students, after prevention education, report that they intend to limit their drinking frequency (75%) or the number of drinks they consume (78%).

## Drinking Motivation

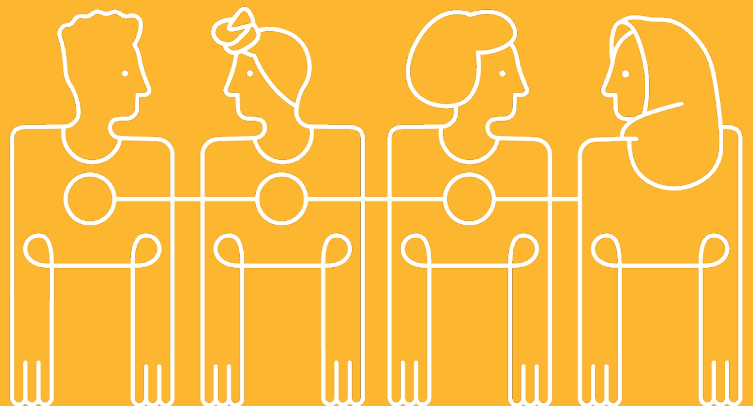
At Valdosta State University, the top reason students choose to drink is "To celebrate" (51% of drinkers). 88% of nondrinkers say they don't drink because "I'm going to drive" -- 85% of drinkers cite the same reason when they choose not to drink.

Your AlcoholEdu for College Impact Report includes detailed information about when, where, and why your students drink – and why they don't. This data can be invaluable in guiding your prevention programming for maximum impact.

# Alcohol Edu for College

*Impact Snapshot*

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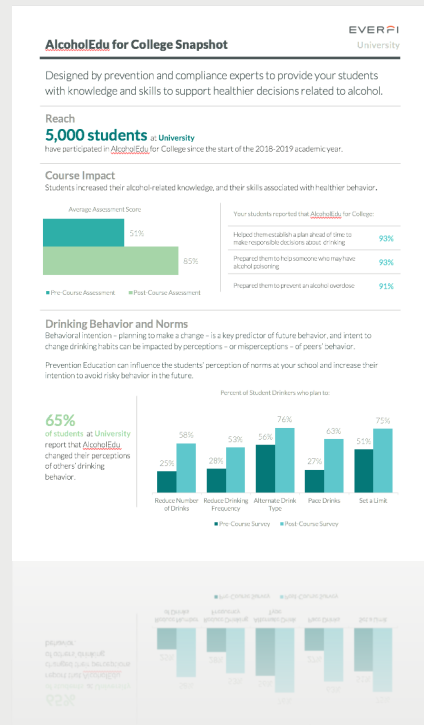


# Impact Snapshot

In order to make the content of this report easier to share with your colleagues and stakeholders, we have included a Snapshot section that highlights and visually displays the most salient data points from the full report.

This take-away can help your data get more traction and increase interest in the full report and the AlcoholEdu for College program at large.

We recommend cutting the Snapshot section from the full report and sharing with stakeholders, colleagues, and students who might be interested in the impact of the AlcoholEdu for College program, but have less direct experience in substance abuse prevention work.



Designed by prevention and compliance experts to provide your students with knowledge and skills to support healthier decisions related to alcohol.

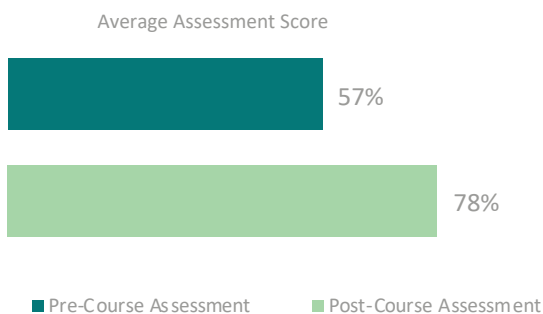
## Reach

**523 students** at Valdosta State University

have participated in AlcoholEdu for College since the start of the 2019-2020 academic year.

## Course Impact

Students increased their alcohol-related knowledge, and their skills associated with healthier behavior.



### Your students agree AlcoholEdu for College:

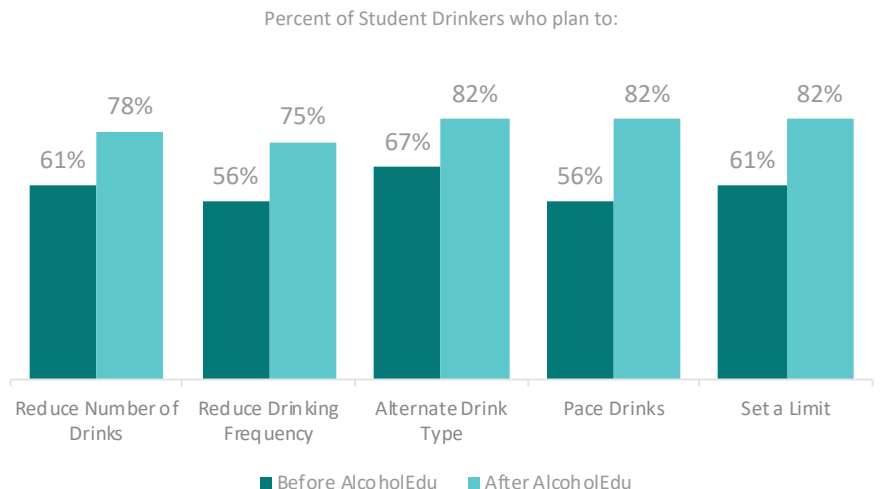
Helped them establish a plan ahead of time to make responsible decisions about drinking	<b>97%</b>
Prepared them to help someone who may have alcohol poisoning	<b>93%</b>
Prepared them to prevent an alcohol overdose	<b>93%</b>

## Drinking Behavior and Norms

Behavioral intention – or planning to make a change – is a key predictor of future behavior. Intent to change drinking habits can be impacted by perceptions – or misperceptions – of peers’ behavior.

Prevention education can influence the students’ perception of norms at your school and increase their intention to avoid risky behavior in the future.

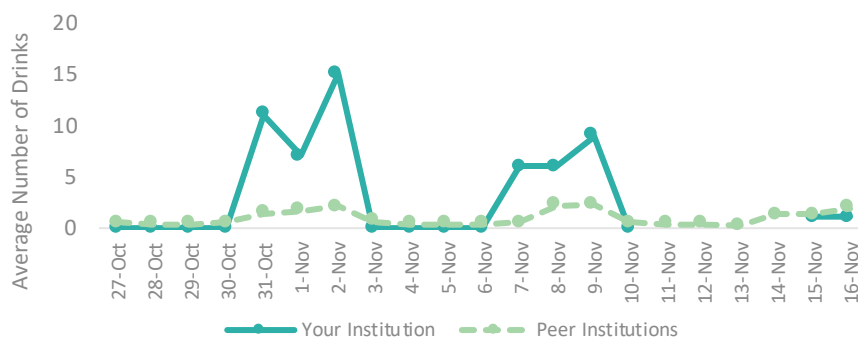
**82%** of students at Valdosta State University report that AlcoholEdu changed their perceptions of others’ drinking behavior.



AlcoholEdu you provides you with a wealth of information on your students' drinking habits: When, Where, Why (and Why Not) they are drinking.

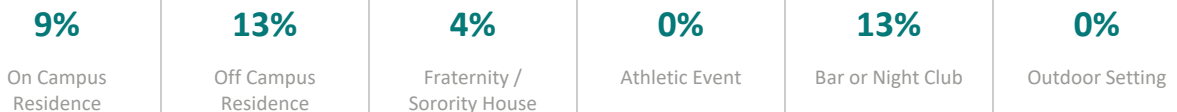
Valdosta State University can use this information to inform prevention program content, audience, and delivery.

## When



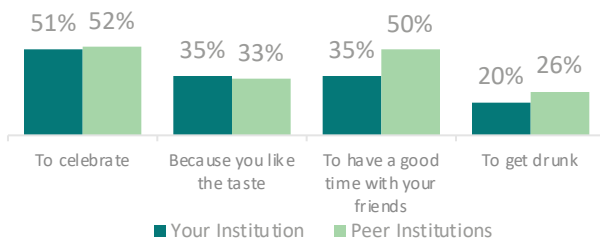
**Tip:** What is happening on or around your peak drinking days? Does this "pattern" seem reasonable for your campus? Can this data be used to reinforce or support other data you have collected to identify celebrations or events that encourage heavy drinking?

## Where



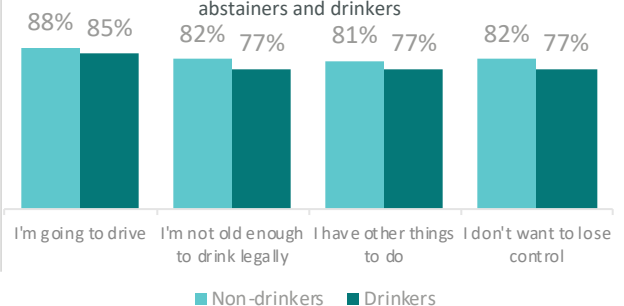
## Why

Top Reasons Students Choose To Drink



## Why Not

Top Reasons Students Choose **Not** To Drink, for abstainers and drinkers



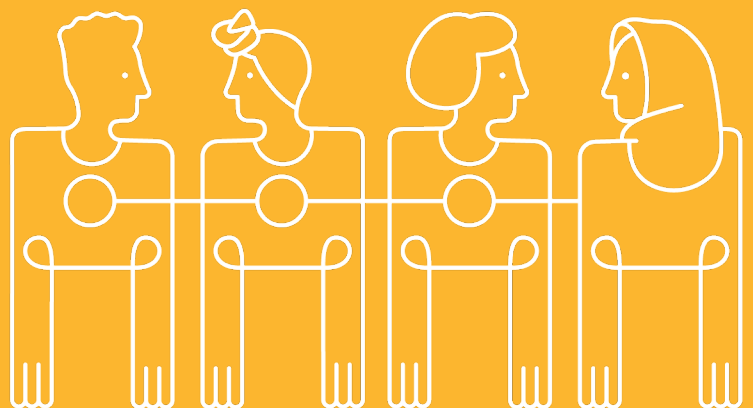
**Tip:** "It would be far easier to increase the salience of existing reasons that drinkers have for restricting their alcohol use than to win their endorsement of still additional reasons that are primarily endorsed by abstainers (Huang et al., 2011)." Which reasons are most endorsed by drinkers on your campus? By nondrinkers? Consider those when designing campaigns focused on behavioral decision making for each of these groups of students.



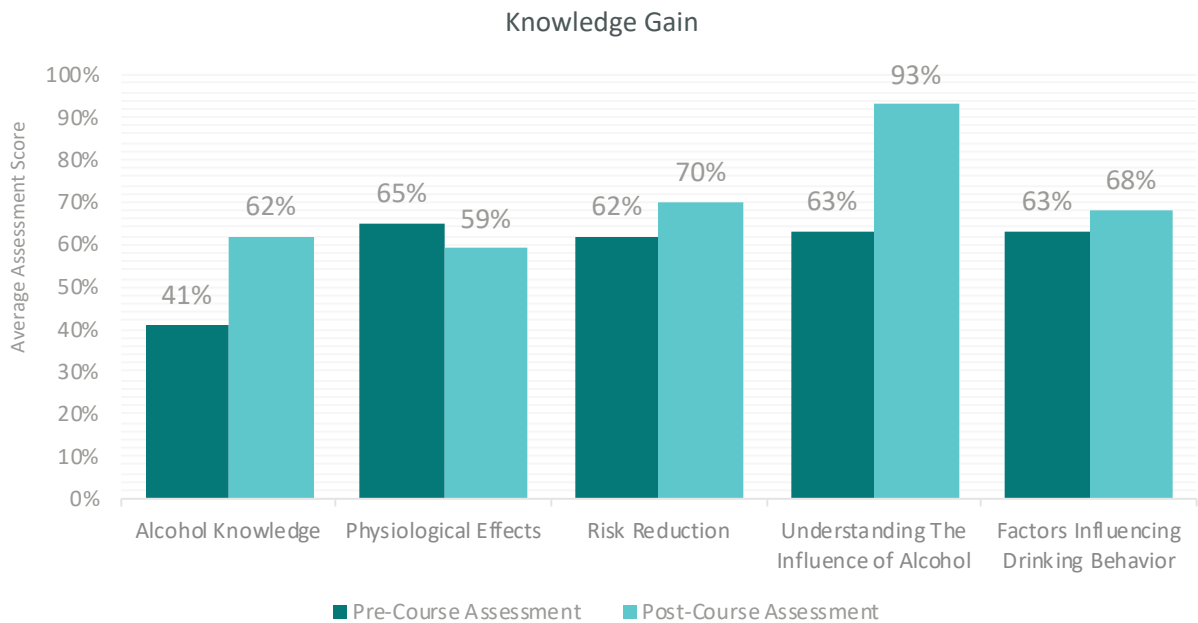
# AlcoholEdu and Your Students

*Impact at Valdosta State University*

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# Course Impact



## Learner Impact

Your students reported that AlcoholEdu for College:

Prepared them to prevent an alcohol overdose	<b>93%</b>
Prepared them to help someone who may have alcohol poisoning	<b>93%</b>
Helped them establish a plan ahead of time to make responsible decisions about drinking	<b>97%</b>
Changed their perceptions of others' drinking behavior	<b>82%</b>

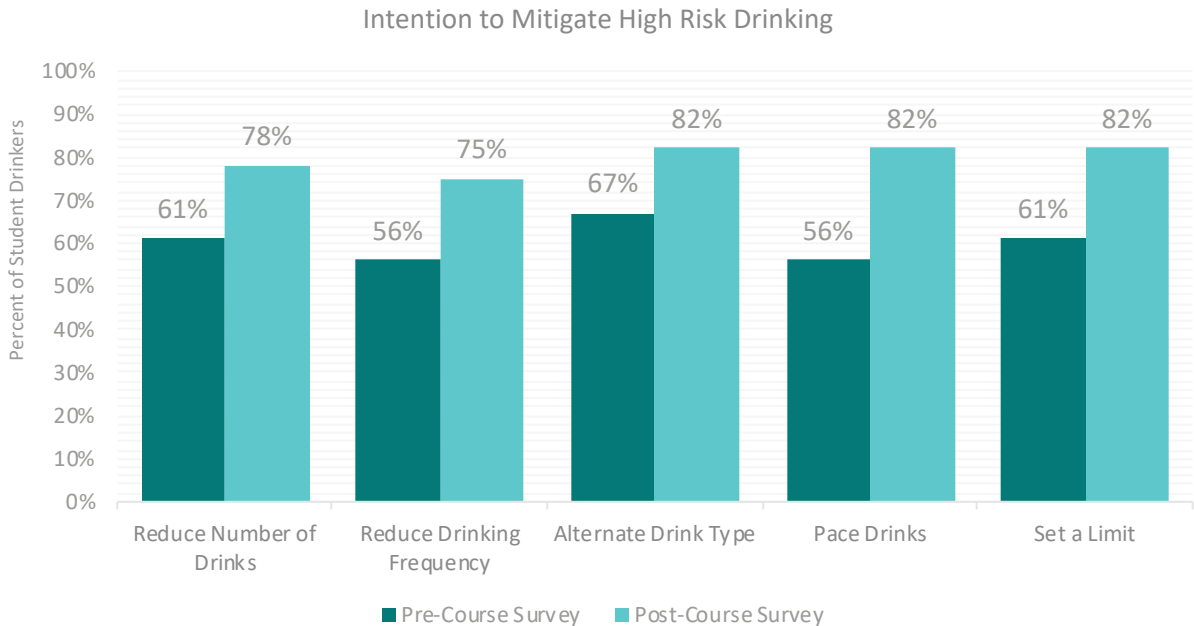
*Percentages represent the share of students who agreed with these statements in post-course surveys.*



**Programming Tip:** Where are your students knowledgeable and where are they lacking? AlcoholEdu is intended to provide foundational knowledge and skills that can be built upon. Knowledge data can inform which content areas should be built out or reinforced as part of your ongoing prevention efforts.

# The Importance of Behavioral Intentions

After completing AlcoholEdu for College, 91 students reported an increase in their intention to practice strategies to mitigate high-risk drinking.



## Impact For High Risk Students

Among the 57% of high risk drinkers (4 students) who saw "no need to change the way they drink" before taking AlcoholEdu for College, 25% of those students (1 student) indicated their readiness to change after completing the course.

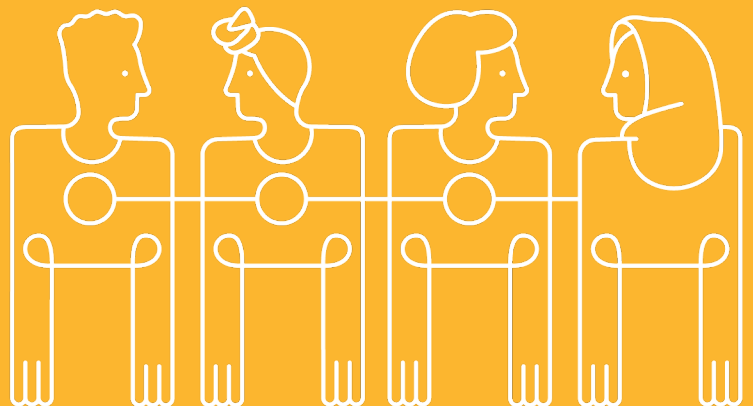


**Institutionalization Tip:** Intention has been shown to be the most important variable in predicting behavior change (Ajzen, 1991). Actual behavior change is driven, in part, by an individual's perception of the social environment surrounding the behavior (subjective norms). As such, a campus environment that reinforces safe and healthy norms can help support individual intentions and, ultimately, changes in behavior. Where unhealthy behaviors are perceived as accepted and even encouraged, individual intentions may not be sufficient to support change.

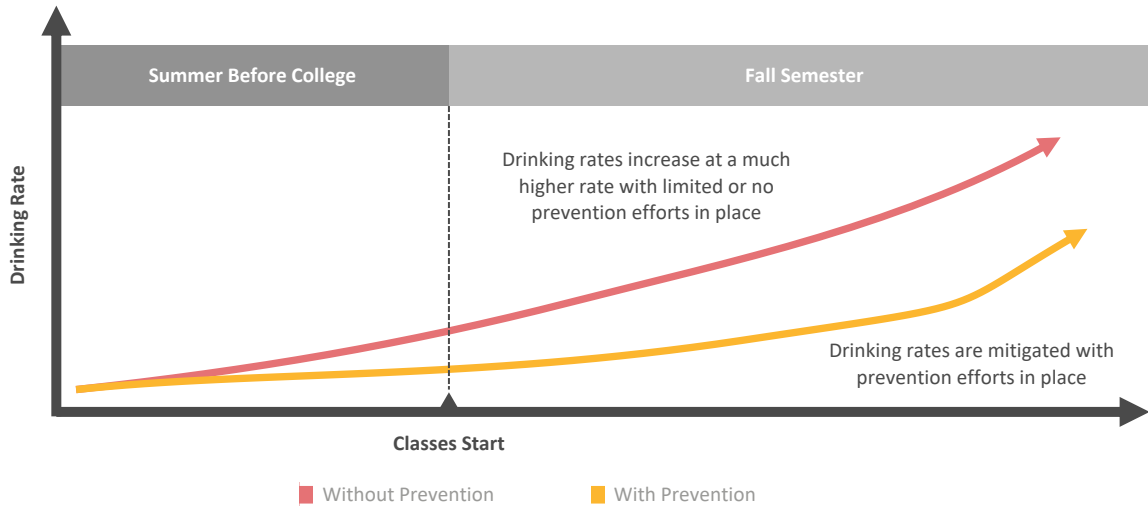
# Alcohol On Your Campus

*Data and insights from students at Valdosta State University*

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# College Effect



Nationally, student drinking rates follow a pattern: Alcohol use generally rises over the summer before students enter college, then increases substantially after their arrival on campus.

Institutions have a narrow window of opportunity for primary prevention. Through evidence-based education and prevention efforts, including AlcoholEdu for College, institutions can mitigate the impact of the College Effect.

To be most effective, these primary prevention efforts should address all students, not just those with a prior history of heavy or problematic drinking. Institutions should not overlook efforts to reinforce the behaviors of the healthy majority.



**Programming Tip:** Consider shifts in behavior that you see between pre- and post-course surveys within the context of the College Effect. This phenomenon will exist to a lesser or greater degree on your campus, depending on specific environmental and cultural influences, but in many cases, primary prevention efforts can be used to lessen the impact of the College Effect.

# Examination of Drinking Rates

Considering the College Effect, here is how your students (n = 146) reported their drinking rates on pre- and post-course surveys (separated by four to six weeks).

## Drinking categories include:

### Abstainer

Consumed no alcohol in the past year.

### Nondrinker

Consumed no alcohol in the past two weeks but may have consumed in the past year.

### Moderate Drinker

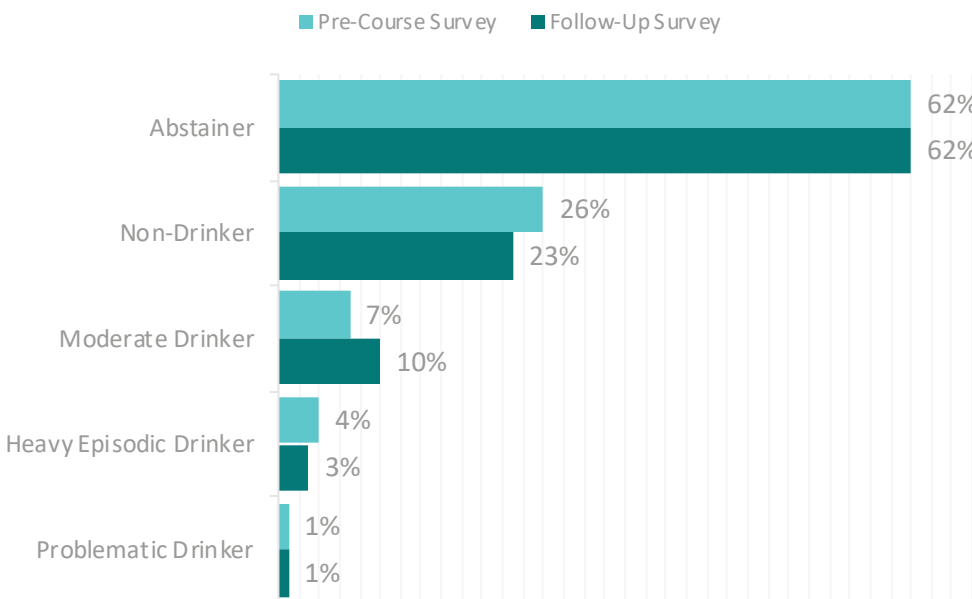
On their highest drinking day in the prior two weeks, consumed 1-4 drinks (males) or 1-3 drinks (females)

### Heavy Episodic Drinker

On their highest drinking day in the prior two weeks, consumed 5-9 drinks (males) or 4-7 drinks (females)

### Problematic Drinker

On their highest drinking day in the prior two weeks, consumed 10+ drinks (males) or 8+ drinks (females)



## Relative Change Survey 1 to Survey 3

Your Institution	Peer Institutions
0%	3%
-13%	-13%
50%	8%
-17%	14%
100%	7%

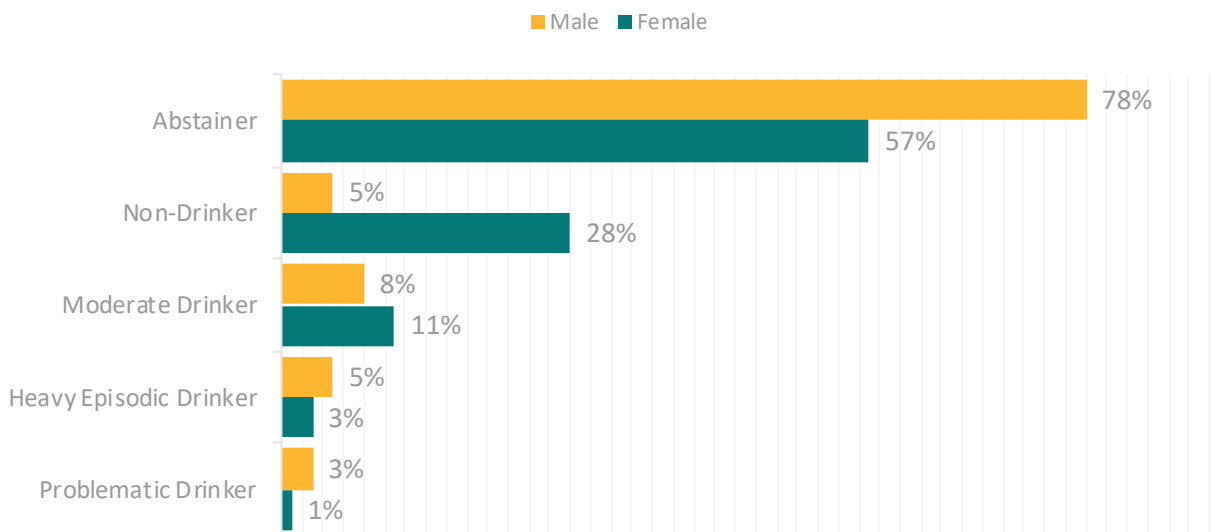


**Programming Tip:** How did your students' drinking behavior change in the four-to-six weeks between these surveys? Keep in mind that even small percentage changes can reflect significant differences, especially for low-frequency behaviors like problematic drinking. Look at how you compare to similar institutions and think about how you can use this information to inform student programming. For example, a relative drop in the share of abstainers could indicate a need for programming to support incoming abstaining students.

## Drinking Rates By Gender Identity

Men and women often follow different drinking patterns and may experience the College Effect differently. Here are your students' drinking categories at the follow up survey (n = 146), broken down by gender identity.

Student Drinking Rates at Follow-Up Survey, by gender identity



**Critical Processes Tip:** Notice how drinking behaviors may be different for male and female students. Think about what other demographic characteristics may have an influence on drinking behavior at your institution, including race, ethnicity, group membership, year in school, etc. This may inform how different subgroups of students are experiencing the College Effect and where supplemental resources will be necessary.

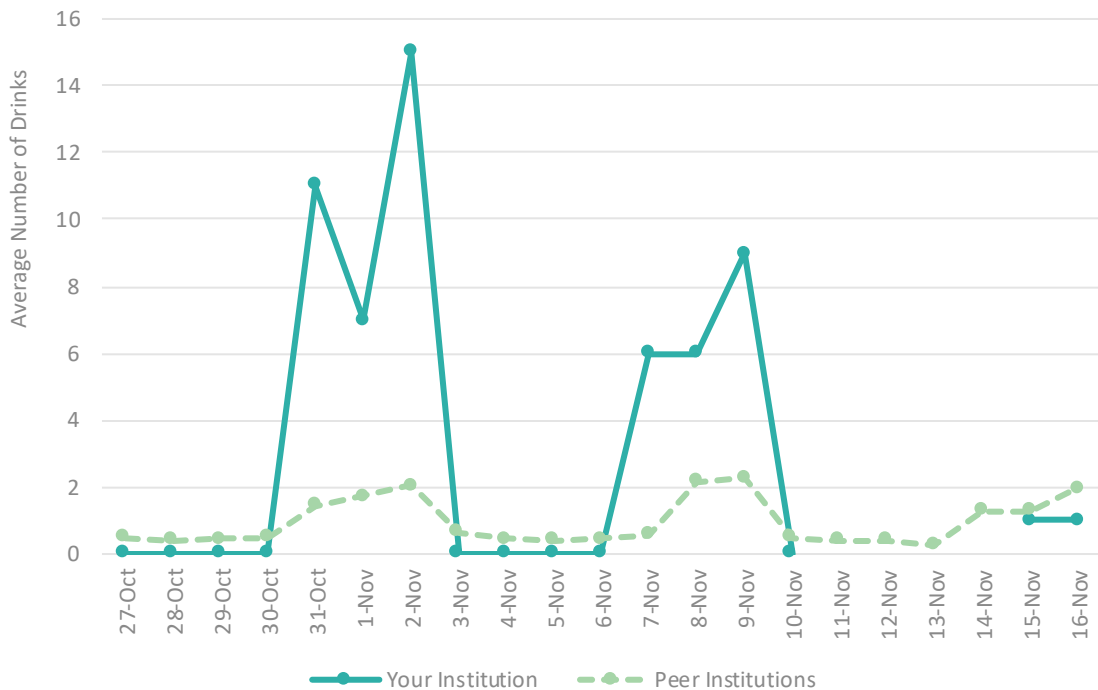
**Note:** This page shows comparisons between male and female students. In the context of drinking rates, male and female students are identified by their self-reported biological sex, as biological sex influences how individuals metabolize alcohol and therefore helps to determine their drinking behavior categories. EVERFI recognizes and appreciates that not all respondents identify with these binary constructs.

While this report presents comparisons only between students who identify as male or female – they are the most researched populations regarding personal alcohol use and related behaviors – students can select additional gender identities (transgender male or female, genderqueer) or choose not to identify. To examine drinking behavior by additional gender identities, access your institution's data through the Higher Education Partner Center.

## When Students Choose To Drink

The chart below shows student drinking rates over a three-week period of time. It represents the average number of drinks consumed by your students (drinkers only), compared to the average drinks consumed at peer institutions during that same three-week period.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 22)



*The date range for the above graph was selected as the peak drinking period for our national aggregate and may not represent the highest drinking days for your particular institution.*



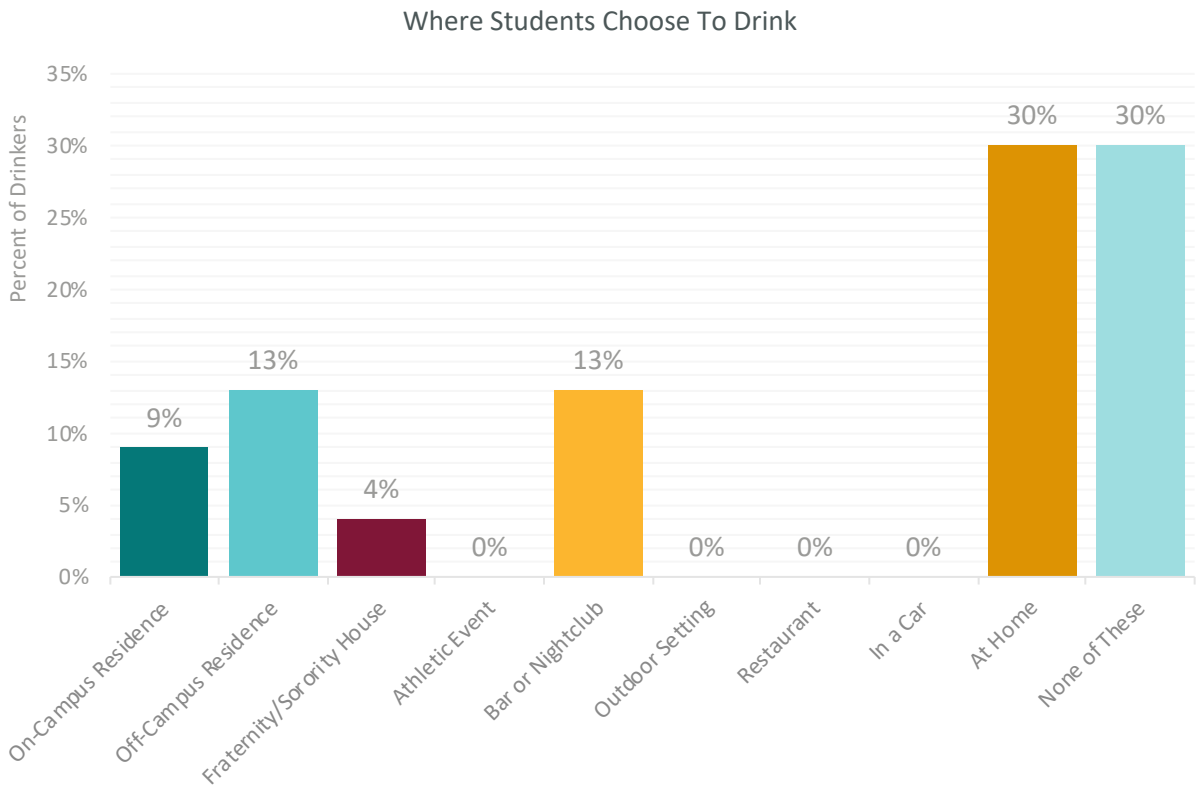
**Critical Processes Tip:** What is happening on or around your peak drinking days? Does this "pattern" seem reasonable for your campus? Can this data be used to reinforce or support other data you have collected to identify celebrations or events that encourage heavy drinking?



# Where Students Choose To Drink

The most common locations where your students reported consuming alcohol recently, among those who had a drink in the previous two weeks.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 22)



**Policy Tip:** Certain drinking locations – on campus pubs, off-campus house parties – have been shown to be associated with significant negative outcomes (EVERFI, 2012). The same study also indicated that certain locations (on-campus dances and concerts) have a greater relationship with sexual assault than other locations.

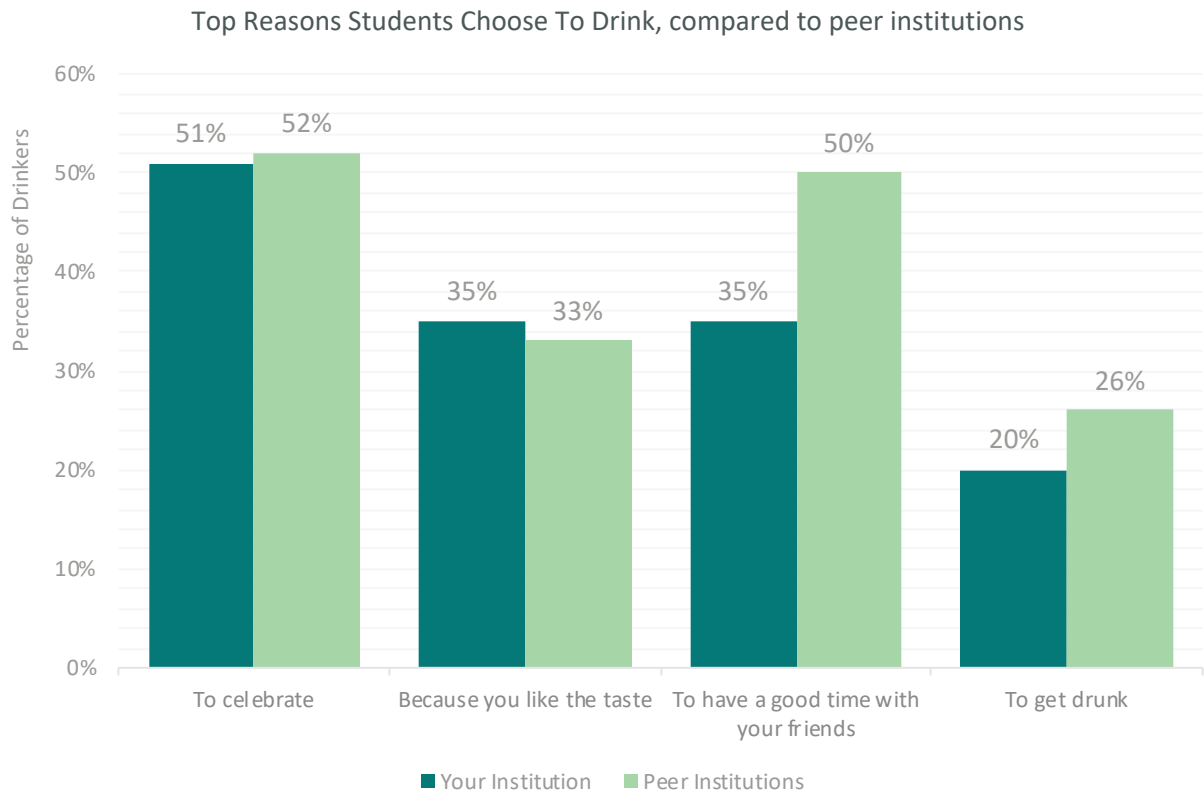
A more recent study found students living off-campus (without parents) report significantly more frequent alcohol consumption, drinking larger quantities, more frequent heavy drinking, and a greater number of negative alcohol-related outcomes than students living on-campus (Benz et al., 2017).

How can this research and drinking location data from your school inform housing and on-campus policy at your institution?

# Why Students Choose To Drink

Drinkers indicated their most important reasons for choosing to drink alcohol.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 22)



*Percentages represent responses of 5-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Not at all important).*



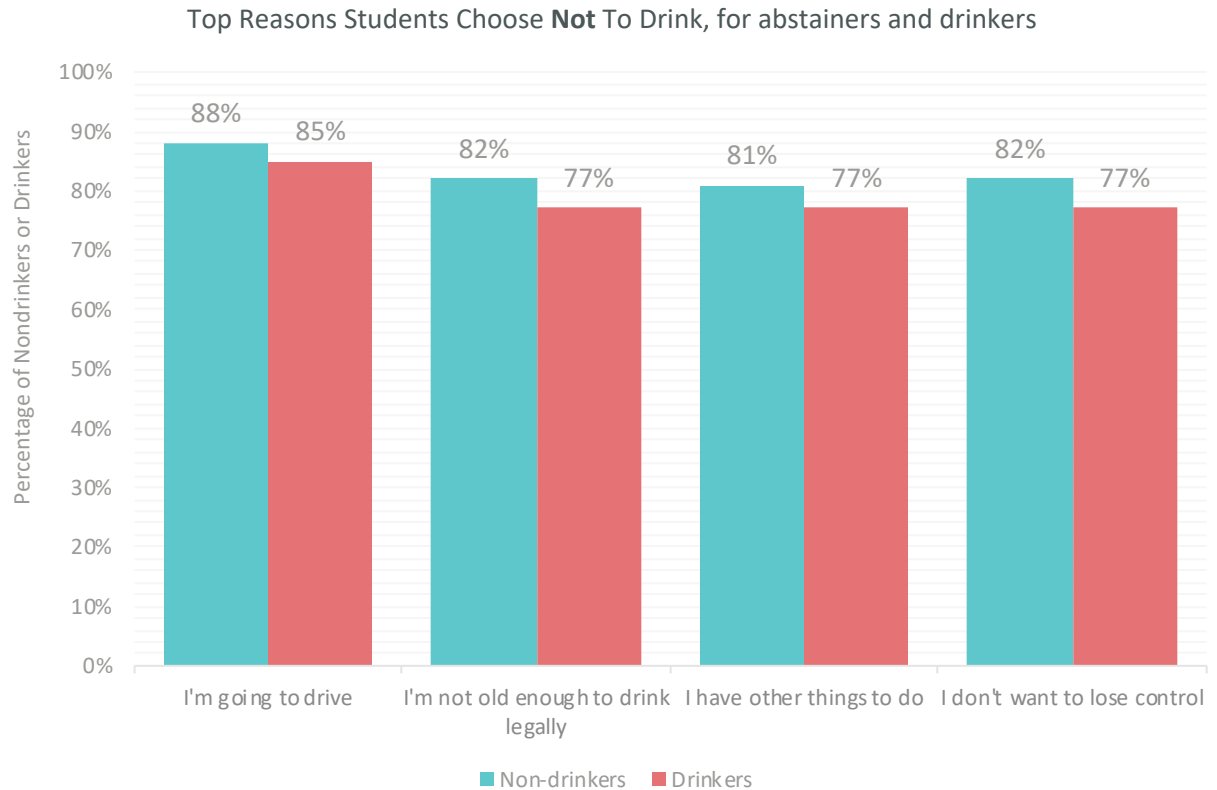
**Programming Tip:** Reasons for consuming alcohol vary greatly for institutions and across different groups of students. Consider the reasons why students are choosing to drink and investigate whether those challenges can be met with other strategies for these students.

With data available in the Higher Education Partner Center, you can also explore whether certain reasons for drinking are associated with higher-risk drinking behaviors and negative outcomes. These reasons could be candidates to target with social norm campaigns or other prevention efforts.

# Why Students Choose Not To Drink

Both drinkers and nondrinkers indicated their most important reasons for choosing whether or not to drink alcohol.

(Follow-Up Survey, nondrinkers, n = 124 and drinkers, n = 22)



Percentages represent responses of 5-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Not at all important).



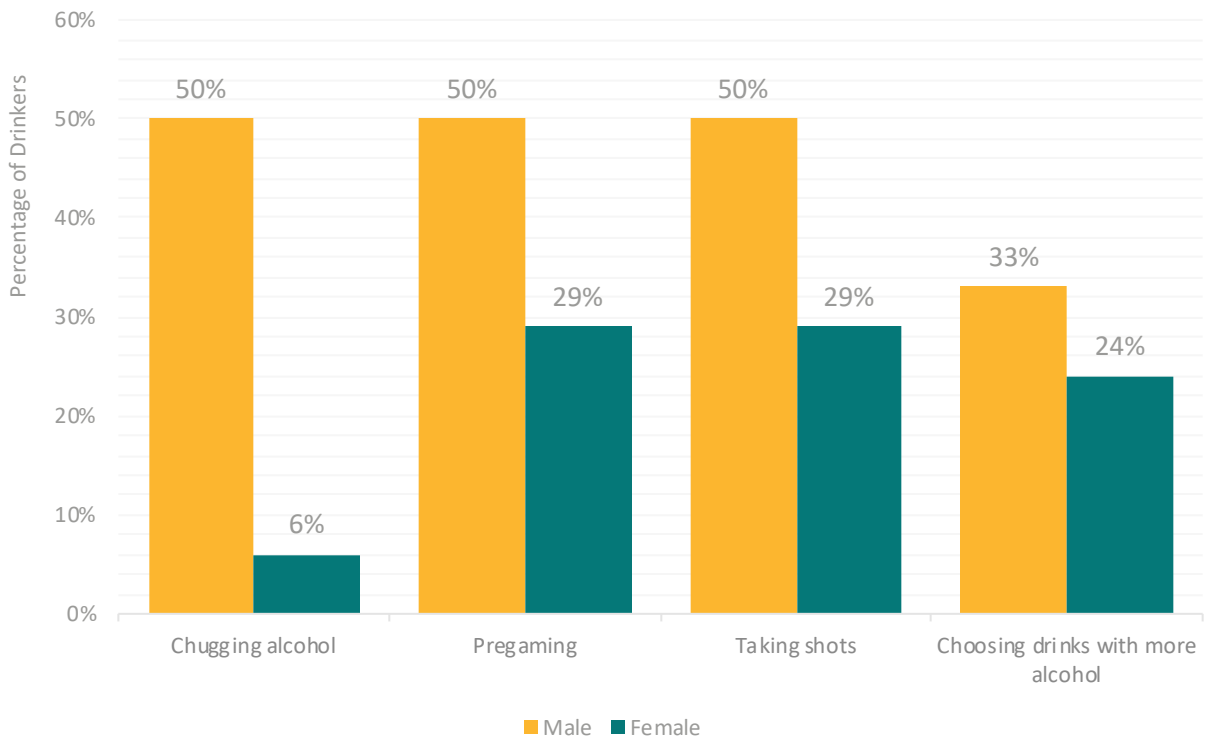
**Programming Tip:** “It would be far easier to increase the salience of existing reasons that drinkers have for restricting their alcohol use than to win their endorsement of still additional reasons that are primarily endorsed by abstainers (Huang et al., 2011).” Which reasons are most endorsed by drinkers on your campus? By nondrinkers? Consider those when designing campaigns focused on behavioral decision making for each of these groups of students.

# High-Risk Drinking Behaviors

These are some of the most common risk-related drinking behaviors reported by your students who had a drink in the two weeks prior to survey.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 22)

Top Four High Risk Behaviors, by identity



*Percentages represent responses of 5-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Never engaged).*



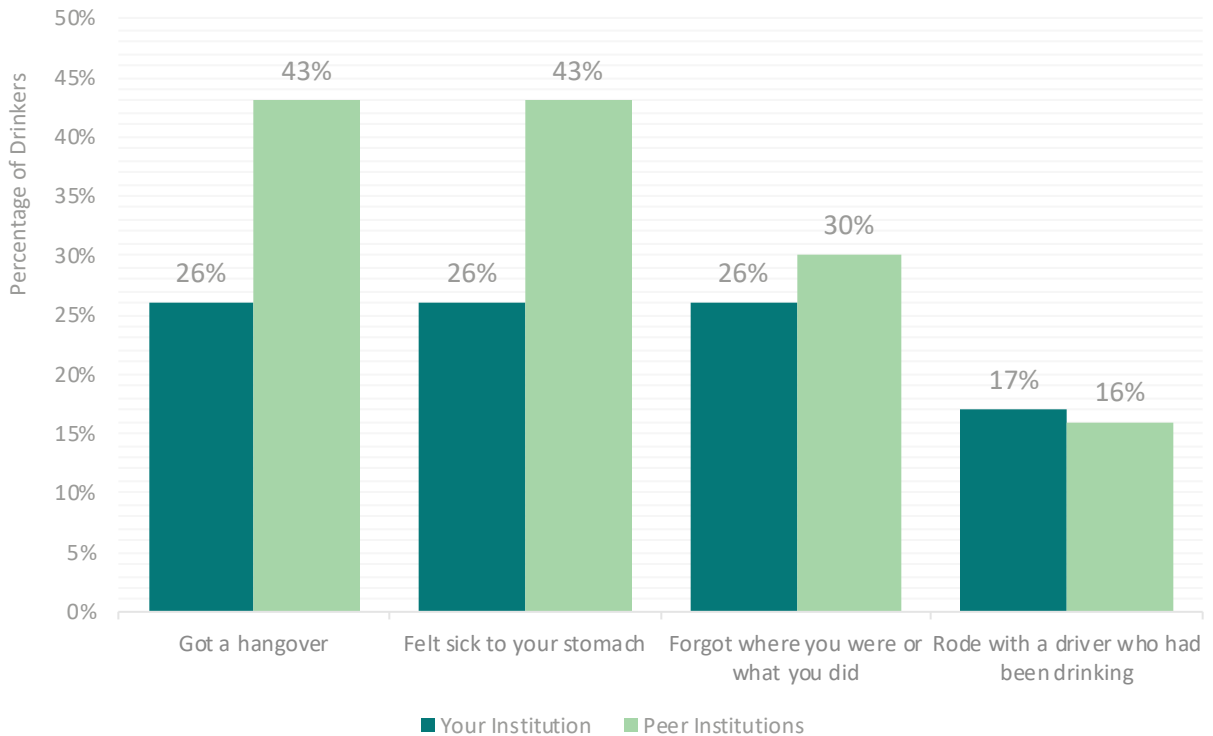
**Programming Tip:** More than other high-risk behaviors, pre-gaming has been shown to have a predictive relationship with a variety of negative outcomes (EVERFI, 2012). As such, participation in pre-gaming can potentially be used as a marker to identify students who are more likely to be at risk for experiencing negative outcomes.

# Impact of High-Risk Drinking

Students who reported drinking in the past two weeks experienced the following as a result of their drinking.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 22)

Top Negative Outcomes Experienced, compared to peer institutions



Percentages represent responses of 2-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Never experienced).



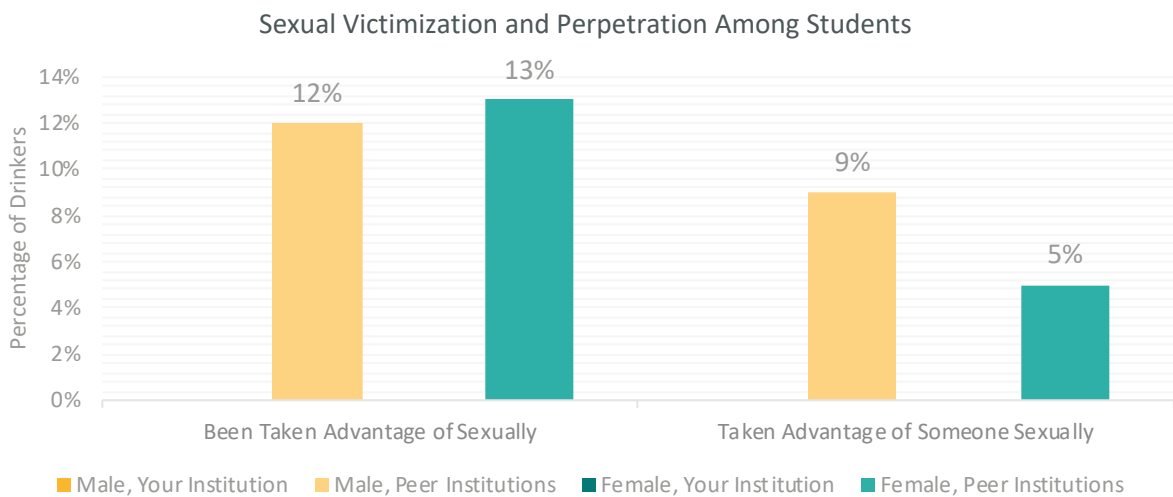
**Programming Tip:** The AlcoholEdu Partner Guide provides recommendations for campus programs that reinforce course content. It includes sample discussion topics and activities designed for use by trained facilitators, including ways to reduce the risk of experiencing negative outcomes.

For more on this topic: Download the AlcoholEdu Partner Guide from the Higher Ed Partner Center Resources Tab.

# Student Drinking and Sexual Assault

Students with unhealthy attitudes about sexual violence report higher rates of alcohol use. Students who drank in the past two weeks reported that the following occurred in conjunction with their drinking.

(Follow-Up Survey, drinkers only, n = 22)



*Percentages represent responses of 2-7 on 7-point Likert scale (1=Never experienced).*

Students with unhealthy attitudes regarding sexual violence:

- Are much more likely to perpetrate sexual assault
- Have higher rates of alcohol use (frequency and quantity)
- Are much more likely to experience alcohol-related problems

“The fact that alcohol consumption and sexual assault frequently co-occur does not demonstrate that alcohol causes sexual assault.”

—ABBEY, 2008



**Critical Processes Tip:** It is important to think about how we effectively identify and intervene with students at risk for being victimized or perpetrating sexual assault using the resources available, including this survey data available through the Higher Education Partner Center.

# Engaging Your Students

## Student Engagement

### Abstaining Students

39 students would like to be contacted by your school to learn more about connecting with other students who are interested in a social life that isn't focused around alcohol. [View](#) | [Export](#)

### Recovery Support

26 students would like to be contacted by your school to learn more about alcohol and other drug addiction recovery related programs and services available on your campus. [View](#) | [Export](#)

### Entire Community

48 students would like to get more involved in setting their own campus policies or improving the campus social climate. ([View](#) | [Export](#))  
161 students would like to attend events that do not focus on alcohol. ([View](#) | [Export](#))  
71 students would like to plan events that do not focus on alcohol. ([View](#) | [Export](#))

*Screenshot from the Student Engagement Report in the Higher Education Partner Center.*

Effective prevention includes actively engaging students to reinforce positive behavioral intentions of all students: drinkers and nondrinkers alike.

A growing number of students arriving on campus choose to regularly abstain from alcohol use. Research has shown that these students are more likely to be successful in their commitment to not drink if they are able to connect with like-minded peers. AlcoholEdu for College provides campuses with a unique tool to identify and assist students with that process. At Valdosta State University, 12 have opted in to be contacted by your institution about connecting peers who are interested in a social life that isn't focused on alcohol.

AlcoholEdu for College also enables students to indicate their interest in learning more about a school's programs and services to support recovery from alcohol or other substance use disorders. Whether seeking information for themselves, a friend, or a family member, students may opt in to

be connected with available resources.

So far 44 have expressed interest in planning or attending alcohol-free activities at your institution or helping to review/revise campus policies regarding alcohol. These students can be a valuable resource for making a positive impact on their peers and for creating a climate of health and safety at your institution.

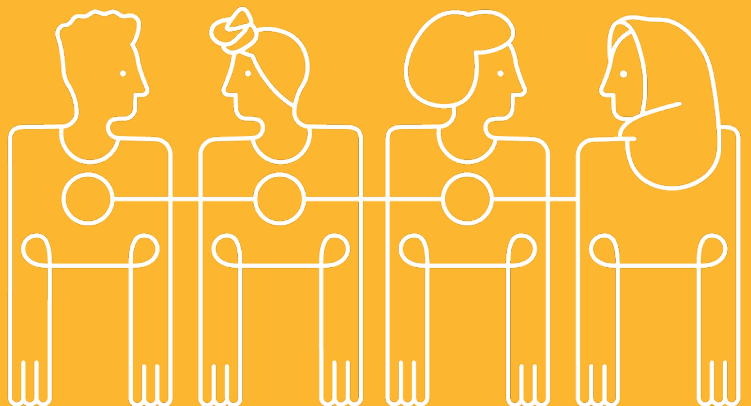


**Programming Tip:** Your students provided their names and email addresses in order to be contacted regarding any or all of these opportunities, and also indicated which specific types of alcohol-free activities they are most interested in attending. All student lists can be downloaded from the Higher Education Partner Center. We also recommend looking to the AlcoholEdu for College Partner Guide as a resource for ways to utilize this student engagement data.

# AlcoholEdu for College.

## *Appendix – Student Demographics*

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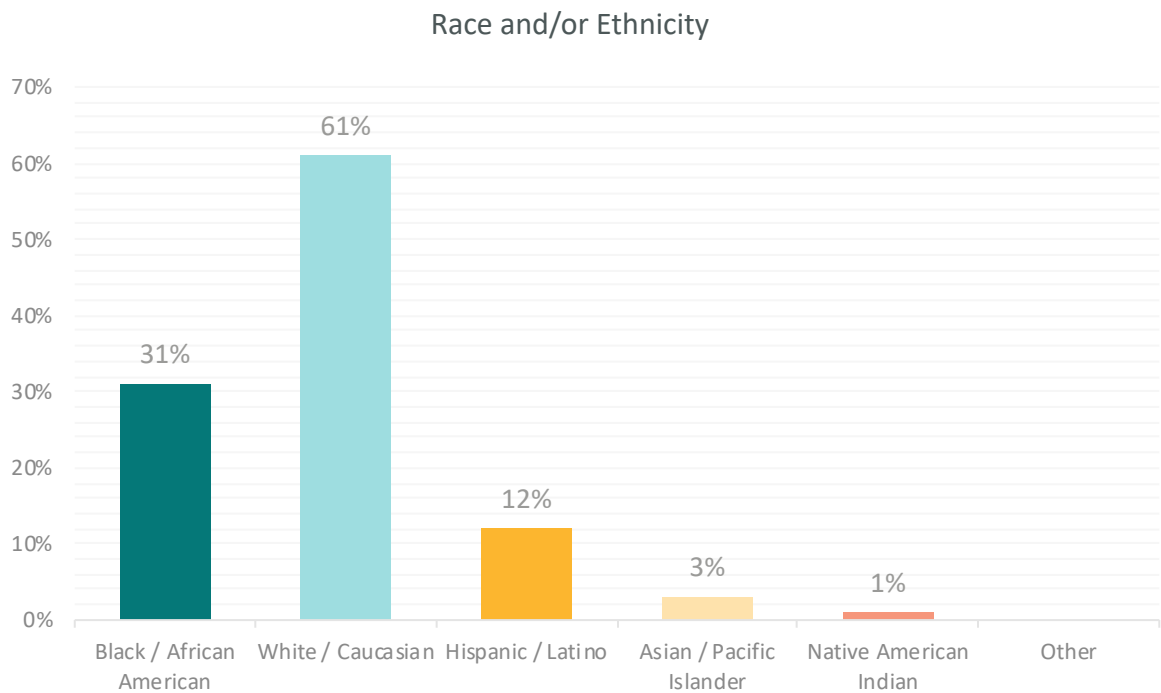




## Student Demographics

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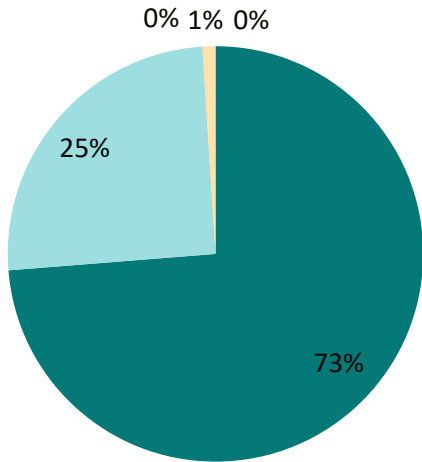
The following is a summary of the demographics of students who participated in AlcoholEdu this year. Demographic information is self-reported by students as part of pre-course survey. All questions are optional, and students may choose not to share demographic information.



*Students could select more than one response; bars may sum > 100%.*

## Student Demographics (Continued)

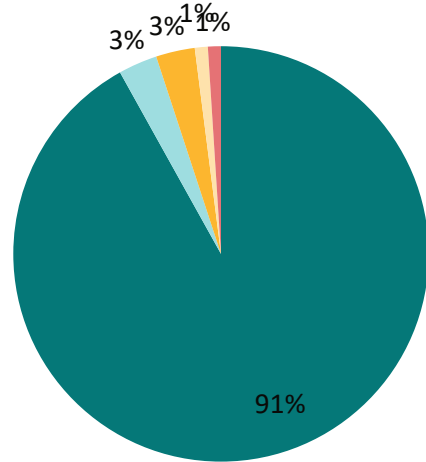
Gender Identity



Female	73%	Male	25%
Transgender	0%	Other	1%
Prefer not to answer	0%		

*'Other' includes students who selected Genderqueer, Gender-nonconforming, or Not listed.*

Year in School



Freshman	91%	Sophomore	3%
Junior	3%	Senior	1%
Other	1%		

*'Other' includes students who selected Graduate student, Continuing education student, Certificate program, Other, or Not a student.*



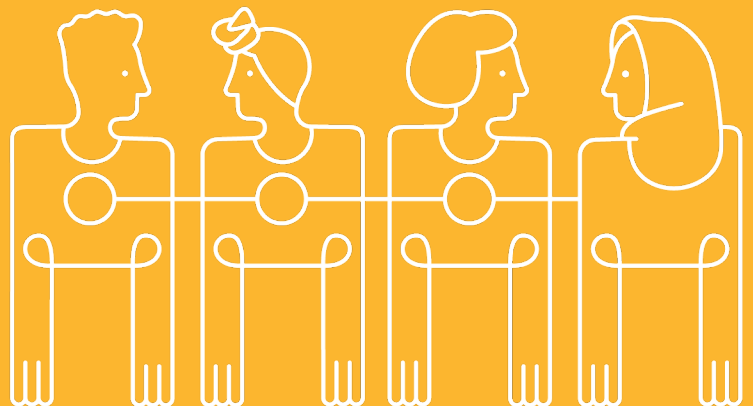
**Critical Processes Tip:** Does this data reflect the overall demographic makeup of your students assigned to take AlcoholEdu? Demographic data can be used to identify challenges for underrepresented populations. You will see some demographic comparisons in this report and to further explore demographic differences, access your detailed data in the Higher Education Partner Center.

Additional demographics available to explore include: sexual orientation, age, current residence type, membership in student clubs or activities.

# Alcohol Edu for College

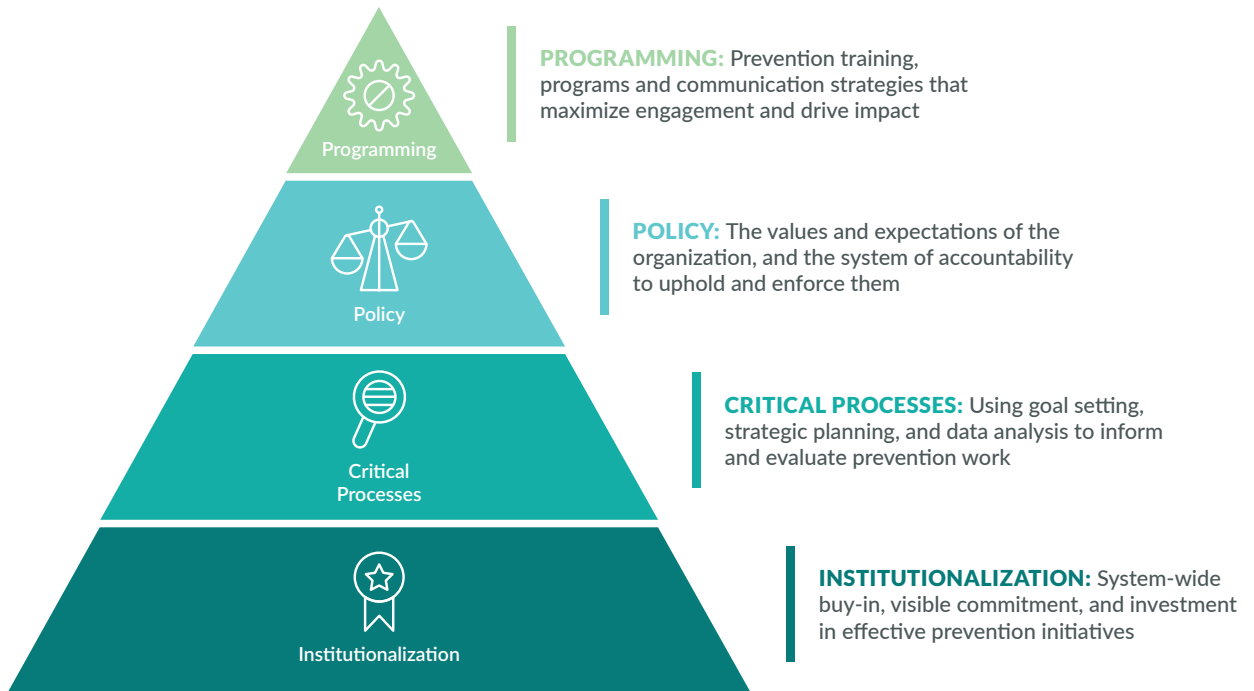
*Supplemental Information*

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# Prevention Framework

The Prevention Framework, developed by EVERFI's Campus Prevention Network, defines the elements of a comprehensive approach to prevention, and the ways in which those elements build to an effective prevention program.



# About AlcoholEdu for College

## The Benefits of Working with EVERFI

- **Proven Efficacy:** Nine independent studies have been published demonstrating the efficacy of EVERFI online programs. Our approach improves knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors.
- **True Expertise:** Our team includes public health professionals, administrators from student affairs, campus prevention offices, legal experts, and more. Extend your team by partnering with ours.
- **Beyond Compliance:** Our online programs are built by prevention and compliance experts to meet and exceed requirements from Title IX, Clery Act, and EDGAR part 86.
- **Data Driven:** Our data and analytics provide real-time access to attitudinal and behavioral data from your unique populations, and national benchmarks to assess needs and strengths.

## AlcoholEdu for College

- Developed in collaboration with leading prevention experts and researchers.
- Interactive content guided by recommendations from the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA).
- Informed by emerging research on evidence-based practice (e.g., social norms approach, bystander intervention).
- Cited as a top-tier strategy by NIAAA in their CollegeAIM Matrix.
- Most widely used universal online AOD prevention program since its development in 2000.



# AlcoholEdu for College Course Map

Part 1	<b>1. Getting Started</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory Video</li> <li>• Custom Welcome Letter</li> <li>• Custom Welcome Video</li> </ul>	<b>2. Standard Drink</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Alcohol Knowledge Interviews</li> <li>• Pre-Assessment</li> <li>• Standard Drink Definition</li> <li>• Identifying Standard and Non-Standard Drinks</li> <li>• Pouring Standard Drinks</li> </ul>	<b>Survey 1</b>		<b>3. Where Do You Stand?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Factors &amp; Choices</li> <li>• You Are Not Alone/Benefits of Not Drinking/Calories &amp; Cash/Support for Your Choice</li> <li>• Your Drinking Profile/ Your Peak BAC/Reducing Your BAC/Drinking Consequences/Calories &amp; Cash/Your Drinking Habits</li> </ul>
	<b>4. Goal Setting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What's Important to You?</li> <li>• What Do You Want to Focus on this Year</li> <li>• My Choices</li> </ul>	<b>5. Drinking &amp; Motivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What Do You Think?</li> <li>• Factors That Can Influence Decisions</li> <li>• Why/Why Not Drink? Poll</li> <li>• Expectancy Theory &amp; Advertising</li> <li>• Ads Appealing to Men/Women</li> <li>• Alcohol &amp; Advertising Poll</li> <li>• Write a Tagline</li> </ul>	<b>6. Brain &amp; Body</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BAC Basics</li> <li>• What Factors Affect BAC</li> <li>• Risk/Protective Factors</li> <li>• BAC Calculator</li> <li>• Marijuana &amp; Drugs</li> <li>• Sexual Assault &amp; Understanding Consent</li> <li>• Brain &amp; Body Science</li> <li>• Biphasic Effect</li> <li>• A BAC Story</li> </ul>		<b>7. My Action Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drinker/NonDrinker Plan</li> <li>• Choose Your Strategies</li> <li>• Activities on Campus</li> </ul>
	<b>8. Laws &amp; Policies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol Related Laws</li> <li>• Campus Policies</li> <li>• Drinking &amp; Driving</li> </ul>	<b>9. Helping Friends</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking Care of Yourself &amp; Others</li> <li>• Alcohol Poisoning</li> <li>• Helping Your Friends Poll</li> <li>• Drinking &amp; Driving</li> <li>• Getting Help</li> </ul>	<b>Exam</b>		<b>Intercession</b>
Part 2	<b>10. Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Back</li> </ul>	<b>Survey 3</b>		<b>11. Recognizing Problems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking Care of Yourself &amp; Others – The Roommate</li> </ul>	<b>12. Course Conclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of Key Topics</li> <li>• Review Goals, Choices and Plan</li> </ul>

# Report References & Resource Links

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## Report References

### Slide: The Importance of Behavioral Intentions

Ajzen, I. (1991). The theory of planned behavior. *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 50, 179-211.

### Slide: Where Students Drink

EVERFI analysis of data from AlcoholEdu for College national database, 2012.

Benz, M. B., DiBello, A. M., Balestrieri, S. G., Miller, M. B., Merrill, J. E., Lowery, A. D., ... & Carey, K. B. (2017). Off-campus residence as a risk factor for heavy drinking among college students. *Substance use & misuse*, 52(9), 1236-1241.

### Slide: Why Students Choose Not to Drink

Huang, J-H, DeJong W, Schneider SK, & Towvim, LG. (2011). Endorsed reasons for not drinking alcohol: A comparison of college student drinkers and abstainers. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 34, 64-73.

### Slide: High-Risk Drinking Behaviors

EVERFI analysis of data from AlcoholEdu for College national survey database, 2012.

### Slide: The Role of Alcohol in Sexual Assault

Parkhill, M.R., & Abbey, A. (2008). Does alcohol contribute to the confluence model of sexual assault perpetration? *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, 27:6, 529-554.

## Resource Links

### Higher Education Partner Center

<https://admin.everfi.net/hepc>

### AlcoholEdu for College Partner Guide

[www.everfi.com/AlcoholEduPartnerGuide](http://www.everfi.com/AlcoholEduPartnerGuide)

### Join the Campus Prevention Network

<https://everfi.com/networks/campus-prevention-network/join-the-network/>

## **Appendix B**



# **VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY**



## **ANNUAL SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORT**

**2019**

Dear Student, Faculty and Staff member;

Valdosta State University (VSU) is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, faculty, staff and visitors. One way with which we can achieve a safe and secure environment is through transparency. As such, the Department of Public Safety has prepared the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report.

This report will provide you with information on safety and security of the VSU Campus. Inside you will find information on the Department of Public Safety, our policies and procedures for reporting crime, crime prevention programs, victim assistance services, fire safety, and other material to assist you. This report is provided in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) and the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA).

Valdosta State takes campus safety very seriously and is committed to our efforts to maintain a safe, secure environment for our students, faculty, staff and visitors. You are encouraged to read this report and use the report to assist in providing for your continual safety. Your personal safety is a priority at VSU. Maintaining a safe campus requires a dedicated partnership between the members of the University community and the Department of Public Safety.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. We need your partnership and assistance to keep VSU a safe place to live, work, and learn.

Respectfully,

C. Alan Rowe, M.S.  
Director of Public Safety  
Chief of University Police

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## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT**

Valdosta State University is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of the institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent Executive Orders as well as Title IX, Equal Pay Act of 1963, Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

# ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT

## REPORTING CRIMES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

The University has a number of ways for campus community members and visitors to report crimes, serious incidents, and other emergencies to appropriate University officials. Regardless of how and where you decide to report these incidents, it is critical for the safety of the entire University community that you immediately report all incidents to the Valdosta State University Police (229-259-5555) to ensure an effective investigation and appropriate follow-up actions, including issuing Crime Alerts or emergency notifications.

### **Voluntary, Confidential Reporting**

When crimes are not reported, little can be done to help the victim or other members of the community who could also become victims. We encourage Valdosta State University community members to report crimes promptly and to participate in and support crime prevention efforts. The University community becomes safer when all community members participate in safety and security initiatives.

If you are the victim of a crime or want to report a crime you are aware of, but do not want to pursue action within the University or criminal justice systems, we ask that you consider filing an online Silent Witness report. This allows members of the campus to report incidents directly to the Police Department. It must be noted that without the name of the person reporting or a witness to corroborate a complaint, possible sanctions against the offender may be limited or non-existent. But using this form can allow for the information to be used in crime prevention efforts and does not prohibit including one's name or information that could lead to assisting the campus. The Silent Witness report form can be found and accessed at: <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/forms/vsu-police-department-silent-watch-form.php>.

Under the State of Georgia Open Records Act, government documents and information, including original police reports, are subject to release and public inspection. In addition, reports of sexual harassment and acts of sexual violence require the notification of Valdosta State University's Title IX Coordinator under federal regulation.

If a reporting person would like the details of an incident to be kept confidential, they may speak with a licensed professional counselor or health service provider on campus. They may also contact off-campus resources such as licensed professional counselors, local rape crisis counselors, domestic violence resources, local and state assistance agencies or clergy/chaplains/pastoral counselors. Information shared with these on or off campus sources

will maintain confidentiality except in extreme cases of immediate threat, danger or abuse of a minor.

Counselors or Pastoral care providers are requested to advise anyone seeking their assistance of the anonymous reporting resources of the VSU Police Department and these may also submit anonymous, aggregate statistical information for inclusion in the Clery Act reports unless they believe it could be harmful to the specific client, patient or parishioner.

Anyone may call the Valdosta State University Police at 229-259-5555 to report concerning information. Callers may remain anonymous.

### **Reporting to University Police**

We encourage all members of the University community to report all crimes and other emergencies to the Valdosta State University Police in a timely manner. The University Police have a dispatch center that is available by phone at 229-259-5555 or in person twenty-four hours a day at the Oak Street Parking Deck, 2nd floor, 1410 North Oak Street, Valdosta, GA. Though there are many resources available, University Police should be notified of any crime, whether or not an investigation continues, to ensure the University can assess any and all security concerns and inform the community if there is a significant threat to the Valdosta State University community.

### **Emergency Phones**

The University has emergency phones at strategic locations on the University campus. Emergency phones provide direct communications to the University Police Dispatch Center. The caller can maintain contact with the dispatcher until the police arrive at their location. VSU Police personnel make routine checks to ensure the phones are operating properly. Please visit:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/safety/>

### **Anonymous Reporting**

The University Police's Silent Witness reporting program can be found and accessed through the Department's website: <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/forms/vsu-police-department-silent-watch-form.php>.

### **Reporting to Other Campus Security Authorities**

While Valdosta State University prefers that community members promptly report all crimes and other emergencies directly to the University Police at 229-259-5555 or to local police agencies through 911, we also recognize that some may prefer to report to other individuals or University offices. The Clery Act recognizes certain University officials and offices as "Campus Security Authorities (CSA)." The Act defines these individuals as being an "official of

an institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings. An official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution.”

While the University has identified several hundred CSAs, we officially designate the following offices as places where campus community members should report crimes:

Official	Campus Address	Telephone Number
University Police Department	1410 North Oak Street 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Deck	229-259-3333 229-333-7816
Vice President for Student Affairs	Student Union Suite 3106	229-333-5941
Director of Human Resources	University Center Entrance 5	229-333-5709
Office of Student Conduct	Student Union Suite 3106	229-333-5941
Office of Legal Affairs	Room 1100 Powel Hall, West	229-333-5351
Office of Housing & Residence Life, including all RAs, GAs, & ACs	1226 Hopper Hall	229-333-5920

### **Pastoral and Professional Counselors**

According to the Clery Act, pastoral and professional counselors who are appropriately credentialed and hired by Valdosta State University to serve in a counseling role are not considered Campus Security Authorities when they are acting in the counseling role. As a matter of policy, the University encourages pastoral and professional counselors to notify those whom they are counseling of the voluntary, confidential reporting options available to them.

### **It’s Up to Each of Us**

The University takes great pride in the community and offers students, faculty and staff many advantages. This community is a great place to live, learn, work and study. However, this does

not mean that the campus community is immune from all of the other adverse circumstances that arise in other communities. With that in mind, Valdosta State University has taken progressive measures to create and maintain a reasonably safe environment on campus.

Though the University is progressive with its policies, programs, and education, it is up to each one of us to live with a sense of awareness and use reasonable judgment when living, working and visiting on campus.



## **PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT AND DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS**

The University Police prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act using information maintained by University Police, information provided by other University offices such as Student Affairs, Residence Life, other Campus Security Authorities and information provided by local law enforcement agencies surrounding the main campus. Each of these offices provide updated policy information and crime data for inclusion in this report.

This report provides statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings or property owned, leased or controlled by Valdosta State University. This report also includes institutional policies regarding sexual assault, alcohol and other drugs.

The University distributes a notice of the availability of this Annual Security and Fire Safety report by October 1 of each year to every member of the University community. Anyone, including prospective students and employees, may obtain a paper copy of this report by contacting the University Police at 229-333-7816 or by visiting on-line at:

<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/>.

## **ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY**

The University Police Department protects and serves the Valdosta State community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Department is responsible for a number of campus safety and security programs including Emergency Management, community Safety and Security education, physical security, behavioral/physical threat assessment, special event management and security technology.

The Department is comprised of:

- 29 State Certified Police Officers
- 6 Communications Officers
- 1 Records/Evidence Custodian
- 1 Administrative Assistant.

The police officers at Valdosta State University Police Department:

- Have a minimum of a G.E.D. or High School Diploma and all are offered the opportunity to attend classes at the University. The department has many officers who have obtained their undergraduate and graduate degrees from Valdosta State University and others who are currently working on their degrees,
- Complete a mandatory State Police Certification course which is required by all police officers in the state of Georgia,
- Receive a minimum of 20 hours per year of in-service training certified by the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training Council to include the areas of firearms re-qualifications, use of force, hazardous materials, emergency first aid, CPR/AED, weapons and tactics,
- University Police officers are authorized under Georgia O.C.G.A. 20-3-72 to make arrests on, and within 1500 feet of any property owned or controlled by the Board of Regents within the State of Georgia. Our officers have the same authority as municipal police officers in Georgia being authorized to carry firearms and empowered to make arrests. All criminal incidents are investigated by the University Police on the Valdosta State University campus and if necessary mutual aid may be obtained from the local police agencies to include the Valdosta Police Department, Lowndes County Sheriff's Department, Remerton City Police and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. All crimes that occur on campus or University property shall be reported to the University Police department.

The mission of the Valdosta State University Police Department is to preserve a safe and secure campus environment where diverse social, cultural, and academic values are allowed to

develop and prosper through a combination of reactive, proactive, and educational law enforcement services.

### **Working Relationship with Local, State, and Federal law Enforcement Agencies**

The University Police maintains a cooperative relationship with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the Valdosta Police Department, the Lowndes County Sheriff's Department and surrounding police agencies. This includes inter-operative radio capability and a joint police records computer system, training programs, special events coordination and investigation of serious incidents.

The Valdosta State University Police department participates in an Inter-municipal Mutual Aid Agreement that authorizes police officers and supervisors of the participating agencies to request mutual aid for incidents based upon a reasonable belief that such aid will enhance the public's and/or officer safety and efficiency. The agencies participating in the Agreement include the Valdosta City Police Department and the Lowndes County Sheriff's Department. The agreement also allows for joint training and cooperation on other matters, such as pre-planned large-scale special events, amongst the participating agencies.

### **Crimes Involving Student Organizations at Off-Campus Locations**

Valdosta State University relies on its close working relationships with local law enforcement agencies to receive information about incidents involving Valdosta State University students and recognized student organizations, on and off campus. In coordination with local law enforcement agencies, the University Police will actively investigate certain crimes occurring on or near campus. If the University Police learn of criminal activity involving students or student organizations, it will coordinate with the appropriate external law enforcement agency to forward information about the situation to the Office of Student Conduct, as appropriate.

The University requires all recognized student organizations to abide by federal, state, and local laws, and University regulations. The University may become involved in the off-campus conduct of recognized student organizations as provided for in the Student Code of Conduct located at:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-handbook.php>

## **TIMELY WARNING REPORTS – CRIME ALERTS**

In an effort to provide timely notice to the campus community in the event of a Clery Act crime that may pose a serious or ongoing threat to members of the community, the University Police issues “Crime Alerts.” The University Police will generally issue Crime Alerts for the following crimes: arson; aggravated assault; criminal homicide; robbery; burglary; sexual assaults; and hate crimes. University Police will post these warnings through a variety of ways, including but not limited to posters, e-mails, and media. The University also has the ability to send text message alerts to those who register their cell phone and/or home numbers through the University’s Banner system. Text messaging and a network rolling computer banner may also be utilized for these alerts to the campus community.

The purpose of these Crime Alerts is to notify the campus community of the incident and to provide information that may enable community members to protect themselves from similar incidents. Such crimes include but are not limited to: 1) Clery Act crimes that are reported to any campus security authority or the local police; or 2) the University determines that the incident represents an on-going threat to the campus community.

Additionally, the University Police may, in some circumstances, issue Crime Alerts when there is a pattern of crimes against persons or property. At Valdosta State University, the Chief of University Police will generally make the determination, in consultation with other University offices, if a Crime Alert is required. For incidents involving off-campus crimes, the University may issue a Crime Alert if the crime occurred in a location used and frequented by the University population.

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES**

The Emergency Management Coordinator, located in the University Police Department, is responsible for the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). This plan is designed to be an all-hazards disaster response and emergency management plan that complies with FEMA guidelines for Higher Education that includes planning, mitigation, response, and recovery actions.

Our priorities are:

- Life safety, infrastructure integrity, and environmental protection during an emergency
- Coordination with the university departments to write, maintain, test and exercise the CEMP
- Cooperation, Integration, and Mutual Aid with local, state and federal planning, response and public safety agencies and their CEMPS.

A summary of the University's current emergency response procedures is located at: <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/emergency/emergency-quick-reference-guide.php>. Included at this web page is detailed information regarding the University's emergency notification policy, including how to enroll in the emergency notification system to ensure you receive emergency notices on University and cellular phones.

### **Drills, Exercises and Training**

Annually, the University conducts an emergency management exercise to test emergency procedures. The scenarios for these exercises change from year-to-year and include several departments from across the campus.

To ensure the University's emergency management plans remain current and actionable, the University will conduct an emergency management exercise, at least a once a year. These exercises may include tabletop drills, emergency operations center exercises, or full-scale emergency response exercises. The University conducts after-action reviews of all emergency management exercises.

In conjunction with at least one emergency management exercise each year, the University will notify the community of the exercise and remind the community of the information included in the University's publicly available information regarding emergency response procedures at:

<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/safety/welcome.php>.

## **Emergency Notification**

Valdosta State University is committed to ensuring that the campus community receives timely, accurate, and useful information in the event of a significant emergency or dangerous situation on campus or in the local area that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of campus community members. Valdosta State University uses the emergency notification known as RAVE. RAVE is an emergency notification service available to students, staff, and anyone in the University community who wants to subscribe. RAVE can be used to send emergency messages within minutes of the occurrence of an incident. These messages may go out as text messages, emails, RSS feeds (banner) across the home page on the University's network or via recorded messages.

Valdosta State University performs a University-wide annual test of the system. The following procedures outline the process the University uses when issuing emergency notifications.

### **Procedures Used to Notify the Campus Community**

In the event of a situation that poses an immediate threat to members of the campus community, the University has various systems in place for communicating information quickly. Some or all of these methods of communication may be activated in the event of emergency notification to all or a segment of the campus community. These methods of communication include the mass notification system, RAVE, the University's e-mail system, and verbal announcement within a building and public address system on police cars. The University will establish a telephone call-in center to communicate with the University community during an emergency situation.

### **Confirming the existence of a Significant Emergency or Dangerous Situation and Initiating the Emergency Notification System**

The Department of Police and Public Safety and/or other campus first responders may become aware of a critical incident or other emergency situation that potentially affects the health and/or safety of the campus community. Generally, campus first responders become aware of these situations when they are reported to the Police Dispatch Center or upon discovery during patrol or other assignments.

Once first responders confirm that there is, in fact, an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the campus community, first responders will notify supervisors in the Campus Police Department or other authorized University office to issue an emergency notification.

The University's authorized representatives will immediately initiate all or some portions of the University's emergency notification system. If, in the professional judgment of first responders, issuing a notification potentially compromises efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency, the University may elect to delay issuing an emergency notification. As soon as the condition that may compromise efforts is no longer present, the University will issue the emergency notification to the campus community.

### **Determining the Appropriate Segment or Segments of the Campus Community to Receive an Emergency Notification**

University and/or local first responders on the scene of a critical incident or dangerous situation will assist those preparing the emergency notification with determining what segment or segments of the University community should receive the notification. Generally, the entire campus community will receive the emergency notification. In addition to the emergency notification that may be used via the University mass notification system, the University will also post applicable messages about the dangerous condition on the University homepage to ensure the rest of the campus is aware of the situation and the steps they should take to maintain personal and campus safety. If the emergency affects a significant portion of the entire campus, University officials will distribute the notification to the entire campus community.

### **Determining the Contents of the Emergency Notification**

The office responsible for issuing the emergency notification (usually the Police Communications Officer) will, in concert with the University and local first responders, determine the contents of the notification. The University has developed a variety of template messages addressing several different emergency situations. The individual authorizing the alert will select the most succinct message to convey the appropriate information to the community .

### **Procedures for Disseminating Emergency Information to the Greater Community**

In a situation where information needs to be disseminated outside of the campus, University officials will make the determination what information needs to be sent to other law enforcement agencies, radio, television and social media outlets. This function will be performed by the University Office of Communications in conjunction with the University Police.

## **Enrolling in the University's Emergency Notification System**

We encourage members of the campus community to enroll in the RAVE system by visiting <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/alert/>. We encourage University community members to regularly update their information through the same site.

## **SECURITY OF AND ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY FACILITIES**

At Valdosta State University, administrative buildings are open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Fridays. Academic buildings are scheduled to be open through a campus system based on the needs of the individual school. Access to individual classrooms and laboratories is limited to those enrolled in the courses meeting there and by the authority of the faculty person teaching the individual classes. Access to closed buildings after hours is limited by the faculty approval process.

VSU police officers are responsible for checking all university buildings and other properties daily. Campus buildings are controlled by access card reader restricted access. Plant Operations controls the opening and closing of buildings based on the needs of the faculty and special events. Many campus facilities, buildings and parking areas are under 24-hour video surveillance. Key issuance is based on employment status and the rules and regulations of the University Key Shop.

The main campus is not a gated community and during business hours many areas are open to the public. Cultural and athletic events are held in the University facilities which are open to the public along with other facilities such as the bookstore and library.

## **Special Considerations for Residence Hall Access**

At Valdosta State University, all residence halls operate under a computerized Access Control and Security Monitoring System. Identification cards are coded so that only students who are residents in a particular hall are authorized electronic access entry to that hall; the system denies entry to all unauthorized persons. When any exterior emergency exit door is left ajar, an audible alarm is activated. Residence hall staff is responsible for checking and securing doors, when needed. When a door is malfunctioning, personnel are summoned for immediate repair. Remember to lock your doors and windows. All residence hall and apartment exterior doors are equipped with locks and with crash bars to ensure a quick emergency exit.

Only residents and their invited guests are permitted in the living areas of the residence halls. It is the resident's responsibility to ensure that his/her guest is aware of the University and residence hall policies. Guests are not provided with room keys or door access cards. Guests



of the opposite sex must be escorted by a resident of the building at all times. All exterior doors are locked 24 hours a day. It is the responsibility of residents and staff members to challenge or report individuals who cannot be identified as residents or the guests of residents. When University Police receive a report of an unescorted person in a residence hall, a police officer is dispatched to identify that person.

Officers spend much of their time patrolling in and around the residence hall complexes. During the summer when groups who are not regularly associated with Valdosta State University are using the University residence halls for camps or other events, exterior doors are locked 24 hours a day. Each guest is issued an identification card that allows them access to gain entry into their assigned building. Housing and Residence Life have developed a program called HEART, Housing Engagement Action Response Team, which assist all residents with situations that may arise. These could include student lockout services, emergency maintenance issues, or conflicts that could arise. The University Police and HEART personnel are tasked with making periodic checks of the interior residence hall areas as well.

### **Security Considerations for the Maintenance of Campus Facilities**

Valdosta State University is committed to campus safety and security. At the University, locks, landscaping and outdoor lighting are designed for safety and security. Sidewalks are designed to provide well-traveled, lighted routes from parking areas to buildings and from building to building. Sidewalks and building entrances are illuminated to provide for safety and security.

Environmental and Occupational Safety, in conjunction with representatives from the Police Department, SGA, Plant Operations and Faculty Senate conduct surveys of University property each year to evaluate campus lighting. We encourage community members to promptly report any security concern, including concerns about locking mechanisms, lighting or landscaping to the University Police.

### **Student Conduct**

Valdosta State University is obligated to provide all students with the University regulations, policies, and procedures governing student conduct. Valdosta State University policies and procedures are included in the Student Code of Conduct for Students which is published on the Student Conduct Website at: <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-handbook.php>

## **CAMPUS SECURITY POLICIES, CRIME PREVENTION & SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAMS**

In addition to the many programs offered by the University Police and other University offices, the University has established a number of policies and procedures related to ensuring a reasonably safe campus community. These policies include:

### **Behavioral Intervention Team**

In order to extend our efforts on emergency preparedness and prevention, Valdosta State University has established a Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT). The objective of the BIT is to put in place a structured process for evaluating potentially threatening situations that occur at the University. This multi-disciplinary team is comprised of members from around the University community (Residence Life, Dean of Students, Counseling Center, Academic Affairs, University Police, and Student Conduct) and focus on areas of student concern. If you would like further information about the BIT please visit their website at:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/bit.php>

### **Weapons Policy**

Valdosta State University complies with all local, state and federal laws applied to firearms and weapons on campus. The possession, carrying and use of weapons, ammunition, or explosives is prohibited on University owned or controlled property. Failure to comply with the University weapons policy may result in arrest, disciplinary action from the institution, or both. Georgia law (O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1) also prohibits carrying weapons within a school safety zone, at school functions, or on a bus or other transportation furnished by a school. **(See Exemptions)**

Georgia law defines a weapon as meaning and including: any pistol, revolver, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, or any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any weapon of the like or kind.

### **Exemptions:**

**House Bill 280** was signed by Governor Deal and went into effect on July 1, 2017. It allows for anyone with a valid Georgia Weapons Carry License to carry a handgun in a concealed manner on property owned or leased by public colleges and universities, with some exceptions. Details pertaining to this bill and a video to explain the changes in the law can be located at the following website:

<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/campuscarry/>

**House Bill 792** was signed by Governor Deal which added the following to O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1, to become effective July 1, 2016. This bill permitted possession of certain electroshock devices:

“(19) Any person who is 18 years of age or older or currently enrolled in classes on the campus in question and carrying, possessing, or having under such person’s control an electroshock weapon while in or on any building or real property owned by or leased to such public technical school, vocational school, college or university or other public institution of postsecondary education; provided, however, that, if such person makes use of such electroshock weapon, such use shall be in defense of self or others. The exemption under this paragraph shall apply only to such person in regard to such electroshock weapon. As used in this paragraph, the term “electroshock weapon” means any commercially available device that is powered by electrical charging units and designed exclusively to be capable of incapacitating a person by electrical charge, including, but not limited to, a stun gun or Taser as defined in subsection (a) of Code 26 Section 16-11-106.”

This applies to commercially available devices designed exclusively to incapacitate a person by electrical charge.

## Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Programs

Valdosta State University Police Department maintains a strong working relationship with the community. This relationship includes offering a variety of safety and security programs, services and crime prevention programming to include sexual assault prevention. If you or your organization would like to request a specific program, please contact our Crime Prevention Officer, Sgt. Heidi Browning, at 229-333-7816. Below are some of the programs offered by the Police Department, Health Promotions, Social Equity, Counseling Center, Alcohol & Other Drugs and the Student Conduct office:

Program	Program Type	Coordinating Entity	Frequency
Residence Assistance Training	Alcohol and Drug Awareness	Office of Alcohol and Other Drugs	Fall & Spring
KARMA QPR Training	Peer Mentor – for RA’s and student leaders	Office of Alcohol and Other Drugs	Ongoing
CSA for Residence Life	Awareness	Police Department	Fall and upon request
Alcohol Awareness Fairs	Alcohol Awareness Presentations – Campus wide	Office of Alcohol and Other Drugs	Fall
By-Stander Intervention	Prevention Program	Joint presentation w/ campus partners	Ongoing
The Happening	Alcohol, drug, Sexual Assault, Safety Awareness	Student Affairs	Fall
New Employee & Faculty Orientation	Crime Awareness and Risk Management Training	Employee Development & Police Department	Ongoing
Title IX Awareness	Programs & Services for Sexual Assault and Harassment Victims	Department of Social Equity	Ongoing
Hazing	Awareness	Police Department	Ongoing
Safe Space Training	LGBT Issue Awareness	Office of Social Equity & Counselling Center	Ongoing
Sexual Harassment	Awareness and Prevention	Title IX Coordinator- Social Equity	Bi-Annually
Destress Fest & Depression Screening	Mental Health Awareness	Counseling Center	Annually
Active Shooter Awareness	Awareness Training	Police Department	Ongoing

International Student Orientation	Crime Awareness	Police Department	Bi-annually
Workplace Violence Awareness	Safety, Red Flags, and Prevention	Police Department	Annually
Suicide Prevention	For Students	Counselling Center	Annually
Interpersonal Violence	Academic Class	Counseling Center	Annually
Safe Dating	Prevention	Counseling Center	Annually
Sexual Assault Training	For RAs/Housing – how to respond	Counseling Center	Annually
Interpersonal Violence	Prevention	Counseling Center	Annually
Domestic Violence panel	Awareness	Counseling	Annually
Sex Signals (Consent)	Outreach	Counseling	Annually
Rape Aggression Defense	Prevention	VSU PD/KSPE	Ongoing
Mental Health Awareness	Students	Counseling Center	Ongoing
By-Stander Intervention Training	Prevention	RSVP Task Force	Ongoing
CSA Training	Awareness	VSU PD	Ongoing
Take Back The Night	Sexual Assault awareness and prevention	RSVP Task Force	Annually
Walk a Mile in Her Shoes	Awareness	Counseling & Haven	Annually
One Love	Awareness & Prevention	Joint presentation w/ campus partners	Ongoing
It's On Us	Prevention discussion	Social Equity	Annually

## **VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY'S RESPONSE TO SEXUAL AND GENDER VIOLENCE**

Valdosta State University is committed to providing a safe learning and working environment, and in compliance with federal law has adopted policies and procedures to prevent and respond to incidents of sexual violence including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. These guidelines apply to all students, faculty, staff, contractors and visitors.

### **Personal Safety**

Theft, disorderly conduct, and alcohol related offenses are very common on university campuses. However, they do not stand alone. Despite law enforcement's efforts, serious crimes do occur on campuses. It is always important to report any suspicious activity to campus police and to remain alert to your surroundings, use well-lit areas to travel and utilize the buddy system or campus escort service when alone.

On the campus, and off campus, one needs to know their surroundings, they need to be aware of where they are and who is near them, they need to be alert and call for help if needed. Reporting suspicious people or activity is important on a campus and could help alert authorities to allow for intervention to prevent a crime.

The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act requires all colleges and universities to address sexual violence. Institutions of higher education must provide educational programming for all incoming students on the issues of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. To comply with this federal mandate, Valdosta State University has partnered with EverFi, whose mission is to help students address critical skills such as alcohol abuse prevention and sexual violence awareness in institutions of higher education.

### **Defining Rape and Sexual Assault**

In Georgia, Rape is defined as when a person has carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will, or the carnal knowledge of a female who is less than ten years of age. Carnal knowledge in rape occurs when there is any penetration of the female sex organ by the male sex organ. The fact that the person allegedly raped is the wife of the defendant shall not be a defense to a charge of rape. The statistics contained in this report reflect the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting definition, which defines rape as penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person without the consent of the victim.

A sexual assault is any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent, as well as incest or statutory rape.

In Georgia, Consent is not defined in reference to sexual activity. However Valdosta State University defines Consent as: Words or actions that show a knowing and voluntary willingness to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity. Consent cannot be gained by force, intimidation or coercion, by ignoring or acting in spite of objections of another, or by taking advantage of the incapacitation of another, where the respondent knows or reasonably should have known of such incapacitation. Consent is also absent when the activity in question exceeds the scope of consent previously given. Past consent does not imply present or future consent. Silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent. Minors under the age of 16 cannot legally consent under Georgia law. Either party can withdraw consent at any time by using clear words or actions.

While these definitions are clear, victims often have difficulty reporting a sexual assault for numerous reasons such as knowing the perpetrator, fear of retaliation, fear of parents knowing about the incident, or fear of getting in trouble with law enforcement. Despite these concerns, it is vital to report such incidents in order to get help.

The following information provides steps to follow should a sexual assault occur:

- Get to a safe place as soon as possible!
- Try to preserve all physical evidence – The victim should not bathe, shower, brush teeth, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing until she/he has a medical exam. Contact a close friend or relative, if available, who can provide support and accompany the victim to the medical exam and/or police department. Advocates from the Women's Resource Center can be available to the victim to provide support.
- Get medical attention as soon as possible – An exam may reveal the presence of physical injury of which the victim is unaware. Following a sexual assault, antibiotics are typically given at the time of the exam to help prevent the victim from acquiring certain sexually transmitted diseases. Emergency contraceptive pills are offered to all victims at the time of the exam (if the victim presents within 120 hours) to help prevent pregnancy from occurring as a result of the rape. If the victim reports memory loss, loss of consciousness or other circumstances suspicious for a drug-facilitated assault, a urine test may be done if the victim presents within 96 hours. Some of the commonly used "date rape" drugs, however, are only detectable in the urine for 6-8 hours after ingestion.
- Contact the police – Sexual assault is a crime, it is vital to report it.

- It is important to remember reporting the crime is not the same as prosecuting the crime. The decision to prosecute may be made at another time. The final decision to prosecute is determined by the District Attorney.
- Consider talking to a counselor – Seeing a counselor may be important in helping the victim understand his/her feelings and begin the process of recovery.

## **Our Commitment to Addressing Sexual Assault**

All forms of harassment including but not limited to, intimidation, coercion, threats, sexual or relationship violence and any other forms of disorderly conduct e.g. bullying, sexual assault, stalking / cyber stalking, and acts of retaliation are strictly prohibited by the University and violate the Student Code of Conduct and may violate Federal and State Laws. Violations of this policy are subject to disciplinary sanctions through the Office of Student Conduct. The Code of Conduct is located at:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-handbook.php>

Please review the aforementioned web site to review procedures, policies and protocols for reporting and addressing allegations of student sexual misconduct. The University provides the following to all sexual assault victims:

- Courteous, professional assistance in taking assault reports and providing assistance to a victim/survivor with her/his safety and well-being in mind.
- Payment for a sexual assault examination either through the Haven Rape Crisis Center or SGMC.
- Counseling services are available for a victim at the time of reporting or anytime following an assault. They also can assist a student with student related matters such as working with Student Affairs or Housing.
- University police are active participants in the Lowndes County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). The department follows a strict protocol in assisting a sexual assault victim, taking reports, notifying the Haven sexual assault advocate, transporting the victim for medical services (unless an ambulance is needed) through the Haven and follow-up services as needed.
- Student Affairs is available to assist a victim with services such as room reassignment, working with faculty to assist with the student's schedule or missed classes, and if necessary assistance with withdrawal from school.
- The Title IX Coordinator can assist a student with resources and filing complaints.



# **University Procedures for Responding to Reports of Sexual Assault**

## **Reporting an Incident**

If a student, employee or visitor has been the victim of an incident of sexual violence they should immediately report it to the Valdosta State University Police Department at 229-259-5555. The department is located in the Oak Street Parking Deck at 1410 North Oak Street, Valdosta, GA. In case of an emergency or ongoing threat, if possible get to a safe location and report the incident by calling 911 local emergency police assistance or utilizing one of the campus emergency phones.

Students may also report to the Office of Student Affairs (229-333-5941), Student Conduct (229-333-5941), or any of the named Campus Security Authorities on campus. Employees may also report to Human Resources (229-333-5709) or to local law enforcement by calling 911. Valdosta State University officials will assist any victim in notifying law enforcement, including local police, if they elect to do so. Victims are also entitled not to report to law enforcement. Any student or employee, who reports an incident of sexual violence, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, shall receive an explanation of their rights and options.

A sexual assault is any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent, as well as incest or statutory rape.

## **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)**

On March 7, 2013, President Obama signed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, which amended sections of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Clery Act. The following definitions are provided to clarify VAWA related incidents:

### Domestic Violence:

Includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. Georgia law defines domestic violence under the term "family violence." The term family violence means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between past or present spouses, persons who are parents of the same child, parents and children, stepparents and stepchildren, foster parents and foster children, or other persons living or formerly living in the same household:

1. Any felony; or
2. Commission of the offenses of battery, simple battery, simple assault, assault, stalking, criminal damage to property, unlawful restraint, or criminal trespass.

Dating Violence: Means Violence committed by a person:

1. Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
2. Where the existence of such a relationship will be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
  - a) The length of the relationship
  - b) The type of relationship
  - c) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Stalking: Means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

1. Fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
2. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Georgia law further defines the offense of stalking as when a person follows, places under surveillance, or contacts another person at or about a place or places without the consent of the other person for the purpose of harassing and intimidating the other person. Under Georgia law, the term “contact” shall mean any communication including, without being limited to , communication in person, by telephone, by mail, by broadcast, by computer, by computer network, or by any other electronic device.

### **Additional Procedures Victims Should Follow**

If an incident of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking occurs it is important to preserve evidence to aid in the possibility of a successful criminal prosecution. Any clothing that has been removed which could contain evidence (blood, hair, semen) should be placed into a paper bag and given to authorities. Evidence of violence, such as bruising or other visible injuries, following an incident of domestic or dating violence should be documented including through preservation of photographic evidence. Evidence of stalking includes any communications, such as written notes, voice mail or other electronic communications that should be saved and not altered in any way.

Time is of the essence in collecting and preserving evidence. This would also refer to giving statements and obtaining statements from potential witnesses.

## **On & Off Campus Resources**

Valdosta State University, the City of Valdosta and Lowndes County all offer other important resources to the survivors of sexual violence including medical treatment, counseling and advocacy that they may wish to utilize. The VSU Counseling Center is available to assist any student or employee free of charge and will help them consider their options and navigate through any resources or recourse they may elect to pursue. A victim need not make a formal report to law enforcement or Valdosta State University to access these resources that include the following:

- Valdosta Police Department, 229-242-2606
- Remerton Police Department, 229-247-2320
- Lowndes County Sherriff, 229-671-2900
- Georgia State patrol, 229-333-5215
- Greenleaf Counseling Center, 229-247-4357
- South Georgia Medical Center, 229-333-1000
- Haven Rape Crisis Center, 229-242-1544
- Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault, 866-354-3672
- Victim Witness Services, District Attorney's Office, 229-671-3250
- Georgia Office of Victim Assistance, 404-559-4949
- Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, 800-547-0060
- Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINNE) Hotline, 800-656-HOPE
- Georgia Victim Witness Helpline, 800-338-6745
- Georgia Legal Services, 800-498-9469
- Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault, 866-354-3672
- Tapestri (a refugee and immigrant coalition against domestic violence), 404-299-2185
- National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-SAFE (7233).

## **Accommodations**

Whether or not a student or employee reports to law enforcement or pursues any formal action, if they report an incident of sexual violence Valdosta State University is committed to providing them as safe a learning or working environment as possible. Upon request, Valdosta State University will make any reasonable available change to a victim's academic, living, transportation and/or working situation. Students may contact Student Affairs 229-333-5941 for assistance, the Title IX Coordinator at 229-333-5463 and employees may contact Human Resources at 229-333-5709.

If a victim reports to law enforcement, they may assist them in obtaining a Temporary Restraining Order from a criminal court. Valdosta State University is committed to ensuring

that any such order is fully upheld on all institutionally owned and controlled property. The University is also committed to protecting victims from any further harm, and the Student Affairs Student Conduct Officer may issue a temporary no-contact order pending the outcome of any conduct proceeding.

## **University Disciplinary Procedures in Sexual Assault Incidents**

If you have been sexually assaulted, you have options for addressing the incident. You may want to discuss the situation with a counselor that can be provided by the Valdosta State University Counseling Center or a private practitioner. The University Police are always available to assist a victim with obtaining any support that he or she may need.

The University's student conduct process is designed to give a complainant (person making a charge) and a respondent (person charged) a fair, prompt and appropriate resolution through a process designed to help persons who need support as they proceed.

The Office of Student Conduct manages the resolution proceeding in which a student is an alleged perpetrator. The procedure can be found here at:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-code-of-conduct/appendix-b-student-misconduct/disciplinary-hearing-procedures-for-student-misconduct.php>.

## **Section I. Student Sexual Misconduct Code**

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), the University System of Georgia (USG) and Valdosta State University (VSU) do not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its education programs or activities or in employment. The USG and VSU are committed to ensuring a safe learning and working environment for all members of the campus community. To that end, this policy prohibits sexual misconduct as defined herein.

In order to reduce incidents of sexual misconduct, USG institutions, including VSU, are required to provide prevention tools and to conduct ongoing awareness and prevention programming and training for the campus community. Such programs will promote positive and healthy behaviors and educate the campus community on consent, nonconsensual sexual misconduct, alcohol use, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, bystander intervention, and reporting.

When sexual misconduct does occur, all members of the VSU community are strongly encouraged to report the incident promptly through the procedures outlined in this policy. The purpose of this policy is to ensure uniformity in reporting and addressing sexual misconduct.

## **Definitions and Prohibited Sexual Misconduct**

A. **Community:** Students, faculty and staff, as well as contractors, vendors, visitors, and guests.

B. **Complainant:** An individual lodging a complaint. The complainant may not always be the alleged victim.

C. **Confidential Employee:** University employees who have been designated by the Title IX Coordinator to talk with an alleged victim in confidence. Confidential employees must only report that the incident occurred and provide date, time, location, and name of alleged respondent (if known) without revealing any information that would personally identify the alleged victim. This minimal reporting must be submitted in compliance with Title IX and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act). Confidential Employees may be required to fully disclose details of an incident in or to ensure campus safety.

D. **Consent:** Words or actions that show a knowing and voluntary willingness to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity. Consent cannot be gained by force, intimidation or coercion, by ignoring or acting in spite of objections of another, or by taking advantage of the incapacitation of another, where the respondent knows or reasonably should have known of such incapacitation. Consent is also absent when the activity in question exceeds the scope of consent previously given. Past consent does not imply present or future consent. Silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent. Minors under the age of 16 cannot legally consent under Georgia law. Either party can withdraw consent at any time by using clear words or actions.

E. **Dating Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the alleged victim. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

F. **Domestic Violence:** Violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the alleged victim; by a person with whom the alleged victim shares a child in common; by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; or, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the alleged victim.

G. **Incapacitation:** The physical and/or mental inability to make informed, rational judgments, and can result from mental disability, sleep, involuntary physical restraint, or from intentional or unintentional taking of alcohol and/or other drugs. Whether someone is incapacitated is to be judged from the perspective of an objectively reasonable person.

H. **Nonconsensual Sexual Contact:** Any physical contact with another person of a sexual nature without the person's consent. Sexual contact includes but is not limited to, touching (or

penetrating) of a person's intimate parts (such as breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals); touching (or penetrating) another person with one's own intimate body parts; or forcing a person to touch his or her own or another person's intimate body parts.

I. **Privileged Employees:** Individuals employed by the institution to whom a complainant or alleged victim may talk in confidence, as provided by law. Disclosure to these employees will not automatically trigger an investigation against the complainant's or alleged victim's wishes. Privileged Employees include those providing counseling, advocacy, health, mental health, or sexual assault related services (e.g., sexual assault resource centers, campus health centers, pastoral counselors, and campus mental health centers) or as otherwise provided by law. Exceptions to confidentiality exist where the conduct involves suspected abuse of a minor (in Georgia, under the age of 18) or otherwise provided by law, such as imminent threat of serious harm.

J. **Respondent:** Individual who is alleged to have engaged in conduct that violates this policy.

K. **Responsible Employees:** Those employees who must promptly and fully report complaints of or information regarding sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Responsible Employees include any administrator, supervisor, faculty member, or other person in a position of authority who is not a Confidential Employee or Privileged Employee. Student employees who serve in a supervisory, advisory, or managerial role are in a position of authority for purposes of this policy (e.g., teaching assistants, residential assistants, student managers, orientation leaders). Responsible Employees are not required to report information disclosed at public awareness events (e.g., "Take Back the Night," candlelight vigils, protests, "survivor speak-outs" or other public forums in which students may disclose incidents of prohibited conduct).

L. **Sexual Exploitation:** Sexual exploitation occurs when an individual takes nonconsensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for his or her own advantage or benefit, or to the benefit or advantage of anyone other than the one being exploited. Examples of sexual exploitation may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Invasion of sexual privacy.
2. Prostituting another individual.
3. Nonconsensual photos, video or audio of sexual activity.
4. Nonconsensual distribution of photos, video or audio of sexual activity, even if the sexual activity was consensual.
5. Intentional observation of nonconsenting individuals who are partially undressed, naked, or engaged in sexual acts.
6. Knowingly transmitting an STD or HIV to another individual through sexual activity.

7. Intentionally and inappropriately exposing one's breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals in nonconsensual circumstances.
8. Sexually-based bullying.

**M. Sexual Harassment:** Unwelcome verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct, based on sex or gender stereotypes, that is implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of employment or status in a course, program or activity; is a basis for employment or educational decisions; or is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to interfere with one's work or educational performance creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or learning environment or limiting one's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity.

**N. Sexual Misconduct:** Includes, but is not limited to, such unwanted behavior as dating violence, domestic violence, nonconsensual sexual contact, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, and stalking.

**O. Stalking:** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others, or to suffer substantial emotional distress. Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property. Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling

## **Section II. Reporting Sexual Misconduct**

A complainant of sexual misconduct may, but need not, file a criminal complaint with law enforcement officials, file a misconduct report with a Responsible Employee or the Title IX Coordinator, or both. A report may be filed anonymously, although anonymous reports may make it difficult for the university to address the complaint. Any individual who believes that he or she is a victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report allegations of sexual misconduct promptly.

All reports of sexual misconduct alleged to have been committed by a student must be handled consistently with requirements set forth in Appendix B. Section III. Process for Investigating and Resolving Report of Student Misconduct.

All reports of sexual misconduct alleged to have been committed by a non-student member of the VSU community will be addressed and or resolved through the VSU and Board of Regents' applicable policies for discipline of non-students.

## **A. Institutional Reports**

Complainants of sexual misconduct who wish to file a report with the University should notify a Responsible Employee or the Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Maggie Viverette, in the Office of Social Equity (229) 333-5463 or email [titleix@valdosta.edu](mailto:titleix@valdosta.edu). Responsible Employees informed about sexual misconduct allegations involving any student should not attempt to resolve the situation, must notify and report all relevant information to the Title IX Coordinator as soon as practicable. Confidential employees are not bound by this requirement but may, consistent with their ethical and legal obligations, be required to report limited information about incidents without revealing the identities of the individuals involved to the Title IX Coordinator. All members of the VSU community are encouraged to report incidents of sexual misconduct promptly.

VSU has Deputy Title IX Coordinators to whom reports may be made, as well. Complainants are encouraged to report their complaints in writing, though oral complaints will also be accepted, taken seriously, and investigated, to the extent possible. While complaints should be made as quickly as possible following an alleged incident of sexual misconduct, all reports will be accepted regardless of when reported.

The Title IX Coordinator shall refer to the System Director any allegation(s) of sexual misconduct that could, standing alone as reported, lead to the suspension or expulsion of the respondent(s). The System Director will work with the institution to determine whether any interim measure(s) are necessary and to assign an investigator who will work under the direction of the System Director or designee, if directed by System Director. If an allegation is not initially identified as one that would lead to the suspension or expulsion of the respondent(s), but facts arise during the course of the investigation that would require transfer to the System Director, the Title IX Coordinator shall transfer oversight to the System Director or designee. The System Director shall have the discretion to retain oversight or transfer oversight to the institution.

## **B. Law Enforcement Reports**

Because sexual misconduct may constitute criminal activity, a complainant also has the option, should he or she so choose, of filing a report with campus or local police, for his or her own protection and that of the surrounding community. The institution may assist the complainant in reporting the incident to law enforcement officials. Complainants considering filing a report of sexual misconduct with law enforcement should preserve any evidence of sexual misconduct, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Clothing worn during the incident including undergarments;
2. Sheets, bedding, and condoms, if used;



3. Lists of witnesses with contact information;
4. Text messages, call history, social media posts;
5. Pictures of injuries;
6. Videos.

### **C. Anonymous Reports**

Reports of sexual misconduct can be reported anonymously to University Police (229) 333-7816, or the UPD website at <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/forms/vsu-police-department-silent-watch-form.php>. Anonymous reports can also be made via the Student Conduct Incident Report Form located at <https://publicdocs.maxient.com/incidentreport.php?ValdostaStateUniv> or by contacting the Dean of Students Office at (229) 333-5941, or by contacting the Title IX Coordinator at (229) 333-5463 or [titleix@valdosta.edu](mailto:titleix@valdosta.edu).

### **D. Retaliation**

Anyone who, in good faith, reports what he or she believes to be misconduct under this policy, or who participates or cooperates in, or is otherwise associated with any investigation, shall not be subjected to retaliation. Anyone who believes that he or she has been the target of retaliation for reporting, participating, cooperating in, or otherwise being associated with an investigation should immediately contact the VSU Title IX Coordinator. Any person found to have engaged in retaliation in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action.

### **E. False Complaints**

Individuals are prohibited from intentionally giving false statements to a system or institution official. Any person found to have intentionally submitted false complaints, accusations, or statements, including during a hearing, in violation of this Policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action (up to and including suspension or expulsion) and adjudicated under the student conduct policy.

### **F. Amnesty**

Individuals should be encouraged to come forward and to report sexual misconduct notwithstanding their choice to consume alcohol or to use drugs. Information reported by an individual during an investigation concerning use of drugs or alcohol will not be used against the particular individual in a disciplinary proceeding or voluntarily reported to law enforcement; however, individuals may be provided with resources on drug and alcohol counseling and/or education, as appropriate.

## **Section III. Addressing Reports of Student Sexual Misconduct**

### **A. Support Services**

Once an individual makes a complaint, receives notice that a complaint has been made against him or her, or the Title IX Coordinator otherwise learns of a complaint of sexual misconduct, the complainant, respondent and alleged victim (where applicable) will receive written information about support services, such as counseling, advocacy, housing assistance, academic support, disability services, health and mental health services, and legal services that are available on campus. Students can receive confidential counseling services on-campus through the VSU Counseling Center at no charge. In addition, the VSU Counseling Center can provide direct referrals to community based organizations that provide additional services and support. Information about support services will be provided regardless as to whether an individual elects to go forward with filing a formal complaint of sexual misconduct or with notifying law enforcement.

Information on support services will also be provided to students and employees regardless of where the alleged misconduct occurs.

### **B. Interim Measures**

Interim measures may be taken at any point after the institution becomes aware of an allegation of sexual misconduct and should be designed to protect the alleged victim and the community. Before an interim suspension is issued, the institution must make all reasonable efforts to give the respondent the opportunity to be heard consistent with the provisions in Appendix B. Section III.H. of the Student Code of Conduct.

### **C. Jurisdiction**

Valdosta State University will take necessary and appropriate action to protect the safety and well-being of its community. Accordingly, sexual misconduct allegedly committed by a student will be addressed when such misconduct occurs on University property or at University-sponsored or affiliated events, or off-campus when the misconduct otherwise violates the VSU Student Code of Conduct.

### **D. Advisors**

Both the alleged victim and respondent, as parties to the matter, shall have the opportunity to use an advisor (who may or may not be an attorney) of the party's choosing at the party's own expense for the expressed purpose of providing advice and counsel, pursuant to the provisions of Appendix B. Section IV.A.3 of the Student Code of Conduct.

## **E. Informal Resolutions**

Allegations of sexual misconduct may be resolved informally, without a determination of misconduct, if **all** of the following are met:

- 1) When complainant(s) and respondent agree to an informal resolution.
- 2) When the initial allegation could not result in expulsion.
- 3) When the complainant(s) and respondent(s) agree to the terms of the informal resolution.
- 4) When the investigator concludes that informal resolution is in the best interest of the parties and the institution's community.

The alleged victim(s) and respondent(s) have the option to end informal resolution discussions and request a formal process at any time before the terms of an informal resolution are reached. However, matters resolved informally shall not be appealable.

## **Section IV. Investigations of Institutional Reports of Student Sexual Misconduct**

### **A. Investigations**

All sexual misconduct investigations involving a student respondent, whether overseen by the institution's Title IX Coordinator or the System Director, shall follow the investigation process set forth in Appendix B. Section II. Of the Student Code of Conduct.

### **B. Timeframe**

Efforts will be made to complete the investigation within a reasonable timeframe, which will be determined based upon the allegations, availability of witnesses and/or evidence in a particular case. When the timeframe will extend past the reasonable timeframe, the parties will be informed of the delay and the reason for the delay. The investigator shall keep the parties informed of the status of the investigation.

## **Section V. Disciplinary Hearings, Sanctions and Appeals for Student Sexual Misconduct**

All sexual misconduct hearings, sanctions, and appeals involving a student respondent, whether overseen by the institution's Title IX Coordinator or the System Director, shall follow the investigation process set forth in Appendix B. Section IV. and Section V. of the Student Code of Conduct.

All sexual misconduct adjudication involving an employee respondent will be addressed utilizing the institution's employment policies and procedures.

### **Recusal/Challenge for Bias**

Any party may challenge the participation of any University official, employee or student panel member in the disciplinary process on the grounds of personal bias by submitting a written statement to the Title IX Coordinator or his/her designee, setting forth the basis for the challenge. The designee may not be the same individual responsible for investigating or adjudicating the conduct allegation. The written challenge should be submitted within a reasonable time after the individual reasonably should have known of the existence of the bias. The University designee will determine whether to sustain or deny the challenge, and if sustained, the replacement to be appointed.

In furtherance of the University's commitment for non-students, the Office of Social Equity is responsible for managing proceedings for those cases in which an employee is the respondent.

In determining whether the alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment or assault, the full context in which the alleged incident occurred must be considered. The guidelines concerning filing a complaint and the ensuing procedures can be located at:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/social-equity/sexual-misconduct-title-ix/reporting.php>

There are a number of sanctions that can be made on the part of the University in these proceedings ranging from probation to expulsion for the University. Those sanctions can be found through the office of Human Resources, the Office of Student Conduct and the Office of Social Equity.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972 (amending the Higher Education Act of 1965) forbids sexual discrimination, specifically stating that "no person...shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance".

The following are examples of types of sex-based discrimination prohibited by Title IX:

1. Sexual misconduct including sexual harassment, sexual assault, rape, intimate partner violence, stalking, and/or bullying occurring in a way that impacts the student participation in their educational environment, regardless of the location;
2. Discriminatory decision-making by a supervisor of an employee based on the employee's sex.
3. Failure to provide equitable opportunity for participation in intercollegiate sports.

Pursuant to Title IX and its regulations Valdosta State University's Title IX Coordinator is the designated University official with primary responsibility for coordinating the University's compliance with the Title IX and other federal and state laws and regulations relating to sex-based discrimination.

## **Valdosta State University Title IX Coordinator:**

Maggie J Viverette  
Office of Social Equity  
1208 N. Patterson Street  
Valdosta, Georgia 31698  
(229) 333 -5463  
mviveret@valdosta.edu

The Title IX Coordinator is authorized to have additional deputy coordinators. Valdosta State University has designated administrators and deputy coordinators based on the various areas of the university covered under the Title IX:

**For Employees:** Ms. Michelle Jordan, Employee Relations Manager – Human Resources  
**For Athletics:** Ms. Jennifer Grubbs, Senior Woman Administrator/Associate Head Coach  
**For Students:** Ms. Sherolyn Hopkins, Asst. Dean of Students for Student Conduct.

### **Sex Offender Registration-Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act**

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act (CSCPA) of 2000 is a federal law that provides for the tracking of convicted sex offenders enrolled at, or employed by, institutions of higher education. The CSCPA is an amendment to the Jacob Wetterling Crimes against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Act. The federal law requires state law enforcement agencies (Lowndes County Sheriff's Office), to provide Valdosta State University with a Sex Offender Registry which we receive monthly. There is a link to this registry on the University Police web site and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation web side found at:

<http://gbi.georgia.gov/georgia-sex-offender-registry>.

The CSCPA further amends the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) to clarify that nothing in the Act can prohibit an educational institution from disclosing information provided to the institution concerning registered sex offenders.

### **Megan's Law**

Members of the general public may request community notification flyers for information concerning sexually violent predators in a particular community by contacting the Lowndes County Sheriff's Department at 120 Prison Farm Road Valdosta, Ga., 229-671-2900. This information is also available on the Internet at <http://gbi.georgia.gov/georgia-sex-offender-registry>.

### **Missing Student Notification Policy**

The Clery Act requires institutions that maintain on campus housing facilities to establish a missing student notification policy and related procedures (20 USC 1092 (j) Section 488 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008).

When it is determined that a residential student is missing from the University, staff at Valdosta State University, in collaboration with local law enforcement, will be guided by this Missing Student Notification Policy and related procedures.

## **Provisions**

In accordance with general institutional emergency notification procedures, when a Valdosta State University student is thought to be missing from the campus, staff in the Valdosta State University administration should be immediately notified. Specifically, staff in the Office of Housing, Vice President for Student Affairs, University Police, and the Dean of Students Office, should be contacted so that they can coordinate efforts to locate the student. The Dean of Students Office has the authority and the responsibility for coordinating the efforts made by Valdosta State University to assist the student and the student's family.

The appropriate Student Affairs representative, or other individual learning that a student is missing, will file a formal missing student report with the Valdosta State University Police or to the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction in the geographical areas around the specific campus location. It will be made clear to all students annually, that each residential student of the University has the option to designate an individual to be contacted by Valdosta State University administration no later than 24 hours after the time that Valdosta State University determines the student is missing. Valdosta State University provides each student with the means and opportunity to register their confidential Missing Student contact information. This information is only accessible to Valdosta State University employees who are authorized campus officials and this information will not be disclosed to others with the exception of law enforcement personnel in the furtherance of a missing student investigation.

In accordance with the Valdosta State University's Missing Student Policy, it should be noted that Valdosta State University notifies each student who is under 18 years of age (and not an emancipated individual), that Valdosta State University is required to contact the student's parents or guardian in addition to the person identified as the missing student contact person. This contact will be made no later than 24 hours after the time that the student is determined to be missing.

In accordance with Valdosta State University procedures, it should be noted that Valdosta State University will inform each residential student that Valdosta State University will notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency when a student has gone missing, unless the local law enforcement agency was the entity that made the determination that the student was

missing. This notification will be made no later than 24 hours after the time that the student is determined missing.

If campus law enforcement personnel have been notified that a student has gone missing, and makes a determination that a student who is the subject of a missing person report has been missing for more than 24 hours, Valdosta State University staff will initiate emergency contact procedures as outlined in Valdosta State University's policy and protocol.

#### **Valdosta State University's missing student investigative procedures include the following:**

- Include communication procedures for official notification of appropriate individuals at Valdosta State University that a student has been missing for more than 24 hours.
- Require an official Missing Person Report relating to a Valdosta State University residential student to be referred immediately to the University Police Department.
- If through the investigation of an official report, the University Police determine that a student has been missing for more than 24 hours they will notify the local police; contact those individuals provided by the student as their missing student contact person; and if a student is under 18 years of age and emancipated their custodial parent(s) or legal guardian(s) will be immediately contacted.

#### **Daily Crime and Fire Log**

University Police maintains a Daily Crime Log of all criminal offenses (including Arson/Fire) reported to the Police Department. The University Police publish the Crime Log Monday through Friday, during business hours. The log is available 24 hours a day to members of the public. This log identifies the type, location and time of each criminal incident which has been reported. Local newspaper, television and radio stations have access to this log and if they deem it newsworthy, they may publish said information.

The most current information is available through the Communications window located in the lobby of the University Police Department. Upon request a copy of any maintained Crime Log will be made available for viewing within 48 hours of notice.

#### **Valdosta State University Policies Governing Alcohol and Other Drugs**

Federal law requires Valdosta State University to notify all faculty, staff, and students annually of the following:

Valdosta State University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, manufacture or distribution of alcohol or controlled substances by students, faculty, staff, and guests in buildings, facilities, grounds or property controlled by the University or used as part of University activities. For

students, this includes prohibiting the possession and consumption of any beverage containing alcohol in a residence hall room except by individuals who are twenty-one years or older. This also includes prohibiting the presences of students under the age of twenty-one in residence hall rooms where alcohol is present unless one of the roommates is 21 years of age or older. In addition, the smoking of any material is prohibited on the campus of Valdosta State University at all locations.

## **Alcohol Policy**

Valdosta State University fully complies with the alcohol laws for the State of Georgia. All state laws apply to VSU students, faculty, staff and visitors while on the campus of VSU. The use of alcoholic beverages, subject to the laws of the State of Georgia may be permitted at Valdosta State University sponsored activities in areas designated and with prior approval.

The written VSU Alcohol policy, as noted in the Student Code of Conduct specifically states:

1. Possession, consumption, or transporting of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21 is prohibited.
2. If a student is under the age of 21 and determined to be under the influence of alcohol he/she will be referred to the appropriate authorities.
3. A student in a publically intoxicated state will be referred to the appropriate authorities for disposition.
4. The consumption or possession of alcoholic beverage(s) or possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage on University property is prohibited in public areas. A public area is defined as any area outside of an individual's living quarters.
5. No student shall furnish or cause to be furnished any alcoholic beverage to any person under the legal drinking age of 21.
6. The serving of alcohol to someone visibly intoxicated and/or the facilitating of drinking games involving the consumption of alcohol is prohibited.
7. Common source containers of alcoholic beverages e.g. beer kegs, hunch-punch, etc., may not be present at any registered University organization event.
8. No alcohol may be purchased with student activity fee funds.

## **Specific Georgia laws concerning above noted prohibitions include:**

- Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21 (OCGA 3-3-23)
- Driving under the influence of alcohol (40-6-391)
- Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public locations on campus, including residence halls common spaces; Common spaces in residence halls refer to any public space that exists outside of a specific residential unit. Examples include, but are not limited to



- group study/lounge spaces, laundry rooms, elevator lobbies, computer rooms etc. Common spaces also include the public spaces located on the outside grounds of a residence hall
- The sale, distribution, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21 (OCGA 3-3-23)
  - The use of alcohol in an irresponsible manner (games, contests, forced or ritualized consumption of alcohol, behaviors requiring the response of a University official or law enforcement officer, etc.)
  - Providing alcoholic beverages to a person who is intoxicated
  - Any activity or conduct involving the use of alcohol that is in violation of law.
  - Alcohol is not for sale on Valdosta State University property and all functions which serve alcohol require VSU Police Officers to be present
  - Any other abuse of alcohol or drugs is subject to enforcement by VSU Police through federal and state laws pertaining to such violations
  - Students 21 years of age and older living on campus are allowed to have alcohol in their residence hall room only for personal consumption.
  - Carrying a False I.D. is prohibited under OCGA 16-9-4
  - Open Container of Alcohol OCGA 40-6-253
  - Public Drunkenness OCGA 16-11-41
  - Refusal to take a Chemical Test or other Test as indicated within OCGA 40-6-391 WILL result in the suspension of a driver's license for one year upon first offense.
  - Penalties for Alcohol possession and selling violations for Under 21 receive up to 6 months in confinement, \$300 fine, probations and/or Community Service. Providing alcohol to persons Under 21 can result in up to 12 months confinement, \$1000 fine and probation/and or Community Service.

**The University Policy for Alcohol Events pertains to events limited to on-campus events and/or public venue events. General guidelines include:**

- The department/organization (Event Sponsor) seeking to sponsor an event wherein alcohol will be served and consumed must assume direct responsibility for ensuring compliance with Valdosta State University's Alcohol Policy. The event Coordinator is responsible for purchasing alcohol in advance of the event from the campus food service provider or other provider. If the campus food supplier does not supply the alcohol, the Event Coordinator will be responsible for the transportation of the alcohol to the event site.
- The event Coordinator shall be present throughout the event and shall be responsible for the removal of all unopened alcohol from the event site immediately following the event. All opened alcohol will be disposed of immediately following the event by the event caterer.
- Valdosta State University adheres to Georgia's liquor laws and alcohol will be permitted at Valdosta State University only in instances which comply with state and federal law, local ordinances and this policy.

- Alcohol cannot be sold by the campus food service provider or Valdosta State University. Ticket sales for alcohol by the Event Sponsor is allowed upon coordination with the campus food service provider. The service of alcohol is prohibited absent approval of the University President.
- No State funds may be used to purchase alcoholic beverages.
- Alcoholic beverages may not be served at any event which is primarily a student event.
- It is the sole responsibility of the Event Coordinator to obtain necessary signatures from the Director of Event Services, the Chief of Campus Police and the Event Caterer.
- Event Caterer must have necessary alcohol licenses, supply a certified or licensed bartender and provide beverage set ups. Under no circumstance will self-service be allowed. Access to alcoholic beverages must be through a licensed certified bartender. Under no circumstance will server consume alcoholic beverages.
- Guests are subject to be carded by Event Coordinator and/or bartenders.
- Alcoholic beverages are not served to persons under the legal drinking age or to persons who appear intoxicated.
- Non-alcoholic beverages must be available and featured as prominently as the alcoholic beverages.
- A sufficient amount of food that is equal or greater in quantities to that of the alcohol served must be continuously available throughout the event.
- Police officers must be present for any event at which minors and/or 50 guests or more will be in attendance.
- All alcoholic beverages must remain inside the reserved or designated event space during the event.
- On-campus event sites must be reserved through the Office of Event Services or through the Union Reservations Office with a VSU Event Contract.
- The service of alcohol at an event will be limited to two (2) hours unless a special allowance is granted for extended service by the University President. Under no circumstances will alcohol service exceed 4 hours. Alcohol service will end forty-five (45) minutes before the scheduled end of the event, unless the event itself is only two hours or less in length.

\*On-campus locations are not limited unless done so by the President of the University.

The Office of Student Affairs and the Counseling Center promote healthy decisions and provide services to students concerned about their alcohol/other drug use and students needing to satisfy judicial or student conduct sanctions. This includes planning, implementing and evaluating prevention programming aimed at decreasing the negative impact that alcohol and other drugs have on our University community.

## Controlled Substances

Valdosta State University fully complies with the State of Georgia Controlled Substances Act and all other local, state and federal laws governing controlled substances. The University strictly prohibits the illegal use or possession of any controlled substance:

- The possession, use, manufacture, cultivation, distribution, sale, and/or misuse of any controlled or illegal substance, designer drug, or synthetic cannabinoid. Common names: Spice, K2, Demon, wicked, Black Magic, Voodoo Spice, and Ninja Aroma. Individuals found responsible for manufacturing, possessing, importing/exporting or distributing these substances will face criminal and civil penalties. University students engaging in these activities will also be held responsible under the University's illegal substances policies (OCGA 16-13-32.5).
- The possession and/or use of any drug paraphernalia, i.e. bowls, hookah pipes, bong, "homemade" smoking devices, any other smoking device or smoking paraphernalia (OCGA 16-13-32.3);
- Any activity or conduct involving drugs that is in violation of local, state, or federal law. (Violation of Georgia Controlled Substances Act)
- Possession of Marijuana (OCGA 16-13-30)

**Georgia's 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law** provides that any person who in good faith seeks medical assistance for a person experiencing or believed to be experiencing a drug overdose shall not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for a drug violation if the evidence for the arrest, charge, or prosecution of such drug violation resulted solely from seeking such medical assistance. Any person who is experiencing a drug overdose and, in good faith, seeks medical assistance for himself or herself or is the subject of such a request shall not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for a drug violation if the evidence for the arrest, charge, or prosecution of such drug violation resulted solely from seeking such medical assistance. Any such person shall also not be subject to, if related to the seeking of such medical assistance: (1) Penalties for a violation of a permanent or temporary protective order or restraining order; or (2) Sanctions for a violation of a condition of pretrial release, condition of probation, or condition of parole based on a drug violation.

### Know the signs:

- Person is passed out or is difficult to awaken
- Person is cold, clammy, pale or bluish skin
- Person has slowed breathing
- Vomiting (asleep or awake).

### Know how to help:

- Turn a vomiting person on his/her side to prevent choking
- Clear vomit from the mouth

- Keep the person awake
- NEVER leave the person unattended
- Call 911 or 259-5555 for medical assistance.

For more information on the risks and consequences of drug and alcohol abuse visit:  
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/> .

Employees wishing information on drug or alcohol abuse education programs may contact Employee Development (229) 259-5105. For more comprehensive details, please refer to the University's policy on controlled substances at:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/admissions/financial-aid/documents/drug-free-policy1.pdf>

Students wishing the same information may contact Health Services (229) 333-5886, the Counseling Center (229)333-5940, or Mr. Mark McNally (229) 333-5920. The Crime Prevention Unit for University also has material available on these subjects.

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 US 1092(f)) requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The University Police maintains a close relationship with all police departments where Valdosta State University owns or controls property to ensure that crimes reported directly to these departments which involve the University are brought to the attention of the University Police.

The University Police collects the crime statistics disclosed in the charts through a number of methods. Police communications officers and police officers enter all reports of criminal incidents made directly to the department through an integrated computer aided dispatch system/records management system. After an incident report has been reviewed and approved by a supervisor the report is entered into the system where the appropriate classification is entered into the correct crime category. The Department periodically examines the data to ensure that all reported crimes are recorded in accordance with the crime definitions outlined in the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook and the FBI National Incident-based Reporting System Handbook (sex offenses only). In addition to the crime data that the University Police maintains, the statistics below also include crimes that are reported to various campus security authorities, as defined in this report. The statistics reported here reflect the number of criminal incidents reported to the various authorities. The statistics reported for the sub categories on liquor laws, drug laws and weapons offenses represented the number of people arrested or referred to campus judicial authorities for respective violations, not the number of offenses documented.

## **Disclosure of Reportable Crimes**

### **Primary Crimes:**

**Murder/ Non-negligent Manslaughter** – *defined as the willful killing of one human being by another.*

**Manslaughter by Negligence**– *is defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence.*

**Sex offenses** – Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

- A. Rape** — *the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This offense includes the rape of both males and females.*
- B. Fondling** — *The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.*

- C. Incest** — *Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.*
- D. Statutory Rape** — *Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.*

**Robbery** – *is defined as taking or attempting to take anything of value from the car, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.*

**Aggravated Assault** – *is defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.*

**Burglary** – *is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.*

**Motor Vehicle Theft** – *is the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.*

**Arson** – *any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.*

**Unfounded** – *This category pertains to cases which have been fully and completely investigated by sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel who make a formal determination that the report is false or baseless.*

## **Hate Crimes**

**Hate Crimes** – *includes all of the crimes listed above that manifest evidence that the victim was chosen based on one of the categories of prejudice listed below, plus the following crimes. Hate crimes are defined as criminal offenses that manifest evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator’s bias against the victim.*

**Larceny/Theft**—*includes, pocket picking, purse snatching, shoplifting, theft from building, theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories, and all other larceny.*

**Simple Assault**—*an unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.*

**Intimidation**—*to unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.*

**Destruction/Damage/Vandalism or Property (except Arson)**—to willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

**Categories of Prejudice:**

**Race** – A preformed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics genetically transmitted by descent and heredity which distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind.

**Gender** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender.

**Religion** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being.

**Sexual Orientation** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation.

**Ethnicity**- A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people whose members identify with each other, through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, common culture (often including a shared religion) and/or ideology that stresses common ancestry.

**National origin** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived country of birth.

**Disability** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments/ challenges, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age or illness.

**Gender Identity**- A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender identity.

**Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking (VAWA)**

**Dating Violence** – Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party’s statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. It is not limited to sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.

**Domestic Violence** – A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed:

- *by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;*
- *by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;*
- *By a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;*
- *By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred, or,*
- *By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.*

**Stalking** – *Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:*

- *(i) Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or*
- *(ii) Suffer substantial emotional distress.*

*Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.*

**The following is a report of the actual crime statistics reported in accordance with the Uniform Crime Reporting procedures and the**



# Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018:

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>On Campus</u>	<u>On Campus Residential</u>	<u>Non-Campus</u>	<u>Public Property</u>	<u>Unfounded</u>
Murder/ Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2016	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter By Negligence	2016	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2016	0	3	3	0	0
	2017	1	1	0	0	0
	2018	1	1	0	0	0
Fondling	2016	1	0	0	0	0
	2017	1	1	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	2016	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2016	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assaults Reported to CSAs- Anonymous Reporting***	2016	3	1	0	0	0
	2017	1	1	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	2016	1	0	0	1	0
	2017	1	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2016	2	1	0	0	0
	2017	1	0	0	0	0
	2018	1	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2016	11	11	0	0	0
	2017	10	5	0	0	0
	2018	5	4	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2016	4	0	0	0	1
	2017	2	0	0	0	1
	2018	4	0	0	0	0
Arson	2016	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	1	1	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0

PLEASE NOTE THERE WERE NO HATE CRIMES REPORTED FOR CAMPUS IN 2016, 2017 OR 2018

**Campus Arrests:**

<b><u>Offense</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>On Campus</u></b>	<b><u>Residential Facility</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Campus Building or Property</u></b>	<b><u>Public Property</u></b>
<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>	2016	7	4	0	0
	2017	16	7	0	1
	2018	12	6	0	0
<b>Drug Abuse Violations</b>	2016	27	19	0	9
	2017	17	10	0	18
	2018	17	5	0	8
<b>Illegal Weapons Possession</b>	2016	3	2	0	0
	2017	3	1	0	1
	2018	1	1	0	0

**Disciplinary Referrals:**

<b><u>Offense</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>On Campus</u></b>	<b><u>Residential Facility</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Campus Building or Property</u></b>	<b><u>Public Property</u></b>
<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>	2016	44	37	7	0
	2017	44	44	0	1
	2018	18	18	4	0
<b>Drug Abuse Violations</b>	2016	51	48	0	0
	2017	23	21	0	0
	2018	58	58	3	0
<b>Illegal Weapons Possession</b>	2016	1	1	0	0
	2017	1	0	0	0
	2018	1	1	0	0

**VAWA Amendment Offenses\*\*:**

<b><u>Offense</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>On Campus</u></b>	<b><u>Residential Facility</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Campus Building or Property</u></b>	<b><u>Public Property</u></b>
<b>Dating Violence</b>	2016	8	4	4	0
	2017	13	10	0	0
	2018	11	6	0	0
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	2016	1	0	4	0
	2017	2	0	0	1
	2018	0	0	0	0
<b>Stalking</b>	2016	8	0	0	0
	2017	2	0	0	0
	2018	6	2	0	0

**\*\*NOTE THAT THESE STATISTICS INCLUDE INCIDENTS REPORTED BY CAMPUS SECURITY AUTHORITIES**

The university requests the crime statistics from the law enforcement agencies that are responsible for property that coincides with the jurisdictional borders of the University. Below are the statistics that were provided by the City of Valdosta in response to that request:

Valdosta City Police

Part 1 Crimes

Within 500 yards of VSU Campus Properties:

Part I Crimes

	2016	2017	2018
Homicide	4	9	-----
Rape	5	14	5*
Robbery	16	51	7
Aggravated Assault	26	128	11
Burglary	157	558	66
Motor Vehicle Theft	20	254	28
Arson	3	n/a	3
Incest	n/a	1	-----
Fondling	n/a	4	-----

*\*Sex Offenses*

Part II Crimes

	2016
Drug Offenses	141
Simple Assault/Battery	215
Vandalism	186
Weapons Violations	18

*\*Part II Crimes were not shared for 2017 and 2018*