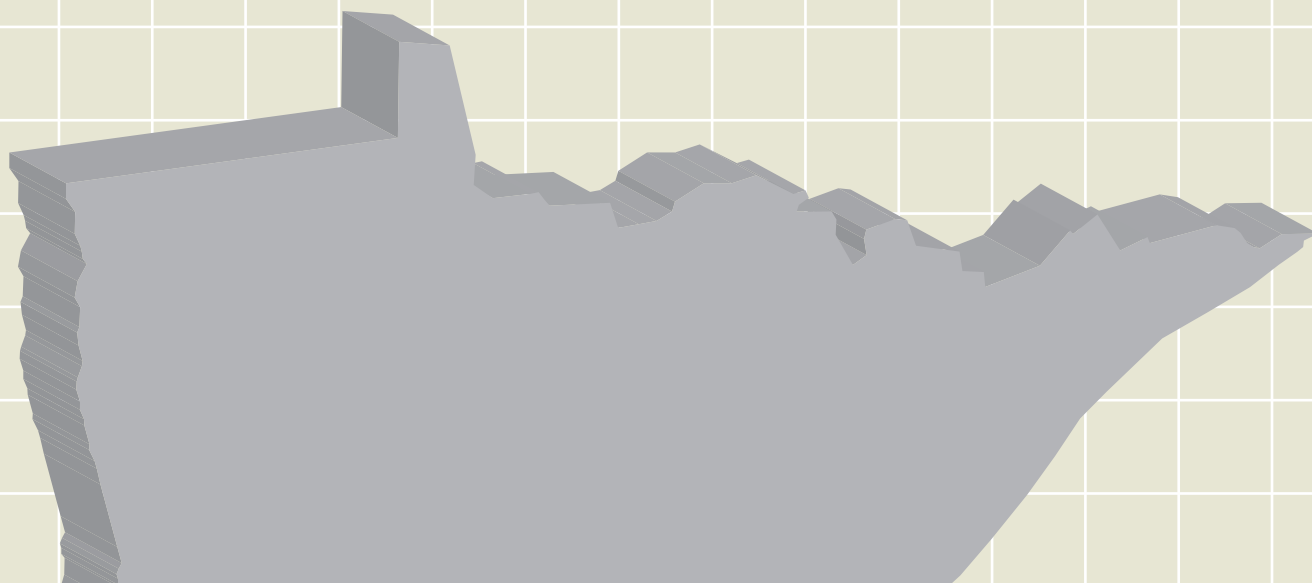


Boynton Health Service

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

2011 College Student Health Survey Report



Health and Health-Related Behaviors

Metropolitan State University Students



Metropolitan
State University



Minnesota
STATE COLLEGES
& UNIVERSITIES

2011 College Student Health Survey Report

Health and Health-Related Behaviors

Metropolitan State University Students



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Introduction

Q: What do the following health conditions and health-related behaviors have in common?

- Health Insurance Status
- Depression
- Ability to Manage Stress
- Tobacco Use
- Alcohol Use
- Engagement in Physical Activity
- Credit Card Debt

A: They all affect the health and academic achievement of college students.

Across the state of Minnesota, 17 two-year and four-year postsecondary schools joined together with Boynton Health Service at the University of Minnesota in spring 2011 to collect information from 31,899 undergraduate and graduate students about their experiences and behaviors in the areas of health insurance and health care utilization, mental health, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, personal safety and financial health, nutrition and physical activity, and sexual health. Of the 31,899 students who received a survey, 12,263 students completed the survey, for an overall response rate of 38.4%.

This report highlights the findings of this comprehensive survey and serves as an essential first step in identifying health and health-related behavior issues affecting college students. Boynton Health Service hopes that the information contained in this report will be helpful to college and university leaders as they strive to develop programs and policies that will assure a safe institutional environment, promote access to health care and essential services, encourage responsible student decision-making and behavior, and contribute to the health, well-being, and academic success of students enrolled in their schools. The survey results are also intended to raise awareness among state and local policy makers and community leaders concerning the importance of the health of college students to the overall educational, health, and economic status of Minnesota.

Survey

Methodology

Over 12,000 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in 17 postsecondary institutions in Minnesota completed the 2011 College Student Health Survey, developed by Boynton Health Service. As an incentive, all students who responded to the survey were entered into a drawing for gift certificates valued at \$3,000 (one), \$1,000 (one), and \$500 (one) at a variety of stores. In addition, all students who responded to the survey were entered into five separate drawings for an iPad™ and one drawing for an iPad™ that included just students from their school.

Randomly selected students were contacted through multiple mailings and e-mails:

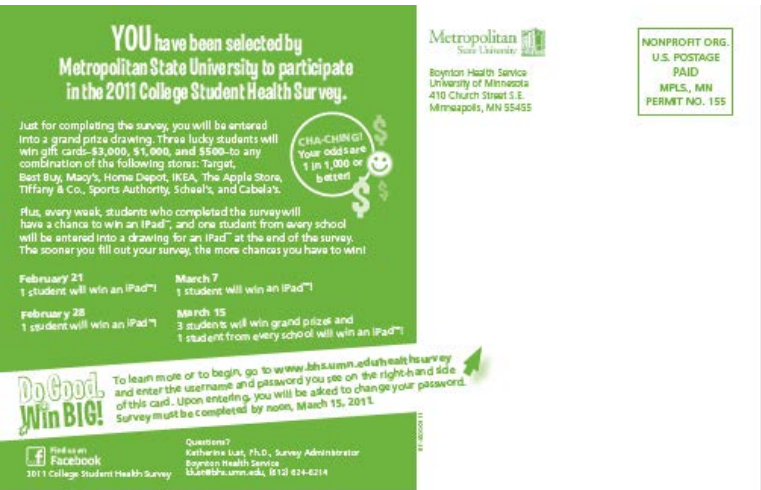
- Invitation postcard
- Invitation e-mail
- Reminder postcard and multiple reminder e-mails

A total of 31,899 undergraduate and graduate students from 17 colleges and universities in Minnesota were invited to participate in the 2011 College Student Health Survey (see Appendix 1 for a list of participating schools).

In addition to the 31,899 randomly selected students, an oversample of 2,276 students who attended one of these 17 Minnesota schools and were identified as veterans of the United States Armed Forces were also invited to participate in the survey. The survey results for the oversample of veterans will be treated as a separate report.

Metropolitan State University Methodology Highlights

- **1,904** students from Metropolitan State University were randomly selected to participate in this survey.
- **835** completed the survey.
- **43.9%** of the students responded.



Survey

Analysis Summary

The information presented in this report documents the prevalence of various diseases, health conditions, and health-related behaviors across seven areas:

- Health Insurance and Health Care Utilization
- Mental Health
- Tobacco Use
- Alcohol and Other Drug Use
- Personal Safety and Financial Health
- Nutrition and Physical Activity
- Sexual Health

The prevalence of a disease, health condition, or health-related behavior is defined as the total number of occurrences in a population (in this case, college students) at a given time, or the total number of occurrences in the population divided by the number of individuals in that population.

Prevalence is useful because it is a measure of the commonality of a disease, health condition, or health-related behavior. For example, the College Student Health Survey asked students if they had ever been diagnosed with depression within their lifetime. For the purpose of illustration, if 100 students completed the survey and 10 of them reported they had been diagnosed with depression within their lifetime, then the lifetime prevalence of depression among this population of students is 10.0% (10/100).

The results from this survey are based on a random sample of students from each of the participating colleges and universities. Random sampling is a technique in which a group of subjects (in this case, the sample of college students) is selected for study from a larger group (in this case, the population of students enrolled at each of the participating institutions). Each individual is chosen entirely by chance, and each member of the population has an equal chance of being included in the sample. Random sampling ensures that the sample chosen is representative of the population and that the statistical conclusions (in this case, the prevalence) will be valid.

Results

Health Insurance and Health Care Utilization

Students’ current health influences their ability to realize their immediate goal of achieving academic success and graduating, and their future health affects their ability to accomplish their longer term goal of finding and sustaining a career. Access to health care has been shown to improve health. Although institutions of higher education differ in scope of services, each institution has a unique opportunity and bears a certain responsibility to address issues related to student health and to reduce barriers to health care access.

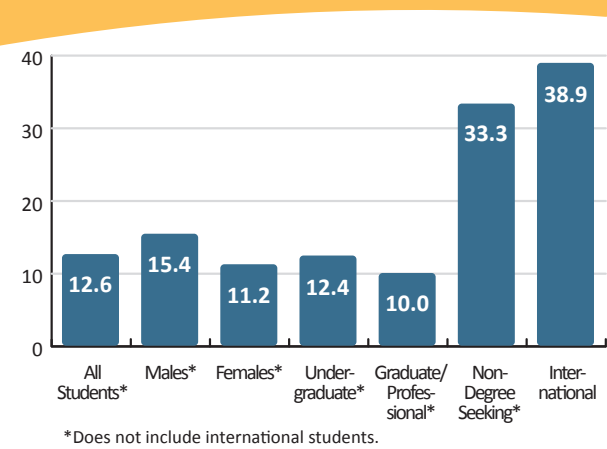
National Comparison

This section examines the areas of health insurance, health services utilization, and preventive care. Recent research indicates that most young adults in the United States, ages 18 to 24, report good health. The majority of young adults in Minnesota (95.5%) and nationwide (92.0%) report excellent, very good, or good health.¹ At the same time, young adults have relatively low rates of health insurance and preventive care utilization. Among individuals under age 65, 18- to 24-year-olds report the lowest rate of health insurance coverage: In Minnesota, 80.3% report some kind of health care insurance, and nationwide the number is 74.1%.^{1,2} More young males (38.2%) than young females (26.9%) lack health insurance coverage.² Among all age groups, young adults (70.6%) are least likely to identify a usual place for medical care.²

Many health insurance plans allow dependents under the age of 25 to remain covered by their parents' insurance while attending a postsecondary institution. Therefore, students who attend postsecondary institutions tend to have higher rates of health insurance coverage than those who do not.

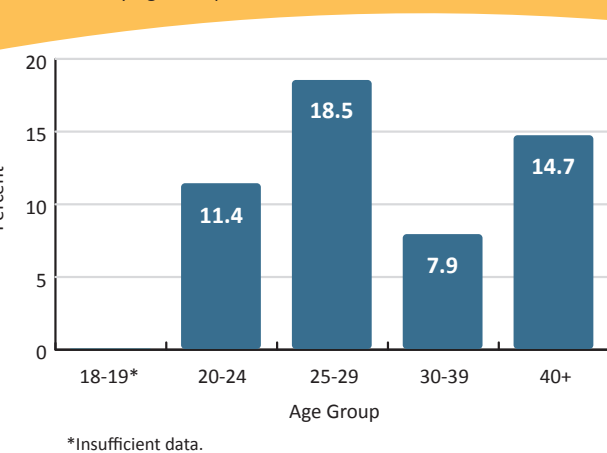
Students attending Metropolitan State University (Metro State) report an overall uninsured rate of **12.6%**. Males have a higher uninsured rate compared to females (**15.4%** vs. **11.2%**, respectively).

Health Insurance Status—Uninsured



Metropolitan State University students ages 25-29 report the highest uninsured rate. The lowest uninsured rate is among Metro State students ages 30-39.

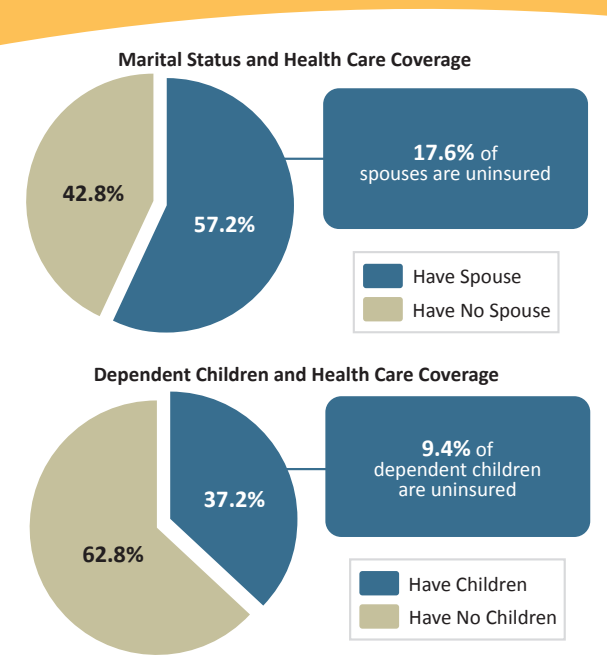
Health Insurance Status—Uninsured



Nearly three out of five (**57.2%**) students who attend Metropolitan State University report having a spouse, and **17.6%** of these students report that their spouse is uninsured.

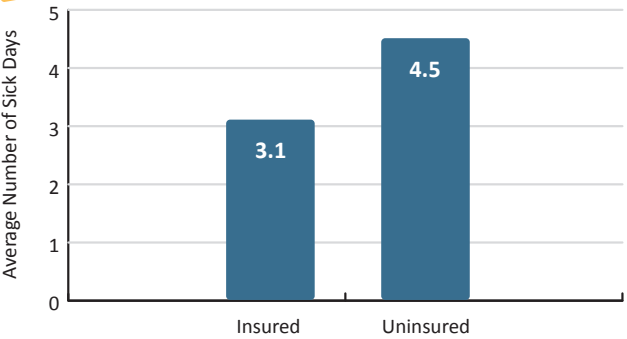
More than one in three (**37.2%**) Metro State students report having dependent children. Of these dependent children, **9.4%** lack health insurance.

Spouse and Dependent Health Care Coverage



Health Insurance and Number of Sick Days— Past 30 Days

All Students

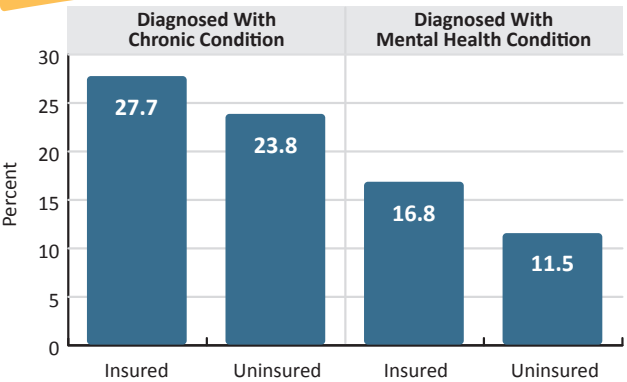


Number of sick days is a measure of health-related quality of life. Sick days reflect a personal sense of poor or impaired physical or mental health or the inability to react to factors in the physical and social environments.³

Metro State students with health insurance report on average **1.4** fewer sick days in the past 30 days than Metro State students without health insurance.

Health Insurance and Health Status

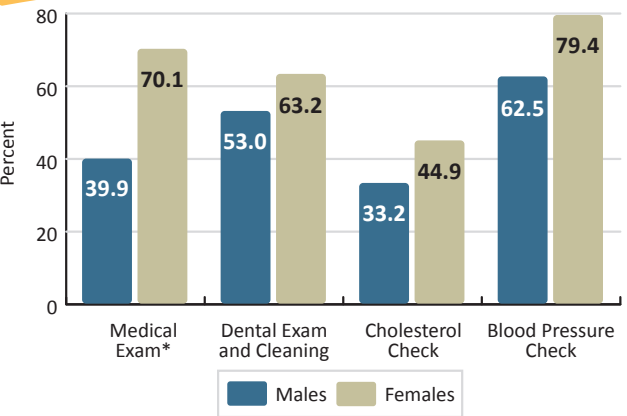
All Students



Metro State students with health insurance report higher rates of diagnosed chronic conditions and of diagnosed mental health conditions compared to Metro State students without health insurance.

Preventive Health Care—Past 12 Months

All Students by Gender

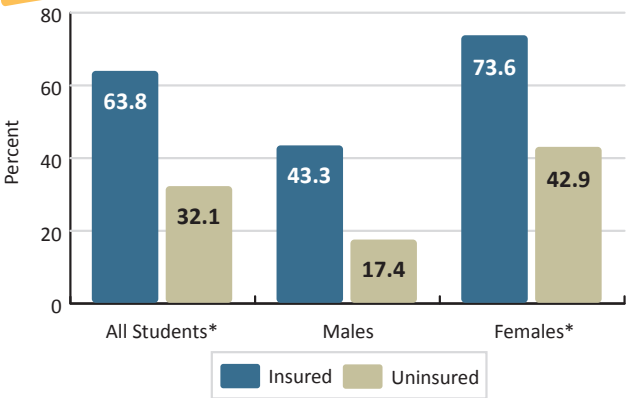


*Includes medical exam and/or gynecological exam for females.

Female students attending Metropolitan State University report obtaining routine medical exams, dental exams and cleanings, cholesterol checks, and blood pressure checks at higher rates than male students attending the university.

Health insurance coverage appears to have an impact on whether Metro State students obtained routine medical examinations within the past 12 months. Uninsured male and female students report far lower rates of obtaining a routine medical examination than insured students.

Routine Medical Examination—Past 12 Months
All Students by Gender and Insurance Status



*Includes medical exam and/or gynecological exam for females.

Among Metropolitan State University students, the primary locations for obtaining many health care services appear to be a community clinic and a private practice.

Health Care Service by Location
All Students (Includes Only Those Students Who Report Obtaining a Service in the Past 12 Months)

Question asked:
Where do you obtain the following health care services while in school?

Health Care Service (Percent of Students Who Obtained Service)	Percent Who Report Obtaining Service					
Routine Doctor's Visit (90.7)	1.2	0.1	8.7	38.3	16.6	36.6
Dental Care (89.5)	0.9	0.0	2.9	28.1	10.2	58.6
Mental Health Service (27.5)	1.3	7.0	10.4	24.3	14.3	45.2
Testing for Sexually Transmitted Infections (41.1)	2.0	0.0	8.7	44.6	14.0	31.5
Treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections (22.3)	1.1	0.0	9.1	47.3	15.1	25.3
Testing for HIV (35.7)	0.7	0.0	8.4	43.6	16.1	30.5
Emergency Care (82.2)	0.1	0.0	78.6	11.7	6.7	8.5

School Health Service

Student Counseling Service

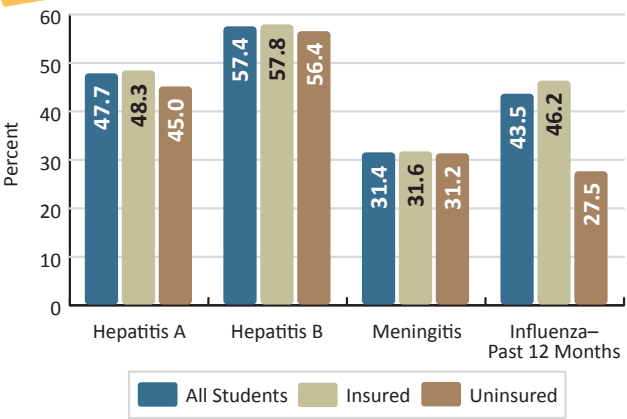
Hospital

Community Clinic

HMO

Private Practice

Vaccination Status
All Students by Insurance Status



Metro State students with health insurance obtain hepatitis A, hepatitis B, meningitis, and influenza vaccinations at higher rates than students at the university without health insurance.

Currently, these immunizations are not required for students enrolled in postsecondary institutions. Hepatitis B immunization, however, is required for high-school students in Minnesota.

Average Number of Days Affected by Illness
All Students by Gender

Illness	Average Number of Days Affected– Past 30 Days	
Poor Physical Health	2.6	3.7
Poor Mental Health	3.9	6.0
Poor Physical and/or Mental Health Affected Daily Activities	2.5	3.6

Legend: Males (blue), Females (olive green)

Compared to male respondents at Metropolitan State University, female respondents at the university report more days of poor physical health, more days of poor mental health, and more days when poor physical and/or mental health affected daily activities.

Acute Condition Diagnosis–
Lifetime and Past 12 Months
All Students

Acute Condition	Percent Who Report Being Diagnosed	
Chlamydia	7.4	0.5
Gonorrhea	2.4	0.0
Hepatitis A	0.7	0.1
Lyme Disease	1.1	0.1
Mononucleosis	11.5	0.6
Pubic Lice	3.4	0.3
Strep Throat	46.8	7.2
Syphilis	0.6	0.0
Urinary Tract Infection	34.2	10.2
At Least One of the Above Acute Conditions	61.2	17.0

Legend: Within Lifetime (blue), Within Past 12 Months (olive green)

Metropolitan State University students were asked to report if they have been diagnosed with selected acute illnesses within the past 12 months and within their lifetime.

The acute condition diagnosed most frequently within students’ lifetimes was strep throat, with **46.8%** of Metro State students reporting having this diagnosis. The acute condition diagnosed most frequently within the past 12 months was urinary tract infection, with **10.2%** of Metro State students reporting having this diagnosis. Overall, **61.2%** of students report being diagnosed with at least one acute condition within their lifetime, and **17.0%** report being diagnosed with at least one acute condition within the past 12 months.

Chronic conditions are ongoing health concerns for students. Surveillance of these conditions provides a picture of longer term health care needs for students at Metro State.

The two most common chronic conditions diagnosed in Metropolitan State University students are allergies (39.2% lifetime) and asthma (20.7% lifetime). Nearly two-thirds (65.4%) of students report being diagnosed with at least one chronic condition within their lifetime, and more than one-fourth (27.0%) report being diagnosed with at least one chronic condition within the past 12 months.

Chronic Condition Diagnosis—
Lifetime and Past 12 Months
All Students

Chronic Condition	Percent Who Report Being Diagnosed	
Alcohol Problems	7.2	0.3
Allergies	39.2	10.7
Asthma	20.7	3.8
Cancer	3.7	0.6
Diabetes Type I	0.1	0.3
Diabetes Type II	1.3	0.6
Drug Problems (Other Than Alcohol)	4.8	0.3
Genital Herpes	2.9	0.5
Genital Warts/ Human Papilloma Virus	8.5	0.9
Hepatitis B	0.5	0.1
Hepatitis C	0.5	0.3
High Blood Pressure	9.8	5.3
High Cholesterol	10.8	5.5
HIV/AIDS	0.4	0.0
Obesity	13.3	7.0
Repetitive Stress Injury	6.8	1.8
Tuberculosis	0.7	0.0
At Least One of the Above Chronic Conditions	65.4	27.0

Within Lifetime Within Past 12 Months

Results

Mental Health

Mental health issues can have a profound impact on students' ability to engage fully in the opportunities presented to them while in college. These issues affect their physical, emotional, and cognitive well-being and can lead to poor academic performance, lower graduation rates, and poor interpersonal relationships.

There is increasing diversity among college students. Among undergraduates nationwide, 35.7% are minorities, 56.8% are female, and 33.1% are age 25 or older.⁴ In addition, approximately 671,616 international students are studying at U.S. colleges and universities.⁴ This diversity presents a myriad of counseling concerns related to multicultural and gender issues, life transition, stress, career and developmental needs, violence, interpersonal relationships, and serious emotional and psychological problems. This array of mental health problems represents ever-increasing challenges as postsecondary institutions strive to meet the needs of their students.

National Comparison

This section examines areas related to the mental and emotional status of college and university students. Recent research shows that young adults in the United States have relatively high rates of mental health problems compared to other age groups. Based on the results of the National Comorbidity Survey Replication Study using the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-IV criteria, 58.7% of 18- to 29-year-olds have been diagnosed with a mental disorder within their lifetime, and 43.8% of 18- to 29-year-olds have been diagnosed with a mental disorder within the previous year.⁵ Among all age groups, 18- to 25-year-olds have the highest past-year prevalence of serious mental illness, i.e., mental illness that results in functional impairment, (7.4%) and the highest past-year prevalence of a major depressive episode (8.7%).⁶ More than one in 10 (10.8%) young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 have received treatment for a mental health problem in the previous year.⁶

For Metropolitan State University students, depression and anxiety are the two most frequently reported mental health diagnoses for both lifetime and the past 12 months.

Mental Health Condition Diagnosis–
Lifetime and Past 12 Months
All Students

Mental Health Condition	Percent Who Report Being Diagnosed	
Anorexia	1.8	0.3
Anxiety	23.1	9.0
Attention Deficit Disorder	7.1	2.6
Bipolar Disorder	2.5	0.5
Bulimia	1.4	0.4
Depression	29.0	10.0
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	2.3	0.9
Panic Attacks	10.8	4.3
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	5.8	1.9
Seasonal Affective Disorder	5.2	1.8
Social Phobia/ Performance Anxiety	5.5	2.3

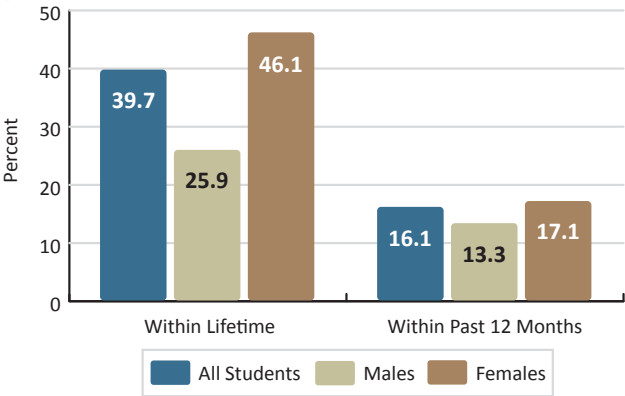
Within Lifetime

Within Past 12 Months

Among Metro State students, **39.7%** report being diagnosed with at least one mental health condition within their lifetime. Females report being diagnosed with a mental health condition within their lifetime and within the past 12 months at higher rates than males, which is consistent with gender differences seen in national data.

Additional analysis shows that **25.2%** of students report being diagnosed with two or more mental health conditions within their lifetime.

Any Mental Health Condition Diagnosis–
Lifetime and Past 12 Months
All Students by Gender



Mental Health Stressors

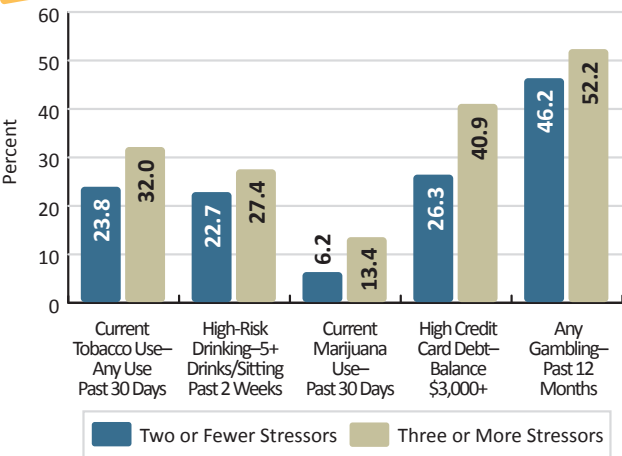
All Students

Stressor	Percent Who Report Experiencing Within Past 12 Months
Getting Married	5.1
Failing a Class	9.5
Serious Physical Illness of Someone Close to You	16.4
Death of Someone Close to You	21.6
Being Diagnosed With a Serious Physical Illness	3.4
Being Diagnosed With a Serious Mental Illness	4.3
Divorce or Separation From Your Spouse	9.6
Termination of Personal Relationship (Not Including Marriage)	14.0
Attempted Suicide	0.4
Being Put on Academic Probation	7.9
Excessive Credit Card Debt	15.4
Excessive Debt Other Than Credit Card	17.1
Being Arrested	1.0
Being Fired or Laid Off From a Job	8.9
Roommate/Housemate Conflict	9.1
Parental Conflict	12.6
Lack of Health Care Coverage	15.8
Issues Related to Sexual Orientation	2.2
Bankruptcy	2.3
Zero of the Above Stressors	32.7
One or Two of the Above Stressors	39.6
Three or More of the Above Stressors	27.7

The most commonly experienced stressors among Metropolitan State University students are the death or serious physical illness of someone close to them and excessive debt other than credit card. A total of **39.6%** of students report experiencing one or two stressors within the past 12 months, and **27.7%** report experiencing three or more stressors over that same time period.

Mental Health Stressors and Risky Behavior

All Students



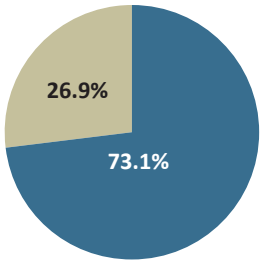
An association appears to exist between reported number of stressors experienced within the past 12 months and various types of risk-taking behavior. Over the same 12-month period, Metro State students who experienced three or more stressors tend to have higher rates of current tobacco use, high-risk drinking, current marijuana use, high credit card debt, and gambling compared to students who experienced two or fewer stressors.

More than one-fourth (**26.9%**) of Metro State students report they are unable to manage their stress level. Additional analysis shows that among these students, **17.7%** also report they were diagnosed with depression within the past 12 months. Nearly three-fourths (**73.1%**) of Metro State students report they are able to manage their level of stress. Only **7.1%** of these students report they were diagnosed with depression within the past 12 months.

Ability to Manage Stress—Past 12 Months

All Students

In an attempt to measure effectiveness in managing stress, students were asked to rate their stress level and their ability to manage stress, each on a scale of 1 to 10. The reported stress level is then divided by the reported ability to manage stress. Any result greater than 1 means a student is not effectively managing his or her stress.



Managed Stress (Index ≤1) Unmanaged Stress (Index >1)

An association appears to exist between unmanaged stress levels and higher rates of diagnosis for chronic conditions as well as various mental health conditions. For example, **14.6%** of Metro State students with unmanaged stress levels report being diagnosed with anxiety within the past year compared to only **6.9%** of students with managed stress levels reporting the same diagnosis.

Stress and Mental Health, Acute, and Chronic Condition Diagnosis

All Students

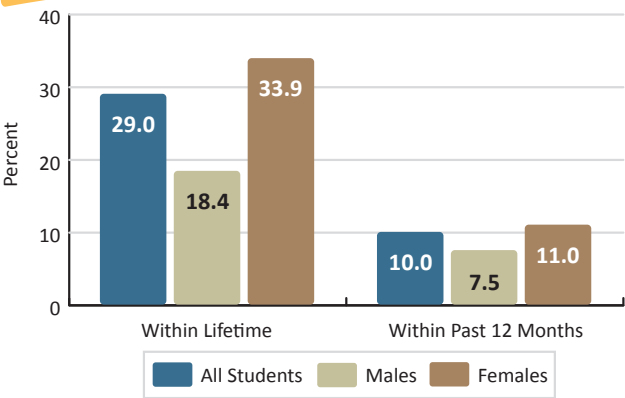
Condition	Percent Who Report Being Diagnosed Within the Past 12 Months	
	Managed Stress (Index ≤1)	Unmanaged Stress (Index >1)
Any Acute Condition	14.6	23.5
Any Chronic Condition	25.7	30.3
Anxiety	6.9	14.6
Depression	7.1	17.7
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	0.5	1.8
Panic Attacks	2.2	9.7
Social Phobia/Performance Anxiety	1.4	4.6

Managed Stress (Index ≤1) Unmanaged Stress (Index >1)

Depression is the mental health condition most frequently reported by Metropolitan State University students within their lifetime and within the past 12 months. Females report being diagnosed with depression—both lifetime and the past 12 months—at higher rates than males.

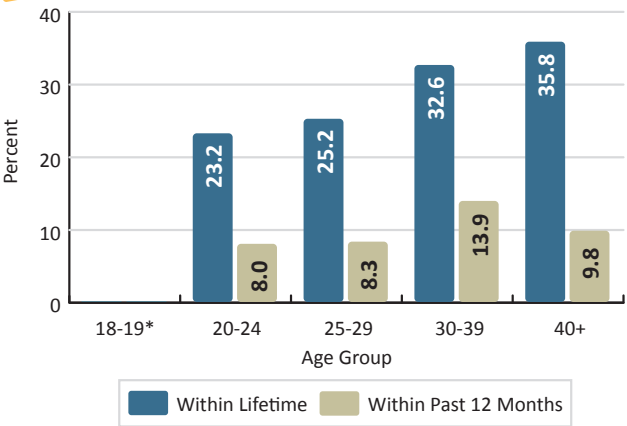
Depression Diagnosis—Lifetime and Past 12 Months

All Students by Gender



Depression Diagnosis— Lifetime and Past 12 Months

All Students by Age Group

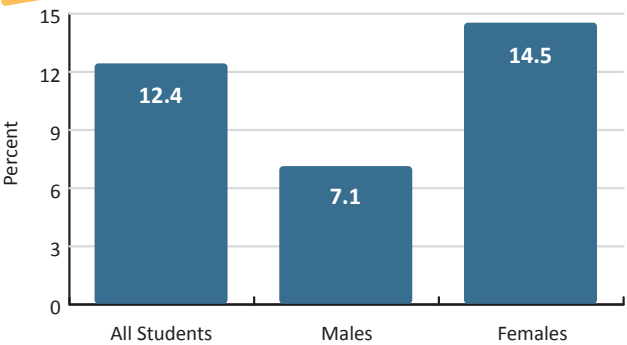


*Insufficient data.

The proportion of Metro State students who report being diagnosed with depression within their lifetime increases with age. Metro State students ages 30-39 report the highest rate of being diagnosed with depression within the past 12 months.

Currently Taking Medication for Depression

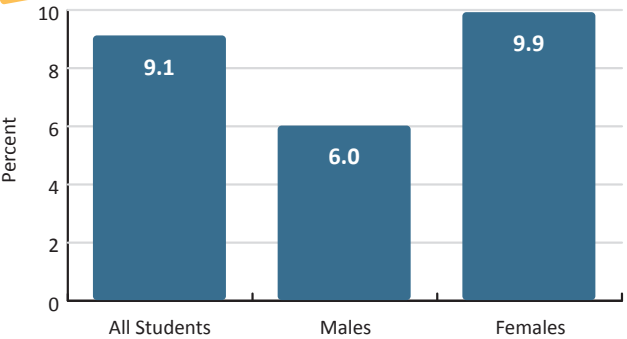
All Students by Gender



Overall, **12.4%** of Metropolitan State University students report they currently are taking medication for depression. Females report a higher rate of medication use for depression than males, which correlates with the higher depression diagnosis rates found in females compared to males.

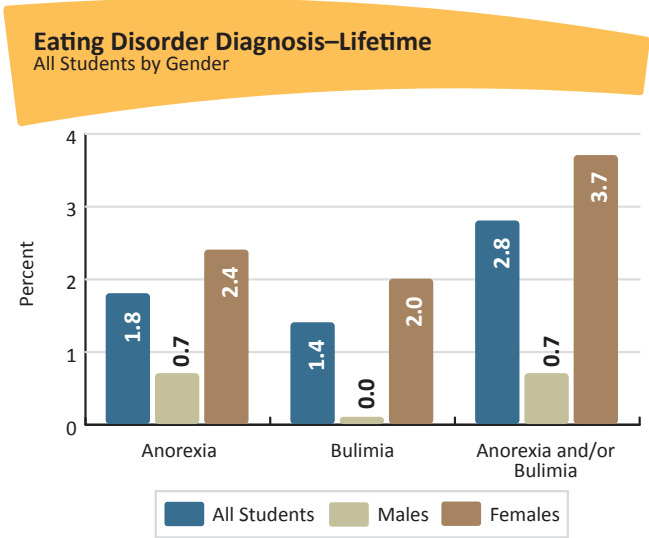
Currently Taking Medication for Mental Health Problems Other Than Depression

All Students by Gender

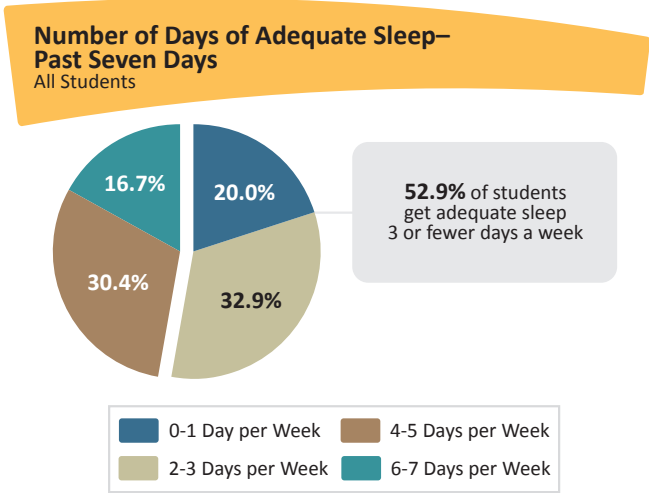


Female Metropolitan State University students report a higher rate of medication use for mental health problems other than depression than the university's male population. Overall, **9.1%** of students report taking medication for a mental health problem other than depression.

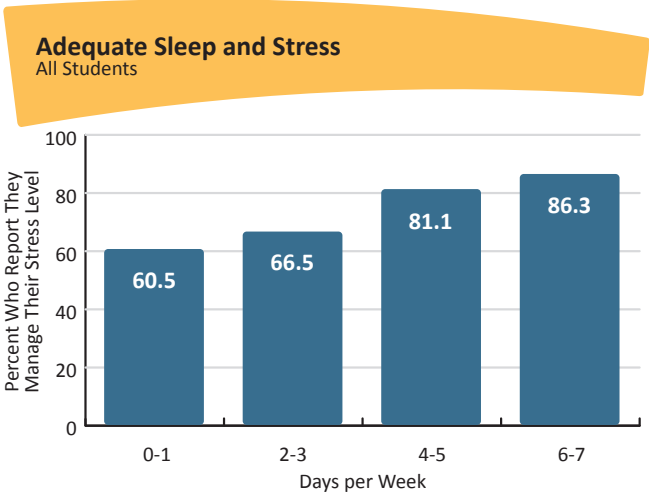
Among Metropolitan State University students, **0.7%** of males and **3.7%** of females report being diagnosed with anorexia and/or bulimia within their lifetime.



In response to a question that asked Metro State students how many of the past seven days they got enough sleep so they felt rested when they woke up in the morning, more than one-half (**52.9%**) of Metro State students report they received adequate sleep on three or fewer days over the previous seven days.



Receiving adequate sleep in the past seven days appears to have an impact on students’ ability to manage their stress level. Only **60.5%** of Metro State students who report receiving zero-one day per week of adequate sleep also report the ability to manage their stress, whereas **86.3%** of students who report six-seven days per week of adequate sleep also report the ability to manage their stress.



Results

Tobacco Use

Young adults transitioning between high school and college find themselves in an environment with increased opportunities to make personal and lifestyle decisions without supervision or input from their parents. Coupling this newfound freedom with growing academic pressure and an expanding social network can lead to experimentation and risky behaviors such as smoking. Preventing smoking among young adults is critical to reducing long-term use of tobacco products and the subsequent negative health consequences.

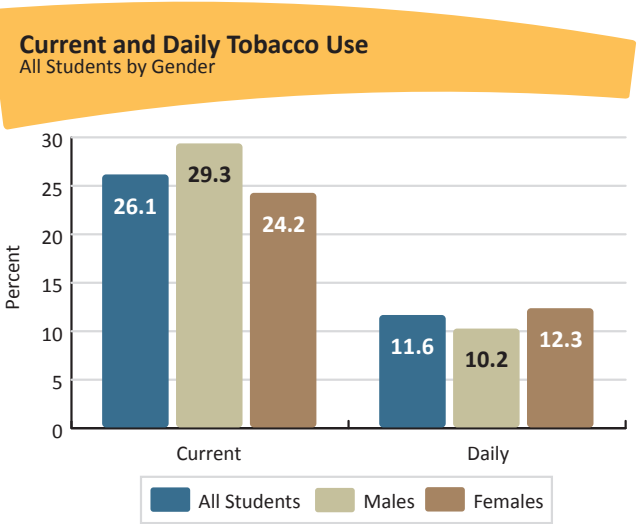
National Comparison

Recent research shows that current cigarette use by Americans of all ages peaks among young adults ages 21-25 at 37.7%, while 18- to 20-year-olds are not far behind at 33.1%.⁷ Nearly one in three (29.9%) full-time college students smoked cigarettes at least one time in the previous year; less than one in five (17.9%) smoked cigarettes at least one time in the previous 30 days; and less than one in 10 (8.0%) smoke cigarettes daily.⁸ Among young adults ages 18-25, 6.1% used smokeless tobacco in the previous month.⁷ Current cigarette smokers are more likely to use other tobacco products, alcohol, or illicit drugs than nonsmokers.⁷ Among all current smokers, 45.3% have stopped smoking for at least one day in the preceding 12 months.⁹ Of the 15 million college students in the United States, an estimated 1.7 million will die prematurely due to smoking-related illnesses.¹⁰ Clearly, the current level of tobacco use among college students poses a major health risk.

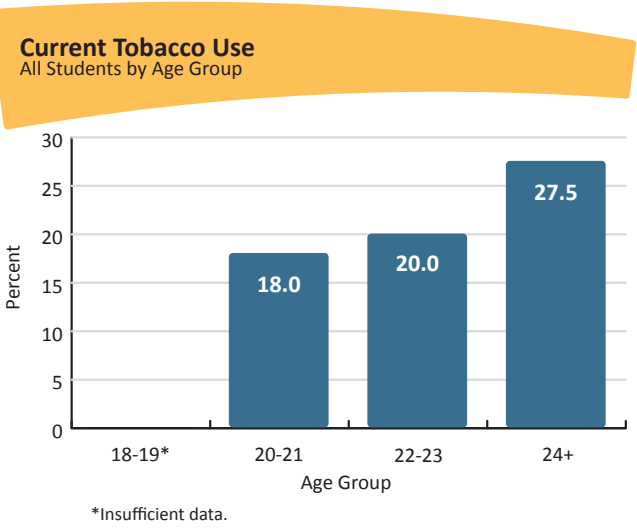
The current tobacco-use rate for Metropolitan State University students is **26.1%**, with a daily tobacco-use rate of **11.6%**. Males report a higher rate of current tobacco use compared to females, while females report a higher rate of daily tobacco use compared to males.

Definition:
Current Tobacco Use

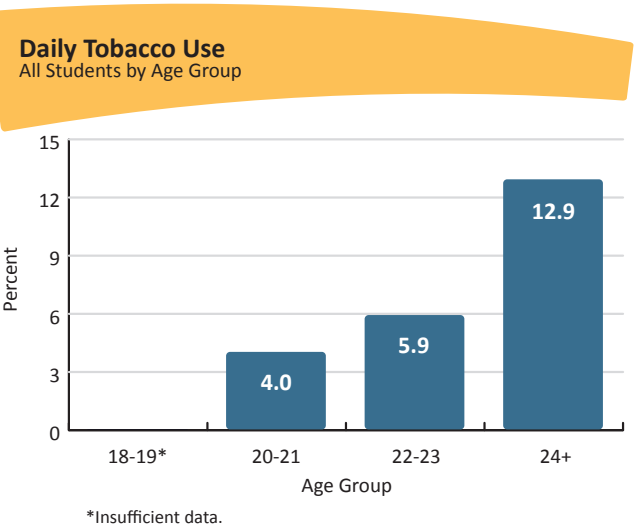
Any tobacco use in the past 30 days. Tobacco use includes both smoking and smokeless tobacco.



Among Metropolitan State University students, the rate of current tobacco use increases with age.

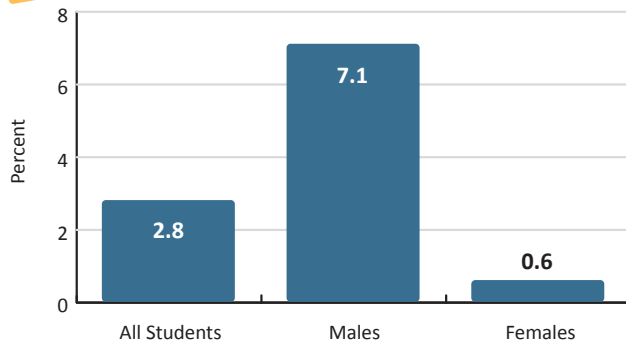


Among Metro State students, the rate of daily tobacco use also increases with age. More than one in eight (**12.9%**) Metro State students age 24 and older reports using tobacco daily.



Current Smokeless Tobacco Use

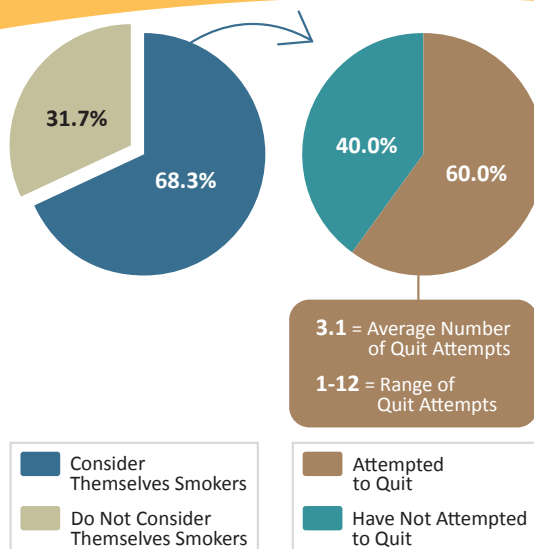
All Students by Gender



Overall, **7.1%** of male Metropolitan State University students report using smokeless tobacco during the past 30 days.

Quit Attempts—Past 12 Months

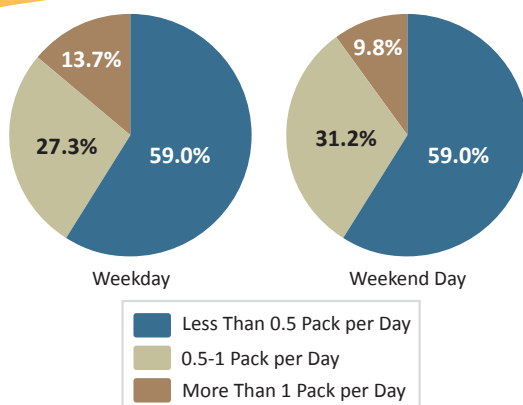
Current Smokers



Among students at Metropolitan State University who report using smoking tobacco in the past 30 days, **31.7%** do not consider themselves smokers. Among Metro State students who do consider themselves smokers, **60.0%** made at least one attempt to quit smoking over the past 12 months. These students made an average of **3.1** quit attempts during that same 12-month period.

Number of Cigarettes Smoked

Current Tobacco Users



For Metro State students who report using tobacco over the past 30 days, the percentage of those who say they smoke more than a pack of cigarettes per day decreases from **13.7%** on a weekday to **9.8%** on a weekend day.

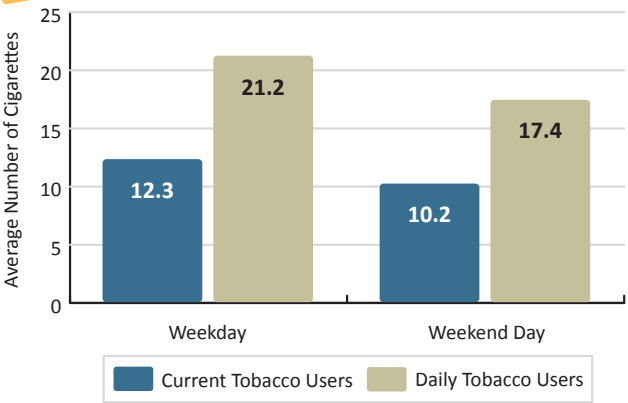
The average number of cigarettes smoked by Metro State students who are current tobacco users decreases from **12.3** per weekday to **10.2** per weekend day. For daily tobacco users, the average number decreases from **21.2** per weekday to **17.4** per weekend day.

Metropolitan State University students who used tobacco in the past 30 days report the most common locations of their use are where they live (outside), in a car, bars and restaurants (outside), and on campus (outside).

Metro State students were asked their opinion regarding a smoke-free policy on their campus. Approximately two-thirds (**66.7%**) of non-tobacco users and about one in four (**24.0%**) current tobacco users agree to strongly agree that their campus should implement a smoke-free policy prohibiting smoking both indoors and outdoors. Nearly one in 10 (**9.2%**) Metro State students incorrectly believe that their campus has a smoke-free policy prohibiting smoking both indoors and outdoors.

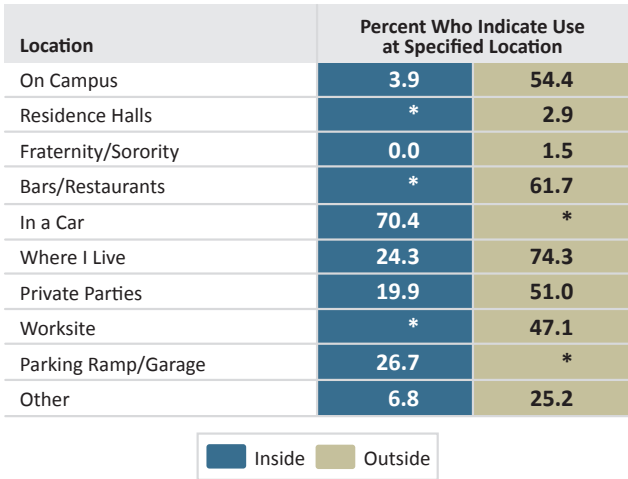
Average Number of Cigarettes Smoked

Current vs. Daily Tobacco Users



Tobacco-Use Location

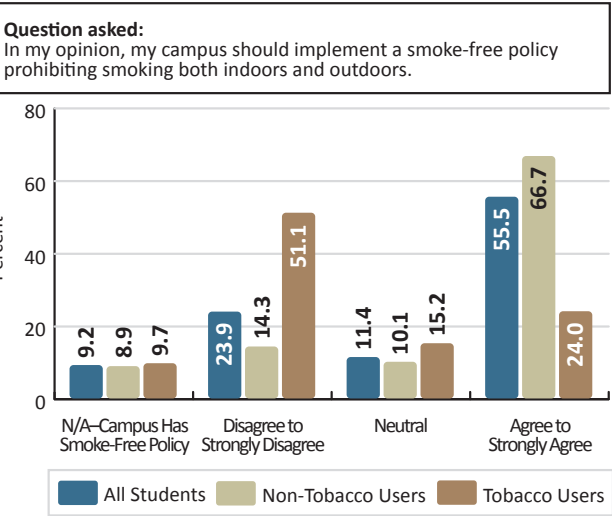
Current Tobacco Users



*Location not included in question.

Smoke-Free Campus Policy Support

All Students



Secondhand Smoke Exposure

All Students

Location	Percent Who Indicate Exposure					
	Nonsmokers		Smokers		All Students	
On Campus	0.8	19.8	0.5	32.5	0.7	23.0
Residence Halls	*	0.8	*	0.5	*	0.7
Fraternity/Sorority	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.2
Bars/Restaurants	*	17.1	*	43.7	*	23.6
In a Car	11.6	*	51.0	*	21.3	*
Where I Live	4.5	10.4	11.2	31.6	6.1	15.6
Private Parties	4.3	9.3	17.5	28.6	7.5	14.0
Worksite	*	12.1	*	27.7	*	15.9
Parking Ramp/Garage	8.5	*	13.1	*	9.6	*
Other	6.9	14.2	10.2	17.0	7.7	14.9
N/A—Never Exposed	46.7		16.0		39.0	

Inside

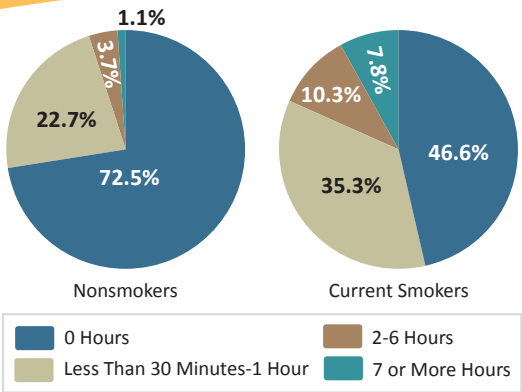
Outside

*Location not included in question.

For nonsmokers attending Metro State, on campus (outside) and bars and restaurants (outside) are the most commonly cited locations for exposure to secondhand smoke. In a car and bars and restaurants (outside) are the most frequently reported locations for exposure to secondhand smoke by smokers.

Secondhand Smoke Exposure—Per Week

Nonsmokers vs. Current Smokers

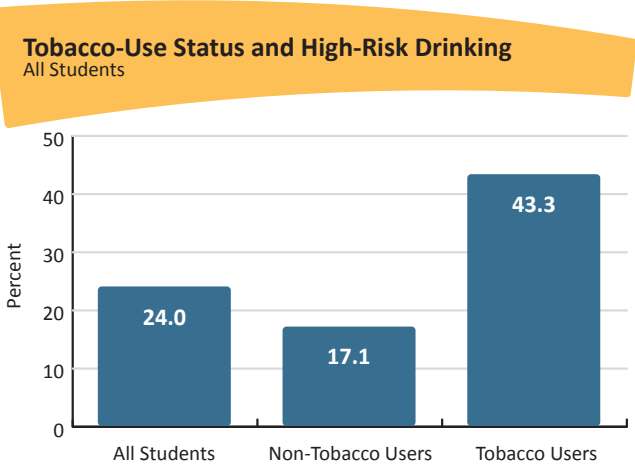


For nonsmokers attending Metropolitan State University, **4.8%** report being exposed to secondhand smoke two or more hours per week. For current smokers, **18.1%** report being exposed to secondhand smoke for two or more hours per week.

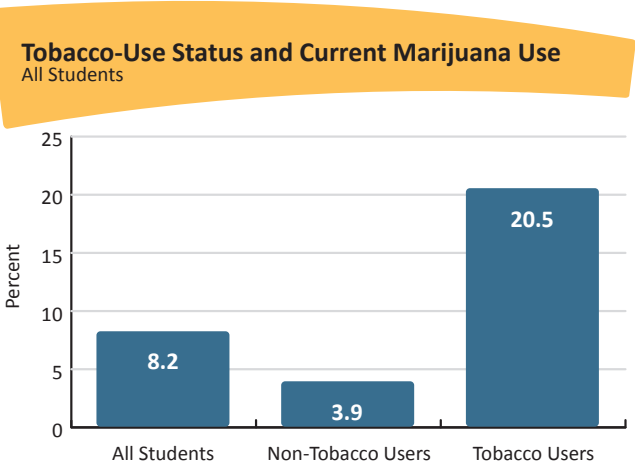
Metropolitan State University students who use tobacco tend to have a higher rate of high-risk drinking compared to Metro State students who are non-tobacco users (**43.3%** vs. **17.1%**, respectively).

Definition:
High-Risk Drinking

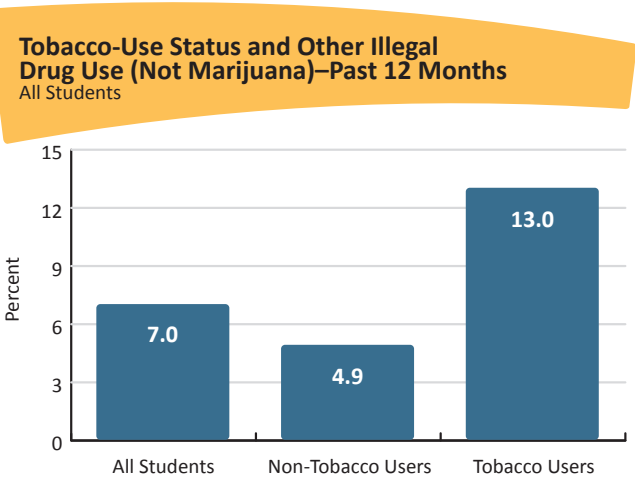
Consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks at one sitting within the past two weeks for both males and females. A drink is defined as a bottle of beer, wine cooler, glass of wine, shot glass of liquor, or mixed drink.



Similar to the relationship between high-risk drinking and tobacco use, use of marijuana in the past 30 days by Metro State students is higher among tobacco users (**20.5%**) compared to non-tobacco users (**3.9%**). This is a more than fivefold increase in the rate.



As with high-risk drinking and marijuana use, the use of other illegal drugs is associated with tobacco use. Tobacco users who attend Metro State use illegal drugs other than marijuana at more than two times the rate of non-tobacco users who attend the university (**13.0%** vs. **4.9%**, respectively).



Results

Alcohol Use and Other Drug Use

For some young adults, college life includes an introduction to or increase in the use of alcohol, marijuana, and various illicit drugs. Whether students are using these substances to signify emergence into adulthood, enhance their social life, or cope with stress, substance abuse can lead to a decline in classroom performance, lower grades, aggressive behavior, property damage, and personal injury.

National Comparison

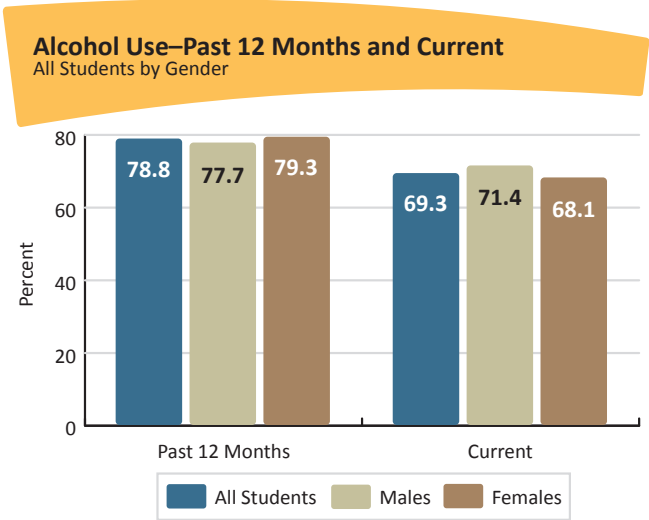
American college students consume alcohol and other drugs at very high rates. Among full-time college students, more than four in five (82.6%) have consumed alcohol at least one time, nearly four in five (79.4%) have consumed alcohol in the past year, and nearly two in three (65.8%) consume alcohol monthly.⁸ The rate of binge drinking (consuming five or more alcoholic beverages in a row in the previous two weeks) peaks between ages 21 and 25 at 46.5% and is 34.7% among 18- to 20-year-olds.⁷ Young adults ages 18 to 22 who are enrolled in college full-time are more likely than their peers who are not enrolled in college full-time to consume alcohol monthly and to binge drink.⁷

Approximately one-half (51.4%) of full-time college students have used an illicit drug at least once in their lifetime, more than one-third (36.0%) of full-time college students have used an illicit drug at least once in the past year, and approximately one in five (20.7%) full-time college students have used an illicit drug in the last month.⁸ Marijuana is the illicit drug of choice for full-time college students, with nearly half (47.5%) of students having used the drug at least once in their lifetime and almost one-third (32.8%) having used it in the past year.⁸ Among full-time college students, 7.5% have used amphetamines, 4.2% have used cocaine, and 0.4% have used heroin in the previous year.⁸

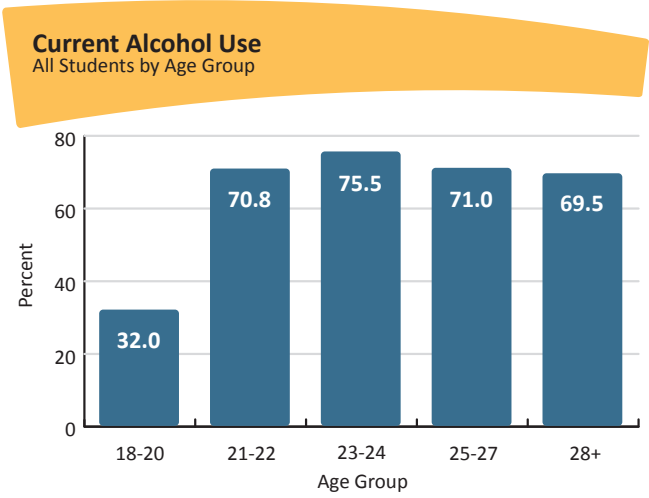
Among Metropolitan State University students, **78.8%** report using alcohol in the past 12 months and **69.3%** report using alcohol in the past 30 days. Females report a slightly higher rate of past-12-month alcohol use compared to males, while males report a slightly higher rate of current alcohol use compared to females.

Definition: Past-12-Month Alcohol Use
Any alcohol use within the past year.

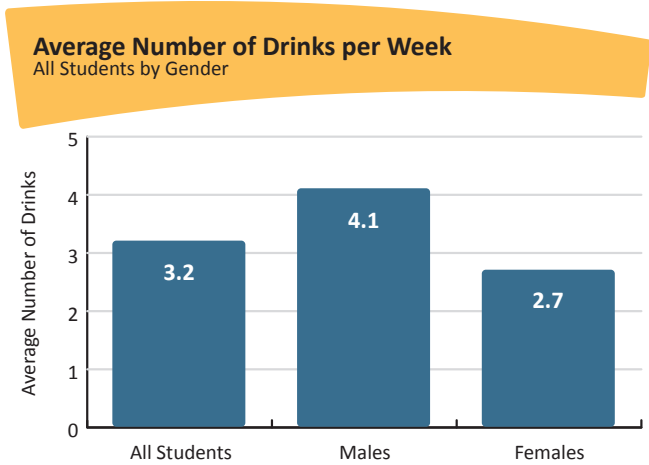
Definition: Current Alcohol Use
Any alcohol use within the past 30 days.



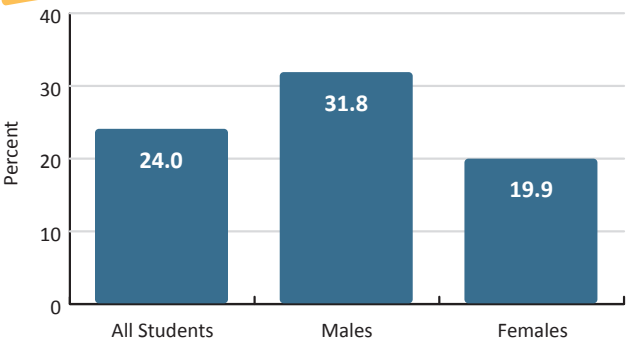
Nearly one in three (**32.0%**) Metro State students ages 18-20 report consuming alcohol in the past 30 days. Approximately three in four (**75.5%**) Metro State students ages 23-24 report consuming alcohol over the same time period.



Male Metro State students consume a higher average number of drinks per week than female students at the university. The average number of drinks per week may serve as an indicator of overall alcohol use.

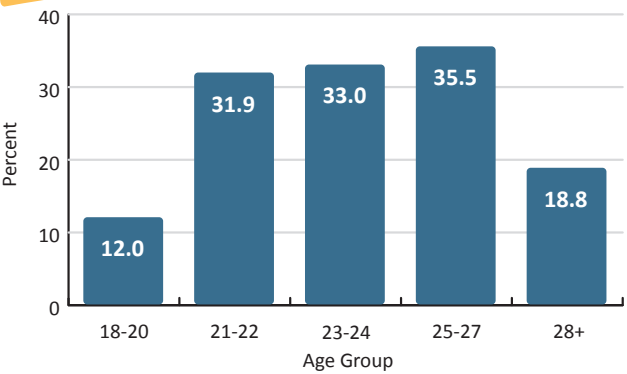


High-Risk Drinking
All Students by Gender



Male students at Metropolitan State University report a higher rate of high-risk drinking compared to female Metro State students (**31.8%** vs. **19.9%**, respectively).

High-Risk Drinking
All Students by Age Group



Among Metropolitan State University students, the peak years for engaging in high-risk drinking are between ages 21 and 27.

High-Risk Drinking Rates on Campus—
Perceived vs. Actual
All Students

Question asked:
In the past two weeks, what percentage of students at your school do you think had five or more drinks at a sitting? (One drink = one shot of alcohol, 12-ounce can of beer, mixed drink containing 1 or 1.5 ounces of alcohol, 12-ounce wine cooler, or 5-ounce glass of wine.)

High-Risk Drinking Status	Students' Perception of High-Risk Drinking by School Peers	Actual High-Risk Drinking Rate
All Students	24.2%	24.0% of All Students
High-Risk Drinkers	31.7%	
Non-High-Risk Drinkers	21.8%	

Metro State students who have engaged in high-risk drinking tend to overestimate this behavior among their peers (**31.7%**), while those who have not engaged in high-risk drinking underestimate this behavior among their peers (**21.8%**). The estimate from all students is **24.2%**, and the actual high-risk drinking rate at the university is **24.0%**.

The blood alcohol content (BAC) of a student during the most recent socializing/partying occasion was calculated based on answers to four different survey questions (gender, current body weight, amount of alcohol consumed, and time period of consumption). It should be noted that the BAC calculated in this study is an estimate. This information is self-reported, and students tend to underestimate the actual amount of alcohol they consume.

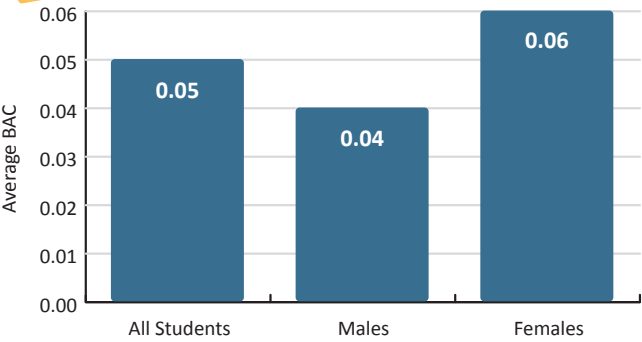
Blood Alcohol Content

Blood alcohol content (BAC) measures the percentage of alcohol in a person's blood. The calculation of BAC is based on a formula that takes into account the following factors:

- Gender
- Current body weight
- Amount of alcohol consumed (number of drinks)
- Time period of consumption
- Concentration of alcohol in the beverage consumed (based on the alcohol content of one typical can of beer containing 4.5% alcohol)

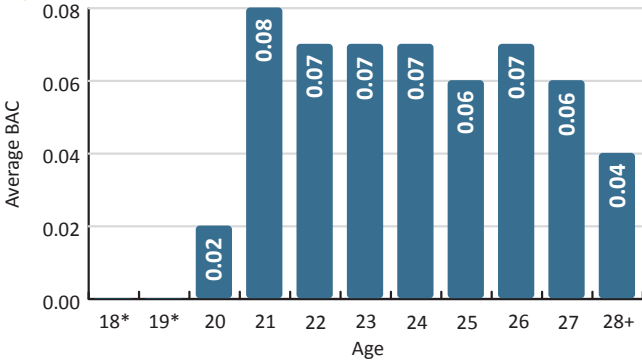
For students attending Metropolitan State University, the average estimated blood alcohol content, based on the last time the student partied/socialized, is **0.05**. The average estimated BAC for females is higher than the average estimated BAC for males.

Average Estimated Blood Alcohol Content All Students by Gender



The average estimated BAC levels for Metropolitan State University students range from **0.02** to **0.08**, with the estimated BAC for all survey respondents averaging **0.05**. Students age 21 report an average estimated BAC level of **0.08**, which meets the legal driving limit for individuals of legal drinking age.

Average Estimated Blood Alcohol Content All Students by Age



*Insufficient data.

Negative Consequences of Alcohol/Drug Use

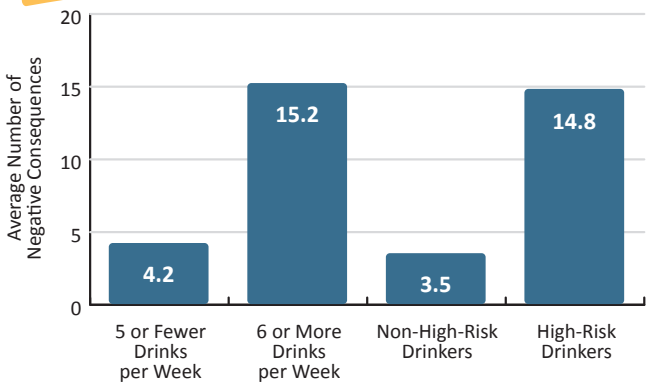
All Students

Negative Consequence Due to Alcohol/Drug Use	Percent Who Report Experiencing Within Past 12 Months
Had a Hangover	50.6
Performed Poorly on a Test or Important Project	14.4
Been in Trouble With Police, Residence Hall, or Other College Authorities	1.2
Damaged Property, Pulled Fire Alarms, etc.	0.7
Got into an Argument or Fight	13.8
Got Nauseated or Vomited	28.6
Driven a Car While Under the Influence	12.8
Missed a Class	11.4
Been Criticized by Someone I Know	14.2
Thought I Might Have a Drinking or Other Drug Problem	8.0
Had a Memory Loss	14.7
Done Something I Later Regretted	16.7
Been Arrested for DWI/DUI	0.6
Have Been Taken Advantage of Sexually	1.4
Have Taken Advantage of Another Sexually	0.4
Tried Unsuccessfully to Stop Using	4.2
Seriously Thought About Suicide	2.6
Seriously Tried to Commit Suicide	0.1
Been Hurt or Injured	6.0

More than one in eight (**12.8%**) Metropolitan State University students report having driven a car while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Among Metro State students, **11.4%** report missing a class and **14.4%** report performing poorly on a test or project as a result of alcohol/drug use.

Average Number of Negative Consequences

All Students by Average Number of Drinks and High-Risk Drinking



A strong association exists between the average number of drinks Metro State students consumed per week and the total number of reported negative consequences they experienced over the past 12 months. An association also exists between engaging in high-risk drinking within the past two weeks and reported negative consequences.

The rates for the negative consequences identified generally are three to four times higher among Metro State students who have engaged in high-risk drinking compared to Metro State students who have not engaged in high-risk drinking. More than one in four (29.0%) students who have engaged in high-risk drinking has driven while under the influence of alcohol or drugs one or more times in the past 12 months.

Students were asked if they would call 911 when someone “passes out” due to alcohol/drug use and they are unable to wake the individual. In this example of a situation in which 911 must be called, 70.0% of all Metropolitan State University students report they would be “very likely” to call for emergency assistance.

The rate for any marijuana use within the past 12 months is 13.9% for all Metropolitan State University students, while the current marijuana-use rate is 8.2% for all Metro State students. Both the past-12-month and current marijuana-use rates are higher for males than for females.

Definition:
Past-12-Month Marijuana Use
Any marijuana use within the past year.

Definition:
Current Marijuana Use
Any marijuana use within the past 30 days.

High-Risk Drinking and Selected Consequences*
All Students

Negative Consequence	Percent		
Driven a Car While Under the Influence	12.8	7.7	29.0
Got into an Argument or Fight	13.8	8.4	30.5
Performed Poorly on a Test or Important Project	14.4	9.6	29.0
Missed a Class	11.4	8.4	20.5
Have Been Taken Advantage of Sexually (Includes Males and Females)	1.4	0.9	3.0

All Students

Non-High-Risk Drinkers

High-Risk Drinkers

*The rate for high-risk drinking is based on behavior in the past two weeks while the rate for negative consequences is based on reported experiences within the previous 12-month period.

Likelihood of Calling 911 in an Alcohol/Drug-Related Situation
All Students

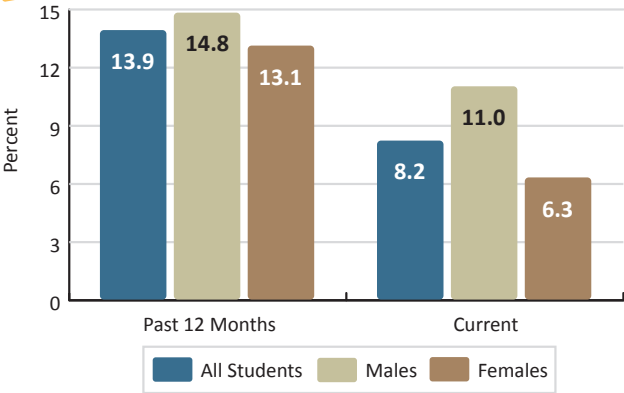
Response	Percent		
Very Likely	70.0	80.4	65.4
Somewhat Likely	16.6	12.2	18.5
Somewhat Unlikely	9.5	4.7	11.6
Very Unlikely	3.9	2.7	4.5

All Students

Students Who Did Not Use Alcohol Within the Past 30 Days

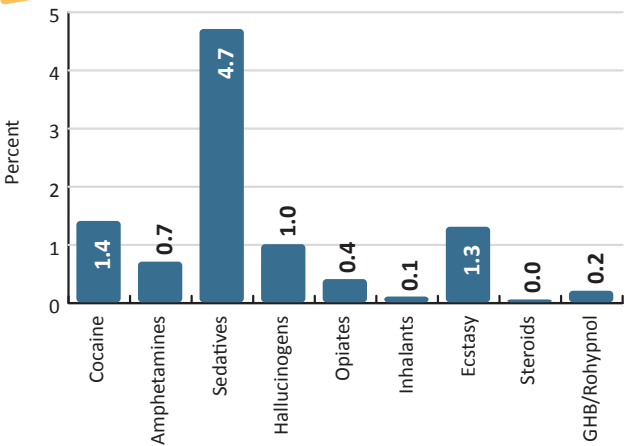
Students Who Did Use Alcohol Within the Past 30 Days

Marijuana Use—Past 12 Months and Current
All Students by Gender



Selected Drug Use—Past 12 Months

All Students



The illicit drug most commonly used by Metro State students is sedatives (4.7%). Further analysis shows that among Metro State students, 7.0% report having used at least one of the nine listed illicit drugs. In addition, 5.0% of students report using another person’s prescription drugs.

Results

Personal Safety and Financial Health

The health of students and their subsequent success in academic life depends on a multitude of factors both intrinsic and extrinsic to the individual. Safety and personal finances are natural sources of concern for students, parents, and college personnel. A safe campus offers students the opportunity to pursue learning in an environment free from threats to their physical or emotional well-being. As college populations become more diverse, the challenge of creating a safe environment becomes more complex. Students’ decisions related to finances also affect their academic success. This section concentrates on the areas of personal safety and financial health.

National Comparison

Though many efforts are made to reduce violence and victimization on campus, these unfortunate events still occur. Current data show that almost one in six (17.6%) women and one in 33 (3.0%) men in the United States have been victims of rape or attempted rape in their lifetime.¹¹ Based on estimates by the National Institute of Justice, 20.0% of American women experience rape or attempted rape while in college, but fewer than 5.0% of college rape victims report the incident to the police.¹²

Financial health is another area of concern. According to the U.S. Department of Education, the average price of college attendance was \$14,000 for all undergraduates and \$22,400 for all full-time, full-year undergraduate students in 2007-2008.¹³ In 2007-2008, 65.6% of all undergraduates received some type of financial aid, and the average amount of aid received was \$9,100.¹³ Nearly two in five (38.5%) undergraduate students borrowed money through a school loan, and the average loan amount was \$7,100.¹³ More than four in five (84.0%) college students in the United States have at least one credit card, and one-half (50.0%) have four or more credit cards.¹⁴ The average credit card debt per U.S. college student is \$3,173.¹⁴ More than two-fifths (41.9%) of college students report that they participated in some type of gambling activity during the previous school year.¹⁵

More than one in three (**35.1%**) female students at Metropolitan State University report experiencing a sexual assault within their lifetime, with **3.6%** reporting having been assaulted within the past 12 months. Male Metro State students have experienced sexual assault at lower rates, with **5.0%** reporting an assault within their lifetime and **0.0%** reporting an assault within the past 12 months.

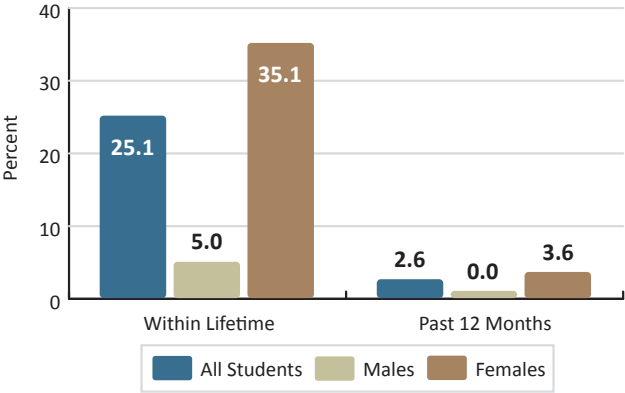
Sexual Assault–Lifetime and Past 12 Months

All Students by Gender

Sexual assault is defined as answering yes to at least one of the following two questions:

Within your lifetime or during the past 12 months, have you:

- Experienced actual or attempted sexual intercourse without your consent or against your will?
- Experienced actual or attempted sexual touching without your consent or against your will?



Among female Metropolitan State University students, approximately two in five (**40.1%**) report experiencing domestic violence within their lifetime. More than one in eight (**13.8%**) male Metro State students report having had the experience.

Further examination of data shows that nearly one in five (**17.9%**) students at the university report either sexually assaulting or inflicting domestic violence on another person within their lifetime. Of those who report being a perpetrator of sexual assault or domestic violence, **52.3%** indicate they have been a victim of a sexual assault within their lifetime.

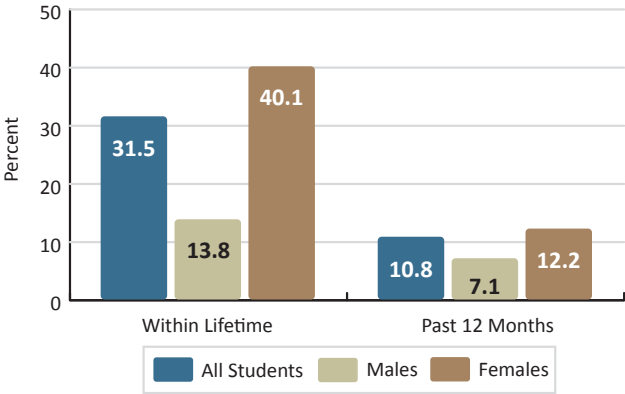
Domestic Violence–Lifetime and Past 12 Months

All Students by Gender

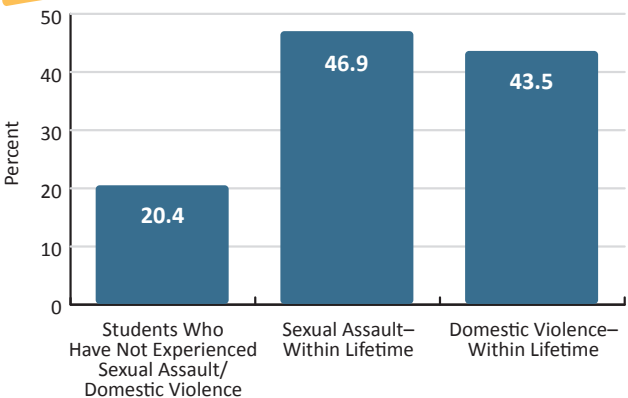
Domestic violence is defined as answering yes to at least one of the following two questions:

Within your lifetime or during the past 12 months, have you:

- Been slapped, kicked, or pushed by your significant other or spouse/partner?
- Been hurt by threats, “put-downs,” or yelling by your significant other or spouse/partner?

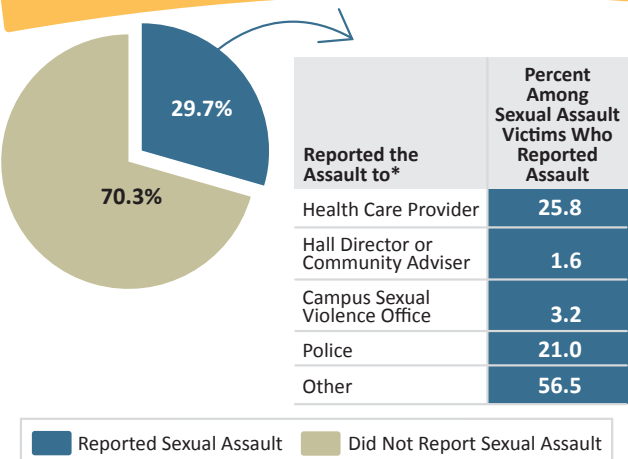


Depression Diagnosis–Lifetime
All Students by Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence



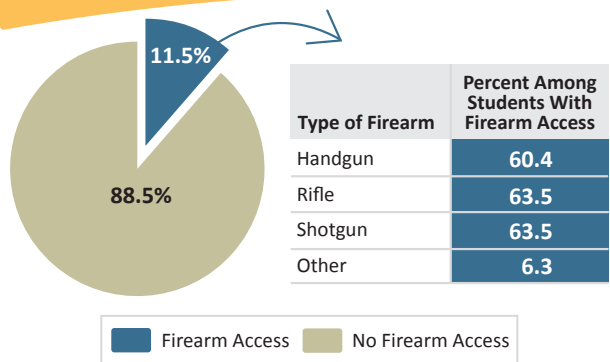
For students who report being victims of sexual assault, **46.9%** also say they have been diagnosed with depression within their lifetime; **43.5%** of victims of domestic violence say they have had a diagnosis of depression within their lifetime. It should be noted these rates are higher than the lifetime depression rate reported among Metro State students who have not experienced sexual assault or domestic violence within their lifetime.

Sexual Assault Reporting by Victims–Lifetime
Sexual Assault Victims



Of Metropolitan State University students who indicate they have experienced a sexual assault within their lifetime (25.1%), only **29.7%** state they reported the incident. Of the Metro State students who chose to report the incident, **21.0%** reported it to the police and **25.8%** reported it to a health care provider.

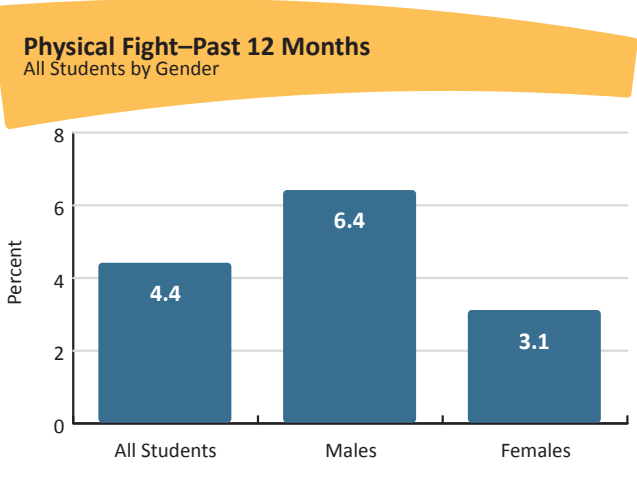
Firearm Access
All Students



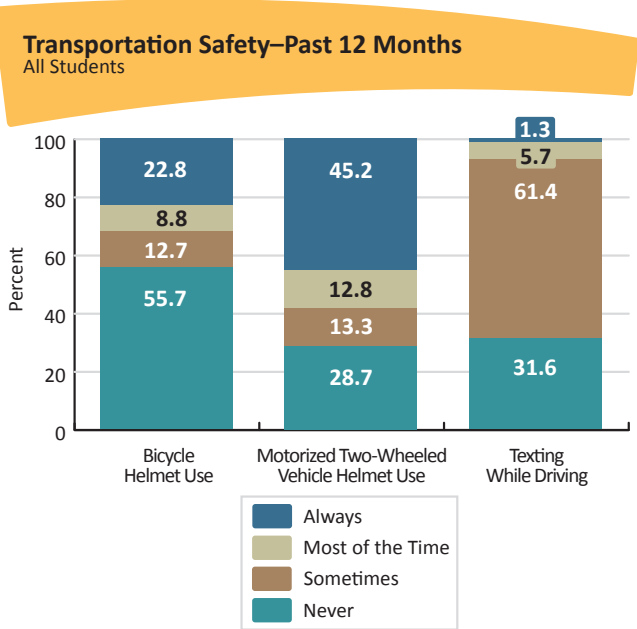
More than one-ninth (**11.5%**) of Metropolitan State University students report they have immediate access to a firearm, **19.4%** for males and **7.0%** for females. Of those who have access to a firearm, **60.4%** report they have access to a handgun.

Further analysis shows that **8.6%** of students attending Metropolitan State University state they carried a weapon (e.g., gun, knife) within the past 12 months. This does not include carrying a weapon while hunting.

Male students at Metropolitan State University are more likely to report having engaged in a physical fight over the past 12 months compared to female Metro State students (6.4% vs. 3.1%, respectively).



Among students at Metro State who rode a bicycle, only 31.6% report wearing a helmet always or most of the time while riding the bicycle. Nearly three in five (58.0%) students who rode a motorized two-wheeled vehicle report they wear a helmet always or most of the time while on the vehicle. More than two-thirds (68.4%) of students report texting sometimes, most of the time, or always while driving.



More than one in four (28.5%) Metro State students report experiencing at least one injury over the past 12 months. The injuries most commonly reported during this period are due to falls and miscellaneous causes.

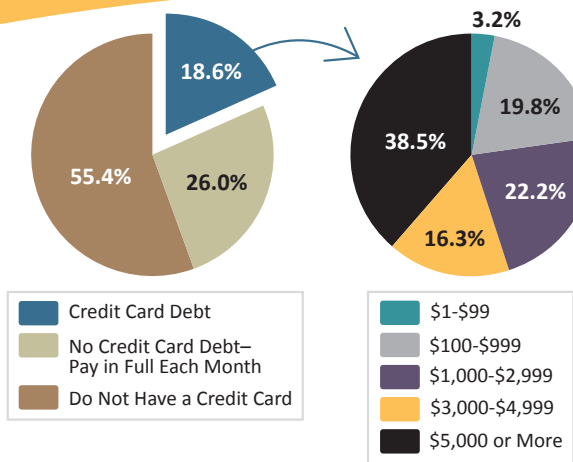
Injuries—Past 12 Months

All Students

Type of Injury	Percent Who Report Experiencing Within Past 12 Months
Assaulted by Another Person (Nonsexual)	2.0
Burned by Fire or a Hot Substance	3.1
Motor Vehicle Related	2.9
Team Sports	3.0
Individual Sports	4.9
Bicycle Related	1.7
Falls	10.1
Other	9.9
Not Applicable—I Was Not Injured	71.5

Current Credit Card Debt

All Students



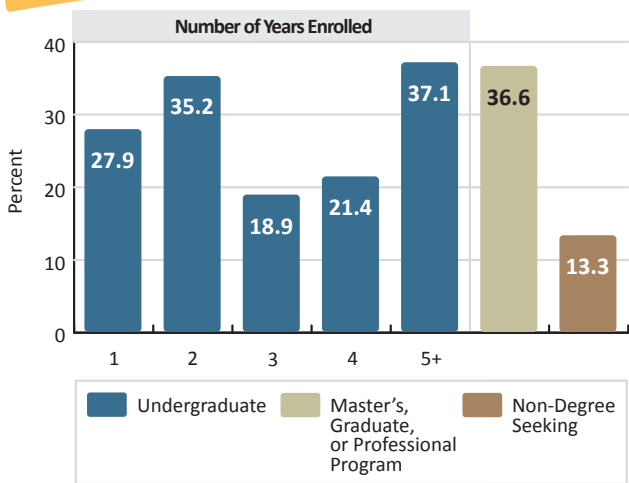
Less than one-fifth (**18.6%**) of Metropolitan State University students report carrying some level of credit card debt over the past month. Of those who carry a monthly credit card balance, **54.8%** report the debt as \$3,000 per month or more.

Definition:
Current Credit Card Debt

Any unpaid balance at the end of the past month.

Credit Card Debt and Class Status

All Students



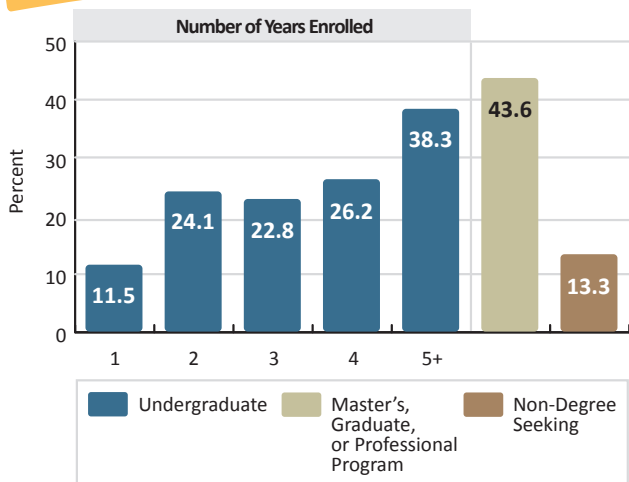
The rate of monthly credit card debt of \$3,000 or more ranges from **18.9%** among Metro State undergraduate students enrolled three years to **37.1%** among Metro State undergraduate students enrolled five or more years.

Definition:
Credit Card Debt

A monthly debt of \$3,000 or more.

Student Loan Balance and Class Status

All Students

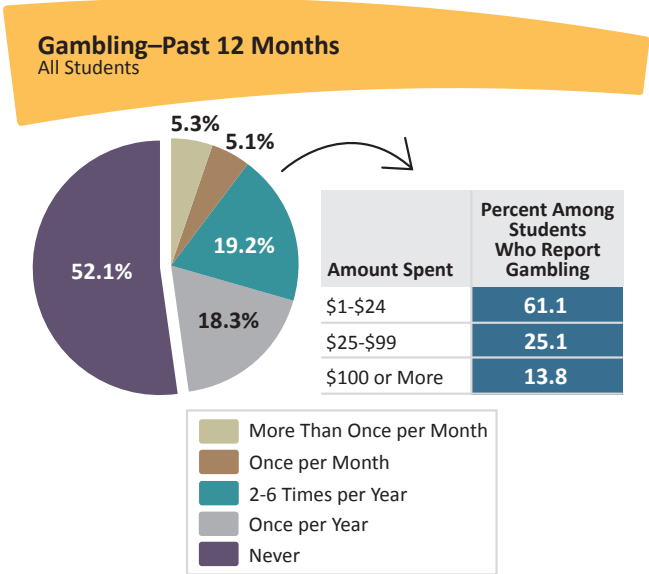


The percentage of Metro State students who report a student loan balance of \$20,000 or more increases from **11.5%** among undergraduate students enrolled one year to **38.3%** among undergraduate students enrolled five or more years. More than two in five (**43.6%**) students enrolled in a master's, graduate, or professional program report a student loan balance or \$20,000 or more.

Definition:
Student Loan Balance

A student loan balance of \$20,000 or more.

Nearly one-half (**47.9%**) of Metropolitan State University students report engaging in gambling over the past 12-month period. Approximately one in 10 (**10.4%**) report gambling at least once a month. Of the **47.9%** who gambled within the past year, **13.8%** report spending \$100 or more per month.



Results

Nutrition and Physical Activity

For many students, the college years represent a time of new experiences and increased opportunities to make personal health decisions. Some of these decisions encompass the areas of nutrition and physical activity. Students are on their own, free to eat what they want, when they want. Busy academic and social schedules can take priority over eating well and exercising regularly. Class and work schedules vary from day to day and change every semester. Lifestyle changes, peer pressure, and limited finances may lead to an increase in stress, triggering overeating that results in weight gain. In addition, the steady availability of a wide variety of food, both nutritious and not so nutritious, can make wise food choices difficult.

National Comparison

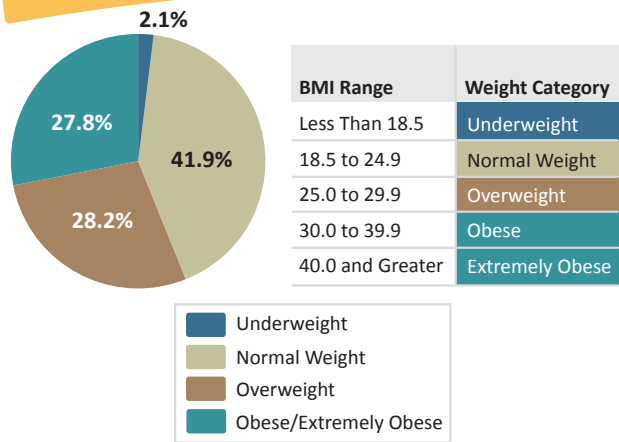
Research shows that young adults in the United States generally eat fewer fruits and vegetables but are more physically active compared to older adults.¹ Young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 (20.3%) are slightly less likely than all adults (23.4%) to eat fruits and vegetables five or more times per day.¹ Young adults between the ages of 18 and 27 report consuming breakfast an average of 3.1 days per week and consuming fast food an average of 2.5 days per week.¹⁶ The rate of obesity among young adults ages 18 to 24 is 17.7%.¹

Nationwide, 82.1% of young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 compared to 76.2% of all adults report participating in at least one physical activity during the last month.¹ Approximately three out of five (61.4%) 18- to 24-year-olds report engaging in at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity five or more days per week or at least 20 minutes of vigorous physical activity three or more days per week; for all adults, the rate is 49.0%.¹

Body mass index (BMI) is a common and reliable indicator of body fatness.¹⁷ BMI equals the weight in kilograms divided by the height in meters squared (BMI = kg/m²). This table presents weight categories based on BMI ranges.

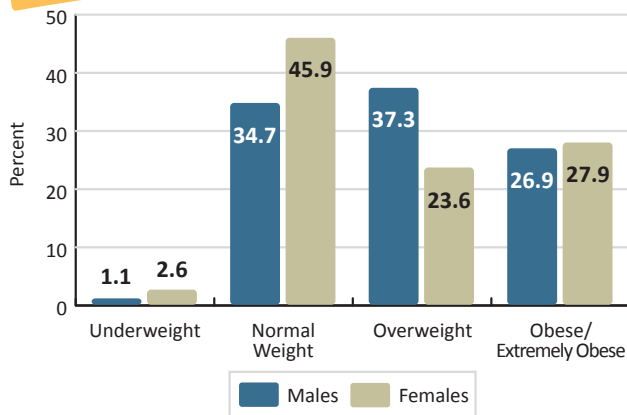
More than one in two (**56.0%**) Metropolitan State University students fall within the overweight or obese/extremely obese category. This is based on self-reported height and weight.

BMI Category
All Students



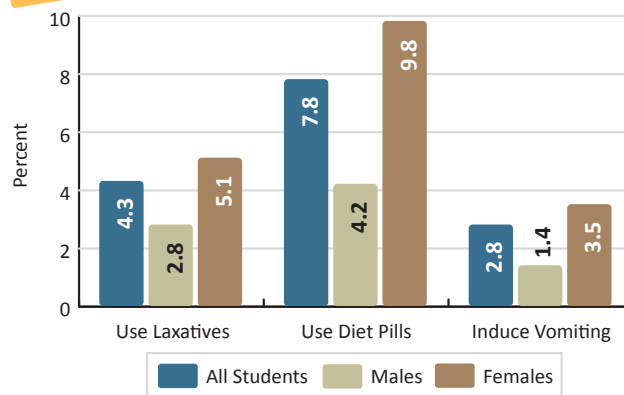
Data analysis shows that the average body mass index for male Metropolitan State University survey respondents is **27.9**, and the average BMI for female Metro State survey respondents is **27.0**. For both male and female students, these averages fall within the overweight category. Nearly two in three (**64.2%**) males and more than one in two females (**51.5%**) fall within the overweight or obese/extremely obese category.

BMI Category
All Students by Gender



Survey respondents at Metropolitan State University were asked to report their engagement in any of the following activities in an attempt to control their weight: laxative use, diet pill use, and induced vomiting. Compared to males, females engage in these behaviors at higher rates.

Weight-Related Behaviors
All Students by Gender



Weight-Related Behaviors

All Students by BMI Category

Behavior	Percent			
	Underweight	Normal Weight	Overweight	Obese/Extremely Obese
Use Laxatives	0.0	4.4	5.2	3.5
Use Diet Pills	0.0	5.8	10.8	8.3
Induce Vomiting	0.0	2.9	3.0	2.6

Underweight

Normal Weight

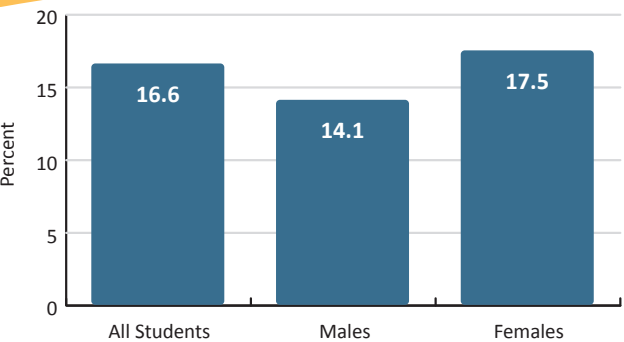
Overweight

Obese/Extremely Obese

Metropolitan State University students within the overweight category report the highest rates of laxative use, diet pill use, and induced vomiting.

Binge-Eating Behavior–Past 12 Months

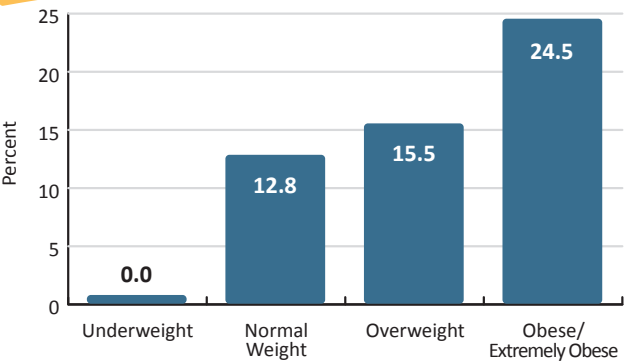
All Students by Gender



As with other weight-related behaviors, females at Metropolitan State University engage in binge eating at a higher rate than males at the university. More than one out of six (17.5%) females report they engaged in binge eating over the past 12 months.

Binge-Eating Behavior–Past 12 Months

All Students by BMI Category



As BMI increases, the rate of reported binge-eating behavior among Metropolitan State University students also increases.

Metro State students classified as obese/ extremely obese report the highest rates of never eating breakfast within the past seven days and of fast food consumption once a week or more within the past 12 months. The highest rate of eating at a restaurant once a week or more within the past 12 months is for students classified as normal weight.

Meal Patterns
All Students by BMI Category

Behavior	Percent			
Breakfast Consumption (Past 7 Days)				
0 Days per Week	5.9	5.5	4.3	6.1
1-3 Days per Week	23.5	23.5	25.1	25.3
4-7 Days per Week	70.6	71.0	70.6	68.6
Fast Food Consumption (Past 12 Months)				
1-2 Times per Month or Less	76.5	66.4	61.6	42.8
Once per Week or More	23.5	33.6	38.4	57.2
Eat at Restaurant (Past 12 Months)				
1-2 Times per Month or Less	58.8	51.0	55.2	55.0
Once per Week or More	41.2	49.0	44.8	45.0

Underweight

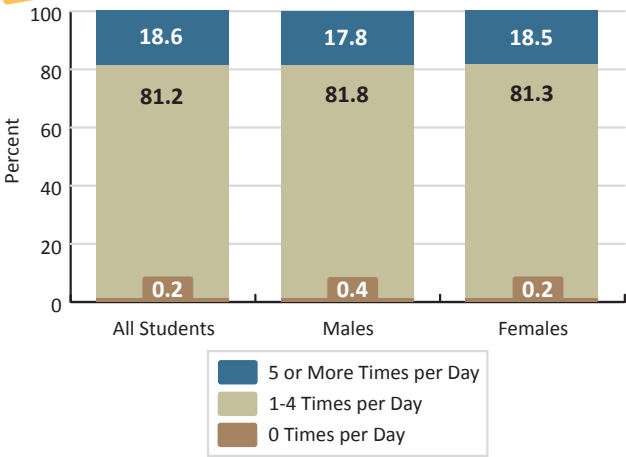
Overweight

Normal Weight

Obese/Extremely Obese

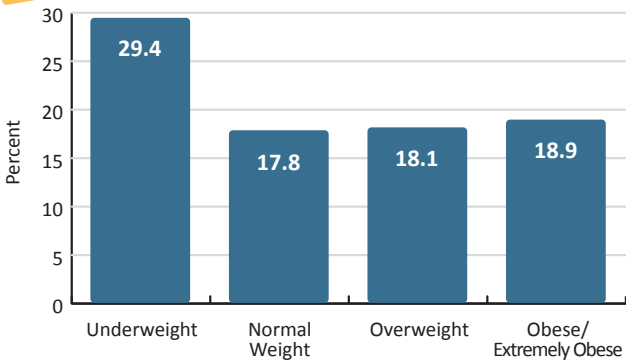
A majority of Metro State students consume fruits and vegetables one to four times per day. Only **18.6%** of all students consume fruits and vegetables five or more times per day. Based on the reported number of times per day fruits and vegetables are consumed, an average number of times per day can be calculated. Males and females consume fruits and vegetables on average **3.2** times per day.

Fruit and Vegetable Consumption—Per Day
All Students by Gender



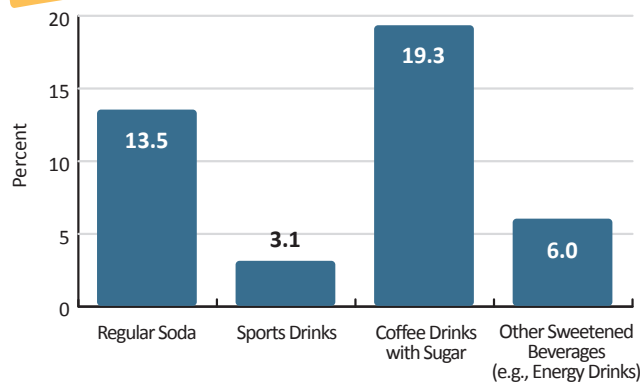
Across all BMI categories, the majority of Metro State students eat less than the recommended amount of fruits and vegetables per day. Only **17.8%** of normal weight students eat fruits and vegetables five or more times per day.

Fruit and Vegetable Consumption—5 or More Times Per Day
All Students by BMI Category



Daily Sweetened Beverage Consumption

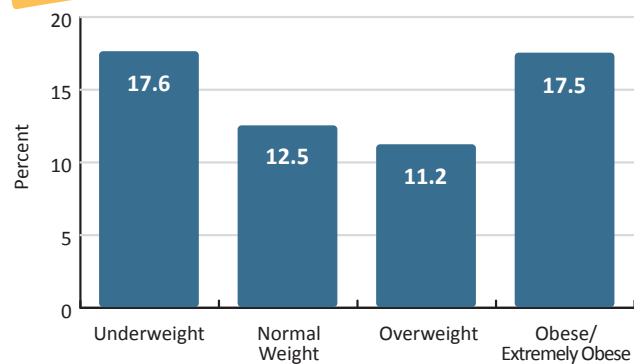
All Students



Students were asked to report their consumption of sweetened beverages. Metro State students report higher rates of daily consumption of regular soda (13.5%) and coffee drinks with sugar (19.3%) than sports drinks (3.1%) and other sweetened beverages including energy drinks (6.0%).

Daily Regular Soda Consumption

All Students by BMI Category



Metro State students who are classified as underweight or obese/extremely obese report higher levels of daily consumption of regular soda compared to normal weight and overweight students. It should be noted that the number of students who consume regular soda on a daily basis does not reflect the actual quantity of soda consumed per day.

Physical Activity Level

All Students

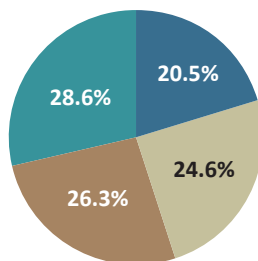
Students were asked several questions related to their physical activity level. The two survey questions that relate to recommendations outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are:

In the past seven days, how many hours did you spend doing the following activities?

- Strenuous exercise (heart beats rapidly)
- Moderate exercise (not exhausting)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s recommendations for adults are to:

- Engage in moderate-intensity physical activity for at least 30 minutes on five or more days of the week or
- Engage in vigorous-intensity physical activity for at least 20 minutes on three or more days per week.¹⁶



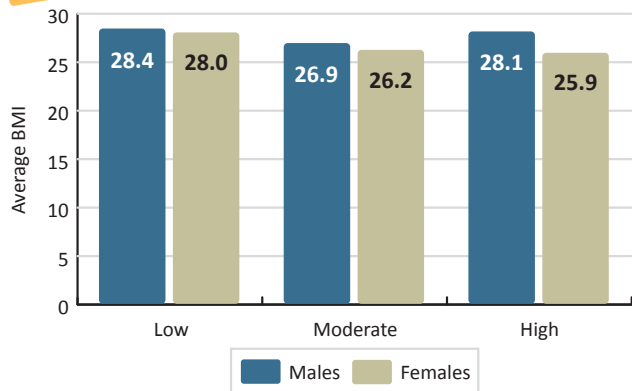
Zero Low Moderate High

Based on their response to the two questions, students were classified into one of four physical activity levels (zero, low, moderate, or high). The moderate and high classifications meet the CDC’s recommended level of physical activity.

More than one in two (54.9%) Metro State students report levels of physical activity that place them in the moderate or high classification, meeting the CDC’s recommendations.

For female Metro State students, average BMI decreases as physical activity level increases. For male Metro State students, no strong association appears to exist between physical activity level and average BMI.

Average BMI
All Students by Physical Activity Level and Gender

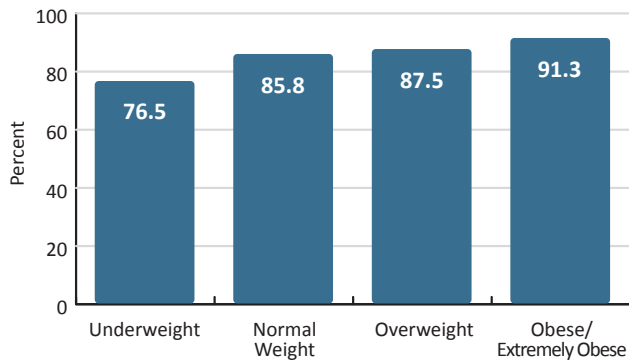


As BMI increases, level of screen time among Metropolitan State University students also increases. Additional data analysis shows that nearly nine in 10 (87.6%) Metro State students report watching TV or using a computer or handheld device (not for work or school) two hours or more per day. Among all students, 0.4% report zero screen time, 12.0% report a low level of screen time, 37.4% report a moderate level of screen time, and 50.2% report a high level of screen time.

Screen Time—Moderate to High Level
All Students by BMI Category

Screen time levels—zero, low, moderate, and high—were determined based on a survey question that asked respondents to report the average number of hours they watch TV or use a computer or handheld device in the course of a day:

- Zero Screen Time:** 0.0 Hours of Viewing
- Low Level:** 0.5 to 1.5 Hours per Day
- Moderate Level:** 2.0 to 3.5 Hours per Day
- High Level:** 4.0 or More Hours per Day



Results

Sexual Health

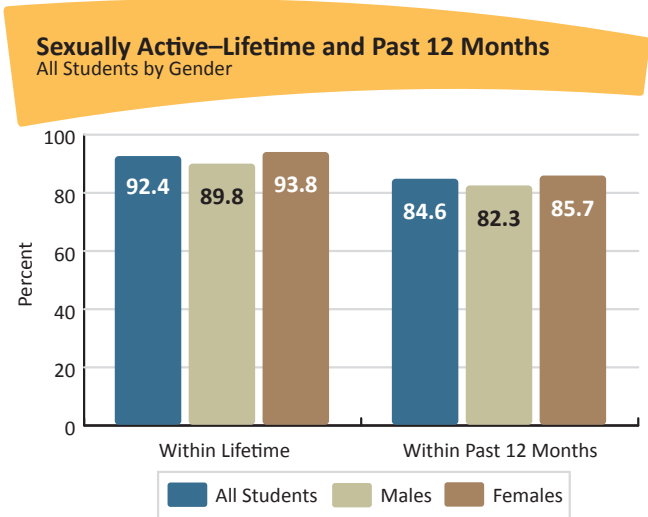
College is a time of great transition. With its increase in freedom and decision-making opportunities, this transitional period poses many challenges for students. Some of the most important decisions facing college students concern sexual health. Choices relating to sexual behavior have the potential for significant, and oftentimes long-term, consequences. So important is the issue of sexual health that in 2001 the U.S. Surgeon General listed “responsible sexual behavior” as one of the 10 leading health indicators for the nation.

National Comparison

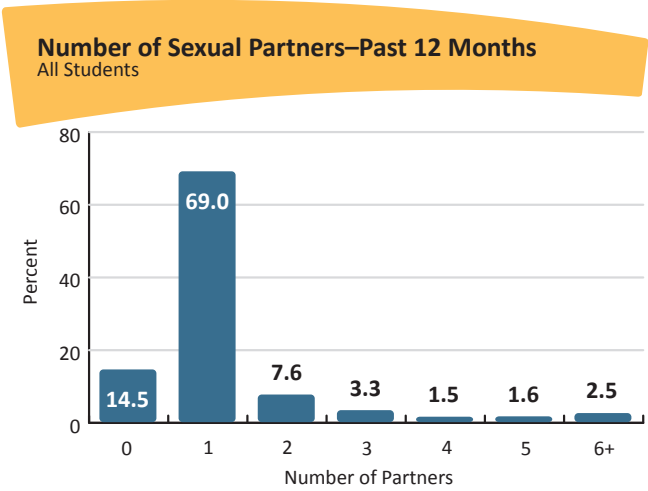
The majority of young adults in the United States are sexually active. Among males, 60.9% of 18- to 19-year-olds and 70.3% of 20- to 24-year-olds report that they have engaged in vaginal intercourse within their lifetime, 59.4% of 18- to 19-year-olds and 73.5% of 20- to 24-year-olds report that they received oral sex from a partner of the opposite sex within their lifetime, and 9.7% of 18- to 19-year-olds and 23.7% of 20- to 24-year-olds report that they engaged in insertive anal intercourse within their lifetime.¹⁹ Among females, 64.0% of 18- to 19-year-olds and 85.6% of 20- to 24-year-olds report that they have engaged in vaginal intercourse within their lifetime, 62.0% of 18- to 19-year-olds and 79.7% of 20- to 24-year-olds report that they received oral sex from a partner of the opposite sex within their lifetime, and 20.0% of 18- to 19-year-olds and 39.9% of 20- to 24-year-olds report that they engaged in anal intercourse within their lifetime.¹⁹ During their most recent vaginal intercourse event, 42.6% of 18- to 24-year-old males and 36.7% of 18- to 24-year-old females used a condom.²⁰

Due to a combination of behavioral, biological, and cultural reasons, sexually active young adults are at increased risk for acquiring sexually transmitted infections (STIs).²¹ The higher prevalence of STIs among young adults reflects multiple barriers to accessing quality STI prevention services, including lack of health insurance or other ability to pay, lack of transportation, and concerns about confidentiality.²¹ Among all males, 20- to 24-year-old males have the highest rate of chlamydia (1,120.6 cases per 100,000 people), gonorrhea (407.5 cases per 100,000 people), and syphilis (20.7 cases per 100,000 people).²⁰ Among all females, 20- to 24-year-olds have the highest rate of syphilis (1.3 cases per 100,000 people) and rates of chlamydia (3,273.9 cases per 100,000 people) and gonorrhea (555.3 cases per 100,000 people) that are lower only than the rates among 15- to 19-year-olds.²⁰

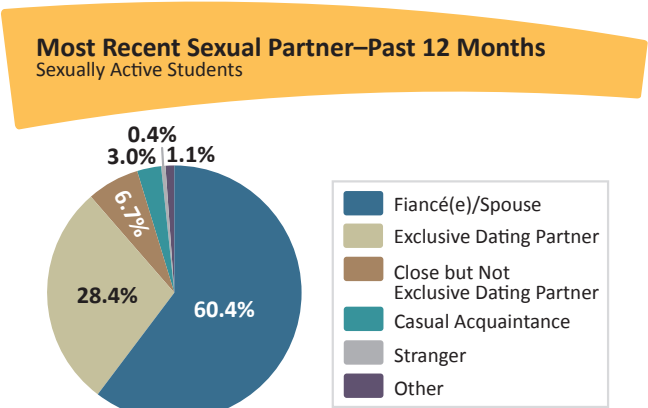
Female students attending Metropolitan State University report higher rates of sexual activity, both within their lifetime and within the past 12 months, compared to male students attending the university.



On average, Metro State students had **1.8** sexual partners over the past 12-month period. This average is based on the experience of all students, both those who were sexually active and those who were not sexually active. More than four out of five (**83.5%**) students report that they had zero or one partner within the past 12 months.

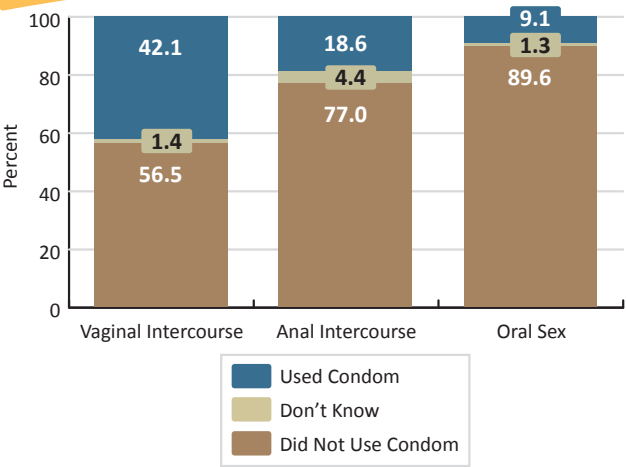


Among Metropolitan State University students who were sexually active within the past 12 months, nearly nine out of 10 (**88.8%**) report that their most recent sexual partner was either a fiancé(e)/spouse or an exclusive dating partner.



Condom Use

Sexually Active Students Within Lifetime
(Does Not Include Those Who Are Married or
With a Domestic Partner)

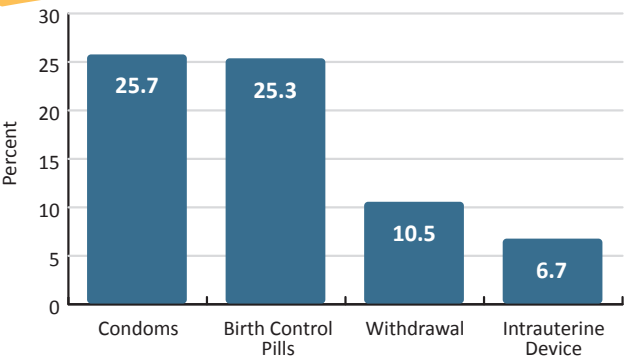


Among Metro State students who are sexually active within their lifetime, **42.1%** used a condom the last time they engaged in vaginal intercourse, **18.6%** used a condom during the last time they had anal intercourse, and **9.1%** used a condom during their last oral sex experience. Percents are based solely on those who indicated they engaged in the activity.

Data analysis shows that of the 92.4% of Metropolitan State University students who report being sexually active within their lifetime, **97.7%** engaged in vaginal intercourse, **89.5%** engaged in oral sex, and **37.7%** engaged in anal intercourse.

Pregnancy Prevention Methods

Sexually Active Students Within Lifetime

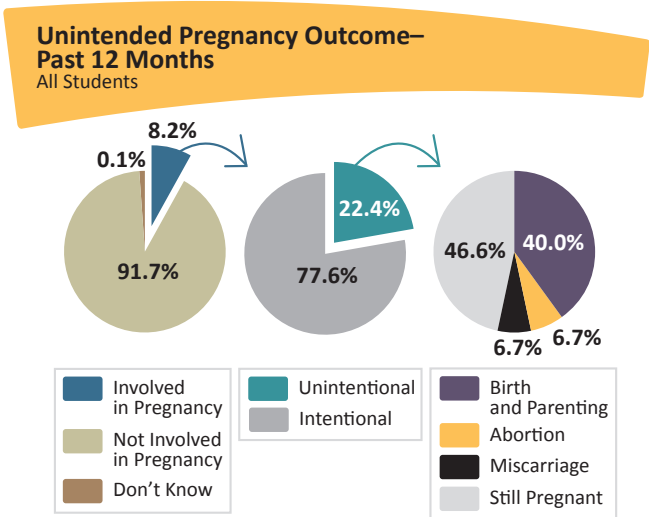


The two most common methods that Metro State students report using to prevent pregnancy the last time they engaged in vaginal intercourse are condoms (**25.7%**) and birth control pills (**25.3%**). The withdrawal method is reported by **10.5%** of Metro State students. Other methods of pregnancy prevention reported by students are identified in the table below.

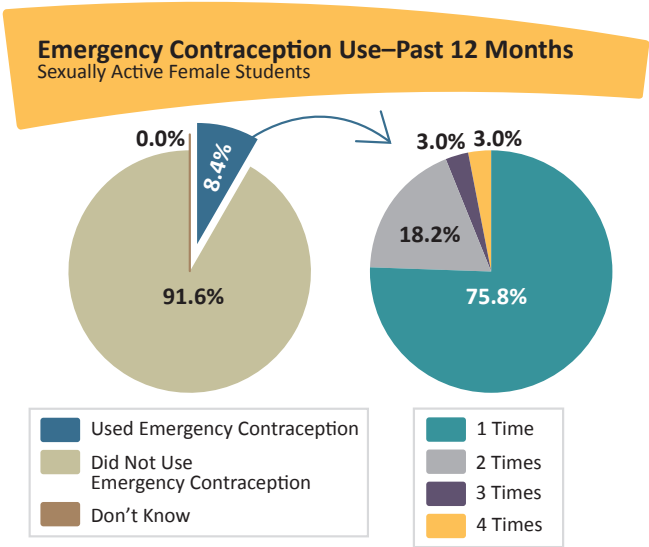
Among Metro State students, **16.5%** report not using any method of pregnancy prevention the last time they engaged in vaginal intercourse.

Type of Method	Percent Who Report Using Method
NuvaRing	3.6
Depo-Provera	2.2
Fertility Awareness	1.7
Emergency Contraception	0.8
Ortho Evra	0.8
Diaphragm	0.4
Other	15.6
Don't Know/Can't Remember	1.0

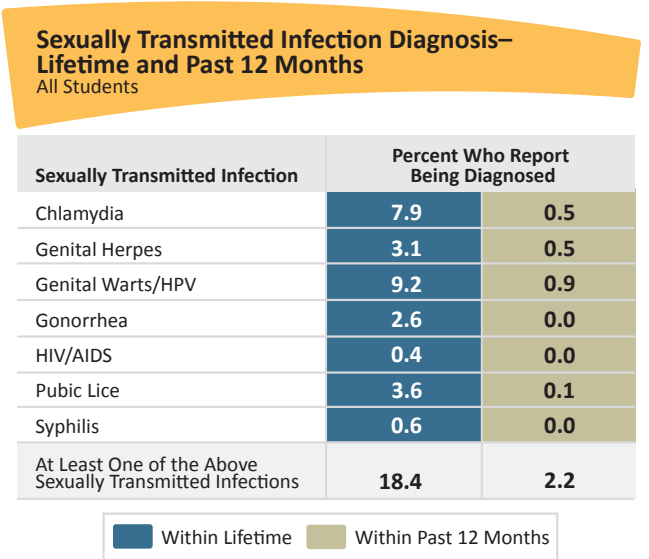
A total of **8.2%** of Metropolitan State University students has been involved in a pregnancy within the past 12 months. Of those involved in a pregnancy, **22.4%** state it was unintentional. Among the unintentional pregnancies, **40.0%** resulted in birth and parenting, **6.7%** resulted in miscarriage, and **6.7%** resulted in abortion.



Analysis shows that within the past 12 months, **8.4%** of sexually active female students at Metropolitan State University have used emergency contraception. Among those who used emergency contraception, **75.8%** have used it once, **18.2%** have used it twice, and **6.0%** have used it three or four times within the past 12 months.



Among Metro State students who have been sexually active within their lifetime, **18.4%** report being diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection (STI) within their lifetime and **2.2%** report being diagnosed with an STI within the past 12 months. Genital warts/HPV is the STI most commonly diagnosed within students’ lifetimes and within the past 12 months.



Implications

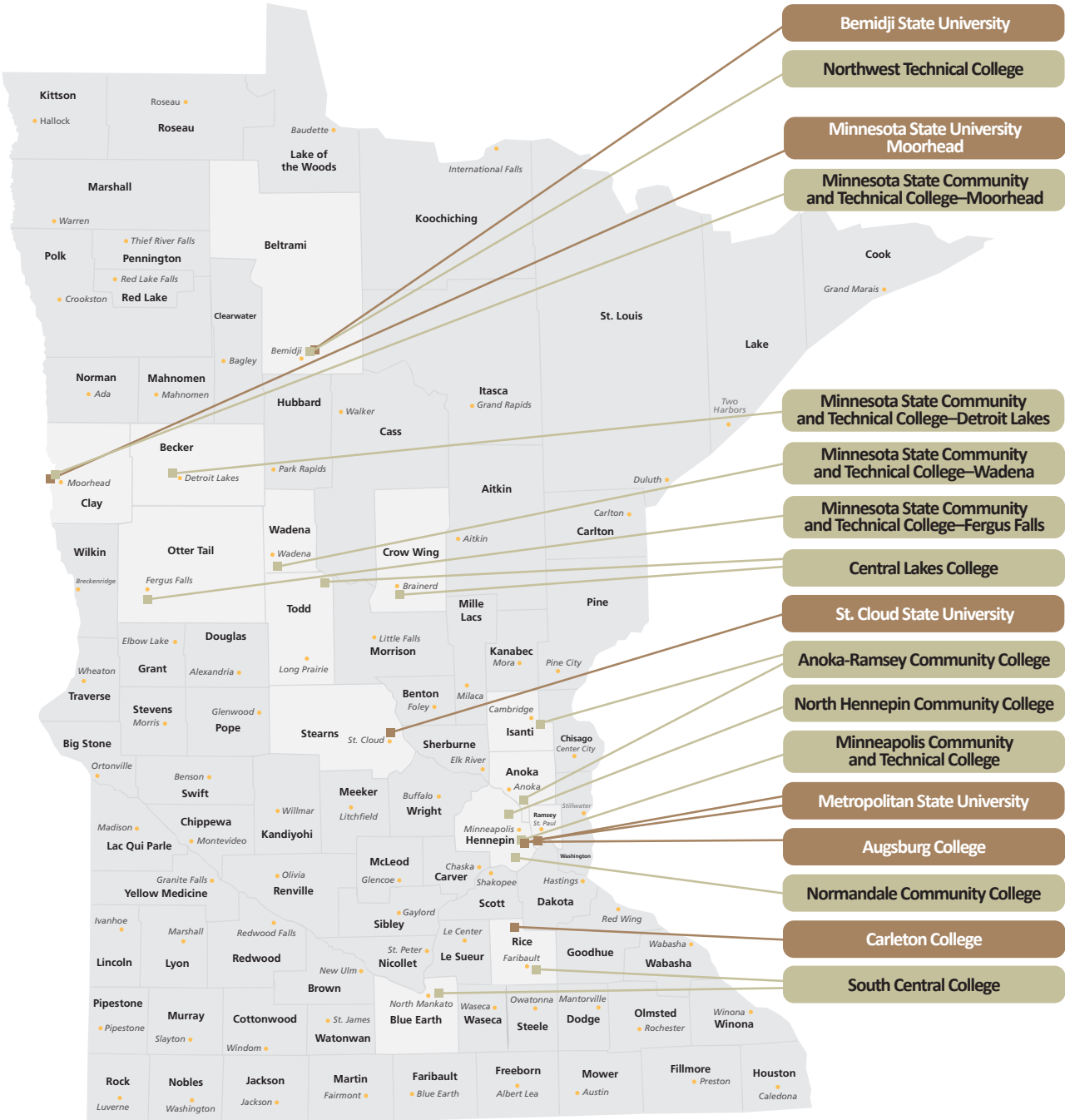
Healthy individuals make better students, and better students make healthier communities.

Results from the 2011 College Student Health Survey presented in this report document the health and health-related behaviors of students enrolled in the participating institutions. These data, therefore, offer a comprehensive look at the diseases, health conditions, and health-related behaviors that are impacting students attending postsecondary schools in Minnesota. Identification of these health-related issues is critical because the health of college students in Minnesota affects not only their academic achievement but also the overall health of our society.

While it is intuitively obvious that health conditions can affect academic performance, the link to overall societal health is more subtle but no less profound. Given that there are now more students enrolled in postsecondary institutions than in high schools, that college students help set the norms of behavior for our society and serve as role models for younger students, that college students are establishing and solidifying lifestyles and behaviors that will stay with them for the rest of their lives, and that obtaining a college degree is one of the major determinants of future health and economic status, the importance and the impact of the health of college students on our society becomes evident.

Appendix 1

Colleges and Universities Participating in the 2011 College Student Health Survey



Two-Year Schools	Location	Enrollment-Spring 2011*
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	Cambridge, MN Coon Rapids, MN	11,044 ²²
Central Lakes College	Brainerd, MN Staples, MN	5,539 ²²
Minnesota State Community and Technical College-Detroit Lakes	Detroit Lakes, MN	8,940 ²² (M State Total)
Minnesota State Community and Technical College-Fergus Falls	Fergus Falls, MN	8,940 ²² (M State Total)
Minnesota State Community and Technical College-Moorhead	Moorhead, MN	8,940 ²² (M State Total)
Minnesota State Community and Technical College-Wadena	Wadena, MN	8,940 ²² (M State Total)
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	Minneapolis, MN	14,942 ²³
Normandale Community College	Bloomington, MN	14,095 ²²
North Hennepin Community College	Brooklyn Park, MN	9,943 ²²
Northwest Technical College	Bemidji, MN	2,433 ²²
South Central College	Faribault, MN North Mankato, MN	5,573 ²²

Four-Year Schools	Location	Enrollment-Spring 2011*
Augsburg College	Minneapolis, MN	4,109 ²⁴
Bemidji State University	Bemidji, MN	6,531 ²²
Carleton College	Northfield, MN	1,940 ²⁴
Metropolitan State University	Minneapolis, MN St. Paul, MN	9,676 ²²
Minnesota State University Moorhead	Moorhead, MN	8,930 ²²
St. Cloud State University	St. Cloud, MN	21,105 ²²

*Includes full-time and part-time students.

Appendix 2

Metropolitan State University Survey Demographics Based on Student Response

	All Students
Average Age (Years)	32.5
Age Range (Years)	18-90
18-24 Years	23.0%
25 Years or Older	77.0%
Average GPA	3.37
Class Status	
Undergraduate—Enrolled One Year	7.3%
Undergraduate—Enrolled Two Years	6.6%
Undergraduate—Enrolled Three Years	14.7%
Undergraduate—Enrolled Four Years	17.4%
Undergraduate—Enrolled Five or More Years	39.5%
Master’s, Graduate, or Professional Program	12.1%
Non-Degree Seeking	1.8%
Unspecified	0.6%
Gender	
Male	33.9%
Female	65.3%
Transgender	0.5%
Other	0.1%
Unspecified	0.2%
Ethnic Origin	
American Indian/Alaska Native	2.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13.2%
Black—Not Hispanic	9.9%
Latino/Hispanic	2.9%
White—Not Hispanic (Includes Middle Eastern)	73.5%
Other	3.4%
Current Residence	
Residence Hall or Fraternity/Sorority	0.0%
Other	100.0%
Enrollment in Online Classes This Term	
No Online Classes	51.0%
Some Online Classes	34.0%
All Online Classes	15.0%

Glossary

Current Alcohol Use

Any alcohol use within the past 30 days.

Current Credit Card Debt

Any unpaid balance at the end of the past month.

Current Marijuana Use

Any marijuana use within the past 30 days.

Current Tobacco Use

Any use of tobacco in the past 30 days. Tobacco use includes both smoking and smokeless tobacco.

Credit Card Debt

A monthly debt of \$3,000 or more.

High-Risk Drinking

Consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks at one sitting within the past two weeks for both males and females. A drink is defined as a bottle of beer, wine cooler, glass of wine, shot glass of liquor, or mixed drink.

Past-12-Month Alcohol Use

Any alcohol use within the past year.

Past-12-Month Marijuana Use

Any marijuana use within the past year.

Student Loan Balance

A student loan balance of \$20,000 or more.

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Boynton Health Service, 410 Church Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455

2011 Boynton Health Service Survey Team

Principal Investigator

Katherine Lust, Ph.D., M.P.H., R.D.
(612) 624-6214 • klust@bhs.umn.edu

Investigator

David Golden

Recruitment/College Coordinator

Maria Rudie, M.P.H.

Web/E-Communications Coordinator

Evelyn Kokes

Project Coordinator/Editor

Jolene Johnson

Writer/Editor

Julia Sanem, M.P.H.

Senior Graphic Designer

Amy Bartkus


Office Manager

Carol Uchal

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