

Drinking and Driving among Missouri Teens



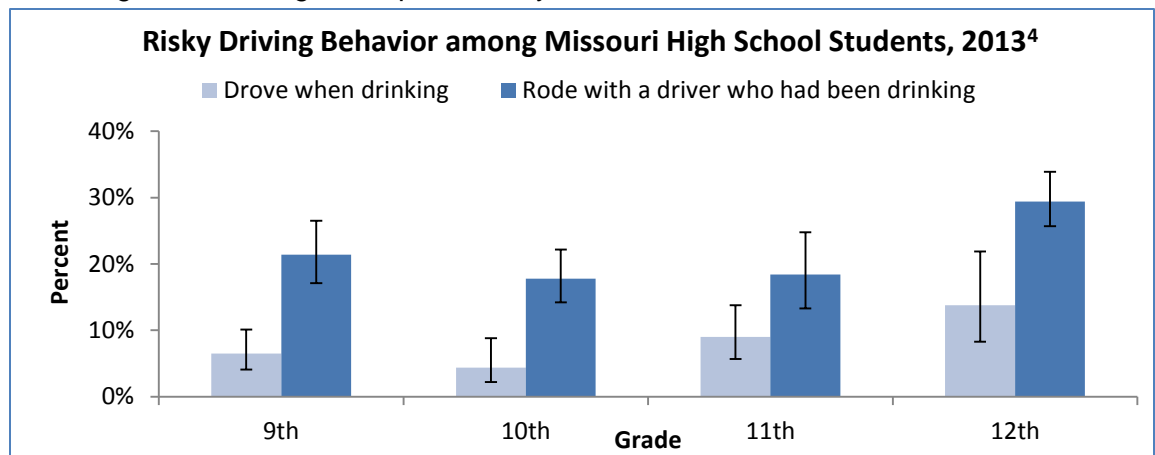
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Behavioral Health



Epidemiology Workgroup

- ⊕ Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens aged 15-19¹; in 2012, 127 Missouri teen drivers were killed in crashes².
- ⊕ Teenage drivers are **17 times** more likely to die in a crash when they have a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of above .08% than when they are sober³.
- ⊕ According to the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), about 1 in 5 Missouri high school students rode in a car with a driver who had been drinking alcohol in the past 30 days; among seniors, almost a third rode with a driver who had been drinking⁴.
- ⊕ The number of Missouri high school students who reported that they drove under the influence doubled from 9th to 12th grade; about 1 in 7 high school seniors admitted to driving after drinking in the past 30 days⁴.



- ⊕ Male students were 62% more likely than females to report driving after drinking; there were no gender differences in the percent who reported riding with a driver who had been drinking⁴.
- ⊕ Studies show that alcohol retailer compliance checks, zero tolerance laws, graduated driver licensing systems, and parental involvement are all effective at reducing drinking and driving crashes among teens².
- ⊕ To see how various changes in state law could improve these statistics, check out http://www.iihs.org/iihs/topics/laws/gdl_calculator?state=MO

¹ http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-30/nca/STSI/29_MO/2012/29_MO_2012.htm

² <http://www.saferoads4teens.org/Missouri-0>

³ <http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/TeenDrinkingAndDriving/index.html>

⁴ <http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Default.aspx>