

Table 3.77

Reported drinking behaviors among college studentsBy sex, United States, 1993, 1997, 1999, and 2001^a

(Percent reporting the behavior)

Drinking behavior	1993 (N=15,282)	1997 (N=14,428)	1999 (N=13,954)	2001 (N=10,904)
Abstainer ^b	16.4%	19.6%	19.8%	19.3%
Male	15.7	18.9	20.5	20.1
Female	17.0	20.3	19.2	18.7
Drank in past year	83.6	80.3	79.8	80.7
Male	84.2	81.0	79.0	79.9
Female	82.9	79.7	80.5	81.3
Nonbinge drinking ^c	39.7	37.2	35.7	36.3
Male	35.1	32.6	29.4	31.3
Female	44.0	41.4	41.4	40.4
Binge drinking ^d	43.9	43.2	44.5	44.4
Male	49.2	48.5	50.2	48.6
Female	39.0	38.4	39.4	40.9
Occasional binge drinking ^e	24.3	22.2	21.9	21.6
Male	26.8	25.3	24.9	23.4
Female	21.9	19.4	19.2	20.0
Frequent binge drinking ^f	19.7	21.0	22.6	22.8
Male	22.4	23.2	25.3	25.2
Female	17.1	18.9	20.3	20.9

Note: These data are from the 1993, 1997, 1999, and 2001 College Alcohol Studies, conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health. The colleges and universities in the study were selected from the American Council on Education's list of accredited 4-year colleges and universities, using probability sampling proportionate to the size of the institution. This resulted in the inclusion of a cross-section of institutions in terms of type, size, and location. Random samples of full-time undergraduate students were provided from each college participating in the study. In each of the study years, students were mailed questionnaires asking about their drinking behaviors in the previous year, month, and 2-week period before completion of the questionnaire. The data presented are from 119 colleges that participated in all four surveys. The inclusion criteria for data analysis differed from previous survey years, i.e., six schools were reintroduced that had participated in earlier surveys but had been excluded from previous analyses. Therefore, data presented for 1993, 1997, and 1999 have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK.

^aSubcategories may not add to total because of rounding.

^bStudents who did not consume alcohol in the past year.

^cStudents who consumed alcohol in the past year but did not binge in the previous 2-week period.

^dStudents who consumed five or more drinks in a row for men and four or more in a row for women, on one or more occasions during the 2 weeks prior to the survey.

^eStudents who binged one or two times in the previous 2-week period.

^fStudents who binged three or more times in the previous 2-week period.

Source: Henry Wechsler et al., "Trends in College Binge Drinking During a Period of Increased Prevention Efforts," *Journal of American College Health*, Vol. 50 (March 2002), p. 207, Table 2 [Online]. Available: <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/cas/Documents/trends/Trends.pdf> [Dec. 14, 2004]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.