Alcohol Consumption Among College Students in Illinois

2002 Core Results and Analysis

April 2003

Illinois Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Other Drug and Violence Prevention
with funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services, Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention
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Executive Summary

The Illinois Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Other Drug and Violence Prevention, with funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services, Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention, offered institutions of higher education in Illinois the opportunity to participate in the Core survey during spring of 2002. The Core survey collects students’ self-reported information related to their alcohol and other drug behavior, attitudes and beliefs. The Core survey was created by the US Department of Education in the late 1980’s.

Primary findings of the 11,198 student respondents at 33 institutions of higher education in Illinois are an important indication of alcohol consumption and attitudes of Illinois college students. It is important to note Core survey sampling procedures are representative of campuses and not the state as a whole, limiting the confidence of statewide findings. The 2002 Core survey administration at 33 Illinois campuses does represent the best data currently available on Illinois college student alcohol consumption. Primary findings from that data include:

• Average number of drinks per week of Illinois college students responding to the 2002 Core survey was 5.6 overall, 5.2 drinks for community college students and 5.8 for students attending four-year institutions.

• Incidents of students reporting consuming five or more drinks in one sitting included 46% of the responses, with 21% reporting five or more in one sitting occurring more than once per week. This second group represents the highest risk student users of alcohol.

• There are important gender, age, race and sector differences in average drinks per week and incidents of binge drinking (as defined by five or more drinks in one sitting). Men consume more than women. Traditional college age students (17-24) consume more than non-traditional age students. Caucasians and Native Americans are the highest consuming racial groups. Four-year residential students consume more and more often than do their community college counterparts (49% of four year students reported drinking 5 or more drinks in one sitting in the past year, while 41% of community college students reported doing the same).

• A strong relationship between academic performance and alcohol use exists. Those who perform the best academically are less likely to be high weekly consumers of alcohol and less likely to engage in incidents of high-risk consumption. College students who report poor grades are also the heaviest average weekly users of alcohol and the most likely to be engaged in binge drinking behavior.

• Students report high incidents of negative consequences associated with alcohol. 34% of students have reported driving while intoxicated in the past year; 61% report hangovers; 51% report getting nauseated or vomiting; 32% report arguing or fighting following alcohol use; and 30% report missing class.
• While alcohol is the most prevalent substance utilized by students, other drugs also appear to be a regular part of college life for some students. 32% of responses report using tobacco in the past year; 26% report using marijuana; 7% report using amphetamines; and 4% report using cocaine.

• Student attitudes toward alcohol reinforce the idea that college students positively associate alcohol with social interaction. Some examples of the prevalence of alcohol use and student attitudes include: 47% of students perceive that alcohol facilitates a connection with peers; 42% of students perceive it gives people something to talk about; 39% indicate that alcohol is an easy way to deal with stress; and 30% believe that alcohol helps to break the ice in social situations.

Survey Participants

There were 33 institutions of higher education in Illinois that participated in the Core survey administration in Spring 2002. There were 19 four-year institutions and 14 two-year institutions that participated in the survey. The 33 institutions that participated in the Core selected to do so, and as such the statewide data reported is from a convenience sample of institutions of higher education in Illinois. The representative nature of both the typical Illinois college student and institutions of higher education in Illinois is limited by the reality that institutions self selected to participate in Core survey administration.

There are 168 Illinois institutions of higher education listed on the National Center for Educational Statistics IPEDS system, with only about 104 of those institutions being not for profit. There are 12 four-year public and 48 two-year public colleges and universities in Illinois. The remainder of not for profit higher education institutions in Illinois are two and four year privates.

The sample of college students in Illinois includes 11,198 responses. These responses were gathered through campus directed data collection of a random group of students. Data were intended to be representative at the institutional level based upon the random sample of students at each campus. This report aggregated the responses of students at each campus.

Student responses were weighted toward four-year college students, with 62% of the aggregated sample being students attending four-year institutions and only 38% of the aggregate sample being students attending community colleges in Illinois. In 2002, the Illinois Board of Higher Education reported 752,753 college students in Illinois (Illinois Board of Higher Education, 2002). Community college students make up 339,002 of college students overall in Illinois (Illinois Board of Higher Education, 2002). 38% of the reported Core sample is from community colleges while 45% of the state’s students are enrolled in community colleges.
68.3% of students in the state of Illinois, as reported by enrollment data, are 24 years old or under, while 85% of students in the aggregate Core sample are 24 or under (see Figure A). Women in Illinois make up 56% of state reported student enrollment, while the Core aggregate sample is 61% female (see Figure B).

The Core aggregate sample over-represents Whites in terms of percentage of responses. 81% of Core aggregate responses were from those who report themselves to be White, but only 64% of state enrollment is White (see Figure C). Minority groups are under-represented in the Core data across the board. This is an important consideration in examining the findings of this summary (see Figure C).

The Illinois Board of Higher Education reports that 88% of first time enrollers in college in Illinois are from Illinois, with 2% from out of the country and 10% from out of state. The Core aggregate sample closely mirrors enrollment data (see Figure D).

53% of students in Illinois are reported to be enrolled full-time (Illinois Board of Higher Education, 2002). 88% of Core respondents indicate being enrolled full-time at their institution of higher education.

The Core statewide sample has some important similarities with student enrollment data, including a degree of similarity of trend with gender composition, state of permanent residence, and race composition. The data clearly is limited, though, in its ability to truly represent college students in Illinois based upon a comparison with Illinois enrollment trend data from the 2001-2002 academic year.
The intention of this report is to provide an important snapshot of college student alcohol and other drug use in higher education in Illinois, recognizing the limitations of the sample. Pragmatically, the 33-institution data set available is the best current data from which to examine trends in Illinois college student alcohol and other drug use. The data also provides a picture of the harmful effects of alcohol and other drug use on college campuses in Illinois.

Alcohol Use and Illinois College Students

Alcohol use by college students can be examined by looking at average consumption during the typical week and by instances of heavy drinking among students. Figure F represents the average number of drinks of college students in a typical week by institutional type. Students attending four-year institutions report a higher per week consumption level than do students attending community colleges in Illinois. National weekly consumption averages reported by the Core Institute in 2000 indicate a weekly average of 5.86 drinks per week. Illinois appears to closely mirror national average weekly consumption rates among college students.

A second way to examine college student alcohol use is to look at incidents of heavy alcohol use, as defined by the frequency of drinking multiple drinks in one sitting. Figure G represents the frequency of individuals consuming 5
or more drinks in one sitting. A majority of students reported not consuming 5 or more drinks in a sitting, with 81% of community college and 79% of four-year students reporting consuming 5 or more drinks in a sitting less than once a week. Only 19% and 22% respectively of respondents indicated that they consumed 5 or more drinks more than once a week. This last group of students represents the highest risk consumers among the college population.

Henry Weschler has defined binge drinking as consuming 5 or more drinks in one sitting. Binge drinking is a concern because it marks a point at which students begin to be involved in significantly more negative consequences of their alcohol use. In Illinois community colleges, 41% of students report binge drinking (as defined by Weschler) and in the four-year sector 49% report binge drinking. Once again about 20% of responses indicate binge drinking more than once a week. This 20% of students represents the group that is at greatest risk of the negative consequences of alcohol use.

Examining alcohol consumption rates among Illinois college students includes paying close attention to those who do not consume, those who consume in moderation and those who consume the most. Figure H depicts that fully 37.9% of respondents indicated not consuming alcohol in the typical week. An important difference among institutional types is that 44.1% of community college responses report not consuming alcohol in a typical week, while only 33.9% of four-year responses indicates not consuming in a typical week. In addition to those who do not consume, nearly 20% of respondents report consuming a moderate average of 1 or 2 drinks in a typical week across institutional types. On the high end of the alcohol consumption spectrum, close to 20% of respondents average 7 or more drinks per week.

Age of students has been identified as an important variable in predicting the risk that college students are at with regard to the negative consequences of alcohol use (Dowdall &
Wechsler, 2002). Some have suggested that traditional age freshmen and sophomores are at the greatest risk of harm related to use (Baer, 2002). In Illinois, students under 21 appear to average slightly more alcohol use per week than those over 21. This difference is not dramatic, but does reinforce the idea that those under 21 are a group that one should pay attention to in regard to preventing harm related to high alcohol use. This result also points to the ease with which underage students are able to obtain alcohol.

A further examination of alcohol use by different age groups reveals that use appears to increase from the time students traditionally enter college at 17 or 18 until average consumption peaks at 21 years of age. Use appears to moderate following the 21 years of age peak point. This finding also reveals a disconcerting pattern of use during traditional college years, as through the first few years of college alcohol use appears to increase, not entering a point of reduction until traditional age college students would be entering their fourth year of college.

Examining the frequency of consuming 5 or more drinks in one sitting reveals that incidents of high-risk consumption also peak when students are 21 years of age. Fully 58% of respondents report consuming 5 or more drinks in one sitting when they are 21, with 31% reporting these incidents more than once per week. The rate of high-risk incidents of consumption remains fairly consistent for 18, 19 and 20 year olds at 47%(18), 48%(19), and 49%(20) respectively until the peak in high-risk consumption when students are 21 years of age.

With a gradual shift in student enrollment patterns moving steadily toward the inclusion of older and more diverse students, it is important to extend an analysis of age and alcohol use to larger age categories. The analysis of large age categories reveals a significant difference between traditional age college students and older students. Average weekly alcohol consumption of traditional age students is nearly twice that of all other age categories. Clearly alcohol misuse by the average older college student is far less likely to occur. This has significant implication for the type of alcohol related problems older students are likely to experience as part of their college experience.
Traditional age college students (17 to 24 year olds) report consuming 5 or more drinks in 50% of responses, which is a larger percentage of responses than any other age category. Only 35% of 25 to 29 year olds, 25% of 30-39 year olds, and 15% of those 40 and older report drinking 5 or more drinks in one sitting. Those consuming in the highest risk fashion are disproportionately of traditional college ages. In fact, the group of highest risk drinkers, or those who report frequently consuming 5 or more drinks, decreases from over 20% to 3% between the 17-24 and 40+ age groups.

Gender has been noted as an important difference in alcohol consumption trends. Men have traditionally been seen to be larger consumers of alcohol, but recent evidence has suggested that women are increasingly consuming at higher and more risky levels. Student responses in Illinois point toward a remaining dramatic difference between average alcohol consumption of men and women in a typical week (see Figure N).
Not only is average alcohol consumption higher among males in college in Illinois, but also so are incidents of high-risk alcohol consumption. 55% of men report incidents of consuming 5 or more drinks in one sitting with 41% of females reporting similar incidents. More importantly, 30% of male responses report incidents of high-risk consumption more than once a week, with only 16% of female responses reporting the same frequency of high-risk consumption.

Students in Illinois attending institutions of higher education continue to represent increasingly diverse groups and understanding the unique alcohol consumption of racial categories creates an interesting picture of how race, culture and alcohol interact. The first thing to note about alcohol consumption patterns of different racial categories is that there exist significant differences in both average weekly consumption and incidents of high risk consumption. In Illinois, the respondents conform to national data in trends that display high use among American Indians/Alaskan Natives and White/Caucasians. Black/African-American and Asian/Pacific Islander categories are very moderate consumers of alcohol in terms of average consumption and incidents of high-risk use.

The American Indian/Alaskan Native and White categories report average weekly consumption significantly above the state average weekly consumption of all college students and have the greatest incidents of students reporting consuming 5 or more drinks in a sitting. 37% of American Indian/Alaskan Natives and 24% of Whites report drinking 5 or more drinks more than once a week, while Asian/Pacific Islanders and Blacks report 5 or more drinks more than once a week in only 11% and 9% of responses. Racial category may reflect differences in cultural expectations and norms surrounding alcohol use and thus point to important differences for those working to prevent alcohol abuse on college campuses.
While there is frequent national and local coverage of college student drinking, almost all of this coverage reports on traditional age college students at four-year residential institutions. Figure R depicts the difference in incidents of five or more drinks in one sitting between two and four year institutions in Illinois. In this example it is important to note that students attending college at two-year institutions do report consuming five or more drinks less frequently than do students attending four-year institutions. Those who report never consuming five or more drinks are almost 10% greater in the two-year sector. On the other end of the spectrum, very frequent users (defined as 10 or more incidents of consuming five or more drinks in a sitting during the past two weeks) are nearly identical at two and four year institutions. Those who report 1 to 2, or 3 to 9 incidents of drinking five or more drinks per sitting during the past two weeks is less among students attending two year institutions. One should note that while there is a difference between sectors, even in the two-year sector the rate of frequently consuming in a high-risk manner includes 41% of responses. This 41% of heavy drinkers (those who consume 5 or more in one sitting) is nearly identical to the national average for heavy drinking among college students (national rate has been estimated as 2 in 5 college students or 40%). What is more disturbing is that four-year responses in Illinois report a binge-drinking rate of 50%.
The impact of college on student alcohol use is an important question. Data from national longitudinal surveys indicate that students who attend college experience an increase in alcohol use that outpaces those youth who do not attend college (O’Malley & Johnston, 2002). Specifically, students who attend college consume in higher amounts than do those who chose not to attend. This points toward a potential disturbing impact of the college experience on youth alcohol utilization. Figure S indicates self-reported increases and decreases of alcohol use by responses in Illinois. Among all survey responses only 21% reported increasing their use, and 25% decreasing their use over the past year. Among freshmen, 27% report increasing alcohol use and only 20% report decreasing over the past year. Clearly the self-reported impact of college on alcohol use among students in Illinois appears mixed.

Student Academic Performance, Involvement and Alcohol Use

One of the key questions for university leaders to consider is the impact of alcohol use on students and campus life. With the central purpose of undergraduate education focused on student learning, it is important to examine the impact of alcohol use on academic performance. The relationship between alcohol use and academic performance is very
clear. Core results from those responding in Illinois indicate a strong relationship between alcohol use and academic performance as measured by self-reported GPA. Those students who report their GPA to be in the A category consume the least alcohol per week on average. Those students who report an F GPA report the highest average alcohol use per week. More importantly, the trend between the self-reported A and F is consistent.

The relationship between alcohol use and academic performance is further articulated when examining the frequency of incidents of five or more drinks per sitting. Those who report grades in the A category are also the most likely to report not consuming five or more drinks in one sitting. Those who report D and F grade categories reported the highest incidence of consuming five or more drinks in a sitting. The implication for the relationship between academic performance and alcohol use is clear. Those who use the least are more likely to be high academic achievers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table A: Alcohol Use Related to Level of Student Involvement in Student Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercollegiate Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraternities and Sororities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intramural Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority- Ethnic Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political/Social Action Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music/Performing Arts Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The nature of student involvement related to alcohol use is a key environmental question to consider when examining how alcohol use is impacted by the college culture. Table A displays the mean weekly alcohol consumption of students who are either not involved, have attended, are actively involved or are leaders of student groups. Table A is illustrative of two important findings: 1) college students participating as active members or leaders in certain groups (i.e. intercollegiate athletics, fraternities and sororities, and intramurals) consume far more than the norm for college students in Illinois; 2) leaders of student groups appear to consume significantly more than both attending members and active members. It appears that engagement in certain student groups and being a leader may predispose college students to higher alcohol use.

Alcohol Use and Negative Consequences

The negative impact of alcohol on behavior is another specific consequence of alcohol in the college environment. Table B describes the likelihood of negative consequences for individuals following alcohol use in the past year. The most likely response of students is that 61% report experiencing a hangover in the past year due to their alcohol use. The second most likely negative consequence is getting nauseated or vomiting (51%) as a result of substance use. After the two most likely responses, a group of responses emerges that about 30% of students in the sample report. This group of negative consequences includes driving a car after drinking, getting in an argument, missing a class, and performing poorly on a test. The prevalence of negative consequences of alcohol use points toward the impact alcohol has on students in the collegiate context.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative Consequence</th>
<th>Percentage of Responses Indicating Consequence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hangover</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performed poorly on test</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble with police, residence hall or college authorities</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damaged property, pulled fire alarm, etc.</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argument or fight</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Got nauseated or vomited</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drove a car</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missed a class</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A further breakdown of negative consequences of alcohol use points toward the frequency with which individuals experience negative consequences of use. Hangovers, getting ill, missing class, performing poorly on an exam, getting in a fight, and driving after drinking remain prevalent negative consequences (Tables B and C). What these findings point to is how alcohol use in moderate and heavy amounts impacts college students. Negative consequences experienced by a majority of students relate to the physiological impact of alcohol, i.e. hangovers and nausea.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative Consequence</th>
<th>Percentage of responses never indicating negative consequences</th>
<th>Percentage of responses reporting one or two consequences in past year</th>
<th>Percentage of responses reporting three to nine consequences in past year</th>
<th>Percentage of responses reporting 10 or more consequences in past year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hangover</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performed poorly on test</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble with police, residence hall or college authorities</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damaged property, pulled fire alarm, etc.</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argument or fight</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Got nauseated or vomited</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drove a car</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missed a class</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These negative consequences are largely personal and relate to physical discomfort. The negative consequences that should be more disconcerting for college administrators and the public relate to the issues of academic performance and driving a car after consuming alcohol. Fully 34% of college student responses indicated they have driven a car in the past year after consuming alcohol, with 17% of students saying they have done this on multiple occasions. In fact, 7% of responses indicated they have driven after drinking 10 or more times in the past year. This is a major concern for those interested in reducing cases of drunk driving, as clearly some portion of the college population still feels that it is acceptable to drive after consuming alcohol. The relationship between alcohol use and academic performance is further illuminated in Tables B and C as the frequency of students reporting missing classes on multiple occasions in
relationship to alcohol consumption points to why students who drink more are more likely to perform poorly in their academic work. Self-reported incidents of performing poorly on a test also reinforce the connection between academics and alcohol. It is interesting that 15% of college students report performing poorly on an exam after alcohol use at least once and 8% report having this happen on a number of occasions. Alcohol use is part of the college experience and clearly it is part of why some students do not perform better academically. The negative consequences to individuals, academic performance and even to traffic safety point to why university administration needs to attend to alcohol misuse in their college environment.

Student Drug Use

The Core survey examines alcohol use by college students in detail, but also provides information on the prevalence of drug use among college students. It is important to understand not just alcohol use rates among college students, but also to see that in relationship to other drug use. Alcohol is reported to have been used by 83% of Illinois college students in the past year, while tobacco and marijuana were reported to have been utilized by 32% and 26% of respondents respectively. Almost a third of students reported using tobacco in some form in the past year and just over a quarter used marijuana. These two drugs represent the most prevalently utilized by college attending individuals. Along with marijuana, the other illegal drugs reportedly utilized by college students include 4% using cocaine (or about 440 people out of 11,000 responses), 7% using amphetamines and 3% using sedatives.

Student Attitudes

Student attitudes and beliefs about alcohol and other drugs in the college environment provide insight into the cultural milieu in which college students operate. Figure X depicts what students think about alcohol's role in the social arena. Students clearly perceive alcohol functions as a social lubricant, with 47% of students seeing alcohol facilitating connections between peers and 42% saying that alcohol gives students something to talk about. Alcohol is also frequently seen as a stress reducer and something that "breaks the ice" in social situations.
Student attitudes toward the prevention of alcohol abuse and related problems are described in Table D. Students appear to be very concerned about the negative consequences associated with alcohol use, but less directly concerned about alcohol and other drug use. Students report caring the most about sexual assault (77% report caring somewhat or very much). In comparison, students report caring significantly less about alcohol and other drug use (35% care somewhat or very much). This finding has important implications for how universities can mobilize support for prevention. Clearly support is more likely to be built upon preventing the negative consequences associated with alcohol and other drug use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Students Who Care about . . .</th>
<th>Percentage of responses who report caring not at all</th>
<th>Percentage of responses who report caring slightly</th>
<th>Percentage of responses who report caring somewhat or very much</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol and other drug use</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus vandalism</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual assault</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault, non-sexual</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Second Hand Consequences of Student Alcohol Use

The second hand consequences of alcohol use, or impact of someone’s alcohol use on others, are an important dynamic associated with alcohol abuse in the college environment. Table E reflects whether students have experienced a negative impact of others’ drinking on studying, safety, physical space, or campus involvement. The important finding here is that about a quarter of students report that other students’ drinking adversely impacts their studying and living space. Clearly, drinking is not just a personal choice, but also one that impacts the individuals surrounding the person consuming.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Students Reporting Other Students Drinking Adversely Affecting...</th>
<th>Percentage of responses who report adverse effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studying</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeling of safety</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Messes up living space</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adversely impacts athletic team or group</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevents enjoying events</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The effort in this report has been to depict alcohol consumption trends of college students in Illinois. The trends point to concerns about heavy consumption among students in both two and four year institutions in Illinois. The concern related to alcohol use is described through the prevalence of negative consequences of use, including academic and interpersonal negative consequences. Efforts to remain vigilant in preventing heavy alcohol use and negative consequences among Illinois college students are important given the findings described in the 2002 Core survey report.
17. Within the last year about how often have you used... (mark one for each line)
   a. Tobacco (smoke, chew, snuff) ...
   b. Alcohol (beer, wine, liquor) ...
   c. Marijuana (pot, hash, hash oil) ...
   d. Cocaine (crack, rock, freebase) ...
   e. Amphetamines (diet pills, speed) ...
   f. Sedatives (downers, ludes) ...
   g. Hallucinogens (LSD, PCP) ...
   h. Opiates (heroin, smack, horse) ...
   i. Inhalants (glue, solvents, gas) ...
   j. Designer drugs (ecstasy, MDMA) ...
   k. Steroids ...
   l. Other illegal drugs ...

18. During the past 30 days on how many days did you have: (mark one for each line)
   a. Tobacco (smoke, chew, snuff) ...
   b. Alcohol (beer, wine, liquor) ...
   c. Marijuana (pot, hash, hash oil) ...
   d. Cocaine (crack, rock, freebase) ...
   e. Amphetamines (diet pills, speed) ...
   f. Sedatives (downers, ludes) ...
   g. Hallucinogens (LSD, PCP) ...
   h. Opiates (heroin, smack, horse) ...
   i. Inhalants (glue, solvents, gas) ...
   j. Designer drugs (ecstasy, MDMA) ...
   k. Steroids ...
   l. Other illegal drugs ...

19. How often do you think the average student on your campus uses... (mark one for each line)
   a. Tobacco (smoke, chew, snuff) ...
   b. Alcohol (beer, wine, liquor) ...
   c. Marijuana (pot, hash, hash oil) ...
   d. Cocaine (crack, rock, freebase) ...
   e. Amphetamines (diet pills, speed) ...
   f. Sedatives (downers, ludes) ...
   g. Hallucinogens (LSD, PCP) ...
   h. Opiates (heroin, smack, horse) ...
   i. Inhalants (glue, solvents, gas) ...
   j. Designer drugs (ecstasy, MDMA) ...
   k. Steroids ...
   l. Other illegal drugs ...

20. Where have you used... (mark all that apply)
   a. Tobacco (smoke, chew, snuff) ...
   b. Alcohol (beer, wine, liquor) ...
   c. Marijuana (pot, hash, hash oil) ...
   d. Cocaine (crack, rock, freebase) ...
   e. Amphetamines (diet pills, speed) ...
   f. Sedatives (downers, ludes) ...
   g. Hallucinogens (LSD, PCP) ...
   h. Opiates (heroin, smack, horse) ...
   i. Inhalants (glue, solvents, gas) ...
   j. Designer drugs (ecstasy, MDMA) ...
   k. Steroids ...
   l. Other illegal drugs ...

21. Please indicate how often you have experienced the following due to your drinking or drug use during the last year... (mark one for each line)
   a. Had a hangover ...
   b. Performed poorly on a test or important project ...
   c. Been in trouble with police, residence hall, or other college authorities ...
   d. Damaged property, pulled fire alarm, etc. ...
   e. Got into an argument or fight ...
   f. Got nauseated or vomited ...
   g. Driven a car while under the influence ...
   h. Missed a class ...
   i. Been criticized by someone I know ...
   j. Thought I might have a drinking or other drug problem ...
   k. Had a memory loss ...
   l. Done something I later regretted ...
   m. Been arrested for DWI/DUI ...
   n. Have been taken advantage of sexually ...
   o. Have taken advantage of another sexually ...
   p. Tried unsuccessfully to stop using ...
   q. Seriously thought about suicide ...
   r. Seriously tried to commit suicide ...
   s. Been hurt or injured ...

22. Have any of your family had alcohol or other drug problems: (mark all that apply)
   ○ Mother ○ Brothers/sisters ○ Spouse
   ○ Father ○ Mother’s parents ○ Children
   ○ Stepmother ○ Father’s parents ○ None
   ○ Stepfather ○ Aunts/uncles

23. If you volunteer any of your time on or off campus to help others, please indicate the approximate number of hours per month and principal activity:
   ○ Don’t volunteer, or less than 1 hour ○ 10–15 hours
   ○ 16 or more hours ○ 5–9 hours
   ○ 1–4 hours             Principal volunteer activity is:
24. Within the last year to what extent have you participated in any of the following activities? (mark one for each line)
   a. Intercollegiate athletics
   b. Intramural or club sports
   c. Social fraternities or sororities
   d. Religious and interfaith groups
   e. International and language groups
   f. Minority and ethnic organizations
   g. Political and social action groups
   h. Music and other performing arts groups
   i. Student newspaper, radio, TV, magazine, etc.

25. In the first column, indicate whether any of the following have happened to you within the last year while you were in and around campus. If you answered yes to any of these items, indicate in the second column if you had consumed alcohol or other drugs shortly before these incidents. (mark one for each line)
   a. Ethnic or racial harassment
   b. Threats of physical violence
   c. Actual physical violence
   d. Theft involving force or threat of force
   e. Forced sexual touching or fondling
   f. Unwanted sexual intercourse

26. How do you think your close friends feel (or would feel) about you? (mark one for each line)
   a. Trying marijuana once or twice
   b. Smoking marijuana occasionally
   c. Smoking marijuana regularly
   d. Trying cocaine once or twice
   e. Taking cocaine regularly
   f. Trying LSD once or twice
   g. Taking LSD regularly
   h. Trying amphetamines once or twice
   i. Taking amphetamines regularly
   j. Taking one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor) nearly every day
   k. Taking four or five drinks nearly every day
   l. Having five or more drinks in one sitting
   m. Taking steroids for body building or improved athletic performance

27. Do you believe that alcohol has the following effects? (mark one for each line)
   a. Breaks the ice
   b. Enhances social activity
   c. Makes it easier to deal with stress
   d. Facilitates a connection with peers
   e. Gives people something to talk about
   f. Facilitates male bonding
   g. Facilitates female bonding
   h. Allows people to have more fun
   i. Gives people something to do
   j. Makes food taste better
   k. Makes women sexier
   l. Makes men sexier
   m. Makes me sexier
   n. Facilitates sexual opportunities

28. On this campus, drinking is a central part in the social life of the following groups: (mark one for each line)
   a. Male students
   b. Female students
   c. Faculty/staff
   d. Alumni
   e. Athletes
   f. Fraternities
   g. Sororities

29. Campus environment: (mark one for each line)
   a. Does the social atmosphere on this campus promote alcohol use?
   b. Does the social atmosphere promote other drug use?
   c. Do you feel safe on this campus?

30. Compared to other campuses with which you are familiar, this campus' use of alcohol is... (mark one)
   Greater than other campuses
   Less than other campuses
   About the same as other campuses

31. Housing preferences: (mark one for each line)
   a. If you live in university housing, do you live in a designated alcohol-free/drug-free residence hall?
   b. If no, would you like to live in such a residence hall unit if it were available?
32. To what extent do students on this campus care about problems associated with... (mark one for each line)

- a. Alcohol and other drug use
- b. Campus vandalism
- c. Sexual assault
- d. Assaults that are non-sexual
- e. Harassment because of gender
- f. Harassment because of sexual orientation
- g. Harassment because of race or ethnicity
- h. Harassment because of religion

33. To what extent has your alcohol use changed within the last 12 months?

- Increased
- About the same
- Decreased
- I have not used alcohol

34. To what extent has your illegal drug use changed within the last 12 months?

- Increased
- About the same
- Decreased
- I have not used drugs

35. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they... (mark one for each line)

- a. Try marijuana once or twice
- b. Smoke marijuana occasionally
- c. Smoke marijuana regularly
- d. Try cocaine once or twice
- e. Take cocaine regularly
- f. Try LSD once or twice
- g. Take LSD regularly
- h. Try amphetamines once or twice
- i. Take amphetamines regularly
- j. Take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor) nearly every day
- k. Take four or five drinks nearly every day
- l. Have five or more drinks in one sitting
- m. Take steroids for body building or improved athletic performance
- n. Consume alcohol prior to being sexually active
- o. Regularly engage in unprotected sexual activity with a single partner
- p. Regularly engage in unprotected sexual activity with multiple partners

36. Mark one answer for each line:

- a. Did you have sexual intercourse within the last year?
  - yes
  - no

  If yes, answer b and c below.

- b. Did you drink alcohol the last time you had sexual intercourse?
- c. Did you use other drugs the last time you had sexual intercourse?

37. During the past 30 days, to what extent have you engaged in any of the following behaviors? (mark one for each line)

- a. Refused an offer of alcohol or other drugs
- b. Bragged about your alcohol or other drug use
- c. Heard someone else brag about his/her alcohol or other drug use
- d. Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, etc. (do not count hunting situations or weapons used as part of your job)
- e. Experienced peer pressure to drink or use drugs
- f. Held a drink to have people stop bothering you about why you weren’t drinking
- g. Thought a sexual partner was not attractive because he/she was drunk
- h. Told a sexual partner that he/she was not attractive because he/she was drunk

38. To what extent do you agree with the following statements? (mark one for each line)

- a. I feel valued as a person on this campus
- b. I feel that faculty and staff care about me as a student
- c. I have a responsibility to contribute to the well-being of other students
- d. My campus encourages me to help others in need
- e. I abide by the university policy and regulations that concern alcohol and other drug use

39. In which of the following ways does other students’ drinking interfere with your life on or around campus? (mark one for each line)

- a. Interrupts your studying
- b. Makes you feel unsafe
- c. Messes up your physical living space (cleanliness, neatness, organization, etc.)
- d. Adversely affects your involvement on an athletic team or in other organized groups
- e. Prevents you from enjoying events (concerts, sports, social activities, etc.)
- f. Interferes in other way(s)
- g. Doesn’t interfere with my life
Appendix B
January 10, 2002

Dear President:

The Illinois Department of Human Services, the Illinois Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Other Drug and Violence Prevention, and the Core Institute are pleased to announce The Illinois Core Baseline 2002 Project. The purpose of the project is to establish the current incidence and prevalence of alcohol and other drug use on Illinois college campuses; negative consequences associated with use; the relationship of alcohol and other drug use to campus climate issues; students' perception of others' use; beliefs regarding use; experiences of secondhand effects of others' use; experiences of physical and sexual violence; and perceptions of risk related to use.

The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey was offered on a statewide basis in the spring of 2000 and 33 Illinois institutions of higher education participated in the administration. A copy of "Alcohol and Drugs on American College Campuses: A Report to the State of Illinois" is included for your information. It is hoped that the survey sample size will be even larger during 2002. Through funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Illinois Higher Education Center will pay the expense to your campus for this data collection.

We ask that the Core Survey be administered on each participating campus during the spring term of 2002. Technical assistance will be provided by Center staff to answer questions regarding survey implementation.

Here are some other issues to keep in mind as you think about your participation in this project:

- Many state and federal agencies are encouraging this type of data collection for evaluation purposes.

- Human Subjects approval will be required at your institution.
• You may already be using the Core Survey on your campus, so communicating with the responsible staff will be important in terms of timing. (You can also save money by letting us pick up the costs.)

• Only statewide, aggregate data will be made public. The names of participating schools will not be released. Your individual institution’s data will be confidential and sent only to you at the end of the collection period. By implied consent, data from your school will be aggregated for an Illinois report. This statewide data will be released to the Illinois Higher Education Center for reporting purposes.

• The data collected from your campus may be used to give students accurate information about campus alcohol and other drug norms which can effectively reduce drinking for heavier drinkers (who represent the minority of students) and encourage and support the safer behaviors of the moderate drinkers and non-drinkers (who represent the majority of students). This approach is called social norming and it has been shown to reduce high risk drinking on a number of campuses through the United States.

• Financial support for institutions is limited to the first 75 schools responding to this letter. All public and private colleges, universities, and community colleges may apply for this funding.

In addition to the copy of the 2000 state Core report, I have enclosed a brochure describing the Illinois Higher Education Center and a copy of a Parent’s Guide that was developed by the Center and disseminated to Illinois colleges and universities during the summer of 2001.

Because of the importance attached to the collection of data on college campuses, I would like to strongly encourage your institution’s participation in this study. Please complete and return the enclosed form to the address listed by February 28, 2002. Your selection will be confirmed upon receipt and surveys will be sent to the appropriate campus representative. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call or e-mail Becky Markwell at 217/581-2019 (csbsm@eiu.edu). I look forward to your participation in this important project.

Sincerely,

Becky Markwell, M.A.
Project Director
The Illinois Core Baseline 2002 Project

Institutional Response Form

Name of Institution: ________________________________________________

Contact Person or Designee: _________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

City State Zip

Telephone: _________________________________________________________

FAX: _____________________________________________________________

E-mail: ___________________________________________________________

__________________________________________ is interested in participating in

(Name of Institution)

The Illinois Core Baseline 2002 Project.

Number of surveys requested (if known): __________

If you are not sure how many surveys to request, please contact Becky Markwell at the Illinois Higher Education Center by phone at 217/581-2019 or by e-mail at csbsm@eiu.edu.

Signature of Authorizing Official

Please return this form by mail or FAX to: Becky Markwell, Office of Safety Programs, Eastern Illinois University, 600 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston, IL 61920; fax number 217/581-6621 by February 28, 2002. Upon receipt of this form, you or your designee will be contacted by phone regarding participation in the project.
This resource was developed by the Illinois Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Other Drug and Violence Prevention, through funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services, Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention.

For further information regarding the issues facing college students today, contact:

The Illinois Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Other Drug and Violence Prevention
Office of Safety Programs
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL  61920-3099

Telephone:  217/581-2019
Fax: 217/581-6621
E-mail: csbsm@eiu.edu
Website: www.illinoishec.org