

YOUTH



FAMILIES



COMMUNITY



2008 REPORT CARD

On Substance Use and Abuse
In Springfield-Greene County Missouri

FOREWORD



Ozarks Fighting Back (OFB), a program of Community Partnership, is pleased to provide you with the first Community Report Card on Substance Abuse in Springfield-Greene County, Missouri.

OFB's mission is to reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, as well as violence, and it is our intent that this Report Card will assist non-profits, City and County government, schools, and other organizations in monitoring trends in key indicators around the issue of substance abuse.

Substance abuse has a direct effect on the health and well-being of our children and families as well as the safety of our community. It is well recognized that alcohol and drug use interferes with the physical, intellectual, and emotional development of our youth, contributing to school failure, early sexual activity, violence, car crashes, and a host of other negative consequences. As Greene County is home to many colleges and universities, our population under 21 years of age swells dramatically each Fall, which contributes to incidents related to underage alcohol and drug use.

The number of methamphetamine labs has declined in recent years, as has the number of persons receiving treatment for addiction to meth; however, treatment admissions remain too high. Illegal drugs and gangs often go hand in hand, and many reports of local crime can be traced to illegal drug use or possession.

Driving under the influence significantly impacts the safety of our citizens, and Greene County is fortunate to have many groups working to reduce the number of DWI's. Alcohol and drug use is also implicated in a great number of child abuse and neglect cases, along with out of home placements. While we are showing some progress in this area, our child abuse and neglect numbers remain well above the state average.

It is our hope that the information in this Report Card will help our community make good decisions and assist them in allocating resources to reduce substance abuse. Knowledge is power. Through a better understanding of the issues we face with regards to substance abuse in our community, we will be better able to collectively make meaningful and lasting change in the lives of our citizens.

THE OZARKS FIGHTING BACK ADVISORY BOARD





SUBSTANCE USE BY STUDENTS IN SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS*

Survey of 16 year olds

How old were you when you first had more than a sip or two of beer, wine, or hard liquor?									
Never	8 or <	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
46.18%	6.42%	1.45%	1.45%	1.33%	3.52%	8.36%	10.67%	13.70%	6.55%
How old were you when you first smoked marijuana?									
69.21%	1.09%	.25%	.73%	1.94%	2.06%	3.88%	6.55%	9.21%	4.73%

During the past 30 days, how many times have you had at least one drink of alcohol?							
0	1-2	3-5	6-9	10-19	20-39	40+	Missing data
70.55%	12.24%	5.21%	3.88%	3.64%	1.58%	1.94%	.97%
How many times (if any) have you used marijuana during the past 30 days?							
83.03%	5.94%	2.06%	1.94%	1.94%	1.33%	3.03%	.73%

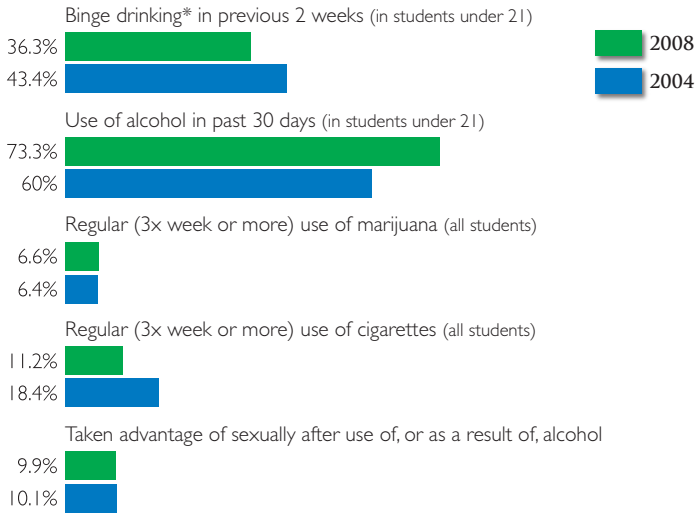
Survey of 12 year olds

How old were you when you first had more than a sip or two of beer, wine, or hard liquor?						
Never	8 or <	9	10	11	12	13
81.30%	5.37%	1.94%	2.69%	2.78%	4.72%	.37%
How old were you when you first smoked marijuana?						
96.11%	.09%	.46%	.46%	.93%	1.20%	.19%

During the past 30 days, how many times have you had at least one drink of alcohol?							
0	1-2	3-5	6-9	10-19	20-39	40+	Missing data
93.70%	4.26%	.65%	.46%	.00%	.00%	.00%	.93%
How many times (if any) have you used marijuana during the past 30 days?							
97.87%	.46%	.19%	.37%	.00%	.09%	.00%	1.02%

* Springfield R-12 is the largest school district in the county.
 A total of 1,080 12 year olds and 825 16 year olds completed the survey.
 Source: 2007/08 Missouri Youth Combined Survey - Springfield Public Schools data

SUBSTANCE USE BY STUDENTS IN LOCAL COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES



Data from Missouri State, Drury, and Evangel universities, and Ozarks Technical Community College. 2004 data from the CORE alcohol and drug survey; 2008 data from the Missouri College Health Behavior Report - 2152 students completed the 2008 survey.

*Binge drinking is defined as 5 or more drinks within a 2-hour time frame.

RATES OF YOUTH SHOWING PROBABILITY OF DEPENDENCE ON ALCOHOL

If the Greene County Prosecutor's Office receives a ticket for a Minor in Possession of Alcohol, the minor may (if this is a first offense) participate in an 8 hour alcohol awareness class in lieu of being charged by the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney. Among 649 youth under 21 years of age who participated in a Minor Awareness Program in 2008, 405 (62%) tested out on the Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory as having a low probability of having a substance dependence disorder, and 224 (38%) tested as having a high probability.

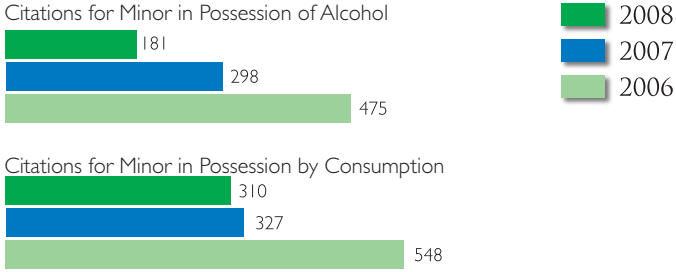
Sources: Traffic Safety Alliance, Alternatives Inc., and Correction Services.

YOUTH IN JUVENILE DETENTION TESTING POSITIVE FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Of the 130 drug screens given to youth admitted to secure detention in 2007, 62% tested positive for controlled substances. Of these, 94% tested positive for marijuana.

Source: Greene County Juvenile

MINOR IN POSSESSION CITATIONS (RECEIVED BY GCPA OFFICE)



Source: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney's (GCPA) Office

IN FAMILIES

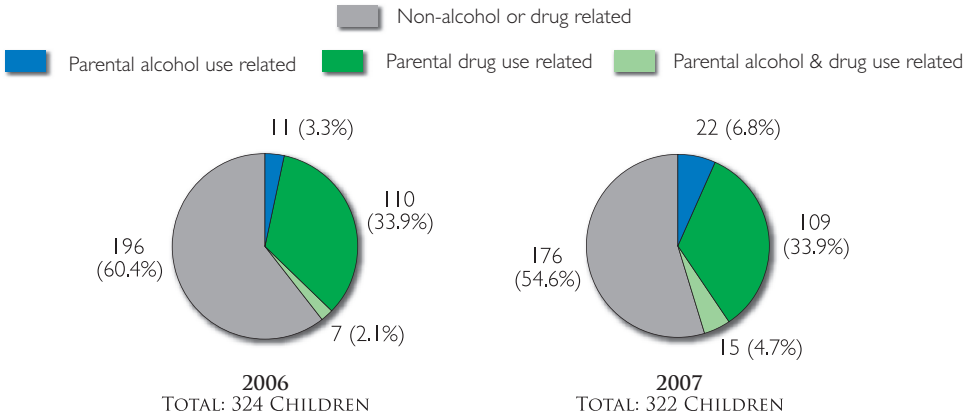
HOTLINE CALLS FOR DRUG EXPOSED BIRTHS

In 2008, there were 192 hotline calls in Greene County initiated due to drug exposed newborns. Greene County ranked fourth in the state behind Jackson County (660), St. Louis City (295), and St. Louis County (251).

Source: Greene County Juvenile



GREENE COUNTY JUVENILE COURT REFERRALS OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS

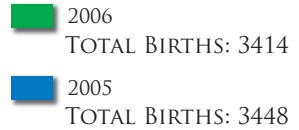
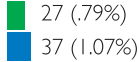


Source: MO Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse



BIRTH RISK FACTORS

Women reporting drinking while pregnant*



Women reporting smoking while pregnant



Source: Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

* Note: Many women may consume alcohol prior to knowing they are pregnant.

IN THE COMMUNITY

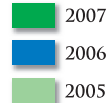
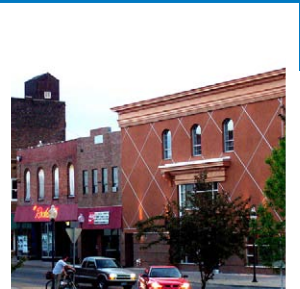


DWI AND DRUG ARRESTS

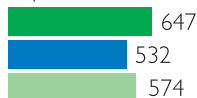
DWI/DUI arrests



Drug arrests



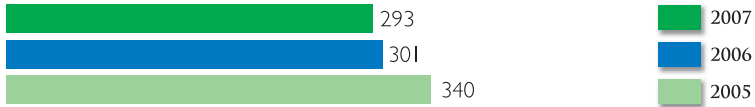
Liquor Law arrests



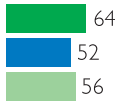
Source: Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

ALCOHOL & DRUG RELATED CRASHES

Alcohol involved crashes



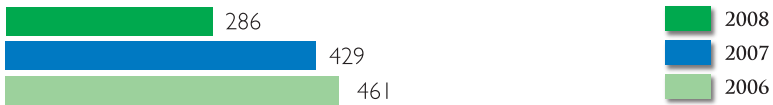
Drug involved crashes



Source: Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

METHAMPHETAMINE TREATMENT ADMISSIONS

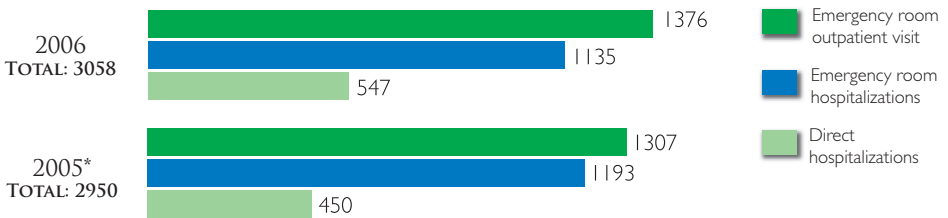
Number of persons entering treatment with methamphetamine as the primary drug problem



Source: Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

HOSPITAL/EMERGENCY ROOM DATA

Alcohol Related



Drug Related



* Inconsistent data, most recent used

Source: Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Funded by a grant from SAMHSA "Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act" (STOP)



**COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP**

Working Together to Build Strong Communities

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United Way of the Ozarks

Community Partnership is the
Community Impact Affiliate of
United Way of the Ozarks