



ACT MISSOURI'S



# 2019 Legislative Talking Points

## PROBLEM

**90%**

*of substance use disorders begin before the age of 21 when the brain is still developing*

### • Alcohol

	MISSOURI	U.S.
AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST USE:	<b>13.12</b>	<b>13.94</b>
LIFETIME USE:	<b>34.5%</b>	<b>27%</b>
"VERY" OR "SORT OF" EASY TO OBTAIN:	<b>48.9%</b>	<b>N/A</b>

## PREVENTION SOLUTION

- Create tougher social host laws.
- Ban powdered alcohol.
- Fund compliance checks.

### • Marijuana

	MISSOURI	U.S.
AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST USE:	<b>14.26</b>	<b>13.94</b>
LIFETIME USE:	<b>14%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>
"VERY" OR "SORT OF" EASY TO OBTAIN:	<b>36.9%</b>	<b>N/A</b>

## PREVENTION SOLUTION

- Keep recreational marijuana illegal.
- Restrict access to medical marijuana for teens.

### • Prescription Drugs

	MISSOURI	U.S.
LIFETIME USE:	<b>11%</b>	<b>14.5</b>
"VERY" OR "SORT OF" EASY TO OBTAIN:	<b>25.4%</b>	<b>N/A</b>

AFTER MARIJUANA, RX DRUGS ARE NOW THE MOST COMMON DRUGS USED BY MISSOURI YOUTH.

## PREVENTION SOLUTION

- Enact statewide Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

### • Tobacco

	MISSOURI	U.S.
AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST USE (CIGARETTES):	<b>13.7</b>	<b>13.94</b>
LAST 30 DAYS USE (CIGARETTES):	<b>6%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
LAST 30 DAYS USE (E-CIGARETTES):	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>N/A</b>

## PREVENTION SOLUTION

- Raise minimum age to purchase tobacco and e-cigarettes to 21.

# PREVENTION WORKS!

## • Bullying

	MISSOURI	U.S.
REPORTED BEING BULLIED AT SCHOOL:	<b>27.3%</b>	<b>19%</b>

### PREVENTION SOLUTION

- *Require public schools to have a comprehensive policy.*

## • Depression

**13.2%** REPORTED FEELING HOPELESS ABOUT THE FUTURE "OFTEN" OR "ALWAYS".

### PREVENTION SOLUTION

- *Expand funding and mandate YMHFA training for educators.*

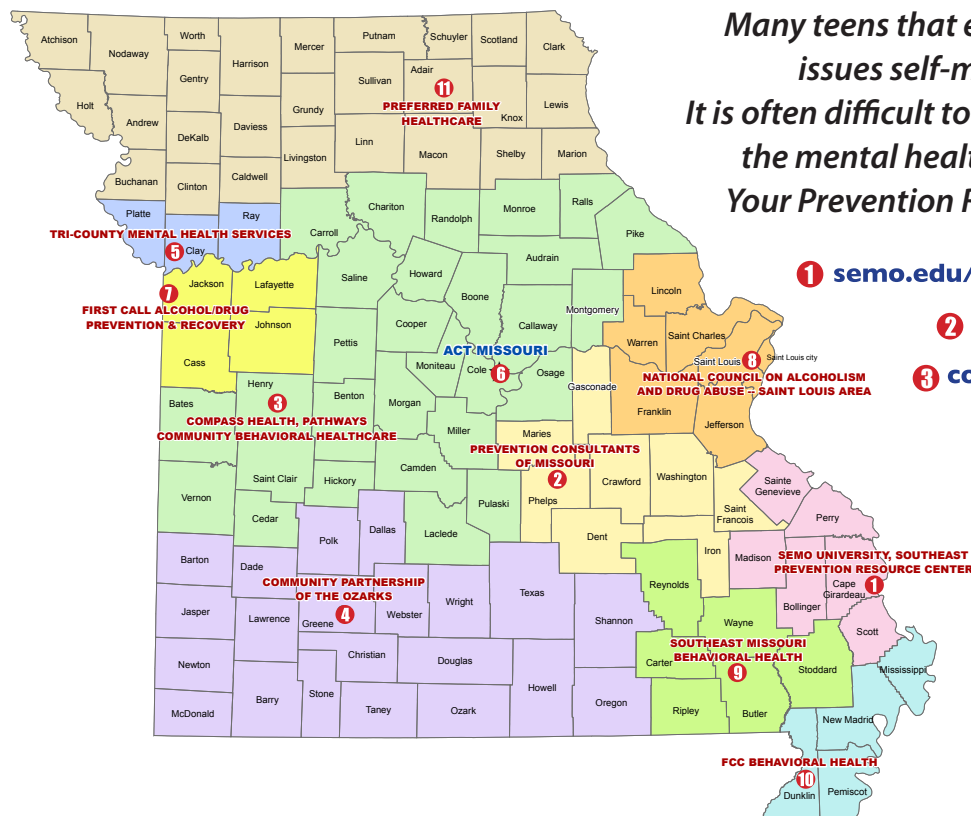
## • Suicide

	2018	2017
SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED:	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>17.2%</b>
MADE A PLAN:	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>13.6%</b>
ATTEMPTED:	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>
ATTEMPTED RESULTING IN INJURY:	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REPORTING SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR

### PREVENTION SOLUTION

- *Increase access to suicide prevention training for communities and caretakers.*
- *Pass policies to reduce the stigma of mental illnesses.*



Many teens that experience mental health issues self-medicate with substances. It is often difficult to discern which came first, the mental health issue or substance use. Your Prevention Resource Center can help.

- [semo.edu/preventionresourcecenter](http://semo.edu/preventionresourcecenter)
- [preventionconsultants.org](http://preventionconsultants.org)
- [compasshealthnetwork.org/family-counseling-center](http://compasshealthnetwork.org/family-counseling-center)
- [commpartnership.org](http://commpartnership.org)
- [tri-countymhs.org](http://tri-countymhs.org)
- [actmissouri.org](http://actmissouri.org)
- [firstcallkc.org](http://firstcallkc.org)
- [ncada-stl.org](http://ncada-stl.org)
- [semobh.org](http://semobh.org)
- [fccinc.org](http://fccinc.org)
- [pfh.org](http://pfh.org)

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Sources: 2018 Missouri Student Survey & 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey



[www.actmissouri.org](http://www.actmissouri.org)