

the

# RED CUP Q&A



**separating alcohol fact from fiction**  
EVERY TUESDAY IN THE DAILY WILDCAT

## **Q** What is the UA's rank among party schools in the nation?

**A.** Unlike our basketball team, the UA is currently "unranked" in this particular category. While you can find the party scene at any college or university, some schools carry that reputation more than others. Enter the Playboy and Princeton Review rankings, whose annual lists generate a lot of press, a lot of attention, and probably a lot more heat than light.

With 40,000 students, plenty of sunshine and no shortage of pool parties, you might think UA would have a fast-track in this area. It turns out, however, that the UA has not made either list since 2009 (Playboy has a Top 10 list and the Princeton Review ranks the Top 20).

It's no secret that UA has world class academics in disciplines as diverse as entrepreneurship, astronomy, optical sciences, anthropology, and nursing. Anyone who has made the Dean's List can attest to the fact that it's hard to succeed in the classroom without balancing your social life as well. Overall, the UA is around the national average for several key measures of student alcohol use. Ongoing trends from the annual Health & Wellness Survey support the fact that UA students are drinking less and drinking smarter than they were 5 or 10 years ago... and many aren't drinking at all. Here are some examples:

- The average number of drinks that students reported consuming in a week has decreased steadily from 7.6 in 2002 to 4.5 in 2012.
- More students are setting a limit on the number of drinks they'll have, alternating with non-alcoholic drinks, eating food, and having a designated driver to ensure a fun (and safe) night out.
- The percent of students who reported NOT having alcohol during the past 30 days has increased from 23% in 2002 to 37% in 2012.

Party school lists will predictably be debated, hailed, and debunked each year they are released, but here's something to remember that has nothing to do with the rankings: in the end, your college experience will largely be what you yourself make of it.



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**New Year + New You: Wednesday, 1/23 on the UA Mall, 10am-2pm. Food, prizes, a photobooth, and lots of friendly UA staff to help you meet your New Year's resolutions!**



**Got a question about alcohol?**

Email it to [redcup@email.arizona.edu](mailto:redcup@email.arizona.edu)



[www.health.arizona.edu](http://www.health.arizona.edu)

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