



# Halloween Drinking Statistics

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THE RECOVERY VILLAGE

Most people likely associate Halloween with carefree costume parties and overindulgence in sweet treats like candy corn and caramel apples, but the dark side of Halloween is at the other end of the spectrum and includes excessive drinking around Halloween. Unfortunately, some of the statistics surrounding Halloween alcohol use are bleak.

## Startling Halloween Statistics

The amount of drinking that occurs at a college Halloween party is rather startling. According to Halloween drinking statistics found in one [study](#), college students who consume alcohol on Halloween report drinking, on average, 6.3 alcoholic beverages, which is 1.4 more than they ordinarily consume on a weekend night. This finding is troubling, because the [National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism](#) defines

binge drinking as occurring after four drinks for women and five for men over the course of several hours, so college students are likely [engaging in binge drinking](#) on Halloween.

A second [study](#) found that among all the holidays, Halloween ranked number five in terms of the [amount of alcohol consumed](#). Men reported drinking an average of four drinks on Halloween, whereas women reported consuming almost three, on average. Even more troubling is the fact that 9.3 % of men and 6.6 % of women reported they have blacked out from drinking on Halloween.



## Drinking and Driving on Halloween

With all the alcohol consumption that occurs on Halloween, drunk driving is a risk associated with this holiday. This Halloween drinking can be deadly. According to accident statistics from the [U.S. Department of Transportation](#), on Halloween night in 2016, there were 47 deaths and almost a third were a result of drunk driving. That's three times the amount on an average day. Furthermore, between 2012 and 2016, nearly one-fourth of pedestrians who were killed on Halloween night were killed by a drunk driver.

## DRINKING AND DRIVING ON HALLOWEEN



*1/4 of pedestrians killed  
were due to a drunk driver*

*Out of 47 car crashes,  
16 were due to **drunk driving**...  
3x more than an average day*



## Increase in Crime

Aside from drunk driving, there tends to be a general increase in crime during Halloween. According to [reports](#), between 2006 and 2009, crime in Boston was elevated by 50% on Halloween compared to all other days of the year.

Other [sources](#) report that insurance claims due to crime are 24% higher on Halloween. Burglaries and vandalism are especially common.

## INCREASE IN CRIME



*Crime in Boston elevated  
by **50%** on Halloween*



*Insurance claims due to crime  
are **24% higher** on Halloween*

## Alternatives to Drinking on Halloween

With all the drinking and crime surrounding Halloween, it may seem like it is impossible to avoid mischief on this holiday, but there are alternative ways to celebrate Halloween. A sober Halloween can become a reality with activities like corn mazes,

pumpkin picking and hayrides. You can also enjoy carving pumpkins, going to a haunted house or seeing a new horror film. You might also enjoy a Halloween bonfire with non-alcoholic beverages like apple cider and hot chocolate. Alcohol is not a necessary component of a Halloween celebration.

## ***ALTERNATIVES TO DRINKING ON HALLOWEEN***

- *Corn mazes*
- *Pumpkin picking*
- *Hayrides*
- *Pumpkin carving*
- *Going to a haunted house*
- *Seeing a new horror film*



*While drinking is common on Halloween, for some, excessive alcohol consumption can be an ongoing problem and lead to an alcohol use disorder. If you or a loved one is living with an alcohol addiction, The Recovery Village has locations around the country and provides services that can help you to achieve sobriety. Call us today to learn more.*



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