

# What’s in that drink?

CONNOR DIETRICH/Missourian

## Students concerned with rise in reports of drinks being drugged

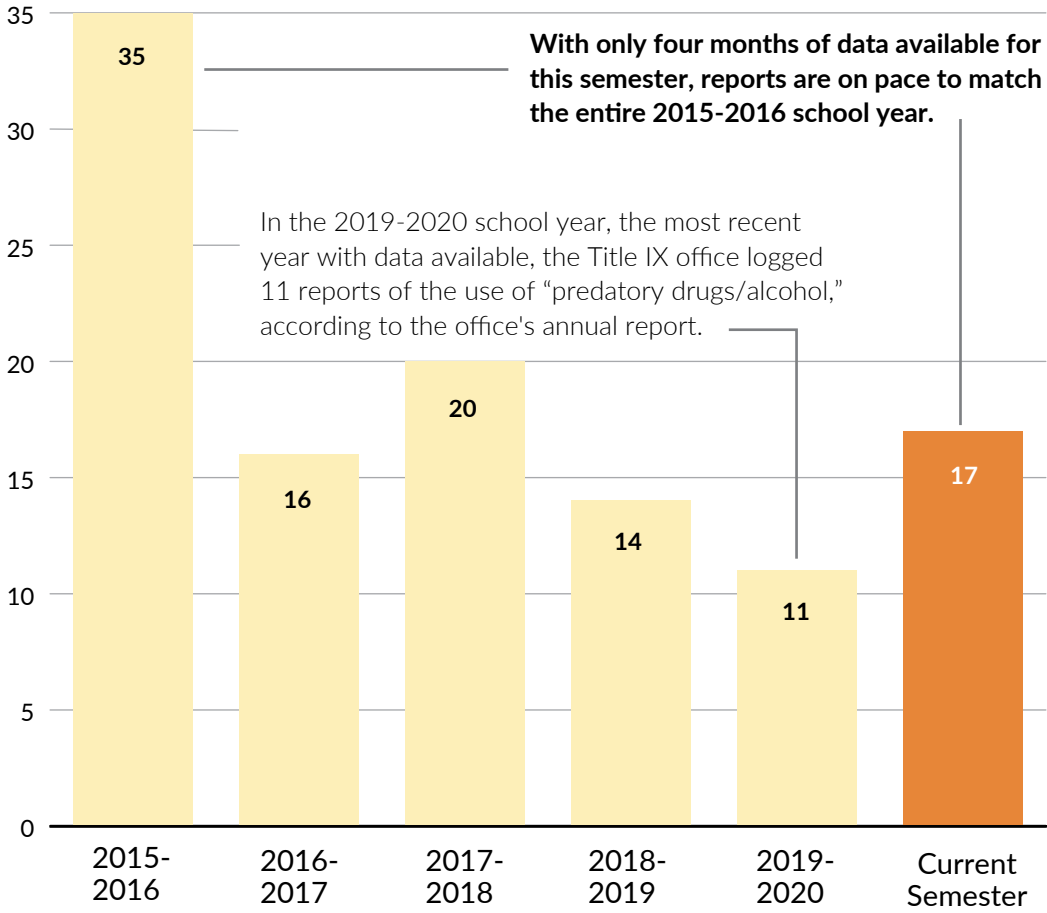
The Office for Civil Rights and Title IX has received 17 reports of predatory drug use so far this semester. Most reports have come from downtown bars and fraternity houses. None of the locations are confirmed.

There have been more reports this semester alone than in the four previous school years.

In September, MUPD warned the public of the multiple reports from individuals suspecting that drinks may have been drugged at various locations throughout Columbia.

However, students are concerned the university hasn't done anything since the email.

But the University says they are doing more than what students think. MU Spokesman Christian Basi says the university has met with bar owners, the Interfraternity Council and leaders of student organizations to discuss these issues.



"We've got a lot of reports coming in, something is going on out there. We don't have enough evidence to confirm anything. But we have concerns. Let's make sure the community is aware."

Christian Basi  
MU Spokesperson

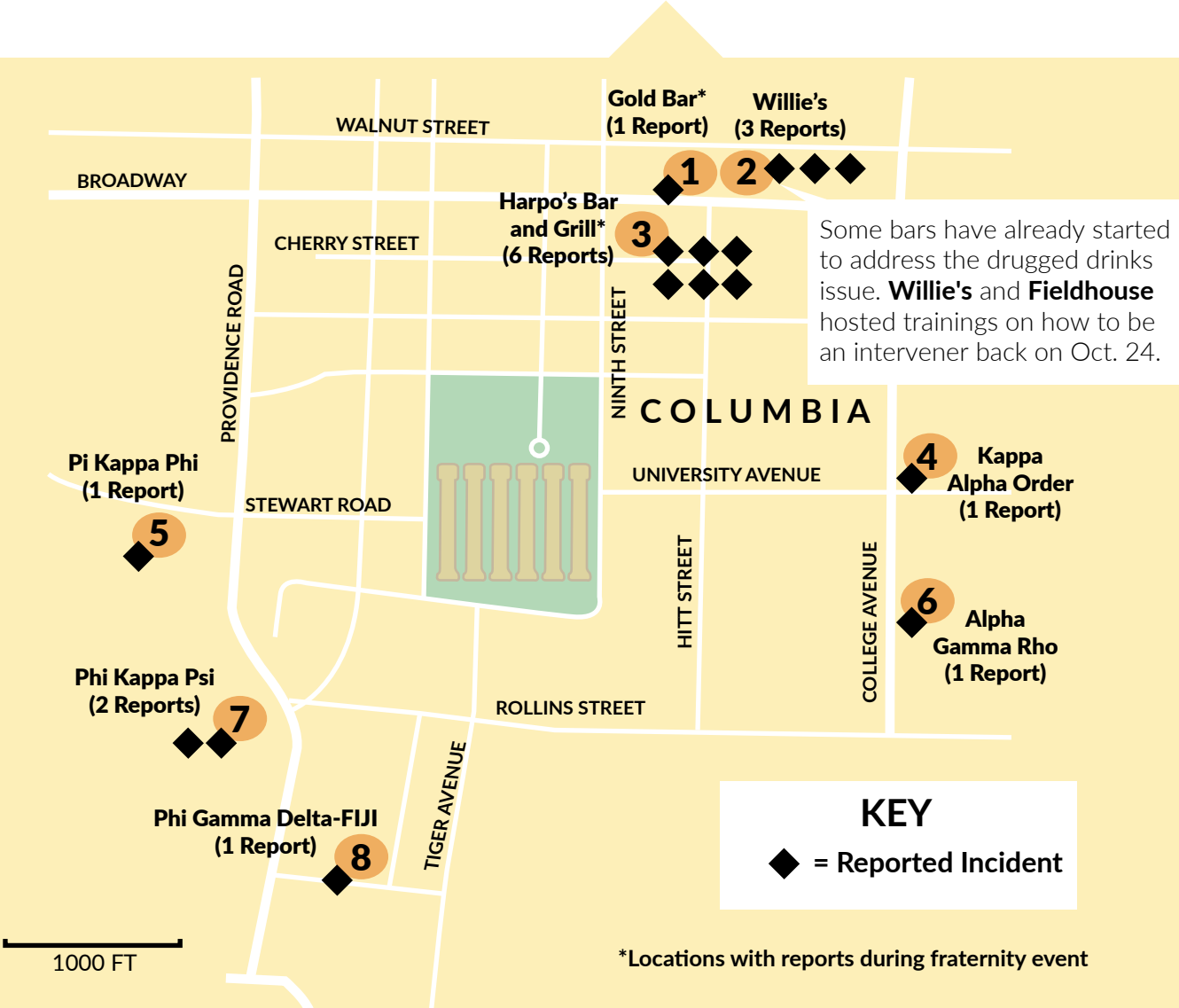
### Where drugged drinks have been reported:

Several of the reports indicating the locations of the incidents were at downtown bars and fraternity houses. Basi says the Title IX office and MUPD does everything it can to try and get more information with each report. However, he mentioned in almost every case the amount of information is limited, in part because it is impossible to confirm where, how and who may have drugged a drink, or whether it was spiked at all.

"It's very difficult for us, when we don't have confirmation of locations, we don't have confirmation of individuals, because then we can't just go around asking random places," Basi said.

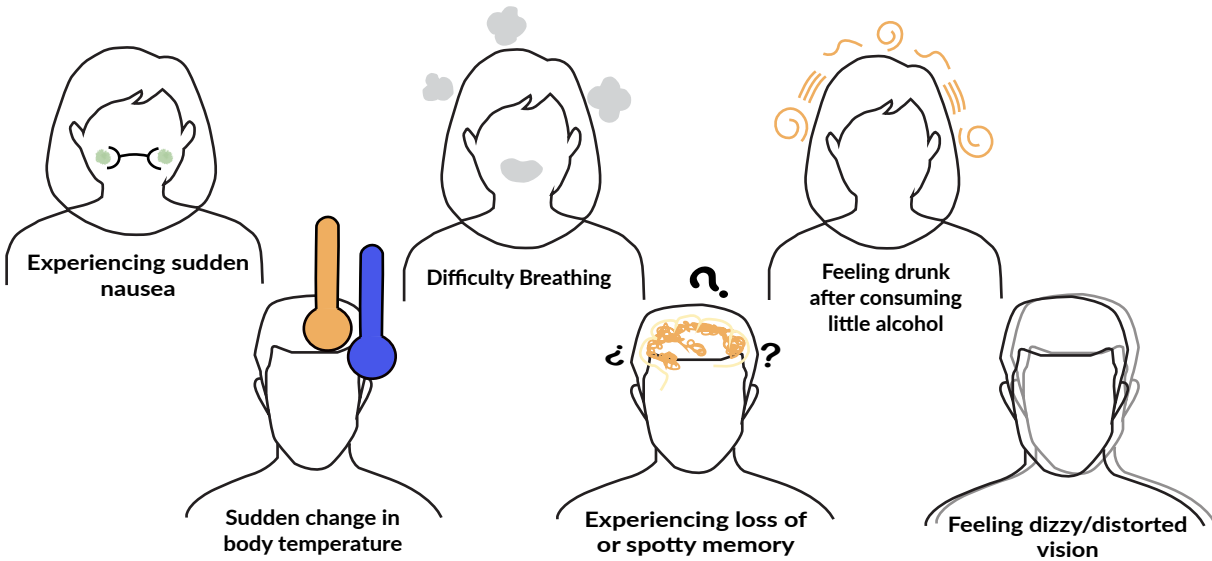
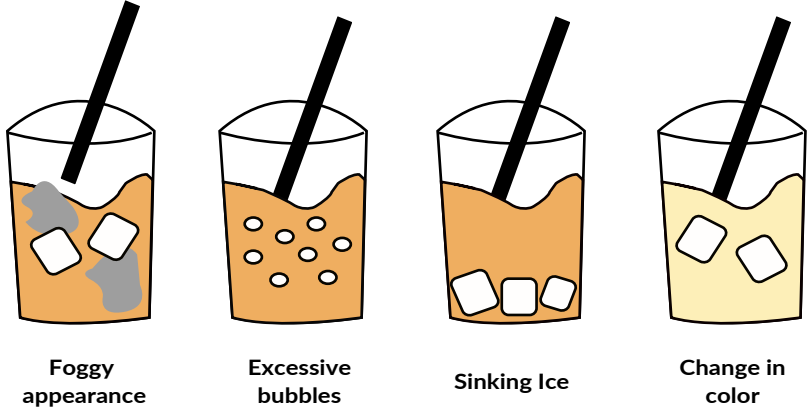
President of STARS Noura Alhachami says the students are talking but the university is hiding. STARS stands for Stronger Together Against Relationship and Sexual Violence, and the group works to raise awareness about domestic violence issues.

"Students are aware of it. Students are trying to warn each other and show each other evidence, but admin are just like...well it's just accusations. We can't do anything based off allegations," Alhachami said.



### What to watch for

Telling if a drink has been drugged can be very difficult, especially when bars are dark and crowded. Student Beans, a digital platform connecting students around the world, gives four helpful ways to tell if a drink 'might' have been drugged:



### How to report an incident

The university wants students to continue reporting any incidents related to drugged-drinks through the Title IX office. You can report either online, through email or over the phone. As for any reports already made, any information regarding the incident is helpful.

Anyone who has been a victim or survivor of predatory drug use and/or sexual assault are welcome to meet the STARS organization.

"It doesn't matter what you did or didn't do. It doesn't matter what your identity is, what you've been through or who you were with. You're a victim. It happened to you. And that's okay," Alhachami said. "But you also you're a survivor. You're here now and I'm very happy for you."



**Online:** Using the online incident report form. Information will be sent directly to the Title IX office.

**Email:** Send an email to [civilrights-titleix@missouri.edu](mailto:civilrights-titleix@missouri.edu) describing the incident, including the date and the names of people involved.

**Phone:** Call 573-882-3880 to provide basic information. The Title IX office will return your call.