

Prescription Drug Misuse: Findings from SAMHSA's National Surveys

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This presentation was modified from its original format for
508 compliancy.

2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

NSDUH Design

- Representative nationally and in each state
- Civilian, noninstitutional population, age 12+
- Face-to-face interview
- Computer-assisted, self-administered
- 67,802 respondents in 2006

Prevalence of Illicit Drug Use

Past Month Use of Specific Illicit Drugs among Persons Aged 12 or Older: 2006

Drug	Numbers, in millions
Illicit drugs	20.4
Marijuana	14.8
Psychotherapeutics	7.0
Cocaine	2.4
Hallucinogens	1.0
Inhalants	0.8
Heroin	0.3

Past Month Percentage Use of Selected Illicit Drugs among Persons Aged 12 or Older: 2002-2006

Year	Marijuana	Psychotherapeutics	Cocaine
2002	6.2%	2.6%	0.9%
2003	6.2%	2.7%	1.0%
2004	6.1%	2.5% ⁺	0.8%
2005	6.0%	2.6%	1.0%
2006	6.0%	2.8%	1.0%

⁺ Difference between this estimate and the 2006 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

Past Month Nonmedical Percentage Use of Prescription Drugs (Psychotherapeutics) among Persons Aged 12 and Older: 2002-2006

Year	Pain relievers	Stimulants	Sedatives	Tranquilizers
2002	1.9% ⁺	0.5%	0.2%	0.8% ⁺
2003	2.0%	0.5%	0.1%	0.8%
2004	1.8% ⁺	0.5%	0.1%	0.7%
2005	1.9%	0.4%	0.1%	0.7%
2006	2.1%	0.5%	0.2%	0.7%

⁺ Difference between this estimate and the 2006 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

7

Source of Pain Relievers for Most Recent Nonmedical Use among Past Year Users Aged 12 or Older: 2006

Source where respondent obtained		Source where friend/relative obtained	
Source	Percentage	Source	Percentage
Free from friend/relative	55.7%	One doctor	80.7%
One doctor	19.1%	Free from friend/relative	7.3%
Bought/took from friend/relative	14.8%	Bought/took from friend/relative	4.9%
Other ¹	4.9%	More than one doctor	3.3%
Drug dealer/stranger	3.9%	Drug dealer/stranger	1.6%
More than one doctor	1.6%	Other ¹	2.2%
Bought on internet	0.1%		

¹ Note: Totals may not sum to 100% because of rounding or because suppressed estimates are not shown.
² The Other category includes the sources: "Wrote Fake Prescription," "Stole from Doctor's Office/Clinic/Hospital/Pharmacy," and "Some Other Way."

8

Past Month Illicit Percentage Drug Use among Persons Aged 12+, by Age: 2002-2006

Year	>12 years	12-17 years	18-25 years	>26 years
2002	8.3%	11.6% ⁺	20.2%	5.8%
2003	8.2%	11.2% ⁺	20.3%	5.6%
2004	7.9%	10.6% ⁺	19.4%	5.5%
2005	8.1%	9.9%	20.1%	5.8%
2006	8.3%	9.8%	19.8%	6.1%

⁺ Difference between this estimate and the 2006 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

9

Past Month Nonmedical Use of Prescription Drugs among Young Adults Aged 18 to 25: 2002-2006

Year	Pain relievers	Stimulants	Sedatives	Tranquilizers
2002	4.1% ⁺	1.2%	0.2%	1.6% ⁺
2003	4.7%	1.3%	0.2%	1.7%
2004	4.7%	1.4%	0.2%	1.8%
2005	4.7%	1.3%	0.2%	1.9%
2006	4.9%	1.3%	0.2%	2.0%

⁺ Difference between this estimate and the 2006 estimate is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

10

Initiation of Drug Use

Past Year Initiates for Specific Illicit Drugs among Persons Aged 12 or Older: 2006

Drug	Number
Pain relievers	2,150,000
Marijuana	2,063,000
Tranquilizers	1,112,000
Cocaine	977,000
Ecstasy	860,000
Stimulants	845,000
Inhalants	783,000
Sedatives	267,000
LSD	264,000
Heroin	91,000
PCP	69,000

12

Mean Age at First Use for Specific Illicit Drugs among Past Year Initiates Aged 12 to 49: 2006

Drug	Age, years
Inhalants	15.7
PCP	16.3
Marijuana	17.4
LSD	19.4
Cocaine	20.3
Ecstasy	20.6
Heroin	20.7
Pain relievers	21.9
Stimulants	23.0
Tranquilizers	24.0
Sedatives	26.5

13

Abuse and Dependence

Substance Dependence or Abuse in the Past Year among Persons Aged 12+: 2002-2006

Year	Alcohol use only	Illicit drug use only	Both alcohol and illicit drug use	Total
2002	14,900,000	3,900,000	3,200,000	22,000,000
2003	14,800,000	3,800,000	3,100,000	21,600,000
2004	15,200,000	3,900,000	3,400,000	22,500,000
2005	15,400,000	3,600,000	3,300,000	22,200,000
2006	15,600,000	3,800,000	3,200,000	22,600,000

15

Dependence on or Abuse of Specific Illicit Drugs in the Past Year among Persons Aged 12 or Older: 2006

Drug	Number
Marijuana	4,172,000
Cocaine	1,671,000
Pain relievers	1,635,000
Tranquilizers	402,000
Stimulants	390,000
Hallucinogens	380,000
Heroin	323,000
Inhalants	176,000
Sedatives	121,000

16

Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS)

Admissions to Substance Abuse Treatment for the Abuse of Opioid Analgesics

Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS)

- Client-level information on treatment admissions
- Primarily from facilities receiving public funds
- Estimated coverage – 80%
- 1.8 million admissions annually

18

TEDS Data Elements

- Demographic variables
- Drug use history
 - Top 3 substances of abuse at admission
 - Route of administration
 - Frequency of use
 - Age at first use
- Treatment variables

19

Limitations of TEDS

- Drugs of abuse reported in “generic” categories, not specific brand names or formulations
- All States report on “opiates other than heroin” as a group
- Only 16 States report on specific opioid analgesics

20

Treatment Admissions by Primary Substance: 2006

Drug	Percentage
Alcohol	39%
Marijuana	16%
Cocaine	14%
Heroin	14%
Stimulants	9%
Opioid analgesics*	4%
Other	4%

* Includes admissions where primary substance was reported as *Other opiates/synthetics*. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 21

Treatment Admissions Involving Opioid Analgesics*: 1992-2006

Year	Admissions	Notes
1992	27,871,000	
1993	29,904,000	
1994	31,802,000	
1995	32,859,000	
1996	32,829,000	OxyContin introduced
1997	32,533,000	
1998	36,480,000	
1999	42,825,000	
2000	51,426,000	
2001	68,789,000	
2002	84,563,000	
2003	95,316,000	
2004	113,716,000	
2005	121,508,000	
2006	128,429,000	

* Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as *Other opiates/synthetics*. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 22

Percent Increase in Admissions for Heroin and Opioid Analgesics*: 1997-2006

Drug	% Increase
Total admissions	12%
Heroin (primary)	4%
Opioid analgesics (primary)	367%
Opioid analgesics (any)	295%

* Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as *Other opiates/synthetics*. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 23

States Reporting Specific Opioid Analgesics*: 2006

- Alabama
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Kentucky
- Maine
- Maryland
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- Nevada
- New York
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- South Dakota

* Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as *Other opiates/synthetics*. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 24

Admissions Involving Specific Opioid Analgesics*: 2006

Drugs	Admissions
Oxycodone	15,300
Codeine	1,200
Hydrocodone	900
Hydromorphone	900
Propoxyphene	162
Meperidine	80
Pentazocine	30
Tramadol	50
Other opiates or synthetics	33,100

*Data submitted by 16 States: AL, HI, ID, KY, MD, ME, MO, MS, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, SD 25

Percent Increase in Admissions for Specific Opioid Analgesics*: 2000-2006

Drug	% Increase
All opioid analgesics	168%
Codeine	137%
Hydromorphone	121%
Meperidine	19%
Oxycodone	1,513%
Pentazocine	67%
Propoxyphene	-60%

*Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as Other opiates/synthetics. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. Analysis restricted to 13 States that reported detailed drug codes for 2000 and 2006. 26

Opioid Analgesic¹ Admission Rates Per 100,000 Population Aged 12 and Over By State*: 2006

Admissions	State
<51	AZ, CA, CO, FL, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WY
51-77	AL, AR, IN, MN, NJ, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, UT, VT
78-128	CT, KY, LA, MI, MT, NY, WV
129-288	DE, MA, MD, RI
>288	ME
Incomplete data	AK, GA, VT

*Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as Other opiates/synthetics. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 27

Opioid Analgesic Treatment Admission Rates per 100,000 age 12 and over by Urbanization*: 2000 and 2006

Urbanization	2000	2006
Total US	23	55
Large MSA, in central city	16	31
Large MSA, not in central city	23	58
Small MSA	30	68
Non-MSA, small city	28	76
Non-MSA, no city	26	71

*MSA = Metropolitan Statistical Area
*Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as Other opiates/synthetics. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 28

Percent of Primary and Secondary Opioid Analgesic Admissions Using Other Substances: 2006

Drug	Opiate analgesics primary	Opiate analgesics secondary
None	37%	
Alcohol	22%	29%
Marijuana	20%	13%
Cocaine	17%	15%
Tranquillizers	10%	3%
Heroin	7%	29%
Stimulants	5%	6%
Other/unknown	9%	5%

29

Treatment Admissions Involving Opioid Analgesics by Age and Route of Administration*: 2006

Age, years	Oral route	Inhaled route	Injected route	Other
15	739	108	14	47
20	2542	935	461	142
25	3764	1031	709	164
30	2752	475	431	108
35	2554	313	309	84
40	2201	208	229	54
45	2194	162	229	62
50	1421	64	153	36
55	616	22	63	21
60	180	5	16	8

*Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as Other opiates/synthetics. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 30

Characteristics of Opioid Analgesic Admissions*: 1997 and 2006

Characteristic	1997	2006
Male	56%	57%
White (non-Hispanic)	83%	88%
Less than 20 years of age	5%	11%
20 to 29 years	16%	37%
30 years or more	79%	52%
New users (≤3 yrs use less)	20%	28%
Oral	78%	74%
Injected	14%	10%
Inhaled	3%	13%

*Includes admissions where primary, secondary, or tertiary substance was reported as *Other opiates/synthetics*. Excludes admissions for non-prescription use of methadone. 31

Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)

The DAWN – ED Sample

- National probability sample of non-Federal, short-stay, general hospitals that operate 24-hour emergency departments
- Annual estimates of drug-related emergency department visits

33

How DAWN Works: Retrospective Review of Medical Records

- Charts reviewed: 11,814,043
 - Cases found: 374,541
 - Source of National estimates

• Source: DAWN, 2005 data, 4/6/2006

34

Definition of a “Case”

Nonmedical use of pharmaceuticals

- Exceeded prescribed or recommended dose
- Used drugs prescribed for another
- Poisoned with malicious purpose
- Substance abuse

35

Nonmedical Use of Pharmaceuticals, ED Visit Rates by Age and Gender: 2006

Sex/age years	ED visits per 100K population
Male	237
Female	253
0-5	26
6-11	18
12-17	246
18-20	410
21-24	420
25-29	348
30-34	339
35-44	364
45-54	300
55-64	156
65+	162

36

Drug Misuse and Abuse in ED Visits

Drug involvement	Estimated visits			Percent change	
	2004	2005	2006	2004, 2006	2005, 2006
All types of drug misuse/abuse	1,619,054	1,616,311	1,742,887		
Illicit drugs only	502,136	517,558	536,554		
Alcohol only (age < 21)	150,988	110,599	126,704		
Pharmaceuticals only	336,987	444,309	486,276	44%	
Combinations					
Illicit drugs with alcohol	338,638	221,823	219,521		
Illicit drugs with pharmaceuticals	105,017	127,245	142,535	36%	
Alcohol with pharmaceuticals	139,716	140,275	171,743		22%
Illicit drugs with alcohol and pharmaceuticals	45,571	54,500	59,553		

37

• Source: DAWN estimates for the U.S., 2006

Nonmedical Use: Disposition from ED, Selected Opiates/Opioids, 2004

All opiates/opioids		Hydrocodone products	
Outcome	% of ED visits	Outcome	% of ED visits
Sent home or to jail, LAMA	54%	Sent home or to jail, LAMA	51%
Some follow-up care	44%	Some follow-up care	46%
Died	0.5%	Died	0.6%
Oxycodone products		Oxycodone products	
Outcome	% of ED visits	Outcome	% of ED visits
Sent home or to jail, LAMA	54%	Sent home or to jail, LAMA	54%
Some follow-up care	44%	Some follow-up care	44%
Died	0.5%	Died	0.5%

38

For further information:

- On the web: <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov>
- By Phone: 240-276-1212
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39