



Prescription Drug Abuse among Oregon Youth

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Lines for Life

The Teen – RX Abuse Connection



Rx Medications are All around Us... and Teens Notice

- There's a “pill for every ill,” and when we go to the doctor due to illness, it's natural to want to walk out with a prescription!
- Direct-to-consumer advertising on TV and in magazines is pervasive.
- Many people don't know how to safely use these medications or ignore their doctor's instructions.
- Every day, 2000 teens abuse a prescription drug for the first time.

*NIDA for Teens, Drug Facts Prescription Drugs
(<http://teens.drugabuse.gov/drug-facts/prescription-drugs>)*

As a result...



Rx drugs are part of teen culture. Teens

- Normalize this form of drug abuse.
- Take these meds for legitimate reasons - with or without a prescription - to stay awake, remain alert or to go to sleep.
 - 1 in 3 teens believe “it’s okay to use Rx that were not prescribed to them to deal with an injury, illness or pain.”
- Purposely abuse these drugs to get high.
- Are often unaware that these activities can lead to disastrous results.

Did you know?



- Next to marijuana, the most common illegal drug teens are abusing are prescription medicines
 - 1 in 4 teens have misused or abused Rx at least once in lifetime.
- While there continues to be a long-term drop in past-year non-medical use of Rx medicines overall, the increased abuse of prescription stimulants - particularly among teens and young people - is a cause of concern

National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2012

Partnership for a Drug Free America, Attitude Tracking Survey 2012

30 day use: non-medical use



	STATE	Dschts	Jffrsn	Crook	Hood R	Wasco
6 th	1%	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%
8 th	3%	4%	1%	.60%	5%	7.5%
11 th	7%	9%	7%	8%	8%	14%

Oregon Student Wellness Survey 2014

Nation: 1 in 5 teens who have abused Rx drugs say they did so before age 14.

Partnership Attitude Tracking Survey 2008-2012

Teens' Rx Drugs of Choice For Abuse



	How they work	Abused by teens/ young adults	Drug names
Strong pain relievers	Relieve moderate-to-severe pain, these medications block pain signals to the brain	Get high, increase feelings of well being by affecting the brain regions that mediate pleasure	Vicodin, OxyContin, Percocet, Lorcet, Lortab, Actiq, Darvon, codeine, morphine, methadone
Stimulants	Primarily to treat ADHD type symptoms, speed up brain activity causing increased alertness, attention, and energy that comes with elevated blood pressure, increased heart rate and breathing	Feel alert, focused and full of energy—perhaps around final exams or to manage coursework, lose weight	Adderall, Dexedrine, Ritalin, Concerta
Sedatives or tranquilizers	Slow down or “depress” functions of the brain and central nervous system pressure, increased heart rate and breathing	Feel calm, reduce stress, sleep	Valium, Xanax, Ativan, Klonopin, Restoril, Ambien, Lunesta, Mebaral, Nembutal, Soma

Perception of Risk



	STATE	Dschts	Jffrsn	Crook	Hood R	Wasco
6 th	79%	84%	71%	82%	80%	84%
8 th	84%	84%	82%	81%	84%	81%
11 th	86%	90%	85%	83%	91%	73%

Oregon Student Wellness Survey 2014

Nation: 1 in 4 teens believe misusing and abusing Rx is safer than using street drugs.

Partnership Attitude Tracking Survey 2008-2012

Parent Disapproval



	STATE	Dschts	Jffrsn	Crook	Hood R	Wasco
6 th	99%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%
8 th	98%	98%	97%	98%	98%	95%
11 th	96%	96%	95%	92%	98%	93%

Oregon Student Wellness Survey 2014

Nation: 1 in 4 teens say parents don't care as much, if caught using Rx without a prescription, compared to illegal drug use.

1 in 6 parents believe using Rx to get high is safer than street drugs.

Partnership Attitude Tracking Survey 2008-2012

Friends Disapproval



	STATE	Dschts	Jffrsn	Crook	Hood R	Wasco
6 th	96%	96%	97%	96%	95%	95%
8 th	91%	89%	94%	92%	91%	89%
11 th	81%	82%	77%	83%	82%	73%

Oregon Student Wellness Survey 2014

Nation: Boys are more likely to abuse Rx stimulants to get high, while girls tend to abuse them to stay alert or to lose weight.

NIDA for Teens, Drug Facts Prescription Drugs

Availability



	STATE	Dschts	Jffrsn	Crook	Hood R	Wasco
6 th	12%	12%	11%	11%	14%	14%
8 th	30%	29%	24%	28%	22%	38%
11 th	45%	43%	48%	55%	40%	53%

Oregon Student Wellness Survey 2014

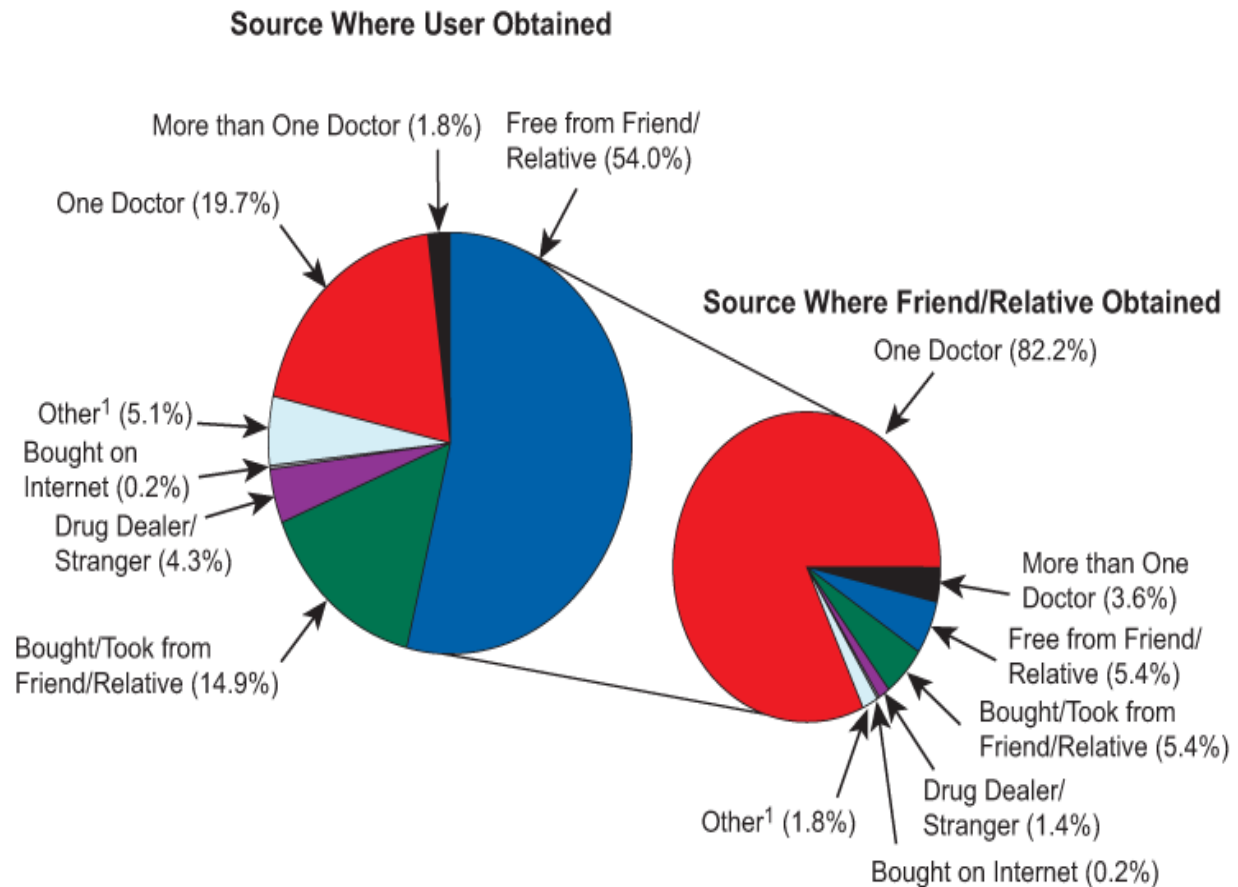
Nation: More than 4 in 10 teens who have misused a Rx drug took it from their parents medicine cabinet.

NIDA for Teens, Drug Facts Prescription Drugs

Rx Access Points— Friends & Family



Where Pain Relievers Were Obtained for Most Recent Nonmedical Use among Past Year Users Aged 12 or Older: 2011-2012



SPF – Partnership for Success grant awards



\$125,000 per year for four years; 12 – 25 year olds; underage drinking, problem drinking, non medical use of prescription drugs.

- Crook County Commission on Children and Families
 - Brenda Comini, Director brenda.comini@co.crook.or.us
- Deschutes County
 - Jessica Jacks, Prevention Coordinator jessica.jacks@deschutes.org
- Jefferson County
 - Cindy Brocket, Prevention Specialist cindyb@bestcareprevention.org