

Adult Marijuana and Other Drug Use

Key Findings

In 2005, 5% of Sandusky County adults had used a medication not prescribed for them or they took more than prescribed to feel good or high and/or more active or alert. In addition, 7% of Sandusky County adults reported using marijuana in the past six months. 7% of adults used recreational drugs in the past 30 days.

Adult Drug Use

- ◆ A majority (93%) of the Sandusky County adults had not used recreational drugs (including marijuana, Ecstasy, speed) in the past 30 days. For the 7% that did report recreational drug use, it was most common among the following groups:
 - Adults ages 20-29 (14%)
 - Current smokers (12%)
 - Males (10%)
 - Those with an annual household income of less than \$25,000 (8%)
- ◆ When asked about their frequency of recreational drug use in the past six months, 46% of Sandusky County adults who used these drugs did so less than once a month. Conversely, 9% of adult users used recreational drugs almost every day in the past six months.
- ◆ The 2005 Health Assessment Project identified that 7% of Sandusky County adults reported using marijuana within the past six months.
- ◆ 5% of adults used medications during the past 6 months that were either not prescribed for them or took more than prescribed to feel good or high, more active or alert. Of those who used medications, 26% used them almost every day.
- ◆ Only 1% of Sandusky County adults indicated that they regularly had problems meeting obligations; placed themselves in dangerous situations; or, had legal problems as a result of drug use.

Prescription Drug Abuse Facts from the 2002/2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

- ❖ 20.1% of persons aged 12 or older (an increase from 19.8% in 2003) had used prescription-type drugs for a non-medical purpose at least once in their lifetime.
- ❖ In 2003, of the estimated 1.9 million people who reported using prescription drugs non-medically in the past year, nearly half (46%) were ages 12-25.
- ❖ In 2002, youth users in the past year are more likely to be: females (4.3% versus 3.6% of males); and, live in a non-metropolitan or small metropolitan area (9% versus 7% in a large metropolitan area).
- ❖ In 2002, adult users in the past year were more likely to be young adults aged 18-25 (5.4%).
- ❖ Adult use was comparable between males and females in 2002.
- ❖ Pain relievers were the prescription drugs most often used non-medically by youths and young adults in the past year. (Source: Department of Health and Human Services, SAMHSA, NSDUH, 2002 & 2003)

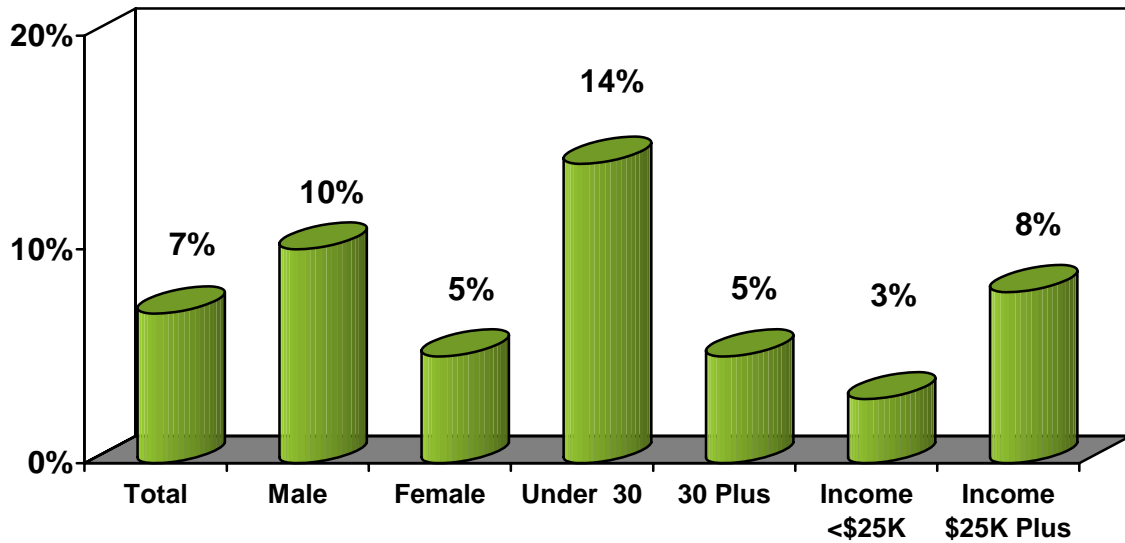
Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs

- ❖ **Opioids**—most often prescribed to relieve pain. Examples include: Codeine, Percocet, Darvon (Propoxyphene), Duragesic (Fentanyl), Dilaudid (Hydromorphone), Demerol (Meperidine), OxyContin (Oxycodone), and Vicodin (hydrocodone)
 - ❖ **Central Nervous System (CNS) Depressants**—may be used to treat anxiety and sleep disorders. Examples include: Mebaral (mephobarbital), Nembutal (pentobarbital sodium), Valium (diazepam), Librium (chlordiazepoxide HCL), Xanax (alprazolam), and ProSom (estazolam)
 - ❖ **Stimulants**—prescribed to treat narcolepsy, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), asthma and obesity. Examples include: Dexedrine (dextroamphetamine), and Ritalin (methylphenidate)
- (Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse, www.nida.nih.gov)*

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The following graphs are data from the 2005 Sandusky County Health Assessment indicating adult recreational drug and marijuana use in the past six months. Examples of how to interpret the information include: 7% of all Sandusky County adults used recreational drugs in the past six months, 10% of adult males were current users and 5% of Sandusky County female adults were current users.

Sandusky Adult Recreational Drug Use in Past 6 Months*



**Includes marijuana, speed, tranquilizers, sleeping pills, codeine, cocaine, heroin, LSD, inhalants and Ecstasy*

Sandusky County Adult Marijuana Use in Past 6 Months

