



RX DRUGS



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There is reason to be hopeful...

- Relatively low Rx Drug misuse across all grades, compared to other substances
- **NO** use reported in 2023 for 7th and 10th graders
- Rx drug misuse is lower for 10th – 12th graders, compared to 2016
- Past month Rx Drug misuse for 7th – 10th graders all below national misuse rates
- **MOST** Rye youth **DO NOT** misuse Rx Drugs in a typical month

What you should know about Rx drug misuse today

- Given the increased presence of fentanyl in the illicit Rx drug supply, and sharp increases in overdose deaths among 12–17-year-olds nationally (Source: CDC), even a modest rise in Rx drug misuse is a concerning trend
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) have helped reduce over-prescribing of opioids and practices such as “doctor shopping”
- Even as these enhancements have helped to monitor/improve prescribing practices, access to illicit pills has increased nationally, including access via social media sites such as Snapchat (Source: DEA)

“Drug traffickers use pill presses, stamps, and dies to produce pills that look like legitimate prescription medications -like oxycodone, Xanax, and Adderall - when those ‘fake pills’ contain fentanyl, methamphetamine, and other deadly drugs.”

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)



For youth, all substance use is connected. Protect their brain health. Protect their mental health. Protect their future. Help your child(ren) and teens make the healthy choice – ONE CHOICE: NOT TO USE any substances.

And did you know?

In 2023, the DEA seized more than 79 million fake pills containing fentanyl, an increase of 33% from the prior year. 7 out of 10 fake pills tested by DEA labs contained a potentially deadly dose of fentanyl. (Source: DEA)

Youth who use alcohol in the past month are... **5x** more likely use to use illicit drugs

Youth who use marijuana/THC in the past month are **10x** more likely to use illicit drugs

Youth who use cigarettes/nicotine in the past month are **8x** more likely to use illicit drugs

...compared to their peers who did not use alcohol marijuana/THC, and nicotine in the past month.

(Source: DuPont, et al)

There is cause for concern...

- While still relatively low (and below national rates), 8th grade past month Rx drug misuse increased compared to 2021, and is nearly 2x higher than in 2016
- 9th grade past 30-day Rx drug misuse has doubled since 2021, and is higher than in 2016, following multiple years of declining misuse rates among Rye 9th graders
- Rx Drug misuse rates are also on the rise among Rye 11th and 12th graders



Past 30-Day Rx Drug MisUse

GRADE	Rye 2016	Rye 2018	Rye 2021	Rye 2023	PS* 2022 (Nat'l)
7	0.4%	0	0	0	1.8%
8	0.9%	.4%	0	1.7%	2.0%
9	1.4%	.8%	.5%	1.1%	2.0%
10	2.0%	1.7%	1.4%	0	2.4%
11	2.9%	.5	1.4%	2.4%	2.2%
12	5.0%	5.2%	1.4%	2.7%	2.7%

SOURCE: 2023 PRIDE SURVEY

