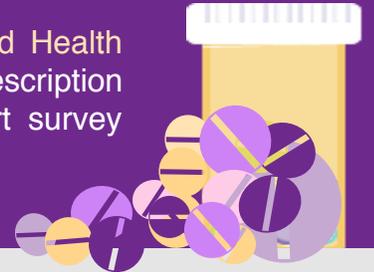


What Students Are Saying About Nonmedical Use of Opioids

Highlights from the 2017 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS) asked grade 7-12 students about their nonmedical use of prescription opioid pain relievers.* 11,435 students completed the anonymous self-report survey between November 2016 and June 2017.

Unless otherwise specified, 'students' refers to grades 7-12.



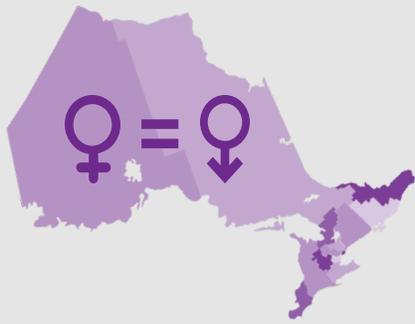
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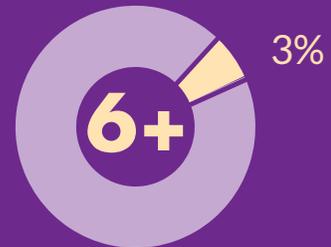
One in ten students (estimated 97,100 students) reported using opioids painkillers nonmedically at least once in the past year.



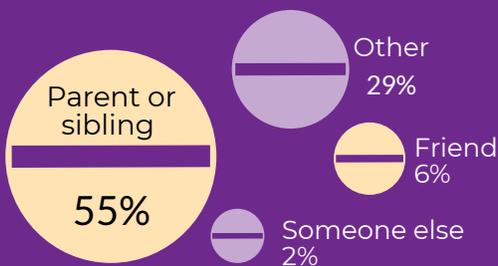
1% of students grades 9-12 (estimated 5,800 students) reported using **fentanyl** nonmedically at least once in the past year.



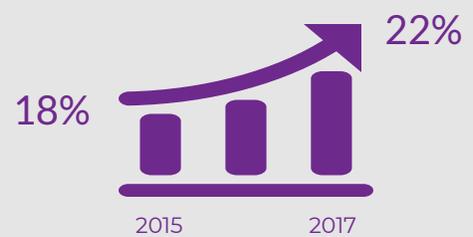
There were **no significant regional or gender differences** in the number of students that used opioids nonmedically.



3% of all students reported **frequent nonmedical use of opioids** in 2017, defined as 6 times or more in the past year.



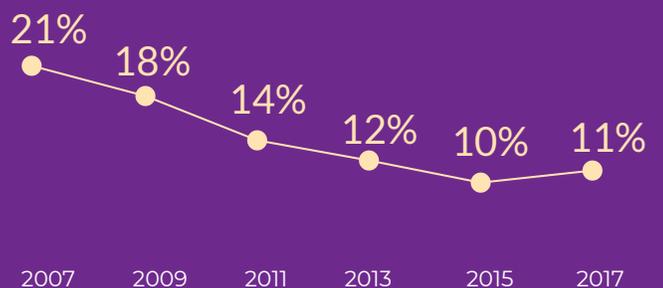
The majority of students (55%) reported obtaining opioids from a **parent or sibling**.



22% of students reported it is easy to obtain prescription opioids without one's own prescription. **Perceived availability increased since 2015 (18%).**



37% of students believe there is great risk of harm if people used opioids without a prescription. Perceived risk decreased from 2015 (42%). **High school students believe opioids are the riskiest drugs.**



Nonmedical use of prescription opioids has not changed significantly since 2015, but has seen an **overall decrease in the last 10 years of 10%.**

* Refers to use of Percocet, Tylenol 3, Percodan, Demerol, Dilaudid, OxyNeo or codeine without a prescription.