

ADSGC NEWS



Prevention Resource Center

Alcohol & Drug Services of Gallatin County

adsgc.org

November 2017

OPERATION PREVENTION

The DEA and Discovery Education have joined forces to combat a growing epidemic of prescription opioid misuse and heroin use nationwide.

Operation Prevention's mission is to educate students about the true impacts of opioids and kick-start lifesaving conversations in the home and classroom.

Operation Prevention's classroom resources provide educators with engaging tools that are aligned to national health and science standards and integrate seamlessly into classroom instruction.

Through a series of hands-on investigations, these resources introduce students to the science behind opioids and their impact on the brain and body.

Classroom Resources include Digital Lessons, Educator Guides, and Activities for High School, Middle School, and Elementary School.

Learn More > www.operationprevention.com/classroom#es



NSDUH DATA REVIEW

Risk and Protective Factors and Estimates of Substance Use Initiation: Results from the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

Substance use is a major public health problem in the United States. In 2016, for example, 10.6 percent of people aged 12 years or older used illicit drugs in the past month, and 7.5 percent had a substance use disorder in the past year.

Results. Although more than 4 out of 5 people aged 12 or older in 2016 perceived great risk of harm from weekly use of cocaine, heroin, or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), only about one third of people perceived great risk of harm from weekly marijuana use.

The illicit drugs with the largest number of recent initiates aged 12 or older in 2016 were marijuana (2.6 million new users), prescription pain relievers (2.1 million new misusers), prescription tranquilizers (1.4 million new misusers), prescription stimulants (1.4 million new misusers), hallucinogens (1.2 million new users), and cocaine (1.1 million new users).

Among people aged 12 or older in 2016, there were 4.6 million new users of alcohol, 1.8 million people who tried a cigarette for the first time in the past year, and 1.2 million people who first used smokeless tobacco in the past year. The number of people in 2016 who smoked part or all of a cigarette for the first time in the past year was lower than the numbers in 2004 to 2014, but it was similar to the number in 2015.

Risk and Protective Factors.

Risk and protective factors include variables that reflect different domains of influence, including the individual, family, peer, school, community, and society. Interventions to prevent substance use are commonly designed to reduce the influence of risk factors and enhance the effectiveness of protective factors.

One goal of substance use prevention programs is to prevent or delay the initiation (i.e., first use) of substance use. Multiple studies have found associations between early initiation of alcohol or illicit drug use (e.g., in adolescence) and an increased likelihood of developing substance use disorders, although there are competing explanations for the underlying reasons for the associations.

Information on trends in initiation also can provide information on the long-term effectiveness of programs or policies as a whole to prevent substance use.

Read More >

<https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-DR-FFR3-2016/NSDUH-DR-FFR3-2016.htm>



CDC Reports 19% Increase in Teen Drug Overdose Deaths

Teen drug overdose deaths rose 19 percent from 2014 to 2015 in the United States, according to a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

There were 772 drug overdose deaths among U.S. teens ages 15 to 19 in 2015, the report notes.

The rate increased from 3.1 deaths per 100,000 teens to 3.7 per 100,000, CNN reports.

Most overdose deaths among teens were unintentional, although female deaths were more than twice as likely as male deaths to be suicides. Overdose death rates among those ages 15 to 19 were highest for opioid drugs, specifically heroin.

Source:

<https://www.ncadd.org/blogs/in-the-news/cdc-reports-19-increase-in-teen-drug-overdose-deaths?format=amp>



NCADD

**NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND
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Portland State study links cancerous toxins to cannabis extract

Researchers at Portland State University found benzene and other potentially cancer-causing chemicals in the a cannabis extract.

Their study raises health concerns about dabbing, or vaporizing hash oil - a practice that is growing in popularity, especially in states that have legalized medical or recreational marijuana.

Dabbing is already controversial. The practice consists of placing a small amount of cannabis extract -- a dab -- on a heated surface and inhaling the resulting vapor. The practice has raised concerns because it produces extremely high levels of cannabinoids -- the active ingredients in marijuana.

The process of making hash oil also is dangerous because it uses highly flammable and potentially explosive butane as a solvent to extract active ingredients from marijuana leaves and flowers. In July, two people in Portland, OR, died in an explosion and fire at a home where butane hash oil was being manufactured.

"Given the widespread legalization of marijuana in the USA, it is imperative to study the full toxicology of its consumption to guide future policy," said Rob Strongin, a Portland State professor who led the study. "The results of these studies clearly indicate that dabbing, while considered a form of vaporization, may in fact deliver significant amounts of toxins."

Strongin and his team analyzed the chemical profile of terpenes - the fragrant oils in marijuana and other plants - by vaporizing them in much the same way as a user would vaporize hash oil.

Terpenes are also used in e-cigarette liquids. Previous experiments by Strongin and his colleagues at Portland State found toxic chemicals in e-cigarette vapor when the devices were used at high temperature settings.

The dabbing experiments produced benzene - a known carcinogen -- at levels many times higher than the ambient air, Strongin said. It also produced high levels of methacrolein, a chemical similar to acrolein, another carcinogen.

Their findings were published in the Sept. 22 issue of "ACS Omega," a journal of the American Chemical Society.



The National Drug Threat Assessment provides a yearly assessment of the many challenges local communities face related to drug abuse and drug trafficking.

2017 NDTA Findings of Note:

- Controlled Prescription Drugs (CPDs) have been linked to the largest number of overdose deaths of any illicit drug class since 2001. Although abuse has lessened in some areas, CPDs are still used by more people than cocaine, heroin, MDMA, methamphetamine, and PCP combined.
- Heroin poses a serious public health and safety threat to the United States. Overdose deaths, already at high levels, continue to rise. The increased mixing of heroin with analogues of the highly-potent synthetic opioid fentanyl and other synthetic opioids has exacerbated this situation.
- Fentanyl is increasingly mixed with diluents and sold as heroin, often with no heroin present in the product. Fentanyl also continues to be made more widely available in the form of counterfeit prescription pills marketed for illicit street sales.
- The methamphetamine threat has remained prevalent. Inbound seizures of methamphetamine from Mexico have increased every year since 2010, but domestic production has declined.
- The cocaine threat continues to rebound. Cocaine availability and use have increased significantly, partially due to record increases in coca cultivation and cocaine production in Colombia, the primary source for the cocaine market in the United States.
- New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), manmade products that mimic the effects of controlled substances, continue to be a challenge. The NPS most commonly abused in the United States include synthetic cannabinoids and cathinones, which are available from China and packaged into a variety of forms domestically. Traffickers continue to modify NPS' chemical formulas to create new substances to circumvent regulations and expand their market.
- Marijuana production in the United States has increased and the national discussion surrounding marijuana enforcement efforts continues to evolve. User demand for concentrated forms of marijuana has continued.
- Mexican cartels remain the greatest criminal drug threat in the United States. The cartels are the principal wholesale drug sources for domestic gangs responsible for street-level distribution. The Sinaloa Cartel maintains the most expansive footprint in the United States while the Jalisco New Generation Cartel has increased its presence across the United States.