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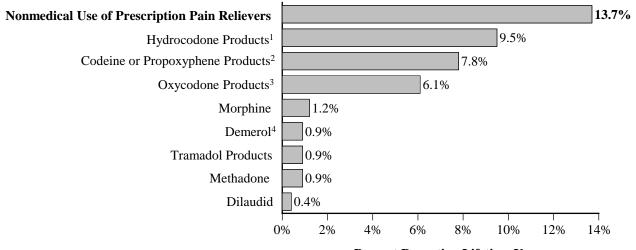
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Nearly 14% of U.S Residents Report Lifetime Nonmedical Use of Prescription Pain Relievers; Hydrocodone, Codeine/Propoxyphene, and Oxycodone Products Most Commonly Used

Nearly 14% of U.S. residents—an estimated 34.8 million people ages 12 and older—report using prescription pain relievers nonmedically at least once in their lifetime, according to data from the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). Hydrocodone products (9.5%), codeine or propoxyphene products (7.8%), and oxycodone products (6.1%) were the most commonly reported pain relievers. All other pain relievers used nonmedically were reported by less than 2% of U.S. residents (see figure below). The survey also found that residents ages 18 to 25 were more likely to report the nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers than younger and older residents (data not shown). For example, 19% of 18 to 25 year olds reported the nonmedical use of hydrocodone products, compared to 4.7% of 12 to 17 year olds and 8.4% of those ages 26 or older.

Percentage of U.S. Residents Ages 12 and Older Reporting Lifetime Nonmedical Use of Pain Relievers, 2010



Percent Reporting Lifetime Use

NOTES: Respondents could report more than one type of pain reliever used nonmedically in the past year. The NSDUH questionnaire does not ask specifically about all types of prescription pain relievers that could be used nonmedically. For example, buprenorphine, a prescription opioid also used to treat pain and opioid addiction, is not included in the list of specific pain relievers presented to the respondents. Adding buprenorphine to this list would provide important information about any nonmedical use of this drug.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, *Results from the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Detailed Tables*, 2011. Available online at http://www.samhsa.gov/data/NSDUH/2k10ResultsTables/Web/PDFW/Cover.pdf.

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¹Includes Vicodin®, Lortab®, Lorcet®, and hydrocodone.

²Includes Darvocet®, Darvon® Tylenol® with codeine, codeine, Phenaphen® with Codeine, propoxyphene and SK-65®.

³Includes Percocet®, Percodan®, Tylox®, and OxyContin®.

⁴Includes tramadol and Ultram®.