

RESEARCH PAPER: Opioid Abuse among U.S. Teenagers

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PAGES: 43

Numerous sources report the United States is in an epidemic of substance abuse among all ages, including teenagers. Of particular concern is misuse of prescription pain relievers such as opioids, including but not limited to synthetics like Fentanyl. This report examines the relationship of opioid abuse and selected behaviors among high schoolers, such as alcohol and marijuana use, mental health issues, vaping, watching television, and bullying, and found most were statistically significant for opioid use. The data is from the U.S. CDC's (Center for Disease Control) 2019 YRBS (Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System). Dichotomous logistic regression and ANOVA were used for statistical analysis.