

# Prescription Drug Abuse in Oregon

Karen Wheeler, MA  
Addictions Policy Administrator  
Department of Human Services  
Addictions and Mental Health Division



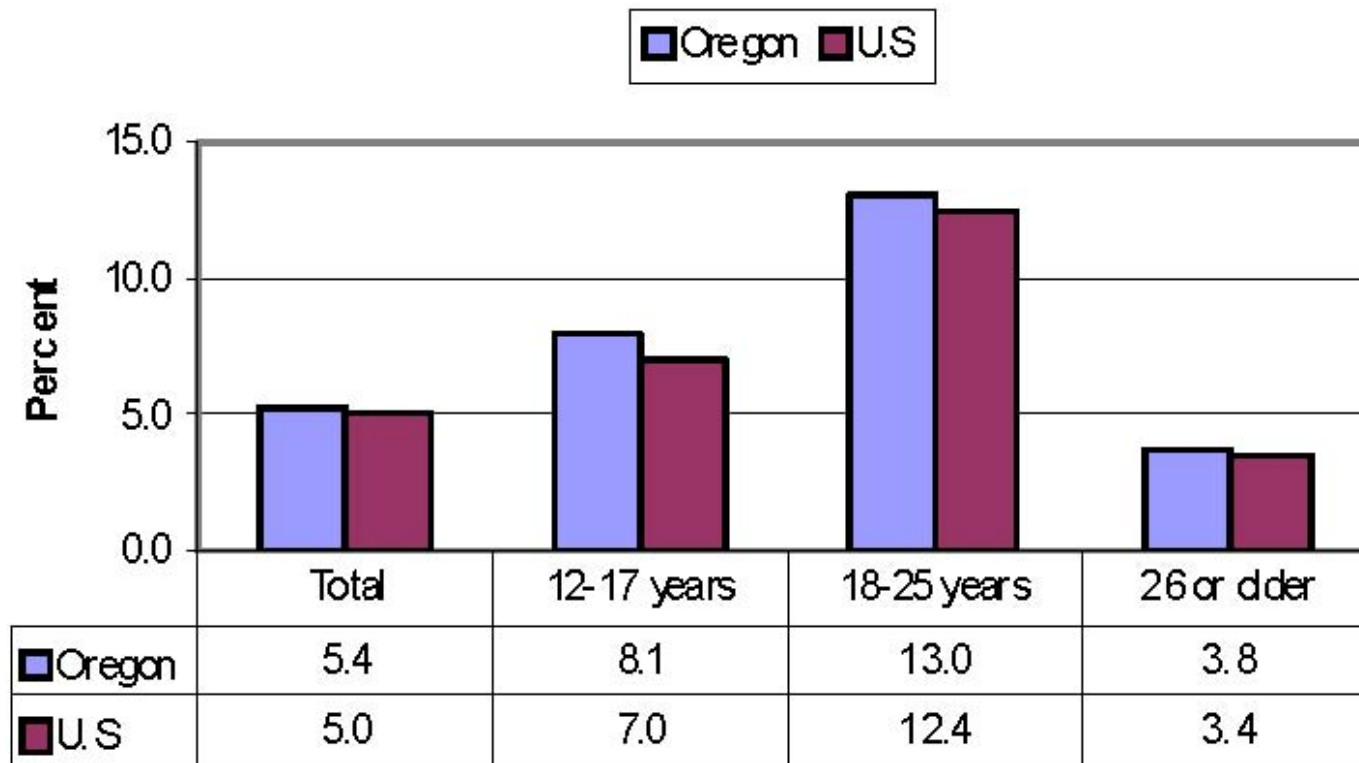
# Prescription Drug Abuse in Oregon

- Misuse, abuse and diversion of prescription drugs are a threat to public health and safety.
- One in four Oregon adults will abuse prescription drugs in his / her lifetime.
- Nationally, more persons initiated non-medical use of narcotic pain relievers in the past year than those who initiated use of marijuana or cocaine.

# Prescription Drug Abuse in Oregon

- Many people believe prescription drugs are “more safe” than illicit or “street” drugs.
- Prescription drug abuse is the most rapidly increasing form of substance abuse.
- Abusing prescription medications can be a gateway to further illegal drug use.
- Youth are more likely than young adults to become dependent on prescription drugs.

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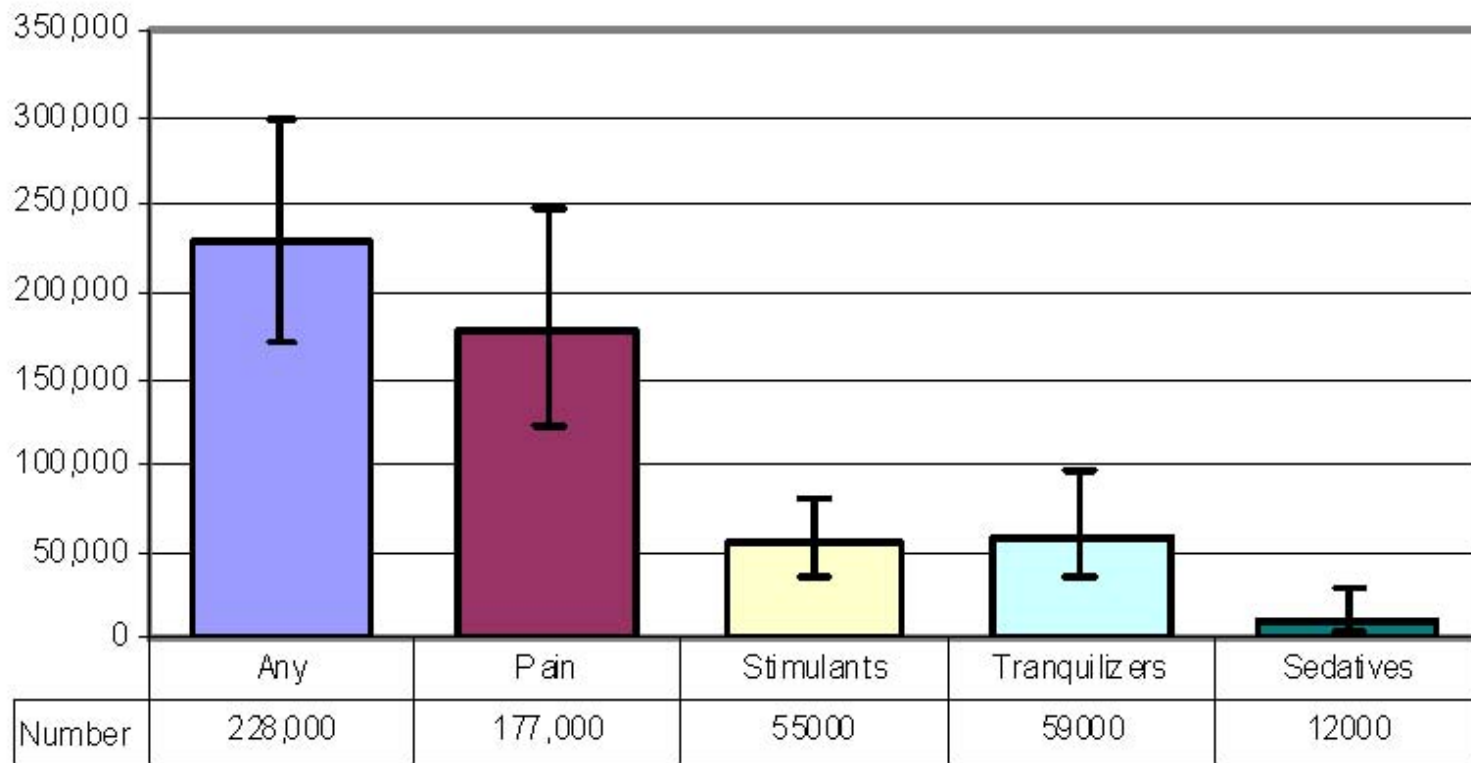
The rate of non-medical use of pain relievers in Oregon is higher than that of the nation.

# Prescription Drug Abuse in Oregon

Compared to the rest of the nation, Oregon ranks among the top ten states for:

- Annual abuse of prescription drugs for all ages (228,000 persons per year);
- Past year abuse of prescription drugs by **youth** 12 to 17 (34,000 persons per year); and,
- Past year abuse of prescription stimulants (55,000 persons per year).

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## Successful Approaches:

- Train health care professionals about prescription drug abuse and diversion.
- Safeguard prescription drugs from children.
- Educate the public about dangers of prescription drug abuse.
- Encourage consumers to explore alternatives to prescription pain relievers when medically appropriate and to safely dispose of unused product.
- Strengthen monitoring and enforcement efforts to prevent and detect diversion.
- Treatment for those patients addicted to opiates

# Treatment and Recovery for Addicted Patients

## Methadone Maintenance

- Clinically effective and successful for opioid addicted individuals.
- Medically supervised and provide individual and group counseling, psychosocial education and relapse prevention planning.
- Typically involves early in the program group and individual sessions several times a week, daily dosing at the facility.
- Goal of treatment is to stabilize the individual on methadone while providing varying levels of support based on individual needs.
- During stabilization patient may see a provider in the office setting once a month and take home up to 30 doses at one time.

# Buprenorphine

- Designed for use in an office setting-reduces stigma associated with opioid replacement clinics, medical treatment between doctor and patient. Doctor refers patient to traditional outpatient treatment services and coordinates care.
- Allows for take-home dosing-patient manages medication regime as with any other chronic relapsing disease while involved in provider based substance use disorder treatment services.
- Patient participates fully in treatment and activities of daily living including outpatient treatment services.
- Suppresses withdrawal from prescription pain medications, heroin or similar full opioid agonists.
- Helps to decrease craving for other opioids
- Limited potential for overdose
- Lower level of physical dependence

# Buprenorphine

- In 2009 Suboxone goes off-patent, a generic version of the medication will become available.
- 78 physicians and 33 treatment programs in Oregon authorized to treat opioid addiction with buprenorphine.

# Sources of Information

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# Thank You

Karen Wheeler, MA  
Addictions Policy Administrator  
Department of Human Services  
Addictions and Mental Health Division  
500 Summer Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301-1118  
[karen.wheeler@state.or.us](mailto:karen.wheeler@state.or.us)