

PINELLAS COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFILE

2015

SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN ADULTS

FAST FACTS: Alcohol & Drugs

19.6

Percentage of adults who are heavy or binge drinkers in Pinellas compared to 17.6% in Florida.¹

932

Number of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes in Pinellas in 2013.⁹

172

Number of drug-related accidental deaths in Pinellas in 2013; 114 (66%) related to prescription drugs.²

FAST FACTS: Tobacco¹

19.4

Percentage of Pinellas adults who are current smokers.

12.0

The Healthy People 2020 goal for percentage of adult smokers.

53.2

Percentage of current smokers in Pinellas who tried to quit at least once during 2013.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE IS DEFINED AS OVERINDULGENCE IN OR DEPENDENCE ON AN ADDICTIVE SUBSTANCE, ESPECIALLY ALCOHOL OR DRUGS.



Binge drinking is a pattern of drinking that brings a person's blood alcohol concentration to .08 grams or above. It is the **most common pattern of excessive alcohol use** in the United States.³

Binge drinkers are **14 times more likely** to report **alcohol-impaired driving** than non-binge drinkers.³



After an increase in deaths from **prescription drug abuse**, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners enacted a moratorium on any new pain management clinics until they can be fully researched and approved.

In addition, The Sheriff's Office operates **Operation Medicine Cabinet**, which offers the public a way to safely dispose of unused prescription medicines.



Tobacco use is the **single largest cause of preventable premature death** in the United States.

Smoking rates in Pinellas County (19.4%) have been on the rise since 2007.¹

In 2013, more men than women reported being **current smokers** (22.1% versus 17.0%).¹

SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN YOUTH

FAST FACTS: Alcohol & Drugs⁴

62.9

Percentage of Pinellas high school students who have used alcohol or other illicit drugs.

30.3

Percentage of Pinellas middle school students who have used alcohol or other illicit drugs.

27.2

Percentage of Pinellas high school students who reported riding in a vehicle driven by someone who had been using marijuana.

FAST FACTS: Tobacco

24.6

Percentage of Pinellas high school students who have smoked cigarettes in their lifetime.⁴

16.2

Percentage of Pinellas high school students who reporting using electronic cigarettes within the past 30 days.⁸

22.4

Percentage of Pinellas high school students who have lifetime asthma, and are highly vulnerable to secondhand smoke.⁸

According to Florida SADD, most teens believe that drinking is less dangerous than using drugs, despite the **higher rate** (four times) of alcohol-related deaths.⁵

In 2014, almost **45% of Pinellas County youth** aged 15-17 reported having used **any illicit drug in their lifetimes**.⁴



In Florida, a **DUI conviction** stays on your driving record for 75 years.⁵

Nearly 90% of regular smokers begin smoking before they are **18 years old**.⁶

The tobacco industry spends close to **\$1 billion** annually in Florida to market its products, which now include e-cigarettes.⁷

The **greater the number of advertising** sources to which young people are exposed, the **more likely they are to smoke cigarettes**.⁷

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¹ 2013 CPPW BRFS. Accessed 5/8/2015.

² 2013 Pinellas County Medical Examiner's Report

³ CDC Binge Drinking Fact Sheet. <http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/binge-drinking.htm>. Accessed 5/8/2015.

⁴ 2014 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey. <http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/substance-abuse/fysas>. Accessed 5/8/2015.

⁵ Florida SADD. <http://floridasadd.org/facts-stats/alcohol/>. Accessed 5/8/2015.

⁶ CDC Youth & Tobacco Use. http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/youth_data/tobacco_use/. Accessed 5/8/2015.

⁷ Tobacco Free Florida Fact Database. <http://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/fact-database/>. Accessed 5/8/2015.

⁸ 2014 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey. http://www.floridahealth.gov/statistics-and-data/survey-data/fl-youth-tobacco-survey/_documents/2014-county/_documents/Pinellas.pdf. Accessed 5/8/2015.

⁹ Florida CHARTS. www.floridacharts.com. Accessed 5/8/2015.