



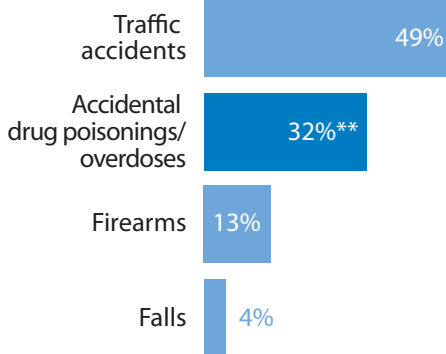
Prescription drug misuse in Ohio

In 2007, unintentional drug poisonings became the leading cause of injury death in Ohio. According to the Ohio Department of Health, 1,423 Ohioans died from unintentional drug poisonings in 2009, a rate of about four people per day. This increase from 327 deaths in

1999 was driven largely by prescription drug overdoses.

To understand prescription pain reliever use in Ohio, the 2011 **Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP)** asked several questions about prescription pain reliever use and misuse.

Which of these do you think results in the most deaths in Ohio each year? *



* Does not add to 100 percent because response "don't know/not sure" not included.

** Actual leading cause of injury deaths in Ohio.

Only one-third know drug poisoning is leading cause of injury death

Nearly half of Ohioans (49%) reported they thought traffic accidents are the leading cause of injury death in Ohio, when in fact unintentional drug poisoning is the leading cause.

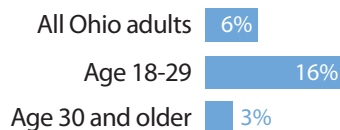
Majority has been prescribed pain drug in last five years

More than half of Ohio adults (55%) reported being prescribed in the last five years a pain reliever that could not be bought over the counter.

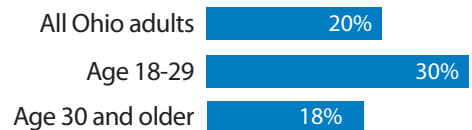
One of 5 knows someone who has abused pain drug

Ohio adults were asked if they had ever, even once, used a pain reliever such as oxycontin, vicodin, percocet or codeine when not prescribed or for the experience or feeling it caused. About 6% said they had done so. About 1 in 5 Ohioans (20%) reported that they have friends or family members who have experienced problems as a result of abusing prescription pain relievers.

Have you ever used a pain reliever when not prescribed or for the feeling it caused?



Have any of your family members or friends experienced problems as a result of abusing prescription pain relievers?



Drug misuse higher among young adults

Young adults are more likely to have misused a prescription pain reliever. More than 1 of 10 Ohioans age 18 to 29 (16%) reported ever misusing a prescription pain reliever. That compares with only 3% of adults 30 and older. Additionally, 3 of 10 Ohioans age 18 to 29 (30%) reported they have friends or family members who have experienced problems because of abusing prescription pain relievers. Only 18% of adults 30 or older have friends or family members who have experienced problems because of abusing prescription pain relievers.

These findings unless otherwise noted are from The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP) conducted July 15-25, 2011, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 946 adults throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. This included 742 landline interviews and 204 cell phone interviews. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to $\pm 3.2\%$. There are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias.

For more information about OHIP, please visit www.healthfoundation.org/ohip.html