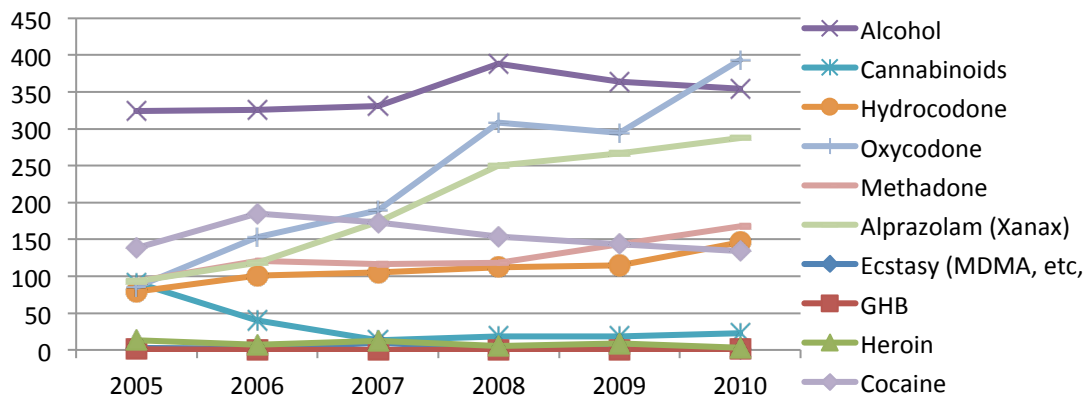


Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Fact Sheet



- In 2010, Pinellas County Practitioners dispensed 6.3 million units of Oxycodone.¹
- In 2010, a Pinellas County resident died every 36 hours with Oxycodone either present or the cause of death.²
- In 2010 in Pinellas County, 153 newborns were born addicted to substances, over 13 newborns a month. The number more than doubled from 2008 to 2010 (70 to 153 respectively).³
- In 2008 in Pinellas County, roughly 27 people were admitted every month to Pinellas County Emergency Rooms for Prescription Drug related incidents.³
- In 2010 in Pinellas County, well over twice as many people died from accidental prescription drug overdoses than from motor vehicle related accidents.²
- In 2010, there were 249 Prescription Drug Related Accidental Deaths in Pinellas County.²
- In 2010 in Pinellas County, 3.3% of Pinellas County students reported prescription pain reliever use compared to 2.9% statewide. 2.0% of Pinellas County students reported depressant use, the same as the statewide average.⁴

District 6 (Pinellas and Pasco Counties) Medical Examiner Data for Substances Found in Decedents at Time of Death



From September 2010 to November 2011 there were 364 cases of children removed from their homes in Pinellas County due to Prescription Drugs, (Eckerd Community Alternatives).

In 2010 the FL Medical Examiner's Office reported 2,710 individuals died with at least one Prescription Drug in their system that was identified as the cause of death. **That's over 7 people a day!**

Pinellas County Juvenile Addiction Receiving Facility⁵

- In 2010, 2.9% of youth presented to the JARF reported Xanax as their primary drug of use at admission.
- In 2010, 5.3% of youth presented to the JARF reported Oxycodone as their primary drug of use at admission.

2010 Pinellas County Medical Examiner Data Where a Tracked Drug Was Present at Time of Death or the Cause of Death by Age Group

	15-17	18-29	30-59	>60	Total
Alcohol, Amphetamines, Inhalants, Cannabis, Cocaine, Heroin, Other	0 (0.0%)	89 (5.3%)	338 (20.2%)	43 (2.6%)	470 (28.1%)
Alprazolam, Diazepam, Other Benzodiazepine, Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Methadone, Morphine, Propoxyphene, Other Opioids	7 (0.4%)	229 (13.7%)	849 (50.7%)	119 (7.1%)	1204 (71.9%)
TOTAL	7	318	1187	162	1674

Operation Medicine Cabinet—Prescription Drug Take Back Data

According to the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, approximately 2,500 teens every day try prescription drugs for the first time to get high and, according to a 2009 SAMHSA report, nearly 70 percent of those users obtain prescription drugs from the family medicine cabinet or friends. In an effort to help combat prescription drug misuse and abuse, local and state law enforcement agencies have created take-back programs to remove unwanted drugs from households. **In Pinellas County, in over 6 Operation Medicine Cabinets and Prescription Pill Drop-Off Containers, Law Enforcement has collected a total 5,791.26 pounds of medications!**

¹ 2010, DEA-ARCOS

² 2010, District 6 Medical Examiner

³ 2008, Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration

⁴ 2010, Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey

⁵ 2010, Personal Enrichment through Mental Health Services

For more information on LiveFree! contact livefree@operpar.org

For more alcohol and other drug facts, visit www.pinellascoalition.com