

Delaware DDATA

Delaware Drug and Alcohol Tracking Alliance

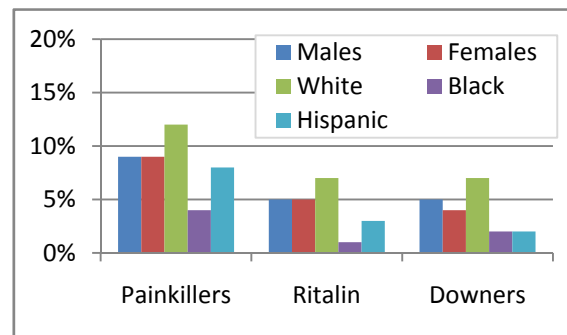
December 15, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 16

The Characteristics of Prescription Drug Abusers

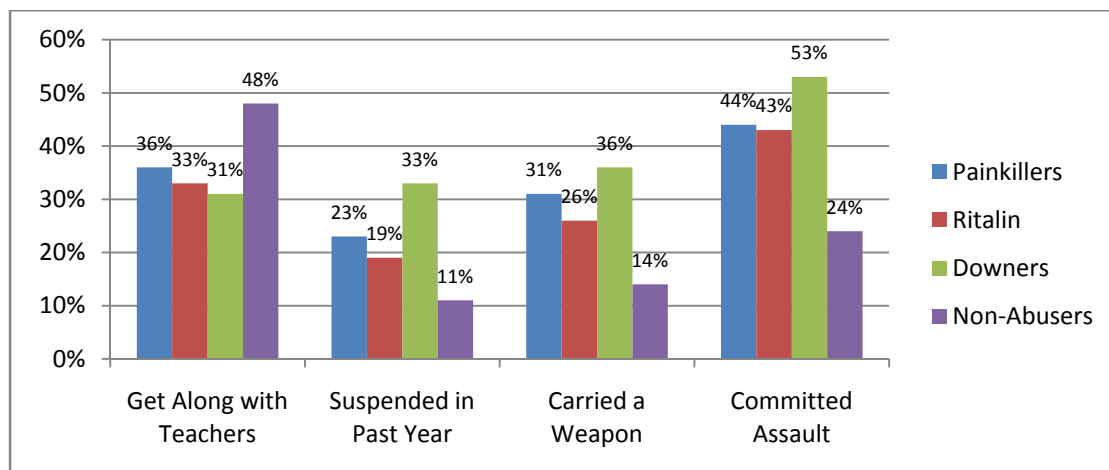
According to a survey of Delaware's 11th grade students, painkillers are the prescription drug most likely to be abused, followed by ADHD medication and tranquilizers. There were no significant differences between males and females in the likelihood of taking these prescription drugs without a prescription. Non-Hispanic White students, however, were significantly more likely to abuse these drugs than Hispanic or Black students.

Percent Abusing Prescription Drugs



In measuring some possible consequences of abusing prescription drugs, some differences emerge when looking at these drug types separately. Among measures of delinquency, such as being suspended, carrying a weapon and committing assault, students using downers are more likely to engage in these actions than other prescription drug abusers. All prescription drug abusers, however, are more likely to engage in these behaviors than students not abusing prescription drugs.

Percent Reporting Select Behaviors by Type of Prescription Drug Abused



Source: 2008 Delaware School Survey, University of Delaware Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies

The Delaware School Survey is supported by the Delaware Health Fund and by the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Delaware Health and Social Services.

DDATagrams may be copied without permission. Please cite DDATA as source.

Additional DDATagrams are available at: www.udel.edu/delawaredata