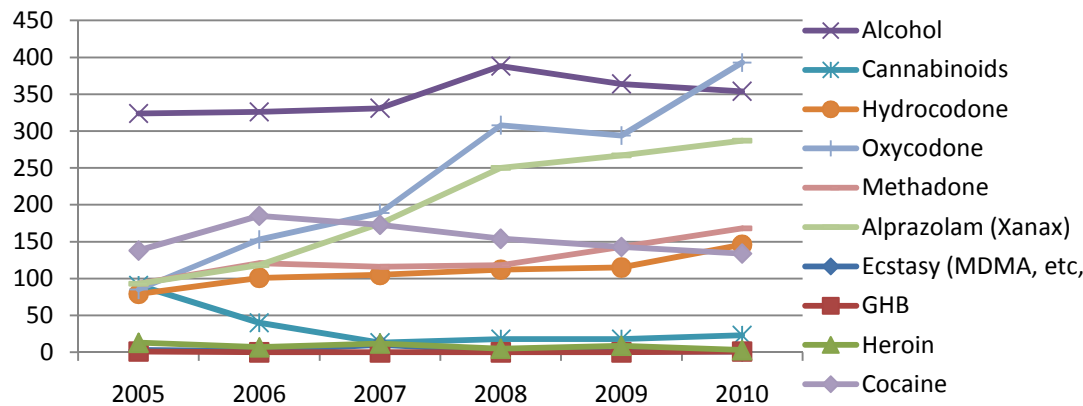


# Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Fact Sheet



- In 2010, Pinellas County Practitioners dispensed **6.3 million units** of Oxycodone.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2010, a Pinellas County resident **died every 36 hours** with Oxycodone either present or the cause of death.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2008 in Pinellas County, **roughly 27 people were admitted every month** to Pinellas County Emergency Rooms for Prescription Drug related incidents.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2010 in Pinellas County, well over twice as many people died from accidental prescription drug overdoses than from motor vehicle related accidents.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2010, there were 249 Prescription Drug Related Accidental Deaths in Pinellas County.<sup>2</sup>
- 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.<sup>4</sup>

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



In the Tampa Bay Area (Pasco, Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties), 938 deaths were reported as a Prescription Drug (Alprazolam, Diazepam, Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Methadone, Morphine and Propoxyphene) being the cause of death. That's approximately a death every 9 hours!

## 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%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>1187</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1674</b>

In 2009 the FL Medical Examiner's Office reported 2,488 individuals died with at least one Prescription Drug in their system that was identified as the cause of death. That's approximately **7 people a day!**

## Pinellas County Juvenile Addiction Receiving Facility<sup>5</sup>

- 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

## 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 5 Operation Medicine Cabinets and Prescription Pill Drop-Off Containers, Law Enforcement has collected a total of 4,196.94 pounds of medications!**

For more information on LiveFree! contact [livefree@operpar.org](mailto:livefree@operpar.org)

For more alcohol and other drug facts, visit [www.pinellascoalition.com](http://www.pinellascoalition.com)

<sup>1</sup> 2010, DEA-ARCOS

<sup>2</sup> 2010, District 6 Medical Examiner

<sup>3</sup> 2008, Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration

<sup>4</sup> 2010, Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey

<sup>5</sup> 2010, Personal Enrichment through Mental Health Services