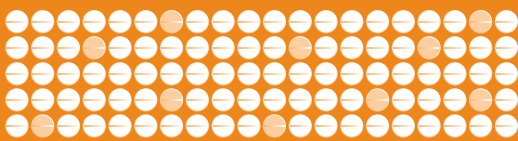


# GETTING SMART ABOUT TEEN MEDICINE ABUSE

**90%**  
of addictions  
start in the  
teenage years.



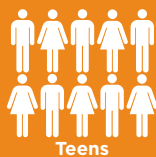
**1 IN 6 TEENS**

have used a prescription drug in order to get high or change their mood.

Only **6 percent** of parents say they have a child who abused medicine, however **10 percent** of teens admit to misusing/abusing medicines in the past 6 months.



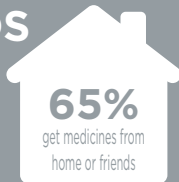
Parents



Teens

**TWO-THIRDS OF TEENS**

who abuse pain relievers say they get them from family members and friends.



Adults' perception of where teens are getting Rx drugs

**27%**  
from someone else

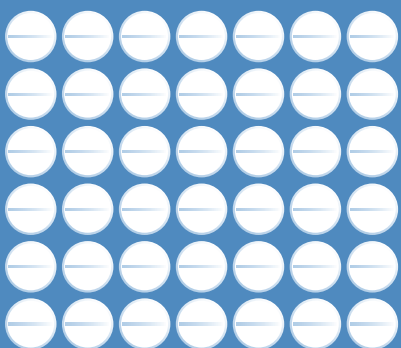


**24%**  
from school



Only **3 percent** of parents admit giving their child medication not prescribed for them.

Yet, **22 percent** of teens say they were given a prescription medicine not meant for them by their parents.



More Americans die from **DRUG OVERDOSES**

than in car crashes and this increasing trend is driven by Rx painkillers.



One person dies every



**19 MINUTES**

from drug overdose in the United States and this increasing trend is driven by Rx painkillers.



Opioid pain relievers are responsible for more overdose deaths than cocaine and heroin combined.



Share this to help #EndMedicineAbuse.

Published by The Partnership at DrugFree.org. Visit [MedicineAbuseProject.org](http://MedicineAbuseProject.org) for more details.

# GETTING SMART

## ABOUT MEDICINE STORAGE & DISPOSAL

### SMART STORAGE

- Take an inventory of the medications in your home
- Get rid of unused or expired medications
- Secure medications in a place only you know about

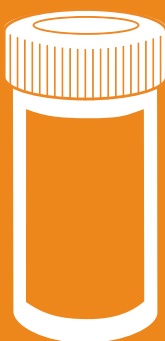


### SMART DISPOSAL

- Check the label on the medicine and follow disposal directions, or ask your pharmacist.
- Community Take-Back Programs: Contact your city or county trash service for information about local events that allow the community to drop off unused or expired medications for proper disposal.
- Throw Away: Take medication out of its container. Mix it with an unappealing substance, such as coffee grounds or cat litter. Place everything in a sealable can or bag and throw it away.

### ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Remove or black out personal information on prescription drug bottles before throwing away
- Do not share medication or give leftover prescription drugs to others
- For more information about the prescription drug epidemic, please visit: [www.DrugFreeAz.org/rx](http://www.DrugFreeAz.org/rx)



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[youtube.com/DrugFreeAZ](https://youtube.com/DrugFreeAZ)

Learn more about prescription drug abuse and DrugFreeAz.org's resources:

