

NavCo Coalition Against Drug Abuse

A Coalition of Concerned Navajo County Residents Banned Together to

- EDUCATE the Community on the methamphetamine & drug crisis
- REHABILITATE those who have fallen into the addiction
- ENFORCE laws pertaining to the spread of meth & drugs in our communities



PRESS RELEASE

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New Report on Non-medical Use of Pain Relievers

Misuse of prescription drugs is second only to marijuana as the nation's most prevalent drug problem. The annual average number of people using pain relievers non-medically for the first time in the past 12 months has exceeded the number of new marijuana users since 2002. Accordingly, misuse of prescription pain relievers has been cited as a growing public health problem.

The following are brief findings in the report:

- Data from the 2004 to 2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) reports indicate that past-year non-medical use of pain relievers ranged from a low of 2.48 percent in a ward of the District of Columbia to a high of 7.92 percent in northwest Florida.
- The northern half of Arizona fell mid-range in this percentile, ranking 4.59-5.42 percent. The valley area rated lower, 4.03-4.56 percent with the populous border area higher, 5.43-5.42 percent.
- Of the 15 sub-state regions with the highest rates of non-medical use of pain relievers, 10 were in southern states and 5 sub-state regions were in states in the West.
- Of the 15 sub-state regions with the lowest rates of non-medical use of pain relievers, 7 sub-state regions were in southern states, 4 sub-state regions were in mid-western states, 3 sub-state regions were in northeastern states, and 1 sub-state region was in a western state.

The full report is available on the Web at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/substate2k8/toc.cfm>

For related publications and information, visit <http://www.samhsa.gov/> or

www.navajocountydrugproject.com

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Mission Statement:

To develop a diverse community representation, coordinate a sustained effort in educating and preventing the use and abuse of crystal meth through a plan for change in local social norms through prevention, treatment and vigorous enforcement of existing laws.