



@phoenixhousetx

Phoenix House Texas





Phoenix House's prevention and education services highlight the dangers of drug use, reinforce self-esteem, and educate teens to make positive choices. We provide these services in a variety of settings and ways, including research-based curricula in public and private schools, presentations at community centers, detention centers, and outreach services at local churches and health fairs. Phoenix House prevention programs give young people and their families the education and skills needed to avoid substance use/abuse and to take control of their lives. Services are offered to students, faculty members, parents, and high-risk youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

- Prevention programs provide schools and communities with cutting edge, evidence-based curricula for students and parents. Our school-based program for 3rd-12th grades teach young people positive physical, intellectual, emotional, and social actions. They also foster academic achievement, avoidance of addictive substances, improved social and emotional behaviors, and stronger positive relationships with peers, teachers and parents.
- Our programs creates community awareness regarding the health consequences of substance use and abuse for alcohol (underage drinking), marijuana, tobacco and prescription drugs.



How Can I Help With This?

- Identify and Know the Signs and Symptoms of Substance Use Disorder
- Support for Families
 - Communicating and sharing resources with families and students
- Encourage Students to be involved in Extra-Curricular Activities
- School-Based Prevention Programs





What are
examples of risk
factors for youth?



Risk Factors

- There are many risk factors that put youth at risk of abusing drugs.
- The more risk factors the youth is exposed to the more likely they will start using drugs.
- Certain risk factors weigh differently in the outcome of drug misuse.



Personal

Personal Traits and Behaviors:

- Low self-esteem
- Depression / Mental Health Problems
- Risky behaviors
- Self-Isolated/ Rebellious
- Negative Behavior



Family



- Unstable or unhealthy living situation
- Withdrawn family, lack of communication
- Child abuse and/or abandonment
- Parents who misuse drugs can lead to:
 - Inadequate parenting
 - Lack of discipline
 - Detachment from family

Environmental

- Peer pressure from friends
- Delinquent or criminal behavior
- Poor school achievements
- Lower school grades
- Poverty





**A DRUG IS ANY SUBSTANCE THAT CAN CHANGE
HOW A PERSON'S BODY AND MIND WORK.**

Two Drug Categories

- Depressants



- Stimulants





Depressants

- Reduces or diminishes control of the central nervous system
- In moderate doses people may feel relaxed.
- High doses of it can seriously affect the coordination of people.
- People speak more slowly and can have confusion, depression, loss of short-term memory and slow reaction times.
- Examples Include:
 - Alcohol
 - Marijuana
 - Over-the-Counter Medications
 - Opioids, morphine, codeine, heroine, and fentanyl



The Negative Effects of Marijuana/THC Concentrates

- Being a highly concentrated form of marijuana, the effects upon the user may be more psychologically and physically intense than plant marijuana use.
 - These effects include: **paranoia, anxiety, panic attacks, and hallucinations.**
- THC concentrations can exceed that of dried cannabis by four to 30 times.
- Examples of Marijuana/THC concentrates include:
 - **THC Oil**
 - Vaping THC oil can harm the lungs and has been associated with serious lung injuries and deaths.
 - **Dabs**
 - Butane is used to extract the oils from the marijuana plant to make a waxy THC substance to smoke.
 - **Moon Rocks/Marijuana Caviar**
 - These are high THC cannabis products that are made of three different cannabis products: bud, cannabis oil, and kief (dust from cannabis/marijuana grounds). Both products are smoked.

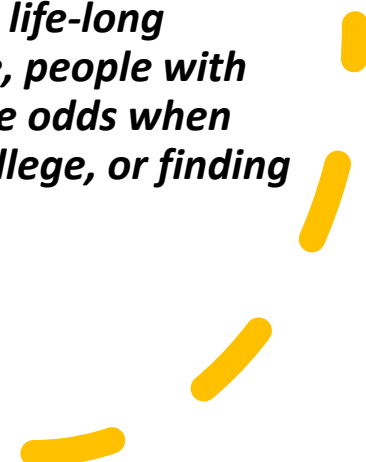


Texas Laws on Marijuana/ THC Concentrates

THC oil and concentrates are considered a Penalty Group 2 controlled substance in Texas. Possession of less than one gram can result in a **state jail felony**, which is punishable by two years in county jail and/or a fine as high as \$10,000. The penalties increase for:

- 1-4 grams: Third-degree felony, which carries up to 10 years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine.
- 4-400 grams: Second-degree felony, which carries up to 20 years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine.
- 400 Grams or More: First-degree felony, which can carry life in prison, and/or fines up to \$50,000.

A felony charge in Texas can have life-long consequences. Even after serving time, people with prior convictions can face unfavorable odds when searching for employment, attending college, or finding housing.



Prescription Pain Medications (Opioids)

- Prescription opioids are medications that are chemically similar to endorphins – opioids that our body makes naturally to relieve pain.
- Prescription opioids usually come in pill or liquid form and are given to treat severe pain—for example, pain from dental surgery, serious sports injuries, or cancer.
- Opioids are sometimes prescribed to treat pain that lasts a long time (chronic pain), but it is unclear if they are effective for long term pain.
- When opioids are taken as prescribed by a medical professional for a short time, they can be relatively safe and can reduce pain effectively. However, taking prescription opioids, puts you at risk for dependence and addiction.

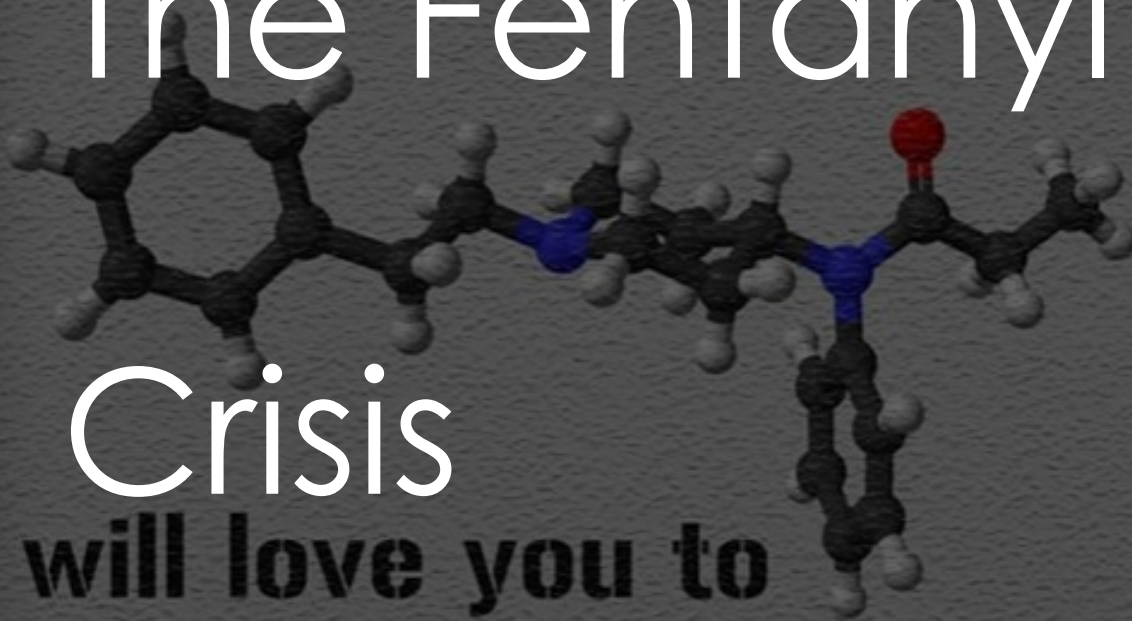
Prescription medications are some of the most commonly misused drugs by teens, after tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana.



Codeine

FENTANYL

The Fentanyl



Crisis

will love you to

DEATH

Oxycodone

Fentanyl Fast Facts



- Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid which can be up to 100 times stronger than morphine.
- This depressant is the drug most commonly associated with US overdose deaths.
- Dealers often lace other drugs with fentanyl, because it is cheap and potent and therefore profitable.
- Fentanyl is extremely difficult to detect, because it is odorless and tasteless.

THE FACTS ABOUT

FENTANYL

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses in the U.S. To learn more, watch this [brief video](#) or visit <https://www.cdc.gov/stopoverdose/fentanyl/index.html>

Protect Yourself



Can you tell the difference between a real prescription pill and a fake pill with Fentanyl?

- Fentanyl is often pressed into fake pills or cut into street drugs.
- This makes it difficult to tell the difference between fake and real pills.



Signs of overdose

Recognizing the signs of opioid overdose can save a life. Here are some things to look for:

- Small, constricted “pinpoint pupils”
- Falling asleep or losing consciousness
- Slow, weak, or no breathing
- Choking or gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Cold and/or clammy skin
- Discolored skin (especially in lips and nails)

Dangers of Fentanyl

- Illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF) is available on the drug market in different forms, including liquid and powder.
- Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids are the most common drugs involved in overdose deaths.
- Over 150 people die every day from overdoses related to synthetic opioids like fentanyl.



Effects of Fentanyl and Xylazine



- Xylazine is FDA-approved for use in animals as a sedative and pain reliever. Xylazine is not approved for human use, has been linked to an increasing number of overdose deaths nationwide in the evolving drug addiction and overdose crisis.
- Street names include: “tranq”, “tranq dope”, “sleep-cut”, “Philly dope” and “zombie drug.”
- Studies show people exposed to xylazine often knowingly or unknowingly used it in combination with other drugs, particularly illicit fentanyl.
- Xylazine is a central nervous system depressant that can cause drowsiness and amnesia and slow a person's breathing, heart rate and blood pressure to dangerously low levels. People report injecting, snorting, swallowing and inhaling it.
- Repeated xylazine use is associated with skin ulcers and severe wounds — including necrosis, the rotting of human tissue — that could lead to amputation.

Texas Laws on Fentanyl

Fentanyl is a schedule II-controlled substance prescription drug (opioid).

****Charges depend upon the amount of fentanyl in possession, possession with intent to distribute and or drug trafficking, death of a person (new law), Bill 645**

Penalties include:

- State jail felony — up to two years in state jail and/or fine of up to \$10,000. Third-degree felony
- Up to 10 years in prison and/or fine of up to \$10,000.
- Second-degree felony — up to 20 years in prison and/or fine of up to \$10,000.



Know the signs of an overdose? It could save someone's life maybe even your friends life

- Pale face and or feels clammy to the touch
- Body goes limp
- Fingernails or lips have a purple or blue color
- Vomiting or making gurgling sounds
- Unable to awaken or speak
- Breathing is shallow or heartbeat slows or stops

Last September, Texas enacted the Jessica Sosa Act, which protects people from being charged with a drug-related crime if:

- They are the first person to call 911 for help for an overdose.
- They stay at the scene until help arrives.
- They cooperate with emergency, medical and law enforcement personnel.



Stimulants

- Accelerate the Central Nervous System, increase breathing and heart rate
- Stimulants also increase blood pressure
- Other side effects include decrease in appetite and inability to sleep, agitation, and shortness of breath.
- Examples Include:
 - Caffeine
 - Nicotine in tobacco, e-cigarettes, and vaporizers is a stimulant, even though smokers use it to relax
 - Amphetamines and methamphetamines, also known as "speed", "ice", "crystal meth", and "crank"
 - Cocaine, also known as "coke" and "snow"; Crack





The New Look of Nicotine Addiction

Nicotine in E-cigarettes is Equal to...

1 Pack of Cigarettes

~59 mg/mL of nicotine



**= 20
CIGARETTES**



1 JUUL Pod

~59 mg/mL of nicotine



**= 20
CIGARETTES**



1 Puff Bar

~59 mg/mL of nicotine



**= 20
CIGARETTES**





Vaping Nicotine

- The use of e-cigarettes is unsafe for kids, teens, and young adults.
- Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine. Nicotine is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development, which continues into the early to mid-20s.
- E-cigarettes can contain other harmful substances besides nicotine.
 - There are many unknowns about vaping, including how they affect physical health over the long term.
- Young people who use e-cigarettes may be more likely to smoke cigarettes in the future.

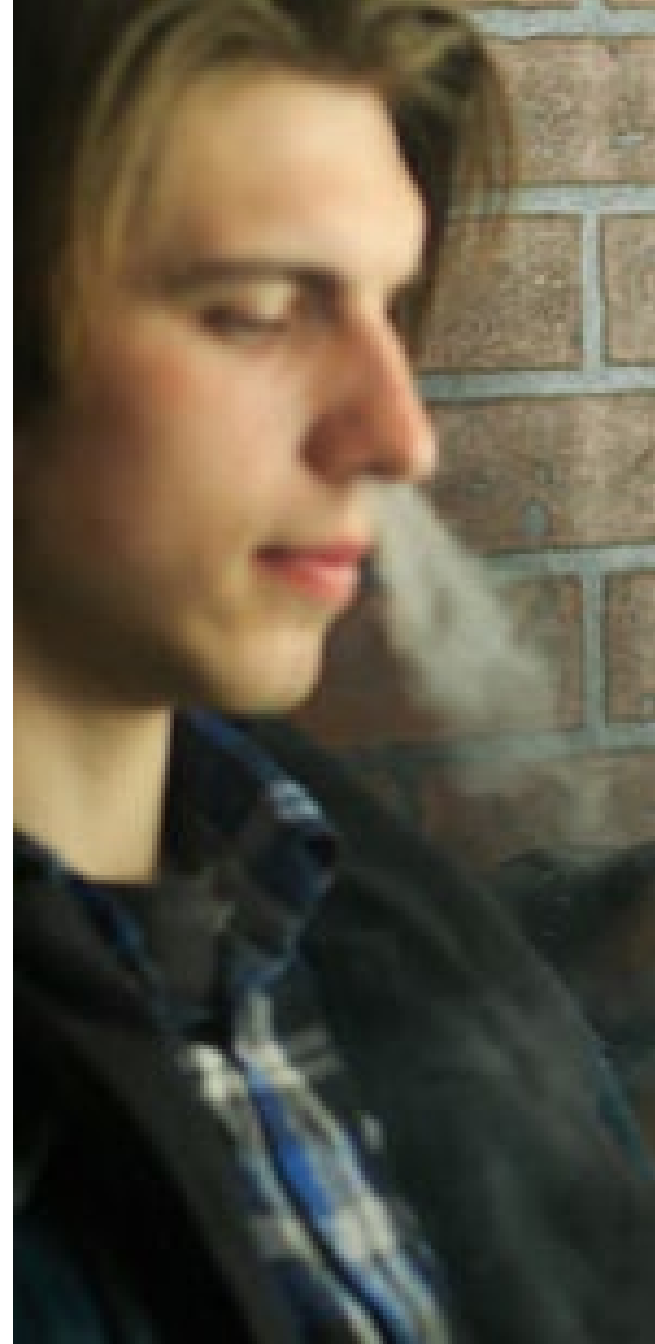
Vaping is Not Safer

498,000

Teens who vape are more likely to start and continue cigarette smoking. It is estimated that 498,000 Texas teens under the age of 18 will be harmed prematurely from smoking if it is not curbed

According to the Johns Hopkins Ciccarone Center for the Prevention of Heart Disease, there are three reasons e-cigarettes may be particularly enticing to young people:

1. Many teens believe vaping is less harmful than smoking.
2. E-cigarettes have a lower per-use cost than traditional cigarettes.
3. Youths and adults find the lack of smoke appealing. With no smell, e-cigarettes reduce some of the stigma of smoking.



Social Media and Drug Trafficking

HOW IT WORKS

ONE-STOP SHOP

Drug traffickers have turned smartphones into a one-stop shop to market, sell, buy, and deliver deadly, fake prescription pills and other dangerous drugs. In just three steps, deadly drugs can be purchased and delivered to your home just like any other good or service.

1. Advertise

Drug traffickers advertise on social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, Twitter and YouTube. These advertisements are in disappearing, 24-hour stories and in posts, which are promptly posted and removed. Posts and stories are often accompanied by known code words and emojis that are used to market and sell illicit and deadly drugs on social media. These code words and emojis are designed to evade detection by law enforcement and by the preset algorithms used by social media platforms.



ADVERTISE

JANUARY 2022

COMMON EMOJI CODES

FAKE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

PERCOCET & OXYCODONE



XANAX



ADDERALL



OTHER DRUGS

METH



HEROIN



COCAINE



MDMA & MOLLIES



MUSHROOMS



COUGH SYRUP



MARIJUANA



DEALER SIGNALS

DEALER ADVERTISING



HIGH POTENCY



UNIVERSAL FOR DRUGS



LARGE BATCH



Disclaimer: These emojis reflect common examples found in DEA investigations. This list is not all-inclusive, and the images above are a representative sample.



DISCUSSION



THANK YOU

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Phoenix House Texas
PREVENTION

Resources

- <https://phoenixhousetx.org/>
- <http://www.drugfree.org/>
- <http://kidshealth.org/>
- <http://www.drugabuse.gov/>
- <http://www.childrennow.org/>
- <http://www.parents.com/kids/problems/drug-abuse/talking-to-your-child-about-drugs/>
- http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/parenting_challenges/talking-with-your-kids-about-drugs-and-alcohol.aspx
- <https://teens.drugabuse.gov/drug-facts>
- <https://nida.nih.gov/publications/drugfacts/fentanyl>
- <https://ctfalliance.org/protective-factors/>
- <https://extension.usu.edu/be-epic/research/the-truths-behind-vaping-information-for-youth-and-teens>
- <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/5-truths-you-need-to-know-about-vaping>

