

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug
Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

A Region of Peel – Public Health Technical Report

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	1
KEY MESSAGES	3
CHAPTER ONE - RESPONDENT PROFILE	5
Student Demographics.....	6
Sex and Grade	6
Immigrant Status.....	7
Ethnic Background	9
Family Profile	10
Languages Spoken at Home	10
Parental Immigrant Status	11
Parental Education Level (as Reported by Students).....	13
Living Arrangement at Home	14
Socio-Economic Status	15
CHAPTER TWO - ANY DRUG USE	16
Any Drug Use.....	17
Any Drug Use Including Cannabis	18
Any Drug Use Excluding Cannabis.....	21
CHAPTER THREE - CANNABIS	22
Cannabis Use.....	23
Lifetime Cannabis Use.....	23
Past Year Cannabis Use	25
Frequency of Cannabis Use Among Past Year Users	28
Cannabis Use in the Past Month – All Students.....	30
Cannabis Use in the Past Month – Past Year Users	32
Mode of Cannabis Consumption	34
Tried Cannabis for the First Time in the Last Year	37
Grade First Tried Cannabis – All Students.....	39
Grade First Tried Cannabis – Past Year Users	41
Used Cannabis for Medical Purpose – All Students (Grades 9 -12)	43
Used Cannabis for Medical Purpose – Past Year Users	45
Intentions to Use Cannabis if Made Legal	46
Source of Cannabis.....	48

Cannabis Severity Dependence Scale – All Students (Grades 9-12)	51
Cannabis Severity Dependence Scale – Past Year Users.....	52
Lifetime Use of Synthetic Cannabis	53
Past Year Use of Synthetic Cannabis.....	54
Attitudes and Perceptions on Cannabis Access and Use	55
Perceived Access to Cannabis	55
Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Cannabis	57
Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Using Cannabis Regularly	59
Disapproval of Adults Trying Cannabis	61
Disapproval of Adults Smoking Cannabis Regularly.....	63
CHAPTER FOUR - OTHER ILLICIT DRUGS	65
Other Illicit Drug Use.....	66
Lifetime Use of Other Illicit Drugs Among Grade 9-12 Students	66
Past Year Use of Other Illicit Drugs Among Grade 9-12 Students	68
Tried Illicit Drugs for the First Time in Past Year.....	69
Lifetime Use of Inhalants and Salvia Divinorum Among Grade 7-12 Students.....	70
Past Year Use of Inhalants or Salvia Divinorum Among Grade 7-12 Students	71
Problem Drug Use	72
Attitudes and Perceptions of Illicit Drug Access and Use	74
Perceived Access to Cocaine.....	74
Perceived Access to Ecstasy	76
Perceived Access to LSD.....	78
Perceived Risk of Harm with Trying Cocaine	81
Perceived Risk of Harm with Trying Ecstasy	83
Disapproval of Adults Trying Cocaine	85
Disapproval of Adults Trying Ecstasy	87
CHAPTER FIVE - NON-MEDICAL USE OF PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS	89
Any Prescription Drug Use for Non-Medical Purposes.....	91
Lifetime Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes	93
Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes in the Past Year	95
Source of Opioid Pain Relief Pills for Non-Medical Purposes	98
USE OF OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS.....	100
Lifetime Non-Medical Use of Over-the-Counter Drugs	100

Use of Over-the-Counter Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes in Past Year	102
ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS ON DRUG ACCESS AND USE.....	104
Perceived Access to Prescription Pain Relief Pills Without a Prescription	104
Perceived Risk of Harm Trying Pain Relief Pills Without A Prescription	106
CHAPTER SIX - MEDICAL USE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.....	108
Prescription Drug Use of Pain Relief Pills With a Prescription.....	109
Use of ADHD Medication With a Prescription	111
Use of Sedatives or Tranquilizers With a Prescription.....	112
CHAPTER SEVEN - DRUGS AND RISKY BEHAVIOURS.....	114
Driving a Vehicle Under the Influence of Cannabis	115
Passenger in a Vehicle With a Driver Who Used Drugs	116
Ever Arrested Because of Cannabis or Drugs.....	118
CHAPTER EIGHT - DRUGS IN SOCIAL CIRCLE, SCHOOL AND NEIGHBOURHOOD	119
Closest Friends Who Use Drugs	120
Education on Cannabis and Other Drugs at School	122
Perception of Drug Problem at School	124
Offered Drugs on School Property	126
Offered Drugs in Neighbourhood	128
Seen Sale of Drugs in Neighbourhood	130
CHAPTER NINE - METHODS.....	133
Definition of Terms	133
Methods.....	135
Data Release	139
Limitations	140
Participation and Response Rate	141
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	142
REFERENCES	143

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

INTRODUCTION

Background

Public Health units are responsible for the ongoing collection, analysis and reporting of health indicators for priority populations. Understanding health-related behaviours of the student population is an important aspect of this work. Since 2013, the Region of Peel – Public Health has participated in the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS), the longest running student survey in Canada. The survey, conducted every two years since 1977, is administered by York University’s Institute for Social Research (ISR) on behalf of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).¹ It contains valuable insight into the awareness and behaviours of students in grades 7 to 12 surrounding alcohol, tobacco and drugs use, as well as detailed information on physical and mental health, relationships with friends and parents, and the school environment.

The 2017 survey was administered to students in a randomly selected number of schools and classes in Ontario, from November 2016 to June 2017.¹ The present cycle is the largest to date with 11,435 Ontario elementary and secondary school students completing the survey. The overall class participation rate was 94% and the student completion rate was 61%. In Peel, a total of 1,680 grade 7 to 12 students completed the survey, which when weighted represents approximately 111,547 students.

Purpose of this Report

This report is intended to provide insight on *tobacco use behaviours*, and *attitudes and perceptions associated with tobacco* among Peel elementary and secondary school students. Data from this report will be used to inform, guide and support student-focused programs and/or strategies, including those tied to our strategic priorities.

How to Read This Report

This report has been produced in two formats: print and web. Both contain the same content. In some tables, ninety-five per cent confidence intervals (presented as “95% CI” in the report) are provided for many of the estimates (e.g. percentages). The confidence interval presents a lower and upper range of values, which we are confident contains the true value of the estimate for the whole population 95% of the time, or 19 times out of 20.

For example, in Peel 18% of students in grades 7 to 12 report using cannabis at least once in their lifetime, with a confidence interval for that estimate of 15% and 21%. This means that if we repeated the study twenty times using different samples from the same population; on nineteen occasions the estimate would be somewhere between 15% and 21%, while on one occasion the estimate would be below 15% or above 21%. We could say that we are 95% sure the actual percentage of students using cannabis at least once in the population is between 15% and 21% and in this particular study, the sample estimate is 18%.

In this report, 95% confidence intervals were used as a conservative method to determine statistical significance regarding differences between groups (e.g. by sex or grade). When the 95% confidence

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

interval of the estimate for one group *does not* overlap with that of the estimate for another group, the difference between the estimates is considered statistically significant (i.e. unlikely to be due to chance). If the confidence intervals of two estimates *do overlap*, the estimates may still be significantly different. However, an appropriate statistical test would be required to assess whether there is a statistical difference of the two estimates. We did not conduct additional tests to determine significance in this report and therefore we acknowledge that some differences between groups may have been missed. However, our intention was to provide general descriptive statistical analyses and not accept or reject specific hypotheses.

The statements like ‘more or less common’ and ‘more likely or less likely’ are found throughout the report to describe differences between subgroups. These statements highlight statistically significant differences in percentages (as indicated by the 95% confidence intervals which do not overlap with each other). When there are large differences in percentages that are *not* considered statistically significant, it is telling you that it is considered similar to the comparison group. This may be due to the percentage being based on either a small number of events, or a small underlying population; so it could change from year to year and may be higher, similar, or lower than the comparison group the next time it is measured.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

KEY MESSAGES

Respondent Profile

- In 2017, Peel students (30%) were more likely to identify themselves as either long-term or recent immigrants, compared to Ontario students (19%).
- In Peel, the most commonly identified ethnic backgrounds among students were South Asian (29%), White (23%), Black (14%), and East or Southeast Asian (12%). Twelve per cent of Peel students reported belonging to multiple ethnicities.
- Compared to Ontario students, Peel students were more likely to report speaking both English and another language at home, have parents who were born outside of Canada, and to report living in only in one main household.

Any Drug Use

- Overall, Peel secondary students are as likely as Ontario students to use drugs.
- Approximately, one-third of Peel students (37%) in grades 9 to 12 used at least one drug in the past year. This estimate includes illicit drugs, cannabis and prescription/over-the-counter drugs used for non-medical purposes.

Cannabis

- Cannabis is the most commonly used drug among Peel students, with 16% of grade 7 to 12 students using it at least once in the last 12 months.
- Students in grade 12 had the highest prevalence of past year cannabis use (38%), and, among users, they are more likely to use cannabis more frequently. Among past year users, 64% of Grade 12 students used cannabis six or more times in the last 12 months, compared to 30%* (*use estimate with caution) among Grade 9 students.
- Among past year cannabis users in grades 9 to 12, the most common method of cannabis consumption was smoking a joint (81%), followed by smoking a pipe or bong (68%).

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Illicit Drugs

- The most commonly used illicit drug (excluding cannabis and prescription drugs for non-medical purposes) in the last 12 months among Grade 9 - 12 students were hallucinogens (2%* - use estimate with caution) and ecstasy (2%* - use estimate with caution).
- Over one-in-ten (12%) students in grades 9 to 12 exhibited symptoms of a drug use problem. This is similar to Ontario (14%).

Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drugs

- The use of prescription drugs for non-medical purposes is more common than the use of illicit drugs (excluding cannabis) among Peel and Ontario students.
- In Peel, over one-in-ten (12%) students in grades 9 to 12 used opioid pain relief pills for non-medical purposes in the last 12 months. This is similar to Ontario (11%).

Medical Use of Prescription Drugs

- In Peel, 19% of Grade 7 - 12 students used pain relief pills with a prescription in the 12 months before the survey, while 2%* (*use estimate with caution) reported taking medication to treat ADHD in the same time frame.

Drugs and Risky Behaviours

- Approximately, one-in-ten (11%) of students reported riding in a vehicle with a driver who was under the influence of drugs. This is similar to Ontario (10%).

Drugs in Social Circle, School and Neighbourhood

- In Peel, 6% of Grade 7 - 12 students reported that most or all of their friends use drugs.
- Approximately, one-quarter of Peel students (26%) felt that drug use is a big problem at their school.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CHAPTER ONE RESPONDENT PROFILE

HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 1,680 grade 7 to 12 students from 29 schools in Peel participated in the 2017 cycle of OSDUHS.¹ The overall student completion rate in Peel was 63%.
- In Peel, 30% of grade 7 to 12 students identify themselves as either long-term or recent immigrants, which is higher than among Ontario students (19%).
- The most common ethnic backgrounds reported by Peel students are South Asian (29%), White (23%), Black (14%), and East or Southeast Asian (12%). Twelve per cent of Peel students reported belonging to multiple ethnicities.
- In Peel, 39% of grade 7 to 12 students reported speaking both English and another language at home, compared to 17% of Ontario students.
- Most Peel students (72%) reported that both their parents were born outside of Canada, compared to 36% of Ontario students.
- Peel students (9%) are less likely than Ontario students (14%) to divide their time between two or more homes.
- In 2017, 35% of Peel students considered their family to be of low socio-economic status, which is similar to Ontario students (36%) and estimates from 2013 and 2015.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

The 2017 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS) contains responses from 1,680 grade 7 to 12 students in Peel, from two school boards: Peel District School Board and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. The overall response rate in Peel was 63%.

Sex and Grade

A similar proportion of males (52%) and females (48%) participated in the survey and the sample was distributed almost equally across grades.

Survey Questions: Were you born male or female? What grade are you in?

Table 1.1
Demographic Profile of Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex at Birth and Grade, Peel and Ontario, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,680	Ontario n=11,435
Sex		
Male	51.6 (47.2 - 56.0)	51.6 (48.8 - 54.4)
Female	48.4 (44.0 - 52.8)	48.4 (45.6 - 51.2)
Grade		
7	14.6 (12.1 - 17.6)	13.5 (11.1 - 16.4)
8	15.2 (12.8 - 18.0)	14.1 (11.6 - 17.0)
9	15.5 (13.6 - 17.6)	16.0 (14.7 - 17.3)
10	16.1 (14.5 - 17.7)	16.6 (14.9 - 18.3)
11	16.5 (13.0 - 20.9)	17.1 (15.0 - 19.3)
12	22.1 (19.4 - 25.0)	22.8 (20.7 - 25.0)

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Immigrant Status

In Peel, 30% of grade 7 to 12 students identify themselves as either long-term or recent immigrants, which is higher than among Ontario students (19%).

The 2017 estimates are similar to the 2013 and 2015 estimates (data not shown).

Survey Question: How long have you lived in Canada?

Table 1.2
Immigrant Status Among Students in Grades 7-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2017

Immigrant Status	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,674	Ontario n=11,422
Non-immigrant [†]	70.2 (65.4 - 74.6)	80.6 (77.5 - 83.3)
Recent immigrant [‡]	20.6 (17.1 - 24.7)	13.0 (11.2 - 15.1)
Long-term immigrant [§]	9.2 (7.8 - 10.8)	6.4 (5.4 - 7.7)

[†] Includes students who reported living in Canada “all of my life”.

[‡] Includes students who reported living in Canada “2 years or less” to “10 years”.

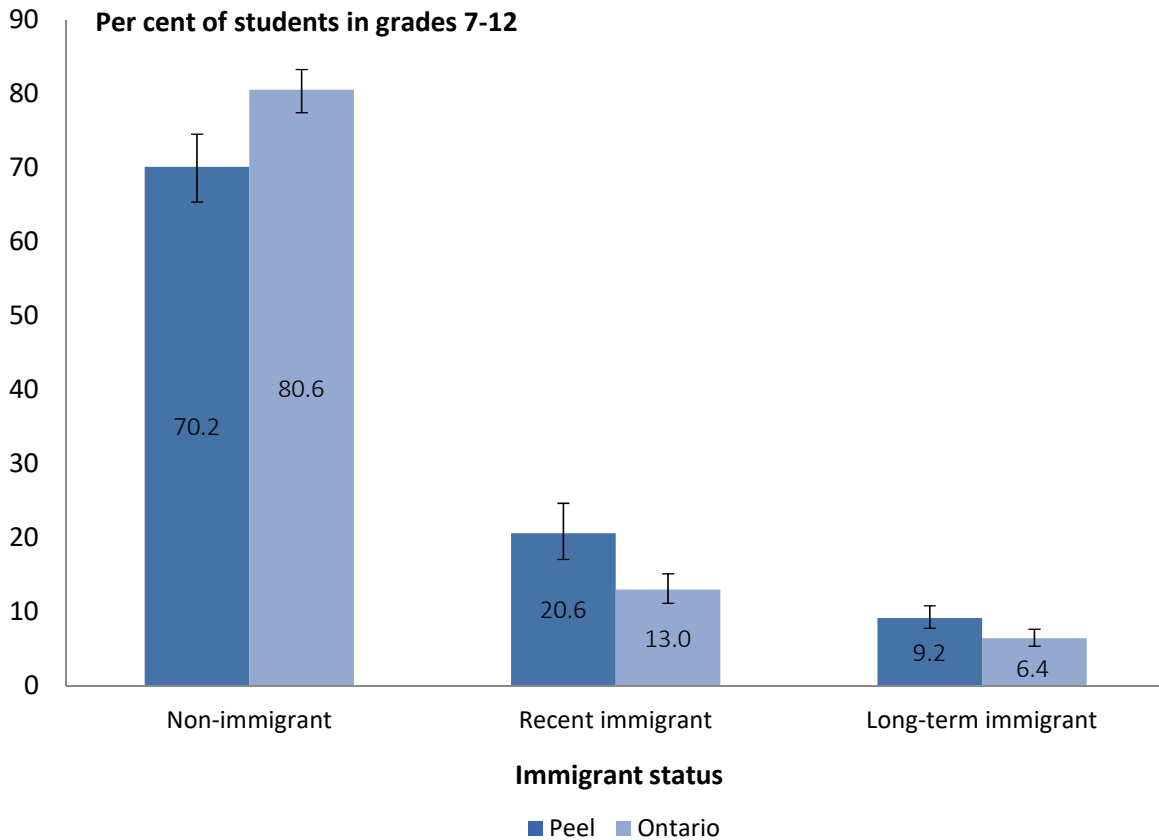
[§] Includes students who reported living in Canada “11 years or longer”.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 1.1
Immigrant Status Among Grade 7-12 Students,
Peel and Ontario, 2017



Peel n=1,674.

Ontario n=11,422.

Note: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Ethnic Background

In 2017, the top ethnicities reported by Peel students in grades 7 to 12 were South Asian (29%), White (23%), Black (14%), and East or Southeast Asian (12%). Twelve per cent of Peel students reported having multiple ethnicities.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates (data not shown).

Survey Question: Which of the following best describes your background? (You may choose more than one category.)

Table 1.3
Ethnic Background of Students in Grades 7-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2017

Ethnic Background	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,680	Ontario n=11,435
White	22.8 (16.8 - 30.2)	55.1 (50.5 - 59.6)
East or Southeast Asian [†]	11.9 (8.7 - 16.0)	6.4 (5.3 - 7.8)
South Asian	28.9 (21.4 - 37.7)	6.0 (4.8 - 7.6)
Black	13.8 (10.2 - 18.5)	8.5* (6.0 - 11.9)
Aboriginal	NR	0.8* (0.6 - 1.1)
Latin/Central/South American	3.4* (2.4 - 4.9)	2.5 (1.9 - 3.1)
West Asian or Arab	3.4* (2.1 - 5.5)	5.4 (3.9 - 7.4)
Multiple [‡]	11.8 (9.8 - 14.0)	10.8 (9.9 - 11.8)
Not sure/Not stated	3.8* (2.6 - 5.4)	4.4 (3.3 - 5.8)

[†] Includes Southeast Asian, Chinese, Filipino, Korean, and Japanese.

[‡] Includes those who selected more than one category (including those who selected both a specific category and “not sure”).

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

FAMILY PROFILE

Languages Spoken at Home

In 2017, 49% of students in Peel and 64% of students in Ontario reported usually speaking English at home. Peel students (39%) are more likely to report speaking both English and another language at home, compared to Ontario students (17%), which is similar to 2013 and 2015 (data not shown).

Survey Question: What language do you usually speak at home?

Table 1.4
Languages Spoken at Home Among Students in Grades 7-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2017

Languages Spoken at Home	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,672	Ontario n=11,398
English	48.6 (40.8 - 56.4)	63.6 (58.1 - 68.8)
French	NR	1.9* (1.2 - 3.0)
English and French	NR	7.3 (5.4 - 9.8)
English, French, and other	NR	5.2* (3.0 - 8.9)
English and other	38.6 (32.6 - 45.0)	16.6 (14.6 - 18.8)
French and other	NR	NR
Other language(s)	7.3 (5.7 - 9.2)	4.6 (3.9 - 5.5)
Other language combinations or multiple answers	NR	NR

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Parental Immigrant Status

In Peel, 72% of students have parents who were both/all born outside of Canada, which is twice the proportion seen among Ontario students (36%).

The 2017 estimates are similar to the 2013 and 2015 estimates (data not shown).

Survey Question: Were your parents born in Canada?

Table 1.5
Parental Immigrant Status Among Students in Grades 7-12[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2017

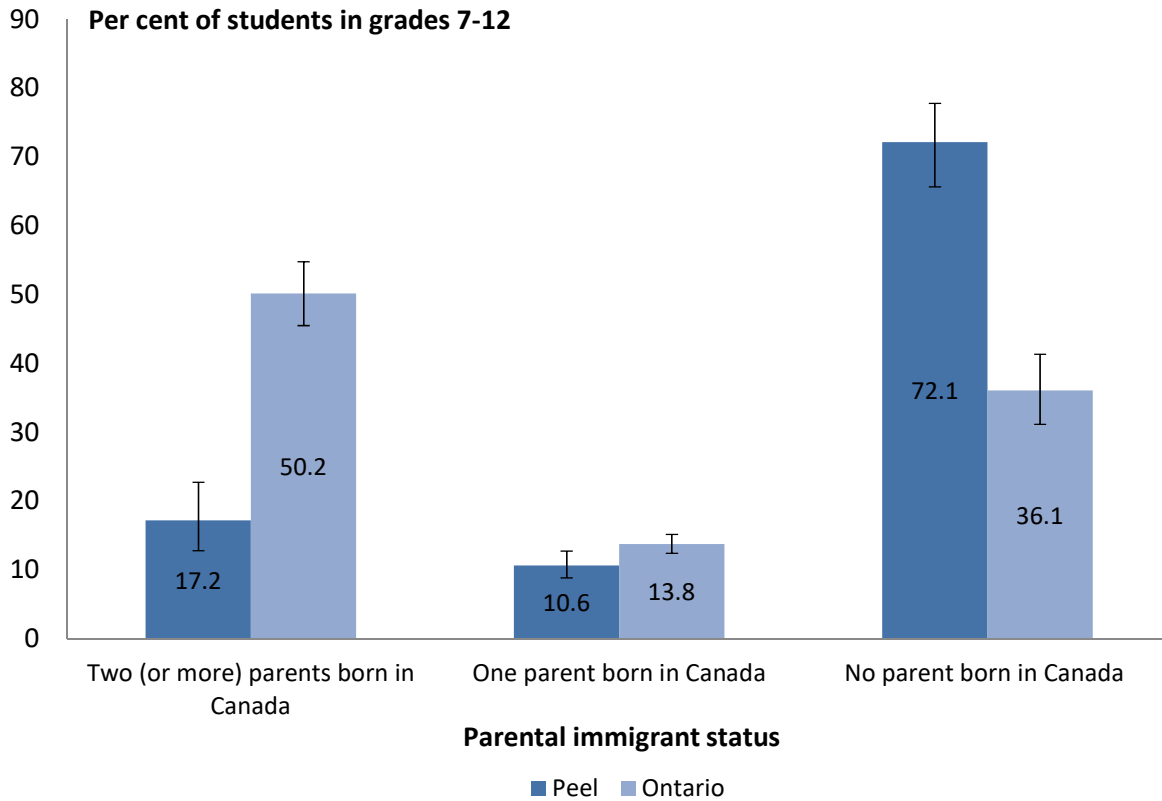
Parental Immigrant Status	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,663	Ontario n=11,279
Two (or more) parents born in Canada	17.2 (12.8 - 22.8)	50.2 (45.5 - 54.8)
One parent born in Canada	10.6 (8.9 - 12.7)	13.8 (12.4 - 15.2)
No parent born in Canada	72.1 (65.7 - 77.8)	36.1 (31.2 - 41.3)

[†] Parent refers to an individual the student considers to be a parent (e.g. birth parent, adoptive parent, stepparent, etc.).
Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 1.2
Parental Immigrant Status Among Grade 7-12 Students,
Peel and Ontario, 2017



Peel n=1,663.

Ontario n=11,279.

Note: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Parental Education Level (as Reported by Students)

According to students, the majority of parents in both Peel and Ontario have completed post-secondary education. This was similar in 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: What is the highest level of education your mother/father completed?

Table 1.6

Highest Level of Education Achieved Among Mothers as Reported by Students in Grades 7-12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2017

Level of Education	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,662	Ontario n=11,256
Less than secondary	4.4 (3.2 - 6.1)	4.6 (3.7 - 5.6)
Secondary	10.2 (8.5 - 12.2)	10.4 (9.3 - 11.6)
Some post-secondary	6.9 (5.5 - 8.6)	6.7 (6.0 - 7.4)
Completed post-secondary	60.3 (55.3 - 65.0)	62.3 (60.0 - 64.6)
Do not know	18.2 (15.1 - 21.9)	16.1 (14.4 - 17.9)

[†] Parent refers to an individual the student considers to be a parent (e.g. birth parent, adoptive parent, stepparent, etc.).
Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

Table 1.7

Highest Level of Education Achieved Among Fathers as Reported by Students in Grades 7-12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2017

Level of Education	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,658	Ontario n=11,257
Less than secondary	7.3 (5.8 - 9.3)	6.1 (5.3 - 7.1)
Secondary	9.2 (7.2 - 11.7)	11.6 (9.9 - 13.5)
Some post-secondary	5.9 (4.7 - 7.3)	6.6 (5.8 - 7.5)
Completed post-secondary	53.9 (49.1 - 58.7)	54.4 (52.2 - 56.6)
Do not know	23.6 (20.0 - 27.7)	21.2 (19.1 - 23.5)

[†] Parent refers to an individual the student considers to be a parent (e.g. birth parent, adoptive parent, stepparent, etc.).
Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Living Arrangement at Home

In 2017, Peel students were less likely than Ontario students to report spending time between two or more homes (9% vs. 14%, respectively). This is similar to 2013 and 2015 (data not shown).

Survey Question: *Not everyone lives with both parents in one home. Some people spend part of their time in one home, and the other part of their time in another home. Please choose one of the following statements that best describes your living situation.*

Table 1.8
Living Arrangements at Home Among Students in Grades 7-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2017

Living Arrangement	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,662	Ontario n=11,301
Live in one home only	91.5 (89.1 - 93.4)	85.9 (84.0 - 87.6)
Split time between two or more homes	8.5 (6.6 - 10.9)	14.1 (12.4 - 16.0)

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Socio-Economic Status

Subjective socio-economic status was measured using the *family socio-economic ladder*, an adolescent-specific measure of subjective family social status.^{2,3}

Students were shown a ladder that was meant to represent the Canadian society (with numbers ranging from one to 10). They were told that at the top are the people who are “*best off* – they have the most money, the most education, and the jobs that bring the most respect” while at the bottom are the people who are “*worst off* – they have the least money, little education, no job or jobs that no one wants”. Students were asked to place their family on this scale.

Survey Question: Now think about your family. Please check off the numbered box that best shows where you think your family would be on this ladder.

Scores on the *family socio-economic ladder* were categorized in the following way:

Low SES: students ranked their family between one to six on the ladder;

High SES: students ranked their family between seven to 10 on the ladder.

In 2017, 35% of Peel students considered their family to be of low socio-economic status, based on the *family socio-economic ladder*, which is similar to Ontario students (36%).

The 2017 estimates are similar to the 2013 and 2015 estimates (data not shown).

Table 1.9

Subjective Family Socio-economic Status Among Students in Grades 7-12, Peel and Ontario, 2017

Socio-economic Status	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=1,657	Ontario n=11,146
Low SES	35.4 (31.8 - 39.2)	35.5 (32.2 - 38.9)
High SES	64.6 (60.8 - 68.2)	64.5 (61.1 - 67.8)

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CHAPTER TWO ANY DRUG USE

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Peel, 37% of grade 9 - 12 students reported using at least one drug in the last 12 months. This includes use of illicit drugs, cannabis, and prescription drugs or over-the-counter drugs used for non-medical purposes. This is similar to Ontario (39%).
- When excluding cannabis, one-quarter of grade 9 - 12 students (25%) in Peel reported using at least one drug in the past year. This is comparable to Ontario (24%).

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

ANY DRUG USE

“Any Drug Use” is a composite measure which includes past year use of at least one of the drugs asked in the survey (Table 2.1). This measure was computed for Grade 9 – 12 students only.

Table 2.1
Drugs Included in the Measurement of “Any Drug Use” by Survey Cycle

Drug	Cycle		
	2013	2015	2017
Cannabis	X	X	X
Synthetic cannabis	X	X	X
Inhalants	X	X	X
Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD)	X	X	X
Mushrooms (hallucinogens)	X	X	X
Jimson weed	X	X	X
Salvia divinorum	X	X	X
Cocaine	X	X	X
Crack	X	X	X
Methamphetamine	X	X	X
Heroin	X	X	X
Ecstasy	X	X	X
Mephedrone (bath salts)	X	X	X
Ketamine	X		
Methoxamine	X		
BZP pills	X		
Fentanyl			X
Non-medical use of:			
Tranquilizers/sedatives	X	X	X
Attention deficit/hyperactive disorder medication	X	X	X
Other prescription opioid pain relievers	X	X	X
Over-the-counter cough/cold medication	X	X	X
Modanfinil	X	X	
Oxycontin/oxyneo	X		

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Any Drug Use Including Cannabis

In 2017, 37% of students in grades 9 to 12 reported using at least one of the above-mentioned drugs (including cannabis) in the past 12 months. This is similar to Ontario (39%).

In Peel, Grade 12 students (48%) were more likely to have reported drug use in the past year compared to Grade 9 students (22%* - use estimate with caution). There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Table 2.2
Any Drug Use (Including Cannabis) in the Past Year Among Grade 9-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 9 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=694	2015 n=340	2017 n=592	2013 n=2,830	2015 n=3,100	2017 n=3203
Any drug use in the past year	39.2 (33.3 - 45.5)	35.2 (26.5 - 45.0)	36.9 (32.0 - 42.0)	41.3 (37.6 - 45.1)	37.7 (34.7 - 40.8)	38.6 (35.2 - 42.2)

Notes: The composite measure “any drug use” included: cannabis, synthetic cannabis, inhalants, LSD, hallucinogens, Jimson weed, salvia divinorum, cocaine, crack, methamphetamine, heroin, ecstasy, and the non-medical use of tranquilizers, ADHD medication, prescription opioid pain relievers, and over-the-counter cough/cold medication. For the 2013 cycle, the following drugs were included: ketamine, methoxamine, BZP pills and Oxycontin/oxycodone. Modafinil was included in the 2013 and 2015 cycle. Fentanyl was included in the 2017 cycle.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 2.3
Any Drug Use in the Past Year Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade,
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=694	2015 n=340	2017 n=592
Sex			
Male	43.6 (36.4 - 51.1)	34.0 (26.0 - 43.0)	38.8 (29.9 - 48.5)
Female	34.6 (27.8 - 42.1)	36.5 (25.7 - 48.9)	35.2 (28.7 - 42.2)
Grade			
9	29.7* (20.0 - 41.5)	23.9* (13.6 - 38.6)	21.6* (13.9 - 32.0)
10	43.4 (32.8 - 54.6)	35.0* (22.0 - 50.6)	32.7 (23.9 - 43.0)
11	41.0 (31.1 - 51.7)	39.8 (31.0 - 49.3)	39.9 (28.7 - 52.3)
12	41.6 (33.5 - 50.2)	39.1* (21.7 - 59.7)	48.0 (37.4 - 58.7)

* Use estimate with caution.

Notes: The composite measure “any drug use” included: synthetic cannabis, inhalants, LSD, hallucinogens, Jimson weed, salvia divinorum, cocaine, crack, methamphetamine, heroin, ecstasy, and the non-medical use of tranquilizers, ADHD medication, prescription opioid pain relievers, and over-the-counter cough/cold medication. For the 2013 cycle, the following drugs were included: ketamine, methoxamine, BZP pills and Oxycontin/oxyneo. Modanfinil was included in the 2013 and 2015 cycle. Fentanyl was included in the 2017 cycle.

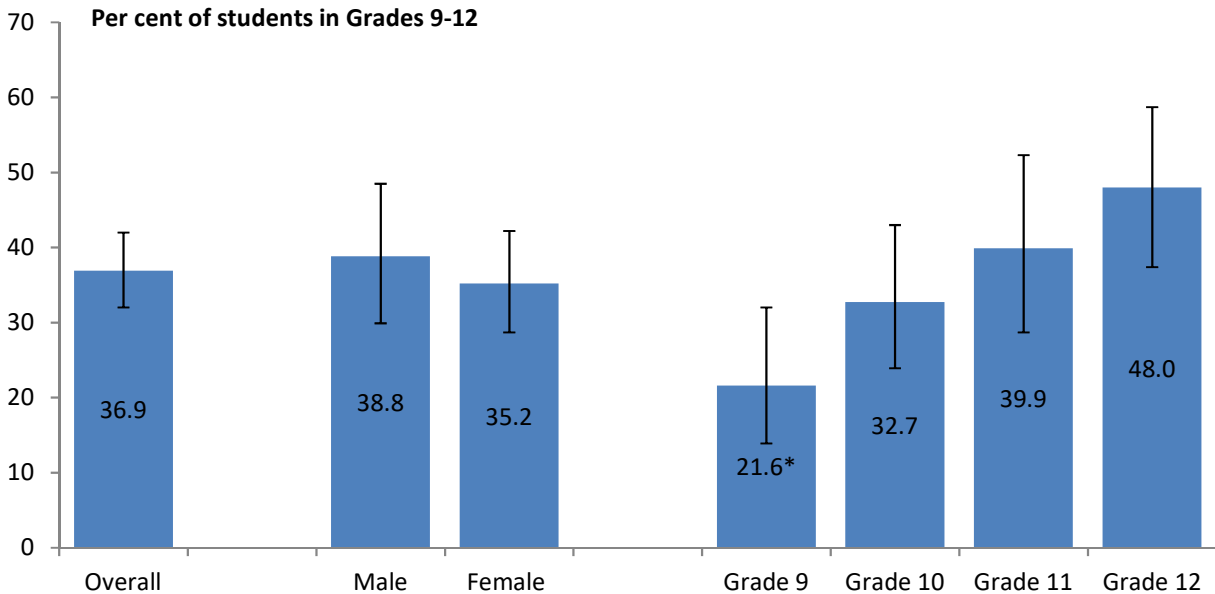
Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
 Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 2.1

Any Drug Use (Including Cannabis) in the Past Year Among Grade 9-12 students, Peel, 2017



n=592

* Use estimate with caution.

Notes: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Any Drug Use Excluding Cannabis

In 2017, 25% of students in grades 9 to 12 reported using at least one of the above-mentioned drugs (excluding cannabis) in the past 12 months. This is similar to Ontario (24%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Table 2.4
Any Drug Use (Excluding Cannabis) in the Past Year Among Grade 9-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 9 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=690	2015 n=338	2017 n=591	2013 n=2,820	2015 n=3,091	2017 n=3211
Any drug use in the past year	27.3 (22.0 - 33.5)	21.2 (15.3 - 28.5)	25.3 (20.3 - 31.2)	25.1 (21.9 - 28.6)	22.2 (19.9 - 24.6)	24.3 (21.9 - 26.9)

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

Table 2.5
Any Drug Use in the Past Year Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=690	2015 n=338	2017 n=591
Sex			
Male	30.0 (22.4 - 38.8)	23.7 (17.3 - 31.7)	28.0 (20.6 - 36.9)
Female	24.6 (19.5 - 30.4)	18.4* (12.4 - 26.5)	23.0 (17.6 - 29.5)
Grade			
9	25.5* (16.1 - 38.0)	16.3* (8.8 - 28.3)	17.3* (10.4 - 27.5)
10	30.1* (20.6 - 41.7)	21.0* (12.7 - 32.8)	25.1 (17.6 - 34.4)
11	26.7 (18.7 - 36.6)	21.9* (14.9 - 31.0)	30.7* (19.1 - 45.3)
12	27.2 (20.3 - 35.4)	23.8* (12.4 - 40.7)	27.2 (19.2 - 37.1)

* Use estimate with caution.

† Refers to each of the seven days of the week prior to the survey.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

CHAPTER THREE CANNABIS

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2017, Peel students (16%) were as likely as Ontario students (19%) to report using cannabis at some point in the last 12 months.
- Among Peel students, cannabis use is highest among those in Grade 12 where approximately one-third (38%) reported using cannabis in the past year.
- Among past year cannabis users, Grade 12 students (64%) were more likely than students in grade 9 (30%* - use estimate with caution) to use cannabis six or more times in the last 12 months.
- Among past year cannabis users in grades 9 to 12, the most common method of cannabis consumption was smoking a joint (81%), followed by smoking a pipe or bong (68%).
- Only 3%* (*use estimate with caution) of Grade 9-12 students in Peel use cannabis for medical purposes and is lower than the prevalence among Ontario students (7%).
- Approximately, one-third (37%) of students believe it is fairly or very easy to access cannabis.
- Almost half of Peel students (47%) believed there is a “*great risk*” of harm associated with regular cannabis use. The prevalence of Grade 12 students who believe that there is a “*great risk*” of harm has decreased from 38% in 2013 to 21% in 2017.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CANNABIS USE

Lifetime Cannabis Use

In 2017, 18% of Peel students used cannabis at least once in their lifetime. This is similar to Ontario (22%).

Peel students in Grade 12 (41%) were more likely than students in younger grades to have used cannabis at least once in their lifetime. There are no differences by sex.

In Ontario, there were fewer lifetime cannabis users in 2017 (22%) compared to 2013 (27%). This trend was not seen in Peel.

In the last 12 months how often did you use cannabis (also known as marijuana, weed, pot, grass, hashish, hash, hash oil, etc.)? (Combined all frequencies into an indicator identifying those who used it at least once in their lifetime)

Table 3.1
Lifetime Use of Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7 – 12,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Lifetime Use	Per cent of Grade 7 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,093	2015 n=1,151	2017 n=1,661	2013 n=10,242	2015 n=10,375	2017 n=11,292
Did not use cannabis ever	77.2 (74.1 - 80.0)	74.0 (68.6 - 78.7)	77.2 (74.5-79.6)	69.6 (67.1 - 72.0)	71.4 (69.4 - 73.4)	73.6 (72.2 - 74.9)
Used cannabis at least once	17.9 (15.0 - 21.2)	22.3 (17.5 - 27.9)	17.7 (15.1-20.6)	26.6 (24.1 - 29.2)	23.9 (21.7 - 26.3)	21.6 (19.7 - 23.6)
Do not know what cannabis is	4.9 (3.6 - 6.8)	3.8* (2.4 - 6.0)	5.2* (3.5-7.6)	3.8 (3.2 - 4.5)	4.6 (3.9 - 5.6)	4.8 (3.9 - 6.0)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.2
Lifetime Use of Cannabis (At Least Once) Among Grades 7 – 12 Students by Sex and Grade,
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,093	2015 n=1,151	2017 n=1,661
Sex			
Male	19.8 (16.3 - 23.8)	21.4 (15.6 - 28.7)	17.8 (14.5 - 21.6)
Female	15.9 (12.6 - 19.8)	23.2 (17.7 - 29.7)	17.6 (14.5 - 21.1)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	2.7* (1.4 - 5.1)	NR	NR
9	10.7 (7.8 - 14.5)	13.2* (8.2 - 20.7)	9.4* (5.5 - 15.6)
10	23.5 (17.6 - 30.6)	28.9* (19.1 - 41.0)	17.2* (11.6 - 24.6)
11	29.7 (22.6 - 38.0)	37.2 (27.5 - 48.1)	24.6 (17.7 - 33.1)
12	31.1 (24.0 - 39.2)	39.8 (33.6 - 46.3)	41.4 (35.2 - 47.8)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Past Year Cannabis Use

In 2017, 16% of Peel students used cannabis at least once in the past year. This is similar to Ontario (19%).

Peel students in Grade 12 (38%) were more likely than students in younger grades to have used cannabis at least once in the past year. There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

In the last 12 months how often did you use cannabis (also known as marijuana, weed, pot, grass, hashish, hash, hash oil, etc.)? (This table shows all frequencies combined into an indicator identifying those who used it at least once in the last 12 months)

Table 3.3
Past Year Use of Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7 – 12,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Past Year Use	Per cent of Grade 7 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,093	2015 n=1,151	2017 n=1,661	2013 n=10,242	2015 n=10,375	2017 n=11,292
Did not use cannabis	79.5 (76.7 - 82.1)	76.3 (70.9 - 81.0)	78.9 (76.5 - 81.2)	73.1 (70.7 - 75.5)	74.1 (72.1 - 76.0)	76.2 (74.7 - 77.6)
Used cannabis at least once	15.5 (13.0 - 18.4)	19.9 (15.3 - 25.4)	15.9 (13.5 - 18.7)	23.0 (20.7 - 25.6)	21.3 (19.2 - 23.6)	19.0 (17.1 - 21.0)
Do not know what cannabis is	4.9 (3.6 - 6.8)	3.8* (2.4 - 6.0)	5.2* (3.5 - 7.6)	3.8 (3.2 - 4.5)	4.6 (3.9 - 5.6)	4.8 (3.9 - 6.0)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.4
Past Year Use of Cannabis (At Least Once) Among Grades 7 – 12 Students by Sex and Grade,
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,093	2015 n=1,151	2017 n=1,661
Sex			
Male	17.2 (14.2 - 20.8)	18.1 (13.2 - 24.2)	16.4 (13.0 - 20.4)
Female	13.7 (10.9 - 17.0)	21.9 (16.3 - 28.7)	15.4 (12.6 - 18.7)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	NR	NR	NR
9	9.1* (6.07 - 13.4)	10.4* (5.3 - 19.4)	8.5* (4.7 - 14.9)
10	21.2 (15.5 - 28.4)	25.3* (16.7 - 36.5)	14.8* (10.4 - 20.7)
11	24.7 (19.0 - 31.6)	33.9 (24.4 - 45.0)	22.1 (15.7 - 30.3)
12	27 (20.7 - 34.4)	36.4 (28.1 - 45.5)	37.5 (31.9 - 43.4)

* Use estimate with caution.

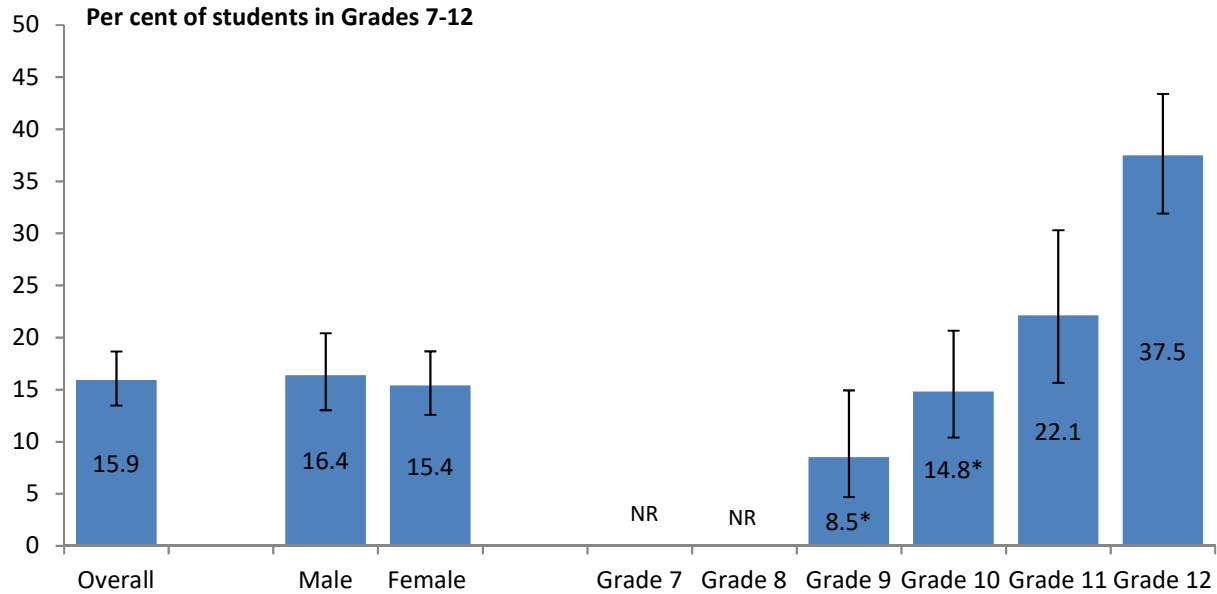
NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 3.1
Past Year Use of Cannabis (At Least Once) Among Grades 7 – 12 Students by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2017



n=1,661

* Use estimate with caution.

NR = Not releasable due to small numbers.

Notes: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Frequency of Cannabis Use Among Past Year Users

In 2017, more than half of past year users in Peel (54%) used cannabis six or more times in the last 12 months. This is similar to Ontario (52%).

Past year users in Grade 12 (64%) were more likely than students in Grade 9 (30%* - use estimate with caution) to have used cannabis six or more times in the past year. There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

In the last 12 months how often did you use cannabis (also known as marijuana, weed, pot, grass, hashish, hash, hash oil, etc.)?

Table 3.5
Frequency of Cannabis Use in the Last 12 Months Among Past Year Users,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Frequency	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=295	2015 n=180	2017 n=261	2013 n=1,779	2015 n=1,927	2017 n=1,895
1-2 times	29.9 (25.2 - 35.1)	25.7 (19.6 - 32.9)	28.0 (22.4 - 34.4)	27.1 (23.7 - 30.8)	25.7 (23.2 - 28.3)	30.5 (27.5 - 33.6)
3-5 times	14.8 (10.5 - 20.4)	13.4* (9.4 - 18.8)	18.1 (13.2 - 24.3)	16.5 (13.5 - 20.1)	16.2 (14.2 - 18.5)	18.0 (15.0 - 21.4)
6+ times	55.3 (48.4 - 62.0)	60.9 (51.9 - 69.2)	53.9 (46.2 - 61.4)	56.4 (52.0 - 60.6)	58.1 (55.2 - 60.9)	51.6 (46.9 - 56.2)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.6
Used Cannabis Six or More Times in Past Year Among Past Year Users by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=295	2015 n=180	2017 n=261
Sex			
Male	55.7 (47.7 - 63.5)	66.0 (54.7 - 75.6)	63.9 (51.7 - 74.5)
Female	54.8 (44.0 - 65.1)	56.4 (45.0 - 67.2)	42.5 (33.6 - 52.0)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	NR	NR	NR
9	51.8* (27.4 - 75.4)	NR	29.5* (17.4 - 45.3)
10	61.7 (50.6 - 71.6)	60.1 (48.0 - 71.1)	45.0* (28.0 - 63.2)
11	52.6 (41.4 - 63.5)	67.2 (56.5 - 76.4)	51.1 (37.8 - 64.2)
12	56.7 (45.6 - 67.2)	59.2 (40.3 - 75.7)	63.5 (52.7 - 73.0)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Cannabis Use in the Past Month – All Students

In 2017, one in ten Peel students (10%) reported using cannabis at least once in the past month. This is comparable to Ontario (12%).

In Peel, Grade 12 students (24%) were more likely to have used cannabis at least once in the past month compared to Grade 9 students (9%* - use estimate with caution). There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: In the last 4 weeks, how often (if ever) did you use cannabis?

Table 3.7
Frequency of Cannabis Use in the Last Month Among Students in Grades 7-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Frequency	Per cent of Grade 7 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,090	2015 n=1,146	2017 n=1,672	2013 n=10,198	2015 n=10,373	2017 n=11,352
Never/not in the past year	82.1 (78.8 - 85.1)	76.6 (70.6 - 81.6)	81.9 (79.1 - 84.5)	73.0 (70.4 - 75.5)	75.6 (73.2 - 77.9)	78.2 (76.1 - 80.2)
Not in the last month	8.7 (6.8 - 11.0)	11.1 (8.4 - 14.6)	8.1 (6.2 - 10.5)	12.8 (11.7 - 14.1)	10.6 (9.6 - 11.7)	9.7 (8.2 - 11.3)
<1 per week	4.7 (3.6 - 6.1)	5.2* (3.4 - 8.0)	5.6 (4.5 - 7.0)	7.0 (6.0 - 8.2)	6.9 (5.9 - 8.0)	6.4 (5.2 - 8.0)
1-2 times per week	1.3 (0.8 - 2.4)	3.8 (2.7 - 5.4)	1.9* (1.2 - 3.2)	2.4 (1.9 - 3.0)	2.7 (2.1 - 3.3)	2.2 (1.8 - 2.7)
3+ times per week	3.2 (2.3 - 4.5)	3.3 (2.4 - 4.5)	2.4* (1.6 - 3.6)	4.8 (3.8 - 6.0)	4.2 (3.6 - 5.0)	3.4 (2.8 - 4.2)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.8
Used Cannabis at Least Once in the Past Month Among Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade,
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7 - 12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,090	2015 n=1,146	2017 n=1,672
Sex			
Male	10.8 (8.5-13.6)	11.4* (7.5-16.9)	11.3 (8.9-14.3)
Female	7.5 (5.9-9.5)	13.4 (9.8-18.0)	8.5 (6.5-11.1)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	NR	NR	NR
9	4.9* (2.9-8.3)	NR	NR
10	14.5 (10.6-19.5)	16.5* (11.4-23.2)	9.3* (6.1-14.0)
11	13.8 (9.9-18.8)	21.2* (14.4-30.2)	14.0* (8.6-21.9)
12	15.5 (12.1-19.7)	22.8* (14.8-33.4)	24.1 (19.1-29.9)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Cannabis Use in the Past Month – Past Year Users

In 2017, 13%* (*use estimate with caution) of past year users in Peel reported using cannabis three times a week or more frequently. This is comparable to Ontario (18%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: In the last 4 weeks, how often (if ever) did you use cannabis?

Table 3.9
Frequency of Cannabis Use in the Last Month Among Past Year Users, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Frequency	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=295	2015 n=180	2017 n=261	2013 n=1,779	2015 n=1,927	2017 n=1,895
Not in the last month	40.3 (34.4 - 46.4)	41.3 (33.7 - 49.2)	36.5 (29.3 - 44.3)	39.1 (34.6 - 43.8)	36.4 (33.6 - 39.4)	37.1 (31.3 - 43.3)
<1 per week	29.2 (22.9 - 36.5)	23.1 (18.2 - 28.8)	35.4 (30.1 - 41.1)	29.7 (26.9 - 32.7)	30.9 (27.6 - 34.5)	31.6 (25.5 - 38.5)
1-2 times per week	8.7* (5.1 - 14.4)	19.1* (13.2 - 26.9)	12.3* (7.8 - 19.0)	9.8 (8.2 - 11.7)	12.5 (10.3 - 15.0)	11.5 (9.9 - 13.4)
3+ times per week	20.0 (15.1 - 26.0)	15.7 (12.3 - 19.8)	13.3* (8.5 - 20.4)	19.8 (17 - 22.9)	19.1 (16.8 - 21.7)	17.5 (14.3 - 21.2)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.10

Used Cannabis At Least Once in the Past Month Among Past Year Users by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=295	2015 n=180	2017 n=261
Sex			
Male	60.3 (53.3 - 66.9)	54.2 (42.3 - 65.6)	66.9 (55.4 - 76.8)
Female	54.7 (46.2 - 62.9)	61.1 (51.5 - 70.0)	54.3 (44.9 - 63.4)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	NR	NR	NR
9	53.9* (32.8 - 73.7)	NR	56.3* (34.4-76.0)
10	66.6 (54.0 - 77.2)	57.3 (44.9 - 68.9)	60.0 (43.3-74.6)
11	55.5 (43.5 - 66.9)	59.7 (46.0 - 72.0)	62.8 (45.5-77.4)
12	55.2 (46.6 - 63.6)	58.9 (40.5 - 75.2)	63.4 (50.2 - 74.8)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Mode of Cannabis Consumption

In 2017, smoking a joint was the most common method of cannabis consumption (81%) among Peel students in grades 9 to 12 who used cannabis in the past year. In Ontario, the most common method of cannabis consumption was smoking in a pipe/bong (78%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months, what ways have you used cannabis, if at all? Check all that apply.*

Table 3.11

Mode of Cannabis Consumption Among Past Year Users in Grades 9-12, Peel and Ontario, 2017

Frequency	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=120	Ontario n=777
Smoked joint	80.5 (71.6 - 87.1)	72.9 (67.6 - 77.6)
Smoked blunt	47.3 (34.1 - 61.0)	34.9 (30.1 - 40.1)
Smoked pipe/bong	67.5 (58.4 - 75.4)	78.2 (72.3 - 83.1)
E-cigarette/vape pen/vaporizer	24.9* (16.1 - 36.5)	25.8 (20.0 - 32.7)
Waterpipe (hookah)	16.4* (9.4 - 27.0)	14.4 (10.9 - 18.8)
Food (e.g., brownie, cookie)	43.9 (33.6 - 54.7)	39.6 (33.6 - 45.9)
Drink (e.g., tea)	NR	8.7* (5.6 - 13.2)

* Use estimate with caution.

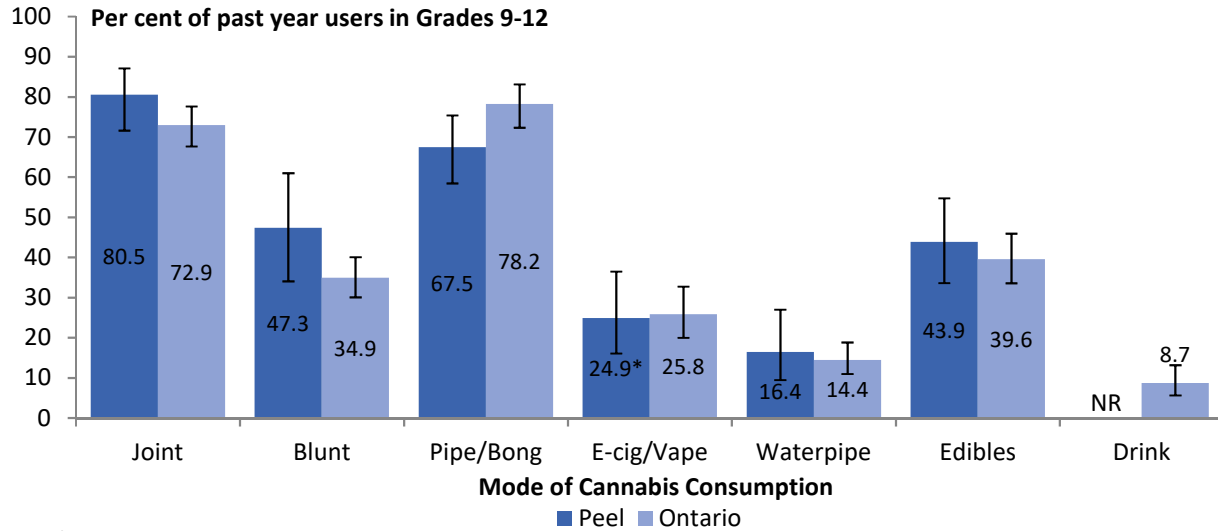
NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 3.2
Mode of Cannabis Consumption Among Grades 9-12 Students who Used Cannabis in the Past Year, Peel and Ontario, 2017



Peel n=120; Ontario n=777

* Use estimate with caution.

NR = Not releasable due to small numbers.

Notes: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.12
Mode of Cannabis Consumption Among Past Year Users in Grades 9-12 by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2017

Mode of Cannabis Consumption	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Sex		Grade			
	Male	Female	9	10	11	12
Smoked (joint)	79.9 (60.8 - 91.1)	81.1 (67.5 - 89.8)	73.7 (51.2 - 88.2)	62.6* (39.6 - 81.0)	77.8 (54.1 - 91.2)	88.9 (75.4 - 95.5)
Smoked (blunt)	59.1* (36.0 - 78.9)	35.1* (23.7 - 48.5)	NR	35.9* (19.6 - 56.3)	43.7* (20.5 - 70.1)	52.5 (37.2 - 67.4)
Smoked (pipe/bong)	76.5 (64.0 - 85.6)	58.2 (44.6 - 70.6)	NR	44.7* (24.3 - 67.1)	73.2 (54.5 - 86.2)	78.5 (61.9 - 89.1)
E-cigarette, vape pen, vaporizer	33.9* (19.1 - 52.7)	15.6* (10.2 - 23.0)	NR	NR	NR	NR
Waterpipe (hookah)	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Food	50.8* (33.6 - 67.7)	36.8* (24.2 - 51.4)	NR	NR	56.5* (35.9 - 75.0)	49.2* (32.0 - 66.6)
Drink	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Tried Cannabis for the First Time in the Last Year

In 2017, 8% of Peel students tried marijuana for the first time in the last 12 months before the survey. This is comparable to Ontario (9%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, have you tried cannabis (marijuana or hashish, “weed”) for the very first time?

Table 3.13

Students in Grades 7-12 who Tried Cannabis for the First Time in the Past Year†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

First Time Trying Cannabis in Past Year	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,043	2015 n=566	2017 n=831	2013 n=4,770	2015 n=5,012	2017 n=5,026
Yes	4.9* (3.3 - 7.1)	11.4* (7.4 - 17.1)	7.8 (5.6 - 10.8)	8.8 (7.5 - 10.5)	9.6 (8.2 - 11.1)	8.6 (7.2 - 10.1)
No	20.7 (17.1 - 24.9)	16.0 (11.3 - 22.3)	14.3 (11.1 - 18.2)	23.6 (21.2 - 26.3)	21.2 (19.1 - 23.4)	19.3 (17.3 - 21.6)
Never tried it	74.4 (70.1 - 78.4)	72.6 (65.7 - 78.6)	77.9 (74.1 - 81.2)	67.5 (64.7 - 70.2)	69.3 (66.5 - 71.9)	72.1 (68.8 - 75.2)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.14

Students in Grades 7-12 who Tried Cannabis for the First Time in the Past Year by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,043	2015 n=566	2017 n=831
Sex			
Male	5.8* (3.5 - 9.3)	9.9* (6.3 - 15.3)	7.0* (3.6 - 13.1)
Female	3.9* (2.2 - 6.6)	12.9* (7.6 - 21.1)	8.6 (6.9 - 10.7)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	NR	NR	NR
9	6.1* (3.4 - 10.9)	NR	NR
10	NR	19.1* (11.9 - 29.3)	14.4* (9.7 - 21.0)
11	6.5* (3.7 - 11.1)	NR	11.1* (6.6 - 18.0)
12	5.5* (2.8 - 10.5)	22.1* (10.9 - 39.8)	14.4* (8.4 - 23.5)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Grade First Tried Cannabis – All Students

In 2017, 5%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students tried cannabis for the first time in Grade 9. This is similar to Ontario (6%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: When, if ever, did you first try cannabis (also known as marijuana, weed, pot, grass, hashish, hash, hash oil)?

Table 3.15
Grade First Tried Cannabis Among Grade 7-12 Students,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Grade First Tried Cannabis	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,091	2015 n=1,144	2017 n=1,617	2013 n=10,203	2015 n=10,348	2017 n=11,360
Never tried it	82.0 (78.8 - 84.9)	76.7 (70.7 - 81.8)	82.0 (78.9 - 84.7)	73.0 (70.4 - 75.5)	75.5 (73.2 - 77.6)	78.1 (76.0 - 80.0)
Grade 6 or earlier	NR	NR	NR	1.6* (1.2 - 2.3)	1.1 (0.8 - 1.4)	0.9 (0.6 - 1.2)
Grade 7	1.2* (0.8 - 1.9)	1.7* (0.8 - 3.2)	1.1* (0.7 - 1.7)	2.2 (1.7 - 2.9)	1.8 (1.4 - 2.3)	1.6 (1.2 - 2.1)
Grade 8	2.3* (1.5 - 3.4)	2.1* (1.5 - 3.0)	2.2* (1.5 - 3.2)	3.7 (2.9 - 4.5)	3.7 (3.2 - 4.4)	2.8 (2.4 - 3.3)
Grade 9	6.6 (4.8 - 9.1)	7.5* (4.9 - 11.2)	4.9* (3.8 - 6.2)	8.3 (7.0 - 9.7)	6.9 (6.0 - 8.0)	6.4 (5.6 - 7.4)
Grade 10	3.9 (3.0 - 5.2)	5.4 (3.8 - 7.6)	4.7* (3.4 - 6.3)	6.5 (5.5 - 7.7)	6.2 (5.4 - 7.1)	5.9 (4.9 - 7.0)
Grade 11	2.7* (1.9 - 3.8)	3.4* (2.2 - 5.2)	3.2* (2.1 - 4.7)	3.3 (2.7 - 3.9)	3.6 (3.1 - 4.1)	3.1 (2.7 - 3.7)
Grade 12	0.8* (0.4 - 1.4)	2.8* (1.6 - 4.9)	1.6* (0.9 - 2.6)	1.4 (1.0 - 1.8)	1.3 (0.9 - 1.7)	1.3 (1.0 - 1.7)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.16
Grade First Tried Cannabis Among Grade 7-12 Students by Sex,
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Grade First Tried Cannabis	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	2013 n=2,091		2015 n=1,144		2017 n=1,617	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Never tried it	80.2 (76.4 - 83.5)	84.0 (80.4 - 87.1)	77.3 (69.1 - 83.8)	76.1 (69.5 - 81.6)	82.1 (78.3 - 85.4)	81.9 (78.2 - 85.1)
Grade 6 or earlier	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Grade 7	1.7* (0.9 - 3.1)	NR	NR	1.4* (0.7 - 2.7)	NR	1.0* (0.6 - 1.7)
Grade 8	2.4* (1.4 - 4.1)	2.1* (1.3 - 3.5)	2.1* (1.2 - 3.6)	NR	1.9* (1.1 - 3.3)	2.4* (1.7 - 3.5)
Grade 9	8.2 (5.9 - 11.3)	5.0* (3.1 - 7.7)	7.2* (4.0 - 12.6)	7.7* (4.7 - 12.4)	6.1 (4.4 - 8.4)	3.5* (2.4 - 5.1)
Grade 10	3.0* (1.8 - 4.8)	5.0 (3.7 - 6.8)	4.5* (2.9 - 7.1)	6.4* (4.3 - 9.3)	3.7* (2.2 - 6.2)	5.7 (4.1 - 7.9)
Grade 11	3.3* (2.0 - 5.3)	2.1* (1.4 - 3.2)	3.5* (1.8 - 6.8)	3.3* (1.7 - 6.3)	NR	3.3* (2.1 - 5.1)
Grade 12	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	1.8* (1.0 - 3.1)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Grade First Tried Cannabis – Past Year Users

In 2017, 26% of Peel past year users tried cannabis for the first time in Grade 9. This is similar to Ontario (29%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Table 3.17
Grade First Tried Cannabis Among Past Year Users[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Grade First Tried Cannabis	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=294	2015 n=179	2017 n=261	2013 n=1,764	2015 n=1,914	2017 n=1,895
Grade 6 or earlier	NR	NR	NR	5.8 (4.0 - 8.3)	3.3 (2.4 - 4.6)	3.6* (2.6 - 5.1)
Grade 7	6.2* (3.7 - 10.2)	6.4* (3.2 - 12.5)	5.6* (3.4 - 9.1)	8.3 (6.3 - 10.8)	6.8 (5.1 - 9.2)	6.9 (5.1 - 9.3)
Grade 8	13.2* (8.9 - 19.1)	8.2* (5.2 - 12.7)	12.3* (8.6 - 17.2)	13.6 (11.1 - 16.7)	15.6 (13.6 - 17.9)	12.1 (9.8 - 14.8)
Grade 9	35.6 (28.6 - 43.3)	31.6* (21.2 - 44.3)	26.4 (20.7 - 33.0)	30.5 (26.9 - 34.4)	28.1 (25.5 - 30.9)	28.5 (25.5 - 31.8)
Grade 10	21.0 (15.7 - 27.5)	23.8 (17.8 - 31.0)	24.1 (17.4 - 32.2)	23.6 (19.9 - 27.8)	25.2 (22.7 - 27.9)	26.2 (22.2 - 30.7)
Grade 11	15.8* (11.0 - 22.1)	15.3 (10.8 - 21.2)	18.0* (12.2 - 25.8)	12.1 (9.9 - 14.8)	14.4 (12.4 - 16.6)	14.9 (12.8 - 17.3)
Grade 12	NR	12.1* (7.5 - 18.8)	9.6* (5.6 - 15.8)	5.2 (3.8 - 7.0)	5.6 (4.2 - 7.3)	6.2 (4.7 - 8.0)

[†] Includes students who used cannabis at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.18
Grade First Tried Cannabis Among Past Year Users by Sex[†],
Peel, 2013 - 2015

Grade First Tried Cannabis	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)					
	2013 n=294		2015 n=179		2017 n=261	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Grade 6 or earlier	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Grade 7	7.8* (4.2 - 14.2)	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Grade 8	11.8* (6.8 - 19.8)	15.0* (9.4 - 23.1)	NR	NR	10.3* (5.7 - 17.8)	14.5 (10.3 - 20.1)
Grade 9	40.7 (30.7 - 51.6)	28.6 (20.7 - 38.1)	31.2* (19.5 - 45.8)	32.0* (19.4 - 47.9)	31.7* (21.9 - 43.6)	20.3 (14.5 - 27.6)
Grade 10	13.8* (7.8 - 23.4)	30.8 (22.6 - 40.3)	21.1* (13.2 - 31.9)	26.2 (18.7 - 35.5)	20.0* (11.4 - 32.8)	28.7 (20.1 - 39.1)
Grade 11	16.9* (10.0 - 27.1)	14.2* (9.0 - 21.6)	NR	14.7* (8.2 - 25.0)	17.9* (9.0 - 32.5)	18.2* (10.6 - 29.3)
Grade 12	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	11.0* (5.5 - 20.7)

[†] Includes students who used cannabis at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Used Cannabis for Medical Purpose – All Students (Grades 9 -12)

In 2017, 3%* (*use estimate with caution) of Grade 9 -12 students in Peel used cannabis for medical purposes. This is lower than Ontario (7%).

Comparisons by sex and grade are not possible due to small numbers.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, have you used cannabis (in any form) to manage pain, nausea, or any other medical problem?

Table 3.19
**Use of Cannabis for Medical Purposes Among Grade 9-12 Students[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2017**

	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=601	Ontario n=3,255
Used cannabis for medical purposes in past year	3.2* (1.9 - 5.3)	6.8 (5.4 - 8.5)

[†] Asked of half the sample of students in grades 9 to 12.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.20

Used Cannabis for Medical Purposes Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade[†], Peel, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)
	2017 n=601
Sex	
Male	4.8* (2.4 - 9.3)
Female	NR
Grade	
7	NR
8	NR
9	NR
10	NR
11	NR
12	NR

[†] Asked of half the sample of students in grades 9 to 12.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Used Cannabis for Medical Purpose – Past Year Users

In 2017, 14%* (*use estimate with caution) of past year users in Peel used cannabis for medical purposes. This is similar to Ontario (25%).

Comparisons by sex and grade were not possible due to small numbers.

Table 3.21
**Use of Cannabis for Medical Purposes Among Past Year Users^{†‡},
Peel and Ontario, 2017**

	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=119	Ontario n=779
Used cannabis for medical purposes in past year	13.9* (8.4 - 22.2)	24.7 (20.6 - 29.4)

† Asked of half the sample of students in grades 9 to 12.

‡ Includes students who used cannabis at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

Table 3.22
**Used Cannabis for Medical Purposes Among Past Year Users by Sex and Grade^{†‡},
Peel, 2017**

Demographics	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)
	2017 n=601
Sex	
Male	20.6* (11.1 - 35.0)
Female	NR
Grade	
7	NR
8	NR
9	NR
10	NR
11	NR
12	NR

† Asked of half the sample of students in grades 9 to 12.

‡ Includes students who used cannabis at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Intentions to Use Cannabis if Made Legal

In 2017, 8% of Peel students in Grades 7-12 would try cannabis if it was legalized. This is similar to Ontario (8%).

In Peel, students in younger grades were more likely than students in older grades to not use cannabis if it was legalized. Grade 7 students (85%) were almost two times more likely than Grade 12 students (46%) to not use cannabis when legalized. There are no differences by sex.

Survey Question: If cannabis use were made legal for adults tomorrow, which of the following would you be most likely to do in the next 12 months?

Table 3.23

Intentions to Use Cannabis if Legalized Among Grade 7-12 Students[†], Peel and Ontario, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=830	Ontario n=5,019
Not use it	67.7 (62.6 - 72.3)	62.1 (59.3 - 64.8)
Try it	7.7 (5.7 - 10.3)	8.1 (6.5 - 9.9)
Use it the same	7.9 (5.9 - 10.5)	11.4 (9.6 - 13.5)
Use it more	3.0* (1.7 - 5.1)	3.6 (2.9 - 4.6)
Use it less	NR	NR
Not sure	13.2 (10.3 - 16.7)	14.2 (12.7 - 15.8)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.24
Intentions to Use Cannabis if Legalized by Sex and Grade[†],
Peel, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Not Use It	Try It	Use It the Same	Use It More	Use It Less	Not Sure
Sex						
Male	68.3 (60.7 - 74.9)	5.8* (3.6 - 9.1)	9.2* (5.9 - 13.9)	NR	NR	13.5* (9.5 -18.8)
Female	67.1 (61.4 - 72.3)	9.6* (6.8 - 13.4)	6.7* (4.5 - 9.9)	3.2* (1.9 - 5.3)	NR	12.9 (9.4 -17.6)
Grade						
7	85.4 (79.0 - 90.1)	NR	NR	NR	NR	13.1* (8.4 -19.8)
8	84.5 (77.4 - 89.7)	NR	NR	NR	NR	12.0* (7.4 -18.8)
9	68.9 (57.8 - 78.2)	NR	NR	NR	NR	19.7* (13.2 -28.4)
10	70.5 (60.8 - 78.7)	11.1* (6.3 - 18.8)	7.4* (4.2 - 12.5)	NR	NR	8.1* (4.5 -14.3)
11	52.8 (37.6 - 67.4)	10.4* (5.6 - 18.6)	11.7* (6.9 - 19.2)	NR	NR	18.6* (11.0 -29.8)
12	46.4 (36.5 - 56.6)	13.2* (7.9 -21.2)	22.0 (15.8 -29.8)	NR	NR	9.5 (5.2 -16.7)*

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Source of Cannabis

In 2017, among Peel past year users, the most common source of cannabis was gifted by a friend (32%* - use estimate with caution). This is similar to Ontario (29%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex. Estimates across grades were not comparable due to small numbers.

The 2017 estimates are similar to the 2015 estimates.

Table 3.25
Usual Source of Cannabis Among Past Year Users in Grades 7-12^{†‡},
Peel and Ontario, 2015, 2017

Usual Source of Cannabis	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)			
	Peel		Ontario	
	2015 n=82	2017 n=120	2015 n=915	2017 n=804
Bought from friend	26.7* (16.0 - 41.1)	21.3* (10.9-37.5)	25.9 (21.9 - 30.5)	19.2 (15.4 - 23.7)
Shared around a group of friends	24.0* (15.3 - 35.7)	23.1* (14.4-34.9)	26.7 (22.6 - 31.4)	27.4 (23.7 - 31.3)
Given by friend	19.7* (10.7 - 33.4)	31.5* (21.5-43.5)	26.6 (22.9 - 30.8)	28.7 (24.2 - 33.6)
Bought it from someone I have heard about, but do not know personally	NR	8.8* (4.8-15.5)	5.9* (3.7 - 9.2)	9.6* (5.6 - 16.0)
Other	NR	NR	7.5 (5.5 - 10.1)	8.6 (6.4 - 11.5)
Do not remember	NR	NR	4.7* (3.0 - 7.2)	NR

† Asked of half the sample.

‡ Includes students who used cannabis at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

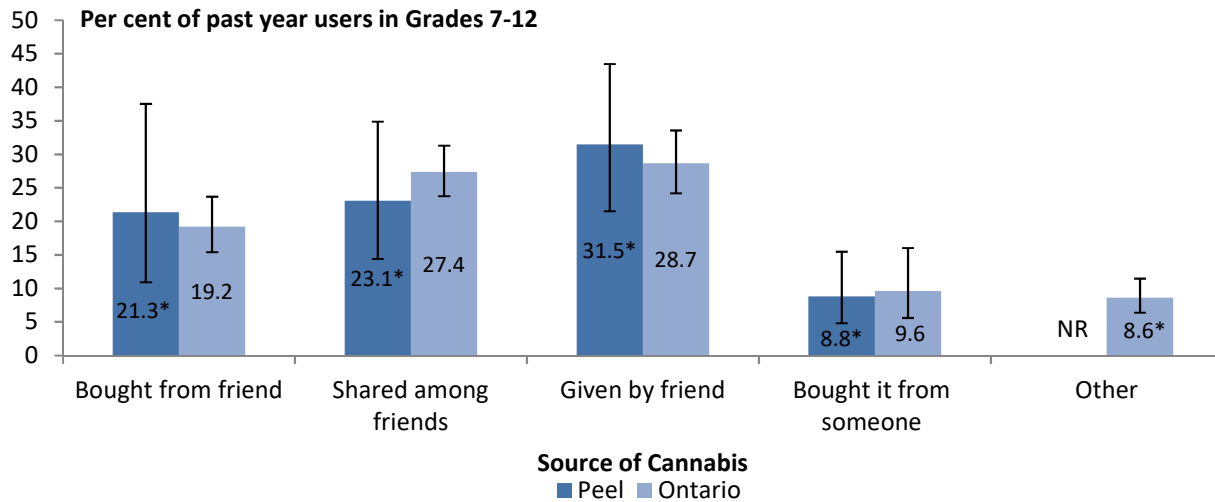
NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 3.3
Usual Source of Cannabis Among Grades 7-12 Students who Used Cannabis in the Past Year,
Peel and Ontario, 2017



Peel n=120; Ontario n=804

* Use estimate with caution.

NR = Not releasable due to small numbers.

Notes: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.26

Shared Around Group of Friends as the Usual Source of Cannabis Among Past Year Users in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade^{†‡}, Peel and Ontario, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)	
	2015 n=82	2017 n=120
Sex		
Male	24.7* (12.5 - 42.8)	29.9* (15.0 - 50.7)
Female	NR	32.1 (23.3 - 42.4)
Grade		
7	NR	NR
8	NR	NR
9	NR	NR
10	NR	NR
11	NR	NR
12	35.9* (21.0 - 54.1)	25.0* (12.2 - 44.6)

† Asked of half the sample.

‡ Includes students who used cannabis at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Cannabis Severity Dependence Scale – All Students (Grades 9-12)

The *Cannabis Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS)* is a validated five item instrument used to screen for dependence in adolescent populations.^{4,5} Five questions from the SDS were asked of Grade 9 - 12 students:

1. *In the last 3 months, how often was your marijuana use out of control?*
2. *In the last 3 months, how often did the idea of missing smoking marijuana make you anxious or worried?*
3. *In the last 3 months, how much did you worry about your use of marijuana?*
4. *In the last 3 months, how often did you wish you could stop using marijuana?*
5. *How difficult would it be for you to stop or go without using marijuana?*

Each question was scored on a four-point scale and the scores were summed. A score of four or more (out of 15) indicates potential cannabis dependence.

In 2017, the estimates on Peel students (all students and past year users) with symptoms of marijuana dependence were not releasable due to small numbers.

Table 3.27
**Students in Grades 9-12 who Exhibit Symptoms of Cannabis Dependence^{†‡},
Peel and Ontario, 2015, 2017**

	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=718	2015 n=342	2017 n=596	2013 n=3,244	2015 n=3,133	2017 n=3,221
Symptoms of cannabis dependence	1.8* (1.0 - 3.5)	NR	NR	2.7* (1.9 - 3.8)	2.2* (1.5 - 3.2)	1.9* (1.3 - 2.8)

[†] Asked of half the sample of students in grades 9 to 12.

[‡] Indicated by a score of 4 or more (out of 15) on the Cannabis Severity of Dependence Scale.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Cannabis Severity Dependence Scale – Past Year Users

Table 3.28

**Past Year Users in Grades 9-12 who Exhibit Symptoms of Cannabis Dependence^{†‡},
Peel and Ontario, 2015, 2017**

	Per cent of Past Year Students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=145	2015 n=76	2017 n=116	2013 n=862	2015 n=850	2017 n=762
Symptoms of cannabis dependence	2.7* (1.9 - 3.8)	NR	NR	8.9* (6.4 - 12.4)	7.2* (5.1 - 10.2)	7.2* (5.0 - 10.3)

[†] Asked of half the sample of students in grades 9 to 12.

[‡] Indicated by a score of 4 or more (out of 15) on the Cannabis Severity of Dependence Scale.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Lifetime Use of Synthetic Cannabis

Synthetic cannabis is a type of herbal mixture of plant material, preservatives, fragrance, and chemicals that contains synthetic cannabinoid compounds. It is usually smoked and is illegal in Canada.

In 2017, 1.3%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students used synthetic cannabis in their lifetime. This is similar to Ontario (1.7%).

In Peel, comparisons by grade and sex were not possible due to small numbers.

The 2017 estimates are similar to the 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, how often did you use the Drug “Spice” (also known as “K2”, “K3”, “Blaze”, “Black Mamba”, “Legal Weed”, Fake Pot”?

Table 3.29

Lifetime Use of Synthetic Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7-12, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Lifetime Use	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,085	2015 n=1,151	2017 n=1,667	2013 n=10,182	2015 n=10,373	2017 n=11,333
Spice/Synthetic Cannabis	1.0* (0.6 - 1.7)	1.7* (0.9 - 3.2)	1.3* (0.8 - 2.1)	2.3 (1.7 - 3.0)	1.6 (1.2 - 2.1)	1.7 (1.3 - 2.4)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Past Year Use of Synthetic Cannabis

In 2017, 1.2%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students used synthetic cannabis in the past year. This is similar to Ontario (1.5%* - use estimate with caution).

In Peel, comparisons by grade and sex are not possible due to small numbers.

The 2017 estimates are similar to the 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, how often did you use the Drug “Spice” (also known as “K2”, “K3”, “Blaze”, “Black Mamba”, “Legal Weed”, Fake Pot”?

Table 3.30
Past Year Use of Synthetic Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Past Year Use	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,085	2015 n=1,151	2017 n=1,667	2013 n=10,182	2015 n=10,373	2017 n=11,333
Spice/Synthetic Cannabis	0.9* (0.5 - 1.7)	NR	1.2* (0.7 - 2.0)	1.8* (1.2 - 2.6)	1.3 (0.9 - 1.7)	1.5* (1.1 - 2.2)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS ON CANNABIS ACCESS AND USE

Perceived Access to Cannabis

In 2017, 37% of Peel students reported that it is fairly or very easy to access cannabis if they wanted some. This is comparable to Ontario (42%).

In Peel, students in Grade 11 (61%) and Grade 12 (70%) were more likely than Grade 9 students (29%* - use estimate with caution) to perceive access to cannabis as fairly/very easy. There are no differences by sex.

In Ontario, fewer students perceived access to cannabis as fairly/very easy in 2017 (42%) compared to 2013 (51%). This trend was not seen among Peel students.

Survey Question: How easy would it be for you to get marijuana (also known as marijuana, weed, hash) if you wanted some?

Table 3.31
Perceived Access to Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7-12†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Access to Cannabis	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,037	2015 n=559	2017 n=822	2013 n=4,733	2015 n=4,966	2017 n=4,992
Probably impossible	20.2 (17.7 - 23.0)	18.1 (15.0 - 21.6)	23.7 (18.1 - 30.4)	17.5 (15.7 - 19.4)	17.8 (16.3 - 19.4)	19.1 (15.5 - 23.3)
Fairly/very difficult	16.2 (13.2 - 19.7)	15.6 (11.5 - 20.9)	15.8 (12.7 - 19.4)	14.8 (13.0 - 16.7)	16.3 (14.6 - 18.0)	17.8 (15.7 - 20.0)
Fairly/very easy	43.7 (38.6 - 48.9)	43.8 (36.3 - 51.7)	36.7 (31.5 - 42.3)	50.5 (47.5 - 53.4)	46.0 (43.4 - 48.7)	41.6 (38.3 - 45.0)
Don't know	19.9 (17.6 - 22.5)	22.5 (18.3 - 27.2)	23.8 (19.8 - 28.3)	17.3 (15.5 - 19.2)	19.9 (18.2 - 21.7)	21.5 (19.5 - 23.7)

†Asked of half the sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.32

Perceived Fairly/Very Easy Access to Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,037	2015 n=559	2017 n=822
Sex			
Male	47.2 (40.6 - 53.8)	41.7 (32.2 - 51.9)	37.9 (29.8 - 46.8)
Female	39.9 (34.9 - 45.2)	46.2 (38.7 - 53.8)	35.6 (30.4 - 41.1)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	20.3* (13.9 - 28.7)	NR	NR
9	41.5 (33.5 - 50.0)	32.1* (19.6 - 47.8)	28.6* (19.2 - 40.3)
10	44.8 (34.8 - 55.2)	52.4 (35.5 - 68.7)	47.1 (36.6 - 57.9)
11	69.7 (57.9 - 79.5)	74.2 (60.5 - 84.4)	60.5 (51.0 - 69.3)
12	64.4 (56.4 - 71.7)	64.5 (47.0 - 78.7)	70.1 (63.9 - 75.6)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Cannabis

In 2017, 16% of Peel students and 11% of students in Ontario felt that there is “*great risk*” of harm associated with trying cannabis.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they try marijuana (“pot”, “grass”, “weed”) once or twice?

Table 3.33

Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7-12†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Risk of Harm	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,037	2015 n=558	2017 n=821	2013 n=4,736	2015 n=4,955	2017 n=4,975
No risk	25.7 (21.6 - 30.3)	28.3 (22.4 - 35.0)	25.6 (21.2 - 30.5)	30.3 (27.5 - 33.3)	31.1 (28.3 - 34.0)	28.9 (26.6 - 31.3)
Slight risk	30.1 (26.9 - 33.5)	27.4 (22.9 - 32.4)	28.0 (24.4 - 31.9)	30.3 (27.8 - 33.0)	29.1 (27.0 - 31.3)	32.4 (30.2 - 34.6)
Medium risk	16.2 (13.5 - 19.3)	17.4 (13.9 - 21.6)	14.3 (11.4 - 17.8)	15.5 (13.7 - 17.5)	16.4 (14.8 - 18.2)	14.1 (12.6 - 15.8)
Great risk	15.6 (13.0 - 18.7)	15.1 (12.1 - 18.7)	16.3 (12.9 - 20.5)	11.9 (10.4 - 13.5)	12.2 (10.4 - 14.2)	11.4 (9.0 - 14.3)
Don't know	12.4 (10.3 - 14.8)	11.8* (7.5 - 18.0)	15.8 (11.8 - 20.9)	12.0 (10.1 - 14.3)	11.3 (9.7 - 13.1)	13.2 (11.5 - 15.2)

† Asked of half the sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.34

Perceived Great Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,037	2015 n=558	2017 n=821
Sex			
Male	14.6 (11.4 - 18.5)	14.7 (10.5 - 20.1)	16.2* (11.3 - 22.8)
Female	16.7 (12.8 - 21.6)	15.5* (10.4 - 22.5)	16.4 (11.6 - 22.7)
Grade			
7	25.1* (15.0 - 38.9)	26.2* (14.1 - 43.5)	33.7* (21.6 - 48.3)
8	20.2 (16.9 - 24.1)	33.0 (27.7 - 38.8)	26.8 (20.6 - 34.2)
9	17.9* (11.7 - 26.3)	14.1* (7.8 - 24.0)	14.6* (9.1 - 22.5)
10	12.6* (7.5 - 20.6)	NR	9.5* (4.8 - 17.8)
11	12.6* (7.9 - 19.4)	NR	NR
12	9.5* (5.7 - 15.4)	NR	7.4* (4.2 - 12.5)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Using Cannabis Regularly

In 2017, almost half of Peel students (47%) believed that there is a “*great risk*” of harm associated with *using cannabis regularly*. This is similar to Ontario students (40%).

In Peel, students in younger grades were more likely to perceive regular use of cannabis to be associated with a “*great risk*” of harm. More students in Grade 7 (69%) perceived that there is a “*great risk*” of harm, compared to 21% of students in Grade 12.

The prevalence of Grade 12 students who believe there is a “*great risk*” of harm with regular use of cannabis has decreased from 38% in 2013 to 21% in 2017.

Survey Question: *We would like to know your opinions on the effects of doing certain drugs. How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically, or in other ways, if they smoke marijuana regularly?*

Table 3.35

Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Using Cannabis Regularly Among Grades 7-12 Students†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Risk of Harm	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,038	2015 n=557	2017 n=817	2013 n=4,739	2015 n=4,940	2017 n=4,961
No risk	6.2 (4.5 - 8.4)	8.0* (5.4 - 11.7)	5.5* (3.5 - 8.7)	6.2 (4.9 - 7.7)	8.5 (6.9 - 10.3)	6.8 (5.9 - 7.8)
Slight risk	13.3 (10.7 - 16.3)	13.1* (8.5 - 19.7)	13.4 (10.1 - 17.6)	16.6 (14.9 - 18.6)	14.7 (13.0 - 16.5)	17.6 (15.8 - 19.6)
Medium risk	18.9 (16.2 - 21.9)	19.8 (15.4 - 25.0)	22.7 (18.6 - 27.4)	24.1 (22.1 - 26.1)	22.7 (20.8 - 24.7)	24.8 (22.3 - 27.5)
Great risk	52.5 (47.9 - 57.0)	49.3 (43.3 - 55.4)	47.4 (42.6 - 52.3)	44.4 (41.8 - 47.0)	44.2 (41.7 - 46.8)	39.8 (35.6 - 44.2)
Don't know	9.2 (7.4 - 11.3)	9.8* (6.9 - 13.9)	10.9 (7.9 - 14.9)	8.8 (7.3 - 10.6)	9.9 (8.3 - 11.9)	11.0 (9.5 - 12.7)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.36

Perceived Great Risk of Harm Associated with Using Cannabis Regularly Among Grades 7-12 Students by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,038	2015 n=557	2017 n=817
Sex			
Male	42.5 (37.3 - 48.0)	44.5 (35.6 - 53.8)	41.0 (33.1 - 49.4)
Female	63.1 (56.7 - 69.0)	54.6 (47.9 - 61.0)	53.5 (48.7 - 58.2)
Grade			
7	68.2 (58.1 - 76.8)	72.5 (59.3 - 82.6)	69.4 (59.6 - 77.7)
8	59.7 (53.4 - 65.7)	72.7 (58.8 - 83.3)	70.7 (62.6 - 77.6)
9	65.7 (56.7 - 73.7)	56.5 (41.4 - 70.5)	53.9 (44.2 - 63.3)
10	46.0 (38.4 - 53.7)	39.7 (28.6 - 52.0)	38.7 (29.2 - 49.2)
11	46.2 (38.1 - 54.6)	32.9 (27.2 - 39.3)	35.2 (25.2 - 46.6)
12	37.7 (28.6 - 47.8)	35.3* (22.5 - 50.8)	21.0 (15.3 - 28.1)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Disapproval of Adults Trying Cannabis

In 2017, approximately one-third (34%) of Peel students strongly disapproved of adults *trying cannabis*. This is higher than the Ontario estimate (26%).

In Peel, students in younger grades were more likely than those in older grades to strongly disapprove of adults *trying cannabis*. Approximately, one-half (48%) of students in Grade 7 strongly disapproved, compared to 13%* (*use estimate with caution) of Grade 12 students. There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: Do you disapprove of adults age 18 and older trying marijuana (“pot”, “grass”, “weed”) once or twice?

Table 3.37

Disapproval of Adults Trying Cannabis Among Students in Grades 7-12†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Disapproval	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,030	2015 n=555	2017 n=812	2013 n=4,696	2015 n=4,906	2017 n=4,933
Do not disapprove	34.5 (30.6 - 38.5)	39.0 (32.7 - 45.6)	36.6 (31.5 - 42.2)	38.9 (35.7 - 42.2)	40.3 (37.2 - 43.5)	44.6 (42.1 - 47.2)
Disapprove	33.4 (30.1 - 36.8)	27.6 (22.5 - 33.3)	29.3 (24.4 - 34.7)	31.1 (28.7 - 33.6)	30.0 (27.8 - 32.4)	29.7 (27.3 - 32.1)
Strongly disapprove	32.2 (28.2 - 36.5)	33.4 (28.6 - 38.6)	34.0 (29.3 - 39.2)	30.0 (27.5 - 32.7)	29.7 (27.5 - 31.9)	25.7 (23.8 - 27.7)

† Asked of half the sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.38

**Strong Disapproval of Adults Trying Cannabis Among Grades 7-12 Students by Sex and Grade[†],
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017**

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,030	2015 n=555	2017 n=812
Sex			
Male	29.5 (24.6 - 35.0)	34.6 (27.4 - 42.5)	36.6 (29.7-44.2)
Female	35.0 (30.3 - 39.9)	32.2 (26.1 - 38.9)	31.5 (27.1-36.3)
Grade			
7	56.9 (43.5 - 69.3)	64.6 (51.6 - 75.7)	47.8 (39.0-56.8)
8	40.6 (30.1 - 52.0)	54.2* (34.2 - 72.9)	58.9 (44.2-72.2)
9	32.8 (26.3 - 39.9)	42.3 (33.2 - 51.9)	34.0 (27.8-40.9)
10	28.0 (22.5 - 34.2)	21.4* (14.1 - 31.2)	34.1 (25.4-44.1)
11	22.9 (17.8 - 28.9)	19.1* (12.2 - 28.7)	19.8* (12.6-29.8)
12	21.0* (14.0 - 30.4)	15.8* (8.8 - 26.7)	12.5* (6.6-22.4)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Disapproval of Adults Smoking Cannabis Regularly

In 2017, approximately half of Peel students (54%) “*strongly disapproved*” of adults using cannabis regularly. This is higher than the Ontario estimate (45%).

In Peel, students in younger grades were more likely than those in older grades to “*strongly disapprove*” of adults using cannabis regularly. Approximately three-quarters of Grade 7 students (75%) strongly disapproved, compared to 24%* (*use estimate with caution) of Grade 12 students. There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: Do you disapprove of adults age 18 and older using cannabis regularly?

Table 3.39

Disapproval of Adults Using Cannabis Regularly Among Students in Grades 7-12†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Disapproval	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,029	2015 n=552	2017 n=812	2013 n=4,866	2015 n=4,892	2017 n=4,925
Do not disapprove	16.1 (13.3 - 19.2)	19.0 (14.3 - 24.8)	18.7 (15.2 - 22.8)	20.0 (17.3 - 23.0)	20.0 (18.2 - 21.8)	23.8 (21.7 - 26.1)
Disapprove	29.1 (25.8 - 32.6)	31.5 (27.1 - 36.3)	27.8 (24.1 - 31.8)	31.1 (28.5 - 33.9)	30.6 (28.5 - 32.7)	31.5 (29.1 - 34.1)
Strongly disapprove	54.8 (50.4 - 59.2)	49.5 (43.1 - 56.0)	53.6 (49.0 - 58.1)	48.9 (45.5 - 52.3)	49.4 (47.1 - 51.8)	44.7 (41.1 - 48.3)

† Asked of half the sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 3.40

Strong Disapproval of Adults Using Cannabis Regularly Among Grades 7-12 Students by Sex and Grade[†], Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,029	2015 n=552	2017 n=812
Sex			
Male	48.9 (41.9 - 55.8)	49.7 (41.0 - 58.4)	50.7 (42.9 - 58.4)
Female	61.2 (56.0 - 66.1)	49.3 (41.6 - 57.1)	56.4 (50.6 - 61.9)
Grade			
7	77.7 (67.2 - 85.5)	86.9 (74.9 - 93.7)	75.3 (58.7 - 86.7)
8	71.6 (57.0 - 81.0)	76.7 (59.4 - 88.1)	78.1 (68.9 - 85.2)
9	56.6 (47.3 - 65.5)	61.5 (48.7 - 72.9)	57.1 (48.8 - 65.0)
10	51.0 (44.9 - 57.1)	44.5 (34.2 - 55.4)	56.1 (47.8 - 64.0)
11	43.9 (36.7 - 51.5)	25.9 (18.3 - 35.4)	36.7 (28.7 - 45.5)
12	39.4 (30.2 - 49.4)	24.4* (15.2 - 36.7)	24.1* (16.6 - 33.6)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CHAPTER FOUR OTHER ILLICIT DRUGS

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2017, the most commonly used illicit drug (excluding cannabis and prescription drugs for non-medical purposes) in the last 12 months among Grade 9 - 12 students were hallucinogens (2%* - use estimate with caution) and ecstasy (2%* - use estimate with caution).
- In Peel, 9%* (*use estimate with caution) of Grade 7 - 12 students reported using inhalants (glue or solvents) to get high in the past 12 months. This is similar to Ontario (6%).
- Over one-in-ten (12%) students in grades 9 to 12 exhibited symptoms of a drug use problem. This is similar to Ontario (14%).
- Among grade 9 - 12 students, over one-third believed there is a “*great risk*” of harm associated with trying cocaine (35%) and ecstasy (34%) once or twice.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

OTHER ILLICIT DRUG USE

Lifetime Use of Other Illicit Drugs Among Grade 9-12 Students

Questions regarding the lifetime use of certain illicit drugs were restricted to students in grades 9 to 12 only.

In 2017, the most commonly used illicit drug among Peel high school students were hallucinogens (3%* - use estimate with caution). This is similar to Ontario (5%).

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, how often did you use _____?

- Psilocybin or mescaline (also known as *magic mushrooms, shrooms, mesc*)
- LSD or “acid”
- Cocaine (also known as *coke, blow, snow, powder, snort*)
- Cocaine in the form of “crack”
- MDMA or “ecstasy” (also known as *Molly, E, X*)
- Methamphetamine or crystal methamphetamine (also known as *speed, crystal meth, crank, Ice*)
- Heroin (also known as *H, junk, smack*)
- Fentanyl (also known as *greenies, shady 80s, fake Oxy, China white*)
- Jimson weed (also known as *locoweed, stinkweed, mad apple*)
- Mephedrone (also known as *bath salts, vanilla sky, bubbles, m-cat*)

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.1
Lifetime Use of Illicit Drugs Among Students in Grades 9-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Type of Drug	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013	2015	2017	2013	2015	2017
Hallucinogens	2.4 (1.8 - 3.3)	2.5* (1.3 - 4.7)	2.8* (1.9 - 4.3)	3.7 (2.7 - 5.1)	4.0 (3.1 - 5.1)	4.7 (3.8 - 5.8)
Ecstasy	1.8* (1.2 - 2.6)	4.7* (3.0 - 7.2)	2.6* (1.6 - 4.3)	3.3* (2.4 - 4.6)	6.3 (5.4 - 7.3)	3.9 (3.1 - 5.0)
Cocaine	1.6* (1.0 - 2.4)	2.4* (1.3 - 4.6)	1.8* (1.0 - 3.0)	2.4* (1.7 - 3.4)	3.2 (2.6 - 4.0)	3.4 (2.6 - 4.6)
LSD	NR	2.0* (1.0 - 4.2)	1.5* (0.9 - 2.6)	1.5* (1.0 - 2.1)	1.9 (1.5 - 2.4)	2.1 (1.6 - 2.8)
Crack	0.8* (0.5 - 1.4)	NR	NR	0.7* (0.5 - 1.1)	0.6* (0.4 - 0.9)	0.6* (0.3 - 1.1)
Methamphetamine	0.8* (0.4 - 1.4)	NR	NR	1.0* (0.6 - 1.5)	1.5* (1.0 - 2.3)	0.8* (0.5 - 1.4)
Jimsonweed	NR	NR	NR	1.3* (0.7 - 2.4)	1.9* (1.4 - 2.7)	1.1* (0.7 - 1.6)
Heroin	NR	NR	NR	NR	0.6* (0.4 - 0.9)	0.5* (0.3 - 0.9)
Bath salts	NR	NR	NR	NR	0.7* (0.5 - 1.2)	0.4* (0.3 - 0.7)
Fentanyl	--	--	NR	--	--	1.0* (0.6 - 1.7)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

-- Drug not asked in survey cycle.

Note: Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Past Year Use of Other Illicit Drugs Among Grade 9-12 Students

In 2017, the most commonly used illicit drug in the last 12 months among Peel students were hallucinogens (2%* - use estimate with caution). This is similar to Ontario (4%).

The 2017 estimates were similar to the 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, how often did you use _____?

Table 4.2
Use of Illicit Drugs in the Last 12 Months Among Students in Grades 9-12,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Type of Drug	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013	2015	2017	2013	2015	2017
Hallucinogens	2.4 (1.8 - 3.3)	2.3* (1.1 - 4.5)	2.4* (1.4 - 3.9)	3.7 (2.7 - 5.1)	3.2 (2.4 - 4.3)	4.0 (3.3 - 4.8)
Ecstasy	1.8* (1.2 - 2.6)	4.5* (2.9 - 7.0)	2.0* (1.1 - 3.4)	3.3* (2.4 - 4.6)	5.4 (4.5 - 6.4)	3.4 (2.6 - 4.4)
Cocaine	1.6* (1.0 - 2.4)	1.8* (0.9 - 3.5)	1.5* (0.8 - 2.7)	2.4* (1.7 - 3.4)	2.5 (2.0 - 3.2)	3.1 (2.2 - 4.2)
LSD	NR	NR	1.0* (0.6 - 1.6)	1.5* (1.0 - 2.1)	1.5 (1.1 - 2.0)	1.5 (1.1 - 2.0)
Crack	0.8* (0.5 - 1.4)	NR	NR	0.7* (0.5 - 1.1)	0.4* (0.2 - 0.6)	0.6* (0.3 - 1.0)
Methamphetamine	0.8* (0.4 - 1.4)	NR	NR	1.0* (0.6 - 1.5)	1.1* (0.7 - 1.8)	0.6* (0.3 - 1.1)
Jimsonweed	NR	NR	NR	1.3* (0.7 - 2.4)	1.8* (1.3 - 2.6)	0.8* (0.5 - 1.3)
Heroin	NR	NR	NR	NR	0.5* (0.3 - 0.7)	NR
Bath salts	NR	NR	NR	NR	0.7* (0.4 - 1.2)	NR
Fentanyl	--	--	NR	--	--	0.9* (0.5 - 1.6)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

-- Drug not asked in survey cycle.

Note: Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Tried Illicit Drugs for the First Time in Past Year

In 2017, 2%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students in grades 7 to 12 tried illicit drugs for this first time in the year before the survey. This is similar to Ontario (3%).

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months have you tried any other illegal drugs (such as ecstasy, cocaine etc.) for the very first time?*

Table 4.5

First Time Trying Illicit Drugs (Excluding Cannabis) in the Past 12 months Among Grade 7-12 Students[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,043	2015 n=569	2017 n=826	2013 n=4,763	2015 n=5,105	2017 n=5,035
First time trying illicit drugs in past year	NR	NR	2.3* (1.2 - 4.1)	2.6* (1.8 - 3.5)	3.7 (3.0 - 4.5)	2.8 (2.0 - 3.7)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Lifetime Use of Inhalants and Salvia Divinorum Among Grade 7-12 Students

The use of the inhalants and salvia divinorum was asked of all students in grades 7 to 12.

In 2017, 9%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students and 6% of students in Ontario reported using inhalants (glue or solvents) to get high at least once in their lifetime.

In Ontario, the lifetime use of salvia divinorum has decreased from 3% in 2013 to 1%* (*use estimate with caution) in 2017. Estimates for Peel are too small to be released.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, how often did you _____?

1. Sniff glue or solvents (for example airplane glue, nail polish remover, paint thinner, gasoline, etc.) in order to get high?
2. Use Salvia Divinorum (also known as “sally-D”, “magic mint”, “Sadi”)?

Table 4.3

Lifetime Use of Inhalants and Salvia Divinorum Among Students in Grades 7-12, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Type of Drug	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013	2015	2017	2013	2015	2017
Inhalants (glue/solvents)	6.7 (5.2 - 8.7)	5.7* (3.8 - 8.5)	9.1* (6.4 - 12.8)	5.5 (4.3 - 7.1)	4.3 (3.6 - 5.2)	5.9 (5.0 - 7.0)
Salvia Divinorum	2.0* (1.2 - 3.1)	NR	NR	3.4 (2.5 - 4.7)	2.0 (1.5 - 2.6)	0.7* (0.5 - 1.1)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Note: Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Past Year Use of Inhalants or Salvia Divinorum Among Grade 7-12 Students

In 2017, 6%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students and 3% of Ontario students used inhalants/glue to get high in the past 12 months.

In Ontario, past year use of salvia divinorum decreased from 3%* (*use estimate with caution) in 2013 to 1%* (*use estimate with caution) in 2017. Estimates for Peel are too small to be released.

Table 4.4
Past Year Use of Inhalants and Salvia Divinorum Among Students in Grades 7-12, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Type of Drug	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013	2015	2017	2013	2015	2017
Inhalants (glue/solvents)	4.2* (2.9 - 6.0)	3.0* (1.7 - 5.3)	6.3* (4.1 - 9.6)	3.4 (2.7 - 4.5)	2.8 (2.2 - 3.4)	3.4 (2.7 - 4.1)
Salvia Divinorum	1.5* (0.8 - 2.6)	NR	NR	2.6* (1.7 - 3.8)	1.6* (1.1 - 2.3)	0.6* (0.4 - 1.0)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Note: Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Problem Drug Use

The *CRAFFT* is a six-item behavioural screening tool designed to assess problem drug use in the adolescent population.^{4,6} *CRAFFT* is a mnemonic acronym of first letters of the key words in the following six screening questions:

In the last 12 months...?

1. *Did you ride in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been using drugs?*
2. *Did you use drugs to relax feel better or fit in?*
3. *Did you use drugs while you were by yourself (alone)?*
4. *Did you forget things you did while using drugs?*
5. *Did your family or friends tell you to cut down on your use of drugs?*
6. *Did you get in trouble while you were using drugs?*

Students responding “yes” to two or more of the above questions are classified as having a potential drug use problem that may require intervention.

In 2017, 12% of Peel students in grades 9 to 12 were classified as having a drug use problem, based on a score of two or more on the *CRAFFT* screening tool. This is similar to Ontario (14%).

In Peel, students in grade 12 (21%* - use estimate with caution) were more likely than Grade 9 (4%* - use estimate with caution) and Grade 10 (7%* - use estimate with caution) students to have a drug use problem. There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015 estimates.

Table 4.6
Drug Use Problem Among Grade 9-12 Students^{†‡},
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=720	2015 n=350	2017 n=678	2013 n=3,253	2015 n=3,419	2017 n=4,285
Drug use problem	12.7 (9.7 - 16.4)	16.9 (12.3 - 22.9)	11.9 (8.4 - 16.6)	16.8 (14.5 - 19.4)	16.1 (14.0 - 18.4)	13.6 (11.6 - 16.0)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

[‡] Indicated by a score of two or more on the *CRAFFT* Screening Tool.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.7

**Drug Use Problem Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade^{†‡},
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017**

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=720	2015 n=350	2017 n=678
Sex			
Male	12.6* (8.3 - 18.6)	14.9* (9.3 - 23.0)	10.7* (7.2 - 15.7)
Female	12.8 (9.4 - 17.2)	19.2* (11.5 - 30.2)	13.4* (8.6 - 20.4)
Grade			
9	5.8* (2.9 - 11.0)	NR	3.5* (1.9 - 6.3)
10	10.9* (6.9 - 16.9)	10.6* (6.4 - 17.1)	6.9* (3.7 - 12.3)
11	13.4 (10.0 - 17.8)	23.3* (14.6 - 35.2)	12.7* (6.5 - 23.2)
12	18.1* (10.6 - 29.2)	24.0* (15.6 - 34.9)	21.1* (14.3 - 29.9)

† Asked of half the sample.

‡ Indicated by a score of two or more on the CRAFFT Screening Tool.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS OF ILLICIT DRUG ACCESS AND USE

Perceived Access to Cocaine

In 2017, 11% of Peel students in grades 9 to 12 believed it is fairly or very easy to access cocaine. This is similar to Ontario students (14%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How easy or difficult would it be for you to get cocaine if you wanted some?

Table 4.8
Perceived Access to Cocaine Among Students in Grades 9-12†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Access to Cocaine	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=709	2015 n=344	2017 n=599	2013 n=2,875	2015 n=3,149	2017 n=3,251
Probably impossible	28.2 (23.7 - 33.1)	31.3 (27.3 - 35.7)	32.0 (27.1 - 37.3)	24.6 (21.7 - 27.7)	27.7 (25.1 - 30.5)	26.5 (24.3 - 28.9)
Fairly/very difficult	28.5 (24.5 - 32.9)	30.3 (26.1 - 34.8)	26.9 (22.2 - 32.1)	30.8 (28.2 - 33.5)	31.0 (28.5 - 33.5)	29.2 (27.0 - 31.4)
Fairly/very easy	12.3 (9.8 - 15.3)	10.0* (6.3 - 15.6)	11.4 (8.4 - 15.4)	14.4 (12.0 - 17.1)	13.2 (11.7 - 14.9)	13.5 (11.5 - 15.8)
Don't know	31.0 (27.4 - 34.8)	28.4 (24.6 - 32.4)	29.7 (25.4 - 34.3)	30.3 (27.6 - 33.1)	28.1 (25.5 - 30.9)	30.8 (28.0 - 33.6)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.9
Perceived Fairly or Very Easy Access to Cocaine Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=709	2015 n=344	2017 n=599
Sex			
Male	13.8 (10.1 - 18.6)	NR	14.1* (8.5 - 22.4)
Female	10.7 (8.5 - 13.5)	14.3* (9.2 - 21.5)	9.1 (6.8 - 12.3)
Grade			
9	8.6* (4.5 - 15.6)	NR	NR
10	7.3* (4.1 - 12.7)	NR	8.0* (4.6 - 13.6)
11	21.1* (14.0 - 30.5)	11.9* (6.7 - 20.1)	11.1* (5.5 - 20.9)
12	11.9* (7.7 - 18.0)	NR	18.5* (11.9 - 27.5)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Perceived Access to Ecstasy

In 2017, 12%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel and Ontario students believed it is fairly or very easy to access ecstasy.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

In Ontario, less students perceived ecstasy as fairly/very to access in 2017 (12%) compared to 2015 (19%). This trend was not seen among Peel students.

Survey Question: How easy or difficult would it be for you to get Ecstasy (MDMA) if you wanted some?

Table 4.10
Perceived Access to Ecstasy Among Students in Grades 9-12†,
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Access to Ecstasy	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=708	2015 n=344	2017 n=599	2013 n=2,873	2015 n=3,150	2017 n=3,249
Probably impossible	28.5 (24.2 - 33.3)	24.1 (19.6 - 29.3)	29.8 (25.2 - 34.9)	23.4 (21.0 - 26.0)	24.3 (22.1 - 26.6)	25.1 (23.2 - 27.1)
Fairly/very difficult	24.7 (20.9 - 29.0)	31.7 (25.6 - 38.5)	24.0 (20.3 - 28.0)	29.5 (27.7 - 31.4)	27.7 (25.4 - 30.2)	27.1 (24.9 - 29.5)
Fairly/very easy	12.4 (9.6 - 15.9)	14.0* (9.3 - 20.4)	11.5* (7.8 - 16.6)	13.7 (11.8 - 15.9)	19.2 (16.9 - 21.7)	12.4 (10.5 - 14.5)
Don't know	34.4 (30.8 - 38.2)	30.2 (23.6 - 37.7)	34.7 (30.5 - 39.3)	33.3 (30.4 - 36.3)	28.8 (25.9 - 32.0)	35.4 (32.7 - 38.2)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.11
Perceived Fairly or Very Easy Access to Ecstasy Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=708	2015 n=344	2017 n=599
Sex			
Male	14.2 (10.0 - 19.8)	12.4* (7.0 - 20.9)	14.8* (8.8 - 23.8)
Female	10.5 (7.7 - 14.1)	15.7* (10.1 - 23.5)	8.6* (5.4 - 13.7)
Grade			
9	NR	NR	NR
10	NR	NR	8.1* (4.4 - 14.4)
11	20.6 (14.6 - 28.2)	25.9* (14.2 - 42.6)	NR
12	15.9* (10.0 - 24.3)	NR	20.0* (12.7 - 30.1)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Perceived Access to LSD

In 2017, 9%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students and 8% of Ontario students believed it is fairly or very easy to access LSD.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How easy or difficult would it be for you to get LSD or “acid” if you wanted some?

Table 4.12

Perceived Access to LSD Among Students in Grades 9-12†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Access to LSD	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=708	2015 n=343	2017 n=599	2013 n=2,874	2015 n=3,149	2017 n=3,247
Probably impossible	30.0 (25.2 - 35.3)	28.6 (23.8 - 33.9)	31.7 (27.4 - 36.4)	26.4 (23.4 - 29.6)	27.7 (25.3 - 30.2)	27.3 (24.9 - 29.8)
Fairly/very difficult	23.6 (20.2 - 27.4)	26.7 (20.5 - 34.0)	22.9 (19.0 - 27.3)	29.5 (27.4 - 31.7)	29.4 (27.1 - 31.7)	26.7 (24.1 - 29.5)
Fairly/very easy	8.6 (6.1 - 12.0)	9.5* (6.1 - 14.5)	8.6* (5.5 - 13.4)	8.2 (6.8 - 9.9)	9.3 (7.8 - 11.0)	8.1 (6.7 - 9.8)
Don't know	37.8 (34.2 - 41.6)	35.2 (27.6 - 43.5)	36.8 (32.6 - 41.2)	35.9 (33.1 - 38.7)	33.7 (30.6 - 36.9)	37.9 (35.7 - 40.2)

† Asked of half the sample.

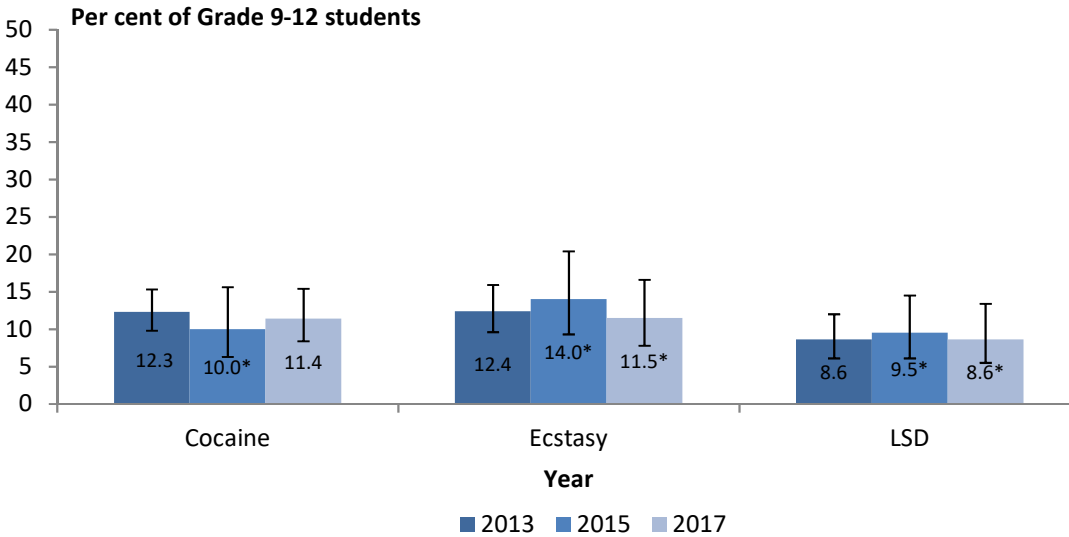
* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 4.1
Perceived Fairly or Very Easy Access to Cocaine, Ecstasy and LSD Among Grade 9–12 Students, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017



*Use estimate with caution.

NR = Not releasable due to small numbers.

Notes: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.13

Perceived Fairly or Very Easy Access to LSD Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=708	2015 n=343	2017 n=599
Sex			
Male	8.7* (5.0 - 14.8)	8.1* (3.9 - 16.0)	6.0* (4.0 - 9.0)
Female	8.4* (5.9 - 12.0)	11.0* (6.9 - 17.0)	11.6* (6.6 - 19.6)
Grade			
9	NR	NR	NR
10	NR	NR	7.6* (4.3 - 13.1)
11	15.3* (10.2 - 22.4)	16.7* (8.7 - 29.7)	NR
12	9.1* (4.5 - 17.6)	NR	14.8* (8.4 - 24.6)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Perceived Risk of Harm with Trying Cocaine

In 2017, 35% of Peel students in grades 9 to 12 believed that there is a “*great risk*” of harm associated with trying cocaine once or twice. This is similar to Ontario (36%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they try cocaine, once or twice?

Table 4.14

Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Cocaine Among Grades 9-12 Students†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Risk of Harm	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=707	2015 n=344	2017 n=599	2013 n=2,865	2015 n=3,145	2017 n=3,246
No risk	4.5* (3.1 - 6.5)	5.3* (3.0 - 9.2)	4.7* (3.0 - 7.4)	3.4 (2.6 - 4.6)	5.0 (3.9 - 6.4)	5.4 (4.2 - 6.8)
Slight risk	19.1 (15.5 - 23.3)	15.8 (10.9 - 22.3)	21.9 (17.8 - 26.6)	16.9 (14.5 - 19.7)	16.9 (15.2 - 18.6)	19.3 (17.1 - 21.7)
Medium risk	26.5 (22.0 - 31.5)	26.1 (19.4 - 34.2)	25.2 (21.5 - 29.4)	26.3 (23.4 - 29.4)	25.1 (22.8 - 27.6)	25.4 (22.8 - 28.2)
Great risk	36.6 (32.5 - 41.0)	40.3 (33.7 - 47.2)	34.9 (29.7 - 40.6)	42.1 (39.1 - 45.2)	41.4 (39.2 - 43.7)	35.7 (33.5 - 38.0)
Don't know	13.3 (9.9 - 17.7)	12.6* (6.9 - 21.8)	13.3* (8.7 - 19.7)	11.3 (8.9 - 14.1)	11.6 (9.9 - 13.5)	14.2 (12.3 - 16.3)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.15

Perceived Great Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Cocaine Among Grades 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=707	2015 n=344	2017 n=599
Sex			
Male	36.9 (32.2 - 41.9)	42.0 (36.2 - 48.0)	37.3 (28.6 - 46.9)
Female	36.3 (31.3 - 41.6)	38.4 (28.3 - 49.6)	32.8 (25.6 - 41.0)
Grade			
9	26.5 (18.6 - 36.3)	31.4* (20.7 - 44.4)	26.8* (18.5 - 37.1)
10	33.2 (26.6 - 40.4)	42.8 (32.2 - 54.1)	35.4 (25.4 - 46.8)
11	40.7 (33.1 - 48.7)	43.7* (28.9 - 59.7)	34.4 (26.2 - 43.7)
12	43.0 (32.6 - 54.1)	41.8 (28.9 - 55.9)	40.6 (30.4 - 51.6)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Perceived Risk of Harm with Trying Ecstasy

In 2017, 34% of Peel students in grades 9 to 12 believed that there is a “*great risk*” of harm associated with trying ecstasy once or twice. This is similar to Ontario (33%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they try ecstasy (MDMA) once or twice?

Table 4.16

Perceived Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Ecstasy Among Grades 9-12 Students†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Risk of Harm	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=707	2015 n=344	2017 n=600	2013 n=2,865	2015 n=3,145	2017 n=3,247
No risk	4.7 (3.4 - 6.5)	6.0* (3.4 - 10.2)	4.0* (2.0 - 7.7)	3.2 (2.4 - 4.2)	4.9 (3.7 - 6.4)	4.4 (3.2 - 6.0)
Slight risk	19.5 (16.2 - 23.4)	14.9 (10.9 - 20.1)	20.2 (15.3 - 26.2)	18.1 (15.7 - 20.8)	16.9 (15.2 - 18.8)	16.7 (14.9 - 18.6)
Medium risk	25.9 (22.2 - 30.1)	26.7 (21.0 - 33.3)	24.6 (21.6 - 28.0)	26.0 (23.5 - 28.7)	26.9 (24.6 - 29.4)	27.4 (25.0 - 29.9)
Great risk	32.4 (27.5 - 37.6)	35.6 (30.3 - 41.2)	33.9 (29.3 - 38.8)	36.6 (33.7 - 39.6)	36.9 (34.7 - 39.2)	33.2 (30.5 - 35.9)
Don't know	17.5 (13.9 - 21.8)	16.8* (10.0 - 27.0)	17.3 (12.6 - 23.2)	16.2 (13.7 - 19.0)	14.4 (12.5 - 16.4)	18.4 (16.3 - 20.6)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.17

Perceived Great Risk of Harm Associated with Trying Ecstasy Among Grades 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=707	2015 n=344	2017 n=600
Sex			
Male	29.0 (23.9 - 34.8)	34.9 (28.8 - 41.5)	31.8 (24.5 - 40.3)
Female	35.8 (29.8 - 42.4)	36.3 (27.8 - 45.7)	35.7 (28.4 - 43.7)
Grade			
9	24.7 (17.6 - 33.5)	28.7* (19.5 - 40.1)	27.6* (18.5 - 39.1)
10	32.3 (24.9 - 40.7)	36.8* (24.5 - 51.0)	38.1 (29.6 - 47.5)
11	37.2 (27.8 - 47.7)	35.9* (23.0 - 51.3)	33.9 (25.0 - 44.1)
12	34.1 (24.7 - 45.0)	39.0 (26.6 - 53.1)	35.2 (25.5 - 46.3)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Disapproval of Adults Trying Cocaine

In 2017, more than half (54%) of Peel students in grades 9 to 12 strongly disapproved of adults trying cocaine once or twice. This is similar to Ontario (48%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: Do you disapprove of adults (ages 18 and older) trying cocaine once or twice?

Table 4.18

Disapproval of Adults Trying Cocaine Among Students in Grades 9-12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Disapprove	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=702	2015 n=343	2017 n=596	2013 n=2,861	2015 n=3,136	2017 n=3,217
Don't disapprove	11.2 (9.1 - 13.7)	10.4 (7.3 - 14.6)	12.6 (9.0 - 17.5)	10.0 (7.9 - 12.7)	12.9 (11.4 - 14.5)	16.0 (14.3 - 17.9)
Disapprove	36.8 (32.8 - 41.1)	34.4 (27.8 - 41.7)	33.6 (27.7 - 40.0)	35.2 (32.3 - 38.3)	34.5 (31.9 - 37.3)	35.8 (33.2 - 38.5)
Strongly disapprove	52.0 (47.6 - 56.4)	55.2 (48.7 - 61.5)	53.8 (48.1 - 59.4)	54.8 (51.1 - 58.5)	52.6 (50.3 - 54.8)	48.2 (46.0 - 50.4)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.19

**Strong Disapproval of Adults Trying Cocaine Among Grades 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade[†],
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017**

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=702	2015 n=343	2017 n=596
Sex			
Male	52.6 (46.2 - 58.9)	58.4 (49.6 - 66.7)	51.9 (46.9 - 56.9)
Female	51.3 (45.5 - 57.1)	51.8 (43.5 - 60.0)	55.9 (46.8 - 64.6)
Grade			
9	49.9 (41.1 - 58.7)	62.2 (46.5 - 75.7)	54.2 (43.0 - 64.9)
10	50.8 (43.6 - 57.9)	49.0 (36.6 - 61.6)	60.4 (50.1 - 69.9)
11	54.7 (47.5 - 61.6)	49.4 (32.9 - 66.1)	55.1 (45.9 - 63.9)
12	52.3 (42.0 - 62.4)	59.5 (48.9 - 69.3)	48.0 (36.5 - 59.7)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Disapproval of Adults Trying Ecstasy

In 2019, 54% of Peel students and 49% of Ontario students in grades 9 to 12 strongly disapproved of adults trying ecstasy once or twice.

In Peel, students in grade 10 (65%) were more likely than Grade 12 students (45%) to strongly disapprove of adults trying ecstasy. There are no differences by sex.

In Ontario, less students strongly disapprove of adults trying ecstasy in 2017 (48%) compared to 2013 (55%). This trend was not seen among Peel students.

Survey Question: Do you disapprove of adults (ages 18 and older) trying ecstasy (MDMA) once or twice?

Table 4.20

Disapproval of Adults Trying Ecstasy Among Students in Grades 9-12†, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Disapprove	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=705	2015 n=343	2017 n=595	2013 n=2,861	2015 n=3,136	2017 n=3,218
Don't disapprove	12.0 (10.2 - 14.0)	13.5 (10.8 - 16.7)	12.8 (9.6 - 17.0)	12.1 (9.7 - 15.0)	15.0 (13.7 - 16.5)	15.8 (13.9 - 17.9)
Disapprove	33.2 (30.1 - 36.6)	33.9 (27.9 - 40.6)	33.5 (28.9 - 38.5)	32.6 (30.2 - 35.0)	34.1 (31.5 - 36.8)	36.0 (33.8 - 38.3)
Strongly disapprove	54.8 (51.4 - 58.2)	52.6 (47.0 - 58.1)	53.7 (48.3 - 59.0)	55.3 (52.0 - 58.6)	50.9 (48.4 - 53.3)	48.2 (45.4 - 51.0)

† Asked of half the sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 4.21

Strong Disapproval of Adults Trying Ecstasy Among Grades 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=705	2015 n=343	2017 n=595
Sex			
Male	54.8 (49.5 - 60.0)	52.4 (43.1 - 61.5)	51.2 (42.4 - 60.0)
Female	54.8 (49.4 - 60.1)	52.8 (44.3 - 61.0)	55.8 (50.3 - 61.2)
Grade			
9	53.2 (45.0 - 61.3)	57.0 (45.4 - 67.8)	53.6 (42.8 - 64.0)
10	52.7 (44.9 - 60.3)	49.1 (36.4 - 61.9)	64.5 (55.0 - 73.0)
11	58.2 (51.7 - 64.4)	44.6 (32.1 - 57.8)	55.3 (44.6 - 65.6)
12	54.9 (44.5 - 64.0)	58.4 (43.9 - 71.5)	45.1 (35.8 - 54.8)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

CHAPTER FIVE
NON-MEDICAL USE OF PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2017, 14% of Grade 9 - 12 students in Peel and Ontario reported using *any* prescription drugs for non-medical purposes in the last 12 months. This includes use of tranquilizers/sedatives, ADHD medication and/or opioid pain relievers.
- In Peel, 12% of students used opioid pain relief pills for non-medical purposes in the last 12 months. This is similar to Ontario (11%). The most common source of these pills is family members among Peel (57%) and Ontario (54%) students.
- Approximately 9% of Peel students reported using over-the-counter cough or cold medication for getting high in the last 12 months.
- Over one-third (39%) of Peel students believed that there is a “*great risk*” of harm associated with taking pain relief pills without a prescription.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

PRESCRIPTION DRUG USE FOR NON-MEDICAL PURPOSES

The use of prescription drugs for non-medical purposes is defined as use of a prescription drug without one's own prescription or without a doctor's recommendation to take the medication. There were several types of drugs that were included in these series of questions (Table 5.1):

- (1) **Opioid Pain Relief Pills:** This includes a general class of prescription pain relievers such as Percocet and Tylenol #3. Opioids can be dangerous when used without medical supervision because if taken with other depressant drugs (like alcohol) they can slow breathing and possibly cause death. Chronic abuse of opioids can lead to addiction.

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months, how often did you use pain relief pills (such as Percocet, Percodan, Tylenol #3, Demerol, Dilaudid OxyNEO, codeine) without a prescription or without a doctor telling you to take them? (We do not mean regular Tylenol, Advil, or Aspirin that anyone can buy at a drugstore.)*

- (2) **ADHD Medication:** This includes Ritalin and Concerta, Adderall and Dexedrine are stimulant drugs used to Treat Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in children. However, some people take these drugs without a prescription for various purposes including appetite suppression, wakefulness, increased focus, and euphoria.

Survey Question: *Sometimes doctors give medicine to students who are hyperactive or have problems concentrating in school. This is called Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). In the last 12 months, how often did you use medicine that is usually used to treat ADHD (such as Ritalin, Concerta, Adderall, Dexedrine) without a prescription or without a doctor telling you to take it?*

- (3) **Tranquilizers/Sedatives:** This includes suppressant drugs (such as Valium) are benzodiazepines and may have the following effects: sedation, drowsiness, reduced anxiety and inhibitions, and impaired motor coordination.

Survey Question: *Sedatives or Tranquilizers are sometimes prescribed by doctors to help people sleep, calm them down, or to relax their muscles. In the last 12 months, how often did you use sedatives or tranquilizers (such as Valium, Ativan, Xanax, also known as “tranqs” or “downers”) without a prescription or without a doctor telling you to take them?*

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Any Prescription Drug Use for Non-Medical Purposes

“Any prescription drug use for non-medical purposes” is a composite measure which includes use of tranquilizers/sedatives, ADHD medication and/or opioid pain relievers. This estimate was computed for Grade 9 - 12 students only.

In 2017, 14% of Peel and Ontario students in grades 9 to 12 reported using at least one of the above-mentioned prescription drugs for non-medical purposes in the last 12 months.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Table 5.1
Prescription Drug Use for Non-Medical Purposes in the Last 12 Months Among Grade 9-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,405	2015 n=690	2017 n=1,270	2013 n=6,082	2015 n=6,542	2017 n=7,470
Prescription drug use for non-medical purposes	17.1 (13.6 - 21.4)	12.8 (9.0 - 17.8)	14.0 (11.0 - 17.7)	15.4 (14.0 - 16.9)	12.3 (11.1 - 13.6)	13.9 (12.5 - 15.4)

Notes: Prescription drugs included: tranquilizers/sedatives, ADHD medication, and opioid pain relievers. In the 2013 cycle, an additional question on OxyContin, separate from opioid pills, was included.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.2

Prescription Drug Use for Non-Medical Purposes in Past Year Among Grade 9-12 Students by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 9-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,405	2015 n=690	2017 n=1,270
Sex			
Male	16.0 (12.0 - 21.0)	11.8* (7.9 - 17.1)	13.6 (10.6 - 17.2)
Female	18.3 (14.5 - 22.9)	13.8 (9.6 - 19.5)	14.5 (10.3 - 20.0)
Grade			
9	15.1* (9.4 - 23.3)	9.3* (5.5 - 15.2)	9.2* (6.1 - 13.8)
10	20.9 (14.9 - 28.6)	13.8* (8.5 - 21.7)	14.5* (9.9 - 20.8)
11	16.4 (11.7 - 22.5)	12.0* (8.2 - 17.3)	19.4 (14.0 - 26.3)
12	16.4 (12.8 - 20.8)	14.9* (7.7 - 26.7)	13.0* (8.5 - 19.3)

* Use estimate with caution.

Notes: Prescription drugs included: tranquilizers/sedatives, ADHD medication, and opioid pain relievers. In the 2013 cycle, an additional question on OxyContin, separate from opioid pills, was included.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Lifetime Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes

In 2017, 14% of Peel students and 13% of Ontario students used opioid pain relief pills for non-medical purposes in their lifetime.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex. There are no differences in lifetime use of opioid pain relief drugs by grade. Estimates by grade for tranquilizers and ADHD medication are not releasable due to small numbers.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Table 5.3
Lifetime Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes Among Grade 7-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Type of Drug	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013	2015	2017	2013	2015	2017
Opioid pain relief pills	18.7 (15.5 - 22.5)	12.0 (9.1 - 15.7)	13.9 (11.2-17.1)	14.9 (13.6 - 16.3)	12.0 (10.9 - 13.1)	12.9 (11.6 - 14.3)
Tranquilizers/ sedatives†	2.6* (1.6 - 4.1)	1.8* (1.1 - 3.0)	2.5* (1.5-4.1)	2.8 (2.1 - 3.6)	2.4 (1.9 - 2.9)	3.3 (2.7 - 4.0)
ADHD Medication	1.1* (0.7 - 1.8)	1.5* (0.7 - 2.9)	1.8* (1.2-2.8)	2.1 (1.6 - 2.9)	2.5 (2.0 - 3.1)	2.8 (2.1 - 3.8)

† Only asked of students in grades 9 to 12.

* Use estimate with caution.

Notes: Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.4
Lifetime Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes Among Grade 7-12 Students by Sex, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Type of Drug	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	2013		2015		2017	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Opioid pain relief pills	17.9 (14.1 - 22.3)	19.7 (16.3 - 23.6)	10.9 (7.8 - 15.0)	13.3 (9.7 - 17.9)	13.1 (10.0 - 17.0)	14.7 (11.3 - 19.0)
Tranquilizers/sedatives [†]	2.2* (1.1 - 4.2)	3.0* (1.5 - 5.8)	NR	NR	NR	2.9* (1.6 - 5.1)
ADHD Medication	NR	NR	NR	NR	1.7* (0.9 - 3.3)	2.0* (1.1 - 3.5)

[†] Only asked of students in grades 9 to 12.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Notes: Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

Table 5.5
Lifetime Use of Opioid Pain Relief Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes Among Grade 7-12 Students by Grade, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,085	2015 n=1,136	2017 n=1,674
Grade			
7	15.8* (10.1 - 23.9)	9.4* (5.3 - 16.1)	6.9* (3.4 - 13.3)
8	14.7* (9.7 - 21.6)	9.0* (5.4 - 14.7)	12.5 (9.0 - 17.1)
9	18.3* (11.7 - 27.5)	9.6* (5.9 - 15.3)	11.2* (7.2 - 16.8)
10	22.7 (16.0 - 31.1)	13.0* (8.3 - 19.9)	16.4 (11.6 - 22.8)
11	19.8 (14.7 - 26.0)	14.0* (9.4 - 20.2)	18.5 (13.2 - 25.3)
12	19.9 (16.7 - 23.5)	15.0* (7.3 - 28.2)	16.1 (11.7 - 21.6)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes in the Past Year

In 2017, 12% of Peel students and 11% of Ontario students used opioid pain relief pills for non-medical purposes in the last 12 months.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade for past year use of opioid pain relief drugs. Estimates by grade and sex for tranquilizers and ADHD medication are not releasable due to small numbers.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months, how often did you use _____?*

Table 5.6
Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes in the Past Year Among Grade 7-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Type of Drug	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013	2015	2017	2013	2015	2017
Opioid pain relief pills	14.6 (12.0 - 17.6)	10.5 (7.9 - 14.0)	11.5 (9.0 - 14.6)	12.4 (11.3 - 13.6)	10.0 (9.0 - 11.0)	10.6 (9.5 - 11.9)
Tranquilizers/ sedatives [†]	2.1* (1.4 - 3.2)	1.8* (1.0 - 3.0)	2.1* (1.2 - 3.5)	2.4 (1.8 - 3.2)	2.1 (1.7 - 2.7)	2.7 (2.1 - 3.4)
ADHD Medication	NR	NR	1.3* (0.8 - 2.1)	1.4* (1.0 - 2.0)	2.1 (1.6 - 2.7)	2.3 (1.7 - 3.1)

[†] Only asked of students in grades 9 to 12.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

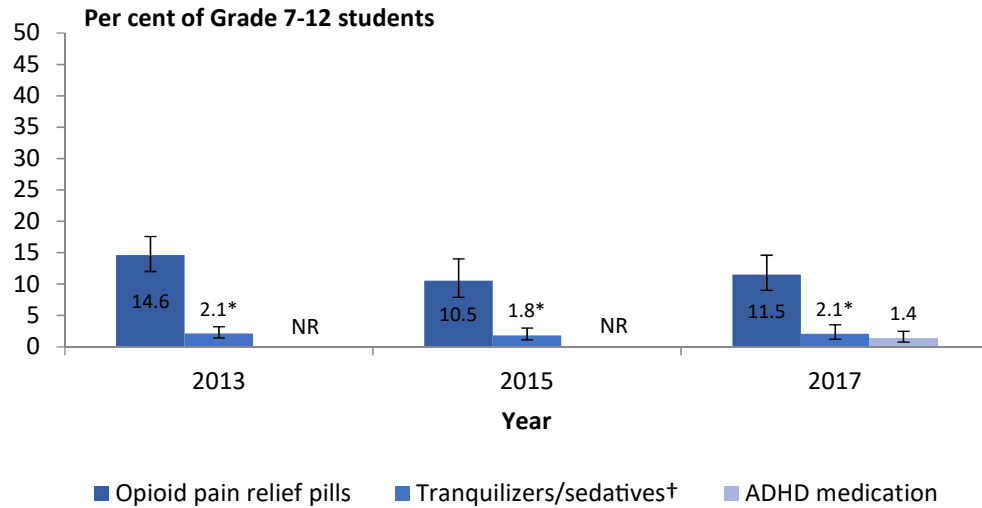
Note: Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 5.1
Use of Prescription Drugs for Non-medical Purposes in the Last 12 Months
Among Grade 7 -12 students,
Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017



†Tranquilizers/sedatives question asked of students in grades 9 to 12.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR = Not releasable due to small numbers.

Notes: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Denominators vary by survey question.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.7

Use of Opioid Pain Relief Pills for Non-Medical Purposes in the Past Year Among Grade 7-12 Students by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,085	2015 n=1,136	2017 n=1,674
Sex			
Male	13.6 (10.6 - 17.3)	9.6* (6.7 - 13.7)	10.0 (7.3 - 13.6)
Female	15.7 (12.9 - 19.0)	11.5 (8.3 - 15.8)	13.0 (9.7 - 17.2)
Grade			
7	10.8 (8.0 - 14.6)	7.5* (4.3 - 12.8)	NR
8	11.9* (8.0 - 17.4)	8.7* (5.2 - 14.4)	10.1* (5.6 - 17.3)
9	14.8* (9.3 - 22.8)	8.9* (5.3 - 14.5)	8.5* (5.5 - 13.1)
10	19.1 (13.6 - 26.2)	12.1* (7.6 - 18.9)	13.8* (9.6 - 19.3)
11	14.9 (10.6 - 20.7)	10.4* (7.0 - 15.3)	17.4* (12.0 - 24.4)
12	15.1 (12.0 - 18.8)	NR	12.3* (8.1 - 18.3)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Source of Opioid Pain Relief Pills for Non-Medical Purposes

Grade 7 - 12 students were asked how they obtained the opioid pain relief pills they used if they did not have a prescription for it.

In 2017, parents and/or siblings were the most common source of opioid pain relief pills in Peel (57%) and Ontario (54%), among students who used opioid pain relief pills in the last 12 months without a prescription.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: If you used these types of pain relief pills in the last 12 months without a prescription or without a doctor telling you to take them, who did you get them from? If you used them more than once think about who you usually got them from.

Table 5.8
Usual Source of Opioid Pain Relief Pills Among Past Year Users in Grade 7 - 12 Students[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Source of Opioid Pain Relief Pills	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=139	2015 n=57	2017 n=98	2013 n=467	2015 n=453	2017 n=509
Parent/ Siblings	66.4 (56.5 - 75.0)	44.1 (32.7 - 56.1)	57.2 (43.1 - 70.3)	54.3 (45.9 - 62.5)	47.3 (39.4 - 55.4)	53.7 (46.4 - 60.9)
Friend	NR	NR	10.3* (5.2 - 19.3)	9.8* (5.3 - 17.5)	9.9* (6.4 - 15.0)	5.6* (3.7 - 8.4)
Other	NR	16.1* (9.7 - 25.5)	NR	9.4* (5.6 - 15.4)	12.2 (9.0 - 16.3)	16.5 (12.6 - 21.2)
Don't remember	10.6* (5.6 - 19.0)	16.7* (9.4 - 28.1)	9.6* (5.4 - 16.5)	8.8* (5.5 - 13.6)	15.7* (10.2 - 23.3)	8.1* (5.4 - 11.8)

[†] Includes students who used opioid pain relief pills for non-medical purposes at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.9

Parents and/or Siblings as Usual Source of Opioid Pain Relief Pills Among Past Year Users in Grades 7 - 12 by Sex and Grade[†], Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Past Year Users (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=139	2015 n=57	2017 n=98
Sex			
Male	59.8 (47.6 - 70.9)	42.8* (19.4 - 69.9)	48.4* (29.5 - 67.8)
Female	73.0 (60.2 - 82.8)	45.5* (29.0 - 63.1)	63.8 (49.0 - 76.3)
Grade			
7	62.7* (32.1 - 85.7)	NR	NR
8	72.1 (48.8 - 87.5)	NR	77.1 (49.8 - 91.9)
9	72.0 (47.4 - 88.0)	NR	58.2* (27.1 - 83.9)
10	63.2 (44.9 - 78.4)	NR	31.5* (15.5 - 53.5)
11	71.9 (48.9 - 87.2)	49.8* (22.4 - 77.4)	47.4* (23.7 - 72.4)
12	59.6 (40.5 - 76.2)	53.0* (26.0 - 78.3)	64.9 (45.6 - 80.4)

[†] Includes students who used opioid pain relief pills for non-medical purposes at least once in the last 12 months.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

USE OF OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS

Lifetime Non-Medical Use of Over-the-Counter Drugs

In 2017, 12% of Peel students and 13% of Ontario students reported using over-the-counter cough or cold medication for the purpose of getting high at some point in their lifetime.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How often did you use a cough or cold medicine from a drug store such as Robitussin DM, Benylin DM (also known as “robos”, “dex” “dxm”) in order to get high?

Table 5.10
Lifetime Use of Over-the-Counter Cough or Cold Medication for Non-Medical Purposes in Grade 7-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,081	2015 n=1,144	2017 n=1,660	2013 n=10,132	2015 n=10,303	2017 n=11,272
Used at least once in lifetime	14.4 (12.2 - 17.1)	9.4 (6.7 - 13.1)	11.5 (9.7 - 13.7)	12.7 (11.1 - 14.6)	8.8 (7.4 - 10.4)	12.6 (11.2 - 14.2)

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.11

Lifetime Use of Over-the-Counter Cough or Cold Medication for Non-Medical Purposes in Grade 7-12 Students by Sex and Grade, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,081	2015 n=1,144	2017 n=1,660
Sex			
Male	15.8 (12.6 - 19.7)	11.2* (7.3 - 16.7)	13.8 (11.3 - 16.7)
Female	13.0 (10.6 - 15.7)	7.6 (5.6 - 10.2)	9.1 (6.9 - 12.0)
Grade			
7	19.7* (11.7 - 31.2)	6.7* (3.3 - 13.1)	13.6* (9.1 - 19.8)
8	14.5 (11.6 - 17.9)	8.3* (4.4 - 15.1)	6.6* (3.5 - 12.1)
9	11.6* (7.8 - 17.0)	8.4* (4.5 - 15.0)	11.5* (8.0 - 16.2)
10	17.2 (12.5 - 23.1)	10.3* (5.6 - 17.9)	13.9* (9.1 - 20.6)
11	12.8 (9.5 - 16.9)	10.6* (6.1 - 17.7)	12.8 (9.7 - 16.7)
12	12.4* (8.1 - 18.5)	NR	11.0 (7.8 - 15.2)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Use of Over-the-Counter Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes in Past Year

In 2017, 9% of Peel and Ontario students reported using over-the-counter cough or cold medication for the purpose of getting high in the last 12 months.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months, how often did you use a cough or cold medicine from a drug store such as Robitussin DM, Benylin DM (also known as “robos”, “dex” “dxm”) in order to get high?*

Table 5.12

Past Year Use of Over-the-Counter Cough or Cold Medication for Non-Medical Purposes in Grade 7-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,081	2015 n=1,144	2017 n=1,660	2013 n=10,132	2015 n=10,303	2017 n=11,272
Used at least once in past year	11.2 (9.1 - 13.7)	7.1* (5.0 - 10.2)	9.2 (7.7 - 11.0)	9.7 (8.2 - 11.4)	6.4 (5.3 - 7.6)	9.2 (8.0 - 10.6)

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.13

Past Year Use of Over-the-Counter Cough or Cold Medication for Non-Medical Purposes in Grade 7-12 Students by Sex and Grade, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,081	2015 n=1,144	2017 n=1,660
Sex			
Male	12.7 (9.9 - 16.2)	8.6* (5.4 - 13.3)	11.2 (8.9 - 13.9)
Female	9.5 (7.5 - 12.1)	5.6 (4.1 - 7.7)	7.2 (5.3 - 9.6)
Grade			
7	15.5* (8.9 - 25.6)	NR	9.7* (6.2 - 14.9)
8	11.0* (7.2 - 16.4)	6.6* (3.2 - 12.9)	5.9* (3.4 - 10.0)
9	8.9* (6.0 - 13.0)	6.0* (3.0 - 11.7)	8.9* (5.9 - 13.2)
10	13.1* (8.9 - 18.8)	8.9* (4.5 - 16.8)	10.6* (6.7 - 16.5)
11	9.1 (6.7 - 12.1)	7.5* (3.8 - 14.2)	11.2 (8.2 - 15.0)
12	10.5* (6.5 - 16.6)	NR	9.0* (5.9 - 13.5)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS ON DRUG ACCESS AND USE

Perceived Access to Prescription Pain Relief Pills Without a Prescription

In 2017, 23% of Peel students believed it is fairly or very easy to access non-medical opioid pain relief pills without a prescription. This is similar to Ontario students (22%).

In Peel, students in grade 12 (35%) were more likely than Grade 7 students (14%* - use estimate with caution) to perceive that prescription pain relief pills were fairly or very easy to access. There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How easy or difficult would it be for you to get prescription pain relief pills (such as Percocet, Percodan, Tylenol #3, Demerol, OxyNeo, OxyContin, Codeine) if you wanted some WITHOUT going to the doctor?

Table 5.14

Perceived Access to Pain Relief Pills Without a Doctor’s Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 - 12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Access	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,039	2015 n=559	2017 n=822	2013 n=4,732	2015 n=4,965	2017 n=4,990
Probably impossible	21.6 (18.6 - 25.1)	21.0 (17.7 - 24.7)	20.7 (17.0 - 24.9)	21.3 (19.2 - 23.6)	20.2 (18.2 - 22.3)	18.7 (16.1 - 21.5)
Fairly/very difficult	27.1 (23.9 - 30.6)	29.7 (24.0 - 36.3)	25.2 (20.8 - 30.2)	29.3 (26.6 - 32.2)	32.4 (30.2 - 34.6)	29.7 (27.2 - 32.4)
Fairly/very easy	20.7 (17.8 - 23.8)	20.3 (16.9 - 24.2)	23.2 (19.2 - 27.7)	19.2 (17.2 - 21.3)	17.5 (15.9 - 19.3)	21.8 (19.8 - 24.0)
Don't know	30.6 (27.4 - 34.0)	28.9 (25.0 - 33.1)	30.9 (26.3 - 35.9)	30.2 (28.2 - 32.3)	29.9 (27.5 - 32.4)	29.8 (27.4 - 32.3)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.15

Perceived Fairly/Easy Access to Pain Relief Pills Without a Doctor’s Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 - 12 by Sex and Grade[†], Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,039	2015 n=559	2017 n=822
Sex			
Male	18.8 (16.2 - 21.6)	14.7* (10.0 - 21.2)	23.7 (18.2 - 30.3)
Female	22.7 (18.1 - 28.0)	26.5 (21.1 - 32.7)	29.7 (22.2 - 38.5)
Grade			
7	18.5* (12.8 - 25.9)	15.0* (8.1 - 26.2)	NR
8	10.4* (7.0 - 15.1)	NR	14.3* (9.2 - 21.5)
9	24.5 (18.5 - 31.7)	17.3* (9.6 - 29.1)	17.3* (11.0 - 26.2)
10	17.7 (13.1 - 23.5)	20.7* (12.7 - 31.8)	23.5 (17.5 - 30.9)
11	30.7* (20.5 - 43.2)	21.0* (13.3 - 31.4)	26.2* (17.5 - 37.2)
12	20.4* (14.1 - 28.7)	26.9* (16.6 - 40.4)	34.6 (28.3 - 41.5)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Perceived Risk of Harm Trying Pain Relief Pills Without A Prescription

In 2017, 39% of Peel students believed it is a “great risk” of harm associated with taking pain relief pills without a prescription. This is similar to Ontario (37%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they take a prescription pain reliever (such as Percocet, Percodan, Tylenol #3, Demerol, OxyNeo, OxyContin, Codeine) that was not prescribed for them?

Table 5.16
Perception of Risk Associated with Taking Pain Relief Pills Without a Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 - 12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Perceived Risk of Harm	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,037	2015 n=557	2017 n=821	2013 n=4,735	2015 n=4,949	2017 n=4,972
No risk	3.8* (2.6 - 5.5)	3.2* (2.2 - 4.5)	3.6* (2.2 - 5.8)	2.7 (2.1 - 3.4)	3.8 (3.0 - 4.8)	4.2* (3.0 - 5.8)
Slight risk	12.4 (10.6 - 14.5)	10.4 (8.1 - 13.3)	11.4 (9.1 - 14.3)	11.4 (9.7 - 13.2)	11.3 (9.9 - 12.9)	11.7 (10.2 - 13.5)
Medium risk	24.0 (20.6 - 27.8)	21.8 (18.1 - 26.0)	24.8 (21.1 - 28.9)	25.1 (22.5 - 27.8)	25.7 (23.7 - 27.8)	28.8 (26.2 - 31.6)
Great risk	41.0 (36.9 - 45.2)	47.5 (41.0 - 54.1)	39.3 (34.3 - 44.5)	41.0 (38.7 - 43.4)	42.5 (40.2 - 44.9)	36.9 (34.8 - 39.0)
Don't know	18.8 (15.6 - 22.4)	17.1 (12.8 - 22.7)	20.9 (16.8 - 25.7)	19.9 (17.3 - 22.7)	16.7 (15.0 - 18.5)	18.4 (16.6 - 20.4)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 5.17

Perception of Great Risk Associated with Taking Pain Relief Pills Without a Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 – 12 by Sex and Grade†, Peel, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,037	2015 n=557	2017 n=821
Sex			
Male	35.9 (31.3 - 40.8)	48.3 (39.5 - 57.3)	39.4 (30.7 - 48.8)
Female	46.4 (40.7 - 52.3)	46.5 (39.1 - 54.1)	39.2 (34.5 - 44.1)
Grade			
7	35.1 (26.4 - 45.0)	35.9* (20.4 - 55.1)	36.3 (27.8 - 45.8)
8	39.6 (30.9 - 49.1)	44.6* (29.7 - 60.6)	38.2 (31.8 - 45.1)
9	28.8 (22.1 - 36.7)	47.1 (31.9 - 62.9)	35.4 (28.6 - 42.8)
10	38.4 (28.4 - 49.4)	44.1 (34.1 - 54.6)	41.0 (30.2 - 52.8)
11	46.0 (36.8 - 55.5)	45.2* (30.3 - 61.0)	44.4 (31.8 - 57.7)
12	52.2 (41.7 - 62.5)	60.6 (44.6 - 74.6)	40.4 (29.1 - 52.7)

† Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CHAPTER SIX MEDICAL USE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Peel, 19% of Grade 7 - 12 students used pain relief pills with a prescription in the 12 months before the survey, while 2%* (*use estimate with caution) reported taking medication to treat ADHD in the same time frame.
- In Peel, 3%* (*use estimate with caution) of students in grades 9 to 12 took prescription tranquilizers/sedatives in the previous 12 months before the survey. This is similar to Ontario (4%).

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

PRESCRIPTION DRUG USE OF PAIN RELIEF PILLS WITH A PRESCRIPTION

In 2017, 19% of Peel students used prescription pain relief pills in the 12 months before the survey. This is comparable to Ontario (18%).

In Peel, older students were more likely than younger students to have used opioid pain relief pills with a prescription in the past 12 months. More students in Grade 12 (26%) reported using pain relief pills, compared to students in Grade 7 (11%* - use estimate with caution). There are no differences by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months how often did you use pain relief pills (such as Percocet, Percodan, Tylenol #3 Demerol, OxyNeo, OxyContin, Codeine) with a prescription or because a doctor told you to take them?*

Table 6.1
Use of Opioid Pain Relief Pills with Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 - 12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,086	2015 n=564	2017 n=829	2013 n=10,132	2015 n=4,966	2017 n=5,003
Used at least once in past year	23.2 (20.2 - 26.5)	18.8 (14.6 - 24.0)	19.2 (16.0 - 22.8)	20.9 (19.6 - 22.3)	21.1 (19.2 - 23.2)	17.6 (15.6 - 19.9)

[†] Asked of half the sample. in 2015 and 2017.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 6.2

Use of Opioid Pain Relief Pills with Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 - 12 by Sex and Grade[†],

Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,086	2015 n=564	2017 n=829
Sex			
Male	22.9 (18.9 - 27.4)	16.3* (10.9 - 23.7)	17.0 (12.2-23.2)
Female	23.6 (20.5 - 27.0)	21.6 (16.2 - 28.1)	21.2 (17.0-26.2)
Grade			
7	22.1 (16.2 - 29.4)	10.6* (5.9 - 18.4)	10.9*(6.8-16.9)
8	17.1 (12.6 - 22.7)	9.1* (4.5 - 17.6)	15.1* (9.7-22.9)
9	20.9 (15.2 - 28.1)	24.8 (17.5 - 33.9)	15.4* (9.8-23.5)
10	27.1 (22.5 - 32.3)	16.2* (7.9 - 30.6)	17.3* (12.0-24.2)
11	23.6 (17.7 - 30.8)	23.7* (15.2 - 35.0)	29.8* (20.0-42.0)
12	26.3 (20.9 - 32.6)	24.4* (13.3 - 40.6)	25.7 (18.1-35.1)

[†] Asked of half the sample. in 2015 and 2017.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

USE OF ADHD MEDICATION WITH A PRESCRIPTION

In 2017, 2%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students reported taking medication to treat ADHD in the past 12 months. This is similar to Ontario (3%).

Estimates by sex and grade are not releasable for Peel.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months how often did you use medicine to treat ADHD (such as Ritalin, Adderall, Dexedrine) with a prescription or because a doctor told you to take it?*

Table 6.3
Use of Medication to Treat ADHD with a Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 - 12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,083	2015 n=575	2017 n=840	2013 n=10,185	2015 n=5,354	2017 n=6,309
Used at least once in past year	1.8* (1.2 - 2.7)	1.5* (0.8 - 2.9)	2.1* (1.3 - 3.5)	3.2 (2.5 - 4.2)	2.6 (2.1 - 3.3)	2.9 (2.1 - 4.1)

[†] Asked of half the sample. in 2015 and 2017.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

USE OF SEDATIVES OR TRANQUILIZERS WITH A PRESCRIPTION

In 2017, 3%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students and 4% of Ontario students in grades 9 to 12 indicated taking prescription tranquilizers or sedatives in the 12 months prior to the survey.

In Peel, comparisons by sex and grade are not possible due to small numbers.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months, how often did you use sedatives or tranquilizers (such as valium, Ativan or Xanax) with a prescription or because a doctor told you to take them?*

Table 6.4
Use of Tranquilizers/Sedatives with a Prescription Among Students in Grades 9 - 12, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,424	2015 n=692	2017 n=1,278	2013 n=6,127	2015 n=6,567	2017 n=7,532
Used at least once in past year	3.1* (1.9 - 5.2)	2.9 (2.0 - 4.1)	2.9* (1.8 - 4.5)	2.9 (2.3 - 3.7)	3.3 (2.9 - 3.7)	3.6 (2.8 - 4.6)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 6.5

Use of Tranquilizers/Sedatives with Prescription Among Students in Grades 7 - 12 by Sex and Grade[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,424	2015 n=692	2017 n=1,278
Sex			
Male	2.7* (1.4 - 5.4)	NR	NR
Female	3.6* (2.3 - 5.7)	3.3* (1.9 - 5.4)	3.6* (2.2 - 6.0)
Grade			
9	NR	NR	4.0* (2.0 - 7.7)
10	3.7* (2.3 - 5.9)	NR	NR
11	NR	NR	NR
12	NR	NR	1.8* (0.9 - 3.5)

[†] Asked of half the sample. in 2015 and 2017.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CHAPTER SEVEN DRUGS AND RISKY BEHAVIOURS

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2017, 8%* (*use estimate with caution) of Grade 10 - 12 students in Peel with a driver's license reported driving a vehicle within one hour of using cannabis.
- Approximately, one-in-ten (11%) of students reported riding in a vehicle with a driver who was under the influence of drugs. This is similar to Ontario (10%).

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

DRIVING A VEHICLE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CANNABIS

In 2017, 8%* (*use estimate with caution) of Peel students and 9% of Ontario students in grades 10 to 12 with a license reported driving a vehicle within one hour of using cannabis.

Estimates by sex and grade are not releasable for Peel.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, how often have you driven a vehicle within an hour of using marijuana or hashish?

Table 7.1

Driven a Vehicle Within One Hour of Using Cannabis in the Last 12 Months Among Grade 10 – 12 students with a G-class License, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 10-12 students with G-class license (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=580	2015 n=218	2017 n=423	2013 n=2,427	2015 n=2,443	2017 n=2,695
Using cannabis and driving at least once in past year	7.7 (5.5 - 10.8)	4.7* (2.4 - 9.1)	7.9* (4.3 - 14.2)	9.7 (7.9 - 11.9)	9.8 (8.3 - 11.4)	8.8 (6.9 - 11.1)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

PASSENGER IN A VEHICLE WITH A DRIVER WHO USED DRUGS

In 2017, 11% of Peel students reported riding in a car with a driver who was under the influence of drugs in the past 12 months before the survey. This is similar to Ontario students (10%).

In Peel, there were more students in Grade 12 (25%) than in Grade 9 (9%) that rode in a vehicle with a driver who used drugs.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months, how often did you ride in a vehicle driven by someone who had been using drugs (other than alcohol)?

Table 7.2
Rode in a Vehicle with a Driver Who Used Drugs Among Grade 7-12 Students, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Frequency	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=2,095	2015 n=1,148	2017 n=1,666	2013 n=10,214	2015 n=10,363	2017 n=11,348
Never	81.9 (79.7 - 84.0)	84.1 (80.3 - 87.2)	83.3 (80.9 - 85.4)	80.9 (79.3 - 82.5)	82.6 (80.9 - 84.2)	84.4 (82.7 - 85.9)
Once or more	12.4 (10.4 - 14.7)	9.8* (6.7 - 14.3)	10.5 (8.6 - 12.7)	13.8 (12.4 - 15.4)	12.3 (10.9 - 13.9)	9.9 (8.8 - 11.2)
Unsure	5.7 (4.6 - 7.0)	6.1 (4.6 - 8.0)	6.3 (4.8 - 8.2)	5.2 (4.5 - 6.0)	5.1 (4.4 - 5.8)	5.7 (5.0 - 6.5)

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 7.3

Rode in a Vehicle with a Driver Who Used Drugs Among Grade 7-12 Students by Sex and Grade, Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=2,095	2015 n=1,148	2017 n=1,666
Sex			
Male	13.4 (10.8 - 16.5)	8.1* (4.7 - 13.6)	9.9 (7.9 - 12.3)
Female	11.3 (8.8 - 14.4)	11.7* (7.6 - 17.5)	11.0 (8.3 - 14.4)
Grade			
7	2.7* (1.5 - 4.8)	NR	NR
8	5.1* (3.3 - 7.8)	NR	NR
9	9.7* (5.6 - 16.2)	NR	8.9 (6.4 - 12.3)
10	10.6* (6.6 - 16.8)	10.5* (5.3 - 20.0)	5.8* (3.5 - 9.5)
11	17.4 (12.6 - 23.6)	16.9 (12.1 - 23.1)	8.5* (5.5 - 13.0)
12	22.4 (17.3 - 28.5)	15.5* (8.2 - 27.3)	25.1 (19.3 - 32.1)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

EVER ARRESTED BECAUSE OF CANNABIS OR DRUGS

In Ontario, 2%* (*use estimate with caution) of students in grades 9 to 12 reported ever being arrested or received a legal warning for using cannabis and/or other drugs. This estimate is not releasable for Peel due to small numbers.

Survey Question: Have you ever been arrested or warned by the police because of your use of cannabis or any other drug?

Table 7.4

Legal Warning or Arrest for Cannabis Use or Any Other Drug Among Students in Grade 9-12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 9-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	Peel n=601	Ontario n=3,254
Arrested or legal warning	NR	1.6* (1.0 - 2.7)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs
Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CHAPTER EIGHT
DRUGS IN SOCIAL CIRCLE, SCHOOL AND NEIGHBOURHOOD

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Peel, 6% of Grade 7 - 12 students reported that most or all of their friends use drugs.
- Approximately, one-quarter of Peel students (26%) felt that drug use is a big problem at their school.
- In Peel, 16% of students have been offered drugs at school. This is similar to Ontario (15%).

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CLOSEST FRIENDS WHO USE DRUGS

In 2017, 6% of Peel students indicated that most or all of their friends use cannabis or illegal drugs. This is comparable to Ontario (8%).

In Peel, students in grade 12 (28%) were more likely than those in grade 10 (6%* - use estimate with caution) to have half or more of their closest friends use drugs or cannabis. There is no variation by sex.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: How many of your CLOSEST friends use cannabis or other illegal drugs?

Table 8.1
Closest Friends who Use Cannabis or Illegal Drugs Among Students in Grades 7-12[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Proportion of friends	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,040	2015 n=562	2017 n=827	2013 n=4,748	2015 n=4,979	2017 n=5,000
None	46.2 (41.8 - 50.7)	48.2 (41.4 - 55.1)	50.8 (45.2 - 56.4)	40.3 (37.2 - 43.5)	43.4 (40.7 - 46.1)	45.0 (40.9 - 49.1)
Some	28.8 (25.2 - 32.8)	29.4 (24.7 - 34.6)	29.0 (23.6 - 35.2)	31.7 (29.2 - 34.3)	28.7 (27.1 - 30.4)	30.4 (27.7 - 33.3)
About half	6.6* (4.7 - 9.3)	5.2* (2.8 - 9.5)	5.2* (3.1 - 8.4)	7.9 (6.7 - 9.3)	7.6 (6.5 - 8.9)	6.5 (5.4 - 7.8)
Most/All	6.9 (5.0 - 9.5)	8.0* (5.0 - 12.5)	6.0 (4.2 - 8.3)	10.2 (8.4 - 12.2)	9.9 (8.7 - 11.3)	8.0 (6.6 - 9.5)
Don't know	11.5 (9.2 - 14.3)	9.2 (6.6 - 12.7)	9.1 (7.3 - 11.3)	10.0 (8.6 - 11.5)	10.4 (8.9 - 12.1)	10.2 (8.9 - 11.6)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 8.2

Closest Friends (Half or More) who Use Cannabis or Illegal Drugs Among Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,040	2015 n=562	2017 n=827
Sex			
Male	14.2 (10.2-19.5)	12.8* (6.7 - 23.0)	11.2* (7.5 - 16.3)
Female	12.7 (9.2-17.3)	13.6* (8.4 - 21.3)	11.0 (7.9 - 15.3)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	NR	NR	NR
9	NR	NR	6.4* (3.5 - 11.4)
10	19.0 (14.0 - 25.2)	NR	10.3* (5.7 - 17.9)
11	20.2* (13.2 - 29.5)	25.4* (15.6 - 38.5)	18.8* (10.1 - 32.5)
12	23.6 (17.2 - 31.4)	21.9* (11.7 - 37.2)	28.2 (20.6 - 37.3)

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

EDUCATION ON CANNABIS AND OTHER DRUGS AT SCHOOL

In 2017, 45% of students in Peel and 51% of students in Ontario reported having at least one class or presentation related to cannabis and/or other drugs since the start of the school year.

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2015.

Survey Question: Since September, how many classes or presentations did you have that talked about cannabis (“weed”, “pot”, “hash”) or other types of drugs?

Table 8.3
Received One or More Class/Presentation on Cannabis or Other Drugs in Grades 7-12^{†‡}, Peel and Ontario, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)			
	Peel		Ontario	
	2015 n=477	2017 n=530	2015 n=3,880	2017 n=2,618
1+ Class/ Presentation	53.7 (46.7 - 60.6)	45.4 (37.9 - 53.1)	54.5 (51.2 - 57.8)	50.5 (45.1 - 55.9)

[†] Asked of half the sample.

[‡] Students who completed the survey in November or December were removed from the analysis.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 8.4

Received One or More Class/Presentation on Cannabis or Other Drugs in Grades 7-12^{†‡}, Peel and Ontario, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)	
	2015 n=477	2017 n=530
Sex		
Male	52.9 (42.6 - 63.0)	50.8 (41.3 - 60.3)
Female	54.6 (47.6 - 61.4)	40.3 (31.6 - 49.7)
Grade		
7	68.6 (53.7 - 80.4)	NR
8	66.8 (57.5 - 75.0)	57.6* (36.5 - 76.2)
9	67.4 (44.6 - 84.2)	60.2 (43.8 - 74.6)
10	40.8* (25.0 - 58.7)	43.7 (30.4 - 57.9)
11	44.4 (35.6 - 53.5)	37.9* (26.1 - 51.5)
12	49.3 (35.9 - 62.8)	40.1 (27.8 - 53.8)

† Asked of half the sample.

‡ Students who completed the survey in November or December were removed from the analysis.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

PERCEPTION OF DRUG PROBLEM AT SCHOOL

In 2017, approximately one-quarter (26%) of Peel students felt that drug use is a big problem at their school. This is similar to Ontario (21%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: In your school, is drug use a big problem, a small problem, or no problem at all?

Table 8.5
Perceptions Surrounding Drug Use Problem at School Among Grade 7-12 Students[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Drug use at school	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,027	2015 n=551	2017 n=1,666	2013 n=4,693	2015 n=4,896	2017 n=4,921
A big problem	25.5 (22.0 - 29.3)	25.2 (20.2 - 31.0)	25.8 (21.3 - 30.9)	24.7 (21.8 - 28.0)	25.5 (23.3 - 27.9)	21.3 (19.0 - 23.8)
A small problem	51.9 (47.5 - 56.2)	44.7 (38.6 - 51.0)	40.7 (32.4 - 49.5)	53.1 (49.7 - 56.3)	49.1 (46.2 - 52.0)	47.1 (43.4 - 50.8)
Not a problem	22.7 (18.0 - 28.1)	30.0 (24.3 - 36.5)	33.5 (26.1 - 41.9)	22.2 (19.7 - 25.0)	25.4 (22.5 - 28.4)	31.6 (27.0 - 36.5)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 8.6

**Perception that Drug Use is a Big Problem at School Among Grade 7-12 Students by Grade and Sex[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017**

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,027	2015 n=551	2017 n=1,666
Sex			
Male	22.8 (18.7 - 27.4)	27.0 (20.2 - 35.2)	28.0 (22.1 - 34.9)
Female	28.4 (24.0 - 33.2)	23.2 (17.1 - 30.7)	23.7 (18.5 - 29.7)
Grade			
7	21 (16.0 - 27.1)	22.0* (14.8 - 31.4)	15.5* (8.0 - 28.0)
8	17.4* (10.9 - 26.5)	13.6* (8.7 - 20.7)	21.5* (14.9 - 29.9)
9	35.7 (27.8 - 44.5)	28.2 (21.6 - 35.9)	36.3 (27.9 - 45.6)
10	26.3 (20.0 - 33.7)	29.0* (17.3 - 44.4)	26.0 (19.3 - 34.0)
11	30.8 (22.5 - 40.7)	30.1* (20.7 - 41.6)	31.7* (20.0 - 46.4)
12	21.5* (13.9 - 31.8)	26.2 (14.6 - 42.5)	26.2 (19.5 - 34.3)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

OFFERED DRUGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

In 2017, 16% of Peel students indicated that they have been offered drugs on school property in the year prior to the survey. This is similar to Ontario (15%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: *In the last 12 months has anyone offered, sold, or given you an illegal drug on school property?*

Table 8.7
Offered Drugs on School Property Among Students in Grades 7-12[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,038	2015 n=561	2017 n=826	2013 n=4,755	2015 n=4,976	2017 n=4,994
Offered drugs on school property	19.0 (15.6 - 22.9)	18.4 (13.1 - 25.1)	15.9 (12.8 - 19.6)	18.5 (16.2 - 21.0)	17.3 (15.2 - 19.6)	14.6 (12.4 - 17.1)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 8.8

Offered Drugs on School Property Among Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,038	2015 n=561	2017 n=826
Sex			
Male	23.0 (18.3 - 28.5)	22.0 (15.6 - 30.2)	16.9 (12.3 - 22.7)
Female	14.7 (11.4 - 18.8)	14.3* (8.6 - 22.8)	15.0 (11.7 - 19.0)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	NR	NR	NR
9	23.2* (15.7 - 32.9)	16.7* (11.3 - 24.0)	18.0* (11.5 - 27.0)
10	23.4 (18.7 - 29.0)	24.8* (16.9 - 35.0)	23.0* (14.4 - 34.7)
11	30.3 (21.5 - 40.8)	30.2* (18.7 - 44.9)	23.4* (14.2 - 36.2)
12	21.1 (14.9 - 28.9)	24.2* (12.6 - 41.5)	27.4 (21.0 - 35.0)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

OFFERED DRUGS IN NEIGHBOURHOOD

In 2017, 19% of Peel students indicated that they have been offered drugs *anywhere* in the year prior to the survey. This is similar to Ontario (20%).

In Peel, there are no differences by sex or grade.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months has anyone tried to sell you any illegal drug anywhere?

Table 8.9
Offered Drugs Anywhere Among Students in Grades 7-12[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,040	2015 n=558	2017 n=825	2013 n=4,747	2015 n=4,969	2017 n=4,994
Offered drugs anywhere	23.2 (19.9 - 26.8)	22.5 (16.7 - 29.6)	19.0 (16.3 - 22.0)	25.2 (22.8 - 27.8)	24.8 (22.4 - 27.5)	19.8 (17.2 - 22.6)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 8.10

**Offered Drugs Anywhere Among Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017**

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,040	2015 n=558	2017 n=825
Sex			
Male	28.1 (22.5 - 34.6)	25.7 (18.0 - 35.2)	22.0 (17.4 - 27.5)
Female	17.9 (14.8 - 21.4)	19.1 (13.7 - 26.0)	16.2 (13.0 - 19.8)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	16.2* (10.2 - 24.7)	NR	NR
9	23.5* (16.3 - 32.6)	16.7* (11.3 - 24.0)	18.0* (10.9 - 28.1)
10	25.2 (18.4 - 33.4)	24.8* (16.9 - 35.0)	24.1* (15.1 - 36.2)
11	32.7 (24.8 - 41.6)	30.2* (18.7 - 44.9)	33.5 (24.6 - 43.7)
12	30.6 (24.9 - 37.0)	24.2* (12.6 - 41.5)	32.2 (24.6 - 40.8)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

SEEN SALE OF DRUGS IN NEIGHBOURHOOD

In 2017, 21% of Peel students saw drugs being sold in their neighbourhood in the last 12 months. This is comparable to Ontario (19%).

In Peel, students in grade 12 (35%) were more likely than students in grade 8 (10%* - use estimate with caution) to have seen drugs sold in their neighbourhood.

The 2017 estimates are similar to 2013 and 2015.

Survey Question: In the last 12 months have you seen anyone selling illegal drugs in your neighbourhood?

Table 8.11
Seen Drugs Sold in Neighbourhood Among Students in Grades 7-12[†],
Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Seen drugs sold	Per cent of Grade 7-12 students (95% Confidence Interval)					
	Peel			Ontario		
	2013 n=1,041	2015 n=559	2017 n=823	2013 n=4,751	2015 n=4,963	2017 n=4,980
Yes	21.2 (18.5 - 24.2)	25.5 (19.6 - 32.5)	21.0 (17.2 - 25.3)	21.1 (19.2 - 23.1)	21.9 (20.0 - 23.9)	19.3 (16.9 - 21.8)
No	60.4 (55.5 - 65.0)	52.7 (45.7 - 59.7)	60.0 (55.3 - 64.5)	63.5 (61.1 - 65.8)	61.9 (59.6 - 64.2)	63.0 (60.2 - 65.6)
I think so, but not sure	18.4 (15.3 - 22.1)	21.7 (17.4 - 26.8)	19.0 (16.2 - 22.2)	15.5 (13.7 - 17.5)	16.2 (14.7 - 17.7)	17.8 (16.3 - 19.4)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 8.12

Seen Drugs Sold in Neighbourhood Among Students in Grades 7-12 by Sex and Grade[†], Peel and Ontario, 2013, 2015, 2017

Demographics	Per cent of Grade 7-12 Students (95% Confidence Interval)		
	2013 n=1,041	2015 n=559	2017 n=823
Sex			
Male	23.0 (18.9 - 27.7)	26.4 (18.8 - 35.9)	22.8 (16.9 - 30.0)
Female	19.3 (15.7 - 23.5)	24.5 (19.2 - 30.7)	19.2 (15.0 - 24.3)
Grade			
7	NR	NR	NR
8	15.1* (8.3 - 25.9)	NR	9.9* (6.1 - 15.7)
9	19.7* (13.8 - 27.4)	25.4 (17.8 - 34.9)	18.8* (13.2 - 26.0)
10	24.9 (18.9 - 32.1)	27.0* (16.3 - 41.2)	21.9* (13.3 - 33.7)
11	34.9 (28.2 - 42.2)	36 (27.5 - 45.5)	30.2 (21.8 - 40.2)
12	23 (17.0 - 30.3)	35.6* (21.6 - 52.7)	34.7 (27.2 - 43.1)

[†] Asked of half of sample.

* Use estimate with caution.

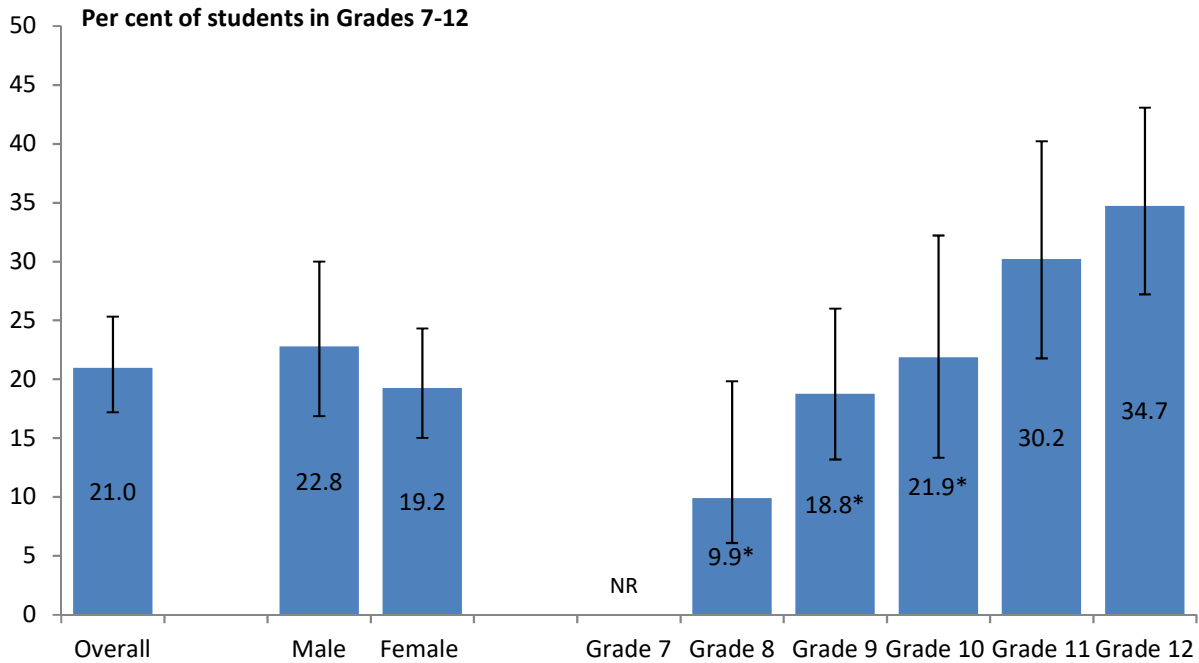
NR – Not releasable due to small numbers.

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013, 2015, 2017, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Region of Peel – Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Figure 8.1
Grades 7 – 12 Students who Have Seen the Drugs Sold in Their Neighbourhood by Sex and Grade, Peel, 2017



n=823

* Use estimate with caution.

NR = Not releasable due to small numbers.

Notes: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals

Source: Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2017, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health. Region of Peel - Public Health.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

CHAPTER NINE

METHODS

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Table 9.1
Definitions of Terms

Term	Definition
Immigrant Status	<p>Question: How long have you lived in Canada?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-immigrant: includes students who reported living in Canada “<i>all my life</i>”; • Recent immigrant includes students who reported living in Canada “<i>less than 10 years</i>”; • Long-term immigrant includes students who reported living in Canada “<i>11 years or more</i>”
Ethnic Background	<p>Question: Which of the following best describes your background (You may choose more than one category.) Are you....?:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White: (<i>for example British, French, Italian, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Russian, Israeli</i>); • Chinese; • South Asian (<i>for example East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan</i>); • Black (<i>African, Caribbean, North American</i>); • Aboriginal (<i>First Nations, Inuit, Metis, non-status Indian</i>); • Filipino; Latin American, Central American, South American (<i>for example, Mexican, Brazilian, Chilean, Guatemalan, Venezuelan, Colombian, Argentinian, Salvadorian, Costa Rican</i>); • Southeast Asian (<i>for example Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian</i>); • West Asian or Arab (<i>for example Egyptian, Saudi Arabian, Syrian, Iranian, Iraqi, Lebanese, Afghani, Palestinian</i>); • Korean; • Japanese; and • Not Sure. <p>For the purpose of the report the following groupings were created:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Asian or South East Asian: Includes South East Asian, Chinese, Filipino, Korean and Japanese. • Multiple: Includes those who selected more than one category (including certain ethnicity and the not sure category).
Family Socio-Economic Status	<p>Measured using the <i>family socio-economic ladder</i>, which is an adolescent-specific measure of subjective social status.^{2,3} Students were shown a ladder that was meant to represent the Canadian society (with numbers ranging from one to 10). They were told that at the top are the people who are “<i>best off</i>” - <i>they have the most money, the most education, and the jobs that bring the most respect</i>” while at the bottom are the people who are “<i>worst off</i>” - <i>they have the least money, little education, no job or jobs that no one wants</i>”. Students were asked to place their family on this scale.</p> <p>The family SES ladder was then analyzed based on the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low SES: students ranked family between one to six on the ladder; and • High SES: students ranked family between seven to 10 on the ladder.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

Table 9.1
Definitions of Terms (continued)

Term	Definition
Past Year Users – Cannabis	Used cannabis at least one time in the last 12 months. Those who reported not knowing what cannabis is, were retained in the denominator.
Cannabis Dependency	Cannabis dependency defined as an overall score of four or more on <i>Cannabis Severity Dependency Scale (SDS)</i> . ^{4,5} The SDS is a validated five item instrument used to screen for drug dependence in adolescent and general populations.
Past Year Users – Drugs	Used the drug at least one time in the last 12 months. Cases that responded do not know what drug is, were retained in the denominator.
Non-Medical Use	Use of a drug without a prescription or without doctor’s supervision.
Drug Use Problem	Reporting two or more of the six items on the CRAFFT screener questions. ⁶ These are intended to measure a drug use problem that may require an intervention.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

METHODS

Sampling

Sampling Design

Details of the sampling design can be found in the CAMH technical documentation.¹ Briefly, the 2017 OSDUHS used a stratified two-stage cluster sample design to recruit Ontario students in grades 7 to 12. The target population for the OSDUHS is students in grades 7 to 12 enrolled in Ontario’s four publicly funded school systems. The sampling frame for the 2017 OSDUHS was a list of publicly-funded schools in 2013/2014 with any grade 7 to 12 students, provided by the Ontario Ministry of Education. The following students are not covered by the sampling frame:

- students enrolled in private schools or those who are homeschooled;
- youth who are institutionalized for correctional or health reasons;
- students schooled in first nation reserves, military bases or in remote regions of Ontario; and
- Students who have dropped out and are no longer enrolled in school. Results do not generalize to this group of youth.

Sampling within Regions

Initially the OSDUHS sample divided Ontario into four regions. When provincial public health units began purchasing over samples in their regions, mutually exclusive regional strata were developed. In 2017 there were seven regional strata, sponsored by the corresponding provincial public health units, for a total of 10 mutually exclusive regions. Within each region, school level (grade 7 to 8 schools and grade 9 to 12 schools) were sampled separately. This sampling strategy created 18 region-by-school-level strata $((4*2) + (6*2) = 20 - 2$ (elementary schools weren’t sampled in two regions) = 18 strata in total (Table 9.2).

Table 9.2

List of Region by Grade Level Strata, Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey 2017

Stratum	Grade 7 – 8	Grade 9 - 12
Region		
Greater Toronto Area	✓	✓
North *	✓	✓
West *	✓	✓
East*	✓	✓
Health Unit		
Durham	✓	✓
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District	✓	✓
Leeds		✓
Peel	✓	✓
Ottawa	✓	✓
York		✓

*Excluding health unit strata

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

School Selection

Within each of the 18 region-by school strata, schools were selected with probability proportional to size, using systematic selection without replacement. If a school refused to participate, or if it had closed, a replacement school from the same stratum was randomly selected, using the same method as above. For 2017, the criteria for an elementary school to be selected and included in the sample was set for a school with at least 15 students in grade 7, and 15 students in grade 8 (for a total of 30 or more in grades 7 and 8 combined). The criteria for a secondary school to be selected and included in the sample, the school had to have at least 80 students in total for grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Secondary schools with a total of less than 80 students were not eligible for selection.

Class Selection

Within a selected school, a grade stratified list of all eligible classes was used to randomly select classrooms with equal probability and without replacement. The intention was one class per grade; however, sometimes more than one class had to be selected. If the selected classroom was unable to participate a replacement class from the same school and grade was randomly re-selected. Classrooms that were excluded included special education classes; English as Second Language (ESL) classes and classes with fewer than four returned consent forms. All students within the selected classes were eligible to participate in the survey.

Questionnaires

The OSDUHS has four questionnaire forms (Form A and B for Elementary Schools; Form A and B for Secondary Schools). In 2017, there were 56 core questions (found in all four questionnaire forms) and additional questions found in only one or two of the questionnaire forms. For instance, elementary school student questionnaires are excluded from certain topics (such as illicit drug use) and therefore these grades are excluded from certain sections of the report.

Questionnaires were intentionally designed without skip patterns in order to protect students' privacy, ensuring students would be completing the questionnaire at roughly equal times regardless of what behaviours they engaged in (i.e. students who use drugs would not take longer to complete the survey because they would answer the drug questions). Skip patterns were also avoided in order to prevent navigational errors. Questionnaires were distributed randomly within each classroom (alternating form A and form B).

Data Collection

Research Approval

The 2017 OSDUHS protocol was approved by Research Ethics Boards at CAMH and York University, as well as research review committees at school boards (as required). Consent for participation required the approval of: school boards, school principals, classroom teachers and parents (if students were under 18 years old) and students themselves. Details can be found in the CAMH technical report ¹ briefly:

- Permission was first granted by the school boards, and the Director of Education
- For selected schools, participation was contingent on the approval of the principals

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

- For selected classrooms, teachers had to grant permission for their classroom to participate
- For students in selected classrooms, a signed parental consent form was required for participation (if under 18 years old); consent form also required student signature.
- If students did not return the consent form they were not allowed to participate; survey weights were adjusted for non-response.

Consent

Participation in the OSDUHS required both parental and student consent. ‘Active’ parental consent forms were distributed to students in selected classrooms. Active consent requires parents to give explicit consent for students’ participation (as opposed to ‘passive’ consent which would assume student participation unless parents opted out). The consent form required both a parent and a student signature. If the student was over 18 years old, no parental consent was required. Consent forms were provided in English and French, as there were no requests for the form to be prepared in any other non-official languages. Students who did not return a dual-signed consent form on the day of (or prior to) the survey were not allowed to participate.¹

Data Collection in Field

Trained staff from the Institute for Social Research (ISR) at York University were responsible for all contact with school and in-field data collection. Detailed information about in field data collection and training can be found in technical documentation.¹ Briefly, ISR was responsible for:

- obtaining permission from schools to participate;
- making arrangements with selected schools regarding data collection;
- administering the survey to the students in selected classrooms; and
- entering student responses into a machine-readable data file.

Post Survey Processing

Data Editing

Several data quality enhancements were made to the final dataset by the ISR, prior to delivery to CAMH.^{1,3} This includes removal of cases from the final dataset that met any one of the following conditions:

- did not report their sex at birth;
- only answered demographic questions;
- obtained assistance to complete their survey from a teacher;
- reporting use of a fictitious drug (i.e. “adrenochromes”); or
- reporting using all of the core illicit drugs 40 or more times in the past year.

Item Missingness

According to CAMH diagnostics, both the single item missing and the cumulated item missing rates were low suggesting quality reporting. Across the 56 core survey questions, the item missing average was

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

about 1.5%. Missing responses <5% were not statistically imputed, but were excluded from calculations. Missing responses $\geq 5\%$ were also excluded from calculations; however, where estimates are presented in tables or figures, the percentage missing is shown in the notes sections below the relevant table/figure.

Post Stratification

The 2017 OSDUHS weighted sample was compared with the most current school enrollment figures from the Ministry of Education based on the 2013/2014 academic year.¹ Differences between the sample and the sex-by-grade enrollment distributions varied by region. To improve the quality of the estimates by reducing potential nonresponse and non-coverage bias, CAMH calculated post-survey adjustments for the sex by grade distribution within each of the eleven regional stratifications separately to restore each regions demographic composition to the population composition. The adjusted OSDUHS sample corresponds well to the most recent Ontario enrolment estimates.

Statistical Analysis

All analysis was conducted using the 'svy' procedure in Stata 15.1 to take into account the surveys complex stratified cluster design. In order to calculate appropriate variance estimates, confidence intervals and p-values, the entire sample must be used in the analysis. Thus, domain analysis using indicator variables (0, 1 coding) was used to ensure correct estimates are obtained for subpopulation samples.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

DATA RELEASE

CAMH does not provide data suppression rules; however in the supplementary documentation provided to supplementary health units, it states that:

“We recommend that the relative standard error – the ratio of the standard error to its estimate – or the coefficient of variation (CV) be employed to identify unstable estimates. Individual users are responsible for decisions about estimate suppression.”

In this report, we used release guidelines based on the Coefficient of Variation (CV) seen in Table 9.3. These guidelines are also used by CAMH in their reports and are recommended by Statistics Canada.

Table 9.3
Data Suppression and Release Guidelines

Coefficient of Variation (CV) in %	Type of Estimate	Label in Reports/Tables
CV >33.3	Non-releasable	Estimates labelled with NR
16.6 ≤ CV ≤ 33.3	Results should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability	Estimates labelled with a *
CV <16.6	Acceptable for unrestricted release	Estimates not labelled

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

LIMITATIONS

Sampling Frame

Although the sampling frame captures approximately 91% of all grade 7 to 12 students in Ontario (i.e. children and adolescents aged 12 to 18 years),³ approximately nine per cent of grade 7 to 12 students are not captured in the frame, including:

- students enrolled in private schools or those who are homeschooled;
- youth who are institutionalized for correctional or health reasons;
- students schooled in first nation reserves, military bases or in remote northern regions of Ontario; and
- students who have dropped out/not enrolled in school. Results from the OSDUHS do not attempt to extrapolate to this group of youth.

Additionally, the list of publicly funded schools used to select the sample does not capture any schools which were built after 2013/2014. This outdated list is particularly problematic for high growth areas like Peel where numerous newly built schools would be excluded from participating.

Non-Response Bias

Response rates to the OSDUHS have decreased since its initiation in 1977. In 2017, the student response rate was 61% for Ontario while in Peel the response rate was 63%. This is higher than the response rates for the 2015 OSDUHS in Ontario (59%) and in Peel (61%), but lower than the rates in 2013 [i.e., Ontario (63%) and Peel (71%)]. Table 9.4 contains information regarding reasons for non-response for 2017. In Peel, approximately 27% of non-response was due to non-consent, while 10% was due to absenteeism. Students who did not have consent to complete the survey, or who were absent from class on the day of the survey may be different than students who complete the survey. The provincial reports released by CAMH investigate this issue further.

Social Desirability Self-Report

The OSDUHS contains questions addressing sensitive topic areas, including alcohol and drug use. Student responses may be subject to social desirability bias whereby students respond in a favourable or socially desirable manner. Since there is no direct validation of student responses, estimates of the impact of this phenomenon is limited.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

PARTICIPATION AND RESPONSE RATE

In 2017, a total of 1,680 students were surveyed in Peel across 29 schools in 107 classrooms. The student completion rate was 63% (Table 9.4). The sample was weighted to represent approximately 111,547 students in grades 7 to 12 in Peel.

The school participation rate observed in Peel (60%) in 2017 was higher than that observed in 2015 (47%) and lower than the relatively high rate in 2013 (72%).

Table 9.4
Participation and Response Rates for the 2017 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, Peel and Ontario

	Peel	Ontario
Schools Surveyed	29 (n=8 Grade 7 – 8; n=21 Grade 9 – 12)	214 (n=94 Grade 7 – 8; n=120 Grade 9 – 12)
School Participation	29/48 (60%)	214/353 (61%)
Classes Surveyed	n=107	n=764
Class Participation	Not available	94%
Students Surveyed	n=2,678	n=18,773
Student Completion	n=1,680 (63%)	n=11,435 (61%)
Reason for non-completions	Absent: 10% (n=280) No consent: 27% (n=714) Other non-response 0.1% (n=4)	Absent: 12% (n=2,192) No consent: 27% (n=5,020) Other non-response 1% (n=126)

Source: Northrup D, McCague H, Chi T, Myles R, Park S, Pollard J. The design and implementation of the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey 2017. Institute for Social Research. York University, Toronto, ON: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. 2017.

A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

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A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017

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A look at Peel youth in grades 7–12: Drugs

Results from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey, 2013–2017