

JANUARY 2022

RCYSUC NEWSLETTER



Richland County Youth Substance Use Coalition

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Dear Coalition Members,

Welcome to a new year! Thank you for reading the January issue of the Richland County Youth Substance Use Coalition (RCYSUC) Prevention Newsletter! In this newsletter you'll find the latest news, resources, webinars and more. As a reminder, the next RCYSUC meeting will be held via Zoom on **January 31st, 2022 @ 3pm**. The next Committee meetings will also be on Zoom:

Prescription Drugs - Jan 10th @ 3pm

Alcohol - Jan 19th @ 12pm

Data & Evaluation - Jan 24th @ 12pm

Thanks for your dedication + support!



drugfreerc.org



facebook.com/RCYSUC

DRUG & ALCOHOL PREVENTION CONTEST



If you are in elementary school, middle school, or high school (or are a parent/guardian of someone in that age group) consider entering the prevention contest! You could win prizes, have your work be shared around Richland County and learn about substance use and prevention. Learn more at drugfreerc.org/contest.

NEWS + RESOURCES

[Framing The Conversation Around Youth Substance Use Prevention](#)

This guide has helpful information on how to frame communications with youth regarding substance use. The way something is worded can often be the most important part in making sure a message/conversation is effective. Page 4 has some great examples. Frame the message appropriately depending on the situation, make a case for why someone shouldn't use substances, then suggest actions that youth can take. Check out the guide [HERE](#). A shorter 2 page guide is available [HERE](#).

[Trends/Characteristics of Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Fentanyl](#)

Synthetic opioids, including illicitly manufactured fentanyl, was involved in 64% of the more than 100,000 drug overdose deaths during May 2020-April 2021. These percentages are even higher in the Northeast (80%) and Midwest (73%). Approximately 4 in 10 deaths also involved stimulants. Approximately half of those who died had no pulse when first responders arrived. Injection was the most frequent route of drug use. The majority of deaths occurred in the user's own home. Males are also dying at a much higher rate than females. To help end this horrible epidemic, many steps can be taken. There needs to be better education on recognizing drug use signs/overdose, encouragement of fentanyl test strips, and greater naloxone availability and education. Much more information is available in the report [HERE](#).

UPCOMING TRAININGS AND WEBINARS

Cannabis Prevention 101 - Microlearning Toolkit

Self-paced. 4 total lessons, each takes about 10 minutes.

[Click Here](#)

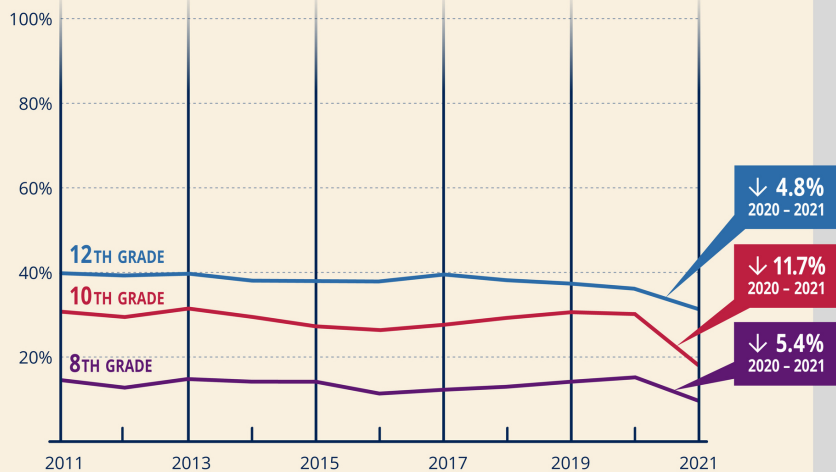
Framing Fundamentals Workshop 1 - Framing Prevention Messages

Wednesday, January 19th, 2022 from 12-1:30PM

[Register Now](#)

MONITORING THE FUTURE SURVEY 2021

U.S. Students Reporting Any Past-Year Illicit Drug Use*



*Illicit drug use in this survey was defined as use of marijuana, LSD, other hallucinogens, crack, other cocaine, or heroin; or any use of narcotics other than heroin, amphetamines, sedatives (barbiturates), or tranquilizers not under a doctor's orders.

Source: 2021 Monitoring the Future Survey

The Monitoring the Future Survey is conducted each year. Illicit drug use (defined in the image on the left) saw record declines in 2021, the highest one-year decrease since the survey began in 1975. Information about the survey methods, data tables on individual substances, and additional findings can be found on the NIH website [HERE](#).

RCYSUC WEBSITE

Friendly reminder to check out the new Coalition website at drugfreerc.org. Thanks to everyone at DRM Productions for all your help! Learn more about the Coalition, the Drug-Free Communities grant, find resources for teens and parents, read copies of past newsletters and news releases, and more.

RCYSUC Mission: To empower Richland County youth, families, and the community to reduce youth substance use through education, intervention, and participation.

The RCYSUC is brought to you by [Richland Public Health](#) and funded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

