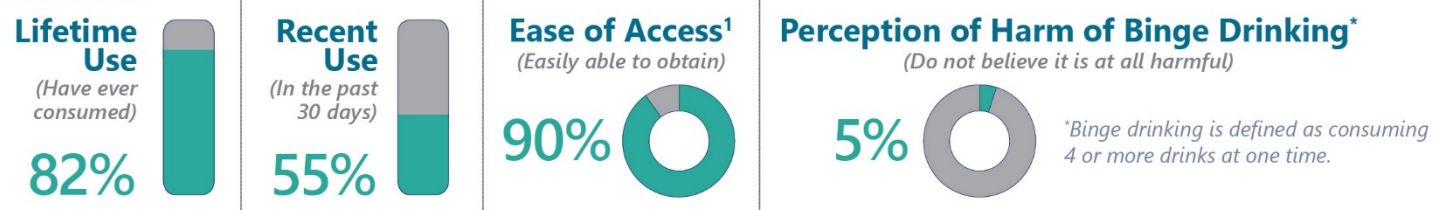


# 2017 Substance Use Assessment Executive Summary

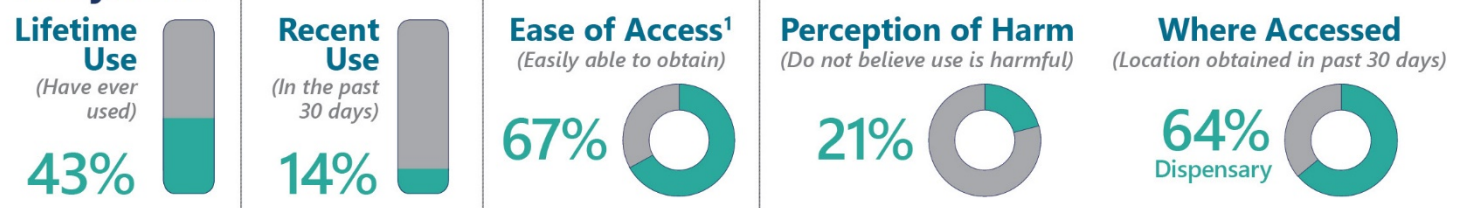
Behavioral Health Services Prevention Department

The Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services Prevention Department undertook a study in spring 2017 to understand the current state of substance use countywide. The following results are some key takeaways from the study. The data below are compiled from a Community-Wide Survey with a sample of 1,015 residents age 18 and older, plus 18 key informant interviews and focus groups with youth under 18, providers, and community members.

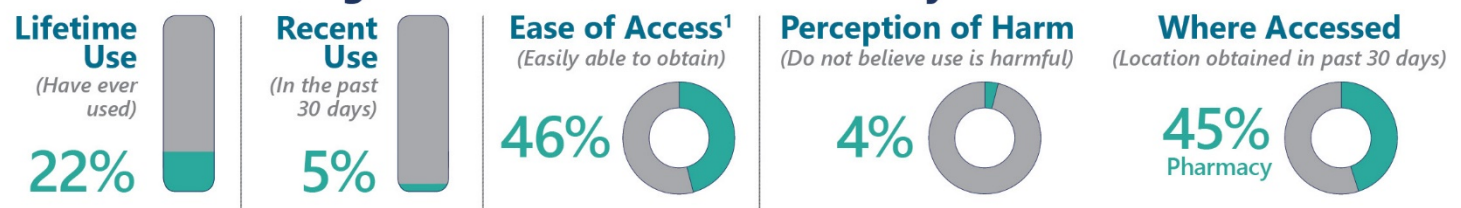
## Alcohol



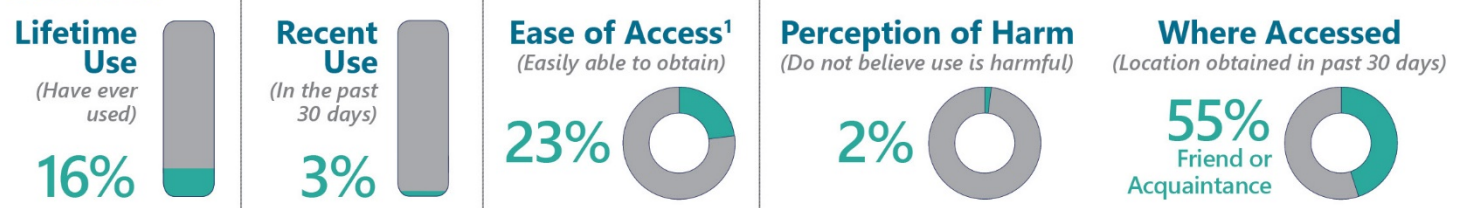
## Marijuana



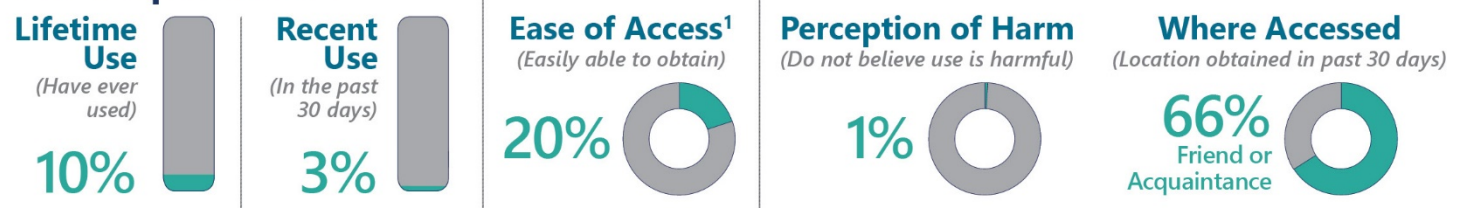
## Prescribed Rx Drugs Used in an Unsanctioned Way



## Cocaine



## Methamphetamine



<sup>1</sup>Selected "Very Easy" or "Fairly Easy"

## The Community Perspective

**88%** of respondents believed it was important to have prevention services for youth

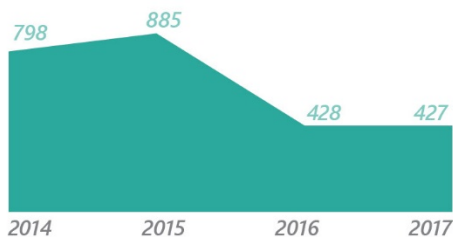
**78%** of respondents believed it was important to have prevention services for adults

**53%** of respondents were concerned about the amount of alcohol and/or drugs in their community

**42%** of respondents reported feeling connected to their community

## Santa Clara County Facts

### Drug Overdose Deaths<sup>2</sup>



### Opioid Prescriptions<sup>3</sup> (Per 100 residents)

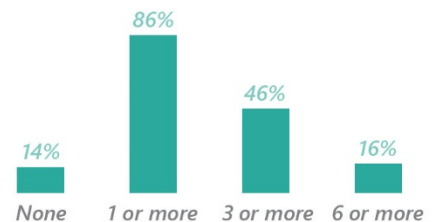
**26.4**  
Santa Clara County

**44.8**  
California

**66.5**  
United States

Santa Clara County ranks lower than the state and the country

### Number of Substances (Ever used)



## Marijuana in the Community

**82%** of respondents believed marijuana is acceptable to use for medicinal purposes

**51%** of respondents believed marijuana is acceptable to use recreationally

**21%** of respondents believed marijuana is not at all harmful

**49%** of those respondents who had ever tried marijuana used it for the first time before age 18

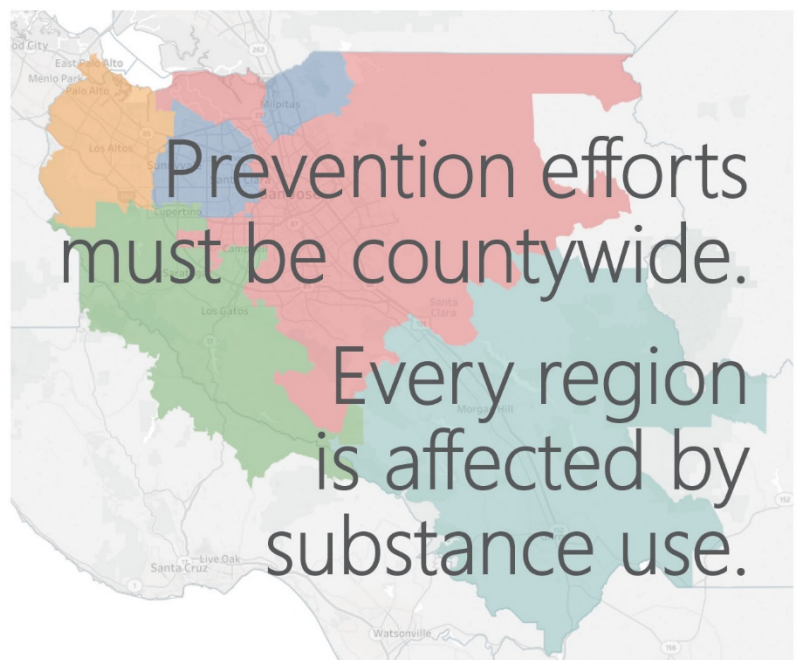
## The Bottom Line<sup>4</sup>

### Critical Aspects of Prevention Programs Identified by Providers<sup>5</sup>

- Education about the effects of substances
- Trauma informed
- Culturally and gender responsive
- Acknowledge underlying mental health issues
- Decrease stigma associated with addiction

### What types of programs does the community want?

- Programs that aid in the development of emotional intelligence
- Programs that teach skills to help manage trauma, failure, and success
- Programs that connect individuals to the community
- Programs that educate individuals and providers
- Programs specifically targeted to youth and families



<sup>2</sup> Source: County Health Rankings, 2017

<sup>3</sup> Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2016

<sup>4</sup> Source: ASR led key informant interviews and focus groups



# Youth Substance Use<sup>4</sup>

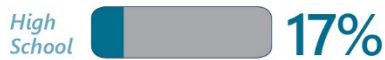
Preventing substance use among youth is one of the core aims of the Behavioral Health Services Prevention Department. This page contains key takeaways from data pertaining to youth that comes from Project Cornerstone.

## Alcohol

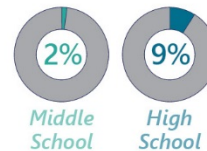
### Lifetime Use *(Have ever consumed)*



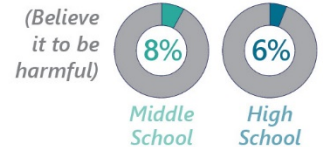
### Recent Use *(In the past 30 days)*



### Binge Drinking *(In the past two weeks)*



### Perception of Harm of Binge Drinking

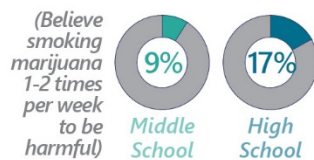


## Marijuana

### Recent Use *(In the past 30 days)*



### Perception of Harm

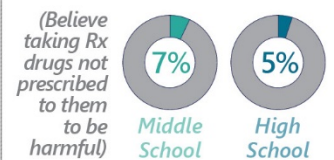


## Rx Drugs Not Prescribed to Them

### Recent Use *(In the past 30 days)*

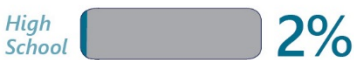


### Perception of Harm



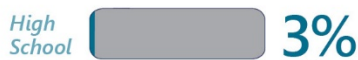
## Cocaine

### Lifetime Use *(Have ever used)*



## Inhalants

### Recent Use *(In the past 30 days)*



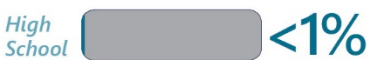
## Elementary School Student Facts

**7%** of elementary school students have consumed alcohol in the past year (more than a few sips)

**4%** of elementary school students have used marijuana in the past year

## Heroin

### Recent Use *(In the past year)*



## Drunk Driving

**16%** of middle school students have ridden in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol

**18%** of high school students have ridden in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol

**<1%** of middle school students reported driving a car after drinking alcohol

**3%** of high school students reported driving a car after drinking alcohol

<sup>4</sup> Source for all data on this page: Project Cornerstone (<http://www.projectcornerstone.org/html/youthsurveyresults.html>)