

Past 30-Day Prescription Painkiller Use Without a Prescription  
among 6th-12th Grade Students  
In Georgia:  
System Level Ranking  
2017-2018

Submitted by:

DR. JENNIFER ZORLAND  
EVALUATION DIRECTOR  
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

FOR THE:

COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL AND DRUGS



Statewide results suggest that of the 674,354 respondents to the 2017-2018 Georgia Student Health Survey 2.0 (GSHS 2.0), 20,393 (3.0%) of students from the 6<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade indicated that in the past 30 days they have used a prescription painkiller without having a doctor’s prescription. Below (Table 1) are the highest public school system level rankings for such use.

**Table 1. Highest proportion of past 30 day prescription painkiller users without prescription 2017-2018**

	<b>Public School System</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>n-used</b>	<b>% used</b>
1	Jenkins County	442	26	5.9%
2	Hancock County	208	12	5.8%
3	Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)*	485	27	5.6%
4	Bacon County	780	43	5.5%
5	Thomaston-Upson County	1602	83	5.2%
6	Habersham County	2860	147	5.1%
7**	Social Circle City	654	32	4.9%
7**	Wheeler County	411	20	4.9%
8	Talbot County	166	8	4.8%
9	Liberty County	3845	179	4.7%
10	Burke County	1485	69	4.6%

\* DJJ has its own school system

\*\* Social Circle City Schools and Wheeler County Schools tied for 7<sup>th</sup> in the rankings.

Table 2 ranks the proportion of use for the entire state of Georgia at the public school system level.

**Table 2. Proportion of past 30 day prescription painkiller users without prescription 2017-2018**

	<b>County</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>n-used</b>	<b>% used</b>
1	Jenkins County	442	26	5.9%
2	Hancock County	208	12	5.8%
3	Department of Juvenile Justice	485	27	5.6%
4	Bacon County	780	43	5.5%
5	Thomaston-Upson County	1602	83	5.2%
6	Habersham County	2860	147	5.1%
7	Social Circle City	654	32	4.9%
8	Wheeler County	411	20	4.9%
8	Talbot County	166	8	4.8%
9	Liberty County	3845	179	4.7%
10	Burke County	1485	69	4.6%
11	Clayton County	21357	980	4.6%
11	Macon County	552	25	4.5%

12	McDuffie County	1415	64	4.5%
12	Towns County	488	22	4.5%
12	Stewart County	157	7	4.5%
12	Houston County	10413	457	4.4%
13	Seminole County	569	24	4.2%
14	Dawson County	1387	58	4.2%
14	Richmond County	11017	456	4.1%
15	Meriwether County	854	35	4.1%
15	Rockdale County	6957	281	4.0%
16	Warren County	199	8	4.0%
16	Glascocock County	228	9	3.9%
17	Effingham County	4885	191	3.9%
17	Colquitt County	3207	123	3.8%
18	Murray County	2817	106	3.8%
18	Newton County	8765	328	3.7%
19	Peach County	1313	49	3.7%
19	Screven County	810	30	3.7%
19	Lumpkin County	1514	56	3.7%
19	Telfair County	623	23	3.7%
19	Walker County	3428	126	3.7%
19	Madison County	1885	69	3.7%
19	Echols County	301	11	3.7%
19	Harris County	2080	76	3.7%
19	Bulloch County	2961	107	3.6%
20	Franklin County	1539	55	3.6%
20	Schley County	561	20	3.6%
20	Gilmer County	1545	55	3.6%
20	Toombs County	1079	38	3.5%
21	Barrow County	5287	186	3.5%
21	Johnson County	542	19	3.5%
21	Douglas County	10451	366	3.5%
21	Dekalb County	35892	1249	3.5%
21	Trion City	548	19	3.5%
21	Cook County	1126	39	3.5%
21	Troup County	4336	150	3.5%
21	Greene County	984	34	3.5%
21	Tattnall County	1400	48	3.4%
22	Lamar County	1052	36	3.4%
22	Early County	878	30	3.4%
22	Oconee County	3340	114	3.4%
22	Bibb County	8032	274	3.4%
22	Wilkinson County	532	18	3.4%
22	Stephens County	1540	52	3.4%

22	Bryan County	3653	123	3.4%
22	Jones County	2152	72	3.3%
23	Putnam County	1023	34	3.3%
23	Dougherty County	4859	161	3.3%
23	Columbia County	10901	359	3.3%
23	Floyd County	4403	145	3.3%
23	Crawford County	584	19	3.3%
23	Hart County	1392	45	3.2%
24	Rome City	2447	79	3.2%
24	Pike County	1245	40	3.2%
24	Heard County	841	27	3.2%
24	Atlanta Public Schools	16598	531	3.2%
24	Walton County	6111	195	3.2%
24	Clarke County	4977	158	3.2%
24	Gordon County	2742	87	3.2%
24	Charlton County	665	21	3.2%
24	Savannah-Chatham County	13519	426	3.2%
24	Decatur County	1994	62	3.1%
25	Clay County	164	5	3.0%
26	Lowndes County	3946	120	3.0%
26	Chattooga County	1125	34	3.0%
26	Butts County	1259	38	3.0%
26	Commerce City	702	21	3.0%
26	Miller County	369	11	3.0%
26	Gwinnett County	72776	2162	3.0%
26	Jasper County	876	26	3.0%
26	Valdosta City	2666	79	3.0%
26	Brantley County	1317	39	3.0%
26	Coffee County	2642	78	3.0%
26	Bartow County	5434	160	2.9%
27	Candler County	787	23	2.9%
27	Carroll County	5853	171	2.9%
27	Cobb County	43146	1253	2.9%
27	Elbert County	1068	31	2.9%
27	Gainesville City	2670	77	2.9%
27	Ware County	2152	62	2.9%
27	State Charter Schools	2611	75	2.9%
27	Thomasville City	871	25	2.9%
27	Coweta County	9239	265	2.9%
27	Crisp County	1292	37	2.9%
27	Mitchell County	909	26	2.9%
27	Fulton County	39186	1118	2.9%
27	Glynn County	4367	124	2.8%

28	Laurens County	2572	73	2.8%
28	Cherokee County	19559	553	2.8%
28	White County	1593	45	2.8%
28	Griffin-Spalding County	3362	94	2.8%
28	Paulding County	12572	350	2.8%
28	City Schools of Decatur	1779	49	2.8%
28	Brooks County	728	20	2.7%
29	Haralson County	1423	39	2.7%
29	Lincoln County	443	12	2.7%
29	McIntosh County	482	13	2.7%
29	Terrell County	562	15	2.7%
29	Appling County	1199	32	2.7%
29	Muscogee County	11573	303	2.6%
30	Henry County	18332	475	2.6%
30	Turner County	427	11	2.6%
30	Wayne County	1866	48	2.6%
30	Jackson County	3148	80	2.5%
31	Carrollton City	2021	51	2.5%
31	Quitman County	119	3	2.5%
31	Georgia Virtual School	240	6	2.5%
31	Long County	1320	33	2.5%
31	Washington County	1164	29	2.5%
31	Whitfield County	5301	132	2.5%
31	Marietta City	3094	77	2.5%
31	Monroe County	1573	39	2.5%
31	Dade County	810	20	2.5%
31	Dublin City	810	20	2.5%
31	Jefferson City	1550	38	2.5%
31	Thomas County	2163	53	2.5%
31	Polk County	2908	71	2.4%
32	Tift County	2864	69	2.4%
32	Dooly County	374	9	2.4%
32	Treutlen County	336	8	2.4%
32	Irwin County	640	15	2.3%
33	Fannin County	1324	31	2.3%
33	Grady County	1640	38	2.3%
33	Marion County	493	11	2.2%
34	Clinch County	545	12	2.2%
34	Montgomery County	365	8	2.2%
34	Baldwin County	1964	43	2.2%
34	Worth County	1242	27	2.2%
34	Fayette County	8907	192	2.2%
34	Sumter County	1173	25	2.1%

35	Bleckley County	996	21	2.1%
35	Wilkes County	618	13	2.1%
35	Vidalia City	904	19	2.1%
35	Emanuel County	1452	30	2.1%
35	Cartersville City	1945	40	2.1%
35	Wilcox County	488	10	2.0%
36	Banks County	1278	26	2.0%
36	Ben Hill County	1046	21	2.0%
36	Hall County	10554	207	2.0%
36	Chattahoochee County	463	9	1.9%
37	Berrien County	1242	24	1.9%
37	Lee County	2548	49	1.9%
37	Calhoun City	1708	32	1.9%
37	Chickamauga City	649	12	1.8%
38	State Charter Schools II	1245	23	1.8%
38	Pickens County	1518	28	1.8%
38	Pulaski County	490	9	1.8%
38	Morgan County	1313	24	1.8%
38	Catoosa County	4503	80	1.8%
38	Lanier County	622	11	1.8%
38	Baker County	115	2	1.7%
39	Camden County	3731	64	1.7%
39	Pelham City	548	9	1.6%
40	Taylor County	557	9	1.6%
40	Union County	1326	21	1.6%
40	Twiggs County	322	5	1.6%
40	Oglethorpe County	874	13	1.5%
41	Jeff Davis County	1217	18	1.5%
41	Dalton Public Schools	3245	47	1.4%
42	Evans County	695	10	1.4%
42	Pierce County	1474	21	1.4%
42	Forsyth County	19716	279	1.4%
42	Bremen City	958	13	1.4%
42	Webster County	155	2	1.3%
43	Buford City	1972	25	1.3%
43	Rabun County	846	10	1.2%
44	Dodge County	1256	13	1.0%
45	Atkinson County	563	5	0.9%
46	Calhoun County	231	2	0.9%
46	Randolph County	5	0	0.0%
47	State Schools	148	0	0.0%

**Map 1. Public School Systems with highest proportion of past 30 day prescription painkiller users without a prescription - 2017-2018.**  
**The star represents the Social Circle City School system**

