

**Table 6.13A Main Reasons for Last Episode of Misuse of Prescription Psychotherapeutics: Among Past Year Misusers Aged 12 or Older of Each Type of Prescription Psychotherapeutic; Numbers in Thousands, 2019 and 2020**

| Main Reason for Last Episode of Misuse    | Past Year                   | Past Year                   | Past Year               | Past Year               | Past Year                  | Past Year                  | Past Year              | Past Year              |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Pain Reliever Misuse (2019) | Pain Reliever Misuse (2020) | Stimulant Misuse (2019) | Stimulant Misuse (2020) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2019) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2020) | Sedative Misuse (2019) | Sedative Misuse (2020) |
| Relieve Physical Pain                     | 6,147                       | <i>5,815</i>                | --                      | --                      | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Relax or Relieve Tension                  | 933                         | <i>731</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 2,102                      | <i>2,360</i>               | 211                    | <i>167</i>             |
| Help with Sleep                           | 347                         | <i>401</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 1,066                      | <i>1,220</i>               | 730                    | <i>939</i>             |
| Help with Feelings or Emotion             | 359                         | <i>500</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 806                        | <i>683</i>                 | 45                     | <i>42</i>              |
| Experiment or See What It's Like          | 208                         | <i>125</i>                  | 280                     | <i>176</i>              | 342                        | <i>146</i>                 | 19                     | <i>18</i>              |
| Feel Good or Get High                     | 1,056                       | <i>1,017</i>                | 473                     | <i>577</i>              | 558                        | <i>557</i>                 | 44                     | <i>12</i>              |
| Increase or Decrease Effect of Other Drug | 72                          | <i>83</i>                   | 51                      | <i>47</i>               | 91                         | <i>73</i>                  | 8                      | <i>*</i>               |
| Because I Am Hooked or Have to Have It    | 181                         | <i>206</i>                  | 9                       | <i>26</i>               | 36                         | <i>*</i>                   | 4                      | <i>*</i>               |
| Help Lose Weight                          | --                          | --                          | 200                     | <i>219</i>              | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Concentrate                          | --                          | --                          | 1,343                   | <i>1,594</i>            | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Be Alert or Stay Awake               | --                          | --                          | 1,456                   | <i>1,435</i>            | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Study                                | --                          | --                          | 922                     | <i>727</i>              | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Some Other Reason                         | 59                          | <i>127</i>                  | 115                     | <i>174</i>              | 107                        | <i>261</i>                 | 16                     | <i>8</i>               |

\* = low precision; -- = not available; da = does not apply; nc = not comparable due to methodological changes; nr = not reported due to measurement issues.

NOTE: Estimates in the 2020 column are italicized to indicate caution should be used when comparing estimates between 2020 and prior years because of methodological changes for 2020. Due to these changes, significance testing between 2020 and prior years was not performed. See the *2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological Summary and Definitions* for details.

NOTE: Only a subset of reasons for misuse apply for each prescription psychotherapeutic. Inapplicable reasons are marked as "--" (i.e., not available). Respondents who wrote in an inapplicable reason as their "other reason" (e.g., pain relief as the reason for tranquilizer misuse) were retained in the "Some Other Reason" category.

NOTE: Respondents with unknown information for their reason for misuse were excluded from the analysis, including respondents who reported some other reason but had unknown data in their write-in responses.

Definitions: Measures and terms are defined in Appendix A.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2019 and Quarters 1 and 4, 2020.

**Table 6.13B Main Reasons for Last Episode of Misuse of Prescription Psychotherapeutics: Among Past Year Misusers Aged 12 or Older of Each Type of Prescription Psychotherapeutic; Percentages, 2019 and 2020**

| Main Reason for Last Episode of Misuse    | Past Year                   | Past Year                   | Past Year               | Past Year               | Past Year                  | Past Year                  | Past Year              | Past Year              |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Pain Reliever Misuse (2019) | Pain Reliever Misuse (2020) | Stimulant Misuse (2019) | Stimulant Misuse (2020) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2019) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2020) | Sedative Misuse (2019) | Sedative Misuse (2020) |
| Relieve Physical Pain                     | 65.7                        | <i>64.6</i>                 | --                      | --                      | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Relax or Relieve Tension                  | 10.0                        | <i>8.1</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 41.1                       | <i>44.1</i>                | 19.6                   | <i>13.9</i>            |
| Help with Sleep                           | 3.7                         | <i>4.5</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 20.9                       | <i>22.8</i>                | 67.8                   | <i>78.0</i>            |
| Help with Feelings or Emotion             | 3.8                         | <i>5.6</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 15.8                       | <i>12.8</i>                | 4.2                    | <i>3.5</i>             |
| Experiment or See What It's Like          | 2.2                         | <i>1.4</i>                  | 5.8                     | <i>3.5</i>              | 6.7                        | <i>2.7</i>                 | 1.8                    | <i>1.5</i>             |
| Feel Good or Get High                     | 11.3                        | <i>11.3</i>                 | 9.8                     | <i>11.6</i>             | 10.9                       | <i>10.4</i>                | 4.1                    | <i>1.0</i>             |
| Increase or Decrease Effect of Other Drug | 0.8                         | <i>0.9</i>                  | 1.1                     | <i>1.0</i>              | 1.8                        | <i>1.4</i>                 | 0.8                    | *                      |
| Because I Am Hooked or Have to Have It    | 1.9                         | <i>2.3</i>                  | 0.2                     | <i>0.5</i>              | 0.7                        | *                          | 0.3                    | *                      |
| Help Lose Weight                          | --                          | --                          | 4.1                     | <i>4.4</i>              | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Concentrate                          | --                          | --                          | 27.7                    | <i>32.0</i>             | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Be Alert or Stay Awake               | --                          | --                          | 30.0                    | <i>28.8</i>             | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Study                                | --                          | --                          | 19.0                    | <i>14.6</i>             | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Some Other Reason                         | 0.6                         | <i>1.4</i>                  | 2.4                     | <i>3.5</i>              | 2.1                        | <i>4.9</i>                 | 1.4                    | <i>0.6</i>             |

\* = low precision; -- = not available; da = does not apply; nc = not comparable due to methodological changes; nr = not reported due to measurement issues.

NOTE: Estimates in the 2020 column are italicized to indicate caution should be used when comparing estimates between 2020 and prior years because of methodological changes for 2020. Due to these changes, significance testing between 2020 and prior years was not performed. See the *2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological Summary and Definitions* for details.

NOTE: Only a subset of reasons for misuse apply for each prescription psychotherapeutic. Inapplicable reasons are marked as "--" (i.e., not available). Respondents who wrote in an inapplicable reason as their "other reason" (e.g., pain relief as the reason for tranquilizer misuse) were retained in the "Some Other Reason" category.

NOTE: Respondents with unknown information for their reason for misuse were excluded from the analysis, including respondents who reported some other reason but had unknown data in their write-in responses.

Definitions: Measures and terms are defined in Appendix A.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2019 and Quarters 1 and 4, 2020.

**Table 6.14A Main Reasons for Last Episode of Misuse of Prescription Psychotherapeutics: Among Past Year Misusers Aged 18 or Older of Each Type of Prescription Psychotherapeutic; Numbers in Thousands, 2019 and 2020**

| Main Reason for Last Episode of Misuse    | Past Year                   | Past Year                   | Past Year               | Past Year               | Past Year                  | Past Year                  | Past Year              | Past Year              |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Pain Reliever Misuse (2019) | Pain Reliever Misuse (2020) | Stimulant Misuse (2019) | Stimulant Misuse (2020) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2019) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2020) | Sedative Misuse (2019) | Sedative Misuse (2020) |
| Relieve Physical Pain                     | 5,881                       | <i>5,627</i>                | --                      | --                      | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Relax or Relieve Tension                  | 882                         | <i>710</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 2,027                      | <i>2,322</i>               | 205                    | <i>154</i>             |
| Help with Sleep                           | 330                         | <i>392</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 1,020                      | <i>1,205</i>               | 696                    | <i>933</i>             |
| Help with Feelings or Emotion             | 314                         | <i>485</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 761                        | <i>671</i>                 | 34                     | <i>42</i>              |
| Experiment or See What It's Like          | 172                         | <i>103</i>                  | 228                     | <i>156</i>              | 261                        | <i>122</i>                 | 16                     | <i>16</i>              |
| Feel Good or Get High                     | 989                         | <i>945</i>                  | 434                     | <i>492</i>              | 451                        | <i>480</i>                 | 30                     | <i>12</i>              |
| Increase or Decrease Effect of Other Drug | 67                          | <i>83</i>                   | 50                      | <i>47</i>               | 83                         | <i>73</i>                  | 8                      | <i>*</i>               |
| Because I Am Hooked or Have to Have It    | 175                         | <i>206</i>                  | 9                       | <i>26</i>               | 36                         | <i>*</i>                   | 4                      | <i>*</i>               |
| Help Lose Weight                          | --                          | --                          | 184                     | <i>206</i>              | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Concentrate                          | --                          | --                          | 1,187                   | <i>1,507</i>            | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Be Alert or Stay Awake               | --                          | --                          | 1,427                   | <i>1,418</i>            | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Study                                | --                          | --                          | 825                     | <i>702</i>              | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Some Other Reason                         | 56                          | <i>118</i>                  | 97                      | <i>158</i>              | 93                         | <i>261</i>                 | 14                     | <i>7</i>               |

\* = low precision; -- = not available; da = does not apply; nc = not comparable due to methodological changes; nr = not reported due to measurement issues.

NOTE: Estimates in the 2020 column are italicized to indicate caution should be used when comparing estimates between 2020 and prior years because of methodological changes for 2020. Due to these changes, significance testing between 2020 and prior years was not performed. See the *2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological Summary and Definitions* for details.

NOTE: Only a subset of reasons for misuse apply for each prescription psychotherapeutic. Inapplicable reasons are marked as "--" (i.e., not available). Respondents who wrote in an inapplicable reason as their "other reason" (e.g., pain relief as the reason for tranquilizer misuse) were retained in the "Some Other Reason" category.

NOTE: Respondents with unknown information for their reason for misuse were excluded from the analysis, including respondents who reported some other reason but had unknown data in their write-in responses.

Definitions: Measures and terms are defined in Appendix A.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2019 and Quarters 1 and 4, 2020.

**Table 6.14B Main Reasons for Last Episode of Misuse of Prescription Psychotherapeutics: Among Past Year Misusers Aged 18 or Older of Each Type of Prescription Psychotherapeutic; Percentages, 2019 and 2020**

| Main Reason for Last Episode of Misuse    | Past Year                   | Past Year                   | Past Year               | Past Year               | Past Year                  | Past Year                  | Past Year              | Past Year              |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Pain Reliever Misuse (2019) | Pain Reliever Misuse (2020) | Stimulant Misuse (2019) | Stimulant Misuse (2020) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2019) | Tranquilizer Misuse (2020) | Sedative Misuse (2019) | Sedative Misuse (2020) |
| Relieve Physical Pain                     | 66.3                        | <i>64.9</i>                 | --                      | --                      | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Relax or Relieve Tension                  | 9.9                         | <i>8.2</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 42.8                       | <i>44.8</i>                | 20.4                   | <i>13.0</i>            |
| Help with Sleep                           | 3.7                         | <i>4.5</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 21.5                       | <i>23.2</i>                | 69.1                   | <i>78.9</i>            |
| Help with Feelings or Emotion             | 3.5                         | <i>5.6</i>                  | --                      | --                      | 16.1                       | <i>12.9</i>                | 3.3                    | <i>3.5</i>             |
| Experiment or See What It's Like          | 1.9                         | <i>1.2</i>                  | 5.1                     | <i>3.3</i>              | 5.5                        | <i>2.3</i>                 | 1.6                    | <i>1.3</i>             |
| Feel Good or Get High                     | 11.2                        | <i>10.9</i>                 | 9.8                     | <i>10.4</i>             | 9.5                        | <i>9.2</i>                 | 3.0                    | <i>1.0</i>             |
| Increase or Decrease Effect of Other Drug | 0.8                         | <i>1.0</i>                  | 1.1                     | <i>1.0</i>              | 1.8                        | <i>1.4</i>                 | 0.8                    | *                      |
| Because I Am Hooked or Have to Have It    | 2.0                         | <i>2.4</i>                  | 0.2                     | <i>0.5</i>              | 0.8                        | *                          | 0.4                    | *                      |
| Help Lose Weight                          | --                          | --                          | 4.1                     | <i>4.4</i>              | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Concentrate                          | --                          | --                          | 26.7                    | <i>32.0</i>             | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Be Alert or Stay Awake               | --                          | --                          | 32.1                    | <i>30.1</i>             | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Help Study                                | --                          | --                          | 18.6                    | <i>14.9</i>             | --                         | --                         | --                     | --                     |
| Some Other Reason                         | 0.6                         | <i>1.4</i>                  | 2.2                     | <i>3.4</i>              | 2.0                        | <i>5.0</i>                 | 1.4                    | <i>0.6</i>             |

\* = low precision; -- = not available; da = does not apply; nc = not comparable due to methodological changes; nr = not reported due to measurement issues.

NOTE: Estimates in the 2020 column are italicized to indicate caution should be used when comparing estimates between 2020 and prior years because of methodological changes for 2020. Due to these changes, significance testing between 2020 and prior years was not performed. See the *2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological Summary and Definitions* for details.

NOTE: Only a subset of reasons for misuse apply for each prescription psychotherapeutic. Inapplicable reasons are marked as "--" (i.e., not available). Respondents who wrote in an inapplicable reason as their "other reason" (e.g., pain relief as the reason for tranquilizer misuse) were retained in the "Some Other Reason" category.

NOTE: Respondents with unknown information for their reason for misuse were excluded from the analysis, including respondents who reported some other reason but had unknown data in their write-in responses.

Definitions: Measures and terms are defined in Appendix A.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2019 and Quarters 1 and 4, 2020.