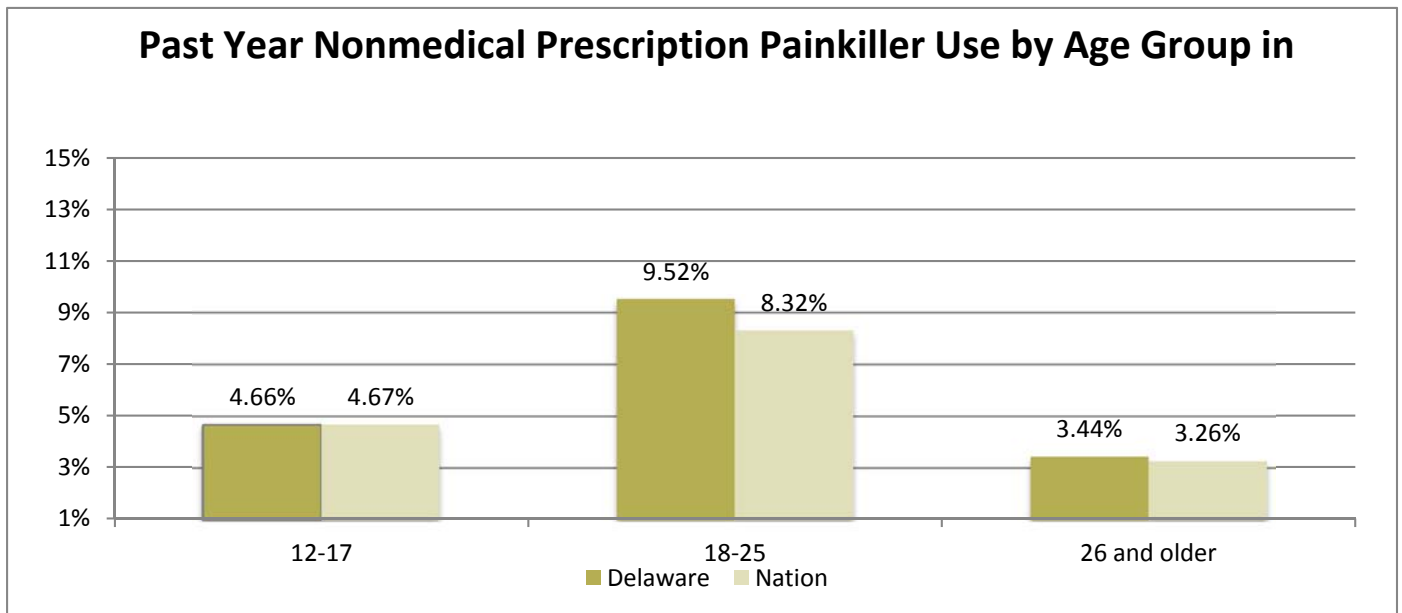


## **Past year nonmedical prescription painkiller use in Delaware is in line with National averages**

The nonmedical use of prescription painkillers is on the rise in America. In 2014 alone, more than 14,000 people died from overdoses involving prescription opioids.<sup>1</sup> Although overdose rates are highest among those aged 25 to 54 years, the nonmedical use of prescription opioids is highest among those aged 12 to 25. Data from the National Study on Drug Use and Health show that the prevalence of past year nonmedical use of prescription painkillers in Delaware is similar to national rates for all age groups: youth aged 12-17, young adults 18 to 25, and adults 26 and older. See the chart below for the prevalence of past year nonmedical prescription opioid use among the youth, young adults, and adults in Delaware and across the nation.



<sup>1</sup> Center for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/overdose.html>