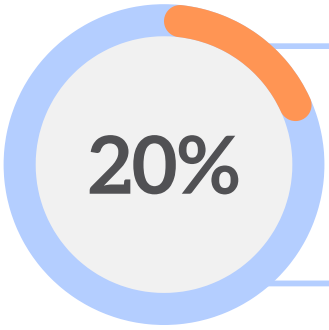
Prevention of Substance Use In Youth



Although 80 percent of American youth reported participation in school-based prevention in 2005, only 20 percent were exposed to effective prevention programs. We hope to change this statistic with increased workforce funding.

NYS OASAS Prevention Providers prevent loss of life among youth, delay age of onset or first use, break the cycle of addiction in families, improve access to services (prevention, treatment and recovery), through school and community partnerships, deliver programs and services that are proven and cost-effective.

Who are prevention providers and what do we do?

- There are 160 NYS OASAS Prevention Providers implementing evidence-based programs (EBPs) and practices across every county in New York State
- NYS OASAS Providers implement a minimum of 60% EBPs that are designed to target community, family and individual specific risk and protective factors across the lifespan
- NYS OASAS Providers deliver EBPs to youth 5-18 years

NYASAP

Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State

Individuals that use substances often begin doing so in adolescence, often with background and experiences that have primed conditions for doing so (NIDA).

- 25% of students may become afflicted with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) by age 18
- 90% of addictions begin before the age of 18
- 41.2% of youth ages 12 and older who had a substance use disorder also had a co-occurring mental illness.

If effective prevention programs were implemented nationwide, substance abuse initiation would decline for 1.5 million youth and be delayed for 2 years on average. In 2003, an estimated:

- 8% fewer youth ages 13 to 15 would not have engaged in binge drinking
- 45.8% fewer youth would not have used cocaine
- 11.5% fewer youth would not have used marijuana
- 10.7% fewer youth would not have smoked regularly

EBPs have statistically significant effects on mental health outcomes and substance use prevention outcomes. Research shows that for each dollar invested in prevention, a savings of up to $10 in treatment for alcohol or other substance abuse can be seen.