

EDUCATORS

FAST FACTS on Marijuana Risks



Marijuana is illegal, addictive and harmful to the body, especially developing brains.

Marijuana Use Impacts Teachers, Administrators and Students

Short-term memory loss
Attention Problems
Judgment changed
Thinking distorted
Coordination lessened
Balance lessened
Heart rate jumps 20-100%
Chance of psychotic episode

Lower Grades: Students who smoke marijuana tend to get lower grades.

Drop-out Rates: Students who use marijuana before age 15 are 3X more likely to leave school by age 16.

Poor Judgment: It causes changes to a person's sense of judgment that can lead to risky behaviors.

Accidents: Sense of time and coordination are altered, raising the risk of accidents in sports or car crashes.

- A recent study found that those who used cannabis heavily in their teens and continued through adulthood showed a permanent drop in IQ of 8 points.
- Marijuana continues to negatively affect attention span, memory, learning, and intelligence after the intoxicating effects of the drug have subsided.
- Youth who are persistent cannabis users have significantly more memory and attention problems; easily getting distracted, misplacing things, forgetting to keep appointments, or returning calls.
- Youth with an average grade of D or below were four times more likely to have used marijuana in the past year than youth with an average grade of A.

THC Levels and Increased Potency

In 1970 3%

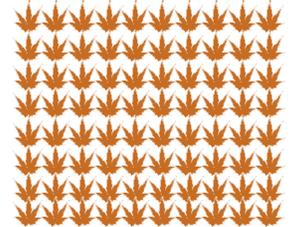


THC in today's marijuana:

Smoked
From 15% to 30%



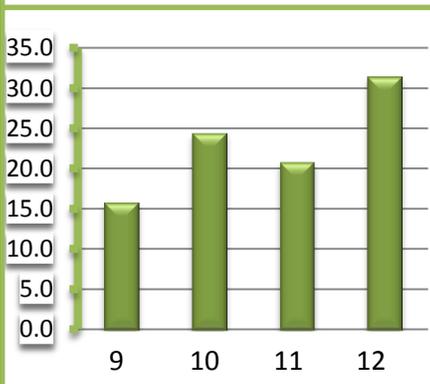
Oils
Vaped or in food
From 50% to 80%



Marijuana affects brain development and is associated with poorer academic performance.

45% of the marijuana consumed in Colorado is in edible form.

Percentage of SC High School Students Reporting Use of Marijuana or Hashish in the Past 30 Days (2014 CTC SURVEY)



Impact on Youth Mental Health:

Marijuana use can worsen depression, leading to more serious mental illnesses such as psychosis, schizophrenia, anxiety, and even suicide.

Addiction:

17% of youth who start using marijuana in their teens, will become dependent upon it.

25% to 50% of those who smoke marijuana daily are more likely to become dependent upon it.