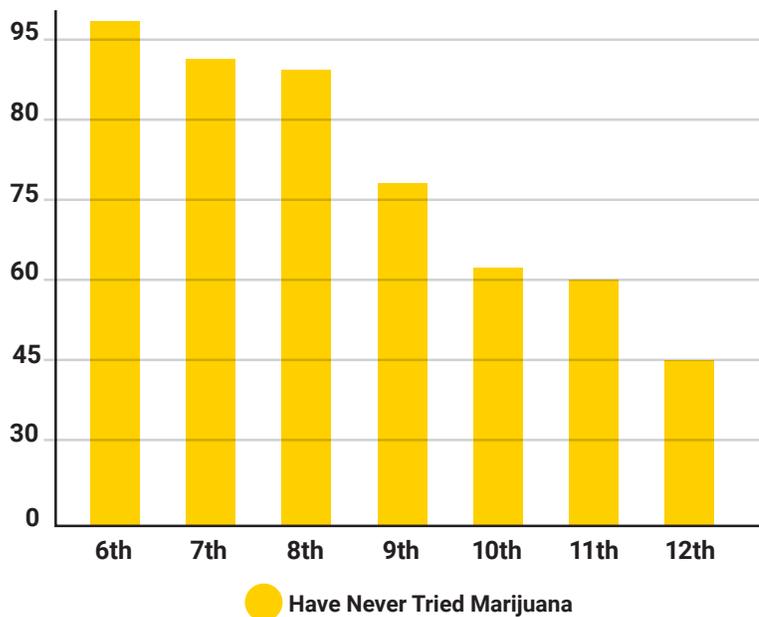




Marijuana Facts & Stats

Youth Who Have Never Tried Marijuana



In the 1990s, marijuana use was lowest during a national anti-marijuana campaign. Today, youth are increasingly viewing marijuana as a relatively safe drug, and use is increasing. When perception of harm decreases, marijuana use increases.

1-3
out of every
10 marijuana users will
become dependent

1 OF **6**
users who started when
they were an adolescent
will become dependent

Short-Term vs. Long-Term Effects

Short-Term Effects

- Altered senses, including time
- Changes in mood, euphoria, excitement
- Impaired coordination and memory
- Sedation, drowsiness
- Difficulty thinking and problem-solving
- Altered judgment
- Hallucinations, delusions, psychosis
- Severe anxiety or paranoia

Long-Term Effects

- Changed structure, functions and chemical activity
- Diminished executive function, attention, learning, memory and motor skills
- Diminished visuospatial function, verbal learning, short-term memory and cognitive function
- Smaller brain regions such as hippocampus
- Altered emotional functioning
- Depression, anxiety, mania, paranoia, psychosis
- Increased risk of schizophrenia
- Cannabis dependence
- Lower life satisfaction
- Overall lower lifetime achievement
- Exacerbation of emerging or existing mental health issues
- Sleep problems, lung problems, stroke
- Testicular cancer
- Drugged driving accidents
- Increased developmental and mental disorders in children of mothers who used cannabis when pregnant
- Poor school or work performance
- Potential loss or lower IQ and less crystallized intelligence