

MARIJUANA FACTS FOR TEENS



- 7/1/2021 in Virginia, recreational use of marijuana in adults ages 21 and over only.
- Recreational marijuana use by children and teens is still not legal in in Virginia.
- Children and teens could face fines and be required to attend substance use treatment programs.



- Today's marijuana plants are grown differently than in the past and can contain 2 to 3 times more tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the ingredient that makes people high.
- The ingredient of the marijuana plant thought to have most medical benefits, cannabidiol (CBD), has not increased and remains at about 1%.

DEBUNKING COMMON MYTHS

"It's not addictive"

Research supports that teens who begin using marijuana before age 18 are 4 to 7 times more likely than adults to develop a drug problem.

"It's harmless because it's natural"

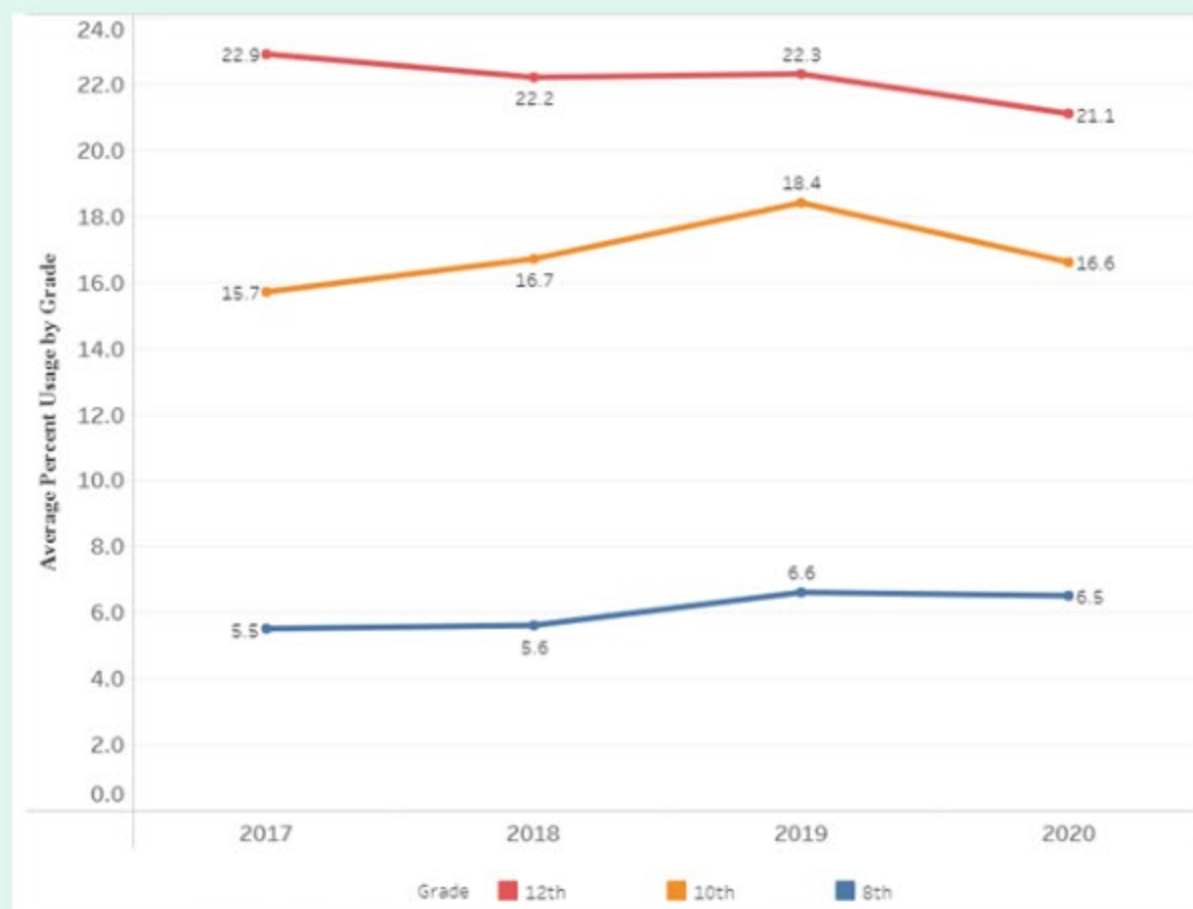
Research links marijuana use to increased risks of depression, anxiety, psychosis, and schizophrenia. Some health symptoms include effects on breathing ability, concentration, judgement, and coordination.

ADDICTION



1 in 10 adults who use marijuana become addicted, but when a person starts using before the age of 18, the risk of addiction increases to 1 in 6 teens.

PERCENTAGE MARIJUANA USE AMONG ADOLESCENT STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES



Interactive Map: <https://teens.drugabuse.gov/teachers/stats-trends-teen-drug-use>