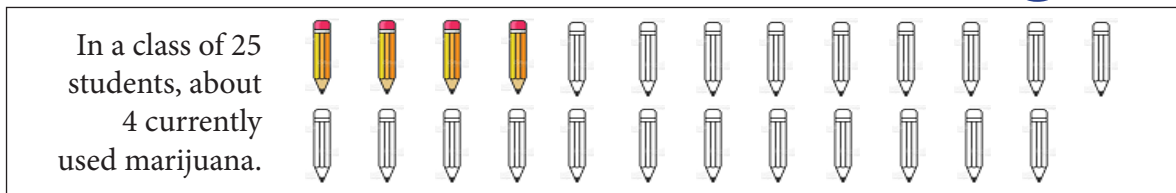


2021 New Jersey Student Health Survey

MARIJUANA USE

Nationwide, marijuana remains the most widely used federally illegal drug.⁽¹⁾ The percentage of high school students who view marijuana use as risky is decreasing.⁽²⁾ Among high school students nationwide in 2021, 27.8% had ever used marijuana, 15.8% currently used marijuana (one or more times in the 30 days before the survey), and 4.9% tried marijuana for the first time before age 13.⁽³⁾

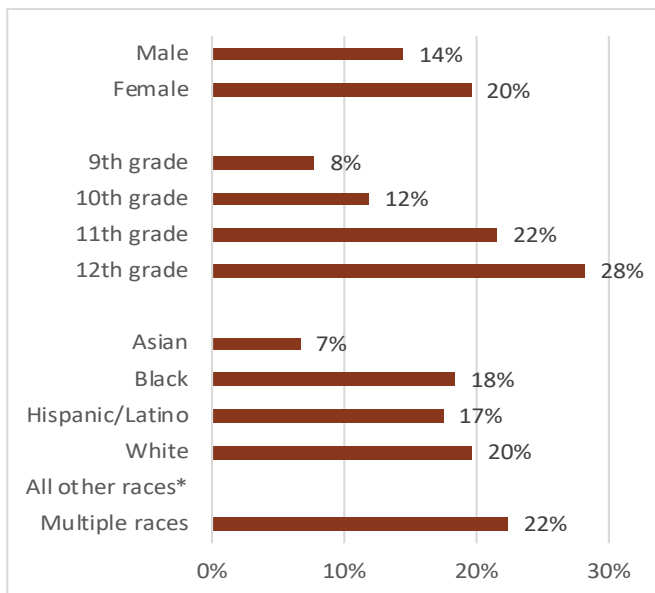
17%
of high school students currently used marijuana
(one or more times during the 30 days before the survey)
10-Year Linear Trend: No Change



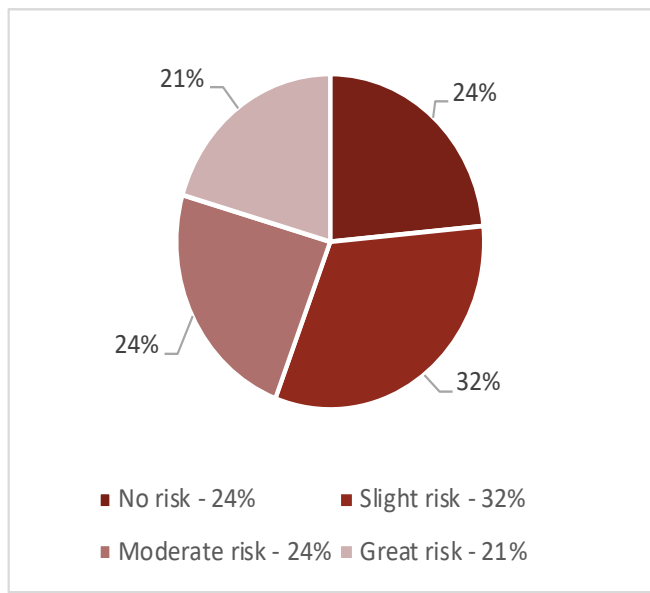
New Jersey Student Health Survey Highlights

- *Current Marijuana Use:* 17% used marijuana at least one time on one or more of the past 30 days.
- *Lifetime Marijuana Use:* 30% have ever used marijuana.
- *Marijuana Before Age 13:* 3% tried marijuana for the first time before the age of 13.
- *E-vapor Products:* 10% used marijuana only, tobacco and marijuana, or flavoring and marijuana in e-vapor product during past 30 days.

Current Marijuana Use by Demographic












Student Perception of Harm with Weekly Use



*Fewer than 30 students in this subgroup.

NJSHS 10-Year Trend Analysis: 2011-2021 Marijuana Use

Percentage of New Jersey Youth Who:	2011	2013	2019	2021	Trend Analysis 2011-2021
Ever used marijuana	37%	39%	33%	30%	
Tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 years	4%	5%	3%	3%	
Currently used marijuana	21%	21%	20%	17%	
Used marijuana only, or tobacco and marijuana, or flavoring and marijuana in the electronic vapor products they used	—	—	13%	10%	
Increase in negative behavior	Decrease in negative behavior	Increase in a positive behavior	Decrease in a positive behavior	No change in behavior	Trend not reported by CDC
					—
Trend analysis was performed by the CDC on data from 2011 to 2021 to determine which differences across years were statistically significant. For questions not asked in all survey years, the trend analysis was performed from 2021 back to the last consecutive year in which the question was asked.					

Additional New Jersey Student Health Survey Findings

- 26% of male students have ever used marijuana compared to 32% of female students.
- Current marijuana use by students self-identified as heterosexual is 16%. The rate of current use for students self-identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual is 26%, and the rate for students self-identified as other/questioning is 17%.
- For students trying marijuana before the age of 13, the highest racial category was Hispanic/Latino at 4%. All other race/ethnicity categories were at 2% or 3%.

Definitions

- Current marijuana use is defined as use on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.

Resources

- ReachNJ -- Facing Addiction Taskforce: 1-844-ReachNJ (New Jersey's 24/7 Addiction Helpline), <https://nj.gov/humanservices/reachnj/>
- New Jersey Prevention Network: <https://www.njpn.org>
- Parent-To-Parent: <http://www.parent2parentnj.org/index.php>
- Partnership for Drug-Free Kids: <https://drugfree.org/>
- Resource Manual For Intervention And Referral Services (I&RS): <https://www.nj.gov/education/students/irs/>
- Substance Abuse Prevention Parent Education Program: <http://drugfreenj.org/child-break/15-minute-child-break/>