



# PAST 30 DAY USE OF MARIJUANA

## BY NEW JERSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

### Statewide

According to the *New Jersey Middle School Risk and Protective Factor Survey*, marijuana was the substance used fourth most often among New Jersey adolescents in 2012. The statewide mean for past 30 day use of marijuana was 3.3%, meaning that about one-in-thirty students reported having used marijuana at some point in the past 30 days. This percentage is similar to the 3.0% rate measured in 2010 but it represents a slight increase from the 2.1% rate that was reported in 2012.

### Countywide

In 2012, Cumberland and Passaic counties (8.4% and 8.0%, respectively) had the highest reported past 30 day rates of marijuana use. The lowest past 30 day rates were found in Morris and Salem counties (0.6% and 0.9%, respectively). However, because of low response rates in some counties, caution must be used when interpreting county-level findings. Full results for past 30 day marijuana use by county, sorted from high to low, can be found in Table 1 and a visual representation of county variation is available on the next page.

**Table 1**

County	%
Cumberland	8.4%
Passaic	8.0%
Hudson	5.4%
Sussex	5.2%
Cape May	5.1%
Essex	5.0%
Atlantic	4.6%
Middlesex	4.4%
Ocean	4.2%
Gloucester	3.8%
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>3.3%</b>
Mercer	2.8%
Camden	2.6%
Somerset	2.0%
Bergen	1.9%
Burlington	1.6%
Monmouth	1.5%
Warren	1.2%
Salem	0.9%
Morris	0.6%
Hunterdon*	n/a
Union*	n/a

The 2012 New Jersey Middle School Risk and Protective Factor Survey was commissioned by the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to assess the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD), track antisocial behaviors, and document risk and protective factors among New Jersey youth. It was administered by the Bloustein Center for Survey Research (BCSR), at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. The survey contained 6,544 respondents statewide, with county samples ranging between 105 and 403 respondents.

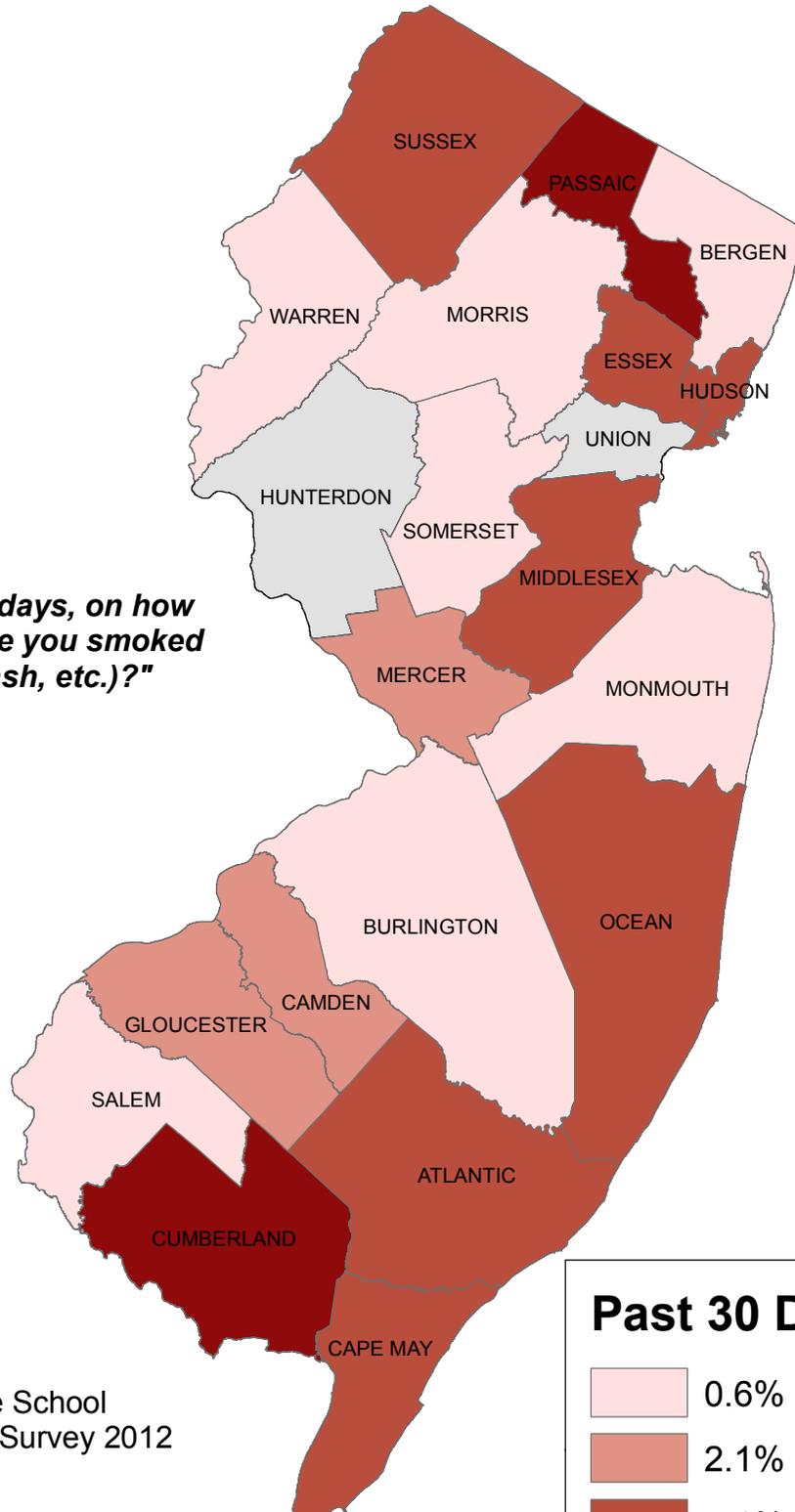
\*Please note that Hunterdon and Union Counties are not represented here because their sample sizes were too small to be considered reliable.

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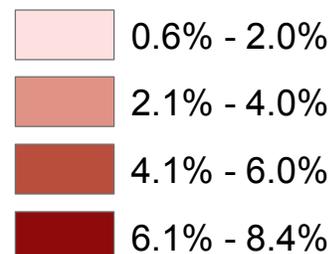
## By New Jersey Middle School Students

**Min: 0.6%**  
**Max: 8.4%**  
**Mean: 3.3%**

*"During the past 30 days, on how many occasions have you smoked marijuana (pot, hash, etc.)?"*



### Past 30 Day Use Rate



Source: New Jersey Middle School Risk and Protective Factor Survey 2012

*\*Note: Hunterdon and Union County estimates are not depicted here due to small sample sizes*