

FACTS ABOUT MARIJUANA USE

If you care about Academic Achievement: You need to care about increased Marijuana use.

According to the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, Orange County Report, 4.5% of Middle School students and 17.7% of High School students indicate using marijuana in the past 30 days. (Source: Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey Orange County Report, 2012).

On average, in every 12th grade classroom of 30 students, 2 are daily pot smokers. This is the highest level in 30 years. (Source: Monitoring the Future 2012).

Marijuana use lowers IQ – a recent study found that those who used marijuana heavily in their teens and continued through adulthood showed a permanent drop in IQ of 8 points. (Source: M.H. Meier, Avshalom Caspi, et al. 2012. “Persistent cannabis users show neuropsychological decline from childhood to midlife.” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences)

Marijuana is addictive. Research shows 1 in 11 that use marijuana become addicted. The rate increases to 1 in 6 if you start in your teens. (Source: Marijuana Facts for Teens 2013, NIDA)

Marijuana use negatively effects motivation, memory and learning. (Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse, “Marijuana: Facts Parents Need to Know.” 2011)

Youth with an average grade of D or below were more than four times as likely to have used marijuana in the past year as youth with an average grade of A. (Source: Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). SAMHSA’s National Household Survey on Drug Abuse Report—Marijuana Use among Youths. July 19, 2002).

College students with high levels (17 days/month) of marijuana use were twice as likely as those with minimal use (less than 1 day/month) to have an enrollment gap while in college. Average cost of college in 4 years is \$89,044. (Source: Amelia M. Arria, MD, Drug Use Patterns and Continuous Enrollment in College: Results from a Longitudinal Study. January 2013. Vol 23 Issue 1)

If you care about Highway Safety: You need to care about increased Marijuana use.

Marijuana use impairs driving ability. Marijuana is the most prevalent illegal drug detected in impaired drivers, fatally injured drivers and motor vehicle crash victims. (Source: For a comprehensive review, see DuPont, R. et al. 2010. “Drugged Driving Research: A White Paper.” Prepared for the National Institute on Drug Abuse)

24.9% of Orange County High School students reported riding in a vehicle with someone who has been using marijuana and 10.5% have reported driving a vehicle and using marijuana within the past 30 days. (Source: Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, Orange County Report 2012).

According to the Colorado Department of Transportation, drivers who tested positive for marijuana in fatal car crashes doubled between 2006 and 2010 while all fatal accidents decreased over the same period.