



PREVALENCE

(Proportion of students who has used drugs in a given reference period.)

Lifetime



Current



Equal prevalence between the sexes at both reference periods.

REACTION OF FRIENDS



2 in 10 students said none of their friends would try to convince them to stop if they knew they were smoking marijuana; or would not disapprove if they knew they were smoking marijuana.

AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST USE

Just after 13 years – as early as 10 years and as late at 14 years, on average; later for females (14 years) than males (13 years).

SOURCE & LOCATION OF USE

Mainly from friends (14% of those who used marijuana in the past year) and use it mainly at a friend's house (7% of those used in the past year).

PERCEPTIONS OF HARM

Smoking marijuana sometimes is perceived to be harmful by 7 in 10 students; and 8 in 10 felt the same about smoking marijuana frequently. In contrast, these proportions are lower than for those who perceived harm in smoking cigarette or drinking alcohol.



EASE OF ACCESS

4 in 10 students felt that marijuana is easy to obtain.



RELATIONSHIP WITH MARIJUANA USE



Students are more likely to use marijuana if:

- they are curious about trying an illegal drug and have the opportunity
- it is easily accessible
- their friends smoke marijuana
- their friends approve of them smoking marijuana and do not try to stop them
- they have tried hashish and cannabis resin
- they know adults who use marijuana or who sold or dealt drugs

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT / PERCEPTIONS

4 in 10 students believe that there are drugs at their school; and that students bring, try, or deal with drugs at their school.



YOUTH MARIJUANA STATISTICS

8 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The target population comprised all students in grade levels M2 through S4, attending public, private, and home schools on the Island. In total 3,017 students (53% females, 46% males) completed the self-administered questionnaire; the majority of whom considered themselves as Black (53%).

SOURCE: 2015 National School Survey

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