



MARIJUANA / THC



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There is reason to be hopeful...

SINCE 2014

- Despite legalization in NY state (2021), there has been a **DECREASE** in marijuana use across ALL grades compared to 2014
- Low use rates in grades 7-10 suggest **DELAYED** initiation/onset of use
- 8th & 10th grade past-month use is significantly lower than peers nationally
- **MOST** Rye youth **DO NOT USE MARIJUANA** in a typical month, including **86.6%** of RHS teens

What you should know about today's marijuana/THC

- 1 in 6 teens who use marijuana regularly develop a cannabis use disorder (addiction) *(Source: NIDA)*
- Cannabis Use Disorder is the #1 substance for youth seeking treatment for substance use disorder *(Source: CDC)*
- Typical potency of marijuana/THC today is dramatically higher than in the past: 15-25% THC for flower, 50-60% (and upwards of 90%) THC for concentrates (oils, wax, dabs, edibles) *(Source: SAM)*
- Multiple research studies have connected the use of high potency THC to increased anxiety, depression, ADHD symptoms, and suicidal ideation among youth users
- Researchers define "high potency" as anything above 10% THC - effectively rendering all commercially available THC high potency

And did you know?

Youth who use marijuana/THC are...

5x more likely to use alcohol

8x more likely to binge drink

16x more likely to drink heavily

(repeated binge drinking)

9x more likely to use cigarettes (nicotine)

10x more likely to use other illicit drugs

...compared to their peers who did not use marijuana/THC in the past month.

(Source: DuPont, et al)

There is cause for concern...

- Despite a decrease from 2021, past month use rate for 12th graders is substantially higher than (33% above) peers nationally
- Youth perception of availability of marijuana has increased since 2021 across all grades, likely correlated to legalization and commercialization in NYS and nationally
- National debate regarding marijuana legalization has fueled a **LOW** perception of risk among teens and adults, even as THC products have become more potent/dangerous

GRADE	Rye 2014	Rye 2016	Rye 2018	Rye 2021	Rye 2023	MTF 2022 (Nat'l)
7	.9%	0%	0%	.5%	0	---
8	3.1%	1.7%	.8%	1.5%	1.7%	5.0%
9	9.3%	10.4%	3.6%	2.4%	5%	---
10	23.9%	15.3%	15.7%	11%	8.2%	12.1%
11	33.1%	24.7%	26.1%	19.1%	13%	---
12	36.2%	38.7%	21%	35.1%	31.5%	20.2%

SOURCE: PRIDE SURVEY 2023

Past 30-Day Marijuana Use

