

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MARIJUANA USE AND PERCEPTIONS AMONG TEENS

In 2015, youth in high schools¹:

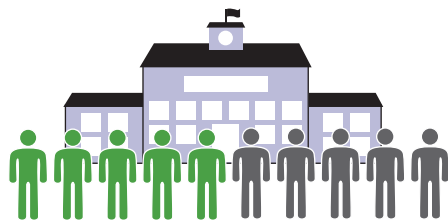
1 in 6 young people are considered frequent users of marijuana.



- ◇ 17% males and 16% females used weed at least once or more in the past 30 days.
- ◇ 1 in 3 young people reported ever trying marijuana.
- ◇ Marijuana use and initiation, before age 13, was higher among males.

In 2017, among youth 12-to-17 years of age²:

Among young people who used marijuana, **APPROXIMATELY HALF** went to school high.



- ◇ Average age of initiating marijuana use was 13 years of age.
- ◇ Over half of young people perceived easy access to obtain marijuana on the street.

From 2005 to 2015, among youth 17-years of age and younger³:



Emergency Department visits related to marijuana poisoning, dependence, and abuse increased four-fold among both boys and girls and was even greater among African Americans and Latinos.

1. Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System. CDC Youth Online. Available at <https://nccd.cdc.gov/Youthonline/App/Results.aspx?Lid=Lo>
2. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention And Control: Community Needs Assessment Survey, 2017, Contact Tkim@ph.lacounty.gov.
3. Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). Emergency Department and Inpatient Discharge Data Sets 2006-2015. California Department of Public Health.