MARIJUANA USE & EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Studies show that marijuana interferes with attention, motivation, memory, and learning. Students who use marijuana regularly tend to get lower grades and are more likely to drop out of high school than those who don’t use. Those who use it regularly may be functioning at a reduced intellectual level most or all of the time.

MOST MARIJUANA USE BEGINS IN ADOLESCENCE

78%
of the 2.4 million people who began using in the last year were aged 12 to 20.\textsuperscript{1}

As perception of harm decreases...

Marijuana use increases.\textsuperscript{2}

EVERY DAY, 3,287 TEENS USE MARIJUANA FOR THE FIRST TIME\textsuperscript{1}

MARIJUANA MAY HURT THE DEVELOPING TEEN BRAIN

The teen brain is still developing and it is especially vulnerable to drug use.

\textbf{IQ}

Regular heavy marijuana use by teens can lead to an IQ drop of up to 8 points.\textsuperscript{3}

HEAVY MARIJUANA USE BY TEENS IS LINKED TO\textsuperscript{4}:

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Educational Outcomes}
    \begin{itemize}
      \item lower grades and exam scores
      \item less likely to enroll in college
    \end{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Life Outcomes}
    \begin{itemize}
      \item lower satisfaction with life
      \item more likely to earn a lower income
      \item more likely to be unemployed
    \end{itemize}
\end{itemize}

\textsuperscript{1} NIDA, SAMHSA, 2014; \textsuperscript{2} NIDA, SAMHSA, 2012; \textsuperscript{3} Meier et al 2012; \textsuperscript{4} NIDA, SAMHSA, 2013; Silers et al 2014; Tucker et al 2013; Horne et al. 2013; Volkow et al. 2014; Ferguson and Rodden 2008; Brook et al. 2013
Marijuana Use & Educational Outcomes

Top Figure: Studies show that marijuana interferes with attention, motivation, memory, and learning. Students who use marijuana regularly tend to get lower grades and are more likely to drop out of high school than those who don’t use. Those who use it regularly may be functioning at a reduced intellectual level most or all of the time.

Second Figure: Most Marijuana Use Begins in Adolescence: 78% of the 2.4 million people who began using in the last year were aged 12 to 20.¹

Third Figure: As perception of harm decreases, teen marijuana use increases.²

Fourth Figure: Every Day, 3,287 Teens Use Marijuana for the First Time¹

Fifth Figure: Marijuana may hurt the developing teen brain. The teen brain is still developing and it is especially vulnerable to drug use. Regular heavy marijuana use by teens can lead to an IQ drop of up to 8 points.³

Sixth Figure: Heavy marijuana use by teens is linked to:⁴

- **Educational Outcomes:**
  - lower grades and exam scores
  - less likely to enroll in college
  - less likely to graduate from HS or college

- **Life Outcomes:**
  - lower satisfaction with life
  - more likely to earn a lower income
  - more likely to be unemployed