

CURRENT MARIJUANA USE IN MAINE

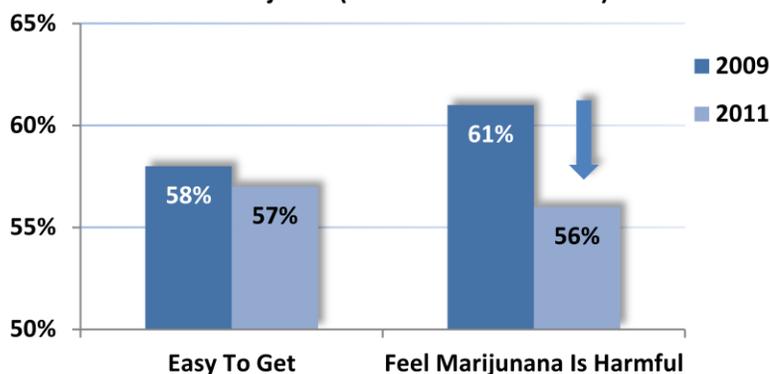
Quick Facts:

- In 2010, 7% of adults over the age of 18 used marijuana within the past 30 days, an increase of one percentage point since 2007 (BRFSS).
- At 18%, young adults ages 18-25 had the highest rate of using marijuana in the past 30 days; this was an increase of 5 percentage points since 2007 (BRFSS).
- Among high school students, 22% reported using marijuana within the past month in 2011, this rate has remained the same since 2009 (MIYHS).
- Past 30 day Marijuana usage among Maine 7th and 8th graders decreased slightly from 6% in 2009 to 5% in 2011. 13% used marijuana at least once within the past 30 days, down from 17% in 2002 (MIYHS).

Perceptions about Marijuana

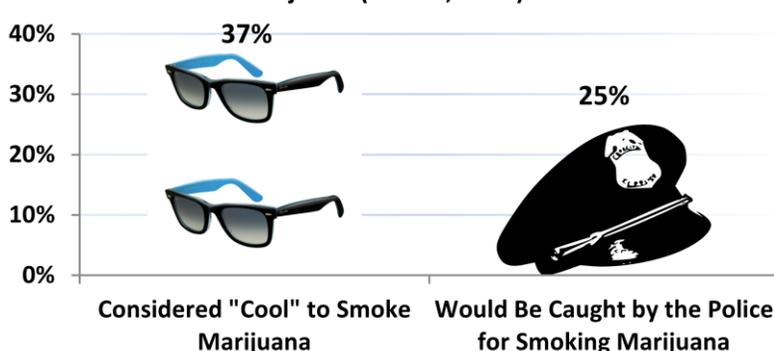
Most high school students believe marijuana is easy to obtain, this has not changed much since 2009 (MIYHS, 2009, 2011). In 2011, 56% of high school students felt smoking marijuana regularly was harmful, a 5 percentage point drop from 2009 (MIYHS). This means that almost half (44%) of high school students felt regular use of marijuana was not harmful.

High School Perception of Harm and Access of Marijuana (MIYHS 2009 and 2011)



Among the adult population, 18-25 year olds are less likely to perceive great risk associated with smoking marijuana once per month (15%) compared to adults over age 26 (30%; 2008-09 NSDUH). Among all high school students, 37% thought they would be seen as "cool" for smoking marijuana and 25% thought they would be caught by the police for smoking marijuana.

High School Perceptions Concerning Smoking Marijuana (MIYHS, 2011)

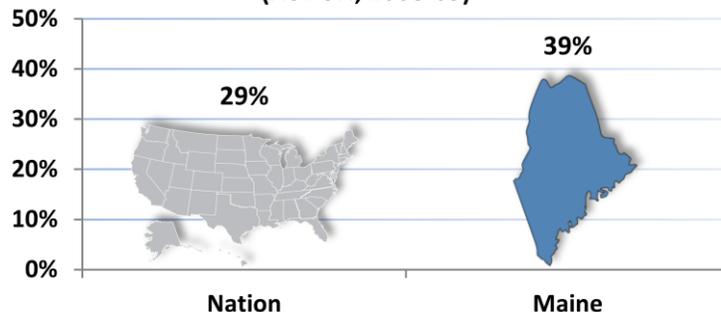


Comparisons to National Trends

Marijuana makes up the majority of illicit drug use in Maine. Comparisons to national statistics show that Mainers ages 18-25 have higher reported rates of using marijuana than the national average.

- In 2011, the rate of past 30-day use of marijuana among high school students in Maine was 21% compared to 23% nationally (2007 YRBSS).
- Among 18-25 year olds, 39% reported that they used marijuana in the past year, the fourth highest rate in the nation among this age group (the national average was 29%; 2008-09 NSDUH).

Past Year Marijuana Usage Among 18-25 Year Olds (NSDUH, 2008-09)



Treatment for Marijuana

In 2011, marijuana was listed a secondary substance in more treatment admissions than as a primary substance (1,974 compared to 1,035). Although not pictured here, this pattern has remained relatively consistent since 2007. Total treatment admissions for marijuana have decreased from 5,577 in 2008 to 4,103 in 2011.

Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Treatment Admissions for Marijuana (TDS, 2011)

