

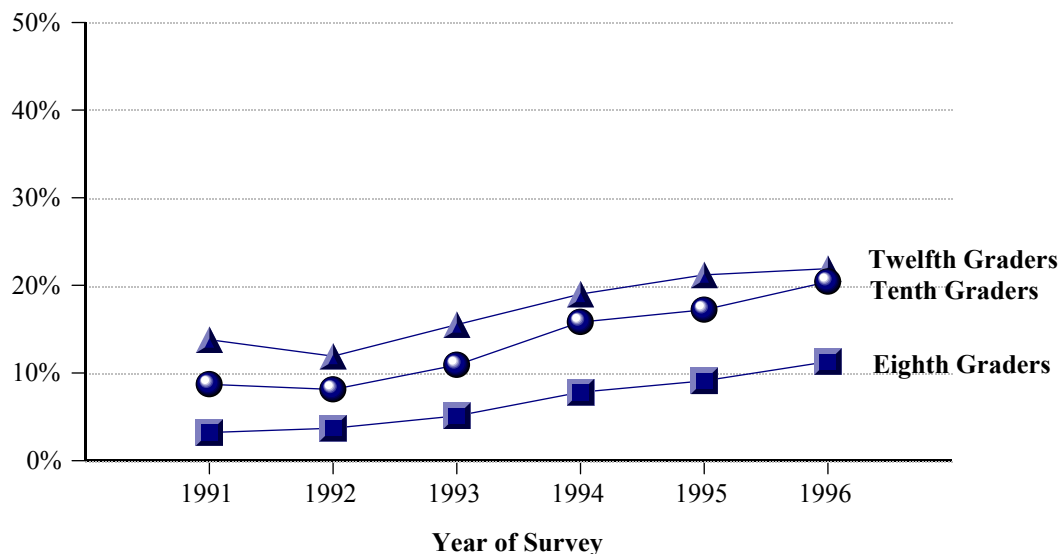
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Marijuana Use Among 8th and 10th Graders Continues to Rise; Remains Steady Among 12th Graders

According to data from the national Monitoring the Future Survey, marijuana use among 8th and 10th graders continued to rise in 1996 while use among 12th graders leveled off for the first time since 1993. Current use* of marijuana increased from 9.1% (1995) to 11.3% (1996) among 8th graders and from 17.2% to 20.4% among 10th graders. There were no statistically significant changes in current marijuana use among 12th graders over the same time period. The rise in marijuana use among students has occurred simultaneously with a decline in youths' perceived risk of using the drug (see CESAR FAX Volume 5, Issue 20).

Percentage of Eighth, Tenth, and Twelfth Grade U.S. Students Reporting Current Use of Marijuana, 1991-1996



*Current use is defined as use at least once during the 30 days prior to the survey.

SOURCES: National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), NIDA Media Advisory, *Marijuana and Tobacco Use Still Rising Among 8th and 10th Graders*, December 19, 1996, WWW document; URL <http://www.nida.nih.gov/MedAdv/MAS-yr96.html#12-19> (visited 12/20/96); and NIDA Capsule, *Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1996*, WWW document; URL <http://www.nida.nih.gov/NIDACapsules/NCMTFuture1.html#PastMonth> (visited 12/20/96).

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