

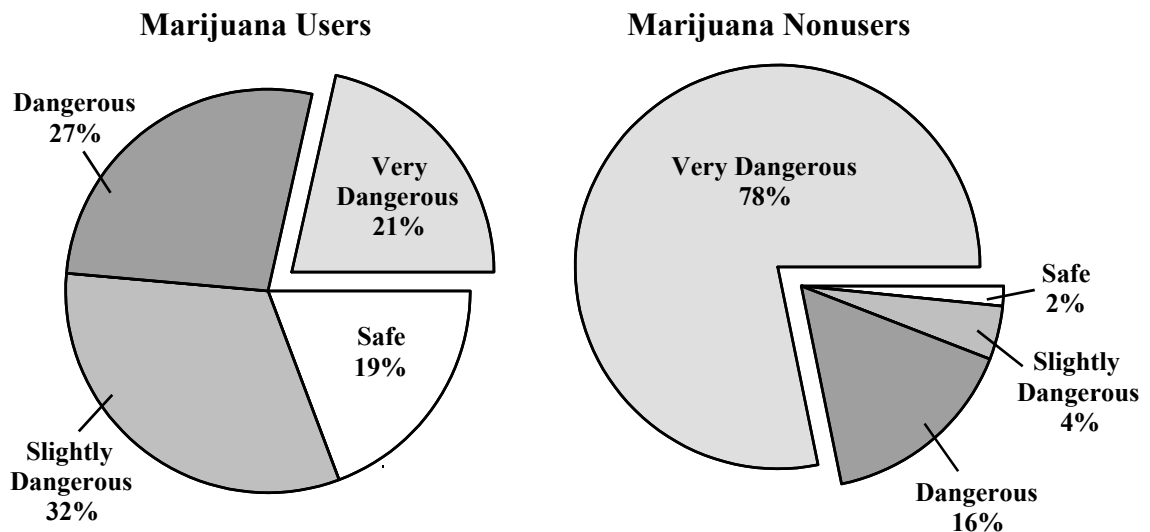
## A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

### *Maryland Eighth Grade Drug Users Perceive Less Danger in Drug Use Than Nonusers*

Previous national research has found that drug-using students perceive less danger in drug use than nonusing students (see CESAR Fax Volume 6, Issue 14). Data from the 1996 Maryland Adolescent Survey show that these differences exist among Maryland students as well. Nineteen percent of Maryland 8th grade students reported using marijuana at least once. Of these students, 21% believed that marijuana use was very dangerous compared to 78% of nonusers. Similar differences were found among 10th and 12th grade students and for other drugs. The Maryland State Department of Education recommends that "knowledge and skills curricula should be supplemented with programs which target users in order to eliminate the misperception that their behavior will not have detrimental effects on their future" (p. 74).

#### Perceived Danger of Using Marijuana, Maryland Eighth Grade Marijuana Users vs. Nonusers



NOTE: Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding and deletion of multiple responses.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), 1996 Maryland Adolescent Survey, May 1997. For more information, contact Milt McKenna of the MSDE at 410-767-0303.

#### Library Position Open at CESAR

CESAR is looking for a full-time librarian to run its library and information clearinghouse. Applicants should have knowledge of the drugs and criminal justice fields and training/experience in library management, acquisitions, reference work, and use of Internet resources. Send resumes or requests for position description to CESAR, Attn. Librarian via fax (301-403-8342) or e-mail ([cesar@cesar.umd.edu](mailto:cesar@cesar.umd.edu)). No phone calls please. The University of Maryland is an EO/AA employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

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