

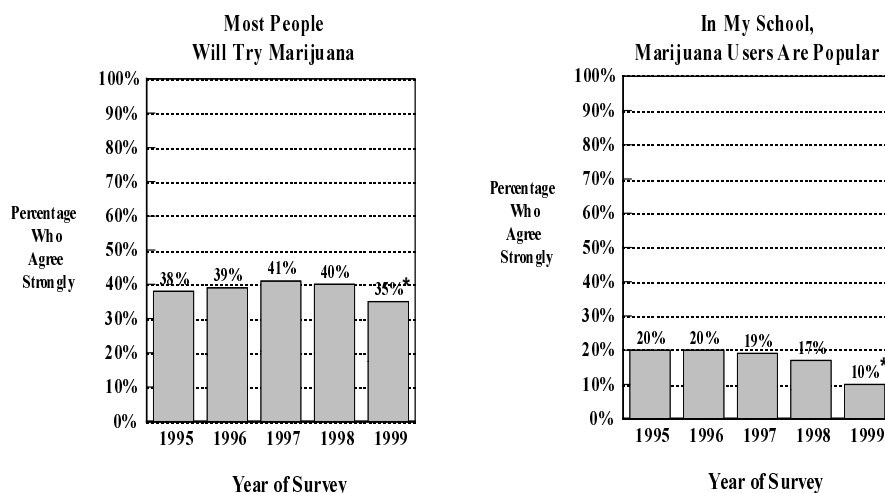
**A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research**

**University of Maryland, College Park**

## *U.S. Teens' Attitudes Towards Marijuana Suggest That Use May Decline*

Recent data from the 1999 national Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS) show that teenagers' attitudes towards marijuana use has changed in the past year. The Partnership for a Drug-Free America (PDFA) tracked drug-related attitudes and drug use among 6,529 students in grades seven through 12 in 1999. Compared to 1998, students were less likely to say that most people will try marijuana. Students were also less likely to report that marijuana users at their schools are popular. It remains to be seen whether these changes in youths' attitudes towards marijuana will translate into a reduction in use.

### **Students' Perceptions of Marijuana Use and User's Popularity**



\*1999 vs. 1998 is a significant difference at  $p < .05$ .

SOURCES: Partnership for a Drug-Free America. (November 22, 1999). Partnership Attitude Tracking Study, Spring 1999 Teens in Grades 7 through 12 Research Results [Online]. Available: [http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/newscenter/pressreleases/pats99\\_page1.html](http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/newscenter/pressreleases/pats99_page1.html).

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