

Epidemiologic Data on Marijuana Use in Clark County

Below are descriptions of the data sources used in this handout:

Healthy Youth Survey (HYS): HYS is a biennial survey among 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th graders across Washington State, which asks questions about drug and alcohol use, as well as other health related risk factors. HYS survey questions have been asked throughout the U.S. for over 25 years and have been extensively tested for reliability and validity. Survey questions are reliable if they consistently produce the same results under the same circumstances. We believe these results are reliable because:

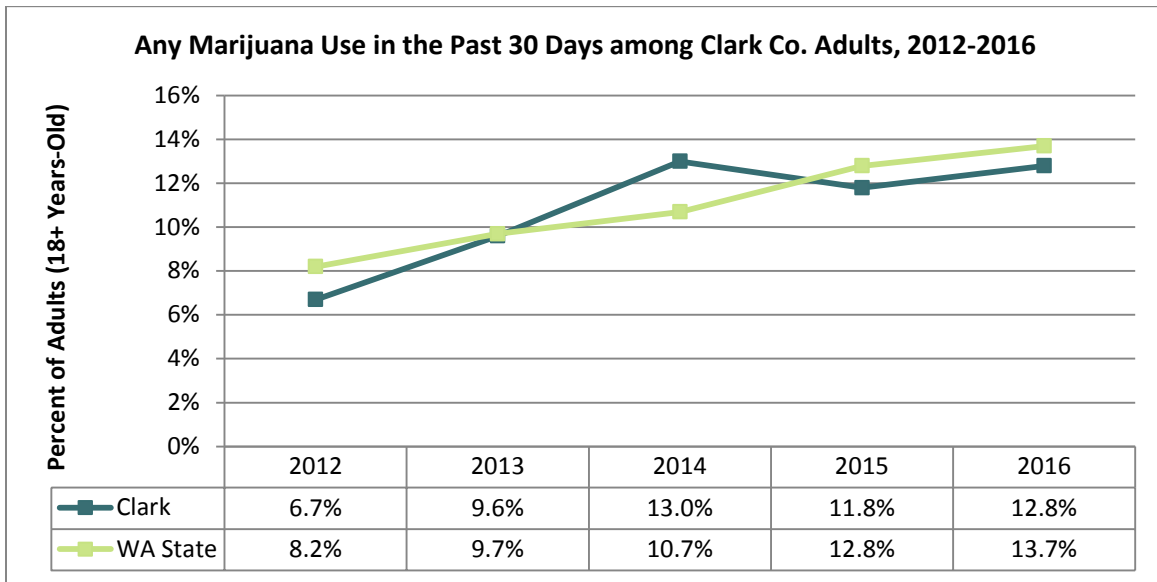
- Survey questions were tested with youth before the survey was administered.
- Multiple survey questions ask the same question but in a different way, and if answers do not match up, the survey is thrown out.
- HYS uses clear, concise wording in questions, which students are less likely to misinterpret.
- Students are asked if they have used “loziderb” (a fake drug). If students answer yes to this question, their survey is thrown out. The name of the fake drug is changed every few years.

Survey questions are valid if they accurately measure what they were intended to measure. We believe these results are valid because:

- Anonymous surveys, such as HYS, tend to be more accurate than telephone or face-to-face surveys.
- Questions are kept as consistent as possible over time. Although under reporting may occur, it is consistent over time, which allows us to accurately look at trends.

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS): BRFSS is a yearly telephone survey that is conducted by the Washington State Department of Health in partnership with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This survey is used to measure changes in the health and health behaviors, such as substance use, physical activity and diet, of people in our state. Washington State residents 18 years of age and older are randomly selected to participate in the survey. The reliability and validity of BRFSS survey questions have been continuously tested since BRFSS began in 1984. We believe the results from BRFSS are reliable and valid because:

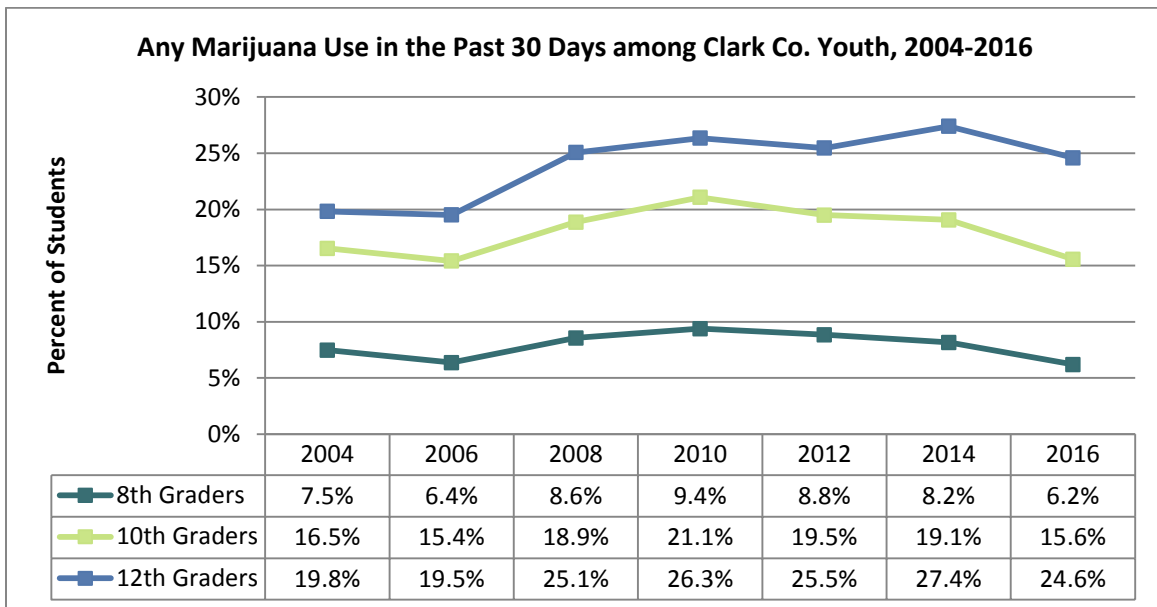
- Questions are tested among potential respondents before use in the survey.
- Multiple survey questions ask the same question but in a different way, and if answers do not match up, the survey is thrown out.
- Survey participation is completely confidential.
- Survey results are continuously compared to results from other national surveys.
- Multiple scientific studies have tested respondent’s answers to their medical records and physical measurements and found a high correlation between the two.
- Questions are kept as consistent as possible over time. Although under reporting may occur, it is consistent over time, which allows us to accurately look at trends.



Data source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 2012-2016. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Community Health Assessment Tool (CHAT), June 2017

Any Marijuana use in the Past 30 Days among Clark County Youth, 2012-2016			
Population	2012	2014	2016
8 th Graders	8.8%	8.2%	6.2%
10 th Graders	19.5%	19.1%	*15.6%
12 th Graders	25.5%	27.4%	24.6%

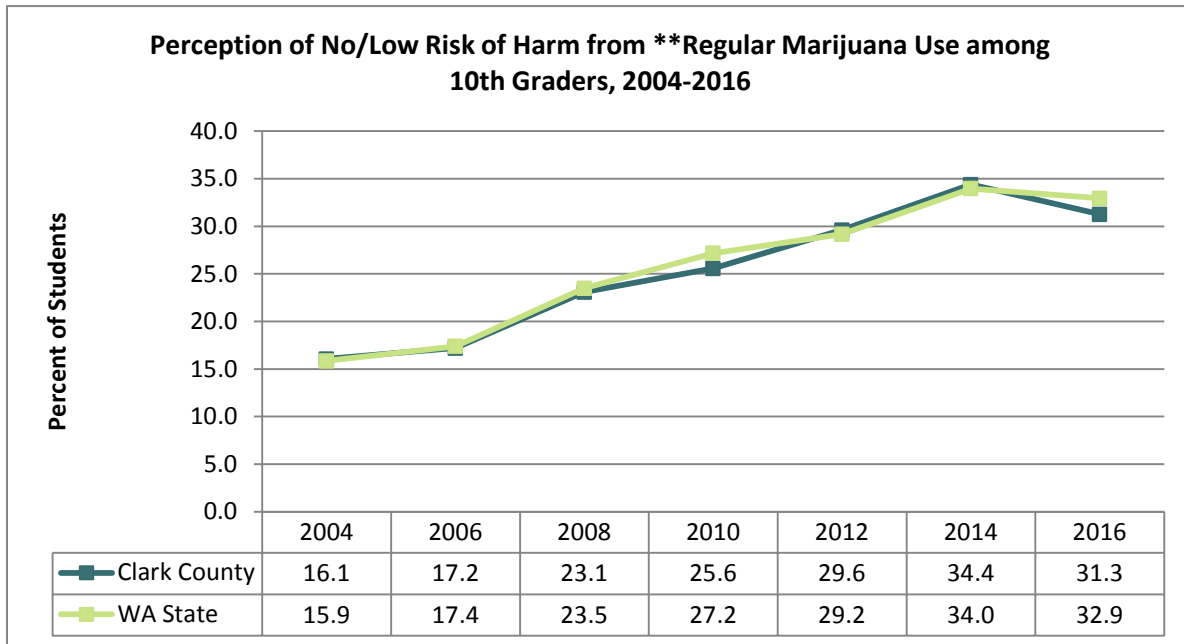
*Statistically significantly lower than the 2014 rate.
 Data Source: Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) 2012 - 2016.



Data Source: Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) 2004-2016.

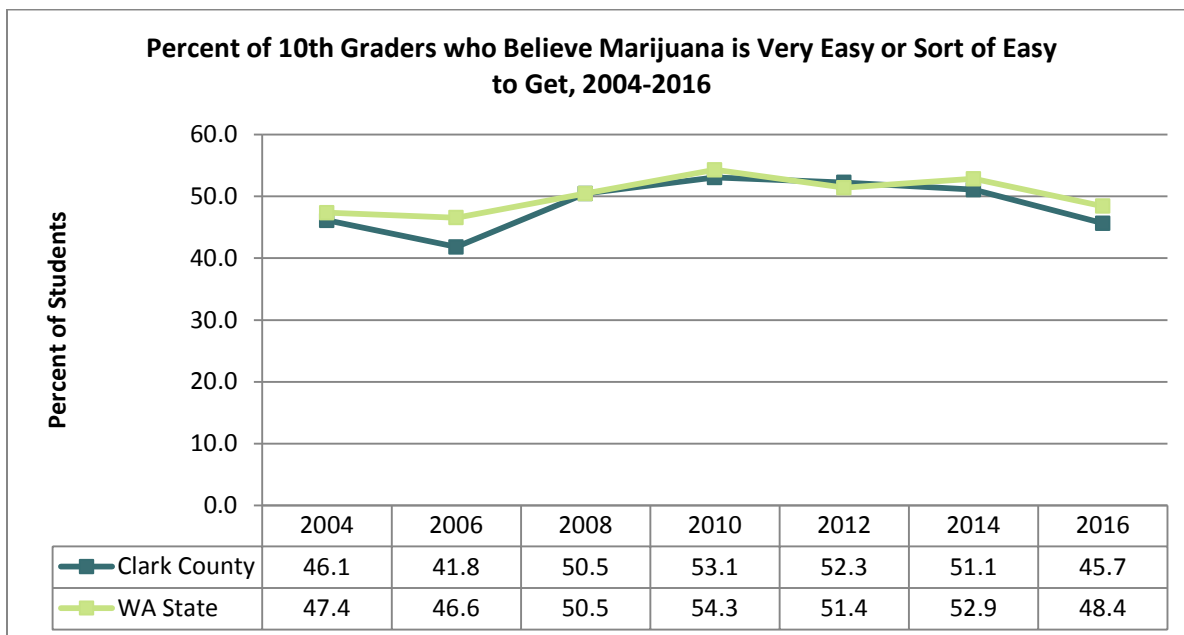
Marijuana-Related Risk Factor Among Clark County 10 th Graders, 2012- 2016			
Clark County 10 th Graders	2012	2014	2016
Perceive no or low risk of harm from **regular marijuana use.	29.6%	34.4%	31.3%
Believe marijuana is very easy or sort of easy to get.	52.3%	51.1%	*45.7%

*Statistically significantly lower than the 2014 rate.
 **Regular marijuana use is defined as using marijuana at least once or twice a week.
 Data source: Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) 2012 - 2016.



Data Source: Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) 2004-2016.

**Regular marijuana use is defined as using marijuana at least once or twice a week.



Data Source: Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) 2004-2016.

Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana among Youth and Adults, 2014-2016					
Population	Measure	Clark County		Washington State	
		2014	2016	2014	2016
All 10th Graders	Driven within 3 hours of using marijuana (at least once in past month)	8.6%	8.8%	9.1%	9.3%
	Passenger of driver who had been using marijuana (at least once in past month)	17.6%	17.1%	19.0%	17.6%
All 12th Graders	Driven within 3 hours of using marijuana (at least once in past month)	17.0%	15.0%	16.8%	16.5%
	Passenger of driver who had been using marijuana (at least once in past month)	24.8%	23.1%	25.9%	25.2%
All Drivers (age 18+)	Driven within 3 hours of using marijuana (at least once in past year) *(2014-2016)	3.9%		3.9%	
Marijuana Users (age 18+)	Driven within 3 hours of using marijuana (at least once in past year) *(2014-2016)	33.0%		32.8%	
Data Sources: Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) 2014 & 2016. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 2014-2016. Washington State Department of Health. *Due to small numbers, data from 2014, 2015 and 2016 were combined for analysis					

Discussion with youth from Youth House:

Marijuana retail should be more than 1000 feet from schools – it should be far enough way that youth are unlikely to pass by a retail outlet two and from school