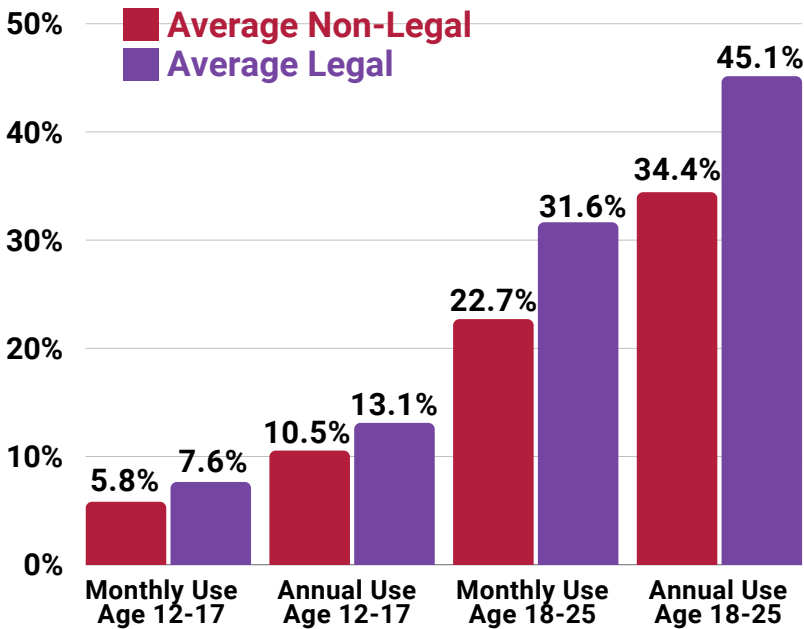


# Youth Marijuana Use

**Marijuana use among young people in legal states outpaces use in non-legal states (1)**



**Marijuana companies target youth**

Marijuana companies specifically target young people through various means, including advertisements on social media. **Youth who are exposed to marijuana marketing on social media are five times more likely to use marijuana. (2)**



Companies market and profit from products that resemble sweets and come in packages and flavors that appeal to youth.

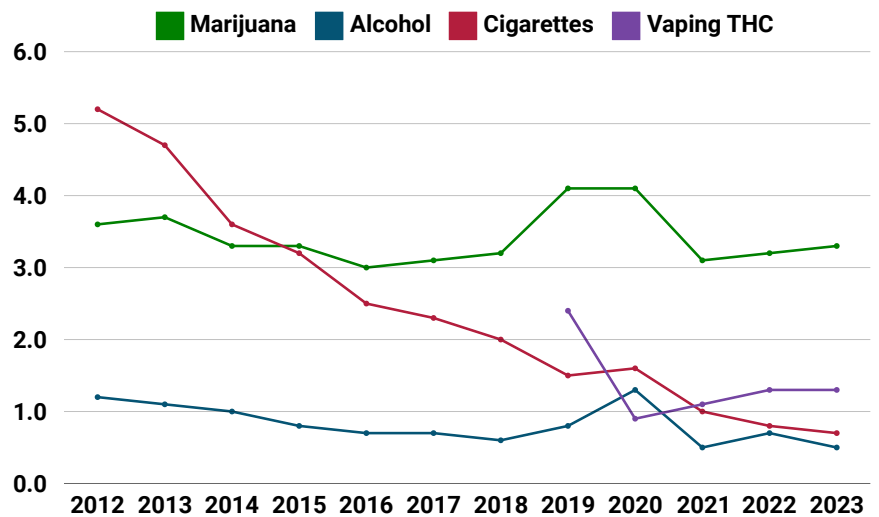
**Young people use more potent marijuana more often**

In 2023, **10.1 million people** aged 12-25 used marijuana in the past month, which is indicative of frequent use. (3)

Cannabis Use Disorder (addiction) in young people in legal states grew 25% following legalization. (4)

**In users aged 12-17, substance use disorders are twice as prevalent in marijuana users than users of nicotine, alcohol, and even prescription drug misusers (5)**

**Near Daily Substance Use Amongst 8th, 10th and 12th Graders (6)**



**Marijuana use is harmful to developing brains and is associated with poor mental health outcomes; heavy, frequent use is associated with the greatest risk.**

Use produces changes in gray matter volume in young users, indicating marijuana use may impact the way the adolescent brain develops. (7)

Youth who initiate marijuana use before age 15 are at a greater risk of short and long-term memory deficits. (8)



Adolescent marijuana use is associated with an increased risk for depression, suicide, schizophrenia, and psychosis. (8)

Chronic use is associated with cognitive impairment, IQ loss (9), and reduced educational performance and outcomes. (10)

## Endnotes

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