

Is the grass greener on the other side?

Fatima Ceesay, Anna Kirkland, Ph.D., Nyla Bickhman, Ren Rountree, BA., Alicia Parson, BA, Rodrick Bellamy, M.Ed, Cori Herring BA., & Lindsay Squeglia, Ph.D. Medical University of South Carolina

Background

- In research we refer to marijuana as cannabis because it comes from the *Cannabis* plant
- Cannabis is commonly used by teenagers
- Cannabis is often smoked, which has a very quick affect in the brain
- People experience cannabis differently

Research Question

Can Teenagers Use Cannabis Without It Being An Addiction?

Methods

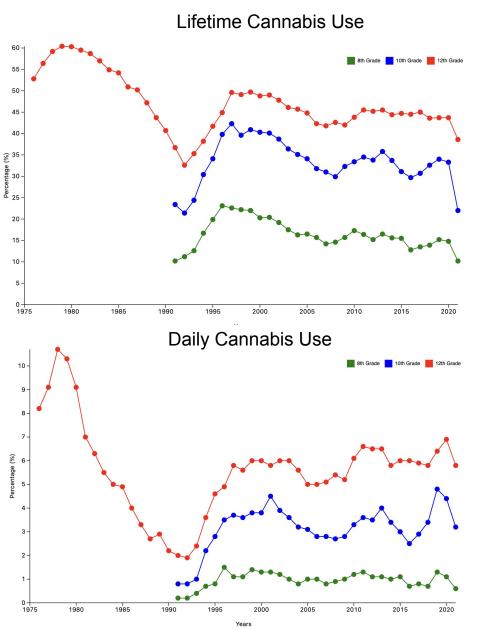
- Used Monitoring the Future data for question 1
- Used NIH, NIDA, & other websites for question 2

References



Findings

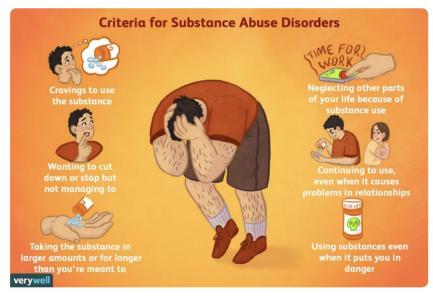
Question 1) How many teenagers use cannabis?



Grade Level: as grade level increases, the more cannabis usage we see

Usage Amount: daily use (range from 0-10%) is not as high as lifetime use (range: 10-60%)

Question 2) What is an addiction? Addiction is now called a Substance Use Disorder



DSM 5 is a book that psychologists use to illustrate what substance use disorder is & how you know if someone has an addiction

Conclusions: Can teenagers use cannabis without it being an addiction? **Yes.** Research shows that daily usage is only 0-10% while, lifetime is ranged 10-60%.

According to DSM-5, the criteria for a substance use disorder is craving, if it involves your everyday life, or if it causes damage in your family or relationship.

It all just depends on the person!

YOUTH Science Ambassador

Reflections



- School: Military Magnet Academy
- Grade: 11th
- Favorite TSAP moment: When I learned how the brain operates & its cravings
- Advice for new Ambassador: Never let the journey determine your destination
- wise words from Tima

Mentorship

- Senior Mentor: Dr. Anna Kirkland
- Near Peer Mentor: Nyla
- Favorite piece of advice from my mentor: "You're amazing", "I Love That", "You're So Smart"

Acknowledgements

This work was supported in part by NIH grant 1R25GM142048-01