DRUG
ENFORCEMENT
ADMINISTRATION

What You Should Know About...

MARIJUANA

FACT: About 1 in 6 people or 17%, who start smoking marijuana in their teens will become addicted. Source: www.drugabuse.govpublications/topics-in-brief-/marijuana.

FACT: Daily use today can have stronger effects on a developing teen brain than it did 10 or 20 years ago. Today's marijuana cigarette is 4 times as strong as it was in 1995. The main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, THC, has increased from 3.75% in 1995 to an average of 15% in today's marijuana cigarette. Source: NIDA Press Release, 12/18/13.

FACT: Smoking marijuana interferes with learning and memory, increasing the risk of poor grades and dropping out of school. Research shows it can lower your IQ if you smoke it regularly in your teen years. Source: www.drugabuse.gov/publications/marijuana-facts-teens/some-things-to-think-about.

FACT: Over the past several years, teen marijuana use has increased as the perceived harm of smoking marijuana has decreased. In 2008 32.4% of seniors reported marijuana use in the past year; 26% perceived great risk in using marijuana. In 2012, 36.4% seniors reported marijuana use in the past year: 20.5% perceived a great risk. Source: NIDA, 2013 Monitoring the Future Survey.

DRIVING AND MARIJUANA USE
TRUE OR FALSE?

- Marijuana can decrease a person's ability to drive a car. **TRUE**
  Marijuana affects certain skills required for driving--reaction time, alertness, concentration and coordination. Source: www.drugabuse.gov/publications/marijuana-facts-teens/some-things-to-think-about

- Teens are driving while under the influence of marijuana. **TRUE**
  According to a national survey more than one in eight high school seniors admitted driving under the influence of marijuana in the two weeks before the survey. Source: NIDA, 2010 Monitoring the Future Study.

TEENS AND MARIJUANA

- 82% of high school seniors reported it was fairly easy or very easy to get marijuana. Source: NIDA, 2013 Monitoring the Future Study.

- In states with medical marijuana laws, high school seniors are using other person's medical marijuana prescriptions to get the drug. Source: NIDA Press Release, 12/18/13.

- A national survey reports that 7.2% of youth aged 12 to 17 smoked marijuana in the past month. Source: SAMHSA, 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

- A national survey reports that more than 12% of eighth graders reported using marijuana in the past year. Source: NIDA, 2013 Monitoring the Future Survey.

For drug prevention information, visit DEA's websites:

dea.gov	GetSmartAboutDrugs.com	JustThinkTwice.com
	For parents, caregivers, and educators.	*For teens.*

1/2014