Section 1

Monitoring Changes in Marijuana Use Patterns

Chapter 3

Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS)
2005-2015 Survey Results

Retail Marijuana Public Health Advisory Committee

CDPHE | COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

Authors

Daniel I. Vigil, MD, MPH
Manager
Marijuana Health Monitoring and Research Program, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Katelyn E. Hall, MPH
Statistical Analyst
Marijuana Health Monitoring and Research Program, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Elyse Contreras, MPH
Coordinator
Marijuana Health Monitoring and Research Program, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Amy Anderson Mellies, MPH
Health Data Analyst
Health Surveys and Evaluation, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Leonardo Kattari, MSW
Healthy Kids Colorado Survey Coordinator
Prevention Services, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Kevin Berg, MA
GIS Epidemiologist
Environmental Epidemiology, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Rickey Tolliver, MPH
Chief
Health Surveys and Evaluation, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Mike Van Dyke, PhD, CIH
Chief
Environmental Epidemiology, Occupational Health, and Toxicology, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Reviewer

Ashley Brooks-Russell, PhD, MPH
Assistant Professor
Injury Prevention, Education and Research Program, Colorado School of Public Health

The HKCS survey and marijuana use in Colorado

The Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) collects health information in the fall of odd years from public high school and middle school students. It is a voluntary, anonymous survey, and parents are notified ahead of time. HKCS is a collaboration of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), the Colorado Department of Education, and the Colorado Department of Human Services, who recognized the need to gather critical data while minimizing the student survey requests to Colorado schools. Both state and regional data are available to provide schools and communities with information to support effective strategies to protect the health and promote academic achievement of Colorado youth. This survey also fulfills Colorado's reporting requirement for the CDC-sponsored Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance Survey (YRBS)[1] and ensures Colorado data can be compared to both national data and data from other states. HKCS provides data on a wide range of health issues and risk factors affecting children and youth including: nutrition, physical activity, safety behaviors, mental health, alcohol, tobacco and other substance use, and sexual behaviors (high school only). The survey has included questions on marijuana since 1999.[2] This report includes results from 2005-2015 for high school and 2011-2015 for middle school.

For additional survey details and information about analysis methods, see Appendix D.

Survey questions

Table 1. Healthy Kids Colorado Survey questions asked of middle school and high school students about whether they use marijuana, when they use it and how they use it, 2005-2015.

Not all questions were included in all years and not all questions were asked of both middle school and high school students.

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1. During your life, how many times have you used marijuana?

- o 0 times
- o 1 or 2 times
- o 3 to 9 times
- o 10 to 19 times

- o 20 to 39 times
- o 40 to 99 times
- o 100 or more times

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2. How old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?

- o I have never tried marijuana
- o 8 years old or younger
- o 9 or 10 years old
- o 11 or 12 years old

- o 13 or 14 years old
- o 15 or 16 years old
- o 17 years old or older

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3. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?

- o 0 times
- o 1 or 2 times
- o 3 to 9 times

- o 10 to 19 times
- o 20 to 39 times
- o 40 or more times

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4. During the past 30 days, how did you use marijuana? (Select all that apply.)

- o I did not use marijuana during the past 30 days
- o I smoked it
- o I ate it (in an edible, candy, tincture or other food)
- o I used a vaporizer
- o I dabbed it*
- o I used it in some other way

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5. During the past 30 days, how did you usually use marijuana? (Select only one response.)

- o I did not use marijuana during the past 30 days
- o I smoked it I ate it (in an edible, candy, tincture or other food)
- o I used a vaporizer
- o I dabbed it*
- o I used it in some other way

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*The response option of "I dabbed it" was added in 2015

The National Survey on Drug Use and Health

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) tracks national and state level data on tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, and illicit drugs including non-medical use of prescription drugs through the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH).[3] Colorado past 30 day marijuana use estimates from the NSDUH survey were compared with the Colorado HKCS past 30 day marijuana use estimates (Figure 2).

Definitions

Current use – Having used marijuana at least once in the past 30 days (any answer other than '0 times' on question 3) (Table 1)

Dabbing – a method of marijuana use where a "dab" (small amount) of marijuana concentrate is placed on a pre-heated surface, creating concentrated marijuana vapor to be inhaled.

Ever use – having used marijuana at least once in their lifetime (any answer other than '0 times' on question 1) (Table 1)

Tried marijuana before age 13 – answered '11 or 12 years old', '9 or 10 years old', or '8 years old or younger' on question 2 (Table 1)

Vaping (vaporization of marijuana) - a method of marijuana use in which marijuana vapor, rather than smoke, is inhaled. Marijuana flower or concentrate is heated in a vaporizing device (vaporizer) to a temperature below the point of combustion, to produce vapor.

How to interpret survey results

Respondents to the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey are a sample of Colorado high school and middle school students. The percent of survey respondents selecting a specific answer might not be exactly the same as if every student in Colorado were surveyed. Therefore, the survey results are estimates, and each has a range of possible values (also called margin of error, confidence interval, or 95% CI). These ranges are very important when comparing two estimates, and the following terms are used throughout this report:

'Not statistically different'- Typically, if the ranges of possible values *overlap* for two different survey results (like two different years, or male vs. female), we cannot be confident that there is a true difference between the two (also called 'not statistically significant.') In some cases, an additional statistical test is done to confirm.

'Statistically higher' or 'statistically lower'- If the ranges of possible values *do not overlap* for two different results, we CAN be confident that there is a true difference between the two (also called 'statistically significant.')

On the figures in this report, these ranges of possible values are indicated by black bars. In footnotes, they are referred to by the statistical term '95% CI.'

Results

Results are displayed in Figures 1-13 and Maps 1-2 below.

Trends in marijuana use in Colorado

Survey results from 2015 indicate that approximately 38% of Colorado high school students report having ever used marijuana and 21% report use in the past 30 days (Figures 1 & 3). These estimates are similar to national estimates of ever and current marijuana use among high school students (Figure 1). From 2005-2015, estimates of current marijuana use among Colorado high school students have fluctuated between approximately 20% and 25% (Figures 1 & 3). From 2005 to 2013, the HKCS estimates of current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado were higher than the NSDUH estimates for current marijuana use among high school aged adolescents. However, the difference became smaller in 2013, at 19.7% on HKCS and 17.4% on NSDUH (Figure 2). Among Colorado middle school students in 2015, an estimated 7.6% had ever used marijuana and an estimated 4.4% reported currently using marijuana (Figure 3). Current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado has remained below current alcohol use from 2005 to 2015 and above current tobacco smoking from 2011 to 2015. Current alcohol use and tobacco smoking among high school students in Colorado has trended downward since 2005, while current marijuana use has remained stable (Figure 4). In both 2013 and 2015, current marijuana use among Colorado 9th graders (13.7%, 12.4%) was statistically lower than among 10th graders (19.0%, 18.8%), which was statistically lower than among 11th graders (22.1%, 26.3%) (Figure 5).

Marijuana use among Colorado high school students by gender, race & ethnicity, and sexual orientation

Current marijuana use among male high school students in 2013 (21.5%) was statistically higher than among female students (17.7%), but current use for both genders was nearly identical in 2015 (21.4%, 21.0%) (Figure 6). Current marijuana use among middle school students was not statistically different between males and females in 2013 (5.3%, 4.8%) or 2015 (3.8%, 5.2%) (Figure 7). Prevalence of current marijuana use and age of first use varied among students of different races and ethnicities (Figures 8 & 11). The percent of white non-Hispanic students who tried marijuana before age 13 was statistically lower than among black, Hispanic, or multiple or other race students (Figure 11). Prevalence of marijuana use also varied among students with different sexual orientation. In both 2013 and 2015, estimated current use of marijuana among students identifying as gay, lesbian, or bisexual (39.7%, 34.9%) was statistically higher than the estimated current use among students identifying as heterosexual (17.7%, 19.5%) (Figure 9). In 2015, a large portion of high seniors reported first trying marijuana at ages 13-14 years old (27.0%) and 15-16 years old (43.1%) compared to younger ages and 17 and older (Figure 10).

Methods and frequency of marijuana use in Colorado

In 2015, 87% of high school students who currently used marijuana reported that smoking was their usual method of use – much higher than edibles (2%), vaping (5%), or other methods of use (6%) (Figure 12). More than one-third of high school or middle school students who reported current marijuana use in 2015 had used once or twice in the past 30 days, while approximately 27% of high school students and 20% of middle school students had used 20 or more times in the past 30 days (Figure 13). The estimates of marijuana use at each frequency level fluctuated from 2005 to 2015, with no notable trends (Figure 14).

Marijuana use in Colorado by region

Marijuana use also varies greatly by Health Statistics Region (HSR). Some of Colorado's larger counties represent a single HSR, but for smaller or less populated areas, several counties may be represented by a single HSR (Maps 1 & 2). In both 2013 and 2015, health statistics regions 7 (Pueblo County 32.0%, 30.1%) and 9 (Dolores, San Juan, Montezuma, La Plata, and Archuleta Counties 24.6%, 26.2%) were statistically higher than the state prevalence (19.7%, 21.2%) for current marijuana use among high school students. For all but one HSR, current marijuana use among high school students in 2015 was not statistically different from 2013. Health statistics region 10 (Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Ouray, Hinsdale, and San Miguel Counties) did have statistically lower current marijuana use among high school students in 2015 (17.5%) than in 2013 (26.7%) (Map 2).

Figure 1. Prevalence of ever and current marijuana use for high school students in Colorado (HKCS) compared to the national prevalence (YRBS), 2005-2015.
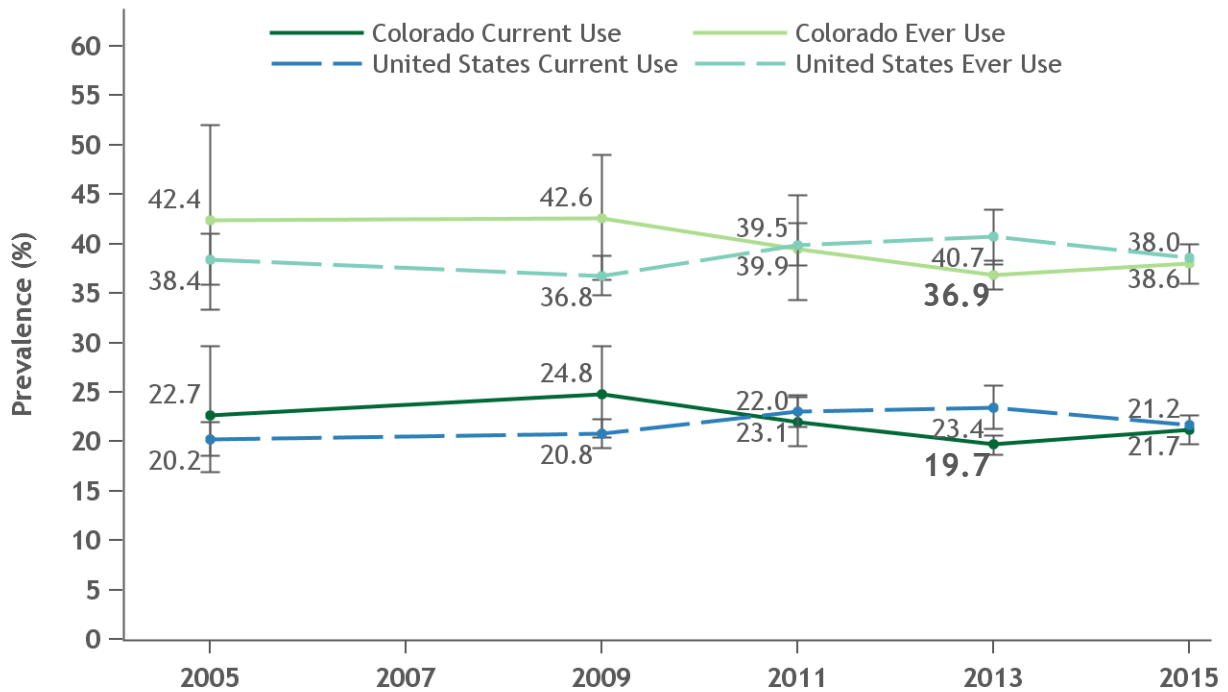
Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016

*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).

†Ever Use is defined as marijuana use at least one time during a student's lifetime and Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.

‡Data Source: Colorado estimates are from the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) and United States estimates are from the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System survey. Note: Data for the year 2007 was not included due to low sample size.

Major findings

- HKCS estimates for both ever and current marijuana use in Colorado have had no statistical difference from the YRBS national estimates from 2005 through 2015, except for current use in 2013.

- In 2013, the HKCS estimate of current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado was statistically lower than the YRBS national estimate.[a]

- Comparing 2015 HKCS estimates with 2013, there was no statistical difference in current use or ever use among Colorado high school students.[b]

- The 2015 HKCS estimates for both ever and current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado were nearly identical to the 2015 YRBS national estimates.

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[a]In 2013: HKCS estimate for Colorado 19.7%, (95% CI 18.7-20.6%), YRBS national estimate 23.4% (95% CI 21.3-25.7%).

[b] Current marijuana use in Colorado (HKCS): 2013 19.7% (95% CI 18.7-20.6%), 2015 21.2% (95% CI 19.7-22.7%). Ever marijuana use in Colorado (HKCS): 2013 36.8% (95% CI 35.4-38.3%), 2015 38.0% (95% CI 36.0-40.0%)

For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.1.

Figure 2. Prevalence of current marijuana use for high school aged adolescents in Colorado, 2005-2015.
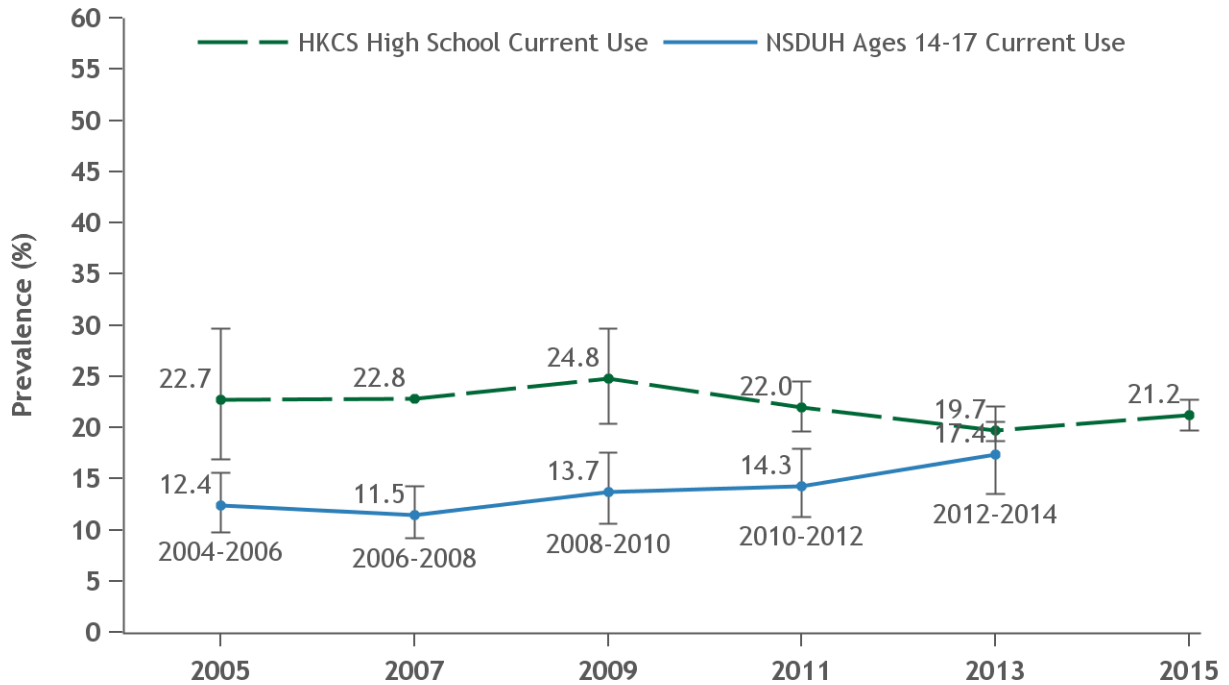
Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
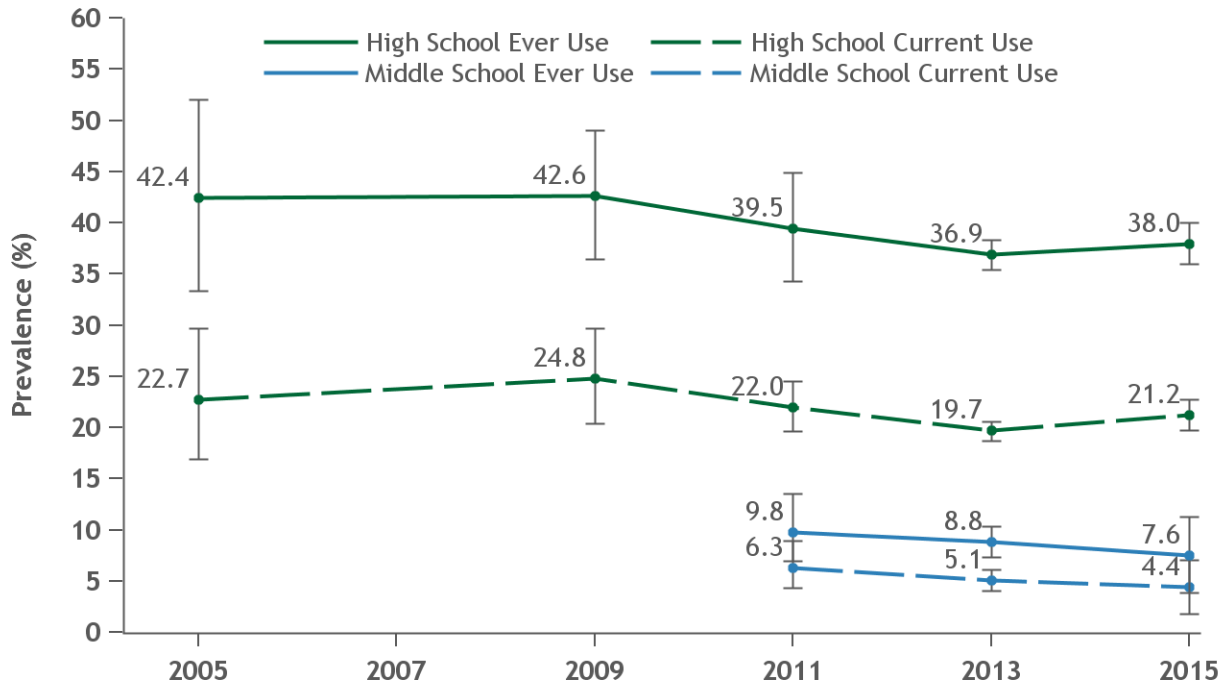†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2005-2015 and National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) for 2004-2014 ages 14-17. Both are for Colorado only.

Major findings

- From 2005 to 2013, the HKCS estimates of current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado were higher than the NSDUH estimates for current marijuana use among high school aged adolescents in Colorado. However, the difference became smaller in 2013.[c]

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[c] NSDUH data was a 3-year aggregate 2012-2014. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.2.
For statistical methods, see Appendix D.

Figure 3. Prevalence of ever and current marijuana use for high school and middle school students in Colorado, 2005-2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Ever Use is defined as marijuana use at least one time during a student's lifetime and Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
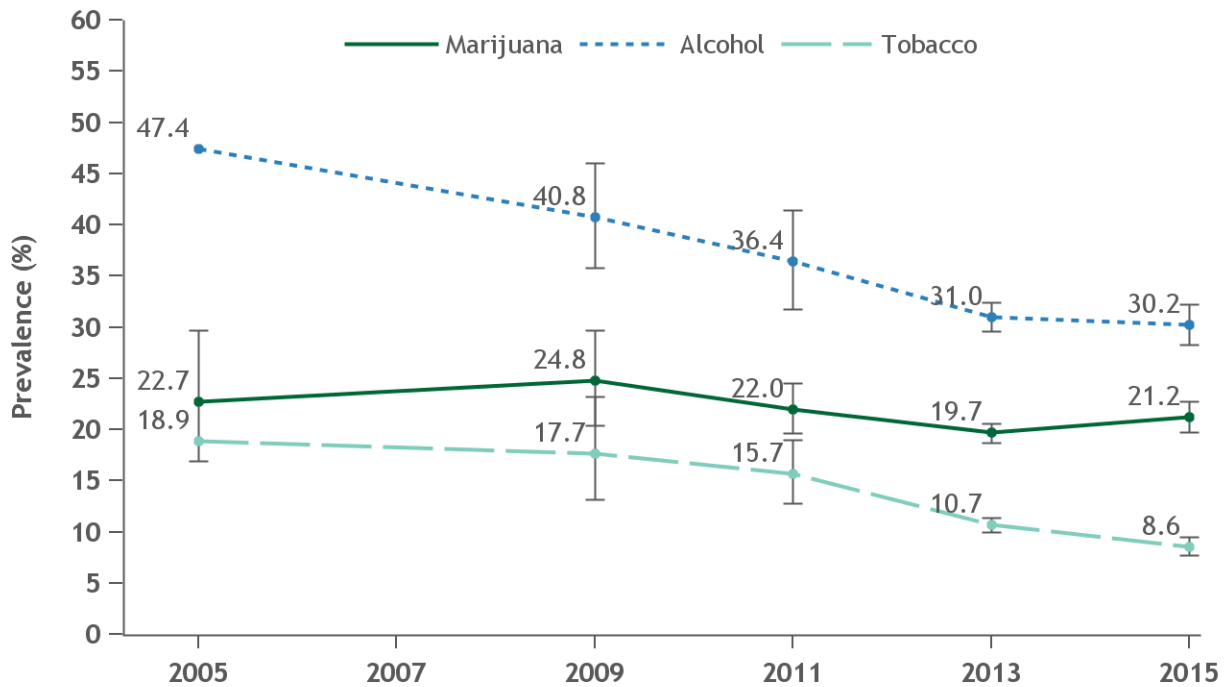‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2005-2015. Data for the year 2007 was not included due to low sample size. Data for middle school marijuana use was not collected before 2011.

Major findings

- Among Colorado high school students, over the years 2005 to 2015, estimates of current marijuana use have fluctuated between 19.7% and 24.8%. None of these estimates were statistically different from each other.[d]

- Among Colorado high school students, over the years 2005 to 2015, estimates of having ever used marijuana have fluctuated between 36.9% and 42.6%. None of these estimates were statistically different from each other.[d]

- Among Colorado middle school students in 2015, an estimated 4.4% were currently using marijuana and an estimated 7.6% had ever used marijuana. Between 2011 and 2015, none of the estimates were statistically different.[d]

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[d] For data, see Appendix D, Table D.3.
For statistical methods, see Appendix D.

Figure 4. Prevalence of current marijuana use for high school students in Colorado compared to current alcohol use and tobacco smoking in Colorado, 2009-2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2005-2015. Note: Data for the year 2007 was not included due to low sample size.

Major findings

- The prevalence of current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado has remained statistically higher than current tobacco smoking from 2011 through 2015 and has remained statistically lower than current alcohol use from 2009 through 2015.

- Current alcohol use was statistically lower in 2015 compared to 2009.[e]

- Current tobacco smoking was statistically lower in 2015 compared to 2013 and in 2013 compared to 2011.[f]

- Current marijuana use has remained stable from 2009 through 2015 with the prevalence of current marijuana use among high school students ranging from 19.7%-24.8%.

[e] Current alcohol use: 2015 30.2% (95% CI 28.3-32.2%), 2009 40.8% (95% CI 35.8-46.0%)
[f] Current tobacco use: 2015 8.6% (95% CI 7.7-9.5%), 2013 10.7% (95% CI 10.0-11.4%), 2011 15.7% (95% CI 12.8-19.0%)
For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.4.

Figure 5. Prevalence of current marijuana use for high school and middle school students in Colorado by grade, 2013-2015.
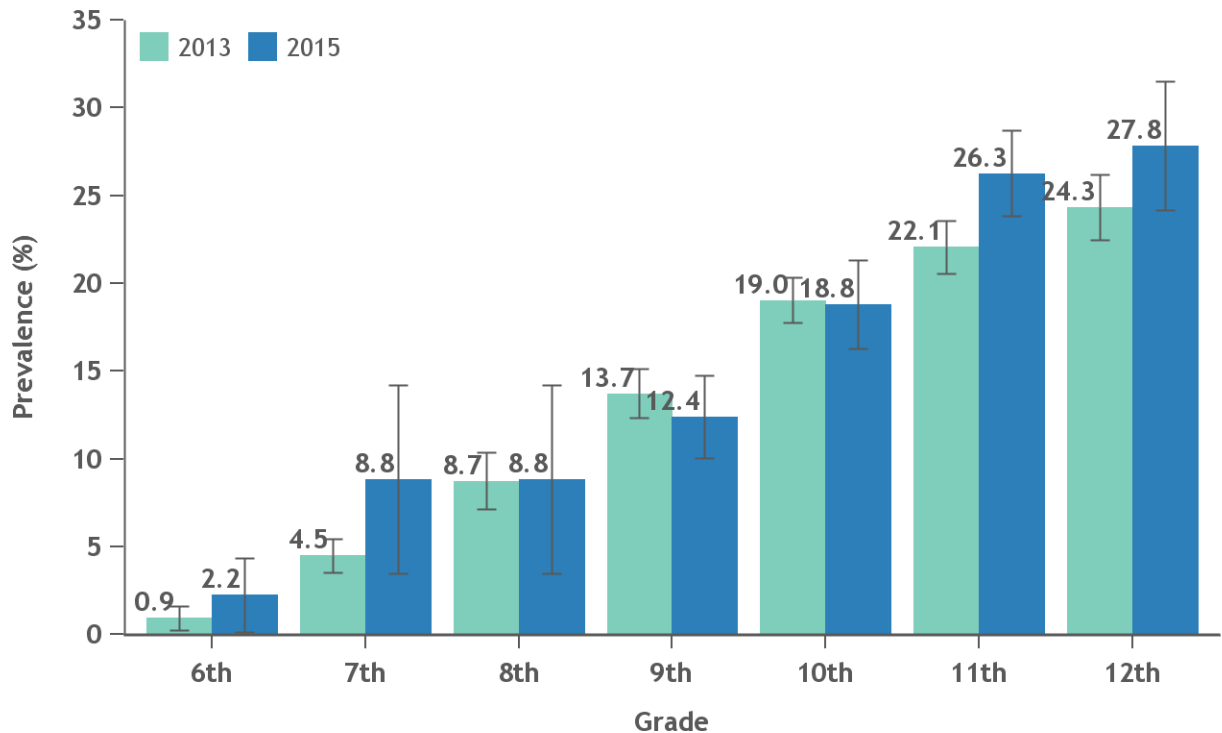
Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
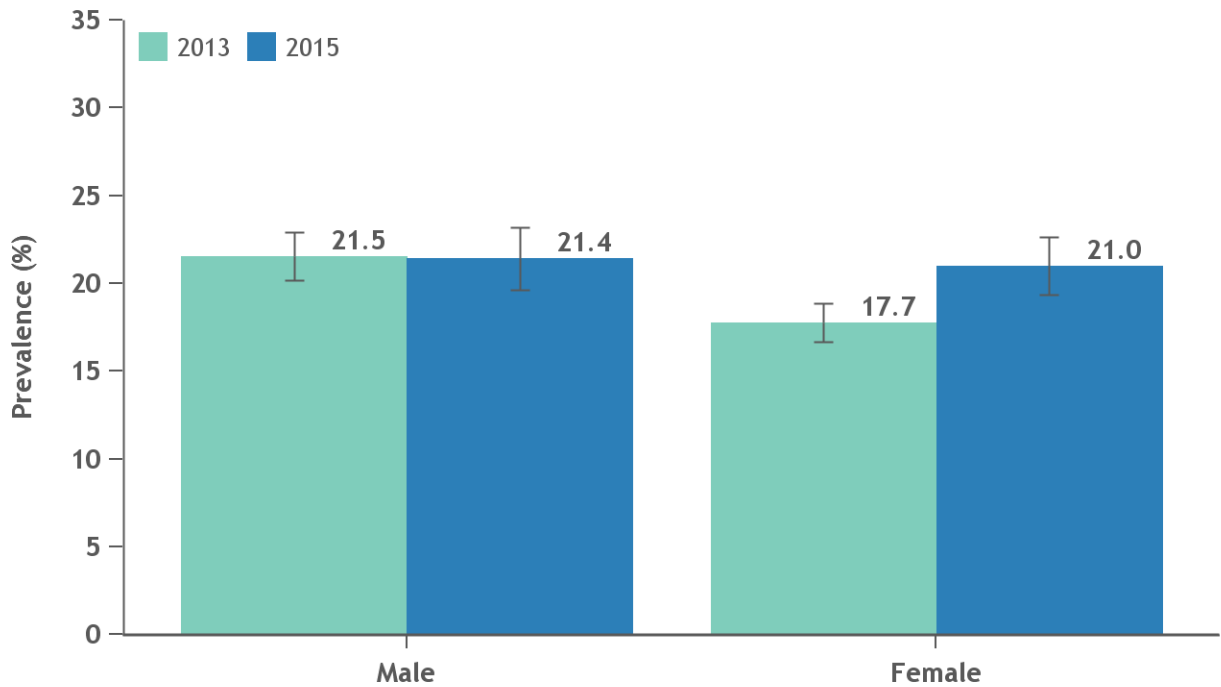‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings

- In both 2013 and 2015, estimates of current marijuana use among Colorado students in each grade level trended upward from 6th through 12th grade, with current use higher in older grades than younger grades.

- In both 2013 and 2015, estimated current use among Colorado 9th graders was statistically lower than among 10th graders, and current use among 10th graders was statistically lower than among 11th graders. [g]

- Estimated current use among Colorado 11th graders was statistically higher in 2015 than it was in 2013. There was not a statistical difference in current use among all other grades between 2013 and 2015. [h]

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[g] In 2013: 9th graders 13.7% (95% CI 12.3-15.1%), 10th graders 19.0% (95% CI 17.7-20.3%), 11th graders 22.1% (95% CI 20.6-23.5%); In 2015: 9th graders 12.4% (95% CI 10.0-14.7%), 10th graders 18.8% (95% CI 16.3-21.3%), 11th graders 26.3% (95% CI 23.8-28.7%)
[h] Current use among Colorado 11th graders: 2015 26.3% (95% CI 23.8-28.7%), 2013 (22.1%, 95% CI: 20.6%-23.5%).
For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.5.

Figure 6. Prevalence of current marijuana use for high school students in Colorado by gender, 2013-2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
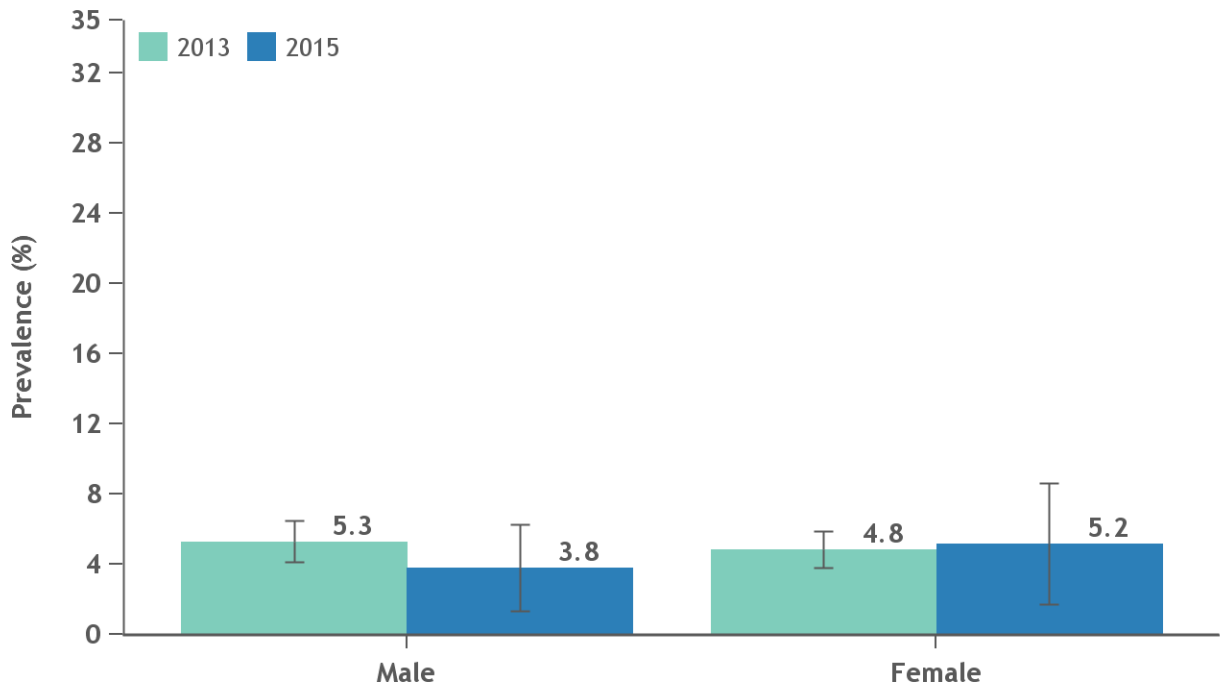‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings

- The estimate of female high school students in Colorado who reported current marijuana use in 2015 was statistically higher than in 2013.[i]

- Estimates for current marijuana use among male high school students in Colorado were nearly identical in 2013 and 2015.

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[i]Colorado female high school students current marijuana use: 2013 17.7% (95% CI 16.6-18.8%), 2015 21.0% (95% CI 19.3-22.6%)
For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.6.

Figure 7. Prevalence of current marijuana use for middle school students in Colorado by gender, 2013-2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings

- Current marijuana use was not statistically different between 2013 and 2015 for either male or female middle school students in Colorado. [j]

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[j] Males: 2013 5.3% (95% CI 4.1-6.5%), 2015 3.8% (95% CI 1.3-6.2%); Females: 2013 4.8% (95% CI 3.8-5.9%), 2015 5.2% (95% CI 1.7-8.6%)
For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.7.

Figure 8. Prevalence of current marijuana use for high school students in Colorado by race/ethnicity, 2013-2015.
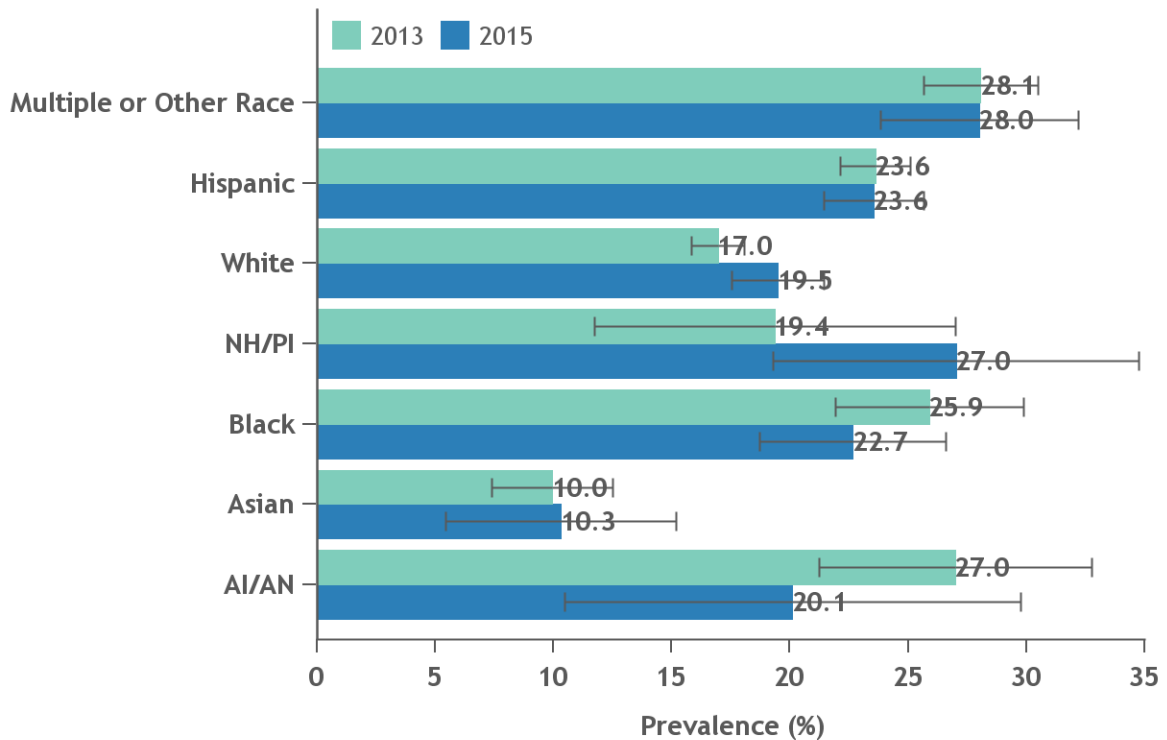
Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡Hispanic includes respondents who selected "Hispanic" for ethnicity and "white" for race. Those who selected "Hispanic" for ethnicity and a non-white race are included under "multiple or other race".
   AI: American Indian, AN: Alaska Native, NH: Native Hawaiian, PI: Pacific Islander.
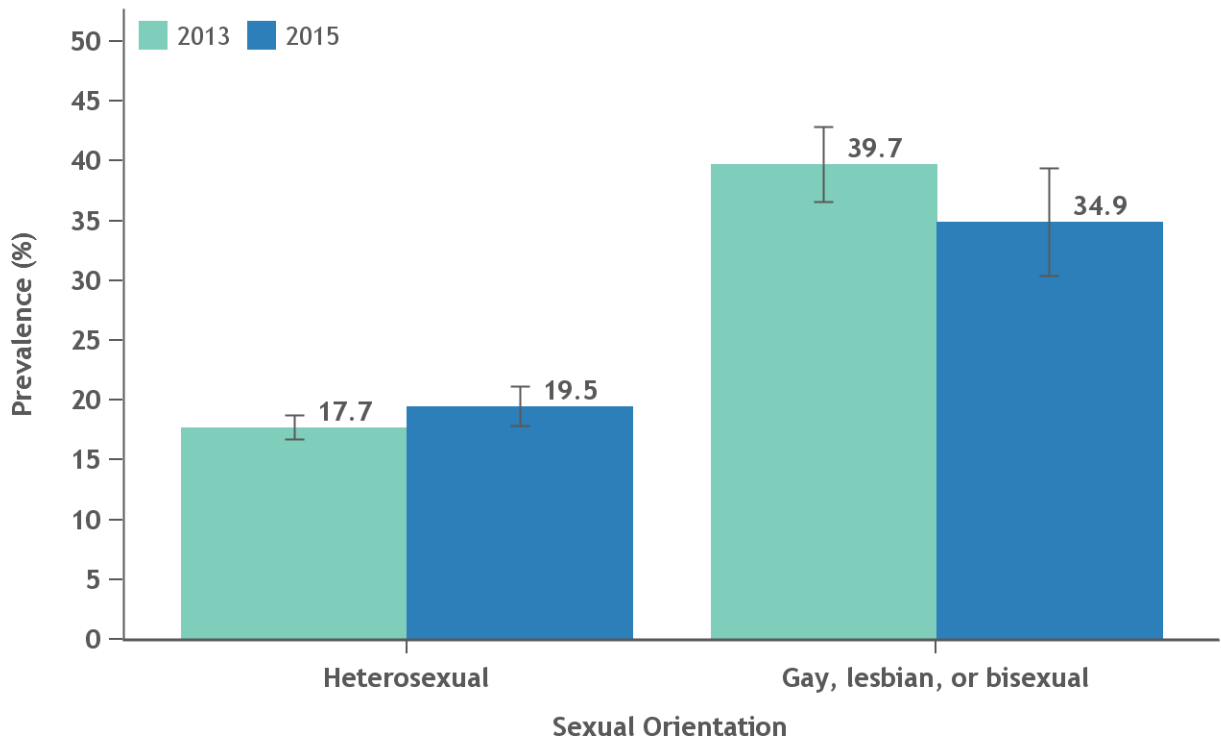§Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings

- In both 2013 and 2015, current marijuana use was statistically lower among Asian high school students than among white, Hispanic, black, and multiple or other race students.[k]

- In both 2013 and 2015, current marijuana use was statistically higher among multiple or other race high school students than among white students.[k]

- In 2013, current marijuana use was also statistically higher among Hispanic, black and American Indian/Alaskan Native high school students than among white students.[k]

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[k] For data, see Appendix D, Table D.8.
For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D.

Figure 9. Prevalence of current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado by sexual orientation, 2013-2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings
- In 2013 and 2015, current use of marijuana among students identifying as gay, lesbian or bisexual, was statistically higher than estimated current use among students identifying as heterosexual. [l]

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[l] In 2013: gay, lesbian, or bisexual students 39.7% (95% CI 36.5-42.9%), heterosexual students 17.7% (95% CI 16.7-18.7%). In 2015: gay, lesbian, or bisexual students 34.9% (95% CI 30.4-39.4%), heterosexual students 19.5% (95% CI 17.8-21.1%).

For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.9.

Figure 10. Age of first marijuana use among high school seniors in Colorado who reported ever using marijuana, 2013-2015.
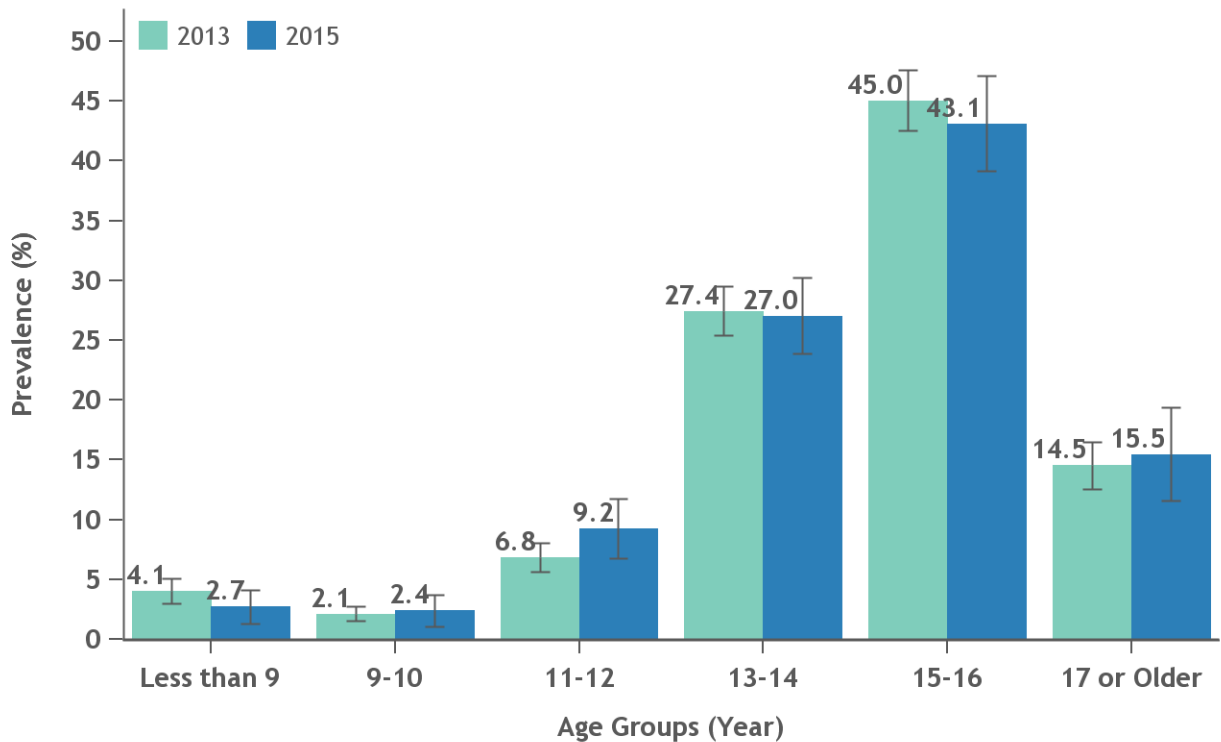
Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
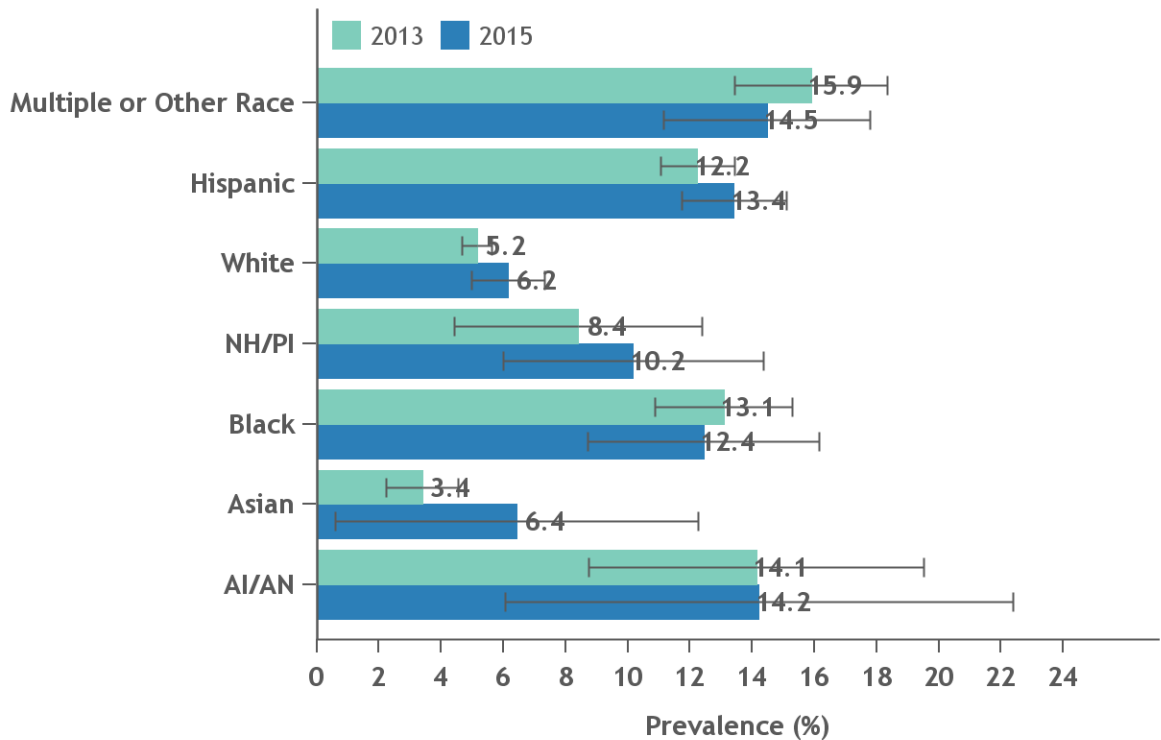†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings

- In 2015, among high school seniors who had used marijuana at least once in the past, an estimated 84.4% of them first used by age 16 or before, 41.3% first used by age 14 or before, and 14.3% first used by age 12 or before.[m]

- Age of first marijuana use followed a similar pattern among high school seniors surveyed in 2013 who reported ever using marijuana.

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[m] First used by age 12 includes the "Less than 9" (2.7%), "9-10" (2.4%) and "11-12" (9.2%), totaling 14.3%; first used by age 14 includes those plus "13-14" (27.0%), totaling 41.3%; first used by age 16 includes those plus "15-16" (43.1%), totaling 84.4% For data, see Appendix D, Table D.10.

Figure 11. Prevalence of high school students in Colorado who tried marijuana before age 13 by race/ethnicity, 2013-2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Hispanic includes respondents who selected "Hispanic" for ethnicity and "white" for race. Those who selected "Hispanic" for ethnicity and a non-white race are included under "multiple or other race".
 AI: American Indian, AN: Alaska Native, NH: Native Hawaiian, PI: Pacific Islander.
‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings

- In both 2013 and 2015, the estimated percent of white students who first tried marijuana before age 13 was statistically lower than among black, Hispanic, and multiple or other race students. [n]

- In 2013, the estimated percent of Asian students who first tried marijuana before age 13 was statistically lower than among black, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan Native and multiple or other race students.[n]

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[n] For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.11.

Figure 12. Usual methods of marijuana use among high school students in Colorado who reported current marijuana use, 2011-2015.
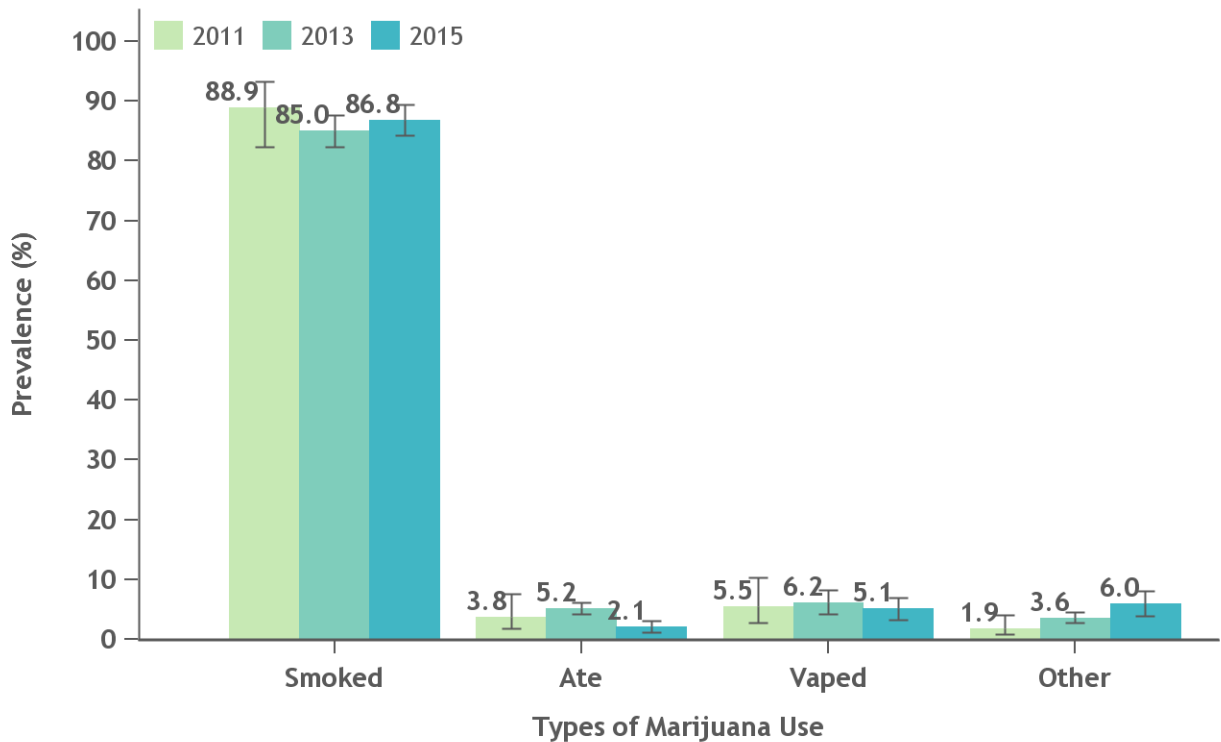
Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡In 2015 the 'Other' category included 'Other' and 'Dabbing.'
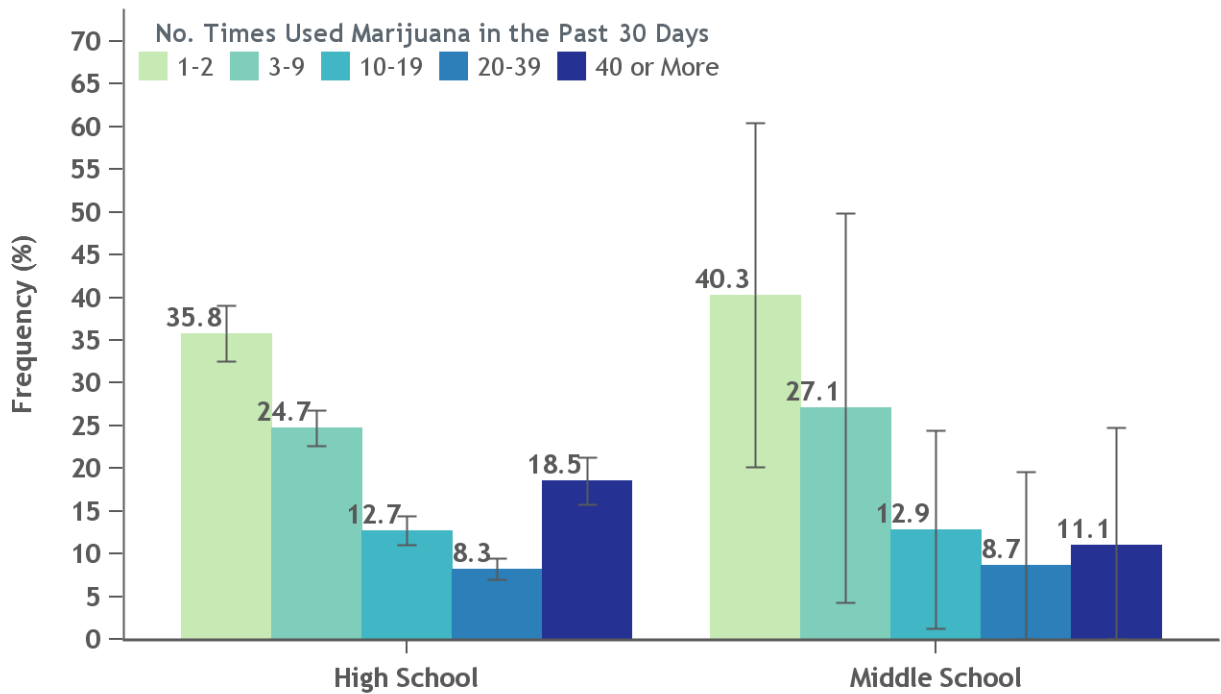§Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2011-2015.

Major findings

- A large majority of high school students who currently use marijuana report that smoking is their usual method of use, as compared to edibles, vaping or other methods of use.

- The percentage of high school students who reported usually using edibles was statistically lower in 2015 compared to 2013.[o]

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[o] Usually use edibles: 2013 5.2% (95% CI 4.2-6.1%), 2015 2.1% (95% CI 1.2-3.0%)
For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.12.

Figure 13. Frequency of marijuana use among high school and middle school students in Colorado who reported current marijuana use, 2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
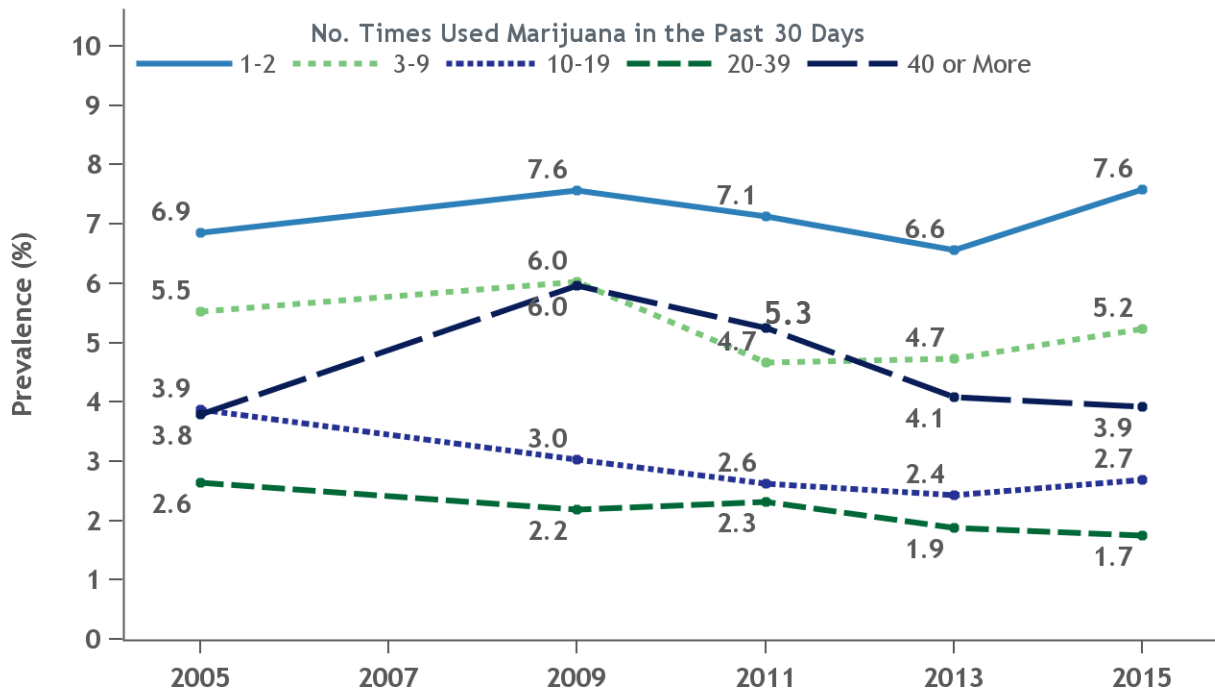‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2013-2015.

Major findings

- In 2015, among high school students currently using marijuana, an estimated 35.8% used it once or twice in the past 30 days, while 26.8% used it 20 or more times.[p]

- Among middle school students currently using marijuana, an estimated 40.3 % used once or twice in the past 30 days and 19.8% used 20 or more times. [q]

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[p] 20 or more times includes "20-39" (8.3%) and "40 or more" (18.5%), totaling 26.8%
[q] 20 or more times includes "20-39" (8.7%) and "40 or more" (11.1%), totaling 19.8%
For statistical methods, see Appendix D. For data, see Appendix D, Table D.13.

Figure 14. Frequency of marijuana use among high school students in Colorado, 2005-2015.

Produced by: EEOHT, CDPHE 2016
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals).
†Current Use is defined as marijuana use at least once in the past 30 days.
‡Data Source: Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) prevalence estimates for 2005-2015. Note: Data for the year 2007 was not included due to low sample size.

Major findings

- The estimated percent of Colorado high school students using marijuana at each frequency level fluctuated for surveys from 2005 to 2015, with no notable trends.[r]

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[r] For data, see Appendix D, Table D.14.
For statistical methods, see Appendix D.

Map 1. Prevalence of current marijuana use among high school students in Colorado, 2013

Prevalence of Current Use among High School Students, Colorado 2013

| 0.0% - 15.0% | 15.1% - 20.0% | 20.1% - 25.0% | 25.1% - 30.0% | 30.1% - 35.0% | No Data |
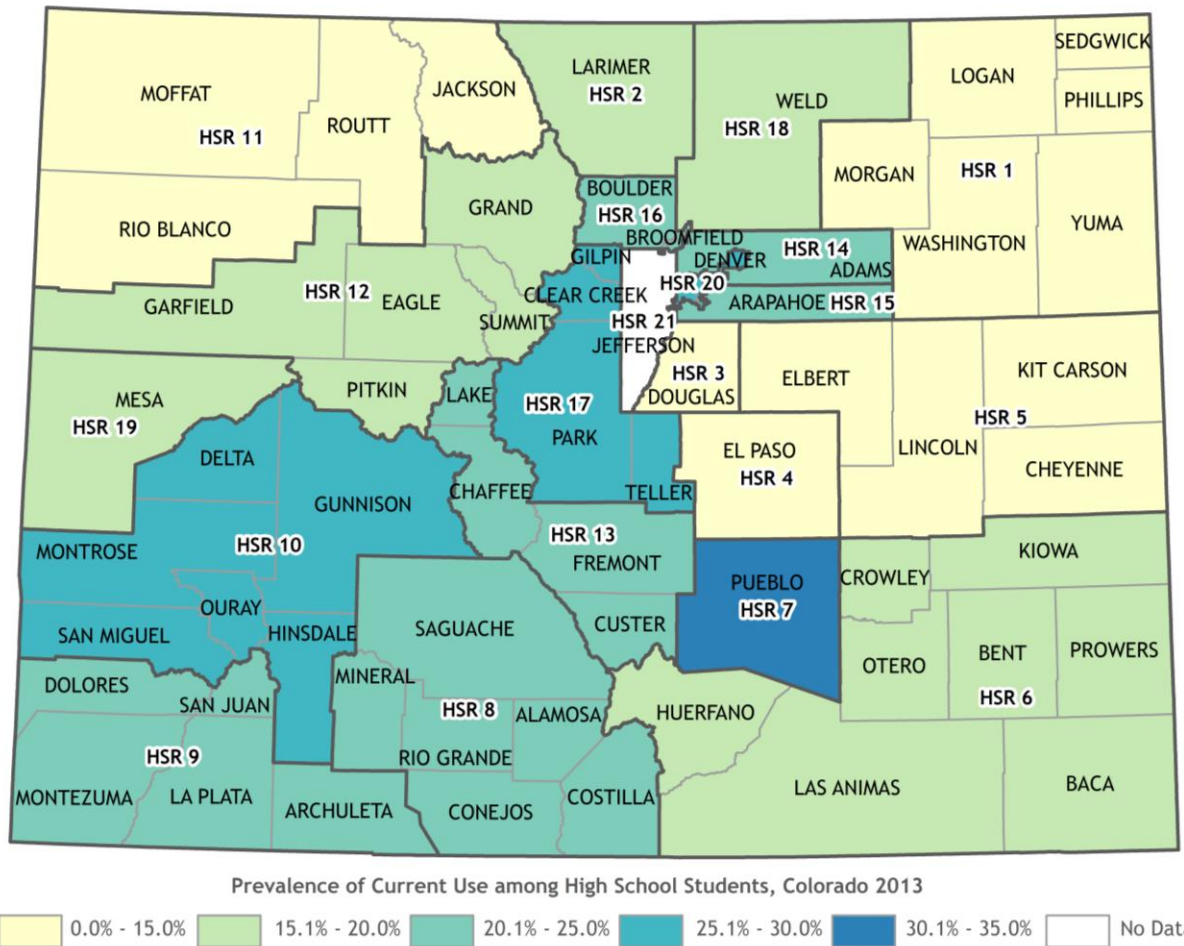
Major findings

- In 2013, health statistic regions 7 (Pueblo County, 32.0%), 10 (Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Ouray, Hinsdale, and San Miguel Counties, 26.7%), 20 (Denver County, 26.6%), 17 (Gilpin, Clear Creek, Park, and Teller Counties, 25.1%), 9 (Dolores, San Juan, Montezuma, La Plata, and Archuleta Counties, 24.6%), and 13 (Lake, Chaffee, Fremont, and Custer Counties, 22.9%), were statistically higher than the 2013 Colorado state estimate of current use among high school students of 19.7%.[s]

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[s] In 2013: HSR 7 - 32.0% (95% CI 25.7-38.4%), HSR 10 - 26.7% (95% CI 22.3-31.0%), HSR 20 - 26.6% (95% CI 22.5-30.8%), HSR 17 - 25.1% (95% CI 21.9-28.3%), HSR 9 - 24.6% (95% CI 20.9-28.3%), HSR 13 – 22.9% (95% CI 21.2-24.7%), all of Colorado - 19.7% (95% CI 18.7-20.6%)

For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D.

Map 2. Prevalence of Current Marijuana Use among High School Students in Colorado, 2015

Prevalence of Current Use among High School Students, Colorado 2015

| 0.0% - 15.0% | 15.1% - 20.0% | 20.1% - 25.0% | 25.1% - 30.0% | 30.1% - 35.0% | No Data |
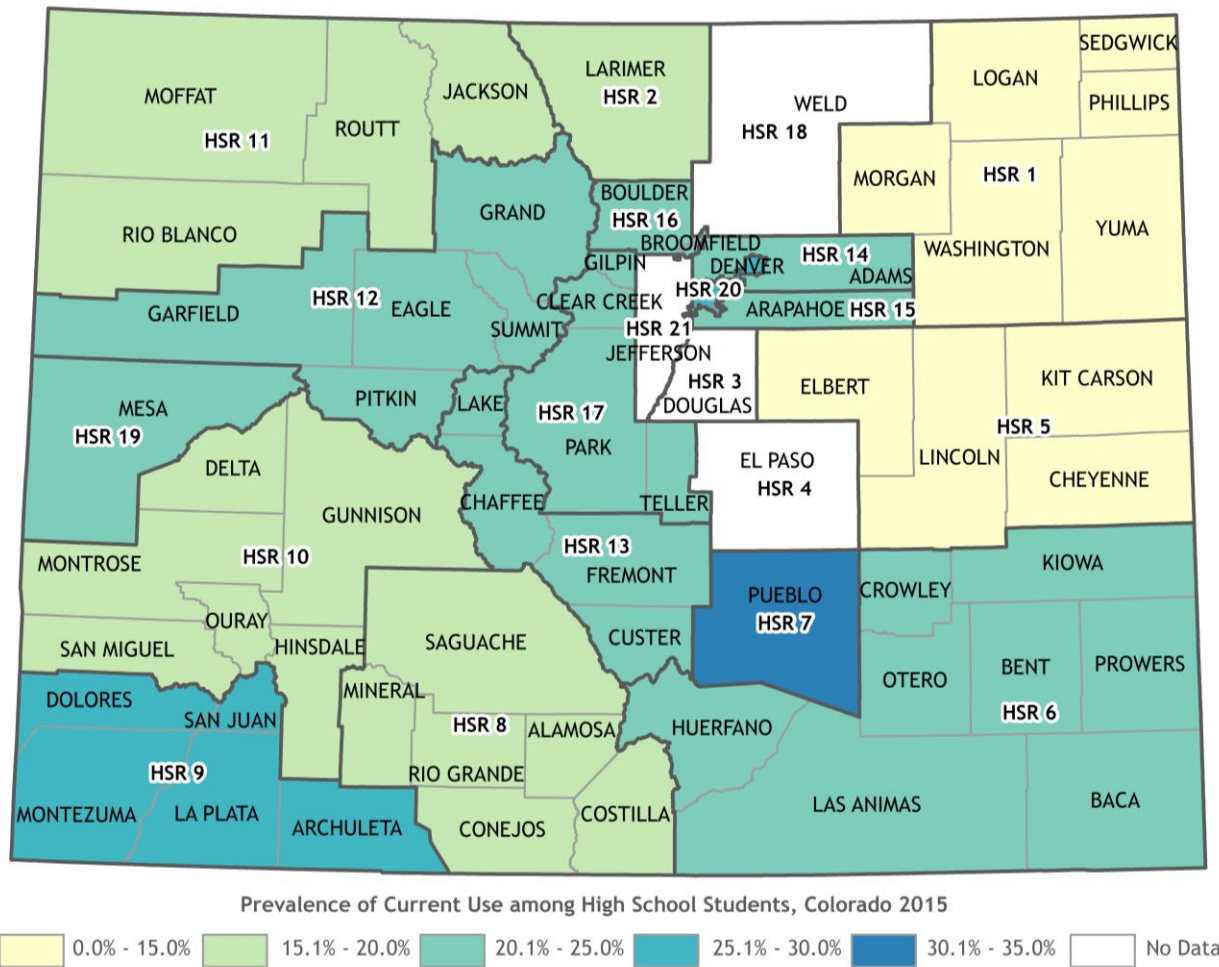
Major findings

• In 2015, health statistics regions 7 (Pueblo County, 30.1%) and 9 (Dolores, San Juan, Montezuma, La Plata, and Archuleta Counties, 26.2%) were statistically higher than the 2015 Colorado state estimate of current use among high school students of 21.2%.[t]

• Current marijuana use in health statistics region 10 (Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Ouray, Hinsdale, and San Miguel Counties) was statistically lower in 2015 (17.5%) than it was in 2013 (26.7%).[u]

• For all other health statistics regions, current use in 2015 was not statistically different from current use in 2013.

[t] In 2015: HSR 7 – 30.1% (95% CI 27.1-33.2%), HSR 9 – 26.2% (95% CI 24.7-37.7%), all of Colorado – 21.2% (95% CI 19.7-22.7%)
[u] HSR 10: 2013 – 26.7% (95% CI 22.3-31.0%), 2015 – 17.5% (95% CI12.7-22.3%)
For an explanation of terms, see "How to interpret survey results" above. For statistical methods, see Appendix D.

References

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System. *Adolescent and School Health* http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/.

2. Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Adolescent Health Data, Healthy Kids Colorado Survey. *Colorado Health and Environmental Data* 2015; http://www.chd.dphe.state.co.us/topics.aspx?q=Adolescent_Health_Data, 2016.

3. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Population Data / NSDUH. https://www.samhsa.gov/data/population-data-nsduh/2015.