

Youth Marijuana Use in Kentucky



Marijuana Use among 12–17-Year-Olds, 2023–2024	KY	National Average
<i>Had a marijuana use disorder in the past year</i>	3.50%	4.7%
<i>Used marijuana in the past 30 days</i>	5.3%	6.0%
<i>Used marijuana in the past 12 months</i>	9.0%	10.8%
<i>Had ever used marijuana in their lifetime</i>	13.6%	13.2%

Risk Factors among 12–17-Year-Olds, 2023–2024	KY	National Average
<i>Thought there was a great risk of harm associated with smoking marijuana once or twice per week</i>	34.1%	34.3%
<i>Thought marijuana was fairly easy or very easy to obtain</i>	36.4%	36.8%
<i>Thought most or all of the students in their grade used marijuana</i>	26.90%	24.20%
<i>Had been approached by someone selling drugs in the past 30 days</i>	5.3%	5.9%

Associations with Marijuana Use among 12–17-Year-Olds, 2023–2024*	Past-Year Marijuana Use	No Past-Year Marijuana Use
<i>Had a substance use disorder in the past year for any substance</i>	52.5%	2.7%
<i>Self-rated their overall health as excellent or very good</i>	50.7%	70.2%
<i>Had thought about, planned, and/or attempted suicide in the past year</i>	30.8%	9.6%
<i>Had a major depressive episode in the past year</i>	40.9%	19.1%

Additional Outcomes
In 2023, 5,082 admissions to substance use treatment programs in Kentucky noted that marijuana was the primary, secondary, or tertiary substance used.
In 2023–2024, 69.6% of 12–17-year-olds in Kentucky said that they had received drug education in school in the past year.
In FY 25, Kentucky had 14 Drug-Free Communities (DFC) coalitions, which are federally funded groups focused on preventing youth substance use.
In 2023–2024, 165,000 individuals aged 16 or older in Kentucky drove under the influence of marijuana in the past year.

* = among the population in the United States.

Sources are available at:
<https://johnnysambassadors.org/statefactsheets>