

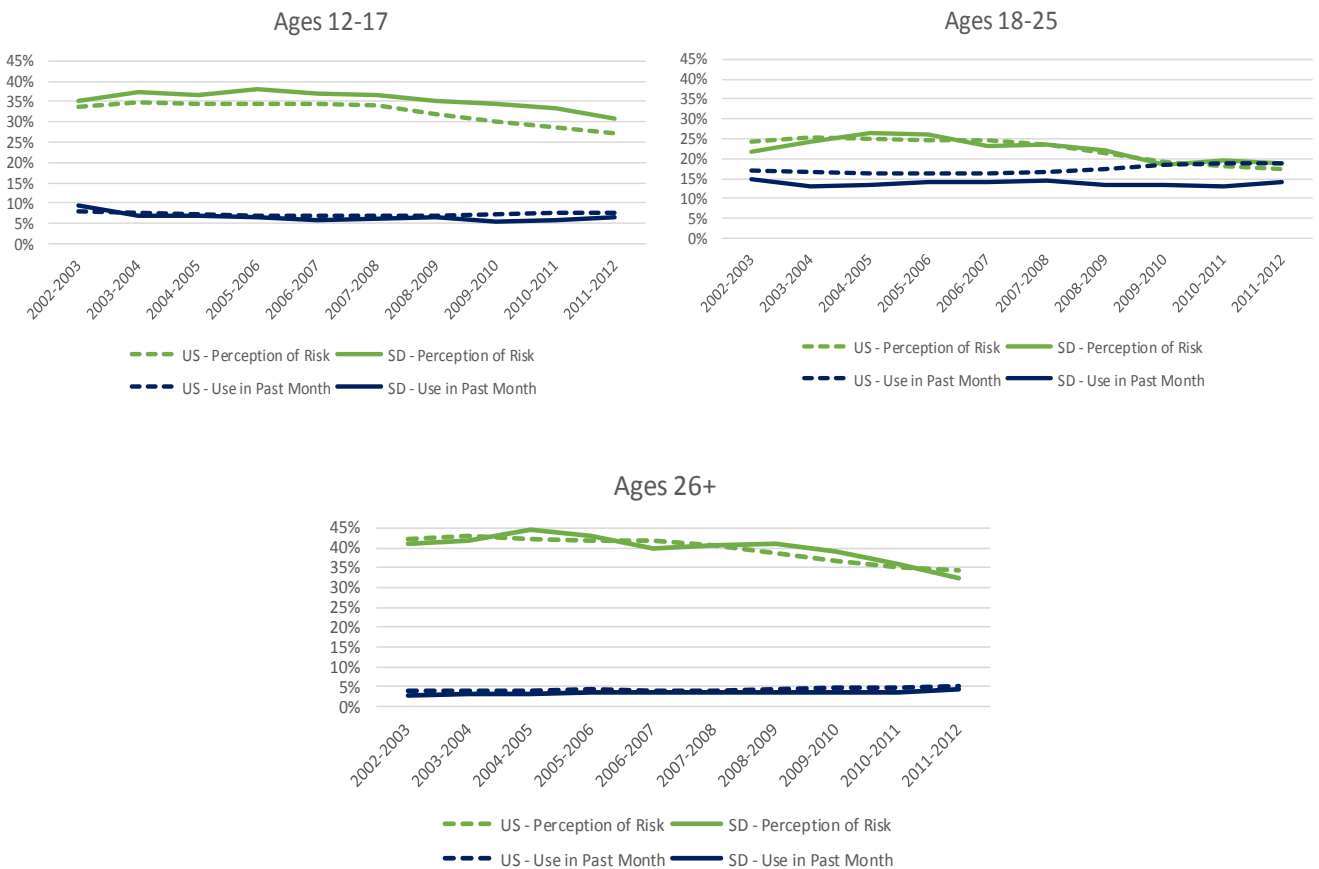


Data Brief

Despite Decreasing Perceptions of Risk Associated with Marijuana, Use Remains Steady

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The National Survey on Drug Use and Health results from 2002-2012 demonstrate a gradual decrease in the perception of great risk from smoking marijuana once a month in all age groups. Despite the small decrease, marijuana use in the past month has remained steady, increasing only slightly in the past several years. Both the percentage of individuals who used marijuana in the past month and the percentage who view smoking marijuana as a great risk have remained similar at the state and national levels.



Out of the three age groups, South Dakotans ages 26 and older reported the highest perception of risk and the lowest percentage of use in 2011-2012 with 32.43% and 4.28%, respectively. The 18-25 year olds reported the lowest perception of risk and the highest percentage of use during the same years with 18.87% and 13.95%, respectively. Survey respondents ages 12-17 ranked between the 18-25 year olds and those ages 26 and older in both their perception of risk (30.84%) and use of marijuana in the past month (6.44%).

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). 2002-2012 NSDUH State Estimates of Substance Use and Mental Health Disorders.

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