

Keeping it Current

Raising Healthy Teens

Vaping Cannabis



The practice of using vaping devices to consume marijuana or cannabis products is becoming increasingly widespread. Recent data shows that more than one-fifth of high school seniors have reported vaping marijuana in the past year.[1] At the same time, one of the ingredients present in many marijuana vapes has been linked to a wave of illnesses and deaths impacting people of all ages across the U.S.

The Facts

- Middle school students and high school reported past-year marijuana vaping—8% of eighth graders, 19% of 10th graders, and 22% of 12th graders, according to the CDC in 2021.
- THC is the active chemical in marijuana (cannabis) that causes a high. The extracts or concentrates used in vaping marijuana are very potent - between 50%-90% THC.
- The small vape devices are nearly odorless and can avoid detection at home and at school. Vape devices heat quickly to dispense high-potency THC products, nicotine, and other drugs.
- The cloud is aerosol, not water vapor. Some chemicals that may be inhaled include heavy metals such as lead, nickel, and chromium; formaldehyde; and artificial flavors linked to serious diseases.
- Secondhand vape is like secondhand smoke- when someone vapes indoors it affects other people too. Exposure to secondhand aerosols from e-cigarettes is associated with an increased risk of bronchitis symptoms and shortness of breath among young adults, especially those who don't smoke or vape themselves

Did you know?

A marijuana concentrate is a highly potent concentrated form of THC.



The extracts or concentrates used in vaping marijuana are extremely potent – between 50% and 90% THC.

The Risks

Cannabis use can have a long-lasting impact on an adolescent's developing brain. Decreased problem-solving skills, reduced attention span, and poor memory. All of these things can lead to a decline in the student's academic performance.

Impaired reaction time and coordination

Increased risk of mental health issues such as depression and anxiety.

Health officials have reported hospitalized and fatal cases of a vaping-related lung disease called EVALI (e-cigarette or vaping use-associated lung injury)

Warning signs

- Sweet odors
- Decreased sense of taste
- Dry mouth and thirst
- Nosebleeds
- Cutting back on caffeine
- Persistent cough
- Finding unusual USB drives, battery chargers, or spare parts
- Red irritated eyes



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