

# Youth Marijuana Use Non-Legalized vs. Legalized States

**Andy Duran** CEO, LEAD

▶ **PLAY VIDEO**

## KEY VIDEO TAKE-AWAYS

### **1. State-passed marijuana legalization leads to a higher incidence of use amongst both adolescents (ages 12-17) and young adults (ages 18-25) than in states where it has not been legalized.**

- Legalized states saw an increase in the past year and past month marijuana use of nearly 3.5% in adolescents and 4.4% in young adults from 2016-2018.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/data/release/2019-national-survey-drug-use-and-health-nsduh-releases>

### **2. The legalization of adult-use recreational marijuana in California has impacted the state's teens.**

- An increase in marijuana use among California adolescents after recreational marijuana legalization for adult use in 2016 is surprising given the steady downward trend in marijuana use during years before legalization.
- An 18% increase in the likelihood of lifetime use and a 23% increase in past-30-day use.

<https://cdn.newswire.com/files/x/58/1e/0f66110993cff2581e37f727b7c8.pdf>

### **3. As more states move toward legalizing marijuana for recreational use, we also need to invest in substance use prevention to prevent unintended harms, particularly among adolescents.**