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Johnny's Ambassadors

Parent Action Network/ Smart Approaches to Marijuana

Big Village Prevention Coalition

Community Living Above Prevention Coalition

OLCC Rules Advisory Committee for Marijuana and Hemp

Community Impact Subcommittee of CPOT, Cannabis Policy Oversight
Team

TODAY'S CANNABIS

“I smoked when I was a kid and nothing happened to me.”

— — —

This is what you smoked



4% - 7% THC

This is what they smoke



25% - 35% THC

New products: cannabis concentrates

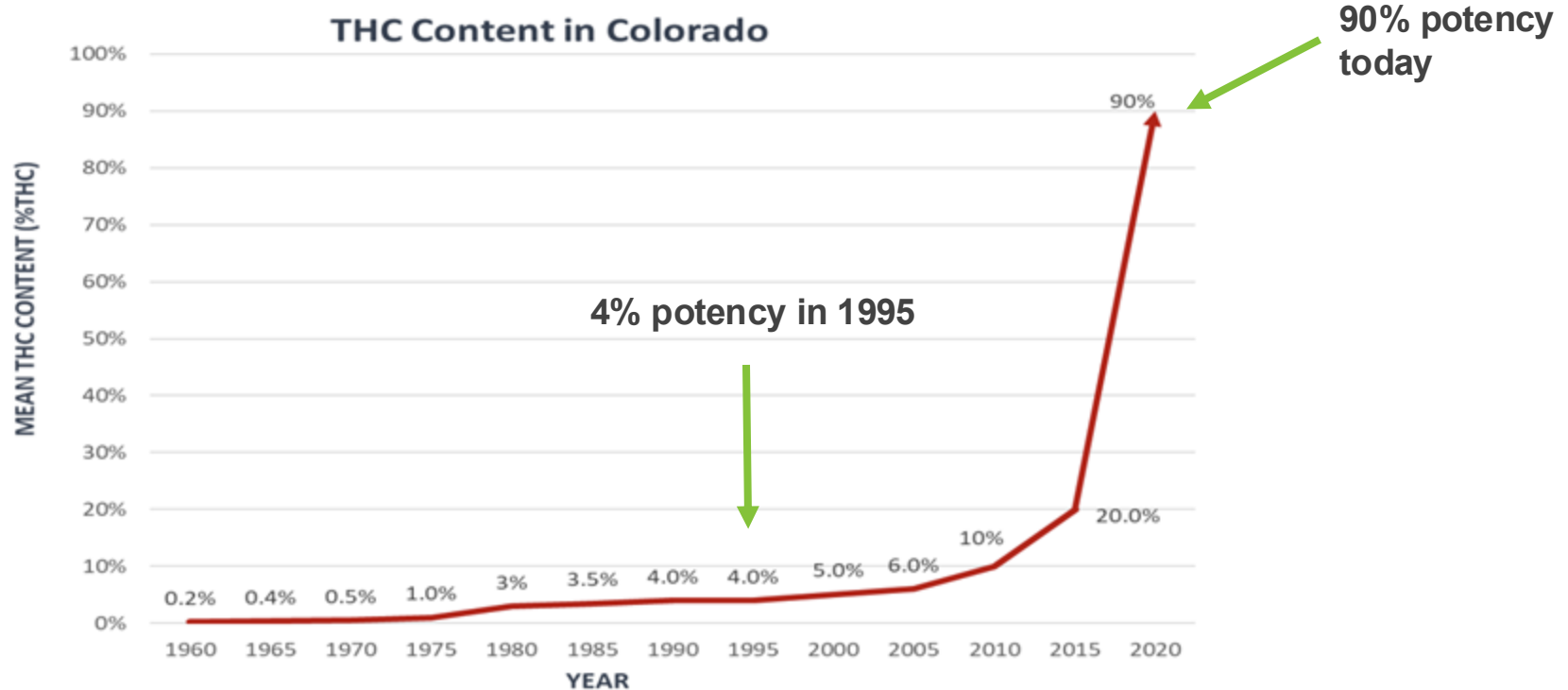
THC is extracted and concentrated to a potency of 50 - 90+% THC

- Vapes
- Dab pens

Wax, shatter, budder, oils, crystals (diamonds)



Changing product and use pattern in the cannabis landscape



Teens prefer using concentrates

— — —

Adolescent cannabis users: **72% used concentrates**

Madeline H. Meier, et.al; Cannabis Concentrate Use in Adolescents. *Pediatrics* September 2019

Cannabis vaping: most popular cannabis delivery method among all U.S. adolescents.

Heavy and frequent use of cannabis is increasing among U.S. adolescents.

Keyes KM, et al. Frequency of adolescent cannabis smoking and vaping in the United States: Trends, disparities and concurrent substance use, 2017–19. *Addiction*. 2022



“That’s not how I remember marijuana.....”

What you encountered



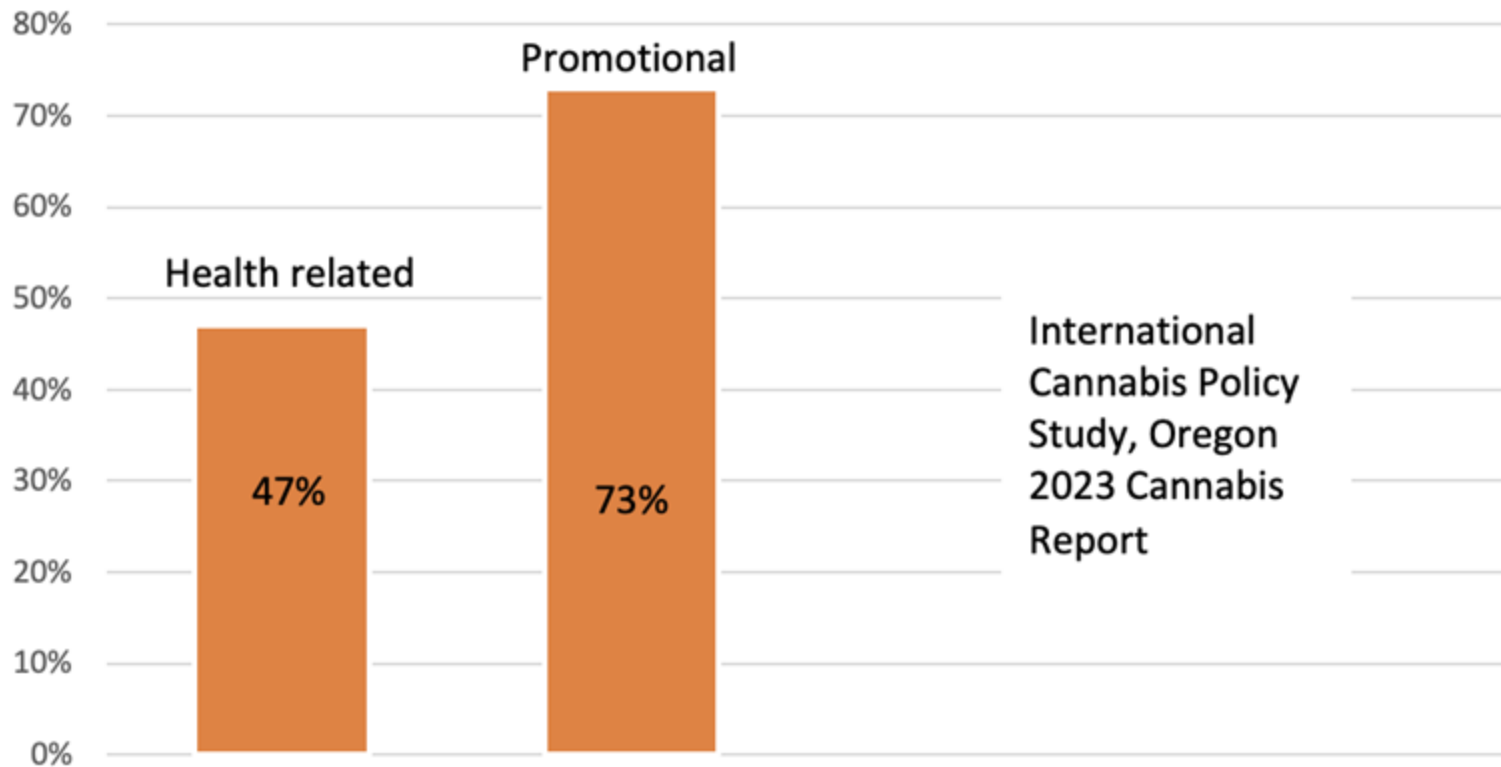
2 - 5% THC

What they encounter



Some products 80%+ THC

Cannabis messaging viewed by ages 16-25 2023



International
Cannabis Policy
Study, Oregon
2023 Cannabis
Report

Oregon Youth Cannabis Use

— — —
SAMHSA National Survey on Drug Use
and Health 2022 data shows:

- Oregon students 12-17 have lowest perception of risk in the US
- 87% perceive NO great risk from smoking marijuana once a month

**27% of PPS High School students
report current cannabis use**

(2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey)

WHY IT MATTERS

(the harms to youth)

Science is
catching up with
the commercial
market

High-potency cannabis
is associated with greater
risk of:

- anxiety
- dependency
- suicidal ideation
- psychotic symptoms

Sources: 1) Wilson, Lancet Child & Adolescent Health, 2019;
2) Chandra, Eur Arch Psychiatry, 2019;
3) El Sohly, Biological Psychiatry, 2016

CDC: Cannabis and Teens

Cannabis use can have permanent effects on the developing brain when use begins in adolescence, especially with regular or heavy use.

Addiction

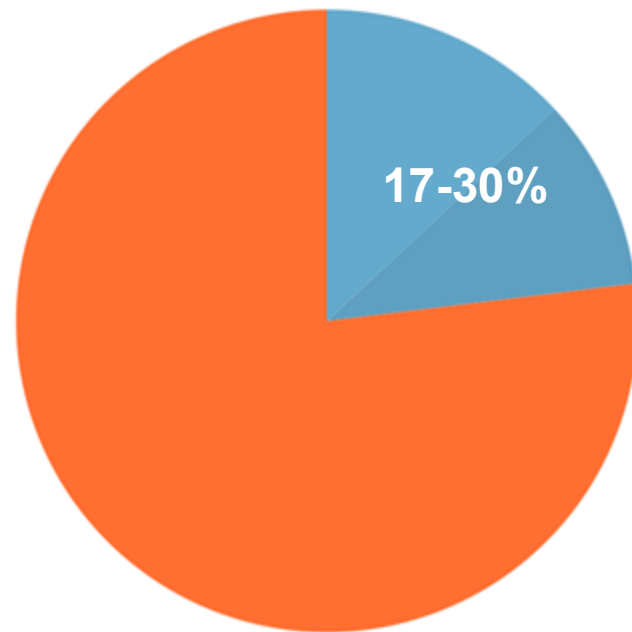
Cannabis Use Disorder (CUD)

— — —
The young brain is **more vulnerable** to addiction

17% to 30+% of users under age 18 who use cannabis at least once a week **develop cannabis use disorder**

(highest prevalence among daily users)

The 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) estimated **7 million people under 25** had a Marijuana Use Disorder



Teen cannabis addiction risk

Educational Outcomes

According to the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine report (2024)

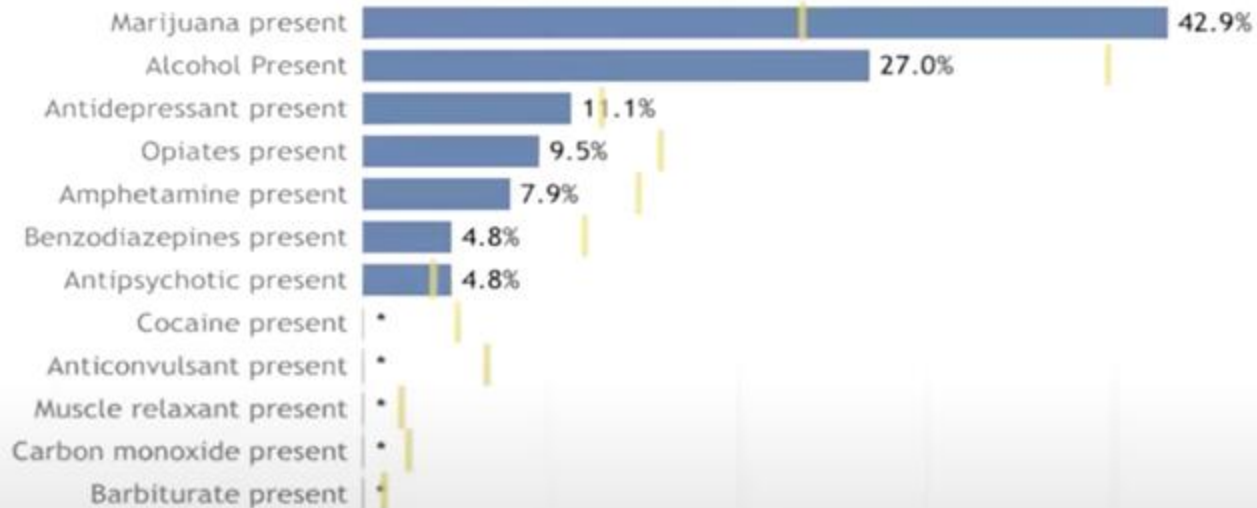
Teens who use cannabis
regularly are more likely to:

- quit high school or
- not get a college
degree

Teen and young adult suicide

Youth suicide

2021 Teen Deaths By Suicide: Marijuana is #1 substance in toxicology results among 15-19 year olds



Psychosis

During adolescence
(ages 12–19)

Over **11 X** greater risk
of chronic psychotic
disorder

Cannabis & psychosis: Recent data including more potent cannabis.

- Psychosis risk ↑ 5 X
- Youth psychosis risk ↑ 11 X
- Cannabis use disrupts adolescent nerve transmission refinement & white matter development
- Study of 11,363 children, 12-24yo. Longitudinal design w/ 6 to 9 year follow up. (2024)

Canadian health warnings, March 12, 2025 revision

Using cannabis before age 25 can:

- **harm brain development** worsening attention, concentration, and memory
- **increase risk of mental disorders like psychosis and schizophrenia**
- **cause psychotic symptoms like severe paranoia**
 - The risk is greatest in people younger than 25 or when using products higher in THC.

Cannabis can be **addictive**. The higher the THC, the greater the risk and adverse effects.

Cannabis use increases the risk of **anxiety and depression** (the more you use, the greater the risk).

Do not drive under the influence of cannabis. It puts your life and other people's lives at risk.

Potential Policy To Protect Youth

- Public Health education campaign
- Limit potency of concentrates
- Higher taxes for concentrates
- Prohibit flavored vapes
- Health warnings
- Increase dispensary buffer zones
- Limit advertising
- Educate budtenders about potential risks to customers
- Single-serving edibles
- Plain edible packaging
- Minimum pricing



People protect what they love.

- Jacques Cousteau