



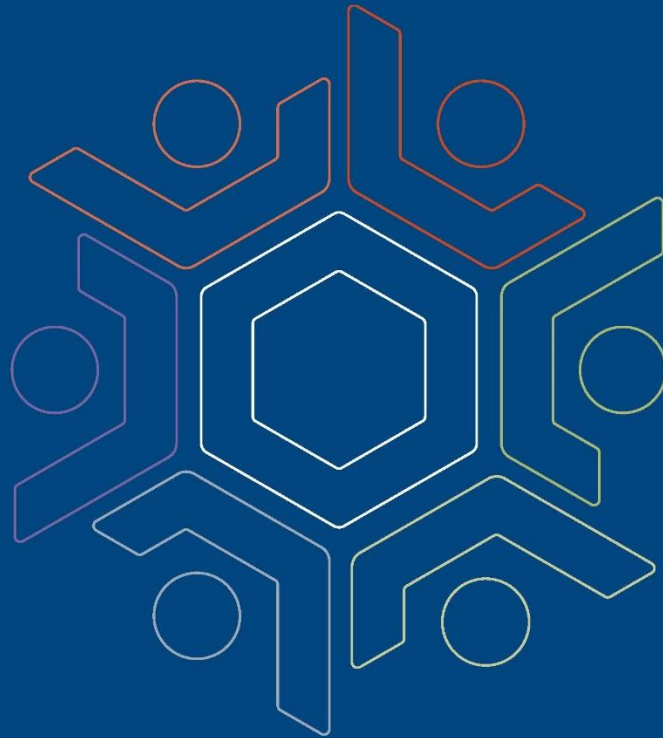
Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

PTTC

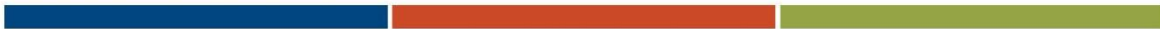
Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

COMPILED RESOURCES FOR ACTION:

Preventing Youth Cannabis Use



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Disclaimer

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At the time of this publication, Tom Coderre served as SAMHSA Acting Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use. The opinions expressed herein are the view of the Northeast & Caribbean Prevention Technology Transfer Center and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this document is intended or should be inferred.

About the Northeast and Caribbean PTTC

The Northeast & Caribbean Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC), administered through the Center for Prevention Science located in the Rutgers University School of Social Work, serves prevention professionals working in New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Its purpose is to strengthen the substance misuse prevention workforce through the provision of technology transfer activities, including the delivery of multifaceted training and intensive technical assistance to improve knowledge and skills in prevention science and evidence-based prevention practices. To learn more, visit our website:

<https://pttcnetwork.org/centers/northeast-caribbean-pttc/home>

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Purpose of this Guidance Document

This group of resources and references has been compiled by the Northeast & Caribbean Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) to support New York Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) in its effort to build an effective prevention response in the new environment of legal adult use of cannabis. This is not an exhaustive collection of available materials, but rather a selection of high-quality, science-based and fact-focused educational sessions, training materials and presentations on the public health implications of adult recreational cannabis/marijuana use and historic evolution of policies and impacts.

Some materials, such as the Prevention Technology Transfer Network Marijuana Risk Workgroup's *Marijuana Toolkit*, were selected because they are appropriate to any jurisdiction and available for immediate use by any prevention organization, and some items, such as the recorded event *Cannabis Prevention Campaign: Planning and Implementation*, act as good examples of particular elements of comprehensive prevention platforms. In the case of that event, the Communications Director for the Denver Department of Excise and Taxes steps through the specifics of his office's messaging campaign "High Costs" and its role in the overall city's marijuana education and youth prevention approach.

The emphasis in this guide has been on prevention efforts aimed at youth, but materials focused on adjacent and relevant considerations have been included as well. All the materials included can be accessed free of charge although, to access some resources, individuals will need to establish User IDs.

About this Document

This document is organized into three sections:

- Materials produced through the PTTC Network
- Materials produced by other jurisdictions and states where adult use of cannabis has been legalized
- Materials produced by national agencies and organizations

PTTC Network Resources

The following resources were developed by national and regional centers and workgroups of the PTTC network. These were identified as matching OASAS's need for resources on facts about cannabis, resources on prevention of cannabis use for minors, and resources that can be used to disseminate to prevention providers. The topics covered by these resources include cannabis in relation to pharmacology, pregnancy and lactation, commercialization, policy, the adolescent brain, the adult brain and more. Each webinar is linked below and each presentation within the webinar may be accessed, as well. The materials associated with the marijuana toolkit are available for use and dissemination.

The Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network's Marijuana Toolkit

This toolkit was developed to bring factual and sustainable information to the forefront of conversations surrounding marijuana. The toolkit is updated with current information and fully cited. The toolkit includes a Fact vs. Myth Sheet, Cannabis Glossary and Marijuana Science Education Slide Banks.

Facts vs. Myths Information Sheet

This resource covers 7 myths related to marijuana, laid out via an accessible handout. Each myth is debunked with current evidence. The target audience for this resource is the general public, as the broad myths cover many health topics related to marijuana. This is available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Cannabis Glossary

This resource covers cannabis-related terminology, including slang terms, plant anatomy, marijuana product use and effects and other miscellaneous terms. The target audience for this resource is prevention professionals interested in learning more on the topic.

Marijuana Science Education Slide Bank

These slide banks are thoroughly researched and properly cited and have been designed for community members interested in learning more on these topics. The intended use of these slide banks are for prevention professionals to customize them to meet their specific goals. There are two different slide banks:

1. "Cannabis and the Adolescent Brain" focuses on the pharmacology of marijuana and its effects on the brain.
2. "The Varied Forms, Potency, and Health Effects of Today's Cannabis" focuses on the many forms of marijuana products, trends in potency and health impacts.

Webinar - Pharmacology for Prevention Specialists: Pharmacology of Cannabis:

This webinar discusses the effects, dependency, symptomology, and withdrawal process of Cannabis. Its primary focus is on the effects of cannabis on the brain and other parts of the body. This presentation is presented through an addiction specialist's lens, placing special emphasis on the risks and adverse effects of cannabis use. The target audience for this webinar is adults interested in educating themselves about at the relationship between cannabis and the brain.

Webinar - Cannabis, People before Profits: The Evolution of Cannabis Policies and Where Prevention Fits In:

This webinar discusses the legalization patterns of cannabis in the United States, then lays out steps organizations and policy professionals can take as a response to the commercialization of marijuana. The webinar goes over some practical policy measures to support the goal of providing valuable and effective public health information surrounding marijuana. The target audience for this webinar is prevention professionals interested in learning more on the topic.

Cannabis Use in Pregnancy and Lactation: Understanding the Science and Assisting Practitioners with Prevention Strategies

This webinar looks at the impacts of cannabis use on the human endocannabinoid system and fetal development by analyzing studies that have evaluated the use of cannabis in pregnancy and during lactation. It breaks down the science around cannabis use by pregnant or breastfeeding women, the risk factors associated with marijuana use during pregnancy, and the potential short- and long-term impacts to a fetus and growing child. The presentation also reviews the prevention strategies for practitioners and organizations to minimize harms that can result from the use of cannabis during pregnancy and lactation, including consideration of social determinants of health such as neighborhood conditions, education, socio-economic, and socio-political climate.

Webinar - Case Studies in Marijuana: From Pharmacology to the Emergency Department:

This webinar introduces marijuana very broadly, then describes and analyzes data related to the drug. The presentation details the pharmacology of the drug and health risk factors associated via sample case studies from the front lines. The research included in the presentation come from “Cannabis in Medicine” an evidence-based approach guide by Kenneth Finn. This presentation aimed to debunk some myths about marijuana use and draw attention to future research that still needs to be done. The target audience for this presentation is prevention professionals interested in gaining a general overview of marijuana-related issues.

Northwest Marijuana Toolkit: HHS Region 10, State Cannabis Policies and Regulations

This toolkit provides detailed and well-organized explanations of cannabis manufacturing, sales and use policies and regulations and provides clear, comprehensive examinations of potential impacts to prevention work. Though it focuses on the laws of specific states in the Northwest United States, there is significant basic prevention education coverage and the manner in which the information is approached and organized can serve as an excellent template for prevention systems that are just entering the legal adult-use marijuana arena.

Materials from Other States

[You Can \(Marijuana Can't\)](#)

This is the Washington State Department of Health's Marijuana Prevention and Education Programs web-based platform designed for and dedicated to educating teens 12 to 17 about the risks and consequences of marijuana use. Fact-based with excellent graphics and user interface elements, this web site speaks directly to teens.

[LEARN ABOUT MARIJUANA - Science-based information for the general public.](#)

From the University of Washington Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute (ADAI), this website provides information and resources for a variety of target audiences, populations and issues. Among the immediately-usable materials are educational infographics including [Marijuana – Know the Facts](#) (which is also available in 9 other languages) and a comprehensive [clearinghouse tool](#), with links to downloadable infographics, white papers, videos and other resources (some may involve a fee).

[Marijuana Prevention Strategies: Resource Guide](#)

In response to the potential impact of the Illinois Cannabis Regulation Tax Act, Prevention First, a non-profit dedicated to preventing teen drug use, compiled a guide to serve as a resource for prevention specialists, public health advocates and anyone involved in preventing youth marijuana use in Illinois. This guide includes information on public education on the risk and harm associated with marijuana use including current trends, terminology, and the marijuana culture, as well as tips for framing the issue to youth, parents, and adult marijuana users and information of local policies (specific to Illinois). It also compiles recommendations for specific prevention initiatives including environmental scans, monitoring data sources for changes and successful collaboration with community stakeholders, providing case study examples and examples of further resources.

Materials from National Agencies and Organizations

[Preventing Marijuana Use Among Youth and Young Adults](#)

Created by the Drug Enforcement Administration, this publication provides an overview of the prevalence of marijuana use among youth and young adults; the physical, academic, and social consequences; tips for how to get involved to prevent marijuana use among youth and young adults; and federal resources to assist in your efforts. This document is easy to use and can be distributed in a variety of settings.

[Cannabis Talk Kit –Know How to Talk with Your Teen](#)

Developed by Drug Free Kids Canada, this comprehensive guide informs on key components of the modern cannabis landscape such as current terminology, the different forms of consumption, why youth use it and the risks associated with short- and long-term use by teens. It also includes a series of guides to help parents prepare for positive and productive conversations and strategies for responding to questions and limiting resistance.

[Preventing Youth Marijuana Use: Data Resources](#)

This decision-support tool offers a comprehensive and detailed listing of available data sources and surveys developed by and for a range of federal agencies that collect data on youth marijuana use, consequences, and key youth risk and protective factors. The document includes embedded hyperlinks for most data sources. This document is organized into three sections: *1. Sources of consumption data. Each entry includes an overall description, population, geographic level, indicators assessed, reports & publications, and online analysis; 2. Sources of consequence data. Each entry includes a description, population, geographic level, indicators assessed, reports and publications, and online analysis; 3. Sources of risk and protective factor data related to marijuana use among youth. Each entry includes a description, populations, geographic level, indicators assessed, reports & publications, and online analysis*

[Preventing Youth Marijuana Use: Factors Associated with Use](#)

This decision-support tool presents a summary of research findings on 26 major factors associated with marijuana use among youth. The document is divided into 4 major sections: individual-level factors, relationship-level factors, community-level factors, and societal-level factors. Understanding these factors will assist prevention planners with how to assess, plan for, and select interventions.

[Preventing Youth Marijuana Use: Programs and Strategies](#)

This decision-support tool presents detailed descriptions of substance misuse prevention strategies and interventions that have been evaluated to determine their effects on youth marijuana use. *Intervention information is organized into three sections: Section 1 presents very brief information on identified interventions, including target population, whether that target population is universal (general population), selective (higher-than-average risk), or indicated (already using or engaged in high-risk behavior), the setting, main outcomes, and any external recognition. Section 2 includes more detailed summaries of each intervention, expanding upon Section 1. These summaries are designed in a way to help you decide which interventions best fit your context. Section 3 briefly summarizes the methods and criteria used to identify and select programs for inclusion in this specific decision-support tool.*

Materials from SAMHSA

Tips for Teens: The Truth About Marijuana [\(English\)](#) [\(Spanish\)](#)

This fact sheet goes over the slang names for marijuana, the effects of the drug, signs of use, and facts v. myths of the drug. The call to action on this fact sheet is for anyone who would like to know how to obtain more information on marijuana or learn what to do if they or a friend is using the drug.

[Do You Know About Marijuana? Talk With Your Kids About the Facts](#)

Informative one-page infographic that speaks broadly about risks of Marijuana use.

[5 Conversation Goals for Talking with Teens About Alcohol and Other Drugs](#)

This mini- brochure provides parents with a guide to speaking with their children on the topic of alcohol and other drugs such as marijuana.

[Talking With Your Child About Marijuana: Keeping Your Kids Safe](#)

This brochure focuses on informing parents and children on the short and long-term effects of marijuana, the addictive features of the drug and the risks associated with the drug.



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