

Marijuana Legalization Expected to Lead to More Teen Use

A survey of high school seniors suggests marijuana legalization will lead to increased use of the drug among teens.

The survey found 10 percent of seniors who said they don't currently use marijuana said they would try it if the drug were legal.

Researchers at New York University's Center for Drug Use and HIV Research surveyed almost 10,000 high school seniors about their attitudes toward marijuana, UPI reports.

The findings appear in the International Journal of Drug Policy.

"What I personally find interesting is the reasonably high percentage of students who are very religious, non-cigarette smokers, non-drinkers, and those who have friends who disapprove of marijuana use — who said they intended to try marijuana if it was legal," lead researcher Dr. Joseph J. Palamar said in a news release.

"This suggests that many people may be solely avoiding use because it is illegal, not because it is 'bad' for you, or 'wrong' to use."

Click here to learn more about marijuana.