

Data Spotlight

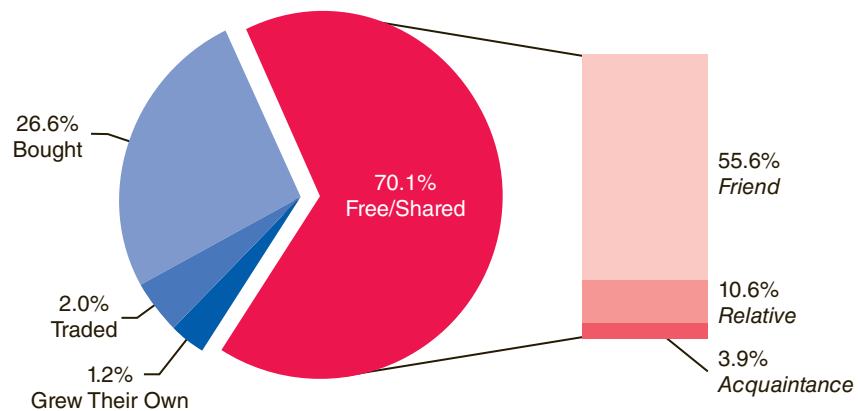
National Survey on Drug Use and Health

September 22, 2011

Young Marijuana Users Often Get Marijuana for Free from Friends

One half million youths aged 12 to 14 (523,000, or 4.4 percent of all youths in this age group) used marijuana in the past year, according to data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH).¹ More than two thirds of these young adolescents (70.1 percent) got their most recently used marijuana for free, and more than half (55.6 percent) obtained it free from a friend (Figure). Parents who are concerned about their child's potential involvement with marijuana or other drugs can take positive steps to help prevent initiation.² For further information about marijuana, see *Marijuana: Facts Parents Need to Know*.³

Source of Most Recently Used Marijuana among Past Year Marijuana Users Aged 12 to 14: 2006 to 2010*



*Percentages were computed after excluding respondents with missing source information.

¹ Estimates are annual averages from the 2006 to 2010 NSDUHs.

² Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. (2004). *Keeping youth drug free* (DHHS Publication No. SMA-3772). Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (Available as a PDF at <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA-3772/SMA-3772.pdf>)

³ National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2007). *Marijuana: Facts parents need to know* (NIH Publication No. 07-4036). Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (Available as a PDF at http://www.nida.nih.gov/PDF/PARENTS_Marijuana_brochure.pdf)

Source: The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) is an annual survey sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The survey collects data by administering questionnaires to a representative sample of the population through face-to-face interviews at their places of residence.

