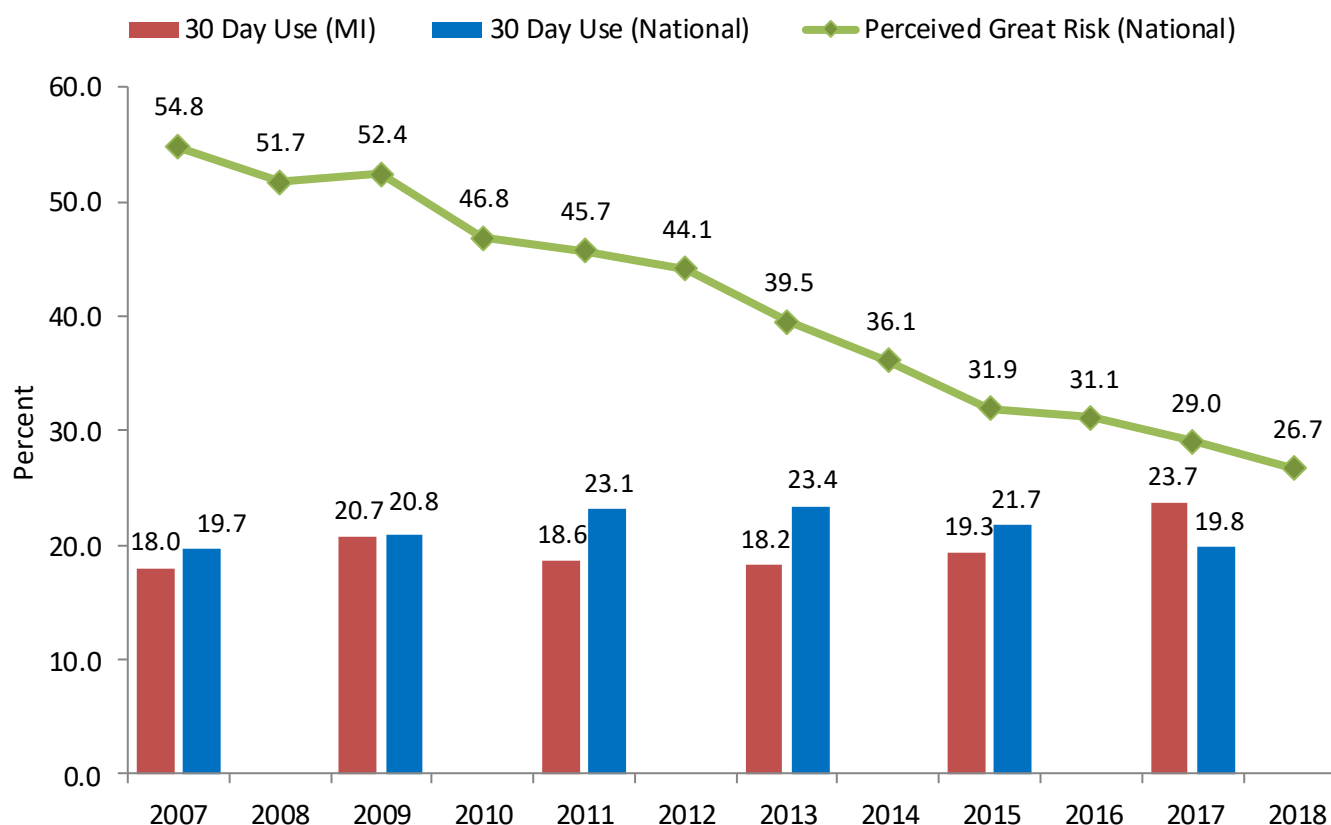


Marijuana Use and Perception of Risk Among High School Students



Understanding the health risks associated with the illicit substances is a powerful motivator for individuals to avoid the use or abuse of these drugs¹. The graph below presents the declining national perception of risk associated with marijuana use over the last 12 years, as well as current use among high school students (9th—12th graders) throughout the United States and in Michigan.

Use and Perception of Great Risk of Marijuana Among High Schoolers: 2007-2018



In summary:

- Nationally, perceived risk of marijuana use among students in 8th, 10th, and 12th grades decreased by 51% over the last 12 years. Fewer teens now believe using marijuana is harmful.
- During the same time, marijuana use in the last 30 days among Michigan high school students increased from 18.0% in 2007 to 23.7% in 2017, while the national prevalence of marijuana use among high school students peaked at 23.4% in 2013 and decreased to 19.8% in 2017.

1. Henry, K. L., M. D. Slater, et al. (2005). Alcohol use in early adolescence: The effect of changes in risk taking, perceived harm and friends' alcohol use. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 66(2), 275-283.