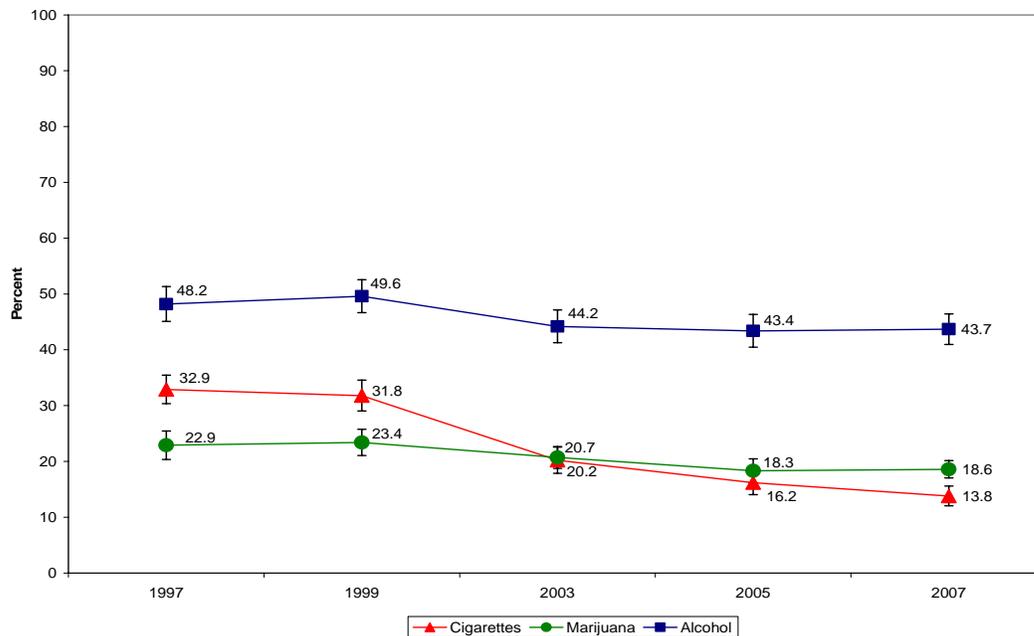


Youth Smoking in NYS Declines with No Increase in Use of Alcohol or Marijuana

With significant declines in cigarette smoking among high school students in New York State since 1997, some concern was raised that youth might increase the use of other substances like alcohol and marijuana. However, there has been no such increase observed in the use of alcohol or recreational drugs from 1997 to 2007.

- In NYS, high school student use of cigarettes declined by 58% from 33% in 1997 to 14% in 2007 (reported in StatShot Vol.1, No.5).
- There were marginal declines in the use of marijuana and alcohol during this same period. The decrease in smoking outpaced reductions in the use of alcohol (48% in 1997 to 44% in 2007) and marijuana (23% in 1997 to 19% in 2007.)
- Nationwide, as cigarette use decreased from 36% in 1997 to 20% in 2007, the use of alcohol decreased from 51% to 45% and use of marijuana decreased from 26% to 20%.

Percentage of NYS High School Students Who Reported Use of Cigarettes, Alcohol or Marijuana on One or More of the Past 30 Days



Source: Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 1997-2007

Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance, New York State Department of Health at (518) 473-0673 or type 'StatShot' in the subject line of an e-mail and send it to tcp@health.state.ny.us.