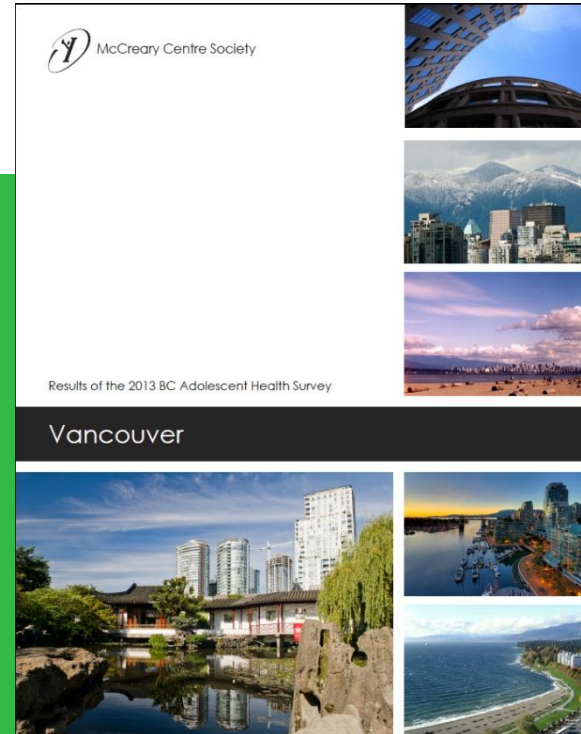




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# Marijuana use

## 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey



# Fewer youth tried marijuana

17% had ever tried marijuana

Among those:



- Youth waited longer to try marijuana
- 4% used last Saturday
- 3% mixed alcohol and marijuana
- Most commonly got marijuana from a youth outside their family (88%)

# Friends with pro-social attitudes

## Students whose friends would be upset with them if they...

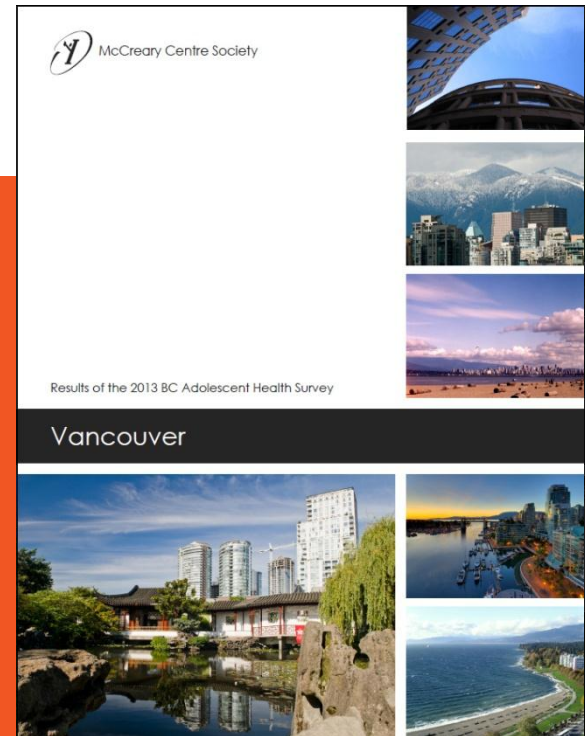
	2003	2013	Change since 2003
Dropped out of school	79%	86%	↑
Were involved in gang activity	NA	86%	
Were involved in a pregnancy	70%	81%	↑
Got arrested	62%	80%	↑
Beat someone up	56%	78%	↑
Used marijuana	57%	64%	↑
Got drunk	39%	52%	↑

Note: NA means that the question was not asked.



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# Areas of Concern



## Views of marijuana

*“Studies show that people drive more carefully when high on weed. You are ignorant if you think anything otherwise.”*

— 15 year old male

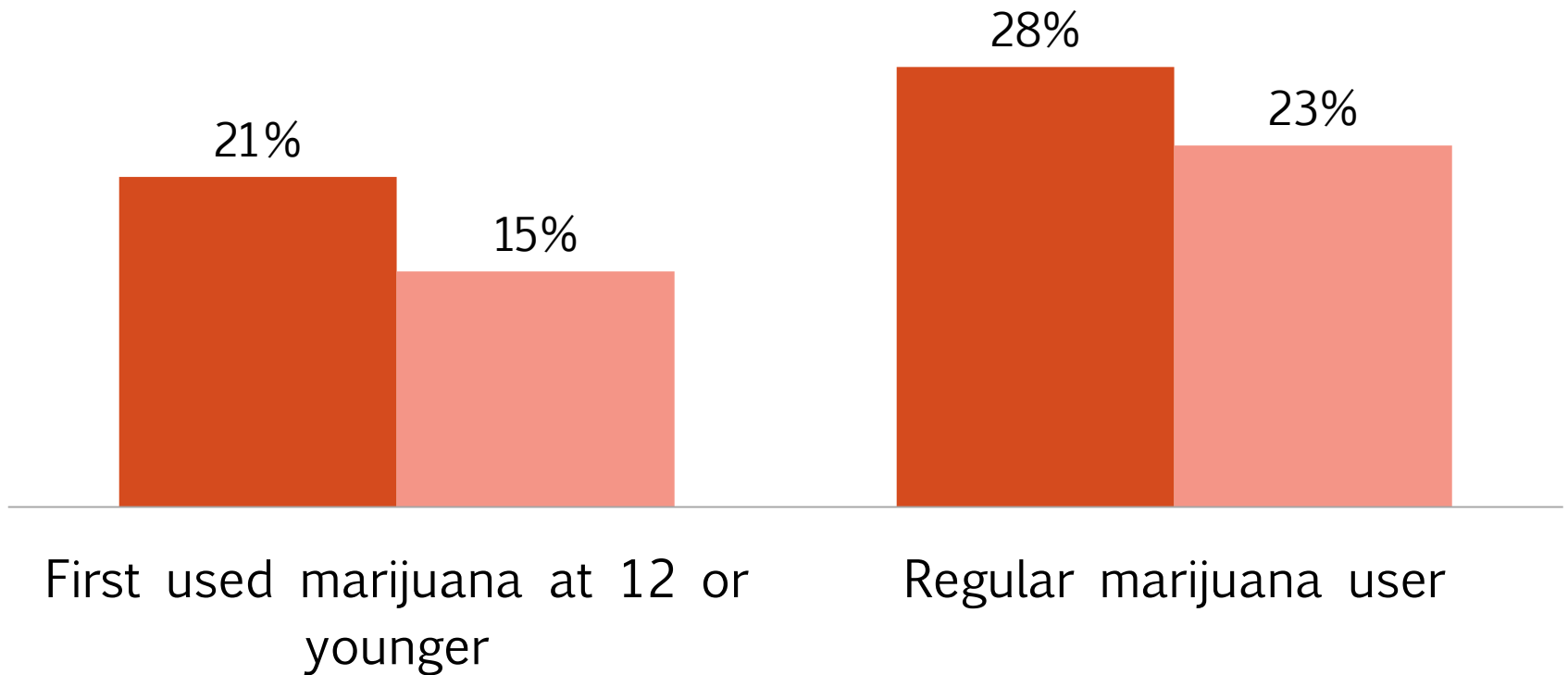
## Common reasons for using marijuana and other substances the last time

	Males	Females
I wanted to have fun	60%	69%
My friends were doing it	29%	37%
I wanted to experiment	27%	29%
Because of stress	16%	25%
I felt down or sad	11%	21%
I felt there was nothing else to do	9%	10%
To manage physical pain	5%	7%
I was pressured into doing it	3%	4%
I thought it would help me focus	3%	3%
Because of an addiction	2%	2%
I didn't mean to do it	1%	1%
To change the effects of other drug(s)	1%	1%

Note: Among youth who used marijuana and other substances.

# Marijuana use & mental health

■ Had mental health condition   ■ Did not have condition



Note: Among youth who ever used marijuana.

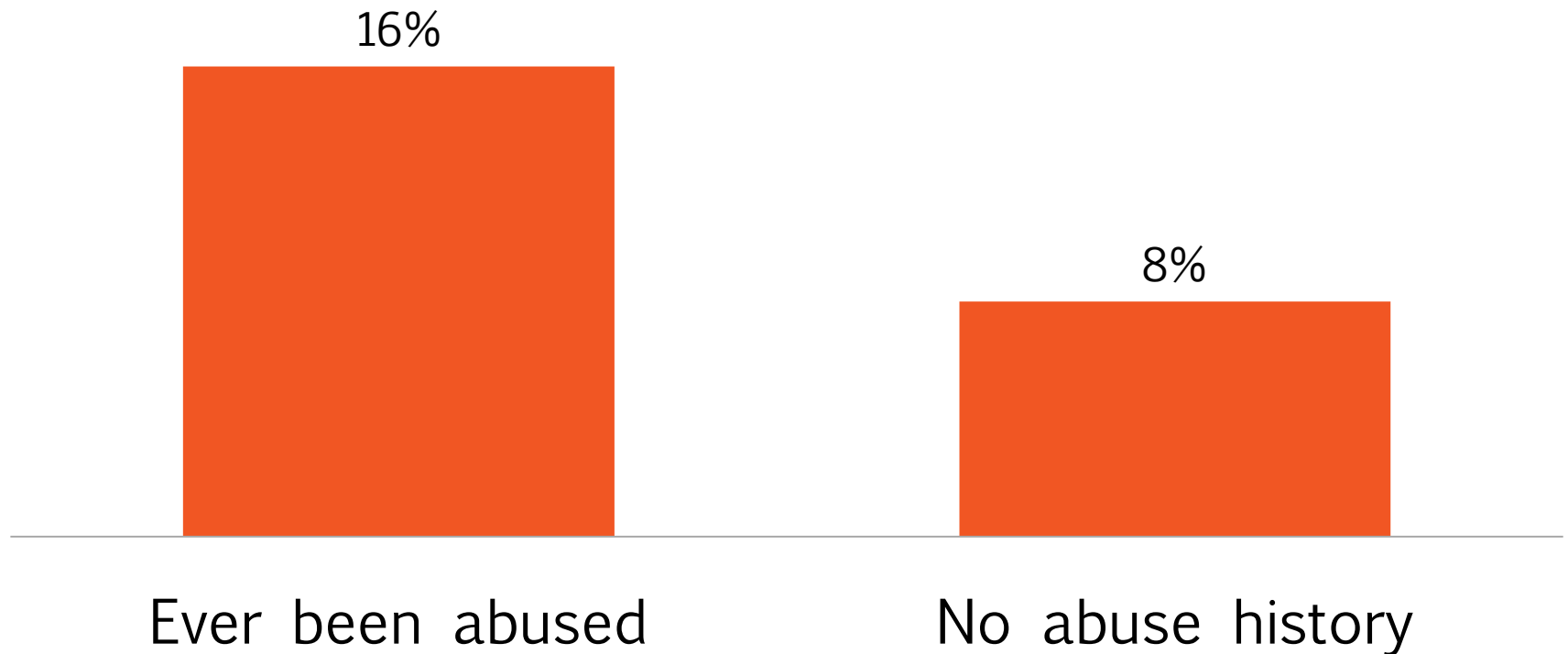
## Age of first marijuana use (among 16-18 year old students)

15 or older	23%
13 or 14 years old	13%
11 or 12 years old	3%
9 or 10 years old	1%
Less than 9 years old	<1%
Have not used	60%



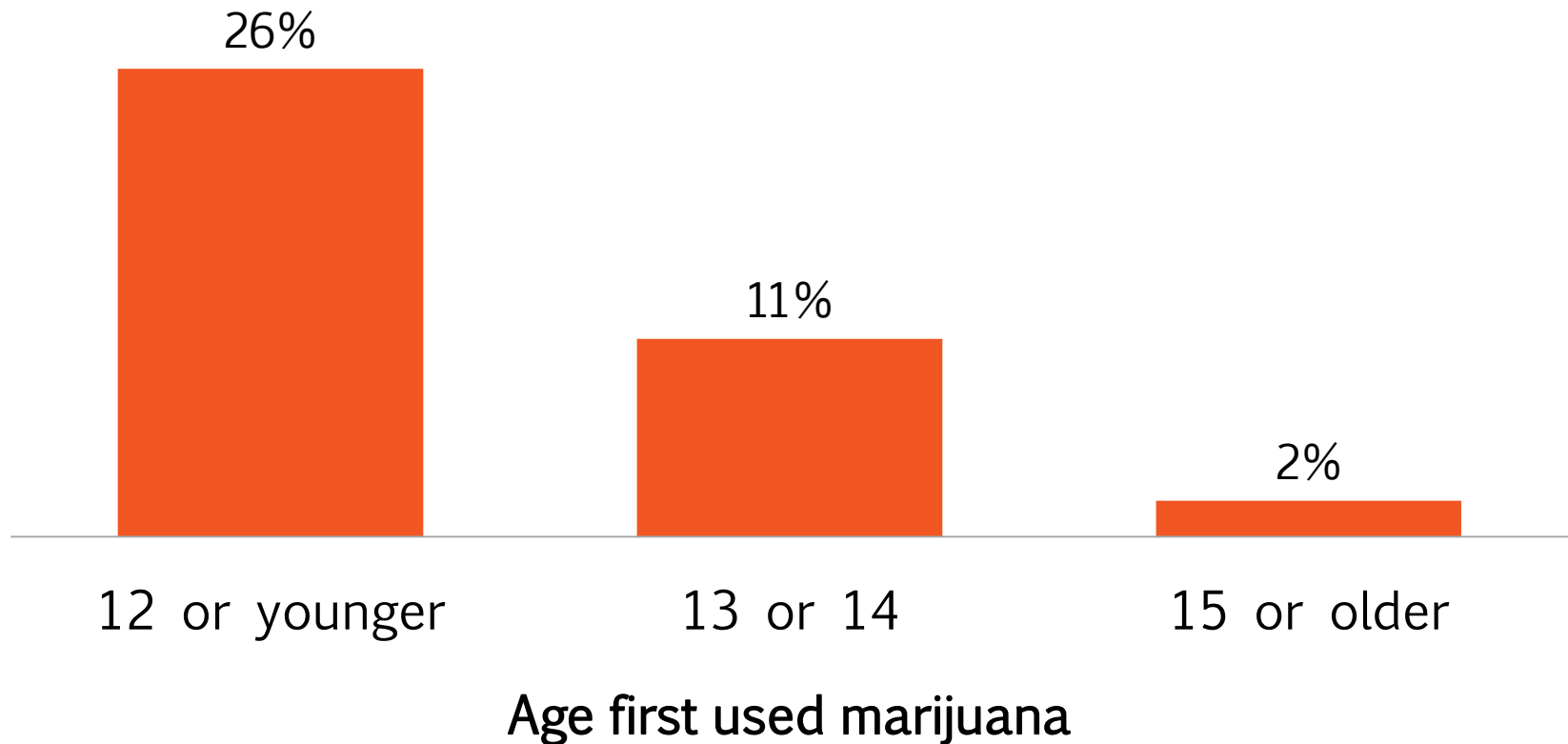
# Youth at higher risk for early marijuana use

First used marijuana at age 12 or younger  
(among youth aged 16-18)



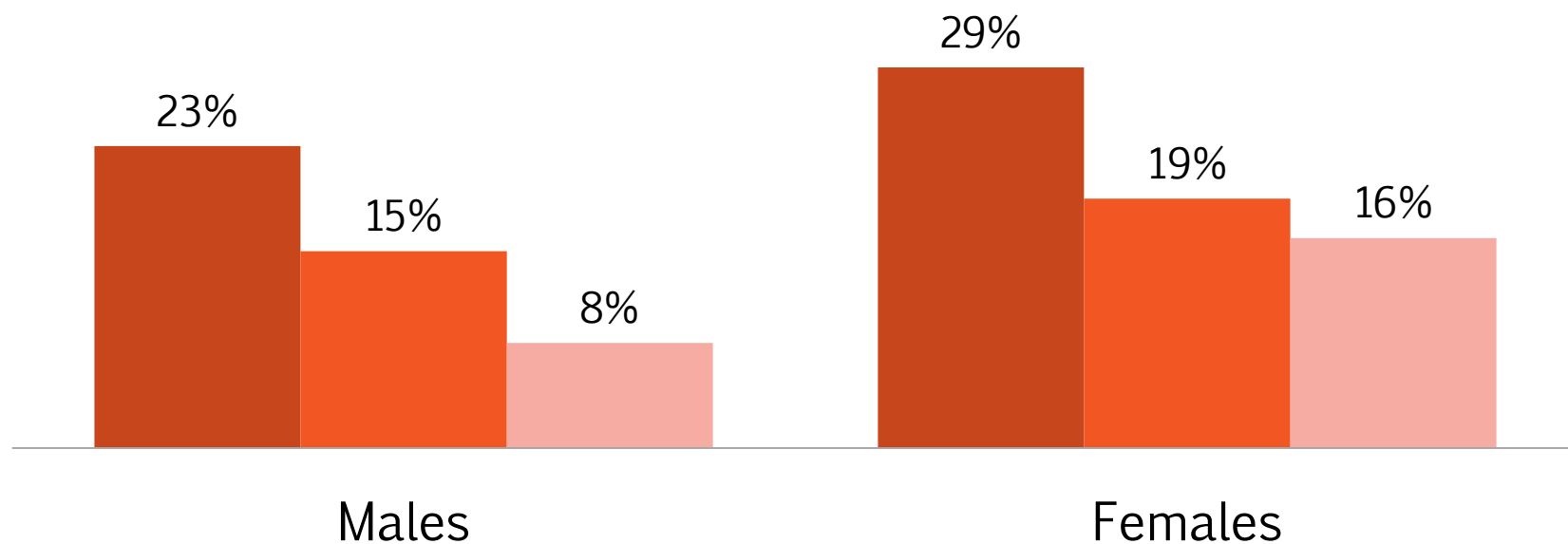
# Early use and recent use

Youth aged 16-18 who used marijuana every day in the past month



## Youth aged 16-18 who did not access needed medical help in the past year

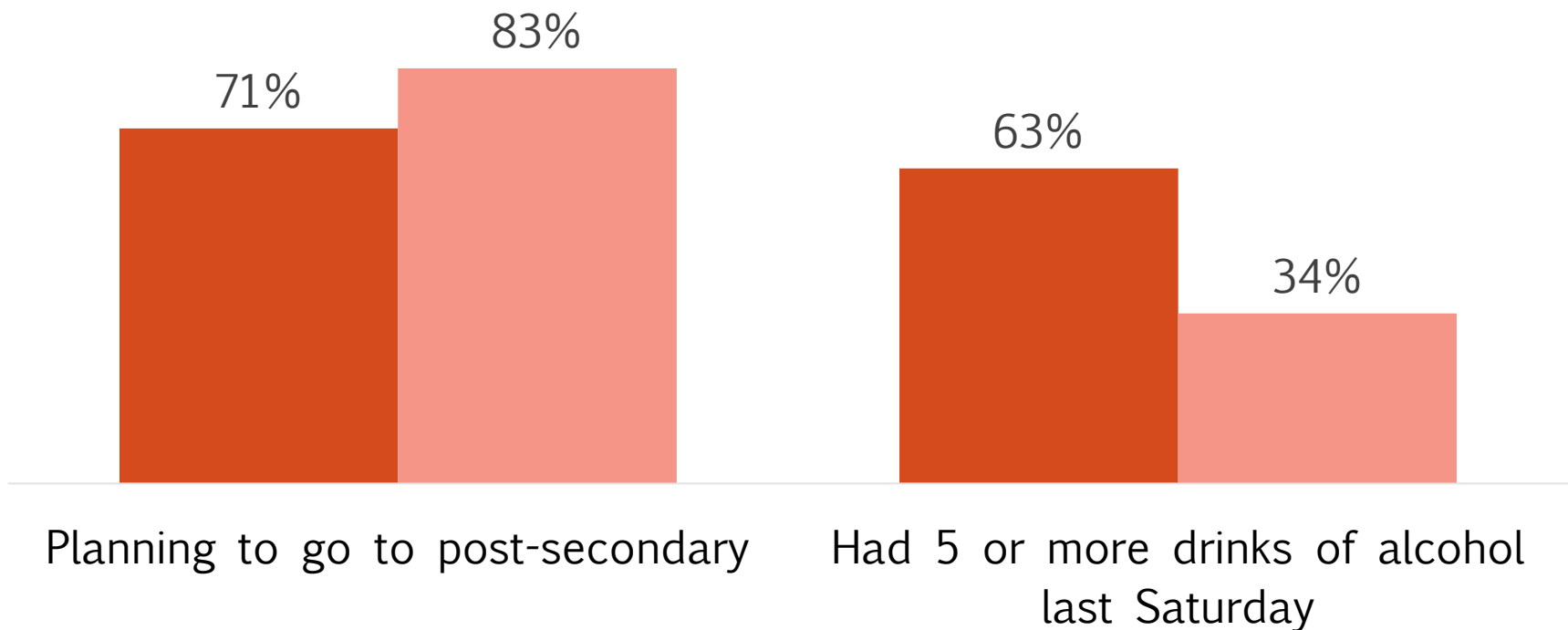
- First used marijuana at 12 or younger
- First used at 13 or 14
- First used at 15 or older



Note: Among youth who ever used marijuana.

# Health among youth aged 16-18 who had started using marijuana at age 12 or younger

■ Had marijuana in past month



# Protective factors associated with delayed marijuana use (among youth aged 16-18)

Positive relationships  
with family

Meaningful youth  
engagement

School  
connectedness

Self-confidence &  
sense of competence

Friends with pro-social  
attitudes



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Fewer Vancouver youth used marijuana

Youth who did not use marijuana or who waited until they were older to use reported better health than those who used at an early age

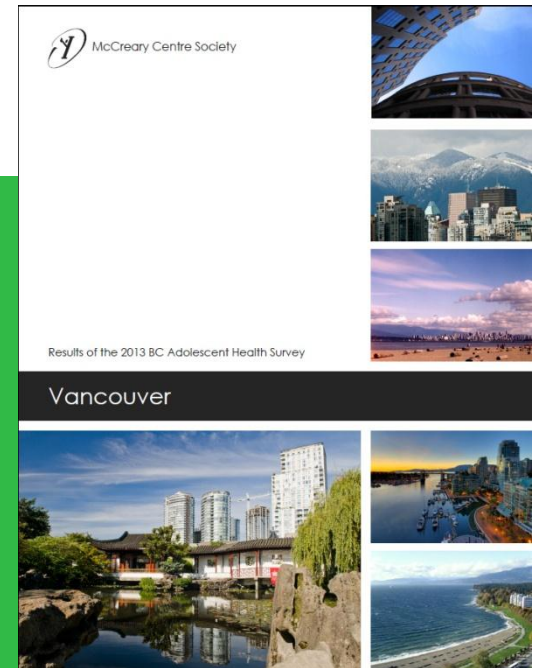
Promoting protective factors play a key role in improving outcomes for Vancouver youth



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# Vancouver

## Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey



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