

CANNABIS USE IN MONTANA

Key terms:

“**Adult Use**” refers to the sale of non-medical cannabis in licensed dispensaries in Montana. Sales in Montana began January 1, 2022.

“**Cannabis**” refers to all products derived from the *Cannabis sativa* plant. For this document, the term cannabis is used instead of marijuana.

Key Points:

- In 2024, sales of cannabis in Montana totaled over **\$324 million**; 85.6% was for adult use.¹
- In 2023, **60%** of all cannabis-related poison control center calls (n=39) in Montana were related to children aged 10 years and under.² **One in four** hospitalizations for cannabis-related poisoning occurred in children aged 10 years and under.³
- Since the start of adult use sales, cannabis-related emergency department visits have increased **19.5%** from **5,133** visits in 2020-2021 to **6,113** visits in 2022-2023. The cost of these visits to Montana residents totals more than **\$41.2 million**.³
- Among Montanans receiving treatment for substance use disorders in 2024, **32.1%** reported cannabis as their primary or secondary substance of misuse.⁴
- **One-third** of college students in Montana report driving under the influence of cannabis within the past three months.⁵ Almost **10%** of high school students reported driving under the influence of cannabis and **16.8%** reported riding in a vehicle with someone else driving under the influence of cannabis within the past 30 days.⁶

	United States	Montana
Percent of high school students who report using cannabis within the past 30 days ⁷	17%	19.6%
Percent of adults aged 18+ who report using cannabis in the past month ⁸	14.9%	19.5%
Percent of fatal crashes that involved a drugged driver that tested positive for cannabis ⁹	-	28.5%

References:

1. Montana Department of Revenue. (2025). Cannabis Control Division. Cannabis Sales Report. Retrieved from <https://mtrevenue.gov/cannabis-sales-reports/>
2. Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. EMS and Trauma Systems Section. Montana Poison Center Data, 2023.
3. Montana Hospital Discharge Data System. (2023). Office of Epidemiology and Scientific Support, Public Health and Safety Division. Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Data provided courtesy of participating MHA members.
4. Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. (2024). Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Division. Treatment and Episode Data Set.
5. American College Health Association. (2023). National College Health Assessment: Montana Consortium Reference Group.
6. Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. (2024). Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Division. Montana Prevention Needs Assessment. Retrieved from <https://montana.pridesurveys.com/#reports>
7. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023). Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2023. Retrieved from <https://yrbs-explorer.services.cdc.gov/#/>
8. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2023). National Survey on Drug Use and Health: 2021-2022 NSDUH State Prevalence Estimates. Retrieved from <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/nsduh/state-reports-NSDUH-2022>
9. National Highway Safety Administration. (2024). Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). FARS Finale File, 2021 and Annual Report File, 2022.