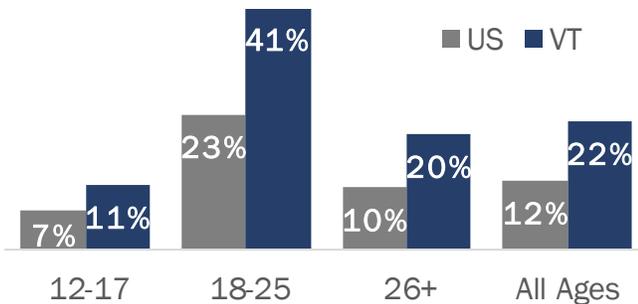


Vermont rates of cannabis use in the past month among people aged 12+ were highest in the country—at nearly twice the national rate.¹ Adult cannabis use has increased in Vermont since 2013² and use among high school students increased significantly from 2017 to 2019.³

Vermont vs. US Cannabis Use

The percent of Vermonters who used cannabis in the past month was higher than the US average, for all age groups. 2019/2020¹



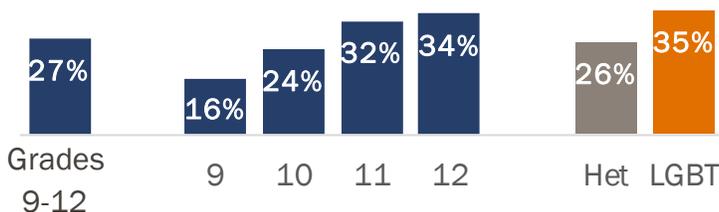
Use Before & During Pregnancy

Cannabis use in Vermont in the month before and during pregnancy has increased.⁴



High School Cannabis Use

Past 30-day cannabis use among high school students increased by grade. LGBT students were more likely to use than heterosexual students. 2019³



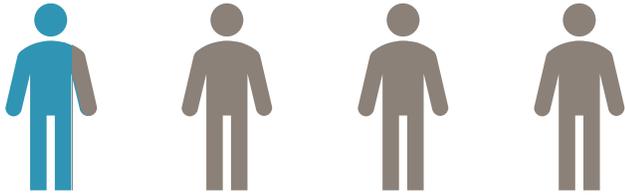
Among high school students who use cannabis, vaping as the primary method of use increased more than eight times.³



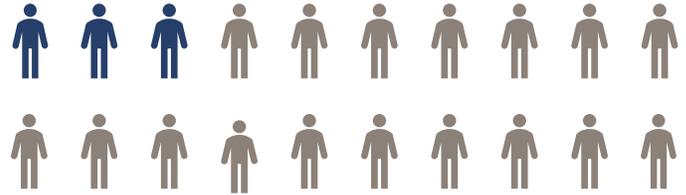


Harm and Risk Behaviors

In 2019, only 23% of high school students thought people their age greatly risked harming themselves, physically or in other ways, if they smoked cannabis regularly.³



23% of high school students reported riding with someone using cannabis in the past month.³



15% of high school students reported driving when using cannabis in the past month.³

These rates are higher than driving after drinking alcohol or riding in a car with a driver who was drinking alcohol.³ Among the 20% of adults who reported past month cannabis use in 2019, 26% said they drove in the three hours after use.² As of December 2021, there were 16 fatal motor vehicle crashes associated with an operator with confirmed active cannabis use in 2021.⁵



Treatment

The number of Medicaid recipients with at least one claim with a primary cannabis use diagnosis has been decreasing over time.⁶



Note: Some of the data sources referenced in this data brief use the term “marijuana” to refer to cannabis. We have used “cannabis” in this data brief to reflect updated terminology.

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References

1. Data from the 2019/2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: samhsa.gov/data/report/2019-2020-nsduh-state-prevalence-estimates
2. Data from the 2020 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2020 Summary Report not yet posted): healthvermont.gov/BRFSS
3. Data from the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey for Vermont: healthvermont.gov/YRBS2019-HS
4. Data from the 2020 Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System: healthvermont.gov/PRAMS
5. Data from Motor Vehicle Crash Facts accessed on 1/7/2022: shso.vermont.gov/sites/ghsp/files/documents/Fatal%20Crashes%20December%202014,%202021%20December%202020,%202021.pdf “Active Cannabis - Delta-9 THC Confirmed is counted in the number of operators that had drugs only or alcohol & drugs.”
6. Vermont Medicaid claims, 2017-2020.