Vermont rates of cannabis use in the past month among people aged 12+ were highest in the country—at nearly twice the national rate. Adult cannabis use has increased in Vermont since 2013 and use among high school students increased significantly from 2017 to 2019.

The percent of Vermonters who used cannabis in the past month was higher than the US average, for all age groups. 2019/2020

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

Past 30-day cannabis use among high school students increased by grade. LGBT students were more likely to use than heterosexual students. 2019

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

2017 2019

2% 17%
### 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

[Image showing bar chart with 23% of high school students reported riding with someone using cannabis in the past month.]

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Age 18+</th>
<th>Age &lt;18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,043</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>883</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

**For more information:** Chelsea Carman, chelsea.carman@vermont.gov

### References

4. Data from the 2020 Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System: [healthvermont.gov/PRAMS](https://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%20December%202015%20December%202016%20December%202017%20December%202018%20December%202019%20December%202020%20%202021.pdf](https://shso.vermont.gov/sites/ghsp/files/documents/Fatal%20Crashes%20December%202014%20December%202015%20December%202016%20December%202017%20December%202018%20December%202019%20December%202020%20%202021.pdf)
   “Active Cannabis - Delta-9 THC Confirmed is counted in the number of operators that had drugs only or alcohol & drugs.”