

## CONSUMPTION

Marijuana use among high school students remains stable in 2017, with one in five using in the past month.<sup>1\*</sup> Past month use among adults (18 and older) has increased from 2011-12 (8%) to 2016-17 (16%).<sup>2\*</sup> One in three adults 18 to 25 and one in six adults 26 and older used in the past month.<sup>2\*</sup>



In 2016–17, there was an annual average of 13,000 Mainers 12 and older who used marijuana for the first time in their life.<sup>2\*</sup> While most marijuana first time users are between the ages of 12 and 25, there has been a three-fold increase in the number of people who initiated use later in life.<sup>2\*</sup>



In 2017, one in six high school students used a vapor product in the past month and about one in three reported having ever used.<sup>1\*</sup>

Among those who had ever vaped, 13% claimed that the last time they had vaped, the liquid was marijuana hash oil and 8% were not sure what liquid they had been vaping.<sup>1\*</sup>

In 2017, 22% of Maine women reported using marijuana either three months before they got pregnant or while pregnant.<sup>3\*</sup>



## CONSEQUENCES



In 2017, there were 789 arrests for the possession of marijuana; this was a 68% decrease from 2016.<sup>4</sup> One-third of arrests for drug possession in Maine are related to marijuana.<sup>4</sup>

## CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Perceptions of harm of smoking marijuana by youth and adults have declined in recent years.<sup>1\*</sup>



- In 2017, 35% of high school students felt that there was a moderate-to-great risk in smoking marijuana weekly; this was a 7 percentage point decrease since 2015 (42%).<sup>1\*</sup>
- High school students who did NOT believe there is moderate to great risk in smoking marijuana regularly were almost seven times as likely to smoke marijuana in the past month.<sup>1\*</sup>

Parent disapproval of marijuana use by their child has decreased in recent years.<sup>5\*</sup> The percentage of parents who reported “it was never okay for their child to use marijuana” decreased from 67% in 2015 to 62% in 2017.<sup>6\*</sup>

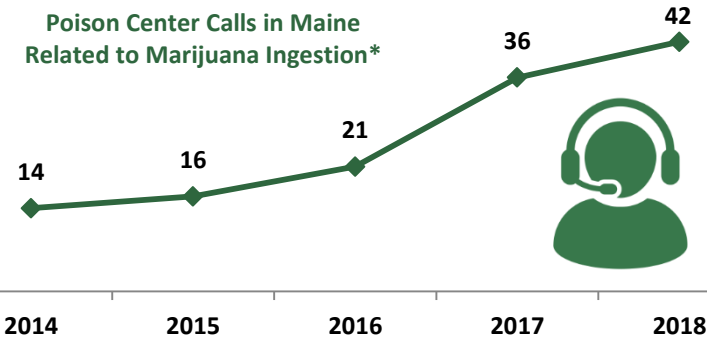


Regardless of perceptions of harm, more than half of high school students believe that marijuana is easy to obtain in 2017.<sup>1\*</sup>



## The changing landscape and growth of medical and recreational marijuana in our state also brings an increased social acceptance and potential for diversion.

Calls from Maine made to the Northern New England Poison Center related to marijuana ingestion tripled from 2014 to 2018. In 2018, a third of those calls involved children 12 and younger.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey\*

<sup>2</sup> National Drug Use and Health Survey\*

<sup>3</sup> Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Survey

<sup>4</sup> Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System\*

<sup>5</sup> Department of Public Safety

<sup>6</sup> Maine Department of Education

<sup>7</sup> Maine Parent Survey\*

<sup>8</sup> Northern New England Poison Center

\*Self-reported data

\*Includes only cases where marijuana was the only substance and ingestion was the only route of exposure. May include cannabidiol products. Does not include pharmaceutical THC/CBD or synthetic cannabinoids.