In 2019, one in five (22%) high school students used marijuana in the past month; rates have remained stable.\textsuperscript{1} Past month use among adults (18+) more than doubled from 2012-13 (8%) to 2017-18 (17%).\textsuperscript{2} One in three young adults (35%) 18 to 25 used in the past month; a 52% increase since 2011-12 (23%).\textsuperscript{2}

In 2017–18, there was an annual average of 19,000 Mainers 12+ who used marijuana for the first time in their life; this was a 46% increase since 2016-17.\textsuperscript{2} The number of initiates 26 and older more than doubled from 2016-17 to 2017-18.\textsuperscript{2}

In 2019, one-third of high school students used a vapor product in the past month and about half reported having ever used.\textsuperscript{3} Among those students who had ever vaped, one in eight (13%) reported that the last time they had vaped, the liquid was marijuana hash oil and 7% were not sure what liquid they had been vaping.\textsuperscript{1}

Maine women reporting using marijuana while pregnant increased from 9% in 2016 to 12% in 2018. Rates were highest among pregnant women ages 20 to 24 (21%).\textsuperscript{3}

CONSEQUENCES

In 2019, there were 4,583 marijuana related emergency department visits; an 11% decrease from 2018. Rates were disproportionally higher among males and Mainers ages 20 to 34.\textsuperscript{4}

The rate of high school students reporting it would be easy to get marijuana increased slightly to 53%.\textsuperscript{1}

In 2019, among high school students who reported using marijuana within the past month, two out of three reported that they had most often smoked marijuana in either a joint, bong, or blunt.\textsuperscript{1}

Perceptions of harm from smoking marijuana have declined in recent years among both youth and adults.\textsuperscript{1,2}

- In 2019, only 33% of high school students felt there was a moderate-to-great risk in smoking marijuana weekly; this was a 9-percentage point decrease since 2013 (42%).\textsuperscript{1}
- 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.\textsuperscript{1}

Maine voters approved the adult use, retail sale, and taxation of marijuana in November 2016. As of October 9, 2020, active marijuana retail license holders were permitted to engage in sales to consumers 21 years of age or older.\textsuperscript{5}

After observing a steady decline from 2011 (57%) to 2017 (52%), the rate of high school students reporting it would be easy to get marijuana increased slightly to 53%.\textsuperscript{1}

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

Usual method of marijuana intake, among high school students who reported using marijuana in the past month

66% Smoked
12% Vaporized
9% Consumed in food
3% Dabbed*
9% Drank
2% Other

\textsuperscript{*Dabbing involves superheating substances, often in the form of waxes, that contain high concentrations of THC with the intent of inhaling the aerosol.}

This fact sheet is a product of the Maine State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) For more info, visit www.maineseow.com

\textsuperscript{1}Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey*
\textsuperscript{2}National Drug Use and Health Survey*
\textsuperscript{3}Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Survey*
\textsuperscript{4}Syndromic Surveillance System
\textsuperscript{5}Office of Marijuana Policy

*Self-reported