Cannabis Use in Montana

	United States	Montana
Percent of adults* who report past month cannabis use[1]	17% 2019	14% 2018
Percent of high school students who report past month cannabis use[2]	22% 2019	21% 2019
Annual death rate† from car crashes involving cannabis (per 100,000 people)[3]	1.0 2018	2.9 2018

Key Points:

- In 2019, one in twelve (8%) Montana high school students reported trying cannabis for the first time before the age of 13.[2]

- Among adults who reported past month cannabis use in 2018, 41% reported using for medical reasons, 28% reported using for recreational purposes, and 30% reported using for both medical and recreational purposes.[1]

- 7% of Montana adults aged 21 or older reported driving under the influence of cannabis in the past year during 2017–2018.[4]

- In 2018, cannabinoids§ were found in 41% DUI cases that tested for drugs, and in 15% of all vehicle crashes and 19% of all traffic fatality cases.[3]

- Over $45 million dollars were charged by Montana hospitals for 4,520 cannabis-related hospitalizations and emergency department visits in 2019.[¶,5]

*Adults aged 18 years and older.
†Crude rate.
§Cannabinoids are a group of substances found in the cannabis plant. The cannabinoids tested in these data are Carboxy-THC and 11-hydroxy-THC.
¶Cannabis related hospitalizations and emergency department visits are cases where a patient either presented to an emergency department or was hospitalized and was treated for an acute or chronic condition attributable to cannabis consumption.

Data Sources:

1. Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. 2018 Montana Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

2. Montana Office of Public Instruction, Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2019.

3. Montana Department of Transportation, 2018 Roadway Crash Data, Fatality Analysis Reporting System.

4. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2019). 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Methodological summary and definitions. Rockville, MD: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

5. Montana Hospital Discharge Data System, 2019; Data courtesy of participating Montana Hospital Association members.