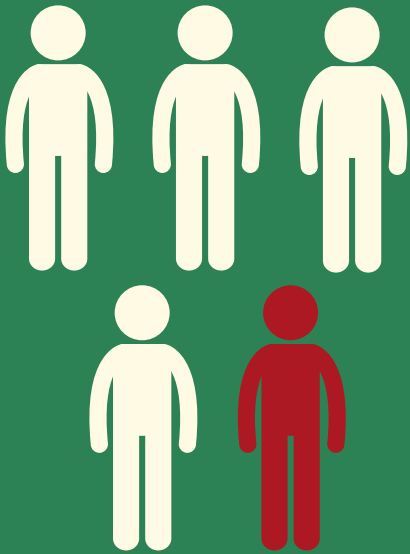


The Alliance for Responsible Cannabis in Maine (ARC-ME)

A multi-sector coalition working to prevent youth cannabis use, protect patient health, and ensure safety, accountability and transparency in the cannabis industry.

Nearly 20%
of Maine high schoolers currently use cannabis



High potency cannabis use in adolescence alters brain development, and increases the risk of anxiety, depression and severe mental illness, including schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.



Unlike adult-use cannabis, medical cannabis, which can serve pediatric patients, is not tested for harmful contaminants. In a recent audit, 42% of medical cannabis tested had at least one contaminant that would have failed testing in the adult use program.



ARC-ME Members



Gardiner Area Thrives



Maine Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Sources:

U.S. CDC, *Cannabis and Mental Health*, Feb 2024; Maine Office of Cannabis Policy, *Harmful Contaminants in Maine's Medical Cannabis Program*, Fall 2023; Maine CDC & Maine Dept. of Education. *Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey*. 2023

The Alliance for Responsible Cannabis in Maine supports common-sense, evidence-based policy solutions, including:

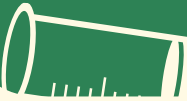
Restricting cannabis marketing that appeals to youth.



Labeling and packaging edible cannabis products to reduce accidental ingestion.



Testing cannabis in the medical and adult-use programs for potency and contaminants, like heavy metals, pesticides, and mold.



Capping potency on edible products in the medical program - like adult use.



Tracking & tracing cannabis throughout the supply chain.



Funding education and treatment programs.



Citations: Barry RA & Glantz SA. Marijuana Regulatory Frameworks in Four US States: An Analysis Against a Public Health Standard. *Am J Public Health*. 2018; Cao Y, et al. Point-of-Sale Marketing in Recreational Marijuana Dispensaries Around California Schools. *J Adolesc Health*. 2020; D'Amico EJ, et al. Planting the Seed for Marijuana Use: Changes in Exposure to Medical Marijuana Advertising and Subsequent Adolescent Marijuana Use, Cognitions, and Consequences Over Seven Years. *Drug Alcohol Depend*. 2018; Fischer B, et al. Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines (LRCUG) for Reducing Health Harms from Non-medical Cannabis Use: A Comprehensive Evidence and Recommendations Update. *Int J Drug Policy*. 2022; Kannarkat JT, et al. Improving Drug Supply Chain Security. *JAMA Health Forum*. 2024; Smart R & Doremus J. The Kids Aren't Alright: The Effects of Medical Marijuana Market Size on Adolescents. *J Health Econ*. 2023.