Healthy Lamoille Valley

Teens and Retail Cannabis Data

"U.S. cannabis
legalization and use of
vaping and edible
products among youth"

Borodovskya, J. et al

"higher dispensary density, ... associated with younger age of onset of edibles [and]..with younger age of onset of vaping.".....data indicate that adolescents and young adults receive diverted legally-purchased cannabis (Boyd et al., 2015; Lankenau et al., 2017; Salomonsen-Sautel et al., 2012; Thurstone et al., 2011) despite qualifying medical condition or minimum purchase age (21 and up)(Hall and Lynskey, 2016) requirements."

Associations between
Licensed and Unlicensed
Outlet Density and
Cannabis Outcomes

After controlling for demographic factors and cannabis outcomes at a time point prior to their opening (Time 1), licensed cannabis outlets were associated with young adults' cannabis use, heavy use, and intentions and unlicensed outlets were associated with young adults' heavy cannabis use and CUD symptoms.

March 2021

Los Angeles County, CA

The current study is among the first to find associations between cannabis use outcomes and density of cannabis outlets among young adults using data from two time points: pre-opening and post-opening of recreational cannabis retailers. Findings can inform policies around the density and placement of cannabis outlets. (Am J Addict 2020;00:00–00)

Geographical access to recreational marijuana

October 2021

Washington State

Using survey data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, we find that as retailers open closer to where they live, more individuals use marijuana and more frequently. These effects are concentrated among young adults (ages 18-26), women, and rural residents. Controlling for distance to the nearest retailer, we find that whether retail density affects marijuana use depends on how it is measured.

Retail Availability of
Recreational Marijuana
and Alcohol in Oregon
Counties and Co-Use of
Alcohol and Marijuana
and Related Beliefs
among Adolescents

Jan 2021

Oregon

Objective: We investigated whether recreational marijuana legalization (RML) in Oregon in 2015 and recreational marijuana and alcohol retail outlet density levels in Oregon counties were associated with increased alcohol and marijuana co-use and beliefs supportive of alcohol and marijuana use among adolescents. Method: We conducted secondary analyses of biennial data collected from 11th graders who participated in the Student Wellness Survey (SWS) in 36 Oregon counties from 2010 to 2018 (N = 71,870). Multi-level logistic regression analyses assessed changes in past-30-day co-use of alcohol and marijuana, and alcohol- and marijuana-related beliefs after RML in counties with low, medium, and high densities of licensed recreational marijuana and alcohol retail outlets. We used post-RML 2016 and 2018 SWS data to examine whether beliefs accounted for any relationship of recreational marijuana and alcohol outlet density with alcohol and marijuana co-use. Results: We found a significant post-RML increase in past-30-day alcohol and marijuana co-use in 2016 in counties with the highest density of recreational marijuana and alcohol retail outlets. There were significant post-RML increases in perceived risk and parent approval of alcohol and marijuana use. Analyses with 2016 and 2018 SWS data indicated that the relationship between level of recreational marijuana and alcohol retail outlet density and past-30-day alcohol and marijuana co-use was accounted for beliefs about marijuana and alcohol availability, approval by parents, and risk. Conclusion: RML and greater retail availability of recreational marijuana and alcohol were positively associated with alcohol and marijuana co-use among adolescents, and with beliefs favorable to alcohol and marijuana use.