



Understanding the Impacts of High THC



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High THC Basics

Question: What is “high THC”?

Answer: $\geq 35\%$

Other Answer: Also $\geq 10\%$

Question: What products have high THC?

Answer: Concentrates and concentrate derived products (drinks, dabs, vape, etc.)

★
Flower naturally caps at 35%

Question: How did we get here?

Answer: Innovative, open market.

1995 avg THC: 3%

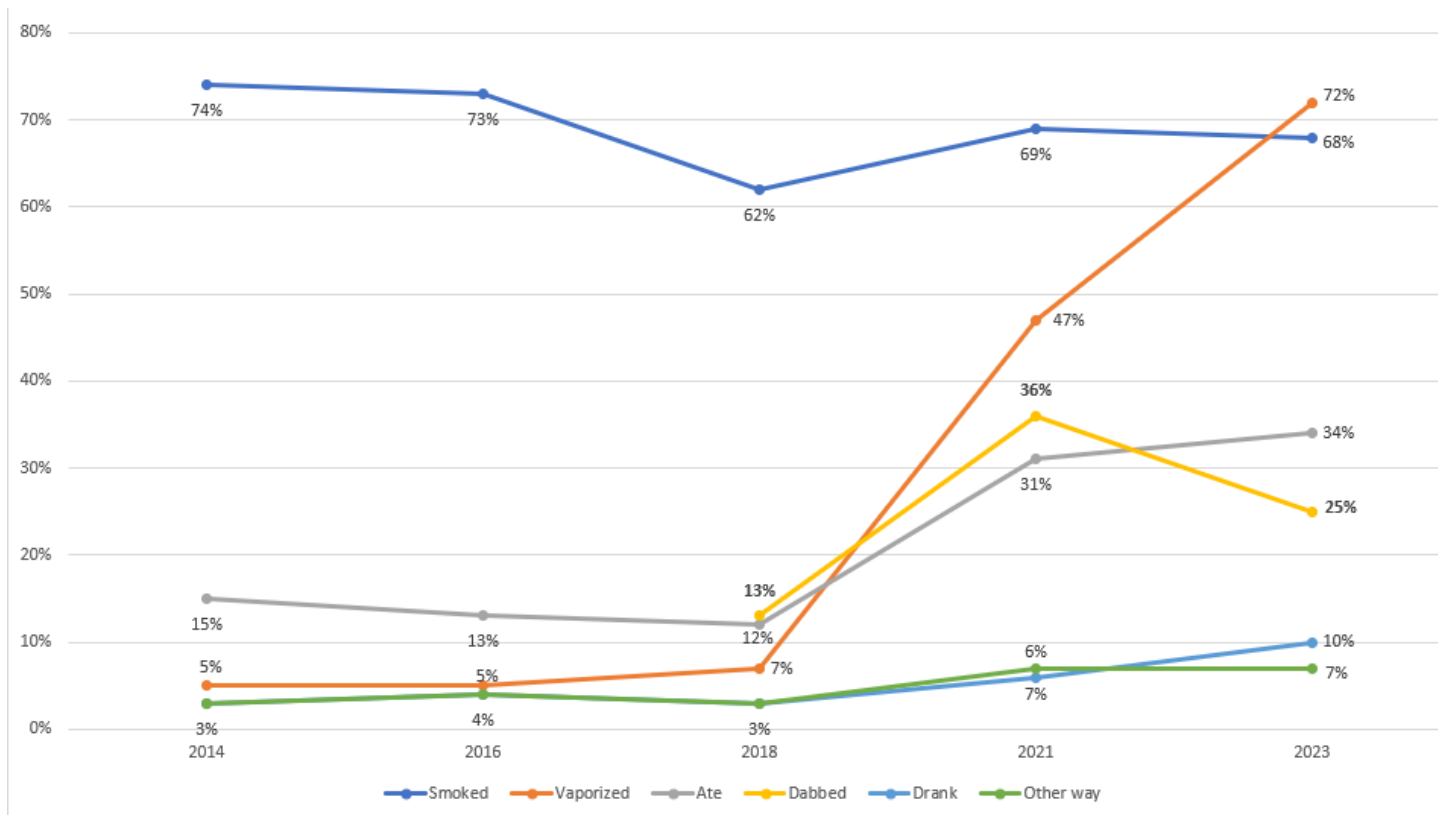
2012 avg THC: 12%

2018 avg THC 21%

2024: Highest THC 95%



The Problem with High THC



Healthy Youth Survey, 10th grade use

- **Impacts the developing brain**
 - ↑ 1,340% since 2014
 - Increased risk
- **Traffic fatalities**
 - About 1/3 of cannabis + alcohol drivers in fatal crashes were aged 16-25 in 2023
- **Exacerbates risks**
 - Cannabis Use Disorder (CUD)
 - Psychosis and Schizophrenia
 - Cannabis Hyperemesis (CHS)



What now?

1

HB 2320 passed in 2024 for DOH:

- Develop signage (by Dec 2024)
- Develop curriculum for budtenders (2025)
- Public education campaign (no \$\$)

2

LCB hosting listening sessions

- Public health + prevention
- Cannabis community
- Hybrid

3

Potential strategies

- Public education
- Budtender education
- Increased research
- Packaging and/or labeling changes
- Tiered tax structure
- Age-gating
- THC % cap

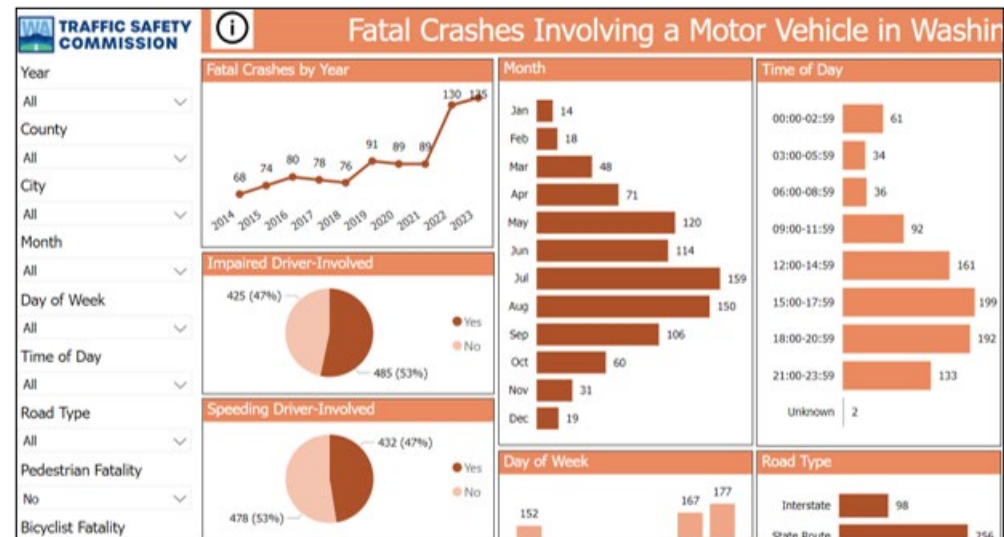


Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

What else?

Alcohol product placement

- Have conducted listening sessions
- Exploring rules/legislation or programs to address:
 - Mini-bottles
 - Cross-over products
 - Placement near youth-friendly or excess drinking products (e.g. keg cups)



LCB-hosted Data Dashboard

- Listening session August 7, 2:00-3:00
- Goal is to develop a dashboard much like WTSC!
- Listening to partners to determine need and scope of dashboard.

Let's connect!

Attend listening sessions—email me!



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