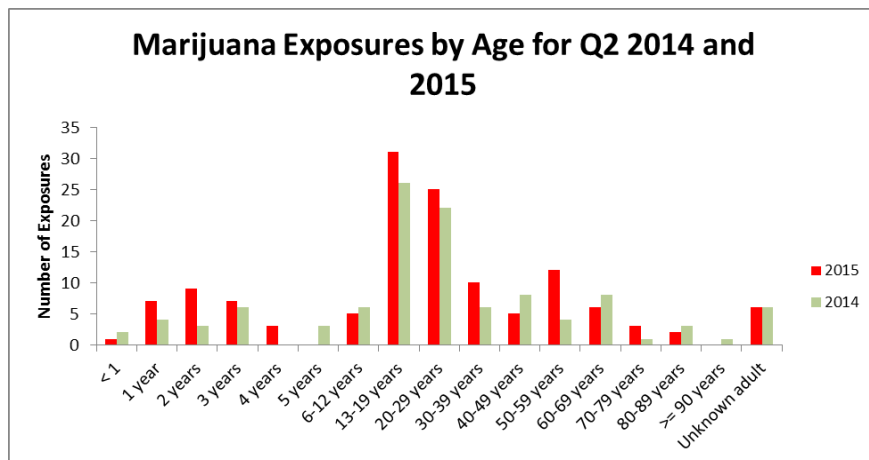
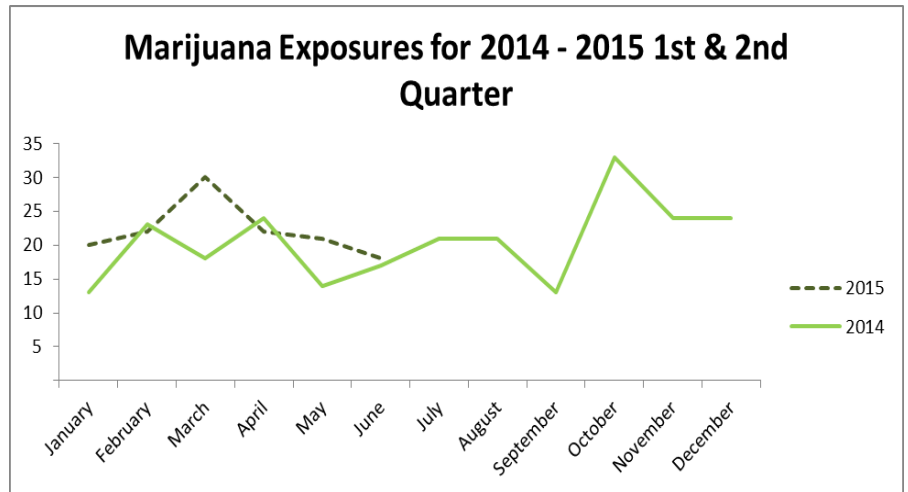


The Washington Poison Center has received a larger number of cases in 2015 (n=133) than for 2014 (n=109) for both 1st and 2nd quarter. According to the Liquor Control Board's Weekly Marijuana Dashboard, there are currently 161 retail stores reporting sales and an untold number of medical marijuana dispensaries estimated at over 1,000. "The increase in call volume on marijuana cases may be due to increased education efforts of community resources available to the public like the Poison Center and public education on what to do if someone is having a bad experience with marijuana," says Dr. Garrard of the WAPC.

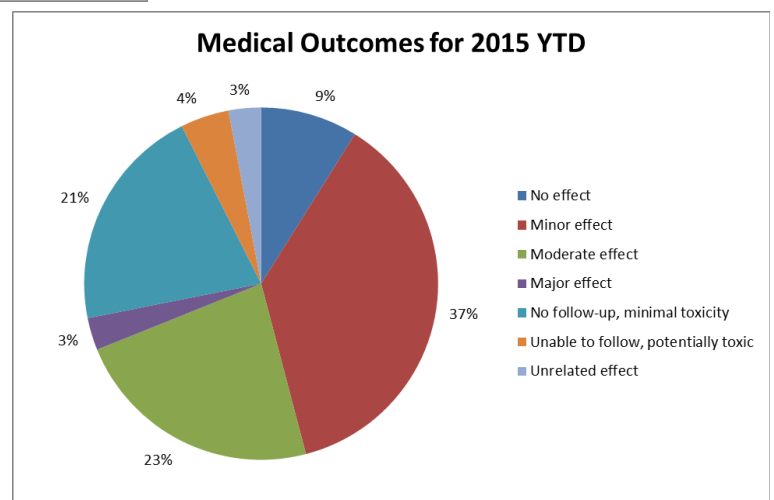


The cities in Washington State with the largest number of marijuana cases include:

- Seattle, n=19
- Tacoma, n=16
- Olympia, n=10
- Spokane, n=10
- Everett, n=9
- Bellevue, n=6
- Bellingham, n=4

Medical outcomes for the first half of 2015 show the majority of exposures resulting in minor effects. These are symptoms that are considered minimally bothersome to patients. There have been no deaths reported to the WAPC involving marijuana directly. A little over half of the cases involved intentional use of marijuana, with abuse being the top reason for why the WAPC was contacted for help.

"This report is another reminder to take the necessary steps to keep marijuana products away from children and pets. Please lock up or otherwise secure all marijuana, edibles, and oils."
~ Mary Segawa, Liquor Control Board



*Disclaimer: Reporting of exposures to the poison center is voluntary and not mandated by law. As such, WAPC data describes the number of calls called into the poison center and most likely is an underrepresentation of the true occurrence of any one substance. All calls to the Washington Poison Center are free and confidential.

For further information, contact Dr. Garrard at AGarrard@wapc.org or 206-517-2356.

Help is a phone call away. Program your cell phone: 1-800-222-1222