



2025 Q4 Cannabis Report: *Massachusetts*

Quarter Four Cannabis Report: October 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025 (MASSACHUSETTS)

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to describe the cannabis cases that Massachusetts & Rhode Island Poison Center (MARI PC) received for the state of Massachusetts in the year 2025. Quarters are broken down into three-month periods. Details are below. *This specific report focuses on Quarter Four (Q4).*

Quarter	Dates
Q1	January 1 – March 31, 2025
Q2	April 1 – June 30, 2025
Q3	July 1 – September 30, 2025
Q4	October 1 – December 31, 2025

History of the Legalization of Marijuana

In November 2016, marijuana use became legal for adults over the age of 21 through a ballot initiative. The first dispensary sales began on November 20, 2018. Since adult use legalization, the MA & RI Poison Center has experienced a slow but steady increase in calls regarding cannabis exposure in Massachusetts, from an average of 21 cannabis exposure calls per quarter in 2015 to an average of 107 cannabis exposure calls per quarter in 2023.

Key Terms & Definitions

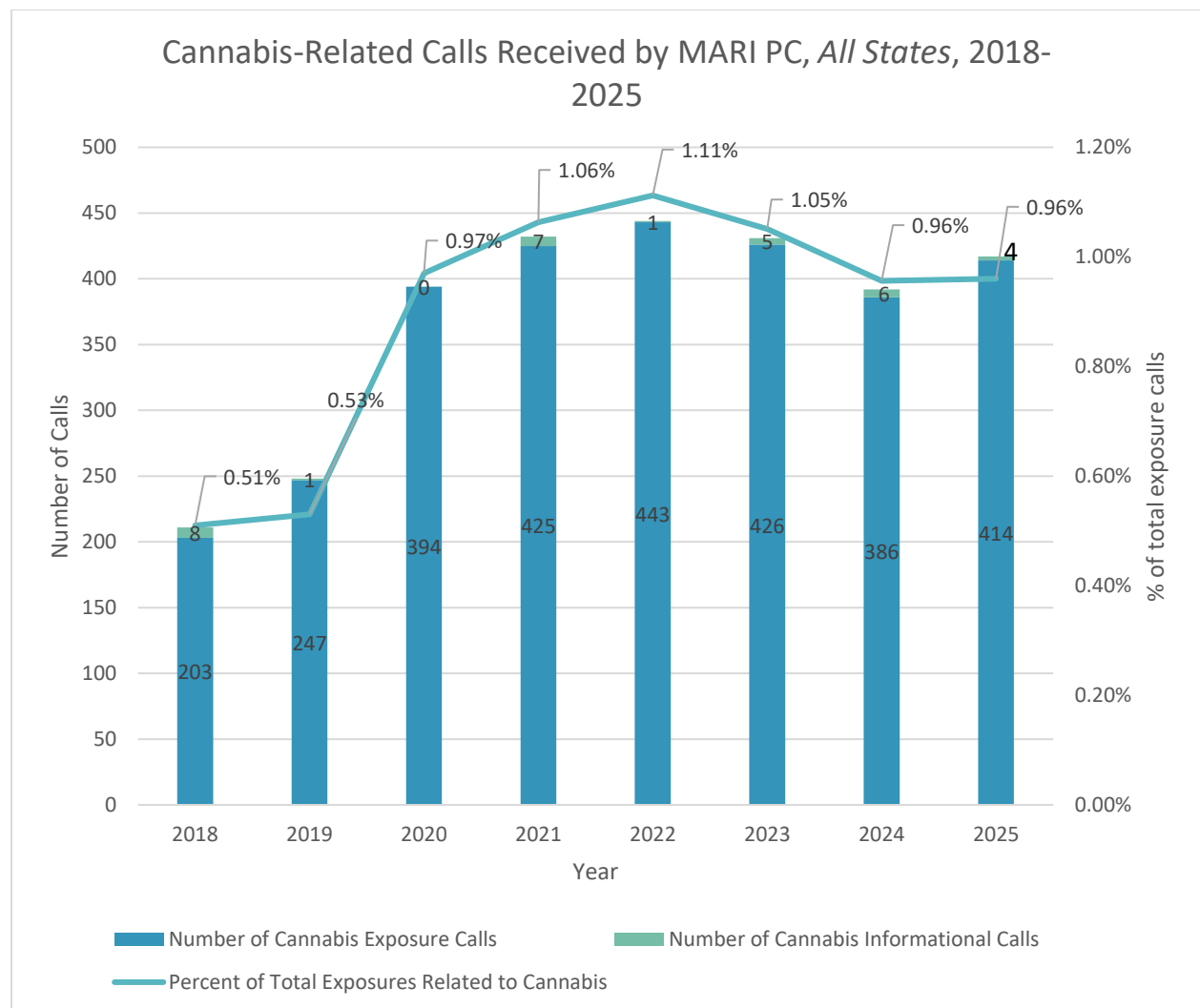
- **Poison Center/MARI PC:** Massachusetts and Rhode Island Poison Center
- **Exposure Call:** A call involving actual or suspected contact with any substance which has been ingested, inhaled, absorbed, applied to, or injected into the body, regardless of toxicity or clinical manifestation.
- **Informational Call:** A call inquiring about questions that are not about an exposure that has occurred.
- **Pediatric:** Children between the ages of 0 to 19 years old
- **Adult:** A person aged 20 years or older

Cannabis-Related Call Volume

Total Cannabis Call Volume Yearly

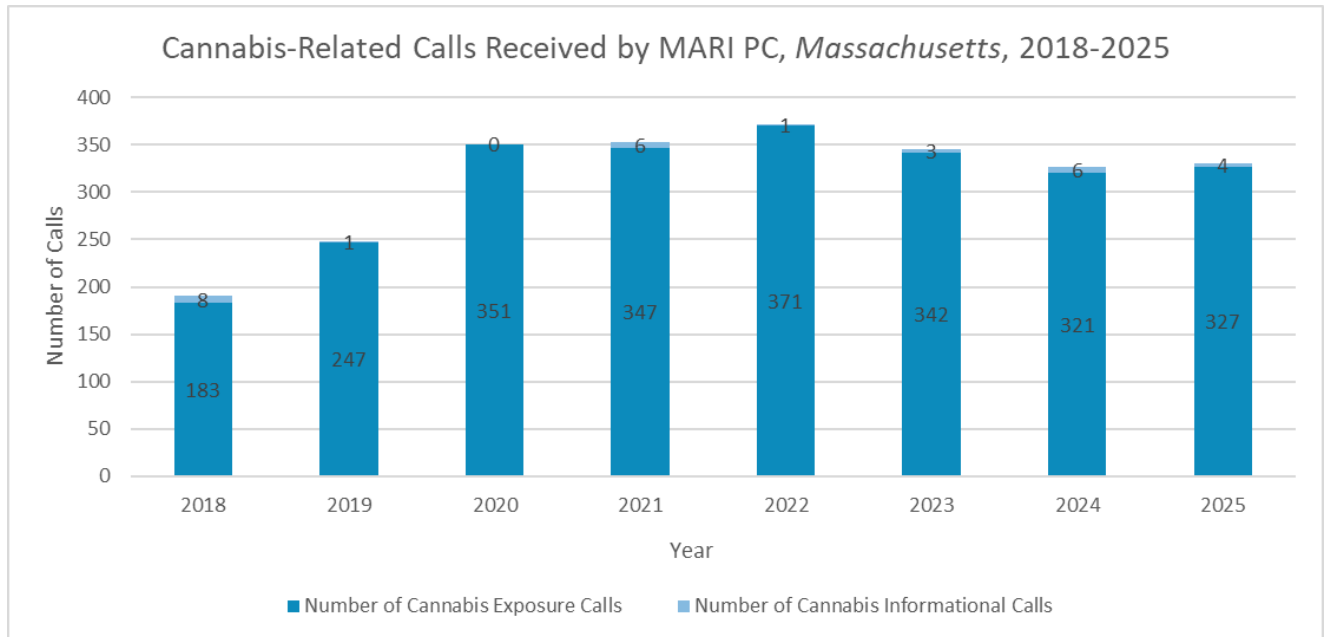
All Calls (MA, RI, Other States)

The MA & RI Poison Center managed a total of 418 cannabis-related calls from all states in 2025 (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025). These calls consisted of 4 informational calls and **414 cannabis-related exposure calls** in all states in 2025. This constitutes 0.96% of total exposure calls in all states.



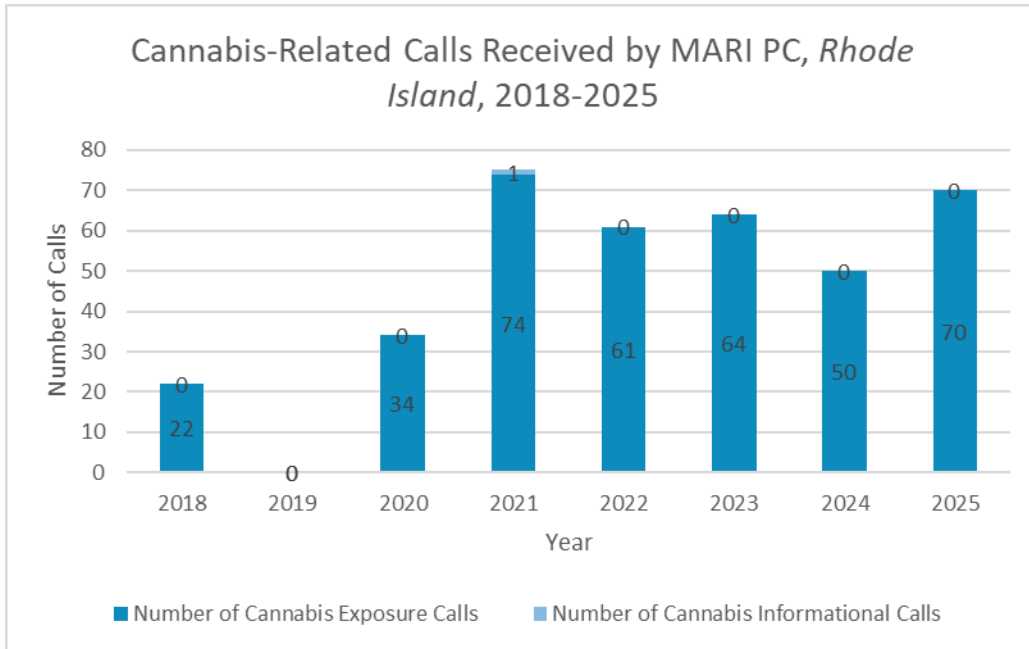
Massachusetts-Specific Calls

The MA & RI Poison Center managed a total of 331 cannabis-related calls from Massachusetts in 2025 (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025). These calls consisted of 4 informational calls and **327 cannabis-related exposure calls** in MA in 2025.



Rhode Island-Specific Calls

The MA & RI Poison Center managed a total of 70 cannabis-related calls from Rhode Island in 2025 (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025). These calls consisted of only **cannabis-related exposure calls** in RI in 2025.



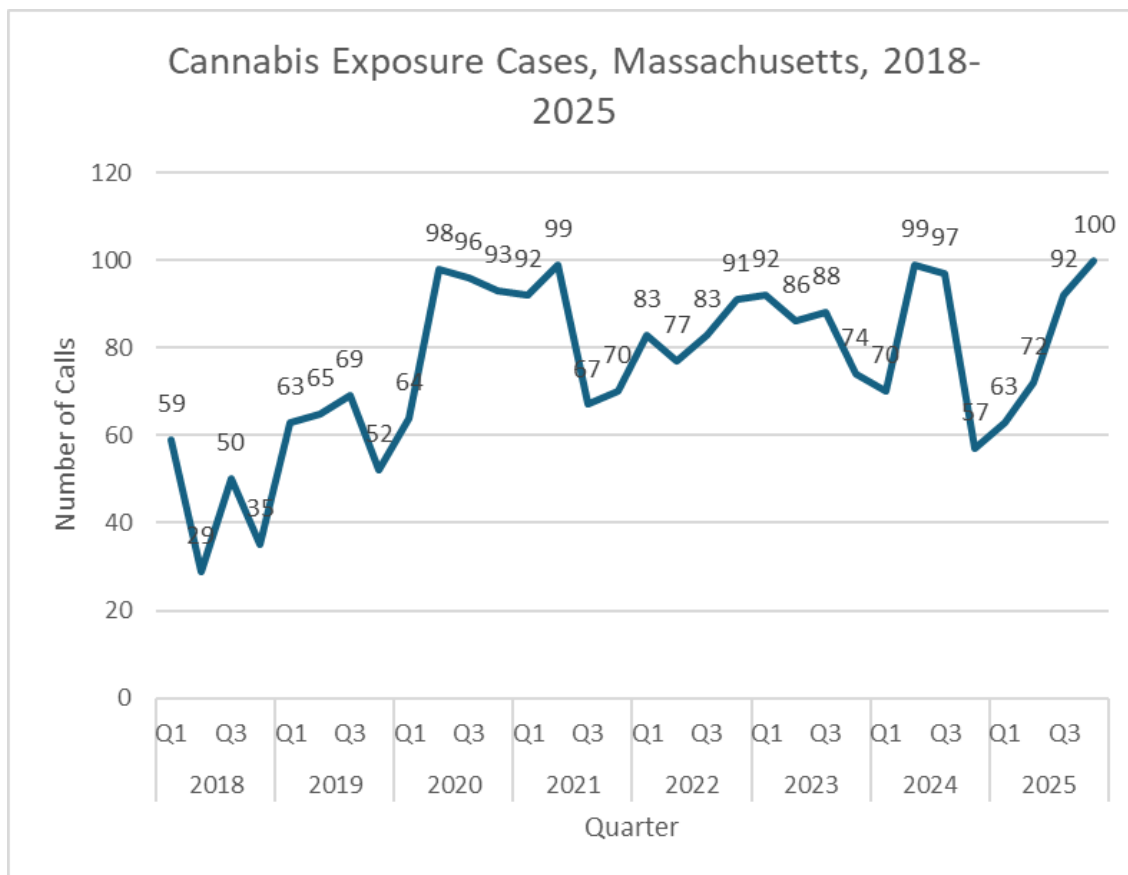
Cannabis Information Calls Summary: Quarterly

During Q4 2025, the PC received 0 cannabis-related information calls. Details for all information calls in 2025 are in the table below.

<i>Information Calls: Cannabis</i>	Age	Type of Product	Reason	Caller Site	State
Q1 2025	Unknown	Dried Plant	Drug Information	Unknown	MA
Q3 2025	Unknown	Unspecified Edible	Caller Referred – Immediate Referral – Animal Poison Center or Veterinarian	Unknown	MA
Q3 2025	Unknown	Concentrated Extract (includes oils and tinctures)	Caller Referred – Immediate Referral – Animal Poison Center or Veterinarian	Unknown	MA
Q3 2025	Unknown	Unspecified Edible	Caller Referred – Immediate Referral – Animal Poison Center or Veterinarian	Unknown	MA

Massachusetts Cannabis Exposure Calls: Quarterly

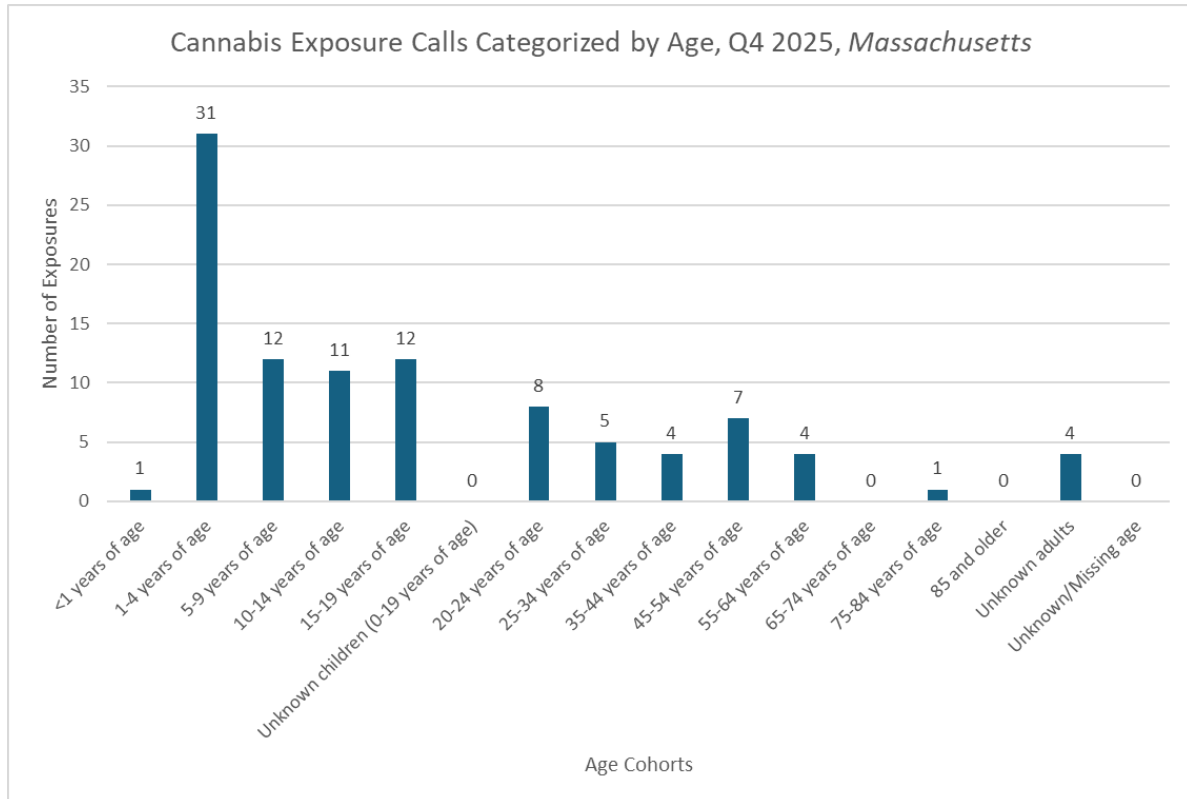
During Q4 2025, the PC received 100 cannabis-related exposure calls in Massachusetts, a 75.4% increase compared to Q4 2024.



Massachusetts Cannabis Demographics

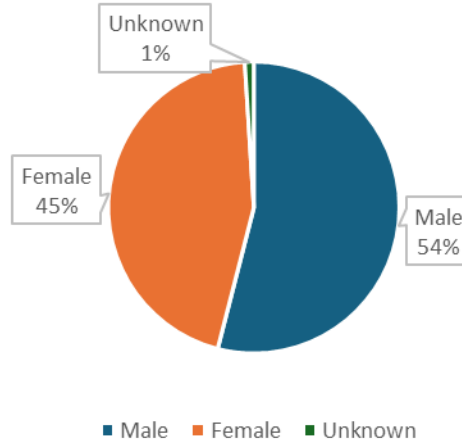
Exposure Calls by Age and Sex

Most of the cannabis exposure calls to MARI PC in Q4 are for children ages 1-4 years old (31 calls), a similar count from the previous quarter (30 calls). In terms of sex, 45% of exposures involved females (n= 45) and 54% of exposures involved males (n= 54), a trend similar to the previous quarter. A breakdown by age and sex are in the charts below.

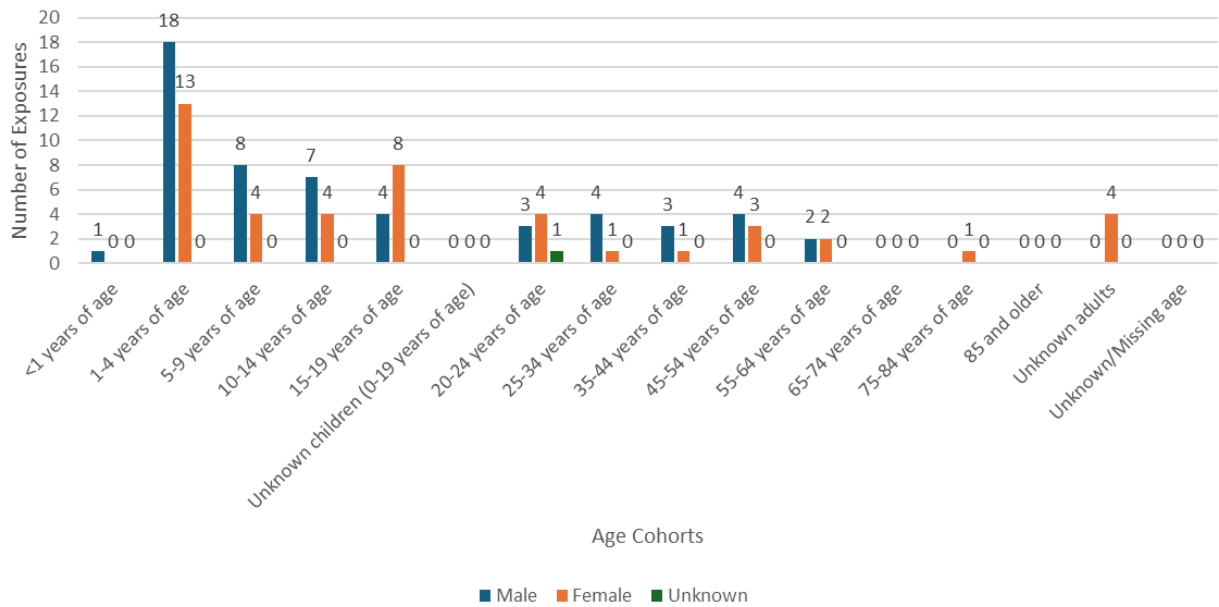


Age Cohort	Q1 2025 Totals	Q2 2025 Totals	Q3 2025 Totals	Q4 2025 Totals	2025 Total
<1 years of age	0	3	1	1	5
1-4 years of age	17	18	30	31	96
5-9 years of age	8	12	8	12	40
10-14 years of age	4	6	11	11	32
15-19 years of age	7	6	8	12	33
Unknown children (0-19 years of age)	0	0	0	0	0
20-24 years of age	4	2	5	8	19
25-34 years of age	4	4	9	5	22
35-44 years of age	6	3	5	4	18
45-54 years of age	2	3	6	7	18
55-64 years of age	4	2	1	4	11
65-74 years of age	2	1	1	0	4
75-84 years of age	1	2	2	1	6
85 and older	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown adults	3	10	5	4	22
Unknown/Missing age	1	0	0	0	1

Cannabis Exposure Calls Categorized by Sex, Q4 2025, *Massachusetts*



Cannabis Exposure Calls by Age and Sex, Q4 2025, *Massachusetts*



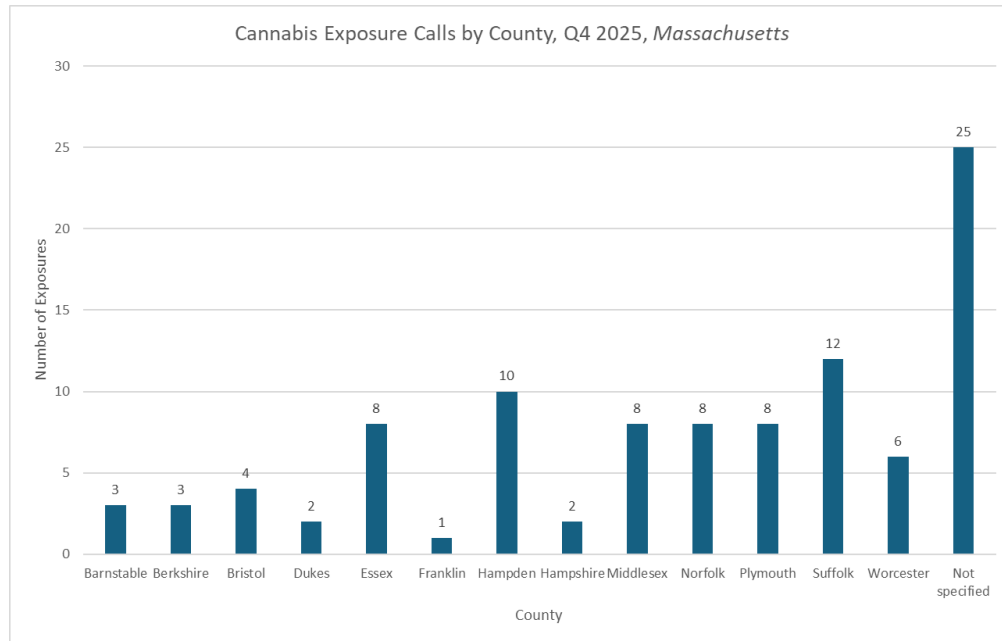
Exposure Calls by Race

Race: Cannabis Exposures in MA	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	2025 Total
White	4	1	5	5	15
African American	0	2	0	3	5
Asian	0	0	0	1	1
Hispanic	0	4	4	5	13
American Indian	0	0	0	0	0
Chose not to answer	0	4	18	28	50
Mixed	0	0	0	0	0
Unsure how to answer this question/unknown	59	61	65	58	243

Exposure Calls by County

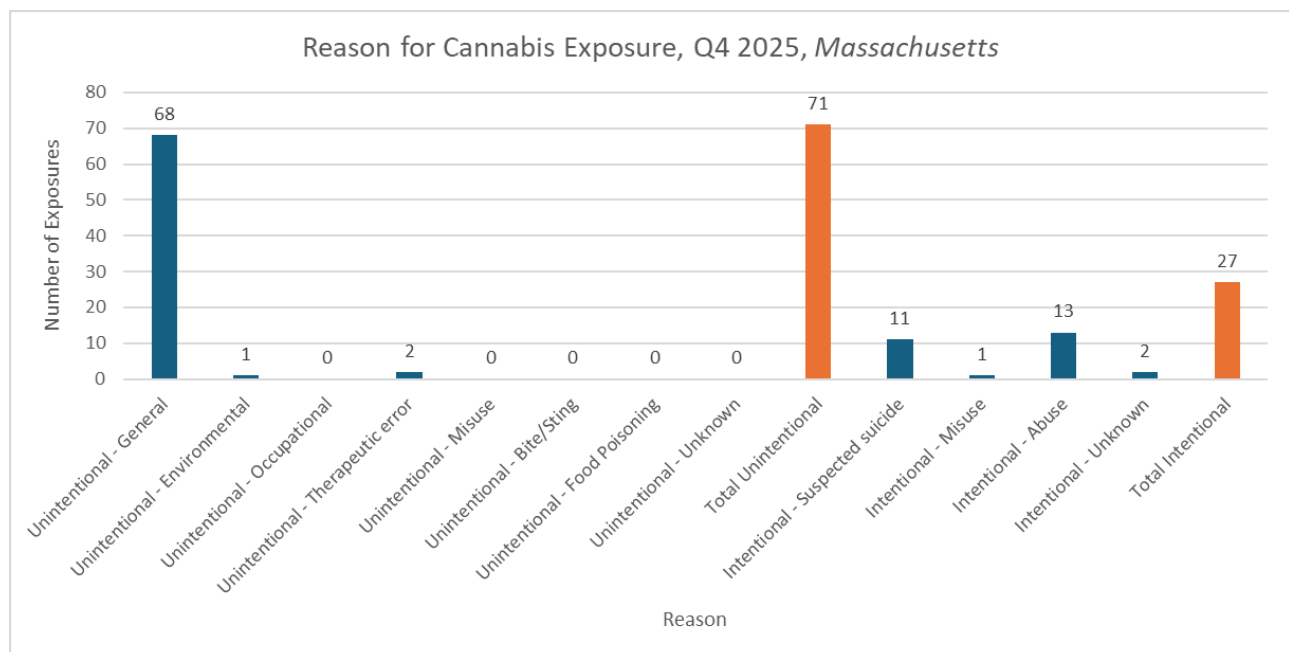
The Massachusetts counties with the highest number of exposure calls in Q4 2025 were Suffolk County (n= 12) and Hampden County (n= 10). A further breakdown is illustrated in the graphs below.

Massachusetts County	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	2025 Total
Barnstable	1	5	2	3	11
Berkshire	1	3	1	3	8
Bristol	5	1	9	4	19
Dukes	1	0	1	2	4
Essex	8	12	9	8	37
Franklin	0	1	0	1	2
Hampden	7	2	6	10	25
Hampshire	1	1	2	2	6
Middlesex	10	8	22	8	48
Norfolk	5	3	8	8	24
Plymouth	3	9	6	8	26
Suffolk	4	8	8	12	32
Worcester	5	2	3	6	16
Not specified	12	17	15	25	69



Reason for Cannabis Exposure (Intent)

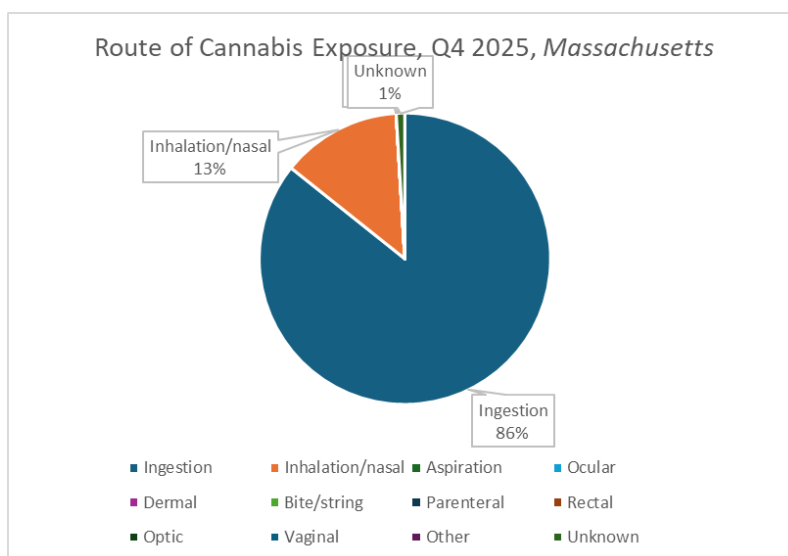
In Q4 2025, most cannabis exposures were recorded as unintentional (71%; n= 71). 27 cases (27%) were intentional. Of the 27 intentional calls, 11 calls were recorded as suspected suicides. 5 calls involved patients 15-19 years old, 1 call involved a patient 25-34 years old, 2 calls involved patients 35-44 years old, and 3 calls involved patients 45-64 years old. 5 of the calls involved males and 6 of the calls involved females.



Reason for Exposure	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	2025 Total
Unintentional - General	36	45	56	68	205
Unintentional - Environmental	0	1	0	1	2
Unintentional - Occupational	1	0	1	0	2
Unintentional - Therapeutic error	1	3	1	2	7
Unintentional - Misuse	1	1	0	0	2
Unintentional - Bite/Sting	0	0	0	0	0
Unintentional - Food Poisoning	0	0	0	0	0
Unintentional - Unknown	0	0	3	0	3
Total Unintentional	39	50	61	71	221
Intentional - Suspected suicide	7	3	13	11	34
Intentional - Misuse	1	0	4	1	6
Intentional - Abuse	10	13	8	13	44
Intentional - Unknown	3	2	3	2	10
Total Intentional	21	18	28	27	94
Other - Contamination/tampering	0	0	0	0	0
Other - Malicious	0	0	0	0	0
Other - Withdrawal	0	0	0	0	0
Total Other	0	0	0	0	0
Adverse Reaction - Drug	0	3	1	1	5
Adverse Reaction - Food	0	0	0	0	0
Adverse Reaction - Other	0	0	0	1	1
Total Adverse Reaction	0	3	1	2	6
Unknown Reason	3	1	2	0	6

Route of Cannabis Exposure

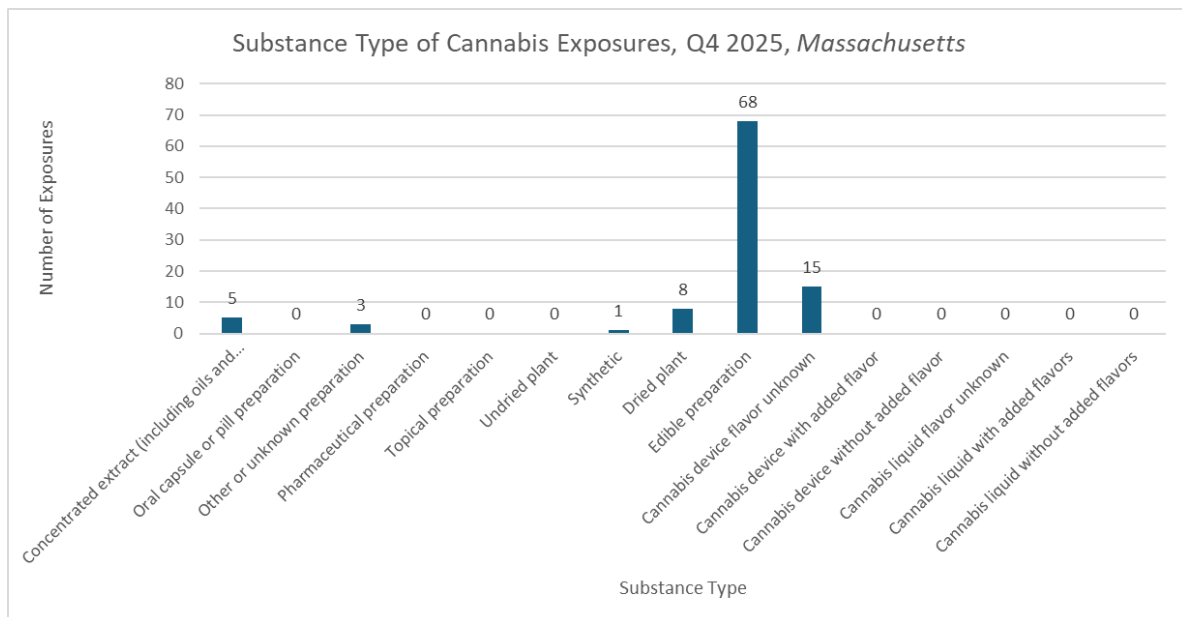
In Q4 2025, most exposures happened via ingestion (86%; n= 90). The second most common route of exposure was inhalation (13%).



Route of Exposure	Q1 2025 Calls (n)	Q2 2025 Calls (n)	Q3 2025 Calls (n)	Q4 2025 Calls (n)	2025 Total (n)
Ingestion	58	67	84	90	299
Inhalation/nasal	9	5	8	14	36
Aspiration	0	0	0	0	0
Ocular	1	1	0	0	2
Dermal	0	0	0	0	0
Bite/string	0	0	0	0	0
Parenteral	0	0	0	0	0
Rectal	0	0	0	0	0
Optic	0	0	0	0	0
Vaginal	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	2	2	3	1	8
Total	70	75	95	105	345

Cannabis Exposure by Substance Type

The top substance involved in cannabis exposures in Q4 2025 across all age groups were edible preparations (n= 68). Further breakdown is depicted in the graph below.

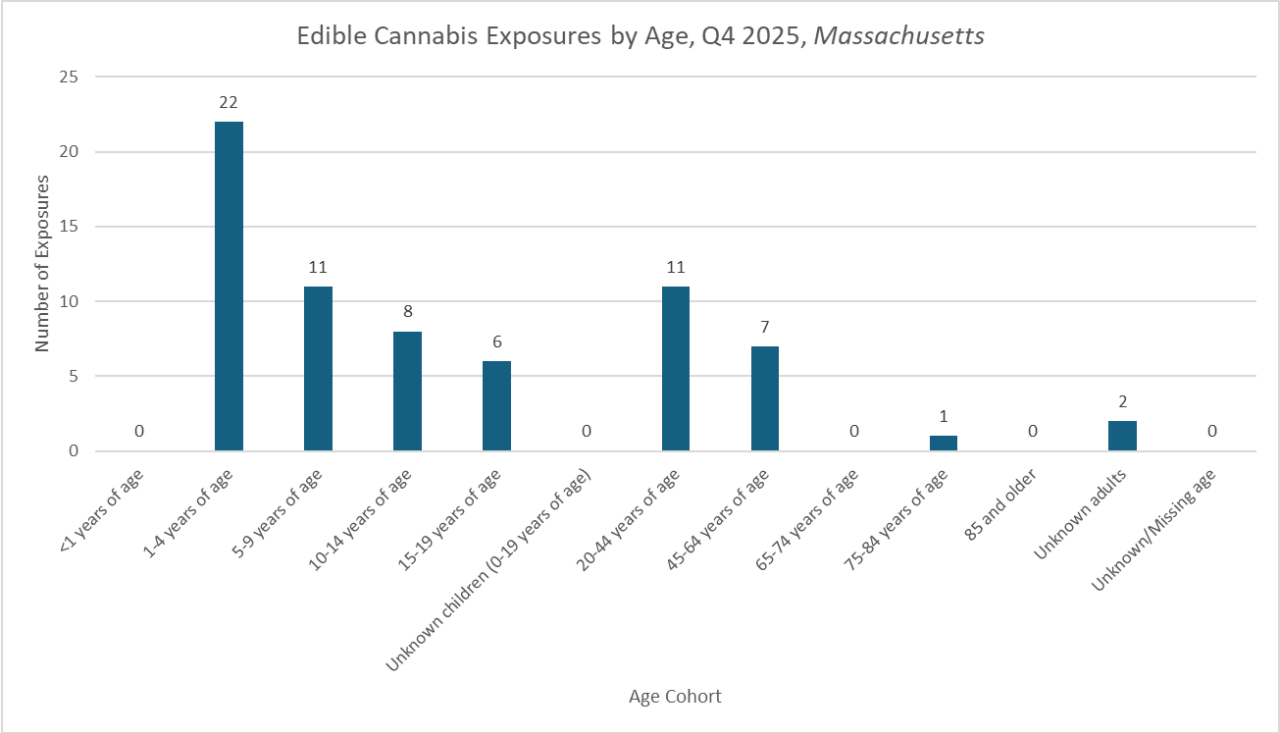


Substance Type	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	2025 Total
Concentrated extract (including oils and tinctures)	3	1	2	5	11
Oral capsule or pill preparation	0	1	1	0	2
Other or unknown preparation	11	6	5	3	25
Pharmaceutical preparation	1	1	1	0	3
Topical preparation	0	0	0	0	0
Undried plant	0	0	0	0	0
Synthetic	1	2	1	1	5
Dried plant	8	5	10	8	31
Edible preparation	36	50	63	68	217
Cannabis device flavor unknown	3	5	9	15	32
Cannabis device with added flavor	0	0	0	0	0
Cannabis device without added flavor	0	0	0	0	0
Cannabis liquid flavor unknown	0	1	0	0	1
Cannabis liquid with added flavors	0	0	0	0	0
Cannabis liquid without added flavors	0	0	0	0	0

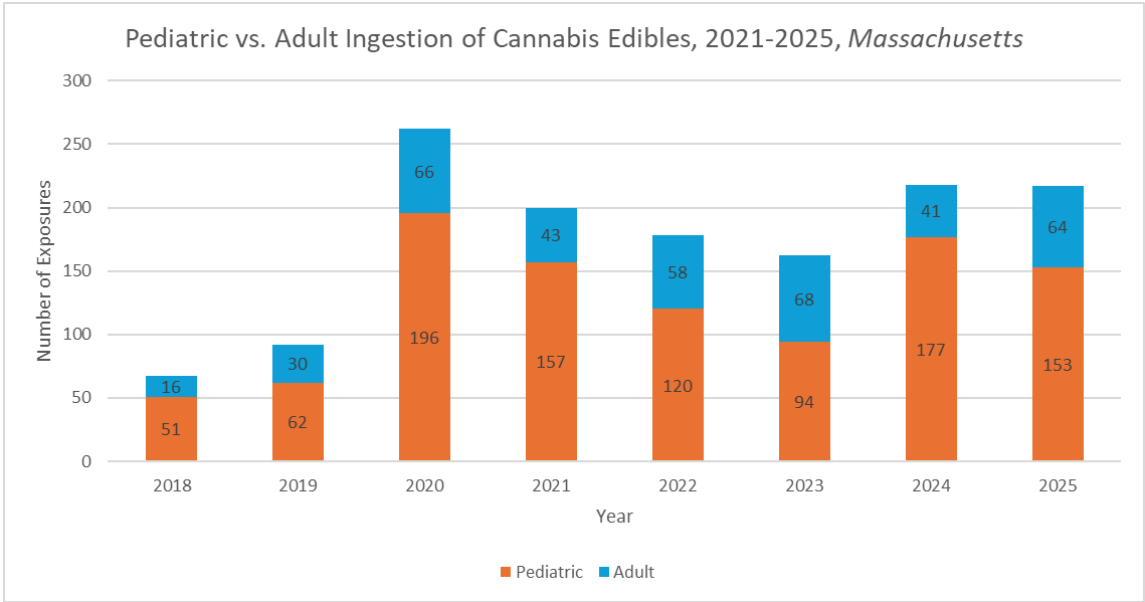
Edible Cannabis Exposures

Pediatric vs. Adult Ingestion of Cannabis Edibles in MA

Most edible cannabis exposures are from those ages 1-4 years old (n= 22). Pediatric patients (those aged 19 and under) have more cannabis edible exposures than adults (those aged 20 and over), a trend similar to previous years. A further breakdown by age cohort is in the graphs below.

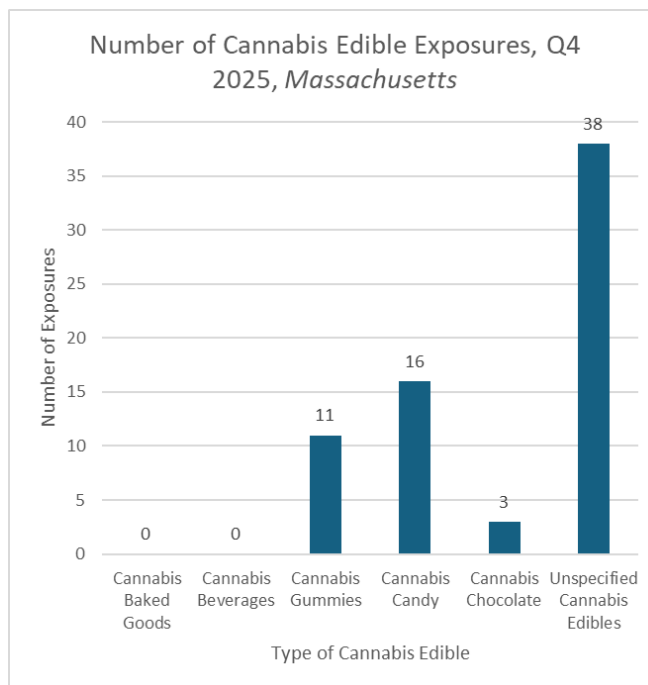


Age Cohort: Edible Cannabis Exposures	Q1 2025 (n)	Q2 2025 (n)	Q3 2025 (n)	Q4 2025 (n)	2025 Total
<1 years of age	0	2	0	0	2
1-4 years of age	12	14	20	22	68
5-9 years of age	8	11	7	11	37
10-14 years of age	4	5	10	8	27
15-19 years of age	4	5	4	6	19
Unknown children (0-19 years of age)	0	0	0	0	0
20-44 years of age	2	4	12	11	29
45-64 years of age	2	1	5	7	15
65-74 years of age	1	1	0	0	2
75-84 years of age	1	2	2	1	6
85 and older	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown adults	2	5	3	2	12
Unknown/Missing age	0	0	0	0	0



Edible Cannabis Ingestions by Product Type

In Q4 2025 in Massachusetts, most cannabis edible exposures were from cannabis candies (n= 16).



Type of Cannabis Edible	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	2025 Total	
Cannabis Baked Goods		4	7	3	0	14
Cannabis Beverages		3	1	1	0	5
Cannabis Gummies		14	9	25	11	59
Cannabis Candy		1	14	8	16	39
Cannabis Chocolate		2	1	6	3	12
Unspecified Cannabis Edibles		12	18	20	38	88

End of Report.