



# Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

# Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome

LCB Research Program  
November 2024

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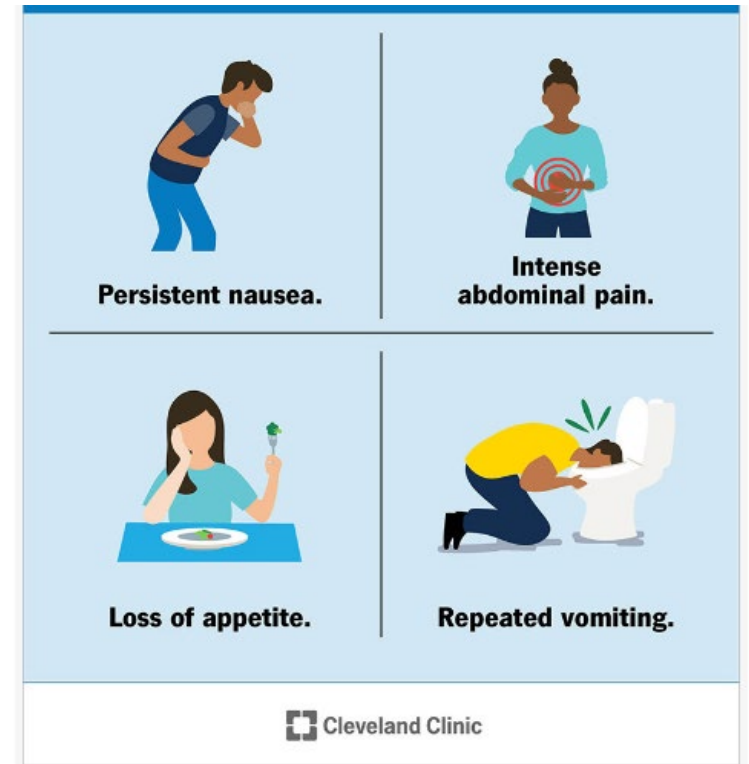
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# What is Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome?

Cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome (CHS) is characterized by intense nausea, abdominal pain, and cyclical vomiting associated with frequent and long-term cannabis use.



CHS is typically diagnosed when an individual meets the following criteria:

1. Prolonged cannabis use prior to onset;
2. Experienced three or more episodes of nausea, pain, and vomiting; and
3. Symptoms that disappear after cannabis cessation.



# Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board



International  
Cannabis  
Policy Study

## Washington Report 2023

- *“Have you ever experienced cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome (repeated, severe vomiting from marijuana use)?”*
- *“Did you experience cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome in the past 12 months?”*



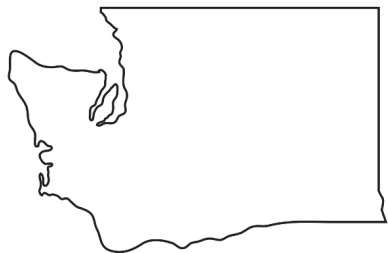
## Statistical Analysis

- Binary logistic regression predicting past-year CHS with:
  - Sex
  - Age
  - Medical vs. non-medical cannabis use
  - Legal vs. illegal cannabis
  - Type of cannabis product
  - Frequency of cannabis use



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## Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome: Prevalence



**WA**

**Prevalence:**

**6%**

Past-Year CHS



**US**

**Prevalence:**

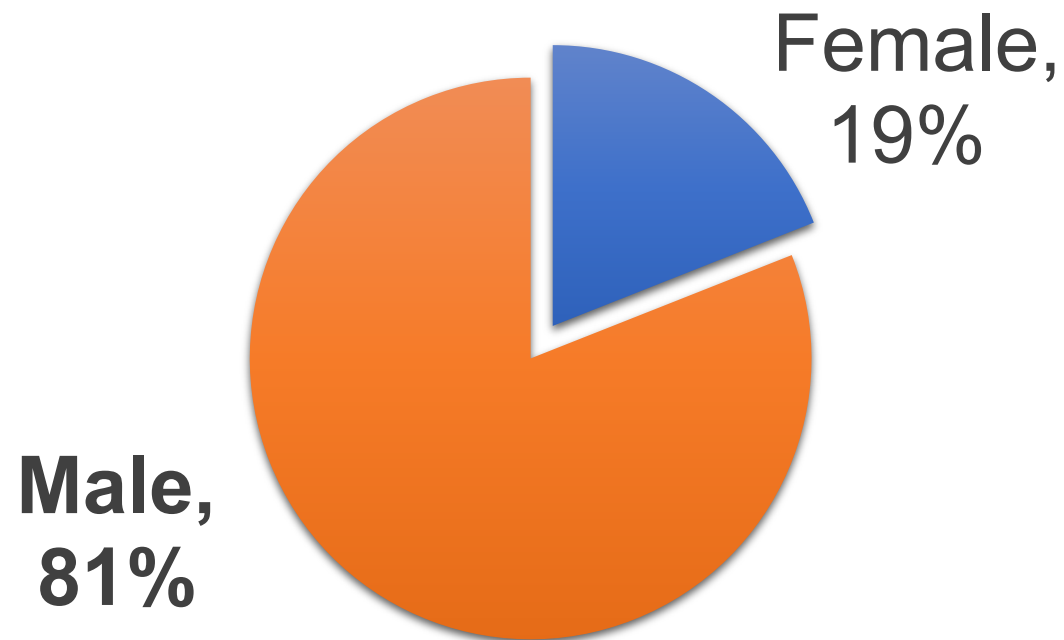
**~5%**

Past-Year CHS



## Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome: Risk Factors

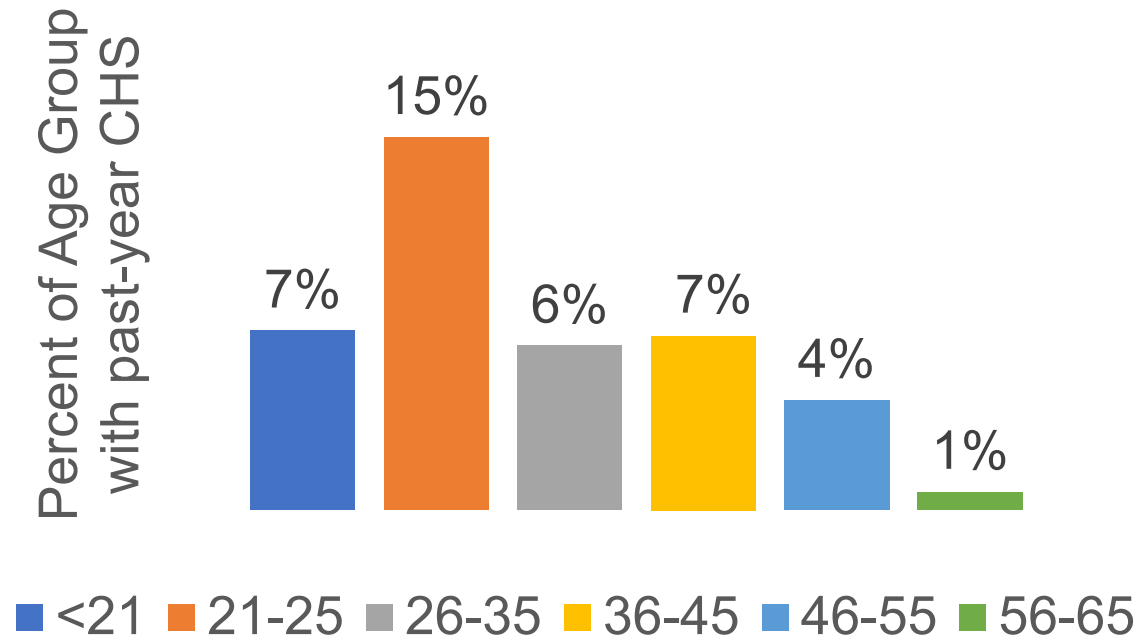
- Males were more likely to report past-year CHS than females.





## Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome: Risk Factors

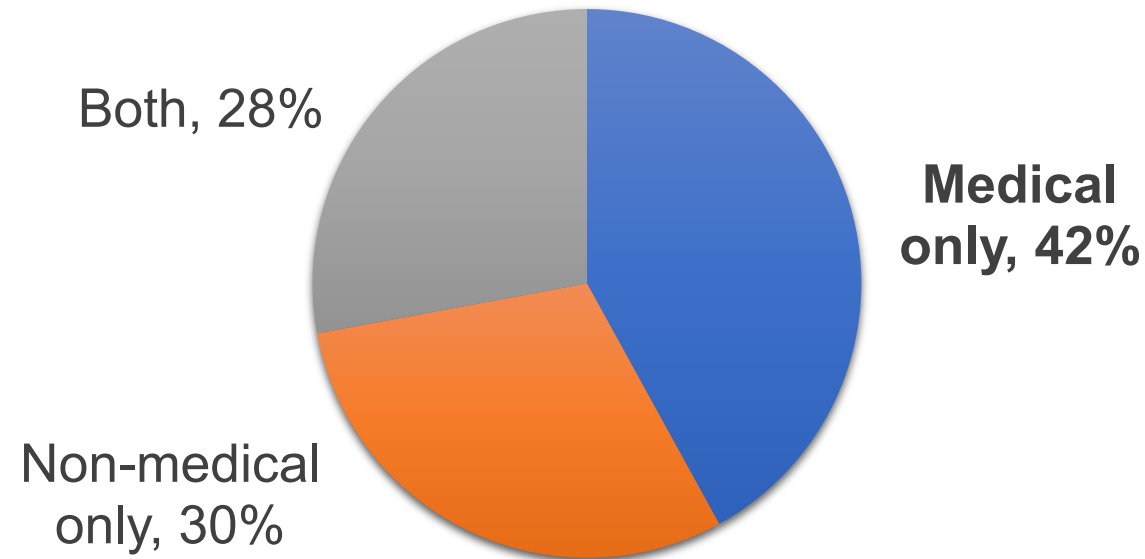
- Younger individuals were more likely to report CHS than older individuals.





## Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome: Risk Factors

- Those who reported using cannabis for only medical purposes were more likely to report CHS than those who used for non-medical purposes.

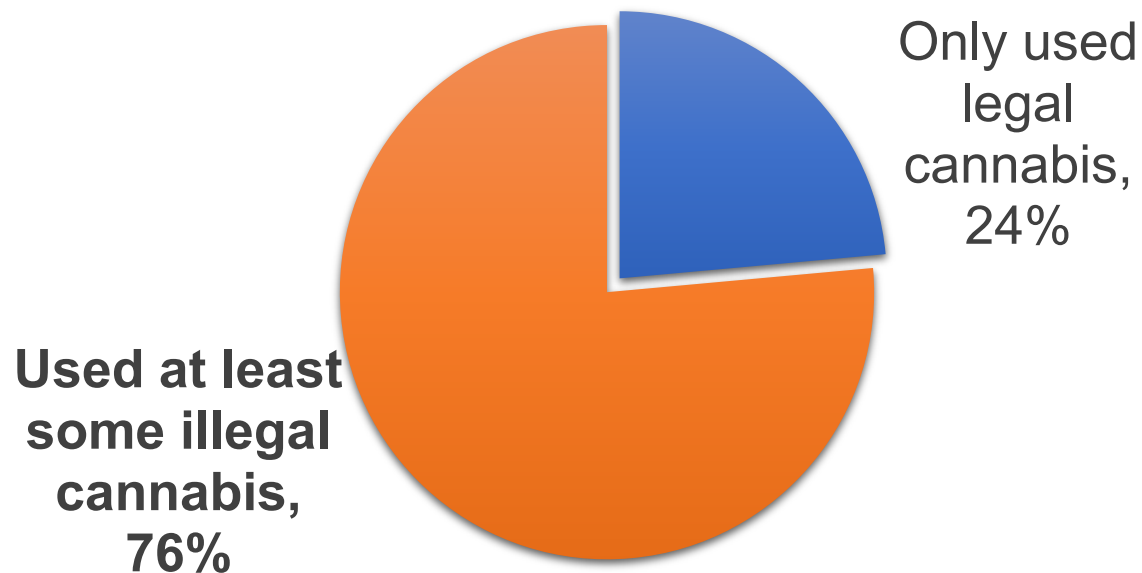






## Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome: Risk Factors

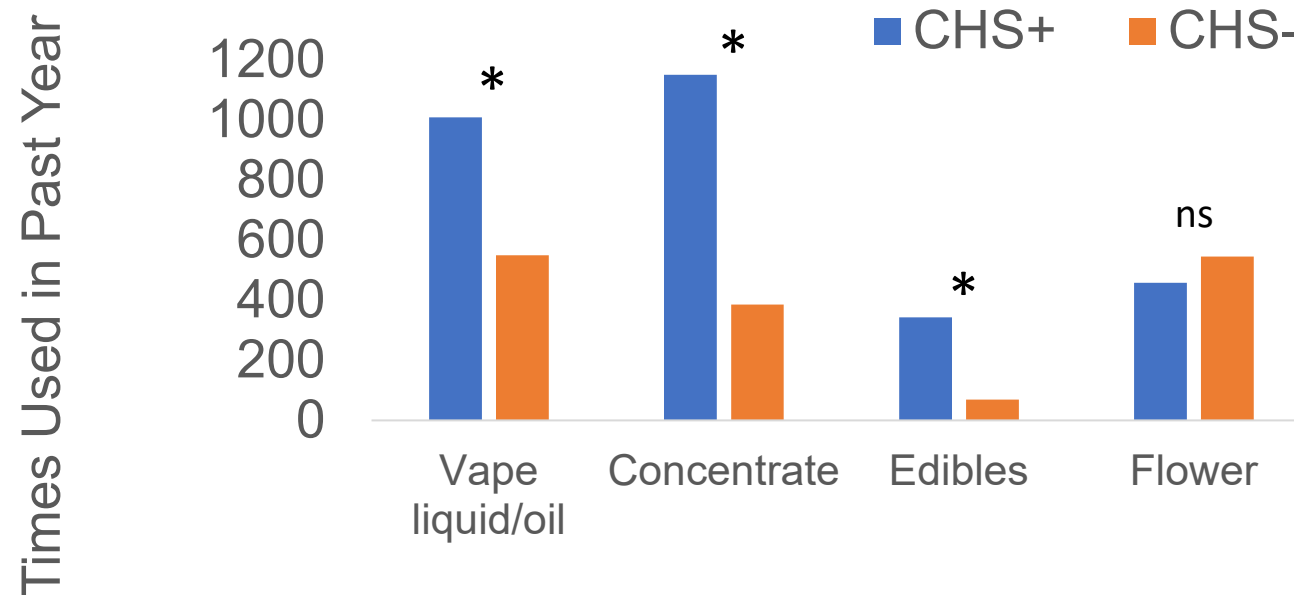
- Those who used any amount of cannabis from illegal sources were more likely to experience CHS than those who used cannabis from only legal sources.





## Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome: Risk Factors

- Those who vaped, used concentrates, or ate edibles more frequently were more likely to experience CHS relative to those who used less frequently. Flower was not significant.





## Conclusions

- CHS prevalence in WA is similar to estimates for the US.
- There were several risk factors for CHS, some of which have been identified in previous research (sex, age), while others have not (use of cannabis from illegal sources, medical vs non-medical use, use of vapes, concentrates, and edibles).
  - Notably, cannabis use frequency was only significant before adding other variables.
- However, results should be interpreted with caution as rates of CHS were low.

