



**MINNESOTA**  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
REGULATORY BOARD

## Cannabis and the Highway: the EMS Lens

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### About the EMSRB

- The EMSRB is a 17 member board charged with administration and oversight of the state's emergency medical services system. Our primary focus is to support the EMS system and protecting public health and safety through regulation of the system.
  - 341 Ambulance Service Licenses
  - 804 Ground Ambulances
  - 715,000 calls (911 and transfers each year)
- One of our major functions is data collection. Each Minnesota licensed ambulance service is required to submit patient care reports to the Board. There are hundreds of data points that are collected. Some of that collected data is the basis for today's presentation.

4/11/2023 2

- Numerous policy discussions regarding the use of THC and other derivatives have captured attention across the nations landscape and Minnesota is no different.
- In July of 2022 there were changes to state laws regarding the legality of different concentrations of THC and edibles, along with different pieces of regulation to go along with that.
- After receiving some questions and feedback from the EMS community the EMSRB began to track what if any impacts these changes had on demands to the emergency medical services system.

4/11/2023 3

### Disclaimer

- Neither I nor the EMSRB take any position on any laws, regulations, or policies on the underlying issues.
- We share this information today solely for the purposes of education and situational awareness.

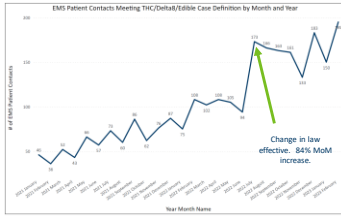
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### Case Definition

- Developing case definitions for very specific types of cases can be difficult.
- This analysis was primarily focused on edibles as that was the largest change to the law.
- We searched every patient care report narrative for the following terms:
  - "THC" "Edible" "Gummie" "Gummy" "Delta 8" "delta 8"
  - We excluded the term "edible food"
- We know that these figures represent an undercount. However, by using a consistent case definition we can evaluate trends and have a reasonable idea of what is going on.

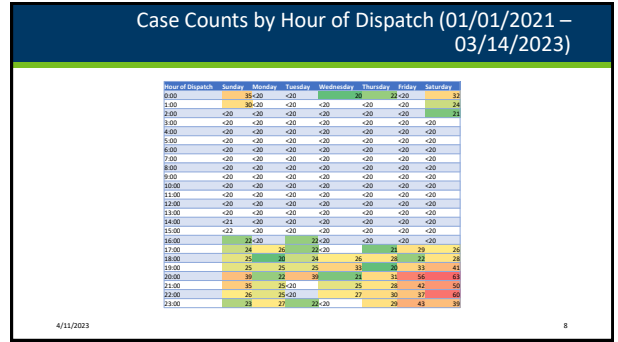
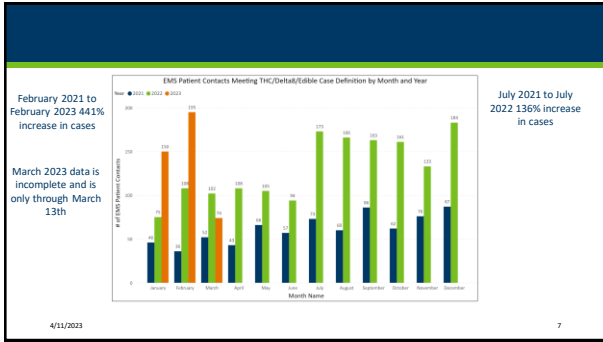
4/11/2023 5

### Timeline of Case Counts



EMS Patient Contacts Meeting THC/Delta8/Edible Case Definition by Month and Year

4/11/2023 6

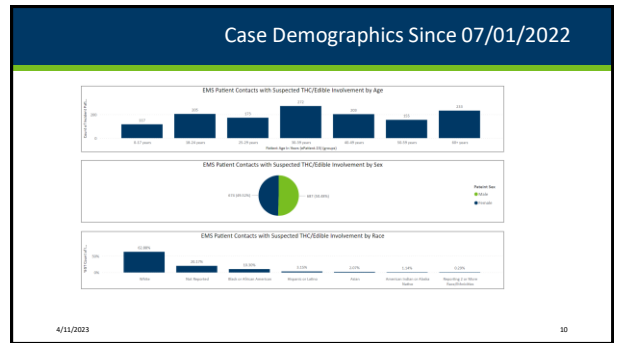


### Complaints Reported by Dispatch Since 07/01/2022

Complaint Reported by Dispatch	% of Cases Meeting Case Definition
Overdose/Poisoning/Ingestion	23.03%
Sick Person	18.03%
Unconscious/Fainting/Near Fainting	8.80%
Chest Pain	7.08%
Breathing Problems	6.04%

Only 0.67% of cases meeting the definition for inclusion were associated with a dispatch complaint of Traffic/Transportation incident

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# Thank You!

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