

MEDICAL MARIJUANA ACT: REGISTRY STATISTICS AS OF JULY 31, 2018

Background

Department of Public Health and Human Services statistics provide the following information about the number of people registered or licensed under the Montana Medical Marijuana Act. The tables on the following pages compare the most recent figures to numbers in:

- June 30, 2012, when stricter requirements for being able to grow, manufacture, and possess marijuana were in effect, following passage of Senate Bill 423 in 2011; and
- Oct. 31, 2016, the month after a limit of three patients per provider went into effect following the Montana Supreme Court ruling upholding portions of SB 423 that had been on hold since 2011.

Since then, the law has changed significantly with passage of Initiative 182 in November 2016 and Senate Bill 333 in 2017. Combined, those measures removed the limit on the number of patients per provider, allowed use of marijuana for post-traumatic stress disorder, and allowed for testing laboratories, dispensaries, and chemical manufacturing endorsements.

Key Changes in Registry Statistics

Registry statistics over time show that:

- The number of cardholders has increased 240% since passage of I-182, from 7,785 in October 2016 to 26,549 in July 2018. An additional 2,637 applications for new or renewed cards were pending in July.
- The number of providers has decreased throughout this year. The 420 providers licensed in July represented a 31% decline from the 608 providers licensed in January.
- New rules changing the amount of marijuana a provider can grow went into effect on April 10. The number of providers declined between March and July, from 577 to 420.
- In July, 288 providers were growing for 20 or fewer cardholders – a 31% drop from March, when 416 were doing so. There were 82 providers growing for 21 to 100 cardholders in July, compared with 103 in March, for a 20% decrease. The number of providers growing for more than 100 cardholders has varied between 50 and 58 each month in 2018; it stood at 51 in July.
- A handful of doctors continue to provide written certification for a significant portion of cardholders. In July, four doctors certified anywhere from 1,001 cardholders up to 7,000 cardholders each and, in total, wrote certifications for 12,504 to 15,200 of the 26,549 cardholders. More specific figures are not available because of the way DPHHS breaks down the number of certifications per physician.

- The percentage of cardholders listing severe chronic pain as a debilitating condition increased from 61% in October 2017 to almost 76% in July 2018.

The following tables summarize available information on people registered to use marijuana for a debilitating medical condition, physicians who are providing certification of those medical conditions, and licensees who are able to grow, manufacture, and sell marijuana and marijuana-infused products.

General Overview

Category	6/30/2012	10/31/2016	7/31/2018
Cardholders	8,681	7,785	26,549
Pending Cardholder Applications	--	--	2,637
Providers	390	522	420
Certifying Physicians	225	172	218
Testing Laboratories	*	*	3
Dispensaries	*	*	72
Chemical Manufacturing Endorsements	*	*	217

* Testing labs, dispensaries, and chemical manufacturing endorsements were not specifically allowed at this time.

Cardholders by Age

Age	Number of Cardholders			Percentage of Cardholders		
	6/30/2012	10/31/2016	7/31/2018	6/30/2012	10/31/2016	7/31/2018
Under 18	4	5	48	0.05%	0.06%	0.18%
18-20	129	97	852	1.48%	1.25%	3.20%
21-30	1,389	852	5,034	16.00%	10.94%	18.96%
31-40	1,666	1,475	5,659	19.19%	18.95%	21.32%
41-50	1,813	1,317	4,273	20.88%	16.92%	16.09%
51-60	2,556	2,069	4,835	29.44%	26.58%	18.22%
61-70	985	1,700	4,536	11.34%	21.84%	17.09%
71-80	123	241	1,103	1.41%	3.10%	4.16%
81-90	16	24	187	0.18%	0.31%	0.70%
Over 90	0	5	22	0.00%	0.06%	0.08%
Total	8,681	7,785	26,549	100%	100%	100%

Cardholders by Debilitating Medical Condition

Condition	Number of Cardholders		
	6/30/2012	10/31/2016	7/31/2018
*Condition Added by Initiative 182			
Admittance Into Hospice Care	4	2	26
Cachexia or Wasting Syndrome	500	327	612
Cancer, Glaucoma, or HIV (AIDS)	561	485	1,878
Central Nervous System Disorder with Spasticity	892	726	2,174
Crohn's Disease	92	128	339
Epilepsy/Intractable Seizure Disorder	252	235	739
Intractable Nausea or Vomiting	1,081	745	1,979
Multiple Sclerosis	138	135	320
Painful Peripheral Neuropathy	812	1,169	3,344
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*	--	--	3,604
Severe Chronic Pain	5,415	4,773	20,078

Cardholders Per Registered Provider and Certifying Physician

# of Cardholders	Number of Providers		# of Cardholders	Number of Physicians	
	10/31/2016	7/31/2018		10/31/2016	7/31/2018
1	131	75	1	68	73
2	284	29	2	31	29
3	107	30	3	20	26
4	--	15	4	10	19
5	--	25	5	8	4
6	--	21	6	2	7
7	--	12	7	4	3
8	--	10	8	1	5
9	--	13	9	1	5
10	--	9	10	0	2
11-20	--	49	11-50	13	26
21-30	--	22	51-100	2	4
31-40	--	16	101-250	6	3
41-50	--	13	251-500	3	2
51-60	--	11	501-1,000	0	6
61-70	--	9	More than 1,000	3	4
71-80	--	6	Total	172	218
81-90	--	1			
91-100	--	4			
101-250	--	31			
251-500	--	17			
501-1,000	--	1			
More than 1,000	--	1			
Total	522	420			

Providers and Cardholders by County

County	# of Providers		# of Cardholders		Population (2016 Estimate)	Cardholders as % of Population	
	10/31/2016	7/31/2018	10/31/2016	7/31/2018		10/31/2016	7/31/2018
Beaverhead	3	3	91	304	9,401	0.97%	3.23%
Big Horn	1	0	40	153	13,343	0.30%	1.15%
Blaine	1	1	24	72	6,601	0.36%	1.09%
Broadwater	2	4	46	138	5,747	0.80%	2.40%
Carbon	10	9	97	240	10,460	0.93%	2.29%
Carter	0	0	4	4	1,203	0.33%	0.33%
Cascade	9	15	333	1,323	81,755	0.41%	1.62%
Chouteau	0	1	18	62	5,759	0.31%	1.08%
Custer	2	3	82	186	11,924	0.69%	1.56%
Daniels	0	0	8	24	1,755	0.46%	1.37%
Dawson	1	0	31	138	9,327	0.33%	1.48%
Deer Lodge	1	1	98	279	9,085	1.08%	3.07%
Fallon	0	0	6	42	3,120	0.19%	1.35%
Fergus	0	0	42	158	11,413	0.37%	1.38%
Flathead	77	59	908	2,672	98,082	0.93%	2.72%
Gallatin	145	103	1,230	4,529	104,502	1.18%	4.33%
Garfield	0	0	1	5	1,310	0.08%	0.38%

County	# of Providers		# of Cardholders		Population (2016 Estimate)	Cardholders as % of Population	
	10/31/2016	7/31/2018	10/31/2016	7/31/2018		10/31/2016	7/31/2018
Glacier	0	0	45	197	13,694	0.33%	1.44%
Golden Valley	0	0	9	16	831	1.08%	1.93%
Granite	0	1	20	50	3,368	0.59%	1.48%
Hill	3	1	97	350	16,542	0.59%	2.12%
Jefferson	3	5	107	323	11,853	0.90%	2.73%
Judith Basin	0	0	6	17	1,940	0.31%	0.88%
Lake	4	5	163	437	29,758	0.55%	1.47%
Lewis and Clark	29	29	633	2,136	67,282	0.94%	3.17%
Liberty	0	0	4	13	2,409	0.17%	0.54%
Lincoln	18	10	260	551	19,259	1.35%	2.86%
Madison	21	6	194	481	7,924	2.45%	6.07%
McCone	0	0	3	9	1,700	0.18%	0.53%
Meagher	1	0	23	44	1,827	1.26%	2.41%
Mineral	3	2	51	83	4,184	1.22%	1.98%
Missoula	54	39	631	3,138	116,130	0.54%	2.70%
Musselshell	3	4	61	96	4,589	1.33%	2.09%
Park	21	18	218	852	16,114	1.35%	5.29%
Petroleum	0	0	3	7	489	0.61%	1.43%
Phillips	2	1	30	52	4,133	0.73%	1.26%
Pondera	0	1	23	76	6,084	0.38%	1.25%
Powder River	0	1	2	7	1,746	0.11%	0.40%
Powell	3	2	53	115	6,858	0.77%	1.68%
Prairie	0	0	10	20	1,182	0.85%	1.69%
Ravalli	10	16	359	924	42,088	0.85%	2.20%
Richland	0	3	24	127	11,482	0.21%	1.11%
Roosevelt	0	0	40	247	11,305	0.35%	2.18%
Rosebud	1	2	36	87	9,287	0.39%	0.94%
Sanders	10	9	143	247	11,534	1.24%	2.14%
Sheridan	1	0	22	49	3,648	0.60%	1.34%
Silver Bow	26	18	422	1,261	34,553	1.22%	3.65%
Stillwater	5	3	54	167	9,406	0.57%	1.78%
Sweet Grass	3	2	17	51	3,623	0.47%	1.41%
Teton	0	0	17	65	6,056	0.28%	1.07%
Toole	0	2	14	54	4,977	0.28%	1.08%
Treasure	0	0	3	6	692	0.43%	0.87%
Valley	1	1	44	96	7,539	0.58%	1.27%
Wheatland	0	1	12	28	2,117	0.57%	1.32%
Wibaux	0	0	2	8	1,093	0.18%	0.73%
Yellowstone	43	39	871	3,396	158,437	0.55%	2.14%
Undetermined	--	--	--	337			0.03%
Total	522	420	7,785	26,549	1,042,520	0.75%	2.55%