

Average medical cannabis patient costs

Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board
Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Methodology

Sales and price data

- Sales and price data are retrieved from the MJ Freeway inventory control system database.
- Sales represented in dollar values are order totals minus any discounts provided.
- Sales and price data use the average (mean) sales per patient who made purchases.
- Because of patients who spend disproportionately higher amounts annually, calculated averages will skew higher than typical spending of the median consumer.

Methodology, cont.

Renewal times

- Medical cannabis card renewal times are retrieved from the electronic verification system (EVS).
- Renewal times are only pulled for patients who have an active card at the time of the report.

Medical provider costs

- Medical cannabis provider visit costs are retrieved from reporting to the Utah Health Cost Compare website.
- Medical provider cost data is collected from qualified medical providers who report their costs via electronic survey.

Typical medical cannabis patient costs

Medical cannabis application fee

- Initial application
- Renewal application

Medical cannabis provider visit

- Initial visit
- Renewal visits

Medical cannabis purchases

- Products
- Devices
- Transaction fee

Medical cannabis card application fee

- Initial medical cannabis card application fee: \$15
 - Medical cannabis card renewal application fee: \$15
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Medical cannabis provider visit

Minimum, average, and maximum cost

Initial recommendation visit

- Statewide Minimum: \$10
- **Statewide Average: \$190**
- Statewide Maximum: \$500

Renewal recommendation visit

- Statewide Minimum: \$10
- **Statewide Average: \$129**
- Statewide Maximum: \$250

Medical cannabis provider visit, cont.

Patients may renew their card multiple times per year if their medical provider chooses a shorter expiration date than the default 1 year.

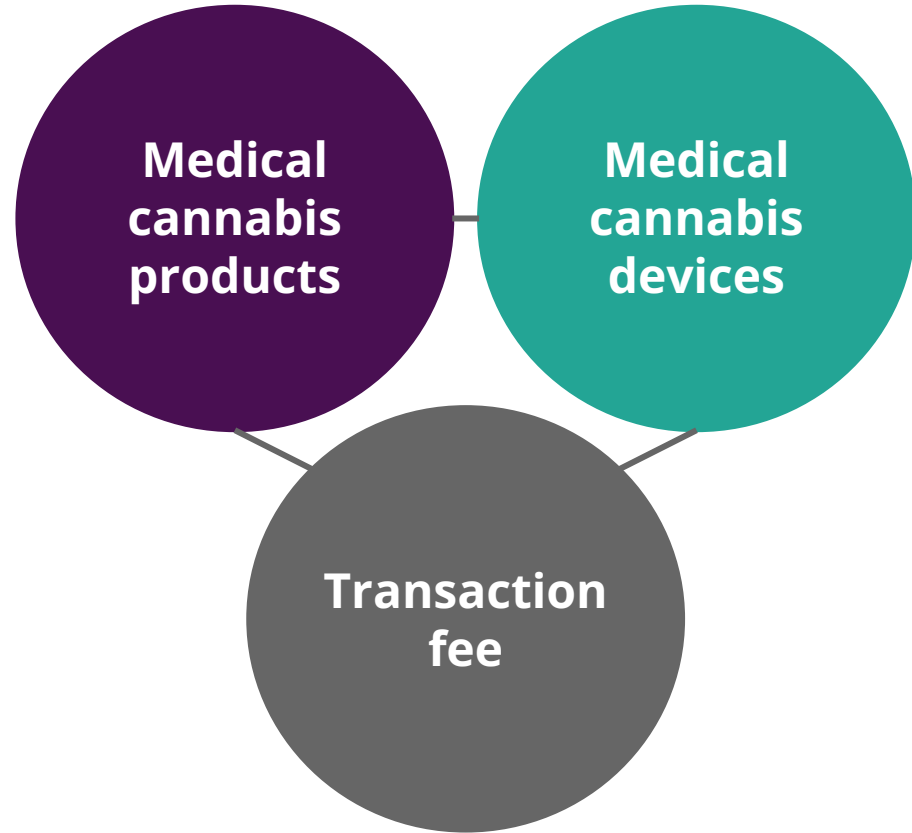
Medical cannabis card time periods*

Card issuance period	Number of patients
3 months	86
6 months	10,691
12 months	76,063
Other**	84

* Retrieved 5/14/24. Covers 5/13/23 to 5/13/24

** Less common time periods (10 months, 4 months, & less than 1 month)

Medical cannabis purchases



Medical cannabis products

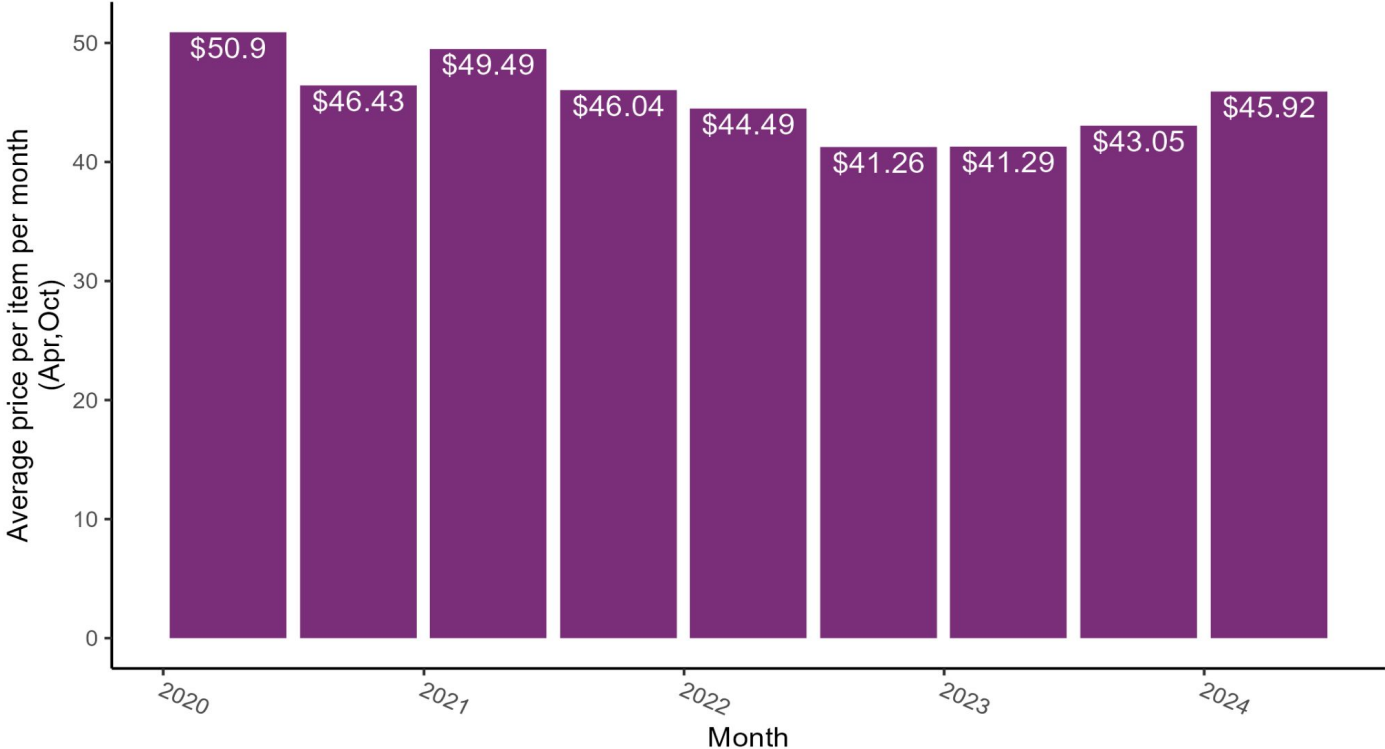
- Patients purchase medical cannabis products from licensed medical cannabis pharmacies.

Average money spent per patient per year on medical cannabis products

2020	\$707.92
2021	\$1,469.96
2022	\$1,653.49
2023	\$1,618.03

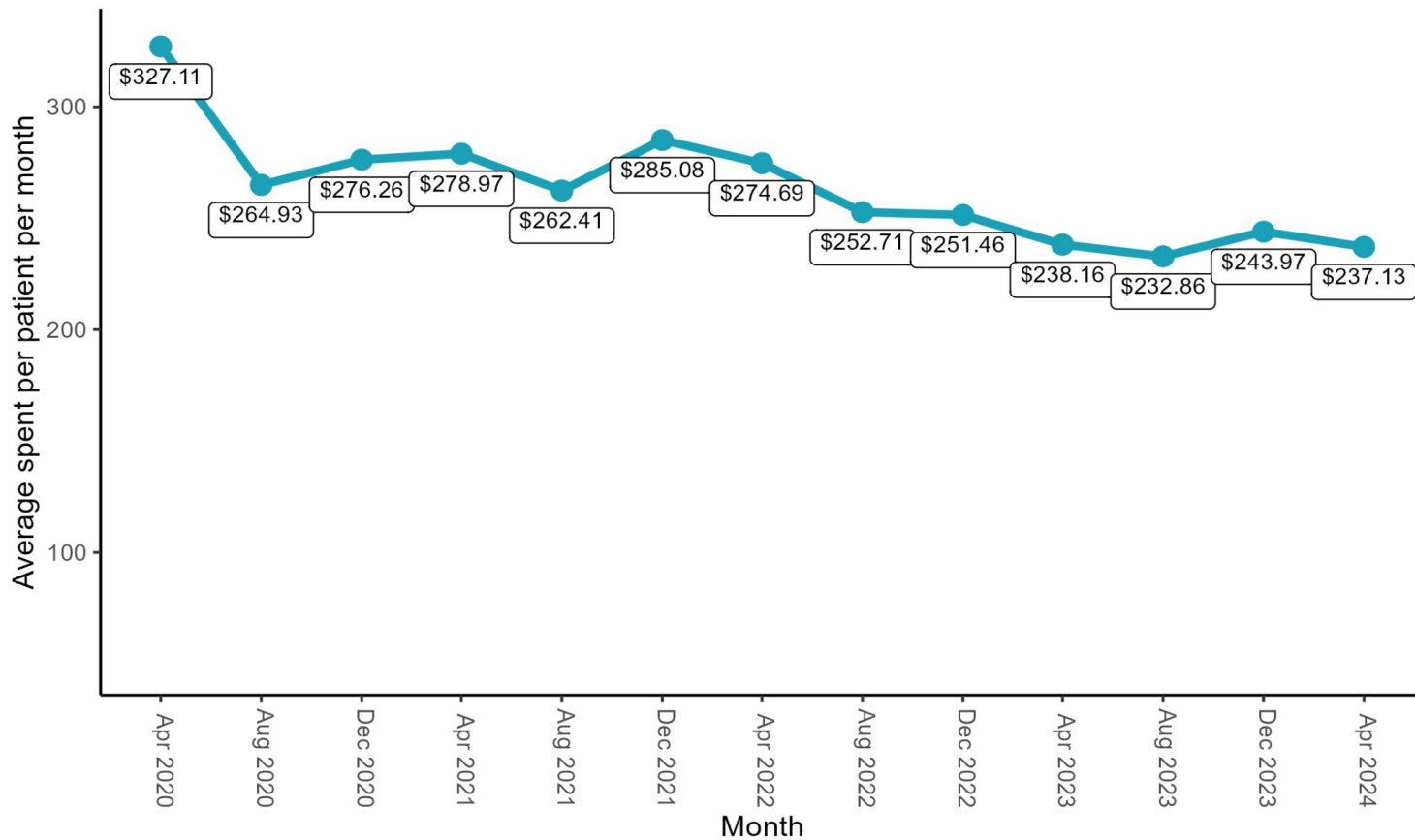
* Discounts included

Average monthly price per item, April 2020-April 2024



* Discounts included

Average monthly medical cannabis sales per patient, April 2020-April 2024



Medical cannabis devices

- Devices are used to consume some medical cannabis dosage forms.
- Ex: flower vaporizer, flower grinder, vapor cartridge battery, electric dab-rig.

Average money spent per patient per year on medical cannabis devices

2020	\$57.99
2021	\$51.22
2022	\$51.93
2023	\$43.39

* Discounts included

Transaction fee

- DHHS collects a \$3 transaction fee from every medical cannabis sale.

Average medical cannabis orders per patient (rounded)

2020	6
2021	12
2022	14
2023	15



Average transaction fees (rounded)

2020	\$18
2021	\$36
2022	\$42
2023	\$45

2023 average total cost for a medical cannabis patient

Medical cannabis
card application

\$15 (initial)
\$15 (renewal)



Initial recommendation
(1 year) and renewal

\$190 (initial)
\$129 (renewal)



Products

\$1,618.03



Devices

\$43.39



Transaction fee

\$45



Total annual cost

\$2,055.42

Questions?