



# June 2022 monthly update

## Program updates

### **Utah Department of Health and Department of Human Services merger**

- The Utah Department of Health is merging with the Utah Department of Human Services to become the Utah Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).
- This was prompted by the passing of H.B. 365 State Agency Realignment during the 2022 General Legislative Session.
- The official merge date is July 1, 2022.
  - All legal documents will reflect the change by this date.
  - Some logos and documents are already updated to reflect this change.
- Go [here](#) to learn more about the merging of these two departments.

### **Electronic Verification System (EVS) updates**

- Some exciting updates will be available in the EVS in the next couple of weeks. Changes will include:
  - Improvements to the patient certification and patient recommendation forms.
  - The addition of a new qualifying condition for patients experiencing acute pain.
  - Increased access to patient EVS data for pharmacy agents.
  - Improvements to the Limited Medical Provider recommendation process.
- More information and guidance will be provided regarding these updates in the near future.
- A specific launch date for these updates has not yet been determined.

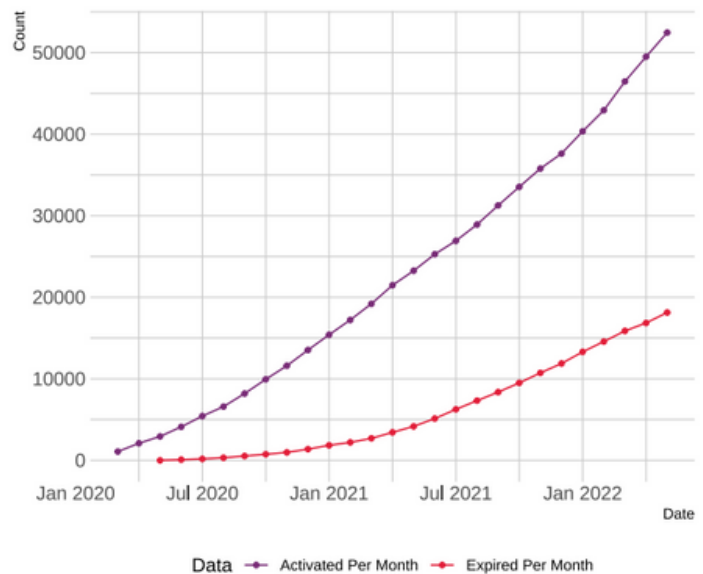
# Research and data

## Data reporting

You can review the full May 2022 data report [here](#).

### Current active and expired patients

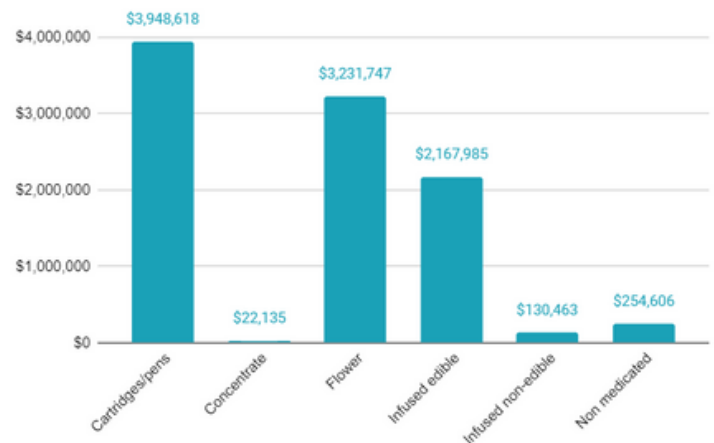
- There continues to be an consistent increase in the total number of patients with an active medical cannabis card.
- The gap between active and expired patients continues to grow.
- Consistent growth in the number of medical cannabis card holders is one of many indications that Utah residents are increasing their access to medical cannabis products that improve their quality of life.



### Products sold by type

In May 2022, the following products had the highest revenue:

- Cartridges/pens - vape cartridges, vape pens.
- Flowers - buds, finished flowers, pre-pack.
- Infused edibles - gummies, lozenges, oils, sprays, liquid suspensions, capsules, pills.



## Ongoing research

### DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis

- The DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis is beginning to research trends in the types of medical cannabis products purchased by patients from licensed medical cannabis pharmacies. This research will include a breakdown of products purchased by dosing type and cannabinoid profile.
- This data will help DHHS, the Cannabis Research Review Board (CRRB), policymakers, medical providers, the industry, and the public be better informed about the medical cannabis industry in Utah.
- This data will also be used to determine how to best provide education about cannabis use to healthcare providers and to the public.

## Acute pain and cannabis use

- The Cannabis Research Review Board discussed research about using cannabis to treat acute pain during its meeting on June 14, 2022. A recording of the most recent meeting is available [here](#).
- A guidance statement about using cannabis to treat acute pain will be reviewed and voted on during the July Cannabis Research Review Board meeting.

## Public notices

### Cannabis Research and Review Board meeting

- The Cannabis Research Review Board will meet on July 12, 2022 at 9 a.m. MT via online conference.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83222618793>  
Meeting ID: 832 2261 8793

Cannabis Research Review Board meetings and recordings are available [here](#).

### Utah Legislature Medical Cannabis Governance Working Group

- This group is comprised of lawmakers who are making recommendations about the possibility of merging medical cannabis oversight responsibility under one single agency.
- Meetings for the workgroup are public, and can be attended by the public either in-person or virtually.
- For more information about workgroup meetings and to receive notifications and handouts about this workgroup, go [here](#).

### FDA warns consumers about the accidental ingestion by children of food products containing THC

- The Food and Drug Administration just issued an [alert](#) about accidental ingestion of THC edible products by children, including one suspected death related to ingestion of a Delta-8 edible product.
- The images of the copycat candy look alike products in the FDA alert are images of packages that don't exist in the regulated medical market of Utah but they emphasize the need to address the Delta-8 problem at the federal level.
- The Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA) is continuing discussions with the FDA on behalf of CANNRA members like Utah to help them understand the urgency of the problem from the state perspective.

[Sign up](#) for future updates from the Center for Medical Cannabis