

# A RISING CONCERN

## PROTECTING KIDS FROM MARIJUANA POISONING

### INCREASED AVAILABILITY IN MISSOURI

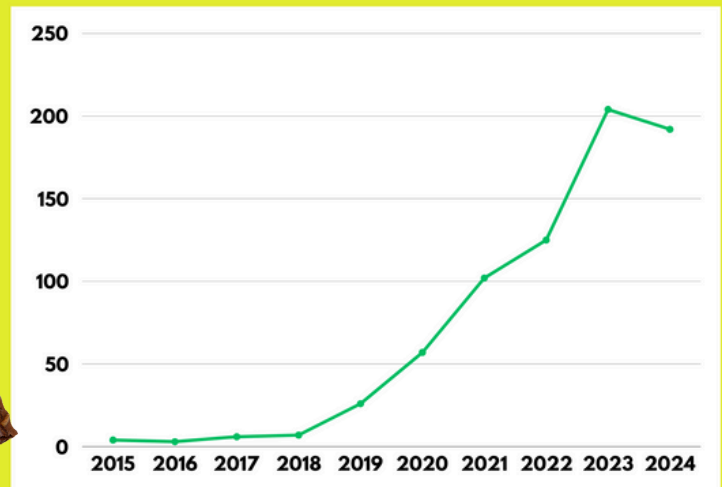
**Marijuana exposures in children are increasing.** In 2023, the Missouri Poison Center received more calls than ever before related to marijuana exposure in children 5 years and younger.

**Factors contributing to these exposure cases include:**

- Increased availability of high-THC marijuana products due to legalization,
- Enticing products that look similar to treats like candy and cookies, making it nearly impossible for children to tell the difference,
- Packaging includes multiple doses, increasing the likelihood that children will eat several powerful doses if they do get ahold of it.



### CALLS ABOUT MARIJUANA EXPOSURES IN CHILDREN 5 YEARS AND YOUNGER



Missouri Poison Center, 2024 | <https://missouripoisoncenter.org/what-to-do-if-my-child-consumes-cannabis>

### PREVENT A POISON EMERGENCY AT HOME

- **Save the Poison Help Line number in your phone, 1-800-222-1222, in case of emergency.**
- If you use, store marijuana products **up and out of sight** in child-proof containers or cabinets.
- Keep them in their **original packaging**, clearly labeled as marijuana.
- **Store separate** from food, candy, and medicines.
- Avoid using any marijuana products in front of children and **return the products to their out-of-reach location immediately after use.**

### SIGNS OF MARIJUANA POISONING

**Children are much more likely** than adults **to experience severe symptoms** if they mistakenly ingest marijuana products. Symptoms can take time (even hours) to appear and can last for several hours. These symptoms can include:

- Loss of balance
- Slurred speech
- Extreme tiredness or lethargy
- Paranoia or confusion
- A racing heart
- Difficulty breathing
- Seizure

**IF A CHILD IS EXPERIENCING THESE SYMPTOMS, GET HELP IMMEDIATELY.**

**PARENT UP** | Join us and help  
**PREVENT YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE**  
[ParentUpKC.com](https://ParentUpKC.com)



GET 24/7, FREE, AND CONFIDENTIAL  
**POISON HELP BY CALLING:**

 **1-800-222-1222**

 **CHAT [MISSOURIPOISONCENTER.ORG](https://MISSOURIPOISONCENTER.ORG)**