

# CANNABIS CONVERSATIONS

## DRIVING WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CANNABIS

Operating Under the Influence (OUI) laws are not just for alcohol. Driving under the influence of drugs, including cannabis (also known as, pot, weed, THC), is also dangerous and illegal. Driving is a complex task that requires your full attention to stay safe and alert.



People who drive under the influence of cannabis can experience dangerous effects: slower reactions, lane weaving, decreased coordination, and difficulty reacting to signals and sounds on the road.

### FAST FACTS



Cannabis, although illegal at the federal level, is legal to purchase and consume in Michigan since 2018.

More youth (16-20 years old) reported driving under the influence of cannabis (6.3%) than alcohol (2.6%) in from 2020-2021.

In 2017, about 1 in 8 high school drivers reported driving after using cannabis at least once during the past month.

# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT IMPAIRED DRIVING

If you intend to drive, the safest option is not to use any cannabis. Here are steps you can take to help prevent impaired driving if you plan to use, are using, or have used cannabis or any other substance:

- Choose not to drive and remind your friends and family to do the same.
- Assign a trusted designated driver who will not drink or use drugs when you are going out with a group of people you know.
- Plan on getting a ride home from someone who has not been using cannabis and/or other drugs.
- Use a rideshare service, such as calling an Uber.

## Did you know?

Passengers are not allowed to smoke in the passenger area of a vehicle upon a public way.



#### References:

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- cdc.gov/marijuana
- Salas-Wright, C. P., Hai, A. H., Vaughn, M. G., Hodges, J. C., & Goings, T. C. (2023). Driving under the influence of cannabis and alcohol: Evidence from a national sample of young drivers. Addictive Behaviors, 147, 107816