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COVID-19, Addiction and Recovery

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COVID-19 and Addiction

- Modified Recovery Community
- Increased Relapse Possibility
- Amplified Risks in Active Addiction
- Explosion of Substance Use
- Adaptation of Treatment

Barriers to Information

- Unprecedented Situation
- Research Scarcity
- Limited Resources

Specific
Concerns

RECOVERY
POPULATION

Psychological Concerns

- Emotional Distress
- Stressors
- Co-Occurring Disorders
- Suicide Risks

Social Concerns

- Interruption of Routine
- Disruption of Supports
- Isolation
- Decreased Interactions

Physical Concerns

- Smoking/Vaping
- Immunocompromised
- Respiratory Damage
- Co-Morbidity

Environmental Concerns

- Increased Poverty Rates
- Increased Unemployment/Underemployment
- Decreased Access to Care
- Housing Insecurity

Recovery Population Hot Points

- Increased Emotional Distress
- Social Isolation
- Co-Occurring Disorders
- Higher Infection Risks
- Financial Instability

Specific
Concerns

ACTIVE
ADDICTION

Increase in Use

- Increased Anxiety
- Prolonged Use
- Availability
- Supply

Medical Risks

- Compromised Immune Systems
- Not Adhering to Infection Protocols
- Less Likely to Seek Medical Care
- Unsupervised Detox

Social Determinants of Health

- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Limited Access to Treatment
- Incarceration

Overdose Risks

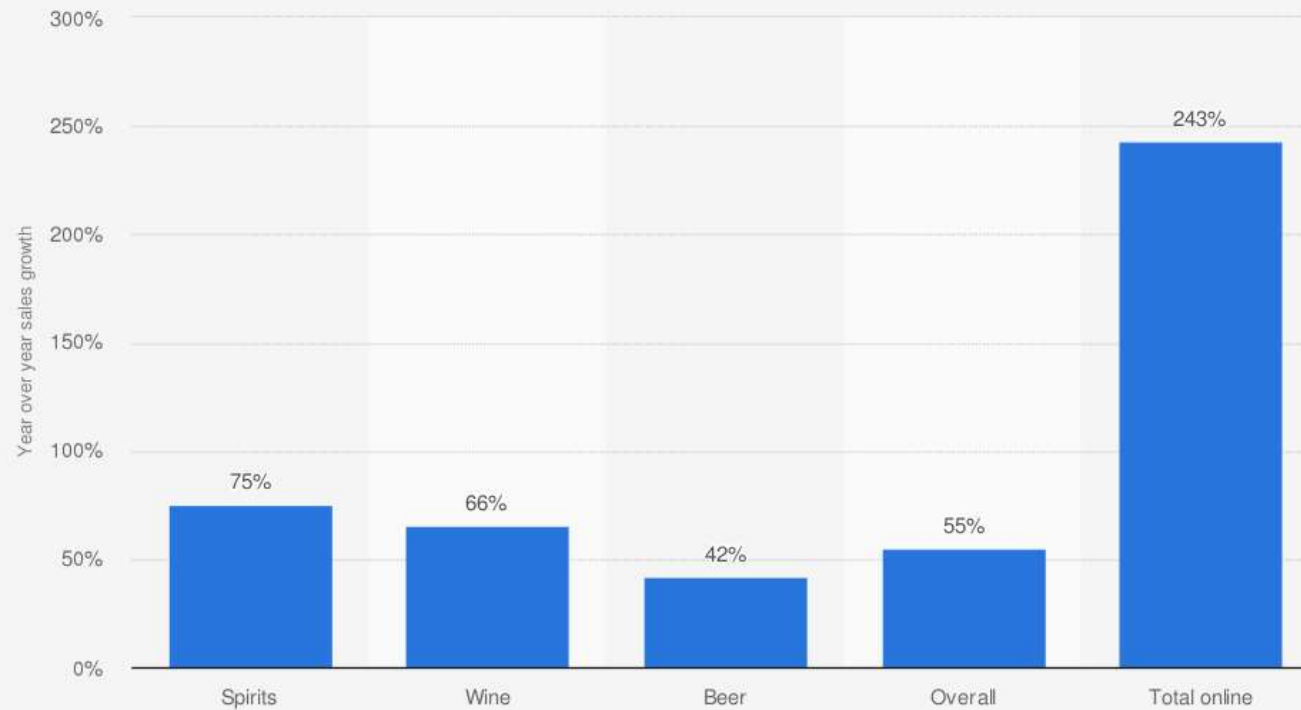
- Social Isolation
- Binge Purchase and Persistent Use
- Using Alone
- Overloaded Health Care System

Specific
Concerns

INCREASED
ABUSE

Alcohol

Sales growth of alcoholic beverages due to the coronavirus outbreak in the United States in March 2020, by type

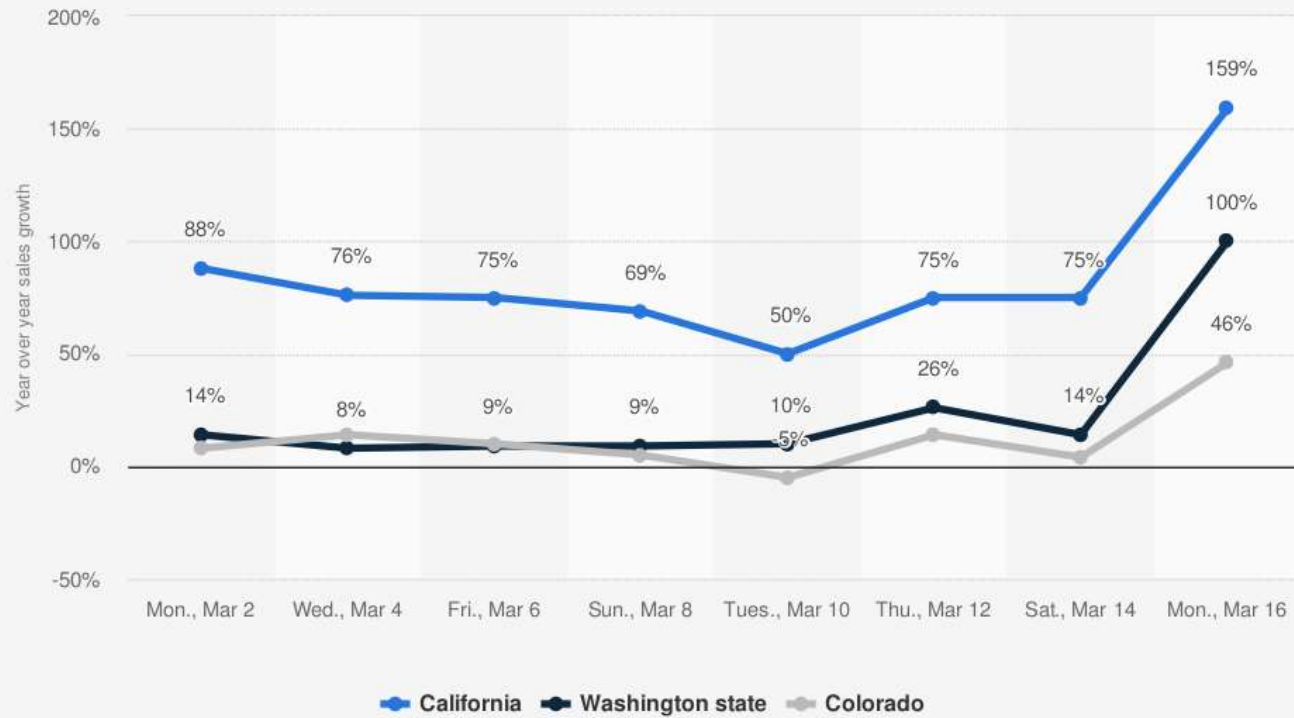


Sources
MarketWatch; Nielsen
© Statista 2020

Additional Information:
United States; Nielsen; Week ended March 21, 2020

Cannabis

Sales growth of recreational marijuana due to coronavirus pandemic in the United States in March 2020, by day



Sources
Marijuana Business Daily; Headset
© Statista 2020

Additional Information:
United States; Headset; March 2 to March 16, 2020

Increased Use Risks

- Impairs Immune System
- Detox Complications
- Increased Medical Needs
- Increase in Traumatic Events

Specific
Concerns

TREATMENT

Treatment Barriers

- Social Fissures Impede Treatment Ability
- Geographical Limitations
- Technological Obstacles
- Stigma and Discrimination
- Digital vs. Analog Interactions

“

Social distancing does
not mean social isolation”

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

Treatment Focus

- Physical Distance, NOT Emotional Distance
- Improved Social Interactions
- Accountability for Continued Treatment Regimens
- Use of Alternative Communications
- Increased Check Ins

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END OF PRESENTATION