OCS $\begin{aligned} & \text { ONTARIO } \\ & \text { CANNABIS } \\ & \text { STORE }\end{aligned}$


A QUARTERLY REVIEW

October 1 - December 31, 2021


## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION



The Ontario Cannabis Store (OCS) publishes A Quarterly Review (October 1 - December 31, 2021) as a resource for the entire legal Ontario cannabis industry. This document is intended to provide historical key facts and figures for the period between October 1 and December 31, 2021.

This publication marks the seventh data report by the OCS following A Quarterly Review (July 1 - September 30, 2021). This publication will evolve over time and feedback is welcome to help improve its value. Comments and feedback on this report can be submitted to inquiries@OCS.ca.

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# Executive Summary 

The data this quarter tells a story of the continued resilience of Ontario's legal cannabis marketplace, despite the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. While the Omicron variant threatened the latter half of the holiday shopping season, legal cannabis sales continued to rise modestly, and Ontario's adult cannabis consumers chose to purchase more tested, traceable cannabis products than ever before. A record 59 million grams of cannabis was sold this quarter across all product categories with sales reaching nearly $\$ 399 \mathrm{M}$, resulting in a slight $1 \%$ increase in sales compared to the second quarter of the fiscal year.

Consumers continued to choose regulated channels for more than half of all cannabis purchases, as Ontario's legal market share increased to $58.8 \%$, up from $54.2 \%$ the previous quarter. As in previous quarters, Ontario sold more legal cannabis than any other province or territory, with nearly $40.8 \%$ of all legal cannabis sales in Canada occurring through the province's licensed retailers and OCS.ca.

The number of authorized cannabis stores open for business in Ontario continued to grow, but slowed to $20 \%$ growth as compared to $34 \%$ growth in the previous quarter. Stores opened their doors in previously underserved areas across the province, with the number of communities served rising to 217 , up from 194 in the second quarter. Ontario's 1,333 authorized cannabis stores captured the vast majority of sales; shoppers chose brick-andmortar locations for $96 \%$ of their recreational cannabis purchases, with \$383M in sales and 57 million grams of cannabis sold in stores across the province.

OCS.ca sales as a percentage of total sales remained steady at 4\%. An educational campaign on the value of buying legal cannabis through authorized stores or OCS.ca brought many new visitors to the OCS.ca featured article, Higher Standards: Reasons to Buy Legal, as well as the store locator page. Two thirds of OCS.ca shoppers also reported visiting a retail store in the past three months, an increase of 3\% compared to Q2 2021.

A total of 350 new SKUs were added to the OCS product catalogue, further increasing the number of available SKUs for both wholesale and ecommerce customers. Licensed producers continued to drive innovation and respond to ever-changing consumer demand, and many new and unique holiday-inspired products were brought to market. Share for dried flower decreased $3 \%$ from the previous quarter to make up $49 \%$ of total sales, while pre-rolls, vapes, and concentrates all increased in share by $1 \%$ respectively.

The growth and progress made in Ontario's cannabis sector this quarter, despite ongoing challenges presented by the pandemic, are cause for celebration. Thanks to the resolve of the industry and dedication to continuous improvement, Ontario's adult consumers continue to choose tested, traceable, qualitycontrolled legal cannabis products.

## Table of Contents

## The Big Picture

Ontario recreational cannabis market share by source: illegal vs. legal
Total grams sold
Total sales in Ontario
Number of retail stores
Listed and new items
Ontario share of national recreational sales
Cumulative monthly retail cannabis sales across all provinces and territories

## Sales Data

Total sales by product category
Sales velocity for dried flower by THC \%
Sales for cannabis 2.0 categories
Sales proportion by quarter, size, and channel for dried flower
Sales proportion by quarter, type, and channel for vapes
Sales proportion by quarter, type, and channel for edibles and beverages
Sales proportion by quarter, type, and channel for concentrates
Sales proportion by price per gram for dried flower

Top five brands per category based on sales
Top ten SKUs by units sold in retail stores by region


Growing number of retail stores
Number of stores by region and municipality
Average distance of consumers to a retail store Grams and sales sold by region (West, North, GTA, Toronto, East)
Average sales and grams sold by stores
Top ten retailers by store count
New vs. returning OCS.ca visitors
Conversion rate on OCS.ca
Population served by express shipping

Consumer Insights
OCS.ca shoppers who visited an authorized retail store in past 3 months
Pre-purchase research
Product attribute importance ranking for shoppers who visit OCS.ca
Education content and articles most visited on OCS.ca

Supply Chain
Order-to-ship lead time for wholesale customers
Selling classes of product
Average SKU count per wholesale order
Unique SKUs ordered by month
Average basket size per wholesale order

Quality Assurance
Total recalls in Ontario vs. Canada
Recall trends
Regulatory reviews completed
Areas of improvement
Warehouse compliance
Complaints-per-million-units (CPMU)
Top complaint categories

Appendix

Ontario recreational cannabis market share by source: illegal vs. legal


Ontario's legal share of the recreational market has increased from 54.2\% share during Q2, 2021 to $58.8 \%$ in Q3, 2021. Note: The calculation of the Ontario legal market share has been calculated from prior quarterly updates from Statistics Canada. The time period of reporting has been adjusted to reflect OCS fiscal periods compared to the calendar year used by Statistics Canada.
Source: Statistics Canada; calculated by OCS *Revised data
"October 2021" accessed 21/12/2021; "November 2021" accessed 21/01/2022; "December 2021" accessed 18/02/2022

Total grams sold

## 59,400,000 g

Retail Stores 57,000,000 g
OCS.ca 2,400,000 g


## Total sales in Ontario



Note: All figures are unaudited and include both cannabis products and accessories. Sales exclude taxes (HST).

## Listed and new items



The number of unique items available for sale continues to grow as the market matures. Includes active SKUs that were instock and excludes accessories.

Ontario share of national recreational sales
October 1 - December 31, 2021


Ontario continues to lead sales among provinces and territories, with $40.8 \%$ national market share, an increase of nearly $2 \%$ compared to last quarter. Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador conveyed no change while other provinces market share declined.

[^0]Cumulative monthly retail cannabis sales across all provinces and territories


[^1]Source: Statistics Canada. Table 20-10-0008-01 Retail trade sales by province and territory ( $\times 1,000$ )
"October 2021" accessed 21/12/2021; "November 2021" accessed 21/01/2022; "December 2021" accessed 18/02/2022


In the third quarter of this fiscal year, 59,400,000 grams of legal cannabis were sold in Ontario, an increase in volume of 5.5\% compared to the previous quarter. Brick-and-mortar stores represented 96\% of sales with $57,000,000$ grams versus OCS online sales of $2,400,000$ grams. Although physical stores were required to reinstate capacity limits due to the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, overall sales continued to increase modestly.

Dried flower remained the leading product category, capturing 49\% of total sales, but lost momentum with a $3 \%$ drop in dollar share from last quarter. Pre-rolls, concentrates and vapes all grew in dollar share by $1 \%$ compared to last quarter, with $20 \%, 16 \%$ and $4 \%$ share of total sales respectively. Edibles experienced no change in dollar share, representing $5 \%$ of total sales. Sales for topicals, beverages and edibles increased more drastically in December than other categories, which may demonstrate trends in holiday shopping and gifting patterns.

The number of unique items available for sale on OCS.ca and in retail stores (excluding accessories) increased by 19\%. By the end of the third quarter, there were over 2,200 SKUs available, highlighting an increase in variety and innovation.


Total sales by product category

|  |  | Retail Stores | OCS.ca | \% of Sales | Changes to Q2, 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dried Flower | Milled Flower | \$19,853,000 | $\$ 534,000$ | 49\% | $\downarrow$ |
|  | Whole Flower | \$169,177,000 | \$6,364,000 |  |  |
| Pre-Rolled | Single Strain Packs |  | \$1,282,000 | 20\% | $\uparrow$ |
|  | Variety Packs | \$1,045,000 | \$26,000 |  |  |
| Vapes | 510 Thread Vape Cartridges | \$56,016,000 | \$2,330,000 | 16\% | $\uparrow$ |
|  | 510 Thread Vape Kits | \$903,000 | \$78,000 |  |  |
|  | Disposable Vape Pens | \$1,873,000 | \$206,000 |  |  |
|  | Proprietary Systems Vape Cartridges | \$1,831,000 | \$218,000 |  |  |
| Edibles | Baked Goods and Baking | \$763,000 | \$61,000 | 5\% | - |
|  | Chocolate | \$3,544,000 | \$295,000 |  |  |
|  | Hard Edibles | \$226,000 | \$40,000 |  |  |
|  | Soft Chews | \$15,166,000 | \$815,000 |  |  |
| Concentrates | Distillates | \$723,000 | \$32,000 | 4\% | $\uparrow$ |
|  | Hash | \$5,877,000 | \$251,000 |  |  |
|  | Kief and Sift | \$370,000 | \$33,000 |  |  |
|  | Resin and Rosin | \$5,115,000 | \$158,000 |  |  |
|  | Shatter | \$2,919,000 | \$77,000 |  |  |
|  | Wax | \$460,000 | \$23,000 |  |  |
|  | Isolates | \$26,000 | \$9,000 |  |  |
| Oils | Bottled Oils | \$6,797,000 | \$1,144,000 | 2\% | - |
|  | Oral Sprays | \$277,000 | \$81,000 |  |  |
|  | Topicals | - | - |  |  |
| Beverages | Cold Beverages | \$6,684,000 | \$269,000 | 2\% | - |
|  | Dealcoholized Drinks | \$373,000 | \$12,000 |  |  |
|  | Hot Beverages | \$314,000 | \$35,000 |  |  |
| Capsules | Softgels <br> Capsules and Tablets | $\$ 3,940,000$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 656,000 \\ & \$ 48,000 \end{aligned}$ | 1\% | - |
| Topicals | Bath <br> Lotions and Creams | $\begin{gathered} \$ 497,000 \\ \$ 1,926,000 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 39,000 \\ \$ 268,000 \end{gathered}$ | 1\% | - |
| Seeds | Seed Packs | \$116,000 | \$58,000 | <1\% | - |

Note: Average prices are weighted by sales and include taxes. Sub-category sales do not add to total sales due to rounding. For more details see appendix.

## Sales velocity for dried flower by THC \%

Sales velocity references units per day for OCS.ca and units sold per day per average store for retail.

Sales Data

Sales for cannabis 2.0 categories October 1 - December 31, 2021


Retail Stores $\qquad$ OCS.ca

Sales proportion by quarter, size and channel for dried flower
$\square 1 \mathrm{~g} \quad 3.5 / 5 \mathrm{~g} \square 7 / 10 \mathrm{~g} \square 14 / 15 \mathrm{~g} \square 21 / 28 / 30 \mathrm{~g}$



## Sales proportion by quarter, type and channel for vapes



Sales proportion by quarter, type, and channel for edibles and beverages


## Sales proportion by quarter, type and channel for concentrates



Sales proportion by price per gram for dried flower


Top five brands per category based on sales October 1 - December 31, 2021

|  |  |  |  | (O) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Beverages |  | Capsules |  | Beverages |  | Capsules |  |
| XMG | 19\% | Redecan | 52\% | Tweed | 20\% | Tweed | 35\% |
| Tweed | 10\% | Tweed | 12\% | Houseplant | 8\% | Redecan | 22\% |
| Collective Project | 8\% | Edison Jolts | 10\% | Ripple by TGOD | 7\% | Dosecann | 7\% |
| Quatreau | 6\% | Kin Slips | 5\% | Quatreau | 7\% | Daily Special | 5\% |
| Houseplant | 6\% | Dosecann | 4\% | Veryvell | 6\% | Emprise Canada | 5\% |
| Concentrates |  | Dried Flower |  | Concentrates |  | Dried Flower |  |
| Original Stash | 11\% | Pure Sunfarms | 10\% | Vortex | 14\% | Pure Sunfarms | 7\% |
| Vortex | 11\% | SHRED | 10\% | Original Stash | 7\% | Redecan | 5\% |
| RAD | 7\% | Spinach | 8\% | WAGNERS | 5\% | Good Supply | 5\% |
| Good Supply | 7\% | Redecan | 5\% | Shatterizer | 5\% | Spinach | 5\% |
| Kolab Project | 5\% | Edison Cannabis Co | 4\% | Good Supply | 4\% | Back Forty | 4\% |
| Edibles |  | Oils |  | Edibles |  | Oils |  |
| Wana | 25\% | Redecan | 46\% | Chowie Wowie | 11\% | Redecan | 27\% |
| Bhang | 11\% | MediPharm Labs | 9\% | SHRED'EMS | 11\% | Solei | 14\% |
| Spinach | 11\% | Solei | 7\% | Wana | 9\% | Five Founders | 9\% |
| SHRED'EMS | 8\% | Dosecann | 6\% | Bhang | 8\% | Tweed | 6\% |
| Chowie Wowie | 5\% | Pure Sunfarms | 5\% | Foray | 7\% | Dosecann | 5\% |
| Pre-Rols |  | Seeds |  | Pre-Rolls |  | Seeds |  |
| Good Supply | 13\% | 34 Street Seed Co. Humboldt Seed | 50\% | Redecan | 13\% | 34 Street Seed Co. | 26\% |
| Redecan | 11\% |  | 14\% | Original Stash | 5\% | CRG Pharma | 14\% |
| Pure Sunfarms | 6\% | Company |  | Good Supply | 5\% | Parkland Flower Inc. | 14\% |
| Hiway | 5\% | CRG Pharma | 9\% | Pure Sunfarms | 5\% | ABIDE | 12\% |
| RIFF | 3\% | Pure Sunfarms $\mathbf{7 \%}$ <br> Parkland Flower Inc. $5 \%$ |  | Divvy | 4\% | Autoflower | 9\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Breeder's Club |  |
| Topicals |  | Vapes |  | Topicals |  | Vapes |  |
| Eve \& Co. | 14\% |  |  | Proofly | 18\% |  |  |
| Proofly | 13\% | Back Forty | 17\% | Dosecann | 12\% | General Admission | 11\% |
| Tidal | 9\% | General Admission | 8\% | Tidal | 11\% | Good Supply | 8\% |
| Dosecann | 8\% | Good Supply | 7\% | WholeHemp | 6\% | Back Forty | 5\% |
| Wildflower | 8\% | Kolab Project Hexo | 5\% | Wildflower | 6\% | Pure Sunfarms | 4\% |
|  |  |  | 5\% |  |  | Hexo | 4\% |

[^2]
## Top ten SKUs by units sold in retail stores by region

Units sold are rounded to the nearest thousand.

| $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{~}} \\ & \stackrel{\circ}{\circ} \end{aligned}$ | SHRED | Tropic Thunder | 7 g | 204,000 | $\begin{gathered} \stackrel{5}{\omega} \\ \stackrel{3}{3} \end{gathered}$ | SHRED | Tropic Thunder | 7 g | 62,000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Good Supply | Jean Guy Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 201,000 |  | Good Supply | Jean Guy Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 50,000 |
|  | SHRED | Funk Master | 7 g | 167,000 |  | SHRED | Funk Master | 7 g | 48,000 |
|  | Pure Sunfarms | Pink Kush | 3.5 g | 164,000 |  | Good Supply | Grower's Choice Indica | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 46,000 |
|  | Redecan | Redees Cold Creek Kush Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 146,000 |  |  | Pre-Roll SOURZ by Spinach - |  |  |
|  | Wana | Pomegranate Blueberry Acai 5:1 Sour Soft Chews | $2 \times 4.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 143,000 |  | Spinach | Blue Raspberry Watermelon Indica | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 43,000 |
|  | Spinach | SOURZ by Spinach Blue Raspberry | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 133,000 |  | Redecan | Redees Cold Creek <br> Kush Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 43,000 |
|  |  | Watermelon Indica |  |  |  | Wana | Pomegranate Blueberry Acai 5:1 Sour Soft Chews | $2 \times 4.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 40,000 |
|  | Good Supply | Grower's Choice Indica Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 130,000 |  | SHRED | Anarberry | 7 g | 37,000 |
|  | SHRED | Gnarberry | 7 g | 117,000 |  | Good Supply | Grower's Choice Sativa | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 37,000 |
|  | Good Supply | Grower's Choice Sativa Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 115,000 |  | Back Forty 40s | Wedding Pie Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 37,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { O } \\ & \text { Z } \\ & \text { ơ } \\ & \stackrel{\text { O}}{2} \end{aligned}$ | Good Supply | Jean Guy Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 75,000 | $\underset{\underset{\sim}{4}}{\stackrel{5}{4}}$ | SHRED | Tropic Thunder | 7 g | 57,000 |
|  | Pure Sunfarms | Pink Kush | 3.5 g | 62,000 |  | SHRED | Funk Master | 7 g | 49,000 |
|  | SHRED | Tropic Thunder | 7 g | 42,000 |  | Good Supply | Jean Guy Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 39,000 |
|  | Redecan | Redees Cold Creek <br> Kush Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 38,000 |  | Wana | Pomegranate Blueberry Acai 5:1 Sour Soft Chews | $2 \times 4.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 39,000 |
|  | Good Supply | Grower's Choice Indica Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 36,000 |  | Spinach | SOURZ by Spinach Blue Raspberry Watermelon Indica | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 38,000 |
|  | Wana | Pomegranate Blueberry <br> Acai 5:1 Sour Soft Chews | $2 \times 4.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 35,000 |  | Pure Sunfarms | Pink Kush | 3.5 g | 33,000 |
|  | Good Supply | Grower's Choice Sativa | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 35,000 |  | SHRED | Gnarberry | 7 g | 32,000 |
|  | SHRED | Pre-Roll | 7 g | 35,000 |  | Redecan | Redees Cold Creek <br> Kush Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 31,000 |
|  | Wana | Mango Sour Soft Chews | $2 \times 4.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 29,000 |  | Back Forty 40s | Wedding Pie Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 30,000 |
|  | Redecan | Redees Wappa Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 26,000 |  | Spinach | SOURZ by Spinach - <br> Peach Orange 1:1 | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 29,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { I } \\ & \text { N } \\ & \text { O} \end{aligned}$ | SHRED | Tropic Thunder | 7 g | 17,000 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Redees Cold Creek |  |  | $\underset{6}{\leftarrow}$ | Good Supply | Jean Guy Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 29,000 |
|  | Redecan | Kush Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 15,000 |  | Pure Sunfarms | Pink Kush | 3.5 g | 26,000 |
|  | SHRED | Funk Master | 7 g | 15,000 |  | SHRED | Tropic Thunder | 7 g | 25,000 |
|  | Redecan | Wrapped and Redee | $10 \times 0.4 \mathrm{~g}$ | 11,000 |  | SHRED | Funk Master | 7 g | 20,000 |
|  | Wana | Pomegranate Blueberry Acai 5:1 Sour Soft Chews | $2 \times 4.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 11,000 |  | Redecan | Redees Cold Creek <br> Kush Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 19,000 |
|  | Redecan | Redees Wappa Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 11,000 |  | Wana | Pomegranate Blueberry | $2 \times 4.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 18,000 |
|  | Spinach | SOURZ by Spinach Blue Raspberry Watermelon Indica | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 10,000 |  | Spinach | Acai 5:1 Sour Soft Chews <br> SOURZ by Spinach - <br> Blue Raspberry | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~g}$ | 17,000 |
|  | SHRED | Gnarberry | 7 g | 9,000 |  |  | Watermelon Indica |  |  |
|  | Back Forty 40s | Wedding Pie Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 9,000 |  | Good Supply | Grower's Choice Indica Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 17,000 |
|  | Good Supply | Jean Guy Pre-Roll | $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~g}$ | 9,000 |  | Redecan | Redees Wappa Pre-Roll | $10 \times 0.35 \mathrm{~g}$ | 16,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Spinach | GMO Cookies | 3.5 g | 15,000 |

# Growing ACGESS POINTS 

A total of 1,333 authorized cannabis stores were open for business this quarter, providing adult customers with greater access to quality-controlled legal cannabis products. The average distance for consumers to travel to a retail store decreased by 0.4 km to 4.2 km , with authorized stores serving 217 communities across the province, an increase of 23 communities compared to last quarter.

Average sales and grams sold per store decreased slightly in Q3, which can likely be attributed to the emergence of the COVID-19 Omicron variant and capacity restrictions imposed at the height of the holiday shopping season. Western Ontario continued to lead the province with nearly $\$ 114 \mathrm{M}$ in sales and 430 stores. The East generated the second highest sales, with $\$ 101 \mathrm{M}$ in sales and 305 stores. Toronto represented $\$ 88 \mathrm{M}$ in sales, with 371 stores.

This quarter, new visitors to OCS.ca increased by $22 \%$ largely due to the launch of the Buy Legal ad campaign. This directed visitors to an educational landing page, highlighting the benefits of legal cannabis and the authorized retail network. As a result, conversion on the site dropped from over $9 \%$ to just under $8 \%$, which may be indicative of shoppers browsing OCS.ca for information only or using the store locator to find their nearest retailer without making a purchase online.

Growing number of retail stores


Number of stores by region and municipality


Note: See appendix for the full list of number of stores by municipality.


The average distance to a store decreased by 0.4 kilometres, with the number of stores increasing by $20 \%$ compared to last quarter.

Grams and sales sold by region


Average sales and grams sold by a store


[^3]
## Top ten retailers by store count

 As of December 31, 2021Tokyo Smoke ..... 54
Spiritleaf ..... 42 ..... 42
Sessions Cannabis ..... 39
ShinyBud Cannabis Co. ..... 39
Budget Bud ..... 4
MIHI
MIHI ..... 2
ShinyBud Cannabis Co. ..... 33
Fire \& Flower ..... 37
Fire \& Flower ..... 22
Friendly Stranger ..... 10
Happy Dayz ..... 4
Hotbox ..... 1
High Tide ..... 31
Canna Cabana ..... 26
Meta Cannabis ..... 5
True North Cannabis Co. ..... 30
One Plant ..... 23
Miss Jones ..... 21
Value Buds ..... 16As of December 31, 2021

New vs. returning OCS.ca visitors


Conversion rate on OCS.ca October 1 - December 31, 2021
Q3, 2021

7.97\%
9.2\% 10201

9.43\%

The OCS launched a marketing campaign in Q3 to highlight the value of purchasing cannabis through legal channels, driving many new visitors to the site as well as to its store locator. This resulted in a drop in conversion, likely due to these new visitors browsing the site for information only.

Population served by express shipping


As of December 31st, 2021, at least one express shipping option was available to approximately $86 \%$ of the adult population (over the age of 20), based on 2016 census data by Forward Sortation Area (FSA).

# consumir wsights 

Purchasing behaviour continued to evolve for cannabis shoppers in Ontario this quarter. While over two thirds of OCS.ca shoppers reported also having visited a brick-and-mortar retail store in the past three months, half of these shoppers purchased from both channels, with a growing proportion only making in-store purchases.

Even with the growing number of shoppers choosing the brick-and-mortar experience for purchases, consumers used a wide variety of sources for pre-purchase information before making their way into stores. A survey conducted by Emplifi on OCS.ca found that the top three sources of pre-purchase research included OCS.ca, cannabis review websites and family and friends. An increasing number of shoppers look to store websites, social media, blogs or online magazines for information before making their purchase.

Quality, potency, price and product descriptions continued to be the top attributes that customers looked for when making cannabis purchasing decisions this quarter. Newer visitors reported product descriptions and information as the second most important attribute, demonstrating that this information is key in helping new shoppers to make informed purchasing decisions.

OCS launched a campaign this quarter communicating the value of buying legal cannabis from OCS.ca or authorized retailers. As a result, many consumers visited the featured article, Higher Standards: Reasons to Buy Legal, on OCS.ca. This highlights interest by consumers in learning more about legal cannabis products in Ontario.


## OCS.ca shoppers who visited an authorized retail store in past 3 months



Of those who visited a retail store, they purchased:

Authorized store only 36\%
Online only 13\%
Both 49\%
Does not apply to me $2 \%$

Two thirds of shoppers also visited a retail store in the past three months; an increase of $3 \%$ compared to Q2 2021. Of those who also visited a store, half continue to purchase from both channels.

## Pre-purchase research

October 1 - December 31, 2021

| OCS.ca | $\mathbf{5 8 \%}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Cannabis review websites | $\mathbf{4 3 \%}$ |
| Family/friends | $\mathbf{3 8 \%}$ |
| Authorized retail store website | $\mathbf{3 8 \%}$ |
| Social media (e.g. Reddit) | $\mathbf{3 2 \%}$ |
| Budtender | $\mathbf{3 2 \%}$ |
| Cannabis blogs/online magazines | $\mathbf{2 3 \%}$ |
| Product info listed in store | $\mathbf{1 9 \%}$ |
| Medical professional | $\mathbf{1 0 \%}$ |
| General media | $\mathbf{9 \%}$ |
| Other online sources | $\mathbf{7 \%}$ |
| Unlicensed online store websites | $\mathbf{7 \%}$ |
| Health Canada | $\mathbf{7 \%}$ |
| Other | $\mathbf{5 \%}$ |

OCS.ca shoppers who have also visited retail stores continue to report using OCS.ca, Cannabis Review Sites and Friends and Family as their top sources for pre-purchase information.

Compared to the previous quarter, more OCS.ca visitors report looking at store websites, social media and cannabis blogs/online magazines for pre-purchase information.

Consumer Insights

Product attribute importance ranking for shoppers who visit OCS.ca October 1 - December 31, 2021
New Customers
Returning Customers
In Q3 2021, quality, potency, price and product descriptions continued to be the top attributes that shoppers looked for while purchasing cannabis.

Product descriptions and information continue to be an important factor in cannabis shopping, with more than eight in ten new visitors looking at this as very important in their shopping journey.

Source: OCS.ca survey by Emplifi


Education content and articles most visited on OCS.ca


Higher Standards: Reasons to Buy Legal


| 200,692 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 172,131 | 28,561 |

In Q3, OCS launched a digital campaign promoting reasons to buy legal. As a result, the most visited article this quarter was "Higher Standards: Reasons to Buy Legal," with over two hundred thousand views, bringing in a significant number of new visitors to the site.

[^4]

Ontario's legal cannabis marketplace continued to grow, and the OCS worked to sustain this demand. Order-toship lead time for wholesale orders decreased to 2.14 days this quarter, despite an additional 218 stores being added to the authorized retail store network.

While retailers purchased 6\% fewer SKUs per wholesale order compared to the previous quarter, the number of unique SKUs ordered per month increased $13 \%$, which may indicate that retailers are differentiating product offerings from store to store to better fulfill customer demand.

Order-to-ship lead time for wholesale customers


Note: Average from October 1 - December 31, 2021. Orders do not include Farmgate or Flow-Through orders.

Average SKU count per wholesale order

| O- | Q | O | 0 | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q3, | Q4, | Q1, | Q2, | Q3, |
| 2020 | 2020 | 2021 | 2021 | 2021 |

Selling classes of products October 1- December 31, 2021


During the third quarter of the year, $0.2 \%$ of SKUs were classified as fast selling products, representing 4.0\% of sales
Note: SKU classes are based on the unit rate of sale for a SKU per store per week. Sales include Wholesale and exclude accessories.

Unique SKUs ordered by month


Average wholesale basket size
Includes unique number of SKUs by category.



Ontario was once again less affected by Health Canada Public Recalls this quarter than the rest of the country, with only two out of five recalls affecting the OCS.

The OCS analyzes complaint rates through the number of complaints per million units sold when normalized to sales, also known as CPMU. While vapes continued to have the highest number of complaints this quarter, the CPMU for this category decreased significantly year-over-year, with 1880 CPMU in Q3 of 2021 compared to 3419 CPMU in Q3 of 2020. Despite this progress, the number of complaints received this quarter for vapes was higher than all other categories combined.

OCS shares all product-specific details of quality complaints directly with licensed producers.


## Total recalls in Ontario vs Canada <br> 

Despite a total of five country-wide recalls, only two affected Ontario this quarter.

## Regulatory reviews completed

During Q3, a total of 613 regulatory reviews were completed, with $75 \%$ submissions meeting OCS requirements within the first round of reviews.


A compliant cannabis label and packaging includes, but is not limited to:

- THC/CBD Content
- Child-Resistant Packaging
- Ingredients List
- Health Warning Message


## Areas of improvement



Note: Vendors are provided an opportunity to resubmit to ensure adherence to all relevant product regulations.

## Top complaint categories

This information is shared with licensed producers to ensure resolution can be provided to the direct consumer and improvement plans can be made as a response to consumer feedback.

| OCS Top Complaint Categories Q3 2021 |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Vapes | Clogged/No Vapour |
|  | Leaking |
|  | Damaged/Cracked |
| All Other Products | Packaging Integrity |
|  | Empty Containers |
|  | Incorrect Labelling |

## Recall trends

## Labeling and Packaging

Leading cause of recalls during this period

Extracts 50\% Topical 50\%
Largest class of cannabis recalls

## Warehouse compliance

During Q3, a total of 2,294 warehouse inspections were completed, with $96 \%$ of shipments meeting OCS requirements within the first delivery.


A compliant purchase order at the OCS includes, but is not limited to:

- Legible and correct barcodes
- Accurate case counts and
case dimensions
- Adherence to OCS packaging date standards


## Complaints-per-million-units (CPMU)

CPMU measure is used to gauge how a product is performing in the Ontario market. For every million units sold within each category, the CPMU represents the number of complaints received by OCS when normalized to sales for the respective product category.


APPENDIX


Total sales and grams sold by product categories

|  |  | Retail | Stores | OC |  | \% of Sales |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dried Flower |  | \$19,853,000 | 4,879,000 g | \$534,000 |  | 49\% |
|  | Whole Flower | \$169,177,000 | 27,190,000 g | \$6,364,000 | 1,222,000 g |  |
| Pre-Rolled | Single Strain Packs | \$75,256,000 | 9,449,000 g | \$1,282,000 |  | 20\% |
|  | Sample Packs | \$1,045,000 | $103,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$26,000 | $2,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
| Vapes | 510 Thread Vape Cartridges | \$56,016,000 | $4,559,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$2,330,000 | $212,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | 16\% |
|  | 510 Thread Vape Kits | \$903,000 | 47,000 g | \$78,000 | $5,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
|  | Disposable Vape Pens | \$1,873,000 | 89,000 g | \$206,000 | 9,000 g |  |
|  | Proprietary Systems Vape Cartridges | \$1,831,000 | $92,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$218,000 | 11,000 g |  |
| Edibles | Baked Goods and Baking | \$763,000 | 151,000 g | \$61,000 | 13,000 g | 5\% |
|  | Chocolate | \$3,544,000 | $618,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$295,000 | $60,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
|  | Hard Edibles | \$226,000 | 17,000 g | \$40,000 | $4,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
|  | Soft Chews | \$15,166,000 | 2,137,000 g | \$815,000 | $128,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
| Concentrates | Distillates | \$723,000 | $73,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$32,000 | $3,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | 4\% |
|  | Hash | \$5,877,000 | 1,429,000 g | \$251,000 | 59,000 g |  |
|  | Kief and Sift | \$370,000 | $84,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$33,000 | 10,000 g |  |
|  | Resin and Rosin | \$5,115,000 | 458,000 g | \$158,000 | 15,000 g |  |
|  | Shatter | \$2,919,000 | $310,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$77,000 | 9,000 g |  |
|  | Wax | \$460,000 | $36,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$23,000 | $2,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
|  | Isolates | \$26,000 | $3,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$9,000 | $1,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
| Oils | Bottled Oils | \$6,797,000 | $92,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$1,144,000 | 20,000 g | 2\% |
|  | Oral Sprays | \$277,000 | $3,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$81,000 | 1,000 g |  |
|  | Topicals | - | - | - | - |  |
| Beverages | Cold Beverages | \$6,684,000 | 4,061,000 g | \$269,000 | 201,000 g | 2\% |
|  | Dealcoholized Drinks | \$373,000 | $296,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$12,000 | $16,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
|  | Hot Beverages | \$314,000 | $23,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$35,000 | $2,000 \mathrm{~g}$ |  |
| Capsules | Softgels | \$3,940,000 | $201,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$656,000 | $59,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | 1\% |
|  | Capsules and Tablets | - | 18,000 g | \$48,000 | 2,000 g |  |
| Topicals | Bath | \$497,000 | $319,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | \$39,000 | $24,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | 1\% |
|  | Lotions and Creams | \$1,926,000 | 58,000 g | \$268,000 | 9,000 g |  |
| Seeds | Seed Packs | \$116,000 | 12,000 g | \$58,000 | $7,000 \mathrm{~g}$ | <1\% |

Appendix

## Number of stores by region and municipality



| Delhi | 1 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Dryden | 2 |
| Dundas | 3 |
| Dunnville | 1 |
| East York | 15 |
| Elliot Lake | 2 |
| Elmvale | 1 |
| Embrun | 2 |
| Espanola | 2 |
| Essex | 2 |
| Etobicoke | 28 |
| Fenelon Falls | 1 |
| Fonthill | 1 |
| Fort Erie | 4 |
| Fort Frances | 2 |
| Gananoque | 1 |
| Georgetown | 6 |
| Geraldton | 1 |
| Gloucester | 9 |
| Goderich | 3 |
| Grand Bend | 2 |
| Grand Valley | 1 |
| Gravenhurst | 4 |
| Guelph | 15 |
| Hagersville | 1 |
| Haliburton | 1 |
| Hamilton | 56 |
| Hanmer | 1 |
| Hannon | 1 |
| Hanover | 4 |
| Harrow | 1 |
| Havelock | 1 |
| Hawkesbury | 3 |
| Hearst | 1 |
| Hillsdale | 1 |
| Huntsville | 6 |
| Innisfil | 2 |
| Jacksons Point | 1 |
| Kanata | 10 |
| Kapuskasing | 2 |
| Kemptville | 4 |
| Kenora | 3 |
| Keswick | 1 |
| Kincardine | 2 |
| Kingston | 15 |
| Kingsville | 1 |
| Kirkland Lake | 2 |
| Kitchener | 20 |
| Komoka | 2 |
| Lakefield | 1 |
| Lakeshore | 1 |
| Lansdowne | 1 |
| Lasalle | 3 |
| Leamington | 2 |
| Lindsay | 3 |


| Listowel | 2 |
| :---: | :---: |
| London | 37 |
| Longbow Lake | 1 |
| Marathon | 1 |
| Markdale | 2 |
| Meaford | 1 |
| Merrickville | 1 |
| Midland | 4 |
| Milton | 9 |
| Minden | 2 |
| Morrisburg, South Dundas | 1 |
| Morriston | 1 |
| Mount Forest | 2 |
| Napanee | 1 |
| Nepean | 12 |
| New Hamburg | 1 |
| New Liskeard | 2 |
| Newcastle | 2 |
| Niagara Falls | 18 |
| North Bay | 9 |
| North York | 51 |
| Northbrook | 1 |
| Oldcastle | 1 |
| Orangeville | 6 |
| Orillia | 7 |
| Orleans | 11 |
| Oshawa | 21 |
| Ottawa | 51 |
| Owen Sound | 5 |
| Pakenham | 1 |
| Paris | 1 |
| Parry Sound | 3 |
| Pembroke | 4 |
| Penetanguishene | 3 |
| Perth | 2 |
| Petawawa | 2 |
| Peterborough | 12 |
| Petrolia | 2 |
| Pickering | 11 |
| Picton | 2 |
| Port Burwell | 1 |
| Port Colborne | 3 |
| Port Dover | 2 |
| Port Elgin | 1 |
| Port Hope | 4 |
| Port Perry | 2 |
| Port Sydney | 1 |
| Prescott | 1 |
| Rama | 1 |
| Red Lake | 1 |
| Renfrew | 3 |
| Richmond | 1 |
| Ridgetown | 1 |
| Rockland | 4 |
| Rockwood | 1 |


| Rosseau | 1 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rutherglen | 1 |
| Sarnia | 11 |
| Sauble Beach | 1 |
| Sault Ste. Marie | 7 |
| Scarborough | 48 |
| Schomberg | 1 |
| Scotland | 1 |
| Shelburne | 3 |
| Simcoe | 5 |
| Smiths Falls | 3 |
| Southampton | 1 |
| Springwater | 1 |
| St Catharines | 22 |
| St Thomas | 7 |
| Stirling | 1 |
| Stittsville | 2 |
| Stoney Creek | 9 |
| Stouffville | 5 |
| Stratford | 6 |
| Strathroy | 2 |
| Sturgeon Falls | 2 |
| Sudbury | 9 |
| Tecumseh | 2 |
| Temagami | 1 |
| Thamesford | 1 |
| Thornbury | 2 |
| Thornton | 1 |
| Thorold | 2 |
| Thunder Bay | 15 |
| Tilbury | 2 |
| Tillsonburg | 6 |
| Timmins | 5 |
| Toronto | 220 |
| Trenton | 4 |
| Turkey Point | 1 |
| Tweed | 2 |
| Uxbridge | 3 |
| Val Caron | 2 |
| Vanier | 2 |
| Walkerton | 1 |
| Wallaceburg | 2 |
| Warren | 1 |
| Wasaga Beach | 7 |
| Waterdown | 4 |
| Waterford | 1 |
| Waterloo | 14 |
| Watford | 1 |
| Welland | 8 |
| Whitchurch-Stouffville | 2 |
| Windsor | 35 |
| Woodstock | 5 |
| York | 12 |


ocs.ca



[^0]:    Source: Statistics Canada. Table 20-10-0008-01 Retail trade sales by province and territory ( $x$ 1,000)
    "October 2021" accessed 21/12/2021; "November 2021" accessed 21/01/2022; "December 2021" accessed 18/02/2022

[^1]:    Note: The time period of reporting used by Statistics Canada is based on a calendar year. Cumulative sales are rounded to the nearest thousand.

[^2]:    Note: Sales market share by category indicated is for the fiscal quarter and may differ from snapshots that were available to licensed producers through the OCS Data Program before the quarter fully closed.

[^3]:    Note: Sales figures include cannabis products and accessories. Taxes (HST) are excluded.

[^4]:    Note: exclusion of blogs related to shopping \& shipping updates and A Sneak Peek at What's Coming to OCS.ca

