Marijuana and Public Safety in Colorado

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National Landscape of Marijuana Laws

Medical & Recreational: 8 States & DC --- Medical only: 22 States --- CBD only: 16 States --- None: 4 States

Note: Not all states’ laws are currently in effect.
National Opinion on Legalizing Marijuana

Americans' Support for Legalizing Marijuana Continues to Rise

Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal, or not?

% Yes, legal

GALLUP

Changes to Colorado’s Legal Landscape

• “Gray” and black market grows increasingly problematic

• Law limiting grows on residential property (HB 17-1220)
  • 12 plants per residential property
  • 24 plants for a caregiver
  • Penalties range from drug petty offense (1\text{st} offense & >12 plants) up to DF3 (2\text{nd} or subsequent offense with >24 plants)

• Established $6 million fund to reimburse law enforcement and district attorneys for enforcement of marijuana laws (HB 17-1221)

• New edible product rules
  • Required marking to indicate THC
  • None shaped like candy, fruit, people, animals
Marijuana Arrest Rates

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Crime Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.
Marijuana Arrest Rates, by age group

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Crime Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.
Marijuana Arrest Rates, by race

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Crime Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.
Marijuana Arrest Rates, by gender

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Crime Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.
Marijuana Filings

Marijuana Filings in District and County Court

Source: Colorado State Judicial Branch.
Note: County court data does not include Denver County.
Marijuana Filings for Serious Drug Crime Types

Source: Colorado State Judicial Branch.
Note: County court data does not include Denver County.
Fatalities on Colorado Roadways

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cannabinoid Positive Drivers</th>
<th>Fatalities with Cannabinoid Positive Drivers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: A positive test for cannabinoids may be the result of active THC or one of its inactive metabolites and does not necessarily indicate impairment.

Source: Data provided by Colorado Department of Transportation, 6/27/2017.
Fatalities on Colorado Roadways, 2013-16

2013-16 Fatalities with Cannabinoid

- 153, 43% - Cannabinoid only
- 115, 32% - Alcohol and cannabinoid
- 64, 18% - Cannabinoid and other drugs
- 25, 7% - Alcohol, cannabinoid and other drugs

2016 DATA ARE PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Note: In the period from 2013-2016 there were 357 fatalities where the driver tested positive for a cannabinoid and 2,123 fatalities overall. A positive test for cannabinoids may be the result of active THC or one of its inactive metabolites and does not necessarily indicate impairment.

Source: Data provided by Colorado Department of Transportation, 9/22/2017.
Fatality rates on Colorado & US Roadways, 2013-16

2016 DATA ARE PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Note: A positive test for cannabinoids may be the result of active THC or one of its inactive metabolites and does not necessarily indicate impairment.

Source: Data provided by Colorado Department of Transportation, 9/22/2017; National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, 2016 Quick Facts; 2015 Quick Facts.
DUI Citations
Colorado State Patrol

Source: Colorado State Patrol.
School Suspension Rate


Note: The 2016-17 school year was the first complete year where marijuana was reported separately from other drugs.
School Expulsion Rate

Total and drug expulsion rate, per 100,000 students

Note: The 2016-17 school year was the first complete year where marijuana was reported separately from other drugs.
Law Enforcement Referrals in Public Schools, 2016-17

Note: The 2016-17 school year was the first complete year where marijuana was reported separately from other drugs.
School Discipline for Marijuana 2016-17

3,147 suspensions for marijuana
- 348 marijuana suspensions per 100,000 pupils
- 4% of total suspensions
- 76% of drug suspensions

211 expulsions for marijuana
- 23 marijuana expulsions per 100,000 pupils
- 22% of total expulsions
- 68% of drug expulsions

851 law enforcement (LE) referrals for marijuana
- 94 marijuana LE referrals per 100,000 pupils
- 24% of total LE referrals
- 79% of drug LE referrals

Note: The 2016-17 school year was the first with schools reporting marijuana separately from other drugs for the entire year.
Source: Colorado Department of Education
Contact Information

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