

# Marijuana's Impact on Colorado Lessons Learned for Virginia

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# A Brief History of Marijuana



- A20 medical marijuana passes in CO: 2000 - asserts "debilitating medical condition", "affirmative defense or exemption", caregivers, plant count, age restriction of 21 Caregiver Model & Medical Dispensaries 2009-10 A64 (recreational MJ) passes in CO 2012 Cole Memo – DOJ 2013 Commercialization of marijuana begins in CO 2014 **HB 1445 passes in the Commonwealth** 2015

# Homegrows & Caregivers

UNREGULATED models are homegrows and caregivers.

"medical marijuana is the black hole that lets in recreational marijuana"

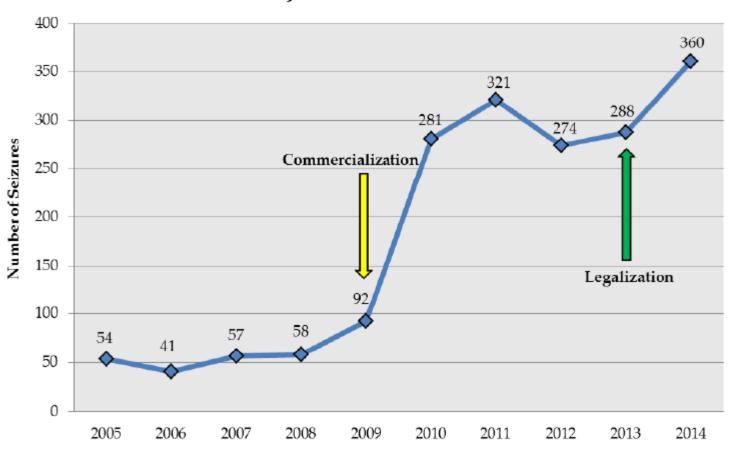
~CO Attorney General

"Solving the caregiver problem for medical marijuana is an issue...Suddenly they need a warehouse to divide care without a license... Embrace a licensing process immediately."

~Marijuana Industry Group

## Diversion

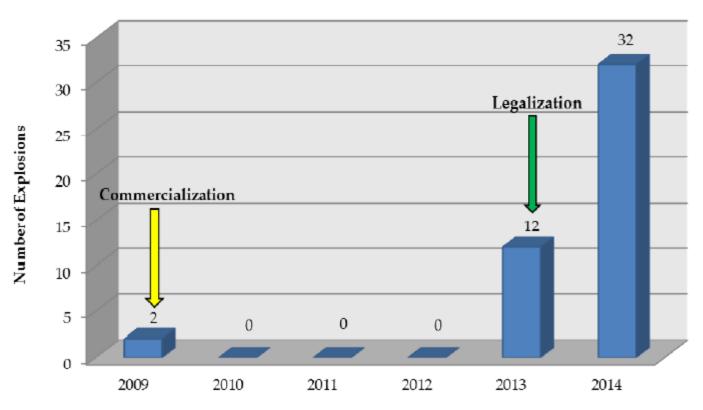
#### Colorado Marijuana Interdiction Seizures



SOURCE: El Paso Intelligence Center, National Seizure System, as of March 20, 2015

## Butane Hash Oil & Extractions

#### **THC Extraction Lab Explosions**



SOURCE: Rocky Mountain HIDTA, Investigative Support Center

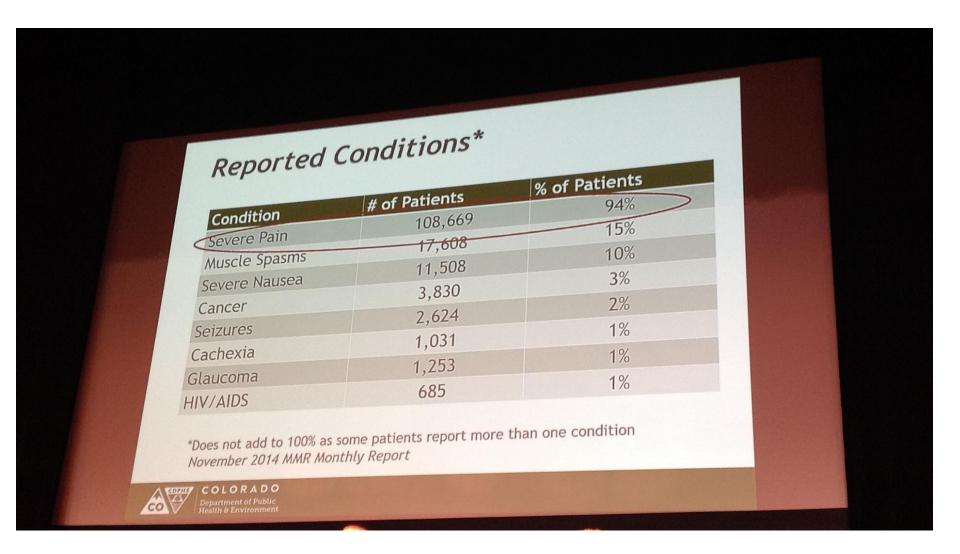
# "Medicinal" Marijuana







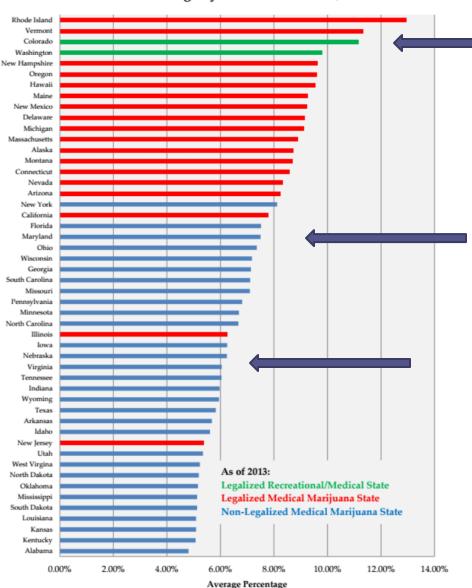
# Who are the marijuana card holders?



## Mary's Medicines Marijuana Transdermal Patch



#### Past Month Usage by 12 to 17-Year-Olds, 2013



Top: Colorado

Middle: Maryland (2015, medical marijuana)

Bottom: Virginia

Youth Usage Across the United States

# **Protecting Minors**

ADVERTISING.

Ex: No, if more than 30% of readership or viewership is under 21.

**LABELING** 

**PACKAGING** 

UNDERAGE COMPLIANCE CHECKS

When perception of harm decreases, youth usage historically increases.



## Licenses

#### Licensed Marijuana Businesses as of January 2015 Medical Marijuana:1

- 505 medical marijuana centers ("dispensaries")
- 748 marijuana cultivation facilities
- 163 infused products (edibles) businesses

#### Recreational Marijuana:1

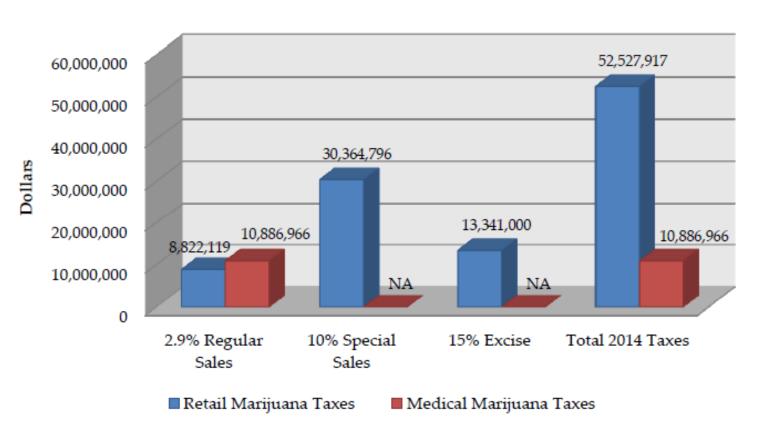
- 322 marijuana retail stores
- 397 marijuana cultivation facilities
- 98 infused product (edibles) businesses

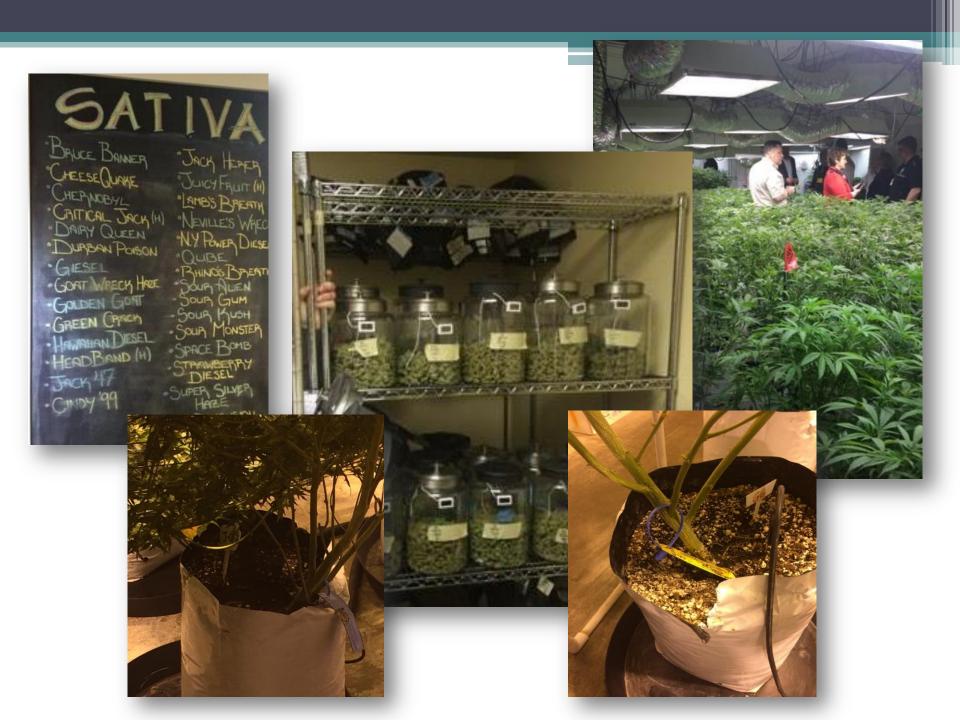
# Business Comparisons as of January 2015 Colorado:

- 405 Starbucks coffee shops
- 227 McDonalds restaurants

# **Economic Impact**

#### Total Revenue from Marijuana Taxes, Calendar Year 2014





# Production







# Dispensaries





Green Dragon Tincture \$20/bottle
Dixie Dew Drop Tincture \$20/bottle

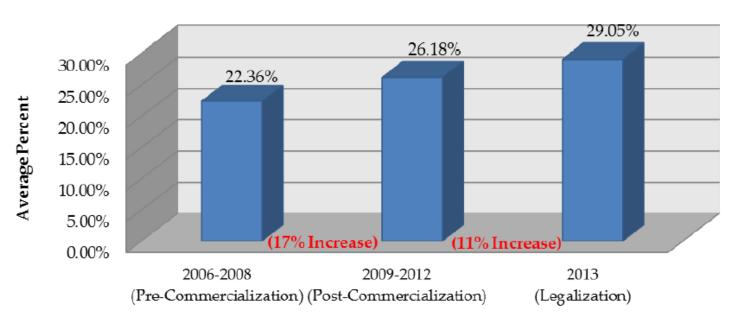
CannaPunch 100mg \$25

Mota Energy 80mg \$22 Dixie Elixir 5mg \$7 Dixie Elixir 40mg \$12 Dixie Elixir 75mg \$16



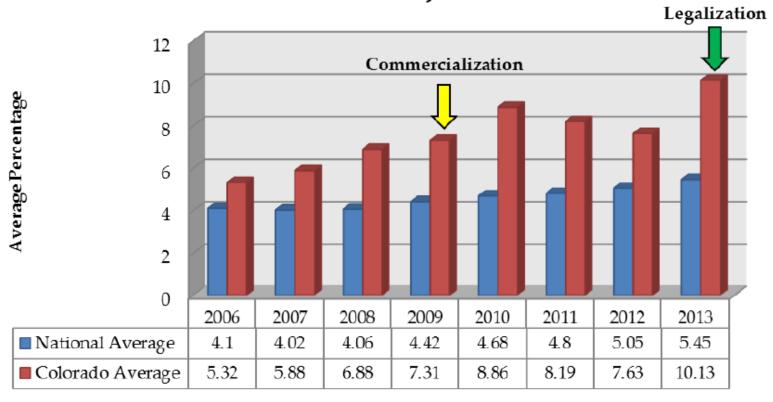


### Average Past Month Use of Marijuana College Age (18 to 25 Years-Old)



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2006-2013

# Adult (Age 26+) Past Month Marijuana Use



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2006-2013

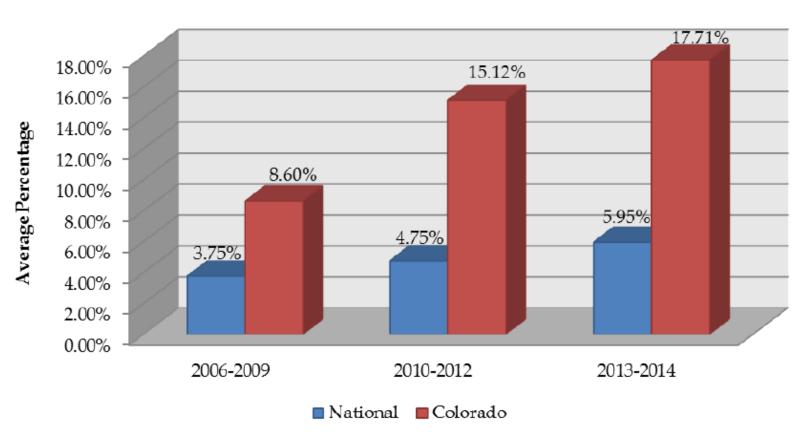
## **Edibles**

#### Makes up 50% of the market on the recreational side!

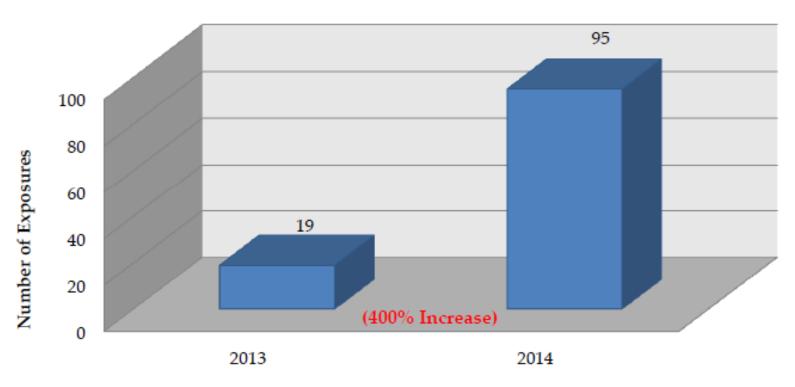
Ron Kammerzell, Deputy Senior Director of Enforcement, Dept. of Revenue, CO

"I think we really didn't understand who the demographic would be on the retail side. We had expectations that recreation sales would diminish medical... We didn't expect grey markets would grow from medical marijuana. It is easy to loosen restrictions over time, but it is much more difficult to tighten up over time. Start strict. Start with tracking and regulation plans and strict definitions."

### Average Percent of Marjuana Exposures Ages 0 to 5

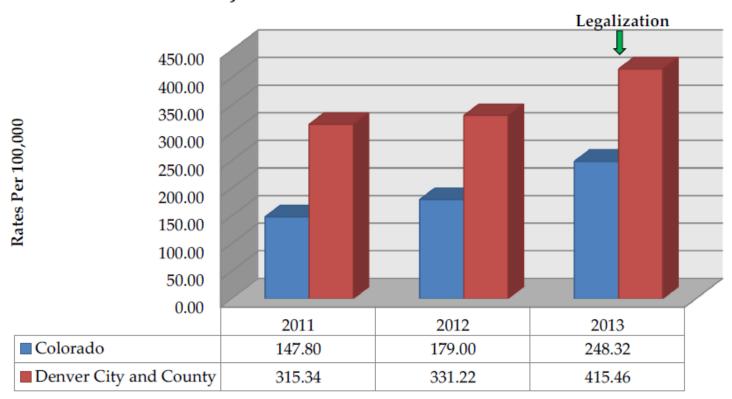


#### Number of THC Infused Edible Exposures



SOURCE: Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center

### Emergency Department Rates Per 100,000 Marijuana-Related, 2011-2013



## Start low. Go slow.





#### Start with One Serving

Start with a low-dose or single serving product until you know how edibles will affect you.



#### Wait

Edibles can take up to 2 hours or longer to take effect.



#### Don't Mix

Edibles should not be mixed with alcohol or controlled substances.



#### Out of Reach

Keep away from children, pets or ANYONE under 21, and store in original packaging.



cannabisalliance.org

## An Introduction To Edibles Tolerance

Everyone's metabolism is different and therefore has a different reaction to cannabis edibles. It is important that you understand your edible tolerance to have a safe and enjoyable experience.



1-5mg

#### **New Consumer**

If you have never experimented with edibles, you should start here. It is important to make sure your body can digest cannabis comfortably.



#### Occasional Consumer

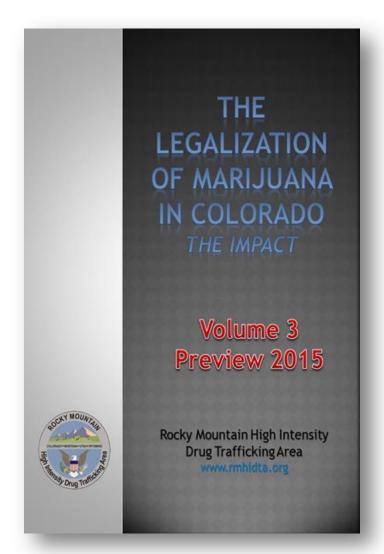
This is considered a single serving. Eating more than 10mg is not recommended.



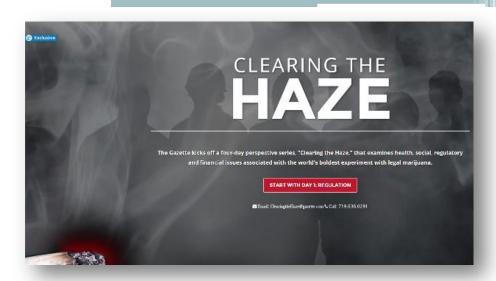
#### Frequent Consumer

Reserved only for those with a high edible tolerance or medical needs.

The information contained in this brochure is not and should not be considered legal or medical advice. Please refer to and comply with all warnings contained on your products packaging. Seek health care if adverse effects or accidental ingestion occurs or call the poison control hotine 1-800-222-1222.



http://www.rmhidta.org/default.aspx/MenuItemID/6 87/MenuGroup/RMHIDTAHome.htm



www.gazette.com/clearingthehaze



What Will
Legal
Marijuana
Cost
Employers?

http://www.nationalfamilies.org/reports/What Will Legal Marijuana Cost Employers--Complete.pdf

# **Impacts**

Dept. of Transportation

Municipal Law

> Medical Professionals

Dept. of Health & Education



Marijuana Enforcement Division

Higher Education

Parks & Wildlife

Cannabis Industry

Fire

# Closing Comments from the CO Attorney General ~ Recommendations for Virginia

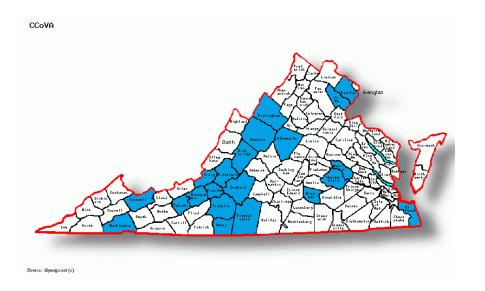
- 1) Utilize the FDA process to validate all medical treatments
- 2) Avoid homegrows and caregiver model
- 3) Collect & manage baseline and impact data
- 4) Plan regulation and tracking mechanisms: patient registry with law enforcement access
- 5) Create clear state *and* local governance
- 6) Establish case law– minimize conflicts between code changes, new laws, and federal regulations

WAIT AND WATCH Colorado and Washington.



Central VA Marijuana Prevention Taskforce Northern VA Taskforce

Western/SW VA Taskforce Virginia Beach



Blue indicate CCoVA Members