

## SUPPLEMENT to:

“The Legalization of Marijuana  
in Colorado: *The Impact*,  
Volume 4, September 2016”



March 2017

This brief report is a supplement to the 170 page publication, *The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: The Impact, Volume 4*, released in September 2016. Rocky Mountain HIDTA has prepared this supplement because of the volume of inquiries for specific data.

Rocky Mountain HIDTA reports and publications can be found at [www.rmhidta.org](http://www.rmhidta.org) and by clicking on "Reports."

When reviewing this report, NOTE THAT:

- The information and data comes from governmental sources.
- Multi-year comparisons are generally better indicators of trends. One-year fluctuations do not necessarily reflect a trend.
- Percentage comparisons may be rounded to the nearest whole number.
- Percentage changes added to graphs were calculated and added by Rocky Mountain HIDTA.
- Using terms such as "marijuana-related" or "tested positive for marijuana" does not necessarily mean that marijuana was the cause of the incident.
- This report only contains partial information and does not include treatment, crime, revenue, legislation, employment, school resource officers' survey, driving under the influence of drugs, among other categories. Further data is contained in the September 2016, Volume 4 report in its entirety. Volume 5 is anticipated to be compiled and released in September 2017.

# *Impaired Driving and Fatalities*

---

## Definitions by Rocky Mountain HIDTA

---

**Driving Under the Influence of Drugs (DUID):** DUID could include alcohol in combination with drugs. This is an important measurement since the driver's ability to operate a vehicle was sufficiently impaired that it brought his or her driving to the attention of law enforcement. Not only the erratic driving but the subsequent evidence that the subject was under the influence of marijuana helps confirm the causation factor.

**Marijuana-Related:** Also called "marijuana mentions," is any time marijuana shows up in the toxicology report. It could be marijuana only or marijuana with other drugs and/or alcohol.

**Marijuana Only:** When toxicology results show marijuana and no other drugs or alcohol.

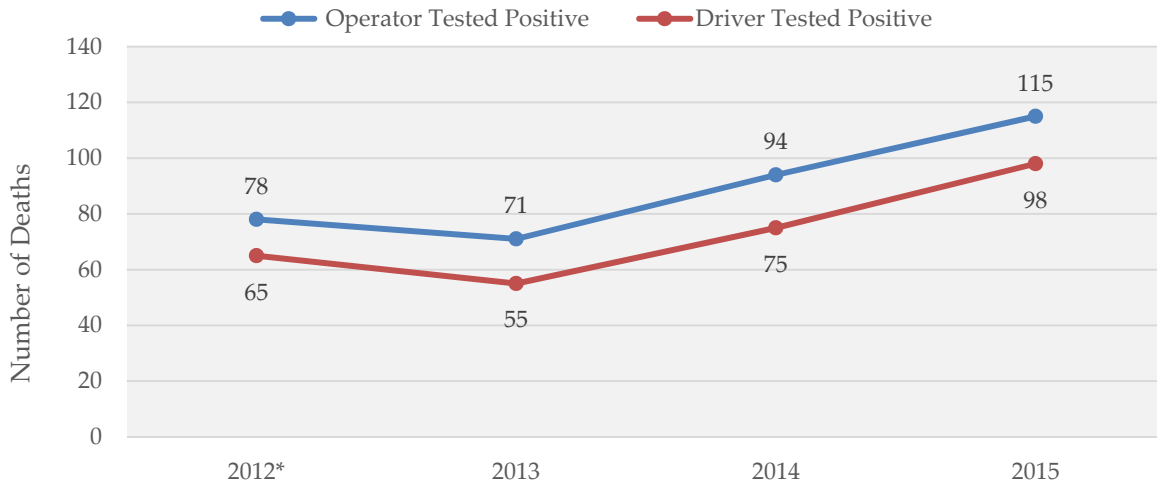
**Fatalities:** Any death resulting from a traffic crash involving a motor vehicle.

**Operators:** Anyone in control of their own movements such as a driver, pedestrian or bicyclist.

### **NOTE:**

- **THE DATA FOR 2012 THROUGH 2015 WAS OBTAINED FROM THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CDOT). CDOT AND RMHIDTA CONTACTED CORONER OFFICES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH FATALITIES TO OBTAIN TOXICOLOGY REPORTS. THIS REPRESENTS 100 PERCENT REPORTING. PRIOR YEAR(S) MAY HAVE HAD LESS THAN 100 PERCENT REPORTING TO THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE FATALITY ANALYSIS REPORTING SYSTEM (FARS). ANALYSIS OF DATA WAS CONDUCTED BY ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIDTA.**

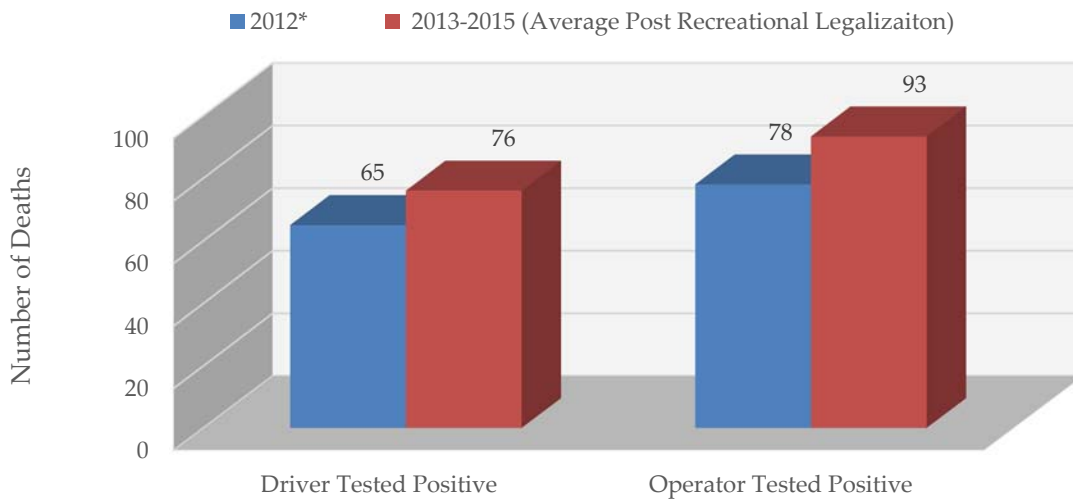
### Colorado Traffic Deaths, where an Operator or Driver Tested Positive for Marijuana



\*2012 is the first year with complete fatality data

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Transportation

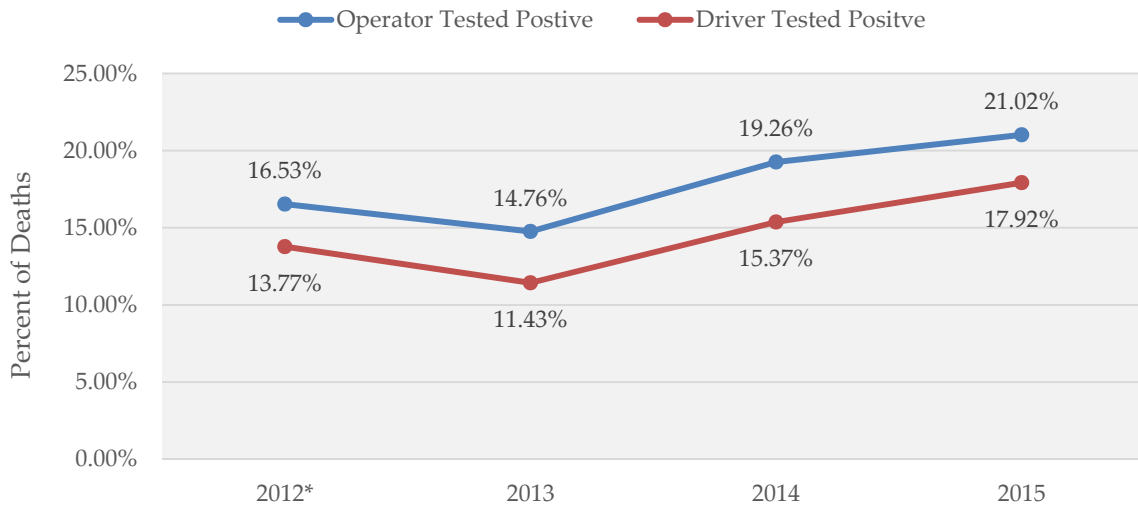
### Colorado Traffic Deaths, where an Operator or Driver Tested Positive for Marijuana



\*2012 is the first year with complete fatality data

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Transportation

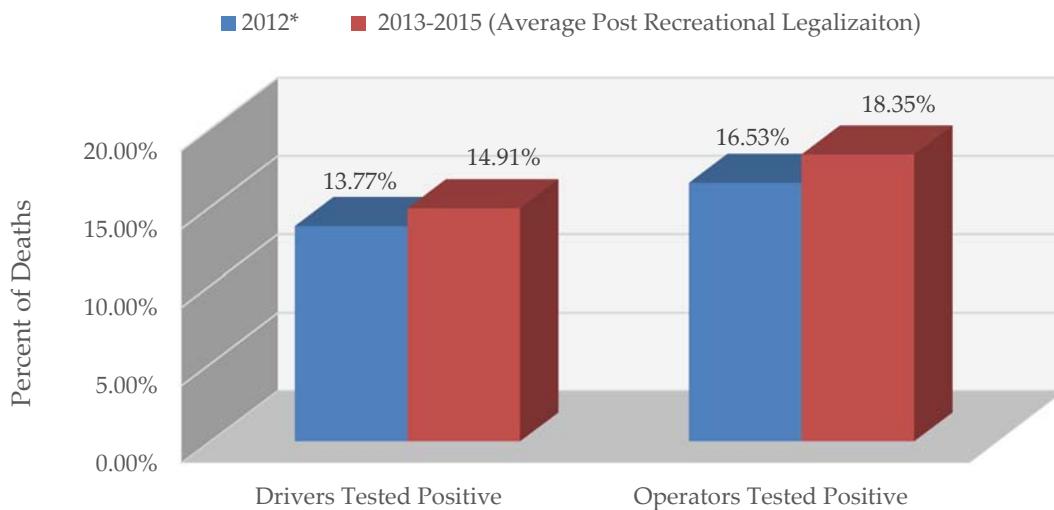
## Percent of All Traffic Deaths, when an Operator or Driver Tested Positive for Marijuana



\*2012 is the first year with complete fatality data

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Transportation

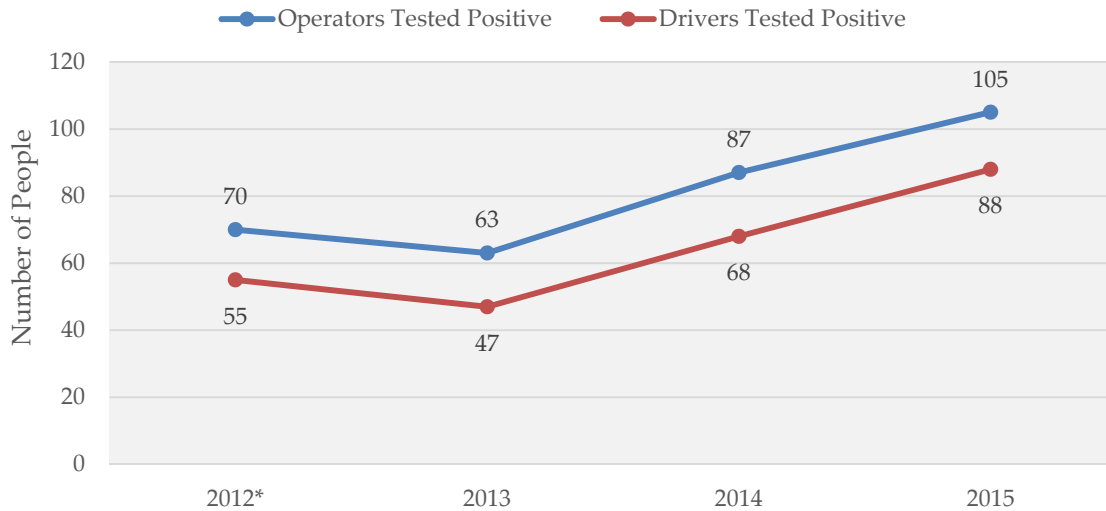
## Percent of All Traffic Deaths, when an Operator or Driver Tested Positive for Marijuana



\*2012 is the first year with complete fatality data

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Transportation

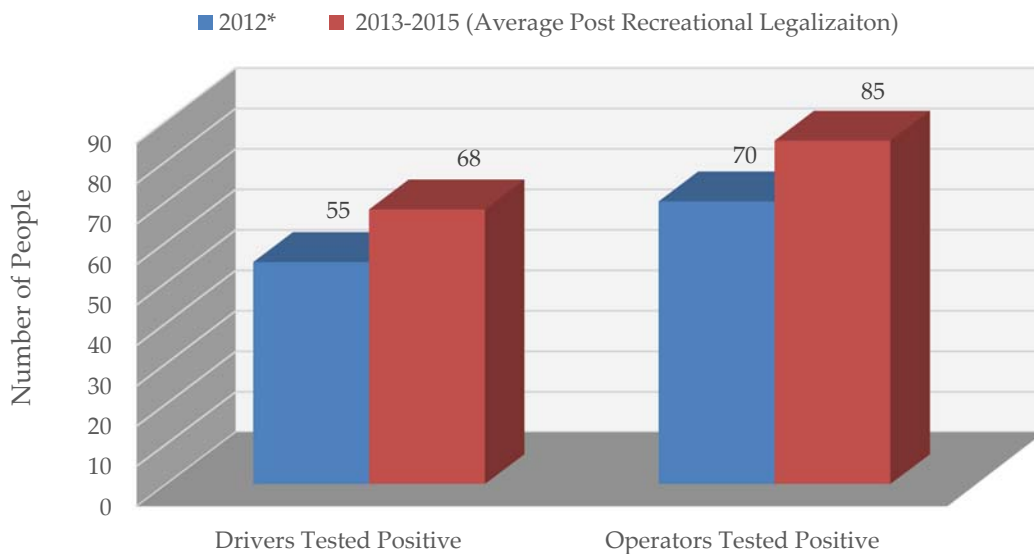
## Individuals who Tested Positive for Marijuana, Involved in Fatal Crashes



\*2012 is the first year with complete fatality data

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Transportation

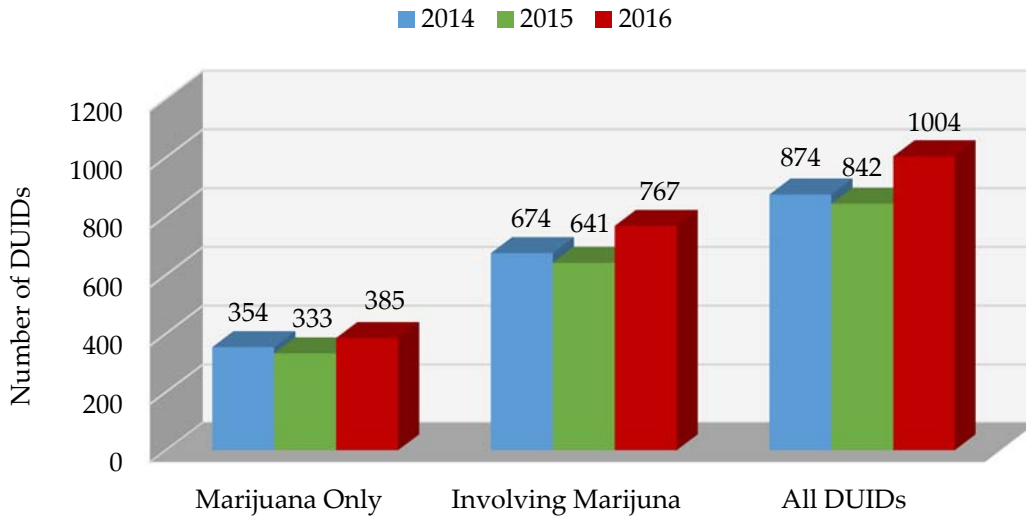
## Individuals who Tested Positive for Marijuana, Involved in a Fatal Crash



\*2012 is the first year with complete fatality data

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Transportation

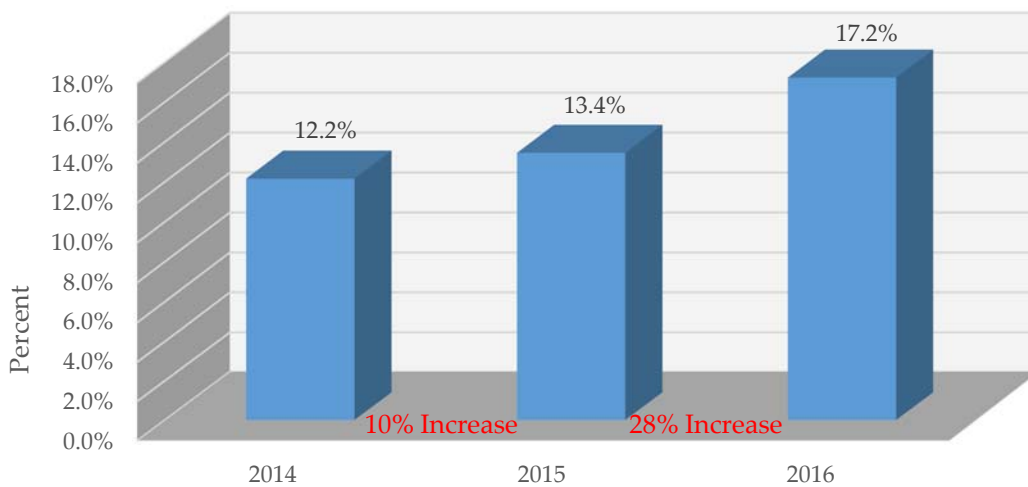
## Colorado State Patrol Number of DUIDs\*



\*Driving Under the Influence of Drugs

SOURCE: Colorado State Patrol

## Marijuana as a Percent of All DUI/DUIDs\*



\*Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol/ Driving Under the Influence of Drugs

SOURCE: Colorado State Patrol

# Youth Marijuana Use

## Data for Youth Use

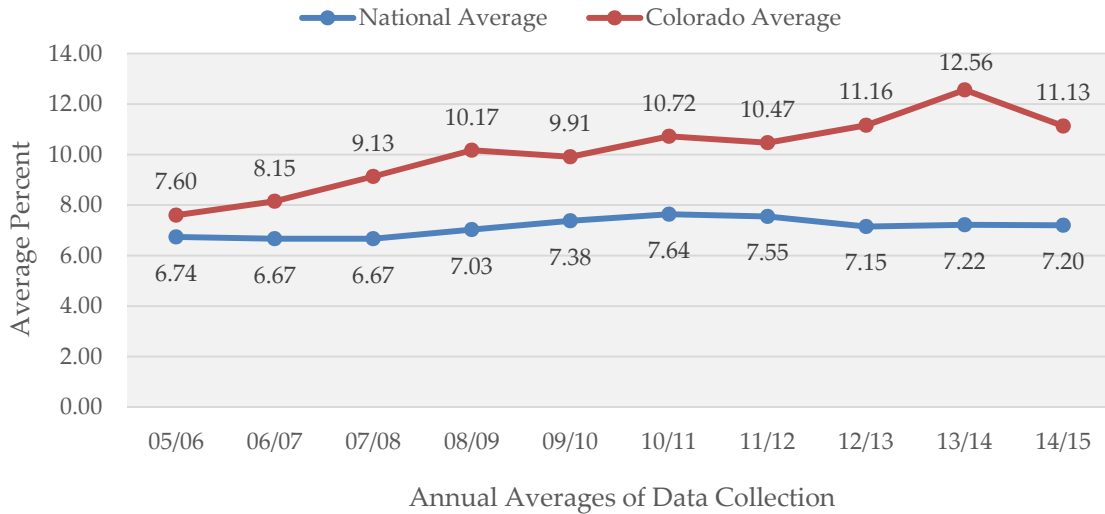
### Youth 12 to 17 years Old

<u>Top 10</u>		<u>Bottom 10</u>	
National Average = 7.20%			
1.) Colorado	11.13%	41.) North Carolina	5.97%
2.) Vermont	10.86%	42.) Tennessee	5.90%
3.) Alaska	10.64%	43.) Virginia	5.44%
4.) Rhode Island	10.19%	44.) Oklahoma	5.42%
5.) Maine	10.01%	45.) Louisiana	5.33%
6.) New Hampshire	9.44%	46.) Iowa	5.30%
7.) Oregon	9.42%	47.) Mississippi	5.29%
8.) Massachusetts	9.22%	48.) Nebraska	5.26%
9.) Maryland	9.20%	49.) Alabama	5.16%
10.) Washington	9.17%	50.) Utah	4.54%

SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

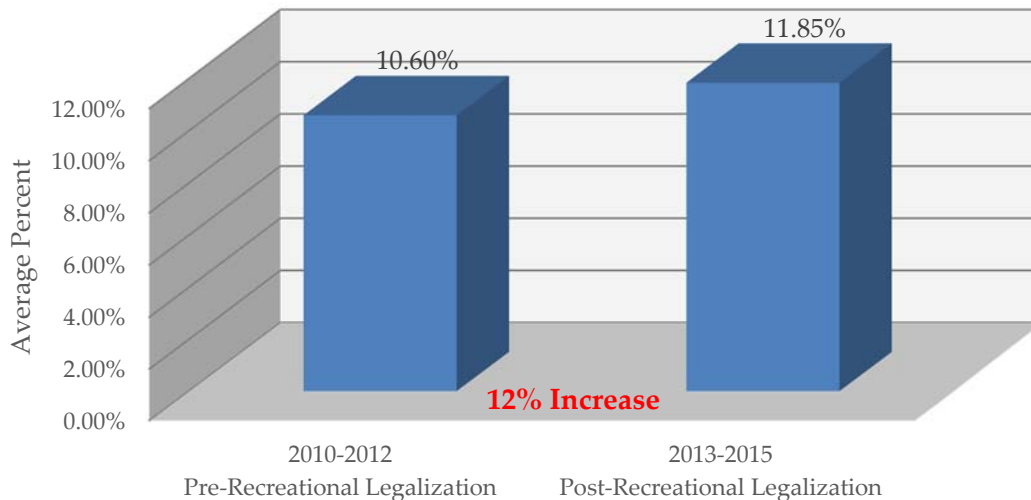


## Past Month Marijuana Use Youth Ages 12 to 17 Years Old



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

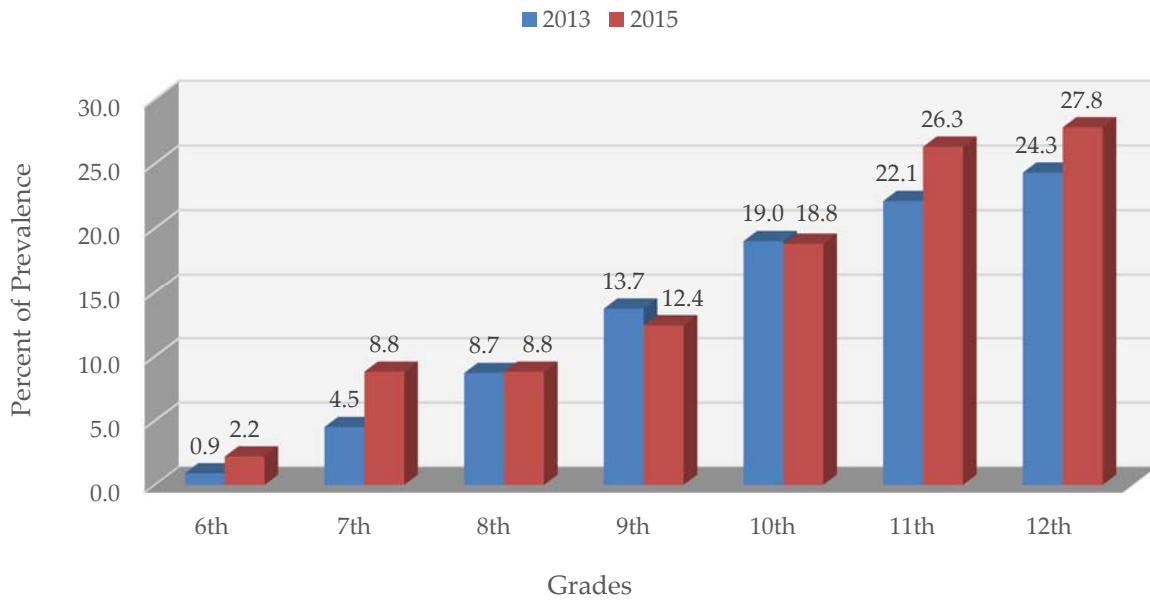
## Average Past Month Use of Marijuana Youth Ages 12 to 17 Years Old



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

**Healthy Kids Colorado Survey 2013 to 2015:**

**Current Marijuana Use for High School and Middle School Students in Colorado**



**SOURCE:** Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, *Monitoring Health Concerns Related to Marijuana in Colorado: 2016*, Healthy Kids Colorado Survey

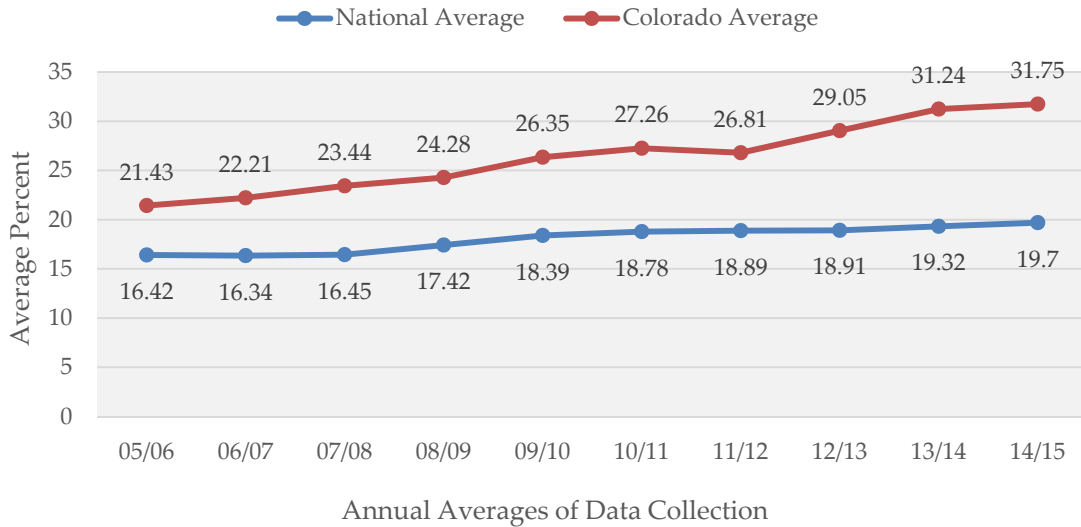
# Adult Marijuana Use

Data for College Age (18 to 25 Years Old)

<u>Top 10</u>		<u>Bottom 10</u>	
National Average = 19.70%			
1.) Vermont	34.95%	41.) Kansas	15.73%
2.) Colorado	31.75%	42.) Wyoming	15.64%
3.) Maine	29.72%	43.) Texas	15.08%
4.) New Hampshire	29.12%	44.) Oklahoma	14.87%
5.) Rhode Island	28.89%	45.) North Dakota	14.77%
6.) Massachusetts	27.39%	46.) Alabama	14.33%
7.) Oregon	26.29%	47.) Mississippi	13.91%
8.) Alaska	25.02%	48.) Idaho	13.69%
9.) Connecticut	24.99%	49.) Iowa	12.67%
10.) Maryland	24.87%	50.) Utah	11.07%

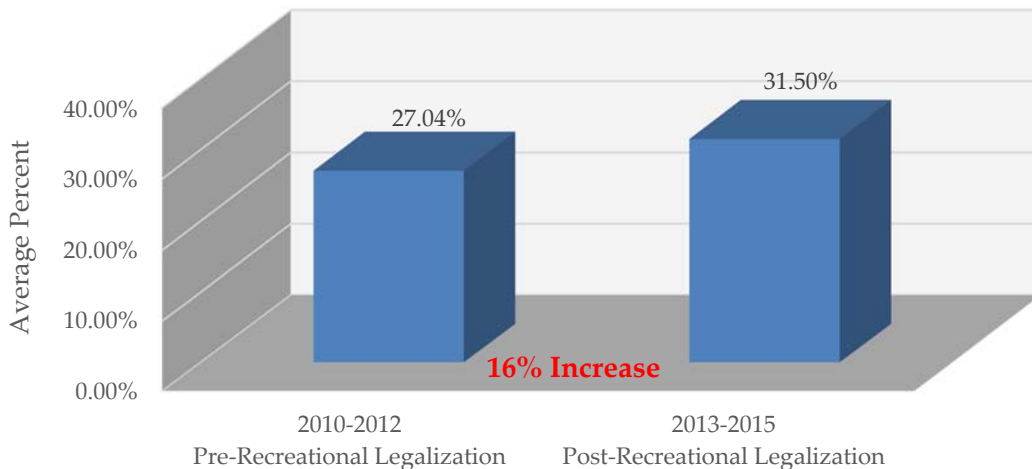
SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

## Past Month Marijuana Use College Age 18 to 25 Years Old



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

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



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

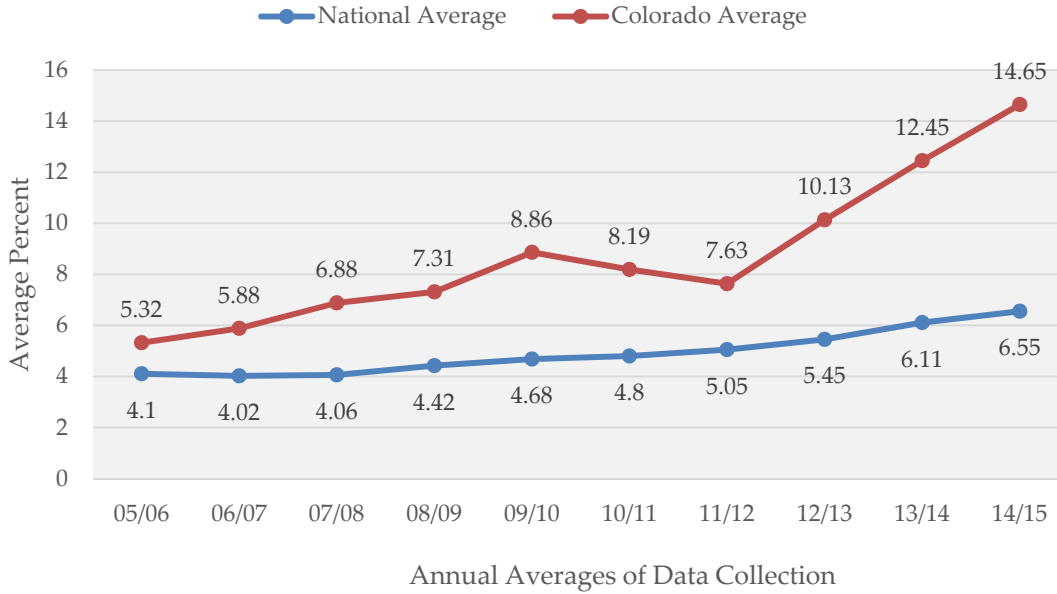
Data for Adults (26+ Years Old)

---

<u>Top 10</u>		<u>Bottom 10</u>	
<b>National Average = 6.55%</b>			
1.) <b>Colorado</b>	14.65%	41.) <b>Tennessee</b>	4.81%
2.) <b>Alaska</b>	12.83%	42.) <b>Louisiana</b>	4.71%
3.) <b>Maine</b>	11.84%	43.) <b>Wyoming</b>	4.71%
4.) <b>Vermont</b>	11.61%	44.) <b>Nebraska</b>	4.53%
5.) <b>Oregon</b>	10.99%	45.) <b>Texas</b>	4.32%
6.) <b>Rhode Island</b>	10.39%	46.) <b>North Dakota</b>	3.93%
7.) <b>Washington</b>	9.74%	47.) <b>Alabama</b>	3.86%
8.) <b>New Hampshire</b>	9.65%	48.) <b>Mississippi</b>	3.81%
9.) <b>Montana</b>	9.41%	49.) <b>Utah</b>	3.75%
10.) <b>Massachusetts</b>	9.21%	50.) <b>Iowa</b>	3.30%

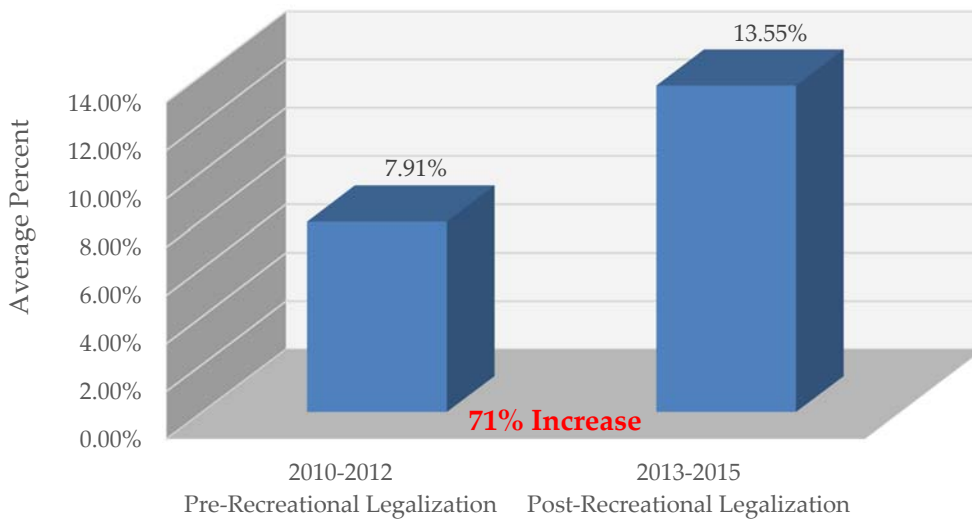
SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

## Past Month Marijuana Use Adults Age 26+ Years Old



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

## Average Past Month Use of Marijuana Adult Ages 26+ Years Old



SOURCE: SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2014 and 2015

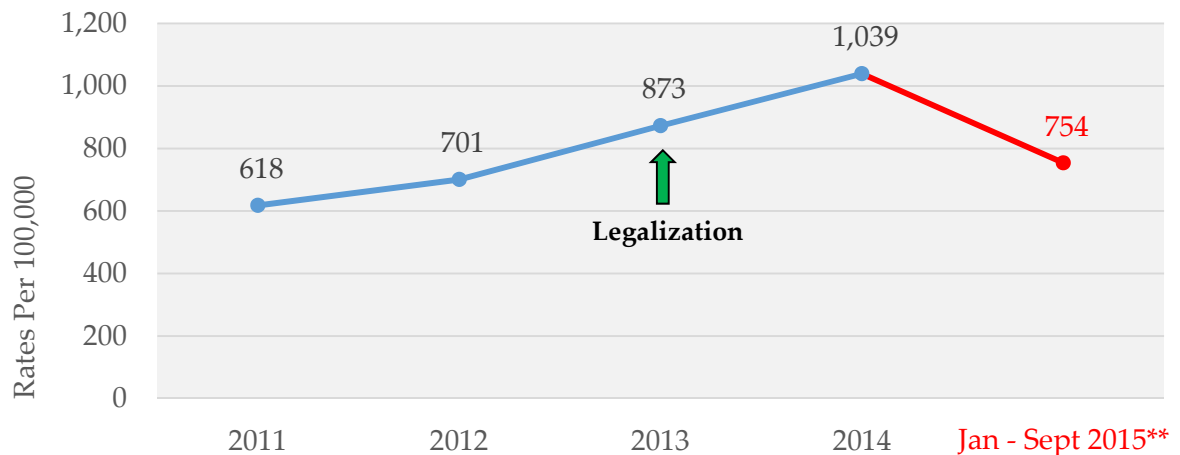
# Emergency Department and Hospital Marijuana-Related Admissions

## Data for Emergency Department Visits

**NOTE:** "POSSIBLE MARIJUANA EXPOSURES, DIAGNOSES, OR BILLING CODES IN ANY OF LISTED DIAGNOSIS CODES: THESE DATA WERE CHOSEN TO REPRESENT THE HD AND ED VISITS WHERE MARIJUANA COULD BE A CAUSAL, CONTRIBUTING, OR COEXISTING FACTOR NOTED BY THE PHYSICIAN DURING THE HD OR ED VISIT. FOR THESE DATA, MARIJUANA USE IS NOT NECESSARILY RELATED TO THE UNDERLYING REASON FOR THE HD OR ED VISIT. SOMETIMES THESE DATA ARE REFERRED TO AS HD OR ED VISITS WITH ANY MENTION OF MARIJUANA." - COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, *MONITORING HEALTH CONCERNS RELATED TO MARIJUANA IN COLORADO: 2014*

**NOTE:** DATA NOT AVAILABLE PRE-2011.

### Colorado Emergency Department Rates that Could be Related to Marijuana\*

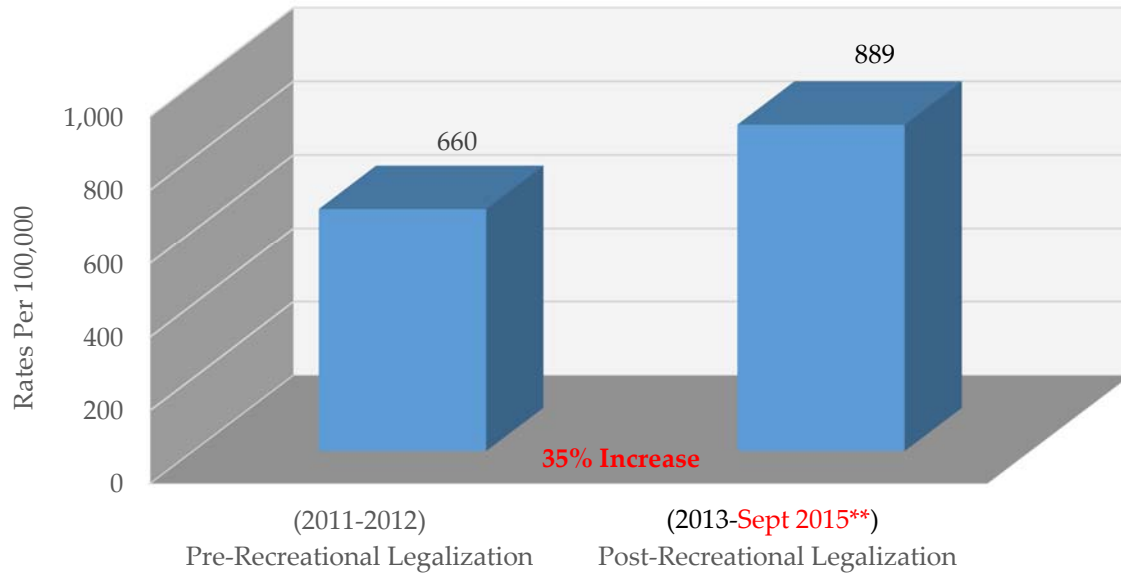


\*Rates of Emergency Department (ED) Visits with Possible Marijuana Exposures, Diagnoses, or Billing Codes per 100,000 ED Visits by Year in Colorado

\*\*Only 9 months of comparable 2015 data is available

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, *Monitoring Health Concerns Related to Marijuana in Colorado: 2016*

## Colorado Emergency Department Rates that Could be Related to Marijuana\*



**\*Rates of Emergency Department (ED) Visits with Possible Marijuana Exposures, Diagnoses, or Billing Codes per 100,000 ED Visits by Year in Colorado**

**\*\*Only 9 months of comparable 2015 data is available**

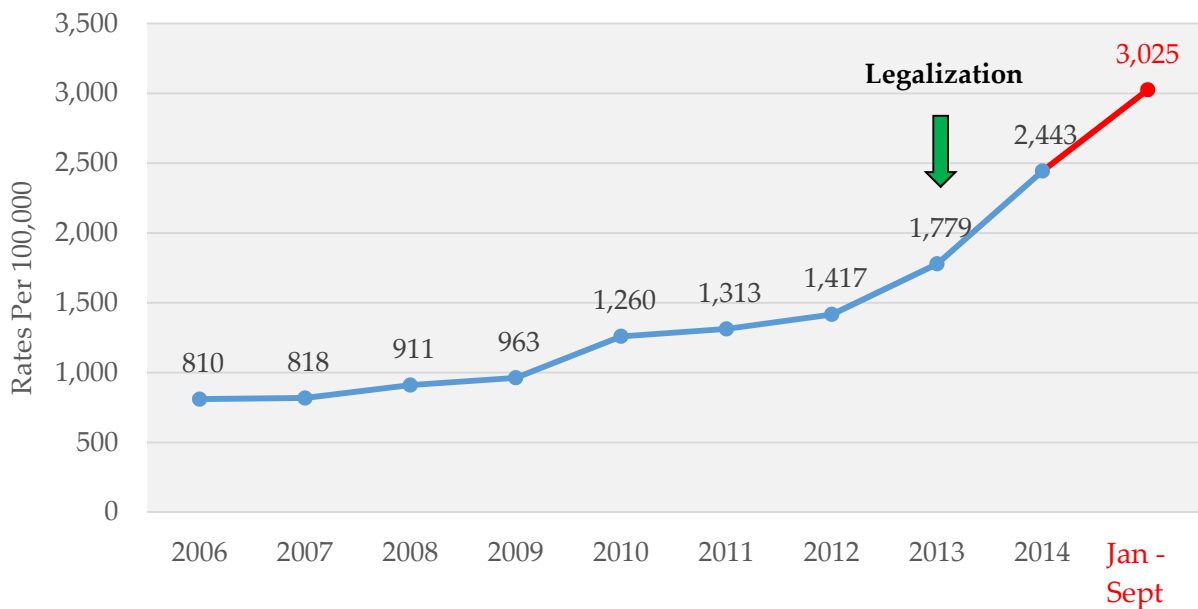
**SOURCE: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment**



## Data for Hospitalizations

**NOTE:** "POSSIBLE MARIJUANA EXPOSURES, DIAGNOSES, OR BILLING CODES IN ANY OF LISTED DIAGNOSIS CODES: THESE DATA WERE CHOSEN TO REPRESENT THE HD AND ED VISITS WHERE MARIJUANA COULD BE A CAUSAL, CONTRIBUTING, OR COEXISTING FACTOR NOTED BY THE PHYSICIAN DURING THE HD OR ED VISIT. FOR THESE DATA, MARIJUANA USE IS NOT NECESSARILY RELATED TO THE UNDERLYING REASON FOR THE HD OR ED VISIT. SOMETIMES THESE DATA ARE REFERRED TO AS HD OR ED VISITS 'WITH ANY MENTION OF MARIJUANA.'" - COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, *MONITORING HEALTH CONCERNS RELATED TO MARIJUANA IN COLORADO: 2014*

### Colorado Hospitalization Rates that Could be Related to Marijuana\*

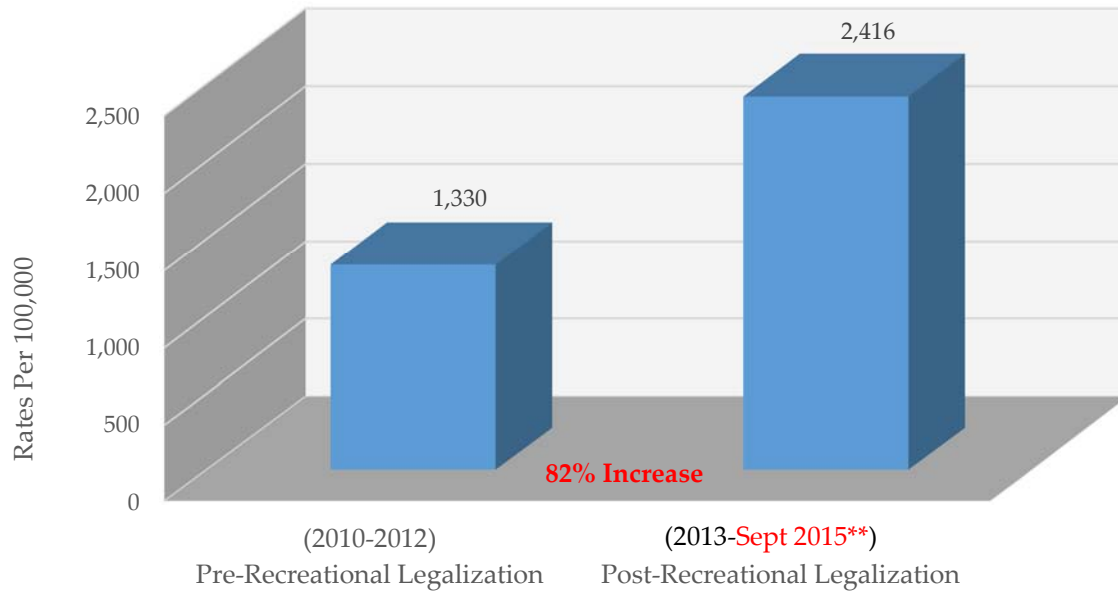


\*Rates of Hospitalization (HD) Visits with Possible Marijuana Exposures, Diagnoses, or Billing Codes per 100,000 HD Visits by Year in Colorado

\*\*Only 9 months of comparable 2015 data is available

SOURCE: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, *Monitoring Health Concerns Related to Marijuana in Colorado: 2016*

## Colorado Hospitalization Rates that Could be Related to Marijuana\*



**\*Rates of Hospitalization (HD) Visits with Possible Marijuana Exposures, Diagnoses, or Billing Codes per 100,000 HD Visits by Year in Colorado**

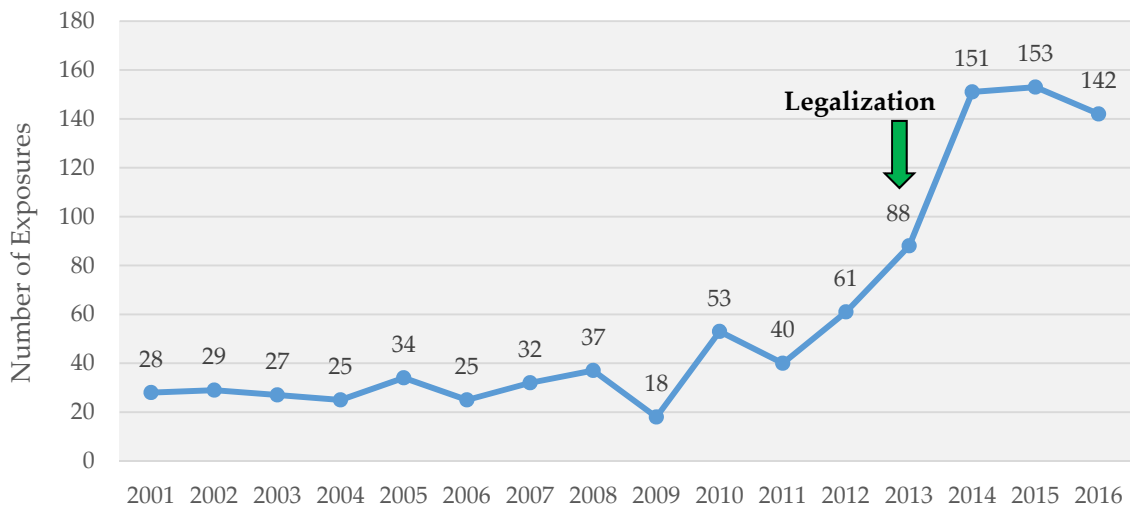
**\*\*Only 9 months of comparable 2015 data is available**

**SOURCE: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment**

# Marijuana-Related Exposure

## Data

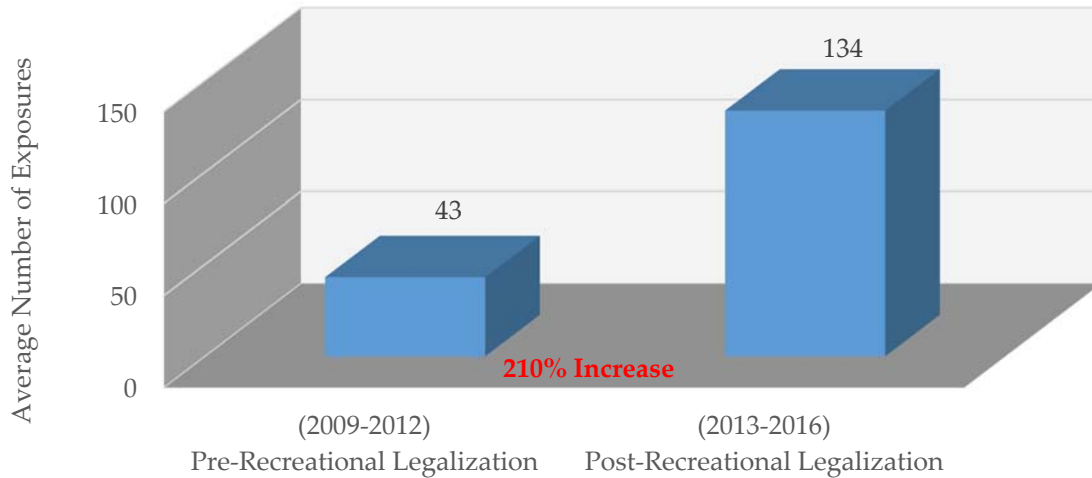
### Number of Marijuana Only\* Exposures Reported



\*Marijuana was the only substance referenced in the call to the poison control center

SOURCE: Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center

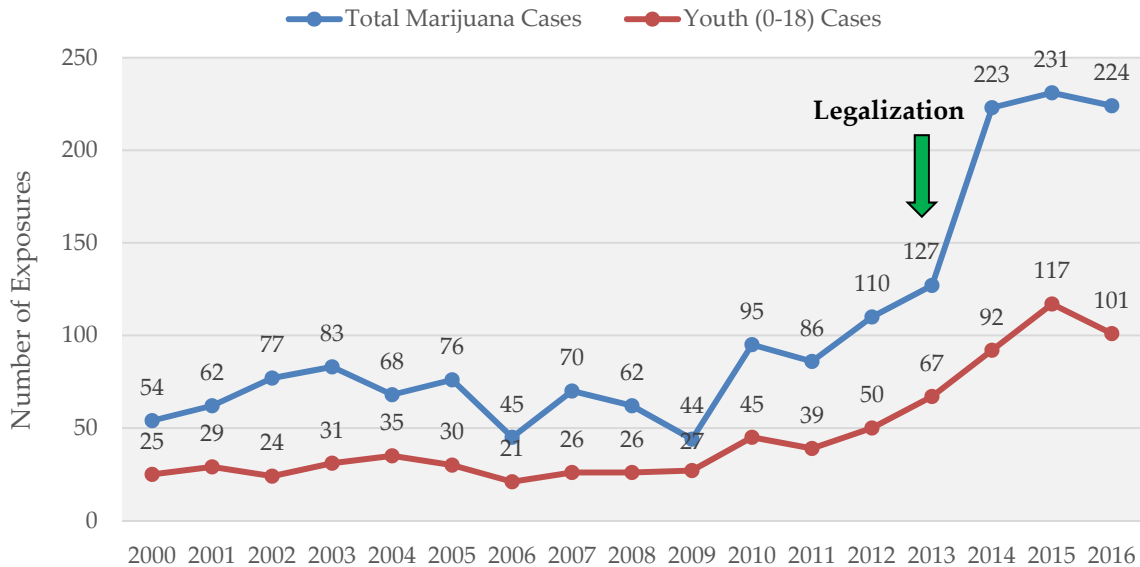
## Average Number of Marijuana Only\* Exposures Reported



\*Marijuana was the only substance referenced in the call to the poison control center

SOURCE: Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center

## Exposures Involving\* Marijuana



\*Other substances may also be reported in the call

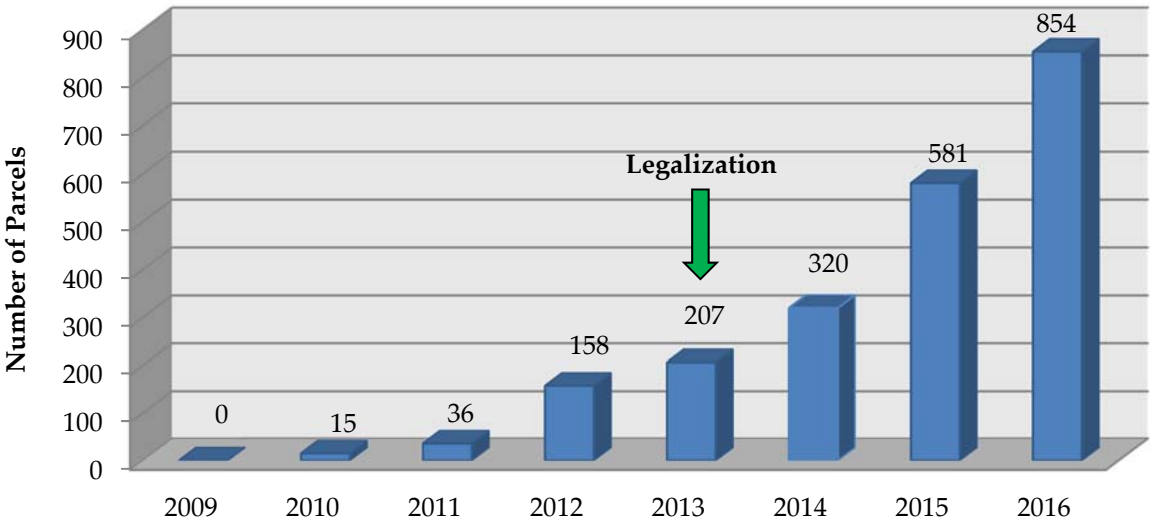
SOURCE: Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center

# *Diversion of Colorado Marijuana*

## Data for Parcels

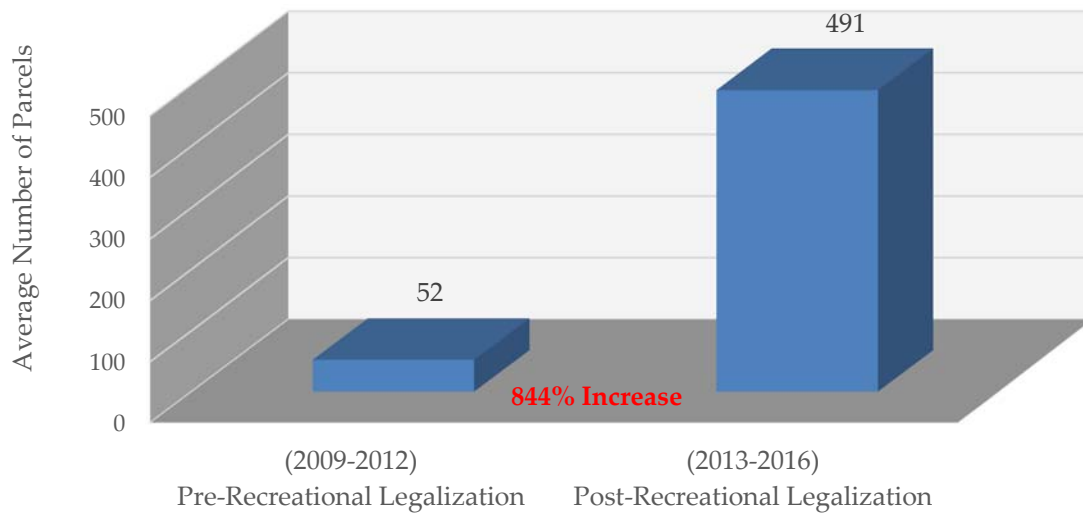
**NOTE: THESE FIGURES ONLY REFLECT PACKAGES SEIZED; THEY DO NOT INCLUDE PACKAGES OF COLORADO MARIJUANA THAT WERE MAILED AND REACHED THE INTENDED DESTINATION.**

### Parcels Containing Marijuana Mailed from Colorado to Another State



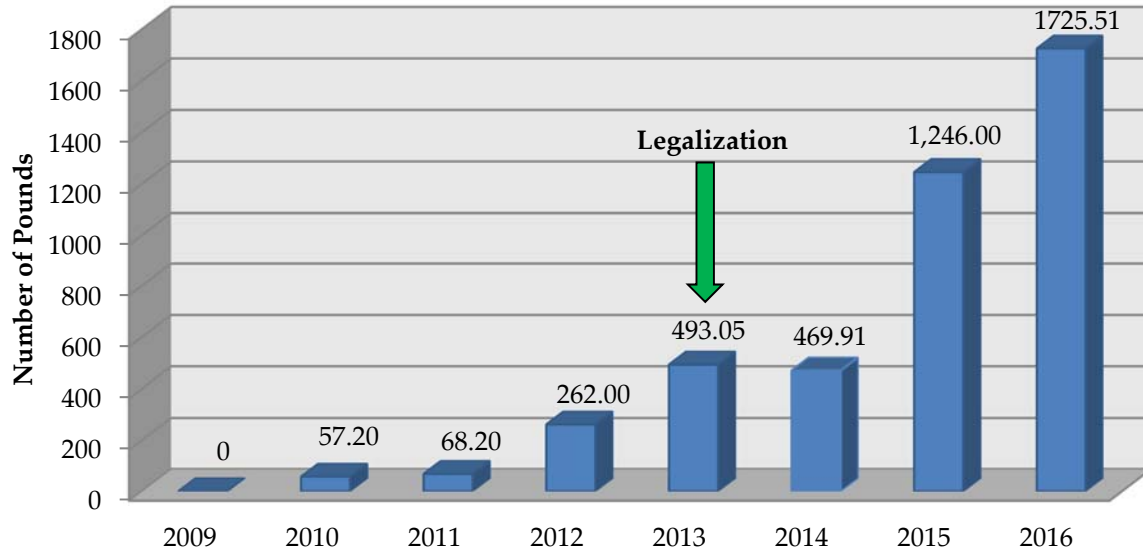
SOURCE: United States Postal Inspection Service, Prohibited Mailing of Narcotics

## Average Number of Parcels Containing Marijuana Mailed from Colorado to Another State



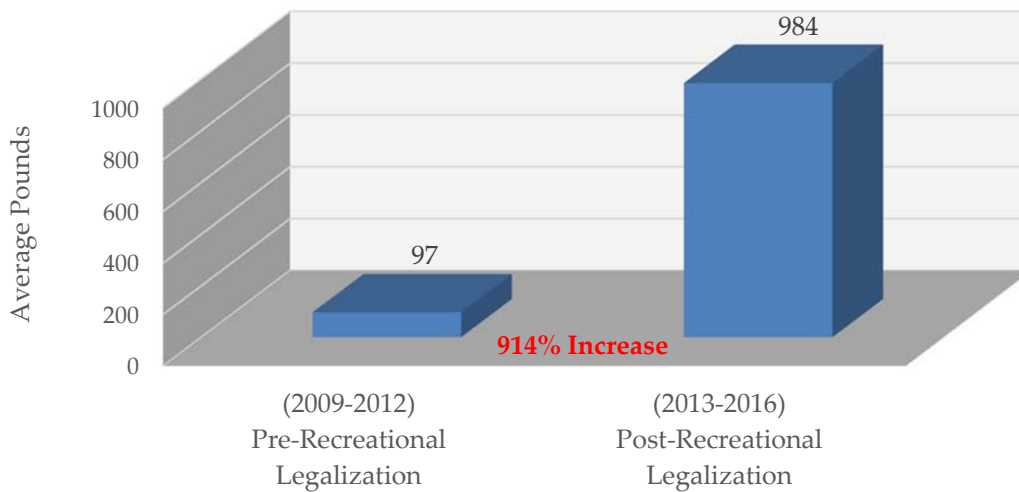
**SOURCE:** United States Postal Inspection Service, Prohibited Mailing of Narcotics

## Pounds of Colorado Marijuana Seized by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service



SOURCE: United States Postal Inspection Service, Prohibited Mailing of Narcotics

## Average Pounds of Colorado Marijuana Seized by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service



SOURCE: United States Postal Inspection Service, Prohibited Mailing of Narcotics

Prepared by:  
Rocky Mountain HIDTA  
Strategic Intelligence Unit  
[www.rmhidta.org](http://www.rmhidta.org)