

MEDICAL MARIJUANA PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACT

The Massachusetts Medical Marijuana
Act

MGL Ch. 94G Sec. 1-9

Enforcement

- ▣ The citizens of Massachusetts intend that there should be *no punishment under state law* for qualifying patients, physicians and health care professionals, personal caregivers for patients, or medical marijuana treatment center agents for the medical use of marijuana, as defined herein.
- ▣ **Massachusetts has essentially legalized marijuana and distribution!**

How L.E. Address...

- ▣ Confirm Doctor Note? Dr. Fine, Dr. Howard
- ▣ How being obtained JAN. 1. (Black Market)
- ▣ 60 Day Supply. (Unlimited amount in MV)
- ▣ 60 Day Supply everyday (different dispensaries) + in-door grow.
- ▣ In Door Grow-60 Day Supply? Who will enforce that? Police no knowledge of loc?
- ▣ Search Warrant....how?

Ancillary Crime

- ▣ Robbery (Drug Rips) Dispensary-Home Grow.
- ▣ B&E, Burglary.
- ▣ Murder.
- ▣ Traffic Congestion.
- ▣ Noise complaints/Public Use.
- ▣ Drug Resale's on the street.
- ▣ Dealers selling at lower cost.
- ▣ Loitering.
- ▣ Quality of Life Issues in general. (Business Effectuated)

Drug Diversion

- ▣ Marijuana (Dispensary & Home Grown) will be diverted to the black market and individual users.
- ▣ Illicit Street Price is decreased due to competition with dispensaries & home growers. Creates easier availability. Low Cost.
- ▣ Misconception that legalizing will diminish black market; exacerbates it!

Motor Vehicle Crashes

- ▣ States that have approved “medical marijuana” use have experienced costly highway safety issues.
- ▣ 20% of crashes in the U.S. are caused by drugged driving.
- ▣ Marijuana is the most prevalent illegal drug detected in impaired drivers, fatally injured drivers, and motor vehicle crash victims

Impact on Adolescents

- ▣ Initiation (11-21)
- ▣ Availability (Supply, Demand, \$\$)
- ▣ Perception of Harm
- ▣ Reduced Age of Onset (In age cohorts)
- ▣ Use Rates
- ▣ Drug Treatment Episodes
- ▣ Overdoses (Risk Management) = Youth

Law Enforcement Seizure-Dilemma

- ▣ Encounter in Public (Always)
- ▣ Field Interview Observation (Free to leave)
- ▣ Investigative Detention. (Reasonable Suspicion
Crime Committed)
- ▣ Search, Arrest, etc. = (Probable Cause)

- ▣ **MEDICAL MARIJUANA (Doc Rec. + Qual Pt.
+ Marijuana = 0 in public.**
- ▣ **Public Use-Only with By-Law**

Law Enforcement Dilemma

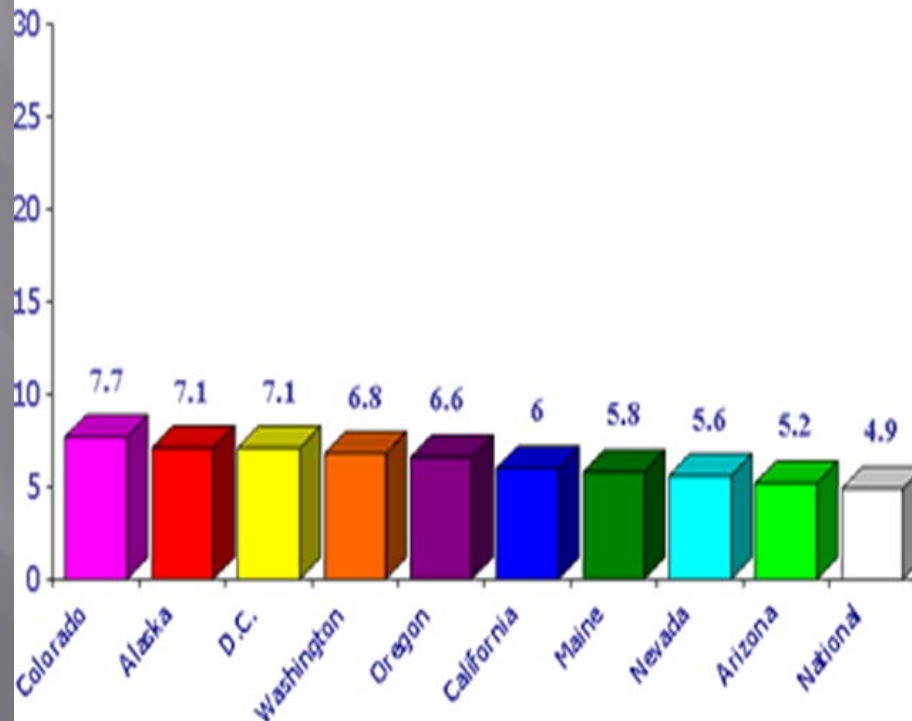
- ▣ Regulations (120 Days). Law in Effect.
- ▣ Doctors Recommendation (How Verify? Trump Card?)
- ▣ Home Grow (Electric, Mold, Odor, #Plants?)
- ▣ 60 Day Supply (Not Defined) (Reasonable) = Unlimited amount with Doctors Note.
- ▣ Obtaining Marijuana. Could not grow before Jan 1. Intro=The Black Market. Conspiracy?

Use

- ▣ (I) "Medical use of marijuana" shall mean the **acquisition, cultivation, possession,** processing, (including development of related products such as **food**, tinctures, aerosols, oils, or ointments), transfer, transportation, sale, distribution, **dispensing, or administration** of marijuana, for the benefit of qualifying patients in the treatment of debilitating medical conditions, or the symptoms thereof.
- ▣ ACQUIRE FROM THE BLACK MARKET?

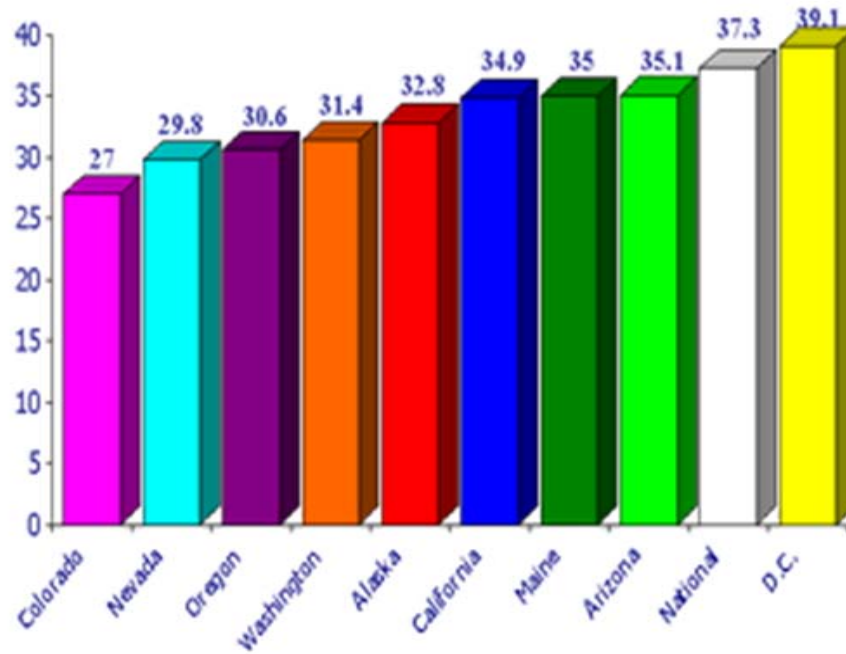
Use Rates

Past Month Marijuana Use in Initiative States, All Ages



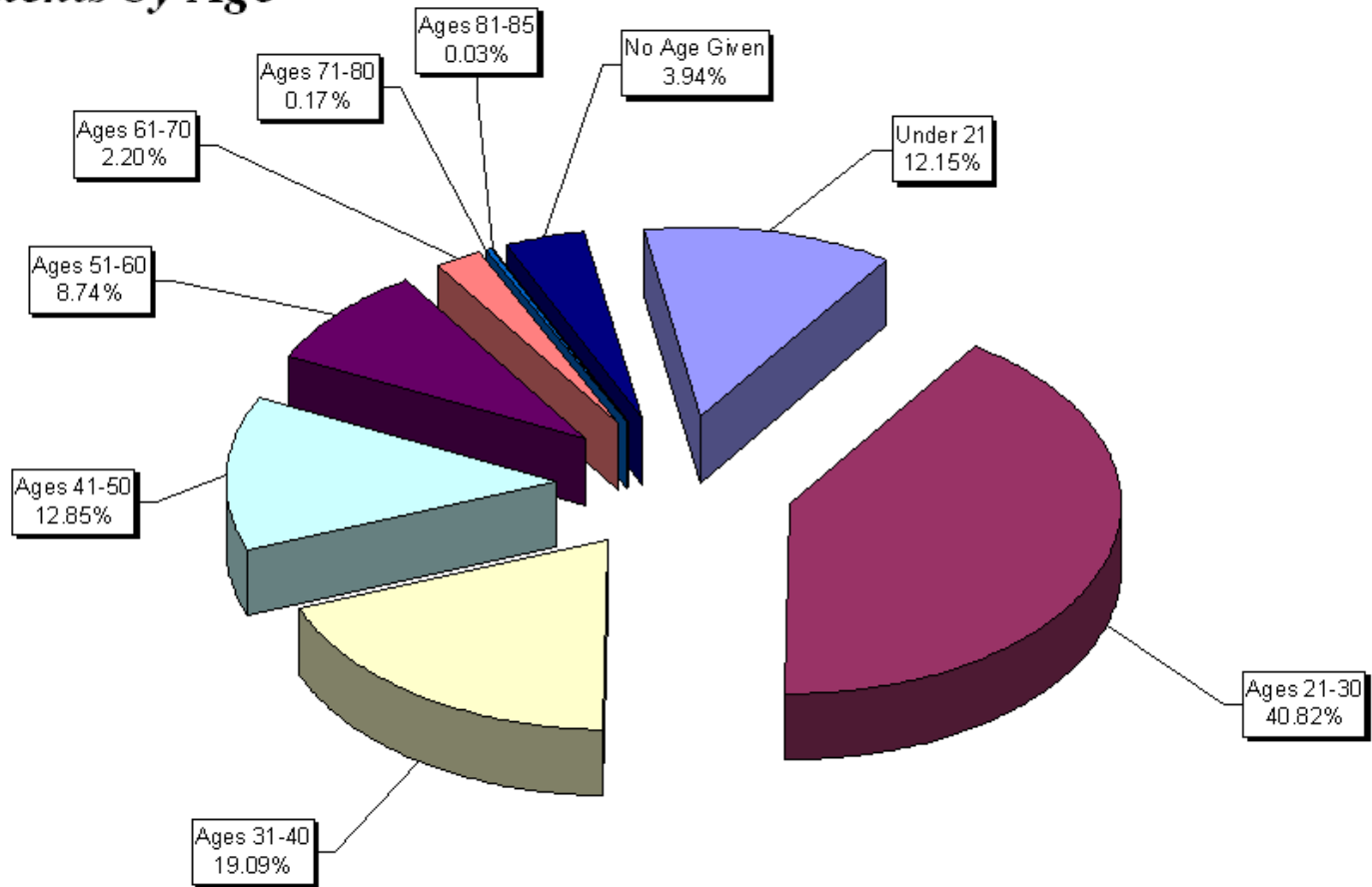
Perception of Harm

Believe Great Risk in Smoking Marijuana Once a Month, Ages 12-17



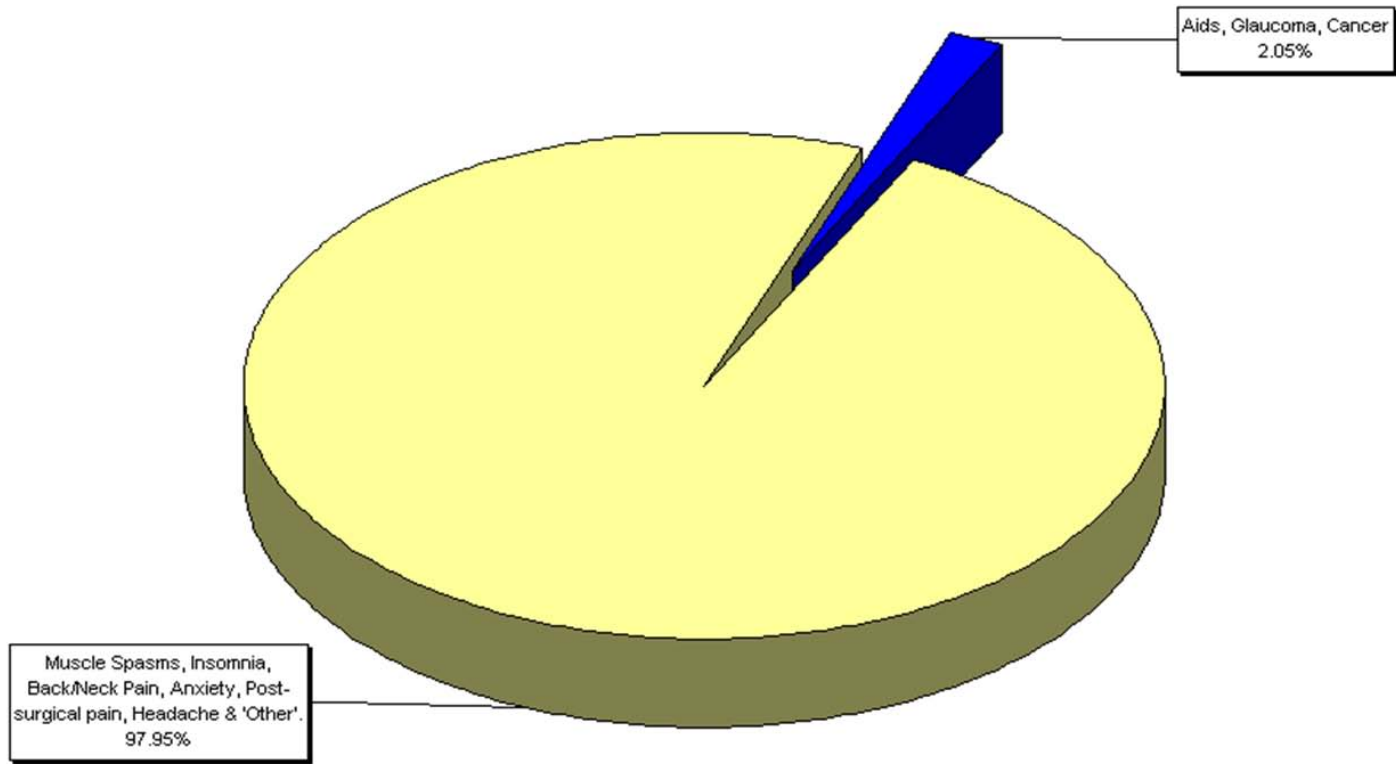
Medical Marijuana Patients?

Patients by Age



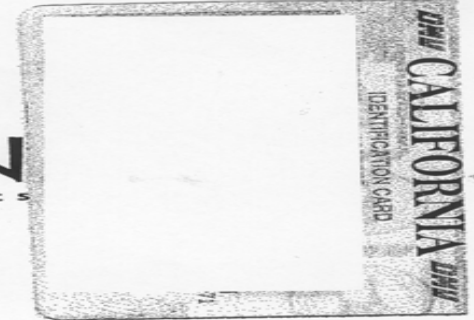
Debilitating Medical Conditions

Distribution by Use



Reasonable Amount-60 Day Supply?

FOR VERIFICATION CALL: 866.632.6627



PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT

This letter is to verify that I am the attending physician for _____ regarding the therapeutic value of medical marijuana for him/her.

Additionally, this letter verifies that he/she has been diagnosed with a serious medical condition and that the medical use of marijuana is appropriate for that serious medical condition.

This letter is made a part of the patient's permanent record.

Signed

Joanne Berzoff M.D.
Joanne Berzoff MD
MediCann, Inc.

License No.:

Date of Statement: Nov 28, 2005

Clinic Location: San Diego

Time Period Covered

3 Months 6 Months
 12 Months Other _____

This patient uses marijuana topically which greatly increases his need. It is recommended that this patient be allowed to have up to seventy five marijuana plants growing and up to five pounds of dry marijuana.

Private & Confidential
FOR VERIFICATION CALL: 866.632.6627
Version 1.2

Joanne M. Berzoff M.D.