**The Colorado Experience with Legalized Marijuana**

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**PRESENTATION OUTLINE:**

1. **BACKGROUND OF MARIJUANA LEGALIZAGTION IN COLORADO**
   1. Timeline
      1. Before 2000 Prior to Legalized Medical Marijuana
      2. 2000-2009 Medical Marijuana Legalized
      3. 2010-2013 Medical Marijuana Commercialized
      4. Nov ‘12-Present Recreational Marijuana Legalized (sold retail starting Jan 2014)
2. **MARIJUANA USE SINCE LEGALIZATION OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA**
   1. Decreased Use/No Change in Use vs. Increased Use Since Legalization
      1. Ways in which legalization can increase marijuana use
         1. Changes in access to marijuana
         2. Changes in perceived risks
         3. Changes in societal norms
         4. Changes in price/organization of supply
      2. Study results
         1. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)
         2. CO Dept of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Survey
3. **MARIJUANA’S FINANCIAL IMPACT**
   1. Economic gains vs. societal costs
      1. Tax Revenue
      2. Public Health
         1. Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) Potency Trends and Implications
         2. Marijuana Use Disorder
         3. Marijuana Related Hospitalizations and Emergency Room Visits
      3. Public Safety
         1. Impaired Driving
4. **LEGALIZED MARIJUANA’S IMPACT ON THE USE OF OTHER DRUGS**
   1. Substitute or Complement?
      1. Impact on Medical Marijuana
      2. Impact on other substance use
5. **LEGALIZED MARIJUANA’S IMPACT ON CRIME**
   1. Has it helped or hurt?
      1. Arrests
      2. Black Market
      3. Racial Disparities
6. **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**
   1. Data
   2. Policy and Politics
   3. Financial interests – who really benefits?
   4. Decriminalization ≠ Legalization
   5. Matters of Safety
   6. Lessons from alcohol and tobacco

**PRESENTATION RESOURCES:**

**Online Resources:**

Colorado’s Legalization of Marijuana and the Impact on Public Safety: A Practical Guide for Law Enforcement, Copyright 2015. <https://www.nccpsafety.org/assets/files/library/Legalized_Marijuana_Practical_Guide_for_Law_Enforcement.pdf>.

The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids: The Current State of Evidence and Recommendations for Research, Copyright 2017.

<https://www.nap.edu/catalog/24625/the-health-effects-of-cannabis-and-cannabinoids-the-current-state>.

The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado, The Impact Volume 44, September 2016. <http://marijuanascienceforum.org/the-legalization-of-marijuana-in-colorado-the-impact-vol-4/>.

Marijuana Legalization and Taxes: Lessons for Other States from Colorado and Washington. Tax Foundation Special Report, Number 231, May 2016. <https://files.taxfoundation.org/legacy/docs/TaxFoundation_SR231.pdf>

Monitoring Health Concerns Related to Marijuana in Colorado: 2016. <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/marijuana-health-report>.

State Results from the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH).

<https://www.samhsa.gov/samhsa-data-outcomes-quality/major-data-collections/state-reports-NSDUH>.

**Journal Articles:**

Bachhuber M et al, Medical Cannabis Laws and Opioid Analgesic Overdose Mortality in the United States, 1999-2010, *JAMA Internal Medicine* 2014;174(10):1668-1673.

Compton W and Baler R, The Epidemiology of DSM-5 Cannabis Use Disorders Among U.S. Adults: Science to Inform Clinicians Working in a Shifting Social Landscape, *Am J Psychiatry* 2016; 173:551–553.

D’Souza D et al, The Psychotomimetic Effects of Intravenous Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol in Healthy Individuals: Implications for Psychosis, *Neuropsychopharmacology* 2004; 29:1558–1572.

Greydanus D et al, Marijuana: Current Concepts, *Frontiers in Public Health*, October 2013; Volume 1, Article 42: 1-17.

Moore T et al, Cannabis Use and Risk of Psychotic or Affective Mental Health Outcomes: A Systematic Review, *Lancet* 2007; 370: 319–28.

[Pacula RL](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Pacula%20RL%5BAuthor%5D&cauthor=true&cauthor_uid=24358530), [Sevigny EL](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Sevigny%20EL%5BAuthor%5D&cauthor=true&cauthor_uid=24358530), Marijuana Liberalization Policies: Why We Can’t Learn Much from Policy Still in Motion, *J Policy Anal Manage* 2014 Winter;33(1):212-21.

Powell D et al, Do Medical Marijuana Laws Reduce Addictions and Deaths Related to Pain Killers? *National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper Series* July 2015; Working Paper 21345.

Volkow N et at, Adverse Health Effects of Marijuana Use, *N Engl J Med* 2014;370:2219-27.

**Books:**

Compton, Michael, editor. *Marijuana and Mental Health*. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Association Publishing, 2016. Print.

Hill, Kevin. *Marijuana: The Unbiased Truth About the World’s Most Popular Weed*. Century City, MN: Hazelden Publishing, 2015. Print.

**Marijuana-Related Organizations:**

Drug Policy Alliance. <http://www.drugpolicy.org/>.

Marijuana Policy Project. <http://www.mpp.org>.

Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM). <https://learnaboutsam.org/>