

# **MARIJUANA TRENDS & BEST PRACTICES**

**California Providers' Best Practices & GPRA  
Measures Medical Education  
May 10, 2016**

**Funded by the County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency,  
Behavioral Health Services**

**MPI**

**Marijuana  
Prevention  
Initiative**

**San Diego County**

# WELCOME!

**Joe Eberstein – Program Manager of the San Diego County Marijuana Prevention Initiative and the Center for Community Research Inc.**

# MPI INITIATIVE FOCUS

- **Problem Statement:** High levels of marijuana use by youth (12-25) in the county negatively affect overall health and contributes to family and community problems.

## Other Initiatives:

- Binge Underage Drinking
- Meth Initiative
- Prescription Drug



# CHANGING POLITICAL LANDSCAPE!

Ballot initiative  
to legalize  
recreational  
use – need to  
get enough  
signatures – by  
June?

## Group aims to legalize marijuana use in California

Marijuana advocacy group says it will pursue pot legalization ballot measure in California

AP September 24, 2014 11:00 AM



FILE - This Feb. 1, 2011 file photo shows medical marijuana clone plants at a medical marijuana dispensary in Oakla...

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- The nation's largest marijuana policy advocacy group plans to begin raising funds for a ballot measure in 2016 to legalize recreational marijuana use in California.

The Marijuana Policy Project says it will file paperwork Wednesday with the California secretary of state's office for a new committee that

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# PERFECT STORM

- Decrease in perceived risk of harm. ↓
- Favorable policies & attitudes toward marijuana.
- Higher potency products produced and marketed.
- Increase in access to marijuana (delivery, masked products). ↑

The good news ....

- Increasingly available research regarding the effects of marijuana on the adolescent brain.
- Some studies link use to mental health issues and poor academic performance.

# THC INCREASE

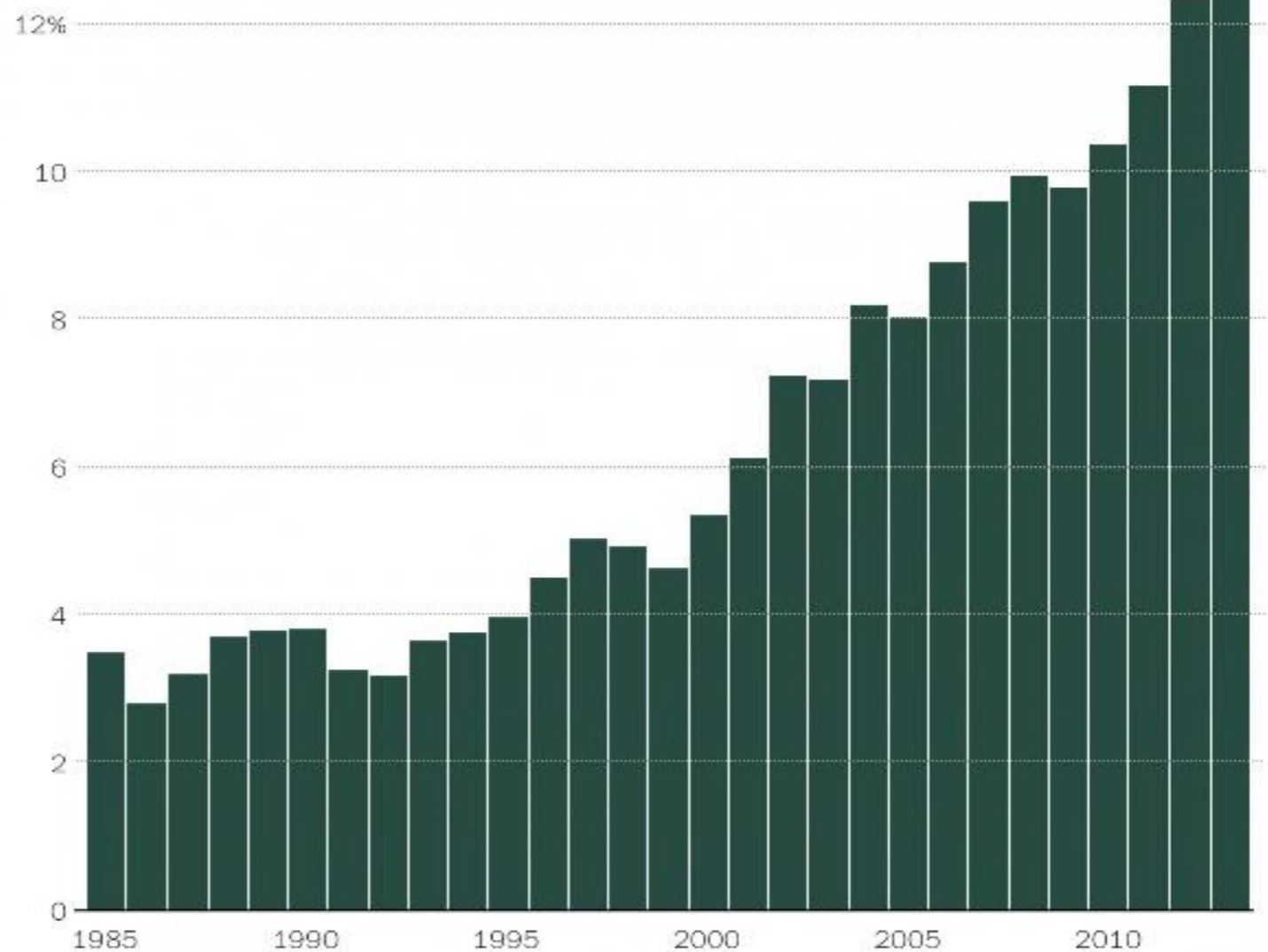
Strength of weed seized by federal authorities has steadily risen over time.

**Denver retail outlets advertise strains containing 25 +% THC\*.**

\*THC is tetrahydrocannabinol the main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.

## Weed is getting stronger

Average THC percentage in federal seizures of imported marijuana, 1985 - 2013



WASHINGTONPOST.COM/WONKBLOG

Source: White House Office of Nat'l Drug Control Policy

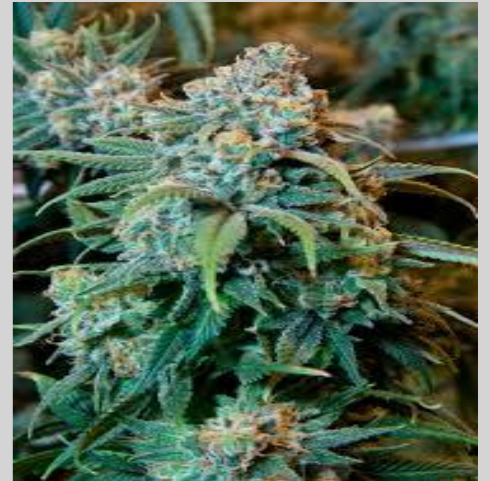
# CONCENTRATES SUCH AS WAX, BUTANE HASH OIL, EDIBLES

(AVERAGE JOINT CONTAINS 1-3% THC, CONCENTRATES MAY CONTAIN 30 -90% THC)



# THE POT PLANT

- The pot/cannabis plant has over 400 chemicals.
- **Delta 9 THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol)** is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's high.
- Some chemicals derived from the pot plant may help control seizures and aid with appetite.



(Dronabinol to treat nausea caused by chemotherapy and boost appetite in patients with AIDS wasting syndrome and Nabilone - MS)

**You do not need the psychoactive components to get the medical value!!!!!!!**



# IF YOU NEED MEDICAL ADVICE GO TO YOUR PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN!

- Do not take yourself off of Doctor prescribed medication and supplement with marijuana!



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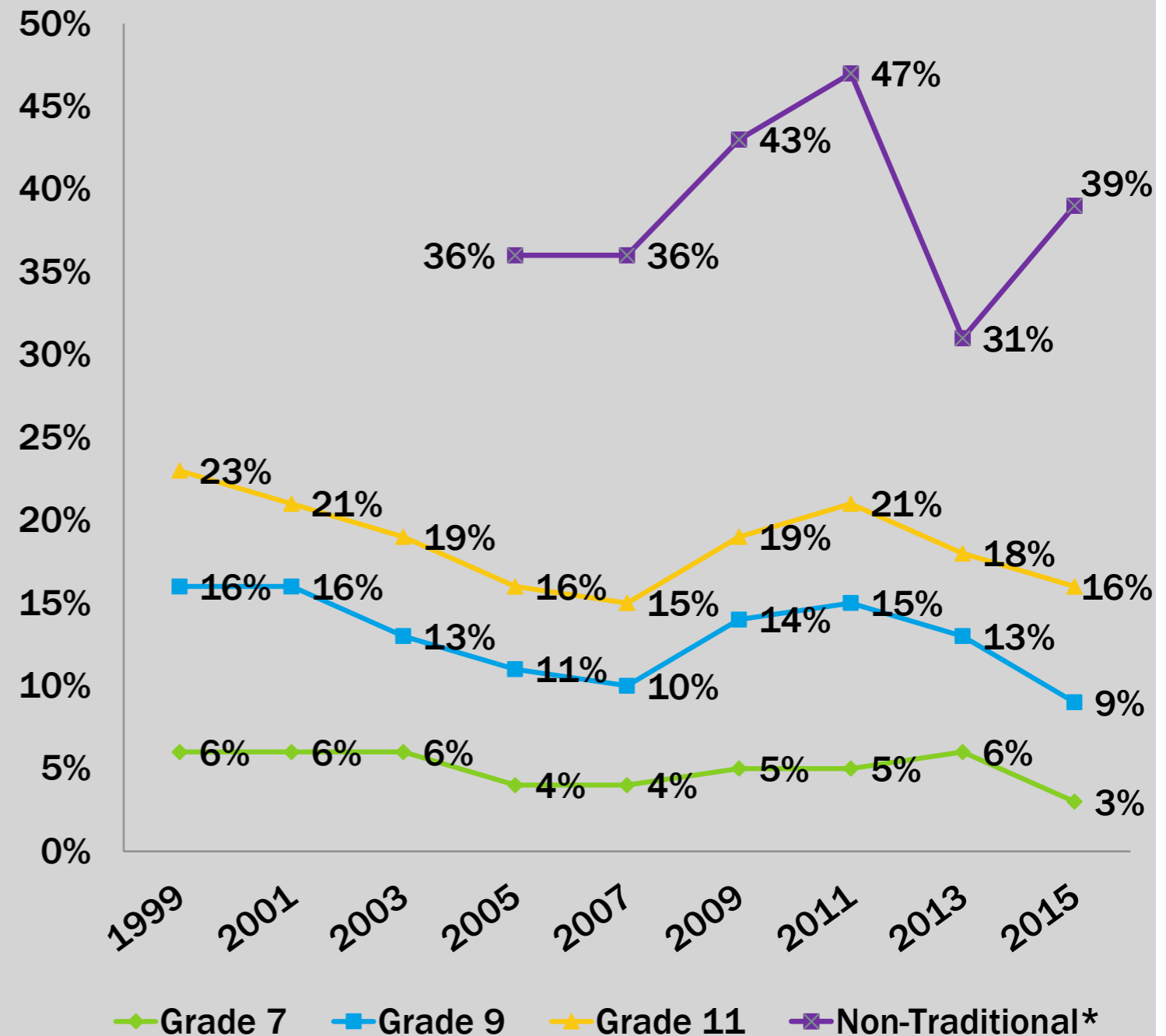
**Data**

# PAST 30-DAY MARIJUANA USE AMONG SAN DIEGO COUNTY YOUTH

- 16% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders reported smoking marijuana in the past 30 days in 2015. ↓
- All students have seen reductions in past 30-day use since 2011. ↓
- Past 30-day use for 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders is at an all-time low. ↓

Source: CHKS, 1999-2015

\*In 2013, the response rate for non-traditional students participating in the survey was lower than in previous years, which could be a factor for the decrease in reported past 30-day use rates for that year.

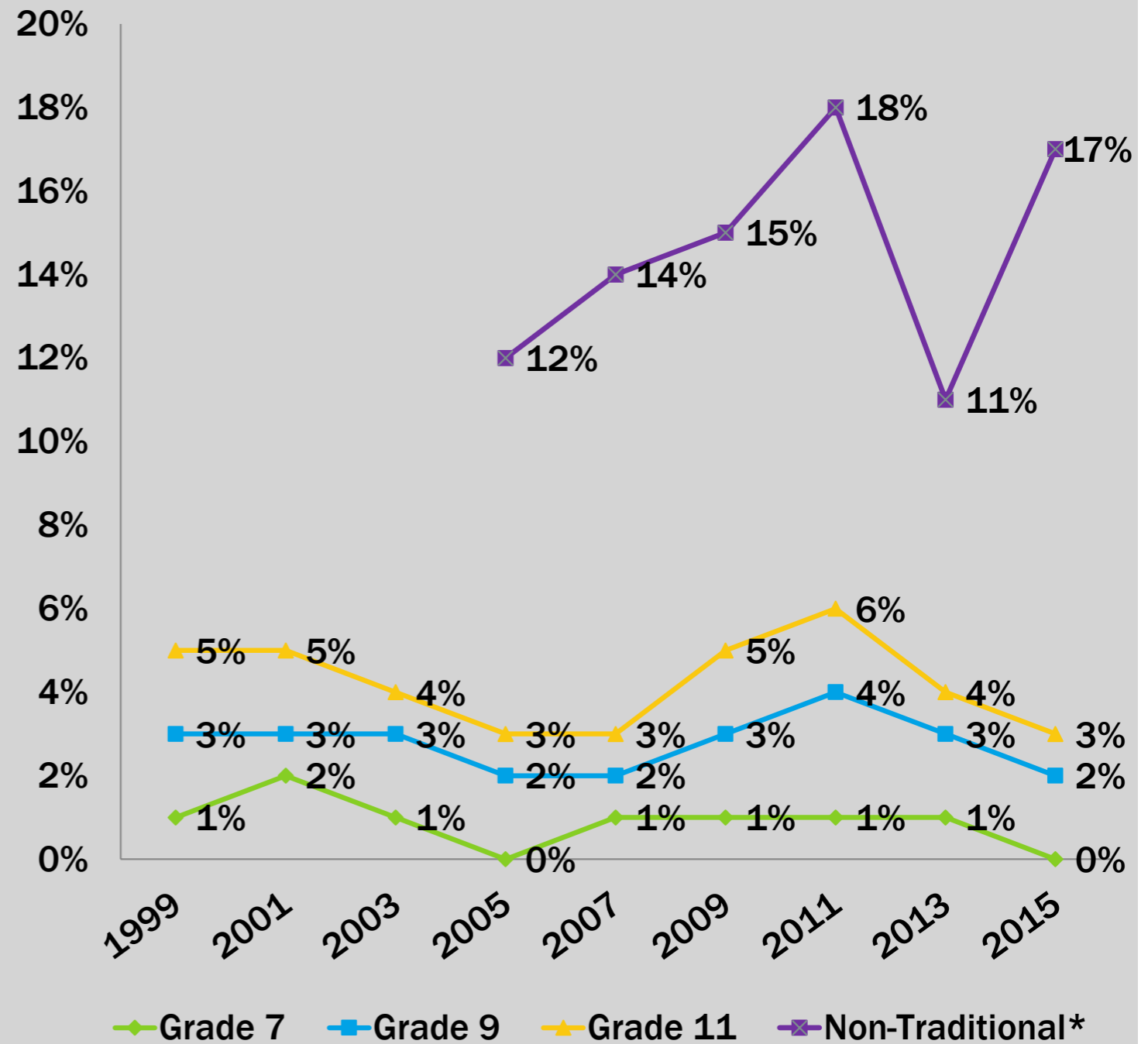


# DAILY MARIJUANA USE AMONG SAN DIEGO COUNTY YOUTH

- Daily marijuana use is defined as smoking pot 20 or more times in the past 30 days.
- Daily marijuana use among 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> graders has been declining since 2011. ↓

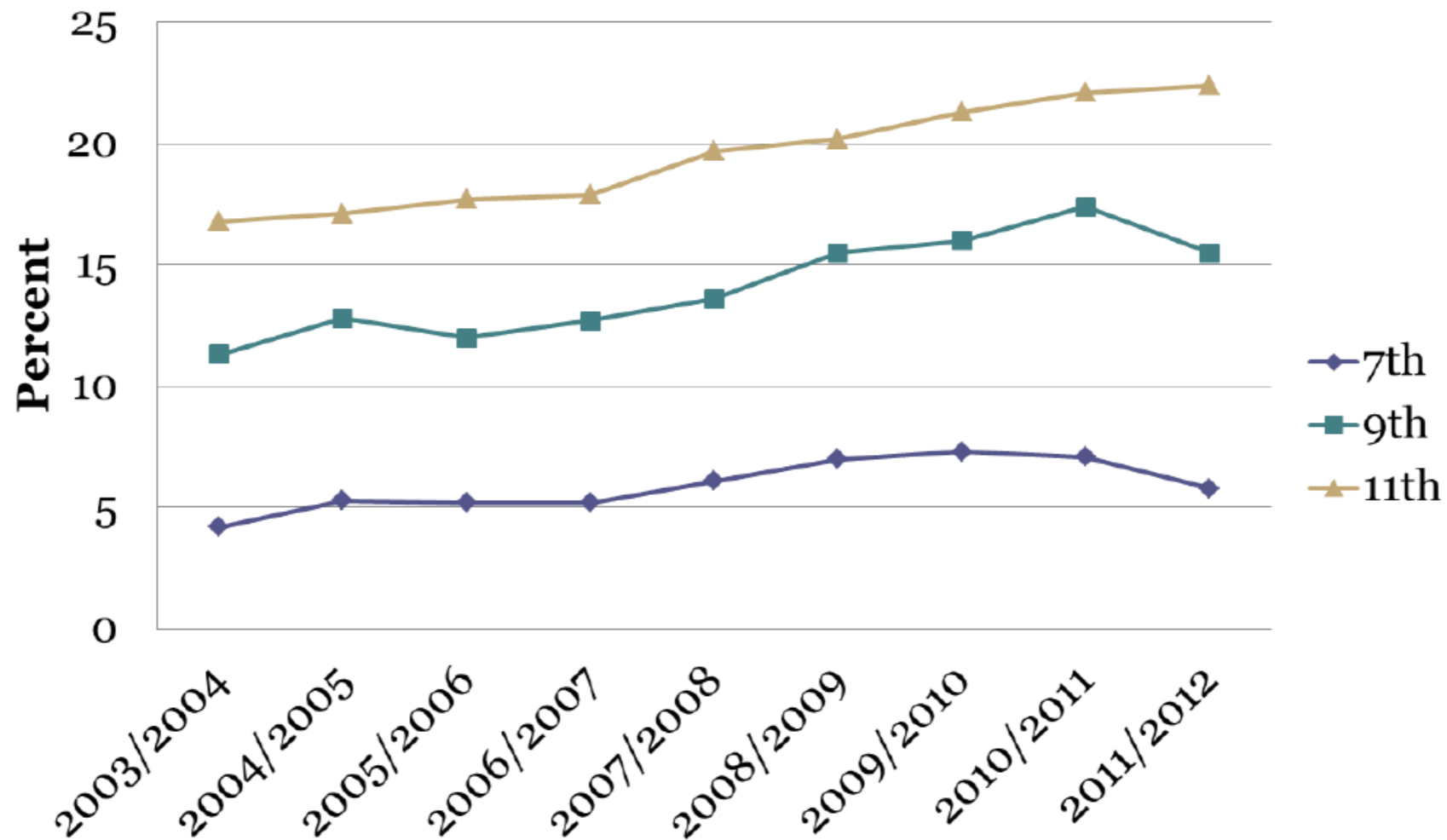
Source: CHKS, 1999-2015

*\*In 2013, the response rate for non-traditional students participating in the survey was lower than in previous years, which could be a factor for the decrease in reported daily use rates for that year.*



# PAST 30 DAY USE - CALIFORNIA

## 30 Day Prevalence of Youth Marijuana Use in California



California Healthy Kids Survey Data compiled by Prevention Research Center at the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

# **USE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS NATIONALLY (AGES 19-28)**

- **Past 30 Day Marijuana Use among young adults ages 19-28 at the highest level since 1988.**
- **Daily Marijuana Use among young adults ages (19-28) at the highest since 1986!**

*Source: Monitoring the Future Survey 2013 volume 2 - College Student and Adult ages 19 - 55*


# SAN DIEGO COUNTY - ACCESS

- Nearly 20% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders in San Diego County believe Pot is easy to get.
- Over 50% of 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders believe Pot it is “easy” to get.

reply prohibited Posted: an hour ago prev next

★ Eaze is here! Today: \$35 off your mmj/420! (san diego)

On-Demand Marijuana Delivery



**eaze**

Your order is on the way!  
Estimated delivery time: 0-5 min  
Cash only. No tips.

I just have to rant and rave how excited I am Eaze is finally here in SD! Eaze is the revolutionary new MMJ delivery service that is now serving San Diego. We have been featured in Forbes, on Jimmy Kimmel, Snoop is even an investing partner!

Its super easy, lightning fast and ultra safe. This is the future of 420 delivery!

We believe in the service so much that we are willing to put our money where our mouth is: Try a delivery from Eaze today and get \$35 OFF YOUR ORDER! No gimmicks, no catch, just use promo code NUG183.

Yes, seriously, \$\$ THIRTY FIVE OFF YOUR ORDER with code NUG183. Cant lose on that!  
Check it out today on EazeUP (dot)com!



# Perception of Harm

**MPI**

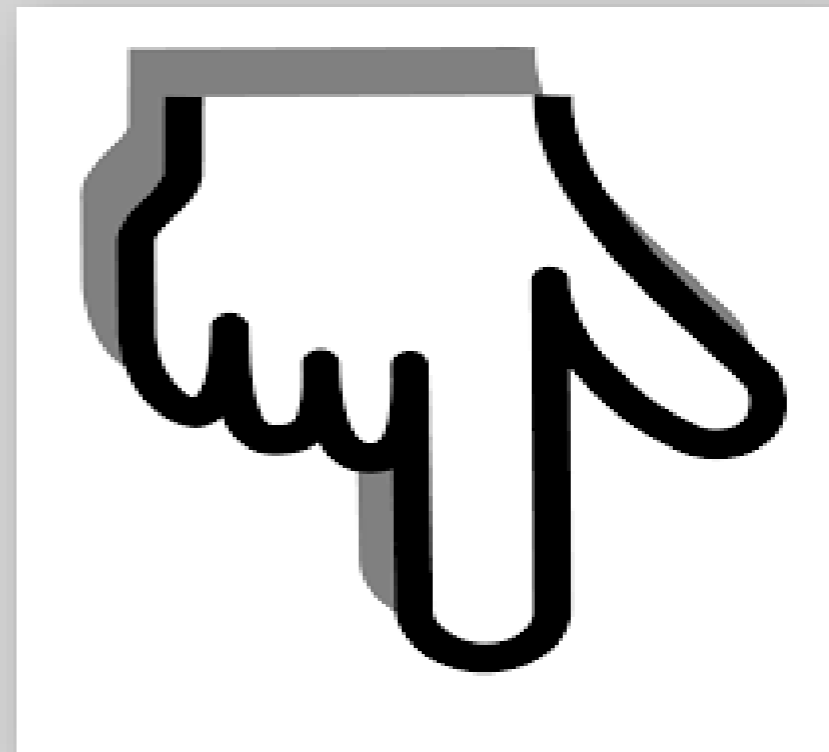
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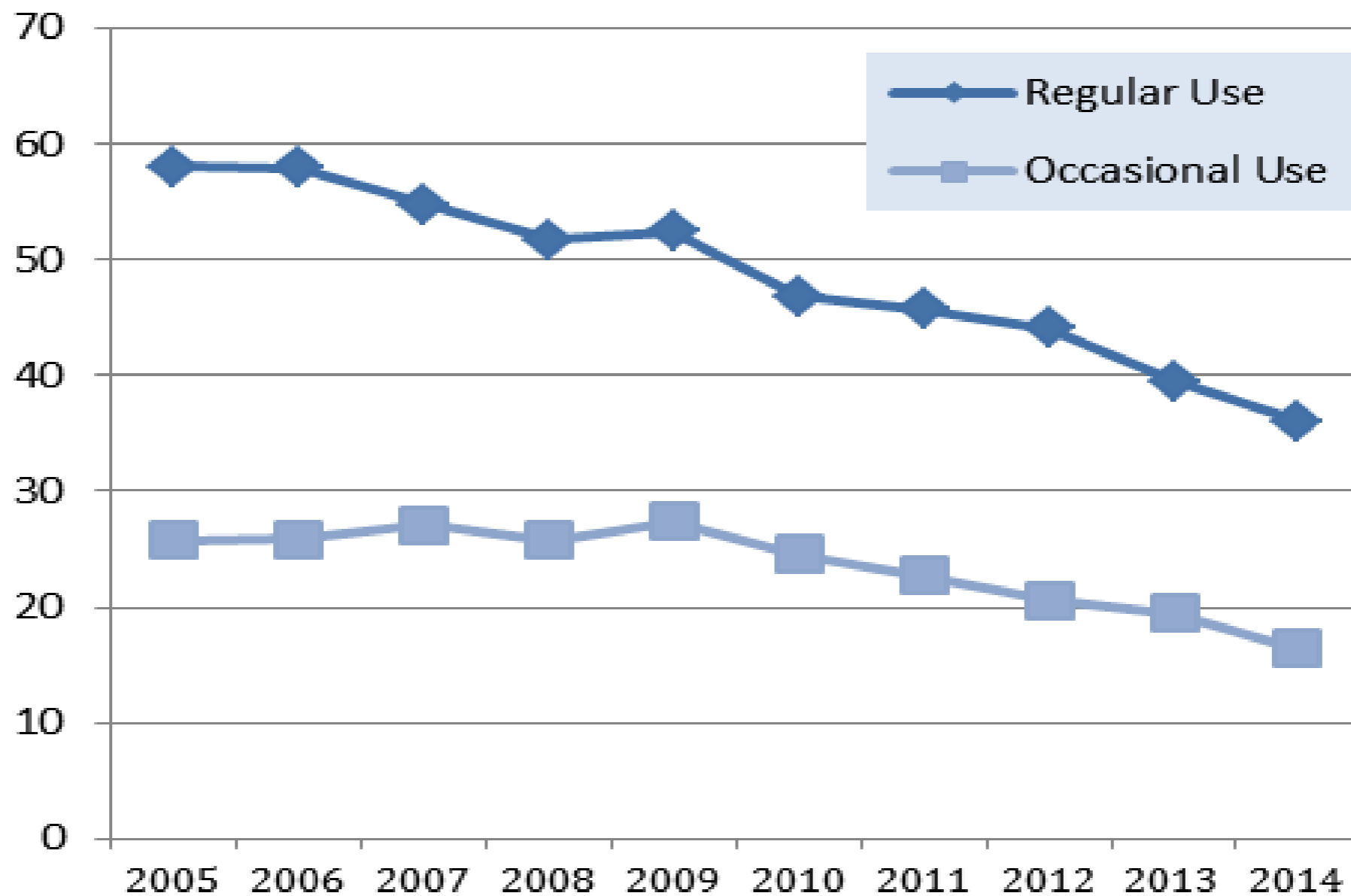
# SAN DIEGO - HARM PERCEPTION!

Perceptions of Harm among youth have been decreasing for marijuana, prescription drugs and synthetic drugs!



# NATIONAL DATA: PERCEPTION OF HARM

**Percentage of 12th Graders  
Perceiving Marijuana as "Great Risk"**



# ADDED QUESTIONS TO COUNTY CUSTOM MODULE

- Vaping
- Edibles
- Drugged Driving
- Synthetics

## Z. San Diego County Custom Questions

### 1. Module Sample

**Table Z.1.1**  
*Student Sample for Custom Questions*

	Grade 7	Grade 9	Grade 11	NT <sup>A</sup>
<i>Student Sample Size</i>				
Final number	11,212	17,547	15,454	1,135

*Note: <sup>A</sup>NT includes continuation, community day, and other alternative school types.*

### 2. Custom Questions

**Table Z.2.1**

*If you have ever used marijuana, where did you get it from?*

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Friend, relative or family member	4	15	27	48
Someone you just met or didn't know well	1	4	7	19
Drug dealer	1	6	11	32
Medical marijuana dispensary/Pot Shop	1	3	6	20
Internet	1	1	1	5
Mexico	1	2	3	8
Home delivery	0	1	3	11
I grew it or I got it from someone who grew it	1	3	4	15
I have never used marijuana	94	81	67	34

*Question HS/MS Z.1.*

*Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 25 respondents. Total percentages may exceed 100% for "mark all that apply" items.*

**Table Z.2.2**

*If you have ever used marijuana or concentrated marijuana how did you consume it?*

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Smoke	3	13	24	49
Eat	1	2	5	7
Vape / Vaporize / E-cigarette	1	1	1	3
Hookah Pipe	1	1	1	2
Other	1	1	1	4
I have never used marijuana	93	81	67	34

*Question HS/MS Z.2.*

*Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 25 respondents.*

**MPI**

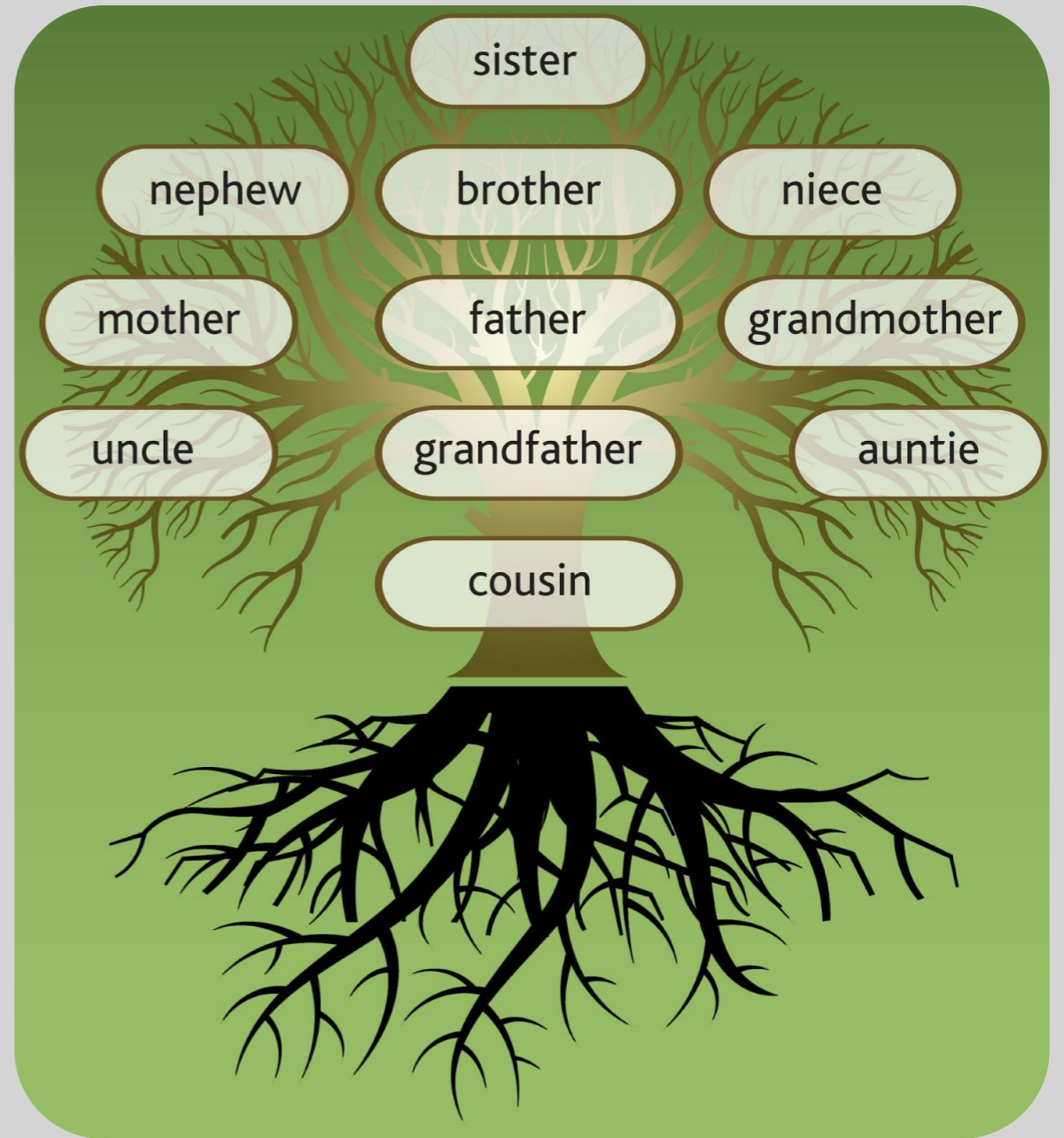
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# Trends

# EVERYONE REACTS DIFFERENTLY TO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL!

- Metabolism - Your Body
- Family History
- Environment



# CURRENT TREATMENT DATA

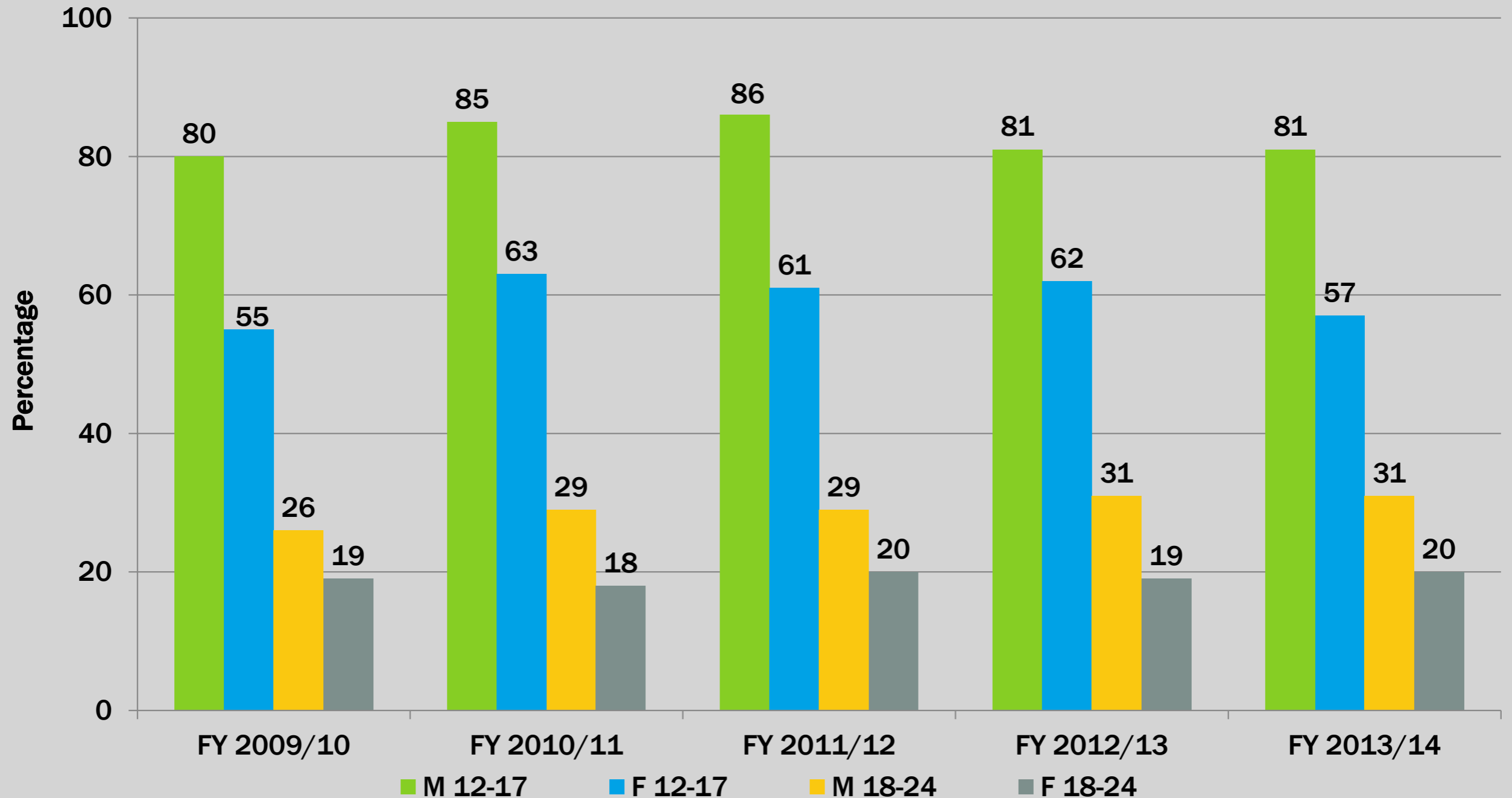
*Marijuana is the primary drug of choice for youth ages 12-17 in San Diego County funded drug treatment programs.*

- Drug treatment providers observing higher potency and frequent use, based on Creatinine ratio in a drug test.

*“8 out of every 10 youth were admitted for marijuana addiction in 2015.”*

# PERCENTAGE OF YOUTH TREATMENT ADMISSION RATES BY GENDER & AGE RANGE

MARIJUANA AS PRIMARY DRUG OF CHOICE - SAN DIEGO COUNTY TREATMENT PROGRAMS



# ER DISCHARGES

## Marijuana-Related Emergency Department Discharge Data San Diego County 2006-2014

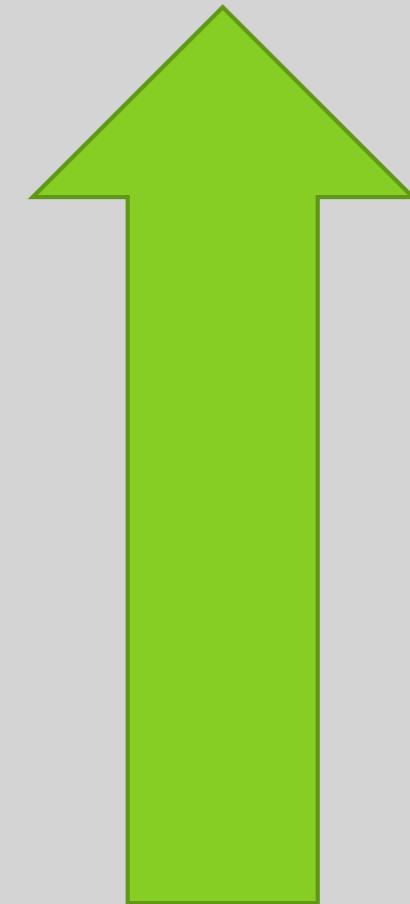
This fact sheet summarizes data obtained from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Emergency Department Discharge Database on County of San Diego Emergency Department visits related to cannabis use over a nine-year time frame (i.e., 2006-2014).<sup>1</sup> Table 1 provides data on discharges in which cannabis use was (1) the primary diagnosis or (2) either the primary or secondary diagnosis upon discharge (i.e., all diagnoses that included coding for cannabis).<sup>2</sup> For most secondary cases, individuals came into the Emergency Department for something else (e.g., broken arm, injury, flu, etc.) and cannabis use was added as a secondary diagnosis. In these cases, the drug use may or may not have contributed to the reason for the Emergency Department visit.

Table 1. Cannabis-related San Diego County Emergency Department Discharges by Year									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Total ER Discharges</b>	573,858	601,102	612,310	643,091	635,302	671,815	698,303	727,510	781,289
<b>Primary Cannabis-related Diagnosis Only</b>									
Primary Cannabis-related Discharges	86	107	77	111	136	188	205	171	232
Primary Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by Total ER Discharges	15.0	17.8	12.6	17.3	21.4	28.0	29.4	23.5	29.7
Primary Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by County Population	2.9	3.5	2.5	3.6	4.4	6.0	6.5	5.4	7.2
<b>All Cannabis-related Diagnosis (Primary &amp; Secondary Diagnosis Combined)</b>									
All Cannabis-related Discharges	1,108	1,734	1,851	2,362	3,722	4,300	5,311	7,354	10,302
Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by Total ER Discharges	193.0	288.5	302.3	367.3	585.9	640.0	760.6	1011.4	1318.6
Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by County Population	37.1	57.5	60.7	76.7	119.6	137.2	168.0	231.0	320.5

\*Rate per 100,000 people

<sup>1</sup> Source: California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Emergency Department Data. Prepared by the California Department of Public Health, Safe and Active Communities Branch. Reports generated from <http://epicenter.cdph.ca.gov> on: March 14, 2016.

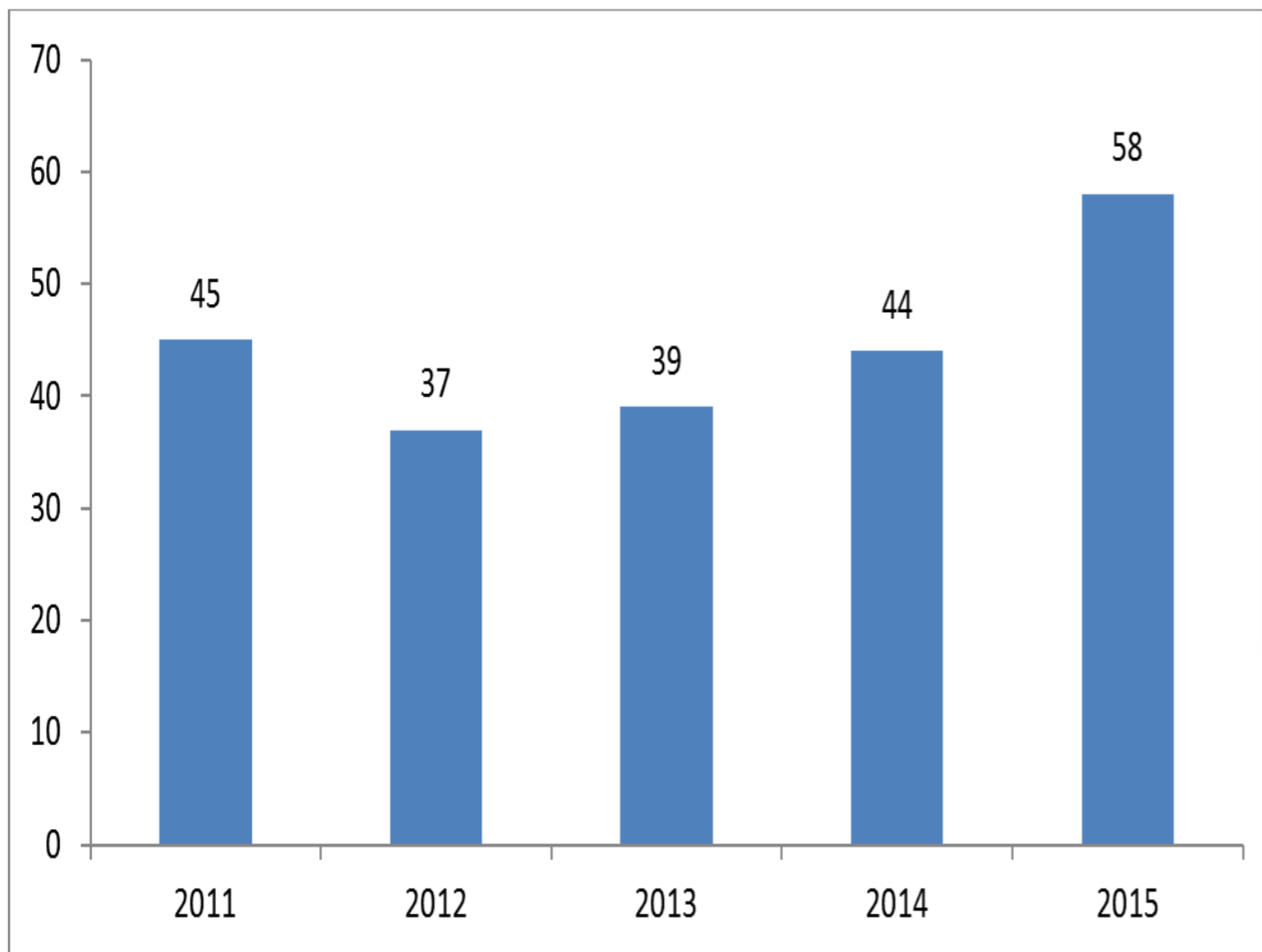
<sup>2</sup> A primary or secondary cannabis-related diagnosis is assigned an ICD-9 code of 304.3 or 305.2 following a positive blood test for the presence of THC or the patient's self-disclosure of use.





# POISON CONTROL 2011-15

Number of Marijuana Human Exposure Cases for San Diego County: 2011-2015\*



\*Timeframe for 2011-2014 is from January-December; timeframe for 2015 is from January-November.

Source: California Poison Control Center, personal communication (March 2015).

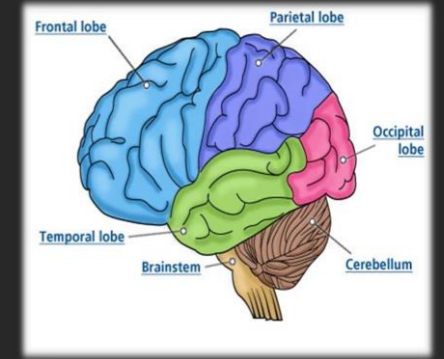
Counties with Highest Number/Percentage of California Poison Control Center Cases for Marijuana Exposure over a Three-Year Period (2013-2015\*)

County	Number of Cases	County Percentage of Total State Cases
Los Angeles	409	20.6%
San Diego	141	7.1%
Orange	111	5.6%
San Bernardino	110	5.6%
Alameda	104	5.2%
Riverside	100	5.0%
	975	49.1%

\*2015 data is for January-November

Source: California Poison Control Center, personal communication (March 2015).

# ADOLESCENT BRAIN



- The adolescent brain continues to develop well into the mid 20s. The brain continues to be streamlined during this period. (pruning)
- THC interferes with the connections being made to different areas of the brain, creating an imbalance in the cannabinoid system.
- Attention, working memory, learning.

# LOCAL HEALTH ISSUES

- Many people who smoke marijuana have lung issues including chronic bronchitis. Marijuana smoke contains the same cancer causing carcinogens as cigarettes.
- Too much marijuana, has resulted in Cyclical Vomiting Syndrome, severe abdominal pain and vomiting.



# **SAN DIEGO COUNTY: MEDICAL EXAMINER REPORT**

- **Motor vehicle-related fatalities accounted for 291 cases in 2014, up from 247 the previous year, an increase of nearly 18%. Accidental pedestrian deaths made up 88 of those cases. Those 88 cases are up from 64 deaths the previous year.**
- **Almost half of the accidental pedestrian deaths who were tested were under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs – most commonly methamphetamine or **THC**.**
- **Many of those killed were people running across freeways while it was dark outside.**



# FOOD PRODUCTS



# MPI

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# NO REGULATIONS!



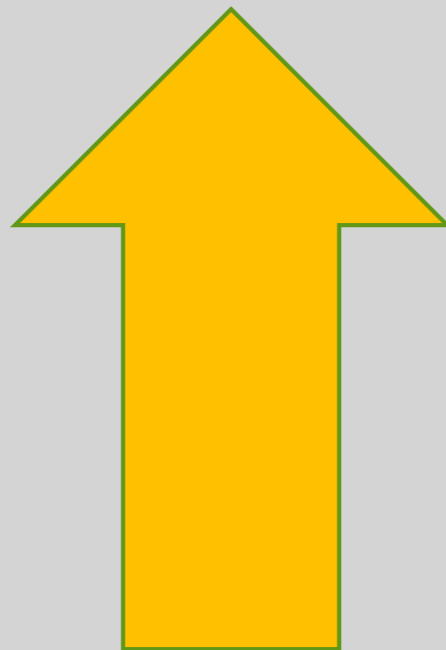
# NO REGULATIONS

- No quality assurance!
- No potency limits!
- No sanitary requirements!
- No labeling requirements!
- No advertising requirements!



# COLORADO AND EDIBLES

- The proliferation of marijuana-infused edibles stunned state and industry leaders, making it one of the biggest surprises during the first year of legal recreational marijuana sales.
- Potent cookies, candies and drinks — once considered a niche market — now account for roughly 45 percent of the legal marijuana marketplace.



A YEAR OF LEGAL POT

## Pot edibles were big surprise in first year of recreational sales

By Jordan Steffen  
The Denver Post

POSTED: 12/26/2014 02:05:13 PM MST | UPDATED: 7 MONTHS AGO 2 COMMENTS



Dixie Edibles & Edibles employees Jaymie Giordano, left, and Zak Mishaw carefully cut the marijuana-infused Colorado Bars produced at the Denver company. Each bar contains 100 milligrams of THC, the psychoactive chemical in marijuana, or 10 times the recommended amount. (Photos by Helen H. Richardson, The Denver Post)

As one of the people charged with implementing marijuana legalization in Colorado, Ron Kammerzell thought he had considered everything.

And then inexperienced users bit off more than they could chew,

**RELATED STORIES**

**Dec 29:**

- Aurora's journey on pot sales a bit rough to start



# EXPLOSIONS SAN DIEGO



The image shows a video player interface. On the right side, a news anchor with blonde hair, wearing a dark blue top, is visible. To her left is a large rectangular area that is currently a solid blue color, likely representing a video that has not yet started or is a placeholder. Below the video area, there is a black bar with white text that reads "Butane hash oil lab explosions on the rise locally". At the bottom of the player, there is a control bar with a play/pause button, a progress bar showing "00:00/02:27", a volume control icon, and other standard video controls. On the right side of the video area, there are four vertical buttons: "EMAIL" (with an envelope icon), "EMBED" (with a code icon), "SHARE" (with a share icon), and "HELP" (with a question mark icon).

# VERY DANGEROUS PROCESS!

- Uses butane gas to extract a potent liquid out of the plant.



# BUTANE GAS – COLORLESS, ODORLESS, HIGHLY FLAMMABLE



# 90% 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE BURNS - 2015

## Fully Involved Apt/Unit

Victim 90% 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Burns



BHO Fire Injury

# HASH OR HONEY OIL

- Oil can be whipped into a *budder* and cooked into products like brownies, cookies, etc.
- Sprayed onto generic candies
- Vaped in vape pens
- Made into drops known as tinctures



# EDIBLE EFFECTS

- May not feel anything for **30 to 60 minutes** (on a full stomach may take nearly two hours to feel full effects).
- The high can last **4 to 8 hours** while the effects from smoking can wear off in an hour or less.



# HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

## Colorado Teen Jumps To His Death After Eating Marijuana Cookie

Newser April 3, 2014

[Leave a Comment](#) // [News](#)



For the first time since Colorado legalized weed for recreational use, a coroner has listed "marijuana intoxication" as a contributor to a death. Wyoming student Levy Thamba was in Denver on spring break with three friends when he jumped to his death from a Holiday Inn balcony after eating a marijuana cookie, reports the *Denver Post*. His friends told investigators he "exhibited hostile behavior" after eating the cookie, and though initial attempts to calm him down seemed to work, he ended up leaping from the balcony, *USA Today* reports. [Read more on Newser...](#)

- **The pot infused cookie contained as much THC as six high-quality joints.**
- **Takes longer to feel the high, people ingest more than recommended**
- **Severe Hallucinations**

# 23 YEAR OLD LUKE GOODMAN

- Consumed 5 peach tart candies
- Each candy containing 10mg of THC.
- Started becoming jittery and speaking incoherently.
- Shot himself

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Breaking news for everyone's consumption

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### Third Death in Colorado Linked to Marijuana Edibles

BY NEWS DESK | MARCH 27, 2015

The third death associated with marijuana edibles could not have come at a worse time for the state's 15-month-old legal pot industry. Services are being held today in Tulsa, OK, for Luke Goodman, 23, who reportedly killed himself last Saturday night in a condo at Colorado's Keystone Ski Area, where he was staying for two weeks with his family.

It will be a few weeks before toxicology reports will be returned, but Goodman's family and friends suspect that edible marijuana was a factor in the self-inflicted gunshot death. His mother, Kim Goodman, blames her son's death on "a complete reaction to the drugs."

Another controversy from a death linked to marijuana edibles was not what the industry needed, especially this week when it was making legislative moves to kill a regulation taking effect in 2016 calling for all marijuana-infused foods to have a distinct look.

The bill to loosen the coming requirement that marijuana-infused cookies or candies be clearly identified as pot-infused did not get a single vote in the committee. The outcome was hailed as a bipartisan agreement that pot-infused food is going to look different than regular food in Colorado come 2016.

It left the conservative Colorado Springs Republican who sponsored the bill to repeal the requirement, state Sen. Owen Hill, charging his colleagues with "micromanagement."

Edibles account for about 45 percent of Colorado's newly legal pot market.

Goodman and his cousin, Caleb Fowler, reportedly purchased \$78 worth of marijuana products, including edibles, last Saturday afternoon. They began ingesting peach tart candies, each containing the recommended dose of 10 mg of THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, which is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects.

Fowler says his cousin ate at least five of the candies and later became jittery and was talking incoherently.





# COLORADO 911 SHOOTING



By CRIMESIDER STAFF / CBS/AP / August 25, 2014, 12:10 PM

## Man who ate pot candy must stand trial in wife's killing



Richard Kirk / DENVER POLICE DEPT. VIA CBS DENVER

Comment / Shares / 13 Tweets / Stumble / Email More +

**DENVER** - A judge ordered a Denver man on Friday to stand trial in the **killing of his wife, who told dispatchers moments before her death that he was paranoid and hallucinating after eating marijuana-infused candy.**

Defense attorneys for 48-year-old Richard Kirk suggested during a preliminary hearing that he was so impaired by the pot that he may not have intended to kill his wife.

Suspect shot wife while she was on the phone with 911.

The victim, told dispatchers her husband was so impaired after eating the "Karma Kandy Orange Ginger" that he was crawling through a bedroom window and cutting his legs on broken glass.

Only substance found in Kirk's blood was THC.

# CRAWFORD HS - OCT 23, 2015

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## Marijuana brownies sicken Crawford High students

By Pauline Repard | 6:04 p.m. Oct. 23, 2015 | Updated, 5:08 p.m. | Oct. 24, 2015

**SAN DIEGO** — Five students got sick at Crawford High School Friday after eating marijuana-laced brownies, a school district official said.

All five were taken to Rady Children's Hospital for treatment. They were reported to be in stable condition.

The students at the school in the El Cerrito neighborhood reported to staff that they had eaten the brownies, then felt ill, said San Diego Unified School District spokeswoman Linda Zintz.

School staff called for paramedics about 12:30 p.m. and school district police began an investigation.

Zintz said she had no information about where the teens got the brownies and whether they were eaten on or off-campus.

School Principal Richard Lawrence sent recorded voice messages to parents Friday afternoon, saying five students taken to the hospital as a precaution after ingesting marijuana brownies were in stable condition and expected to be released from the hospital in the evening.

"Please take the time to speak to your son or daughter about ingesting food from other people," Lawrence's message said. "Students should not take nor eat food from others regardless of how it may appear. Drugs come in different forms and formats and there's also concerns about unknown allergens. We must be proactive for

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TOP STORIES

# CANNABIS LOZENGE OVERDOSE

San Ysidro High School two 14-year females took three of these lozenges at school: One had elevated heart rate of over 150 beats per minute, constricted pupils, cold sweats. The other girl had a decreased heart rate, extremely low blood pressure and dilated pupils.

Originated from San Diego based online company "Kind Bake"

45% THC



# SIDE EFFECTS

- **Hallucinations**
- **Paranoia**
- **Anxiety**
- **Panic**
- **Depression**



# SMOKING VS. EATING

- Most people don't realize when we smoke cannabis, 80% of the cannabinoids are burnt off.
- We can absorb into the blood stream, about 20% of the cannabinoids that end up in our lungs.
- When eating cannabis, we can absorb most of the THC content.



# POPULAR COMBO

## Benzodiazepines (Depressant) and Marijuana

- **Xanax** (aka **alprazolam**, **bars**, **footballs**), **Klonopin** (aka **clonazepam**, **klonies**), **Valium** (aka **diazepam**, **blues**), **Ativan** (**lorazepam**), **Versed** (**midazolam**).



When mixed with marijuana, the sedative effects of benzodiazepines are increased causing impaired memory, poor concentration and confusion.

# **DO NOT TAKE YOURSELF OFF OF DR. PRESCRIBED MEDICATION!**

Law Enforcement, increasingly responding to calls for people that have taken themselves off of Doctor prescribed mental health medications supplementing with marijuana.

**Most psychotropic drugs require a weaning off period.**



# NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS

- The overwhelming consensus from mental health professionals is that marijuana is not helpful—and potentially dangerous—for people with mental illness.
- Marijuana can directly worsen symptoms of **anxiety, depression** or **schizophrenia** through its actions on the brain.
- Approximately one-third of people in America with schizophrenia regularly abuse marijuana.



# SCHIZOPHRENIA



The association between adolescent marijuana abuse and future development of psychosis has become accepted in literature.

- The risk of developing long-term psychosis has been found to increase proportionally with increasing frequency of marijuana use.
- Adolescence have an age related risk of developing long-term hallucinations or schizophrenia from abusing marijuana.

Source: In press “Cannabis and the Adolescent Brain” - *Pediatric Annals*, March 2014; Dr. Robert J. Hilt, MD, FAAP, Assistant *Professor* of Psychiatry, University of Washington

# MPI PREVENTION AND COLLABORATION

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# KEY LEADERSHIP TEAM

**2012 - Develop and recruit partners to Key Leadership Team (KLT). Members include individuals and agencies that are representative of San Diego County:**

- San Diego County Sheriff's Department
- San Diego County Office of Education
- San Diego County Probation
- University of California San Diego - Addiction Research
- Friday Night Live
- Californians for Drug-Free Youth (CADFY)
- San Diego Unified School District
- Behavioral Health Advisory Board
- McAlister Institute - Treatment
- Scripps Hospital

## PARTNERING WITH SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

- Members of the Marijuana Prevention Initiative's Key Leadership team.
- Author of multiple media pieces and events.
- Developed data utilizing current CHKS surveys to track 9 of the largest school districts, rates of drug use. **New custom module addressing emerging trends!**
- Multiple school presentations with students 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up, trainings with SRO's, school staff, mental health workers, nurses and administration regarding emerging drug trends.

# MEDIA MESSAGING

## Develop media pieces regarding:

- Adolescent health impacts related to marijuana use.
- To inform of the impacts to youth in states that have already legalized. (truancy, school performance, drugged driving, ER visits and mental health issues.)
- Emerging trends include: increased use, paraphernalia and vaping, food/snack products, increased potency, delivery services and other access points including phone “apps” available for easy access.

# MPI NEWS CONFERENCE



# CHANGING THE MEDIA LANDSCAPE

**TIMES**  
of SAN DIEGO

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## The Hidden Danger in Unregulated Marijuana Edibles

POSTED BY EDITOR ON MARCH 15, 2016 IN OPINION | 690 VIEWS | 1 RESPONSE

Share This Article:



Medical marijuana shop. Image via Wikimedia Commons

By Dr. Roneet Lev

Buying snack foods and beverages is a common occurrence. We routinely review the package label of all the ingredients, as well as the serving size and calorie content. We trust that the products we buy are made in a safe, clean environment.

Yet, for marijuana infused food products, no set standards exist. Currently, the food and beverage products containing tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the psychoactive ingredient in pot, have absolutely no oversight, and there is no way a consumer can know how potent the snack item is or if it contains an allergen. Users of these products really have no idea what they are smoking or eating and this unknown can be deadly.

Last October, five Crawford High School youth were taken to the hospital for eating brownies containing marijuana. The principal took the time to write a letter to parents stating, "Unfortunately,

**Opinion**

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SDCOE » NEWSROOM » EXPERTS DISCUSS THE DANGERS OF YOUTH MARIJUANA USE

- Newsroom
- 2014 News Archive
- 2013 News Archive
- 2012 News Archive
- 2011 News Archive
- Older Articles

## Experts Discuss the Dangers of Youth Marijuana Use

October 24, 2014

About a third of middle and high school students in San Diego County say they don't think people put themselves at great risk when they use marijuana once or twice a week and by 9th grade, one-in-four has already used marijuana, according to data released recently.

This puts young people, with still-developing brains, at great risk, according to researchers.

"These statistics are alarming for educators, because marijuana use affects learning in the classroom, it affects their futures," said Don Buchheit, interim assistant superintendent at the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE).

Buchheit joined drug-prevention advocates, police and local students Oct. 23 at SDCOE's main campus to discuss the problems associated with youth drug use and data recently released as part of the 2013 California Healthy Kids Survey.

"In order to maintain a safe and effective learning environment, no student should be under the influence of any illicit drug, including marijuana," said David Leonhardi, a school resource officer at Monte Vista High School in Spring Valley.

Not only is marijuana much more potent than it was years ago, but its use may also seem more acceptable to some in the community, speakers said.

"Cannabis today is not the cannabis of the '60s," said Dr. Carmen Pulido, a professor at the UC San Diego School of Medicine.

Cognitive effects from marijuana use include: verbal and working memory decline, and increased errors in executive functioning.

Mia Montes, a student at San Dieguito Academy, discussed her work to help students make positive life choices through the Friday Night Live program.

"This message is so important because many younger students may not have positive teenage



### Other Recent News

- JCCS Students Learn About Theater Jobs at Playhouse (Jul 22)
- North County Academy Grows to Serve More Students (Jul 16)
- SDCOE Helps Prepare Library Paraprofessionals (Jul 14)

### Related Links

- Marijuana Prevention Initiative
- Friday Night Live
- California Healthy Kids Survey

### SDCOE Media Contact:

Music Watson  
 Chief Communications and  
 Public Relations Officer  
 858-292-3719

# YOUTH CULTURE AND MEDIA

- Provide media pieces in a youth relevant format.
- Short media messages with links and visuals. *YouTube*
- More information; less “scare tactics”, how will drug use impede my health, career plans and future.
- The effect of marijuana on the environment (drought, electricity, illegal grows).
- Drugged driving!



# **ACTION: IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE**

- 1. Continue reaching out to non-traditional schools and “at risk youth”**
  - conduct focus groups, forums, workshops, and recruit at-risk youth to participate in youth group activities.
- 2. Continue to track dispensaries and proximity to youth-sensitive locations.**
- 3. Engage in information dissemination on dangers through**
  - social media, trainings, media events, workshops, and community forums.



Put Drugged Driving  
“On Your Radar”

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**DRUGGED DRIVING  
CAMPAIGN KICK OFF JUNE 11, 2015**

# SOME OF US THINK DRUGGED DRIVING IS HARMLESS!

*More than 40% of high school students attending non-traditional schools have driven or been driven by someone while under the influence of marijuana.*



**Source: CHKS, San Diego County, 2015**

# NO STATEWIDE STANDARDS OF IMPAIRMENT

- No uniform Nano-gram limit (Alcohol .08)
- Stricter laws to obtain blood samples.
- Perceived risk of impairment from THC is low.
- Prosecutions are low when drugs “only” are involved!
- Metabolism – marijuana can stay in system for 30 to 40 days, does not mean impaired.

# PUT DRUGGED DRIVING ON YOUR RADAR!



# DRUGGED DRIVING MEDIA

**TIMES**  
of SAN DIEGO

Chuze Today to Get Fit

**FREE DAY PASS**

ALL POLITICS CRIME BUSINESS SPORTS EDUCATION ARTS MILITARY TECH

Home » Opinion » This Article

## How Safe are We in San Diego from Drugged Drivers?

POSTED BY EDITOR ON MARCH 11, 2015 IN OPINION | 781 VIEWS | LEAVE A RESPONSE



Sheriff's Department DUI checkpoint. Image courtesy San Diego Sheriff

Dr. Roneet Lev and Matilda Casas

A spate of suspected drugged drivers made news in San Diego County as 2015 began.

A North County driver suffered a broken back when his car was hit. A high-speed chase through San Marcos ended with a man in custody. A woman pleaded guilty to manslaughter after a fatal crash in University City. An 18-year-old faces felony charges after a wreck in Escondido left his passenger with neck injuries. And a DUI checkpoint off State Route 78 had two drugged-driving arrests.



But drugged driving doesn't always make headlines and it's not new.

A 2012 roadside drug survey by the Office of Traffic Safety tested the saliva of more than 1,000 nighttime drivers around California. One out of seven drivers tested positive for at least one drug that could cause impairment. Marijuana and alcohol virtually tied for the most positive drug test results

The San Diego Union-Tribune

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OPINION | COMMENTARY

## Is euphoria of recreational pot clouding our common sense?

By Jim Crittenden & Jeni Mendel | 4:30 p.m. March 28, 2014



The euphoria surrounding legalizing pot for recreational use is clouding common sense when it comes to driving. Pot remains the drug of choice for teenagers and research shows that youth are extremely vulnerable to marijuana's ill effects. Young drivers who smoke pot are at particularly high risk for being involved in a vehicle crash, not only due to overall driver inexperience, but also to the increasing availability of pot products with high levels of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol).



In a recent study of 23,500 drivers from six different states including California, drugged driving accounted for more than 28 percent of traffic deaths in 2010, up from more than 16 percent in 1999. Marijuana was the primary drug involved in the increase. It is important to note that five out of the six states surveyed have medical marijuana policies in place.

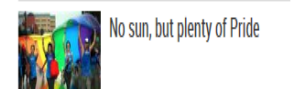
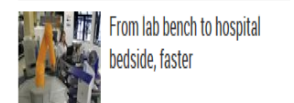
In a recent National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, youth ages 16 and younger who reported using multiple substances including alcohol, tobacco and marijuana were associated with higher rates of substance use dependence as an adult. Early users of all three substances were more than twice as likely to meet the criteria for marijuana dependence. Past 30-day use of marijuana by teens 12 to 17 is highest in medical-marijuana states, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration State Estimates from 2009-2010.

In Washington state, drivers testing positive for marijuana increased significantly since legalization took place

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TOP STORIES



# DRUGGED DRIVING RALLY RAMONA

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 READER'S POLL

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NEWS

## Montecito High students rally against drugged driving

Leadership class cautions public about driving under the influence

By JESSICA KING 4:19 p.m. March 4, 2016

Print Comments 0



Montecito High School students join mental health officials in a rally against drugged driving. Jessica King

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## Ramona Students Rally Against Drugged Driving

By Greg Bledsoe and Samantha Tatro

View Comments (0) | Email | Print | Tweet | Recommend 136 | Send | G+ 0



Students hold signs at a rally against drugged driving in Ramona on Feb. 27, 2016.

High school students in Ramona hope their extracurricular work could help save

- TREND
- Cycli Clos
  - VIDE Shop

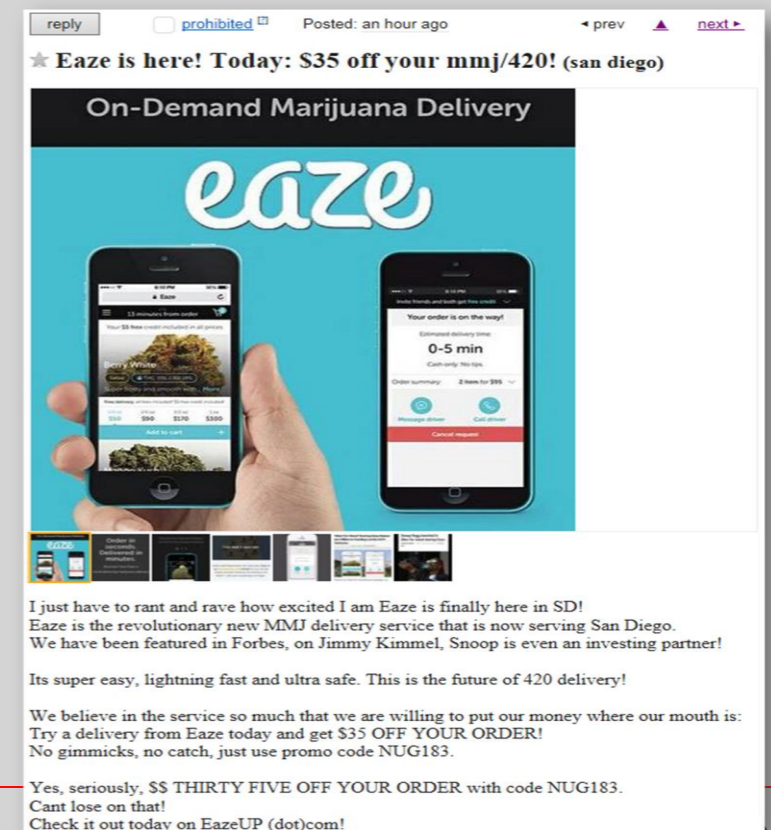
# DRUG TRENDS-2016





# AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

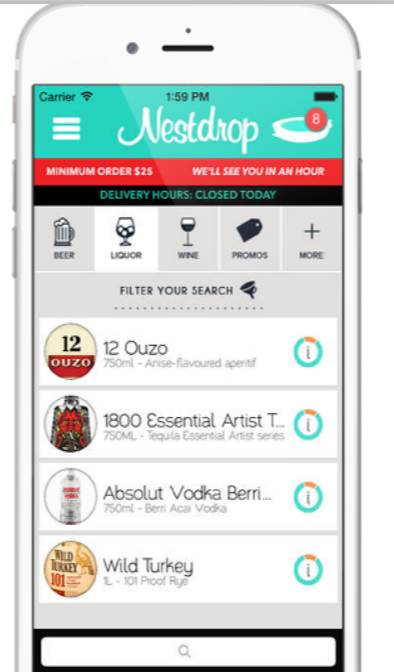
- Easy access to many products.
- Apps for Delivery services –GPS locators
- Access to many people!
- Constant posting of activities!



# APPS TO ACCESS WEED

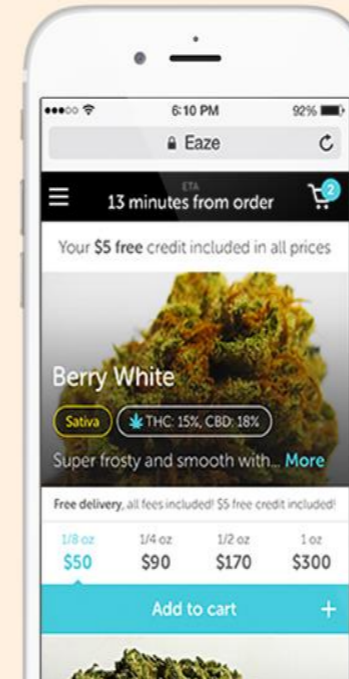
## 1 Nestdrop

Nestdrop is a Los Angeles startup that began as an alcohol delivery app and has been in and out of the law's good graces since it made the jump to medical marijuana delivery last year. After downloading the app, it quickly let me know that the service was not available in Los Angeles despite delivering to nearby Pasadena. Nestdrop currently functions for weed delivery in Orange County, Oceanside, San Francisco, Stockton, Portland and Seattle. While Nestdrop touts itself as available in Seattle, other Washington-based cannabis industry startups such as Canary and Ave have not been able to stay operating legally within the state. I guess you can't stay legal in a city if your business started there. That's unless you're Eaze.



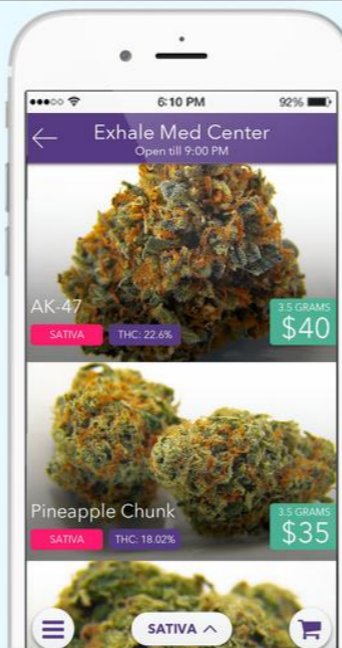
## 2 Eaze

After a failed attempt at using Nestdrop, I tried ordering through the San Francisco-based app Eaze (which touts Snoop Dogg as one of its investors). Although the app is advertised as being for both iOS and Android, in LA I could only find it in the Google Play store. After quickly getting an account verified via a photograph of my medical marijuana prescription and photo ID, the system let me browse through a selection of flowers (what the legal smoking community calls weed in plant form), prerolls, edibles and concentrates. But when I attempted to order any of their products, Eaze said that none of their drivers were in my area but that I should try again later. I doubted I would have had much luck later though, it's clear from the app's map that the drivers are steering clear of LA city proper and only driving in the nearby cities of Santa Monica and Culver City. The fact that any delivery drivers are showing up on the map at all is surprising because according to Eaze's website, the app is only available in San Francisco and the Bay Area.



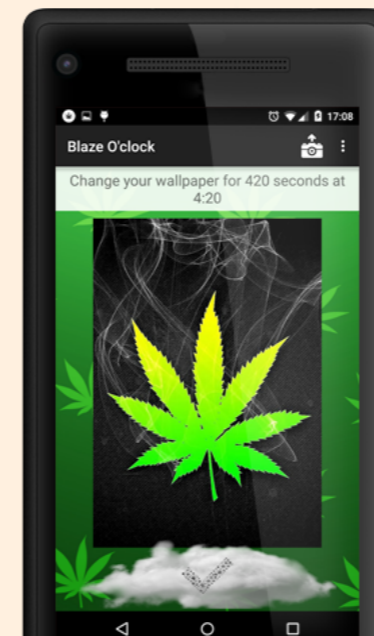
## 3 Nugg

Nugg is the only app that is legally functioning in all of Los Angeles, but it is no longer available for download on iOS or Android, meaning you have to order through its web browser application. Despite not being able to get weed with the press of a single button, Nugg sorts out the closest dispensary and tells you which ones have delivery service, a similar function to that of Yelp, except it's pot.



## 4 Blaze O'clock

Speaking of 420, in case you didn't know when to smoke up, one of the most prevalent weed culture apps are those that remind users when it's 4:20. This includes Blaze O'Clock (or more obviously called, the [420 Wallpaper Changer](#)) which will not only give a quick audible alert, but also converts your phone's background to one of eight weed themed wallpapers (two of which feature Snoop Dogg) for 420 seconds. I'm not quite sure what happens on iOS but on my Android device there is also a little cannabis leaf that appears in the upper left-hand corner where my roaming and data error symbols might show up.



# ACCESS FROM DISPENSARIES

- 150 designated locations for dispensaries in Un-incorporated San Diego County. **Temporary moratorium on new storefronts. March - 2016**
- County Collective/Dispensary Ordinance prohibits the sale of edible products. Can sell dry ingredients!
- The City of San Diego allows (4) dispensaries per (9) council districts.
- All other San Diego cities have bans!



In 2014-15, 582 medical cards were issued countywide

# DRUG TRANSACTIONS TODAY!



# GRINDERS

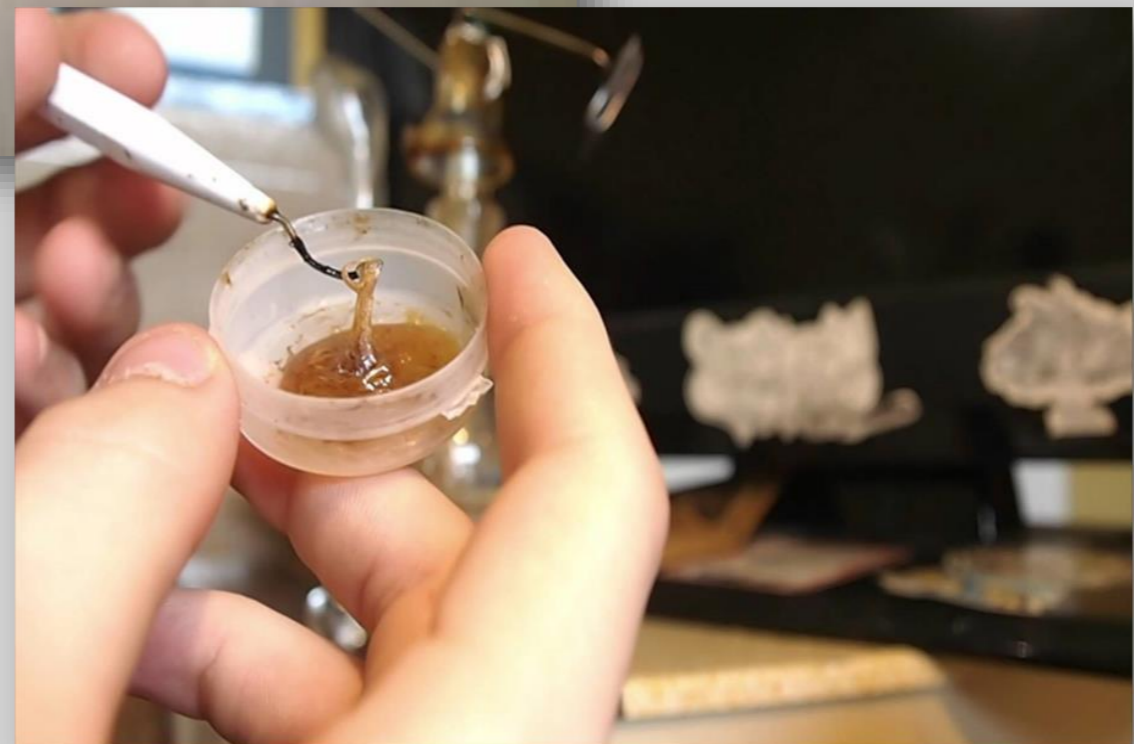
## Youth in possession of grinders.

- Herb is ground up into small consistent pieces, which maximizes surface area.
- Provides an even burning/vaporizing
- No annoying aspect from sticky fingers when breaking up buds by hand, those sticky fingers are soaking up trichomes and hurting potency.



# DABBING PARAPHERNALIA

Paper clips,  
dental tools,  
small screw  
drivers and  
pens with  
residue on  
tip.



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# VAPING/E-CIGS

# “LIQUID NICOTINE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS POISONING, AND EVEN DEATH, AMONG YOUNG CHILDREN,”

- In January 2012, the number of children poisoned by e liquid was 14. By April 2015, that number had risen to 223. Almost 50 percent of the kids were less than two-years-old.
- According to the study, about 14 percent of calls were about exposure to e-cigarettes, in about 92 percent of the e-cig cases, the kids swallowed liquid nicotine.

Source: National Poison Data System 2016 about nicotine and tobacco products from January 2012 to April 2015.

The screenshot shows a news article from a health website. The main headline is "E-Cigarette Poisonings Surge Among Young Kids". Below the headline is a photograph of an e-cigarette and two small vials containing yellow liquid. The article is dated Monday, 09 May 2016 08:36 AM. The page includes a navigation menu at the top with categories like Home, Health News, Cancer, Heart, Brain Health, Diabetes, Natural Health, Anti-Aging, Diet & Fitness, Health Wire, and Newsletters. A "Special" banner at the top right reads "Doctor: Weird Trick Makes Your Brain Younger". On the right side, there is a "BREAKING:" section with a sub-headline "The Biggest Thing Since the Smartphone" and an image of an iPhone. Below that is a "Free Newsmax E-Alerts" sign-up form with fields for Email, Country (set to United States), and Zip Code, along with a "SIGN UP" button and a privacy notice. At the bottom right, there is a "Find Your Condition" section with a grid of health conditions including Cancer, Heart Disease, Obesity, Arthritis, Alzheimer's/Dementia, Digestive Problems, Cold/Flu, Depression, Allergies, High Cholesterol, Chronic Pain, Thyroid Disorders, Menopause, Osteoporosis, Autism, Anxiety, and High Blood Pressure, Diabetes.



# E-CIGS, VAPE PENS

- Small and easy to hide
- Easy to purchase online
- No odor!
- Vape a variety of drugs.
- No easy way to test what is in them.



# NATIONAL DATA

Among high school students who had used marijuana at least once in their lifetime, **23% reported using e-cigarettes to vaporize dried cannabis leaves**; **15% reported using e-cigarettes to vaporize hash oil**; and, **10% reported using e-cigarettes to vaporize “wax”** (a high-potency marijuana product)



*Source: Morean, et al., 2015*

# VAPING VARIOUS FORMS OF POT

- Dry Herb Vape



- Hash Oil & Wax Vape



- Wax Vape- Dabbing



# A LOT WE DO NOT KNOW?

## Vaper Severely Injured When His E-Cigarette Blows Up In His Face, Creating A New Hole In His Mouth

BY BRANDON WENERD · 09.10.15

1.4k



...or not vaping is safer than smoking. We've posted like four articles at BroBible ([here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)). It's a contentious subject with the opinion is that both have their inherent risks that all users should be

...uria is an awful one, however. According to **Fox 5 DC**, he was the device exploded in his face.

...ed James. "I'm at work and things quieted down and I stepped away for a second like I always do. Next thing I know, it exploded and I was on my way to a hospital in an ambulance, and that is the last thing I remember."

Teens use e-cigarettes to vape marijuana: study

E-cigarettes may be just as addictive: study

### FLORIDA MAN IN COMA AFTER E-CIG EXPLODES IN FACE: FAMILY

Caples was smoking the e-cig Friday during a work break when the device exploded, breaking his neck, burning his mouth and knocking out his teeth, his sister Colessia Porter said. The Colorado college student was rushed to Memorial Hospital in critical condition, and underwent a successful spinal surgery on Sunday night, she told the Daily News.

"He could have lost his life," she said. "There's people that have lost limbs from this. We cannot have something of this magnitude happening to people."



Cordero Caples, 29, was in critical condition in a Colorado Springs hospital after an electronic cigarette exploded in his face.



Caples suffered a broken neck, burns on his mouth and a broken tooth.

The victim, who is a father of a 1-year-old girl, was almost paralyzed for life from the explosive-cigarette. He came out of the spinal reconstruction surgery in stable condition, Porter said. She said he was suffering immense pain prior to the surgery, and was relieved, but still aching from the incident. He told her he didn't know that the vaping devices could become dangerous handheld bombs.

# ARE THEY SAFE??

## Man catches fire after e-cigarette explodes in his pocket at petrol station – video



A man has suffered second-degree burns after his faulty e-cigarette set his trousers on fire at a petrol station in the US state of Kentucky. CCTV footage from the Quality Quick Convenient store in the town of Owensboro shows the man standing near the counter when sparks start shooting out of his trousers

## A 16-Year-Old Teen Suffered Second Degree Burns When an E-Cigarette Exploded in His Face

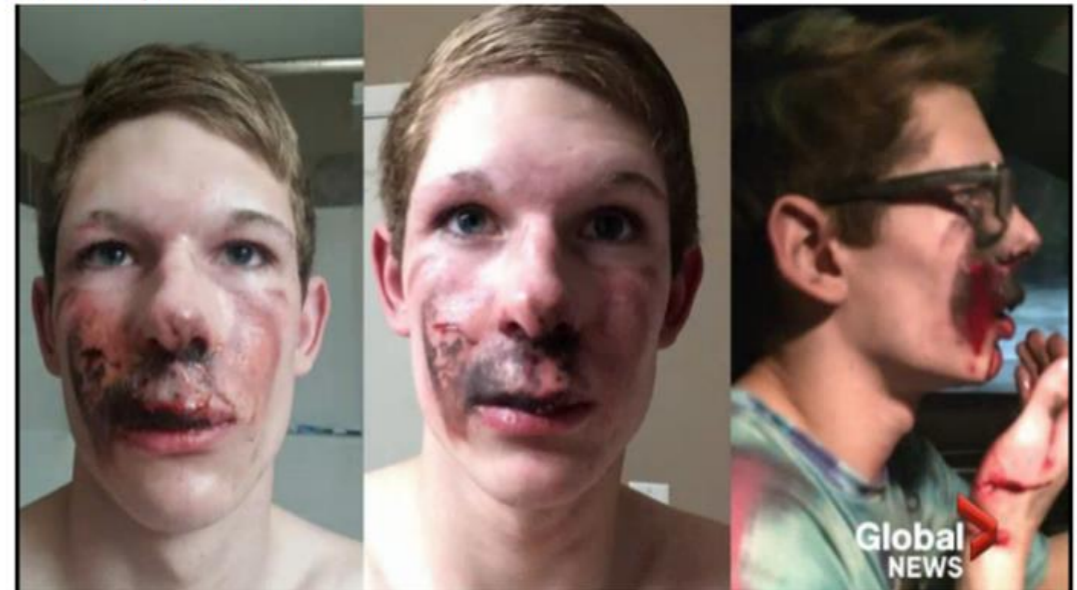
mic.com 20 hours ago



E-cigarettes are all the rage these days, as the grim fates of chain smokers make traditional drags increasingly [unpopular](#). But as researchers continue to [look into](#) whether the e-cigarette presents the same risks as its predecessor, it would seem there's another horrifying hazard e-cigs pose that cigarettes never did: explosions.

Such was the fate of 16-year-old Ty Greer, a teen in Alberta, Canada, who suffered second degree burns and broken teeth after his e-cigarette spontaneously exploded just inches from his mouth while he was using it in his car.

"It lit my kid's face on fire, busted two teeth out," Perry Greer, Ty's father, told the [Canadian Press](#). "It burned the back of his throat, burned his tongue very badly. If he wasn't wearing glasses, he possibly could have lost his eyes. ... He wanted to die. That is how much pain he was in."



# LAWSUITS

## N.Y. teen hospitalized after his e-cigarette explodes

USA TODAY NETWORK Jon Hand, Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle 8:35 p.m. EDT May 4, 2016



Ryan Scholand of Ogden has a hole in the back of his throat, deep cuts on his hands and burns on his upper lip thanks to an unlikely culprit: an exploding electronic cigarette. (May 4, 2016) Video by Max Schulte.



(Photo: Max Schulte, Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle)

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OGDEN, N.Y. — A 17-year-old was hospitalized Tuesday night when the e-cigarette he was puffing on exploded, burning his face, throat and hand cutting them with shards of metal.

Ryan Scholand of Ogden has a hole in the back of his throat, deep cuts on his hands and scars already forming on his upper lip.

He said he had just replaced the battery in the e-cig, a battery-powered device that simulates tobacco

## E-cigarette explosions prompt three lawsuits in California

### Vicente Garza

October 16, 2015



- Severe injuries to his mouth, tongue, and left index finger
- 7 day hospitalization
- Two surgeries on his tongue
- Two surgeries on his left index finger, including amputation at the knuckle
- Ongoing treatment at the Grossman Burn Center



An image provided by Shernoff Bidart Echeverria Bentley LLP shows Vicente Garza's injuries after an electronic cigarette exploded near his face. (Shernoff Bidart Echeverria Bentley LLP)



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### In Case You Missed It



Doctors' message to Asian Americans: Watch out for diabetes even if you're young and thin

3:00 AM

# FDA ACTION COMING!

The rules will bring the industry under federal oversight for the first time.

Hundreds of e-cigarette brands will have to undergo a lengthy federal review to stay on the market.

Limit e-cigarette sales to minors and require new health warnings.

“In a shift vigorously opposed by the industry, manufacturers must seek federal permission to continue marketing all e-cigarettes launched since 2007, making up the vast majority of the market”.

## FDA brings e-cigarettes under federal authority

MATTHEW PERRONE  
Associated Press  
May 05, 2016



FILE - In this April 23, 2014, file photo, a man smokes an electronic cigarette in Chicago. On Thursday, May 5, 2016, the Food and Drug Administration released long-awaited rules that bring the burgeoning electronic cigarette industry under federal oversight. (AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh, File)

WASHINGTON (AP) — New federal rules announced Thursday have the potential to upend the multibillion-dollar electronic cigarette industry just as it is attempting to position itself as an alternative to traditional cigarettes.

Under the long-awaited rules issued by the Food and Drug Administration, hundreds of e-cigarette brands will have to undergo a lengthy federal review to stay on the market. The rules will bring the burgeoning industry under federal oversight for the first time.

The changes will limit e-cigarette sales to minors and require new health warnings. In a shift vigorously opposed by the industry, manufacturers must seek federal permission to continue marketing all e-cigarettes launched since 2007, making up the vast majority of the market.

# VAPING DEVICES

- Vaping devices can be used for many drugs and may look like familiar products.





**SPICE**

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# DOWNTOWN AREA SPICE POISONINGS

## NOV 2015 - PRESENT

### **EMS reporting 2-3 poisonings a day!**

- Possibly new “Spice” compound with unknown health effects.
- Between March 2015 and February 2016 - 400 percent increase in Emergency Medical System (EMS) incidents involving Spice.
- Taxed EMS system and resources expenditures of \$2.4 million.
- Increase production and accessibility of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

# WHAT IS SPICE?

- A chemical sprayed on plant material.



# ONGOING **SPICE** OVERDOSES

- The chemicals affect brain receptors differently than THC.
- Some synthetic cannabinoids are 100X stronger than THC.
- Synthetic cannabinoids are produced as an oil or a crystalline powder that can easily be sprayed on plant material.

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**'Spice' Drug Overdoses Up In San Diego**

Facebook Twitter Email Comments

Tuesday, December 8, 2015  
By Maureen Cavanaugh, Neiko Will

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**KPBS midday EDITION**

0:00:00

Aired 12/8/15 on KPBS Midday Edition.

'Spice' Drug Overdoses Up In San Diego

GUESTS:

A number of people in San Diego have recently ended up in hospitals suffering from overdoses from the synthetic drug known as "spice."

Some use the drug as an alternative to marijuana because spice doesn't easily show up on drug tests.

[The San Diego Union-Tribune reported](#) that 40

# WHAT THE DRUG SPICE IS “NOT”.

1. Spice is “not” pot, it is a chemical sprayed on a fuel source (plant material, paper) that may resemble marijuana herb.
2. Spice is “not” plant-based; there are no naturally occurring spice plants or spice chemicals found on earth. Many Spice chemicals are produced in labs and smuggled in from countries like China.
3. Spice has “no” other use other than to get people high. There are no benefits to using Spice, not even accidental ones.
4. Spice is “not” without risk. Many first time users of Spice have ended up in emergency rooms with severe hallucinations, excited delirium, paranoia, heart attack, seizures, vomiting, kidney failure and death.

# LIQUID SPICE



Q SPICE INFORMATION ▾ ADDICTION RESOURCES ▾ SUBMITTE

## Vaping Spice & K2: More Dangerous Than Smoking?

Posted on May 17 by Spice Addiction Support

17  
MAY



## The Rise of Liquid Synthetic Marijuana: New Brands, New Risks

The popularity of **vaping** synthetic drugs – inhaling them in a vapor form, rather than smoking – is increasing in the US and UK.

**Vaping** is accomplished using an e-cigarette or “vape pen”, an electronic device that atomizes liquids and makes the vapor available for inhaling. Users load a liquid solution containing their drug of choice into the device, turn it on, and inhale.



# LEGALIZATION UPDATES

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# UPDATES COLORADO & WASHINGTON



January 2016

## The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: *The Impact*

**Latest Results for Colorado**

MARCH 2016



## Washington State Marijuana Impact Report

Northwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area



# YOUTH USE IN COLORADO RMHIDTA - 2016

- The latest 2013/2014 results show Colorado youth ranked #1 in the nation for past month marijuana use, up from #4 in 2011/2012.



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## **MORE FROM COLORADO...**

- **In 2014, the first year in which marijuana retailers began selling recreational pot, calls to the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center for marijuana exposure increased over 70% from 2013 and nearly 150% from 2012 (RMHIDTA, 2015). Additionally, 45 of the 151 calls received in 2014 involved children ages eight or younger (Johnson, 2015).**
- **BHO extraction lab explosions increased 167% from 12 in 2013 to 32 in 2014. In addition, injuries related to THC extraction lab explosions increased 67% from 18 in 2013 to 30 in 2014 (RMHIDTA, 2015).**

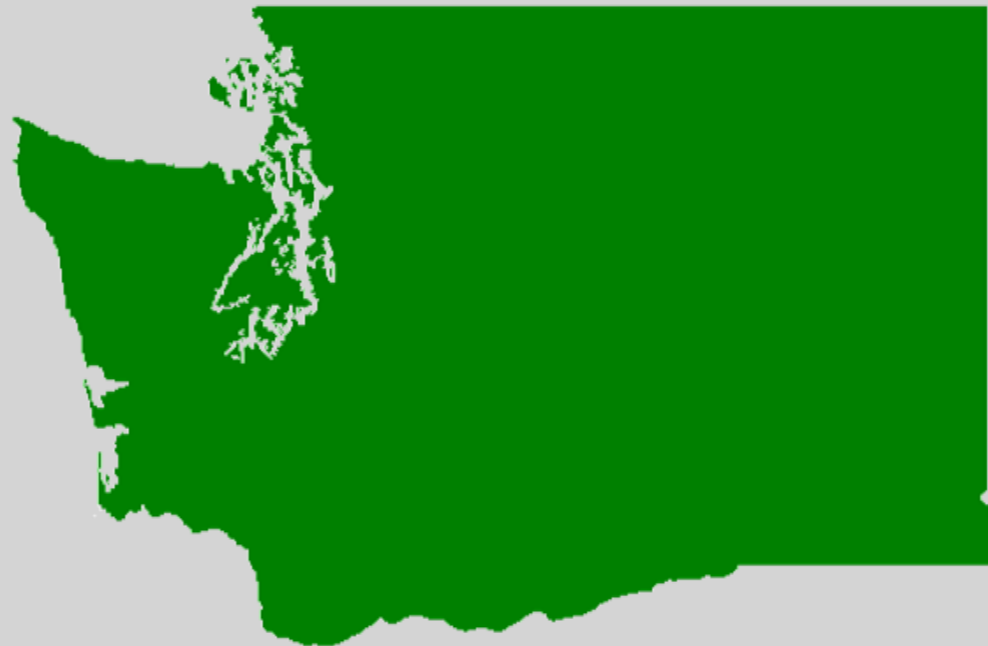
# WASHINGTON

Data shows that the diversion of Washington State marijuana is ongoing, that the rate of treatment admissions has been constant for marijuana disorders and that driving under the influence of marijuana has contributed to an increase in traffic crash fatalities. The Memo also states that mandatory protections need to be in place precluding youth access to marijuana. Data shows that not only do youth have access to multiple sources, but that they have remained consistent, if not more prevalent since legalization. Youth continue to experience a range of consequences resulting from marijuana use, and rates of abuse appear to be increasing. Youth and adults also continue to drive while high and to engage in serious crimes.

Data shows that the perception of harm is low for all age groups surveyed and that Poison Center calls have dramatically increased since legalization. The THC concentration levels in Washington State marijuana continue to increase in order to satisfy the demand of consumers. Federal laws are being violated as Washington State marijuana is sent through the postal service and THC extraction labs are injuring innocent victims.

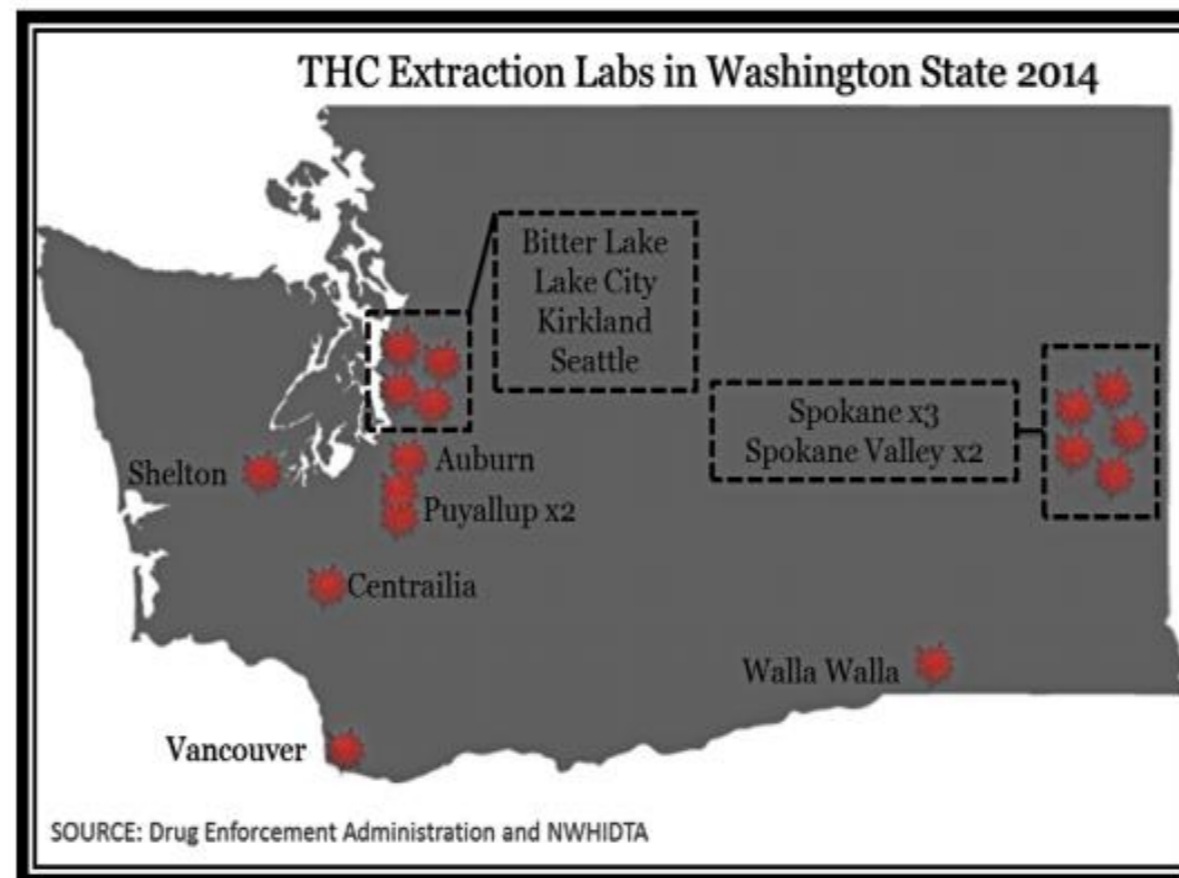
# WASHINGTON

- **Calls to the Washington Poison Center for marijuana exposures increased 56% from 158 calls in 2013 to 246 in 2014; 48 of the 246 calls in 2014 involved children ages 12 or under (Johnson, 2015).**



# WASHINGTON - BHO

- 90% of public safety violations against recreational licensees deal with minors
- The average potency of marijuana flower for one Seattle-based retailer during the month of July 2015 was 21.24% - for marijuana concentrates the average potency was 72.76%.



In 2014, there were seventeen reported THC extraction lab explosions across the state. Ten were located on the western side of the state with the remaining on the eastern side. Descriptions of some explosions follow:

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTION

- Start prevention in elementary school.
- Use local data sources (CHKS) to track drug trends.
- Include Drugged driving information in driver education classes - Start Smart classes.
- Statewide - Develop strict standards/limits for edibles.
- No vape devices for youth and should be tested for adult use!
- Drug prevention should be conducted throughout the year.
- Parent involvement in drug prevention efforts.
- Conduct frequent trainings for staff and administration on emerging drugs.
- Encourage medical providers to inquire about drug and alcohol use during routine medical check ups/visits.
- Put synthetic drugs/Spice on the radar - drug testing!

# MPI WEBSITE

***[mpisdcounty.net](http://mpisdcounty.net)***



- **Multiple resources, info cards, data, PowerPoints available for download.**
- **Half day trainings available marijuana, RX and synthetics.**

**MPI**

Marijuana  
Prevention  
Initiative

San Diego County

**QUESTIONS?**