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San Diego Police Department

From Colorado to California- Impacts of Recreational Marijuana Laws



Colorado's Path to Recreational Marijuana

2000- Medical Marijuana

- Amendment 20
- Allowed use, cultivation, manufacturing, dispensaries for medical purposes

2012 Recreational Marijuana

- Amendment 64
- Personal Use-Possession, Cultivation, Manufacturing
- Commercial – Dispensaries, Manufacturing, Cultivation
- Ability for Cities to OPT OUT
- Denver did not OPT OUT
- Has created a large MJ industry



Denver Commercial Marijuana

Licenses

(medical & retail, taxed & regulated)

- Grows (562)
- Stores (351)
- MIPs (134)
- Testing Facilities (7)

Total Licenses = 1054

Locations

(one location can have multiple licenses)

- Grows (273)
- Stores (213)
- MIPs (84)
- Testing Facilities (7)

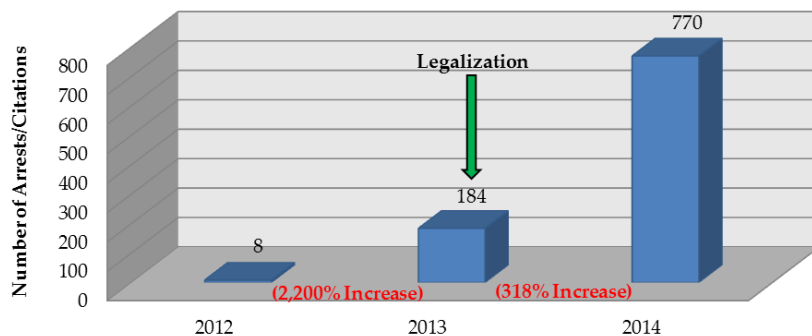
Total Locations = 460

Denver Personal Use Marijuana

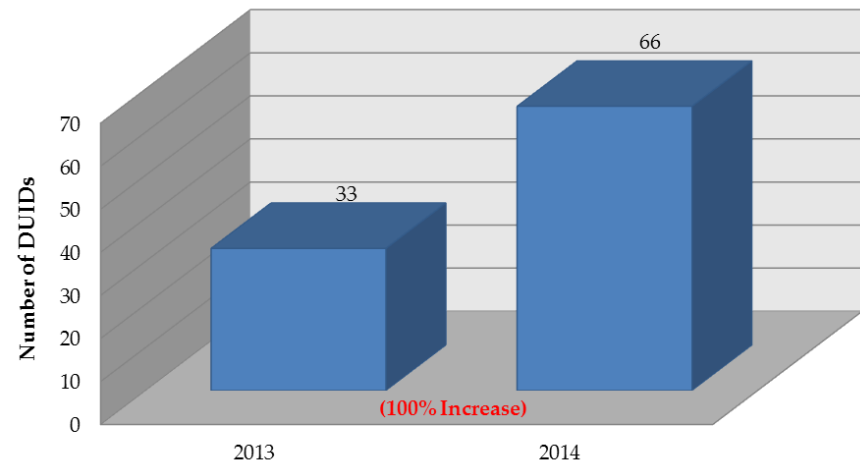
6 plants
1 ounce

Alcohol based manufacturing
No public use allowed
No DUI allowed

Denver Police Department
Unlawful Public Display/Consumption
of Marijuana



Denver Police Department
Number of DUIs Involving Marijuana

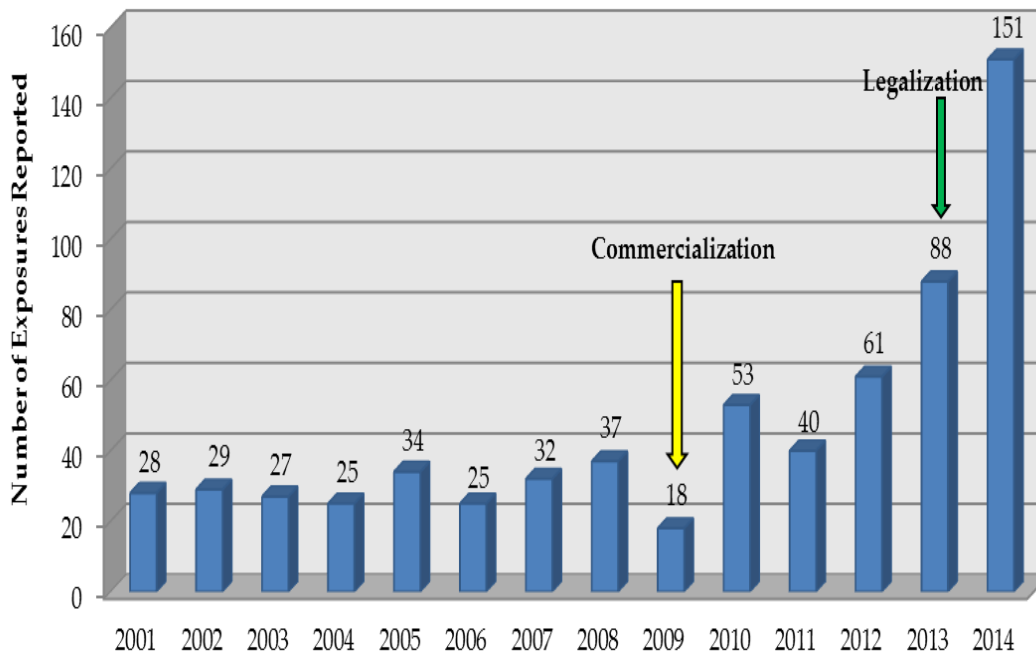


Impact of Passage of Recreational Marijuana in Colorado

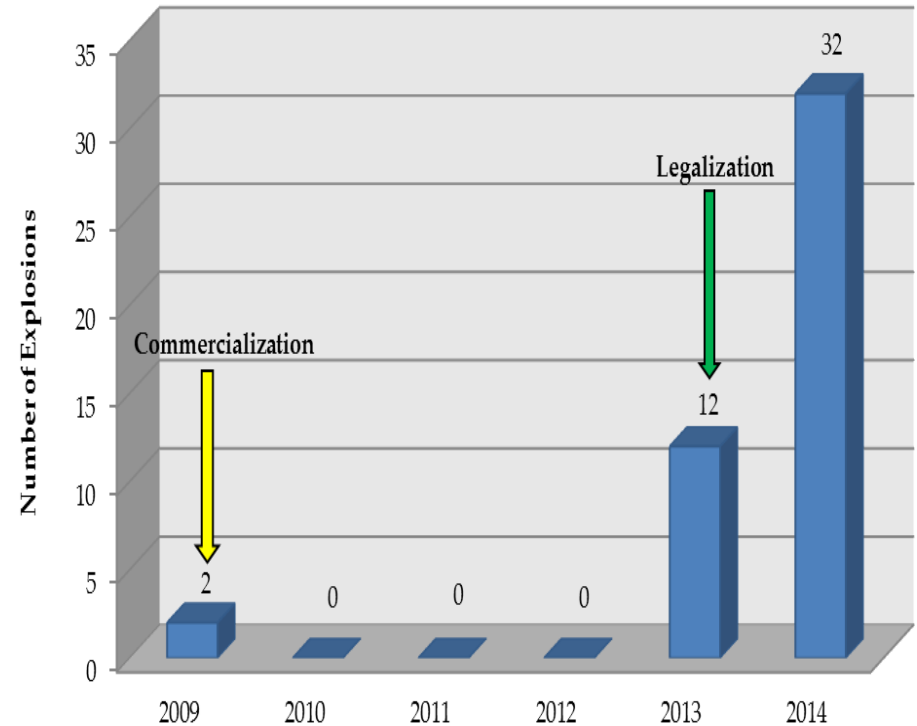
- Increase of Homeless Population
 - Homelessness is up an estimated 153% in Denver
 - Denver has experienced an increase in violent confrontations involving “traveler” populations
- Increase of Tourists attracted to Recreational Marijuana Usage
 - Marijuana Public Consumption Tickets have increased 318% in Denver alone
- Public Health Hazards to Recreational Marijuana
 - Addiction
 - Public Smoking of Marijuana
 - Second Hand Smoke from Marijuana Products
 - DUI Drugs- doubled in Denver
 - Youth Addicted to Marijuana- hospitalizations and ER room stats are up
 - Marijuana Poisoning- issues with edibles and concentrates
- Increase in Violent and Property Crimes- 2012 to 2014 12.5% increase in overall reported crime
- Issues with Marijuana Grows – more than allowed, 211’s, pesticides
- Black Market Marijuana
- Manufacturing- explosions, dangerous chemicals
- Increase in City and LE resources- Denver PD – Marijuana Team-9 Detectives and 1 Sgt
- Banking issues- Federally insured, transportation of large amounts of cash

Social and Health Costs

Number of Exposures Reported for Marijuana Only



THC Extraction Lab Explosions



Lessons Learned

- Opt out or regulate as much as possible
- Data collection is crucial to be able to support the negative impact marijuana has
- Black market and health issues will increase as will the need for resources to deal with them
- Tax Revenues will not cover all the costs
- If commercial marijuana is allowed, have a collaborative approach to deal with the massive MJ industry that will be moving into your city



The Denver Collaborative Approach

Colorado Amendment 64 was written by lobbyists **without** the collaboration of the state and local government representative or law enforcement.

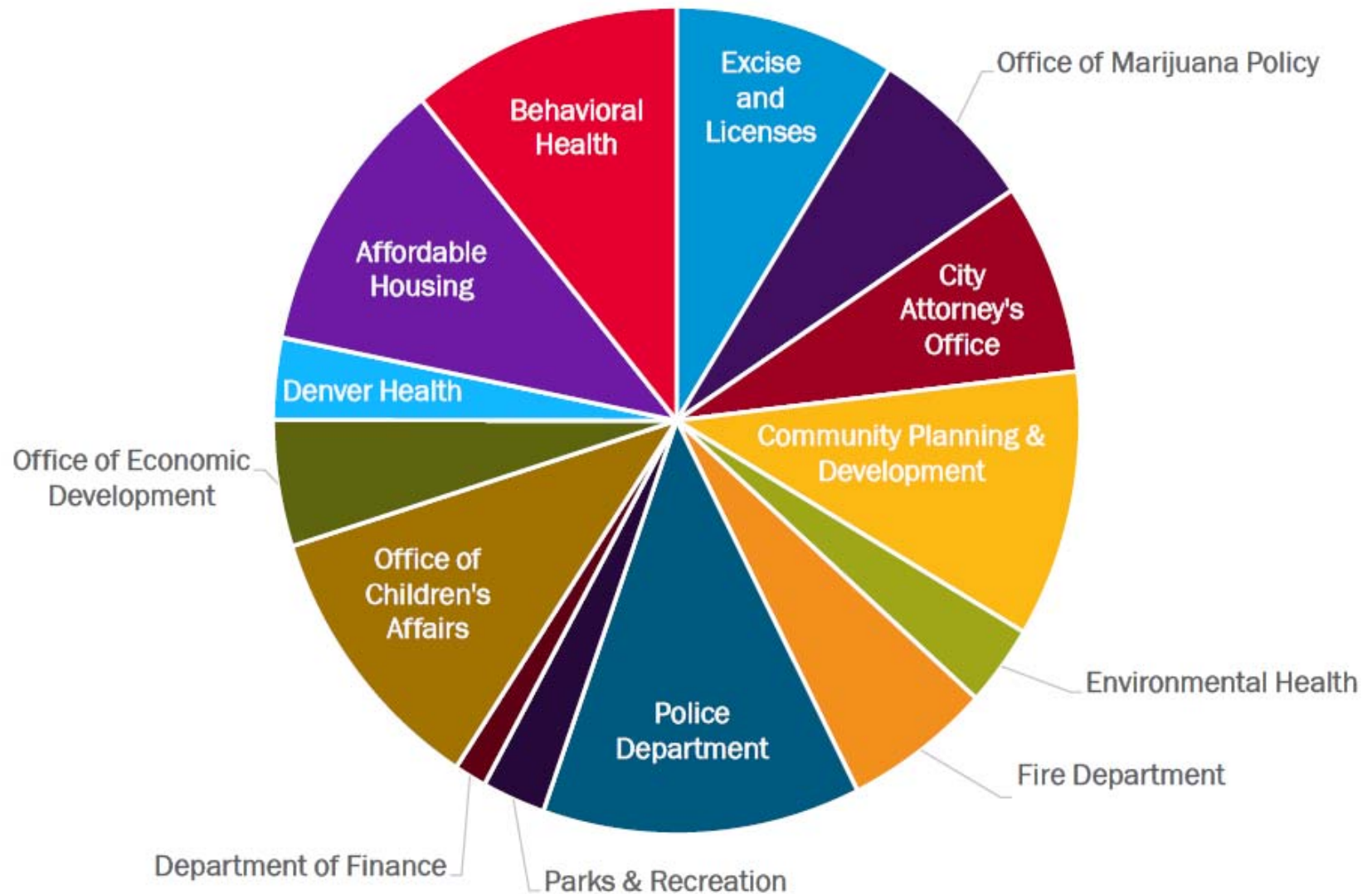
Because the city of Denver voters approved legalized marijuana by 66 % the city leaders decided not to “opt out” of commercial marijuana.

The City of Denver created the **Office of Marijuana Policy** to coordinate a collaborative approach with the many city Departments that deal with Marijuana and to attempted to get a handle on the many issues that arose from allowing commercial marijuana in the city.

Multiple City Departments work collaboratively on the following three priorities:

- Regulation
- Enforcement
- Education

Denver Dept's Slices of the MJ Pie



California Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Proposition 64)

Personal possession and cultivation (effective Nov 2016)

- Must be over 21
- 6 plants
- 28.5 grams
- 8 grams of concentrates
- Possession is a infraction- even under age of 18
- Sales of Marijuana goes from a felony to misdemeanor

Commercial Sales, Manufacturing, Cultivation (effective Jan 2018)

- Requires licensing from the State
- If City does not regulate then defaults to Prop 64 requirements

Steps San Diego Can Take to Limit Effects of Proposition 64

- Prop 64 enables local governments to regulate or ban
 - Personal indoor cultivation and possession (regulate only, no ban)
 - Personal outdoor cultivation
 - All commercial activities including cultivation, manufacturing, testing, retail dispensaries, distribution
 - City must enact ordinances to ban

Effects on SDPD

- Major revision to Policy and Procedures
- Data collection specific to Marijuana (for both city and region)
- Black market will increase
- Increased training on legalization and enforcement (Academy, AOT)
- Increased DUI Drugs training



Comments from Colorado Law Enforcement

Denver DA- “Damage to the next generation is going to be incredible”

Head of State Department of Revenue on the regulation and enforcement “ gonna take longer, gonna be harder, and gonna take more money”

Denver Police Chief- “It has increased everything we do”



Comments from Police Chief's in Colorado

Marijuana legalization creates more rather than less law enforcement challenges

Law enforcement faces a new challenge in education the public on the continuing risks of marijuana

Marijuana cultivations create high risks to law enforcement, growers, residents and communities that are home to cultivation facilities

New production methods can increase the health risks of marijuana use

Youth marijuana use may soon become a public health problem rivaling youth alcohol use

QUESTIONS?

