

California: Current Trends in Marijuana Use

Western State Marijuana Summit

November 5, 2019

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



Very Happy to be here!

Joe Eberstein

Program Manager for Center for Community Research, San Diego County Marijuana Prevention Initiative

Prop. 64 Advisory Board Member

SAMSHA Region 9 PTTC Advisory Board Member



Post Prop 64: State Trends

Vaping Respiratory Illness Data

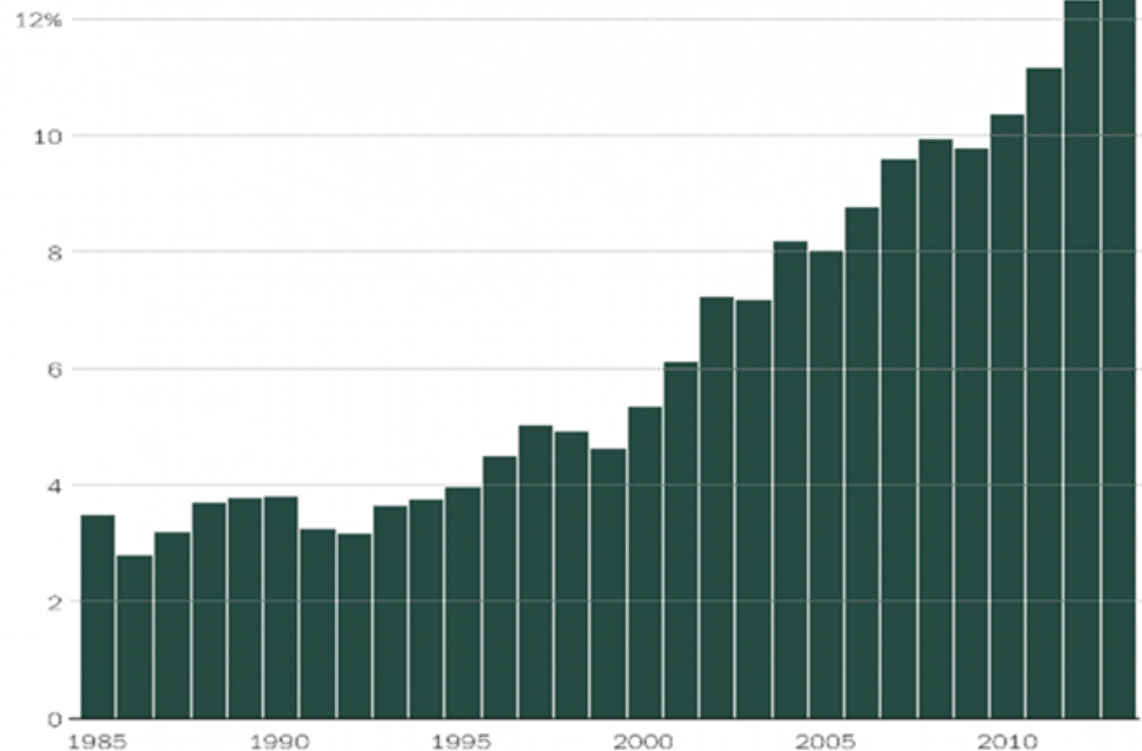
- 20 deaths as of October 15, 2019
- Over 1000 hospitalized Nationally
- About 80% of individuals have reported using THC cartridges.
- Average age of patients is 23.
- No testing for product safety!



Highest Potency in History

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

New techniques for ingestion deliver a higher dosage of THC.

In the 1980's marijuana's THC content on average was 5-10%.
Mostly herb or plant form.



Today's marijuana potency in herb can be upwards of 25% and
oils and waxes 30 - 99%.



Why is potency so high?

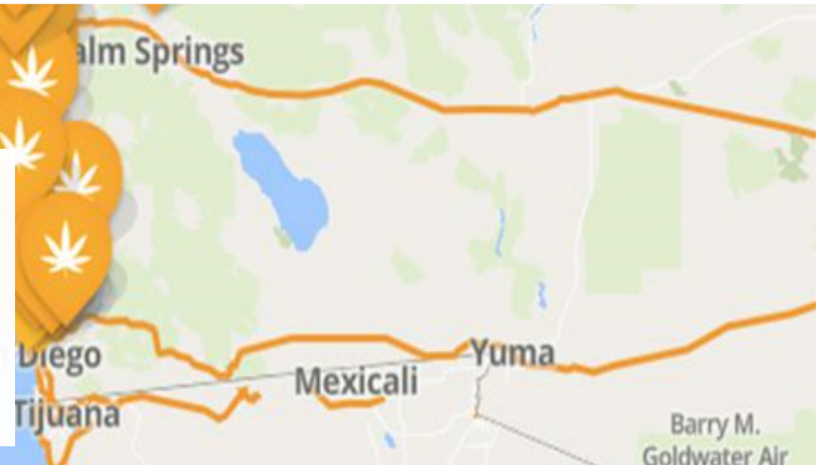
- Increasing potency due to:
 - **Big Industries getting involved (Hiring scientists and researchers to make potent products).**
 - Cross breeding
 - Improved gardening techniques
 - Genetic modification of plants
 - Extraction methods
 - Consumption methods (edibles, vaping)



Creation of Bureau of Cannabis Control

- **Bureau of Cannabis Control** – lead agency in developing regulations for medical and adult use and responsible for licensing retailers, distributors, testing labs and micro businesses.
- **CA Dept. of Public Health - Office of Manufactured Cannabis Safety** regulating manufacturers of edibles for both medical and non- medical use.
- **CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing**, a branch of the **CA Dept. of Food and Agriculture** - develop regulations to license cultivators for both medical and non, track and trace program to record seed to sale through distribution.

Weedmaps Rejects Warning from California Regulators, Continues Advertising Unlicensed Dispensaries



by Zach Harris | NEWS | Mar 13, 2018

Executives at the online dispensary directory said that they are not a California cannabis licensee, and therefore should not be subject to sanctions from California's Bureau of Cannabis Control.

The wild west showdown between California's Bureau of Cannabis Control (BCC) and the popular online dispensary finder Weedmaps continued this week, with executives at the weed-focused tech company pushing back against a cease and

Testing for California pot products

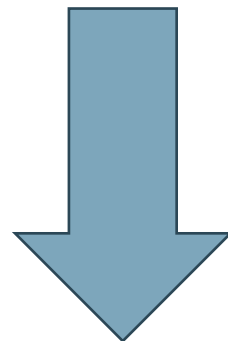
- Mandatory testing of cannabis products effective 7/1/2018.
 - 20% failure rate
- High levels of pesticides, solvents and bacteria, including E. coli and salmonella, according to data provided to The Associated Press by the state Bureau of Cannabis Control.



Prop 64 Advisory Group

California Pot Revenue

- State excise tax imposed on recreational pot (15% State Marijuana tax plus the regular State Sales Tax, local taxes) not on “medicinal” pot products.
- 2018 CA. Marijuana Revenue **\$2.5 billion** this is lower than the Governor projected in his State budget.
- **21 million** going back to prevention and education in 2019.



Marijuana on School Campus

Jojo's law allows non FDA approved marijuana edibles on K-12 campus even though Epidiolex is available for the same syndrome.



CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles Times

Medical marijuana OK at K-12 schools in California after Gov. Newsom signs new law



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CALIFORNIA

Bay Area earthquake is latest warning of high seismic danger in East Bay

Surgeon General Statement

HHS.gov  U.S. Department of Health & Human Services 

Office of the Surgeon General

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U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory: Marijuana Use and the Developing Brain

I, Surgeon General VADM Jerome Adams, am emphasizing the importance of protecting our Nation from the health risks of marijuana use in adolescence and during pregnancy. Recent increases in access to marijuana and in its potency, along with misperceptions of safety of marijuana endanger our most precious resource, our nation's youth.

KNOW THE RISKS. TAKE ACTION. PROTECT OUR FUTURE.



Background

Marijuana, or cannabis, is the most commonly used illicit drug in the United States. It acts by binding to cannabinoid receptors in the brain to produce a variety of effects, including euphoria, intoxication, and memory and motor impairments. These same cannabinoid receptors are also critical for brain development. They are part of the endocannabinoid system, which impacts the formation of brain

“No amount of marijuana use during pregnancy or adolescence is known to be safe.”

Until and unless more is known about the long-term impact, the safest choice for pregnant women and adolescents is not to use marijuana.



Local Trends: Post Prop 64 Trends

Vaping on the Rise



According to a NIDA survey the number of high school students who are vaping has increased: 37 percent of seniors have tried vaping in 2018, compared to 27 percent in 2017.

According to CHKS 18/19 - In San Diego 27% of Non- Traditional students, 17% of 11th graders and 10% of 9th graders admit to using a vape to smoke marijuana.

The screenshot shows the San Diego Times website. The main article is titled "Opinion: As California Normalizes Pot, Public Health Issues Are Ignored". Below the title, it says "POSTED BY EDITOR ON DECEMBER 21, 2018 IN OPINION | 406 VIEWS | 0 COMMENTS | LEAVE A COMMENT". There are social media share buttons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and LinkedIn. The article features a photo of a cannabis billboard on a building in Hillcrest, with text "A cannabis billboard on a building in Hillcrest. Photo by Chris Jennewein". The article is by Jeni Mendel and Jim Crittenden. The text of the article discusses the normalization of marijuana in California and the potential public health issues. On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with a "CHILL POOLSIDE." advertisement, a "GET TIMES OF SAN DIEGO BY EMAIL" section, and a "SPONSORED CONTENT" section featuring a hand holding a gold card.

Advertising near youth locations



City Heights Activists Call For More Regulation Of Billboards Advertising Marijuana

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

By Priya Sridhar



PHOTO BY NICHOLAS MCVICKER

Above: Cars in City Heights drive by a marijuana billboard advertisement on June 18, 2019 in San Diego.

State law prohibits billboards within 1,000 feet of schools, playgrounds or daycares.

“We are not taking away the right to advertisement. We are trying to restrict the right to advertise where our children and communities live, work and play,” said Central Region Prevention Coalition.

Illegal Extraction Labs

PUBLIC SAFETY

San Diego hash oil labs growing in sophistication, but who's behind them?



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The DEA has taken down at least 20 hash oil labs in San Diego County as of June 2019, including six that have made the news in May when they exploded.

There were 31 found in 2018 and 27 in 2017, according to the DEA.

In CA, 154 extraction businesses are licensed to use butane or other volatile solvents. **None of those licensed extractors are in San Diego County.**


Social Host Ordinances

- Social Host Ordinances hold adult party hosts accountable for underage alcohol use.
- Amended versions of the ordinance include *marijuana and controlled substances*.
- Many of San Diego County's cities have adopted the new language.

NEWS > LOCAL NEWS

City's social host ordinance could soon include drugs

Posted: 5:49 PM, Feb 06, 2019 Updated: 6:09 PM, Feb 06, 2019
By: Jonathan Horn




STEVE ATKINSON KIMBERLY HUNT

10 NEWS abc 10

5:59 55°

+ Show Caption



SAN DIEGO (KGTV) -- San Diego is on the verge of expanding a law that punishes adults for letting minors party on their watch.

On Wednesday, the city's Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee supported expanding San Diego's social host ordinance to include marijuana and other drugs. The ordinance, passed in 2003, currently only covers alcohol.

The ordinance fines adults for hosting a party or creating an environment that allows underage drinking.


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CBD on the Market

AP

CBD-infused products are being sold everywhere in California — but are they legal?

By Laura Newberry Los Angeles Times (TNS) 11 hrs ago



LOS ANGELES — Greg and Gary Avetisyan make no secret of it: They proudly sell all manner of products infused with CBD, from essential oils to bath bombs to fruity tealike beverages that promise calming relief in a frantic world.

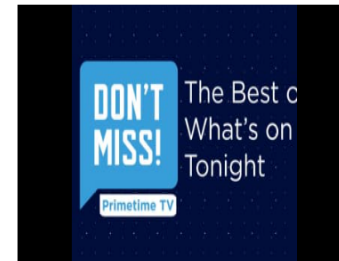
CBD, short for cannabidiol, is a molecule derived from cannabis. But unlike its chemical cousin THC, it won't get you high. What it might do, according to some research, is alleviate anxiety, seizures, chronic pain and dozens of other ailments.

The Avetisyan brothers' belief in the alleged benefits of the extract is so steadfast that they opened California's first CBD-only store, Topikal, in Tarzana last year and opened a second along the Venice Beach boardwalk in April.

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In the eyes of California, however, the Avetisyans' products are being sold illegally, even though they are non-psychoactive.



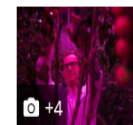
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Don't Miss! - 11/06 Preview

NEXT Don't Miss! - 11/06

Trending



The cutting-edge technology that will change the future of farming



Tim Berners-Lee kicks off a

Unproven Claims

- Combats tumor and cancer cells;
- CBD makes cancer cells commit 'suicide' without killing other cells;
- CBD ... [has] anti-proliferative properties that inhibit cell division in certain types of cancer.
- Non-psychoactive cannabinoids in pot may be effective in treating breast cancer."



We were promised local control?

Over 200 delivery services operating even in cities and counties with bans.

Who is checking that these services are properly licensed?

Are they checking ID's at the door???



BREAKING NEWS: 24 Cities Sue California Over Statewide Cannabis Delivery Rule

By Julie Hamill on April 5, 2019

POSTED IN CALIFORNIA, CANNABIS CASE SUMMARIES, LITIGATION

As expected (and as we've written about [here](#)), California cities have joined forces to fight the State's regulation allowing delivery of cannabis in every jurisdiction. [Here](#) is a copy of the complaint.

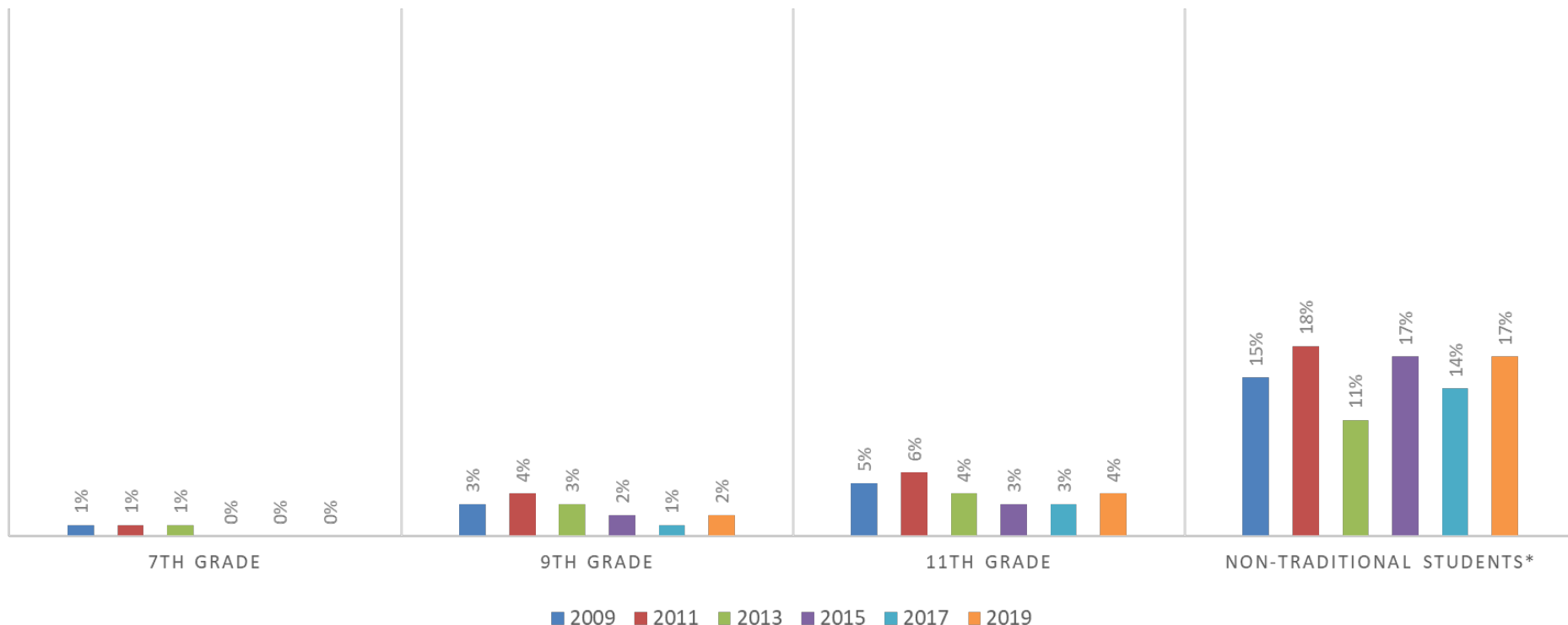
The [lawsuit was filed](#) in Fresno



Local Data

DAILY MARIJUANA USE AMONG SAN DIEGO COUNTY YOUTH:

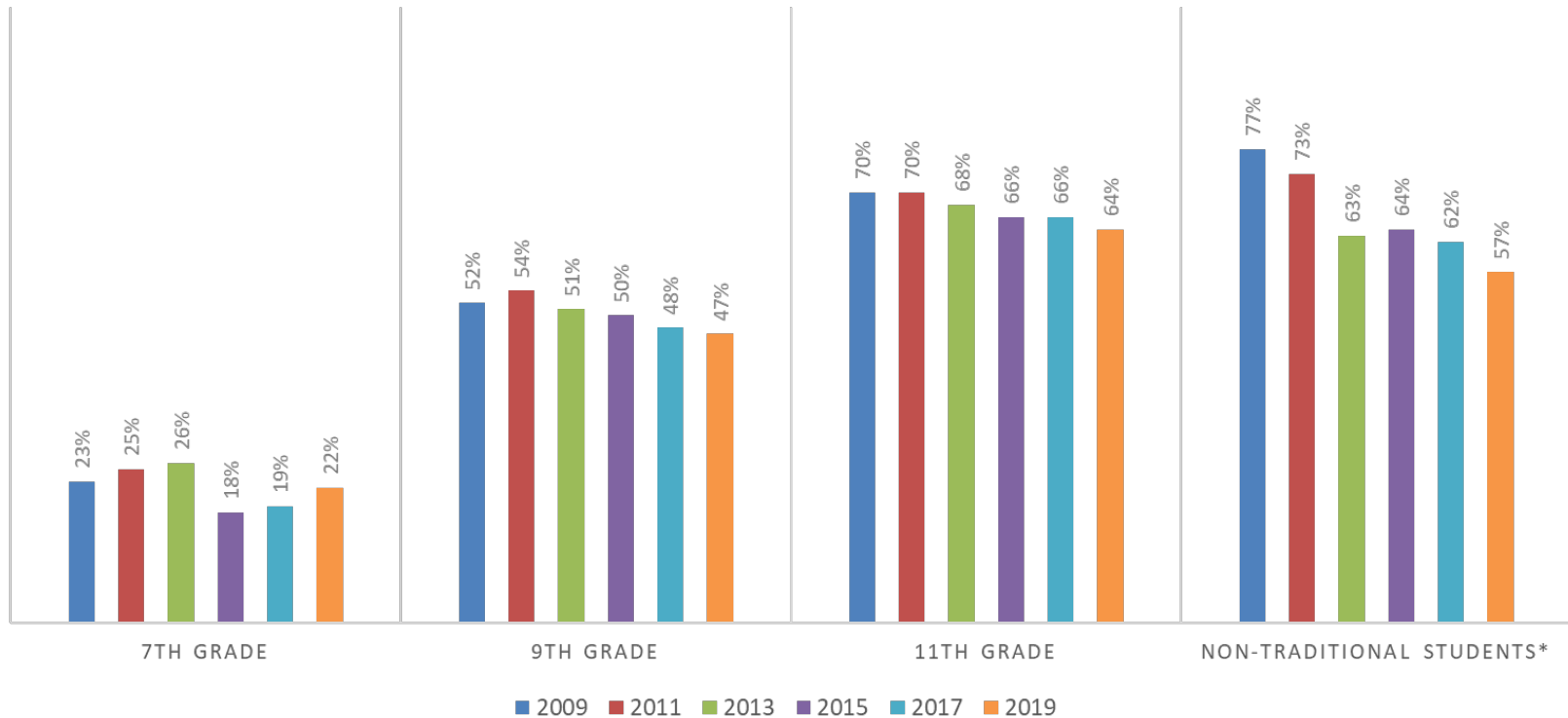
% OF STUDENTS REPORTING SMOKING POT 20 OR MORE TIMES IN THE PAST 30 DAYS



*The response rate for non-traditional students participating in the 2013 Survey was lower than in 2009, 2011, 2015, 2017 and 2019 which may in part account for the decrease in ease of access rates among this population in 2013.

Perception of Harm Among San Diego County Youth:

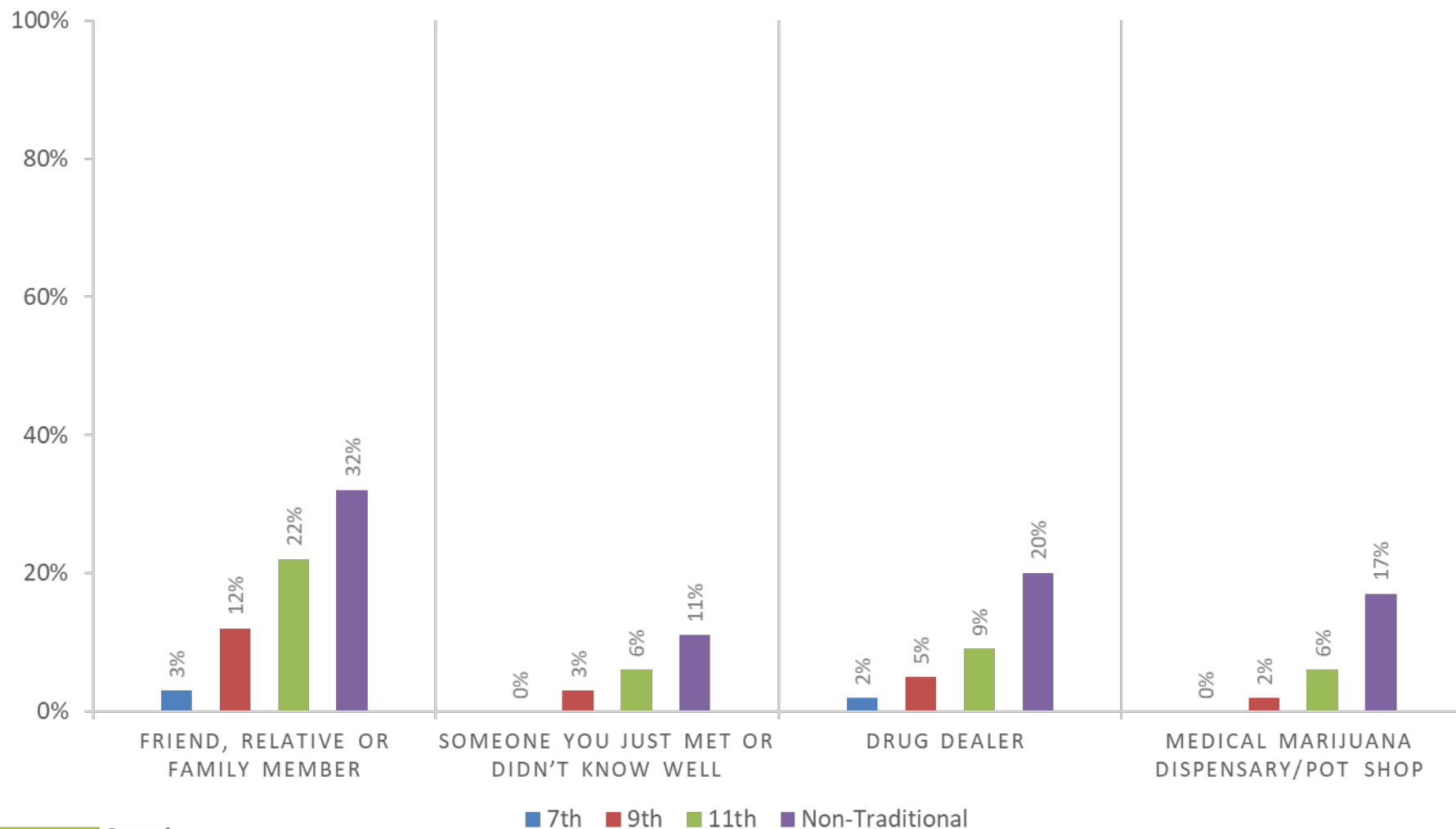
% OF STUDENTS REPORTING PEOPLE GREATLY RISK HARMING THEMSELVES PHYSICALLY OR IN OTHER WAYS BY USING MARIJUANA OCCASIONALLY



*The response rate for non-traditional students participating in the 2013 Survey was lower than in 2009, 2011, 2015, 2017 and 2019 which may in part account for the decrease in ease of access rates among this population in 2013.

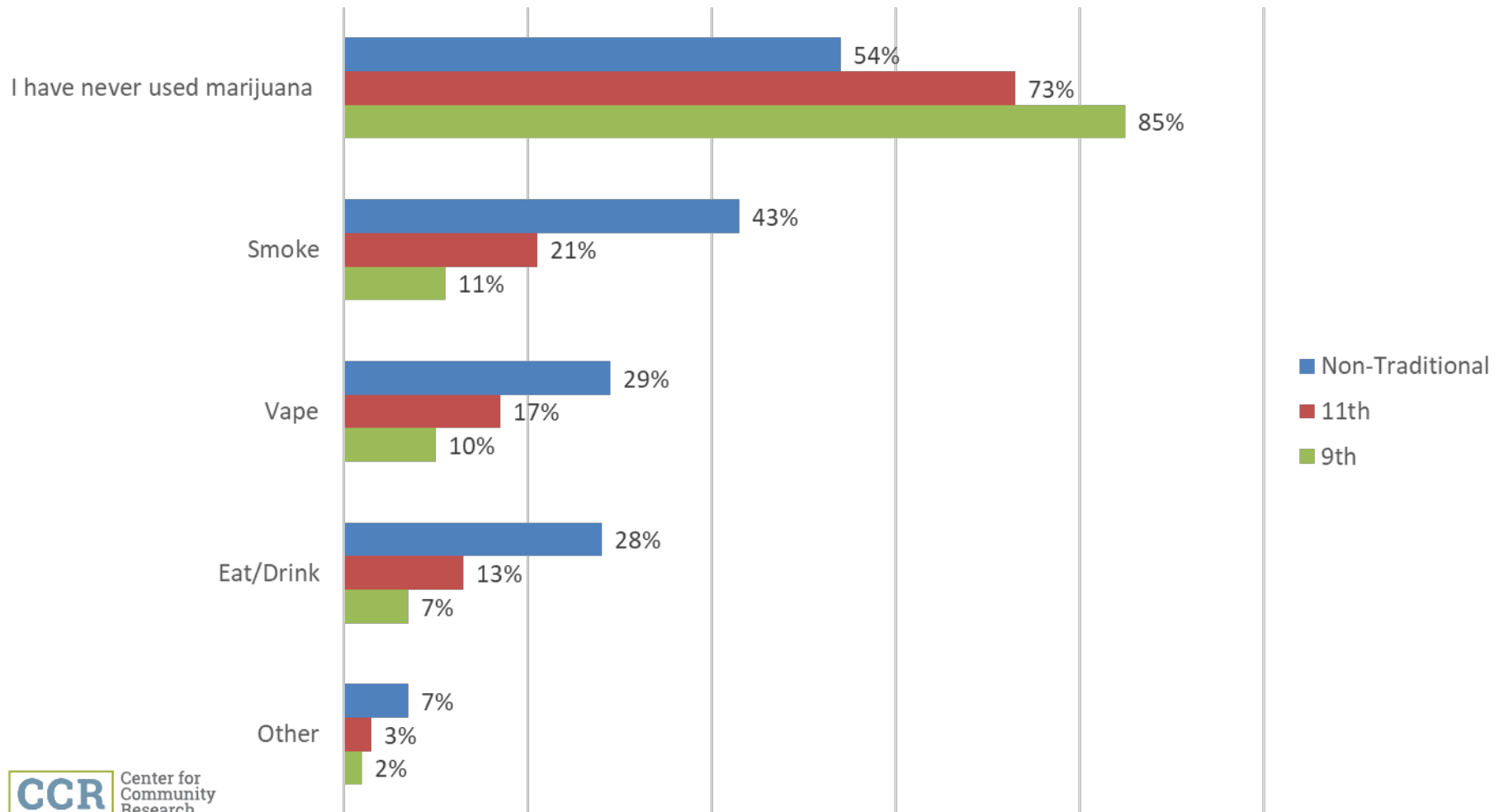
Access to Marijuana Among San Diego County Youth:

Where youth are accessing marijuana – top four mentions

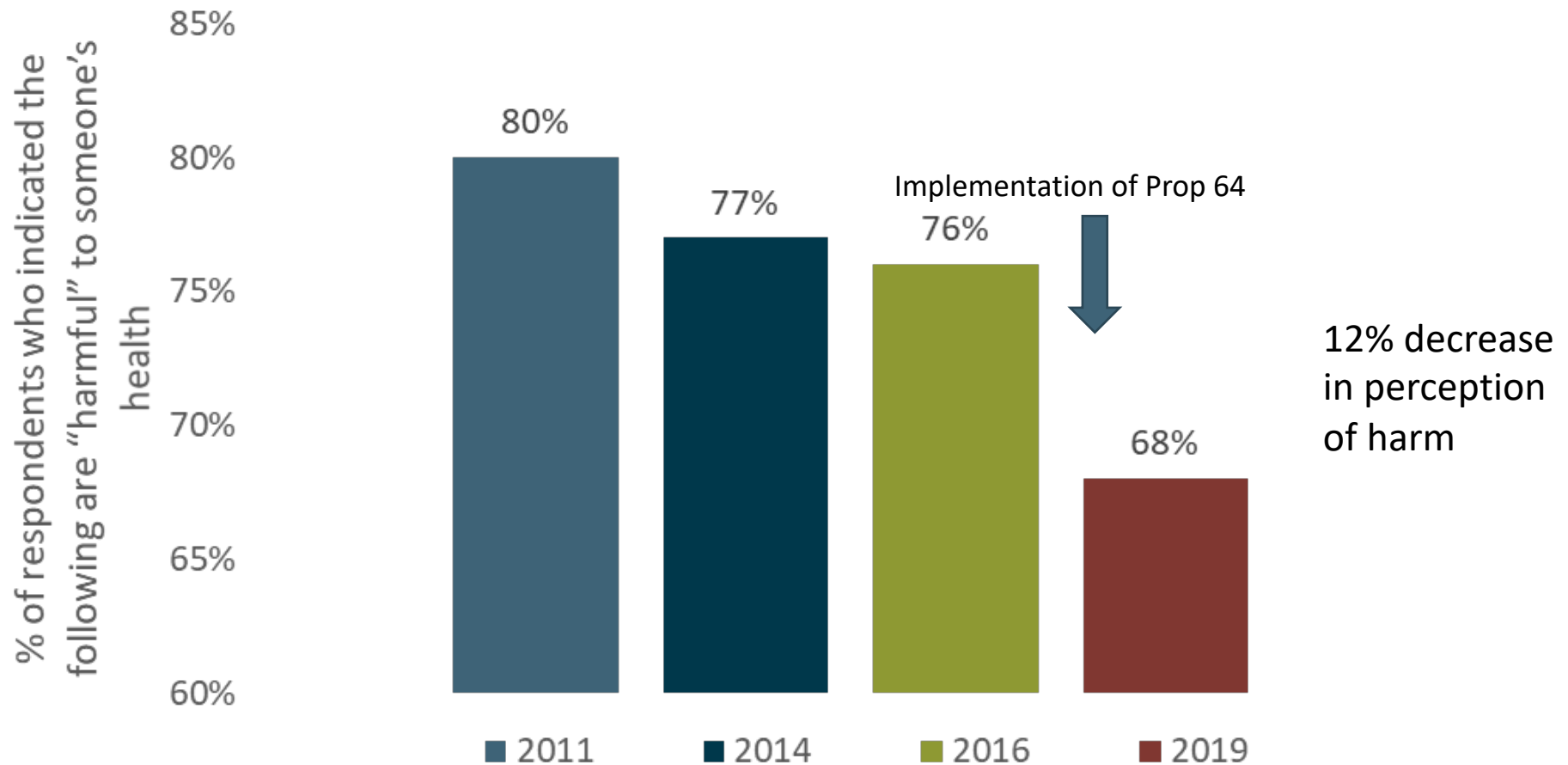


How Youth are Using Marijuana - San Diego County

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



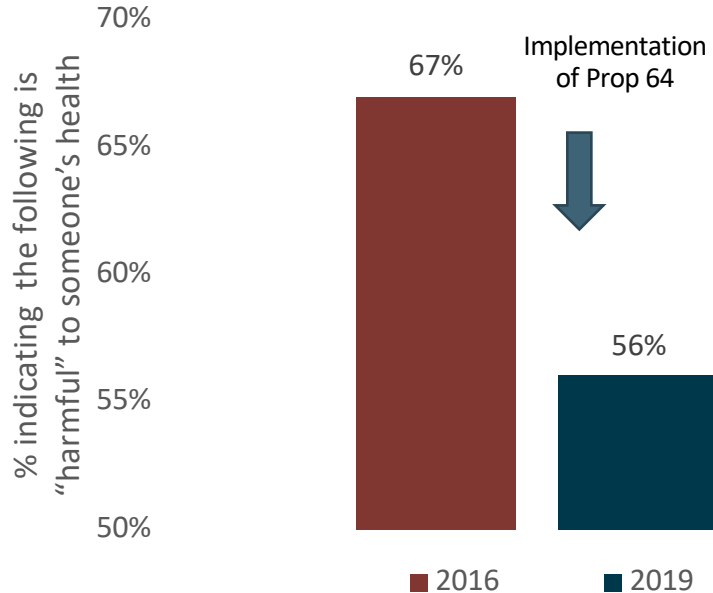
Perception of Harm: Frequent Marijuana Use



Percent change indicates the difference in percentages from 2011 to 2019.

Perception of Harm: Edible Marijuana

Survey item: Eating edible marijuana food products.



3 out of **4** San Diegans believe using marijuana (smoking vaping, etc.) if a person is under 21 is harmful to someone's health.

**Percent change indicates the difference in percentages from 2016 to 2019.*

Sd County Treatment - 2018

- Marijuana is the primary drug of choice for youth ages (12-17) in SD County funded drug treatment.
- Higher use rate than alcohol for this age group.
- Treatment providers observing higher level THC ratios in drug tests.

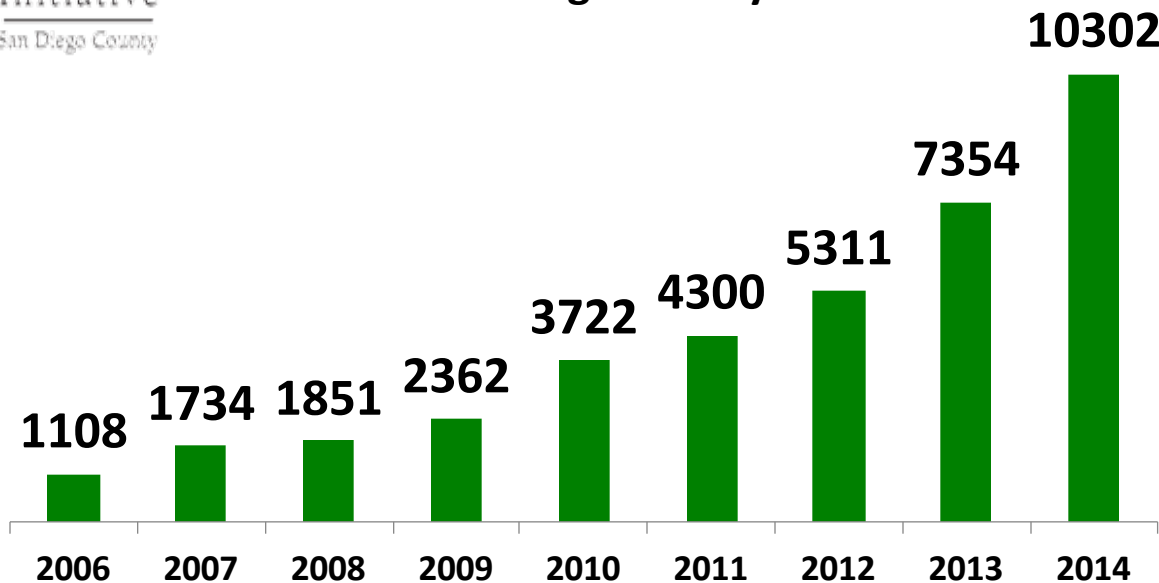


ED Visits for Cannabis-Related Diagnoses Increasing in San Diego County

MPI
Marijuana
Prevention
Initiative
San Diego County

**Emergency Department Visits with
Cannabis Related Diagnosis
San Diego County**

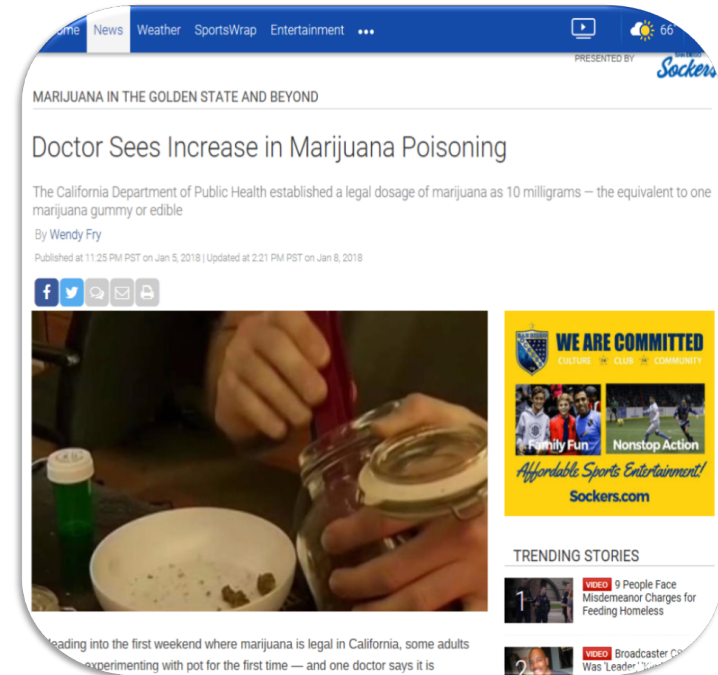
Up 830%



Marijuana's Effects

Pot is associated with a range of side effects:

- Panic attacks
- Seizures
- Hallucinations
- Psychosis
- Sedation
- CH syndrome
- Dry mouth
- Heart palpitations
- Cognitive impairment and slower reaction times



Cannabis Use Disorder

- DSM-5. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)
- In 2013 added “cannabis withdrawal”
- Americans who reported using marijuana in the past year more than doubled between 2002 and 2013, and the increase in marijuana use disorders during that time was nearly as large.

Cannabis use disorder

Cannabis use disorder, a cannabis-related disorder coded as 305.20 for mild or 304.30 for moderate or severe, is defined by *DSM-5* as the following:

- A problematic pattern of cannabis use leading to clinically significant impairment or distress, as manifested by at least 2 of the following, occurring within a 12-month period:
 - Cannabis is often taken in larger amounts or over a longer period than was intended.
 - There is a persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to cut down or control cannabis use.
 - A great deal of time is spent in activities necessary to obtain cannabis, use cannabis, or recover from its effects.
 - Craving, or a strong desire or urge to use cannabis.
 - Recurrent cannabis use resulting in a failure to fulfill major role obligations at work, school, or home.
 - Continued cannabis use despite having persistent or recurrent social or interpersonal problems caused or exacerbated by the effects of cannabis.
 - Important social, occupational, or recreational activities are given up or reduced because of cannabis use.
 - Recurrent cannabis use in situations in which it is physically hazardous.
 - Cannabis use is continued despite knowledge of having a persistent or recurrent physical or psychological problem that is likely to have been caused or exacerbated by cannabis.
 - Tolerance, as defined by either a (1) need for markedly increased cannabis to achieve intoxication or desired effect or (2) markedly diminished effect with continued use of the same amount of the substance.
 - Withdrawal, as manifested by either (1) the characteristic withdrawal syndrome for cannabis or (2) cannabis is taken to relieve or avoid withdrawal symptoms

Marijuana-Involved Opioids Deaths

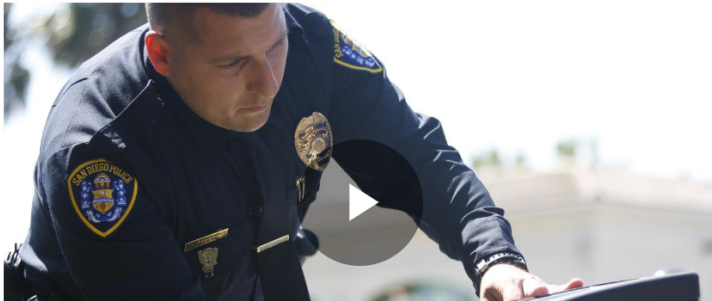
SD Medical Examiner cases 2016:

- THC was found in 25.8% (125 out of 484) accidental overdose deaths.
- THC found in 25.2% of prescription drug overdose deaths, more than any single medication, and a higher association than benzodiazepines.



Drager Drug Test 5000

San Diego police go after drugged drivers with new mouth swab test



The machine, about the size of a mini bookshelf stereo system, tests for the presence of seven drugs — marijuana, cocaine, opiates, methamphetamine, amphetamine, methadone and benzodiazepines. The device does not read the level of intoxication; drivers would have to take a blood test for that information. (Cost about \$6000.00)

MPI Resources Available

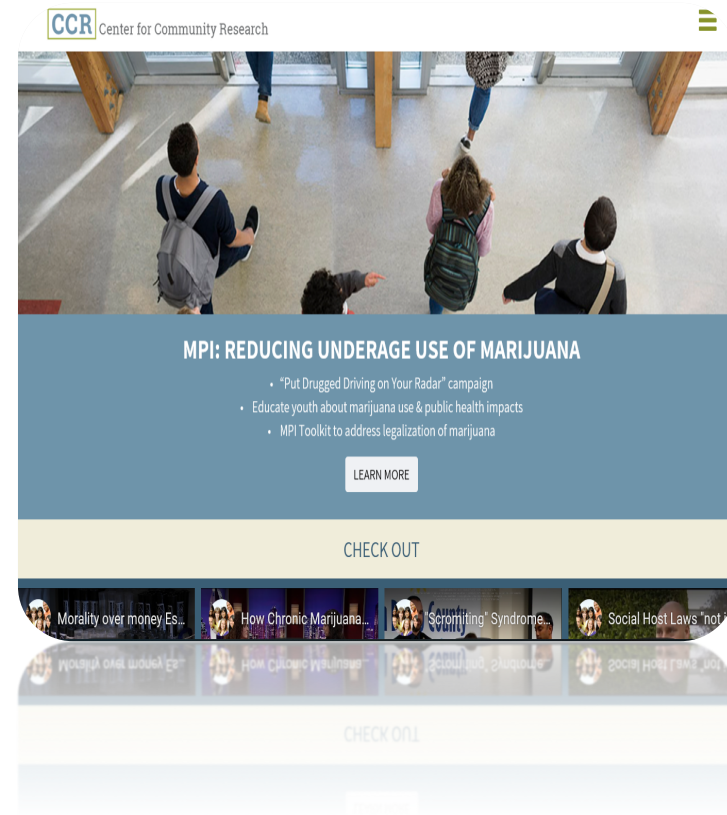
MPI provides TA and develops and disseminates data documents and educational materials.

Examples:

- Informational Postcards, data, fact sheets available to download.
- Trainings available for youth, parents, everyone!
- Check out our - MPI Prevention TOOLKIT.

Visit our new MPI website:

<http://www.ccrconsulting.org/mpi>



Questions?