

Arizona,
Marijuana and Cannabis
a growing problem

This PowerPoint was prepared for the
Western States Marijuana Summit
San Diego, November 2019



Detective Matthew J. Shay #2148

Maricopa County Drug Suppression Task Force
(MCDST)

MCSO / Special Investigations Division / HIDTA

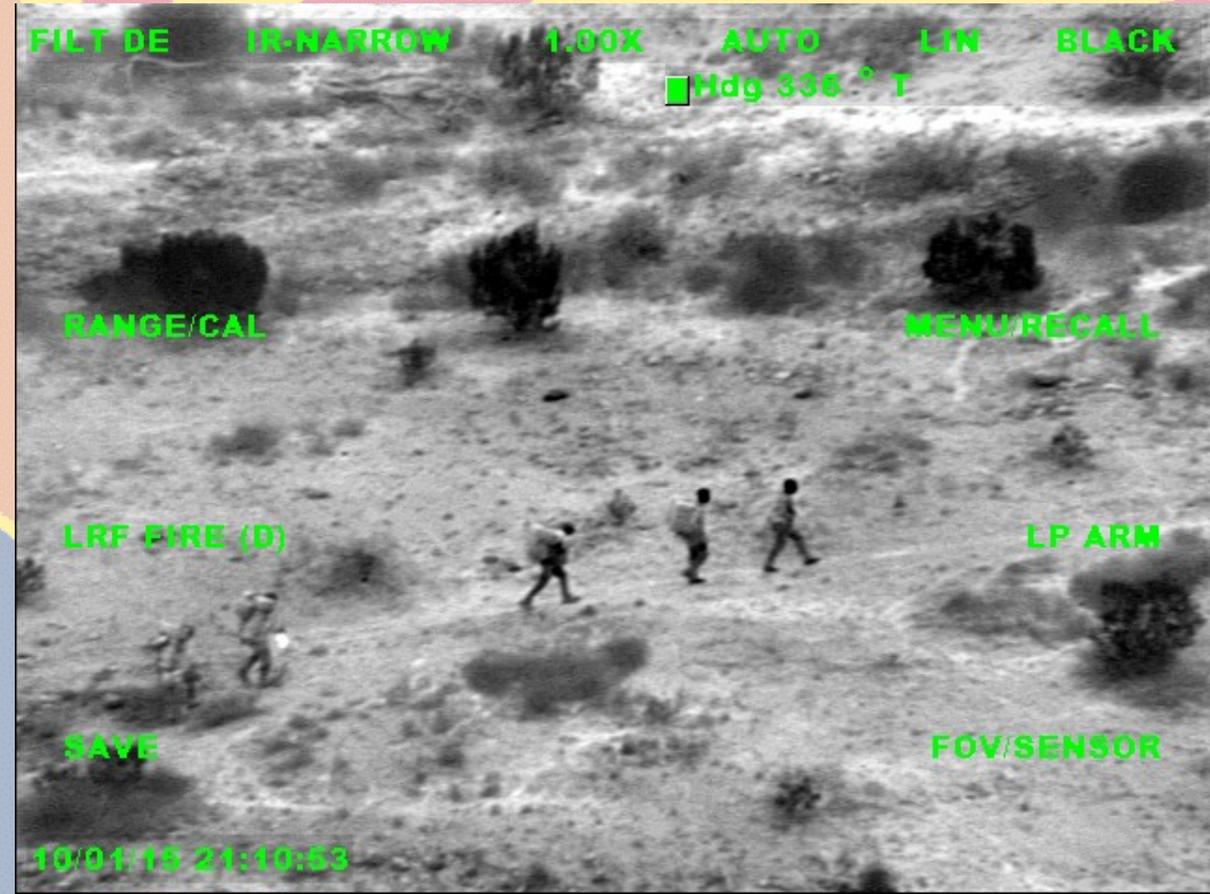
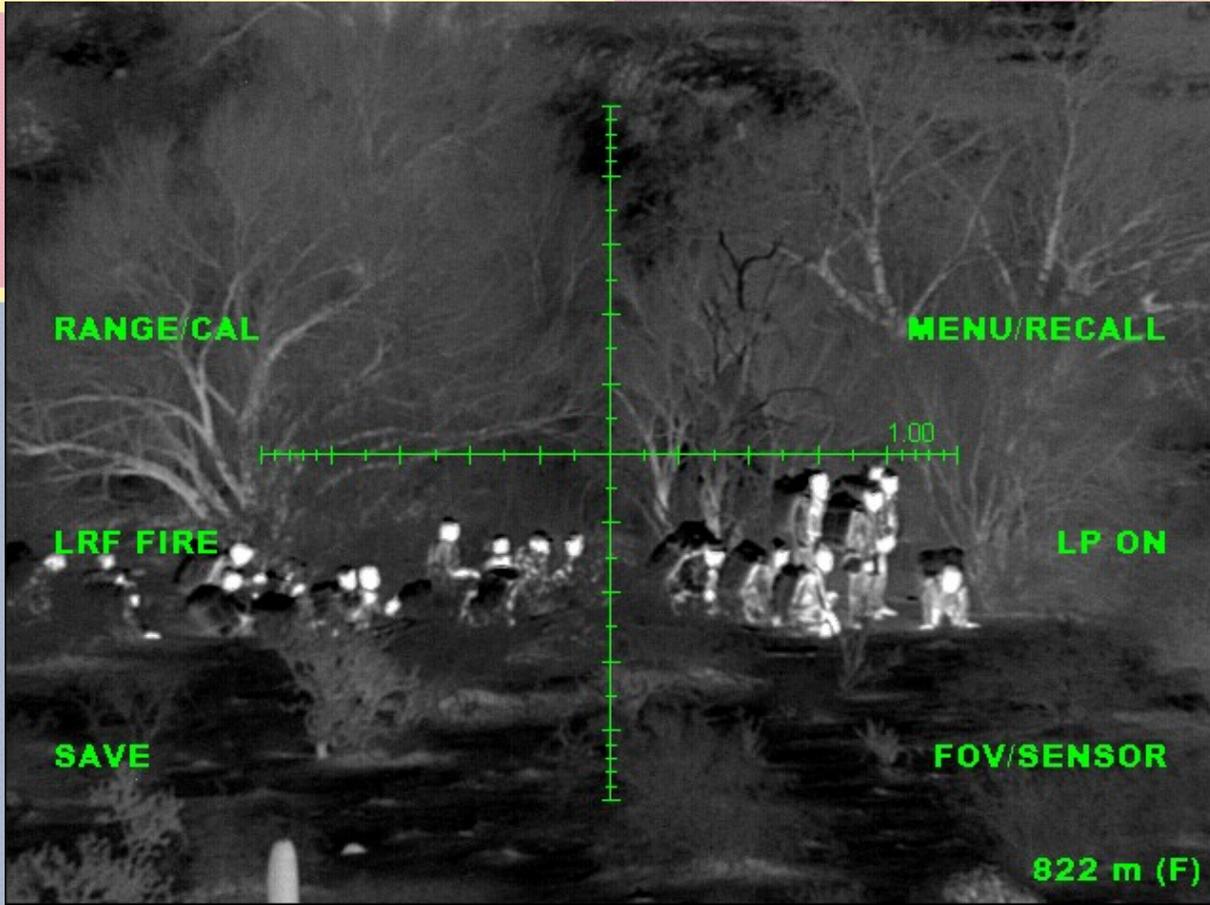
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602-390-6289

Marijuana has always been a problem for **Arizona**



Traditionally, Arizona's "Black Market" Marijuana is smuggled up through the southern border.



... grown through “trespass” grows on state and tribal lands in the higher elevations



...transported from, through and into the state via the network of major interstate highways



and produced in large indoor grow operations within the metropolitan cities, and neighboring suburbs



In 2010 Proposition 203

“The Arizona Medical Marijuana Act”

was introduced to the voters as a
“citizens-initiative process”

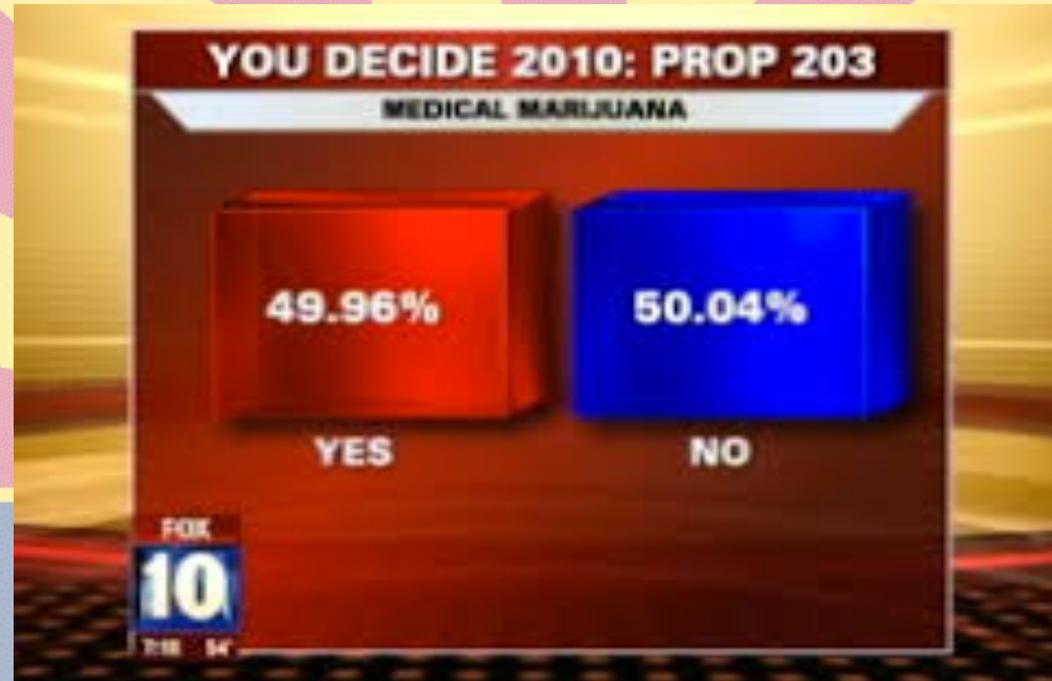
with major funding and support from the
nationally active

Marijuana Policy Project (MPP)

as well as the

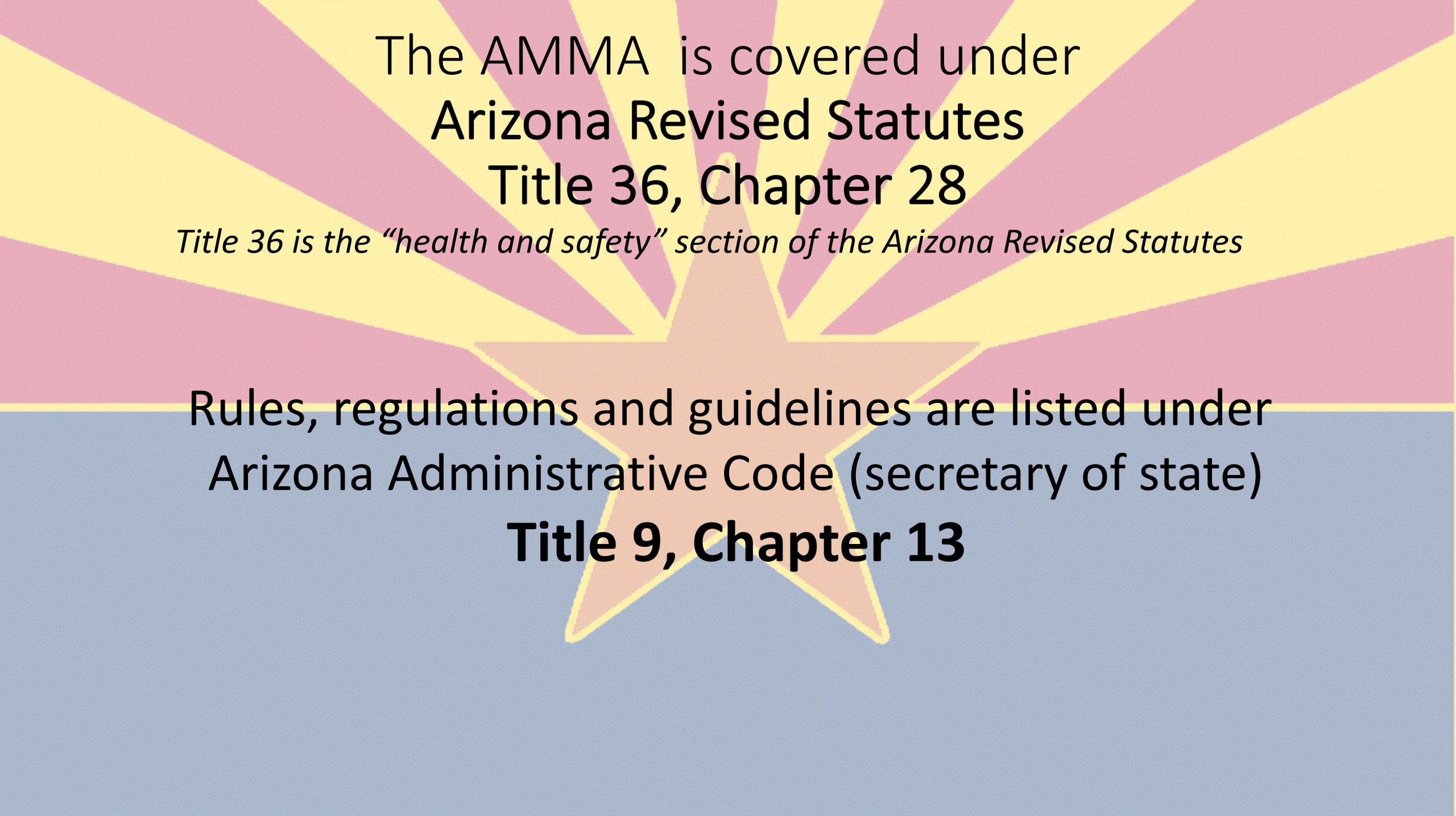
**National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana
Laws (NORMAL)**

In 2010, proposition 203 passed by a narrow margin, with 50.13% of the vote



The count had remained at a virtual standstill, with the proposition failing by several thousand votes *until the evening of Friday, November 12, 2010* when suddenly it surged ahead with 4,421 votes cast on “provisional ballots”

*** provisional ballots are votes cast on a ballot provided to someone who is not on the polling location’s roster or if the voter is unable to provide a valid form of identification*



The AMMA is covered under
**Arizona Revised Statutes
Title 36, Chapter 28**

Title 36 is the “health and safety” section of the Arizona Revised Statutes

Rules, regulations and guidelines are listed under
Arizona Administrative Code (secretary of state)

Title 9, Chapter 13

....and while sold to the voters as a necessity to supply medicine to terminally or seriously ill patients, the reality has been something completely different.

RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF STATE

APPLICATION FOR INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM PETITION SERIAL NUMBER

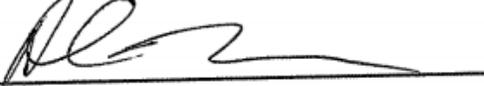
Secretary of State
1700 W. Washington Street, 7th Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

2009 MAY 15 PM 12:08

The undersigned intends to circulate and file an INITIATIVE or a REFERENDUM (circle the appropriate word) petition and hereby makes application for the issuance of an official serial number to be printed in the lower right-hand corner of each side of each signature sheet of such petition. Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes § 19-111, attached hereto is the full text, in no less than eight point type, of the MEASURE or CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (circle appropriate word) intended to be INITIATED or REFERRED (circle appropriate word) at the next general election.

SUMMARY: A description of no more than one hundred words of the principal provisions of the proposed law, constitutional amendment or measure that will appear in no less than eight point type on the face of each petition signature sheet to be circulated.

The Arizona Medical Marijuana Act protects terminally or seriously ill patients from state prosecution for using limited amounts of marijuana on their doctor's recommendation. Qualifying patients who register with the Arizona Department of Health Services will obtain marijuana from nonprofit medical marijuana dispensaries regulated by ADHS. Private cultivation will be allowed by ADHS only when no dispensary is available. The Act is self-funding and establishes safeguards: registration cards; fingerprinting of caregivers and dispensary personnel to exclude drug and violent felons; strict security, recordkeeping and oversight requirements; inspection of dispensaries; restrictions on number and location of dispensaries; and providing penalties.



Signature of Applicant

ANDREW MYERS

Printed Name of Applicant

ARIZONA MEDICAL MARIJUANA POLICY PROJECT

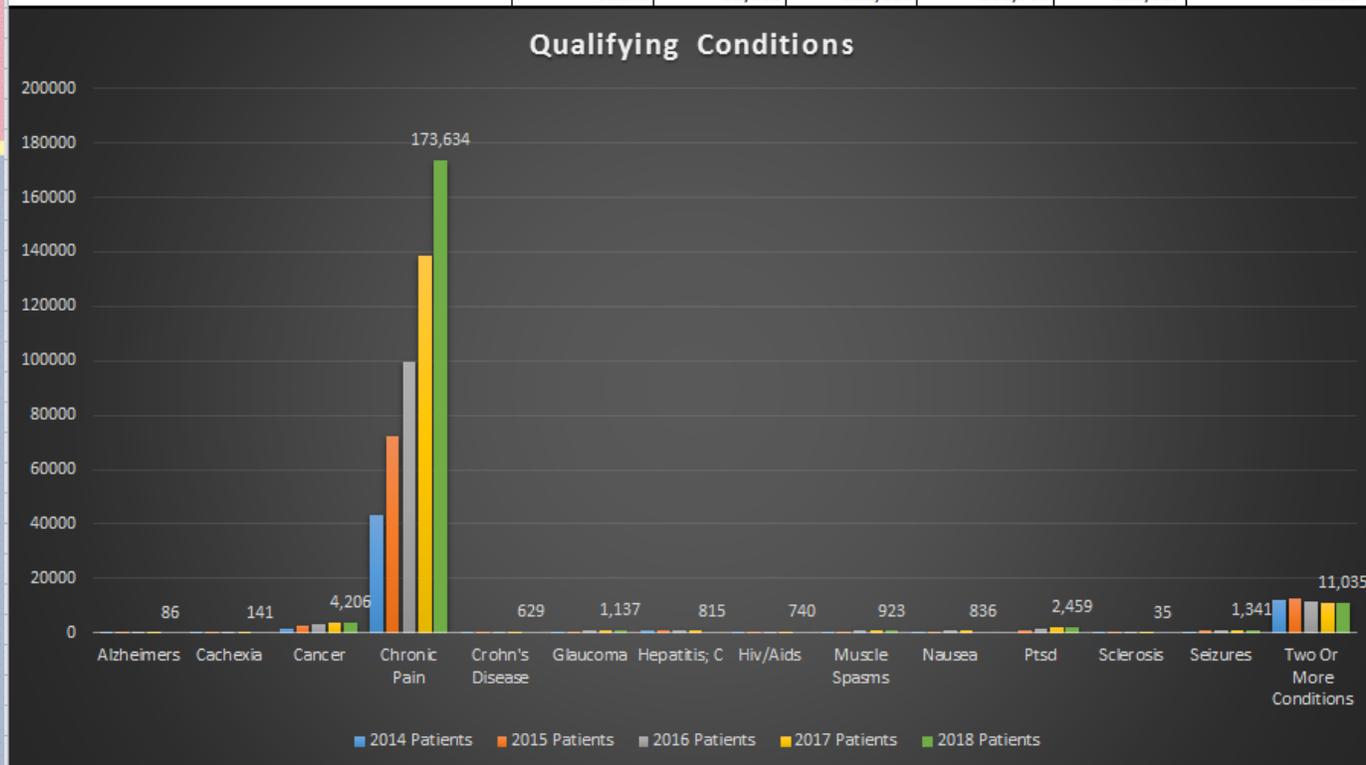
Name of Organization (if any)

P.O. Box 1710

Address

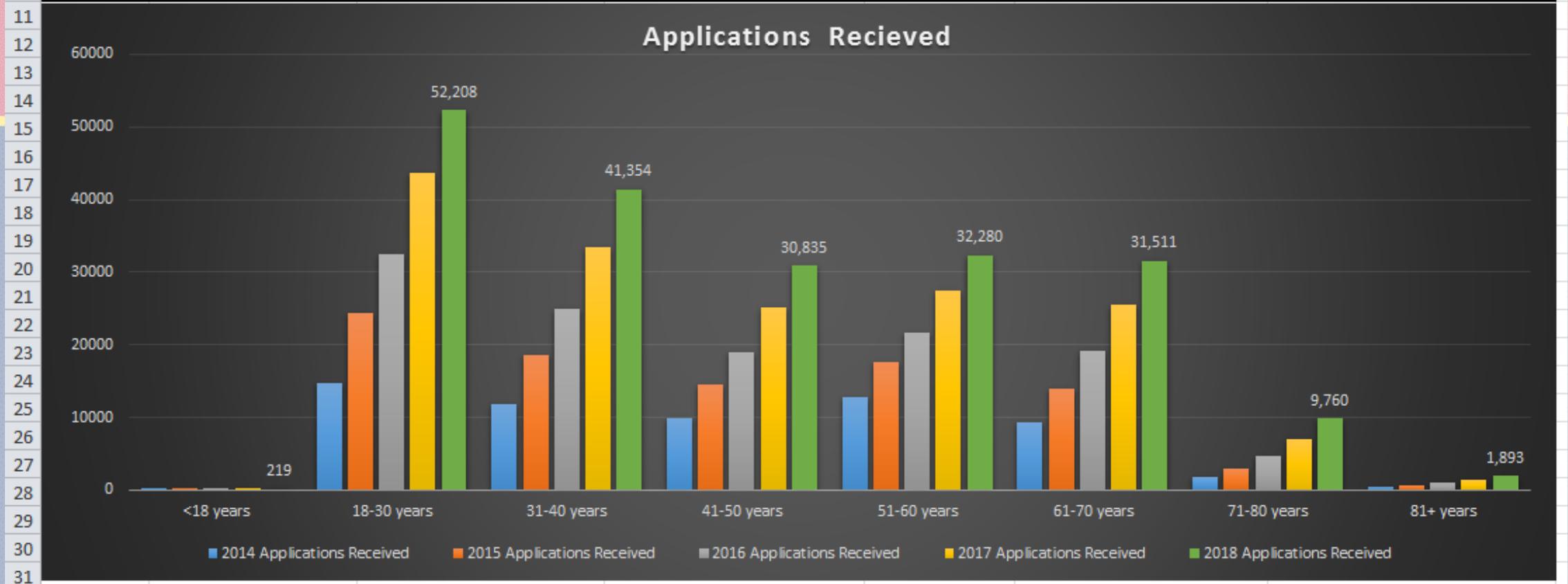
| | 2014 Patients | 2015 Patients | 2016 Patients | 2017 Patients | 2018 Patients | Percentage change from 2014 to 2018 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Alzheimers | 33 | 36 | 67 | 68 | 86 | 160.61% |
| Cachexia | 55 | 89 | 114 | 125 | 141 | 156.36% |
| Cancer | 1666 | 2,388 | 3,397 | 3,866 | 4,206 | 152.46% |
| Chronic Pain | 43,504 | 72,285 | 99,767 | 138,803 | 173,634 | 299.12% |
| Crohn's Disease | 306 | 395 | 507 | 535 | 629 | 105.56% |
| Glaucoma | 518 | 660 | 857 | 1,058 | 1,137 | 119.50% |
| Hepatitis; C | 769 | 845 | 904 | 977 | 815 | 5.98% |
| Hiv/Aids | 297 | 457 | 568 | 649 | 740 | 149.16% |
| Muscle Spasms | 699 | 644 | 771 | 1,245 | 923 | 32.05% |
| Nausea | 490 | 643 | 745 | 853 | 836 | 70.61% |
| Ptsd | 0 | 1,022 | 1,630 | 2,192 | 2,459 | 58.00% |
| Sclerosis | 30 | 28 | 26 | 48 | 35 | 16.67% |
| Seizures | 596 | 801 | 1,037 | 1,246 | 1,341 | 125.00% |
| Two Or More Conditions | 12309 | 12,412 | 11,617 | 11,043 | 11,035 | -10.35% |
| Total | 61272 | 92,705 | 122,007 | 162,708 | 198,017 | 223.18% |

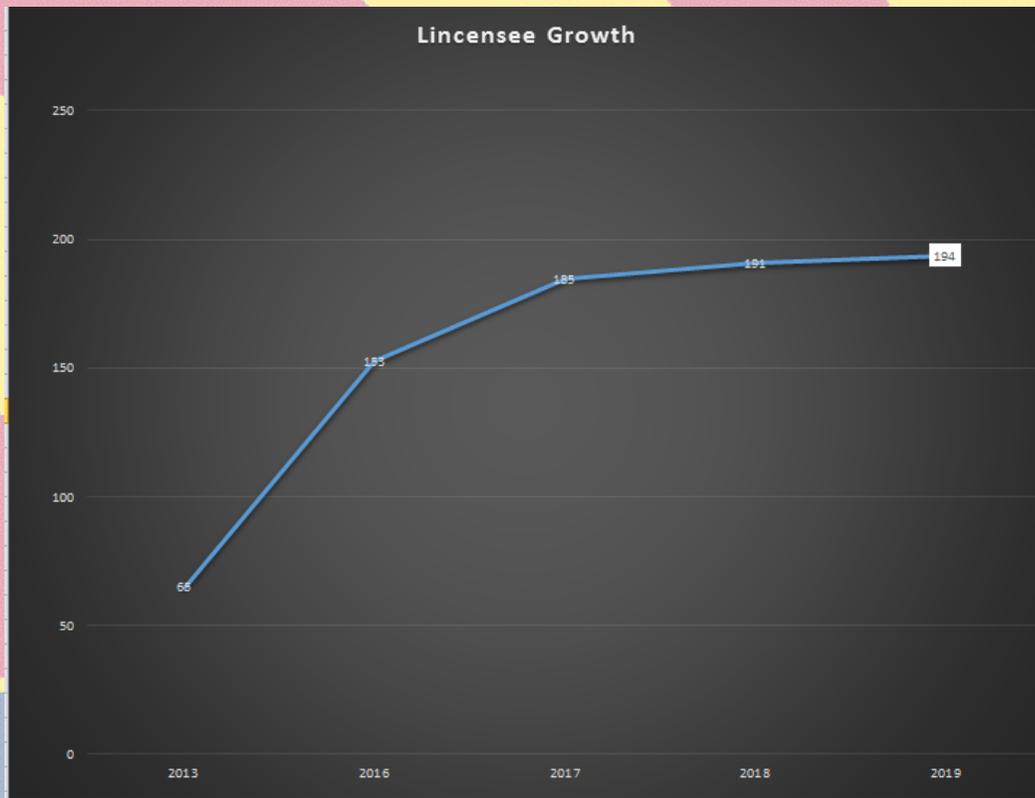
Not surprisingly the number one “qualifying condition” for AMMA card holders is “chronic Pain”



in 2018 there were over 173,000 patients with this condition, the next closest was “cancer” with 4206

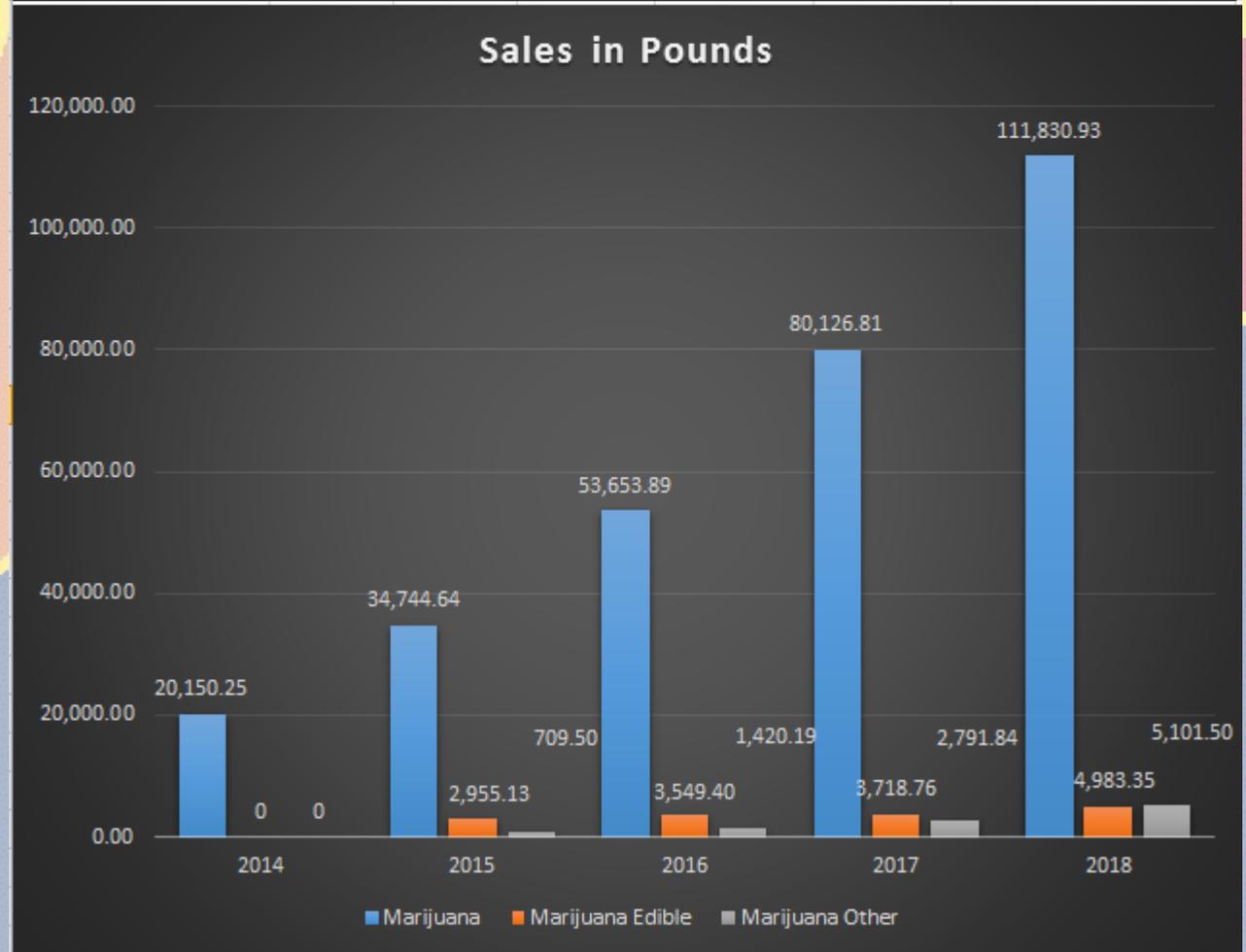
| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
|----|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | | 2014 Applications Received | 2015 Applications Received | 2016 Applications Received | 2017 Applications Received | 2018 Applications Received | Percentage change from 2014 to 2018 |
| 2 | <18 years | 119 | 160 | 209 | 242 | 219 | 84.03% |
| 3 | 18-30 years | 14,757 | 24,353 | 32,462 | 43,599 | 52,208 | 253.78% |
| 4 | 31-40 years | 11,913 | 18,619 | 24,903 | 33,451 | 41,354 | 247.13% |
| 5 | 41-50 years | 10,012 | 14,505 | 18,946 | 25,221 | 30,835 | 207.98% |
| 6 | 51-60 years | 12,818 | 17,677 | 21,763 | 27,387 | 32,280 | 151.83% |
| 7 | 61-70 years | 9,339 | 13,950 | 19,156 | 25,572 | 31,511 | 237.41% |
| 8 | 71-80 years | 1,897 | 2,925 | 4,637 | 7,090 | 9,760 | 414.50% |
| 9 | 81+ years | 417 | 649 | 961 | 1,528 | 1,893 | 353.96% |
| 10 | Total | 61,272 | 92,838 | 123,037 | 164,090 | 200,060 | 226.51% |





With a steadily increasing clientele pool, dispensary numbers have doubled and profits have skyrocketed.

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | Percentage change from 2014 to 2018 |
|------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Marijuana | 20,150.25 | 34,744.64 | 53,653.89 | 80,126.81 | 111,830.93 | 454.985% |
| Marijuana Edible | Not Recorded | 2,955.13 | 3,549.40 | 3,718.76 | 4,983.35 | 68.63% |
| Marijuana Other | Not Recorded | 709.50 | 1,420.19 | 2,791.84 | 5,101.50 | 619.03% |



...as have the potency and price of the “medicine”



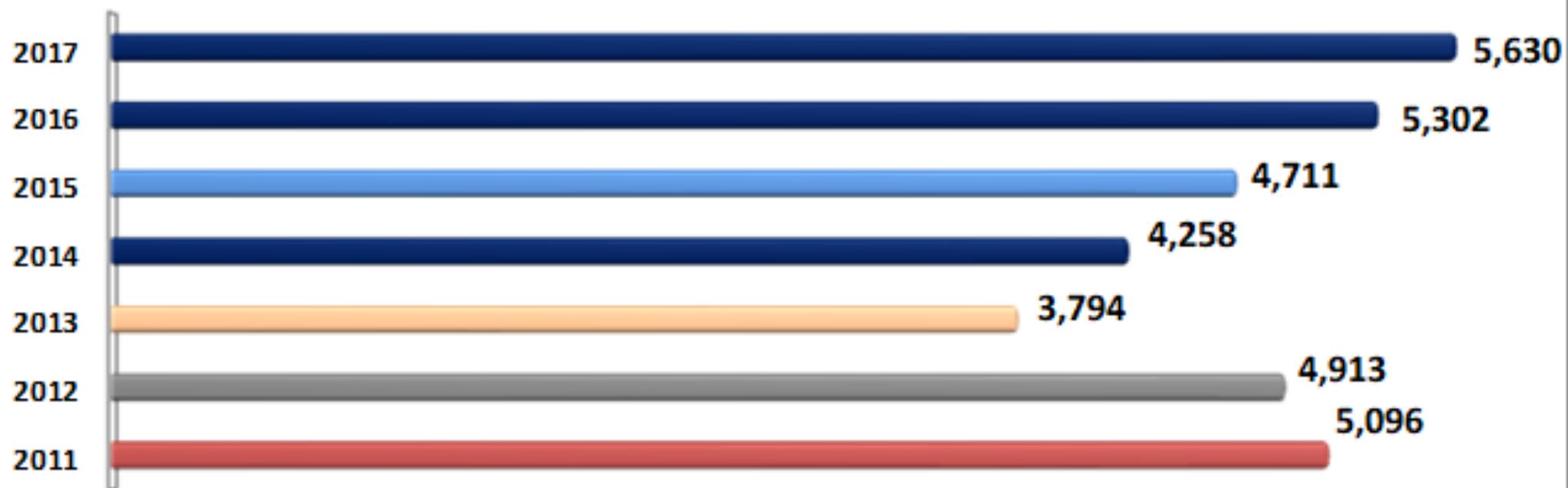
AZ produced dispensary “distillate” 91.2 %THC

**THC POSITIVE BLOOD DRUG SCREENS: ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
CRIME LABORATORY
(FY 2011 – FY 2019)**

| Fiscal Year | Number of THC-Positive Blood Drug Screens | Total Number of Blood Drug Screens | THC-Positive as a Percentage of Total Blood Drug Screens |
|--------------------|--|---|---|
| 2011 | 1,325 | 4,503 | 29% |
| 2012 | 1,492 | 4,898 | 30% |
| 2013 | 1,483 | 4,886 | 30% |
| 2014 | 1,540 | 4,932 | 31% |
| 2015 | 1,577 | 5,074 | 31% |
| 2016 | 1,926 | 5,480 | 35% |
| 2017 | 2,271 | 5,964 | 38% |
| 2018 | 2,353 | 6,099 | 39% |
| 2019 | 2,595 | 6,482 | 40% |

Source: AZ DPS Crime Laboratory, July 31, 2019

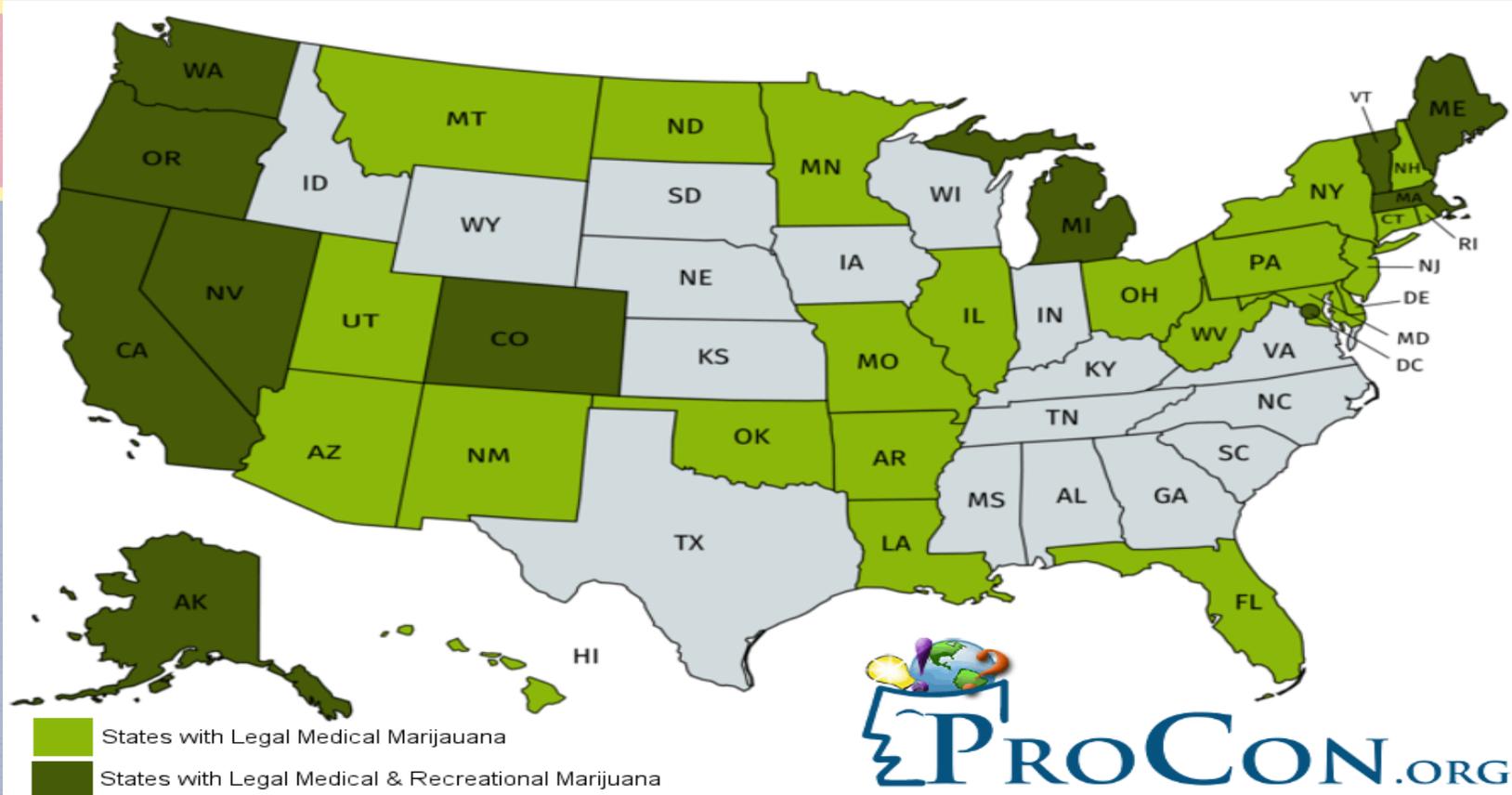
**Treatment Episode Dataset: Marijuana Treatment Admissions
Arizona (CY 2011 - CY 2017)**



Source: Treatment Episode Data Set * as of July 22, 2019

With New Mexico preparing to for recreational marijuana
Arzina will have four out of five of its bordering states
“legalized”

33 Legal Medical Marijuana States & DC
10 Legal Recreational Marijuana States & DC



But the true tale of “marijuana” in Arizona is
“where the rubber meets the road”



Pinal County Az

Mexican DTO's are still shipping commercial marijuana ,
but it is more common to intercept **poly-drug** shipments



Interstate transport of Marijuana and Cannabis into and through Arizona is at an all time **“high”** and growing

Fake FedEx van with trash bags full of marijuana stopped on I-15 near port of entry

Written by Cody Blowers 🕒 February 6, 2019



More than 1,100 pounds of marijuana packaged in black trash bags was seized from a van stopped by officers of the Arizona Department of Transportation, Washington County, Utah, Feb. 5, 2019 | Photo courtesy of the Arizona Department of Transportation, St. George News

High grade narcotic cannabis oil (THC) produced for vaporizers has completely taken over the markets



And both the local and Mexican DTO black markets are profiting from it



Diversion, black market “medical marijuana” sales and clandestine hash labs are ever increasing



weedmaps.com/deliveries/mile-high-medicinals

weedmaps Search for dispensaries, deliveries & brands Scottsdale, AZ

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Mile High Meds
★★★★★ 5.0 (29 reviews)
Delivery • Scottsdale, Arizona
Medical
(480) 518-0163
OPEN NOW 7:00am - 9:30pm

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And in 2020 we face the latest attempt at
“recreational” marijuana

SMART&SAFE
ARIZONA

**Control, Regulate & Tax
the Responsible, Adult
Use of Marijuana to
Benefit Arizona**

