



UF College of Medicine
Department of Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine
Drug Policy Institute

SAM Smart
Approaches to
Marijuana
preventing another big tobacco

Marijuana Issues

Presented to the

Secretaries Innovations Group

Kevin A. Sabet, Ph.D.

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Co-Founder, Project SAM (Smart Approaches to Marijuana)

www.learnaboutsam.org

www.kevinsabet.com

"The most thoughtful, rigorous, and accessible discussion of marijuana to date. Sabet eschews silver bullets for smart, evidence-based solutions rooted in public health." - Dr. Robert L. DuPont founding Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health

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KEVIN A. SABET, Ph.D.

FOREWORD BY PATRICK J. KENNEDY, FORMER CONGRESSMAN

The false dichotomy:
“Legalization OR Prohibition?”

Legalization = Big *Marijuana*



- Number of people who use **21+ days** has increased by a **factor of 7** since 1992
- Since 2007, the use of marijuana measured by days of use has increased 57%
- One arrest for **every 5,800 days of use.**
- **That means someone who smokes marijuana 2x week for their whole life has a chance of being arrested once every 50 years.**
- Potency has grown 10-20 fold
- Marijuana is now 2nd leading cause of impaired driving
- Marijuana use now surpasses tobacco for most young people

ILLICIT DRUG EXPENDITURES

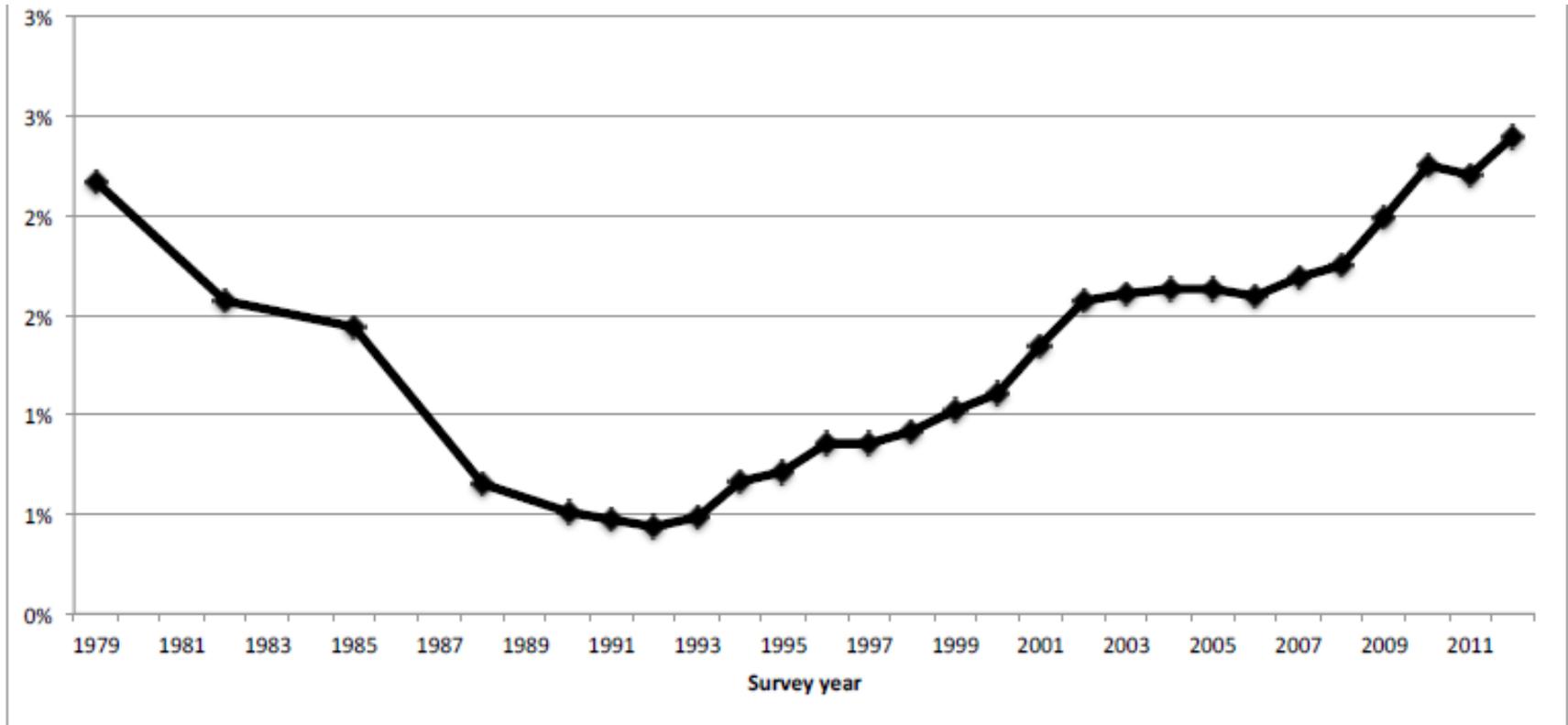
1990

2013

Cocaine	\$30 B	\$15B
Cannabis	\$10 B	\$40B

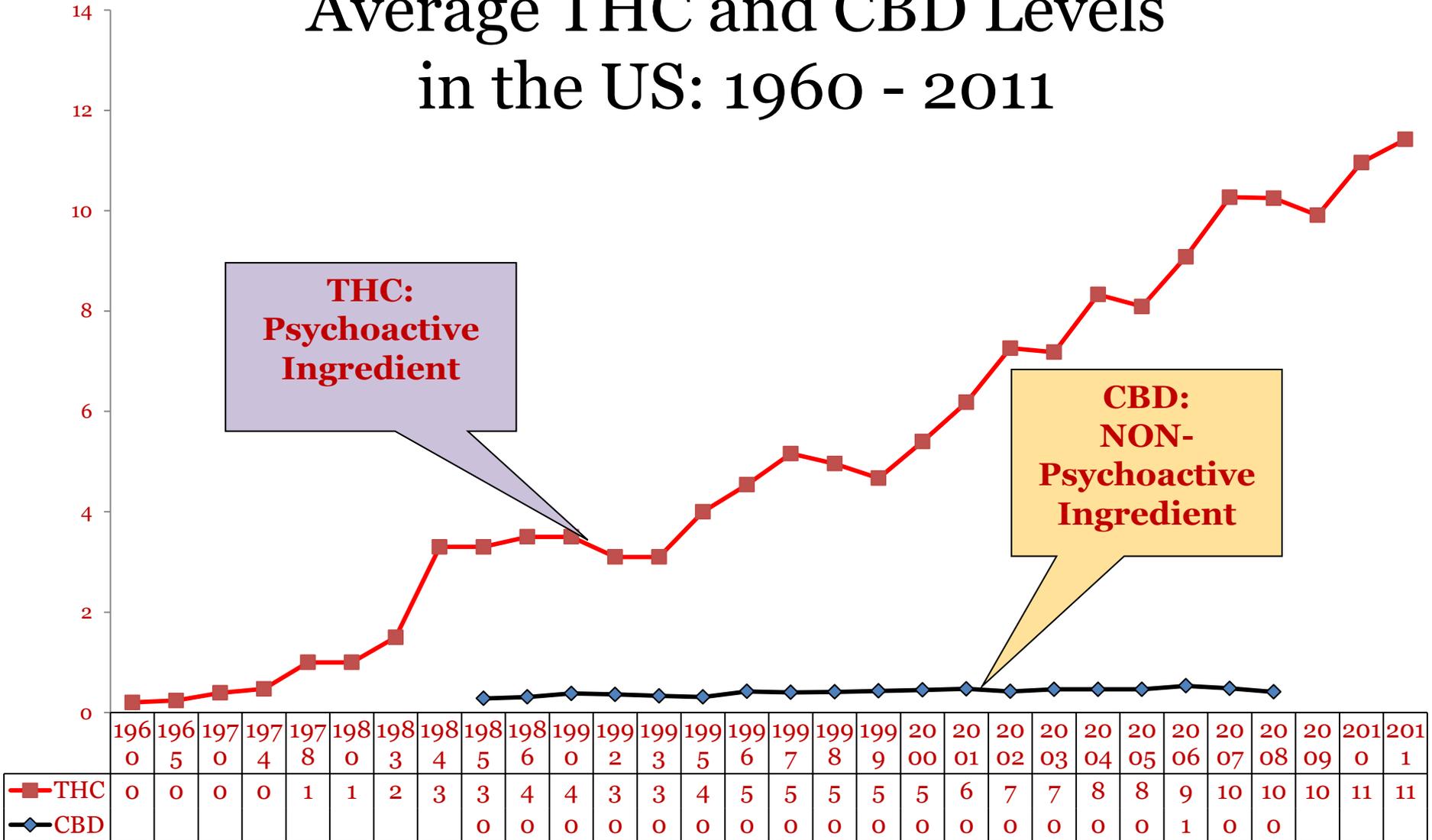
Source: Caulkins, RAND

The entire American population of daily marijuana users



*“Heavy Marijuana Use in the United States: A Growing Policy Concern”
Jonathan Caulkins and Maria Cuellar*

Average THC and CBD Levels in the US: 1960 - 2011



98% Pure Marijuana: “Just a Plant” ?



*“Green Crack”
wax*



“Ear Wax”



Butane Hash Oil
(BHO)



Hash Oil Capsules



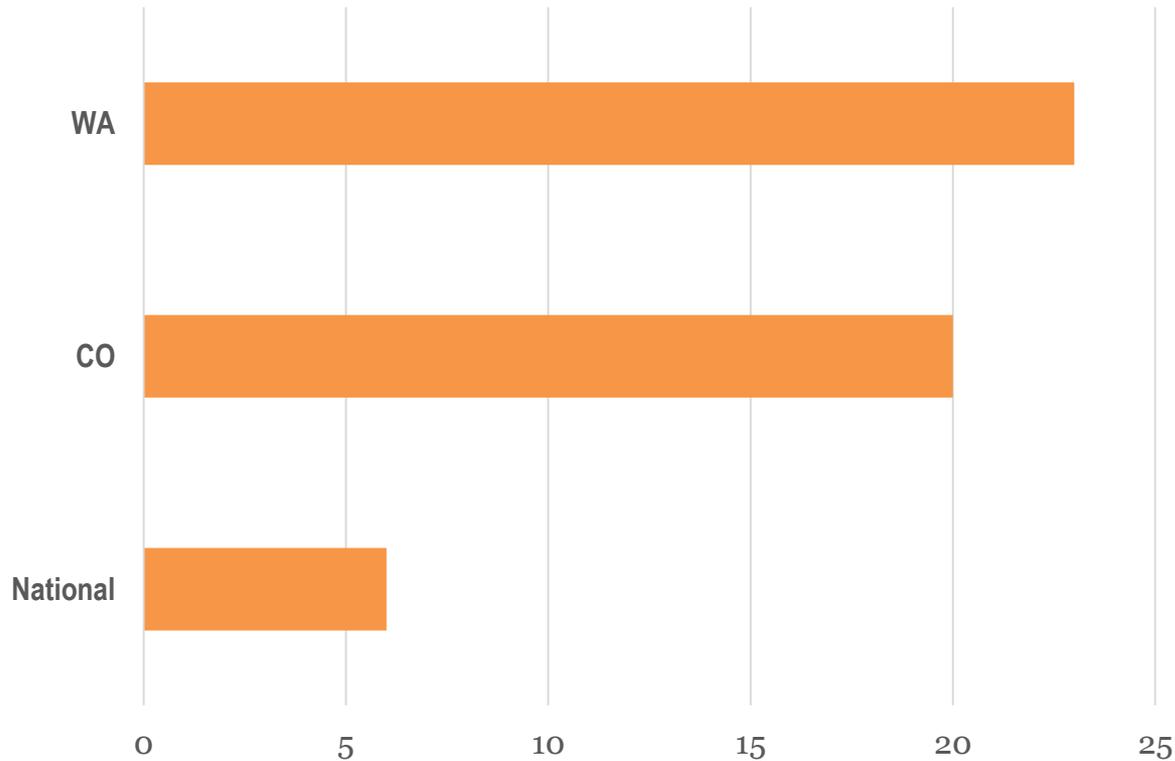
“Budder”

“Shatter”



Quest Diagnostics Drug Test Index™

Workplace Pos MJ Tests: Increase from 2012-2013



<http://www.questdiagnostics.com/home/physicians/health-trends/drug-testing>



How Did We Get Here?





Legalization behind the smokescreen

“We will use [medical marijuana] as a red-herring to give marijuana a good name.” —Keith *Stroup*, head of *NORML* to the Emory Wheel, 1979

- Advocates have pushed their agenda through “medicine by popular vote” rather than the rigorous scientific testing system devised by the FDA.

Is Marijuana Medicine?

NO: SMOKED OR INHALED RAW
MARIJUANA IS NOT MEDICINE

YES: THERE ARE MARIJUANA-BASED
PILLS AVAILABLE AND OTHER
MEDICATIONS COMING SOON

MAYBE: RESEARCH IS ONGOING

Compassionate care or increased access to marijuana?



<5%

- **Less than 5% of card holders are cancer, HIV/AIDS, or glaucoma patients**
- **Average user: 32 WM, no illness**

Bottom Line

We don't smoke opium to get the effects of morphine.

So why would we smoke marijuana to get its potential medical effects?

Cannabis-Based Medicines

- ❑ Research on the efficacy of cannabinoids is not focused on raw/crude marijuana, but in the individual components that may have medical use.
- ❑ Sativex is in the process of being studied (phase III trials)
- ❑ Approved in Canada and across Europe
- ❑ Administered via an oral spray



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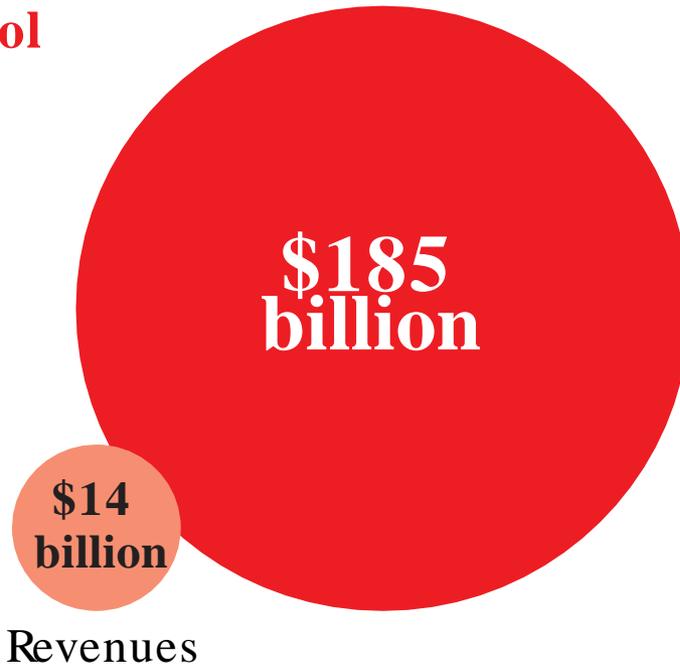
Contains 10 mg. of nicotine av. per cigarette. Tar 1.1 mg. av. per cigarette.

‘Big marijuana’

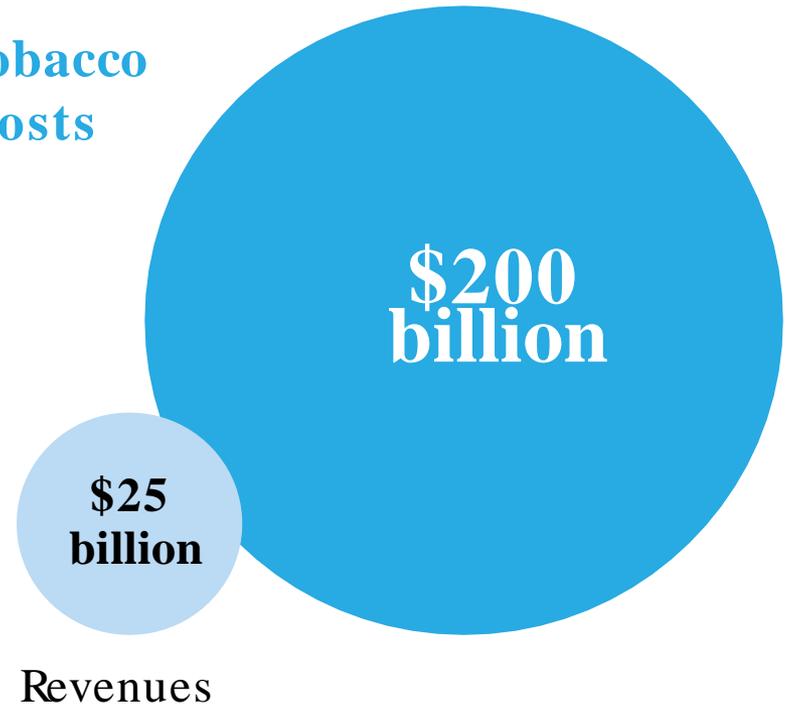
“The use of marijuana ... has important implications for the tobacco industry in terms of an alternative product line. [We] have the land to grow it, the machines to roll it and package it, the distribution to market it. In fact, some firms have registered trademarks, which are taken directly from marijuana street jargon. These trade names are used currently on little-known legal products, but could be switched if and when marijuana is legalized. Estimates indicate that the market in legalized marijuana might be as high as \$10 billion annually.”
From a report commissioned by cigarette manufacturer Brown and Williamson (now merged with R.J. Reynolds) in the 1970s.

Alcohol & Tobacco: Money Makers or Dollar Drainers?

**Alcohol
Costs**



**Tobacco
Costs**



State estimates found at <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/31/weekinreview/31saul.html?em>; Federal estimates found at https://www.policyarchive.org/bitstream/handle/10207/3314/RS20343_20020110.pdf; Also see <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0072.pdf>; Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, see "Smoking-caused costs," on p.2.

***Colorado
and
Washington***

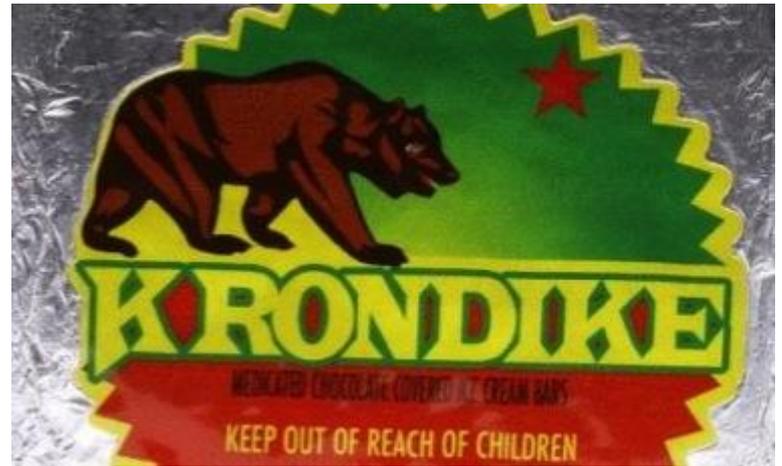
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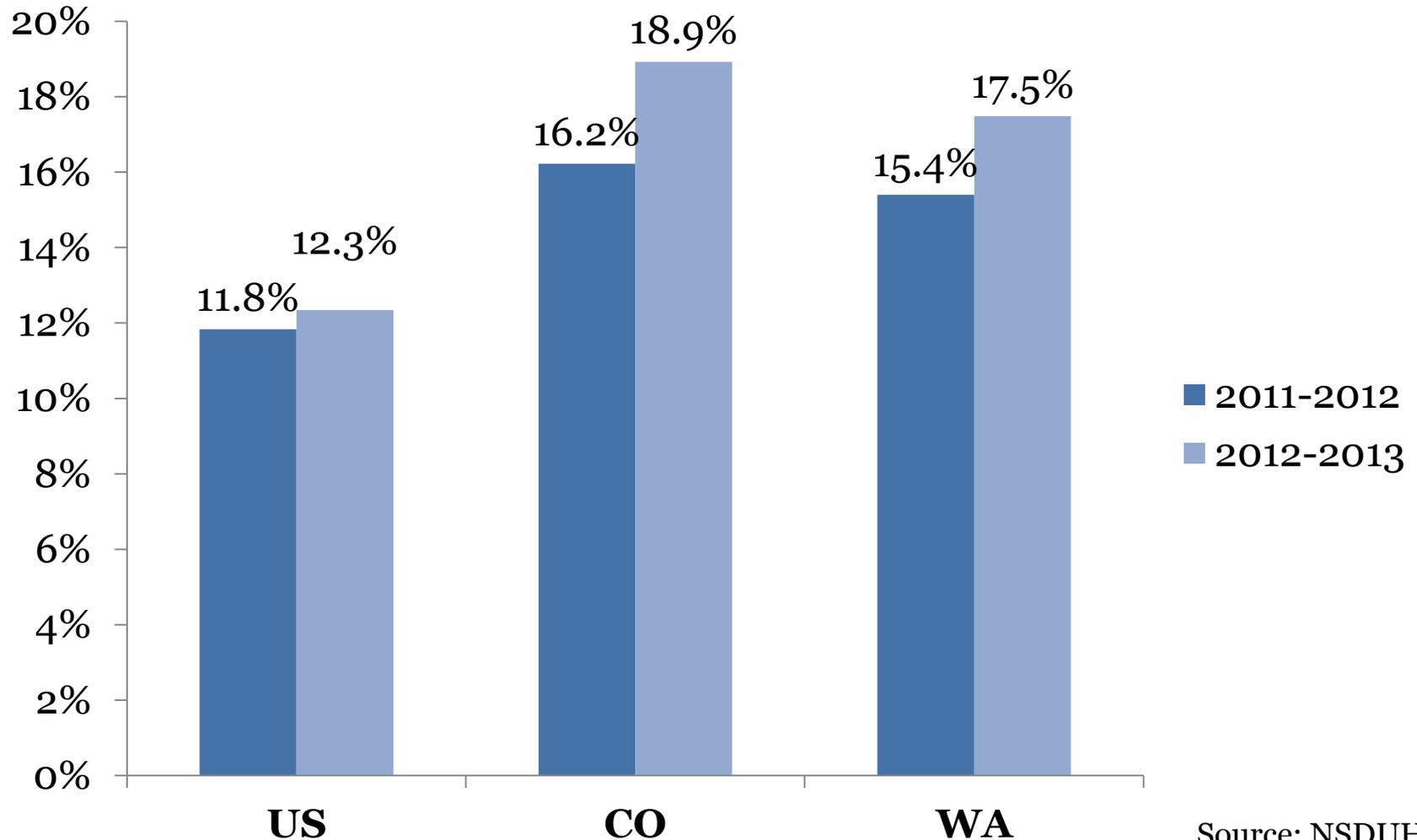


In a report published in the Journal of the American Medical Association last month, Andrew Monte, MD; Richard Zane, MD; and Kennon Heard, MD, pointed to edible marijuana as the culprit behind the most troubling cases arriving at the UCH and Children's Hospital Colorado emergency departments, including severe burns and cycling vomiting syndrome.



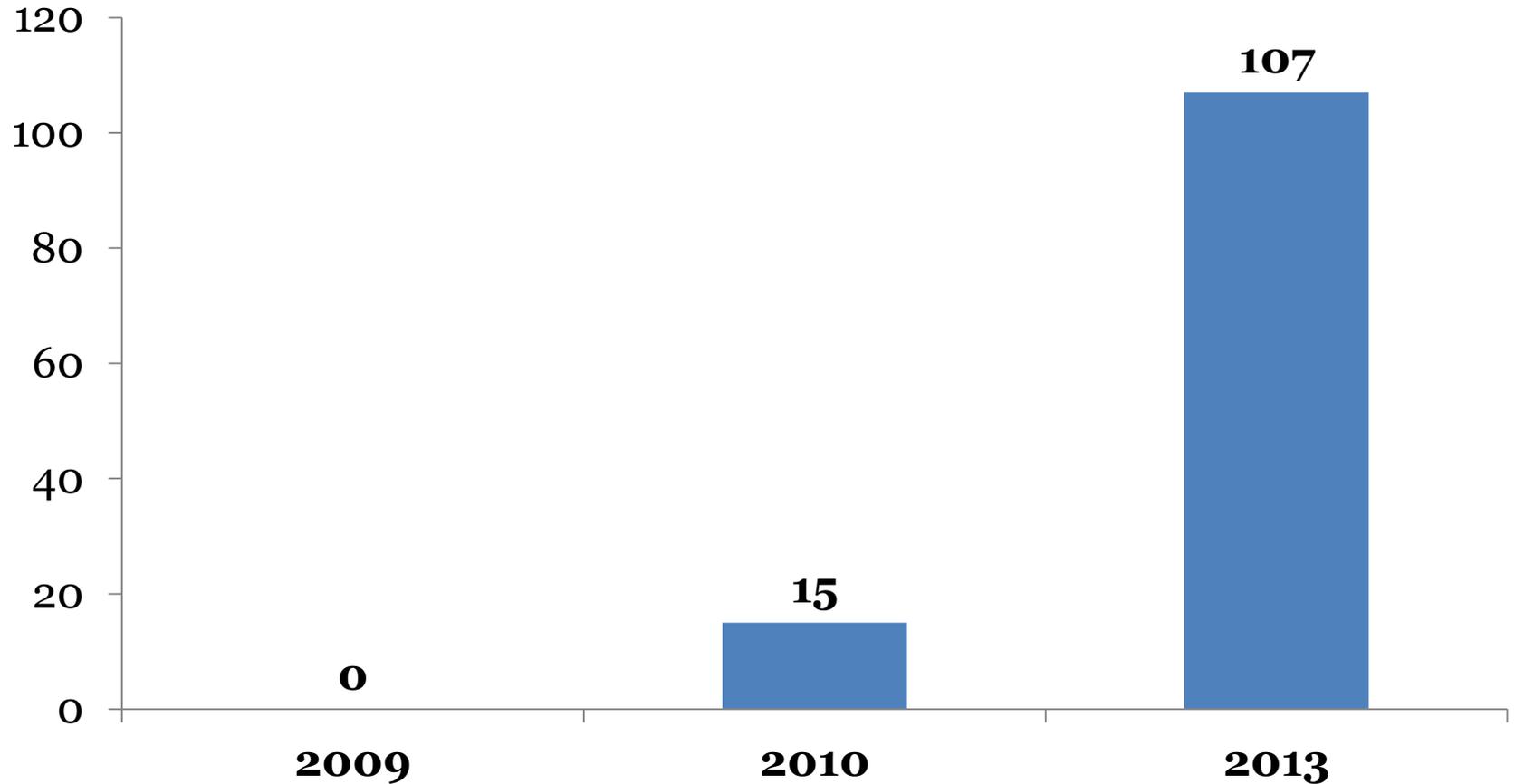
and Medical Use. Keep out of reach from children. Medicate Responsibly

US, CO, and WA Past-Year Marijuana Use (ages 12+)



Source: NSDUH, 2014

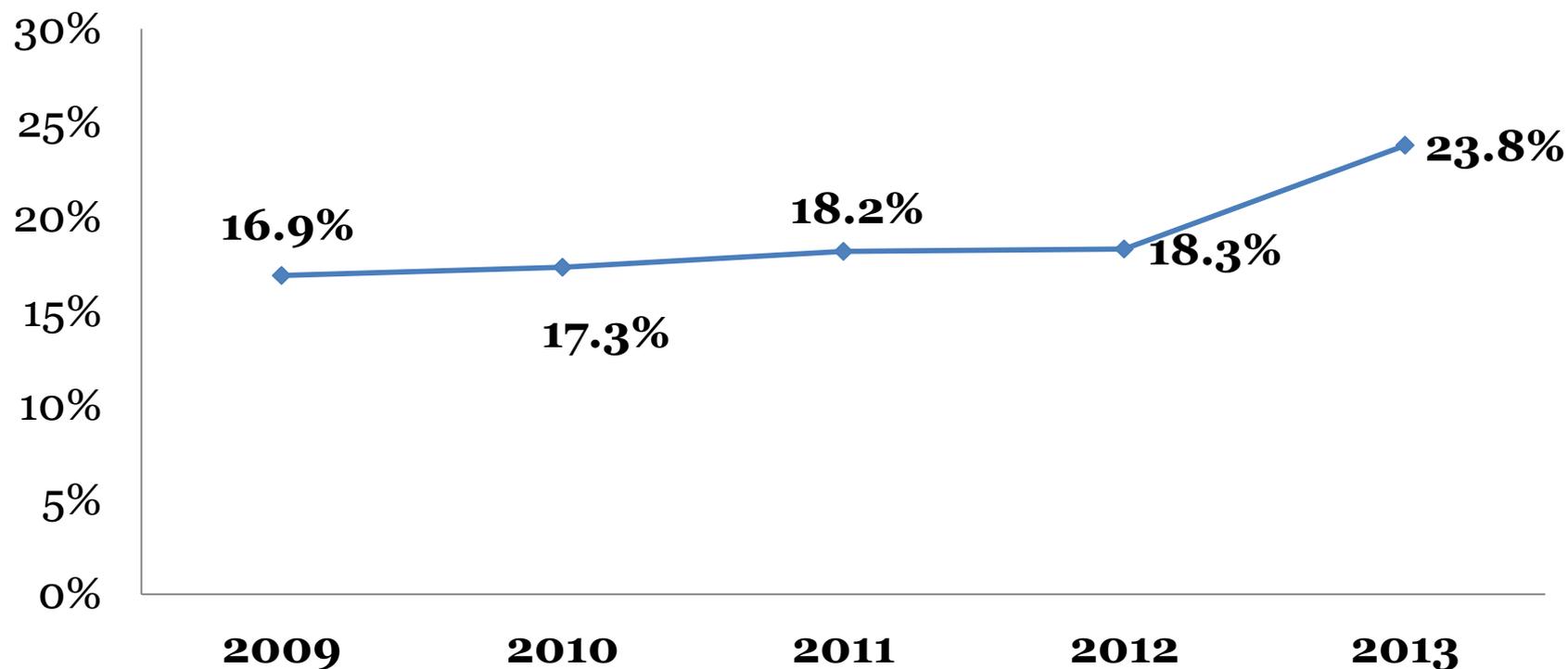
Nº US Mail Package Interceptions Containing CO Marijuana



Source: El Paso Intelligence Center National Seizure System

WA and CO Observe an Increase in the Share of Marijuana Driving Cases

Percentage of total DUI/DRE cases tested positive for THC* in WA



Source: Adapted from data provided by the WA State Patrol and WA State Toxicologist

Tax money?

Underground market?

Better schools?

Arrests down or up?



TheUpshot

REVENUE DISAPPOINTMENT

Marijuana Taxes Won't Save State Budgets

APRIL 9, 2015



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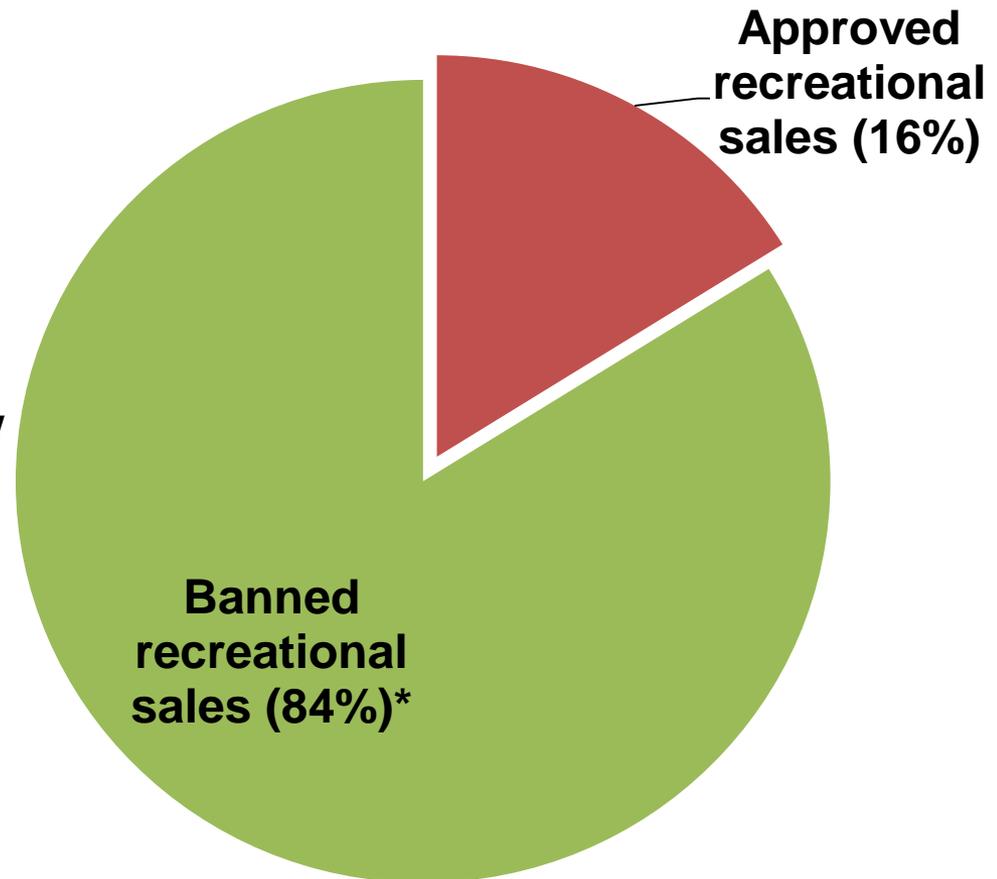
Colorado's marijuana tax collections are not as high as expected.

In February 2014, Gov. John Hickenlooper's office projected Colorado would take in \$118 million in taxes on recreational marijuana in its first full year after legalization. With seven months of revenue data in, his office has cut that projection and believes it will collect just \$69 million through the end of the fiscal year in June, a miss of 42 percent.

That figure is consequential in two ways. First, it's a wide miss. Second, compared with Colorado's all-funds budget of \$27 billion, neither \$69 million nor \$118 million is a large number.

Cities Across Colorado are Banning the Recreational Sales of Marijuana

- Of the 31 cities in Colorado that voted in November to allow the recreational sales of marijuana, 26* voted to ban it.



Drug Policy Alliance

“We're at a tipping point where it's starting to feel like marijuana legalization is no longer a question of if -- but when. But what about the other drugs? My colleagues and I at the Drug Policy Alliance are committed to ensuring the decriminalization of all drug use becomes a political priority.”

Now he does not just mean to remove arrests for small amounts... he says: *“Many of the reasons why marijuana legalization makes sense can be applied to drugs more generally”* --which appears to mean that this is about legalization/full retail sales of all drugs.

-HuffPost



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SAM

1. To inform public policy with the science of today's marijuana.
2. To have honest conversations about reducing the unintended consequences of current marijuana policies, such as lifelong stigma due to arrest.
3. To prevent the establishment of Big Marijuana that would market marijuana to children — and to prevent Big Tobacco from taking over Big Marijuana. Those are the very likely results of legalization.
4. To promote research of marijuana's medical properties and produce pharmacy-attainable medications.



Thank you!

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