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# DCP First Class of Fall

## *History of Cannabis*

September 13, 2023

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# Agenda

DCP general announcements

History of Cannabis Consumption

History of Cannabis Legalization

Cannabis Policies

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# DCP Announcements

## Fall

- Job shadowing opportunities start in October
  - Last Wednesday a month will be only for advanced group- starts in October
  - Looking for volunteers to report updates on City, State, Federal
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# Cannabis Consumption

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# A Brief History of Cannabis Consumption

Evolution of the Marijuana Plant

**Research** on some of the earliest fossil records indicates that close ancestors of the marijuana plant existed up to 34 million years ago. The hops plant, a close relative of the marijuana plant, was fully developed about 6.38 million years ago, giving us an idea of how long cannabis has been on this planet.

Initially found in central China, some historians believe that cannabis plants are some of the earliest crops to be farmed. Before we fully understood the medicinal properties of hemp, farmers grew marijuana to use as a material to make rope, paper, and even clothing. Perhaps 5,000 years ago, people were literally wearing weed on their backs!

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# A Brief History of Cannabis Consumption

## Evidence of First Application

Based on findings from archeological dig sites around the world, people have used cannabis plants for thousands of years. Eventually, ancient Chinese medicine recognized that the cannabis plant offered a wide array of health benefits. At the time, people did not use this herbal medicine to "get high" as we do now. Instead, they used it to alleviate pain, reduce inflammation, and restore appetite.

While our ancient cannabis-consuming ancestors were not using multi-layered grinders, kief catchers, and rolling papers, they were still using the plant to enjoy a milder psychoactive effect. Remember that the marijuana plants from thousands of years ago were not as potent as they are today. [Studies have shown](#) that cannabis strains from thousands of years ago were not as high THC.

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# A Brief History of Cannabis Consumption

## Globalization of Marijuana

Throughout history, various cannabis plants have been grown worldwide, and some of these landrace strains are still around today. But it wasn't until around 1000 AD that cannabis became a more relevant pillar of trade in the east. Cannabis was imported from central Asia into parts of Korea, the Middle East, and North Africa before eventually being introduced to the West. By the 1600s, marijuana crops were found throughout Europe and South America, eventually finding their way into North American plantations.

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# History Timeline

1898

Dunstan and Henry isolated cannabiol (CBN).



1937

The uses of cannabis for medicinal and recreational purposes were effectively taxed out of existence in the USA by the Marijuana Tax Act.

1936

The film Reefer Madness was released, demonising cannabis as a highly addictive drug that caused mental disorder and violence.



1964

Mechoulam (pictured with Dave Allsop) isolated THC from the cannabis plant.

1940s

Adams and Todd independently isolated cannabidiol (CBD).

1970

US introduced the Controlled Substance Act that lists cannabis as having 'no accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse'.

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# History Timeline

1996

California legalised medical cannabis by introducing the Compassionate Use Act.

2007

Endocannabinoids shown to activate GPR55.



1999

Endocannabinoids discovered to activate TRPV1 receptors (the receptors activated by the compound in chilli)



2016

Australia legalised medical cannabis and its cultivation for medical purposes.

2012

CBD shown to alleviate schizophrenia symptoms in patients comparable to a conventional antipsychotic drug.

2017

CBD demonstrated to reduce seizures in childhood epilepsy in a placebo-controlled trial

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# Regulation

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### **1600-1890s Domestic production of hemp encouraged**

1600-1890s

American production of hemp was encouraged by the government in the 17th century for the production of rope, sails, and clothing. (Marijuana is the mixture of dried, shredded flowers and leaves that comes from the hemp plant.)

In 1619 the Virginia Assembly passed legislation requiring every farmer to grow hemp. Hemp was allowed to be exchanged as legal tender in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Maryland.

Domestic production flourished until after the Civil War, when imports and other domestic materials replaced hemp for many purposes. In the late nineteenth century, marijuana became a popular ingredient in many medicinal products and was sold openly in public pharmacies.

During the 19th century, hashish use became a fad in France and also, to some extent, in the U.S.

### **1906 Pure Food and Drug Act**

1906

Required labeling of any cannabis contained in over-the-counter remedies.

### **1900 - 20s Mexican immigrants introduce recreational use of marijuana leaf**

1900 - 20s

After the Mexican Revolution of 1910, Mexican immigrants flooded into the U.S., introducing to American culture the recreational use of marijuana. The drug became associated with the immigrants, and the fear and prejudice about the Spanish-speaking newcomers became associated with marijuana. Anti-drug campaigners warned against the encroaching "Marijuana Menace," and terrible crimes were attributed to marijuana and the Mexicans who used it.

### **1930s Fear of marijuana**

1930s

During the Great Depression, massive unemployment increased public resentment and fear of Mexican immigrants, escalating public and governmental concern about the problem of marijuana. This instigated a flurry of research which linked the use of marijuana with violence, crime and other socially deviant behaviors, primarily committed by "racially inferior" or underclass communities. By 1931, 29 states had outlawed marijuana.

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**1930** **Creation of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics (FBN)**

Harry J. Anslinger was the first Commissioner of the FBN and remained in that post until 1962.

**1932** **Uniform State Narcotic Act**

Concern about the rising use of marijuana and research linking its use with crime and other social problems created pressure on the federal government to take action. Rather than promoting federal legislation, the Federal Bureau of Narcotics strongly encouraged state governments to accept responsibility for control of the problem by adopting the Uniform State Narcotic Act.

**1936** **"Reefer Madness"**

Propaganda film "Reefer Madness" was produced by the French director, Louis Gasnier.

The Motion Pictures Association of America, composed of the major Hollywood studios, banned the showing of any narcotics in films.

**1937** **Marijuana Tax Act**

After a lurid national propaganda campaign against the "evil weed," Congress passed the Marijuana Tax Act. The statute effectively criminalized marijuana, restricting possession of the drug to individuals who paid an excise tax for certain authorized medical and industrial uses.

**1944** **La Guardia Report finds marijuana less dangerous**

New York Academy of Medicine issued an extensively researched report declaring that, contrary to earlier research and popular belief, use of marijuana did not induce violence, insanity or sex crimes, or lead to addiction or other drug use.

**1940s** **"Hemp for Victory"**

During World War II, imports of hemp and other materials crucial for producing marine cordage, parachutes, and other military necessities became scarce. In response the U.S. Department of Agriculture launched its "Hemp for Victory" program, encouraging farmers to plant hemp by giving out seeds and granting draft deferments to those who would stay home and grow hemp. By 1943 American farmers registered in the program harvested 375,000 acres of hemp.

**1951-56** **Stricter Sentencing Laws**

Enactment of federal laws (Boggs Act, 1952; Narcotics Control Act, 1956) which set mandatory sentences for drug-related offenses, including marijuana.

A first-offense marijuana possession carried a minimum sentence of 2-10 years with a fine of up to \$20,000.

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**1960s Marijuana use popular in counterculture**

A changing political and cultural climate was reflected in more lenient attitudes towards marijuana. Use of the drug became widespread in the white upper middle class. Reports commissioned by Presidents Kennedy and Johnson found that marijuana use did not induce violence nor lead to use of heavier drugs. Policy towards marijuana began to involve considerations of treatment as well as criminal penalties.

**1968 Creation of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs**

This was a merger of FBN and the Bureau of Dangerous Drugs of the Food and Drug Administration.

**1970 Repeal of most mandatory minimum sentences**

Congress repealed most of the mandatory penalties for drug-related offenses. It was widely acknowledged that the mandatory minimum sentences of the 1950s had done nothing to eliminate the drug culture that embraced marijuana use throughout the 60s, and that the minimum sentences imposed were often unduly harsh.

**Marijuana differentiated from other drugs**

The Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act categorized marijuana separately from other narcotics and eliminated mandatory federal sentences for possession of small amounts.

**National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) founded**

**1972 Shafer Commission**

The bipartisan Shafer Commission, appointed by President Nixon at the direction of Congress, considered laws regarding marijuana and determined that personal use of marijuana should be decriminalized. Nixon rejected the recommendation, but over the course of the 1970s, eleven states decriminalized marijuana and most others reduced their penalties.

**1973 Creation of the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)**

Merger of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNND) and the Office of Drug Abuse Law Enforcement (ODALE).

**1974 High Times founded**

**1976 Beginning of parents' movement against marijuana**

A nationwide movement emerged of conservative parents' groups lobbying for stricter regulation of marijuana and the prevention of drug use by teenagers. Some of these groups became quite powerful and, with the support of the DEA and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), were instrumental in affecting public attitudes which led to the 1980s War on Drugs.

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### **1986 Anti-Drug Abuse Act - Mandatory Sentences**

President Reagan signed the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, instituting mandatory sentences for drug-related crimes. In conjunction with the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the new law raised federal penalties for marijuana possession and dealing, basing the penalties on the amount of the drug involved. Possession of 100 marijuana plants received the same penalty as possession of 100 grams of heroin. A later amendment to the Anti-Drug Abuse Act established a "three strikes and you're out" policy, requiring life sentences for repeat drug offenders, and providing for the death penalty for "drug kingpins."

### **1989 Bush's War on Drugs**

President George Bush declares a new War on Drugs in a nationally televised speech.

### **1996 Medical Use Legalized in California**

California voters passed Proposition 215 allowing for the sale and medical use of marijuana for patients with AIDS, cancer, and other serious and painful diseases. This law stands in tension with federal laws prohibiting possession of marijuana.

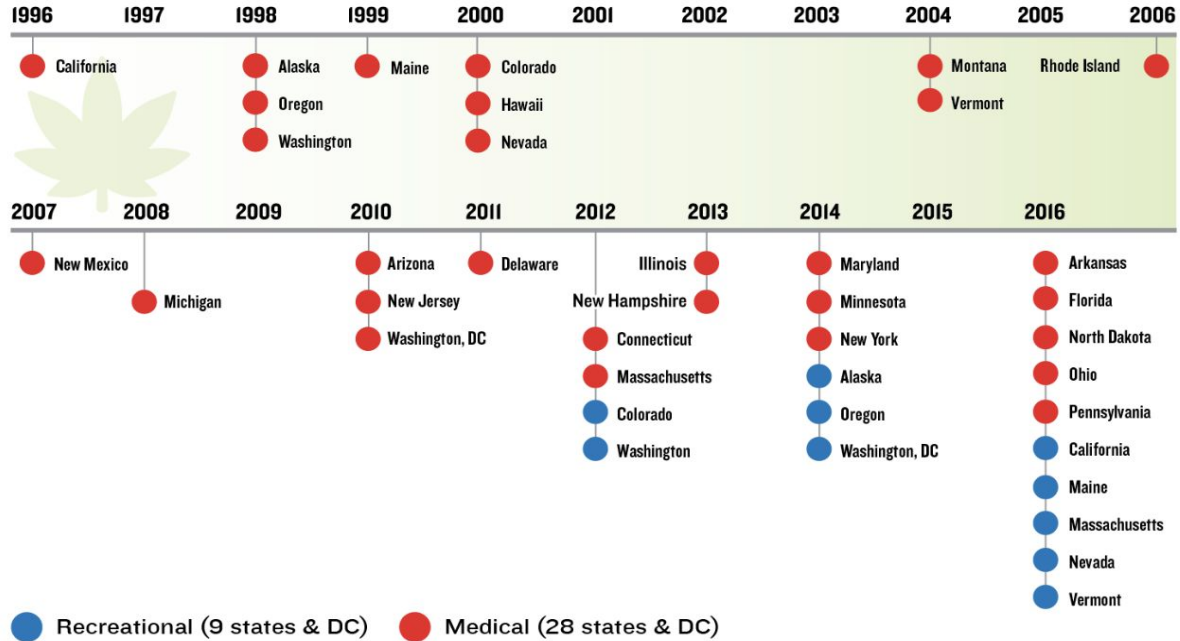
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# Legalization

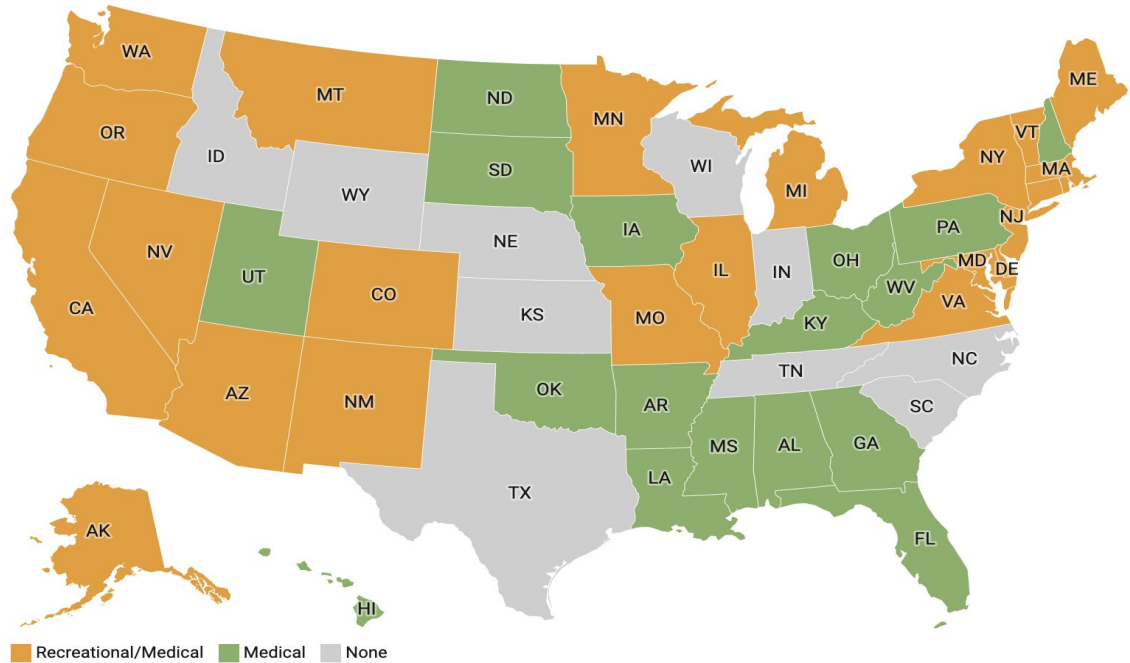
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## Timeline of State Marijuana Legalization Laws





## Where marijuana is legal in the United States



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# Policies

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# State of Michigan

Under Michigan law marijuana is listed as a Schedule I controlled substance.

An adult may possess up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana; up to 15 grams of marijuana may be marijuana concentrate.

Within a residence, an adult may possess up to 10 ounces of marijuana and any marijuana produced by marijuana cultivated on the premises.

An adult who possesses more than 2.5 ounces of marijuana within a residence must store the excess amount in a secure container. Possession of more than 2.5 ounces of marijuana and up to 5.0 ounces of marijuana is a civil infraction punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and forfeiture of the marijuana for a first offense.

Possession of more than 5.0 ounces of marijuana is a misdemeanor. No term of imprisonment will be imposed unless the possession involved violence or was “habitual, willful and for a commercial purpose.”

Possession in or within 1,000 feet of a park is either a felony or a misdemeanor, based on the judge’s discretion, and is punishable by a maximum of 2 years imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$2,000.

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# Michigan

## Sale or Distribution

An adult may transfer up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana to another adult as long as there is no remuneration and the transfer is not advertised or promoted to the public. Distribution of less than 5 ounces without remuneration is a civil infraction with no incarceration possible and a maximum \$500 fine.

The sale of less than 5 kilograms is a felony punishable by a maximum sentence of 4 years imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$20,000.

The sale of 5 kilograms – 45 kilograms is a felony, which is punishable by a maximum sentence of 7 years imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$500,000.

The sale of 45 kilograms or more is a felony, which is punishable by a maximum sentence of 15 years imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$10,000,000.

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# Michigan

## Cultivation

An adult may grow up to 12 marijuana plants at the adult's residence for personal use.

An adult may not grow marijuana plants "if the plants are visible from a public place" or if the plants are growing outside of a secure area. A violation of this section is punishable as a civil offense with a fine not to exceed \$100 and forfeiture of the marijuana.

The cultivation of up to 24 plants for personal use is a civil infraction with no incarceration and maximum \$500 fine.

The cultivation of 25 – 200 plants is a felony with a term of imprisonment up to seven years. The cultivation of more than 200 plants is also a felony with a term of imprisonment up to 15 years.

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# Michigan

## Hash & Concentrates

In Michigan, marijuana and hashish are punished in the same manner. The statutory definition of “marihuana” includes “all parts of the plant *Cannabis sativa* L., growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant or its seeds or resin.” Hashish, hashish oil, and extracts clearly fall under this definition. Please see the marijuana penalties section for further details on Michigan’s criminal sanction on cannabis.

An adult may possess up to 15 grams of marijuana concentrate.

An adult may transfer up to 15 grams of marijuana concentrate to another adult as long as there is no remuneration and the transfer is not advertised or promoted to the public.

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# Detroit

**Limited** Licenses with open application periods

100 Retail

30 Micro

30 Consumption

**Unlimited** Licenses apply at any time

Grower, Processor, Secure Transport, Safety Compliance, Events

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# Federal

**2000:** In response to the Clinton administration's aversion to Proposition 215, a group of physicians challenged this policy as a violation of First Amendment rights, and in September 2000 prevailed in the case *Conant v. McCaffrey*, which allows physicians to recommend – but not prescribe – medical cannabis.

**2005:** During the Bush administration, agents were enforcing federal laws against state-operated medical cannabis cultivators and patients. In June 2005, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the federal government's ability to enforce federal law in states that have legalized medical cannabis in the case *Raich v. Gonzales*.

**2009:** In the first term of the Obama administration, Attorney General Eric Holder stated that only medical cannabis providers “who violate both federal and state law” would be targeted for prosecution. Deputy Attorney General David Ogden issued a memorandum with guidelines for federal enforcement while also largely affirming the earlier-stated hands-off approach for state-legal medical cannabis activities.

**2011:** In response to raids by the federal government and in an attempt to clarify the Obama administration's stance on medical cannabis, Deputy Attorney General James M. Cole issued a memorandum specifically noting that the “Ogden memo” protections applied only to individuals and not commercial operations.

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# Federal

**2013:** In August 2013, the U.S. Department of Justice issued a second Cole Memo that offered guidance to prosecutors and law enforcement on where to focus cannabis enforcement efforts. The enforcement priorities included: preventing distribution of cannabis to minors; preventing cannabis revenue from funding criminal enterprises, gangs, or cartels; preventing cannabis from moving out of states where it is legal; preventing use of state-legal cannabis sales as a cover for illegal activity; preventing violence and use of firearms in growing or distributing cannabis; preventing drugged driving or exacerbation of other adverse public health consequences associated with cannabis use; preventing growing cannabis on public lands; and preventing cannabis possession or use on federal property. You can read this memo, which was rescinded by Attorney General Jeff Sessions in January 2018, [here](#).

**2014:** The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment, included in the spending bill, prohibits the Justice Department from spending funds to interfere with the implementation of state medical cannabis laws. The amendment has been subsequently included in a series of spending bills.

**2019:** In November 2019, the U.S. House Judiciary Committee passed the most far-reaching cannabis legalization bill to ever receive a committee vote in Congress (the MORE Act). This was an historic moment in our decades-long campaign to end cannabis prohibition at the federal level.

**2020:** In December 2020, the U.S. House of Representatives voted in favor of the Marijuana Opportunity, Reinvestment, and Expungement (MORE) Act in a 228-164 vote. This vote marked the first time in half a century that a chamber of Congress voted on a bill to end the federal prohibition of cannabis. The MORE Act is one of the most robust cannabis reform bills ever introduced in the U.S. Congress. If enacted, the MORE Act would end the war on cannabis at the federal level by removing it from the Controlled Substances Act and ending criminal penalties under federal law.

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**Welcome Back!**

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