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## The Grass Isn't Greener on the Recreational Side

Since recreational marijuana was legalized in Colorado, past month marijuana use for ages 12 and older increased by 58% and is 78% higher than the national average – currently ranked 4th in the nation.\*

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- Marijuana tax revenue represents approximately nine tenths of one percent of Colorado's FY 2018 budget. For every **\$ 1.00 gained in tax revenue, Coloradans spent approximately \$ 4.50 to mitigate the effects of legalization.\***
- Since recreational marijuana was legalized in Colorado, traffic deaths in which drivers tested positive for marijuana increased 109 percent while all Colorado traffic deaths increased 31 percent.\*
- In Colorado, the yearly number of marijuana-related hospitalizations increased 101 percent after the legalization of recreational marijuana (2013 compared to 2017).\*
- As of June 2017, there were 491 retail marijuana stores in Colorado compared to 392 Starbucks and 208 McDonald's.\*\*



For prevention tips, go to [mtacoalition.com](https://mtacoalition.com)



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\* Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area: The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: The Impact Volume 6 September 2019

\*\* Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area: The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: The Impact Volume 5 September 2018