

THE FACTS ABOUT MARIJUANA-IMPAIRED DRIVING



COLORADO LOST 596

people on state roadways in 2019.

049

FATALITIES

involved a vehicle operator with Delta-9 THC, the impairing substance in cannabis, above the legal limit of 5ng at the time of the crash.



ANY AMOUNT OF DELTA-9 THC

in your blood puts you at risk for a DUI.



HOW HIGH IS TOO HIGH TO DRIVE? UNDER COLORADO LAW:

The main factor leading to a DUI arrest is the law enforcement officer's observation of impairment by the vehicle operator. If the officer determines that the driver's ability to drive is impaired by alcohol and/or drugs to the slightest degree then an arrest can be made. One or more of the following specific factors can lead to an arrest:

- Observed impairment of the vehicle operator
- The initial traffic offense for which the operator is stopped
- Driver's reaction to an officer's command to stop
- Driver's action while exiting the vehicle
- Performance during roadside standard field sobriety testing (roadside test)
- Results of any approved roadside testing device

IN 2018

57% OF VEHICLE OPERATORS charged with DUI who were also screened for marijuana tested positive for Delta-9 THC.

IN 2018

22% OF MARIJUANA CONSUMERS reported driving within 2 to 3 hours of consuming marijuana.

HOW DOES MARIJUANA IMPAIR DRIVING?

Multiple independent studies have shown that marijuana impairs the critical abilities needed to drive safely, resulting in:

- Difficulties in road tracking and maintaining lane position.
- Decreased and divided attention.
- Relaxed inhibitions.
- Impaired cognitive skills, including route planning, decision making and/or risk taking.
- Altered perception of time and distance.
- Slowed reaction time.
- Impaired cognitive performance.



CAN MEDICAL MARIJUANA CONSUMERS BE ARRESTED FOR DRIVING IMPAIRED?

Yes. If you are impaired while driving, even as a medical cardholder, you are at risk of getting a DUI.



WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF A DUI FOR MARIJUANA-IMPAIRED DRIVING?

The same DUI laws apply for marijuana as they do for alcohol or any combination of impairing substances. Penalties vary, and fines range from \$200 to \$1,500 and can even exceed a total financial cost of \$13,500. Other consequences include jail time, loss of license and more.

For more information on DUI consequences, visit NoDUIColorado.org/court.



MIXING CANNABIS AND ALCOHOL SIGNIFICANTLY AMPLIFIES IMPAIRMENT.

Even if the vehicle operator is below both the BAC and Delta-9 THC legal limit, mixing cannabis and alcohol significantly impairs driving abilities and can still put you at risk of getting a DUI.



For more information on marijuana-impaired driving in Colorado, visit:

DriveHighDUI.com
FeelDifferentDriveDifferent.org
Colorado.gov/CDPHE



COLORADO
Department of Transportation