



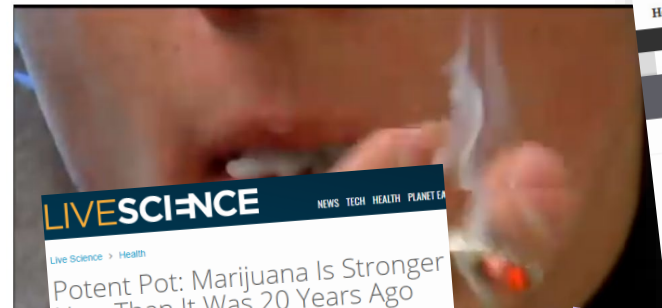
# Driving High & Asleep at the Wheel

**Jake Nelson MPH, MPP**  
AAA National Office  
Washington, DC

# Public Confusion About Cannabis

1 in 3 young adults ride with impaired drivers, according to new study

By DR. NAJIBAH REHMAN Mar 19, 2018, 10:09 PM ET



## LIVESCIENCE

### Potent Pot: Marijuana Is Stronger Now Than It Was 20 Years Ago

By Agata Blaszczyk-Boxe, Contributing Writer | February 8, 2016 05:24pm ET

Pot is becoming more potent new study suggests.

In the study, the researchers looked at more than 38,600 samples of illegal marijuana seized by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration over 20 years. They found it

SECTIONS PHOTOS MAGAZINE TOPICS: VICELAND CITY GUIDES ELECT

### How High Is Too High to Drive?



**THE GLOBE AND MAIL**

Q: Enter a term, stock symbol or company name

Home News Opinion Business Investing Sports Life Arts Tech

Home News Opinion Business Investing Sports Life Arts Tech

Reviews Auto Shows News Culture Adventure Video

Commuting Commentary Technology Accessories

Try Globe Unlimited - 1 month for just 99¢

Home • Globe Drive • Culture • Commenting

### DRIVING CONCERNS

#### How much marijuana can I have and still be safe to drive?

JASON TCHIR

Special to The Globe and Mail  
Published Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015 5:00AM EST  
Last updated Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015 10:21AM EST

Weed Out the Confusion: One-Third of Teens Think Driving Under The Influence of Marijuana is Legal in States Where Recreational Use By Adults is Permitted

Send Us a Tip

## Rolling Stone

HOME > CULTURE > CULTURE FEATURES

### Driving High: The Search for a Pot Breathalyzer

As legalization spreads, concerns over drugged driving are increasing - but how close are we to a THC breathalyzer?

By KATH VALETT

TIME

### Driving While Stoned Is Much Safer Than Driving Drunk, Says a New Study

Rishi Iyengar @iyengarish | Feb. 12, 2015

But that doesn't mean that using pot before driving has no risk at all, researchers emphasize



THE 2016 NISSAN ALTIMA

### The Real but Exaggerated Danger of Stoned Driving

A new study indicates that marijuana's impact on crash risk is much smaller than prohibitionists claim.

Jacob Sullum | March 21, 2016

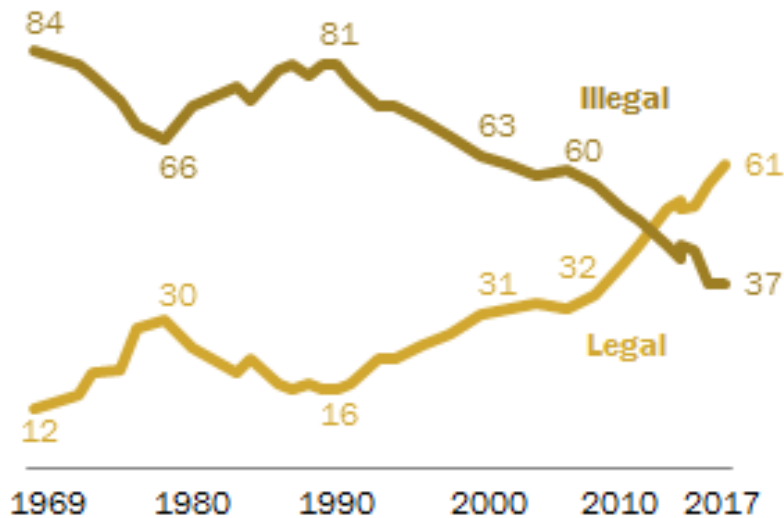
What is the difference between medicinal marijuana and recreational marijuana? Is there any at all?



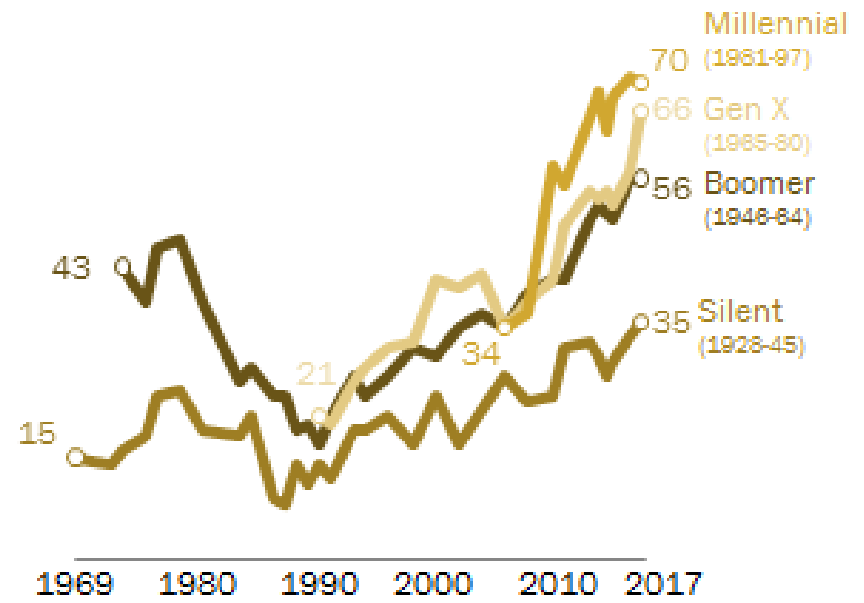
# Cannabis Liberalization

## U.S. Public Opinion on Legalizing Cannabis, 1969-2017

*Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal, or not? (%)*



*% who say marijuana should be made legal*



# Cannabis: Attitudes & Beliefs

- 69% Driving w/in 1 hour of using cannabis is very/extremely dangerous
  - Alcohol – 94%
  - Rx/OTC Medications - 88%
- 27% Believe high drivers will get caught by police
- 91% Disapprove of driving w/in 1 hour of using cannabis

# Cannabis Use & Crash Risk?



**Increases a driver's risk of causing a crash by 30-200%.**



Saving lives  
through research  
and education



## Prevalence of Marijuana Involvement in Fatal Crashes Washington, 2010-2014

May 2016



607 14th Street, NW, Suite 201 | Washington, DC 20005 | AAAFoundation.org | 202-638-5900

Saving lives  
through research  
and education



## An Evaluation of Data from Drivers Arrested for Driving Under the Influence in Relation to Per se Limits for Cannabis

May 2016

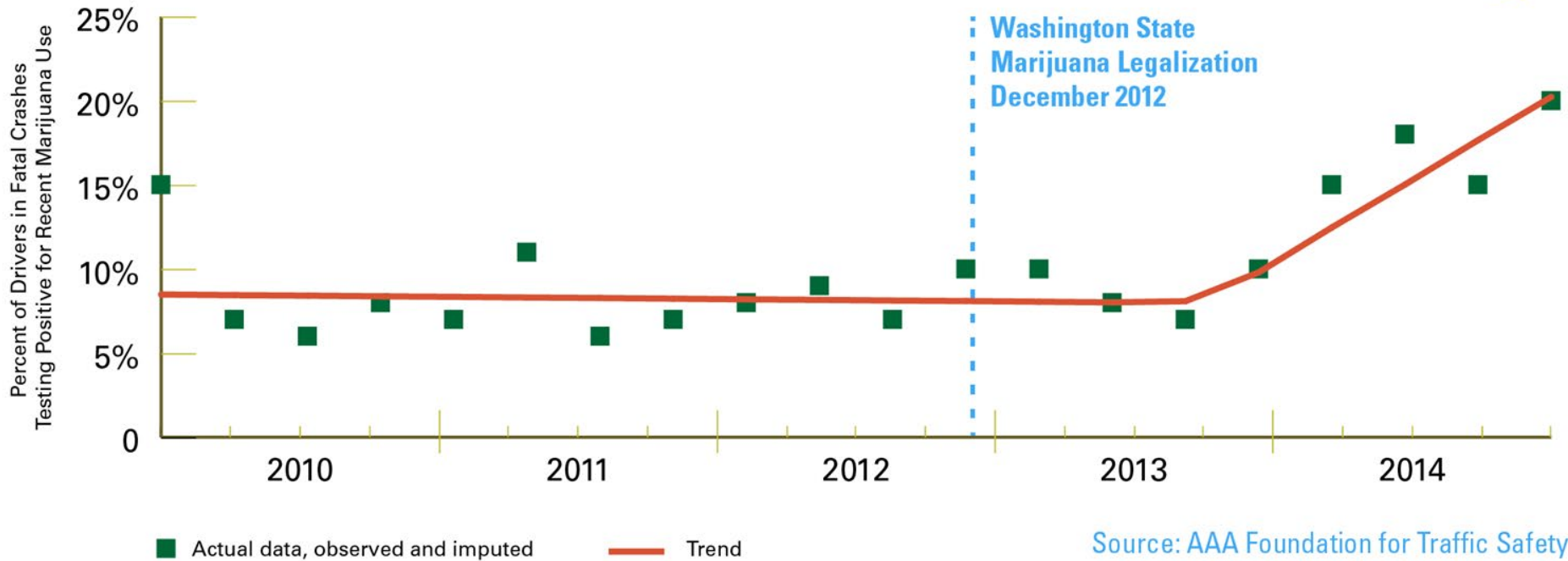
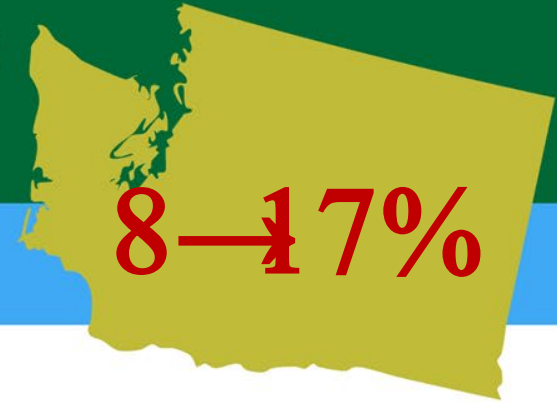


607 14th Street, NW, Suite 201 | Washington, DC 20005 | AAAFoundation.org | 202-638-5900



# Fatal Road Crashes Involving Marijuana Double After State Legalizes Drug

FATAL CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS WHO RECENTLY USED MARIJUANA DOUBLED IN WASHINGTON AFTER THE STATE LEGALIZED THE DRUG IN 2012.



Source: AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety



# Oral. Fluid. Screening. Doesn't. Solve. It.

Michigan to expand roadside saliva drug testing pilot program statewide

**DRUG TESTING** Matt Cole | March 13, 2019

## 'Passive smoking' defence clears woman of drug driving as research casts doubt on roadside testing

ABC North Coast By Gemma Sapwell

Posted 22 Mar



Oral fluid drug screening devices can be “successfully used in Canada,” Public Safety Canada reports

June 7, 2017 by Canadian Underwriter

≡ **Keywords** ≡

Alere DDS-2

benzodiazepines

Tweet

Share

Share

Print this page

Share


Results from the federal government's oral fluid drug screening device pilot project

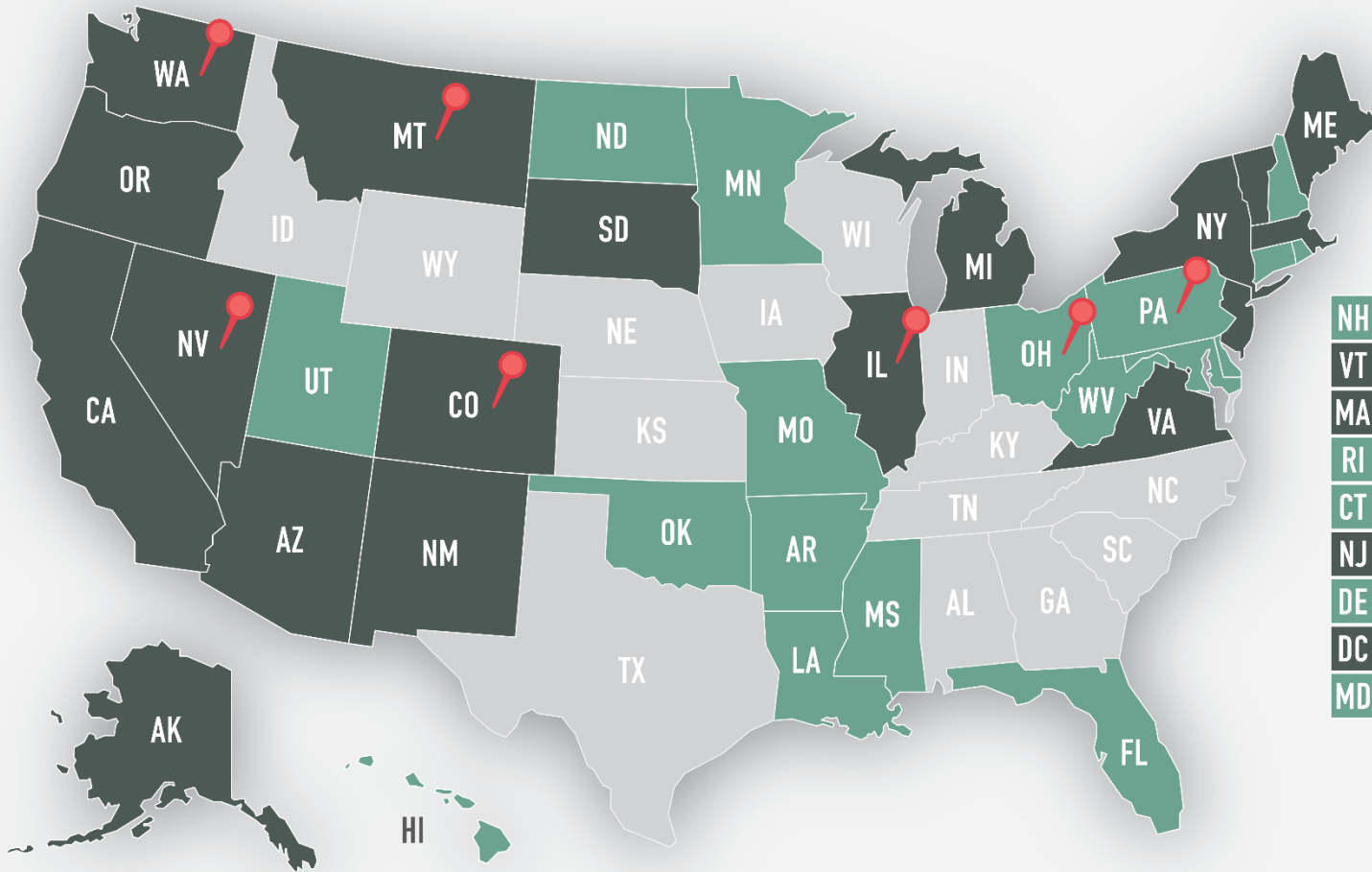
# Better Alternative to Per Se Laws

What gets you pulled over

Performance on SFST

Opinion of a Drug Recognition  
Expert

 Positive chemical test for active  
THC (any amount)



- NH
- VT
- MA
- RI
- CT
- NJ
- DE
- DC
- MD

- Legalized for Recreational and Medical Use  
18 states and D.C.
- Legalized for Medical Use Only  
18 states
- Not Legal  
14 states

### States with marijuana *per se* blood limits (7 states)

Colorado	5 ng/mL	Washington	5 ng/mL	Pennsylvania	1 ng/mL
Illinois	5 ng/mL	Nevada	2 ng/mL		
Montana	5 ng/mL	Ohio	2 ng/mL		

\*In Colorado, 5 ng/mL = permissible inference a person was under the influence of drugs.

# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Dearth of Research

Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment

# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

Dearth of Research

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment

# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

Dearth of Research

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment



# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Dearth of Research

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment

# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Dearth of Research

Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment

# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Dearth of Research

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment

# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Dearth of Research

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment

# Cannabis & Driving: CJS Challenges

Vocabulary Misuse

DUI Arrest/Conviction  
Data

Dearth of Research

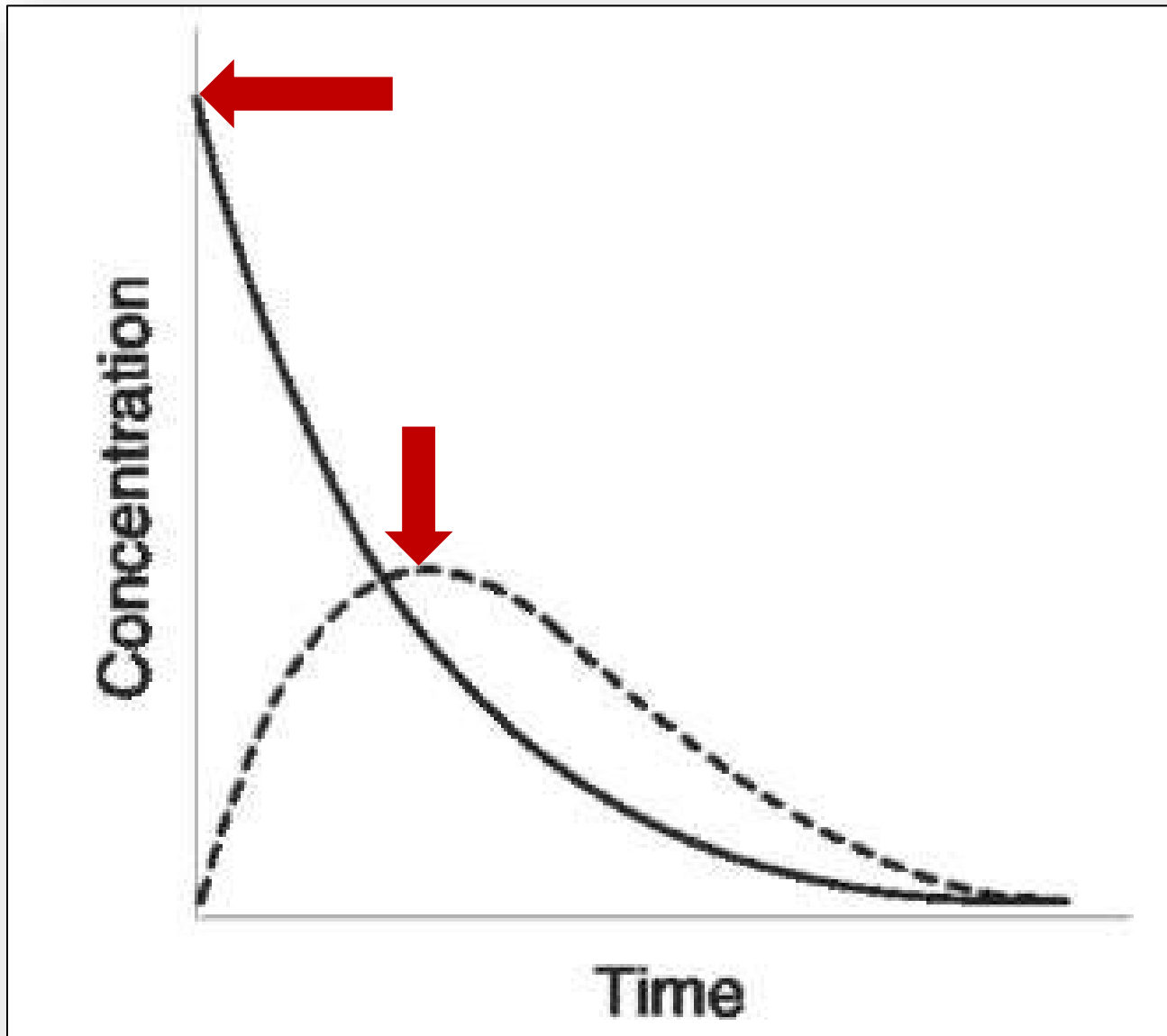
Drug Testing for  
Drivers in Fatal  
Crashes

Internal Validity of  
Early Studies

Federal vs. Street  
Marijuana (THC)

Peak THC Blood  
Level vs. Peak  
Impairment

# Blood v. Brain Active-THC Levels



# Oral. Fluid. Screening. Doesn't. Fix. It.

## Michigan to expand roadside saliva drug testing pilot program statewide

DRUG TESTING

Matt Cole | March 13, 2019

Oral fluid drug screening devices can be “successfully used in Canada,” Public Safety Canada reports

June 7, 2017 by Canadian Underwriter

Keywords

Tweet

Share

Share

Print this page

## 'Passive smoking' defence clears woman of drug driving as research casts doubt on roadside testing

ABC North Coast By Gemma Sapwell

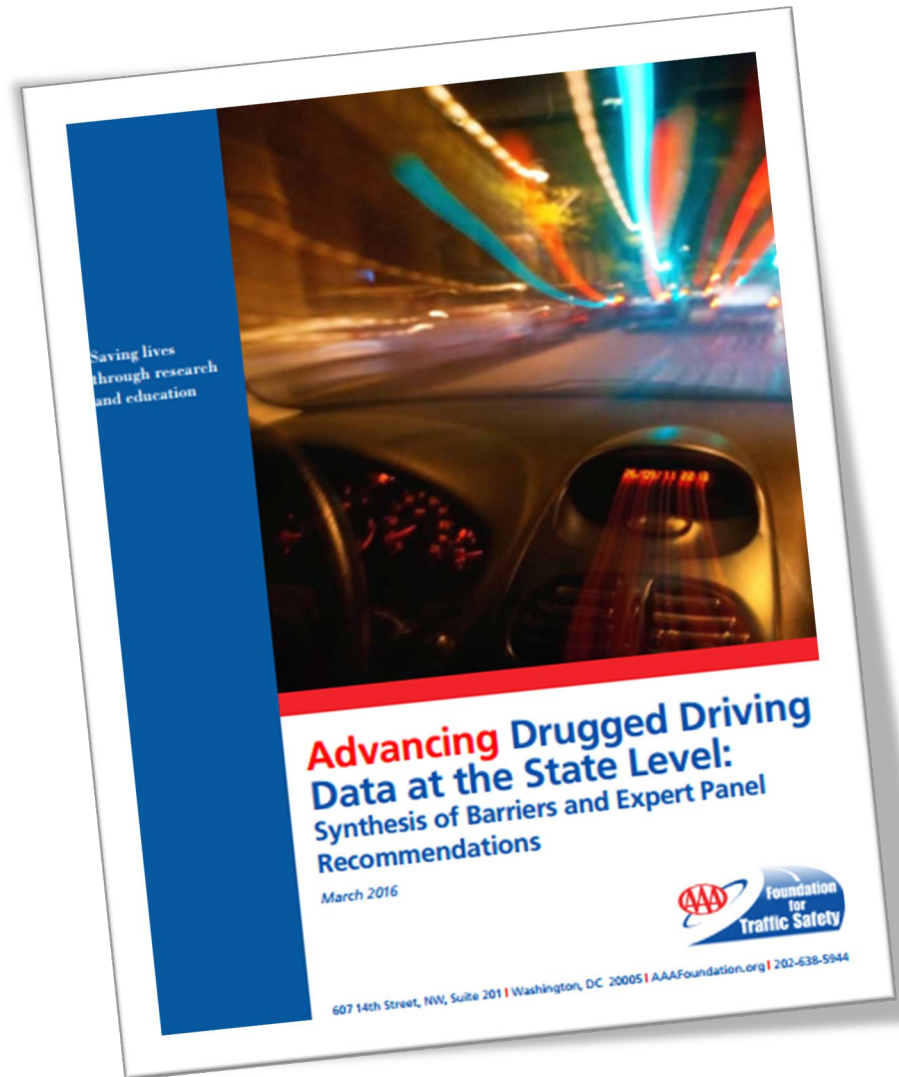
Posted 22 May 2019, 4:28pm



A pilot |  
allowec  
trained  
State P  
to cond  
drug te  
suspec  
drivers  
expand  
countie  
state.

# Drug-Impaired Driving Data

- Significant barriers exist
- Need more & better data on drugged driving





# Cannabis & Driving: Best Practices

- ❑ Adopt a defensible standard for cannabis-impairment.
- ❑ Increase funding for law enforcement training & public education about drug-impaired driving.
- ❑ Establish separate offenses for DUI-alcohol and DUI-drugs.
- ❑ Prohibit the use/consumption of cannabis products by drivers or passengers of vehicles.
- ❑ All cannabis establishments should be required to educate their consumers about the safety and legal implications of driving high.
- ❑ Leverage oral fluid to detect drugged drivers.
- ❑ States should authorize testing of oral fluid and blood for any substance capable of impairing a driver's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.
- ❑ States should permit, and courts should facilitate use of electronic warrant systems.
- ❑ State should establish a special commission comprised of qualified experts to advise on evolving science and technology relative to detection of drugged drivers and determination of drug impairment among drivers.



**Jake Nelson**  
**AAA National Office**  
**[Jnelson@national.aaa.com](mailto:Jnelson@national.aaa.com)**  
**202-400-1879**