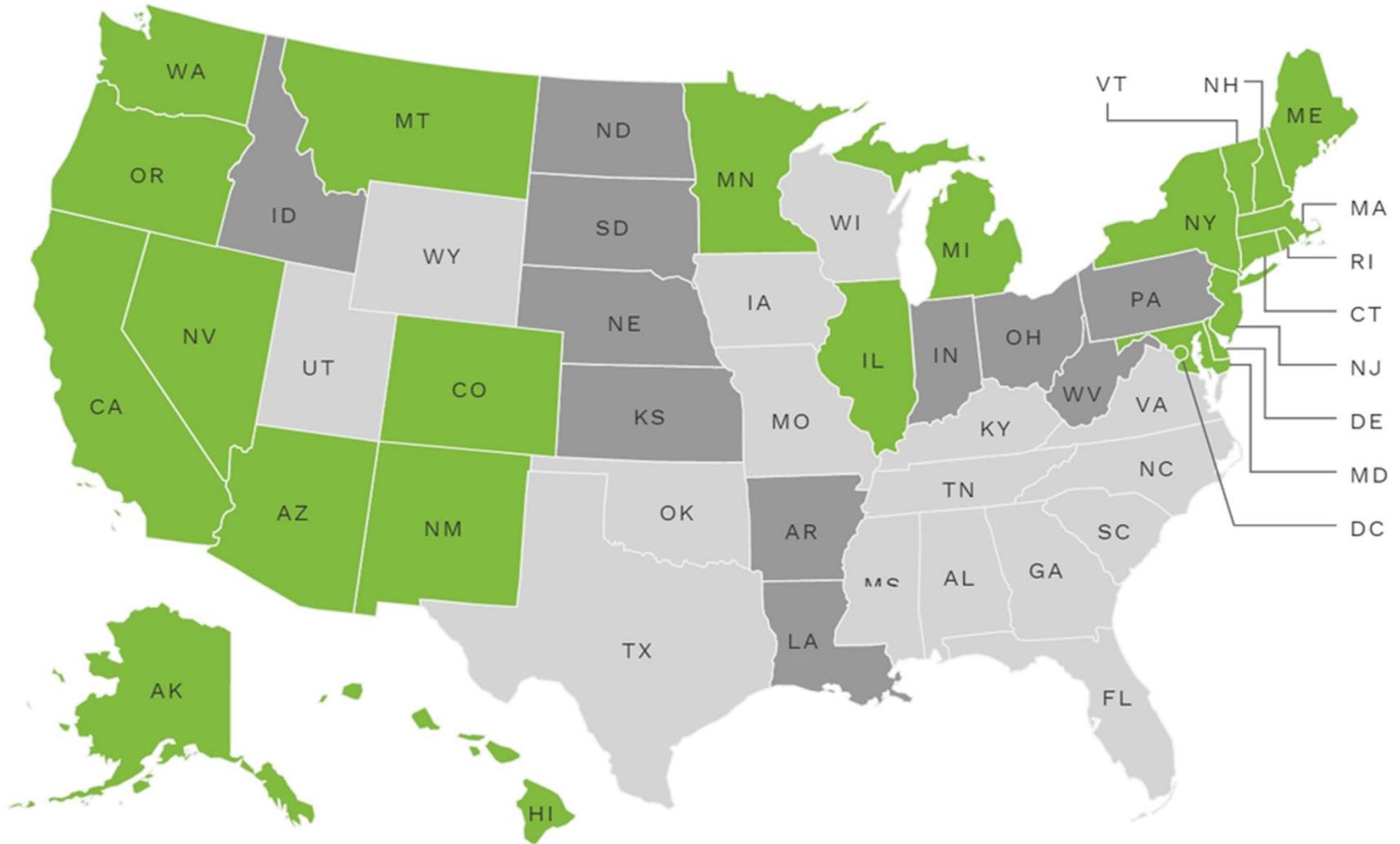


Vermont Medical Marijuana Laws

Michele Childs, Esq.
Office of Legislative Council

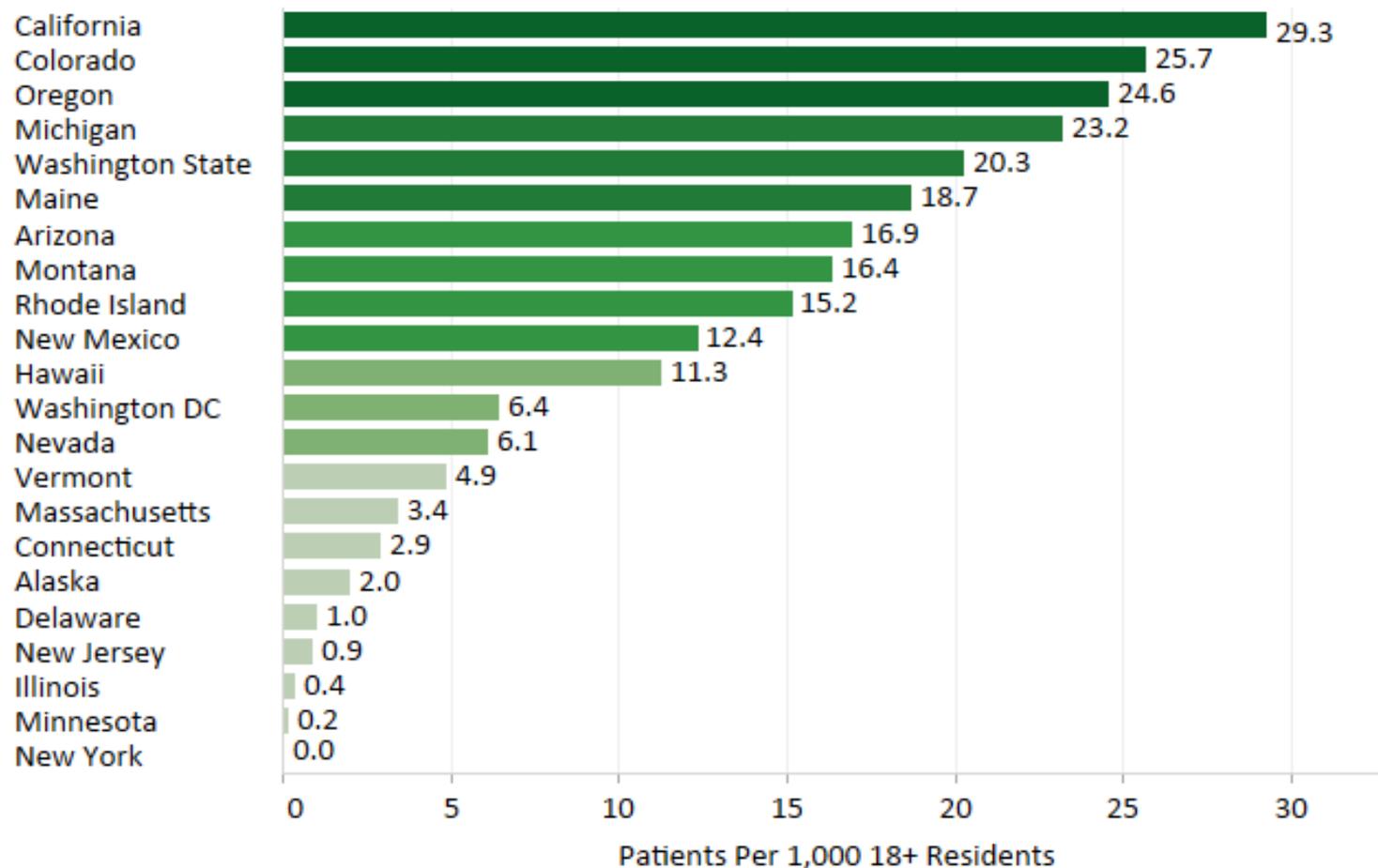
WHERE MEDICAL MARIJUANA IS LEGAL AND ILLEGAL



- MEDICAL MARIJUANA LEGAL
- MEDICAL MARIJUANA ILLEGAL
- ONLY CBD OIL LEGAL

Recreational marijuana use is legal in Alaska, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington. Sales and purchases of marijuana are illegal in D.C., but residents can grow and possess it.

Medical Marijuana Patients Per Capita



Source: MMJ program websites, 2015 Marijuana Business Factbook, US Census Bureau July 2014 population estimates
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Timeline of Vermont Medical Marijuana Legislative Actions

- 2001 - VT House passes a bill establishing a framework for possession and cultivation by patients with debilitating medical condition. The bill does not advance, but the Legislature creates a study committee to examine the issue and how VT might implement a program
- 2002 - The Committee reports favorably on the use of cannabis for medicinal purposes
- 2004 - Vermont becomes the 9th state to approve medical cannabis by adopting “An act relating to marijuana use by persons with severe illness” which establishes a registry within the Department of Public Safety for patients and their caregivers who are permitted to possess and cultivate cannabis
- 2011 - Vermont enacts legislation to allow up to four dispensaries to provide cannabis to a maximum of 1,000 registered patients. Dept. of Public Safety directed to adopt rules and provide oversight for dispensaries
- 2014 - The Legislature eliminates the patient cap, authorizes delivery to patients, and permits naturopaths to qualify patients for the registry
- 2016 – The legislature expands patient eligibility, requires infused products to be dispensed in child-resistant packaging and to be labeled with the amount of THC in a single dose, and allows a dispensary to provide marijuana to a postsecondary academic institution for research purposes

Who may become a registered patient with the Vermont Marijuana Registry (VMR)?

To become a registered patient, a person must be diagnosed with a debilitating medical condition by a health care professional in the course of a bona fide health care professional-patient relationship. A registered patient must be a resident of Vermont and has been issued a registration card by the VMR.

"Resident of Vermont" means a person whose domicile is Vermont.

What is a debilitating medical condition?

"Debilitating medical condition," provided that, in the context of the specific disease or condition described in subdivision (A) or (B) of this subdivision, reasonable medical efforts have been made over a reasonable amount of time to relieve the symptoms, means:

- (A) cancer, multiple sclerosis, positive status for human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, glaucoma, or the treatment of these conditions, if the disease or the treatment results in severe, persistent, and intractable symptoms; or
- (B) a disease, medical condition, or its treatment that is chronic, debilitating, and produces one or more of the following intractable symptoms: cachexia or wasting syndrome; chronic pain; severe nausea; or seizures.

Who is a health care professional?

"Health care professional" means an individual licensed to practice medicine, an individual licensed as a naturopathic physician, an individual certified as a physician assistant, or an individual licensed as an advanced practice registered nurse.

What is a bona fide relationship?

Bona fide health care professional-patient relationship" means a treating or consulting relationship of not less than three months' duration, in the course of which a health care professional has completed a full assessment of the registered patient's medical history and current medical condition, including a personal physical examination.

The three-month requirement shall not apply if a patient has been diagnosed with:

- (A) a terminal illness;
- (B) cancer; or
- (C) acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Additionally, the three-month requirement shall not apply in the following circumstances:

(D) The patient is currently under hospice care.

(E) The patient had been diagnosed with a debilitating medical condition by a health care professional in another jurisdiction in which the patient had been formerly a resident and the patient, now a resident of Vermont, has the diagnosis confirmed by a health care professional in this State or a neighboring state, and the new health care professional has completed a full assessment of the patient's medical history and current medical condition, including a personal physical examination; or

(F) The patient is already on the registry changes health care professionals three months or less prior to the annual renewal of the patient's registration, provided the patient's new health care professional has completed a full assessment of the patient's medical history and current medical condition, including a personal physical examination.

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Caregivers

A person who is at least 21 years old who has who has agreed to undertake responsibility for managing the well-being of a registered patient with respect to the use of marijuana for symptom relief.

A caregiver is subject to a criminal background check and must meet eligibility requirements set by DPS.

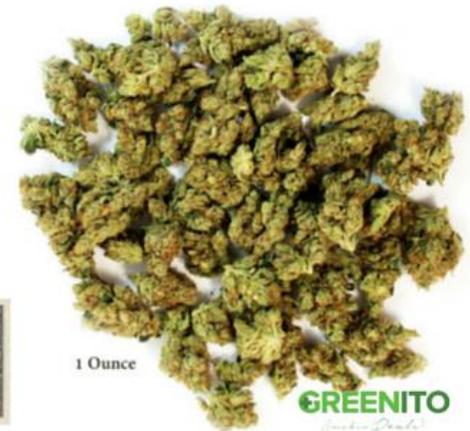
A caregiver may assist only one registered patient, however a patient under 18 years of age may have two registered caregivers.

Possession Limit

“Possession limit” means the amount of marijuana collectively possessed between the registered patient and the patient’s registered caregiver. The possession limit is no more than two mature marijuana plants, seven immature plants, and two ounces of usable marijuana.



*This is what
an ounce
looks like.*



A marijuana plant is considered mature when male or female flower buds are readily observed on the plant by unaided visual examination. Until this sexual differentiation has taken place, a marijuana plant will be considered immature.

Cultivation

Patients and their caregivers may only grow marijuana in a single “secure indoor facility.”

A “secure indoor facility” means a building or room equipped with locks or other security devices that permit access only by the registered patient or registered caregiver.

Dispensaries

Dispensaries registered with the Department are non-profit entities that may acquire, possess, cultivate, manufacture, transfer, transport, supply, sell, or dispense marijuana, marijuana-infused products, and marijuana-related supplies to registered patients and their caregivers who have designated that dispensary.

A registered patient may obtain marijuana only from their designated dispensary. A registered patient and his or her caregiver may not cultivate marijuana for symptom relief if the registered patient designates a dispensary.

Oversight Committee

The committee shall be composed of the following members:

- (1) one registered patient appointed by each dispensary;
- (2) one registered nurse and one registered patient appointed by the governor;
- (3) one physician appointed by the Vermont medical society;
- (4) one member of a local zoning board appointed by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns;
- (5) one representative appointed jointly by the Vermont sheriffs' association and the Vermont association of chiefs of police; and the commissioner of public safety or his or her designee.

Duties of Oversight Committee

The oversight committee shall meet at least two times per year for the purpose of evaluating and making recommendations to the general assembly regarding:

- (1) the ability of qualifying patients and registered caregivers in all areas of the state to obtain timely access to marijuana for symptom relief;
- (2) the effectiveness of the registered dispensaries individually and together in serving the needs of qualifying patients and registered caregivers, including the provision of educational and support services;
- (3) the sufficiency of the regulatory and security safeguards contained in this subchapter and adopted by the department of public safety to ensure that access to and use of cultivated marijuana is provided only to cardholders authorized for such purposes.

Marijuana Review Board

The Review Board is composed of a physician appointed by the Medical Practice Board, a naturopathic physician appointed by the Office of Professional Regulation, and an advanced practice registered nurse appointed by the Office of Professional Regulation.

Patient applications denied by the Marijuana Registry may be appealed to the Review Board within seven days. The review is limited to information submitted by the patient and consultation with the patient's treating health care professional. All records relating to the appeal are confidential. An appeal is decided by majority vote of the members of the Review Board.

The Review Board also meets periodically to review studies, data, and any other information relevant to the use of marijuana for symptom relief. The Review Board may make recommendations to the General Assembly .

Issues Before the General Assembly in Recent Years

- Qualifying conditions
- Number of dispensaries
- Ounce = 28.3 grams
- 1,000 ft rule
- Child-resistant packaging
- CBD oil
- Paraphernalia
- Advertising
- Nonprofit status
- Taxes