



MYTH: *Legalization will reduce black market crime.*

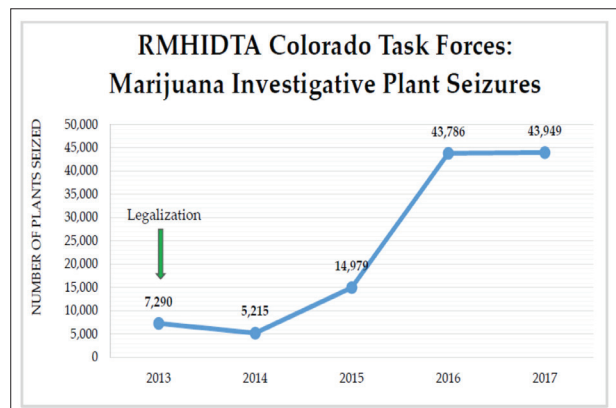
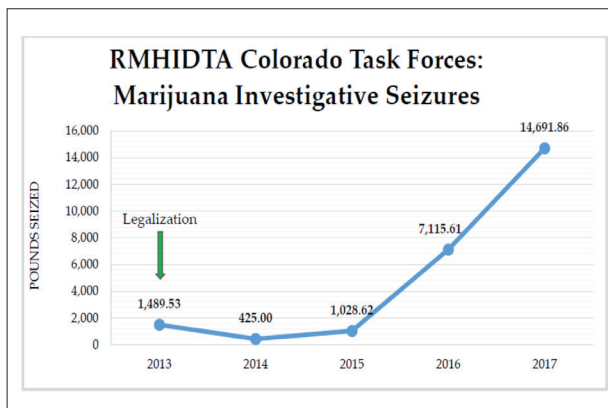
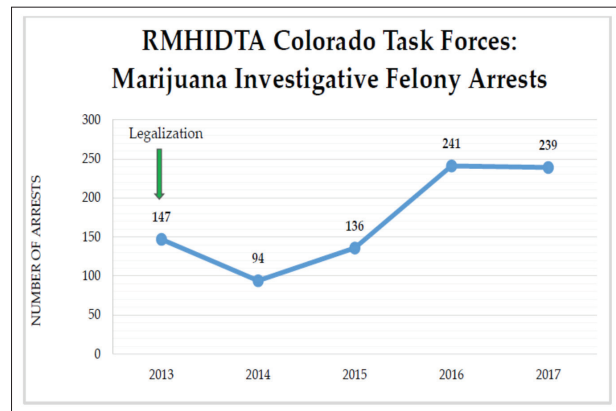
Fact: In 2017, Colorado RMHIDTA Task Forces conducted 144 investigations of illegal black market marijuana in Colorado resulting in:

- **239 felony arrests**
- **7.3 tons of marijuana seized**
- **43,949 marijuana plants seized**
- **Marijuana that was seized was destined for 24 states**

Fact: U.S. mail seizures increased **1,042 percent** from an average of 52 parcels (2009-2012 pre-legalization) to an average of 594 parcels (2013-2017 post legalization).

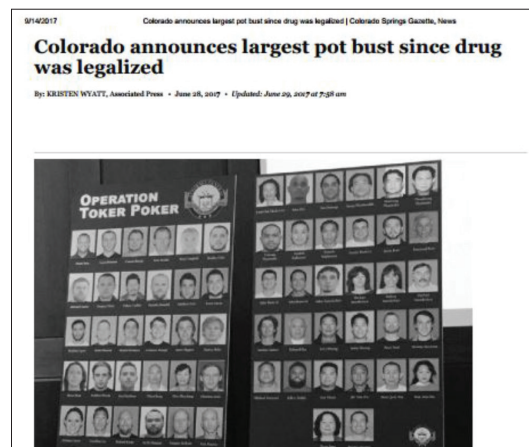
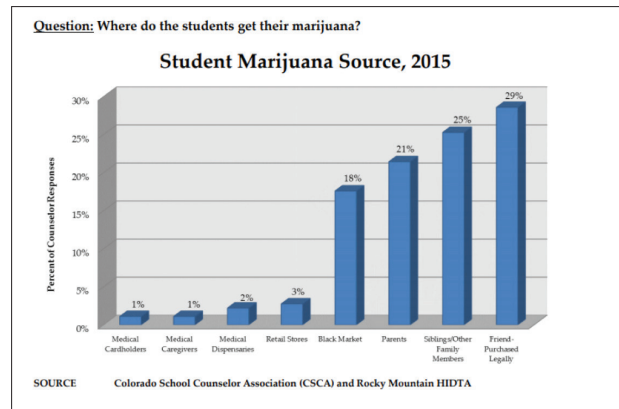
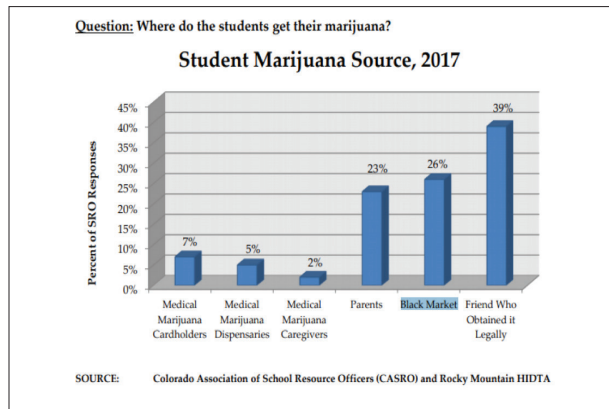
Fact: An increasingly high percent of students acquire marijuana from black market dealers. It's untaxed and cheaper.

Rocky Mountain HIDTA Colorado Task Forces		
	2016	2017
Number of Completed Investigations	163	144
Number of Felony Arrests	241	239
Pounds of Bulk Marijuana Seized	7,116 (3.5 tons)	14,692 (7.3 tons)
Number of Plants Seized	43,786	43,949
Number of Edibles Seized	2,111	6,462
Pounds of Concentrate Seized	232	102
Different States to Which Marijuana was Destined	29	24



Fact: In 2017, 26% of Colorado students obtained marijuana from the black market. In 2015, that percentage was 18%.

Fact: Marijuana legalization has caused the black market to thrive. Untaxed black market marijuana is less expensive than the dispensary product, thereby growing the black market. Additionally, legalization has created a “grey market” of homes that are able to grow 5 plants per adult.



Graph/Chart Sources: Colorado Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Area PMP Data. Pages 53-56.