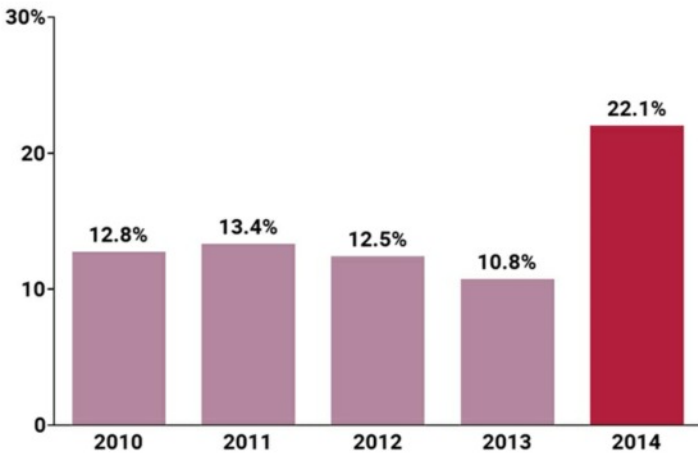


WA traffic fatalities where driver tested positive for marijuana



Source: AAA Foundation (2016).

## HEALTH RISKS

According to virtually every scientific review, including a 2016 World Health Organization report and a 2017 National Academy of Sciences study, **marijuana is addictive and harmful**—despite rhetoric from the marijuana industry.

The chances of becoming dependent on marijuana can be **up to 50% for some users**, and regular use is indisputably dangerous to the adolescent brain, in some cases linked to permanent reductions in IQ.

Unlike cigarettes, marijuana also intoxicates, sometimes with tragic results. **The percentage of traffic deaths related to marijuana more than doubled in Washington State the year retail marijuana sales were allowed**, and Colorado has seen similar increases in pot-related accidents.

## MARIJUANA EDIBLES

Marijuana legalization has spurred a boom in pot “edibles.” THC concentrate is mixed into almost any type of food or drink, including gummy candy, soda, and lollipops. Today, **these edibles comprise at least half of Colorado’s marijuana market.**

Edibles’ potency (several times that of an average joint) and their attractiveness to kids have led to **serious problems in legalized states like Colorado:**

- A 19-year-old jumped to his death from a fourth-floor balcony after eating a highly potent pot candy.
- Emergency poison control calls for children aged 0 to 8 more than tripled in Colorado after legalization.
- More high school seniors are using pot now than a decade ago, even as use of cigarettes, alcohol, and all other drugs combined has declined.



THC-infused sodas currently on the market as of February 2017.

Marijuana tax money for prevention & education, WA



Source: Initiative 502; Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council (as reported by The Seattle Times)

## COSTS OUTWEIGH TAX REVENUE

Although it is still early for comprehensive cost studies on the costs of marijuana legalization, unsettling trends have already surfaced in Colorado & Washington state, suggesting that, like tobacco and alcohol, costs outweigh revenues :

- Over half the pot money promised for drug prevention, education & treatment in WA **never materialized.**
- **Bureaucracy consumes a significant portion of Colorado marijuana tax revenue.**
- **More CO youth - especially black & Latino kids - are being arrested for pot-related offenses post-legalization.**
- Adolescent suicide victims in Colorado are **increasingly found with marijuana in their systems.**
- Marijuana offenses in Colorado elementary and high schools have **increased 34 percent since legalization.**