

MRPS Policy Brief

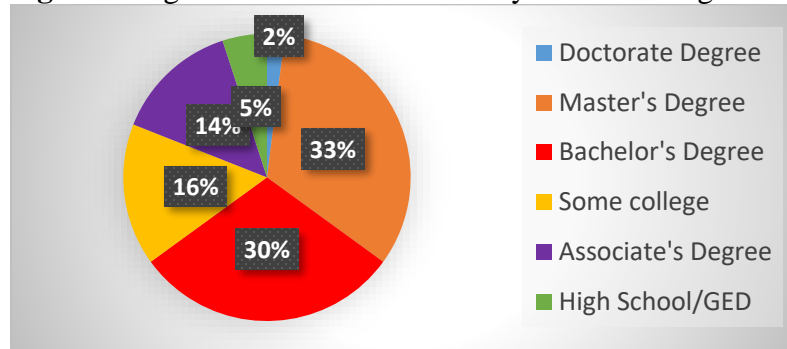
Local Government Cannabis Administrators assess their workplace training needs

By Garland Doyle, M.P.A. and Jonathan Starks

One of the key findings from the 2022 Michigan Local Government Marijuana Review Process Survey (MRPS) survey was that more training and professional development opportunities are needed for community cannabis regulators. MRPS is a census survey of over 120 cities, townships and/or villages in Michigan that license medical and/or recreational marijuana conducted by the Michigan Local Government Marijuana Review Process Survey Committee. The survey examined who's working in local government cannabis administration. The educational background, gender and ethnicity were revealed in the data. The MRPS asked cannabis regulators about their level of education last completed. Over 60% of cannabis regulators obtained there master's or bachelor's degree.

A look inside local government cannabis administration

Figure 1 Highest Education obtained by Cannabis Regulators



In 2022, data revealed that the cannabis industry within Michigan is primarily dominated by one ethnicity and gender.

Figure 1.2 Race/Ethnicity

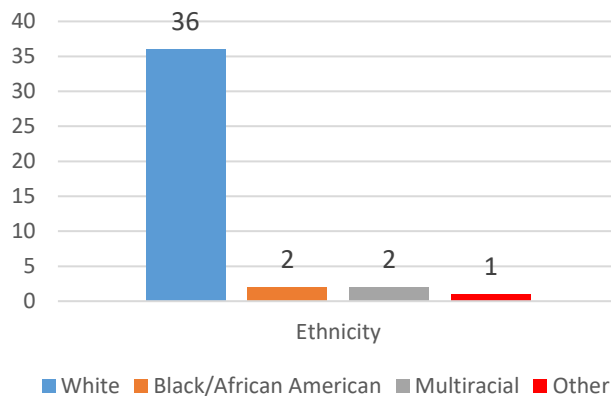
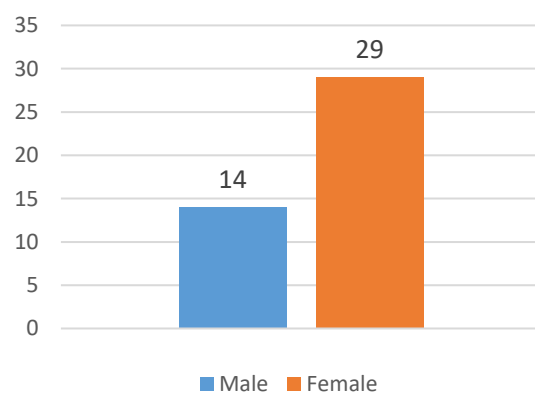


Figure 1.3 Gender

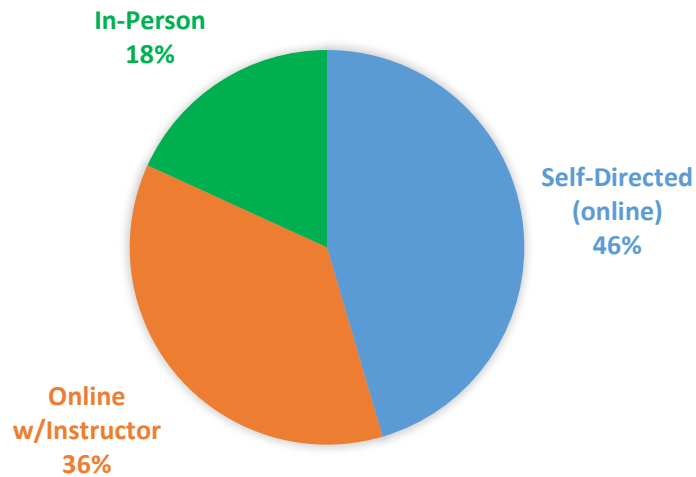


This brief outlines the assessments of Michigan's local government marijuana administrators regarding their training needs.

Self-directed online training is the most preferred method of training for regulators

The MRPS gathered information on how cannabis regulators would like to receive training. Regulators were asked what training method would work best for them. Data revealed that cannabis regulators favored self-directed online-training versus any other method.

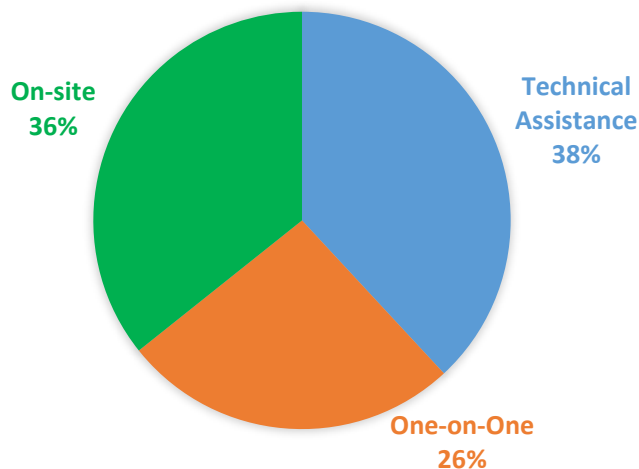
Figure 2 Training types



Regulators prefer technical assistance slightly over on-site training at their jurisdiction

Regulators were asked their opinion about technical assistance and training conducted within their jurisdiction. There was a preference of having technical assistance as opposed to training. Technical assistance is the process of providing targeted support to a particular area of need of a regulator whereas training provides a more general overview of an area or topic of interest to a regulator.

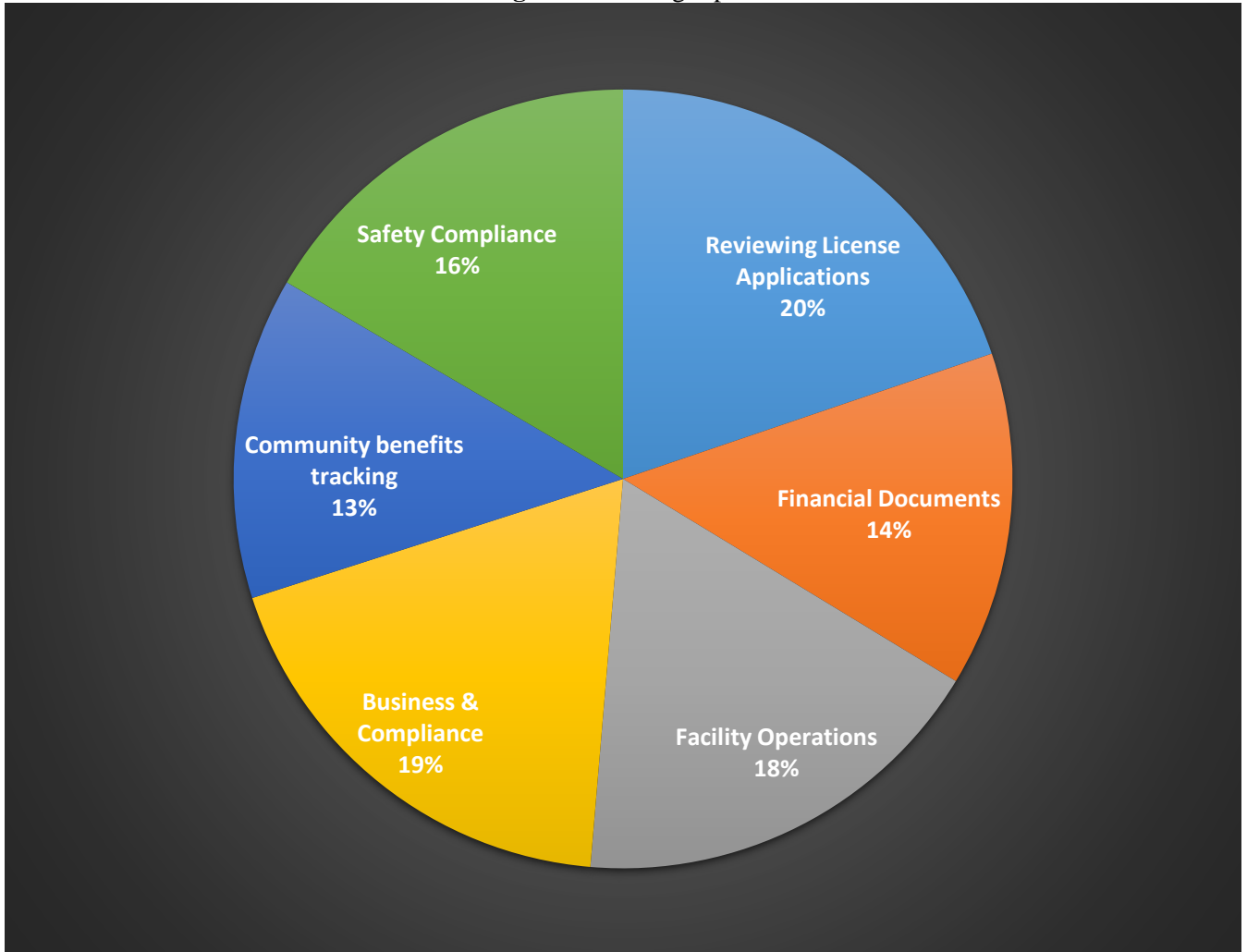
Figure 3 Training methods within jurisdiction



The top three training topics for regulators are reviewing applications, business & compliance and facility operations

Cannabis regulators oversee a wide range of issues from establishing application processes, evaluating applications, awarding licenses to monitoring license holders on an annual basis for compliance. Regulators were asked to select the topics that they would like to receive training on. The following chart highlights regulators views regarding training topics.

Figure 4 Training topics



Survey Background

The Michigan Local Government Marijuana Review Process Survey (MRPS) is a survey for local government cannabis officials conducted by the 2022 Michigan Local Government Marijuana Review Process Survey Committee. It was designed to gather the opinions and perspectives on a variety of important issues facing local government cannabis regulators. In the fall 2022, the survey was sent out to 124 communities within the State of Michigan that licenses medical and/or recreational marijuana inviting its community marijuana regulator to participate. The regulators are city, townships and villages' clerks, managers, supervisors, community development directors, zoning administrators and marijuana regulations administrators. The survey was conducted from August 29 – September 23, 2022 in which 46 communities responded. That is about a 37% response rate. The average online survey response rate is around 30%. The 46 communities that participated in the survey are a part of 29 different counties in Michigan. The survey responses presented here are those of local government cannabis regulators, while further analysis represents the views of the authors.

**Center
- for –
Municipalities**

Research	Technical Assistance
-----------------	---------------------------------

The Center for Municipalities is a technical assistance resource center for cities, townships and villages that regulate medical and/or recreational marijuana. The center conducts research that focuses on municipal cannabis regulations, policies, leadership and economic benefits. The center promotes best practices for local government cannabis regulations.

Council on Municipal Cannabis

Policy, Leadership and Partnerships

**Center
- for –
Municipalities**

**at the
Council on Municipal Cannabis**

www.municannabis.org