

Answer Key

- 1 True.** Even low doses of marijuana can affect the brain's judgment and functioning.
- 2 True.** The number of "Green DUIs" has increased by approximately 47% from 2007 to 2013.⁹
- 3 False.** Although it might seem that way to some users, even low doses reduce one's driving abilities. Drivers who are high are unable to accurately assess their own performance.
- 4 True.** States' DWI/DUI laws apply to impairment by *any* drug, not just by alcohol.
- 5 False.** Major impairment can last up to about five hours. Marijuana affects everyone differently, making it difficult to estimate the effects or predict when effects wear off.

References

1. Brady, 2014. Trends in alcohol and other drugs detected in fatally injured drivers.
2. National Institutes of Health, 2015. Marijuana: Research report series.
3. Time, 2014. Driving while high.
4. Hartman & Heustis, 2013. Cannabis effects on driving skills.
5. Lenné, et. al, 2010. The effects of cannabis and alcohol on simulated arterial driving.
6. Asbridge, Hayden & Cartwright, 2013. Acute cannabis consumption and motor vehicle collision risk.
7. Grotenhermen, et. al, 2007. Developing limits for driving under cannabis.
8. NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts 2015. Research Note DOT HS 812 118.
9. IIHS, 2015 50(4). Status Report.



What Do You Know About Marijuana and Driving?

True False

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 Low doses of marijuana can affect driving abilities. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 Convictions for driving after using marijuana have increased over the past few years. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 Some people drive better when high on marijuana. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 A driver could be charged with DWI/DUI for driving after consuming marijuana. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 The effects of marijuana wear off after one hour. |

See inside for answers.

Whether it is legal or not in your state to use, driving while impaired by marijuana is a crime and a danger to all drivers.



For more information about AAA Driver Training Programs, contact your local AAA club's Driver Training Department or visit AAA.biz/DriverTraining

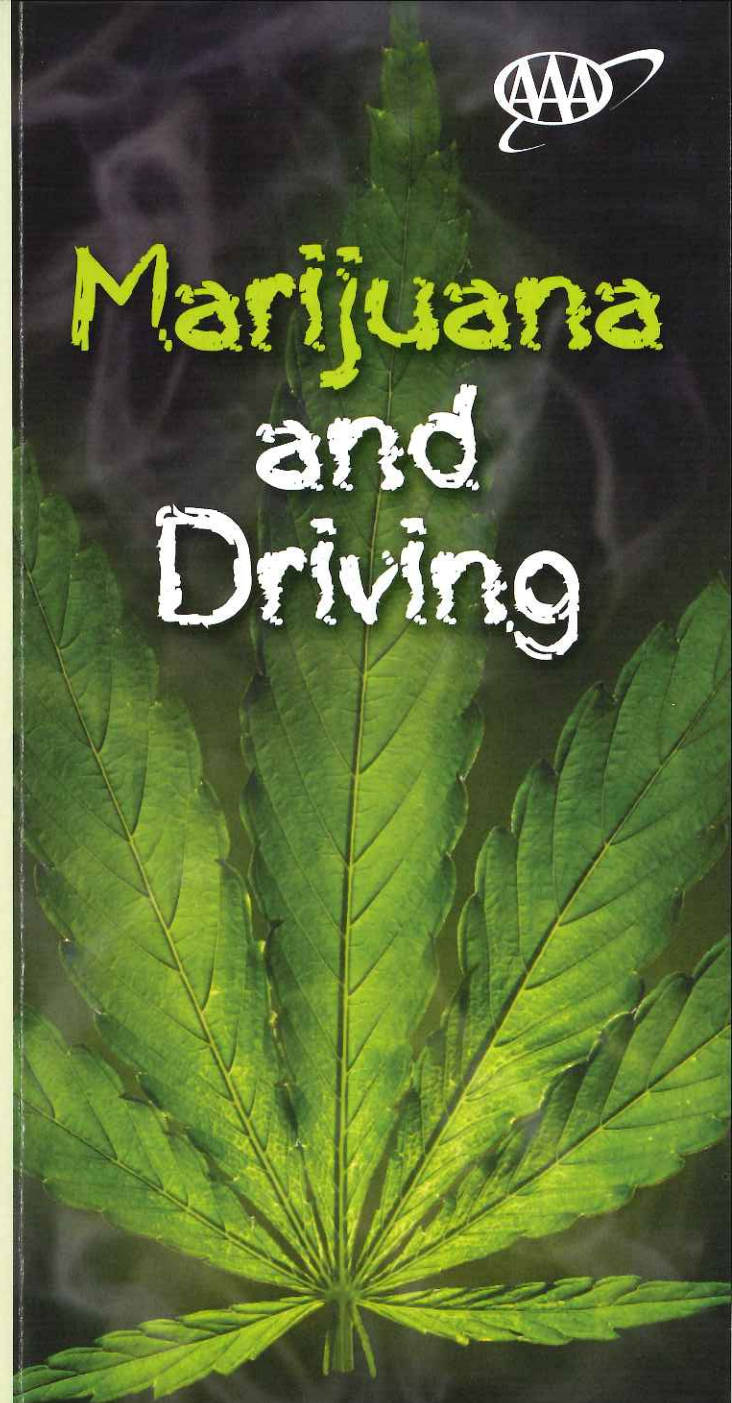
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Marijuana and Driving



The Dangers of Driving High

Marijuana + Driving = Danger

Many states are legalizing marijuana for therapeutic or recreational use. Whether you choose to use marijuana or not, it's important to understand how this drug can affect the ability to drive safely.

Whether you smoke, vape, or swallow edibles, getting behind the wheel when you're high on marijuana poses a risk to everyone on the road. In fact, next to alcohol, marijuana is the drug most commonly found in drivers who have been involved in collisions.¹

When ingested, marijuana's active ingredient, THC, enters the bloodstream, rapidly if smoked, and is then distributed throughout the body. In addition to other effects, THC disrupts key parts of the brain that influence the perception of time, concentration, movement, memory and coordination—all important to safe driving.²

The Blunt Truth: How Marijuana Affects Driving Abilities

Difficulty
maintaining attention

Slower reaction times

Harder to stay
in traffic lane

Harder to judge
distances

Slower
decision-making

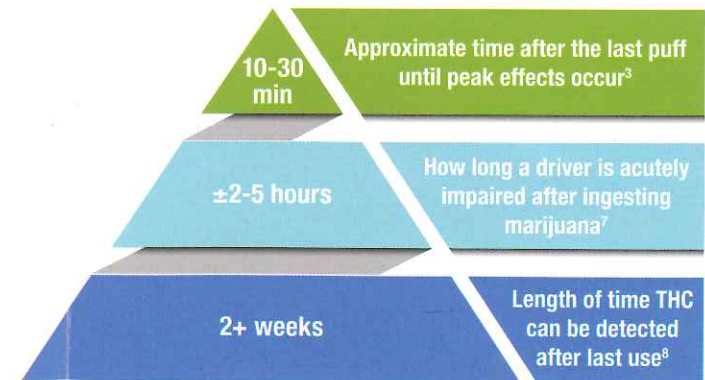
Reduced peripheral/
side vision

Reduced coordination

Research clearly shows that THC in marijuana negatively affects driving abilities^{3,4,5}

Drivers who have ingested marijuana may not be able to accurately perceive the traffic environment, make good decisions or take appropriate actions based on their decisions. Although research results are mixed, some studies show that, for drivers using marijuana, their crash risk approximately doubles—that's an increase of 100%!⁶

Plus, research shows that drivers involved in crashes who tested positive for THC were three to seven times more likely to be responsible for having *caused* the collision.⁴



Bottom Line:
Never ingest marijuana and drive.

