

10.5 – Study of Law Enforcement Activity

The Task Force recommends that the General Assembly grant authority to the Colorado Department of Public Safety or an authorized independent entity to gather data and undertake a scientific study of law enforcement's activity and costs related to Amendment 64 over a two-year period, beginning in January 2013.; **however no additional state funds shall be appropriated for these studies until the regulatory enforcement measures recommended within the report have been fully funded.**

Topics of study should include:

- Marijuana-related contacts by law enforcement, broken down by race and ethnicity
- Drug use, broken down into age categories and specific drugs, to include marijuana
- School data, to include suspensions, expulsions, and police referrals related to drug use and sales, broken down by specific drug categories
- Marijuana arrest data, including amounts of marijuana with each arrest and broken down by race and ethnicity
- Traffic accidents, to include fatalities and serious injuries related to being under the influence of marijuana
- Diversion of marijuana to persons under the age of 21
- Diversion of marijuana out of Colorado
- Crime occurring in and around marijuana establishments
- Parcel services, to include US Postal Service, UPS and FedEx
- Data related to drug-endangered children, specifically for marijuana
- Treatment information
- Probation data
- Impact on tourism
- Emergency room data, including information from Colorado Poison Control Center
- Outdoor marijuana cultivation facilities
- Money laundering

The goal of the study is to obtain objective information on criminal activity related to the passage of Amendment 64. As such, it should be based on facts and evidence, and be conducted according to rigorous standards of scientific inquiry. The study should be coordinated with the work of the CDPHE study panel concurrently recommended by this Task Force (see recommendation 10.4) to review the health effects associated with marijuana use, to avoid any potential overlap and duplication of efforts.