

REPORT  
July 2015

## Recreational Marijuana Laws

At the federal level, the sale and possession of marijuana is illegal under the Controlled Substances Act of 1970. Alaska, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Oregon, and Washington State, however, have enacted laws that legalize marijuana use for recreational purposes. Alaska, Colorado, and Washington permit anyone 21 years old or older to purchase and possess up to one ounce of marijuana, whereas a consumer may possess up to two ounces in DC, and eight ounces in Oregon. The laws in these states regulate recreational marijuana retailers and cultivators, address driving under the influence of marijuana, and impose a state tax on recreational marijuana. Additional maps and tables are available by visiting [www.lawatlas.org](http://www.lawatlas.org).

	<p><b>Recreational Marijuana Laws</b></p> <p>Alaska, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Oregon, and Washington have legalized recreational marijuana.</p> <p>Jurisdictions: 5 (AK, CO, DC, OR, WA)</p>
	<p><b>Possession Limit</b></p> <p>In Alaska, Colorado, and Washington, an individual 21 years old or older can possess up to one ounce of marijuana.</p> <p>Jurisdictions: 3 (AK, CO, WA)</p>
	<p><b>Sales Tax</b></p> <p>Although Alaska, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington have implemented an excise tax on recreational marijuana, only Colorado imposes a marijuana-specific sales tax.</p> <p>Jurisdiction: 1 (CO)</p>