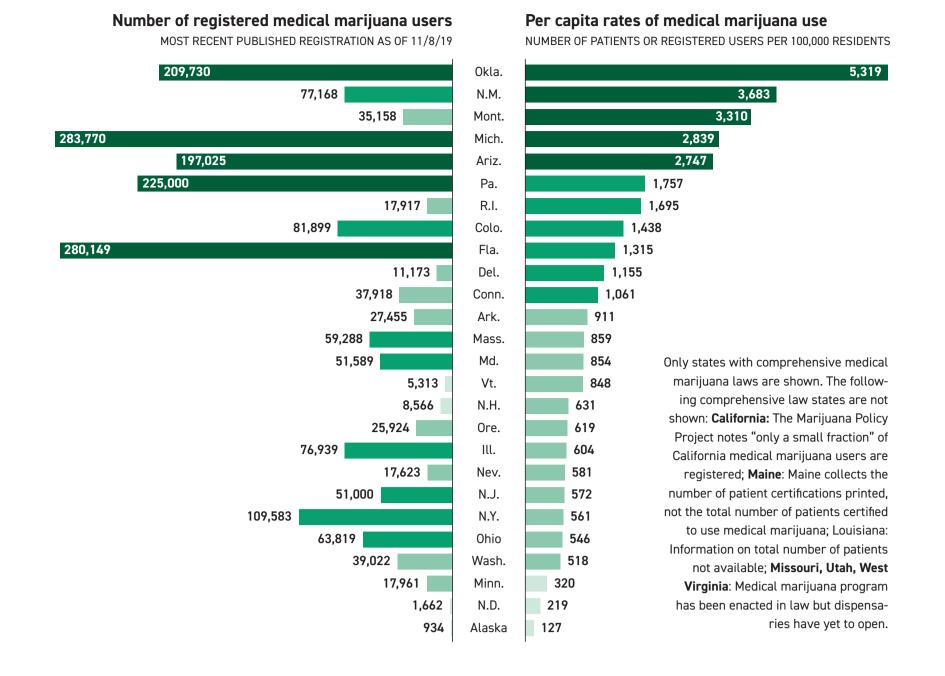
Medical marijuana has spread across the country. What does that look like in those states?

Patients in 47 states, the District of Columbia, and four of five U.S. territories can now use some form of cannabis to treat a range of illnesses and symptoms.

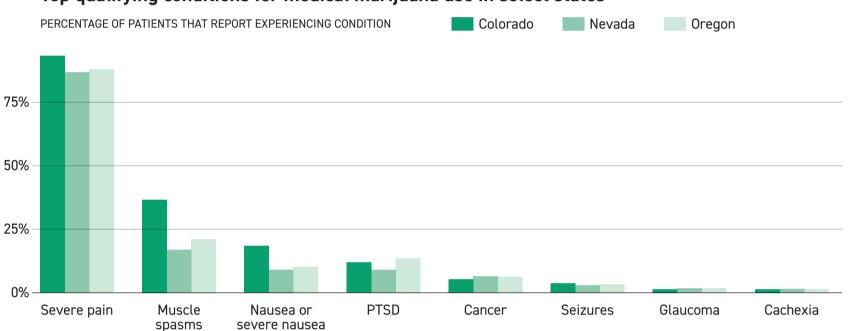
Available data from 26 states show at least 2 million Americans are registered medical marijuana users, though the number is likely much higher given that a total of 47 states have provided various legal pathways to some form of medical marijuana or CBD. Some states, like California, don't require medical marijuana users to register. States with the highest per capita use include Oklahoma and New Mexico.



Many patients use medical marijuana to treat severe pain, but more research is needed to understand full effects

Federal prohibition limits what is currently known about medical marijauna. To conduct federally-sanctioned research on marijuana, researchers have historically been required to use stock from the University of Mississippi. Some researchers have criticized the quality of the university's supply. A recently FDA-approved study at Yale University will be allowed to use medical marijuana from Connecticut's cannabis program, a rare exception.

The Mayo Clinic reports research has shown marijuana may treat or temporarily improve conditions like glaucoma and side effects of cancer treatment. Clinical trials have found CBD, a compound in marijuana, helps treat certain types of epilepsy. Other research indicates another compound, THC, is effective in treating symptoms like nausea. That means patients in limited access states, which often set THC limits, may not find relief from available medical marijuana.



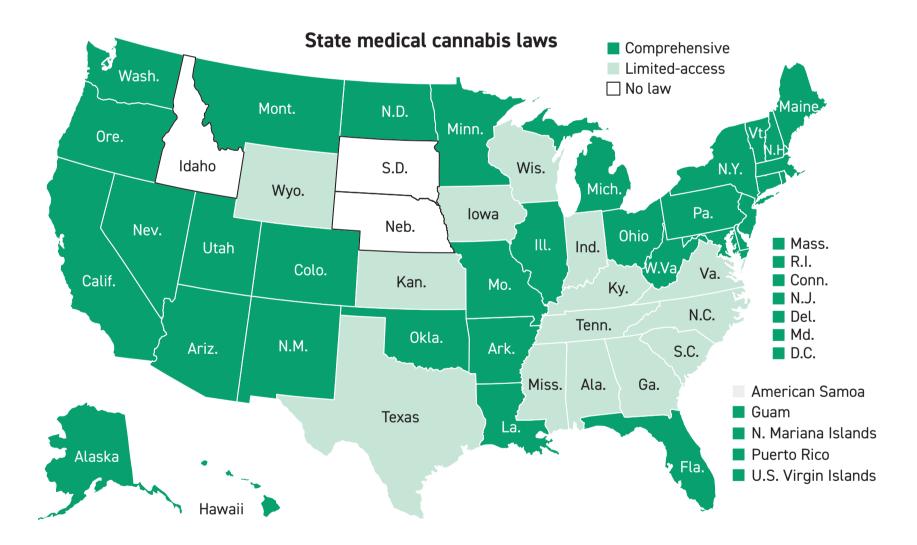
Top qualifying conditions for medical marijuana use in select states

Note: Data from Colorado, Nevada and Oregon show the percent of patients that report experiencing a particular condition, so state total percentages may be higher than 100 percent. Not all conditions reported by these states are shown in this chart.

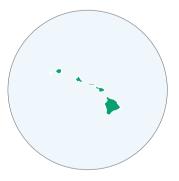
Most states have comprehensive medical marijuana laws

States can broadly be categorized as having "comprehensive" and "limited-access" medical marijuana laws. Comprehensive laws generally have an extensive range of qualifying conditions and allow patients to take medical marijuana in a variety of formats. Limited-access laws, however, might only apply to one or two qualifying conditions and set stricter limits on consumption. Some limited-access laws protect the use of medical marijuana with an affirmative defense, which provides medical marijuana users a legal justification for use.

The regulatory debate about medical cannabis often concerns two compounds: THC and CBD. THC is a psychoactive, anti-inflammatory and analgesic compound in marijuana. CBD is a non-psychoactive compound in marijuana that may have significant medical value. Some limited access laws set minimum CBD content requirements and may also set a maximum THC limit.



What's the difference? Comparing comprehensive and limited-access laws



Comprehensive: Hawaii

QUALIFYING Numerous conditions including cancer, **CONDITIONS** epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, PTSD or any condition that causes symptoms including cachexia, severe pain and severe nausea. Medical marijuana may be smoked, vaporized **PRODUCTS ALLOWED** or consumed in a variety of manufactured forms like oils, tinctures and transdermal patches. Patients can obtain medical marijuana from ном то **OBTAIN** a dispensary, grow their own at home or appoint a caregiver to grow it for them.



Limited use: Mississippi

"Debilitating epileptic condition or related illness" (Miss. SB 2610)

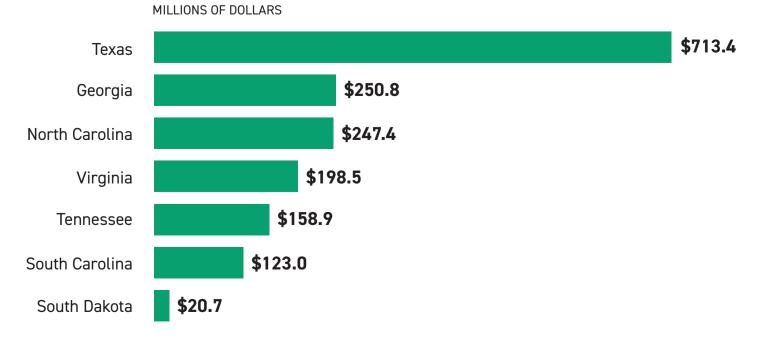
Oil, extract or resin that is at least 15 percent CBD and no more than 3 percent THC.

Patients can buy products manufactured by the University of Mississippi from its medical center pharmacy.

Which states could be next to expand medical marijuana

New Frontier Data, a cannabis analytics and research firm, projects the medical marijuana market will be \$13.1 billion by 2025, a \$10 billion increase from 2014.

As marijuana use increases in adult-use and medical-use states, additional states may pass medical marijuana laws. New Frontier Data projects Texas could see the largest increase in annual sales of medical marijuana, based on projections of market operations by the fourth year.



Potential annual sales by fourth year of market operation

By Taylor Miller Thomas, POLITICO Pro

Sources: National Conference of State Legislatures; Hawaii Legislature; Alaska Department of Vital Statistics; Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection; Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission; Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission; Michigan Marijuana Regulatory Agency; Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program; Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority; Government of Pennsylvania; Vermont Department of Public Safety; Marijuana Registry; Departments of Health or related departments for: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, Washington, D.C. and West Virginia; National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws; California NORML; New Frontier Data; Marijuana Business Daily; Marijuana Policy Project; Epilepsy Foundation; Mayo Clinic; Harvard Health Publishing; Grand View Research; Americans for Safe Access, POLITICO Pro reports