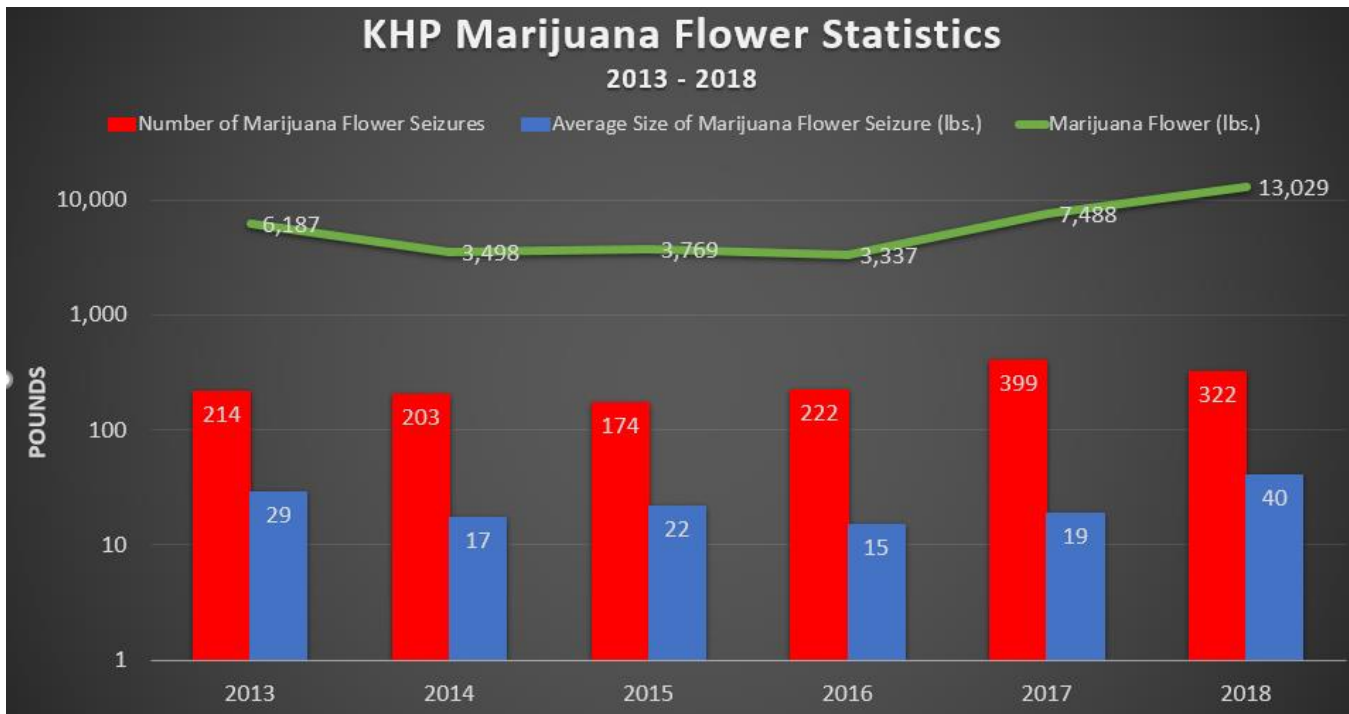


Written, Neutral Testimony on Senate Bill 113 Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

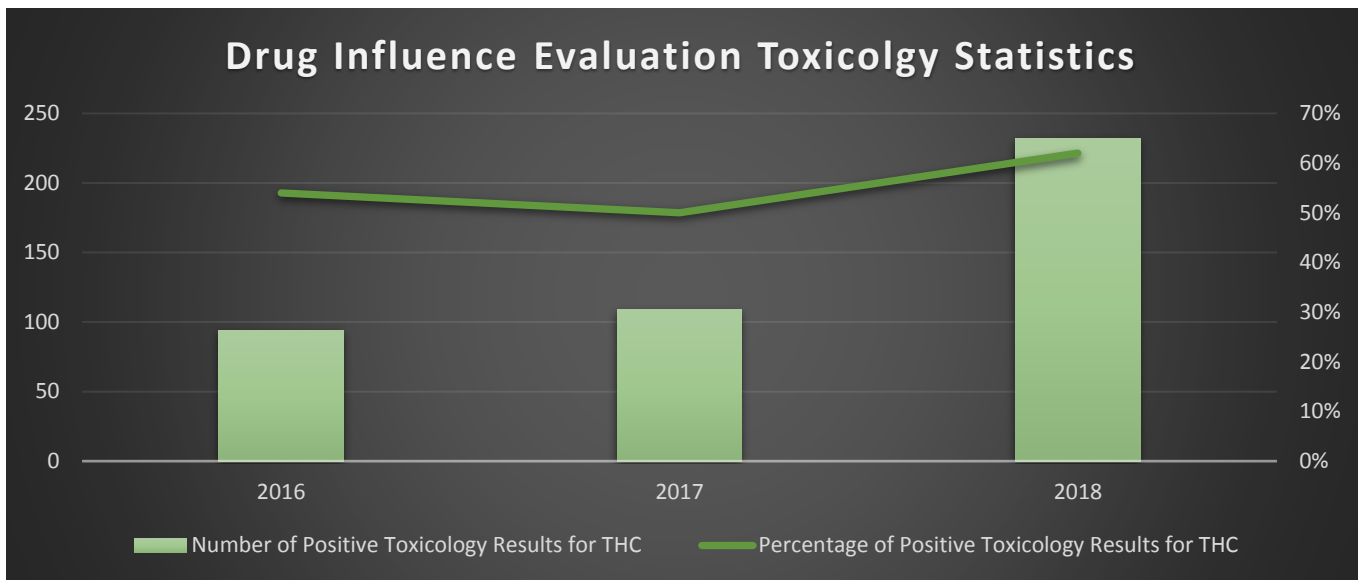
Presented by
Kansas Highway Patrol

March 14, 2019

The Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) recently compiled the following statistical information as it pertains to various facets of marijuana related incidents involving agency operations. These statistics provide insight into the number of seizures, DUID's/DRE's (drugged driving arrests by specially trained officers), and accident/collision data points. We offer this information to the committee as it considers the merits of medicinal marijuana and the undeniable fact that traffic and public safety will be negatively impacted by any increased prevalence of and access to this drug.

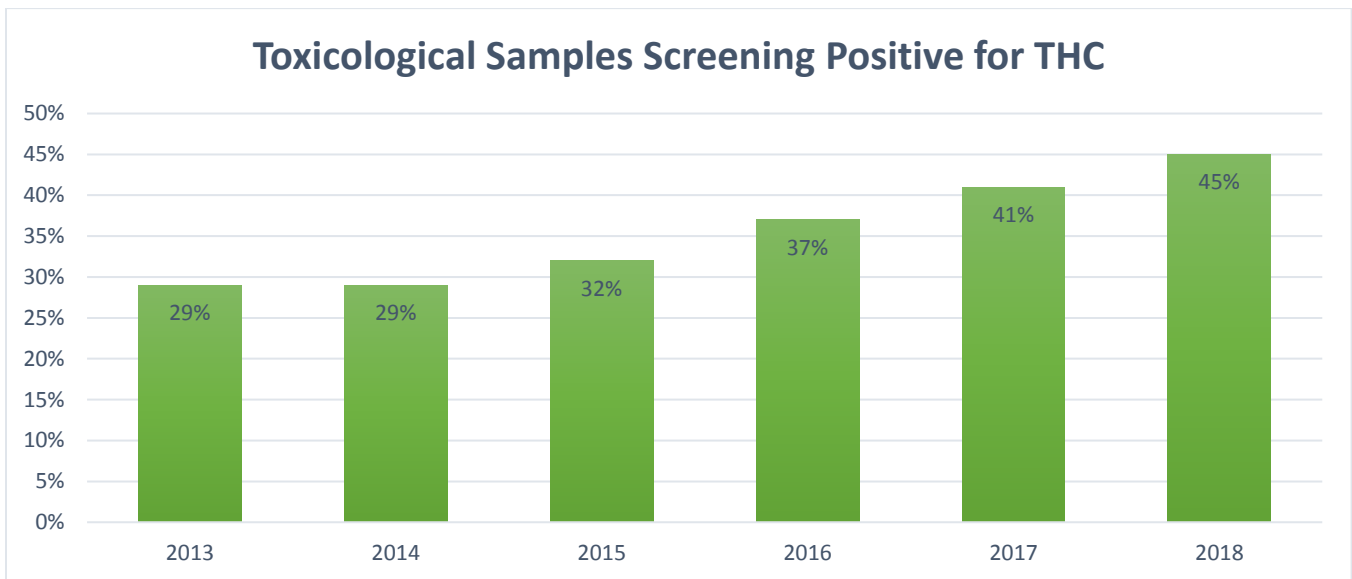


Kansas' Drug Recognition Program has shown a significant increase over the last three years in marijuana impaired drivers. In 2016, Drug Recognition Experts from across the state conducted drug impairment evaluations and concluded 81 of their subjects were impaired by cannabis. In 2017, this number increased to 89 evaluations where cannabis was the impairing substance. In 2018, our numbers saw a dramatic increase. Drug Recognition Experts concluded that 180 subjects were under the influence of marijuana. **This is a 200% increase from 2017.** This increase only includes those DUID arrests where a Drug Recognition Expert was called and an evaluation was done. Due to the complex and lengthy DRE Certification process, less than 200 of Kansas' more than 7,000 law enforcement officers are so certified. Consequently, the incidence of driving under the influence of marijuana or any other drug is likely to be significantly higher.



Drug Recognition Evaluations indicated an increase in number and percentage of THC positive drivers over the last three years. In 2016, 94 toxicological samples submitted were positive for THC, which was 54% of the total toxicological samples analyzed. In 2017, there were 109 samples positive for THC, which was 50% of the toxicological samples analyzed. In 2018, those numbers rose to 232, which correlates to 62% of the toxicological samples analyzed.

(Statistics taken from the Kansas DRE Web Portal. Only those evaluations and toxicology results entered are included)



Toxicological samples screening positive for THC submitted to the Kansas Bureau of Investigations.

Unfortunately, Kansas crash statistic metrics requested from KDOT indicate that they do not break down specific drug results for collision documentation purposes.

As the Kansas Legislature considers the potential health benefits of medicinal marijuana, the Kansas Highway Patrol trusts that the impact to traffic and public safety will also be considered. In every instance where marijuana has been legalized for any purpose, the overall safety of the general public has been negatively impacted. We implore the committee to consider all facets of legalization before enacting any legislation that makes vehicular travel and life in general more dangerous.

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