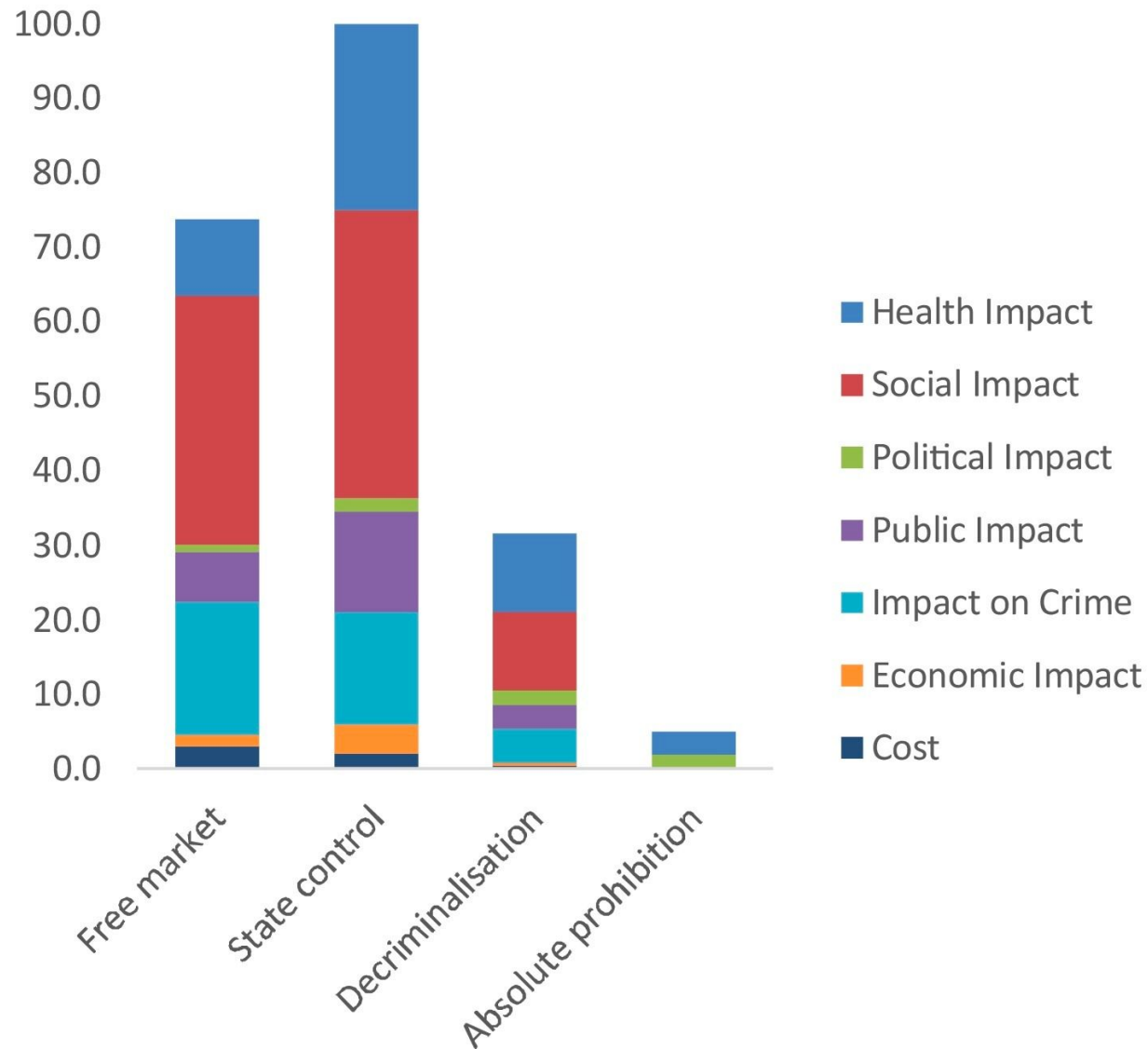


Regulated cannabis markets

Ole Rogeberg

Cannabis



- Structured decision process (Rogeberg et al 2018)
 - 17 researchers + 2 facilitators
 - Identified 27 criteria that matter for drug policy
 - Identified four broad policy regimes
 - Scored each regime on each criteria for cannabis
 - Balanced concerns to identify overall preferred option
- Cost benefit analysis (Rogeberg 2018)
 - The harms of illegal markets must be balanced against the harms of excessive use
 - The harms of use
 - are insufficient to justify a prohibition
 - Indicate that legal cannabis should be priced below currently illegal
 - Should be strongly regulated (marketing, outlet density, age limits etc)

A simple model of regulation



A simple model of regulation



- Who is allowed to produce?
- What are they allowed to produce?
- How are they allowed to produce it?
- How much are they allowed to produce?
- What do they have to pay to produce it?

A simple model of regulation



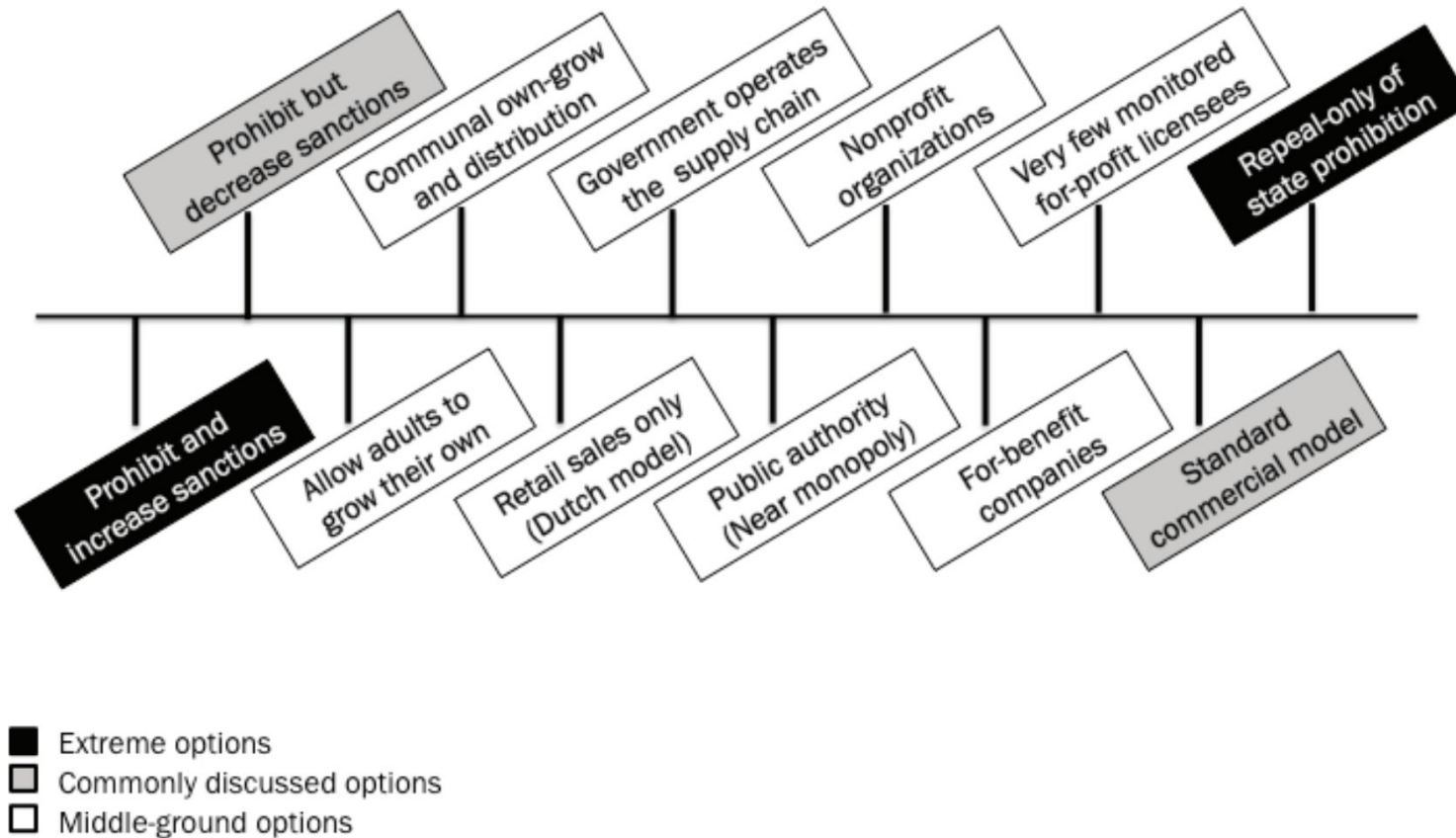
- Who is allowed to sell it?
- What are they allowed to sell?
- How are they allowed to sell it?
- How much are they allowed to sell?
- What do they have to pay to sell it?

A simple model of regulation



- Who is allowed to use it?
- How are they allowed to use it?
- How much are they allowed to use?
- What do they have to pay to use it?

What are the regulated cannabis options?



Source: RAND

Home growing



- Adults or medical users allowed to grow
- Limit on plants per person or per household
- Could involve a register

- No sales allowed
- May allow «gifts»

- Is public use allowed?
- «Standard» restrictions (e.g., impaired driving)

Home growing

- Examples:
 - Canada – 4 plants per person
 - Uruguay – 6 plants per person
 - Colorado – 6 plants (max 3 flowering, max 12 per household)
 - Washington state – only medical users
 - Nevada – 6 per household if retail sale within 40 km, otherwise 12
- Benefits:
 - Non-commercial but «cumbersome» access
 - Allows for niche products (high-CBD etc)
- Challenges
 - Limited monitoring of prevalence, use patterns, strength etc
 - Can provide cover for black market production
 - Risk of theft and fire
 - May require regulation of the market for equipment (e.g., grow lights, fertilizer) and seeds

Cannabis clubs



- Private non-profit organizations growing and selling to their members
- May involve member registry and application to authorities
- «Invitation only»
- Limits to quantities per member
- «Hidden» and non-commercial venues

Cannabis social clubs

- Examples:
 - Semi-legal in Spain, Belgium, Great Britain
 - Legal in Uruguay
- Benefits:
 - Non-commercial access for users
 - Can be regulated so as to provide health information, strength limitations, etc.
 - Provides arena for harm reduction messages
- Challenges
 - Risk of slipping into commercialization, criminal involvement, superficial oversight of products and members

Can Tourists Buy Weed in Barcelona?



Each year, thousands of tourists flock to Barcelona for its cannabis clubs, rich history, and beautiful architecture. Many of them want to know, "Can tourists buy weed in Barcelona?" If you're reading this article, you're going to like the answer. 😊

Yes, tourists can buy weed in Barcelona, but they must carry out this transaction in a private setting. For foreigners and tourists who don't know people in the city, this can be an impossible task. Fortunately, there are hundreds of [private cannabis social clubs in Barcelona](#), and most of these places are accessible by tourists. In fact, most [Barcelona weed clubs](#) allow foreigners and tourists to join, which means that yes – absolutely! – tourists can buy weed in Barcelona. The only condition is that you must know someone who is already a member of the club who can sponsor you for membership; but don't worry! We've got you covered, just click the link below and we will be glad to sponsor you, as we are members at many Barcelona cannabis social clubs:

In fact, most Barcelona weed clubs allow foreigners and tourists to join, which means that yes – absolutely! – tourists can buy weed in Barcelona. The only condition is that you must know someone who is already a member of the club who can sponsor you for membership; but don't worry! We've got you covered, just click the link below and we will be glad to sponsor you, as we are members at many Barcelona cannabis social clubs:

The Dutch model v1.0



- Illegal for professional suppliers
- Up to 5 plants in non-professional set-up is tolerated

- Legally tolerated
- Maximum 5g per sale
- Maximum 500 g on premises
- Limits on total number of coffeeshops, their location, who can shop

- Age limits
- «Standard» restrictions (e.g., impaired driving)

The Dutch model

- Benefits

- Avoids criminalization of users
- Regulates availability (shop density and locations, age limits, purchase limits)
- Separates markets for cannabis from other drugs
- Keeps prices high
- Successful in keeping use prevalence similar to other countries

- Issues

- No product monitoring or testing
- Illegal and unregulated production – essential and unwanted?
- «Drug tourism» – especially along border

The Dutch model v2.0 (to be tested in 10 cities)



- Government run

- Legally tolerated
- Maximum 5g per sale
- Maximum 500 g on premises
- Limits on total number of coffeeshops, their location, who can shop

- Age limits
- «Standard» restrictions (e.g., impaired driving)

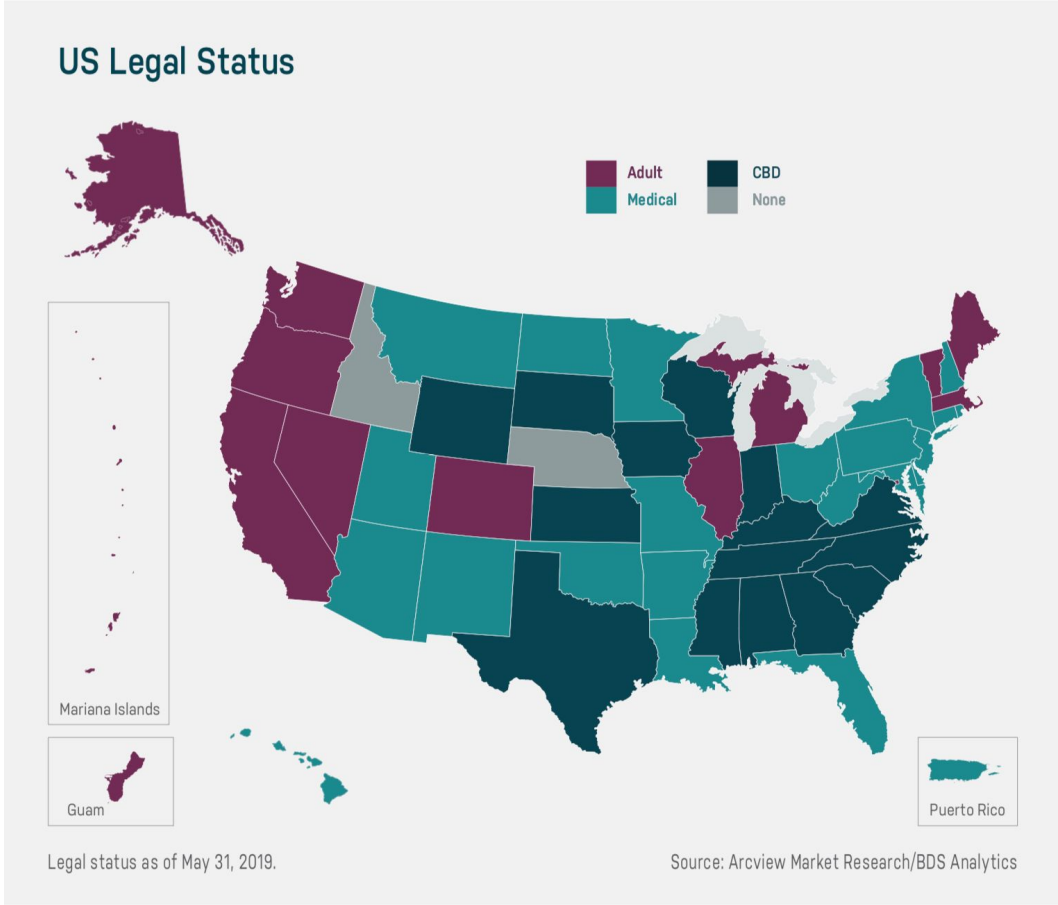
The Uruguay model

- Goals:
 - Reducing drug trafficking-related violence by taking marijuana off the black market
 - Promoting public health through education and prevention campaigns
 - Eliminating the existing legal paradox that allowed for possession but effectively blocked users from accessing marijuana .
- Three sources of supply:
 - Home growing – 6 plants
 - Cannabis social clubs
 - 15-45 members
 - Max 480 g per year per member
 - Sales from pharmacy
 - Fingerprint scanners
 - Max 10 g per week
 - 4 strains – no high THC variants, CBD balanced
 - Two producers licensed (more may be on the way)

Uruguay model

- All three options require registration
 - 8 750 home growers
 - 2 529 members in 90 clubs
 - 24 117 registered with pharmacies
 - Estimated users: 147 000
- Gradual implementation challenges
 - Only 17 pharmacies participated by 2019
 - Banking pressure on pharmacies
 - Only 1 of the two licensed producers passed quality controls – leading to undersupply of pharmacies

The US patchwork



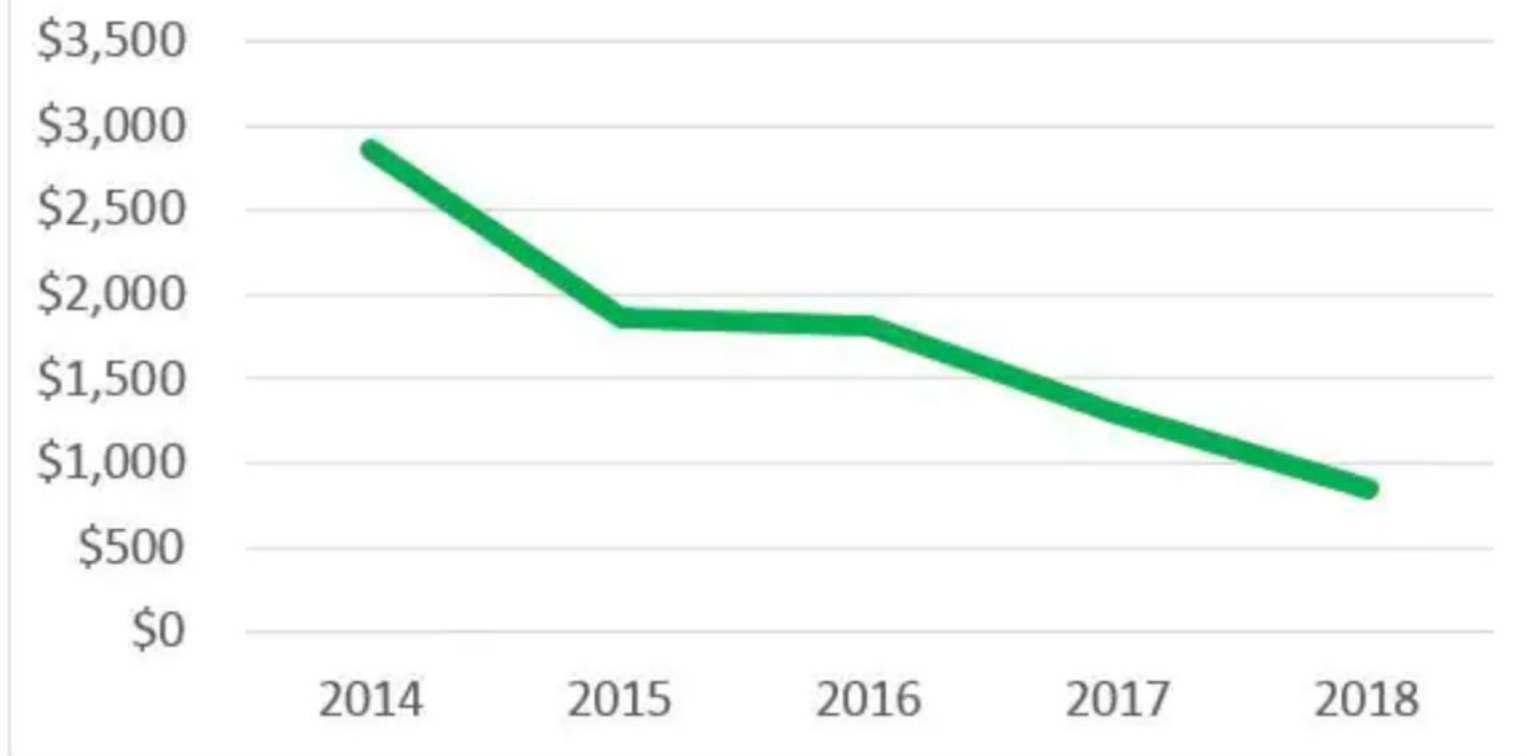
US patchwork

- Different state policies – often set by ballot initiatives:
 - Colorado and Washington state – Legal since 2012/13
 - Retail sales outlets
 - No home growing in Washington
 - Vertical integration in Colorado
 - Washington DC – Legal since 2015
 - Possession up to 57 grams
 - Home growing - no sales
 - Vermont – legalized through political process
 - Home growing – 2 mature plants
 - 28 grams possession
 - No sales
 - Large variation in tax levels (12 – 47%)
- Federal prohibition
 - No access to bank services
 - No (?) state outlets – only private firms
 - Often limited regulatory options due to ballot initiative process
- Often substantial variation within states
 - Half of all municipalities in Colorado do not allow retail outlets

What are the concerns about the US model?

- Benefits:
 - Product control
 - Low production costs and efficient operation
 - Product innovation – e.g., edibles, vape-pens, lotions – more desirable products that may have lower risk
- Drawbacks:
 - Limited oversight and regulation due to federal prohibition
 - Marketing and lifestyle branding promoting use
 - Incentive to target and grow the »pathological tail« of the use distribution
 - Stronger, more intense usage forms (e.g., dabbing)
 - Shift towards lower prices, which lowers tax revenues
 - Cross-state issues (tax competition and smuggling into illegal areas)

Marijuana Price Per Pound in Colorado Has Dropped 70% in 4 Years



Source: Average sale price each spring calculated by [Colorado Department of Revenue](#)

The CBD hype

BENEFITS OF CANNABIDIOL

THAT HAVE BEEN CLINICALLY VALIDATED



REDUCES NAUSEA AND VOMITING

SUPPRESSES SEIZURE ACTIVITY

COMBATS PSYCHOSIS DISORDERS

COMBATS INFLAMMATORY DISORDERS

COMBATS NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS

COMBATS TUMOR AND CANCER CELLS

COMBATS ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION DISORDERS

The Canadian model

- Up to 30 g possession
- Home growing – up to 4 plants
 - 2 provinces did not allow this
 - 1 province gives fine (5000 dollars) for visible plants
- Different sales channels in different provinces
 - Mail order available everywhere
 - Provinces decide on retail outlets (often with expensive licensing)
 - Alberta – 17 private retail outlets
 - Newfoundland and Labrador – State owned outlets
- Standardized «boring» packaging with clear marking and product info
- Marketing – no lifestyle/mascot/celebrity, and not where young people are exposed
- Gradual phase in of products

Province	Minimum age for use	Allows growing at home for personal use only	Home storage limit	Plants per household	Allows use in public	Sold by private retailers (under provincial government oversight)	Sold by public retailers (under provincial government oversight)	Sold by government run retail locations	Physical stores	Online sales	Transporting
 Alberta	18	Yes ^[11]	None ^[12]	Four ^[8]	Only where tobacco may be smoked. ^[12]	Yes	Yes	Yes	Currently 17 ^[13]	Government-operated	Must be secured in closed packaging and not within reach of the driver or occupants. ^[14]
 British Columbia	19	Yes but cannot be visible from a public space	1,000 grams	Four	There is a ban on smoking or vaping cannabis in playgrounds, schools, and other public areas used by kids. Can be mostly used where tobacco is smoked.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Government-operated	Must be in a sealed package, or inaccessible to any passengers. Allowed to drive with no more than four cannabis plants that are not flowering. ^[14]
 Manitoba	19	Yes but only with a medical licence ^[8]	None ^[15]	Not permitted ^[12]	No ^[16]	Yes	No	No	Currently 30 ^[16]	Privately-operated ^[17]	Must be stored in a secure compartment, such as a trunk. ^[14]
 New Brunswick	19	Yes	None ^[16]	Four ^[12]	No ^[12]	No	No	Yes	Currently 20 ^[12]	Government-operated ^[12]	No restriction ^[14]
 Newfoundland and Labrador	19	Yes	None ^[18]	Four ^[18]	No	Yes	Yes ^[12]	No	Yes ^[12]	Government-operated ^[19]	Must be in a sealed package or not readily available to anyone in the vehicle, unless the vehicle is being used as a dwelling. Passengers on taxis and buses are allowed to carry cannabis. ^[14]
 Northwest Territories	19	Yes ^[20]		Four ^[12]	Yes, on trails, highways, streets, roads and in parks when they are not in use for public events. ^[12]		Yes ^[20]	Yes ^[20]	Currently five ^[12]	Government-operated ^[12]	Must be unopened or be stored in a place that is out of reach for any passengers. ^[14]
 Nova Scotia	19	Yes ^[21]	None ^[21]	Four ^[21]	Yes, anywhere tobacco can be smoked ^[21]	No ^[21]	No ^[21]	Yes ^[21]	Currently 13 ^[19]	Government-operated ^[21]	Must be in a closed package or packaging that is fastened closed and out of reach from anyone in the vehicle ^[22]
 Nunavut	19	Yes	150 grams ^[23]	Four ^[23]	Can be mostly used where tobacco is smoked, with the exception of vehicles, school grounds, hospital or health centre grounds, and playgrounds. ^[24]	TBD	TBD	No	No	Government-operated ^[19]	Must not be within reach of anyone in a vehicle. ^[14]
 Ontario	19	Yes ^[25]	None	Four ^[25]	Yes, only where tobacco is smoked, with the exception of vehicles. ^[25]	Yes ^[25]	Yes ^[25]	Yes ^[25]	Introduced on April 1, 2019, ^[25] More to open in coming months	Government-operated ^[25]	Must be sealed or not readily available to anyone in the vehicle. ^[25]
 Prince Edward Island	19	Yes	None ^[26]	Four ^[16]	No	No	No	Yes	Currently four ^[19]	Government-operated ^[27]	Required to be secure and inaccessible to anyone in the vehicle if opened. ^[14]
 Quebec	18 ^[28] ^[29]	No	150 grams	Not permitted ^[16]	Yes, anywhere tobacco can be smoked. ^[8]	No	Yes ^[30]	Yes ^[27]	Currently 12 ^[19]	Government-operated ^[30]	No restriction ^[31]
 Saskatchewan	19	Yes	None	Four ^[16]	No ^[16]	Yes	Yes ^[16]	No	Yes	Privately-operated	Allowed in a vehicle, provided it is not being ingested, it was bought legally and is being transported to a place where it will be legally ingested. ^[14]
 Yukon	19	Yes	None ^[32]	Four ^[27]	No	No	No	Yes	Currently one ^[19]	Government-operated ^[33]	Must be in a closed container and inaccessible to all passengers. ^[14]

Thank you