

How Virginia compares

On July 1, Virginia joins 18 other states in legalizing recreational marijuana. Here's a comparison to laws in some of the states that border Virginia and to a few others that legalized earlier.

	Virginia	Washington, D.C.	Maryland	West Virginia	North Carolina	Colorado	California
Possession	Up to an ounce per adult. An ounce to a pound – civil penalty of up to \$25. More than a pound – a felony.	More than 2 ounces is a misdemeanor with a penalty of up to six months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1,000.	Less than 10 grams – a civil offense, fine of up to \$100. Up to 50 pounds is a misdemeanor.	A misdemeanor – penalties of up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.	Less than a half-ounce for personal use is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$200.	Up to 2 ounces	Up to 1 ounce
Growing plants	Up to four plants per household	Up to six plants	Not legal	Not legal	Not legal	Up to six plants	Up to six plants
Public use	Not legal	Not legal	Not legal	Not legal	Not legal	Not legal	Not legal
Sales	Adults may privately share up to an ounce. Sales are prohibited.	Adults may transfer up to an ounce to other adults if there is no payment. Some businesses offer marijuana as a gift or bonus to accompany other purchases.	Not legal	Not legal	Not legal	Retail sales are licensed.	Retail sales are licensed.

NOTE: Each of these states (and district) has additional rules for medical marijuana. SOURCES: NORML; office of Gov. Ralph Northam