

Connecticut Marijuana Penalties

 mandatory  tax stamps

		Incarceration	Fine
Possession			
"Useable Amount" (first offense)	misdemeanor	1 year	\$1,000
"Useable Amount" (subsequent offense)	felony	5 years	\$3,000
4 oz or more (first offense)	felony	5 years	\$2,000
4 oz or more (subsequent offense)	felony	10 years	\$5,000
Possession within 1,500 feet of a school		2 years MMS*	none
*These minimum mandatory sentences run consecutive to other sentences.			
Sale or Cultivation			
Any amount	felony	7 years	\$25,000
Sale to a minor	felony	3 years MMS*	none
Sale within 1,500 feet of school, public housing or daycare	felony	3 years MMS*	none
*These minimum mandatory sentences run consecutive to other sentences.			
Miscellaneous (paraphernalia, license suspensions, drug tax stamps, etc...)			
Paraphernalia possession	misdemeanor	3 months	\$500
Paraphernalia possession within 1,500 feet of school	felony	1 year MMS*	none
*These minimum mandatory sentences run consecutive to other sentences. Any conviction can cause suspension or revocation of professional license.			
Details			
<p>Possession of up to four ounces of marijuana is punishable by up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000 for the first offense. A subsequent offense is punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$3,000. Possession of four ounces or more of marijuana is punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$2,000 for a first offense. Subsequent offenses are punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000. Possession of any amount within 1500 feet of a school adds a two-year minimum mandatory sentence to run consecutively with any other sentence imposed.</p> <p>Cultivation, delivery or sale of marijuana is punishable by up to seven years in prison and a fine of up to \$25,000. Sale to a minor adds a two-year mandatory minimum sentence to run consecutively with any other sentence. Sale within 1500 feet of a school, public housing project or day care center adds a three-year mandatory minimum sentence to run consecutively with any other sentence.</p> <p>Possession of paraphernalia is punishable by up to three months in jail and a fine of up to \$500. If the possession of paraphernalia occurs within 1500 feet of a school, an additional one year mandatory minimum sentence is imposed to run consecutively with any other sentence.</p> <p>Conviction of any violation involving marijuana allows the court to recommend to the licensing boards within the state that the offender's license to practice or carry on his profession be suspended or revoked.</p>			

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Mandatory minimum sentence: When someone is convicted of an offense punishable by a mandatory minimum sentence, the judge must sentence the defendant to the mandatory minimum sentence or to a higher sentence. The judge has no power to sentence the defendant to less time than the mandatory minimum. A prisoner serving an MMS for a federal offense and for most state offenses will not be eligible for parole. Even peaceful marijuana smokers sentenced to "life MMS" must serve a life sentence with no chance of parole.

Marijuana tax stamps: This state has a marijuana tax stamp law enacted. This law mandates that those who possess marijuana are legally required to purchase and affix state-issued stamps onto his or her contraband. Failure to do so may result in a fine and/or criminal sanction. For more information, see NORML's report Marijuana Tax Stamp Laws And Penalties. http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=6670

Also see Federal Laws http://norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=4575

About this Report

NORML's State Guide to Marijuana Penalties outlines most penalties for prohibited marijuana conduct in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and under federal law. To view the list of prohibited conduct and penalties, click the map icon to the left to find your jurisdiction.

Marijuana laws and penalties change rapidly and are enforced and interpreted differently even in the same legal jurisdiction. Please consult a criminal defense lawyer if you have been busted or if you want to know how a particular conduct might be punished. If you spot an error or have information that should be included in NORML's State Guide to Marijuana Penalties, please inform the NORML Foundation (foundation@norml.org).

Please note:

- The guide does not list penalties for every marijuana offense nor every enhanced sentence such as possessing marijuana near a school, involving a minor, and automatic driver's or professional license suspension. Your state may require an enhanced sentence even if the enhancement is not in the guide.
- Unless otherwise specified, please assume that listed penalties apply only to first convictions. Prior convictions often place a defendant in a higher penalty range, and convictions while on probation for a previous offense may result in revocation of probation.
- Except where indicated otherwise, a listed fine is the maximum fine for the conviction and the minimum fine is zero.
- "Possession" usually means "possessing marijuana only for personal use". If the government accuses you of possessing marijuana for other reasons, the accompanying penalties will probably exceed those for possessing marijuana for personal use. Possessing large amounts of marijuana frequently results in more serious charges of "possession with intent to distribute", "trafficking", and/or "sale".
- Many factors contribute to a defendant's sentence. Factors include level of involvement in the prohibited conduct, location, age, presence or absence of minors, use or presence of weapons, conduct for which a person has been acquitted, and many other things.
- If you are in trouble, please know your rights and hire an attorney.

Warning: The information contained in this report is for informational purposes only. Individuals are encouraged to confirm their state's laws before engaging in any particular behavior, or before going to court without a lawyer.

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The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (www.norml.org)

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Metric units to United States units of measurements:

One ounce (oz.) = 28.35 grams

One pound (lb.) = 16 ounces = 453.59 grams

One kilogram (kg.) = 1,000 grams (g) = 2.2 pounds (lbs.)