Date: January 4, 2020
Subject: 2019 Marijuana and Violent Crime Nexus

A case by case review of the 2019 Part 1 Violent Crime Incident Reports (IRs)was conducted and there was a total of 68 (6.2%) which contained a nexus to marijuana, to include the following;

- Rape = 24
- Robbery = 24
- Assault = 16
- Homicide = 4

The following report is a systemic review of 1,085 Part 1 Violent Crime IRs in 2019 (by the LPD Crime Analysis Unit) to determine if there is a nexus to marijuana. The data was obtained via LPD GIS system, which contains a 1-3% margin of error when compared to the LPD RMS. *The methodology of this review is in the last paragraph of page one.*
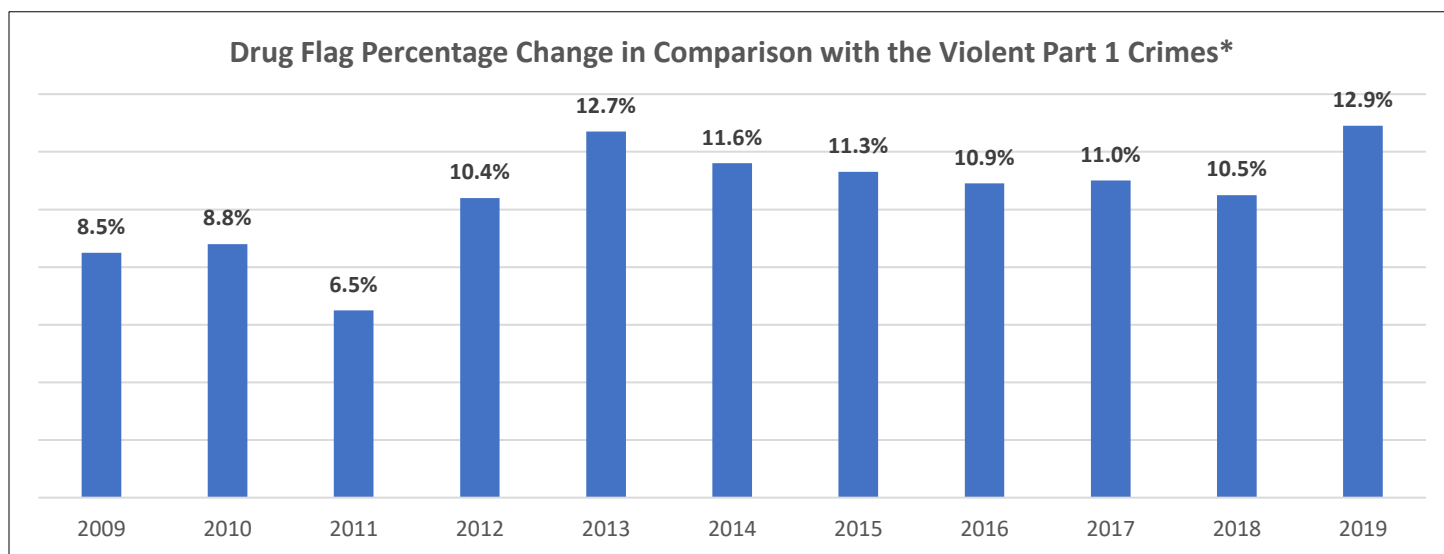
Violent Crime IR Drug Flags:
- 140 (12.9%) were originally labeled as "Yes" for "Drug Related",
- 313 (28.8%) were originally labeled as "No" for "Not Drug Related"
- 632 (58.2%) were left blank

2019 GIS data listed 1,085 Violent Crime IR Cases* to include:
Assault = 57.3%, Rape = 26.9%, Robbery = 15.2%, Homicide = 0.4%

In February 2019 a review of Part 1 Violent Crime and the nexus to Drug Flags was completed. The percentage of Drug Flags to Violent Crime was consistent over the past five years. However, at the time, it was hypothesized that the "Drug Flag" usage within the Violent Crime IRs was greatly under reported. It can be expected this caused the increase of 12.9% in 2019 compared to the five-year average (2014-2018) of 11.06%.

Drug Flag Percentage Change in Comparison with the Violent Part 1 Crimes*

Year	Percentage
2009	8.5%
2010	8.8%
2011	6.5%
2012	10.4%
2013	12.7%
2014	11.6%
2015	11.3%
2016	10.9%
2017	11.0%
2018	10.5%
2019	12.9%

*This process consisted of reviewing each incident report (IR) to determine if any type of marijuana drug nexus existed. The case by case review was completed regardless if a drug flag was noted. Drug flags on non-narcotics cases do not have the option to indicate the drug type. GIS data has a 30-day refresh/upload factor in the GIS database. It is possible a few of the GIS IRs were updated after the 30 days and not populated into the GIS database. However, prior reviews of this showed little, if any, "after the fact" updating. Any future changes to the IR form may be beneficial to ensure the Drug Flag is a mandatory field and to include the "Drug Type", similar to Narcotics IR process.

To compare each of the below locations and time frames, slightly different time frames were used to match when marijuana was legalized in Colorado, Washington and Oregon. This is not a complete year by year comparison but it does allow time frames to be compared against each of the entities. These totals are based on Violent Crime per 100K (population) and does not account for the increased totals of Violent Crime Sexual Assaults.

For example, in the United States, Rape increased by 22.7% from 2015-2018 compared to 2011-2104. These increases mirror each location and can be attributed to two items. First, the FBI UCR definition change and second, a social media movement in 2017. However, as a footnote, Rape in the United States accounted for approximately 11% of all violent crime (per 100K Population) in 2018 compared to 7% in 2011.

- 2014-2018 – Colorado - **9.44%** increase in violent crime per 100k compared to 2009-2013.
- 2016-2018 – Oregon - **8.77%** increase in violent crime per 100k compared to 2013-2015.
- 2015-2018 – Nebraska - **6.67%** increase in violent crime per 100k compared to 2011-2014.
- 2015-2018 – Washington - **2.99%** increase in violent crime per 100k compared to 2011-2014.
- 2015-2018 - United States - **2.73%** increase in violent crime per 100k compared to 2011-2014.
- 2015-2018 - Lincoln had - **0.85%** increase in violent crime per 100k compared to 2011-2014.

The following data charts pertains to Violent Crime per 100K population for the three states that have legalized marijuana compared against the United States, Nebraska and Lincoln.