

From: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>
Sent: Apr 04, 2025 14:14:32.000000000 UTC
Subject: FW: Alcohol and marijuana sales - any data?
To: Hatchouel, Emily <ehatchouel@CityofMelrose.org>

Here is what was in my very vague memory...

From: Meredith Shaw <mshaw@tritowncouncil.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 2:49 PM
To: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>
Cc: Hilary Burke <hburke@tritowncouncil.org>; Nicole Gregoire-Allis <ngregoire-allis@tritowncouncil.org>; Ramos, Adolis <adramos@glfhc.org>
Subject: Re: Alcohol and marijuana sales - any data?

With prom/graduation season upon us, we do a prom, social host safety flyer that goes out to all families and via social media in March/April. We will do some social media posts and resource sharing via our e-news re: Alcohol Awareness month too. No community events here in the Tri-Town that we know of. Our Coalition has discussed advocated for alcohol free family oriented community events - beer trucks are everywhere now!

[PROM SAFETY FLYER](#)

[5 Good reasons](#)

[Social Host](#)

Thanks again for all your help!



Meredith Shaw
she, her, hers
Executive Director
(978) 887-6512 tritowncouncil.org



On Tue, Apr 1, 2025 at 2:36 PM Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org> wrote:

BTW, are you folks doing anything for Alcohol Awareness Month. Not my specific focus but always interested to hear what to the communities are doing.

Thanks!

MB

From: Meredith Shaw <mshaw@tritowncouncil.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 1:46 PM
To: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>; Hilary Burke <hburke@tritowncouncil.org>; Nicole Gregoire-Allis <ngregoire-allis@tritowncouncil.org>

Cc: Ramos, Adolis <adramos@glfhc.org>

Subject: Re: Alcohol and marijuana sales - any data?

Maureen -

Thanks so very much for your very helpful and thoughtful response! I will hold onto the info you shared about Brookline convenience stores - thank you!

Interesting what you've heard from liquor retailers - I know the "California sober" movement is getting stronger and the Surgeon General's public health advisory has possibly put health implications of alcohol higher up on folks' radar? We will keep you posted on our progress. The resources you shared have been so helpful!

With appreciation,
Meredith



Meredith Shaw

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Executive Director

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On Tue, Apr 1, 2025 at 1:18 PM Buzby, Maureen
<mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org> wrote:

Hi Meredith,

NFG was effective 1/1/2025 in the six municipalities in my region that have adopted this new policy. And in most of the other communities as well.

We haven't done any enforcement yet so no data on that.

Brookline is the only municipality that has had NFG/TFG long enough to have also been able to do enforcement.

And since it's so new it's very, very early to try to determine how and if it impacts sales and/or use of other products.

It will be a good topic for our state epidemiologists down the road but probably quite a bit down the road.

This policy affects such a small per cent of the population each year – just those who turn 21 in any given year and of those who turn 21 only those who would have become nicotine users. It will take a generation at least.

As with all brand new public health policies, we start out with no actual data and hope to be able to collect meaningful data over time.

For instance does permit cap really affect use rates? Cigar minimum price? And so on.

Hopefully someone will be able to design and conduct a study over time.

We do know that no Brookline convenience stores have closed since their TFG policy which was effective in 2020.

That said, on a related note, I have heard anecdotally that marijuana has affected liquor sales. Two liquor store managers in my region told me their sales are down and they blame it on the nearby cannabis shop. But we also hear that nationally people are becoming more health conscious about alcohol use – so is it that or is it the cannabis shop next door? Wish we knew.

I also which I could give you better answers to your very good questions. Sorry about that.

Please let us know if you would like to avail yourself of any of our SME's. Legal, health issues, etc. They would be happy to speak by phone, attend a meeting, whatever.

Let me know if there are other questions.

Thanks for all you are doing.

Maureen

P.S. We traditionally have a very hard time getting actual sales data from brick and mortar stores, Our epidemiologists usually rely on Neilson data.

From: Meredith Shaw <mshaw@tritowncouncil.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 12:02 PM

To: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>; Ramos, Adolis

<adramos@glfhc.org>

Subject: Alcohol and marijuana sales - any data?

Hi Maureen and Adolis -

Hope you both are well. I'm curious if you know, for the towns/cities who have passed NFG, is there any- data to show whether the ban has had an effect on alcohol & marijuana sales and use? Also, is there any economic data on how the bans have impacted small businesses who sell tobacco products? (These are questions that came up in our Coalition meeting.) Thank you, Meredith



Meredith Shaw

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