

Penal Law 222 Cannabis Convictions Data Source Notes

State law requires the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to publish information annually on infractions, violations and convictions for Penal Law (PL) 222 (Cannabis Offenses). The conviction data displayed in these tables are derived from the DCJS Computerized Criminal History (CCH) system. CCH contains arrests and dispositions for offenses where fingerprints are required to be taken (Criminal Procedure Law 160.10).

Arrest information is submitted by police agencies via a fingerprint transaction and disposition information is electronically transmitted to DCJS by the state Office of Court Administration.

Convictions shown involve individuals who were 18 or older when the crime was committed. Convictions represent the number of convictions, not unique individuals, and are categorized by the most serious charge at the time of conviction, otherwise referred to as the top charge.

The following data tables are included:

- **Convictions to Top Charge PL 222 (Cannabis) Offenses by Region and Charge:** This table details convictions to violations, misdemeanors and felonies. Only convictions that resulted from a felony or misdemeanor arrest charge requiring fingerprints are included.
- **Convictions to Top Charge PL 222 (Cannabis) Offenses by Region and Demographics:** This table shows the sex, race/ethnicity and age reported by police at the time of arrest. There are five categories for race/ethnicity: White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, and Other. Arrests involving individuals of Hispanic ethnicity regardless of race are included in the Hispanic category. The White, Black, Asian, and Other categories include only persons of non-Hispanic origin. Arrests by age categories are based on the age of the individual at the time the alleged crime was committed.
- **Convictions to Top Charge PL 222 (Cannabis) Offenses by Region and Sentence Type:** This table details the sentence type imposed for convictions: prison, jail, time served, jail and probation, probation, fine, conditional discharge, and other/unknown.