



Policy Direction

Commercial  
Cannabis  
Business Permits

March 20, 2023

## Retail Cannabis Business Permits

- Commercial Cannabis Business Permits are part of Zoning Ordinance
- Currently provides for Five retail permits
- Permit process for fifth permit started in January 2022
- Applications have been reviewed, ranked, and notice provided
- Currently there are two appeals – to be heard in April 2023
  
- Council expressed interest in potential modifications – proposed two-step process

# Step 1

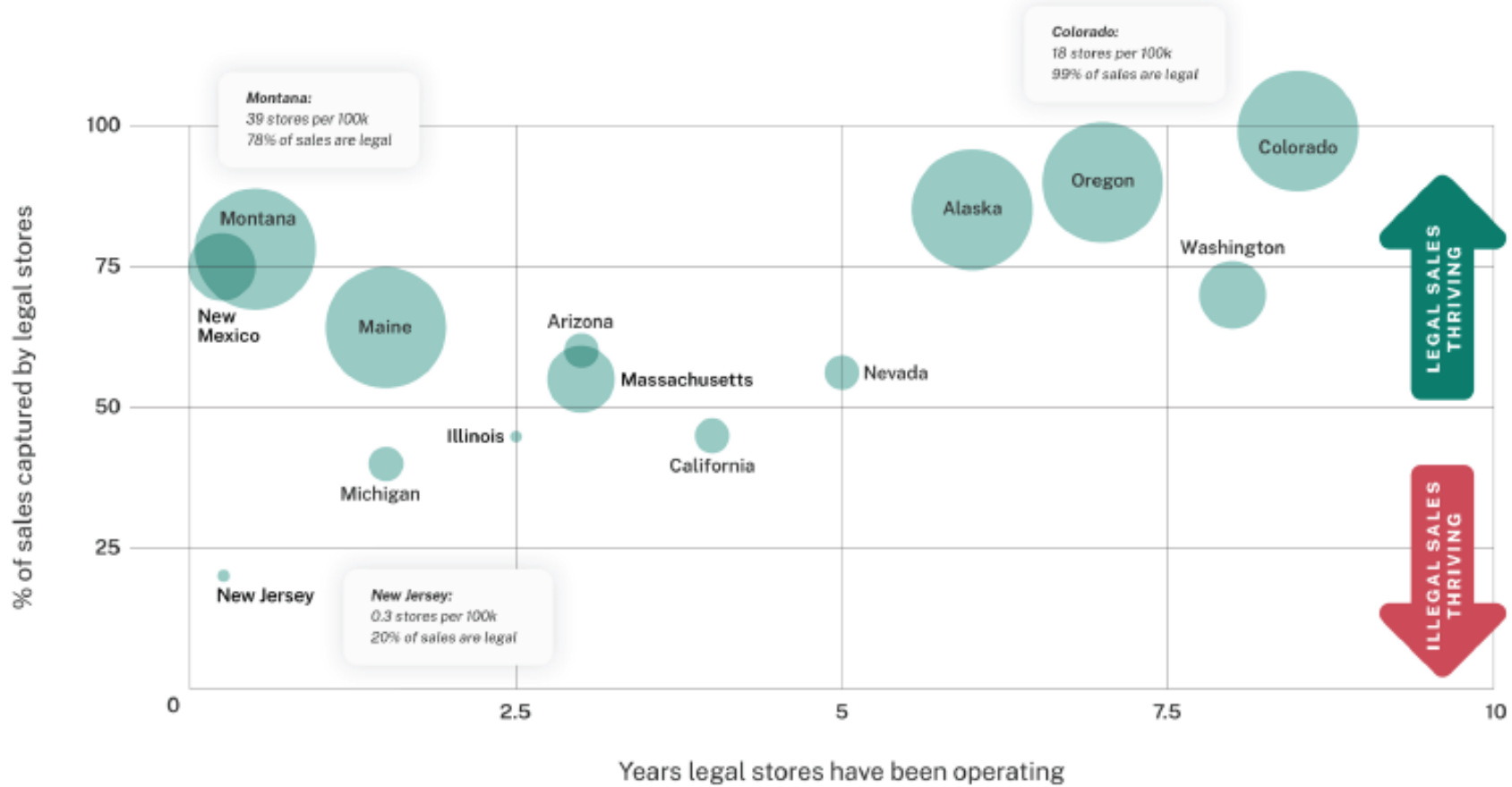
- Expand the current number of retail commercial cannabis permits – up to ten (10)
- Adding a new section allowing the Council to consider alternative sites for a retail cannabis business under appeal
- Cleanup from 2021 updates to permit modifications to ownership interest

## Step 2

- Align retail permits with non-retail permits
  - No cap on number permits and no merit based criteria
  - Rely on distances from sensitive uses and allowable zoning districts
- Modifications to local ownership and background to rely on State permitting process – no duplication or more stringent requirements
- Other possible changes
  - Expanding permitted zones
  - Allowing operations in “City Center”
  - Creating a more streamlined process for non-retail cannabis permits
  - Other updates based on community input and Council direction

# Legal regulated sales lead to fewer illegal street sales

Leafly  
2022  
Opt Out  
Report



## Council Direction

Step 1 – expansion of number of retail permits, alternative sites for appeals, ownership cleanup

Step 2 – modifications to retail permit process to align with non-retail permits, other modifications