

SOURCES: CHICAGO POLICE DEPT AND COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

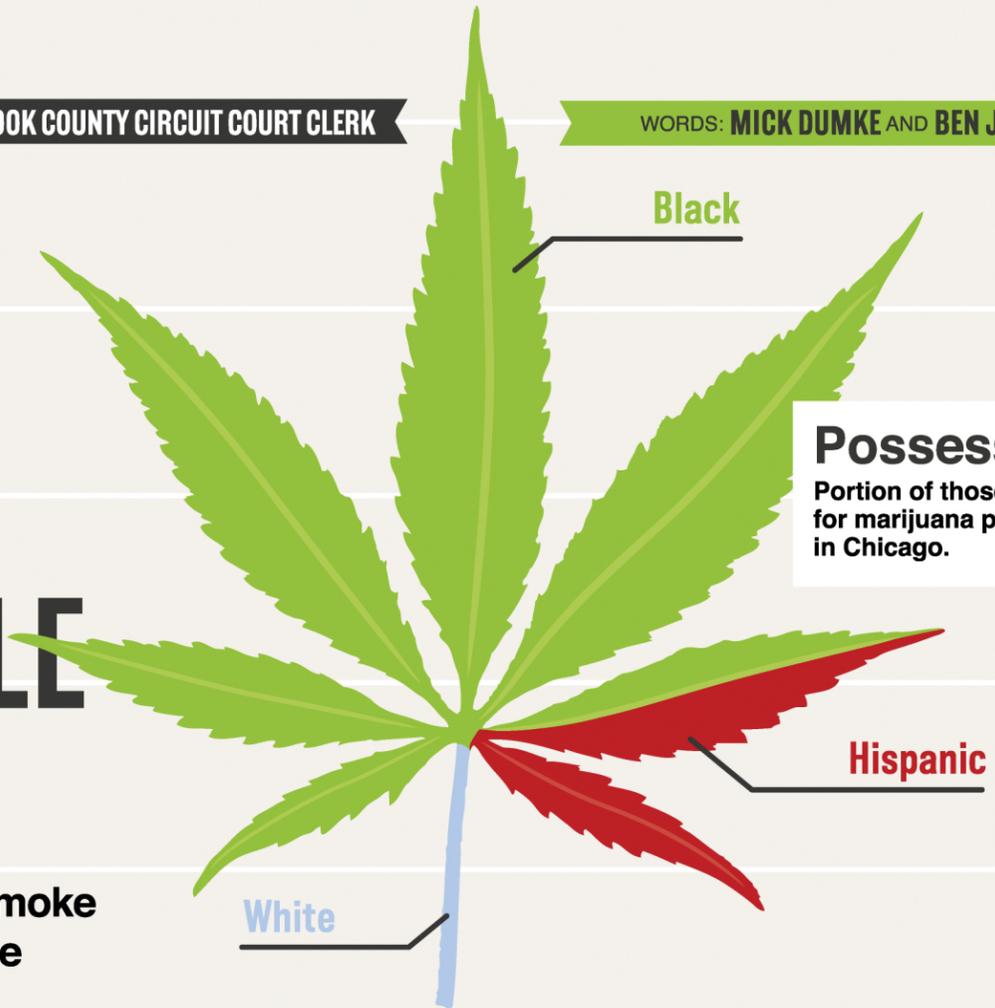
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POT CALLING THE KETTLE BLACK

People all over Chicago smoke pot — but almost everyone busted for it is **black**



Possession
Portion of those arrested for marijuana possession in Chicago.

86%

PORTION OF ALL THOSE CONVICTED OF MARIJUANA POSSESSION IN CHICAGO WHO ARE **BLACK** MEN.



We went through several steps to figure out who's getting busted for marijuana possession in Chicago. We analyzed data from the Chicago Police Department for the 47,400 arrests in 2009 and 2010 in which cannabis possession was the most serious charge. We also analyzed records from the office of the Cook County Circuit Court clerk for the 6,303 convictions and guilty pleas for misdemeanor marijuana possession in those years, 4,255 of which stemmed from arrests in Chicago. In addition, we reviewed the arrest reports for a sample — three dozen — of the cases that ended in convictions and guilty pleas.

