



Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

Cannabis Social Equity Program

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Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

Cannabis Social Equity Program Highlights

- State law authorizes the LCB to re-issue retail licenses to social equity applicants that have been forfeited, revoked, cancelled or not previously issued. Currently, there are 40 licenses available.
- The LCB does not have the authority to increase the number of retail licenses for the Social Equity Program, this must be done by the legislature.
- The Social Equity Task Force was created to provide the LCB with recommendations on how to implement the program. The recommendations were submitted to the LCB on January 6, 2022.
- The agency has begun drafting rules necessary to implement the Social Equity Program in alignment with the Task Force recommendations.



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Criminal History Rule Changes – Effective October 2, 2021

The LCB adopted rule changes regarding criminal history qualifications to reduce any unintentional barriers to entry into the legal cannabis market.

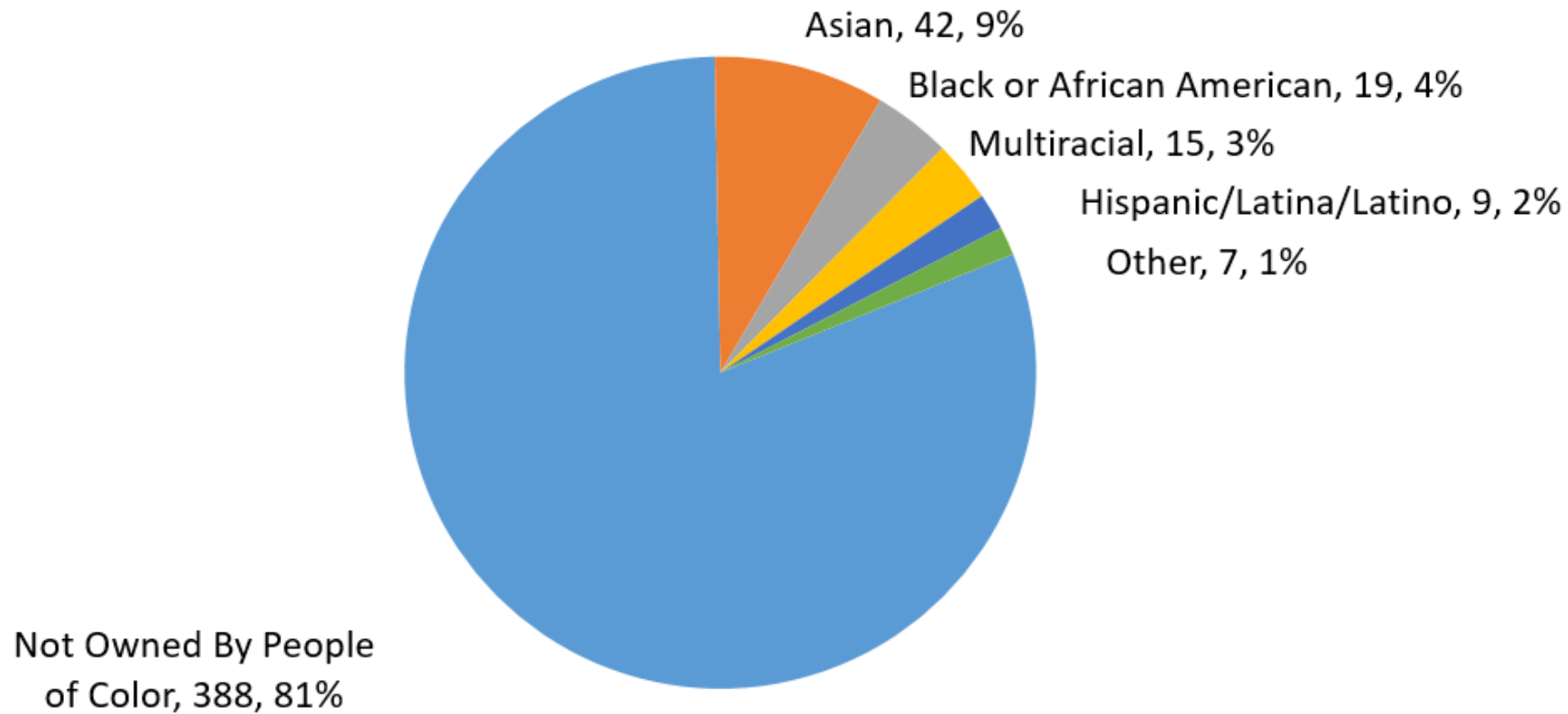
Revisions included:

- Easing conviction allowances and time considered;
- Removing the point system and penalties for non-disclosure; and
- Including our internal review process and considerations so an applicant is not discouraged from applying.



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Cannabis Retailers - Owned by People of Color

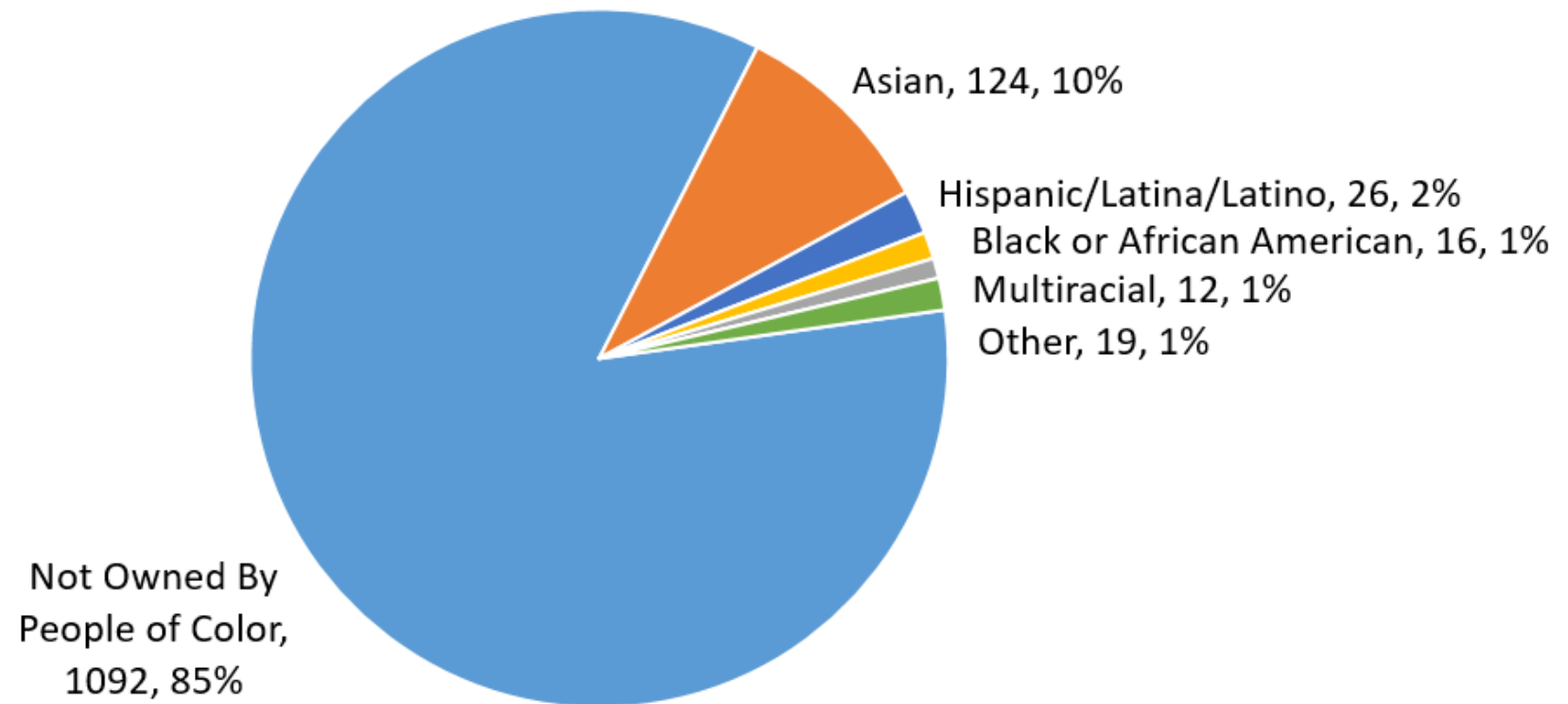


Data represents self-identified race of majority or equal interest owners who disclosed their race on August 2021.



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Producer and Processor Licenses – Owned by People of Color



Data represents the self-identified race of majority or equal interest owners of the producer and processor licenses on June 2021.



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LCB Cannabis Social Equity Webpage

- Social Equity Program Overview
- Licensing Resources
 - Business Structures, Local Requirements, Location Restrictions, Real Property, Security and Floor Plan Examples, etc.
- Community Engagement
 - Online Submission Forum
- Resources
 - Agency partners, laws/rules, business start-up

Cannabis Social Equity



Governor Inslee signed E2SHB 2870 into law opening a new chapter for Washington's cannabis industry. Social equity in cannabis legislation, introduced by Rep. Eric Pettigrew at the request of the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) took effect June 12, 2020.

LCB has a fact sheet about the new law, which can be found [here](#).

Future updates on the progress of social equity in cannabis will be added here.

Submit Your Questions

The LCB is dedicated to providing resources and useful information for social equity applicants. Please send your questions or suggestions for information you would like to see on our site. We will respond directly to your inquiry and include questions and responses in the FAQ section.

After clicking on preview, you will have the option to send your question(s).

Name (optional)

Phone (optional)