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Drug-Impaired Driving in Ontario – CARSP 2022

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CAA Club Group


CAA...Yesterday & Today



- CAA formed in 1903 as an advocacy membership organization
- Over 2 million Members in Ontario and over 6 million in Canada

Advocacy - Government & Community Relations:

- Road Safety
- CAA School Safety Patrol® Program
- Transportation & Mobility
- Infrastructure
- Consumer Protection

- 
- Education/Awareness
 - Thought Leadership
 - Public Policy
 - Strategic Partnerships

Impaired Driving Efforts

2018

- Launched our #DontDriveHigh campaign.

2019

- Partnered with O.P.P. on a series to address the myths and misconceptions on impaired driving.

2020

- CAA National's #DoAnythingButDrive campaign launches to target Gen-Z and edibles.

2021

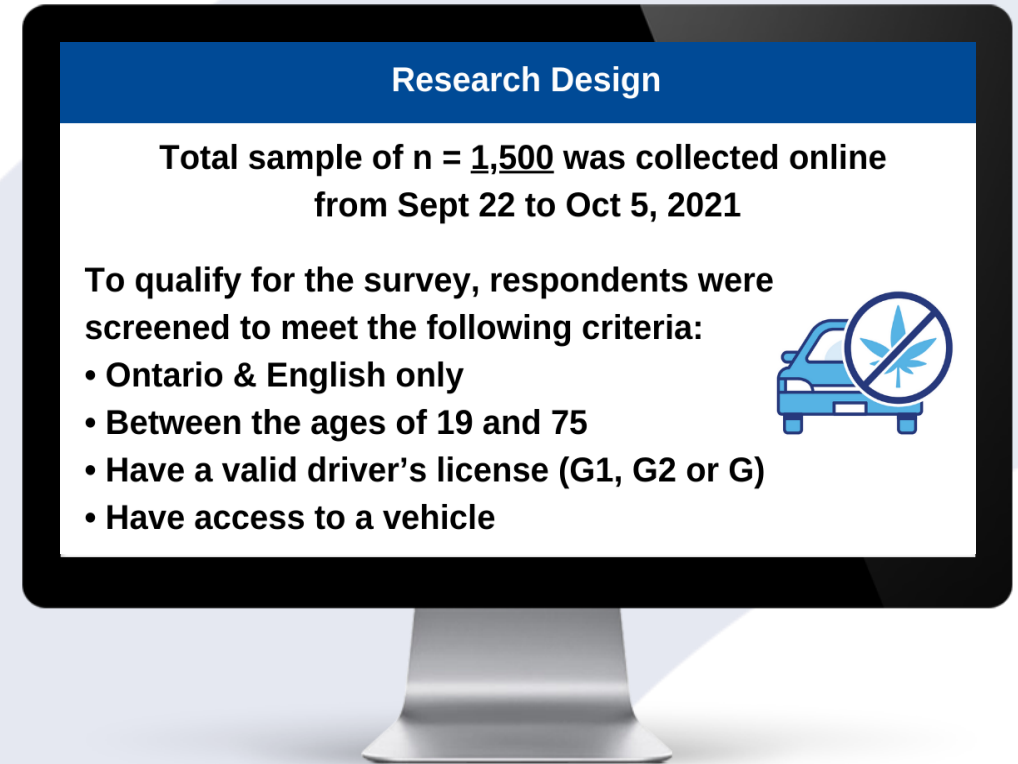
- Partnered with police to share information on sober driving over the holiday season.



Drug-Impaired Driving Survey

Objectives:

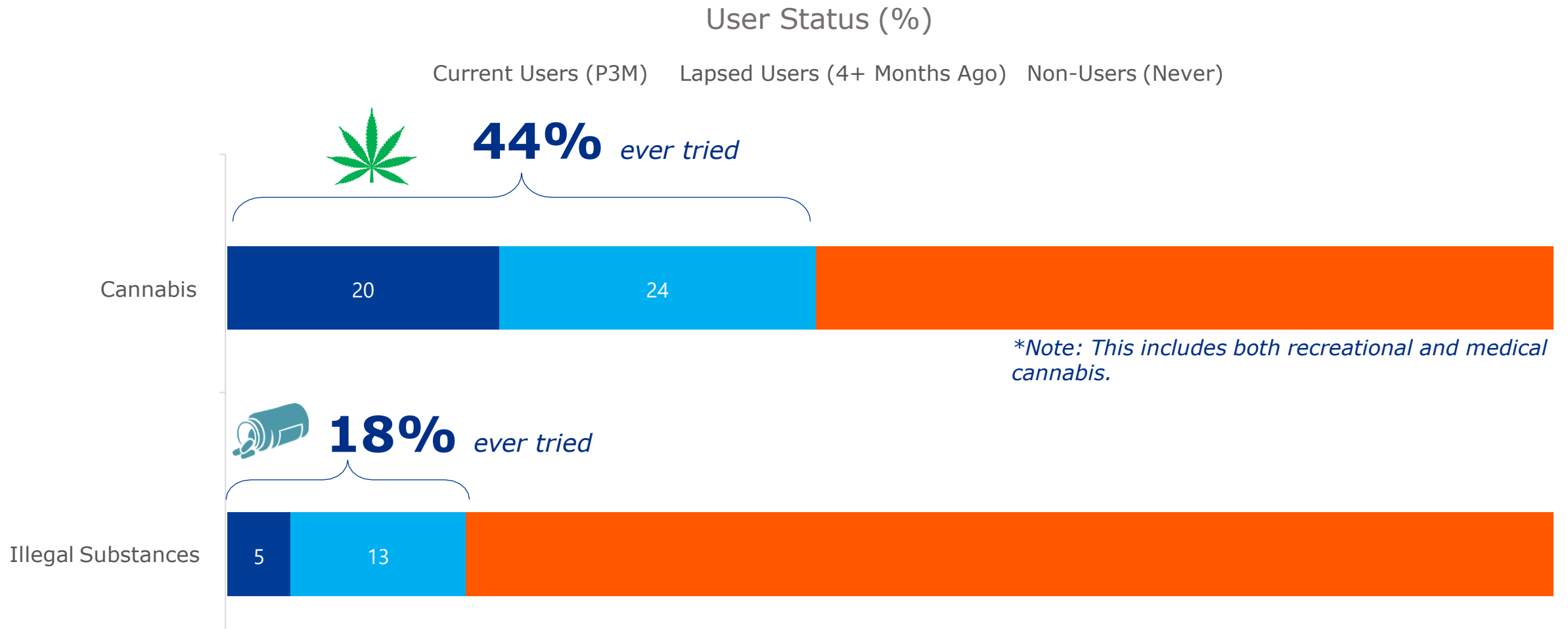
- Measure perceptions of the dangers and frequency of impaired driving (by alcohol/cannabis)
- Gauge awareness about different types of cannabis use on one's ability to drive
- Evaluate the public level of comfort with cannabis, prescription drugs, illegal drugs (cocaine, meth, etc.) and/or alcohol consumption while operating a motor vehicle (smoking and edibles).





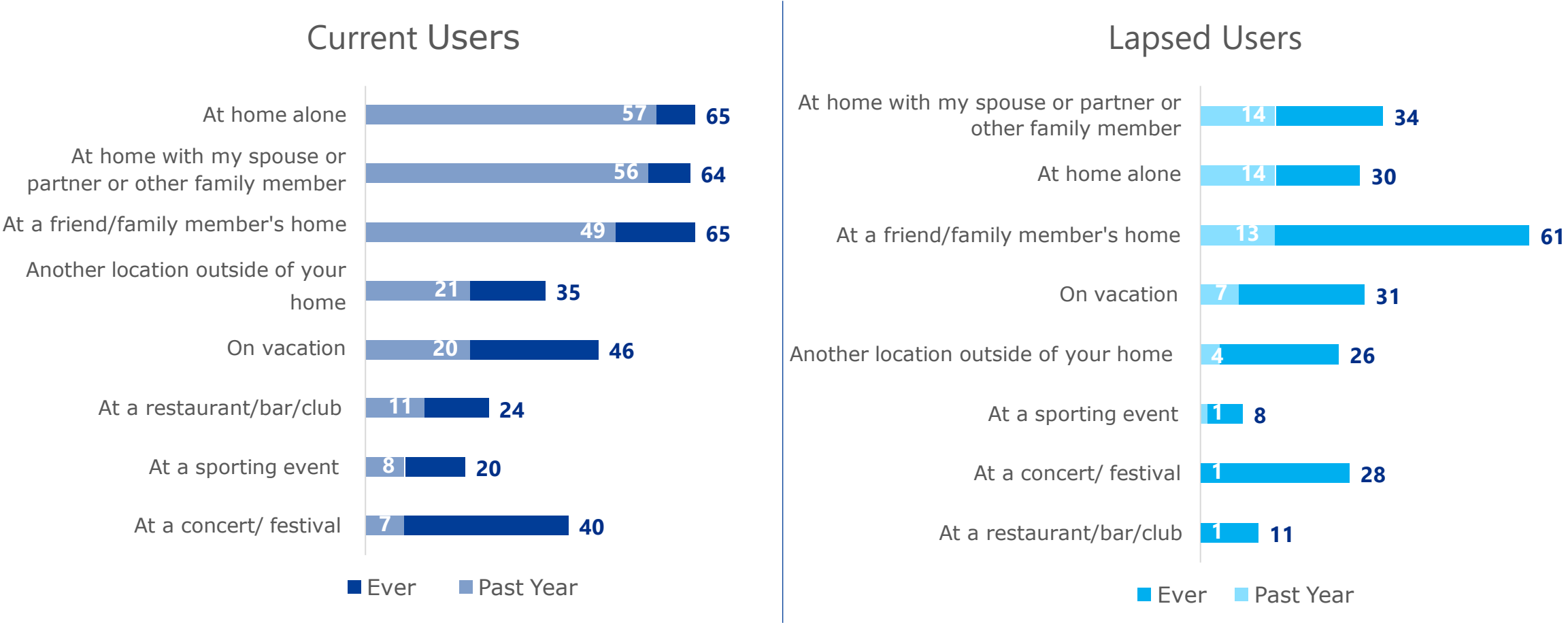
Behaviours & Consumption

1/5 Ontario drivers have consumed cannabis in the past 3 months. A smaller proportion (5%) of drivers have used illegal drugs.



Consuming at home or at a friend/family member’s house are the top usage occasions in the past year among current users. Consuming at someone else’s house could potentially lead to cannabis-impaired driving.

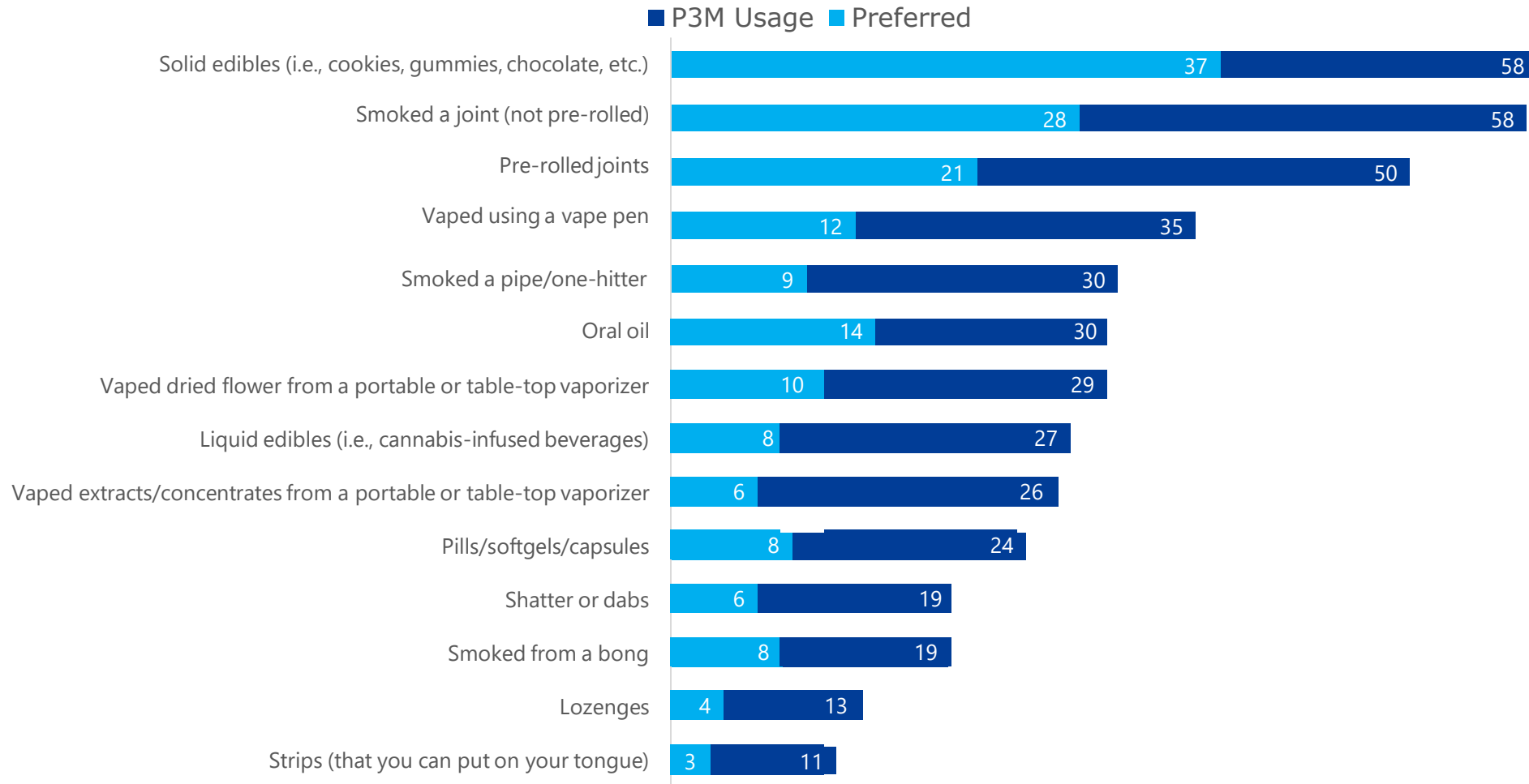
Cannabis Usage Occasions (%)



Q23. For which of the following occasions have you ever consumed cannabis? / Q23a. And for which of the following occasions have you consumed cannabis in the past year? Base: Current Cannabis Users (n=305); Lapsed Cannabis Users (n=354)

Solid edibles are rising in popularity post-legalization; they are the most preferred and common cannabis format

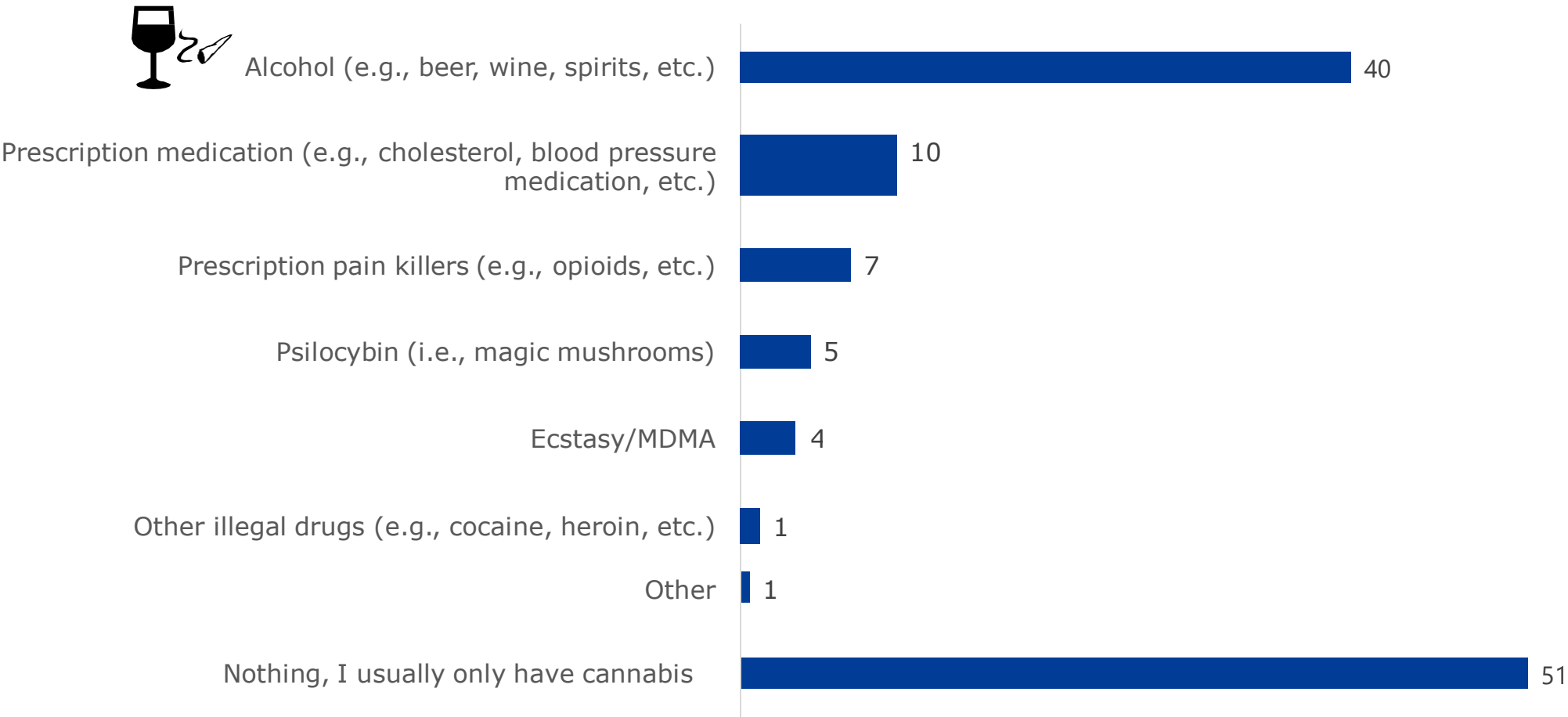
P3M Cannabis Usage And Preferred Format (%)



In 2019, joints (not pre-rolled) were by far the most preferred and common format

2-in-5 current cannabis users are “poly-users”, combining alcohol with cannabis.

Substances Usually Paired With Cannabis Among Current Users (%)

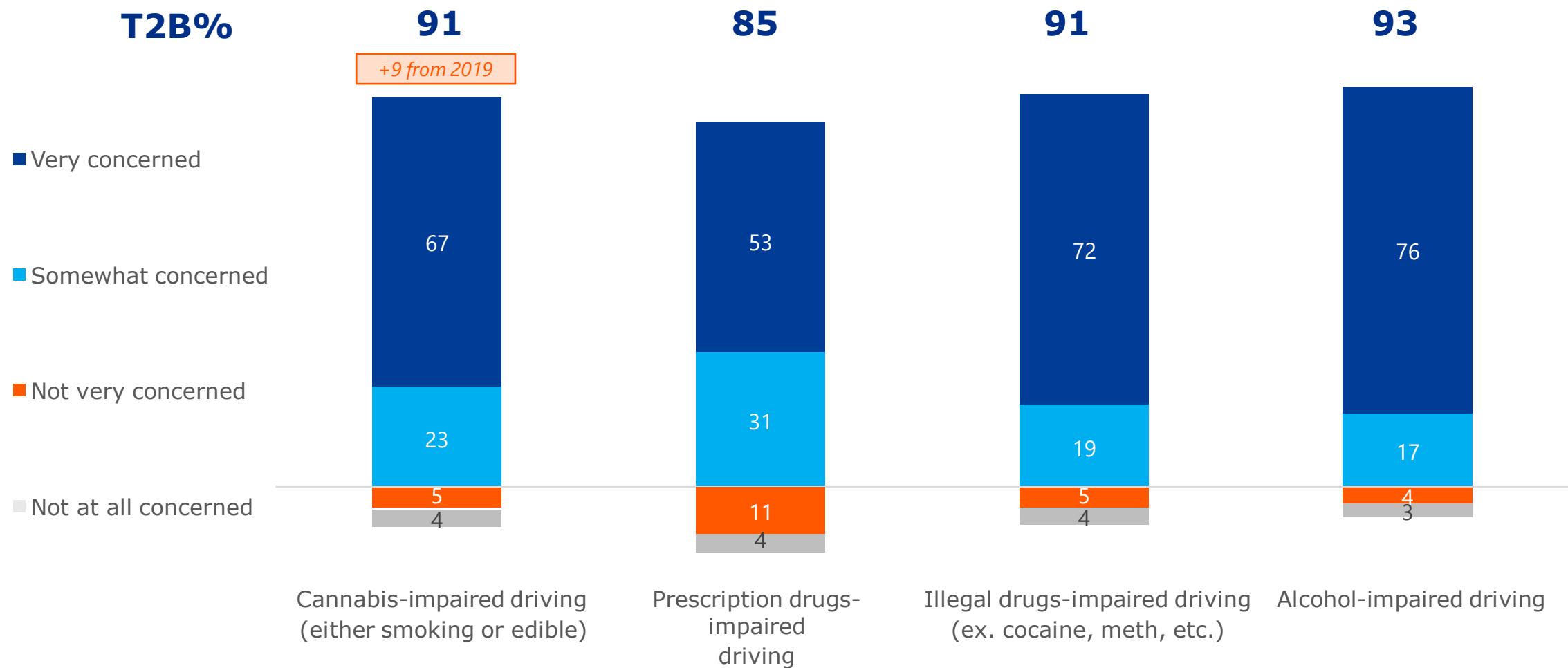




Perceptions of Impaired Driving

Concerns about cannabis-impaired driving have increased since 2019. Cannabis-impaired driving is now viewed as being just as concerning as driving under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol.

Level Of Concern About Personal Safety – Impaired Driving (%)

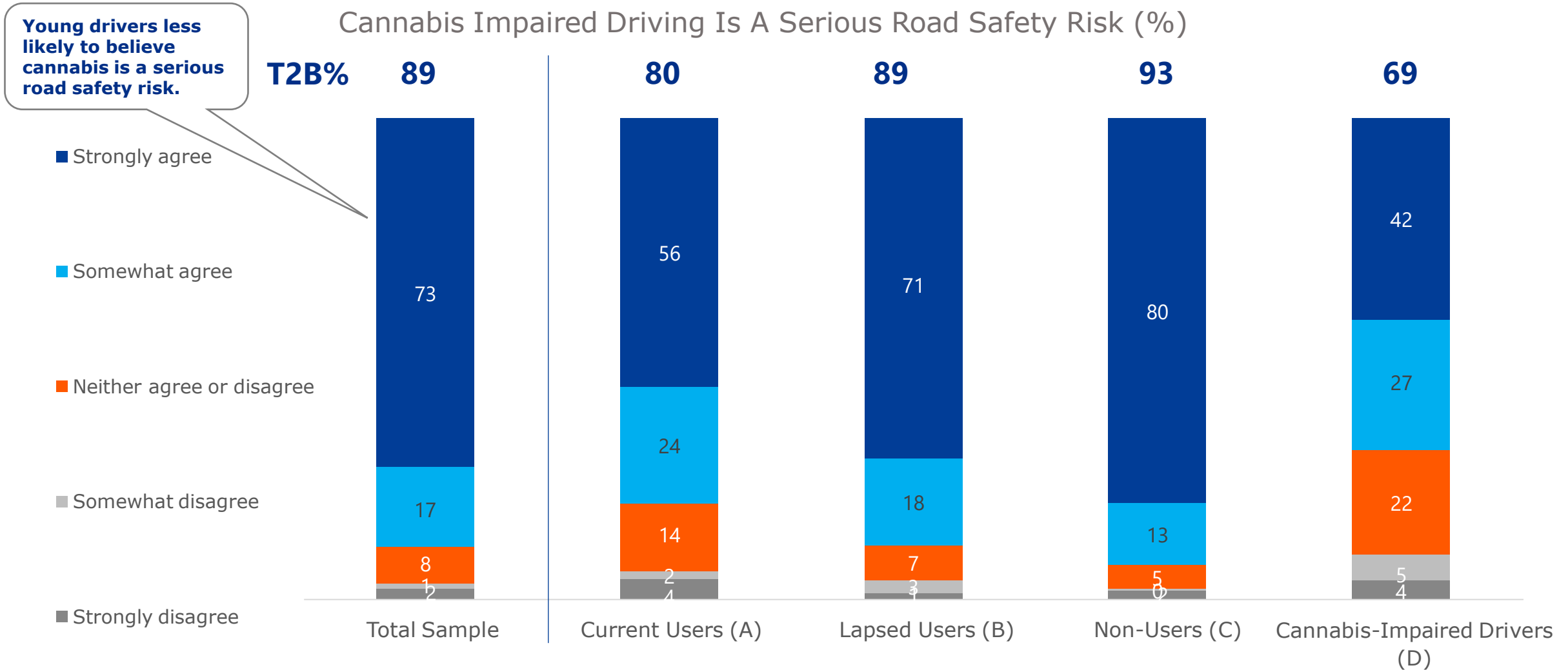


11 Drug-Impaired Driving - CARSP

Q33a. How concerned are you about your personal safety or the safety of loved ones on the road when considering the following forms of impaired driving?
Base: Total Sample (n=1,500)

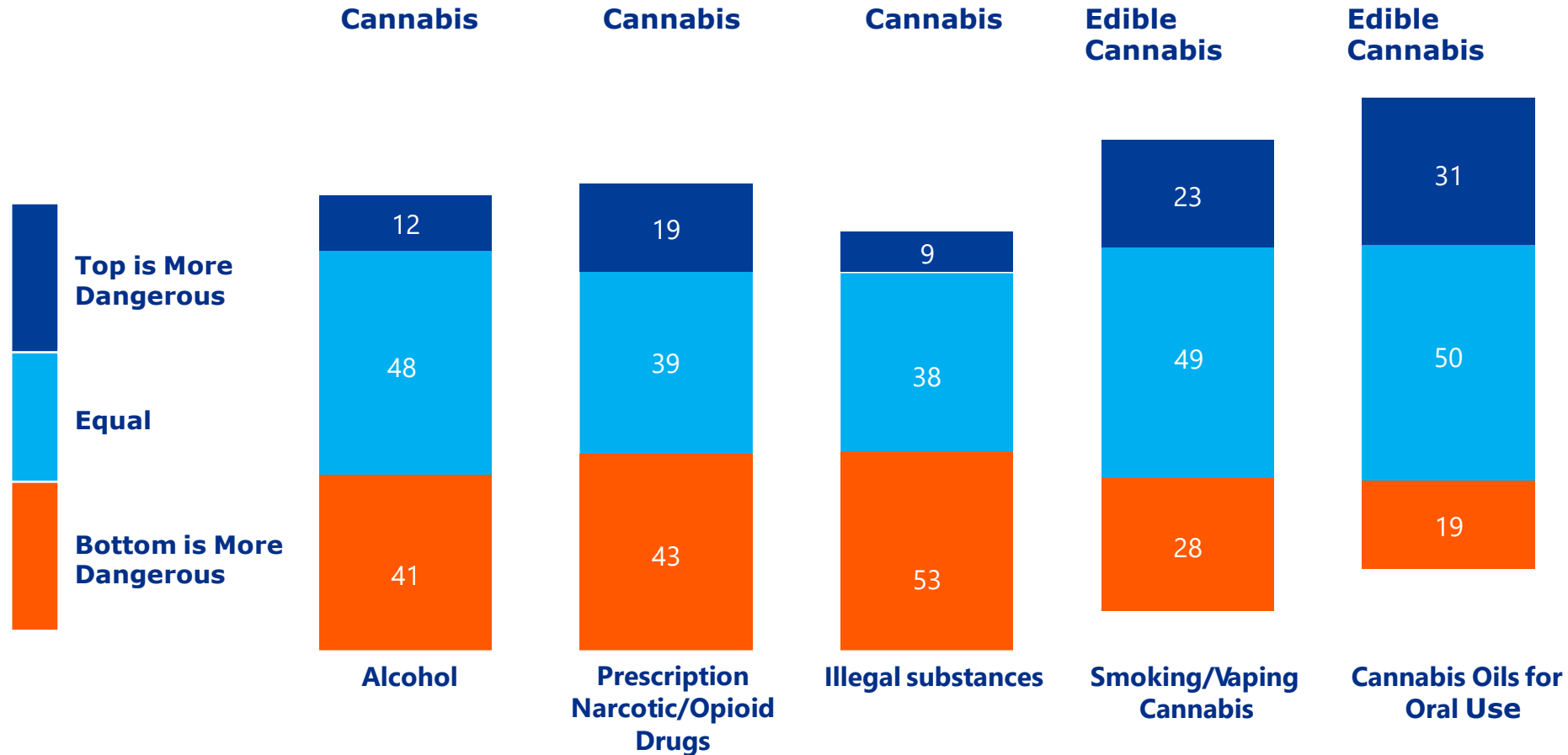


The majority of Ontario drivers agree that driving under the influence of cannabis is a serious road safety risk, but this proportion is much lower among cannabis impaired drivers.



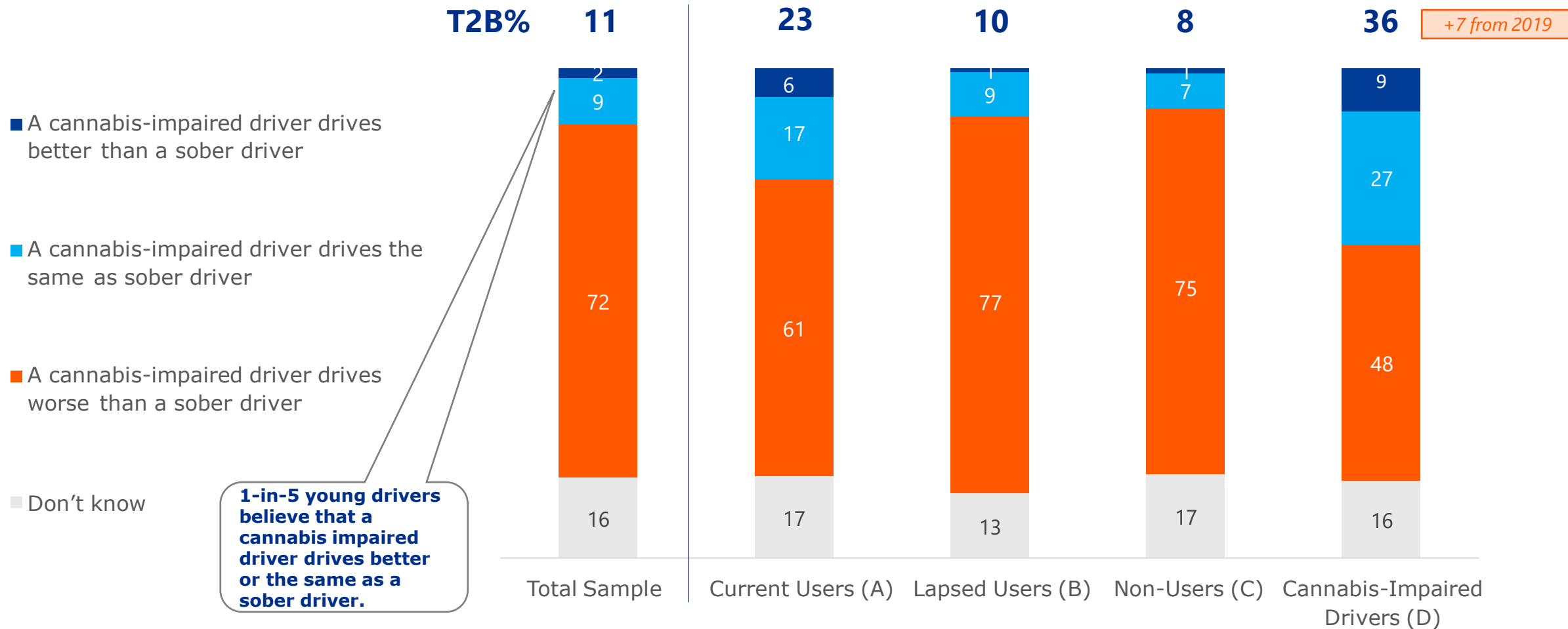
Most Ontario drivers perceive cannabis as either equally or less dangerous than alcohol or prescription narcotics/opioids when it comes to impaired driving.

Perceived Danger Of Drug Formats – Impaired Driving (%)



Compared to 2019, a higher proportion of those who have previously driven under the influence of cannabis believe that cannabis has either no negative impact or improves their driving abilities.

Cannabis-Impaired Driving Abilities (%)



14 Drug-Impaired Driving - CARSP

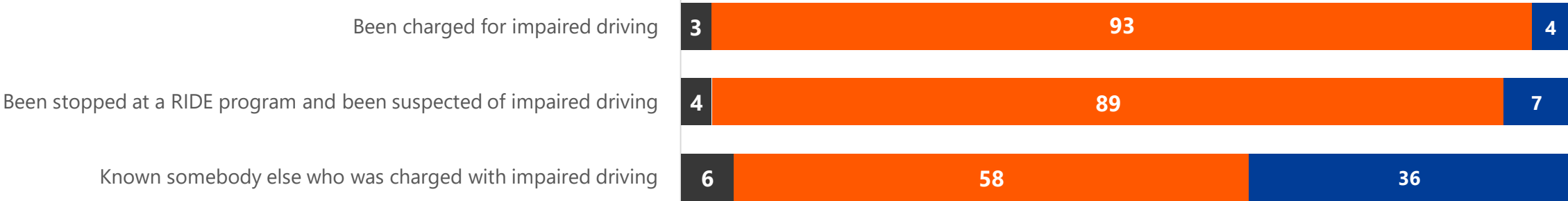
Q34. Thinking about a driver who is under the influence of cannabis, which of the following statements do you agree with?

Base: Total Sample (n=1,500); Current Users (n=305); Lapsed Users (n=354); Non-Users (n=826), Cannabis-Impaired Drivers (n=203)

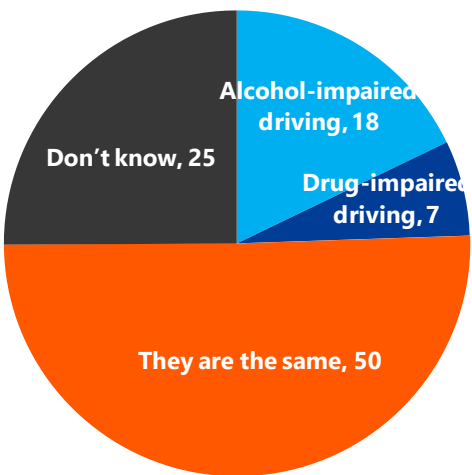
Only half of Ontarians are aware that the penalties for drug-impaired driving are the same as alcohol-impaired driving

Have You Ever ... (%)

■ Not sure/Prefer not to answer ■ No ■ Yes

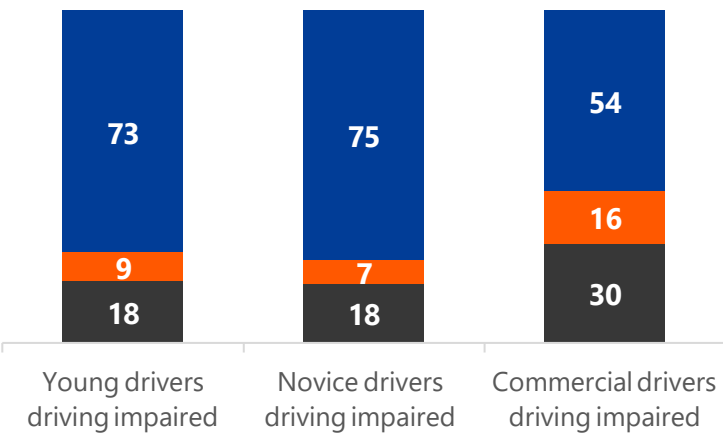


What Penalties do You Think are More Severe? (%)

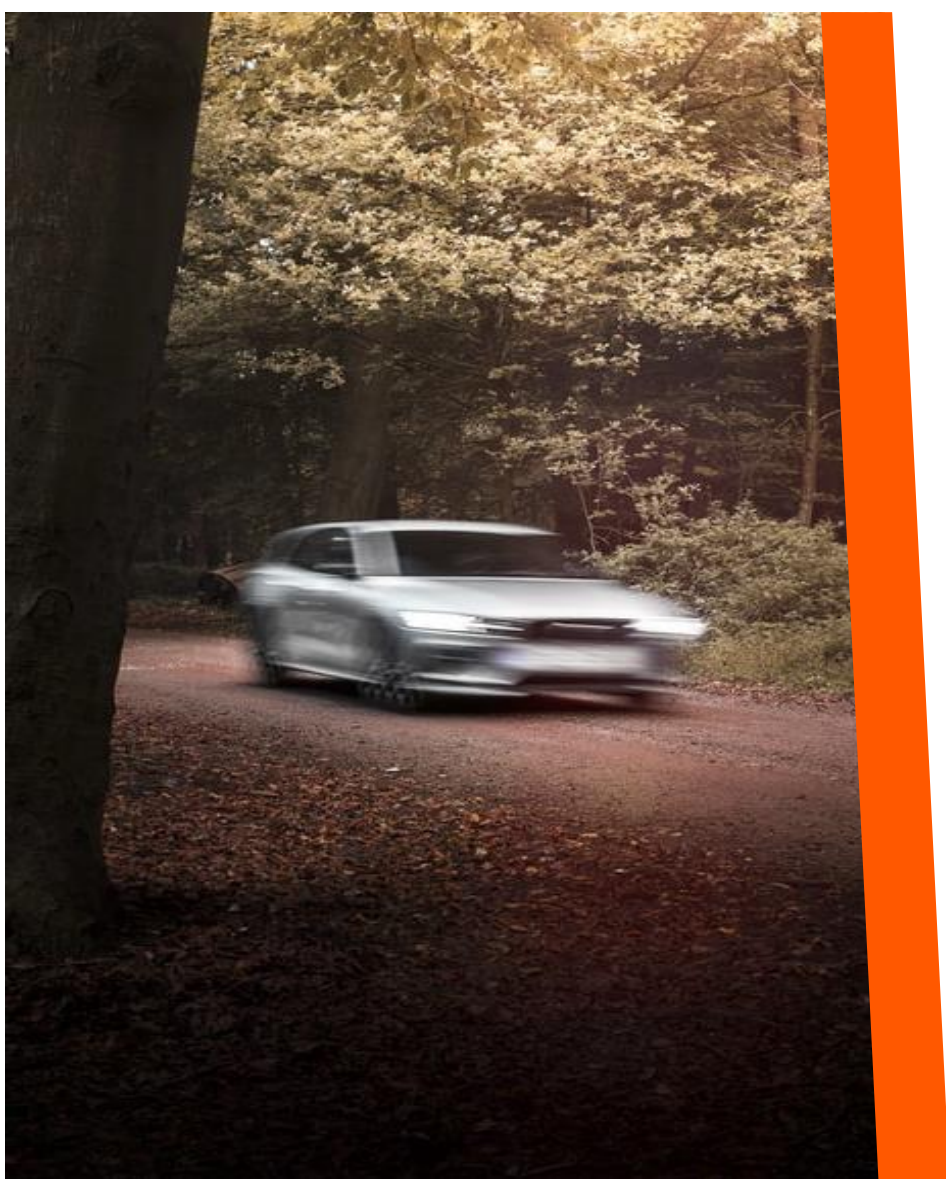


Aware of Zero Tolerance for ... (%)

■ Yes
■ No
■ Not sure

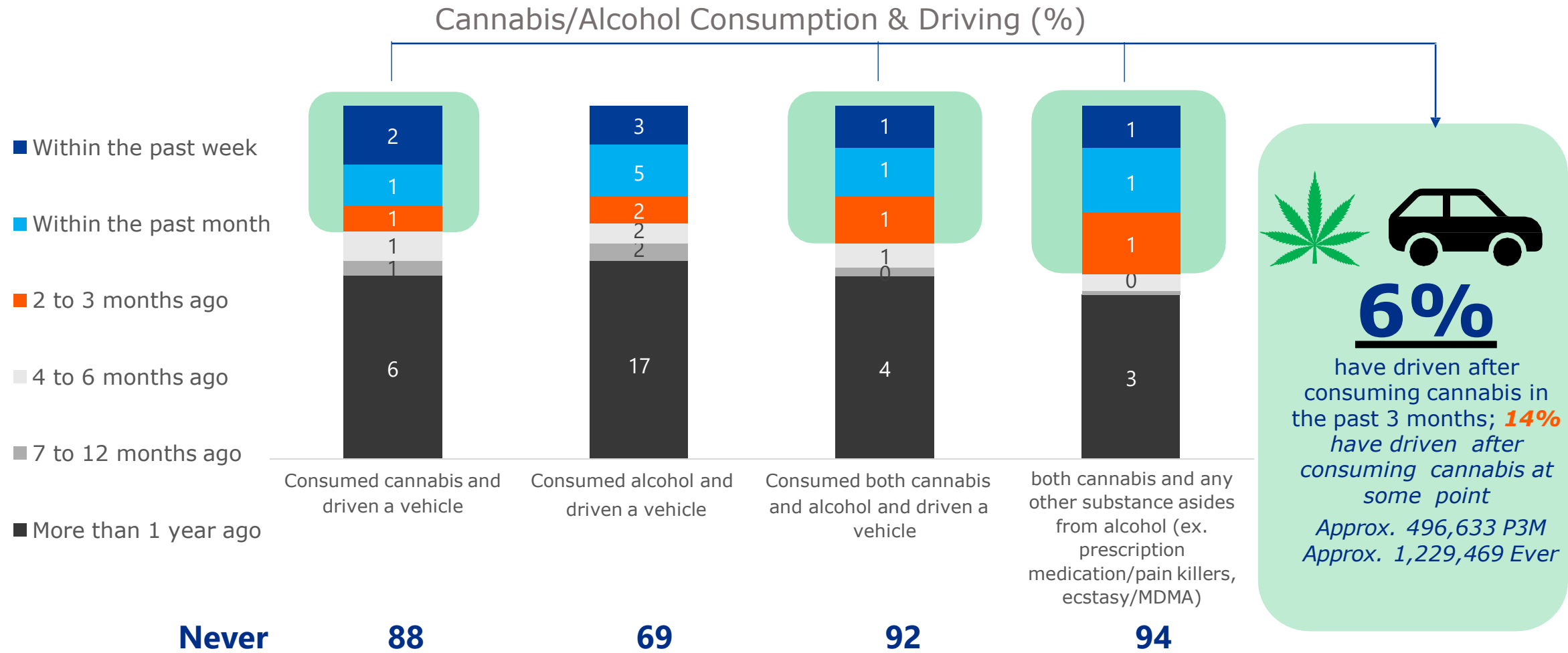


Q39b. Based on what you know today, when it comes to penalties for impaired driving, do you think that... / Q39c. Before today, were you aware that when it comes to penalties for impaired driving, there is zero tolerance for ... / Q39e. Have you ever...
Base: Total sample (n=1,500)



Impaired Driving Behaviours

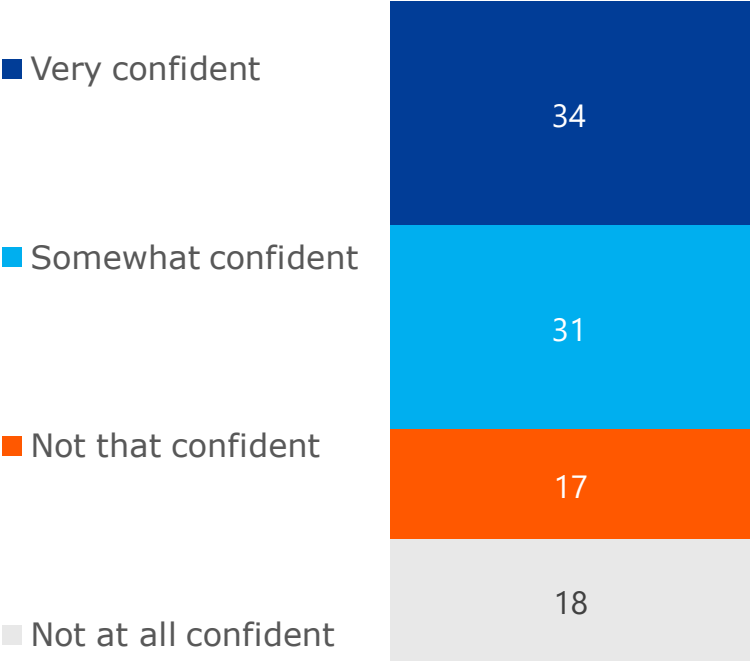
While most drivers have not driven under the influence, in the past 3 months, approximately 497,000 Ontario drivers *have* driven after consuming cannabis. This proportion is similar to 2019.



Q26. How long ago have you done any of the following? Again, please be assured that your answers will be kept confidential and anonymous.
Base: Total Sample (n=1,500)

Among those who have driven high, almost 2/3 are confident in their ability to do so...

Cannabis-impaired Driving – Confidence (%)

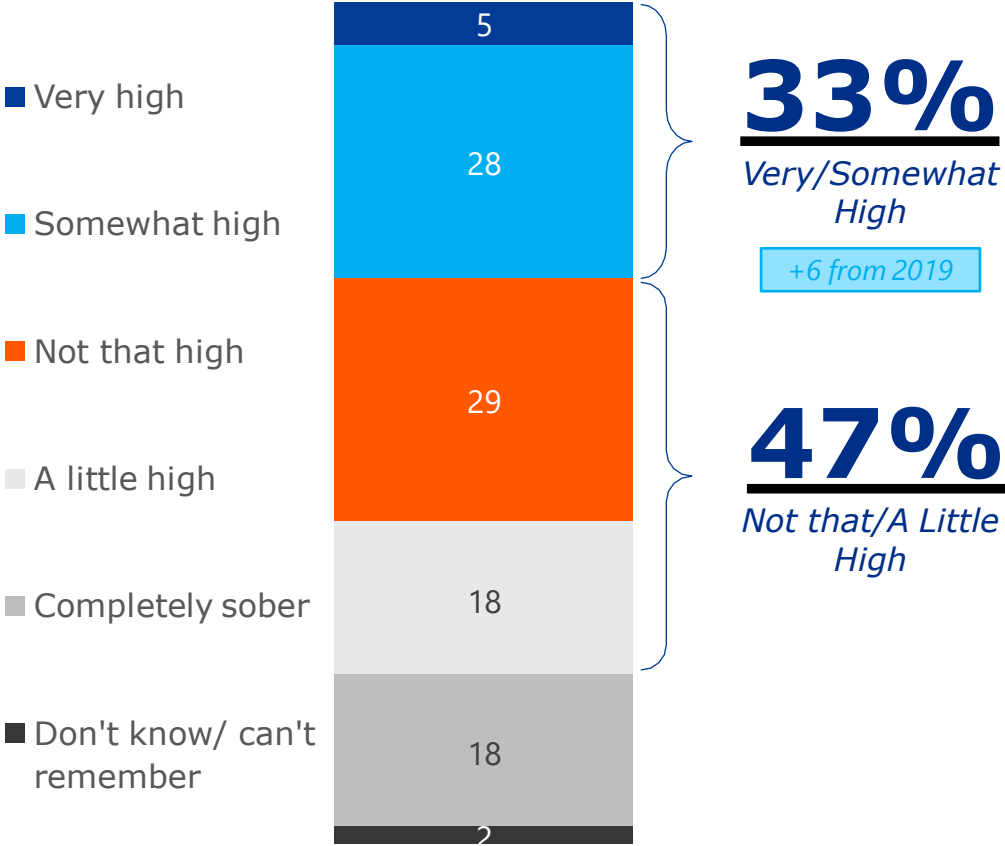


All Cannabis-Impaired Drivers

65%
Very/Somewhat Confident
-6 from 2019



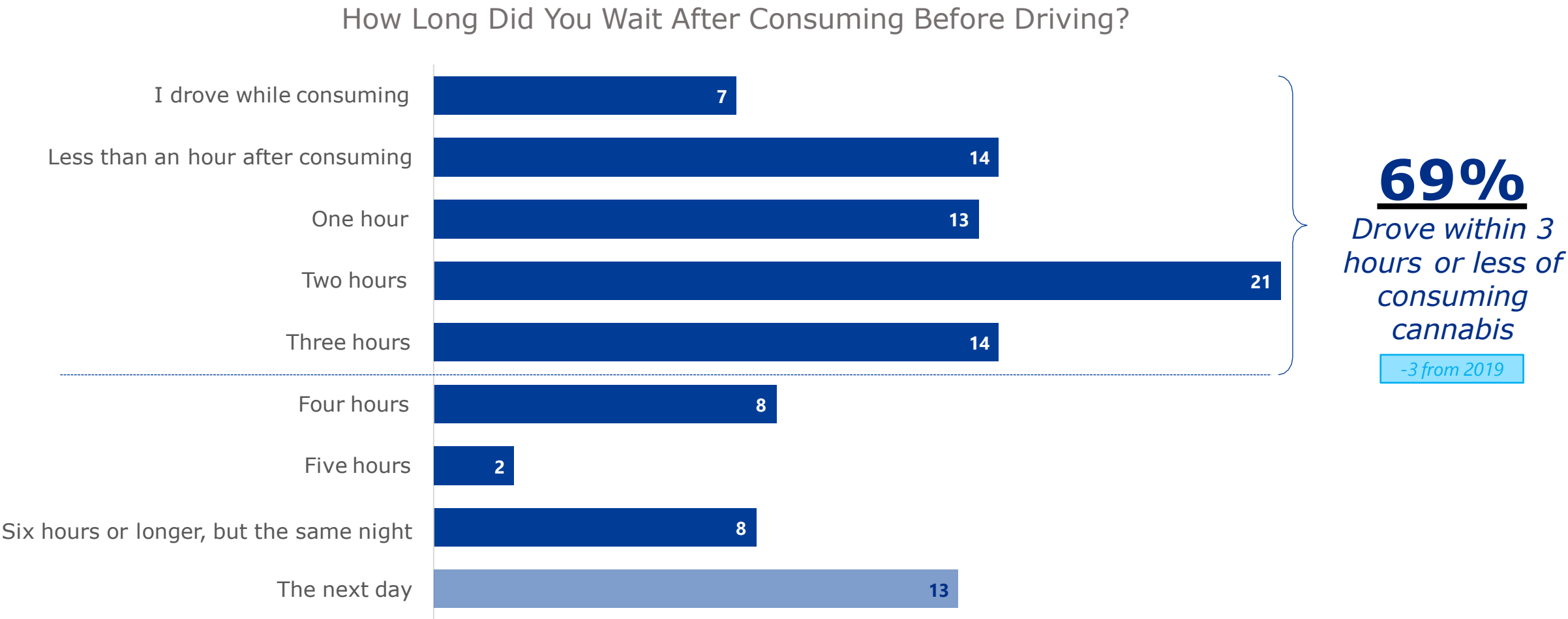
How High Did You Feel Driving? (%)



Q28. You mentioned that you have driven after consuming cannabis. How confident are you in your abilities to drive safely after having cannabis?
Base: Respondents who have ever driven after consuming cannabis (n=203)

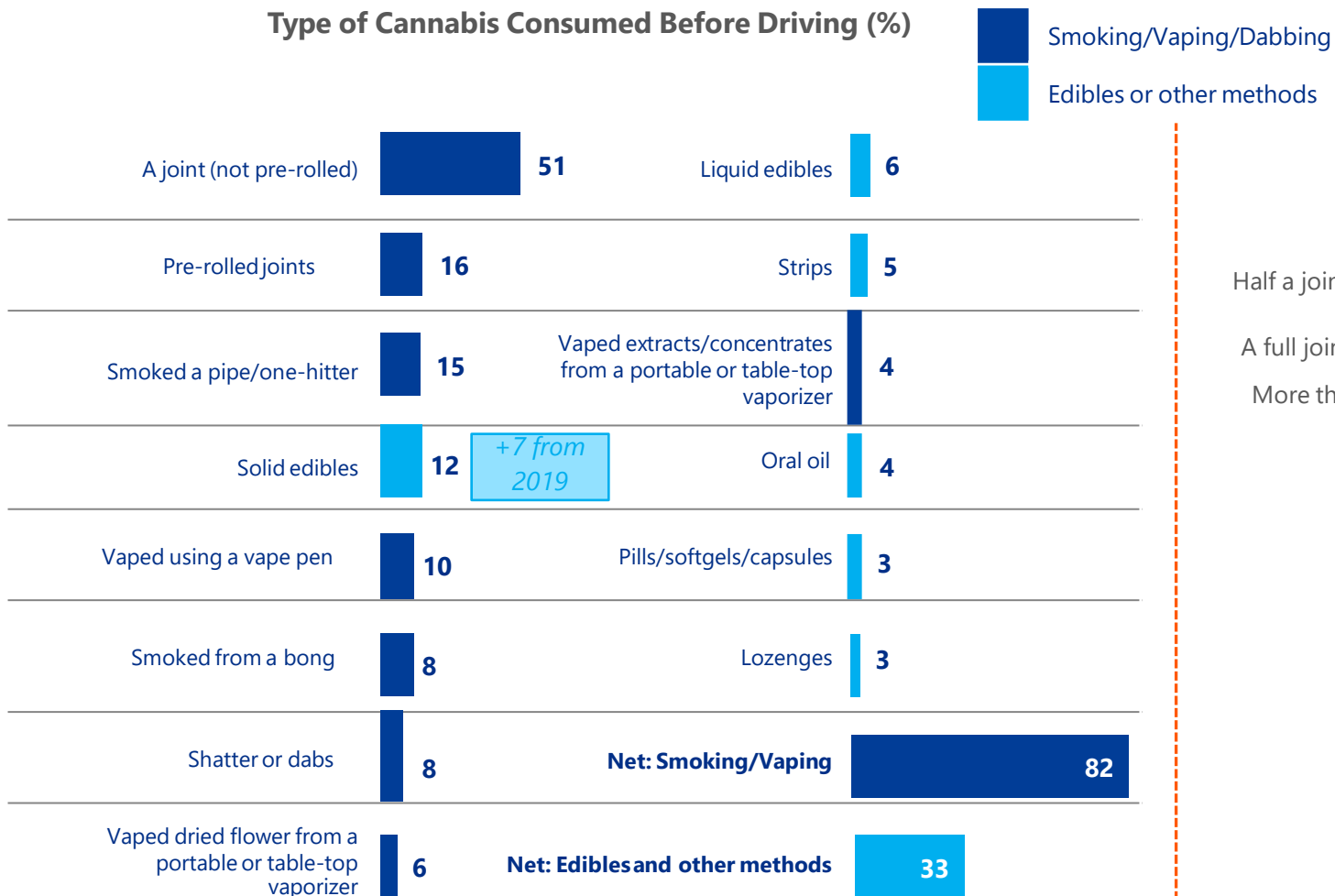
Q32. How did you feel driving after consuming cannabis?
Base: Current & Lapsed Cannabis users who have ever consumed cannabis and driven a vehicle on the same day (n=177)

7-in-10 of those who have driven after consuming cannabis have done so within 3 hours or less, which could be why many are feeling very or somewhat high while driving the vehicle.

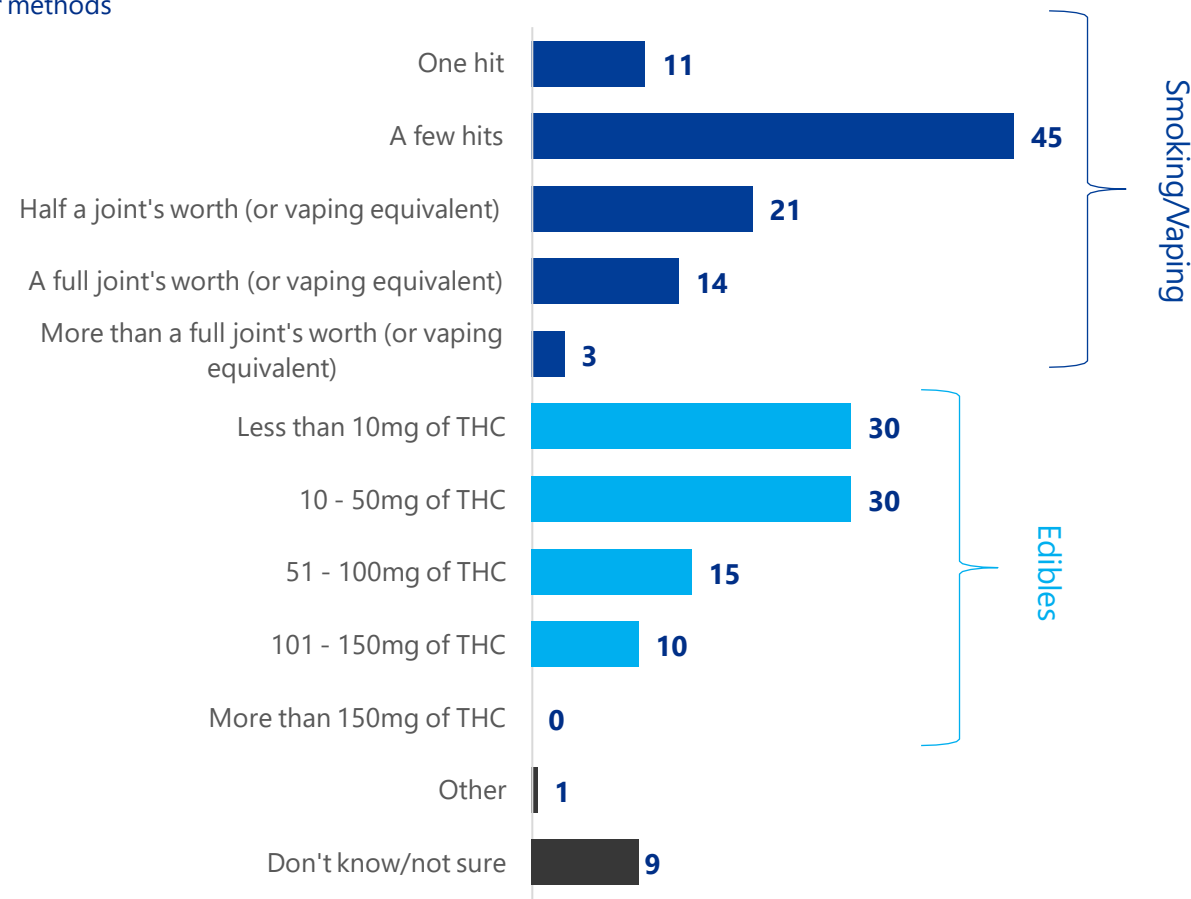


Smoking is by far the most common cannabis format used before driving; as suspected, driving after consuming edibles has increased since legalization.

Type of Cannabis Consumed Before Driving (%)



How Much Consumed Before Driving? (%)



20 Drug-Impaired Driving - CARSP

Q30. And what type of cannabis did you consume before driving? / Q31. Still thinking about the last time you consumed cannabis and drove a vehicle, how much did you have? Base: Current & Lapsed Cannabis users who have ever consumed cannabis and driven a vehicle on the same day (n=177)
 Current & Lapsed Cannabis users who have ever **SMOKED/VAPED/DABBED** cannabis and driven a vehicle on the same day (n=159) Current & Lapsed Cannabis users who have ever consumed cannabis **EDIBLES** and driven a vehicle on the same day (n=40)



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Thank you.

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For more information:

- caasco.com/cannabis

