

Marijuana Use Trends & THC Concentration in Colorado

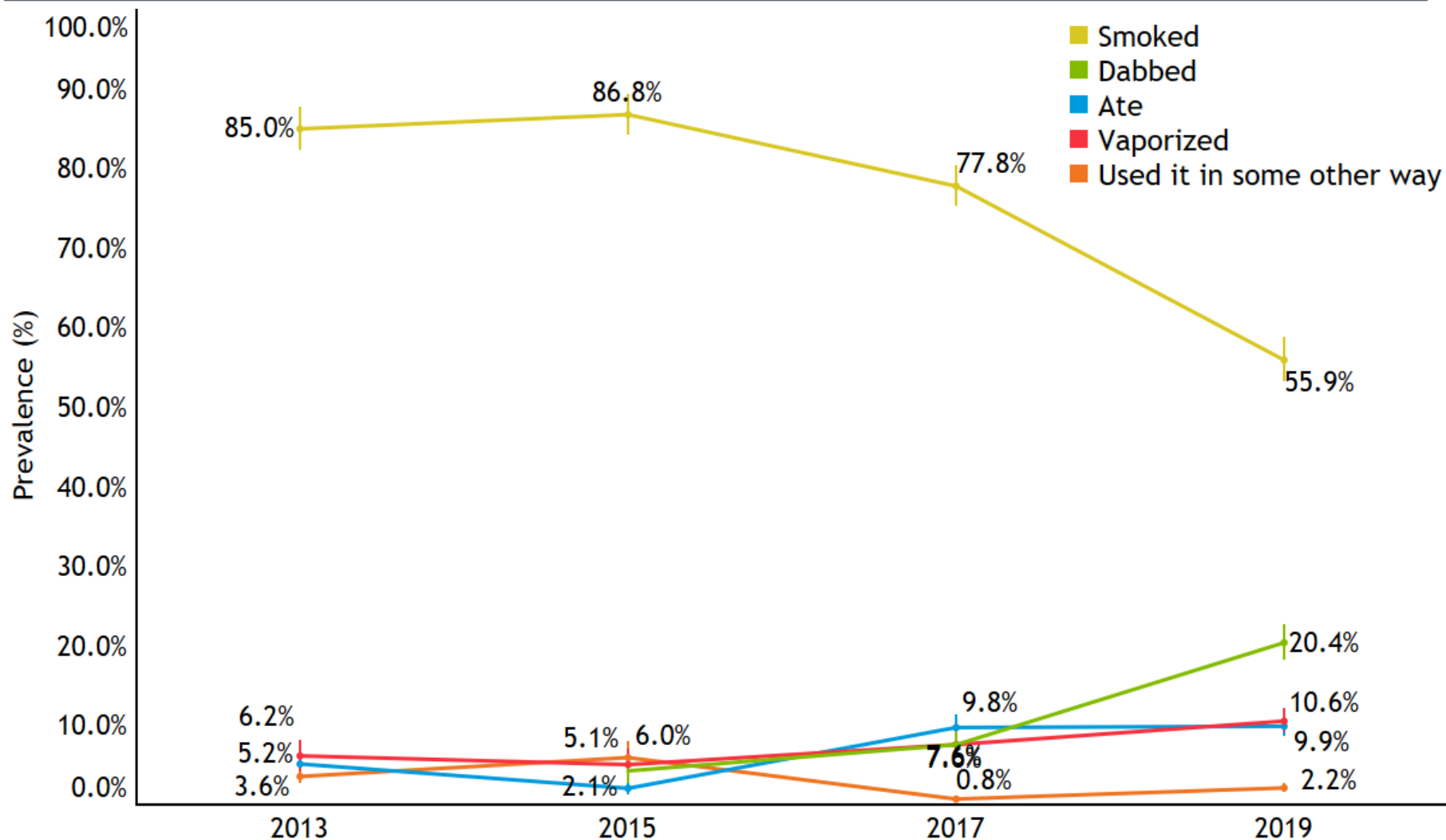
Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
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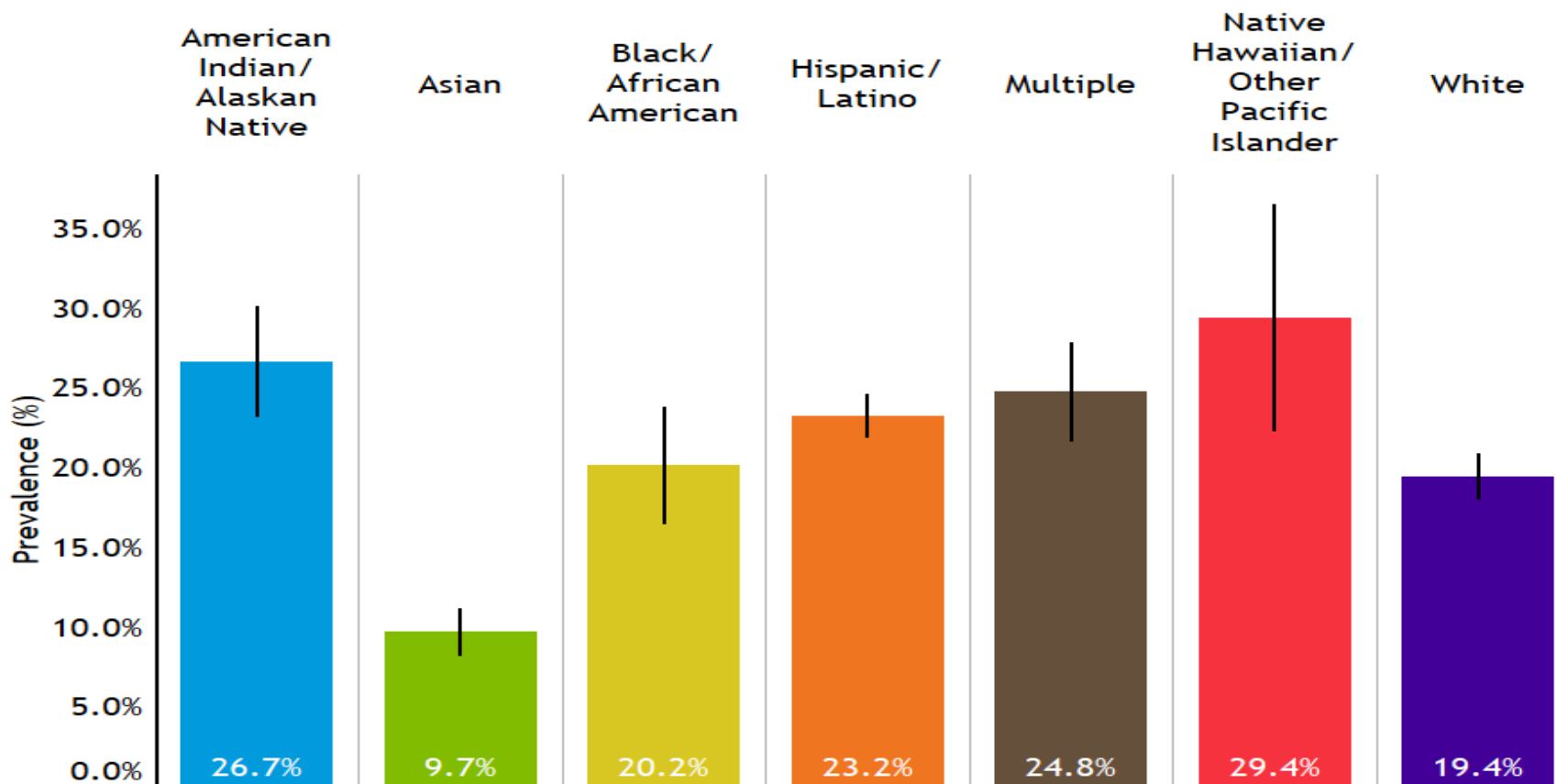


COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

Marijuana method of usual use among high school students currently using marijuana, 2013-2019



Marijuana use demographics among high school students, 2019



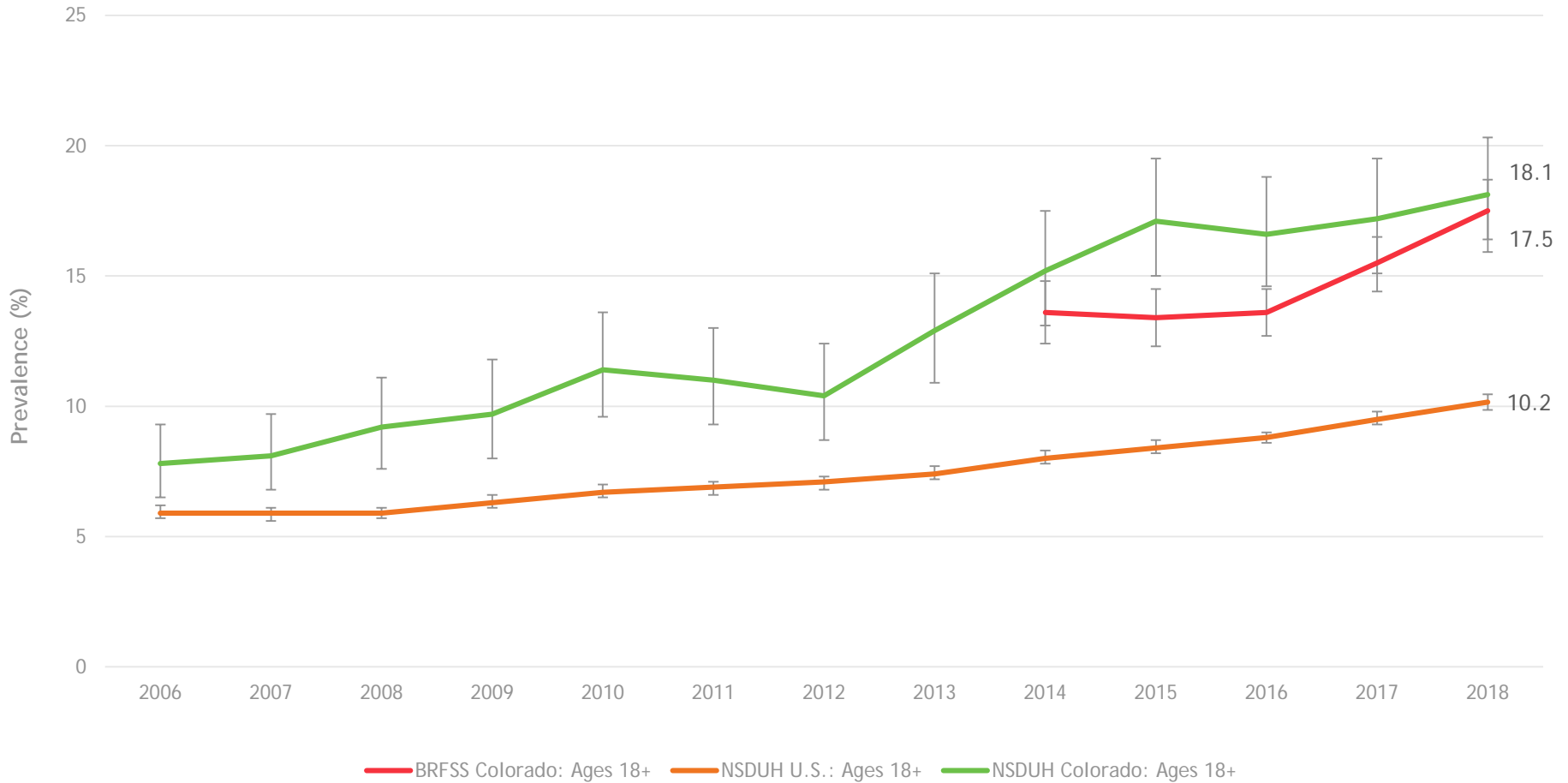
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Adult Marijuana Use & Trends

Methods

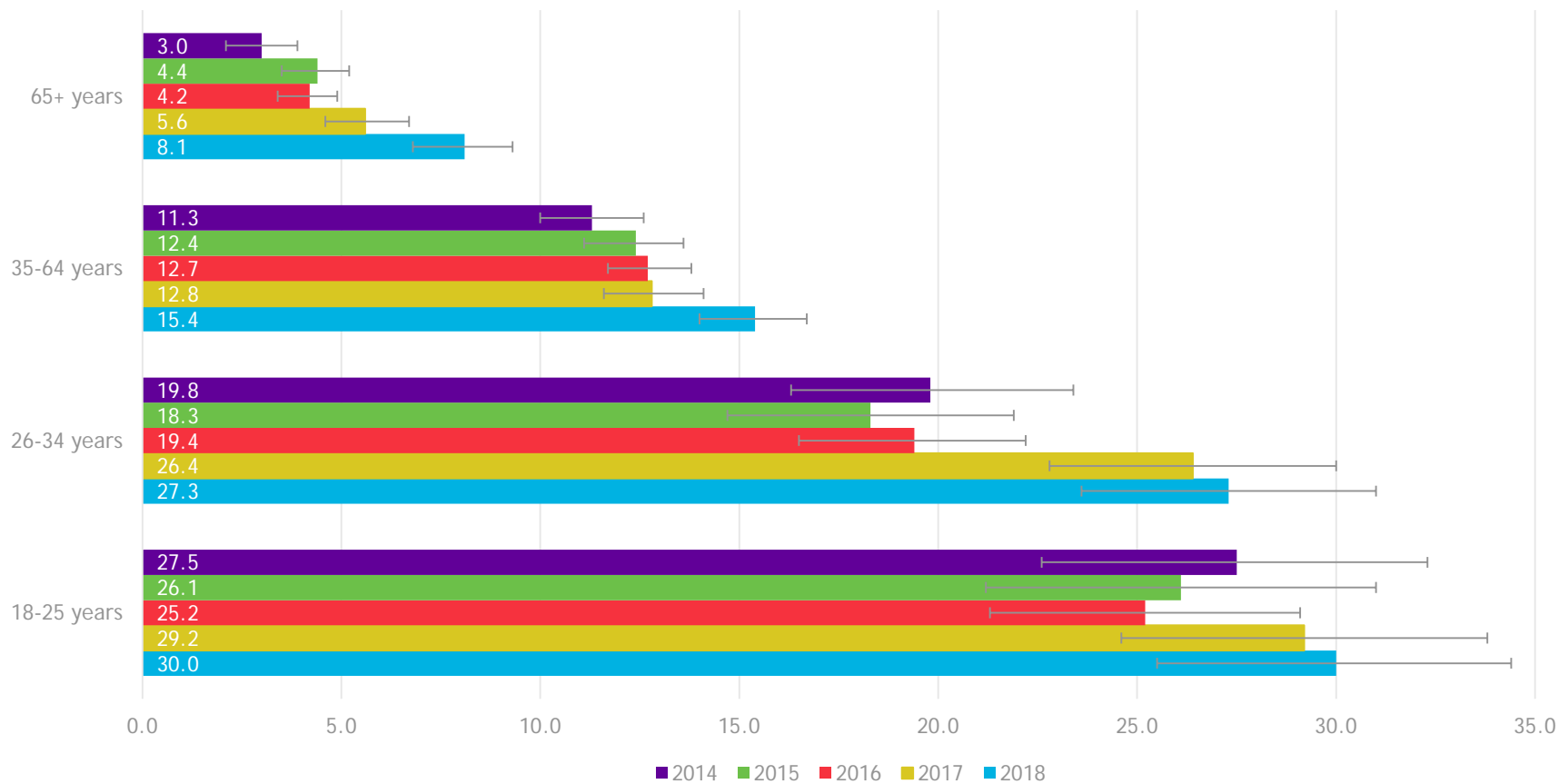
- **Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)**
 - Annual self-reported, telephone-based survey (Adults 18+)
 - Largest survey asking about adult substance use in Colorado

Past 30 day marijuana use among adults in Colorado and the U.S., 2006-2018



Produced by: Marijuana Health Monitoring Program, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 2020
Data Sources: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)
*Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals)

Current marijuana use among Colorado adults (18+ years) by age categories, 2014-2018



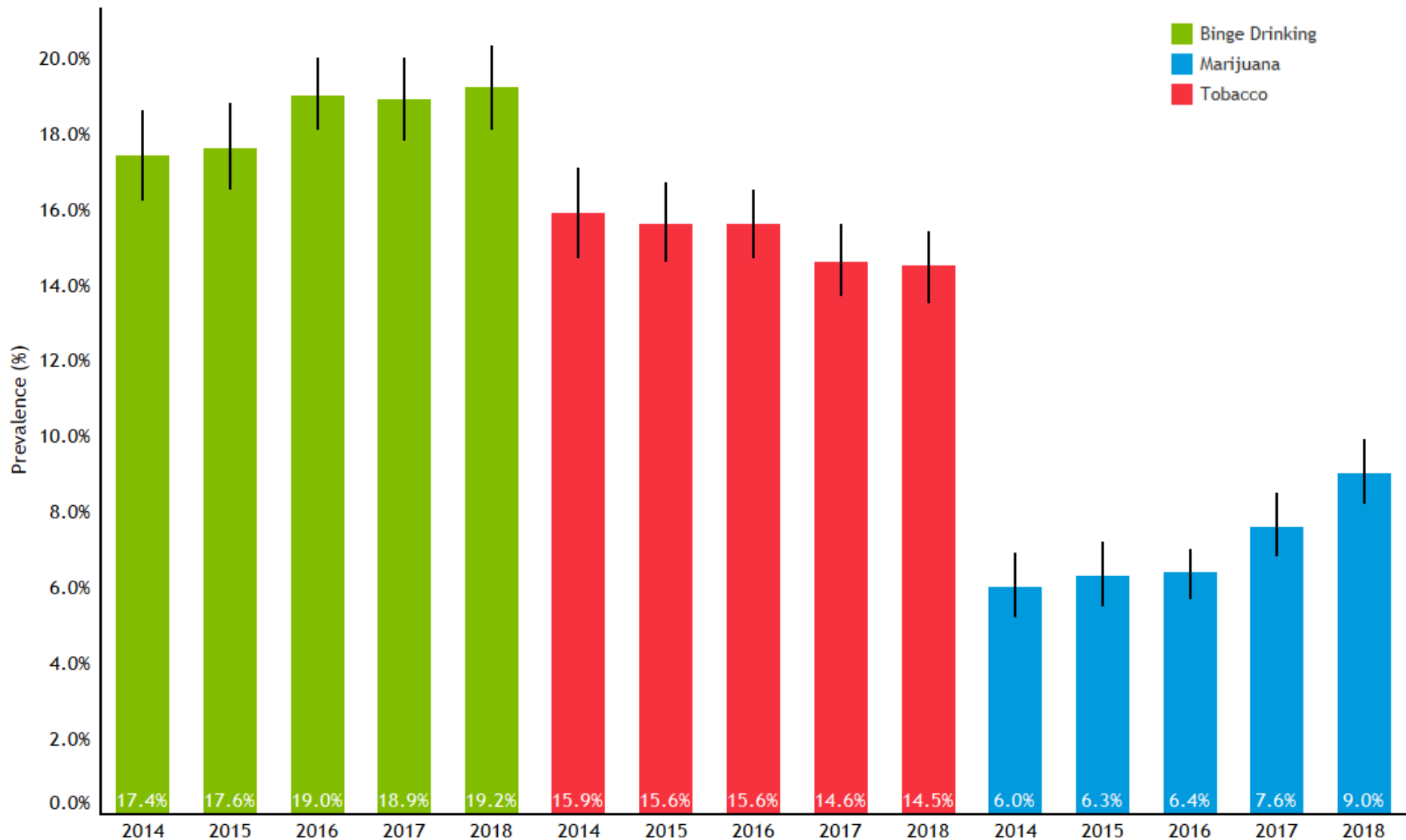
This figure shows the prevalence of past thirty day marijuana use out of all Colorado adults

Produced by: Marijuana Health Monitoring Program, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 2020

Data Sources: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

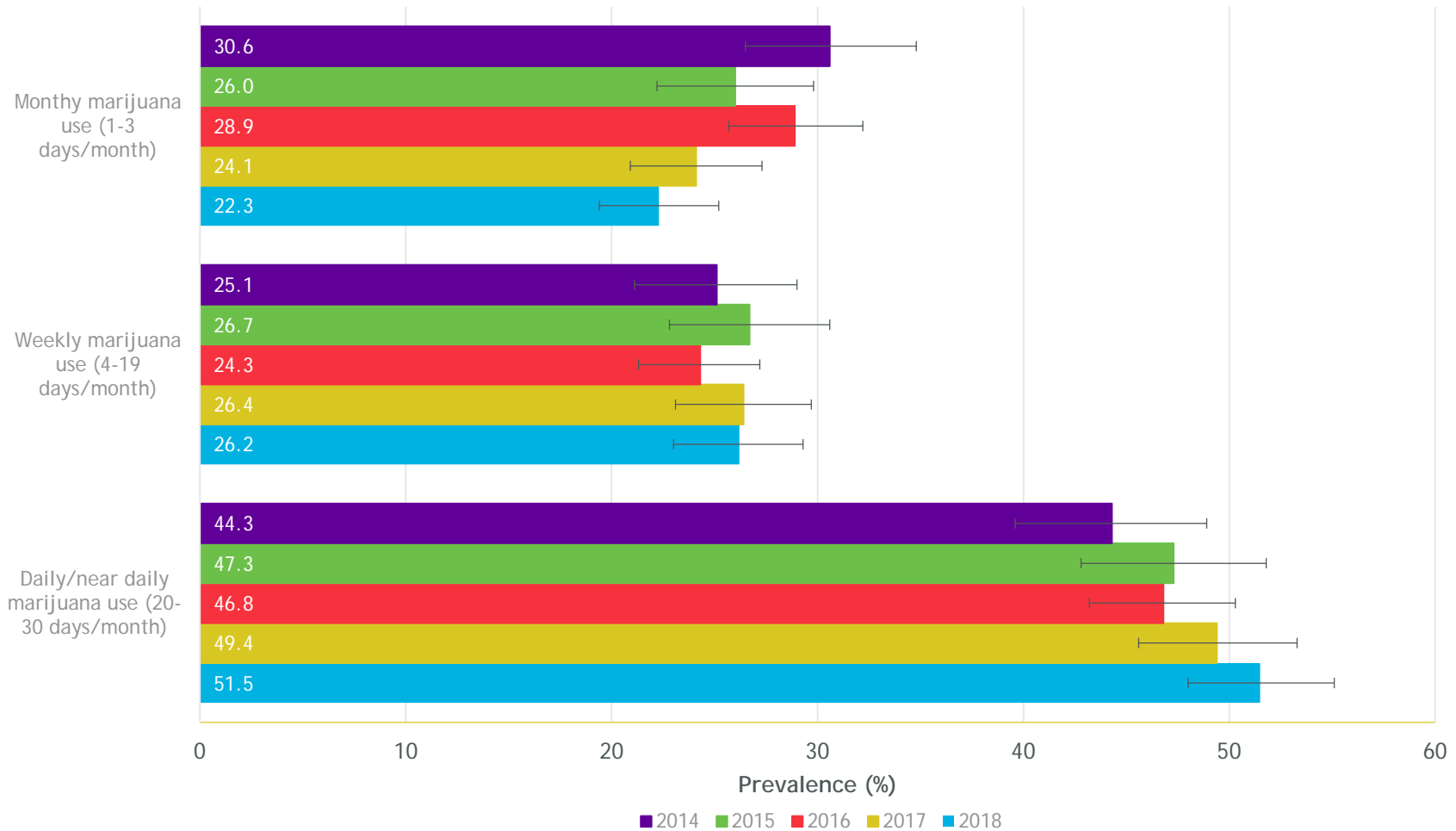
Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals)

Daily or near daily substance use among adults, Colorado 2014-2018



Produced by: Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 2020
Data Sources: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)

Frequency of use among adult marijuana users in Colorado, 2014-2018



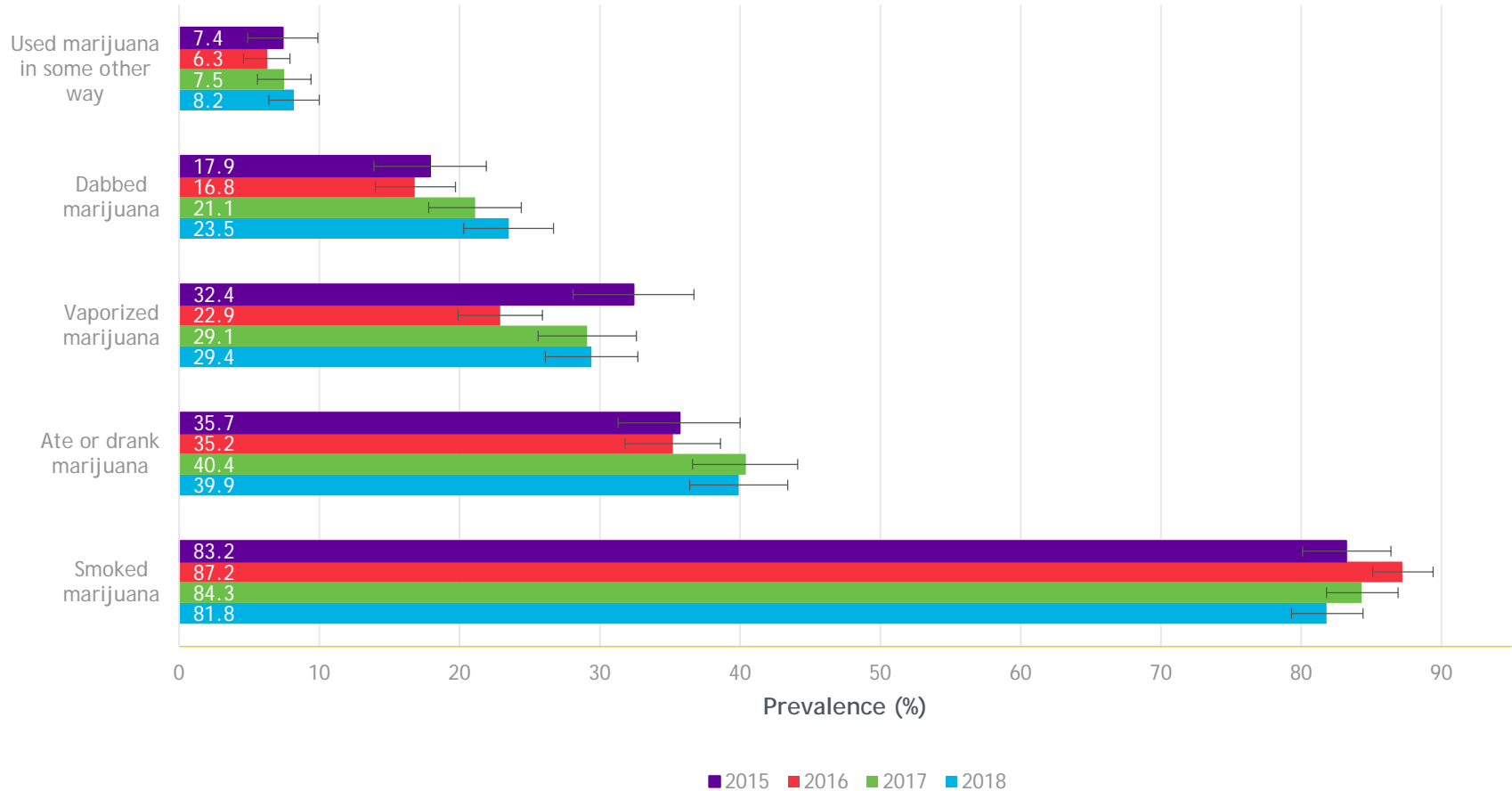
This figure shows the prevalence of frequency of use out of Colorado adults who reported past thirty day marijuana use

Produced by: Marijuana Health Monitoring Program, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 2020

Data Sources: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals)

Methods of marijuana use among adult marijuana users in Colorado, 2015-2018



This figure shows the prevalence of frequency of use out of Colorado adults who reported past thirty day marijuana use

Produced by: Marijuana Health Monitoring Program, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 2020

Data Sources: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Black bars indicate margins of error (95% Confidence Intervals)

Reported driving after marijuana use among adult marijuana users in Colorado, 2014-2018



This figure shows the prevalence of frequency of use out of Colorado adults who reported past thirty day marijuana use

Produced by: Marijuana Health Monitoring Program, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 2020

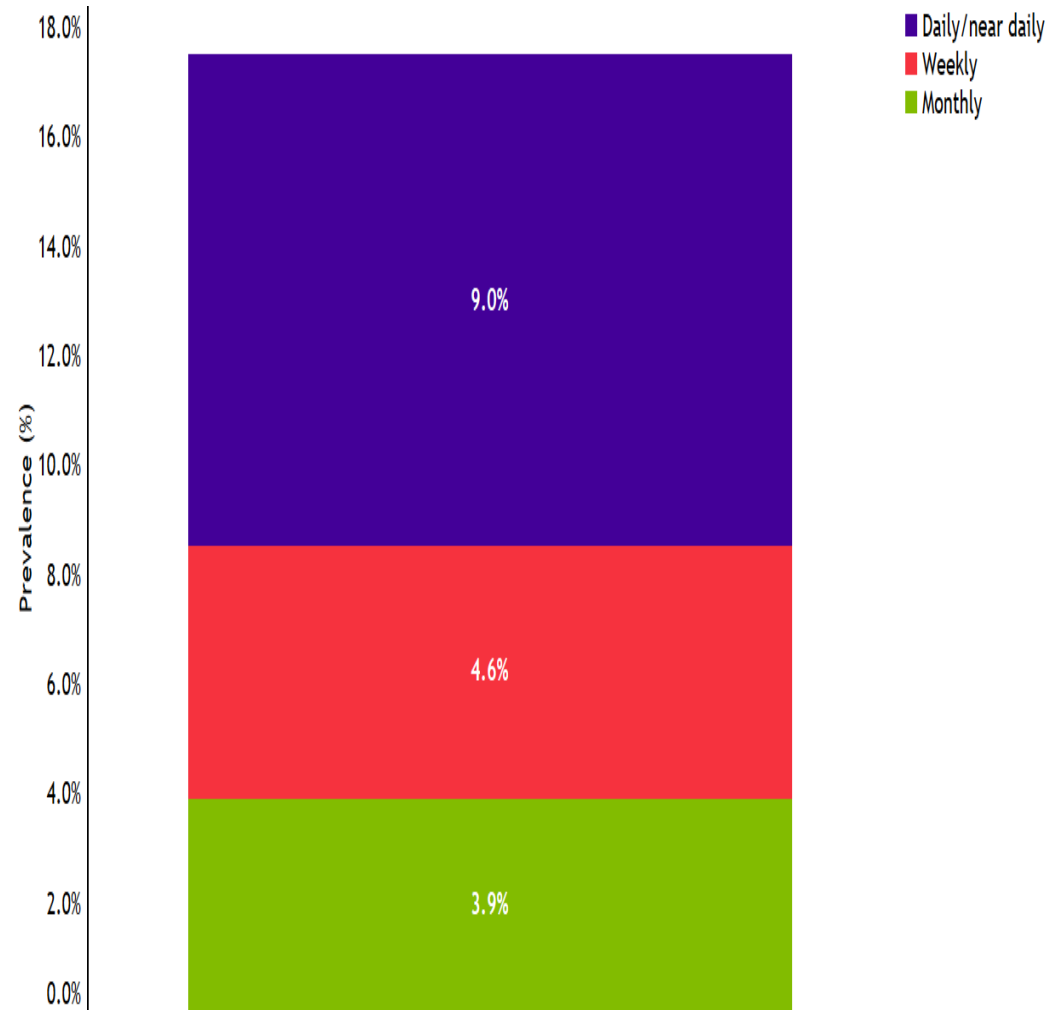
Data Sources: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

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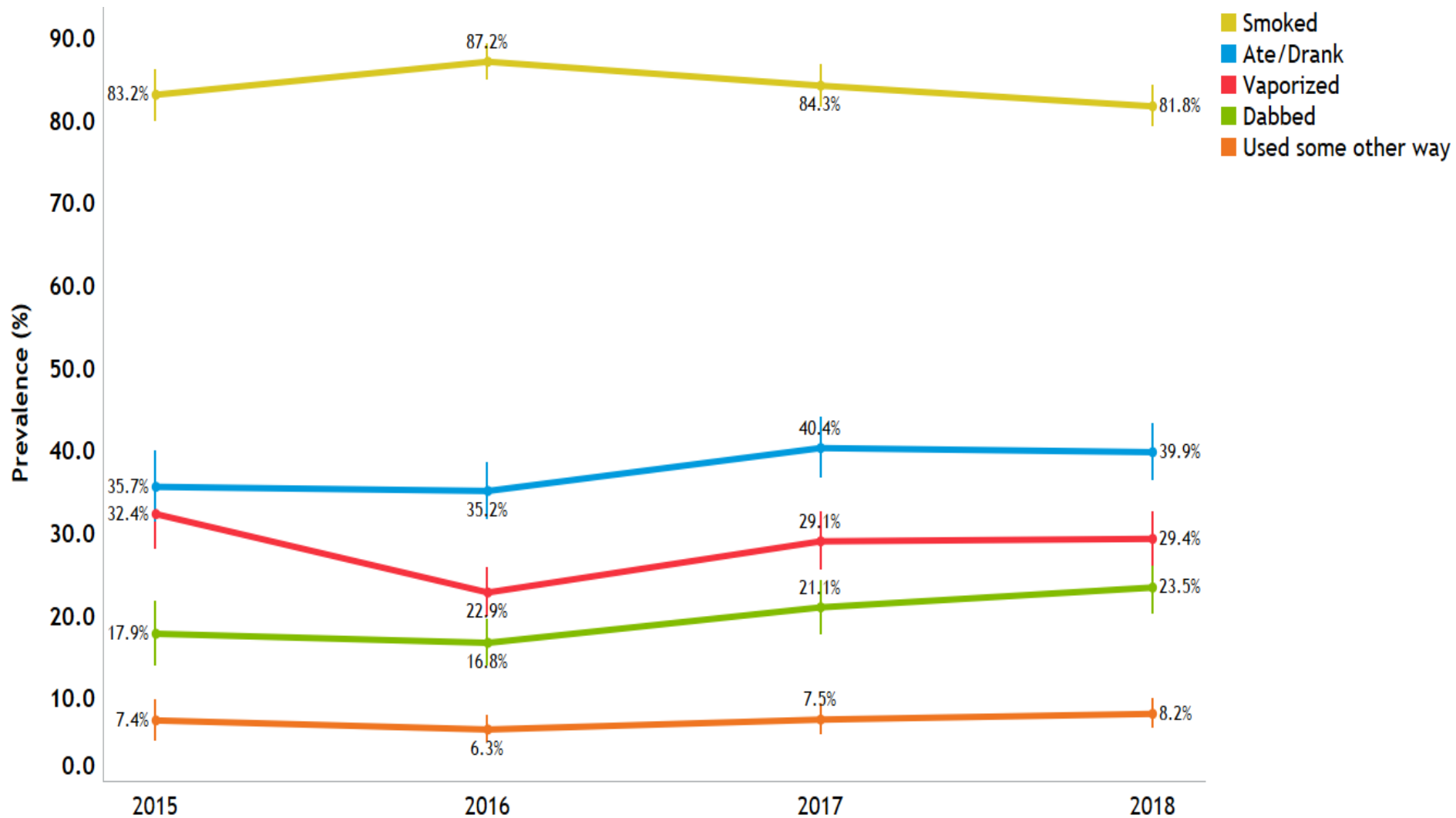
Marijuana use among adults, Colorado 2018

Past 30 days
17.5%

Driving after use
3.8%



Marijuana method of use among adults that currently use marijuana, 2015-2018



SUMMARY: MARIJUANA USE IN COLORADO

- Past 30 day use is stable among Colorado populations, daily use increasing for adults
- Methods of consumption changing for youth
- Driving after use is increasing in adults and youth



THC Concentration Report



Background

Footnote 88a, 2019 Long Bill (CDPHE)

“...Review and study data...peer-reviewed studies on THC potency of marijuana and any related health effects.”

Statement of Concern

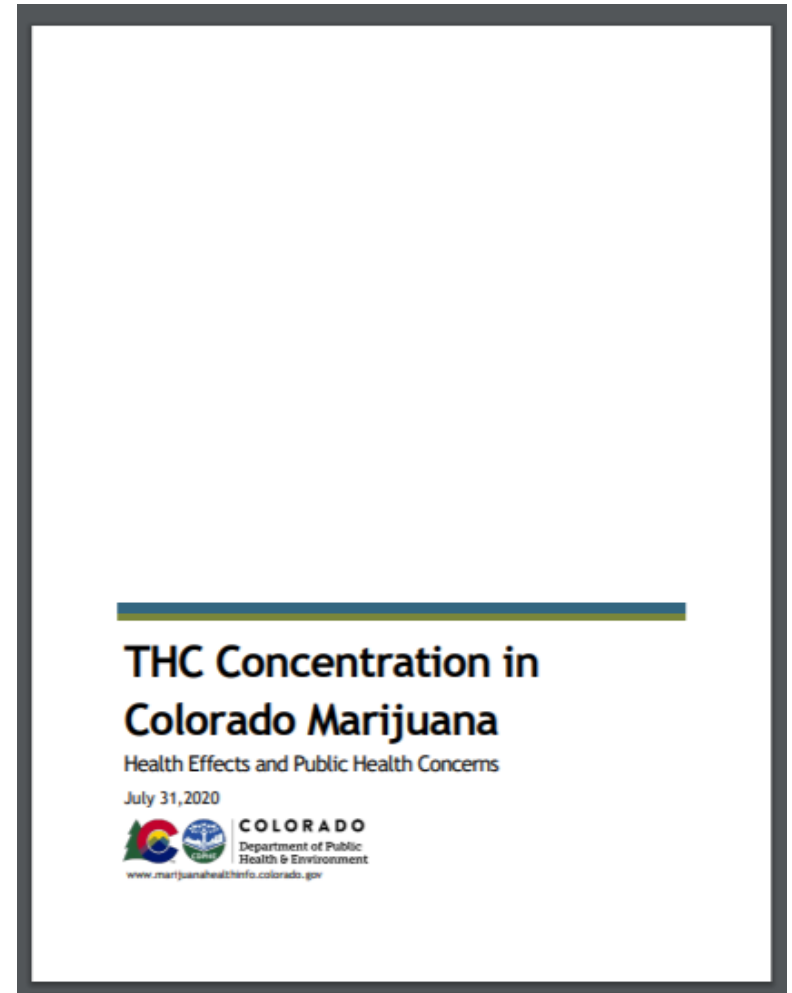
“Products containing a high THC concentration raise public health concern because increased dose may lead to higher potential for adverse health effects in consumers of these products.”

Approach to research

Systematic review of literature

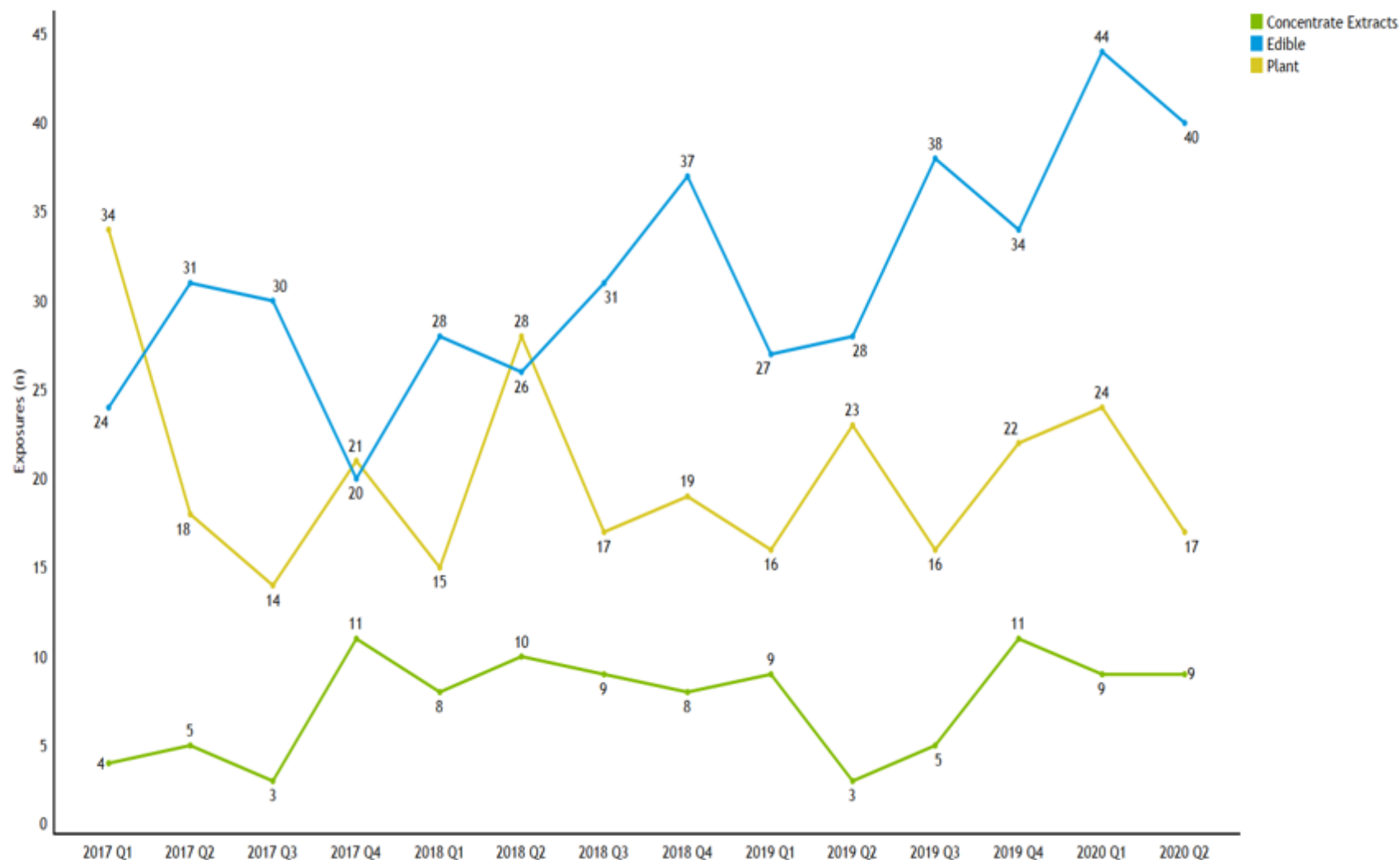
Analyze use trend and health effects data

Approval by Retail Marijuana Public Health Advisory Committee



www.marijuanahealthinfo.colorado.gov/reports-and-summaries

Figure 2: Quarterly count of top three marijuana exposures reported to RMPDS, Colorado January 2017 - June 2020



Produced by: Marijuana Health Monitoring Program, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 2020.

Data Source: Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Safety. |



Key Findings

Strong to moderate evidence
THC concentration ~mental health
effects adolescents, young adults and
adults

Insufficient evidence
concentrate products ~ dependence
concentrate products ~ acute health
effects

Effect on blood levels varies by
product type



SUMMARY:
THC
CONCENTRATION

Almost all retail MJ products in CO contain THC in concentration >10%

More research needed

- products with higher THC concentration
- higher THC concentration and association with health effects

Improvement needed in data collection, include type of product and % THC



Q & A

