

American Cannabis Policy

An intoxicant, a medicine, or a criminal substance?

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How is Legalization Graded?

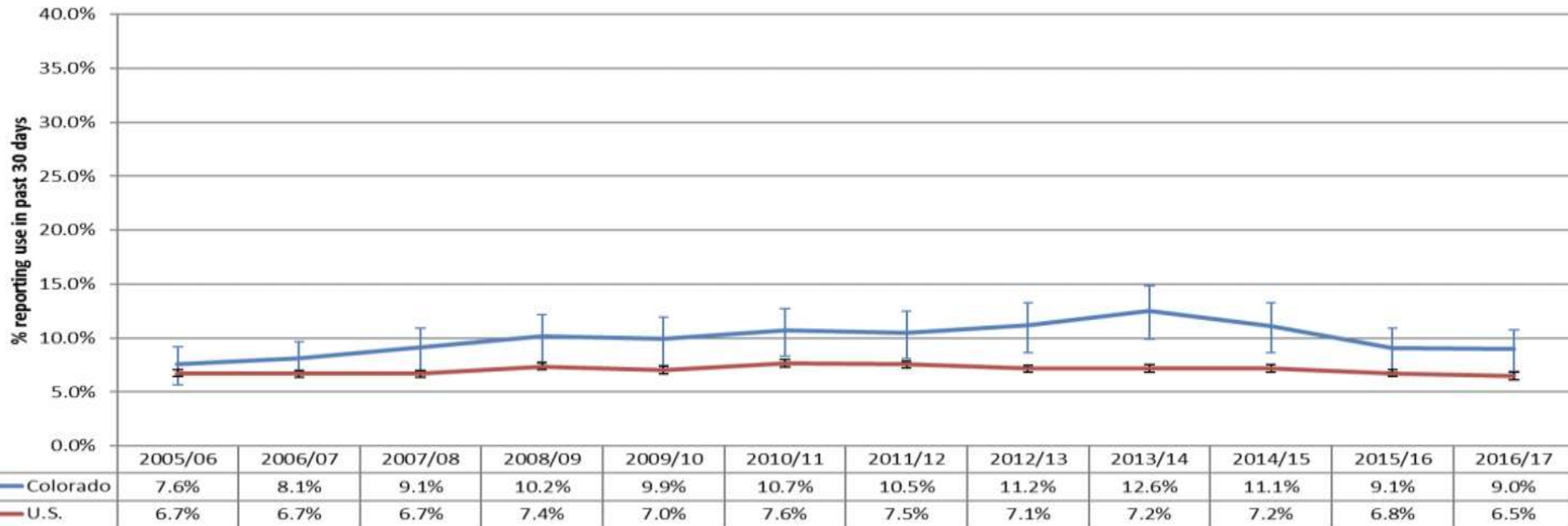
What people generally care about:

- Youth Use
 - Adult Use
 - Frequency of use
- Hospitalizations
- Driving While High
- Arrest Rate
- Tax Revenue



Youth Use

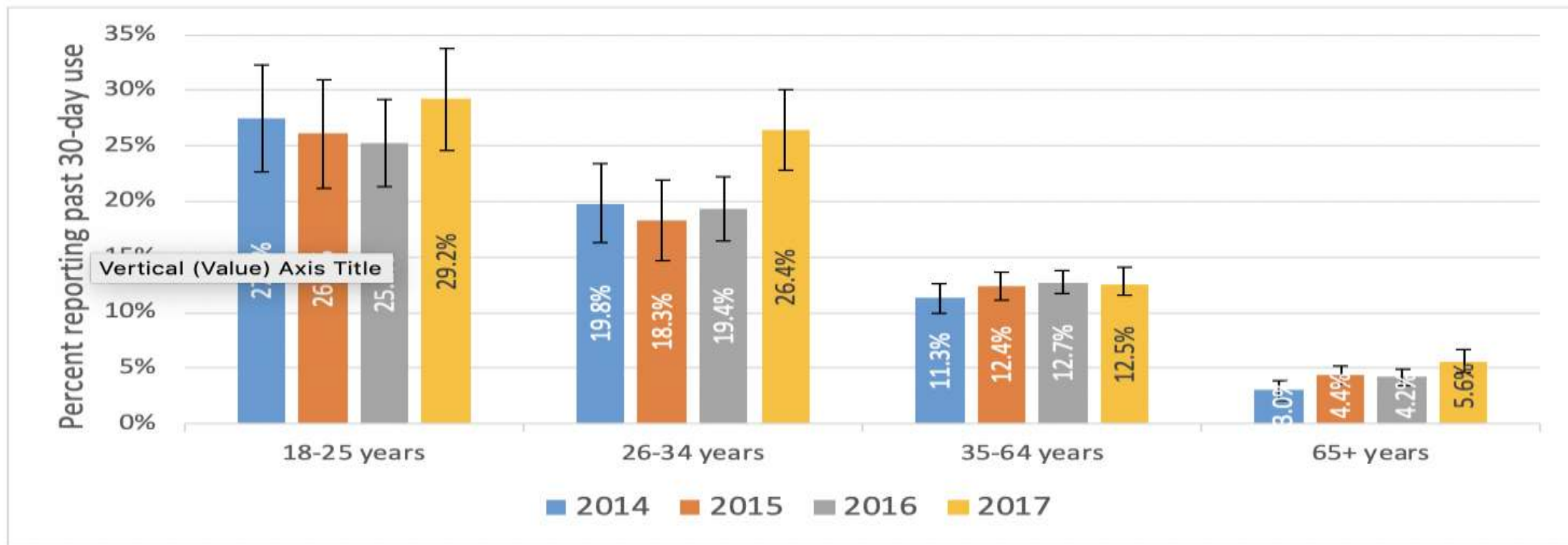
NSDUH: Past 30-day marijuana use, 12-17 years old, 2005/06-2016/17



Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Survey on Drug Use and Health (2017).

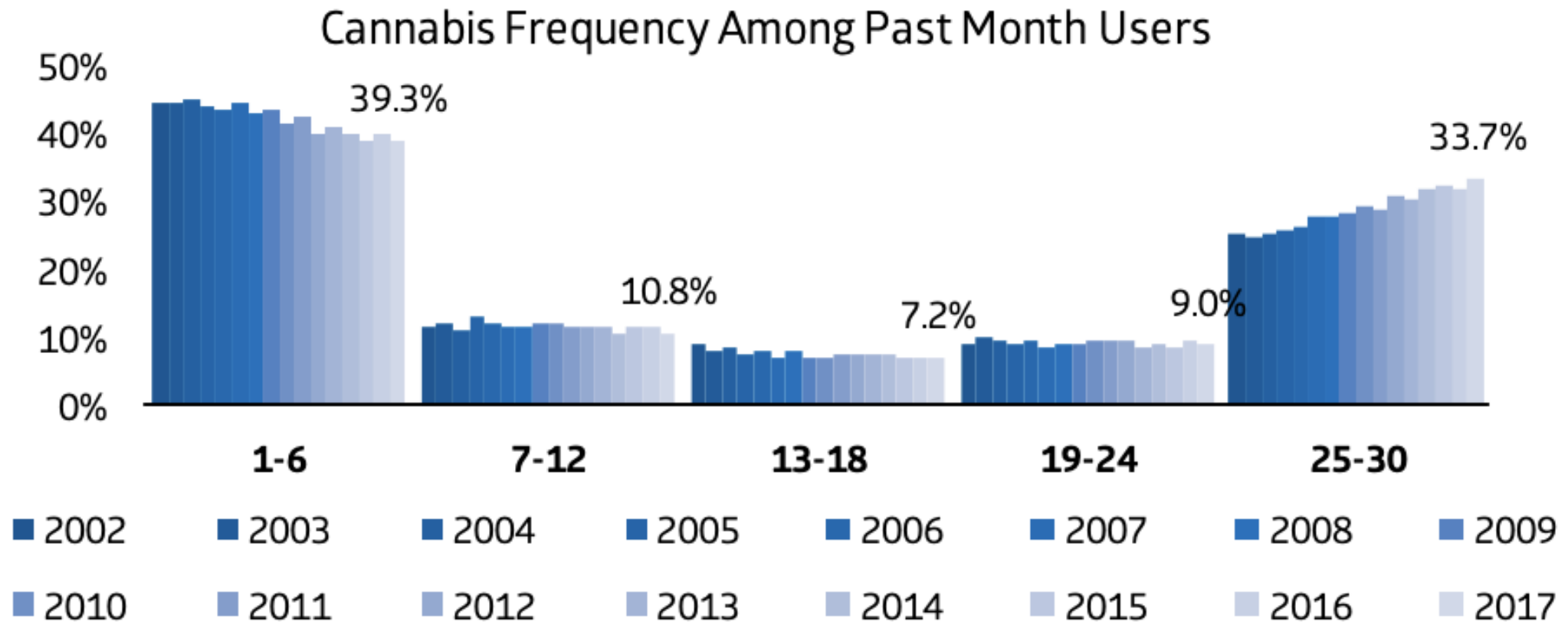
Adult Use

Past 30-day adult marijuana use, by age group, 2014–2017: BRFSS



Source: Marijuana Health Monitoring and Research Program, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

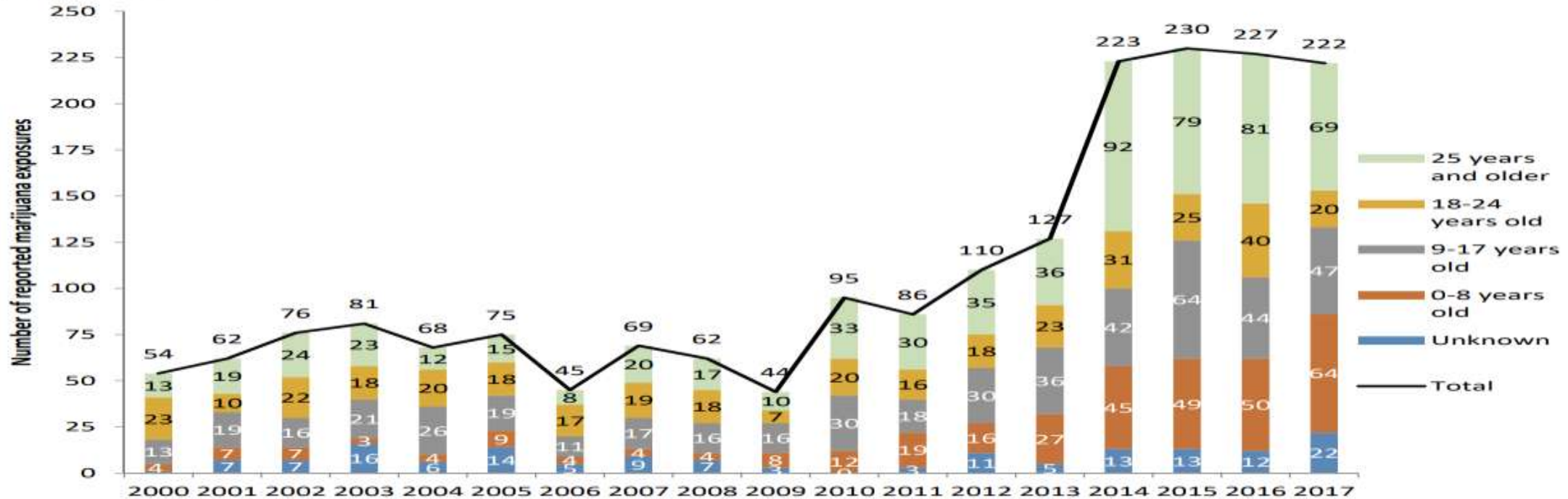
Frequency of Adult Use



Source: NSDUH and Cowen and Company

Poison Control Center Calls

Figure 46. Human marijuana exposures reported to Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center, by age group, 2000–2017

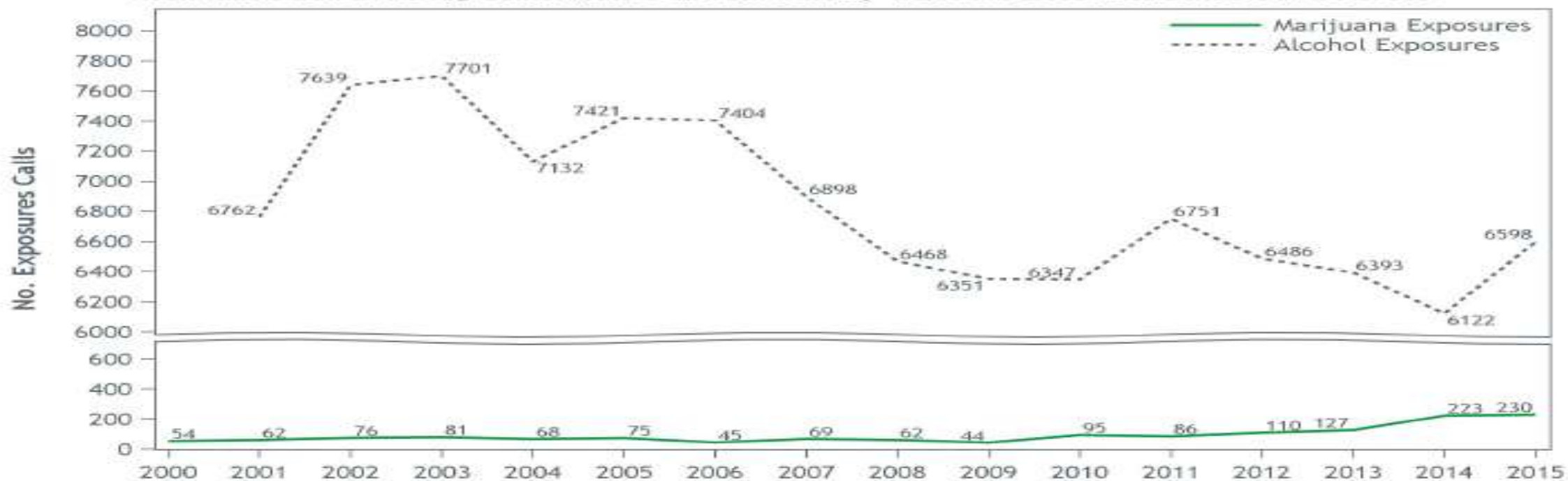


Source: Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (2018), at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/marijuana-health-effects-poison-center-calls>

Note: Human marijuana exposures reported to RMPDC were determined by the presence of the generic code "Marijuana-0083000" from the National Poison Data System.

Cannabis vs. Alcohol

Number of Human Marijuana Exposure Calls† Compared to the Number of Human Alcohol‡ Exposure Calls to Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center (RMPDC) from January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2015 in Colorado



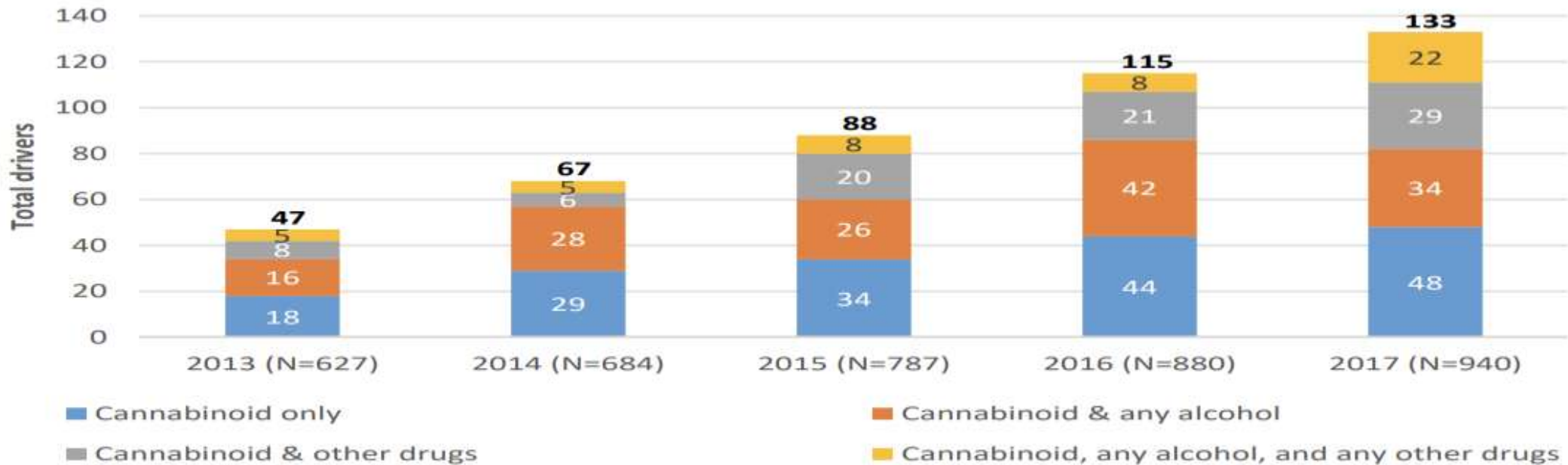
*EEOHT, CDPHE 2016

†Human marijuana exposure calls to RMPDC were determined by the presence of the generic code Marijuana - 0083000 from the National Poison Data System and questionable exposures were validated with a records review.

‡Human alcohol exposure calls to RMPDC were determined by the presence of the generic code Ethanol (Beverages)-0019140 from the National Poison Data System.

Driving While High

Figure 15. Colorado drivers in fatal crashes involving cannabinoids, 2013–2017



Source: Colorado Department of Transportation, Data Intelligence Group, Toxicology Data (2018).

Note: A) Numbers are based on toxicology results for drivers tested for drugs after a crash. See Table 21 for number and percent of drivers tested each year; B) the presence of a cannabinoid does not necessarily indicate recent use of marijuana or impairment.

State-by-State Comparison

State	Population	Vehicle miles traveled (millions)	Fatal crashes	Deaths	Deaths per 100,000 population	Deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled
Arizona	6,931,071	66,859	865	962	13.9	1.44
Arkansas	2,988,248	36,093	488	545	18.2	1.51
California	39,250,017	366,402	3,357	3,623	9.2	0.99
Colorado	5,540,545	52,993	558	608	11.0	1.15
U.S. total	323,127,513	3,220,677	34,439	37,461	11.6	1.16

Cannabis arrest rate

Marijuana arrest rate (per 100,000)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total	282	139	148	141	129	124
Race						
White	283	133	135	130	121	118
Hispanic	266	145	164	156	138	133
Black	533	298	379	340	274	233
Other	107	54	68	73	75	84

Tax Revenue

Calendar Year	Revenue By Calendar Year	Total Revenue Since Feb 2014
2014 (Feb - Dec)	\$67,594,323	\$67,597,323
2015	\$130,411,173	\$198,005,496
2016	\$193,604,810	\$391,610,306
2017	\$247,368,473	\$638,978,779
2018	\$266,529,637	\$905,508,416
2019 (Jan - Aug)	\$193,587,968	\$1,099,096,384

Ongoing and Unresolved Implementation Issues

- Potency
- Vaping
- Health and Economic Equity



Will Marijuana Ever be Medical?

“One obvious solution to the uncertainties around legality, quality and safety of CBD products would be to force all CBD into the F.D.A. drug-approval pipeline, making it a prescription drug only. Somewhat surprisingly, Catherine Jacobson does not want that to happen. Her thinking on this issue has evolved, she told me. Early on, she thought all medical cannabis products should go through the F.D.A.’s approval process. But she realized that her primary concern, quality, could be assured without this expensive, time-consuming undertaking. In Germany, for instance, doctors have been able to prescribe cannabis since 2017, and patients get a pharmaceutical-grade product, because a federal agency oversees the medical-marijuana industry.”

- “Can CBD Really Do All That?” *New York Times Magazine*, May 2019

Next Steps: The Nuts and Bolts for State Reform

- Realistic goal setting
- Data plan
- Unified front



Big Marijuana



Altria

AB InBev



NOVARTIS

The Pareto Principle



What do we want from federal reform?

- Research? FDA approval?
- Price Controls?
- Advertising Restrictions?
- Quality Control?

Thank You!

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