

# Public Health & Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

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New Mexico Medical  
Cannabis Program

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April 2022

Information from this survey may be of  
sale for those interested. Please visit  
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# Existing Data Approaches

**National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)**

**Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey**

## Existing Limitations

Most recent detailed data is usually 3-4 years old

Some states do not participate

Known to underestimate cannabis use

Takes several hours to administer

Limited cannabis-related outcomes

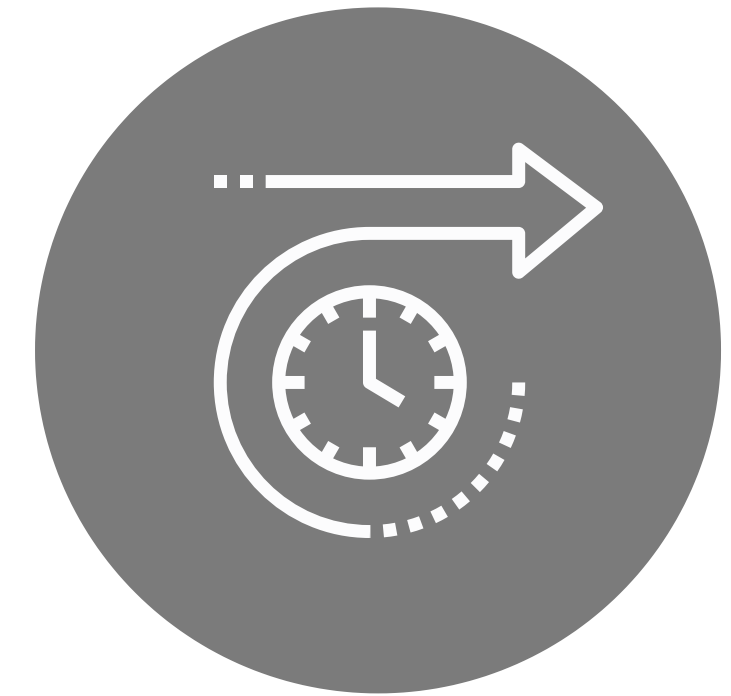
Once a year assessment



**National Survey  
Methods Overview**



**National Survey  
Findings for NM and  
national benchmarks**



**Implications and future  
directions**



# Section 1

## National Survey Methods Overview

# Regulatory Determinants of Cannabis Outcomes Survey (RDCOS)

## Overall participant characteristics



- Ages 16+
- U.S. residents who lived in one of 20 states with legal cannabis laws
- Recruited using community sampling with Lucid.com research panels
- Cannabis use status, decoy questions used to screen participants
- Recruited from April 19-24
- Overweighted underrepresented races

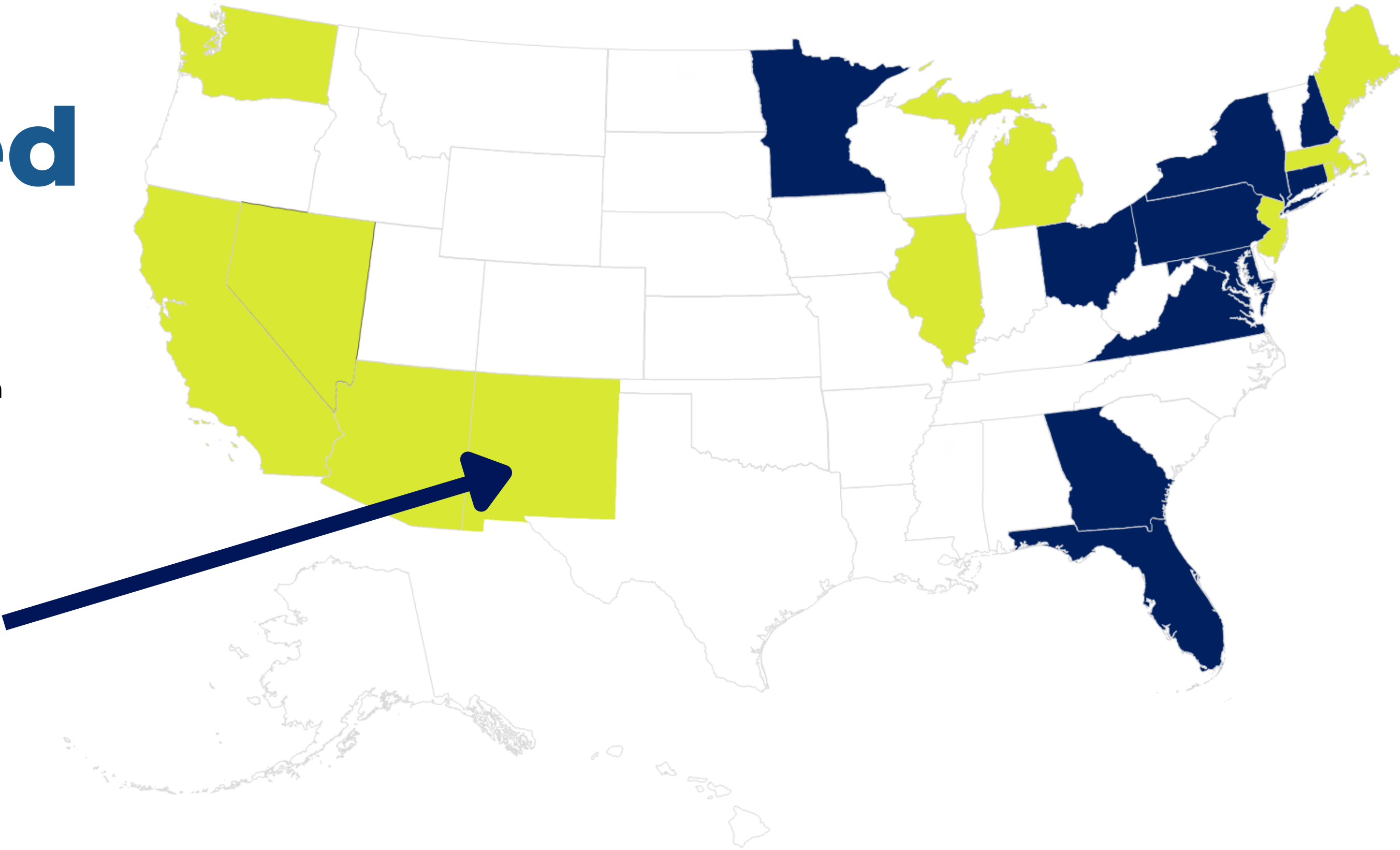
General  
population  
participants  
(n≈13,000)

Individuals  
who used  
cannabis at  
least in past  
year (n≈5,500)

Over 200  
cannabis-  
related  
variables

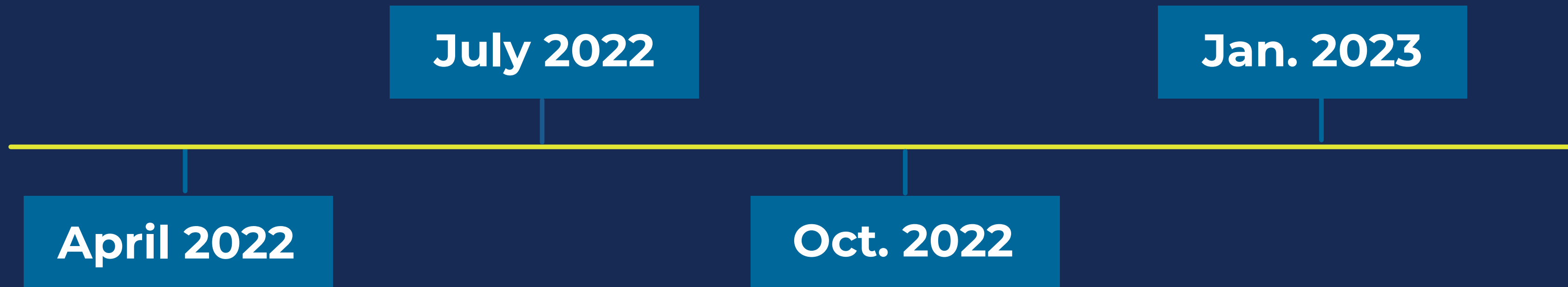
# States Assessed

-  Medical + Adult Use
-  Medical-Only Legalization



New Mexico  
General population  
(n = 476)  
Detailed cannabis  
data (n = 150)

# RDCOS Timeline





# Basic Survey Variables and Outcomes



- Demographics (age, gender, race/ethnicity, income, education, employment)
- Cannabis use patterns
  - Methods of administration
  - THC potency, Frequency (days in past month), and amount (grams)
  - Grams by market source (adult use, medical, home grow, illicit, deliver, etc.)
  - Age of first cannabis use
- Polysubstance use
  - Past month # of days of alcohol, tobacco, stimulant, opioids (illicit +prescribed), psychedelics, benzodiazepines, and others

# Public Health and Safety Outcomes of Interest

**1** Problematic cannabis use, cannabis use disorder (CUD) status

**2** Delta-8 cannabis and counterfeit product use

**3** Driving under the influence of cannabis (DUIC)  
Past month prevalence (no/yes) and # of days DUIC in past month

**4** Prevalence of past-year cannabis-related hospitalization

**5** Cannabis use right before or during work

- Across 12 top occupation industries
- Cannabis industry-specific positions

**6** Prevalence of hospitalizations overall

**7** Cannabis use during pregnancy

**8** Generalized anxiety disorder and major depression screening scores

**9** Psychiatric, physical health, and COVID-19 diagnoses (14 conditions)

# Policy- Relevant Variables



Medical patient status and duration since becoming patient

Exposure to cannabis advertisements (radio, billboard, email, etc.)

Money spent per month on cannabis

# instances going into medical and adult use dispensaries per month

Medical patient conditions, and experiences with those who recommend cannabis

Medical recommender-targeted questions

- Position type (physician, nurse, etc.)
- Factors considered when recommending (e.g., patient condition, cost, etc.)
- Screening tendencies, condition-specific recommending tendencies

Co-occurring illicit opioid and cannabis use patterns (entire subsection)

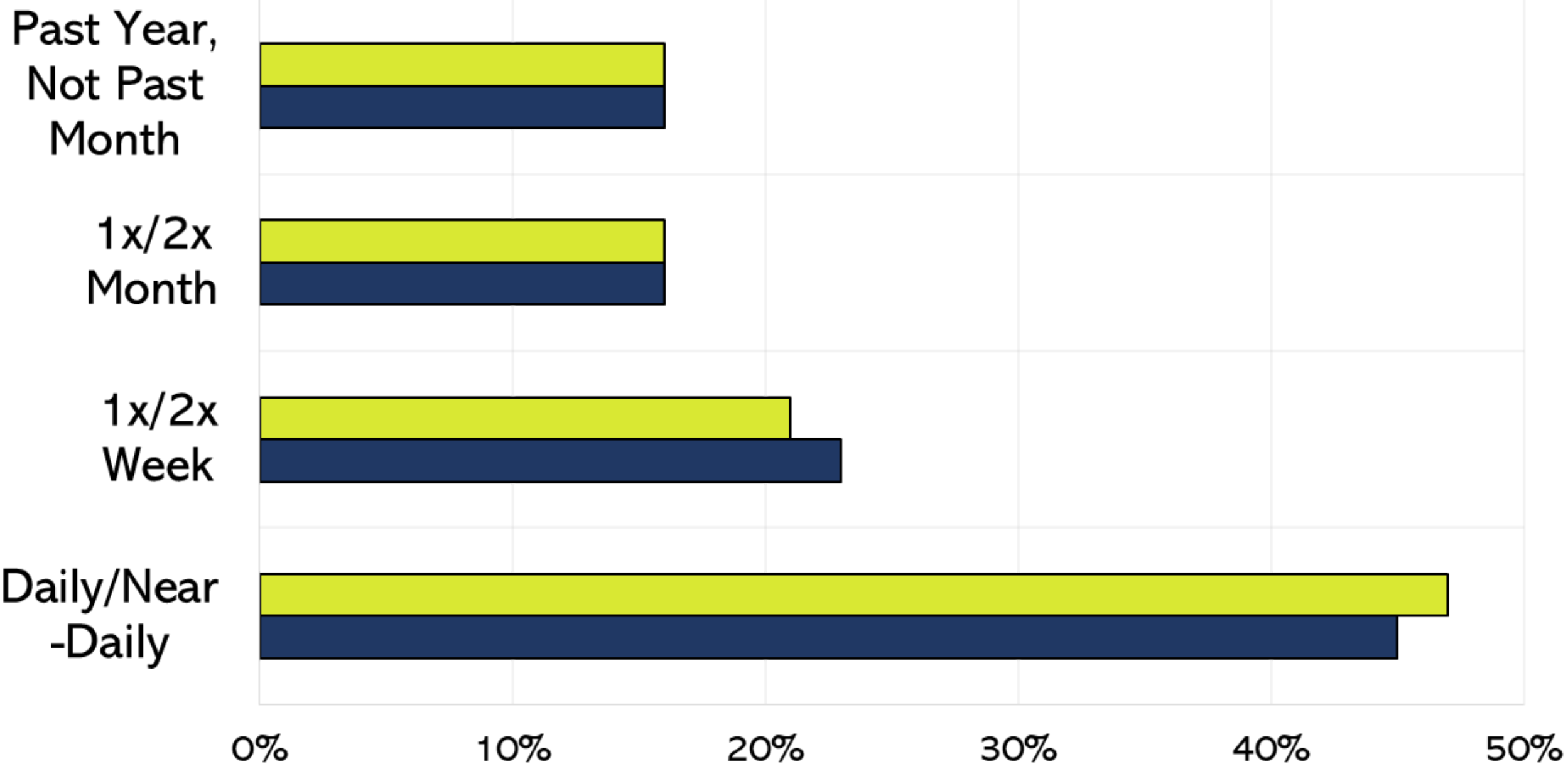


# Section 2

## Findings

# CANNABIS USE PREVALENCE IN NM AND OTHER LEGAL CANNABIS STATES

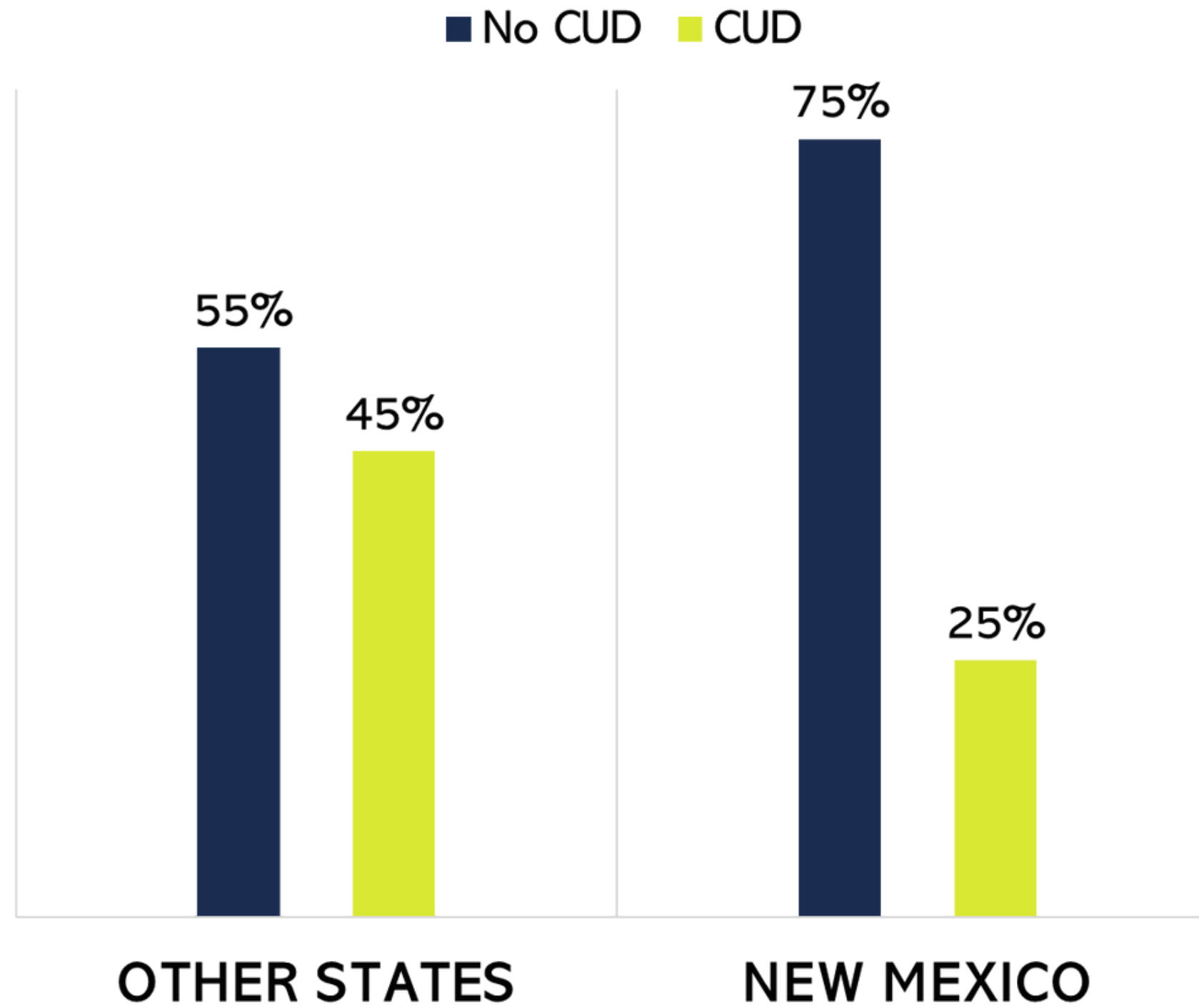
■ New Mexico ■ Other States



# Among Youth (16-25) Who Used in Past Year (Median Values)

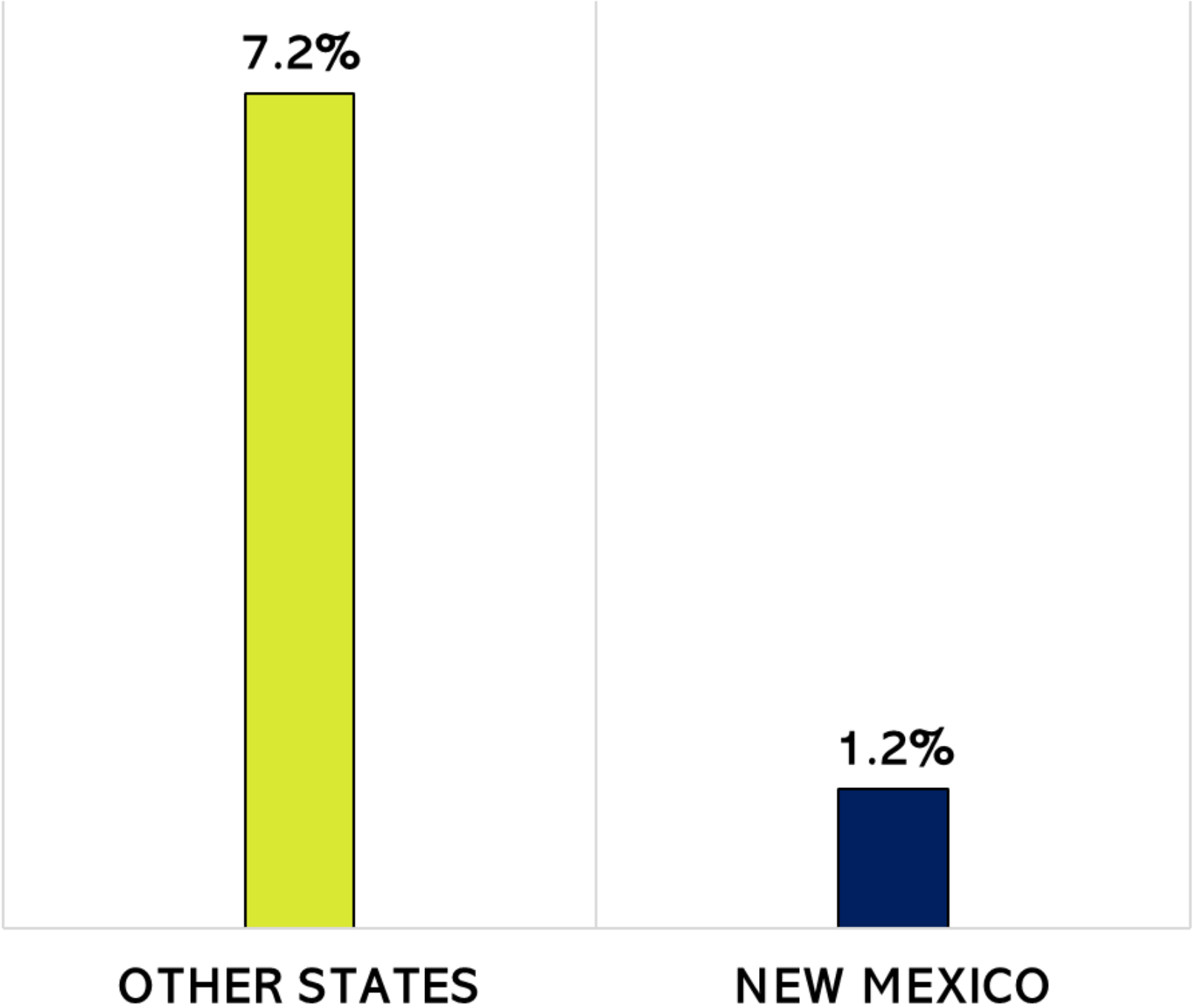
	Other States	New Mexico
Smoking	1-4 Days	1-4 Days
Edibles	1-4 Days	0 Days
Vaping	1-4 Days Days	1-4 Days
Concentrates	0 Days	0 Days

# CANNABIS USE DISORDER PREVALENCE AMONGST THOSE WHO USED CANNABIS IN PAST YEAR



# CANNABIS-RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS LAST YEAR

■ Other States ■ New Mexico





# Age of First Cannabis Use

	Other States	New Mexico
16 and Younger	44%	60%
17 and Older	56%	40%



# Driving Under the Influence of Cannabis

	NM	Other States
Past-Month DUIC	36%	41%
Past-Month Daily DUIC	15%	6%



# Section 3

## Implications and Future Directions

# Implications of Findings

	New Mexico vs. Other States
Age of first cannabis use	Worse
Youth cannabis use prevalence	Similar/Potentially Better
CUD	Better
Cannabis-related hospitalizations	Better
DUIC Prevalence	Likely Worse



# Future Directions

- Report July, October, and January waves of data
- Check if findings hold steady
- Solutions
  - Simulate impacts of policies using other states data
    - “If-thens” for various policy levers (i.e., simulations)
  - Leverage NM regional data insights as number of participants recruited increases
  - Use data from medical recommenders, medical patient data, etc.

# Thank You



Contact us to get more info

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