

Alcohol and Drug Use by Drivers: Findings From Five Roadside Surveys

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Background

- ❑ 5 Jurisdictional Surveys (Sept 2016 – Sept 2018)
- ❑ Provide current, reliable and valid estimate of prevalence of alcohol and drug use by drivers
- ❑ Provide information on temporal, geographic and demographic characteristics of those involved
- ❑ Together, can be used to establish a baseline of cannabis use by drivers prior to legalization

Locations

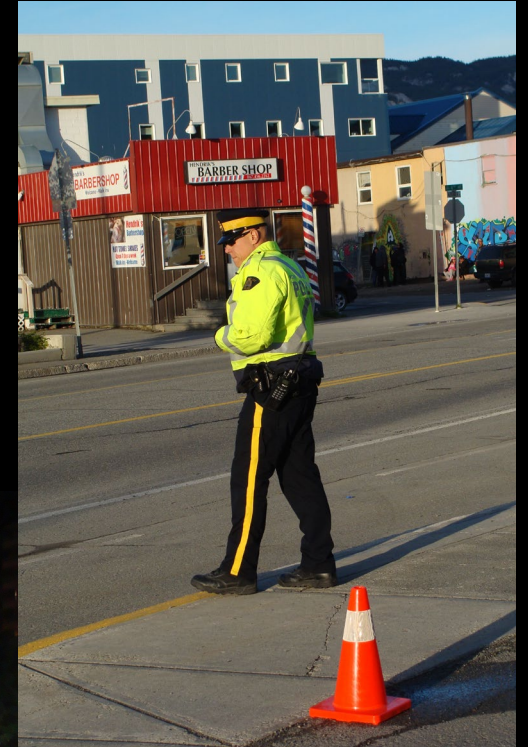
1. Manitoba - Sept 2016
2. Ontario - June/Sept 2017
3. British Columbia - June 2018
4. Yukon – June 2018
5. Northwest Territories – Sept 2018

Cities

- Winnipeg, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Thompson, Steinbach
- London, Renfrew County (Pembroke, Petawawa, Renfrew, Arnprior) North Bay, Timmins, Trenton, Peterborough, Peel Region
- Vancouver, Victoria, Abbotsford, Kelowna, Prince George
- Whitehorse
- Yellowknife

Roadside Surveys

- ❑ CCMTA Protocol
- ❑ Wed – Sat nights
- ❑ 9PM – 3 AM
- ❑ 4 locations per night (90 min each)
- ❑ 4-5 interviewers
- ❑ Police assist with traffic
- ❑ **Voluntary!**
- ❑ Allows data to be merged



Breath and Oral Fluid Samples



Oral Fluid

- ❑ Quantisal oral fluid collection kit
- ❑ 2 minutes to collect 1mL OF
- ❑ Sent by courier to lab
- ❑ Screened with immunoassay; confirmed by LC/MS-MS
- ❑ measures recent use
- ❑ parent drug vs metabolites
- ❑ \$10 Gift Card



**Vehicles
Selected
N=7,265**

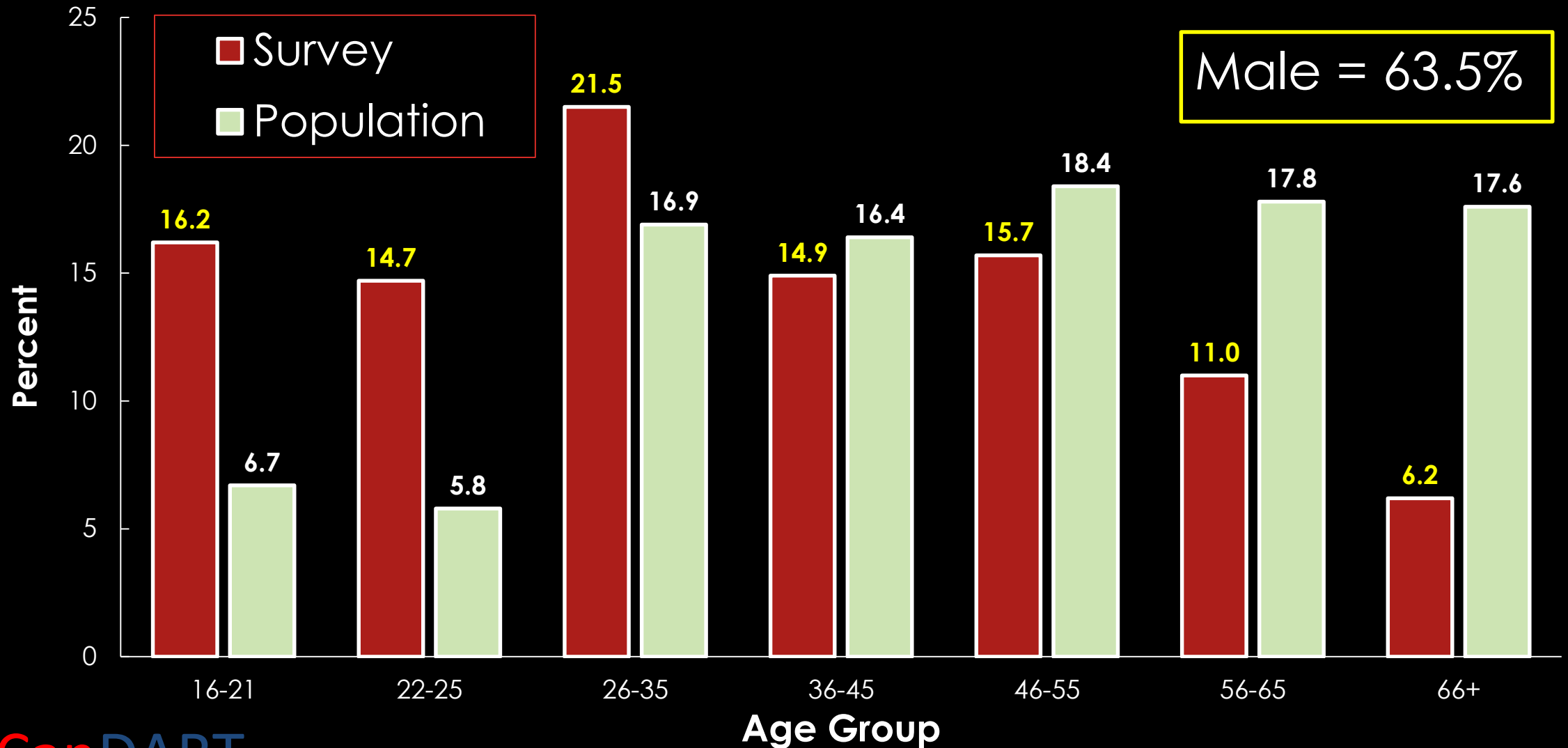
**Agreed to
Participate
n=5,866 (80.7%)**

**Refused All
n=1,399 (19.3%)**

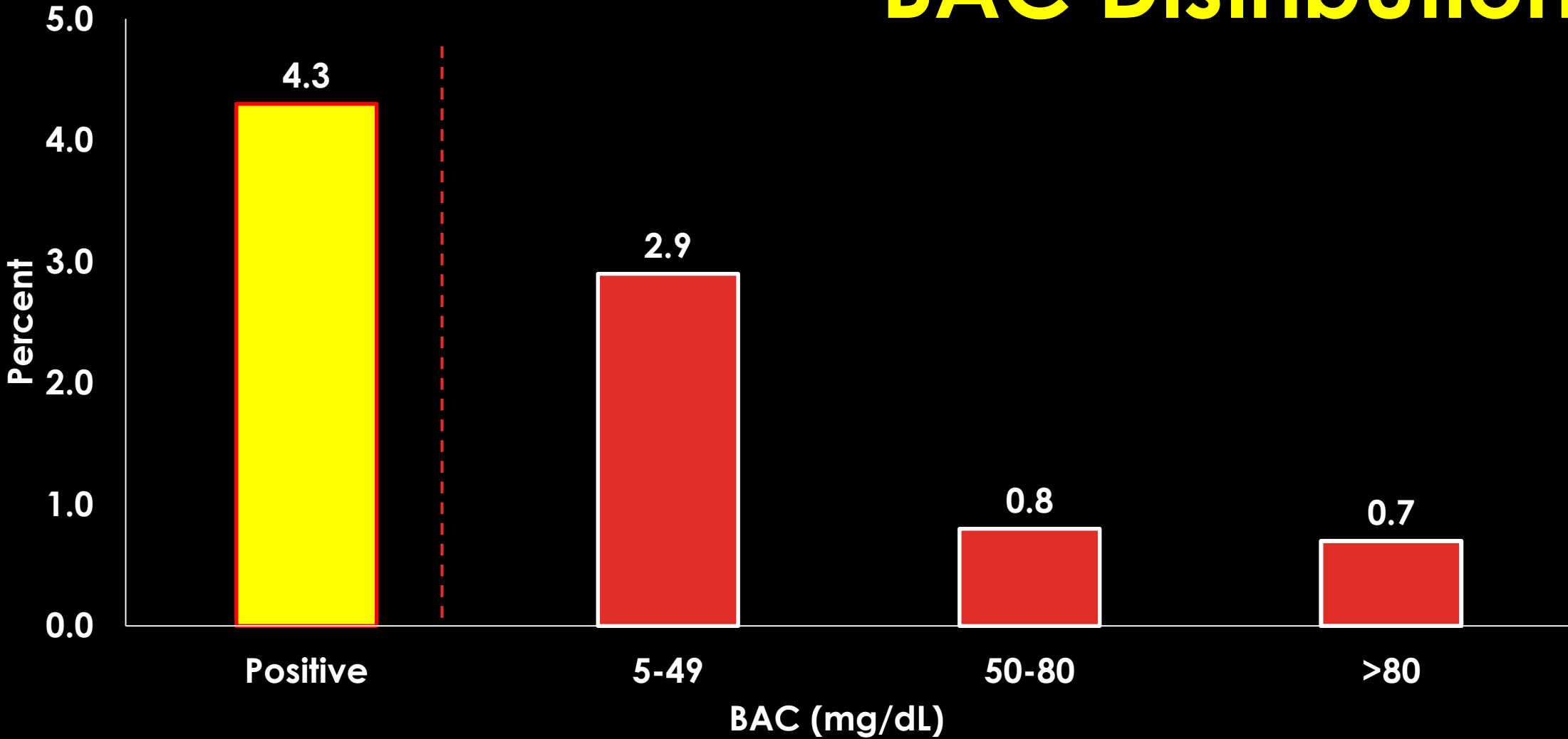
**Breath Sample
n=5,595 (90.9%)**

**Oral Fluid Sample
n=5,293 (85.9%)**

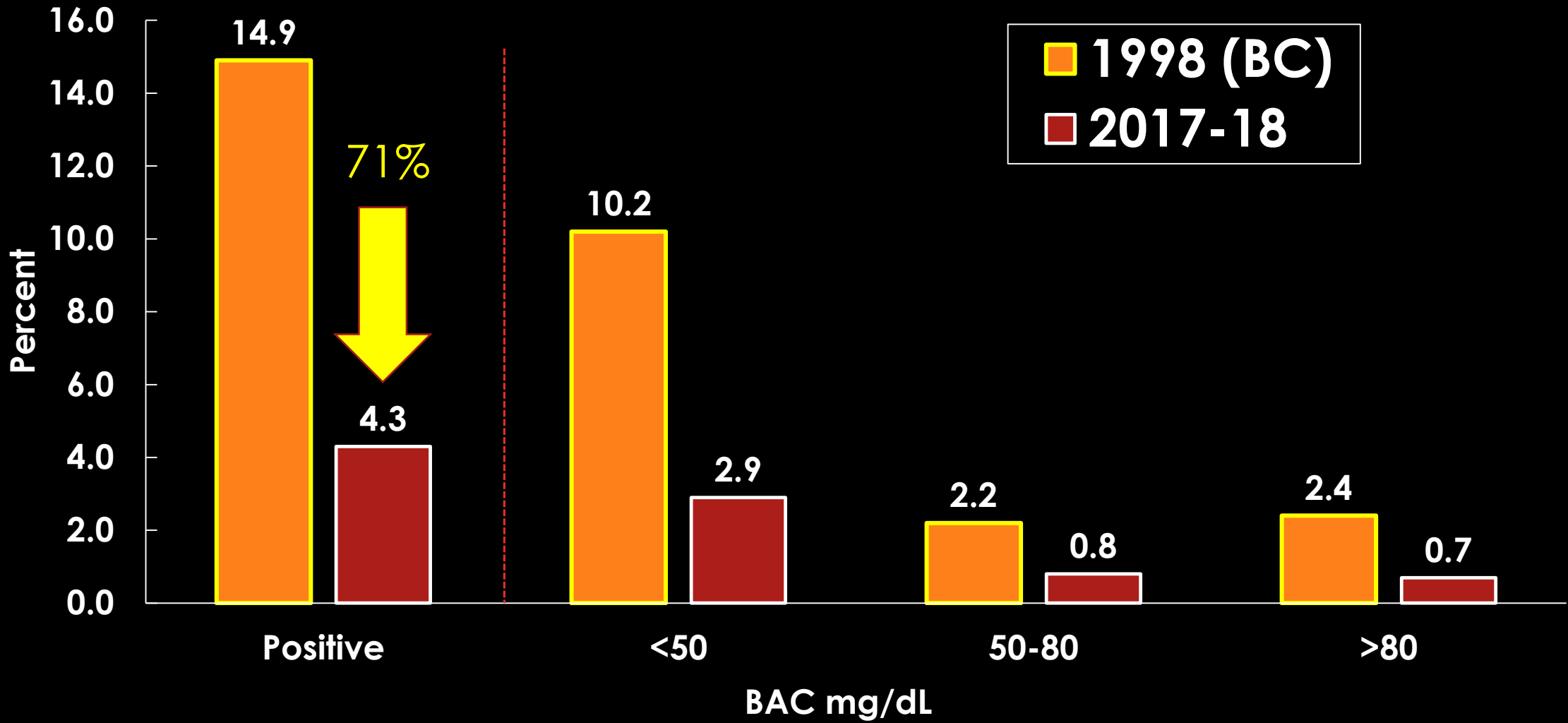
Age Distribution



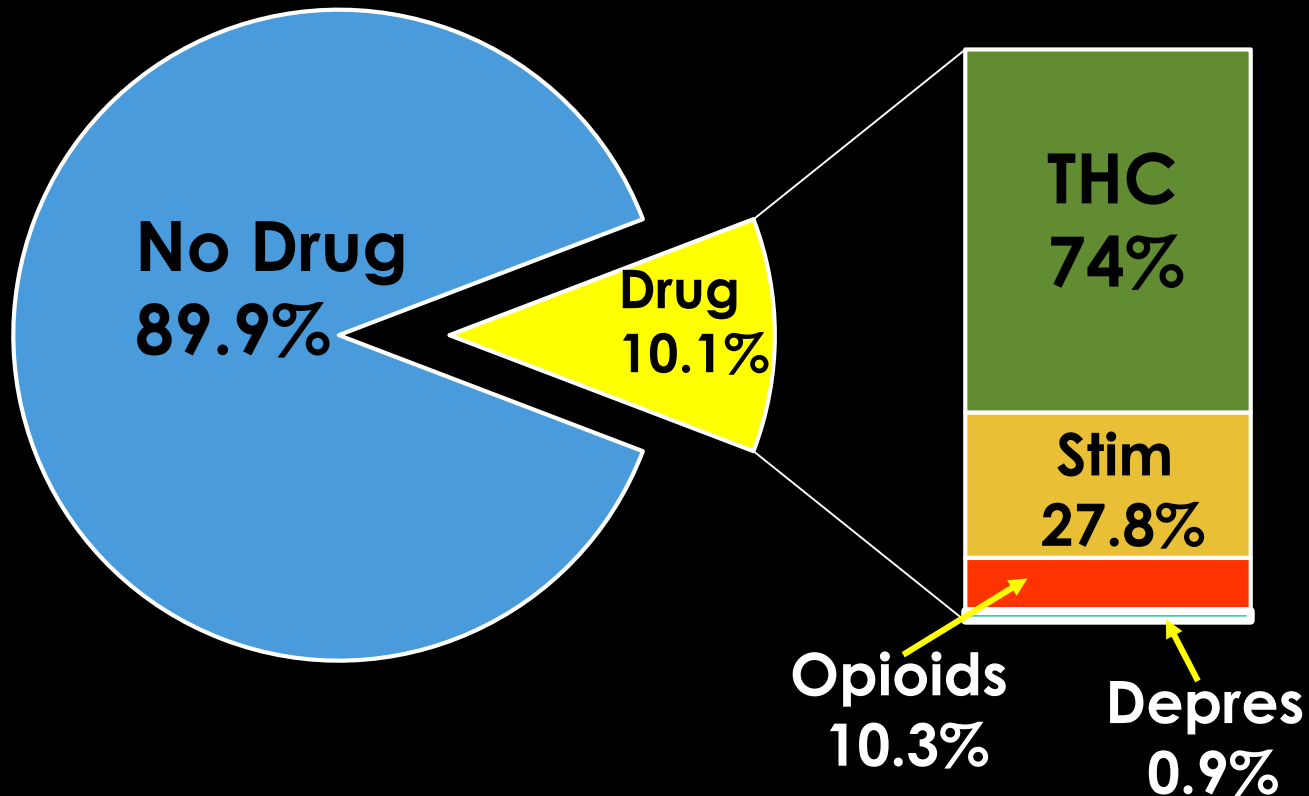
BAC Distribution



BAC Distribution

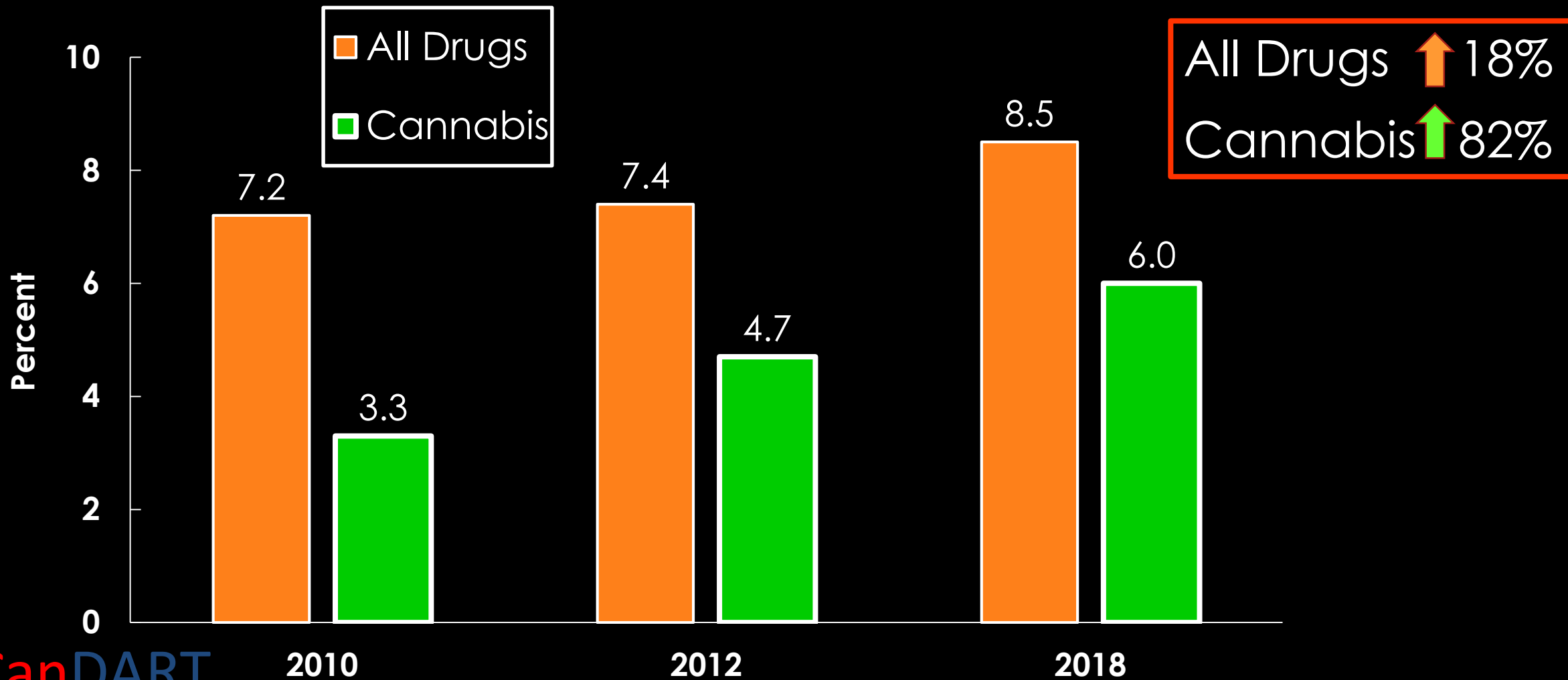


Drugs

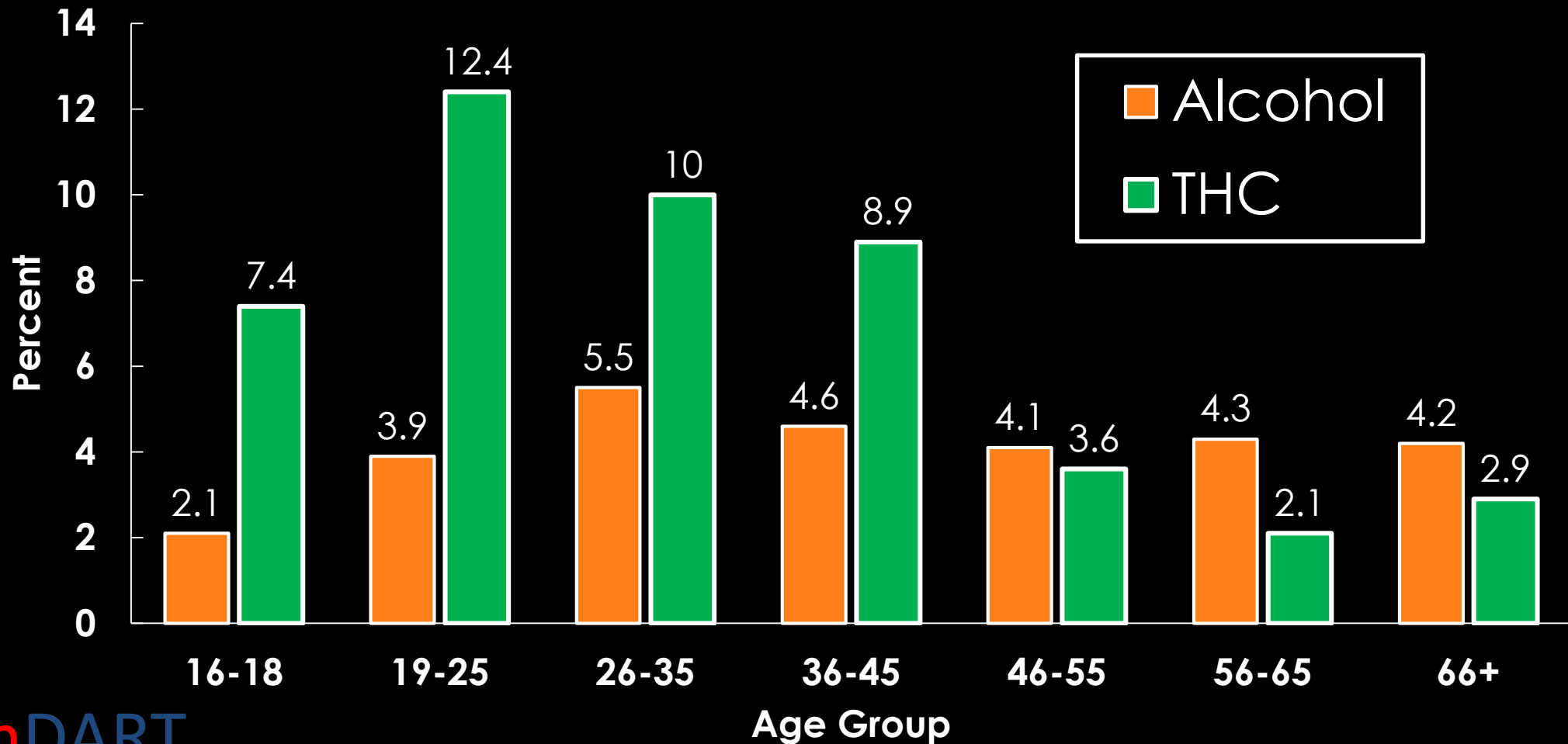


- Cannabis = 74% of all drugs
-
- One Drug = 8.8%
- Two Drugs = 1.3%
-
- Alc/Drug or Both= 12.9%
-
- **Among Drinking Drivers, 20% also positive for Drugs**

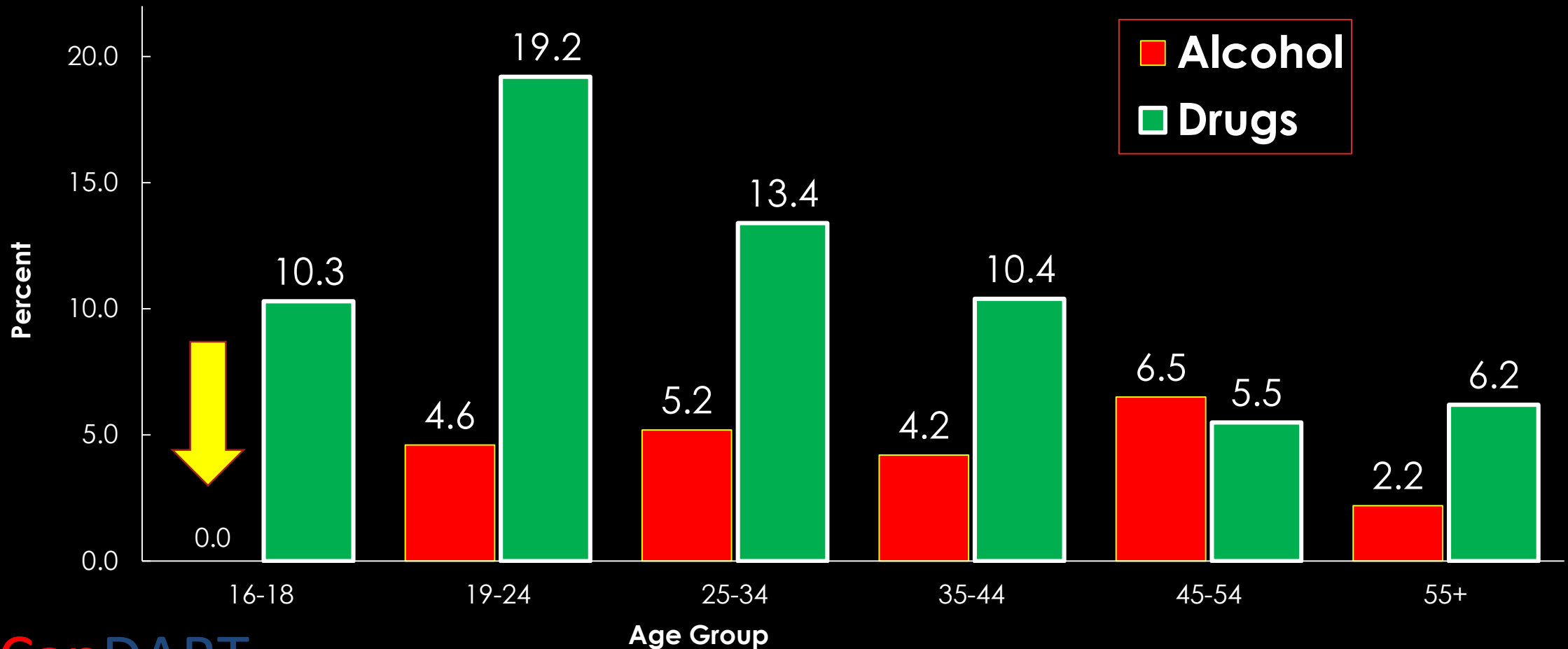
Drug Use by Drivers (BC 2010 – 2018)



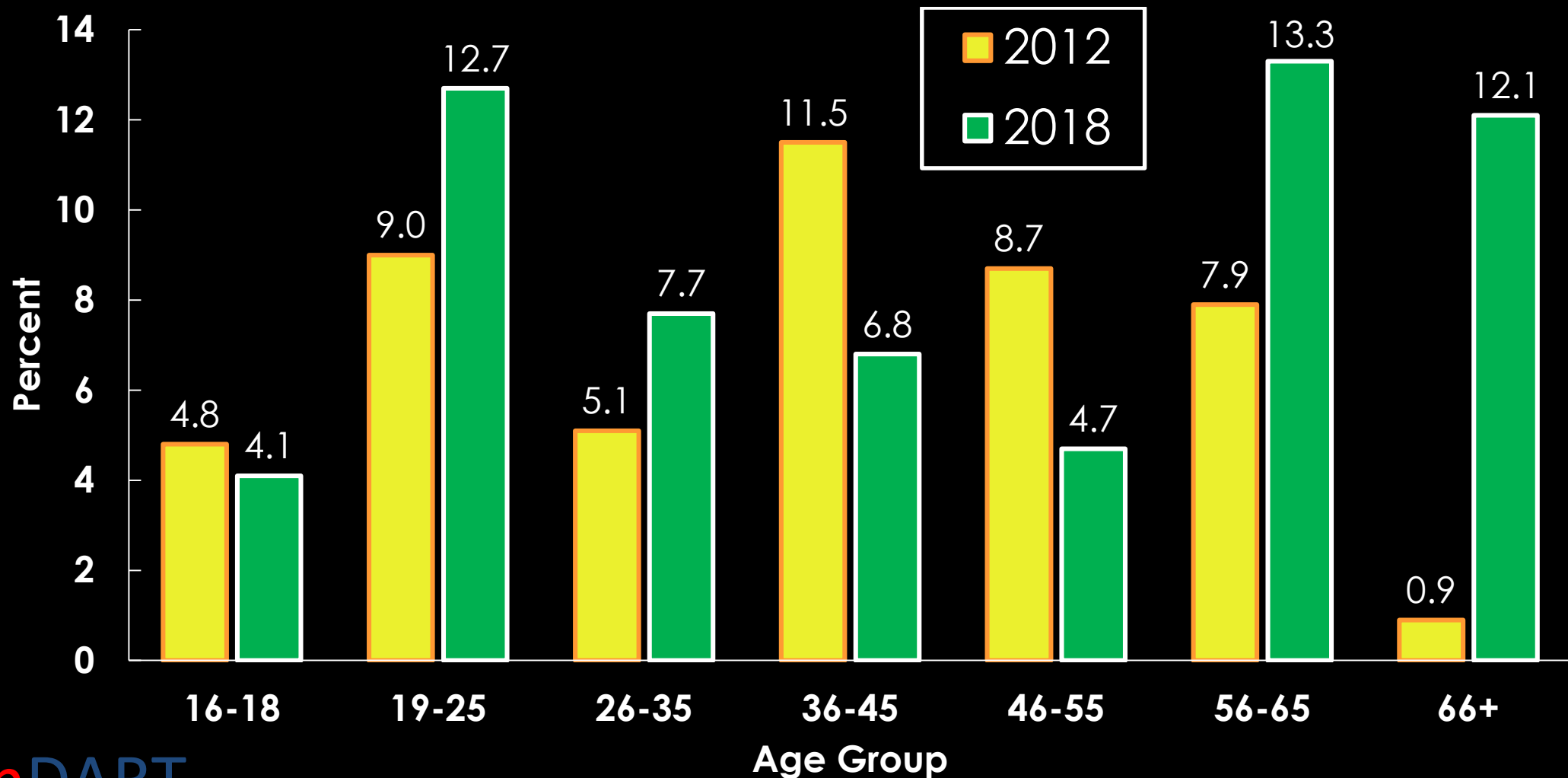
Alcohol and THC Positive Drivers According to Age Group



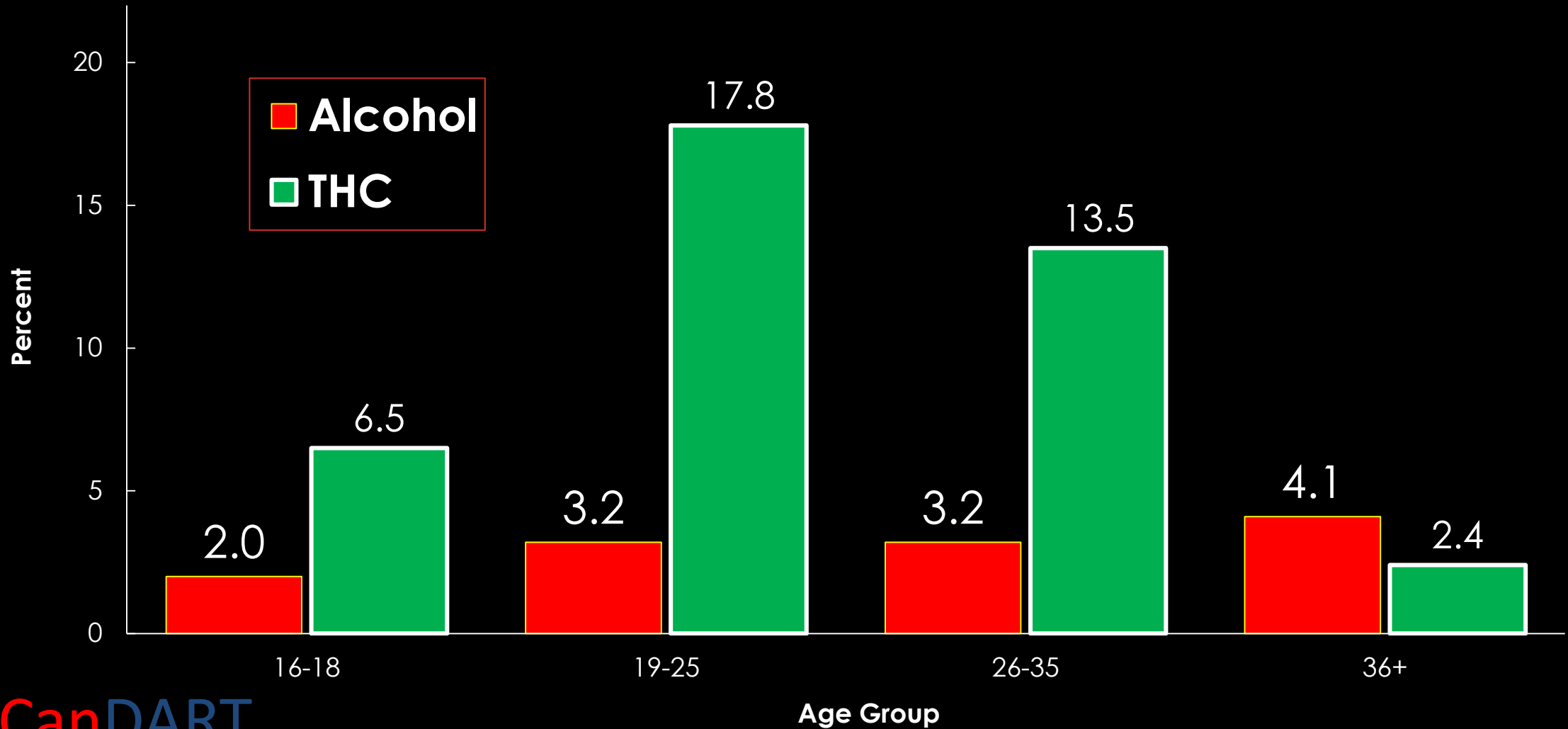
Alcohol and THC Positive Drivers According to Age Group (ON 2017)



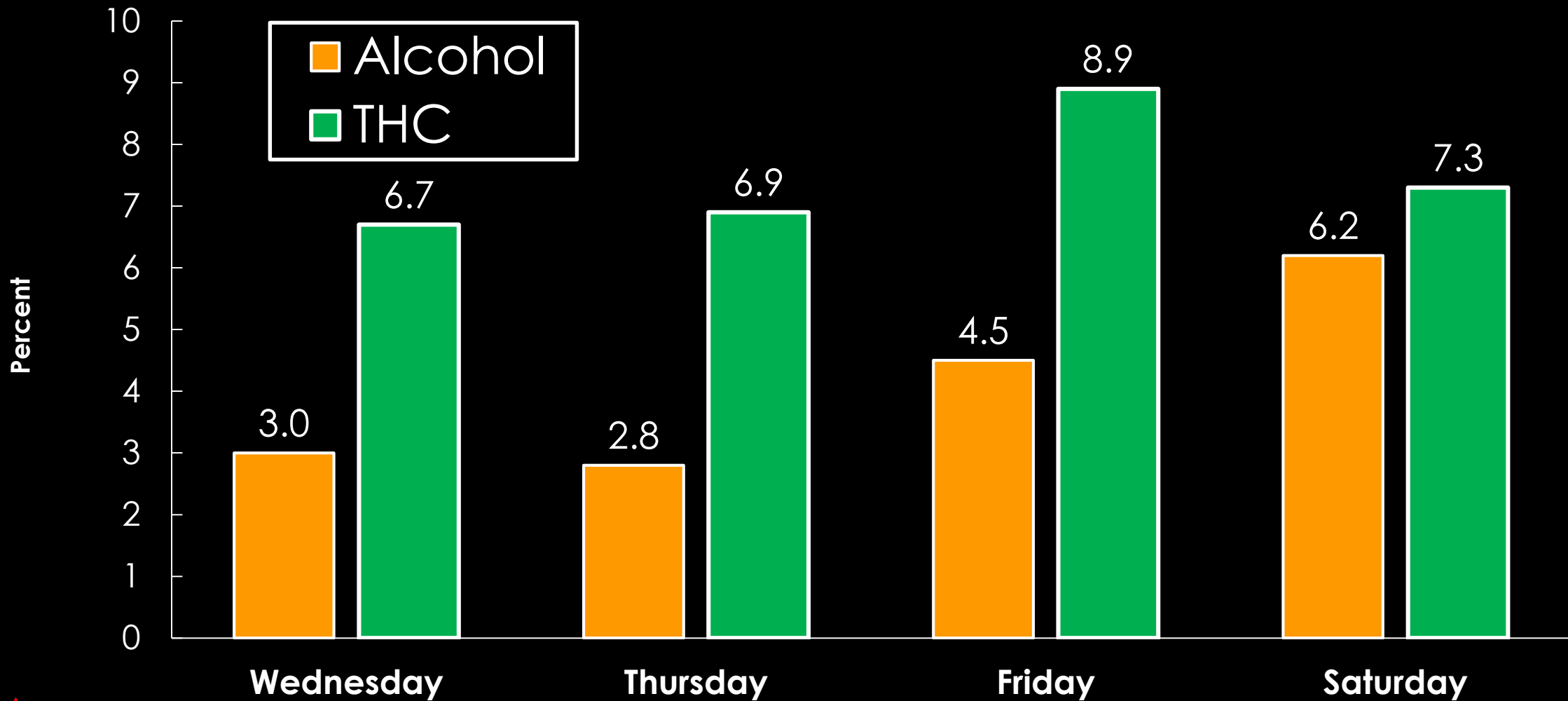
Drug Use by Age Group BC (2012 & 2018)



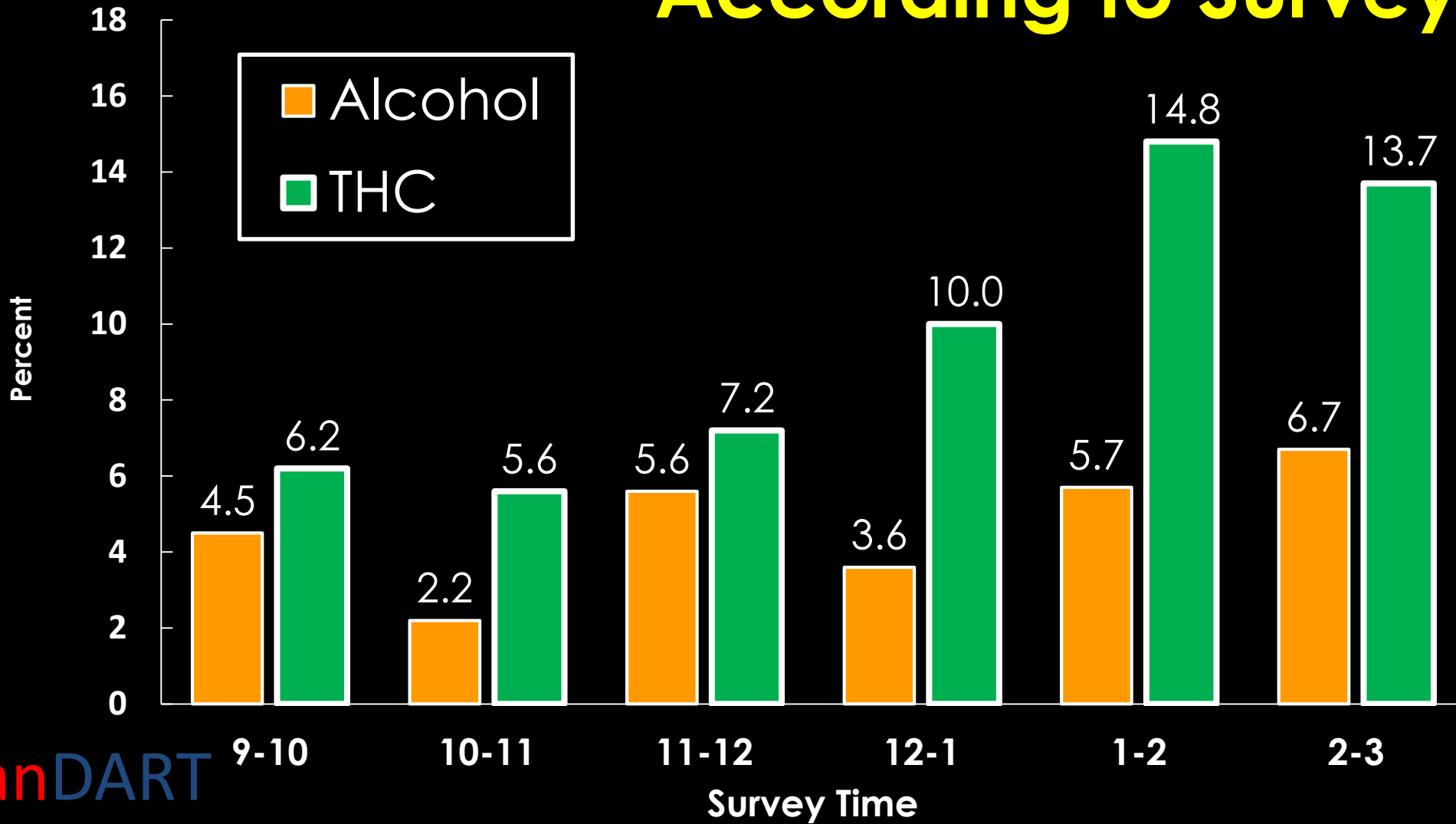
Alcohol and THC Positive Novice Drivers According to Age Group



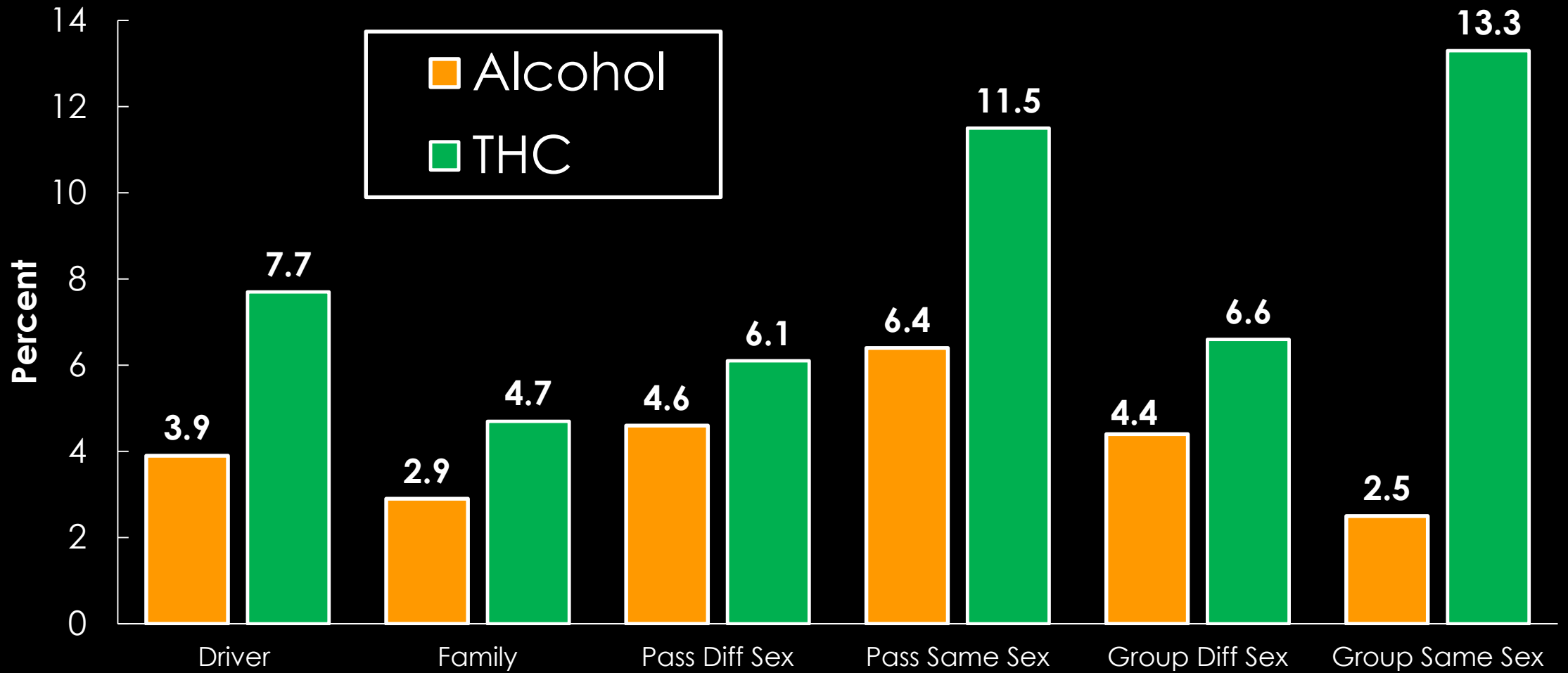
Alcohol and THC Positive Drivers According to Survey Night



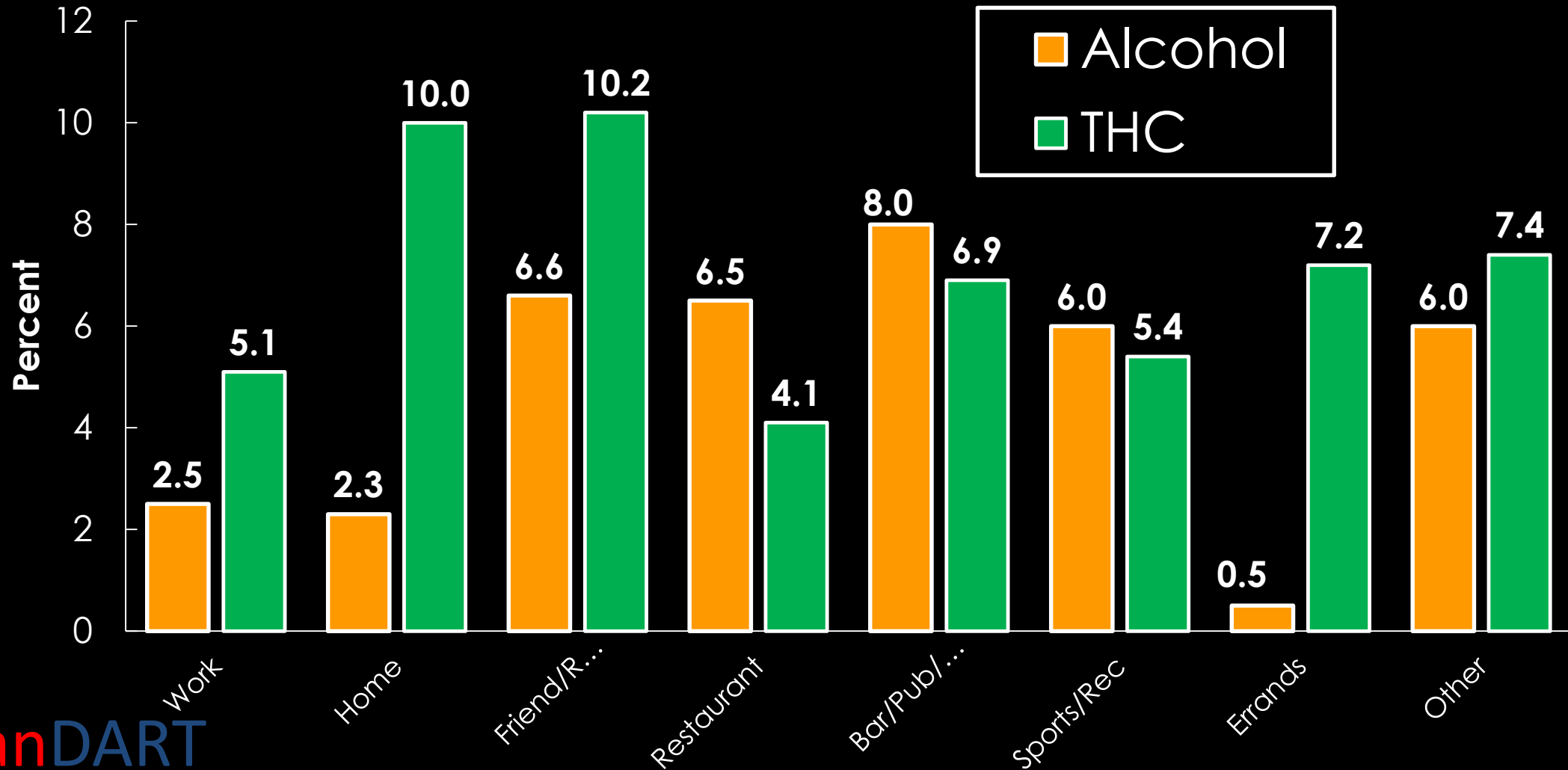
Alcohol and THC Positive Drivers According to Survey Time



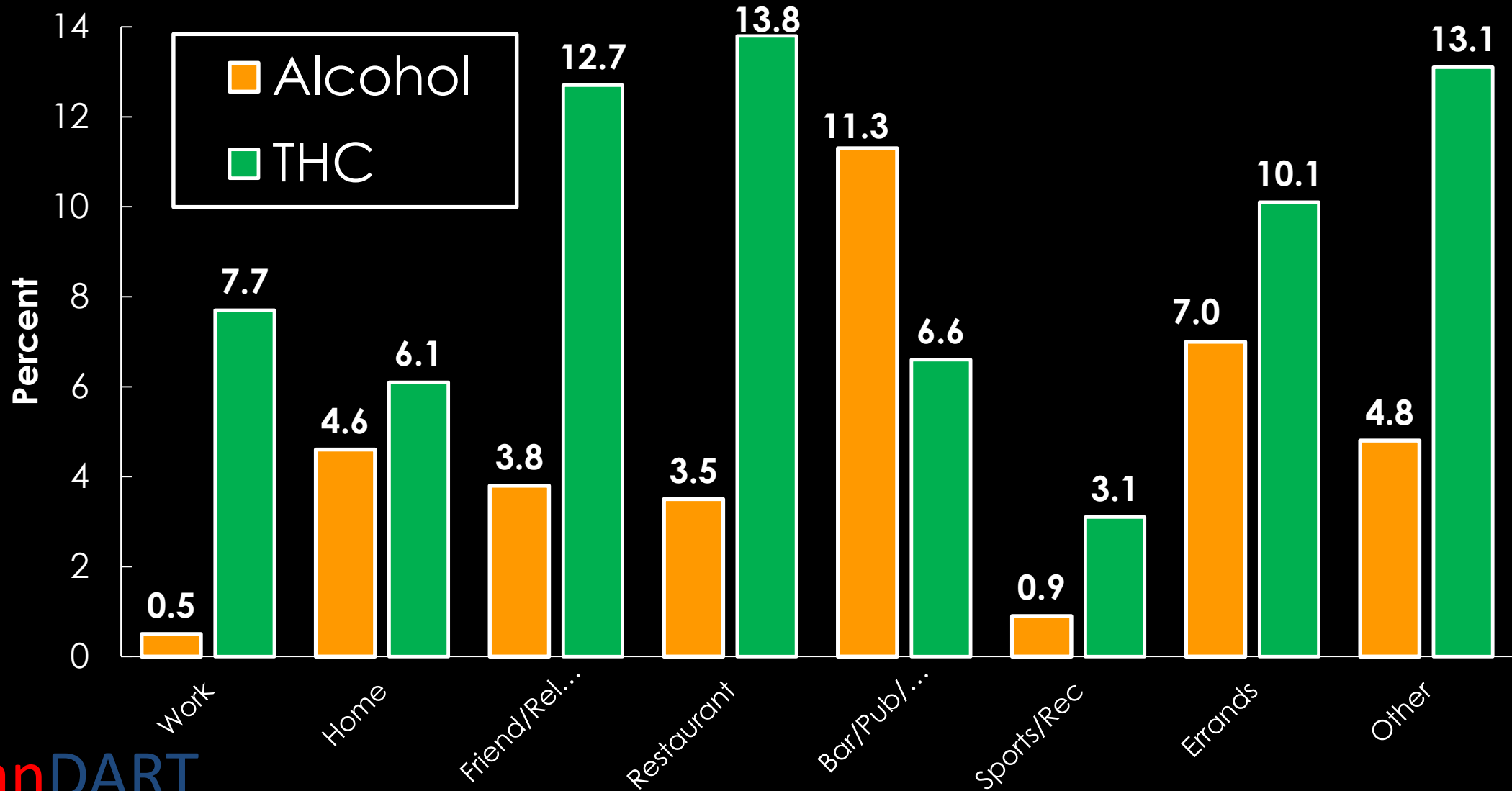
Who's in the Vehicle?



Trip Origin



Where are you going?



What did we learn?

- ❑ Alcohol decreased dramatically
- ❑ Cannabis more common than alcohol among drivers - increasing
- ❑ Younger drivers 19-25
- ❑ Older Novice drivers (19-25)
- ❑ Not just weekends
- ❑ Late night
- ❑ Groups of younger males



Final Word

- ❑ Public interest is high
- ❑ Misinformation/confusion
- ❑ Need to understand patterns of use, social norms
- ❑ Need to re-assess in 2-3 years to determine impact of legalization



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