

Virginia Statewide Impaired Driving Survey

2024

State Cannabis & Travel Laws

Although *limited* cannabis possession and cultivation is legal in VA, the following remain illegal:

- Operating a vehicle while cannabis-impaired
- Consumption or possession of an open container of cannabis while operating a motor vehicle (applies to driver and passenger)
- Mailing, shipping, or traveling interstate with cannabis
- Possession of any amount of cannabis on school grounds or school buses

Survey Background

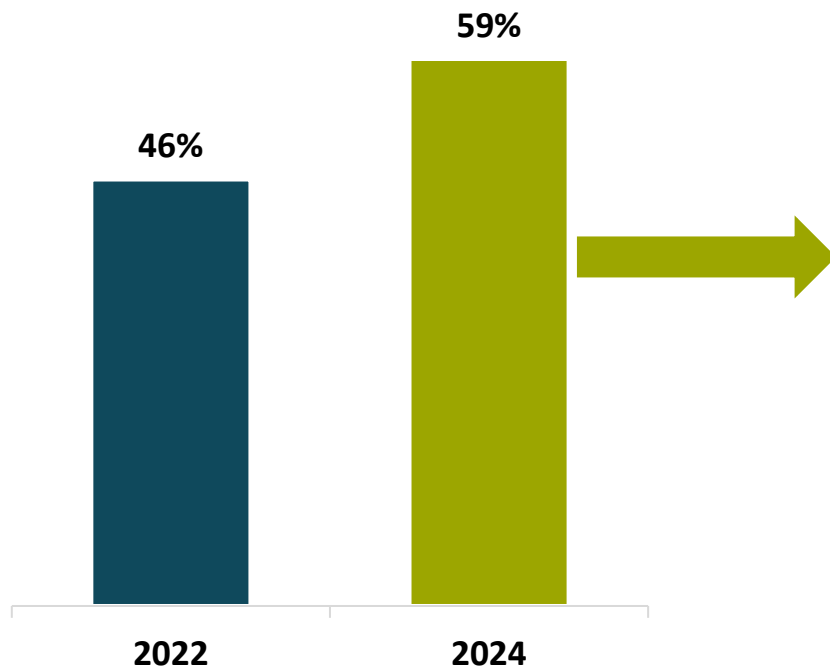
- **Summer 2022:** The Virginia CCA commissioned a survey by SSRS to explore attitudes, knowledge, and behavior regarding marijuana usage among Virginia residents, specifically as it relates to driving.
- **January 2023:** The Virginia CCA launched its Safe Driving Campaign to inform cannabis users and all Virginians of the dangers of driving while high and to encourage plans for a sober ride.
- **Summer 2024:** The Virginia CCA commissioned SSRS to reissue a similar follow-up study to the 2022 study.

Marijuana Usage

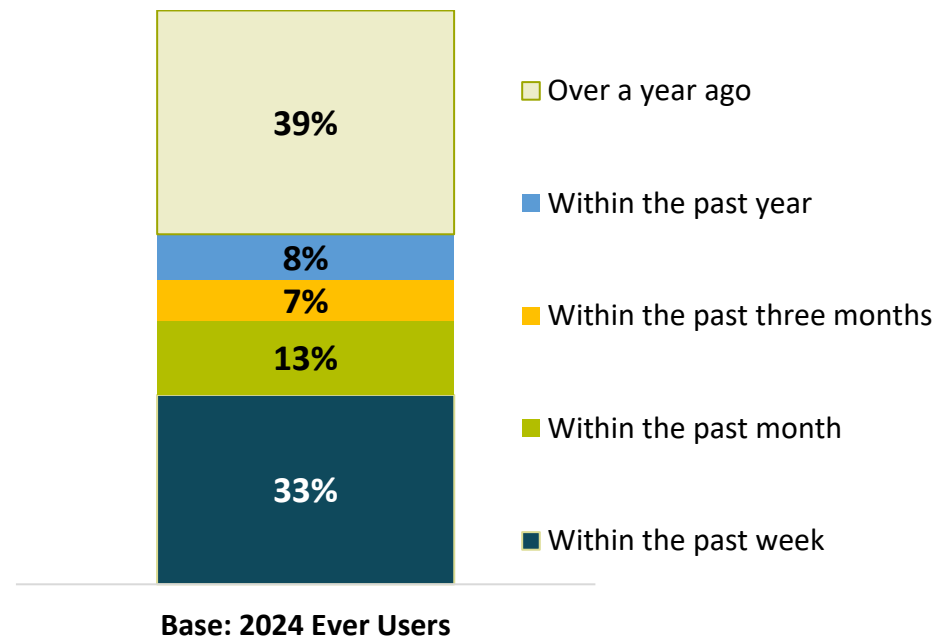
Marijuana Use

In 2024, three out of five Virginia drivers (59%) have ever used marijuana. Of those users, one-third (33%) have used marijuana within the past week.

HAVE EVER USED MARIJUANA



LAST TIME USED MARIJUANA

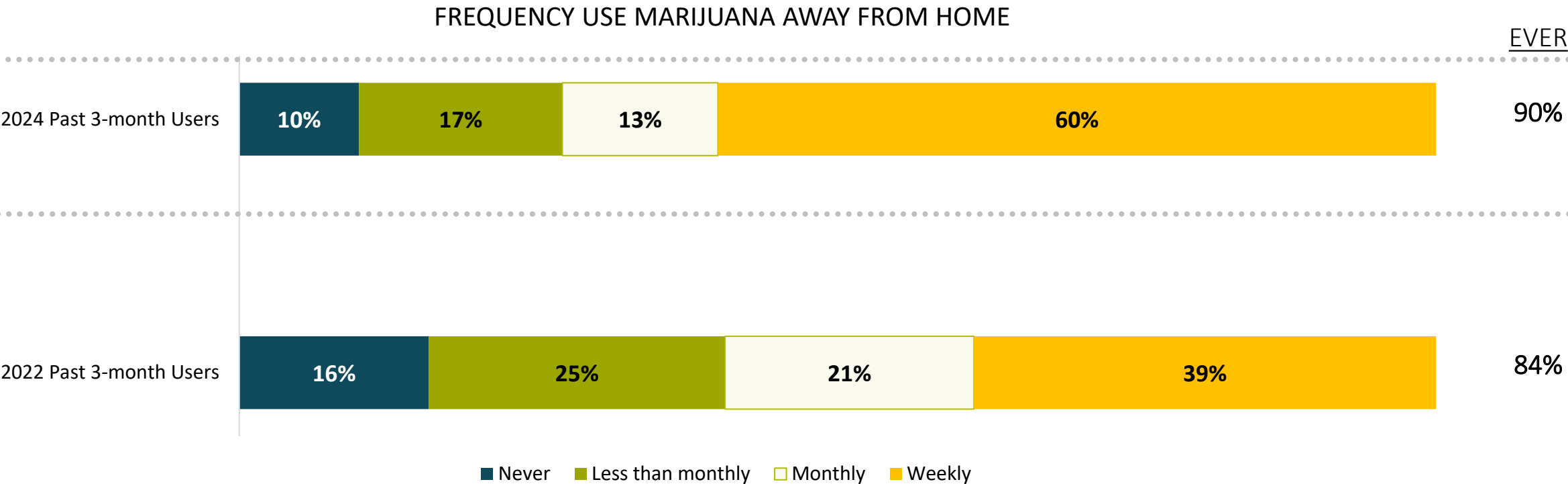


Q8. Have you ever used marijuana, in any form, for medical or recreational purposes? Base: Total Respondents (2022 n=783; 2024 n=783)

Q8a. When was the last time you used marijuana? Base: Marijuana Users (2022 n=468, 2024 n=510)

Frequency of Marijuana Use Away from Home

Six in ten past 3-month marijuana users use away from home at least once a week. This is an increase compared to 2022, when only four in ten used away from home at least once a week.



Q10. How often do you use marijuana away from your home? Base: Past 3 Months Marijuana Users (2022 n=304; 2024 n=310), Total Respondents (2022 n=783; 2024 n=783)

Personal Experience with Marijuana & Driving

Perceptions of Drivers

Almost one third (30%) of Virginia drivers believe those who consume marijuana are usually safer drivers. These perceptions are unchanged from 2022.

People who consume marijuana are a danger to others while driving and their driving behavior is impaired

70%



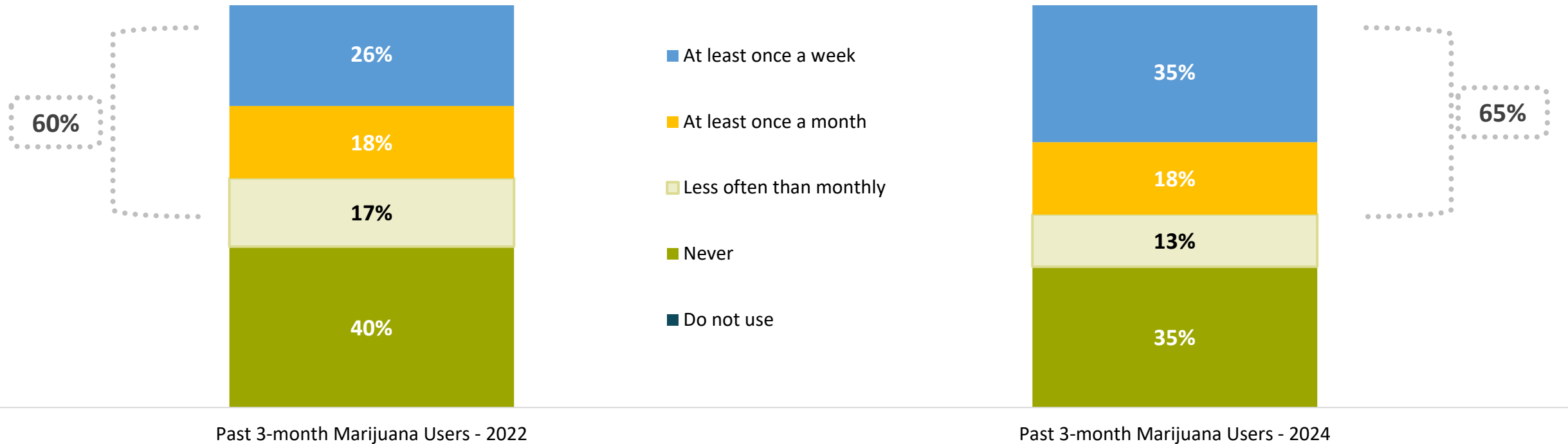
People who consume marijuana tend to drive slower and more cautiously and are usually safer drivers

30%

Q14. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view (even if neither is exactly right)? Base: Total Respondents (2022 n=783; 2024 n=783)

Frequency of Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana

35% of past 3-month users drive under the influence of marijuana at least once a week. This percentage is up from 26% of users in 2022 who drove under the influence at least once a week.

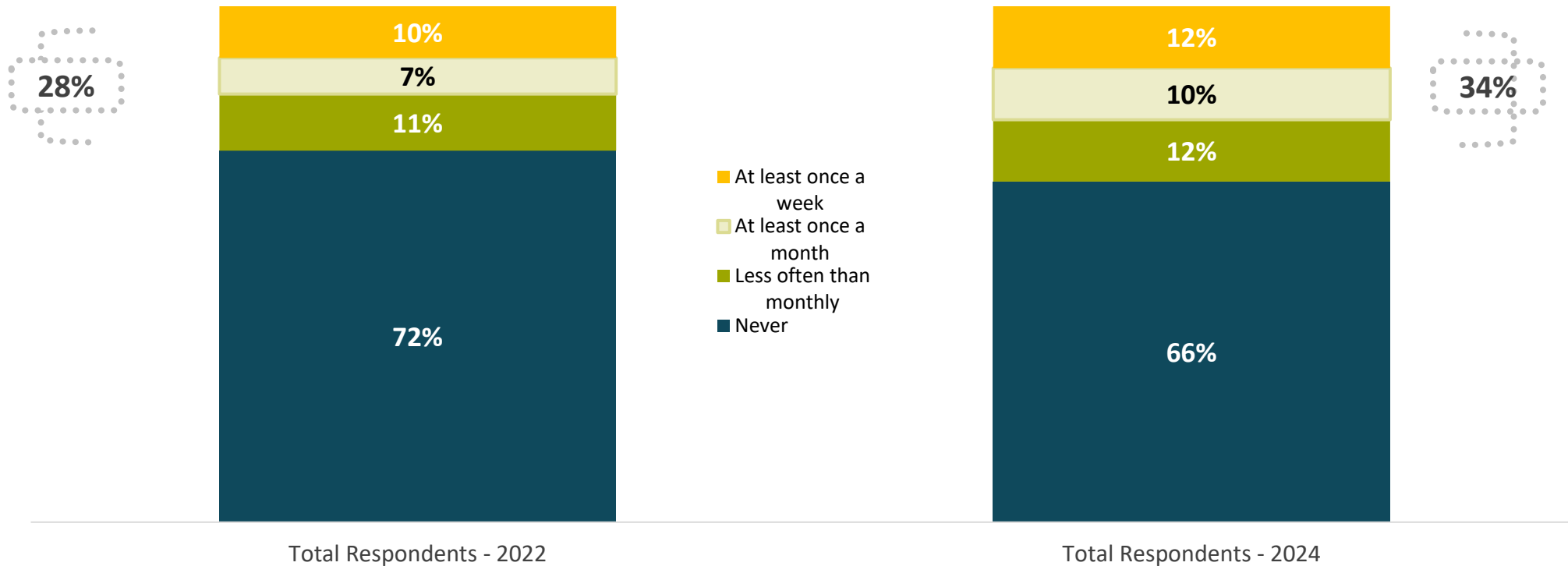


Frequent users are three times as likely to drive under the influence compared to total Virginia drivers.

Q19. In the past year, how often have you driven after using marijuana (within a few hours of use)? Base: Total Respondents (2022 n=783; 2024 n=783)
Q19. In the past year, how often have you driven after using marijuana (within a few hours of use)? Base: Past 3-Month Marijuana Users (2022 n=304; 2024 n=310)

Frequency of Being a Passenger of Someone Under the Influence of Marijuana

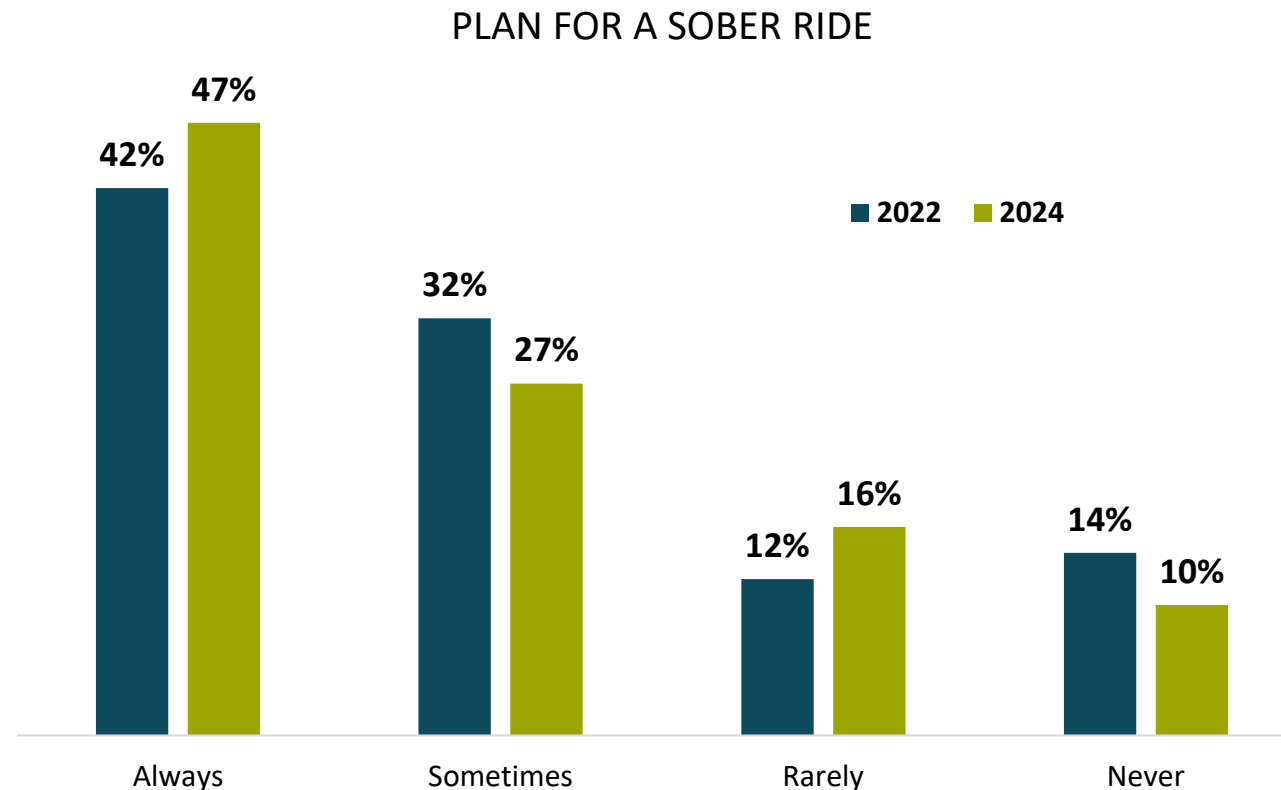
In 2024, over one-third of Virginia drivers (34%) admit to having previously been a passenger in a car driven by someone under the influence of marijuana. This is slightly higher compared to 2022 (28%).



Q18. In the past year, how often have you been a passenger in a vehicle driven by someone after that person used marijuana? Base: Total Respondents (2022 n=783; 2024 n=783)
Q18. In the past year, how often have you been a passenger in a vehicle driven by someone after that person used marijuana? Base: Past 3-Month Marijuana Users (2022 n=304; 2024 n=310)

Plan For a Sober Ride

Almost half (47%) of recent users (past 3-month) claim to always have a plan for a sober ride home. One in ten say they never have a plan.

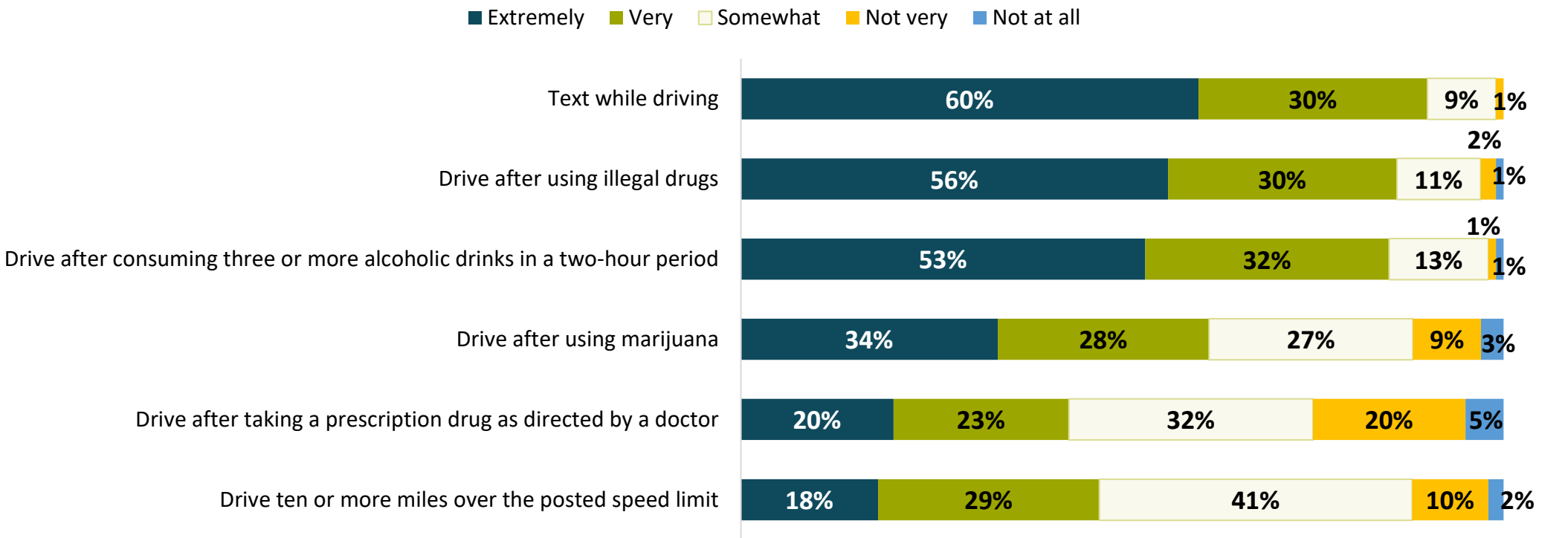


Q16. Prior to using marijuana, how often do you have a plan for a sober ride to drive you? Base: Past 3-Month Marijuana Users (2022 n=304; 2024 n=310)

Attitudes About Dangerous Driving Behaviors

Perceived Danger Levels of Various Behaviors and Driving

More Virginia drivers continue to rate texting while driving, as well as driving after using illegal drugs or consuming alcohol, as extremely dangerous compared to driving after using marijuana.



Q11. How dangerous do you believe it is to (INSERT ITEM)? Base: Total Respondents (2022 n=783; 2024 n=783)

Safe Driving Campaign

Safe Driving Campaign

- Most recent campaign ran 2022-2024
- Media platforms included:
 - Digital / Online, Billboards
 - TV, Radio, Streaming
 - Social Media
 - Partnership Toolkit
 - Includes Spanish language
 - Still available on our website!
- 147 million impressions, 28,567 broadcast commercials, and a total value exceeding 3.3 million
- New campaign in development!



Contact Information

- This data and accompanying report are summaries, not exhaustive descriptions of all survey results. For more information or questions, please email data@cca.virginia.gov or complete a [data request form](#).
- Full report available at cca.virginia.gov/reports or cca.virginia.gov/resources/safedriving.