

Cannabis Policy Study in the Territories

Northwest Territories 2022 Report

AUGUST 2023



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

Foreword and Acknowledgements

In October 2018, Canada became the second country to legalize non-medical cannabis. The primary objectives of the federal *Cannabis Act* include preventing young persons from accessing cannabis and protecting public health and safety by establishing a legal regulatory framework.

The Cannabis Policy Study in the Territories is a population-based research study designed to examine the public health impacts of cannabis policies, including legalization of medical and non-medical cannabis. The cross-sectional survey was piloted in 2021, was repeated at 12 months (2022), and is scheduled to be repeated again in 12 months (2023) in the 3 territories in Canada: Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut. For more information about the study, please visit the project website: www.cannabisproject.ca/territories.

The current report summarizes findings from the 2022 Cannabis Policy Study in the Territories, with a focus on results specific to Northwest Territories. The research team would like to acknowledge the territorial governments, Indigenous organizations in Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut, and the Nunavut Advisory Council for their feedback on and support of this study.

The Cannabis Policy Study in the Territories is part of the larger International Cannabis Policy Study (ICPS), which includes annual population-based surveys conducted in the 10 provinces in Canada, and in the United States (since 2018), as well as Australia and New Zealand (since 2021). As the online survey used in the Cannabis Policy Study in the Territories was adapted from the ICPS, the majority of the survey measures included were identical between the two studies. Of note, individuals aged 16+ in the Cannabis Policy Study in the Territories were recruited using the methods described on page 5, whereas individuals aged 16-65 in the ICPS were recruited through an online consumer panel.

FUNDING

Funding for this study was provided by a Health Canada Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP) project grant.

ETHICS CLEARANCE

The project has been reviewed and approved by the Aurora Research Institute in the Northwest Territories (research license #16891 and 16960), Scientists and Explorers licencing program in Yukon (research license #21-50S&E and 22-04S&E), Nunavut Research Institute in Nunavut (research license #05 013 21N-M and 05 001 22R-M), University of Waterloo Research Ethics Committee (ORE #42817), and Public Health Ontario Ethics Review Board (#2021-021.01 to 2021-021.03).

SUGGESTED CITATION

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Methods

OVERVIEW

The Cannabis Policy Study in the Territories is a repeat cross-sectional survey conducted annually in the 3 territories in Canada (Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut) to examine trends in cannabis use and policy. This report summarizes key indicators from the 2022 survey conducted from September 12 to October 27, 2022.

SAMPLE

Respondents aged 16+ who use and do not use cannabis were recruited across the 3 territories through mail push-to-web invitations sent via Canada Post licensed residential household and neighbourhood mailing lists, which include a near census of households across the 3 territories. The study was promoted using several methods: 1) local Research Assistants in 4 cities/hamlets in the 3 territories distributed study posters in their communities; 2) Indigenous and government organizations shared the study posters with their networks; 3) study posters were shared on public community pages on social media; 4) unpaid interviews were conducted with local media outlets; and, 5) radio and digital ads were purchased from local media outlets. Participants who completed the survey received a \$20 e-transfer as remuneration. The final analytic sample for 2022 included 2,462 respondents across the 3 territories.

SURVEY

The survey covers the following content areas:

- prevalence and patterns of cannabis use;
- cannabis purchasing and price;
- cannabis consumption and product types;
- commercial retail environment;
- risk behaviours;

- cannabis knowledge, perceptions of risk and social norms;
- exposure to health warnings and public educational campaigns;
- exposure to cannabis marketing and branding;
- substance use and other risk behaviours; and
- socio-demographics and socio-economic status.

DATA ANALYSIS

Post-stratification survey weights were created using age-by-sex-by-territory and education groups, using 2021 Canadian Census data. With the exception of the unweighted sample profile characteristics, all estimates in the current report are weighted and rescaled to the original sample size within each territory.

For 4 key indicators, results are presented using the breakdowns: Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut; within and outside Yellowknife; and, all 3 territories, and the 10 Canadian provinces from the 2022 survey of the larger International Cannabis Policy Study (ICPS). For all other indicators, results are presented for Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. In the figures presenting results, 'Don't know' responses were retained, and 'Refuse to answer' responses were excluded.

TECHNICAL REPORT

The survey and technical report are available at: www.cannabisproject.ca/territories. The technical report includes detailed information on methodology, survey weighting, and data suppression guidelines.

Sample profile (n=2,462)

	Northwest Territories n=913	Yukon n=1,415	Nunavut n=134
Sex			
Female	501 (55%)	796 (56%)	72 (54%)
Male	412 (45%)	619 (44%)	62 (46%)
Age group (years)			
16 - 25	113 (12%)	140 (10%)	16 (12%)
26 - 35	241 (26%)	344 (24%)	43 (32%)
36 - 45	211 (23%)	314 (22%)	33 (25%)
46 - 55	149 (16%)	213 (15%)	25 (19%)
56 - 65	121 (13%)	184 (13%)	10 (7%)
66+	78 (9%)	220 (16%)	7 (5%)
Region within Northwest Territories			
North Slave (i.e., Yellowknife)	705 (77%)	-	-
South Slave (i.e., Hay River, Fort Smith, Fort Providence, Enterprise)	93 (10%)	-	-
Inuvik (i.e., Inuvik, Aklavik, Ulukhaktok, Tuktoyaktuk)	87 (10%)	-	-
Sahtú (i.e., Fort Good Hope, Tulita)	17 (2%)	-	-
Dehcho (i.e., Fort Simpson, Fort Liard)	11 (1%)	-	-
Location			
Within Yellowknife, Whitehorse, or Iqaluit	705 (77%)	1,350 (95%)	84 (63%)
Outside Yellowknife, Whitehorse, or Iqaluit	208 (23%)	65 (5%)	50 (37%)

Sample profile (n=2,462)

	Northwest Territories n=913	Yukon n=1,415	Nunavut n=134
Ethnicity			
Indigenous	231 (25%)	174 (12%)	58 (43%)
First Nations	113 (12%)	103 (7%)	#
Inuk (Inuit)	61 (7%)	12 (1%)	56 (42%)
Métis	50 (5%)	50 (4%)	#
Unstated	7 (1%)	9 (1%)	#
White	548 (60%)	1,048 (74%)	55 (41%)
Other/mixed/unstated	134 (15%)	193 (14%)	21 (16%)
Highest education level			
High school diploma or less	176 (19%)	187 (13%)	45 (34%)
Some college/university/technical training	269 (29%)	458 (32%)	35 (26%)
Bachelor's degree or higher	458 (50%)	761 (54%)	54 (40%)
Unstated	10 (1%)	9 (1%)	0 (0%)
Personal gross income			
<\$50,000	118 (13%)	209 (15%)	21 (16%)
\$50,000 to <\$100,000	205 (22%)	418 (30%)	16 (12%)
≥\$100,000	478 (52%)	611 (43%)	68 (51%)
Unstated	112 (12%)	177 (13%)	29 (22%)
Income adequacy			
Very difficult/difficult	178 (20%)	240 (17%)	31 (23%)
Neither difficult/easy	283 (31%)	457 (32%)	45 (34%)
Easy/very easy	418 (46%)	670 (47%)	49 (37%)
Unstated	34 (4%)	48 (3%)	9 (7%)

UNWEIGHTED RESULTS.

INDIGENOUS: INCLUDES ALL RESPONDENTS WHO SELF-IDENTIFIED (IN PART OR EXCLUSIVELY) INDIGENOUS ETHNICITY OR STATUS.

FOR INCOME ADEQUACY, RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED 'THINKING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY'S INCOME, HOW DIFFICULT OR EASY IS IT TO MAKE ENDS MEET?'

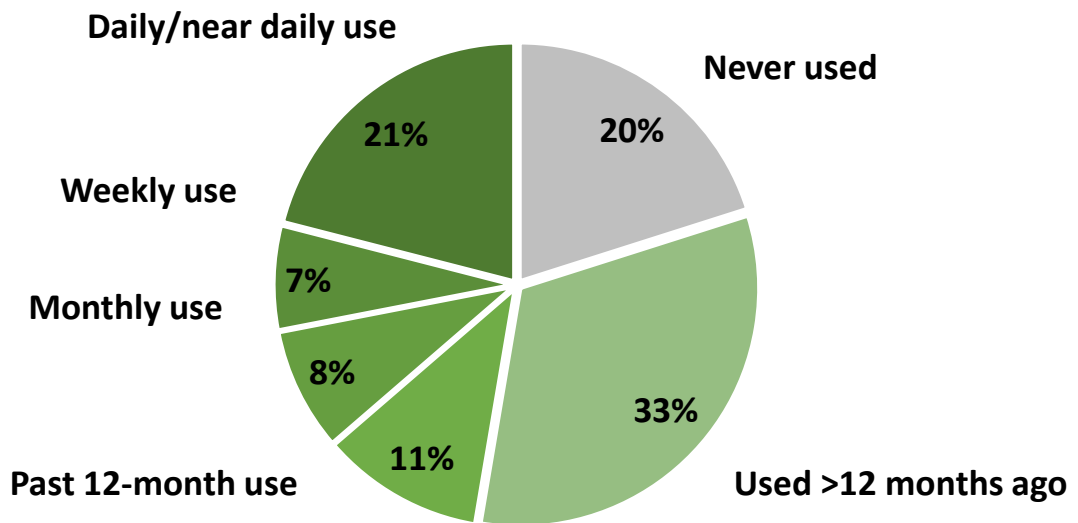
RESULT SUPPRESSED DUE TO SMALL SAMPLE SIZE (N<5 FOR DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES).



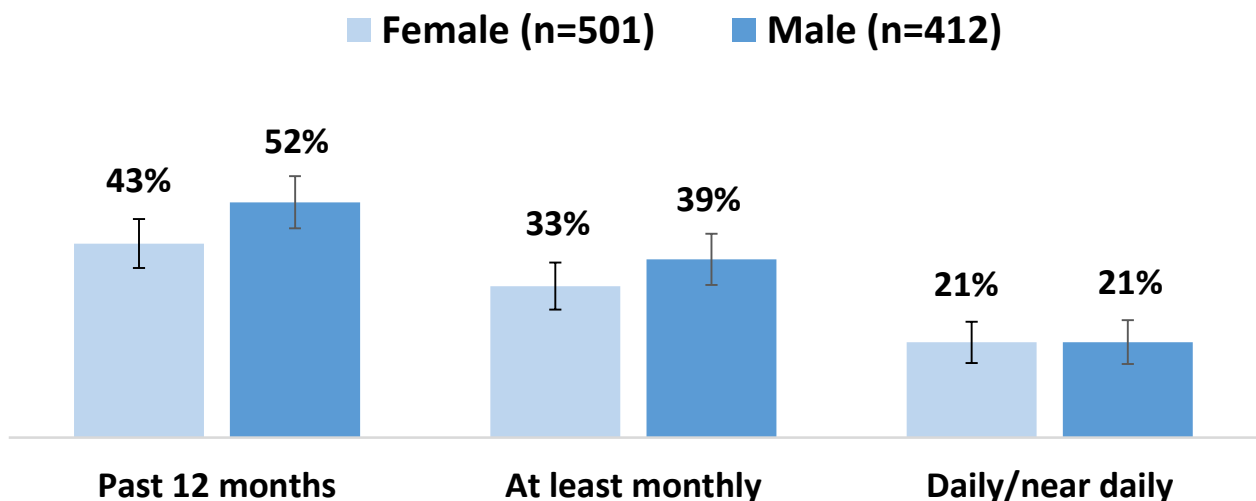
Cannabis prevalence

Northwest Territories (n=913)

Respondents were asked to report their frequency of cannabis use. In the Northwest Territories, the prevalence of daily/near daily use was 21%, while the prevalence of never having used was 20%. By sex, the prevalence of having used cannabis in the past 12 months and at least monthly (both inclusive of more frequent cannabis use) were slightly higher among males than females, whereas the prevalence of daily/near daily was identical between the sexes.



By Sex





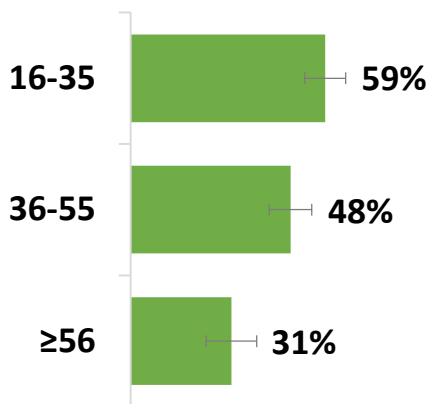
Cannabis prevalence

Northwest Territories (n=913)

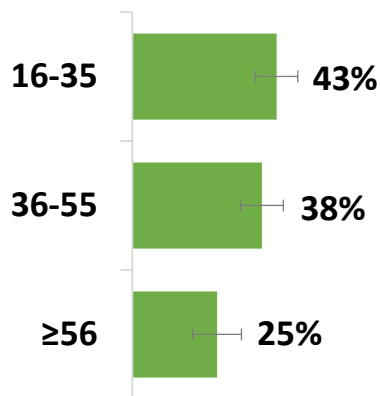
In the Northwest Territories, a higher prevalence of younger individuals (ages 16-35) reported using cannabis in the past 12 months (inclusive of more frequent cannabis use) than older individuals (≥56). A higher prevalence of individuals with less education (a high school diploma or less) reported using cannabis in the past 12 months than those with more education (Bachelor's degree or higher).

By age

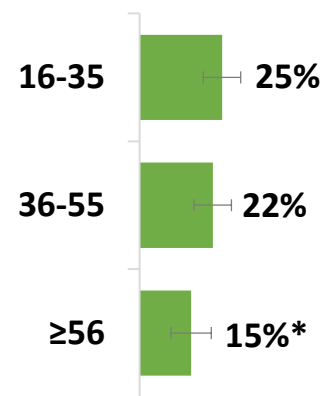
Past 12 months



At least monthly

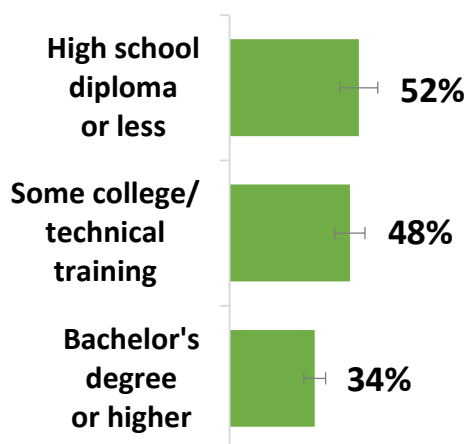


Daily/near daily

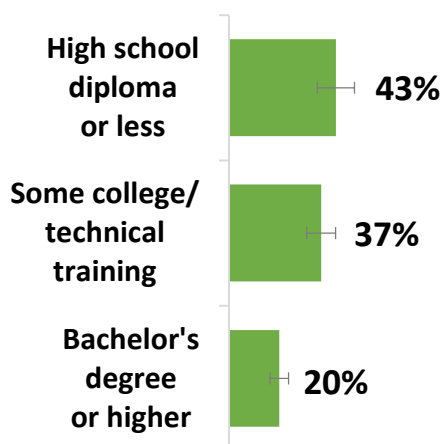


By education

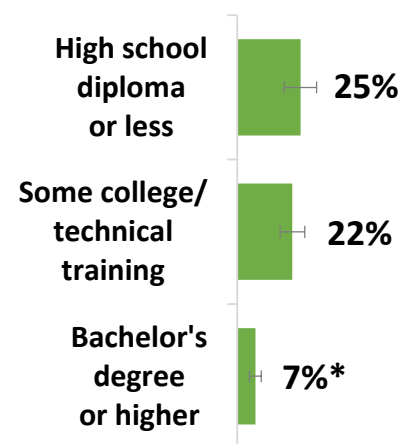
Past 12 months



At least monthly



Daily/near daily



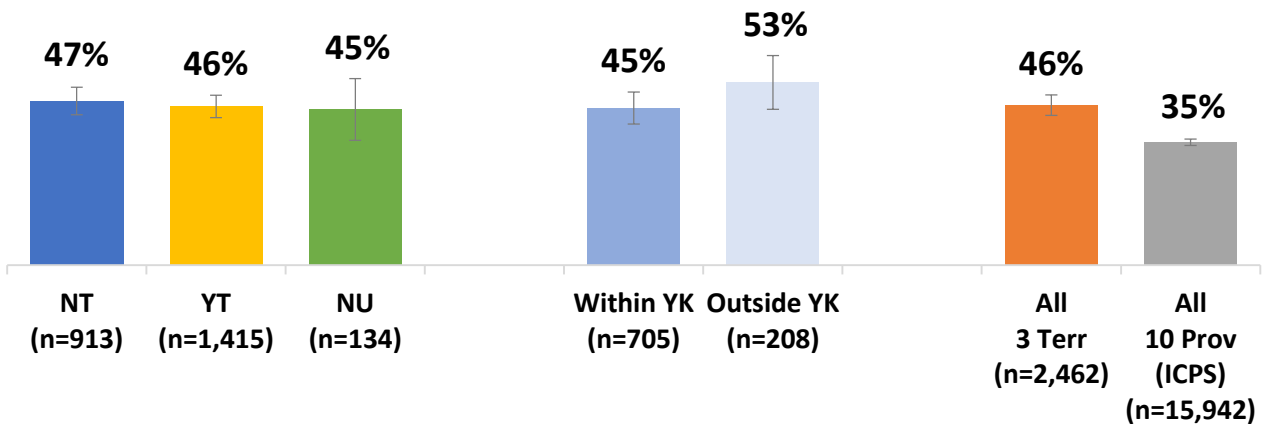
WEIGHTED RESULTS.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

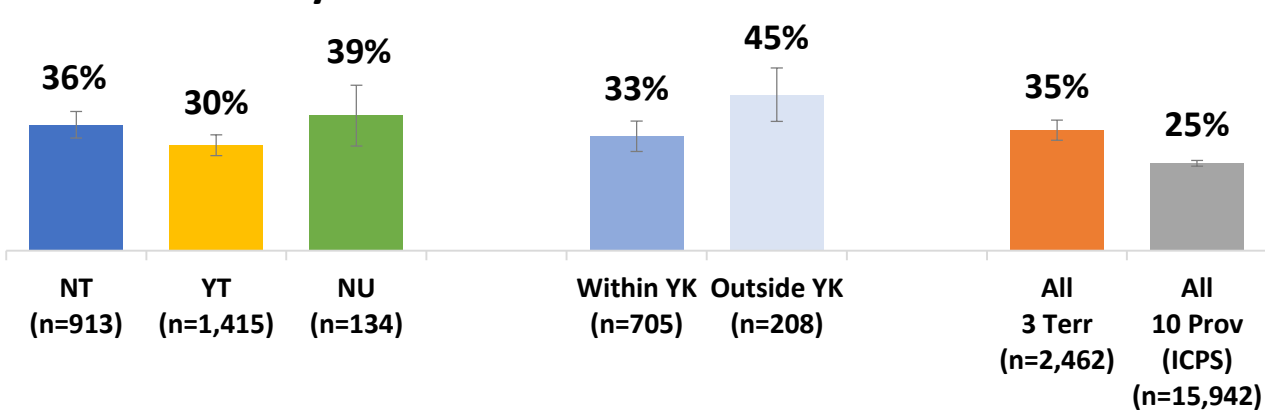
Cannabis prevalence

In the Northwest Territories, the prevalence of past 12-month use (inclusive of more frequent cannabis use) was 47%. Prevalence of past 12-month cannabis use was similar across the 3 territories. Prevalence of cannabis use was higher outside Yellowknife compared to within Yellowknife. Prevalence of cannabis use was generally higher in the 3 territories than in all 10 provinces based on results from the International Cannabis Policy Study (ICPS).

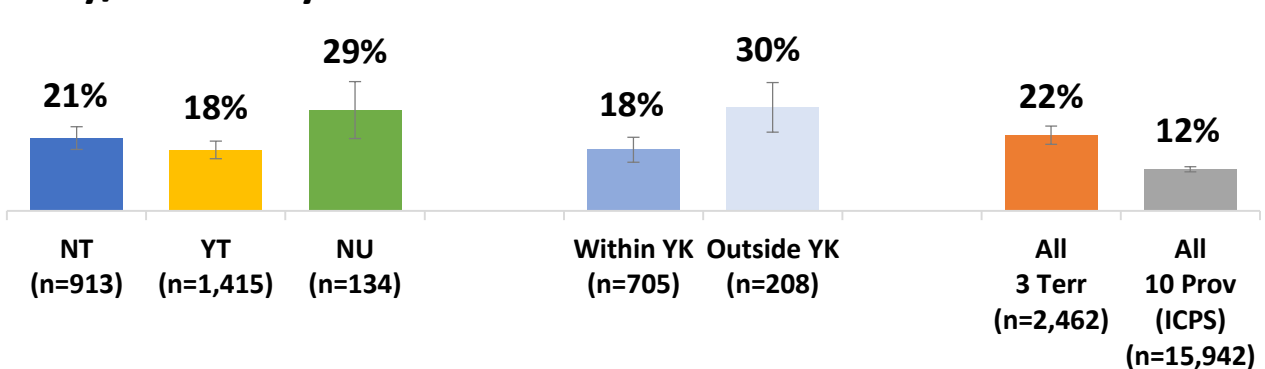
Past 12 months



At least monthly



Daily/near daily



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE; TERR, TERRITORIES; PROV, PROVINCES; ICPS, INTERNATIONAL CANNABIS POLICY STUDY.

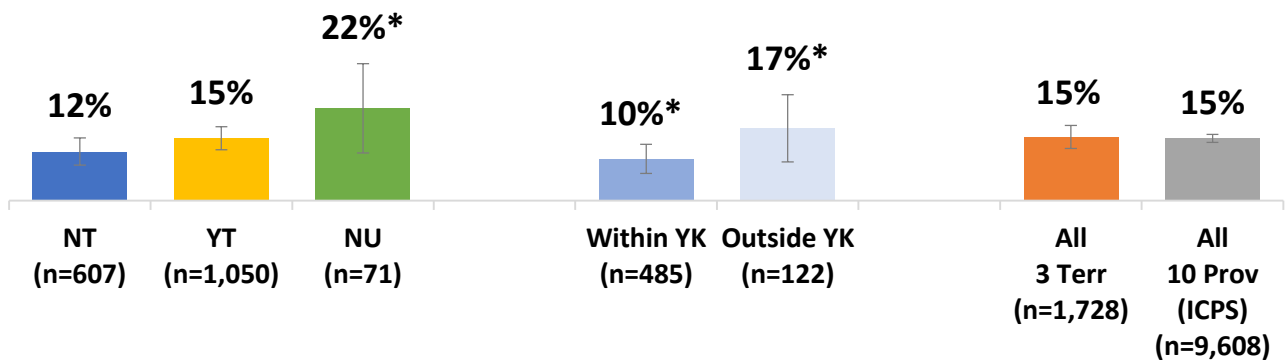


Cannabis and vehicle use

Among ‘ever’ cannabis consumers with a valid driver’s license in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting having driven a vehicle within 2 hours of cannabis use was similar in the Northwest Territories (12%), Yukon (15%), and all 10 provinces from the ICPS (15%). In the Northwest Territories, 18% reported having been a passenger with a driver who had used cannabis within 2 hours, which was similar to Yukon (19%) and all 10 provinces from the ICPS (15%). This measure was higher outside Yellowknife (26%) compared to within Yellowknife (16%).

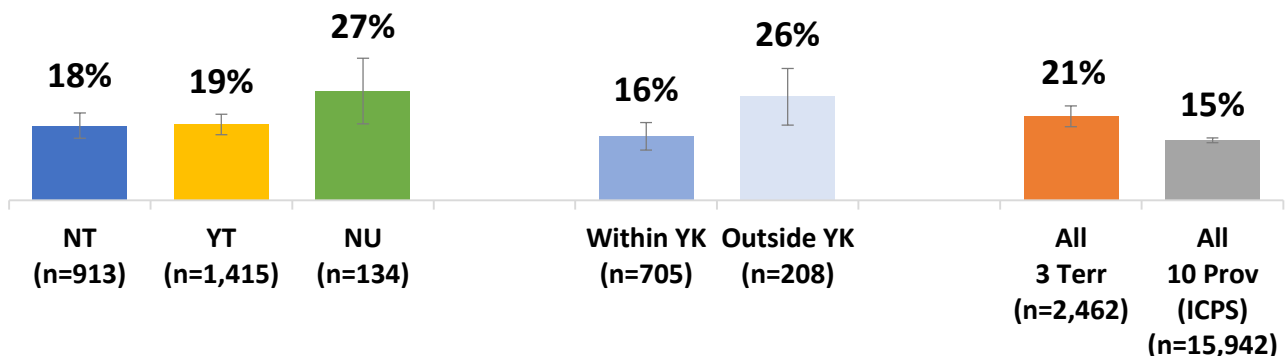
Driven a vehicle within 2 hours of cannabis use

% YES IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, AMONG ‘EVER’ CANNABIS CONSUMERS WITH A VALID DRIVER’S LICENSE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS



Was a passenger in a vehicle with a driver who had used cannabis within 2 hours

% YES IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE; TERR, TERRITORIES; PROV, PROVINCES; ICPS, INTERNATIONAL CANNABIS POLICY STUDY.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

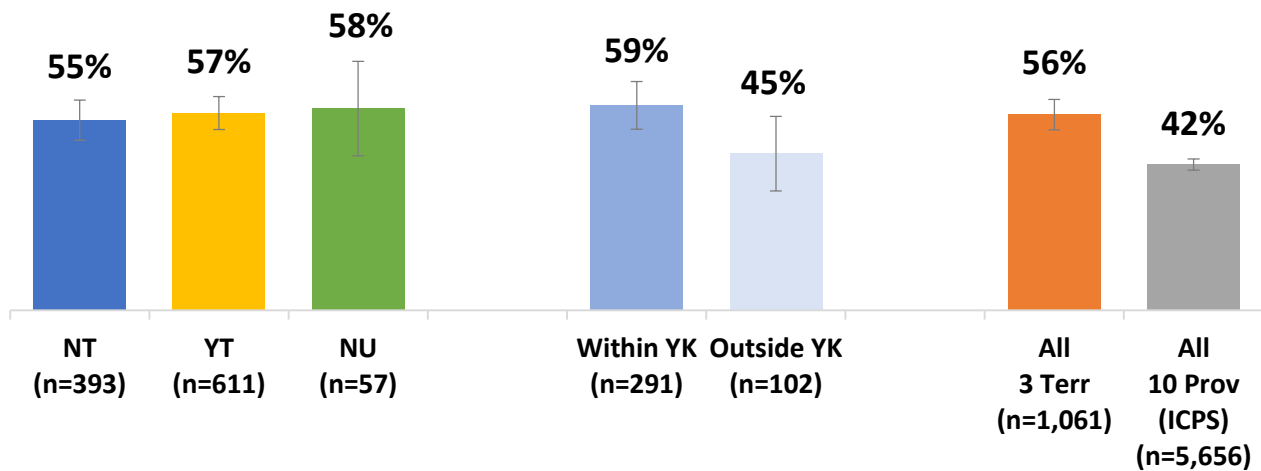
Polysubstance use

Among past 12-month cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories, 55% reported having used cannabis on the same occasion with alcohol in the past 12 months. A higher percent within Yellowknife (59%) reported using cannabis and alcohol on the same occasion compared to outside Yellowknife (45%). Higher use of cannabis on the same occasion with alcohol were observed in the 3 territories than in all 10 provinces from the ICPS.

Simultaneous co-use of cannabis and alcohol in the past 12 months

% YES TO USING CANNABIS AND ALCOHOL ON THE SAME OCCASION IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS

Alcohol



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE; TERR, TERRITORIES; PROV, PROVINCES; ICPS, INTERNATIONAL CANNABIS POLICY STUDY.

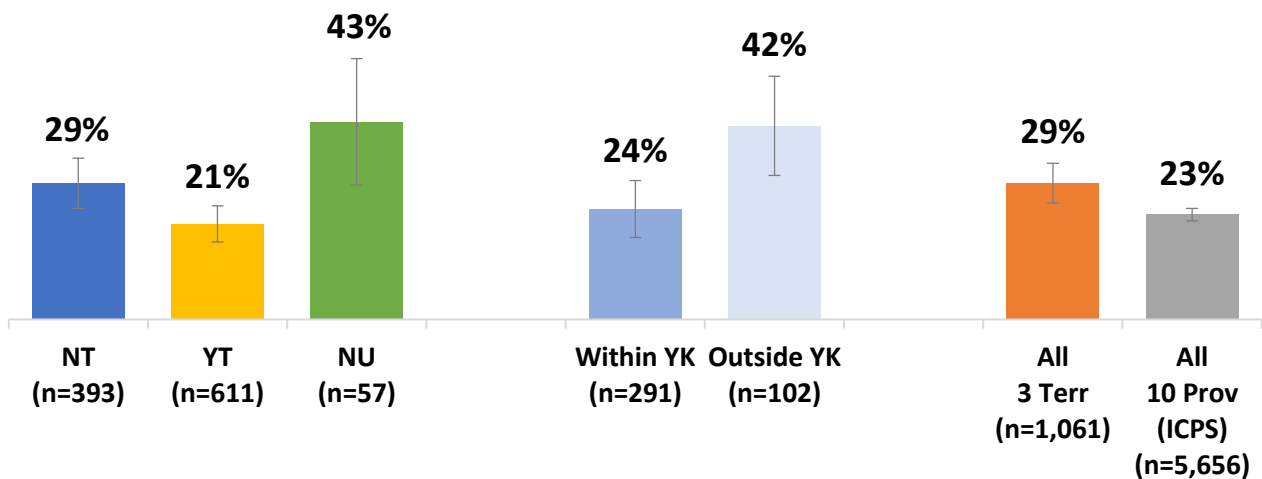
Polysubstance use

Among past 12-month cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories, 29% reported having used cannabis on the same occasion with tobacco cigarettes, and 10% used cannabis on the same occasion with e-cigarettes/vaped nicotine in the past 12 months. A higher percent outside Yellowknife (42%) reported using cannabis and tobacco cigarettes compared to within Yellowknife (24%), whereas the percent reported using cannabis and e-cigarettes was the same within and outside Yellowknife (10%). Results for tobacco cigarettes and e-cigarettes were similar in Yukon and the Northwest Territories, and in all 10 provinces from the ICPS.

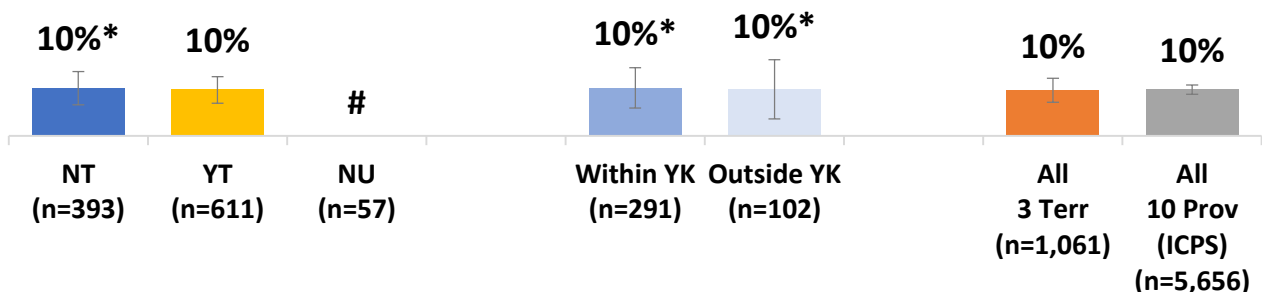
Simultaneous co-use of cannabis and tobacco cigarettes or e-cigarettes in the past 12 months

% YES TO USING CANNABIS AND ANOTHER SUBSTANCE ON THE SAME OCCASION IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS

Tobacco cigarettes



E-cigarettes/vaped nicotine



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

YT, YUKON; NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE; TERR, TERRITORIES; PROV, PROVINCES; ICPS, INTERNATIONAL CANNABIS POLICY STUDY.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

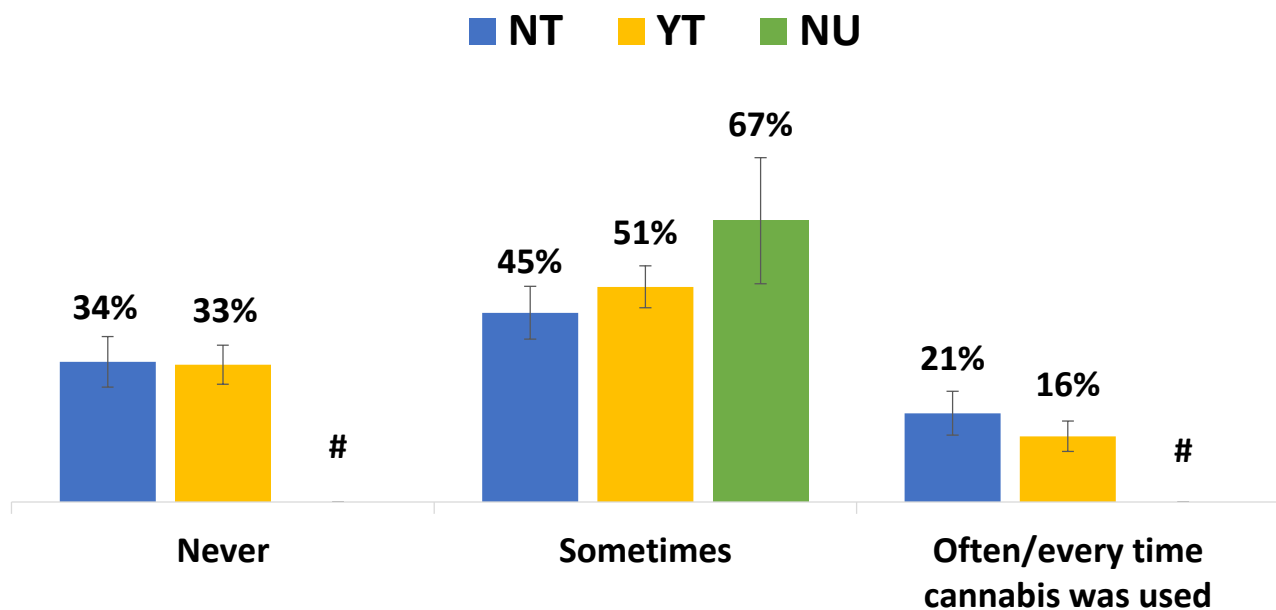
HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Cannabis and alcohol use

In the Northwest Territories, 34% of past 12-month cannabis consumers who have ever used alcohol reported 'never' using cannabis and alcohol at the same time in the past 12 months, 45% reported 'sometimes' using cannabis and alcohol at the same time, and 21% reported using cannabis and alcohol at the same time 'often' or 'every time cannabis was used'.

In the past year, when you used cannabis, how often did you use alcohol at the same time?

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS USERS WHO HAD EVER USED ALCOHOL. NT (N=342), YT (N=569), NU (N=43)



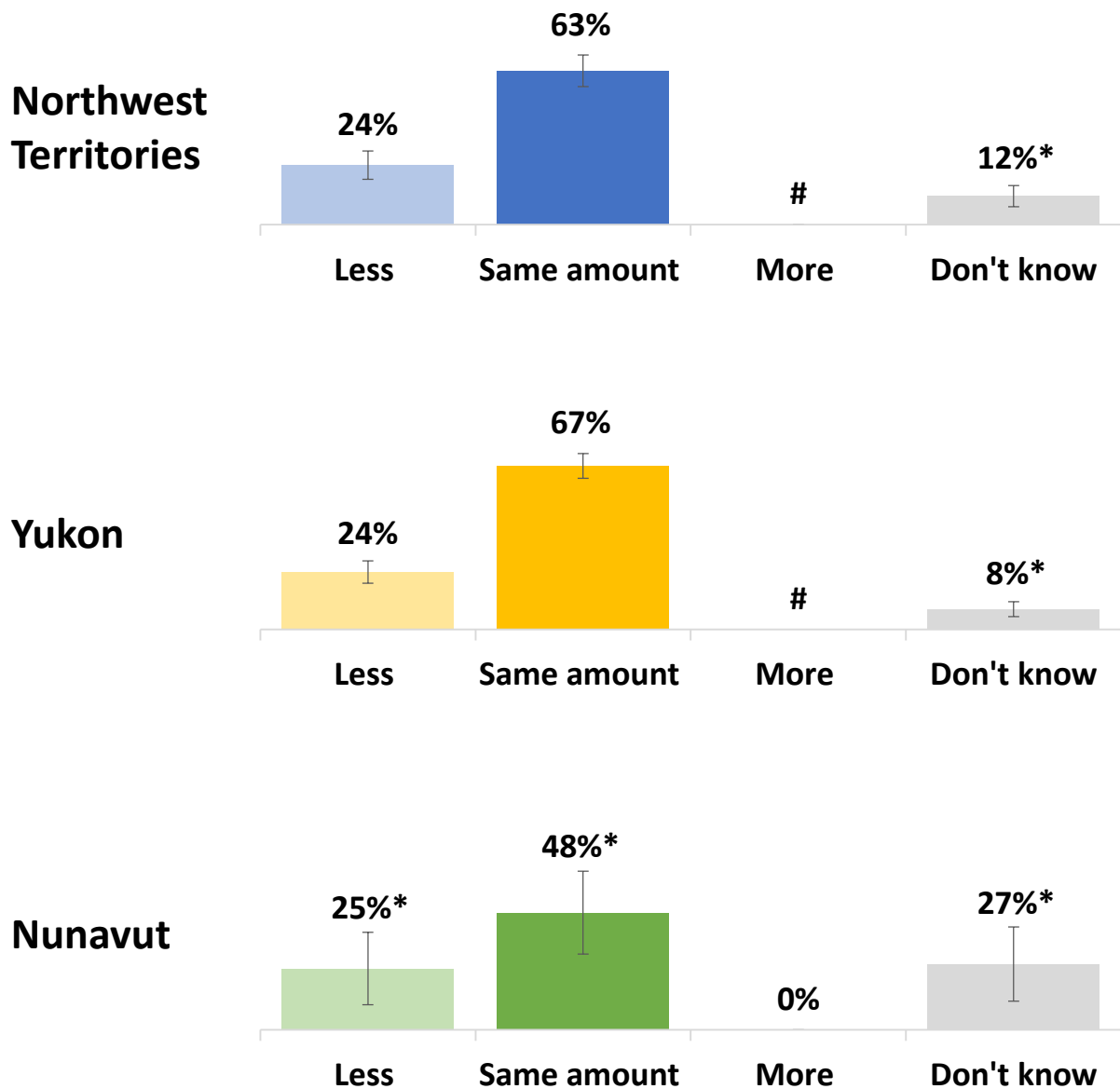
NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.
HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY, RESULT SUPPRESSED.
RESULTS SUPPRESSED FOR RESPONDENTS WHO SELECTED 'DON'T KNOW'.

Cannabis and alcohol use

Among respondents in the Northwest Territories who used cannabis and alcohol in the past 12 months, 24% reported drinking less alcohol as a result of cannabis legalization, while 63% said they drank the same amount.

Has the amount of alcohol you drink changed as a result of cannabis legalization? Do you drink: less, same amount, more, or don't know?

% AMONG RESPONDENTS WHO USED CANNABIS AND ALCOHOL IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.
NT (N=311), YT (N=493), NU (N=39)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.



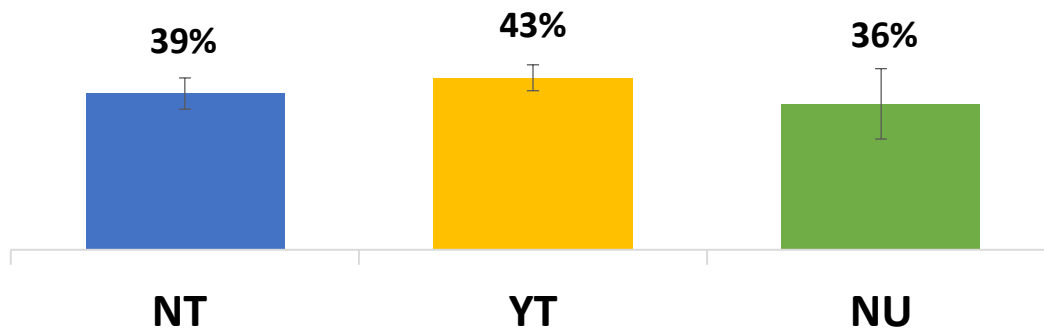
Cannabis and alcohol use

In the Northwest Territories, 39% reported using alcohol at least weekly in the past 12 months. At least weekly alcohol use was slightly higher among past 12-month cannabis consumers.

During the past 12 months, how often did you usually have any kind of beverage containing alcohol?

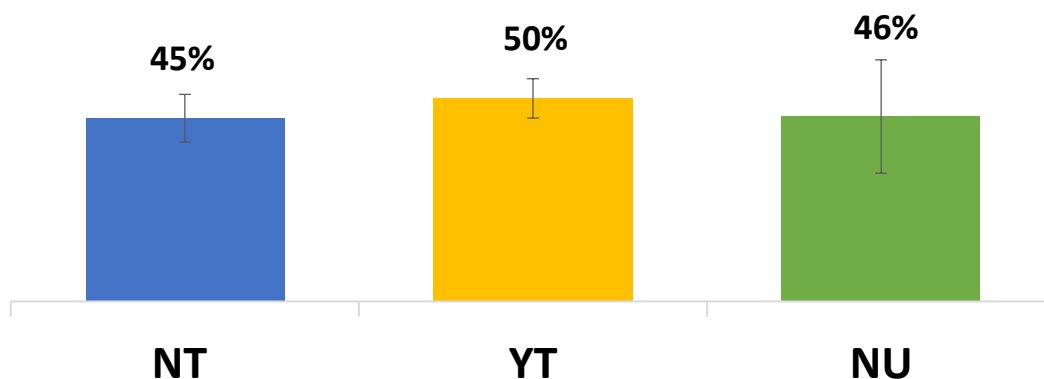
At least weekly alcohol use among all respondents

% YES TO DRINKING ALCOHOL AT LEAST WEEKLY, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS.
NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134)



At least weekly alcohol use among past 12-month cannabis consumers

% YES TO DRINKING ALCOHOL AT LEAST WEEKLY, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)

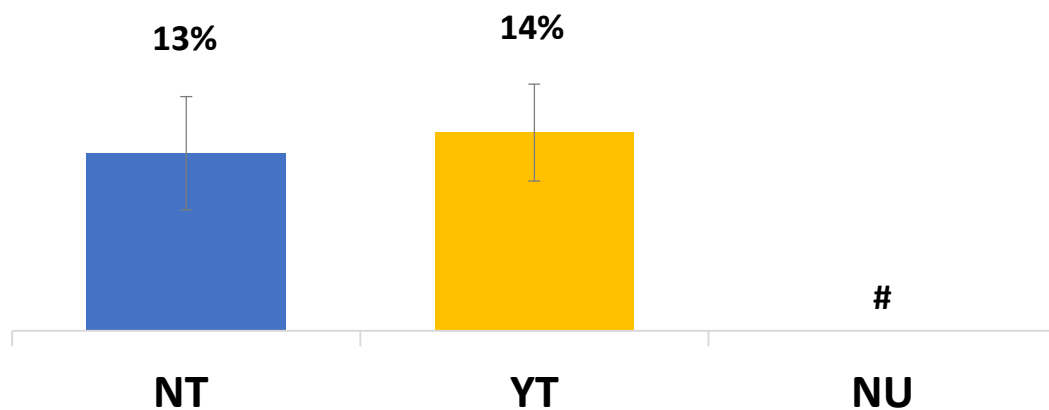


Medical authorization

Medical cannabis use was legalized in Canada in 2001. Among past 12-month cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories, 13% reported that their cannabis consumption was exclusively for medical purposes, and 14% had ever asked a health professional about authorization for medical cannabis. Results were similar in the Northwest Territories and Yukon.

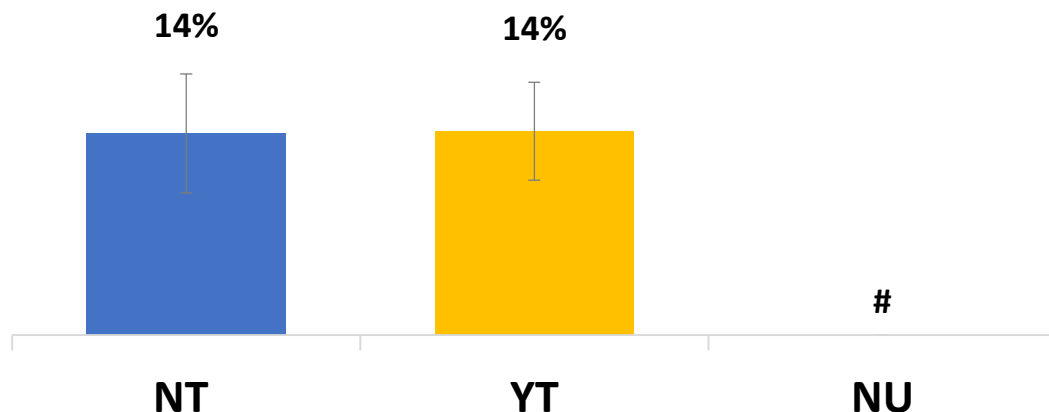
Do you self-identify as a medical cannabis user only?

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



Have you ever asked a licensed health professional for authorization to use medical cannabis?

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



'MEDICAL CANNABIS USER' REFERS TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO USES CANNABIS ONLY TO TREAT A MEDICAL CONDITION.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

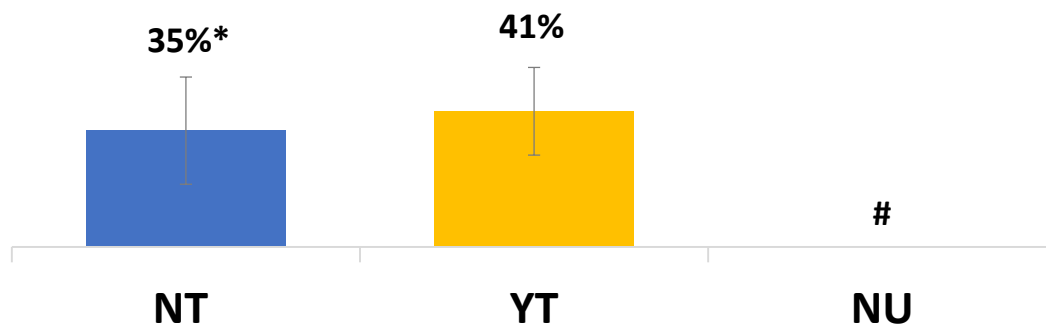
HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Medical authorization

Among past 12-month cannabis consumers who had asked a health professional about authorization for medical cannabis in the Northwest Territories, 35% had ever been refused, and 50% had ever received authorization for medical cannabis. Results were similar in the Northwest Territories and Yukon.

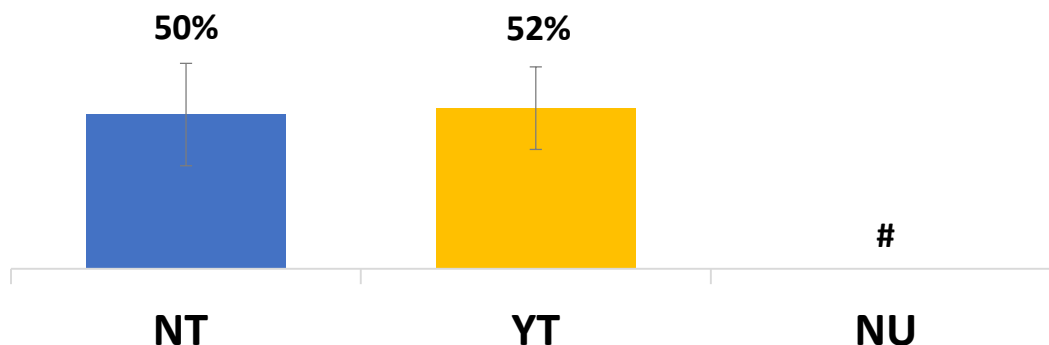
Have you ever been refused for medical cannabis?

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS WHO SOUGHT APPROVAL.
NT (N=47), YT (N=71), NU (N=3)



Have you ever received authorization for medical cannabis?

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS WHO SOUGHT APPROVAL.
NT (N=47), YT (N=71), NU (N=3)



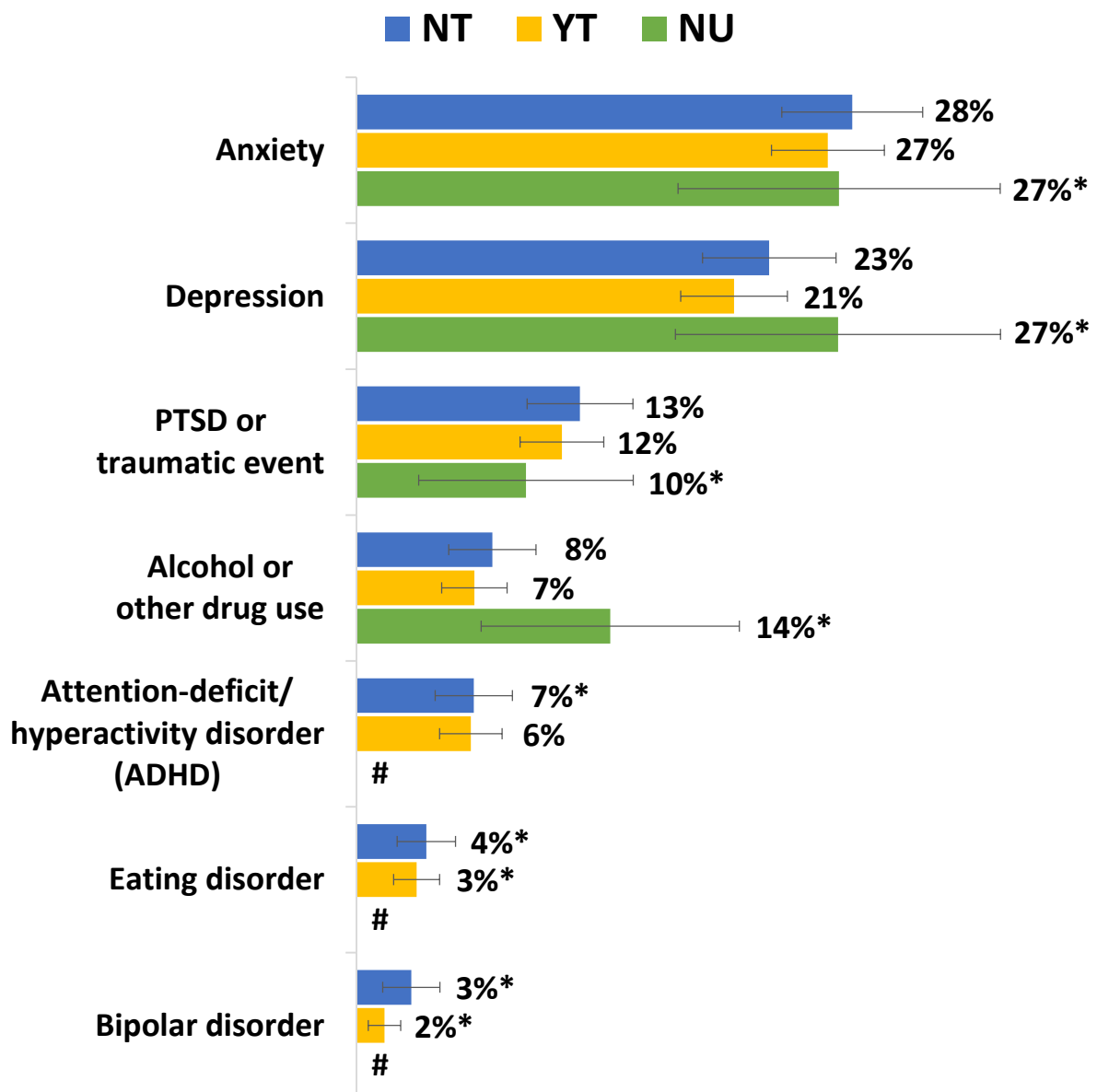


Use for mental health symptoms

In the Northwest Territories, 37% of 'ever' cannabis consumers reported having used cannabis to improve or manage their mental health. Ever-cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories most frequently reported having used cannabis to improve or manage 'anxiety' (28%) and 'depression' (23%). Results were similar across the territories.

Have you ever used cannabis to improve or manage symptoms for any of the following?

% YES, AMONG 'EVER' CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=707), YT (N=1,128), NU (N=105)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

FOR NT, RESULTS SUPPRESSED FOR OTHER MENTAL HEALTH SYMPTOMS.

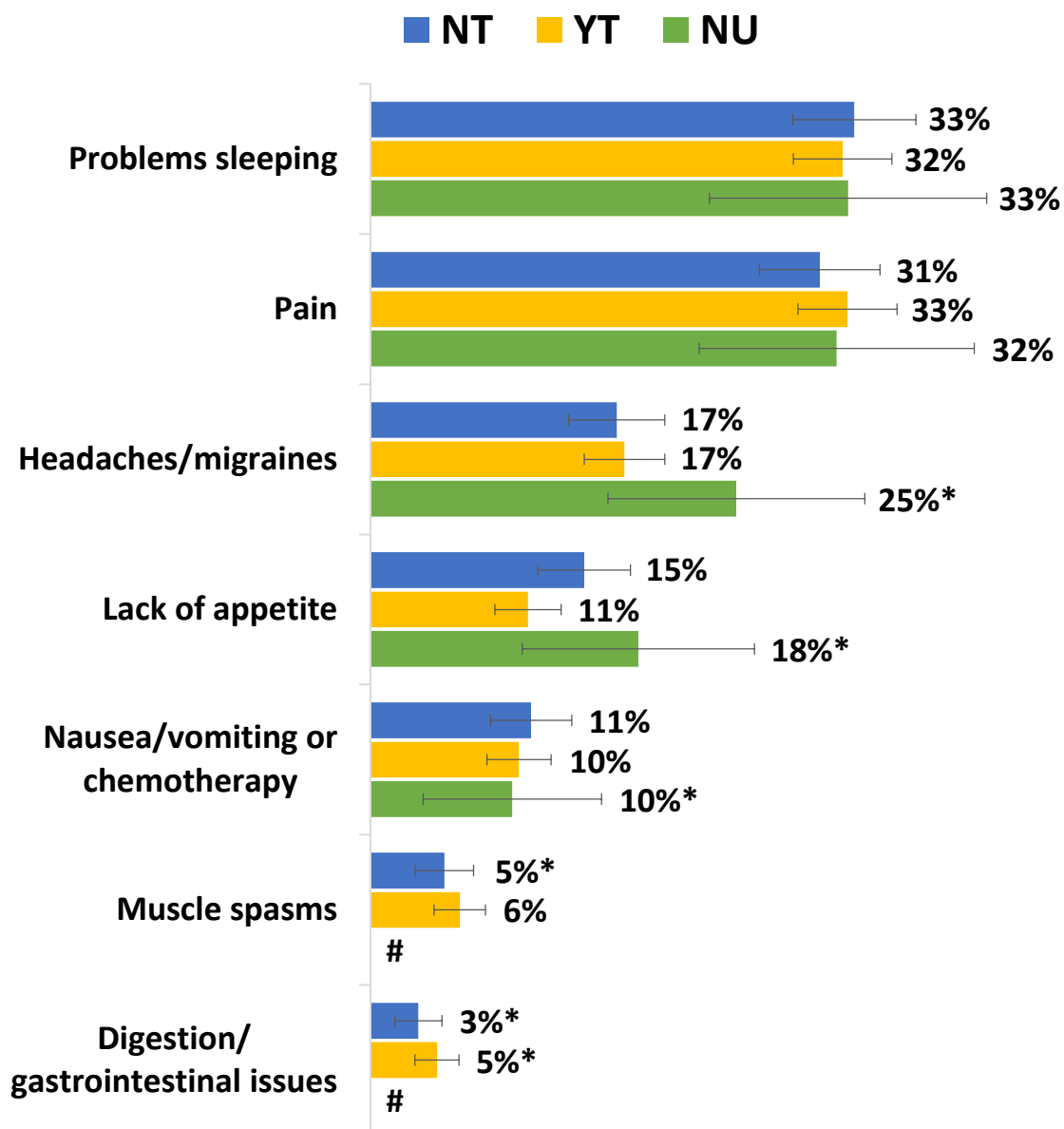


Use for physical health symptoms

In the Northwest Territories, 51% of 'ever' cannabis consumers reported having used cannabis to improve or manage their physical health. Ever-cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories most frequently reported having used cannabis to improve or manage 'problems sleeping' (33%) and 'pain' (31%). Results were similar across the territories.

Have you ever used cannabis to improve or manage symptoms for any of the following?

% YES, AMONG 'EVER' CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=707), YT (N=1,128), NU (N=105)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

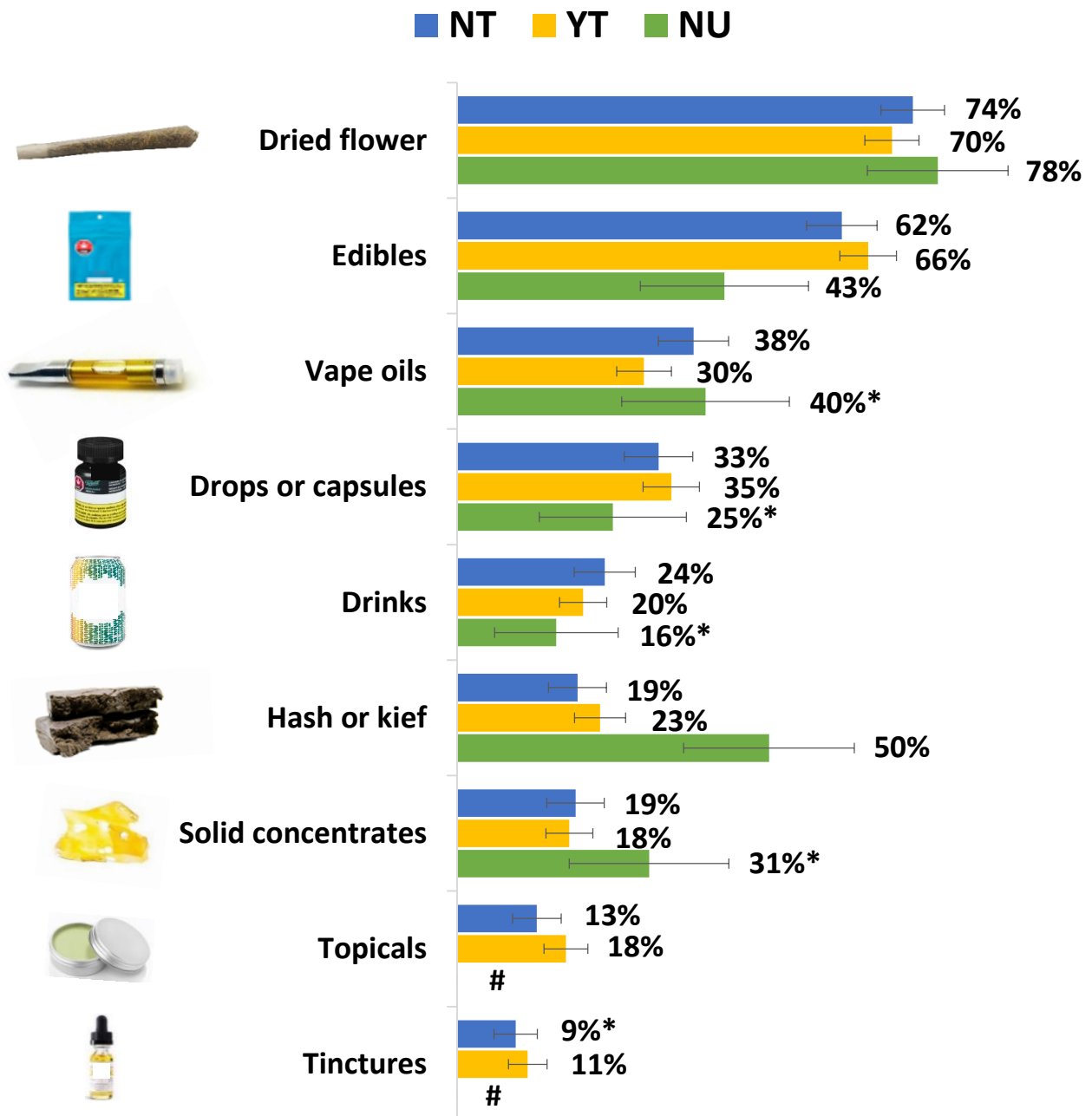
FOR NT, RESULTS SUPPRESSED FOR OTHER PHYSICAL HEALTH SYMPTOMS.

Types of cannabis products

In the Northwest Territories, among past 12-month cannabis consumers, the most common types of products used in the past 12 months were dried flower (74%), edibles (62%), and vape oils (38%). Results were similar in the Northwest Territories and Yukon.

Have you used cannabis in any of the following ways?

% YES IN PAST 12 MONTHS, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

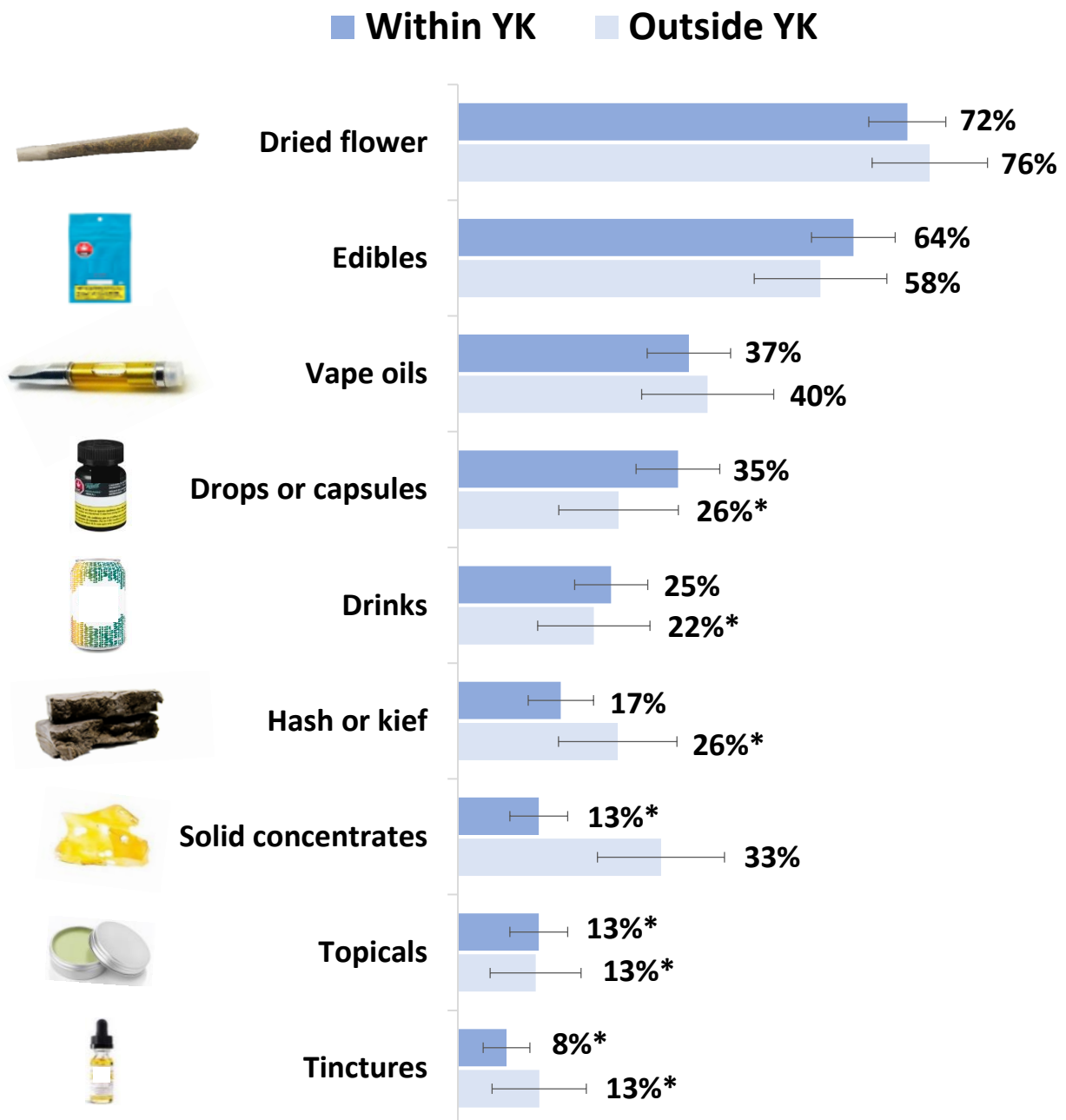
HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Types of cannabis products

Among past 12-month cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories, results were similar within and outside Yellowknife, with exceptions. Hash or kief and solid concentrates were more commonly used outside Yellowknife.

Have you used cannabis in any of the following ways?

% YES IN PAST 12 MONTHS, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. WITHIN YK (N=291), OUTSIDE YK (N=102)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.
YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

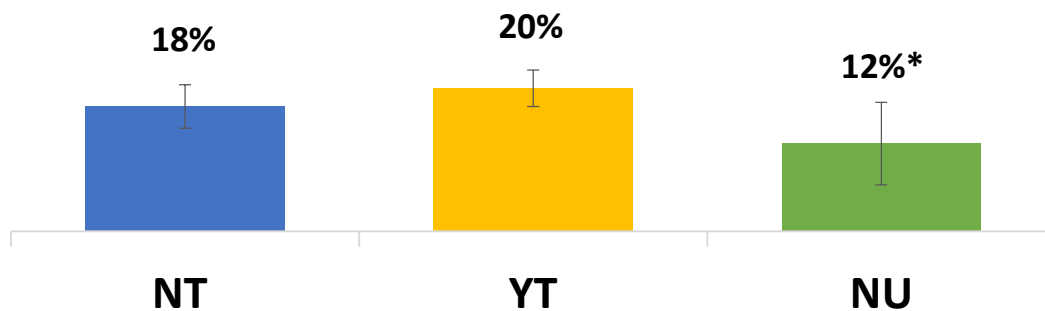


Use of 'non-THC' CBD-only products

In the Northwest Territories, the prevalence of using 'CBD-only products' (with no THC) in the past 12 months was 18%, similar to Yukon (20%) and slightly higher than in Nunavut (12%). The most common types of 'CBD-only products' used were oil/liquid drops, topicals, and edibles.

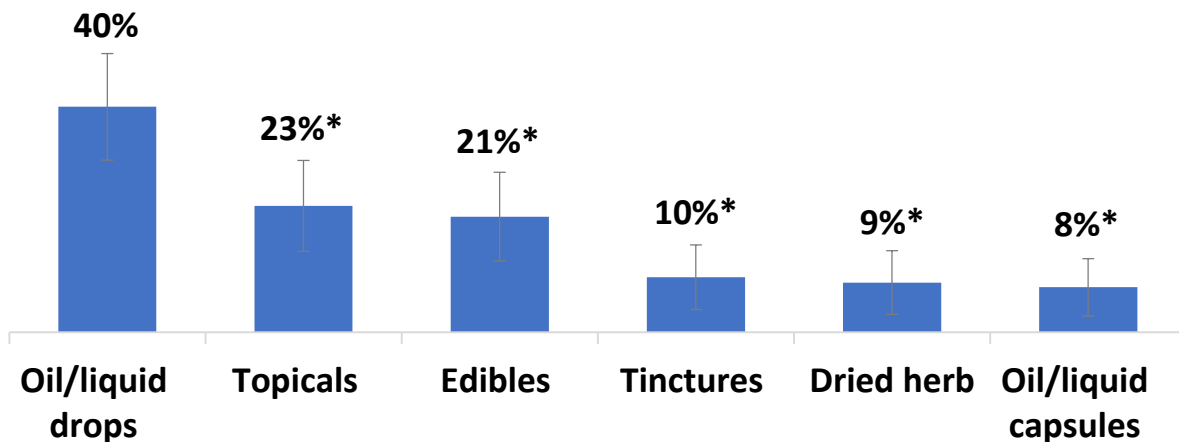
Have you used any CBD products with no THC (including CBD oil) in the past 12 months?

% YES, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134)



Type of CBD-only products used in the past 12 months in the Northwest Territories

YES, AMONG THOSE WHO REPORTED USING CBD-ONLY PRODUCTS IN PAST 12 MONTHS. NT (N=149)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

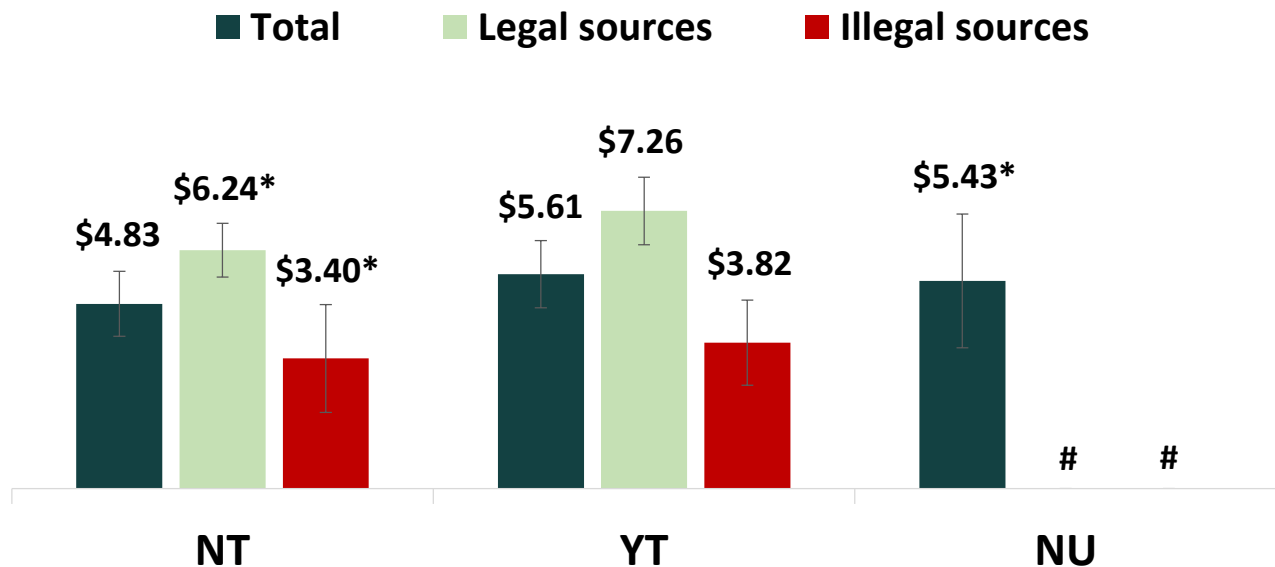
FOR NT, RESULTS SUPPRESSED FOR OTHER TYPES OF CBD-ONLY PRODUCTS USED.

Price of dried cannabis

In the Northwest Territories, past 12-month cannabis consumers reported paying on average \$4.83 per gram of dried flower in 2022 (including from legal and illegal sources), \$6.24 per gram of dried flower from legal sources, and \$3.40 per gram of dried flower from illegal sources.

Price paid for dried flower

SALES WEIGHTED PRICE-PER-GRAM OF DRIED FLOWER AT LAST PURCHASE, AMONG CONSUMERS WHO PURCHASED DRIED FLOWER IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.
 NT (N=162), YT (N=244), NU (N=31)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

AVERAGE PRICE-PER-GRAM OF DRIED FLOWER ADJUSTED FOR THE QUANTITY PURCHASED. TOTAL REFERS TO DRIED FLOWER FROM EITHER LEGAL OR ILLEGAL SOURCES.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

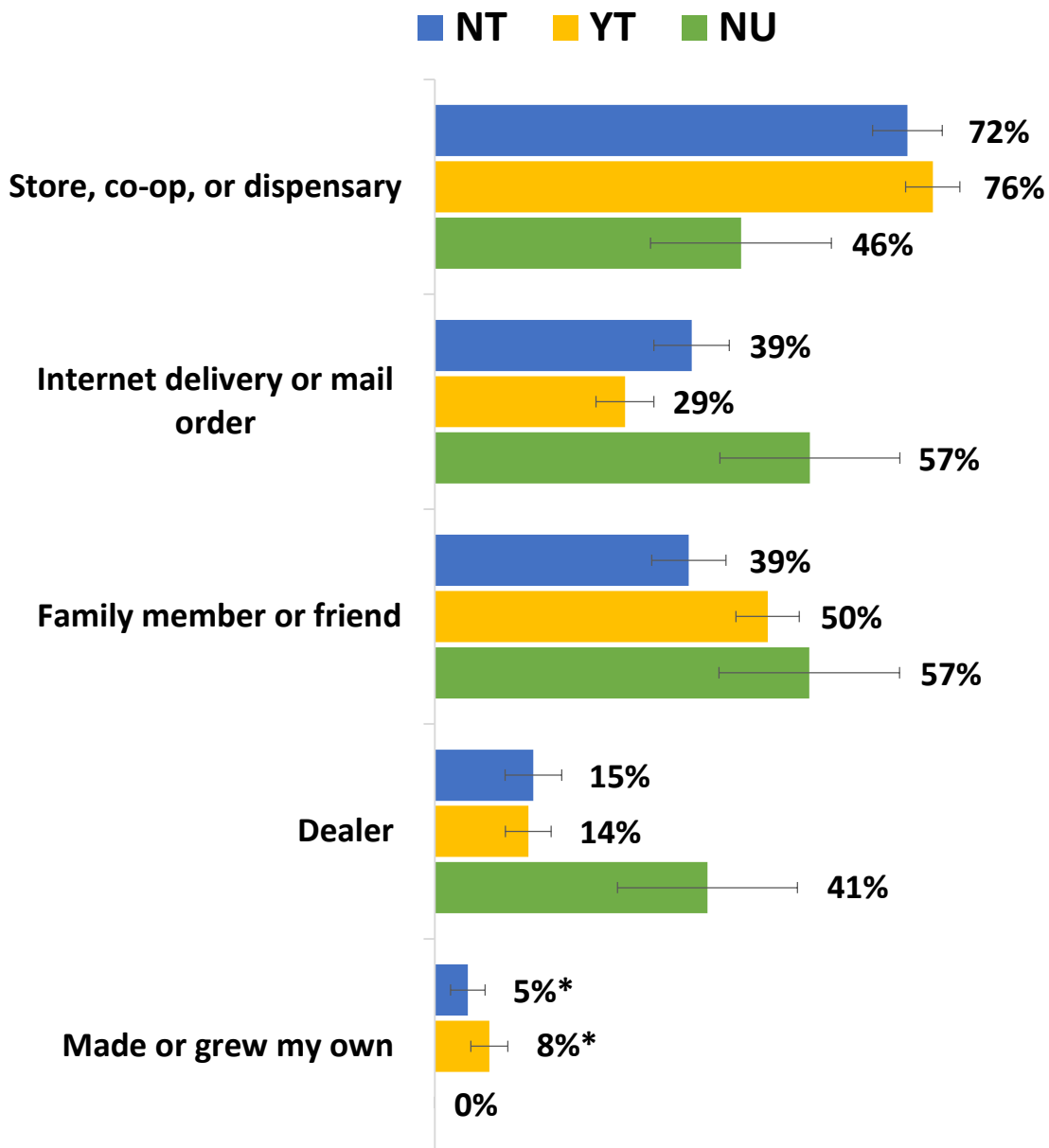
HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Cannabis sources

In the Northwest Territories, the most common cannabis sources among past 12-month cannabis consumers were ‘store, co-op, or dispensary’ (72%), ‘internet delivery or mail order’ (39%), and ‘family members or friends’ (39%).

In the past 12 months, have you gotten any type of cannabis from the following sources?

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

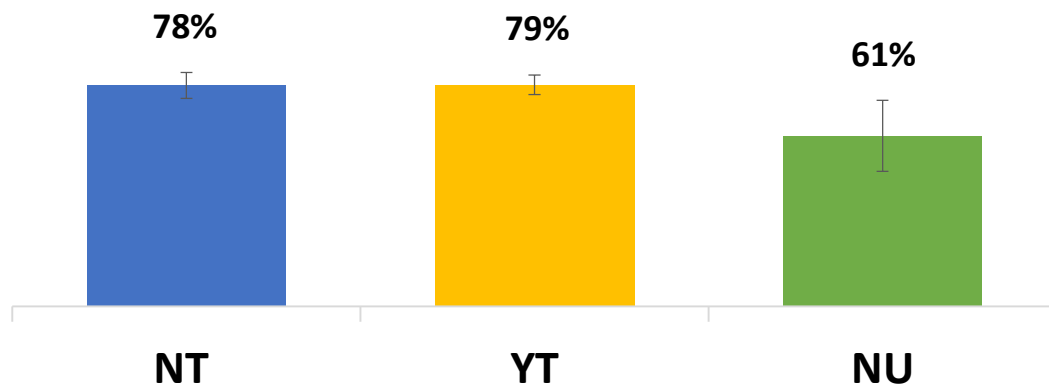
* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

Purchasing cannabis from legal sources

In the Northwest Territories, past 12-month cannabis consumers reported purchasing a total of 78% of products from legal retail sources. Results were similar in the Northwest Territories and Yukon (79%) and higher compared to Nunavut (61%). The percentage of cannabis products purchased from legal retail sources was higher within Yellowknife compared to outside Yellowknife.

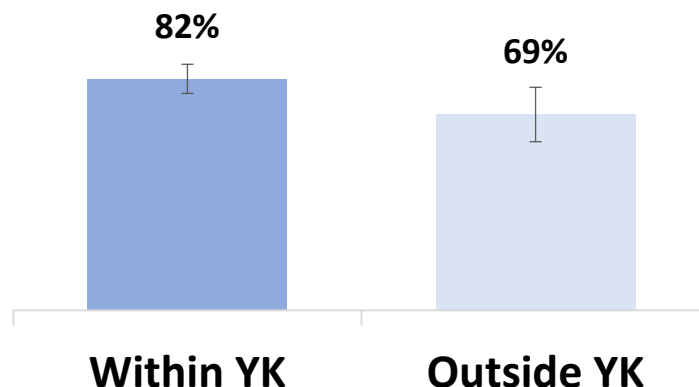
Mean percentage of all cannabis products purchased in last 12 months from a legal retail source

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



Mean percentage of all cannabis products purchased in last 12 months from a legal retail source, within and outside Yellowknife

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. WITHIN YK (N=291), OUTSIDE YK (N=102)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

'OVERALL, HOW MUCH OF THE CANNABIS THAT YOU USED IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS WAS PURCHASED FROM LEGAL/AUTHORIZED SOURCES?' ADJUSTED FOR CONSUMPTION AMOUNT.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

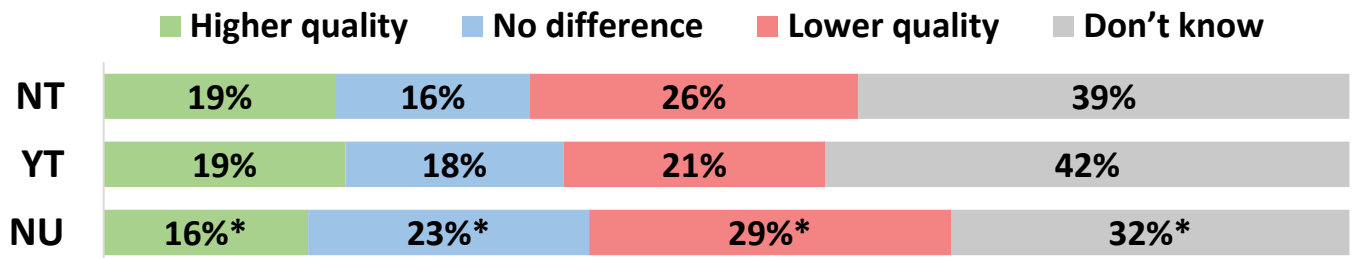
Perceptions of legal cannabis

In the Northwest Territories, approximately one-third of past 12-month cannabis consumers reported legal cannabis was of higher quality or no different than illegal cannabis, and approximately one-quarter reported legal cannabis was lower quality. Almost half of past 12-month cannabis consumers reported legal cannabis was more expensive than illegal cannabis. Approximately half reported legal cannabis was more convenient to buy than illegal cannabis. Results were similar in Yukon.

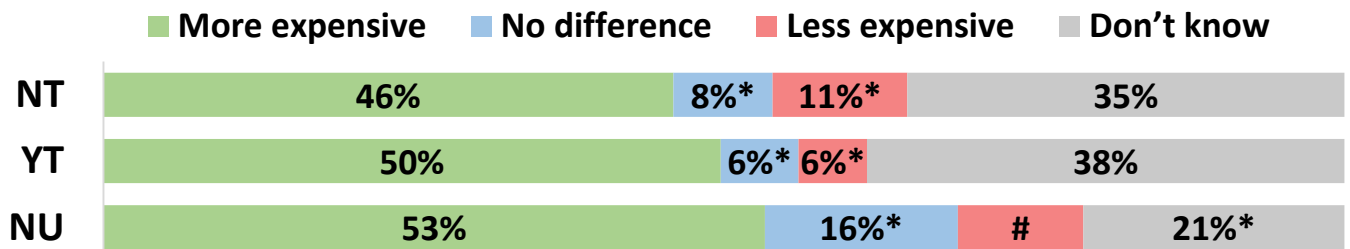
How cannabis products from legal/authorized sources compare to cannabis products from illegal/unauthorized sources

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)

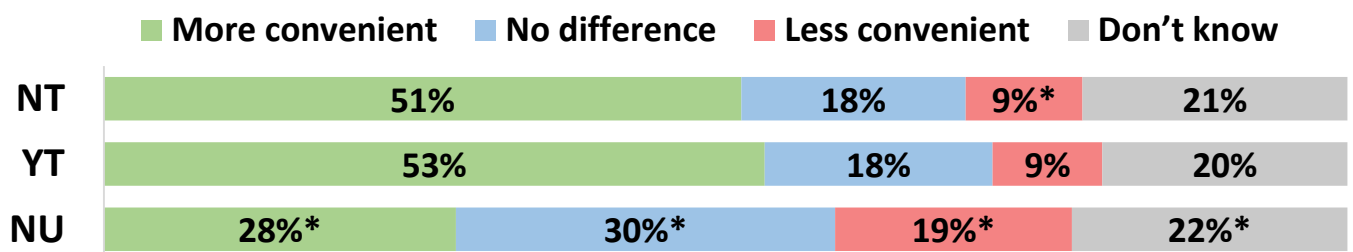
Quality of legal cannabis



Price of legal cannabis



Convenience of buying legal cannabis



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

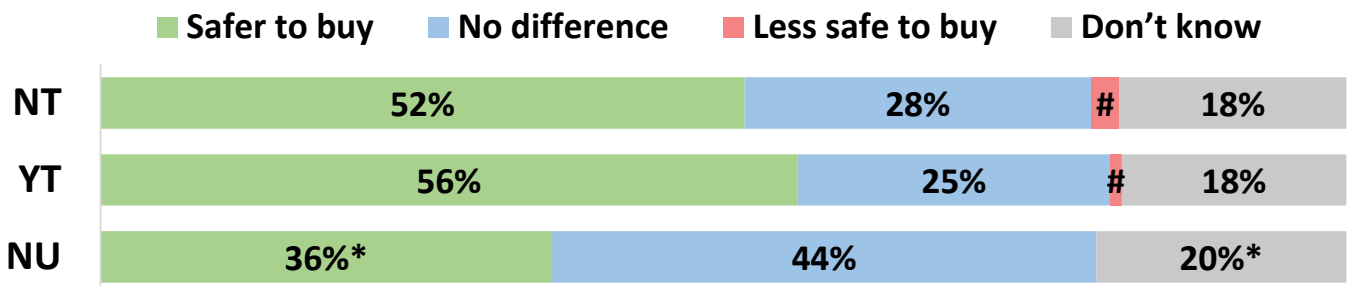
Perceptions of legal cannabis

For both safety of buying and safety of using legal compared to illegal cannabis, approximately half of past 12-month cannabis consumers reported legal cannabis was safer to buy (52%) and to use (50%). Results in the Northwest Territories were similar to Yukon and higher than Nunavut.

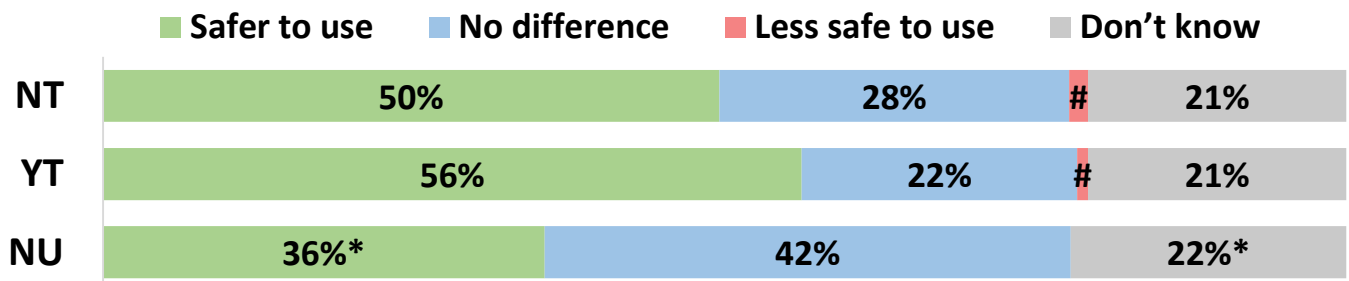
How cannabis products from legal/authorized sources compare to cannabis products from illegal/unauthorized sources

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)

Safety of buying legal cannabis



Safety of using legal cannabis



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

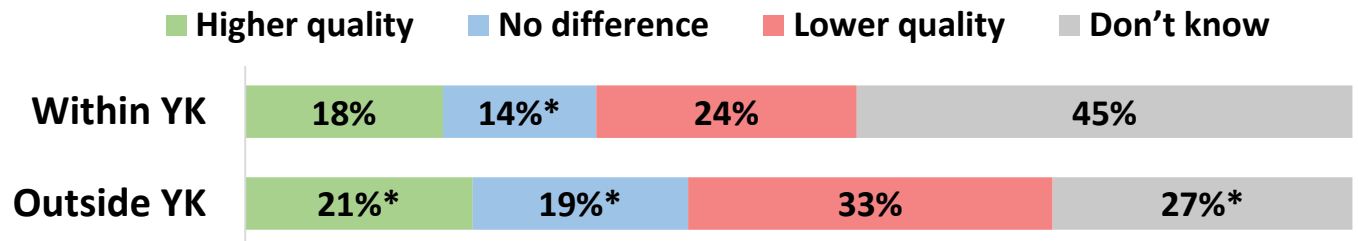
Perceptions of legal cannabis

Among past 12-month cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories, a higher percent outside Yellowknife perceived cannabis from legal sources to be lower quality, less expensive, and less convenient compared to within Yellowknife.

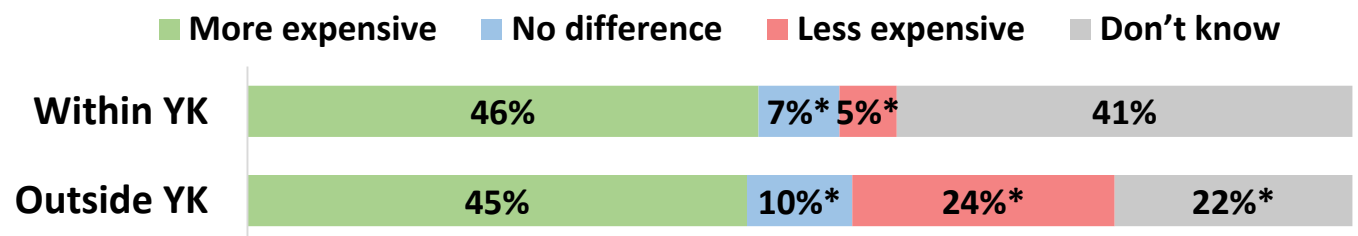
How cannabis products from legal/authorized sources compare to cannabis products from illegal/unauthorized sources

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. WITHIN YK (N=291), OUTSIDE YK (N=102)

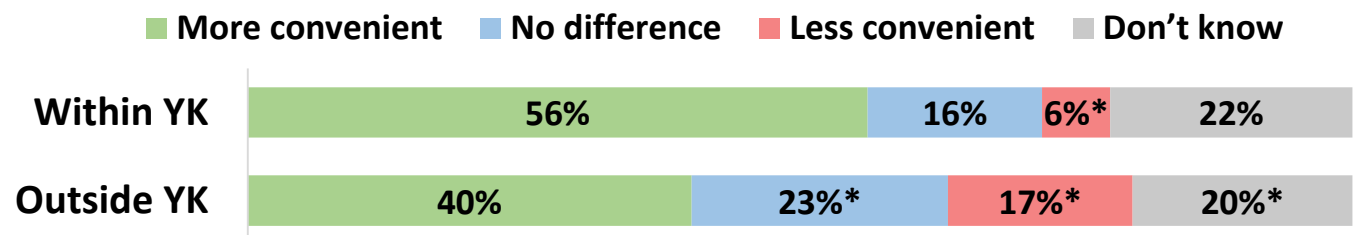
Quality of legal cannabis



Price of legal cannabis



Convenience of buying legal cannabis



WEIGHTED RESULTS.
YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

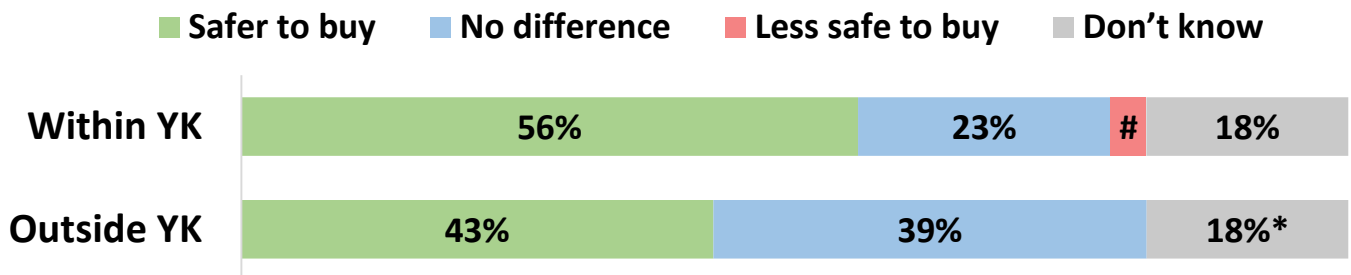
Perceptions of legal cannabis

Among past 12-month cannabis consumers in the Northwest Territories, perceptions of legal cannabis as safer to buy and safer to use were higher within Yellowknife compared to outside Yellowknife.

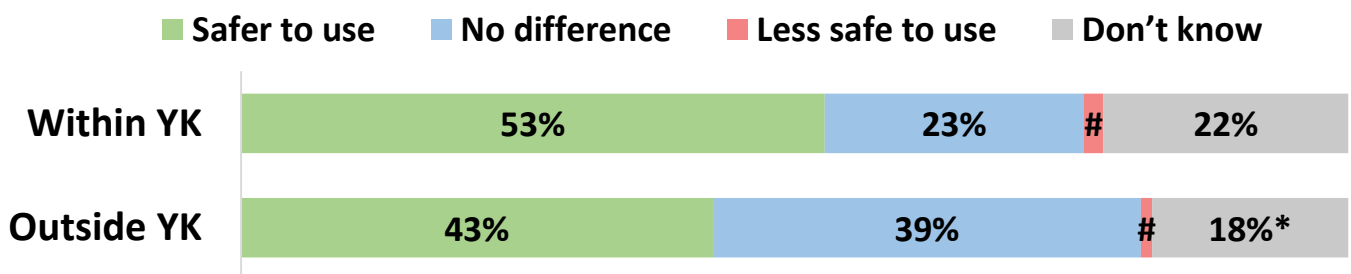
How cannabis products from legal/authorized sources compare to cannabis products from illegal/unauthorized sources

% AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. WITHIN YK (N=291), OUTSIDE YK (N=102)

Safety of buying legal cannabis



Safety of using legal cannabis



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

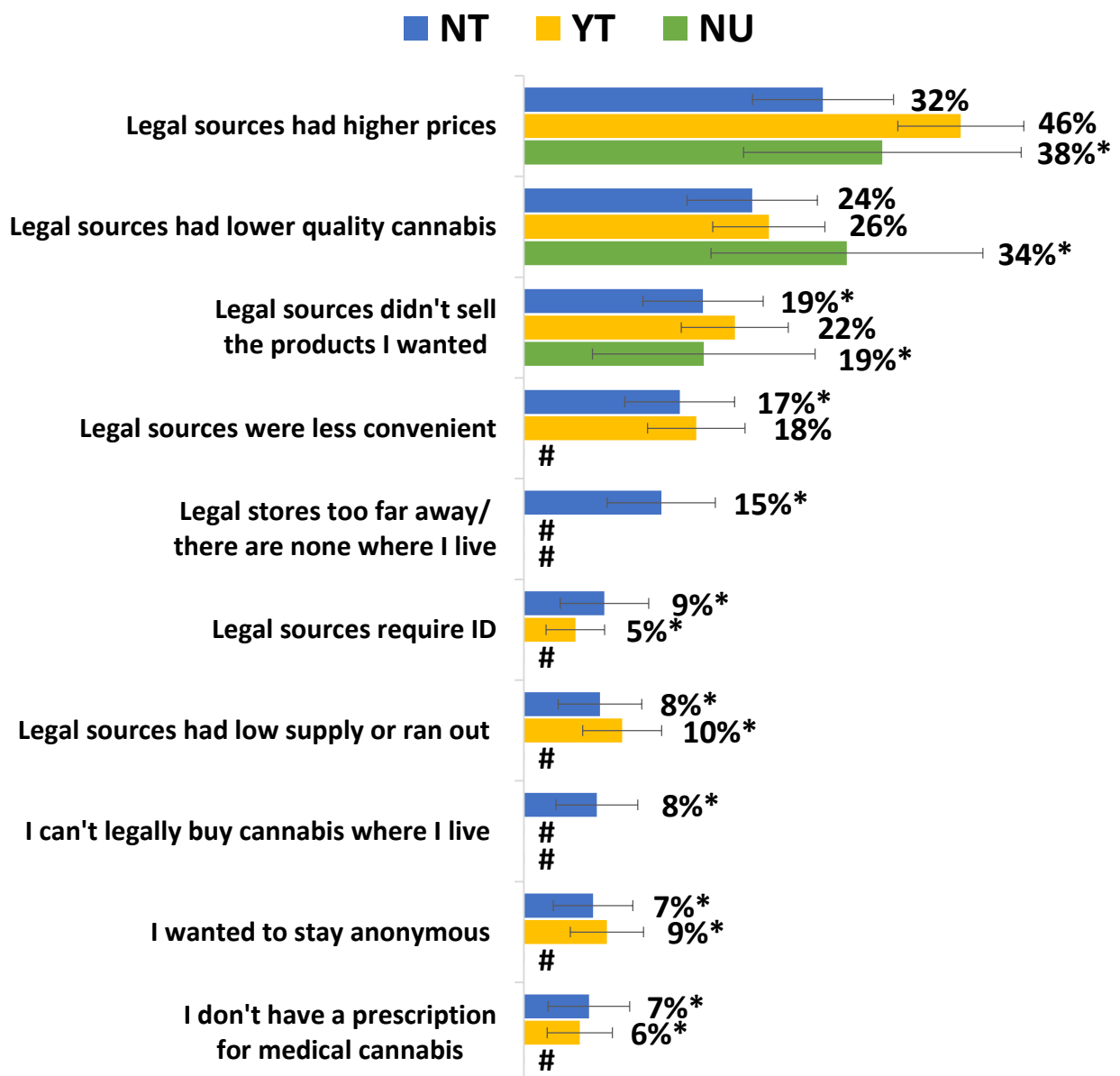


Reasons for purchasing from illegal retail sources

Consumers who purchased cannabis from an illegal source reported a range of reasons for doing so. In the Northwest Territories, higher prices (32%), lower quality (24%), and legal sources not selling the desired products (19%) were the three most common reasons for purchasing cannabis from illegal sources.

Reasons for purchasing illegal cannabis

% YES, AMONG RESPONDENTS WHO REPORTED OBTAINING ANY CANNABIS FROM ILLEGAL OR UNAUTHORIZED SOURCES. NT (N=198), YT (N=304), NU (N=46)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

FOR NT, RESULTS SUPPRESSED FOR OTHER REASONS FOR PURCHASING ILLEGAL CANNABIS.

Perceptions of cannabis access

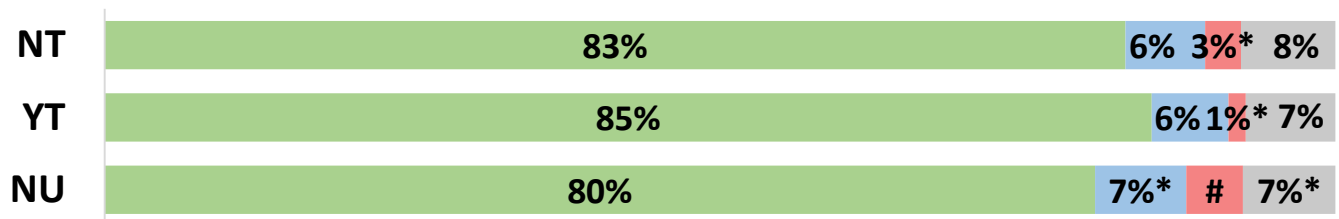
In the Northwest Territories, the majority perceived cannabis access in general, buying cannabis from a legal online source, and buying cannabis from a legal store or dispensary to be 'very easy' or 'fairly easy'. Perceptions of cannabis access were similar across the territories, with the exception of lower perceived ease of 'buying cannabis from a legal store or dispensary' in Nunavut.

Overall, how easy or difficult would it be for you to:

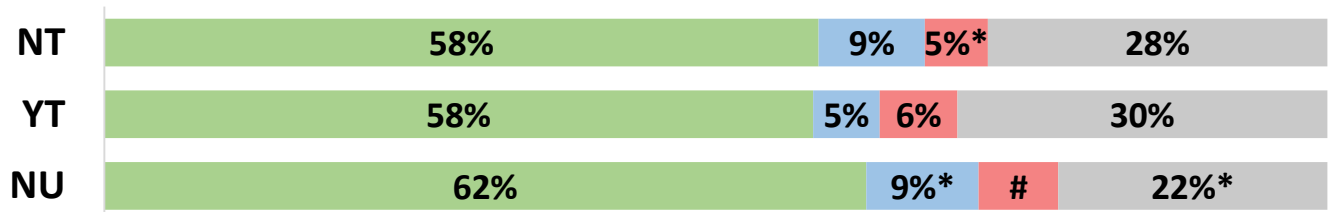
% AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134)

■ Very/fairly easy
 ■ Neither easy nor difficult
 ■ Very/fairly difficult
 ■ Don't know

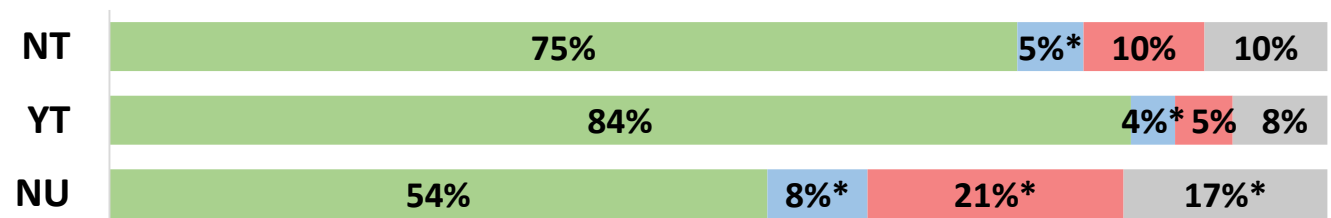
Get cannabis



Buy cannabis from a legal online source



Buy cannabis from a legal store or dispensary



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Perceptions of cannabis access

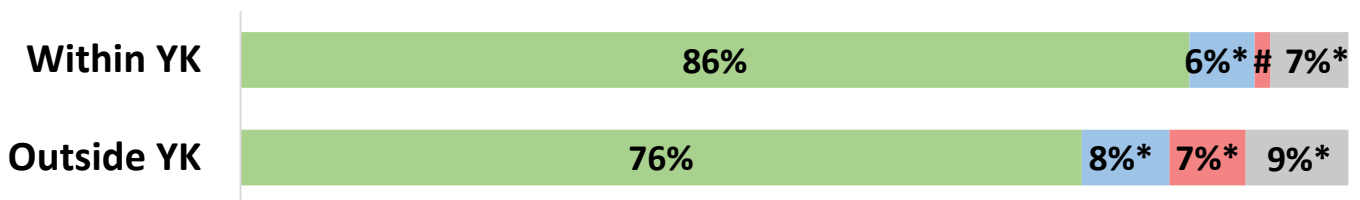
In the Northwest Territories, perceiving buying cannabis from a legal online source as ‘very easy’ or ‘fairly easy’ was higher outside Yellowknife, whereas perceiving buying cannabis from a legal store or dispensary as ‘very easy’ or ‘fairly easy’ was higher within Yellowknife.

Overall, how easy or difficult would it be for you to:

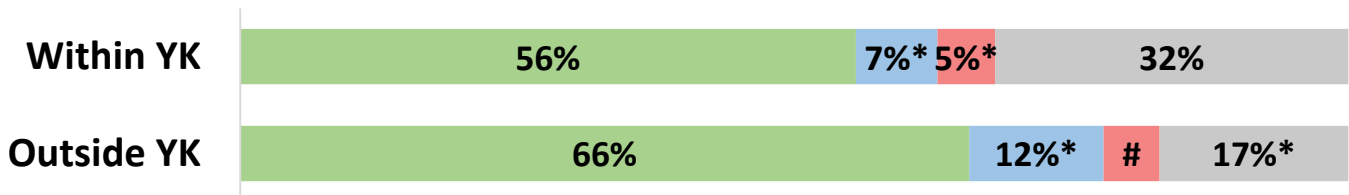
% AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. WITHIN YK (N=705), OUTSIDE YK (N=208)

■ Very/fairly easy
 ■ Neither easy nor difficult
 ■ Very/fairly difficult
 ■ Don't know

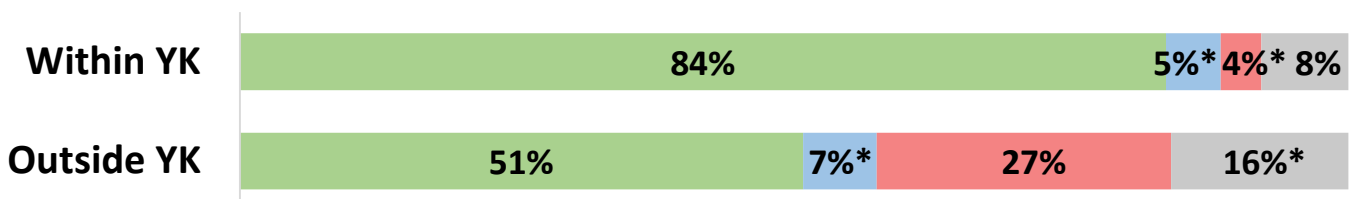
Get cannabis



Buy cannabis from a legal online source



Buy cannabis from a legal store or dispensary



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

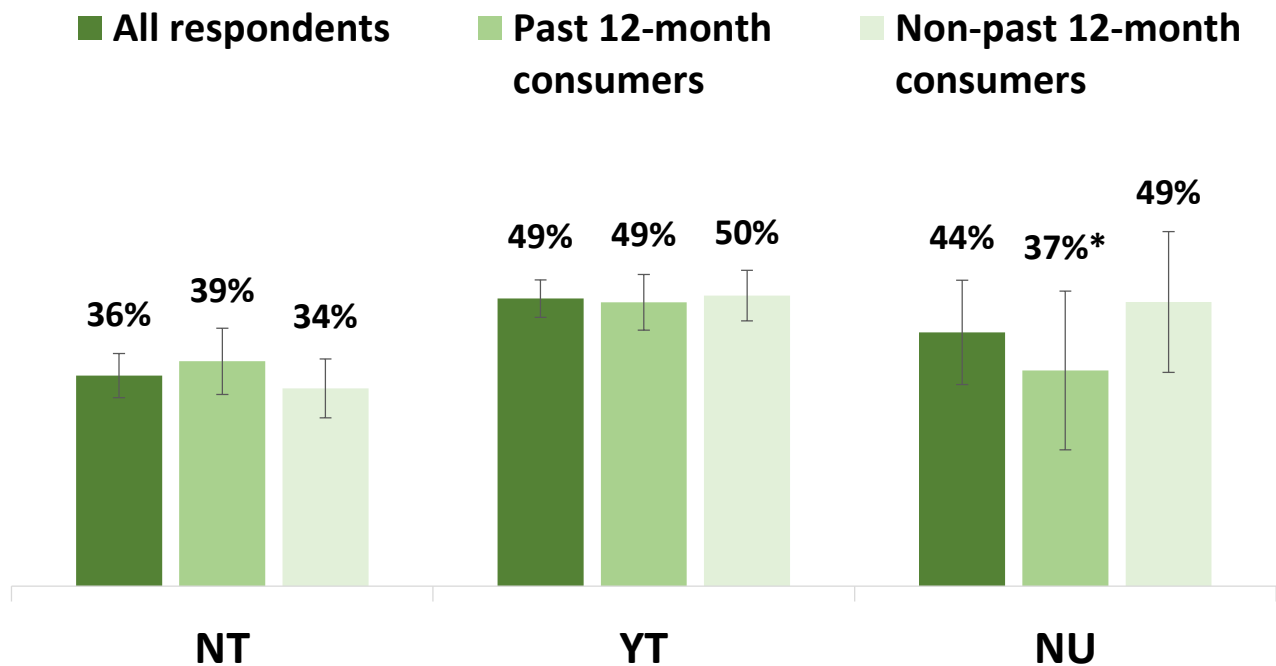
HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Cannabis advertising exposure

In the Northwest Territories, 36% of all respondents reported noticing cannabis advertising or promotion in the past 12 months. Noticing cannabis advertising was similar among past 12-month cannabis consumers and non-past 12-month consumers.

Noticing cannabis advertising or promotion in the past 12 months

% YES TO NOTICING IN AT LEAST ONE LOCATION. AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS: NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134). AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS: NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57). AMONG NON-PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS: NT (N=520), YT (N=804), NU (N=77).



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

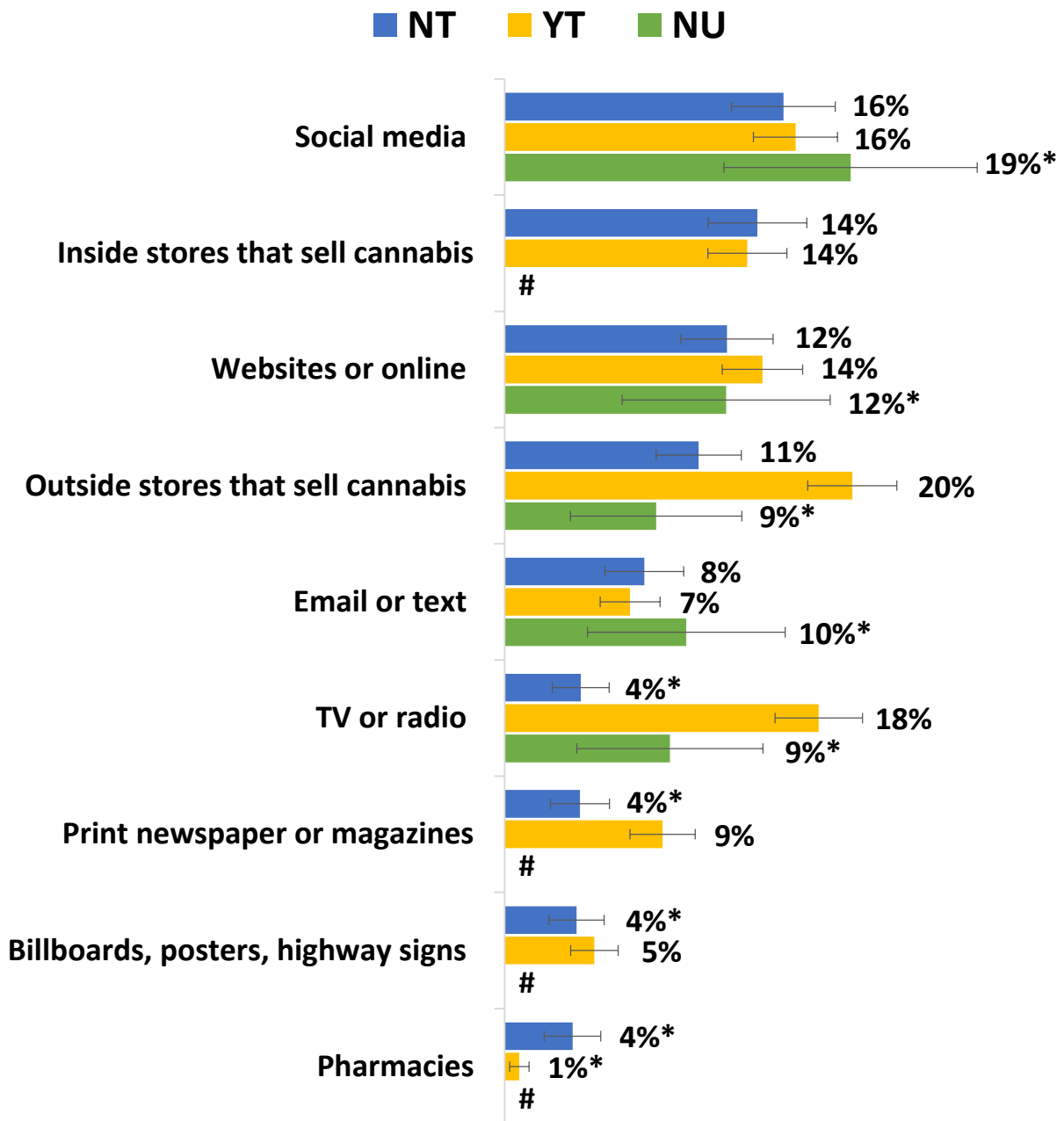
* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY, INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

Cannabis advertising exposure

In the Northwest Territories, cannabis advertising was most commonly noticed on social media (16%), inside stores that sell cannabis (14%), and on websites or online (12%).

Noticing cannabis advertising or promotion in the past 12 months

% YES, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS, BY MARKETING CHANNEL. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

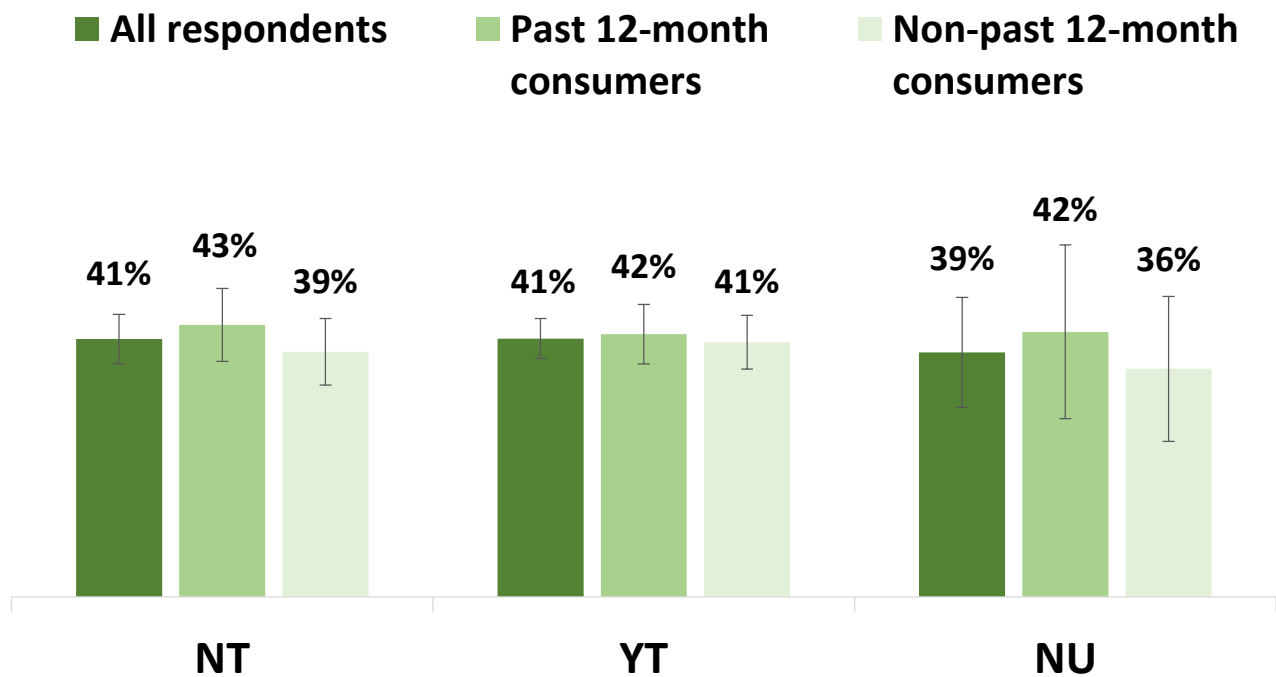
FOR NT, RESULTS FOR OTHER MARKETING CHANNELS WERE NOT PRESENTED WHERE RESPONSES WERE ≤3% OR WERE SUPPRESSED DUE TO HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY.

Cannabis education campaign exposure

In the Northwest Territories, 41% of all respondents recalled seeing an education campaign or public health message about cannabis in the past 12 months. Recall of a cannabis education campaign was similar among past 12-month cannabis consumers and non-past 12-month consumers. Results were similar across the territories.

Recall of cannabis education campaigns or public health messaging in the past 12 months

% YES TO RECALL IN AT LEAST ONE LOCATION. AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS: NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134). AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS: NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57). AMONG NON-PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS: NT (N=520), YT (N=804), NU (N=77).



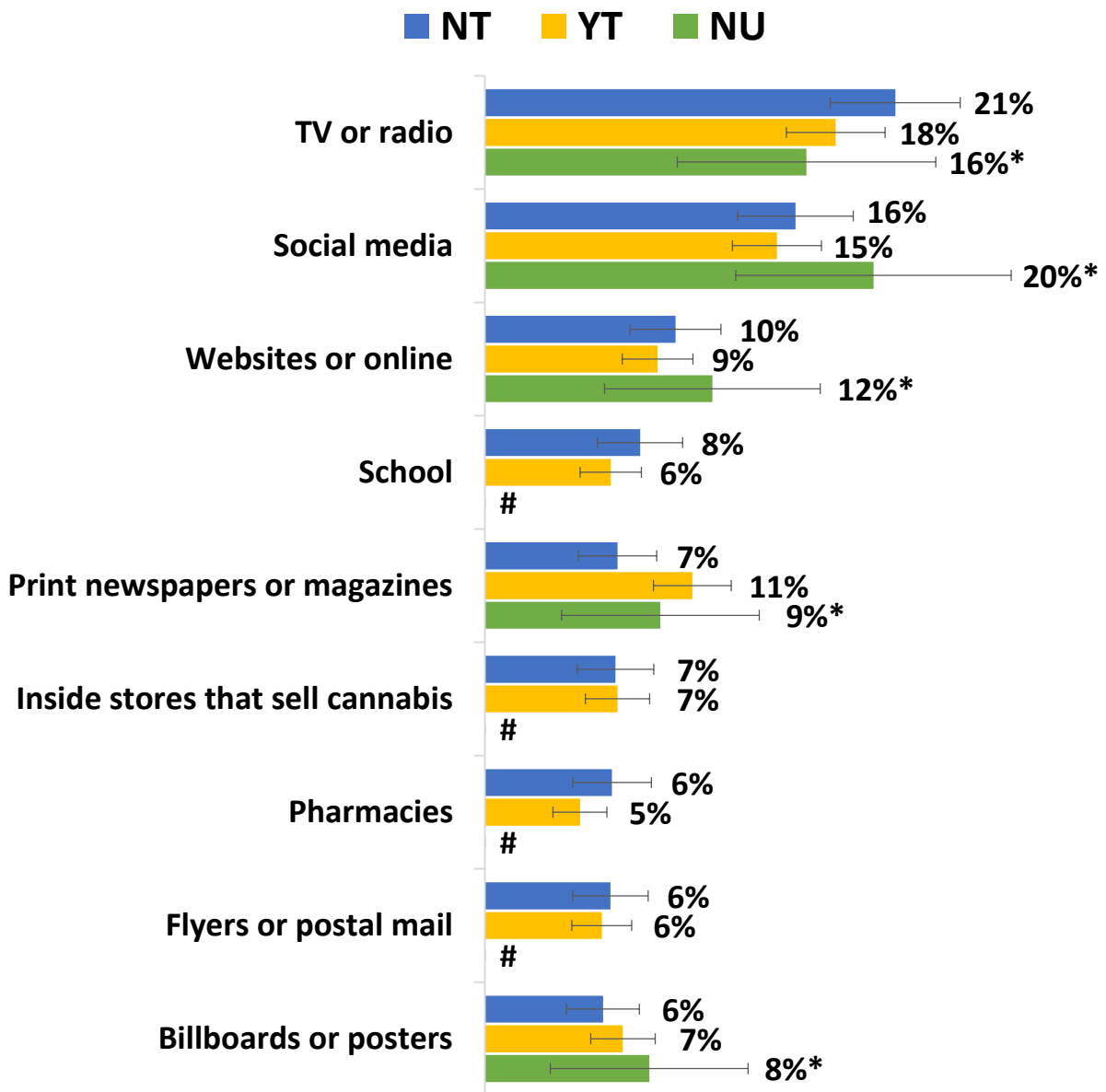


Cannabis education campaign exposure

In the Northwest Territories, cannabis education campaigns were most commonly recalled on TV or radio (21%), social media (16%), and websites or online (10%).

Recall of cannabis education campaigns or public health messaging in the past 12 months

% YES, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS BY MARKETING CHANNEL. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

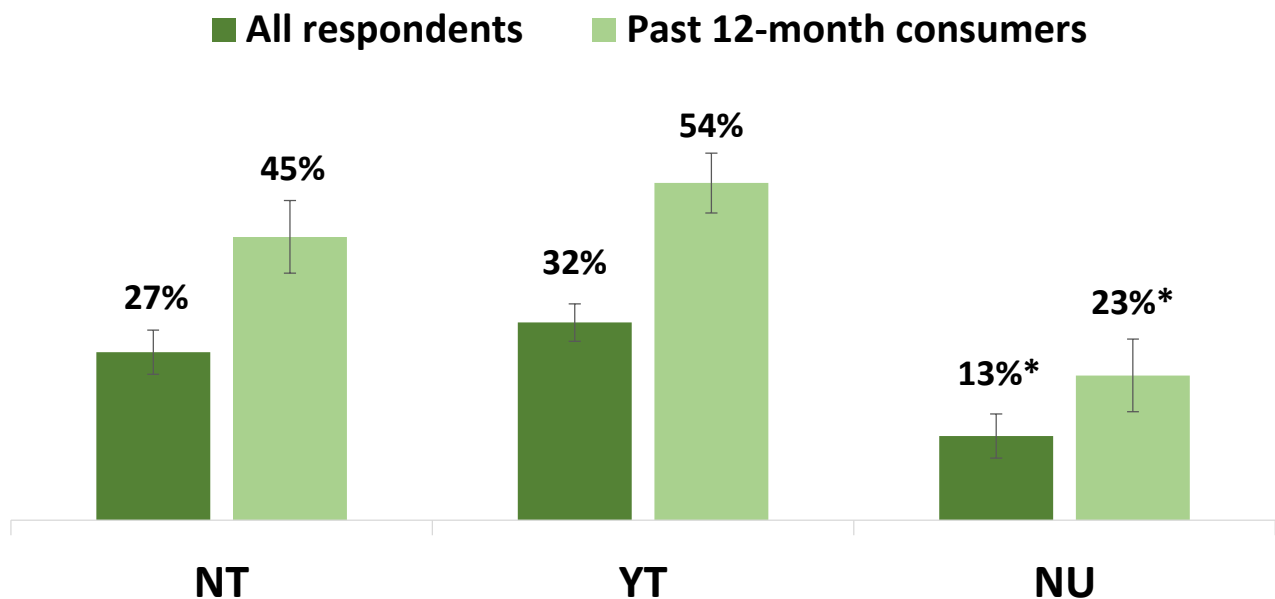
FOR NT, RESULTS FOR OTHER MARKETING CHANNELS WERE NOT PRESENTED WHERE RESPONSES WERE ≤5% OR WERE SUPPRESSED DUE TO HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY.

Health warnings on products

In the Northwest Territories, 27% of all respondents and 45% of past 12-month cannabis consumers reported noticing health warnings on cannabis product packages in the past 12 months. Results were similar in the Northwest Territories and Yukon, and higher compared to Nunavut.

In the past 12 months, have you seen health warnings on cannabis products or packages?

% YES. AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS: NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134). AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS: NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

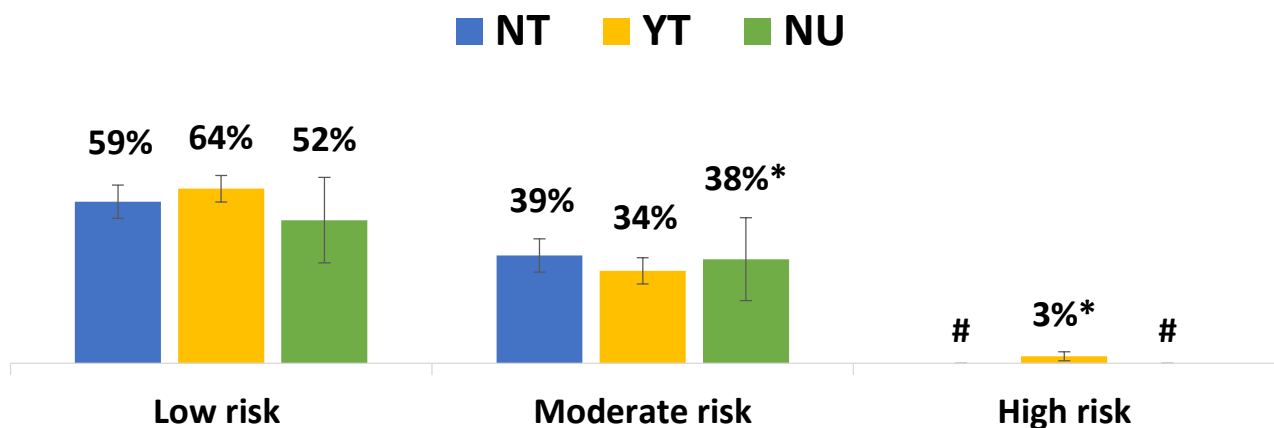
* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY, INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

Problematic cannabis use

The World Health Organization (WHO) ASSIST tool assesses low, moderate, or high risk of problematic cannabis use. In the Northwest Territories, 39% of past 12-month cannabis consumers had moderate risk cannabis use. The percentage having moderate risk cannabis use was higher outside Yellowknife than within Yellowknife.

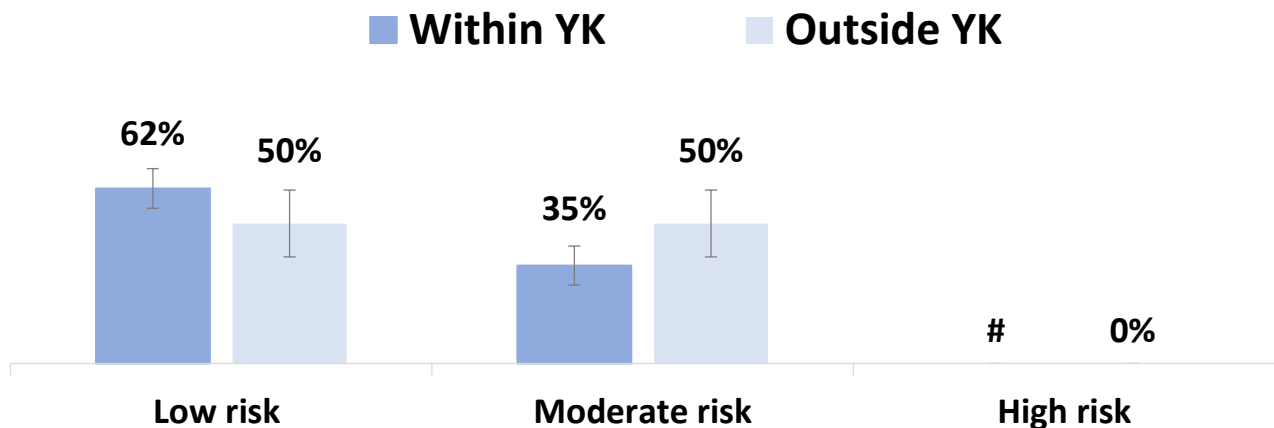
Risk of problematic cannabis use – WHO ASSIST SCORES

AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



Risk of problematic cannabis use – WHO ASSIST SCORES

AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. WITHIN YK (N=291), OUTSIDE YK (N=102)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

MODERATE RISK WAS CALCULATED BASED ON SCORING 8-26 AND HIGH RISK AS SCORING 27 OR HIGHER ON THE WHO ASSIST TOOL. THE QUESTIONS AND SCORING FOR THE WHO ASSIST TOOL ARE AVAILABLE AT:

[HTTPS://WWW.WHO.INT/PUBLICATIONS/I/ITEM/978924159938-2](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/978924159938-2).

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

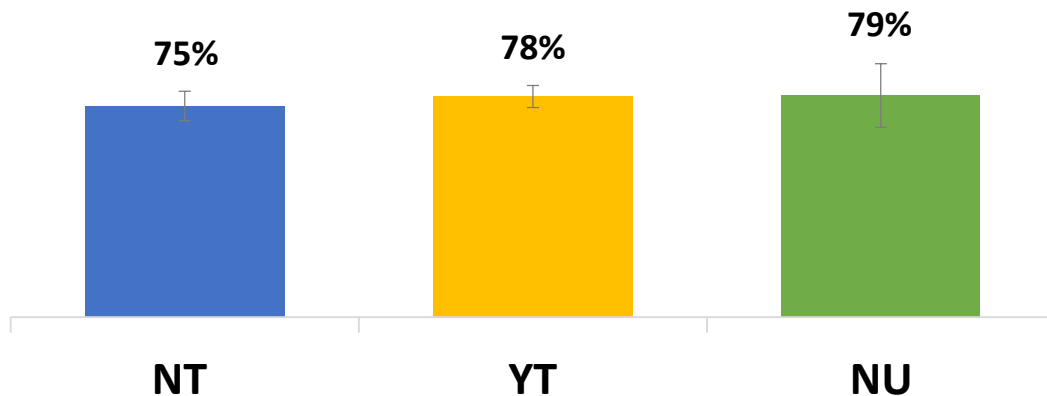
HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Storage of cannabis in home

In the Northwest Territories, 75% of past 12-month cannabis consumers stored cannabis in the home. Among these respondents, 45% reported storing cannabis in an unlocked cabinet/drawer/container. Results were similar across the territories.

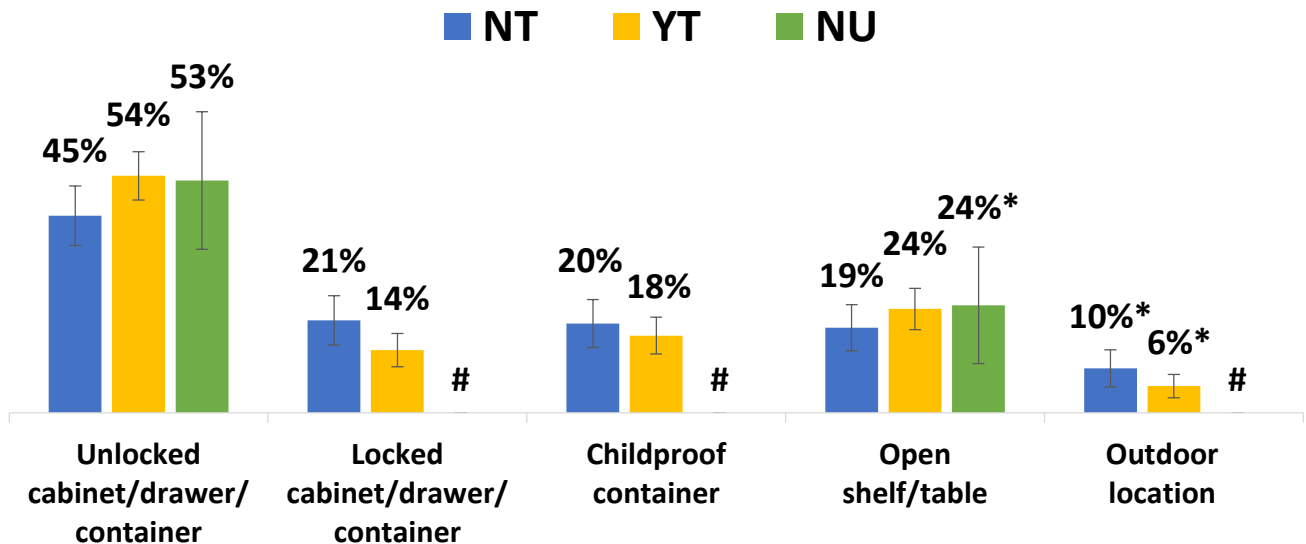
Do you currently keep any cannabis in or around your home?

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



Where is the cannabis in your home stored?

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS WHO STORED CANNABIS IN HOME. NT (N=299), YT (N=474), NU (N=45)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

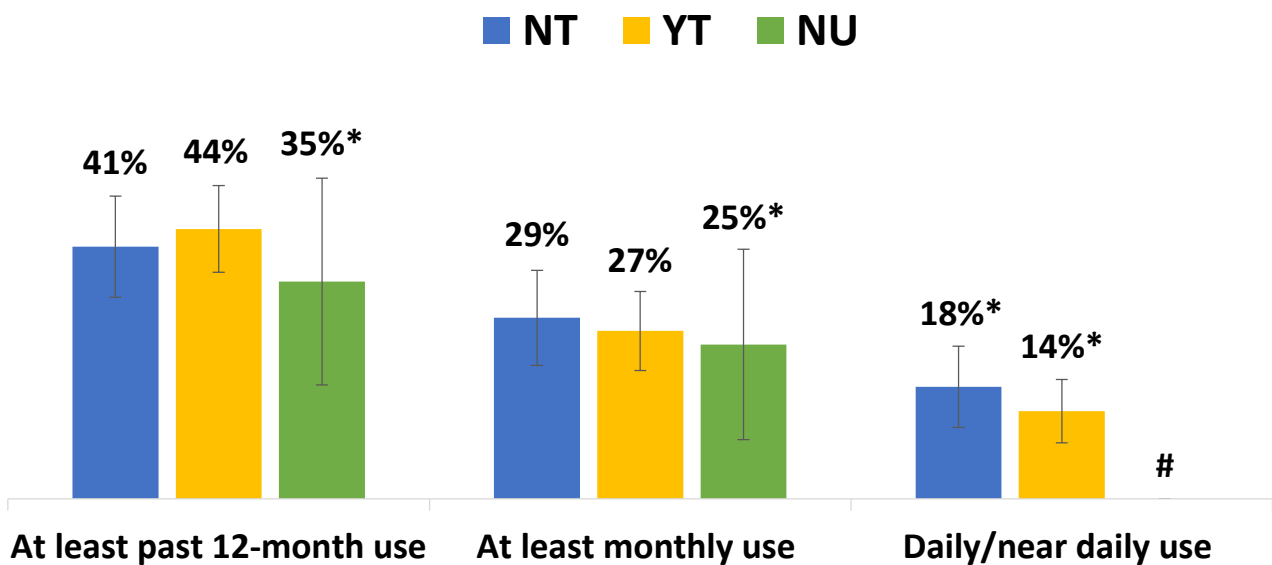
FOR NT, RESULTS SUPPRESSED FOR OTHER STORAGE LOCATIONS.

Cannabis use among households with children

In the Northwest Territories, 41% living in households with children aged 17 years and under reported having used cannabis in the past 12 months, 29% reported having used cannabis at least monthly, and 18% reported having use cannabis daily/near daily. Results were similar across the territories.

Cannabis use among respondents living in households with children

% YES, AMONG RESPONDENTS LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN. NT (N=215), YT (N=319), NU (N=39)



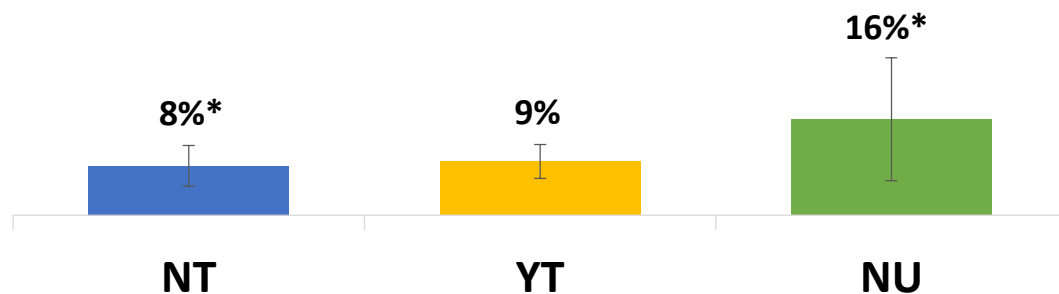
NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.
 * MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.
 # HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

Cannabis use at work

In the Northwest Territories, 8% of past 12-month cannabis consumers reported having used cannabis at work or within 2 hours of starting work in the past 30 days, and 9% of past 12-month cannabis consumers who work in a hazardous/safety-sensitive job reported having used cannabis at work. Results were similar in the Northwest Territories and Yukon and lower than in Nunavut.

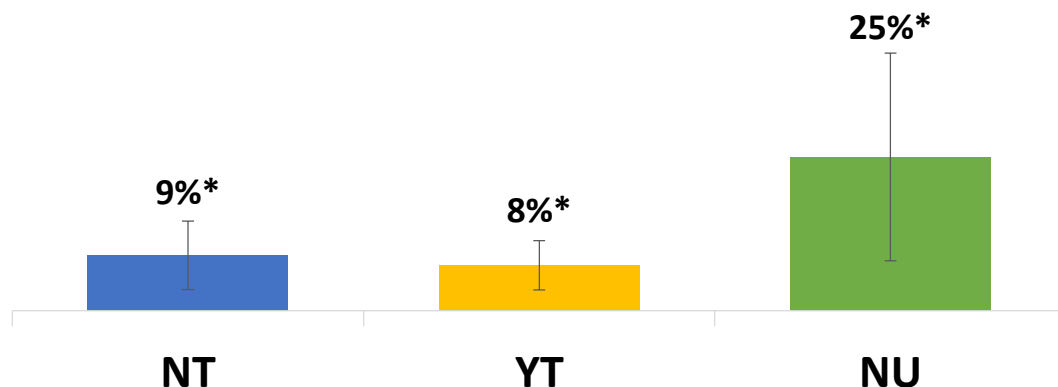
Cannabis use at work (including breaks) or within 2 hours of starting work in past 30 days

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS. NT (N=393), YT (N=611), NU (N=57)



Cannabis use at work (including breaks) or within 2 hours of starting work in past 30 days, among respondents with work involving hazardous/safety-sensitive or care-related tasks

% YES, AMONG PAST 12-MONTH CANNABIS CONSUMERS WORKING IN HAZARDOUS/SAFETY-SENSITIVE OR CARE-RELATED JOBS). NT (N=148), YT (N=237), NU (N=30)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

HAZARDOUS/SAFETY-SENSITIVE WORK IS WORK THAT, IF NOT PERFORMED SAFELY, COULD LEAD TO PHYSICAL HARM TO THE WORKER OR OTHERS OR DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT OR PROPERTY. CARE-RELATED WORK INVOLVES PROVIDING CARE TO OTHERS OR DOING WORK THAT DIRECTLY IMPACTS THE SAFETY OF OTHERS

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

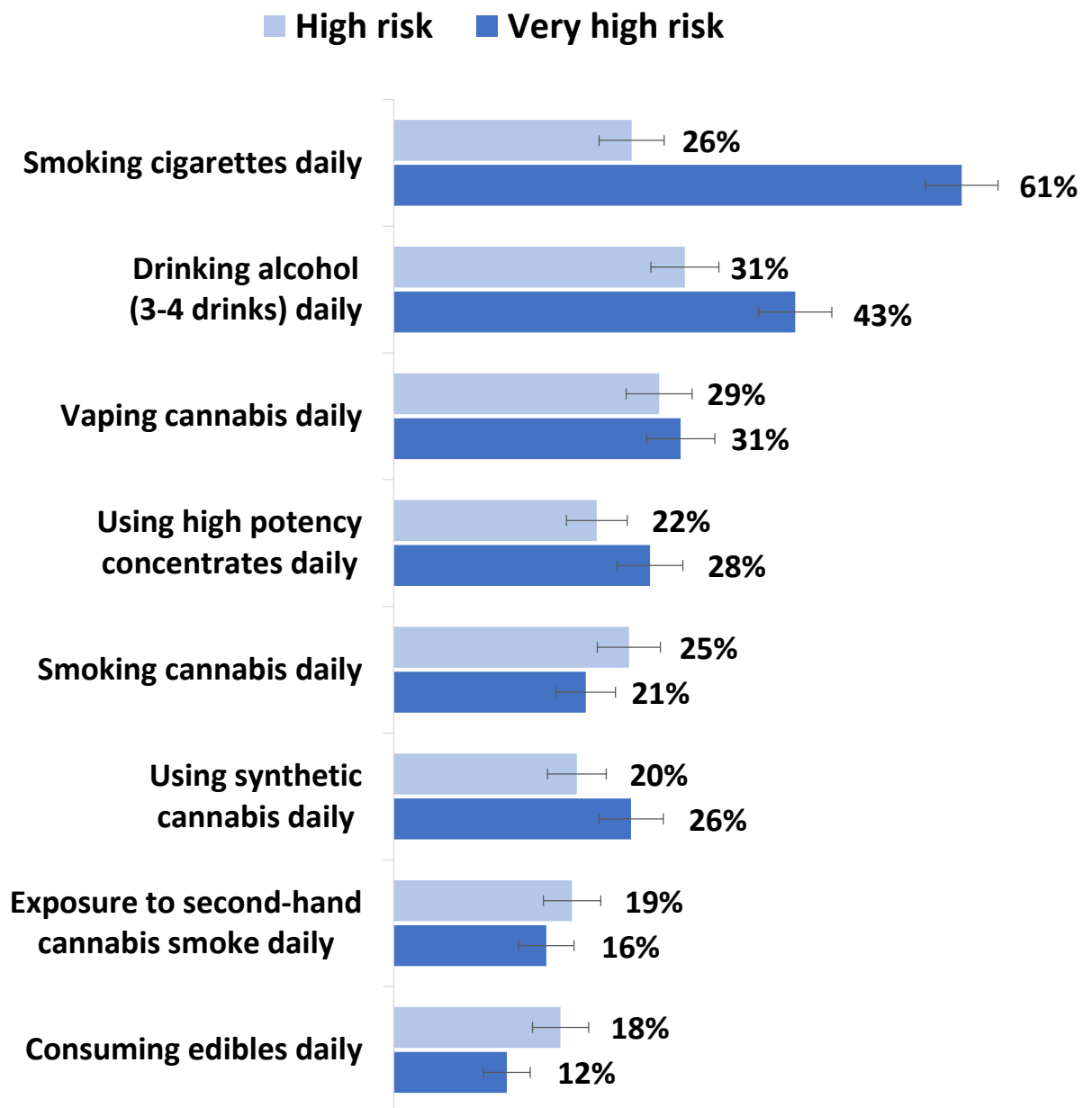
* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

Risk perceptions

In the Northwest Territories, perceptions of risk were highest for smoking tobacco cigarettes daily and drinking alcohol (3-4 drinks) daily. Higher risk was perceived for vaping cannabis compared to smoking cannabis daily. Risk perceptions were lowest for daily consumption of edibles.

In your opinion, what is the level of health risk from:

% AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913)



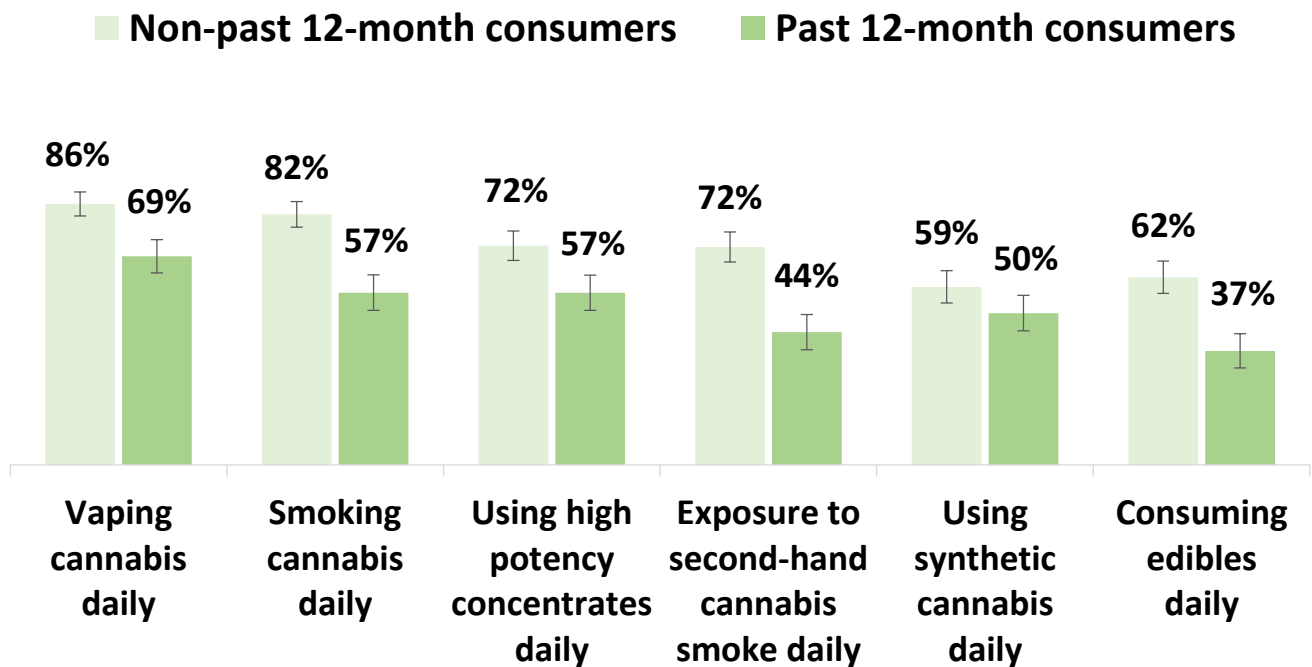
Cannabis risk perceptions

In the Northwest Territories, perceptions of moderate to very high risk of cannabis use were consistently higher among non-past 12-month cannabis consumers compared to past 12-month consumers. Risk perceptions were highest for vaping cannabis daily and smoking cannabis daily.

By cannabis use (among all respondents in the Northwest Territories)

In your opinion, what is the level of health risk from:

% MODERATE TO VERY HIGH RISK, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913)



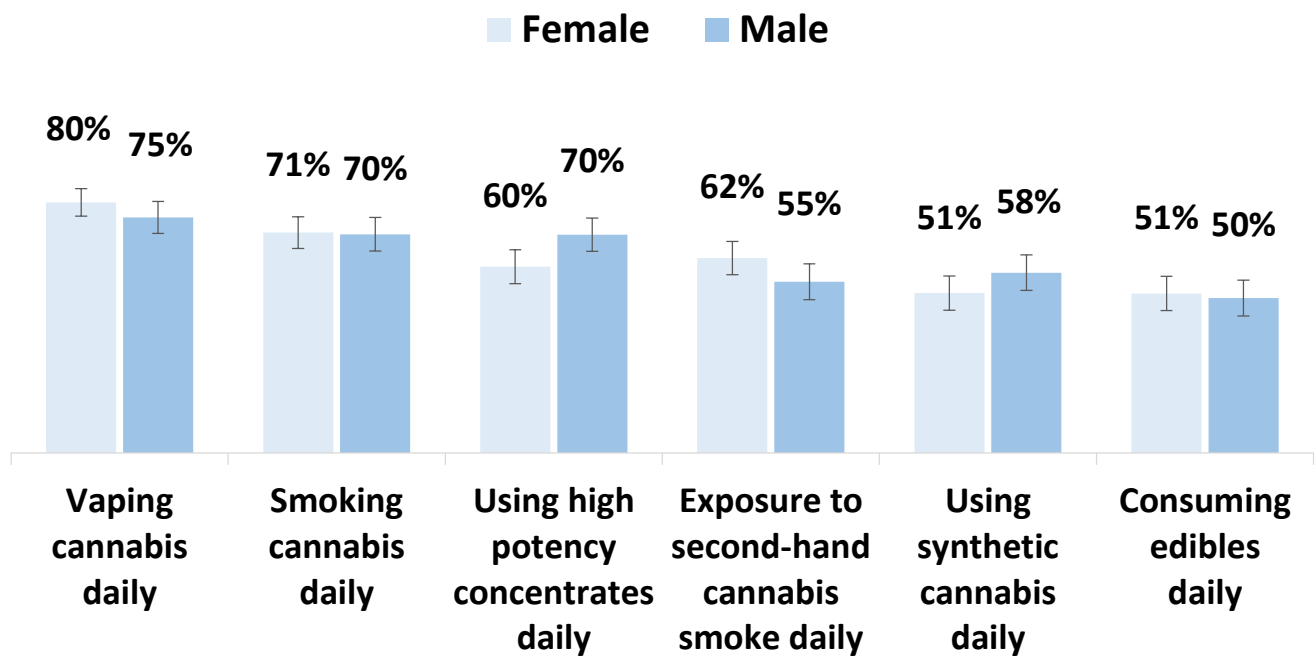
Cannabis risk perceptions

In the Northwest Territories, perceptions of moderate to very high risk of cannabis use were generally similar among females and males.

By sex (among all respondents in in the Northwest Territories)

In your opinion, what is the level of health risk from:

% MODERATE TO VERY HIGH RISK, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913)



Cannabis risk perceptions

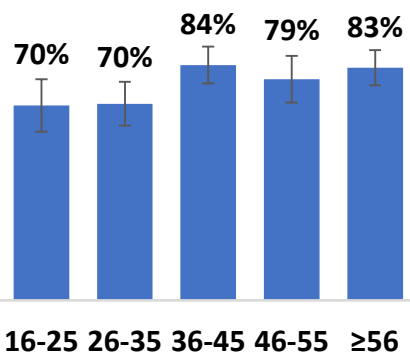
In the Northwest Territories, perceptions of moderate to very high risk of cannabis use were similar across age groups, though generally highest in older age groups.

By age (among all respondents in the Northwest Territories)

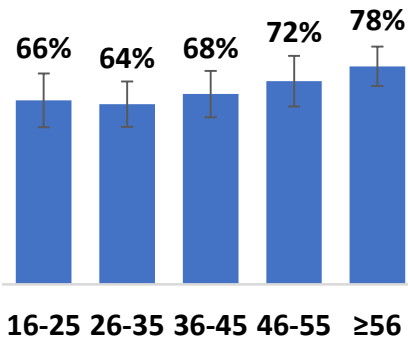
In your opinion, what is the level of health risk from:

% MODERATE TO VERY HIGH RISK, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913)

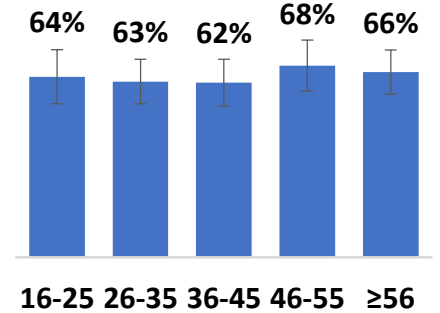
Vaping cannabis daily



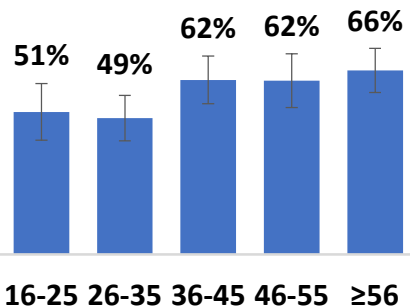
Smoking cannabis daily



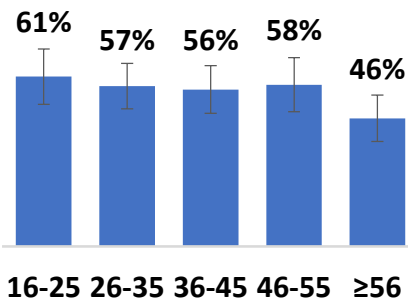
Using high potency concentrates daily



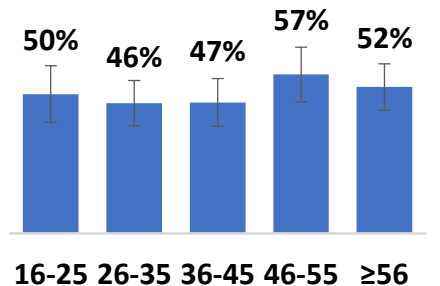
Exposure to second-hand cannabis smoke daily



Using synthetic cannabis daily



Consuming edibles daily

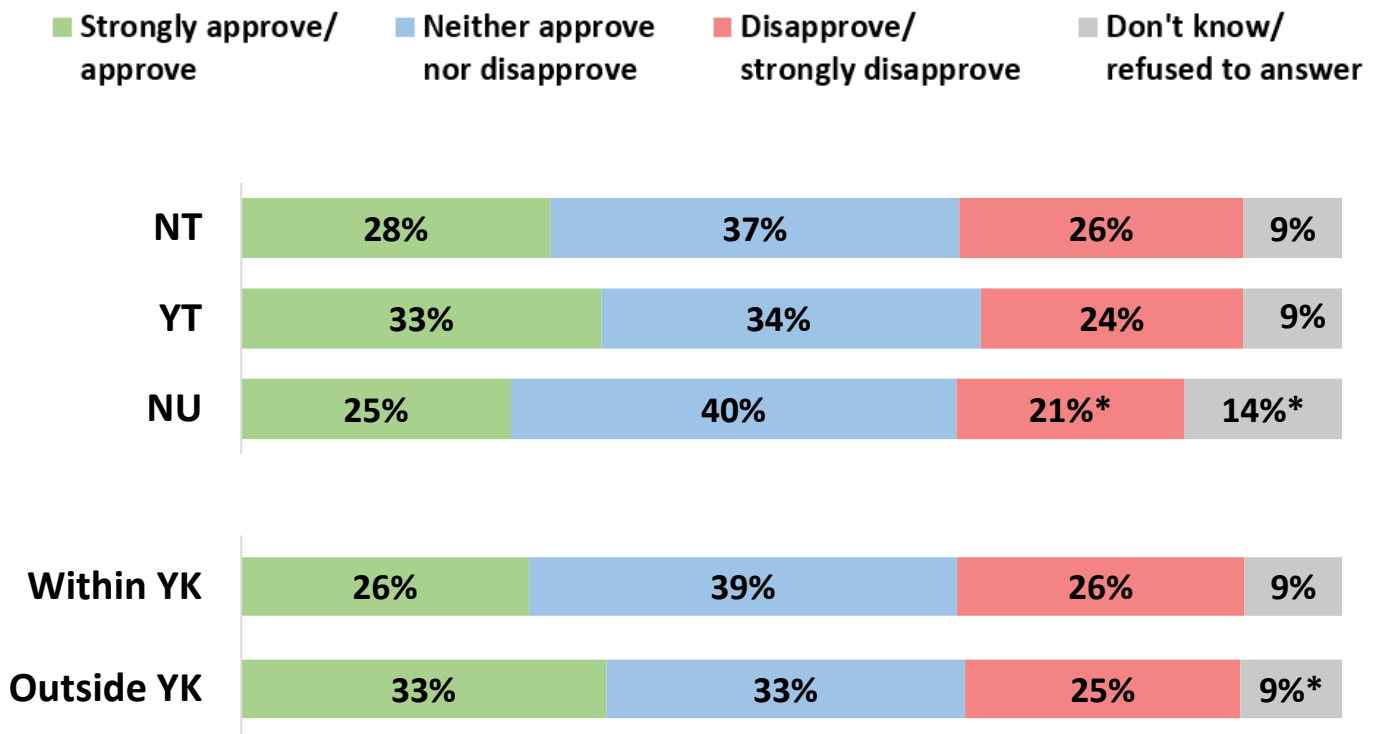


Social acceptability of cannabis

In the Northwest Territories, 28% generally approve of cannabis, 37% neither approve nor disapprove of cannabis, and 26% generally disapprove of cannabis. Results were similar across the territories and within and outside Yellowknife.

In your opinion, do people generally approve or disapprove of cannabis?

% AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134); WITHIN YK (N=705), OUTSIDE YK (N=208)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

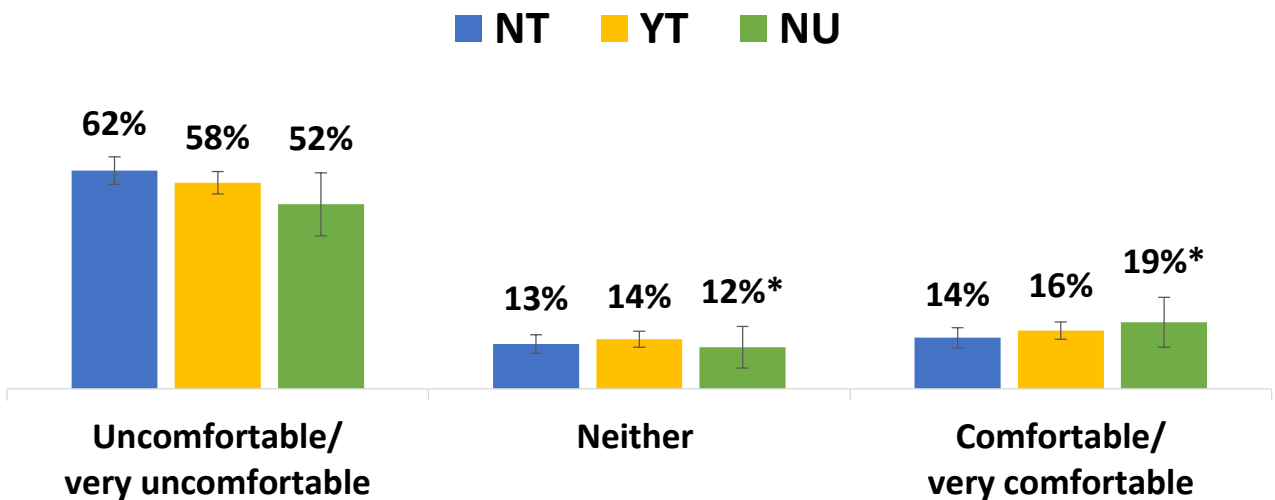
RESPONDENTS WHO SELECTED 'REFUSED TO ANSWER' AS THEIR RESPONSE WERE INCLUDED IN THE RESULTS.

Social acceptability of cannabis

In the Northwest Territories, 14% would feel ‘comfortable’ or ‘very comfortable’ using cannabis in public, while 62% would feel ‘uncomfortable’ or ‘very uncomfortable’ using cannabis in public. Results were similar across the territories. In the Northwest Territories, a higher percent reported feeling ‘comfortable’ or ‘very comfortable’ using cannabis in public in younger (16-35 years) relative to older age groups.

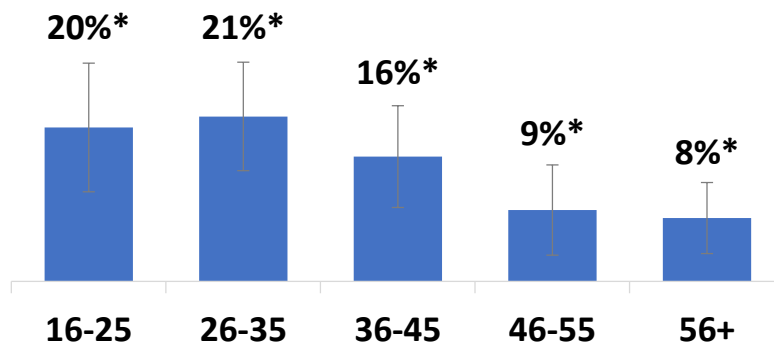
How comfortable or uncomfortable would you feel openly using cannabis in public?

% AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134)



Comfort with openly using cannabis in public, by age, in the Northwest Territories

% ‘COMFORTABLE’ OR ‘VERY COMFORTABLE’, AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

RESPONDENTS WHO SELECTED ‘REFUSED TO ANSWER’ AS THEIR RESPONSE WERE INCLUDED IN THE RESULTS.

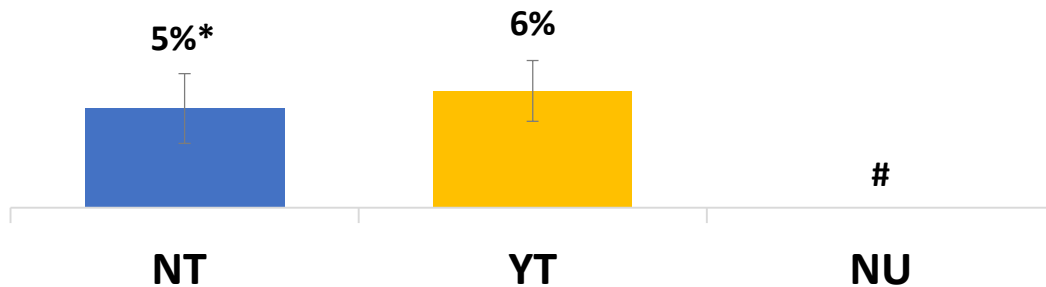
RESULTS NOT PRESENTED FOR ‘DON’T KNOW’ AND ‘REFUSED TO ANSWER’.

Social acceptability of cannabis

In the Northwest Territories, 5% would feel 'comfortable' or 'very comfortable' using cannabis around children, similar to the percentage in Yukon (6%). Results were similar within Yellowknife and outside Yellowknife.

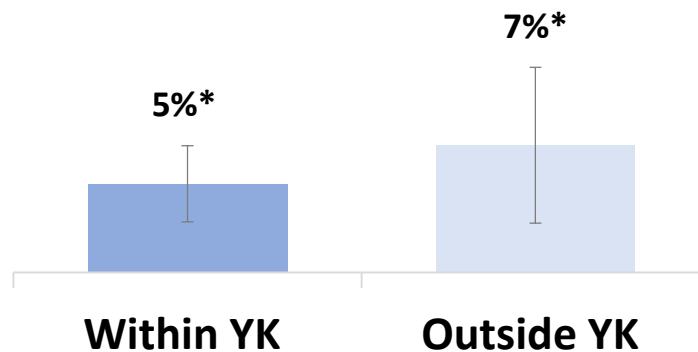
How comfortable or uncomfortable would you feel openly using cannabis around children?

% 'COMFORTABLE' OR 'VERY COMFORTABLE', AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134)



How comfortable or uncomfortable would you feel openly using cannabis around children?

% 'COMFORTABLE' OR 'VERY COMFORTABLE', AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. WITHIN YK (N=705), OUTSIDE YK (N=208)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

HIGH SAMPLING VARIABILITY; RESULT SUPPRESSED.

RESPONDENTS WHO SELECTED 'REFUSED TO ANSWER' AS THEIR RESPONSE WERE INCLUDED IN THE RESULTS.

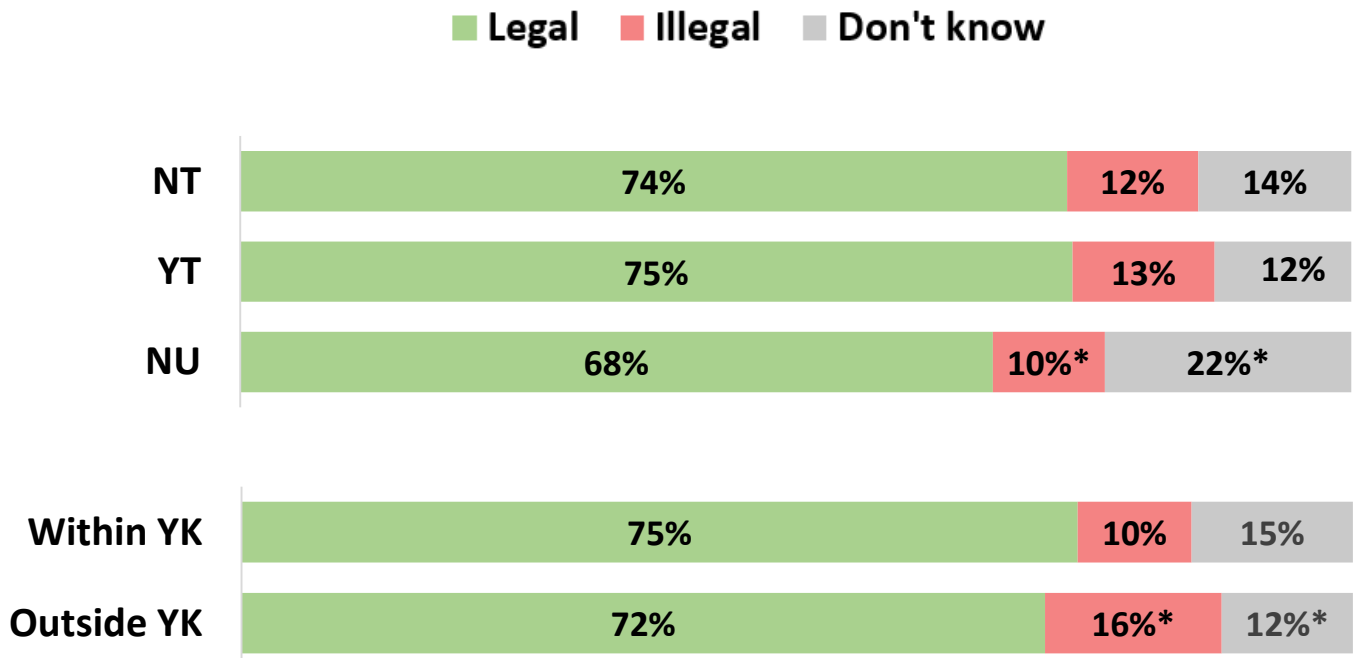
RESULTS NOT PRESENTED FOR 'DON'T KNOW' AND 'REFUSED TO ANSWER'.

Support for cannabis legalization

In the Northwest Territories, 74% reported that recreational cannabis should be legal. Results were similar across the territories and within and outside Yellowknife.

Should the use of recreational (non-medical) cannabis be: legal, illegal, or don't know?

% AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913), YT (N=1,415), NU (N=134); WITHIN YK (N=705), OUTSIDE YK (N=208)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; YT, YUKON; NU, NUNAVUT; YK, YELLOWKNIFE.

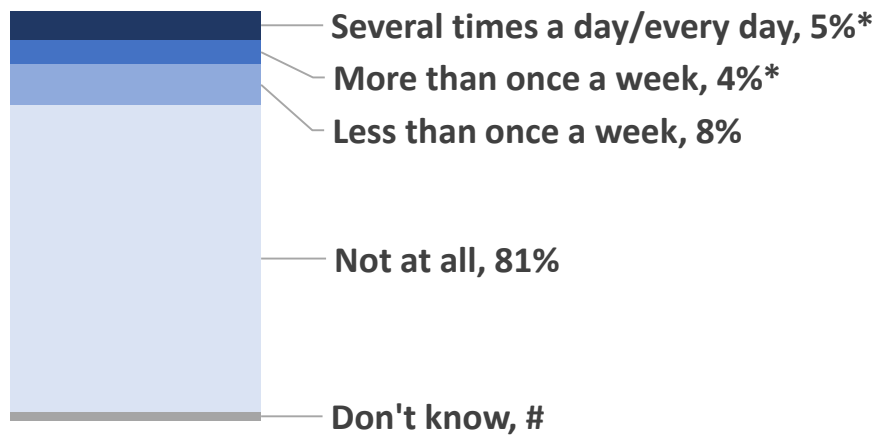
* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.

Exposure to second-hand cannabis smoke

In the Northwest Territories, 17% reported exposure to second-hand cannabis smoke within their home in the past 30 days, and 5% reported exposure every day or several times a day. Among those living in attached housing, multiple unit buildings, and shared accommodations, 56% reported noticing cannabis smoke entering their home at least once in the past 6 months (inclusive of higher frequencies), with 13% reporting exposure every day.

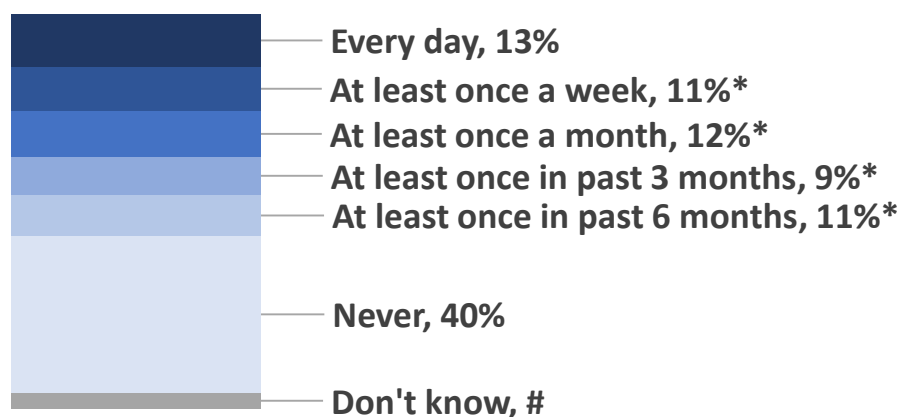
In the past 30 days, how often were you exposed to second-hand cannabis smoke inside your home?

% AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS. NT (N=913)



In the past 6 months, have you noticed any cannabis smoke entering your home from a neighbouring unit or from outside your building?

% AMONG RESPONDENTS WHO LIVE IN ATTACHED HOUSING, MULTIPLE UNIT BUILDINGS, AND SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS. NT (N=379)



WEIGHTED RESULTS.

NT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

* MODERATE SAMPLING VARIABILITY; INTERPRET WITH CAUTION.



CANNABIS POLICY STUDY IN THE TERRITORIES

Visit the study website for more information:

www.cannabisproject.ca/territories.

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