



# Cannabis Risk Awareness

A British Columbia  
Perspective

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# Overview

- Purpose
- Research Question
- Literature Review Findings
- Method
- Descriptive Statistics
- Inferential Statistics
- Knowledge Translation
- Discussion and Conclusions
- Future Research





# Purpose

- Determine public knowledge on forms of cannabis
- Determine public knowledge on health effects
- Determine if the public plans to alter use after legalization



A large crowd of people walking down a city street, overlaid with a semi-transparent dark brown filter. The text "3.6 Million" is centered in white.

**3.6 Million**



# Research Question

- What are British Columbians Perceptions Regarding Recreational Cannabis?



# Literature Review Findings

- Forms available
  - Leaves and buds
  - Resin
  - Concentrates
- Most users smoke
- Concerns with edibles
  - Accidental ingestion by children
  - Increase in incidence of accidental overdose since 2014
  - Delay of effects



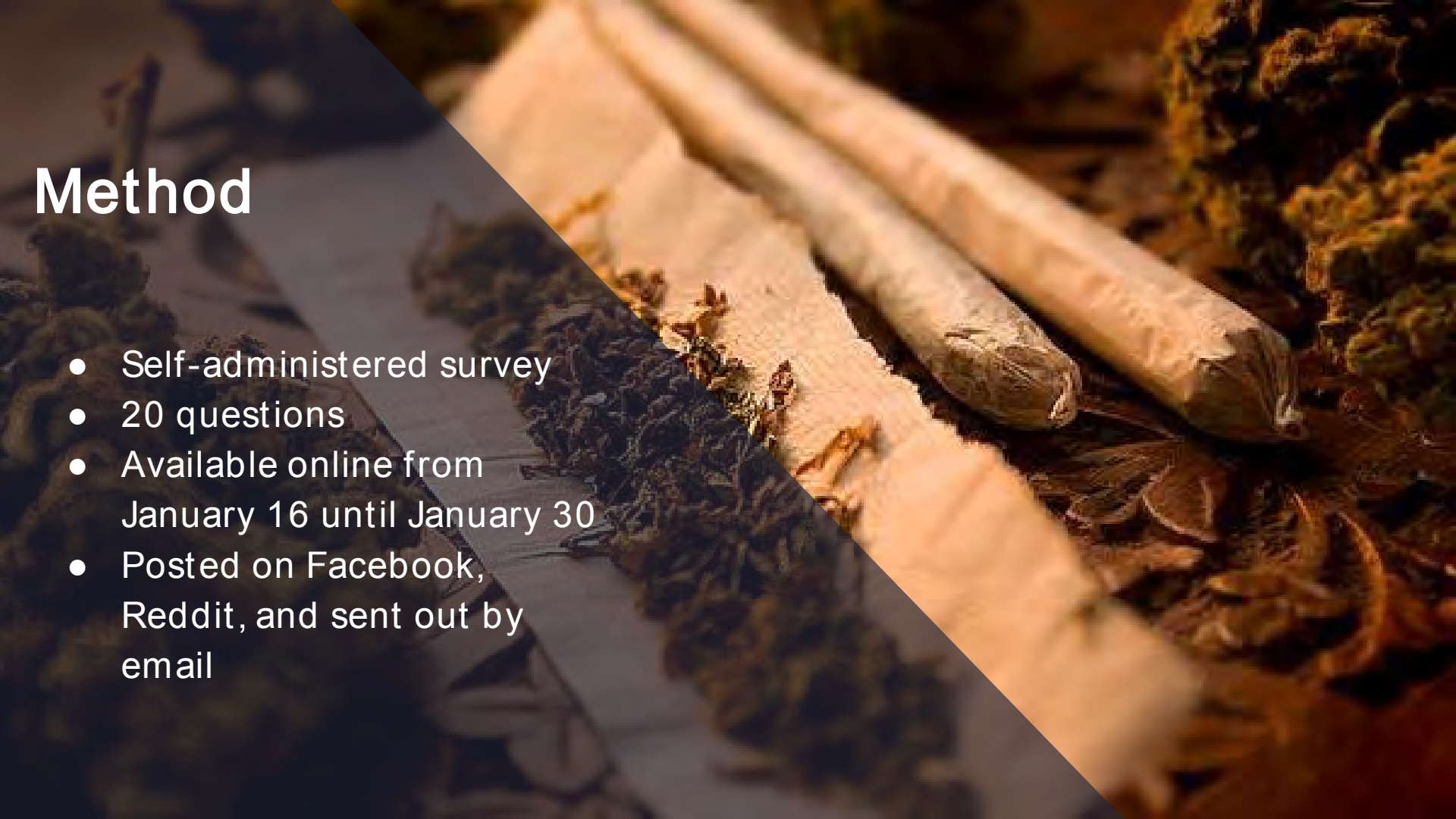
# Literature Review Findings

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road with white dashed lines, curving through a dry, hilly landscape. The terrain is covered in sparse, dry vegetation and has a golden-brown hue. A dark diagonal line runs across the image, separating the title area from the list area.

- Acute health effects
  - Addiction
  - Withdrawal
- Long term health effects
  - Cognitive health effects
  - Nasopharyngeal cancer
- Patterns of use
  - Mixed findings regarding legalization and patterns of use

# Method

- Self-administered survey
- 20 questions
- Available online from January 16 until January 30
- Posted on Facebook, Reddit, and sent out by email





# Descriptive Statistics



## Gender of Respondents

Other

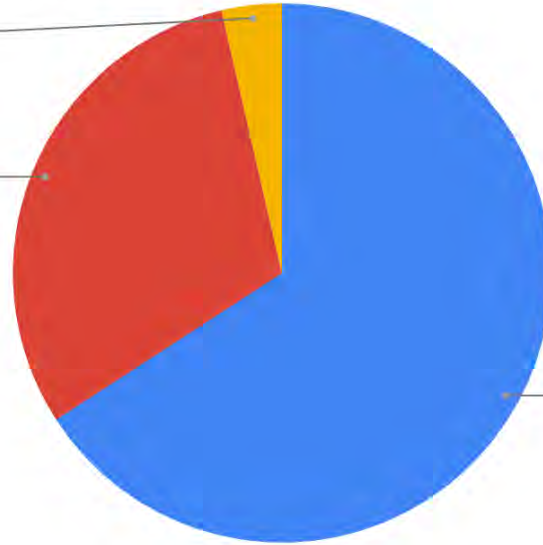
3.6%

Female

30.5%

Male

65.8%





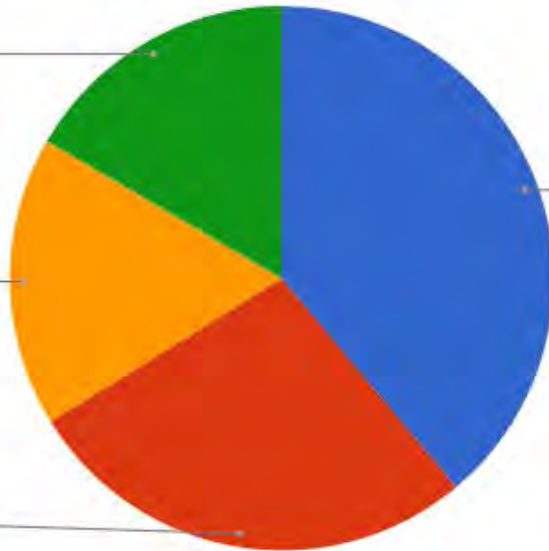
## Ages of Respondents

37 and over  
16.6%

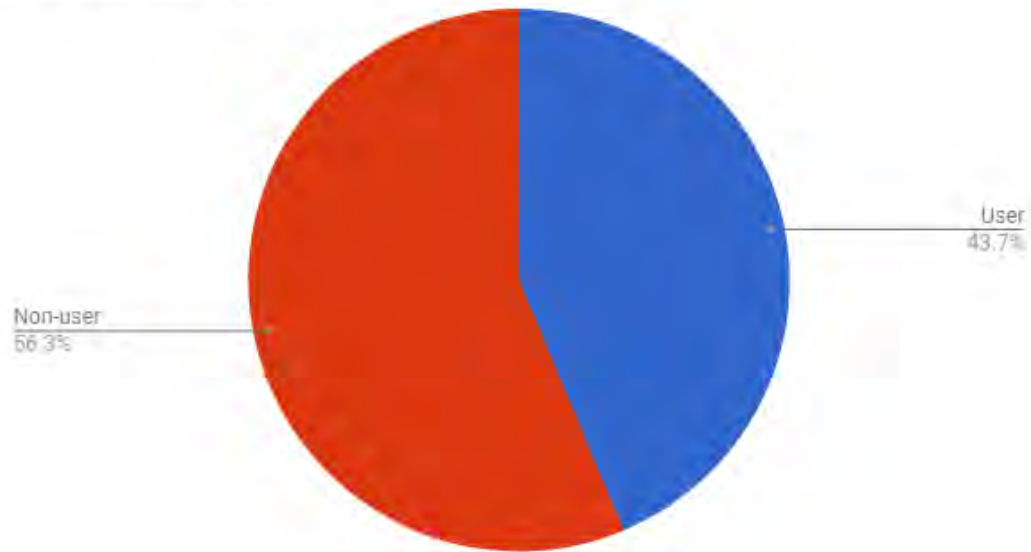
31-36  
17.2%

25-30  
27.3%

Under 25  
38.9%

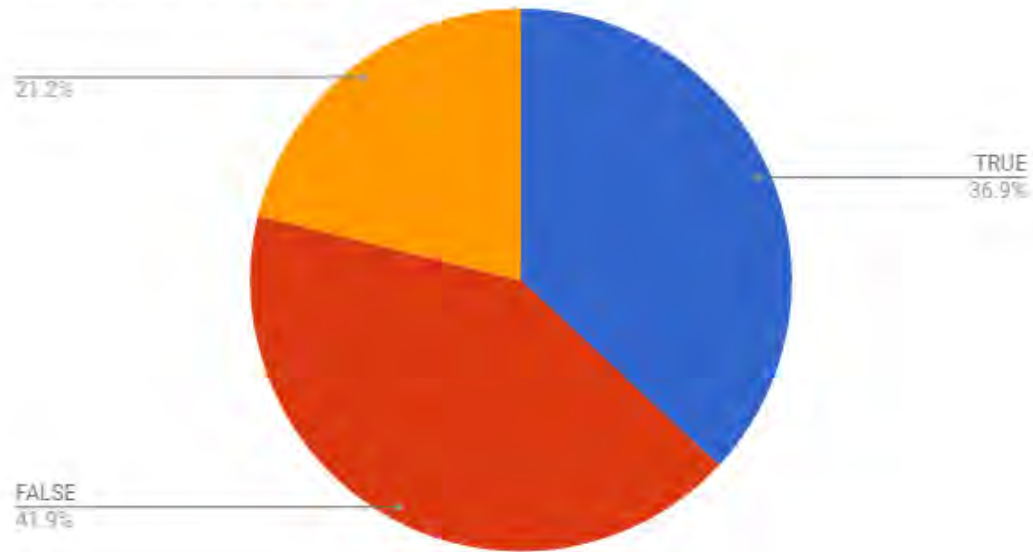


### Current User Status

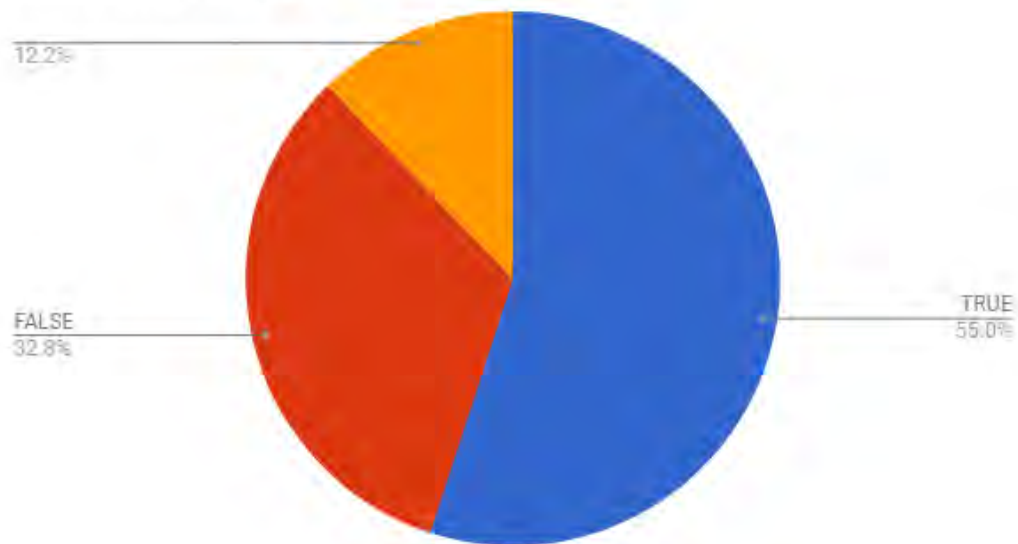




### Perception of Withdrawal

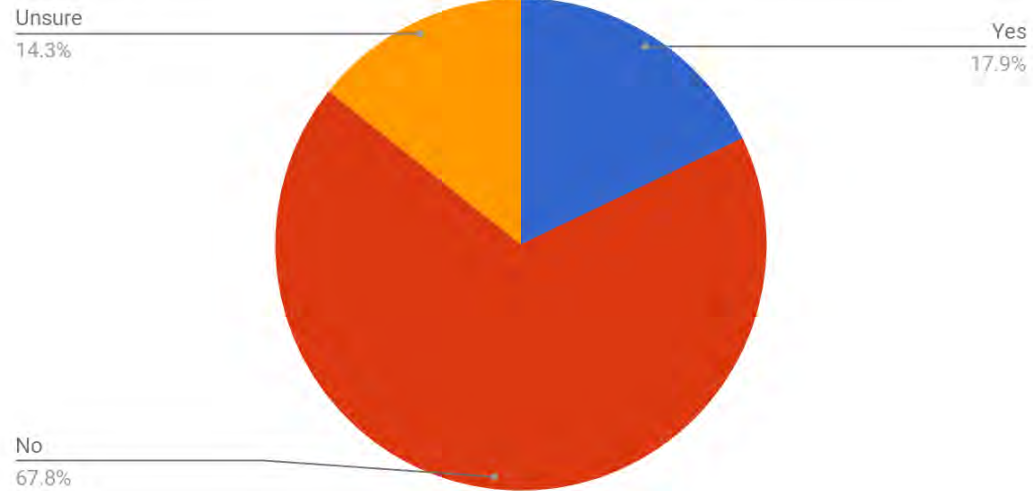


## Addictive Perception

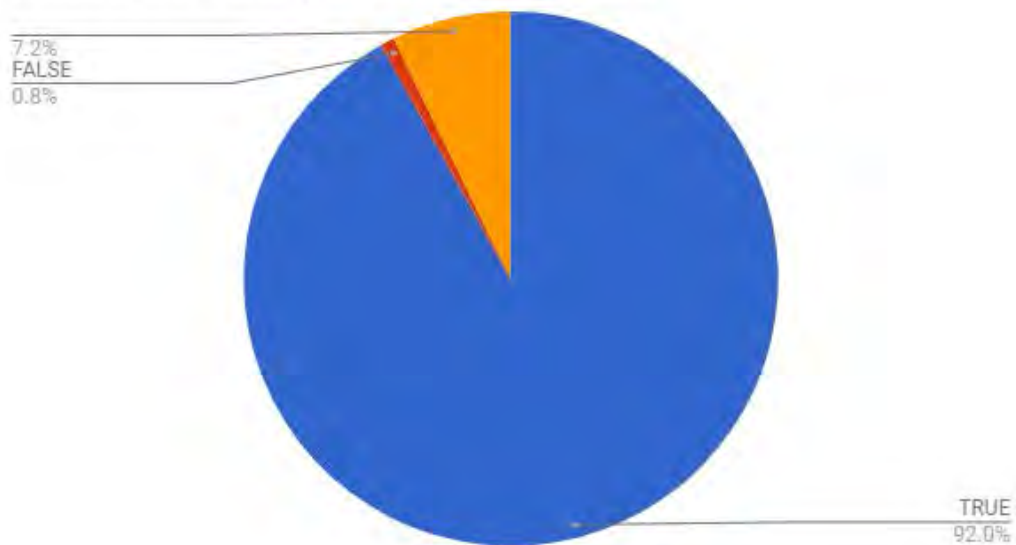




## Intent to Change Behaviour After Legalization of Recreational Cannabis



### Perception of Delay of Effects for Edibles





# Inferential Statistics

The background of the slide features a photograph of cannabis. In the foreground, a single, large, dark green cannabis bud with prominent trichomes sits on a dark wooden surface. Behind it, three wooden bowls are filled with more cannabis buds. The bowls are arranged in a row, with the one on the right being the most prominent and in focus. The lighting is warm and soft, highlighting the texture of the buds and the grain of the wood. A diagonal dark grey overlay covers the left side of the image, where the text is placed.

- Addictive Perception v. Gender
  - $P = 0.00068$
- Addictive Perception v. Current User Status
  - $P = 0.00000$
- Perception of withdrawal v. Current User Status
  - $P = 0.00000$

# Knowledge Translation

- Health promotion initiatives
- Public health planning







# Discussion and Conclusions

- Target groups needing the most education
- Focus education on identified areas needing education

# Future Research



- A study of British Columbians knowledge and perceptions of cannabis after legalization
- A survey of Canadians knowledge and perceptions of recreational cannabis
- A study of practices following legalization



A low-angle shot of a cannabis plant with large, serrated green leaves. The plant is growing in a greenhouse, with the translucent plastic panels and metal frame visible in the background. A semi-transparent dark grey triangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, serving as a background for the text.

# Thank you!

Questions?

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## Pictures

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