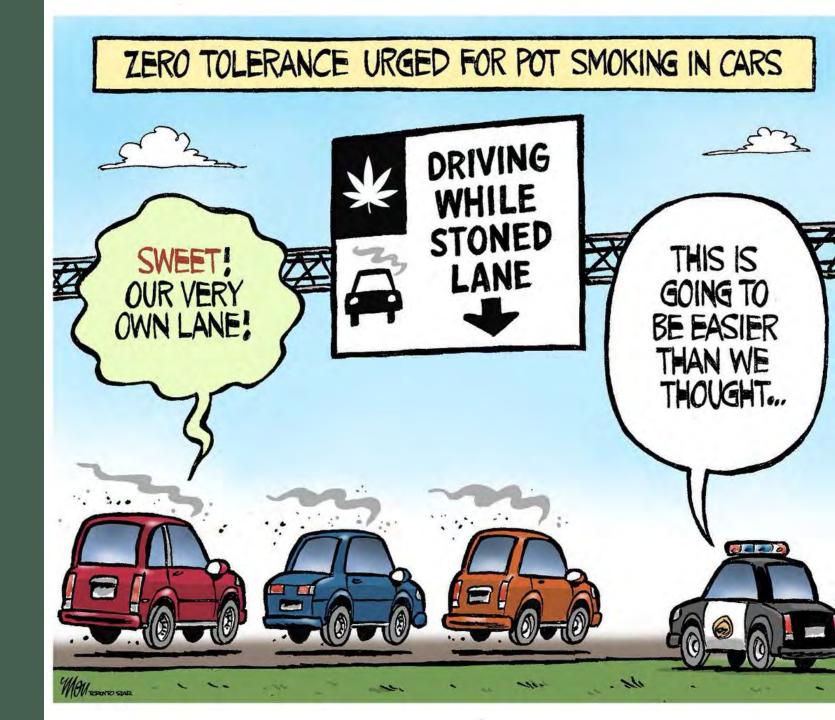
HIGH TIMES

Cannabis Effects and Driving
Sgt. Cara Jacobs
P.O. III G.P. Benton

HIGH TIMES



THE DRUG PROBLEM

ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED DRIVING

DRUG-IMPAIRED DRIVING





THE DRUG PROBLEM

ROADSIDE SURVEYS:

	Weekday Days	Weekend Nights
Tested positive for some drug or medication	22.4%	22.5%
Illegal drugs, including marijuana	12.1%	15.2%
Medication	10.3%	7.3%
Marijuana	11.7%	12.6%
Alcohol	1.1%	8.3%

THE DRUG PROBLEM

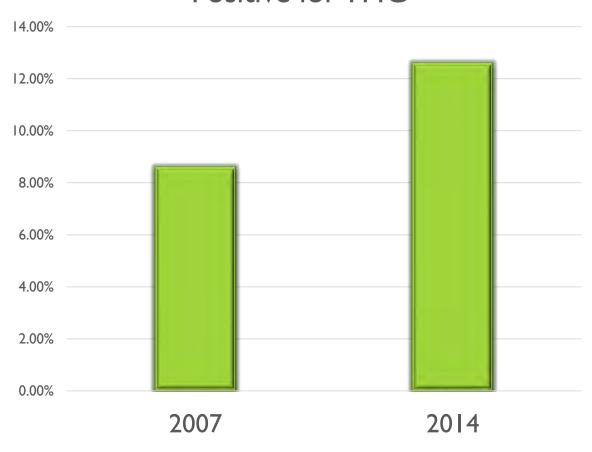
ALCOHOL-RELATED FATALITIES

DRUG-RELATED FATALITIES

37%

41%

Percentage of Drivers Tested Positive for THC



THE MARIJUANA
PROBLEM

2007 to 2013-2014 National Roadside Survey

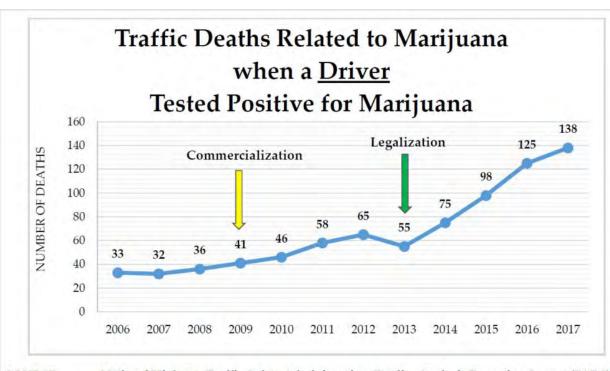


- 2013 2017 (MADD)
 - Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: The Impact (2018, Update)

• 35% increase in traffic fatalities

- 151% increase in traffic related deaths with cannabis detected
 - 55 deaths (2013) to 138 deaths (2017)

LEGALIZATION: COLORADO



SOURCE:

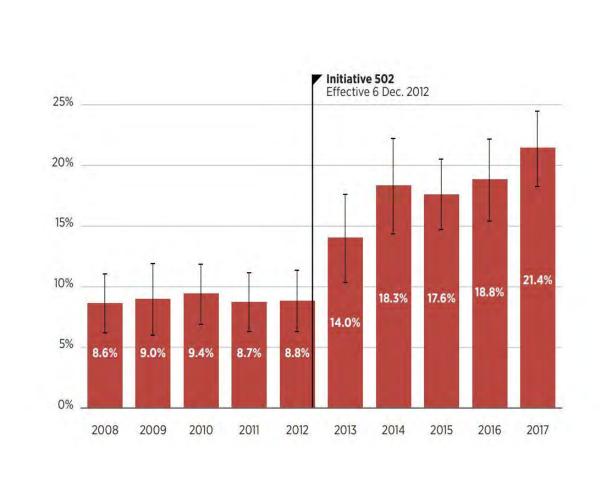
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), 2006-2011 and Colorado Department of Transportation 2012-2017



- 2008-2017 (AAA)
 - Cannabis Use Among Drivers in Fatal Crashes Before and After Legalization (January 2020)

Initial spike then gradual but steady increase

LEGALIZATION: WASHINGTON





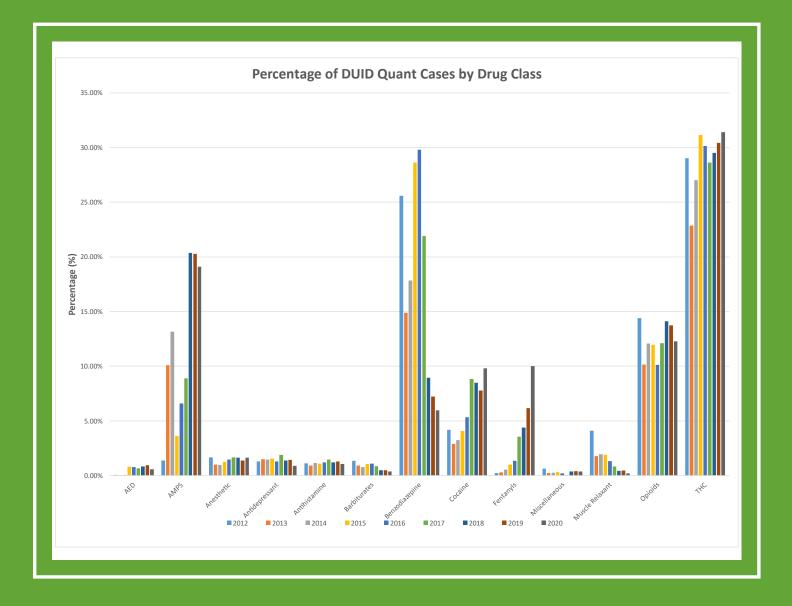


• Limitations in data

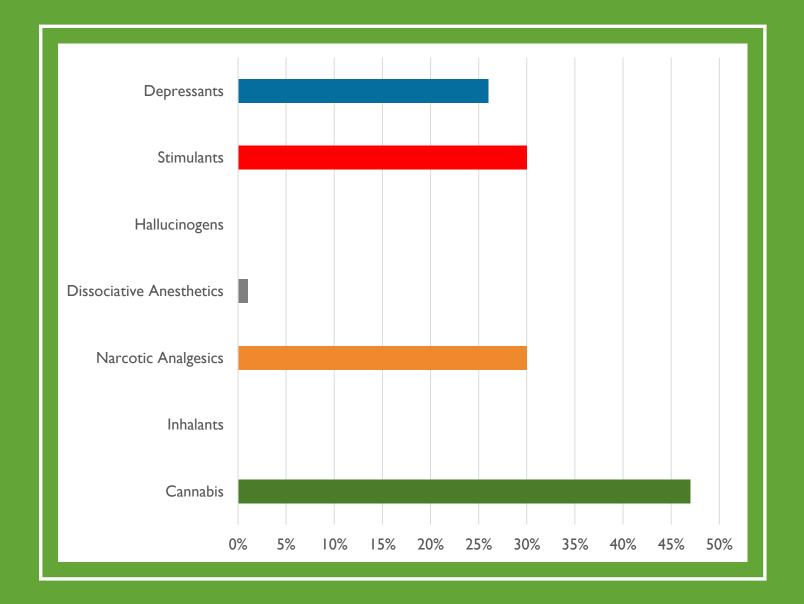
LEGALIZATION: VIRGINIA

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	THC	THC	THC	THC	THC
2	Alprazolam	Alprazolam	Alprazolam	Meth	Fentanyl
3	Diazepam	Cocaine	Meth	Fentanyl	Meth
4	Cocaine	Meth	Cocaine	Alprazolam	Cocaine
5	Oxycodone	Fentanyl	Fentanyl	Cocaine	Alprazolam

LEGALIZATION: VIRGINIA



LEGALIZATION: VIRGINIA







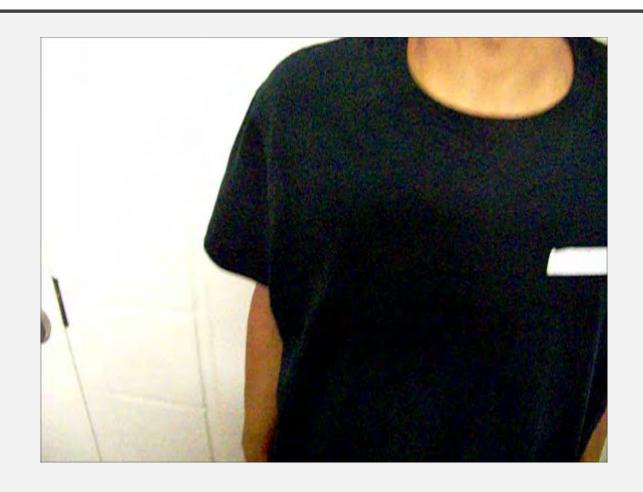
Lack of convergence

Dilated pupils

Elevated pulse

Elevated blood pressure

LACK OF CONVERGENCE





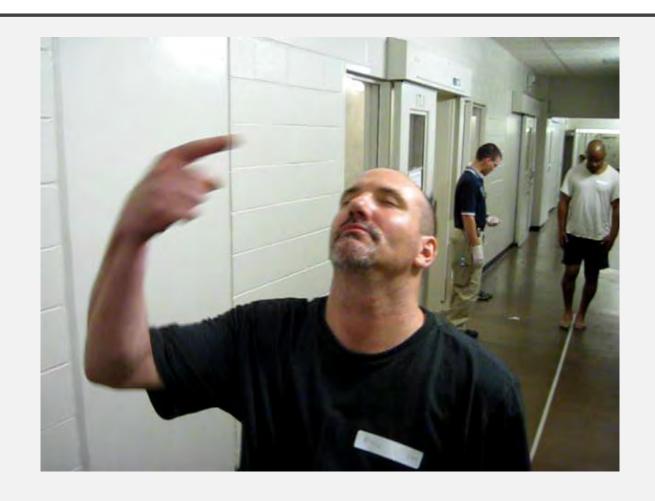
Time/distance perception

Alterations in thought formation

Body/Eyelid tremors

Bloodshot eyes

BODY TREMORS



EYELID TREMORS





Debris in mouth

Disoriented

Drowsiness

Impaired memory



Increased appetite

Lack of concentration

Mood changes

Odor of marijuana



Rebound dilation

Relaxed inhibitions

Sedation



SAN DIEGO SFST VALIDATION STUDY

Stuster, J., Burns, M. (1998). Validation of the standardized field sobriety test battery at BACs below 0.10 percent.
United States Department of Transportation National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration.

ISN'T THIS FOR ALCOHOL??

Why is this important to know?







Clues



Accuracy



• Cannabis does not <u>usually</u> cause HGN

• <u>But</u> may see lack of smooth pursuit or inability to keep eyes on the stimulus



2

Clues

79%

Accuracy



2

Clues

83%

Accuracy

SO... WHAT CONCLUSIONS CAN WE DRAW?? Why is this important to know?



CANNABIS AND DRIVING

Hartman, R.L., Richman, J.E., Hayes, C.E., Huestis, M.A. (2016). Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) examination characteristics of cannabis impairment. Accident Analysis and Prevention, 92, 219-229.

R.L. HARTMAN ET AL. (2016)

- 302 total cases
- Tox confirmed cannabis only
- Control group vs study population
- DRE evaluations and results



RESULTS

DRIVING BEHAVIORS

Excessively high / low speeds

Fail to maintain lane

Crash

Fail to obey highway signs/traffic lights

DEMEANOR

Slow / lethargic

Emotional

Dazed

Disoriented

Sleepy

Anxious

CLINICAL EFFECTS

Elevated pulse

Elevated blood

pressure

Dilated pupils

RESULTS

HGN

MARIJUANA DOES

NOT CAUSE HGN!

Fail to keep eyes on stimulus

Fail to keep head still

LOC

10% of population cannot

cross eyes

78% OF MARIJUANA

CASES CANNOT CROSS

EYES

MRB

Accelerated /

depressed internal

clock

Eyelid tremors

Sway

WAT

Improper turn

Arms for balance

Stops while walking

Miss heel to toe

2-5 CLUES

0LS

Sways

Arms for balance

1-2 CLUES

FTN

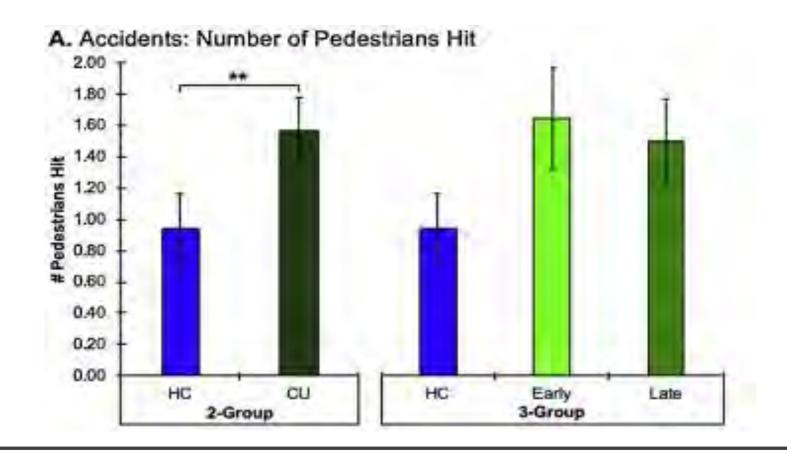
3-6 MISSES

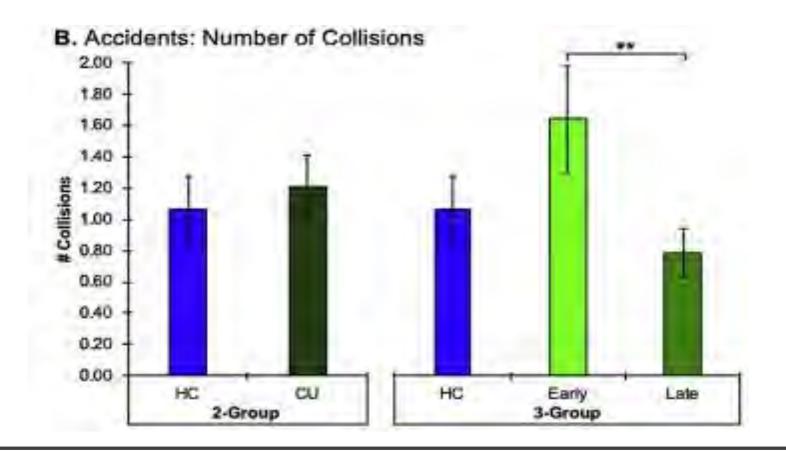
HOW MANY CLUES?

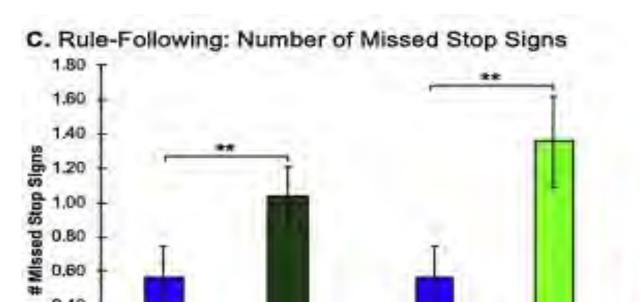
VIDEO

CANNABIS AND DRIVING

Dahlgren, M.K., Sagar, K.A., Smith, R.T., Lambrose, A.M., Kuppe, M.K., & Gruber, S.A. (2020, March). Recreational cannabis use impairs driving performance in the absence of acute intoxication. Science Direct, Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 208. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0376871619305484







CU

2-Group

0.40

0.20

0.00

HC

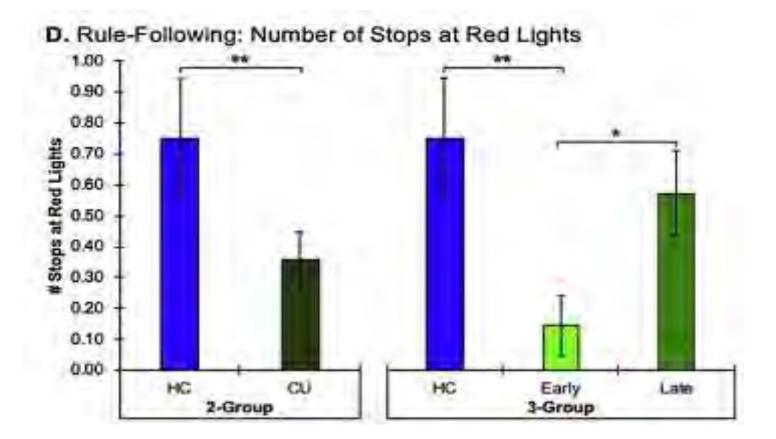


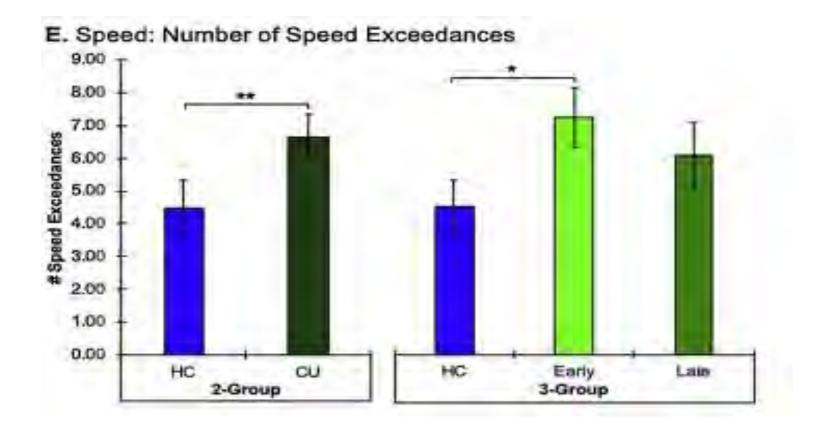
HC

Early

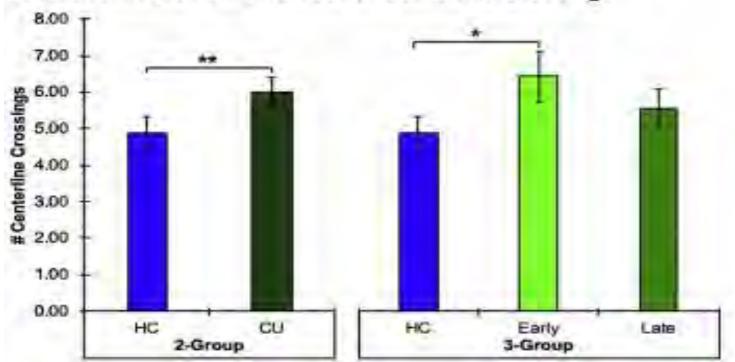
3-Group

Late





G. Lateral Movement: Number of Centerline Crossings





High THC content

- Easily concealed
 - Small
 - No odor

• Same impairment effects

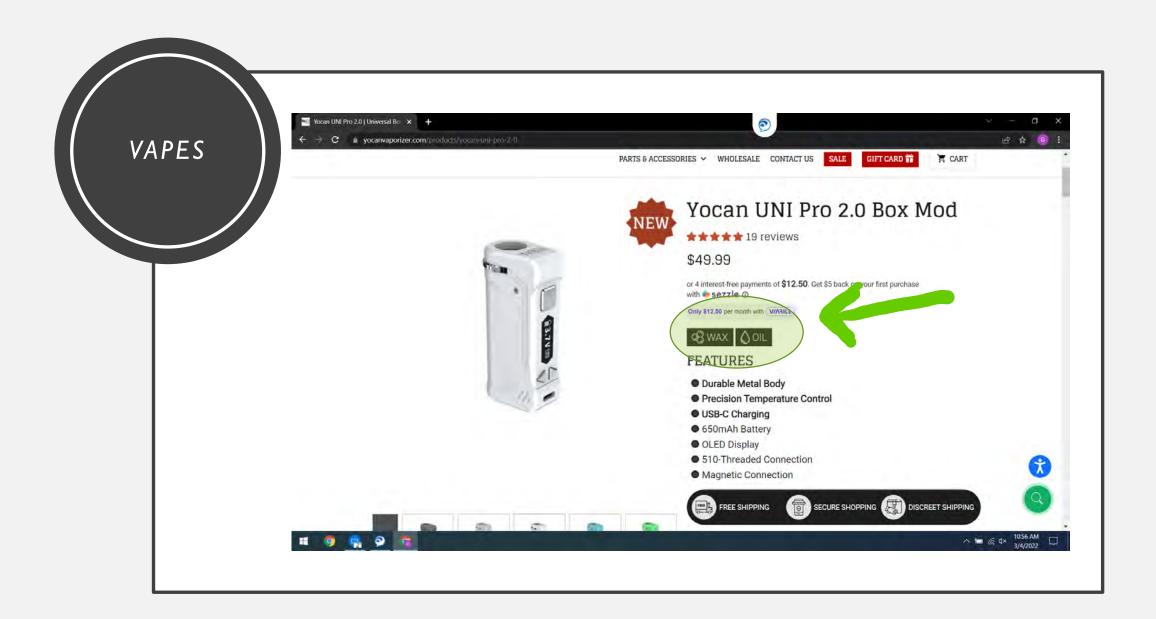
EDIBLES AND VAPES

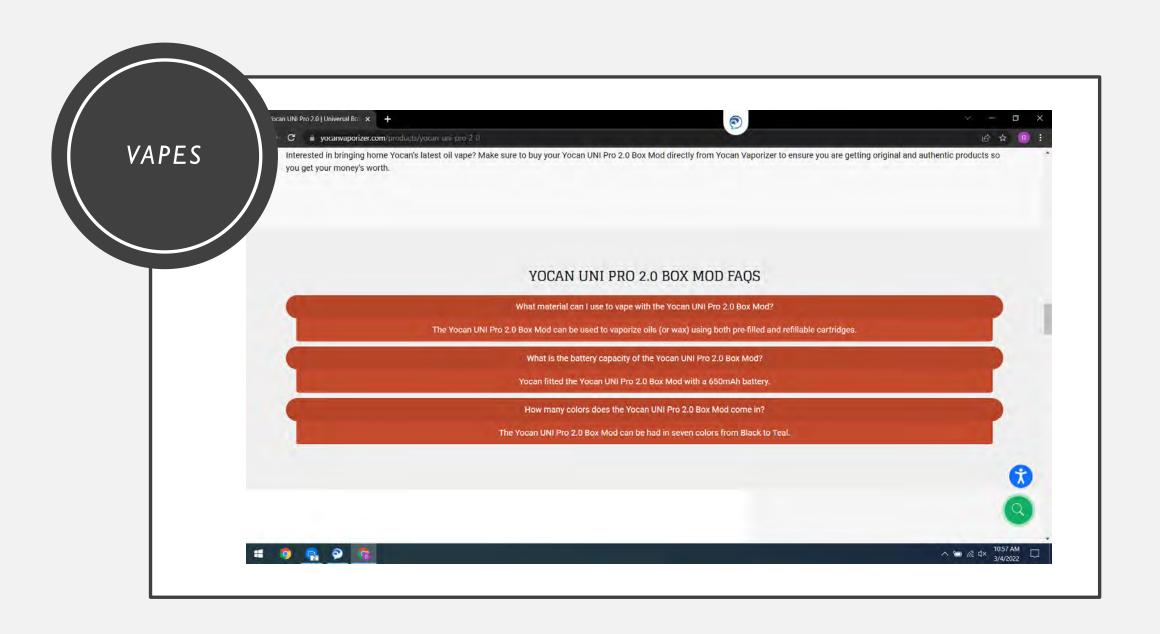












COMMON APPAREL





COMMON REFFERENCES









- ARIDE
- DRE
- Public education
 - High school driving classes
 - College orientation classes
 - Driver improvement classes
 - Community events / neighborhood watch groups

