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**METHAMPHETAMINE IN MEXICO:  
CONSUMPTION PANORAMA AND SUPPLY CONTROL ACTIONS**

# Methamphetamine in Mexico:

Consumption panorama and supply control  
actions

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Comisión Nacional contra las Adicciones

National Commission against addictions



**GOBIERNO DE  
MÉXICO**

Gady Zabicky  
November, 2019

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**SALUD**  
SECRETARÍA DE SALUD



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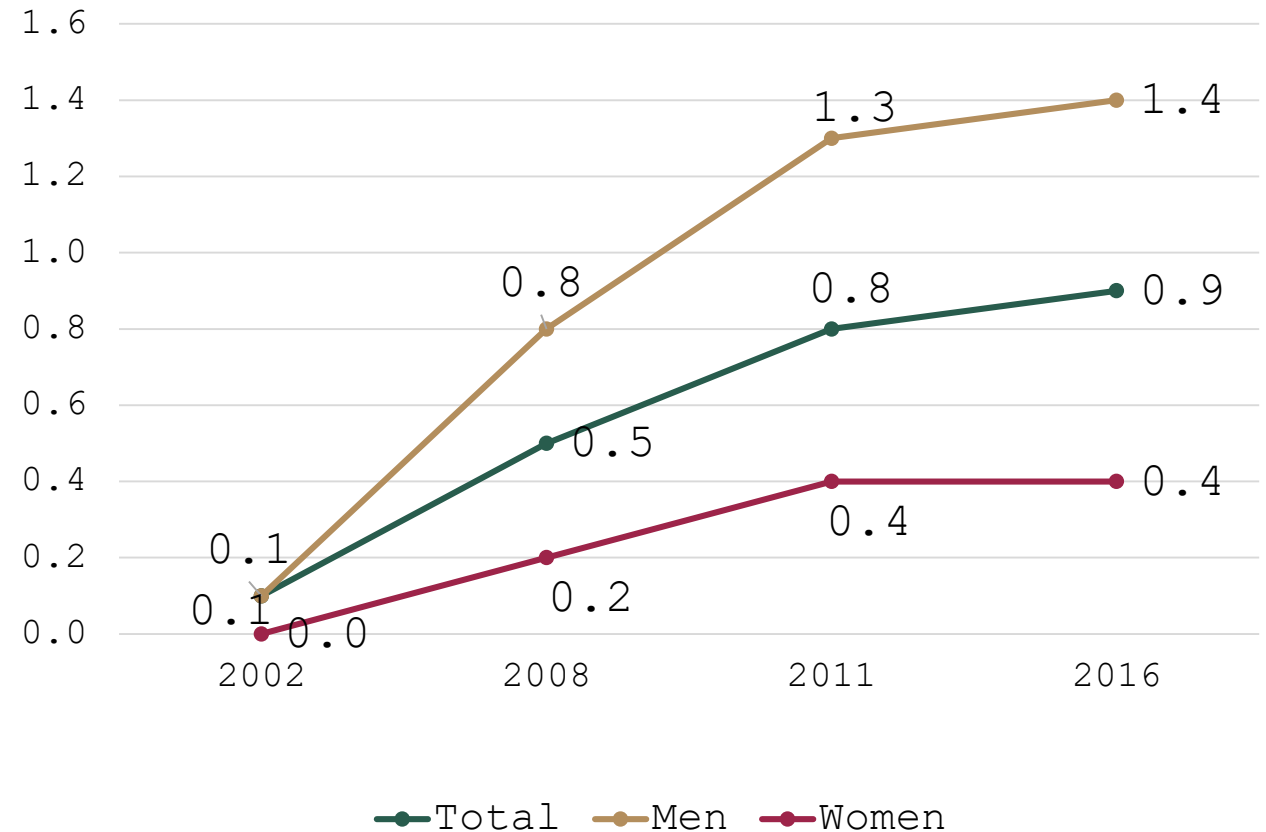


# Household survey

## 12 to 65 years old

- **Increase in lifetime prevalence** from 2002 to 2016 (0.1% a 0.9 %).
- **743 thousand people have used** methamphetamine at least once.
- **Increase in lifetime prevalence** is greater for men.

Lifetime prevalence of methamphetamine use in population aged 12 to 65 years (2002-2016)





# Household survey

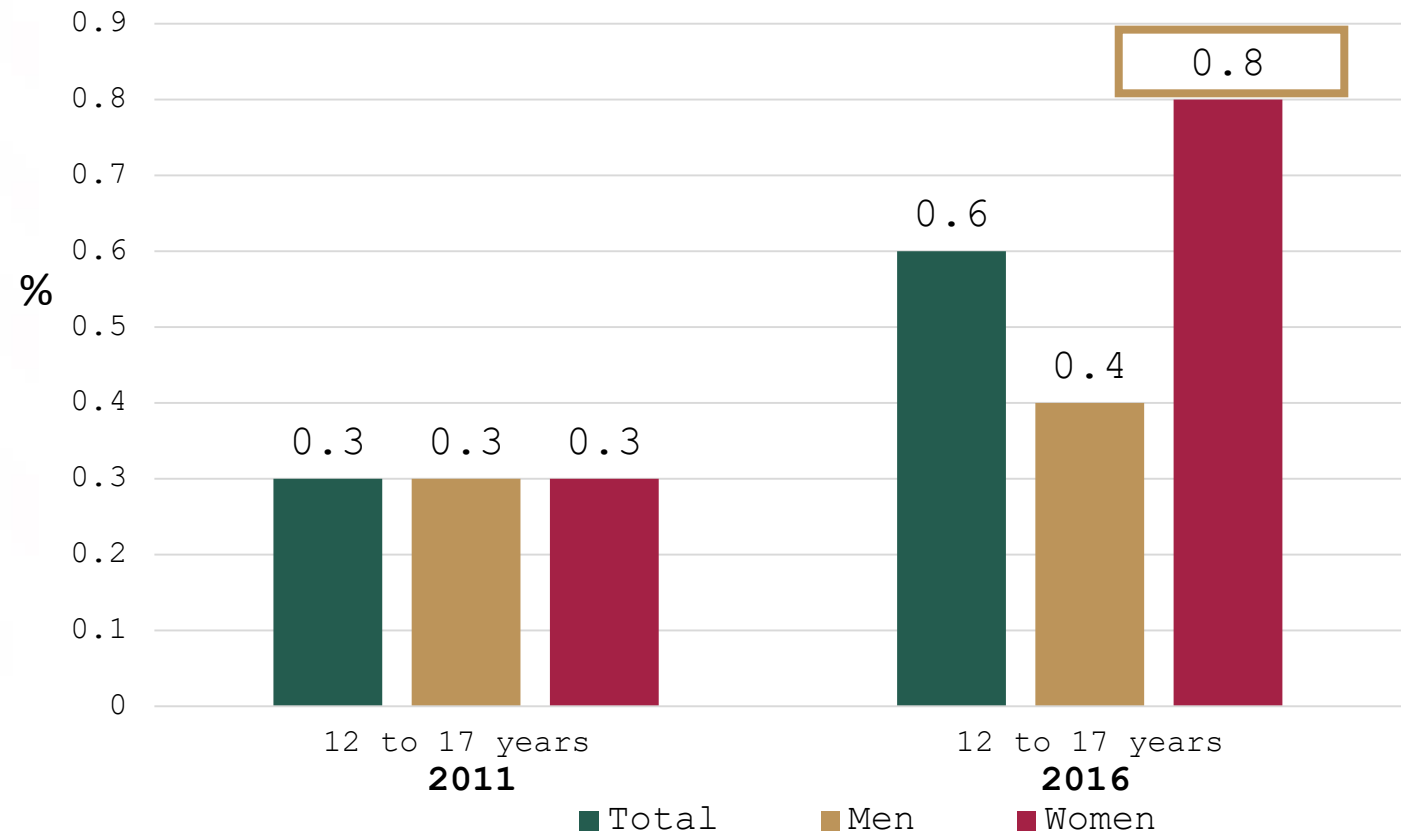
## 12 to 17 years old

- **Increase in lifetime prevalence** from 2011 to 2016 (**0.3%** a **0.6 %**).

• **Women showed greatest increase, from 0.3% in 2011 to 0.8% in 2016**

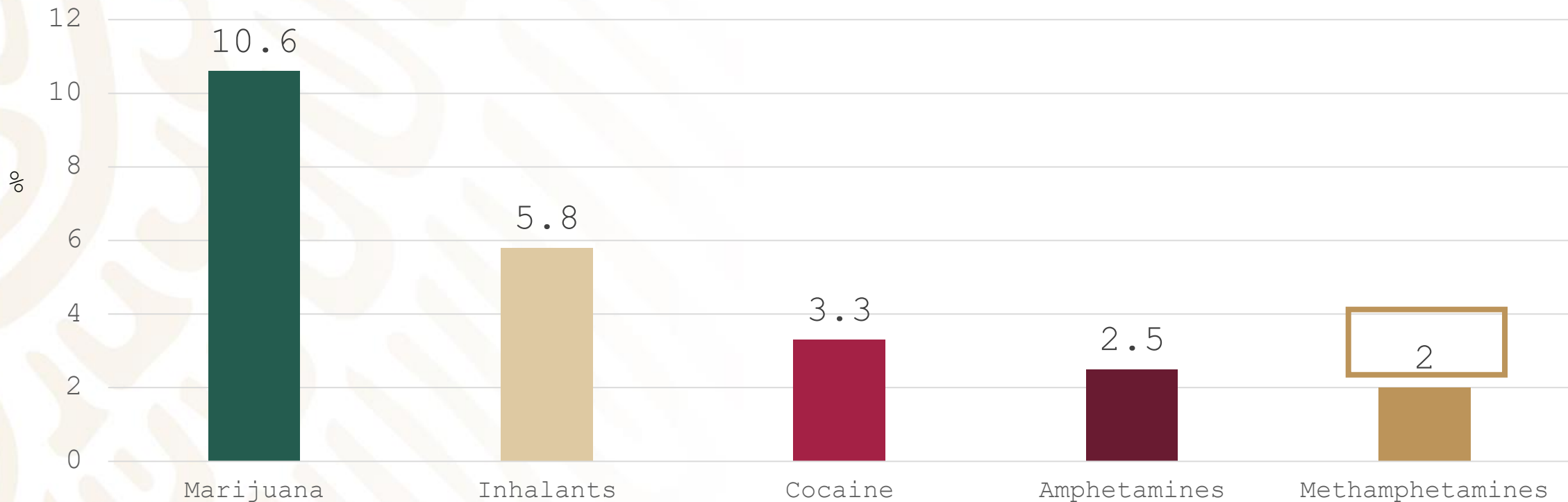
- Men from **0.3%** to **0.4%**.

Lifetime prevalence of methamphetamine use in population aged 12 to 17 years



# School survey

Lifetime prevalence of illegal drug use  
in middle and high schools students (2014)

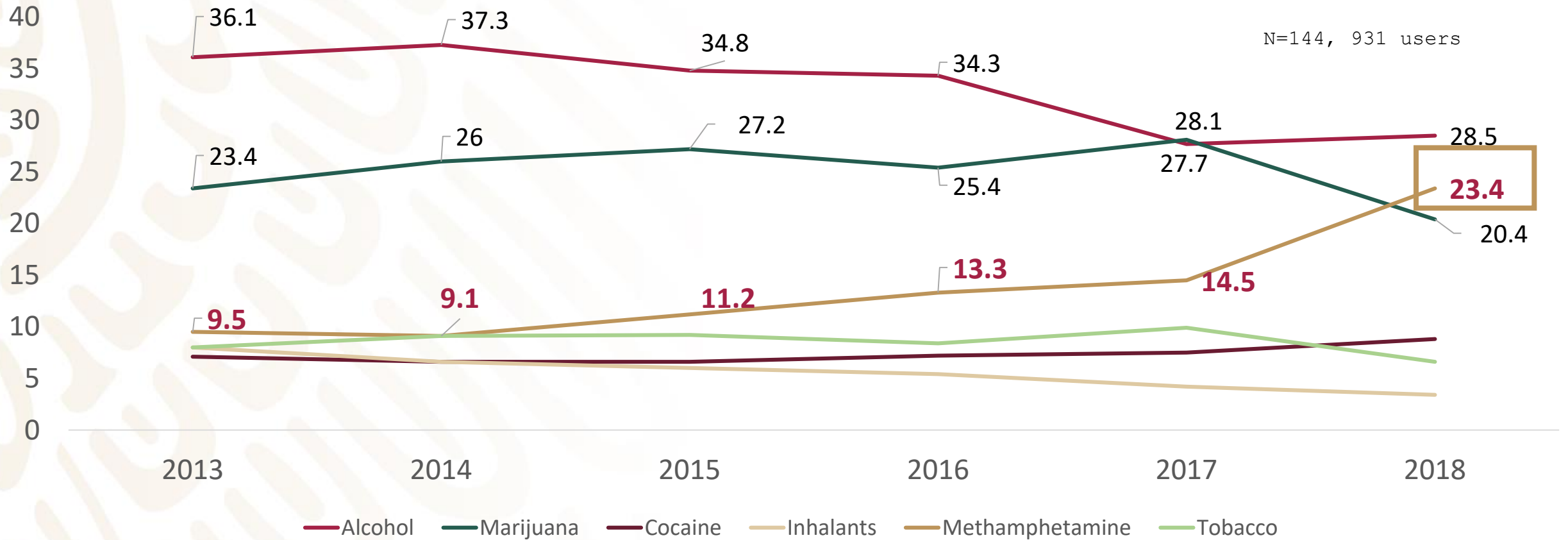


Methamphetamine is the **fifth drug with higher lifetime prevalence** among middle and high school students



# Trend in demand for treatment for psychoactive substance use

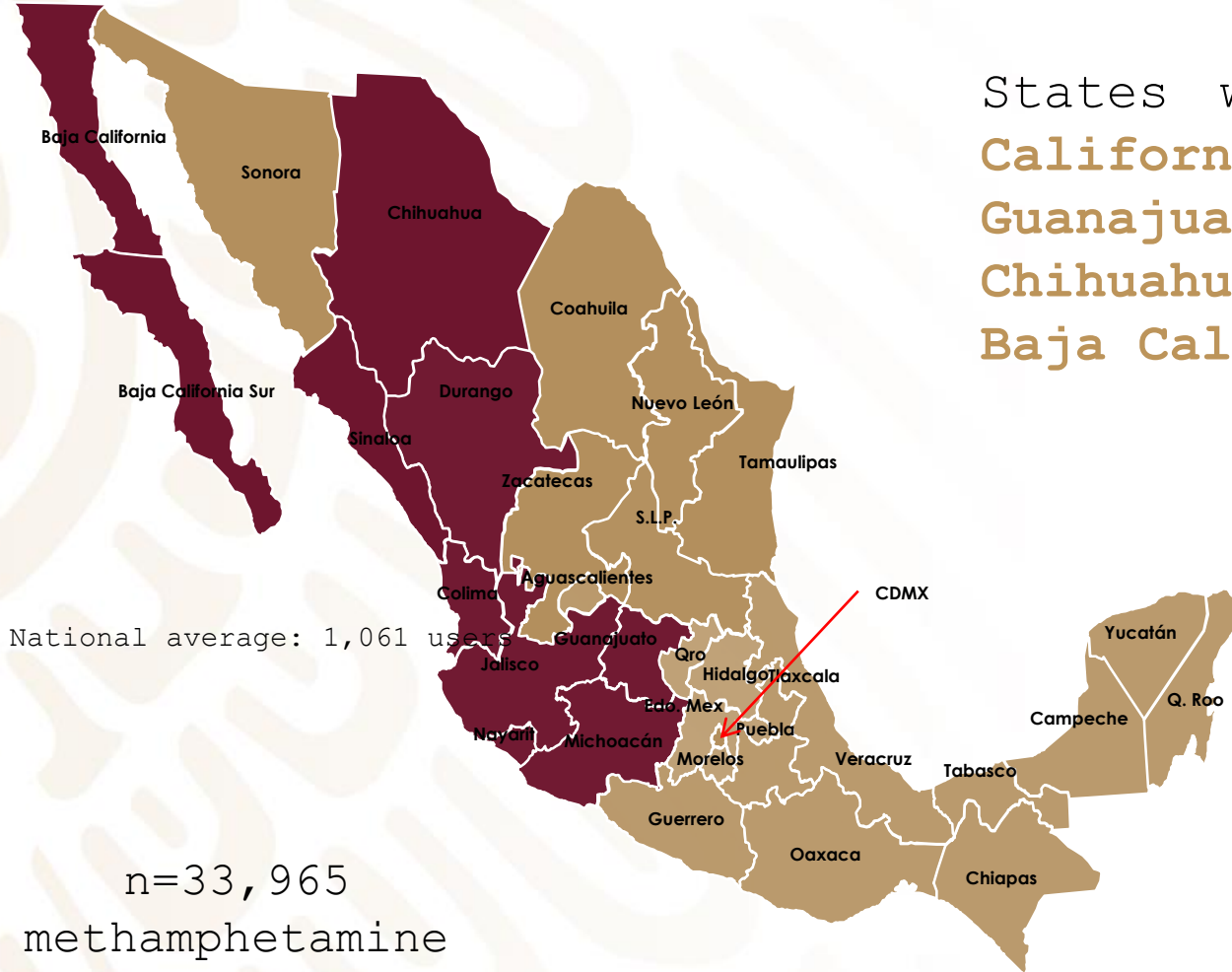
Methamphetamine has replaced marijuana as a **second impact drug**, with an **increase of 240%** (2013-2018)



The data correspond to the national treatment demand of the CAPA (SICECA), CIJ and Non-Government Centers (SISVEA)



# Treatment demand for methamphetamine use in 2018



States with the highest demand: Baja California, Sinaloa, Jalisco, Guanajuato, Durango, Colima, Chihuahua, Nayarit, Michoacán and Baja California Sur

- Users served:
  - 67.7% from residential centers
  - 32.3% from outpatient centers



# Treatment demand for methamphetamine use in 2018

## Characteristics of methamphetamine users

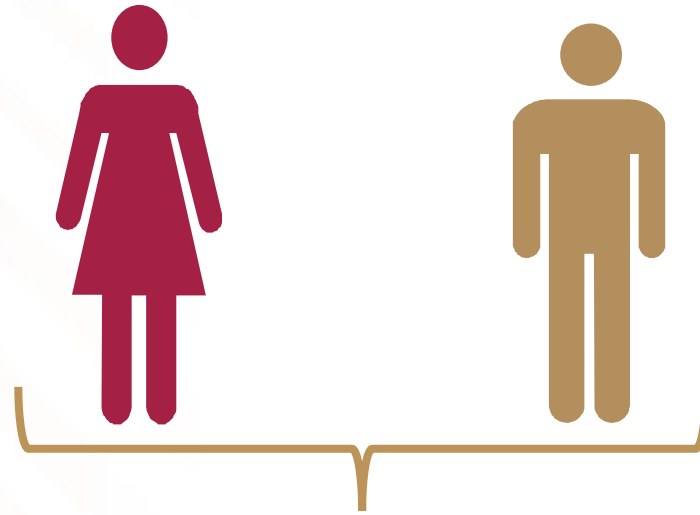
### Women

**Users (%) = 4,302 (12.7%)**

**Average age (years) = 24.0**

**Minors (users) = 29.3%**

**Adults (users) = 70.7%**



### Men

**Users (%) = 29,663 (87.3%)**

**Average age (years) = 27.6**

**Minors (users) = 13.6%**

**Adults (users) = 86.4%**

**Total users = 33,965**

**Average age (years) = 27.2**

**Minors (users) = 15.6%**

**Adults (users) = 84.4%**

**Education level = 50% middle school**

**Marital status = 62.33% single**

**Occupation = 46.1% unemployed**



# Treatment demand for methamphetamine use in 2018

## Methamphetamine use characteristics

Initiating use, methamphetamine use and treatment demand

n=33,965  
methamphetamine  
users

Age of  
initiating use  
of any drug  
**15 years**

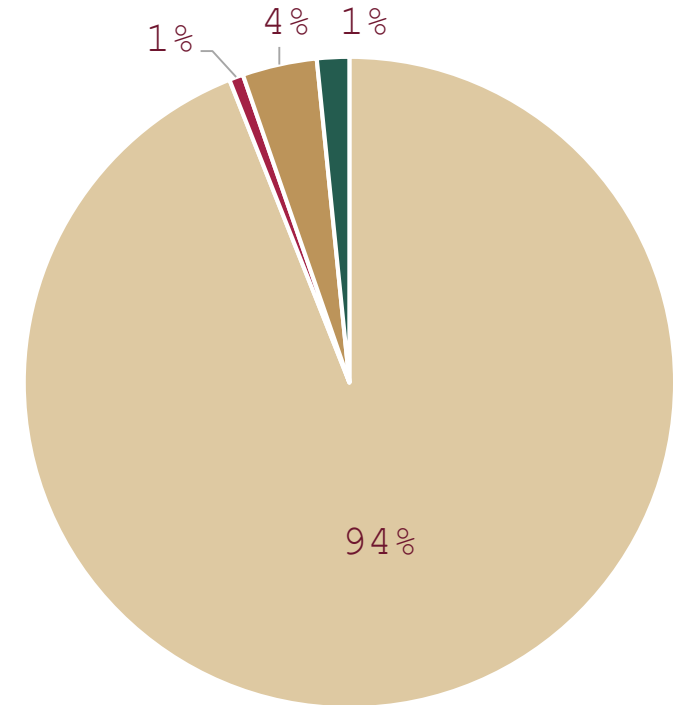
Age of  
methamphetamine  
use  
**20.9 years**

Age of treatment  
demand for  
methamphetamine use  
**27.2 years**

**7 years of methamphetamine use**

**13 years of drug use**

Mode of use



- Smoked/Inhaled
- Inhaled
- Injected
- Unknown



## Treatment demand for methamphetamine use in 2018

### Methamphetamine use characteristics First drug used vs. Methamphetamine use

First drug used: methamphetamines

Methamphetamine use  
(continued)

**Users** = 5,124

**Average age (years)** = **28.4**

**Men** = 86.7%

**Women** = 13.8%

**Minors** = 13.2%

**Adults** = 86.8%

**Users** = 4,822  
(94.1%)

**Average age (years)** = **28.5**

**Men** = 87.5%

**Women** = 12.5%

**Minors** = 12.4%

**Adults** = 87.6%

- 144,931 people served, **5,124** referred methamphetamine as a drug of initiation.
- From this group, **94.1%** continued with methamphetamine use until treatment.

When methamphetamine is the first drug a person uses, it is likely that that person will continue using it until it becomes the main drug of abuse.

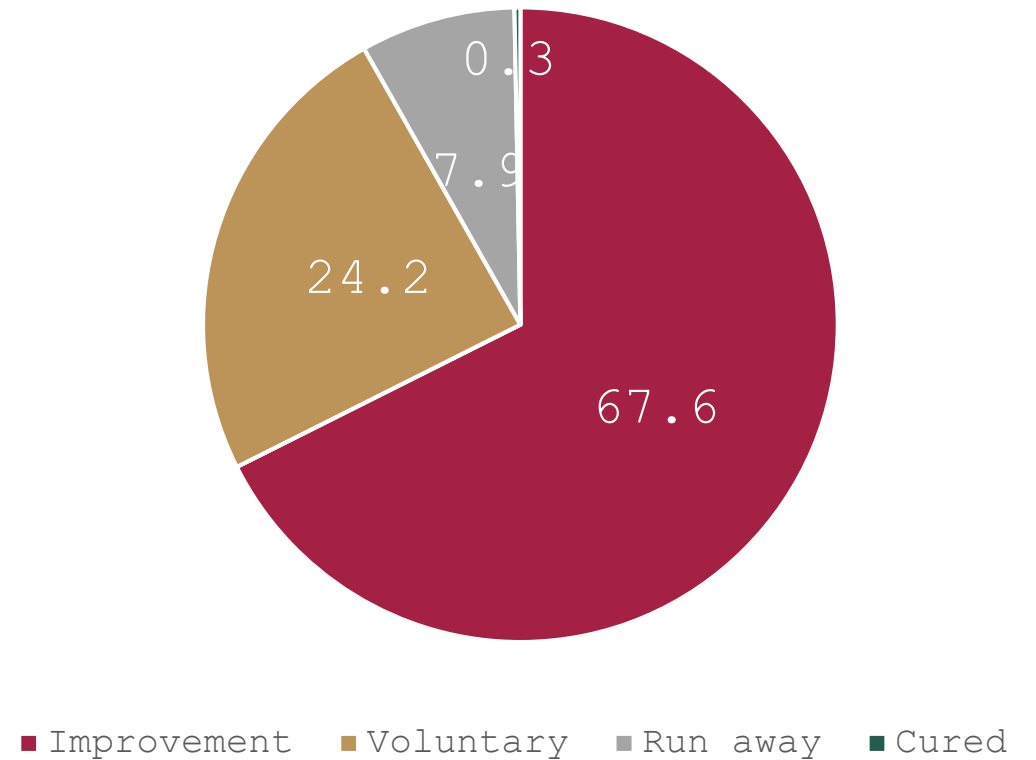
The period between starting using drugs with methamphetamine and methamphetamine becoming the main drug of abuse is very short.

# Public health impact

## Hospital discharges

- In 2018, **989 hospital discharges** were recorded for patients admitted for mental and behavioral disorders due to use of stimulants.
- With a total of **15,403 days of stay**
- Women 20.5% and **Men 79.5%**
  - 48.3% Dependency syndrome
  - 19.1% Psychotic disorder
  - 12.2% Acute intoxication

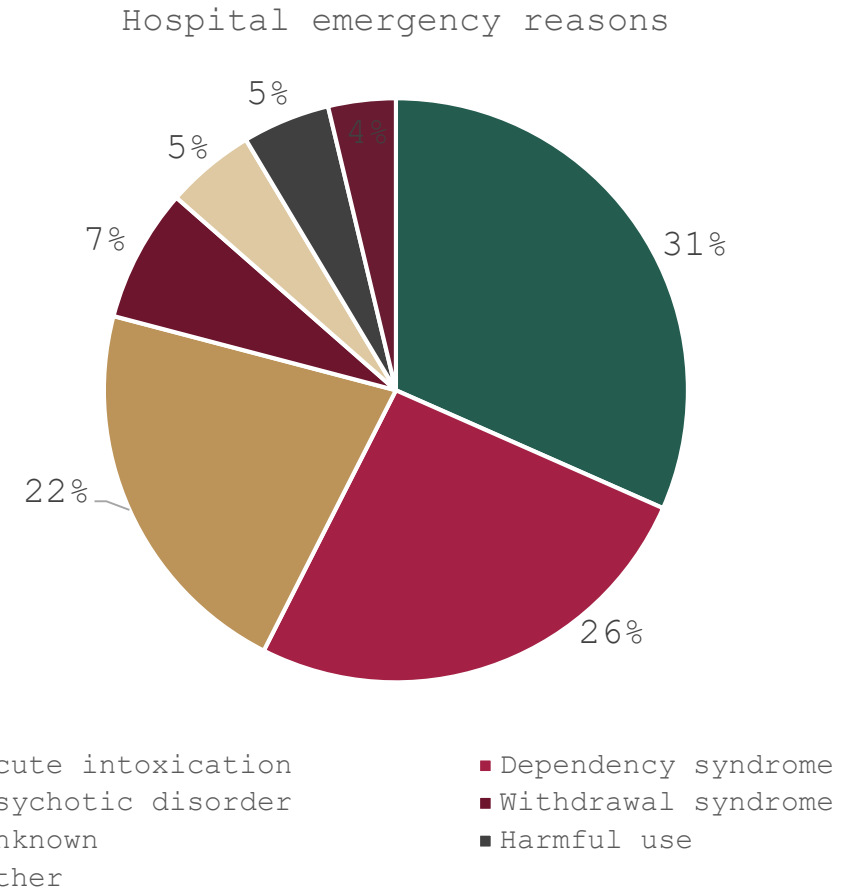
Discharge reasons\*



# Public health impact

## Hospital emergencies

- 1,358 hospital emergencies were recorded for mental disorders and behavior because of the stimulant use.
- Women 22.7% and Men 87.3%



# Impact on public health due to methamphetamine use

## Injuries in 2018

- There were **17 injuries**\* due to mental and behavioral disorders caused by the use of stimulants.
- Women 29.4% and **Men 70.6%**
  - 82.4% Acute intoxication
  - 17.6% Harmful use

## Deaths in 2017

- There were **8 deaths** due to mental and behavioral disorders caused by the use of stimulants.
- **Men 100%**
  - 87.5% Dependency syndrome
  - 12.5% Unknown

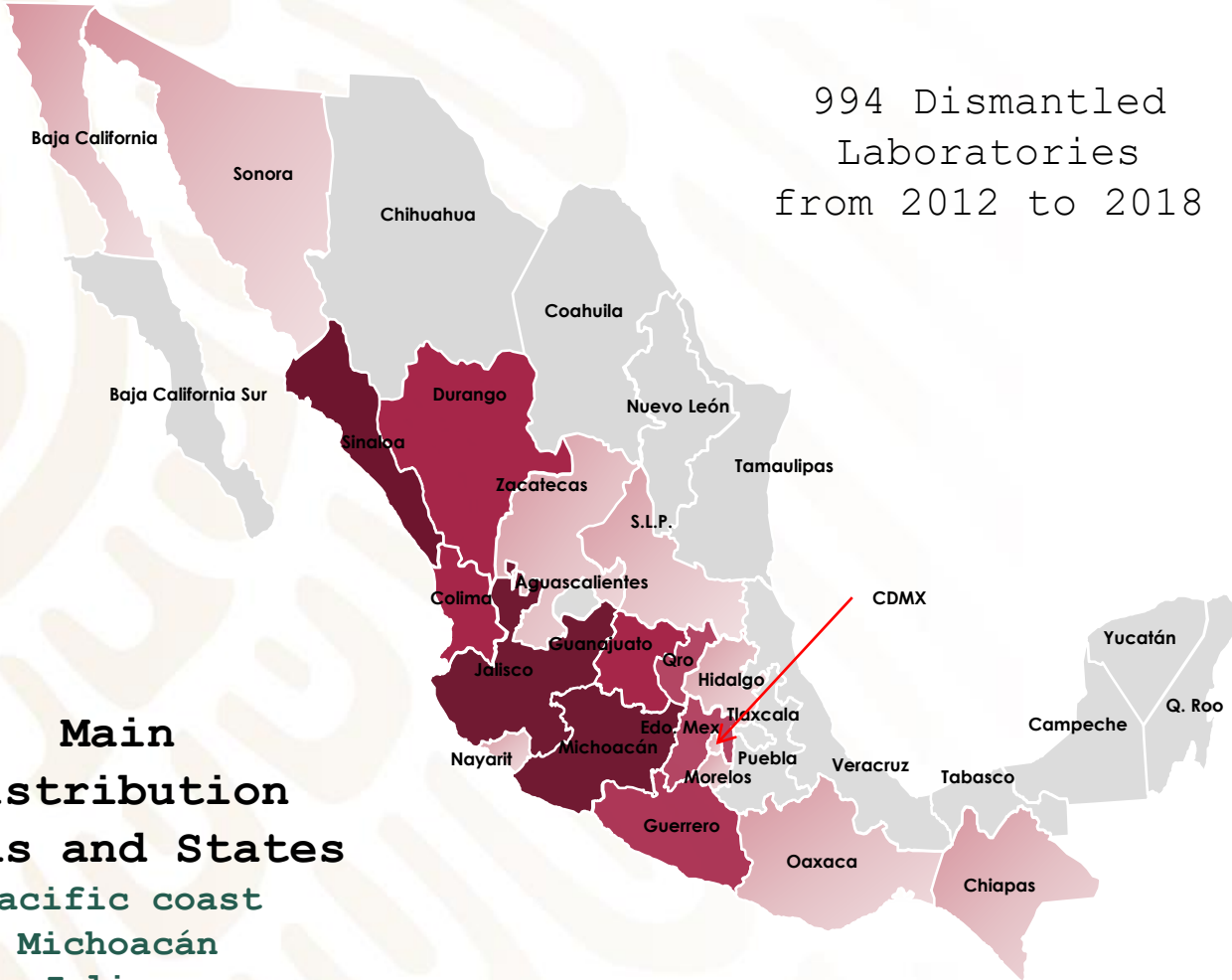
# Seizures from 2012 to 2018

- Mexico records a total of 33,621 events that involve methamphetamine seizures.
- Seizures:
  - **170,101 kilograms**
  - **81,885 liters**
  - **19,695 units of methamphetamine**



# Clandestine laboratories dismantled from 2012 to 2018

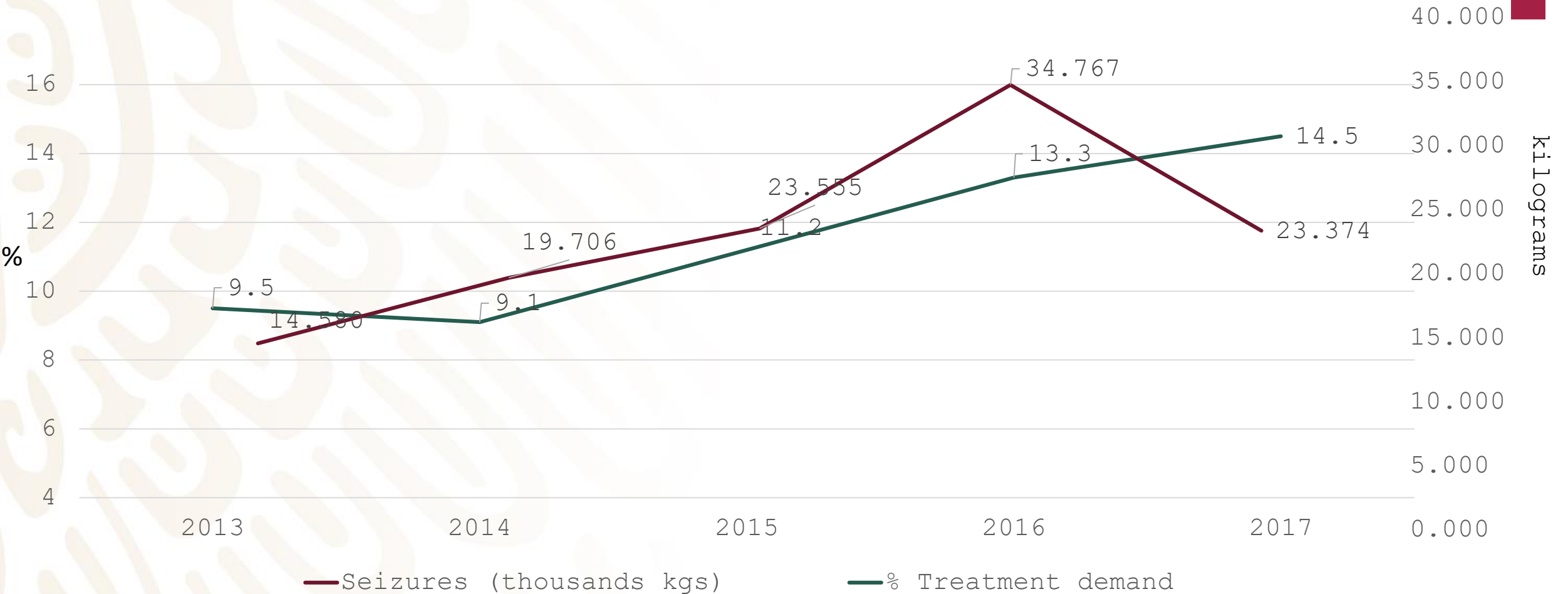
994 Dismantled Laboratories from 2012 to 2018



States	Numbers of laboratories
Sinaloa	394
Michoacán	329
Jalisco	113
Durango	37
Guerrero	27
Estado de México	18
Guanajuato	16
Colima	11
Querétaro	11
Zacatecas	6
Hidalgo	6
Baja California	5
Sonora	5
Oaxaca	5
Chiapas	4
Nayarit	3
Morelos	2
San Luis Potosí	1
México City	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>994</b>



# Trend in treatment demand and seizures of methamphetamine 2013-2017





- **Second drug for treatment demand in 2018.**
- **Significant increase** in the demand for methamphetamine treatment in the **northwestern area.**
- Relevance of **attention to adolescents, especially women.**
- Improve registration systems in hospitals and in forensic medical service.
- **Strengthen methamphetamine use prevention .**

Demand Reduction

# Final considerations

- **Second drug in seizures.**
- **It is a challenge to affect the financial capacities of criminal organizations.**
- **Strengthening** of the supervision, verification and **sanitary control of establishments dedicated** to the elaboration, manufacture **or preparation of medicines.**
- **Increased capacities to monitor the entry and exit of chemical substances for the illicit production of methamphetamine** from the national territory.

*Fiscalía General de la República (2019)*

Supply Control

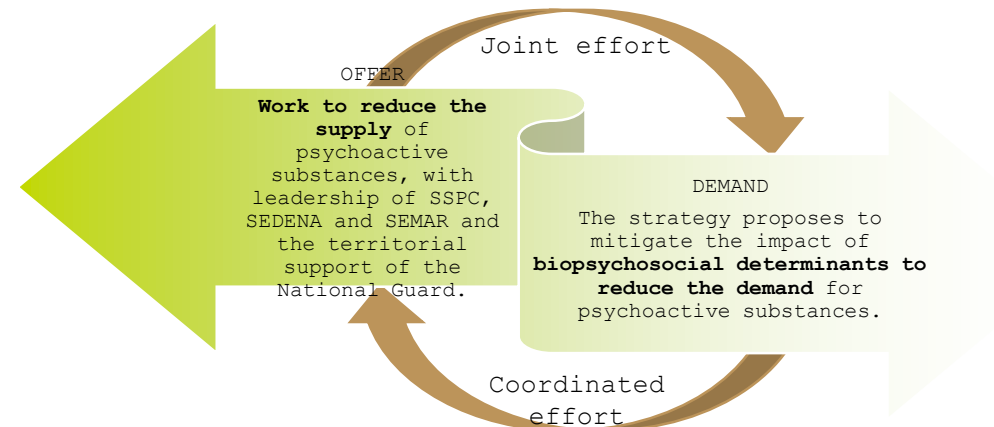
# Final considerations

## A new model to address the drug problem in Mexico

- **Abandon the paradigm of war on drugs**, in ideas and in practice.
- **Adopt sanitary** and non-punitive measures for the attention of users.
- **Build proactive bridges between health authorities and law enforcement and public force authorities.**



Together  
for the  
Peace



*If we really want young people and children to not use drugs, we have to offer them a country with safe public spaces, with job opportunities, with a state of law that acts without impunity and with equality for Mexicans.*



Thank you very much

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