

Current Marijuana Use Among Mississippi Adults in 2020

The Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is conducted annually to monitor the prevalence of behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among adults in our state. The 2020 Mississippi BRFSS was completed by 6,479 Mississippians aged 18 years or older.

Marijuana Use in the United States

- Marijuana is the **most used** federally-illegal drug in the United States.¹
- About 48 million people used marijuana at least once in the U.S. in 2019.¹
- Marijuana use can negatively affect brain health, cardiovascular health, respiratory health, and mental health.^{1,2}
- It is estimated that between 9% and 30% of people who use marijuana may develop marijuana use disorder.²

Self-Reported Marijuana Use in Mississippi in 2020

- Approximately 1 in 11 adults (9.2%) were current marijuana users.³
- The percentage of current marijuana users who used marijuana for **non-medical reasons** (48.3%) was **significantly higher** than those who used marijuana for medical reasons or for both medical and non-medical reasons.³ (Figure 1)
- The percentage of current marijuana users was **significantly higher** among **males** (12.9%) compared to females (5.8%).³ (Figure 2)
- The percentage of current marijuana users was **significantly higher** among **Black respondents** (13.2%) compared to White respondents (6.4%).³ (Figure 3)
- The percentage of current marijuana users was **significantly higher** among **Black males** (19.8%) compared to other race/gender groups.³ (Figure 1)

Definitions

- A **current marijuana user** is defined as an adult who has used marijuana during the last 30 days.
- In this report, “**current marijuana users**” refers to adults who **reported** current marijuana use.
- In this report, “**Other Race**” refers to adults who reported their race/ethnicity as anything other than White or Black Non-Hispanic or any race and Hispanic.
- The difference between two estimates is considered **statistically significant** (also stated as “significantly higher/lower” or “significant” in this fact sheet) if the 95% confidence intervals do not overlap.

Figure 1. Percentage of Adult Current Marijuana Users by Reason for Use, Mississippi, 2020

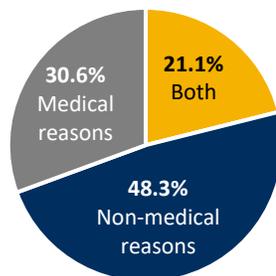


Figure 2. Percent of Current Marijuana Use by Gender, MS, 2020

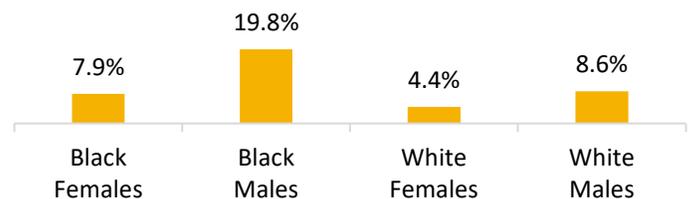


Figure 3. Percent of Current Marijuana Use by Race, MS, 2020



Note: Data for the “Other Race” group are suppressed due to low response.

Figure 4. Percent of Current Marijuana Use by Race & Gender, 2020



Note: Data for the “Other Race” group are suppressed due to low response.

Note: In the 2020 MS BRFSS, the numbers of responses for individual races and ethnicities contained in the “Other Races” demographic group were too low to allow for meaningful estimates. To request additional race/ethnicity data, please [submit a data request using MSDH's online form](#).

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Self-Reported Marijuana Use in Mississippi in 2020 (continued)

- The percentage of current marijuana users was **significantly higher** among those **aged 18 to 24 years** (21.4%) and those **aged 25 to 34 years** (18.3%) compared to all other age groups.³ (Figure 5)
- The percentage of current marijuana users was **significantly lower** among adults who have **graduated from college** (4.4%) compared to those with lower educational attainment.³ (Figure 6)
- The percentage of current marijuana users was **significantly higher** among adults who belonged to annual household income groups of **less than \$35,000** compared to those with an annual household income of \$50,000 or more.³ (Figure 7)

Figure 5. Percent of Current Marijuana Use by Age, MS, 2020

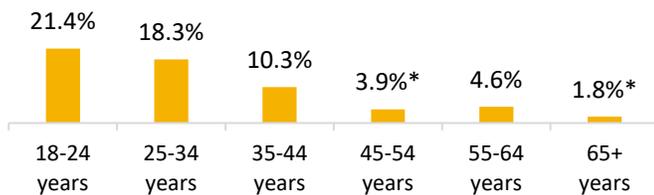


Figure 6. Percent of Current Marijuana Use by Education, MS, 2020

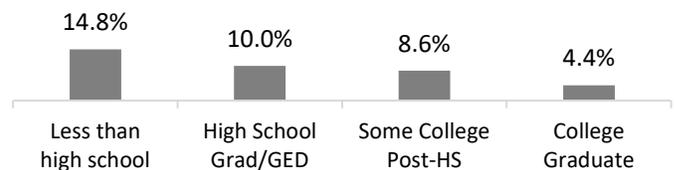


Figure 7. Percent of Current Marijuana Use by Annual Household Income, MS, 2020

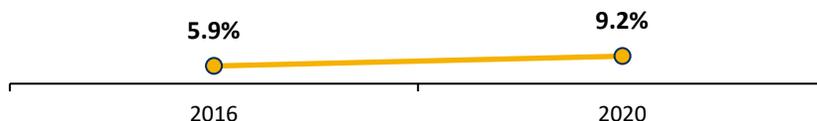


*This estimate is based on a cell size of less than 50. Use caution when interpreting and comparing this estimate.

Marijuana Use Trends in Mississippi

- The percentage of adults who were current marijuana users **significantly increased** from **5.9%** in 2016 to **9.2%** in 2020.³ (Figure 8)

Figure 8. 2016-2020 Trend of Current Marijuana Use Among Adults in Mississippi



Note

The MS BRFSS Program included the Marijuana Use optional module in its 2016 and 2020 surveys only. No additional historical MS BRFSS marijuana use data are available for other years.

References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2021, June 2). Health effects of marijuana. *National Center for Injury Prevention and Control*. Retrieved 5-12-2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/marijuana/health-effects/index.html>
- National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2019, December). Cannabis (marijuana) DrugFacts. Retrieved 5-12-22, from <https://nida.nih.gov/publications/drugfacts/cannabis-marijuana>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2022, May 4). *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Retrieved 5-12-2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.html>

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