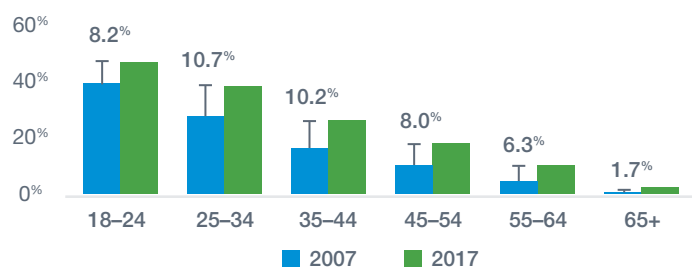


# Psychiatry Admissions and Cannabis Use



## Cannabis use patterns before first admission to inpatient psychiatry in Ontario, 2007–2017

Increase in cannabis use by age group, 2007–2017



- 1 in 5 patients reported cannabis use within 30 days of first admission
- Cannabis use increased over 10 years across all diagnostic groups and by gender and age
- Young people were more likely to use cannabis than older adults



Patients who experienced abuse or had self-harm ideation were more likely to have used cannabis.



Many patients who used other substances or had a substance use disorder also used cannabis.



Males with psychosis were more likely to use cannabis than those without, while females with psychosis were less likely to use cannabis than those without.

### Possible implications of the research

- Self-medicating with cannabis needs to be further researched to determine whether it is effective for managing mental illnesses.
- Increased cannabis use may increase the risk of developing cannabis use disorder, other mental illnesses or both.
- Public education may reduce potential harms related to increased cannabis use.

#### Additional resources from the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction

[Clearing the Smoke on Cannabis Series](#) | [Canada's Lower-Risk Use Cannabis Guidelines](#)

This infographic summarizes the original quantitative research article:

McGuckin, T., Ferro, M. A., Hammond, D., Stewart, S., Maloney-Hall, B., Madi, N., Porath, A., & Perlman, C. (2021). How high? Trends in cannabis use prior to first admission to inpatient psychiatry in Ontario, Canada, between 2007 and 2017. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 66(12), 1059–1068. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0706743720984679>. A related [report in short](#) is also available.