

Nearly One-Third of Adults Used Cannabis Last Year

Cannabis Use Surges Among Middle-Aged Adults, University of Michigan Survey Finds

Cannabis consumption among middle-aged adults is on the rise, with nearly one-third of individuals between the ages of 35 and 50 reporting they have used cannabis in the past year, according to new data from a federally funded survey conducted by the University of Michigan. The survey reveals a significant shift in cannabis use patterns, highlighting the growing acceptance and prevalence of cannabis among older age groups.

Survey Highlights Increased Frequency of Cannabis Consumption

The University of Michigan survey, which provides a snapshot of current cannabis use trends among adults, found that 29 percent of respondents within the 35-50 age group reported using cannabis at least once in the past year. Additionally, 19 percent of respondents acknowledged using cannabis within the past 30 days, indicating that nearly one in five adults in this age group are current consumers. Notably, 8 percent of respondents admitted to daily use, reflecting a growing trend of regular cannabis consumption among middle-aged adults.

Trends Consistent with Other Surveys

The findings from the University of Michigan survey are consistent with those of several other studies, which have also reported an increase in cannabis use among middle-aged and older adults. As societal attitudes towards cannabis continue to evolve, this demographic appears to be embracing cannabis more openly, whether for recreational or medicinal purposes.

Widespread Lifetime Cannabis Use Among Adults Aged 55-65

In addition to its focus on the 35-50 age group, the survey also revealed that more than 8 in 10 adults between the ages of 55 and 65 have consumed cannabis at least once in their lifetimes. This statistic underscores the long-standing presence of cannabis in American culture and suggests that its use remains widespread among older generations.

Experts Call for Policy Changes to Reflect Cannabis Use Trends

The rising prevalence of cannabis use among middle-aged and older adults has prompted calls for policy changes to better reflect current consumption patterns. Paul Armentano, Deputy Director of NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws), commented on the survey's findings, stating, "Cannabis use has been a part of the fabric of American culture for decades and its use remains popular among middle-aged and older adults today. It's time that cannabis laws and regulations comport with this

long-standing reality.”

Shifting Dynamics in Cannabis Use

The University of Michigan survey highlights a significant shift in the demographics of cannabis use, with middle-aged and older adults increasingly embracing cannabis. As this trend continues, it may influence future legislative and regulatory approaches to cannabis, potentially leading to more inclusive and realistic policies that acknowledge the growing acceptance of cannabis use across various age groups.

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