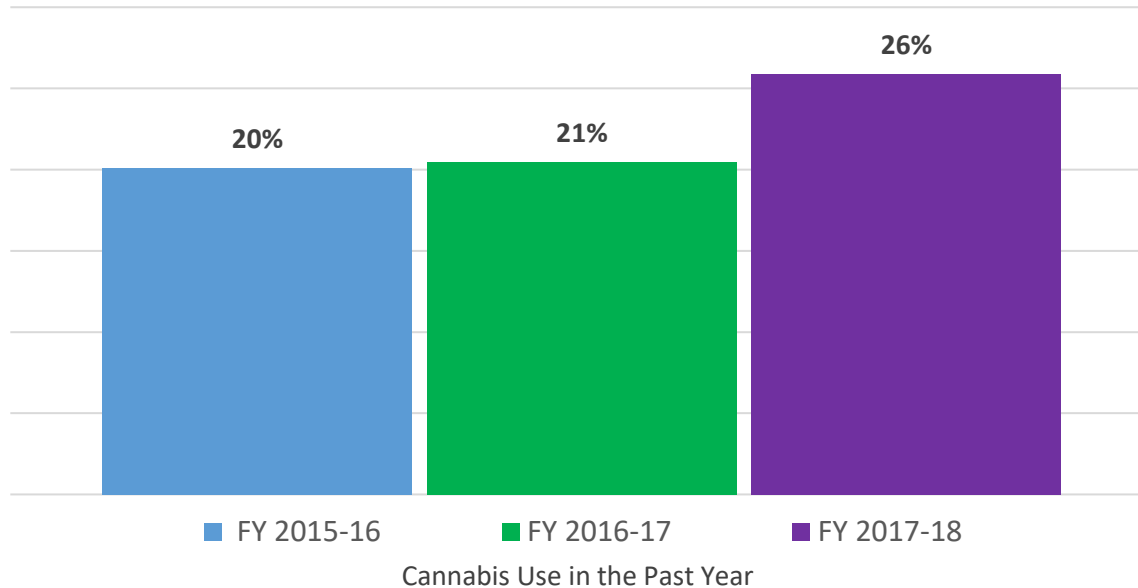


CalGETS Fast Facts

Cannabis Use Is Increasing Among Problem Gamblers Entering Treatment

July 2020

CalGETS Problem Gamblers Entering Treatment
between 2015 and 2018
Report Increasing Cannabis Use



Sources – *Outpatient Gamblers*: CalGETS Fiscal Years 2015-18 dataset, prepared for the California Department of Public Health, Office of Problem Gambling by the University of California Los Angeles Gambling Studies Program. CalGETS treatment participants were asked at intake: “In the past 12 months, have you used any of the following substances? Marijuana” Dataset includes data from July 2015 through June 2018. *US Marijuana Use*: Gallup, What percentage of Americans smoke marijuana? [online], 2019 [accessed August 5, 2020]. URL: <https://news.gallup.com/poll/284135/percentage-americans-smoke-marijuana.aspx>

Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2018, 2,596 problem gamblers entered CalGETS outpatient treatment. They were asked if they had used cannabis in the past year.

In Fiscal Year 2015-16, 20% of problem gamblers reported that they used cannabis in the past year. Cannabis use increased to 21% in FY 2016-17, and 26% in FY 2017-18. These percentages are higher than the 12% of U.S. and 16% of Western-state adults who report using cannabis.

Medicinal use of cannabis was legal throughout the study timeline. Recreational use of cannabis was legalized in California starting January 1, 2018.