Cannabis use and gender in Portugal

More male users: 1 F for 2 M

Lower difference in younger ages

Ratio M/F Is decreasing

Man start earlier and use cannabis for more years

Lifetime use

15-74 YEARS
2,4 M / 1 F

15-24 YEARS
2,0 M / 1 F

18 YEARS
1,5 M / 1 F

16 YEARS
1,2 M / 1 F

12-month use

15-74 YEARS
2,4 M / 1 F

15-24 YEARS
2,1 M / 1 F

18 YEARS
1,6 M / 1 F

16 YEARS
1,2 M / 1 F

Methological Notes: This leaflet is based on the document (in Portuguese) “Padrões de Consumos e Problemas Ligados ao Uso de Drogas: Uma Análise em Função do Género” available at the SICAD website (Estatística e Investigação/Estudos Concluídos). The figures presented are based in 3 epidemiological studies: National Survey on Psychoactive Substances Use – General Population – Portugal 2016/17 (15-74 years; 15-34 years; 15-24 years); ESPAD/National Survey on Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs and other Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies 2015 (16 years old students) and National Survey on the Participants of National Defense Day 2017 (18 years). Figures on treatment demand were provided by the national Multidisciplinary Information System.
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Both in 2012 and 2016 more men than women use cannabis on a daily basis.

However, looking specifically at cannabis users, in 2016 already there are more women using more often.

Using different cannabis products in the same occasion: more common in male than female 18 year old users:

11.0% M / 8.0% F

More man than women with moderate/high risk use but... among cannabis users differences decrease.

2012 - 2016/17: stability in the ratio M/F

1 F para 2 M
Cannabis dependents
(Severity of Dependence Scale)

1 F to 8 M
New patients in the outpatient system that indicate cannabis as the main drug

Is it more likely for a men to start treatment?