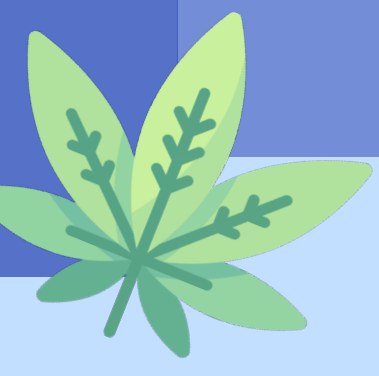


DO PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN THINK THAT CLINICIANS AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS ARE A GOOD SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT PARENTAL CANNABIS USE



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INTRODUCTION

In Quebec, 24.3% of parents with children aged 0 to 12 report using cannabis (Poirier-Plante et al., 2024). Since cannabis use is a potential risk factor for negative parenting practices (Berthelot et al., 2022) and appears to increase the risk of certain forms of maltreatment (Freitshler et al., 2015), it warrants clinical attention from professionals working with families. To our knowledge, this study provides the first source of data on parents' perceptions of professionals' competence in addressing cannabis use in the context of child care.

OBJECTIVES

- 1 Evaluate parents' perceptions of professionals' credibility in sharing information about parental cannabis use
- 2 Identify the characteristics of parents who perceive professionals as lacking credibility
- 3 Examine whether cannabis-using parents view professionals as reliable sources of information about cannabis

METHOD

Recruitment was conducted via a panel of respondents from the polling firm Léger between August and September 2023, five years following the legalization of cannabis in Canada. The questionnaire was developed by the research team and experts in public health and administered online. To address potential imbalances and make the sample representative of the studied population, raw data from the study were weighted according to age, gender, place of residence, language, and education level.

SAMPLE

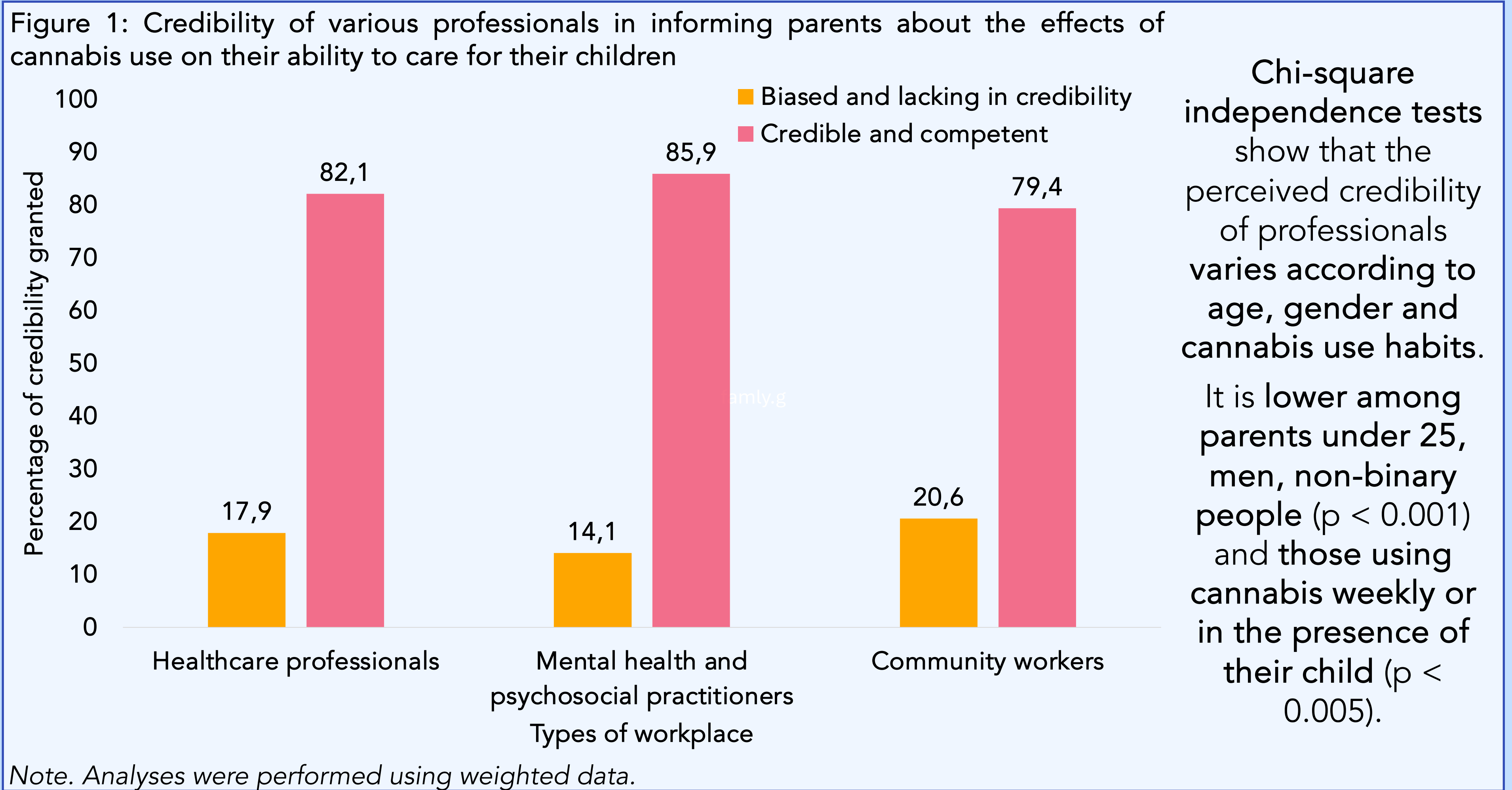
- 3241** parents of at least one child aged between 0 and 11 living with them at least 40% of the time.
- 47,1%** mother
- 43,7%** father
- 25,4%** high school
- 41,4%** college
- 17,6%** bachelor's degree
- 65,5%** Québécois
- 17,9%** Canadian
- 4,1%** European
- 2,63** children per household
- 37,2%** aged between 0 and 2 years
- 32,0%** aged between 3 and 5 years
- 30,7%** aged between 6 and 8 years
- 38,5%** aged between 9 and 11 years

VARIABLES

- Credibility of professionals in different environments
- Cannabis use habits
- Socio-demographic characteristics

82% of parents considered clinicians and professionals to be reliable sources of information on parental cannabis use.

RESULTS



DISCUSSION

The study suggests that, while the majority of parents trust professionals to inform them about cannabis, the parents who are most concerned tend to perceive professionals as not very competent on the subject.