



HOW DOES MARIJUANA AFFECT YOUR FUTURE INCOME?



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INTRODUCTION

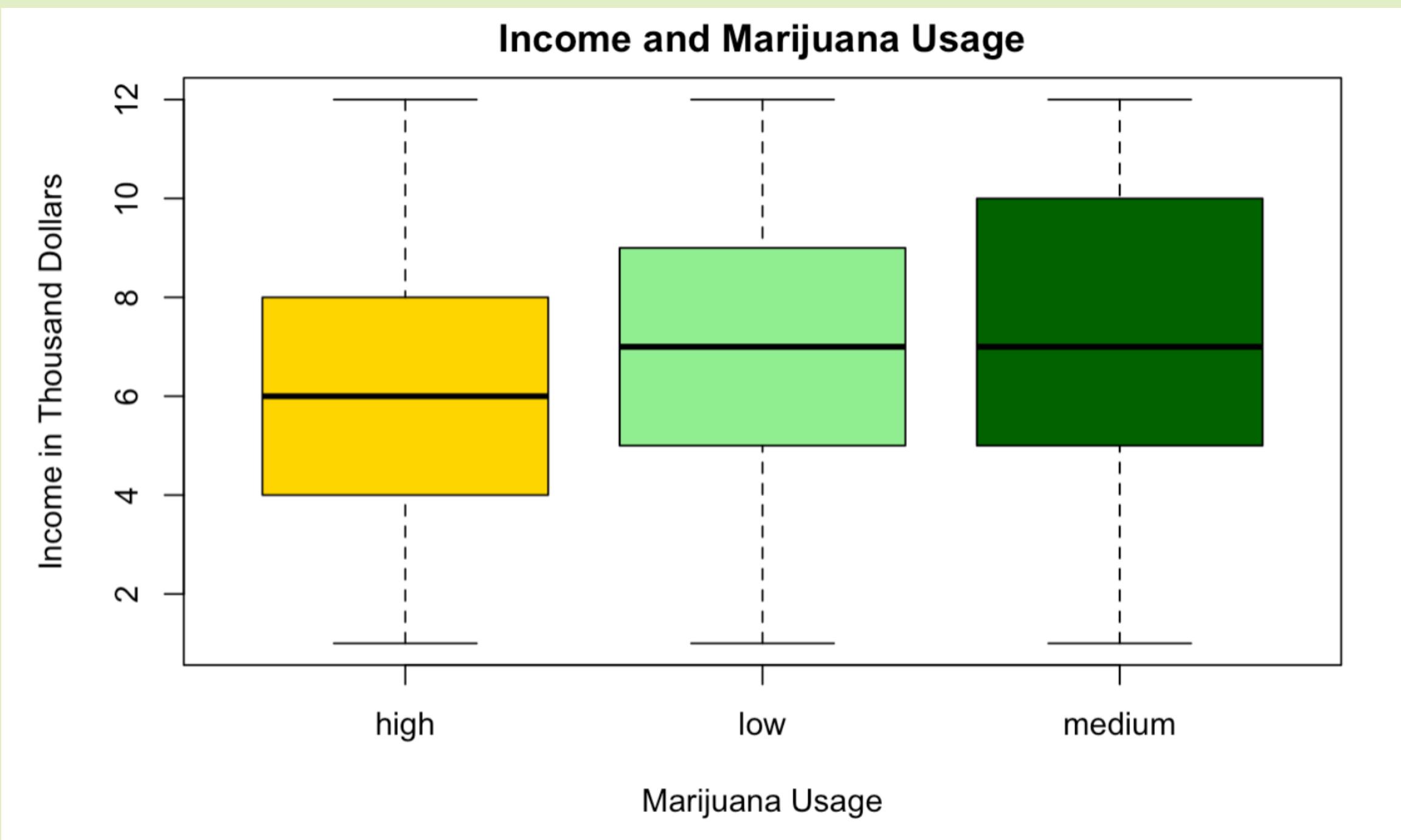
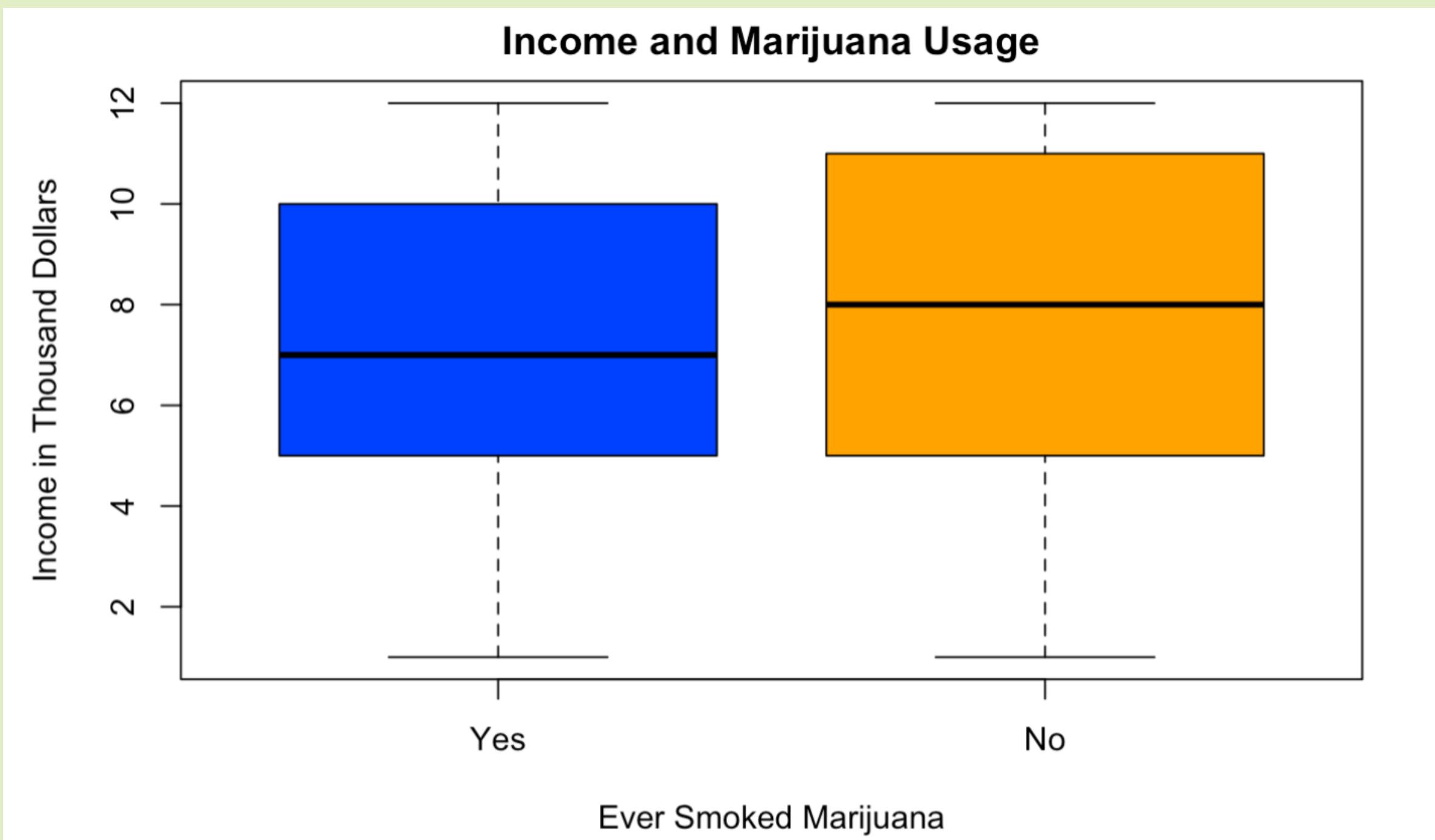
With the increasing legalization of marijuana in many countries, it is important to understand the potential implications of its use. We are interested in how smoking marijuana could potentially affect employment, wealth, and career prospects.

Previous research, similar to our research, has provided an association between cannabis usage and labor market outcomes. Utilizing data from NESARC and fixed-effects technique, the research revealed that cannabis usage is not detrimental to finding jobs. Furthermore, another research conducted provided that cannabis dependence do not link to financial difficulties.

Therefore, the purpose of our research is to provide the association between marijuana usage and income to answer the research question:

"Does usage of marijuana affect your future income?"

RESULTS



	Smoked marijuana (Yes)	Never smoked (No)
Mean	7.44	7.67
95% CI	(7.27, 7.61)	(7.47, 7.86)

The difference in mean monthly family income between those who have used and have not used marijuana is significant, where people who use marijuana tend to have lower incomes on average ($\alpha=0.10$, $p = 0.07985$).

Name	Description	% missing	Count
DUQ200	Ever used marijuana/hashish	30%	3199
DUQ217	How often do you smoke marijuana?	81%	868
INQ020	Income from wage/salaries	6%	4298
IND235	Monthly family income	19.7%	3668

We use a final analytical sample of 2330 respondents to investigate the difference in mean income between different groups of people. However, we note that when investigating marijuana usage, we only work with a sample of 636 respondents. We find that using a 95% confidence interval, there is no significant difference in income between people who use and don't use marijuana and those who have varying usage frequencies.

METHODS

Target Population: People aged 18-59 with income

Methods: We will compare the mean family income of smokers & non-smokers of marijuana. Since we want to analyze the correlation between marijuana and income, we will utilize variables, quantitative and qualitative, related to marijuana and income.

Exclusion Criteria: Due to a lot variables with "NA", "refused to answer", and omitted responses, we filtered our data to only include respondents who said **yes** or **no** to "Ever used marijuana" and **yes** to "You/your family received income in the past year". Our final analytic sample size is 636 people.

Additional Variables: We categorized marijuana smokers by their frequency, dividing them into "low", "medium", or "high" frequency groups. Individuals who smoke less than 8 times per month are considered "low", those who smoke between 9 to 24 times per month are classified as "medium", and those who smoke more than 24 times per month are categorized as "high".

Ever smoked marijuana?	Yes	No
# of respondents	1304	1026

If smoked marijuana before, frequency?	Low	Medium	High
# of respondents	241	153	242

DISCUSSION

Our data shows that there is no significant relationship between marijuana usage and income levels at the $\alpha = 0.05$ level. However, given that this is the survey data we tested on the $\alpha = 0.10$ level, the data does show a significant relationship with $\alpha = 0.10$.

However, there could be other confounding factors, such as educational level and socio-economic background.

To better understand the relationship between marijuana usage and income levels, we should include more potential confounding variables to the dataset, such as educational level, and employment status. With limited control of the confounding variables, it is difficult for us to conclude whether there is a causal effect between marijuana usage and income.

REFERENCES

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