

Tobacco and LGBTQ+ Communities

For decades Big Tobacco has used menthol products to unjustly target LGBTQ+, Black, and young people.

Menthol cigarettes are easier to use and harder to quit than non-menthol cigarettes, likely leading to an even greater burden of addiction, disease, and death from commercial tobacco for the LGBTQ+ community.

Men who identify as gay who smoke are more likely to smoke menthol cigarettes (48%) compared to heterosexual men who smoke (38%).

Adults who identify as transgender are more likely to smoke daily or occasionally (30%), compared to all adults (21%).

Women who identify as lesbian or gay, or bisexual who smoke, have the highest rates of menthol cigarette use compared to heterosexual women and men of any sexual orientation.

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