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# QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

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## **FLORIDA VOTERS OPPOSE UNION FOR COLLEGE ATHLETES, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL AND RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA**

With wide racial and age gaps, Florida voters oppose 51 – 41 percent allowing college athletes to form a union and oppose 63 – 31 percent paying salaries beyond scholarships to these athletes, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Support for a college athlete union is 62 – 29 percent among Democrats, 69 – 29 percent among voters 18 to 29 years old, 76 – 22 percent among black voters and 56 – 36 percent among Hispanic voters, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds. Men, women, Republicans, independent voters, white voters and older age groups all oppose allowing athletes to form unions.

Black voters support paying salaries to college athletes 68 – 27 percent, the only listed group to support the idea.

“Colleges are losing sight of their academic mission because of sports,” 56 percent of Florida voters, including 56 percent of men and 55 percent of women, say. Another 34 percent say “colleges are balancing their academic mission and sports appropriately.” There is agreement among all listed groups.

Florida voters say 53 – 37 percent that labor unions are good for the country, with only Republicans saying 68 – 21 percent that unions are bad for the country.

“Florida voters are all over the map when it comes to which college team they root for. But with few exceptions, they are against unionizing college athletes, and they are even more set against paying the athletes. There are some differences between men and women, and larger differences among black, white and Hispanic voters, on these questions,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University poll.

“The overall findings should not be terribly surprising given the relatively low level of union membership throughout the state.”

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“Most Florida voters think colleges are losing sight of their academic mission because of sports, but that doesn’t stop the crowds from filling the stands on Saturday ‘Game Day’ at the state’s various college football powers, and under the ‘Friday Night Lights’ at high school games,” Brown added.

### Legalized Marijuana

Florida voters support 88 – 10 percent allowing adults to legally use marijuana for medical purposes, if a doctor prescribes it. Support is over 80 percent among all listed groups, including 84 – 13 percent among voters over 65 years old.

By a smaller 53 – 42 percent majority, voters support allowing adults to legally possess small amounts of marijuana for personal use. There are gender, age and partisan gaps:

- Men support so-called recreational marijuana 58 – 38 percent, while women are divided, with 48 percent in favor and 46 percent opposed;
- Voters 18 to 29 years old support recreational marijuana 72 – 24 percent, with voters 30 to 64 years old in favor by smaller margins and voters over 65 years old opposed 61 – 33 percent.
- Support is 59 – 34 percent among Democrats and 61 – 36 percent among independent voters, with Republicans opposed 64 – 33 percent.

Only 45 percent of Florida voters admit they’ve tried marijuana. Among voters 50 to 64 years old, 62 percent admit smoking pot, more than any other group.

Marijuana is equally as dangerous as alcohol, 43 percent of voters say, while 39 percent say it is less dangerous and 12 percent say it is more dangerous.

Marijuana use does not lead to the use of other drugs, voters say 54 – 38 percent.

“If Vegas were giving odds on medical marijuana becoming legal in Florida, the bookies would be betting heavily,” said Brown. “With almost nine in 10 voters favoring legalization for medical purposes, and bills allowing such use advancing in the State Legislature, the odds seem pretty good Florida may join the states which already have done so.”

From April 23 – 28, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,413 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 percentage points.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

**For more data or RSS feed– <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).**

38. Do you support or oppose allowing adults in Florida to legally possess small amounts of marijuana for personal use?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	53%	33%	59%	61%	58%	48%	72%	59%	58%	33%
Oppose	42	64	34	36	38	46	24	38	37	61
DK/NA	5	3	7	4	4	6	4	3	5	6
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Support	53%	52%	52%							
Oppose	42	44	43							
DK/NA	5	3	6							

TREND: Do you support or oppose allowing adults in Florida to legally possess small amounts of marijuana for personal use?

	May 05 2014	Nov 21 2013
Support	53	48
Oppose	42	46
DK/NA	5	6

39. Do you support or oppose allowing adults in Florida to legally use marijuana for medical purposes if their doctor prescribes it?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	88%	80%	93%	89%	87%	88%	92%	89%	88%	84%
Oppose	10	16	6	10	11	9	8	9	10	13
DK/NA	2	4	1	1	1	2	-	2	2	3
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Support	87%	88%	94%							
Oppose	11	11	4							
DK/NA	2	1	1							

TREND: Do you support or oppose allowing adults in Florida to legally use marijuana for medical purposes if their doctor prescribes it?

	May 05 2014	Nov 21 2013
Support	88	82
Oppose	10	16
DK/NA	2	3

40. Keeping in mind that all of your answers in this survey are confidential, have you, yourself ever happened to try marijuana?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	45%	37%	48%	49%	54%	36%	44%	50%	62%	23%
No	54	62	51	50	44	62	55	49	36	76
DK/NA	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Yes	47%	45%	35%							
No	52	55	63							
DK/NA	1	1	2							

41. Do you think marijuana is more dangerous than alcohol, less dangerous than alcohol, or about equally as dangerous as alcohol?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
More	12%	20%	7%	11%	13%	11%	4%	9%	10%	21%
Less	39	21	46	45	46	33	67	49	37	18
Equally	43	53	42	39	37	49	26	40	46	52
NEITHR ARE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
DK/NA	5	7	5	4	4	6	3	1	6	8
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
More	14%	7%	9%							
Less	36	49	47							
Equally	46	34	42							
NEITHR ARE (VOL)	-	1	-							
DK/NA	5	8	3							

42. Do you think that for most people, the use of marijuana leads to the use of other drugs, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	38%	57%	32%	31%	34%	41%	18%	35%	35%	53%
No	54	34	61	62	60	50	77	61	58	34
DK/NA	8	9	7	7	6	9	5	4	7	13
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Yes	38%	35%	38%							
No	53	58	57							
DK/NA	8	7	4							

43. In general, do you think labor unions are good or bad for the country?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Good	53%	21%	77%	57%	51%	54%	69%	53%	53%	45%
Bad	37	68	14	33	41	34	20	37	40	41
DK/NA	10	11	9	10	8	13	11	10	7	14
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Good	46%	80%	60%							
Bad	45	11	25							
DK/NA	9	9	15							

44. Do you consider yourself a fan of college sports, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	61%	64%	59%	61%	67%	56%	61%	60%	60%	63%
No	39	36	41	39	33	44	39	39	40	36
DK/NA	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Yes	62%	77%	42%							
No	38	23	56							
DK/NA	-	-	1							

45. Do you support or oppose allowing college athletes to form a union, to negotiate their rights and working conditions?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	41%	17%	62%	40%	44%	39%	69%	45%	42%	26%
Oppose	51	76	29	52	51	51	29	50	52	60
DK/NA	8	7	8	8	6	9	2	5	6	14
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Support	32%	76%	56%							
Oppose	59	22	36							
DK/NA	9	3	8							

46. Beyond any scholarships they receive, do you support or oppose paying salaries to college athletes?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	31%	17%	43%	28%	35%	27%	39%	36%	30%	22%
Oppose	63	79	50	67	60	66	58	60	63	68
DK/NA	6	4	7	5	4	7	2	3	6	9
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Support	23%	68%	38%							
Oppose	72	27	56							
DK/NA	6	5	6							

47. In general, do you think colleges are losing sight of their academic mission because of sports or do you think colleges are balancing their academic mission and sports appropriately?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Losing sight	56%	55%	51%	61%	56%	55%	56%	54%	57%	55%
Balancing	34	33	39	30	37	31	41	39	29	30
DK/NA	11	11	10	9	8	13	4	6	14	15
	Wht	Blk	Hsp							
Losing sight	58%	49%	51%							
Balancing	32	39	39							
DK/NA	10	12	11							