

FOR RELEASE: MAY 3, 2018

**NEW YORK VOTERS BACK LEGALIZED MARIJUANA ALMOST 2-1,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
SUPPORT FOR ASSISTED SUICIDE TOPS 2-1**

New York State voters support 63 – 32 percent “allowing adults to legally possess small amounts of marijuana for personal use,” the highest level of support in New York, according to a Quinnipiac University Poll released today.

Republicans oppose legalized marijuana 56 – 40 percent and voters over 65 years old are divided with 46 percent supporting the measure and 48 percent opposed, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds. All other listed party, gender, education, age, racial and regional groups support the measure.

New Yorkers support legalizing recreational marijuana 63 – 34 percent if taxes on the sale of marijuana increases revenue for the state. When this revenue is considered, Republicans are opposed 53 – 43 percent.

Only 21 percent of New York State voters think legalizing marijuana will make people more likely to use opioids, as 20 percent say it will lead to less opioid use and 54 percent say it will not have much impact.

A black person using marijuana is more likely to be arrested than a white person using marijuana, voters say 62 – 31 percent.

New York State voters support 63 – 29 percent “allowing doctors to legally prescribe lethal drugs to help terminally ill patients end their own lives.” The only voters opposed are people who attend religious services weekly, who oppose the measure 61 – 34 percent.

“New Yorkers overwhelmingly support doctor-assisted suicide. Almost two-thirds of voters, including 60 percent of older voters, say doctors should be able to prescribe lethal drugs to terminally ill patients,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll. “The 63 percent support for legalizing so-called recreational marijuana is a high water mark in New York. Voters don’t see marijuana as a gateway to stronger drugs.”

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More than half of suburban voters, 54 percent, say their children will be forced to move for better economic opportunity. They are part of the 46 percent of all New York State voters, including 40 percent of New York City voters and 49 percent of upstate voters, who think their children will be forced to move.

Some 33 percent of New York State voters say they will be forced to move in the next five years for better economic opportunity. That includes 30 percent of upstate voters, 31 percent of New York City voters and 43 percent of suburban voters.

Yet a total of 72 percent of New York State voters describe their financial situation as “excellent” or “good.” That includes 72 percent of upstate voters, 70 percent of New York City voters and 73 percent of suburban voters.

There is a wide difference between upstate and downstate voters as a total of 52 percent of New York State voters say the state’s economy is “excellent” or “good.” Only 43 percent of upstate voters say “excellent” or “good,” compared to 59 percent of New York City voters and 55 percent of suburban voters.

Looking at their own local economy:

- 46 percent of upstate voters say it is “excellent” or “good;”
- 70 percent of New York City voters say it is “excellent” or “good;”
- 63 percent of suburban voters say it is “excellent” or “good.”

All New York State voters say 53 – 35 percent that state government efforts to improve their local economy have not been effective.

But voters say 83 – 14 percent that state government can improve their local economy. Feeling optimistic are upstate voters 83 – 15 percent, New York City voters 87 – 10 percent and suburban voters 76 – 20 percent.

“New Yorkers are optimistic about their current financial situation, but pessimistic about the long term,” Brown said.

From April 26 – May 1, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,076 New York State voters, with a margin of error of +/- 3.7 percentage points, including the design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

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

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22. Would you describe the state of New York State's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Excellent	4%	3%	5%	4%	6%	2%	3%	4%
Good	48	36	60	45	52	45	57	42
Not so good	31	35	28	31	25	36	27	30
Poor	14	23	5	18	14	15	11	21
DK/NA	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	3

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Excellent	9%	2%	3%	3%	6%	2%	4%	5%
Good	55	50	43	47	54	47	50	46
Not so good	26	32	35	29	22	34	28	36
Poor	7	15	18	17	16	15	15	12
DK/NA	3	1	1	4	2	2	2	2

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Excellent	3%	5%	3%
Good	40	54	52
Not so good	32	30	31
Poor	22	8	13
DK/NA	3	3	1

23. Would you describe the state of your local area's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Excellent	7%	6%	9%	6%	10%	4%	8%	8%
Good	53	47	58	50	52	54	60	44
Not so good	26	27	24	26	26	26	22	26
Poor	14	19	9	17	13	15	9	21
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Excellent	13%	6%	5%	6%	13%	4%	8%	4%
Good	57	53	53	48	50	55	53	52
Not so good	18	25	27	29	24	24	24	29
Poor	13	15	15	15	13	16	14	14
DK/NA	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	1

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Excellent	6%	8%	6%
Good	40	62	57
Not so good	31	23	22
Poor	23	7	13
DK/NA	-	1	1

24. Would you describe your financial situation these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG Yes	No
Excellent	11%	17%	10%	10%	14%	7%	13%	11%
Good	61	59	62	61	62	60	70	55
Not so good	18	16	20	18	17	20	13	22
Poor	9	7	7	11	7	11	3	11
DK/NA	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Excellent	16%	7%	8%	13%	15%	10%	12%	8%
Good	59	65	63	59	63	63	63	57
Not so good	13	18	21	19	16	18	17	20
Poor	11	9	7	9	5	8	7	13
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Excellent	9%	10%	13%
Good	63	60	60
Not so good	19	20	15
Poor	9	8	11
DK/NA	1	1	1

25. Do you believe that the state government's efforts to improve your local area's economy have been effective, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG Yes	No
Yes/Effective	35%	28%	44%	30%	34%	35%	32%	33%
No	53	61	43	57	55	50	55	53
DK/NA	13	11	12	12	11	14	13	14

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Yes/Effective	43%	36%	30%	34%	31%	34%	32%	41%
No	44	55	58	52	58	50	54	50
DK/NA	13	9	13	14	11	16	14	9

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Yes/Effective	34%	39%	28%
No	56	46	59
DK/NA	10	15	12

26. Do you believe that the state government can improve your local area's economy, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Yes/Can improve	83%	78%	88%	81%	81%	85%	83%	82%
No	14	19	9	15	17	11	14	14
DK/NA	3	3	2	4	2	4	3	5
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			Non
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Yes/Can improve	87%	87%	81%	80%	79%	85%	82%	86%
No	12	11	17	14	19	10	14	13
DK/NA	1	2	2	7	2	5	3	2
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Yes/Can improve	83%	87%	76%					
No	15	10	20					
DK/NA	2	3	5					

27. Do you think that you will be forced to move in the next five years for better economic opportunity, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Yes/Forced to move	33%	36%	25%	43%	32%	34%	24%	33%
No	64	60	74	54	65	63	74	62
DK/NA	3	4	2	2	3	3	2	5
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			Non
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Yes/Forced to move	49%	34%	35%	18%	28%	27%	28%	43%
No	48	66	62	77	68	69	69	56
DK/NA	3	-	3	5	3	4	4	1
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Yes/Forced to move	30%	31%	43%					
No	66	67	54					
DK/NA	4	2	3					

28. Do you think that your children will be forced to move for better economic opportunity in the future, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Forced to move	46%	53%	37%	53%	44%	49%	46%	45%
No	38	31	46	34	39	37	38	37
DK/NA	16	16	17	12	18	14	15	18
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Yes/Forced to move	45%	51%	53%	35%	44%	48%	46%	47%
No	39	36	31	49	38	38	38	39
DK/NA	17	13	16	16	18	14	16	14
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Yes/Forced to move	49%	40%	54%					
No	36	43	34					
DK/NA	15	18	13					

29. Do you support or oppose allowing adults in New York State to legally possess small amounts of marijuana for personal use?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	63%	40%	71%	66%	66%	59%	68%	53%
Oppose	32	56	24	29	29	35	28	42
DK/NA	5	4	5	5	5	6	4	5
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Support	77%	68%	66%	46%	65%	58%	61%	65%
Oppose	16	26	31	48	30	39	34	27
DK/NA	6	5	3	6	5	4	4	7
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Support	60%	66%	61%					
Oppose	34	28	36					
DK/NA	6	6	4					

30. If you agreed with a political candidate on other issues, but not on the issue of legalizing marijuana, do you think you could still vote for that candidate or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....		
							Yes	No	
Yes	75%	66%	79%	78%	77%	74%	83%	70%	
No	20	27	17	18	19	20	14	25	
DK/NA	5	8	4	4	4	6	3	5	
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non		
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht	
Yes	79%	78%	78%	68%	81%	73%	77%	73%	
No	20	17	17	26	15	22	19	22	
DK/NA	1	5	5	6	4	5	4	6	
	AREA.....								
	UpStat	NYC	Sub						
Yes	78%	74%	75%						
No	16	22	21						
DK/NA	6	4	5						

31. As you may know, legalizing recreational marijuana allows states to tax the sale of marijuana, which can result in increased revenue. Would you support or oppose legalizing recreational marijuana if it increased revenue for New York state?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....		
							Yes	No	
Support	63%	43%	75%	61%	66%	60%	69%	54%	
Oppose	34	53	23	36	31	36	29	43	
DK/NA	3	4	3	3	3	4	2	3	
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non		
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht	
Support	73%	72%	64%	50%	66%	59%	62%	67%	
Oppose	25	24	33	46	31	39	35	30	
DK/NA	2	4	2	4	3	2	3	3	
	AREA.....								
	UpStat	NYC	Sub						
Support	60%	68%	60%						
Oppose	36	29	37						
DK/NA	4	3	3						

32. Do you think that legalizing marijuana will make people more likely to use opioids, less likely to use opioids, or don't you think legalizing marijuana will have much impact either way?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
More likely	21%	34%	16%	19%	20%	21%	19%	24%
Less likely	20	9	23	22	19	21	21	21
Not much impact	54	50	57	55	56	53	55	51
DK/NA	5	6	5	3	5	6	5	4

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
More likely	14%	18%	22%	25%	19%	23%	21%	20%
Less likely	37	20	17	10	20	21	21	19
Not much impact	46	60	56	57	57	51	53	56
DK/NA	3	3	5	8	4	5	5	5

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
More likely	20%	19%	26%
Less likely	18	18	25
Not much impact	56	59	44
DK/NA	6	4	5

33. In general, do you think that someone who is black and uses marijuana is more likely to be arrested than someone who is white and uses marijuana, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/More likely	62%	28%	82%	62%	59%	66%	63%	49%
No	31	64	14	31	33	29	31	44
DK/NA	7	8	4	7	8	5	7	7

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Yes/More likely	64%	72%	59%	57%	56%	58%	57%	74%
No	29	22	34	38	37	36	37	20
DK/NA	7	6	7	5	7	6	7	5

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Yes/More likely	53%	72%	61%
No	42	21	30
DK/NA	6	6	9

34. Do you support or oppose allowing doctors to legally prescribe lethal drugs to help terminally ill patients end their own lives?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							Yes	No
Support	63%	51%	69%	67%	69%	58%	73%	64%
Oppose	29	41	26	26	25	33	19	29
DK/NA	7	8	5	7	6	9	8	7

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		COLLEGE DEG	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Non Wht
Support	69%	63%	68%	60%	72%	66%	69%	54%
Oppose	25	30	27	32	21	26	24	39
DK/NA	6	7	5	8	7	8	7	7

	AREA.....			RELIGION.....			ATTEND SRVCS	
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	Prot	Cath	None	Weekly	Less
Support	63%	63%	64%	54%	55%	87%	34%	70%
Oppose	31	29	27	37	38	11	61	23
DK/NA	6	8	8	8	7	2	5	7