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# QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

## POLL

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### **PENNSYLVANIA VOTERS BACK MEDICAL MARIJUANA 6-1, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; SUPPORT FOR SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IS 57 – 37 PERCENT**

Pennsylvania voters support the legalization of medical marijuana use 85 – 14 percent, with support at 78 percent or higher among every partisan, gender and age group, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today. Even voters over 65 years old support medical marijuana 84 – 14 percent.

Voters are divided, however, on the legalization of possession of “small amounts of marijuana for personal use,” the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds. While 48 percent support legalization of so-called recreational use of marijuana, 49 percent are opposed.

There are wide gender, partisan and age differences:

- Men support recreational use 55 – 42 percent, while women are opposed 54 – 42 percent;
- Support is 58 – 39 percent among Democrats and 53 – 44 percent among independent voters, with Republicans opposed 66 – 31 percent;
- Voters 18 to 29 years old support it 64 – 34 percent, with voters over 65 opposed 66 – 29 percent.

Only 44 percent of Pennsylvania voters, including 49 percent of those 18 to 29 years old, admit that they have tried marijuana.

Marijuana is equally as dangerous as alcohol, 49 percent of Pennsylvania voters say, while 33 percent say it is less dangerous and 15 percent say it is more dangerous.

“Pennsylvanians think overwhelmingly that marijuana is equal to or less dangerous than alcohol, and join the American trend toward tolerance for both medical and recreational use,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

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Voters are divided on whether marijuana use leads to the use of other drugs as 46 percent say it does and 48 percent say it does not.

Colorado’s legalization of recreational marijuana use is bad for the state’s national image, Pennsylvania voters say 48 – 35 percent.

If marijuana is legalized in Pennsylvania, 61 percent of voters say it would not bother them if a neighbor grew marijuana in their home. Among voters 18 to 29 years old, 75 percent say they would not be bothered. Among voters over 65 years old, 54 percent would be bothered.

A total of 84 percent of voters say they would be “somewhat uncomfortable” or “very uncomfortable” riding in a car driven by someone who has smoked or consumed a moderate amount of marijuana.

“A lot of Pennsylvanians say it’s OK to smoke pot, but they have no interest in driving with you if you do,” Malloy said.

### **Same-Sex Marriage**

Pennsylvania voters support 57 – 37 percent a law allowing same-sex couples to marry. Again, there are partisan, gender and age differences:

- Support is 74 – 22 percent among Democrats and 58 – 35 percent among independent voters, with Republicans opposed 59 – 36 percent;
- Men support same-sex marriage 53 – 41 percent, while women support it 60 – 34 percent;
- Voters 18 to 29 years old support it 80 – 15 percent, while voters over 65 years old are divided, with 44 percent in favor and 48 percent opposed.

From February 19 – 24, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,405 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

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 information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).**

52. Would you support or oppose a state law that would allow same-sex couples to get married in Pennsylvania?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	57%	36%	74%	58%	53%	60%	80%	60%	55%	44%
Oppose	37	59	22	35	41	34	15	35	41	48
DK/NA	6	5	4	6	6	5	5	5	4	8

53. Do you support or oppose allowing adults in Pennsylvania 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	48%	31%	58%	53%	55%	42%	64%	54%	51%	29%
Oppose	49	66	39	44	42	54	34	42	47	66
DK/NA	3	3	3	3	2	4	2	3	2	5

54. Do you support or oppose allowing adults in Pennsylvania 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	85%	78%	91%	87%	86%	84%	83%	85%	87%	84%
Oppose	14	21	8	12	13	15	17	14	12	14
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	2

55. Do you think the legalization of marijuana for recreational use in Colorado has been good or bad for Colorado's national image?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Good	35%	22%	45%	38%	43%	28%	54%	40%	37%	18%
Bad	48	69	32	47	44	52	35	45	47	62
DK/NA	16	9	23	16	13	20	12	16	16	20

56. 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	44%	34%	49%	46%	52%	36%	49%	51%	56%	17%
No	55	65	50	53	46	63	51	47	42	83
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	2	1	-	2	2	1

57. 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	15%	23%	8%	13%	15%	14%	6%	14%	12%	24%
Less	33	20	41	37	37	30	59	40	30	14
Equally	49	54	49	49	45	53	35	45	55	55
NEITHR DANGEROUS (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	3	4	3	1	3	3	-	1	2	7

58. 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	46%	62%	36%	43%	43%	48%	31%	40%	45%	63%
No	48	32	58	51	52	44	67	53	50	27
DK/NA	7	6	6	6	5	8	2	7	5	10

59. In Colorado where marijuana is legal for recreational use, people are allowed to grow the plants in their homes. If marijuana is legalized in Pennsylvania, would it bother you if one of your neighbors is growing marijuana in their home or wouldn't that bother you?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	37%	47%	31%	37%	33%	41%	25%	37%	30%	54%
No	61	52	68	60	66	56	75	60	69	45
DK/NA	2	2	1	4	2	3	-	3	1	1

60. How comfortable would you be as a passenger in a car, with a driver who has smoked or consumed moderate amounts of marijuana; very comfortable, somewhat comfortable, somewhat uncomfortable, or very uncomfortable?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very comfortable	5%	4%	4%	5%	6%	4%	13%	6%	3%	2%
Smwht comfortable	10	7	13	11	10	9	14	13	8	5
Smwht uncomfortable	19	13	24	18	23	16	20	17	21	19
Very uncomfortable	65	75	58	66	60	70	53	63	66	73
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1