

**Marijuana Legalization  
(4/13/2017)**

Last week, the federal government introduced a bill which will legalize marijuana in Canada. We want to ask Canadians for their opinions on this topic.

Q1. First, how closely, if at all, would you say you have been following the news about marijuana legalization? Would you say you are:

Following it in the news and discussing it with friends and family  
Seeing some media coverage and having the odd conversation about it  
Just scanning the headlines  
Haven't heard anything about it

Q2. And in your view, would you say legalizing marijuana is a good or bad idea, overall?

Very good idea  
Good idea  
Bad idea  
Very bad idea  
Not sure/Don't know

We want to get people's views on some of the main proposals outlined in this new marijuana legislation.

Q3. Under the proposal, individuals may legally possess up to 30 grams of marijuana for their own personal use. (30 grams equals roughly one ounce; this amount would fill a sandwich bag and would be enough for about 40 to 60 joints, depending on size.) Would you say this proposed maximum of 30 grams/1 ounce for legal personal possession of marijuana is:

About right  
Too little – people should be allowed to possess a larger amount  
Too much – amount should be smaller than that  
No amount should be legal

Q4. The proposed legislation will allow people to grow up to 4 marijuana plants for their own use. Do you think this is:

About right  
Too little – people should be allowed to grow more than 4 plants  
Too much – should be fewer than 4 plants  
No marijuana plants should be legal

Q5. This new bill sets the minimum legal age for using marijuana at 18, but also says individual provinces can set that legal age higher (as some already do with alcohol consumption). Assuming legalization goes ahead, in your opinion, what should be the minimum legal age for marijuana?

18 is about right

It should be older than 18

If this legislation is passed and marijuana becomes legal, the federal government will be responsible for production (e.g. licensing growers, quality and potency guidelines, marketing regulations, etc.) and it will be up to the individual provinces to regulate the distribution of marijuana in each province.

Q6 (T). Would you support or oppose organizing the distribution of marijuana in each of the following ways in your own province? (Assume in each case that there are checks that the buyer is of the legal age.)

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

Marijuana may be sold through provincial government agencies – such as government liquor stores

Marijuana may be sold in licensed dispensaries, which sell only marijuana products

Private businesses – such as pharmacies – wishing to sell marijuana may acquire a license to do so

People can order online and have it delivered via mail

[COLUMNS]

Strongly oppose

Moderately oppose

Moderately support

Strongly support

Q7. This proposed legalization also contains other public health and safety measures. For example, there will be new penalties for drivers caught under the influence of marijuana (and alcohol); police will have new equipment for roadside testing "high" drivers; and new powers to obtain saliva samples for this testing. Based on what you've heard so far, in your view, will these new measures:

Succeed in discouraging marijuana-impaired driving

Fail to prevent many more people from driving impaired once marijuana is legal

Q8. The draft law also contains specific measures to discourage marijuana use and abuse among young people – including education efforts warning about the health effects and risks of marijuana use and strict penalties for selling or giving pot to someone under age. Based on what you've heard so far, will these measures:

Succeed in discouraging marijuana use among young people

Fail to prevent kids from using even more pot once it is legal

Q9. The government has said that a main objective of legalization is to stop organized crime from profiting from the illegal marijuana trade, and that the new legislation will enable serious penalties for those who buy or sell pot outside the new legal system. Overall, do you think the legalization plan will:

Succeed in cutting organized crime out of the marijuana trade

Fail – organized crime will find ways to stay in and profit from the marijuana trade

Q10. Do you agree or disagree with these statements?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

(T)The health risks of using marijuana aren't fully understood

(T)Marijuana is a gateway drug; people trying marijuana are more likely to try harder drugs

All things considered, marijuana is a lot safer than alcohol

[COLUMNS]

Strongly disagree

Moderately disagree

Moderately agree

Strongly agree

Q11. Overall, based on whatever you've seen or heard about this, would you say you yourself are in favour or opposed to this plan to legalize marijuana in Canada?

Strongly in favour

Moderately in favour

Moderately opposed

Strongly opposed

Q12. All things considered, which of the following broad statements about marijuana legalization is closer to your own opinion?

[ROTATE]

Marijuana legalization will do more harm than good

Marijuana legalization will do more good than harm

Q13. (T). It is expected that this new legislation will be official by next summer (2018). Once marijuana is legal in Canada, how likely will you be to use it?

Very likely – I will definitely use it

Fairly likely

Not that likely

Not at all likely – I will not use it