

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority approve of “grow your own” ruling

Most think growing marijuana should be legal for all

TORONTO March 16th, 2016 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll among 1567 Canadian voters, including 582 who have used marijuana or cannabis in the past, well more than half approve of the federal court ruling which struck down the prohibition against medical marijuana users growing their own (56%). Just more than one third disapprove of this decision (35%) and one tenth don't have an opinion (9%). Approval of the ruling is characteristic of the youngest (67%), the least wealthy (often a proxy for youth - 60%) and those in mid income groups (\$40K to \$80K - 60%), in Atlantic Canada (64%) and in BC (65%), among Liberals (64%) and New Democrats (66%), and even among one third of Conservatives (36%), among mothers of children under 18 (60%), among those who have used marijuana in the past (73%) and among the best educated (post grad - 62%).

One half think all Canadians should be allowed to grow their own

Close to half of Canadian voters agree that legalized marijuana should include legalizing growing it oneself (48%), while just more than 4-in-10 don't agree (42%). One tenth don't have an opinion (10%). Once more, agreement with a “grow your own” law is common to the youngest (59%), males (53%) rather than females (43%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 53%), in Atlantic Canada (52%) and, paradoxically, in Conservative dominated Alberta (53%). It is a popular idea with New Democrats (56%) but not among Conservatives so much (38%) and among the best educated (post grad - 51%) as well as among past marijuana users (65%).

Between 4-in-10 and one half have used marijuana

Four-in-ten voters claim to have used marijuana in the past (41%) and a further one tenth decline to answer (8%), so it may be that up to one half of voters have ever used cannabis in some form (49%). Claimed usage is most common to the youngest (57%), males (44%) rather than females (38%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 51%), in Conservative Alberta (47%) and in BC, more predictably (47%) and among New Democrats (46%).

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Well more than half approve of the federal court ruling which struck down the prohibition against medical marijuana users growing their own (56%).
- Close to half of Canadian voters agree that legalized marijuana should include legalizing growing it oneself (48%), while just more than 4-in-10 don't agree (42%).
- Four-in-ten voters claim to have used marijuana in the past (41%) and a further one tenth decline to answer (8%), so it may be that up to one half of voters have ever used cannabis in some form (49%).

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"The federal court decision is popular, especially in the context of medical marijuana users. It may be that Canadians don't want to see these vulnerable patients relying on the corporate marijuana distribution system the government is building. The most curious findings here are that Alberta, Canada's bastion of conservative ideology, is very high on allowing people to grow their own boo, but is also the province with the highest number of admitted users," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1567 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on March 15th, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 2%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

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Medical Marijuana Prohibition Ruling

'The Federal Court has struck down the prohibition against medical marijuana users growing their own. In six months, it will be legal for any medical marijuana user to grow his or her own marijuana. Do you approve or disapprove of this ruling?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female	Used Marijuana
Sample	1567	240	211	276	402	438	858	709	582
Approve	56	67	58	52	54	44	57	56	73
Disapprove	35	26	36	38	37	42	35	35	22
Don't know	9	7	6	10	9	14	8	10	5

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1567	149	340	574	137	153	214	1239	328
Approve	56	64	59	52	51	53	65	56	59
Disapprove	35	30	34	39	36	36	26	35	35
Don't know	9	6	7	9	14	11	10	10	7

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1567	487	621	192	82	55	65
Approve	56	36	64	66	77	62	54
Disapprove	35	54	27	24	19	29	37
Don't know	9	10	9	10	4	10	9

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Marijuana Legalization

'If marijuana is legalized, do you agree or disagree it should legal for Canadians to grow their own?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female	Used Marijuana
Sample	1567	240	211	276	402	438	858	709	582
Agree	48	59	53	44	43	33	53	43	65
Disagree	42	33	40	44	46	53	40	44	28
Don't know	10	8	7	12	11	13	7	12	6

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1567	149	340	574	137	153	214	1239	328
Agree	48	52	49	46	37	53	50	48	49
Disagree	42	42	42	43	50	38	38	42	43
Don't know	10	6	9	11	13	8	12	10	8

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1567	487	621	192	82	55	65
Agree	48	38	50	56	67	50	56
Disagree	42	56	39	35	27	42	33
Don't know	10	6	11	9	5	8	11

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Marijuana Usage

'Have you ever used marijuana or cannabis?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1567	240	211	276	402	438	858	709
Yes	41	56	44	37	42	19	44	38
No	51	37	47	54	52	76	50	53
Prefer not to answer	8	7	9	10	7	6	6	9

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1567	149	340	574	137	153	214	1239	328
Yes	41	44	41	38	36	47	47	41	42
No	51	52	53	53	51	47	44	51	52
Prefer not to answer	8	4	6	9	13	7	8	8	6

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1567	487	621	192	82	55	65
Yes	41	33	43	46	59	42	35
No	51	61	49	43	30	55	54
Prefer not to answer	8	6	7	11	10	3	11

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