

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dispensaries Double In Two Months

Approval of dispensaries declines as they are more common

TORONTO May 17th, 2016 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 804 Toronto voters, almost one quarter say they live in a neighbourhood with a marijuana dispensary (23%), and this percentage has doubled since we last asked this question just two months ago (March 23 - 11%). Living in a neighbourhood with a dispensary is common to the youngest (29%), the very wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 31%), in the downtown (41%) but not so much in North York or Etobicoke (13% each). Those with children are slightly more likely to share their neighbourhood with a dispensary (27%), as are Olivia Chow voters from the last election (33%).

Most don't know if dispensaries are legal businesses

The plurality doesn't know whether dispensaries are legal or not (42%), while those saying they are not (32%) now slightly outnumber those who say they are legal (26%). Two months ago, the larger group thought they were legal (27%) and the smaller group thought they were not (18%). The proportion who did not know has declined significantly from two months ago (55%) to today (42%).

Approval of dispensaries slips

Two months ago, the majority said marijuana dispensaries should be allowed to operate in Toronto (57%) and 3-in-10 thought they should not (30%). Today, the proportion approving of these dispensaries has declined to slightly less than half (48%), while the proportion against them has increased to more than a third (36%). Approval is common to the youngest ((55%), males (53%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 64%), in the downtown (53%) and in the old town of York (61% - caution: small sample size), Olivia Chow voters (61%) and those who live in a neighbourhood with a dispensary (58%).

One half agree with mayor - growth of dispensaries is "alarming"

One half of Toronto voters agree with the mayor that the growth in the number of dispensaries is "alarming" (53%), while 3-in-10 do not agree this is the case (31%). Those alarmed are most likely to be the oldest (63%), females (57%), wealthier households (\$60K to \$100K - 58%), in Etobicoke, where there are few reported

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TORONTO

May 17th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Almost one quarter say they live in a neighbourhood with a marijuana dispensary (23%).
- The plurality doesn't know whether dispensaries are legal or not (42%), while those saying they are not (32%) now slightly outnumber those who say they are legal (26%).
- Today, the proportion approving of these dispensaries has declined to slightly less than half (48%), while the proportion against them has increased to more than a third (36%).
- One half of Toronto voters agree with the mayor that the growth in the number of dispensaries is "alarming" (53%), while 3-in-10 do not agree this is the case (31%).

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(67%), but not as much in the downtown, where most are located (49%), among mothers of children under 18 (61%), the least educated (58%), those who approve of John Tory (58%) and the police chief (59%), those who do not share their neighbourhood with a dispensary (59%), but not so much those who do (47%), and among Doug Ford (60%) and John Tory (62%) voters

Three quarters agree with mayor on need for rules and regulations

Fully three quarters of Toronto voters agree with the mayor's call to regulate where dispensaries can do business, keeping them away from schools, community centres and each other (76%), while as few as one sixth do not agree (16%). Calling for regulation is common to the oldest (81%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 83%), in Scarborough (81%), among mothers (85%), those approving of the chief of police (81%), John Tory voters (84%). Interest is less high among Olivia Chow voters (64%) and those who live in a neighbourhood with a dispensary (69%).

"It appears that, while one half still accepts the right of these places to dispense their wares, even in their neighbourhoods, the majority also accepts that there need to be regulations in place," 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 804 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on May 16th, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 4%, 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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Dispensary in the neighbourhood – Trend

%	May 17 th , 2016	March 23 rd , 2016
Sample	804	908
Yes	23	11
No	35	38
Don't know	42	51

Are dispensaries legal businesses – Trend

%	May 17 th , 2016	March 23 rd , 2016
Sample	804	908
Yes	26	27
No	32	18
Don't know	42	55

Should they be allowed to operate in Toronto – Trend

%	May 17 th , 2016	March 23 rd , 2016
Sample	804	908
Yes	48	57
No	36	30
Don't know	17	13

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Marijuana Dispensary Locations

'Is there a marijuana dispensary in your neighborhood?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	804	137	125	188	169	185	408	396
Yes	23	29	24	23	21	11	25	21
No	35	36	33	29	37	40	39	31
Don't know	42	36	43	48	41	49	36	48

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	804	267	52	146	123	54	162
Yes	23	41	35	13	13	30	15
No	35	26	15	41	43	29	39
Don't know	42	33	51	47	44	41	46

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	804	139	330	113	55
Yes	23	18	25	33	24
No	35	33	34	29	42
Don't know	42	49	41	37	35

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Legal Marijuana Dispensaries

'As far as you know, are these marijuana dispensaries legal businesses?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	804	137	125	188	169	185	408	396
Yes	26	36	29	27	15	11	27	26
No	32	23	31	32	39	43	36	28
Don't know	42	40	40	41	47	46	37	47

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	804	267	52	146	123	54	162
Yes	26	26	21	17	32	30	33
No	32	38	40	32	29	27	26
Don't know	42	36	39	51	39	43	41

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	804	139	330	113	55
Yes	26	17	22	38	22
No	32	30	39	32	33
Don't know	42	53	39	30	45

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Dispensary Operation in Toronto

'Should marijuana dispensaries be allowed to operate in Toronto?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	804	137	125	188	169	185	408	396
Yes	48	55	50	46	44	37	53	43
No	36	29	35	40	35	45	32	39
Don't know	17	16	15	14	22	18	15	18

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	804	267	52	146	123	54	162
Yes	48	53	41	36	51	61	49
No	36	32	37	45	38	22	34
Don't know	17	15	22	19	10	17	17

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	804	139	330	113	55
Yes	48	38	48	71	35
No	36	47	33	20	45
Don't know	17	15	19	9	20

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Growth in Marijuana Dispensaries

'Mayor Tory has called the growth in marijuana dispensaries in Toronto "alarming". Do you agree or disagree with the mayor?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	804	137	125	188	169	185	408	396
Agree	53	45	57	50	60	63	49	57
Disagree	31	39	29	36	23	16	37	25
Don't know	16	15	14	14	17	20	14	18

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	804	267	52	146	123	54	162
Agree	53	49	59	54	67	44	51
Disagree	31	37	27	30	23	45	26
Don't know	16	14	14	17	10	12	23

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	804	139	330	113	55
Agree	53	60	62	36	46
Disagree	31	29	22	47	44
Don't know	16	11	17	17	10

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Regulation & Licensing of Marijuana Dispensaries

'The mayor has called for regulation and licensing of marijuana dispensaries to prohibit doing business near schools, community centers and other dispensaries. Do you agree or disagree with the mayor?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	804	137	125	188	169	185	408	396
Agree	76	67	77	80	80	81	72	79
Disagree	16	22	16	14	13	11	21	12
Don't know	8	11	7	5	6	8	6	9

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	804	267	52	146	123	54	162
Agree	76	74	75	77	76	66	81
Disagree	16	18	16	15	14	27	13
Don't know	8	8	10	7	10	7	6

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	804	139	330	113	55
Agree	76	78	84	64	81
Disagree	16	14	11	25	15
Don't know	8	8	5	10	4

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