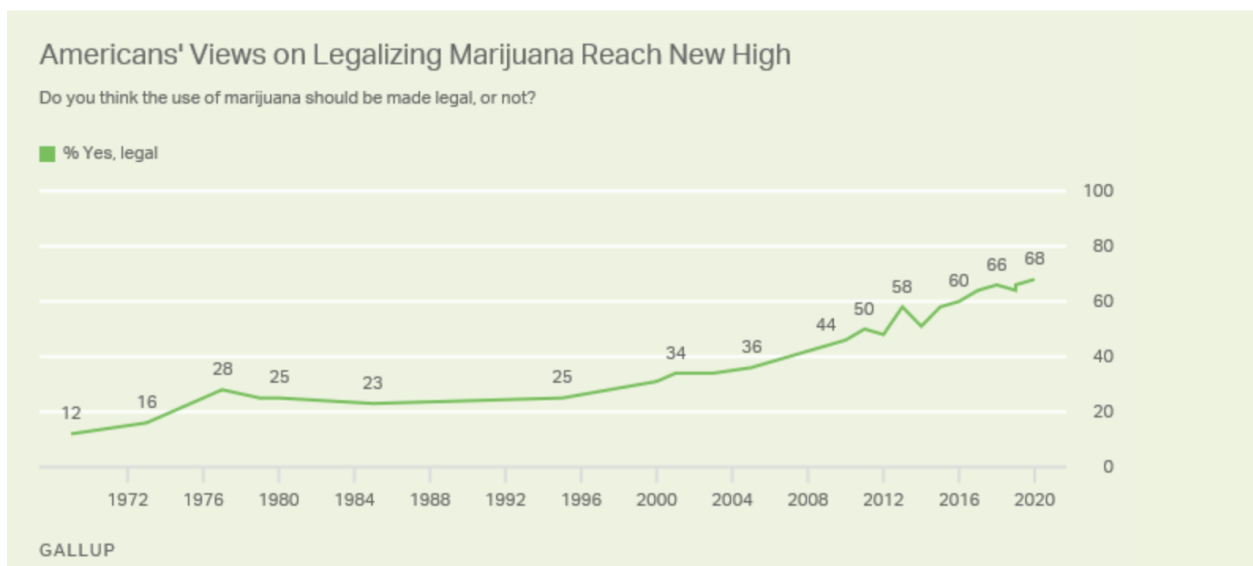




Polls Show Overwhelming Support for Legalizing Cannabis

The public is far ahead of most elected officials in support of marijuana policy reform. A supermajority of Americans support making marijuana legal. Support isn't limited to specific states, ages, parties, or regions. Gallup found majority or plurality support among all age ranges, while the polling firm Civiq found majority support in every state for making marijuana legal. Yet only 18 U.S. states have legalized marijuana.

- National polls, including by Pew Research Center, Gallup, and CNN, show that most Americans support legalization. In October 2020 and October 2021, Gallup found that 68% of Americans support “making marijuana use legal” — more than double the level of support in 2000.



- There is solid, bipartisan support. In 2021, Gallup found 83% support for legalization among Democrats, 71% support from independents, and 50% support from Republicans.
- Gallup's 2021 poll also found that no age group opposed legalization, reporting 60% support among those 55 and older, 70% support from persons 35-54, and 77% support from those 18-34 years old.
- Since 2017, the public research firm Civiq has surveyed more than 185,000 registered voters on legalization. As of June 2021, it found 70% support nationwide and majority support in every state, ranging from 52% in North Dakota to 81% in Washington.
- Voters in states that have implemented legalization overwhelmingly view the laws as successful or as more of a success than a failure. April 2020 YouGov surveys found 56% to 69% of voters in California, Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington viewed their state's legalization laws as mostly or entirely successful. In Maine — where legal sales have not begun — a plurality of 47% viewed it as a success. (Alaska and Vermont also have legalization laws, but YouGov did not have sufficient sample sizes to show results.) In each state, no more than 20% of voters viewed the law as more of a failure than a success.

- Polls indicate voters' support for keeping marijuana use legal increased after legalization. In all 11 legalization states where sales have begun, Civiq found support for legalization at 70% or higher. From the oldest to newest laws, it found 76% support in Colorado, 81% in Washington, 73% in Alaska, 80% in Oregon, 78% in California, 77% in Nevada, 77% in Massachusetts, 74% in Maine, 74% in Illinois, 71% in Michigan, and 70% in Arizona. In each state that legalized cannabis by initiative, support was far higher than what the initiative received. In the two states where legislatures enacted the laws — Illinois and Vermont — support was well above polls conducted before passage.

Here are Civiq's state-by-state results for the question, "Do you think that the use of cannabis should be legal, or not?," from April 24, 2017 through June 23, 2021:

State	Yes, Legal	No, Not Legal	Unsure
Alabama	63%	25%	11%
Alaska	73%	18%	8%
Arizona	70%	21%	9%
Arkansas	62%	25%	12%
California	78%	14%	8%
Colorado	76%	16%	7%
Connecticut	75%	15%	10%
Delaware	69%	20%	11%
Florida	70%	20%	17%
Georgia	71%	19%	11%
Hawaii	72%	61%	12%
Idaho	59%	30%	11%
Illinois	74%	17%	9%
Indiana	67%	22%	11%
Iowa	70%	19%	11%
Kansas	65%	22%	13%
Kentucky	65%	21%	14%
Louisiana	67%	22%	11%
Maine	74%	18%	8%
Maryland	75%	15%	10%
Massachusetts	77%	15%	8%
Michigan	71%	18%	11%
Minnesota	66%	20%	14%
Mississippi	58%	29%	13%
Missouri	63%	26%	12%
Montana	65%	24%	11%
Nebraska	62%	26%	11%
Nevada	77%	16%	7%
New Hampshire	72%	17%	12%
New Jersey	69%	22%	10%
New Mexico	72%	20%	9%
New York	69%	19%	13%
North Carolina	66%	20%	13%
North Dakota	52%	38%	10%
Ohio	66%	23%	11%
Oklahoma	63%	25%	11%

State	Yes, Legal	No, Not Legal	Unsure
Oregon	80%	15%	5%
Pennsylvania	70%	19%	11%
Rhode Island	75%	18%	8%
South Carolina	65%	22%	13%
South Dakota	60%	27%	12%
Tennessee	64%	24%	12%
Texas	69%	19/25%	12%
Utah	65%	24%	11%
Vermont	79%	12%	8%
Virginia	69%	19%	12%
Washington	81%	12%	6%
West Virginia	62%	25%	12%
Wisconsin	63%	25%	12%
Wyoming	58%	27%	15%

Other pollsters have conducted surveys in states that have not yet legalized cannabis and found majority support in several states that have not yet legalized:

State	Date/Polling Firm	% in Favor	Question Wording
Delaware	October 2018, University of Delaware	61%	Think “that the use of marijuana should be made legal”
Florida	February 2020, University of North Florida Public Opinion Lab	64%	Support “permitting adults 21 years or older to possess, use, purchase, display, and transport up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana accessories for personal use...”
Georgia	October 2018, SurveyUSA	55%	“Should the use of marijuana for recreational use by adults in Georgia ... be legalized?”
Hawaii	January 2013, QMark Research	57%	Support the “idea of legalizing, regulating and taxing the sale and personal use of marijuana by adults?”
Kansas	August to October 2019, Fort Hays State University	63%	Support “legalizing recreational marijuana for individuals 21 and older to allow taxation by the State of Kansas”
Kentucky	2019, Kentucky Health Issues Poll	59%	Favor “allowing residents to buy and use marijuana ... under any circumstances”
Louisiana	March 2021, JMC Enterprises	67%	Favor legalizing both recreational and medical marijuana
Maryland	February 2021, Goucher Poll	66%	Support “making marijuana legal for recreational use in Maryland”

State Adult-Use Legalization Poll Results ... continued

State	Date/Polling Firm	% in Favor	Question Wording
Minnesota	October 2018, KSTP/SurveyUSA	56%	Should "Minnesota legalize recreational marijuana for residents over age 21?"
New Hampshire	2021, University of New Hampshire, Granite State Poll	75%	Support legalizing marijuana for recreational use
Ohio	May 2016, Quinnipiac University Poll	52%	Support "allowing adults in Ohio to legally possess small amounts of marijuana for personal use"
Pennsylvania	March 2021 Pennsylvania Health Poll, Muhlenberg College Public Health Program	58%	Favor "the complete legalization of the use of marijuana for any purpose"
Rhode Island	January 2017, Public Policy Polling	59%	Favor "changing Rhode Island law to allow adults 21 and older to use marijuana and regulating and taxing marijuana similarly to alcohol"
Texas	2021, University of Texas and the Texas Tribune	60%	Believe possession of either small amounts or any amount of marijuana should be legal "for any purpose"
Wisconsin	April 2019, Marquette University Law School	59%	Believe "the use of marijuana should be made legal"