

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

September

2014

N=856

Q2. On the following screens are some names of people and entities. After each, please indicate whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable impression of that person or group.

A. Barack Obama	Very Fav	20%
	S'what Fav	27%
	Total Fav	48%
	S'what Unfav	15%
	Very Unfav	36%
	Total Unfav	51%
	Name ID	99%
Can't Rate	1%	
<hr/>		
B. U.S. Congress	Very Fav	5%
	S'what Fav	21%
	Total Fav	26%
	S'what Unfav	35%
	Very Unfav	36%
	Total Unfav	71%
	Name ID	97%
Can't Rate	3%	
<hr/>		
C. Local law enforcement officers	Very Fav	26%
	S'what Fav	46%
	Total Fav	72%
	S'what Unfav	16%
	Very Unfav	10%
	Total Unfav	25%
	Name ID	97%
Can't Rate	3%	

** Due to rounding, "totals" of the individual components may differ by +/- 1.

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

		September 2014 N=856
D. Federal law enforcement officers	Very Fav	19%
	S'what Fav	47%
	Total Fav	66%
	S'what Unfav	19%
	Very Unfav	11%
	Total Unfav	30%
	Name ID	96%
	Can't Rate	4%
E. The Tea Party	Very Fav	11%
	S'what Fav	26%
	Total Fav	36%
	S'what Unfav	23%
	Very Unfav	28%
	Total Unfav	51%
	Name ID	87%
	Can't Rate	13%
F. Recreational marijuana users [SPLIT A]	Very Fav	15%
	S'what Fav	21%
	Total Fav	36%
	S'what Unfav	26%
	Very Unfav	29%
	Total Unfav	54%
	Name ID	91%
	Can't Rate	9%
G. Medical marijuana users [SPLIT B]	Very Fav	20%
	S'what Fav	35%
	Total Fav	55%
	S'what Unfav	21%
	Very Unfav	15%
	Total Unfav	36%
	Name ID	90%
	Can't Rate	10%

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

**September
2014**

N=856

Q3. Changing topics, do you favor or oppose allowing individuals to use marijuana for medical purposes, if their doctor recommends it?	Strongly favor	42%
	Somewhat favor	36%
	Total favor	78%
	Somewhat oppose	10%
	Strongly oppose	8%
	Total oppose	18%
	Don't Know	4%
Q4. And do you think marijuana should be legalized for recreational use by adults?	Strongly yes	24%
	Somewhat yes	26%
	Total yes	50%
	Somewhat no	16%
	Strongly no	31%
	Total no	47%
	Don't Know	3%
Q5. Do you think the federal government should enforce federal laws that prohibit all marijuana use or let states control and decide whether to legalize it?	Federal government enforce: Strongly	22%
	Federal government enforce: Not strongly	12%
	Total Federal government enforce	33%
	States control and decide: Not strongly	16%
	States control and decide: Strongly	42%
	Total States control and decide	58%
	Don't Know	8%

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

September

2014

N=856

As you may know, under federal laws, it is illegal to consume, grow, and purchase marijuana. These laws conflict with voter-approved laws in Washington and Colorado, as well as laws in 23 states that have legalized medical marijuana.

Q6. Hearing this, do you think the federal government should enforce federal laws that prohibit all marijuana use or let states control and decide whether to legalize it?	Federal government enforce: Strongly	21%
	Federal government enforce: Not strongly	13%
	Total Federal government enforce	34%
	States decide: Not strongly	15%
	States decide: Strongly	44%
	Total States decide	60%
	Don't Know	6%

One approach to handling the discrepancy between state and federal marijuana laws would be to change federal law to give states that have legalized marijuana a safe haven from federal marijuana laws, so long as the states have a strong regulatory system. This means that if a state votes to legalize marijuana for recreational or medical use, those who produce, sell, or use it in that state could avoid federal punishment, as long as they are following state law.

Q7. Do you think Congress should pass a bill giving states that have legalized marijuana a safe haven from federal marijuana laws, so long as they have a strong regulatory system?	Yes, strongly	44%
	Yes, not so strongly	24%
	Total Yes	67%
	No, not so strongly	12%
	No, strongly	13%
	Total No	25%
	Don't Know	8%

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

**September
2014
N=856**

Q8. On each of the following screens you will find a series of statements from supporters of changing federal law to give states a safe haven from federal marijuana laws. On each screen, please select the statement you find MOST CONVINCING as a reason to support a bill giving states that have legalized marijuana a safe haven from federal marijuana laws, and then select the statement you find LEAST CONVINCING as a reason to support a such a change. In order to help us best understand your views, you will see each of these statements about changing federal law more than once in different combinations in the following screens.

	Avg. Score	*Top Choice	**Top 2 Choices
[BUSINESS FREEDOM] Marijuana business owners comply with regulations, join local Chambers of Commerce, and pay taxes. But they're refused access to banks and forced to look over their shoulder for federal prosecutors. We need to change federal law to give them freedom to operate without constant threat.	8.5	3%	13%
[BANKS] We need to change federal law so that marijuana dispensaries that are legal under state law don't have to operate as all-cash businesses without access to banks, which currently puts their customers, employees, and even innocent bystanders at risk of robbery and violence.	8.1	3%	10%
[WAR ON DRUGS] The war on drugs has been a failure and wastes billions in taxpayer dollars by locking up marijuana users in crowded jails. We should change federal law and allow states to experiment with ways to end the disastrous and expensive war on drugs.	9.7	13%	25%
[SERIOUS CRIME] Changing federal law to allow states to regulate marijuana where their voters choose it would free up federal law enforcement and allow them to focus on serious and violent crimes, like dangerous drug traffickers and terrorist activity.	11	5%	20%
[STATES RIGHTS] States have the responsibility to enforce marijuana laws, so they should have the right to determine what policies and laws best fit them on this issue. We should change federal law so that states have the freedom to decide which marijuana laws should govern their citizens.	11.6	8%	26%

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

September
2014

N=856

Q8. [CONT'D] On each of the following screens you will find a series of statements from supporters of changing federal law to give states a safe haven from federal marijuana laws. On each screen, please select the statement you find MOST CONVINCING as a reason to support a bill giving states that have legalized marijuana a safe haven from federal marijuana laws, and then select the statement you find LEAST CONVINCING as a reason to support a such a change. In order to help us best understand your views, you will see each of these statements about changing federal law more than once in different combinations in the following screens.

	Avg. Score	*Top Choice	**Top 2 Choices
[VOTERS HAVE SPOKEN] This is an issue on which Congress should respect the decisions voters have made in their states - not override them. We should change federal laws on marijuana to respect the democratic process in states.	8.6	4%	13%
[CHANGE] Federal laws don't do a good job keeping up with changing times. States are better equipped to know what's happening on the ground and act quickly to respond. States should be able to regulate marijuana, as long as they have a strong, safe regulatory system.	7.7	3%	9%
[MEDICAL MJ] Medical marijuana can provide compassionate relief to people suffering from diseases like cancer. Changing federal law to give states the ability to regulate medical marijuana without federal interference would allow doctors to continue prescribing a drug that can ease the suffering of sick and dying patients.	18.1	52%	64%
[INERTIA] Several states have already started to regulate marijuana use, and it's unlikely they will turn back. The federal government needs to catch up to the reality on the ground and give states clear rules about how to avoid federal interference.	7.3	3%	8%
[FAIRNESS] If marijuana-related businesses have to pay taxes, they should have access to the same services and protections as other businesses. It's not fair to ask them to follow all the rules, pay taxes to the state, and still be subject to prosecution under federal law.	9	5%	14%

*Percentage of respondents selecting statement as their top choice.

**Percentage of respondents selecting statement as one of their Top 2 choices.

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

**September
2014
N=856**

Q9. After hearing this information, do you think Congress should pass a bill giving states that have legalized marijuana a safe haven from federal marijuana laws, so long as they have a strong regulatory system?	Yes, strongly	45%
	Yes, not so strongly	26%
	Total Yes	71%
	No, not so strongly	11%
	No, strongly	12%
	Total No	22%
	Don't Know	7%

Q10. After reading these statements, what do you think is the best reason to support a bill giving states that have legalized marijuana a safe haven from federal marijuana laws? [IF NOT 'NO, STRONGLY' IN Q9 N=755] [OPEN-ENDED]



Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

**September
2014
N=856**

Q11. On the following screens are some statements that opponents of such a bill might make. For each one please indicate if it is a very convincing reason to oppose a bill allowing states to operate outside federal marijuana laws, a somewhat convincing reason, or not at all convincing as a reason to oppose it.

A. [CONGRESS] We can't trust Congress and the federal government to pass common sense laws. There is too much partisan infighting to get anything done right. Federal policy makers should leave things as-is because they will probably just make things worse.	Very Convincing	30%
	Somewhat Convincing	33%
	Not at all Convincing	30%
	Don't Know	8%

B. [CHILDREN] Giving states a pass from federal marijuana laws would increase use by children, sending a message that It's safe, and would allow sellers to market marijuana-laced candy to kids. In states where marijuana laws have changed, kids have been caught distributing pot in elementary school.	Very Convincing	29%
	Somewhat Convincing	28%
	Not at all Convincing	37%
	Don't Know	6%

C. [DRIVING] Allowing states to ignore federal marijuana laws would threaten our communities by increasing the number of impaired drivers on the road. Twenty-five percent of all drug related fatal car accidents in the U.S. involve marijuana, and increasing access will cause more drugged driving and make our roads more dangerous.	Very Convincing	31%
	Somewhat Convincing	34%
	Not at all Convincing	29%
	Don't Know	6%

D. [STATE BURDEN] Already in states that border Colorado and Washington, we have seen increased drug trafficking across state lines. Changing federal law to give states room to legalize marijuana puts more burden on neighboring states and increases crime in states where marijuana is illegal.	Very Convincing	30%
	Somewhat Convincing	36%
	Not at all Convincing	25%
	Don't Know	9%

E. [CHAOS] If we allow states to ignore federal drug laws, we will end up with a confusing patchwork that will be impossible to enforce and will allow drug kingpins and gangs to freely operate across the country. We need one consistent set of rules on this issue.	Very Convincing	34%
	Somewhat Convincing	33%
	Not at all Convincing	26%
	Don't Know	6%

Q12. And one last time, after hearing this information, do you think Congress should pass a bill giving states that have legalized marijuana a safe haven from federal marijuana laws, so long as they have a strong regulatory system?	Yes, strongly	40%
	Yes, not so strongly	24%
	Total Yes	64%
	No, not so strongly	14%
	No, strongly	15%
	Total No	29%
Don't Know	7%	

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

September

2014

N=856

QUESTIONS FOR CLASSIFICATION PURPOSES

Q13. Gender	Male	46%
	Female	54%
Q14. Age	18-34	25%
	35-49	26%
	50-64	28%
	65+	21%
	Refused	0%
Q15. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, or an Independent?	Democrat	36%
	Independent	25%
	Republican	34%
	Other	2%
	Don't Know	3%
Q16. Do you generally consider yourself liberal, moderate or conservative?	Liberal	25%
	Moderate	38%
	Conservative	32%
	Don't Know	5%
Q17. Are you currently married, single, living with a partner in a civil union or domestic partnership, living with a partner outside a legally recognized relationship, separated, divorced, or widowed?	Married	50%
	Single	28%
	Living with partner in a civil union or domestic partnership	4%
	Living with a partner outside a legally recognized relationship	2%
	Separated	1%
	Divorced	11%
	Widowed	4%
Q18. Do you have any children 18 or younger living with you?	Yes	32%
	No	68%
Q19. What is the last year of schooling you have completed?	High school or less	20%
	Some college or technical school	38%
	Four year college graduate	27%
	Post-graduate college degree	15%
	Don't Know / Refused	0%

Marijuana Policy Online Messaging Poll

September 25-29, 2014

N=856 Registered Voters

September

2014

N=856

Q20. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?	More than once a week	8%
	Once a week	21%
	Once or twice a month	9%
	A few times a year	16%
	Seldom	23%
	Never	23%
	Other	0%
<hr/>		
Q22. What is your ethnic background?	White	77%
	African American	10%
	Hispanic/Latino	9%
	Asian American	2%
	Other	2%
<hr/>		
Q23. And do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic or Latino descent?	Yes	11%
	No	88%
	Don't Know / Refused	1%
<hr/>		
Q24. Keeping in mind that all your answers in this survey are confidential, have you personally ever tried marijuana?	Yes	44%
	No	53%
	Don't Know / Refused	3%
<hr/>		
Q25. Region	Central	26%
	Eastern	29%
	Southern	25%
	Western	20%
<hr/>		
Q26. Marijuana Laws by State	Marijuana Legal in State	3%
	Medican Marijuana Legal in State	51%
	Marijuana Not Legal in State	46%
