

MARISTPOLL

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Yahoo News/Marist Poll: Weed & The American Family

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A Profile

- 52% of Americans, 18 years of age or older, **have tried marijuana** [~128,842,329 people] at some point in their lives, and 44% of these individuals who have tried it currently use it
 - Each percent of Americans who have tried marijuana is equal to approximately 1,288,423 adults
 - Among Americans who have tried marijuana:
 - 65% are parents or about 83,747,495 parents
 - 30% are parents with children younger than 18 years of age or about 38,652,690 parents with underage children
- 22% of American adults **use marijuana** [~54,510,216 people], and 63% of this group say they use it regularly
 - Each percent of Americans who uses marijuana is equal to approximately 545,102 adults
 - Among Americans who use marijuana:
 - 54% are parents or about 29,435,508 parents
 - 30% are parents with children younger than 18 or about 16,353,060 parents with underage children
 - Among the 22% of adults who use marijuana [~54,510,216 people]:
 - They are more likely to be male, 55%, than female, 45%
 - A majority of them are Millennials, 52%
 - They are more likely to earn less than \$50k per year, 54%
 - Nearly seven in 10, 69%, do not have a college degree
 - The majority are parents, 54%
 - Most do not practice a religion, 71%
 - They are more likely to describe themselves as Democrats, 43%, or independents, 42%, than to consider themselves Republican, 14%
 - A majority characterize themselves politically as very liberal or liberal, 53%
 - More than two-thirds supported Clinton in the 2016 presidential election, 68%, while not quite one in three supported Trump, 32%
- 14% of Americans 18 years of age or older **use marijuana regularly** [~34,688,319 people]. That is, they use it at least once or twice a month
 - Each percent of Americans who regularly use marijuana is equal to approximately 346,883 adults
 - Among Americans who regularly use marijuana:
 - 51% are parents or about 17,691,033 parents
 - 27% are parents with children younger than 18 years of age or older or about 9,365,841 parents with underage children

The Family/Lifestyle

Americans' opinions about marijuana are shaped by their experience with it. Their relationships and lifestyle are reinforced by these experiences.

Most Americans are not especially worried about marijuana use among the nation's youth. They are just as concerned about children experimenting with cigarettes, alcohol, and sex. While marijuana use by their children tops the list of parents' concerns, they are just as apprehensive about other risky behaviors. In fact, among parents with children under 18, "having sex" tops the list of concerns. A majority of Americans, 52%, say they have tried marijuana at some point in their lives, and this experience makes a difference. People who have tried or use marijuana are more likely to worry children will smoke cigarettes. Marijuana tops the list of concerns for Americans who have never tried marijuana.

But, there is still a stigma. While adults nationally are more likely to report that a close friend would approve of their use of marijuana for recreational purposes if it were legal, they are less likely to think their spouse or children would condone their use of the drug. However, the most mentioned concern about using marijuana is simply that it's illegal.

When it comes to marijuana use for medical reasons, Americans are much more accepting. Still, there is debate about whether or not medicinal marijuana should be prescribed to children, if it were legal.

Regardless of whether marijuana is consumed for recreational purposes or for medical treatment, those who have either tried marijuana or currently consume it are more accepting of the use of the drug than those who have not had experience with marijuana.

The Family/Lifestyle: Key Poll Points

- When asked to think as a parent, only about one-fifth of Americans place marijuana use at the top of their concerns for children. Their leading worry is smoking cigarettes, 24%, followed by using marijuana, 21%, drinking alcohol, 21%, having sex, 17%, and cheating on a test, 12%.
- Among Americans who have either tried marijuana or currently use it, marijuana use ranks last on their list of concerns, 11% and 5% respectively.
- Parents, overall, cite using marijuana as the top concern for their child(ren), 24%. However, only 6% of parents who use marijuana share this view.
- Most Americans agree, regardless of their marijuana use, their parents would disapprove if they learned they smoked cigarettes.
- But, there is less consensus among Americans about what their own parents would feel if they learned they used marijuana recreationally. 70% of adults, overall, say their parents would disapprove of them using marijuana for recreational use. This proportion falls to 57% for those who have tried marijuana and to less than half, 46%, among marijuana users.

- There is overwhelming support for the legalization of medical marijuana. While those who have tried marijuana, 94%, and those who use it, 98%, are more likely than Americans overall, 83%, and parents, 81%, to support legalization, there is a strong consensus.
- Recreational marijuana paints a different picture. Americans divide on whether they support or oppose the legalization of marijuana for recreational use, 49% to 47%. A majority of parents, 53%, oppose recreational use. However, many who have experienced marijuana support legalizing its recreational use. 70% of Americans who have tried marijuana and 89% of those who use it, support legalization of recreational marijuana.
- 30% of Americans, including the majority, 56%, of those who use marijuana and 40% of those who have tried it, say their biggest concern about using marijuana is that it is illegal. The effect it has on judgement and decisions follows with 18%. 14% are concerned it leads to other drug use, 13% say it has negative long-term health effects, and 12% report it impairs senses and coordination.
- While the pluralities of Americans and those who have tried marijuana, 37% respectively, say marijuana's greatest benefit is that it can help with some medical problems, those who use it do so for many reasons. 29% of marijuana users say the greatest benefit of use is that it reduces anxiety or stress, and another 27% think it helps manage medical problems.
- The difference in experience with marijuana relates to Americans' perceptions of how those closest to them would feel about marijuana use.
- A plurality of Americans, 43%, think, if marijuana were legalized for recreational use, their close friends would approve of them using it. This sentiment is shared by 61% of those who have tried marijuana and 79% of those who use it.
- Similarly, while only 36% of parents, overall, say their close friends would approve of them using marijuana recreationally if it were legal, 74% of parents who use marijuana have that view.
- How about for medical use? While experience with marijuana still plays a role, there is more consensus that close friends would approve if one used medical marijuana legally.
- 73% of adults, including 85% of those who have tried marijuana and 92% of those who use marijuana, say their close friends would approve of them using legal medical marijuana.
- While a majority of Americans in a relationship, 53%, think their spouse or significant other would disapprove of their recreational marijuana use even if it were legal, 56% of those who have tried marijuana and 78% of marijuana users in a relationship say their spouse or partner would approve.
- Again, there is greater consensus when it comes to medical use. Americans in a relationship, 73%, those in a relationship who have tried marijuana, 87%, and those in a relationship who use marijuana, 96%, think their spouse, partner or significant other would approve of them using legal medical marijuana.

- While a majority of parents, 58%, think their children would *disapprove* of their mom or dad's recreational marijuana use, those who have tried marijuana divide. 38% think their children would approve, and 40% say they would disapprove. The rest think it wouldn't make any difference to them. Nearly half of marijuana users, 49%, think their children would approve of their use.
- Parents, 61%, those who have tried marijuana, 72%, or those who use marijuana, 71%, say their kids would approve of their medical marijuana use if it were legal.
- Americans divide, 47% to 46%, respectively, about whether or not *medical* marijuana should be prescribed to children, if it were legal. 63% of marijuana users and 56% of those who have tried the drug would support prescribing marijuana to children, if legal and medically necessary.
- Parents, overall, divide about the use of medical marijuana for children. 48% say, if it were legal, marijuana should be allowed to be prescribed to children. 44% disagree. However, among parents who use marijuana, 69% support prescribing legal medical marijuana to children.
- Americans, including parents, believe 20 is the age at which someone is old enough to decide whether or not to use marijuana. Marijuana users think the appropriate age is 17.
- Among those who have tried marijuana, the average age they first experimented with the drug is 18 years old. Among users, they first tried marijuana, on average, at 17.
- More than three in four Americans, 76%, say they have a close friend who has either tried, 44%, or uses, 32%, marijuana. 94% of those who have tried marijuana and 97% of those who use marijuana say a close friend either has tried or uses marijuana.
- 51% think their spouse, partner, or significant other has, at least, tried the drug. 73% of Americans who have tried marijuana and 88% of marijuana users say the same.
- Among parents, only 39% say their child has either tried, 31%, or uses, 8%, marijuana. 61% think their child(ren) have never tried marijuana.
- 36% of Americans think their parents have either tried marijuana, 29%, or have used it, 7%. A majority of Americans who have tried marijuana, 52%, and 62% of marijuana users think their parents have, at least, tried it.
- Are parents talking to their children about marijuana? 28% have never done so. 40% have had the conversation once or twice or a few times, and 33% say they have the discussion very often or all the time.
- Parents who have spoken with their children about marijuana first did so at about 12-and-a-half years old. Parents who have tried marijuana or are current users had the discussion with their children around the same age.
- When asked to think, as a parent, about why parents don't speak to their children about marijuana, the most cited reason by Americans is not knowing what to say, 36%. Lack of comfort with the topic, 32%, and not wanting to encourage use, 23%, follow. Of note, 33% of marijuana users believe parents have not spoken to their children about marijuana because they do not want to encourage its use.

- Eight in 10 parents raising children with another adult generally agree about what the two of them should tell their children about marijuana. Those who tried marijuana and marijuana users have a similar consensus when parenting.
- 81% of Americans, including 90% of marijuana users and 88% of those who have tried marijuana, think it is the right thing to do for parents to tell their children about their marijuana use. 79% of parents agree.
- 60% of Americans say their parents *did not* talk to them about marijuana. Members of the Silent-Greatest Generation, 95%, and Baby Boomers, 72%, are among those most likely to say their parents did not address marijuana use with them. Among Americans who use marijuana, half say their parents talked to them about marijuana, and 50% say their parents did not talk to them about this topic.
- 40% of Americans say their parents spoke with them about marijuana, and of those, 88% think their parents did a good job with “the talk.” Nearly nine in 10 marijuana users say the same.
- The average age at which the conversation about marijuana occurred between parent and child was 14 years of age.
- How does marijuana use in one’s personal life impact perceptions of that individual? Among parents with children under the age of 18, 38% say they would have less respect for their child’s teacher if they found out that teacher used marijuana in his or her free time. 55% say it makes no difference to them. About one in four parents who have tried marijuana, 24%, and only 11% of parents who use the drug say they would have less respect for their child’s teacher. 81% of parents who use marijuana and 70% of parents who have tried marijuana say it would not change their view of the teacher.
- 36% of Americans say they would have less respect for their doctor if they found out he or she used marijuana in their personal life. This compares with 21% of those who have tried marijuana and 12% who use marijuana who also share this opinion.
- While many Americans say that it would make no difference if their favorite athlete used marijuana, nearly three in 10, 28%, say they would have less respect if they found out their favorite athlete uses it in his or her personal life. 31% of parents agree. Among those who have tried marijuana, 15% say their respect would diminish. Only 6% of marijuana users say the same.
- When it comes to how Americans would view their religious leader’s personal marijuana use, more than four in 10 say they would have less respect for him or her, including 46% of parents and 60% of Americans who practice a religion.
- How do Americans feel about their favorite celebrity using marijuana? While most say it makes no difference to them, 22% say they would have less respect for that celebrity, including 25% of parents. This compares with only 9% of those who have tried marijuana and 5% of those who use it.
- 79% of Americans, including 81% of parents, 72% of those who have tried marijuana and 64% who use it, say they would have less respect for a parent who uses marijuana in front of their children. 20%, including 34% of users and 27% of those who have tried marijuana, say it would not change their view of that parent.

- For those that do not use marijuana, 27% say that the main reason they don't use it is because it's illegal. This is followed by non-users reporting they do not like it, 26%.

Social Acceptability

A majority of Americans think marijuana use is socially acceptable. Americans are more likely to think that their close friends would find their marijuana use acceptable than their spouse, partner, significant other, their children, or their parents. However, Americans are more likely to think their loved ones would approve of their marijuana use if it were for a medical reason. Many Americans, though, do not think using marijuana to ease pregnancy symptoms is acceptable.

Again, Americans are more likely to believe their close friends have tried marijuana than their spouse, partner or significant other. Fewer think their children or parents have tried the drug.

On the question of respectability, many Americans say they would not care if their favorite celebrity or sports athlete used marijuana in their personal life. Majorities also report their level of respect for their doctor, religious leader, or child's teacher would not be altered. However, more than seven in 10 Americans would lose respect for a parent who used marijuana in front of his or her child.

Social Acceptability: Key Poll Points

- A majority of Americans, 56%, think marijuana use is socially acceptable. This includes 83% of marijuana users and 74% of those who have tried marijuana. However, 42% of Americans, including 61% of those who have not tried marijuana, do not think it is socially acceptable.
- Parents divide. Half, 50%, find marijuana use to be socially acceptable, and 48% think it's socially unacceptable. However, among parents who use marijuana, three in four, 75%, see it as socially acceptable.
- About one in five Americans think it's acceptable for a woman who is pregnant to use marijuana to reduce nausea or pain. Among those who have tried marijuana, about one in three, 28%, say the same. However marijuana users, 40%, are among those who are most likely to find using marijuana as a pain and nausea aid during pregnancy to be permissible.
- There are notable differences between parents, overall, and parents who use marijuana. While only 19% of parents think using marijuana during pregnancy for pain or nausea is copacetic, 44% of parents who are users say the same.
- Many Americans say marijuana use by their favorite celebrity, 74%, or athlete, 68%, would not make a difference in their level of respect for them. Majorities of Americans, overall, say it would not change their view of their doctor, 58%, or their cleric, 52%. 60% of people who practice a religion would not look favorably upon marijuana use by their religious leader. 55% of parents with children under 18 years of age report it would not alter their view of their child's teacher. However, 79% of Americans would lose respect for a parent who uses marijuana in front of their child.

Marijuana and the Law

Most Americans support legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes but divide about whether or not marijuana should be legalized for recreational use. Disagreement exists among Americans, people who have tried marijuana, and those who currently use it on the question of legalizing recreational marijuana.

Although Americans cite the illegality of marijuana as their biggest concern about using the drug, many also see marijuana as an aid for managing medical problems, reducing pain, or alleviating stress as benefits.

Looking at the current laws in place nationally, a majority of Americans think the Trump Administration should be at least as tough, if not tougher, than the Obama Administration on enforcing the federal laws against the recreational use of marijuana. However, nearly half of Americans think the Trump White House should not be as tough when it comes to enforcing federal laws against the medical use of marijuana.

Marijuana and the Law: Key Poll Points

- More than eight in 10 Americans, 83%, support legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes. Nearly all marijuana users, 98%, and those who have tried it, 94%, support this position. 88% of Millennials agree.
- The question of legalizing recreational marijuana is more divided. 49% of Americans support legalizing marijuana for recreational use while 47% oppose it. Positions on this question reflect personal consumption of marijuana. 89% of users and 70% of those who have tried it support legalizing marijuana for recreational use.
- While there is support for the legalization of medical marijuana, 69% of Americans do not think it is acceptable for a pregnant woman to use it to ease the discomfort of her pregnancy. Of note, half of users and 60% of those who have tried it *do not* think it is acceptable for pregnant women to use marijuana.
- There is also a divide about whether children should be prescribed marijuana, if it is legal and medically necessary. 47% of adults believe that it should be allowed while 46% disagree. A majority of those who have tried marijuana, 56%, and those who use marijuana, 63%, think that prescribing medical marijuana to children should be allowed.
- The illegal status of the drug is a deterrent for use. 27% of Americans say they do not use marijuana because it is illegal. A similar proportion, 26%, say it is because they do not like it. A plurality of adults, 30%, say their most significant concern about using marijuana is only that it is illegal.
- When it comes to enforcing federal laws against marijuana use, distinguishing between recreational and medicinal use is key. On the question of recreational use, 57% of Americans think the Trump Administration should be at least as tough, 27%, or tougher, 30%, than the Obama Administration in enforcing federal laws. 38% of Americans think the current White House should *not* be as tough compared with 53% of those who have tried marijuana and 70% of users who have this opinion.

- When it comes to medical marijuana, 47% do not think the Trump Administration should be as tough as its predecessor. 25% believe the same enforcement is appropriate, and 20% say greater enforcement of federal law is required. Most users, 71%, and those who have tried it, 60%, think the Trump Administration should not be as tough as Obama's Administration.
- Although 72% of Americans would not buy or use marijuana if the federal government legalized the drug, 28% would. Those who use marijuana, 80%, or have tried it, 47%, are among those who most likely to purchase and consume it if it were legalized.
- Many Americans, 62%, also would not use marijuana as a self-prescribed pain reliever, even if it were legal. 38% of adults nationally, including 85% of regular users, 77% of users, and 55% of those who have tried marijuana, say they would likely use marijuana in this way.
- If a doctor prescribed marijuana, about two-thirds of Americans, 66%, would be likely to use it. Again, current marijuana users, 96%, and those who have tried marijuana, 82%, are most likely to do so.
- More than seven in 10 Americans, 72%, are not likely to invest in the marijuana business. Among the 28% who would like to do so, 53% are users and 39% are those who have tried marijuana.
- The average age at which Americans believe someone is old enough to make a decision about using marijuana is 20 years old. Among users, opinion about the age of responsibility is a bit lower, at 17.

Health Risks

A slim majority of Americans consider marijuana use to be a health risk. However, many Americans do not think regular use of marijuana is as great of a health risk as the regular use of tobacco, alcohol, or the use of a doctor's prescription for opioids.

On the question of whether marijuana is addictive, Americans divide. 49% of Americans consider it to be addictive, including one in five who believe marijuana is a gateway drug.

Health Risks: Key Poll Points

- A majority of Americans, 51%, including 64% of those who have *not tried* marijuana and 59% who *do not* use it, think consumption of marijuana is a health risk. 44% of adults, including 72% of marijuana users and 57% of those who have tried marijuana, disagree.
- By more than four to one, Americans think the regular use of tobacco, 76%, outweighs the health risk of the regular use of marijuana, 18%.
- By more than three to one, adults nationally say drinking alcohol regularly, 72%, is more of a threat to one's health than regular marijuana use, 20%.
- 67% of Americans say using a doctor's prescription for an opioid such as Vicodin or OxyContin is a greater health risk than using a doctor's prescription for marijuana, 20%.

- 49% of Americans think marijuana use is addictive. Included here are 20% who believe using marijuana is not only addictive but also leads to the use of other drugs. Three in 10 Americans who have not tried marijuana, 30%, consider marijuana to be a gateway drug.
- 48% of adults nationally do not think marijuana is addictive for most people, 29%, or think it isn't addictive at all, 19%. 80% of marijuana users think it is not addictive for most people, 47%, or that marijuana is not addictive at all, 33%.
- As previously noted, the main concern about using marijuana is not health-related. 30% of Americans say their top worry is that marijuana is illegal.
- The greatest benefit Americans see in the use of marijuana is that it has a positive effect in the management of medical problems or conditions, 37%. 33% of regular users describe the greatest benefit of marijuana as its potential to reduce stress and anxiety.
- Americans divide, 47% to 46%, about whether or not medical marijuana, if legal, should be prescribed to children.
- Looking at the risk behaviors of Americans, in general, 82% say they have had an alcoholic drink, 59% have smoked cigarettes, and 52% have tried marijuana. 36% have cheated on a test. Among Americans who use marijuana, 95% have had an alcoholic drink, 73% have smoked cigarettes, and 55% have cheated on an exam.

Entertainment/Sports

Most Americans do not think marijuana is a taboo subject in the world of sports and entertainment. Nearly seven in 10 Americans approve of professional sports athletes using marijuana to alleviate pain, and a majority of Americans approve of a celebrity publicly supporting the legalization of marijuana.

Slightly more than one in five Americans say they would have less respect for their favorite celebrity if they discovered that celebrity uses marijuana in his or her personal life. Not quite three in 10 would think less of their favorite professional athlete doing the same.

Entertainment/Sports: Key Poll Points

- A majority of Americans, 56%, approve of a celebrity publicly supporting the legalization of marijuana. Those who use marijuana, 93%, and those who have tried it, 74%, are among those most likely to approve of such advocacy. Those who have not tried marijuana, 57%, or do not use it, 47%, are among the 38% of Americans who do not approve.
- There is even less concern about celebrities using marijuana in their personal lives. 74% of Americans agree it makes no difference to them if their favorite celebrity uses marijuana. 81% of Millennials agree compared with only 53% of those 70 or older who share this view.

- Nearly seven in 10 Americans, 69%, approve of a professional athlete using marijuana for pain. 26% disapprove. Most marijuana users, 94%, and more than eight in 10 who have tried marijuana, 84%, approve. More than four in 10 adults who have not tried marijuana, 41%, and 32% of non-users disapprove. 48% of Americans over 69 disapprove of sports athletes using marijuana for pain relief.
- Similar proportions of Americans think it makes no difference if sports athletes use marijuana in their personal lives. Those who are more likely to lose respect for athletes who use marijuana are people 70 or older, 52%, political conservatives, 47%, those who have not tried marijuana, 43%, or Republicans, 42%.

Finance

If the federal government legalized marijuana, nearly three in 10 people say they would like to invest in the marijuana business. In addition, majorities of Americans approve of either their bank or retirement fund investing in marijuana farms or businesses.

Finance: Key Poll Points

- 29% of Americans would be interested in investing in the marijuana business, if it was legalized in the United States. This includes 12% who would be very likely to invest and 17% who are likely to back a marijuana venture.
- A majority of Americans, 52%, approve of their bank investing in marijuana farms or businesses. But, opinion divides generationally. 66% of Millennials and 61% of Gen Xers approve. This is in contrast to 51% of Baby Boomers and 76% of members of the Silent-Greatest Generation who disapprove of their bank investing in marijuana farms or businesses.
- 51% of adults nationally approve of their retirement fund having investments in marijuana farms or businesses. 45% disapprove. Again, those who are 50 years of age or younger, 61% of Millennials and 63% of Gen Xers support such investments. 52% of Baby Boomers and 74% of Americans 70 and older are against these financial moves.

Marijuana Users

The following questions were asked only of Americans who use marijuana.

Marijuana Users: Key Poll Points

Among Americans 18 years of age or older, who is the marijuana user?

- 52% of Americans, 18 years of age or older, **have tried marijuana** [~128,842,329 people] at some point in their lives, and 44% of those who have tried it currently use it.
- 22% of American adults **use marijuana** [~54,510,216 people], and 63% of them say they use it regularly.
- 14% of Americans 18 years of age or older **use marijuana regularly** [~34,688,319 people], that is, minimally once or twice a month.

- Among the 22% of adults who use marijuana [~54,510,216 people]:
 - They are more likely to be male, 55%, than female, 45%
 - A majority of them are Millennials, 52%
 - They are more likely to earn less than \$50k per year, 54%
 - Nearly seven in 10, 69%, do not have a college degree
 - The majority are parents, 54%
 - Most do not practice a religion, 71%
 - They are more likely to describe themselves as Democrats, 43%, or independents, 42%, than to consider themselves Republican, 14%
 - A majority characterize themselves politically as very liberal or liberal, 53%
 - More than two in three supported Clinton in the 2016 presidential election, 68%, while not quite one in three supported Trump, 32%.

What did Americans who use marijuana tell the Yahoo News/Marist Poll about their consumption habits?

- A plurality, 41%, use marijuana with people other than their family.
- 31% prefer to use it alone.
- Half, 50%, get their marijuana from a close friend.
- Most, 79%, don't feel guilty about using it.
- Nearly six in 10, 57%, don't hide the marijuana they use, although four in 10 do.
- Among those who have a hidden stash:
 - The most mentioned hiding place is a dresser drawer, 20%
 - It is being hidden most frequently from their children or grandchildren, 37%, or as a precaution from being discovered by law enforcement, 16%.
- They are pretty certain the people in their lives know they use it:
 - Those in a relationship say they've told their spouse, partner, or significant other they use marijuana, 95%, and they also believe their significant other knows how often they use it, 95%
 - Of course, that leaves about one in 20 users in a relationship who are convinced their significant other has no idea
 - 60% of parents who use marijuana say they have told their children they use it
 - 72% of those who use marijuana say they have told their parents of their consumption
 - 95% say they have told their close friends of their use of marijuana.
- 82% of users in a relationship have consumed it in front of their spouse/partner/significant other, shared it with them, or done both.
- The majority of parents who use marijuana who have adult children have **not** used it in front of or shared it with their adult children, 53% 47% say they have consumed it in front of their children, shared it with them, or done both.
- 93% of parents who use marijuana and have underage children have **not** used it in front of or shared marijuana with their children. Still, that leaves 6% who have
- A majority of parents who use marijuana, 54%, have talked to their children about their own consumption.

- 70% of parents who use marijuana say that they and the other adult involved in raising their kids are in agreement about what to say to their children about their own consumption. One in four, 25%, disagree with the other adult about what to say.
- Adult children who use marijuana though, are generally not upfront with their parents about their consumption. 73% of adult children say they have neither used it in front of nor shared it with their parents. That does, however, leave more than one in four adult users who have consumed it in front of or with their parents.
- Most users, 88%, do consume marijuana in front of or with their close friends.

Where and why do marijuana users consume it?

- 86% of users have used marijuana during a party or social event with friends.
- 78% have used marijuana before a social event with friends.
- 68% have used marijuana before having sex.
- 54% have used marijuana before a family function.
- About three in 10, 29%, have used marijuana before a test.
- Only 20% say they have used marijuana before a funeral.
- Only 16% have used marijuana before a religious service.
- A plurality say they use marijuana to relax, 37%. 19% use it to relieve pain, and 16% use marijuana just for fun.

How the survey was conducted and the Nature of the Sample

This survey of 1,122 adults was conducted March 1st through March 7th, 2017 by The Marist Poll, sponsored and funded in partnership with Yahoo News. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the contiguous United States were contacted on landline or mobile numbers and interviewed in English or Spanish by telephone using live interviewers. Mobile telephone numbers were randomly selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation from Survey Sampling International. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. Mobile phones are treated as individual devices. After validation of age, personal ownership, and non-business-use of the mobile phone, interviews are typically conducted with the person answering the phone. To increase coverage, this mobile sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of landline phone numbers from ASDE Survey Sampler, Inc. Within each landline household, a single respondent is selected through a random selection process to increase the representativeness of traditionally under-covered survey populations. After the interviews were completed, the two samples were combined and balanced to reflect the 2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimates for age, gender, income, race, and region. Results are statistically significant within ± 2.9 percentage points. There are 573 adults who have tried marijuana. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 4.1 percentage points. There are 252 adults who use marijuana and 160 who report using it regularly, at least once or twice a month. The results for these subsets are statistically significant within ± 6.2 and ± 7.7 percentage points, respectively. The error margin was not adjusted for sample weights and increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample					
		National Adults	Tried Marijuana	Marijuana Users	Regularly Uses Marijuana
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
National Adults		100%			
Tried Marijuana	Tried marijuana	52%	100%		
	Has not tried marijuana	48%			
Marijuana Use	Use marijuana	22%	44%	100%	
	Does not use marijuana	78%	56%		
Regularly use marijuana		14%	28%	63%	100%
Gender	Men	49%	51%	55%	59%
	Women	51%	49%	45%	41%
Generation	Millennials (18-34)	34%	37%	52%	52%
	Gen X (35-50)	24%	23%	23%	23%
	Baby Boomers (51-69)	30%	35%	23%	24%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 69)	13%	5%	2%	1%
Race	White	62%	63%	57%	62%
	African American	11%	12%	12%	12%
	Latino	14%	12%	18%	14%
	Other	12%	13%	13%	11%
Region	Northeast	18%	20%	21%	20%
	Midwest	21%	19%	18%	21%
	South	37%	32%	34%	31%
	West	24%	28%	27%	28%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	48%	47%	54%	52%
	\$50,000 or more	52%	53%	46%	48%
Education	Not college graduate	60%	61%	69%	68%
	College graduate	40%	39%	31%	32%
Parents		66%	65%	54%	51%
Parents with Children under 18		28%	30%	30%	27%
Parents with Adult Children		46%	45%	29%	33%
Relationship Status	In a relationship	60%	45%	50%	50%
	Not in a relationship	40%	40%	50%	50%
Religiosity	Practice a Religion	45%	33%	29%	17%
	Does not Practice a Religion	55%	67%	71%	83%
National Registered Voters		83%	85%	82%	80%
Party Identification	Democrat	35%	38%	43%	43%
	Republican	29%	22%	14%	15%
	Independent	35%	38%	42%	40%
	Other	2%	2%	1%	2%
Political Ideology	Very liberal-Liberal	33%	41%	53%	59%
	Moderate	28%	29%	27%	25%
	Conservative-Very conservative	39%	30%	20%	17%
2016 Support	Clinton Supporters	51%	55%	68%	72%
	Trump Supporters	49%	45%	32%	28%
Interview Type	Landline	35%	31%	23%	22%
	Cell phone	65%	69%	77%	78%

Yahoo News/Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 1st through March 7th, 2017, n=1122 MOE +/- 2.9 percentage points. National Adults who Tried Marijuana: n=573 MOE +/- 4.1 percentage points. National Marijuana Users: n=252 MOE +/- 6.2 percentage points. National Marijuana Users who Use Regularly: n=160 MOE +/- 7.7 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Noteworthy Comparisons: Americans and Marijuana Users

Americans		Marijuana Users
21%	Most worry about children using marijuana	5%
59%	Has smoked a cigarette	73%
82%	Has drank alcohol	95%
36%	Has cheated on a test	55%
12%	Own parents would <i>approve</i> of them using recreational marijuana	30%
56%	Own parents would <i>approve</i> of them using medical marijuana	72%
83%	Support legalizing marijuana for medical treatment	98%
49%	Support legalizing marijuana for recreational use	89%
56%	Marijuana use is socially acceptable	83%
21%	Marijuana is acceptable to treat pregnancy symptoms	40%

Americans		Marijuana Users
51%	Using marijuana is a health risk	24%
76%	Tobacco use is greater health risk than marijuana use	95%
67%	Prescribed opioid is greater health risk than prescribed marijuana	81%
72%	Alcohol use is greater health risk than marijuana use	91%
43%	Close friends would approve of marijuana use once a month or more	79%
37%	Spouse, partner, or significant other would approve of marijuana use once a month or more	78%
30%	Trump Administration should be tougher than Obama on recreational use laws	7%
47%	Trump Administration should be not as tough as Obama on medical use laws	71%
30%	Biggest concern about marijuana use is it's illegal	56%
16%	Biggest benefit is it reduces stress/anxiety	29%
47%	If legal, medical marijuana should be prescribed to children	63%

Americans		Marijuana Users
9%	Spouse/partner/significant other currently uses marijuana, at least, once a month	27%
29%	Has a parent who has tried marijuana	47%
23%	Main reason some parents don't talk to kids about marijuana is don't want to encourage use	33%
40%	Parents did talk to them about marijuana	50%
38%	Less respect for child's teacher who uses in personal life	11%
36%	Less respect for doctor who uses marijuana in personal life	12%
28%	Less respect for athlete who uses marijuana in personal life	6%
43%	Less respect for religious leader who uses marijuana in personal life	17%
22%	Less respect for celebrity who uses marijuana in personal life	5%

Americans		Marijuana Users
28%	Would be very likely/likely to buy and use marijuana, if legalized	80%
38%	Would be very likely/likely to use marijuana as self-prescribed pain reliever, if legalized	77%
66%	Would be very likely/likely to use marijuana if doctor prescribed, if legalized	96%
28%	Would be very likely/likely to invest in marijuana business, if legalized	53%
52%	Approve of their bank investing in marijuana business	85%
51%	Approve of retirement fund investing in marijuana business	80%
56%	Approve of a celebrity publicly supporting legalization	93%
69%	Approve of sports athlete using marijuana for pain	94%
20%	Marijuana is addictive and is a gateway drug	2%

Noteworthy Comparisons: Americans Who Have Tried Marijuana & Those Who Have Not

Tried Marijuana		Not Tried Marijuana
11%	Most worry about children using marijuana	32%
94%	Support legalizing marijuana for medical treatment	70%
70%	Support legalizing marijuana for recreational use	26%
74%	Marijuana is socially acceptable	37%
28%	Marijuana is acceptable to treat pregnancy symptoms	13%
39%	Using marijuana is a health risk	64%
87%	Tobacco use is a greater health risk than marijuana use	64%
84%	Alcohol use is a greater health risk than marijuana use	59%
74%	Prescribed opioid is a greater health risk than prescribed marijuana	59%
61%	Close friends would approve of marijuana use	24%
56%	Spouse, partner, or significant other would approve of their marijuana use	16%
40%	Children would disapprove of marijuana use	76%

Tried Marijuana		Not Tried Marijuana
77%	Has smoked a cigarette	38%
95%	Has had an alcoholic drink	69%
46%	Has cheated on a test	25%
40%	Children would disapprove of marijuana use	76%
85%	Close friends would approve of medical marijuana use	60%
87%	Spouse, partner, or significant other would approve of their using marijuana for medical reasons	59%
72%	Children would approve of medical marijuana use	50%
53%	Trump Administration should not be as tough as Obama on recreational use laws	21%
60%	Trump Administration should not be as tough as Obama on medical use laws	32%
3%	Marijuana is addictive	10%
40%	Biggest concern about marijuana use is it's illegal	20%

Tried Marijuana		Not Tried Marijuana
56%	If legal, medical marijuana should be prescribed to children	36%
43%	A close friend currently uses marijuana	19%
59%	Spouse, partner, or significant other has tried marijuana	24%
14%	Spouse, partner, or significant other currently uses marijuana	4%
40%	Their children have tried marijuana	22%
11%	Their children currently use marijuana	4%
42%	A parent has tried marijuana	13%

Tried Marijuana		Not Tried Marijuana
10%	A parent currently uses marijuana	4%
44%	Talked once or twice/a few times to children about marijuana	34%
88%	It is right to tell your children if you tried or used marijuana	74%
43%	Parents did talk about marijuana	36%
47%	Would be very likely/likely to buy and use marijuana, if legalized	8%
24%	Less respect for child's teacher who uses in personal life	56%
21%	Less respect for doctor who uses marijuana in personal life	53%
15%	Less respect for athlete who uses marijuana in personal life	43%
28%	Less respect for religious leader who uses marijuana in personal life	60%
9%	Less respect for celebrity who uses marijuana in personal life	38%
72%	Less respect for a parent who used marijuana in front of their children	87%

Tried Marijuana		Not Tried Marijuana
57%	Own parent would <i>disapprove</i> of them using recreational marijuana	84%
67%	Own parent would <i>approve</i> of them using medical marijuana	45%
69%	Approve of their bank investing in marijuana business	34%
68%	Approve of retirement fund investing in marijuana business	33%
74%	Approve of a celebrity publicly supporting legalization	36%
84%	Approve of sports athlete using marijuana for pain	53%
55%	Would be very likely/likely to use marijuana as self-prescribed pain reliever, if legalized	20%
82%	Would be very likely/likely to use marijuana if doctor prescribed, if legalized	50%
39%	Would be very likely/likely to invest in marijuana business, if legalized	16%

Noteworthy Comparisons: American Parents and Parents Who Use Marijuana

Parents		Parents who Use
24%	Worry most about children using marijuana	6%
64%	Has smoked a cigarette	82%
33%	Has cheated on a test	46%
42%	Support legalizing marijuana for recreational use	87%
81%	Support legalizing marijuana for medical treatment	98%
50%	Marijuana use is socially acceptable	75%
19%	Marijuana is acceptable to treat pregnancy symptoms	44%
56%	Using marijuana is a health risk	27%
74%	Own parents would <i>disapprove</i> of them smoking cigarettes	71%
11%	Own parents would <i>approve</i> of them using recreational marijuana	27%
72%	Own parents would <i>disapprove</i> of them using recreational marijuana	50%
53%	Own parents would <i>approve</i> of them using medical marijuana	70%
39%	Own parents would <i>disapprove</i> of them drinking alcohol	33%

Parents		Parents who Use
23%	Marijuana is addictive and is a gateway drug	2%
31%	Marijuana is addictive	18%
16%	Marijuana is not addictive at all	29%
36%	Close friends would approve of marijuana use	74%
33%	Spouse, partner, or significant other would approve of marijuana use	76%
27%	Children would approve of marijuana use	49%
61%	Children would approve of medical marijuana use	71%
35%	Trump Administration should be tougher than Obama on recreational use laws	7%
25%	Trump Administration should be tougher than Obama on medical use laws	8%
26%	Biggest concern about marijuana use is it's illegal	57%
13%	Biggest benefit is it reduces stress/anxiety	28%

Parents		Parents who Use
48%	If legal, medical marijuana should be prescribed to children	69%
7%	Spouse, partner, or significant other uses marijuana, at least, once a month	23%
31%	Children have tried marijuana	32%
26%	Has parent who has tried marijuana	46%
33%	Talk to children about marijuana often/all the time	32%
79%	It's right to tell their kids about own marijuana use	89%
36%	Parents did talk to them about marijuana	46%
19%	Main reason some parents don't talk to kids about marijuana is don't want to encourage use	31%
48%	Approve of their bank investing in marijuana business	86%
48%	Approve of retirement fund investing in marijuana business	82%
51%	Approve of celebrity publicly supporting legalization	88%
65%	Approve of sports athlete using marijuana for pain	92%

Parents		Parents who Use
25%	Would be very likely/likely to buy and use marijuana, if legalized	80%
36%	Would be very likely/likely to use marijuana as self-prescribed pain reliever, if legalized	75%
64%	Would be very likely/likely to use medical marijuana, if legalized	99%
24%	Would be very likely/likely to invest in marijuana business, if legalized	50%
38%	Less respect for child's teacher who uses marijuana in personal life	11%
40%	Less respect for doctor who uses marijuana in personal life	9%
31%	Less respect for athlete who uses marijuana in personal life	3%
25%	Less respect for celebrity who uses marijuana in personal life	3%
81%	Less respect for parent who uses in front of child	71%