

TOPLINE AND METHODOLOGY

Two in three Americans say federal government should legalize cannabis for at least medicinal use

Half believe a cannabis tax will improve communities

Washington, DC, April 20, 2021 – According to a new Ipsos KnowledgePanel poll, a plurality of Americans think the federal government should legalize cannabis for medical and recreational use. Two in ten think it should be legalized for medicinal use only.

Detailed Findings

1. Forty-five percent of Americans, a plurality, say the federal government should legalize cannabis for medical and recreation use.
 - Around 20% each say it should be legalized for medical use only or left to the states to decide. Just 11% believe it should remain illegal.
 - This viewpoint gains plurality support across regions, gender, generations, and income levels. Differences emerge by political affiliation though: Republicans are split while pluralities of Democrats and Independents say it should be legalized for all uses.
2. Around half of Americans believe that taxes from cannabis sales will improve neighborhoods and that it is less harmful to one's health than alcohol or tobacco. Yet, around a third are less optimistic about its legalization.
 - Forty-nine percent think cannabis is less harmful health-wise than other drugs, like alcohol and tobacco. At the same time, one in three see it as a "gateway drug".
 - Fifty percent of Americans agree that cannabis sales taxes will aid communities, but around a third think the legalization of cannabis will benefit the rich more than the poor (34%). A quarter believe that crime is or will be higher around dispensaries.
 - While younger cohorts (aged 25-49), Democrats and Independents have more optimistic views on the legalization of cannabis, Republicans and older Americans (65+) have more negative positions.

For full results, please refer to the following questionnaire.



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Ipsos Poll: Afghanistan/Marijuana/Experiencing the Unexplained

Conducted by Ipsos Public Affairs' KnowledgePanel® Omnibus
A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)

Interview dates: April 16-18, 2021

Number of total interviews: N=1,017

Margin of error: +/- 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

*NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents*

Annotated Questionnaire:

1. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

Total Agree Summary	Total
The U.S. will probably have to go back into Afghanistan in the future to deal with new threats.	51%
The U.S. should bring home all of its troops from Afghanistan immediately.	50%
The U.S. leaving Afghanistan now helps Al Qaeda.	43%
Keeping troops in Afghanistan is in the U.S.'s long-term strategic interest.	30%
The U.S. accomplished its goals with the war in Afghanistan.	28%

- a. The U.S. should bring home all of its troops from Afghanistan immediately.

	Total
Strongly agree	22%
Somewhat agree	28%
Somewhat disagree	20%
Strongly disagree	7%
Unsure	22%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	50%
Total Disagree	26%



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1. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

- b. The U.S. accomplished its goals with the war in Afghanistan.

	Total
Strongly agree	6%
Somewhat agree	22%
Somewhat disagree	23%
Strongly disagree	17%
Unsure	32%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	28%
Total Disagree	39%

- c. The U.S. leaving Afghanistan now helps Al Qaeda.

	Total
Strongly agree	12%
Somewhat agree	31%
Somewhat disagree	14%
Strongly disagree	6%
Unsure	35%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	43%
Total Disagree	20%

- d. The U.S. will probably have to go back into Afghanistan in the future to deal with new threats.

	Total
Strongly agree	16%
Somewhat agree	35%
Somewhat disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	7%
Unsure	28%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	51%
Total Disagree	19%

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- Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

e. Keeping troops in Afghanistan is in the U.S.'s long-term strategic interest.

	Total
Strongly agree	6%
Somewhat agree	24%
Somewhat disagree	22%
Strongly disagree	17%
Unsure	29%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	30%
Total Disagree	39%

- As you may be aware, President Biden is planning to withdraw all U.S. troops from Afghanistan by September 11.

To what extent do you support or oppose this plan? (Select one)

	Total
Strongly support	25%
Somewhat support	30%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	9%
Unsure	22%
Skipped	1%
Total Favor	54%
Total Oppose	23%

- Some states have recently legalized the use of recreational marijuana. Regardless of the laws in your area, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following outcomes, as result of the legalization of recreational marijuana use?

Total Agree Summary	Total
Taxes from cannabis sales will help improve neighborhoods	50%
Cannabis is less harmful to one's own health than alcohol or tobacco	49%
Legalization of cannabis benefits the rich more than the poor	34%
Cannabis use will lead people to use more addictive drugs	33%
There will be/is more crime near cannabis dispensaries	26%

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3. Some states have recently legalized the use of recreational marijuana. Regardless of the laws in your area, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following outcomes, as result of the legalization of recreational marijuana use?

- a. There will be/is more crime near cannabis dispensaries

	Total
Strongly agree	8%
Somewhat agree	18%
Somewhat disagree	25%
Strongly disagree	24%
Unsure	24%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	26%
Total Disagree	49%

- b. Cannabis use will lead people to use more addictive drugs

	Total
Strongly agree	12%
Somewhat agree	21%
Somewhat disagree	26%
Strongly disagree	26%
Unsure	15%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	33%
Total Disagree	52%

- c. Taxes from cannabis sales will help improve neighborhoods

	Total
Strongly agree	16%
Somewhat agree	34%
Somewhat disagree	14%
Strongly disagree	13%
Unsure	23%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	50%
Total Disagree	27%

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3. Some states have recently legalized the use of recreational marijuana. Regardless of the laws in your area, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following outcomes, as result of the legalization of recreational marijuana use?

- d. Legalization of cannabis benefits the rich more than the poor

	Total
Strongly agree	13%
Somewhat agree	21%
Somewhat disagree	23%
Strongly disagree	13%
Unsure	30%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	34%
Total Disagree	36%

- e. Cannabis is less harmful to one's own health than alcohol or tobacco

	Total
Strongly agree	20%
Somewhat agree	30%
Somewhat disagree	16%
Strongly disagree	13%
Unsure	22%
Skipped	1%
Total Agree	49%
Total Disagree	29%

4. Which statement comes closest to your view?

	Total
The federal government should legalize cannabis for medical and recreational use	45%
The federal government should legalize cannabis for medical uses only	21%
The federal government should defer to the states about legalization of cannabis	21%
The federal government should keep cannabis illegal	11%
Skipped	2%

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5. Have you personally, as an adult or as a child ever...?

Yes Summary	Total
Woken up from sleep with sense of a strange presence in the room	30%
Seen or believed yourself to be in the presence of a ghost	24%
Read your horoscope that accurately predicted your day/week/month	22%
Seen an unidentified flying object (UFO)	11%
Experienced the healing power of crystals	4%

a. Seen or believed yourself to be in the presence of a ghost

	Total
Yes	24%
No	67%
Don't know	9%
Skipped	1%

b. Seen an unidentified flying object (UFO)

	Total
Yes	11%
No	81%
Don't know	7%
Skipped	1%

c. Woken up from sleep with sense of a strange presence in the room

	Total
Yes	30%
No	63%
Don't know	6%
Skipped	1%

d. Experienced the healing power of crystals

	Total
Yes	4%
No	89%
Don't know	6%
Skipped	1%

e. Read your horoscope that accurately predicted your day/week/month

	Total
Yes	22%
No	70%
Don't know	7%
Skipped	1%



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Methodology

This Ipsos Poll is based on interviews conducted from April 16-18, 2021. A total of 1,017 interviews were completed. The margin of error on weighted data is +/- 3.3 percentage points for the full sample. The design effect for this study was 1.15.

The KnowledgePanel Omnibus using the KnowledgePanel™ is a national online omnibus service of Ipsos Public Affairs. KnowledgePanel is the largest commercially available online probability panel in the marketplace. The sample is truly projectable to the US population, which sets it apart from traditional “opt-in” or “convenience” panels.

- To recruit panel members, we use ABS (address-based sampling) as the primary methodology—a probability-based approach that includes cellphone-only households.
- For non-Internet households, we provide Internet access and a laptop for the completion of online surveys: Therefore, the sample is not limited to only those who already have Internet access.
- The representativeness of its sample—including hard-to-reach groups such as young adults, males and minorities—has been documented in numerous academic papers.

Each wave's KP Omnibus consists of 1,000 completed interviews. All respondents are 18 years of age or older, and approximately equal numbers of male and female adults are provided. All completed interviews are weighted to ensure accurate and reliable representation of the total US population, 18 years and older.

The raw data are weighted by a custom-designed computer program, which automatically develops a weighting factor for each respondent. This procedure employs several variables, including age, sex, education, race, household income, metropolitan/non-metropolitan status, and geographic region. Each interview is assigned a single weight derived from the relationship between the actual proportion of the population with its specific combination of age, sex, education, race and geographic characteristics and the proportion in our sample that week. Tabular results* show both weighted and unweighted bases for these demographic variables.

Because of the use of rigid and replicable sampling, fielding, and weighting procedures, all KP Omnibus studies are parallel to one another. This affords the opportunity to draw trend comparisons, as well as point-in-time analysis.

In addition to the standard breakdowns by sex, age, income and region, the following classification items have been obtained and are available to subscribers:

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| ■ Marital Status | ■ Employment Status | ■ Home Ownership | ■ Head of Household |
| ■ Race/Ethnicity | ■ Education | ■ Housing type | ■ Family Size/Composition |

Optional panel profiled variables, such as Political Party ID and Voter Registration, are available upon a request at an additional fee.





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About Ipsos

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Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. We serve more than 5000 clients across the world with 75 business solutions.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg IPS:FP www.ipsos.com

