



Minnesota and Marijuana

STUDENT DIRECTOR JACOB SMITH AIDED BY STUDENT DIRECTOR BEN SVENDSEN DID THE BULK OF THE ANALYSIS FOR THIS SECTION. SURVEY FACULTY DIRECTOR DR. STEPHEN Frank (1 OF 5) PREPARED THE FINAL VERSION



The SCSU Survey at St. Cloud State University has completed its annual fall statewide survey and is releasing its third wave of results relating to Minnesotans views of marijuana and their personal use.

The **first** released results related to job approvals of Barack Obama, Mark Dayton, Al Franken, and Amy Klobuchar, as well as results from the annual “Feeling Thermometer” including the previously named individuals, plus Congressperson Michelle Bachmann and four political parties (Democrat Party, Republican Party, Libertarian Party and the Tea Party). The **second wave** of results released covered how Minnesotans view the direction of the state, which political party (if any) can best handle their named problem, and which political party should control the Minnesota House after the 2014 election. Because the **last wave of results** relate to a series of questions regarding immigration and require more intensive in-depth analysis they may be released in January-February.

Today’s third wave of results covers Minnesota on broadly legalizing marijuana in general, on legalizing it for medical use, and on respondents’ personal use of marijuana.

In conjunction with each release the results will be posted on the Survey’s website at www.stcloudstate.edu/scsusurvey. There may be a delay in posting. For more information on these results contact Dr. Steve Frank at sfrank@stcloudstate.edu or 320-308-4131 (quicker response by email contact).

The 629 (626 after weighting and data cleaning) randomly chosen adult Minnesotans were interviewed Oct. 20-27th. This was done using live interviewers. Landlines were selected by random phone bank digital dialing. Cell phones were randomly selected. Interviews were conducted by about 48 trained St. Cloud State students who were supervised by faculty and student directors. About 35% of the respondents were cell phone users. The sample is an almost exact match to the state’s population 18+. Slight weighting was done for Hennepin County and age. The county was slightly overrepresented and younger respondents were slightly underrepresented. A more complete methodology section is attached but some work on that section is occurring. The overall margin of error is about 4.5% but can vary with subsamples and variation of the results.

ACTUAL QUESTIONS READ ON COMPUTER ASSISTED TELEPHONE INTERVIEWING SYSTEM (CATI)

Q: MARI19 -----

T:

Next, we have several questions regarding marijuana.

Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal or not?

T: 5 4

1. YES, LEGAL
2. NO, NOT LEGAL
8. DON'T KNOW
9. REFUSED

I:

COLOR GREEN 2 2 3 70

LOCATE 5 4 1 Natural

SELECT 4 1 1 0 OFF ON

Q: MARI20 -----

T:

Would you support or oppose making marijuana legally available for doctors to prescribe?

T: 5 4

1. SUPPORT-PRESCRIBE
2. OPPOSE-NOT PRESCRIBE
8. DON'T KNOW
9. REFUSED

I:

COLOR GREEN 2 2 3 70

LOCATE 5 4 1 Natural

SELECT 4 1 1 0 OFF ON

Q: MARI21 -----

T:

Keeping in mind that all of your answers in this survey are confidential, have you, yourself ever happened to try marijuana?"

[IF YES, THEN ASK]

Has it been in the last 30 days?

T: 7 5

1. YES WITHIN LAST 30 DAYS
2. YES BUT NOT WITHIN LAST 30 DAYS
3. NO
8. DON'T KNOW
9. REFUSED

I:

COLOR GREEN 2 2 3 75

COLOR RED 4 2 4 20

COLOR GREEN 5 2 5 40

LOCATE 7 5 1 Natural

SELECT 5 1 1 0 OFF ON

:

MINNESOTANS' VIEWS ON LEGALIZING MARIJUANA

MN. ADULTS ARE EVENLY SPLIT ABOUT APPROVING MARIJUANA FOR GENERAL USE

MINNESOTANS OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORT LEGALIZING MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL USE

45% OF MINNESOTAN'S HAVE TRIED MARIJUANA, OF THESE 6% WITHIN THE PAST YEAR (LATE OCTOBER AND BACK)

“Do you think marijuana should be made legal or not?”

YES –MADE LEGAL	46%
NO-NOT LEGAL	48%
DON'T KNOW	6%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

The SCSU survey staff took the wording of this question from a longitudinal national study conducted annually by Gallup since 1969. In 1969 12% of Americans favored legalization. In October 2013 the Gallup survey indicated this number had risen to 58%-the first time they found a majority took this position. Pew Research conducted a national poll in March of 2013 which had found 52% of Americans favor legalizing marijuana. A just released CNN Poll (1-6-14) found a 55% favor and 44% opposed split.

We found a plurality of Minnesotans oppose legalization of marijuana but not a majority. Considering the MOE (margin of error of 4.5% for overall results-larger MOE for subsamples) one could say we are evenly divided.

The demographic breakdown in the SCSU Survey mirrors findings of national studies.

Groups in the SCSU Survey that had majority support were males (51%), Libertarians (67%) and Democrats (53%). Few Republicans (31%) and Tea Party (37%) identifiers support legalizing marijuana. The SCSU Survey compared support for marijuana legalization by gross household income and education and found no significant trends. The 7 county metropolitan area had slightly higher support than other counties. Not surprisingly 100% of those who have used marijuana within the past 30 days supported legalization compared to 68% of those who have used it but not within the past 30 days while only 27% of those who haven't used it support legalization.

The Pew study found that 57% of males and 48% of females favor legalization of marijuana. The Pew Study compared respondents by political party and found that 37% of Republicans, 59% of Democrats, and 60% of Independents favor legalization of marijuana. Pew and Gallup broke down by results by age. Both used broader age categories than the SCSU survey but demonstrated a national trend similar to that of the Minnesota adults who participated in the SCSU Survey. Young people favor the legalization of marijuana the most while older generations are more likely to favor its continued prohibition.

MALE –FEMALE BREAKDOWN LEGALIZATION

	Male	Female
Yes, Legal	51%	41%
No, Not Legal	44%	52%
Don't Know	5%	7%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

POLITICAL PARTY BREAKDOWN-LEGALIZATION

	Republican	Democrat	Libertarian	Tea Party	Independent, other, or not political
Yes, Legal	31%	53%	67% *	37% *	51%
No, Not Legal	64%	38%	33%	60%	46%
Don't Know	5%	9%	0%	3%	3%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013 small n's for minor parties

- Small n of respondents **ABOUT 20 OR LESS RESPONDENTS IN A SUBCATEGORY SUCH AS TEA PARTY**

AGE BREAKDOWN-LEGALIZATION

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85 or older
Yes, Legal	65%	54%	47%	49%	41%	35%	16%	18% #
No, Not Legal	35%	39%	48%	43%	50%	57%	75%	82%
Don't Know	0%	7%	5%	8%	9%	8%	9%	0%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013 * small n

MINNESOTANS OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORT LEGALIZING MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL USE

“Would you support or oppose making marijuana legally available for doctors to prescribe?” The results are as follows”

Would you support or oppose making marijuana legally available for doctors to prescribe?

T: 5 4

- 1. SUPPORT-PRESCRIBE
- 2. OPPOSE-NOT PRESCRIBE
- 8. DON'T KNOW
- 9. REFUSED

Over 3/4^{ths} of Minnesota adults favor making marijuana legal for medical use. Almost every demographic group supports this change.

It is difficult to compare national trends for the legalization of marijuana for medical purposes as state laws have varied since California voters passed proposition 215 in 1996 allowing doctors to prescribe the drug. We estimate about 5 states will probably legalize marijuana in the near future and some like New York may legalize it for narrow medical reasons. Public Policy Polling did conduct a study of Minnesota residents in March of 2013. They found 65% of Minnesotans favored legalization of medical marihuana when asked, but this was a “robo poll” which excluded cell phones and raises other procedural issues. PP found strong support across Minnesota.

PUBLIC POLICY MARCH 2013 MN POLL

Do you support or oppose changing the law in Minnesota to allow people with serious and terminal illnesses to use medical marijuana if their doctors recommend it?

Support65% *Oppose*27%

SCSU MN RESULTS- OVERALL SUPPORT OF LEGALIZING FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES

Support- Yes Prescribe	76%
Oppose- Not Prescribe	20%
Don't Know	4%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

DEMOGRAPHIC TABLES

Public Policy found broad based support across MN as has the SCSU Survey. Support for Minnesota legalizing marijuana for medical purposes has majority support among men and women, every political party, almost every county in the state, every age group, every income and education category, and other demographics.

MEDICAL SUPPORT BY GENDER SCSU

	Male	Female
Yes, Legal	76%	76%
No, Not Legal	20%	19%
Don't Know	4%	5%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

MEDICAL SUPPORT BY POLITICAL PARTY SCSU

	Republican	Democrat	Libertarian	Tea Party *	Independent, other, or non-political
Support-Yes Prescribe	62%	86%	90% *	59%	72%
Oppose-Don't prescribe	31%	11%	10%	34%	23%
Don't Know	7%	3%	0%	7%	5%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013 * small n

SUPPORT BY AGE SCSU

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85 or older
Support- Yes Prescribe	75%	85%	76%	77%	75%	73%	55%	82% *
Oppose- Not Prescribe	25%	10%	20%	17%	20%	22%	42%	12%
Don't Know	0%	5%	4%	6%	5%	5%	3%	6%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

- Small n of respondents

**45% OF MINNESOTAN'S HAVE TRIED MARIJUANA,
OF THESE 6% WITHIN THE PAST YEAR (LATE
OCTOBER AND BACK)**

Q: MARI21 -----

T:

Keeping in mind that all of your answers in this survey are confidential, have you, yourself ever happened to try marijuana?"

[IF YES, THEN ASK]

Has it been in the last 30 days?

T: 7 5

1. YES WITHIN LAST 30 DAYS
2. YES BUT NOT WITHIN LAST 30 DAYS
3. NO
8. DON'T KNOW
9. REFUSED

The SCSU Survey used these questions to explore the rate of marijuana use among Minnesotans. Those who had used marijuana in the past 30 days are considered regular users. The Minnesota Department of Human Services conducted a study to determine need for substance abuse treatment in 2004/2005 which indicates that 39.6% of Minnesotans self-reported use of marijuana in their lifetime (pg. 14) and that 6.7% used it in the past year. http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/healthcare/documents/pub/dhs_id_055443.pdf The DHS project was designed to provide estimates of need for substance use treatment for a representative sample of non-institutionalized adults living in Minnesota...” .

The wording for the first question was adapted from the March 2013 Pew Research survey of Americans. In the Pew study, however the follow up question asked respondents if they had used marihuana in the past year rather than the last 30 days. In that national study 48% had tried marihuana and 12% had used it in the last year.

At least some use is widespread across various demographic groups in MN. The consumption of marijuana is higher among males; Libertarians and Democrats and bit higher than among females, Republicans and Tea Party identifiers. We found 40-50% of our respondents at least sometime use including every age group except 65 to 85 and older; across the state; and, almost every education group.

MN. SELF-REPORTED USE OF MARIJUANA SCSU

Yes, in the last 30 days	6%
Yes but not in the last 30 days	39%
Not used	53%
Don't know or refused	2%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

MALE-FEMALE BREAKDOWN SCSU

	Male	Female
Yes, last 30 days	8%	4%
Yes, not in the last 30 Days	43%	36%
Not used	49%	60%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

POLITICAL PARTY BREAKDOWN SCSU

	Republican	Democrat	Libertarian *	Tea Party *	Independent, other, or non-political
Yes, in the last 30 days	6%	5%	20%	6%	9%
Yes, not in the last 30 days.	35%	45%	40%	37%	35%
Not used	59%	50%	40%	57%	56%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

- Small n

RATE OF USAGE BY AGE SCSU

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85 or older
Yes in the last 30 days	18%	15%	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Yes not in the last 30 days	30%	40%	49%	53%	49%	28%	7%	6%
Not used	52%	45%	48%	44%	50%	72%	93%	94%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

RATE OF USE BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME SCSU

Combined income before taxes of all household members

	Under 15,000	15,000 to 25,000	25,000 to 35,000	35,000 to 50,000	50,000 to 75,000	75,000 to 100,000	100,000 or more
Yes in the last 30 days	8%	13%	17%	9%	2%	5%	1%
Yes not in the last 30 days	38%	38%	24%	44%	36%	47%	58%
Not used	54%	49%	59%	47%	62%	48%	41%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013

USE BY EDUCATION SCSU

	Less than 12 years	12 years	Post high school no college	Some College	College graduate	Some graduate education	Completed graduate program
Yes in the last 30 days	17%	7%	4%	10%	2%	3%	0%
Yes not in the last 30 days	50%	33%	30%	40%	38%	51%	47%
Not used	33%	60%	66%	50%	60%	46%	53%

Source: SCSU Survey N= 626 after weighting October 2013