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QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

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LITTLE LOVE FOR RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA IN NEW YORK, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; OPPOSITION TO FRACKING INCHES UP

Only 35 percent of New York State voters want to legalize marijuana for personal use, while 44 percent want to legalize marijuana for medical use only and 19 percent say marijuana should not be legal, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

If personal use of marijuana were legal in New York, 62 percent of voters say they definitely would not use it, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds.

There are wide gender and age gaps on personal marijuana use, with 43 percent of men and 27 percent of women in favor. Support for personal use is 43 percent among voters 18 to 34 years old, 40 percent among voters 35 to 54 years old and 29 percent among voters over 55 years old.

Support is 21 percent among Republicans, 37 percent among Democrats and 39 percent among independent voters.

Support for medicinal use only, now legal in New York State, is 34 percent among men, 53 percent among women, 46 percent each among Republicans and Democrats and 43 percent among independent voters.

“Almost all New Yorkers favor the use of medical marijuana, but many voters want to stop there. Just under a fifth would ban it completely and 44 percent say medical marijuana only,” said Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“How about their own preferences? Almost two-thirds of New Yorkers say they would definitely decline to puff the stuff themselves and only 4 percent say they definitely would inhale.”

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Past marijuana use apparently is a small issue in the New York governor's race as 4 percent of voters say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who has used marijuana in the past, while 17 percent say they would be less likely to vote for the candidate and 77 percent say past marijuana use would not affect their vote.

There is very little difference in gender or age groups.

Fracking

Opposition to drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale is inching up to new highs, as 48 percent of voters are opposed because of environmental concerns while 43 percent support drilling because of economic benefits. This compares to a 44 – 45 percent split on drilling in a May 22 Quinnipiac University poll and the highest level of opposition previously measured, with 46 percent opposed and 39 percent supporting drilling, March 20, 2013.

In today's survey, upstate voters support drilling by a narrow 48 – 43 percent margin. New York City voters are opposed 55 – 35 percent and suburban voters are divided, with 47 percent in favor and 45 percent opposed to drilling.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has been dragging his feet, trying to avoid a decision on drilling, 41 percent of New York State voters say, while 20 percent say he has been carefully evaluating the issue.

“New York State voters remain closely divided on the issue of natural gas drilling – or fracking – but opinion has been shifting ever so slightly against it,” Carroll said.

“Voters say 2-1 that Gov. Andrew Cuomo is dragging his feet on making a decision.”

From August 14 – 17, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,034 New York State voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa, Ohio, Virginia, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).

52. Some people say there should be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the economic benefits. Others say there should not be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the environmental impact. Which comes closer to your point of view?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Drilling	43%	71%	30%	40%	52%	35%	39%	41%	46%
No drilling	48	20	62	53	42	53	54	52	43
DK/NA	9	9	8	6	6	12	7	7	10

AREA.....
UpStat NYC Sub

Drilling	48%	35%	47%
No drilling	43	55	45
DK/NA	8	10	9

TREND: Some people say there should be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the economic benefits. Others say there should not be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the environmental impact. Which comes closer to your point of view?

	DRILLING.....						
	Aug 22	May 22	Feb 12	Nov 27	Jun 06	High	Low
	2014	2014	2014	2013	2013	Aug 11	Mar 20
						2011	2013
Drilling	43	44	41	44	46	47	39
No drilling	48	45	45	46	44	42	46
DK/NA	9	11	14	10	9	12	14

53. Which comes closer to your point of view Governor Cuomo is carefully evaluating the issue of hydro-fracking, or Governor Cuomo is dragging his feet and trying to avoid making a decision on the issue of hydro-fracking, or don't you have an opinion on that?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Carefully evaluating	20%	12%	29%	18%	19%	21%	17%	20%	22%
Dragging his feet	41	50	30	47	49	33	32	44	42
No opinion	36	36	39	29	30	42	49	33	32
DK/NA	3	2	3	6	2	4	2	4	3

AREA.....
UpStat NYC Sub

Carefully evaluating	23%	19%	15%
Dragging his feet	46	31	46
No opinion	29	45	35
DK/NA	2	4	4

TREND: Which comes closer to your point of view; Governor Cuomo is carefully evaluating the issue of hydro-fracking, or Governor Cuomo is dragging his feet and trying to avoid making a decision on the issue of hydro-fracking, or don't you have an opinion on that?

	Aug 22 2014	May 22 2014	Feb 12 2014	Nov 27 2013	Jun 06 2013	EVALUATING....	
						High Dec 13 2012	Low Aug 22 2014
Carefully evaluating	20	23	23	21	22	26	20
Dragging his feet	41	38	35	39	36	25	41
No opinion	36	36	37	38	38	44	36
DK/NA	3	3	5	3	4	4	3

64. Which comes closer to your view about the use of marijuana by adults? It should be legal for personal use, it should be legal only for medicinal use, or it should not be legal?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Personal use	35%	21%	37%	39%	43%	27%	43%	40%	29%
Medicinal use only	44	46	46	43	34	53	31	41	50
Should not be legal	19	31	15	16	22	17	23	17	20
DK/NA	2	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	1

65. If a candidate for governor has used marijuana in the past, would you be more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely, or doesn't it make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
More likely	4%	2%	7%	3%	4%	5%	3%	4%	4%
Less likely	17	32	13	12	18	16	15	12	21
No difference	77	64	78	85	77	77	80	82	73
DK/NA	2	2	2	-	1	3	2	1	2

66. If marijuana were legalized for recreational use in New York State would you definitely use it, probably use it, probably not use it, or definitely not use it?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Definitely use	4%	1%	5%	5%	6%	3%	10%	4%	4%
Probably use	11	6	11	12	11	10	15	13	7
Probably not use	20	18	21	22	23	18	27	22	17
Definitely not use	62	74	61	59	56	68	43	60	70
DK/NA	2	-	3	3	3	1	6	1	2