Massachusetts Statewide Telephone Survey

## Western New England University Polling Institute

November 5-11, 2013

**TABLES** 

(Questions about the economy appeared before the following questions in the survey.)

Next, do you support or oppose legalizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes?

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		Support	Oppose	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Nov. 5 – 11, 2013	Adults	74%	21%	5%	517
	Registered voters	72%	23%	5%	467
Familiarity with state's	Very familiar	74%	24%	1%	69
plans to license dispensaries	Somewhat familiar	81%	15%	4%	209
uisp uisurius	Not very familiar	72%	23%	5%	150
	Not at all familiar	59%	35%	6%	88
Party Identification **	Democrat	71%	24%	5%	173
	Republican	56%	39%	6%	64
	Independent	77%	18%	5%	222
Gender	Male	76%	21%	3%	244
	Female	71%	22%	6%	273
Age	18-34	83%	16%	1%	53
	35-49	72%	25%	3%	112
	50-64	76%	19%	5%	177
	65 and older	61%	28%	11%	162
Education	High school or less	65%	31%	4%	103
	Some college	74%	18%	8%	113
	College graduate	78%	19%	3%	295
Region	Western MA	66%	26%	8%	108
C	Central MA	75%	20%	6%	58
	North / South Shore	74%	22%	4%	148
	Boston and suburbs	77%	19%	4%	198
Oct. 26 – Nov. 1, 2012	Registered voters	63%	29%	8%	644
May 29 – 31, 2012	Registered voters	64%	27%	9%	504

<sup>\*</sup>Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Party identification was measured with the following question: "In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent or something else?"

As you may know, Massachusetts plans to license up to 35 dispensaries that would sell marijuana to patients who have been certified by a physician as having a debilitating medical condition, such as cancer, AIDS, or Parkinson's Disease.

How familiar are you with the state's plans to license dispensaries for this purpose? Very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar, not at all familiar?

Familiarity With the State's Plans to License Dispensaries							
		Very Familiar	Somewhat Familiar	Not Very Familiar	Not At All Familiar	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N
Nov. 5 – 11, 2013	Adults	13%	43%	28%	16%	0%	517
	Registered voters	15%	40%	29%	16%	0%	467

58

148

198

7%

3%

12%

Would you support or oppose having a medical marijuana dispensary in your community?

		Support	Oppose	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Nov. 5 – 11, 2013	Adults	61%	30%	9%	517
	Registered voters	59%	33%	8%	467
Familiarity with	Very familiar	65%	31%	4%	69
state's plans to license dispensaries	Somewhat familiar	69%	21%	10%	209
ncense dispensaries	Not very familiar	54%	41%	5%	150
	Not at all familiar	48%	37%	15%	88
Party Identification	Democrat	64%	25%	11%	173
	Republican	43%	56%	1%	64
	Independent	60%	35%	6%	222
Gender	Male	66%	26%	8%	244
	Female	56%	34%	9%	273
Age	18-34	63%	28%	9%	53
	35-49	66%	27%	7%	112
	50-64	67%	28%	5%	177
	65 and older	48%	39%	13%	162
Education	High school or less	59%	35%	6%	103
	Some college	57%	27%	16%	113
	College graduate	64%	30%	6%	295
Region	Western MA	63%	31%	7%	108

59%

65%

60%

34%

31%

28%

Central MA

North / South Shore

Boston and suburbs

<sup>\*</sup>Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

How confident are you that, under the new law, medical marijuana will be dispensed <u>only</u> to people who have a legitimate medical need? Are you very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident, not at all confident?

Confidence that Marijuana Will be Distributed Only to Those with a Legitimate Medical Need

	-	Very Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not Very Confident	Not At All Confident	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Nov. 5 – 11, 2013	Adults	15%	37%	24%	21%	3%	517
	Registered voters	12%	39%	25%	21%	3%	467
Support or oppose having a dispensary	Support	19%	47%	18%	14%	3%	316
in your community	Oppose	9%	20%	34%	35%	1%	156
Familiarity with	Very familiar	25%	34%	19%	21%	0%	69
state's plans to license dispensaries	Somewhat familiar	16%	42%	19%	21%	2%	209
	Not very familiar	8%	40%	31%	18%	3%	150
	Not at all familiar	18%	22%	30%	25%	6%	88
Party Identification	Democrat	9%	41%	31%	16%	3%	173
	Republican	12%	31%	25%	33%	0%	64
	Independent	13%	40%	21%	23%	3%	222
Gender	Male	16%	36%	22%	22%	4%	244
	Female	14%	38%	27%	19%	1%	273
Age	18-34	18%	35%	23%	22%	2%	53
	35-49	12%	43%	27%	15%	3%	112
	50-64	16%	33%	24%	23%	3%	177
	65 and older	12%	42%	23%	21%	1%	162
Education	High school or less	12%	37%	24%	26%	2%	103
	Some college	26%	32%	22%	18%	2%	113
	College graduate	11%	40%	26%	20%	3%	295
Region	Western MA	18%	39%	29%	11%	3%	108
	Central MA	15%	58%	20%	7%	0%	58
	North / South Shore	13%	36%	22%	26%	2%	148
	Boston and suburbs	16%	33%	25%	22%	4%	198

<sup>\*</sup>Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Do you support or oppose making the use of marijuana legal for <u>all</u> people?

Legalization of Marijuana for Use by All People						
	-	Support	Oppose	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*	
Nov. 5 – 11, 2013	Adults	41%	51%	8%	517	
	Registered voters	39%	52%	9%	467	
Party Identification	Democrat	38%	52%	11%	173	
	Republican	19%	76%	5%	64	
	Independent	45%	49%	6%	222	
Gender	Male	50%	43%	7%	244	
	Female	33%	58%	9%	273	
Age	18-34	48%	47%	6%	53	
	35-49	43%	50%	7%	112	
	50-64	46%	44%	10%	177	
	65 and older	25%	67%	8%	162	
Education	High school or less	30%	63%	7%	103	
	Some college	48%	45%	8%	113	
	College graduate	44%	48%	8%	295	
Region	Western MA	41%	51%	8%	108	
	Central MA	40%	49%	10%	58	
	North / South Shore	45%	50%	5%	148	
	Boston and suburbs	41%	49%	9%	198	

<sup>\*</sup>Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The Western New England University Polling Institute survey consists of telephone interviews with 517 adults ages 18 and older drawn from across Massachusetts using random-digit-dialing Nov. 5-11, 2013. The sample yielded 467 adults who said they are registered to vote in Massachusetts. Unless otherwise noted, the figures in this release are based on the statewide sample of all adults.

Paid interviewers at The Polling Institute dialed household telephone numbers, known as "landline numbers," and cell phone numbers using random samples obtained from Survey Sampling International of Shelton, CT. In order to draw a representative sample from the landline numbers, interviewers first asked for the youngest male age 18 or older who was home at the time of the call, and if no adult male was present, the youngest female age 18 or older who was at home at the time of the call. Interviewers dialing cell phone numbers interviewed the respondent who answered the cell phone after confirming three things: (1) that the respondent was in a safe setting to complete the survey; (2) that the respondent was an adult age 18 or older; and (3) that the respondent was a resident of Massachusetts. The landline and cell phone data were combined and weighted to reflect the adult population of Massachusetts by gender, race, age, and county of residence using U.S. Census estimates for Massachusetts. The data also were weighted to adjust for cell phone and landline usage based on state-level estimates for Massachusetts from the National Center for Health Statistics. The text of the questionnaire for this survey is available at <a href="https://www1.wne.edu/pollinginst">www1.wne.edu/pollinginst</a>.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population. The sampling error for a sample of 517 adults is +/- 4.3 percent at a 95 percent confidence interval. Thus if 65 percent of adults said they support legalizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes in Massachusetts, one would be 95 percent sure that the true figure would be between 60.7 percent and 69.3 percent (65 percent +/- 4.3 percent) had all Massachusetts adults been interviewed, rather than just a sample. The margin of sampling error for the sample of 467 registered voters is +/- 4.5 percent at a 95 percent confidence interval. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. Sampling error does not take into account other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects.

Established in 2005, the Western New England University Polling Institute conducts research on issues of importance to Massachusetts and the region. The Institute provides the University's faculty and students with opportunities to participate in public opinion research. Additional information about the Polling Institute is available at www1.wne.edu/pollinginst.