

Angus Reid Survey Data – October 2012

From April 8 to April 9, 2013, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 807 randomly selected British Columbia adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.5%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of British Columbia. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Preamble. Many U.S. states are reforming their marijuana laws including Washington state, which has legalized the adult use of marijuana. British Columbia has experienced major unintended consequences resulting from marijuana prohibition including the proliferation of illegal marijuana grow ops and related organized crime concerns. Researchers in B.C. are interested to conduct a research trial to assess if a strictly regulated (i.e. legal) system for adult marijuana purchases could cut profits to organized crime, raise tax revenue and better protect young people from the free availability of marijuana that exists under prohibition. The study would be ethically and federally approved, involve a pilot site in one community, require key stakeholder support and be halted if unanticipated harms emerged.

Question 1. Do you support or oppose a B.C. research trial conducted by local experts and health scientists aiming to evaluate whether the taxation (i.e., legalization) and strict regulation of adult marijuana use could reduce profits to organized crime, raise tax revenue and better protect young people from the availability of marijuana that exists under prohibition?

	Total	Region				Gender		Vote – Next provincial election				Vote – Last provincial election				Vote – Last federal election				
		Metro Vancouver	Vancouver Island	Southern Interior	Northern Interior	M	F	NDP	LIB	Green	CON	NDP	LIB	Green	CON	PC	LIB	NDP	Green	
Not sure	9%	10%	10%	9%			5%	13%	4%	4%	8%	5%	5%	5%	4%	13%	5%	5%	6%	5%
Support	73%	69%	82%	74%	84%	79%	68%	80%	78%	81%	63%	76%	77%	84%	44%	69%	82%	81%	80%	
Oppose	18%	22%	8%	17%	16%	16%	19%	16%	17%	11%	32%	19%	17%	12%	43%	26%	14%	13%	15%	

Question 2. If a British Columbia provincial political party announced its support for an ethically approved research study seeking to evaluate the impacts of a taxation (i.e., legalization) and regulation strategy to control adult cannabis use, would your opinion of that party improve, stay the same or worsen?

	Total	Region				Gender		Intention to vote – Next provincial election				Vote – Last provincial election				Vote – Last federal election			
		Metro Vancouver	Vancouver Island	Southern Interior	Northern Interior	M	F	NDP	LIB	Green	CON	NDP	LIB	Green	CON	PC	LIB	NDP	Green
Improve	44%	42%	52%	42%	36%	48%	40%	50%	42%	58%	35%	47%	42%	64%	15%	37%	43%	49%	64%
Worsen	12%	13%	9%	12%	11%	12%	12%	9%	16%	2%	22%	13%	12%	6%	45%	19%	12%	8%	5%
Stay the same	33%	32%	31%	35%	49%	31%	35%	31%	37%	29%	35%	31%	40%	22%	25%	37%	41%	32%	22%
Unsure	11%	13%	8%	10%	4%	9%	12%	9%	5%	12%	8%	9%	6%	8%	15%	7%	5%	11%	9%