

Newsweek Poll
Congressional Elections/Marijuana
Princeton Survey Research Associates International

Final Topline Results
(10/22/10)

N = 1,005 adults 18+ (672 landline interviews and 333 cell phone interviews)
Margins of error: plus or minus 3.8
Interviewing dates: 10/20-21/10

SAMPLE SIZE/MARGIN OF ERROR FOR TOTAL ADULTS SUBGROUPS:

848	Registered voters (plus or minus 4.2)
773	Likely voters (plus or minus 4.3)
305	Republicans (plus or minus 6.9)
350	Democrats (plus or minus 6.4)
299	Independents (plus or minus 7.1)
118	Ages 18-29 (plus or minus 10.2)
287	Ages 30-49 (plus or minus 6.8)
320	Ages 50-64 (plus or minus 6.6)
247	Ages 65 or older (plus or minus 8.1)
881	Non-California residents (plus or minus 4.1)

SAMPLE SIZE/MARGIN OF ERROR FOR REGISTERED VOTERS SUBGROUPS:

92	Already voted (plus or minus 12.6)
278	Republican RVs (plus or minus 7.1)
306	Democrat RVs (plus or minus 6.9)
233	Independent RVs (plus or minus 8.1)
216	RV Tea Party supporters (plus or minus 7.9)
225	RV Tea Party opponents (plus or minus 8.1)
407	RV Tea Party mixed opinion/DK (plus or minus 6.0)

Notes: Data are weighted so that sample demographics match Census Current Population Survey parameters for gender, age, education, race, region, and population density. In addition, data are weighted to correct for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each respondent's household and their telephone usage patterns.

Results based on smaller subgroups are subject to larger margins of sampling error. Sample size and margins of error for these subgroups are included in a separate methodology statement.

An asterisk () indicates a value less than 1%.*

LV1, LV3-LV5, LV6-LV8 ARE FOR CLASSIFICATION PURPOSES ONLY. RESULTS ARE NOT SHOWN.

*RVA. Which ONE of the following three statements best describes you... **(READ)**

- 78 Are you ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN you're registered to vote at your current address, OR
 8 Are you PROBABLY registered, but there is a chance your registration has lapsed, OR
 14 Are you NOT registered to vote at your current address?
 * Don't know
 100

LV2. How much thought have you given to the coming elections for U.S. CONGRESS – quite a lot, or only a little?¹

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS²

	<u>Quite a lot/Some³</u>	<u>Only a little/None⁴</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	63	36	1	=100
Republican RVs	69	30	1	=100
Democrat RVs	62	38	*	=100
Independent RVs	59	41	*	=100
SELECT TREND (10/26-27/06 - RVs)				
Total RVs	59	41	*	=100
Republican RVs	58	42	*	=100
Democrat RVs	62	37	1	=100
Independent RVs	54	46	0	=100
2002 TREND (RVs)				
10/24-25/02 Total RVs	49	50	1	=100
1998 TREND (RVs)				
10/8-9/98 Total RVs	48	51	1	=100

¹ Trend question wording was slightly different: "How much thought have you given to this November's elections for U.S. CONGRESS – quite a lot, or only a little?" OR "How much thought have you given to the November election for Congress in your district -- quite a lot or only a little?"

² Registered voters are defined as those who say they are 'absolutely certain' they are registered to vote at their current address in Question RVA.

³ *Some* is a volunteered response.

⁴ *None* is a volunteered response.

*1a/b. Suppose the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY... Would you vote for (ROTATE: the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate) for Congress in your district? [IF OTHER/UNDECIDED, RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED] As of TODAY, do you LEAN more toward... (ROTATE: the Republican or the Democrat) (running for Congress in your district)?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

	<u>Rep/Lean Rep</u>	<u>Dem/Lean Dem</u>	<u>Undecided/Other</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	42	48	10	=100
Likely voters ⁵	45	48	7	=100
Already voted	42	52	6	=100
Republican RVs	95	1	4	=100
Democrat RVs	4	93	4	=100
Independent RVs	42	39	19	=100
RV Tea Party supporters	90	5	5	=100
RV Tea Party opponents	9	86	5	=100
RV Tea Party mixed opinion/DK	38	48	14	=100
2010 TRENDS (RVs)				
9/29-30/10	43	48	9	=100
8/25-26/10	45	45	10	=100
2/17-18/10	43	45	12	=100
2006 TRENDS (RVs)				
11/2-3/06	36	52	12	=100
10/26-27/06	38	49	13	=100
10/19-20/06	37	51	12	=100
10/5-6/06	38	51	11	=100
8/24-25/06	38	50	12	=100
8/10-11/06	39	51	10	=100
5/11-12/06	39	50	11	=100
3/16-17/06	39	50	11	=100
2002 TRENDS (RVs)				
10/24-25/02	46	43	11	=100
10/10-11/02	43	43	14	=100
9/26-27/02	40	47	13	=100
9/12-13/02	43	41	16	=100
8/28-29/02	40	45	15	=100
June 2002 ⁶	44	46	10	=100
February 2002	46	45	9	=100
1998 TRENDS (RVs)				
10/8-9/98	43	45	12	=100
9/24-25/98	43	48	9	=100
9/10-11/98	43	45	12	=100
8/20-21/98	41	47	12	=100

⁵ Likely voters are determined based on responses to a series of questions about voting intentions, voting history, general interest in politics, interest in the 2010 election, and knowledge of the voting process. Likely voters are the registered voters who scored highest on an index summarizing response to the likely voter questions. Eleven percent of likely voters report having already voted this year.

⁶ June 2002 and February 2002 trends from Pew Research Center.

- *2. Do you see your vote for U.S. Congress this year as a vote FOR Barack Obama, a vote AGAINST Obama, or is Obama not much of a factor in your vote for Congress?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Not a factor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	31	30	36	3	=100
Likely voters	32	32	34	2	=100
Republican RVs	1	65	32	2	=100
Democrat RVs	64	7	27	2	=100
Independent RVs	20	24	53	3	=100
TRENDS (RVs)					
9/29-30/2010	32	30	33	5	=100
9/21-10/4, 2006 (G.W. Bush) ⁷	18	39	40	3	=100
10/6-9/1994 (Clinton) ⁸	17	23	54	6	=100
10/23-28/1982 (Reagan) ⁹	23	21	51	5	=100

3. In deciding your vote for Congress this year, which ONE of the following issues is most important to you... **(READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-4)?**

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

62	The economy
22	Health care
7	The war in Afghanistan
6	Immigration
1	(VOL.—DO NOT READ) Other/None of these
2	(DO NOT READ) Don't know
100	

⁷ 9/21-10/4, 2006 trends from the Pew Research Center. Question wording was slightly different: "Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote FOR George W. Bush, as a vote AGAINST George W. Bush, or isn't George W. Bush much of a factor in your vote?"

⁸ 10/6-9/94 trends from a Times Mirror poll. Question wording was slightly different: "Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall (1994) as a vote for (President) Bill Clinton, or as a vote against Bill Clinton, or isn't Bill Clinton much of a factor in your vote?"

⁹ 10/23-28/82 trends from a CBS News/New York Times poll. Question wording was slightly different: "Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote for Ronald Reagan, or as a vote against Ronald Reagan, or isn't Ronald Reagan much of a factor in your vote?"

4. And which ONE of the following economic and fiscal issues is most important in deciding your vote... **(READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-4)?**

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

- 41 The economy in general
 - 24 Unemployment
 - 24 Federal spending and the deficit
 - 9 Taxes
 - 1 **(VOL.—DO NOT READ) Other/None of these**
 - 1 **(DO NOT READ) Don't know**
- 100

*5. Regardless of how you might vote, which of the following outcomes would you MOST like to see for this year's Congressional elections? Would you rather see... (ROTATE: the Democrats keep control of Congress OR the Republicans win enough seats to take over Congress)?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

	<u>Democrats keep control</u>	<u>Republicans win seats to take over</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	48	43	9	=100
Likely voters	48	45	7	=100
Republican RVs	3	93	4	=100
Democrat RVs	91	5	4	=100
Independent RVs	38	43	19	=100
2010 TREND (RVs) 9/29-30/10	46	44	10	=100
	<u>Democrats win seats to take over</u>	<u>Republicans keep control</u>	<u>DK</u>	
SELECT 2006 TRENDS (RVs) ¹⁰				=100
11/2-3/06	55	34	11	=100
10/26-27/06	50	37	13	=100
10/19-20/06	54	34	12	=100
10/5-6/06	54	36	10	=100

¹⁰ 2006 trends for this question reflect opinions of a GOP-controlled Congress. Question wording was slightly different: "Which of the following outcomes would you most like to see for this year's Congressional elections? Would you rather see... (RESPONSE CATEGORIES ROTATED) the Republicans keep control of Congress or the Democrats win enough seats to take over Congress?" Trends from 2006 were asked of Total respondents, but trend results shown here are based on registered voters.

- *6. We'd like your opinion of the job performance of some political officeholders. First, what about Barack Obama? Do you approve or disapprove of the way he is handling his job as president? Next, what about **(INSERT ITEM—READ AND ROTATE B & C)**? Do you approve or disapprove of the way they are handling their job?

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. Barack Obama				
CURRENT TOTAL	54	40	6	=100
TRENDS ¹¹				
9/29-30/10	48	46	6	=100
8/25-26/10	47	45	8	=100
6/23-24/10	48	46	6	=100
2/17-18/10	48	40	12	=100
1/14-17/10 ¹²	49	38	13	=100
7/16-19/09 ¹³	57	32	11	=100
4/1-2/09	61	27	12	=100
3/4-5/09	58	26	16	=100
b. Republicans in Congress				
CURRENT TOTAL	31	57	12	=100
TRENDS				
6/23-24/10	35	54	11	=100
c. Democrats in Congress				
CURRENT TOTAL	41	47	12	=100
TRENDS				
6/23-24/10	35	53	12	=100

¹¹ Structure of the presidential job approval question varies from poll to poll. For some polls, it was asked as a standalone question: "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?" For other polls, job approval was asked as part of a list question with multiple items, including job approval for Republicans in Congress and Democrats in Congress.

¹² January 2010 trends from PSRAI.

¹³ July 2009 trends from PSRAI.

7. Now thinking about the federal government's actions in response to issues facing the U.S. today... Please tell me if you think each of the following was good for the country or bad for the country in general. (First/Next,) what about **(INSERT ITEM—READ AND RANDOMIZE)? (READ AS NECESSARY: OVERALL, do you think this was good or bad for the country?)**

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

	<u>Good</u>	<u>Bad</u>	<u>(VOL.) Mixed opinion</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. The government bailout of the financial and banking industries					
CURRENT TOTAL	26	63	8	3	=100
Republican RVs	13	79	6	2	=100
Democrat RVs	39	48	9	4	=100
Independent RVs	26	64	7	3	=100
RV Tea Party supporters	13	81	4	2	=100
RV Tea Party opponents	42	42	12	4	=100
RV Tea Party mixed opinion/DK	25	65	7	3	=100
b. The economic stimulus legislation passed in 2009					
CURRENT TOTAL	42	45	8	5	=100
Republican RVs	10	78	9	3	=100
Democrat RVs	69	18	7	6	=100
Independent RVs	40	49	7	4	=100
RV Tea Party supporters	10	85	3	2	=100
RV Tea Party opponents	71	17	8	4	=100
RV Tea Party mixed opinion/DK	41	42	10	7	=100
c. The health care reform law passed earlier this year					
CURRENT TOTAL	44	46	5	5	=100
Republican RVs	9	86	2	3	=100
Democrat RVs	74	16	4	6	=100
Independent RVs	40	45	11	4	=100
RV Tea Party supporters	7	90	3	*	=100
RV Tea Party opponents	80	11	6	3	=100
RV Tea Party mixed opinion/DK	42	44	6	8	=100

- *8. Please tell me which political party... (ROTATE: the Republicans or the Democrats)... you trust to do a better job handling each of the following. (First,) what about...(INSERT ITEMS; READ AND RANDOMIZE)?

REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Which party do you trust to do a better job handling this issue... (ROTATE: the Republicans or the Democrats?)

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS¹⁴

	<u>Reps</u>	<u>Dems</u>	<u>(VOL.) Both</u>	<u>(VOL.) Neither</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. The war in Afghanistan						
CURRENT TOTAL	32	43	6	11	8	=100
TRENDS (RVs)						
9/29-30/10	34	39	7	14	6	=100
b. The economy						
CURRENT TOTAL	42	43	3	8	4	=100
SELECT TRENDS (RVs)						
9/29-30/10	35	44	7	11	3	=100
10/26-27/06	36	47	4	7	6	=100
10/24-25/02	40	37	7	7	9	=100
c. Health care						
CURRENT TOTAL	39	48	2	7	4	=100
SELECT TRENDS (RVs)						
9/29-30/10	35	48	4	10	3	=100
10/26-27/06	28	53	4	8	7	=100
d. Immigration						
CURRENT TOTAL	41	38	5	9	7	=100
SELECT TRENDS (RVs)						
9/29-30/10	39	38	7	11	5	=100
10/26-27/06	34	40	3	12	11	=100
e. Federal spending and the deficit						
CURRENT TOTAL	44	40	3	8	5	=100
SELECT TRENDS (RVs)						
9/29-30/10	35	42	6	14	3	=100
10/26-27/06	32	46	3	11	8	=100
f. Taxes						
CURRENT TOTAL	39	46	3	8	4	=100
SELECT TRENDS (RVs)						
9/29-30/10	38	43	5	12	2	=100
10/24-25/02	42	36	5	7	10	=100
g. Unemployment						
CURRENT TOTAL	38	45	3	8	6	=100
SELECT TRENDS (RVs)						
9/29-30/10	35	45	6	9	5	=100

¹⁴ Prior to the current poll, this question was asked of Total respondents, but trend results shown here are based on registered voters.

*9a. Have you seen, heard, or read anything about the political movement known as the Tea Party?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

	<u>Yes, have</u>	<u>No, have not</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	82	18	*	=100
TRENDS				
9/29-30/10	73	26	1	=100

*9a. Have you seen, heard, or read anything about the political movement known as the Tea Party?

*9b. [ASK REGISTERED VOTERS WHO ARE AWARE OF THE TEA PARTY:] From what you know about the Tea Party and what it stands for, would you say you support it, oppose it or have mixed opinions about it?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Mixed opinions</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Not aware of Tea Party</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	22	25	31	4	18	=100
Likely voters	24	27	32	4	13	=100
TRENDS						
9/29-30/10	19	23	29	2	27	=100

10. Now moving to a different topic.... As you may know, California's Proposition 19 would legalize marijuana in the state, allowing people age 21 or older to possess and cultivate small amounts for personal use. It would also allow local governments to regulate and tax commercial production, distribution, and sales of marijuana.

Would you support or oppose a similar measure to legalize marijuana IN YOUR STATE?

	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	45	52	3	=100
Republicans	25	72	3	=100
Democrats	55	42	3	=100
Independents	50	47	3	=100
Ages 18-29	70	29	1	=100
Ages 30-49	51	47	2	=100
Ages 50-64	36	60	4	=100
Ages 65 or older	20	77	3	=100

11. Would you support or oppose a similar measure to legalize marijuana NATIONWIDE?

	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	44	52	4	=100
Republicans	24	73	3	=100
Democrats	53	44	3	=100
Independents	52	45	3	=100
Ages 18-29	69	29	2	=100
Ages 30-49	51	47	2	=100
Ages 50-64	35	61	4	=100
Ages 65 or older	19	76	5	=100

12. If you don't support legalizing marijuana generally, do you support legalizing it to treat certain medical conditions – sometimes referred to as “medical marijuana?”¹⁵

	<u>Yes, support</u>	<u>No, do not</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Support legalization in state or nation</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	34	16	4	46	=100
Republicans	45	23	6	26	=100
Democrats	30	11	3	56	=100
Independents	31	13	3	53	=100
Ages 18-29	19	6	3	72	=100
Ages 30-49	32	13	2	53	=100
Ages 50-64	38	19	6	37	=100
Ages 65 or older	49	24	7	20	=100

13. If you knew that a marijuana legalization initiative were on the ballot in your state, would that make you more likely to vote in the election, or not?

	<u>Yes, would be more likely to vote</u>	<u>No, would not</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	45	52	3	=100
Republicans	42	56	2	=100
Democrats	48	48	4	=100
Independents	44	54	2	=100
Ages 18-29	64	35	1	=100
Ages 30-49	46	52	2	=100
Ages 50-64	36	61	3	=100
Ages 65 or older	39	54	7	=100

¹⁵ Question was asked of those who do not support marijuana legalization in their state or nationwide. Results shown here are based on Total respondents.

14. Suppose a candidate who shares your views on legalizing marijuana was NOT from the political party whose candidates you usually support. Would sharing a candidate's position on marijuana be enough to make you switch parties and support them, or not?

	Yes, would make me <u>switch parties</u>	<u>No, would not</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	20	74	6	=100
Republicans	18	78	4	=100
Democrats	15	82	3	=100
Independents	28	65	7	=100

15. If marijuana were legalized in your state, would you support or oppose taxation of marijuana sales?

73 Support
23 Oppose
4 Don't know
100

16. If marijuana were legalized in your state, do you think crime would increase or decrease – or stay about the same?

33 Increase
24 Decrease
38 Stay the same
5 Don't know
100

- 17a. Do you happen to live in the state of California, or somewhere else?

13 Live in California (includes anyone who lives in CA part of the time)
86 Live elsewhere
1 Don't know/No answer
100

- 17b. If marijuana becomes legal in California, would you consider taking a “marijuana tourism” trip to California, or not?

BASED ON NON-CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

15 Yes, would
83 No, would not
2 Don't know
100

18. As you may know, Attorney General Eric Holder has said that even if California votes to legalize recreational marijuana use on November 2nd, he plans to “vigorously enforce” federal drug laws in the state.

Would you support or oppose the federal government's right to prosecute marijuana users in California, even if their use is allowed under California law?

31 Support
57 Oppose
12 Don't know
100

19. Last month, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law a bill that will downgrade the possession of one ounce of marijuana from a misdemeanor to an infraction similar to a traffic ticket – punishable by a simple \$100 fine and no arrest record.

Would you support or oppose a measure like this in your state, even if marijuana remains illegal?

55 Support
41 Oppose
4 Don't know
100

20. In general, do you think government-funded health care should cover treatment for marijuana dependence, or not?

36 Yes, should
58 No, should not
6 Don't know
100

- 21a. Finally, keeping in mind that your answers in this survey are confidential... Have you, yourself, ever tried marijuana?¹⁶

	<u>Yes, have</u>	<u>No, have not</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	43	55	2	=100
Ages 18-29	50	50	0	=100
Ages 30-49	56	43	1	=100
Ages 50-64	40	57	3	=100
Ages 65 or older	15	85	*	=100

¹⁶ Questions 21a and 21b were asked in order at the end of the interview after the demographics. They have been placed earlier in this topline for analysis purposes.

- 21a. Finally, keeping in mind that your answers in this survey are confidential... Have you, yourself, ever tried marijuana?
- 21b. [ASK IF HAVE EVER TRIED MARIJUANA:] How often do you smoke marijuana these days...frequently, occasionally, rarely or never?¹⁷

	<u>Frequently</u>	<u>Occasionally</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Never/ Never tried</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	6	6	5	81	2	=100
Ages 18-29	15	10	8	67	0	=100
Ages 30-49	9	7	7	76	1	=100
Ages 50-64	2	5	2	88	3	=100
Ages 65 or older	0	*	2	97	1	=100

Now I have just a few more questions so we can describe the people who took part in our survey...

- D2. In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?
- D2a. [ASK IF NOT REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT:] As of TODAY do you LEAN more toward the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

<u>Total</u>	<u>RVs</u>	<u>LVs</u>	
26	30	32	Republican
36	39	40	Democrat
31	27	25	Independent
3	1	*	(VOL.) No party/Not interested in politics
1	1	1	(VOL.) Other party
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Don't know
100	100	100	
39	42	43	Total Republican/Lean Republican
49	50	50	Total Democrat/Lean Democrat

END OF INTERVIEW – THANK RESPONDENT:

That completes the interview. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

¹⁷ Results shown here are based on Total respondents by combining: 1) "never smoke anymore" in Q21b and "never tried smoking" in Q21a and 2) non-response from Questions 21a and 21b.