

# WHAT WE HEARD: CANNABIS LEGALIZATION

## Online Survey Summary | November - December 2017

### INTRODUCTION

To help prepare for cannabis legalization, City of Edmonton staff conducted an online survey from November 14 - December 7, 2017. The survey received over 4,100 responses (1,908 through the Insight Community and 2,213 submitted through the website). This survey provided an opportunity for the public to:

- Answer some key questions about cannabis retail stores
- Indicate how they feel about smoking and vaping cannabis in public
- Identify the main issues they are concerned about or want more information on related to cannabis legalization

This What We Heard Report will be updated in January 2018, once City of Edmonton staff have had an opportunity to go through all the open-ended responses to the survey questions.

Along with the other public engagement activities, the results of this survey will inform the City's approach to cannabis legalization and provide information to City Council as they make decisions related to regulating cannabis in Edmonton.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

311

[www.edmonton.ca/cannabislegalization](http://www.edmonton.ca/cannabislegalization)

# SURVEY RESULTS

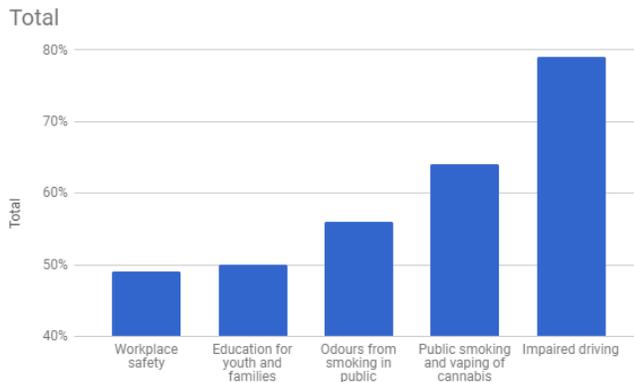
## Question 1

Cannabis refers to products made from the leaves and flowers of the cannabis plant. You may have also heard it called marijuana or pot. Cannabis can be smoked, used with a vaporizer, or added to food or drinks.

The federal government has stated that in July 2018, cannabis will be legal across Canada for personal use. Legalizing cannabis is a complicated process that has multiple impacts. In order to provide the most useful information to the public, the City of Edmonton needs to understand what matters most to you about cannabis legalization.

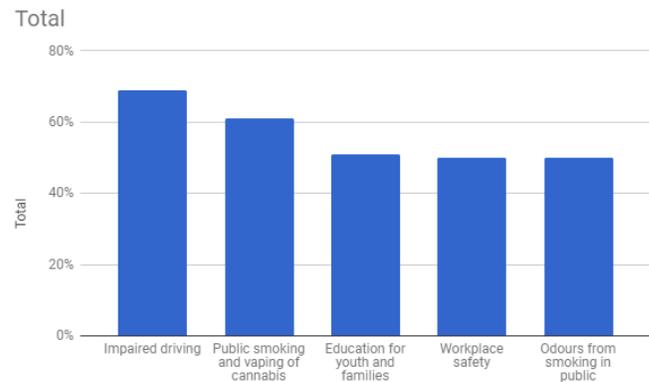
**What aspects of cannabis legalization are you most interested in, or most concerned about?**

### Insight Survey Results- Top 5



Impaired driving	79%
Public smoking and vaping of cannabis	64%
Odours from smoking in public	56%
Education for youth and families	50%
Workplace safety	49%
Public health impacts	46%

### Website Survey Results- Top 5



Impaired driving	69%
Public smoking and vaping of cannabis	61%
Education for youth and families	51%
Workplace safety	50%
Odours from smoking in public	50%
Dealing with neighbours who grow or	43%

Dealing with neighbours who grow or smoke cannabis	46%
Public health education	44%
The location of cannabis stores	34%
Cannabis related crime	33%
Odours from cultivation facilities	27%
The operation of cannabis stores (e.g hours of operation)	23%
Safety for growing cannabis plants in the home	21%
Cannabis store signage and advertising	18%
Business opportunities related to cannabis	17%
Fire safety in cannabis production facilities	13%
Other (please specify)	7%
I am not interested / concerned about any of these items	5%

smoke cannabis	
Public health education	41%
Public health impacts	38%
The location of cannabis stores	36%
Cannabis related crime	31%
The operation of cannabis stores (e.g hours of operation)	27%
Odours from cultivation facilities	27%
Safety for growing cannabis plants in the home	26%
Business opportunities related to cannabis	26%
Cannabis store signage and advertising	19%
Fire safety in cannabis production facilities	13%
Other (please specify)	7%
I am not interested / concerned about any of these items	6%

## Question 2

Adults who are 18 years of age or older will be able to buy cannabis from future stores in Edmonton. Cannabis will be sold in specialty cannabis-only retail stores, which will not be allowed to sell alcohol, tobacco or pharmaceuticals.

The provincial government will establish the minimum separation distance that cannabis stores can be from places that children and youth frequently visit, such as schools, community centres and parks. This separation is to help keep cannabis out of the hands of children.

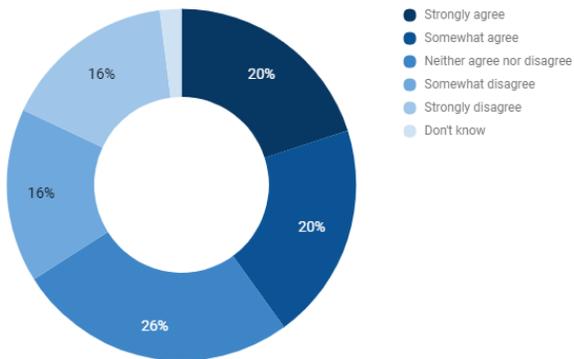
The provincial government will also establish the minimum separation distance that cannabis stores can be from each other. This separation is to prevent the clustering of cannabis stores in one location.

The City can be more restrictive by requiring larger separation distances between cannabis stores and places that children and youth frequently visit. The City can also require larger separation distances between cannabis stores.

**How would you respond to the following statements?**

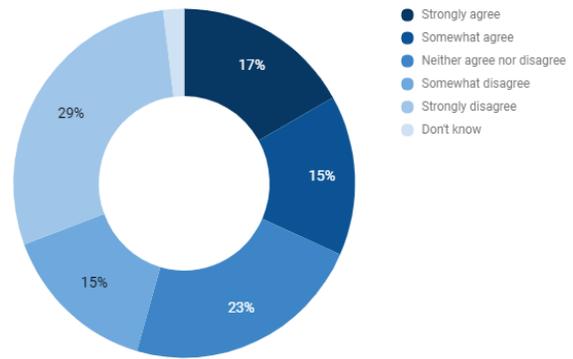
**I am concerned about how close cannabis stores will be to each other.**

### Insight Survey Results



Strongly agree	20%
Somewhat agree	20%
Neither agree nor disagree	26%
Somewhat disagree	16%
Strongly disagree	16%
Don't know	2%

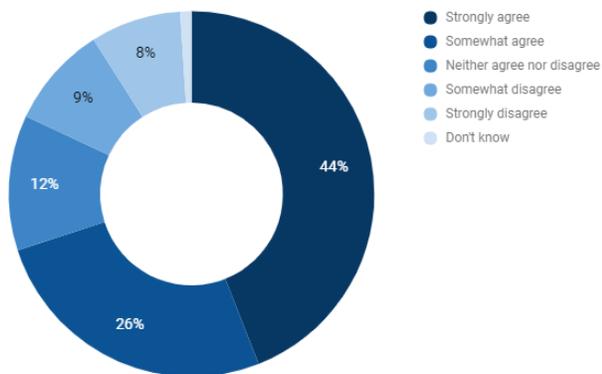
### Website Survey Results



Strongly agree	17%
Somewhat agree	15%
Neither agree nor disagree	23%
Somewhat disagree	15%
Strongly disagree	29%
Don't know	2%

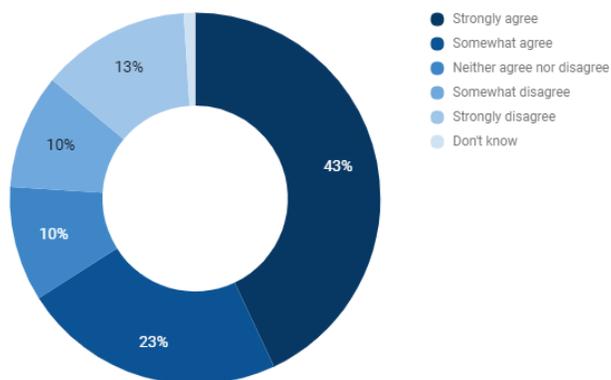
**I am concerned about how close cannabis stores will be to places where children and youth gather, such as schools, community centres, parks and playgrounds.**

### Insight Survey Results



	Total
Strongly agree	44%
Somewhat agree	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	12%
Somewhat disagree	9%
Strongly disagree	8%
Don't know	1%

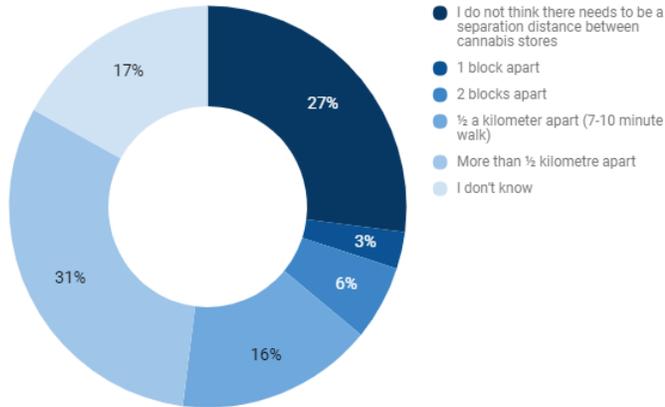
### Website Survey Results



	Total
Strongly agree	43%
Somewhat agree	23%
Neither agree nor disagree	10%
Somewhat disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	13%
Don't know	1%

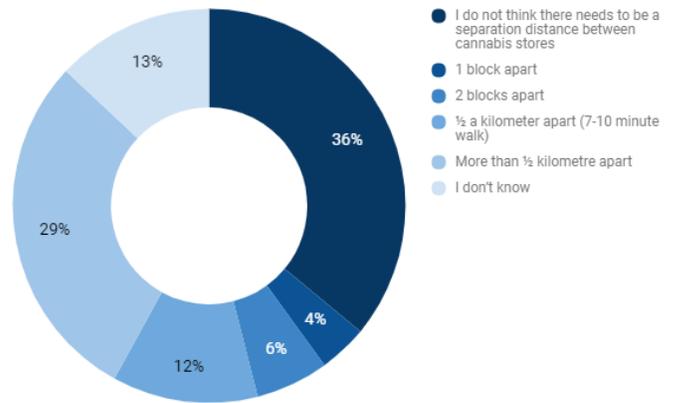
## In your view, how far apart should cannabis stores be from each other?

### Insight Survey Results



I do not think there needs to be a separation distance between cannabis stores	27%
1 block apart	3%
2 blocks apart	6%
1/2 a kilometer apart (7-10 minute walk)	16%
More than 1/2 kilometre apart	31%
I don't know	17%

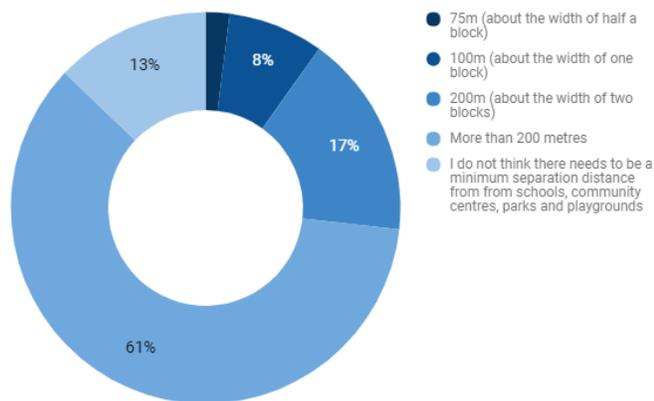
### Website Survey Results



I do not think there needs to be a separation distance between cannabis stores	36%
1 block apart	4%
2 blocks apart	6%
1/2 a kilometer apart (7-10 minute walk)	12%
More than 1/2 kilometre apart	29%
I don't know	13%

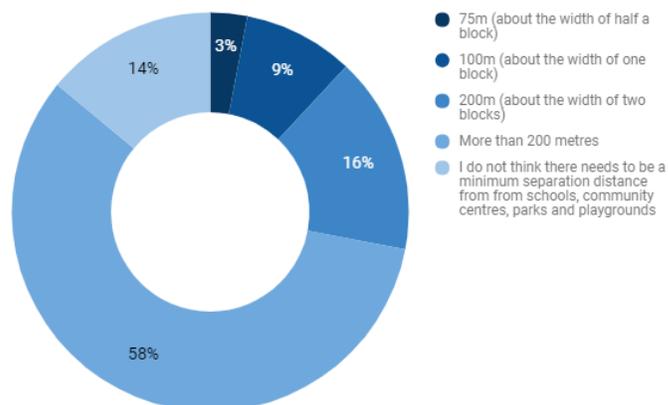
## In your view, how far should cannabis stores be from schools, community centres, parks and playgrounds?

### Insight Survey Results



75m (about the width of half a block)	2%
100m (about the width of one block)	8%
200m (about the width of two blocks)	17%
More than 200 metres	61%
I do not think there needs to be a minimum separation distance from schools, community centres, parks and playgrounds	13%

### Website Survey Results



75m (about the width of half a block)	3%
100m (about the width of one block)	9%
200m (about the width of two blocks)	16%
More than 200 metres	58%
I do not think there needs to be a minimum separation distance from schools, community centres, parks and playgrounds	14%

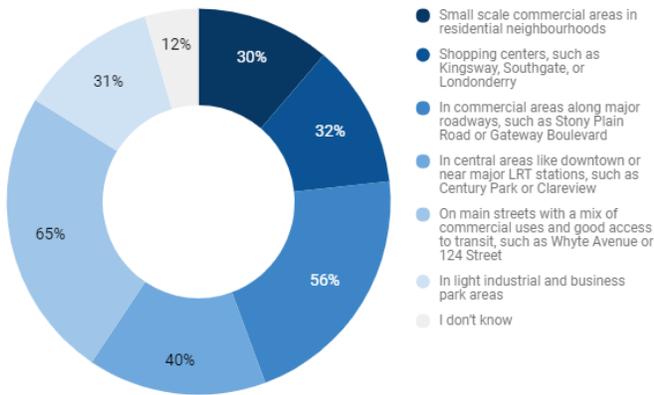
### Question 3

When deciding where cannabis stores should be located, it is important to consider a few factors:

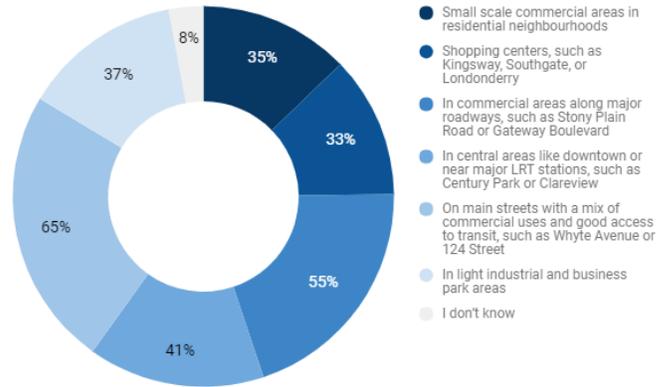
- How accessible the store will be. Can it be reached by walking, taking a bus or driving?
- What kinds of businesses or uses would be a good fit near cannabis stores?
- Where would cannabis stores be most appropriate?

**In your view, what kinds of locations in Edmonton are the best fit for cannabis stores?**

#### Insight Survey Results



#### Website Survey Results



Small scale commercial areas in residential neighbourhoods	30%
Shopping centers, such as Kingsway, Southgate, or Londonderry	32%
In commercial areas along major roadways, such as Stony Plain Road or Gateway Boulevard	56%
In central areas like downtown or near major LRT stations, such as Century Park or Clareview	40%
On main streets with a mix of commercial uses and good access to transit, such as Whyte Avenue or 124 Street	65%
In light industrial and business park areas	31%
I don't know	12%

Small scale commercial areas in residential neighbourhoods	35%
Shopping centers, such as Kingsway, Southgate, or Londonderry	33%
In commercial areas along major roadways, such as Stony Plain Road or Gateway Boulevard	55%
In central areas like downtown or near major LRT stations, such as Century Park or Clareview	41%
On main streets with a mix of commercial uses and good access to transit, such as Whyte Avenue or 124 Street	65%
In light industrial and business park areas	37%
I don't know	8%

## Question 5

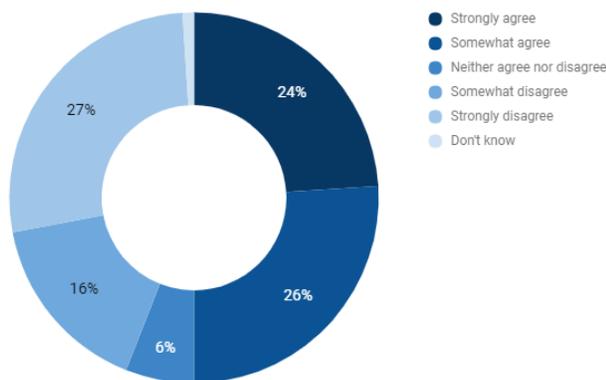
The provincial government has stated that the smoking and vaping of cannabis in public will be restricted to spaces where tobacco smoking is also allowed. The province may decide, in the final Alberta Cannabis framework, to allow some smoking of cannabis in public or to ban smoking and vaping of cannabis everywhere in public.

The City of Edmonton has laws that prevent smoking tobacco (cigarettes) in public parks, outside schools, and at entrances to buildings. This means that people can smoke tobacco on the sidewalk in public. The City could decide to allow smoking cannabis on sidewalks as well, or to ban it in public altogether.

The City of Edmonton will be responsible for enforcing smoking and vaping of cannabis in public. This would likely be done by issuing warnings and tickets to individuals who are smoking and vaping in public where they are not allowed to.

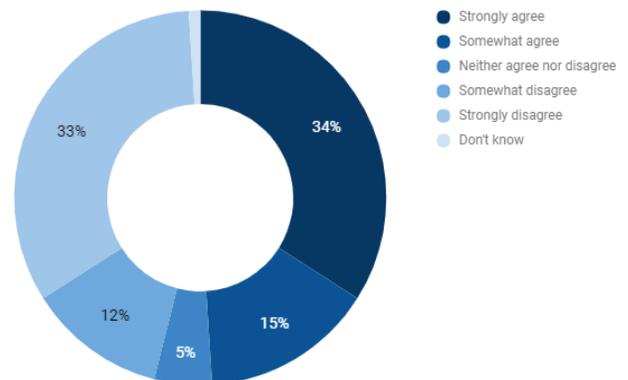
**Adults should be able to smoke and vape cannabis in the same public places you can smoke tobacco.**

### Insight Survey Results



Strongly agree	24%
Somewhat agree	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	6%
Somewhat disagree	16%
Strongly disagree	27%
Don't know	1%

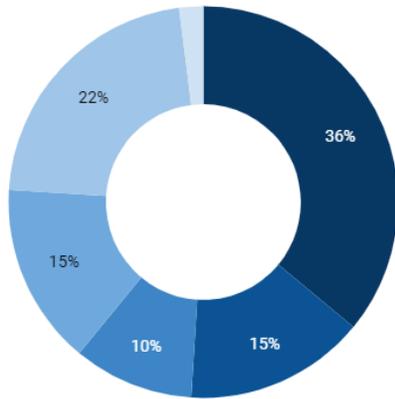
### Website Survey Results



Strongly agree	34%
Somewhat agree	15%
Neither agree nor disagree	5%
Somewhat disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	33%
Don't know	1%

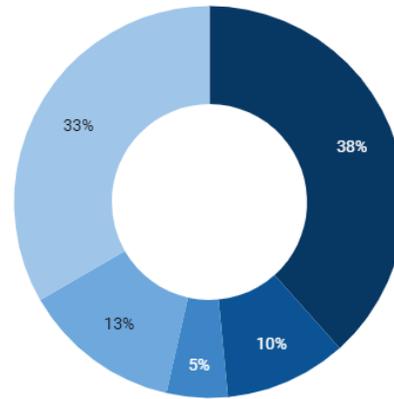
**Smoking and vaping cannabis should be banned in all public places.**

**Insight Survey Results**



- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Website Survey Results**



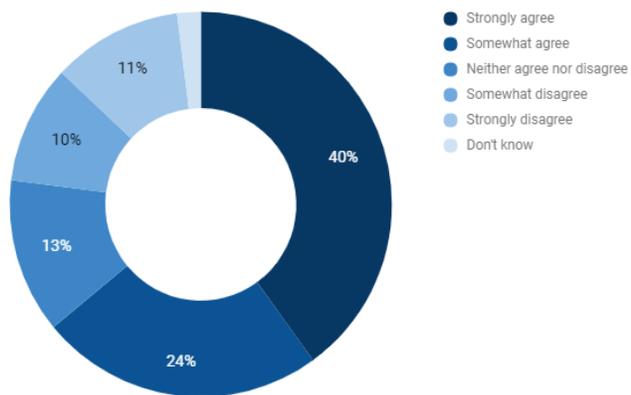
- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Strongly agree	36%
Somewhat agree	15%
Neither agree nor disagree	10%
Somewhat disagree	15%
Strongly disagree	22%
Don't know	2%

Strongly agree	38%
Somewhat agree	10%
Neither agree nor disagree	5%
Somewhat disagree	13%
Strongly disagree	33%
Don't know	0%

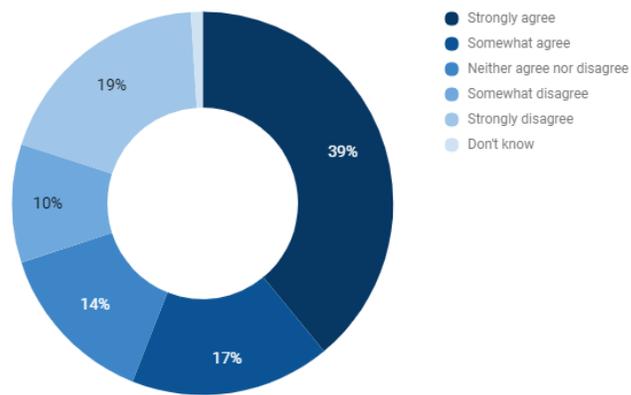
**It is important to me that the City has the resources to enforce smoking cannabis in public, this could mean hiring additional enforcement officers.**

### Insight Survey Results



Strongly agree	40%
Somewhat agree	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%
Somewhat disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	11%
Don't know	2%

### Website Survey Results



Strongly agree	39%
Somewhat agree	17%
Neither agree nor disagree	14%
Somewhat disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	19%
Don't know	1%

## Question 6

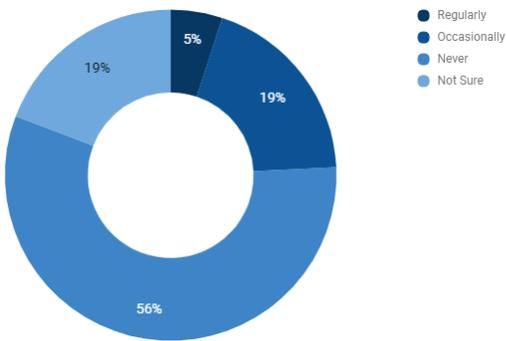
The federal government has established the following basic rules about growing and consuming cannabis:

- The minimum age that people can buy, possess and consume cannabis will be 18
- Adults will be allowed to buy and possess 30 grams of legally produced cannabis
- Adults will be able to grow up to four cannabis plants per household

Please note that people who rent a house or apartment and people who live in a condominium may be restricted from growing cannabis plants in their home. These restrictions could be in condominium bylaws or in rental agreements.

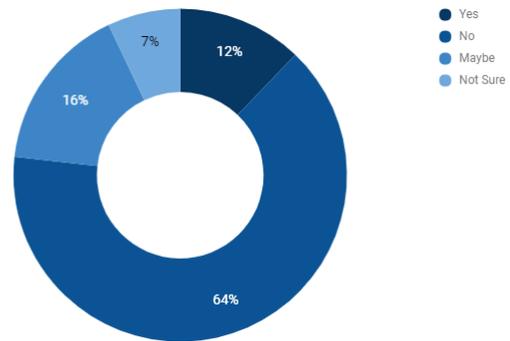
**When cannabis is legalized, how likely are you to buy cannabis products from a cannabis store?**

### Insight Survey Results



Regularly	5%
Occasionally	19%
Never	56%
Not Sure	19%

### Website Survey Results



Regularly	12%
Occasionally	64%
Never	16%
Not Sure	7%

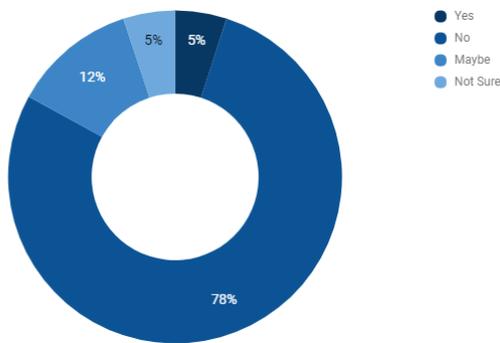
## Question 7

The federal government has stated that one of the reasons for legalizing and regulating cannabis is to take cannabis out of the illegal, black market.

Legalizing cannabis will likely result in new jobs being created to produce, cultivate, distribute and sell cannabis products in Edmonton. How would you respond to the following statement?

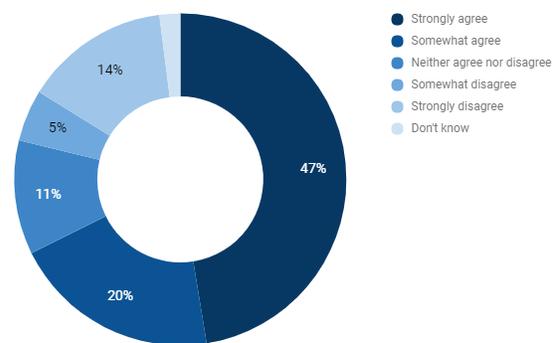
**Legalizing cannabis and having legitimate businesses related to cannabis will be positive for Edmonton's economy.**

### Insight Survey Results



Strongly agree	31%
Somewhat agree	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	16%
Somewhat disagree	7%
Strongly disagree	11%
Don't know	3%

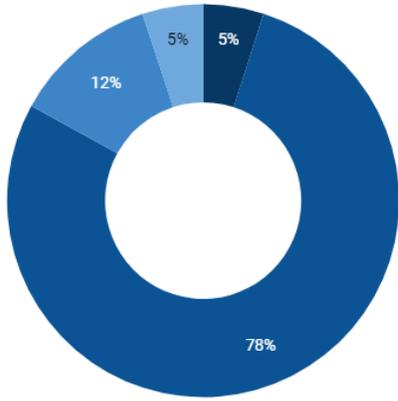
### Website Survey Results



Strongly agree	47%
Somewhat agree	20%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%
Somewhat disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	14%
Don't know	2%

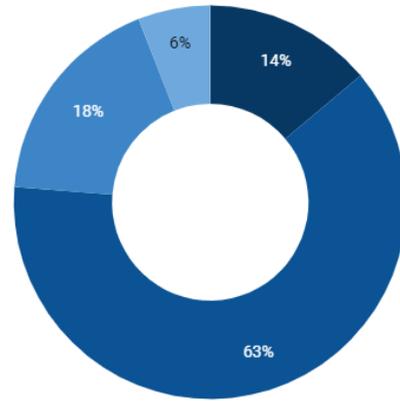
**When cannabis is legalized, would you be interested in starting a cannabis related business or pursuing a job related to cannabis?**

**Insight Survey Results**



Yes	5%
No	78%
Maybe	12%
Not Sure	5%

**Website Survey Results**



Yes	14%
No	63%
Maybe	18%
Not Sure	6%