

# Marijuana and Driving: A Look at Texan's Attitudes and Impact on Driving Under the Influence

---

JENA PRESCOTT

ASSISTANT TRANSPORTATION RESEARCHER

TEXAS A&M TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

[J-PRESCOTT@TTI.TAMU.EDU](mailto:J-PRESCOTT@TTI.TAMU.EDU)

# Project Background

---

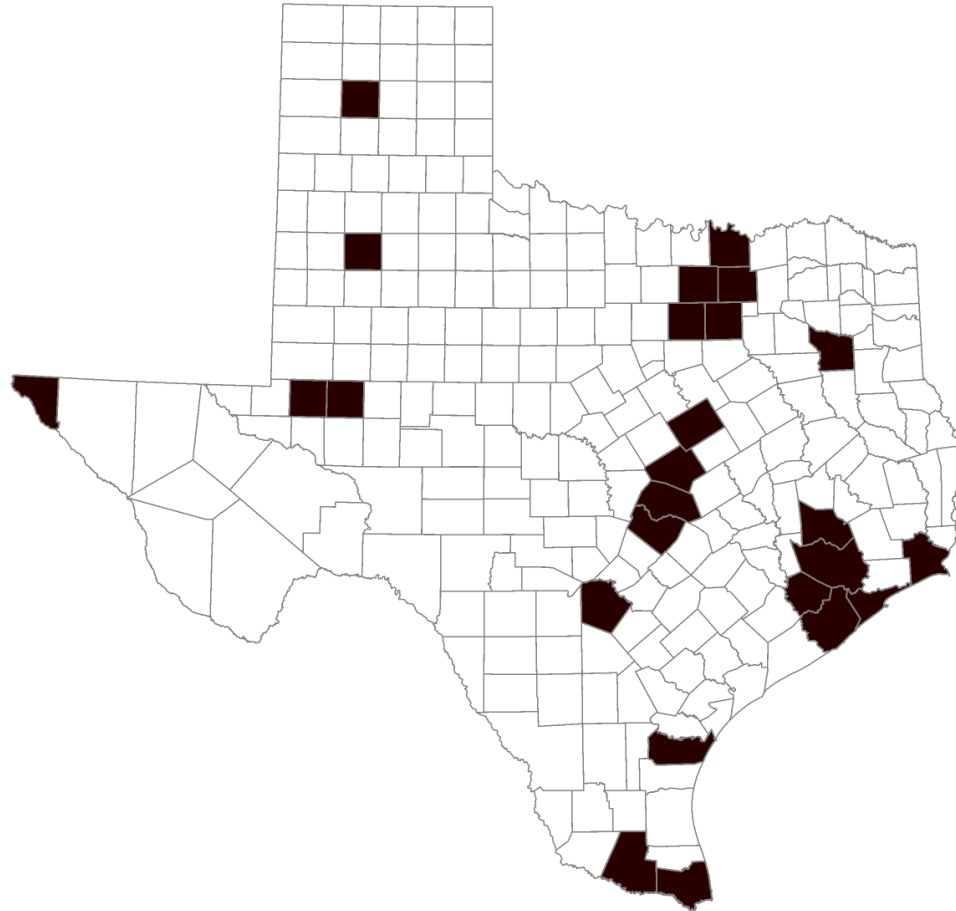
As of November 2016, 8 states (and D.C.) had legalized recreational use of marijuana

As of November 2016, 29 states (and D.C.) had legalized medicinal use of marijuana

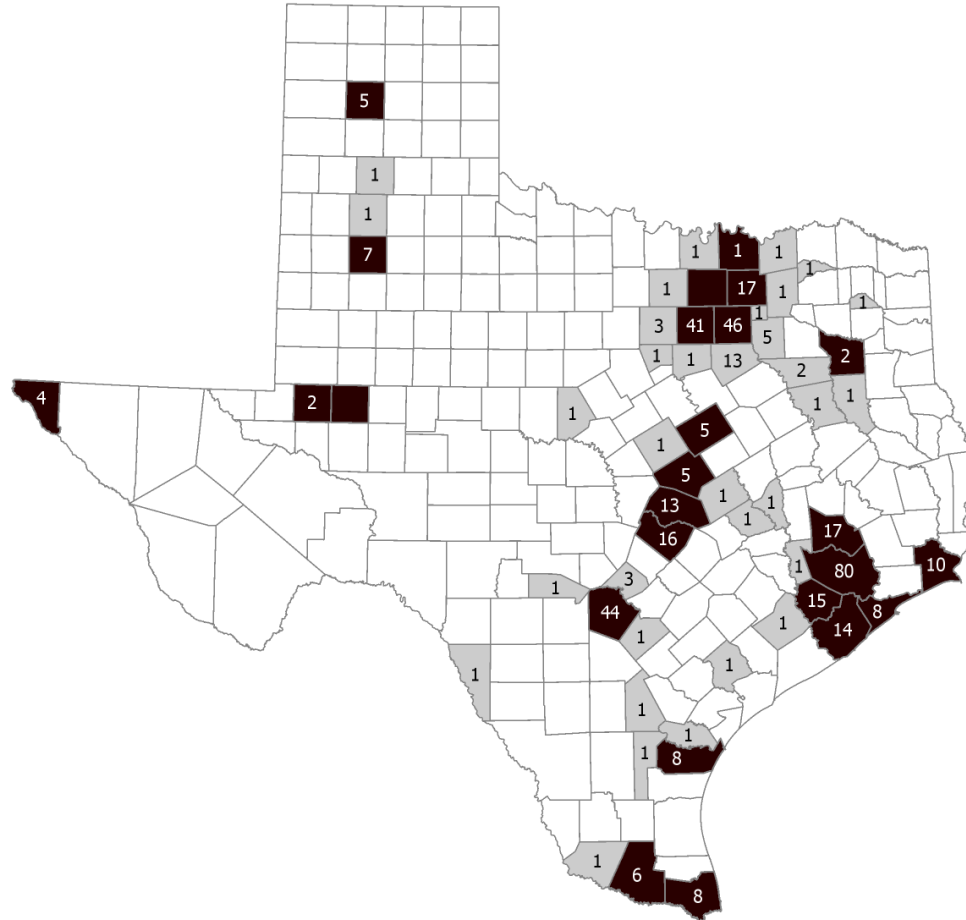
In the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, approximately 20 bills have been introduced which pertain to marijuana

Growing support for legalization of marijuana in some form

# Geographic Background



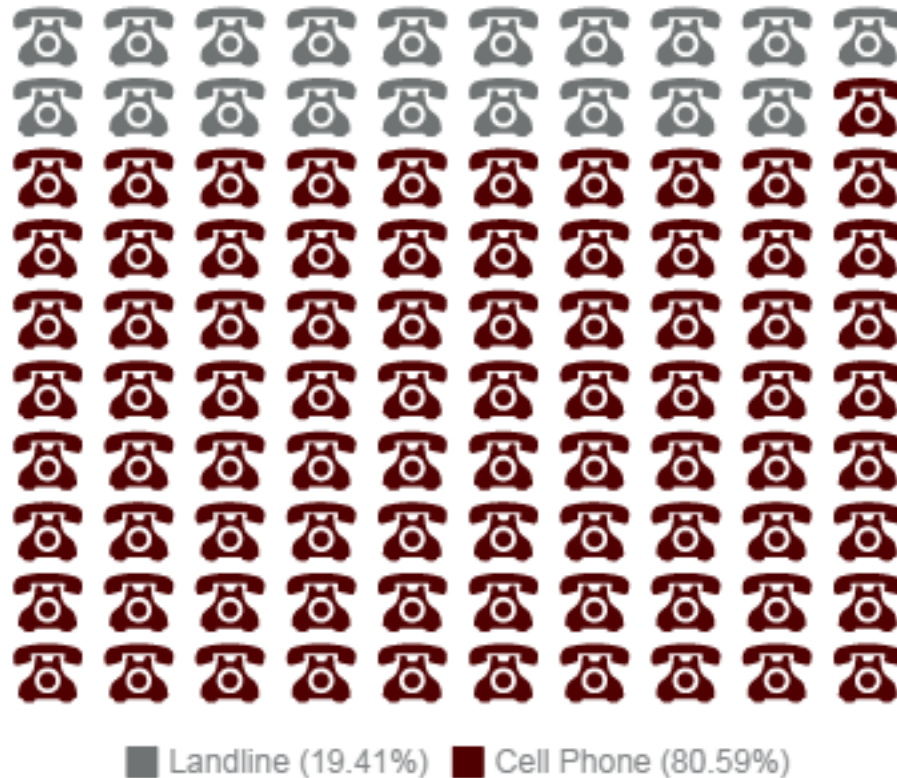
# Geographic Distribution



# Sampling Frame

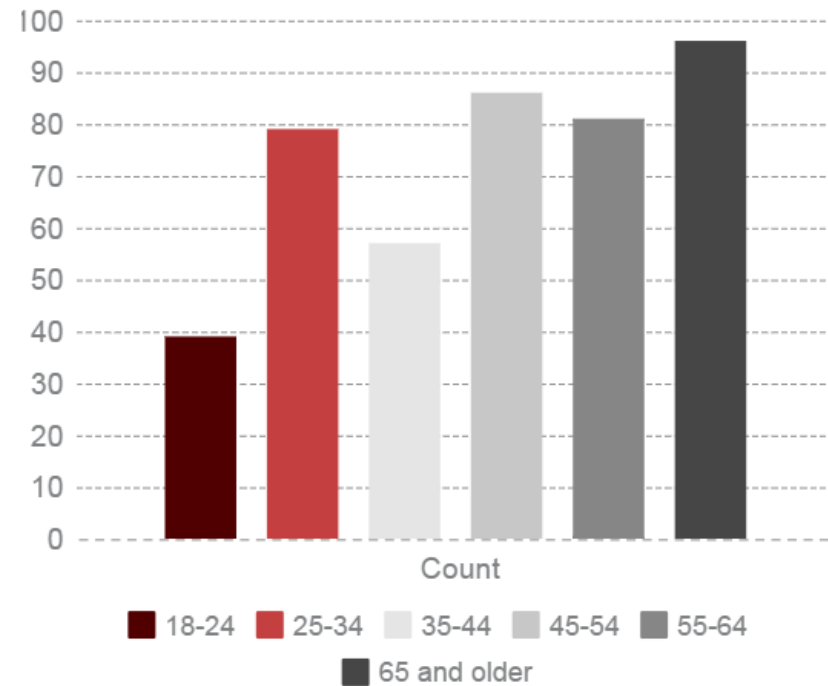
---

Dual frame sampling



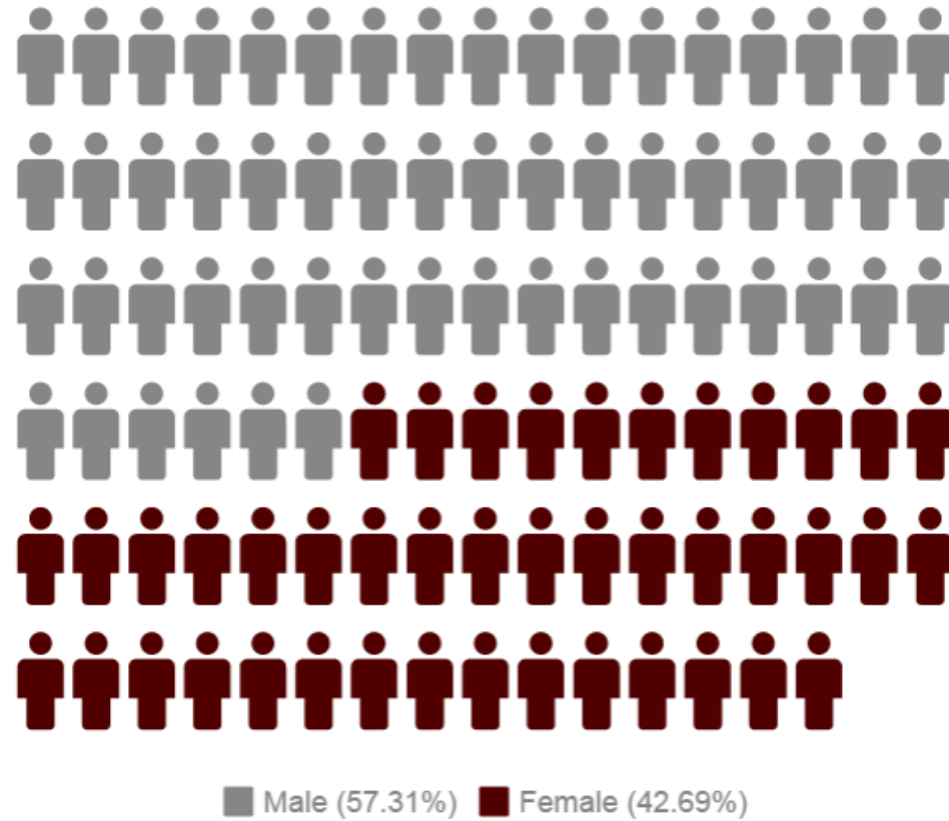
# Demographics: Age

---



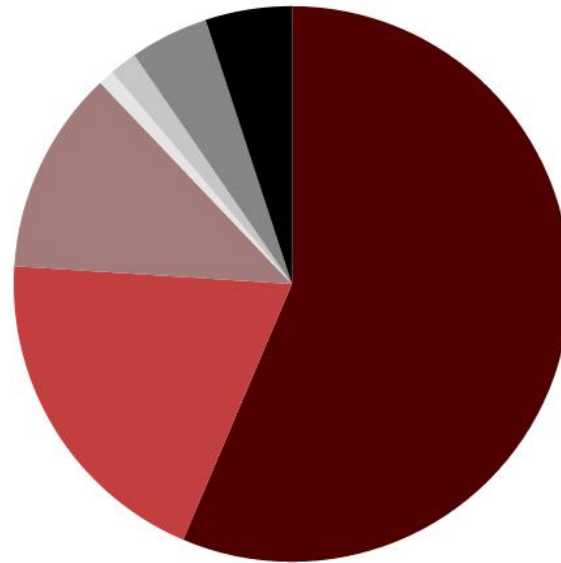
# Demographics: Gender

---



# Demographics: Race/Ethnicity

---

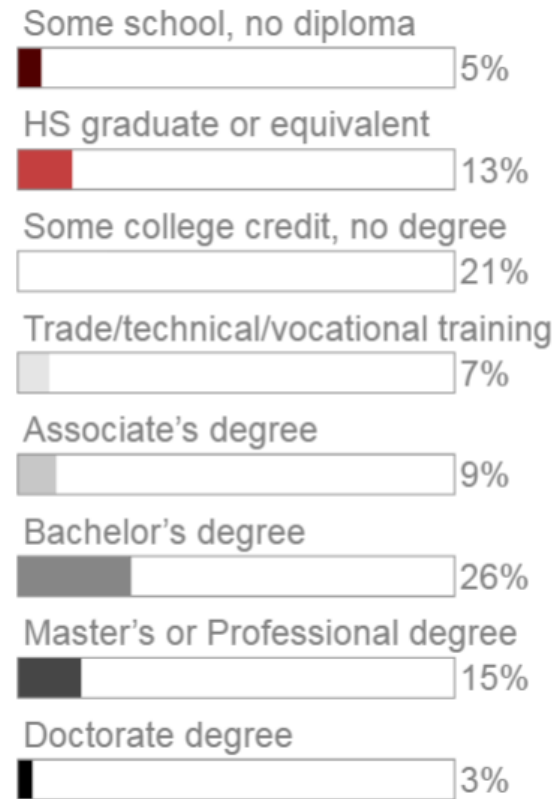


■ White (56.39%) ■ Hispanic or Latino (19.63%) ■ Black or African American (11.87%)  
■ Native American or Amer.. (0.91%) ■ Asian/Pacific Islander (1.60%) ■ Mixed (4.57%)  
■ Other, Don't Know, Refuse (5.02%)



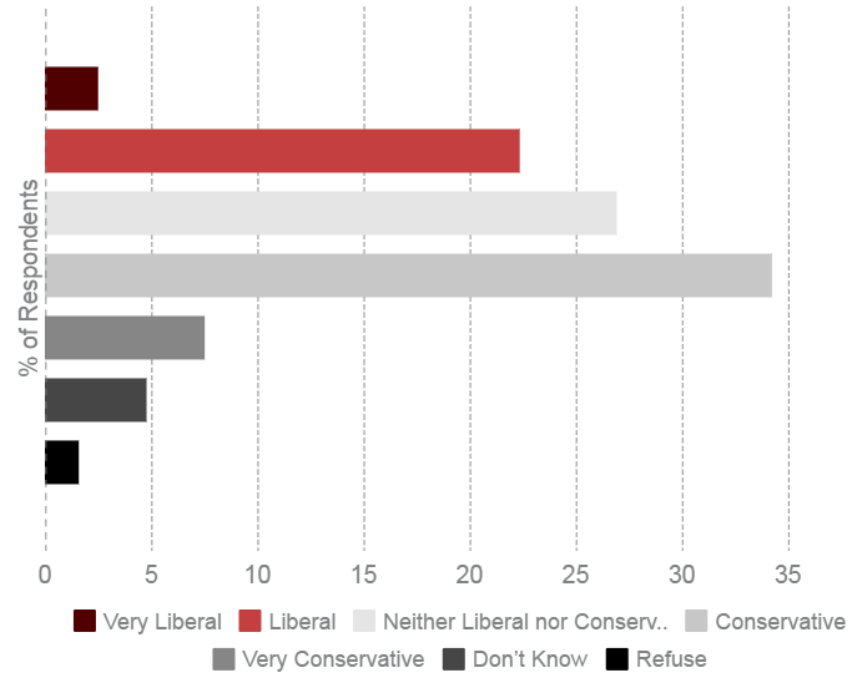
# Demographics: Education

---



# Demographics: Political Views

---



# Preliminary Survey Results

---

# Marijuana Beliefs: It is safe to use marijuana

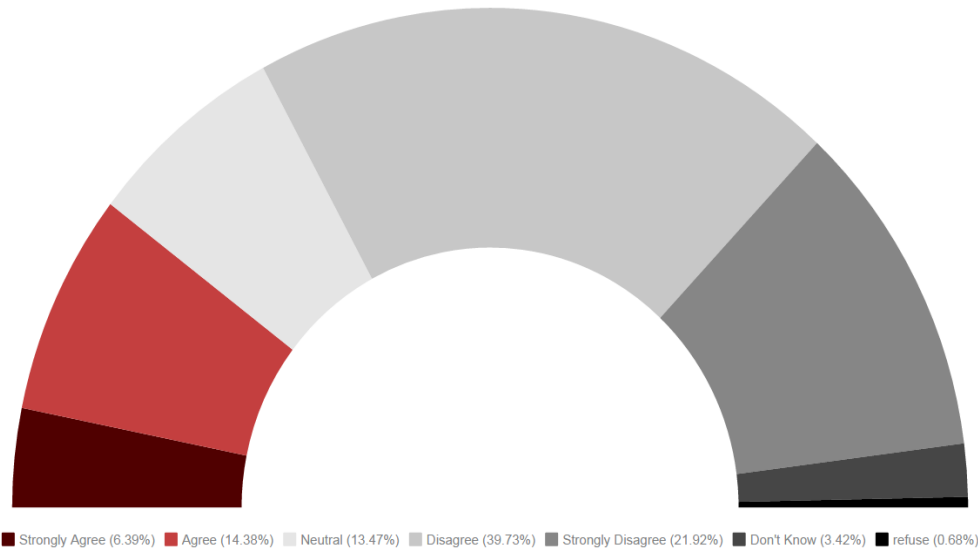
---



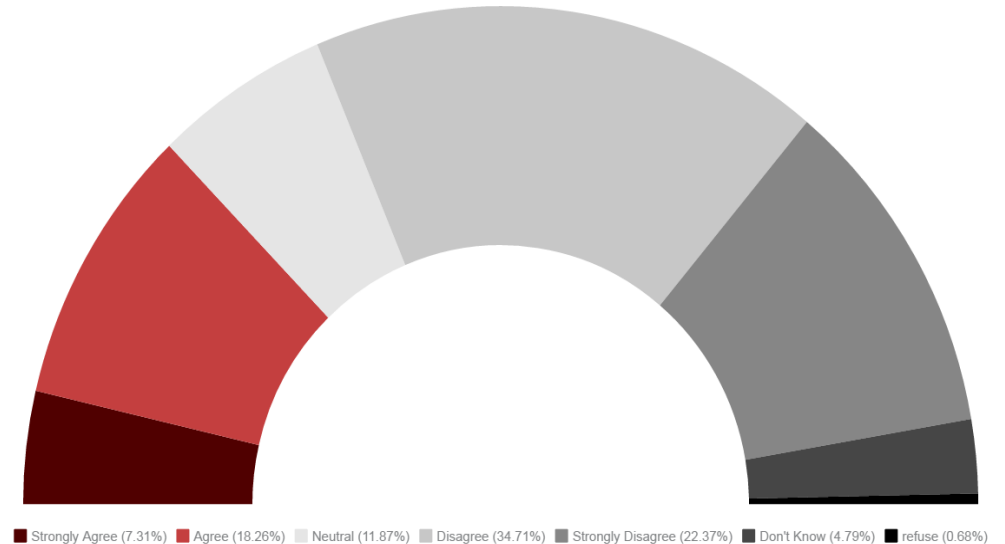
■ Agree (45.66%) ■ Neutral (16.21%) ■ Disagree (35.84%)  
■ Don't Know (1.60%) ■ Refused (0.68%)

# Marijuana Beliefs: Marijuana Compared to Alcohol and Tobacco

---



Marijuana is less safe than alcohol.



Marijuana is less safe than tobacco.

# Marijuana Beliefs: Using marijuana makes it harder to think clearly

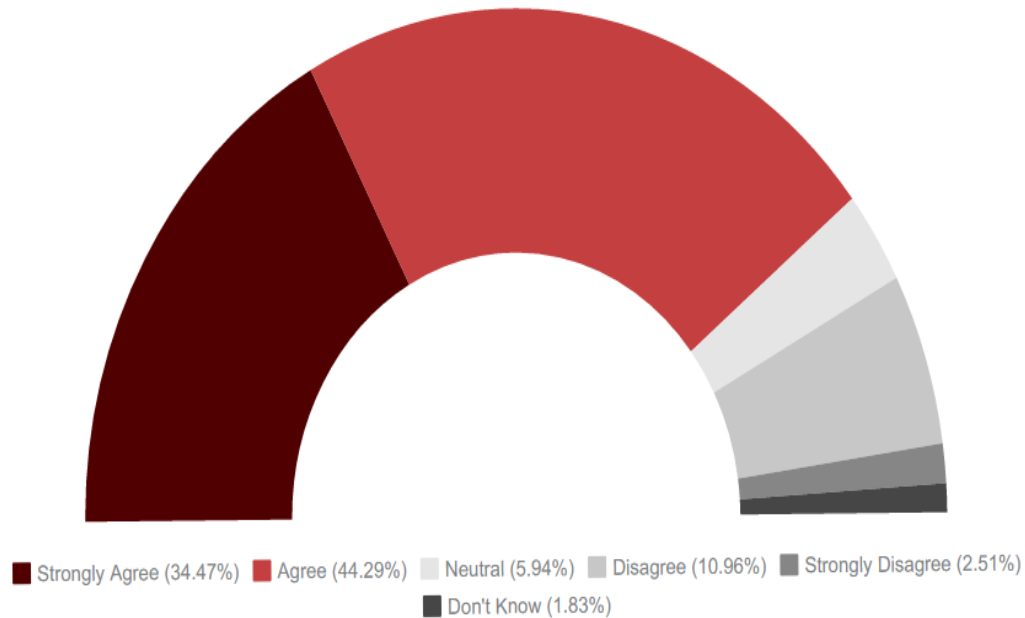
---



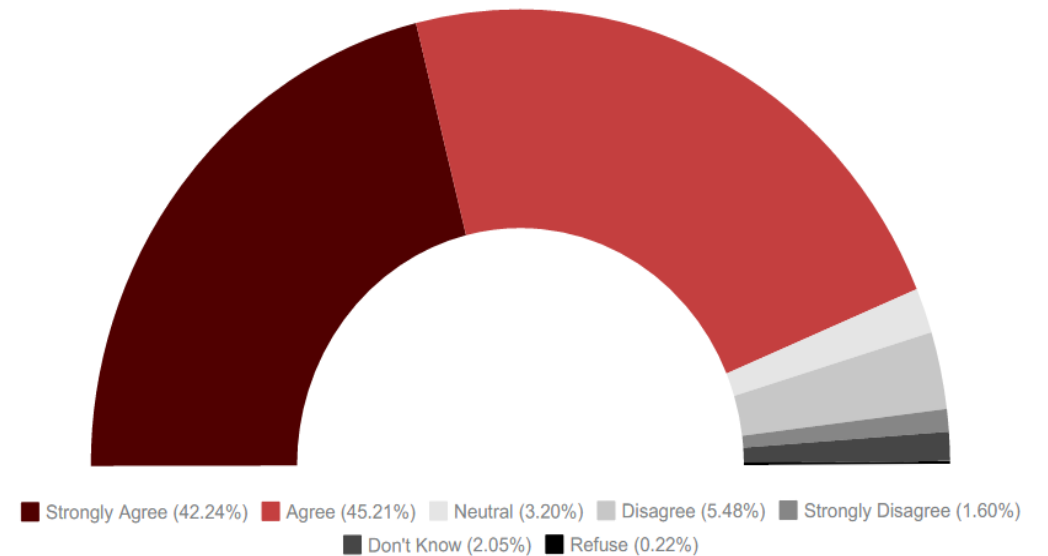
■ Agree (68.13%) ■ Neutral (12.17%) ■ Disagree (19.71%)

# Marijuana Beliefs: Texas should legalize marijuana for medical conditions

---



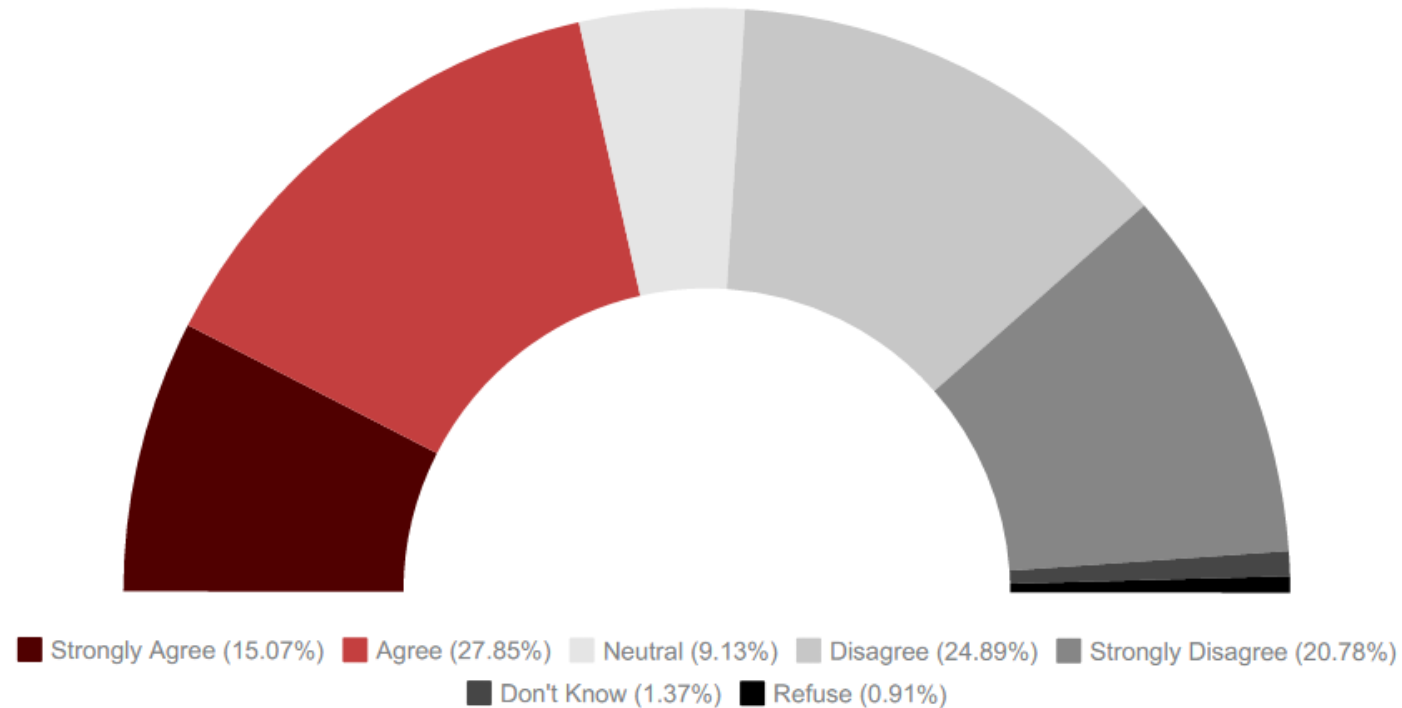
Legalize for Medical Conditions



Legalize for Serious Medical Conditions

# Marijuana Beliefs: Texas should legalize marijuana for recreational use

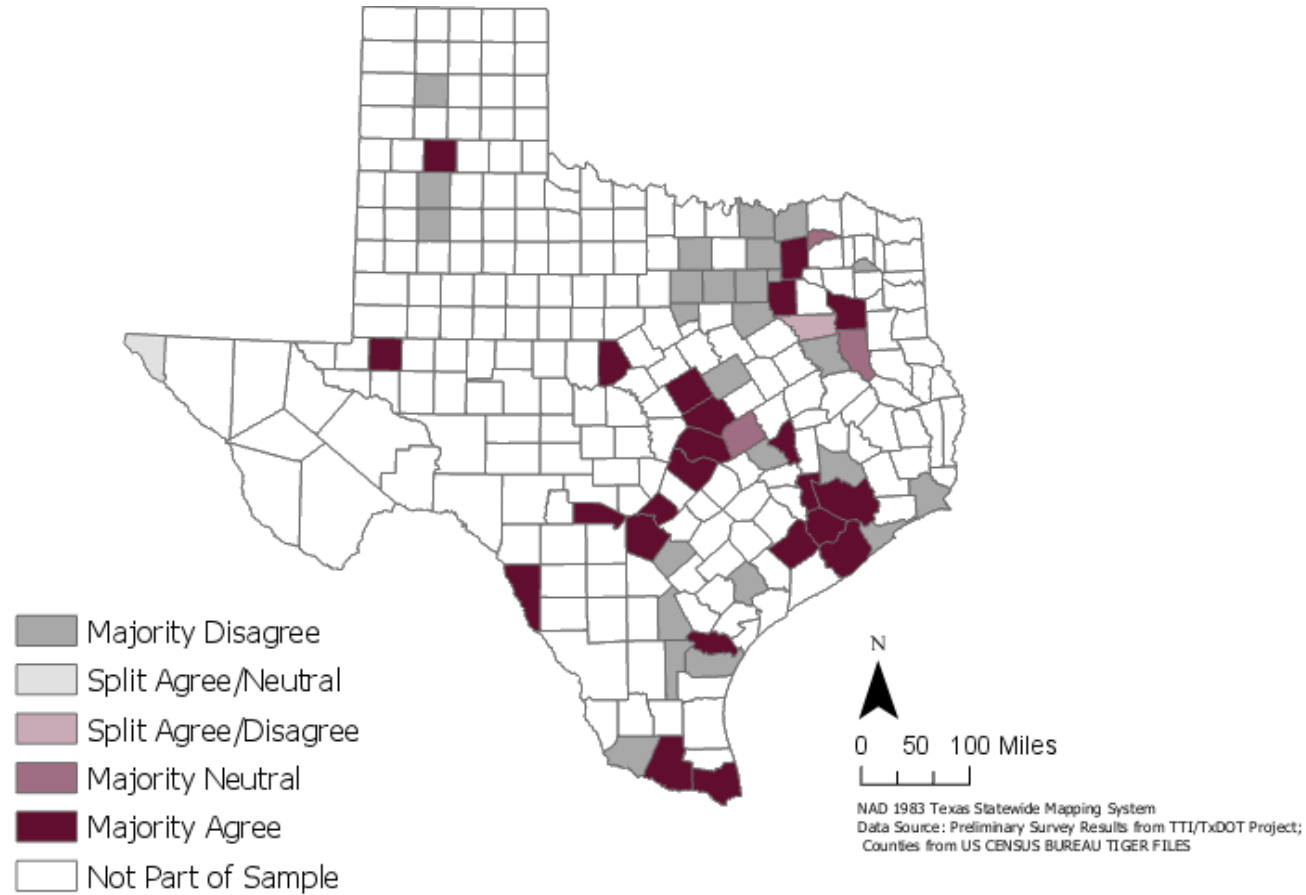
---





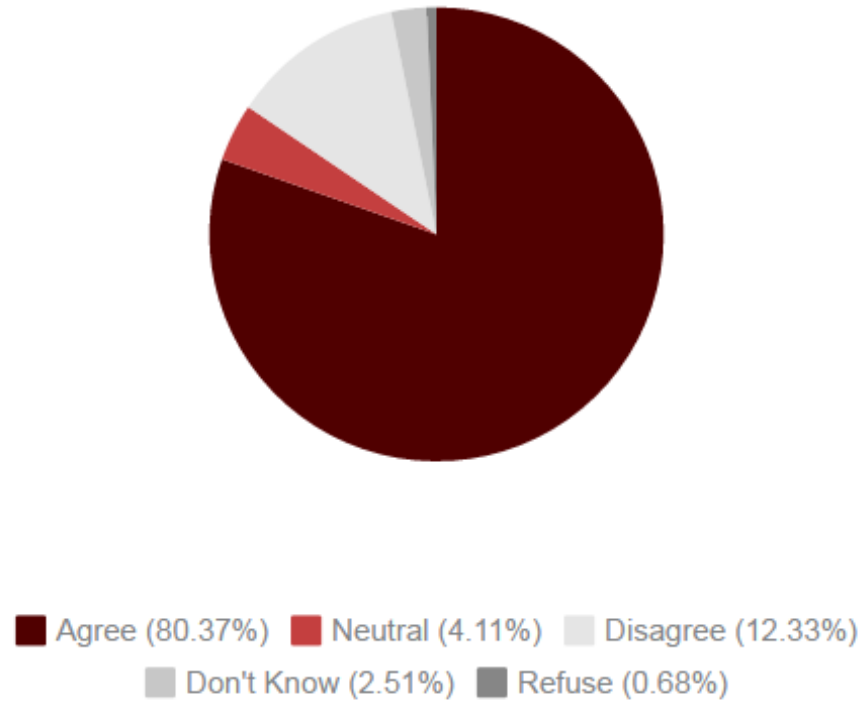
# Legalize Recreational by County

---



# Marijuana Policy: There should be a per se level of impairment

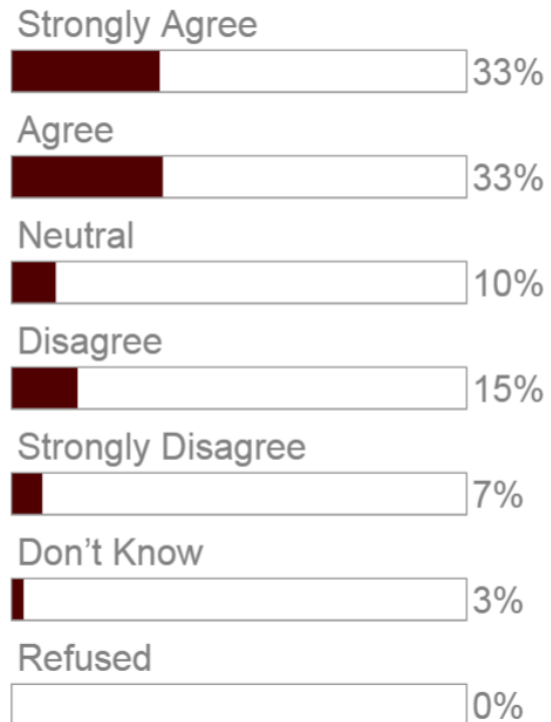
---



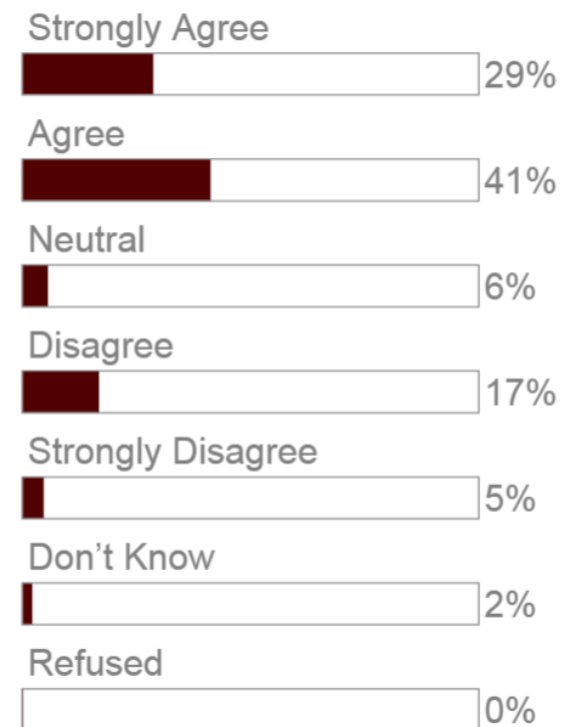
# Marijuana and Driving

---

It is unsafe to drive after using marijuana



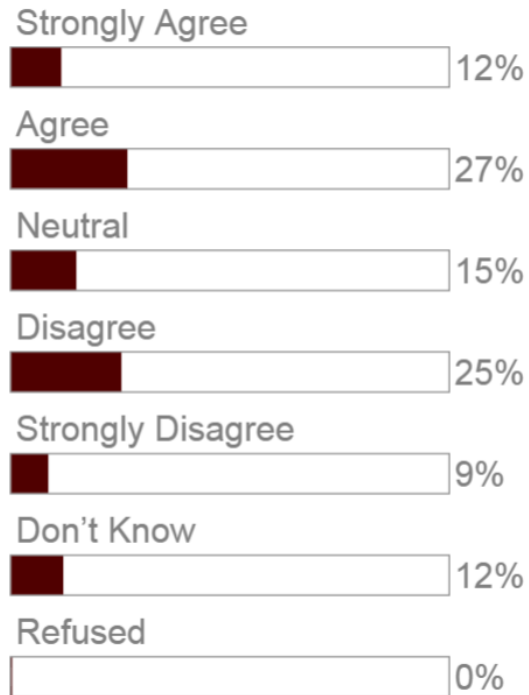
It is unsafe to drive under the influence of marijuana



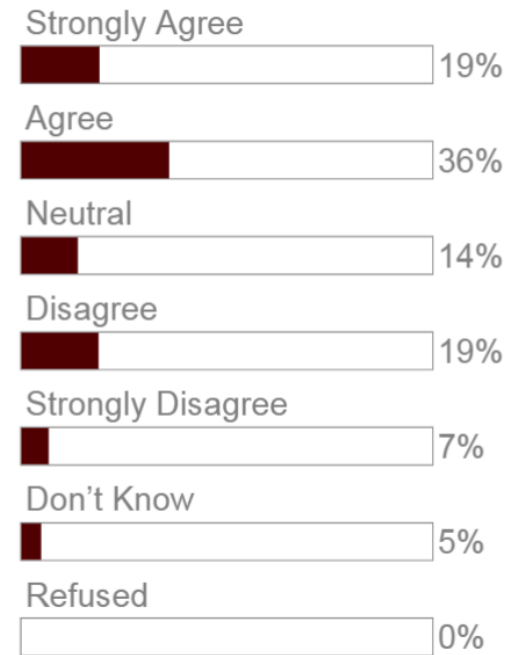
# Marijuana and Driving

---

It is unsafe to drive within two hours of using marijuana



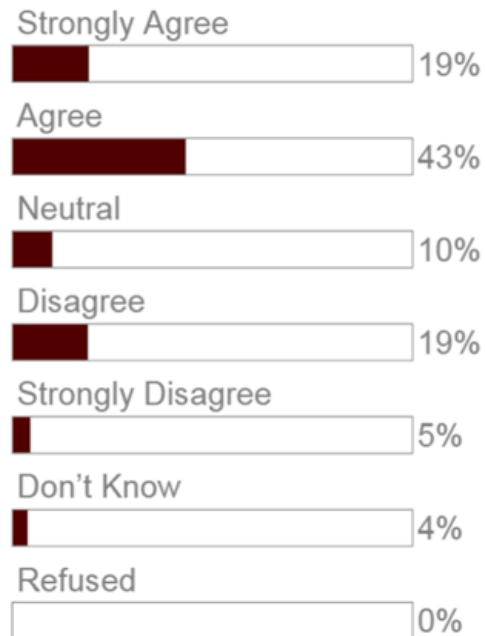
Drivers who use marijuana are more likely to be involved in a crash than drivers who don't



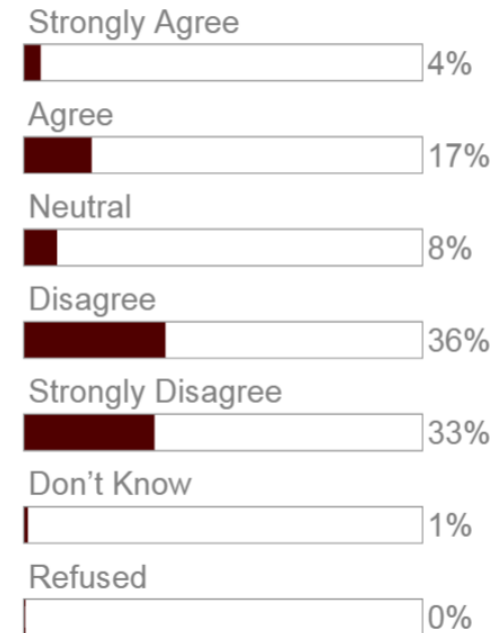
# Marijuana and Driving

---

If marijuana were legal, more people would be willing to drive under the influence

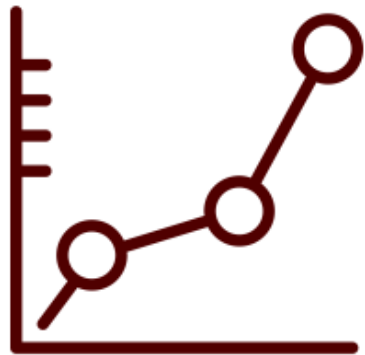


I would feel safe riding in a car with a driver who had used marijuana before driving



# Looking forward

---



# Questions:

---

**Jena Prescott**

Assistant Transportation Researcher  
Center for Alcohol and Drug Education Studies  
Center for Transportation Safety  
Texas A&M Transportation Institute

[J-Prescott@tti.tamu.edu](mailto:J-Prescott@tti.tamu.edu)

979-862-1525