



**One Minute  
STRAW POLLS  
Arizona**



## **POT SMOKERS, PUZZLE PLAYERS AND HEAD COLDS**

Phoenix, Arizona, July 25, 2011. Phoenix, Arizona. What do pot smokers, puzzle players and head colds have in common – more than you might think! Certainly more than we thought! .

Believe it or not, 14 percent of respondents in the Phoenix area will admit to a computer over the phone that they have smoked pot - a figure that rises to 21 percent among men and drops to eleven percent among women. Many people here think the actual number is much higher, but were still surprised that so many would admit it publicly.

Curiously, admitted pot smokers are more likely to play crossword puzzles and Sudoku and to get head colds than are non-pot users.

*The survey was completed by Straw Polls of Arizona, the casual opinion monitoring department of Behavior Research Center which encourages reporters and the media in general to recognize the difference between serious scientific polling and straw polls. Straw polls conform to no reliable standard for public opinion research. At best, they are organized gossip.*

This straw poll result is based on 649 interviews conducted using an automated telephone call system in which anyone can answer the phone and push buttons . Calls were completed between July 18 and July 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Phoenix metropolitan area. No margin of error can be computed for unscientific surveys deploying this method of sampling and interviewing nor can the results be projected to the total population. It is a straw poll done simply for fun.

The rate of head colds among pot users (18%) is six times higher than among non-users (3%) ... a result that may trace to passing joints, bongos and other paraphernalia around or gorging on junk food from the same trough.

It may also seem a counter intuitive reading but pot smokers in this straw poll are also more likely to do crossword puzzles and Sudoku puzzles ... although one can only guess at whether they even would recognize an error if they made one.

Three of ten respondents to this straw poll say they work crossword puzzles and 23 percent like to do Sudoku puzzles. Women are about twice as likely as are men to play either kind of puzzle.

*For more information contact Jim Haynes or Earl de Berge at 602-258-4554.*