

Detailed tables: Abortion views of U.S. Catholics

Abortion views of U.S. Catholics

% of U.S. Catholics who say abortion should be ...

	NET Legal %	Legal in all cases, no exceptions %	Legal in most cases %	NET Illegal %	Illegal in most cases %	Illegal in all cases, no exceptions %	NET Legal in some cases, illegal in others %
All Catholics	56	13	43	42	32	10	76
<i>Attend Mass weekly or more</i>	30	4	26	68	44	24	70
<i>Attend less often</i>	65	16	49	34	28	5	77
<i>Rep./lean Rep.</i>	39	5	34	60	46	14	80
<i>Dem./lean Dem.</i>	73	20	53	26	20	5	73
<i>White</i>	56	12	43	42	34	8	77
<i>Hispanic</i>	57	14	44	42	28	14	72
<i>Men</i>	53	10	43	46	37	9	79
<i>Women</i>	60	16	44	39	29	10	72
<i>Ages 18-49</i>	59	16	42	40	28	13	70
<i>50+</i>	54	10	44	44	36	7	80
All U.S. adults	61	19	42	37	29	8	71

Note: Figures may not add to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Those who did not answer are not shown. White adults include only those who report being one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 7-13, 2022.

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Catholics' views on abortion in various situations

% of U.S. Catholics who say abortion should be legal/illegal if ...

	... the pregnancy threatens the woman's life or health			... the pregnancy is the result of rape			... the baby is likely to be born with severe disabilities or health problems		
	Legal %	Depends %	Illegal %	Legal %	Depends %	Illegal %	Legal %	Depends %	Illegal %
All Catholics	69	16	13	66	15	17	50	27	21
<i>Attend Mass weekly or more</i>	49	21	29	43	18	38	28	27	43
<i>Attend less often</i>	76	15	8	74	14	11	57	27	14
<i>Rep./lean Rep.</i>	61	20	17	57	18	23	39	31	29
<i>Dem./lean Dem.</i>	78	12	8	77	10	11	59	24	15
<i>White</i>	71	17	9	68	15	15	49	29	20
<i>Hispanic</i>	65	14	20	61	15	22	51	24	25
<i>Men</i>	71	14	13	67	15	17	47	28	24
<i>Women</i>	68	18	13	66	14	17	52	27	20
<i>Ages 18-49</i>	68	15	17	63	15	21	54	21	24
<i>50+</i>	71	18	9	69	14	14	46	32	19
All U.S. adults	73	14	11	69	14	15	53	25	19

Note: The "legal" category includes those who said abortion should be legal in all cases without exception as well as those who said abortion should be legal in each specific circumstance, and the "illegal" category includes those who said abortion should be illegal in all cases without exception as well as those who said abortion should be illegal in each specific circumstance. Those who did not answer are not shown. White adults include only those who report being one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 7-13, 2022.

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Catholics' views about whether how long a woman has been pregnant should be a factor in determining abortion's legality

% of U.S. Catholics who say ...

	Abortion should be legal in all cases, no exceptions %	How long a woman has been pregnant ___ in determining whether abortion should be legal		Abortion should be illegal in all cases, no exceptions %
		Should matter %	Should not matter %	
All Catholics	13	63	12	10
<i>Attend Mass weekly or more</i>	4	55	15	24
<i>Attend less often</i>	16	65	11	5
<i>Rep./lean Rep.</i>	5	67	12	14
<i>Dem./lean Dem.</i>	20	60	12	5
<i>White</i>	12	65	12	8
<i>Hispanic</i>	14	58	13	14
<i>Men</i>	10	65	14	9
<i>Women</i>	16	61	11	10
<i>Ages 18-49</i>	16	58	12	13
<i>50+</i>	10	67	13	7
All U.S. adults	19	56	14	8

Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. White adults include only those who report being one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 7-13, 2022.

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Catholics' views on abortion at various stages of pregnancy

U.S. Catholics' views about abortion ...

	At 6 weeks of pregnancy (cardiac activity/fetal heartbeat detectable, before many women know they are pregnant), abortion should be ...			At 14 weeks (roughly end of first trimester), abortion should be ...			At 24 weeks (about when healthy fetus could survive on own with medical attention), abortion should be ...			Stage of pregnancy shouldn't be a factor in determining abortion's legality; it should be ...	
	Legal %	Depends %	Illegal %	Legal %	Depends %	Illegal %	Legal %	Depends %	Illegal %	Legal in most cases %	Illegal in most cases %
All Catholics	41	20	23	28	25	32	16	20	49	6	7
<i>Attend Mass weekly or more</i>	21	17	45	14	17	52	5	12	66	5	10
<i>Attend less often</i>	48	22	17	33	28	26	20	23	43	6	5
<i>Rep./lean Rep.</i>	29	22	34	18	23	45	7	16	62	4	9
<i>Dem./lean Dem.</i>	53	19	14	38	28	20	24	24	38	7	5
<i>White</i>	41	20	24	28	26	32	15	21	50	6	6
<i>Hispanic</i>	41	20	24	28	24	34	17	19	50	5	7
<i>Men</i>	38	21	25	26	26	32	12	21	51	6	8
<i>Women</i>	44	20	22	30	24	32	19	20	47	6	6
<i>Ages 18-49</i>	48	17	22	34	22	31	21	21	44	5	7
<i>50+</i>	35	24	25	24	27	33	11	19	53	7	6
All U.S. adults	44	19	21	34	22	27	22	18	43	7	6

Note: The "legal" category includes those who said abortion should be legal in all cases without exception as well as those who said legal at that time point, and the "illegal" category includes those who said abortion should be illegal in all cases without exception as well as those who said illegal at that time point. Those who said abortion should be legal at 14 weeks are included in the "legal" category at six weeks.

Those who said abortion should be illegal at 14 weeks are including in the "illegal" category at 24 weeks. Those who did not answer are not shown. White adults include only those who report being one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 7-13, 2022.

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U.S. Catholics' views on whether life begins at conception, abortion decisions should belong solely to pregnant woman

How well do these statements describe your views?

	The decision about whether to have an abortion should belong solely to the pregnant woman			Human life begins at conception, so a fetus is a person with rights		
	Extremely/ very well %	Somewhat well %	Not too well/ not at all well %	Extremely/ very well %	Somewhat well %	Not too well/ not at all well %
All Catholics	49	21	28	44	20	35
<i>Attend Mass weekly or more</i>	34	17	48	70	13	15
<i>Attend less often</i>	54	23	22	35	23	41
<i>Rep./lean Rep.</i>	37	21	40	59	18	22
<i>Dem./lean Dem.</i>	61	22	17	30	22	48
<i>White</i>	48	21	30	45	19	34
<i>Hispanic</i>	53	20	27	42	22	36
<i>Men</i>	41	27	31	45	23	31
<i>Women</i>	56	17	26	43	18	37
<i>Ages 18-49</i>	48	22	30	38	22	40
<i>50+</i>	51	21	27	49	19	30
All U.S. adults	53	19	27	38	18	42

Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. White adults include only those who report being one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 7-13, 2022.

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Sample sizes and margins of error

	Unweighted sample size	Margin of error (plus or minus...)
All Catholics	2,224	3.4 percentage points
<i>Attend Mass weekly or more</i>	630	6.2 percentage points
<i>Attend less often</i>	1,589	4.1 percentage points
<i>Rep./lean Rep.</i>	1,134	4.6 percentage points
<i>Dem./lean Dem.</i>	1,042	5.0 percentage points
<i>White</i>	1,413	3.7 percentage points
<i>Hispanic</i>	668	7.5 percentage points
<i>Men</i>	999	5.2 percentage points
<i>Women</i>	1,214	4.5 percentage points
<i>Ages 18-49</i>	774	5.9 percentage points
<i>50+</i>	1,439	3.8 percentage points
All U.S. adults	10,441	1.5 percentage points
<i>Non-Catholic Rep./lean Rep.</i>	3,838	2.5 percentage points
<i>Non-Catholic Dem./lean Dem.</i>	4,173	2.4 percentage points

Note: White adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 7-13, 2022.

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