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Broad Public Support for Legal Abortion Persists 2 Years After Dobbs

By more than 2 to 1, Americans say medication abortion should be legal

FOR MEDIA OR OTHER INQUIRIES:

Carroll Doherty, Director of Political Research
Jocelyn Kiley, Associate Director, Research
Nida Asheer, Senior Communications Manager

202.419.4372

www.pewresearch.org

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How we did this

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand Americans' views on the legality of abortion, as well as their perceptions of abortion access. For this analysis, we surveyed 8,709 adults from April 8 to 14, 2024. Everyone who took part in this survey is a member of the Center's American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories. [Read more about the ATP's methodology.](#)

Here are the [questions used for the report](#) and its [methodology](#).

Broad Public Support for Legal Abortion Persists 2 Years After Dobbs

By more than 2 to 1, Americans say medication abortion should be legal

Nearly two years after the Supreme Court overturned the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision guaranteeing a national right to abortion, a majority of Americans continue to express support for abortion access.

About six-in-ten (63%) say abortion should be legal in all or most cases. This share has grown 4 percentage points since 2021 – the year prior to the 2022 decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization that overturned Roe.

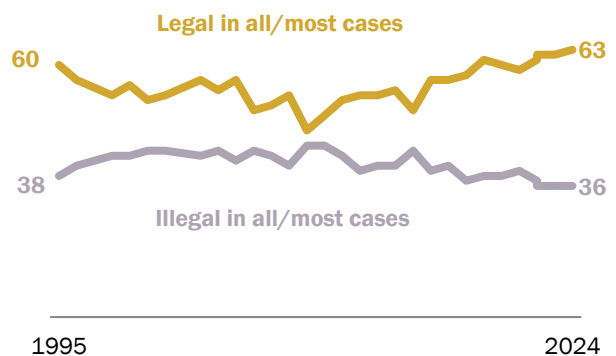
The new Pew Research Center survey, conducted April 8-14, 2024, among 8,709 adults, surfaces ongoing – and often partisan – divides over abortion attitudes:

- **Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents** (85%) overwhelmingly say abortion should be legal in all or most cases, with near unanimous support among liberal Democrats.
- By comparison, **Republicans and Republican leaners** (41%) are far less likely to say abortion should be legal in all or most cases. However, two-thirds of moderate and liberal Republicans still say it should be.

Since before Roe was overturned, both parties have seen a **modest uptick in the share who say abortion should be legal.**

Majority of Americans say abortion should be legal in all or most cases

% who say abortion should be ...



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

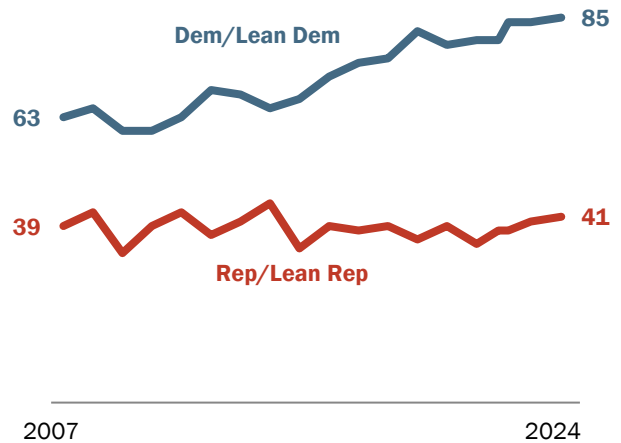
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As in the past, relatively few Americans (25%) say abortion should be legal in *all* cases, while even fewer (8%) say it should be illegal in all cases. About two-thirds of Americans do not take an absolutist view: 38% say it should be legal in most cases, and 28% say it should be illegal in most cases.

Related: [Americans overwhelmingly say access to IVF is a good thing](#)

Partisan divide over abortion has widened over the past decade

% who say abortion should be **legal** in all or most cases



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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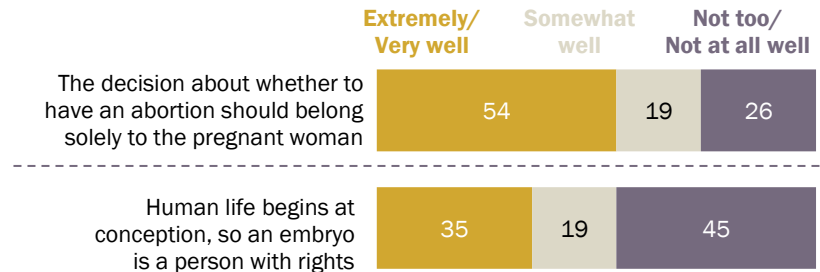
Other abortion attitudes

Women's abortion decisions

A narrow majority of Americans (54%) say the statement “the decision about whether to have an abortion should belong solely to the pregnant woman” describes their views extremely or very well. Another 19% say it describes their views somewhat well, and 26% say it does *not* describe their views well.

A majority of Americans say the decision to have an abortion should belong solely to the pregnant woman; about a third say embryos are people with rights

% who say the following statements describe their views ...



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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Views on an embryo's rights

About a third of Americans (35%) say the statement “human life begins at conception, so an embryo is a person with rights” describes their views extremely or very well, while 45% say it does not describe their views well.

But many Americans are cross-pressured in their views: 32% of Americans say *both* statements about women's decisions and embryos' rights describe their views at least somewhat well.

Abortion access

About six-in-ten Americans in both parties say getting an abortion in the area where they live would be at least somewhat easy, compared with four-in-ten or fewer who say it would be difficult.

However, **U.S. adults are divided over whether getting an abortion *should be* easier or harder:**

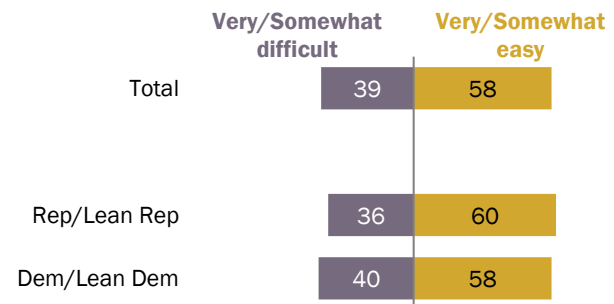
- 31% say it should be easier for someone to get an abortion in their area, while 25% say it should be harder. Four-in-ten say the ease of access should be about what it is now.
- 48% of Democrats say that obtaining an abortion should be easier than it is now, while just 15% of Republicans say this. Instead, 40% of Republicans say it should be harder (just 11% of Democrats say this).

As was the case last year, **views about abortion access vary widely between those who live in states where abortion is legal and those who live in states where it is not allowed.**

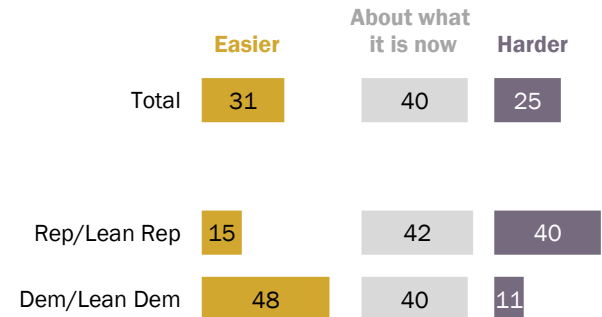
For instance, 20% of adults in states where abortion is legal say it would be difficult to get an abortion where they live, but this share rises to 71% among adults in states where abortion is prohibited.

About 6 in 10 Americans say it would be easy to get an abortion in their area

*% who say it **would be** ____ to get an abortion in the area where they live*



*% who say it **should be** ____ to get an abortion in the area where they live*



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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Medication abortion

Americans say medication abortion should be *legal* rather than *illegal* by a margin of more than two-to-one (54% vs. 20%). A quarter say they are not sure.

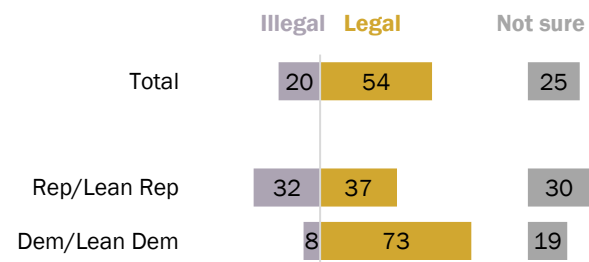
Like opinions on the legality of abortion overall, partisans differ greatly in their views of medication abortion:

- Republicans are closely split but are slightly more likely to say it should be legal (37%) than illegal (32%). Another 30% aren't sure.
- Democrats (73%) overwhelmingly say medication abortion should be legal. Just 8% say it should be illegal, while 19% are not sure.

Across most other demographic groups, **Americans are generally more supportive than not of medication abortion.**

Most Democrats say medication abortion should be legal; Republicans are divided

% who say medication abortion should be ___ in their state



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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Overall attitudes about abortion

Across demographic groups, support for abortion access has changed little since this time last year.

Today, roughly six-in-ten (63%) say abortion should be legal in all (25%) or most (38%) cases. And 36% say it should be illegal in all (8%) or most (28%) cases.

While differences are only modest by gender, other groups vary more widely in their views.

Race and ethnicity

Support for legal abortion is higher among Black (73%) and Asian (76%) adults compared with White (60%) and Hispanic (59%) adults.

Age

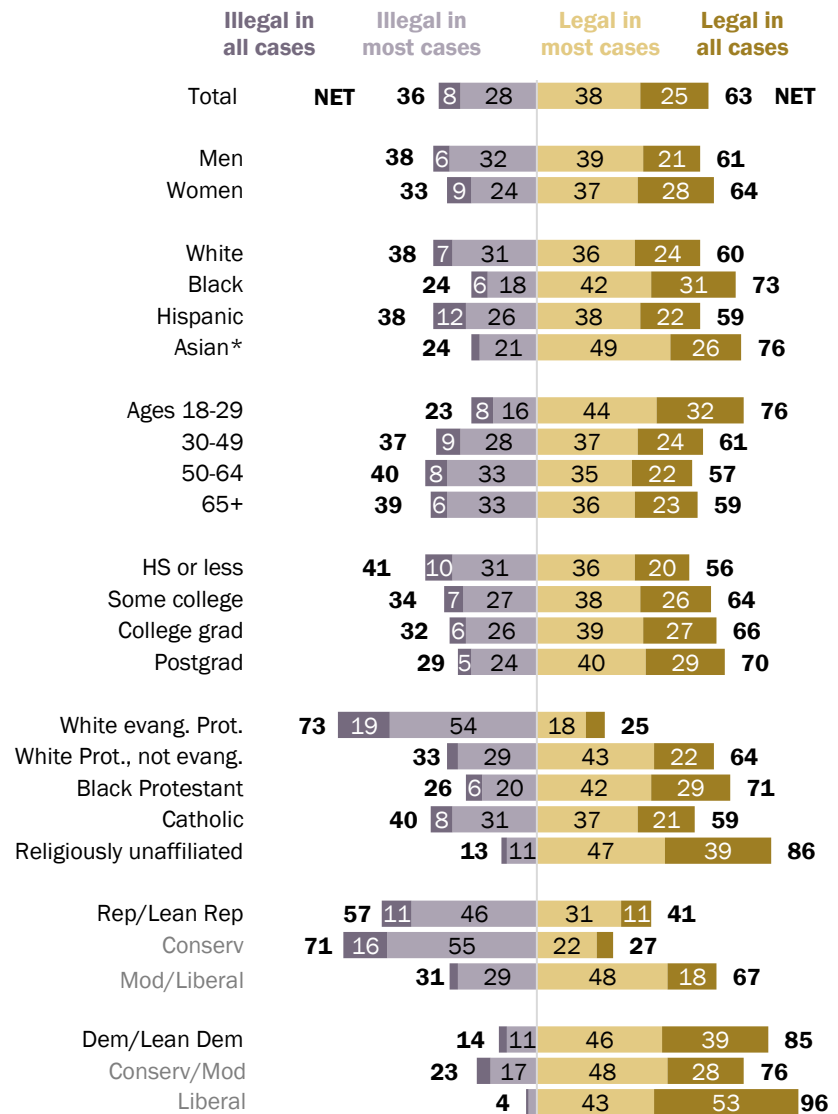
Compared with older Americans, adults under 30 are particularly likely to say abortion should be legal: 76% say this, versus about six-in-ten among other age groups.

Education

Those with higher levels of formal education express

Younger Americans are more likely than older adults to say abortion should be legal in all or most cases

% who say abortion should be...



* Estimates for Asian adults are representative of English speakers only.
 Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. No answer responses are not shown.
 Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

greater support for legal abortion than those with lower levels of educational attainment.

About two-thirds of Americans with a bachelor's degree or more education (68%) say abortion should be legal in all or most cases, compared with six-in-ten among those without a degree.

Religion

White evangelical Protestants are about three times as likely to say abortion should be *illegal* (73%) as they are to say it should be legal (25%).

By contrast, majorities of White nonevangelical Protestants (64%), Black Protestants (71%) and Catholics (59%) say abortion should be legal. And religiously unaffiliated Americans are especially likely to say abortion should be legal (86% say this).

Partisanship and ideology

Democrats (85%) are about twice as likely as Republicans (41%) to say abortion should be legal in all or most cases.

But while more conservative Republicans say abortion should be illegal (76%) than legal (27%), the reverse is true for moderate and liberal Republicans (67% say legal, 31% say illegal).

By comparison, a clear majority of conservative and moderate Democrats (76%) say abortion should be legal, with liberal Democrats (96%) overwhelmingly saying this.

Views of abortion access by state

About six-in-ten Americans (58%) say it would be easy for someone to get an abortion in the area where they live, while 39% say it would be difficult.

This marks a slight shift since last year, when 54% said obtaining an abortion would be easy. But Americans are still less likely than before the Dobbs decision to say obtaining an abortion would be easy.

Still, Americans' views vary widely depending on whether they live in a state that has banned or restricted abortion.

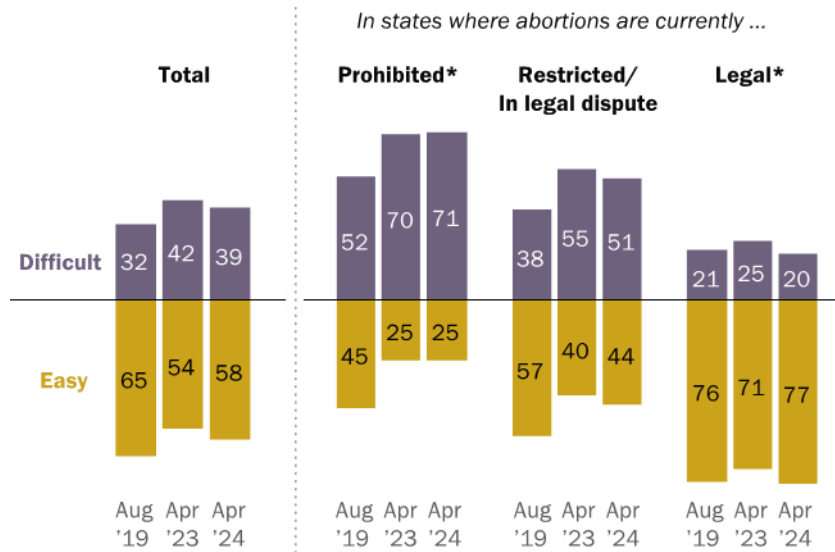
In states that prohibit abortion, Americans are about three times as likely to say it would be difficult to obtain an abortion where they live as they are to say it would be easy (71% vs. 25%). The share saying it would be difficult has risen 19 points since 2019.

In states where abortion is restricted or subject to legal challenges, 51% say it would be difficult to get an abortion where they live. This is similar to the share who said so last year (55%), but higher than the share who said this before the Dobbs decision (38%).

By comparison, just 20% of adults **in states where abortion is legal** say it would be difficult to get one. This is little changed over the past five years.

Americans vary widely in their views over how easy it would be to get an abortion based on where they live

% who say it would be ____ to get an abortion in the area where they live



* In many states where abortion is prohibited, laws include provisions for exceptions to protect the life or health of a mother, and some make exceptions in cases of rape or incest. "Legal" indicates states where abortion access is currently no more restricted than it was prior to the 2022 Dobbs decision. Refer to the Appendix for a complete categorization of state designations.

Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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Americans' attitudes about whether it *should be* easier or harder to get an abortion in the area where they live also varies by geography.

Overall, a decreasing share of Americans say it should be harder to obtain an abortion: 33% said this in 2019, compared with 25% today.

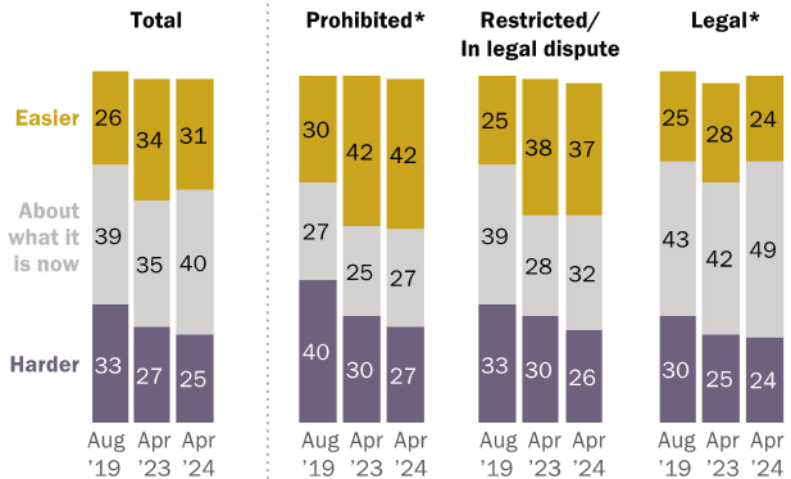
This is particularly true of those in states where abortion is now prohibited or restricted.

In both types of states, the shares of Americans saying it should be easier to obtain an abortion have risen 12 points since before Roe was overturned, as the shares saying it should be harder have gradually declined.

By comparison, changes in views among those living in states where abortion is legal have been more modest.

Americans living in states with abortion bans or restrictions are more likely to say it should be easier than it currently is to obtain an abortion

% who say it should be ____ to get an abortion in the area where they live
In states where abortions are currently ...



* In many states where abortion is prohibited, laws include provisions for exceptions to protect the life or health of a mother, and some make exceptions in cases of rape or incest. "Legal" indicates states where abortion access is currently no more restricted than it was prior to the 2022 Dobbs decision. Refer to the Appendix for a complete categorization of state designations.

Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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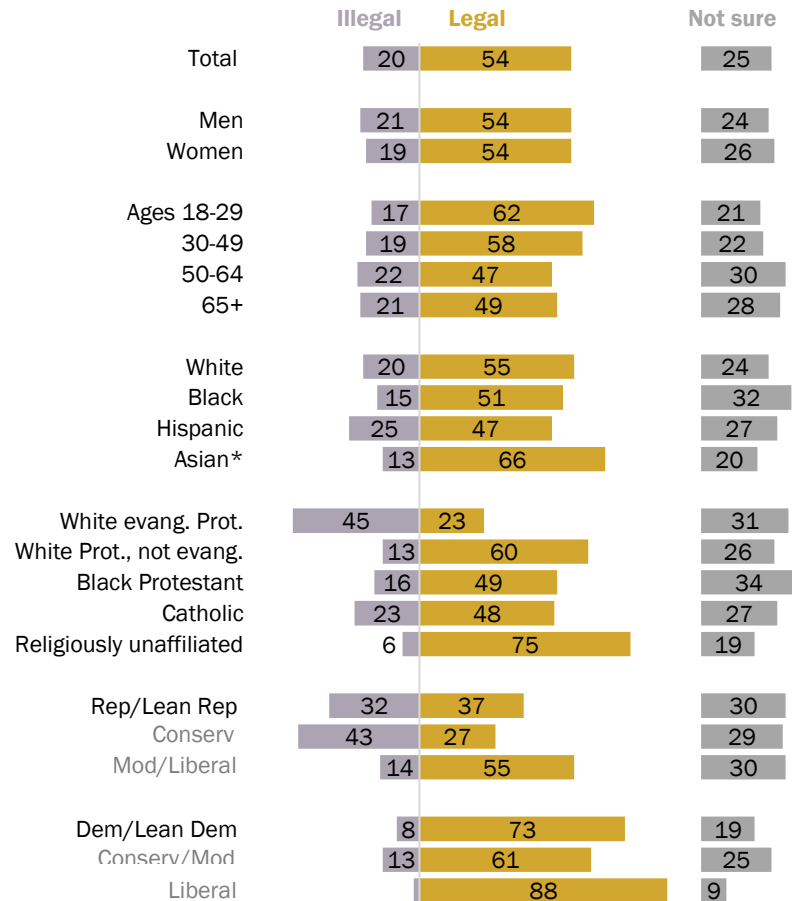
Americans' views on medication abortion in their states

While Americans overall are more supportive than not of medication abortion (54% say it should be legal, 20% say illegal), there are modest differences in support across groups:

- Younger Americans are somewhat more likely to say medication abortion should be legal than older Americans. While 59% of adults ages 18 to 49 say it should be legal, 48% of those 50 and older say the same.
- Asian adults (66%) are particularly likely to say medication abortion should be legal compared with White (55%), Black (51%) and Hispanic (47%) adults.
- White evangelical Protestants oppose medication abortion by about two-to-one (45% vs. 23%), with White nonevangelicals, Black Protestants, Catholics and religiously unaffiliated adults all being more likely than not to say medication abortion should be legal.

Across most groups, more say medication abortion should be legal than illegal in their states

% who say medication abortion should be ___ in their state



* Estimates for Asian adults are representative of English speakers only.
 Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. No answer responses are not shown.
 Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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- Republicans are closely divided over medication abortion: 37% say it should be legal while 32% say it should be illegal. But similar to views on abortion access overall, conservative

Republicans are more opposed (43% illegal, 27% legal), while moderate and liberals are more supportive (55% legal, 14% illegal).

How statements about abortion resonate with Americans

Just over half of Americans (54%) say **“the decision about whether to have an abortion should belong solely to the pregnant woman”** describes their views extremely or very well, compared with 19% who say somewhat well and 26% who say not too or not at all well.

Democrats (76%) overwhelmingly say this statement describes their views extremely or very well, with just 8% saying it does not describe their views well.

Republicans are more divided: 44% say it does not describe their views well while 33% say it describes them extremely or very well. Another 22% say it describes them somewhat well.

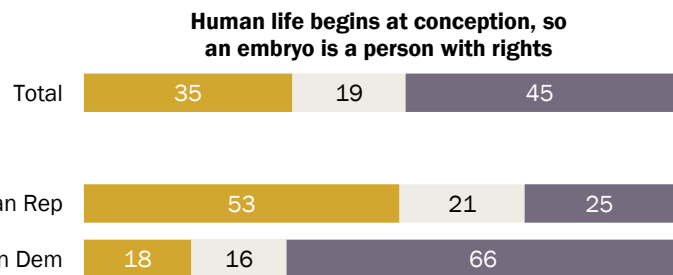
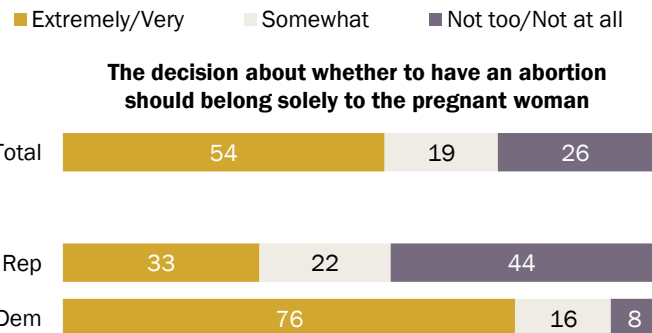
Fewer Americans (35%) say the statement **“human life begins at conception, so an embryo is a person with rights”** describes their views extremely or very well. Another 19% say it describes their views somewhat well while 45% say it describes them not too or not at all well.

(The survey asks separately whether “a fetus is a person with rights.” The results are roughly similar: 37% say that statement describes their views extremely or very well.)

Republicans are about three times as likely as Democrats to say “an embryo is a person with rights” describes their views extremely or very well (53% vs. 18%). In turn, Democrats (66%) are far more likely than Republicans (25%) to say it describes their views not too or not at all well.

Wide partisan divides over whether pregnant women should be the sole deciders of abortion decisions and whether an embryo is a person with rights

% who say each of the following statements describes their views ____ well



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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Some Americans are cross-pressured about abortion

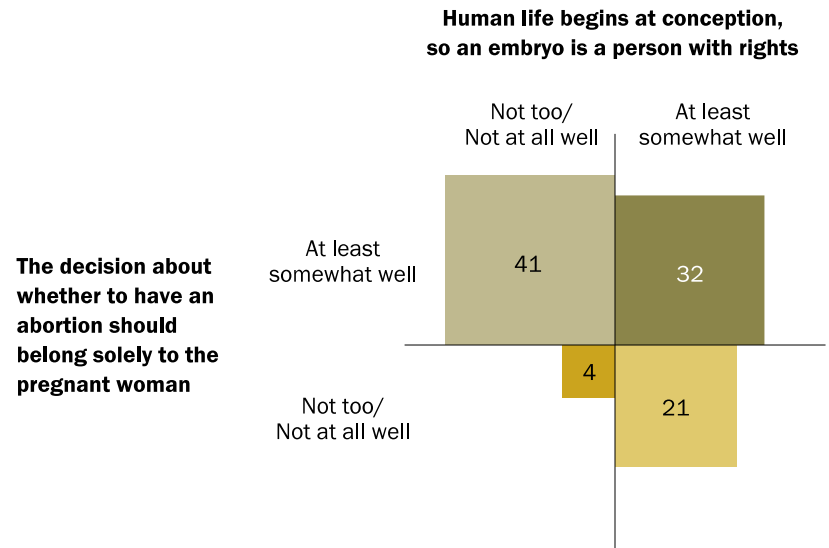
When results on the two statements are combined, 41% of Americans say the statement about a pregnant woman’s right to choose describes their views at least somewhat well, *but not* the statement about an embryo being a person with rights. About two-in ten (21%) say the reverse.

But for nearly a third of U.S. adults (32%), *both* statements describe their views at least somewhat well.

Just 4% of Americans say neither statement describes their views well.

Nearly a third of U.S. adults say embryos are people with rights *and* pregnant women should be the ones to make abortion decisions

% whose views are described by each statement ...



Note: Those who did not answer either question are not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

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Acknowledgments

This report is a collaborative effort based on the input and analysis of the following individuals:

Research team

Carroll Doherty, *Director, Political Research*
Jocelyn Kiley, *Associate Director, Political Research*
Baxter Oliphant, *Senior Researcher*
Hannah Hartig, *Senior Researcher*
Gabe Borelli, *Research Associate*
Andrew Daniller, *Research Associate*
Joseph Copeland, *Research Analyst*
Ted Van Green, *Research Analyst*
Andy Cerda, *Research Assistant*
Shanay Gracia, *Research Assistant*

Communications and editorial

Nida Asheer, *Senior Communications Manager*
Talia Price, *Communications Associate*
Rebecca Leppert, *Copy Editor*

Graphic design and web publishing

Alissa Scheller, *Senior Information Graphics Designer*
Reem Nadeem, *Digital Production*

Methodology

Andrew Mercer, *Senior Research Methodologist*
Dorene Asare-Marfo, *Panel Manager*
Dana Popky, *Associate Panel Manager*
Arnold Lau, *Research Methodologist*

Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

Overview

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from ATP Wave 146, conducted from April 8 to 14, 2024. It includes [oversamples](#) of non-Hispanic Asian adults, non-Hispanic Black adults, Hispanic adults and adults ages 18 to 29 in order to provide more precise estimates of the opinions and experiences of these smaller demographic subgroups. It also included an oversample of validated 2016 and 2020 “vote switchers” who voted for Donald Trump in 2020 but not in 2016 or who voted for Joe Biden in 2020 but not for Hillary Clinton in 2016. These oversampled groups are weighted back to reflect their correct proportions in the population. A total of 8,709 panelists responded out of 9,527 who were sampled, for a response rate of 91%. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 3%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is less than 1%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 8,709 respondents is plus or minus 1.5 percentage points.

Panel recruitment

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015 and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 9,942 (50%) agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based sampling (ABS) recruitment. A study cover letter and a pre-incentive are mailed to a stratified, random sample of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service’s Delivery Sequence File. This Postal Service file has been estimated to cover as much as 98% of the population, although some studies suggest that the coverage could be in the low 90% range.¹ Within each sampled household, the adult with the next

¹ AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. [“AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling.”](#)

birthday is asked to participate. Other details of the ABS recruitment protocol have changed over time but are available upon request.²

We have recruited a national sample of U.S. adults to the ATP approximately once per year since 2014. In some years, the recruitment has included additional efforts (known as an “oversample”) to boost sample size with underrepresented groups. For example, Hispanic, Black and Asian adults were oversampled in 2019, 2022 and 2023, respectively.

Across the six address-based recruitments, a total of 23,862 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 20,917 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. Of the 30,859 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 11,902 remained active panelists and continued to receive survey invitations at the time this survey was conducted.

The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	1,390
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	831
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	404
Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018	ABS	9,396	8,778	3,842
Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019	ABS	5,900	4,720	1,385
June 1 to July 19, 2020; Feb. 10 to March 31, 2021	ABS	3,197	2,812	1,438
May 29 to July 7, 2021; Sept. 16 to Nov. 1, 2021	ABS	1,329	1,162	731
May 24 to Sept. 29, 2022	ABS	3,354	2,869	1,448
April 17 to May 30, 2023	ABS	686	576	433
	Total	43,580	30,859	11,902

Note: RDD is random-digit dial; ABS is address-based sampling. Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel.

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² Email pewsurveys@pewresearch.org.

Sample design

The overall target population for this survey was noninstitutionalized persons ages 18 and older living in the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii. It featured a stratified random sample from the ATP in which the following groups were selected with certainty: non-Hispanic Asian adults; non-Hispanic Black adults; Hispanic adults; adults ages 18 to 29; validated 2016 and 2020 voters who voted for Donald Trump in 2020 but voted for a different candidate in 2016; and validated 2016 and 2020 voters who voted for Joe Biden in 2020 but did not vote for Hillary Clinton in 2016.³

The remaining panelists were sampled at rates designed to ensure that the share of respondents in each stratum is proportional to its share of the U.S. adult population to the greatest extent possible. Respondent weights are adjusted to account for differential probabilities of selection as described in the Weighting section below.

Questionnaire development and testing

The questionnaire was developed by Pew Research Center in consultation with Ipsos. The web program was rigorously tested on both PC and mobile devices by the Ipsos project management team and Center researchers. The Ipsos project management team also populated test data that was analyzed in SPSS to ensure the logic and randomizations were working as intended before launching the survey.

Incentives

All respondents were offered a post-paid incentive for their participation. Respondents could choose to receive the post-paid incentive in the form of a check or a gift code to Amazon.com or could choose to decline the incentive. Incentive amounts ranged from \$5 to \$20 depending on whether the respondent belongs to a part of the population that is harder or easier to reach. Differential incentive amounts were designed to increase panel survey participation among groups that traditionally have low survey response propensities.

Data collection protocol

The data collection field period for this survey was April 8 to 14, 2024. Postcard notifications were mailed to a subset of ATP panelists with a known residential address on April 8.⁴

³ A validated voter is a citizen who told us that they voted in an election *and* have a record for voting in that election in a commercial voter file. A voter file is a list of adults that includes information such as which elections they have voted in. Federal law requires states to maintain voter files, and businesses assemble these files to create a nationwide list of adults along with their voter information.

⁴ Postcard notifications are sent to 1) panelists who have been provided with a tablet to take ATP surveys, 2) panelists who were recruited within the last two years, and 3) panelists recruited prior to the last two years who opt to continue receiving postcard notifications.

Invitations were sent out in two separate launches: soft launch and full launch. Sixty panelists were included in the soft launch, which began with an initial invitation sent on April 8. The ATP panelists chosen for the initial soft launch were known responders who had completed previous ATP surveys within one day of receiving their invitation. All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking sampled panelists were included in the full launch and were sent an invitation on April 9.

All panelists with an email address received an email invitation and up to two email reminders if they did not respond to the survey. All ATP panelists who consented to SMS messages received an SMS invitation and up to two SMS reminders.

Invitation and reminder dates, ATP Wave 146

	Soft launch	Full launch
Initial invitation	April 8, 2024	April 9, 2024
First reminder	April 11, 2024	April 11, 2024
Final reminder	April 13, 2024	April 13, 2024

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Data quality checks

To ensure high-quality data, the Center's researchers performed data quality checks to identify any respondents showing clear patterns of satisficing. This includes checking for whether respondents left questions blank at very high rates or always selected the first or last answer presented. As a result of this checking, three ATP respondents were removed from the survey dataset prior to weighting and analysis.

Weighting

The ATP data is weighted in a multistep process that accounts for multiple stages of sampling and nonresponse that occur at different points in the survey process. First, each panelist begins with a base weight that reflects their probability of selection for their initial recruitment survey. These weights are then rescaled and adjusted to account for changes in the design of ATP recruitment surveys from year to year. Finally, the weights are calibrated to align with the population benchmarks in the accompanying table to correct for nonresponse to recruitment

surveys and panel attrition. If only a subsample of panelists was invited to participate in the wave, this weight is adjusted to account for any differential probabilities of selection.

Among the panelists who completed the survey, this weight is then calibrated again to align with the population benchmarks identified in the accompanying table and trimmed at the 2nd and 98th percentiles to reduce the loss in precision stemming from variance in the weights. This trimming is performed separately among non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic Asian, Hispanic and all other respondents. Sampling errors and tests of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

American Trends Panel weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Age (detailed)	2022 American Community Survey (ACS)
Age x Gender	
Education x Gender	
Education x Age	
Race/Ethnicity x Education	
Black (alone or in combination) x Hispanic	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Hispanics and Asian Americans	
Years lived in the U.S.	
Census region x Metropolitan status	
Volunteerism	
Party affiliation x Voter registration	2022 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation x Race/Ethnicity	2023 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)
Frequency of internet use	
Religious affiliation	

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on noninstitutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total U.S. adult population.

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The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey.

Sample sizes and margins of error, ATP Wave 146

Group	Unweighted sample size	Weighted %	Plus or minus ...
All adults	8,709		1.5 percentage points
Half form	At least 3,558		2.2 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	3,746	45	2.2 percentage points
Half form	At least 1,856		3.2 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	4,659	48	2.1 percentage points
Half form	At least 2,322		3.0 percentage points
<i>Adults who live in states where abortion is ...</i>			
Prohibited	1,908		3.2 percentage points
Half form	At least 947		4.6 percentage points
Restricted/In legal dispute	2,026		3.4 percentage points
Half form	At least 1,001		5.0 percentage points
Legal	4,773		2.0 percentage points
Half form	At least 1,159		2.9 percentage points

Note: This survey includes oversamples of non-Hispanic Asian adults, non-Hispanic Black adults, Hispanic adults, adults ages 18-29, validated voters who did not vote for Donald Trump in 2016 and voted for Donald Trump in 2020, and validated voters who did not vote for Hillary Clinton in 2016 and voted for Joe Biden in 2020. Unweighted sample sizes do not account for the sample design or weighting and do not describe a group's contribution to weighted estimates. Refer to the Sample design and Weighting sections above for details.

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Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Dispositions and response rates

Final dispositions, ATP Wave 146

	AAPOR code	Total
Completed interview	1.1	8,709
Logged on to survey; broke off	2.12	38
Logged on to survey; did not complete any items	2.1121	81
Never logged on (implicit refusal)	2.11	695
Survey completed after close of the field period	2.27	1
Completed interview but was removed for data quality		3
Screened out		0
Total panelists sampled for the survey		9,527
Completed interviews	I	8,709
Partial interviews	P	0
Refusals	R	814
Non-contact	NC	1
Other	O	3
Unknown household	UH	0
Unknown other	UO	0
Not eligible	NE	0
Total		9,527
AAPOR RR1 = $I / (I+P+R+NC+O+UH+UO)$		91%
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Cumulative response rate as of ATP Wave 146

	Total
Weighted response rate to recruitment surveys	11%
% of recruitment survey respondents who agreed to join the panel, among those invited	71%
% of those agreeing to join who were active panelists at start of Wave 146	45%
Response rate to Wave 146 survey	91%
Cumulative response rate	3%
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Appendix

Categorizing state abortion laws

To create categories for state laws on abortion, researchers referenced [tracking data from The New York Times](#). Data for each state is current as of April 23, 2024.

States were classified based on current laws or pending legal challenges. Refer to the table below for more detail on state status.

State Abortion Laws Status (as of April 23, 2024)

	Definition	States	Share of public
Prohibited	States with active bans on nearly all abortions.	Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia	23%
Restricted/In legal dispute	States with gestational limits currently in place that are 20 weeks or less, or where active lawsuits or legal challenges are currently blocking enforcement of stricter laws on abortion.	Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Iowa*, Montana*, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Utah, Wyoming*	21%
Legal	States in which abortion remains available at or beyond the level prior to the Supreme Court's overruling of <i>Roe v. Wade</i> . Most of these states have state-level guarantees or have moved to further expand abortion access and/or protections.	Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin	55%

* States where active lawsuits or legal challenges are currently in process.

Notes: In many prohibited states, laws include provisions for exceptions to protect the life or health of a mother. In some prohibited states there are exceptions in cases of rape or incest.

Source: Data compiled from The New York Times' abortion law tracker:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2024/us/abortion-laws-roe-v-wade.html>. Data current as of April 23, 2024.

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**2024 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 146 APRIL 2024
FINAL TOPLINE
APRIL 8-14, 2024
N=8,709**

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,360]:**

IVF_GDBD As you may know, in vitro fertilization (IVF) is a type of medical procedure that is used by some people to become pregnant, often when they are unable to get pregnant on their own. In most cases, multiple embryos are created in this process.

All in all, do you think people having access to IVF is a... **[RANDOMIZE 1 & 2, 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Apr 8-14, <u>2024</u>	
70	Good thing
8	Bad thing
22	Not sure
*	No answer

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

ABRTLGL Do you think abortion should be... **[RANDOMIZE DISPLAY OF OPTIONS 1-4 AND 4-1]**

	Legal in all <u>cases</u>	Legal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in all <u>cases</u>	No <u>answer</u>	NET <i>Legal in all/most</i>	NET <i>Illegal in all/most</i>
Apr 8-14, 2024	25	38	28	8	2	63	36
Mar 27-Apr 2, 2023	27	35	27	9	2	62	36
Jun 27-Jul 4, 2022	29	33	28	8	2	62	36
Mar 7-13, 2022	25	36	27	10	2	61	37
Apr 5-11, 2021	25	34	26	13	2	59	39
Jan 22-Feb 2, 2020	25	35	27	11	2	60	38
Jul 22-Aug 4, 2019	27	34	26	12	1	61	38

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	Legal in all <u>cases</u>	Legal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in all <u>cases</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	NET <i>Legal in all/most</i>	NET <i>Illegal in all/most</i>
Jul 10-15, 2019	24	34	24	15	3	58	39
Sep 18-24, 2018	25	34	22	15	5	58	37
Jun 8-18, 2017	25	33	24	16	3	57	40
Oct 20-25, 2016	22	36	23	14	4	59	37
Mar 17-26, 2016	24	33	24	16	3	56	41
Sep 22-27, 2015	20	31	25	18	6	51	43
Sep 2-9, 2014	22	34	26	14	5	55	40

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED:

	Legal in all <u>cases</u>	Legal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in all <u>cases</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref	NET Legal in <u>all/most</u>	NET Illegal in <u>all/most</u>
Jul 17-21, 2013	20	34	24	15	7	54	40
Oct 24-28, 2012	23	32	25	13	7	55	39
Apr 4-15, 2012	23	31	23	16	7	53	39
Nov 9-14, 2011	20	31	26	17	6	51	43
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	19	35	25	16	5	54	41
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	18	36	26	16	4	54	42
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	17	33	27	17	7	50	44
Aug 11-27, 2009	16	31	27	17	8	47	45
Apr 2009	18	28	28	16	10	46	44
Late Oct, 2008	18	35	24	16	7	53	40
Mid-Oct, 2008	19	38	22	14	7	57	36
Aug 2008	17	37	26	15	5	54	41
Jun 2008	19	38	24	13	6	57	37
Nov 2007	18	33	29	15	5	51	44
Oct 2007	21	32	24	15	8	53	39
Aug 2007	17	35	26	17	5	52	43
AP/Ipsos-Poll: Feb 2006	19	32	27	16	6	51	43
ABC/WaPo: Dec 2005	17	40	27	13	3	57	40
ABC/WaPo: Apr 2005	20	36	27	14	3	56	41
ABC/WaPo: Dec 2004	21	34	25	17	3	55	42
ABC/WaPo: May 2004	23	31	23	20	2	54	43
ABC/WaPo: Jan 2003	23	34	25	17	2	57	42
ABC/WaPo: Aug 2001	22	27	28	20	3	49	48
ABC/BeliefNet: Jun 2001	22	31	23	20	4	53	43
ABC/WaPo: Jan 2001	21	38	25	14	1	59	39
ABC/WaPo: Sep 2000 (RVs)	20	35	25	16	3	55	41
ABC/WaPo: Jul 2000	20	33	26	17	4	53	43
ABC/WaPo: Sep 1999	20	37	26	15	2	57	41
ABC/WaPo: Mar 1999	21	34	27	15	3	55	42
ABC/WaPo: Jul 1998	19	35	29	13	4	54	42
ABC/WaPo: Aug 1996	22	34	27	14	3	56	41
ABC/WaPo: Jun 1996	24	34	25	14	2	58	39
ABC/WaPo: Oct 1995	26	35	25	12	3	61	37
ABC: Sep 1995	24	36	25	11	4	60	36
ABC/WaPo: Jul 1995	27	32	26	14	1	59	40

ASK ALL:

ABORTION3 Thinking about the area where you live, how easy or difficult do you think it would be for someone to obtain an abortion near you? **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE ORDER FOR 1-4 OR 4-1 FOR RANDOM HALF SAMPLE]**

Apr 8-14, <u>2024</u>		Mar 27-Apr 2 <u>2023</u>	Jul 22-Aug 4 <u>2019</u>
13	Very difficult	14	8
26	Somewhat difficult	27	24
37	Somewhat easy	35	43
20	Very easy	18	22
4	No answer	5	3

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,349]:

ABORTION4 Still thinking about the area where you live, do you think that obtaining an abortion should be... **[REVERSE ORDER OF 1 AND 2 FOR RANDOM HALF SAMPLE WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Apr 8-14, <u>2024</u>		Mar 27-Apr 2, <u>2023</u>	Jul 22-Aug 4 <u>2019</u>
25	Harder than it is now	27	33
31	Easier than it is now	34	26
40	About what it is now	35	39
4	No answer	4	3

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,360]:

ABRTN_MED Do you think medication abortion – that is, the use of a prescription pill or a series of pills to end a pregnancy – should be legal or illegal in your state? **[ROTATE 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Apr 8-14, <u>2024</u>		Mar 27-Apr 2, <u>2023</u> ⁵
54	Legal	53
20	Illegal	22
25	Not sure	24
1	No answer	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

ABRTVIEW Regardless of whether you think abortion should be legal or illegal, how well do each of the following statements describe your views? **[RANDOMIZE; SHOW ALL ITEMS ON SAME SCREEN]**

	Extremely <u>well</u>	Very <u>well</u>	Somewhat <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a. The decision about whether to have an abortion should belong solely to the pregnant woman						
Apr 8-14, 2024	36	19	19	13	13	1
Mar 7-13, 2022	33	19	19	14	13	1
b. Human life begins at conception, so a fetus is a person with rights						
Apr 8-14, 2024	27	10	19	18	25	1
Mar 7-13, 2022	26	12	18	19	23	2

⁵ In the April 2023 survey, the question read: "Do you think medication abortion SHOULD be legal or illegal in your state?"

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,360]:

c. Human life begins at conception, so an embryo is a person with rights

Apr 8-14, 2024	22	13	19	18	27	2
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ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...⁶

			Something	No	<i>Lean</i>	<i>Lean</i>
<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>else</u>	<u>answer</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
28	29	27	14	3	17	19

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls

⁶ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.