

ACT!

FOR WOMEN ■

Safe. Legal.
Where we live.

Key Highlights from a 2017 Poll on Support for Abortion Access

Six in ten (61%) adults in the U.S. support a federal law that protects a woman's legal right to abortion and prevents restrictions that make access to safe and legal abortion care increasingly expensive and difficult.

Further, two-thirds (66%) of African Americans, two-thirds (66%) of Asian American & Pacific Islanders, and 64% of Latinos/Latinas support such legislation.

Even in traditionally conservative states, the majority supports such a bill to protect abortion access; for example, 54% of Texans and 62% Floridians expressed support.



Views on abortion



Nearly seven in ten (69%) adults in the U.S. would prefer to keep *Roe v. Wade* and ensure abortion remains legal.

Two-thirds (66%) support a woman having access to safe and legal abortion care in her community.

After being informed that "From 2011 to now, states have passed 369 laws restricting women's access to safe, legal abortion, approximately twice as many restrictions as the previous decade," a majority (59%) considered this a step in the wrong direction.

Of those who consider the 369 laws passed since 2011 restricting access to safe legal abortion a step in the wrong direction; these are the types of issues they view as a step in the right direction:

- Protecting access to birth control (67%)
- Affordable health care (61%)
- Protecting access to abortion (54%)

Views on Congress & women's health



- Eight in 10 (81%) want Congress to make women's health issues a priority.
- Eight in 10 (81%) want Congress to be vocal about women's health issues.

Of those who agree that Congress should be more vocal about women's health issues, 66% support a bill like the Women's Health Protection Act. Further, they want their representatives to:

- Demonstrate how women's health issues connect with other key issues like the economy (67%)
- Sponsor legislation (56%)
- Hold town halls (33%)

Talking points

- **A strong majority of adults in the U.S. (61%) support a bill like the Women’s Health Protection Act**, noting in a survey that they would support “a federal law protecting a woman’s legal right to abortion by upholding *Roe v. Wade* and preventing restrictions that make it more expensive and difficult to access safe, legal abortion.”
 - Support is particularly high among people of color, with **66% of African Americans, 64% of Latinos/Latinas, and 66% of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders** supporting a bill like the Women’s Health Protection Act.
 - **In Texas, a majority (54%)** also expresses support for such a law.
 - **In Florida, results are similar to the entire U.S., as over six in ten Floridians (62%)** support such a law.
- Our constitutional rights should not depend on our zip code—but because of legislative attacks, a woman’s ability to make her own personal decisions about her reproductive health care differs widely from state to state. Americans are concerned by this, with **nearly six in ten (59%) viewing the trend of laws restricting women’s access to safe, legal abortion as steps in the wrong direction**. Further, **two-thirds of adults in the U.S. (66%) support women having access to abortion care near where they live**.
- Americans want their lawmakers to be bold and take action on women’s health issues. **Eight in ten adults in the U.S. (81%) would like Congress to be more vocal about women’s health issues**. The same number wants Congress to make women’s health issues a priority. For these groups, **66% support a bill like the Women’s Health Protection Act**. Further, of those who agree that Congress should be more vocal about women’s health issues, two-thirds (67%) want Congress to demonstrate how women’s health issues connect with other key issues, like the economy, and over half (56%) want members of Congress to take action by sponsoring legislation.

Methodology: This survey by the Center for Reproductive Rights was conducted by research firm GfK from June 15-26, 2017. The sample consisted of 1,877 adults (18+) in the United States, and it includes oversamples of communities of color (African Americans, Latinos/Latinas, and Asian/Pacific Islanders), Floridians, and Texans. GfK fielded the poll using its KnowledgePanel™, a nationally representative, online probability panel that recruits survey takers using a process called address-based sampling (ABS). The survey was conducted in English and Spanish. The margin of error for the national sample is +/-2.5 percentage points. The margins of error for Florida and Texas are +/-5.7 percentage points. The margin of error is also greater for subgroups compared to the national sample.