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# 2024 Abortion Facts

*American Statistics on Abortion*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This report includes the most recent trends concerning abortion in the United States. From 1973 to 2020, more than 65 million lives have been lost to abortion.<sup>1</sup> While the cumulative abortion numbers will continue to increase, the data reveals that the abortion rate has continued to decline while the percentage of women obtaining medically induced abortions has increased and many of these are self-managed. Almost all abortions occur during the first trimester -- 94 percent at or before 13 weeks.<sup>2</sup>

With the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, it was expected that abortion rates would decrease. In 2023 it was reported that 1,037,000 abortions were conducted in states without bans, an 11 percent increase since 2020.<sup>3</sup> Revenue for the abortion industry continues to grow. In 2024, the abortion industry is reported to have \$4.3 billion in revenue, up almost \$1 billion from 2017. Nearly 23.4 million dollars will be profited by Planned Parenthood for abortions in 2024.<sup>4</sup>

Since the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, the laws on abortion have now also been given to the states to regulate. This has been a drastic and unprecedented change for everyone since the first court ruling over 50 years ago. The landscape of the country now displays 14 states with total abortion bans and some states that support the travel of women to various states to receive abortions or obtain the medication to self-manage at home.<sup>5</sup>

Autonomy has become one of the leading topics in the debates against the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. Physicians in support of the overturn have much to say about this issue as stated here:

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1 National Right to Life. (2024, May). ABORTION statistics United States Data and Trends.

Retrieved August 6, 2024, from <https://nrlc.info/factsheets/#:~:text=Download-AbortionStatsFS,-pdf>

2 Guttmacher Institute (2024, June). Induced Abortion in the United States. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/induced-abortion-united-states>

3 Ibid

4 IBISWorld. Son, A. (May 2024). Family Planning & Abortion Clinics in the US. IBISWorld Industry Report 62141, retrieved August 14, 2024, from <https://www.ibisworld.com/united-states/market-research-reports/family-planning-abortion-clinics-industry/#IndustryStatisticsAndTrends>

5 Gomez, Ivette, Salganicoff, Alina, Sobel, Laurie (2024, February 21). Abortions Later in Pregnancy in a Post Dobbs-era. Retrieved August 7, 2024, from <https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/abortions-later-in-pregnancy-in-a-post-dobbs-era/>

“Abortion is not only about autonomy but also about non-maleficence. In the case of pregnancy, we, as physicians, have two patients. Abortion sometimes harms the woman; abortion always ends the life of our second patient.”<sup>6</sup>

In the pages following, we will take a closer look at the state of abortion in the United States: who is having abortions, why, what the next generation is thinking about abortion, and much more. The studies cited are the most up-to-date data at the time of publication.

## RATE

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The abortion rate has continued to change alongside the landscape. The most dramatic change was the abortion rate dropped 19 percent between 2010 and 2019, but the overall pregnancy rate has dropped as well, with a 9 percent decline.<sup>7</sup>

- Approximately 625,978 legally induced abortions were performed in 2021.<sup>8</sup>
- Unfortunately, being able to obtain accurate data has become increasingly difficult with the increase in access to mail-order abortion medications. There has been a 137 percent increase in the use of early medication abortions from 2012-2021.
- Since the overturn of Roe v. Wade there has been a 5 percent increase in abortions from the data in 2020-2021.<sup>9</sup>
- Unintended pregnancy rates for ages 15-19 declined by more than half (52%). There was also a decrease in pregnancies across racial demographics.<sup>10</sup>
- The abortion rate in 2023 was 15.9 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44.<sup>11</sup> In 2021 abortion rates, the majority of women who have an abortion have one in their early 20s (57%), 8 percent of those are between the ages of 13-19, with one in three (31%) by age 30 and about 4 percent can be

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<sup>6</sup> Cirucci MD, Christina A., Valley MD, Micheal (2024, August 2). A Statement on Abortion by 170 Obstetricians/ Gynecologist after the Reversal of Roe V Wade Volume 39, Issue 2. Retrieved August 7, 2024, from <https://issuesinlawandmedicine.com/articles/a-statement-on-abortion-by-170-obstetricians-gynecologists-after-the-reversal-of-roe-v-wade/>

<sup>7</sup> CDC, National Center for Health Statistics ( 2023, April 12). US Pregnancy Rates Drop during the Last Decade. Retrieved August 7, 2024, from [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs\\_press\\_releases/2023/20230412.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2023/20230412.htm)

<sup>8</sup> (2024, May 15). Abortion Surveillance Findings and Reports. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductive-health/data-statistics/abortion-surveillance-findings-reports.html>

<sup>9</sup> (2024, May 15). Abortion Surveillance Findings and Reports. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductive-health/data-statistics/abortion-surveillance-findings-reports.html>

<sup>10</sup> CDC, National Center for Health Statistics ( 2023, April 12). US Pregnancy Rates Drop during the Last Decade. Retrieved August 7, 2024, from [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs\\_press\\_releases/2023/20230412.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2023/20230412.htm)

<sup>11</sup> Guttmacher Institute (2024, June). Induced Abortion in the United States. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/induced-abortion-united-states>

accounted for in women ages 40-44.<sup>12</sup>

- One in four women are projected to have an abortion by the age of 45, given the data seen in the 2020 abortion rates.<sup>13</sup> Of the 57 percent of women who had had an abortion in 2021, 24 percent of them were having their second abortion, 11 percent their third abortion, and 8 percent had a fourth or more.<sup>14</sup>

## DEMOGRAPHICS

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Most abortion patients are in their 20s and have already had at least one previous child. African American women were more likely to experience abortion than white women. Additionally, over 40 percent of women experiencing abortion are below the poverty line.

- In 2021, 40 out of 100 women who had an abortion were unmarried, with 4 out of 100 women who had an abortion who were married.<sup>15</sup>
- 55% of women who had abortions in 2022 had already had at least one previous birth.
- In 2022, the majority of abortion patients (more than half) were in their 20s, with the largest number (33%) being 20-24.
- Women in households with incomes under the federal poverty line experience more than 41% of all legal abortions in the United States.<sup>16</sup>
- In raw numbers, African Americans were more likely to receive an abortion in 2021. Overall, 30% were white, 42% black, 22% Hispanic, and 7% of other backgrounds.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Diamant, Jeff, Mohamed, Besheer, Leppert, Rebecca (2024, March 25). What the Data Says about Abortion in the U.S. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/03/25/what-the-data-says-about-abortion-in-the-us/>

<sup>13</sup> Guttmacher Institute (2024, June). Induced Abortion in the United States. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/induced-abortion-united-states>

<sup>14</sup> Diamant, Jeff, Mohamed, Besheer, Leppert, Rebecca (2024, March 25). What the Data Says about Abortion in the U.S. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/03/25/what-the-data-says-about-abortion-in-the-us/>

<sup>15</sup> Statista (2023, November). Number of legal abortions per 100 live births in the U.S. from 1973 to 2021, by marital status\*. Retrieved October 1, 2024, from <https://www.statista.com/statistics/185325/number-of-legal-abortions-by-marital-status-in-the-us-since-1973/>

<sup>16</sup> Guttmacher Institute (2024, June). Induced Abortion in the United States. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/induced-abortion-united-states>

<sup>17</sup> Usha Ranji, Karen Diep, and Alina Salganicoff (2024, June 21). Key Facts on Abortion in the United States. Retrieved August 15, 2024, from <https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/key-facts-on-abortion-in-the-united-states/#Who-gets-abortions>

## TYPES

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Abortions are being performed early in pregnancy (93%). Women are also increasingly opting for medically induced abortions rather than surgical abortions and these numbers continue to rise in 2024.

- Medical abortions have increased to 56% of all abortions in 2021, at least for those that have been reported.<sup>18</sup> Data shows that the average gestational age at which abortion occurs has shifted to earlier within the first trimester; likely due, in part, to the increased availability of medication abortions. In 2021 it was seen that 40 percent of abortions occurred by six weeks of gestation, another 39 percent occurred between seven and nine weeks, and 14 percent at 10-13 weeks. Sadly, 7 percent of abortions occurred after the first trimester.<sup>19</sup>
  - An estimated 1,037,000 abortions were provided by clinicians in states without total bans in 2023, an increase of 11% from 2020, when the total was 930,160. These counts do not include self-managed abortions, such as those obtained using abortion pills mailed from pharmacies outside the United States.
  - This increase in national totals appears to be driven by the increase in telehealth abortions or self-administered abortions. The national monthly average number of telehealth abortions in January-March 2024 is 28% higher than the national monthly average number of telehealth abortions in January-March 2023. These numbers exclude shield laws (Abortion shield laws are state laws that protect abortion access by protecting abortion providers and patients from legal consequences in states where abortion is restricted or banned).<sup>20</sup>

## AVAILABILITY

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The number of abortion facilities has declined, as well as the overall number of abortion providers. The increase of telehealth/self-administered abortions and shield laws has changed what the availability of abortion by pill looks like across the country.

- As of 2017, 64% of abortion-providing facilities supply abortions up to 11 weeks gestation.

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<sup>18</sup> Diamant, Jeff, Mohamed, Besheer, Leppert, Rebecca (2024, March 25). What the Data Says about Abortion in the U.S. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/03/25/what-the-data-says-about-abortion-in-the-us/>

<sup>19</sup> Usha Ranji, Karen Diep, and Alina Salganicoff (2024, June 21). Key Facts on Abortion in the United States. Retrieved August 15, 2024, from <https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/key-facts-on-abortion-in-the-united-states/#Who-gets-abortions>

<sup>20</sup> Society of Family Planning. #WeCount Report April 2022 to March 2024, Released August 7, 2024, doi:<https://doi.org/10.46621/878086iuzegt>

- Of facilities that supplied later second-trimester abortions, 22% offered abortions up to 20 weeks and 13% offered abortions beyond 22 weeks.<sup>21</sup>
- The number of U.S. abortion-providing facilities declined 5% between 2020 and 2023 (from 807 to 765).
  - In the 36 states and the District of Columbia that allow abortions (as of March 2024), 21 more brick-and-mortar clinics were operating than there were in 2020, a 3% increase
  - Online-only, or virtual, clinics also provide abortion care. The number of virtual clinics in the United States changes frequently, and precise counts are not available.<sup>22</sup>
- In 2023, nearly 166,00 women seeking an abortion traveled out of state to have their abortions. This is an overall increase of 17% for women seeking this form of abortion.<sup>23</sup>
- In 2023, 22 states and DC enacted 129 different measures protecting abortion access, this was the highest number of protections ever enacted in one year to give women access to abortions.<sup>24</sup>

## REVENUE AND COSTS

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Despite falling abortion numbers, revenue for the abortion industry has continued to rise.

- In 2024, the abortion and family planning industry reported that revenue will amount to 4.3 billion dollars (up almost 1 billion from 2017). It is important to note that these numbers include nonabortion products and services. Planned Parenthood has the greatest market share in this industry with 23.4 million dollars in profit.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2021, the cost of an abortion ranged from \$565 to \$775 out-of-pocket, depending on the trimester receiving the abortion.
  - Since the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, a great number of abortion funds, and independent organizations, have grown or have been created. These funds pay for the costs of abortion services. The funds assist with the costs of medical care, travel, and

<sup>21</sup> Witwer, E., Jones, R., Fuentes, L. (May 2020). Differences in abortion service-delivery in clinics by state policy context in 2017, *Contraception Health Journal*, doi: [https://www.contraceptionjournal.org/article/S0010-7824\(20\)30123-2/abstract](https://www.contraceptionjournal.org/article/S0010-7824(20)30123-2/abstract)

<sup>22</sup> Guttmacher Institute (2024, June). *Induced Abortion in the United States*. Retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/induced-abortion-united-states>

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> Rachel K. Jones, Candace Gibson, and Jesse Philbin (2024, June). *The Number of Brick-and-Mortar Abortion Clinics Drops, as US Abortion Rate Rises: New Data Underscore the Need for Policies that Support Providers*. retrieved August 13, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/report/abortion-clinics-united-states-2020-2024> .

<sup>25</sup> IBISWorld. Son, A. (May 2024). *Family Planning & Abortion Clinics in the US*. IBISWorld Industry Report 62141, retrieved August 14, 2024, from <https://www.ibisworld.com/united-states/market-research-reports/family-planning-abortion-clinics-industry/#IndustryStatisticsAndTrends>

accommodations if needed. This includes travel out of state.

- Medicare and private insurance provide coverage for some abortions. Insurance is also regulated by the laws currently in effect in the state providing the service.<sup>26</sup>
- The cost of ordering a mail-ordered abortion pill ranges from \$28 to \$150, depending on whether or not the individual received a clinical consultation with their service.<sup>27</sup>

## FERTILITY AND ABORTION

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Forty-one percent of pregnancies in 2019 were reported as “unplanned” as the birth rate has continued to slowly decline.

- The total pregnancy rate reached its lowest level in 2020 with 83 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15–44. The highest rate of pregnancy can be found in the southern parts of the US.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2019, there was an average of 15% decrease in unintended pregnancies across all demographics. This was seen in a decrease in pregnancies for both women who are married and unmarried.<sup>29</sup>

## THE ABORTION DECISION

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The average woman choosing abortion makes the decision within a day of confirming her pregnancy and obtains an abortion within the next week. The most frequently cited reason for abortion was financial.

- According to a study by abortion researchers, 4 days passed on average between the time a woman was first suspected of pregnancy to confirm the pregnancy. The median time from confirming the pregnancy to deciding to have an abortion was 0 days, and the median time from deciding to have an abortion to first attempting to obtain abortion services was 2 days.<sup>30</sup> This means that on average, women have already made up their minds to have an abortion prior to confirming their pregnancy.
- Minors took a week longer to suspect pregnancy than adults did.

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<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Doris W. Chiu, Isaac Maddow-Zimet, and Kathryn Kost (October, 2024). Pregnancies, Births and Abortions in the United States, 1973–2020: National and State Trends by Age. Retrieved October 8, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/report/pregnancies-births-abortions-in-united-states-1973-2020>.

<sup>29</sup> Rossen LM, Hamilton BE, Abma JC, Gregory ECW, Beresovsky V, Resendez AV, et al. Updated methodology to estimate overall and unintended pregnancy rates in the United States. National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Health Stat 2(201). 2023. DOI:<https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc:124395>

<sup>30</sup> Finer, L.B., Frohvirth, L.F., Dauphinee, L.A., Singh, S. & Moore, A.M. (2018, October). Timing of steps and reasons for delays in obtaining abortions in the United States, *Contraception*, (74)(4):334-344, doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2006.04.010>

- 58% of women reported that they would have liked to have had the abortion earlier. The most common reasons for delay were that it took a long time to make arrangements (59%), to decide (39%), and to find out about the pregnancy (36%). Poor women were about twice as likely to be delayed by difficulties in making arrangements.<sup>31</sup>
- Women’s reasons for seeking abortion included Rape and incest (0.4%), risk to the woman’s life or a major bodily function (0.3%), other physical health concerns (2.2%), abnormality in the unborn baby (1.2%), elective and unspecified reasons (95.9%). This means that common exceptions to abortion limits are estimated to account for less than 5% of all abortions.<sup>32</sup>
- 38% of women indicate that the father of the baby was the most influential person in their abortion decision.<sup>33</sup>
- 57% of women who obtained an abortion experienced a potentially traumatic life event in the 12 months leading up to their abortion. The most common factors included unemployment, a breakup, or falling behind on rent or mortgage.<sup>34</sup>

## MILLENNIALS

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The number of millennials that find themselves with less restrictive views on abortion has been rising for cases of first-trimester abortions, (69%).<sup>35</sup>

- In 2017, 49% of Millennials said they would support a ban on abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy if it were enacted in their state.<sup>36</sup>
  - However, now in 2024, 61% of young adults said they believed abortion should be legal in all or most cases, while only 39% said it should be illegal or restricted in all or most cases.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>31</sup> Ibid

<sup>32</sup> Elyse Gaitan, Mia Steupert, M.A., and Tessa Cox (May, 2024). Fact Sheet: Reasons for Abortion. Retrieved August 15, 2024, from <https://lozierinstitute.org/fact-sheet-reasons-for-abortion/>.

<sup>33</sup> Lifeway Research (2015, November). Care Net Study of Women who have had an abortion and their views on the church (Rep.). Retrieved August 15, 2024, from <https://research.lifeway.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Care-Net-Final-Presentation-Report-Revised.pdf>

<sup>34</sup> Jones, R. K., Frohwirth, L., & Moore, A. M. (2012). More than poverty: Disruptive events among women having abortions in the USA. *Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care*, 39(1), 36-43. doi:10.1136/jfprhc-2012-100311

<sup>35</sup> Lydia Saad. (June 14, 2023). Broader Support for Abortion Rights Continues Post-Dobbs. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from <https://news.gallup.com/poll/506759/broader-support-abortion-rights-continues-post-dobbs.aspx>

<sup>36</sup> Scott, E. (2018, January 31). Millennials have a surprising view on later-term abortions. Retrieved February 16, 2018, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2018/01/31/millennials-have-a-surprising-view-on-later-term-abortions/>

<sup>37</sup> Pew Research, Public Opinion on Abortion (2024, May 13). Views on abortion, 1995-2024. Retrieved on August 16, 2024, from <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/fact-sheet/public-opinion-on-abortion/>



## GENERATION Z

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High school students are having less sexual intercourse. But that doesn't mean they're having less sex.

- 23% of Gen Z believe that abortion is wrong and 76% believe that abortion should be legal in all or most cases.<sup>38</sup>
- In 2021, 30% of teens nationwide had never engaged in sexual intercourse. This is almost more than a 20% decrease over the last several decades.<sup>39</sup>
- Reports in 2021 state that there is a decrease of Gen Z students having unprotected sex (7.9% vs. 12.7% previously).<sup>40</sup>
  - 21% of Gen Z believe that sex before marriage is morally wrong; an increase from 19% of Millennials.<sup>41</sup>

## ADOPTION

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Adoption rates have decreased according to the most recent data collection. (This most likely is impacted by Covid). Adoption is also not seen by individuals as a suitable avenue to pursue over abortion.

- There was a 13% decrease in adoptions nationally in 2020.<sup>42</sup>
- In one study it was found that participants said that choosing adoption would mean abandoning their parental duty. In one interviewee's words, "I don't think I could carry a child to term, deliver it and then kind of just hand it to someone else. I think at that time, if I am making that decision to keep the baby [instead of having an abortion], I think it's then up to me to be the parent."<sup>43</sup>

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**38** Ibid.

**39** Gecker, Jocelyn, The Associated Press (2023, May 12). From "Sneaky Links" to "Situationships," Here's how Gen Z is Redefining Sex. Retrieved on August 16, 2024, from <https://fortune.com/well/2023/05/12/are-teenagers-having-sex-cdc-gen-z-situationships-sneaky-links/>

**40** Bunnell, Rebecca, Houry, Debra, Walensky, Rochelle, et al. Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance – United States, 2021. MMWR Suppl 2023; 72(1): 1-102. Retrieved on August 23, 2024, doi: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/su/pdfs/su7201-H.pdf>

**41** Stone, R., Hempell, B., Hawkins, A., & Kinnaman, D. (2018). Gen Z The Culture, Beliefs and Motivations Shaping the Next Generation. Available from <https://www.barna.com/product/gen-z/>

**42** Koh, Eun, Hanlon, Ryan, Daughtery, Laura, Lindner, Abigail (2022) Adoption by the Numbers. Retrieved August 23, 2024 from <https://adoptioncouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Adoption-by-the-Numbers-National-Council-For-Adoption-Dec-2022.pdf>

**43** Guttmacher (February 28, 2023). Pregnant People in the United States Seeking Abortion Do Not See Adoption as an Alternative. Retrieved on October 11, 2024, from <https://www.guttmacher.org/news-release/2023/pregnant-people-united-states-seeking-abortion-do-not-see-adoption-alternative>

## ATTITUDES TOWARD ABORTION

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Americans increasingly believe abortion should be legal in at least some circumstances, but nearly half still personally view it as morally wrong. Fewer Americans are viewing abortion as a moral issue and the percent who consider it morally wrong has also declined.

- In 2024, 50% of people said having an abortion depended on the situation and whether it would be a moral decision, 35% of Americans also expressed the opinion that abortion should be legal in all or most circumstances in 2024. 12% said it should be illegal in all circumstances (which has been a growing decline).<sup>44</sup>
- Gestational age plays a large role in Americans' view of abortion legality. In 2024, 69% of Americans felt abortion should be "generally" legal in the first trimester, but that percentage dropped to 37% for the second trimester and 2% for the third trimester.<sup>45</sup>
  - 42% of women and 58% of men.
  - 44% of individuals ages 18-29; 55% of individuals ages 30-49; 50% of individuals ages 50 and older.<sup>46</sup>
- 56% of Protestants and 54% of Catholics say abortion is morally wrong, somewhat above the overall sample average of 48%.<sup>47</sup>

## ABORTION AND THE CHURCH

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More than 4 in 10 women who have had an abortion were churchgoers when they ended a pregnancy. "That's a huge opportunity for the church to have an impact on those decisions," said Scott McConnell, Executive Director of Lifeway Research. But only 7 percent of women discussed their abortion decision with anyone at church. Three-fourths (76 percent) say the church had no influence on their decision to terminate a pregnancy.<sup>48</sup>

- 70% of women who have had an abortion indicate their religious preference is Christian, 27% were Catholics, 26% were protestant, and 15%

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<sup>44</sup> Gallup (2024, June 17) Where do Americans Stand on Abortions? Retrieved on August 23, 2024, from <https://news.gallup.com/poll/321143/americans-stand-abortion.aspx>

<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> Frank Newport (May 13, 2022). Personal Religiosity and Attitudes Toward Abortion. Retrieved on October 11, 2024, from <https://news.gallup.com/opinion/polling-matters/392648/personal-religiosity-attitudes-toward-abortion.aspx>

<sup>48</sup> Green, Lisa, Focus on the Family (2024, June 26). Women Go Silently from the Church to the Abortion Clinic. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/pro-life/abortion/survey-women-go-silently-from-church-to-abortion-clinic/>

were non-denominational.<sup>49</sup>

- 35% of Christian women who have had an abortion indicate they currently attend church once a week or more.<sup>50</sup>
- 36% of women were attending a Christian church once a month or more at the time of their
- first abortion.<sup>51</sup>
- As women considered their abortion decision, the most typical reactions/expectations from a local church were “judgmental” (33%) or “condemning” (26%).<sup>52</sup>
- 51% of women agree that churches do not have a ministry prepared to discuss options during an unplanned pregnancy.<sup>53</sup>
- In 2024, 91% of self-identified evangelicals who attend church once or twice per month strongly agree the statement “Abortion is a Sin,”.<sup>54</sup>
- American religious groups vary widely in their views of abortion. 53% of those who are part of the mainline Protestant tradition say abortion should be illegal in all or most cases, with 45% in support of keeping abortion legal.<sup>55</sup>
- About three-quarters of White evangelical Protestants (73%) think abortion should be illegal in all or most cases. By contrast, 86% of religiously unaffiliated Americans say abortion should be legal in all or most cases, as do 71% of Black Protestants, 64% of White nonevangelical Protestants and 59% of Catholics.<sup>56</sup>

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**49** Lifeway Research (2015, November). Care Net Study of Women who have had an abortion and their views on the church (Rep.). Retrieved December 2, 2016, from <http://www.lifewayresearch.com/files/2015/11/Care-Net-Final-Presentation-Report-Revised.pdf>

**50** Ibid.

**51** Ibid.

**52** Ibid.

**53** Ibid.

**54** Ligonier Ministries and Lifeway Research. (2022). The State of Theology. Retrieved August 27, 2024, from <http://thestateoftheology.com/>

**55** Doherty, Carroll, Kiley, Jocelyn, Oliphant, Baxter, et al. (2023, April 26). Nearly a Year After Roe’s Demise, Americans’ Views of Abortion Access Increasingly Vary by Where They Live. Retrieved August 27, 2024, from <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2023/04/26/nearly-a-year-after-roes-demise-americans-views-of-abortion-access-increasingly-vary-by-where-they-live/>

**56** Pew Research, Public Opinion on Abortion (2024, May 13). Views on abortion, 1995-2024. Retrieved on August 16, 2024, from <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/fact-sheet/public-opinion-on-abortion/>