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49% of Voters Are Pro-Choice, 43% Pro-Life

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Election season is officially underway, and although the abortion issue doesn't rank high in terms of voting importance, voters nationwide remain consistent on the topic.

The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey of Likely U.S. Voters shows that 49% are pro-choice when it comes to abortion, while 43% say they are pro-life. (To see survey question wording, [click here](#).)

Pro-choice voters have slightly outnumbered pro-lifers [in surveys for several years](#).

However, most voters (53%) still believe abortion is morally wrong most of the time. Thirty-two percent (32%) see abortion as morally acceptable the majority of the time. Fifteen percent (15%) are undecided. These findings, too, show little change in surveys since [April 2007](#).

Forty-one percent (41%) of voters say it is too easy for a woman to get an abortion in the United States, down the mid- to high 40s in most surveys since [March 2006](#). Sixteen percent (16%) think it is too hard for a woman to get an abortion in this country, while 30% say the level of difficulty is about right. Another 13% are undecided.

Some states in the country require a waiting period before a woman gets an abortion. Now, 47% agree that there should be a waiting period, down slightly from earlier surveys. Thirty-six percent (36%) disagree, while 18% are not sure. While these results haven't shifted much since the beginning of last year, they show the lowest support for a required waiting period before an abortion.

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The national survey of 1,000 Likely Voters was conducted on January 2, 2012 by Rasmussen Reports. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. Field work for all Rasmussen Reports surveys is conducted by [Pulse Opinion Research, LLC](#). See [methodology](#).

Separate surveying in March of last year found that 65% of Americans supported a three-day waiting period and counseling before an abortion. Sixty-five percent (65%) also believed the waiting period and counseling are at least somewhat [likely to reduce the number of abortions](#).

Overall, only 29% of voters nationwide regard abortion as a Very Important voting issue, which would place it eighth on a list of 10 major issues regularly tracked by Rasmussen Reports. By comparison, 80% regard the economy as Very Important to how they vote.

While women tend to lean towards being pro-choice over pro-life 52% to 41%, men are evenly divided on the issue. Women also place more importance on abortion as a voting issue compared to men. However, women (51%) are only slightly less likely than men (55%) to believe abortion is morally wrong most of the time. Republicans are mostly pro-life; most Democrats are pro-choice. Among voters not affiliated with either party, 48% are pro-choice, and 42% are pro-life.

Republicans are more likely than Democrats and unaffiliateds to regard the issue as important to their voting decisions.

Most Tea Party voters are pro-life, while a majority of those who do not consider themselves part of that movement are pro-choice.

Most black voters (67%) and other non-white voters (55%) are pro-choice, while white voters are evenly divided on the issue. White voters are more likely than the others to consider abortions too easy to get in America today.

When it comes to [social issues like abortion](#), public prayer and church-state topics, a survey last October found that 35% of voters say they are conservative, 30% moderate and 31% liberal.