



# Abortion Poll

## Ipsos Poll on Behalf of USA Today

Washington, DC, June 3, 2019 –

With the recent passage of state laws restricting abortion in nine states \*, Ipsos along with USA Today conducted a public opinion survey to gather how the American public currently views this divisive issue. Our May 31-June 1, 2019 study finds that a clear majority of Americans (55%) say that abortion should be legal in most or all cases, that facilities that provide abortion services should be allowed to remain in operation (73%), and that the Supreme Court should maintain the legal right to abortion (80%). However, we also find that Americans see nuance on the issue with most Americans avoiding an absolutist position on abortion.

Politically, this survey underlines that opposition to abortion is most concentrated in the Republican party, where a clear majority (59%) believe it should be illegal. Republicans also are likely to believe the new focus on abortion is good for the country. However, when asked if the abortion debate will impact their likelihood to vote in 2020, more Democrats than Republicans say it is increasing their likelihood, indicating the current fight may be energizing the Democratic base.

\* 9 States as of May 31: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, & Utah

1. Are you currently registered to vote, or not?

	Total (N=1005)	9 States (N=176)	Democrat (N=400)	Republican (N=348)	Independent (N=181)
Yes	87%	88%	93%	91%	82%
No	11%	11%	6%	7%	17%
Don't know / Refused	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%

2. When you think about abortion, which of the following is closest to your personal opinion?

	Total	9 States	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Abortion should be illegal in all cases	13%	20%	7%	22%	8%
Abortion should be illegal in most cases	24%	24%	11%	37%	30%
Abortion should be legal in most cases	28%	25%	34%	21%	33%
Abortion should be legal in all cases	26%	22%	41%	14%	16%
Unsure	9%	9%	7%	6%	12%
<b>Total illegal</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Total legal</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>50%</b>

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3. Would you like to see ALL facilities that provide abortion services in [INSERT RESPONDENT STATE] closed or should they be allowed to remain in operation?

	Total	9 States	Democrat	Republican	Independent
All closed	27%	31%	14%	48%	19%
Allowed to remain in operation	73%	69%	86%	52%	81%

4. Several state legislatures have recently passed bills outlawing abortions after the heartbeat of the fetus can be detected, which could outlaw abortions as early as six weeks into a woman’s pregnancy. Do you support or oppose these so-called fetal heartbeat abortion bans?

	Total	9 States	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Support fetal heartbeat abortion bans	45%	48%	26%	66%	46%
Oppose fetal heartbeat abortion bans	55%	52%	74%	34%	54%

**INFO SCREEN:** There are a number of court cases about abortion laws that have been submitted to the Supreme Court including some that could potentially uphold or overturn the legal right to abortion established by Roe v Wade.

5. Should the Supreme Court hear these cases on abortion or should they not hear these cases and allow existing laws to continue as they are?

	Total	9 States	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Supreme Court should hear abortion cases	60%	63%	53%	64%	66%
Supreme Court should not hear abortion cases	40%	37%	47%	36%	34%

6. If the Supreme Court were to rule on these abortion cases, should they...

	Total	9 States	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Uphold the legal right to abortion established in Roe v Wade	50%	45%	67%	32%	46%
Allow strict limits on abortion but uphold the basic legality	30%	31%	22%	34%	37%
Overturn Roe v Wade and allow states to outlaw abortion	20%	24%	10%	34%	17%

7. Do you think the renewed national focus on abortion and laws impacting abortion is good or bad for the United States?

	Total	9 States	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Good	43%	42%	30%	60%	39%
Bad	57%	58%	70%	40%	61%

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## Press Release – continued –

8. Will the renewed national focus on abortion and laws impacting abortion make you more likely or less likely to vote in the 2020 elections?

	Total	9 States	Democrat	Republican	Independent
More likely	42%	43%	52%	43%	27%
No different	55%	55%	47%	55%	68%
Less likely	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%

### About the Study

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted May 31-June 1, 2019 on behalf of USA Today. For the survey, a sample of 1,005 adults 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii were interviewed online in English. The sample includes 400 Democrats, 348 Republicans, and 181 Independents.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,005, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/-5.0 percentage points).

The poll also has a credibility interval plus or minus 5.8 percentage points for Democrats, 6.0 percentage points for Republicans, and 7.8 percentage points for Independents.

For more information about conducting research intended for public release or Ipsos' online polling methodology, please visit our [Public Opinion Polling and Communication](#) page where you can download our brochure, see our public release protocol, or contact us.

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