



Missouri Voters' Opinions on Abortion

The following document summarizes the opinions of likely voters in Missouri on issues related to abortion. These results are from SLU/YouGov Polls conducted from June 2020 to February 2024. The SLU/YouGov Poll is a biannual survey of likely Missouri voters aiming to inform policymakers, citizens, and researchers of Missourians' opinions on important issues facing the state.

Full demographic crosstabs and raw data for independent analyses of SLU/YouGov Polls are available at slu.edu/poll.

Key Missouri Findings

- At least 60 percent of Democratic, Republican, and Independent voters support abortion being legal in cases of rape, incest, and when the woman's life is endangered ([Aug. 2022 Poll](#))
- 44 percent of voters support the proposed ballot initiative to legalize abortion in Missouri. 37 percent oppose. 19 percent are not sure. ([Feb. 2024 Poll](#))

Media Inquiries

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Missouri Voters' Views on Abortion

When abortion should be legal or illegal

| Do you think it should be possible for a woman to legally obtain an abortion in the state of Missouri... | All Voters | Dem. Voters | Rep. Voters | Ind. Voters |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ...in the first 8 weeks of the pregnancy | 58% | 91% | 32% | 58% |
| ...in the first 15 weeks of the pregnancy | 40% | 74% | 13% | 42% |
| ...in cases of rape | 75% | 93% | 60% | 81% |
| ...in cases of incest | 79% | 95% | 64% | 83% |
| ...when the woman's life is endangered by the pregnancy | 87% | 97% | 79% | 88% |
| ...when there is a strong chance of the baby having a physical or mental disability | 46% | 79% | 23% | 44% |
| ...when the baby is diagnosed with a disorder resulting in little or no life expectancy | 65% | 90% | 45% | 66% |
| ...when the woman wants an abortion for any reason | 32% | 67% | 10% | 26% |

Reporting percent agree. Source: [Aug. 2022 SLU/YouGov Poll](#), 900 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±3.75%

| Do you agree or disagree with the following statements... | All Voters | Dem. Voters | Rep. Voters | Ind. Voters |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ...the Missouri state government should prohibit abortions after 8 weeks of pregnancy | 56% | 32% | 79% | 54% |

Reporting percent agree. Source: [July 2021 SLU/YouGov Poll](#), 477 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±6.02%

Ballot Initiatives

In an upcoming election, Missouri voters may be asked to amend the state constitution to address the issue of abortion [*Respondents saw Ballot Proposition Language 2024-86*]. Would you...

| ... | All Voters | Dem. Voters | Rep. Voters | Ind. Voters |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ...support the above ballot proposition | 44% | 71% | 24% | 44% |

Reporting percent support. Source: [Feb. 2024 SLU/YouGov Poll](#), 899 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±3.74%

If an initiative were put on a Missouri ballot to reverse the new ban on abortions in Missouri, making it legal for women to receive an abortion in Missouri, how would you vote...

| ... | All Voters | Dem. Voters | Rep. Voters | Ind. Voters |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ...would vote to reverse the ban, making abortions legal in Missouri | 48% | 90% | 17% | 48% |

Reporting percent support. Source: [Aug. 2022 SLU/YouGov Poll](#), 447 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±5.93%

Dobbs Decision

In June, the United States Supreme Court overturned *Roe v Wade*, the landmark ruling that established the constitutional right to abortion in the United States during the first two trimesters of pregnancy. Do you...

| ... | All Voters | Dem. Voters | Rep. Voters | Ind. Voters |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ...[strongly] agree with this Supreme Court ruling | 47% | 11% | 75% | 51% |

Reporting percent strongly agree/agree. Source: [Aug. 2022 SLU/YouGov Poll](#), 453 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±5.83%

Other Abortion Questions

Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt has the discretion to try to criminalize a Missouri woman going to another state to receive an abortion. Do you think a Missouri woman...

| ... | All Voters | Dem. Voters | Rep. Voters | Ind. Voters |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ...should be criminally prosecuted for receiving an abortion in another state | 11% | 7% | 23% | 4% |

Reporting percent agree. Source: [Aug. 2022 SLU/YouGov Poll](#), 453 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±5.83%

About the SLU/YouGov Poll

The SLU/YouGov Poll is a biannual survey of likely Missouri voters aiming to inform policymakers, citizens, and researchers of Missourians' opinions on important issues facing the state. No other academic institution regularly conducts a non-partisan, scientific survey of Missouri voters and makes results and raw data publicly available. For questions or suggestions concerning the SLU/YouGov Poll, contact poll director Steven Rogers, Ph.D., at steven.rogers@slu.edu.

About Saint Louis University

Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious Catholic institutions. Rooted in Jesuit values and its pioneering history as the first university west of the Mississippi River, SLU offers more than 15,200 students a rigorous, transformative education of the whole person. At the core of the University's diverse community of scholars is SLU's service-focused mission, which challenges and prepares students to make the world a better, more just place.

About YouGov

Saint Louis University has partnered with YouGov to conduct its annual survey of Missouri voters. YouGov conducts surveys for multiple academic institutions and is the primary, trusted survey firm for media organizations, including CBS News and The Economist. An independent Pew Research Center study of online survey firms in 2016 further concluded that YouGov "consistently outperforms competitors."

The SLU/YouGov Poll is funded by the PRiME Center in SLU's School of Education.