

# Americans' Opinions on Abortion

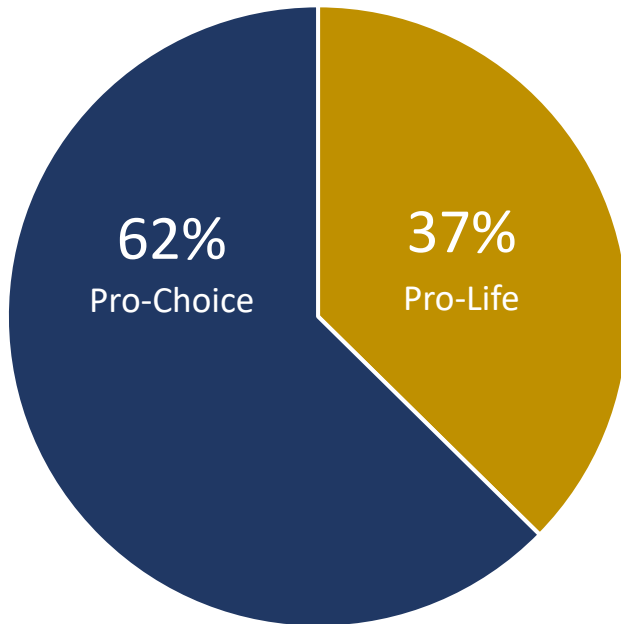
January 2026





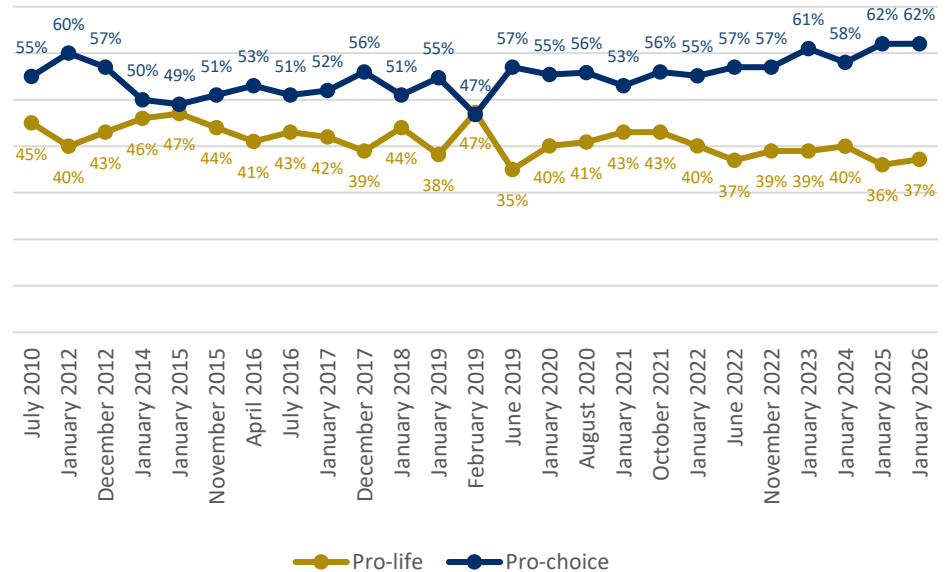
# Pro-Life or Pro-Choice?

*On the issue of abortion, do you consider yourself pro-life or pro-choice?*



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January 2026

	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Pro-Life	14%	69%	34%
Pro-Choice	85%	31%	65%





# Restrictions on Abortion

*Which one of the following statements comes closest to your opinion on abortion:*

One, abortion should be available to a woman any time she wants one during her entire pregnancy

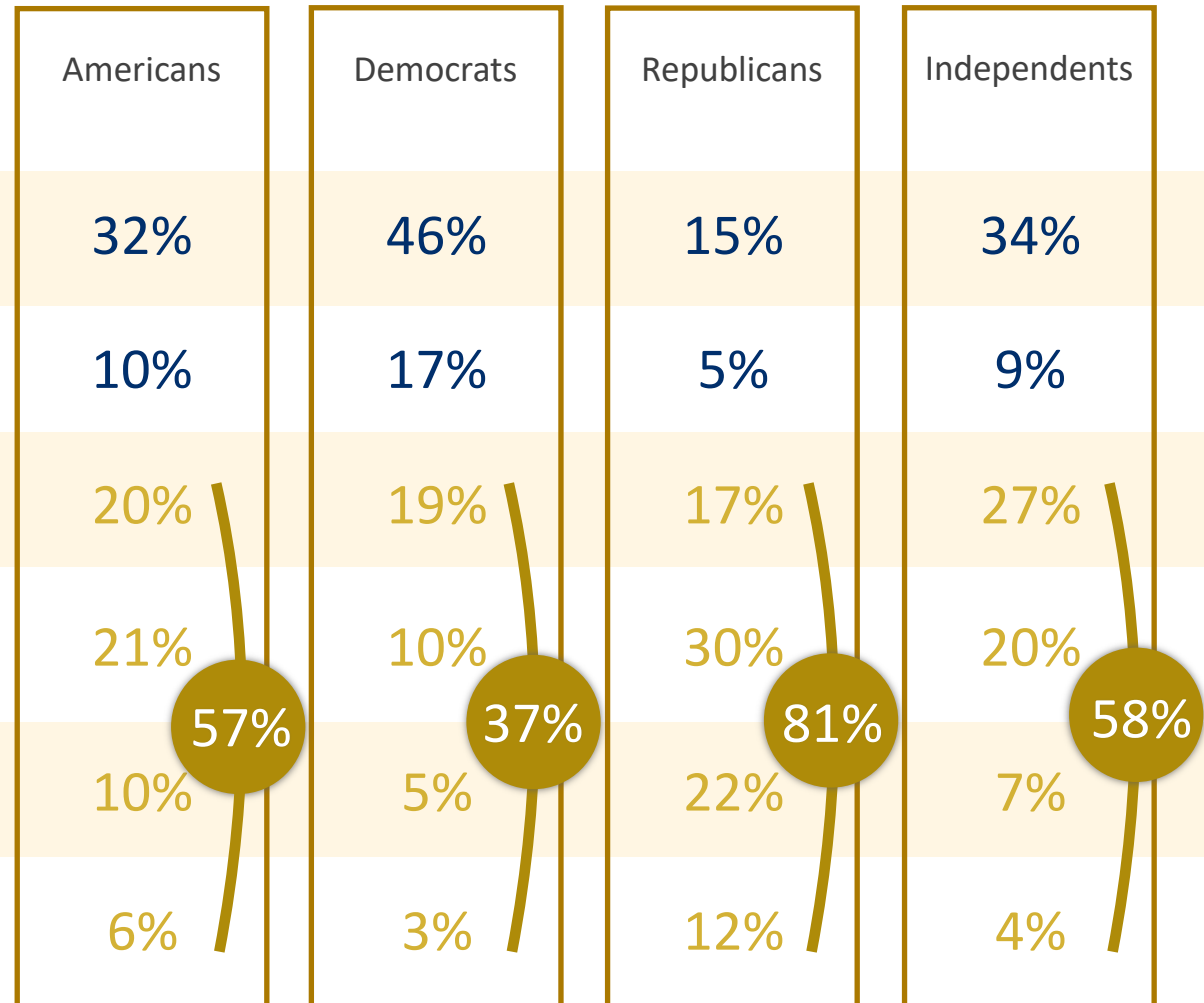
Two, abortion should be allowed only during the first six months of a pregnancy

Three, abortion should be allowed only during the first three months of a pregnancy

Four, abortion should be allowed only in cases of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother

Five, abortion should be allowed only to save the life of the mother

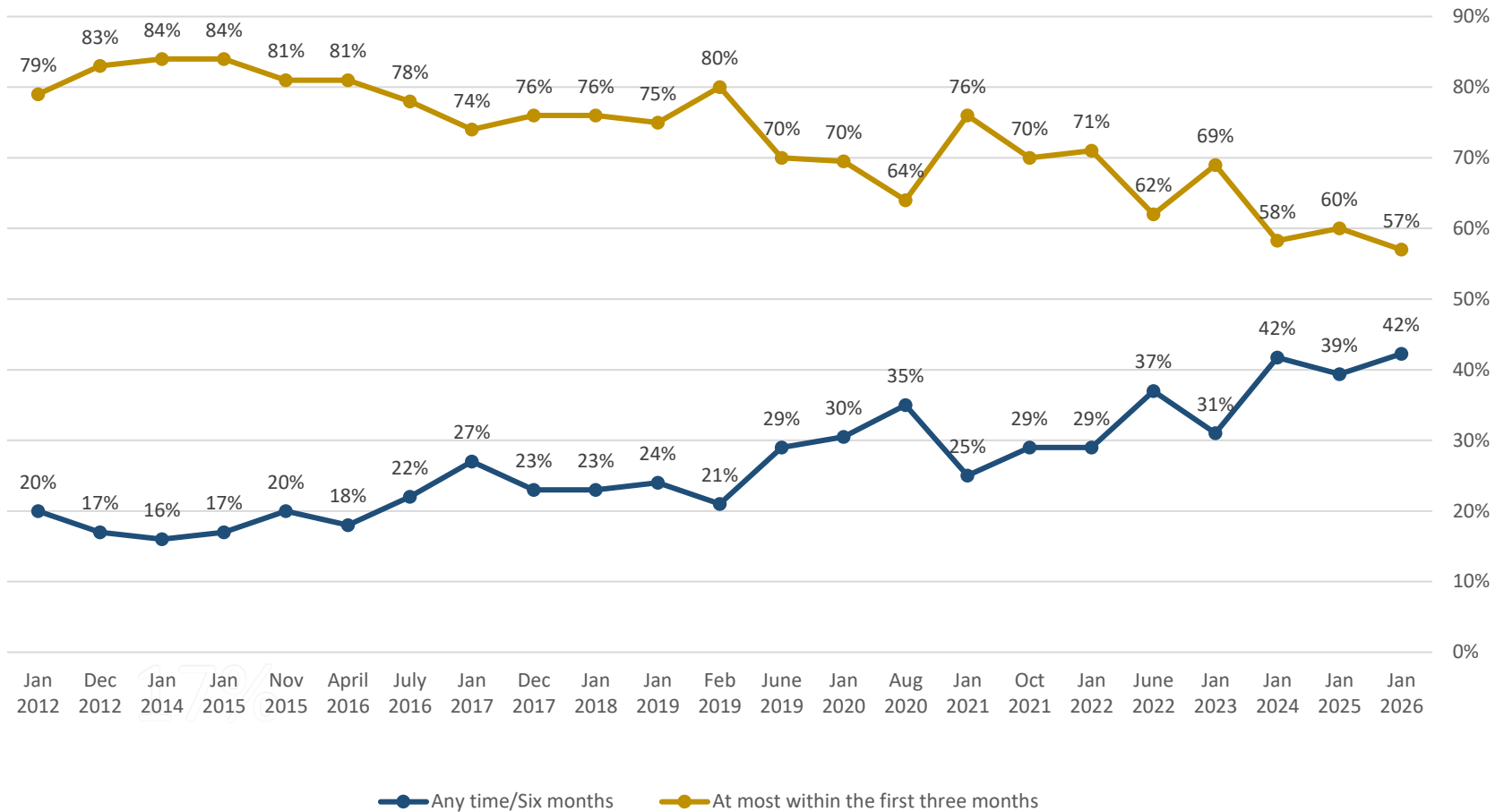
Six, abortion should never be permitted under any circumstance





# Restrictions on Abortion Trend

Americans' Opinions on Abortion Restrictions Over Time

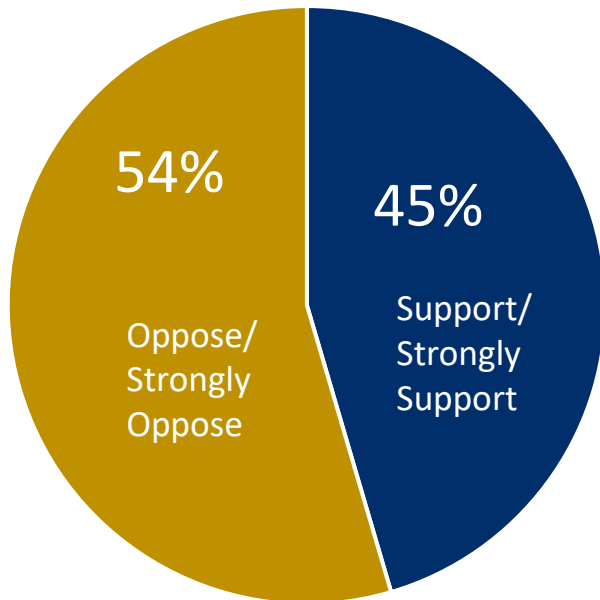


Americans Trend



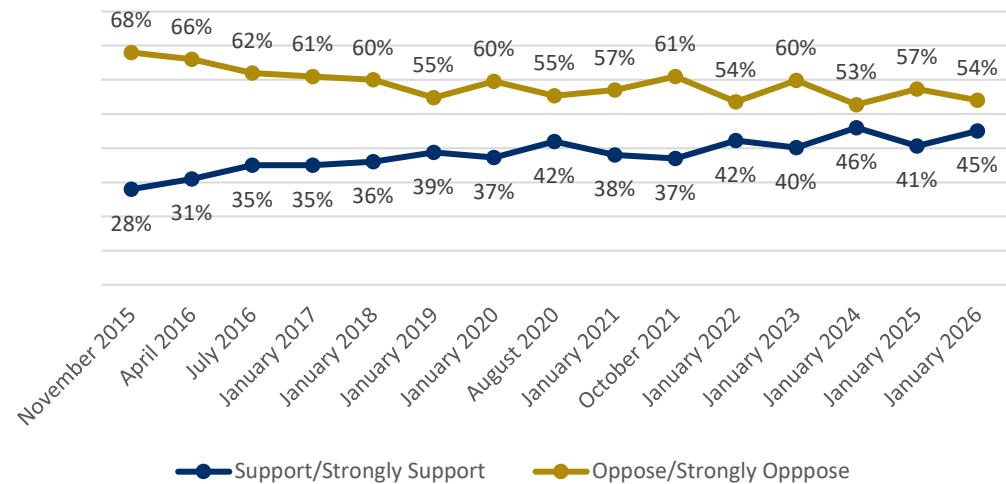
# Tax Dollars at Home

*Do you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose using tax dollars to pay for abortion?*



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January 2026

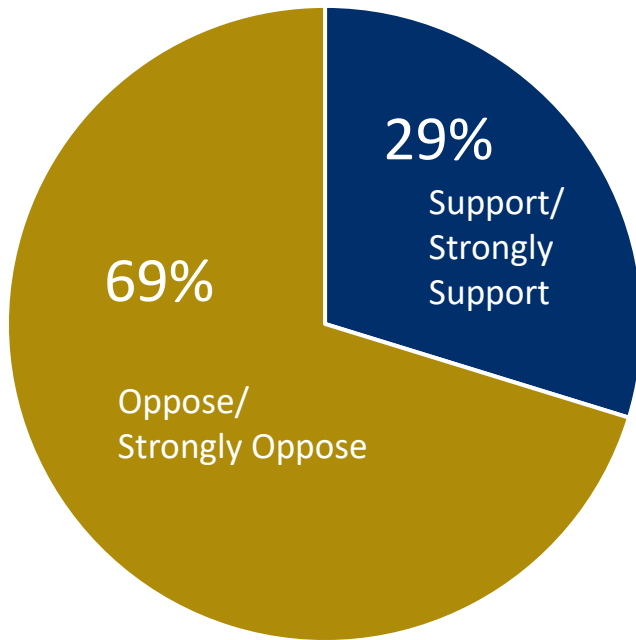
	Strongly Support/Support	Oppose/Strongly Oppose
Pro-Life	16%	83%
Pro-Choice	62%	37%
Democrat	70%	29%
Republican	18%	81%
Independent	47%	52%





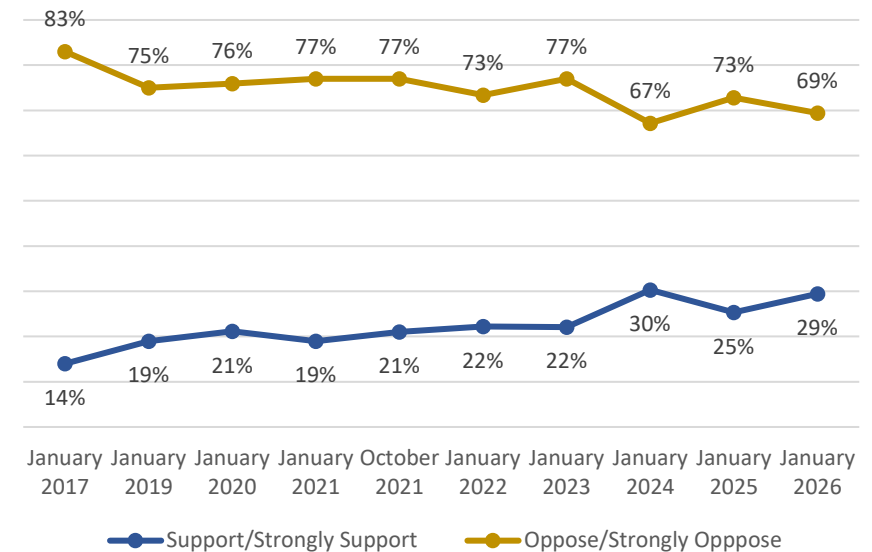
# Tax Dollars Abroad

*Do you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose using tax dollars to support abortion services in other countries?*



Americans  
January 2026

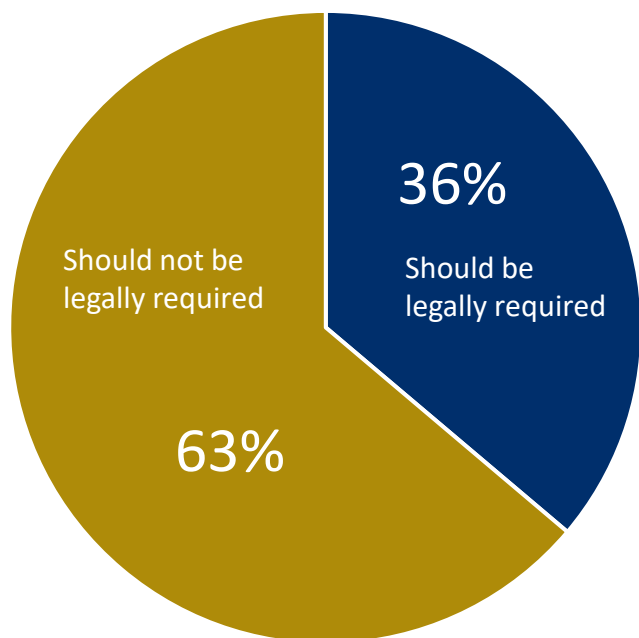
	Strongly Support/Support	Oppose/Strongly Oppose
Pro-Life	9%	90%
Pro-Choice	42%	57%
Democrat	49%	49%
Republican	9%	90%
Independent	30%	70%





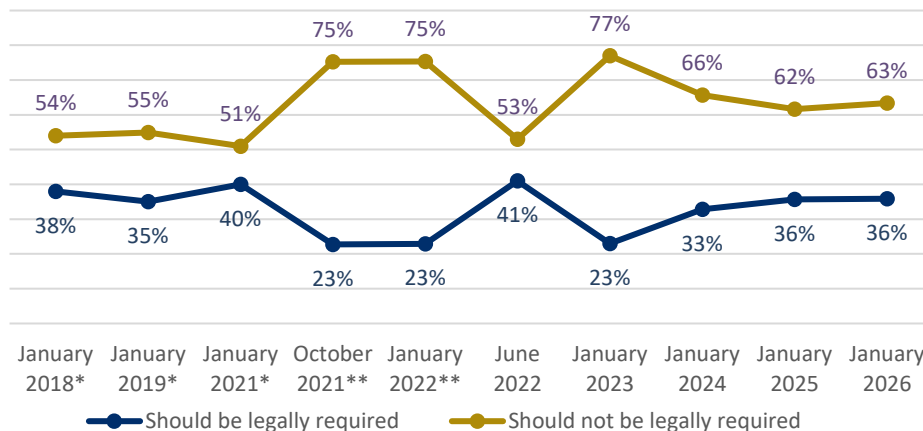
# Conscience Objections to Performing Abortions

*Do you think doctors, nurses, or other healthcare professionals who have religious objections to abortion but practice where abortion is legal, should or should not be legally required to perform abortions?*



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January 2026

	Should be legally required	Should not be legally required
Pro-Life	19%	81%
Pro-Choice	46%	53%
Democrat	51%	48%
Republican	19%	81%
Independent	34%	65%



\*\*\*Previous question wording: Do you think doctors, nurses, or other health care professionals who have religious objections to abortion should or should not be legally required to perform abortions?

\*\*Previous question wording: Do you think doctors, nurses, or other health care professionals who have moral objections to abortion should or should not be legally required to perform abortions?

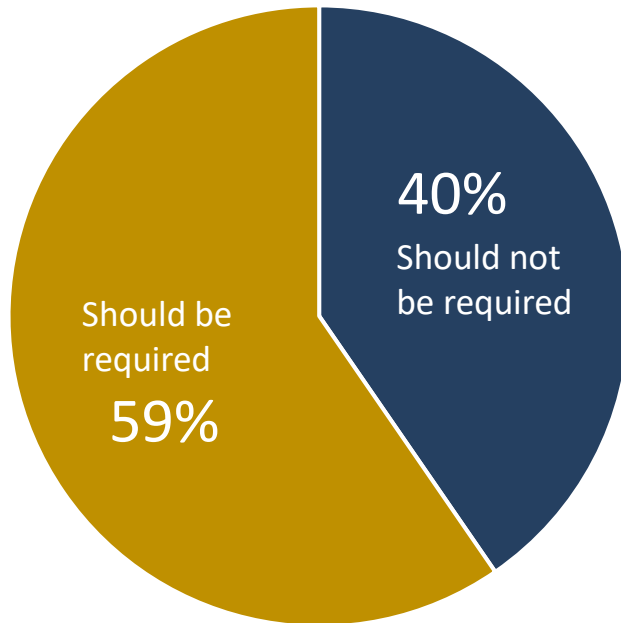
\*Previous question wording: Do you think doctors, nurses, or organizations who have moral objections to abortion should or should not be legally required to perform or provide insurance coverage for abortions?



# Medication Abortions

*A medication abortion is the use of a prescription pill or a series of pills taken to end a pregnancy. For the last several years, this medication has been available for purchase online in most states without requiring an in-person visit with a healthcare professional.*

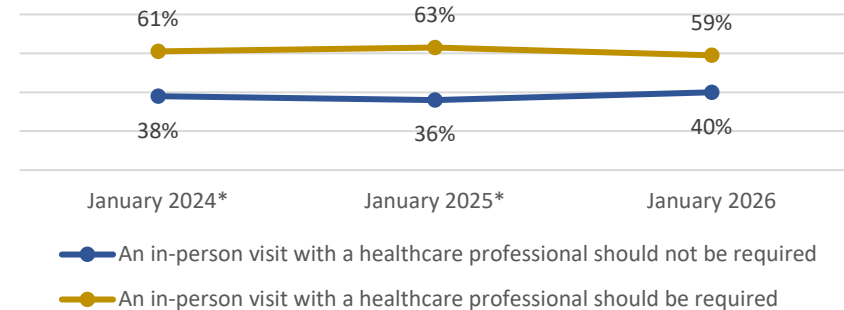
*Do you think for someone to receive these prescription medications: An in-person visit with a healthcare professional should be required or an in-person visit with a healthcare professional should not be required?*



- An in-person visit with a healthcare professional should not be required
- An in-person visit with a healthcare professional should be required

Americans  
January 2026

	Should be required	Should not be required
Pro-Life	83%	15%
Pro-Choice	45%	54%
Democrat	40%	59%
Republican	80%	18%
Independent	58%	41%



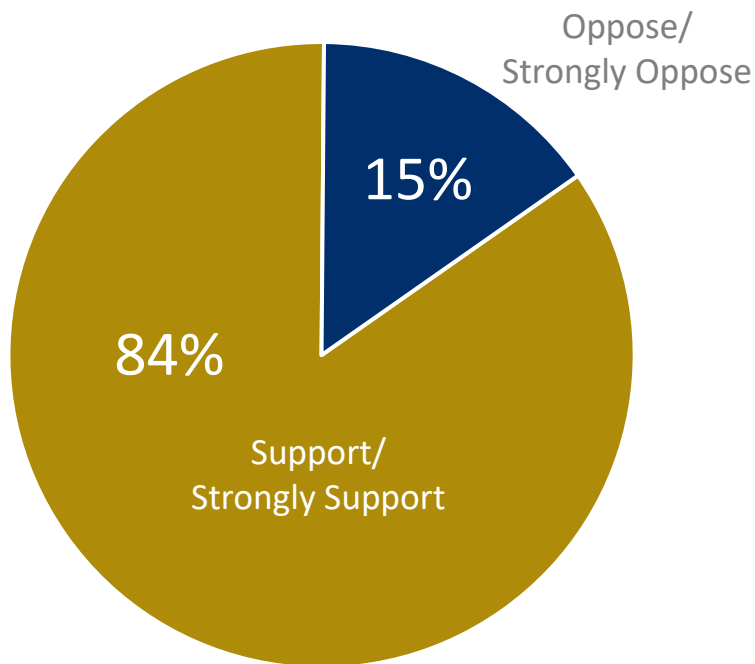
**\*Previous question wording:** A medication abortion is the use of a prescription pill or a series of pills taken to end a pregnancy. Some states allow this prescription to be sent through the mail without an in-person visit with a healthcare professional. Do you think for someone to receive these prescription medications: An in-person visit with a healthcare professional should be required or an in-person visit with a healthcare professional should not be required?





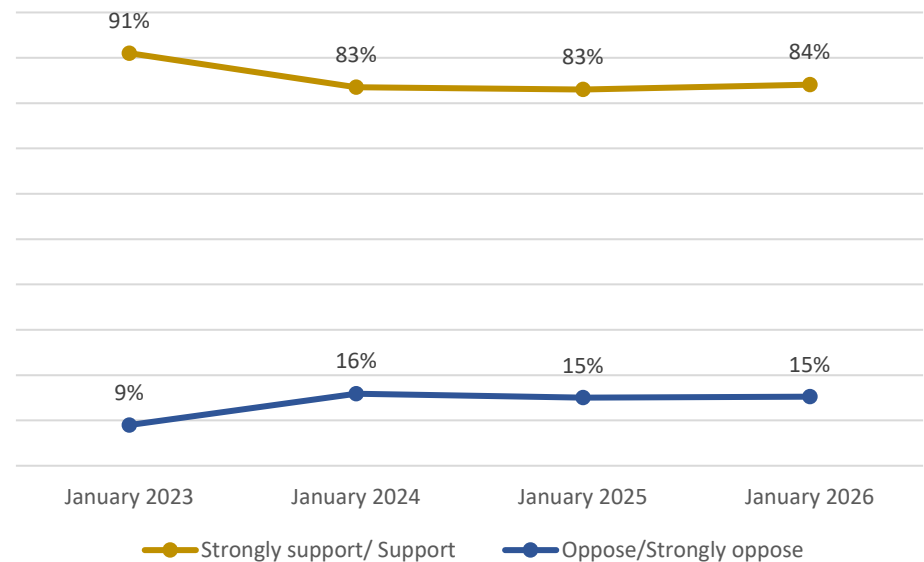
# Pregnancy Resource Centers

*Do you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose pregnancy resource centers which are places that do not perform abortions but instead offer support to people during their pregnancy and after the baby is born?*



Americans  
January 2026

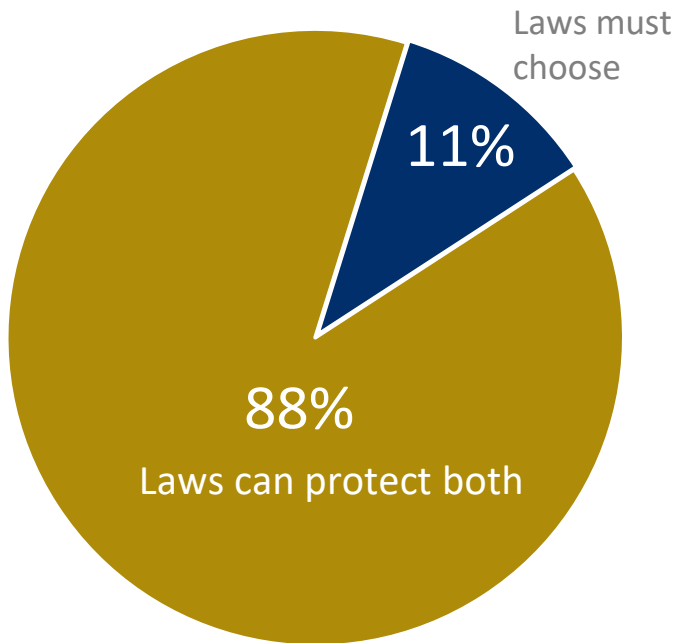
	Strongly Support/Support	Oppose/Strongly Oppose
Pro-Life	91%	9%
Pro-Choice	80%	19%
Democrat	75%	23%
Republican	92%	7%
Independent	85%	15%





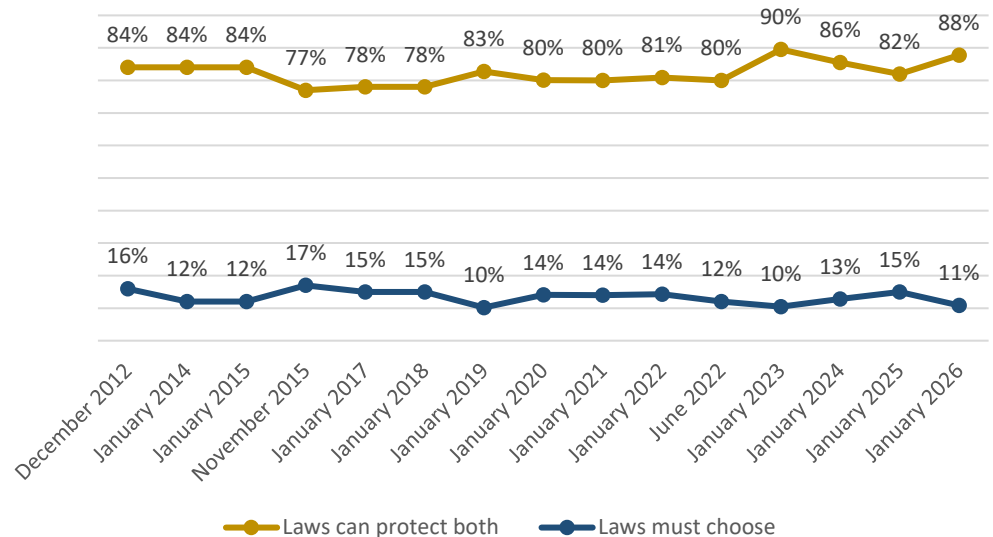
# Laws Can Protect Both

*Which statement comes closer to your view: It is possible to have laws which protect both the health and well-being of a woman and the life of the unborn, or it is necessary for laws to choose to protect one and not the other?*

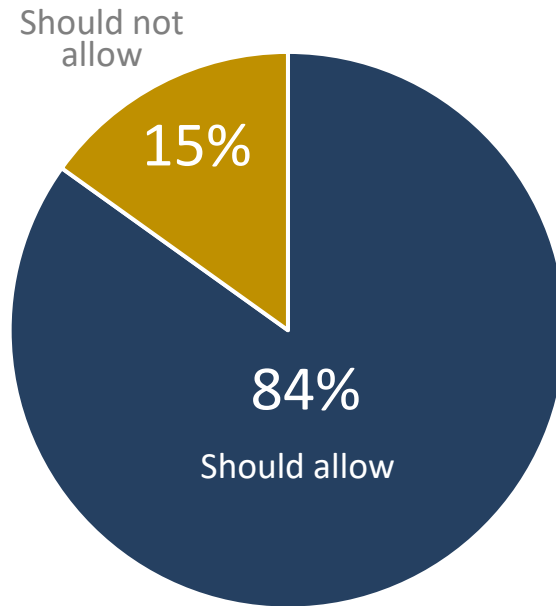


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January 2026

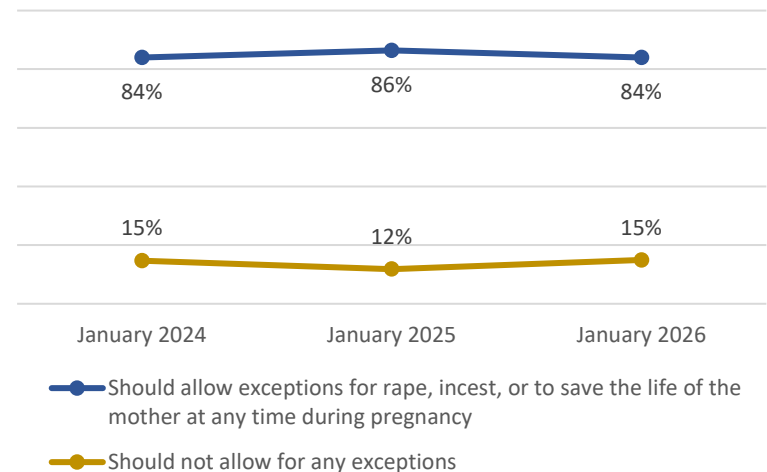
	Laws can protect both	Laws must choose
Pro-Life	92%	7%
Pro-Choice	85%	13%
Democrat	85%	14%
Republican	93%	5%
Independent	87%	11%



*Regardless of your position on abortion, if there were laws which limit when abortion is allowed, do you think these limits: Should allow exceptions for rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother at any time during pregnancy or should not allow for any exceptions?*



	Should allow exceptions	Should not allow exceptions
Pro-Life	72%	26%
Pro-Choice	91%	9%
Democrat	90%	10%
Republican	79%	19%
Independent	86%	12%

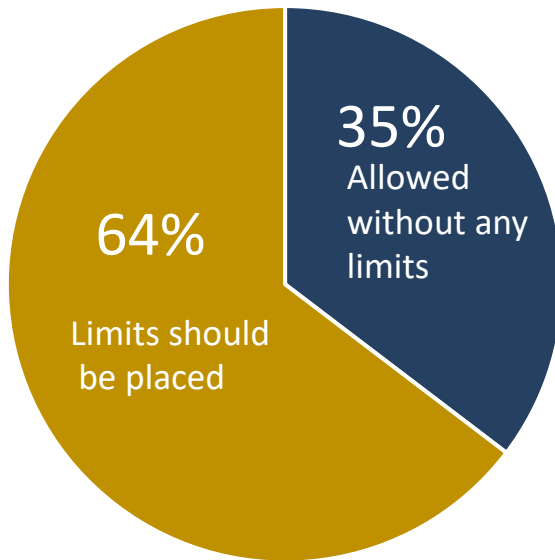


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January 2026



# Placing Limitations on Abortion

*If you had to choose, which of the following statements comes closer to your view:  
Limits should be placed on when abortion is allowed, or abortion should be allowed  
without any limits?*



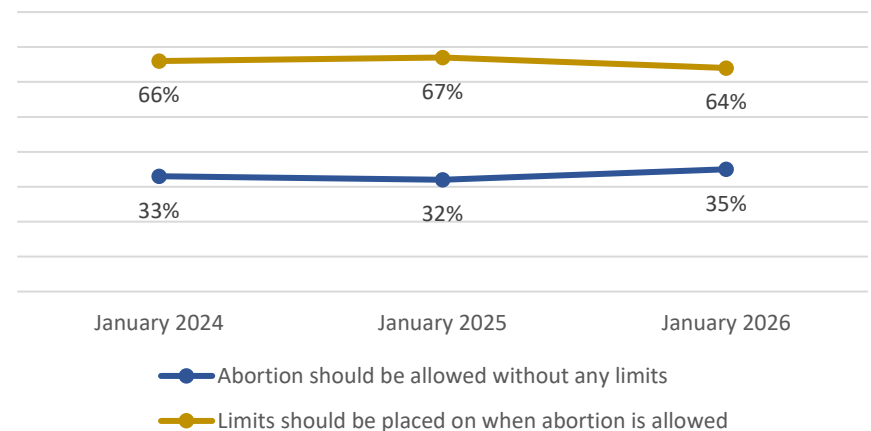
- Abortion should be allowed without any limits
- Limits should be placed on when abortion is allowed

Americans  
January 2026

Limits should be  
placed on abortion

Abortion should be  
allowed without  
limits

Pro-Life	88%	11%
Pro-Choice	50%	49%
Democrat	46%	54%
Republican	85%	14%
Independent	62%	36%





- This survey of 1,408 adults was conducted January 12th through January 13th, 2026 by the Marist Poll sponsored in partnership with the Knights of Columbus.
- Survey questions were available in English or Spanish. Phone and online samples were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its adult population. To ensure representativeness, data was balanced to match current estimates for the adult population by region, age, gender, education, income, and race/ethnicity using the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).
- Results for all adults (n= 1,408) are statistically significant within  $\pm 3.3$  percentage points. Results for registered voters (n=1,222) are statistically significant within  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points.
- Tables include results for subgroups to only display crosstabs with an acceptable sampling error. It should be noted that, although you may not see results listed for a certain group, it does not mean interviews were not completed with those individuals. It simply means the sample size is too small to report.
- The error margin was adjusted for sample weights and increases for cross-tabulations. Research limitations can come from many potential sources, and there may be unmeasured factors in this or any other public opinion poll.



## Contact Information



### About the Knights of Columbus

Patrick E. Kelly  
Supreme Knight

Timothy M. Saccoccia  
Vice President of Public Policy

1 Columbus Plaza  
New Haven, CT 06510  
(203) 752-4253

In 1882, Blessed Michael McGivney, a young parish priest in New Haven, Connecticut, founded the Knights of Columbus to serve the needs of a largely immigrant Catholic community. What began as a small fraternal benefit society has since grown into the world's premier lay Catholic men's organization, with more than 2.1 million members in over 16,800 local councils. As members of one of the world's leading international charitable organizations, Knights around the world donated more than 47 million service hours and over \$190 million for worthy causes in their communities in 2023. The Knights of Columbus also offers a range of life insurance products to members and their families. Knights of Columbus Insurance currently has more than \$123 billion\* of life insurance in force. In addition, the organization offers investment services in accord with Catholic social teaching through its wholly owned subsidiary, Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, which holds more than \$29 billion\*\* in assets under management. Based on the founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity, the Knights of Columbus is committed to strengthening Catholic families and parishes, and to practicing faith in action through service to all in need. To learn more or to join the Knights of Columbus, please visit [kofc.org/join](https://kofc.org/join).

\*As of December 31, 2024

\*\*As of November 30, 2024



### Marist Institute for Public Opinion

Michael Conte

Barbara L. Carvalho, PhD

Marist University  
3399 North Road  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
(845) 575-5050

Founded in 1978, the Marist Institute for Public Opinion (MIPO) is a survey research center at Marist University in Poughkeepsie, New York. The Marist Poll has conducted independent research on public priorities, elections, and a wide variety of social issues. The Marist Poll regularly partners with *NPR* and *PBS News* to take the pulse of the country.