

Methodology

On behalf of the Planned Parenthood Association of Utah, Dan Jones & Associates conducted a survey regarding sex education and abortion. The survey was administered both online and over the phone. The target audience was the general population aged 18+ across the state of Utah. The survey was in field from January 7th through January 24th, 2022. The survey was administered via phone and online, with a final split of 75% and 25% respectively. With a final sample size of 800, the margin of error was +/-3.46%. To ensure adequate representation of the population of Utah, quotas were set by both county and age, proportional to the latest population estimates from the US Census Bureau. Data was weighted by age.

Sex Education

- **62% of Utahns would prefer to see Utah's sex education curriculum provide young people with more information.**
 - This is especially important to residents under 34 years old, with 77% supporting an expanded sex education curriculum.
 - After hearing that nine out of ten teens and young adults go online for health information, 22% of Utahns who originally said they preferred the same or less information decided that young people should be provided with more information; 58% said the information should stay the same.
- **53% of Utahns support a "Comprehensive Sex Education" curriculum in Utah schools.**
 - Support is driven by Utah's independent, leaning Democratic and Democratic voters (86% and 81%, respectively), with only 30% of Republicans supporting Comprehensive Sex Education.
 - The next most popular alternative is "Abstinence-based" curriculum, with 19% of Utahns indicating that best aligns with what they want in Utah's schools. The state average for "Abstinence-based" curriculum is pulled up by self-identified members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, with 30% preferring this curriculum. However, within that population, 32% would prefer "Comprehensive" sex education.
- **While 63% of Utahns believe that parents and guardians should be the primary educators with regards to sex and reproductive health, they are split about most parents or guardians' being knowledgeable and willing to educate their children on this topic.**
 - 30% of Utahns disagree that most parents or guardians are knowledgeable and willing to educate their children about sex and reproductive health. 27% believe that parents/guardians are knowledgeable and willing.
- **The majority of Utahns believe it is important that a wide variety of topics be covered in sex education curriculum.**
 - Including birth control (78%), sexually transmitted diseases/infections (89%), HIV prevention (77%), healthy relationships (88%), consent (85%), where to access sexual and reproductive health services (73%), and media literacy (71%).

Abortion Access

- **Half (50%) of Utahns generally support "access to abortion", while 38% oppose and 12% are neutral.**
 - Support for access is most prominent with young people, with almost 60% of Utahns under 34 years old supporting access.
 - Opposition to abortion access is largely driven by Utah's Republicans, with 70% opposing. 90% of Democrats support access to abortion.
 - **There is wider support for access to abortion when asked about specific circumstances, including pregnancy being an outcome of rape, reported and unreported (80% and 67%, respectively), life of the pregnant person being at risk (79%), and the individual and her doctor deciding that it is the best medical option given her medical history (66%).**

Abortion Legislation

- 55% of Utahns think abortion should be legal in all or most cases.
 - This is up from 50% in 2020
- 86% of Utahns believe that decisions about pregnancy related healthcare should be made by individuals in consultation with their doctors, as opposed to lawmakers being involved.
 - This majority opinion holds across religious faiths and political affiliations, with 86% of Republicans, 86% of Independents, and 92% of Democrats believing decisions should be made by individuals with their doctors.
- When prompted with Utah's current restrictions, the majority of Utahns (76%) do not want stricter laws.
 - Of the 27% of Utahns who indicated they want stricter laws, 31% said they do not wish for additional restrictions after hearing the list of current restrictions in place.
- 52% of Utahns would vote to uphold Roe v Wade were it up for reconsideration.
 - The issue is split straight down party lines: 29% of Republicans would vote to uphold, while 83% of Democrats would uphold. The state average is pulled up by Independent voters, of whom 52% would vote to uphold.
- Opposition to Roe v. Wade does not appear to be driven by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.
 - Self-identified members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints would prefer to repeal (52%), though even members of the Church approach the issue from party lines. Among LDS Republicans, 61% would vote to repeal, while only 19% of LDS Democrats would vote to repeal.
- Most Utahns would oppose the state's trigger ban law taking effect should Roe v. Wade be overturned, with 52% opposing this law compared to 40% supporting it.
 - Opposition to the enactment of this law is strongest amongst young people, with 70% of 18- to 24-year-olds opposing this law taking effect.
- While Utahns are split when asked about supporting or opposing the Mississippi law that bans abortions after 15 weeks (42% and 47%, respectively), a majority oppose the passing of the Texas law that bans abortion after 6 weeks.
 - 62% oppose the passing of this law in Texas, while only 29% support it.
- 60% of Utahns view reproductive rights as a priority amongst other legislative issues today.
 - This issue is more of a priority for Democrats, with 81% viewing it as a high priority compared to 54% of Republicans.
- If abortion were not legal in Utah, most residents believe the state should help families with increased social services.
 - This is most popular with younger Utahns, with 73% of residents under age 34 agreeing that services such as Medicaid, welfare, and food stamps should be expanded if abortion were not legal.
 - This issue is also split along party lines, with 48% of Republicans and 92% of Democrats agreeing with the expansion of social services. Over half of Independents who lean Republican (57%) agree with additional support, compared to 31% that do not.
- Utahns cite a wide variety of concerns if almost all abortions were to be made illegal in Utah.
 - The number one concern is a potential rise in unsafe, self-induced abortions, with 50% of Utahns mentioning that issue (this was mentioned by 25% of Utahns in 2020).
 - Other common concerns are more children ending up in state custody (43%), negative effects being disproportionately felt by low-income women and disadvantaged groups (41%), a negative life outcome for children of mothers who did not want to carry to term (40%), and an increase in maternal mortality (38%).