

FOR RELEASE: MAY 22, 2019

**U.S. VOTER SUPPORT FOR ABORTION IS HIGH,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS;
94 PERCENT BACK UNIVERSAL GUN BACKGROUND CHECKS**

Abortion should be legal in all cases, 28 percent of American voters say in a Quinnipiac University National Poll today, matching the highest level of support for abortion in all cases since Quinnipiac University first asked the question in 2004.

Another 32 percent say abortion should be legal in most cases, as 27 percent say abortion should be illegal in most cases and 8 percent say it should be illegal in all cases, the lowest level of support for illegal in all cases, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University National Poll finds.

American voters agree 65 – 27 percent with the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision. Republicans disagree 58 – 34 percent, the only listed party, gender, education, age or racial group to disagree. By 57 – 29 percent, American voters do not think the Supreme Court is likely to overturn Roe v. Wade in the next few years.

Voters say 82 – 13 percent that abortion should be legal when pregnancy is caused by rape or incest. Republicans agree 68 – 25 percent.

And voters oppose 48 – 41 percent banning abortion after a fetal heartbeat is detectable. Men are divided as 43 percent support the fetal heartbeat rule, with 45 percent opposed. Women oppose the fetal heartbeat rule 51 – 39 percent.

The Supreme Court should make it easier for a woman to get an abortion, 40 percent of voters say, as 36 percent say the Court should make it harder to get an abortion.

“There is little ambivalence as recent legislation in Alabama, Missouri and other states renews an emotional national debate over abortion,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“Americans are in agreement on upholding one of the country’s most contentious rulings.

“And in the nightmarish scenario of rape or incest, party lines fall away in support of allowing abortions.”

-more-

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The Supreme Court is motivated mainly by politics, 55 percent of American voters say, while 38 percent say it is motivated mainly by the law.

The Supreme Court is too liberal, 16 percent of voters say, as 35 percent say it is too conservative and 39 percent say it is “about right.”

Gun Control

American voters support 94 – 4 percent requiring background checks for all gun buyers. Gun owners support universal background checks 90 – 9 percent.

Voters support 61 – 34 percent stricter gun laws in the U.S. Republicans, gun owners and voters in households where there is a gun are the only listed groups opposed.

Voters also support 77 – 19 percent requiring individuals to obtain a license before being able to purchase a gun.

Voters also support 63 – 33 percent a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons. Again, Republicans and gun owners are the only listed groups opposed, while voters in gun households are divided.

“A nation with more guns than people and a history of horrifying mass shootings continues to call – or cry – for tighter gun regulation,” Malloy said.

From May 16 – 20, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,078 voters nationwide with a margin of error of +/- 3.7 percentage points, including the design effect.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts gold standard surveys using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones. The Quinnipiac University Poll conducts nationwide surveys and polls in more than a dozen states on national and statewide elections, as well as public policy issues.

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39. In general, do you think that the Supreme Court is mainly motivated by politics or mainly motivated by the law?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Mainly politics	55%	45%	63%	55%	52%	57%	47%	58%
Mainly law	38	49	29	39	41	35	48	36
DK/NA	8	6	8	6	7	8	6	6

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Mainly politics	71%	61%	49%	47%	48%	55%	52%	65%	63%
Mainly law	25	35	44	42	47	37	42	28	26
DK/NA	4	4	7	11	5	7	6	8	11

TREND: In general, do you think that the Supreme Court is mainly motivated by politics or mainly motivated by the law?

	Mainly Pol	Mainly Law	DK/NA
May 22, 2019	55	38	8
Jul 02, 2018	50	42	7

40. Do you think that the Supreme Court should be restructured in order to reduce the influence of politics, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Restructured	51%	32%	69%	49%	42%	58%	46%	48%
No	39	57	20	40	49	30	44	42
DK/NA	11	11	11	11	9	12	10	10

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Restructured	66%	56%	49%	40%	38%	55%	47%	68%	61%
No	26	40	43	45	54	33	42	23	32
DK/NA	8	5	9	15	9	13	11	9	7

41. Do you think the Supreme Court is too liberal, too conservative, or about right?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Liberal	16%	29%	6%	14%	16%	16%	12%	19%
Conservative	35	7	69	29	33	36	42	24
About right	39	58	17	44	43	36	40	44
DK/NA	11	7	8	12	9	12	6	12

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Liberal	18%	12%	18%	15%	18%	15%	16%	9%	17%
Conservative	36	42	37	29	29	35	32	50	31
About right	35	38	39	45	45	38	42	24	42
DK/NA	11	8	6	11	8	11	10	17	10

TREND: Do you think the Supreme Court is too liberal, too conservative, or about right?

	Too Lib	Too Cons	About Right	DK/NA
May 22, 2019	16	35	39	11
Nov 20, 2018	14	36	41	9
Jul 02, 2018	19	31	41	9
Apr 21, 2010	29	19	40	12
Jul 17, 2008	25	31	33	10
Aug 16, 2007	20	29	37	13

42. Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases or illegal in all cases?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Legal all cases	28%	8%	48%	26%	24%	33%	30%	23%
Legal most cases	32	20	37	38	33	30	36	28
Illegal most cases	27	51	9	23	29	24	22	36
Illegal all cases	8	15	4	8	8	8	7	8
DK/NA	5	6	2	5	5	4	4	5

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Legal all cases	42%	30%	25%	23%	23%	29%	26%	33%	33%
Legal most cases	30	35	36	28	32	31	32	34	26
Illegal most cases	18	27	30	29	32	26	29	20	27
Illegal all cases	7	6	6	11	7	10	9	6	13
DK/NA	3	1	3	9	5	4	4	7	2

	RELIGION.....				ATTEND SRVCS	
	Wht Evang	Prot	Cath	None	Weekly	Less
Legal all cases	5%	15%	24%	50%	15%	33%
Legal most cases	20	29	36	33	19	36
Illegal most cases	53	37	26	11	44	22
Illegal all cases	17	12	10	1	16	5
DK/NA	6	6	3	5	6	4

TREND: Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases, or illegal in all cases?

	LEGAL.....		ILLEGAL....		DK/NA
	All	Most	Most	All	
May 22, 2019	28	32	27	8	5
Jul 25, 2018	26	38	19	10	7
Dec 13, 2017	21	39	22	12	5
Feb 08, 2017	27	35	23	11	4
Jan 27, 2017	28	36	22	9	5
Jan 12, 2017	28	34	21	11	6
Nov 23, 2016	26	38	22	10	4
Sep 28, 2015	22	35	28	12	3
Aug 31, 2015	23	33	26	14	4
Nov 25, 2014	23	33	24	12	8

See additional trend information on website

43. How about when the pregnancy was caused by rape or incest; do you think abortion should be legal in that situation or illegal?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Legal	82%	68%	92%	83%	83%	81%	85%	80%			
Illegal	13	25	5	10	11	14	11	15			
DK/NA	6	7	3	6	6	5	4	5			
AGE IN YRS.....											
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	WHITE.....						
					Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Legal	88%	86%	85%	75%	83%	80%	81%	90%	75%		
Illegal	9	9	11	17	12	16	14	6	14		
DK/NA	3	4	3	8	5	4	4	4	10		
RELIGION.....											
	Wht				ATTEND SRVCS						
	Evang	Prot	Cath	None	Weekly	Less					
Legal	57%	75%	80%	98%	62%	89%					
Illegal	33	20	11	1	29	7					
DK/NA	9	4	9	1	9	4					

TREND: How about when the pregnancy was caused by rape or incest; do you think abortion should be legal in that situation or illegal?

	Legal	Illegal	DK/NA
May 22, 2019	82	13	6
Aug 31, 2015	78	17	5

44. In general, do you agree or disagree with the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to an abortion?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							Yes	No			
Agree	65%	34%	92%	66%	65%	66%	70%	54%			
Disagree	27	58	4	24	27	28	25	37			
DK/NA	7	9	4	10	9	6	4	10			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Agree	76%	74%	62%	57%	60%	62%	61%	81%	69%		
Disagree	18	22	33	31	32	32	32	10	22		
DK/NA	6	4	5	12	8	6	7	9	10		
	RELIGION.....				ATTEND SRVCS						
	Wht	Evng	Prot	Cath	None	Weekly	Less				
Agree	28%	50%	64%	89%	36%	76%					
Disagree	64	39	28	8	54	19					
DK/NA	8	11	8	3	10	6					

TREND: In general, do you agree or disagree with the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to an abortion?

	Agree	Disagr	DK/NA
May 22, 2019	65	27	7
Jul 02, 2018	63	31	6
Feb 08, 2017	67	29	4
Jan 27, 2017	70	26	4
Jan 12, 2017	68	28	4
Nov 23, 2016	67	30	3
Feb 07, 2013	63	30	7
Feb 23, 2012	64	31	5
Apr 21, 2010	60	35	5
Jul 17, 2008	63	33	5

See additional trend information on website

45. Do you think it's likely that the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to choose an abortion will be overturned within the next few years, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Yes/Likely	29%	28%	34%	29%	26%	31%	26%	37%			
No	57	61	52	60	60	55	62	53			
DK/NA	14	11	14	11	14	14	13	10			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Yes/Likely	29%	26%	26%	34%	30%	35%	33%	20%	25%		
No	58	64	64	48	60	53	56	67	56		
DK/NA	13	11	10	18	10	12	11	13	19		
	RELIGION.....				ATTEND SRVCS						
	Wht				Weekly						
	Evang	Prot	Cath	None	Less						
Yes/Likely	35%	30%	23%	32%	26%	29%					
No	56	55	62	57	55	59					
DK/NA	9	15	14	11	19	12					

TREND: Do you think it's likely that the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to choose an abortion will be overturned within the next few years, or don't you think so?

	Yes/ Likely	No	DK/NA
May 22, 2019	29	57	14
Jul 25, 2018	27	62	10

46. In general, do you think the Supreme Court should make it easier or harder to get an abortion in the United States?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Easier	40%	15%	66%	36%	37%	43%	45%	28%			
Harder	36	69	13	31	35	37	29	51			
NEITHER (VOL)	14	8	13	21	15	13	15	11			
DK/NA	10	7	7	11	13	7	10	10			
AGE IN YRS.....											
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	WHITE.....						
					Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Easier	56%	52%	36%	29%	34%	38%	36%	56%	48%		
Harder	21	27	41	45	39	43	41	25	26		
NEITHER (VOL)	14	13	16	13	13	12	13	13	19		
DK/NA	9	8	8	13	14	7	10	5	7		
RELIGION.....											
	Wht				ATTEND SRVCS						
	Evang	Prot	Cath	None	Weekly	Less					
Easier	10%	27%	38%	61%	19%	48%					
Harder	75	50	37	11	62	28					
NEITHER (VOL)	8	10	14	19	10	15					
DK/NA	7	13	11	10	9	9					

47. Do you support or oppose banning abortion after a fetal heartbeat is detectable, which is usually around 6 weeks of pregnancy?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	41%	62%	25%	36%	43%	39%	33%	50%			
Oppose	48	28	67	50	45	51	57	39			
DK/NA	11	10	8	14	12	10	9	11			
AGE IN YRS.....											
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	WHITE.....						
					Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	39%	41%	43%	41%	44%	41%	43%	28%	49%		
Oppose	54	51	47	45	46	49	48	61	40		
DK/NA	7	8	10	13	11	9	10	11	11		
RELIGION.....											
	Wht				ATTEND SRVCS						
	Evang	Prot	Cath	None	Weekly	Less					
Support	64%	47%	52%	23%	55%	37%					
Oppose	27	41	39	67	35	53					
DK/NA	9	12	9	10	9	11					

48. Do you support or oppose stricter gun laws in the United States?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							Yes	No			
Support	61%	32%	91%	59%	53%	68%	65%	53%			
Oppose	34	62	9	33	41	27	33	43			
DK/NA	5	6	-	8	6	5	2	5			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	62%	67%	60%	60%	50%	66%	59%	85%	59%		
Oppose	32	29	39	36	46	31	38	15	30		
DK/NA	5	5	2	4	4	4	4	1	12		
	GUN.....										
	HsHld		Owner								
Support	45%	39%									
Oppose	51	56									
DK/NA	4	5									

TREND: Do you support or oppose stricter gun laws in the United States?

	Sup	Opp	DK/NA
May 22, 2019	61	34	5
Mar 06, 2019	60	35	5
Jan 14, 2019	56	40	4
Nov 21, 2018	58	36	6
Apr 11, 2018	56	39	4
Mar 06, 2018	63	32	5
Feb 20, 2018	66	31	4
Dec 20, 2017	59	36	5
Nov 15, 2017	60	36	3
Oct 12, 2017	60	36	3

See additional trend information on website

50. Do you support or oppose requiring individuals to obtain a license before being able to purchase a gun?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							Yes	No			
Support	77%	65%	92%	75%	68%	85%	82%	72%			
Oppose	19	31	6	19	27	11	15	23			
DK/NA	4	4	2	5	5	4	3	5			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	83%	75%	77%	76%	68%	85%	77%	91%	79%		
Oppose	14	22	19	19	28	10	18	9	18		
DK/NA	2	3	4	5	4	5	5	-	4		
	GUN.....										
	HsHld	Owner									
Support	68%	60%									
Oppose	28	35									
DK/NA	4	5									

51. Do you support or oppose a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							Yes	No			
Support	63%	39%	87%	63%	51%	74%	71%	52%			
Oppose	33	57	11	32	44	23	26	44			
DK/NA	4	4	2	5	5	3	4	3			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	57%	61%	62%	71%	47%	75%	62%	80%	70%		
Oppose	40	35	35	23	50	22	35	18	27		
DK/NA	2	4	3	5	3	3	3	3	4		
	GUN.....										
	HsHld	Owner									
Support	49%	41%									
Oppose	47	55									
DK/NA	4	5									

TREND: Do you support or oppose a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons?

	Sup	Opp	DK/NA
May 22, 2019	63	33	4
Mar 06, 2018	61	35	4
Feb 20, 2018	67	29	4
Nov 15, 2017	65	31	5
Oct 12, 2017	64	32	4
Jun 30, 2016	59	37	4
Dec 23, 2015	58	38	4
Apr 04, 2013	59	36	4
Mar 07, 2013	54	41	6
Feb 07, 2013	56	39	5