



**From: National Institute for Reproductive Health Action Fund**

**To: Interested Parties**

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### **Key Takeaways on NIRH Action Fund polling in Arizona and Pennsylvania**

New polling commissioned by the National Institute for Reproductive Health (NIRH) Action Fund finds widespread support for abortion access in the key battleground states of Arizona and Pennsylvania. This polling builds on NIRH's national and state-based public opinion and message research conducted since 2016. The Arizona and Pennsylvania surveys yield strikingly similar results, and indicate that voters in these states and beyond are ready for elected officials to advance a bold vision for reproductive freedom. Candidates and campaigns can lead and win on a platform of values-based support for reproductive freedom, specifically abortion access.

#### **Key findings**

As a baseline position, voters across the political spectrum -- Democrats (AZ: 89%, PA: 86%), Independents (AZ: 69%, PA: 61%), and a sizeable portion of Republicans (AZ: 39%, PA: 41%) want abortion to remain legal.

Voters of both parties are prepared to vote for candidates who support abortion access:

- For Democrats, at least three-quarters in each state prefer candidates who support abortion access (AZ: 75%; PA: 76%).
- Republicans are more likely to break with their party's anti-abortion orthodoxy by voting for a candidate who supports abortion access (AZ: 21%, PA: 39%), while far fewer Democrats are likely to vote for a candidate who is against abortion (AZ: 7%, PA: 15%).

Voters in both states (AZ: 69%, PA: 75%) want women to make decisions about abortion, in consultation with their medical providers, not lawmakers.

Voters show empathy for a person's unique circumstances and trust that each person is in the best position to make decisions about their lives, including whether to have an abortion.

- At least 75% of voters in both states understand that everyone's circumstances are different, and trust women to make the decisions that are best for their lives, their health, and their futures.
- At least 7 in 10 voters in both states believe that women should have the rights, freedoms, and opportunities to control their lives, bodies, and futures -- and that includes the right and ability to have an abortion. More than half of voters strongly agree with this statement.



Once someone has decided to have an abortion, voters in both states overwhelmingly (AZ: 72%, PA: 73%) want that person’s experience to be safe, affordable, and free from punishment or judgment.

Voters increasingly understand the complexities of people’s lives and the challenges some face in trying to access abortion care. Strong majorities (AZ: 57%, PA: 60%) believe that complications such as affordability, travel time to a clinic, and legal barriers stand in the way of accessing abortion. Even more agree (AZ: 79% agree, 59% strongly; PA: 75% agree, 57% strongly) that life is complicated, there are no simple answers, and decisions about abortion are best left to women, their families and their doctors.

Most voters dismiss inflammatory attacks that candidates support “abortion until the moment of birth:”

- More than half of voters do not find this claim believable (AZ: 52%, PA, 54%), while only about a third find it believable (AZ: 29%, PA: 36%).
- Even among Republican voters, only a portion of them believe these attacks (AZ: 46% “believable,” PA: 26% “very believable”).

## Methodology

Arizona: Survey designed/administered by GBAO Research, conducted June 8-11, 2020, via landline/cell phone, and has a margin of error of +/-3.7%. Respondents include 800 registered voters across the state with an additional oversample of 100 interviews in LD6.

Pennsylvania: Multi-modal survey designed/administered by TargetSmart, conducted May 24-28, 2020, and has a credibility interval of +/-2.8%. Respondents include 1,200 registered voters across the state with an additional oversample of 200 interviews in Allegheny County.