

TO: Margaret Chapman Pomponio, WV FREE

FROM: Lisa García Bedolla, AMPRI

RE: WV FREE Survey Results

DATE: 14 March 2017

This memo summarizes the results from 922 respondents who completed a survey AMPRI fielded on behalf of WV FREE from 2 December 2016 to 10 January 2017.¹ The survey was administered online. It was sent to all registered voters with valid email addresses that lived in Berkeley, Cabell, and Kanawha counties. This survey was not designed to be representative of registered voters in these counties; the results presented below are unweighted. Respondents' demographic information is provided at the end of this summary in order to allow for comparison to West Virginia residents overall.

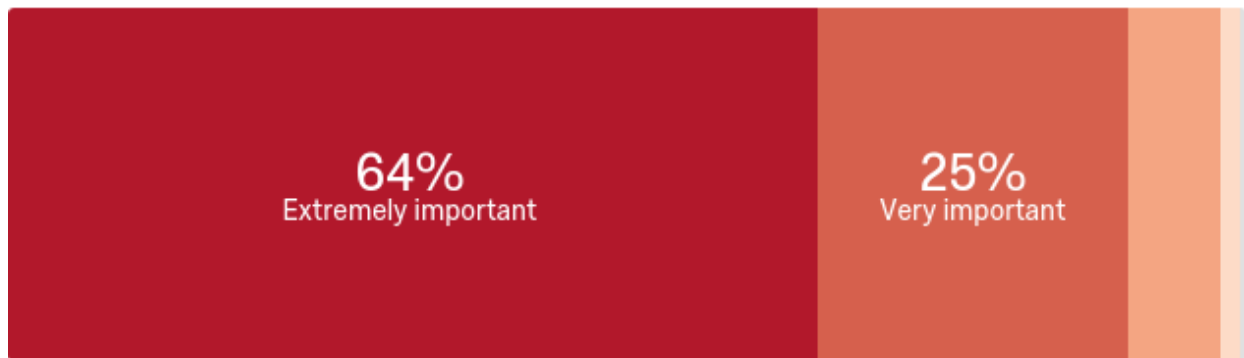
Executive Summary:

- Education topped the list of most important issues, followed by health care and job creation/the economy (which tied for #2). Environmental protection/Water quality was fourth, followed by abortion rights. Energy/Coal Production was a distant sixth, considered extremely important by only 29% of respondents
- Despite the fact that respondents were almost equally likely to self-identify as liberal and conservative, they were strongly in support of reproductive justice for women, including:
 - 65% disapprove of making the parental notification law in West Virginia more restrictive.
 - 69% said they strongly support or support Medicaid including coverage for prenatal and maternity care and abortion.
 - 76% strongly support or support the position that medical decisions about reproductive issues should be made by a woman and her doctor.
 - 64% believe that employer-provided prescription drug coverage should include birth control regardless of the employer's religious beliefs.

¹ This study was made possible by the Groundswell Fund. The Fund bears no responsibility for the content of this report.

How important is each issue to you?

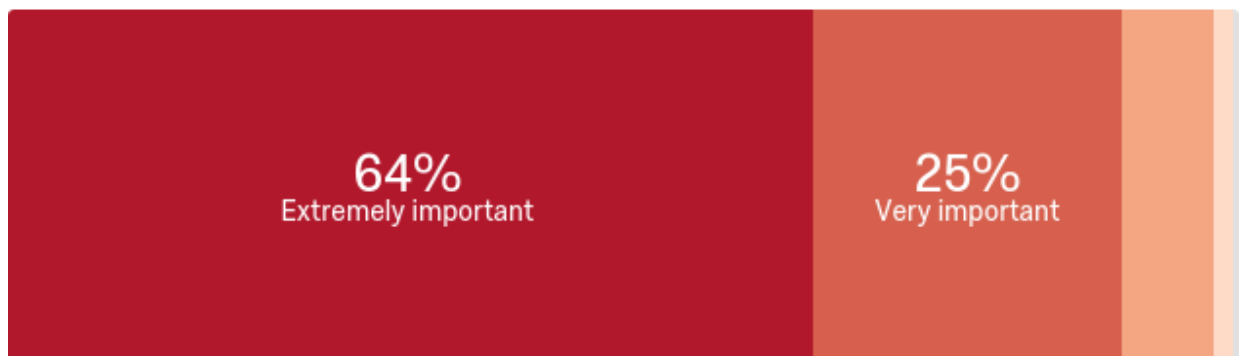
Education



Extremely important Very important Moderately important Slightly important

Not at all important

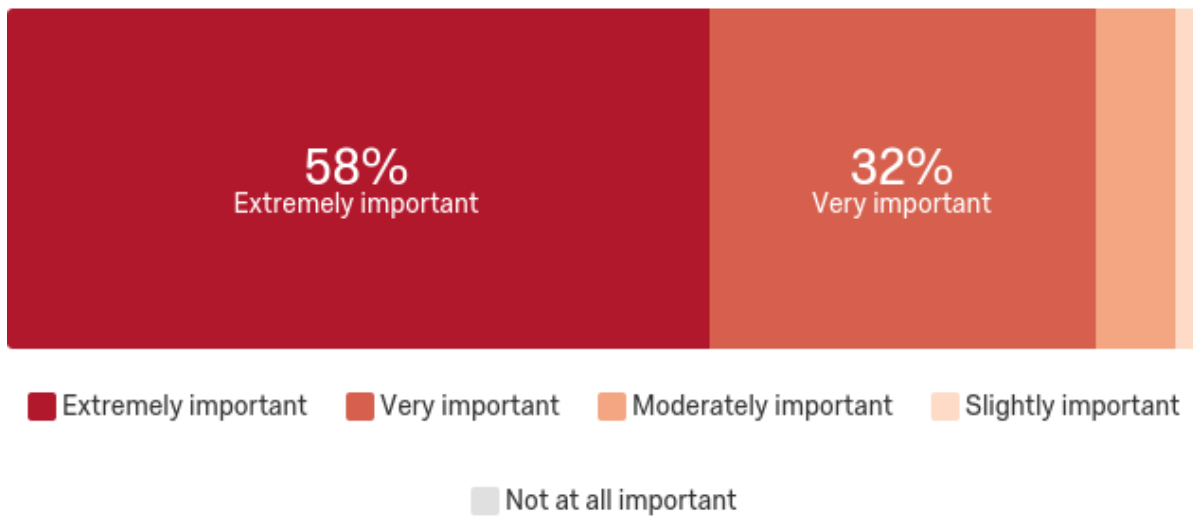
Health Care



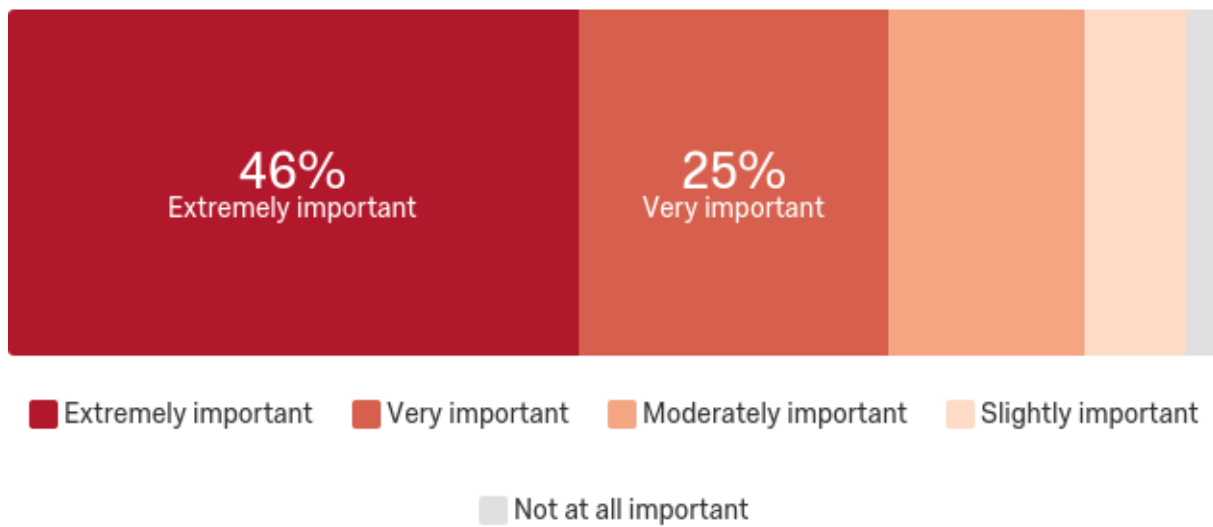
Extremely important Very important Moderately important Slightly important

Not at all important

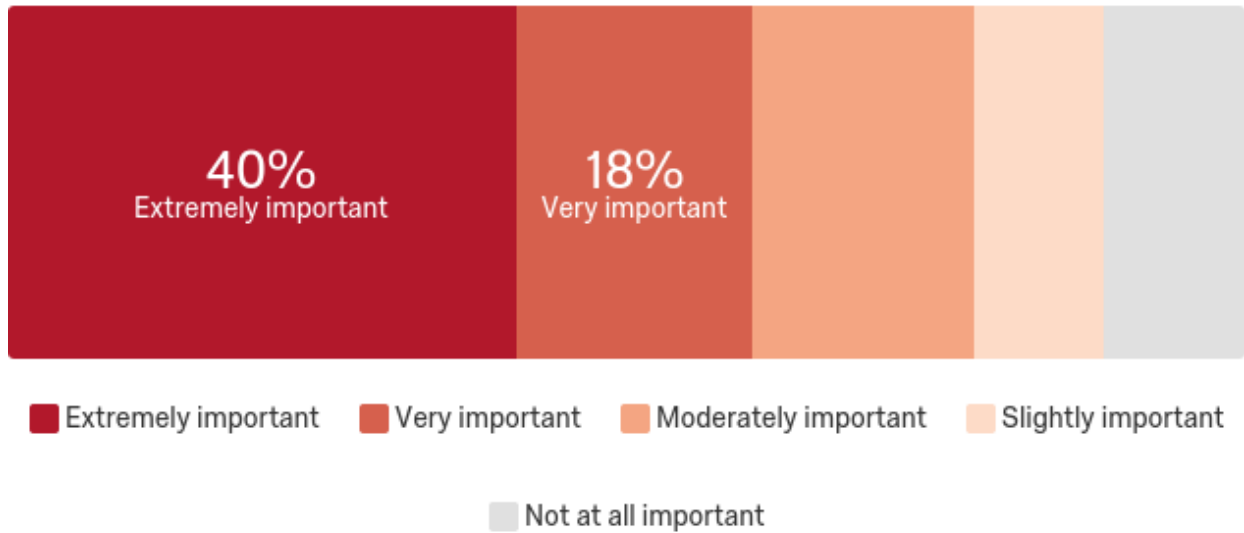
Job Creation and the Economy



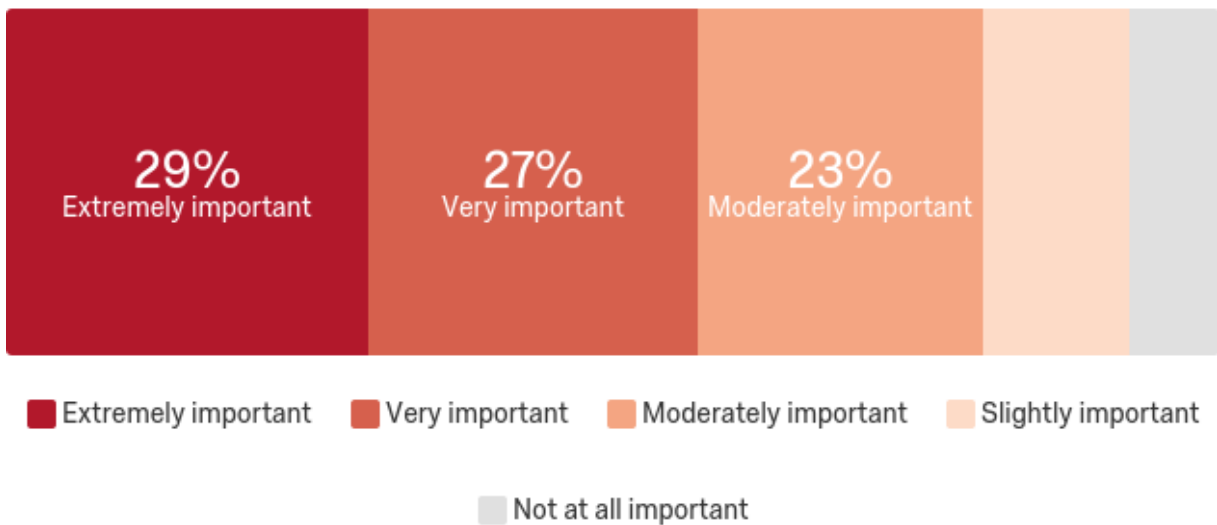
Environmental Protection and Water Quality



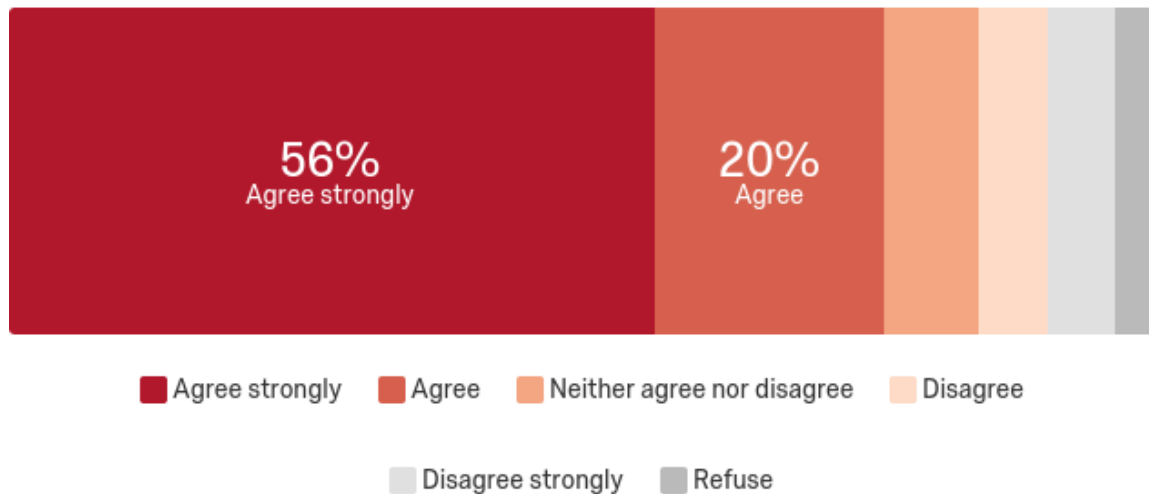
Abortion Rights



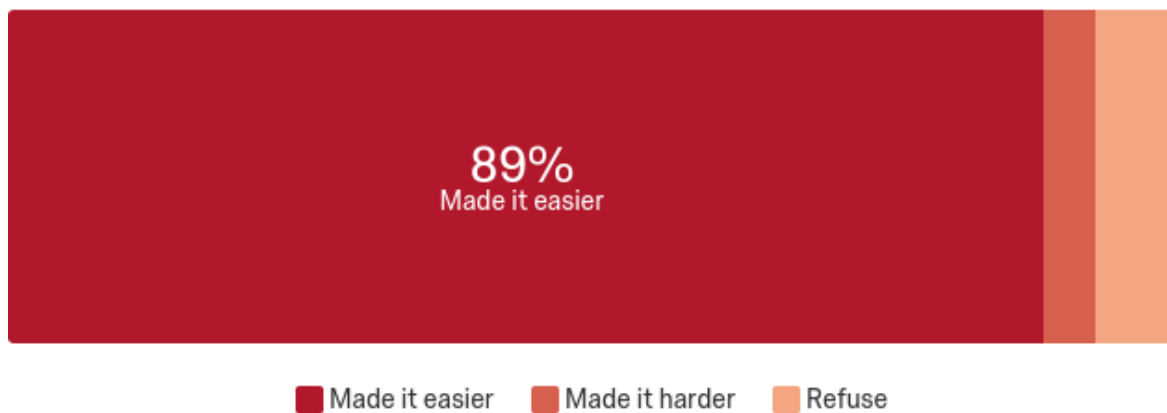
Energy and Coal Production



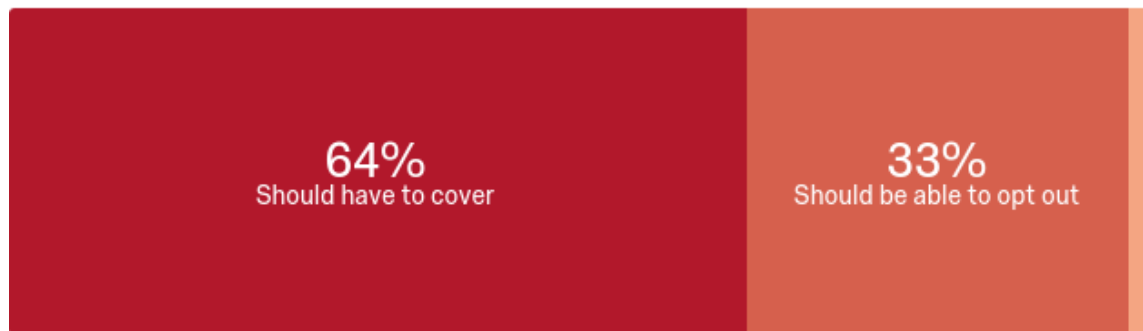
Reproductive health care, such as family planning and pregnancy care in West Virginia is limited and highly regulated. Doctors are universally trusted to assure all health care is performed in a safe and responsible manner. Many physicians argue that all medical decisions, including those relating to an abortion, should be based on the patient's needs and doctor's medical expertise. However, some politicians, including Attorney General Patrick Morrissey, want to pass laws that dictate and limit what a doctor can decide is medically right for his or her patient. Do you agree or disagree that all medical decisions, including those about abortion care, should be made in a health care setting between a health care provider and patient?



Do you think the availability of birth control and family planning services have made it easier for women to have a job and careers outside the home, has made it harder, or does birth control have no effect on women having jobs or careers outside the home?



Do you think employers who provide prescription drug coverage as part of their health care benefits should have to cover prescription birth control - just like any other prescription drug - or should an employer whose personal religious belief opposes birth control be able to opt out of covering them?



Should have to cover Should be able to opt out Refuse

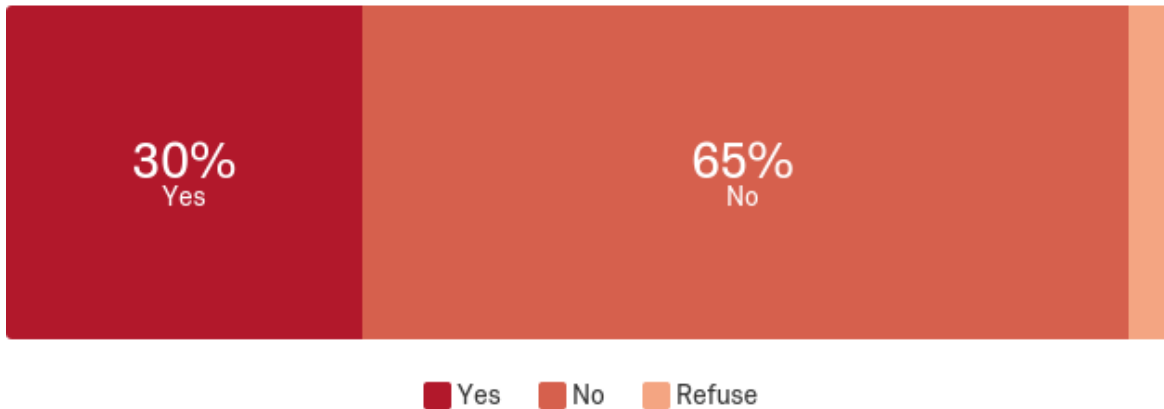
As you may know, when a low-income woman in West Virginia is enrolled in the state's Medicaid program, many of her health services are covered. In most cases, these services include annual check-ups, prenatal and maternity care, and abortion. Do you support or oppose West Virginia's Medicaid program covering these health services?



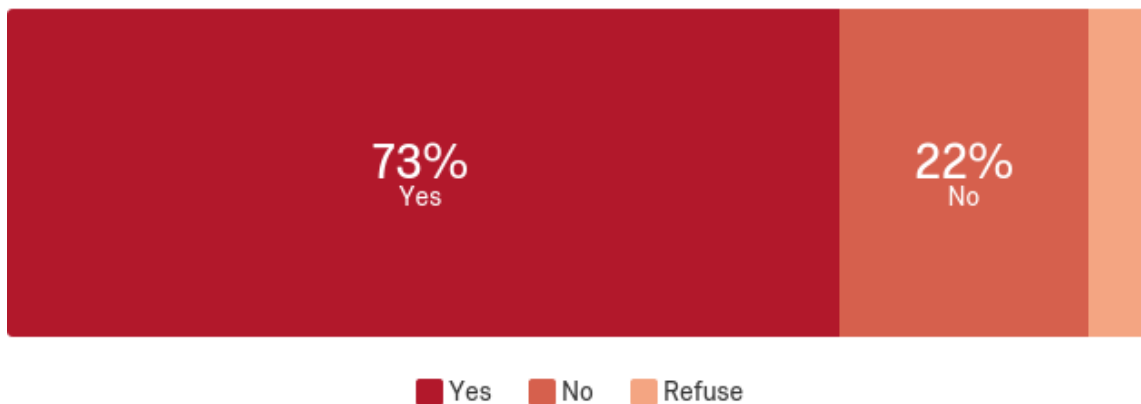
Strongly support Support somewhat Neither support nor oppose

Oppose somewhat Strongly oppose Refuse

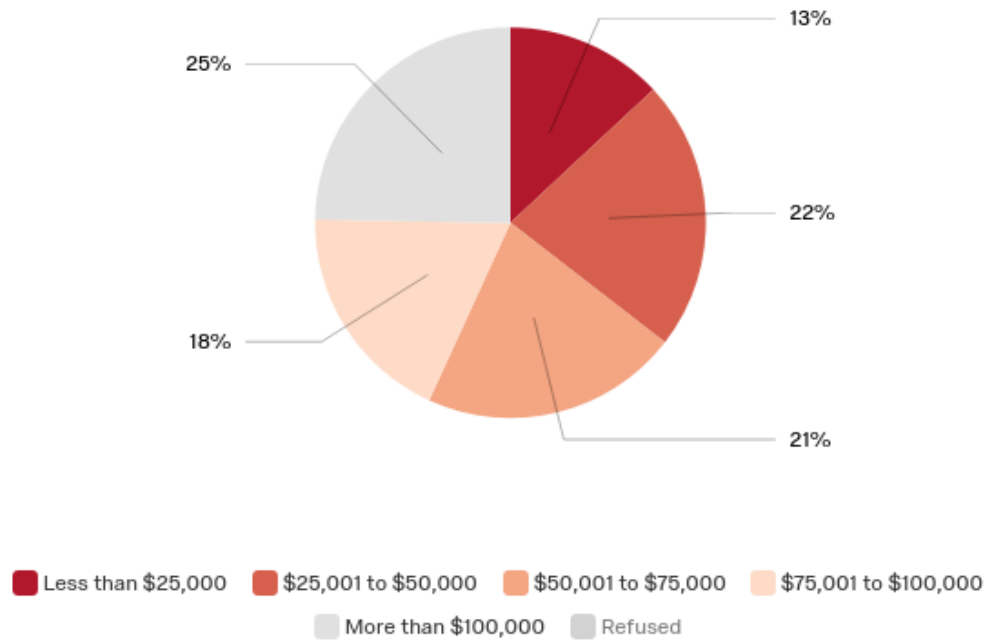
West Virginia has a law that mandates parental involvement in a teen's decision to have an abortion. This law has two safeguards that allow a teen to consult with a medical professional or judge if telling her parents isn't in her best interest. Lawmakers want to remove those important safeguards, putting teen safety at risk. Do you think the legislature should make this law more restrictive?



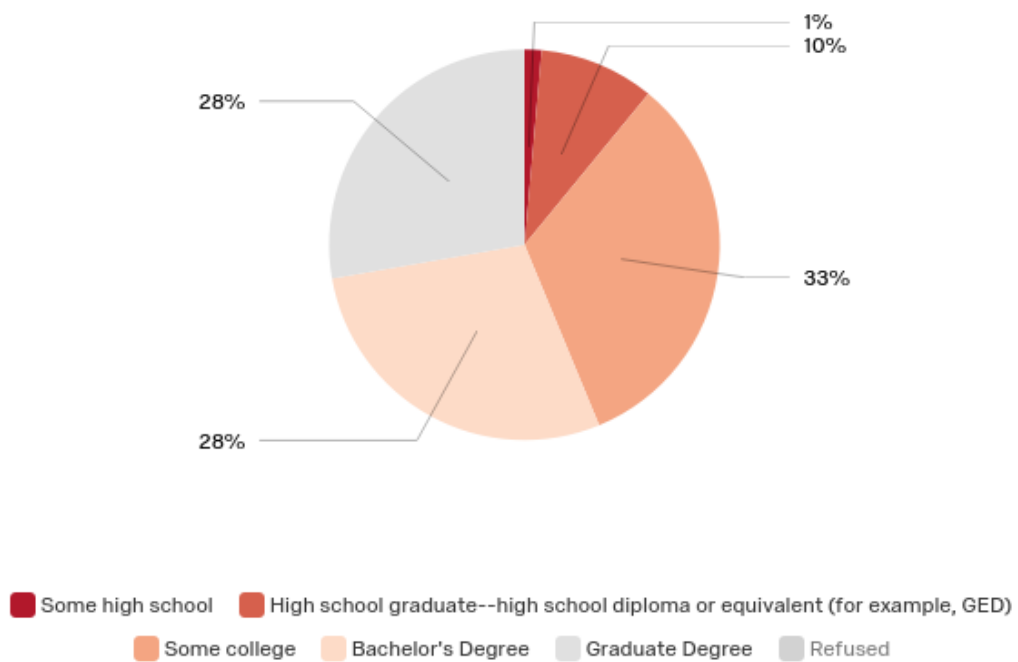
So-called "crisis pregnancy centers" are anti-abortion facilities that provide medical misinformation to women about abortion and pregnancy options. While they appear to provide counseling for unwanted pregnancies, they use a variety of tactics to scare and shame women out of choosing an abortion. Many are also opposed to birth control and emergency contraception. Do you support legislation to ensure that all women who seek counseling be informed that "crisis pregnancy centers" do not provide abortions or abortion referrals and may not have medical professionals on site?



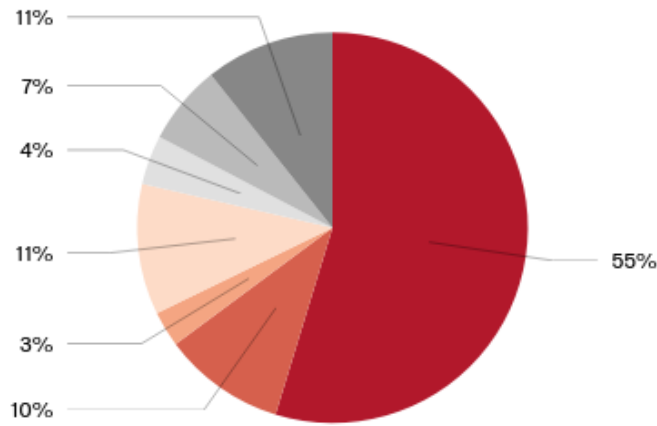
Total household income



Educational attainment

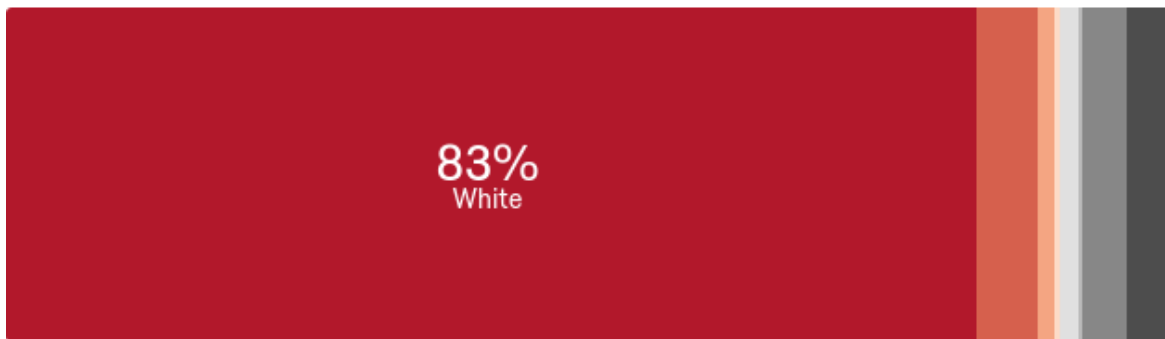


Employment status



- Working full time
- Working part time
- Unemployed
- Retired
- Permanently disabled
- Homemaker
- Student
- Refused

Ethnoracial Identity



- White
- Black or African American
- Hispanic/Latino
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- Other
- Refused

Self-Identified Ideology

