



TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Human Rights Campaign
RE: Americans want marriage equality protections as support continues to grow
DATE: September 2022

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of likely voters in battleground states want same-sex marriage protections to be the law of the land.

Recent polling across key US Senate and Congressional battleground states shows widespread support for a law “protecting the national right to same-sex marriage” (64% support, 36% oppose)¹. While majorities of men (58%) support federal marriage equality protections, the numbers are even higher among women (69%). There are no significant differences based on race and ethnicity. Majorities of Christians (55%) also support a federal law to protect marriage equality.

These numbers are in line with a national Navigator survey conducted roughly a month ago.² That poll showed 61% of the country supports “Congress passing a law protecting the federal right to same-sex marriage,” with 28% in opposition and 11% unsure.

Looking at the issue more broadly, polling over the past several months shows an increase in support for marriage equality. A survey released by Gallup³ released in June found that **71% of Americans support same-sex marriage, a new high-water mark.**

Increased support for marriage equality can be attributed to steady increases among most demographic subgroups of the population, including older adults and Republicans. **According to Gallup, both groups provide majority support with six in 10 (60%) older voters 55+ in support of same-sex marriage and 55% of Republicans offering their support.**

From Gallup Values and Beliefs Report, 6/22:

“Some observers of the Supreme Court’s leaked draft opinion related to *Roe v. Wade* in May have questioned whether an overturning of *Roe* would clear a path for the conservative-leaning court to also overturn *Obergefell*. **If this were to happen, the court would be moving in opposition to a public opinion trend that has shown increasing support.**”

In March 2022, PRRI found nearly identical findings with nearly seven in 10 Americans (68%) in support of allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally.⁴ Roughly three-quarters of White Catholics (76%) and White mainline Protestants (74%) support marriage equality. There is also broad support in every region of the country:

State	% Favor	State	% Favor	State	% Favor	State	% Favor
Alabama	49%	Indiana	65%	Nebraska	58%	South Carolina	50%
Alaska	72%	Iowa	72%	Nevada	71%	South Dakota	61%
Arizona	69%	Kansas	58%	New Hampshire	76%	Tennessee	54%
Arkansas	47%	Kentucky	58%	New Jersey	76%	Texas	62%
California	71%	Louisiana	52%	New Mexico	68%	Utah	56%
Colorado	77%	Maine	75%	New York	73%	Vermont	77%
Connecticut	77%	Maryland	75%	North Carolina	66%	Virginia	71%
Delaware	66%	Massachusetts	85%	North Dakota	69%	Washington	82%
Florida	68%	Michigan	70%	Ohio	69%	West Virginia	56%
Georgia	60%	Minnesota	82%	Oklahoma	64%	Wisconsin	73%
Hawaii	69%	Mississippi	44%	Oregon	73%	Wyoming	58%
Idaho	62%	Missouri	65%	Pennsylvania	69%		
Illinois	74%	Montana	62%	Rhode Island	82%		

1 Breakthrough Research online+SMS survey of 1,665 likely 2022 voters in key battleground states: AZ, CO, FL, GA, MI, NC, NH, NV, OH, PA and WI, August 18-24, 2022.
2 Nationwide survey of 1,007 registered voters, July 28-August 1, 2022.
3 Gallup’s annual Values and Beliefs online survey, conducted May 2-22, 2022.
4 PRRI American Values Atlas, as part of Ipsos’s Knowledge Panel.