



FREEDOM IS FOR  
**EVERYBODY**

**To:** Interested Parties

**From:** NARAL Pro-Choice America Research Team

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### **NARAL Research on the Post-Dobbs Abortion Access Crisis**

Reproductive freedom should be a reality for everybody—but one year after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, people across the country are experiencing an abortion access crisis. We hear countless stories every day about how pregnant people are being [denied](#) the [life-saving](#) care they need in states with bans, and new research from NARAL Pro-Choice America shows the magnitude of this harm.

- Right now, one year post-*Dobbs*, **26.1 million women of reproductive age** are living across **20 states** that have eliminated or restricted abortion access because of bans.
  - **6.1 million women of reproductive age in Texas** were already facing restricted abortion access because of the vigilante-enforced ban at six weeks pre-*Dobbs*.
  - Since the *Dobbs* decision came down and unleashed Republican attacks on people’s access to abortion care, **20 million more women of reproductive age** have experienced a loss of abortion access and now live in states that have eliminated or restricted abortion access because of bans.
- *Dobbs* unleashed a deluge of harm in 2022. By the end of the year—only six months post-decision—**24.5 million women of reproductive age** lived in states that had eliminated or restricted abortion access because of bans. But *Dobbs*’ devastating impacts were not isolated to last year. In 2023, **1.6 million more women of reproductive age** have lost access or now face restricted access to abortion because of bans enacted this year in the states in which they live, or because providers stopped providing abortion care in the state due to legal uncertainty.
- The assault on people’s reproductive freedom has only grown more extreme since *Dobbs*: **7.6 million women of reproductive age** live in states in which Republicans in 2023 passed new abortion bans or more restrictive bans than those previously on the books. And it isn’t just bans—eight states proposed legislation that would allow people to be criminalized on homicide or other criminal charges for having an abortion, putting **13.6 million women of reproductive age** at risk.

The data in this report is sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau population estimates based on bridged race categories from the National Center for Health Statistics. It does not include people who can get pregnant but do not identify as women—if we factor in that population, the harm is even greater.

**Bans on abortion cause real harm to real people, and they especially harm those who are already marginalized at every turn by our systems and institutions:** women; Black, Latina/x, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Indigenous people; those working to make ends meet; the LGBTQ+ community; immigrants; young people; those living in rural communities; people with disabilities, and other historically oppressed communities.