In Arkansas, abortion bans and other restrictions cost the state economy $1.2 billion per year.¹

Limiting women’s access to the full range of reproductive health care services, including abortion, can have a devastating impact on states: their economic well-being and the short- and long-term earnings of their residents. It can also have high economic costs to businesses.

New research from the Center on the Economics of Reproductive Health at the Institute for Women’s Policy Research finds that abortion bans and targeted restrictions on abortion providers (TRAP) laws cost state and local economies $105 billion annually by reducing labor force participation and earnings among women. Restrictive laws also increase turnover and time-off from work among women ages 15 to 44 years.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In Arkansas, implementing abortion bans and other restrictive reproductive health care policies could cost the state $1.2 billion per year.
- Nearly 14,000 women ages 15 to 44 could enter the workforce absent these state restrictions, strengthening Arkansas’s economy and local businesses.
- Arkansas earned a F on the IWPR Reproductive Rights Index and ranked 50th on women’s reproductive rights.
- Arkansas earned a D- on the IWPR Employment and Earnings Index for the economic standing of women across all 50 states and the District of Columbia and ranked 47th on women’s labor force participation rate.²

The takeaway is clear: Restrictive reproductive health policies put state economies at risk and limit women’s economic potential.