

Abortion Bans Hurt State Economies

States that restrict abortion tend to have lower GDP per capita.

Economists use gross domestic product (GDP) per capita to measure the size of state economies, with a real national average of \$67,000 in 2023. This approach adjusts for the number of people in a state to allow comparisons across different states.

8 of 10

Among the 10 states with the lowest GDP per capita, **8** had total bans or severe restrictions on abortion care: Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and West Virginia.

14 of 17

Of the 17 states with a higher-than-average GDP per capita, **14** maintained at least some protections for abortion access: Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Virginia, and Washington.

Bans and restrictions hurt women in the workforce.

10 of 18

Of the 18 states where abortion is currently banned or severely restricted, **10** saw a sharper decline in prime-age (25-54) female employment growth than the national average between 2022 and 2023.

18 of 18

Every state with a total abortion ban or severe restrictions reported median weekly earnings below the US median for prime-age, full-time workers, including women—a trend that has held true for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Abortion bans and restrictions are dangerous and harmful to women's health, lives, and livelihoods. But states that eagerly restrict reproductive freedom are undermining their own economies as well.

For more, read our latest report, *The Economic and Workforce Impact of Restrictive Abortion Laws: Why Access to Reproductive Health Care Matters for Employers*. The Center for Reproductive Rights served as an advisor to IWPR on this research.