



Americans' Attitudes on Contraception

In April 2014, the Harris Poll, on behalf of EngenderHealth, conducted a survey among adults in the United States to assess opinions on issues related to access to contraception in the United States and in the developing world.¹ For more information, please contact Kara Dress at kdress@engenderhealth.org.

Americans' opinions on contraception

- **A majority of Americans (87%)** believe that access to contraception is important to being able to achieve life goals, with **nearly one-third (32%)** stating that it is "absolutely essential" to achieving life goals.
- **Ninety percent of American women** believe that access to contraception is important to being able to achieve life goals, with **more than one-third (37%)** stating that it is "absolutely essential" to achieving life goals.
- **Six in 10 (61%)** Americans say that having access to contraception has had a positive impact on their own lives. **Seven in 10 (70%)** American mothers say that having access to contraception has had a positive impact on their own lives.

Americans' support for global access to contraception

- **A large majority (94%) of Americans** believe that women everywhere should have access to safe childbirth services; 89% believe that women everywhere should have access to contraception.
- **Eighty-five percent of Americans** believe that ensuring women's access to contraception should be a priority for all countries around the world.
- **Eight in 10 (82%) of Americans** believe that many social and economic issues around the world could be improved if everyone had access to contraception.
- Only **one in five Americans** are aware that pregnancy and childbirth-related complications are the leading cause of death of teen girls worldwide.
- **Nearly two-thirds (64%)** of Americans are willing to take action to support the cause of expanding access to contraception all over the world.

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1. This survey was conducted online from April 8–10, 2014, among 2,058 adults ages 18 and older. This online survey is not based on a probability sample, and therefore no estimate of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.