

Missouri Voters' Opinions on LGBTQ+ Issues

The following document summarizes the opinions of likely voters in Missouri on issues related to LGBTQ+ related issues, including same sex-marriage, school curriculums, book bans, medical care, and transgender athletes. These results are from SLU/YouGov Polls conducted from June 2020 to February 2024. The SLU/YouGov Poll is a biannual survey of likely Missouri voters aiming to inform policymakers, citizens, and researchers of Missourians' opinions on important issues facing the state.

Full demographic crosstabs and raw data for independent analyses of SLU/YouGov Polls are available at slu.edu/poll.

Key Missouri Findings from the [August 2023 Poll](#)

- 56 percent of Missouri voters support same-sex marriage
- Fewer than 38 percent of Missouri voters support public school bans of books on gay, lesbian, or transgender youth
- Fewer than 19 percent of Missouri voters support allowing public elementary schools to discuss sexual orientation or gender identity issues. Meanwhile, at least 51 percent of voters support allowing such discussion in high schools
- 18 percent of voters support allowing transgender student athletes to play on sports teams that match their gender identity, rather than the gender they were assigned at birth

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Missouri Voters' Views on LGBTQ+ Issues

Same-Sex Marriage

Do you favor or oppose the following policies...	All Voters	Dem. Voters	Rep. Voters	Ind. Voters
...marriages between same-sex couples should be recognized by the law as valid, with the same rights as traditional marriages	56%	83%	26%	70%

Reporting percent favor. Source: Aug. 2023 SLU/YouGov Poll, 900 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±4.02%

Gender Transition Medical Care

Do you favor or oppose allowing someone younger than 18 to receive gender transitional medical care like...	All Voters	Dem. Voters	Rep. Voters	Ind. Voters
...gender affirming counseling	44%	81%	17%	42%
...hormone therapy or medication that can temporarily prevent the effects of puberty	24%	54%	4%	19%
...gender affirming surgery	14%	30%	4%	10%

Reporting percent favor. Source: Aug. 2023 SLU/YouGov Poll, 900 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±4.02%

Transgender Athletes

Do you favor or oppose the following policies...	All Voters	Dem. Voters	Rep. Voters	Ind. Voters
...allowing transgender student athletes to play on sports teams that match their gender identity, rather than the gender they were assigned at birth	18%	41%	2%	15%

Reporting percent favor. Source: Aug. 2023 SLU/YouGov Poll, 900 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±4.02%

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements...	All Voters	Dem. Voters	Rep. Voters	Ind. Voters
...allowing transgender student athletes to play on sports teams that match their gender identity, rather than the gender they were assigned at birth	22%	46%	5%	20%

Reporting percent agree. Source: Aug. 2022 SLU/YouGov Poll, 447 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±5.93%

LGBTQ+ Issues in Public Schools

Do you favor or oppose public schools being allowed to...	All Voters	Dem. Voters	Rep. Voters	Ind. Voters
...discuss sexual orientation issues with students in elementary schools	18%	39%	3%	15%
...discuss sexual orientation issues with students in middle schools	38%	70%	11%	40%
...discuss sexual orientation issues with students in high schools	56%	86%	31%	60%
...discuss gender identity issues with students in elementary schools	19%	40%	3%	16%
...discuss gender identity issues with students in middle schools	34%	69%	7%	34%
...discuss gender identity issues with students in high schools	51%	85%	23%	52%

Reporting percent favor. Source: Aug. 2023 SLU/YouGov Poll, 900 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±4.02%

Do you favor or oppose the following policies...	All Voters	Dem. Voters	Rep. Voters	Ind. Voters
...expanding public schools' curricula related to sexual orientation	29%	57%	11%	20%
...limiting public schools' curricula related to sexual orientation	49%	11%	76%	49%

Reporting percent support. Source: Feb. 2023 SLU/YouGov Poll, 457 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±5.04%
Reporting percent favor. Source: Feb. 2023 SLU/YouGov Poll, 443 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±5.50%

Book Bans

Do you favor or oppose public schools being allowed to...	All Voters	Dem. Voters	Rep. Voters	Ind. Voters
...ban books with stories about gay or lesbian youth	33%	7%	61%	25%
...ban books with stories about transgendered youth	38%	10%	64%	33%

Reporting percent favor. Source: Aug. 2023 SLU/YouGov Poll, 900 Likely Missouri Voters, MoE ±4.02%

About the SLU/YouGov Poll

The SLU/YouGov Poll is a biannual survey of likely Missouri voters aiming to inform policymakers, citizens, and researchers of Missourians' opinions on important issues facing the state. No other academic institution regularly conducts a non-partisan, scientific survey of Missouri voters and makes results and raw data publicly available. For questions or suggestions concerning the SLU/YouGov Poll, contact poll director Steven Rogers, Ph.D., at steven.rogers@slu.edu.

About Saint Louis University

Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious Catholic institutions. Rooted in Jesuit values and its pioneering history as the first university west of the Mississippi River, SLU offers more than 15,200 students a rigorous, transformative education of the whole person. At the core of the University's diverse community of scholars is SLU's service-focused mission, which challenges and prepares students to make the world a better, more just place.

About YouGov

Saint Louis University has partnered with YouGov to conduct its annual survey of Missouri voters. YouGov conducts surveys for multiple academic institutions and is the primary, trusted survey firm for media organizations, including CBS News and The Economist. An independent Pew Research Center study of online survey firms in 2016 further concluded that YouGov "consistently outperforms competitors."

The SLU/YouGov Poll is funded by the PRiME Center in SLU's School of Education.