

## GEORGIA LEGISLATIVE POLL

### How the Poll Was Conducted

The *Georgia Legislative Poll* was conducted by Schapiro Research Group, Inc. of Atlanta, Georgia from October 13-19, 2003. A total of 500 Georgians who are registered voters were interviewed by telephone. The sample was randomly selected from voter registration lists and is stratified to represent the state's population both geographically and demographically.

The margin of sampling error for the full sample is 4.5 percentage points. This means that there is a 95% probability that the response would fall within that range if the entire population were sampled. The margin of error for subgroups is slightly higher.

### Sample Figures

North Georgia	18%	White	72%
Metro Atlanta	43%	Black	24%
Middle Georgia	21%	Other	4%
South Georgia	18%		
Urban	22%	18-39	25%
Suburban	48%	40-59	46%
Rural	28%	60+	29%
Don't know	2%		
Democrat	39%	Men	47%
Republican	38%	Women	53%
Independent	23%		

As you probably know, Medicaid is the government program that covers a broad range of services necessary to protect the health of low-income Georgians. The program covers doctors' visits and hospital stays, including those needed by pregnant women. Do you agree or disagree that Medicaid, as part of its otherwise comprehensive health coverage, should cover abortions that a doctor determines are necessary to protect a woman's health? Is that strongly or only somewhat (agree/disagree)?

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Don't know/ Refused</b>
Total	42%	23%	8%	22%	4%
North Georgia	34%	20%	15%	29%	2%
Metro Atlanta	50%	23%	7%	16%	4%
Middle Georgia	35%	25%	7%	25%	8%
South Georgia	37%	26%	6%	27%	4%
Urban	50%	19%	8%	19%	4%
Suburban	40%	27%	9%	20%	3%
Rural	39%	21%	5%	29%	6%
White	41%	23%	8%	24%	4%
Black	47%	24%	8%	16%	5%
18-39	34%	30%	11%	20%	4%
40-59	47%	21%	7%	21%	4%
60+	40%	21%	7%	26%	6%
Male	44%	22%	8%	22%	5%
Female	41%	24%	9%	23%	4%
Democrat	52%	23%	6%	14%	4%
Republican	31%	24%	8%	32%	6%
Independent	42%	22%	12%	21%	3%

Now I am going to read you a couple of scenarios about women on Medicaid. After each, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with Medicaid’s policy about covering the cost of the abortion.

Carol is a low-income woman who relies on Medicaid for her health care. She is pregnant when she finds out she has breast cancer. Her doctor says she needs chemotherapy to stop the cancer from spreading. Since the chemotherapy is likely to harm the fetus, her doctor advises her to have an abortion to protect her health. Medicaid will cover the cost of carrying the pregnancy to term, but won’t cover the abortion. Do you agree with Medicaid’s policy of not covering an abortion a woman needs to protect her health, or do you disagree with this policy? Is that strongly or only somewhat (agree/disagree)?

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Don’t know/ Refused</b>
Total	19%	9%	18%	51%	4%
North Georgia	22%	14%	17%	44%	3%
Metro Atlanta	15%	7%	15%	58%	5%
Middle Georgia	18%	6%	20%	52%	4%
South Georgia	24%	10%	22%	39%	5%
Urban	20%	6%	17%	55%	2%
Suburban	18%	8%	21%	49%	4%
Rural	18%	12%	14%	50%	5%
White	21%	9%	17%	50%	4%
Black	14%	7%	21%	56%	3%
18-39	14%	15%	19%	47%	5%
40-59	19%	6%	18%	54%	3%
60+	22%	9%	16%	49%	4%
Male	21%	10%	16%	51%	3%
Female	16%	8%	19%	51%	6%
Democrat	14%	7%	17%	59%	2%
Republican	26%	10%	18%	42%	5%
Independent	14%	10%	19%	50%	7%

Now I am going to read you a couple of scenarios about women on Medicaid. After each, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with Medicaid’s policy about covering the cost of the abortion.

Anna is a low-income woman who is pregnant and relies on Medicaid for her health care. Routine pre-natal tests reveal that Anna’s fetus has a serious genetic disorder and is likely to be stillborn. If the baby is born alive, it would likely lead a brief and very painful existence. Anna and her husband consult with their doctor and decide on an abortion because they don’t want their child to suffer. Medicaid will cover the cost of carrying the pregnancy to term, but won’t cover the abortion. Do you agree with Medicaid’s policy of not covering abortions when a fetus has a serious genetic disorder, or do you disagree with this policy? Is that strongly or only somewhat (agree/disagree)?

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Don’t know/ Refused</b>
Total	22%	8%	16%	49%	5%
North Georgia	27%	7%	14%	47%	4%
Metro Atlanta	19%	6%	15%	55%	6%
Middle Georgia	18%	11%	14%	52%	4%
South Georgia	27%	11%	24%	34%	4%
Urban	18%	4%	20%	57%	2%
Suburban	22%	9%	16%	48%	5%
Rural	25%	10%	13%	46%	6%
White	25%	7%	17%	47%	4%
Black	11%	11%	12%	58%	7%
18-39	21%	11%	20%	45%	3%
40-59	23%	7%	14%	51%	5%
60+	20%	7%	16%	49%	7%
Male	24%	7%	17%	50%	3%
Female	20%	9%	15%	49%	7%
Democrat	13%	7%	16%	59%	5%
Republican	35%	9%	16%	36%	3%
Independent	14%	8%	17%	54%	7%

Thinking again about Medicaid coverage of abortion, do you agree or disagree that Medicaid, as part of its otherwise comprehensive health coverage for low-income Georgians, should cover abortions that a doctor determines are necessary to protect a woman’s health? Is that strongly or only somewhat (agree/disagree)?

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Don’t know/ Refused</b>
Total	46%	24%	5%	20%	5%
North Georgia	39%	19%	7%	32%	3%
Metro Atlanta	50%	26%	4%	15%	5%
Middle Georgia	50%	20%	6%	15%	9%
South Georgia	39%	29%	6%	24%	3%
Urban	55%	20%	7%	16%	2%
Suburban	43%	27%	5%	20%	6%
Rural	44%	22%	5%	22%	7%
White	43%	22%	5%	25%	5%
Black	58%	26%	7%	6%	4%
18-39	44%	30%	6%	16%	5%
40-59	47%	21%	4%	21%	6%
60+	46%	24%	6%	20%	3%
Male	46%	25%	6%	19%	4%
Female	45%	24%	5%	20%	6%
Democrat	57%	23%	7%	8%	4%
Republican	37%	24%	3%	31%	6%
Independent	42%	26%	6%	20%	6%

Survey of 500 Registered Georgia Voters

October 13–19, 2003

Schapiro Research Group, Inc.