# BEYOND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE: ATTITUDES ON LGBT NONDISCRIMINATION LAWS AND RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS 

Findings from the 2015 American Values Atlas


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Findings from the 2015 American Values Atlas

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## About the American Values Atlas

The American Values Atlas (AVA) is a landmark project designed to provide an unprecedented portrait of American attitudes on important issues, as well as a map of religious and cultural change. Conducted by Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI), the AVA's unusually large sample size allows analysis of specific U.S. Census regions, all 50 states, and 30 major metropolitan areas, while providing a rare profile of smaller religious communities and ethnic groups.

Findings in the 2015 AVA are based on data from over 42,000 bilingual telephone interviews conducted among a random sample of Americans between May 2015 and early January 2016. The 2015 AVA focuses on issues of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) issues-the subject of the current report-and immigration reform, which will be covered in a future report.

In addition to the analysis in this report, PRRI has developed an interactive online map to allow individuals to explore this extraordinary dataset on their own. The AVA interactive map is available at http://ava.publicreligion.org/.

## Attitudes on Same-sex Marriage Steady After Landmark Ruling

Across 2015, the year that saw same-sex marriage become legal in all 50 states following the landmark Obergefell v. Hodges Supreme Court decision in June, public opinion on same-sex marriage remained remarkably stable. Based on interviews with more than 42,000 Americans conducted between May and December 2015, PRRI finds that 53\% of Americans support allowing gay and lesbian people to legally marry, while $37 \%$ are opposed.

In surveys conducted during May 2015, the month before the Supreme Court decision, 53\% of the public on average supported same-sex marriage. Weekly tracking polls showed no significant shift in opinion as a result of the court decision, with the June average showing $55 \%$ support and the July average showing $53 \%$ support.

Views on Same-sex Marriage in 2015
Do you favor or oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?


Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## Same-sex Marriage by Age and Gender

Few attributes are more important in structuring attitudes on same-sex marriage than age. Generally, there is an inverse relationship between support for same-sex marriage and increasing age, but the relationship is not uniformly linear. Among younger American adults, from those in their late teens to mid-forties, majorities support same-sex marriage, with the strength of support generally decreasing as age increases. For example, $74 \%$ of 20 -year-olds support same-sex marriage, compared to $53 \%$ of 45 -year-olds.

Among Americans in their late forties to late sixties, the linear relationship between support for same-sex marriage and age plateaus, with Americans in this group roughly divided on the issue. Forty-nine percent of 50 -year-olds support same-sex marriage, a number that is similar to support among 68-year-olds (48\%). The linear relationship between support for same-sex marriage and age picks up again among Americans who are 70 years of age or older. For example, $41 \%$ of 70 -year-olds support same-sex marriage, compared to only $33 \%$ of those aged 80 and older.

Views on Same-sex Marriage by Age
Do you favor or oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?


The correlation between age and support for same-sex marriage is also striking when comparing age cohorts. More than seven in ten ( $71 \%$ ) young adults (age 18 to 29) favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry, compared to roughly four in ten ( $41 \%$ ) seniors (age 65 and older). Notably, however, there is no age group in which a majority opposes same-sex marriage. Only half (50\%) of seniors oppose same-sex marriage, although one in ten (10\%) offer no opinion on the issue.

Women are somewhat more likely to support same-sex marriage than men, a pattern that is consistent across generations. Overall, nearly six in ten (57\%) women, compared to only half (50\%) of men, favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally. Among young adults, roughly three-quarters ( $74 \%$ ) of women and two-thirds ( $67 \%$ ) of men favor same-sex marriage. ${ }^{1}$ The age gap is roughly the same size among seniors. More than four in ten (43\%) senior women, but only $36 \%$ of senior men, support same-sex marriage.

Support for Same-sex Marriage by Age and Gender Percent who favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally


1 In part, the gender differences may be the result of divergent personal experiences. Young women are much more likely to report having a close friend who is gay or lesbian than young men ( $78 \% \mathrm{vs}$. $61 \%$, respectively) (PRRI, 2014 LGBT Issues \& Trends Survey).

## Same-sex Marriage by Race and Ethnicity

Among racial and ethnic groups, Americans who identify as Asian or Pacific Islander (API) are the most supportive of same-sex marriage. Nearly two-thirds (64\%) of API Americans favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry. Similar to the public overall, majorities of white Americans (56\%), Hispanic Americans (54\%), and mixed-race Americans (55\%) favor same-sex marriage. Black Americans are roughly divided in their opinions about same-sex marriage (43\% favor, 48\% oppose). There is a strong generational divide among black Americans, with $63 \%$ of black Americans under the age of 30 supporting same-sex marriage, compared to only $31 \%$ of black seniors.

Views on Same-sex Marriage Among Black Americans by Age
Do you favor or oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?


Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## Same-sex Marriage by Religious Affiliation

The strongest supporters of same-sex marriage continue to be members of non-Christian religious traditions and religiously unaffiliated Americans. At least three-quarters of Buddhists (85\%), the religiously unaffiliated (78\%), and Jewish Americans (76\%) favor allowing gay and lesbian

## Views on Same-sex Marriage by Religious Affiliation

Do you favor or oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Americans | 53 | 37 | $8=100$ | 42,586 |
| White evangelical Protestant | 26 | 67 | $8=100$ | 7,972 |
| White mainline Protestant | 59 | 32 | $9=100$ | 6,406 |
| Black Protestant | 38 | 54 | $9=100$ | 3,591 |
| Hispanic Protestant | 32 | 59 | $9=100$ | 1,232 |
| Other non-white Protestant | 38 | 48 | $14=100$ | 1,379 |
| Catholic | 58 | 32 | $10=100$ | 8,946 |
| White Catholic | 59 | 32 | $8=100$ | 5,878 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 56 | 31 | $13=100$ | 2,287 |
| Other non-white Catholic | 56 | 33 | $10=100$ | 781 |
| Jehovah's Witness | 11 | 72 | $16=100$ | 271 |
| Mormon | 26 | 66 | $7=100$ | 740 |
| Orthodox Christian | 61 | 32 | $7=100$ | 217 |
| Unitarian/Universalist | 96 | 3 | $1=100$ | 111 |
| Jewish | 76 | 20 | $4=100$ | 765 |
| Muslim | 41 | 45 | $14=100$ | 299 |
| Buddhist | 85 | 11 | $4=100$ | 290 |
| Hindu | 66 | 22 | $12=100$ | 218 |
| Unaffiliated | 78 | 17 | $6=100$ | 8,591 |

Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.
couples to marry. Solid majorities of Hindus (66\%), Orthodox Christians (61\%), white mainline Protestants (59\%), white Catholics (59\%), and Hispanic Catholics (56\%) also express support for same-sex marriage. In contrast, majorities of black Protestants (54\%), Hispanic Protestants (59\%), Mormons (66\%), white evangelical Protestants (67\%), and Jehovah's Witnesses (72\%) oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry. Muslims are divided in their opinions over same-sex marriage (41\% favor, 45\% oppose).

Even among the most ardent opponents of same-sex marriage, stark generational divisions
persist. Young white evangelical Protestants, for example, are divided over same-sex marriage, with roughly equal numbers expressing support ( $47 \%$ ) and opposition ( $49 \%$ ). In contrast, roughly three-quarters $(74 \%)$ of white evangelical Protestant seniors oppose same-sex marriage. There are only modest generational differences among Mormons. Nearly six in ten (58\%) younger Mormons oppose same-sex marriage, as do seven in ten (70\%) Mormon seniors.

## Sames-sex Marriage by Political Affiliation

The views of Republicans and Democrats on same-sex marriage are near mirror opposites. Roughly two-thirds (66\%) of Democrats favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry, while fewer than three in ten (27\%) are opposed. Conversely, nearly six in ten (59\%) Republicans oppose same-sex marriage, while about one-third (34\%) support it. Political independents are closer to Democrats than Republicans on this issue: a majority (58\%) favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry.

However, ideology impacts Republicans and Democrats alike on the issue of same-sex marriage. While about eight in ten ( $82 \%$ ) liberal Democrats and roughly six in ten ( $61 \%$ ) moderate Democrats support same-sex marriage, only about four in ten ( $41 \%$ ) conservative Democrats say the same. Among Republicans, a majority of liberal (55\%) and moderate (54\%) Republicans favor

## Views on Same-sex Marriage by Party Affiliation and Ideology

Do you favor or oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ <br> Refused | $\mathbf{N =}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Americans | 53 | 37 | $8=100$ | 42,586 |
| Republican | 34 | 59 | $8=100$ | 10,203 |
| Conservative Republican | 25 | 68 | $7=100$ | 7,037 |
| Moderate Republican | 54 | 38 | $8=100$ | 2,146 |
| Liberal Republican | 55 | 37 | $7=100$ | 783 |
| Independent | 58 | 33 | $8=100$ | 15,766 |
| Democrat | 66 | 27 | $6=100$ | 13,463 |
| Conservative Democrat | 41 | 51 | $8=100$ | 2,595 |
| Moderate Democrat | 61 | 32 | $7=100$ | 3,865 |
| Liberal Democrat | 82 | 14 | $4=100$ | 6,488 |

Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.
same-sex marriage, compared to only one-quarter (25\%) of conservative Republicans. Approximately seven in ten (68\%) conservative Republicans oppose same-sex marriage.

Among Republicans, opposition to same-sex marriage is also influenced by age. For example, nearly half ( $49 \%$ ) of young Republicans support same-sex marriage, while $44 \%$ oppose it. Among Republican seniors, only $23 \%$ support same-sex marriage, compared to two-thirds (67\%) who oppose it.

## Same-sex Marriage by Geography

Support for same-sex marriage varies significantly by region. Residents of the Northeast express the highest support, with more than six in ten ( $63 \%$ ) favoring same-sex marriage. A majority of Americans living in the West (59\%) and the Midwest (54\%) also favor same-sex marriage, while residents of the South are divided on the issue ( $46 \%$ favor, $45 \%$ oppose).

Support for Same-sex Marriage by State
Percent who favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally


Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

In the South, however, there are significant generational divisions on the issue. Two-thirds ( $67 \%$ ) of young adults in the South support same-sex marriage, compared to roughly one-third $(32 \%)$ of seniors. Nearly six in ten (58\%) Southern seniors express opposition to same-sex marriage.

Unsurprisingly, the states with the highest support for same-sex marriage tend to be clustered in the Northeast, while the states with the lowest support can be found predominately in the South. Massachusetts—the first state in the nation to legalize same-sex marriage in 2004—registers the highest support for the policy today ( $76 \%$ favor). Support for same-sex marriage is robust across New England with approximately seven in ten residents of New Hampshire (73\%), Connecticut (70\%), Rhode Island (69\%), and Vermont (69\%) expressing support.

Notably, there are only five states in which a majority of residents oppose same-sex marriage. Support for same-sex marriage is lowest in the Deep South: just one-quarter (25\%) of Mississippi residents and one-third ( $33 \%$ ) of Alabama residents favor same-sex marriage. Sixty-five percent of Mississippi residents and 60\% of Alabama residents oppose same-sex marriage. Opposition to same-sex marriage also reaches a majority in three other states: Arkansas (57\%), South Dakota (57\%), and Tennessee (56\%).

## Widespread Support for Laws Protecting Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender People from Discrimination

There is widespread support for laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people from discrimination in jobs, housing, and public accommodations. Nationally, roughly seven in ten ( $71 \%$ ) Americans support such laws, while roughly one-quarter ( $24 \%$ ) oppose them. Majorities of all major demographic, religious, and political groups favor nondiscrimination laws for LGBT people.

## LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Age, Race, and Ethnicity

Despite the strong support for nondiscrimination laws for LGBT people, there is some variation in the strength of support. Eight in ten ( $80 \%$ ) young Americans (age 18 to 29) favor these nondiscrimination laws, compared to $61 \%$ of seniors (age 65 and older). Roughly three-quarters of Asian-Pacific Islanders (76\%) and Hispanic Americans (74\%) and about seven in ten (71\%) white Americans support nondiscrimination laws, as do approximately two-thirds (65\%) of black Americans.

Views on LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Race/Ethnicity
Do you favor or oppose laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing?


## LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Religious and Political Affiliation

Majorities of all major religious groups favor passing nondiscrimination laws for LGBT people, although the degree of support varies. The religiously unaffiliated ( $81 \%$ ) and members of many non-Christian religions, including Buddhists (85\%) and Jewish Americans ( $83 \%$ ), are the most supportive of these laws. A majority of white evangelical Protestants (57\%) and Jehovah's Witnesses ( $52 \%$ ) also support nondiscrimination laws for LGBT people. However, a substantial number of white evangelical Protestants (38\%) and Jehovah's Witnesses (33\%) oppose this policy. And while Mormons strongly oppose same-sex marriage, their support for nondiscrimination laws (72\%) mirrors support among Americans overall.

There is bipartisan support for nondiscrimination laws for LGBT people, with more than six in ten Republicans ( $61 \%$ ), and more than seven in ten independents ( $73 \%$ ) and Democrats ( $78 \%$ ), in favor of such laws.

Views on LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Party Affiliation Do you favor or oppose laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing?


## Views on LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Religious Affiliation

Do you favor or oppose laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Americans | 71 | 24 | $5=100$ | 42,586 |
| White evangelical Protestant | 57 | 38 | $6=100$ | 7,972 |
| White mainline Protestant | 72 | 23 | $5=100$ | 6,406 |
| Black Protestant | 64 | 31 | $5=100$ | 3,591 |
| Hispanic Protestant | 67 | 28 | $6=100$ | 1,232 |
| Other non-white Protestant | 61 | 31 | $9=100$ | 1,379 |
| Catholic | 73 | 22 | $5=100$ | 8,946 |
| White Catholic | 73 | 22 | $5=100$ | 5,878 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 75 | 21 | $5=100$ | 2,287 |
| Other non-white Catholic | 72 | 25 | $3=100$ | 781 |
| Jehovah's Witness | 52 | 33 | $16=100$ | 271 |
| Mormon | 72 | 24 | $4=100$ | 740 |
| Orthodox Christian | 76 | 20 | $4=100$ | 217 |
| Unitarian/Universalist | 94 | 3 | $2=100$ | 111 |
| Jewish | 83 | 14 | $3=100$ | 765 |
| Muslim | 67 | 26 | $7=100$ | 299 |
| Buddhist | 85 | 13 | $3=100$ | 290 |
| Hindu | 71 | 23 | $7=100$ | 218 |
| Unaffiliated | 81 | 16 | $3=100$ | 8,591 |

Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Geography

Majorities of Americans in every region and state express support for nondiscrimination laws, but there are modest differences in the degree of support around the country. Support is higher in the Northeast ( $76 \%$ ) and West ( $75 \%$ ), and lower in the South ( $66 \%$ ) and Midwest ( $71 \%$ ).
Residents of New England states such as Rhode Island (84\%) and Massachusetts (83\%) are the most supportive of these laws, while residents of Deep South states, such as Mississippi (54\%), Alabama (57\%), and Arkansas (57\%), are the least supportive.

Within metropolitan areas, Cincinnati, Ohio has the lowest levels of support for anti-discrimination laws ( $65 \%$ ), while residents of San Francisco $(81 \%)$ and Boston ( $83 \%$ ) are the most supportive.

## Support for LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by State

Percent who favor laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing


Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## The Complex Relationship Between Support for Samesex Marriage and Nondiscrimination Laws

Not surprisingly, nearly nine in ten (88\%) Americans who support same-sex marriage also support nondiscrimination laws that would protect LGBT people. Notably, same-sex marriage opponents are not uniformly opposed to nondiscrimination laws. Americans who oppose same-sex marriage are divided over nondiscrimination laws for LGBT people (49\% favor, $45 \%$ oppose).

Similarly, nearly three-quarters (74\%) of Americans who reside in states where a majority of residents support same-sex marriage also support nondiscrimination laws for LGBT people. But notably, even among residents of states where a majority are opposed to same-sex marriage, nearly six in ten (58\%) nonetheless favor nondiscrimination laws.

## Views on LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Views on Same-sex Marriage

Do you favor or oppose laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing?


Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

# Most Americans Oppose Allowing Businesses to Refuse Service to LGBT People Based on Religious Beliefs 

Americans are broadly opposed to allowing small business owners to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people if doing so violates their religious beliefs. Overall, nearly six in ten (59\%) Americans oppose allowing these religiously based service refusals, while 35\% favor them.

## Service Refusals by Age

Although a majority of Americans from every generation oppose allowing a small business owner to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people on religious grounds, the degree of opposition varies somewhat by age. Young adults (age 18 to 29) express the highest level of opposition (67\%), while seniors (age 65 and older) are somewhat more divided: a majority ( $53 \%$ ) oppose allowing small business owners to deny service to gay and lesbian people on religious grounds, while approximately four in ten (39\%) favor such a policy.

## Service Refusals by Race and Ethnicity

The racial and ethnic division in views about service refusals of LGBT people differs markedly from views on same-sex marriage. Non-white Americans are more likely than their white counterparts to express opposition to religiously based service refusals, though majorities of every racial and ethnic group oppose such refusals. Black (67\%) and Hispanic (66\%) Americans express the most opposition to allowing small business owners to deny products or services to gay or lesbian people if doing so violates their religious beliefs, followed by Asian-Pacific Islander Americans ( $62 \%$ ). A majority (55\%) of white Americans also oppose allowing service refusals based on religious beliefs, while approximately four in ten (38\%) white Americans favor such a policy.

Views on Religiously Based Service Refusals by Race/Ethnicity
Do you favor or oppose allowing a small business owner in your state to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people, if doing so violates their religious beliefs?


Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## Service Refusals by Religious Affiliation

Most religious traditions express opposition to allowing small business owners to deny service to gay or lesbian customers on religious grounds, with opposition highest among non-Christian religious groups and the religiously unaffiliated. More than seven in ten Unitarian Universalists ( $83 \%$ ), Jewish Americans ( $72 \%$ ), and unaffiliated Americans (71\%) oppose allowing religiously based service refusals of gay or lesbian people, as do approximately two-thirds of Hispanic Catholics (68\%), Buddhists (68\%), black Protestants (67\%), Orthodox Christians (66\%), Muslims (65\%), and Hindus (64\%). Majorities of Hispanic Protestants (58\%), white Catholics (58\%), and white mainline Protestants (56\%) also oppose religiously based service refusals of gay or lesbian people. About half of Jehovah's Witnesses (50\%) and other non-white Protestants (48\%) oppose religiously based service refusals to gay or lesbian people.

There are only two major religious groups in which a majority favor allowing small business owners to refuse products or services to gay or lesbian people if doing so violates their religious beliefs: white evangelical Protestants (56\%) and Mormons (58\%). Notably, even majorities of
younger white evangelical Protestants and younger Mormons favor religiously based service refusals (54\% and 60\%, respectively)

## Views on LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by Religious Affiliation

Do you favor or oppose laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Americans | 71 | 24 | $5=100$ | 42,586 |
| White evangelical Protestant | 57 | 38 | $6=100$ | 7,972 |
| White mainline Protestant | 72 | 23 | $5=100$ | 6,406 |
| Black Protestant | 64 | 31 | $5=100$ | 3,591 |
| Hispanic Protestant | 67 | 28 | $6=100$ | 1,232 |
| Other non-white Protestant | 61 | 31 | $9=100$ | 1,379 |
| Catholic | 73 | 22 | $5=100$ | 8,946 |
| White Catholic | 73 | 22 | $5=100$ | 5,878 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 75 | 21 | $5=100$ | 2,287 |
| Other non-white Catholic | 72 | 25 | $3=100$ | 781 |
| Jehovah's Witness | 52 | 33 | $16=100$ | 271 |
| Mormon | 72 | 24 | 4=100 | 740 |
| Orthodox Christian | 76 | 20 | 4=100 | 217 |
| Unitarian/Universalist | 94 | 3 | $2=100$ | 111 |
| Jewish | 83 | 14 | $3=100$ | 765 |
| Muslim | 67 | 26 | $7=100$ | 299 |
| Buddhist | 85 | 13 | $3=100$ | 290 |
| Hindu | 71 | 23 | $7=100$ | 218 |
| Unaffiliated | 81 | 16 | $3=100$ | 8,591 |

Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## Service Refusals by Political Affiliation

Unsurprisingly, Democrats are significantly more likely than Republicans to oppose allowing small business owners to refuse products or services to gay or lesbian people if doing so violates their religious beliefs. Nearly three-quarters (74\%) of Democrats oppose allowing small business owners to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian customers on religious grounds, compared to four in ten ( $40 \%$ ) Republicans. A majority (55\%) of Republicans favor allowing religiously based service refusals. Independents' opinions more closely align with Democrats than Republicans on this issue, with nearly six in ten (58\%) in opposition of allowing religiously based service refusals.

## Views on Religiously Based Service Refusals by Party Affiliation and Ideology

Do you favor or oppose allowing a small business owner in your state to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people, if doing so violates their religious beliefs?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ <br> Refused | $\mathbf{N =}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Americans | $\mathbf{3 5}$ | $\mathbf{5 9}$ | $\mathbf{6 = 1 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{4 2 , 5 8 6}$ |
| Republican | 55 | 40 | $5=100$ | 10,203 |
| Conservative Republican | 63 | 32 | $4=100$ | 7,037 |
| Moderate Republican | 42 | 53 | $5=100$ | 2,146 |
| Liberal Republican | 32 | 64 | $4=100$ | 783 |
| Independent | 36 | 58 | $6=100$ | 15,766 |
| Democrat | 21 | 74 | $5=100$ | 13,463 |
| Conservative Democrat | 32 | 62 | $6=100$ | 2,595 |
| Moderate Democrat | 25 | 71 | $5=100$ | 3,865 |
| Liberal Democrat | 15 | 82 | $3=100$ | 6,488 |

Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

However, there are significant ideological and generational divisions on this issue between Democrats and Republicans. More than eight in ten (82\%) liberal Democrats oppose allowing a small business owner with religious conflicts to deny service to a gay or lesbian customer, while a smaller number—though still a majority—of conservative Democrats (62\%) express the same opinion. The ideological gap among Republicans is even larger. While more than six in ten (63\%) conservative Republicans favor allowing small business owners to refuse service to gay or lesbian people on religious grounds, moderate and liberal Republicans disagree. A majority (53\%) of mod-
erate Republicans and nearly two-thirds (64\%) of liberal Republicans oppose allowing religiously based service refusals.

There are also modest generational divisions among partisans, particularly among Republicans. While about half (49\%) of younger Republicans oppose religiously based service refusals, fewer than four in ten (37\%) Republican seniors express the same opinion.

## Service Refusals by Geography

A majority of Americans in all four U.S. Census regions oppose allowing small business owners to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people on religious grounds, though the degree of opposition varies somewhat by region. Two-thirds (67\%) of residents in the Northeast oppose allowing service refusals of LGBT people, as do nearly six in ten Americans living in the West (58\%) and Midwest (58\%). Opposition to religiously based service refusals is lowest in

Opposition to Religiously Based Service Refusals by State
Percent who oppose allowing a small business owner in your state to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people, if doing so violates their religious beliefs


Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.
the South, where $55 \%$ oppose allowing small business owners to deny service to gay or lesbian customers if doing so violates their religious beliefs; $38 \%$ of Southerners favor such a policy. However, there are notable racial divisions among Southern residents. Fewer than half (49\%) of white Southerners oppose allowing small business owners to deny service to gay and lesbian customers, while $45 \%$ are in favor of this. By contrast, $65 \%$ of black Southerners oppose religiously based refusals to serve gay and lesbian people.

Views on religiously based service refusals also vary widely across the 50 states, although in no state is there a majority of support for allowing such a policy. States with the strongest opposition to allowing small business owners to deny service to gay or lesbian customers on religious grounds can be found predominately in the Northeast. Approximately seven in ten residents of New Jersey (71\%), Massachusetts (71\%), New Hampshire (71\%), New York (68\%), and Connecticut ( $68 \%$ ) oppose religiously based service refusals of gay or lesbian people.

In contrast, Americans living in the South and parts of the West express greater support for allowing small business owners to deny services to gay and lesbian people. Nearly half of Idaho (49\%), Oklahoma (46\%), Utah (46\%), Montana (46\%), Arkansas (45\%), and Tennessee (45\%) residents favor allowing a small business owner to refuse products or services to gay or lesbian customers if doing so violates their religious beliefs.

Majorities of residents living in 30 major metro areas oppose allowing small business owners to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people on religious grounds. Opposition to religiously based service refusals is highest in Boston (73\%), New York City (70\%), and Chicago (69\%), while opposition is lowest in Dallas (53\%), Houston (53\%), Portland, Ore. (53\%), and Nashville, Tenn. (51\%).

## Appendix 1: State-Level Tables

## TABLE 1: Views on Same-sex Marriage by State

Do you favor or oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| National | 53 | 37 | 8=100 | 42,586 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alabama | 33 | 60 | $7=100$ | 657 | Montana | 49 | 43 | $9=100$ | 244 |
| Alaska | 60 | 34 | $6=100$ | 379 | Nebraska | 49 | 43 | $8=100$ | 331 |
| Arizona | 56 | 36 | $7=100$ | 829 | Nevada | 57 | 35 | $8=100$ | 352 |
| Arkansas | 37 | 57 | $6=100$ | 407 | New Hampshire | 73 | 19 | $8=100$ | 189 |
| California | 60 | 30 | $9=100$ | 3,926 | New Jersey | 66 | 26 | $8=100$ | 1,048 |
| Colorado | 65 | 27 | $8=100$ | 712 | New Mexico | 58 | 34 | $8=100$ | 307 |
| Connecticut | 70 | 24 | $7=100$ | 475 | NewYork | 63 | 29 | $9=100$ | 2,813 |
| Delaware | 66 | 25 | $8=100$ | 148 | North Carolina | 46 | 47 | $8=100$ | 1,477 |
| Florida | 53 | 37 | $10=100$ | 2,572 | North Dakota | 43 | 44 | $12=100$ | 155 |
| Georgia | 45 | 47 | $8=100$ | 1,240 | Ohio | 53 | 40 | $8=100$ | 1,773 |
| Hawaii | 61 | 29 | $10=100$ | 202 | Oklahoma | 44 | 48 | $8=100$ | 557 |
| Idaho | 49 | 41 | $10=100$ | 230 | Oregon | 62 | 29 | $9=100$ | 694 |
| Illinois | 60 | 33 | $7=100$ | 1,514 | Pennsylvania | 55 | 36 | $8=100$ | 1,924 |
| Indiana | 52 | 38 | $9=100$ | 978 | Rhode Island | 69 | 24 | $6=100$ | 154 |
| Iowa | 56 | 35 | $9=100$ | 587 | South Carolina | 40 | 49 | $11=100$ | 702 |
| Kansas | 53 | 38 | $9=100$ | 465 | South Dakota | 39 | 57 | $4=100$ | 155 |
| Kentucky | 45 | 47 | $8=100$ | 690 | Tennessee | 37 | 56 | $6=100$ | 979 |
| Louisiana | 41 | 49 | $10=100$ | 602 | Texas | 46 | 45 | $9=100$ | 2,782 |
| Maine | 56 | 35 | $9=100$ | 226 | Utah | 46 | 47 | $6=100$ | 427 |
| Maryland | 54 | 36 | $10=100$ | 721 | Vermont | 69 | 21 | $10=100$ | 148 |
| Massachusetts | 76 | 18 | $6=100$ | 750 | Virginia | 49 | 42 | $9=100$ | 1,168 |
| Michigan | 54 | 38 | $7=100$ | 1,225 | Washington | 65 | 28 | $7=100$ | 1,027 |
| Minnesota | 57 | 37 | $6=100$ | 769 | West Virginia | 45 | 50 | $5=100$ | 311 |
| Mississippi | 25 | 65 | $9=100$ | 423 | Wisconsin | 55 | 36 | $8=100$ | 986 |
| Missouri | 48 | 45 | $7=100$ | 894 | Wyoming | 48 | 43 | $9=100$ | 139 |

## TABLE 2: Views on LGBT Nondiscrimination Laws by State

Do you favor or oppose laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| National | 71 | 24 | $5=100$ | 42,586 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alabama | 57 | 36 | $7=100$ | 657 | Montana | 64 | 32 | $4=100$ | 244 |
| Alaska | 73 | 22 | $4=100$ | 379 | Nebraska | 65 | 29 | $7=100$ | 331 |
| Arizona | 72 | 21 | $6=100$ | 829 | Nevada | 74 | 21 | $4=100$ | 352 |
| Arkansas | 57 | 38 | $6=100$ | 407 | New Hampshire | 79 | 16 | $5=100$ | 189 |
| California | 75 | 21 | $5=100$ | 3,926 | New Jersey | 76 | 18 | $6=100$ | 1,048 |
| Colorado | 73 | 23 | $4=100$ | 712 | New Mexico | 75 | 22 | $3=100$ | 307 |
| Connecticut | 77 | 18 | $5=100$ | 475 | New York | 77 | 19 | $4=100$ | 2,813 |
| Delaware | 69 | 27 | $5=100$ | 148 | North Carolina | 64 | 31 | $5=100$ | 1,477 |
| Florida | 70 | 24 | $6=100$ | 2,572 | North Dakota | 60 | 36 | $5=100$ | 155 |
| Georgia | 66 | 28 | $6=100$ | 1,240 | Ohio | 69 | 26 | $6=100$ | 1,773 |
| Hawaii | 76 | 21 | $3=100$ | 202 | Oklahoma | 60 | 36 | $4=100$ | 557 |
| Idaho | 70 | 25 | $5=100$ | 230 | Oregon | 77 | 16 | $6=100$ | 694 |
| Illinois | 75 | 21 | $4=100$ | 1,514 | Pennsylvania | 70 | 25 | $4=100$ | 1,924 |
| Indiana | 70 | 24 | $7=100$ | 978 | Rhode Island | 84 | 15 | $2=100$ | 154 |
| lowa | 71 | 24 | $5=100$ | 587 | South Carolina | 65 | 28 | $6=100$ | 702 |
| Kansas | 68 | 26 | $6=100$ | 465 | South Dakota | 67 | 30 | $3=100$ | 155 |
| Kentucky | 63 | 31 | $6=100$ | 690 | Tennessee | 61 | 33 | $6=100$ | 979 |
| Louisiana | 64 | 30 | $6=100$ | 602 | Texas | 67 | 27 | $6=100$ | 2,782 |
| Maine | 70 | 25 | $6=100$ | 226 | Utah | 82 | 17 | $1=100$ | 427 |
| Maryland | 73 | 22 | $5=100$ | 721 | Vermont | 76 | 16 | $8=100$ | 148 |
| Massachusetts | 83 | 14 | $3=100$ | 750 | Virginia | 67 | 28 | $4=100$ | 1,168 |
| Michigan | 71 | 24 | $5=100$ | 1,225 | Washington | 75 | 19 | $6=100$ | 1,027 |
| Minnesota | 73 | 24 | $4=100$ | 769 | West Virginia | 60 | 35 | $5=100$ | 311 |
| Mississippi | 54 | 37 | $9=100$ | 423 | Wisconsin | 73 | 23 | $5=100$ | 986 |
| Missouri | 66 | 30 | $5=100$ | 894 | Wyoming | 66 | 30 | $4=100$ | 139 |

Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## TABLE 3: Views on Religiously Based Refusals to Serve Gay and Lesbian People by State

Do you favor or oppose allowing a small business owner in your state to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people, if doing so violates their religious beliefs?

|  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |  | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/ Refused | $N=$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| National | 35 | 59 | $6=100$ | 42,586 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alabama | 41 | 52 | $7=100$ | 657 | Montana | 46 | 53 | $2=100$ | 244 |
| Alaska | 43 | 52 | $4=100$ | 379 | Nebraska | 37 | 56 | $6=100$ | 331 |
| Arizona | 37 | 58 | $6=100$ | 829 | Nevada | 31 | 62 | $7=100$ | 352 |
| Arkansas | 45 | 48 | $7=100$ | 407 | New Hampshire | 24 | 71 | $5=100$ | 189 |
| California | 30 | 63 | $7=100$ | 3,926 | New Jersey | 23 | 71 | $5=100$ | 1,048 |
| Colorado | 40 | 55 | $5=100$ | 712 | New Mexico | 35 | 58 | $6=100$ | 307 |
| Connecticut | 28 | 68 | $5=100$ | 475 | New York | 26 | 68 | $6=100$ | 2,813 |
| Delaware | 31 | 64 | $5=100$ | 148 | North Carolina | 37 | 56 | $7=100$ | 1,477 |
| Florida | 35 | 58 | $7=100$ | 2,572 | North Dakota | 38 | 54 | $8=100$ | 155 |
| Georgia | 37 | 57 | $6=100$ | 1,240 | Ohio | 37 | 58 | $6=100$ | 1,773 |
| Hawaii | 31 | 63 | $6=100$ | 202 | Oklahoma | 46 | 47 | $7=100$ | 557 |
| Idaho | 49 | 43 | $8=100$ | 230 | Oregon | 38 | 55 | $6=100$ | 694 |
| Illinois | 32 | 61 | $6=100$ | 1,514 | Pennsylvania | 32 | 62 | $6=100$ | 1,924 |
| Indiana | 35 | 58 | $6=100$ | 978 | Rhode Island | 27 | 66 | $6=100$ | 154 |
| Iowa | 33 | 58 | $9=100$ | 587 | South Carolina | 39 | 53 | $8=100$ | 702 |
| Kansas | 43 | 52 | 4=100 | 465 | South Dakota | 41 | 50 | $8=100$ | 155 |
| Kentucky | 37 | 56 | $6=100$ | 690 | Tennessee | 45 | 49 | $6=100$ | 979 |
| Louisiana | 39 | 55 | $6=100$ | 602 | Texas | 40 | 53 | $7=100$ | 2,782 |
| Maine | 31 | 64 | $6=100$ | 226 | Utah | 46 | 50 | $4=100$ | 427 |
| Maryland | 33 | 60 | $7=100$ | 721 | Vermont | 34 | 60 | $6=100$ | 148 |
| Massachusetts | 23 | 71 | $6=100$ | 750 | Virginia | 40 | 55 | $6=100$ | 1,168 |
| Michigan | 33 | 61 | $5=100$ | 1,225 | Washington | 39 | 55 | $5=100$ | 1,027 |
| Minnesota | 36 | 58 | $6=100$ | 769 | West Virginia | 40 | 54 | $7=100$ | 311 |
| Mississippi | 43 | 51 | $7=100$ | 423 | Wisconsin | 35 | 58 | $6=100$ | 986 |
| Missouri | 42 | 52 | $6=100$ | 894 | Wyoming | 43 | 51 | $7=100$ | 139 |

## Appendix 2: Survey Methodology

This analysis is based on the 2015 American Values Atlas (AVA), a project of Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI). Results were based on 42,586 RDD telephone interviews (including 21,259 cell phone interviews) conducted between April 29, 2015 and January 7, 2016 by professional interviewers under the direction of SSRS. The AVA was made possible by generous grants from The Ford Foundation, The Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Arcus Foundation, The Gill Foundation and The Nathan Cummings Foundation.

During the field period, at least 1,000 interviews were completed each week, with about 500 interviews conducted among respondents on their cell phones. Each week, interviewing occurred over a five-day period, from Wednesday through Sunday or from Thursday through Monday. The selection of respondents within households was accomplished by randomly requesting to speak with the youngest adult male or female currently living in the household.

Data collection was based on stratified, single-stage, random-digit-dialing (RDD) of landline telephone households and randomly generated cell phone numbers. The sample was designed to represent the total U.S. adult population from all 50 states, including Hawaii and Alaska. The landline and cell phone samples were provided by Marketing Systems Group.

The weighting was accomplished in two separate stages. The first stage of weighting corrects for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each household and each respondent's telephone usage patterns. In the second stage, sample demographics were balanced to match target population parameters for gender, age, education, race and Hispanic ethnicity, region (U.S. Census definitions), population density, and telephone usage. The population density parameter was derived from 2010 U.S. Census data. The telephone usage parameter came from an analysis of the July-December 2014 National Health Interview Survey. All other weighting parameters were derived from an analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's March 2015 Current Population Survey.

The sample weighting was accomplished using iterative proportional fitting (IFP), a process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. Weights are trimmed so that they do not exceed 4.0 or fall below 0.25 to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target populations.

Table 1 shows the sample sizes and margins of error for each state, and Table 2 provides the sample sizes and margins of error for 30 major metropolitan areas. The margin of error for the national sample is +/- 0.6 percentage points at the $95 \%$ level of confidence. The design effect for national
sample is 1.4. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context, and order effects.

TABLE 1: State Sample Sizes and Margins of Error

|  | Sample size | Margin of error |  | Sample size | Margin of error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| National | 42,586 | +/- 0.6 |  |  |  |
| Alabama | 657 | +/-4.6 | Montana | 244 | +/-7.4 |
| Alaska | 379 | +/- 6.0 | Nebraska | 331 | +/-6.4 |
| Arizona | 829 | +/-4.0 | Nevada | 352 | +/-6.2 |
| Arkansas | 407 | +/-5.8 | New Hampshire | 189 | +/-8.3 |
| California | 3,926 | +/-1.9 | New Jersey | 1,048 | +/-3.5 |
| Colorado | 712 | +/-4.4 | New Mexico | 307 | +/-6.8 |
| Connecticut | 475 | +/- 5.3 | New York | 2,813 | +/-2.2 |
| Delaware | 148 | +/-9.6 | North Carolina | 1,477 | +/-3.1 |
| Florida | 2,572 | +/-2.3 | North Dakota | 155 | +/-9.3 |
| Georgia | 1,240 | +/-3.3 | Ohio | 1,773 | +/-2.8 |
| Hawaii | 202 | +/-8.1 | Oklahoma | 557 | +/-5.0 |
| Idaho | 230 | +/-7.8 | Oregon | 694 | +/-4.5 |
| Illinois | 1,514 | +/-3.0 | Pennsylvania | 1,924 | +/-2.7 |
| Indiana | 978 | +/-3.7 | Rhode Island | 154 | +/-9.6 |
| lowa | 587 | +/-4.8 | South Carolina | 702 | +/-4.4 |
| Kansas | 465 | +/-5.4 | South Dakota | 155 | +/-9.9 |
| Kentucky | 690 | +/-4.5 | Tennessee | 979 | +/- 3.8 |
| Louisiana | 602 | +/-4.8 | Texas | 2,782 | +/- 2.2 |
| Maine | 226 | +/- 7.7 | Utah | 427 | +/-5.6 |
| Maryland | 721 | +/-4.2 | Vermont | 148 | +/-9.5 |
| Massachusetts | 750 | +/-4.3 | Virginia | 1,168 | +/-3.5 |
| Michigan | 1,225 | +/-3.3 | Washington | 1,027 | +/-3.7 |
| Minnesota | 769 | +/-4.3 | West Virginia | 311 | +/-6.6 |
| Mississippi | 423 | +/-5.7 | Wisconsin | 986 | +/-3.7 |
| Missouri | 894 | +/-4.0 | Wyoming | 139 | +/-9.8 |

Source: PRRI 2015 American Values Atlas.

## TABLE 2: Metropolitan Area Sample Sizes and Margins of Error

|  | Sample size | Margin of error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| National | 42,586 | +/- 0.6 |
| Atlanta | 621 | +/-4.7 |
| Boston | 515 | +/-5.0 |
| Charlotte | 309 | +/-6.6 |
| Chicago | 1,014 | +/-3.6 |
| Cincinnati | 355 | +/-6.2 |
| Cleveland | 286 | +/-7.1 |
| Columbus | 275 | +/-7.0 |
| Dallas | 685 | +/-4.4 |
| Denver | 350 | +/-6.2 |
| Detroit | 495 | +/-5.2 |
| Houston | 632 | +/-4.6 |
| Indianapolis | 256 | +/-7.2 |
| Kansas City | 295 | +/-6.8 |
| Las Vegas | 247 | +/-7.4 |
| Los Angeles | 1,152 | +/- 3.4 |
| Miami | 633 | +/-4.6 |
| Milwaukee | 243 | +/-7.3 |
| Minneapolis-St. Paul | 450 | +/- 5.5 |
| Nashville | 241 | +/-7.6 |
| New York City | 2,609 | +/-2.2 |
| Orlando | 273 | +/- 7.1 |
| Philadelphia | 793 | +/-4.1 |
| Phoenix | 524 | +/-5.0 |
| Pittsburgh | 398 | +/-5.9 |
| Portland | 369 | +/-6.1 |
| San Francisco | 463 | +/-5.4 |
| Seattle | 415 | +/-5.7 |
| St. Louis | 386 | +/-6.0 |
| Tampa-St. Petersburg | 390 | +/-5.9 |
| Washington, D.C. | 759 | +/-4.2 |

## Appendix 3: About PRRI and the Authors

## Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI)

Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to research at the intersection of religion, values, and public life.

PRRI's mission is to help journalists, opinion leaders, scholars, clergy, and the general public better understand debates on public policy issues and the role of religion and values in American public life by conducting high quality public opinion surveys and qualitative research. As members of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), the American Political Science Association (APSA), and the American Academy of Religion (AAR), our research team follows the highest research standards of independence and academic excellence.

PRRI is a member organization of the National Council on Public Polls, an association of polling organizations established in 1969, which sets the highest professional standards for public opinion researchers. PRRI is also a supporting organization of the Transparency Initiative at AAPOR, an initiative to place the value of openness at the center of the public opinion research profession.

As a research organization, PRRI does not take positions on, nor do we advocate for, particular policies. Research supported by its funders reflects PRRI's commitment to independent inquiry and academic rigor. Research findings and conclusions are never altered to accommodate other interests, including those of funders, other organizations, or government bodies and officials.

## History

Since our founding in 2009, PRRI research has become a standard source of trusted information among journalists, scholars, policy makers, clergy, and the general public. PRRI research has been cited in thousands of media stories and academic publications, and plays a leading role in deepening public understanding of the changing religious landscape and its role in shaping American politics. In addition to our bimonthly PRRI/RNS Religion News Survey conducted in partnership with Religion News Service and our annual flagship American Values Survey, PRRI conducts a number of major national surveys focused on a range of issues at the intersection of religion, values, and public life. Each year, the PRRI research team also publishes peer review articles based on our research in leading academic journals and books. For a full list of recent projects, see our research page: www.publicreligion.org/research/.

PRRI also maintains a lively online presence on Facebook (www.facebook.com/publicreligion), Twitter (www.twitter.com/publicreligion), and Linkedln (www.linkedin.com/company/prri).

## Robert P. Jones, CEO

Dr. Robert P. Jones is the CEO of PRRI and a leading scholar and commentator on religion, culture, and politics. He is the author of The End of White Christian America, several other books, and numerous peer-review articles on religion and public policy. Dr. Jones writes a column for The Atlantic online on politics and culture and appears regularly in a "Faith by the Numbers" segment on Interfaith Voices, the nation's leading religion news magazine on public radio. He is frequently featured in major national media such as CNN, NPR, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and others.

Dr. Jones serves as the Co-Chair of the national steering committee for the Religion and Politics Section at the American Academy of Religion and is a member of the editorial boards for The Journal of the American Academy of Religion and for Politics and Religion, a journal published by Cambridge University Press for the American Political Science Association. He is also an active member of the American Sociological Association, the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, and the American Association of Public Opinion Research. He holds a Ph.D. in religion from Emory University, where he specialized in sociology of religion, politics, and religious ethics. He also holds a M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. In 2013, Dr. Jones was selected by Emory University's Graduate Division of Religion as Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.

Before founding PRRI, Dr. Jones worked as a consultant and senior research fellow at several think tanks in Washington, DC, and was assistant professor of religious studies at Missouri State University

## Daniel Cox, Director of Research

Mr. Cox is the Research Director of PRRI, specializing in survey research, youth politics, and religion. He has coauthored several academic book chapters on topics relating to religious polarization and gay and lesbian issues in the black Church. His work has been cited in numerous national news publications including the New York Times, the Christian Science Monitor, CNN, the Washington Post, and others. Mr. Cox holds an M.A. in American Government from Georgetown University and a B.A. in political science from Union College. Prior to joining PRRI, he served as Research Associate at the Pew Forum on Religion \& Public Life, where he worked as part of the core research team. He is an active member of the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) and the American Political Science Association (APSA).

## Betsy Cooper, Research Associate

Dr. Cooper is a Research Associate at PRRI, specializing in American politics, public opinion, ideals of citizenship, and sexual orientation. She has also completed research exploring women's groups within the Religious Right. Dr. Cooper holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science from the University of Washington, Seattle, and a B.A. in Politics from Hendrix College. She has co-au-
thored several papers on topics ranging from the Tea Party to rights framing, and has presented her work at the American Political Science, Midwestern Political Science, and Western Political Science Associations' annual conferences. She is an active member of the American Political Science Association (APSA) and the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR).

## Rachel Lienesch, Research Analyst

Ms. Lienesch has conducted extensive quantitative and qualitative research about American politics. Prior to joining PRRI, Ms. Lienesch worked as a Polling Fellow at the Huffington Post, where she reported on polling trends and constructed surveys on major national political events. She earned her B.A. in Government from the College of William \& Mary. She has done research on topics ranging from the effect of party competence evaluations in national elections to the Tea Party, and has presented her work at the Midwestern Political Science Association's annual conference. She is an active member of the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR).

