

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [Abortions Have Become 6% Rarer Since the End of Roe V Wade](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.economist.com/united-states/2023/04/18/abortions-have-become-6-rarer-since-the-end-of-roe-v-wade>

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**Tweet:** [.@TheEconomist reports on a new study that quantified the impact of Dobbs. Between July and Dec 2022 there were 31,180 fewer abortions relative to pre-Dobbs, a national decline of 6% but there are major variations between states.](#)

**Summary:** A report released this month by the Society of Family Planning (SFP), a non-profit, quantifies the effect of the Dobbs ruling. From July to December 2022 there were 31,180 fewer abortions than pre-Dobbs rates would suggest, a decline of 6%. That is despite a rise in abortions administered by virtual clinics, which prescribe abortifacient drugs like mifepristone. The overall decline understates the effect Dobbs has had in much of the country. Across the 22 states where new restrictions took effect following the ruling, the number of abortions fell by 67,040 (63%). Even in states with tight pre-Dobbs restrictions, the decision's impact has been vast. After Texas implemented a law in 2021 that banned abortions once a fetal heartbeat could be detected, its abortion rate fell from 5,400 per month to 2,200. In April 2022 SFP recorded 2,700 abortions in the state. But between July and December 2022 it has logged fewer than 100. Abortion has also all but disappeared in seven other states, including four in the South. In states with more permissive rules, in contrast, abortions rose by 35,860 (12%). This suggests that slightly more than half of women who would have had abortions in restrictive states before Dobbs travelled elsewhere to obtain them. The remaining 31,180 either carried their pregnancies to term, or obtained abortions by methods that do not appear in SFP's data.

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