

# Ohio Governor

## THE ISSUES

**MIKE  
DeWINE**

REPUBLICAN • INCUMBENT



**NAN  
WHALEY**

DEMOCRAT

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<b>ABORTION</b> Ban or legal?	Ban. <a href="#">Signed a bill</a> banning abortions after six weeks, with sole exception for life and health of the mother. <a href="#">The bill became law after Roe v. Wade was overturned.</a>	Legal. <a href="#">“I believe in a woman's right to make decisions about her body... will protect women's access to abortion and their access to health care decisions for their families.”</a> Would support a <a href="#">ballot measure to reverse the state ban.</a>
<b>CLIMATE</b> Should climate change be a top priority? Tax or limit the output of greenhouse gases, or support renewable energy?	No. Signed a <a href="#">2019 bill that subsidized coal companies</a> , reduced green-energy utility mandates, and greatly cut Ohio's renewable energy goal. In 2021 signed <a href="#">a bill to make it easier for local officials to block solar and wind projects.</a> <a href="#">Opposed 2015 Clean Power Plan.</a>	Yes. Led group of mayors lobbying for climate action: <a href="#">“There is one threat that is challenging all of our hometowns: climate change...It's never been more urgent to act.”</a> Invest in <a href="#">“renewable energy and battery technology</a> , so we get the jobs of the future.”
<b>EDUCATION</b> Use public funding for private and/or for-profit schools?	Yes. <a href="#">Challenged a federal rule</a> that makes it more difficult for charter schools to apply for federal funds. <a href="#">Expanded public funding for vouchers and charter schools.</a>	No. Opposes <a href="#">“large donors”</a> who <a href="#">“want to privatize education and voucherize education,”</a> which <a href="#">“will take the bottom out of public education.”</a>
<b>EDUCATION</b> How to address the teaching of issues around racism?	<a href="#">“We need to study slavery. We need to understand the impact that it has had. We need to understand discrimination.”</a> But <a href="#">“critical race theory...divides, rather than unites, Americans.”</a>	As mayor, <a href="#">hosted TV series on racism and its history in Dayton.</a> <a href="#">“We cannot shy away from these past realities as they help us understand the present.”</a>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b> Loosen or tighten environmental regulations?	Mostly loosen. Signed a 2022 <a href="#">bill rolling back stream protections as advocated by mining and construction companies, opposed by environmentalists.</a> Appointed an <a href="#">energy-company rep as top public utility regulator.</a> Expanded a <a href="#">program to improve Lake Erie water quality.</a>	Tighten. <a href="#">“Will fight to protect Ohio's environment.”</a> As Dayton mayor, <a href="#">led a push to get the Pentagon to clean and prevent ground water contamination</a> at nearby Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.
<b>GUN RULES</b> Pass less or more restrictive legislation on guns?	Less. After <a href="#">advocating for gun restrictions in 2019</a> , signed a <a href="#">2021 “Stand Your Ground” law</a> , removing limits on use of lethal force in self-defense, and a <a href="#">2022 law removing training, background check, and permit requirements</a> for concealed gun carry.	More. <a href="#">“We need to...pass universal background checks.”</a> As Dayton mayor, took <a href="#">“over a thousand...illegal guns off the street.”</a> <a href="#">“Extreme-risk protection orders and limits on assault-style weapons and high-capacity magazines”</a> would save lives. Opposes <a href="#">“Stand Your Ground”</a> law.
<b>HEALTHCARE</b> Increase the government's role in health care, such as expanding Medicaid and limiting drug prices?	Mixed. Opposed ACA and <a href="#">Medicaid expansion for ten years, then supported keeping it.</a> Sued <a href="#">Biden Administration to keep Trump-era Medicaid work requirements.</a>	Yes. <a href="#">Supports ACA.</a> Wants an <a href="#">independent health oversight board, capping insulin prices at \$30,</a> and <a href="#">Medicaid coverage for addiction services.</a>

ISSUES	DEWINE (R)	WHALEY (D)
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> How to handle immigration? Support a path to citizenship for “DACA” participants brought to the US as children?	<a href="#">Supports refugee settlement</a> . Opposed <a href="#">separating children of undocumented immigrants from their parents</a> . As attorney general, supported <a href="#">temporary driver’s licenses for DACA recipients</a> . Sent <a href="#">Ohio State Troopers to Texas to help with border surveillance</a> .	Has <a href="#">opposed immigration restrictions</a> . Opposed as a “scare tactic” a bill <a href="#">penalizing cities that self-designate as immigrant sanctuaries</a> . In 2018 <a href="#">supported DACA participants who were “scared about their future.”</a>
<b>LABOR</b> Make it easier or harder for unions to organize?	Unclear. In 2018 would not say if he would <a href="#">sign potential “right-to-work” legislation</a> , allowing employees in a unionized workplace to not pay union dues. Signed a <a href="#">2022 bill limiting overtime pay</a> .	Easier. Outlined <a href="#">“worker’s bill of rights,”</a> including <a href="#">“the ability to organize and be recognized as a union.”</a> Led Conference of Mayors committee supporting <a href="#">federal PRO Act to strengthen workers’ rights</a> .
<b>LGBTQ RIGHTS</b> Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Limit. Signed <a href="#">a bill that allows medical providers to refuse to treat LGBTQ Ohioans, based on “moral, ethical, or religious beliefs.”</a> Said patients will <a href="#">have no problem finding care from other providers</a> .	Expand. While she was mayor, <a href="#">Dayton was among first Ohio cities to ban gay-conversion therapy</a> . Opposes <a href="#">discrimination based on sexual orientation</a> . Officiated <a href="#">the first same sex marriage in Ohio</a> .
<b>MARIJUANA</b> Should recreational marijuana be banned or legal?	Ban. <a href="#">Legalization would lead to children in emergency rooms from eating marijuana gummy candies, and to more automobile accidents. “It would really be a mistake for Ohio, by legislation, to say that marijuana for adults is just ok.”</a>	Legal. <a href="#">“I’ve long been a supporter of marijuana legalization.”</a> Marijuana laws have <a href="#">“been disproportionately enforced in Black communities.”</a> If legalized, <a href="#">the state should make sure that Black entrepreneurs can take advantage of the business opportunities</a> .
<b>MINIMUM WAGE</b> Keep or raise the state minimum from \$9.30 per hour? If raise, how much?	No recent position found. In 2018 <a href="#">said would be open to considering an increase but concerned about losing starter jobs</a> because wages would be too high. <a href="#">As Ohio attorney general opposed cities raising the wage above the state minimum</a> .	Raise. Backs <a href="#">legislation to increase to \$15 an hour</a> . If that fails, will promote a ballot issue. <a href="#">“Wages need to go up across the board in Ohio so one good job can be enough.”</a>
<b>POLICE AND COMMUNITY</b> How to address police use of force?	<a href="#">Wants a police oversight board and professional licensing for police. Banned chokeholds except where deadly force would be authorized</a> .	As mayor of Dayton, <a href="#">set up programs to have community members and police officers change policing practices and launched “alternative responder model.”</a> Supports <a href="#">police professional licensing</a> .
<b>STUDENT FINANCIAL AID</b> Support lowering interest on student loans or forgiving them?	No position found on interest or loan forgiveness. <a href="#">Signed a 2021 budget that increases high-need student financial aid and freezes tuition at four-year public universities. Will use federal COVID funds for scholarships</a> .	Yes for specific groups. Supports <a href="#">exploring “debt forgiveness for people who take jobs in certain sectors,”</a> while <a href="#">making community colleges and trade schools more affordable</a> .
<b>TAXES</b> Should corporations and wealthier individuals pay less or more taxes?	Less. Signed a 2021 budget bill that gave <a href="#">tax cuts to all income levels, with 60% of benefits going to the wealthiest 5%, along with reduced business taxes</a> .	More. Corporations and wealthy <a href="#">“should pay their fair share” so property taxes for seniors and others can be reduced</a> .
<b>VOTING AND REDISTRICTING</b> Position on Ohio redistricting? Support tightened restrictions on such voting rules as absentee and early voting, and voter ID?	Despite reservations about their constitutionality, cast a <a href="#">decisive vote to approve legislative maps giving Republicans a significantly greater percentage of seats than their recent statewide voting totals</a> . No clear position found on such restrictions as voter ID or on drop boxes.	Opposes <a href="#">new maps that she says will benefit the Republicans who drew them. “Voters should pick their elected officials—not the other way around.”</a> Has called for <a href="#">increased numbers of ballot drop boxes</a> .

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