

Table 12. Legal abortions and legal abortion ratios, by selected patient characteristics: United States, selected years 1973-2007

(Data are based on reporting by state health departments and by hospitals and other medical facilities)

Characteristic	1973	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000 ²	2005 ⁴	2006 ⁴	2007
Number of legal abortions reported in thousands										
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).....	616	855	1,298	1,329	1,429	1,211	857	820	852	828
Guttmacher Institute ⁵	745	1,034	1,554	1,589	1,609	1,359	1,313	1,206	---	---
Abortions per 100 live births ⁶										
Total CDC.....	19.6	27.2	35.9	35.4	34.4	31.1	25.1	23.8	23.8	23.1
Age										
Under 15 years.....	123.7	119.3	139.7	137.6	81.8	66.4	72.4	78.6	77.2	79.0
15-19 years.....	53.9	54.2	71.4	68.8	51.1	39.9	37.0	36.7	36.1	34.7
20-24 years.....	29.4	28.9	39.5	38.6	37.8	34.8	30.6	29.0	28.7	28.2
25-29 years.....	20.7	19.2	23.7	21.7	21.8	20.1	20.1	19.0	19.3	18.6
30-34 years.....	28.0	25.0	23.7	19.9	19.0	16.4	14.7	14.2	14.3	13.9
35-39 years.....	45.1	42.2	41.0	33.6	27.3	22.3	18.3	17.2	17.4	17.1
40 years and over.....	68.4	66.8	80.7	62.3	50.6	38.5	30.7	28.6	28.4	28.0
Race										
White ⁷	32.6	27.7	33.2	27.7	25.8	20.3	17.3	16.2	16.2	15.8
Black or African American ⁸ ...	42.0	47.6	54.3	47.2	53.7	53.1	52.1	48.8	46.9	45.5
Hispanic origin ⁹										
Hispanic or Latina.....	---	---	---	---	---	27.1	26.2	22.2	22.5	21.3
Not Hispanic or Latina.....	---	---	---	---	---	27.9	25.5	24.2	24.0	23.3
Marital status										
Married.....	7.6	9.6	10.5	8.0	8.7	7.6	6.5	5.8	---	---
Unmarried.....	139.8	161.0	147.6	117.4	86.3	64.5	57.0	48.5	---	---
Previous live births ¹⁰										
0.....	43.7	38.4	45.7	45.1	36.0	28.6	22.6	22.6	---	---
1.....	23.5	22.0	20.2	21.6	22.7	22.0	19.4	18.2	---	---
2.....	36.8	36.8	29.5	29.9	31.5	30.6	27.4	25.4	---	---
3.....	46.9	47.7	29.8	18.2	30.1	30.7	28.5	26.4	---	---
4 or more ¹¹	44.7	43.5	24.3	21.5	26.6	23.7	23.7	21.9	---	---
Percent distribution ¹²										
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Period of gestation										
Under 9 weeks.....	36.1	44.6	51.7	50.3	51.6	54.0	57.9	63.3	63.4	63.7
9-10 weeks.....	29.4	28.4	26.2	26.6	25.3	23.1	19.9	16.6	19.6	16.3
11-12 weeks.....	17.9	14.9	12.2	12.5	11.7	10.9	10.0	8.9	8.9	8.9
13-15 weeks.....	6.9	5.0	5.1	5.9	6.4	6.3	6.1	6	6.2	6.0
16-20 weeks.....	8.0	6.1	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.4	3.8	3.7	3.8
21 weeks and over.....	1.7	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3
Previous induced abortions										
0.....	---	81.9	67.6	60.1	57.1	55.1	54.7	54.9	55.2	55.9
1.....	---	14.9	23.5	25.7	26.9	26.9	26.4	25.8	25.5	25.1
2.....	---	2.5	6.6	9.8	10.1	10.9	11.3	11.4	11.2	11.1
3 or more.....	---	0.7	2.3	4.4	5.9	7.1	7.6	7.9	8.0	7.9

---Data not available.

¹In 1998 and 1999, Alaska, California, New Hampshire, and Oklahoma did not report abortion data to CDC. For comparison, in 1997, the 48 corresponding reporting areas reported about 900,000 legal abortions.

²In 2000, 2001, and 2002, Alaska, California, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC.

³In 2003 and 2004, California, New Hampshire, and West Virginia did not report abortion data to CDC.

⁴In 2005 and 2006, California, Louisiana, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC.

⁵No surveys were conducted in 1983, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1993, 1994, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2002, or 2003. Data for these years were estimated by interpolation. See Appendix I, Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Census.

⁶For calculation of ratios by each characteristic, abortions with characteristic unknown were distributed in proportion to abortions with characteristic known.

⁷For 1989 and later years, white race includes women of Hispanic ethnicity.

⁸Before 1989, black race includes races other than white.

⁹Data from 20-22 states, the District of Columbia (DC), and New York City (NYC) were included in 1991-1993. The number of reporting areas increased to 25 states, DC, and NYC in 1994-2004. States were excluded either because they did not collect data on Hispanic origin or due to incomplete reporting of Hispanic data (greater than 15% unknown on Hispanic origin). See Appendix I, Abortion Surveillance System.

¹⁰For 1973-1975, data indicate number of living children.

¹¹For 1975, data refer to four previous live births, not four or more. For five or more previous live births, the ratio is 47.3.

¹²For calculation of percent distribution by each characteristic, abortions with characteristic unknown were excluded.

NOTES: The number of areas reporting adequate data (less than or equal to 15% missing) for each characteristic varies from year to year. For methodological differences between these two data sources, see Appendix I, Abortion Surveillance System; Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Census. Some data have been revised and differ from previous editions of *Health, United States*. Data for additional years are available. See Appendix III.

SOURCE: CDC, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion: Abortion Surveillance, 1973, 1975, 1979-1980. Atlanta, GA: Public Health Service, 1975, 1977, 1983; CDC MMWR Surveillance Summaries. Abortion Surveillance, United States, 1984 and 1985, vol 38, no SS-2, 1989; 1990, vol 42, no SS-6, 1993; 1995, vol 47, no SS-2, 1998; 1997, vol 49, no SS-11, 2000; 1998, vol 51, no SS-3, 2002; 1999, vol 51, no SS-9, 2002; 2000, vol 52, no SS-12, 2003; 2001, vol 53, no SS-9, 2004; 2002, vol 54, no SS-7, 2005; 2003, vol 55, no SS-11, 2006; 2004, vol 56, no SS-09, 2007; 2005, vol 57, no SS-13, 2008; 2006, vol 58, no SS-08, 2009; 2007, vol 60 no SS-01, 2011. Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Survey. Finer LB, Henshaw SK. Abortion incidence and services in the United States in 2000. *Perspect Sex Reprod Health* 2003;35(1)6-15. Finer LB, Henshaw SK. Estimates of U.S. abortion incidence, 2001-2003. Guttmacher Institute. August 2006. Jones RK, Zolna MRS, Henshaw SK, Finer LB. Abortion in the United States: Incidence and access to services, 2005. *Perspect Sex Reprod Health* 2008;40(1)6-16. Available from: <http://www.guttmacher.org/journals/toc/psrh4001toc.html>.

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