

Table 12 (page 1 of 2). Legal abortions and legal abortion ratios, by selected patient characteristics: United States, selected years 1973–2007

Updated data when available, Excel, PDF, and more data years: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2011.htm#012>.

[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 ⁵
Number of legal abortions reported in thousands										
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	616	855	1,298	1,329	1,430	1,211	857	820	852	828
Guttmacher Institute ⁶	745	1,034	1,554	1,589	1,609	1,359	1,313	1,206	1,242	1,210
Abortions per 1,000 live births ⁷										
Total CDC	196	272	359	354	344	311	245	233	236	231
Age ⁸										
Under 15 years	1,237	1,193	1,397	1,376	844	667	708	764	754	768
15–19 years	539	542	714	688	515	399	361	358	351	335
20–24 years	294	289	395	386	377	349	300	283	280	273
25–29 years	207	192	237	217	220	221	198	187	188	182
30–34 years	280	250	237	199	191	165	145	140	140	137
35–39 years	451	422	410	336	273	224	181	168	170	169
40 years and over	684	668	807	623	501	387	301	278	276	277
Race ⁸										
White ⁹	326	277	332	277	258	204	167	158	162	159
Black or African American ¹⁰	420	476	543	472	521	534	503	467	459	447
Hispanic origin ⁸										
Hispanic or Latina	---	---	---	---	---	265	225	205	200	193
Not Hispanic or Latina	---	---	---	---	---	280	233	223	224	222
Marital status ⁸										
Married	76	96	105	80	89	76	65	58	---	---
Unmarried	1,398	1,610	1,476	1,174	879	650	570	485	---	---
Previous live births ^{8,11}										
0	437	384	457	451	358	286	226	226	---	---
1	235	220	202	216	230	221	194	182	---	---
2	368	368	295	299	317	309	274	254	---	---
3	469	477	298	182	302	310	285	264	---	---
4 or more ¹²	447	435	243	215	271	239	237	219	---	---
Percent distribution ¹³										
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Period of gestation ⁸										
Under 9 weeks	33.5	43.5	50.0	48.2	50.9	52.8	57.4	60.8	62.0	---
9–10 weeks	27.3	27.7	25.3	26.6	24.9	22.5	19.5	16.8	17.1	---
11–12 weeks	16.6	14.6	11.8	12.5	11.5	10.6	10.0	9.1	9.3	---
13–15 weeks	6.4	4.9	5.0	6.0	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.5	---
16–20 weeks	7.4	5.9	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.3	3.7	3.7	---
21 weeks and over	1.6	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	---
Previous induced abortions ⁸										
0	---	71.2	64.4	56.8	56.2	54.0	53.2	53.5	55.2	55.9
1	---	13.0	22.4	25.0	26.4	26.4	25.7	25.2	25.5	25.1
2	---	2.2	6.3	9.6	10.0	10.7	10.9	11.1	11.2	11.1
3 or more	---	0.6	2.2	4.7	5.8	6.7	7.4	7.7	8.0	7.9

See footnotes at end of table.

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-- Data not available.

¹In 1998 and 1999, Alaska, California, New Hampshire, and Oklahoma did not report abortion data to CDC (shown in spreadsheet file). 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 (shown in spreadsheet file).

⁴In 2005 and 2006, California, Louisiana, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC. For 2006, Louisiana provided abortion data after publication of the 2006 report. Because of this, the number of abortions reported here and in subsequent reports is greater than in the 2006 report.

⁵In 2007, California, Maryland, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC.

⁶No 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](#).

⁷For calculation of ratios by each characteristic, abortions with unknown characteristics were distributed in proportion to abortions with known characteristics.

⁸Some states that reported total abortion numbers did not report abortions by certain characteristics (e.g., age, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, previous live births, period of gestation, or previous induced abortions). See original references for each year for a list of states that were excluded for each characteristic.

⁹For 1989 and later years, white race includes women of Hispanic ethnicity.

¹⁰Before 1989, black race includes races other than white.

¹¹For 1973–1975, data indicate number of living children.

¹²For 1975, data refer to four previous live births, not four or more. For five or more previous live births, the ratio is 47.3.

¹³For 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*. Starting with *Health, United States, 2011*, abortion ratios are computed per 1,000 live births. 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>. See [Appendix I, Abortion Surveillance System; Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Census](#).