

Table 8. Legal abortions, legal abortion rates, and legal abortion ratios: United States and 46 continuous reporting areas, 2001–2010

Updated data when available, Excel, PDF, and more data years: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2012.htm#008>.

[Data are based on reporting by state health departments and by hospitals and other medical facilities]

Data provider	2001 ¹	2002 ¹	2003 ²	2004 ²	2005 ³	2006 ³	2007 ⁴	2008 ⁴	2009 ⁵	2010 ⁶
Number of legal abortions reported, in thousands										
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) ⁷	853	854	848	839	820	852	828	826	789	766
Guttmacher Institute ⁸	1,291	1,269	1,250	1,222	1,206	1,242	1,210	1,212	---	---
CDC 46 continuous reporting areas ⁹										
Number of legal abortions reported, in thousands	827	828	824	816	806	833	817	815	777	753
Percent of total legal abortions reported to CDC ¹⁰	96.9	96.9	97.2	97.2	98.2	97.7	98.7	98.7	98.5	98.4
Number of legal abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44	16.2	16.2	16.1	15.9	15.7	16.2	15.8	15.8	15.0	14.6
Number of legal abortions per 1,000 live births.	249	250	245	241	236	237	230	232	227	228

--- Data not available.

¹In 2001 and 2002, Alaska, California, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC.

²In 2003 and 2004, California, New Hampshire, and West Virginia did not report abortion data to CDC.

³In 2005 and 2006, California, Louisiana, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC. Louisiana provided 2006 abortion data after publication of the 2006 abortion report. Because of this, the number of abortions reported here and in subsequent reports is greater than in the 2006 report.

⁴In 2007 and 2008, California, Maryland, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC.

⁵In 2009, California, Maryland, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC. Delaware provided 2009 abortion data after publication of the 2009 abortion report. Because of this, the number of abortions reported here and in subsequent reports is greater than in the 2009 report.

⁶In 2010, California, Maryland, and New Hampshire did not report abortion data to CDC.

⁷Overall trends presented in this table should be interpreted with caution because of the different numbers of reporting areas that provided data to CDC in different years.

⁸No surveys were conducted in 2001, 2002, 2003, or 2006. Data for those years were estimated by interpolation. See [Appendix I, Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Census](#).

⁹Because overall trends in abortion data are affected by the number of reporting areas that provide data to CDC on an annual basis, CDC also presents estimates for the 46 reporting areas that provided data for the entire period from 2001 to 2010. The 46 continuous reporting areas include all states except Alaska, California, Louisiana, Maryland, New Hampshire, and West Virginia. The District of Columbia and New York City are included in the 46 continuous reporting areas.

¹⁰Percentage of legal abortions that the 46 continuous reporting areas represented of the total number of legal abortions reported to CDC each year.

NOTES: Each year, CDC requests abortion data from the central health agencies of 52 reporting areas (the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and New York City). This information is provided voluntarily to CDC. See the annual Abortion Surveillance reports for more information on the characteristic-specific list of reporting areas. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/Data_Stats/Abortion.htm. For methodological differences between CDC and the Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Census, 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*.

SOURCE: CDC, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. CDC. Abortion Surveillance—United States, 2010. 62(SS08);1–44. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6208a1.htm?s_cid=ss6208a1_e. Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Survey. *Perspect Sex Reprod Health* 2011; 43(1):41–50. See [Appendix I, Abortion Surveillance System; Guttmacher Institute Abortion Provider Census](#).