

**The original documents are located in Box 39, folder “Abortion Surveillance, 1974” of the American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc., Records at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Joseph A. Lampe donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

ANNUAL SUMMARY 1974

Issued April 1976



# CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL **ABORTION SURVEILLANCE** **1974**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. SUMMARY
- II. NUMBER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN RECEIVING ABORTIONS
- III. ABORTION-RELATED MORTALITY
- IV. ABORTION-RELATED MORBIDITY:  
PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE JOINT  
PROGRAM FOR THE STUDY OF  
ABORTION/CDC
- V. SPECIAL STUDIES
- VI. FOREIGN TRANSLATIONS OF SUMMARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL

# PREFACE

Over the past 25 years, the term "surveillance" has broadened to include the collection, analysis, and dissemination of epidemiologic information related not only to infectious disease but also to such diverse public health concerns as air pollution, cancer and birth defects, Rh hemolytic disease, and abortion. Recognizing the emerging importance of abortion as a public health issue and the absence of national abortion statistics, the Family Planning Evaluation Division (FPED) initiated epidemiologic surveillance of abortion in 1969. Since then, FPED has been compiling, analyzing, and distributing data on abortion in the United States. The objectives of this surveillance are twofold: 1) to document the number and characteristics of women obtaining abortion and 2) to eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity related to abortion. The present report documents the most current data available to CDC for the years 1969-1974 and updates previous Abortion Surveillance Reports. This issue provides: 1) demographic and epidemiologic data on legal abortions in 1974, 2) trends in the practice of legal abortion from 1972-1974, 3) abortion-related mortality data for the 3-year period 1972-1974, including types of procedures, death-to-case rates, and causes of death, and 4) rates of abortion morbidity derived from CDC's 4-year multi-center study of abortion complications, the Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC (JPSA/CDC). In addition, this report summarizes 2 important abortion studies in the Special Studies section.

Contributions to this report are most welcome. Please address:

Center for Disease Control  
Attn: Director, Family Planning Evaluation Division  
Bureau of Epidemiology  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

SUGGESTED CITATION: Center for Disease Control: Abortion Surveillance  
1974, issued April 1976

Center for Disease Control . . . . . David J. Sencer, M.D., Director  
Bureau of Epidemiology . . . . . Philip S. Brachman, M.D., Director  
Family Planning Evaluation Division. . . . . Carl W. Tyler, Jr., M.D., Director  
Roger W. Rochat, M.D., Deputy Director  
Abortion Surveillance Branch . . Willard Cates, Jr., M.D., M.P.H., Acting Chief  
David A. Grimes, M.D., Abortion Surveillance Officer  
Statistical Services Branch. . . . . Jack C. Smith, M.S., Chief  
Martha R. Cowart, Statistical Assistant  
Joyce M. Hughes, Statistical Assistant  
Merrell H. Ramick, Statistical Assistant  
Elaine P. Rhodenhiser, Statistical Assistant  
Kenneth F. Schulz, M.B.A., Mathematical Statistician

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
Center for Disease Control  
Bureau of Epidemiology  
Family Planning Evaluation Division  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Section I. - Summary	1
Section II. - Number and Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions	1
A. Surveillance Methods	1
B. Number of Abortions by State of Occurrence	1
C. Residence Status	2
D. Age	2
E. Race	2
F. Marital Status	3
G. Number of Living Children	3
H. Type of Procedure	3
I. Weeks of Gestation	4
J. Type of Procedure by Weeks of Gestation	4
K. Previous Induced Abortions	4
L. Interpretation	4
Section III. - Abortion-Related Mortality	5
A. Surveillance Methods	5
B. Legal Abortion Mortality	5
C. Illegal Abortion Mortality	7
D. Spontaneous Abortion Mortality	8
Section IV. - Abortion-Related Morbidity: Preliminary Report of the Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC	8
Section V. - Special Studies	10
A. Legalized Abortion and the Public Health, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences	10
B. Provisional Estimates of Abortion Need and Services in the Year Following the 1973 Supreme Court Decisions. The Alan Guttmacher Institute	10
Section VI. - Foreign Translations of Summary	12
A. Resumen (Spanish)	12
B. Résumé (French)	13

# TABLES

Summary Table - Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions, United States, 1972-1974	iv
Table 1 - Chronological Record of the Status of Abortion Law Changes, Abortion Reporting, and Abortion Ratios in the United States, 1969-1974	14
Table 2 - Reported Number of Legal Abortions, Abortion Ratios, and Abortion Rates, By State of Occurrence, 1974	15
Table 3 - Number of Abortions and Percent Increase for Each Full Year of Reporting, Selected States, 1969-1974	16
Table 4 - Reported Legal Abortions Performed on Out-of-State Residents, 1974	17
Table 5 - Reported Legal Abortions With State of Residence Known, 1974	18
Table 6 - Reported Legal Abortions by Age and State of Occurrence, Selected States, 1974	20
Table 7 - Legal Abortion Ratios by Age, Selected States, 1974	21
Table 8 - Reported Legal Abortions by Race and State of Occurrence, Selected States, 1974	22
Table 9 - Legal Abortion Ratios by Race, Selected States, 1974	23



	<u>Page</u>
Table 10 - Reported Legal Abortions by Marital Status and State of Occurrence, Selected States, 1974	24
Table 11 - Percent of Reported Legal Abortions Performed on Married Women by State of Occurrence, 1972-1974	25
Table 12 - Legal Abortion Ratios by Marital Status, Selected States, 1974	26
Table 13 - Reported Legal Abortions by Number of Living Children and State of Occurrence, Selected States, 1974	27
Table 14 - Legal Abortion Ratios by Number of Previous Live Births, Selected States, 1974	28
Table 15 - Reported Legal Abortions by Type of Procedure and State of Occurrence, Selected States, 1974	29
Table 16 - Reported Legal Abortions by Weeks of Gestation and State of Occurrence, Selected States, 1974	30
Table 17 - Percent of Reported Legal Abortions Less than 13 Weeks of Gestation, Selected States, 1972-1974	31
Table 18 - Reported Legal Abortions by Type of Procedure and Weeks of Gestation, 1974	32
Table 19 - Number of Reported Legal Abortions by Number of Previous Induced Abortions, Selected States, 1974	33
Table 20 - Death-to-Case Rate for Legal Abortions by Weeks of Gestation, United States, 1972-1974	34
Table 21 - Death-to-Case Rate for Legal Abortions by Type of Procedure, United States, 1972-1974	35
Table 22 - Legal Abortion Deaths by Type of Procedure and Weeks of Gestation, United States, 1972-1974	35
Table 23 - Classification of Deaths Associated With Legal Abortion by Cause, United States, 1972-1974	36
Table 24 - Illegal Abortion Mortality, 1972-1974, Age-Specific and Race-Specific Ratios	37
Table 25 - Selected Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions: JPSA/CDC and United States	38
Table 26 - Numbers of Patients and Major Complication Rates for Suction Curettage and Instillation Procedures by Weeks of Gestation	39

# FIGURES

Figure 1 - Sources of Reported Legal Abortion Data, 1974	40
Figure 2 - Percent Distribution of Reported Legal Abortions, by Residence, United States, 1972-1974	40
Figure 3 - Percent Distribution of Reported Legal Abortions, by Age, Selected States, 1972-1974	41
Figure 4 - Legal Abortion Ratios, by Age, United States, 1972-1974	41
Figure 5 - Percent Distribution of Reported Legal Abortions, by Race, Selected States, 1972-1974	42
Figure 6 - Legal Abortion Ratios, by Race, United States, 1972-1974	43
Figure 7 - Percent Distribution of Reported Legal Abortions, by Marital Status, Selected States, 1972-1974	43
Figure 8 - Legal Abortion Ratios, by Marital Status, United States, 1972-1974	44
Figure 9 - Percent Distribution of Reported Legal Abortions, by Number of Living Children, Selected States, 1972-1974	45
Figure 10 - Legal Abortion Ratios, by Number of Living Children, United States, 1972-1974	45
Figure 11 - Percent Distribution of Legal Abortions, by Type of Procedure, Selected States, 1972-1974	46

	<u>Page</u>
Figure 12 - Percent Distribution of Reported Legal Abortions, by Week of Gestation, Selected States, 1972-1974	47
Figure 13 - Abortion-Related Deaths by Category and Month, United States, January 1972-December 1974	48
Figure 14 - Death-to-Case Rate for Legal Abortion, by Week of Gestation, United States, 1972-1974	49
Figure 15 - Spontaneous Abortion Deaths, by Month, United States, 1972-1974	49



# SUMMARY TABLE

## CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN RECEIVING ABORTIONS UNITED STATES, 1972-1974

CHARACTERISTICS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION <sup>1</sup>		
	1972	1973	1974
<u>Residence</u>			
Abortion in-state	56.2	74.8	86.6
Abortion out-of-state	43.8	25.2	13.4
<u>Age</u>			
< 19	32.6	32.7	32.7
20-24	32.5	32.0	31.8
≥ 25	34.9	35.3	35.6
<u>Race</u>			
White	77.0	72.5	69.7
Black and other	23.0	27.5	30.3
<u>Marital Status</u>			
Married	29.7	27.4	27.4
Unmarried	70.3	72.6	72.6
<u>Number of Living Children</u>			
0	49.4	48.6	47.8
1	18.2	18.8	19.6
2	13.3	14.2	14.8
3	8.7	8.7	8.7
4	5.0	4.8	4.5
≥ 5	5.4	4.9	4.5
<u>Type of Procedure</u>			
Curettage	88.6	88.4	89.7
Suction	65.2	74.9	77.5
Sharp	23.4	13.5	12.3
Intrauterine instillation	10.4	10.4	7.8
Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy	0.6	0.7	0.6
Other	0.5	0.6	1.9
<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>			
< 8	34.0	36.1	42.6
9-10	30.7	29.4	28.7
11-12	17.5	17.9	15.4
13-15	8.4	6.9	5.5
16-20	8.2	8.0	6.5
≥ 21	1.3	1.7	1.2

<sup>1</sup>Excludes unknowns

## I. SUMMARY

In 1974, the 50 states and the District of Columbia reported 763,476 legal abortions to the Center for Disease Control, an increase of 24% over 1973. The national abortion ratio increased by 23% from 196 abortions per 1,000 live births in 1973 to 242 in 1974, representing nearly 1 legal abortion for every 4 live births. The national abortion rate rose from 14 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 in 1973 to 17 in 1974, an increase of 21%. In 1974, for the first time, all 50 states and the District of Columbia reported that abortion services had been performed within their boundaries. The redistribution of legal abortions into states which had restrictive laws before 1973 continued in 1974. Concurrently, the trend noted in 1973 toward performance of abortions in a woman's state of residence continued in 1974, with 87% of women undergoing abortion in their home state, as compared to 75% in 1973 and only 56% in 1972 (Summary Table).

Women obtaining legal abortion in 1974 tended to be young, white, unmarried, of low parity, and early in pregnancy at the time of the procedure (Summary Table). Sixty-four percent were under age 25. Seventy percent of women were white; 30% were black and other races. Seventy-three percent were unmarried, while 27% were married. Forty-eight percent had no living children, 20% had 1 living child, and only 5% had 5 or more living children. Suction curettage remained the predominant abortion method in 1974, accounting for 77% of all procedures, followed by sharp curettage (12%), intrauterine saline instillation (8%), and major abdominal operations (1%). Eighty-seven percent of women underwent abortion during the first 12 menstrual weeks of pregnancy.

Deaths related to abortion continued to decline in 1974, although at a slower rate. Forty-eight women died of complications of abortion, as compared with 56 the previous year. Legal abortions accounted for 24 of the 48 deaths in 1974, illegal abortions 6 deaths, and spontaneous abortions 18. The death-to-case rate for legal abortions fell to 3.1 deaths per 100,000 abortions.

Preliminary analysis of morbidity from 80,437 abortions performed in 32 institutions from 1971 through 1975 revealed that major complication rates were lower than reported in the first multicenter study conducted 1970-1971. Demographic characteristics of women in the Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC study population corresponded closely with the characteristics of the entire population of women obtaining abortions in 1974. Through the 20th week of pregnancy, suction curettage had lower complication rates than alternative abortion procedures.

## II. NUMBER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN RECEIVING ABORTIONS

### A. Surveillance Methods

The CDC acquires abortion service statistics by state of occurrence, from 2 types of sources: 1) central health agencies, and 2) hospitals and facilities. Table 1 summarizes the development of CDC's abortion reporting sources since the initiation of epidemiologic surveillance of abortion in 1969. The number of states from which statewide abortion data are reported has increased from 8 in 1969 to 36 in 1974 (Figure 1). Most of these 36 central health agencies have established direct reporting systems, although a few collected data by surveying abortion facilities. Inquiries by CDC to hospitals and facilities provided information for 15 states which did not collect statewide abortion data.

### B. Number of Abortions by State of Occurrence

In 1974, for the first time, legal abortions were reported in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The total number of reported abortions rose to 763,476, a 24% increase over the 615,831 reported in 1973.

The distribution of abortion services, however, varied widely (Table 2). New York and California were again the largest providers of abortions in 1974. Together they accounted for 39% of all reported abortions in the United States, although this combined percentage has declined steadily from 81% in 1970.



Most states indicated increased numbers of abortions in 1974 (Table 3). Of the states with data reported by the central health agency, 3 had substantial increases over 1973; these states were Virginia (96%), Georgia (79%), and South Carolina (79%). Noteworthy declines in numbers of abortion, however, occurred in 2 areas with central reporting, the District of Columbia (-44%) and New York (-21%).

The national abortion ratio rose to 246 abortions per 1,000 live births in 1974, an increase of 17% over the preceding year. Abortion ratios ranged from 1,138 in New York City and 1,115 in the District of Columbia to 3 in Mississippi and 1 in West Virginia. The national abortion rate rose to 17 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44, an increase of 21% over 1973. Again, the District of Columbia and New York had the highest rates (122 and 40), while Mississippi and West Virginia had rates less than 1. However, the large percentages of nonresidents receiving abortion in the District of Columbia and New York (60% and 21%) contribute to the high abortion ratios and rates for these reporting areas.

#### C. Residence Status

In 1974, 13% of abortions were performed on out-of-state residents. Residence status was known for 82% of reported abortions (Table 4). Figure 2 shows that the proportion of abortions performed on out-of-state women has diminished rapidly from 1972 through 1974. Striking declines in the percentages of out-of-state women occurred in New York City and upstate New York. Although a similar transition occurred in the District of Columbia, in 1974 the majority (60%) of women obtaining abortions in the District resided elsewhere. On the other hand, states such as Georgia, Kentucky, Minnesota, and North Carolina have reported increasing percentages of nonresidents coming into their states to obtain abortion.

The percentage of women undergoing abortion outside their state of residence in 1974 varied by geographic region from a maximum of 22% for the East South Central census division to a minimum of 0.4% in the Pacific division (Table 5). Of California residents seeking abortion services in 1974, only 0.1% obtained abortion in another state. At the other extreme, 98% of West Virginia residents obtaining abortion traveled to another state to receive services.

#### D. Age

The age distribution of women receiving abortions remained unchanged in 1974 as compared to the 2 preceding years, with approximately one-third of women in their teen-age years, one-third 20-24 years, and one-third 25 years or older (Figure 3). Thirty-two states and the District of Columbia reported age in 1974, comprising 75% of all reported abortions (Table 6).

Age-specific abortion ratios for 1974 demonstrated a persistent bimodal distribution, with peaks at both age extremes (Figure 4). Although wide variations in ratios occurred from state to state, this bimodal distribution was evident in each reporting area (Table 7). Of all reporting areas in Table 7 combined, more pregnant women below the age of 15 underwent abortion than had a live birth in 1974 (1,156 abortions per 1,000 live births). The ratios declined to a nadir of 184 in the 25- to 29-year-old group, then rose progressively to 585 for women 40 or over. While the aggregate ratios for each age group in Table 7 were lower in 1974 than in the preceding year, the aggregate ratios were higher in Figure 4. This discrepancy is due to the inclusion of only selected states in Table 7, while Figure 4 represents the national ratios, which were higher in 1974 than the preceding year.

#### E. Race

Of women undergoing legal abortion in 1974, whites comprised 67% of the total, and black and other races 29% (Table 8). Twenty-seven states and the District of Columbia, comprising 66% of all the reported abortions, provided racial breakdowns. Although the majority of women receiving abortion were white, the percentage of black and other races has increased each year since 1971. Figure 5 portrays the racial distribution of women receiving abortion from 1972 through 1974; the percentage of black and other races increased from 23% to 30% during these 3 years.

Although whites accounted for the majority of abortions in 1974, women of black and other races continued to have higher abortion ratios than whites (Figure 6). The aggregate legal abortion ratio for black and other races in 1974 was 421 abortions per 1,000 live births, as compared with 270 for whites (Table 9). Of the 26 reporting areas listed in Table 9, 17 states had abortion ratios for women of black and other races that exceeded the ratio for white women. Abortion ratios for women of black and other races were several times greater than those of whites in Utah and Kansas, while the opposite occurred in the District of Columbia and Mississippi.

#### F. Marital Status

Twenty-seven percent of women who underwent abortion in 1974 were married at the time of the procedure, according to information from 29 states and the District of Columbia, comprising 69% of the national total (Table 10). Information from selected states indicated that the percentage of women married at the time of abortion has declined very slightly during the period 1972 through 1974, from 30% to 28% (Figure 7 and Table 11).

Not only were most women receiving abortion unmarried, but legal abortion ratios for unmarried women have remained far higher than those of married women (Figure 8). Abortion ratios for unmarried women were greater than those of married women in each state for which 1974 information was available (Table 12). Moreover, in 17 of these reporting areas, more unmarried women had abortions than live births in 1974. The aggregate abortion ratio for unmarried women in 1974 (1,675 per 1,000 live births) was nearly 18 times greater than that of married women (95 abortions per 1,000 live births). This large difference does not take into account those women who conceived before marriage and who subsequently gave birth while married. This occurrence substantially increased the abortion ratio for unmarried women and slightly decreased the ratio for married women.

#### G. Number of Living Children

Nearly half of women obtaining legal abortion in 1974 had no living children at the time of the procedure (Table 13), and the percentage distribution of women receiving abortion by number of living children revealed little change from previous years (Figure 9). Twenty-two states, comprising 60% of the total number of abortions, supplied data for 1974. In this year, the percentage distribution of women receiving abortion was inversely related to the number of living children, decreasing from a maximum of 46% with no living children to a minimum of 4% with 4 children or with 5 children or more.

Abortion ratios by previous live births again demonstrated a bimodal distribution (Figure 10 and Table 14). Nineteen states were included in Table 14. In 1974, women having no prior live births had a legal abortion ratio of 377 abortions per 1,000 live births. The lowest ratio of 214 abortions per 1,000 live births occurred in women with 1 prior live birth, with the second peak (470 abortions per 1,000 live births) in women with 4 prior live births.

#### H. Type of Procedure

Suction curettage was the procedure used for 77% of all reported abortions in 1974, followed in frequency by sharp curettage (12%), intrauterine instillations (8%), other procedures (2%), and hysterotomy/hysterectomy (0.6%) (Table 15). Twenty-nine states, comprising 72% of the national total, provided information by type of procedure. For the first time, intrauterine instillation procedures were further classified by type of abortifacient: hypertonic saline accounted for 97% of instillation procedures and prostaglandins 3%. Major abdominal operations (hysterotomy or hysterectomy) comprised fewer than 1% of abortions in 1974.

Since 1972, the percentage of abortions performed by suction curettage has increased, and the percentage performed by sharp curettage has decreased (Figure 11). Intrauterine instillations have decreased slightly, while hysterotomy and hysterectomy have persisted at low levels.



### I. Weeks of Gestation

In 1974, 84% of abortions were performed before the 13th menstrual week of pregnancy (Table 16). Thirty-two states, providing 75% of abortions, reported weeks of gestation. Five percent of women underwent abortion within the 13- to 15-week interval, and 8% obtained later abortions.

For those states reporting each year 1972 through 1974, the percentage of women who underwent abortion before 13 menstrual weeks increased from 83% to 85% (Table 17). The proportions of women who underwent abortion prior to 13 weeks' gestation have remained greater than average during these years in Arkansas, the District of Columbia, South Carolina, and Washington. The converse holds true for certain other states, such as Colorado, Maryland, Mississippi, and North Carolina.

For all states with data available from 1972 through 1974, the same overall trend toward performance of abortion in the first trimester holds (Figure 12). Moreover, the percentage of women undergoing abortion at 8 menstrual weeks or less increased from 34% to 43% during this time span.

### J. Type of Procedure by Weeks of Gestation

The type of abortion procedure is determined largely by length of gestation. Table 18 is based on data reported from 17 states, comprising 21% of abortions in 1974. Before 13 menstrual weeks of gestation, curettage procedures accounted for over 97% of abortions. During the 13- to 15-week interval, commonly considered a "gray zone" in which no method is applicable, 64% of abortions were performed by curettage procedures and 28% by intrauterine instillations. Beyond 15 weeks of gestation, intrauterine instillations emerged as the predominant method, accounting for over 70% of the later abortions. Nevertheless, curettage procedures were used in more than 10% of all abortions greater than 15 menstrual weeks.

### K. Previous Induced Abortions

More than 10% of women obtaining legal abortion in 1974 had undergone abortion previously (Table 19). Nineteen states, comprising 25% of the national total, indicated that 9.8% of women reported 1 prior abortion, 1.3% reported 2, and 0.4% reported 3 or more previous induced abortions. The percentage of women reporting 1 or more previous induced abortions ranged from 3.3% in Nebraska to 21% in the District of Columbia.

### L. Interpretation

Several important features emerge from these statistics. First, the number of abortions performed annually in the United States has continued to rise. Because of the developmental stage of abortion reporting systems in many states and because no inquiry was made of private physicians by CDC in states without central health agency reporting, the 763,476 abortions reported for 1974 represent fewer than the actual number performed. Although the number of abortions reported to CDC in 1974 increased 24% over the preceding year, the Alan Guttmacher Institute's survey estimated that 899,850 abortions were performed in 1974. (*Family Planning Perspectives* Vol. 8, No. 2, 1976).

Second, following the Supreme Court decisions of 1973, abortion services expanded into all 50 states and the District of Columbia in 1974. The increased proportion of women who underwent abortion in their state of residence documents that geographic barriers to abortion are diminishing.

Third, women who were unmarried, of black or other races, or at either extreme of their reproductive years had higher abortion ratios than other women. Over 10% of women who had abortions performed in 1974 had obtained at least 1 abortion previously.

Fourth, women acquired abortion at slightly earlier periods of gestation in 1974 than in the preceding year, and suction curettage continued to replace sharp curettage for first-trimester abortions. Additionally, instillation procedures were employed proportionately less often as the abortion method.

Fifth, physicians utilized suction and sharp curettage, traditionally considered first-trimester methods, to abort pregnancies well into the second trimester. Over 5,000 curettage abortions were performed beyond the 12th menstrual week in 1974.

## III. ABORTION-RELATED MORTALITY

### A. Surveillance Methods

In 1972 CDC initiated epidemiologic surveillance of abortion-related mortality. The purpose of this surveillance is to identify factors associated with abortion mortality, with the aim of eliminating preventable deaths resulting from abortion. Reports of abortion-related deaths have come primarily from the vital statistics sections of state health departments; however, additional data have been obtained from such sources as state medical or hospital associations, CDC investigations, published case histories, state maternal mortality committees, and records from other federal agencies. State health departments and/or the attending physician are contacted in order to verify and expand clinical details about each of the deaths.

Mortality statistics are continually updated as reports are received. The delay in reporting abortion deaths to CDC has ranged from 1 to 35 months, with a median of 5 months. This report reflects the most current information available to CDC and updates previous Abortion Surveillance Reports and other CDC publications.

Abortion-related deaths are classified as spontaneous, induced, or unknown. This classification is based on information obtained from the following sources:

- 1) Medical history of the woman when she sought medical care
- 2) Information from family, friends, or other knowledgeable people
- 3) Evidence of previous instrumentation found at surgery or autopsy.

If related to induced abortion, deaths are further classified as either legal or illegal using the following criteria:

- 1) If the woman's medical history indicates that the abortion was induced by someone other than a licensed physician, the classification is illegal;
- 2) If evidence of instrumentation is found, but no history of physician-induced abortion was admitted, the classification is illegal;
- 3) If the woman's medical history indicates that the abortion was performed by a physician, regardless of where it was performed, the classification is legal.

If a determination of either spontaneous or induced is not possible, the abortion is classified as unknown.

### B. Legal Abortion Mortality

Forty-eight women died from abortion in 1974, compared with 56 in 1973 and 88 in 1972 (Figure 13). Although overall abortion mortality has declined over these years, the annual number of legal abortion deaths remained relatively stable, with 24 in 1974, 26 in 1973, and 24 in 1972. In 1974, a total of 763,476 legal abortions were reported to CDC. With this figure used as the denominator, the death-to-case rate for legal abortion was 3.1 per 100,000 abortions in 1974, compared with 4.2 in 1973 and 4.1 in 1972. Because the denominator (total number of legal abortions) markedly increased in 1974, the death-to-case rate for legal abortions declined during this year, compared with the previous 2 years.

Combined data for the period 1972-1974 show the risks of mortality from induced abortion increased with length of gestation (Figure 14). As seen in earlier years, in 1974 the risk of death was lowest for abortions performed at 8 menstrual weeks' gestation or less, with a death-to-case rate of 0.3 per 100,000 procedures (Table 20). Abortions at 9-10 weeks were over 5 times more dangerous in terms of mortality than those at 8 weeks or less. The risk increased approximately twofold, progressing through each gestational interval of 11-12 weeks, 13-15 weeks, and 16-20 weeks. Abortions performed at 21 weeks or later involved only slightly more risk than those performed at 16-20 weeks.

Mortality rates were highest for hysterotomy/hysterectomy and lowest for curettage, with instillation procedures intermediate (Table 21). Caution must be exercised in interpreting this table, since the procedure chosen for the abortion is highly dependent upon length of gestation. In 1974, curettage procedures had the lowest rate, 2.2 deaths per 100,000 procedures; sharp curettage was 3 times more



risky than suction. There were no reported deaths from abortion by hysterotomy/hysterectomy. For the years 1972-1974 combined, sharp curettage was slightly more dangerous than suction. Instillation procedures carried nearly 9 times the risk of death when compared with curettage procedures, whereas hysterotomy and hysterectomy combined had a relative risk of death 19 times higher than curettage.

Curettage-associated deaths generally occurred before 13 menstrual weeks' gestation, while instillation-associated deaths primarily occurred after 15 weeks (Table 22). The major period of overlap between curettage- and instillation-associated deaths occurred after the 12th week of gestation. Within the first trimester, the number of curettage deaths increased as gestation progressed. The length of gestation is not known for each procedure; therefore, it is not possible to calculate exact rates for the combined totals. However, it is evident from Table 20 that there have been decreasing numbers of abortions as the length of gestation increased through the first trimester. Since the numerator (number of deaths) increases, while the denominator (number of curettage abortions) decreases, this implies that for curettage methods, the absolute risk of mortality increases with length of gestation through the first trimester.

The 74 reported deaths associated with legal abortion in the period 1972-1974 are grouped by cause in Table 23. Hemorrhage, infection, and saline-associated causes accounted for over 80% of the deaths directly related to abortion, while anesthesia-associated events and vascular accidents accounted for the majority of deaths indirectly related to abortion. Because the numbers are so small, especially in the sub-categories, the analysis of trends must be approached with caution; however, it appears that over these 3 years the distribution of deaths directly and indirectly related to abortion changed very little.

A brief case history of a death following a legal abortion which was performed after the 1973 Supreme Court decisions demonstrates that some recent abortion deaths are still preventable.

#### Legal Abortion Death Case History

A 22-year-old female, gravida-2, para-1, abortus-2, underwent a suction curettage at approximately 12 weeks' gestation. The woman had a history of sporadic drug use, and at the time of the operation was taking 30 mg of diazepam per day for anxiety. She entered the abortion facility on the morning of the procedure, and because of excessive anxiety, received intravenous preoperative medication of 125 mg meperidine and 30 mg diazepam within a 15-minute period immediately before the abortion. The procedure itself went well without evident complications, and she returned to the recovery room sleeping under "heavy medication." She was checked once over the next 5 hours and found to be "sleeping soundly," but no vital signs were recorded in the chart. Approximately 5 hours after the abortion, she was found with "no vital signs" and was pronounced dead half an hour later. An autopsy was done, but no gross pathologic abnormalities were discovered. Measurable quantities of diazepam and meperidine were found in the woman's blood; a high level of meperidine was found in her liver. The medical examiner suspected that death was due to meperidine overdosage.

Responsibility for this preventable death lies with the abortion facility, and to a lesser extent with the attending physician. In view of the large dosage of intravenous respiratory depressants that had been administered preoperatively, the woman's postoperative state should have been monitored closely. She should not have been left unattended while asleep under such heavy sedation. Her vital signs should have been recorded at least every 15 minutes while she was not fully conscious, as is the common practice in surgical recovery rooms. One month before the woman's death, state authorities had attempted to revoke the license of the abortion facility. Among the deficiencies cited was an inadequate nursing staff, both in

numbers and level of training. The facility stayed open through judicial appeal procedures. The physician might have exercised more caution in administering such large doses of intravenous sedative medication. Once having administered this medication, he should have insured that close postoperative monitoring by the facility was maintained.

#### C. Illegal Abortion Mortality

The decline in overall abortion mortality noted above was primarily due to fewer deaths from illegally induced abortion. Deaths due to illegal abortion decreased from 39 to 19 to 5 during these 3 years. For the period 1972-1974, the illegal abortion mortality ratio was 6.6 for every 1,000,000 live births per year (Table 24). The age-specific illegal abortion mortality ratio was remarkably similar--4.5 to 7.8--for the 5-year age groups between 15 and 40. However, for women over 40, the mortality ratio was 38.8, more than 5 times that of the other age groups. The difference between white and other race-specific mortality ratios was even more striking. Black and other races suffered 25 deaths from illegal abortions for every 1,000,000 live births, 10 times higher than the ratio for white races. Over the 3 years, only 2 deaths were associated with an illegal abortion which had occurred outside the woman's state of residence.

A case history of a recent death from illegal abortion is typical of those occurring during 1972-1974. Although the woman was younger than the median age of women dying from illegal abortions, she was black, was in the second trimester, and was aborted locally--all consistent with the majority of illegal abortion deaths.

#### Illegal Abortion Death Case History

A 21-year-old black female, gravida-2, para-1, last menstrual period 4 months before, was informed by her local physician that she was 14 weeks pregnant. She requested an abortion, but local facilities for terminating a second-trimester pregnancy were not available. She was given the name of an out-of-state hospital which performed second-trimester abortions, but after considering the expense and inconvenience of obtaining such a procedure, she said that she would continue the pregnancy and begin prenatal care.

She was next seen 6 days later in the emergency room of a local community hospital, where she was treated for shock from 2 hours of severe vaginal hemorrhage. She refused to answer any questions about attempting to induce an abortion. She was immediately taken to surgery, where initial attempts to control the hemorrhage and completely evacuate the uterus proved impossible. A laparotomy was performed, and a large retroperitoneal hematoma was discovered, the result of extensive lacerations of the lower uterine segment. Uterine perforation from previous instrumentation was suspected.

A total hysterectomy was performed in an effort to control the hemorrhage. During and after the procedure, the woman was given 10 units of blood, and in the immediate postoperative period, her condition appeared to stabilize. However, 12 hours later, she again went into shock, had evidence of brain damage presumably caused by oxygen deprivation, and died of a cardiac arrest. No autopsy was performed, but a pathology report on the operative specimens showed a cervix and uterus with "extensive deep lacerations and evidence of recent hemorrhage." The impression of the pathologist was that an illegal, possibly self-induced, abortion with an unknown instrument had been attempted.





#### D. Spontaneous Abortion Mortality

There were 50 deaths from spontaneous abortions in the period 1972-1974: 23 in 1972, 9 in 1973, and 18 in 1974 (Figure 15). Seventeen of the 50 deaths were associated with an IUD in situ during the pregnancy: 9 in 1972, 4 in 1973, and 4 in 1974. There were no IUD-associated abortion fatalities from June to December 1974, perhaps because of the widespread publicity given at that time to the presumed association between the Dalkon Shield and mid-trimester septic spontaneous abortions. During the spring and summer of 1974, efforts were made to educate physicians to remove any IUD if a woman became pregnant with the device in place.

The fluctuating number of deaths not associated with an IUD, from 14 in 1972 to 5 in 1973, to 14 in 1974, may reflect that 1) better reporting resulted as surveillance methods improved, or 2) a portion of those deaths previously categorized as "spontaneous" were probably illegally induced, though not admitted to be such by the woman.

A case history of a septic spontaneous abortion death associated with an IUD is typical of these fatalities.

##### Spontaneous Abortion Death Case History

A 21-year-old white female, gravida-3, para-2, in her 13th menstrual week of pregnancy, was admitted to the hospital with a 24-hour history of fever, shaking chills, lower abdominal pain, vomiting, and bleeding gums. Her past history included 2 pregnancies delivered by cesarean section. On admission, her temperature was 103° F, her pulse 120, and her blood pressure 100/70. Tenderness was noted in the right flank and suprapubic regions. Uterine contractions were felt during pelvic examination. Abdominal x-ray revealed an intra-uterine IUD. Several hours after admission, she spontaneously aborted a male fetus. Cultures at this time grew *Escherichia coli* from the placenta, fetus, blood, and urine. Over the next 36 hours, intensive therapy consisted of intravenous fluids and blood, antibiotics, steroids, vasopressors, digitalis, and diuretics. Despite these measures, her condition continued to deteriorate, and she died following a cardio-respiratory arrest approximately 48 hours after admission. An autopsy was not performed. Pathology report on the products of conception revealed macerated tissue. The cause of death was ascribed to gram-negative septicemia and septic shock.

At the time of this death, the association between IUDs and septic spontaneous abortions was not widely known. The prevailing medical opinion was to leave the IUD in place during pregnancy, since it was feared that removal of the IUD would induce an abortion. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists currently recommends that all IUDs be removed from pregnant women if the string is visible and the IUD can be easily withdrawn, because of the increased risk of pregnancy-associated complications with an IUD in situ. (The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. The Intrauterine Device. ACOG Technical Bulletin, No. 10, September 1974). If the IUD cannot be removed, interruption of the pregnancy should be offered as an option. If the patient elects to continue the pregnancy with the IUD in situ, she should be warned of the increased risk of sepsis and should be followed with close vigilance for symptoms of septicemia.

#### IV. ABORTION-RELATED MORBIDITY: PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE JOINT PROGRAM FOR THE STUDY OF ABORTION/CDC

The Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC (JPSA/CDC), a multicenter prospective study of the early medical complications of abortion, points out the safety of legal induced abortion in the United States. Its predecessor, the Joint Program

for the Study of Abortion (JPSA), was conducted in 1970 and 1971 by the Population Council. JPSA/CDC, a continuation of the initial research program, constitutes the largest abortion study reported to date and documents the morbidity risks of current abortion practices. This section provides a preliminary report from JPSA/CDC. A more complete publication, including details of the methodology, results, and interpretation, is planned in the future.

From September 1971 through June 1975, 32 institutions under contract reported 80,437 induced abortions to CDC on coded forms. Gestational age for each woman was calculated by subtracting the date of last menstrual period from the date of abortion. For 6% of cases in which 1 or both dates were unknown, the physician's estimate of gestational age was used.

To ascertain the reliability of coded responses, Family Planning Evaluation Division staff audited each of the facilities which provided 2% or more of the total number of reports. The resultant 12 centers accounted for 86% of all JPSA/CDC abortions. At each institution, FPED personnel reviewed a 1% systematic random sample of medical records and then compared the data abstracted with that initially provided on the JPSA/CDC form. Results of this audit add consistency in defining and interpreting the abortion-related morbidity among the different facilities. The results also substantiate the acceptability of the data collected by the reporting institutions.

Demographic characteristics of JPSA/CDC patients resemble those of American women obtaining abortion in 1974 (Table 25). Fewer JPSA/CDC patients had abortions at 8 weeks' gestation or less than the national percentage for 1974, while more JPSA/CDC patients had abortions at 13 weeks and beyond. Compared with 1974 national abortion data, a smaller percentage of JPSA/CDC patients underwent abortion by sharp curettage while a larger percentage underwent abortion by intrauterine instillation. Thirty-one percent of JPSA/CDC patients were "private," while 69% were "non-private." Sixty-seven percent of JPSA/CDC patients underwent abortion in hospitals; 33% obtained services from non-hospital facilities.

Legal abortion remains a safe procedure. While 12% of JPSA/CDC patients experienced 1 or more complications, fewer than 1% sustained a major complication. The overall morbidity rate included nearly 100 potentially codable complications, ranging from relatively minor complaints such as breast engorgement or vaginitis to major complications such as convulsions or hemorrhage requiring blood transfusion (Table 26).

Of the methods studied, suction curettage had the lowest total complication rate (5%), followed in ascending order by sharp curettage (11%), intrauterine instillation (43%), hysterotomy (49%), and hysterectomy (53%). Rank ordering of methods by major complication rates yielded the identical sequence. Suction curettage had the lowest major complication rate (0.4%), followed by sharp curettage (0.9%), intrauterine instillation (1.9%), hysterotomy (14.9%), and hysterectomy (16.1%).

Morbidity rates varied with length of gestation. From 7% at 6 menstrual weeks of gestation or less, the total complication rate fell to a nadir of 5% for abortions at 7 to 8 weeks. The rate then rose to a peak of 40% at 17 to 20 weeks and declined thereafter. Major complication rates demonstrated a similar pattern. The minimum of 0.3% occurred in abortions at 7 to 8 weeks, and the maximum of 2.3% in abortions at 21 to 24 weeks.

Compared with other procedures utilized at each period of gestation, suction curettage had the lowest major complication rates through the 20th week of pregnancy (Table 26). Although not shown in Table 26, suction curettage had the lowest total complication rates through the 20th week as well. While coded as "suction curettage," the second-trimester suction procedures frequently employed ring forceps and sharp curettage as well. Major complication rates for suction curettage were less than one-half those of intrauterine instillation for each comparable length of gestation. On the basis of these findings, further study appears warranted, including random allocation of women in the midtrimester to suction curettage or intrauterine instillation groups.



## V. SPECIAL STUDIES

### A. Legalized Abortion and the Public Health. Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C., 1975

The Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, conducted a year-long review of the existing abortion literature in order to determine the effects of legalized abortion on public health. The study group concluded that legalization of abortion led to fewer abortion deaths and a lower rate of medical complications than when restrictive abortion laws were in effect. Because both the present and past Abortion Surveillance Reports have described abortion service statistics and the mortality/morbidity resulting from abortions, this summary will deal only with those topics of the Institute of Medicine report which supplement previous information.

Evidence of adverse late effects of legal abortion remains contradictory, largely because confounding variables, such as age, have not been uniformly controlled in studies to date. Reports from Hungary and Greece suggest that legal abortion may be associated with repeated miscarriages and premature births, while studies from Yugoslavia and Japan fail to link abortion and subsequent prematurity. Similarly, the question of increased incidence of infertility after abortion remains unanswered. A report from Yugoslavia failed to demonstrate an increased incidence of ectopic pregnancy after legal abortion.

The psychological effects of abortion are difficult to evaluate critically, but current evidence suggests that abortion does not contribute to an increased incidence of mental illness. In fact, women generally express positive feelings about their abortions, including a sense of relief. Although the abortion decision and procedure may be emotionally stressful for some women, this stress is temporary for most. Those with preexisting mental illness may fare less well emotionally. No adequate studies have been made of women denied abortion, although 2 papers suggest increased social-psychological problems among their offspring.

Advances in techniques of amniocentesis, cell culture, and enzyme assays have expanded the role of abortion for fetal indications. A growing number of chromosomal abnormalities and metabolic derangements, capable of being diagnosed during the second trimester, now supplement previous indications of fetal exposure to known teratogens. Legal abortion expands the options available to the couple at risk of bearing a child with chromosomal or metabolic disorders.

The advent of legal abortion has not undermined the practice of contraception, according to limited information. Rather, among women who have previously employed ineffective or no contraception, the abortion experience may prompt effective contraception for the first time. Data on women requesting repeat abortions are insufficient to document a trend toward reliance on abortion in lieu of contraception.

### B. Provisional Estimates of Abortion Need and Services in the Year Following the 1973 Supreme Court Decisions. The Alan Guttmacher Institute, New York, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., 1975

Using estimates derived from earlier abortion rates in residents of New York and California, the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI) calculated that between 1.3 and 1.8 million women were in need of abortion services in 1974. One-third of these women were of low income, and three-quarters resided in the nation's 250 metropolitan areas. In 16 primarily southeastern and southwestern states, abortion services were needed predominantly by women with low or marginal incomes.

This AGI report projected that 892,000 women underwent abortion in 1974, although the availability of abortion services was highly localized. The wide variation of abortion ratios from state to state cannot be attributed to attitudinal differences alone. After the Supreme Court decisions in 1973, the numbers of abortions increased while the distribution began to decentralize.

An estimated 40% to 60% of women in need received abortions in 1973, suggesting that from 500,000 to 1,000,000 women were unable to obtain abortion services. Access to abortion for low-income women and women under 20 remained limited. Women residing in areas where a small proportion of abortion need is met apparently had to travel to other areas where larger proportions of the needs are met. Although the size of a city

was not the sole determinant, the proportion of abortion need met in a metropolitan area was generally related to the size of its population. Abortions in non-hospital clinics increased in response to the Supreme Court decisions, in contrast to the pattern in United States hospitals. Fewer than 25% of all short-term, non-Catholic general hospitals performed any abortion in 1973, and approximately 15% of public short-term general hospitals rendered abortion services in that year. Eleven percent of provider agencies performed nearly 70% of abortions in 1973.

The AGI report states that unless inequities in the availability and accessibility of abortion are remedied, women who live in rural areas or small cities, who are young, and who are poor will continue to face formidable difficulties in seeking safe, legal abortions. The potential consequences enumerated include illegal or self-induced abortions, unwanted or mistimed births, out-of-wedlock births, school drop-outs, and precipitous marriages, as well as other health and social problems.



## VI. FOREIGN TRANSLATIONS OF SUMMARY

### A. Resumen (Spanish)

En 1974, cincuenta estados y el Distrito de Columbia informaron al Centro de Control de Enfermedades de 763,476 abortos legales ocurridos ese año, lo que significó un aumento de 24% con respecto al año anterior. La razón aborto/nacimiento, a nivel nacional, aumentó en los mismos años un 23% (de 196 a 242 abortos por 1000 nacidos vivos). Esto significa que en 1974 hubo casi un aborto legal por cada cuatro nacidos vivos. La tasa nacional de abortos se elevó de 14 a 17 por 1000 mujeres edad 15-44 años (aumento de 21%).

En 1974 los 50 estados y el Distrito de Columbia informaron por primera vez que los abortos habían, sido realizados dentro de sus respectivas áreas. La redistribución de abortos legales en estados con leyes restrictivas antes de 1973, continuó en 1974. Concomitantemente, la tendencia apreciada en 1973 en el sentido de lograr que los abortos fueran inducidos según zona de residencia de la mujer, continuó en 1974. Mientras en los dos años anteriores un 56% y 75% respectivamente de las mujeres se indujeron abortos en el mismo estado donde vivían, en 1974 este porcentaje ascendió a 87% (Tabla resumen).

En 1974 las pacientes de abortos tendieron a ser jóvenes, de raza blanca, no casadas, de baja paridad y con pocas semanas de gestación en el momento del procedimiento (Tabla resumen). Sesenta y seis por ciento de ellas correspondió a menores de 25 años; 70% fueron de raza blanca y 30% de color y otras razas. Setenta y tres por ciento eran no casadas mientras 27% lo eran. Cuarenta y ocho por ciento no tenían hijos vivos. El método predominante continuó siendo el curetaje con succión, alcanzando en 1974 al 77% de todos los procedimientos, seguido por raspado uterino exclusivo (12%), instilación salina intrauterina (8%) y cirugía abdominal mayor (1%). Ochenta y siete por ciento de las mujeres que abortaron tenían hasta 12 semanas de gestación.

Las muertes vinculadas al aborto continuaron descendiendo en 1974, aunque a un ritmo más lento. Cuarenta y ocho de las mujeres murieron de complicaciones por aborto comparadas con 56 el año anterior. Los abortos legales fueron responsables de 24 de estas 48 muertes, los abortos ilegales de 6 y los espontáneos de 18. La tasa de letalidad para los primeros descendió a 3.1 por 100,000 abortos.

Un análisis preliminar de la morbilidad en 80437 abortos realizados en 32 instituciones, entre 1971 y 1975, reveló que las tasas de complicaciones más graves eran más bajas que las informadas en el primer estudio llevado a cabo en 1970-1971 en que participaron diferentes centros asistenciales. Las características demográficas de las mujeres en este estudio de población (Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC) fueron muy semejantes a las características de las mujeres de la población general que recurrieron al aborto en 1974. El curetaje con succión demostró ser el método con tasas más bajas de complicación en abortos de hasta 20 semanas de gestación.

### B. Résumé (French)

En 1974 les 50 états des Etats-Unis et le District de Colombie ont signalé 763.476 avortements légaux au Centre de Contrôle des Maladies, une augmentation de 24% par rapport à 1973. La raison nationale d'avortements a augmenté de 23% (de 196 avortements par 1.000 naissances vivantes en 1973 à 242 en 1974) ce qui représente presque un avortement légal pour toutes les quatre naissances vivantes. La raison nationale d'avortements a augmenté de 14 avortements par 1000 femmes âgées de 15 à 44 ans en 1973 à 17 en 1974, une augmentation de 21%. En 1974, pour la première fois, tous les 50 états et le District de Colombie ont signalé des avortements dans leur territoire. La redistribution d'avortements légaux vers les états qui avaient des lois restrictives avant 1973 a continué en 1974. En même temps, la tendance déjà constatée en 1973 de se faire avorter dans l'état où l'on habite a continué en 1974; 87% des avortements ont eu lieu dans l'état où la femme résidait, par contraste avec 75% en 1973 et 56 seulement en 1972 (voir la Table résumé). Les femmes qui ont subi un avortement en 1974 étaient en général jeunes, blanches, non-mariées, au commencement de leur grossesse au moment de l'intervention et avaient peu ou pas d'enfants (voir la Table résumé). Soixante-quatre pour cent avaient moins de 25 ans. Soixante-dix pour cent étaient blanches; 30% étaient de race noire ou autre. Soixante-treize pour cent n'étaient pas mariées, tandis que 27% étaient mariées. Quarante-huit pour cent n'avaient pas d'enfants vivants, 20% avaient un enfant vivant et 5% seulement avaient plus de 4 enfants vivants. La méthode d'avortement prédominante en 1974 est toujours le curettage à succion, qui représente 77% des traitements, suivie par curettage à instrument tranchant (12%), instillation saline intrautérine (8%) et intervention chirurgicale abdominale majeure (1%). Quatre-vingt-sept pour cent des femmes se sont fait avorter pendant les douze premières semaines de grossesse.

Les morts ayant rapport à l'avortement ont continué à diminuer en 1974, quoique moins vite qu'auparavant. Quarante-huit femmes sont mortes à la suite de complications d'avortement, par contraste avec 56 l'année précédente. Les avortements légaux étaient responsables de 24 des 48 morts en 1974, les avortements illégaux responsables de 6, et les avortements spontanés de 18. La mortalité pour les avortements légaux est tombée à 3,1 morts par 100.000 avortements.

Une analyse préliminaire de mortalité en 80.437 avortements réalisés en 32 institutions entre 1971 et 1975 a révélé que les taux de complications majeures étaient plus bas que les chiffres notés dans la première étude à plusieurs centres faite en 1970-71. Les caractéristiques démographiques des femmes dans la population examinée par cette étude (the Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC) ressemblaient de très près aux caractéristiques de la population entière des femmes qui se sont fait avorter en 1974. Jusqu'à la vingtième semaine de grossesse, le curettage à succion a provoqué moins de complications que les autres techniques d'avortement.





Table 1

CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD OF THE STATUS OF ABORTION LAW CHANGES,  
ABORTION REPORTING, AND ABORTION RATIOS IN THE UNITED STATES  
1969-1974

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Cumulative No. of states with reform abortion laws enacted since 1967	9	16	16	17	.. <sup>1</sup>	.. <sup>1</sup>
No. of states from which statewide abortion data are reported <sup>2</sup>	8	17	18	20	25	36
Additional states from which abortion data are reported from individual hospitals or facilities	2	7	7	8	26	15
Total No. of states from which partial or complete abortion data are reported <sup>2</sup>	10	24	25	28	51	51
Total No. of abortions reported to CDC	22,670	193,491	485,816	586,760	615,831	763,476
National abortion ratio (abortions per 1,000 live births <sup>3</sup> )	6.3	51.9	136.6	180.1	196.3	241.6

<sup>1</sup>On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Texas and Georgia abortion laws were unconstitutional, thereby nullifying all restrictive abortion laws. Interpretation of, and legislative response to, the Supreme Court decision varied from state to state.

<sup>2</sup>Beginning 1970 includes District of Columbia

<sup>3</sup>Live birth data are total United States births by year as reported by the National Center for Health Statistics, Monthly Vital Statistics Reports.

Table 2

REPORTED NUMBER OF LEGAL ABORTIONS, ABORTION RATIOS,  
AND ABORTION RATES, BY STATE OF OCCURRENCE, 1974

State	Abortions <sup>1</sup>	Live Births <sup>1</sup>	Ratios <sup>2</sup>	Females 15-44 <sup>3</sup>	Rate <sup>4</sup>
Alabama	3,392 <sup>5</sup>	59,280	57	783,261	4
Alaska	1,025	6,998 <sup>6</sup>	146	72,867	14
Arizona	6,130 <sup>5</sup>	39,926 <sup>6</sup>	154	449,031	14
Arkansas	1,694	33,835 <sup>6</sup>	50	428,272	4
California	135,762	303,500 <sup>6</sup>	447	4,637,556	29
Colorado	9,027	39,036	231	571,316	16
Connecticut <sup>7</sup>	7,083	27,728 <sup>6</sup>	255	668,425	11
Delaware	2,167 <sup>5</sup>	8,334 <sup>6</sup>	260	132,301	16
Dist. of Col.	22,688	20,349 <sup>6</sup>	1,115	186,003	122
Florida	15,212	110,404	138	1,544,423	10
Georgia	22,009	82,930	265	1,094,453	20
Hawaii	4,158	15,472	269	189,397	22
Idaho	778 <sup>5</sup>	15,131 <sup>6</sup>	51	165,452	5
Illinois	33,370	168,991	197	2,460,279	14
Indiana	6,029	83,523 <sup>6</sup>	72	1,181,581	5
Iowa	4,107	40,627 <sup>6</sup>	101	612,156	7
Kansas	10,171	32,712	311	485,773	21
Kentucky	5,033 <sup>5</sup>	54,283 <sup>6</sup>	93	722,678	7
Louisiana <sup>8</sup>	974	35,403 <sup>6</sup>	28	836,602	1
Maine	1,253 <sup>5</sup>	14,533 <sup>6</sup>	86	214,626	6
Maryland	15,975	53,086	301	932,276	17
Massachusetts	27,800 <sup>9</sup>	71,347 <sup>6</sup>	390	1,275,894	22
Michigan	27,543 <sup>5</sup>	137,414	200	2,031,523	14
Minnesota	8,732 <sup>10</sup>	55,313 <sup>6</sup>	158	857,709	10
Mississippi	140	43,930	3	491,345	-
Missouri	7,983 <sup>5</sup>	69,412	115	1,018,042	8
Montana <sup>8</sup>	732	6,184	118	153,892	5
Nebraska	3,094	23,695	131	329,328	9
Nevada	1,614	8,724	185	122,438	13
New Hampshire	668	11,613	58	170,739	4
New Jersey	20,532 <sup>5</sup>	91,136 <sup>6</sup>	225	1,584,127	13
New Mexico	3,469 <sup>5</sup>	21,115 <sup>6</sup>	164	250,853	14
New York	161,521	239,166	675	4,036,745	40
(City)	(120,829) <sup>11</sup>	(106,218)	(1,138)		
(Upstate)	(40,692)	(132,948)	(306)		
N. Carolina	16,463	84,246	195	1,198,757	14
N. Dakota	137	10,708 <sup>6</sup>	13	132,569	1
Ohio	25,772 <sup>5</sup>	157,819 <sup>6</sup>	163	2,391,438	11
Oklahoma	4,416 <sup>5</sup>	40,756 <sup>6</sup>	108	572,042	8
Oregon	8,794	32,506	271	494,244	18
Pennsylvania	38,110 <sup>10</sup>	147,924 <sup>6</sup>	258	2,539,175	15
Rhode Island	2,867	11,688 <sup>6</sup>	245	199,669	14
S. Carolina	3,760	47,252 <sup>6</sup>	80	617,825	6
S. Dakota	1,601	11,175	143	140,637	11
Tennessee	7,406	67,376 <sup>6</sup>	110	931,038	8
Texas	35,382 <sup>5</sup>	221,324 <sup>6</sup>	160	2,659,179	13
Utah <sup>7</sup>	1,189	23,215 <sup>6</sup>	51	265,834	4
Vermont	1,930	6,861	281	102,266	19
Virginia	14,372	68,300	210	1,090,198	13
Washington	18,185	47,785 <sup>6</sup>	381	755,705	24
W. Virginia	25 <sup>5</sup>	27,636	1	384,879	-
Wisconsin	10,920	65,507 <sup>6</sup>	167	987,125	11
Wyoming	282 <sup>5</sup>	6,250 <sup>6</sup>	45	77,032	4
Total	763,476	3,103,458	246 <sup>12</sup>	46,230,975	17

<sup>1</sup>Data from central health agencies unless otherwise noted

<sup>2</sup>Abortions per 1,000 live births

<sup>3</sup>Estimated by Family Planning Evaluation Division, CDC, using a modified cohort-component method

<sup>4</sup>Abortions per 1,000 females 15-44

<sup>5</sup>Reported from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in state

<sup>6</sup>Live birth data from Monthly Vital Statistics Report Provisional Statistics, Vol. 23, No. 3, May 23, 1974;

Vol. 23, No. 6, August 29, 1974; Vol. 23, No. 13, May 30, 1975

<sup>7</sup>April-December

<sup>8</sup>July-December

<sup>9</sup>Reported from state health department and 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in state

<sup>10</sup>Partial year reporting from state health department and data from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in state

<sup>11</sup>Data from New York City Health Department

<sup>12</sup>Differs from national abortion ratio on Table 1 because of differences in sources and periods of live birth data

-Rate less than 1

Table 3

NUMBER OF ABORTIONS AND PERCENT INCREASE\*  
FOR EACH FULL YEAR OF REPORTING, SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1969-1974

State	1969				1970				1971				1972				1973				1974			
	No.	Abortions	No.	% Increase	No.	Abortions	% Increase	No.	Abortions	% Increase	No.	Abortions	% Increase	No.	Abortions	% Increase	No.	Abortions	% Increase	No.	Abortions	% Increase		
Alaska	..	..	..	..	..	1,145	..	1,172	2.4	1,165	-0.6	1,025	-12.0											
Arkansas	..	..	..	..	637	..	793	24.5	1,138	43.5	1,694	48.9												
California	15,339	65,369	326.2	..	116,749	78.6	138,584	18.7	131,870	-4.8	135,762	3.0												
Colorado	1,000	2,581	158.1	..	4,168	61.5	5,260	26.2	7,451	41.7	9,027	21.2												
Dist. of Col.	..	..	..	..	18,897	..	38,868	105.7	40,812	5.0	22,688	-44.4												
Florida	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,156	..	15,212	-5.8												
Georgia	168	705	319.6	..	1,579	124.0	2,509	58.9	12,301	390.3	22,009	78.9												
Hawaii	..	..	..	..	4,135	..	4,547	10.0	4,534	-0.3	4,158	-8.3												
Kansas	..	..	..	..	9,472	..	12,248	29.3	12,612	3.0	10,171	-19.4												
Maryland	..	..	..	..	8,306	..	9,093	9.5	9,871	8.6	15,975	61.8												
Mississippi	..	..	..	..	93	..	61	-34.4	96	57.4	140	45.8												
New York	..	..	..	..	268,573	..	299,891	11.7	203,358	-32.2	161,521	-20.6												
N. Carolina	305	1,357	344.9	..	4,378	222.6	8,365	91.1	11,935	42.7	16,463	37.9												
Oregon	1,407	7,176	411.4	..	6,997	-2.8	7,143	2.1	7,447	4.3	8,794	18.1												
S. Carolina	..	..	..	..	727	..	854	17.5	2,102	146.1	3,760	78.9												
Vermont	..	..	..	..	9	..	231	2,466.7	1,402	506.9	1,930	37.7												
Virginia	..	..	..	..	3,792	..	4,496	18.6	7,318	62.8	14,372	96.4												
Washington	..	..	..	..	14,347	..	17,767	23.8	17,319	-2.5	18,185	5.0												

\*Percent increase over previous year

\*\*States with data reported by central health agency (18)

..Not applicable

Table 4

REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS PERFORMED ON OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS, 1974

State	Total Abortions Performed	No. of Abortions With Residence Known <sup>1</sup>	No. of Abortions On Out-of-State Residents	Percent of Abortions With Residence Known--Performed on Out-of-State Residents		
				1974	1973 <sup>2</sup>	1972 <sup>2</sup>
Alabama <sup>3</sup>	3,392	2,896	295	10.2	9.1	0.3
Alaska	1,025	1,025	11	1.1	1.1	1.2
Arizona <sup>3</sup>	6,130	2,259	8	0.4	0.8	--
Arkansas	1,694	--	--	--	--	--
California	135,762	135,353	3,229	2.4	9.4	16.0
Colorado	9,027	9,021	522	5.8	5.2	7.7
Connecticut <sup>4</sup>	7,083	6,906	130	1.9	1.3	0.1
Delaware <sup>3</sup>	2,167	417	4	1.0	--	4.7
Dist. of Col.	22,688	20,591	12,288	59.7	64.7	74.5
Florida	15,212	--	--	--	--	--
Georgia	22,009	21,382	3,993	18.7	14.5	0.0
Hawaii	4,158	4,134	104	2.5	1.0	0.5
Idaho <sup>3</sup>	778	614	16	2.6	2.6	--
Illinois	33,370	33,264	3,315	10.0	11.2	--
Indiana	6,029	6,029	115	1.9	2.0	--
Iowa	4,107	--	--	--	9.3	--
Kansas	10,171	10,160	4,503	44.3	61.0	63.2
Kentucky <sup>3</sup>	5,033	5,033	2,016	40.1	12.4	--
Louisiana <sup>5</sup>	974	974	116	11.9	--	--
Maine <sup>3</sup>	1,253	1,198	12	1.0	0.8	--
Maryland	15,975	15,956	751	4.7	2.8	2.0
Massachusetts <sup>6</sup>	27,800	--	--	--	--	--
Michigan <sup>3</sup>	27,543	16,612	1,924	11.6	12.6	--
Minnesota <sup>7</sup>	8,732	8,732	1,578	18.1	9.3	--
Mississippi	140	140	7	5.0	0.0	0.0
Missouri <sup>3</sup>	7,983	7,983	2,063	25.8	25.6	--
Montana <sup>5</sup>	732	732	15	2.0	0.0	--
Nebraska	3,094	3,094	595	19.2	20.7	--
Nevada	1,614	1,423	66	4.6	0.0	--
New Hampshire	668	661	76	11.5	9.7	--
New Jersey <sup>3</sup>	20,532	17,178	718	4.2	--	--
New Mexico <sup>3</sup>	3,469	657	102	15.5	37.3	68.9
New York	161,521	159,206	33,237	20.9	39.5	60.8
(City)	(120,829)	(118,610)	(25,819)	(21.8)	(39.9)	(61.2)
(Upstate)	(40,692)	(40,596)	(7,418)	(18.3)	(38.6)	(59.7)
N. Carolina	16,463	16,403	922	5.6	0.5	0.6
N. Dakota	137	137	25	18.2	--	--
Ohio <sup>3</sup>	25,772	23,008	2,067	9.0	9.6	--
Oklahoma <sup>3</sup>	4,416	2,451	713	29.1	0.0	--
Oregon	8,794	8,625	517	6.0	5.2	0.2
Pennsylvania <sup>7</sup>	38,110	37,059	4,177	11.3	7.8	--
Rhode Island	2,867	2,867	242	8.4	8.8	--
S. Carolina	3,760	3,760	252	6.7	8.6	0.6
S. Dakota	1,601	1,574	660	41.9	43.7	--
Tennessee	7,406	7,377	619	8.4	2.8	--
Texas <sup>3</sup>	35,382	--	--	--	3.6	--
Utah <sup>8</sup>	1,189	1,186	61	5.1	10.0	--
Vermont	1,930	1,930	535	27.7	22.2	16.5
Virginia	14,372	14,372	781	5.4	2.6	0.1
Washington	18,185	--	--	--	--	--
W. Virginia <sup>3</sup>	25	--	--	--	--	--
Wisconsin	10,920	10,920	720	6.6	9.9	13.0
Wyoming <sup>3</sup>	282	282	11	3.9	0.0	--
Total	763,476	625,581	84,111	13.4	25.2	43.8

<sup>1</sup>Refers to in-state and out-of-state residence status<sup>2</sup>Source: 1973 Abortion Surveillance Report<sup>3</sup>Abortions for 1974 are reported from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in state. Residence data are based on percents and actual numbers as reported by hospitals and/or facilities in state.<sup>4</sup>Based on distribution of data from special health department sample of total abortions reported, April-December<sup>5</sup>July-December<sup>6</sup>Reported from state health department and data from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in the state<sup>7</sup>Partial year reporting from state health department and data from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in the state<sup>8</sup>April-December

--Not reported



Table 5

## REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS WITH STATE OF RESIDENCE KNOWN,\* 1974

State of Residence by Census Division	Abortions Performed In State of Residence		Abortions Performed Outside State of Residence		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	
NEW ENGLAND	(40,367)	(88.1)	(5,459)	(11.9)	(45,826)
Maine	1,186 <sup>1</sup>	80.6	286	19.4	1,472
New Hampshire	585	58.7	411	41.3	996
Vermont	1,395	88.1	189	11.9	1,584
Massachusetts	27,800 <sup>2,3</sup>	94.8	1,530	5.2	29,330
Rhode Island	2,625	91.0	260	9.0	2,885
Connecticut	6,776 <sup>4</sup>	70.9	2,783	29.1	9,559
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	(175,311)	(89.4)	(20,724)	(10.6)	(196,035)
New York	125,969	99.5	620	0.5	126,589
New Jersey	16,460 <sup>1</sup>	49.5	16,794	50.5	33,254
Pennsylvania	32,882 <sup>5</sup>	90.9	3,310	9.1	36,192
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	(81,692)	(86.0)	(13,283)	(14.0)	(94,975)
Ohio	20,941 <sup>1</sup>	87.4	3,029	12.6	23,970
Indiana	5,914	52.9	5,272	47.1	11,186
Illinois	29,949	89.5	3,518	10.5	33,467
Michigan	14,688 <sup>1</sup>	97.0	459	3.0	15,147
Wisconsin	10,200	91.0	1,005	9.0	11,205
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	(26,363)	(79.3)	(6,889)	(20.7)	(33,252)
Minnesota	7,154 <sup>5</sup>	97.8	162	2.2	7,316
Iowa	4,107 <sup>3</sup>	83.5	811	16.5	4,918
Missouri	5,920 <sup>1</sup>	56.5	4,566	43.5	10,486
N. Dakota	112	12.2	808	87.8	920
S. Dakota	914	75.0	304	25.0	1,218
Nebraska	2,499	93.5	174	6.5	2,673
Kansas	5,657	98.9	64	1.1	5,721
SOUTH ATLANTIC	(89,127)	(83.9)	(17,116)	(16.1)	(106,243)
Delaware	413 <sup>1</sup>	64.2	230	35.8	643
Maryland	15,205	70.6	6,322	29.4	21,527
Dist. of Col.	8,303	98.4	136	1.6	8,439
Virginia	13,591	75.3	4,468	24.7	18,059
W. Virginia	25 <sup>1,3</sup>	1.5	1,617	98.5	1,642
N. Carolina	15,481	92.6	1,235	7.4	16,716
S. Carolina	3,508	59.7	2,367	40.3	5,875
Georgia	17,389	98.6	250	1.4	17,639
Florida	15,212 <sup>3</sup>	96.9	491	3.1	15,703
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	(12,509)	(77.6)	(3,615)	(22.4)	(16,124)
Kentucky	3,017 <sup>1</sup>	80.4	735	19.6	3,752
Tennessee	6,758	84.9	1,201	15.1	7,959
Alabama	2,601 <sup>1</sup>	74.0	915	26.0	3,516
Mississippi	133	14.8	764	85.2	897
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	(39,672)	(96.4)	(1,462)	(3.6)	(41,134)
Arkansas	1,694 <sup>3</sup>	82.4	363	17.6	2,057
Louisiana	858 <sup>6</sup>	77.2	254	22.8	1,112
Oklahoma	1,738 <sup>1</sup>	76.9	523	23.1	2,261
Texas	35,382 <sup>1,3</sup>	99.1	322	0.9	35,704

Table 5 (Continued)

State of Residence by Census Division	Abortions Performed In State of Residence		Abortions Performed Outside State of Residence		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	
MOUNTAIN	(15,373)	(84.0)	(2,932)	(16.0)	(18,305)
Montana	717 <sup>6</sup>	78.7	194	21.3	911
Idaho	598 <sup>1</sup>	79.7	152	20.3	750
Wyoming	271 <sup>1</sup>	42.8	362	57.2	633
Colorado	8,499	97.0	263	3.0	8,762
New Mexico	555 <sup>1</sup>	89.8	63	10.2	618
Arizona	2,251 <sup>1</sup>	84.9	400	15.1	2,651
Utah	1,125 <sup>7</sup>	65.4	596	34.6	1,721
Nevada	1,357	60.1	902	39.9	2,259
PACIFIC	(163,461)	(99.6)	(593)	(0.4)	(164,054)
Washington	18,185 <sup>3</sup>	97.7	428	2.3	18,613
Oregon	8,108	99.6	29	0.4	8,137
California	132,124	99.9	118	0.1	132,242
Alaska	1,014	99.4	6	0.6	1,020
Hawaii	4,030	99.7	12	0.3	4,042
TOTAL (1974)	643,875	89.9	72,073	10.1	715,948 <sup>8</sup>
TOTAL (1973)	440,202	79.9	110,443	20.1	550,645 <sup>8</sup>
TOTAL (1972)	303,934	60.4	199,489	39.6	503,423 <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Abortions reported from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in state. Residence data based on percents and actual numbers as reported by hospitals and/or facilities in state

<sup>2</sup>Reported from state health department and data from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in the state

<sup>3</sup>Residency information not available; all abortions reported are assumed to have been performed on residents of the state.

<sup>4</sup>Based on distribution of data from special health department sample of total abortions reported, April-December

<sup>5</sup>Partial year reporting from state health department and data from 1 or more hospitals and/or facilities in state

<sup>6</sup>July-December

<sup>7</sup>April-December

<sup>8</sup>Does not agree with Table 1 because abortions with state of residence unknown are excluded.

\*Excludes 47,528 abortions with state of residence unknown (5,339 out-of-country residents were classified as state of residence unknown)



Table 6

REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY AGE AND STATE OF OCCURRENCE,  
SELECTED STATES,\* 1974

State	< 15		15-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		≥ 40		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	21	2.0	365	35.6	301	29.4	170	16.6	101	9.9	42	4.1	15	1.5	10	1.0	1,025	100.0
Arkansas	47	2.8	612	36.1	482	28.5	242	14.3	169	10.0	102	6.0	40	2.4	0	0.0	1,694	100.0
California	1,973	1.5	45,409	33.4	42,111	31.0	24,146	17.8	12,444	9.2	6,325	4.7	2,093	1.5	1,261	0.9	135,762	100.0
Colorado	133	1.5	2,953	32.7	3,207	35.5	1,495	16.6	694	7.7	388	4.3	139	1.5	18	0.2	9,027	100.0
Connecticut <sup>1</sup>	59	0.8	1,877	26.5	2,384	33.7	1,358	19.2	638	9.0	460	6.5	224	3.2	83	1.2	7,083	100.0
Dist. of Col.	369	1.6	5,999	26.4	7,775	34.3	4,236	18.7	1,848	8.1	942	4.2	387	1.7	1,132	5.0	22,688	100.0
Georgia	435	2.0	7,053	32.0	6,893	31.3	3,781	17.2	1,874	8.5	897	4.1	287	1.3	789	3.6	22,009	100.0
Hawaii	38	0.9	991	23.8	1,435	34.5	837	20.1	453	10.9	270	6.5	132	3.2	2	0.0	4,158	100.0
Illinois	270	0.8	8,614	25.8	10,765	32.3	6,290	18.8	3,750	11.2	2,116	6.3	896	2.7	669	2.0	33,370	100.0
Indiana	123	2.0	1,999	33.2	1,798	29.8	1,004	16.7	576	9.6	353	5.9	148	2.5	28	0.5	6,029	100.0
Kansas	238	2.3	4,408	43.3	2,873	28.2	1,334	13.1	698	4.9	420	4.1	194	1.9	6	0.1	10,171	100.0
Kentucky <sup>2</sup>	199	4.0	1,898	37.7	1,678	33.3	723	14.4	295	5.9	173	3.4	63	1.3	4	0.1	5,033	100.0
Louisiana <sup>3</sup>	17	1.7	331	34.0	317	32.5	157	16.1	86	8.8	33	3.4	24	2.5	9	0.9	974	100.0
Maryland	445	2.8	6,225	39.0	4,544	28.4	2,421	15.2	1,346	8.4	708	4.4	277	1.7	9	0.1	15,975	100.0
Minnesota <sup>4</sup>	120	1.4	2,992	34.3	3,237	37.1	1,170	13.4	609	7.0	392	4.5	212	2.4	0	0.0	8,732	100.0
Mississippi	3	2.1	39	27.9	40	28.6	23	16.4	18	12.9	11	7.9	6	4.5	0	0.0	140	100.0
Missouri <sup>5</sup>	174	2.2	2,369	29.7	2,599	32.6	1,390	17.4	784	9.8	465	5.8	202	2.5	2	0.3	7,983	100.0
Montana <sup>3</sup>	7	1.0	273	37.3	1,020	33.0	364	11.8	225	7.3	158	5.1	66	2.1	0	0.0	3,094	100.0
Nebraska	57	1.8	1,204	38.9	541	33.5	273	16.9	135	8.4	87	5.4	24	1.5	27	1.7	1,614	100.0
Nevada	70	4.3	457	28.3	541	33.5	273	16.9	135	8.4	87	5.4	24	1.5	27	1.7	1,614	100.0
New Hampshire	11	1.6	253	37.9	196	29.3	105	15.7	56	8.4	32	4.8	14	2.1	1	0.1	668	100.0
New York	1,715	1.1	41,202	26.5	49,887	30.9	33,188	20.5	20,026	12.4	10,806	6.7	4,147	2.6	550	0.3	161,521	100.0
(City)	(1,219)	(1.0)	(28,439)	(23.5)	(37,691)	(31.2)	(26,545)	(22.0)	(15,577)	(12.9)	(8,060)	(6.7)	(2,852)	(2.4)	(446)	(0.4)	(120,829)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(496)	(1.2)	(12,763)	(31.4)	(12,196)	(30.0)	(6,643)	(16.3)	(4,449)	(10.9)	(2,746)	(6.7)	(1,295)	(3.2)	(104)	(0.3)	(40,692)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	388	2.4	5,791	35.2	4,805	29.2	2,708	16.4	1,597	9.7	788	4.8	341	2.1	45	0.3	16,463	100.0
Oregon	129	1.5	3,193	36.3	2,794	31.8	1,450	16.5	714	8.1	348	4.0	136	1.5	30	0.3	8,794	100.0
Pennsylvania <sup>4</sup>	706	1.9	12,682	33.3	12,351	32.4	5,835	15.3	3,550	9.3	2,024	5.3	829	2.2	133	0.3	38,110	100.0
Rhode Island	34	1.2	849	29.6	868	30.3	526	18.3	312	10.9	191	6.7	80	2.8	7	0.2	2,867	100.0
S. Carolina	76	2.0	1,186	31.5	1,242	33.0	592	15.7	345	9.2	156	4.1	60	1.6	103	2.7	3,760	100.0
S. Dakota	13	0.8	588	36.7	588	36.7	165	10.3	117	7.3	51	3.2	40	2.5	39	2.4	1,601	100.0
Tennessee	150	2.0	2,653	35.8	2,434	32.9	1,075	14.5	615	8.3	309	4.2	125	1.7	45	0.6	7,406	100.0
Utah <sup>6</sup>	10	0.8	331	27.8	419	35.2	200	16.8	97	8.2	60	5.0	23	1.9	49	4.1	1,189	100.0
Vermont	17	0.9	642	33.3	664	34.4	326	16.9	170	8.8	84	4.4	27	1.4	0	0.0	1,930	100.0
Virginia	328	2.3	5,205	36.2	4,373	30.4	2,256	15.7	1,233	8.6	677	4.7	290	2.0	10	0.1	14,372	100.0
Washington	255	1.4	6,553	36.0	5,887	32.4	2,971	16.3	1,405	7.7	789	4.3	313	1.7	12	0.1	18,185	100.0
Total	8,630	1.5	177,196	30.9	180,735	31.5	102,917	17.9	57,046	9.9	30,689	5.3	11,873	2.1	5,073	0.9	574,159	100.0

<sup>1</sup>Based on distribution of data from special health department sample of total abortions reported, April-December

<sup>2</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 85% of total abortions

<sup>3</sup>July-December

<sup>4</sup>Based on distribution of data from state health department, partial year reporting

<sup>5</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 80% of total abortions

<sup>6</sup>April-December

\*All states with data available (33)

Table 7

LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY AGE,\* SELECTED STATES, 1974

State	< 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	≥ 40	Total
Alaska <sup>1</sup>	1,909	338	112	86	129	129	205	146
Arkansas <sup>1</sup>	235	71	38	32	56	80	110	50
California <sup>2</sup>	2,641	884	396	271	330	516	685	447
Colorado	1,750	432	227	125	154	326	496	231
Connecticut <sup>3</sup>	1,395	599	244	153	176	306	514	255
Dist. of Col. <sup>3</sup>	1,437	1,190	1,159	991	903	1,200	1,754	1,115
Georgia <sup>2</sup>	635	347	245	194	233	359	414	265
Hawaii	1,462	440	269	172	206	419	898	269
Illinois	379	287	195	127	176	300	520	197
Indiana <sup>3</sup>	539	127	54	48	67	103	141	72
Kansas	3,216	721	230	141	210	414	764	311
Kentucky <sup>3</sup>	1,031	159	80	59	53	67	74	93
Louisiana	75	39	25	18	25	26	69	28
Maryland <sup>2</sup>	1,878	628	266	148	191	357	596	301
Minnesota <sup>2</sup>	1,644	412	167	65	82	158	299	158
Mississippi <sup>2</sup>	7	3	3	2	4	6	9	3
Missouri	569	167	107	72	100	177	284	115
Montana	875	262	93	59	100	185	413	118
Nebraska	1,326	340	112	49	89	176	275	131
Nevada	2,029	277	171	112	144	289	471	185
New Hampshire	846	151	47	27	41	79	157	58
New York	2,749	1,308	659	416	553	917	1,566	675
(City)	(3,458)	(1,859)	(1,116)	(797)	(970)	(1,394)	(2,274)	(1,138)
(Upstate)	(1,827)	(788)	(291)	(143)	(221)	(458)	(928)	(306)
N. Carolina	772	279	161	126	192	310	552	195
Oregon	1,955	598	222	145	207	431	889	271
Pennsylvania <sup>2</sup>	1,549	509	245	131	189	306	490	258
Rhode Island <sup>2</sup>	1,172	488	211	143	215	373	571	245
S. Carolina <sup>2</sup>	245	102	73	54	82	107	165	80
S. Dakota	619	312	142	54	98	108	272	143
Tennessee <sup>3</sup>	389	175	94	69	95	108	153	110
Utah	435	115	48	32	34	50	82	51
Vermont	1,417	582	266	150	214	382	458	281
Virginia	1,068	384	192	113	146	266	492	210
Washington <sup>2</sup>	2,576	849	327	200	266	551	948	381
Total	1,156	491	263	184	244	389	585	292

<sup>1</sup>Live births are based on 1972 distribution of live births by age of mother from central health agency.

<sup>2</sup>Live births are based on 1973 distribution of live births by age of mother from central health agency.

<sup>3</sup>Live births are based on 1970 distribution of live births by age of mother from Vital Statistics of the United States, 1970, Volume I - Natality.

\*Calculated as the number of legal abortions for women of a given age group per 1,000 live births to women of the same age group. For sources of data see Table 6 for abortions by age and Table 2 for total 1974 live births. ("Unknown" age for each state is redistributed according to known age distribution of that state.) Live births by age of mother are from central health agencies unless otherwise noted.





Table 8

REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY RACE AND  
STATE OF OCCURRENCE, SELECTED STATES,\* 1974

	White		Black & Other		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	776	75.7	238	23.2	11	1.1	1,025	100.0
Arkansas	1,346	79.5	348	20.5	0	0.0	1,694	100.0
California	99,242	73.1	28,917	21.3	7,603	5.6	135,762	100.0
Colorado	7,498	83.1	673	7.5	856	9.5	9,027	100.0
Dist. of Col.	9,295	41.0	11,866	52.3	1,527	6.7	22,688	100.0
Georgia	14,466	65.7	7,535	34.2	8	0.0	22,009	100.0
Hawaii	1,464	35.2	2,677	64.4	17	0.4	4,158	100.0
Illinois	19,816	59.4	11,684	35.0	1,870	5.6	33,370	100.0
Indiana	4,909	81.4	952	15.8	168	2.8	6,029	100.0
Kansas	8,092	79.6	1,644	16.2	435	4.3	10,171	100.0
Louisiana <sup>1</sup>	530	54.4	396	40.7	48	4.9	974	100.0
Maryland	8,885	55.6	7,005	43.8	85	0.5	15,975	100.0
Minnesota <sup>2</sup>	8,215	94.1	386	4.4	131	1.5	8,732	100.0
Mississippi	110	78.6	30	21.4	0	0.0	140	100.0
Missouri <sup>3</sup>	5,675	71.1	2,308	28.9	0	0.0	7,983	100.0
Nebraska	2,736	88.4	277	9.0	81	2.6	3,094	100.0
Nevada	1,186	73.5	294	18.2	134	8.3	1,614	100.0
New Hampshire	133	19.9	2	0.3	533	79.8	668	100.0
New York	105,057	65.0	55,654	34.5	810	0.5	161,521	100.0
(City)	(71,753)	(59.4)	(49,076)	(40.6)	(0)	(0.0)	(120,829)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(33,304)	(81.8)	(6,578)	(16.2)	(810)	(2.0)	(40,692)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	10,949	66.5	5,364	32.6	150	0.9	16,463	100.0
Oregon	7,480	85.1	452	5.1	862	9.8	8,794	100.0
Rhode Island	147	5.1	45	1.6	2,675	93.3	2,867	100.0
S. Carolina	2,328	61.9	1,373	36.5	59	1.6	3,760	100.0
S. Dakota	1,477	92.3	119	7.4	5	0.3	1,601	100.0
Tennessee	5,420	73.2	1,478	20.0	508	6.9	7,406	100.0
Utah <sup>4</sup>	1,017	85.5	109	9.2	63	5.3	1,189	100.0
Vermont	1,901	98.5	25	1.3	4	0.2	1,930	100.0
Virginia	8,991	62.6	5,381	37.4	0	0.0	14,372	100.0
Total	339,141	67.2	147,232	29.2	18,643	3.7	505,016	100.0

<sup>1</sup>July-December

<sup>2</sup>Based on distribution of data from state health department, partial year reporting

<sup>3</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 80% of total abortions

<sup>4</sup>April-December

\*All states with data available (28)

Table 9

LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY RACE\*  
SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1974

State	White Ratio	Black & Other Ratio	White/Black & Other Ratio
Alaska <sup>1</sup>	151	133	1.1
Arkansas <sup>1</sup>	53	42	1.3
California <sup>2</sup>	408	668	0.6
Colorado	226	309	0.7
Dist. of Col. <sup>3</sup>	3,635	723	5.0
Georgia	268	260	1.0
Hawaii	269	269	1.0
Illinois	160	328	0.5
Indiana <sup>1</sup>	68	112	0.6
Kansas	281	655	0.4
Louisiana	26	30	0.9
Maryland	230	497	0.5
Minnesota <sup>2</sup>	158	208	0.8
Mississippi	5	1	5.0
Missouri	98	203	0.5
Nebraska	128	163	0.8
Nevada	176	232	0.8
New York	560	1,113	0.5
(City)	(1,046)	(1,304)	(0.8)
(Upstate)	(283)	(538)	(0.5)
N. Carolina	191	205	0.9
Oregon	269	298	0.9
S. Carolina <sup>2</sup>	82	76	1.1
S. Dakota	152	83	1.8
Tennessee <sup>1</sup>	110	109	1.0
Utah	48	171	0.3
Vermont	279	581	0.5
Virginia	174	324	0.5
Total	270	421	0.6

<sup>1</sup>Live births are based on 1972 distribution of live births by race of mother from central health agency.

<sup>2</sup>Live births are based on 1973 distribution of live births by race of mother from central health agency.

<sup>3</sup>Live births are based on 1970 distribution of live births by race of mother from Vital Statistics of the United States, 1970, Volume I-Natality.

\*Calculated as the number of legal abortions for women of a given race per 1,000 live births to women of the same race. For sources of data see Table 8 for abortions by race and Table 2 for total 1974 live births. ("Unknown" race for each state is redistributed according to known race distribution of that state.) Live births by race of mother are from central health agencies unless otherwise noted.

\*\*Excludes all states reporting more than 15% of abortions as race "unknown"



Table 10

REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY MARITAL STATUS  
AND STATE OF OCCURRENCE, SELECTED STATES,\* 1974

State	Married		Unmarried <sup>1</sup>		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	279	27.2	729	71.1	17	1.7	1,025	100.0
Arkansas	522	30.8	1,172	69.2	0	0.0	1,694	100.0
California	32,854	24.2	97,206	71.6	5,702	4.2	135,762	100.0
Colorado	2,560	28.4	6,207	68.8	260	2.9	9,027	100.0
Dist. of Col.	4,346	19.2	15,674	69.1	2,668	11.8	22,688	100.0
Georgia <sup>2</sup>	3,704	16.8	17,998	81.8	307	1.4	22,009	100.0
Hawaii	1,606	38.6	2,552	61.4	0	0.0	4,158	100.0
Illinois	9,373	28.1	23,067	69.1	930	2.8	33,370	100.0
Indiana	1,735	28.8	4,167	69.1	127	2.1	6,029	100.0
Kansas	2,167	21.3	7,982	78.5	22	0.2	10,171	100.0
Kentucky <sup>3</sup>	918	18.2	3,413	67.8	702	13.9	5,033	100.0
Louisiana <sup>4</sup>	113	11.6	292	30.0	569	58.4	974	100.0
Maryland	3,792	23.7	12,025	75.3	158	1.0	15,975	100.0
Minnesota <sup>5</sup>	1,550	17.8	7,160	82.0	22	0.3	8,732	100.0
Mississippi <sup>2</sup>	64	45.7	76	54.3	0	0.0	140	100.0
Missouri <sup>6</sup>	2,108	26.4	5,875	73.6	0	0.0	7,983	100.0
Montana <sup>4</sup>	199	27.2	531	72.5	2	0.3	732	100.0
Nebraska	616	19.9	2,475	80.0	3	0.1	3,094	100.0
Nevada	379	23.5	1,070	66.3	165	10.2	1,614	100.0
New Hampshire	207	31.0	404	60.5	57	8.5	668	100.0
New York	51,588	31.9	109,933	68.1	0	0.0	161,521	100.0
(City)	(39,411)	(32.6)	(81,418)	(67.4)	(0)	(0.0)	(120,829)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(12,177)	(29.9)	(28,515)	(70.1)	(0)	(0.0)	(40,692)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	5,208	31.6	11,087	67.3	168	1.0	16,463	100.0
Oregon	1,993	22.7	6,296	71.6	505	5.7	8,794	100.0
S. Carolina	916	24.4	2,790	74.2	54	1.4	3,760	100.0
S. Dakota	318	19.9	1,276	79.7	7	0.4	1,601	100.0
Tennessee	1,897	25.6	5,324	71.9	185	2.5	7,406	100.0
Utah <sup>7</sup>	264	22.2	924	77.7	1	0.1	1,189	100.0
Vermont	418	21.7	1,490	77.2	22	1.1	1,930	100.0
Virginia	3,895	27.1	10,477	72.9	0	0.0	14,372	100.0
Washington	4,892	26.9	13,232	72.8	61	0.3	18,185	100.0
Total	140,481	26.7	372,904	70.9	12,714	2.4	526,099	100.0

<sup>1</sup>Includes widowed, separated, divorced, and never married

<sup>2</sup>Legitimate and illegitimate

<sup>3</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 85% of total abortions

<sup>4</sup>July-December

<sup>5</sup>Based on distribution of data from state health department, partial year reporting

<sup>6</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 80% of total abortions

<sup>7</sup>April-December

\*All states with data available (30)

Table 11

PERCENT OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS PERFORMED ON MARRIED WOMEN\*  
BY STATE OF OCCURRENCE, 1972-1974\*\*

State	1972 <sup>1</sup>	1973 <sup>1</sup>	1974 <sup>2</sup>
Alaska	35.4	29.6	27.7
Arkansas	32.3	32.5	30.8
California	26.9	25.3	25.3
Colorado	26.6	29.8	29.2
Georgia	34.9	25.7	17.1
Hawaii	37.5	37.3	38.6
Kansas	25.2	21.1	21.4
Maryland	29.6	28.3	24.0
Mississippi	55.7	54.2	45.7
New York	31.1	31.9	31.9
(City)	(27.9)	(30.3)	(32.6)
(Upstate)	(40.5)	(34.4)	(29.9)
N. Carolina	34.7	35.0	32.0
Oregon	23.7	25.0	24.0
S. Carolina	40.5	30.4	24.7
Vermont	30.1	23.8	21.9
Virginia	34.0	28.7	27.1
Washington	26.6	26.5	27.0
Total	29.7	28.5	27.9

<sup>1</sup>Source: 1973 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 10

<sup>2</sup>Source: 1974 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 10

\*Percent based on total number with marital status known

\*\*Includes only states with data available for all 3 years (16)



Table 12

LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY MARITAL STATUS\*  
SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1974

State	Married	Unmarried	Total
Alaska <sup>1</sup>	45	1,142	146
Arkansas <sup>2</sup>	18	241	50
California <sup>3</sup>	129	2,659	447
Colorado <sup>4</sup>	75	1,638	231
Dist. of Col. <sup>1</sup>	390	2,304	1,115
Georgia <sup>4</sup>	52	1,628	265
Hawaii	115	1,736	269
Illinois	68	887	197
Indiana <sup>1</sup>	23	629	72
Kansas	73	2,790	311
Kentucky <sup>4</sup>	22	679	93
Maryland <sup>4</sup>	87	1,353	301
Minnesota <sup>4</sup>	31	1,505	158
Mississippi <sup>3</sup>	2	9	3
Missouri	35	599	115
Montana	36	909	118
Nebraska	28	1,254	131
Nevada	55	1,127	185
New Hampshire	21	550	58
New York	249	3,462	675
(City)	(460)	(3,950)	(1,138)
(Upstate)	(100)	(2,559)	(306)
N. Carolina	73	885	195
Oregon	72	2,239	271
S. Carolina <sup>4</sup>	24	334	80
S. Dakota	32	1,071	143
Tennessee <sup>1</sup>	33	654	110
Utah	12	848	51
Vermont	68	2,333	281
Virginia	66	1,079	210
Washington <sup>4</sup>	113	3,062	381
Total	95	1,675	302

<sup>1</sup>Live births are based on 1970 distribution of live births by legitimacy from Vital Statistics of the United States, 1970, Volume I - Natality.

<sup>2</sup>Live births are based on 1972 distribution of live births by legitimacy from central health agency.

<sup>3</sup>Live births are based on 1970 distribution of live births by legitimacy from central health agency.

<sup>4</sup>Live births are based on 1973 distribution of live births by legitimacy from central health agency.

\*Calculated as the number of legal abortions for women of a given marital status per 1,000 live births of the corresponding legitimacy status. For sources of data see Table 10 for abortions by marital status and Table 2 for total 1974 live births. ("Unknown" marital status for each state is redistributed according to known marital status distribution of that state.) Live births by legitimacy are from central health agencies unless otherwise noted.

\*\*Excludes all states reporting more than 15% of abortions as marital status "unknown"

Table 13

REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN  
AND STATE OF OCCURRENCE, SELECTED STATES,\* 1974

State	0		1		2		3		4		≥ 5		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	618	60.3	173	16.9	113	11.0	69	6.7	14	1.4	30	2.9	8	0.8	1,025	100.0
California <sup>1</sup>	54,685	40.3	29,623	21.8	20,039	14.8	12,395	9.1	6,625	4.9	7,087	5.2	5,308	3.9	135,762	100.0
Colorado	5,046	55.9	1,408	15.6	1,038	11.5	484	5.4	239	2.6	164	1.8	648	7.2	9,027	100.0
Georgia	9,572	43.5	3,416	15.5	2,736	12.4	1,231	5.6	485	2.2	414	1.9	4,155	18.9	22,009	100.0
Illinois	15,668	47.0	6,227	18.7	5,203	15.6	2,982	8.9	1,560	4.7	1,378	4.1	352	1.1	33,370	100.0
Indiana <sup>2</sup>	3,235	53.7	923	15.3	908	15.1	452	7.5	210	3.5	301	5.0	0	0.0	6,029	100.0
Kansas	6,239	61.3	1,458	14.3	1,192	11.7	653	6.4	299	2.9	237	2.3	93	0.9	10,171	100.0
Maryland	8,446	52.9	3,258	20.4	2,328	14.6	1,075	6.7	473	3.0	381	2.4	14	0.1	15,975	100.0
Mississippi	67	47.9	20	14.3	20	14.3	10	7.1	7	5.0	10	7.1	6	4.3	140	100.0
Montana <sup>3</sup>	419	57.2	108	14.8	96	13.1	51	7.0	24	3.3	18	2.5	16	2.2	732	100.0
Nebraska <sup>2</sup>	1,994	64.4	378	12.2	333	10.8	186	6.0	106	3.4	97	3.1	0	0.0	3,094	100.0
Nevada	936	58.0	244	15.1	216	13.4	111	6.9	59	3.7	48	3.0	0	0.0	1,614	100.0
New Hampshire	155	28.2	71	10.6	16	2.4	34	5.1	16	2.4	13	1.9	363	54.3	668	100.0
New York	75,068	46.5	30,256	18.7	23,868	14.8	15,035	9.3	8,417	5.2	8,266	5.1	611	0.4	161,521	100.0
(City) <sup>1</sup>	(50,370)	(41.7)	(25,373)	(21.0)	(18,884)	(15.6)	(11,848)	(9.8)	(6,778)	(5.6)	(6,966)	(5.8)	(610)	(0.5)	(120,829)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(24,698)	(60.7)	(4,883)	(12.0)	(4,984)	(12.2)	(3,187)	(7.8)	(1,639)	(4.0)	(1,300)	(3.2)	(1)	(0.0)	(40,692)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	8,325	50.6	2,800	17.0	2,391	14.5	1,257	7.6	502	3.0	410	2.5	778	4.7	16,463	100.0
Oregon	4,595	52.3	1,186	13.5	957	10.9	465	5.3	--	--	332 <sup>4</sup>	3.8	1,259	14.3	8,794	100.0
Rhode Island <sup>2</sup>	1,383	48.2	482	16.8	464	16.2	241	8.4	115	4.0	110	3.8	72	2.5	2,867	100.0
S. Carolina	2,091	55.6	627	16.7	495	13.2	301	8.0	113	3.0	93	2.5	40	1.1	3,760	100.0
Tennessee	3,664	48.5	1,291	17.4	1,017	13.7	450	6.1	183	2.5	149	2.0	652	8.8	7,406	100.0
Utah <sup>5</sup>	386	32.5	181	15.2	137	11.5	82	6.9	48	4.0	32	2.7	323	27.2	1,189	100.0
Vermont	1,360	70.5	192	9.9	193	10.0	93	4.8	46	2.4	38	2.0	8	0.4	1,930	100.0
Virginia	7,672	53.4	2,355	16.4	1,872	13.0	909	6.3	413	2.9	368	2.6	783	5.4	14,372	100.0
Total	211,624	46.2	86,677	18.9	65,632	14.3	38,566	8.4	19,954	4.4	19,976	4.4	15,489	3.4	457,918	100.0

<sup>1</sup>Number of previous pregnancies

<sup>2</sup>Number of previous live births

<sup>3</sup>July-December

<sup>4</sup>Reported as ≥ 4

<sup>5</sup>April-December

\*All states with data available (22)



Table 14

LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY NUMBER OF PREVIOUS  
LIVE BIRTHS,\* SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1974

State	0	1	2	3	4	≥ 5	Total
Alaska <sup>1</sup>	212	82	123	157	59	90	146
California <sup>2</sup>	439	329	508	689	768	651	447
Colorado	303	124	229	278	334	231	231
Illinois	250	126	200	228	226	147	197
Indiana <sup>3</sup>	105	40	69	64	57	68	72
Kansas <sup>1</sup>	490	157	247	269	205	144	311
Maryland <sup>2</sup>	357	196	329	358	368	279	301
Mississippi <sup>1</sup>	4	2	4	3	4	3	3
Montana	170	54	123	145	145	101	118
Nebraska	201	50	99	128	164	132	131
Nevada <sup>3</sup>	275	101	158	146	160	121	185
New York	754	414	701	1,019	1,253	1,200	675
(City)	(1,035)	(824)	(1,352)	(1,911)	(2,308)	(2,267)	(1,138)
(Upstate)	(485)	(115)	(248)	(372)	(432)	(340)	(306)
N. Carolina	250	116	204	231	193	139	195
Oregon	431	132	226	235	--	165	271
Rhode Island <sup>2</sup>	282	138	298	360	314	302	245
S. Carolina <sup>3</sup>	109	51	73	85	60	33	80
Tennessee <sup>3</sup>	144	76	113	100	85	46	110
Vermont	485	84	192	237	284	238	281
Virginia	262	115	220	267	285	241	210
Total	377	214	340	431	470	362	327

<sup>1</sup>Live births are based on 1972 distribution of live births by live birth order from central health agency.

<sup>2</sup>Live births are based on 1973 distribution of live births by live birth order from central health agency.

<sup>3</sup>Live births are based on 1970 distribution of live births by live birth order from Vital Statistics of the United States, 1970, Volume I - Natality.

\*Calculated as the number of legal abortions to women with X number of living children per 1,000 live births to women with X number of previous live births. For sources of data see Table 13 for abortions by number of living children and Table 2 for total 1974 live births. ("Unknown" number of living children for each state is redistributed according to distribution of known.)

\*\*Excludes all states reporting more than 15% of abortions as number of living children "unknown"

Table 15

REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE AND STATE OF OCCURRENCE  
SELECTED STATES,\* 1974

State	Suction Curettage		Sharp Curettage		Intrauterine Saline Instillation		Intrauterine Prostaglandin Instillation		Hysterotomy		Hysterectomy		Other <sup>1</sup>		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	793	77.4	165	16.1	61	6.0	--	--	1	0.1	3	0.3	1	0.1	1	0.1	1,025	100.0
California	83,358	61.4	37,334	27.5	10,726	7.9	--	--	407	0.3	543	0.4	3,258	2.4	136	0.1	135,762	100.0
Colorado	7,071	78.3	592	6.6	968	10.7	--	--	12	0.1	148	1.6	154	1.7	82	0.9	9,027	100.0
Connecticut <sup>2</sup>	6,115	86.3	212	3.0	153	2.2	--	--	24	0.3	0	0.0	449	6.3	130	1.8	7,083	100.0
Dist. of Col.	17,529	77.3	3,549	15.6	815	3.6	--	--	72	0.3	6	0.0	120	0.5	597	2.6	22,688	100.0
Hawaii	3,588	86.3	247	5.9	73	1.8	215	5.2	4	0.1	13	0.3	2	0.0	16	0.4	4,158	100.0
Illinois	30,858	92.5	1,015	3.0	343	1.0	--	--	89	0.3	40	0.1	382	1.1	643	1.9	33,370	100.0
Indiana	5,518	91.5	398	6.6	23	0.4	--	--	+	+	433	0.7	47	0.8	0	0.0	6,029	100.0
Kansas	7,366	72.4	1,681	16.5	1,024	10.1	--	--	10	0.1	74	0.7	12	0.1	4	0.0	10,171	100.0
Kentucky <sup>4</sup>	4,572	90.8	235	4.7	226	4.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5,033	100.0
Louisiana <sup>5</sup>	961	98.7	7	0.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	0.2	--	--	4	0.4	974	100.0
Maryland	13,194	82.6	275	1.7	1,399	8.8	111	0.7	93	0.6	101	0.6	795	5.0	7	0.0	15,975	100.0
Massachusetts <sup>6</sup>	21,221	76.3	3,729	13.4	927	3.3	478	1.7	21	0.1	30	0.1	1,123	4.0	271	1.0	27,800	100.0
Minnesota <sup>7</sup>	8,090	92.6	6	0.1	560	6.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	76	0.9	0	0.0	8,732	100.0
Mississippi	5	3.6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	135	96.4	140	100.0
Montana <sup>8</sup>	710	97.0	8	1.1	7	1.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.1	5	0.7	0	0.0	732	100.0
Nebraska	2,303	74.4	450	14.5	330	10.7	--	--	3	0.1	6	0.2	2	0.1	0	0.0	3,094	100.0
Nevada	1,416	87.7	66	4.1	55	3.4	0	0.0	27	1.7	33	2.0	0	0.0	17	1.1	1,614	100.0
New Hampshire	630	94.3	35	5.2	1	0.1	--	--	1	0.1	--	--	1	0.1	0	0.0	668	100.0
New York	125,289	77.6	13,883	8.6	18,775	11.6	--	--	457	0.3	107	0.1	1,017	0.6	1,993	1.2	161,521	100.0
(City)	(93,734)	(77.6)	(11,729)	(9.7)	(14,221)	(11.8)	--	--	(299)	(0.2)	(56)	(0.0)	(790)	(0.7)	(0)	(0.0)	(120,829)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(31,555)	(77.5)	(2,154)	(5.3)	(4,554)	(11.2)	--	--	(158)	(0.4)	(51)	(0.1)	(227)	(0.6)	(1,993)	(4.9)	(40,692)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	12,761	77.5	1,457	8.9	1,363	8.3	352	2.1	197	1.2	279	1.7	11	0.1	43	0.3	16,463	100.0
Oregon	7,756	88.2	245	2.8	571	6.5	--	--	26	0.3	80	0.9	91	1.0	25	0.3	8,794	100.0
Pennsylvania <sup>7</sup>	33,386	87.6	1,027	2.7	2,833	7.4	--	--	109	0.3	84	0.2	632	1.7	39	0.1	38,110	100.0
S. Carolina	3,475	92.4	152	4.0	40	1.1	--	--	8	0.2	44	1.2	15	0.4	26	0.7	3,760	100.0
S. Dakota	1,401	87.5	14	0.9	171	10.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	0.1	14	0.9	1,601	100.0
Tennessee	6,946	93.8	53	0.7	132	1.8	116	1.6	11	0.1	50	0.7	--	--	98	1.3	7,406	100.0
Utah <sup>8</sup>	1,106	98.0	4	0.3	59	5.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	1.7	1,189	100.0
Vermont	1,158	60.0	49	2.5	5	0.3	--	--	1	0.1	--	--	716	37.1	1	0.1	1,930	100.0
Washington	16,611	91.3	332	1.8	1,029	5.7	137	0.8	+	+	463	0.3	19	0.1	11	0.1	18,185	100.0
Total	425,187	76.9	67,220	12.2	42,669	7.7	1,409	0.3	+	+	3,307 <sup>3</sup>	0.6	8,929	1.6	4,313	0.8	553,034	100.0

<sup>1</sup>States not reporting Intrauterine Prostaglandin Instillation as a specific category report Intrauterine Prostaglandin Instillation in Other category

<sup>2</sup>Based on distribution of data from special health department sample of total abortions reported, April-December

<sup>3</sup>Hysterotomy and Hysterectomy

<sup>4</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 85% of total abortions

<sup>5</sup>July-December

<sup>6</sup>Based on distribution of data from state health department representing approximately 70% of total abortions

<sup>7</sup>Based on distribution of data from state health department, partial year reporting

<sup>8</sup>April-December

---Not reported

\*All states with data available (29)

Table 16  
REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY WEEKS OF GESTATION\*  
AND STATE OF OCCURRENCE, SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1974

State	≤ 8	9-10	11-12	13-15	16-20	21+	Unknown	Total
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Alaska	285	342 <sup>1</sup>	188 <sup>1</sup>	72 <sup>1</sup>	51 <sup>1</sup>	6	81	1,025
Arkansas	787	528 <sup>1</sup>	291 <sup>1</sup>	53 <sup>1</sup>	34 <sup>1</sup>	1	0	1,694
California	47,109	38,556	23,622	11,676	8,554	1,358	4,887	135,762
Colorado	2,317	2,732	1,691	982	848	187	270	9,027
Connecticut <sup>2</sup>	3,103 <sup>1</sup>	2,028 <sup>1</sup>	1,087 <sup>1</sup>	409 <sup>1</sup>	381 <sup>1</sup>	54	24	7,083
Dist. of Col.	13,084 <sup>1</sup>	5,117 <sup>1</sup>	1,978 <sup>1</sup>	300	462 <sup>1</sup>	14 <sup>1</sup>	1,733	22,688
Georgia	9,834	6,294	3,715	240	1,142	65	719	22,009
Hawaii	1,492	1,251	735	377	218	45	40	4,158
Illinois	21,894	7,265	2,777	138	670	69	557	33,370
Indiana	3,311 <sup>1</sup>	1,931 <sup>1</sup>	1,046 <sup>1</sup>	98 <sup>1</sup>	41 <sup>1</sup>	21	0	6,029
Kansas	3,780	2,721	1,740	946	851	82	51	10,171
Kentucky <sup>3</sup>	1,593	2,721	1,390	464	226	0	0	5,033
Louisiana <sup>4</sup>	716	201	29	1	2	--	25	974
Maryland	6,188	4,571 <sup>1</sup>	2,517 <sup>1</sup>	690 <sup>1</sup>	1,653 <sup>1</sup>	352	4	15,975
Minnesota <sup>5</sup>	5,974	1,839	17	81	566	0	0	8,732
Mississippi	46	49	35	16	3	1	8	140
Missouri <sup>6</sup>	2,113	3,118	2,391	172 <sup>1</sup>	167 <sup>1</sup>	221	0	7,983
Montana <sup>4</sup>	285	221	84	16	5	3	118	732
Nebraska	512	1,391	674	136	274	1	106	3,094
Nevada	1,111	250	132	36	65	5	15	1,614
New Hampshire	175	291	168	9	6	1	18	668
New York	63,687	42,726	23,531	9,296	13,259	4,142	4,880	161,521
(City)	(47,757) <sup>1</sup>	(32,039) <sup>1</sup>	(17,645) <sup>1</sup>	(6,726)	(9,739)	(3,559)	(3,364)	(120,829)
(Upstate)	(15,930) <sup>1</sup>	(10,687) <sup>1</sup>	(5,886) <sup>1</sup>	(2,570)	(3,520) <sup>1</sup>	(583) <sup>1</sup>	(1,516)	(40,692)
N. Carolina	5,456	4,715	2,624	1,158	1,163	179	1,168	16,463
Oregon	3,083	3,080	2,358	305 <sup>1</sup>	537 <sup>1</sup>	65	366	8,794
Pennsylvania <sup>5</sup>	14,977	13,102	5,810	1,649	2,394	64	114	38,110
S. Carolina	1,436	1,122	680	201	62	9	250	3,760
S. Dakota	701	389	261	80	134	22	14	1,601
Tennessee	2,227	2,575	1,507	430	163	30	474	7,406
Utah <sup>7</sup>	458	377	256	20	52	0	26	1,189
Vermont	925	596	370	30	8	0	1	1,930
Virginia	6,742	4,018	1,686	205	1,481	70	170	14,372
Washington	11,105	4,592	1,184	387	758	71	88	18,185
Total	236,506	159,348	85,411	30,673	36,230	6,917	16,207	571,292

<sup>1</sup>Reallocation of reported abortions into comparable categories based on percentage distribution of abortions by single weeks of gestation reported from 18 states

<sup>2</sup>Based on distribution of data from special health department sample of total abortions reported, April-December

<sup>3</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 85% of total abortions

<sup>4</sup>July-December

<sup>5</sup>Based on distribution of data from state health department, partial year reporting

<sup>6</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 80% of total abortions

<sup>7</sup>April-December

--Not reported

\*Weeks from last menstrual period

\*\*All states with data available (32)

Table 17

PERCENT OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS LESS THAN 13  
WEEKS OF GESTATION,\* SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1972-1974

State	1972 <sup>1</sup>	1973 <sup>1</sup>	1974 <sup>2</sup>
Alaska	78.4	79.5	86.3
Arkansas	89.5	87.2	94.8
California	82.7	82.3	83.5
Colorado	59.1	71.0	77.0
Dist. of Col.	96.7	96.5	96.3
Georgia	68.4	89.7	93.2
Hawaii	84.4	85.1	84.5
Kansas	89.1	82.7	81.4
Maryland	67.9	74.9	83.1
Mississippi	75.9	76.7	84.8
New York	82.6	81.1	83.0
(City)	(82.7)	(80.1)	(83.0)
(Upstate)	(82.4)	(83.8)	(83.0)
N. Carolina	71.7	74.3	83.7
Oregon	81.3	87.7	89.2
S. Carolina	85.6	91.3	92.3
Virginia	63.5	77.1	87.6
Washington	95.3	94.6	93.3
Total	83.1	82.9	85.0

<sup>1</sup>Source: 1973 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 16

<sup>2</sup>Source: 1974 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 16

\*Percent based on total number with menstrual weeks of gestation known

\*\*Includes only states with data available for all 3 years (16)



Table 18

REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE  
AND WEEKS OF GESTATION,\* 1974

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation														Total	
	≤ 8		9-10		11-12		13-15		16-20		≥ 21		Unknown		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Suction curettage	68,735	93.2	40,468	93.4	19,726	92.2	3,807	55.7	807	8.5	125	8.8	3,223	71.1	136,891	85.1
Sharp curettage	2,852	3.9	1,784	4.1	871	4.1	555	8.1	240	2.5	35	2.5	222	4.9	6,559	4.1
Intrauterine saline instillation	199	0.3	148	0.3	190	0.9	1,727	25.3	6,742	70.6	979	68.7	380	8.4	10,365	6.4
Intrauterine prostaglandin instillation	88	0.1	32	0.1	40	0.2	166	2.4	396	4.1	54	3.8	56	1.2	832	0.5
Hysterotomy	97	0.1	58	0.1	47	0.2	178	2.6	172	1.8	21	1.5	37	0.8	610	0.4
Hysterectomy	186	0.3	139	0.3	109	0.5	112	1.6	102	1.1	7	0.5	45	1.0	700	0.4
Other	480	0.7	100	0.2	79	0.4	178	2.6	900	9.4	168	11.8	67	1.5	1,972	1.2
Unknown	1,114	1.5	592	1.4	332	1.6	109	1.6	191	2.0	37	2.6	505	11.1	2,880	1.8
Total	73,751	100.0	43,321	100.0	21,394	100.0	6,832	100.0	9,550	100.0	1,426	100.0	4,535	100.0	160,809	100.0

\*Based on data from 17 states

Table 19

NUMBER OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY  
NUMBER OF PREVIOUS INDUCED ABORTIONS, SELECTED STATES,\* 1974

State	0		1		2		≥ 3		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	838	81.8	141	13.8	26	2.5	10	1.0	10	1.0	1,025	100.0
Dist. of Col.	14,974	66.0	3,701	16.3	747	3.3	230	1.0	3,036	13.4	22,688	100.0
Illinois	28,147	84.3	3,906	11.7	520	1.6	152	0.5	645	1.9	33,370	100.0
Indiana	5,373	89.1	417	6.9	32	0.5	9	0.1	198	3.3	6,029	100.0
Kansas	9,252	91.0	686	6.7	50	0.5	15	0.1	168	1.7	10,171	100.0
Kentucky <sup>1</sup>	4,562	90.6	427	8.5	30	0.6	10	0.2	4	0.1	5,033	100.0
Maryland	13,799	86.4	1,864	11.7	250	1.6	47	0.3	15	0.1	15,975	100.0
Minnesota	7,862	90.0	746 <sup>2</sup>	8.5	97 <sup>2</sup>	1.1	27 <sup>2</sup>	0.3	0	0.0	8,732	100.0
Missouri <sup>3</sup>	7,159	89.7	750	9.4	55	0.7	19	0.2	0	0.0	7,983	100.0
Montana <sup>4</sup>	646	88.3	49	6.7	2	0.3	--	--	35	4.8	732	100.0
Nebraska	2,991	96.7	91	2.9	7	0.2	5	0.2	0	0.0	3,094	100.0
Nevada	1,333	82.6	239	14.8	28	1.7	14	0.9	0	0.0	1,614	100.0
New Hampshire	45	6.7	33	4.9	4	0.6	1	0.1	585	87.6	668	100.0
New York Upstate	20,049	49.3	3,209	7.9	333	0.8	75	0.2	17,026	41.8	40,692	100.0
N. Carolina	14,406	87.5	1,043	6.3	79	0.5	31	0.2	904	5.5	16,463	100.0
Oregon	5,921	67.3	955	10.9	116	1.3	22	0.3	1,780	20.2	8,794	100.0
Rhode Island	2,535	88.4	218	7.6	26	0.9	2	0.1	86	3.0	2,867	100.0
Tennessee	5,859	79.1	542	7.3	63	0.9	21	0.3	921	12.4	7,406	100.0
Utah <sup>5</sup>	614	51.6	112	9.4	12	1.0	4	0.3	447	37.6	1,189	100.0
Total	146,365	75.2	19,129	9.8	2,477	1.3	694	0.4	25,860	13.3	194,525	100.0

<sup>1</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 85% of total abortions

<sup>2</sup>Reallocation of reported abortions into comparable categories based on percentage distribution of previous induced abortions from 18 states

<sup>3</sup>Based on distribution of data from 1 facility reporting approximately 80% of total abortions

<sup>4</sup>July-December

<sup>5</sup>April-December

--Not reported

\*All states with data available (19)



TABLE 20

DEATH-TO-CASE RATE FOR LEGAL ABORTIONS BY WEEKS OF GESTATION  
UNITED STATES, 1972-1974

Weeks of Gestation (Weeks from LMP)	1974			1972-1974			
	Deaths	Cases <sup>1</sup>	Rate <sup>2</sup>	Deaths	Cases <sup>3</sup>	Rate <sup>2</sup>	RR <sup>4</sup>
≤ 8	1	325,379	0.3	3	747,550	0.4	1.0
9-10	5	219,133	2.3	13	581,002	2.2	5.5
11-12	3	117,388	2.6	12	330,537	3.6	9.0
13-15	5	42,242	11.8	12	129,536	9.3	23.2
16-20	7	49,820	14.1	28	147,160	19.0	47.5
≥ 21	3	9,514	31.5	6	30,282	19.8	49.5
TOTAL	24	763,476	3.1	74	1,966,067	3.8	

<sup>1</sup>Based on distribution of 555,085 abortions (72.7% of total) in which weeks of gestation was known

<sup>2</sup>Deaths per 100,000 abortions

<sup>3</sup>Based on distribution of 1,459,495 abortions (74.2% of total) in which weeks of gestation was known

<sup>4</sup>Relative risk based on index rate for ≤ 8 menstrual weeks' gestation of 0.4 per 100,000 abortions

TABLE 21

DEATH-TO-CASE RATE FOR LEGAL ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE  
UNITED STATES, 1972-1974

Procedure	1974			1972-1974			
	Deaths	Cases <sup>1</sup>	Rate <sup>2</sup>	Deaths	Cases <sup>3</sup>	Rate <sup>2</sup>	RR <sup>4</sup>
Curettage	15	685,123	2.2	35	1,748,558	2.0	1.0
Suction	10	591,594	1.7	26	1,436,120	1.8	0.9
Sharp	5	93,529	5.3	9	312,438	2.9	1.4
Intrauterine instillation	9	59,368	15.2	33	183,906	17.9	9.0
Hysterotomy/ Hysterectomy	0	4,601	0.0	5	13,126	38.1	19.0
Other	0	14,384	0.0	1	20,477	4.9	2.4
TOTAL*	24	763,476	3.1	74	1,966,067	3.8	

<sup>1</sup>Based on distribution of 548,721 abortions (71.9% of total) in which the type of procedure was known

<sup>2</sup>Deaths per 100,000 abortions

<sup>3</sup>Based on distribution of 1,531,984 abortions (77.9% of total) in which the type of procedure was known

<sup>4</sup>Relative risk based on index rate for Suction/Sharp Curettage of 2.0 per 100,000 abortions

TABLE 22

LEGAL ABORTION DEATHS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE AND WEEKS OF GESTATION  
UNITED STATES, 1972-1974

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation						
	≤ 8	9-10	11-12	13-15	16-20	≥ 21	TOTAL
Curettage	3	12	12	7	0	1	35
Suction	3	11	10	2	0	0	26
Sharp	0	1	2	5	0	1	9
Intrauterine instillation	0	0	0	2	27	4	33
Hysterotomy/ Hysterectomy	0	1	0	3	1	0	5
Other	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	3	13	12	12	28	6	74



TABLE 23

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS ASSOCIATED WITH LEGAL ABORTION  
BY CAUSE, UNITED STATES, 1972-1974

	1972	1973	1974	Total	
				No.	%
TOTAL	24	26	24	74	100.0
<u>Direct Association</u>	15	17	14	46	62.2
Hemorrhage	1	2	4	7	15.2
Infection	6	7	5	18	39.1
Saline-associated <sup>1</sup>	5	6	3	14	30.4
Emboli					
Air	2	0	0	2	4.3
Amniotic fluid	1	1	1	3	6.5
Water intoxication	0	1	1	2	4.3
<u>Indirect Association</u>	9	9	10	28	37.8
Anesthesia-associated	6	2	4	12	42.9
Vascular accident	1	4	3	8	28.6
Preexisting heart disease	0	1	1	2	7.1
Suicide	0	1	0	1	3.6
Other <sup>2</sup>	2	1	2	5	17.9

<sup>1</sup>Includes acute pulmonary edema, convulsions, hypernatremia, and the disseminated intravascular coagulation syndrome

<sup>2</sup>Other deaths include hepatitis and aplastic anemia after chloramphenicol for lower abdominal pain post-abortion (1972), bacteremia caused by a contaminated intravenous bottle (1972), acute suffocation after aspiration of blood from hemorrhagic gastritis (1973), hepatitis after transfusions for hemorrhage caused by uterine perforation (1974), diabetic ketoacidosis after a post-abortion infection (1974)

TABLE 24

ILLEGAL ABORTION MORTALITY, 1972-1974,  
AGE-SPECIFIC AND RACE-SPECIFIC RATIOS

Characteristics	Illegal Abortion Deaths, 1972-1974 (1)	Live Births <sup>1</sup> 1972-1974 (2)	Mortality Ratio <sup>2</sup> (3)=(1)/(2)
<u>Age</u>			
< 15	0	37	0.0
15-19	11	1,816	6.1
20-24	22	3,383	6.5
25-29	18	2,712	6.6
30-34	5	1,118	4.5
35-39	3	386	7.8
≥ 40	4	103	38.8
<u>Race</u>			
White	19	7,782	2.4
Black and other	44	1,773	24.8
TOTAL	63	9,555	6.6

<sup>1</sup>Source: Monthly Vital Statistics Reports, National Center for Health Statistics. Numbers expressed in thousands

<sup>2</sup>Deaths per 1 million live births, per year

TABLE 25

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN RECEIVING ABORTIONS:  
JPSA/CDC AND UNITED STATES

CHARACTERISTICS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	
	JPSA/CDC	United States <sup>1</sup>
<u>Age</u>		
< 19	32.5	32.4
20-24	34.5	31.5
> 25	32.6	35.3
Unknown	0.4	0.9
<u>Race</u>		
White	55.5	67.2
Black and other	28.5	29.2
Unknown	16.0	3.7
<u>Marital Status</u>		
Married	23.1	26.7
Unmarried	74.7	70.9
Unknown	2.2	2.4
<u>Prior Pregnancies</u>		
None	46.5	46.2 <sup>2</sup>
One or more	53.3	50.4 <sup>2</sup>
Unknown	0.2	3.4 <sup>2</sup>
<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>		
< 8	31.8	41.4
9-10	27.4	27.9
11-12	15.9	15.0
13-20	22.4	11.7
> 21	2.3	1.2
Unknown	0.2	2.8
<u>Type of Procedure</u>		
Curettage	80.2	89.1
Suction	79.6	76.9
Sharp	0.6	12.2
Intrauterine instillation	16.3	7.7
Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy	1.0	0.6
Other	2.5	1.9
Unknown	0.0	0.8

<sup>1</sup>1974 data; see Section II of this report

<sup>2</sup>Number of living children

TABLE 26

NUMBERS OF PATIENTS AND MAJOR COMPLICATION RATES FOR SUCTION CURETTAGE AND  
INSTILLATION PROCEDURES BY WEEKS OF GESTATION

Weeks of Gestation	Suction Curettage		Intrauterine Instillation		Significance Tests for Difference Between Rates <sup>2</sup>
	No. of Patients	Major <sup>1</sup> Complications per 100 Abortions	No. of Patients	Major <sup>1</sup> Complications per 100 Abortions	
< 6	4,659	0.28			
7-8	19,340	0.23			
9-10	21,542	0.39			
11-12	11,956	0.51			
13-14	4,351	0.71	1,100	2.27	p <.001
15-16	1,409	0.92	2,542	1.77	p <.05
17-20	590	0.85	7,004	1.81	p <.10
21-24			1,572	2.04	

ardiac arrest; convulsions; death; endotoxic shock; fever for 3 or more days; hemorrhage necessitating blood transfusion; hypernatremia; injury to bladder, ureter, or intestine; pelvic infection with 2 or more days of fever and a peak of at least 40°C, or with hospitalization for 11 or more days; pneumonia; psychiatric hospitalization for 11 or more days; pulmonary embolism or infarction; thrombophlebitis; unintended major surgery; wound disruption after hysterotomy or hysterectomy

by Chi-square tests





Fig. 1 SOURCES OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTION DATA, 1974

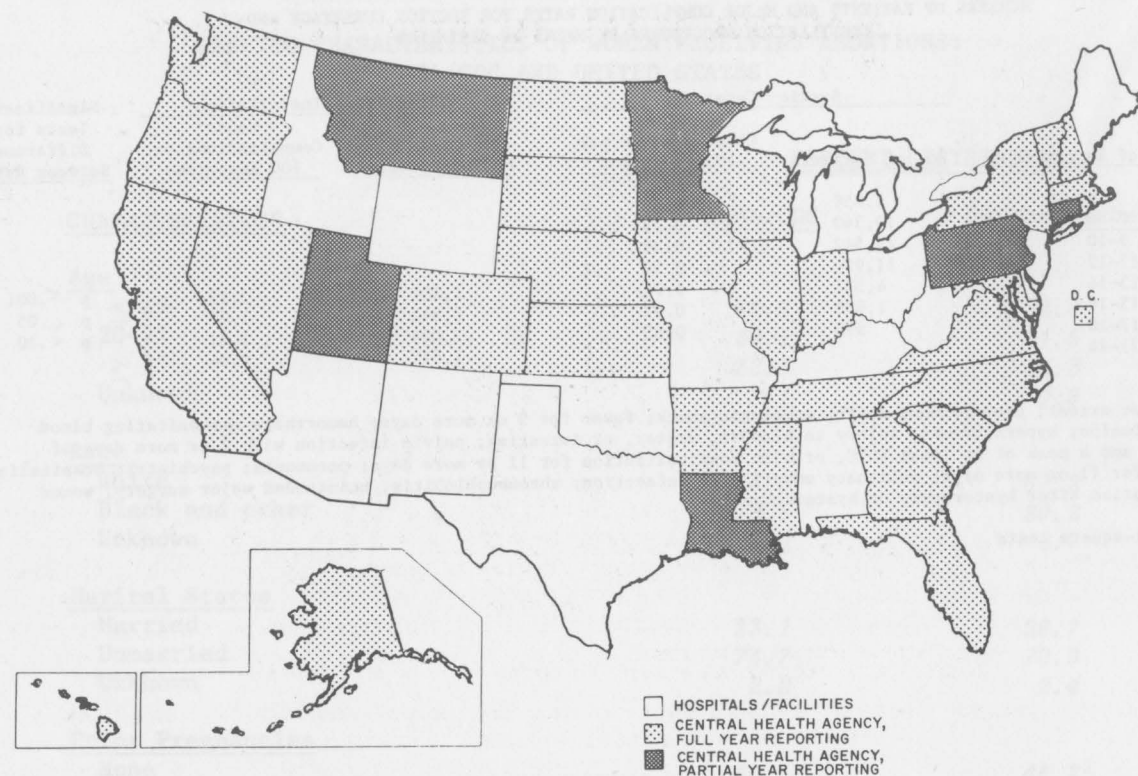


Fig. 2 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY RESIDENCE, UNITED STATES, 1972-1974

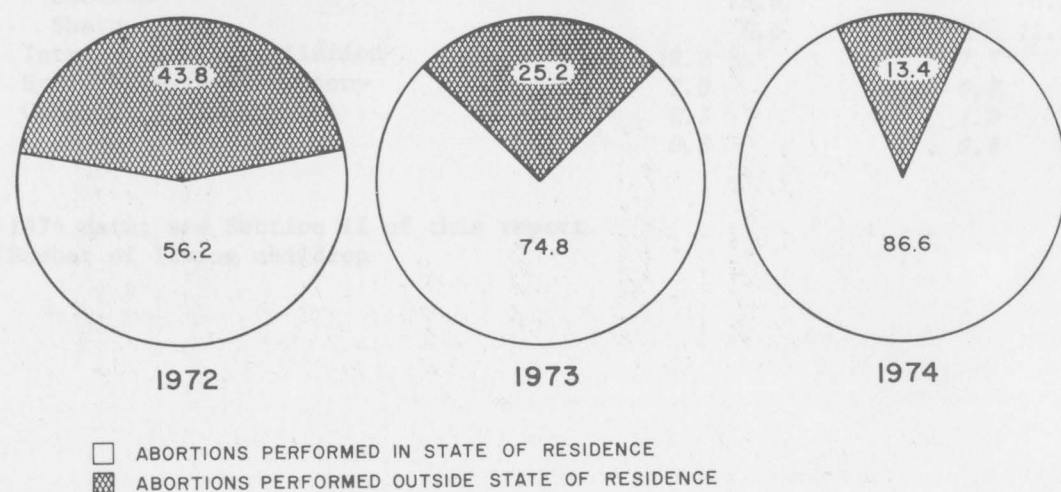
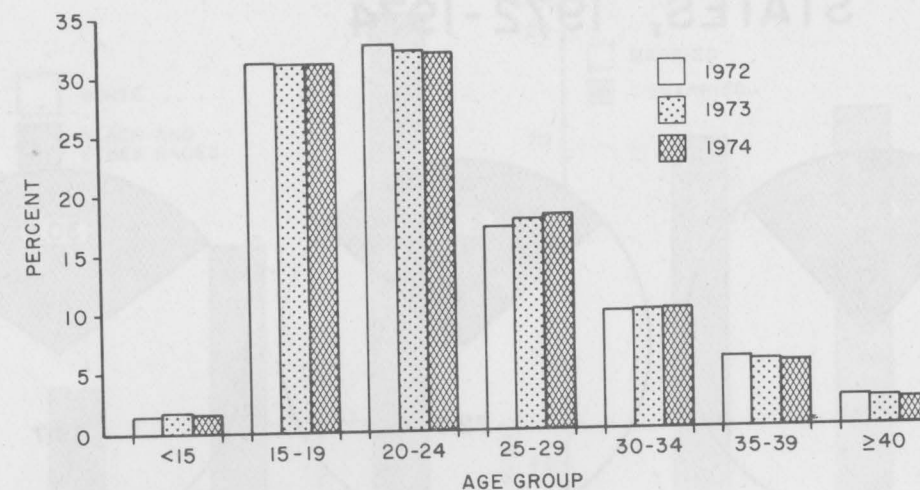


Fig. 3 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION\* OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY AGE, SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1972 - 1974

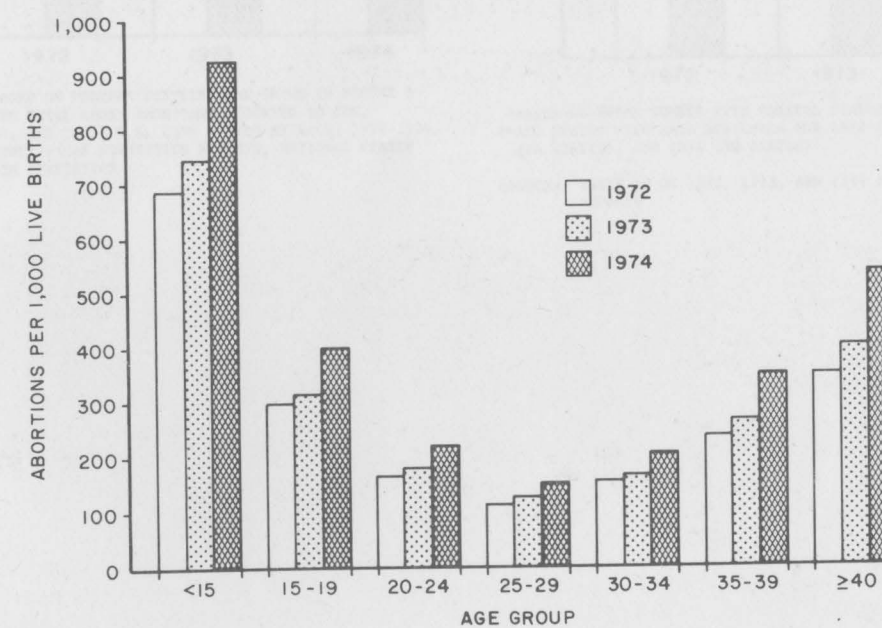


\*BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH AGE KNOWN

\*\*ALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1972 (17 STATES), 1973 (24 STATES), AND 1974 (33 STATES)

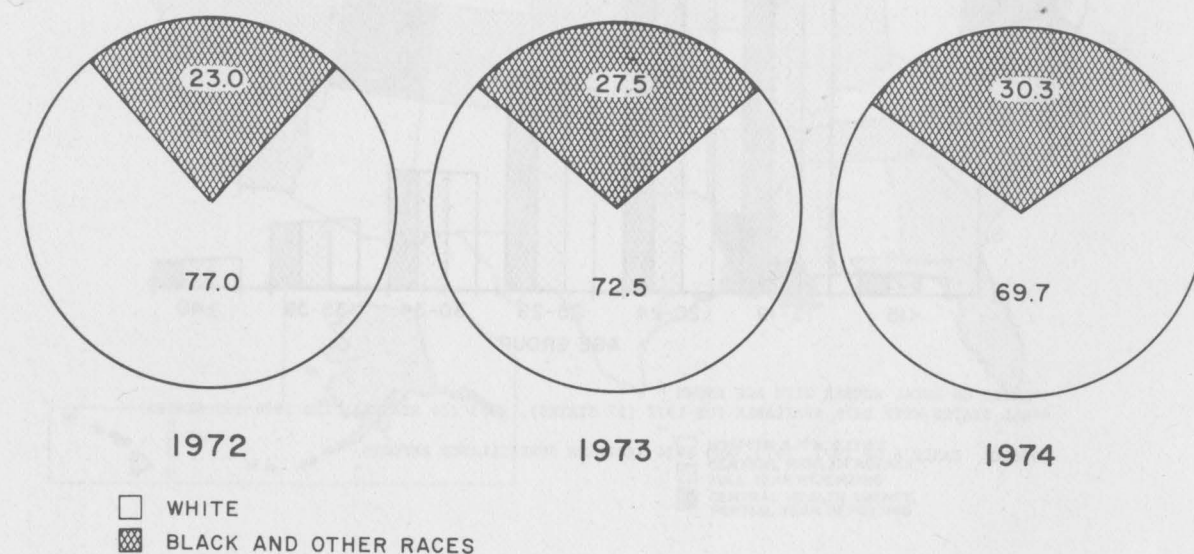
SOURCE: TABLE 6 OF 1972, 1973, AND 1974 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

Fig. 4 LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY AGE, UNITED STATES, 1972-1974



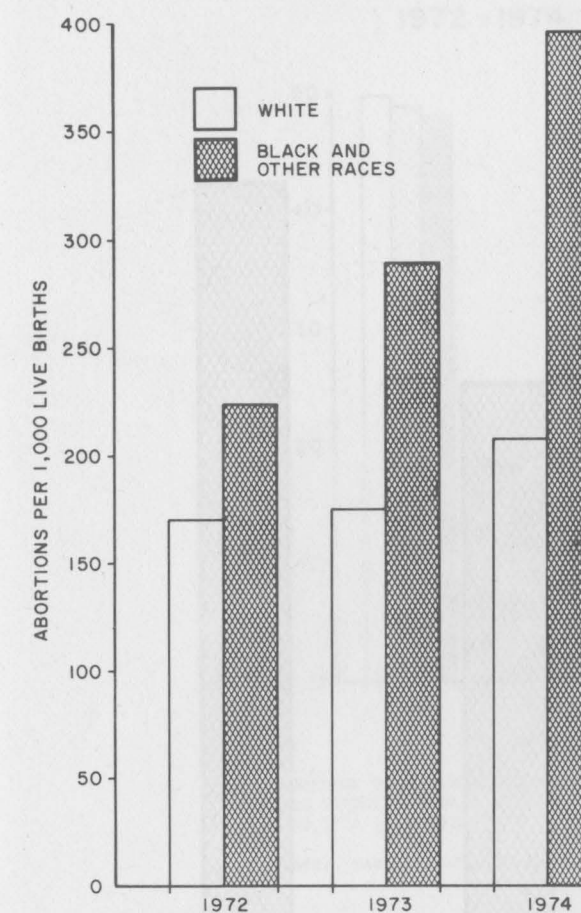
NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 3 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1972-1974, AND TOTAL U. S. LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER, 1972-1974, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

**Fig. 5 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION\* OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY RACE, SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1972-1974**



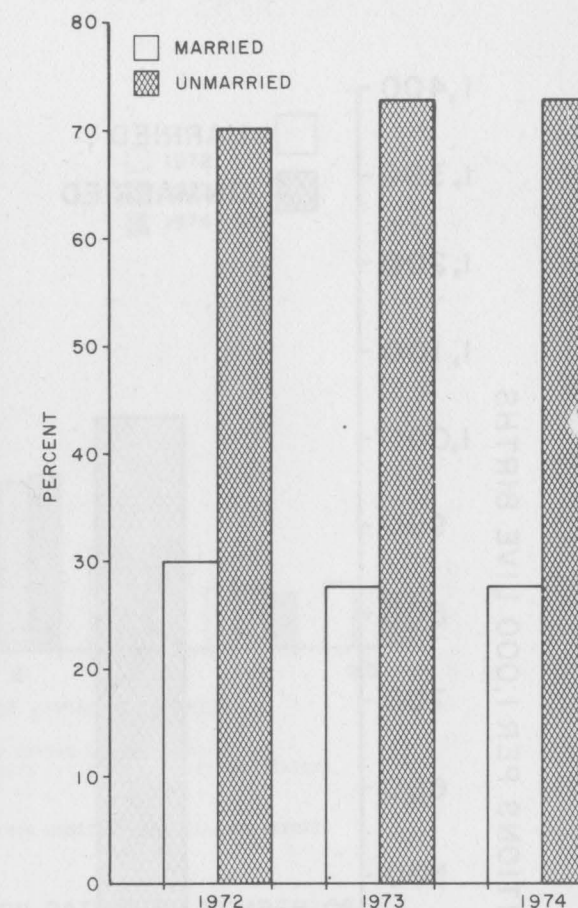
\*BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH RACE KNOWN  
 \*\*ALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1972 (15 STATES), 1973 (22 STATES), AND 1974 (28 STATES)  
 SOURCE: TABLE 8 OF 1972, 1973, AND 1974 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

**Fig. 6 LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY RACE, UNITED STATES, 1972-1974**



NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 5 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1972-1974, AND TOTAL U.S. LIVE BIRTHS BY RACE, 1972-1974, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

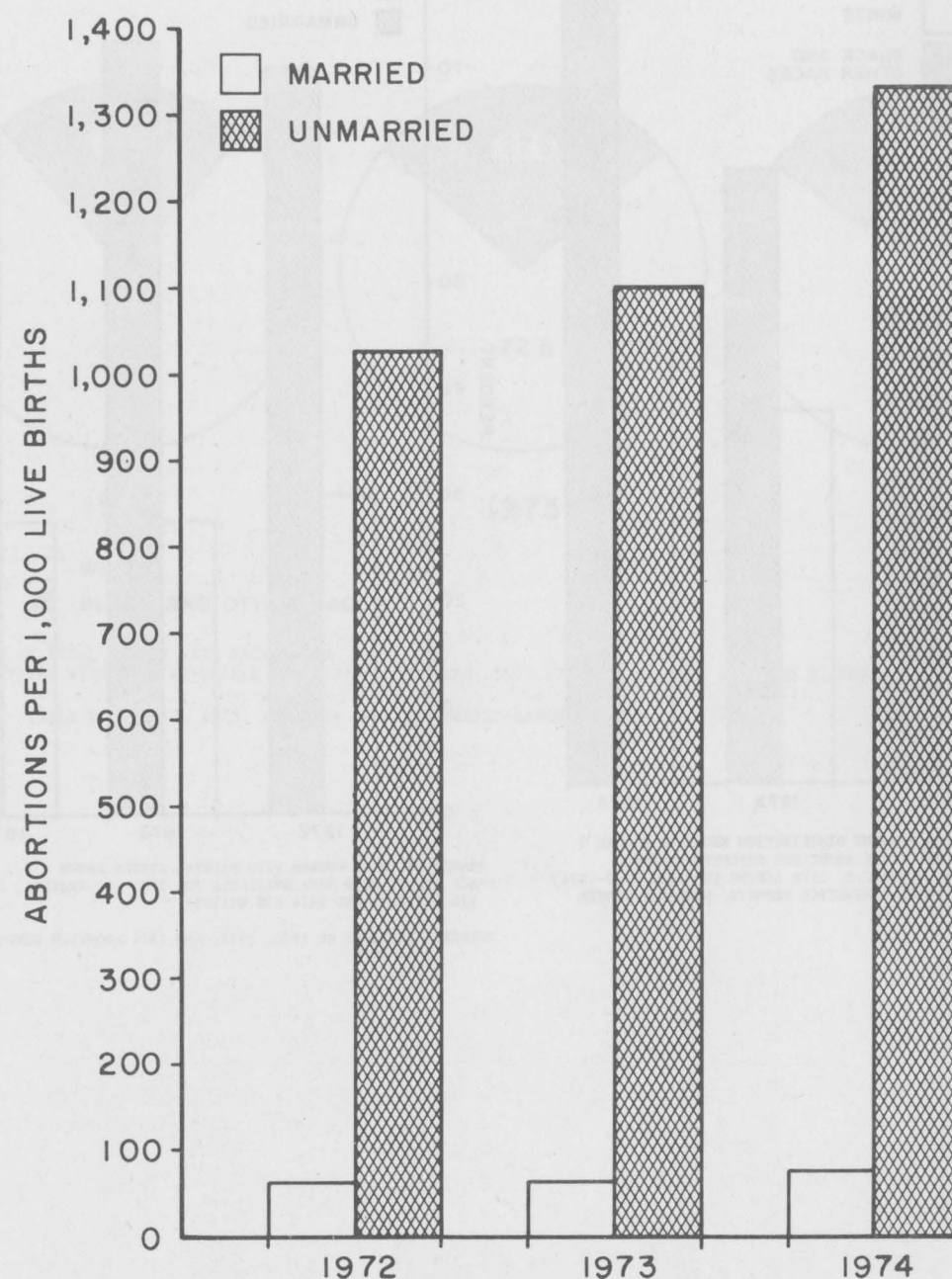
**Fig. 7 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION\* OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY MARITAL STATUS, SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1972-1974**



\*BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH MARITAL STATUS KNOWN  
 \*\*ALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1972 (17 STATES), 1973 (24 STATES), AND 1974 (30 STATES)  
 SOURCE: TABLE 10 OF 1972, 1973, AND 1974 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

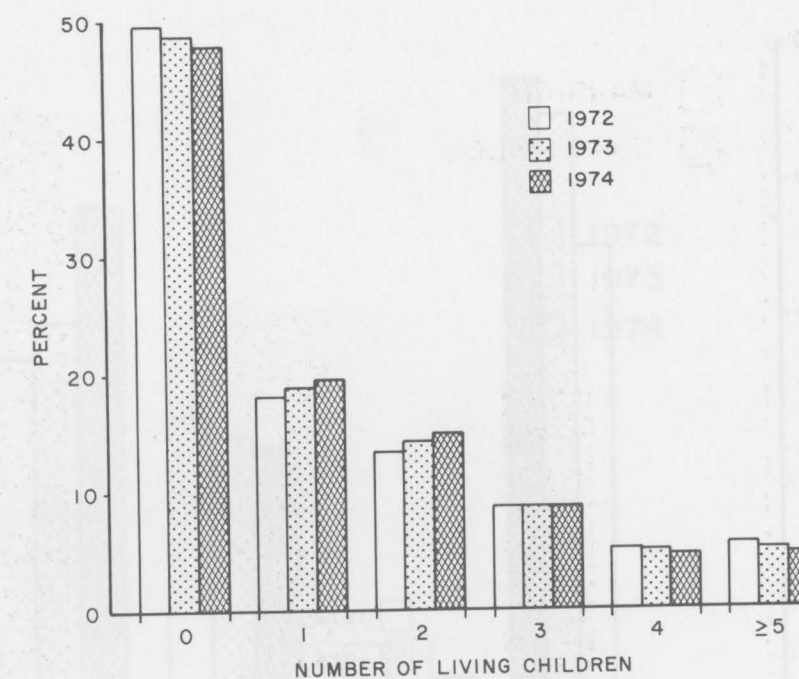


**Fig. 8** LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY MARITAL STATUS, UNITED STATES, 1972 - 1974



NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 7 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1972-1974, AND TOTAL U.S. LIVE BIRTHS BY LEGITIMACY, 1972-1974, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

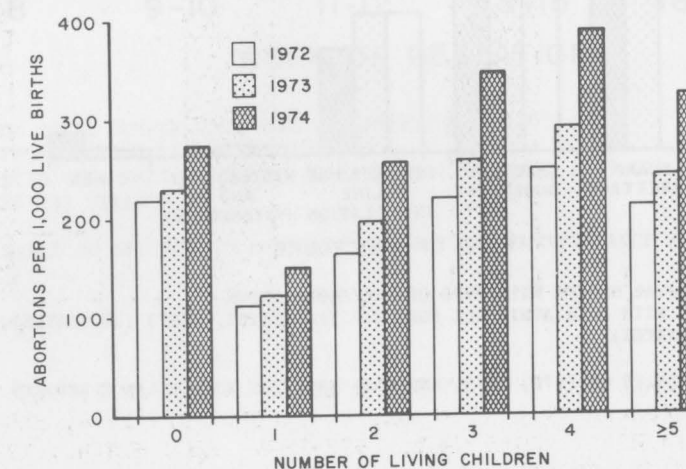
**Fig. 9** PERCENT DISTRIBUTION\* OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN, SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1972 - 1974



\*BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN KNOWN  
 \*\*ALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1972 (13 STATES), 1973 (18 STATES), AND 1974 (22 STATES)

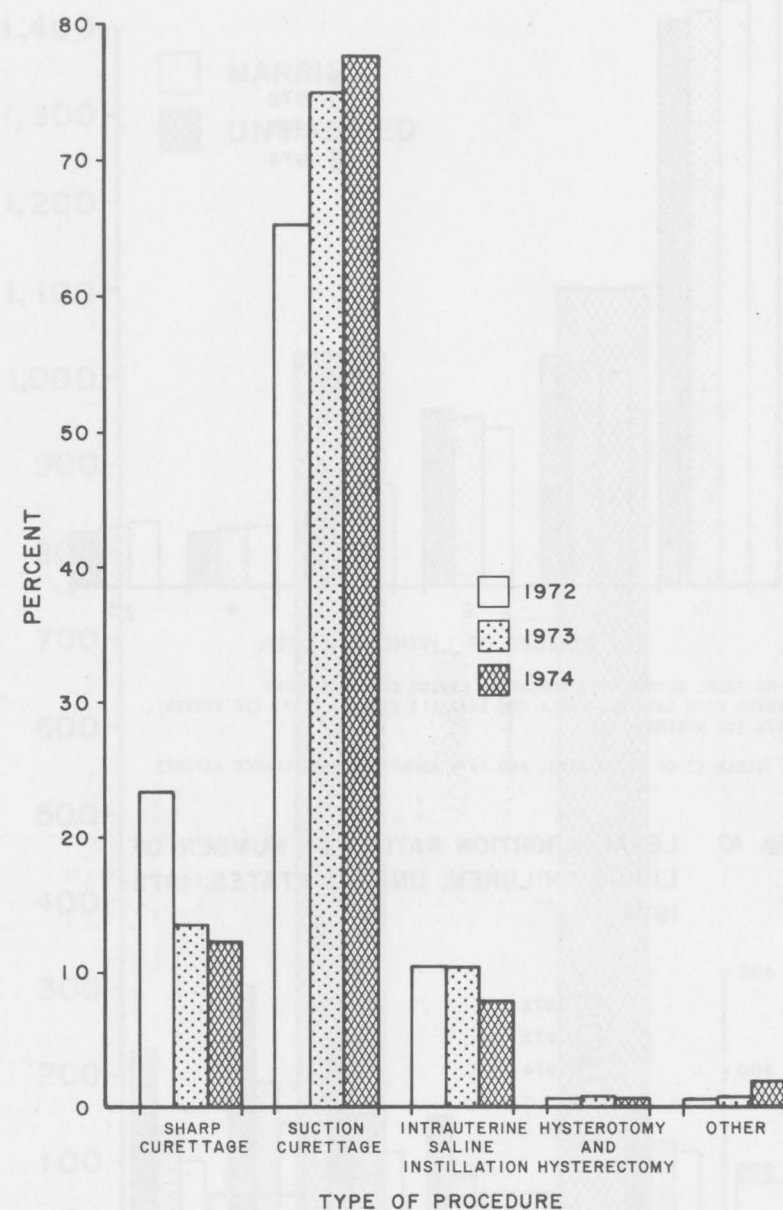
SOURCE: TABLE 13 OF 1972, 1973, AND 1974 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

**Fig. 10** LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN, UNITED STATES, 1972-1974



NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 9 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1972-1974, AND TOTAL U.S. LIVE BIRTHS BY LIVE BIRTH ORDER, 1972-1974, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

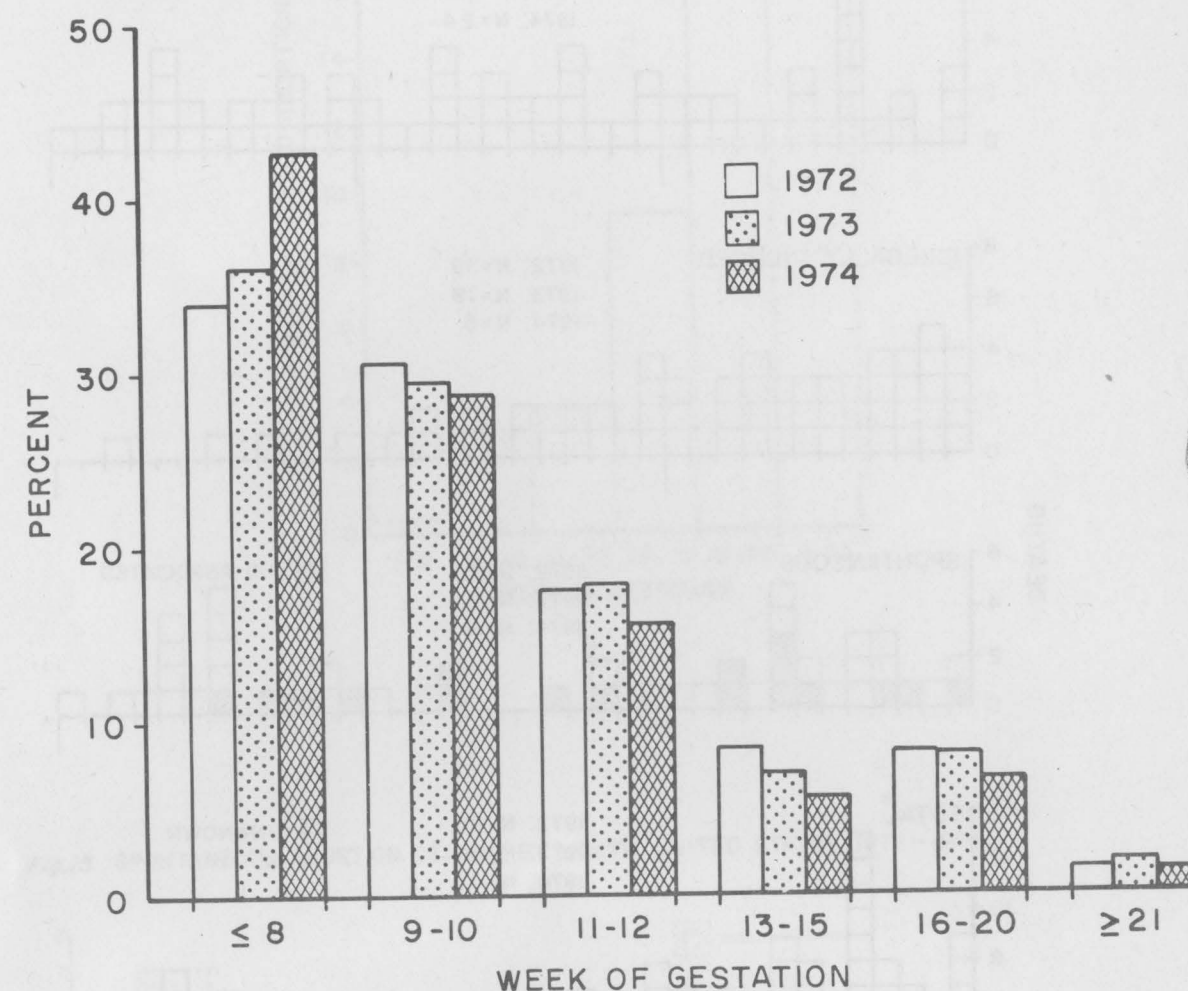
**Fig. 11** PERCENT DISTRIBUTION\* OF LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE, SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1972-1974



\*BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH TYPE OF PROCEDURE KNOWN  
 \*\*ALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1972 (14 STATES), 1973 (20 STATES), AND 1974 (29 STATES)

SOURCE: TABLE 15 OF 1972, 1973, AND 1974 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

**Fig. 12** PERCENT DISTRIBUTION\* OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY WEEK OF GESTATION,\*\* SELECTED STATES,\*\* 1972-1974

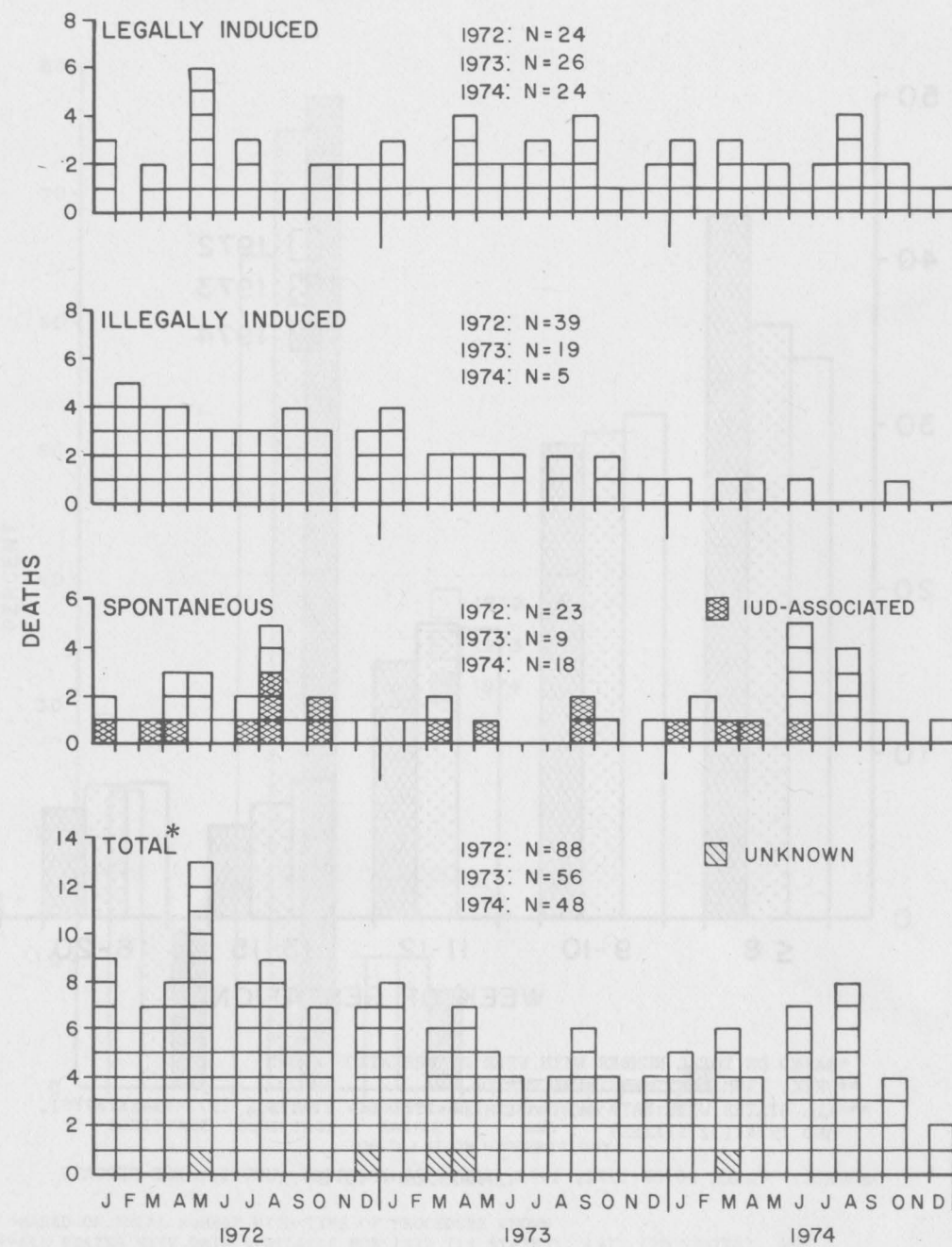


\*BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH WEEK OF GESTATION KNOWN  
 \*\*WEEKS FROM LAST MENSTRUAL PERIOD  
 \*\*\*ALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1972 (14 STATES), 1973 (24 STATES), AND 1974 (32 STATES)

SOURCE: TABLE 16 OF 1972, 1973, AND 1974 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

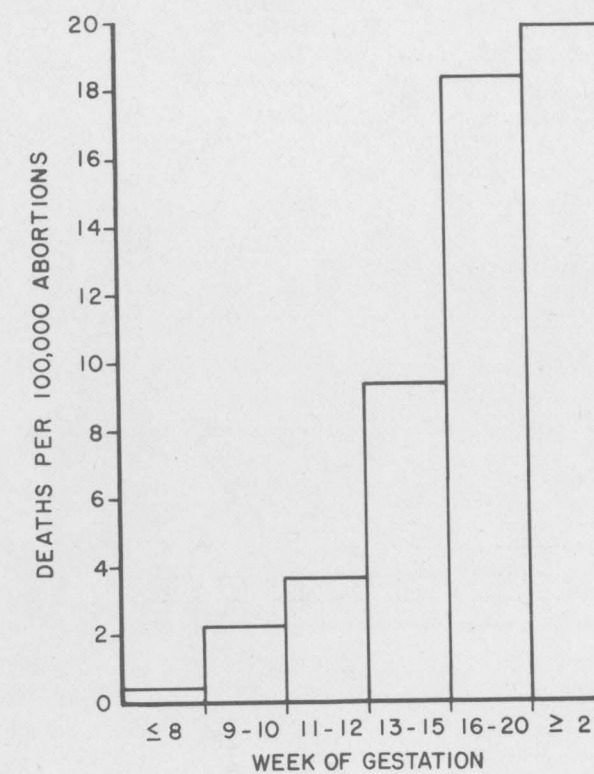


**Fig. 13 ABORTION-RELATED DEATHS BY CATEGORY AND MONTH, UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1972 - DECEMBER 1974**

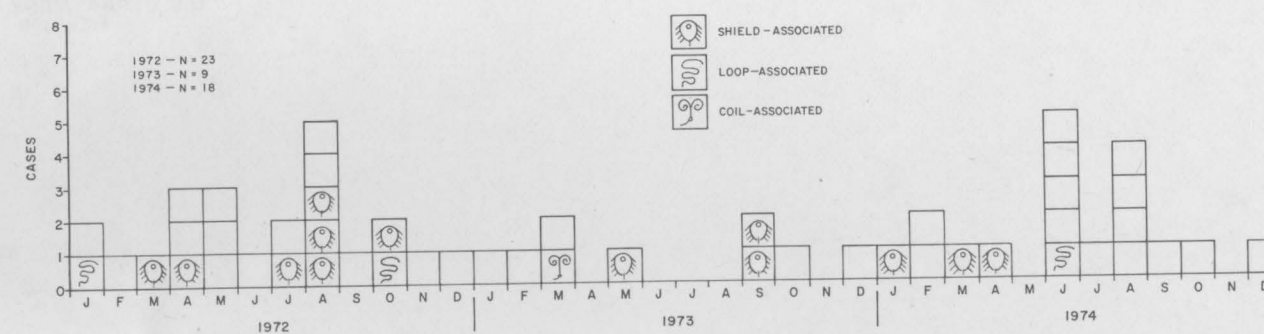


\* INCLUDES UNKNOWN

**Fig. 14 DEATH-TO-CASE RATE FOR LEGAL ABORTION, BY WEEK OF GESTATION, UNITED STATES, 1972-1974**



**Fig. 15 SPONTANEOUS ABORTION DEATHS, BY MONTH, UNITED STATES, 1972-1974**



NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE  
 STATE OF NEW YORK  
 AND MONTH, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
 DECEMBER 1974



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
 PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
 CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL  
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30333

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEW  
 HEW 399