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ANNUAL SUMMARY 1976
Issued August 1978

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL
ABORTION SURVEILLANCE
1976



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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 1969-1976 and updates previous Abortion Surveillance Reports. This issue provides: 1) demographic and epidemiologic data on legal abortions in 1976, 2) trends in the practice of legal abortion from 1974-1976, 3) abortion-related mortality data for the 5-year period 1972-1976, including types of procedures and death-to-case rates, 4) a comparison of major morbidity rates of suction curettage procedures associated with the 2 types of anesthesia--general or local, derived from CDC's 4-year multicenter study of abortion complications, the Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC (JPSA/CDC), and 5) international comparisons of legal abortion.

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SUMMARY TABLE
CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN RECEIVING ABORTIONS
UNITED STATES, 1972-1976

CHARACTERISTICS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION ¹				
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
<u>Residence</u>					
Abortion in-state	56.2	74.8	86.6	89.2	90.0
Abortion out-of-state	43.8	25.2	13.4	10.8	10.0
<u>Age</u>					
≤ 19	32.6	32.7	32.7	33.1	32.1
20-24	32.5	32.0	31.8	31.9	33.3
≥ 25	34.9	35.3	35.6	35.0	34.6
<u>Race</u>					
White	77.0	72.5	69.7	67.8	66.6
Black and others	23.0	27.5	30.3	32.2	33.4
<u>Marital Status</u>					
Married	29.7	27.4	27.4	26.1	24.6
Unmarried	70.3	72.6	72.6	73.9	75.4
<u>Number of Living Children</u>					
0	49.4	48.6	47.8	47.1	47.7
1	18.2	18.8	19.6	20.2	20.7
2	13.3	14.2	14.8	15.5	15.4
3	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.3
4	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.1
≥ 5	5.4	4.9	4.5	4.2	3.8
<u>Type of Procedure</u>					
Curettage	88.6	88.4	89.7	90.9	92.8
Suction	65.2	74.9	77.5	82.6	82.6
Sharp	23.4	13.5	12.3	8.4	10.2
Intrauterine instillation	10.4	10.4	7.8	6.2	6.0
Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2
Other	0.5	0.6	1.9	2.4	0.9
<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>					
≤ 8	34.0	36.1	42.6	44.6	47.0
9-10	30.7	29.4	28.7	28.4	28.0
11-12	17.5	17.9	15.4	14.9	14.4
13-15	8.4	6.9	5.5	5.0	4.5
16-20	8.2	8.0	6.5	6.1	5.1
≥ 21	1.3	1.7	1.2	1.0	0.9

¹Excludes unknowns

I. SUMMARY

In 1976 the 50 states and the District of Columbia reported 988,267 abortions to the Center for Disease Control, a 16% increase over 1975. The national abortion ratio rose by 15%, from 272 per 1,000 live births in 1975 to 312 per 1,000 live births in 1976, or almost 1 abortion for every 3 live births. A redistribution of legal abortions into states which had restrictive laws before 1973 continued, with a narrowing of the range of abortion ratios reported by the states. A higher percentage (90%) of women obtained abortions in their home state than ever before (Summary Table).

As in previous years, women who obtained legal abortion in 1976 were most often young, white, unmarried, and of low parity. Sixty-five percent were less than 25 years of age; 67% were white, and 33% were of black and other races. Seventy-five percent of these women were unmarried at the time of the procedure. Forty-eight percent of these women had no living children. Suction curettage continued to be the most widely used procedure for legal abortions, accounting for 83% of abortions performed in 1976. Women continued to seek abortions at earlier gestational ages; nearly half of all abortions were performed at <8 menstrual weeks of pregnancy, and 89% of abortions were induced within the first 12 weeks. Compared with previous years, after 12 weeks' gestation the percentage of dilatation and evacuation procedures increased, while instillation procedures decreased.

The trend in a declining number of abortion deaths continued into 1976. Twenty-six women died from abortion in 1976, compared with 46 in 1975, 52 in 1974, 56 in 1973, and 89 in 1972. For the first year since 1972, there was a decline in the annual number of legal abortion deaths; 10 women died after legally induced abortion in 1976, compared with 29 in 1975, 27 in 1974, 26 in 1973, and 24 in 1972. In 1976 there were 3 deaths after illegally induced abortion and 11 deaths after spontaneous abortion. The death-to-case rate for legal abortions fell from 3.4 deaths per 100,000 abortions in 1975 to 1.0 in 1976.

Analysis of 54,155 suction curettage abortions performed at <12 menstrual weeks' gestation reported through the Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC (JPSA/CDC) determined that the overall safety of local anesthesia and of general anesthesia appear similar. Although the aggregated major complication rates associated with the 2 anesthetic methods were not significantly different, there were significant differences between local and general anesthesia for specific complications and treatments. Local anesthesia was associated with higher rates of febrile and convulsive morbidity; however, general anesthesia was associated with higher rates of hemorrhage, cervical injury, and uterine perforation. Both anesthetic techniques appear to have a similar degree of overall safety, though each is associated with a different spectrum of complications.

II. NUMBER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN RECEIVING ABORTIONS

A. Surveillance Methods

CDC receives statistics on abortion by state of occurrence from 2 types of sources: 1) central health agencies, and 2) hospitals and/or facilities (see Figure 1). 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 (including the District of Columbia) from which statewide abortion data are reported has increased from 8 in 1969 to 40 in 1976. These 40 central health agencies have received their information either from direct reporting systems or from surveying abortion facilities within their states. To obtain information for this report from the 11 states which do not collect statewide abortion data, CDC directed inquiries to the hospitals and facilities in those states.

B. Number of Abortions by State of Occurrence

In 1976 the 50 states and the District of Columbia reported 988,267 legal abortions, an increase of 15.6% over the 854,853 legal abortions reported in 1975. New York and California reported the highest number of abortions, as they have consistently since 1970 (Table 2). In 1976 these 2 states provided 29% of the national total;

this percentage has declined steadily from 81% in 1970. West Virginia, Idaho, and Wyoming reported the fewest number of abortions performed in 1976.

The majority of states reported an increased number of abortions performed in 1976 (Table 3). The largest percentage increase was in Mississippi (379%) and North Dakota (116%). Conversely, Alaska reported a decrease of 2.8% in the number of abortions performed in 1976.

The national abortion ratio rose in 1976 to 312 abortions per 1,000 live births, a 15% increase over 1975 (Table 1). The range of abortion ratios reported by the states for 1976 is narrower than that reported in 1975, possibly because of the redistribution of abortion services. The abortion ratio more than doubled from 1975 to 1976 in some states, but decreased in others.

C. Residence Status

In 1976, 10.0% of abortions were performed on out-of-state residents, compared with 10.8% in 1975 (Table 4). The percentage of abortions performed on out-of-state residents appears to have leveled off; the most rapid decrease in out-of-state abortions occurred in 1973 and 1974, the first 2 years after the Supreme Court's decisions (Figure 2). In 1976 the residence status of women was known for 86% of reported abortions. Declines in the percentages of out-of-state women have continued in California and New York; however, the District of Columbia reported a slight increase in the percentage of out-of-state women served. The largest proportions of abortions on out-of-state women in 1976 were reported by the District of Columbia (57%) and North Dakota (53%).

Women most frequently underwent abortion outside their state of residence in the East South Central Division (17%), and least frequently in the Pacific Division (0.6%), as shown in Table 5. This is consistent with information reported in 1975. The highest percentage of women leaving their states to obtain abortion were reported by West Virginia (75%), Wyoming (60%), Mississippi (58%), and Idaho (51%). Less than 1% of women obtained out-of-state abortions in Hawaii, California, Oregon, Colorado, and New York.

D. Age

In 1976 the age distribution of women obtaining abortions remained stable, with approximately one-third of women in their teenage years, one-third 20 to 24 years, and one-third 25 years or older (Figure 3). Thirty-five states and the District of Columbia reported age in 1976, comprising 77% of all reported abortions (Table 6). In 1976 Minnesota, Nebraska, Kentucky, and South Dakota had the largest percentage of women younger than 25, and New York City, New Jersey, Hawaii, and Illinois had the largest percentage of women 25 and older.

A total of 184,938 abortions were reported by specific years of age for women 13-19 years old in 26 states (Table 6A). Over 55% of these legally induced abortions were obtained by women 18 years or older; 3.7% were obtained by 13- to 15-year-olds. The 2 states that reported the largest total number of abortions, New York and California, also reported the largest number of abortions for teenagers.

Women less than 15 years old had the highest ratio of legal abortion, followed by women in the \geq 40-year age group (Tables 7 and 7A and Figure 4). Although abortion ratios varied widely from state to state, this bimodal distribution is evident in each reporting area, as it was in 1975. Overall in the 36 states reporting in 1976, more women under 15 years of age obtained abortions than delivered children. The lowest abortion ratio was reported for the 25- to 29-year-old age group, 198 abortions per 1,000 live births.

E. Race

Although the majority (67%) of abortions in 1976 were obtained by white women, the percentage of abortions obtained by women of black and other races continued to increase compared with previous years (Figure 5). Thirty-two states and the District of Columbia reported race in 1976, comprising 68% of all reported abortions (Table 8). Both Hawaii and the District of Columbia reported a majority of abortions to women of black and other races, while New York City, Louisiana, Illinois, South Carolina, and New Jersey all reported more than 40% of abortions to women of black and other races.

Women of black and other races continued to have a higher abortion ratio than whites (Figure 6). The aggregate legal abortion ratio for black and other races in

1976 was 530 abortions per 1,000 live births, while the corresponding figure for whites was 289 (Table 9). There was an 11% increase in the abortion ratio for black and other races in 1976, and a 4% increase for whites. Twenty of the 29 states reporting this information had a higher abortion ratio for black and other races. In the District of Columbia, the abortion ratio for whites was several times higher than that for black and other races. Conversely, the abortion ratio for black and other races was at least twice as high as that for whites in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, and Utah.

F. Marital Status

In 1976, 74% of women obtaining abortions in 33 states and the District of Columbia were unmarried at the time of their abortion (Table 10), a slightly higher figure than the 73% reported in 1975. Since 1972 there has been a gradual increase in the percentage of reported legal abortions obtained by unmarried women (Figure 7 and Table 11).

In 1976 unmarried women continued to have much higher abortion ratios than their married counterparts (Figure 8 and Table 12). In addition, in 23 of the 33 states reporting this information, more unmarried women had abortions than live births. The aggregate abortion ratio for unmarried women (1,570) was over 16 times higher than for married women (95). The large difference in abortion ratios between married and unmarried women does not take into account those women who conceived premaritally and who subsequently gave birth while married. This situation would tend to shift live births from the unmarried to the married category and thereby increase the abortion ratio for unmarried women to a greater degree than for married women because of the large number of live births to the latter.

G. Number of Living Children

An inverse relationship existed between the number of living children and the percentage of abortions obtained (Figure 9). Forty-six percent of abortions were to women with no living children, and 4% were to women with 5 or more children (Table 13). This is similar to the distribution reported in 1975. Twenty-eight states in 1976 included in their reports the woman's number of living children; these comprised 62% of all reported abortions.

Women with 1 living child had the lowest abortion ratio in 1976, and those with \geq 5 living children had the highest (Table 14). Women with either 2 or no living children had relatively low abortion ratios, and those with 3 or more living children had relatively high ratios (Figure 10).

H. Method of Abortion

In 1976 suction curettage was the type of procedure used in 82% of abortions (Table 15). Thirty-three states and the District of Columbia reported information on method of abortion, comprising 77% of all reported abortions. Sharp curettage accounted for 10% of abortions, while saline and prostaglandin instillation made up 5% and 1%, respectively. Hysterotomy and hysterectomy accounted for only 0.2% of all procedures in 1976 reported by these states.

In states where both saline and prostaglandin instillation procedures were used, there appeared to be a clear preference for one or the other. Alaska, Arizona, Kansas, Maryland, New Jersey, New York City, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Washington used saline, whereas Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Missouri used prostaglandin.

A slight increase in the proportion of abortions performed by sharp curettage occurred in 1976, while the percentage of suction curettage procedures remained the same (Figure 11). Saline instillation and "other" procedures declined in 1976.

I. Weeks of Gestation

In 1976, 45% of reported legal abortions were performed in the first 8 weeks of gestation (Table 16). Thirty-six states and the District of Columbia reported information on gestation at the time of abortion, comprising 80% of all reported abortions. In 1976, 4% of women obtained abortions in the 13- to 15-week interval, 5% in the 16- to 20-week interval, and only 1% at \geq 21 weeks.

In those states which have reported this information since 1972, the percentage of abortions performed at less than 13 weeks' gestation increased to 87% in 1976, compared with 86% in 1975 (Table 17). Arkansas and the District of Columbia were the only 2 areas reporting a decrease between 1975 and 1976 in the percentage of legal abortions performed at < 13 weeks.

Between 1974 and 1976 there has been a continuous increase in the percentage of reported legal abortions performed at \leq 8 weeks' gestation, with a corresponding decrease in the percentage of abortions performed at later gestations (Figure 12). This trend has been noted in aggregated national data since 1972 (Summary Table).

J. Procedure by Weeks of Gestation

In 1976 suction curettage continued to be the most common method (94%) of pregnancy termination in the first 12 weeks of gestation (Table 18). Twenty-six states reported information on type of procedure by weeks' gestation, accounting for 36% of all reported abortions in 1976. In the 13- to 15-week interval, 73% of all procedures were by curettage (either suction or sharp), followed by saline instillation (19%) and prostaglandin instillation (3.2%). Saline instillation was the most commonly used (58%) procedure at \geq 16 weeks' gestation, with curettage procedures and instillation of prostaglandin or other agents accounting for about 20% each.

K. Previous Induced Abortions

In 1976, 18% of abortions reported in 25 states and the District of Columbia were obtained by women who had had at least 1 previous induced abortion (Table 19). This continued the increasing trend toward repeated induced abortions reported for 1974 (12%) and 1975 (16%). Of the women who had abortions in 1976, 15% had had 1 previous abortion; 2%, 2 abortions; and 1%, 3 or more. The District of Columbia reported the highest level (30%) of women having had previous induced abortions; Nebraska had the lowest level (5%).

L. Interpretation

The number of reported legal abortions has increased each year since CDC abortion surveillance began in 1969. Legalization of abortion on a state-by-state basis produced very large percentage increases in 1970 through 1972. The 1973 Supreme Court decisions affected the geographic distribution of legal abortions more than the absolute numbers. The 16% increase in total abortions was greater than the 12% increase reported for 1975, but not so large a percentage increase as in the years before 1973. Wider availability of legal abortion has resulted in fewer procedures performed for out-of-state residents, and in a narrowing of the range of abortion ratios reported by the states.

The number of abortions reported to CDC was probably less than the number actually performed in 1976. In public health surveillance, the number of reported cases is generally lower than the number obtained through surveys. An estimate of the magnitude of underreporting can be made by comparing the total number of abortions reported to CDC with the total obtained through the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI) nationwide survey of abortion facilities. For 1976, as in previous years, CDC's total was approximately 16% lower than the AGI total.

This underreporting could produce some biases in the CDC data. Abortions performed in physicians' offices are probably unreported more often than those performed in hospitals or facilities. Because physicians probably perform abortions in their offices for women at earlier gestational states of pregnancy than personnel of other facilities perform them, the underreporting of these data may bias the gestational age distributions toward the later stages of pregnancy.

Women at each end of the reproductive age spectrum had the highest abortion-to-live-birth ratio. This implies that women in their middle reproductive years are less likely than younger or older women to choose abortion, probably because more of their pregnancies were planned. More women under the age of 15 years obtained abortions than carried pregnancies to term in 1976.

Women of black and other races again used abortion services proportionately more frequently than white women, and in 1976 a larger percentage increase occurred in their abortion ratio than in that reported for white women. This implies that women of minority racial groups will choose abortion to a greater extent than white women when obstacles to the availability of legal abortion are reduced. The states reported a wide range in the comparative abortion ratios for white women and those of minority groups.

Ever since legal abortion became available in 1970, the cumulative number of women who have had legal abortions has increased each year. Because the population at risk of having multiple abortions has increased, it would be expected that an increasing percentage of abortions performed would be obtained by women who have undergone 1 or more previous procedures. This trend was noted in 1976; 18% of abortions were performed on women who had had at least 1 previous abortion, compared with 16% in 1975.

Two trends which continued through 1976 should have a favorable health impact because of the decreased morbidity and mortality associated with them: 1) women continued to seek abortion at earlier gestational ages, and 2) dilatation and evacuation continued to supplant instillation procedures as the abortion method used at later gestational ages.

III. ABORTION-RELATED MORTALITY

A. Surveillance Methods

In 1972 CDC began 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 investigators, published case histories, state maternal mortality committees, and records from the National Center for Health Statistics and other federal agencies. State health departments and/or the attending physicians are contacted in order to verify and expand the clinical details about each of the deaths. In addition, the social circumstances surrounding each death are ascertained, when indicated, through interviews with family, friends, and local health officials.

Mortality statistics are continually updated as reports are received. The delay in reporting abortion deaths to CDC has ranged from 1 day to 37 months, with a median of 7 months. For those deaths reported in 1976, the delay has ranged from 7 days to 15-1/2 months, with a median of 2 months. This report reflects the most current information available to CDC and updates previous Abortion Surveillance Reports and other CDC publications. In the future, as CDC learns of other abortion deaths, these deaths will be included in subsequent publications. For the most current information on abortion-related deaths, interested persons should contact CDC directly rather than relying solely on published data.

B. Definitions

On December 8, 1976, a panel of experts* was convened to review the definitions used for CDC's abortion mortality surveillance. As a result of discussions by the panel, which included review of specific case histories, the following definitions for the purpose of abortion mortality review were established.

1) Abortion: Any termination of pregnancy before completion of the 20th menstrual week of gestation, and those terminations after the 20th menstrual week which are intended to produce a nonviable fetus; also any intervention to terminate a suspected pregnancy (whether or not the pregnancy is later confirmed). Molar and ectopic pregnancies are excluded.

2) Abortion Death: The death of a woman from any cause within 42 days after spontaneous abortion or initiation of induced abortion.

Abortion-related Death--Death resulting from complications of the abortion itself, from the chain of events initiated by the abortion which led to the death, or from aggravation of an unrelated condition by the physiologic or pharmacologic effects of the abortion which subsequently caused the death.

Non-related Abortion Death--A death occurring during or after an abortion which was not causally associated with the abortion, its complications, or their management.

*Members of the Working Group To Review Abortion Mortality were: Mark C.E. Cheng, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.O.G.; Joseph H. Davis, M.D.; Richard E. Dixon, M.D.; John I. Fishburne, M.D.; Perry A. Henderson, M.D.; Richard A. Kaslow, M.D.; Mary Grace Kovar, M.S.; Victoria A. Nichols, M.D.; Warren H. Pearse, M.D.; Ruth Roemer, J.D.; Lee B. Stevenson, M.D.

3) Categories of Abortion-related Deaths: Abortion-related deaths are categorized as spontaneous, induced, or unknown, according to the classification of the abortion.

An abortion is classified as spontaneous if

- the patient gave no history of induced abortion, and if
- no evidence of instrumentation could be found.

An abortion is classified as induced if

- information obtained from the patient's medical history, family, or friends indicate that a deliberate attempt was made to terminate the pregnancy, or
- evidence suggesting instrumentation of the cervix or uterus, or other signs of intervention occurred before physical examination, surgery, or pathologic examination, even if no attempt to induce the abortion was acknowledged by the patient, her family, or friends.

Induced abortions are further classified by their legal status according to the following criteria:

- If the patient's medical history indicates that the abortion was self-induced or induced by someone who was neither a licensed physician nor was acting under the immediate supervision of a licensed physician, it is classified as illegal.

- If evidence of intervention is found but no history of physician-induced abortion is obtained, it is classified as illegal.

- If the patient's medical history indicates that the abortion was performed by a licensed physician or someone acting under the immediate supervision of a physician, it is classified as legal.

An abortion is classified as unknown when a determination of the circumstances under which the abortion occurred cannot be made with these criteria.

4) Factors of Preventability: The preventability of abortion-related deaths is judged by "ideal" standards. This concept involves the following 5 assumptions. First, the patient possessed the knowledge and judgment necessary to make an early decision in a case of unwanted pregnancy. Second, the community in which the patient lived had family planning and abortion facilities within the community's usual system of medical care. Third, the attending health professionals possessed all the current collective knowledge available on factors involved in the death. Fourth, all personnel had reached a level of experience and technical ability sufficient to provide abortion services and manage complications secondary to the procedure. Fifth, the professionals had available all necessary facilities in a well-organized and properly equipped clinic or hospital.

This approach allows more specific analysis of each case in order to 1) identify areas for continued patient health education, 2) document regions with inadequate family planning-abortion facilities, 3) stimulate training of health professionals in patient management techniques, 4) improve the quality of abortion services, and 5) eventually help reduce the death-to-case rate from abortion.

5) Factors of Responsibility: Responsibility is determined wherever possible according to factors involving the patient, community, abortion facility, professional, or to any combination.

Patient Factors--These factors lead to fatal complications for which there is generally successful treatment, but which the patient willfully denied herself by denying symptoms of pregnancy, by actively postponing her initial visit to the physician, by refusing to obtain medical care after complications were obvious, or finally by rejecting the advice and instructions of her physician(s). These factors also include religious, socio-cultural, economic, and educational considerations relevant to the patient's course of action, but they should not be used as an excuse for professional inadequacy.

Community Factors--These factors involve deaths which could have been avoided if services were available in the immediate community for contraception, pregnancy testing and counseling, abortion referral, outpatient abortion facilities, and inpatient abortion and acute-care facilities. The Alan Guttmacher Institute's

estimates of unmet contraceptive and abortion need* will be one standard used in assessing the adequacy of these services. Other factors include systems for subsidizing abortion costs, consent requirements, other legal restrictions, and the availability of abortion services in publicly supported hospitals.

Abortion Facility Factors--These factors involve an abortion facility's equipment, services, personnel, policies, or practices. The recommendations contained in the Metropolitan D.C. Planned Parenthood Guidelines** are useful standards.

Professional Factors--These factors include errors on the part of any individual medical provider in diagnosis, judgment, management, and technique and include failure to recognize the complication or to evaluate it properly. They also include instances of injudicious haste or delay in timing of operative intervention, and failure to utilize currently acceptable methods of treatment. Finally, they include those complications which could have been averted by proper and timely consultation or referral.

C. Legal Abortion Mortality

Twenty-six women died from abortion in 1976, compared with 46 in 1975, 52 in 1974, 56 in 1973, and 89 in 1972 (Figure 13). For the first year since 1972, there was a decline in the annual number of legal abortion deaths (Figure 14). There were 10 deaths after legally induced abortion in 1976, compared with 29 in 1975, 27 in 1974, 26 in 1973, and 24 in 1972; thus, the number of legal abortion deaths declined by approximately 60% and formed the basis for the overall decline in abortion mortality.

In 1976 a total of 988,267 legal abortions were reported to CDC. With this figure used as the denominator, the overall death-to-case rate for legal abortion was 1.0 per 100,000 abortions in 1976, compared with 3.4 in 1975, 3.5 in 1974, 4.2 in 1973, and 4.1 in 1972. Possible reasons for this marked decline in the 1976 death-to-case rate for legal abortion are 1) the increasing percentage of abortions being performed during the earlier, safer gestational ages, 2) the increasing percentage of the safer curettage procedures, including dilatation and evacuation, 3) increasing experience with abortion by practicing physicians, and 4) underreporting of legal abortion deaths during the most recent year.

In 1976, because of the small number of deaths from legal abortion, annual death-to-case rates by gestational age and type of abortion procedure showed wide statistical variation; the aggregated data for the years 1972-1976 provide a more meaningful look at abortion mortality by gestational age and type of procedure. During these 5 years, the risk of death from legal abortion was lowest for women whose abortions were performed at < 8 menstrual weeks' gestation, with a death-to-case rate of 0.6 per 100,000 procedures (Table 20). Thereafter, the death-to-case rate increased by approximately 40%-60% for each week of delay after the 8th week. Abortions performed at 9-10 weeks were nearly 3 times more dangerous in terms of mortality than those performed earlier. Abortions performed at ≥ 21 weeks carried the greatest risk, with a death-to-case rate nearly 45 times that of abortions performed at < 8 weeks.

For the years 1972-1976, mortality rates were highest for hysterotomy-hysterectomy and lowest for curettage (including dilatation and evacuation), with instillation procedures intermediate (Table 21). Curettage procedures had a death-to-case rate of 1.7 per 100,000 abortions, compared with 15.5 for instillation procedures and 42.4 for hysterotomy-hysterectomy.

For purposes of subcategorizing the deaths associated with particular abortion methods, all curettage procedures performed at < 12 weeks' gestation are referred to as "curettage," and those performed at ≥ 13 weeks' gestation are referred to as

*Center for Family Planning Program Development. Need for Subsidized Family Planning Services: United States, Each State and County, 1971. New York, 1973; The Alan Guttmacher Institute. Abortion 1974-1975. Needs and Services in the United States, Each State and Metropolitan Area. New York, 1976

**Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Guidelines for Referral to Outpatient Abortion Clinics in the Washington Metropolitan Area. May 1975



"dilatation and evacuation" (D&E). Instillation procedures are subdivided into saline, prostaglandin, and other, depending on the primary abortifacient instilled. From 1972 through 1976, 43 women died after curettage procedures, 14 after D&E, 36 after saline instillation, 7 after prostaglandin instillation, 3 after instillation of other abortifacients (oxytocin, urea, and Leunbach's paste), 8 after hysterotomy or hysterectomy, and 5 after other methods (3 intrauterine insertions of rubber catheters, 1 "mechanical packing," and 1 unknown) (Table 22).

If we apply the type of procedure by weeks of gestation distributions from the reporting states to the total number of abortions reported from 1972-1976, we obtain denominators upon which to calculate procedure-gestation-specific death-to-case rates (Table 23). Because many states categorize prostaglandin instillation under the "other" category, for the purposes of this table our denominator distributions included the "other" category in the denominator of the instillation of prostaglandin agents. Because of this shift, we have also included deaths from instillation of other agents in the prostaglandin category. Deaths that occurred from other methods such as intrauterine insertion of rubber catheters or "mechanical packing" were not included in the calculations of specific methods in the body of Table 23, but were included in the row labeled "Total."

From 1972 through 1976, the risk of a woman's dying from uterine evacuation procedures increased with gestational age. Curettage procedures had a death-to-case rate of 0.5/100,000 abortions at \leq 8 weeks, 1.6 at 9-10 weeks, and 3.3 at 11-12 weeks; D&E procedures had a death-to-case rate of 7.6/100,000 abortions at 13-15 weeks, 13.2 at 16-20 weeks, and 43.1 at $>$ 21 weeks.

Although a woman's overall risk of dying is greater from D&E than it is from curettage procedures, it is less than that from either of the 2 instillation procedures (last column-Table 23). From 1972-1976, D&E had an overall death-to-case rate of 9.9 per 100,000 abortions, compared with 13.1 for prostaglandin instillation (including other agents) and 18.3 for saline instillation. However, beyond 20 weeks' gestation, the death-to-case rate for D&E was higher than that for saline at any gestational age interval, and higher than prostaglandin instillation at 16-20 weeks. The marked variation within specific gestational age intervals between prostaglandin and saline instillation is probably caused by statistical artifact arising from the relatively small number of deaths and cases involved.

A case history of a death that occurred in 1976 provides an example of various factors associated with abortion-related fatalities:

Case History

A 35-year-old married woman with a history of 9 previous pregnancies, 6 living children, and 2 previous spontaneous abortions had symptoms of abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting. She stated that her last menstrual period had occurred 2 weeks before her visit to her physician. After examination, she was diagnosed as having either gastritis or a peptic ulcer, and was placed on antacids. Three days later x-rays of the gall bladder and upper gastrointestinal tract showed no abnormalities.

Two months later the patient returned with symptoms of lethargy and morning sickness, and was found to have an intrauterine pregnancy estimated to be "2 months' gestation." She was counseled on the potential risk of her previous x-ray exposure to the fetus, and she elected to terminate her pregnancy. At the time of this decision, she was 10 menstrual weeks' pregnant. She was referred to a private physician for an abortion, but for unknown reasons delayed 4 weeks before seeing him. At the time of his preoperative evaluation, she was estimated to be 14 weeks' pregnant. The abortion was scheduled for 10 days later, over 1 month after the initial diagnosis of pregnancy.

The woman underwent abortion by intraamniotic instillation of prostaglandin F_{2a} (PGF_{2a}) in the physician's office to terminate what was then estimated to be a 15-week pregnancy. At the time, it was routine practice for this physician to inject the PGF_{2a} intraamniotically in his office and then transfer the patient to a hospital for completion of her abortion. A transabdominal amniocentesis was performed, and 40 mg of PGF_{2a}

was instilled. About 5 minutes after the instillation, the patient had an episode of nausea and vomiting. She collapsed shortly thereafter, and was found to have no pulse. Aspiration was suspected. She was given prompt cardiopulmonary resuscitation, including mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and external cardiac massage. She was transferred immediately to a local emergency room.

The patient was comatose on admission, without palpable pulse or blood pressure. She was immediately intubated, and resuscitation measures were continued. An electrocardiogram showed ventricular fibrillation. Resuscitation was continued for 90 minutes, and her rhythm eventually converted to sinus tachycardia. The serum potassium level, drawn after resuscitation, was 3.4 mEq/l. On the second hospital day, she expelled the products of conception.

Intensive supportive care was provided both at the local hospital where the patient was initially admitted and at the university general hospital where she was eventually transferred. Her neurologic status never improved. She responded to pain and moved her arms but not her legs. She eventually died 5 months after her sudden collapse. The autopsy report attributed the death to a pulmonary embolus, along with "severe anoxic brain damage" suffered during a cardiorespiratory arrest occurring after intrauterine instillation of PGF_{2a}.

There are several preventable aspects to this case. First, the patient initially decided to terminate her pregnancy at approximately 10 weeks' gestation. Had she been counseled regarding the increased risks of delaying the abortion procedure and scheduled for an immediate suction curettage at this time, she might not have delayed her visit to the physician to whom she was referred. Second, when she was finally seen at 14 weeks' gestation, she should have been scheduled for a dilatation and evacuation procedure as soon as possible, rather than delayed for 10 days in order to allow an intrauterine instillation procedure. Third, although the appropriate role of an abortion facility in preventing this death is undetermined, the manufacturer recommends that prostaglandin agents be used only in hospital settings. It is possible that the death might have been prevented if the abortion had been performed in a hospital. However, immediate resuscitation measures were successful in the office, and the patient was transferred to a hospital within 15 minutes of her collapse. Moreover, another death with similar manifestations has occurred within a hospital setting, despite elaborate and immediate resuscitation measures available. Sudden collapse associated with the use of prostaglandin F_{2a} is a rare, but obviously serious, event associated with these abortifacients. The etiology of this sudden collapse is still unknown. Nonetheless, the occurrence of this and 1 other case should heighten clinicians' awareness of the possible risks associated with prostaglandin abortifacients.

D. Illegal Abortion Mortality

Three deaths were associated with illegally induced abortions in 1976, compared with 39 in 1972, 19 in 1973, 6 in 1974, and 4 in 1975. This decline in illegal abortion mortality probably reflects a decrease in the number of illegal abortions being performed. As the safer legal procedures have become more widely available throughout the country, women who formerly terminated their pregnancies through illegal channels probably are electing the safer legal facilities. However, barriers still exist, whether geographic, financial, or cultural, which serve to discourage women from obtaining legal abortions. The following 1976 case history describes a situation in which a woman chose a less safe illegal abortion because of cultural factors:

Case History

A 29-year-old Mexican-American married woman with 4 previous pregnancies, 2 living children, and 1 previous illegal abortion underwent an induced abortion performed in Mexico by a midwife to terminate a pregnancy of 10 weeks' gestation. Her motivation for seeking an illegal abortion, according to her family, was cultural familiarity. She had previously undergone an abortion at 14 weeks in 1968, also in Mexico.

The midwife inserted a catheter into the patient's uterus and removed the catheter the following day. The removal was followed by uterine cramping, vaginal hemorrhage, and the passage of the products of conception. That evening the patient was noted to be jaundiced by her husband, and over the next 3 days she had symptoms of nausea, vomiting, and decreased appetite. She was admitted to a university teaching hospital with jaundice and abdominal pain. Physical examination revealed normal vital signs, but marked icterus and abdominal-uterine tenderness. Her white blood cell count was 22,400, bilirubin was 11.6, and her hematocrit was 26. Cultures from blood samples drawn at the time of admission grew *Escherichia coli*. She was begun on antibiotics and intravenous fluids, and an immediate curettage was performed. Over the next 24 hours, progressive renal failure developed, along with the disseminated intravascular coagulation syndrome. A total abdominal hysterectomy and bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy were performed the day after admission. The operation revealed a purulent and foul-smelling uterus which grew *E. Coli* on culture. Over the next 4 days, the patient's status transiently improved, but her renal function continued to decline. She was transferred to another hospital for hemodialysis, but there she suffered a cardiac arrest and could not be resuscitated.

This death was preventable, with the responsibility largely lying with the patient and her community. She sought abortion through the same channels in Mexico which she had used previously before abortion became legal in the United States. Abortion facilities were available to the patient in her community, although the percentage of "met need"* fell well below the national average. Another factor which may have played a role in this patient's choice of an illegal abortion was her ethnic tradition of relying on nonphysician primary care from persons of similar background. This may have led to her crossing the border and undergoing an illegal procedure in which an unsterile technique was used and a foreign body inserted which contributed to her infection and death.

E. Spontaneous Abortion Mortality

There were 12 deaths from spontaneous abortion in the United States in 1976; 1 was associated with an intrauterine device (IUD) in situ during the pregnancy (Figure 14). In previous years 18 deaths were associated with IUDs: 9 in 1972, 4 in 1973, 4 in 1974, and 1 in 1975. The number of non-IUD-associated spontaneous abortion deaths was 15 in 1972, 5 in 1973, 14 in 1974, 12 in 1975, and 11 in 1976. Thus, except for 1973, the annual number of deaths has been declining slightly. Because of the small numbers involved, however, this may represent chance fluctuation of a rare event.

IV. ABORTION-RELATED MORBIDITY: THE JOINT PROGRAM FOR THE STUDY OF ABORTION/CDC: THE SAFETY OF LOCAL ANESTHESIA COMPARED WITH GENERAL ANESTHESIA FOR SUCTION CURETTAGE ABORTION

The Joint Program for the Study of Abortion under the auspices of the Center for Disease Control (JPSA/CDC) is a multicenter study of the early and delayed medical complications of legally induced abortion. Initial analyses investigated the comparative risks of second-trimester abortion by 3 methods--intraamniotic prostaglandin F_{2a}, hypertonic saline, and dilatation and evacuation (D&E). Subsequent JPSA/CDC analyses have used data from 54,155 suction curettage abortions performed at < 12 weeks' gestation in the United States from 1971 through 1975 to compare the safety of local and general anesthesia.

*See The Alan Guttmacher Institute. Abortion 1974-1975. Needs and Services in the United States, Each State and Metropolitan Area, New York, 1976

For the study, 14 complications--out of a list of approximately 100, ranging from vaginitis to death--were identified as major: cardiac arrest; convulsions; endotoxic shock; fever for 3 or more days; hemorrhage necessitating blood transfusion; hypernatremia; injury to the bladder, ureter, or intestines; pelvic infection with 2 or more days of fever and a peak of at least 40C or with hospitalization for 11 or more days; pneumonia; psychiatric hospitalization for 11 or more days; pulmonary embolism or infarction; thrombophlebitis; unintended major surgery; and wound disruption after hysterotomy or hysterectomy. The term "major complication rate" was used to refer to the percentage of women sustaining 1 or more of these 14 complications.

In our analysis, paracervical anesthesia with or without administration of a sedative or analgesic was considered "local anesthesia." Similarly, general anesthesia induced and maintained by any agent or agents with or without administration of a sedative or analgesic was termed "general anesthesia." Other combinations, such as dissociative anesthesia, or local anesthesia followed by general anesthesia, were excluded from analysis. The majority of the abortions studied took place in hospitals (56%) and the remainder in nonhospital clinics. Local anesthesia was used more frequently in both types of facilities: for 83% of the abortions in clinics and 55% in hospitals.

The major complication rates associated with the 2 types of anesthesia--local or general--were not significantly different. The estimated relative risk of sustaining 1 or more complications associated with general anesthesia was 1.2 times higher than that associated with local anesthesia. This small relative risk increment vanished entirely when standardized by type of facility.

Significant differences emerged, however, in rates for certain specific complications. The risk associated with general anesthesia was higher than that associated with local anesthesia for the following complications: uterine hemorrhage, 1.7 times higher; uterine perforation, 2.2 times higher; intraabdominal hemorrhage, 8.2 times higher; and cervical trauma, 2.9 times higher.

On the other hand, rates for other specific complications were significantly higher for women whose anesthesia was local. The relative risk of fever was greater for women in this group: a temperature of $\geq 38C$ for 1 or more days was 1.6 higher, and for ≥ 3 days was 2.1 higher. Similarly, the rates for convulsions were significantly higher for women given local anesthetic agents.

In this study of women who underwent suction curettage at ≤ 12 weeks' gestation, the overall safety of local anesthesia and of general anesthesia appear similar. Although the aggregated major complication rates associated with the 2 methods were not significantly different, there were significant differences between local and general anesthesia for specific complications and treatments. Blood transfusions and major abdominal operations were significantly more common with general anesthesia, and fever for ≥ 3 days and convulsions were significantly more common with local anesthesia. Hemorrhage, uterine perforation, cervical injury, and cervical suturing were significantly more common for the general anesthesia group, and fever for ≥ 1 day was significantly more common for the local anesthesia group. Consequently, each anesthetic technique seems to be associated with a different spectrum of complications. Suction curettage operators and their patients should be cognizant of these differences and weigh the advantages and disadvantages of each before the anesthetic technique is selected.

V. INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

A. Comparative Data

Over the past decade, many countries have liberalized their abortion laws to varying degrees. Potts et al estimate that in 1975 more than 60% of the world's population lived in countries where abortion was readily available (Potts, M., Diggory, P., Peel, J.: Abortion. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England, 1977). From 1975 to 1977, liberalization of abortion laws occurred in The German Federal Republic, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, Hong Kong, South Africa, New Zealand, and Australia. On the other hand, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Romania adopted more restrictive legislation than they had had in previous years.

References

Because of differences in legal statutes, cultural traditions, and accessibility of medical services, the use of abortion varies widely throughout the world (Table 24). In 1976 the United States reported the highest number of legal abortions, followed by Japan, India, France, and England. Hungary had the highest abortion rate (41.5 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years), despite legislation since 1974 that has limited access to abortion. Abortion rates for Singapore (27.5), Czechoslovakia (26.7), Denmark (25.8), and Japan (24.9) were also relatively high. The United States' abortion rate (20.5) falls midway in the international distribution of rates for 1976.

Of those countries which reported abortions by woman's age, the United States had the highest percentage (32%) of teenagers who obtained legal abortion (Table 25). Despite a high abortion rate, Japan had a low percentage of teenage women (2%) who obtained legal abortions.

The percentage of abortions obtained by currently married women was inversely related to the percentage of abortions to younger women (Table 25). In the United States only 27% of women seeking legal abortion were married at the time of the abortion. Ninety-three percent of Indian women were married at the time of their abortion.

In summary, compared with other countries where abortion is legal, the United States had the highest number of reported legal abortions, but the abortion rate was midway in the international distribution. The United States had the highest percentage of teenagers obtaining legal abortions, and concurrently the lowest percentage of women who were married at the time of the procedure.

B. Abortion in Latin America

In some Latin American countries, legal constraints restrict the practice of abortion. Induced abortion is often available, however, from qualified private practitioners in well-equipped facilities. Data analyzed by CDC from a private clinic in 1 Latin American country show that women seeking abortions from that clinic have characteristics similar to those women obtaining abortions in North America. Over a 15-month period beginning in April 1975, 1,400 abortions were performed in this clinic. Almost two-thirds (63%) of the women who obtained abortion were 24 years of age or less, and 24% were less than 20 years old. The majority of women were single (61%). Seventy-four percent had some high school education. Sixty-one percent had had 1 or 2 pregnancies, but 51% reported never having delivered a live birth. Slightly more than one-third of the women had had a previous induced abortion. Fifty-two percent of women obtained abortion at 8 weeks' gestation or less, 24% at 9-10 weeks, and 13% at 11-12 weeks. Almost 71% had never used contraceptives before the abortion; 8.3% had used vaginal contraceptives, 5.4% condoms, and 5.3% oral contraceptives. Reported complication rates during and after the abortion procedure were low. During the uterine evacuation procedure, vomiting occurred in 2.1% of the cases. After the procedure, the failure to expel all products of conception was the most frequent complication (2.6%).

VI. FOREIGN TRANSLATIONS OF SUMMARY

A. Resumen (Spanish)

En 1976, los cincuenta estados y el Distrito de Columbia de E.E.U.U. informaron al Centre for Disease Control de 988,267 abortos ocurridos ese año, lo que significó un aumento de 16% con respecto al año anterior. La razón aborto;nacimiento a nivel nacional, aumentó en los mismos años un 15%, de 272 a 312 abortos por cada 1000 nacimientos vivos, o sea casi un aborto por cada tres nacimientos vivos. Los datos tambien muestran que en 1976 un porcentaje mayor (90%) de mujeres obtuvieron abortos en su propio estado de residencia que durante los años anteriores.

Como en los años anteriores, mujeres que obtuvieron un aborto legal eran frecuentemente jovenes, de raza blanca, solteras y de baja paridad. 65% eran menos de 25 años; 67% eran de raza blanca y 33% eran de raza negra y otras; 75% eran solteras y 25% casadas; 48% de mujeres lo tenían hijos vivos. El método predominante para aborto legal continuó siendo el curetaje con succión, alcanzando en 1976 un 83% de todos los abortos efectuados. Casi la mitad de las mujeres que abortaron tenían hasta 12 semanas de gestación. La utilización del procedimiento de dilatación y evacuación aumentó en 1976 para pacientes que tenían mas de 12 semanas de gestación, mientras que la utilización de los procedimientos de instilación disminuyeron.

La tendencia de muertes por aborto a disminuir continuó en 1976--25 de las mujeres murieron de complicaciones por abortos, comparadas con 45 el año anterior, 52 en 1974, 56 in 1973 y 89 in 1972. Por primera vez desde 1972, hubo disminución de muertes por aborto legal anual. 10 mujeres murieron después de aborto inducido legalmente en 1976 comparada con 29 en 1975, 27 en 1974, 26 en 1973 y 24 en 1972. En 1976, hubo 3 muertes después de aborto inducido ilegalmente y 11 muertes después de aborto espontáneo.

La tasa de muerte por caso para abortos legales disminuyó de 3.4 muertes por 100,000 abortos en 1975 a 1.0 en 1976.

Un analisis de 54,155 abortos de curetaje con succión realizados a las 12 semanas o menos de gestación notificados a través del Joint Program for the Study of Abortion/CDC (JPSA/CDC), lo demostró una diferencia en complicaciones con respecto al uso de la anestesia local y general. Aunque las tasas agregadas de complicaciones mayores asociadas con los dos métodos de anestesia usados no fueron significativamente diferente, hubo diferencias significativas entre la anestesia local y general con respecto a complicaciones y tratamientos específicos. La anestesia local fue asociada con tasas mas altas de complicaciones de fiebre y convulsiones; sin embargo, la anestesia general fue asociada con tasas mas altas de hemorragia, herida cervical y perforación uterina. Ambas técnicas de anestesia ofrecen un grado similar de seguridad aunque cada una está asociada con un diferente espectro de complicaciones.

B. Résumé (French)

En 1976 les 50 états des Etats-Unis et le District de Colombie ont signalé au Centre de Contrôle des Maladies 988.267 avortements, une augmentation de 16% par rapport à 1975. La raison nationale d'avortements a augmenté de 15% (de 272 avortements par 1.000 naissances vivantes en 1975 à 312 par 1.000 naissances vivantes en 1976) ce qui représente presque un avortement pour toutes les trois naissances vivantes. La redistribution d'avortements légaux vers les états qui avaient des lois restrictives avant 1973 a continué et on constate que la gamme des raisons signalées par les états est devenue plus restreinte. Un plus grand pourcentage (90%) des femmes se font avorter dans l'état où elles habitent qu'auparavant (voir la Table résumé).

Comme dans les années précédentes, les femmes qui ont subi un avortement légal en 1976 étaient en général jeunes, blanches, non-mariées et avaient peu ou pas d'enfants. Soixante-cinq pour cent avaient moins de 25 ans; 67% des femmes étaient blanches, tandis que 33% étaient de race noire ou autre. Soixante-quinze pour cent des femmes n'étaient pas mariées au moment de l'intervention, tandis que 25% étaient mariées. Quarante-huit pour cent des femmes n'avaient pas d'enfants vivants. La méthode prédominante pour les avortements légaux est toujours le curetage à suction, qui représente 83% des traitements opérés en 1976. Les femmes continuent à se faire avorter plus tôt dans leur grossesse; presque la moitié de tous les avortements ont eu lieu à < 8 semaines de grossesse, tandis que 89% des avortements ont été provoqués pendant les 12 premières semaines. Par rapport aux années précédentes, après 12 semaines de grossesse, le pourcentage de traitements à dilatation et évacuation a augmenté, tandis que les traitements à instillation ont diminué.

Le déclin des morts ayant rapport à l'avortement a continué en 1976. Vingt-six femmes sont mortes à la suite de complications d'avortement en 1976, par contraste avec 46 en 1975, 52 en 1974, 56 en 1973, et 89 en 1972. Pour la première fois depuis 1972, il y a eu une baisse du nombre de morts à la suite d'avortements légaux; dix femmes sont mortes à la suite d'avortements légaux en 1976, par contraste avec 29 en 1975, 27 en 1974, 26 en 1973, et 24 en 1972. En 1976, il y a eu trois morts à la suite d'avortements illégaux et 11 morts à la suite d'avortements spontanés. La mortalité pour les avortements légaux est tombée de 3,4 morts par 100.000 avortements en 1975 à 1,0 en 1976.

Une analyse de 54.155 avortements par curetage à suction opérés à < 12 semaines menstruelles de grossesse et signalés au Programme Mixte pour l'Etude de l'Avortement/Centre de Contrôle des Maladies (JPSA/CDC) a fait voir que la sûreté globale d'anesthésie locale et d'anesthésie générale semblent être pareilles. Quoique les taux globaux de complications majeures calculés pour les deux méthodes d'anesthésie ne montrent pas de différence significative, il y avait des différences significatives entre l'anesthésie locale et l'anesthésie locale et l'anesthésie générale en ce qui concerne les traitements et les complications spécifiques. L'anesthésie locale était liée à des taux plus élevés de mortalité fébrile et convulsive; par contraste, l'anesthésie générale était liée à des taux plus élevés d'hémorragie, de lésions cervicales et de perforations utérines. Les deux méthodes d'anesthésie semblent avoir en général le même degré de sûreté, mais chacune est liée à une différente gamme de complications.

Table 1
CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD OF THE STATUS OF ABORTION LAW CHANGES,
ABORTION REPORTING, AND ABORTION RATIOS IN THE UNITED STATES
1969-1976

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Cumulative No. of states with reform abortion laws enacted since 1967	9	16	16	17	.. ¹	.. ¹	.. ¹	.. ¹
No. of states from which statewide abortion data are reported ²	8	17	18	20	25	36	38	40
Additional states from which abortion data are reported from individual hospitals or facilities	2	7	7	8	26	15	13	11
Total No. of states from which partial or complete abortion data are reported ²	10	24	25	28	51	51	51	51
Total No. of abortions reported to CDC	22,670	193,491	485,816	586,760	615,831	763,476 ⁴	854,853 ⁵	988,267
National abortion ratio (abortions per 1,000 live births ³)	6.3	51.9	136.6	180.1	196.3	241.6	271.9	312.0

¹On January 22, 1973, the U.S. 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.

²Beginning 1970 includes District of Columbia

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

⁴Does not include 17,348 abortions for 1974 reported to the CDC after publication of the 1974 Abortion Surveillance Report. Statistics on these 17,348 abortions are not incorporated into the current report, except in Table 3.

⁵Does not include 9,826 abortions for 1975 reported to the CDC after publication of the 1975 Abortion Surveillance Report. Statistics on these 9,826 abortions are not incorporated into the current report, except in Table 3.



Table 2
REPORTED NUMBER OF LEGAL ABORTIONS AND ABORTION RATIOS AND RATES,
BY STATE OF OCCURRENCE, 1976

State	Abortions ¹	Live Births ¹	Ratios ²	Females 15-44 ³	Rate ⁴
Alabama	7,278 ⁵	57,707 ⁶	126	814,400	9
Alaska	1,213	7,912	153	91,200	13
Arizona	5,202	40,028	130	498,200	10
Arkansas	3,286	33,381	98	447,900	7
California	142,593	332,105	429	4,946,800	29
Colorado	11,539	40,978	282	617,600	19
Connecticut	13,447	34,946 ⁶	385	700,600	19
Delaware	2,519	8,291 ⁶	304	135,800	19
Dist. of Col.	31,407	9,637	*	168,100	187
Florida	35,220	104,613	337	1,689,800	21
Georgia	25,586	79,282	323	1,148,500	22
Hawaii	5,163	16,292	317	190,100	27
Idaho	968 ⁵	17,322	56	184,000	5
Illinois	66,356	170,181	390	2,527,200	26
Indiana	8,610	80,648	107	1,211,100	7
Iowa	5,435 ⁵	41,134 ⁶	132	628,900	9
Kansas	9,154	35,278	259	508,900	18
Kentucky	8,616 ⁵	56,860 ⁶	152	758,500	11
Louisiana	6,350	69,678	91	868,200	7
Maine	1,942 ⁵	14,603 ⁶	133	228,100	9
Maryland	20,641	52,672	392	972,700	21
Massachusetts	32,801	67,700	485	1,311,000	25
Michigan	42,489 ⁵	130,135 ⁶	326	2,116,200	20
Minnesota	14,124	56,600	250	916,900	15
Mississippi	1,510	42,983	35	505,900	3
Missouri	12,881	68,783	187	1,054,200	12
Montana	1,803	12,355 ⁷	146	167,100	11
Nebraska	3,977	23,767	167	341,300	12
Nevada	2,382	9,906	240	138,400	17
New Hampshire	1,958	11,186 ⁷	175	186,600	10
New Jersey	29,572 ⁸	90,549	327	1,598,500	18
New Mexico	5,008 ⁵	22,108 ⁶	227	265,000	19
New York	147,860	235,176	629	4,006,800	37
(City)	(102,016) ⁹	(105,491)			
(Upstate)	(45,844)	(129,685)	(354)		
N. Carolina	23,561	80,549	293	1,238,200	19
N. Dakota	1,752	11,398 ⁶	154	137,400	13
Ohio	37,192	155,215	240	2,434,900	15
Oklahoma	7,551 ⁵	43,655	173	602,700	13
Oregon	12,590	34,840	361	529,400	24
Pennsylvania	52,261	148,004	353	2,564,100	20
Rhode Island	3,863	10,786	358	198,900	19
S. Carolina	5,702	47,651	120	642,200	9
S. Dakota	1,561	11,655	134	145,000	11
Tennessee	16,967	62,514	271	954,300	18
Texas	20,493 ⁵	218,447	231	2,830,600	18
Utah	2,542	35,310	72	283,400	9
Vermont	2,322	6,753	344	109,700	21
Virginia	22,635	69,972	323	1,143,400	20
Washington	22,790	49,994 ⁶	456	826,700	28
West Virginia	979 ⁵	28,586	34	390,000	3
Wisconsin	14,243	65,012 ⁶	219	1,046,000	14
Wyoming	373 ⁵	6,784 ⁶	55	87,600	4
Total	988,267	3,161,921	313	48,109,000	21

¹Abortion and resident live birth data from central health agency unless otherwise noted
²Abortions per 1,000 live births
³Estimated by Family Planning Evaluation Division, CDC, based on published and unpublished data from the Bureau of the Census
⁴Abortions per 1,000 females aged 15-44
⁵Reported from hospitals and/or facilities in state
⁶Live birth data from Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Provisional Statistics, Annual Summary for the United States, 1976, Vol. 25, No. 13, December 12, 1977
⁷Occurrence live birth data from central health agency
⁸Reported from state health department and hospitals and/or facilities in state. Only health department data are used elsewhere in this report unless otherwise noted.
⁹Data from New York City Health Department

*Greater than 1,000 abortions per 1,000 live births

Table 3
NUMBER OF ABORTIONS AND PERCENT INCREASE*
FOR EACH FULL YEAR OF REPORTING, SELECTED STATES**, 1969-1976

State	1969		1970		1971		1972		1973		1974 ¹		1975 ²		1976	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska
Arkansas
California	15,339	..	65,369	326.2	116,749	78.6	138,584	18.6	131,870	18.7	135,762	3.0	142,067	4.6	142,593	0.4
Colorado	1,000	..	2,581	158.1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Connecticut
Delaware
Dist. of Col.
Florida
Georgia	168	..	705	319.6	1,579	124.0	2,509	58.9	12,301	390.3	22,009	78.9	23,733	7.8	25,586	7.8
Hawaii
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Louisiana
Maryland
Massachusetts
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York	305	..	1,357	344.9	4,378	222.6	8,365	91.1	11,935	42.7	16,463	37.9	19,960	21.2	23,561	18.0
N. Carolina
N. Dakota
Oregon	1,407	..	7,176	411.4	6,997	-2.8	7,143	2.1	7,447	4.3	8,794	18.1	10,641	21.0	12,590	18.3
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
S. Carolina
S. Dakota
Tennessee
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin

¹Includes 17,348 abortions for 1974 reported to the CDC after publication of the 1974 Abortion Surveillance Report. See Table 1, footnote 4.
²Includes 9,826 abortions for 1975 reported to the CDC after publication of the 1975 Abortion Surveillance Report. See Table 1, footnote 5.
³Reported from state health department and hospitals and/or facilities in state

*Percent increase over previous year
**States with data reported by central health agency (38)
..Not applicable

Table 4
REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS PERFORMED ON OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS, 1976

State	Total Abortions Performed	No. of Abortions with Residence Known ¹	No. of Abortions on Out-of-State Residents	Percent of Abortions with Residence Known--Performed on Out-of-State Residents				
				1972 ²	1973 ²	1974 ²	1975 ²	1976
Alabama ³	7,278	6,876	797	0.3	9.1	10.2	8.0	11.6
Alaska	1,213	1,213	25	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.6	2.1
Arizona	5,202	5,164	91	--	0.8	0.4	0.9	1.8
Arkansas	3,286	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
California	142,593	139,083	1,790	16.0	9.4	2.4	1.9	1.3
Colorado	11,539	11,517	982	7.7	5.2	5.8	9.2	8.5
Connecticut	13,447	13,057	173	0.1	1.3	1.9	1.6	1.3
Delaware	2,519	--	--	4.7	--	1.0	--	--
Dist. of Col.	31,407	29,911	16,966	74.5	64.7	59.7	55.2	56.7
Florida	35,220	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Georgia	25,586	25,436	2,930	0.0	14.5	18.7	15.3	11.5
Hawaii	5,163	5,157	211	0.5	1.0	2.5	5.0	4.1
Idaho ³	968	128	2	--	2.6	2.6	1.9	1.6
Illinois	66,356	65,250	4,077	--	11.2	10.0	7.5	6.2
Indiana	8,610	8,610	121	--	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.4
Iowa ³	5,435	4,703	458	--	9.3	--	6.7	9.7
Kansas	9,154	9,141	3,455	63.2	61.0	44.3	39.0	37.8
Kentucky ³	8,616	7,994	2,239	--	12.4	40.1	31.3	28.0
Louisiana	6,350	6,073	589	--	--	11.9	9.5	9.7
Maine ³	1,942	1,911	36	--	0.8	1.0	2.1	1.9
Maryland	20,641	20,631	1,327	2.0	2.8	4.7	6.5	6.4
Massachusetts	32,801	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Michigan ³	42,489	35,734	3,316	--	12.6	11.6	10.0	9.3
Minnesota	14,124	13,151	2,042	--	9.3	18.1	13.4	15.5
Mississippi	1,510	1,510	117	0.0	0.0	5.0	17.5	7.7
Missouri	12,881	12,871	2,267	--	25.6	25.8	20.8	17.6
Montana	1,803	1,803	57	--	0.0	2.0	2.1	3.2
Nebraska	3,977	3,977	1,069	--	20.7	19.2	22.9	26.9
Nevada	2,382	2,260	170	--	0.0	4.6	29.8	7.5
New Hampshire	1,958	1,908 ⁴	165 ⁴	--	9.7	11.5	6.3	8.6
New Jersey ⁵	29,572	28,001	622	--	--	4.2	1.4	2.2
New Mexico ³	5,008	3,198	383	68.9	37.3	15.5	7.3	12.0
New York (City)	147,860	144,782	17,079	60.8	39.5	20.9	16.4	11.8
New York (Upstate)	(102,016)	(98,973)	(10,251)	(61.2)	(39.9)	(21.8)	(15.9)	(10.4)
N. Carolina	(45,844)	(45,809)	(6,828)	(59.7)	(38.6)	(18.3)	(17.7)	(14.9)
N. Carolina	23,561	23,504	1,471	0.6	0.5	5.6	6.2	6.3
N. Dakota	1,752	1,752	926	--	--	18.2	--	52.9
Ohio	37,192	35,788	2,604	--	9.6	9.0	6.6	7.3
Oklahoma ³	7,551	7,297	828	--	0.0	29.1	11.4	11.3
Oregon	12,590	12,553	786	0.2	5.2	6.0	5.4	6.3
Pennsylvania	52,261	52,261	5,864	--	7.8	11.3	12.2	11.2
Rhode Island	3,863	3,863	259	--	8.8	8.4	7.9	6.7
S. Carolina	5,702	5,689	250	0.6	8.6	6.7	4.1	4.4
S. Dakota	1,561	1,542	662	--	43.7	41.9	42.9	42.9
Tennessee	16,967	16,924	3,342	--	2.8	8.4	15.9	19.7
Texas ³	50,493	38,894	2,148	--	3.6	--	6.5	5.5
Utah	2,542	2,528	146	--	10.0	5.1	5.5	5.8
Vermont	2,322	2,321	676	16.5	22.2	27.7	31.1	29.1
Virginia	22,635	22,635	1,079	0.1	2.6	5.4	5.3	4.8
Washington	22,790	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
West Virginia ³	979	870	83	--	--	--	19.4	9.5
Wisconsin	14,243	12,785	843	13.0	9.9	6.6	--	6.6
Wyoming ³	373	373	0	--	0.0	3.9	1.9	0.0
Total	988,267	852,629	85,523	43.8	25.2	13.4	10.8	10.0

¹Refers to in-state and out-of-state residence status

²Source: 1975 Abortion Surveillance Report

³Abortions for 1976 are reported from hospitals and/or facilities in state. Residence data are based on percents and actual numbers as reported by hospitals and/or facilities in the state.

⁴Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports

⁵Reported from state health department and hospitals and/or facilities in state

--Not reported

Table 5
REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS WITH STATE OF RESIDENCE KNOWN,* 1976

State of Residence by Census Division	Abortions Performed in State of Residence		Abortions Performed Outside State of Residence		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	
NEW ENGLAND	(54,552)	(95.2)	(2,765)	(4.8)	(57,317)
Maine	1,875 ¹	92.0	164	8.0	2,039
New Hampshire	1,743 ²	91.9	154	8.1	1,897
Vermont	1,645	94.1	104	5.9	1,749
Massachusetts	32,801 ³	97.8	726	2.2	33,527
Rhode Island	3,604	96.1	147	3.9	3,751
Connecticut	12,884	89.8	1,470	10.2	14,354
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	(201,479)	(93.4)	(14,221)	(6.6)	(215,700)
New York	127,703	99.1	1,130	0.9	128,833
New Jersey	27,379 ⁴	73.0	10,151	27.0	37,530
Pennsylvania	46,397	94.0	2,940	6.0	49,337
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	(147,206)	(91.9)	(12,888)	(8.1)	(160,094)
Ohio	33,184	94.4	1,964	5.6	35,148
Indiana	8,489	60.0	5,655	40.0	14,144
Illinois	61,173	94.5	3,551	5.5	64,724
Michigan	32,418 ¹	97.9	708	2.1	33,126
Wisconsin	11,942	92.2	1,010	7.8	12,952
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	(36,258)	(84.0)	(6,888)	(16.0)	(43,146)
Minnesota	11,109	99.0	108	1.0	11,217
Iowa	4,245 ¹	79.6	1,089	20.4	5,334
Missouri	10,604	72.3	4,055	27.7	14,659
N. Dakota	826	59.8	555	40.2	1,381
S. Dakota	880	61.6	548	38.4	1,428
Nebraska	2,908	93.3	209	6.7	3,117
Kansas	5,686	94.6	324	5.4	6,010
SOUTH ATLANTIC	(142,309)	(85.9)	(23,434)	(14.1)	(165,743)
Delaware	2,519 ³	74.4	866	25.6	3,385
Maryland	19,304	66.3	9,826	33.7	29,130
Dist. of Col.	12,945	98.6	189	1.4	13,134
Virginia	21,556	80.2	5,330	19.8	26,886
W. Virginia	787 ¹	24.6	2,413	75.4	3,200
N. Carolina	22,033	95.7	983	4.3	23,016
S. Carolina	5,439	66.6	2,729	33.4	8,168
Georgia	22,506	96.8	734	3.2	23,240
Florida	35,220 ³	99.0	364	1.0	35,584
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	(26,809)	(83.4)	(5,317)	(16.6)	(32,126)
Kentucky	5,755 ¹	77.1	1,706	22.9	7,461
Tennessee	13,582	96.1	553	3.9	14,135
Alabama	6,079 ¹	84.0	1,161	16.0	7,240
Mississippi	1,393	42.3	1,897	57.7	3,290
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	(51,985)	(93.8)	(3,420)	(6.2)	(55,405)
Arkansas	3,286 ³	72.4	1,254	27.6	4,540
Louisiana	5,484	85.1	963	14.9	6,447
Oklahoma	6,469 ¹	89.7	745	10.3	7,214
Texas	36,746 ¹	98.8	458	1.2	37,204

Table 5 (Continued)
 Abortions Performed
 in State of Residence
 Outside State of Residence
 Total

State of Residence by Census Division	Abortions Performed in State of Residence No.	%	Abortions Performed Outside State of Residence No.	%	Total
MOUNTAIN	(25,140)	(92.9)	(1,911)	(7.1)	(27,051)
Montana	1,746	83.1	355	16.9	2,101
Idaho	1261	49.0	131	51.0	257
Wyoming	3731	39.7	567	60.3	940
Colorado	10,535	89.3	76	0.7	10,611
New Mexico	2,8151	96.3	107	3.7	2,922
Arizona	5,073	94.9	274	5.1	5,347
Utah	2,382	95.7	108	4.3	2,490
Nevada	2,090	87.7	293	12.3	2,383
PACIFIC	(177,984)	(99.4)	(1,047)	(0.6)	(179,031)
Washington	22,7903	97.1	671	2.9	23,461
Oregon	11,767	89.6	50	0.4	11,817
California	137,293	99.8	296	0.2	137,589
Alaska	1,188	98.1	23	1.9	1,211
Hawaii	4,946	99.9	7	0.1	4,953
TOTAL (1976)	863,722 ⁵	92.3	71,891	7.7	935,613 ⁶
TOTAL (1975)	731,666	92.0	63,858	8.0	795,524 ⁶
TOTAL (1974)	643,875	89.9	72,073	10.1	715,948 ⁶
TOTAL (1973)	440,202	79.9	110,443	20.1	550,645 ⁶
TOTAL (1972)	303,934	60.4	199,489	39.6	503,423 ⁶

¹Abortions reported from hospitals and/or facilities in state. Residence data based on percents and actual numbers as reported by hospitals and/or facilities in the state
²Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports
³Residency information not available; all abortions reported are assumed to have been performed on residents of the state
⁴Reported from state health department and data from hospitals and/or facilities in the state
⁵Total number of abortions performed in state of residence is greater than total number of abortions with residence known shown on Table 4 because the 5 states with unknown residence data (see Table 4) are included in Table 5 with all abortions assumed to have been performed on residents of the state (see footnote 3).
⁶Does not agree with Table 1 because abortions with state of residence unknown are excluded
 *Excludes 52,654 abortions with state of residence unknown (4,728 out-of-country residents were classified as state of residence unknown)

Table 6
 REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY AGE AND STATE OF OCCURRENCE,
 SELECTED STATES,* 1976

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	17	1.4	356	29.3	440	36.3	224	18.5	94	7.7	48	4.0	14	1.2	20	1.6	1,213	100.0
Arizona	50	1.0	1,635	31.4	1,899	36.5	897	17.2	356	6.8	171	3.3	52	1.0	142	2.7	5,202	100.0
Arkansas	70	2.1	1,235	37.6	1,009	30.7	500	15.2	259	7.9	158	4.8	55	1.7	0	0.0	3,286	100.0
California	1,868	1.3	47,654	33.4	45,815	32.1	26,380	18.5	12,776	9.0	6,117	4.3	1,954	1.4	29	0.0	142,593	100.0
Colorado	138	1.2	3,900	33.8	3,954	34.3	2,103	18.2	814	7.1	425	3.7	132	1.1	73	0.6	11,539	100.0
Connecticut	141	1.0	4,134	30.7	4,433	33.0	2,376	17.7	1,230	9.1	666	5.0	254	1.9	213	1.6	13,447	100.0
Dist. of Col.	599	1.9	8,535	27.2	10,906	34.7	6,505	20.7	3,044	9.7	1,355	4.3	440	1.4	23	0.1	31,407	100.0
Georgia	485	1.9	7,582	29.6	8,386	32.8	4,677	18.3	2,333	9.1	1,010	3.9	358	1.4	755	3.0	25,586	100.0
Hawaii	53	1.0	1,142	22.1	1,760	34.1	1,153	22.3	642	12.4	264	5.1	148	2.9	1	0.0	5,163	100.0
Illinois	391	0.6	16,046	24.2	22,110	33.3	12,589	19.0	6,626	10.0	3,697	5.6	1,564	2.4	3,333	5.0	66,356	100.0
Indiana	143	1.7	2,916	33.9	2,795	32.5	1,456	16.9	716	8.3	357	4.1	176	2.0	51	0.6	8,610	100.0
Kansas	212	2.3	3,662	40.0	2,728	29.8	1,285	14.0	647	7.1	383	4.2	182	2.0	55	0.6	9,154	100.0
Kentucky ¹	282	3.3	3,025	35.1	3,051	35.4	1,237	14.4	569	6.6	339	3.9	111	1.3	2	0.0	8,616	100.0
Louisiana	102	1.6	1,912	30.1	2,153	33.9	1,215	19.1	585	9.2	269	4.2	92	1.4	22	0.3	6,350	100.0
Maryland	404	2.0	7,754	37.6	6,528	31.6	3,364	16.3	1,529	7.4	749	3.6	313	1.5	0	0.0	20,641	100.0
Minnesota	155	1.1	5,350	37.9	4,369	30.9	1,946	13.8	788	5.6	413	2.9	172	1.2	931	6.6	14,124	100.0
Mississippi	35	2.3	483	32.0	503	33.3	265	17.5	116	7.7	68	4.5	33	2.2	7	0.5	1,510	100.0
Missouri	193	1.5	3,901	30.3	4,400	34.2	2,327	18.1	1,104	8.6	670	5.2	265	2.1	21	0.2	12,881	100.0
Montana	17	0.9	632	35.1	638	35.4	310	17.2	123	6.8	58	3.2	25	1.4	0	0.0	1,803	100.0
Nebraska	74	1.9	1,554	39.1	1,337	33.6	535	13.5	261	6.6	136	3.4	76	1.9	4	0.1	3,977	100.0
Nevada	34	1.4	752	31.6	786	33.0	444	18.6	203	8.5	93	3.9	22	0.9	48	2.0	2,382	100.0
New Hampshire ²	21	1.1	702	35.9	646	33.0	337	17.2	149	7.6	54	2.8	19	1.0	30	1.5	1,958	100.0
New Jersey	195	1.5	3,100	24.3	3,890	30.4	2,622	20.5	1,622	12.7	968	7.6	371	2.9	15	0.1	12,783	100.0
New York	1,479	1.0	36,567	24.7	46,935	31.7	31,605	21.4	17,929	12.1	9,290	6.3	3,344	2.3	711	0.5	147,860	100.0
(City)	(930)	(0.9)	(22,080)	(21.6)	(32,403)	(31.8)	(23,914)	(23.4)	(13,448)	(13.2)	(6,614)	(6.5)	(2,160)	(2.1)	(467)	(0.5)	(102,016)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(549)	(1.2)	(14,487)	(31.6)	(14,532)	(31.7)	(7,691)	(16.8)	(4,481)	(9.8)	(2,676)	(5.8)	(1,184)	(2.6)	(244)	(0.5)	(45,844)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	426	1.8	8,109	34.4	7,775	33.0	3,941	16.7	1,844	7.8	1,027	4.4	407	1.7	32	0.1	23,561	100.0
Ohio	314	0.8	10,664	28.7	13,110	35.2	6,692	18.0	2,848	7.7	1,690	4.5	750	2.0	1,124	3.0	37,192	100.0
Oregon	165	1.3	4,491	35.7	4,360	34.6	2,218	17.6	827	6.6	373	3.0	142	1.1	14	0.1	12,590	100.0
Pennsylvania	925	1.8	17,149	32.8	17,487	33.5	8,567	16.4	4,213	8.1	2,272	4.3	913	1.7	735	1.4	52,261	100.0
Rhode Island	28	0.7	1,107	28.7	1,295	33.5	743	19.2	375	9.7	211	5.5	83	2.1	21	0.5	3,863	100.0
S. Carolina	87	1.5	1,882	33.0	1,951	34.2	870	15.3	398	7.0	186	3.3	84	1.5	244	4.3	5,702	100.0
S. Dakota	16	1.0	546	35.0	540	34.6	232	14.9	87	5.6	52	3.3	34	2.2	54	3.5	1,561	100.0
Tennessee	267	1.6	5,852	34.5	5,755	33.9	2,851	16.8	1,293	7.6	632	3.7	197	1.2	120	0.7	16,967	100.0
Utah	29	1.1	744	29.3	911	35.8	450	17.7	216	8.5	93	3.7	44	1.7	55	2.2	2,542	100.0
Vermont	18	0.8	749	32.3	863	37.2	402	17.3	160	6.9	90	3.9	37	1.6	3	0.1	2,322	100.0
Virginia	413	1.8	7,729	34.1	7,615	33.6	3,713	16.4	1,814	8.0	949	4.2	382	1.7	20	0.1	22,635	100.0
Washington	265	1.2	8,183	35.9	7,518	33.0	3,860	16.9	1,728	7.6	906	4.0	330	1.4	0	0.0	22,790	100.0
Total	10,111	1.3	231,734	30.4	250,651	32.9	140,891	18.5	70,318	9.2	36,239	4.8	13,575	1.8	8,908	1.2	762,427	100.0

¹Based on distribution of data from hospitals and/or facilities reporting approximately 56% of total abortions
²Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports

*All states with data available (36)

Table 6A
REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS OBTAINED BY TEENAGERS,
SELECTED STATES,* 1976

State	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Total
Arizona	8	41	141	221	322	498	454	1,685
Arkansas	15	55	104	199	192	410	330	1,305
California	285	1,497	4,477	7,857	10,538	12,705	12,078	49,437
Colorado	21	115	326	556	814	1,111	1,093	4,036
Connecticut	25	100	315	475	754	1,354	1,236	4,259
Georgia	114	332	620	966	1,212	2,544	2,240	8,028
Hawaii	7	44	80	140	202	346	374	1,193
Illinois	80	289	958	1,966	3,147	4,571	5,404	16,415
Kansas	49	158	369	679	741	1,039	834	3,869
Louisiana	23	72	159	289	366	565	533	2,007
Minnesota	20	130	386	823	1,152	1,588	1,401	5,500
Mississippi	8	24	50	74	95	133	131	515
Missouri	47	136	363	622	661	1,158	1,097	4,084
Montana	2	14	51	92	108	202	179	648
Nebraska	9	64	131	235	299	318	571	1,627
Nevada	7	25	51	122	134	239	206	784
New Hampshire ¹	1	20	57	79	152	247	167	723
New York	288	1,134	2,688	4,677	6,931	11,413	10,858	37,989
(City)	(179)	(710)	(1,632)	(2,861)	(4,196)	(6,630)	(6,761)	(22,969)
(Upstate)	(109)	(424)	(1,056)	(1,816)	(2,735)	(4,783)	(4,097)	(15,020)
N. Carolina	81	322	723	1,234	1,494	2,397	2,261	8,512
Ohio	-- ²	314 ²	650	1,399	1,907	2,946	3,762	10,978
Oregon	36	127	423	814	977	1,219	1,058	4,654
Rhode Island	11	17	96	155	153	365	338	1,135
S. Dakota	1	14	27	83	120	152	164	561
Tennessee	62	189	471	795	903	1,960	1,723	6,103
Utah	8	20	61	109	113	236	225	772
Virginia	99	291	698	1,131	1,224	2,620	2,056	8,119
Total	1,307	5,544	14,475	25,792	34,711	52,336	50,773	184,938
% Distribution	0.7	3.0	7.8	13.9	18.8	28.3	27.5	100.0

¹Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports

²Reported as < 15

*All states with data available (26)

Table 7
LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY AGE,* SELECTED STATES, 1976

State	< 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	≥ 40	Total
Alaska	1,545	343	147	92	99	164	246	153
Arizona	383	227	136	81	78	114	131	130
Arkansas	324	152	81	59	88	163	201	98
California	2,208	902	402	258	280	447	704	429
Colorado	2,138	611	277	158	157	339	559	282
Connecticut ¹	1,788	943	431	191	225	469	878	385
Dist. of Col.	6,656	3,761	3,479	2,632	2,608	3,291	5,116	3,259
Georgia	805	430	314	226	279	428	651	323
Hawaii	3,312	522	323	217	248	436	1,165	317
Illinois	590	581	419	247	308	554	1,080	390
Indiana	486	184	95	62	86	154	292	107
Kansas	2,196	596	204	121	177	399	753	259
Kentucky ²	1,089	216	150	92	98	154	163	152
Louisiana	234	120	85	67	85	120	159	91
Maryland ¹	1,548	832	399	200	202	387	756	392
Minnesota	2,441	830	244	103	110	211	382	250
Mississippi	88	43	33	26	30	45	72	35
Missouri	734	300	186	112	139	272	438	187
Montana	1,214	334	133	81	91	147	260	146
Nebraska	2,846	482	152	67	98	176	390	167
Nevada	1,207	440	220	158	172	275	301	240
New Hampshire	1,909	476	171	85	106	165	302	175
New Jersey	682	261	151	82	106	224	433	141
New York	2,336	1,233	657	389	482	796	1,396	629
(City)	(2,609)	(1,511)	(1,008)	(702)	(805)	(1,120)	(1,792)	(967)
(Upstate)	(1,986)	(964)	(371)	(163)	(219)	(464)	(995)	(354)
N. Carolina	941	453	271	178	220	426	828	293
Ohio	667	390	250	142	167	334	691	240
Oregon	2,463	838	338	195	207	399	743	361
Pennsylvania	2,212	739	357	180	223	411	758	353
Rhode Island	1,400	715	353	202	275	581	1,064	358
S. Carolina	268	185	118	71	86	141	278	120
S. Dakota	1,308	325	126	66	72	128	246	134
Tennessee	701	414	261	169	208	321	443	271
Utah	1,034	195	69	42	44	57	118	72
Vermont	1,800	760	375	172	188	427	860	344
Virginia	1,558	619	331	171	193	364	796	323
Washington ¹	2,704	1,048	411	240	288	643	1,134	456
Total	1,208	582	320	198	241	419	712	328

¹Live births are based on 1975 distribution of live births by age of mother from central health agency.

²Live births are based on 1973 distribution of live births by age of mother from Vital Statistics of the United States, 1973, 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 1976 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 7A
LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS FOR TEENAGERS,* SELECTED STATES, 1976

State	< 15	15	16	17	18	19	Total
Arizona	383	356	239	225	251	184	230
Arkansas	324	183	170	113	194	128	156
California	2,208	1,753	1,296	1,046	865	620	922
Colorado	2,138	1,378	864	672	602	446	626
Connecticut ¹	1,788	1,448	867	850	1,080	836	958
Georgia	805	454	375	333	545	417	443
Hawaii	3,312	1,111	737	530	573	397	542
Illinois	590	537	528	551	608	609	581
Kansas	2,196	1,449	974	610	596	373	621
Louisiana	234	152	128	112	131	105	123
Minnesota	2,441	1,903	1,259	892	873	565	846
Mississippi	88	53	42	40	48	40	45
Missouri	734	438	363	243	333	257	308
Montana	1,214	671	561	309	378	232	340
Nebraska	2,846	1,065	697	456	349	478	501
Nevada	1,207	605	670	405	467	344	453
New Hampshire	1,909	806	526	556	595	296	486
New York	2,336	1,671	1,335	1,187	1,402	1,029	1,257
(City)	(2,609)	(1,743)	(1,491)	(1,425)	(1,701)	(1,374)	(1,537)
(Upstate)	(1,986)	(1,572)	(1,147)	(945)	(1,127)	(727)	(983)
N. Carolina	941	625	488	395	511	395	466
Ohio	667	430	412	343	384	411	395
Oregon	2,463	1,828	1,332	985	813	522	858
Rhode Island	1,400	1,684	918	490	810	605	724
S. Dakota	1,308	452	432	353	313	272	332
Tennessee	701	467	384	313	514	394	421
Utah	1,034	437	290	155	219	151	201
Virginia	1,558	1,025	676	495	768	484	639
Total	1,138	835	672	574	634	494	602

¹Live births are based on 1975 distribution of live births by age of mother from central health agency.

*Calculated as the number of legal abortions for women of a given age per 1,000 live births to women of the same age. ("Unknown" age for each state is distributed 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,* 1976

State	White		Black & Other		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	970	80.0	237	19.5	6	0.5	1,213	100.0
Arizona	3,867	74.3	800	15.4	535	10.3	5,202	100.0
Arkansas	2,606	79.3	680	20.7	0	0.0	3,286	100.0
California	99,464	69.8	36,486	25.6	6,643	4.7	142,593	100.0
Colorado	7,557	65.5	649	5.6	3,333	28.9	11,539	100.0
Dist. of Col.	13,158	41.9	17,791	56.6	458	1.5	31,407	100.0
Georgia	13,742	53.7	9,028	35.3	2,816	11.0	25,586	100.0
Hawaii	1,676	32.5	3,146	60.9	341	6.6	5,163	100.0
Illinois	34,133	51.4	29,735	44.8	2,488	3.7	66,356	100.0
Indiana	6,512	75.6	1,926	22.4	172	2.0	8,610	100.0
Kansas	7,170	78.3	1,710	18.7	274	3.0	9,154	100.0
Kentucky ¹	7,469	86.7	1,010	11.7	137	1.6	8,616	100.0
Louisiana	3,209	50.5	2,904	45.7	237	3.7	6,350	100.0
Maryland	12,226	59.2	8,201	39.7	214	1.0	20,641	100.0
Minnesota	11,450	81.1	622	4.4	2,052	14.5	14,124	100.0
Mississippi	976	64.6	515	34.1	19	1.3	1,510	100.0
Missouri	8,401	65.2	4,448	34.5	32	0.2	12,881	100.0
Montana	1,708	94.7	95	5.3	0	0.0	1,803	100.0
Nebraska	3,567	89.7	343	8.6	67	1.7	3,977	100.0
Nevada	2,016	84.6	333	14.0	33	1.4	2,382	100.0
New Hampshire ²	1,704	87.0	244	12.5	10	0.5	1,958	100.0
New Jersey	4,392	34.4	5,443	42.6	2,948	23.1	12,783	100.0
New York	92,526	62.6	54,684	37.0	650	0.4	147,860	100.0
(City)	(54,936)	(53.9)	(47,080)	(46.1)	(0)	(0.0)	(102,016)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(37,590)	(82.0)	(7,604)	(16.6)	(650)	(1.4)	(45,844)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	14,958	63.5	8,326	35.3	277	1.2	23,561	100.0
Ohio	22,089	59.4	8,962	24.1	6,141	16.5	37,192	100.0
Oregon	11,961	95.0	484	3.8	145	1.2	12,590	100.0
Rhode Island	3,264	84.5	455	11.8	144	3.7	3,863	100.0
S. Carolina	3,092	54.2	2,491	43.7	119	2.1	5,702	100.0
S. Dakota	1,305	83.6	220	14.1	36	2.3	1,561	100.0
Tennessee	10,840	63.9	3,259	19.2	2,868	16.9	16,967	100.0
Utah	2,231	87.8	282	11.1	29	1.1	2,542	100.0
Vermont	2,277	98.1	36	1.6	9	0.4	2,322	100.0
Virginia	13,796	60.9	8,679	38.3	160	0.7	22,635	100.0
Total	426,312	63.3	214,224	31.8	33,393	5.0	673,929	100.0

¹Based on distribution of data from hospitals and/or facilities reporting approximately 56% of total abortions

²Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports

*All states with data available (33)

Table 9
LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY RACE*
SELECTED STATES,** 1976

State	White	Black and Other	White/Black and Other
Alaska	170	109	1.6
Arizona	128	140	0.9
Arkansas	104	81	1.3
California	375	708	0.5
Dist. of Col.	9,102	2,210	4.1
Georgia	304	357	0.9
Hawaii	439	276	1.6
Illinois	270	791	0.3
Indiana	93	222	0.4
Kansas	229	577	0.4
Kentucky ¹	147	194	0.8
Louisiana	84	100	0.8
Maryland	334	528	0.6
Minnesota	250	235	1.1
Mississippi	44	26	1.7
Missouri	145	419	0.3
Montana	151	91	1.7
Nebraska	164	205	0.8
Nevada	244	224	1.1
New Hampshire	155	1,801	0.1
New York	509	1,044	0.5
(City)	(835)	(1,185)	(0.7)
(Upstate)	(326)	(604)	(0.5)
N. Carolina	275	331	0.8
Oregon	367	263	1.4
Rhode Island	338	637	0.5
S. Carolina	111	133	0.8
S. Dakota	133	138	1.0
Utah	66	256	0.3
Vermont	341	610	0.6
Virginia	262	515	0.5
Total	289	530	0.5

¹Live births are based on 1973 distribution of live births by race of mother from Vital Statistics of the United States, 1973, 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 1976 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,* 1976

State	Married		Unmarried ¹		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	327	27.0	865	71.3	21	1.7	1,213	100.0
Arizona	1,101	21.2	3,883	74.6	218	4.2	5,202	100.0
Arkansas	889	27.1	2,397	72.9	0	0.0	3,286	100.0
California	30,275	21.2	106,567	74.7	5,751	4.0	142,593	100.0
Colorado	2,689	23.3	7,042	61.0	1,808	15.7	11,539	100.0
Dist. of Col.	6,264	19.9	23,788	75.7	1,355	4.3	31,407	100.0
Georgia	7,126	27.9	18,040	70.5	420	1.6	25,586	100.0
Hawaii	1,955	37.9	3,208	62.1	0	0.0	5,163	100.0
Illinois	14,563	21.9	50,261	75.7	1,532	2.3	66,356	100.0
Indiana	2,185	25.4	6,248	72.6	177	2.1	8,610	100.0
Kansas	1,938	21.2	7,207	78.7	9	0.1	9,154	100.0
Kentucky ²	1,935	22.5	6,656	77.3	25	0.3	8,616	100.0
Louisiana	1,369	21.6	4,934	77.7	47	0.7	6,350	100.0
Maryland	4,151	20.1	16,293	78.9	197	1.0	20,641	100.0
Minnesota	2,059	14.6	11,043	78.2	1,022	7.2	14,124	100.0
Mississippi	494	32.7	1,008	66.8	8	0.5	1,510	100.0
Missouri	2,577	20.0	10,134	78.7	170	1.3	12,881	100.0
Montana	396	22.0	1,407	78.0	0	0.0	1,803	100.0
Nebraska	744	18.7	3,226	81.1	7	0.2	3,977	100.0
Nevada	581	24.4	1,723	72.3	78	3.3	2,382	100.0
New Hampshire ³	395	20.2	1,519	77.6	44	2.2	1,958	100.0
New Jersey	3,846	30.1	8,907	69.7	30	0.2	12,783	100.0
New York	42,324	28.6	105,536	71.4	0	0.0	147,860	100.0
(City)	(29,057)	(28.5)	(72,959)	(71.5)	(0)	(0.0)	(102,016)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(13,267)	(28.9)	(32,577)	(71.1)	(0)	(0.0)	(45,844)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	6,422	27.3	16,800	71.3	339	1.4	23,561	100.0
Ohio	9,407	25.3	26,630	71.6	1,155	3.1	37,192	100.0
Oregon	2,615	20.8	9,873	78.4	102	0.8	12,590	100.0
Rhode Island ⁴	1,210	31.3	2,615	67.7	38	1.0	3,863	100.0
S. Carolina	1,213	21.3	4,357	76.4	132	2.3	5,702	100.0
S. Dakota	302	19.3	1,180	75.6	79	5.1	1,561	100.0
Tennessee	3,454	20.4	11,358	66.9	2,155	12.7	16,967	100.0
Utah	514	20.2	2,004	78.8	24	0.9	2,542	100.0
Vermont	458	19.7	1,775	76.4	89	3.8	2,322	100.0
Virginia	5,677	25.1	16,918	74.7	40	0.2	22,635	100.0
Washington	5,649	24.8	16,962	74.4	179	0.8	22,790	100.0
Total	167,104	24.0	512,364	73.5	17,251	2.5	696,719	100.0

¹Includes widowed, separated, divorced, and never married

²Based on distribution of data from hospitals and/or facilities reporting approximately 56% of total abortions

³Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports

⁴Married includes separated

*All states with data available (34)



Table 11
 PERCENT OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS PERFORMED ON MARRIED WOMEN*
 BY STATE OF OCCURRENCE, 1972-1976**

State	1972 ¹	1973 ¹	1974 ¹	1975 ¹	1976 ²
Alaska	35.4	29.6	27.7	30.3	27.4
Arkansas	32.3	32.5	30.8	30.4	27.1
California	26.9	25.3	25.3	24.6	22.1
Colorado	26.6	29.8	29.2	27.3	27.6
Georgia	34.9	25.7	17.1	28.6	28.3
Hawaii	37.5	37.3	38.6	39.1	37.9
Kansas	25.2	21.1	21.4	22.5	21.2
Maryland	29.6	28.3	24.0	22.0	20.3
Mississippi	55.7	54.2	45.7	41.0	32.9
New York	31.1	31.9	31.9	29.8	28.6
(City)	(27.9)	(30.3)	(32.6)	(29.9)	(28.5)
(Upstate)	(40.5)	(34.4)	(29.9)	(29.5)	(28.9)
N. Carolina	34.7	35.0	32.0	29.9	27.7
Oregon	23.7	25.0	24.0	22.3	20.9
S. Carolina	40.5	30.4	24.7	23.3	21.8
Vermont	30.1	23.8	21.9	22.1	20.5
Virginia	34.0	28.7	27.1	25.0	25.1
Washington	26.6	26.5	27.0	25.9	25.0
Total	29.7	28.5	27.9	27.0	25.4

¹Source: 1975 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 11

²Source: 1976 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 10

*Percent based on total number with marital status known

**Includes only states with data available for all 5 years (16)

Table 12
 LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY MARITAL STATUS*
 SELECTED STATES,** 1976

State	Married	Unmarried	Total
Alaska	47	995	153
Arizona	33	709	130
Arkansas	32	418	98
California	115	1,888	429
Dist. of Col.	1,432	4,907	3,259
Georgia	106	1,656	323
Hawaii	137	1,576	317
Illinois	109	1,556	390
Indiana	32	601	107
Kansas	61	2,066	259
Kentucky ¹	38	1,114	152
Louisiana	25	334	91
Maryland	100	1,540	392
Minnesota	43	2,177	250
Mississippi	15	97	35
Missouri	45	966	187
Montana	36	1,116	146
Nebraska	34	1,489	167
Nevada	68	1,652	240
New Hampshire	39	1,643	175
New Jersey	51	591	141
New York	211	3,033	629
(City)	(351)	(3,201)	(967)
(Upstate)	(113)	(2,713)	(354)
N. Carolina	97	1,307	293
Ohio	73	1,240	240
Oregon	85	2,602	361
Rhode Island	130	1,953	358
S. Carolina	33	472	120
S. Dakota	31	894	134
Tennessee	76	1,260	271
Utah	15	1,355	72
Vermont	79	2,452	344
Virginia	96	1,583	323
Washington ²	127	3,402	456
Total	95	1,570	326

¹Live births are based on 1973 distribution of live births by legitimacy from Vital Statistics of the United States, 1973, Volume I--Natality.

²Live births are based on 1975 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 1976 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,* 1976

State	0		1		2		3		4		≥ 5		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	743	61.3	216	17.8	147	12.1	64	5.3	16	1.3	20	1.6	7	0.6	1,213	100.0
Arizona	3,033	58.3	1,014	19.5	639	12.3	275	5.3	126	2.4	115	2.2	0	0.0	5,202	100.0
California ¹	48,579	34.1	34,335	24.1	23,599	16.5	14,517	10.2	7,530	5.3	7,592	5.3	6,441	4.5	142,593	100.0
Colorado	6,137	53.2	1,576	13.7	1,092	9.5	457	4.0	202	1.8	128	1.1	1,947	16.9	11,539	100.0
Georgia	14,153	55.3	5,121	20.0	3,749	14.7	1,539	6.0	595	2.3	429	1.7	0	0.0	25,586	100.0
Hawaii	5,044	97.7	50	1.0	43	0.8	19	0.4	3	0.1	4	0.1	0	0.0	5,163	100.0
Illinois	31,700	47.8	13,180	19.9	10,732	16.2	5,375	8.1	2,435	3.7	2,337	3.5	597	0.9	66,356	100.0
Indiana ²	4,643	53.9	1,488	17.3	1,180	13.7	566	6.6	230	2.7	503	5.8	0	0.0	8,610	100.0
Kansas	5,433	59.4	1,510	16.5	1,158	12.7	546	6.0	253	2.8	163	1.8	91	1.0	9,154	100.0
Maryland	11,979	58.0	4,205	20.4	2,729	13.2	1,070	5.2	384	1.9	243	1.2	31	0.2	20,641	100.0
Minnesota ²	10,361	73.4	1,686	11.9	1,176	8.3	516	3.7	227	1.6	158	1.1	0	0.0	14,124	100.0
Mississippi	843	55.8	275	18.2	218	14.4	86	5.7	38	2.5	42	2.8	8	0.5	1,510	100.0
Missouri	6,598	51.2	2,476	19.2	1,927	15.0	894	6.9	432	3.4	394	3.1	160	1.2	12,881	100.0
Montana	1,162	64.4	254	14.1	208	11.5	92	5.1	36	2.0	27	1.5	24	1.3	1,803	100.0
Nebraska ²	2,569	64.6	542	13.6	461	11.6	215	5.4	113	2.8	77	1.9	0	0.0	3,977	100.0
Nevada	1,391	58.4	444	18.6	318	13.4	136	5.7	48	2.0	45	1.9	0	0.0	2,382	100.0
New Hampshire ³	235	12.0	237	12.1	210	10.7	83	4.2	36	1.8	26	1.3	1,131	57.8	1,958	100.0
New Jersey	7,112	55.6	1,533	12.0	325	2.5	73	0.6	-- ⁴	--	34 ⁴	0.3	3,706	29.0	12,783	100.0
New York	63,752	43.1	28,574	19.3	24,069	16.3	15,009	10.2	8,151	5.5	7,784	5.3	521	0.4	147,860	100.0
(City) ¹	(34,901)	(34.2)	(22,646)	(22.2)	(18,269)	(17.9)	(11,977)	(11.7)	(6,905)	(6.8)	(6,797)	(6.7)	(521)	(0.5)	(102,016)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(28,851)	(62.9)	(5,928)	(12.9)	(5,800)	(12.7)	(3,032)	(6.6)	(1,246)	(2.7)	(987)	(2.2)	(0)	(0.0)	(45,844)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	12,171	51.7	4,789	20.3	3,216	13.6	1,282	5.4	502	2.1	428	1.8	1,173	5.0	23,561	100.0
Ohio	12,524	33.7	7,345	19.7	5,318	14.3	2,411	6.5	1,008	2.7	689	1.9	7,897	21.2	37,192	100.0
Rhode Island	1,954	50.6	755	19.5	560	14.5	265	6.9	106	2.7	97	2.5	126	3.3	3,863	100.0
S. Carolina	3,027	53.1	1,104	19.4	741	13.0	340	6.0	164	2.9	150	2.6	176	3.1	5,702	100.0
S. Dakota	851	54.5	219	14.0	161	10.3	86	5.5	25	1.6	32	2.0	187	12.0	1,561	100.0
Tennessee	8,427	49.7	3,470	20.5	2,472	14.6	1,041	6.1	416	2.5	371	2.2	770	4.5	16,967	100.0
Utah	701	27.6	424	16.7	354	13.9	148	5.8	88	3.5	61	2.4	766	30.1	2,542	100.0
Vermont	1,697	73.1	252	10.9	219	9.4	85	3.7	34	1.5	25	1.1	10	0.4	2,322	100.0
Virginia	12,134	53.6	4,119	18.2	2,978	13.2	1,248	5.5	568	2.5	396	1.7	1,192	5.3	22,635	100.0
Total	278,953	45.6	121,193	19.8	89,999	14.7	48,438	7.9	23,766	3.9	22,370	3.7	26,961	4.4	611,680	100.0

¹Number of previous pregnancies

²Number of previous live births

³Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports

⁴Reported as ≥ 4

*All states with data available (28)

Table 14
LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS BY NUMBER OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS*
SELECTED STATES,** 1976

State	0	1	2	3	4	≥ 5	Total
Alaska	255	89	117	104	55	55	153
Arizona	189	83	108	100	95	65	130
California	353	345	536	807	-- ¹	853 ¹	429
Georgia	400	205	341	368	348	218	323
Hawaii	733	9	18	20	7	12	317
Illinois	514	260	381	397	366	291	390
Indiana	135	56	100	128	136	285	107
Kansas	401	136	205	227	234	142	259
Maryland ²	510	243	385	410	345	253	392
Minnesota	436	92	137	161	175	113	250
Mississippi	51	23	34	26	23	15	35
Missouri	224	113	200	245	269	227	187
Montana	230	64	114	130	108	88	146
Nebraska	263	69	127	156	204	142	167
Nevada	325	147	228	239	183	122	240
New York	634	390	702	1,066	1,335	1,293	629
(City)	(738)	(720)	(1,276)	(1,924)	(2,444)	(2,389)	(967)
(Upstate)	(542)	(141)	(290)	(384)	(378)	(310)	(354)
N. Carolina	398	201	268	241	216	177	293
Rhode Island	417	217	417	517	507	472	358
S. Carolina	152	73	113	137	153	132	120
S. Dakota	208	69	101	130	80	76	134
Tennessee	321	178	298	341	338	268	271
Vermont	579	113	228	241	238	229	344
Virginia	407	190	328	382	432	329	323
Total	393	230	371	493	455	537	351

¹Live births reported as ≥ 4

²Live births are based on 1975 distribution of live births by live birth order from central health agency.

*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 source of data, see Table 13 for abortions by number of living children and Table 2 for total 1976 live births. ("Unknown" number of living children for each state is redistributed according to distribution of known.) Live births by live birth order are from central health agencies unless otherwise noted.

**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,* 1976

State	Suction Curettage		Sharp Curettage		Intrauterine Saline Instillation ¹		Intrauterine Prostaglandin ²		Hysterotomy		Hysterectomy		Other ³		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	1,048	86.4	125	10.3	15	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.3	20	1.6	1	0.1	1,213	100.0
Arizona	4,613	88.7	33	0.6	376	7.2	34	0.7	3	0.1	7	0.1	2	0.0	134	2.6	5,202	100.0
California	82,378	57.8	47,182	33.1	9,401	6.6	--	--	188	0.1	324	0.2	3,078 ⁴	2.2	42	0.0	142,593	100.0
Colorado	10,011	86.8	98	0.8	1,194	10.3	--	--	11	0.1	54	0.5	93	0.8	78	0.7	11,539	100.0
Connecticut	12,507	93.0	75	0.6	579 ⁵	4.3	-- ⁵	--	3	0.0	5	0.0	39	0.3	239	1.8	13,447	100.0
Dist. of Col.	22,824	72.7	7,188	22.9	1,141	3.6	--	--	6	0.0	2	0.0	186	0.6	60	0.2	31,407	100.0
Georgia	24,232	94.7	196	0.8	324	1.3	619	2.4	33	0.1	113	0.4	69 ⁴	0.3	0	0.0	25,586	100.0
Hawaii	4,269	82.7	477	9.2	3	0.1	387	7.5	7	0.1	3	0.1	3	0.1	14	0.3	5,163	100.0
Illinois	61,302	92.4	722	1.1	166	0.3	1,229	1.9	25	0.0	26	0.0	148	0.2	2,738	4.1	66,356	100.0
Indiana	8,156	94.7	409	4.8	1	0.0	--	--	+	+	16 ⁶	0.2	28	0.3	0	0.0	8,610	100.0
Kansas	3,361	36.7	4,850	53.0	892	9.7	3	0.0	3	0.0	30	0.3	4	0.0	11	0.1	9,154	100.0
Louisiana	6,327	99.6	3	0.0	--	--	--	--	2	0.0	1	0.0	--	--	17	0.3	6,350	100.0
Maryland	18,765	90.9	185	0.9	735	3.6	196	0.9	38	0.2	58	0.3	663	3.2	1	0.0	20,641	100.0
Massachusetts	30,096	91.8	738	2.2	149	0.5	1,457	4.4	--	--	--	--	361	1.1	0	0.0	32,801	100.0
Minnesota	13,710	97.1	3	0.0	0	0.0	410	2.9	+	+	1 ⁶	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	14,124	100.0
Mississippi	1,391	92.1	54	3.6	14	0.9	11	0.7	6	0.4	31	2.1	2	0.1	1	0.1	1,510	100.0
Missouri	11,754	91.3	938	7.3	4	0.0	151	1.2	1	0.0	11	0.1	0	0.0	22	0.2	12,881	100.0
Montana	1,697	94.1	19	1.1	1	0.1	--	--	2	0.1	--	--	84	4.7	0	0.0	1,803	100.0
Nebraska	3,663	92.1	21	0.5	286	7.2	--	--	1	0.0	2	0.1	2	0.1	2	0.1	3,977	100.0
Nevada	2,206	92.6	80	3.4	52	2.2	--	--	1	0.0	3	0.1	12	0.5	28	1.2	2,382	100.0
New Hampshire ⁷	1,882	96.1	57	2.9	--	--	--	--	3	0.2	1	0.1	15	0.8	0	0.0	1,958	100.0
New Jersey	9,758	76.3	1,874	14.7	1,077	8.4	0	0.0	+	+	27 ⁶	0.2	47 ⁸	0.4	-- ⁸	--	12,783	100.0
New York	125,824	85.1	4,518	3.1	12,782	8.6	1,182	0.8	164	0.1	82	0.1	491	0.3	2,817	1.9	147,860	100.0
(City)	(88,307)	(86.6)	(3,600)	(3.5)	(8,339)	(8.2)	(1,182)	(1.2)	(83)	(0.1)	(51)	(0.0)	(454) ⁸	(0.4)	(--) ⁸	(--)	(102,016)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(37,517)	(81.8)	(918)	(2.0)	(4,443)	(9.7)	(--)	(--)	(81)	(0.2)	(31)	(0.1)	(37)	(0.1)	(2,817)	(6.1)	(45,844)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	19,187	81.4	1,902	8.1	1,613	6.8	555	2.4	77	0.3	128	0.5	85	0.4	14	0.1	23,561	100.0
Ohio	32,109	86.3	2,489	6.7	2,230	6.0	--	--	29	0.1	6	0.0	329 ⁸	0.9	-- ⁸	--	37,192	100.0
Oregon	11,316	89.9	136	1.1	804	6.4	--	--	15	0.1	66	0.5	250	2.0	3	0.0	12,590	100.0
Pennsylvania	45,973	88.0	2,023	3.9	2,924	5.6	--	--	77	0.1	67	0.1	589	1.1	608	1.2	52,261	100.0
Rhode Island	3,373	87.3	20	0.5	408	10.6	0	0.0	2	0.1	4	0.1	0	0.0	56	1.4	3,863	100.0
S. Carolina	5,274	92.5	98	1.7	67	1.2	--	--	11	0.2	34	0.6	172	3.0	46	0.8	5,702	100.0
S. Dakota	1,173	75.1	155	9.9	201	12.9	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	0.4	26	1.7	1,561	100.0
Tennessee	16,367	96.5	40	0.2	392	2.3	27	0.2	6	0.0	18	0.1	4	0.0	113	0.7	16,967	100.0
Utah	2,399	94.4	1	0.0	94 ⁵	3.7	-- ⁵	--	1	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.1	45	1.8	2,542	100.0
Vermont	2,243	96.6	61	2.6	4	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	13	0.6	2,322	100.0
Washington	21,213	93.1	244	1.1	1,164	5.1	120	0.5	+	+	22 ⁶	0.1	27	0.1	0	0.0	22,790	100.0
Total	622,401	81.8	77,014	10.1	39,093	5.1	6,381	0.8	+	+	1,862 ⁶	0.2	6,811	0.9	7,129	0.9	760,691	100.0

¹Includes Intrauterine Prostaglandin Instillation for certain states. See footnote 5.
²Includes Intrauterine Prostaglandin Instillation if reported as a specific category. See footnote 3.
³Includes Intrauterine Prostaglandin Instillation only if not reported as a specific category or with other instillation procedures
⁴Includes combination procedures
⁵Intrauterine Prostaglandin Instillation included with Intrauterine Saline Instillation
⁶Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy
⁷Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports
⁸Reported as other and unknown

--Not reported
 *All states with data available (34)

Table 16
REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY WEEKS OF GESTATION*
AND STATE OF OCCURRENCE, SELECTED STATES,** 1976

State	≤ 8		9-10		11-12		13-15		16-20		≥ 21		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska ¹	378	31.2	525	43.3	245	20.2	16	1.3	18	1.5	0	0.0	31	2.6	1,213	100.0
Arizona	1,868	35.9	1,495	28.7	1,021	19.6	187	3.6	410	7.9	2	0.0	219	4.2	5,202	100.0
Arkansas	1,711	52.1	735	22.4	421	12.8	12	0.4	405	12.3	2	0.1	0	0.0	3,286	100.0
California	52,249	36.6	39,537	27.7	23,120	16.2	12,604	8.8	8,276	5.8	1,644	1.2	5,163	3.6	142,593	100.0
Colorado	2,805	24.3	2,899	25.1	1,787	15.5	971	8.4	848	7.3	278	2.4	1,951	16.9	11,539	100.0
Connecticut ¹	6,445	47.9	4,277	31.8	1,682	12.5	132	1.0	522	3.9	41	0.3	348	2.6	13,447	100.0
Dist. of Col.	19,624 ²	62.5	6,041 ²	19.2	2,439 ²	7.8	1,100	3.5	999 ²	3.2	17 ²	0.1	1,187	3.8	31,407	100.0
Georgia	11,457	44.8	9,075	35.5	3,740	14.6	236	0.9	848	3.3	120	0.5	110	0.4	25,586	100.0
Hawaii	1,817	35.2	1,578	30.6	875	16.9	432	8.4	297	5.8	88	1.7	76	1.5	5,163	100.0
Illinois	41,613	62.7	13,790	20.8	6,145	9.3	383	0.6	1,386	2.1	34	0.1	3,005	4.5	66,356	100.0
Indiana	5,174 ²	60.1	2,573 ²	29.9	750 ²	8.7	95 ²	1.1	16	0.2	2	0.0	0	0.0	8,610	100.0
Kansas	3,358	36.7	2,118	23.1	1,668	18.2	1,066	11.6	796	8.7	123	1.3	25	0.3	9,154	100.0
Kentucky ³	2,446	28.4	3,010	34.9	3,160	36.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	8,616	100.0
Louisiana	4,257	67.0	1,213	19.1	773	12.2	45	0.7	16	0.3	5	0.1	41	0.6	6,350	100.0
Maryland	9,721	47.1	5,591 ²	27.1	3,047 ²	14.8	684 ²	3.3	1,409 ²	6.8	187	0.9	2	0.0	20,641	100.0
Massachusetts	17,201	52.4	9,307	28.4	3,599	11.0	798	2.4	1,707	5.2	177	0.5	12	0.0	32,801	100.0
Minnesota	4,733	33.5	4,710	33.3	2,331	16.5	1,039	7.4	1,289	9.1	22	0.2	0	0.0	14,124	100.0
Mississippi	583	38.6	538	35.6	238	15.8	40	2.6	22	1.5	2	0.1	87	5.8	1,510	100.0
Missouri	4,227	32.8	3,966	30.8	4,051	31.4	491	3.8	111	0.9	10	0.1	25	0.2	12,881	100.0
Montana	641	35.6	549	30.4	303	16.8	68	3.8	36	2.0	1	0.1	205	11.4	1,803	100.0
Nebraska	923	23.2	1,253	31.5	1,020	25.6	422	10.6	261	6.6	38	1.0	60	1.5	3,977	100.0
Nevada	1,717	72.1	323	13.6	183	7.7	37	1.6	78	3.3	3	0.1	41	1.7	2,382	100.0
New Hampshire ⁴	728	37.2	734	37.5	424	21.7	18	0.9	2	0.1	0	0.0	52	2.7	1,958	100.0
New Jersey	7,282	57.0	2,876	22.5	1,370	10.7	77	0.6	931	7.3	127	1.0	120	0.9	12,783	100.0
New York	62,941	42.6	41,312	27.9	21,709	14.7	6,691	4.5	9,034	6.1	2,995	2.0	3,178	2.1	147,860	100.0
(City)	(44,790) ²	(43.9)	(28,508) ²	(27.9)	(15,536) ²	(15.2)	(3,914)	(3.8)	(5,626)	(5.5)	(1,936)	(1.9)	(1,706)	(1.7)	(102,016)	(100.0)
(Upstate)	(18,151)	(39.6)	(12,804)	(27.9)	(6,173)	(13.5)	(2,777)	(6.1)	(3,408)	(7.4)	(1,059)	(2.3)	(1,472)	(3.2)	(45,844)	(100.0)
N. Carolina	8,219	34.9	7,342	31.2	3,716	15.8	1,521	6.5	1,393	5.9	219	0.9	1,151	4.9	23,561	100.0
Ohio	21,230	57.1	3,832	10.3	997	2.7	775	2.1	724 ²	1.9	288 ²	0.8	9,346	25.1	37,192	100.0
Oregon	5,335	42.4	4,109	32.6	1,955	15.5	336 ²	2.7	689 ²	5.5	68	0.5	98	0.8	12,590	100.0
Pennsylvania	23,675	46.3	16,477	31.5	6,362	12.2	1,739	3.3	2,849	5.5	228	0.4	931	1.8	52,261	100.0
Rhode Island	1,084	28.1	1,680	43.5	593	15.4	187	4.8	309	8.0	10	0.3	0	0.0	3,863	100.0
S. Carolina	1,927	33.8	1,690	29.6	1,016	17.8	272	4.8	145	2.5	32	0.6	620	10.9	5,702	100.0
S. Dakota ¹	523	33.5	312	20.0	260	16.7	165	10.6	182	11.7	110	7.0	9	0.6	1,561	100.0
Tennessee	5,936	35.0	5,397	31.8	3,265	19.2	897	5.3	299	1.8	92	0.5	1,081	6.4	16,967	100.0
Utah	1,053	41.4	787													

Table 17
PERCENT OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS AT LESS
THAN 13 WEEKS OF GESTATION, * SELECTED STATES, ** 1972-1976

State	1972 ¹	1973 ¹	1974 ¹	1975 ¹	1976 ²
Alaska	78.4	79.5	86.3	95.6	97.1
Arkansas	89.5	87.2	94.8	91.3	87.2
California	82.7	82.3	83.5	82.4	83.6
Colorado	59.1	71.0	77.0	77.8	78.1
Dist. of Col.	96.7	96.5	96.3	96.4	93.0
Georgia	68.4	89.7	93.2	90.0	95.3
Hawaii	84.4	85.1	84.5	83.3	83.9
Kansas	89.1	82.7	81.4	76.2	78.3
Maryland	67.9	74.9	83.1	86.8	89.0
Mississippi	75.9	76.7	84.8	89.8	95.5
New York	82.6	81.1	83.0	85.3	87.1
(City)	(82.7)	(80.1)	(83.0)	(86.2)	(88.6)
(Upstate)	(82.4)	(83.8)	(83.0)	(82.7)	(83.7)
N. Carolina	71.7	74.3	83.7	83.9	86.0
Oregon	81.3	87.7	89.2	91.3	91.3
S. Carolina	85.6	91.3	92.3	90.8	91.2
Virginia	63.5	77.1	87.6	89.7	90.5
Washington	95.3	94.6	93.3	92.2	93.0
Total	83.1	82.9	85.0	85.6	87.2

¹ Source: 1975 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 17
² Source: 1976 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 16

*Based on total number with menstrual weeks of gestation known
**Includes only states with data available for all 5 years (16)

Table 18
REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE
AND WEEKS OF GESTATION, * 1976

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	156,746	93.9	82,919	93.9	42,097	91.8	8,505	64.5	2,626	16.2	529	18.0	15,516	79.6	308,938	87.5
Sharp curettage	7,199	4.3	3,514	4.0	2,273	5.0	1,094	8.3	372	2.3	74	2.5	1,034	5.3	15,560	4.4
Intrauterine saline instillation	308	0.2	270	0.3	439	1.0	2,564	19.4	9,210	58.8	1,890	64.4	1,611	8.3	16,292	4.6
Intrauterine prostaglandin instillation	31	0.0	36	0.0	54	0.1	424	3.2	2,416	14.9	132	4.5	77	0.4	3,170	0.9
Hysterotomy	68	0.0	52	0.1	24	0.1	68	0.5	67	0.4	21	0.7	29	0.1	329	0.1
Hysterectomy	150	0.1	72	0.1	63	0.1	91	0.7	89	0.5	16	0.5	41	0.2	522	0.1
Other	287	0.2	53	0.1	29	0.1	62	0.5	847	5.2	147	5.0	107	0.5	1,532	0.4
Unknown	2,210	1.3	1,409	1.6	871	1.9	385	2.9	588	3.6	125	4.3	1,071	5.5	6,659	1.9
Total	166,999	100.0	88,325	100.0	45,850	100.0	13,193	100.0	16,215	100.0	2,934	100.0	19,486	100.0	353,002	100.0

*Based on data from 26 states

Table 19
REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS BY NUMBER OF
PREVIOUS INDUCED ABORTIONS, SELECTED STATES,* 1976

State	0		1		2		≥ 3		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alaska	916	75.5	231	19.0	45	3.7	21	1.7	0	0.0	1,213	100.0
Arizona	4,182	80.4	825	15.9	166	3.2	29	0.6	0	0.0	5,202	100.0
Colorado	7,694	66.7	1,551	13.4	247	2.1	79	0.7	1,968	17.1	11,539	100.0
Dist. of Col.	19,648	62.6	7,148	22.8	1,755	5.6	441	1.4	2,415	7.7	31,407	100.0
Georgia	18,557	72.5	4,135	16.2	597	2.3	140	0.5	2,157	8.4	25,586	100.0
Illinois	50,529	76.1	12,141	18.3	2,149	3.2	582	0.9	955	1.4	66,356	100.0
Indiana	6,768	78.6	1,025	11.9	100	1.2	12	0.1	705	8.2	8,610	100.0
Kansas	7,504	82.0	1,139	12.4	133	1.5	38	0.4	340	3.7	9,154	100.0
Kentucky ¹	7,141	82.9	1,316	15.3	137	1.6	20	0.2	2	0.0	8,616	100.0
Maryland	16,005	77.5	3,775	18.3	681	3.3	150	0.7	30	0.1	20,641	100.0
Massachusetts	17,136	52.2	3,641	11.1	990	3.0	235	0.7	10,799	32.9	32,801	100.0
Minnesota	12,326	87.3	1,584	11.2	174	1.2	40	0.3	0	0.0	14,124	100.0
Mississippi	1,337	88.5	142	9.4	18	1.2	1	0.1	12	0.8	1,510	100.0
Missouri	10,618	82.4	1,781	13.8	258	2.0	50	0.4	174	1.4	12,881	100.0
Montana	1,557	86.4	173	9.6	26	1.4	2	0.1	45	2.5	1,803	100.0
Nebraska	3,767	94.7	190	4.8	19	0.5	1	0.0	0	0.0	3,977	100.0
Nevada	1,819	76.4	446	18.7	83	3.5	34	1.4	0	0.0	2,382	100.0
New Hampshire ²	355	18.1	171	8.7	26	1.3	8	0.4	1,398	71.4	1,958	100.0
New Jersey	7,112	55.6	1,533	12.0	325	2.5	107	0.8	3,706	29.0	12,783	100.0
New York Upstate	40,181	87.6	4,713	10.3	754	1.6	196	0.4	0	0.0	45,844	100.0
N. Carolina	18,906	80.2	2,930	12.4	397	1.7	71	0.3	1,257	5.3	23,561	100.0
Ohio	15,409	41.4	5,892	15.8	-- ³	--	961 ³	2.6	14,930	40.1	37,192	100.0
Rhode Island	2,888	74.8	577	14.9	92	2.4	14	0.4	292	7.6	3,863	100.0
S. Dakota	1,230	78.8	180	11.5	23	1.5	4	0.3	124	7.9	1,561	100.0
Tennessee	11,800	69.5	2,097	12.4	280	1.7	60	0.4	2,730	16.1	16,967	100.0
Utah	1,017	40.0	349	13.7	40	1.6	6	0.2	1,130	44.5	2,542	100.0
Total	286,402	70.9	59,685	14.8	9,515	2.4	3,302	0.8	45,169	11.2	404,073	100.0

¹Based on distribution of data from hospitals and/or facilities reporting approximately 56% of total abortions

²Detailed data from late reports not available, but are distributed based on non-late reports

³Reported as ≥ 2

*All states with data available (26)

Table 20
DEATH-TO-CASE RATE FOR LEGAL ABORTIONS
BY WEEKS OF GESTATION, UNITED STATES, 1972-1976

Weeks of Gestation	Deaths	Cases ¹	Rate ²	Relative Risk ³
≤ 8	10	1,593,649	0.6	1.0
9-10	19	1,100,484	1.7	2.8
11-12	17	600,357	2.8	4.7
13-15	17	216,983	7.8	13.0
16-20	40	249,161	16.1	26.8
≥ 21	13	48,553	26.8	44.7
Total	116	3,809,187	3.0	

¹Based on distribution of 2,876,266 abortions (75.5%) with weeks of gestation known

²Deaths per 100,000 abortions

³Based on index rate for ≤ 8 menstrual weeks' gestation of 0.6 per 100,000 abortions

Table 21
DEATH-TO-CASE RATE FOR LEGAL ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE
UNITED STATES, 1972-1976

Type of Procedure	Deaths	Cases ¹	Rate ²	Relative Risk ³
Curettage/ Dilatation & evacuation	57	3,443,151	1.7	1.0
Intrauterine instillation	46	296,910	15.5	9.1
Hysterotomy/ Hysterectomy	8	18,860	42.4	24.9
Other	5	50,266	9.9	5.8
Total	116	3,809,187	3.0	

¹Based on 2,920,783 abortions (76.7%) with type of procedure known

²Deaths per 100,000 abortions

³Based on index rate for curettage/dilatation and evacuation of 1.7 per 100,000 abortions

Table 22
LEGAL ABORTION DEATHS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE AND
WEEKS OF GESTATION, UNITED STATES, 1972-1976

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation						Total
	≤ 8	9-10	11-12	13-15	16-20	≥ 21	
Curettage	9	17	17				43
Dilatation and evacuation				8	4	2	14
Instillation	0	0	0	5	32	9	46
Saline	0	0	0	1	29	6	36
Prostaglandin	0	0	0	3	3	1	7
Other agents	0	0	0	1	0	2	3
Hysterotomy/ Hysterectomy	0	2	0	3	2	1	8
Other ¹	1	0	0	1	2	1	5
Total	10	19	17	17	40	13	116

¹Includes 1 unknown procedure, 16-20 weeks gestation

Table 23
DEATH-TO-CASE RATE* FOR LEGAL ABORTIONS
BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE AND WEEKS OF GESTATION
UNITED STATES, 1972-1976

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation						Total
	≤ 8	9-10	11-12	13-15	16-20	≥ 21	
Curettage	0.5	1.6	3.3				1.3
Dilatation & evacuation				7.6	13.2	43.1	9.9
Instillation	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.9	17.8	32.8	16.8
Saline	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	22.3	26.9	18.3
Prostaglandin and other agents ¹	0.0	0.0	0.0	45.5	6.0	58.5	13.1
Hysterotomy/ Hysterectomy	0.0	64.4	0.0	76.9	53.7	180.8	44.7
Total ²	0.5	1.8	3.2	11.2	18.7	39.9	3.0

¹Denominators for rates include abortions reported as type of procedure "other" (1% of all abortions with procedure known)

²Includes deaths with type of procedure "other" (4) and unknown (1)

*Deaths per 100,000 abortions; based on distribution of abortions with type of procedure and weeks of gestation known

Table 24
REPORTED NUMBER OF LEGAL ABORTIONS AND ABORTION RATES
SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1976

Country	Number of Legal Abortions	Abortion Rate ¹
Czechoslovakia	84,600	26.7
Denmark	26,800	25.8
England and Wales	127,900	--
Finland	19,200	18.0
France	133,600	12.4
Hungary	94,700	41.5
India	214,000	1.7
Japan	664,100	24.9
Netherlands ²	16,000	5.5
Singapore	15,500	27.5
Sweden	32,400	20.1
Tunisia	20,300	17.1
United States	988,267	20.5

¹Abortions per 1,000 females 15-44

²Residents

--Not available

Source: For the United States, 1976 Abortion Surveillance Report, Table 2; for all other statistics, C. Tietze: Induced Abortion: 1977 Supplement, Reports on Population/Family Planning 14 (2nd ed.) Suppl. 1977

Table 25
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF LEGAL ABORTION, BY WOMAN'S AGE
AND MARITAL STATUS, SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1975, 1976

Country	Percent < 20 Years Old ¹	Percent Currently Married ²
Canada	31.3	32.3
Denmark	17.5	55.1
England and Wales	27.3	40.6
Hungary	10.3	69.6
India	--	92.8
Japan	2.0	--
Singapore	7.5	--
Sweden	22.9	--
United States	32.1	27.4

¹Data for 1976 (except Canada, 1975)

²Data for 1975 (except India, 1972-1975)

--Not available

Source: For the United States, percent < 20 years old, 1976 Abortion Surveillance Report, Summary Table; for all other statistics, C. Tietze: Induced Abortion: 1977 Supplement, Reports on Population/Family Planning 14 (2nd ed.) Suppl. 1977

Fig. 1 SOURCES OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTION DATA, 1976

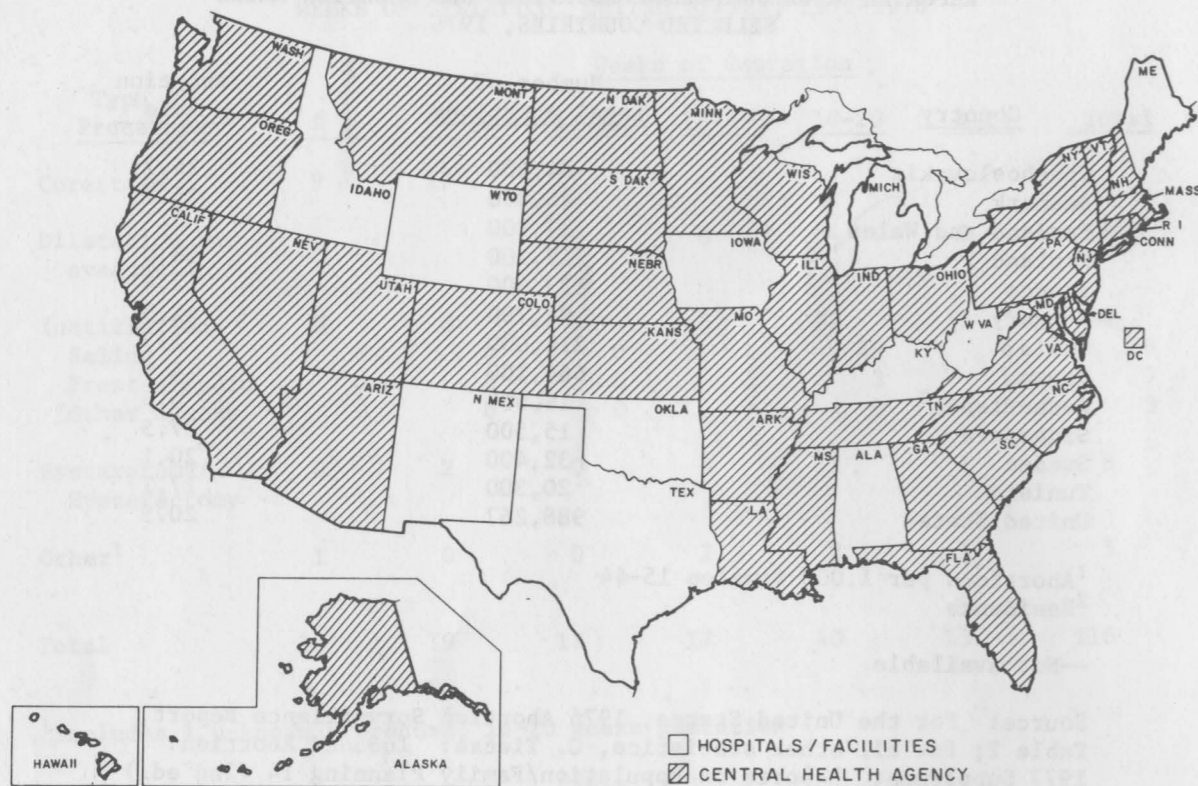
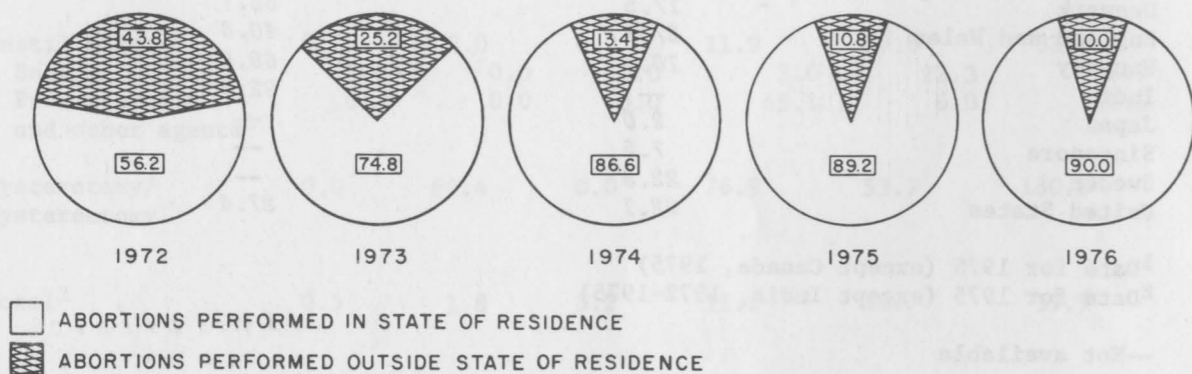


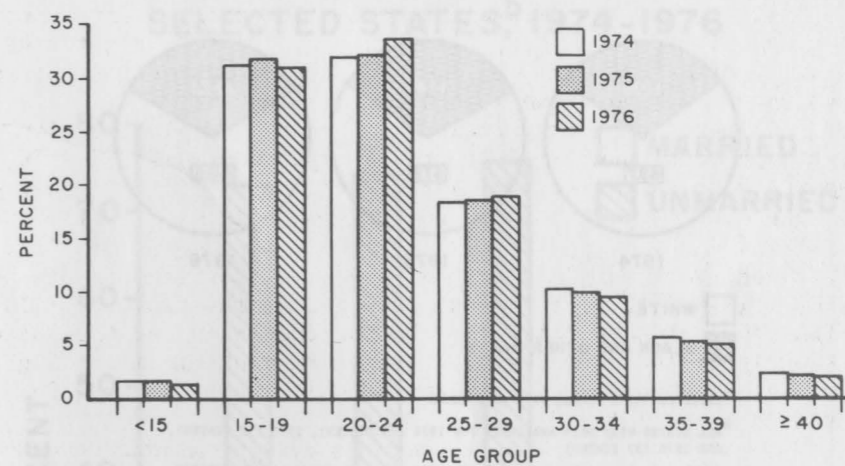
Fig. 2 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY RESIDENCE, UNITED STATES, 1972-1976



SOURCE: TABLE 4 OF 1976 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORT



Fig. 3 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION^a OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY AGE, SELECTED STATES,^b 1974-1976

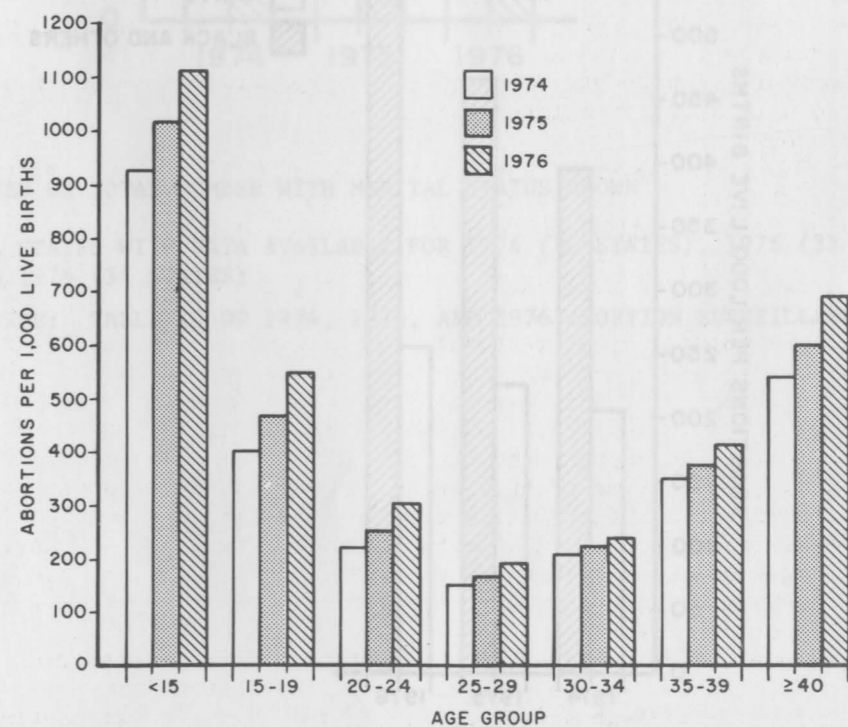


^aBASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH AGE KNOWN

^bALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1974 (33 STATES), 1975 (34 STATES), AND 1976 (36 STATES)

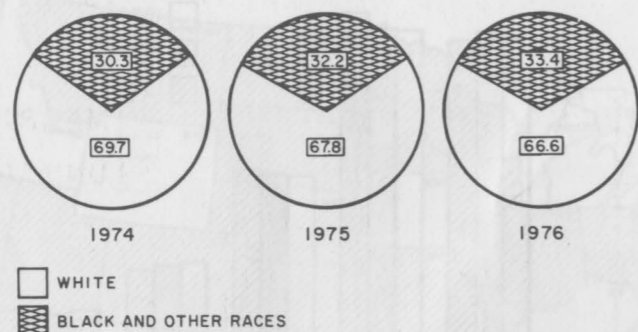
SOURCE: TABLE 6 OF 1974, 1975, AND 1976 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

Fig. 4 LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY AGE, UNITED STATES, 1974-1976



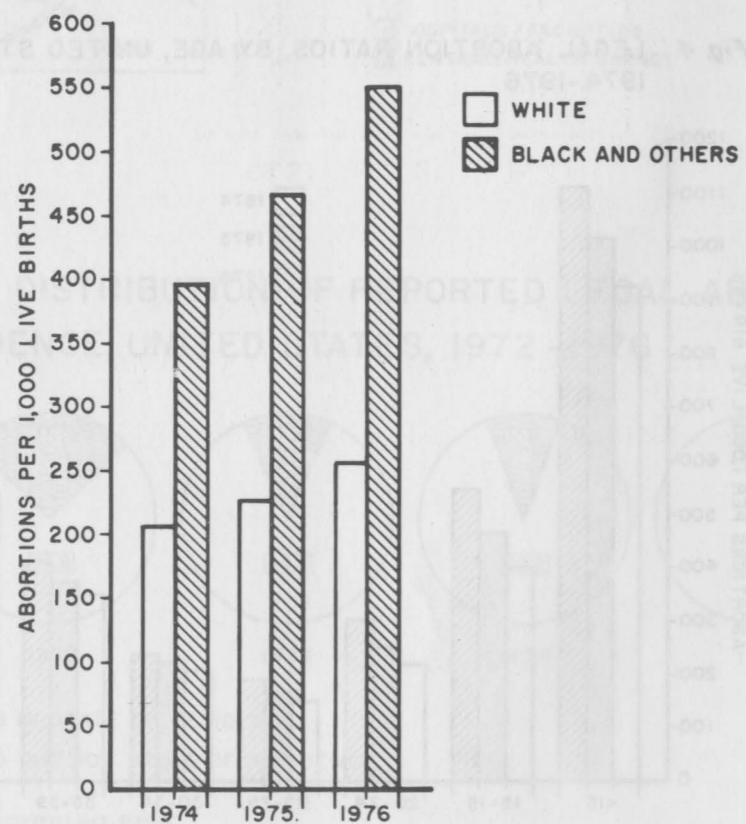
NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 3 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1974-1976, AND TOTAL U.S. LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER, 1974-1976, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Fig. 5 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION^a OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY RACE, SELECTED STATES,^b 1974-1976



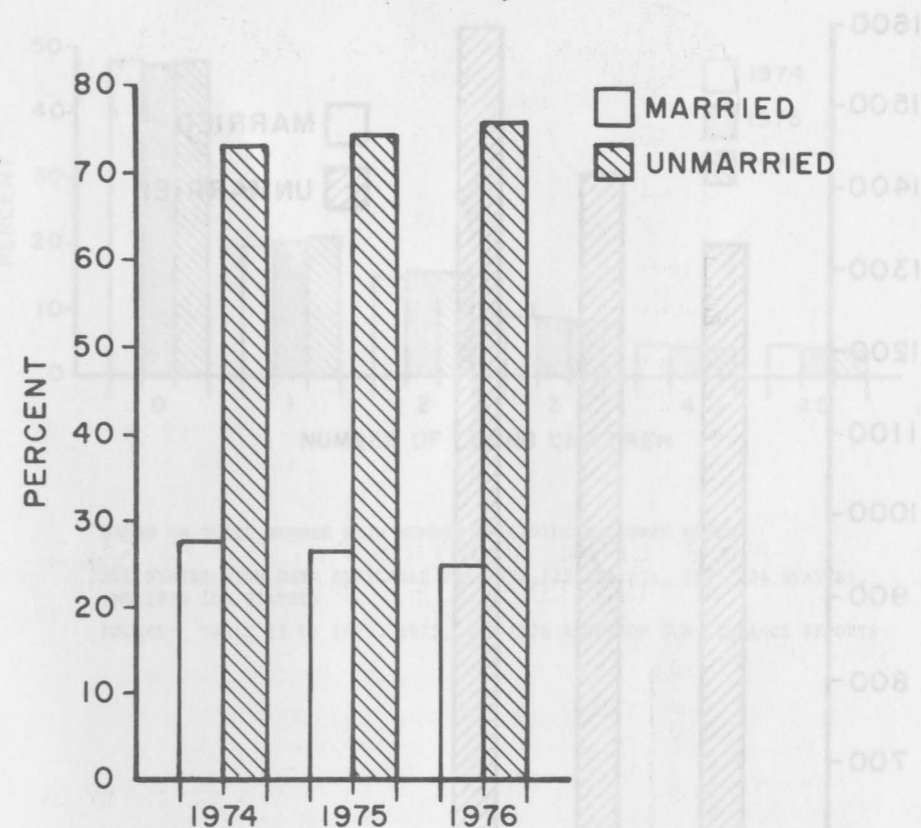
^aBASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH RACE KNOWN
^bALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1974 (28 STATES), 1975 (31 STATES), AND 1976 (33 STATES)
 SOURCE: TABLE 8 OF 1974, 1975, AND 1976 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

Fig. 6 LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY RACE, UNITED STATES, 1974-1976



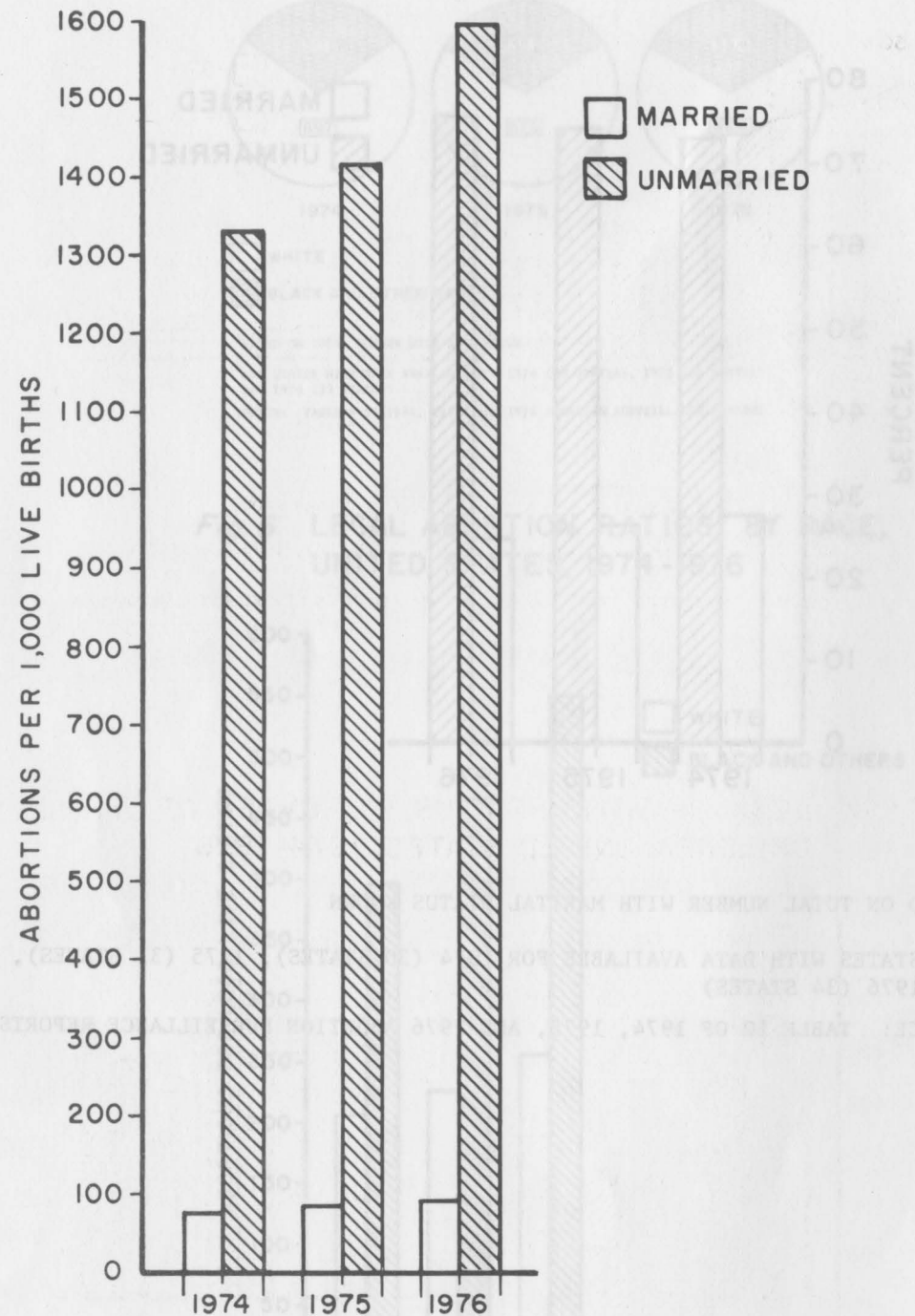
NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 5 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1974-1976, AND TOTAL U.S. LIVE BIRTHS BY RACE, 1974-1976, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Fig. 7 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION^a OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY MARITAL STATUS, SELECTED STATES,^b 1974-1976



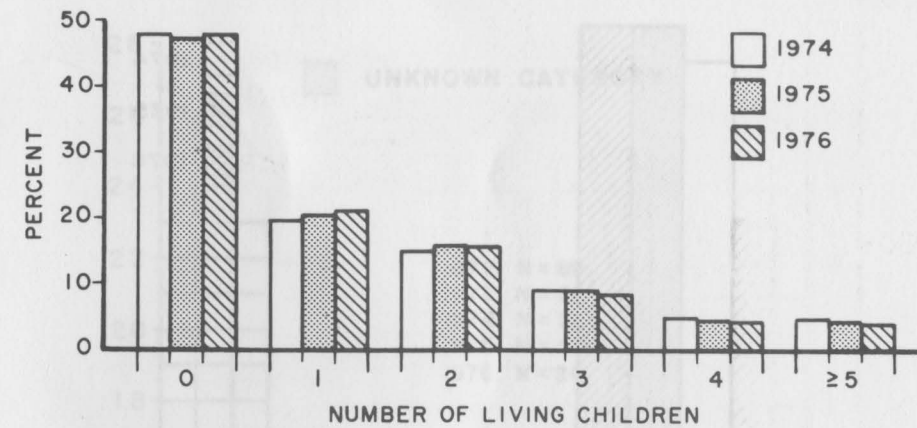
^aBASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH MARITAL STATUS KNOWN
^bALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1974 (30 STATES), 1975 (31 STATES), AND 1976 (34 STATES)
 SOURCE: TABLE 10 OF 1974, 1975, AND 1976 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

Fig. 8 LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY MARITAL STATUS, UNITED STATES, 1974-1976



NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 7 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1974-1976, AND TOTAL U.S. LIVE BIRTHS BY LEGITIMACY, 1974-1976, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Fig. 9 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION^a OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN, SELECTED STATES^b, 1974-1976

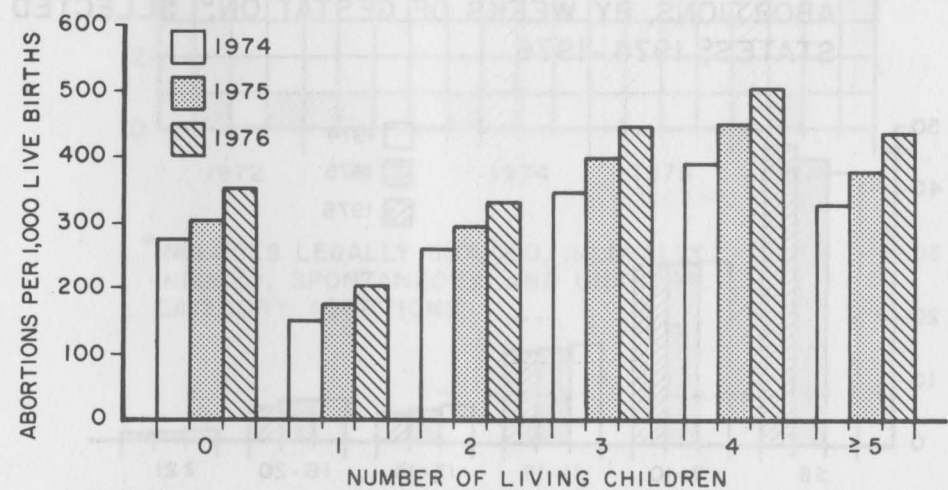


^aBASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN KNOWN

^bALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1974 (22 STATES), 1975 (24 STATES), AND 1976 (28 STATES)

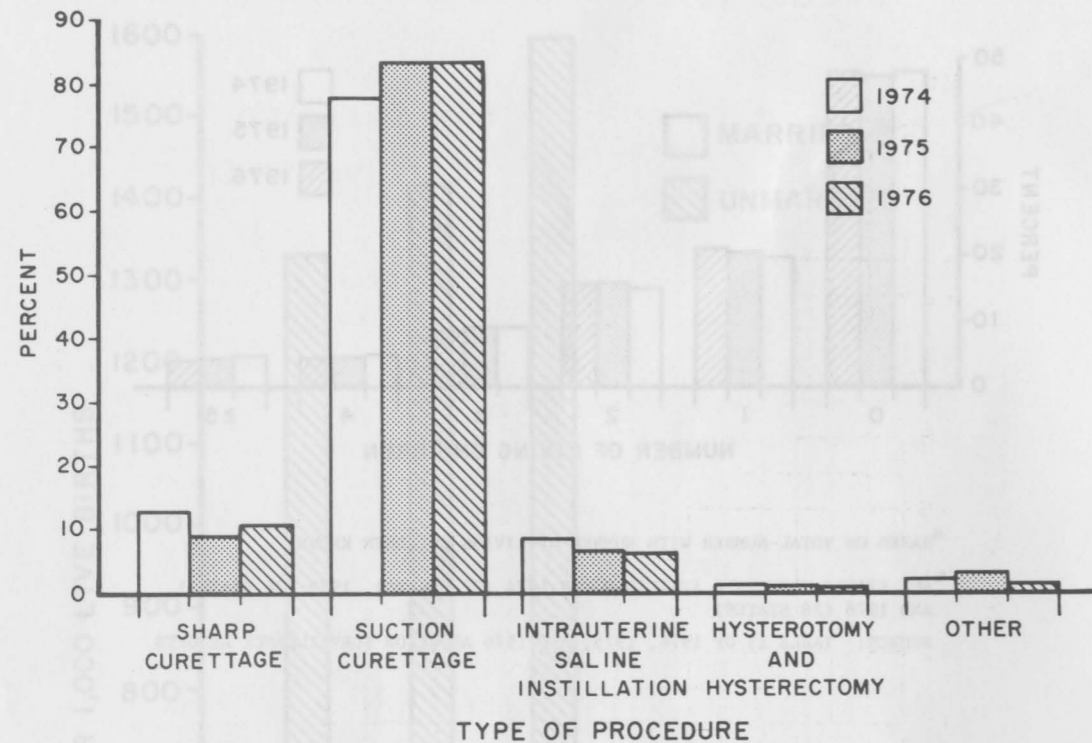
SOURCE: TABLE 13 OF 1974, 1975, AND 1976 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

Fig. 10 LEGAL ABORTION RATIOS, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN, UNITED STATES, 1974-1976



NOTE: RATIOS BASED ON PERCENT DISTRIBUTION SHOWN IN FIGURE 9 APPLIED TO TOTAL LEGAL ABORTIONS REPORTED TO CDC, 1974-1976, AND TOTAL U.S. LIVE BIRTHS BY LIVE BIRTH ORDER, 1974-1976, FROM MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORTS, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Fig. 11 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION^a OF LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE, SELECTED STATES,^b 1974-1976

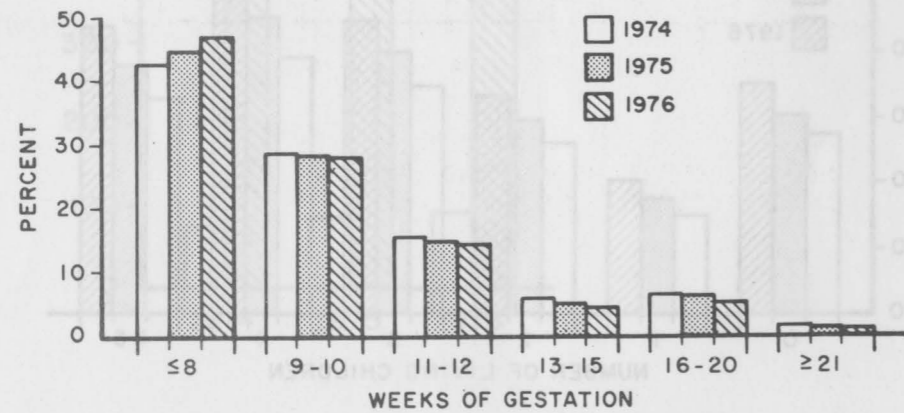


^aBASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH TYPE OF PROCEDURE KNOWN

^bALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1974 (29 STATES), 1975 (32 STATES), AND 1976 (34 STATES)

SOURCE: TABLE 15 OF 1974, 1975, AND 1976 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

Fig. 12 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION^a OF REPORTED LEGAL ABORTIONS, BY WEEKS OF GESTATION,^b SELECTED STATES,^c 1974-1976



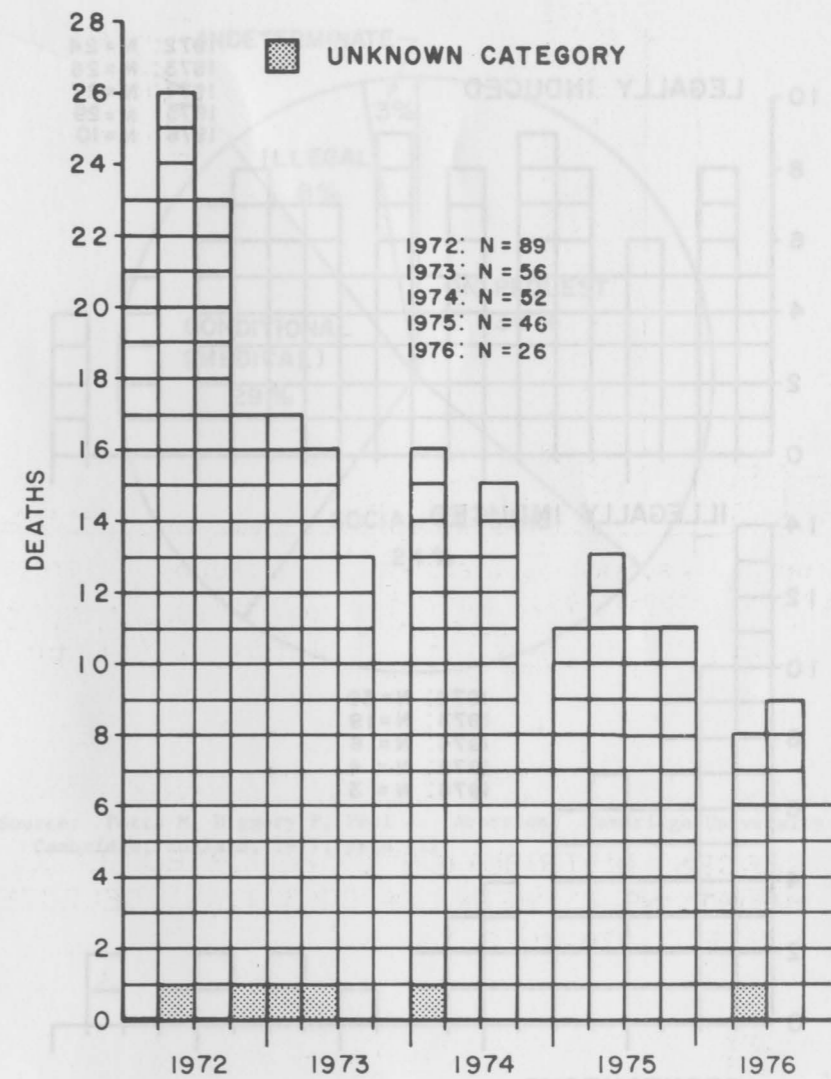
^aBASED ON TOTAL NUMBER WITH WEEKS OF GESTATION KNOWN

^bWEEKS FROM LAST MENSTRUAL PERIOD

^cALL STATES WITH DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1974 (32 STATES), 1975 (35 STATES), AND 1976 (37 STATES)

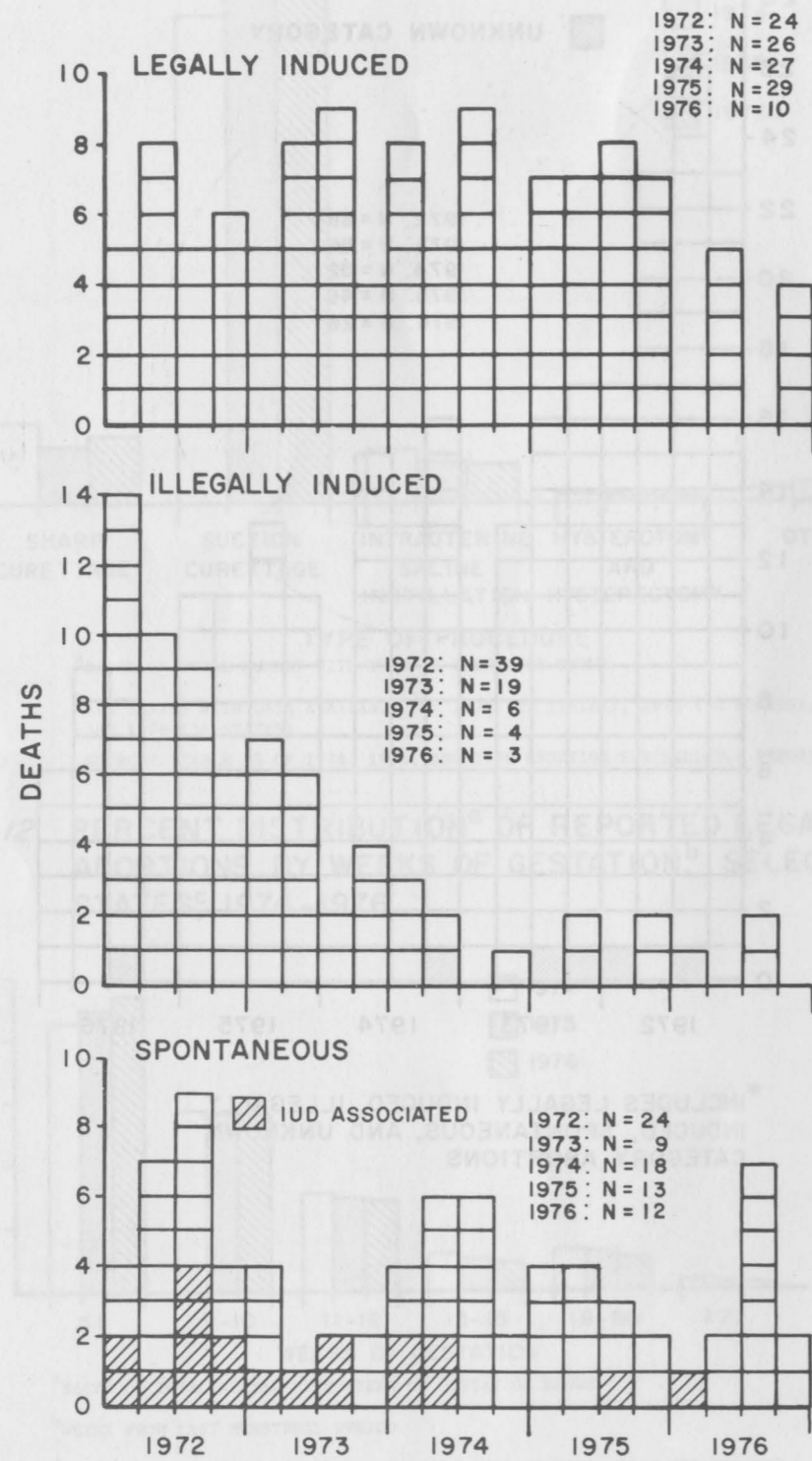
SOURCE: TABLE 16 OF 1974, 1975, AND 1976 ABORTION SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

Fig. 13 ABORTION-RELATED DEATHS,^{*} BY QUARTER, UNITED STATES, 1972-1976



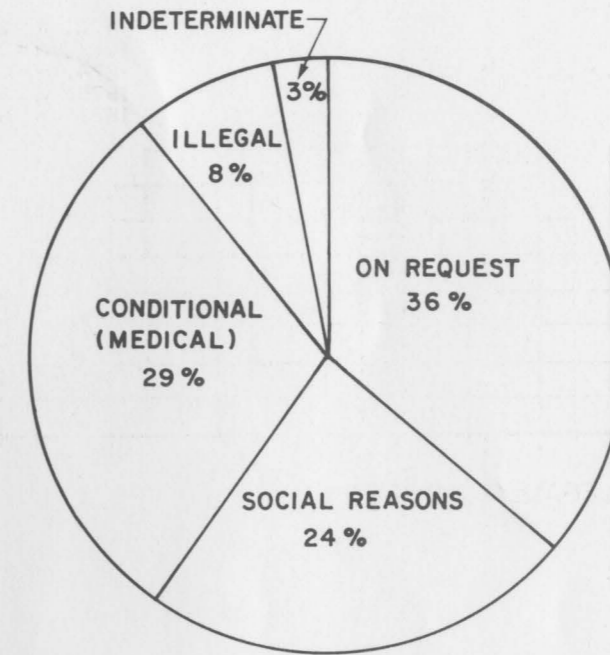
*INCLUDES LEGALLY INDUCED, ILLEGALLY INDUCED, SPONTANEOUS, AND UNKNOWN CATEGORY ABORTIONS

Fig. 14 ABORTION-RELATED DEATHS, BY CATEGORY* AND QUARTER, UNITED STATES, 1972-1976



* EXCLUDES UNKNOWN CATEGORY

Fig. 15 ESTIMATED PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ABORTIONS IN WORLD'S POPULATION, BY CATEGORY, 1975



Source: Potts M, Diggory P, Peel J: Abortion. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England, 1977, page 411

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