



Abortions in Arizona

2012 Abortion Report

8/1/2013



Health and Wellness for all Arizonans

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State of Arizona

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MISSION

To promote, protect, and improve the health and wellness of individuals and communities in Arizona.

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Executive Summary

As required by [A.R.S §36-2163](#), this comprehensive annual statistical report presents abortion statistics and demographic characteristics of women obtaining abortions in Arizona. Included are data compiled from reports of elective abortions, complications resulting from an abortion, and petitions compiled by the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts authorizing an abortion to unemancipated minors. Data is compiled annually based on calendar year using a secure, web-based reporting system. Facilities and providers submit abortion procedure ([A.R.S. §36-2161](#)) and complication reports ([A.R.S. §36-2162](#)) to ADHS on a monthly basis.

During the 2012 reporting year the total number of reported elective abortions performed in Arizona was 13,340, compared to 14,401 in 2011. This represents a 7.4 percent decrease in overall abortions irrespective of resident status. This is a more modest change than the 2010 – 2011 reporting year (see Figure 2). Ninety-eight percent (n = 13,129) of the abortions performed within Arizona in 2012 were to resident women (“resident” refers to residents of Arizona), a 3.5 percent decrease from the 13,606 resident abortions in 2011. Approximately 58 percent of resident women who received an abortion were 20 to 29 years of age (see Table 3). The majority of resident women obtaining abortions in Arizona were unmarried (79.6%, n = 10,449; see Figure 4). During 2002 – 2012 the abortion rates decreased slightly for both adolescents 15 -19 years (see Figure 3) and unmarried women (see Figure 4). Surgical abortion procedures comprised approximately 68 percent (n = 9,074) of the total number of reported abortions performed in Arizona during 2012 (see Table 7). Non-surgical abortions showed a 5 percent decrease to about 32 percent (n = 4,266; see Figure 7). While the number of abortions due to maternal medical conditions increased, those due to fetal medical conditions decreased (see Table 9).

Historically, incidents of complications resulting from an abortion procedure have not consistently been reported at the state or national level. The 2012 reporting year is the second consecutive year complications were consistently reported in Arizona. During the 2012 reporting year there were a total of 76 resident women who experienced complications resulting from an abortion. Of these, the majority resulted from abortions performed at 13 or fewer weeks of gestation (see Table 17). The most frequently reported complication was delay and/or excessive hemorrhage and over 72 percent of complications were to women living in Maricopa county (see Table 17).

As required by [A.R.S §36-2163 subsection C](#), the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts reported a total of 49 petitions filed during the 2012 reporting year. Of these, 42 orders authorizing an abortion without parental consent were issued to unemancipated minors (see Table 18).

This report is available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/crr/ar/> .

Introduction

Abortion surveillance in the United States has been conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) since 1969. Data is voluntarily provided each year to the CDC through the central health agencies of 48 reporting areas (46 states, the District of Columbia, and New York City).¹ According to the CDC, since 1973 the total number, rate (number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 – 44 years), and ratio (number of abortions per 1,000 live births) of reported abortions increased rapidly in the United States and reached its highest levels in the 1980s before decreasing.¹ Table 1 displays the most recent, nationally reported numbers (counts), rates, and ratios of reported abortions from selected states for the United States during the period 2000-2009.

Table 1. Number, rate, and ratio of reported abortions – selected states, United States, 2000 – 2009¹

Table 1. Number, rate,* and ratio† of reported abortions --- selected states, United States, 2000--2009					
Year	All reporting areas§	Continuously reporting areas¶			
	No.	No.	%**	Rate	Ratio
2000	857,475	826,123	96.3	16.2	248
2001	853,485	821,850	96.3	16.1	249
2002	854,122	823,534	96.4	16.1	250
2003	848,163	820,052	96.7	16.1	245
2004	839,226	811,381	96.7	15.9	241
2005	820,151	801,577	97.7	15.6	236
2006	852,385 ^{††}	827,888	97.1	16.1	236
2007	827,609	812,273	98.1	15.8	229
2008	825,564	810,403	98.2	15.9	232
2009	784,507	772,630	98.5	15.1	227

* Number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15--44 years.

† Number of abortions per 1,000 live births.

§ Excludes states that did not report abortion numbers to CDC: Alaska (2000-2002), California (2000-2009), Delaward (2009), Louisiana (2005), Maryland (2007-2009), New Hampshire (2000-2009),and West Virginia (2003-2004).

¶ Only includes areas that reported abortion counts every year during the period of analysis (2000-2009).

** Abortions from areas that reported every year during 2000-2009 as a percentage of all reported abortions.

†† This number is greater than reported in the 2006 report because of numbers subsequently provided by Louisiana.

1.1 Overview of the Arizona Abortion Reporting Requirements

For many years Arizona collected and reported abortion data in response to administrative rules written by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) as part of the Vital Records Administrative Code. Beginning June 1976, as part of the required *Report of an Induced Termination of Pregnancy*, providers reported to the ADHS basic information about abortions and complications. Adherence to the reporting requirement was not enforceable, however regular

reminders along with a standard reporting format were sent to clinics that provide abortion services. ADHS received these forms and used the data to prepare tables for inclusion in the annual Health Status and Vital Statistics (*HSVS*) report.* Additionally, the data collected improved the estimation of total pregnancies and counts of births.

The enactment of SB1304 in 2010 statutorily required the reporting of abortions and treatment of complications associated with abortions.² The [Arizona Abortion Report, 2010](#) contained a combination of data collected prior to and after the passage of the law. Beginning July 29, 2010, abortion data is reported using a secure, web-based reporting system. The new reporting system was designed to meet the requirements of the new law. Training, facilitated by ADHS, was offered to all known providers within the state. [An Abortion Reporting website](#) was established for additional assistance and related resources. Additionally, the law requires the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to report the number of petitions filed with Arizona courts for authorization to perform an abortion on an unemancipated minor without parental consent in accordance with [Arizona Revised Statutes §36-2152, subsections B and D](#). The collection of AOC data also began July 29, 2010. The data submitted by providers and the Administrative Office of the Courts does not include personally identifiable information (i.e., name, birthdate, social security number, etc.) and only authorized entities can enter and submit data through the secure, password protected portal.

The [Abortions in Arizona, 2011](#) report set the standard format for the report and differed from the 2010 report in several ways: 1) the complete 2011 calendar year of data was utilized and uniformly reported; 2) where feasible, the report was formatted and categorized to meet both legislative requirements and the CDC reporting standards for comparability; 3) it included specific terms associated with abortion and a description of the strengths and limitations of the report; 4) it included a revised reporting methodology and detailed how race and ethnicity was enumerated, and finally 5) the report discussed public health implications related to abortion.

The *Abortions in Arizona, 2012* report represents the second consecutive year of data collection using the web-based reporting system, a standardized format, and presents updated statistics and information. Previous reports presented Arizona data to coincide with CDC's national report. However, because of the 3-year gap between the national and state report, several data tables were adjusted to reflect year ranges more relevant to Arizona (i.e., 1 year, 5 years, and 10 years). Tables presenting descriptive data associated with medical-related abortions were added to highlight the incidence and impact on other areas of public health. Several systemic upgrades were implemented to ensure more accurate data collection. The upgrades took effect at the close of the 2012 data year. The abortion surveillance system facilitates the ADHS' ability to monitor

* ADHS. [Health Status and Vital Statistics \(HSVS\) Report](#). Previous reports present year data tables that coincide with the CDC's national report correspondent with section 1D of each annual report for the table of characteristics.

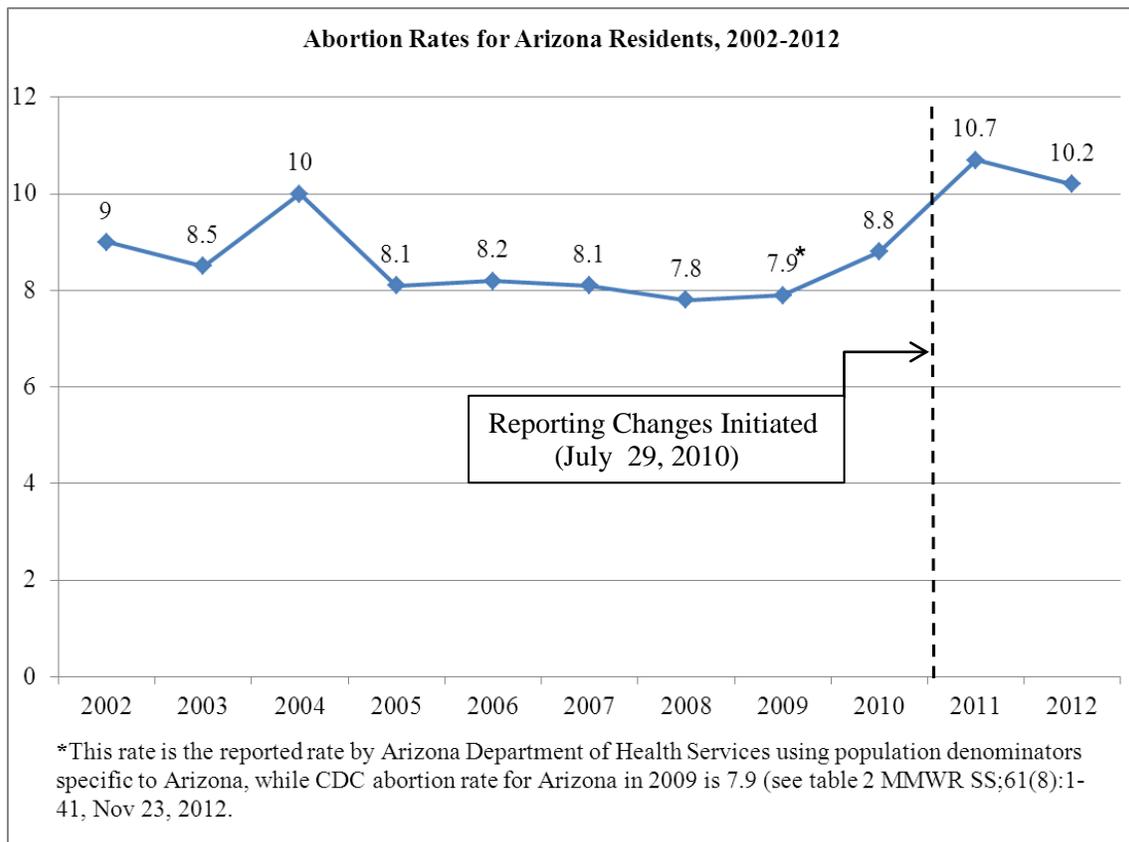
long-term changes in the overall incidence of abortion in Arizona and facilitate pregnancy-related program development and evaluation.

1.2 Trends in Abortions in Arizona and the United States

In calendar year 2012 there were a total of 13,340 abortions reported in Arizona with 13,129 of these abortions being performed on Arizona residents. The percent decrease in total abortions from 2011 was about 7.4 %. Compared to the 26% increase in reported abortions from 2010 to 2011, this decrease represents a more realistic change from 2011 which is perhaps most attributable to 2012 being the second consecutive year of standardized, web-based reporting.

Figure 1 below displays Arizona’s abortion rate for the years 2002 – 2012. Arizona’s abortion rates ranged from 9 per 1,000 women in 2002 to 10.2 per 1,000 women in 2012 with the highest rate in 2011(10.7 per 1,000 women) and the lowest in 2008 (7.8 per 1,000 women). Based on the most recently available national data (2000-2009), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated Arizona’s abortion rate as nearly 50% lower (7.9 per 1,000 women) than the national rate (15.1 per 1,000 women; see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Abortion rates for Arizona residents, 2002 – 2012



Independent estimates available from the Guttmacher Institute show abortion rates for Arizona that are consistently higher than the rates generated by the ADHS.

Differences in the ADHS and Guttmacher Institute estimates are likely due to differences in methodology. For example, the Guttmacher Institute uses numerous active follow-up techniques to increase the completeness of the data obtained through its periodic national survey of abortion providers.¹ Keeping this perspective in mind, the following report estimates the incidence of abortion in Arizona for the 2012 calendar year.

Methodology

Collection of accurate abortion data reveals the level of unwanted and/or unintended pregnancies related to other pregnancy outcomes and preconception health/planning in a population. Abortion also relates to maternal morbidity and mortality^{1(p.8)}. The data and information presented in this report result from the statutory requirements established by [Arizona Revised Statutes §36-2163](#). The term *abortion* replaces *induced termination of pregnancy* (ITOP) and *termination* where appropriate throughout this report. The term *resident* refers to residents of Arizona.

2.1. Data Sources

The primary data source for this report is the web-based reporting system for Arizona providers. The data does not include personally identifiable information (PII) and only authorized entities may enter and submit data through a secure password protected portal. A second data source, the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts, provides aggregate data for the number of petitions filed with Arizona courts for authorization to perform an abortion on an unemancipated minor as prescribed in [Arizona Revised Statutes §36-2152](#). It is plausible that abortions performed on unemancipated minors were included in the data collected using the web-based reporting system. A third data source are abortion reports received from other states for Arizona residents who obtained an abortion in a state other than Arizona. The reports are provided as a courtesy from other states. Reports received prior to the data close out date are included in the current reporting year.

2.2. Measures

Measures reported here are mostly consistent with CDC categorizations and definitions.

Aggregate abortion counts are reported for the following variables:

- Age in years of the woman (<15, 15–17, 18–19, 20–24, 25–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40–44, ≥ 45);
- Gestational age in weeks at the time of abortion (≤ 6 , 7–20 by individual week, ≥ 21);
- Race (White, Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Multiple Race);
- Ethnicity (Hispanic or non-Hispanic);
- Method type (surgical, non-surgical/medication-induced);
- Marital status (married and unmarried);
- Number of previous live births (0, 1, 2, 3, or ≥ 4);
- Number of previous abortions (0, 1, 2, 3, or ≥ 4);
- Maternal residence (state, AZ county of residence, border and non-border region).

Some important measures for abortions are: a) the total count (number) of abortions in a given population, b) the percentage (proportion) of abortions obtained within a given sub-population, c) the abortion rate (number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years or other specific group within a given population), and d) the abortion ratio (count of abortions per 1,000 live births within a given population).¹

Total counts and percentages provide an overview of abortions while abortion rates are a more useful measures as they adjust for differences in sub-populations and sub-population size. Abortion ratios reflect the relative number of pregnancies in a population that end in abortion compared to live births. Abortion ratios are affected by the proportion of unintended pregnancies in a population and unintended pregnancies ending in abortion.¹

U.S. Census Bureau and Arizona Vital Statistics estimates of the Arizona resident female population were used as the denominator for calculating abortion rates. Overall abortion rates were calculated from the population of women aged 15 – 44 years. To calculate abortion ratios, live birth data were obtained from Arizona natality files.

It is important to detail how race and ethnicity in this report were handled. The variables for race and ethnicity are based on specifications established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Arizona State Demographer in cooperation with specifications developed by ADHS Vital Statistics. Consistent with OMB methodology³, the web-based reporting system allows for multiple race categorizations consistent with Census enumerations. For instance, women obtaining abortions were asked about their ethnicity (namely, as Hispanic or Latino and/or Non-Hispanic or non-Latino) and separately about their race according to five standard race categories (i.e. White, Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander). Additionally, if one of the OMB categories does not apply, selecting “Other” allows providers to input specific race designations.

A multiple race category was added to enumerate women who identify with more than one race. The selection of more than one race resulted in numerous combinations. Collecting multiple race posed a challenge resulting in an accumulation of approximately 23 percent of the abortion records containing multiple race designations. As denominators for multiple races are not readily available, utilizing multiple race and ethnicity categories complicates estimation of abortion rates for groups who report multiple races⁴. To meet the requirements of OMB reporting standards for compiling statistics on these sub-groups, records designating ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino, irrespective of race, were reported as Hispanic. When single race and ethnicity were reported, those categories were included and when multiple races were reported, multiple races were coded to a single “multiple race” category.

An examination of characteristics of women obtaining abortions by border region is included in this report. Arizona encompasses several federally recognized sovereign American Indian nations and shares its southern border with Mexico. For the purpose of this report, women

reporting their county of residence as Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma were categorized as ‘border region’ comprising the United States and Mexico border region (consistent with the U.S. Mexico Border Health Commission⁵ definition). The remaining counties are considered ‘non-border’ regions.

2.3. Analytic Procedures

Where applicable, both univariate and bivariate statistics are presented. Counts, percentages, and rates were calculated using SAS v.9.3 software (2008). While abortion rates in general are reported for women of child-bearing age (15 – 44 years), age-specific rates were estimated using U.S. Census and Arizona Vital Statistics denominators for age-groups 10 – 14 years, 15 – 17 years, 18 – 19 years, 20 – 24 years, 25 – 29 years, 30 – 34 years, 35 – 39 years, and 40 – 44 years.

Results

A total of 21 facilities reported data for calendar year 2012. During this period, there were a total of 13,340 abortions reported in Arizona of which 13,129 were to Arizona residents. Additionally, the total number of reported abortions to Arizona resident women between the ages of 15 and 44 years was 13,041. The percent decrease for the same group in 2011 (n = 13,523) was about 3.6 percent. Almost all (99.03%) abortions reported were elective and most of these were performed in clinics (99.57%). Out of the total abortions, slightly more than 68 percent (n = 9,074) were performed using a surgical procedure and approximately 32 percent (n = 4,266) were non-surgical/medication-induced procedures. Table 2 provides an overview of abortions by month of termination, residence and non-residence status, and the number of resident live births in those months.

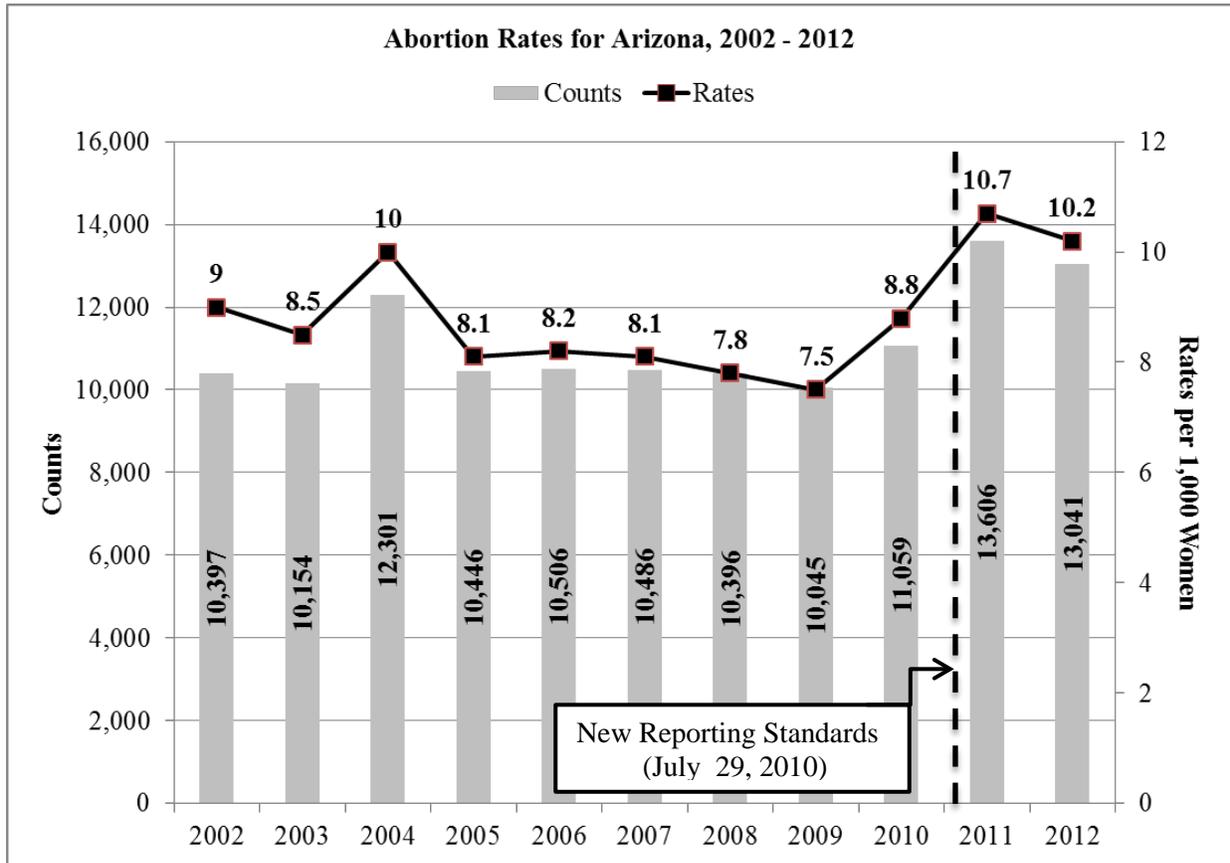
Table 2. Abortions in 2012 by month and resident status

Month	Non-resident abortions (N = 211)	Resident abortions (N = 13,129)	Resident live births (N = 85,725)	Abortion Ratio[§] (153 per 1,000 births)
January	32	1,125	7,006	161
February	18	1,229	6,732	183
March	24	1,407	7,100	198
April	18	1,141	6,603	173
May	10	1,107	6,777	163
June	14	1,161	6,725	173
July	24	1,054	7,368	143
August	33	1,014	7,772	130
September	12	980	7,689	127
October	7	982	7,629	129
November	6	934	7,101	132
December	13	995	7,223	138
Total	211	13,129	85,725	153

[§]Abortion ratio is the number of abortions per 1,000 live births

The overall abortion ratio for calendar year 2012 was 153 abortions per 1,000 live births compared to 160 abortions per 1,000 live births in 2011. The overall abortion rate for calendar year 2012 was 10.2 per 1,000 women of child-bearing age (15-44 years).

Figure 2. Abortion counts and rates for Arizona residents, 2002 – 2012



3.1. Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions in Arizona

Characteristics described in this section examine age, race and ethnicity, marital status, and education of women obtaining abortions in Arizona. Included also are descriptions of pregnancy history (i.e. previous pregnancies, live births, abortions, and spontaneous abortions), type of facility in which the procedure was performed or treatment was provided (i.e., clinic, hospital, etc.), and the method used for abortion (i.e. surgical or non-surgical). Where feasible, comparative statistics for the United States and Arizona are shown.

Age

Maternal age is a critical element in determining maternal and child health. The age range for resident women receiving abortions was 9 to 50 years. The average age of resident woman receiving an abortion was 30.45 years ($SD = 11.78$ years) and the proportion of abortions per age group remained consistent when compared with 2011. Approximately 70% of abortions were to resident women younger than 30 years of age, the smallest percentages were among women in the youngest (<15 years; 0.37%) and the oldest (≥ 45 years; 0.30%) age groups.

Table 3. Age-distribution of resident women receiving abortions in Arizona, 2012

Age Distribution	AZ Resident (N = 13,129)	
	Count	Percent
< 15 years	49	0.37
15 - 17 years	414	3.15
18 - 19 years	1,077	8.20
20 - 24 years	4,321	32.91
25 - 29 years	3,281	24.99
30 - 34 years	2,181	16.61
35 - 39 years	1,250	9.52
40 - 44 years	517	3.94
≥ 45 years	39	0.30
Total	13,129	100.00

Table 4 on the following page presents reported abortions by age group and year for Arizona residents from 2002 – 2012. Women in the youngest and oldest age groups accounted for the smallest percentage of abortions (0.37 % and 0.30% respectively) in 2012 and during the 2002 – 2012 time period. It is evident from the table that the proportion of abortions for women less than 15 years of age declined from 0.42 percent in 2002 to 0.37 percent in 2012. Similarly, among women 15 to 19 years of age, the proportion of abortions declined from 18.77 percent in 2002 to 11.36 percent in 2012, a 39 percent decline. The consistent decline in the proportion of abortions to women less than 15 years of age is most evident during the five year (-39%) and ten year (-12%) periods. Women 15 to 19 years of age reported the greatest decline (-39%) during the 2002 – 2012 time period. The proportion of abortions for all remaining age-groups increased from 2002 to 2012 with the greatest increase in women 40 to 44 years (34%). In 2002 the proportion of abortions to women ages 40 to 44 years was 2.94 percent of all reported abortions, compared with 2012 which was 3.94 percent, representing an increase of approximately 34 percent.

Abortion rates for women less than 15 years of age declined during the 2002 – 2012 time period with one of the greatest declines seen between 2006 and 2010 (-35%). Similarly, the abortion rates for women 15 to 19 years of age declined from 10.33 per 1,000 of the same age in 2002 to 6.56 per 1,000 women in 2012 (-37%). From 2002 to 2012, the abortion rate increased for women in all remaining age-groups. For instance, the abortion rate for women ages 40 to 44 years was 1.53 per 1,000 women of the same age in 2002, by 2012 this rate increased to 2.47 per 1,000 women, showing an overall increase of 61% during the 2002 – 2012 time period.

Table 4. Proportions, rates, and ratios of abortions by age group, Arizona residents, 2002 – 2012

Age in years	Year											% Change		
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2011 to 2012	2006 to 2010	2002 to 2012
Percent of Abortions[†]														
<15 yrs	0.42	0.59	0.36	0.52	0.66	1.35	0.64	0.24	0.40	0.36	0.37	3	-39	-12
15-19 yrs	18.77	17.80	17.69	17.60	17.61	17.52	16.79	14.88	13.27	12.76	11.36	-11	-25	-39
20-24 yrs	32.37	34.12	34.16	33.40	33.57	32.93	33.98	33.55	33.10	32.24	32.91	2	-1	2
25-29 yrs	19.63	20.35	21.12	21.01	21.35	22.75	22.33	23.72	23.67	25.19	24.99	-1	11	27
30-34 yrs	13.27	13.48	13.12	12.72	13.14	12.72	12.22	13.75	15.33	15.82	16.61	5	17	25
35-39 yrs	7.59	7.26	7.88	7.63	8.34	7.91	8.01	8.66	9.44	9.61	9.52	-1	13	25
40-44 yrs	2.94	3.20	2.89	2.97	4.25	4.66	2.89	2.80	3.38	4.01	3.94	-2	-20	34
Abortion Rates[‡]														
<15 yrs	0.22	0.30	0.20	0.25	0.31	0.64	0.30	0.11	0.20	0.22	0.22	-1	-35	-2
15-19 yrs	10.33	9.31	10.06	8.83	8.66	8.54	7.99	6.78	6.54	7.69	6.56	-15	-24	-37
20-24 yrs	18.36	18.38	19.40	17.13	16.45	16.44	16.54	15.59	17.18	20.45	20.02	-2	4	9
25-29 yrs	10.69	10.52	11.66	10.34	10.40	10.35	9.86	9.98	12.21	15.87	15.57	-2	17	46
30-34 yrs	7.31	7.05	7.37	6.33	6.50	6.26	5.79	6.20	8.29	10.45	10.32	-1	28	41
35-39 yrs	3.83	3.48	4.24	3.49	4.31	3.89	3.84	3.92	5.08	6.32	6.23	-1	18	63
40-44 yrs	1.53	1.58	1.64	1.40	2.06	2.23	1.35	1.25	1.86	2.43	2.47	2	-10	61
Abortion Ratio[§]														
<15 yrs	214	284	234	292	406	789	416	182	415	485	716	48	2	235
15-19 yrs	173	157	186	156	145	144	146	138	157	208	185	-11	8	7
20-24 yrs	134	135	163	132	125	124	135	141	165	202	200	-1	32	49
25-29 yrs	87	83	101	83	78	83	82	90	105	141	134	-5	34	53
30-34 yrs	78	74	84	67	68	63	62	70	88	111	109	-2	29	40
35-39 yrs	99	89	110	89	89	83	83	92	115	143	136	-5	29	37
40-44 yrs	186	183	182	163	223	235	150	140	193	261	240	-8	-14	30

[†]Proportion of total abortions by age group represented as a percentage. Percentages are calculated using the total number of abortions as the denominator and the number of reported abortions for a specific age-group as the numerator. Percents do not add up to a 100 due to rounding errors as well as unknown age-categories in some reporting years.

[‡]Number of abortions obtained by women in a given age group per 1,000 women in that same age group. Adolescents aged 10–14 years were used as the denominator for the group of adolescents aged <15 years.

[§]Number of abortions obtained by women in a given age group per 1,000 live births to women in that same age group.

NOTE: Percentages, rates and ratios for women 45 and over were excluded.

As noted earlier, the abortion ratio compares the count of elective abortions to the count of live births and is expressed as abortions per 1,000 live births. It is evident from Table 4 that the abortion ratio for women less than 15 years of age increased from 214 per 1,000 live births in 2002 to 716 per 1,000 live births in 2012 – an increase of 235 percent. Similarly, the abortion ratio for women 15 to 19 years of age in 2002 was 173 per 1,000 live births, increasing to 185 per 1,000 live births in 2012 (7%). Abortion ratios for women 40 to 44 years of age also increased between 2002 (186 per 1,000 live births) and 2012 (240 per 1,000 live births).

Focusing on changes from 2011 to 2012, the abortion ratio decreased for all age groups excluding females less than 15 years old. The abortion ratio for females less than 15 years old showed a 48 percent increase from 2011 to 2012. Considering the abortion rate for females in this age group remained relatively stable from 2011 to 2012, and the number of abortions to females in this age group was the same in both 2011 and 2012 (n = 49), the increase in the abortion ratio reflects the fact that the number of births to females less than 15 years of age decreased from 2011 (n = 101) to 2012 (n = 67).

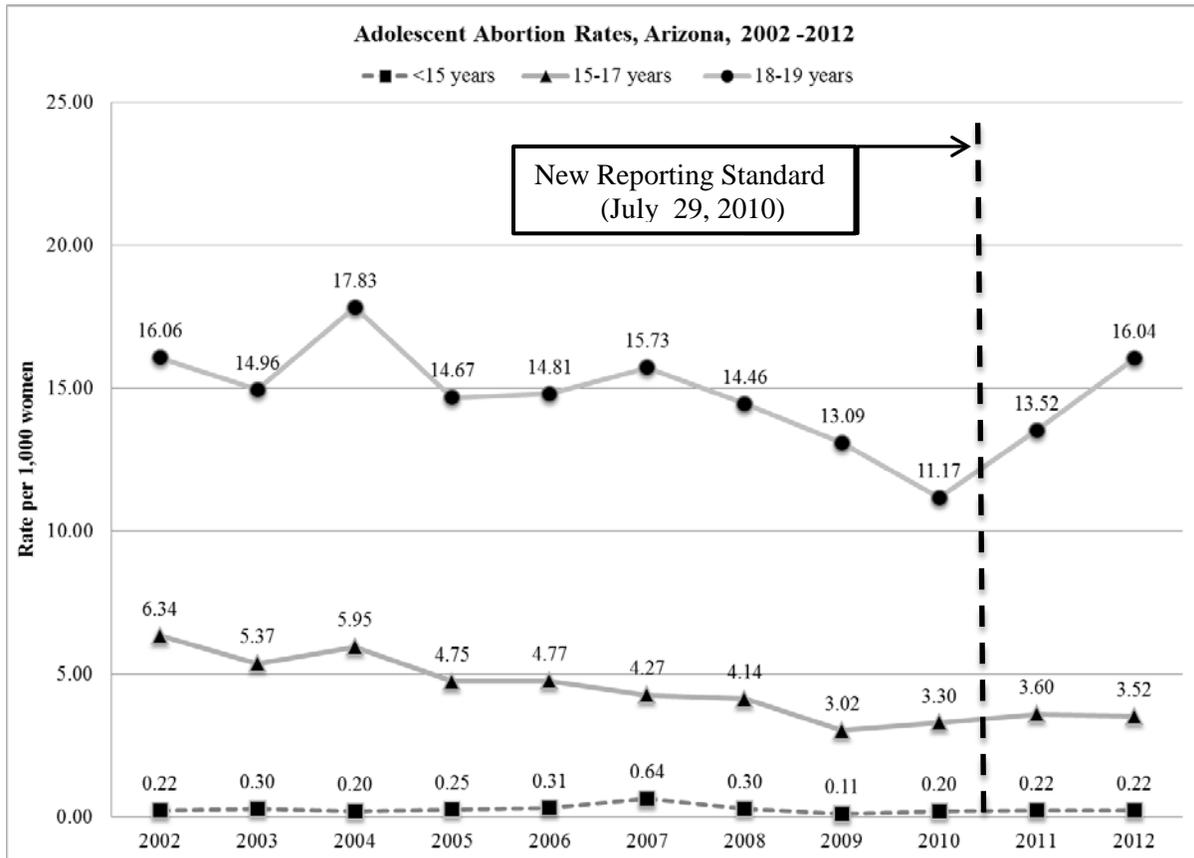
Adolescents

Figure 3 below displays adolescent abortion rates for Arizona residents during 2002 – 2012. For adolescent females ages 15 to 17 years, the 2002 abortion rate was 6.34 per 1,000 females of the same age. In 2012 this rate was 3.52 per 1,000 females. The percent change in abortion rates from 2002 to 2012 was highest among 15 to 17 year olds (~45%).

Among female adolescents 15 years or younger, only slight changes occurred between 2002 and 2012, with the highest rate occurring in 2007 (.64%). As previously mentioned, abortion data is submitted without personally identifiable information, therefore it is difficult to determine the percentage of this group who filed petitions with an Arizona court to obtain an abortion as an unemancipated minor.

Among women aged 18 to 19 years, the 2002 abortion rate is nearly identical to the 2012 rate. The highest rate for this group occurred in 2004. From 2010 to 2012, the abortion rate for women ages 18 – 19 years increased by 43.6 percent. While some natural increase may have occurred, the majority of this increase is likely attributable to changes in the reporting requirements implemented in 2010.

Figure 3. Adolescent abortion rates for Arizona residents, 2002 – 2012



Race and Ethnicity

Multiple race categories were reported in nearly 23 percent (n = 2,965) of reported abortions, and in approximately 35 percent (n = 4,586) of cases, there was no indication of any race(s). Of the total 13,041 abortions to resident women aged 15 to 44 years in 2012, approximately 26 percent (n = 3,373) of the abortions were for resident Hispanic women, followed by approximately 14.5 percent (n = 1,891) for non-Hispanic White women. African American resident women accounted for less than one percent (n = 113) of reported abortions, followed by Asian or Pacific Island resident women (n = 75), and American Indian resident women (n = 38).

Table 5 on the following page provides an overview of the trends in abortions by race and ethnicity from 2002 to 2012. The 2012 abortion rates for women who were not Hispanic and/or Latino should be interpreted with caution due to problems in race categorization noted above. In general, abortions to Hispanic and/or Latino women (as a proportion of abortions among all race groups) remained similar throughout this time period. Some of the figures specific to race and ethnicity changed significantly beginning in 2010, potentially reflecting changes in the way these variables were reported in the electronic reporting system.

Table 5. Proportions, rates, and ratios of abortions by race and ethnicity, Arizona residents, 2002 – 2012

Race and Ethnicity	Year										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 [¶]
Percent of Abortions[†]											
White non-Hispanic	47.22	48.13	42.89	42.42	48.60	49.61	45.57	47.38	47.39	17.53	14.50
Hispanic or Latino	34.30	33.89	36.46	29.79	30.08	35.47	30.05	32.88	30.94	31.41	25.86
Black or African American	5.35	4.87	5.88	5.60	5.53	6.44	7.16	7.33	4.30	1.07	0.87
American Indian	2.74	3.52	2.77	3.38	3.26	2.96	2.86	2.99	1.97	0.35	0.29
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.63	2.68	3.61	3.63	3.72	4.33	3.96	3.88	2.30	0.35	0.58
Multiple races	N/A	32.65	22.74								
Unknown	7.77	6.91	8.39	15.18	8.81	1.20	10.41	5.55	13.09	16.65	35.17
Abortion Rates[‡]											
White non-Hispanic	7.1	6.9	7.7	5.7	7.21	7.3	6.45	6.38	8.21	3.67	2.87
Hispanic or Latino	10.9	10.2	12.9	8.6	8.1	9.2	7.59	7.96	8.05	9.95	7.62
Black or African American	14.5	11.8	17.7	13	10.27	12.7	13.81	13.34	8.45	2.48	1.97
American Indian	4.4	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.38	3.8	3.6	3.59	3.2	0.58	0.55
Asian or Pacific Islander	NA	8.3	14.7	11.3	9.27	10.4	9.31	8.73	5.24	0.92	1.57
Multiple races	NA										
Unknown	NA										
Abortion Ratio[§]											
White non-Hispanic	127	126	134	112	119	123	113	115	135	62	49
Hispanic or Latino	99	88	110	74	70	81	73	86	100	129	102
Black or African American	202	164	225	170	150	162	173	168	110	33	24
American Indian	51	61	56	56	54	48	47	49	38	44	7
Asian or Pacific Islander	120	108	170	135	125	133	120	115	77	8	21
Multiple races	NA										
Unknown	NA										

[†]Proportion of total abortions by ethnicity and/or race represented as a percentage. Percentages are calculated using the total number of reported abortions as the denominator and the number of reported abortions for a specific ethnicity and/or race as the numerator. Percents do not add up to a 100 due to rounding errors, multiple race and unknown ethnicity/race categories.

[‡]Calculated using the number of abortions obtained by women, ages 15-44 in a given race and/or ethnic group per 1,000 women in the same group.

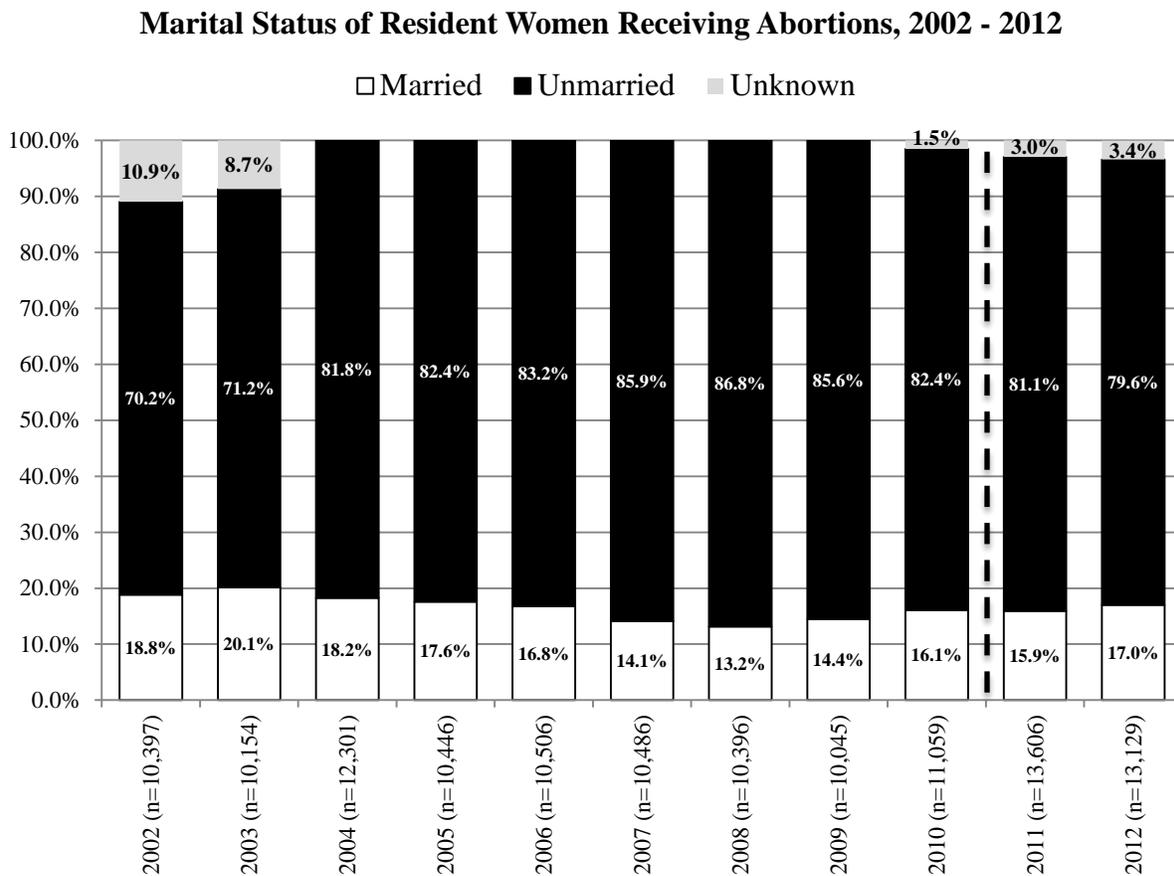
[§]Calculated using the number of abortions obtained by women, ages 15-44 in a given race and/or ethnic group per 1,000 live births to women in the same group.

[¶]Beginning 2011, rates and ratios should be interpreted with caution due to the addition of the Multiple Race and Unknown categories. Single race selections are the best estimates for rates and ratios.

Marital Status

In 2012, 17 percent (n = 2,237) of resident women obtaining abortions were married. Figure 4 displays the distribution of abortions performed on Arizona resident women from 2002 to 2012 by marital status. Abortions performed on married women from 2002 – 2012 ranged from 20.1 percent in 2003 to 13.2 percent in 2008. From 2009 to 2012 the percentage of married women obtaining abortions remained consistent. Similarly, the percent of abortions obtained by unmarried women remained relatively stable during the 2002 to 2012 time period. According to the latest available national data, “Among the 37 areas that reported marital status for 2009, 15.0 percent of all women were married, and 85.0 percent were unmarried.”^{1 (p7)} Between 2002 and 2012 the percent of abortions performed on married women showed a decrease of approximately 9.6 percent.

Figure 4. Marital status of resident women receiving abortions, 2002 – 2012



** Dashed line indicates establishment of new reporting standard (July 29, 2010).

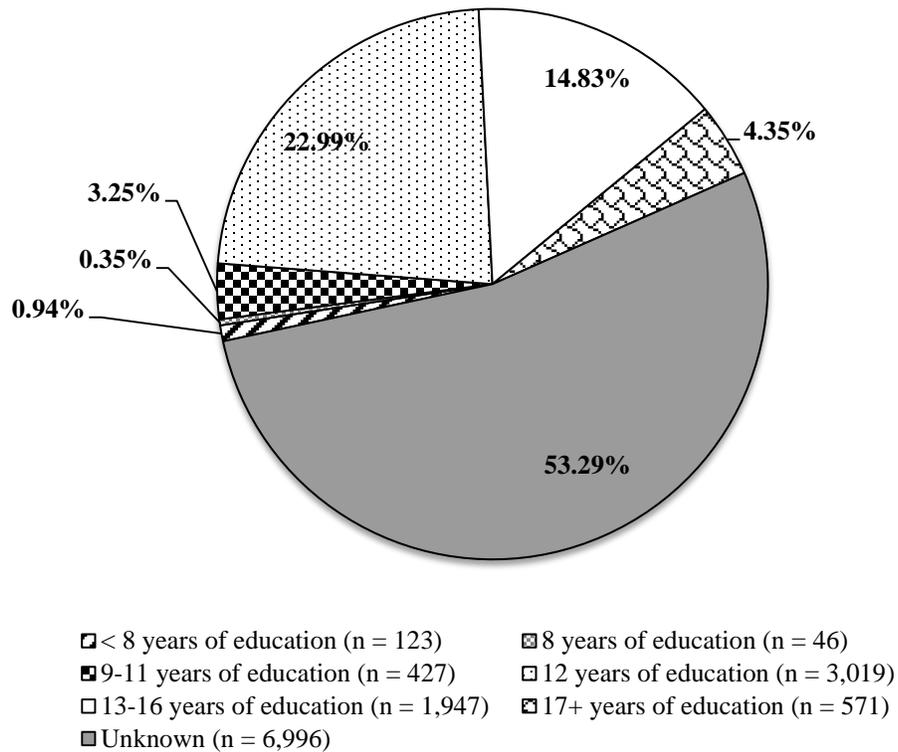
The percent of married women amongst Arizona residents who obtained an abortion increased until age 35. Approximately 88% of married women receiving abortions were between 20 to 39 years of age (i.e., ~18% in 20 to 24 years; ~25% in 25 to 29 years; ~27% in 30 to 34 years; ~18% in 35 to 39 years age-groups).

Education

Figure 5 displays the distribution of educational attainment of Arizona resident women obtaining abortions in 2012. The largest proportion reported an unknown educational status (~53%). Approximately 23 percent (n = 3,019) of women who obtained abortions in 2012 had 12 years of education, followed by approximately 15 percent (n = 1,947) of women who had 13 to 16 years of education. Four and a half percent of women receiving abortions had less than a high school education.

Figure 5. Educational status of resident women receiving abortions, 2012

Educational Status of Resident Women Receiving Abortions in 2012



Pregnancy History

Pregnancy history compiles the previous number of pregnancies, live births, abortions, and spontaneous abortions. Collecting previous pregnancy history data provides an overview of the potential risk of future pregnancy outcomes. For instance, in the case of abortions, some studies indicate that “the risk of preterm birth is higher in women who have undergone induced abortion, and that the risk is related to the number of abortions.”^{6(p.734)} Other studies indicate that previous abortions are associated with a significantly increased risk of low birth weight (LBW) and preterm birth (PTB), but are not associated with small for gestational age (SGA), and the risk of LBW and PTB increases with the number of abortions.⁷

Table 6 presents the previous number of pregnancies, live births, abortions, and spontaneous abortions. Of resident women receiving abortions in 2012, over one-third (~35%) had three or more previous pregnancies and approximately 15 percent had three or more previous live births. Additionally, of resident women who had abortions during 2012, approximately 11 percent had two or more previous abortions and approximately three percent had two or more previous spontaneous abortions.

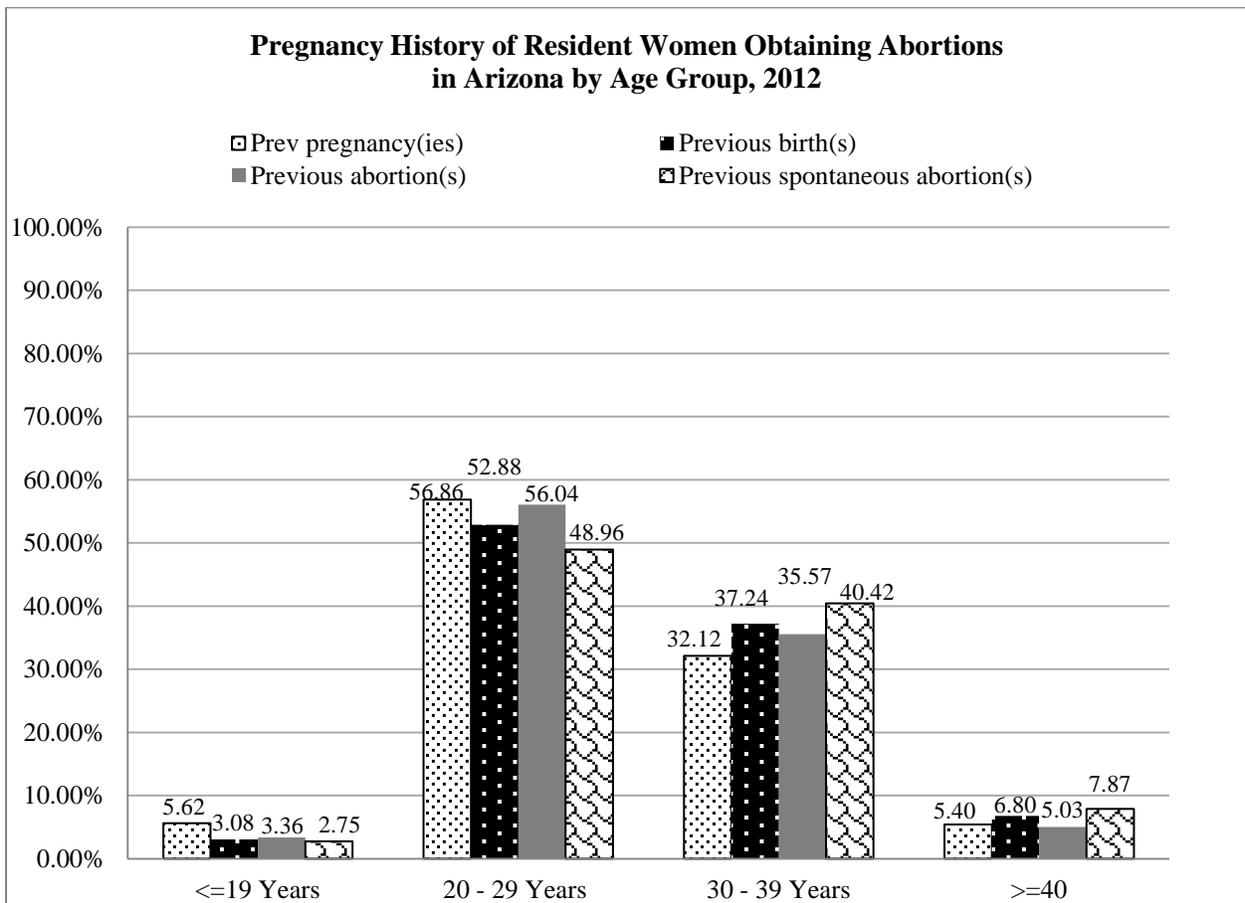
Table 6. Pregnancy history of resident women receiving abortions in Arizona, 2012

Pregnancy History	2012	
	Count (N = 13,129)	Percent
Number of previous pregnancies		
0	3,249	24.75
1	2,887	21.99
2	2,406	18.33
3 or more	4,555	34.69
Unknown	32	0.24
Number of previous live births		
0	5,829	44.40
1	3,014	22.96
2	2,365	18.01
3 or more	1,901	14.48
Unknown	20	0.15
Previous abortions		
0	8,445	64.32
1	3,131	23.85
2	1,054	8.03
3 or more	431	3.28
Unknown	68	0.52
Previous spontaneous abortions		
0	10,941	83.33
1	1,673	12.74
2	310	2.36
3 or more	125	0.95
Unknown	80	0.61

Of those women who had abortions in 2012, 7,361 (~56%) had neither a previous abortion or a spontaneous abortion (data not shown). Approximately 7.6 percent (n = 1,003) had at least one or more previous abortions and had one or more previous spontaneous abortions. Further, 8.2 percent (n = 1,082) had a previous spontaneous abortion but did not have a previous elective abortion and about 33 percent (n = 3,574) had a previous abortion but did not have a previous spontaneous abortion.

Figure 6 gives an overview of the pregnancy history of resident women who had abortions in 2012 by age-group. It is evident that the proportion of previous pregnancies, live births, abortions, and spontaneous abortions were primarily concentrated among women 20-29 years of age.

Figure 6. Pregnancy history of resident women obtaining abortions in Arizona by age-group, 2012



Abortion Method

Of resident women who had abortions in 2012, approximately 32 percent (n = 4,198) had non-surgical procedures and approximately 68 percent (n = 8,931) had surgical procedures.

Table 7 provides an overview of the methods of abortion used in 2012. Of the total surgical procedures reported for resident women, the most common procedure was suction curettage (66.03%), followed by dilation and evacuation (D&E; 20.71%), and sharp curettage (D&C; 12.29%). Of the total number of non-surgical procedures reported, the most common was Mifeprex and/or Misoprostol (80.16%).

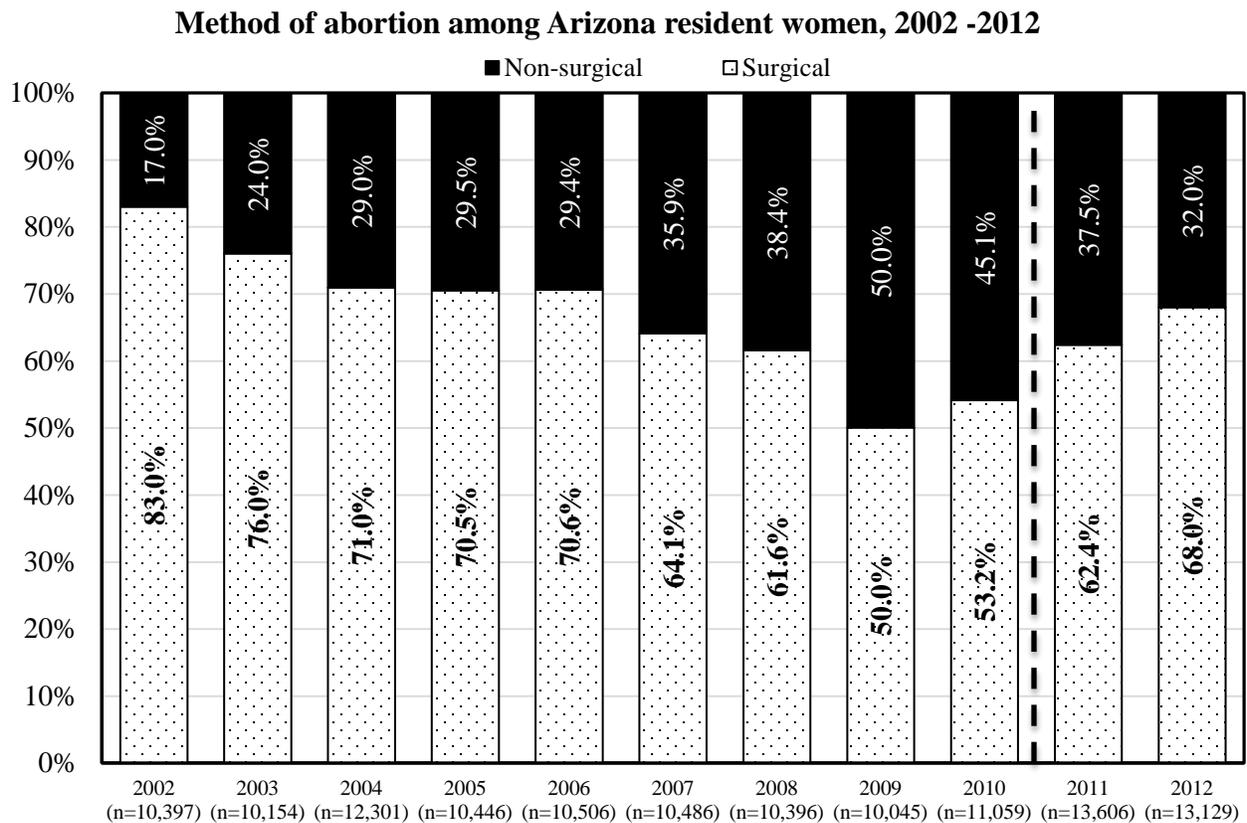
Table 7. Method of abortion used by resident women in Arizona, 2012

Method [¶]	Count	Percent
Surgical Procedures		
Suction Curettage	5,897	66.03%
Sharp Curettage (D&C)	1,098	12.29%
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	1,850	20.71%
Insertion/Laminaria	50	0.56%
Insertion/Prostaglandin	14	0.16%
Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy	2	0.02%
Insertion/Intra-amniotic (saline)	1	0.01%
Other procedure	18	0.20%
Non-surgical Procedures		
Mifeprex and misoprostol	3,365	80.16%
Cytotec & Mifeprex	685	16.32%
Mifepristone (Mifeprex) and misoprostol (Cytotec)	99	2.36%
Cytotec & misoprostol	41	0.98%
Other	8	0.19%

[¶]One procedure was reported as unknown/missing.

Figure 7 displays trends in surgical and non-surgical procedures during 2002 – 2012. It is evident that the number of non-surgical abortions increased until 2009 then decreased through 2012. In 2002, 83 percent of all abortion procedures were surgical procedures. However, surgical procedures decreased through 2012, accounting for 68 percent of all abortion procedures, an 18 percent decrease from 2002. Similarly, non-surgical procedures comprised 17 percent of all procedures in 2002 and 32 percent of all procedures in 2012. Between the 2005 – 2009 time period, surgical procedures decreased approximately 29 percent, and during the same time period non-surgical procedures increased approximately 70 percent.

Figure 7. Method of abortion among Arizona resident women, 2002 – 2012



** Dashed line indicates establishment of new reporting standard (July 29, 2010).

Facility and Reason for Termination

Of the 13,129 abortions reported for Arizona residents, 13,072 (99.57%) were performed in clinics and 54 in hospitals (.41%). The majority of abortions were elective (99.02%), with 129 (0.98%) cases reported as taking place for medical reasons. Of the 129 cases that indicated abortion for medical reasons, 84 percent (n = 108) were surgical procedures, 16 percent (n = 21) were non-surgical, 64 percent (n = 82) were performed in clinics, and 36 percent (n = 47) were performed in hospitals. About 94 percent (n = 121) of the medically necessary abortions were performed on women age 20 or older.

Both maternal and fetal medical conditions resulting in complications to pregnancy may result in a decision to abort. Data related to medical conditions and complications occurring during the abortion procedure are collected on the abortion procedure report. Providers report both complications *during* an abortion procedure and complications occurring *after*, or *as result of*, an abortion procedure. Data relating to complications occurring after or as a result of an abortion are collected separately (see [A.R.S. 36-2162](#)) and are presented in a later section of this report.

During 2012, 34 resident women experiencing medical complications obtained an abortion citing a medical condition as the reason for termination. The age range of women in this group was from 17 to 44 years while the greatest number of procedures were to unmarried women 17 – 25 years of age. Approximately 53 percent (52.94%, n = 18) of these abortions were between 14 and 20 weeks gestation and over 67 percent of procedures performed were surgical. About 88 percent (n = 30) of women in this group were residents of Maricopa county.

Table 8 on the following page presents maternal characteristics and corresponding medical conditions cited for obtaining an abortion.

Additionally, 85 women obtained an abortion due to fetal medical conditions. The majority of these were related to birth defects. The age range of women in this group was 16 to 44 years with the greatest number of procedures to married women 25 – 39 years of age. Approximately 69 percent (69.4%, n = 59) of these procedures were performed between 14 and 20 weeks gestation and over 90 percent (90.59%, n = 77) were surgical procedures. Unlike maternal medical conditions, the majority of procedures (84.71%, n = 72) were performed in clinics with slightly more than 56 percent (n = 48) to residents of Maricopa county.

Table 9 on the following page presents maternal characteristics and fetal medical conditions cited as reasons for obtaining an abortion.

Conditions reported once were categorized as “Other” and consisted of the following conditions: cleft lip/palate, conjoined twins, fetal anomaly, hydrops, karyotype abnormality, oligohydramnios, omphalocele, osteogenesis imperfect, phocomelia, skeletal anomaly, teratoma, and twin abnormality.

Table 8. Maternal characteristics and corresponding medical conditions cited for obtaining an abortion, Arizona residents, 2012

Maternal Characteristics	Count (n = 34)	Percent
Age		
≤15-19 yrs	*	N/A
20-24 yrs	11	32.35
25-29 yrs	9	26.47
30-34 yrs	8	23.53
35-44 yrs	*	N/A
Gestational age		
≤13 weeks	10	29.41
14 to 20 weeks	18	52.94
21 weeks	*	N/A
Unknown	*	N/A
Procedure Type		
Surgical	23	67.65
Non-Surgical	11	32.35
Facility Type		
Hospital	28	82.35
Clinic	6	17.65
Maternal Medical Conditions		
Anatomical Abnormality	*	N/A
Chorionic Abruptio	*	N/A
Chorioamnionitis	*	N/A
Ectopic Pregnancy	*	N/A
Factor V Leiden	*	N/A
Retained Product of Conception/ Incomplete Abortion/ Blighted Ovum	9	26.47
Molar/Partial Pregnancy	*	N/A
Premature rupture of Membranes	*	N/A
Other/Unspecified	6	17.65

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

Table 9. Maternal characteristics and fetal medical conditions cited for obtaining an abortion, Arizona residents, 2012

Maternal Characteristics	Count (n = 85)	Percent
Age		
≤15-19 yrs	*	N/A
20-24 yrs	7	8.24
25-29 yrs	16	18.82
30-34 yrs	29	34.12
35-44 yrs	29	34.12
Gestational age		
≤ 13 weeks	9	10.59
14 to 20 weeks	59	69.41
≥ 21 weeks	17	20.00
Procedure Type		
Surgical	77	90.59
Non-Surgical/Medication	8	9.41
Facility Type		
Hospital	13	15.29
Clinic	72	84.71
Fetal Medical Conditions		
Anhydramnios	*	N/A
Brain or CNS Abnormality	8	9.41
Cardiac Defect	6	7.06
Cystic Hygroma	8	9.41
Lethal Anomalies	6	7.06
Multiple Anomalies	8	9.41
Trisomy	30	35.29
Urological abnormality	*	N/A
Other/Unspecified	13	15.29

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

3.2. Abortions by Gestational Age

Gestational age plays a critical role in abortion. Some evidence suggests that longer gestational age is perhaps associated with abortion-related mortality.⁸ Table 10 provides an overview of the gestational age of the fetus at the time of abortion for 2012.

The majority of abortions (65.79%) to resident women were performed at 8 weeks of gestation or less. Ninety-five percent of abortions in Arizona were performed at 15 weeks of gestation or less. It is evident from the table that slightly less than one-third (31.46%) of the abortions were performed at six weeks of gestation, followed by approximately one-fifth (19.84%) at seven weeks of gestation, and approximately fifteen percent (14.49%) at eight weeks of gestation. About one percent (n = 124) of the abortions were performed at 21 weeks of gestation or greater, a 12 percent decrease from the number performed in 2011. In 20 cases no gestational age was reported.

Table 10. Distribution of gestational age at time of abortion, Arizona residents, 2012

Gestational Age	Count (N = 13,129)	Percent
≤ 8 weeks	8,637	65.79%
6 weeks	4,130	31.46%
7 weeks	2,605	19.84%
8 weeks	1,902	14.49%
9 to 13 weeks	3,374	25.70%
9 weeks	1,195	9.10%
10 weeks	798	6.08%
11 weeks	688	5.24%
12 weeks	359	2.73%
13 weeks	334	2.54%
14 to 15 weeks	479	3.65%
14 weeks	259	1.97%
15 weeks	220	1.68%
16 to 17 weeks	261	1.99%
16 weeks	133	1.01%
17 weeks	128	0.97%
18 to 20 weeks	234	1.78%
18 weeks	102	0.78%
19 weeks	70	0.53%
20 weeks	62	0.47%
≥ 21 weeks	124	0.94%
21 weeks	124	0.94%
Unknown	20	0.15%

Table 11 presents the age distribution of resident women receiving an abortion and the gestational age in weeks at the time of the abortion. It is evident that irrespective of age, the majority of abortions were performed at gestational age of 13 weeks or less.

However, among women less than 15 years of age, approximately 17 percent of the abortions (n = 8) were performed between 14 to 20 weeks of gestation. Similarly, among women 15 to 19 years of age, approximately 9 percent of the abortions (n = 151) were performed at 14 to 20 weeks of gestation, and just over one percent (n = 25) of the cases were performed at 21 weeks of gestation or greater.

Table 11. Age distribution of resident women receiving abortions by gestational age at time of abortion, 2012

Age	Gestational Age [¶]					
	≤13 weeks		14 to 20 weeks		≥21 or more	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
<15 yrs	38	79.17	8	16.67	*	N/A
15-19 yrs	1,314	88.19	151	10.13	25	1.68
20-24 yrs	3,968	92.00	307	7.12	38	0.88
25-29 yrs	3,014	92.03	233	7.11	28	0.85
30-34 yrs	2,007	92.11	154	7.07	18	0.83
35-39 yrs	1,157	92.56	82	6.56	11	0.88
≥40 yrs	512	92.59	39	7.05	*	N/A
Totals	12,010	91.62%	974	7.43%	124	0.95%

[¶]Totals do not add to 13,129 due to 20 unknown and 1 missing gestational age.

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

Table 12 on the following page provides an overview of the association between gestational age and method of abortion. Irrespective of gestational age, surgical procedure was the most utilized method of abortion. In the majority of cases (n = 5,753, 73.34%) involving a surgical procedure, suction curettage was most commonly used for abortions performed at gestation of 13 weeks or less. For surgical abortions performed at 14 to 20 weeks of gestation, dilation and evacuation (D&E) was the most commonly used procedure, accounting for approximately 82 percent (n = 794), followed by suction curettage which accounted for 14 percent (n = 136).

Use of non-surgical abortion procedures were similarly distributed, particularly among women receiving abortions at 13 or fewer weeks gestation. Mifeprex and/or misoprostal (n = 3,357, 80.56%) and Cytotec and Mifeprex (n = 685, 16.43%) were the most commonly used non-surgical procedures used to perform abortions at gestation of 13 weeks or fewer. Notably, over 90 percent of all nonsurgical abortions are performed at gestational age 13 weeks or less.

Table 12. Method of abortion and gestational age, Arizona residents, 2012

Method [§]	Gestational Age [¶]					
	≤ 13 weeks (n = 12,011)		14 to 20 weeks (n = 974)		≥ 21 weeks (n = 124)	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Surgical						
Suction Curettage	5,753	73.34	136	14.12	*	N/A
Sharp Curettage (D&C)	1,076	13.72	19	1.97	0	0.00
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	951	12.12	794	82.45	104	92.04
Insertion/Laminaria	46	0.59	*	N/A	*	N/A
Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy	*	N/A	0	0.00	0	0.00
Insertion/Intra-amniotic (saline)	*	N/A	0	0.00	0	0.00
Insertion/Prostaglandin	*	N/A	7	0.73	*	N/A
Other procedure/Unknown	11	0.14	*	N/A	*	N/A
Non-surgical						
Mifeprax and misoprostol	3,357	80.56	0	0.00	0	0.00
Cytotec & Mifeprax	685	16.44	0	0.00	0	0.00
Mifepristone (Mifeprax) and misoprostol (Cytotec)	99	2.38	0	0.00	0	0.00
Cytotec and misoprostol	25	0.60	8	72.73	8	72.73
Other procedure/Unknown	*	N/A	*	N/A	*	N/A

[¶]In twenty (20) cases gestational age was reported as "Unknown".

[§] Method of abortion was reported "Unknown" for one (1) case.

* An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

3.3. Abortions by Patient County of Residence

Table 13 on the following page provides an overview of the number of abortions, live births, abortion rates, and ratios by patient county of residence as well as border and non-border regions. The border region consists of Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma counties. The remaining counties are considered non-border counties.

The overall Arizona abortion rate in 2012 was 10.2 per 1,000 resident women between 15 and 44 years of age. Twelve out of 15 counties had abortion rates below the state rate. Greenlee (29.80 per 1,000 women), Maricopa (10.94 per 1,000 women), and Pima counties (11.31 per 1,000 women) exceeded the state rate. Similarly, 12 out of 15 counties had abortion ratios below the state ratio (152.48 per 1,000 live births) while Greenlee (412.28 per 1,000 live births), Maricopa (161.00 per 1,000 live births), and Pima counties (184.41 per 1,000 live births) exceeded the overall state ratio.

When comparing border and non-border regions, the overall abortion rate for the border region was 9.21 per 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 44 compared to 9.64 per 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the non-border region. The overall abortion ratio for the border region was 140.47 per 1,000 live births compared to 142.91 per 1,000 live births in the non-border region. Both abortion rates and ratios for the border region were below the state figures.

Table 13. Abortions, live births, rates, and ratios for resident females age 15 – 44 by patient county of residence, 2012

Resident County [¶]	Abortions		Live Births		Abortion Rate [‡]	Abortion Ratio [§]
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
Apache	16	0.12	926	1.08	1.21	17.28
Cochise	139	1.07	1,699	1.99	6.21	81.81
Coconino	165	1.27	1,685	1.97	5.29	97.92
Gila	34	0.26	608	0.71	4.55	55.92
Graham	31	0.24	524	0.61	4.50	59.16
Greenlee	47	0.36	114	0.13	29.80	412.28
La Paz	7	0.05	204	0.24	2.90	34.31
Maricopa	8,749	67.09	54,343	63.54	10.94	161.00
Mohave	41	0.31	1,731	2.02	1.40	23.69
Navajo	70	0.54	1,631	1.91	3.72	42.92
Pima	2,186	16.76	11,854	13.86	11.31	184.41
Pinal	412	3.16	4,645	5.43	5.91	88.70
Santa Cruz	32	0.25	669	0.78	3.45	47.83
Yavapai	173	1.33	1,778	2.08	5.76	97.30
Yuma	78	0.60	3,113	3.64	1.98	25.06
Unknown [¥]	861	6.60	1	0.00	N/A	N/A
Border region[†]	2,435	18.67	17,335	20.27	9.21	140.47
Non-border region	9,745	74.73	68,189	79.73	9.64	142.91
Arizona	13,041	100	85,524	100	10.23	152.48

[¶]Residence indicates women's county of residence.

[†]Border region in Arizona include Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma.

[‡]Number of abortions obtained per 1,000 women of child-bearing age (15-44 years of age).

[§]Number of abortions obtained per 1,000 live births women of child-bearing age (15-44 years of age).

[¥]Records submitted as Arizona residents without a county of residence selected. While the records are counted as Arizona residents, counts were neither included in Border nor Non-Border region counts.

Table 14 displays the trends in abortions, rates, ratios, and percent change by county of residence for 2002 – 2012. During 2002 – 2012, the number of abortions increased in 8 counties (Apache, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Maricopa, Mohave, Pinal, Yavapai) and decreased in the remaining seven (Cochise, Coconino, La Paz, Navajo, Pima, Santa Cruz, Yuma). The percent change in the number of abortions in Arizona during 2002 – 2012 was 25.4 percent.

During 2002 – 2012, Greenlee (571%), Pinal (275%), and Mohave (273%) counties had the highest percent change in the number of abortions. The high percentage changes in Mohave and Greenlee counties may be due to the small number of cases (possibly under-reported in previous years). Santa Cruz (-54%), Coconino (-31%), Cochise (-30.8%), and Yuma (-30.4%) saw a decline in the number of abortions during this time period. The same pattern was true for the abortion rates and ratios in counties showing an increased percent change. There were several differences in the pattern for abortion ratios for counties showing a percentage decrease (this may be attributable to the differences in the numbers of births per 1,000 women per county and/or the number of women of childbearing age, 15 – 44 years, per county).

Table 14. Number of abortions, rates, and ratios for resident females age 15 – 44 by patient county of residence, 2002 – 2012

County of Residence	Year											% Change		
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2011 to 2012	2006 to 2010	2002 to 2012
Number of Abortions														
ARIZONA	10,397	10,154	12,301	10,446	10,506	10,486	10,396	10,045	11,059	13,606	13,041	-4.2	5.3	25.4
Apache	15	17	43	46	47	43	15	19	19	15	16	6.7	-59.6	6.7
Cochise	201	150	181	136	176	81	127	147	107	162	139	-14.2	-39.2	-30.8
Coconino	239	233	291	266	299	275	281	266	274	184	165	-10.3	-8.4	-31.0
Gila	27	15	29	10	27	36	27	27	28	41	34	-17.1	3.7	25.9
Graham	20	18	21	9	15	12	15	23	15	12	31	158.3	0.0	55.0
Greenlee	7	*	*	6	*	7	7	8	22	41	47	14.6	N/A	571.4
La Paz	8	*	9	0	6	12	6	*	6	11	7	-36.4	0.0	-12.5
Maricopa	6,371	7,027	8,178	6,541	6,496	7,188	7,166	6,732	7,774	10,280	8,749	-14.9	19.7	37.3
Mohave	11	5	20	6	16	45	32	21	22	43	41	-4.7	37.5	272.7
Navajo	73	54	70	51	47	51	59	40	69	77	70	-9.1	46.8	-4.1
Pima	2,764	2,080	2,965	3,018	2,636	1,908	2,054	2,124	1,844	2,039	2,186	7.2	-30.0	-20.9
Pinal	110	83	131	85	277	420	257	163	217	313	412	31.6	-21.7	274.5
Santa Cruz	70	45	50	36	81	76	36	35	31	35	32	-8.6	-61.7	-54.3
Yavapai	144	100	190	208	263	251	234	183	204	181	173	-4.4	-22.4	20.1
Yuma	112	133	119	28	81	76	74	156	151	172	78	-54.7	86.4	-30.4
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	276	0	861	NA	NA	NA
Abortion Rates[†]														
ARIZONA	8.98	8.53	9.97	8.14	8.24	8.06	7.84	7.47	8.76	10.70	10.23	-4.4	6.4	13.9
Apache	1.04	1.17	2.93	3.03	3.10	2.82	0.98	1.23	1.43	1.12	1.21	8.2	-54.0	16.2
Cochise	8.51	6.25	7.42	5.42	7.16	3.24	4.98	5.66	4.77	7.26	6.21	-14.5	-33.4	-27.0
Coconino	7.81	7.41	9.24	8.37	9.73	9.02	9.17	8.47	8.70	5.86	5.29	-9.8	-10.5	-32.3
Gila	3.10	1.70	3.27	1.11	3.02	3.89	2.84	2.75	3.67	5.38	4.55	-15.3	21.7	47.0
Graham	3.05	2.71	3.00	1.27	2.19	1.68	1.96	2.89	2.23	1.76	4.50	155.2	1.8	47.5
Greenlee	4.06	2.33	2.38	3.27	2.66	4.61	4.26	5.13	14.22	26.50	29.80	12.5	434.0	633.6
La Paz	2.67	0.98	2.88	0.00	1.92	3.94	1.99	0.64	2.47	4.42	2.90	-34.5	28.7	8.4
Maricopa	8.79	9.41	10.55	8.14	8.21	8.97	8.79	8.14	9.81	12.88	10.94	-15.1	19.5	24.4
Mohave	0.40	0.18	0.66	0.19	0.47	1.26	0.88	0.58	0.76	1.48	1.40	-5.2	60.7	253.4
Navajo	3.62	2.62	3.27	2.31	2.05	2.13	2.47	1.66	3.62	4.04	3.72	-7.9	76.6	2.8
Pima	14.35	10.56	14.70	14.49	13.01	9.35	9.94	10.20	9.59	10.54	11.31	7.3	-26.3	-21.2
Pinal	3.38	2.43	3.51	1.99	5.46	7.26	4.04	2.51	3.25	4.58	5.91	29.2	-40.5	75.0
Santa Cruz	8.23	5.15	5.56	3.81	8.57	7.86	3.67	3.53	3.38	3.77	3.45	-8.3	-60.5	-58.0
Yavapai	4.84	3.24	5.79	6.07	7.26	6.59	5.99	4.61	6.83	6.05	5.76	-4.8	-6.0	19.0
Yuma	3.43	3.94	3.39	0.75	2.19	1.99	1.91	3.99	3.99	4.43	1.98	-55.3	82.4	-42.1
Abortion Ratio[§]														
ARIZONA	119	112	132	109	103	102	105	109	127	160	153	-4.2	23.3	28.6
Apache	14	14	32	36	40	37	12	15	17	14	17	23.4	-56.2	28.0
Cochise	118	85	100	77	97	44	71	80	60	97	82	-16.0	-38.2	-30.4
Coconino	128	121	144	129	145	129	142	140	154	104	98	-5.7	6.5	-23.5
Gila	118	22	43	15	41	52	39	38	42	66	56	-15.4	3.2	-52.4
Graham	128	42	47	20	28	21	23	36	28	20	59	198.8	1.8	-53.8
Greenlee	39	46	39	61	36	51	53	62	210	345	412	19.7	475.5	962.6
La Paz	35	14	39	0	26	52	24	12	30	64	34	-46.3	14.5	-1.4
Maricopa	113	119	135	105	98	109	114	117	143	193	161	-16.4	46.0	43.1
Mohave	6	2	9	3	7	19	14	10	11	22	24	8.1	67.7	330.6
Navajo	45	32	39	27	25	25	30	21	40	47	43	-8.5	58.8	-4.0
Pima	222	163	228	233	189	138	152	165	152	172	184	7.4	-19.9	-16.9
Pinal	41	28	43	23	62	80	45	31	44	68	89	30.6	-29.8	117.9
Santa Cruz	92	57	62	46	108	99	45	46	45	50	48	-5.2	-58.5	-48.0
Yavapai	75	54	95	98	111	104	106	89	112	99	97	-1.7	1.6	29.6
Yuma	37	42	36	9	24	23	22	48	47	54	25	-53.4	93.4	-31.4

[†]Number of abortions obtained per 1,000 women from 15 - 44 years of age.

[§]Number of abortions obtained per 1,000 live births to women from 15 - 44 years of age.

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

Table 15 displays the county of residence and age groups of women obtaining abortions in 2012. The majority of the women resided in Maricopa county irrespective of age. Within Maricopa county, the proportion of women age 30 years or older who obtained an abortion was slightly higher (2,735/8,749 or 31%) than Pima county’s proportion (605/2,186 or 28%) of women age 30 years or older obtaining an abortion.

Table 15. Abortions by patient county of residence and age group, Arizona, 2012

County [¶]	≤ 19 years		20-29 years		≥ 30 years	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Apache	*	N/A	9	0.12%	6	0.15%
Cochise	23	1.49%	68	0.89%	49	1.23%
Coconino	20	1.30%	112	1.47%	34	0.85%
Gila	6	0.39%	20	0.26%	8	0.20%
Graham	8	0.52%	16	0.21%	9	0.23%
Greenlee	*	N/A	28	0.37%	16	0.40%
La Paz	*	N/A	*	N/A	*	N/A
Maricopa	949	61.66%	5,125	67.42%	2,735	68.60%
Mohave	*	N/A	25	0.33%	11	0.28%
Navajo	8	0.52%	46	0.61%	18	0.45%
Pima	292	18.97%	1,298	17.07%	605	15.17%
Pinal	74	4.81%	205	2.70%	138	3.46%
Santa Cruz	*	N/A	15	0.20%	12	0.30%
Yavapai	32	2.08%	92	1.21%	52	1.30%
Yuma	15	0.97%	45	0.59%	19	0.48%
Unknown	97	6.30%	494	6.50%	273	6.85%
Border region[†]	335	21.77%	1,426	18.76%	685	17.18%
Non-border region	1,107	71.93%	5,678	74.69%	3,027	75.92%
Arizona	1,539	100%	7,602	100%	3,985	100%

[¶]Residence indicates patient county of residence. One (1) case county was not stated.

[†]Border region includes Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma counties.

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

Table 16 displays the county of residence and the race and/or ethnicity of resident women who obtained abortions in Arizona in 2012. As noted earlier, the majority of women reported either as multiple race or unknown race, therefore race and ethnicity data for 2012 should be interpreted cautiously.

Table 16. Abortions by patient county of residence and race and ethnicity, Arizona, 2012

County[¶]	Hispanic	White	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Multiple Race	Unknown
Apache	*	*	0	0	0	*	10
Cochise	38	26	0	0	0	47	29
Coconino	13	40	*	*	0	65	43
Gila	10	*	0	0	0	7	12
Graham	9	6	0	0	0	12	6
Greenlee	19	9	*	0	0	10	7
La Paz	0	*	0	*	0	*	*
Maricopa	2316	1,315	89	22	63	2028	2976
Mohave	6	*	*	0	0	8	21
Navajo	14	13	0	*	0	23	20
Pima	647	281	11	*	6	438	808
Pinal	91	50	*	0	0	93	180
Santa Cruz	22	*	0	0	0	*	7
Yavapai	17	46	*	*	0	55	56
Yuma	36	9	0	0	0	13	21
Unknown County [¥]	154	94	8	*	6	179	420
Border region[†]	743	318	11	*	6	499	865
Non-border region	2,495	1,492	97	30	63	2,307	33,333
Arizona	3,393	1,904	116	38	75	2,985	4,618

[¶]Residence indicates women's county of residence.

[†]Border region in Arizona include Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma.

[¥]Reports submitted as Arizona residents without a county of residence selected. The reports are counted as Arizona residents, however counts were neither included in Border nor Non-Border region counts.

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

3.4. Complications Resulting from an Abortion

The way ADHS assesses and reports complications resulting from an abortion has changed over time. Beginning in June 1976, as part of the required *Report of an Induced Termination of Pregnancy*, providers reported to ADHS whether the patient was hospitalized for complications occurring *during* the abortion procedure. Between 1982 and 2003 the ADHS annual *Health Status and Vital Statistics Report (HSVSR, Table D1-1)* used provider-submitted reports to tabulate the number of patients who received abortions and who were hospitalized for complications. However, beginning with the 1986 data, the table of complications included only Arizona residents. From 2004 to 2009 the ADHS *HSVSR* continued reporting general characteristics of women receiving abortions but did not list the count of complications.

Beginning July 2010, [Arizona Revised Statute §36-2162](#) established an abortion complication reporting requirement. Healthcare professionals providing medical treatment to women experiencing complications resulting from an abortion are required to submit reports to the ADHS. The reports contain no personally identifiable data. In accordance with privacy rules and standards outlined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), hospital patient records are not accessible for public review. Additionally, it is important to keep in mind the onset of symptoms may be delayed, therefore it is likely the provision of healthcare may occur in an area other than the patients' county of residence. As previously mentioned, complication data reported on the complication report differs from the complication data reported on the procedure report. Reports submitted in compliance with [A.R.S. §36-2162](#) are for complications occurring *after* an abortion is performed (i.e., excessive hemorrhaging hours or days after leaving the facility where the abortion was performed) and are primarily submitted by hospitals.

In 2012 there were a total of 76 reports of complications resulting from an abortion procedure among Arizona resident women. Of reports including race and ethnicity (n = 29), approximately 55 percent (n = 16) were non-Hispanic White, followed by 15 percent (n = 12) Hispanic, and 3.4 percent (n = 1) African American. In approximately 62 percent (n = 47) of the cases, no race and/or ethnicity information was available.

Table 17 on the following page lists key variables and characteristics of resident women who experienced complications resulting from an abortion. Presented are descriptive statistics based on analysis of complication reports submitted using the web-based reporting system.

Table 17. Complications resulting from an abortion for resident women, Arizona, 2012

Complications Resulting From an Abortion, Resident Women	Abortion Complications	
	Count (n = 76)	Percent
Age		
<15 yrs	*	*
15-19 yrs	6	7.89
20-24 yrs	25	32.89
25-29 yrs	22	28.95
30-34 yrs	10	13.16
35-39 yrs	8	10.53
≥40 yrs	*	*
Gestational age		
≤13 weeks	49	64.47
14 to 20 weeks	*	*
21 weeks	*	*
Unknown	22	28.95
Patient county of residence		
Apache	*	*
Cochise	*	*
Coconino	*	*
Gila	*	*
Graham	*	*
Greenlee	*	*
La Paz	*	*
Maricopa	55	72.37
Mohave	*	*
Navajo	*	*
Pima	13	17.11
Pinal	*	*
Santa Cruz	*	*
Yavapai	*	*
Yuma	*	*
Unknown	*	*
Description of complications		
639.0 Complicated by genital tract and pelvic infection	*	*
639.1 Complicated by delayed or excessive hemorrhage	39	51.32
639.2 Complicated by damage to pelvic organs	*	*
639.8 Other Specified complications [§]	*	*
639.9 Unspecified complications [§]	13	17.11
Other complications [¶]	14	18.42
Unknown	*	*

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

¶ Refers to complications associated/occurring with the abortion procedure but not the direct cause of the primary complication

§ Refers to complications following elective abortions or ectopic and molar pregnancies.

3.5 Petitions Filed with the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts

The Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts collects data in accordance with [A.R.S. § 36-2163 subsection C](#), which relates to granting authorization to unemancipated minors to undergo an abortion procedure without parental consent.

Following is the summary provided by the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts. The dates of petitions filed range from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. Although not specified in statute, the total number of petitions issued an order are included for context. A total of 49 petitions were filed and 44 (90%) were issued an order authorizing an abortion (42 without parental consent and 2 with parental consent). Please note, while a petition may be filed during a specific period, resolution may be in the following period.

Table 18. Petitions filed in the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts

Reporting Category	Number of petitions
1. Number of petitions filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2152 Subsection B	49
2. Of the petitions filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2152 Subsection B, the number in which the judge appointed a guardian <i>ad litem</i> or court-appointed counsel for the minor pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2152 Subsection D. <i>Note: An additional five (5) petitions were filed without an appointe guardian ad litem or court appointed counsel, resulting in a total of 49 petitions filed.</i>	44
3. Of the petitions filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2152 Subsection B, the number in which the judge issued an order authorizing an abortion <u>without</u> parental consent. <i>Note: An additional two(2) petitions were issued <u>with</u> parental consent, resulting in a total of 44 petitions issued.</i>	42
4. Of the petitions filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2152 Subsection B, the number in which the judge issued an order denying the petition.	*
5. Of the petitions denied, the number appealed to the court of appeals.	*
6. The number of those appeals that resulted in the denials being affirmed.	0
7. The number of those appeals that resulted in the denial being reversed.	*

*An asterisks indicates a suppressed cell containing fewer than six (6) reported cases.

Conclusion

This 2012 Abortion Report provides a comprehensive overview of abortion in the State of Arizona following the passage of SB1304. In addition to presenting comprehensive statistics regarding incidence and prevalence of abortion in Arizona, the report also highlights the importance of continued public health prevention messaging regarding unintended pregnancies and the risks associated with abortion among women of child-bearing age, especially in the adolescent teen population.

The implementation of [A.R.S. §36-2161](#) thru §36-2163 provides a standardized data collection system that improves data quality. Enhancements to the web-based reporting system and provider training are ongoing, providing an accurate public reporting system that allows individual providers to report abortions online through a secured web-based system.

Analysis of abortion data has numerous public health implications. Ongoing abortion surveillance facilitates efforts to decrease and/or prevent unintended pregnancies. This report provides a comprehensive overview of statistics about the incidence of abortion in Arizona, however it is limited to descriptive data analysis. No attempt was made to formulate inferences regarding the general population or sub-populations of women obtaining abortions in Arizona. Because of differences in abortion data collection across time, trend comparisons should be interpreted with care because of variation in provider reporting prior to 2010 and expanded reporting requirements that went into effect July 2010. There are no data available to assess the extent of underreporting of incidences.

The ADHS' mission "To promote, protect, and improve the health and wellness of individuals and communities in Arizona" includes abortion surveillance as one of the critically reported Vital Statistics. The Arizona Department of Health Services is committed to improving the health and wellness of all Arizonans.

This comprehensive annual abortion report is respectfully compiled and submitted for public review in accordance with [Arizona Revised Statute §36-2163 Subsection B](#).

Appendix A – Abortion Reporting Forms



Leadership for a Healthy Arizona
Arizona Department of Health Services



Arizona's Official Web Site

[Report A Problem](#) | [Home](#)

Arizona Department of Health Services
Abortion Procedure Report

NOTICE: This is a MONTHLY report that must be filed within 15 days after the last day of the reporting month.

Facility Information

Facility Name Facility Type

County of Pregnancy Termination

Address of Facility

City State Zip

Provider Name (First Last) Provider Type License Number

[Additional Provider](#) [Clear Fields](#)

Patient Information

Age Education Residence State Residence County Of Hispanic Origin? Yes No Unknown

Non USA Resident
 Residence Unknown

Race, check all that apply

White Asian
 American Indian Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 Black or African American Other

Married Prior Pregnancy Prior Birth Prior Abortion Prior Spontaneous Terminations

[Clear Fields](#)

Medical Information

Estimate of Gestational Age Fetus Weight In Grams Date of Termination

Reason for Termination

Diagnosis Code

Surgical Procedure Performed Non-Surgical/Medical Procedure Performed

Medical Complication

Preexisting medical conditions that would complicate pregnancy (4000 characters left)

The basis for any medical judgment that a medical emergency existed that excused the physician from compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

Please Explain (4000 characters left)

Physician's statement if required pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes
Title 36 Public Health and Safety - Section 36-2301.01

Physician's Statement (4000 characters left)

[Clear Fields](#)

Submit Form

Name of Person Preparing Report Report Date

I declare that the information in this report provided to the Arizona Department of Health Services is correct to the best of my knowledge.



[Report A Problem](#) | [Home](#)

Arizona Department of Health Services
Abortion Complication Report

NOTICE: This is a MONTHLY report that must be filed within 15 days after the last day of the reporting month.

Reporting Facility Information

Facility Name	Facility Type	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	
Address of Facility		
<input type="text"/>		
City	State	Zip
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Provider Name (First Last)	Provider Type	License Number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text"/>

[Additional Provider](#) [Clear Fields](#)

Facility Where Abortion Was Performed

Facility Name	Facility Type	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	
Address of Facility		
<input type="text"/>		
City	State	Zip
<input type="text"/>	Arizona	<input type="text"/>

[Clear Fields](#)

Patient Information

Age Education Residence State Residence County Of Hispanic Origin? Yes No Unknown

Non USA Resident
 Residence Unknown

Race, check all that apply

White Asian
 American Indian Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 Black or African American Other

Married Prior Pregnancy Prior Birth Prior Abortion Prior Spontaneous Terminations

[Clear Fields](#)

Medical Information

Estimate of Gestational Age Date of Termination

Surgical Procedure Performed Non-Surgical/Medical Procedure Performed

Nature of complication

Medical Treatment Given (4000 characters left)

Nature and Extent of any Permanent Condition Caused by the Complication

[Clear Fields](#)

Submit Form

Name of Person Preparing Report Report Date

I declare that the information in this report provided to the Arizona Department of Health Services is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Appendix B- Glossary

Abortion or induced termination of pregnancy (ITOP) – *Abortion* means the use of any means to terminate the clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman with knowledge that the termination by those means will cause, with reasonable likelihood, the death of the unborn child. Abortion does not include birth control devices, oral contraceptives used to inhibit or prevent ovulation, conception or the implantation of a fertilized ovum in the uterus or the use of any means to save the life or preserve the health of the unborn child, to preserve the life or health of the child after a live birth, to terminate an ectopic pregnancy, or to remove a dead fetus ([A.R.S. 36-2151](#)).

Abortion rate – The number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 – 44 years or other specific group within a given population.

Abortion ratio – The number of abortions per 1,000 live births within a given population. The ratio reflects the relative number of pregnancies in a population that end in abortion compared to live birth.

Birth or live birth – The complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of human conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy which, after such expulsion or extraction, breathes or shows any other evidence of life such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached. Heartbeats are to be distinguished from transient cardiac contractions; respirations are to be distinguished from fleeting respiratory efforts or gasps.

Epidemiology - *Epidemiology* is the study of the distribution and determinants of disease, injury, and other health outcomes in human populations.

Gestational age – *Gestational age* means the age of the unborn child as calculated from the first day of the last menstrual period of the pregnant woman.

Pregnancies – Pregnancies are the sum of live births, spontaneous terminations of pregnancy (fetal deaths or stillbirths), and induced terminations of pregnancy (abortions).

Proportion – A *proportion* is a ratio in which those in the numerator are also in the denominator.

Rate – A *rate* is a ratio in which those in the numerator are also in the denominator, and those in the denominator are "at risk" of being in the numerator. The denominator is the sum of "at risk" person-time or, by convention, the count of individuals "at risk" in a given time period.

Ratio – A *ratio* is any division of one number by another; the numerator and denominator do not have to be mutually exclusive.

Unemancipated minor – *Unemancipated minor* means a minor who is subject to the control, authority, and supervision of his or her parents or guardians, as determined under State law (See Title 42. The Public Health and Welfare; Chapter 6a USCS §300z-1).

End notes

1. *Extracted from* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Abortion Surveillance — United States, 2009. MMWR 2012;61(8):1-46. Digital version available at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6108a1.htm?s_cid=ss6108a1_w
2. SB1304 State of Arizona Senate Forty-Ninth Legislature Second Regular Session 2010. <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/49leg/2r/bills/sb1304p.pdf>
3. Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity: Federal Register Notice. Retrieved from http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg_1997standards/ accessed on July 16, 2012.
4. Abortion rate is essentially denoted as number of abortions per 1,000 women. Race specific abortion rates are obtained by estimating the number of abortions (numerator) by women in a given racial group per 1,000 women in that same racial group.
5. United States-México Border Health Commission. Border Region. Available at http://www.borderhealth.org/border_region.php. Website. Accessed on July 16, 2012.
6. Ancel Pierre-Yevel et al., History of induced abortion as a risk factor for preterm birth in European countries: results of the EUROPOP survey. *Human Reproduction*, 2004, 19(3):734-740.
7. Shah P, Zao J. Induced termination of pregnancy and low birthweight and preterm birth: a systematic review and meta-analyses. *BJOG* 2009;116:1425–1442.
8. Bartlett LA et al., Risk factors for legal induced abortion-related mortality in the United States, *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 2004, 103(4):729–737.