



Abortions in Arizona

2020 Abortion Report

9/21/2021



Health and Wellness for all Arizonans

Douglas A. Ducey, Governor
State of Arizona

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Arizona Department of Health Services

MISSION

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

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Executive Summary

This comprehensive annual statistical report provides abortion statistics and demographic characteristics of women obtaining abortions in Arizona as required by the [Arizona Revised Statute § 36-2163](#). Included are data compiled from reports of abortions, complications resulting from an abortion, petitions compiled and processed by the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts authorizing an abortion to un-emancipated minors ([A.R.S. § 36-2163, Subsection C](#)), and informed consent monthly reporting submitted by physicians who either referred for, or performed abortion procedures ([A.R.S. § 36-2162.01](#)). Data are collected through a secure, web-based reporting system and compiled on a calendar year basis. Facilities, providers, and physicians submit abortion procedure reports ([A.R.S. § 36-2161](#)), complication reports ([A.R.S. § 36-2162](#)), and pre-abortion informed consent summary reports ([A.R.S. § 36-2162.01](#)) to the Arizona Department of Health Services (Department) on a monthly basis.

On August 14, 2015 the Department enacted a rule (R9-10-119) implementing requirements mandated under [A.R.S. §36-2302](#) that all abortion reports include additional detail describing the final disposition of fetal tissue from the abortion. The reporting rule took effect on August 16, 2015. In 2017, the Arizona State Legislature enacted a new law ([A.R.S. §36-2301](#)) requiring any physician performing an abortion and any additional physician in attendance to ensure that all available means and medical skills are used to promote, preserve, and maintain the life of a fetus or embryo delivered alive. Additionally, the physician performing the abortion is required to document and report to the Department the measures performed to maintain the life of such fetus or embryo.

On April 12, 2018, the Arizona State Legislature enacted a new statute ([A.R.S. § 36-2162.01](#)) requiring Arizona physicians who provide informed consent information regarding abortion pursuant to section ([A.R.S. § 36-2153](#)) or perform fetal ultrasound imaging and auscultation of fetal heart tone services pursuant to section ([A.R.S. § 36-2156](#)) or who delegate to a person authorized by section ([A.R.S. § 36-2153](#)) or ([A.R.S. § 36-2156](#)) the duty to provide the information or services required by those sections to report the number of women to whom they provide any pre-abortion informed consent information on a monthly basis. This statute came into effect from and after 12/31/2018. The report includes an aggregated summary of this reporting for calendar year 2020 as required under ([A.R.S. § 36-2162.01](#)).

During the 2020 reporting year, the total number of reported abortions performed in Arizona was 13,273, compared to 13,097 in 2019. Over 99 percent (n= 13,186) of abortions performed within Arizona were to resident women ("resident" refers to valid resident status within Arizona). Of these, 13,116 were women between the ages of 15 and 44 years. Resident women between the ages of 20 and 29 comprised 58 percent of all abortions to resident women (Table 2). Unmarried resident women represented about 85.4 percent of women obtaining abortions (Figure 2).

Compared to 2019, the 2020 abortion rate increased for all age groups, with the exception of 35-39 and 40+ age groups.

Surgical procedures were used to perform approximately 49.8 percent (n= 6,562) of reported resident abortions (Table 6). The percentage of resident women who received non-surgical abortions increased from 39.7 percent in 2019 to 50.2 percent in 2020 (Figure 4).

In 2020, the number of abortions due to maternal medical conditions increased from 2019 (Table 7). The number due to fetal medical conditions remained essentially the same. About 92 percent of abortions performed due to maternal medical conditions were performed under 14 weeks of gestational age, and about 53.6 percent of abortions citing medical conditions were performed on resident women aged 20-29 years. About 69 percent of abortions performed due to fetal medical conditions were performed at gestational age under 14 weeks. Resident women 30 and over were more likely than younger women to undergo an abortion because of fetal health conditions.

In 2020, abortion-related complications affected 17 women; among these cases, 47 percent resulted from abortions performed at gestational age between 14 and 20 weeks (Table 18).

The Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts reported a total of 37 petitions filed during the 2020 reporting year. Of those, 36 orders authorizing an abortion without parental consent were issued to un-emancipated minors (Table 20).

Introduction

1.1 Overview of the Arizona Abortion Reporting Requirements

Beginning July 1976, state licensed providers of abortion services voluntarily reported basic information about abortions and complications associated with abortions in accordance with Arizona Administrative Code R9-19-302D, authorized by A.R.S. § 36-344. ADHS sent routine reminders and provided a standard reporting format. The data are used to create tables for the annual Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics report¹ and improved the estimation of total pregnancies and pregnancy outcomes.

The enactment of SB1304 in 2010 established a statutory requirement to report abortions and treatment of complications associated with abortions.² The [Arizona Abortion Report, 2010](#) was the transitional report containing a combination of data collected prior to and after the establishment of the law. Beginning July 29, 2010, abortion information is reported using a secure, web-based reporting system. The reporting system was designed to meet the statutory requirements. Reports submitted using the web-based system do not include personally identifiable information (i.e., name, address, birthdate, Social Security number) and are submitted by password-authenticated personnel only. The Department provides training to all known providers within the state and maintains an [Abortion Reporting](#) website for provider assistance and related resources. In addition to licensed practitioners, hospitals, and clinics, the statute requires the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts to report the number of petitions filed with Arizona courts for authorization to perform an abortion on an un-emancipated minor without parental consent (see also [A.R.S. § 36-2152, Subsections \(B\) and \(D\)](#)).

The *Abortions in Arizona, 2020* report is the result of ten consecutive years of web-based abortion reporting. Statistics and information presented reflect abortion services provided within the state. Several data tables reflect year ranges relevant to trends in Arizona (i.e., 1 year, 5 years, and 10 years).

Methodology

The statistics and information presented in this report result from 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 legitimate resident status within Arizona as determined by a patient's reported state and county of residence.

2.1. Data Sources

The primary data source for this report is the web-based reporting system for Arizona providers. The consolidated dataset includes procedure and complication reports. Reports submitted do not include personally identifiable information. Only authorized entities access and submit data through a secure, password-protected portal.

A second data source, the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts, provides an aggregate data summary report, which includes the number of petitions filed with Arizona courts for authorization to perform an abortion on an un-emancipated minor as prescribed in [A.R.S. § 36-2163, Subsection \(C\)](#).

A third data source is the monthly physician summary reporting of pre-abortion informed consent information provided by practitioners to women as required under [A.R.S. § 36-2153](#) and [A.R.S. § 36-2162.01](#). This information was first reported to the Department beginning on January 1, 2019. These reports are currently being submitted under an electronic submission waiver to the Department in a monthly aggregated form by physicians who provide this information to their patients. The reporting form is available online [here](#).

The fourth data source is the abortion reports received from other states for Arizona residents who obtained an abortion in a state other than Arizona. Although these reports are for Arizona residents, they are not included in the annual dataset because the procedure was not performed within Arizona. The reports are provided through the ADHS Office of Vital Records and sent as a courtesy from other states.

Additionally, the report includes the number of abortions paid by the state of Arizona through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (ACCHS).

¹ [ADHS | Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics Annual Reports](#). See Section 1D.

² SB1304 State of Arizona Senate Forty-Ninth Legislature Second Regular Session 2010. <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/49leg/2r/bills/sb1304p.pdf>

2.2. Measures

Measures reported here are generally consistent with the CDC categorizations and definitions. Aggregate abortion counts are reported for the following variables:

- Age in years of the woman (<15, 15–19, 20–24, 25–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40–44, ≥45);
- Gestational age in weeks at the time of abortion (≤8 through ≥21 by individual week; ≤13, 14–20, and ≥21 weeks);
- Race (White, Black/African American, 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 or unmarried);
- Number of previous live births (0, 1, 2, or ≥3);
- Number of previous abortions (0, 1, 2, or ≥3);
- Maternal residence (state, Arizona county of residence, border and non-border region).

Important measures for abortions are: a) the total number (count) of abortions in a given population, b) the percentage (proportion) of abortions within a given population, c) the abortion rate (number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years), and d) the abortion ratio (number of abortions per 1,000 live births within a given population).³

Total counts and percentages provide an overview of abortions while abortion rates are 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 unplanned pregnancies in a population and specifically those ending in abortion.³

The Arizona Department of Health Services, Bureau of Public Health Statistics obtains population estimates from the State of Arizona, Office of Economic Opportunity, per Executive Order 2011-04 to use as denominators for calculating abortion rates. With regards to the calculation of the abortion ratios, live birth data obtained from the ADHS Office of Vital Records natality files are used as the denominators.

The variables for race and ethnicity are based on specifications established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Arizona State Demographer with specifications developed by ADHS Vital Statistics. Consistent with OMB methodology⁴, the web-based reporting system allows for multiple race categorizations consistent with U.S. Census enumerations. For instance, women obtaining abortions were asked to provide their ethnicity (i.e., Hispanic or Latino and/or Non-Hispanic or non-Latino) and race according to five standard race categories (i.e., White, Black/African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian/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 32 percent of 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 races. 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. Women reporting their county of residence as Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma (which comprises the United States and Mexico border region) were categorized as "border region". The remaining counties are considered "non-border region".

³. Extracted from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Abortion Surveillance — United States, 2011. MMWR 2014;63(11):1-41. Digital version available at: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6311a1.htm?s_cid=ss6311a1_w

⁴. Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity: Federal Register Notice. Retrieved from https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/fedreg_1997standards, accessed on October 2, 2018.

2.3. Analytic Procedures

Where applicable, both univariate and bivariate statistics are presented. Counts, percentages, and rates were calculated using SAS statistical software. Cell suppression was applied to categories with non-zero counts fewer than six (6). 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 population denominators for age-groups ≤ 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 16 facilities reported data for calendar year 2020. During this period, there were a total of 13,273 abortions reported in Arizona, of which 13,186 were to Arizona residents. The total number of reported abortions to Arizona resident women between the ages of 15 and 44 years was 13,116. The total abortion counts in 2020 represent an increase of 1.3 percent from 2019 (n= 13,097). Table 1 provides an overview of abortions by month of termination, residence and non-residence status, and the number of resident live births in those months. In 2020 the highest number of abortions performed were reported in August, and the highest abortion ratios were reported in August and April.

Table 1. Abortions, live births, and abortion ratios by month and resident status, 2020

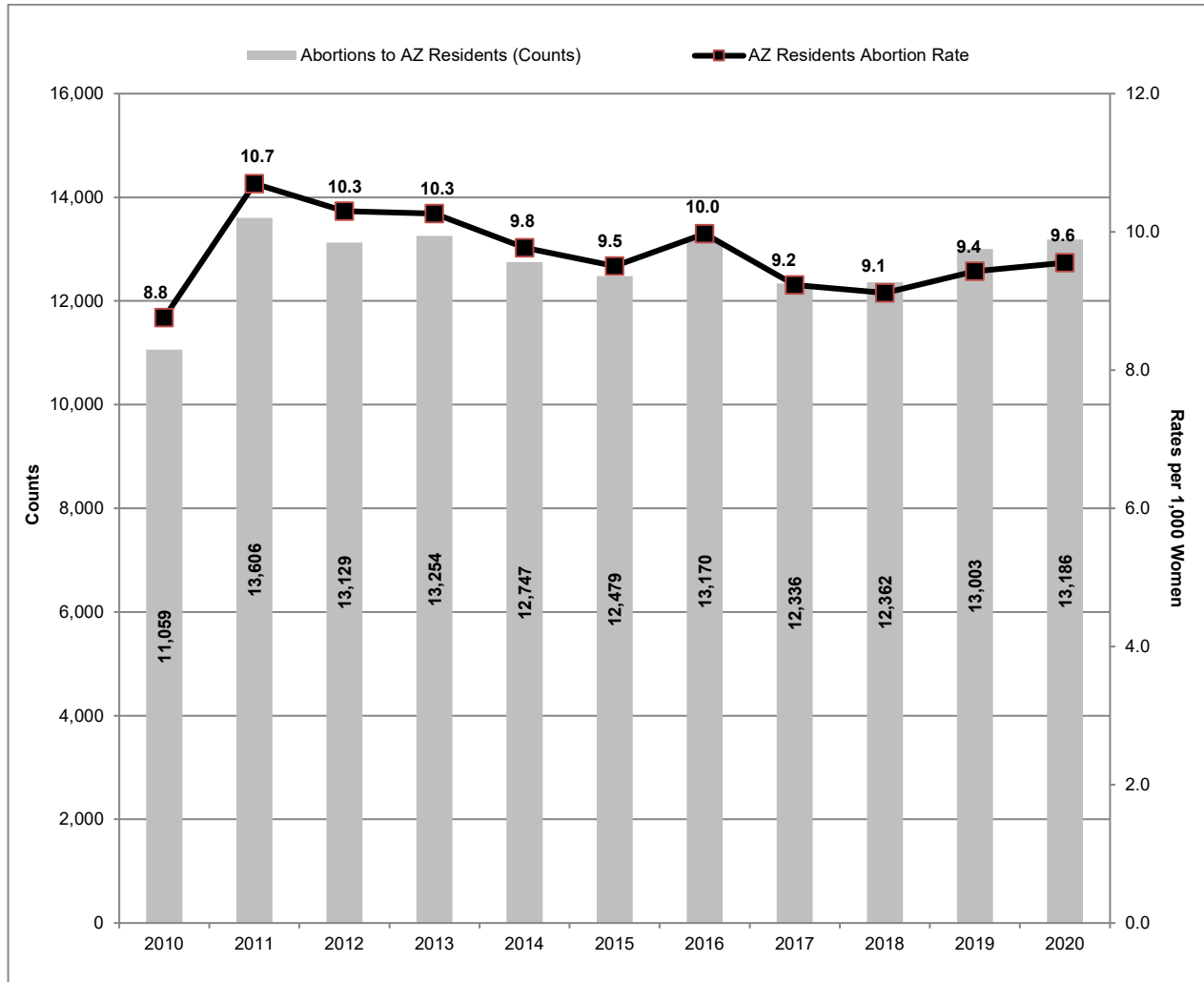
Month	Non-resident ^a abortions (N = 90†)	Resident abortions (N = 13,186)	Resident live births (N = 76,781)	Abortion ratio ^b
January	8	1,244	6,671	186
February	12	1,159	6,247	186
March	14	1,198	6,347	189
April	12	1,252	5,954	210
May	*	1,167	6,030	194
June	7	1,079	6,068	178
July	*	1,133	6,763	168
August	*	1,138	6,690	170
September	*	1,092	6,732	162
October	10	1,035	6,637	156
November	*	865	6,197	140
December	*	824	6,445	128
Total	90†	13,186	76,781	172

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6; ^a Non-resident category includes out-of-state, non-U.S. residents, residents of unknown county or unknown country; ^b Abortion ratio is the number of abortions per 1,000 live births.

The overall abortion ratio increased from 164 abortions per 1,000 live births in 2019 to 172 in 2020.

The overall abortion rate for calendar year 2020 was 9.6 per 1,000 women of child-bearing age (15–44 years; see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Abortion counts and rates for Arizona residents, 2010 – 2020



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. Also, included are descriptions of pregnancy history (i.e., previous pregnancies, live births, abortions, and spontaneous abortions) and the method used for abortion (i.e., surgical or non-surgical).

Age

The age range for resident women receiving abortions was 10 to 50 years. The average age of resident women who received an abortion was 27.1 years ($SD=6.2$ years). Abortions occurring among females younger than 15 years of age increased by 33 percent, from 15 in 2019 to 20 in 2020. About 67% of abortions were to resident women younger than 30 years of age. Abortions were less frequent among women in the youngest (<15 years; 0.2%) and oldest (≥ 45 years; 0.4%) age groups.

Table 2. Age-distribution of resident women receiving abortions in Arizona, 2020

Age distribution	AZ resident (N = 13,186)	
	Count	Percent
< 15 years	20	0.2
15 - 17 years	251	1.9
18 - 19 years	947	7.2
20 - 24 years	4,011	30.4
25 - 29 years	3,633	27.6
30 - 34 years	2,501	19.0
35 - 39 years	1,359	10.3
40 - 44 years	414	3.1
≥ 45 years	50	0.4
Total	13,186	100.0

The following page presents abortions reported among residents by year and age group from 2012–2020. Between 2012 and 2020, there was a 59.5% decline in the percentage of abortions to women less than 15 years of age. The percentage of abortions among women 15 to 19 years of age decreased from 11.4 percent in 2012 to 9.1 percent in 2020, a 20 percent decline. The proportion of abortions among women 20-24 years of age decreased by 7.6 percent from 2012 – 2020, while an increase to 10.2 from 8.3 percent was observed among women in all age categories from 25 to 39 years of age.

Table 3. Proportions, rates, and ratios of abortions by age group, Arizona residents, 2012 – 2020

Age in years	Year									% Change	
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019 to 2020	2012 to 2020
Percent of abortions^a											
<15 yrs	0.37	0.15	0.17	0.20	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.12	0.15	25.0	-59.5
15-19 yrs	11.36	10.72	9.63	9.33	9.61	9.32	9.04	8.87	9.09	2.5	-20.0
20-24 yrs	32.91	32.47	32.76	31.17	30.72	30.77	30.44	30.05	30.42	1.2	-7.6
25-29 yrs	24.99	25.44	26.23	27.05	27.59	27.96	27.90	27.78	27.55	-0.8	10.2
30-34 yrs	16.61	17.56	16.77	17.55	17.54	17.02	17.51	18.69	18.97	1.5	14.2
35-39 yrs	9.52	9.91	10.16	10.61	10.33	10.97	11.13	10.81	10.31	-4.6	8.3
≥ 40 yrs	4.23	3.74	4.28	4.06	3.91	3.73	3.75	3.68	3.52	-4.3	-16.8
Abortion rates^b											
<15 yrs	0.22	0.09	0.10	0.11	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.06	0.09	50.0	-59.1
15-19 yrs	6.56	6.21	5.57	5.24	5.62	5.03	4.85	4.97	5.20	4.6	-20.7
20-24 yrs	20.02	19.40	17.76	16.41	17.22	16.24	16.09	16.52	16.99	2.9	-15.1
25-29 yrs	15.57	16.19	15.70	15.46	16.20	14.73	14.24	14.50	14.59	0.6	-6.3
30-34 yrs	10.32	10.84	9.88	10.04	10.60	9.60	9.75	10.76	10.94	1.7	6.0
35-39 yrs	6.23	6.48	6.37	6.41	6.49	6.30	6.25	6.24	6.03	-3.4	-3.2
≥ 40 yrs	2.66	2.36	2.59	2.41	2.47	2.23	2.23	2.28	2.21	-3.1	-16.9
Abortion ratio^c											
<15 yrs	716	282	478	610	574	806	966	417	714	71.3	-0.3
15-19 yrs	185	199	187	199	237	230	241	269	307	14.0	65.9
20-24 yrs	200	201	196	190	205	206	212	232	250	7.9	25.0
25-29 yrs	134	137	133	134	143	139	142	149	157	5.4	17.2
30-34 yrs	109	117	101	105	108	101	104	117	119	2.1	9.2
35-39 yrs	136	140	128	131	133	132	130	134	131	-2.0	-3.7
≥ 40 yrs	244	221	237	213	223	189	186	197	194	-1.7	-20.5

Notes: ^a 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.

^b Number of abortions obtained by women in a given age group per 1,000 women in that same age group. Females aged 10–14 years were used as the denominator for the group of females aged <15 years and women aged 40–44 years were used as the denominator for the group of women aged ≥ 40 years.

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

Abortion rates (the number of abortions per 1,000 women in a given age group) for women less than 15 years of age declined 59.1 percent from 2012 – 2020, the greatest decline of any age group during the time period, followed by the abortion rate for women 15 to 19 years (20.7 percent decline). Similarly, the abortion rate for women 20 to 24 years of age declined from 20.0 percent in 2012 to 17.0 percent in 2020, a 15.1 percent decrease.

As noted earlier, the *abortion ratio* is a comparison of abortions and live births and is expressed as the number of abortions per 1,000 live births. As indicated in Table 3, the abortion ratio for women less than 15 years of age decreased from 716 abortions per 1,000 live births in 2012 to 714 abortions per 1,000 live births in 2020, (the high ratio is due to the small number of live births to females in this age group and may vary widely due to the number of births). From 2012-2020, the abortion ratio increased for women aged from 15 to 34 years, while it decreased among women aged 35 years and above.

Race and Ethnicity

Table 4 provides an overview of abortion trends from 2012 to 2020 by mother’s race and ethnicity. In general, abortions to Hispanic and/or Latino women have risen steadily during that time, rising from 25.8 % to 40.6%. Some of the figures specific to race and ethnicity changed significantly during that time. This can be explained by a combination of more complete reporting on race and ethnicity, shifts in the proportion of abortions among different race/ethnicity groups, and declines in pregnancy rates largely due to changing numbers of women of reproductive ages within those groups.

In 2020, among resident women obtaining abortions, 2.4 percent were identified as being multiple race (n= 323). In 2.4 percent of cases (n= 314), race was categorized as “Unknown”. Approximately 41 percent of the 13,186 abortions were among Hispanic or Latino women (n= 5,349), followed by 36 percent for Non-Hispanic White women (n= 4,684). Abortions among Black/African American women accounted for 12.1 percent (n=1,594) of the total, the group that also has the highest rates and ratios. Similar to previous years, the lowest numbers of abortions reported in 2020 were among American Indian women (n= 372) and Asian or Pacific Islander women (n= 550).

Table 4. Proportions, rates, and ratios of abortions by race and ethnicity, Arizona residents, 2012 – 2020

Race/Ethnicity	Year								
	2012	2013	2014 ^d	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Percent of abortions^a									
White non-Hispanic	14.50	18.98	43.63	43.10	40.40	38.60	38.89	36.90	35.52
Hispanic or Latino	25.84	31.61	35.29	34.86	36.62	37.61	37.85	39.17	40.57
Black or African American	0.88	1.43	7.70	8.61	9.51	9.70	9.94	10.55	12.09
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.29	0.46	2.28	2.65	2.58	2.82	2.55	2.65	2.82
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.57	0.83	4.19	4.26	4.62	4.85	4.47	4.71	4.17
Multiple races	22.74	32.12	2.83	1.40	1.85	1.75	2.10	2.23	2.45
Unknown	35.17	14.58	4.07	5.12	4.41	4.68	4.21	3.80	2.38
Abortion rates^b									
White non-Hispanic	2.89	3.82	8.60	8.34	8.32	7.42	7.49	7.43	7.27
Hispanic or Latino	7.66	9.25	10.57	9.07	9.90	9.33	9.15	9.74	10.21
Black or African American	2.02	3.24	12.81	16.32	18.36	16.99	16.80	18.01	20.20
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.55	0.88	3.37	5.10	5.20	5.25	4.72	5.14	5.70
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.57	2.27	8.47	9.18	10.13	9.90	8.75	9.08	8.08
Multiple races	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Unknown	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Abortion ratio^c									
White non-Hispanic	49	66	139	141	141	133	138	141	142
Hispanic or Latino	102	127	133	127	142	140	142	156	168
Black or African American	25	40	217	246	286	260	264	282	334
American Indian or Alaska Native	7	11	57	66	68	72	67	77	91
Asian or Pacific Islander	21	32	169	164	181	180	169	193	185
Multiple races	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Unknown	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Notes: ^a Proportion of total resident abortions by ethnicity and/or race represented as a percentage. Percentages are calculated using the total number of reported resident abortions as the denominator and the number of reported resident abortions for a specific ethnicity and/or race as the numerator. Percentages may not add up to a 100 due to rounding errors, multiple race and unknown ethnicity/race categories.

^b Calculated using the number of abortions in a race and/or ethnic group divided by female population aged 15-44 per 1,000.

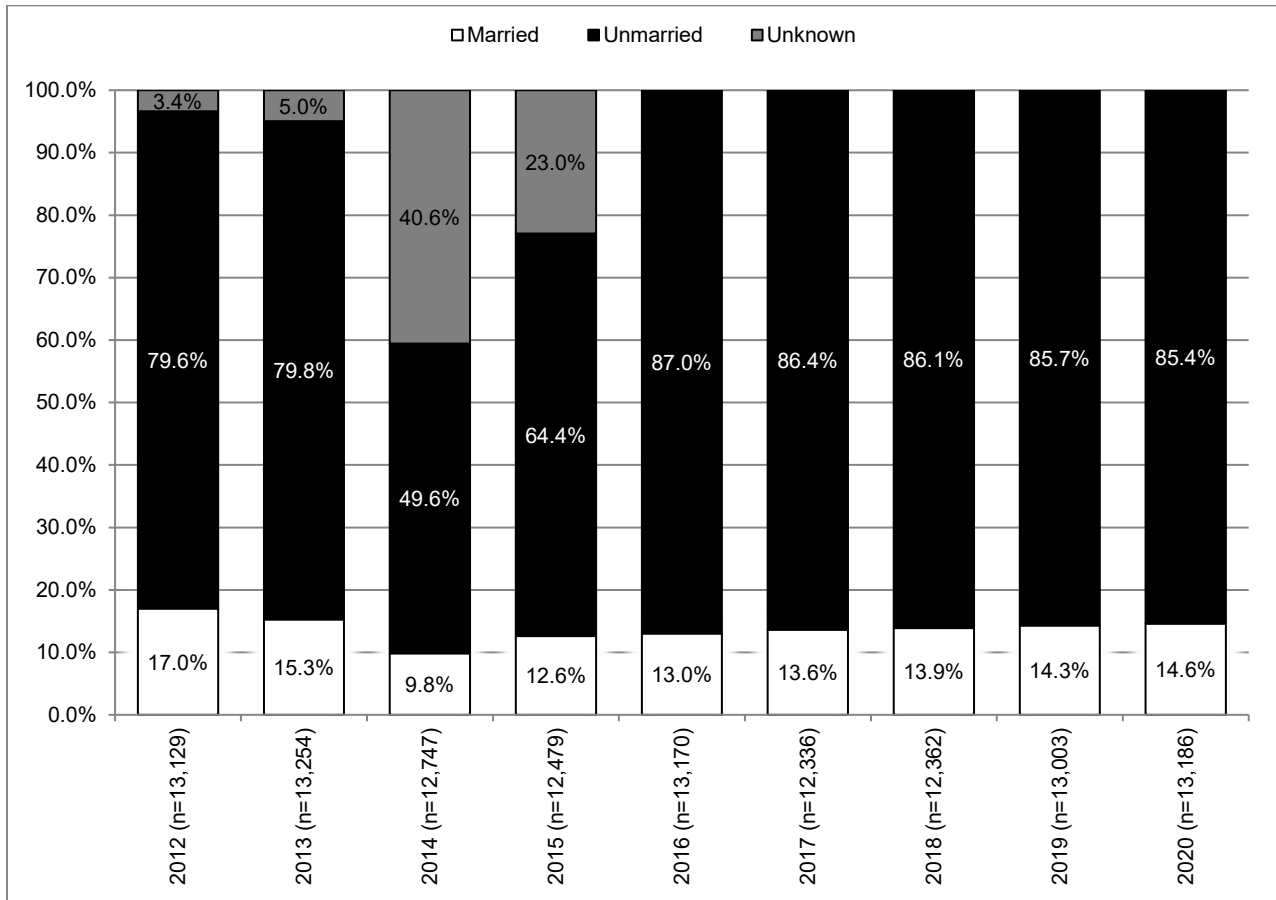
^c Calculated using the number of abortions in a given race and/or ethnic group per 1,000 live births to women in the same group.

^d 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 2020, 14.6 percent (n= 1,924) of resident women obtaining abortions were reported as married. Figure 2 displays the distribution of abortions among Arizona resident women from 2012 to 2020 by marital status. Between 2012 and 2015, the percent of abortions performed on married and unmarried women showed uncharacteristic variation in women with "Unknown" marital status; a deviation attributable to incomplete reporting. New reporting requirements for marital status in the electronic reporting system were implemented in 2016 to correct this. The percent of abortions among unmarried women is consistently higher than among married women.

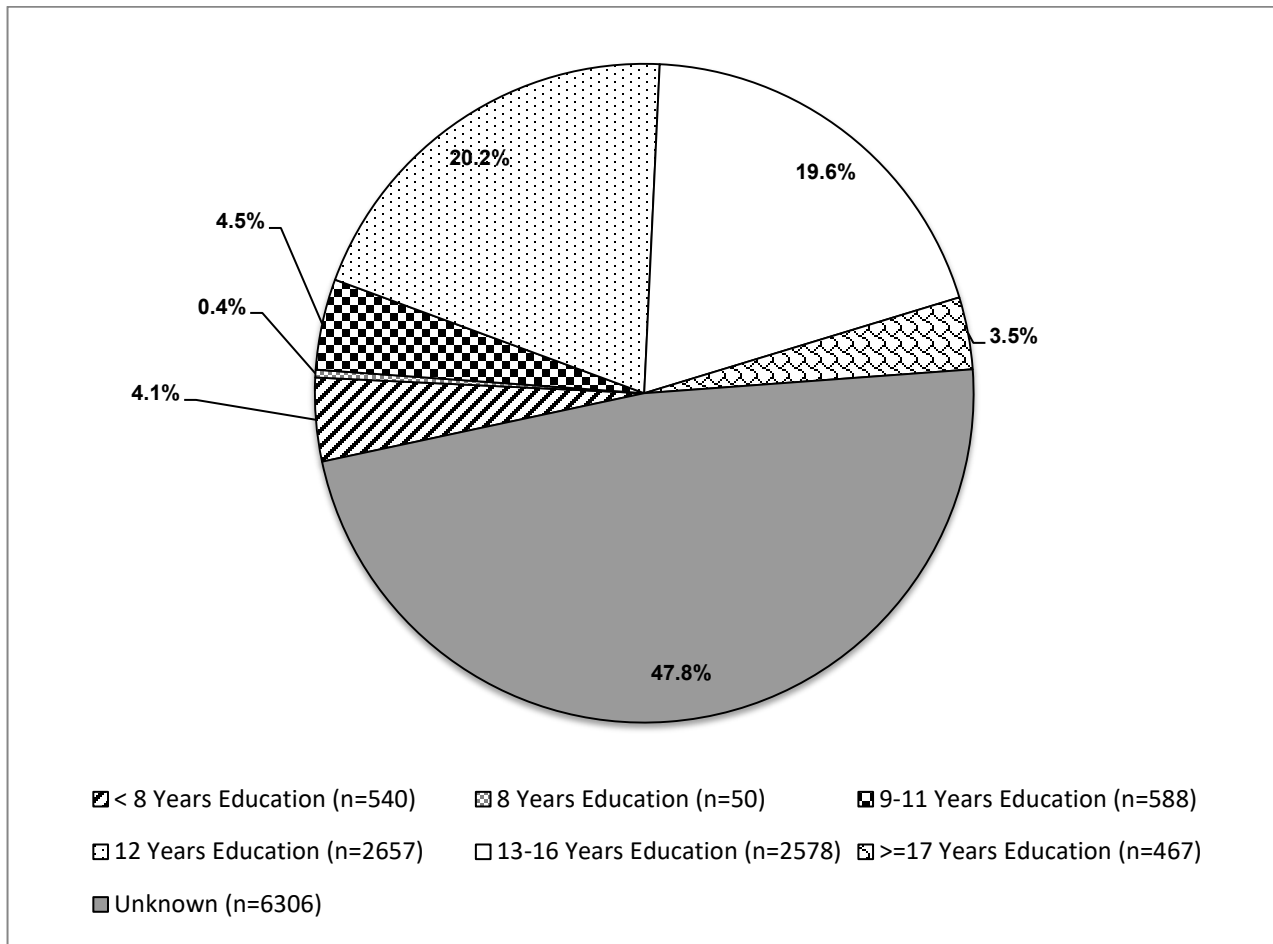
Figure 2. Marital status of resident women receiving abortions, 2012 – 2020



Education

Figure 3 displays the distribution of educational attainment reported for Arizona resident women obtaining abortions in 2020. The education status of almost half of women who received an abortion was unknown. Approximately 19.6 percent (n= 2,578) of women who had an abortion in 2020 completed 13 to 16 years of education. Similarly, 20.2 percent (n= 2,657) of women had attained 12 years of education. Women with less than a high school education accounted for 8.9 percent of women obtaining abortions in 2020.

Figure 3. Educational status of resident women receiving abortions, 2020



Pregnancy History

Pregnancy history compiles the previous number of pregnancies, live births, abortions, and spontaneous abortions.

The previous number of pregnancies, live births, abortions, and spontaneous abortions are presented below. Among resident women who underwent an abortion in 2020, 33.2 percent had three or more previous pregnancies and approximately 16.9 percent had three or more previous live births.

Table 5. Pregnancy history of resident women receiving abortions in Arizona, 2020

Pregnancy history	Count (N = 13,186)	Percent
Number of previous pregnancies		
0	3,911	29.7
1	2,493	18.9
2	2,216	16.8
3 or more	4,384	33.2
Unknown	182	1.4
Number of previous live births		
0	5,705	43.3
1	2,751	20.9
2	2,390	18.1
3 or more	2,224	16.9
Unknown	116	0.9
Previous abortions		
0	8,503	64.5
1	3,087	23.4
2	1,008	7.6
3 or more	438	3.3
Unknown	150	1.1
Previous spontaneous abortions		
0	10,532	79.9
1	1,902	14.4
2	398	3.0
3 or more	156	1.2
Unknown	198	1.5

Additionally, of resident women obtaining abortions during 2020, approximately 11.0 percent had two or more previous abortions and 4.2 percent had two or more previous spontaneous abortions. These numbers remained stable from 2019 to 2020.

Among resident women who had abortions in 2020, 7,222 (54.8%) had neither a previous abortion nor a spontaneous abortion (data not shown). Approximately 8.8 percent (n= 1,156) had at least one or more previous abortions and had one or more previous spontaneous abortions. Further, 9.6 percent (n= 1,272) had a previous spontaneous abortion but did not have a previous elective abortion, and 25.0 percent (n=3,302) had a previous abortion but did not have a previous spontaneous abortion.

Abortion Method

Of resident women who had abortions in 2020 (n= 13,186), 49.8 percent had surgical procedures, and 50.2 percent had non-surgical procedures. An overview of abortion method procedures reported in 2020 is shown below. Of the total surgical procedures reported for resident women, the most common procedure was vacuum (91.6%), followed by laminaria (5.5%). Of the total number of non-surgical (medication-induced) procedures reported, the most common was the combination of Mifepristone (Mifeprex) and Misoprostol (Cytotec) (99.4%).

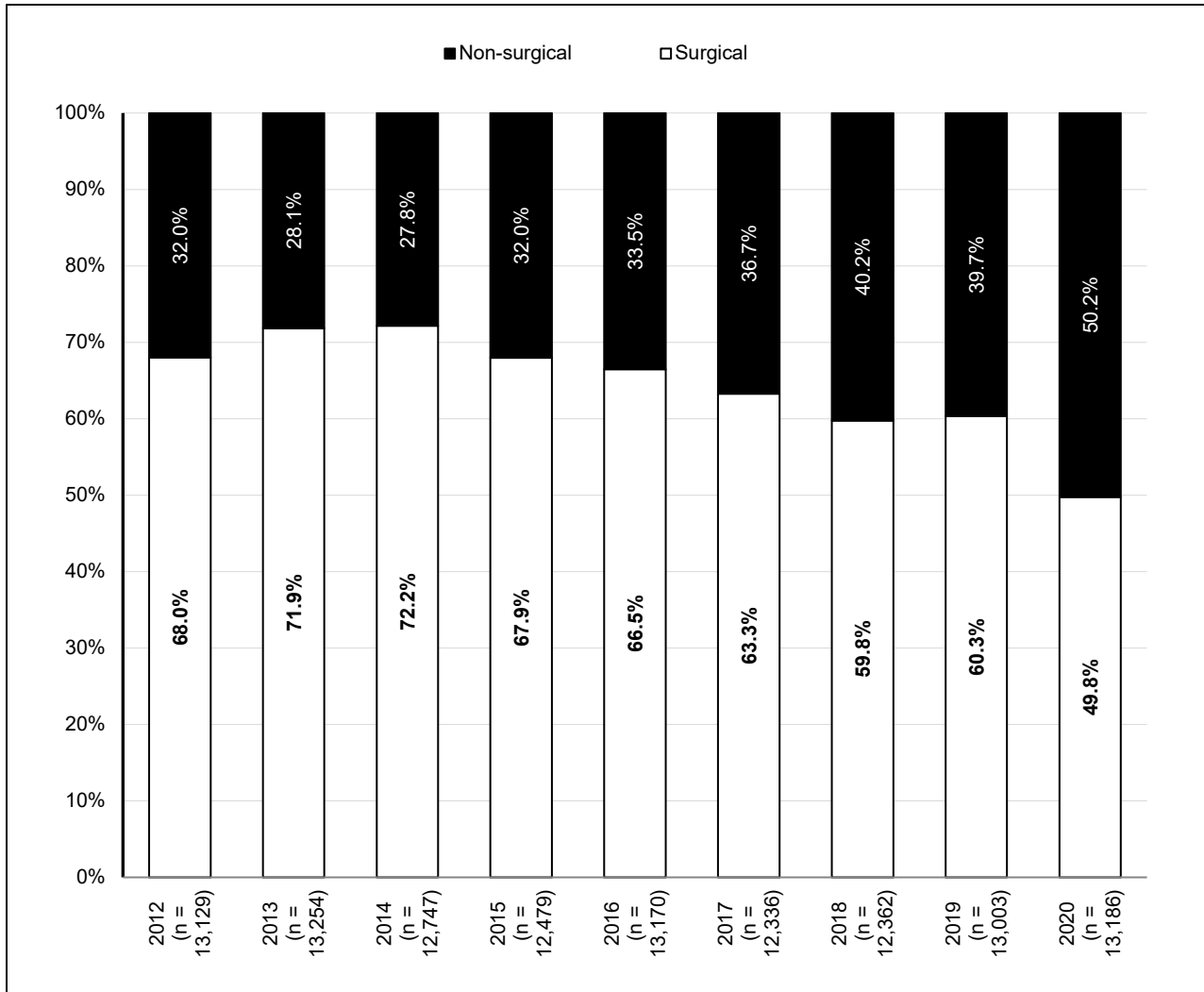
Table 6. Method of abortion used by resident women in Arizona, 2020

Method	Count	Percent
Surgical procedures		(N = 6,560†)
Open approach	*	**
Percutaneous approach	0	0.0
Endoscopic approach	6	0.1
Vacuum via natural or artificial opening	6,013	91.6
Laminaria	364	5.5
Abortifacient	153	2.3
Open approach via natural or artificial opening endoscopic/Curettage	10	0.2
Dilation and Evacuation	*	**
Other surgical abortion procedure	7	0.1
Non-surgical procedures		(N = 6,620†)
Mifepristone (Mifeprex) and Misoprostol (Cytotec)	6,585	99.4
Misoprostol (Cytotec)	35	0.5
Methotrexate and Misoprostol (Cytotec)	0	0.0
Other and unknown procedures	*	**

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6; ** Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6.

Figure 4 presents the trends in surgical and non-surgical procedures displayed during 2012 – 2020. Between 2012 and 2020, most abortion procedures performed on resident women were surgical. The proportion of non-surgical procedures reported increased from 32.0 percent in 2012 to 50.2 percent in 2020, with the lowest point (27.8 percent) recorded in 2014.

Figure 4. Method of abortion among Arizona resident women, 2012 – 2020



Facility and Reason for Termination

Table 7 presents maternal characteristics and maternal medical conditions cited for obtaining an abortion. The age range of women in this group was 15 years to 40 years and older. Approximately 25 percent of the procedures were performed on women between 25 and 29 years of age. The majority of these abortions (92.5%) occurred at gestational ages 13 weeks or less.

Table 7. Maternal characteristics and maternal medical conditions cited for obtaining an abortion, Arizona residents, 2020

Maternal characteristics	Count (N=490†)	Percent
Age		
≤15-19 yrs	31	6.3
20-24 yrs	140	28.5
25-29 yrs	123	25.1
30-34 yrs	93	18.9
35-39 yrs	71	14.5
40+ yrs	33	6.7
Gestational age		
≤13 weeks	454	92.5
14 to 20 weeks	35	7.1
21 weeks	*	**
Unknown	0	0.0
Maternal medical conditions		
Premature rupture of membranes	6	1.2
Anatomical abnormality	7	1.4
Chorioamnionitis	0	0.0
HELLP or preeclampsia	7	1.4
Pre-pregnancy medical condition	49	10.0
Social / Psychological / Financial / Psychiatric situation	45	9.2
Previous pregnancy complication	34	6.9
Medication intake	22	4.5
Drug / alcohol intake	10	2.0
Nausea / vomiting / sick	18	3.7
Recent pregnancy	*	**
Maternal age	12	2.4
Cardiovascular pre-existing condition	8	1.6
Other/unspecified	270	55.0
Total	490†	100.0

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6; ** Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6.

Table 8 presents maternal characteristics and fetal medical conditions cited as reasons for obtaining an abortion. Around 1 percent of abortions were due to fetal medical conditions. Most of these were among women aged 20-24 years and were frequently related to birth defects. Approximately 69 percent (n = 91) of these procedures were performed at 13 weeks or less gestation.

Table 8. Maternal characteristics and fetal medical conditions cited for obtaining an abortion, Arizona residents, 2020

Maternal characteristics	Count (N=130†)	Percent
Age		
≤15-19 yrs	10	7.6
20-24 yrs	43	32.6
25-29 yrs	30	22.7
30-34 yrs	29	22.0
35-39 yrs	15	11.4
40+ yrs	*	**
Gestational age		
≤ 13 weeks	91	68.9
14 to 20 weeks	29	22.0
≥ 21 weeks	12	9.1
Unknown	0	0.0
Fetal medical conditions		
Aneuploidy/Trisomy/Triploidy	6	4.5
Central nervous system anomalies	7	5.3
Multiple anomalies	6	4.5
Fetal demise	*	**
Cardiac defect	*	**
Oligohydramnios/Anhydramnios & Urological	*	**
Karyotype or genetic abnormality	*	**
Musculo skeletal abnormality	*	**
Twin abnormality	0	0.0
Lethal anomalies	0	0.0
Fetal hydrops	*	**
Cystic hygroma	*	**
Medication or toxic substance exposure	*	**
Abnormal ultrasound	0	0.0
Other/unspecified	94	71.2
Total	130†	100.0

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6; ** Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6.

Table 9. Reported maternal reasons for abortion, Arizona residents, 2020

Primary reason	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Abortion is elective	1,092	984	979	811	604	595	686	717	699	762	656	527	9,112
Maternal health/medical considerations	28	23	20	50	70	47	49	40	62	29	17	33	468
Fetal health/medical considerations	14	15	19	17	24	26	22	20	19	13	10	13	212
Victim of domestic violence	0	*	*	7	*	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	50†
Sexual assault	*	*	*	*	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	40†
Declined to specify a reason	198	220	261	311	365	370	406	346	300	248	261	274	3,560
Other reason (see details below)	202	201	217	376	353	337	297	243	259	272	213	188	3,158
Detailed reasons when other is the primary reason													
<i>Wish to not have children</i>	158	153	145	159	139	164	172	132	119	147	145	113	1,746
<i>Wish to not be pregnant/difficult pregnancy</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	20†
<i>Unprepared/not ready for having children</i>	6	8	17	68	65	55	42	39	52	30	14	15	411
<i>Indicated timing was an issue</i>	*	*	*	21	22	29	13	15	11	9	*	*	130†
<i>Financial reasons</i>	6	12	18	41	47	38	24	23	33	17	10	11	280
<i>No more children desired</i>	6	*	15	28	43	34	18	23	18	15	12	12	230†
<i>Indicated age was an issue</i>	0	0	*	*	*	*	6	*	*	*	0	0	30†
<i>Personal health/medical risks</i>	18	14	16	33	19	21	20	12	20	20	18	11	222
<i>Indicated relationship was an issue</i>	18	8	11	29	27	34	29	27	22	20	15	16	256
<i>Personal emotional/mental health</i>	34	23	27	44	29	36	37	24	34	42	42	21	393
<i>Indicated physical abuse was an issue</i>	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	10†
<i>Unstable housing</i>	*	0	0	0	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0†
<i>Employment/work/career/unemployment</i>	0	*	*	7	9	0	*	*	*	*	0	*	30†
<i>Family health obligations</i>	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0†
<i>Father doesn't want child/lack of support</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	0	10†
<i>Education/student</i>	0	*	*	6	8	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	40†
<i>Genetic risk/fetal abnormality</i>	0	0	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	20†
<i>Failed contraception</i>	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	20†
<i>All other reasons</i>	*	*	9	22	44	10	*	*	7	30	11	20	170†

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6.

Table 9 presents the reported maternal reasons for abortion by month. Primary reasons are summarized in the top rows, and detailed reasons described when “Other” was specified as a primary reason are summarized in the bottom rows. Reasons reported in the detailed reasons are aggregated free-text responses classified based upon content into 18 general response categories. Response categories may be totaled (across each row) to reach annual totals of respondents reporting that reason in 2020. But because respondents may give more than one reason, sums across categories (down each column) will exceed the total number of monthly procedures, as well as exceeding the total of respondents reporting “Other” as a primary reason each month.

A significant majority (9,112 or 69.1%) of abortions reported among Arizona residents in 2020 were described as “elective”. Other leading response include “Other” (3,158 or 23.9%) and “Declined to specify a reason” (3,560 or 27.0%). The most commonly reported detailed reason was a wish not to have children (1,746 or 55.3% of respondents who specified “Other” as a description of the primary reason for having an abortion).

3.2. Abortions by Gestational Age

Some evidence suggests an association between gestational age and abortion-related mortality. An overview of the gestational age of the fetus at the time of abortion is reported below. The majority of abortions (64.2%) to resident women were performed at gestational ages 8 or fewer weeks. Approximately 29 percent of the abortions were performed at 6 weeks gestation, followed by 21.2% at 7 weeks gestation and approximately 14.3% at 8 weeks gestation. About 95% (n= 12,550) of abortions to resident women were performed at gestational ages of 15 or fewer weeks. In 2020, abortions performed at gestational ages of 21 weeks or greater represented only 1.01 percent of the total abortions among Arizona residents, a proportion similar to the number reported over the past years.

Table 10. Gestational age at time of abortion, Arizona residents, 2020

Gestational age	Count (N = 13,186)	Percent
≤ 8 weeks	8,464	64.2
6 weeks	3,771	28.6
7 weeks	2,801	21.2
8 weeks	1,892	14.3
9 to 13 weeks	3,563	27.0
9 weeks	1,516	11.5
10 weeks	784	5.9
11 weeks	612	4.6
12 weeks	332	2.5
13 weeks	319	2.4
14 to 15 weeks	523	4.0
14 weeks	263	2.0
15 weeks	260	2.0
16 to 17 weeks	210	1.6
16 weeks	132	1.0
17 weeks	78	0.6
18 to 20 weeks	257	1.9
18 weeks	94	0.7
19 weeks	94	0.7
20 weeks	69	0.5
≥ 21 weeks	169	1.3
Unknown	0	NA
Total	13,186	100.0

Table 11 provides an overview of the association between gestational age and method of abortion. Regardless of gestational age, surgical procedures were the most utilized methods of abortion. Vacuum was the most commonly used surgical procedure performed at gestational ages of 13 or fewer weeks (n= 5,425, 99.1%) as well as gestational ages over 13 weeks.

Use of non-surgical abortion procedures was similarly distributed. Approximately 99 percent of all non-surgical abortions were performed at 13 or fewer weeks of gestation. Mifepristone (Mifeprex) and Misoprostol (Cytotec) (n= 6,550; 100.0 %) taken together was the most commonly used non-surgical procedure for abortions within this gestational period.

Table 11. Method of abortion and gestational age, Arizona residents, 2020

Method	Gestational age					
	≤ 13 weeks (N = 5,480†)		14 to 20 weeks (N = 930†)		≥ 21 weeks (N = 150†)	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Surgical total	5,480†	100.0	930†	100.0	150†	100.0
Open approach	*	**	0	0.0	0	0.0
Percutaneous approach	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Endoscopic approach	6	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
Vacuum via natural or artificial opening	5,425	99.1	578	61.9	10	6.5
Laminaria	24	0.4	247	26.4	93	60.8
Abortifacient	*	**	104	11.1	48	31.4
Open approach via natural or artificial opening endoscopic/Curettage	10	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0
Dilation and Evacuation	*	**	*	**	*	**
Other surgical abortion procedure	*	**	*	**	*	**
Non-surgical total	6,550†	100.0	60†	100.0	20†	100.0
Mifepristone (Mifeprex) and Misoprostol (Cytotec)	6,550	100.0	31	55.4	*	**
Misoprostol and Cytotec	*	**	24	42.9	9	56.3
Methotrexate and Misoprostol (Cytotec)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other/unknown procedure	0	0.0	*	**	*	**

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6; ** Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6.

Table 12 provides an overview of the type of patient admission used for abortion procedures among Arizona resident women in 2020. Of 13,186 reported abortions, 13,129 (99.6%) were performed in an abortion clinic, and 48 (0.4%) were performed in a hospital either as an inpatient or an outpatient admission.

Table 12. Patient admission status for abortions among Arizona resident women, 2020

Admission status	Count	Percent
Total admissions	13,186	100.0
Abortion Clinic	13,129	99.6
Hospital Inpatient Admission	39	0.3
Hospital Outpatient	9	0.1
Other Healthcare Institution Outpatient	9	0.1
Not Reported	0	0.0

Table 13 provides a summary of reported administration of anesthesia to both the mother and the unborn child in abortion procedures performed in Arizona in 2020. Among 13,186 reported abortions among Arizona residents in 2020, anesthesia was administered to the mother in nearly 25% of all procedures, and to the unborn child in approximately 9% of all procedures.

Table 13. Reported administration of anesthesia to mothers and unborn children, Arizona resident abortions, 2020

	Anesthesia administered	Percent	Anesthesia not administered	Percent	Not reported	Percent
Total - Mother	3,259	24.7	9,927	75.3	0	0.0
Total - Unborn Child	1,130	8.6	12,056	91.4	0	0.0
Mothers (Surgical)	3,216	24.4	3,346	25.4	0	0.0
Unborn Children (Surgical)	1,123	8.5	5,439	41.2	0	0.0
Mothers (Non-Surgical)	43	0.3	6,581	49.9	0	0.0
Unborn Children (Non-Surgical)	7	0.1	6,617	50.2	0	0.0

3.3. Abortions by County of Residence

Table 14 provides an overview of the number of abortions, live births, abortion rates, and ratios by patient's county of residence, and summarized into border and non-border regions. The border region consists of Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma counties. The remaining counties are considered the non-border region.

The overall Arizona abortion rate in 2020 was 9.6 per 1,000 resident women between 15 and 44 years of age. Thirteen of the 15 counties had abortion rates below the state rate. Maricopa (10.7) and La Paz (10.2) were the only counties where the abortion rate exceeded the state rate. With regards to the abortion ratio, except for Maricopa (195), all the remaining counties had abortion ratios below the state ratio 172 per 1,000 live births. When comparing border and non-border regions, the abortion rate for the border region was 6.7 abortions per 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 44 compared to 9.5 abortions in the non-border region. The abortion ratio for the border region was 121 abortions per 1,000 live births compared to the non-border region ratio of 172 abortions per 1,000 live births.

Table 14. Abortions, live births, rates, and ratios for resident females by county of residence, Arizona 2020

Resident county ^a	Abortions		Live births		Abortion rate ^c	Abortion ratio ^d
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
Apache	16	0.1	785	1.0	1.3	20
Cochise	119	0.9	1,273	1.7	5.8	94
Coconino	176	1.3	1,330	1.7	4.8	133
Gila	30	0.2	471	0.6	4.0	64
Graham	27	0.2	464	0.6	3.8	58
Greenlee	7	0.1	121	0.2	3.9	58
La Paz	21	0.2	154	0.2	10.2	136
Maricopa	9,587	72.7	49,191	64.1	10.7	195
Mohave	20	0.2	1,696	2.2	0.7	12
Navajo	66	0.5	1,305	1.7	3.6	51
Pima	1,621	12.3	10,035	13.1	8.0	162
Pinal	464	3.5	4,647	6.1	6.5	100
Santa Cruz	32	0.2	589	0.8	3.7	55
Yavapai	182	1.4	1,693	2.2	5.9	108
Yuma	26	0.2	2,972	3.9	0.7	9
Unknown ^e	792	6.0	55	0.1	N/A	N/A
Border region^b	1,798	13.6	14,869	19.4	6.7	121
Non-border region	10,596	80.4	61,857	80.6	9.5	172
Arizona	13,186	100.0	76,781	100.0	9.6	172

Notes: ^a Residence indicates women's county of residence.

^b Border region in Arizona include Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma counties.

^c Number of abortions obtained per 1,000 women of child-bearing age (15-44 years of age).

^d Number of abortions obtained per 1,000 live births to women of child-bearing age (15-44 years of age).

^e 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 15 summarizes the number of monthly abortion procedures reported by each site in 2020 among Arizona residents. Overall, there were 16 reporting sites in Arizona in 2020.

Table 15. Monthly abortions reported by facility, Arizona residents, 2020

Reporting Facility	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Acacia Womens Center	109	86	87	60	77	76	65	82	62	87	57	78	926
Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center	0	0	0	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
Banner Desert Medical Center	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
Banner Estrella Medical Center	*	*	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	*	*	11
Banner Thunderbird Medical Center	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	0	0	6
Banner University Medical Center – Phoenix	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	16
Banner University Medical Center – Tucson	*	0	0	*	0	*	*	0	0	0	0	*	*
Camelback Family Planning	282	288	302	321	259	301	331	234	247	293	295	209	3,362
Desert Star Family Planning, LLC	67	54	68	49	45	81	71	59	51	48	53	20	666
Family Planning Associates Medical Group	259	213	208	245	197	146	277	296	281	216	208	171	2,717
Phoenix Perinatal Associates	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	*
Planned Parenthood Flagstaff Health Center	13	13	*	16	13	10	0	*	*	*	0	*	83
Planned Parenthood Glendale Health Center	165	142	204	223	242	150	100	136	132	121	98	73	1,786
Planned Parenthood Tempe Health Center	192	211	171	157	160	209	116	187	141	116	63	164	1,887
Planned Parenthood Tucson Women's Center	148	147	152	176	171	104	169	134	173	145	90	102	1,711
Scottsdale OB / GYN, PC	*	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	*
Monthly Total	1,240†	1,160†	1,200†	1,250†	1,170†	1,080†	1,130†	1,140†	1,090†	1,040†	870†	820†	13,186

Note: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6.

3.4 Physician reporting

Table 16 summarizes the specialty field of medicine for the physician performing abortion procedures in 2020. Nearly 100% of procedures were performed by a physician specializing in Obstetrics and Gynecology, or General Family Practice, or both.

Table 16. Number of abortions performed by medical specialization reported by Physician performing the procedure, Arizona resident women, 2020

Specialty field	Count	Percent
Total all specialties	13,190 [†]	100.0
Obstetrics and Gynecology ^a	9,801	74.3
General Family Practice ^a	3,378	25.6
Emergency Medicine ^a	*	**
Other specialty ^a	*	**
Multiple specialties	*	**
None reported	0	0.0

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; ** Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6; ^a Sum of all specialties exceeds the total number of reported procedures. Physicians in some cases report more than one specialty. The excess count is corrected by subtracting the multiple specialties reported from the sum of other rows.

Since January 1, 2020, physicians who provide women with informed consent information regarding abortion, perform fetal ultrasound and auscultation of fetal heart tone services, or who delegates the duty to provide this information or these services to an authorized person are required to submit a monthly report summarizing these activities to the Department of Health Services in each month in which they conduct this activity, whether as a physician who performs abortion procedures, or as one who refers a patient for an abortion procedure. Table 17 summarizes these activities as reported to the Department.

Table 17. Physician provision of informed consent information delivery including fetal ultrasound and auscultation of fetal heart tones to patients prior to abortion, Arizona resident women, 2020

	In the capacity of a Physician who performs the abortion			In the capacity of a Referring Physician			GRAND TOTAL
	Delivered by the Physician	Delivered by a Physician's Assistant, Nurse, Psychologist, or licensed behavioral health professional	Total	Delivered by the Physician	Delivered by a Physician's Assistant, Nurse, Psychologist, or licensed behavioral health professional	Total	
NUMBER OF WOMEN PROVIDED INFORMED CONSENT INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER ARS 36-2153(A)1	3,994		3,994	6,552		6,552	10,546
NUMBER OF WOMEN PROVIDED INFORMED CONSENT INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER ARS 36-2153(A)2	3,994	0	3,994	6,554	0	6,554	10,548
	By the Physician	By a qualified person working in conjunction with the Physician	Total	By the Physician	By a qualified person working in conjunction with the Physician	Total	GRAND TOTAL
NUMBER OF WOMEN PROVIDED FETAL ULTRASOUND IMAGING AND AUSCULTATION OF FETAL HEART TONE SERVICES REQUIRED UNDER ARS 36-2156(A)1	0	4,028	4,028	0	6,431	6,431	10,459
NUMBER OF ABORTIONS PERFORMED BY A PHYSICIAN WHERE INFORMATION REQUIRED AT LEAST 24 HOURS BEFORE THE ABORTION UNDER ARS 36-2153 AND 36-2156 WAS NOT PROVIDED BECAUSE A MEDICAL EMERGENCY COMPELLED THE PERFORMANCE OF AN ABORTION TO AVERT:	The woman's death	Substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the woman	Total				
	0	0	0				

3.5. Complications Resulting from an Abortion

Assessments and reports of complications resulting from an abortion have changed over time. Beginning in June 1976, as part of the required *Report of an Induced Termination of Pregnancy*, providers reported patients hospitalized for complications occurring during the abortion procedure. Between 1982 and 2003, the ADHS annual *Health Status and Vital Statistics Report (HSVSR, Table 1D-1)* used provider-submitted reports to tabulate both the number of patients who received abortions and patients hospitalized for complications. Beginning in 1986, 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 who provide medical treatment to women experiencing complications resulting from an abortion are required to submit reports to the ADHS. The reports contain no personally identifiable information (PII), and hospital patient records are not accessible for public review. Data submitted on the Complication report differs from data submitted on the Procedure report. Reports submitted in compliance with [A.R.S. § 36-2162](#) are for complications occurring after an abortion procedure (i.e., excessive hemorrhaging hours or days after leaving the facility where the abortion was performed). These reports are primarily submitted by hospitals.

In April 2018, SB1394 amended Arizona's abortion reporting statutes, taking effect from and after December 31, 2018. Under the amended statute, detail of complications resulting from abortion were included in the abortion procedure report for the first time, as well as in the complications report. Complications occurring at the time of an abortion procedure can now be distinguished from other complications which occur subsequent to a procedure.

A total of 17 reports of complications occurring at the time of an abortion procedure were reported among Arizona resident women in 2020, an increase of 13.3 percent from 2019. Forty-seven percent of these abortion complications occurred between gestational ages of 14 and 20 weeks, and complications occurred primarily among women between 30 and 34 years of age. In 2020 there were a total of 15 complications reported separately using the complications report. Of the 15 non-duplicated complications, the majority of cases (80%) occurred at gestational ages of 13 weeks or less.

Table 18 lists characteristics of resident women who experienced complications resulting from an abortion and the most frequently reported complications.

Table 18. Complications resulting from an abortion for resident women, Arizona, 2020

	Procedure complications count (N = 20+)	Procedure complications percent	Other complications count (N = 20+)	Other complications percent
Age				
<15 yrs	0	0.0	0	0.0
15-19 yrs	0	0.0	*	**
20-24 yrs	*	**	*	**
25-29 yrs	*	**	*	**
30-34 yrs	7	41.2	*	**
35-39 yrs	*	**	0	0.0
≥40 yrs	*	**	*	**
Gestational age				
≤13 weeks	6	35.3	12	80.0
14 to 20 weeks	8	47.1	*	**
≥ 21 weeks	*	**	0	0.0
Unknown	0	0.0	*	**
Description of complications^a				
Allergic response	*	**	0	0.0
Cervical laceration	0	0.0	0	0.0
Failed termination pregnancy	*	**	*	**
Heavy bleeding	*	**	*	**
Uterine perforation	*	**	*	**
Damage to uterus	*	**	*	**
Other complications	6	35.3	12	80.0
Shock	0	0.0	0	0.0
Sepsis	0	0.0	0	0.0
Incomplete abortion	*	**	*	**
Termination of pregnancy	0	0.0	0	0.0
Post-procedural infection	0	0.0	0	0.0
Multiple complications, as listed above	*	**	*	**

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; ** Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6; ^a Complications associated/occurring with the abortion procedure but not the direct result.

3.6 Disposition of Aborted Fetal Tissue

A statute mandating that abortion reports include additional detail describing the final disposition of fetal tissue was enacted by the Arizona Legislature and became effective on August 14, 2015. The electronic abortion reporting system was changed to collect such information, and reporting became mandatory on August 16, 2015. Reports submitted prior to the rule change do not include detail on the disposition of fetal tissue.

Table 19 provides a summary of the disposition of fetal tissue after an abortion in 2020.

Table 19. Disposition of fetal tissue after abortion, Arizona, 2020

	Count	Percent
Tissue was not donated in part or whole	13,097	99.3
Anatomical gift/donation to a person(s) or establishment	0	0.0
Delivered to a mortuary for burial/cremation	84	0.6
Other/describe the disposition of fetal tissue	*	**
Not reported	0	0.0
Total	13,190†	100.0

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; ** Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6.

3.7 Duty to Promote the Life of Fetus or Embryo Delivered Alive

On August 8, 2017, a new Arizona reporting statute went into effect governing hospitals and facilities that provide abortions. Under this statute, facilities are required to provide the following additional information when reporting on abortions:

- a) Declaration by the physician and all medical staff present during an abortion certifying under penalty of perjury that the aborted fetus/embryo was not delivered alive.
- b) If the aborted fetus or embryo was delivered alive, the physician performing such abortion and additional physician(s) in attendance are required to document that all available means and medical skills were used to promote, preserve, and maintain the life of such fetus and embryo.

In 2020, 9 abortion reports involving fetus or embryo delivered alive were submitted to ADHS along with the physician's statement documenting the measures taken to preserve the life of the fetus or embryo.

3.8 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](#), regarding granting authorization to un-emancipated minors to undergo an abortion procedure without parental consent.

Following is the summary data provided by the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts. Dates of petitions filed range from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020. Although not specified in statute, the total number of petitions issued an order is included for context. In all, 37 petitions were filed, among which 36 were issued an order authorizing an abortion without parental consent. Please note, a petition may be filed during a specific period, but resolution may be in the following period.

Table 20. Petitions filed in the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts, 2020

Reporting category	Number of petitions
1. Number of petitions filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2152, Subsection B.	37
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. Note: An additional 1 petition was filed without an appointed guardian ad litem or court appointed counsel, resulting in a total of 37 petitions filed.	36
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.	36
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 filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2152, Subsection B, the number of which were withdrawn.	0
6. Of the petitions denied, the number appealed to the court of appeals.	0
7. The number of those appeals that resulted in the denials being affirmed.	0
8. The number of those appeals that resulted in the denials being reversed.	0

Notes: * Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; Calendar year 2020 statistics include petitions filed from January 1, 2020-December 31, 2020.

3.9 Abortions paid for with State of Arizona monies through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

As required under [A.R.S. § 36-2163, Subsection D](#) this report includes a summary of the number of abortions, if any, that were partially or fully paid for using state monies through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), the amount of state monies expended on those abortions, and the number of abortions, if any, provided using state monies that were performed out of state. In 2020 there were 3 abortions reported by AHCCCS, all of which were paid for using Arizona state monies. No state monies were expended on abortions performed outside of Arizona.

Conclusion

This 2020 Abortion Report provides a comprehensive overview of abortions in the State of Arizona. The report presents comprehensive statistics regarding incidence and prevalence of abortion in Arizona. The report presents for the second time information mandated by SB-1394, enacted in April 2018, and effective beginning January 1, 2019.

The implementation of A.R.S. § 36-2161 through § 36-2163 provides a standardized data. Enhancements to the web-based reporting system and provider training are ongoing to assure individual providers accurately report abortion information through a secure, online system.

This report provides a comprehensive overview of statistics about the incidence of abortions 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. Trend comparisons should be interpreted with care because of variation in provider reporting prior to 2010 and expanded reporting requirements that amended these statutes in July 2010, August 2015, and April 2018. 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 - 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.

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.

Un-emancipated minor – Un-emancipated 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).



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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 First Name * Provider Last Name * Provider Type * License Number *
[Additional Provider](#) [Clear Fields](#)

Patient Information

Age * Education * [Help](#) Residence State * Residence County *
 Non USA Resident
 Residence Unknown
Hispanic Origin? *
 Yes No 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 *

Reason for Termination (* Please hold control key to select multiple options)

Diagnosis Code *

Surgical Procedure Performed *

Intrauterine instillation Performed *

Non-Surgical/Medication-Induced 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

Fetus Weight In Grams if Physician's Statement Required *

Physician's Statement * (4000 characters left)

[Clear Fields](#)

Disposition of Fetal Tissue

Final Disposition *

If custody of fetal tissue was transferred to a person(s) or establishment, identify the person(s) or establishment

Person First Name

Person Last Name

Person Address

Person City Person State Person Zip

[Additional Person](#)

Amount of Monetary Compensation if any
\$

Check if patient gave informed consent for the transfer

[Clear Fields](#)

Affidavits

Was the fetus delivered alive? *

[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.

You are submitting a report for Facility:

After you press the submit button, if you do not receive a confirmation message with a report number your report was not received by ADHS.



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[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 First Name *	Provider Last Name *	Provider Type *	License Number *
<input type="text"/>	<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 *	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/> Help	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non USA Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Residence Unknown				
Hispanic Origin? *				
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown				
Race, check all that apply *				
<input type="checkbox"/> White		<input type="checkbox"/> Asian		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian		<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Married *	Prior Pregnancy *	Prior Birth *	Prior Abortion *	Prior Spontaneous Terminations *
<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>

[Clear Fields](#)

Medical Information

Estimate of Gestational Age * Date of Termination *

Surgical Procedure Performed *

Intrauterine instillation Performed *

Non-Surgical/Medication-Induced Procedure Performed *

Nature of complication (* Please hold control key to select multiple options)

----Please Select----

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 *

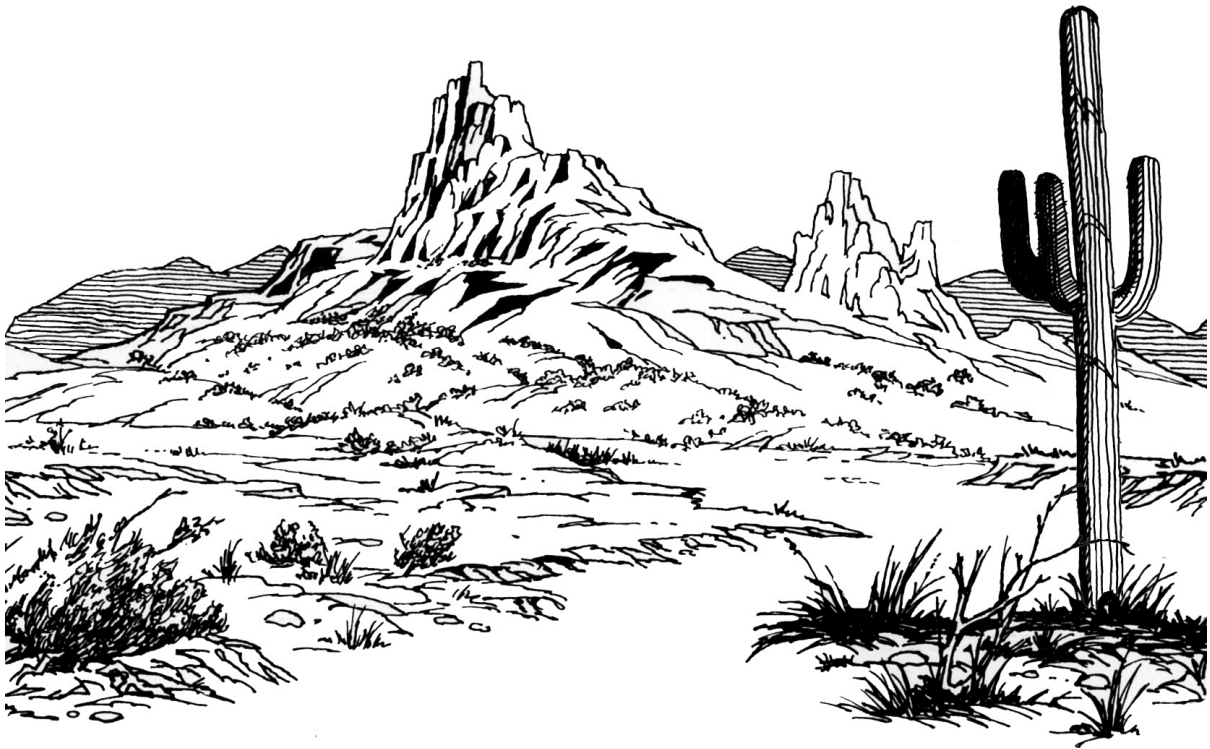
Treatment Date *

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

You are submitting a report for Complication:

After you press the submit button, if you do not receive a confirmation message with a report number your report was not received by ADHS.

Our Web site at <http://pub.azdhs.gov/health-stats> provides access to a wide range of statistical information about the health status of Arizonans. The Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics annual report examines trends in natality, mortality, and morbidity towards established health objectives. Additional reports and studies include Advance Vital Statistics by County of Residence, Injury Mortality among Arizona Residents (accidents, suicides, homicides, legal intervention, firearm-related fatalities, drug-related deaths, drowning deaths, falls among Arizonans 65 years or older), Hospital Inpatient and Emergency Room Statistics (first-listed diagnosis, procedures, mental disorders, asthma, diabetes, influenza and pneumonia, and substance abuse), Community Vital Statistics, Teenage Pregnancy, Differences in Health Status Among Racial/Ethnic Groups, and Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona.



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Business Intelligence Office
Population Health and Vital Statistics Section