

Abortion Surveillance Summary

Arizona
1977-1980



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Abortion Surveillance Summary

Arizona

1977-1980

BRUCE BABBITT, Governor
State of Arizona

JAMES E. SARN, M.D., M.P.H., Director
Arizona Department of Health Services

PREFACE

The Arizona Induced Abortion Summary - 1977-1980 presents statistical data pertaining to the number and characteristics of women obtaining abortions in Arizona during the years 1977 to 1980. Included in this analysis is a comparison of national abortion data for 1977. This data was selected from the Center for Disease Control's Annual Summary: Abortion Surveillance, 1977. Variables for which comparable data exists were selected to provide a basis for comparing characteristics of women obtaining abortions in Arizona with those of women obtaining abortions throughout the United States.

Any comments or suggestions concerning the content and format of this report are welcome. Any additional needs for data or analyses should be directed to the Research and Statistical Analysis Section, Bureau of Vital Records and Information Services. The office will make every attempt to comply with requests for data within the limitation of staff and resources.

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

Abortion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For the purpose of this report, the term 'abortion' is used to indicate an induced termination of pregnancy, unless otherwise specified.2. The terms abortion, induced abortion, and pregnancy termination are used interchangeably throughout this report.
Gestation	Number of weeks that have elapsed since the last menstrual period.
Parity	Number of previous births.
Provider	An outpatient clinic, hospital, or physician providing abortion services.

DEFINITION OF ABORTION PROCEDURES

Curettage	A surgical procedure used to remove the products of conception by either a scraping or suction technique.
Hysterectomy	Surgical removal of the uterus.
Hysterotomy	Surgical incision of the uterus prior to fetal viability.
Prostaglandin	A hormone-like substance used as an abortifacient.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Arizona abortion information is compiled from Induced Termination of Pregnancy Reports submitted by providers to the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) in compliance with ADHS Rules and Regulations, Section R-9-302D, as authorized by Arizona Revised Statutes §36-344. This Statute mandates the reporting of all abortifacient acts performed in Arizona hospitals, out-patient treatment centers, and physician's offices.

National information is selected from two primary sources:

1. The Center for Disease Control, Abortion Surveillance Summary, 1977, and
2. The Alan Guttmacher Institute, Abortion: Need, Services, and Policies, 1977.

LIMITATIONS OF DATA

The information presented in this report is limited to those cases and variables actually reported to the State of Arizona. Because there is evidence of missing variables and underreporting of cases, caution must be used in interpreting data. Additionally, caution should be exercised in analyzing trend data, due to the possibility of variations in the accuracy of reporting from year to year.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Abortion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For the purpose of this report, the term "abortion" is used to indicate an induced termination of pregnancy, unless otherwise specified.2. The terms abortion, induced abortion, and pregnancy termination are used interchangeably throughout this report.
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Prostaglandin	A hormone-like substance used as an abortifacient.

Summary Table
 Characteristics of Women
 Receiving Abortions
 Arizona 1977 - 1980

Characteristics	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTAL ABORTIONS IN ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,811	9,278
<u>RESIDENCE</u>				
Resided in State	5,926	6,619	7,015	8,956
Resided Out-of-State	125	6,683	110	234
Not Stated	79	64	63	88
<u>AGE</u>				
19 and Under	1,968	2,151	2,488	2,893
20 - 24	2,191	2,541	2,923	3,489
25 and Over	1,726	1,927	2,235	2,674
Not Stated	245	214	165	222
<u>MARITAL STATUS</u>				
Married	1,234	1,331	1,521	1,628
Unmarried	4,590	5,119	5,936	6,981
Not Stated	306	383	354	569
<u>RACE</u>				
White	4,771	5,586	6,470	7,650
Non-White	963	938	945	961
Not Stated	396	309	396	667
<u>YEARS OF EDUCATION</u>				
8 Years or Less	176	178	186	193
9 - 16	4,234	5,672	6,563	7,533
17 or Over	170	206	192	268
Not Stated	1,550	777	870	1,284
<u>PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS</u>				
None	3,820	5,221	4,948	6,150
1 or More	2,310	1,612	2,863	3,128
<u>FACILITY</u>				
Clinic	4,208	5,582	4,492	6,009
Doctor's Office	935	994	2,392	3,174
Hospital	961	255	285	87
Not Stated	26	2	142	8
<u>TYPE OF PROCEDURE</u>				
Curettage	5,661	6,615	7,680	9,214
Intrauterine Installation	351	119	56	25
Hysterectomy/Hysterotomy	7	1	-	2
Not Stated	111	98	75	107
<u>WEEKS OF GESTATION</u>				
12 or Under	5,348	6,161	7,147	8,342
13 or Over	552	672	664	936
Not Stated	230	186	95	95
<u>PREVIOUS INDUCED ABORTION</u>				
None	4,951	5,221	5,789	6,728
1	996	1,344	1,640	2,003
2 or More	183	268	382	547
<u>COMPLICATIONS</u>				
No	N.A.	6,779	7,339	8,473
Yes		54	472	805
<u>REASON FOR TERMINATION</u>				
Elective	5,386	6,655	7,707	8,961
Medical	28	17	18	18
Not Stated	216	161	86	299

Summary Table
 Table 1-A Characteristics of Women Obtaining Abortions, Percent Distribution
 United States 1977 - Arizona 1977 - 1980

REPORTED ABORTIONS CHARACTERISTIC	U.S.	ARIZONA			
	1977*	1977	1978	1979	1980
	1,010,822	6,130	6,833	7,188	9,273
		PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
<u>RESIDENCE</u>					
Resided in State	90.0	96.7	96.9	97.9	96.5
Resided Out-of-State	10.0	2.0	2.1	1.5	2.5
Not Stated	n.a.	1.3	0.9	0.8	1.0
<u>AGE</u>					
19 and Under	30.8	32.1	31.4	31.9	31.2
20-24	34.5	35.7	37.2	37.2	37.6
25 or Over	34.7	28.2	28.3	28.6	28.8
Not Stated	n.a.	4.0	3.1	2.1	2.4
<u>MARITAL STATUS</u>					
Married	24.3	20.1	19.5	19.5	17.5
Unmarried	75.7	74.9	74.9	76.0	75.3
Unknown	n.a.	5.0	5.6	4.5	7.2
<u>RACE</u>					
White	66.4	78.8	81.6	82.8	82.5
Non-White	33.6	15.7	13.7	12.1	10.4
Not Stated	n.a.	6.5	4.5	5.1	7.2
<u>YEARS OF EDUCATION</u>					
8 Years or Less	n.a.	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.1
9 - 12		43.7	56.7	50.9	49.3
13 - 16		25.4	32.3	33.1	31.9
17 or Over		2.8	3.0	2.5	2.9
Not Stated		25.2	11.4	11.1	13.8
<u>PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS</u>					
None	53.4	62.3	63.2	63.3	66.3
1 or More	46.7	37.7	36.8	36.7	36.7
<u>FACILITY</u>					
Clinic	n.a.	68.6	81.7	57.5	64.8
Doctor's Office		15.3	14.5	37.0	34.2
Hospital		15.7	3.7	3.6	1.0
Not Stated		0.4	...	1.8	...
<u>TYPE OF PROCEDURE</u>					
Curettage	93.8	92.3	96.8	98.3	98.6
Intrauterine Instillation	5.4	5.7	1.8	0.7	0.3
Hysterectomy/Hysterotomy	0.2	0.1	...	-	...
Not Stated	0.7	1.8	1.5	1.0	1.2
<u>Weeks of Gestation:</u>					
12 or Over	91.5	87.2	90.2	91.4	89.8
13 or Over	8.6	9.0	7.1	7.3	9.0
Not Stated	n.a.	3.8	2.7	1.2	1.2
<u>PREVIOUS INDUCED ABORTIONS</u>					
None	72.1	80.8	76.4	74.1	72.5
1 or More	27.9	18.9	23.6	25.9	27.5
<u>COMPLICATIONS</u>					
No	n.a.	n.a.	99.2	91.3	91.3
Yes			.8	8.7	8.6

NOTES: * U.S. figures exclude unknowns
 Percents may not equal 100 due to rounding
 A dash "-" equals zero
 An ellipses "..." indicates a quantity greater than zero, but
 less than 0.05 percent

Section I

OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW

Since Arizona initiated its Abortion Surveillance Program (July 1976), annual totals have steadily increased. For the year 1980 there were 9,278 abortions reported for the State. This is an increase of 51.4 percent above the 6,130 reported for the year 1977 (Table 1-A).

Arizona women who terminated pregnancies during the reporting period 1977 - 1980 were most frequently under 25 years of age (65.3 percent - 67.7 percent), unmarried (74.9 percent - 76.0 percent), white (66.4 percent - 82.8 percent), and childless (62.3 percent - 66.3 percent). Most had from 9 to 12 years of education (69.1 percent - 89.0 percent) and were undergoing an induced abortion for the first time (72.5 percent - 80.8 percent).

Pregnancies were most frequently terminated during the first trimester (87.2 percent - 91.4 percent) with curettage, either sharp or suction being the method used in most instances. The termination procedure usually occurred in either a clinic or the office of a private physician (83.9 percent - 98.0 percent).

TRENDS IN ARIZONA

The most significant changes in the characteristics of women receiving abortions in Arizona during 1980, as compared to 1977, are in the areas of racial composition, choice of facilities, and percentage of women reporting previous abortions. Between the years 1977 and 1980 the proportion of non-white women obtaining abortions in Arizona declined 5.3 percent. Concurrently, the percentage of white women increased 3.7 percent.

In 1977, 15.7 percent of abortions reported in Arizona occurred in hospitals. This percentage declined to 3.7 percent the following year. By 1980 only 1.0 percent of reported abortions occurred in a hospital. The trend away from the use of hospitals for terminating pregnancies was accompanied by an 18.9 percent increase in the use of the offices of private physicians for the procedure.

Table 1-A indicates a trend toward repeated induced abortions in Arizona. In 1977, slightly less than 19 percent of women terminating pregnancies in Arizona reported having undergone one or more previous induced abortions. By 1980, this percentage increased to 27.5 percent.

COMPARISONS BETWEEN ARIZONA AND UNITED STATES - 1977

Women undergoing abortions in Arizona during 1977 were more apt to be white, unmarried, and childless, than their counterparts in the remainder of the United States. In addition, Arizona women tended to be somewhat younger than women in other states throughout the nation. (Table 1-A)

Table 1-A shows that women terminating pregnancies in Arizona deviated from the United States profile in the following characteristics:

Residence:

In 1977, 96.7 percent of women obtaining abortions in Arizona were in-State residents. Elsewhere in the United States in-state residents comprised 90.0 percent of the total reported abortions.

Age:

Arizona women tended to be slightly younger than women terminating pregnancies in other states. Only 28.2 percent of Arizona women were 25 years or older, compared to 34.7 percent for the United States.

Previous Abortions:

Slightly less than 19 percent of Arizona women reported having had one or more previous abortions. Table 1-A shows that 27.9 percent of women in other states reported having had one or more previous abortions.

Race:

Non-white women comprised 33.6 percent of the abortions reported to the United States in 1977. Arizona's 1977 non-white percentage was 15.7 percent.

Parity:

The 62.3 percent of Arizona women seeking abortions in 1977, who reported themselves as being childless, exceeded the 53.4 percent reported for the United States by 8.9 percent.

Section II
PROFILE OF CHARACTERISTICS

RESIDENCE

In 1977, 2 percent of the abortions reported in Arizona were performed for out-of-state residents. Table 2 shows that this percentage fluctuated very little during the subsequent years. Women living in Mexico and states adjacent to Arizona account for most of the abortions obtained by out-of-state residents. The percentage of women from Mexico receiving abortions in Arizona increased from 0.6 percent in 1977 to 1.3 percent in 1980. Percentages of other U.S. states remained slightly over 1 percent throughout the four-year period.

Table 2-A shows that Arizona's two urban counties, Maricopa and Pima, accounted for the largest percentages of abortions during 1977 (61.7 and 18.6 respectively). These two counties continued to constitute 80 percent or more of the abortions reported during subsequent years of the reporting period.

TABLE 2. REPORTED ABORTIONS BY STATE OF RESIDENCE, 1977-1980

RESIDENCE	1977		1978		1979		1980	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
TOTALS	6,130	100.0	6,833	100.0	7,188	100.0	9,278	100.0
Arizona	5,926	96.7	6,619	96.9	7,035	97.7	8,956	96.5
Other U.S. State	87	1.4	86	1.3	90	1.2	108	1.2
Mexico	37	0.6	62	0.9	20	0.3	121	1.3
Canada	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...
Other Foreign Country	-	-	-	-	2	...	4	...
Not Stated	79	1.3	64	0.9	63	0.8	88	1.0

NOTE: Percents may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

A dash "-" indicates zero.

An ellipses "..." indicates a quantity greater than zero, but less than 0.05 percent.

TABLE 2-A. REPORTED ABORTIONS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE,
1977-1980

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS	6,130	6,833	7,811	9,278
Apache	74	93	94	33
Cochise	150	120	94	138
Coconino	206	269	279	374
Gila	57	51	55	60
Graham	18	21	21	34
Greenlee	10	13	9	12
Maricopa	3,782	4,233	5,645	5,861
Mohave	25	28	44	44
Navajo	59	67	59	72
Pima	1,140	1,359	979	1,897
Pinal	204	152	150	199
Santa Cruz	46	40	32	42
Yavapai	46	92	100	135
Yuma	79	78	59	55
Not Stated	79	64	63	88
Out of State	125	150	113	234

AGE

Women 24 years and under accounted for 68.8 percent of pregnancy terminations occurring in Arizona during 1977. This percentage varied only slightly during the period between 1977 and 1980. Table 3-A shows that teenagers account for 32.1 percent of total abortions in 1977. This percentage remained below 32 percent during the subsequent years of 1978, 1979, and 1980.

Live births continued to outnumber abortions at every age level. However, Table 3-B shows that teenagers had a higher percentage of the abortions than live births, whereas women over 25 tended to have higher percentages of live births than abortions. Women between the ages of 20 - 24 had the largest proportion of live births as well as abortions.

TABLE 3. INDUCED TERMINATIONS BY AGE GROUP OF MOTHER, 1977-1980

AGE GROUP OF MOTHER	NUMBER OF ABORTIONS REPORTED			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,188	9,278
10-14	64	58	59	56
15-19	1,904	2,093	2,429	2,837
20-24	2,191	2,541	2,923	3,489
25-29	1,066	1,147	1,356	1,821
30-34	415	496	591	581
35-39	182	223	217	205
40-44	57	60	66	63
45 and Over	6	-	5	4
Not Stated	245	214	165	222

TABLE 3-A. INDUCED TERMINATION BY AGE GROUP OF MOTHER, 1977 - 1980
(PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

AGE GROUP OF MOTHER	PERCENTAGE			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
19 and Under	32.1	31.4	31.9	31.2
20-24	35.7	37.2	37.4	37.6
25-29	17.4	16.8	17.4	19.6
30 and Over	10.8	11.4	11.3	9.2
Not Stated	4.0	3.1	2.1	2.4

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

TABLE 3-B. INDUCED ABORTIONS COMPARED TO LIVE BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S AGE GROUP, ARIZONA 1977

AGE GROUP OF MOTHER	INDUCED ABORTIONS		LIVE BIRTHS	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
All Ages	6,130	100.0	41,827	100.0
10-14	64	1.0	111	0.3
15-19	1,904	31.1	7,342	17.6
20-24	2,191	35.7	14,873	35.6
25-29	1,066	17.4	12,188	29.1
30-34	415	6.8	5,313	12.7
35-39	182	3.0	1,608	3.8
40 and Over	63	0.9	388	0.9
Not Stated	245	4.0	4	...

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.
 A dash "-" indicates a zero.
 An ellipsis "..." indicates a quantity greater than zero,
 but less than 0.05 percent.

MARITAL STATUS

Table 4-A shows that 74.9 percent of women obtaining abortions in Arizona during 1977 were unmarried. This percentage continued with only slight fluctuations during the following three years.

Women who were never married comprised 56.1 percent of the total abortions for 1977. This percentage increased to 60.7 percent by 1980. Slightly more than 18 percent of the 1977 abortion recipients were reported as separated, widowed, or divorced. The percentage for this category decreased to 14.5 percent in 1980.

The percentage of married women included in Arizona's reported abortions decreased from 20.1 percent in 1977 to 17.5 percent in 1980.

TABLE 4. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY MARITAL STATUS, 1977-1980

MARITAL STATUS	NUMBER OF REPORTED ABORTIONS			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,188	9,278
Never Married	3,438	3,990	4,691	5,632
Married	1,234	1,311	1,521	1,628
Separated	245	244	284	296
Divorced	866	853	927	1,014
Widowed	41	32	34	39
Not Stated	306	383	354	669

TABLE 4-A. INDUCED ABORTION BY MARITAL STATUS, 1977-1980
(PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

MARITAL STATUS	PERCENT			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married	20.1	19.5	19.5	17.5
Unmarried	74.9	74.9	76.0	75.3
Not Stated	5.0	5.6	4.5	7.2

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

RACE

Table 5-A shows that white women obtained 77.8 percent of the abortions reported in Arizona during 1977. Non-white women accounted for 15.7 percent of the 1977 total. The proportion of white women increased to 81.8 percent in 1978, with a concurrent decrease in the non-white percentage. This divergence continued during 1979 and 1980. By 1980 the proportion of non-white women had dropped 5.5 percent below the 1977 percentage.

Indian women included in abortions reported in Arizona dropped from 4.2 percent in 1977 to 1.5 percent in 1980. There was a similar decline in the percentage of black women included in the totals.

TABLE 5. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY RACE OF MOTHER, 1977-1980

RACE OF MOTHER	NUMBER OF INDUCED ABORTIONS			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,188	9,278
White	4,711	5,586	6,470	7,650
Indian	253	238	223	144
Black	292	235	269	268
Other	418	464	453	549
Not Stated	396	309	396	667

TABLE 5-A. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY RACE OF MOTHER, 1977-1980
(PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

RACE OF MOTHER	PERCENT			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	77.8	81.8	82.8	82.5
Non-White	15.7	13.7	12.1	10.2
Not Stated	6.5	4.5	5.1	7.2

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

EDUCATION

Most women obtaining abortions in Arizona during the years from 1977 to 1980 had at least nine years of formal education. Those having fewer than nine years' education included under 3 percent of the 1977 total. By 1980, this percentage dropped to 2.1 (Table 6-A).

TABLE 6. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY YEARS OF EDUCATION, 1977-1980

YEARS OF EDUCATION	NUMBER OF INDUCED ABORTIONS			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,188	9,278
8 and Under	176	178	186	193
9-12	2,676	3,462	3,979	4,575
13-16	1,558	2,210	2,584	2,958
17 and Over	170	206	192	268
Unknown	1,550	777	870	1,284

TABLE 6-A. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY YEARS OF EDUCATION, 1977-1980
(PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

YEARS OF EDUCATION	PERCENT			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
8 and Under	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.1
9-12	43.7	50.7	50.9	49.3
13-16	25.4	32.3	33.1	31.9
17 and Over	2.8	3.0	2.5	2.9
Unknown	25.2	11.4	11.1	13.8

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS

Women who had no children were more apt to have a pregnancy termination than a woman with one or more children. Conversely, women least likely to have an abortion were those who already had four or more children. In 1977, 62.3 percent of women having abortions had no previous live births. Women with five or more children comprised less than 2 percent (1.9 percent) of the total. Table 7-A shows that this inverse relationship remained during the subsequent years from 1978 - 1980.

TABLE 7. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY NUMBER OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS, 1977-1980

PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS	NUMBER OF INDUCED ABORTIONS			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,188	9,278
None	3,820	4,321	4,948	6,150
1	1,071	1,171	1,223	1,586
2	718	794	965	960
3	284	326	364	351
4	122	122	125	144
5 or More	115	99	86	77

TABLE 7-A. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS, 1977-1980
(PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS	PERCENT			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	62.3	63.2	63.3	66.3
1	17.5	17.1	16.9	17.1
2	11.7	11.6	12.4	10.3
3	4.6	4.8	4.7	3.8
4	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.6
5 or More	1.9	1.5	1.1	0.8

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

FACILITIES

In 1977, 68.6 percent of abortions reported in Arizona occurred in outpatient clinics. Thirty-one percent occurred in either a hospital or the office of a private physician (15.7 percent and 15.3 percent respectively). Table 8-A shows a dramatic decline in the use of hospitals. Between the years 1977 and 1978 there was a 12 percent decrease in the use of hospitals for terminating pregnancies. Table 8-A shows a concurrent increase (18.9 percent) in the use of physician's offices for terminating pregnancies.

TABLE 8. INDUCED ABORTION BY TYPE OF FACILITY, 1977-1980

FACILITY	NUMBER OF ABORTIONS			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,883	7,188	9,278
Clinic	4,208	5,582	4,492	6,009
Doctor's Office	935	994	2,892	3,174
Hospital	961	255	285	87
Unknown	26	2	142	8

TABLE 8-A. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF FACILITY, 1977-1980
(PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

TYPE OF FACILITY	PERCENTAGE			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Clinic	68.6	81.7	57.5	64.8
Doctor's Office	15.3	14.5	37.0	34.2
Hospital	15.7	3.7	3.6	1.0
Not Stated	0.4	...	1.8	...

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

An ellipsis "..." indicates a quantity greater than zero, but less than 0.05 percent.

PROCEDURES

Suction curettage was the procedure used for 91.9 percent of abortions reported in Arizona during 1977. This continued to be the preferred pregnancy termination procedure used during the four-year reporting period (Table 9-A).

During 1977, 4.7 percent of reported abortions were performed by the saline instillation procedure. This was the second most frequently reported termination procedure during 1977 and 1978. During 1979 and 1980, however, prostaglandin infusion was more apt to be used than saline instillation (Table 9-A).

TABLE 9. REPORTED ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF TERMINATION PROCEDURE, 1977-1980.

TYPE OF PROCEDURE	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,811	9,273
Suction Curettage	5,635	6,583	7,645	8,921
Sharp Curettage	26	32	35	223
Hysterectomy	1	1	-	1
Hysterotomy	6	-	-	1
Saline Instillation	285	72	11	5
Prostaglandin Installation	65	47	45	20
Dextrose Instillation	1	-	-	-
Not Stated	111	98	75	107

NOTE: A dash "-" indicates zero.

TABLE 9-A. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE, 1977-1980 (PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

TYPE OF PROCEDURE	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Suction Curettage	91.9	96.3	97.9	96.2
Sharp Curettage	0.4	0.5	0.4	2.4
Fluid Instillation				
Prostaglandin	...	-	0.6	0.2
Saline	4.7	1.1	0.1	0.1
Other	...	-	-	-
Hysterotomy	-	...
Hysterectomy	0.1	-	-	...
Not Stated	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.2

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

An ellipsis "... indicates a quantity greater than zero, but less than 0.05 percent.

WEEKS OF GESTATION

Table 10-A indicates that approximately 90 percent of all abortions reported in Arizona during the reporting period 1977 - 1980 were performed within the first trimester of pregnancy (12 weeks). During 1977, 87.2 percent of the reported abortions occurred within the first trimester. This percentage fluctuated from 90.3 percent to 91.4 percent and 89.8 percent during 1978, 1979, and 1980 respectively. Less than 10 percent of terminations occurred during the second or third trimester.

TABLE 10. REPORTED ABORTIONS BY PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATED WEEKS OF GESTATION, 1977-1980

WEEKS OF GESTATION	NUMBER OF ABORTIONS			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	6,833	7,811	9,278
8 Weeks or Under	2,410	2,938	3,352	3,467
9-10	1,863	2,150	2,583	3,412
11-12	1,075	1,073	1,212	1,463
13-14	186	341	493	772
15-16	100	49	19	42
17-18	188	67	37	17
19 and Over	78	29	20	10
Not Stated	230	186	95	95

TABLE 10-A. REPORTED ABORTIONS BY PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATED WEEKS OF GESTATION, 1977-1980
(PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

WEEKS OF GESTATION	PERCENT			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTAL NUMBER	6,130	6,833	7,188	9,278
PERCENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
8 Weeks and Under	39.3	43.0	42.9	37.4
9-10	30.4	31.5	33.0	36.8
11-12	17.5	15.7	15.5	15.8
13-14	3.1	5.0	6.4	8.3
15-16	1.6	0.7	0.2	0.5
17-18	3.1	1.0	0.5	0.2
19 and Over	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.1
Not Stated	3.8	2.7	1.2	1.0

NOTE: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

PREVIOUS INDUCED TERMINATIONS

Table 11 shows a gradual decline in the proportion of women undergoing pregnancy termination for the first time. In 1977, 80.8 percent of abortions were obtained by women who reported having had no previous abortion. By 1980, this percentage dropped to 72.5 percent. Concurrently, the proportion of women undergoing induced abortions for the second time increased from 15.8 percent in 1977 to 26.6 percent in 1980, an increase of 5.8 percent. The proportion of women reporting two or more previous abortions increased from 3.5 percent to 5.9 percent during the reporting period (Table 11-A). This is an overall increase of 2.5 percent.

TABLE 11. INDUCED ABORTIONS BY NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PREVIOUS TERMINATIONS, 1977-1980

PREVIOUS INDUCED ABORTIONS	1977		1978		1979		1980	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,130	100.0	6,833	100.0	7,811	100.0	9,278	100.0
None	4,951	80.8	5,221	76.4	5,789	74.1	6,728	72.5
1	966	15.6	1,344	19.7	1,640	21.0	2,003	21.6
2	175	2.8	218	3.2	305	3.9	437	4.7
3	26	0.4	37	0.5	59	0.8	76	0.8
4	7	0.1	11	0.2	13	0.2	18	0.2
5 or More	5	0.1	2	...	5	0.1	16	0.2

NOTE: Percents may not equal 100.0 due to independent rounding.

An ellipsis "... " indicates a quantity greater than zero, but less than 0.05 percent.

TABLE 11-A. INDUCED ABORTION BY PERCENT OF PREVIOUS TERMINATIONS, 1977-1980.

PREVIOUS INDUCED ABORTIONS	PERCENT			
	1977	1978	1979	1980
TOTALS-ARIZONA	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	80.0	76.4	74.1	72.5
1	15.8	19.7	21.0	21.6
2 or More	3.4	3.9	4.9	5.9

NOTE: Percents may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.

Section III
ABORTION-RELATED
MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY

COMPLICATIONS

Table 12 presents figures for 1978 - 1980 showing the proportion of women who experienced complications as a result of induced abortion.

Approximately 99 percent of women included in the 1978 totals had no complications. This percentage decreased during the next two years to 91.3 percent. For the most part, complications reported were listed as "other". Utrine perforations accounted for two of the complications reported in 1978 and three of those reported in 1980. Hemorrhages accounted for less than 1 percent of complications reported during the three-year period.

TABLE 12. REPORTED ABORTIONS BY NUMBER AND PERCENT OF COMPLICATIONS, 1977 - 1980

REPORTED COMPLICATION	1978		1979		1980	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
TOTALS-ARIZONA	6,833	100.0	7,188	100.0	9,278	100.0
None	6,779	99.2	6,716	93.4	8,473	91.3
Hemorrhage	5	0.1	13	0.2	10	0.1
Perforation	2	...	-	-	3	...
Anaesthetic	1	...	1	...	1	...
Other	46	0.7	458	6.4	805	8.5

NOTE: Percents may not equal 100 percent due to independent rounding.
 A dash "-" indicates zero.
 An ellipses "..." indicates a quantity greater than zero, but less than 0.05 percent.

ABORTION MORTALITY FACTS

Deaths resulting from abortion complications once accounted for one out of every five maternal deaths in the United States. Advances in abortion procedures and contraceptive methods, together with decreased numbers of illegal abortions, have substantially reduced abortion-related mortality. It is now safer for a woman to have an abortion than a birth.

An article in a recent issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association pinpointed the following characteristics as being the most significant risk factors of modern day abortion mortality:

Age:

Women 40 years, or older, have an abortion mortality risk four times greater than teenagers.

Race:

Non-white women have an abortion mortality risk three times greater than white women.

Procedure:

Sharp curettage has a somewhat higher risk than suction curettage; fluid instillation procedures have eight times the risk of curettage. Hysterotomy and hysterectomy have a risk 18 times greater than that of curettage procedures.

Gestation:

The most significant risk factor of abortion mortality is the gestational age. The safest period is eight weeks, or less. After the eight-week period is reached, the risk factor doubles with each additional two weeks.

. First trimester abortions are nine times safer than pregnancy and childbirth.

The authors of Legal Abortion in the United States emphasized the necessity for considering gestational age and procedure as interdependent variables in determining risk factors. Because the choice of procedure varies with gestational age, risk factors cannot be determined separately for each variable.

* Information contained in this Section is excerpted from:

Legal Abortion Mortality in the United States, Cates et al, Journal of the American Medical Association, January 31, 1977, Volume #5.

TABLE 13. DEATH-TO-CASE RATE FOR LEGAL ABORTIONS
BY WEEKS OF GESTATION, UNITED STATES, 1972 - 1977 *

<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Cases</u> ¹	<u>Rate</u> ²	<u>Relative Risk</u> ³
8 or Less	12	2,145,802	0.6	1.0
9-10	23	1,393,551	1.7	2.8
11-12	20	741,536	2.7	4.5
13-15	19	253,890	7.5	12.5
16-20	43	295,196	14.6	24.3
21 or More	12	58,642	20.5	34.2
TOTAL	129	4,888,617	2.6	

¹Based on distribution of 3,547,194 abortions (72.6%) with weeks of gestation known.

²Deaths per 100,000 abortions.

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

TABLE 13-A. DEATH-TO-CASE RATE FOR LEGAL ABORTIONS
BY TYPE OF PROCEDURE, UNITED STATES, 1972 - 1977

<u>Type of Procedure</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Cases</u> ¹	<u>Rate</u> ²	<u>Relative Risk</u> ³
Curettage/ Dilatation and Evacuation	66	4,455,468	1.5	1.0
Intrauterine Instillation	48	354,972	13.5	9.0
Hysterotomy/ Hysterectomy	9	20,629	43.6	29.1
Other ⁴	6	57,548	10.4	6.9
Total	129	4,888,617	2.6	

¹Based on 3,576,097 abortions (73.2%) with type of procedure known.

²Deaths per 100,000 abortions.

³Based on index rate for curettage/dilatation and evacuation of 1.5 per 100,000 abortions.

⁴Includes two deaths with type of procedure unknown.

*Center for Disease Control, Abortion Surveillance (Atlanta: 1979), p.47.

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