



## 1D.

### ABORTIONS

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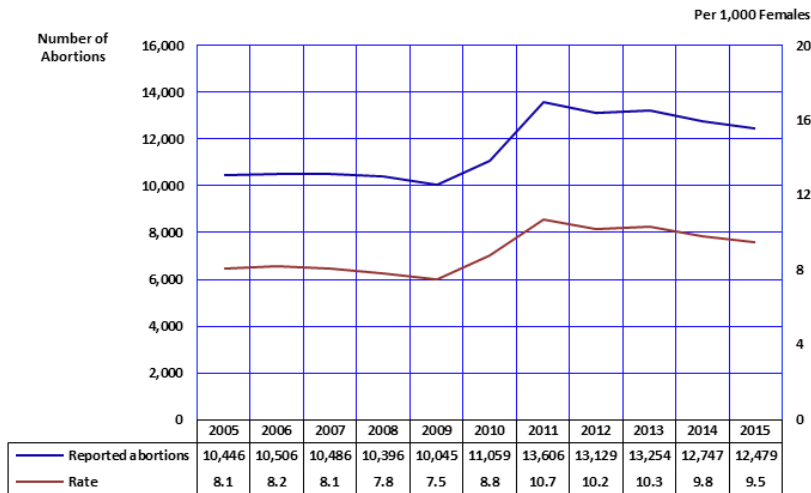
In July 1976, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) began an Abortion Surveillance Program (*Arizona Administrative Code, R9-19-302D*, as authorized by the *Arizona Revised Statute 36-344*). The program required the reporting of induced terminations of pregnancy performed in hospitals, outpatient treatment centers, and physicians' offices throughout the State.

In 2010, SB1304 was passed by the legislature that statutorily required the reporting of abortions and treatment of complications associated with abortions. In addition, the office of the Courts were required to report the number of petitions received by the court for authorization to perform abortions on unemancipated minors as prescribed in Arizona Revised Statutes §36-2152. The collection of this information was begun July 29, 2010.

Based on the information collected on race/ethnicity in the abortion reporting system, the racial/ethnic groups described in this section differ from that of other sections. In 2015, 5.1 percent (n = 639) of abortion records had race and ethnicity identified as unknown, and 1.4 percent (n = 175) of abortion records had two or more racial/ethnic group identified. Due to the proportion of information on race/ethnicity that could not be categorized by the five racial/ethnic groups used through this report, this section reports numbers for records with unknown or multiple race information as separate groups.

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**Figure 1D-1**  
**Number of Reported Abortions and Abortion Rates<sup>a</sup> by Year,**  
**Arizona Residents, 2005-2015**



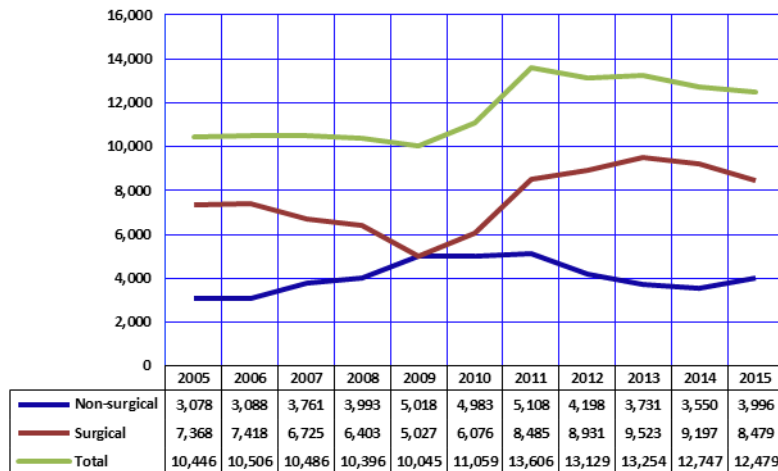
In calendar year 2015, the Arizona Department of Health Services received 12,479 reports of abortions obtained by Arizona residents, 268 less than the 12,747 reported in 2014 (**Figure 1-D1, Table 1D-1**).

There were 12,065 abortions in non-hospital clinics (**Table 1D-1**). Hospitals accounted for 24 abortion procedures, with 390 procedures being performed outside of clinics and hospitals.

Ninety-one percent of all reported abortions occurred at or before 13 weeks of pregnancy. Few reported abortions occurred after 14 or more weeks of gestation: 7.6 percent at 14 weeks or more (percentages based on data in **Table 1D-3**).

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Number of abortions per 1,000 females 15-44 years old. The sharp increase in number of reported abortions and rates was due to enhanced surveillance as noted in the abortion report.

**Figure 1D-2**  
**Trends in the Number of Surgical and Non-Surgical Abortions by Year,**  
**Arizona Residents, 2005-2015**

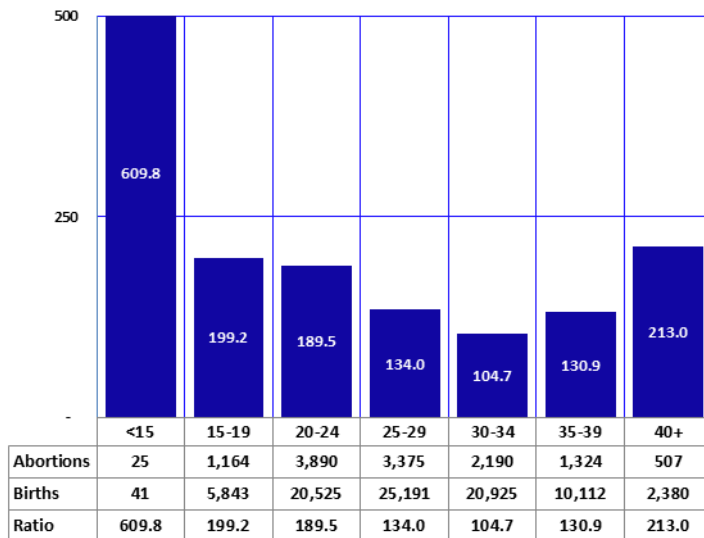


The rate of induced terminations of pregnancy per 1,000 female residents aged 15-44 decreased slightly by 3.0 percent at 9.5 in 2015 (**Table 1D-1**). The relative stability in the abortion ratios and rates from 2011 through 2014, when compared to the variability observed from 2010 to 2011, reflects the new reporting abortion requirements implemented mid-year in 2010.

Trends in the percent of abortions conducted through surgical and non-surgical means from 2005 to 2015 indicate shifting practices in methods used to complete abortions. In 2005, 70.5 percent of all abortion procedures were surgical procedures. By 2009, the number of abortions performed by surgical versus non-surgical means was nearly equal. Since then, the proportion of abortions conducted through surgical means has again increased, with 68 percent of all abortion procedures conducted in 2015 being surgical procedures.

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**Figure 1D-3**  
Abortion Ratios<sup>a</sup> by Age Group, Arizona Residents, 2015

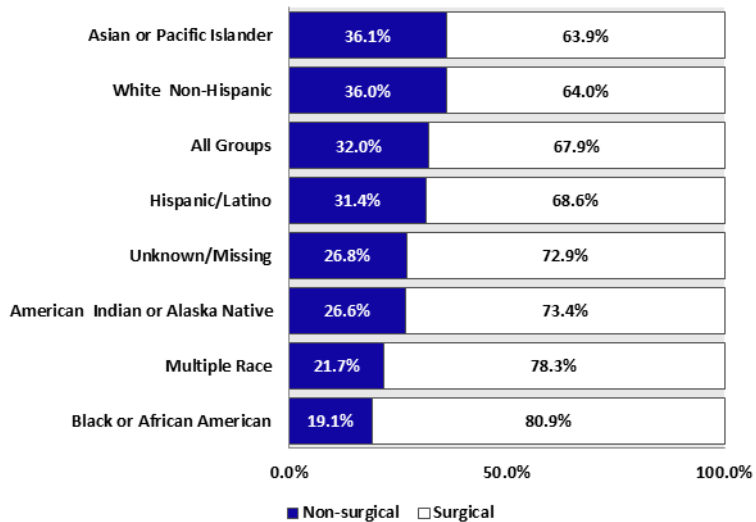


Abortion ratios (the number of abortions per 1,000 live births in each age group) vary by age at reported termination of pregnancy. Ratios tend to be higher at the extremes of the age distribution of the childbearing period, i.e., among women under age 15 and those aged 40 years or older (**Figure 1D-3**).

A comparison of abortion ratios by race/ethnicity is provided in **Table 1D-2**.

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Number of reported abortions per 1,000 live births in specified group.

**Figure 1D-4**  
Proportional Contribution of Non-Surgical<sup>a</sup> and Surgical Abortions by Race/Ethnicity, Arizona Residents, 2015



In 2015 non-surgical (also called “medical”) abortions made up 32.0 percent of all procedures reported in Arizona. Among Asians and White non-Hispanics, the proportion of non-surgical abortions exceeded the average for all groups (**Figure 1D-4**). The ratio of non-surgical abortions among Black or African American women was the lowest among racial/ethnic groups.

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Non-surgical: Mifepristone, Methotrexate, RU486, etc.; Reporting changes related to race/ethnicity makes comparisons with previous years difficult.