



1D.

INDUCED TERMINATIONS OF PREGNANCY

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.

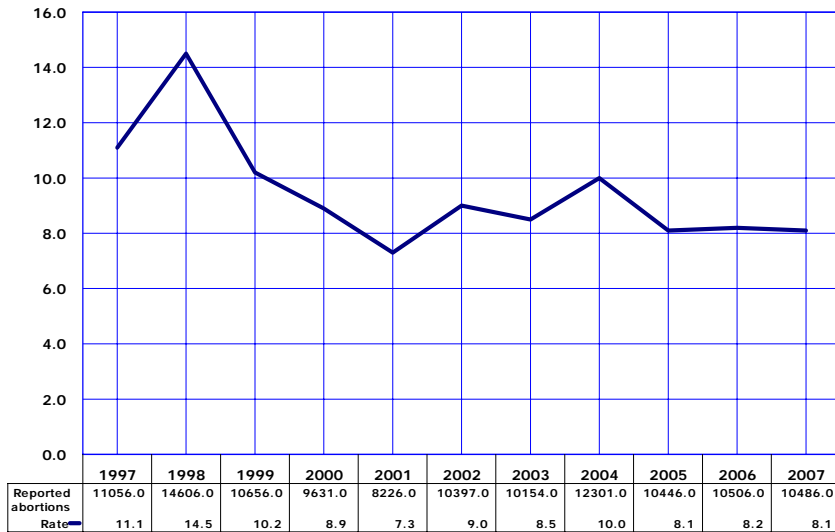
According to the Model State Vital Statistics Act and Regulations*, "induced termination of pregnancy" or abortion means "the purposeful interruption of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus which does not result in a live birth." This definition excludes management of prolonged retention of products of conception following fetal death. In this publication, the term "abortion" refers to induced termination of pregnancy in the above sense, and these two terms are used interchangeably.

The data in Sections 1D and 5D represent the number of abortions reported to ADHS not the actual number of abortions which occurred in the State. Although Arizona law requires that all abortions performed in the State be reported to the ADHS, complete reporting is not assured. Also, available data about abortions include only limited and incomplete information about induced terminations of pregnancy performed on Arizona residents in out-of-State facilities.

*1992 Revision published by the National Center for Health Statistics. Available online at cdc.gov/nchs/data/misc/mvsact92b.pdf

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Figure 1D-1
Number of Reported Abortions and Abortion Rates* by Year,
Arizona Residents, 1997-2007



*Number of abortions per 1,000 females 15-44 years old.

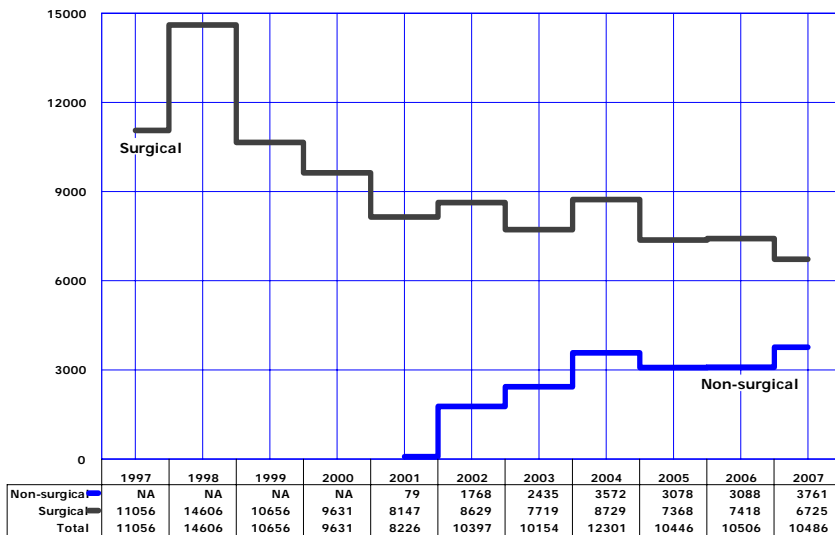
In calendar year 2007, the Arizona Department of Health Services received 10,486 reports of abortions obtained by Arizona residents, 20 less than the 10,506 reported in 2006 (**Figure 1-D1, Table 1D-1**).

The proportion of induced terminations of pregnancy performed in physicians' offices declined over time from 12.9 percent in 1997 to 0.4 percent in 2005. In 2006 and 2007, all of the reported abortions performed in Arizona were in non-hospital clinics (percentages based on data in **Table 1D-1**).

Six out of ten (61.5 percent) women who reported to have an abortion in 2007 had the procedure for the first time. Ninety percent of all reported abortions occurred before 13 weeks of pregnancy. Few reported abortions occurred after 15 weeks of gestation: 3.3 percent at 16-20 weeks and 1.0 percent at ≥ 21 weeks (percentages based on data in **Table 1D-3**).

In 1997, approximately 30 percent of all abortions were obtained by women with at least some college education. In 2007, women with some college education accounted for only 11.4 percent of all abortions (**Table 1D-1**). Eighty-six percent of women who obtained abortions were known to be unmarried (**Table 5D-5**).

Figure 1D-2
Trends in the Number of Surgical and Non-Surgical Abortions by Year,
Arizona Residents, 1997-2007



The rate of induced terminations of pregnancy per 1,000 female residents aged 15-44 decreased from 8.2 in 2006 to 8.1 in 2007 (**Table 1D-1**). A time series analysis of annual abortion data for 1997-2007 continues to reveal a declining trend (**Figure 1D-2, Table 1D-1**) in surgical terminations of pregnancy in Arizona, while an upward trend applies to non-surgical abortions.

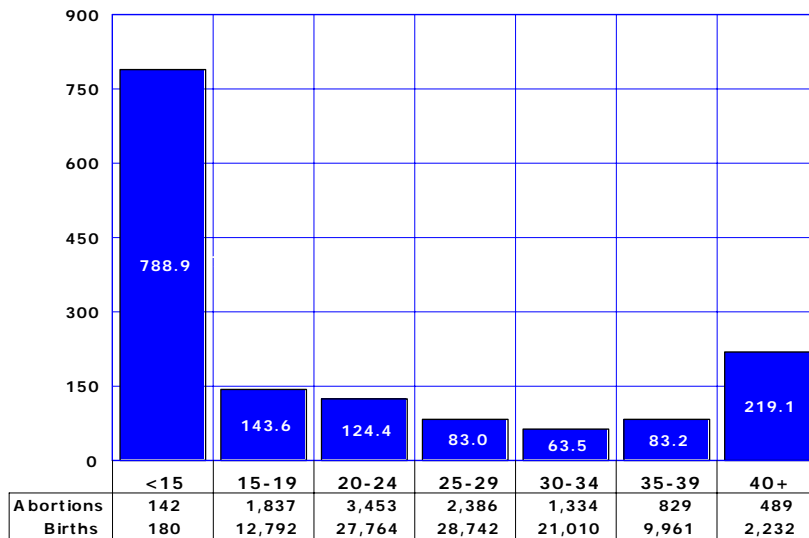
The number of reported non-surgical abortions (i.e., terminations of pregnancy by the administration of a medication such as *methotrexate* or *mifepristone* each used in conjunction with *misoprostol*) increased by 21.8 percent from 3,088 in 2006 to 3,761 in 2007. The number of surgical abortions (performed by curettage or by dilation and evacuation) decreased from 7,418 in 2006 to 6,725 in 2007.

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Figure 1D-3
Abortion Ratios* by Age Group, Arizona Residents, 2007

Abortion ratios (the number of abortions per 1,000 live births in each age group) vary by age of women 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 15 and 40 and older (Figure-1D-3).

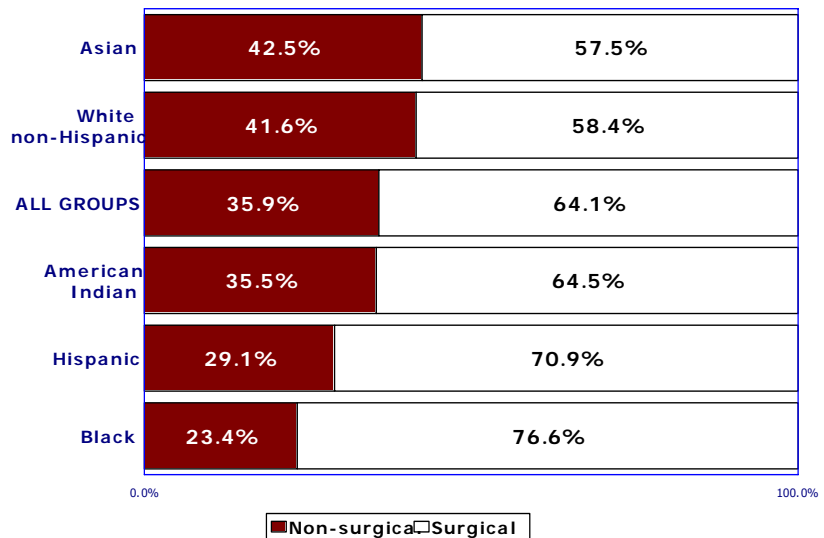
A comparison of age-specific abortion ratios by race/ethnicity is provided in Table 1D-5.



Number of reported abortions per 1,000 live births in specified group.

Figure 1D-4
Proportional Contribution of Non-Surgical and Surgical Abortions by Race/Ethnicity, Arizona Residents, 1997-2007

In 2007, non-surgical (also called "medical") abortions made up approximately 35.9 percent of all procedures reported in Arizona. Only among Asians and White non-Hispanics did the proportion of non-surgical abortions exceed the average for all groups (Figure 1D-4). The ratios of non-surgical abortions among Black and Hispanic women were the lowest among race/ethnic groups.



Non-surgical: Mifepristone, Methotrexate, RU486, etc.