



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.

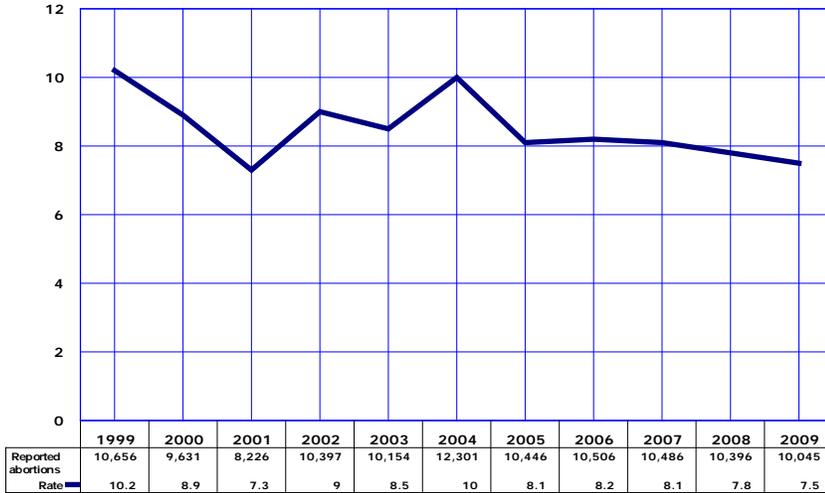
According to the Model State Vital Statistics Act and Regulations*, "induced termination of pregnancy" or abortion means "the purposeful interruption of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus which does not result in a live birth." This definition 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 <http://www.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, 1999-2009



In calendar year 2009, the Arizona Department of Health Services received 10,045 reports of abortions obtained by Arizona residents, 351 less than the 10,396 reported in 2008 (**Figure 1-D1, Table 1D-1**).

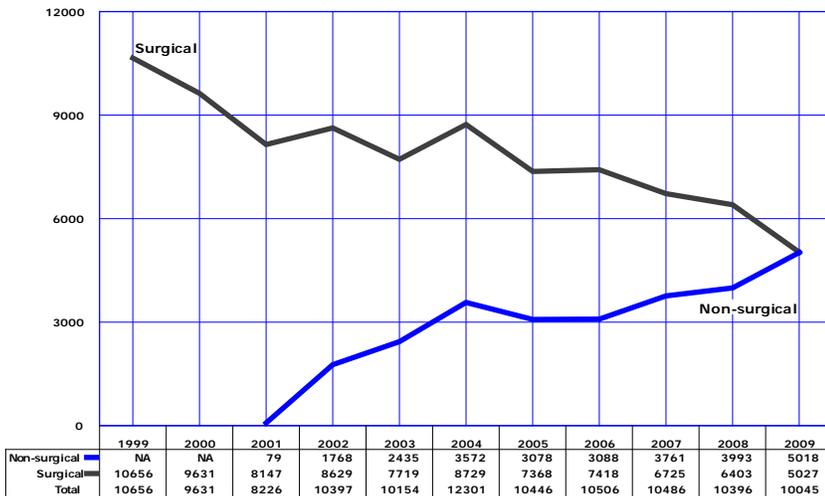
The proportion of induced terminations of pregnancy performed in physicians' offices declined over time from 13.0 percent in 1999 to 0.4 percent in 2005. In 2006 and 2007, all of the reported abortions performed in Arizona were in non-hospital clinics (percentages based on data in **Table 1D-1**). In 2009, 683 abortions were reported as performed in a physician's office.

Six out of ten (58.5 percent) women who reported having an abortion in 2009 had the procedure for the first time. Ninety-two percent of all reported abortions occurred before 13 weeks of pregnancy. Few reported abortions occurred after 15 weeks of gestation: 1.8 percent at 16-20 weeks and 0.3 percent at ≥ 21 weeks (percentages based on data in **Table 1D-3**).

Eighty-six percent of women who obtained abortions were known to be unmarried (**Table 5D-5**).

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

Figure 1D-2
Trends in the Number of Surgical and Non-Surgical Abortions by Year,
Arizona Residents, 1999-2009



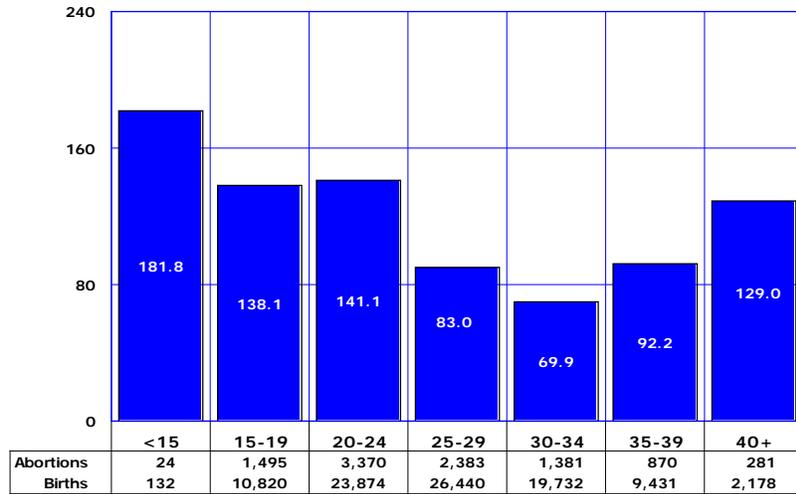
The rate of induced terminations of pregnancy per 1,000 female residents aged 15-44 decreased from 8.1 in 2007 to 7.8 in 2008, and 7.5 in 2009 (**Table 1D-1**). A time series analysis of annual abortion data for 1999-2009 continues to reveal a declining trend (**Figure 1D-2, Table 1D-1**) in surgical 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 25.7 percent from 3,993 in 2008 to 5,018 in 2009. The number of surgical abortions (performed by curettage or by dilation and evacuation) decreased by 21.5 percent from 6,403 in 2008 to 5,027 in 2009. In 2009, non-surgical abortions for the first time accounted for approximately 50 percent of all induced terminations of pregnancy. All abortions performed in Yavapai and Yuma counties were non-surgical.

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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 19 and those aged 40 years or older (**Figure 1D-3**). However, from 2007 to 2009 the abortion ratio among women 20-24 years old increased by 13.4 percent. In 2009, it exceeded the abortion ratio among adolescents aged 15-19 years. Since there was no increase in the number of abortions for this age group during that time, the increase in the abortion ratio was a reflection of the decline in the number of births among women aged 20-24 years from 27,764 in 2007 to 23,874 in 2009.

Figure 1D-3
Abortion Ratios* by Age Group, Arizona Residents, 2009

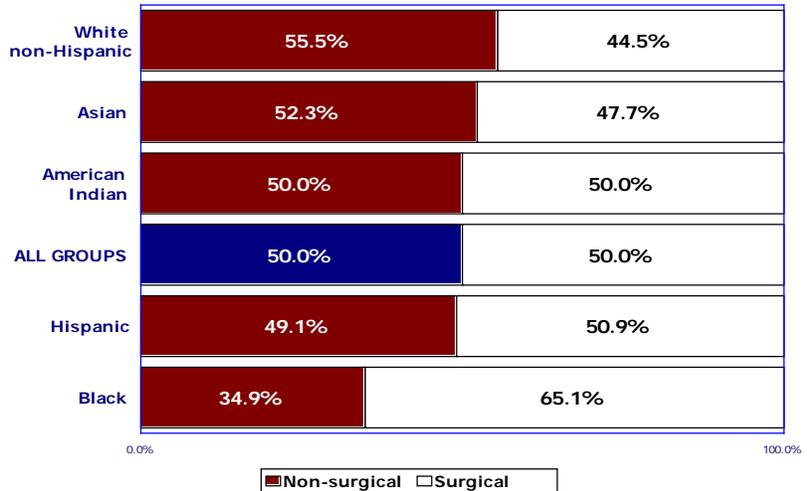


A comparison of age-specific abortion ratios by race/ethnicity is provided in **Table 1D-5**.

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, 2009

In 2009, non-surgical (also called “medical”) abortions made up approximately 50 percent of all procedures reported in Arizona. Among White non-Hispanics, Asians, and American Indians did the proportion of non-surgical abortions exceed the average for all groups (**Figure 1D-4**). The ratios of non-surgical abortions among Hispanic or Latino and Black or African American women were the lowest among race/ethnic groups.



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