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Induced Abortion Statistics

2004



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Statistics Canada
Health Statistics Division

Induced Abortion Statistics

2004

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User information

Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

Introduction

This product provides annual statistics on induced abortions performed in Canada on Canadian and non-Canadian residents. Where applicable for data years prior to 2004, data on induced abortions performed on Canadian women in selected American states are also provided.

Counts, rates per 1,000 women and ratios per 100 live births of induced abortions at the national, provincial and territorial levels are provided. Certain tables indicate the number of abortions performed in a hospital or in a clinic setting. Other tables indicate the counts, rates and ratios per 100 live births of induced abortions across age groups.

Some CANSIM tables provide data back to 1970, while others provide data back to 1974. These tables are updated annually to include the most current data year available. The Internet publication provides data for the latest 10 years available.

The data source for these tables is the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.

Free access to the data is provided through a special CANSIM interface. The CANSIM tables can be linked directly from three different locations in the HTML product:

Tables section:

- Related CANSIM tables
- Individual tables, in the Source

Related products section:

- Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

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Highlights

- Canadian women obtained fewer induced abortions in 2004 compared with the previous year, and the decline occurred mostly among women in their 20s.
- A total of 100,039 induced abortions were performed on Canadian women in 2004, down 2.9% from 103,001 in 2003. As a result, the induced abortion rate edged down from 15.1 abortions in 2003 for every 1,000 women aged 15 to 44, to 14.6 in 2004.
- Induced abortion rates fell in every age group, except among women aged 40 and over, where it remained the same. Women in their 20s experienced the largest decline in rates from 25.8 for every 1000 women in 2003 to 24.7 in 2004.

Analysis

Canadian women obtained fewer induced abortions in 2004 compared with the previous year, and the decline occurred mostly among women in their 20s.

A total of 100,039 induced abortions were performed on Canadian women in 2004, down 2.9% from 103,001 in 2003. As a result, the induced abortion rate edged down from 15.1 abortions in 2003 for every 1,000 women aged 15 to 44, to 14.6 in 2004.

Induced abortion rates fell in every age group, except among women aged 40 and over, where it remained the same. Women in their 20s experienced the largest decline in rates from 25.8 for every 1000 women in 2003 to 24.7 in 2004.

The number of induced abortions for every 100 live births fell to 29.7 in 2004 from 30.8 in 2003.

Among teenage women under the age of 20, the induced abortion rate in 2004 was 13.8 for every 1,000 women, down from 14.4 the year before. The induced abortion rate for these women has declined gradually since 1996 when it peaked at 18.9.

The crude birth rate for teenaged women has also continued to decline. In 1996, there were 18.6 live births for every 1,000 women under 20. By 2004, this had dropped to 11.4.

Induced abortions continue to be most common among women in their 20s. They accounted for 53% of all women who obtained an induced abortion in 2004. On average, 25 women out of every 1,000 in their 20s obtain an induced abortion.

Induced abortion rates remained the same, or increased, among women in Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

They declined in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia.

Note:

Data for 2004 cover induced abortions performed in hospitals and clinics in provinces and territories, except those performed in Manitoba clinics, which were unavailable. In order for comparisons to be made, induced abortions performed in Manitoba clinics in 2003 were excluded. Therefore, rates and counts published above will not correspond to those previously published. As of 2004, induced abortions obtained by Canadian women in some American states are no longer collected. Users should be aware of certain limitations with the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. There are recognized issues concerning coverage, increased submission of aggregate counts instead of detailed records, and an increased reliance on age estimates.

Related products

Selected publications from Statistics Canada

82-224-X	Pregnancy Outcomes
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Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

106-9005	Induced abortions, by area of report and type of facility performing the abortion, Canada, provinces and territories, annual
106-9013	Induced abortions, by area of residence of patient, Canada, provinces and territories, annual
106-9034	Induced abortions, by age group and area of residence of patient, Canada, provinces and territories, annual

Selected surveys from Statistics Canada

3209	Therapeutic Abortion Survey
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Selected summary tables from Statistics Canada

- *Induced abortions by province and territory of report*
- *Induced abortions by area of residence of patients*
- *Induced abortions per 100 live births*
- *Induced abortions by age group*
- *Pregnancy outcomes by province or territory of residence*
- *Pregnancy outcomes by age group*

Statistical tables

Table 1-1
Induced abortions, by area of report and type of facility performing the abortion — Hospitals and clinics

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	number									
Total, Canada and American states	108,329	111,757	111,819	110,520	105,862	105,669	106,498	105,535	104,248	100,763
Canada	107,870	111,456	111,526	110,223	105,631	105,454	106,323	105,383	104,099	100,763
Newfoundland and Labrador	870	812	819	803	834	871	859	798	880	901
Prince Edward Island ^{1, 2}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nova Scotia ²	2,268	2,264	2,213	2,240	2,068	2,089	2,105	1,996	2,064	1,936
New Brunswick	1,097	1,143	1,146	1,117	1,061	1,117	1,039	1,062	991	1,042
Quebec	27,496	28,787	30,224	31,632	30,693	31,185	31,038	30,841	30,780	30,588
Ontario	46,174	47,024	44,118	42,503	39,969	39,541	38,831	38,109	36,654	35,238
Manitoba ³	3,476	3,741	3,729	3,553	3,653	3,511	3,515	3,441	3,882	2,752
Saskatchewan ²	1,816	1,810	1,802	1,779	1,706	1,761	1,752	1,729	1,755	1,806
Alberta	9,113	9,446	10,594	10,742	10,507	10,780	10,894	10,962	11,027	11,283
British Columbia	15,189	16,007	16,501	15,459	14,676	14,070	15,820	16,076	15,669	14,738
Yukon Territory ²	130	169	134	145	112	143	125	131	131	x
Northwest Territories including Nunavut ²	241	253	246	250	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories ²	..	..	..	..	256	278	261	238	266	270
Nunavut ^{2, 4}	..	..	..	..	96	108	84	..	..	x
Reported by American states	459	301	293	297	231	215	175	152	149	..

1. As of 1983, Prince Edward Island no longer reports hospital abortions to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.
2. Clinic abortions are not reported by Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories or Nunavut. As of 2004, there are no clinics in Nova Scotia.
3. In 2004, information on abortions performed in clinics in Manitoba was not submitted to the therapeutic abortion survey. Therefore, the statistics for hospitals and clinics combined include only hospital abortions.
4. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey (CANSIM table 106-9005).

Table 1-2
Induced abortions, by area of report and type of facility performing the abortion — Hospitals¹

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	number									
Total, Canada and American states	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53,758
Canada	72,048	74,579	71,845	68,290	63,832	63,535	61,259	58,536	56,429	53,758
Newfoundland and Labrador	506	525	520	329	324	339	324	297	280	280
Prince Edward Island ²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nova Scotia	1,839	1,881	1,937	1,960	1,788	1,838	1,854	1,787	1,916	1,936
New Brunswick	610	631	639	684	591	611	609	615	389	422
Quebec	18,170	19,276	19,146	19,439	17,623	18,437	18,306	17,381	17,367	16,915
Ontario	29,133	29,527	26,512	24,055	22,349	21,803	20,672	19,626	18,420	17,491
Manitoba	2,927	3,327	3,399	3,232	3,276	3,140	3,040	2,967	3,076	2,752
Saskatchewan	1,816	1,810	1,802	1,779	1,706	1,761	1,752	1,729	1,755	1,806
Alberta	6,634	5,973	6,390	6,130	5,998	6,017	5,567	5,394	5,070	5,158
British Columbia	10,042	11,207	11,120	10,287	9,713	9,060	8,665	8,371	7,759	6,519
Yukon Territory	130	169	134	145	112	143	125	131	131	x
Northwest Territories including Nunavut	241	253	246	250	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories	..	..	..	..	256	278	261	238	266	270
Nunavut ³	..	..	..	..	96	108	84	..	..	x
Reported by American states	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

1. Abortions performed on Canadian residents in the United States are included only at the combined hospital and clinic level, for data years prior to 2004.
2. As of 1983, Prince Edward Island no longer reports hospital abortions to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.
3. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey (CANSIM table 106-9005).

Table 1-3
Induced abortions, by area of report and type of facility performing the abortion — Clinics 1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	number									
Total, Canada and American states	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47,005
Canada	35,822	36,877	39,681	41,933	41,799	41,919	45,064	46,847	47,670	47,005
Newfoundland and Labrador	364	287	299	474	510	532	535	501	600	621
Prince Edward Island 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nova Scotia 2	429	383	276	280	280	251	251	209	148	..
New Brunswick	487	512	507	433	470	506	430	447	602	620
Quebec	9,326	9,511	11,078	12,193	13,070	12,748	12,732	13,460	13,413	13,673
Ontario	17,041	17,497	17,606	18,448	17,620	17,738	18,159	18,483	18,234	17,747
Manitoba 3	549	414	330	321	377	371	475	474	806	..
Saskatchewan 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alberta	2,479	3,473	4,204	4,612	4,509	4,763	5,327	5,568	5,957	6,125
British Columbia	5,147	4,800	5,381	5,172	4,963	5,010	7,155	7,705	7,910	8,219
Yukon Territory 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories including Nunavut 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nunavut 2, 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Reported by American states	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

1. Abortions performed on Canadian residents in the United States are included only at the combined hospital and clinic level, for data years prior to 2004.
2. Clinic abortions are not reported by Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories or Nunavut. As of 2004, there are no clinics in Nova Scotia.
3. In 2004, information on abortions performed in clinics in Manitoba was not submitted to the therapeutic abortion survey. Therefore, the statistics for hospitals and clinics combined include only hospital abortions.
4. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey (CANSIM table 106-9005).

Table 2-1
Induced abortions, by type of facility and area of residence of patient — Hospitals and clinics

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	number									
Total, Canadians and non-residents of Canada	108,329	111,757	111,819	110,520	105,862	105,669	106,498	105,458	104,175	100,763
Canada	108,248	111,659	111,709	110,331	105,666	105,427	106,418	105,154	103,768	100,039
Reported by American states	459	301	293	297	231	215	175	152	149	..
Newfoundland and Labrador	896	846	837	820	851	898	883	814	895	902
Prince Edward Island 1	168	190	150	149	145	158	174	130	137	143
Nova Scotia	2,043	2,039	2,045	2,053	1,917	1,989	1,890	1,825	1,925	1,905
New Brunswick	1,111	1,120	1,113	1,106	1,031	1,098	1,028	1,045	944	920
Quebec	27,555	28,852	30,248	31,673	30,722	31,125	31,065	30,858	30,802	30,616
Ontario	46,095	46,918	44,046	42,452	39,981	39,544	38,827	38,138	36,666	35,183
Manitoba 2	3,345	3,647	3,626	3,447	3,517	3,366	3,375	3,267	3,670	2,661
Saskatchewan	1,943	1,926	1,996	2,010	1,898	1,956	1,900	1,811	1,846	1,888
Alberta	8,928	9,265	10,337	10,355	10,188	10,432	10,603	10,735	10,814	11,098
British Columbia	13,848	15,689	15,582	15,482	14,642	14,009	15,908	15,967	15,499	14,145
Yukon Territory	134	172	121	150	111	135	122	125	129	x
Northwest Territories including Nunavut	284	297	317	292	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories	..	..	..	..	238	281	286	245	255	261
Nunavut 3	..	..	..	..	155	178	148	..	..	x
Province or territory not reported	1,439	397	998	45	39	43	34	42	37	14
Non-residents of Canada 4	81	98	110	189	196	242	80	304	407	724

1. Prince Edward Island has not reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey since 1982. As of 1983, abortions performed on residents of Prince Edward Island are only those reported by other provinces.
2. In 2004, information on abortions performed in clinics in Manitoba was not submitted to the therapeutic abortion survey. Therefore, the statistics for hospitals and clinics combined include only hospital abortions.
3. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.
4. Non-residents of Canada who obtained an induced abortion in Canada.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey (CANSIM table 106-9013).

Table 2-2
Induced abortions, by type of facility and area of residence of patient — Hospitals 1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	number									
Total, Canadians and non-residents of Canada	72,048	74,579	71,845	68,290	63,832	63,535	61,259	58,460	56,357	53,758
Canada	72,024	74,555	71,795	68,273	63,815	63,507	61,227	58,254	56,089	53,670
Reported by American states	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newfoundland and Labrador	527	540	534	343	340	358	341	309	293	284
Prince Edward Island 2	9	13	13	12	7	18	35	x	24	41
Nova Scotia	1,804	1,829	1,893	1,901	1,766	1,895	1,798	1,732	1,851	1,865
New Brunswick	624	646	641	702	598	617	623	624	418	441
Quebec	18,203	19,302	19,134	19,472	17,647	18,374	18,329	17,397	17,389	16,943
Ontario	29,093	29,482	26,500	24,016	22,340	21,771	20,632	19,617	18,405	17,436
Manitoba	2,833	3,254	3,298	3,150	3,166	3,042	2,944	2,854	2,935	x
Saskatchewan	1,830	1,811	1,834	1,799	1,724	1,784	1,768	1,736	1,770	1,819
Alberta	6,620	5,972	6,369	6,063	5,924	5,907	5,461	5,276	4,957	5,066
British Columbia	10,065	11,230	11,154	10,346	9,778	9,131	8,726	8,284	7,628	6,539
Yukon Territory	128	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories including Nunavut	276	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories	..	..	..	..	221	260	268	235	x	x
Nunavut 3	..	..	..	..	x	x	x	..	..	x
Province or territory not reported	12	13	0	45	39	43	34	42	37	14
Non-residents of Canada 4	24	24	50	17	17	28	32	206	268	88

1. Abortions performed on Canadian residents in the United States are included only at the combined hospital and clinic level for data years prior to 2004.
2. Prince Edward Island has not reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey since 1982. As of 1983, abortions performed on residents of Prince Edward Island are only those reported by other provinces.
3. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.
4. Non-residents of Canada who obtained an induced abortion in Canada.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey (CANSIM table 106-9013).

Table 2-3
Induced abortions, by type of facility and area of residence of patient — Clinics 1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	number									
Total, Canadians and non-residents of Canada	35,822	36,877	39,681	41,933	41,799	41,919	45,064	46,846	47,669	47,005
Canada	35,765	36,803	39,621	41,761	41,620	41,705	45,016	46,748	47,530	46,369
Reported by American states	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newfoundland and Labrador	369	306	303	477	511	540	542	505	602	618
Prince Edward Island 2	159	177	137	137	138	140	139	x	113	102
Nova Scotia	239	210	152	152	151	94	92	93	74	40
New Brunswick	487	474	472	404	433	481	405	421	526	479
Quebec	9,352	9,550	11,114	12,201	13,075	12,751	12,736	13,461	13,413	13,673
Ontario	17,002	17,436	17,546	18,436	17,641	17,773	18,195	18,521	18,261	17,747
Manitoba 3	512	393	328	297	351	324	431	413	735	x
Saskatchewan	113	115	162	211	174	172	132	75	76	69
Alberta	2,308	3,293	3,968	4,292	4,264	4,525	5,142	5,459	5,857	6,032
British Columbia	3,783	4,459	4,428	5,136	4,864	4,878	7,182	7,683	7,871	7,606
Yukon Territory	6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories including Nunavut	8	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories	..	..	..	..	17	21	18	10	x	x
Nunavut 4	..	..	..	..	x	x	x	..	..	x
Province or territory not reported	1,427	384	998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-residents of Canada 5	57	74	60	172	179	214	48	98	139	636

1. Abortions performed on Canadian residents in the United States are included only at the combined hospital and clinic level for data years prior to 2004.
2. Prince Edward Island has not reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey since 1982. As of 1983, abortions performed on residents of Prince Edward Island are only those reported by other provinces.
3. In 2004, information on abortions performed in clinics in Manitoba was not submitted to the therapeutic abortion survey. Therefore, the statistics for hospitals and clinics combined include only hospital abortions.
4. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.
5. Non-residents of Canada who obtained an induced abortion in Canada.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey (CANSIM table 106-9013).

Table 3-1
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Canada 1,2

	1995 ³	1996 ³	1997 ³	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	108,248	111,659	111,709	110,331	105,666	105,427	106,418	105,154	103,768	100,039
Under 20 years	21,224	22,118	21,792	22,074	21,140	20,864	20,380	19,344	17,958	17,242
Under 15 years	556	544	530	483	468	389	412	337	302	304
15 to 19 years	20,668	21,574	21,262	21,591	20,672	20,475	19,968	19,007	17,656	16,938
15 to 17 years	7,916	8,387	8,182	7,971	7,276	7,387	7,222	6,381	5,785	5,974
18 to 19 years	12,752	13,187	13,080	13,476	13,396	13,088	12,746	12,626	11,871	10,964
20 to 24 years	32,215	33,207	33,714	33,422	32,462	32,623	32,730	32,371	32,662	31,467
25 to 29 years	23,455	24,087	24,014	22,956	21,983	21,735	22,012	22,189	22,236	21,662
30 to 34 years	17,504	17,862	17,517	16,959	15,708	15,790	16,243	15,981	15,734	15,089
35 to 39 years	10,423	10,821	11,020	11,269	10,646	10,631	10,977	11,022	10,821	10,206
40 years and over	3,220	3,448	3,598	3,636	3,726	3,780	4,043	4,230	4,343	4,368
Age unknown	207	116	54	15	1	4	33	17	14	5
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	15.5	16.0	15.9	15.7	15.1	15.0	15.2	14.9	14.7	14.1
Under 20 years	18.3	18.9	18.4	18.4	17.5	17.1	16.6	15.7	14.5	13.8
Under 15 years	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.3	1.9	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.4
15 to 19 years	21.5	22.1	21.6	21.6	20.5	20.1	19.4	18.4	17.1	16.3
15 to 17 years	13.7	14.2	13.7	13.3	12.1	12.1	11.7	10.4	9.5	9.7
18 to 19 years	33.1	34.0	33.5	33.8	32.9	32.0	30.9	30.2	28.1	25.9
20 to 24 years	32.6	33.8	34.2	33.9	32.6	32.3	31.7	30.8	30.5	28.9
25 to 29 years	21.7	22.6	22.8	22.0	21.3	21.2	21.6	21.5	21.3	20.3
30 to 34 years	13.5	14.0	14.1	14.2	13.7	14.1	14.6	14.4	14.2	13.7
35 to 39 years	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	8.0	8.0	8.4	8.6	8.8	8.5
40 years and over	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.2
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	28.6	30.5	32.0	32.2	31.3	32.2	31.9	32.1	31.0	29.7
Under 20 years	89.7	101.3	109.4	110.9	111.4	119.2	123.0	125.9	121.5	121.5
Under 15 years	230.7	239.6	243.1	251.6	264.4	254.2	355.2	295.6	324.7	273.9
15 to 19 years	88.3	99.9	107.9	109.5	109.9	118.0	121.3	124.6	120.2	120.3
15 to 17 years	100.9	117.0	127.3	123.5	121.6	137.5	146.6	142.5	137.8	142.8
18 to 19 years	81.9	91.4	98.5	101.6	104.5	109.3	110.6	117.2	113.2	110.8
20 to 24 years	45.3	49.2	53.1	53.0	52.8	54.8	56.3	57.3	58.2	56.8
25 to 29 years	19.2	20.6	21.8	21.5	21.0	21.5	21.5	22.1	21.6	20.9
30 to 34 years	15.3	16.1	16.7	16.7	15.8	16.4	16.0	15.9	15.2	14.3
35 to 39 years	25.8	25.4	25.6	25.7	23.6	23.4	23.5	23.7	22.6	21.2
40 years and over	55.3	55.0	54.5	53.1	50.5	47.7	48.4	49.0	47.2	44.6
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ⁴										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	19.6	19.8	19.5	20.0	20.0	19.8	19.2	18.4	17.3	17.2
Under 15 years	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
15 to 19 years	19.1	19.3	19.0	19.6	19.6	19.4	18.8	18.1	17.0	16.9
15 to 17 years	7.3	7.5	7.3	7.2	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.1	5.6	6.0
18 to 19 years	11.8	11.8	11.7	12.2	12.7	12.4	12.0	12.0	11.4	11.0
20 to 24 years	29.8	29.7	30.2	30.3	30.7	30.9	30.8	30.8	31.5	31.5
25 to 29 years	21.7	21.6	21.5	20.8	20.8	20.6	20.7	21.1	21.4	21.7
30 to 34 years	16.2	16.0	15.7	15.4	14.9	15.0	15.3	15.2	15.2	15.1
35 to 39 years	9.6	9.7	9.9	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.3	10.5	10.4	10.2
40 years and over	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. Prince Edward Island has not reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey since 1982. As of 1983, abortions performed on residents of Prince Edward Island are only those reported by other provinces.
 2. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.
 3. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.
 4. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-2

Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Newfoundland and Labrador

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	896	846	837	820	851	898	883	814	895	902
Under 20 years	185	174	182	214	175	178	178	193	163	x
Under 15 years	12	8	8	10	15	10	11	7	7	x
15 to 19 years	173	166	174	204	160	168	167	186	156	130
15 to 17 years	67	71	79	89	89	54	74	64	58	68
18 to 19 years	106	95	95	115	71	114	93	122	98	62
20 to 24 years	346	318	334	275	299	306	298	248	290	303
25 to 29 years	166	175	156	183	198	204	194	190	221	197
30 to 34 years	112	89	98	90	101	137	137	108	108	151
35 to 39 years	65	58	48	36	66	61	61	59	81	78
40 years and over	15	18	14	22	12	12	15	16	32	x
Age unknown	7	14	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.7	7.2	7.3	6.9	7.7	7.9
Under 20 years	6.7	6.5	7.0	8.6	7.2	7.5	7.7	8.7	7.6	x
Under 15 years	2.6	1.8	1.9	2.5	3.8	2.6	3.1	2.1	2.1	x
15 to 19 years	7.5	7.4	8.0	9.8	7.8	8.4	8.6	9.9	8.6	7.4
15 to 17 years	4.9	5.3	6.1	7.1	7.3	4.5	6.4	5.8	5.5	6.7
18 to 19 years	11.2	10.4	11.0	13.9	8.6	14.1	11.8	15.7	12.9	8.4
20 to 24 years	15.4	14.8	16.3	14.3	16.1	16.9	16.7	13.9	16.2	16.9
25 to 29 years	7.5	8.3	7.8	9.6	10.9	11.7	11.8	11.9	14.1	12.6
30 to 34 years	4.7	3.8	4.3	4.2	4.9	6.9	7.2	5.8	6.0	8.6
35 to 39 years	2.7	2.4	2.1	1.6	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.7	3.8	3.8
40 years and over	0.7	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.4	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	15.3	14.7	15.5	16.4	16.8	18.4	18.7	17.5	19.3	20.1
Under 20 years	32.9	32.3	36.7	49.5	41.8	45.5	51.0	62.7	53.4	x
Under 15 years	133.3	133.3	200.0	333.3	300.0	500.0	1,100.0	175.0	700.0	x
15 to 19 years	31.3	31.2	35.4	47.6	38.6	43.2	48.0	61.2	51.3	44.5
15 to 17 years	35.8	41.3	48.8	65.4	63.6	43.9	66.7	64.6	65.2	73.1
18 to 19 years	29.0	26.4	28.8	39.2	25.9	42.9	39.2	59.5	45.6	31.2
20 to 24 years	22.9	23.3	27.1	23.9	27.2	28.2	30.4	25.1	30.2	33.4
25 to 29 years	8.3	9.0	8.5	11.4	12.0	12.9	12.9	13.1	15.6	14.7
30 to 34 years	8.1	6.1	7.0	6.7	7.4	10.2	10.2	8.2	7.9	11.0
35 to 39 years	18.2	14.8	11.8	9.1	14.5	14.0	12.8	11.6	15.5	16.3
40 years and over	44.1	40.9	25.9	40.0	18.5	33.3	23.4	23.5	55.2	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	20.6	20.6	21.7	26.1	20.6	19.8	20.2	23.7	18.2	x
Under 15 years	1.3	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.8	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.8	x
15 to 19 years	19.3	19.6	20.8	24.9	18.8	18.7	18.9	22.9	17.4	14.4
15 to 17 years	7.5	8.4	9.4	10.9	10.5	6.0	8.4	7.9	6.5	7.5
18 to 19 years	11.8	11.2	11.4	14.0	8.3	12.7	10.5	15.0	10.9	6.9
20 to 24 years	38.6	37.6	39.9	33.5	35.1	34.1	33.7	30.5	32.4	33.6
25 to 29 years	18.5	20.7	18.6	22.3	23.3	22.7	22.0	23.3	24.7	21.8
30 to 34 years	12.5	10.5	11.7	11.0	11.9	15.3	15.5	13.3	12.1	16.7
35 to 39 years	7.3	6.9	5.7	4.4	7.8	6.8	6.9	7.2	9.1	8.6
40 years and over	1.7	2.1	1.7	2.7	1.4	1.3	1.7	2.0	3.6	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

**Table 3-3
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Prince Edward Island ¹**

	1995 ²	1996 ²	1997 ²	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	168	190	150	149	145	158	174	130	137	143
Under 20 years	33	36	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	1	2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	32	34	28	28	29	29	32	27	19	25
15 to 17 years	13	13	11	11	10	10	11	9	7	8
18 to 19 years	19	21	17	17	19	19	21	18	12	17
20 to 24 years	49	59	46	46	43	49	54	39	43	50
25 to 29 years	36	39	31	28	28	33	36	25	31	28
30 to 34 years	30	30	23	21	24	23	28	21	23	24
35 to 39 years	16	21	16	18	16	18	17	13	15	12
40 years and over	4	5	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	5.5	6.1	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.2	5.7	4.3	4.6	4.8
Under 20 years	5.7	6.1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	1.1	2.0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	6.6	6.9	5.7	5.7	5.9	5.8	6.3	5.3	3.7	4.9
15 to 17 years	4.5	4.5	3.7	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.6	2.9	2.3	2.6
18 to 19 years	9.7	10.6	8.6	8.8	10.0	9.5	10.3	9.1	6.0	8.2
20 to 24 years	10.5	12.7	9.9	10.1	9.5	10.9	11.9	8.4	9.1	10.4
25 to 29 years	8.0	8.6	6.8	6.4	6.3	7.7	8.6	6.1	7.4	6.5
30 to 34 years	5.5	5.6	4.4	4.3	5.1	5.1	6.3	4.7	5.2	5.4
35 to 39 years	2.9	3.8	2.9	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.1	2.5	3.0	2.6
40 years and over	0.8	1.0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	9.6	11.2	9.4	9.9	9.6	11.0	12.6	9.8	9.7	10.3
Under 20 years	22.0	24.7	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	33.3	..	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	21.8	23.3	19.6	18.9	25.9	24.2	37.2	30.3	20.0	30.1
15 to 17 years	25.5	25.0	26.2	21.2	27.8	23.3	45.8	45.0	19.4	32.0
18 to 19 years	19.8	22.3	16.8	17.7	25.0	24.7	33.9	26.1	20.3	29.3
20 to 24 years	13.0	15.9	12.8	13.5	12.3	14.6	18.7	15.0	14.8	19.0
25 to 29 years	6.4	7.1	6.1	6.3	5.9	7.7	7.9	5.9	7.0	6.3
30 to 34 years	6.0	6.6	5.8	5.6	6.3	6.1	7.3	5.6	5.8	6.2
35 to 39 years	11.3	13.1	10.6	10.7	9.0	11.8	12.3	8.2	9.1	7.0
40 years and over	19.0	33.3	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ³										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	19.6	18.9	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	0.6	1.1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	19.0	17.9	18.7	18.8	20.0	18.4	18.4	20.8	13.9	17.5
15 to 17 years	7.7	6.8	7.3	7.4	6.9	6.3	6.3	6.9	5.1	5.6
18 to 19 years	11.3	11.1	11.3	11.4	13.1	12.0	12.1	13.8	8.8	11.9
20 to 24 years	29.2	31.1	30.7	30.9	29.7	31.0	31.0	30.0	31.4	35.0
25 to 29 years	21.4	20.5	20.7	18.8	19.3	20.9	20.7	19.2	22.6	19.6
30 to 34 years	17.9	15.8	15.3	14.1	16.6	14.6	16.1	16.2	16.8	16.8
35 to 39 years	9.5	11.1	10.7	12.1	11.0	11.4	9.8	10.0	10.9	8.4
40 years and over	2.4	2.6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. Prince Edward Island has not reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey since 1982. As of 1983, abortions performed on residents of Prince Edward Island are only those reported by other provinces.
2. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.
3. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-4
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Nova Scotia

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	2,043	2,039	2,045	2,053	1,917	1,989	1,890	1,825	1,925	1,905
Under 20 years	499	467	458	498	431	403	371	350	376	336
Under 15 years	18	22	8	21	14	9	7	9	7	8
15 to 19 years	481	445	450	477	417	394	364	341	369	328
15 to 17 years	186	172	187	195	171	151	128	139	138	129
18 to 19 years	295	273	263	282	246	243	236	202	231	199
20 to 24 years	686	736	729	707	703	724	693	658	691	637
25 to 29 years	432	423	417	431	390	425	409	418	412	434
30 to 34 years	266	230	232	243	219	235	230	214	241	254
35 to 39 years	120	138	165	131	134	143	136	135	145	166
40 years and over	36	38	42	43	40	59	51	50	60	78
Age unknown	4	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.5	9.0	9.4	9.1	8.8	9.4	9.4
Under 20 years	13.4	12.6	12.3	13.4	11.6	10.9	10.1	9.5	10.2	9.1
Under 15 years	2.9	3.6	1.3	3.4	2.3	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.3
15 to 19 years	15.5	14.3	14.5	15.4	13.5	12.8	11.9	11.1	12.0	10.6
15 to 17 years	10.0	9.2	10.1	10.6	9.3	8.2	6.9	7.6	7.5	7.1
18 to 19 years	23.6	22.0	21.1	22.4	19.5	19.6	19.3	16.3	18.4	15.9
20 to 24 years	21.0	22.9	23.3	23.1	23.1	23.7	22.7	21.4	22.1	20.4
25 to 29 years	12.9	12.9	12.9	13.5	12.3	13.6	13.6	14.2	14.1	14.8
30 to 34 years	6.5	5.8	6.1	6.7	6.4	7.2	7.2	6.7	7.6	8.1
35 to 39 years	3.0	3.4	4.1	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.9
40 years and over	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.9
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	19.0	19.3	20.5	21.4	20.0	21.8	21.2	21.1	22.3	21.8
Under 20 years	57.2	52.9	61.6	66.3	62.7	68.9	73.2	67.7	79.5	75.0
Under 15 years	163.6	183.3	133.3	525.0	466.7	225.0	87.5	180.0	116.7	400.0
15 to 19 years	55.8	51.1	61.0	63.9	61.0	67.8	72.9	66.6	79.0	73.5
15 to 17 years	61.8	52.6	74.5	81.3	83.8	78.2	83.7	93.9	113.1	93.5
18 to 19 years	52.6	50.2	54.0	55.6	51.3	62.6	68.2	55.5	67.0	64.6
20 to 24 years	28.2	31.7	33.6	34.5	35.1	38.2	39.9	37.4	40.6	37.5
25 to 29 years	12.5	12.8	13.0	14.1	12.7	14.6	14.8	16.1	15.8	16.6
30 to 34 years	9.1	7.8	8.5	9.3	8.5	9.4	8.7	8.7	9.2	9.6
35 to 39 years	13.1	13.9	16.5	13.2	12.3	13.5	12.6	11.9	13.6	14.5
40 years and over	33.3	30.9	33.9	29.9	26.3	34.1	30.5	25.3	33.0	41.3
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	24.4	22.9	22.4	24.3	22.5	20.3	19.6	19.2	19.5	17.6
Under 15 years	0.9	1.1	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
15 to 19 years	23.5	21.8	22.0	23.2	21.8	19.8	19.3	18.7	19.2	17.2
15 to 17 years	9.1	8.4	9.1	9.5	8.9	7.6	6.8	7.6	7.2	6.8
18 to 19 years	14.4	13.4	12.9	13.7	12.8	12.2	12.5	11.1	12.0	10.4
20 to 24 years	33.6	36.1	35.6	34.4	36.7	36.4	36.7	36.1	35.9	33.4
25 to 29 years	21.1	20.7	20.4	21.0	20.3	21.4	21.6	22.9	21.4	22.8
30 to 34 years	13.0	11.3	11.3	11.8	11.4	11.8	12.2	11.7	12.5	13.3
35 to 39 years	5.9	6.8	8.1	6.4	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.5	8.7
40 years and over	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.1	3.0	2.7	2.7	3.1	4.1
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-5
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — New Brunswick

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	1,111	1,120	1,113	1,106	1,031	1,098	1,028	1,045	944	920
Under 20 years	228	234	204	258	261	x	248	236	181	x
Under 15 years	5	5	9	5	11	x	11	10	8	x
15 to 19 years	223	229	195	253	250	255	237	226	173	157
15 to 17 years	75	92	73	98	88	117	93	82	55	68
18 to 19 years	148	137	122	155	162	138	144	144	118	89
20 to 24 years	466	428	416	422	382	418	396	363	395	327
25 to 29 years	201	207	247	210	199	200	200	235	195	194
30 to 34 years	109	134	134	105	112	125	102	116	103	123
35 to 39 years	60	66	65	76	55	72	63	66	45	86
40 years and over	15	31	29	35	22	x	19	29	25	x
Age unknown	32	20	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.0	6.5	6.1	6.3	5.8	5.7
Under 20 years	7.2	7.5	6.7	8.5	8.6	x	8.4	8.0	6.2	x
Under 15 years	1.0	1.0	1.8	1.0	2.2	x	2.3	2.2	1.7	x
15 to 19 years	8.4	8.8	7.6	10.0	9.9	10.1	9.5	9.2	7.1	6.5
15 to 17 years	4.8	6.0	4.8	6.5	5.8	7.7	6.2	5.6	3.9	4.8
18 to 19 years	13.6	12.9	11.9	15.3	15.9	13.8	14.5	14.3	11.7	8.9
20 to 24 years	17.0	15.9	15.7	16.4	15.2	16.8	16.0	14.8	16.1	13.2
25 to 29 years	7.5	7.9	9.4	8.1	7.7	7.9	8.1	9.6	8.1	8.1
30 to 34 years	3.4	4.3	4.4	3.6	4.0	4.7	3.9	4.5	4.0	4.9
35 to 39 years	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.4	1.7	2.3	2.0	2.2	1.6	3.1
40 years and over	0.5	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.7	x	0.6	0.9	0.8	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	13.0	13.7	14.0	14.0	13.5	14.9	14.3	14.8	13.3	13.2
Under 20 years	26.9	33.4	31.1	38.2	43.6	x	49.5	51.5	40.0	x
Under 15 years	166.7	250.0	112.5	62.5	220.0	x	..	333.3	266.7	x
15 to 19 years	26.4	32.8	30.0	37.9	42.2	46.0	47.3	49.7	38.4	38.1
15 to 17 years	25.4	42.6	33.6	50.3	48.6	83.6	66.4	71.9	43.0	56.2
18 to 19 years	27.0	28.4	28.2	32.8	39.3	33.3	39.9	42.2	36.6	30.6
20 to 24 years	21.2	20.8	20.6	22.6	20.7	23.3	23.3	22.9	25.2	20.9
25 to 29 years	7.1	7.7	9.3	7.7	7.6	8.0	8.2	10.0	8.1	8.4
30 to 34 years	5.3	6.6	6.8	5.6	6.0	7.1	5.7	6.2	5.5	6.5
35 to 39 years	10.8	11.0	11.9	11.6	8.7	10.9	9.5	10.0	6.4	12.6
40 years and over	20.8	43.1	38.2	47.3	31.0	x	23.8	27.4	22.7	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	20.5	20.9	18.3	23.3	25.3	x	24.1	22.6	19.2	x
Under 15 years	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.5	1.1	x	1.1	1.0	0.8	x
15 to 19 years	20.1	20.4	17.5	22.9	24.2	23.2	23.1	21.6	18.3	17.1
15 to 17 years	6.8	8.2	6.6	8.9	8.5	10.7	9.0	7.8	5.8	7.4
18 to 19 years	13.3	12.2	11.0	14.0	15.7	12.6	14.0	13.8	12.5	9.7
20 to 24 years	41.9	38.2	37.4	38.2	37.1	38.1	38.5	34.7	41.8	35.5
25 to 29 years	18.1	18.5	22.2	19.0	19.3	18.2	19.5	22.5	20.7	21.1
30 to 34 years	9.8	12.0	12.0	9.5	10.9	11.4	9.9	11.1	10.9	13.4
35 to 39 years	5.4	5.9	5.8	6.9	5.3	6.6	6.1	6.3	4.8	9.3
40 years and over	1.4	2.8	2.6	3.2	2.1	x	1.8	2.8	2.6	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-6
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Quebec

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	27,555	28,852	30,248	31,673	30,722	31,125	31,065	30,858	30,802	30,616
Under 20 years	4,714	5,416	5,360	5,981	6,135	6,001	5,654	5,456	5,191	5,326
Under 15 years	127	138	177	111	175	149	134	92	107	129
15 to 19 years	4,587	5,278	5,183	5,870	5,960	5,852	5,520	5,364	5,084	5,197
15 to 17 years	1,526	1,917	1,827	2,137	1,753	1,845	1,751	1,723	1,658	1,889
18 to 19 years	3,061	3,361	3,356	3,733	4,207	4,007	3,769	3,641	3,426	3,308
20 to 24 years	7,861	8,342	9,085	9,490	9,251	9,630	9,459	9,351	9,533	9,494
25 to 29 years	5,924	6,203	6,440	6,526	6,394	6,290	6,455	6,554	6,679	6,788
30 to 34 years	4,984	4,955	5,139	5,206	4,749	4,789	4,904	4,788	4,804	4,677
35 to 39 years	3,054	3,027	3,178	3,390	3,109	3,216	3,381	3,480	3,363	3,083
40 years and over	935	887	1,045	1,065	1,083	1,195	1,212	1,225	1,231	1,248
Age unknown	83	22	1	15	1	4	0	4	1	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	16.1	17.0	17.9	18.9	18.5	19.0	19.1	19.1	19.1	19.1
Under 20 years	16.3	18.7	18.7	21.0	21.8	21.8	20.9	20.4	19.4	19.7
Under 15 years	2.6	3.0	3.9	2.5	4.0	3.4	3.1	2.1	2.4	2.7
15 to 19 years	19.0	21.7	21.4	24.4	25.1	25.2	24.3	23.9	22.8	23.3
15 to 17 years	10.5	13.0	12.6	15.1	12.8	13.7	13.1	13.0	12.7	14.3
18 to 19 years	32.0	35.0	34.7	37.7	42.0	41.1	40.3	39.5	37.4	36.4
20 to 24 years	34.1	36.2	38.9	40.1	38.3	39.1	37.7	37.1	38.0	38.1
25 to 29 years	23.3	25.3	27.1	28.1	27.9	27.4	28.0	27.6	27.2	26.8
30 to 34 years	15.7	16.2	17.4	18.6	17.9	18.9	19.9	19.8	20.0	19.4
35 to 39 years	9.4	9.2	9.8	10.5	9.7	10.2	11.0	11.8	11.9	11.4
40 years and over	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	31.5	33.9	37.9	41.8	41.7	43.2	42.2	42.6	41.7	41.3
Under 20 years	113.9	135.1	141.8	165.5	176.2	187.4	183.7	195.2	202.6	228.6
Under 15 years	373.5	300.0	505.7	326.5	700.0	784.2	638.1	460.0	668.8	537.5
15 to 19 years	111.7	133.2	138.4	164.0	172.4	183.9	180.6	193.3	199.7	225.4
15 to 17 years	149.0	187.9	179.5	225.4	205.0	242.8	236.3	255.3	277.7	363.3
18 to 19 years	99.3	114.2	123.1	141.9	161.7	165.4	162.7	173.4	175.8	185.2
20 to 24 years	46.4	49.9	57.6	62.3	62.6	65.5	65.6	67.4	71.1	75.3
25 to 29 years	19.5	21.3	24.1	25.7	25.9	26.0	25.7	26.3	25.5	25.9
30 to 34 years	19.0	19.7	21.8	24.0	23.1	24.1	23.6	23.0	22.8	21.1
35 to 39 years	35.9	33.7	36.7	39.8	35.6	37.7	38.6	40.7	37.1	33.9
40 years and over	78.1	72.3	85.2	79.7	80.8	82.3	81.7	81.2	76.7	73.8
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	17.1	18.8	17.7	18.9	20.0	19.3	18.2	17.7	16.9	17.4
Under 15 years	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
15 to 19 years	16.6	18.3	17.1	18.5	19.4	18.8	17.8	17.4	16.5	17.0
15 to 17 years	5.5	6.6	6.0	6.7	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.6	5.4	6.2
18 to 19 years	11.1	11.6	11.1	11.8	13.7	12.9	12.1	11.8	11.1	10.8
20 to 24 years	28.5	28.9	30.0	30.0	30.1	30.9	30.4	30.3	30.9	31.0
25 to 29 years	21.5	21.5	21.3	20.6	20.8	20.2	20.8	21.2	21.7	22.2
30 to 34 years	18.1	17.2	17.0	16.4	15.5	15.4	15.8	15.5	15.6	15.3
35 to 39 years	11.1	10.5	10.5	10.7	10.1	10.3	10.9	11.3	10.9	10.1
40 years and over	3.4	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-7
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Ontario

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	46,095	46,918	44,046	42,452	39,981	39,544	38,827	38,138	36,666	35,183
Under 20 years	8,806	8,827	8,276	7,992	7,248	7,384	7,071	6,857	6,222	5,538
Under 15 years	209	190	163	172	106	107	135	118	84	51
15 to 19 years	8,597	8,637	8,113	7,820	7,142	7,277	6,936	6,739	6,138	5,487
15 to 17 years	3,463	3,445	3,281	3,066	2,749	2,728	2,760	2,550	2,204	1,820
18 to 19 years	5,134	5,192	4,832	4,754	4,393	4,549	4,176	4,189	3,934	3,667
20 to 24 years	13,332	13,568	12,878	12,466	12,172	11,623	11,592	11,387	11,105	10,762
25 to 29 years	10,272	10,277	9,698	8,939	8,287	8,254	8,030	7,985	7,789	7,477
30 to 34 years	7,673	7,907	7,134	6,874	6,317	6,275	6,245	6,053	5,769	5,651
35 to 39 years	4,572	4,751	4,577	4,655	4,387	4,413	4,305	4,242	4,122	4,044
40 years and over	1,412	1,575	1,471	1,526	1,570	1,595	1,580	1,614	1,659	1,710
Age unknown	28	13	12	0	0	0	4	0	0	1
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	17.6	17.9	16.7	16.0	15.0	14.7	14.3	13.8	13.2	12.6
Under 20 years	21.2	21.0	19.4	18.3	16.2	16.1	15.1	14.4	12.9	11.4
Under 15 years	3.0	2.7	2.2	2.3	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.1	0.6
15 to 19 years	24.9	24.7	22.8	21.5	19.2	19.0	17.7	16.9	15.3	13.6
15 to 17 years	16.9	16.4	15.3	14.0	12.3	11.8	11.7	10.7	9.3	7.6
18 to 19 years	36.7	37.3	34.4	33.1	29.7	30.0	26.7	26.2	24.1	22.2
20 to 24 years	35.6	36.9	35.2	34.2	33.1	31.1	30.2	28.9	27.4	25.9
25 to 29 years	24.4	24.9	23.7	22.1	20.7	20.7	20.1	19.7	19.1	18.1
30 to 34 years	15.3	16.0	14.8	14.7	13.9	14.1	14.0	13.4	12.8	12.6
35 to 39 years	9.6	9.7	9.2	9.2	8.5	8.5	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2
40 years and over	3.3	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	31.5	33.5	33.1	32.0	30.5	31.0	29.5	29.7	28.0	26.5
Under 20 years	112.7	125.8	135.3	127.7	123.5	137.8	138.7	143.6	131.8	127.5
Under 15 years	354.2	372.5	339.6	441.0	302.9	254.8	519.2	590.0	560.0	242.9
15 to 19 years	110.8	124.0	133.7	125.8	122.4	136.9	136.8	141.7	130.4	127.0
15 to 17 years	127.2	144.6	163.6	145.3	144.2	159.7	186.0	176.0	161.8	139.7
18 to 19 years	102.0	113.3	119.0	115.7	111.8	126.1	116.4	126.7	117.6	121.5
20 to 24 years	57.6	63.6	65.2	62.1	62.5	61.5	62.9	64.2	62.7	60.4
25 to 29 years	22.2	23.7	23.9	22.5	21.1	22.1	20.9	21.4	20.6	19.5
30 to 34 years	15.9	16.9	16.1	15.9	14.8	15.1	14.1	14.0	13.0	12.4
35 to 39 years	25.7	25.3	24.0	23.7	21.7	21.5	20.0	19.9	18.9	18.6
40 years and over	53.8	57.0	49.6	49.0	46.6	43.6	40.5	40.1	38.7	37.5
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	19.1	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.1	18.7	18.2	18.0	17.0	15.7
Under 15 years	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
15 to 19 years	18.7	18.4	18.4	18.4	17.9	18.4	17.9	17.7	16.7	15.6
15 to 17 years	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.2	6.9	6.9	7.1	6.7	6.0	5.2
18 to 19 years	11.1	11.1	11.0	11.2	11.0	11.5	10.8	11.0	10.7	10.4
20 to 24 years	28.9	28.9	29.2	29.4	30.4	29.4	29.9	29.9	30.3	30.6
25 to 29 years	22.3	21.9	22.0	21.1	20.7	20.9	20.7	20.9	21.2	21.3
30 to 34 years	16.6	16.9	16.2	16.2	15.8	15.9	16.1	15.9	15.7	16.1
35 to 39 years	9.9	10.1	10.4	11.0	11.0	11.2	11.1	11.1	11.2	11.5
40 years and over	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.9
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-8
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Manitoba ¹

	1995 ²	1996 ²	1997 ²	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	3,345	3,647	3,626	3,447	3,517	3,366	3,375	3,267	3,670	2,661
Under 20 years	854	992	942	907	937	908	854	836	879	645
Under 15 years	23	30	34	13	14	12	18	15	20	16
15 to 19 years	831	962	908	894	923	896	836	821	859	629
15 to 17 years	317	380	368	361	340	345	311	303	298	226
18 to 19 years	514	582	540	533	583	551	525	518	561	403
20 to 24 years	1,201	1,251	1,234	1,180	1,170	1,199	1,144	1,179	1,322	944
25 to 29 years	612	725	730	655	680	621	671	649	692	530
30 to 34 years	404	394	420	391	401	369	389	350	430	292
35 to 39 years	214	205	225	241	259	210	238	180	254	185
40 years and over	59	78	74	73	70	59	79	73	93	65
Age unknown	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	13.0	14.2	14.2	13.6	13.9	13.4	13.4	13.1	14.7	10.6
Under 20 years	18.5	21.4	20.3	19.4	19.8	19.0	17.7	17.3	18.0	13.0
Under 15 years	3.0	3.9	4.4	1.6	1.7	1.5	2.2	1.9	2.4	1.9
15 to 19 years	21.6	25.0	23.5	23.1	23.5	22.5	20.8	20.3	21.1	15.3
15 to 17 years	13.8	16.4	15.8	15.4	14.3	14.3	12.7	12.4	12.2	9.2
18 to 19 years	33.2	38.0	35.3	34.7	37.6	35.0	33.2	32.5	34.4	24.3
20 to 24 years	31.0	32.5	32.5	31.3	30.8	31.5	29.8	30.4	33.7	23.6
25 to 29 years	15.7	18.8	19.1	17.2	18.0	16.6	18.1	17.5	18.5	13.9
30 to 34 years	8.7	8.8	9.7	9.5	10.2	9.6	10.4	9.4	11.4	7.7
35 to 39 years	4.7	4.5	4.9	5.2	5.6	4.6	5.3	4.2	6.2	4.7
40 years and over	1.4	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.4
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	20.8	23.6	24.7	23.8	24.6	23.9	24.1	23.5	26.3	19.3
Under 20 years	51.6	62.9	66.5	59.7	66.0	67.8	64.2	64.3	71.1	53.0
Under 15 years	82.1	96.8	188.9	48.1	45.2	70.6	200.0	78.9	111.1	84.2
15 to 19 years	51.1	62.2	64.9	59.9	66.5	67.7	63.3	64.1	70.5	52.5
15 to 17 years	48.8	64.5	72.4	65.9	67.7	71.0	66.2	67.8	73.6	53.3
18 to 19 years	52.7	60.8	60.7	56.5	65.7	65.8	61.7	62.1	68.9	52.0
20 to 24 years	32.7	35.1	37.8	36.3	35.5	37.6	36.6	37.9	42.9	31.4
25 to 29 years	12.5	15.6	16.4	14.7	15.7	14.2	15.9	15.9	16.7	12.6
30 to 34 years	9.6	9.8	11.1	11.1	11.5	10.7	11.0	9.7	11.6	8.1
35 to 39 years	14.8	14.5	14.7	15.9	17.0	14.0	15.3	12.0	16.9	12.5
40 years and over	28.8	33.1	34.1	36.5	28.3	25.1	31.1	24.9	33.5	22.5
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ³										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	25.5	27.2	26.0	26.3	26.6	27.0	25.3	25.6	24.0	24.2
Under 15 years	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
15 to 19 years	24.8	26.4	25.0	25.9	26.2	26.6	24.8	25.1	23.4	23.6
15 to 17 years	9.5	10.4	10.1	10.5	9.7	10.2	9.2	9.3	8.1	8.5
18 to 19 years	15.4	16.0	14.9	15.5	16.6	16.4	15.6	15.9	15.3	15.1
20 to 24 years	35.9	34.3	34.0	34.2	33.3	35.6	33.9	36.1	36.0	35.5
25 to 29 years	18.3	19.9	20.1	19.0	19.3	18.4	19.9	19.9	18.9	19.9
30 to 34 years	12.1	10.8	11.6	11.3	11.4	11.0	11.5	10.7	11.7	11.0
35 to 39 years	6.4	5.6	6.2	7.0	7.4	6.2	7.1	5.5	6.9	7.0
40 years and over	1.8	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.4
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. In 2004, information on abortions performed in clinics in Manitoba was not submitted to the therapeutic abortion survey. Therefore, the statistics for hospitals and clinics combined include only hospital abortions.
2. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.
3. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-9
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Saskatchewan

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	1,943	1,926	1,996	2,010	1,898	1,956	1,900	1,811	1,846	1,888
Under 20 years	563	529	564	527	480	466	451	410	391	424
Under 15 years	19	12	6	12	11	13	5	11	10	7
15 to 19 years	544	517	558	515	469	453	446	399	381	417
15 to 17 years	215	163	202	198	175	165	136	138	121	155
18 to 19 years	329	354	356	317	294	288	310	261	260	262
20 to 24 years	660	697	707	749	721	746	731	685	696	689
25 to 29 years	344	311	359	356	363	387	365	378	385	420
30 to 34 years	205	216	199	217	189	193	198	180	221	213
35 to 39 years	105	120	125	126	110	113	116	111	111	95
40 years and over	37	30	34	35	35	51	39	47	42	47
Age unknown	29	23	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	8.6	8.5	8.8	8.9	8.5	8.9	8.8	8.5	8.7	9.0
Under 20 years	12.3	11.4	12.2	11.4	10.3	10.1	9.8	9.0	8.6	9.3
Under 15 years	2.4	1.5	0.7	1.5	1.4	1.7	0.7	1.5	1.3	0.9
15 to 19 years	14.4	13.4	14.6	13.4	12.2	11.8	11.6	10.5	10.1	11.0
15 to 17 years	9.3	7.0	8.7	8.5	7.5	7.0	5.8	6.0	5.3	6.9
18 to 19 years	22.2	23.4	23.8	21.0	19.5	19.4	20.7	17.2	17.0	17.2
20 to 24 years	19.8	20.6	20.7	21.9	20.9	21.7	21.3	20.0	19.9	19.3
25 to 29 years	10.7	9.8	11.4	11.3	11.6	12.6	12.0	12.3	12.7	13.6
30 to 34 years	5.2	5.6	5.4	6.3	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.1	7.5	7.3
35 to 39 years	2.6	3.0	3.1	3.1	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.0
40 years and over	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	14.4	14.5	15.5	15.7	15.1	16.1	15.5	15.4	15.3	15.8
Under 20 years	34.5	34.4	38.6	35.7	33.4	34.2	36.4	35.0	32.7	34.8
Under 15 years	76.0	57.1	19.4	109.1	55.0	52.0	27.8	100.0	100.0	46.7
15 to 19 years	33.9	34.1	39.0	35.2	33.1	33.9	36.5	34.4	32.1	34.7
15 to 17 years	35.7	28.7	38.1	37.6	32.8	32.6	29.7	36.8	30.3	38.0
18 to 19 years	32.8	37.2	39.6	33.8	33.4	34.6	40.6	33.3	33.0	33.0
20 to 24 years	19.4	21.3	21.5	22.6	22.4	24.2	22.9	23.8	23.4	23.1
25 to 29 years	8.3	7.5	9.1	9.1	9.1	10.0	9.4	10.0	10.1	10.9
30 to 34 years	6.4	6.9	6.8	7.9	7.0	7.7	7.4	6.6	7.9	7.9
35 to 39 years	10.7	11.2	11.5	11.8	9.9	10.3	10.9	10.7	10.4	9.3
40 years and over	29.6	20.0	20.9	21.6	20.5	27.0	20.5	27.5	20.3	21.8
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	29.0	27.5	28.3	26.2	25.3	23.8	23.7	22.6	21.2	22.5
Under 15 years	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4
15 to 19 years	28.0	26.8	28.0	25.6	24.7	23.2	23.5	22.0	20.6	22.1
15 to 17 years	11.1	8.5	10.1	9.9	9.2	8.4	7.2	7.6	6.6	8.2
18 to 19 years	16.9	18.4	17.8	15.8	15.5	14.7	16.3	14.4	14.1	13.9
20 to 24 years	34.0	36.2	35.4	37.3	38.0	38.1	38.5	37.8	37.7	36.5
25 to 29 years	17.7	16.1	18.0	17.7	19.1	19.8	19.2	20.9	20.9	22.2
30 to 34 years	10.6	11.2	10.0	10.8	10.0	9.9	10.4	9.9	12.0	11.3
35 to 39 years	5.4	6.2	6.3	6.3	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.0
40 years and over	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.6	2.1	2.6	2.3	2.5
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-10
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Alberta

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	8,928	9,265	10,337	10,355	10,188	10,432	10,603	10,735	10,814	11,098
Under 20 years	2,091	2,139	2,349	2,455	2,264	2,253	2,352	1,995	1,725	1,718
Under 15 years	69	37	46	57	43	33	30	25	12	16
15 to 19 years	2,022	2,102	2,303	2,398	2,221	2,220	2,322	1,970	1,713	1,702
15 to 17 years	818	853	911	954	892	796	786	640	547	522
18 to 19 years	1,204	1,249	1,392	1,444	1,329	1,424	1,536	1,330	1,166	1,180
20 to 24 years	2,781	2,917	3,280	3,268	3,293	3,459	3,488	3,585	3,778	3,814
25 to 29 years	1,799	1,942	2,088	2,109	2,123	2,183	2,141	2,287	2,401	2,581
30 to 34 years	1,280	1,224	1,425	1,324	1,338	1,358	1,392	1,507	1,509	1,540
35 to 39 years	758	801	905	899	873	881	909	949	952	990
40 years and over	214	235	285	300	297	298	321	411	449	452
Age unknown	5	7	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	13.3	13.6	15.0	14.7	14.3	14.5	14.6	14.6	14.7	14.9
Under 20 years	18.5	18.4	19.6	19.7	17.7	17.3	17.8	14.9	12.8	12.7
Under 15 years	3.5	1.8	2.2	2.7	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.1	0.5	0.7
15 to 19 years	21.6	21.9	23.3	23.2	20.9	20.5	21.0	17.5	15.3	15.1
15 to 17 years	14.6	14.7	15.0	15.2	13.9	12.2	11.9	9.6	8.2	7.8
18 to 19 years	32.2	33.1	36.2	35.8	31.6	32.8	34.6	29.4	25.7	25.6
20 to 24 years	29.4	30.4	33.4	32.2	31.6	32.3	31.5	31.3	32.1	31.8
25 to 29 years	17.3	18.7	20.0	19.9	19.8	20.1	19.6	20.4	21.0	22.0
30 to 34 years	10.2	10.0	12.0	11.5	11.9	12.2	12.5	13.3	13.2	13.4
35 to 39 years	6.0	6.2	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.7	7.1	7.6	7.9	8.4
40 years and over	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.4	3.0	3.3	3.3
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	22.9	24.5	28.0	27.3	26.7	28.2	28.2	27.7	26.8	27.2
Under 20 years	68.9	78.2	90.7	92.7	86.2	91.7	100.4	88.9	80.2	81.0
Under 15 years	237.9	119.4	158.6	228.0	187.0	206.3	214.3	138.9	92.3	80.0
15 to 19 years	67.3	77.7	89.9	91.4	85.3	90.9	99.7	88.5	80.1	81.0
15 to 17 years	80.8	92.4	108.7	109.8	105.3	106.8	113.1	103.2	91.8	87.3
18 to 19 years	60.4	70.1	80.8	82.3	75.6	84.0	94.0	82.9	75.6	78.5
20 to 24 years	34.1	38.2	44.1	41.9	41.4	45.7	45.7	45.5	46.6	47.9
25 to 29 years	14.5	16.2	17.7	17.8	18.0	19.1	18.5	19.1	19.2	20.0
30 to 34 years	11.7	11.4	14.1	12.6	12.9	13.4	13.2	13.7	13.1	13.0
35 to 39 years	19.2	19.1	21.3	20.6	18.8	18.9	19.6	20.0	19.1	19.8
40 years and over	43.9	40.3	42.2	44.5	38.3	37.9	39.4	49.5	44.5	45.2
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	23.4	23.1	22.7	23.7	22.2	21.6	22.2	18.6	16.0	15.5
Under 15 years	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
15 to 19 years	22.6	22.7	22.3	23.2	21.8	21.3	21.9	18.4	15.8	15.3
15 to 17 years	9.2	9.2	8.8	9.2	8.8	7.6	7.4	6.0	5.1	4.7
18 to 19 years	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.9	13.0	13.7	14.5	12.4	10.8	10.6
20 to 24 years	31.1	31.5	31.7	31.6	32.3	33.2	32.9	33.4	34.9	34.4
25 to 29 years	20.2	21.0	20.2	20.4	20.8	20.9	20.2	21.3	22.2	23.3
30 to 34 years	14.3	13.2	13.8	12.8	13.1	13.0	13.1	14.0	14.0	13.9
35 to 39 years	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.4	8.6	8.8	8.8	8.9
40 years and over	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.8	4.2	4.1
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-11
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — British Columbia

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	13,848	15,689	15,582	15,482	14,642	14,009	15,908	15,967	15,499	14,145
Under 20 years	2,765	3,046	3,062	3,021	2,954	2,791	2,977	2,850	2,674	2,806
Under 15 years	60	93	68	76	66	50	48	44	44	70
15 to 19 years	2,705	2,953	2,994	2,945	2,888	2,741	2,929	2,806	2,630	2,736
15 to 17 years	1,052	1,181	1,089	828	919	1,096	1,098	683	640	1,025
18 to 19 years	1,653	1,772	1,905	2,117	1,969	1,645	1,831	2,123	1,990	1,711
20 to 24 years	4,122	4,542	4,493	4,581	4,210	4,174	4,646	4,709	4,616	4,266
25 to 29 years	3,174	3,526	3,460	3,363	3,181	2,960	3,350	3,360	3,328	2,859
30 to 34 years	2,085	2,504	2,460	2,379	2,154	2,180	2,513	2,565	2,452	2,095
35 to 39 years	1,260	1,542	1,555	1,629	1,570	1,448	1,695	1,729	1,694	1,436
40 years and over	429	521	550	509	573	456	698	743	725	683
Age unknown	13	8	2	0	0	0	29	11	10	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	15.6	17.2	16.8	16.7	15.8	15.1	17.2	17.2	16.7	15.2
Under 20 years	19.6	20.6	20.2	19.6	18.9	17.6	18.4	17.5	16.5	17.3
Under 15 years	2.5	3.7	2.7	2.9	2.5	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.6
15 to 19 years	23.1	24.1	23.8	23.0	22.2	20.6	21.6	20.5	19.3	20.1
15 to 17 years	14.9	15.9	14.3	10.7	11.7	13.7	13.5	8.5	8.0	12.8
18 to 19 years	35.7	36.6	38.3	41.6	38.1	31.3	33.7	37.7	35.1	30.5
20 to 24 years	33.1	35.5	34.8	35.9	32.7	32.3	35.3	34.7	33.0	29.5
25 to 29 years	22.6	24.4	23.7	23.4	22.6	21.6	25.0	25.3	24.9	21.1
30 to 34 years	12.7	15.2	15.2	15.2	14.1	14.4	16.5	16.9	16.3	14.2
35 to 39 years	7.6	9.0	8.9	9.3	8.9	8.3	9.9	10.4	10.5	9.1
40 years and over	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.0	3.3	2.6	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.8
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	29.6	34.0	35.0	35.9	34.9	34.4	39.2	39.9	38.3	34.9
Under 20 years	105.0	128.5	136.9	143.1	144.8	150.9	166.7	176.3	180.4	197.1
Under 15 years	171.4	404.3	226.7	245.2	300.0	333.3	480.0	314.3	550.0	1,750.0
15 to 19 years	104.1	125.8	135.7	141.6	143.1	149.4	164.9	175.0	178.4	192.7
15 to 17 years	120.4	146.0	149.2	115.2	138.0	200.0	198.6	136.1	153.8	237.8
18 to 19 years	95.8	115.1	129.1	155.5	145.6	127.8	149.7	192.8	188.1	173.0
20 to 24 years	47.0	54.5	58.3	61.1	59.8	63.9	74.8	76.1	75.8	69.8
25 to 29 years	21.7	24.5	25.0	25.6	25.6	24.8	29.0	29.7	29.4	25.8
30 to 34 years	14.6	17.8	18.2	18.2	16.6	17.4	19.3	19.9	18.3	15.9
35 to 39 years	22.3	26.0	25.0	26.1	24.7	22.1	25.3	25.9	24.9	20.2
40 years and over	46.8	51.1	53.2	49.1	51.3	36.0	53.1	53.6	51.5	42.9
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	20.0	19.4	19.7	19.5	20.2	19.9	18.7	17.8	17.3	19.8
Under 15 years	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5
15 to 19 years	19.5	18.8	19.2	19.0	19.7	19.6	18.4	17.6	17.0	19.3
15 to 17 years	7.6	7.5	7.0	5.3	6.3	7.8	6.9	4.3	4.1	7.2
18 to 19 years	11.9	11.3	12.2	13.7	13.4	11.7	11.5	13.3	12.8	12.1
20 to 24 years	29.8	29.0	28.8	29.6	28.8	29.8	29.2	29.5	29.8	30.2
25 to 29 years	22.9	22.5	22.2	21.7	21.7	21.1	21.1	21.0	21.5	20.2
30 to 34 years	15.1	16.0	15.8	15.4	14.7	15.6	15.8	16.1	15.8	14.8
35 to 39 years	9.1	9.8	10.0	10.5	10.7	10.3	10.7	10.8	10.9	10.2
40 years and over	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.9	3.3	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.8
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-12
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Yukon Territory

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	134	172	121	150	111	135	122	125	129	x
Under 20 years	25	30	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	0	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	25	30	33	31	26	32	30	36	34	x
15 to 17 years	10	10	16	11	12	12	10	12	20	x
18 to 19 years	15	20	17	20	14	20	20	24	14	x
20 to 24 years	43	55	32	49	34	39	32	35	52	x
25 to 29 years	28	39	32	29	17	30	25	25	18	x
30 to 34 years	23	28	8	22	18	21	16	12	14	x
35 to 39 years	12	16	12	14	14	8	13	12	9	x
40 years and over	2	4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	16.7	20.8	14.5	18.6	14.1	17.5	16.2	16.8	17.2	x
Under 20 years	22.0	25.1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	0.0	0.0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	27.1	31.0	32.5	29.7	23.8	28.2	25.8	30.5	28.1	x
15 to 17 years	17.7	16.6	24.7	16.5	17.0	16.3	13.6	16.6	28.6	x
18 to 19 years	42.0	54.8	46.3	53.3	36.3	50.3	46.3	52.5	27.3	x
20 to 24 years	41.7	51.9	32.9	53.3	37.2	43.0	36.0	37.4	52.5	x
25 to 29 years	22.9	30.5	24.5	23.6	14.9	28.1	24.8	25.5	18.6	x
30 to 34 years	14.3	17.8	5.3	15.8	13.9	17.1	13.3	10.2	11.9	x
35 to 39 years	7.5	9.7	7.0	8.3	8.5	5.1	8.9	8.8	6.8	x
40 years and over	1.4	2.6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	28.5	38.8	25.5	37.9	29.0	36.5	35.5	36.9	38.5	x
Under 20 years	69.4	93.8	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	0.0	..	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	71.4	93.8	103.1	103.3	83.9	97.0	107.1	144.0	125.9	x
15 to 17 years	62.5	111.1	133.3	110.0	109.1	109.1	142.9	171.4	153.8	x
18 to 19 years	78.9	87.0	85.0	100.0	70.0	90.9	95.2	133.3	100.0	x
20 to 24 years	42.2	57.9	35.6	59.8	50.0	55.7	41.6	51.5	74.3	x
25 to 29 years	21.1	30.7	21.1	26.9	16.5	32.6	30.1	24.8	20.2	x
30 to 34 years	16.7	23.0	6.4	21.8	17.8	21.9	16.3	14.3	14.9	x
35 to 39 years	23.5	29.1	19.0	21.9	21.5	11.1	30.2	25.0	23.7	x
40 years and over	20.0	33.3	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups ²										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	18.7	17.4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	0.0	0.0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	18.7	17.4	27.3	20.7	23.4	23.7	24.6	28.8	26.4	x
15 to 17 years	7.5	5.8	13.2	7.3	10.8	8.9	8.2	9.6	15.5	x
18 to 19 years	11.2	11.6	14.0	13.3	12.6	14.8	16.4	19.2	10.9	x
20 to 24 years	32.1	32.0	26.4	32.7	30.6	28.9	26.2	28.0	40.3	x
25 to 29 years	20.9	22.7	26.4	19.3	15.3	22.2	20.5	20.0	14.0	x
30 to 34 years	17.2	16.3	6.6	14.7	16.2	15.6	13.1	9.6	10.9	x
35 to 39 years	9.0	9.3	9.9	9.3	12.6	5.9	10.7	9.6	7.0	x
40 years and over	1.5	2.3	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-13
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Northwest Territories including Nunavut

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999 ²	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	284	297	317	292	393	..	..	..	..	..
Under 20 years	86	87	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Under 15 years	3	3	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 19 years	83	84	75	67	114	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 17 years	31	37	40	30	51	..	..	..	..	..
18 to 19 years	52	47	35	37	63	..	..	..	..	..
20 to 24 years	103	84	95	95	100	..	..	..	..	..
25 to 29 years	53	74	82	64	80	..	..	..	..	..
30 to 34 years	32	39	42	39	57	..	..	..	..	..
35 to 39 years	5	9	18	21	28	..	..	..	..	..
40 years and over	4	4	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Age unknown	1	0	0	0	0	..	..	..	..	..
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	16.7	17.4	18.7	17.3	23.2	..	..	..	..	..
Under 20 years	26.9	26.8	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Under 15 years	5.6	5.6	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 19 years	31.1	31.0	28.2	25.6	42.5	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 17 years	19.1	22.6	24.8	19.3	31.5	..	..	..	..	..
18 to 19 years	49.5	43.8	33.4	34.9	59.3	..	..	..	..	..
20 to 24 years	37.6	32.0	36.1	37.4	38.4	..	..	..	..	..
25 to 29 years	16.5	23.0	25.6	20.7	27.0	..	..	..	..	..
30 to 34 years	9.9	12.3	13.6	12.8	18.7	..	..	..	..	..
35 to 39 years	2.0	3.3	6.6	7.6	9.9	..	..	..	..	..
40 years and over	1.9	1.9	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	..	..	..	..	..
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	17.6	19.0	21.6	21.7	28.2	..	..	..	..	..
Under 20 years	30.9	31.6	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Under 15 years	75.0	75.0	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 19 years	30.3	31.0	31.0	27.6	45.2	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 17 years	28.2	36.3	35.1	30.0	49.5	..	..	..	..	..
18 to 19 years	31.7	27.8	27.3	25.9	42.3	..	..	..	..	..
20 to 24 years	23.7	19.4	23.0	26.2	26.5	..	..	..	..	..
25 to 29 years	11.7	17.1	20.1	18.9	21.2	..	..	..	..	..
30 to 34 years	9.9	13.4	16.0	14.3	23.6	..	..	..	..	..
35 to 39 years	4.8	8.3	15.3	20.0	25.5	..	..	..	..	..
40 years and over	20.0	17.4	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	..	..	..	..	..
proportion across age groups ³										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	30.3	29.3	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Under 15 years	1.1	1.0	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 19 years	29.2	28.3	23.7	22.9	29.0	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 17 years	10.9	12.5	12.6	10.3	13.0	..	..	..	..	..
18 to 19 years	18.3	15.8	11.0	12.7	16.0	..	..	..	..	..
20 to 24 years	36.3	28.3	30.0	32.5	25.4	..	..	..	..	..
25 to 29 years	18.7	24.9	25.9	21.9	20.4	..	..	..	..	..
30 to 34 years	11.3	13.1	13.2	13.4	14.5	..	..	..	..	..
35 to 39 years	1.8	3.0	5.7	7.2	7.1	..	..	..	..	..
40 years and over	1.4	1.3	x	x	x	..	..	..	..	..
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	..	..	..	..	..

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. For data year 1999, counts and rates for Nunavut and the Northwest Territories have been combined. Although Nunavut became a separate territory as of April 1, 1999, not all sources of information (for example, the Hospital Morbidity Database) used in the calculation of abortion statistics contained enough information to provide complete and separate data for Nunavut for the 1999 calendar year.

3. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-14
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Northwest Territories

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999 ²	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	281	286	245	255	261
Under 20 years	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	57	67	63	56	57
15 to 17 years	24	30	29	24	27
18 to 19 years	33	37	34	32	30
20 to 24 years	104	88	76	83	78
25 to 29 years	66	63	47	52	68
30 to 34 years	32	40	27	42	36
35 to 39 years	16	20	22	9	17
40 years and over	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown	0	0	0	0	1
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	27.1	27.4	23.2	23.7	24.0
Under 20 years	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	39.0	44.0	41.1	33.9	34.1
15 to 17 years	27.3	32.2	30.8	23.6	26.2
18 to 19 years	56.6	62.8	57.4	50.6	46.8
20 to 24 years	69.7	58.1	49.1	52.4	47.1
25 to 29 years	38.9	38.0	27.8	32.0	40.9
30 to 34 years	17.1	21.8	14.8	22.7	19.7
35 to 39 years	8.2	10.4	11.5	4.7	9.1
40 years and over	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	41.8	46.7	38.6	36.4	37.4
Under 20 years	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	69.5	97.1	87.5	81.2	67.9
15 to 17 years	64.9	136.4	131.8	68.6	108.0
18 to 19 years	73.3	78.7	68.0	94.1	50.8
20 to 24 years	65.0	56.8	52.4	47.7	49.1
25 to 29 years	38.2	40.9	25.4	30.8	34.9
30 to 34 years	20.6	28.4	17.0	22.5	21.6
35 to 39 years	18.8	25.6	35.5	11.3	22.4
40 years and over	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown
proportion across age groups ³										
All ages
Under 20 years	x	x	x	x	x
Under 15 years	x	x	x	x	x
15 to 19 years	20.3	23.4	25.7	22.0	21.8
15 to 17 years	8.5	10.5	11.8	9.4	10.3
18 to 19 years	11.7	12.9	13.9	12.5	11.5
20 to 24 years	37.0	30.8	31.0	32.5	29.9
25 to 29 years	23.5	22.0	19.2	20.4	26.1
30 to 34 years	11.4	14.0	11.0	16.5	13.8
35 to 39 years	5.7	7.0	9.0	3.5	6.5
40 years and over	x	x	x	x	x
Age unknown

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. For data year 1999, counts and rates for Nunavut and the Northwest Territories have been combined. Although Nunavut became a separate territory as of April 1, 1999, not all sources of information (for example, the Hospital Morbidity Database) used in the calculation of abortion statistics contained enough information to provide complete and separate data for Nunavut for the 1999 calendar year.

3. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-15
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Nunavut

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999 ²	2000	2001	2002 ³	2003 ³	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	178	148	..	..	x
Under 20 years	x	x	..	..	x
Under 15 years	x	x	..	..	x
15 to 19 years	46	41	..	..	x
15 to 17 years	23	17	..	..	x
18 to 19 years	23	24	..	..	x
20 to 24 years	71	50	..	..	x
25 to 29 years	29	34	..	..	x
30 to 34 years	21	12	..	..	x
35 to 39 years	10	5	..	..	x
40 years and over	x	x	..	..	x
Age unknown	0	0	..	..	x
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	26.9	21.7	..	..	x
Under 20 years	x	x	..	..	x
Under 15 years	x	x	..	..	x
15 to 19 years	37.7	31.8	..	..	x
15 to 17 years	29.7	20.9	..	..	x
18 to 19 years	51.5	50.5	..	..	x
20 to 24 years	61.5	44.8	..	..	x
25 to 29 years	24.6	27.3	..	..	x
30 to 34 years	18.0	10.3	..	..	x
35 to 39 years	10.6	5.1	..	..	x
40 years and over	x	x	..	..	x
Age unknown
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	24.5	20.8	..	..	x
Under 20 years	x	x	..	..	x
Under 15 years	x	x	..	..	x
15 to 19 years	29.9	27.3	..	..	x
15 to 17 years	31.9	24.6	..	..	x
18 to 19 years	28.0	29.6	..	..	x
20 to 24 years	31.8	21.0	..	..	x
25 to 29 years	15.3	21.9	..	..	x
30 to 34 years	19.8	11.8	..	..	x
35 to 39 years	27.0	12.8	..	..	x
40 years and over	x	x	..	..	x
Age unknown
proportion across age groups ⁴										
All ages
Under 20 years	x	x	..	..	x
Under 15 years	x	x	..	..	x
15 to 19 years	25.8	27.7	..	..	x
15 to 17 years	12.9	11.5	..	..	x
18 to 19 years	12.9	16.2	..	..	x
20 to 24 years	39.9	33.8	..	..	x
25 to 29 years	16.3	23.0	..	..	x
30 to 34 years	11.8	8.1	..	..	x
35 to 39 years	5.6	3.4	..	..	x
40 years and over	x	x	..	..	x
Age unknown

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

2. For data year 1999, counts and rates for Nunavut and the Northwest Territories have been combined. Although Nunavut became a separate territory as of April 1, 1999, not all sources of information (for example, the Hospital Morbidity Database) used in the calculation of abortion statistics contained enough information to provide complete and separate data for Nunavut for the 1999 calendar year.

3. For 2002 and 2003, Nunavut residents are excluded due to incomplete reporting.

4. Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Table 3-16
Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient — Unknown province or territory

	1995 ¹	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
number of induced abortions										
All ages	1,898	698	1,291	342	270	258	209	194	186	14
Under 20 years	375	141	254	92	77	55	45	29	44	3
Under 15 years	10	4	6	3	4	0	4	0	0	0
15 to 19 years	365	137	248	89	73	55	41	29	44	3
15 to 17 years	143	53	98	33	27	21	17	9	15	1
18 to 19 years	222	84	150	56	46	34	24	20	29	2
20 to 24 years	565	210	385	94	84	81	59	56	58	5
25 to 29 years	414	146	274	63	43	53	39	36	33	5
30 to 34 years	301	112	203	48	29	32	37	40	18	1
35 to 39 years	182	67	131	33	25	22	18	24	21	0
40 years and over	58	22	44	12	12	15	11	8	9	0
Age unknown	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
rate per 1,000 females of same age group										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 15 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15 to 19 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15 to 17 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
18 to 19 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20 to 24 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
25 to 29 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
30 to 34 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
35 to 39 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40 years and over	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ratio per 100 live births										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 15 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15 to 19 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15 to 17 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
18 to 19 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20 to 24 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
25 to 29 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
30 to 34 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
35 to 39 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40 years and over	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
proportion across age groups										
All ages	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 20 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Under 15 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15 to 19 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15 to 17 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
18 to 19 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20 to 24 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
25 to 29 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
30 to 34 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
35 to 39 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40 years and over	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Age unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

1. For the 1994 to 1997 data years, a large number of abortions were reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey without any information on the age of the female. Age groups have now been estimated for induced abortions at the Canada, provincial and territorial level. As a result of these new estimations, any previously released age group statistics at the Canada level will not match the latest Canada level statistics.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables" section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database (CANSIM table 106-9034).

Definitions

Abortion (induced). The Therapeutic Abortion Survey collects data on legally induced abortions. The survey excludes illegal abortions and spontaneous abortions (that is, miscarriages).

Induced abortion is defined as the medical termination of pregnancy. Equivalent terms include: artificial abortion, therapeutic abortion, voluntary termination of pregnancy, elective termination of pregnancy, and active termination of pregnancy.

The term 'therapeutic' remains in the title of the survey for the sake of historical consistency. From late 1969 (when the survey first began) until 1988, a woman could only obtain an induced abortion if a committee of at least three physicians determined that the pregnancy was a risk to the woman's life or health (including mental health). In January 1988, the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the 1969 abortion law, thus removing the requirement of a health or therapeutic reason to obtain an abortion.

Age. Age (in completed years) of the woman undergoing an abortion procedure, on the date the pregnancy was terminated.

Area of report. Area of report refers to the province or territory in which the abortion was performed. Prior to 2004, reports of abortions performed on Canadian residents in the United States are also included where applicable.

Area of residence. Area of residence refers to the usual province or territory of residence of the woman obtaining the abortion. Statistics on non-residents of Canada who obtained an abortion in Canada are also included where applicable.

Type of facility. The Therapeutic Abortion Survey collects information on abortions performed in two types of facilities: hospitals and clinics.

Measures and rates

Abortion rate. In tables that contain no age group breakdowns, the abortion rate is calculated as the annual number of induced abortions performed per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44.

In tables that contain age group breakdowns, the abortion rate is calculated as the annual number of induced abortions performed per 1,000 women aged 14 to 44.

Age-specific abortion rate. This rate is calculated as the annual number of induced abortions performed on women in a specified age group per 1,000 women of the same age.

Abortions per 100 live births. A ratio indicating the number of abortions performed for every 100 live births.

Therapeutic Abortion Survey

Description

The annual Therapeutic Abortion Survey collects information on demographic and medical characteristics of women obtaining a legally induced abortion in Canada. Some data were also collected on Canadian residents who obtain a legally induced abortion in selected American states prior to 2004.

The purpose of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey is to provide some basic indicators (for example, counts and rates) on induced abortions. Information from this database is also used in the calculation of pregnancy statistics, especially for teen pregnancies.

As of the 1995 data year, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) assumed data collection, compilation and processing responsibilities for the survey. Statistics Canada remains involved in the approval of the final annual file and plays a major role in the dissemination of data from the survey.

The title of the survey retains the word 'therapeutic' for the sake of historical continuity. When the survey began in late 1969, a woman could only obtain an abortion for health reasons. In 1988, with the removal of abortion from the Criminal Code, a reason for obtaining an abortion was no longer required.

At Statistics Canada, the term Therapeutic Abortion Survey is the official title of the program for the collection, compilation and dissemination of induced abortion statistics. When referring to the actual data files, the term Therapeutic Abortion Survey database may be used. At CIHI, both the program and the actual database are referred to as the Therapeutic Abortions Database.

For more detail, see section "Data quality, concepts and methodology — History of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey" in the Documentation section.

Survey population

The conceptual universe includes all induced abortions performed in Canada. The survey collects information on women obtaining an abortion in hospitals and clinics in Canada. Some information was also collected on Canadian residents who obtain an abortion in some American states, especially those along the border from 1998 to 2003.

Instrument design

Data in the Therapeutic Abortion Survey are collected partly from detailed administrative records and partly from a one-page direct survey. This section on instrument design pertains only to the one-page survey.

The Canadian Institute for Health Information sends a one-page survey to private clinics in Canada who supply aggregate counts only. The survey form requests the following information:

1. Clinic information such as name, address and telephone number. (This information is not included in the database.)
2. Total number of induced abortions performed
3. Total number of induced abortions to Canadian residents
4. Total number of induced abortions to Canadian residents by province of residence
5. Authorization to publish data

From 1998 to 2003, CIHI also sent a form to the departments of health of selected American states requesting the counts of induced abortions performed on Canadian residents in their jurisdictions. These counts are aggregated by age group but do not specify the province or territory of residence, or whether the abortion was done in a clinic or in a hospital.

Sampling

This survey is a census with a cross-sectional design.

Data sources

Responding to this survey is voluntary. Data are collected directly from survey respondents and extracted from administrative files.

Statistics Canada was responsible for data collection from late 1969, when the survey began, until the end of the 1994 data year. As of the 1995 data year, the Canadian Institute for Health Information assumed this responsibility.

There are several data sources and formats used in the creation of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey database. CIHI obtains data from provincial/territorial departments of health, or directly from hospitals and clinics. Depending upon the source, the format can also vary from a single sheet of paper with aggregate counts to detailed electronic records submitted through CIHI's Discharge Abstract Database (DAD).

Listed below are the data elements that are collected or derived for inclusion in the Therapeutic Abortion Survey database maintained at Statistics Canada. The following information, however, is not available for all induced abortions reported to the survey. Some respondents supply only aggregate counts. Records are generated for these counts and included in the database, but most of the data element fields remain blank.

Data Elements Collected:

- Province of report
- Month of report
- Survey year
- Province of residence of the patient
- Age or Age Group
- Marital status (see note at end of list)
- First day and month of last normal menses, or reported number of weeks of gestation
- Date fetus removed
- Days of inpatient care
- Number of previous deliveries
- Number of previous spontaneous abortions
- Number of previous induced abortions
- Initial surgical procedure
- Subsequent surgical procedure

- Type of sterilization
- Complication (up to 3 complications can be reported)

Note on Marital Status: As of data year 2001, information on marital status is significantly reduced. The Discharge Abstract Database, the major source for hospital abortion data, no longer collects marital status as of fiscal 2001/2002. As well, detailed records from Quebec no longer contain this information. In 2003, only 3% of total records (hospital and clinic abortions) contain a known marital status. In 2004, only Manitoba hospitals submitted marital status for January to March of 2004. As of April 2004, all Manitoba data were downloaded from the Discharge Abstract Database.

Derived Data Elements:

- Type of report (that is, data source)
- Hospital / Clinic flag (indicates type of facility performing the abortion)
- Age Group
- Generated record flag (indicates if the record was generated)
- Gestation period expressed in days
- Gestation period expressed in weeks completed
- Gestation period expressed in weeks rounded up
- Gestation period expressed in ranges of weeks (for example, 9-12 weeks)
- Indication of residence (indicates if province of report = province of residence)

Error detection

The Canadian Institute for Health Information submits records to an edit process that checks for internal consistencies, compatibilities and completeness of each data item reported. There are 29 edits and 39 cross-edits. The edit system is reviewed and updated periodically. Invalid codes are reformatted to default values.

Imputation

Generated records

As of data year 1995, records are generated in the database for abortion cases that were reported only as aggregate counts. For example, in data year 2004, records were generated for 57,795 abortions (or 57% of the database). Some data elements on these generated records are assigned values of 'unknown' or 'not available', while other data elements fields are left blank.

Area of residence

British Columbia clinics reported either Canadian or non-Canadian residency, or did not report a place of residence at all. All counts that indicated Canadian residency or where no residency was reported were imputed to residents of British Columbia. As of 2004, hospital data for British Columbia is now downloaded through the Discharge Abstract Database which provides residency information.

Age group

In data year 2004, age group was the only other data element for which a value other than unknown or unspecified was imputed. Age (in single years) is usually reported for hospital abortions, but an age or age group is often not available for many abortions performed in clinics.

Some data suppliers who provide counts rather than detailed records supply these counts aggregated by age group. Using this information, age groups are imputed on the records generated for these counts.

Other data sources (that is, most private clinics) provide only counts. In such cases, the provincial age group distribution observed for abortions performed in hospitals in the province is used to impute age groups on records generated for clinic counts. In the case of Prince Edward Island residents who obtained an abortion in another province, the Canadian age distribution for hospital abortions is used to impute age groups.

Estimation

Teen age subgroups (15 to 17 and 18 to 19)

Induced abortion data are required in the compilation of pregnancy statistics, especially for teenage pregnancies. Traditionally, teen pregnancy statistics provide information by the subgroups 15 to 17 and 18 to 19. These subgroups are not available or imputed on the Therapeutic Abortion Survey database. Therefore, these subgroups must be estimated when calculating pregnancy counts and rates. For abortion cases where age in single years is not provided, the estimation of the subgroups is based upon the provincial age distribution observed for those cases that did have a reported age in single years.

Quality evaluation

Upon receipt of an annual file and supporting documentation from the Canadian Institute for Health Information, Statistics Canada carries out a series of quality checks that include: 1) carefully reviewing the record layout and data processing reports, 2) producing basic tabulations to ensure that STC and CIHI obtain the same results, 3) checking for internal consistencies, for example, running frequencies on certain data elements, and 4) comparing the most recent data year with past data years to detect any unusual or unexpected changes. After Statistics Canada approves the final file, a public release is announced in *The Daily*.

CIHI and STC communicate continually throughout the year on matters concerning the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.

The document 'Data quality documentation: Executive Summary – Data Limitations Therapeutic Abortions Database 2003' is available on the CIHI website (www.cihi.ca).

Disclosure control

Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any data which would divulge information obtained under the Statistics Act that relates to any identifiable person, business or organization without the prior knowledge or the consent in writing of that person, business or organization. Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data that are released or published to prevent the publication or disclosure of any information deemed confidential. If necessary, data are suppressed to prevent direct or residual disclosure of identifiable data.

The Therapeutic Abortion Survey database maintained at Statistics Canada does not contain personal identifiable information such as patient name, date of birth, health number, or facility names or numbers. Geographic information on the location of residence of the patient and the location where the abortion was performed is available at the provincial and national levels only.

Before releasing annual data to the public, Statistics Canada requests authorization from those provinces and territories that supplied data for three or fewer hospitals or three or fewer clinics. Private clinics sign an 'Authorization to Publish Data' at the same time as they submit their counts directly to the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

In regard to client requests for cross-classified data, Statistics Canada does not supply any tables that could identify a person or facility. As a guideline, a cell with a count of under 5 is suppressed, and in order to avoid residual disclosure, other cells are also chosen for suppression.

At CIHI, data disclosure is determined by their Privacy Principles and Policies in conjunction with the provincial/territorial ministries of health. A Privacy Impact Assessment of the Therapeutic Abortions Database is available on CIHI's website (www.cihi.ca).

Revisions and seasonal adjustments

Induced Abortions – footnotes

Caution should be taken when comparing data for 1999 and later with data from earlier years. As of 1999, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care no longer maintain a system for the collection of detailed information on abortions performed in clinics in Ontario. Ontario now uses the billing system of the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) to provide counts of clinic abortions to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. As a result, information is no longer available for clinic abortions performed on non residents of Ontario or on Ontario residents who do not submit a claim to OHIP. A comparison of the data collected using both sources for the years 1995 to 1998 shows that the new data source underestimated clinic abortions performed on Ontario residents by an average of 5.4% (950 cases) per year, or approximately 1% of all abortions performed in Canada. The new source does not include abortions performed on non-residents that averaged 70 cases per year or .4% of total clinic abortions performed in Ontario.

Similarly, data submitted by the Quebec Ministry of Health includes data on Quebec residents only. As such, it is possible that the number of abortions reported is lower than the actual number of abortions performed.

Data accuracy

Coverage

For data years 1970 to 1987, the coverage of the survey was considered to be 100% of all induced abortions performed in Canada.

In January 1988, the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the 1969 abortion law which had contained a clause requiring the collection of data on all induced abortions performed in Canada. With the absence of any legal requirement for reporting, some respondents began to submit only counts of abortions rather than detailed records on each abortion. CIHI has estimated that as of the 2000 data year the Therapeutic Abortion Survey database represents approximately 90% of all abortions performed in Canada on Canadian residents (Canadian Institute for Health Information. Privacy impact assessment of the Therapeutic Abortion Database. June 2003. Page 4.)

At the national level, the percentage of abortions performed on non-residents of Canada that are included in the database is not known. The percentage of abortions performed in the United States on Canadian residents that are represented in the database is also not known.

There is a possibility of some over-coverage in the Therapeutic Abortions Database. It is not possible to track a patient once they have been discharged. As such, if a patient is released but later requires another procedure as a result of complications, for example an incomplete abortion, it is possible that she would be counted twice in the database. This issue is particularly relevant with the growing popularity of medical abortions in Canada, which have a higher rate of incomplete abortions than do surgical abortions. If a woman seeks treatment in a clinic and then requires further intervention elsewhere, that case will be counted twice in the database.

Response rates

There are no known instances of complete non-response. That is, the survey obtains at least some response from identified respondents. The type of response, however, ranges from the provision of aggregate counts of abortions performed to detailed records for each abortion case. This range in type of response is the major limitation of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. In data year 2004, complete detailed records were available for only 43% of all reported abortions.

For more details, see section 'Data quality, concepts and methodology — Data Quality in the Therapeutic Abortion Survey' in the Documentation section.

History of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey

Prior to 1969

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics¹ (now known as Statistics Canada) collected figures relating to abortions from several sources including death records, hospital records and court records.

For example, *The Daily* from Friday, May 8, 1970 published abortion statistics compiled from various data sources covering approximately the years 1963 to 1968:

- Deaths due to abortions (specified as induced or spontaneous/not specified) were obtained from the Vital Statistics Database.
- Hospital cases in which abortion was the primary diagnosis were obtained from the Hospital Morbidity Database. However, it was impossible to subdivide the abortions by type (that is, induced or spontaneous).
- Convictions for 'abortion and attempt' were provided by the Canadian courts.

1969 to 1971: Creation of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey

Before 1969 a woman could obtain a legal abortion only if continuation of her pregnancy threatened her life. This situation changed as of August 26, 1969 when a new abortion law allowed a woman to obtain an induced abortion if a committee of at least three physicians determined that the pregnancy was a risk to the woman's life *or* health (including mental health). The law also stipulated that such therapeutic abortions could only be performed in hospitals.

Hospital Abortions

In order to monitor the impact of the new legislation, the federal departments of Justice and Health and Welfare requested the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to collect, compile, and publish data on the number of abortions being performed in hospitals in Canada.

In August 1969, the Bureau established a 'Monthly Summary Count Reporting System' to which all provinces /territories were required to report within 15 days of the end of the month. The uniform reporting form requested three counts:

- abortions performed on residents of the reporting province/territory
- abortions performed on residents from other provinces/territories, and
- abortions performed on non-residents of Canada

Annual reports based on these counts were published within four to six months after the end of the reference year. The first full year of data was published on November 20, 1970.

Clinic Abortions

No clinics were operating during this time period. The Criminal Code allowed abortions to be performed only in hospitals.

1. *The Dominion Bureau of Statistics became known as Statistics Canada in 1971.*

Canadians Obtaining Abortions in the United States

Starting in 1971, health departments in several American states, especially those along the Canada-US border, began submitting counts of abortions performed on Canadian women in selected American states. In 1971, the total count was 6,309 but by 2000 the count had dropped to 215. These counts should be regarded as a minimum estimate because not all American states submit reports, some private clinics may not report to state health departments, or the residence of the patient may not be reported.

1972 to July 1986: Introduction of a Standard Core Data Set

This period in the survey's history was marked by the expansion of data collection from aggregate counts to the collection of a core data set for individual abortion cases. Furthermore, as of 1974, all reporting provinces and territories used a standardized reporting form.

Hospitals

In early 1971, data users began to ask for demographic and medical information on women obtaining abortions. As a result, a committee with representatives from the federal departments of Health and Welfare, Statistics Canada, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the Canadian Medical Association developed an individual case report form to collect a core data set.

The individual case report form collected information on the following items:

- province of residence
- marital status
- age/date of birth
- previous deliveries
- previous abortions
- date of last menses / gestation period
- abortion procedure
- sterilization
- complications
- days of hospitalization

The form was implemented in the provinces and territories over a period of time. The Yukon and six provinces (Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) began using the form in January 1972. By 1974, all provinces and territories were using the same individual case report forms. These forms were still required to be submitted on a monthly basis, and by within three weeks of the end of the reference month. Some hospitals reported directly to Statistics Canada while others reported through provincial/territorial ministries. Questionable items were sent back to respondents and reconciled quickly.

As of 1983, Prince Edward Island no longer reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.

Annual publications based on the collected data were produced within 12 to 16 months of the end of the reference year.

Clinics

Starting in 1978, the province of Quebec began to submit counts of clinic abortions performed in government operated clinics. No demographic or medical information was reported for these cases.

August 1986 to 1987: Budget cuts affect the survey

Reductions of resources at Statistics Canada lead to greater participation of the provinces in data collection. Data submissions were now done annually instead of monthly and print submissions were rapidly being replaced by electronic submissions. Timeliness and data quality issues emerged.

Hospitals

Due to budget cuts, the Therapeutic Abortion Survey program at Statistics Canada was cancelled in August 1986, and data collection was suspended for the following 15 months. Due to pressure from various sectors, however, the program was revived in November 1987 but with a much smaller budget.

The reduction in resources had a significant effect on the method and format of data collection. Direct links with hospitals were broken and data supplied by provinces were submitted on an annual basis rather than a monthly basis. The result was a growing problem with timeliness and data quality since direct monthly follow-up with the respondents ended.

As of 1986, all reporting provinces and territories submitted hospital abortion data in machine-readable format instead of on printed forms.

Clinics

During this period, Quebec was still the only province reporting clinic abortions. Only aggregate counts by age group were available for these clinic abortions.

1988 to 1994: Emergence of clinics and loss of core data

In January 1988, the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the 1969 abortion law. The removal of abortion from the Criminal Code had two significant effects upon the Therapeutic Abortion Survey:

- The 1969 law had mandated the collection and publication of abortion statistics, but now with the absence of any legislation, the reporting system began to break down.
- Private clinics began to emerge in several provinces because there was no longer a law requiring abortions to be performed in hospitals only. (In Quebec, however, government operated clinics had been reporting to the survey since 1978).

Some hospital and provincial ministry respondents interpreted the absence of an abortion law as the basis for no longer having to report to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. The law had contained a provision enabling provincial ministries of health to obtain abortion data from hospitals. At the federal level, however, Statistics Canada surveys (including the Therapeutic Abortion Survey) are mandatory unless otherwise specified, but Statistics Canada chose to treat the Therapeutic Abortion Survey as 'voluntary' and encouraged respondents to continue to supply data for health-related purposes.

For the sake of continuity, the title of the survey continued to include the word 'therapeutic' even though a health related justification no longer had to be provided in order to obtain an abortion.

Hospitals

In 1994, Nova Scotia began to submit hospital abortions to the Canadian Institute for Health Information through the Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) rather than through the individual case report forms submitted by other provinces. This led to some inconsistencies in reporting (e.g., no marital status was reported on the DAD, and procedures coded in ICD-9-CM had to be mapped to the procedure codes used in the survey.)

Starting in 1988 and continuing for many years, Quebec produced its own individual case reporting form in order to collect additional information on contraception, fertility and family welfare. Some hospitals used the new form, some used the old form, and others refused to fill in any form at all. As a result, counts (with no detail) were obtained annually from *la Régie de l'Assurance maladie du Québec* along with counts of abortions performed in Quebec clinics. In 1999, no demographic or medical details were available for 7,180 abortions or 41% of hospital abortions performed in Quebec. Estimations for counts and rates by age group were done using the detailed records.

In 1990, some hospitals in British Columbia stopped supplying individual case reports, and furnished only aggregate counts. As of 1992, the British Columbia ministry of health began to provide only aggregate counts of hospital and clinic abortions by five-year age groups and initial procedure. No residency information was provided.

Clinics

By the end of 1994, abortion clinics were operating in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan. No clinics operated in the Yukon or the Northwest Territories.

Clinics in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia reported directly to Statistics Canada. Clinics in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec reported through their respective ministries of health. The British Columbia ministry of health supplied aggregate counts of clinic abortions that, in part, duplicated the counts submitted directly by the clinics.

The total number of clinic abortions reported to the survey increased from 7,059 in 1989 to 41,919 in 2000.

In 1992 and 1993 respectively, Ontario and Alberta began supplying electronic individual case reports containing demographic and medical data on clinic abortions. Clinic abortions performed in Ontario and Alberta accounted for 55% of all clinic abortions in 1998.

With the emergence of clinic abortions, the annual publications began to categorize hospital and clinic abortions separately.

1995 to Present : Changes to Data Collection

Beginning with the 1995 data year, responsibility for data collection was transferred to the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). Statistics Canada remained responsible for public dissemination of the data from the survey.

Starting in 1999, several changes in data collection methods and coverage impacted the survey.

Hospitals

Starting in 1999 most provinces and all the territories began to submit hospital abortion data through the Discharge Abstract Database (DAD). As noted earlier, Nova Scotia began to use the DAD for this purpose as of 1994.

Nunavut started to report data to CIHI as of 1999, the year this territory was created.

Alberta and Manitoba use their own systems to submit data to CIHI. Since 2002, however, Alberta has used the DAD for any abortions performed on an inpatient basis. Starting in April 2004, Manitoba uses the DAD to submit data to CIHI. Until 2004, British Columbia submitted aggregate counts by age group, facility and procedure. In 2004, British Columbia also began to submit data using the DAD. From 1999 until 2003 Quebec submitted all data elements for 14 hospitals, while the remaining hospital abortions were submitted as counts aggregated by facility (and by age group). In 2004, all data submitted from Quebec hospitals and clinics are from the Ministry of Health and are submitted as aggregate counts. In 2003 Ontario abortion data was downloaded from the National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS) for the first time.

In 2004, 53% of all reported induced abortions in Canada were performed in hospitals.

As of data year 2001, information on marital status is significantly reduced. The Discharge Abstract Database, the major source for hospital abortion data, no longer collects marital status as of fiscal 2001/2002. As well, detailed records from Quebec no longer contain this information. Additionally, in 2004, only Manitoba hospitals submitted

marital status for January to March 2004. In April 2004, all Manitoba data were downloaded from the DAD, which does not capture marital status.

Clinics

Starting in 1995, electronic records began to be generated for clinic counts. Before 1995, counts of clinic abortions (except from Alberta and Ontario who supplied detailed electronic records) had to be manually added to totals extracted from the master electronic file.

As of 2000, abortion clinics operate in eight of ten provinces, the exceptions being Prince Edward Island, and Saskatchewan. No clinics operate in the Yukon, the Northwest Territories or Nunavut. As of 2004, there were no clinics operating in Nova Scotia.

As of 1999, Ontario began to report only aggregate counts of abortions performed in clinics on insured Ontario residents. No data are now collected on Ontario residents who choose not to make a claim to OHIP and residents from another province/country who obtain an abortion in a clinic in Ontario. Similarly, data submitted by the Quebec Ministry of Health include data on Quebec residents only.

In 2004, 47% of all reported induced abortions in Canada were performed in clinics.

United States Reports

As of 2004, CIHI no longer receives reports of Canadian women obtaining abortions in the United States.

Change in classifications used for reporting abortions

Over a period of years starting in 2001, new classification systems for the reporting of diagnoses and procedures are being introduced in the provinces. The new classification for diagnoses is the *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision, Canada (ICD-10)*, and the new classification for procedures is the *Canadian Classification of Interventions (CCI)*. These classifications, used mainly in hospital settings, are improving the capture of abortion data. For example, the identification of medical abortions (e.g., using antacid treatment and antimetabolite) is now possible when this type of detail is reported.

Data Quality in the Therapeutic Abortion Survey

Background

The Therapeutic Abortion Survey was originally designed to measure all legally induced abortions performed in Canada (and to the extent possible, abortions performed in the US on Canadian residents prior to 2004). Statistics Canada was responsible for the survey up to the 1994 data year. As of the 1995 data year, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) assumed data collection, compilation and processing responsibilities. Statistics Canada remains involved in the approval of the final annual file and plays a major role in the dissemination of data from the survey.

Data sources

There are several data sources and formats used in the creation of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey database. CIHI obtains data from provincial/territorial departments of health, or directly from hospitals and clinics.

Depending upon the source, the format can also vary from a single sheet of paper with aggregate counts to detailed electronic records submitted through the Discharge Abstract Database (DAD).

The reconciliation of various data sources and formats has the potential to affect accuracy. For example, 1) lack of standardization increases the potential for variations in definitions and concepts, such as the calculation of gestation period; 2) an increased risk of data entry errors when processing paper reports; 3) loss of detail when mapping values used in one collection system to that used in the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. A continuous high level of data quality surveillance is necessary.

As of the 1999 data year, the DAD is being used as the data source for hospital abortions for those provinces that submit to the DAD. This move has resulted in increased standardization and quality control.

From Newfoundland and Labrador, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements. Data for clinic induced abortions are aggregate counts submitted by the clinics on paper forms.

Prince Edward Island has not reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey since 1983.

From Nova Scotia, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements. As of 2004, there are no longer any abortion clinics operating in Nova Scotia.

From New Brunswick, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements. Data for clinic induced abortions are aggregate counts submitted by the clinics on paper forms.

From Quebec, aggregate counts of hospital and clinic induced abortions are submitted electronically by the Ministry of Health.

From Ontario, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements. Data for clinic induced abortions are aggregate counts submitted electronically by the Ministry of Health.

From Manitoba, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by the Ministry of Health and hospitals and contain all data elements. In 2004 information on abortions performed in clinics in Manitoba was not submitted to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.

From Saskatchewan, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements.

From Alberta, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically and contain all data elements. Data for clinic induced abortions are submitted electronically by the Ministry of Health and contain all data elements.

From British Columbia, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements. Aggregate counts of clinic induced abortions are submitted on paper forms by the clinics.

From the Yukon Territory, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements.

From the Northwest Territories, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements.

From Nunavut, data for hospital induced abortions are submitted electronically by hospitals and contain all data elements.

Coverage

CIHI estimates that the Therapeutic Abortion Survey database represents approximately 90% of all abortions performed in Canada involving Canadian residents.¹ Coverage improved even more in the 2001 data year due to the submission of counts from a facility in British Columbia that had previously not participated in the survey. Although 90% of abortions are accounted for in the database, many of these abortions are reported only as aggregate counts. See the next section on Unit and Item Response.

At the national level, the percentage of abortions performed on non-residents of Canada that are included in the database is not known. The percentage of abortions performed in the United States on Canadian residents that are represented in the survey's database is also not known.

Limitations to Coverage

1. Medical (pharmaceutical) abortions: With the recent introduction of medical abortions, it is becoming increasingly difficult to ensure the collection of data on all induced abortions. For example, it is not known if medical abortions are being initiated in physician offices, in addition to the traditional locations of hospitals and clinics. The Therapeutic Abortion Survey currently collects information on abortions performed in hospitals and clinics. Furthermore, it is not possible to track a patient once they have been discharged. As such, if a patient is released but later requires another procedure as a result of complications, for example an incomplete abortion, it is possible that she would be counted twice in the database. This issue is particularly relevant with the growing popularity of medical abortions in Canada, which have a higher rate of incomplete abortions than do surgical abortions. If a woman seeks treatment in a clinic and then requires further intervention elsewhere, that case will be counted twice in the database.

1. Canadian Institute for Health Information. *Privacy impact assessment of the Therapeutic Abortions Database*. June 2003. Page 4.

2. **Non-residents:** For Quebec, prior to 2004, all aggregate counts of abortions received from the Quebec ministry of health were assumed to be for insured residents of that province. Detailed records were received for some hospital abortions and in such cases the residency was indicated. However, as of 2004, only aggregate counts for both hospital and clinic abortions are submitted by the Quebec ministry of health and all counts are assumed to pertain only to insured residents of Quebec. For Ontario, as of the 1999 data year, clinic abortion statistics include insured residents of Ontario only. As well, there is a question of whether the counts of insured abortions have a cap. [See next section on Unit and Item non-response for more details on the current situation in Ontario.] In 2001, private clinics in British Columbia stopped reporting the residency of patients, thus eliminating information on non-residents receiving a clinic abortion in that province. In 2002 and 2003, however, British Columbia also provided broad residency information: Canadian or International. All counts indicated as Canadian were assigned a residence of British Columbia; the international counts were assigned to the non-resident of Canada category. As of 2004, hospital information for British Columbia was downloaded through the DAD which provides residency information. British Columbia clinics reported either Canadian or non-Canadian residency, or did not report a place of residence at all. All counts that indicated Canadian residency or where no residency was reported were imputed to residents of British Columbia.
3. **Survey frame:** Frame validation and maintenance of the survey is a complex procedure because many data sources are involved. CIHI maintains and validates as much as possible the list of facilities it receives from its data sources (e.g., DAD, ministries of health). Detecting facility non-response is a continuing major challenge due to the many changes made to facility numbers resulting from mergers and closures. Facility-specific frames are not available for data sources that submit counts.
4. **United States reports:** On average, CIHI received reports from 13 American states, mainly those situated along the Canada-US border. For example, for data year 2003, CIHI received reports from Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, New York state, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Vermont and Washington state. No reports are received from states such as Massachusetts, Connecticut, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Florida and California. As of 2004, CIHI no longer obtains reports on Canadian women obtaining abortions in the United States.
5. **Prince Edward Island** has not reported to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey since 1983, mainly because non-emergency abortions are not allowed in Prince Edward Island. Cases of the occasional emergency abortion are not reported.
6. **Survey not treated as mandatory:** Coverage of abortions performed in Canada was considered to be 100% prior to 1988. In January 1988, the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the 1969 abortion law, and some hospital and provincial ministry respondents interpreted this action as the basis for no longer having to report to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. The law had included a provision enabling provincial ministries of health to obtain abortion data from hospitals. At the federal level, however, Statistics Canada surveys (including the Therapeutic Abortion Survey) are mandatory unless otherwise specified, but Statistics Canada chose to treat the Therapeutic Abortion Survey as 'voluntary' but encouraged respondents to continue to supply data for health-related purposes.
7. **Nunavut** reported data for only the first three months of 2002 and the last nine months of 2003. As a result, statistics for those years exclude Nunavut.
8. In 2004, information on abortions performed in clinics in Manitoba was not submitted to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.

Unit and Item Non-response

In addition to complete non-response, another type of non-response is the provision of aggregate counts of abortions rather than detailed records. The submission of aggregate counts is the major limitation of the Therapeutic Abortion Survey.

Text table 1
Induced abortions, by type of facility

Reference year and type of facility	Number of abortions	Percentage with detailed records
1998		
Hospital	68,290	69
Clinic	42,230	48
Total	110,520	61
1999		
Hospital	63,832	71
Clinic	42,030	11
Total	105,862	47
2000		
Hospital	63,535	72
Clinic	42,134	11
Total	105,669	48
2001		
Hospital	61,259	71
Clinic	45,239	12
Total	106,498	46
2002		
Hospital	58,536	72
Clinic	46,999	16
Total	105,535	47
2003		
Hospital	56,089	72
Clinic	47,530	13
Total	103,619	45
2004		
Hospital	53,758	69
Clinic	47,005	13
Total	100,763	43

The number of submissions of aggregate counts instead of individual records is increasing. In reference year 1998, only 61% of total reported abortions had individual records. In 1999 this percentage fell to 47%, largely due to the absence of detailed records for abortions performed in clinics in Ontario. In 2004, 43% of abortions were reported with detailed records.

The Therapeutic Abortion Survey identifies the type of facility in which the abortion was performed (i.e., hospital or clinic). The table shown above indicates that the increased submission of aggregate counts is mainly a problem with clinic abortions. This is definitely a concern, especially since the proportion of clinic abortions to total abortions is rising. In 1996, abortions performed in clinics represented 33% of total abortions and rose to 47% in 2004.

All hospital abortions, with one exception, are reported in individual record format. In 2004, none of the hospital abortions performed in Quebec was reported with detailed records.

On the clinic side, as of 1999, Alberta became the only province that submits detailed records. Previously, Ontario had been the only other province that submitted detailed records for clinic abortions. In 1999, Ontario began to report only aggregate counts of clinic abortions based on the provincial billing information. Prior to 1999, Ontario's data collection methodology provided complete demographic and medical information on women obtaining abortions in clinics in that province. A comparison of data obtained from the old and new sources for the years 1995 to 1998 revealed undercoverage of about 5.5% per year. The undercoverage was mainly attributed to uninsured services, which are excluded from the counts. The new data source is based on claims made by the physicians, which does not include cases where the patient has paid out-of-pocket for the services. It also excludes cases of residents from other provinces obtaining abortions in Ontario.

Item Non-Response

The analytical data elements found on the detailed record are:

- Province of report
- Facility information (clinic or hospital)
- Province of residence
- Age in single years
- First day of last menses or gestation in weeks
- Date of abortion
- Inpatient days of care
- Number of previous deliveries
- Number of spontaneous abortions
- Number of induced abortions
- Initial procedure
- Subsequent procedure
- Type of sterilization
- Complications

As illustrated in the previous table, detailed records were submitted for only 43% of abortions performed in 2004. Detailed records have virtually 100% response at the item level.

In cases where only counts are submitted instead of detailed records, the counts are aggregated by age group and/or surgical procedure. For example, Ontario counts of clinic abortions are aggregated by age-group, and both hospital and clinic abortions performed in Quebec are aggregated by age-group.

Impact of item non-response**a) Area of residence**

Until 2004, only aggregate counts were supplied for abortions performed in British Columbia. The two sources of data from that province were the ministry of health and private clinics. The ministry of health supplied counts aggregated by age group and initial procedure. Records were generated from these counts, and a residence of British Columbia was assigned to all records. [In 2002 and 2003, however, British Columbia also provided broad residency information: Canadian or International. All counts indicated as Canadian were assigned a residence of British Columbia; the international counts were assigned to the non-resident of Canada category.] Prior to data year 2001, the private clinics reported the number of non British Columbia residents. In 2001, however, the clinics no longer supply residency information, thus all records were assigned a residence of British Columbia. In 2002 and 2003, however, British Columbia also provided broad residency information: Canadian or International. All counts indicated as Canadian were assigned a residence of British Columbia; the international counts were assigned to the non-resident of Canada category. As of 2004, hospital information for British Columbia was downloaded through the DAD which provides residency information. British Columbia clinics reported either Canadian or non-Canadian residency, or did not report a place of residence at all. All counts that indicated Canadian residency or where no residency was reported were imputed to residents of British Columbia.

b) Age group imputation

Age group is the only other data element for which a value other than unknown or unspecified is imputed. This information is required for input into the calculation of pregnancy statistics, especially teen pregnancy.

- Aggregate counts by age group are supplied by the ministry of health in Quebec for hospital and clinic abortions. As of 1999 the ministry of health in Ontario supplies aggregate counts by age group for clinic abortions. In British Columbia, aggregate counts were supplied by age group from 1999 to 2003. For clinic counts where no age group breakdown is provided, an age group is imputed using the known age group distribution observed in hospital abortions. Counts from clinics that do not supply age group constitute approximately 9% of total abortions performed in Canada in 2004.
- Age in single years (which is available only on detailed records) is important in the calculation of teenage pregnancy. Respondents who submit aggregate counts by age group provide counts for only one teen group: 15-19. However, teenage pregnancy statistics are presented in the subgroups 15-17 and 18-19 years of age because the experiences of the 15-17 age-group are known to be different from the 18-19 age-group. Therefore, estimations are done to subdivide the 15-19 year old age group that is reported or imputed in the Therapeutic Abortion Survey database. Estimations are done using the same methodology used to impute age groups in the database; that is, the known age distribution (in single years) for hospital abortions is applied to those abortions that were reported as counts.
- For Prince Edward Island residents obtaining an abortion in another province/territory that reports only counts by residency, the national age distribution is used.
- Counts of abortions performed in the United States on Canadian women are submitted by age group. In 2003, there were 149 reports received from the US. As of 2004, CIHI no longer receives reports on Canadian women obtaining abortions in the United States.

c) Diminishing Core Data Set

Although the survey's database contains some demographic and medical information, it is increasingly difficult to respond to requests since only 43% of total abortions contain detailed information. Requests for information on, for example, the percentage of reported complications by age group of mother, or gestation period of the fetus can only be fulfilled by using detailed records. Therefore, clients are always informed that such statistics are based only on detailed records. This is more of a problem when looking specifically at clinic abortions.

The current challenge is to provide at least a minimal data set at the national level. Beyond this goal, there are many client requests that the survey cannot meet. For example, the survey does not collect data elements such as education or income level of mother, reason for the abortion, and any complications arising after discharge.

Identifying and correcting errors

Detailed records submitted to the survey undergo an edit process. The edit system checks for internal consistencies, compatibilities and completeness of each data item reported. There are 29 edits and 39 cross-edits. The edit system is reviewed and updated periodically. In calendar 2004, the number errors detected at the initial edit process was 1,830 (4.3%) out of 42,968 detailed records. These errors consist of 'hard' errors in which the reported values are invalid and 'soft' errors in which the reported values should be confirmed.

Until 2004, error reports were generated for the facilities that supplied detailed records. These reports were sent to the applicable ministries of health. If corrections were provided, revisions to the data were made. In the absence of any further clarification, invalid codes were changed to a default value 'Unknown'. In calendar 2003, there were 361 records (0.8% of total detailed records) that contained invalid data defaulted to 'Unknown'.

For 2004, the error reports were not sent to the Ministries and /or facilities. Instead, the erroneous data was reformatted to pre-determined default values.

Upon receipt of a clean file and supporting documentation from CIHI, Statistics Canada carries out a series of quality checks that include: 1) reviewing the record layout and data processing reports, 2) producing basic tabulations to ensure that STC and CIHI results are the same, 3) checking for internal consistencies, e.g. running frequencies on certain data elements, and 4) comparing the most recent data year with past data years to detect any unusual or unexpected changes. After Statistics Canada approves the final file, a public release is announced in *The Daily*.

Other Accuracy Issues

1. Internal provincial discrepancies have been detected in cases where there are two data sources for the same abortion event. Prior to 2004, in British Columbia and Quebec, some clinic abortions were reported by the respective ministry of health and by the clinic that performed the abortion. CIHI reconciled these numbers, and if a discrepancy was found, the higher number was used. As of 2004, this is not a problem: hospital abortions for British Columbia are downloaded from the DAD and clinics submit their counts directly to CIHI; and for Quebec, the ministry of health is the single source of aggregate counts for all abortions.
2. The gestational age is about a week later when the gestation age is calculated from date of last menses than when gestational age is reported as the number of weeks of gestation. The problem is with the rounding method used in calculating weeks rounded from the date of last menses. This problem is significant, as gestation period appears to be gradually shifting down as more records (especially those obtained from the download from DAD) have clinical gestation reported rather than date of last menses.)

Explanatory notes for the tables

Table 1 Induced abortions, by area of report and type of facility performing the abortion

Sources: Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey. Data users should be aware of certain limitations to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. There are recognized issues concerning coverage, increased submission of aggregate counts instead of detailed records and an increased reliance on age estimation. Further information on methods and data quality is available in the "Definitions, data sources and methods" section on the Statistics Canada website, under the survey number 3209.

The number of induced abortions is provided by the province or territory in which the abortion was performed. Counts include abortions performed in Canadian hospitals and clinics on Canadian residents and non-residents of Canada. Where indicated, the counts also include abortions performed in the United States on Canadian residents, for data years prior to 2004.

From 1971 to 2003, health departments in several American states, especially those along the Canada and United States border supplied information about abortions obtained by Canadian residents. These counts, however, should be regarded as a minimum estimate because not all American states submitted reports, some private clinics may not report to the state health department or the residence of the patient was not reported. The reports did not specify if the abortion took place in a hospital or clinic. As of 2004, this information is no longer collected.

Abortions performed in clinics were first reported by Quebec in 1978. In other provinces such clinics came into operation soon after January 1988, when the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the 1969 amended abortion law.

Caution should be taken when comparing 1999 and later data years with data from 1998 and earlier. As of 1999, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care no longer maintains a system for the collection of detailed information on abortions performed in clinics in Ontario. Ontario now uses the billing system of the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) to provide counts of clinic abortions to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. As a result, information is no longer available for clinic abortions performed on non-residents of Ontario or on Ontario residents who do not submit a claim to OHIP. A comparison of the data collected using both sources for the years 1995 to 1998 shows that the new data source underestimated the clinic abortions performed on Ontario residents by an average of 5.4% (950 cases) per year, or approximately 1% of all abortions performed in Canada. The new source does not include non-resident cases which averaged 70 cases per year or .4% of total clinic abortions performed in Ontario.

For the 2003 data year, a facility in British Columbia did not report to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. Counts were estimated for this facility based on the number of abortions reported by this facility in previous years.

Nunavut came into being officially as a Territory of Canada on April 1, 1999. Reports of abortions for 1999, however, are based on the full calendar year (January to December). In previous years, the totals for the Northwest Territories included residents of what became Nunavut.

Table 2 Induced abortions, by type of facility and area of residence of patient

Sources: Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Database and Demography Division (population estimates); Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Survey. Data users should be aware of certain limitations to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. There are recognized issues concerning coverage, increased submission of aggregate counts instead of detailed records and an increased reliance on age estimation. Further information on methods and data quality is available in the "Definitions, data sources and methods" section on the Statistics Canada website, under the survey number 3209.

Induced abortions by the usual area of residence of the person obtaining the abortion. Counts include abortions performed on Canadian residents in hospitals and clinics in Canada. Where indicated, the counts also include abortions performed on non-residents of Canada obtaining an abortion in Canada and abortions performed in the United States on Canadian residents, for data years prior to 2004. Rates and ratios exclude non-residents of Canada.

From 1971 to 2003, health departments in several American states, especially those along the Canada and United States border supplied information about abortions obtained by Canadian residents. These counts, however, should be regarded as a minimum estimate because not all American states submitted reports, some private clinics may not report to the state health department or the residence of the patient was not reported. The reports did not specify if the abortion took place in a hospital or clinic. As of 2004, this information is no longer collected.

Abortions performed in clinics were first reported by Quebec in 1978. In other provinces such clinics came into operation soon after January 1988, when the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the 1969 amended abortion law.

Caution should be taken when comparing 1999 and later data years with data from 1998 and earlier. As of 1999, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care no longer maintains a system for the collection of detailed information on abortions performed in clinics in Ontario. Ontario now uses the billing system of the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) to provide counts of clinic abortions to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. As a result, information is no longer available for clinic abortions performed on non-residents of Ontario or on Ontario residents who do not submit a claim to OHIP. A comparison of the data collected using both sources for the years 1995 to 1998 shows that the new data source underestimated the clinic abortions performed on Ontario residents by an average of 5.4% (950 cases) per year, or approximately 1% of all abortions performed in Canada. The new source does not include non-resident cases which averaged 70 cases per year or 0.4% of total clinic abortions performed in Ontario.

For the 2003 data year, a facility in British Columbia did not report to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. Counts were estimated for this facility based on the number of abortions reported by this facility in previous years.

Nunavut came into being officially as a Territory of Canada on April 1, 1999. Reports of abortions for 1999, however, are based on the full calendar year (January to December). In previous years, the totals for the Northwest Territories included residents of what became Nunavut.

Table 3 Selected induced abortions statistics, by age group and area of residence of patient

Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Therapeutic Abortion Database. Data users should be aware of certain limitations to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. There are recognized issues concerning coverage, increased submission of aggregate counts instead of detailed records and an increased reliance on age estimation. Further information on methods and data quality is available in the "Definitions, data sources and methods" section on the Statistics Canada website, under the survey number 3209.

Induced abortion counts are taken from the Therapeutic Abortion Survey that collects information on abortions performed in hospitals and clinics in Canada, as well as on abortions performed on Canadian residents in selected American states, for data years prior to 2004. Abortions performed on non-residents of Canada are excluded.

The "All ages" group is the total number of induced abortions performed on Canadian residents. Rates for the "All ages" group is based on the population of females aged 14 to 44. For the number of abortions per 100 live births to females in the "All ages" group, the denominator is the total number of births reported for all ages.

Rates for the "Under 20 years" age group are based on the female population aged 14 to 19 years.

Rates for the "Under 15 years" age group are based on the female population aged 14.

Rates for the "40 years and over" age group are based on the female population aged 40 to 44.

For the "All ages" category, the "Proportion of induced abortions across age groups" is not calculated. For the "Age unknown" category, only the "Number of induced abortions" is provided.

When data years 1995, 1996 and 1997 were originally released, age estimations were not calculated for the counts of clinic abortions where the area of residence was unknown and the age was unknown. Age estimations have now been calculated for these counts, using the known national age distribution for hospital abortions.

The population estimates used to calculate the rates for data years 1974 to present were taken from CANSIM table 051-0001: Estimates of population, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces and territories, annual.

Percentage distribution of induced abortions across age groups, excluding abortions with no reported age.

Caution should be taken when comparing 1999 and later data years with data from 1998 and earlier. As of 1999, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care no longer maintains a system for the collection of detailed information on abortions performed in clinics in Ontario. Ontario now uses the billing system of the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) to provide counts of clinic abortions to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. As a result, information is no longer available for clinic abortions performed on non-residents of Ontario or on Ontario residents who do not submit a claim to OHIP. A comparison of the data collected using both sources for the years 1995 to 1998 shows that the new data source underestimated the clinic abortions performed on Ontario residents by an average of 5.4% (950 cases) per year, or approximately 1% of all abortions performed in Canada. The new source does not include non-resident cases which averaged 70 cases per year or 0.4% of total clinic abortions performed in Ontario.

For the 1998 data year, Ontario reported 2,795 clinic abortions with no age group information. The known proportion of Ontario residents who obtained an abortion in hospital was used to estimate the age group of these clinic counts. British Columbia also reported 725 clinic counts with no age group information. The known proportion of British Columbia residents who obtained an abortion in hospital was used to estimate the age group of these clinic counts.

For the 2003 data year, a facility in British Columbia did not report to the Therapeutic Abortion Survey. Counts were estimated for this facility based on the number of abortions reported by this facility in previous years.