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2013 Induced Terminations of Pregnancy for Texas Residents

The Texas Abortion Facility Reporting and Licensing Act, Health and Safety Code, Chapter 245, mandates that each abortion facility in the state must submit an annual report to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) on each abortion that is performed at the facility. Neither patient nor physician performing the abortion may be identified in this report. These reports are confidential and are not considered open records.

Data provided to DSHS as part of this Act include:
1) patient's year of birth, race, marital status, and state and county of residence;
2) type of abortion procedure;
3) date the abortion was performed;
4) period of gestation at the time of the procedure;
5) date of the patient's last menstrual cycle;
6) number of previous live births;
7) number of previous induced abortions;
8) whether the patient survived the procedure and, if not, the cause of death.

From 2013, additional data are reported as determined by the Texas Administrative Code, Rules §139.4 and §139.5(3):
9) whether the patient viewed the printed material provided under Health and Safety Code, Chapter 171;
10) whether the sonogram image, verbal explanation of the image, and the audio of the heart sounds were made available to the patient;
11) whether the patient completed the "Abortion and Sonogram" election form;
12) method used to dispose of fetal tissue and remains;
13) if patient is younger than 18, was consent obtained;
14) the method of pregnancy verification;
15) the type of anesthesia, if any, used in the procedure: intravenous sedation or general anesthesia;
16) complications of abortion.

The report is submitted on a form provided by the Department. The Department has been involved in the collection of these data since 1986 and has been publishing abortion statistics in the Texas Vital Statistics Annual Report since 1990.
Number of Induced Abortions

In 2013, a total of 63,849 induced abortions were reported to DSHS. This number includes all induced abortions performed in Texas plus those obtained in other states by Texas residents. Texas residents obtained 61,912 (97.0 percent) of the total abortions reported. There were 4,449 fewer induced terminations of pregnancy (abortions) reported to DSHS in 2013 than in 2012. The total number of induced abortions reported to DSHS in 2013 decreased by 6.5 percent (there were 68,298 in 2012).

Induced Abortion Rate, Abortion Ratio, & Percent of Pregnancies Resulting in Induced Abortions

The abortion rate, abortion ratio, and the percent of pregnancies resulting in induced abortion have each decreased in 2013. The abortion rate, the total number of induced abortions among Texas residents of all ages per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years, was 11.2 in 2013 compared to 12.1 in 2012. The abortion ratio, the total number of induced abortions among Texas residents per 1,000 live births, was 159.9 in 2013, down from 172.8 in 2012. In 2013, 13.7 percent of all reported pregnancies among Texas residents resulted in induced abortions compared to 14.7 percent in 2012. Reported pregnancies equals the sum of reported live births, fetal deaths and induced abortions.
Map of Induced Abortion Rates by County of Residence – Texas, 2009-2013

Table 1: INDUCED ABORTION RATES
(# of Women of All Ages, per 1,000 Women Aged 15-44)
2009-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.8 – 4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 – 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 – 7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.8 – 9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.0 – 86.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Map of Induced Abortion Ratios by County of Residence – Texas, 2009-2013

Table 2: INDUCED ABORTION RATIOS (per 1000 live births) 
2009-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratio Range</th>
<th>Map Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.0 – 54.8</td>
<td>Light Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54.9 – 85.5</td>
<td>Medium Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85.6 – 107.4</td>
<td>Dark Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107.5 – 144.1</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>144.2 – 1321.0</td>
<td>Dark Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Age, Race/Ethnicity & Marital Status

Of Texas resident women with a reported age who obtained an abortion in 2013, 58.9 percent were 20-29 years, 8.3 percent were 16-19 years, and only 0.6 percent were teens 15 years of age or younger. The mean age of Texas residents who obtained abortions in 2013 was 27.1 years, and the age at which the greatest number of abortions were performed was 23 years.

Among Texas residents with reported race information, 27.4 percent of abortions were obtained by white women, 25.4 percent by black women, 38.9 percent by Hispanic women, and 8.3 percent by women of other racial/ethnic groups. In comparison, the 2013 Texas female population 15 to 44 years of age was 37.8 percent white, 12.5 percent black, 42.9 percent Hispanic, and 6.8 percent other racial/ethnic groups.

Approximately 17.3 percent of Texas resident abortions were obtained by married women. Black women obtaining abortions were the least likely to be married. Hispanic women were more likely to be married than white women, and Asian women were the most likely to be married of all racial/ethnic groups.

Gestation, Facility & Procedure

Of those for whom information was available, nearly three-fourths (73.3 percent) of all abortions among Texas residents occurred at 8 or fewer weeks gestation, and 85.4 percent were performed at 10 weeks gestation or earlier. Only 1.5 percent of Texas resident abortions were performed at 17 weeks gestation or later, and 0.5 percent were performed at 21 or more weeks gestation. The majority, 75.6 percent of Texas resident abortions, were performed in abortion facilities. The remainder were performed in ambulatory surgical centers, hospitals, physicians' offices, and out-of-state facilities. Suction Curettage was the most common abortion procedure (66.8 percent of Texas resident abortions) followed by medical-non surgical (26.2 percent), and dilation and evacuation (6.8 percent).

Previous Pregnancies

In 2013, 56.4 percent of Texas residents who obtained abortions underwent their first abortion, 26.9 percent had one prior abortion, 10.7 percent had two prior abortions and 6.0 percent had three or more previous abortions.

Among Texas residents, 36.0 percent abortions occurred among women who had not had any previous live births, 26.3 percent had one previous live
birth, 21.4 percent had two previous live births, and 16.3 percent had three or more previous live births.

Notes

Percentages reported in this narration do not include unknowns in the denominator. See 2013 Selected Characteristics of Induced Terminations of Pregnancy (Updated Data) for counts on data reported as "Not Stated."