

State of Alaska

Induced Abortion Statistics 2005

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Alaska Induced Abortion 2005 Statistics

**Frank H. Murkowski
Governor
State of Alaska**

**Karleen Jackson
Commissioner
Department of Health and Social Services**

**Dr. Richard Mandsager
Director
Division of Public Health**

**Phillip Mitchell, MS
Section Chief
Bureau of Vital Statistics**

Prepared by the Research Unit of the Bureau of Vital Statistics



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INTRODUCTION

Alaska Induced Abortion Statistics, 2005, published by the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, contains information about induced abortions that occurred in Alaska during calendar year 2005.

Why is abortion reporting important? Induced abortion data can be used to:

- Monitor trends in the number, rate, and ratio of induced abortions.
- Assess changes in the types of procedures used to end a pregnancy and the gestational age (in weeks) when abortions are performed.
- Calculate pregnancy rates.
- Identify the characteristics of women who are at risk for unintended pregnancy.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of family planning programs and programs to prevent unintended pregnancy.

Unintended pregnancy refers to pregnancies that are unwanted or when the mother wanted to be pregnant at a later date. In Alaska, 45.4 percent of all pregnancies that resulted in a live birth were unintended during 2003¹. In the U.S., it is estimated that 49 percent of pregnancies are unintended with about half of these pregnancies ended by an abortion². Thus reducing the number of unintended pregnancies would likely reduce the number of abortions.

Alaska has followed the recent national trend in declining birth rates. From 1995 to 2004, the fertility rate in Alaska has declined 1.4 percent, while the teen birth rate declined 26.3 percent. However, birth rates are based only on the number of live births and may change as a result of the rate at which women become pregnant, the rate at which women choose to end their pregnancy in an abortion, or a combination of both. Abortion reporting can provide a better understanding of which factors are driving the birth rate in Alaska.

¹ Alaska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), Dept. of HSS, DPH, 2003 data.

² Henshaw SK, Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, *Family Planning Perspectives*, 1998, 30(1):24–29 & 46.

Reporting Issues

The information in this report is based on induced abortion reports received by the Bureau of Vital Statistics as of February 9th, 2006. A copy of the form used to report induced termination of pregnancies is located in Appendix B. Definitions of the terms used in this report are located in Appendix A. In this report, the terms abortion and induced termination of pregnancy are used synonymously with induced abortion.

In Alaska, reports of induced terminations of pregnancy are mandated by AS 18.50.245. Hospitals, clinics, or other institutions where an induced termination of pregnancy is performed are required to submit a report to the Bureau. The report cannot contain the name of the patient, but must contain information similar to the United States Standard Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy, as published by the National Center for Health Statistics. Reports of abortion are strictly confidential and must be destroyed after preparing the annual report.

Alaska Statutes also require that any reports produced from induced termination of pregnancy forms may only be presented in aggregate form so that specific individuals may not be identified. Furthermore, the report may not identify or provide information that can be used to identify the name of the physician who performed the induced abortion, the name of the facility where the abortion occurred, or the name of the municipality or community in which the abortion occurred. Because of the reporting guidelines outlined in state statutes, induced abortion statistics by borough or census area are not available for publication.

This report only contains information on induced terminations of pregnancies that occurred in Alaska. In the past several years over 200 Alaska women on average obtained abortions out of state. For example, 242 Alaska women obtained abortions in Washington State during 2004³. It is unknown how many Alaska women obtained abortions in states other than Washington. Since the out of state occurrence data is incomplete, it is not included in this report.

Pregnancy rates are based on the total number of live births, induced abortions, and fetal deaths per 1,000 women of childbearing age. Currently, population estimates are not available for 2005, so pregnancy rates cannot be calculated. Additionally, birth data for 2005 is preliminary, since data for Alaska residents who gave birth out of state is incomplete. The induced abortion information for 2005, however, is final. Information on pregnancy rates, abortion rates, and abortion ratios is posted on the Bureau's web site; www.vitalrecords.alaska.gov.

In 2005, Alaska law and regulations were amended to change the reporting requirements for induced terminations of pregnancy and to add a section relating to informed consent when conducting abortions. The changes to state law requires the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) to maintain a web site containing information on fetal development, abortion, pregnancy, and family planning. The web site also has resources associated with pregnancy-related social and health services in Alaska. The informed consent web site is located at www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/wcfh/informedconsent/default.htm. Second, the Bureau of Vital Statistics is required to anonymously monitor the use of the informational web site. The regulations took effect midnight August 21, 2005.

³Center for Health Statistics, Washington State Department of Health. Washington State Pregnancy and Induced Abortion Statistics report. 2004.

Because of the changes to state law, the Bureau had to amend the form used to report induced terminations of pregnancy. Before the regulations took effect providers used the report form shown in Appendix B. After the regulations took effect providers used the report form shown in Appendix C.

It is too early to draw any conclusions about the use of the informed consent web site, since statistics are only available for the last third of the year. However, preliminary information suggests that most women (over 80 percent) who undergo an abortion are not requesting a copy of the information contained in the informed consent web site.

Executive Summary

- A total of 1,956 induced abortions were reported in Alaska in 2005, with Alaska women accounting for over 99 percent of the induced abortions that occurred in Alaska. This is an increase of 1.0 percent from the 1,937 abortions reported in 2004.
- In Alaska, 65.5 percent of women who obtained an abortion in 2005 reported they had no previous abortions. One of every ten women reported that they had two or more previous abortions.
- Most (54.4 percent) of the women who obtained abortions in 2005 were less than 25 years of age. In the most recent year for which national data are available (year 2002), 50.5 percent of women who obtained an abortion were less than 25 years of age⁴.
- Women age 15 to 17 accounted for 6.5 percent of all induced abortions in Alaska during 2005, a decrease from 7.4 percent in 2004. Nationally in 2002, 6.0 percent of women who obtained an abortion were age 15 to 17 years.
- Teens (age 15 to 19 years) received 19.1 percent of the abortions in 2005. In 2002, 16.8 percent of women in the U.S. who obtained an abortion were teenagers.
- In Alaska, 82.0 percent (excluding unknown responses) of women who obtained an abortion in 2005 were unmarried. In the U.S., the most recent information shows 81.9 percent of women who obtained an abortion were unmarried.
- In 2005, 57.7 percent of women who obtained an induced abortion in Alaska reported they had one or more previous live births. Nationally, 60.0 percent of U.S. women who received an abortion in 2002 reported they had one or more previous live births.
- More than nine of every 10 (94.9 percent) of induced abortions in Alaska were performed at 12 weeks or less gestational age. In 2002, 88.5 percent of abortions performed in the U.S. involved pregnancies of 12 weeks or less gestational age.
- Suction curettage was the most commonly performed procedure in Alaska at 75.4 percent and Mifepristone (RU-486) was second at 22.7 percent. Suction curettage was used in 90.0 percent of abortions performed in the U.S. during 2002.
- Unmarried, white women age 20 to 29 accounted for more than one-fourth (26.8 percent) of all abortions received in Alaska during 2005.
- Over one third (40.6 percent) of all women who obtained abortions in Alaska during 2005 reported that they used their own financial resources as the source of payment. Nearly as many (39.4 percent) reported that Medicaid was the source of payment.
- In 2005, nine abortion reports in Alaska indicated that the pregnancy was terminated due to the detection of a congenital anomaly.

⁴Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Surveillance Summaries, November 25, 2005. MMWR 2005:54(No. SS-7).

Summary of Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions in Alaska: 2003-2005

TABLE 1

	2005		2004		2003	
	Abortions	Percent	Abortions	Percent	Abortions	Percent
Residence						
Alaska	1,943	99.3	1,934	99.8	1,794	99.3
Other State	8	0.4	3	0.2	8	0.4
Not Stated	5	0.3	0	0.0	4	0.2
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0
Age						
Under 15	12	0.6	10	0.5	12	0.7
15-19	374	19.1	417	21.5	373	20.7
15-17	128	6.5	144	7.4	154	8.5
18-19	246	12.6	273	14.1	219	12.1
20-24	679	34.7	677	35.0	600	33.2
25-29	421	21.5	389	20.1	364	20.2
30-34	242	12.4	236	12.2	232	12.8
35-39	146	7.5	139	7.2	152	8.4
40-44	70	3.6	62	3.2	66	3.7
45 and over	7	0.4	6	0.3	1	0.1
Not Stated	5	0.3	1	0.1	6	0.3
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0
Race						
Asian/PI	108	5.5	145	7.5	126	7.0
Black	131	6.7	146	7.5	115	6.4
Alaska Native	437	22.3	400	20.7	320	17.7
White	1,162	59.4	1,170	60.4	1,042	57.7
Other/Not Stated	118	6.0	76	3.9	203	11.2
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0
Marital Status						
Married	339	17.3	326	16.8	373	20.7
Unmarried	1,547	79.1	1,599	82.6	1,336	74.0
Unknown/Not Stated	70	3.6	12	0.6	97	5.4
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0
Education						
Less than 12 years	282	14.4	271	14.0	197	10.9
12 years	826	42.2	873	45.1	628	34.8
13 or more years	684	35.0	574	29.6	439	24.3
Other/Not Stated	164	8.4	219	11.3	542	30.0
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0
Previous Live Births						
0	814	41.6	856	44.2	739	40.9
1	490	25.1	477	24.6	499	27.6
2	348	17.8	330	17.0	309	17.1
3	169	8.6	166	8.6	128	7.1
4	73	3.7	56	2.9	71	3.9
5 or more	48	2.5	44	2.3	48	2.7
Not stated	14	0.7	8	0.4	12	0.7
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0
Previous Abortions						
0	1,281	65.5	1,223	63.1	1,111	61.5
1	431	22.0	442	22.8	409	22.6
2	126	6.4	187	9.7	170	9.4
3	50	2.6	41	2.1	57	3.2
4	23	1.2	20	1.0	23	1.3
Over 4	9	0.5	11	0.6	15	0.8
Not Stated	36	1.8	13	0.7	21	1.2
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0
Weeks of Gestation¹						
1-4	23	1.2	42	2.2	25	1.4
5-8	1,101	56.3	1,081	55.8	991	54.9
9-12	733	37.5	723	37.3	687	38.0
13-16	76	3.9	72	3.7	64	3.5
17-20	5	0.3	11	0.6	11	0.6
21-24	1	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.1
Not Stated	17	0.9	7	0.4	27	1.5
Total	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0	1,806	100.0

¹Gestation based on the physician's estimate

Table 2 Number of Induced Abortions by Race and Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	108	0	11	13	31	23	12	11	5	2	0
Black	131	0	11	24	43	22	19	7	4	1	0
Alaska Native	437	4	29	47	170	98	48	26	14	1	0
White	1,162	7	72	151	390	253	148	94	41	3	3
Other/Not Stated	118	1	5	11	45	25	15	8	6	0	2
Total	1,956	12	128	246	679	421	242	146	70	7	5

Table 3 Induced Abortions by Age and Percentage by Race: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	100.0	0.0	10.2	12.0	28.7	21.3	11.1	10.2	4.6	1.9	0.0
Black	100.0	0.0	8.4	18.3	32.8	16.8	14.5	5.3	3.1	0.8	0.0
Alaska Native	100.0	0.9	6.6	10.8	38.9	22.4	11.0	6.0	3.2	0.2	0.0
White	100.0	0.6	6.2	13.0	33.6	21.8	12.7	8.1	3.5	0.3	0.3
Other/Not Stated	100.0	0.8	4.2	9.3	38.1	21.2	12.7	6.8	5.1	0.0	1.7
Total	100.0	0.6	6.5	12.6	34.7	21.5	12.4	7.5	3.6	0.4	0.3

Table 4 Induced Abortions by Race and Percentage by Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	5.5	0.0	8.6	5.3	4.6	5.5	5.0	7.5	7.1	28.6	0.0
Black	6.7	0.0	8.6	9.8	6.3	5.2	7.9	4.8	5.7	14.3	0.0
Alaska Native	22.3	33.3	22.7	19.1	25.0	23.3	19.8	17.8	20.0	14.3	0.0
White	59.4	58.3	56.3	61.4	57.4	60.1	61.2	64.4	58.6	42.9	60.0
Other/Not Stated	6.0	8.3	3.9	4.5	6.6	5.9	6.2	5.5	8.6	0.0	40.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5 Number of Induced Abortions by Marital Status and Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	339	0	2	10	80	92	76	48	28	3	0
Unmarried	1,547	12	119	225	573	322	157	94	38	4	3
Unknown/Not Stated	70	0	7	11	26	7	9	4	4	0	2
Total	1,956	12	128	246	679	421	242	146	70	7	5

Table 6 Induced Abortions by Age and Percentage by Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	100.0	0.0	0.6	3.0	23.6	27.1	22.4	14.2	8.3	0.9	0.0
Unmarried	100.0	0.8	7.7	14.5	37.0	20.8	10.1	6.1	2.5	0.3	0.2
Unknown/Not Stated	100.0	0.0	10.0	15.7	37.1	10.0	12.9	5.7	5.7	0.0	2.9
Total	100.0	0.6	6.5	12.6	34.7	21.5	12.4	7.5	3.6	0.4	0.3

Table 7 Induced Abortions by Marital Status and Percentage by Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	17.3	0.0	1.6	4.1	11.8	21.9	31.4	32.9	40.0	42.9	0.0
Unmarried	79.1	100.0	93.0	91.5	84.4	76.5	64.9	64.4	54.3	57.1	60.0
Unknown/Not Stated	3.6	0.0	5.5	4.5	3.8	1.7	3.7	2.7	5.7	0.0	40.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 8 Number of Induced Abortions by Type of Procedure and Weeks of Gestation: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	15	0	5	0	4	5	1	0
Methotrexate	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	444	13	419	7	1	0	0	4
Sharp Curettage	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Suction Curettage	1,474	9	663	721	71	0	0	10
Other/Not Stated	21	1	13	4	0	0	0	3
Total	1,956	23	1101	733	76	5	1	17

Table 9 Induced Abortions by Type of Procedure and Percentage by Weeks of Gestation: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.0	5.3	100.0	100.0	0.0
Methotrexate	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	22.7	56.5	38.1	1.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	23.5
Sharp Curettage	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suction Curettage	75.4	39.1	60.2	98.4	93.4	0.0	0.0	58.8
Other/Not Stated	1.1	4.3	1.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 10 Induced Abortions by Weeks of Gestation and Percentage by Type of Procedure: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	100.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	26.7	33.3	6.7	0.0
Methotrexate	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	100.0	2.9	94.4	1.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.9
Sharp Curettage	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suction Curettage	100.0	0.6	45.0	48.9	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.7
Other/Not Stated	100.0	4.8	61.9	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3
Total	100.0	1.2	56.3	37.5	3.9	0.3	0.1	0.9

Table 11 Number of Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	795	3	38	89	264	169	110	75	45	2	0
Insurance	41	1	3	3	14	3	7	3	7	0	0
Medicaid	771	6	57	104	300	180	77	37	7	1	2
Multiple Payment Sources	25	0	2	3	7	7	4	2	0	0	0
Other/Not Stated	324	2	28	47	94	62	44	29	11	4	3
Total	1,956	12	128	246	679	421	242	146	70	7	5

Table 12 Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Percentage by Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	40.6	25.0	29.7	36.2	38.9	40.1	45.5	51.4	64.3	28.6	0.0
Insurance	2.1	8.3	2.3	1.2	2.1	0.7	2.9	2.1	10.0	0.0	0.0
Medicaid	39.4	50.0	44.5	42.3	44.2	42.8	31.8	25.3	10.0	14.3	40.0
Multiple Payment Sources	1.3	0.0	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.7	1.7	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Not Stated	16.6	16.7	21.9	19.1	13.8	14.7	18.2	19.9	15.7	57.1	60.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 13 Induced Abortions by Age and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	100.0	0.4	4.8	11.2	33.2	21.3	13.8	9.4	5.7	0.3	0.0
Insurance	100.0	2.4	7.3	7.3	34.1	7.3	17.1	7.3	17.1	0.0	0.0
Medicaid	100.0	0.8	7.4	13.5	38.9	23.3	10.0	4.8	0.9	0.1	0.3
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	0.0	8.0	12.0	28.0	28.0	16.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	0.6	8.6	14.5	29.0	19.1	13.6	9.0	3.4	1.2	0.9
Total	100.0	0.6	6.5	12.6	34.7	21.5	12.4	7.5	3.6	0.4	0.3

Table 14 Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Race: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	795	125	56	57	510	47
Insurance	41	9	1	4	26	1
Medicaid	771	248	37	44	388	54
Multiple Payment Sources	25	4	1	2	16	2
Other/Not Stated	324	51	13	24	222	14
Total	1,956	437	108	131	1162	118

Table 15 Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Percentage by Race: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	40.6	28.6	51.9	43.5	43.9	39.8
Insurance	2.1	2.1	0.9	3.1	2.2	0.8
Medicaid	39.4	56.8	34.3	33.6	33.4	45.8
Multiple Payment Sources	1.3	0.9	0.9	1.5	1.4	1.7
Other/Not Stated	16.6	11.7	12.0	18.3	19.1	11.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 16 Induced Abortions by Race and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2005

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	100.0	15.7	7.0	7.2	64.2	5.9
Insurance	100.0	22.0	2.4	9.8	63.4	2.4
Medicaid	100.0	32.2	4.8	5.7	50.3	7.0
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	16.0	4.0	8.0	64.0	8.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	15.7	4.0	7.4	68.5	4.3
Total	100.0	22.3	5.5	6.7	59.4	6.0

Table 17 **Number of Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2005**

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	795	181	600	14
Insurance	41	10	28	3
Medicaid	771	78	658	35
Multiple Payment Sources	25	3	20	2
Other/Not Stated	324	67	241	16
Total	1,956	339	1,547	70

Table 18 **Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Percentage by Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2005**

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	40.6	53.4	38.8	20.0
Insurance	2.1	3.0	1.8	4.3
Medicaid	39.4	23.0	42.5	50.0
Multiple Payment Sources	1.3	0.9	1.3	2.9
Other/Not Stated	16.6	19.8	15.6	22.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 19 **Induced Abortions by Marital Status and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2005**

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	100.0	22.8	75.5	1.8
Insurance	100.0	24.4	68.3	7.3
Medicaid	100.0	10.1	85.3	4.5
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	12.0	80.0	8.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	20.7	74.4	4.9
Total	100.0	17.3	79.1	3.6

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Abortion - The termination (spontaneous or induced) of a pregnancy before the fetus has attained viability. When the term abortion is used in this report, it refers to an induced abortion.

Gestational Age - The number of weeks between the first day of the last menstrual period and the date of delivery or the end of the pregnancy. This report uses the physician's estimate of gestational age.

Induced Abortion - The purposeful interruption of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus, and which does not result in a live birth.

Induced Abortion Procedures

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) is a procedure that is generally used after 12 weeks of gestation and is usually done on an outpatient basis. Dilation and Evacuation may involve a combination of vacuum aspiration, dilation and curettage (D&C), and the use of surgical instruments (such as forceps).

Hysterectomy is a surgical procedure in which the uterus is removed either with the fetus inside or after the fetus has been removed. It is rarely performed in association with an abortion, and then only when a pathological condition of the uterus (such as fibroid tumors) or an emergency warrants its removal.

Hysterotomy is a surgical procedure that involves surgical entry into the uterus (as in a cesarean section) and the removal of a fetus that is too small to survive, even with extraordinary life support measures. Hysterotomy is rarely performed and then only if other abortion procedures fail.

Mifepristone (also known as RU-486) is usually used along with a prostaglandin for ending pregnancies of up to 49 days gestation. The administration of mifepristone causes the placenta to detach from the uterine wall. A second drug (misoprostol) is given two days later to induce uterine contractions, expelling the products of conception.

Methotrexate interferes with the vitamin folic acid and kills rapidly growing cells. It is also used for the nonsurgical treatment of ectopic pregnancies (when fertilized eggs grow outside the uterus). Methotrexate is administered by injection and is followed 5 to 7 days later with misoprostol to stimulate uterine contractions.

Saline/Prostaglandin (Intrauterine Instillation) are rarely used procedures that involve either withdrawing a portion of amniotic fluid from the uterine cavity by a needle inserted through the abdominal wall and replacing this fluid with a concentrated salt solution (known as saline instillation) or injecting a prostaglandin (a substance with hormone-like activity) into the amniotic sac (known as intra-uterine prostaglandin instillation). Both processes induce labor, resulting in the expulsion of the fetus.

Sharp Curettage (Dilation and Curettage, D&C) requires the dilation (temporary widening) of the cervix (the uterine opening). The fetal and placental tissues are then scraped out with a curette, which resembles a small spoon.

Suction Curettage (Vacuum Aspiration) is a frequently performed procedure that is generally used in the first 12 weeks of gestation (the first trimester). This procedure is done on an outpatient basis and may be done in a physician's office or a clinic.

After the cervix is dilated, a flexible cannula (a small, hollow tube) is inserted into the uterus through the cervix. The tube is attached to a pump, which is used to evacuate the uterine contents through the cannula.

Spontaneous Abortion The loss of a fetus during pregnancy due to natural causes.

Appendix B: Sample of Former Induced Termination of Pregnancy Report Form

REPORT OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

1) PATIENT'S AGE		2) DATE OF PREGNANCY TERMINATION (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____		3) RESIDENCE STATE		4) CITY OR LOCATION	
5) PATIENT'S ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-HISPANIC <input type="checkbox"/> MEXICAN <input type="checkbox"/> PUERTO RICAN <input type="checkbox"/> CUBAN <input type="checkbox"/> CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER OR UNKNOWN HISPANIC			6) PATIENT'S RACE <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> AFRICAN AMERICAN (BLACK) <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE ALASKAN OR AMERICAN INDIAN <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____			7) MARITAL STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> UNWED	
8) EDUCATION (SPECIFY THE HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED)							
				ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY (0-12)		COLLEGE (1-4 OR 5+)	
PREVIOUS PREGNANCIES (COMPLETE EACH SECTION. DO NOT LEAVE BLANK.)							
9) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS		10) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS SPONTANEOUS ABORTIONS			11) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS INDUCED ABORTIONS (DO NOT INCLUDE THIS TERMINATION)		
9A) NOW LIVING NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	9B) NOW DEAD NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE			NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE		
12) PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATE OF GESTATION COMPLETED WEEKS _____			13) DATE LAST NORMAL MENSES BEGAN (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____			14) METHOD OF PAYMENT <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID <input type="checkbox"/> INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____	
15) PRIMARY PROCEDURE USED TO TERMINATE PREGNANCY (CHECK ONE ONLY)					16) WAS THIS TERMINATION ELECTED DUE TO THE DETECTION OF A CONGENITAL ANOMALY? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
15A) <input type="checkbox"/> SUCTION CURETTAGE					16B) TYPE OF CONGENITAL ANOMALY CHROMOSOMAL ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NEURAL TUBE DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> HEART ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> VENTRAL WALL DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> (SPECIFY) _____		
15B) <input type="checkbox"/> DILATION AND EVACUATION							
15C) <input type="checkbox"/> SHARP CURETTAGE							
15D) <input type="checkbox"/> SALINE							
15E) <input type="checkbox"/> PROSTAGLANDIN							
15F) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTERECTOMY							
15G) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTEROTOMY							
15H) <input type="checkbox"/> MIFEPRISTONE							
15I) <input type="checkbox"/> METHOTREXATE							
15J) <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____							

Appendix C: Sample of Revised Induced Termination of Pregnancy Report Form

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
REPORT OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

1) PATIENT'S AGE		2) DATE OF PREGNANCY TERMINATION (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____		3) CITY WHERE TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY OCCURRED	
4) PATIENT'S ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-HISPANIC <input type="checkbox"/> MEXICAN <input type="checkbox"/> PUERTO RICAN <input type="checkbox"/> CUBAN <input type="checkbox"/> CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER OR UNKNOWN HISPANIC			5) PATIENT'S RACE <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> AFRICAN AMERICAN (BLACK) <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE ALASKAN OR AMERICAN INDIAN <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		6) CITY AND STATE WHERE PATIENT RESIDES
			7) MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		8) EDUCATION (SPECIFY THE HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED)
			ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY (0-12)	COLLEGE (1-4 OR 5+)	
PREVIOUS PREGNANCIES (COMPLETE EACH SECTION. DO NOT LEAVE BLANK.)					
9) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS		10) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS SPONTANEOUS ABORTIONS			
9A) NOW LIVING NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	9B) NOW DEAD NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE		11) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS INDUCED TERMINATIONS OF PREGNANCIES (DO NOT INCLUDE THIS TERMINATION) NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	
12) PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATE OF GESTATION COMPLETED WEEKS _____		13) DATE LAST NORMAL MENSES BEGAN (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____		14) METHOD OF PAYMENT <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID <input type="checkbox"/> INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____	
15) PRIMARY PROCEDURE USED TO TERMINATE PREGNANCY (CHECK ONE ONLY) 15A) <input type="checkbox"/> SUCTION CURETTAGE 15B) <input type="checkbox"/> DILATION AND EVACUATION 15C) <input type="checkbox"/> SHARP CURETTAGE 15D) <input type="checkbox"/> SALINE 15E) <input type="checkbox"/> PROSTAGLANDIN 15F) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTERECTOMY 15G) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTEROTOMY 15H) <input type="checkbox"/> MIFEPRISTONE 15I) <input type="checkbox"/> METHOTREXATE 15J) <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____			16) WAS THIS TERMINATION ELECTED DUE TO THE DETECTION OF A CONGENITAL ANOMALY? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> 16B) TYPE OF CONGENITAL ANOMALY CHROMOSOMAL ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NEURAL TUBE DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> HEART ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> VENTRAL WALL DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> (SPECIFY) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	PATIENT REQUESTED A COPY OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED ON THE INTERNET UNDER AS 18.05.032				
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	PATIENT RECEIVED A WRITTEN COPY OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED ON THE INTERNET UNDER AS 18.05.032				