

Reported Induced Abortions in Wisconsin

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February 2020 Release

Foreword

Since January 1, 1987, medical facilities in Wisconsin have been required to report selected information on patients who obtained induced abortions. Wisconsin Statute § 69.186 also mandates the Department of Health Services to publish an annual demographic summary of the information reported. A copy of the statute can be found in the Appendix.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) produced this publication, which was prepared by the Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health (DPH). This annual report, *Reported Induced Abortions in Wisconsin*, was formerly titled *Reported Induced Terminations of Pregnancy in Wisconsin*. The name was changed to reflect the language in the statute.

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This publication is available on the DHS website, at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/stats/itop.htm>.

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Introduction

Reported Induced Abortions in Wisconsin, 2018 presents summary tables of information collected through the Wisconsin Induced Abortion Reporting System, as stipulated in Wis. Stat. § 69.186.

The tables in this publication summarize data for calendar year 2018, trend information for the years 2014-2018, and three-year annual average information by county. The tables categorize and cross-classify reported induced abortions by patient characteristics that include age, educational attainment, marital status, race and ethnicity, and state and county of residence; by an estimate of gestational age; and by reported complications. The data are based on reports of induced abortions performed in Wisconsin both for residents and non-residents.

Data Limitations and Caveats. The accuracy of the data presented in these tables is affected by a number of factors. State and county of residence, race, ethnicity, and marital status are self-defined and reported by patients, which can affect accuracy of the characteristics measured. The educational attainment measure is defined in the reporting form as the highest grade completed. However, some patients may overlook the definition and give the highest grade attended.

A major limitation is the unknown number of induced abortions obtained by Wisconsin residents in other states. This report includes only those reported induced abortions that occurred in Wisconsin and cannot provide information on all Wisconsin residents who sought and obtained abortions.

Assessing the incidence of complications is somewhat problematic. Some complications do not occur immediately or become apparent while the patient is in post-procedure recovery, Therefore some complications are missed or misreported.

Key Findings

- The number of induced abortions reported for Wisconsin residents in 2018 was 6,042, an increase of 7 percent over the 5,640 induced abortions reported in 2017.
- The total number of induced abortions reported as occurring in Wisconsin in 2018 was 6,224, close to a 7 percent increase over the 5,818 induced abortions reported in 2017 (see Table 1).
- The estimated 2018 Wisconsin resident induced abortion rate was 5.6 per 1,000 women ages 15-44, compared to 5.2 in 2017². According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the national rate was 11.8 per 1,000 women ages 15-44 in 2015 (this is the most recent year for which national data are available¹).
- The estimated Wisconsin resident induced abortion ratio is the number of reported induced abortions per 100 live births. This ratio was 9.0 per 100 live births in Wisconsin in 2018, compared to 9.4 in 2017. The most recent national ratio was 18.8 per 100 live births in 2015.^{1,2}
- Women in the age group 20-24 accounted for the largest proportion (30 percent) of reported induced abortions for Wisconsin residents in 2018. Thirteen percent of reported induced abortions were for women 35 years of age or older. Those aged 18-19 obtained almost 7 percent of the reported induced abortions, and those aged 15-17 obtained 2.5 percent (see Table 3).
- In 2018, there were 169 induced abortions reported for Wisconsin residents who were minors (less than 18 years of age). Written consent (by a parent, guardian, legal custodian, or adult family member) was provided in 156 of the cases; the patient was an emancipated minor in five cases; and a court granted a petition to waive the parental consent requirement in eight cases (see Table 4).
- By law, the adult consent requirement for a minor's induced abortion is waived if the pregnancy was the result of sexual assault, if the procedure was a medical emergency, or if the pregnancy was the result of sexual intercourse with a caregiver. There were no such waivers reported in 2018.

1 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Abortion surveillance—United States, 2015. *Surveillance Summaries*, November 23, 2018, 67(13); 1–45, MMWR.

2 Some abortions obtained by Wisconsin residents happened in Minnesota (705 in 2018). Thus, the 2018 ratio and rate estimates can be obtained using the Wisconsin reported induced abortions by Wisconsin residents (6,042) plus 705 reported in Minnesota in 2018, divided by the number of Wisconsin resident live births for 2017 (66,994), and by the estimated population of females aged 15 to 44 in Wisconsin in 2017 (1,080,703). Based on these figures, the estimated Wisconsin resident abortion ratio in 2018 was 10.1 reported induced abortions per 100 live births. The 2018 estimated resident abortion rate calculated using these figures was 6.2 reported induced abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44.

Key Findings

- Eighty-two percent of reported induced abortions for Wisconsin residents were obtained by women who had never been married; 14 percent were obtained by currently married women; 4 percent were obtained by women who were divorced; less than 1 percent were obtained by women who were widowed; and less than 1 percent were obtained by women whose marital status was unknown (see Table 5).
- Fifty percent of induced abortions reported for Wisconsin residents were obtained by white women, 30 percent by African American women, 1 percent by American Indian women, 5 percent by Asian or Pacific Islander women, and 14 percent by women of other or unknown race. Eleven percent of induced abortions were obtained by Hispanic women (of any race), while 87 percent were obtained by non-Hispanic women (see Table 6).
- Sixty percent of reported induced abortions among Wisconsin residents in 2018 were obtained within the first eight weeks of gestation (see Table 8).
- Of the 6,042 reported induced abortions among Wisconsin residents in 2018, 71 percent were surgical, 29 percent were chemically induced, and less than 1 percent were intrauterine instillation procedures. In 2017, these proportions were 71 percent, 29 percent, and 0.1 percent, respectively (see Table 10).

Statewide Historical Data, 1977-2018

Table 1. Number, Ratio, and Rate of Reported Induced Abortions that Occurred in Wisconsin, 1977-2018

Year	Number	Ratio**	Rate***
Annual Facility Survey*			
1977	16,133	24	16
1978	17,764	26	17
1979	20,035	28	18
1980	21,754	29	20
1981	20,819	28	19
1982	19,412	26	18
1983	18,866	26	17
1984	18,836	26	17
1985	17,309	24	15
1986	17,454	24	15

(continued on page 5)

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

The source for the pre-1987 numbers reported in this table is Maternal and Child Health Statistics, Wisconsin, 1986.

* Note: The reporting of induced abortions on a case basis began in Wisconsin on January 1, 1987. Before that date, an annual survey was conducted of medical facilities and provided only the total number of reported induced abortions in the state.

** The ratio is the number of reported induced abortions occurring in Wisconsin per 100 Wisconsin live births. (The 2018 ratio is based on the number of live births in 2017.)

*** The rate is the number of reported induced abortions occurring in Wisconsin per 1,000 Wisconsin women aged 15-44. (The 2018 rate is based on population estimates for July 1, 2017.)

Statewide Historical Data, 1977-2018

Table 1. Number, Ratio, and Rate of Reported Induced Abortions that Occurred in Wisconsin, 1977-2018 (cont.)

Year	Number	Ratio**	Rate***
Case-Based Continuous Reporting System*			
1987	17,318	24	16
1988	17,986	25	16
1989	17,575	25	16
1990	16,848	23	15
1991	16,237	23	14
1992	15,549	22	14
1993	14,671	21	13
1994	13,396	20	12
1995	12,782	19	11
1996	13,673	20	12
1997	13,218	20	11
1998	11,681	18	10
1999	11,013	16	9
2000	11,040	16	10
2001	10,925	16	9
2002	10,489	15	9
2003	10,557	16	9
2004	9,943	14	9
2005	9,817	14	8
2006	9,580	14	8
2007	8,267	11	7
2008	8,229	11	7
2009	8,542	12	8
2010	7,825	11	7
2011	7,249	11	7
2012	6,927	10	6
2013	6,462	10	6
2014	5,800	9	5
2015	5,660	8	5
2016	5,612	8	5
2017	5,818	9	5
2018	6,224	9	6

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

The source for the pre-1987 numbers reported in this table is Maternal and Child Health Statistics, Wisconsin, 1986.

* Note: The reporting of induced abortions on a case basis began in Wisconsin on January 1, 1987. Before that date, an annual survey was conducted of medical facilities and provided only the total number of reported induced abortions in the state.

** The ratio is the number of reported induced abortions occurring in Wisconsin per 100 Wisconsin live births. (The 2018 ratio is based on the number of live births in 2017.)

*** The rate is the number of reported induced abortions occurring in Wisconsin per 1,000 Wisconsin women aged 15-44. (The 2018 rate is based on population estimates for July 1, 2017.)

Summary Distributions

Table 2. Reported Induced Abortions that Occurred in Wisconsin, by State of Residence, 2018

State of Residence	Number	Percent
Wisconsin	6,042	97
Illinois	120	2
Michigan	33	<1
Iowa	6	<1
Minnesota	3	<1
Other State	20	<1
Other Country	0	0
Total	6,224	100

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Table 3. Reported Induced Abortions by Age, Wisconsin 2018

Age	Occurred in Wisconsin		Wisconsin Residents		Resident Age-Specific Rate per 1,000*	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Less than 15	17	0.3	17	0.3		
15-17	160	2.6	152	2.5	Less than 18	1.4
18-19	429	6.9	409	6.8	18-19	5.5
20-24	1,905	30.6	1,839	30.4	20-24	9.3
25-29	1,819	29.2	1,771	29.3	25-29	10.1
30-34	1,104	17.7	1,080	17.9	30-34	6.0
35-39	626	10.1	615	10.2	35-39	3.4
40-44	154	2.5	149	2.5	40 and older	0.9
45 and older	10	0.2	10	0.2		
Total (15-44)	6,224	100	6,042	100	Rate	5.6

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The "Wisconsin Residents" columns only include induced abortions obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

* Total rate is the number of reported induced abortions per 1,000 Wisconsin women aged 15-44 (based on July 1, 2017 population counts); age-specific rates are the number per 1,000 women in each age group. The rate among females less than 18 years of age was calculated using the population estimate for 15-17 year old females; the rate among females aged 40 and older was calculated using the population estimate for 40-44 females.

Summary Distributions

Table 4. Reported Induced Abortions Among Minors (Age Less Than 18 Years) by Legal Status of Patient, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

Legal Status	Number
A. If the patient is less than 18 years old, indicate the circumstances of the patient.	
1. Patient is an emancipated minor.	5
2. A court granted a petition to waive the parental consent.	8
3. Consent was provided by an adult on behalf of the patient (go to B).	156
4. None of the above apply (go to C).	0
Total <18 years of age	169
B. Specify the status of the adult providing written consent for the patient's abortion.	
1. Parent	138
2. Guardian or legal custodian	0
3. Adult family member	18
4. Foster parent or treatment foster parent	0
Total <18 for whom adult provided consent	156
C. Specify the reason that consent was not legally required in this case.	
1. A medical emergency exists that requires an immediate abortion.	0
2. The minor provided a written statement that the pregnancy was the result of a sexual assault; the assault was reported as required by law.	0
3. A psychiatrist or licensed psychologist provided a written statement that the minor is likely to commit suicide rather than file a petition or approach a person empowered to give consent.	0
4. The minor provided a written statement that the pregnancy is the result of sexual intercourse with a caregiver; this was reported as required by law.	0
5. The minor provided a written statement that she has been abused by a person empowered to give consent; this was reported as required by law.	0

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

Summary Distributions

Table 5. Reported Induced Abortions by Marital Status, Wisconsin 2018

Marital Status	Occurred in Wisconsin		Wisconsin Residents		Percent Wisconsin Residents
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Married	856	14	830	14	97
Not married:					
Never married	5,119	82	4,971	82	97
Divorced	228	4	222	4	97
Widowed	5	<1	5	<1	100
Unknown	16	<1	14	<1	88
Total	6,224	100	6,042	100	97

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The "Wisconsin Residents" columns only include induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

Table 6. Reported Induced Abortions by Race and Hispanic Origin, Wisconsin 2018

Race/Ethnicity	Occurred in Wisconsin		Wisconsin Residents		Percent Wisconsin Residents
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
White	3,154	51	3,038	50	96
Black	1,837	30	1,814	30	99
American Indian	84	1	78	1	93
Asian or Pacific Islander	294	5	291	5	99
Other or Unknown	885	14	821	14	96
Total	6,224	100	6,042	100	97
Hispanic	720	12	688	11	96
Non-Hispanic	5,430	87	5,282	87	97
Unknown	74	1	72	1	97
Total	6,224	100	6,042	100	97

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The "Wisconsin Residents" columns only include induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

Summary Distributions

Table 7. Reported Induced Abortions by Education, Wisconsin 2018

Years of Education	Occurred in Wisconsin		Wisconsin Residents		Percent Wisconsin Residents
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
8 or less	52	1	52	1	100
9-11	487	8	473	8	97
12	2,168	35	2,099	35	97
13-15	2,441	39	2,367	39	97
16 or more	1,001	16	979	16	98
Unknown	75	1	72	1	96
Total	6,224	100	6,042	100	97

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The "Wisconsin Residents" columns only include induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

Table 8. Reported Induced Abortions by Estimated Gestation, Wisconsin 2018

Weeks of Gestation	Occurred in Wisconsin		Wisconsin Residents		Percent Wisconsin Residents
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
8 weeks or less	3,728	60	3,623	60	97
9-10	1,102	18	1,074	18	98
11-12	556	9	535	9	97
13-15	408	7	393	7	97
16-20	382	6	370	6	95
Over 20	48	<1	47	<1	98
Total	6,224	100	6,042	100	97

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The "Wisconsin Residents" columns only include induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

The data provided for what is termed "weeks of gestation" in the tables cannot be classified precisely or consistently. In some cases, it refers to the patient's reported weeks since the last menstrual period. In other cases, it is the physician's estimate of weeks since conception. Reporting instructions ask for the number of weeks since the patient's last menstrual period. If this information is unavailable, reporters are asked to substitute a clinical estimate of gestation. It is not known which reports used which measure, nor the proportion of reports using each. A physician's estimate of gestational age based on clinical observation is generally more reliable and may be several weeks less than the patient's reported weeks since the last menstrual period. Readers should be aware of the imprecision in the measure. The table groups the reported weeks into categories used by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Alan Guttmacher Institute.

Summary Distributions

Table 9. Reported Induced Abortions by Reported Complications, Wisconsin 2018

Complications	Occurred in Wisconsin	Wisconsin Residents
None	5,593	5,428
Hemorrhage	4	4
Infection	0	0
Uterine Perforation	0	0
Cervical Laceration	2	2
Retained Products	73	72
Other	552	536
Total Reported Induced Abortions	6,224	6,042

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The "Wisconsin Residents" columns only include induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

Each induced abortion could have more than one type of complication reported. Reporting instructions ask providers to report "any and all complications that are identified which are a result of the procedure and which occurred during the visit in which the procedure was performed. For chemically induced abortions, wait until the procedure is completed to answer this question."

Table 10. Reported Induced Abortions by Type of Procedure, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

Type of Procedure	Number	Percent
Chemically Induced (any nonsurgical procedure including oral, injected, and vaginally inserted chemicals)	1,739	29
Surgical	4,302	71
Intrauterine Instillation (intra-amniotic injection, typically with saline, prostaglandin, or urea)	1	<1
Total	6,042	100

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

Demographic Characteristics of Patients

Table 11. Reported Induced Abortions by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

Age	Race												Ethnicity	
	White		African American		American Indian or Alaska Native		Asian or Pacific Islander		Other or Unknown		Total		Hispanic (Any Race)	
	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct
<15	8	<1	7	<1	0	0	0	0	<5	<1	17	<1	<5	<1
15-17	81	3	48	3	<5	4	<5	<1	18	2	152	3	17	3
15	15		8		<5		<5		6		31		6	
16	29		17		<5		<5		5		53		<5	
17	37		23		<5		0		7		68		7	
18-19	199	7	119	7	<5	5	10	3	77	9	409	7	71	10
18	81		50		<5		<5		31		165		28	
19	118		69		<5		9		46		244		43	
20-24	899	30	548	30	22	28	58	20	312	38	1,839	30	261	38
20	146		89		<5		8		67		314		57	
21	188		114		<5		14		57		376		49	
22-24	565		345		15		36		188		1,149		155	
25-29	851	28	603	33	24	31	90	31	203	25	1,771	29	165	24
30-34	542	18	319	18	18	23	74	25	127	16	1,080	18	109	16
35-39	364	12	136	8	6	8	47	16	62	8	615	10	49	7
40+	94	3	34	2	<5	1	10	2	20	2	159	3	14	2
Total	3,038	100	1,814	100	78	100	291	100	821	100	6,042	100	688	100

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

A "<5" indicates there were fewer than five reports.

Demographic Characteristics of Patients

Table 12. Reported Induced Abortions by Age and Marital Status, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

Age	Marital Status											
	Married		Never Married		Divorced		Widowed		Unknown		Total	
	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct
<15	0	0	17	<1	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	<1
15-17	0	0	152	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	152	3
18-19	8	1	399	8	<5	<1	0	0	0	0	409	7
20-24	83	10	1,739	35	14	6	0	0	<5	21	1,839	30
25-29	214	26	1,491	30	61	28	0	0	5	36	1,771	29
30-34	262	32	755	15	57	26	<5	20	5	36	1,080	18
35-39	200	24	347	7	64	29	<5	80	0	0	615	10
40+	63	8	71	1	24	11	0	0	<5	7	159	3
Total (15-44)	830	100	4,971	100	222	100	5	100	14	100	6,042	100

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

A "<5" indicates there were fewer than five reports.

Table 13. Reported Induced Abortions by Education, Race, and Hispanic Origin, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

Years of Education	Race										Ethnicity			
	White		African American		American Indian or Alaska Native		Asian or Pacific Islander		Other or Unknown		Total		Hispanic (Any Race)	
	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct
8 or less	10	<1	11	<1	0	0	5	2	26	3	52	1	20	3
9-11	171	6	178	10	11	14	13	5	100	12	473	8	93	14
12	923	30	753	42	32	41	59	20	332	40	2,099	35	290	42
13-15	1,286	42	709	39	25	32	77	27	270	33	2,367	40	227	33
16+	621	20	147	8	9	12	132	45	70	9	979	16	45	7
Unknown	27	1	16	1	<5	1	5	2	23	3	72	1	13	2
Total	3,038	100	1,814	100	78	100	291	100	821	100	6,042	100	688	100

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

A "<5" indicates there were fewer than five reports.

Demographic Characteristics of Patients

Table 14. Reported Induced Abortions by Marital Status, Race, and Hispanic Origin, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

Marital Status	Race											Ethnicity		
	White		African American		American Indian or Alaska Native		Asian or Pacific Islander		Other or Unknown		Total		Hispanic (Any Race)	
	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct
Married	475	16	68	4	11	14	151	52	125	15	830	13	98	14
Not married:														
Never married	2,387	79	1,719	95	64	82	136	47	665	81	4,971	82	566	82
Divorced	167	6	21	1	<5	4	<5	1	28	3	222	4	22	3
Widowed	<5	<1	<5	<1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Unknown	5	<1	5	<1	0	0	<5	<1	<5	<1	14	<1	<5	<1
Total	3,038	100	1,814	100	78	100	291	100	821	100	6,042	100	688	100

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

A "<5" indicates there were fewer than five reports.

Estimated Gestation and Patient Age

Table 15. Reported Induced Abortions by Estimated Gestation and Age, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

Weeks of Gestation	Age																	
	<15		15-17		18-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40+		Total	
	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct
8 weeks	9	53	67	44	221	54	1,067	58	1,108	63	649	60	390	63	112	70	3,623	60
9-10	<5	24	42	28	87	21	345	19	286	16	186	17	103	17	21	13	1,074	18
11-12	<5	6	16	11	33	8	179	10	156	9	102	9	39	6	9	6	535	9
13-15	<5	6	11	7	33	8	114	6	115	7	63	6	51	8	5	3	393	7
16-20	<5	12	14	9	32	8	119	7	97	6	68	6	29	5	9	6	370	6
Over 20	0	0	<5	1	<5	1	15	1	9	1	12	1	<5	1	<5	2	47	1
Total	17	100	152	100	409	100	1,839	100	1,771	100	1,080	100	615	100	159	100	6,042	100

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The "Wisconsin Residents" columns only include induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

A "<5" indicates there were fewer than five reports.

The data provided for what is termed "weeks of gestation" in the tables cannot be classified precisely or consistently. In some cases, it refers to the patient's reported weeks since the last menstrual period. In other cases, it is the physician's estimate of weeks since conception. Reporting instructions ask for the number of weeks since patient's last menstrual period. If this information is unavailable, reporters are asked to substitute a clinical estimate of gestation. It is not known which reports used which measure, nor the proportion of reports using each. A physician's estimate of gestational age based on clinical observation is generally more reliable and may be several weeks less than the patient's reported weeks since the last menstrual period. Readers should be aware of the imprecision in the measure. The table groups the reported weeks into categories used by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Alan Guttmacher Institute.

County of Residence and Patient Age

Table 16. Reported Induced Abortions by Selected County of Residence and Age, Wisconsin Residents, 2018

County	Age				Total
	<20	20-24	25-34	35+	
Brown	25	59	117	22	223
Dane	71	266	353	131	821
Fond du Lac	8	18	32	12	70
Jefferson	6	23	22	9	60
Kenosha	18	57	70	8	153
Manitowoc	10	14	28	8	60
Marathon	8	24	30	13	75
Milwaukee	203	722	1,302	302	2,529
Outagamie	15	54	66	20	155
Ozaukee	5	13	26	9	53
Portage	8	18	13	7	46
Racine	29	70	101	31	231
Rock	25	73	77	24	199
Sheboygan	17	25	45	12	99
Walworth	6	33	47	9	95
Washington	9	27	52	8	96
Waukesha	21	78	126	49	274
Winnebago	17	40	55	13	125
Other Counties	77	225	289	87	678
Total	578	1,839	2,851	774	6,042

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available; therefore, the counts underestimate frequencies for some counties.

Only counties that had at least five reports for each age group are shown in this table.

Trend Information, 2014-2018

Table 17. Number and Rate of Reported Induced Abortions by Age, Wisconsin Residents, 2014-2018

Age	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
<18	196	1.8	214	1.9	193	1.7	188	1.6	169	1.5
18-19	461	5.9	422	5.4	383	5.1	361	4.7	409	5.5
20-24	1,892	9.7	1,813	9.3	1,640	8.2	1,684	8.2	1,839	9.3
25-29	1,473	8.4	1,403	8.0	1,525	8.8	1,649	9.1	1,771	10.1
30-34	902	4.9	955	5.2	985	5.4	1,008	5.4	1,080	6.0
35-39	515	3.1	482	2.9	559	3.3	565	3.2	615	3.4
40+	201	1.1	172	1.0	187	1.1	185	1.1	159	1.0
Total (15-44)	5,640	5.2	5,461	5.0	5,472	5.0	5,640	5.0	6,042	5.6

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available.

*The total rate is the number of reported induced abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44; age-specific rates are the number per 1,000 women in each age group. The rate among females less than 18 years of age was calculated using the female population aged 15-17; the rate among females aged 40 and older was calculated using the female population aged 40-44.

Trend Information, 2014-2018

Table 18. Number and Rate of Reported Induced Abortions by County of Residence, Wisconsin Residents, 2014-2018

County	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
Total	5,640	5.2	5,461	5.0	5,472	5.0	5,640	5.2	6,042	5.6
Adams	13		9		<5		10		8	
Ashland	<5		<5		0		0		<5	
Barron	<5		<5		<5		<5		<5	
Bayfield	<5		<5		0		<5		<5	
Brown	205	4.1	234	4.7	199	3.9	168	3.3	223	4.4
Buffalo	<5		<5		<5		<5		0	
Burnett	<5		<5		0		0		0	
Calumet	14		11		16		14		12	
Chippewa	<5		<5		7		<5		<5	
Clark	11		9		9		9		10	
Columbia	49	5.2	45	4.7	50	5.3	63	6.7	62	6.6
Crawford	9		9		9		<5		<5	
Dane	772	6.9	748	6.7	777	6.9	860	7.5	821	7.2
Dodge	44	3.1	47	3.3	52	3.7	61	4.3	40	2.9
Door	14		22	5.8	13		11		23	6.3
Douglas	<5		<5		0		0		0	
Dunn	<5		<5		<5		<5		<5	
Eau Claire	<5		6		10		15		10	
Florence	<5		<5		0		<5		0	
Fond du Lac	68	3.6	47	2.5	57	3.1	74	4.0	70	3.8
Forest	5		<5		<5		<5		<5	
Grant	20	2.2	17		22	2.4	24	2.6	32	3.5
Green	22	3.5	19		28	4.5	22	3.6	25	4.1
Green Lake	11		10		11		11		<5	
Iowa	5		14		8		20	5.3	18	
Iron	<5		<5		0		0		<5	
Jackson	<5		11		12		7		10	
Jefferson	60	3.7	60	3.7	55	3.4	53	3.3	60	3.7
Juneau	8		11		12		16		14	
Kenosha	136	4.0	121	3.6	143	4.2	149	4.4	153	4.6
Kewaunee	7		8		9		10		7	
La Crosse	35	1.4	52	2.1	39	1.6	53	2.1	55	2.2
Lafayette	5		<5		10		9		9	
Langlade	<5		6		7		6		8	
Lincoln	7		12		10		17		18	
Manitowoc	46	3.5	35	2.6	39	3.0	43	3.3	60	4.6

(continued on page 18)

Trend Information, 2014-2018

Table 18. Number and Rate of Reported Induced Abortions by County of Residence, Wisconsin Residents, 2014-2018 (cont.)

County	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
Marathon	86	3.6	69	2.9	72	3.0	52	2.2	75	3.2
Marinette	18		18		15		16		16	
Marquette	11		5		11		17		9	
Menominee	9		12		9		8		10	
Milwaukee	2,448	11.6	2,366	11.3	2,330	11.0	2,347	11.1	2,529	12.0
Monroe	14		24	3.1	24	3.0	21	2.7	23	2.9
Oconto	20	3.4	15		18		14		16	
Oneida	13		20	4.0	13		10		20	4.1
Outagamie	185	5.4	153	4.4	120	3.5	136	3.9	155	4.5
Ozaukee	43	3.0	64	4.4	50	3.4	40	2.8	53	3.6
Pepin	<5		<5		<5		0		0	
Pierce	<5		<5		<5		0		<5	
Polk	<5		<5		0		<5		0	
Portage	47	3.2	52	3.5	53	3.6	48	3.3	46	3.2
Price	<5		<5		<5		<5		<5	
Racine	197	5.5	159	4.5	205	5.7	176	5.0	231	6.5
Richland	5		6		15		12		6	
Rock	137	4.5	161	5.2	160	5.2	156	5.1	199	6.5
Rusk	<5		<5		<5		0		<5	
St. Croix	<5		<5		<5		<5		0	
Sauk	76	6.9	54	4.9	39	3.5	50	4.6	55	5.1
Sawyer	<5		<5		<5		<5		0	
Shawano	28	4.1	23	3.4	14		16		19	
Sheboygan	55	2.8	83	4.2	71	3.6	81	4.1	99	5.1
Taylor	5		<5		<5		<5		<5	
Trempealeau	<5		5		8		<5		8	
Vernon	11		8		6		6		10	
Vilas	7		6		8		12		11	
Walworth	94	4.9	96	5.0	85	4.4	77	4.1	95	5.1
Washburn	<5		<5		<5		<5		0	
Washington	72	3.2	90	3.9	92	4.0	79	3.5	96	4.2
Waukesha	215	3.2	172	2.6	238	3.5	283	4.2	274	4.1
Waupaca	36	4.4	27	3.3	29	3.6	23	2.9	25	3.2
Waushara	11		14		6		10		14	
Winnebago	167	5.1	129	3.9	116	3.5	123	3.8	125	3.9
Wood	42	3.4	52	4.2	37	3.0	59	4.8	44	3.6
Unknown					<5		<5			

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available; therefore, the counts underestimate frequencies in some counties.

* The rate is the number of induced abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44. Wisconsin provisional population estimates for July 1, 2017, prepared by the Office of Health Informatics, were used to calculate the 2018 rates.

A “<5” indicates there were fewer than five reports for county residents. Rates based on fewer than 20 reports are omitted because they are subject to large random fluctuations.

Three-Year Annual Averages, 2016-2018

Table 19. Three-Year Annual Average Number of Reported Induced Abortions by County of Residence, Wisconsin Residents, 2016-2018

County	Annual Average Number	County	Annual Average Number
Adams	7	Marathon	66
Ashland	<5	Marinette	16
Barron	<5	Marquette	12
Bayfield	<5	Menominee	9
Brown	197	Milwaukee	2,402
Buffalo	<5	Monroe	23
Burnett	0	Oconto	16
Calumet	14	Oneida	14
Chippewa	6	Outagamie	137
Clark	9	Ozaukee	48
Columbia	58	Pepin	<5
Crawford	5	Pierce	<5
Dane	820	Polk	<5
Dodge	51	Portage	49
Door	16	Price	<5
Douglas	0	Racine	204
Dunn	<5	Richland	11
Eau Claire	12	Rock	172
Florence	<5	Rusk	<5
Fond du Lac	67	St. Croix	<5
Forest	<5	Sauk	48
Grant	26	Sawyer	<5
Green	25	Shawano	16
Green Lake	9	Sheboygan	83
Iowa	15	Taylor	<5
Iron	<5	Trempealeau	6
Jackson	10	Vernon	7
Jefferson	56	Vilas	10
Juneau	14	Walworth	86
Kenosha	148	Washburn	<5
Kewaunee	9	Washington	89
La Crosse	49	Waukesha	265
Lafayette	9	Waupaca	26
Langlade	7	Waushara	10
Lincoln	15	Winnebago	121
Manitowoc	47	Wood	47
		Unknown	<5
Three-Year Annual Average	5,720		

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available; therefore, the counts underestimate frequencies in some counties.

A "<5" indicates there were fewer than five reports for county residents.

Three-Year Annual Averages, 2016-2018

Table 20. Three-Year Annual Average Number of Reported Induced Abortions by Selected County of Residence by Age, Wisconsin Residents, 2016-2018

County	Age			Total	County	Age			Total
	<20	20-24	25+			<20	20-24	25+	
Brown	24	52	121	197	Oconto	<5	5	10	16
Calumet	<5	<5	9	14	Outagamie	16	45	77	137
Columbia	5	21	32	58	Ozaukee	5	10	33	48
Dane	74	254	491	820	Portage	7	19	24	49
Dodge	<5	19	28	51	Racine	26	64	113	204
Door	<5	<5	10	16	Richland	<5	<5	8	11
Eau Claire	<5	<5	5	12	Rock	20	60	92	172
Fond du Lac	7	20	40	67	Sauk	5	16	27	48
Grant	<5	11	11	26	Shawano	<5	7	6	16
Green	<5	7	16	25	Sheboygan	12	22	49	83
Iowa	<5	<5	9	15	Walworth	10	32	43	86
Jefferson	7	16	34	56	Washington	7	27	54	89
Juneau	<5	<5	8	14	Waukesha	19	78	168	265
Kenosha	18	50	81	148	Waupaca	<5	<5	19	26
La Crosse	<5	19	26	49	Winnebago	12	43	66	121
Lincoln	<5	5	8	15	Wood	7	13	27	47
Manitowoc	7	15	26	47	Other	20	58	110	187
Marathon	8	19	39	66					
Marinette	<5	<5	8	16					
Milwaukee	209	688	1,505	2,402					
Three-Year Annual Average Total									
	567	1,721	3,431	5,720					

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available; therefore, the counts underestimate frequencies in some counties.

Women age 25 and older were grouped into a single category for which three-year averages could be shown.

Columns may not sum to the three-year annual average totals due to rounding.

A "<5" indicates there were fewer than five reports.

Three-Year Annual Averages, 2016-2018

Table 21. Three-Year Annual Average Number of Reported Induced Abortions by Selected County of Residence by Age and Selected Racial Categories, Wisconsin Residents, 2016-2018

County	Age				Total
	<18	18-19	20-24	25+	
Dane	25	49	254	491	820
White	12	24	147	304	487
Black	8	12	60	80	159
Milwaukee	69	140	688	1,505	2,402
White	11	32	168	421	631
Black	46	76	377	784	1,284
Racine	8	19	64	113	204
White	<5	8	34	63	110
Black	<5	6	18	31	57
Three-Year Annual Average Total	183	384	1,721	3,431	5,720
White	88	196	891	1,821	2,996
Black	62	103	506	968	1,639

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available; therefore, the counts underestimate frequencies in some counties.

Counties shown had at least five reported induced abortions in each age group during 2016-2018.

Women age 25 and older were grouped into a single category for which three-year averages could be shown.

Columns may not sum to the three-year annual average totals due to rounding.

Three-Year Annual Averages, 2016-2018

Table 22. Three-Year Annual Average Number of Reported Induced Abortions by Selected County of Residence by Age and Hispanic Origin, Wisconsin Residents, 2016-2018

County	Age				Total
	<18	18-19	20-24	25+	
Brown	8	16	52	121	197
Non-Hispanic	6	14	42	106	168
Hispanic	<5	<5	8	11	23
Unknown	<5	0	<5	<5	6
Dane	25	49	254	491	820
Non-Hispanic	22	39	229	446	736
Hispanic	<5	10	25	43	81
Unknown	0	0	0	<5	<5
Milwaukee	69	140	688	1,505	2,402
Non-Hispanic	59	113	578	1,316	2,067
Hispanic	9	24	96	152	281
Unknown	<5	<5	13	37	55
Racine	8	19	64	113	204
Non-Hispanic	7	14	55	96	172
Hispanic	<5	5	9	16	30
Unknown	0	0	<5	<5	<5
Three-Year Annual Average Total	183	384	1,721	3,431	5,720
Non-Hispanic	156	319	1,490	3,070	5,034
Hispanic	25	62	208	307	602
Unknown	<5	<5	23	55	84

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available; therefore, the counts underestimate frequencies in some counties.

Counties shown had at least five reported induced abortions in each age group during 2016-2018.

Women age 25 and older were grouped into a single category for which three-year averages could be shown.

Columns may not sum to the three-year annual average totals due to rounding.

Three-Year Annual Averages, 2016-2018

Table 23. Three-Year Annual Average Number of Reported Induced Abortions by Selected County of Residence by Race and Hispanic Origin, Wisconsin Residents, 2016-2018

County	Race			Total	Ethnicity
	White	African American	Asian or Pacific Islander		Hispanic (Any Race)
Brown	130	14	10	197	23
Dane	487	159	76	820	81
Fond du lac	51	8	<5	67	5
Kenosha	91	25	<5	148	23
La Crosse	40	<5	<5	49	<5
Manitowoc	33	5	<5	47	5
Milwaukee	631	1,284	93	2,402	281
Outagamie	108	5	7	137	12
Rock	124	18	<5	172	26
Sheboygan	61	5	5	83	11
Washington	77	<5	<5	89	<5
Waukesha	187	17	27	265	24
Winnebago	96	10	6	121	7
Total	2,996	1,639	262	5,720	602

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: This table only includes induced abortions that were obtained in Wisconsin by Wisconsin residents. Information about Wisconsin residents who obtained induced abortions in other states is not available; therefore, the counts underestimate frequencies in some counties.

Columns may not sum to the three-year annual average totals due to rounding.

The total includes a three-year annual average of 62 abortions whose race was reported as American Indian, and 761 abortions whose race was reported as "Other" or "Unknown."

Induced Abortion Reporting (Wis. Stat. § 69.186)

- 1) On or before January 15 annually, each hospital, clinic or other facility in which an induced abortion is performed shall file with the department a report for each induced abortion performed in the hospital, clinic or other facility in the previous calendar year. Each report shall contain all of the following information with respect to each patient obtaining an induced abortion in the hospital, clinic or other facility:
 - (a) The state and, if this state, the county, of residence.
 - (b) Patient number.
 - (c) Race.
 - (d) Age.
 - (e) Marital status.
 - (f) Month and year in which the induced abortion was performed.
 - (g) Education.
 - (h) The number of weeks since the patient's last menstrual period.
 - (hf) The probable postfertilization age of the unborn child, as defined in s. 253.107 (1) (c), and whether an ultrasound was used to assist in making the determination of postfertilization age of the unborn child, or, if the probable postfertilization age of the unborn child was not determined, the nature of the medical emergency, as defined in s. 253.10 (2) (d).
 - (hm) Whether the abortion was a chemically induced abortion, a surgical abortion or a surgical abortion following a failed or incomplete chemical abortion.
 - (i) Complications, if any, resulting from performance of the induced abortion.
 - (j) If the patient is a minor, whether consent was provided under s. 48.375 (4) (a) 1. for the abortion and, if so, the relationship of the individual providing consent to the minor; or, if consent under s. 48.375 (4) (a) 1. was not provided, on which of the bases under s. 48.375 (4) (a) 2. or (b) 1., 1g., 1m., 2. or 3. the abortion was performed.
 - (k) If the unborn child is considered to be capable of experiencing pain under s. 253.107 (3) (a), the nature of the medical emergency, as defined in s. 253.10 (2) (d), that the pregnant woman had.
 - (l) If the unborn child is considered to be capable of experiencing pain under s. 253.107 (3) (a), a statement whether the method of abortion used was one that, in reasonable medical judgment, provided the best opportunity for the unborn child to survive or, if such a method was not used, the basis of the determination that termination of the pregnancy in that manner posed a greater risk either of the death of the pregnant woman or of the substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function of the woman than other available methods.
- (2) The department shall collect the information under sub. (1) in a manner which the department shall specify and which ensures the anonymity of a patient who receives an induced abortion, a health care provider who provides an induced abortion and a hospital, clinic or other facility in which an induced abortion is performed. The department shall publish annual demographic summaries of the information obtained under this section, except that the department may not disclose any information obtained under this section that reveals the identity of any patient, health care provider or hospital, clinic or other facility and shall ensure anonymity in all of the following ways:
 - (a) The department may use information concerning the patient number under sub. (1) (b) or concerning the identity of a specific reporting hospital, clinic or other facility for purposes of information collection only and may not reproduce or extrapolate this information for any purpose.
 - (b) The department shall immediately destroy all reports submitted under sub. (1) after information is extrapolated from the reports for use in publishing the annual demographic summary under this subsection. information is extrapolated from the reports for use in publishing the annual demographic summary under this subsection.

In section 69.186, the term "induced abortion" means:

The termination of a uterine pregnancy by a physician of a woman known by the physician to be pregnant, for a purpose other than to produce a live birth or to remove a dead fetus.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health
Office of Health Informatics
Reported Induced Abortions in Wisconsin, 2018
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