

Facts about Abortion in America

Why does the issue of abortion affect you?

Based on 2008 abortion rates, by the age of 45, almost one in three women will have had an abortion in the United States.

How many abortions are performed in America?

According to the most recent data available (2011), 1.06 million abortions were performed, down from 1.21 million in 2008. Between 1980 and 2011, the U.S. has experienced a long-term decline in abortions.

What is the breakdown by age of women who obtain abortions?

The majority of women having abortions are in their 20s and account for approximately 60% of all abortions.

- Women ages 20–24 (34%)
- Women ages 25–29 (27%)

Teens account for 1 in 10 of all abortions (2014). Most have abortions in their older teens (18-19). In 2008, teens accounted for 2 in 10 of all abortions. This difference is attributed to improved access to and use of contraception among adolescents.

What is the demographic profile of women who obtain abortions?

- White women account for 39%, African Americans 28%, Hispanics 25% and all other ethnicities 9%.
- In 2014, 1 in 10 abortion patients had incomes below the federal poverty line (\$11,670 for a single woman with no children).
- 5 out of 10 women who have abortions identify as being religiously affiliated (30% Protestant and 24% as Catholic).
- Women who've never been married and are not cohabitating account for 46% of all abortions

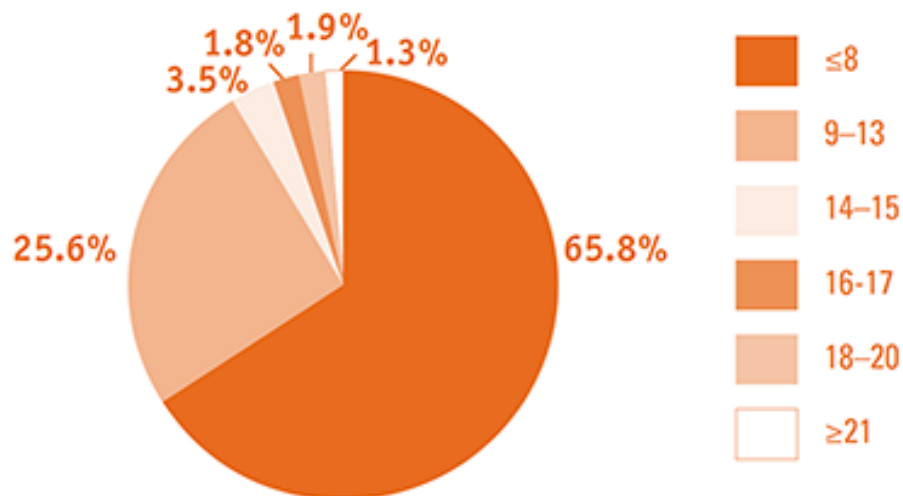
What are the reasons women have abortions?

The following data comes from “Reasons U.S. Women Have Abortions: Quantitative and Qualitative Perspectives” 2005 data from the Alan Guttmacher Institute.

- Not ready for a(nother) child/timing is wrong (25%)
- Can't afford a baby now (23%)
- Have completed my childbearing/have other people depending on me/children are grown (19%)
- Don't want to be a single mother/am having relationship problems (8%)
- Don't feel mature enough to raise a(nother) child/feel too young (7%)
- Would interfere with education or career plans (4%)
- Physical problems with my health (4%)
- Possible problems affect the health of the fetus (3%)
- Was a victim of rape (0.5%)
- Husband or partner wants me to have an abortion (0.5%)
- Parents want me to have an abortion (0.5%)
- Don't want people to know I had sex or got pregnant (0.5%)
- Other (6%)

When women have abortions:

Ninety-one percent of abortions occur in the first 13 weeks of pregnancy, 2012.



*In weeks from the last menstrual period.