

# Induced Abortion

According to South Dakota Codified Law chapter 34-23A, physicians are required to submit to the Department of Health the Report of Induced Abortion Form, a Voluntary and Informed Consent Form for all abortions, and a Parental Notice Form where applicable. The forms are provided in Appendix A on pages 235-238.

## An Overview: 2014

Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota	551
Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota on South Dakota Residents	476

## Patient Information

There were 551 abortions performed in South Dakota in 2014, down from 601 abortions performed in 2013. Of the 551 abortions performed in South Dakota, 476

or 86.4 percent were performed on South Dakota residents. Table 55, below, provides the residence and age breakdown for the abortions performed in South Dakota.

**Table 55**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's State of Residence and Age, 2014**

	Total	Age of Patient					
		0-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35 +
<b>Number</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>14.9</b>
<b>State of Residence</b>							
South Dakota	476	25	32	149	124	74	72
Minnesota	39	1	6	8	13	7	5
Iowa	26	2	0	8	8	3	5
Other	10	0	0	2	5	3	0

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Note: State of residence column may not total due to unknown state of residence on the forms.

Table 56, below, shows the breakdown of abortions by county of residence and Table 57, on the next page, shows the breakdown of abortions by city of residence for 2014.

**NOTE: To protect the privacy of the patient, only counties or cities with at least 10 events are included in each table.**

**Table 56**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's Resident County, 2014**

County	Induced Abortions	County	Induced Abortions
Brookings	33	Lincoln	14
Clay	17	Minnehaha	251
Hughes	16	Pennington	21

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

**Table 57**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring**  
**in South Dakota by Patient's Resident City, 2014**

Resident City	Number	Resident City	Number
Brookings	28	Sioux Falls	234
Pierre	14	Vermillion	12
Rapid City	20		

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 58, below, indicates that patients ages 20-24 comprised the largest percentage of the induced abortions which occurred in South Dakota with 30.3 percent of the abortions. Patients ages 25-29 comprised the next largest percent with 27.2 percent of abortions which occurred in

South Dakota. This is also true for South Dakota residents where patients ages 20-24 received 31.3 percent and patients ages 25-29 received 26.1 percent of the induced abortions performed in South Dakota on state residents.

**Table 58**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Age and**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions by Age, 2014**

Patients' Age	Occurring in South Dakota		South Dakota Residents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0-17	28	5.1	25	5.3
18-19	37	6.7	32	6.7
20-24	167	30.3	149	31.3
25-29	150	27.2	124	26.1
30-34	87	15.8	74	15.5
35-39	66	12.0	59	12.4
40+	16	2.9	13	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 59, below, indicates that of the abortions that occurred in South Dakota, 74.4 percent were white, 10.5 percent

American Indian, 10.5 percent black, and 4.5 percent were of some other race.

**Table 59**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's Age and Race, 2014**

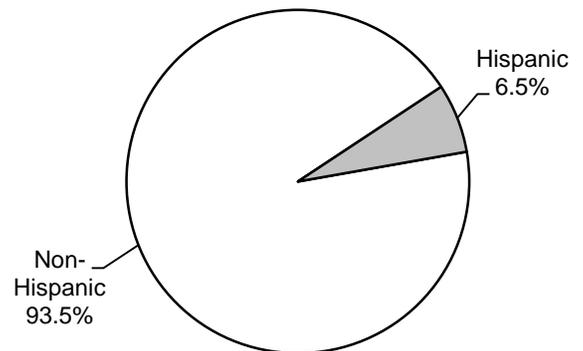
Patients' Age	Patients' Race				
	White	American Indian	Black	Asian	Other
<b>Number</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>
0-17	21	4	0	1	2
18-19	30	5	2	0	0
20-24	128	16	18	4	1
25-29	108	18	20	3	1
30-34	65	5	12	4	1
35-39	46	9	5	6	0
40 +	12	1	1	2	0

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 31, to the right, illustrates that most of the patients, 93.5 percent, were non-Hispanic. South Dakota's population consists of 3.9 percent Hispanic women age 15 to 44 based on the 2014 U.S. Census estimates.

Table 60, below, shows the education and marital status of the induced abortion patients. Considering education, 240 or 43.6 percent of the 551 patients who received induced abortions in South Dakota reported their highest level of education completed was high school graduate or less.

**Figure 31**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Ethnicity of Patient, 2014**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

**Table 60**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Patient's Education and Marital Status, 2014**

	Total	Marital Status	
		Single	Married
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Education of Patient</b>			
High School Graduate or Less	240	199	41
Some College, but No Degree	158	139	19
Vo-Tech, Teacher's Certificate, Associate Degree/Bachelor's Degree/Master's Degree/Doctorate	153	121	32

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Payment Information

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asks questions about how much the abortion cost and who paid for the abortion. Table 61, on the next page, indicates that in 2014, 87.5 percent of all abortions performed in South Dakota were self-pay while 10.2 percent were paid by private insurance and 2.4

percent were paid by public health plans. Of the 69 abortions paid by private insurance or a public health plan, eight were paid by a managed care insurance company, 58 by a fee-for-service insurance company, and three were some other type.

**Table 61**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Payment and Insurance Coverage Type, 2014**

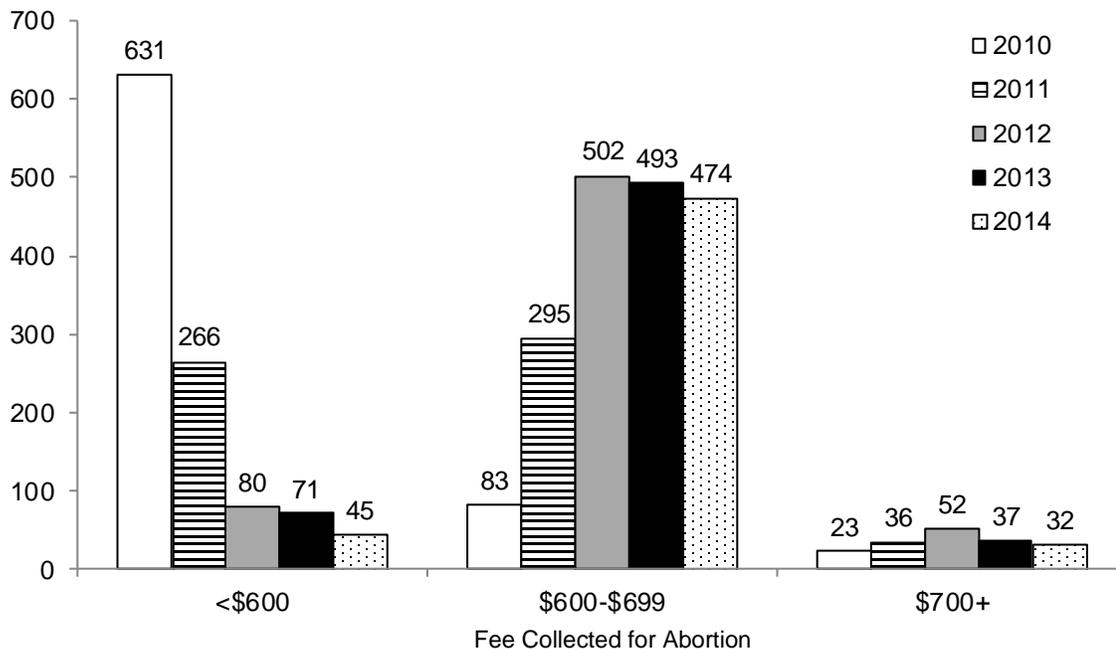
Payment Source	Total	Fee-for-service Insurance Co.	Managed Care Company	Other	No Insurance Used
Private Insurance	56	48	8	0	0
Public Health Plan	13	10	0	3	0
Self	482	0	0	0	482
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>482</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

In 2014, the majority of abortions, 86.0 percent, cost between \$600 and \$699.

Figure 32, below, displays a comparison of the fees for abortions for each year from 2010 to 2014.

**Figure 32**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Fee Collected for Abortion, 2010-2014**



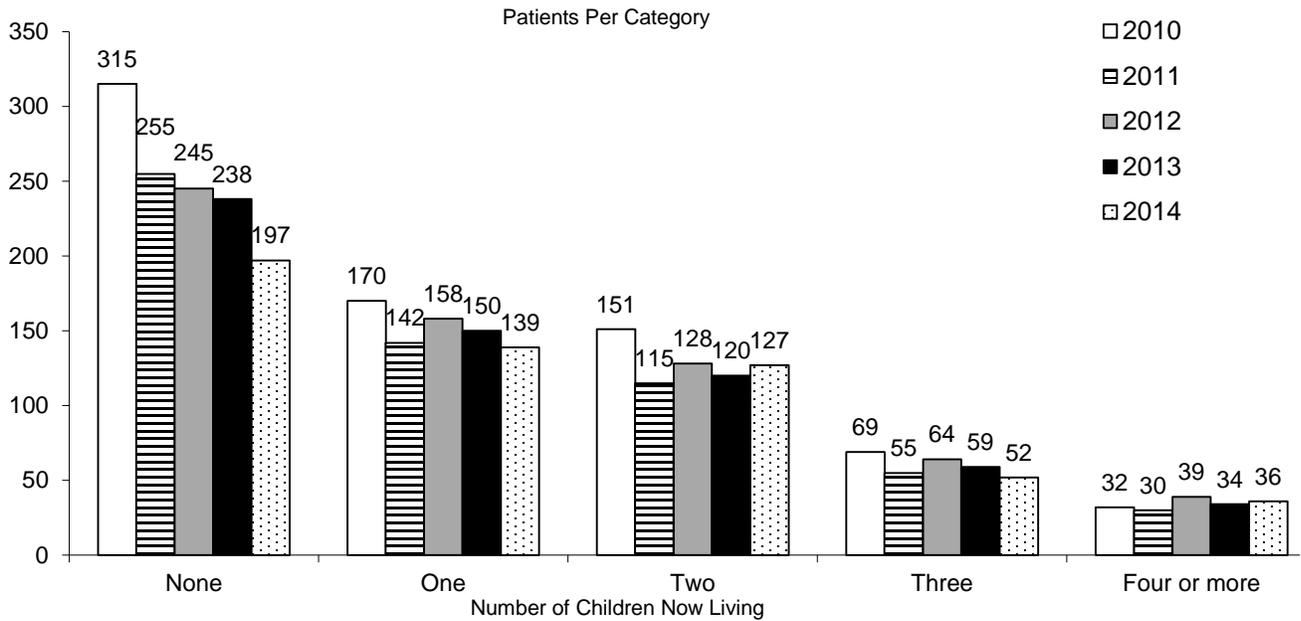
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Previous Pregnancies

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also includes a series of questions about previous pregnancies. Figure 33, on the next page, illustrates the number of children now living reported by the patients who received abortions in South Dakota for the past five years.

Of the patients reporting in 2014, 35.8 percent reported having no living children. Less than two percent had one or more live births that are now deceased.

**Figure 33**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by the Number of**  
**Patient's Children Who are Now Living, 2010-2014**

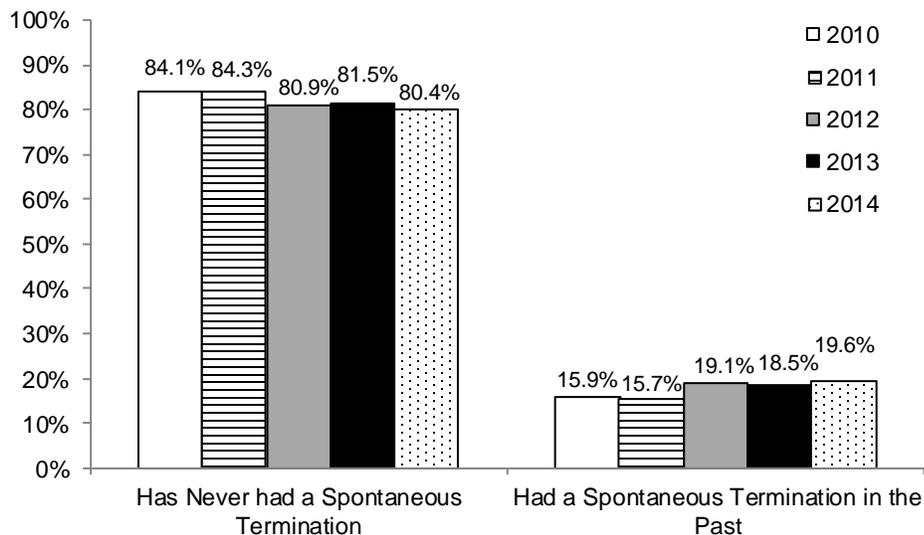


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 34, below, indicates that 19.6 percent of patients had a spontaneous termination in the past. For this report, a spontaneous termination is defined as a termination in which the process starts of its

own accord through natural causes. The majority of the patients, 80.4 percent, who obtained induced abortions in 2014 reported they had never had a spontaneous termination.

**Figure 34**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous Spontaneous**  
**Terminations, 2010-2014**

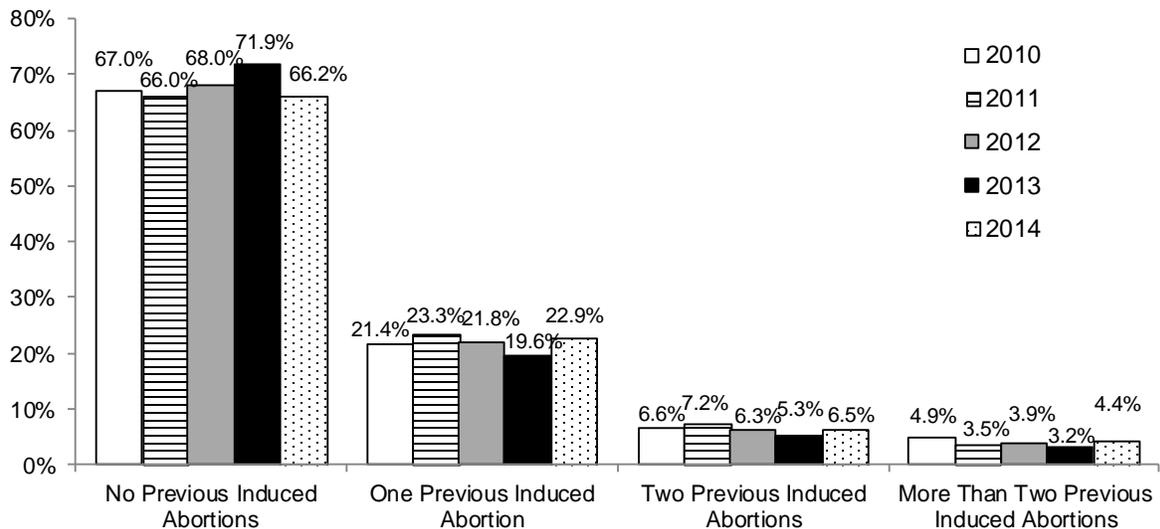


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 35, below, illustrates the number of previous induced abortions reported by the patients. An induced abortion is statutorily defined as the use of any means to intentionally terminate the pregnancy of a

patient known to be pregnant with knowledge that the termination with those means will, with reasonable likelihood, cause the death of the fetus.

**Figure 35**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous Induced Abortions, 2010-2014**



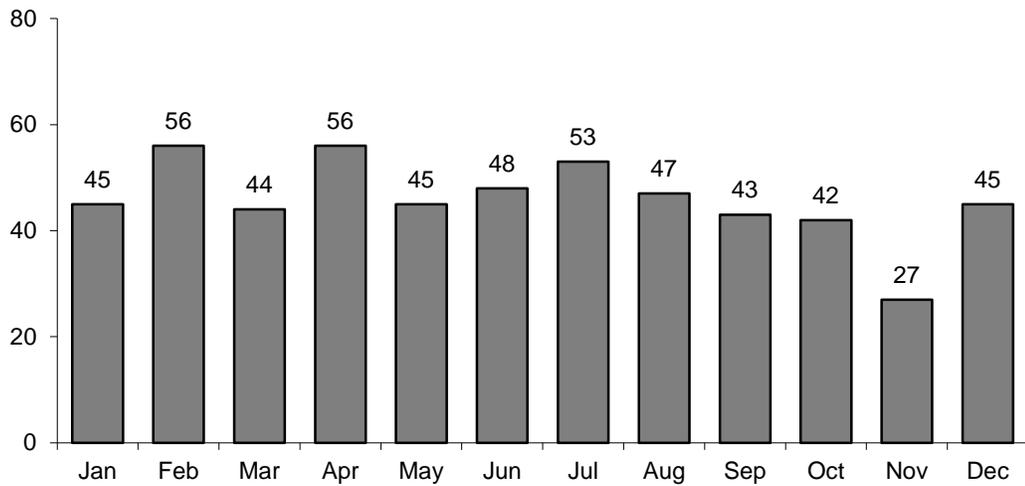
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

As seen in Figure 35, above, the majority of patients, 66.2 percent, reported that they had no previous induced abortions. In 2014, 22.9 percent had obtained one previous induced abortion and 10.9 percent had obtained more than one previous induced abortion. In 2013, 19.6 percent had one previous induced abortion while 8.5 percent had more than one previous induced abortion.

### Medical Information

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked a series of questions aimed at obtaining medical information. Figure 36, on the next page, lists the number of induced abortions performed in South Dakota during 2014 by month of occurrence. The fewest numbers of abortions were performed in November while the greatest occurred in February and April.

**Figure 36**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Month of Abortion, 2014**

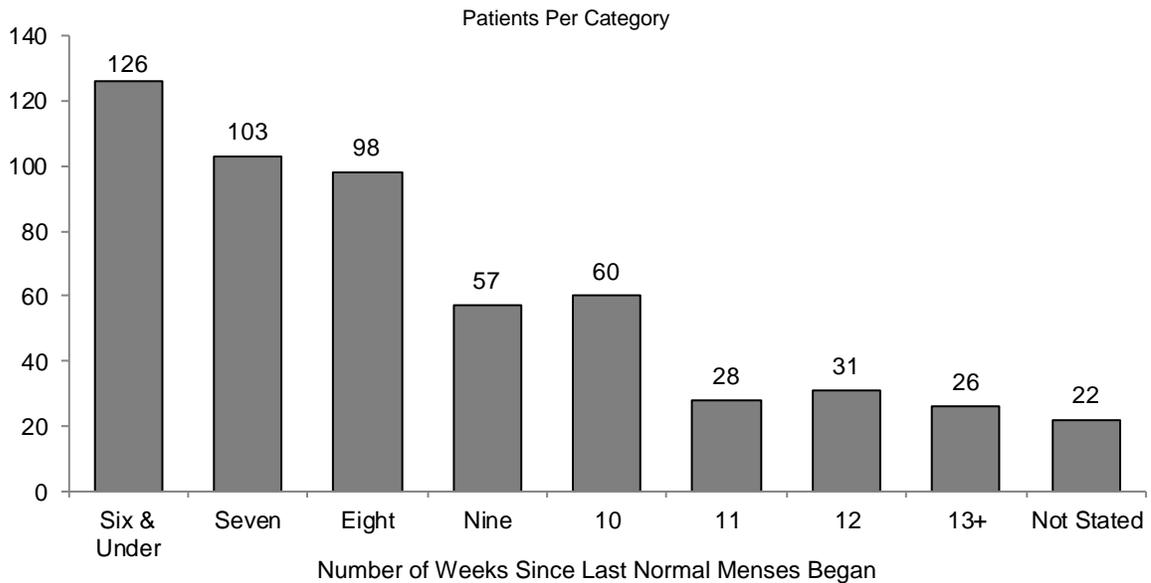


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 37, below, shows the number of weeks between the date the last normal menses began and the abortion date. Most

of the patients, 444, reported that their last normal menses began within 10 weeks prior to the induced abortion date.

**Figure 37**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Number of Weeks Since Last Normal Menses Began, 2014**

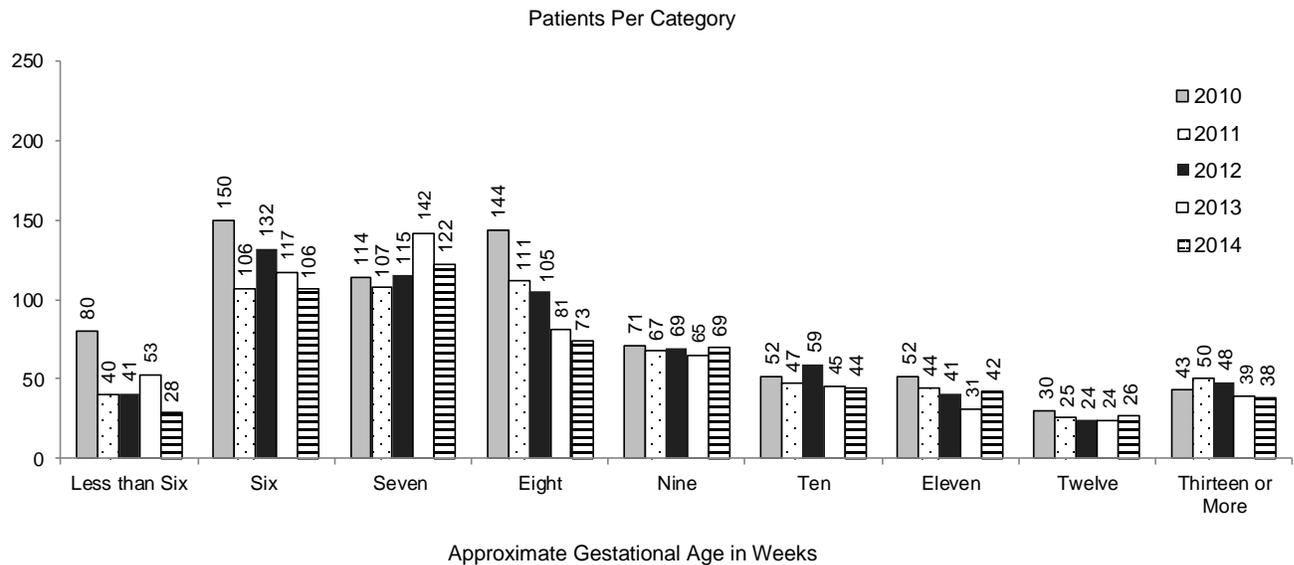


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 38, below, shows the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota from 2010 to 2014 by the clinical estimated weeks of gestation.

The largest number of patients in 2014, 122, received abortions at seven weeks of estimated gestation.

**Figure 38**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Approximate Gestational Age, 2010-2014**

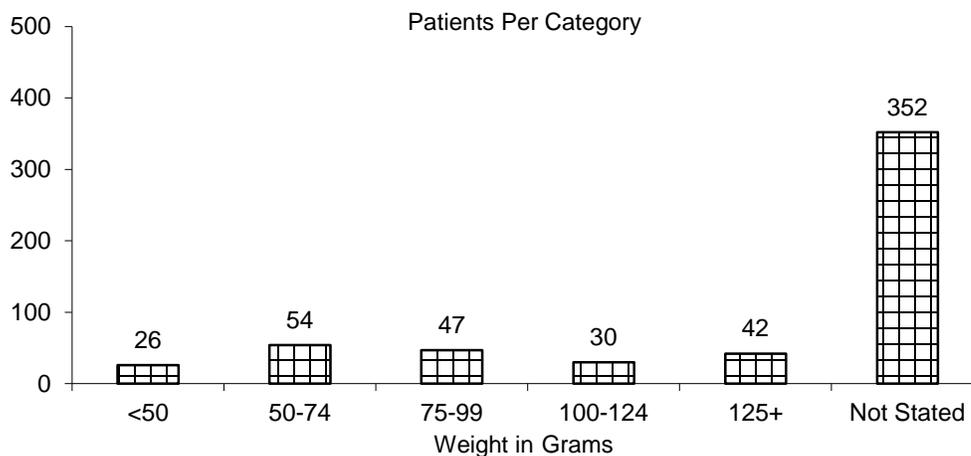


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 39, below, lists the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota by the weight of the fetus. The category with the largest number of

occurrences was the 50 to 74 gram category with 54 induced abortions. That is equivalent to approximately 1.8 to 2.6 ounces.

**Figure 39**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Weight of Fetus, 2014**



Note: One gram equals approximately 0.0353 ounces or one ounce equals approximately 28.3 grams.  
 Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 62, to the right, illustrates the number of abortions that were performed with the knowledge that a fetal abnormality existed. Of the abortions performed in 2014, 10 of the forms indicated that there was a fetal abnormality present at the time of the abortion. A majority of the forms indicated that it was unknown if a fetal abnormality was present at the time of the abortion.

**Table 62**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Fetal Abnormality, 2014**

Presence of Fetal Abnormality	Number	Percentage
Yes	10	1.8%
No	0	0.0%
Unknown	541	98.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

**Table 63**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Method of Disposal, 2014**

Method of Disposal	Number	Percentage
Incineration	316	57.4%
Unknown/ Medical	235	42.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

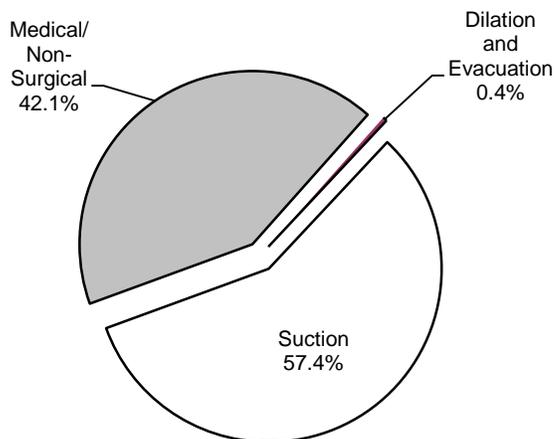
Table 63, to the left, indicates the method used to dispose of the fetus in 2014. The main method of disposal in 2014 was incineration with 316 or 57.4 percent.

### Termination Procedure

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked questions about the termination procedure. Figure 40, to the right, illustrates the primary procedures used to perform induced abortions in South Dakota in 2014.

In 2014, medical/non-surgical was used for 42.1 percent of the abortions while dilation and evacuation was used for less than one percent of abortions. The majority used suction in 2014 with an overall percentage of 57.4 percent.

**Figure 40**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Primary Procedure Used, 2014**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

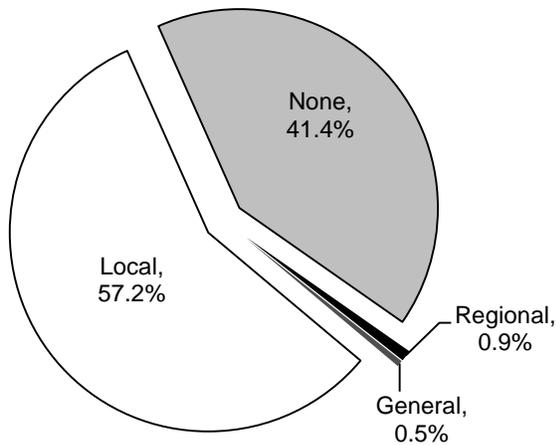
Table 64, to the right, indicates additional procedures that were used to terminate the pregnancy in 2014. The majority of abortions, 95.1 percent, did not require an additional procedure. There were three cases of maternal complications reported to the Department of Health in 2014. Figure 41, below, illustrates the type of anesthetic used for abortions performed in South Dakota.

**Table 64**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Any Additional Procedures Used, 2014**

Additional Procedures Used	Number	Percentage
No Additional Procedure	524	95.1%
Sharp Curettage	27	4.9%

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

**Figure 41**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Type of Anesthetic Used, 2014**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

In 2014, 57.2 percent of patients were given a local anesthetic, 0.9 percent were given a regional anesthetic, and 0.5 percent were given a general anesthetic. Patients who received no anesthetic made up 41.4 percent.

Reason for the Induced Abortion

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asked a question about the reason for the induced abortion. Table 65, on the next page, illustrates the reasons that patients had induced abortions from 2010 to 2014. The patient did not desire to have the child has been the highest response since 2010.

The patient could not afford the child has been the second highest response since 2010. In 2013, 38.1 percent of patients gave more than one response while in 2014, 38.5 percent of patients gave more than one response.

**Table 65**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Reason for Abortion, 2010-2014**

Reason for Induced Abortion	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	Number	Percent								
The mother did not desire to have the child	487	66.1%	363	60.8%	401	63.2%	393	65.4%	345	62.6%
The mother could not afford the child	329	44.6%	299	50.1%	317	50.0%	290	48.3%	263	47.7%
The mother's emotional health was at risk	48	6.5%	37	6.2%	57	9.0%	53	8.8%	64	11.6%
The mother would suffer substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function if the pregnancy continued	14	1.9%	20	3.4%	14	2.2%	20	3.3%	34	6.2%
The pregnancy was a result of rape or incest	6	0.8%	12	2.0%	16	2.5%	7	1.2%	4	0.7%
Other	57	7.7%	63	10.6%	74	11.7%	117	19.5%	115	20.9%
Refused to answer	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

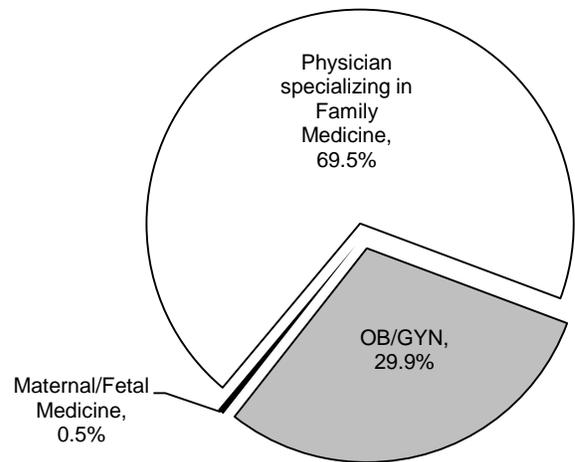
Physician Specialty Information

Figure 42, to the right, illustrates the specialty of the physicians who performed abortions in South Dakota in 2014. The majority of abortions were performed by a family medicine physician. During the 2014 reporting period, none of the physicians who performed induced abortions in South Dakota had their license revoked or suspended or had been subject to other professional sanctions.

Voluntary and Informed Consent Form

All the report forms received by the South Dakota Department of Health for induced abortions performed in 2014 indicated that patients received the required disclosures.

**Figure 42**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Physician's Specialty, 2014**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

The Voluntary and Informed Consent form is used to collect data regarding informed consent information supplied to abortion patients.

There were a total of 613 Voluntary and Informed Consent forms received. Of those, 551 indicated that the patient went on to obtain the induced abortion while 62 did not have the procedure.

One patient obtained an induced abortion and was not provided information because of a medical emergency or because a delay would have created a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function.

The data showed that of the 613 Voluntary and Informed Consent forms received, 571 received the medical information in person. One received the information by telephone and in person. Of the 613 forms that were received, 570 indicated that the medical information was provided by the physician performing the induced abortion. One indicated that the medical information was provided by a referring physician.

Physicians performing the abortion supplied 602 of the patients with the resource information. Five reported receiving the information from both an agent of the physician performing the abortion as well as the physician performing the abortion. Five reported receiving the information from a referring physician. A total of 607 patients reported receiving the resource information by telephone and five reported receiving the information in person.

Of the 613 forms received, 612 indicated that the patient was offered the printed materials on public and private assistance agencies. It was reported that 23 patients accepted this information, while 589 did not accept the information.

Of the 613 forms received, 612 indicated that the patient was offered the Fetal Growth and Development Booklet. It was reported that 17 patients accepted this information, while 595 did not accept the information.

Of the 613 forms received, 612 indicated that the patient was offered the DOH website address for "Information on Fetal Development, Birth, Abortion and Adoption". It was reported that 26 patients accepted this information, while 586 did not accept the information.

Of the 613 forms received, 612 indicated that the patient was offered the opportunity to view the sonogram. Of these, 279 accepted the opportunity to view the sonogram, while 333 did not accept the opportunity to view the sonogram.

#### Parental Notice

Of the 28 Parental Consent forms received, 27 indicated the patient was an unemancipated minor, and one indicated the patient was an unemancipated minor, with guardian notice required due to court-ordered guardianship or conservatorship. Twenty-seven forms indicated notice was given to the patient's parent, one indicated notice was given to the patient's guardian. Twenty-eight minor patients went on to have the induced abortion.