

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 219-222.

An Overview: 2015

Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota	444
Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota on South Dakota Residents	385

Patient Information

There were 444 abortions performed in South Dakota in 2015, down from 551 abortions performed in 2014. Of the 444 abortions performed in South Dakota, 385

or 86.7 percent were performed on South Dakota residents. Table 64, below, provides the residence and age breakdown for the abortions performed in South Dakota.

**Table 64
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's State of Residence and Age, 2015**

	Total	Age of Patient					
		0-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35 +
Number	444	17	25	145	112	85	60
Percent	100	3.8	5.6	32.7	25.2	19.1	13.5
State of Residence							
South Dakota	385	14	17	125	101	75	53
Minnesota	28	1	6	8	6	4	3
Iowa	22	1	1	8	5	5	2
Other	9	1	1	4	0	1	2

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 65, below, shows the breakdown of abortions by county of residence and Table 66, on the next page, shows the breakdown of abortions by city of residence for 2015.

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

**Table 65
South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's Resident County, 2015**

County	Induced Abortions	County	Induced Abortions
Brookings	27	Lincoln	16
Brown	10	Minnehaha	204
Codington	12	Yankton	12
Davison	18		

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

Table 66
South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring
in South Dakota by Patient's Resident City, 2015

Resident City	Number	Resident City	Number
Brookings	25	Watertown	12
Mitchell	17	Yankton	12
Sioux Falls	194		

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

Table 67, below, indicates that patients ages 20-24 comprised the largest percentage of the induced abortions which occurred in South Dakota with 32.7 percent of the abortions. Patients ages 25-29 comprised the next largest percent with 25.2 percent of abortions which occurred in

South Dakota. This was also true for South Dakota residents where patients ages 20-24 received 32.5 percent and patients ages 25-29 received 26.2 percent of the induced abortions performed in South Dakota on state residents.

Table 67
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Age and
South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions by Age, 2015

Patients' Age	Occurring in South Dakota		South Dakota Residents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0-17	17	3.8	14	3.6
18-19	25	5.6	17	4.4
20-24	145	32.7	125	32.5
25-29	112	25.2	101	26.2
30-34	85	19.1	75	19.5
35-39	46	10.4	42	9.5
40+	14	3.2	11	2.9
Total	444	100	385	100

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

Table 68, below, indicates that of the abortions that occurred in South Dakota, 76.6 percent were white, 10.1 percent

American Indian, 9.0 percent black, and 4.3 percent were of some other race.

Table 68
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's Age and Race, 2015

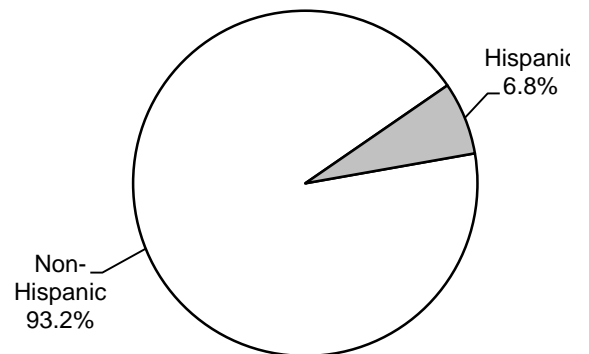
Patients' Age	Patients' Race				
	White	American Indian	Black	Asian	Other
Number	340	45	40	14	5
Percent	76.6	10.1	9.0	3.2	1.1
0-17	15	0	2	0	0
18-19	22	2	1	0	0
20-24	106	19	12	4	4
25-29	85	12	10	5	0
30-34	62	10	9	3	1
35-39	39	2	3	2	0
40 +	11	0	3	0	0

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

Figure 35, to the right, illustrates that most of the patients, 93.2 percent, were non-Hispanic. South Dakota's population consists of 4.1 percent Hispanic women age 15 to 44 based on the 2015 U.S. Census estimates.

Table 69, below, shows the education and marital status of the induced abortion patients. Considering education, 178 or 40.1 percent of the 444 patients who received induced abortions in South Dakota reported their highest level of education completed was high school graduate or less.

Figure 35
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Ethnicity of Patient, 2015



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

Table 69
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Patient's Education and Marital Status, 2015

Education of Patient	Marital Status					
	Total		Single		Married	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
	444	100	361	81.3	83	18.7
High School Graduate or Less	178	100	150	84.3	28	15.7
Some College, but No Degree	146	100	126	86.3	20	13.7
Vo-Tech, Teacher's Certificate, Associate Degree/Bachelor's Degree/Master's Degree/Doctorate	120	100	85	70.8	35	29.2

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 70, on the next page, indicates that in 2015, 85.8 percent of all abortions performed in South Dakota were self-pay while 11.5 percent were paid by private insurance and 2.7

percent were paid by public health plans. Of the 63 abortions paid by private insurance or a public health plan, 10 were paid by a managed care insurance company and 53 were paid by a fee-for-service insurance company.

**Table 70
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Payment and Insurance Coverage Type, 2015**

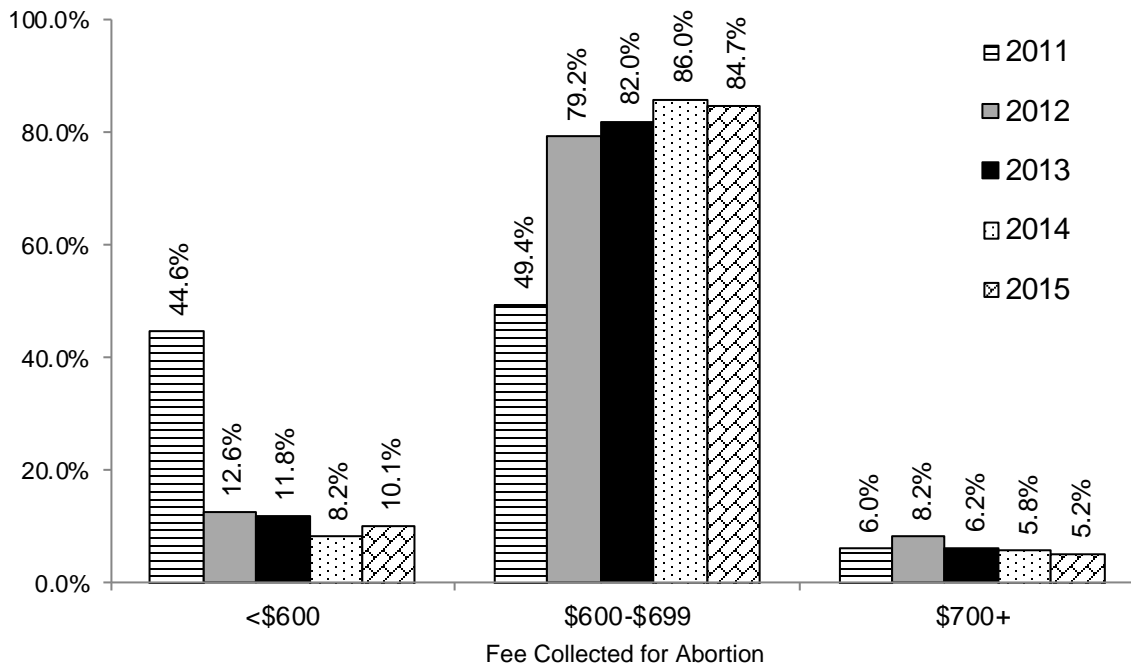
Payment Source	Total	Fee-for-service Insurance Co.	Managed Care Company	No Insurance Used
Private Insurance	51	45	6	0
Public Health Plan	12	8	4	0
Self	381	0	0	381
Total	444	53	10	381

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

In 2015, the majority of abortions, 84.7 percent, cost between \$600 and \$699.

Figure 36, below, displays a comparison of the fees for abortions for each year from 2011 to 2015.

**Figure 36
Percent of Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Fee Collected for Abortion, 2011-2015**



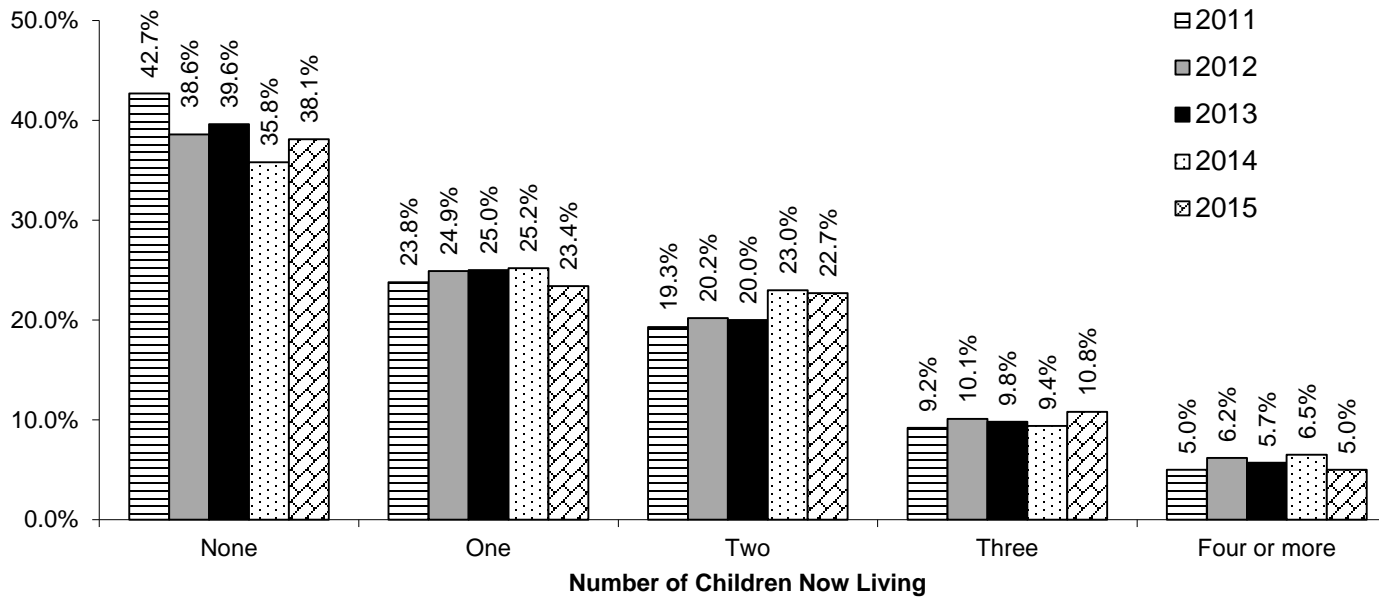
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Previous Pregnancies

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also includes a series of questions about previous pregnancies. Figure 37, 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 2015, 38.1 percent reported having no living children. Less than two percent had one or more live births that are now deceased.

Figure 37
Percent of Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by the Number of Patient's Children Who are Now Living, 2011-2015

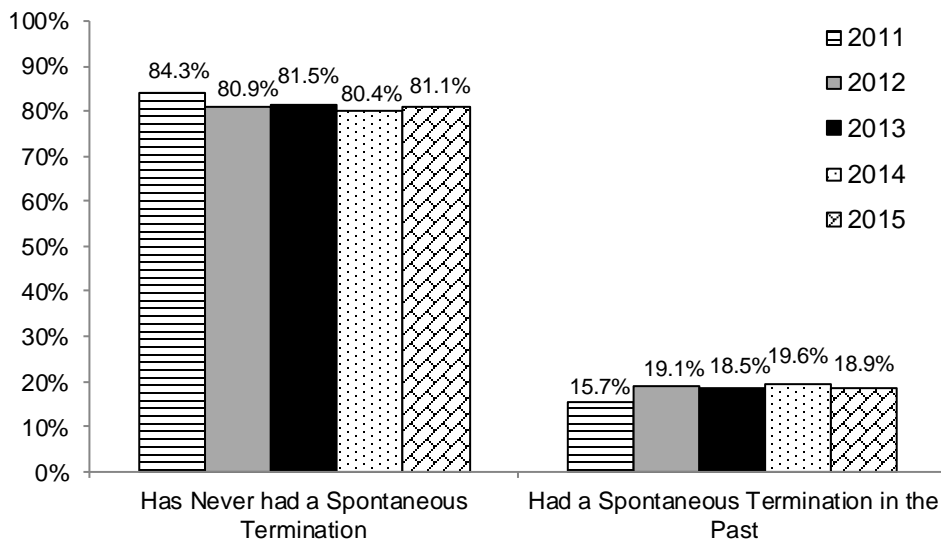


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 38, below, indicates that 18.9 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, 81.1 percent, who obtained induced abortions in 2015 reported they had never had a spontaneous termination.

Figure 38
Percent of Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous Spontaneous Terminations, 2011-2015

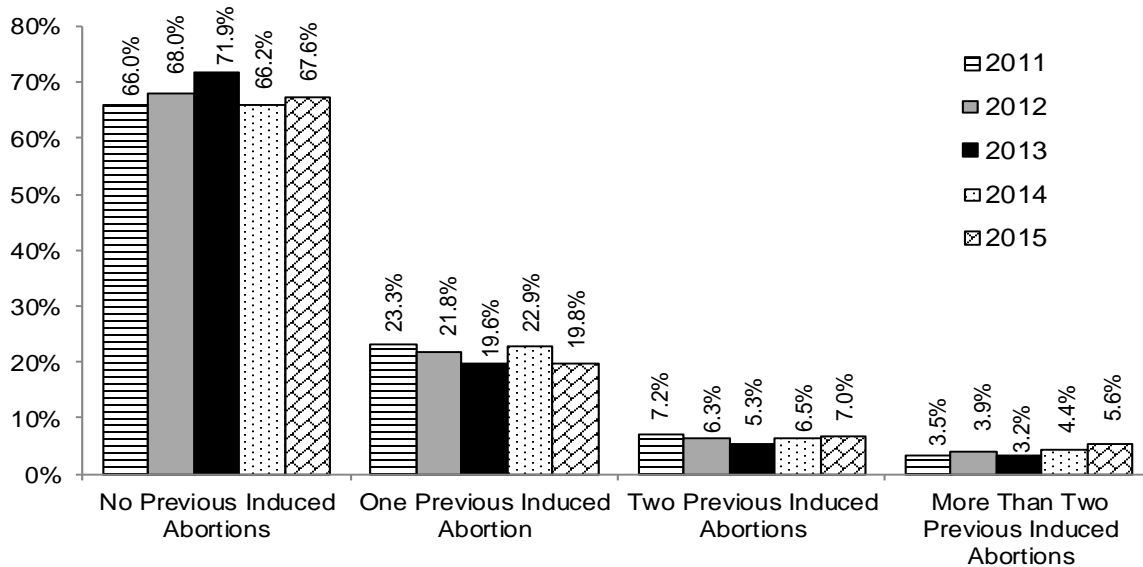


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 39, 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 39
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous Induced Abortions, 2011-2015



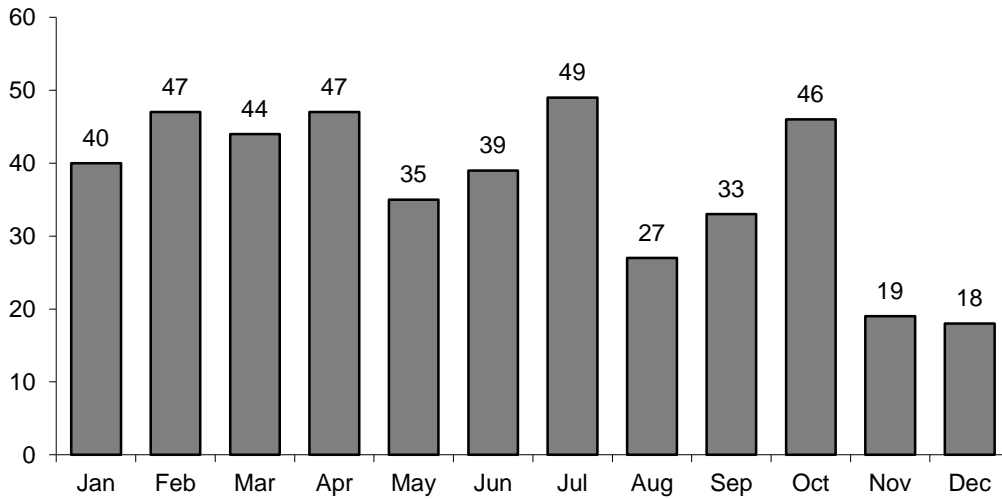
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

As seen in Figure 39, above, the majority of patients, 67.6 percent, reported that they had no previous induced abortions. In 2015, 19.8 percent had obtained one previous induced abortion and 12.6 percent had obtained more than one previous induced abortion. In 2014, 22.9 percent had one previous induced abortion while 10.9 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 40, on the next page, lists the number of induced abortions performed in South Dakota during 2015 by month of occurrence. The fewest numbers of abortions were performed in December while the greatest occurred in February and April.

Figure 40
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Month of Abortion, 2015

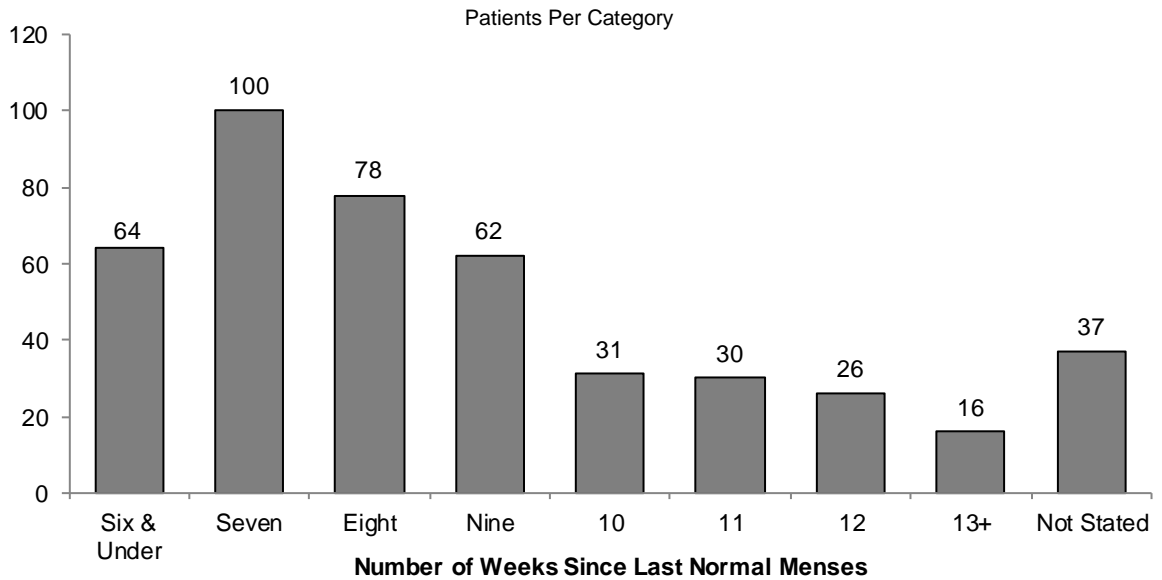


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 41, below, shows the number of weeks between the date the last normal menses began and the abortion date. Most

of the patients, 335, reported that their last normal menses began within 10 weeks prior to the induced abortion date.

Figure 41
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Number of Weeks Since Last Normal Menses Began, 2015

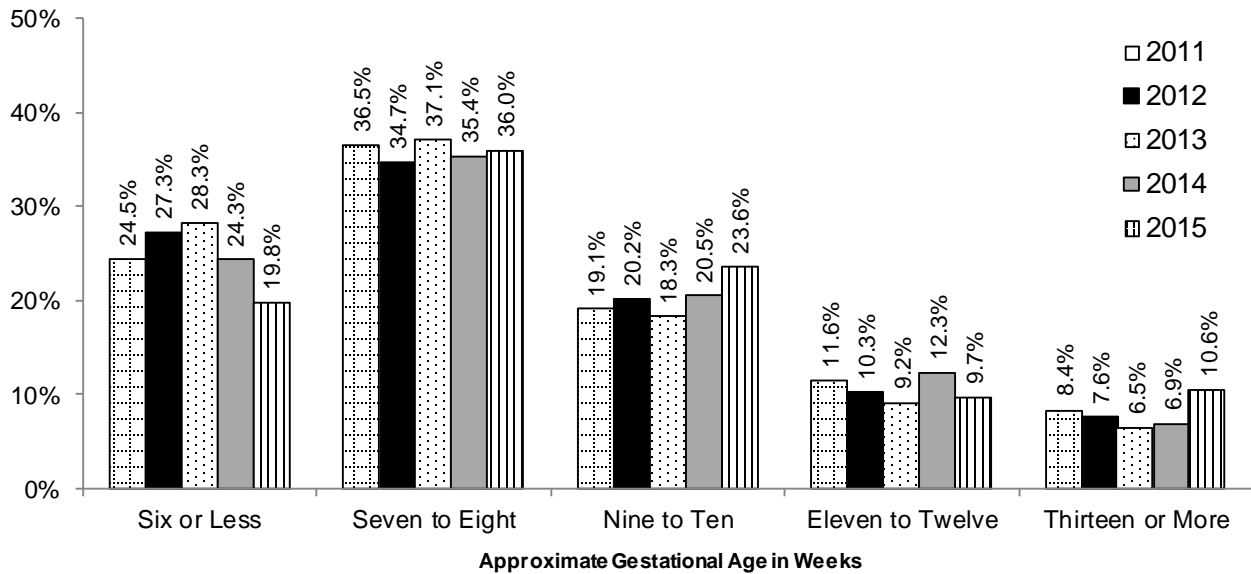


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 42, below, shows the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota from 2011 to 2015 by the clinical estimated weeks of gestation.

The largest percentage of patients in 2015, 36.0 percent, received abortions at seven to eight weeks of estimated gestation.

Figure 42
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Approximate Gestational Age, 2011-2015

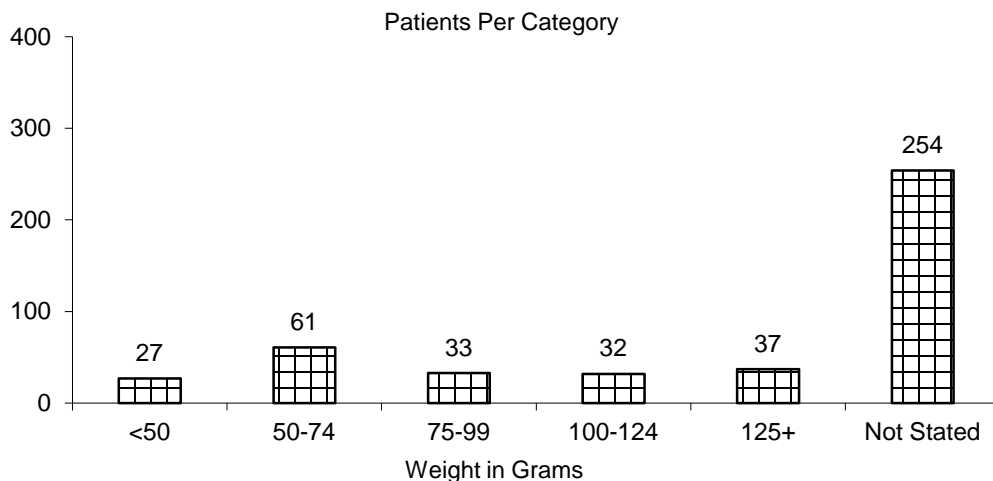


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 43, 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 43
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Weight of Fetus, 2015



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 71, to the right, illustrates the number of abortions that were performed with the knowledge that a fetal abnormality existed. Of the abortions performed in 2015, six 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 71
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Fetal Abnormality, 2015

Presence of Fetal Abnormality	Number	Percentage
Yes	6	1.4%
No	1	0.2%
Unknown	437	98.4%
Total	444	100%

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

Table 72
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Method of Disposal, 2015

Method of Disposal	Number	Percentage
Incineration	267	60.1%
Unknown/ Medical	175	39.4%
Total	444	100%

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

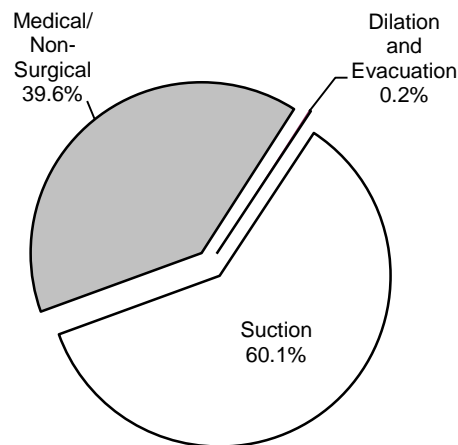
Table 72, to the left, indicates the method used to dispose of the fetus in 2015. The main method of disposal in 2015 was incineration with 267 or 60.1 percent.

Termination Procedure

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked questions about the termination procedure. Figure 44, to the right, illustrates the primary procedures used to perform induced abortions in South Dakota in 2015.

In 2015, medical/non-surgical was used for 39.6 percent of the abortions while dilation and evacuation was used for less than one percent of abortions. The majority used suction in 2015 with an overall percentage of 60.1 percent.

Figure 44
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Primary Procedure Used, 2015



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

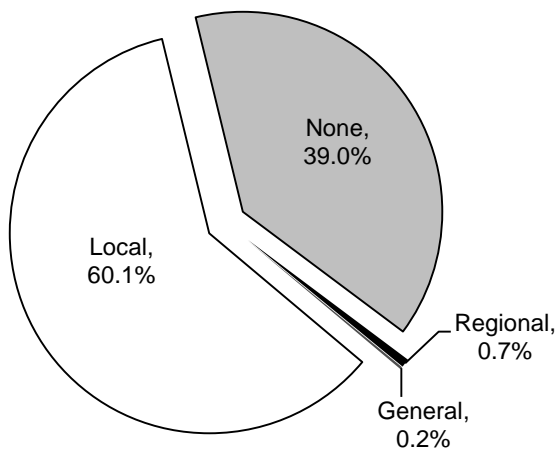
Table 73, to the right, indicates additional procedures that were used to terminate the pregnancy in 2015. The majority of abortions, 91.9 percent, did not require an additional procedure. There were two cases of maternal complications reported to the Department of Health in 2015.

Table 73
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Any Additional Procedures Used, 2015

Additional Procedures Used	Number	Percentage
No Additional Procedure	408	91.9%
Sharp Curettage	36	8.1%

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

Figure 45
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Type of Anesthetic Used, 2015



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

Figure 45, to the left, illustrates the type of anesthetic used for abortions performed in South Dakota. In 2015, 60.1 percent of patients were given a local anesthetic, 0.7 percent were given a regional anesthetic, and 0.2 percent were given a general anesthetic. Patients who received no anesthetic made up 39.0 percent.

Reason for the Induced Abortion

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asked a question about the reason for the induced abortion. Table 74, on the next page, illustrates the reasons that patients had induced abortions from 2011 to 2015. The patient did not desire to have the child has been the highest response since 2011.

The patient could not afford the child has been the second highest response since 2011. In 2014, 38.5 percent of patients gave more than one response while in 2015, 39.6 percent of patients gave more than one response.

Table 74
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Reason for Abortion, 2011-2015

Reason for Induced Abortion	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
The mother did not desire to have the child	363	60.8%	401	63.2%	393	65.4%	345	62.6%	280	63.1%
The mother could not afford the child	299	50.1%	317	50.0%	290	48.3%	263	47.7%	210	47.3%
The mother's emotional health was at risk	37	6.2%	57	9.0%	53	8.8%	64	11.6%	53	11.9%
The mother would suffer substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function if the pregnancy continued	20	3.4%	14	2.2%	20	3.3%	34	6.2%	13	2.9%
The pregnancy was a result of rape or incest	12	2.0%	16	2.5%	7	1.2%	4	0.7%	5	1.1%
Other	63	10.6%	74	11.7%	117	19.5%	115	20.9%	108	24.3%
Refused to answer	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Note: Percents do not add to 100 because multiple reasons can be given.
 Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

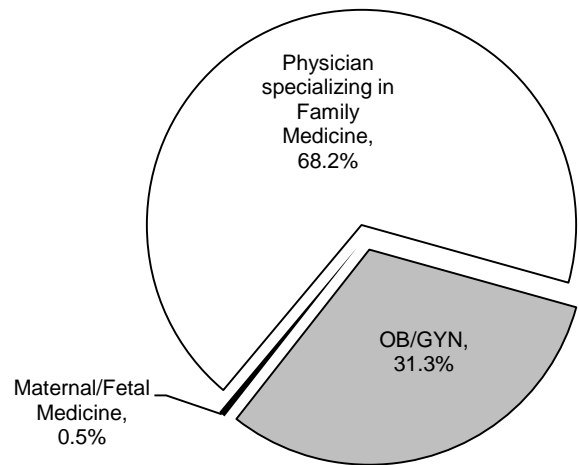
Physician Specialty Information

Figure 46, to the right, illustrates the specialty of the physicians who performed abortions in South Dakota in 2015. The majority of abortions were performed by a family medicine physician. During the 2015 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 2015 indicated that patients received the required disclosures.

Figure 46
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Physician's Specialty, 2015



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 519 Voluntary and Informed Consent forms received. Of those, 444 indicated that the patient went on to obtain the induced abortion while 75 did not have the procedure.

The data showed that of the 519 Voluntary and Informed Consent forms received, 475 received the medical information in person. Of the 519 forms that were received, 476 indicated that the medical information was provided by the physician performing the induced abortion.

Physicians performing the abortion supplied 516 of the patients with the resource information. One reported receiving the information from both an agent of the physician performing the abortion as well as the physician performing the abortion. One reported receiving the information from a referring physician and the physician performing the abortion. One reported receiving the information from an agent of the physician performing the abortion. A total of 513 patients reported receiving the resource information by telephone and six reported receiving the information in person.

Of the 519 forms received, 519 indicated that the patient was offered the printed materials on public and private assistance agencies. It was reported that 27 patients accepted this information, while 492 did not accept the information.

Of the 519 forms received, 519 indicated that the patient was offered the Fetal Growth and Development Booklet. It was reported that 22 patients accepted this information, while 497 did not accept the information.

Of the 519 forms received, 519 indicated that the patient was offered the DOH website address for "Information on Fetal Development, Birth, Abortion and Adoption". It was reported that 24 patients accepted this information, while 495 did not accept the information.

Of the 519 forms received, 519 indicated that the patient was offered the opportunity to view the sonogram. Of these, 249 accepted the opportunity to view the sonogram, while 270 did not accept the opportunity to view the sonogram.

Parental Notice

Of the 17 Parental Consent forms received, 17 indicated the patient was an unemancipated minor. All 17 forms indicated notice was given to the patient's parent. All 17 minor patients went on to have the induced abortion.