

# 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 241-244.

## An Overview: 2010

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Total Induced Abortions<br>Performed in South Dakota                              | 737 |
| Total Induced Abortions<br>Performed in South Dakota<br>on South Dakota Residents | 637 |

## Patient Information

There were 737 abortions performed in South Dakota in 2010, down from the 769 abortions performed in 2009. Of the 737 abortions performed in South Dakota, 637 or

86.4 percent were performed on South Dakota residents. Table 53, below, provides the residence and age breakdown for the abortions performed in South Dakota.

**Table 53**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's State of Residence and Age, 2010**

|                                  | Total | AGE OF PATIENT |       |       |       |       |      |
|----------------------------------|-------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
|                                  |       | 0-17           | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35 + |
| <b>Number</b>                    | 737   | 36             | 75    | 279   | 178   | 102   | 67   |
| <b>Percent</b>                   | 100   | 4.9            | 10.2  | 37.9  | 24.2  | 13.8  | 9.1  |
| <b><u>State of Residence</u></b> |       |                |       |       |       |       |      |
| South Dakota                     | 637   | 26             | 65    | 243   | 160   | 89    | 54   |
| Minnesota                        | 65    | 7              | 4     | 25    | 13    | 8     | 8    |
| Iowa                             | 24    | 3              | 4     | 6     | 4     | 3     | 4    |
| Other                            | 11    | 0              | 2     | 5     | 1     | 2     | 1    |

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

**Table 54**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Patient's Resident County, 2010**

| County      | Induced Abortions | County     | Induced Abortions |
|-------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Aurora      | ---               | Hyde       | ---               |
| Beadle      | 16                | Jackson    | 0                 |
| Bennett     | ---               | Jerauld    | ---               |
| Bon Homme   | ---               | Jones      | ---               |
| Brookings   | 41                | Kingsbury  | 0                 |
| Brown       | 20                | Lake       | 12                |
| Brule       | ---               | Lawrence   | 11                |
| Buffalo     | ---               | Lincoln    | 31                |
| Butte       | ---               | Lyman      | ---               |
| Campbell    | 0                 | McCook     | ---               |
| Charles Mix | ---               | McPherson  | 0                 |
| Clark       | ---               | Marshall   | ---               |
| Clay        | 12                | Meade      | 10                |
| Codington   | 16                | Mellette   | 0                 |
| Corson      | 0                 | Miner      | ---               |
| Custer      | 0                 | Minnehaha  | 241               |
| Davison     | 17                | Moody      | ---               |
| Day         | 0                 | Pennington | 66                |
| Deuel       | 0                 | Perkins    | ---               |
| Dewey       | ---               | Potter     | 0                 |
| Douglas     | 0                 | Roberts    | ---               |
| Edmunds     | 0                 | Sanborn    | ---               |
| Fall River  | ---               | Shannon    | ---               |
| Faulk       | 0                 | Spink      | ---               |
| Grant       | ---               | Stanley    | ---               |
| Gregory     | ---               | Sully      | 0                 |
| Haakon      | ---               | Todd       | 23                |
| Hamlin      | ---               | Tripp      | ---               |
| Hand        | ---               | Turner     | ---               |
| Hanson      | ---               | Union      | ---               |
| Harding     | 0                 | Walworth   | ---               |
| Hughes      | 13                | Yankton    | ---               |
| Hutchinson  | ---               | Ziebach    | 0                 |

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

Table 54, above, shows the breakdown of abortions by county of residence and Table 55, below, shows the breakdown of abortions by city of residence for 2010.

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

**Table 55**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring**  
**in South Dakota by Patient's Resident City, 2010**

| Resident City | Number | Resident City | Number |
|---------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Aberdeen      | 17     | Rapid City    | 43     |
| Brookings     | 34     | Sioux Falls   | 236    |
| Huron         | 12     | Vermillion    | 12     |
| Mitchell      | 16     | Watertown     | 15     |
| Pierre        | 11     | All Other     | 241    |
| <b>TOTAL:</b> |        | <b>637</b>    |        |

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

Table 56, below, indicates that patients ages 20-24 comprised the largest percentage of the induced abortions which occurred in South Dakota with 37.9 percent of the abortions. Patients ages 25-29 comprised the next largest percent with 24.1 percent of abortions which occurred in South Dakota. This is also true for South Dakota residents where patients ages 20-24 received 38.1 percent and patients ages 25-29

received 25.1 percent of the induced abortions performed in South Dakota on state residents.

Table 57, below, indicates that of the abortions that occurred in South Dakota, 76.4 percent were white, 10.4 percent American Indian, 6.4 percent black, 3.2 percent multiracial and 3.6 percent were of some other race.

**Table 56**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Age and**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions by Age, 2010**

| Patients' Age | Occurring in South Dakota |              | South Dakota Residents |              |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
|               | Number                    | Percent      | Number                 | Percent      |
| <=17          | 36                        | 4.9          | 26                     | 4.1          |
| 18-19         | 75                        | 10.2         | 65                     | 10.2         |
| 20-24         | 279                       | 37.9         | 243                    | 38.1         |
| 25-29         | 178                       | 24.1         | 160                    | 25.1         |
| 30-34         | 102                       | 13.8         | 89                     | 14.0         |
| 35-39         | 50                        | 6.8          | 39                     | 6.1          |
| 40+           | 17                        | 2.3          | 15                     | 2.4          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>737</b>                | <b>100.0</b> | <b>637</b>             | <b>100.0</b> |

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

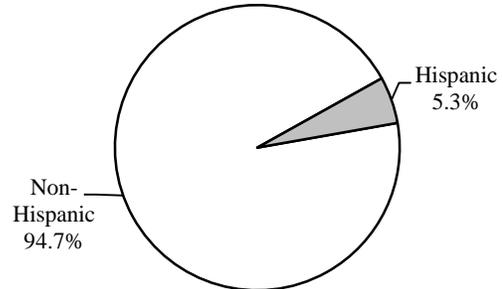
**Table 57**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by**  
**Patient's Age and Race, 2010**

| Patients' Age  | Patients' Race |                 |            |                   |            |            |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
|                | White          | American Indian | Black      | Two or More Races | Other      | Not Stated |
| <b>Number</b>  | <b>557</b>     | <b>76</b>       | <b>47</b>  | <b>23</b>         | <b>26</b>  | <b>8</b>   |
| <b>Percent</b> | <b>76.4</b>    | <b>10.4</b>     | <b>6.4</b> | <b>3.2</b>        | <b>3.6</b> | <b>-</b>   |
| <=17           | 26             | 4               | 2          | 1                 | 2          | 1          |
| 18-19          | 56             | 10              | 3          | 2                 | 2          | 2          |
| 20-24          | 208            | 28              | 21         | 12                | 9          | 1          |
| 25-29          | 138            | 19              | 12         | 3                 | 5          | 1          |
| 30-34          | 74             | 11              | 6          | 3                 | 6          | 2          |
| 35-39          | 41             | 4               | 2          | 1                 | 1          | 1          |
| 40 +           | 14             | 0               | 1          | 1                 | 1          | 0          |

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

Figure 26, to the right, illustrates that most of the patients, 94.7 percent, were non-Hispanic. South Dakota’s population consists of 3.1 percent Hispanic women age 15 to 44 based on the 2010 U.S. Census.

**Figure 26**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Ethnicity of Patient, 2010**



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

Table 58, below, shows the education and marital status of the induced abortion patients. Considering education, 178 or 24.2 percent of the 737 patients who received induced abortions in South Dakota reported their highest level of education completed was high school graduate or GED.

**Table 58**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Patient’s Education and Marital Status, 2010**

|                                    | Marital Status |            |            |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------|------------|
|                                    | Total          | Single     | Married    |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>737</b>     | <b>622</b> | <b>115</b> |
| <b>Education of Patient</b>        |                |            |            |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade or Less      | 18             | 12         | 6          |
| Some High School                   | 92             | 82         | 10         |
| High School Graduate or GED        | 178            | 152        | 26         |
| Some College, but No Degree        | 269            | 241        | 28         |
| Associate Degree/Bachelor’s Degree | 163            | 124        | 39         |
| Master’s Degree/Doctorate          |                |            |            |
| Vo Tech                            | 17             | 11         | 6          |

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 59, on the next page, indicates that in 2010, 90.6 percent of all abortions performed in South Dakota were self-pay while 8.0 percent were paid by private insurance and 1.4 percent

were paid by public health plans. Of the 69 abortions paid by private insurance or a public health plan, three were paid by a managed care insurance company, 61 by a fee-for-service insurance company, and five were other.

**Table 59**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Payment and Insurance Coverage Type, 2010**

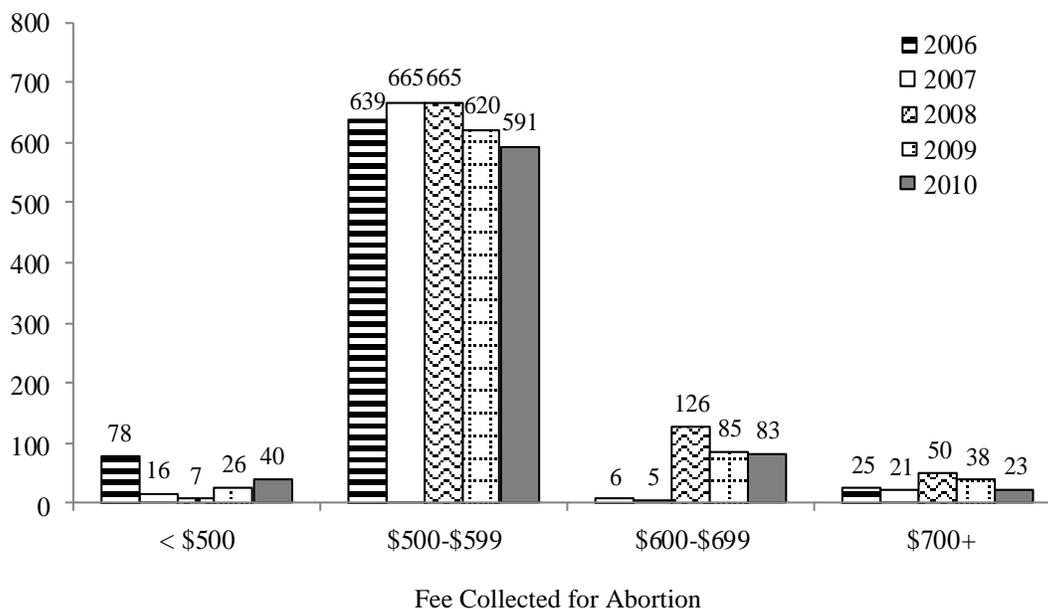
| Payment Source     | Total      | Fee-for-service Insurance Co. | Managed Care Company | Other    | No Insurance or Not Specified |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Private Insurance  | 59         | 56                            | 3                    | 0        | 0                             |
| Public Health Plan | 10         | 5                             | 0                    | 5        | 0                             |
| Self               | 668        | 0                             | 0                    | 0        | 668                           |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>737</b> | <b>61</b>                     | <b>3</b>             | <b>5</b> | <b>668</b>                    |

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

The majority, 80.2 percent, of abortions in 2010 cost between \$500 and \$599. The same is true for all years going back to 2006.

Figure 27, below, displays a comparison of the fees for abortions for each year from 2006 to 2010.

**Figure 27**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Fee Collected for Abortion, 2006-2010**



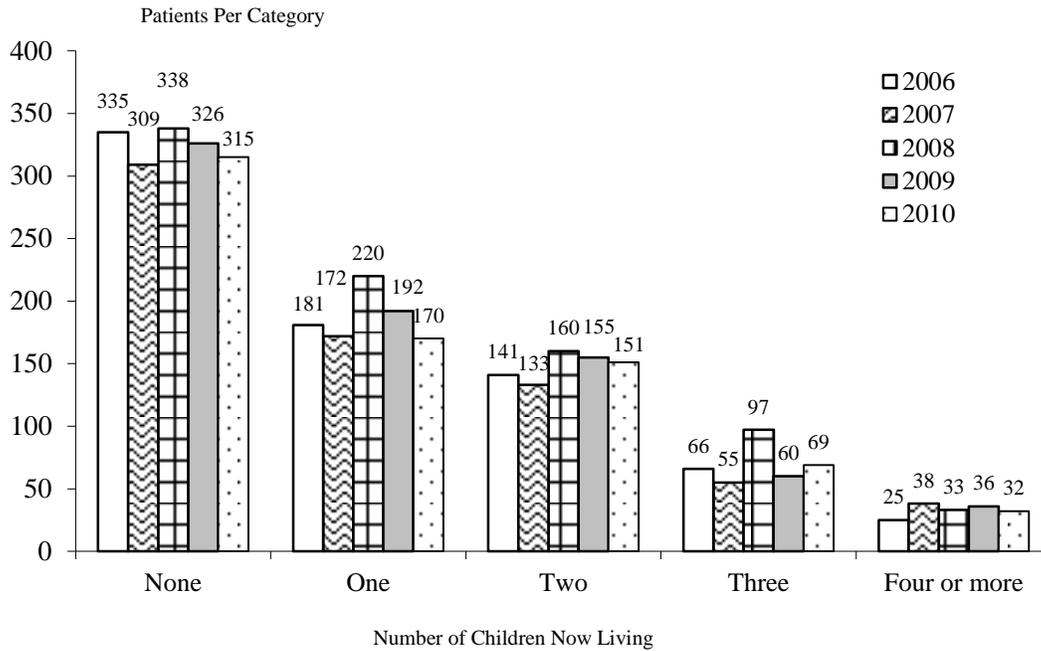
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

### Previous Pregnancies

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked a series of questions about previous pregnancies. Figure 28, on the next page, illustrates the number of children now living reported by the patients who received abortions in South Dakota for 2006,

2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. Of the patients reporting in 2010, 42.7 percent reported having no living children. Just over one percent had one or more live births that are now deceased.

**Figure 28**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by the Number of**  
**Patient's Children Who are Now Living, 2006-2010**

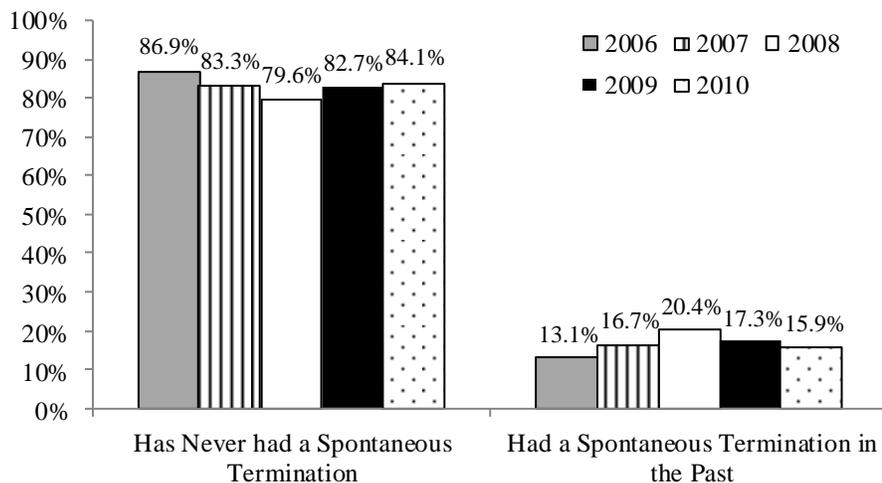


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 29, below, indicates that 15.9 percent of patients had a spontaneous termination in the past. For this report, a spontaneous termination is defined as an abortion in which the process starts of its own accord

through natural causes. The majority of the patients, 84.1 percent, who obtained induced abortions in 2010 reported they had never had a spontaneous termination.

**Figure 29**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous Spontaneous**  
**Terminations, 2006-2010**

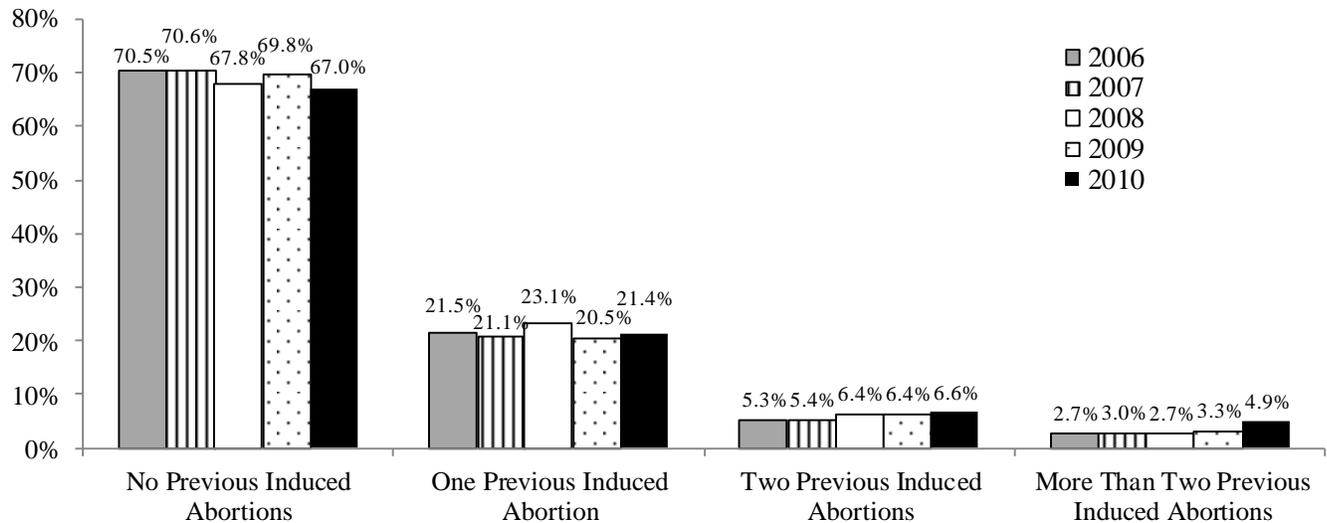


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 30, 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 30**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous Induced Abortions, 2006-2010**



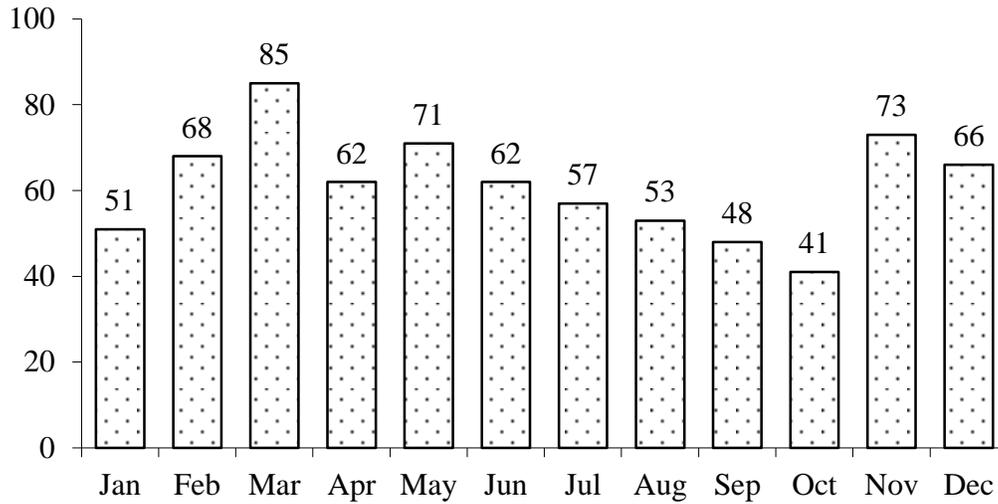
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

As seen in Figure 30, above, the majority of patients, 67.0 percent reported that they had no previous induced abortions. In comparison, in 2010 21.4 percent had obtained one previous induced abortion and 11.5 percent had obtained more than one previous induced abortion. In 2009, 20.5 percent had one previous induced abortion while 9.7 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 31, on the next page, lists the number of induced abortions performed in South Dakota during 2010 by month of occurrence. The fewest numbers of abortions were performed in October while the greatest occurred in March.

**Figure 31**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Month of Abortion, 2010**

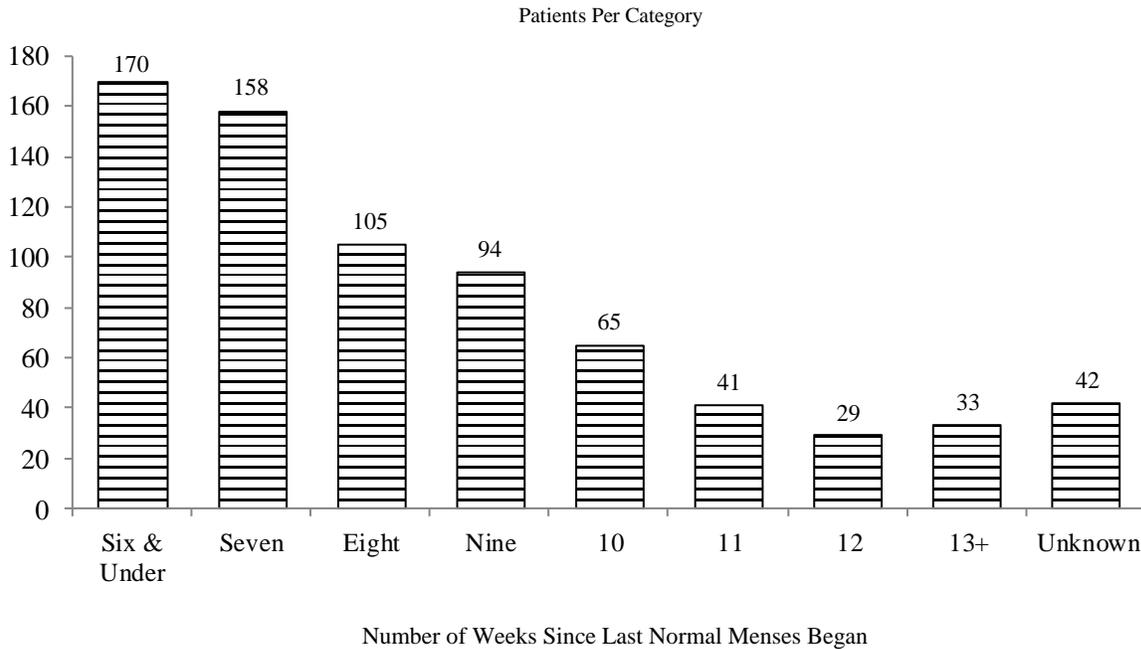


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 32, below, shows the number of weeks between the date the last normal menses began and the abortion date. Most

of the patients, 592, reported that their last normal menses began within 10 weeks prior to the induced abortion date.

**Figure 32**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Number of Weeks Since Last Normal Menses Began, 2010**

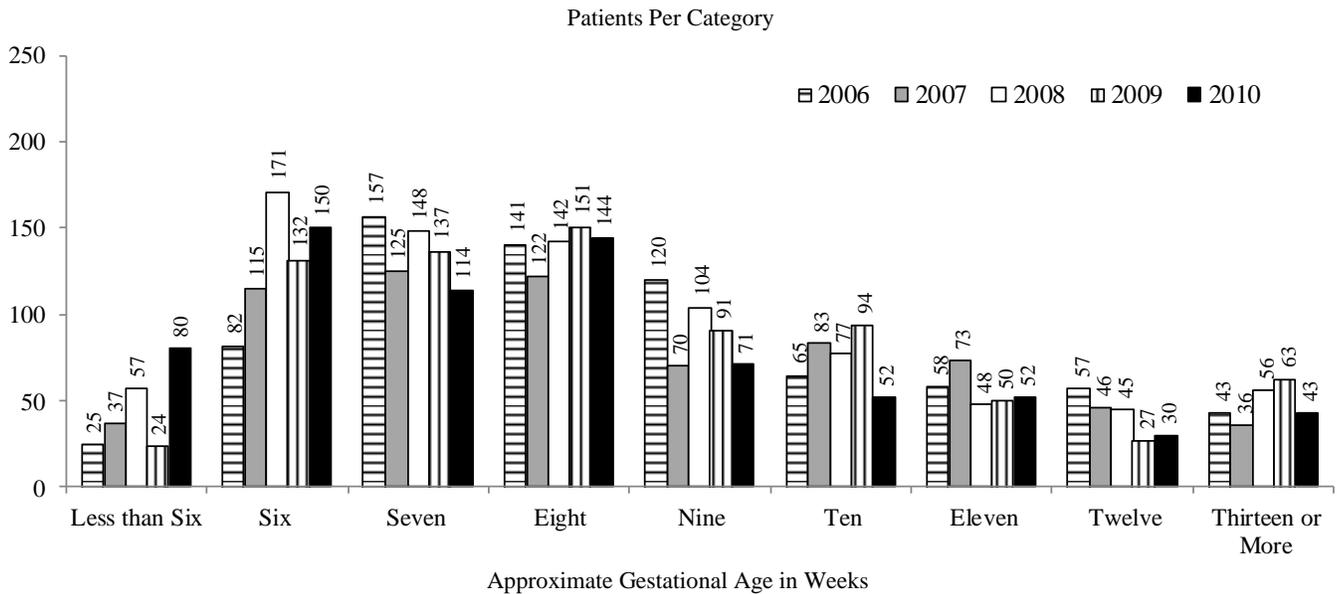


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 33, below, shows the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota from 2006 to 2010 by the clinical estimated weeks of gestation.

The largest number of patients in 2010, 230, received abortions at six weeks and under of estimated gestation.

**Figure 33**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Approximate Gestational Age, 2006-2010**

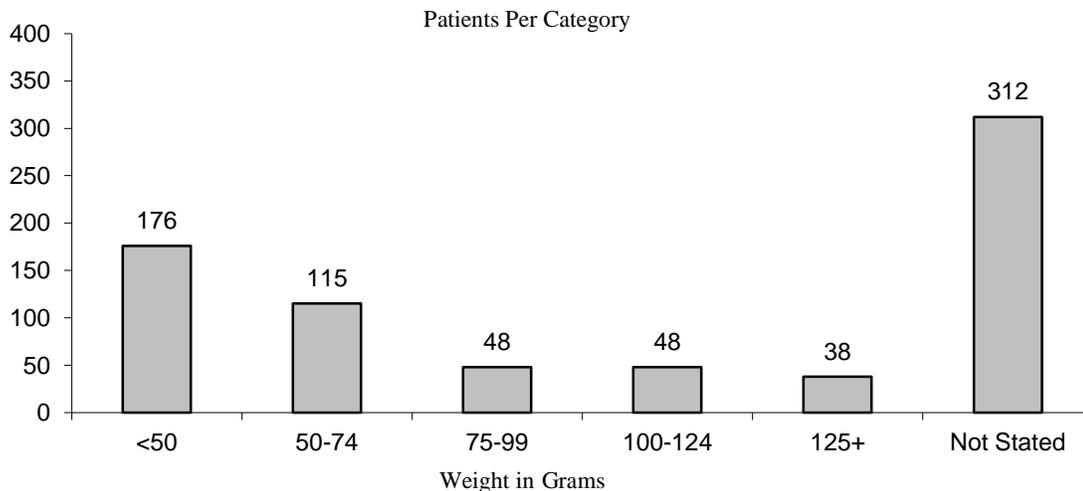


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 34, 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 gram category with 176 induced abortions. That is equivalent to approximately 1.8 ounces or less.

**Figure 34**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Weight of Fetus, 2010**



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 60, to the right, illustrates the number of abortions that were performed with the knowledge that a fetal abnormality existed. Of the abortions performed in 2010, seven or less than one percent of the forms indicated that there was a fetal abnormality present at the time of the abortion. Most of the forms indicated that it was unknown if a fetal abnormality was present at the time of the abortion.

**Table 60**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Fetal Abnormality, 2010**

| Presence of Fetal Abnormality | Number     | Percentage  |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Yes                           | 7          | 0.9%        |
| No/Unknown                    | 730        | 99.1%       |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>737</b> | <b>100%</b> |

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

**Table 61**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Method of Disposal, 2010**

| Method of Disposal   | Number     | Percentage  |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|
| Incineration         | 451        | 61.2%       |
| Not Stated - Medical | 286        | 38.8%       |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>737</b> | <b>100%</b> |

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

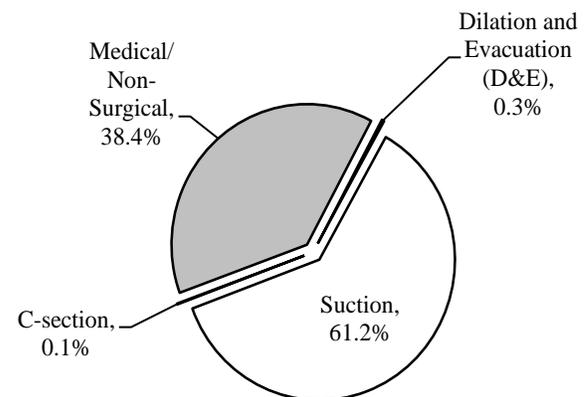
Table 61, to the left, indicates the method used to dispose of the fetus in 2010. The main method of disposal in 2010 was incineration with 451 or 61.2 percent.

### Termination Procedure

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked questions about the termination procedure. Figure 35, to the right, illustrates the primary procedures used to perform induced abortions in South Dakota in 2010.

In 2010, medical/non-surgical was used for 38.4 percent of the abortions while dilation and evacuation and C-section were used for less than one percent each. The majority of the abortions used suction in 2010 with an overall percentage of 61.2 percent.

**Figure 35**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Primary Procedure Used, 2010**



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

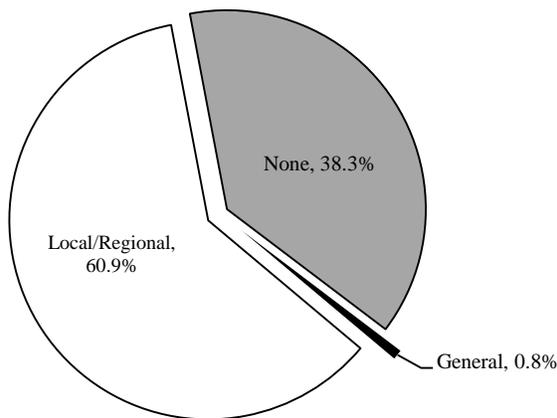
Table 62, to the right, indicates additional procedures that were used to terminate the pregnancy in 2010. Approximately 94 percent of abortions did not require an additional procedure. There were no cases of maternal complications reported to the Department of Health in 2010.

**Table 62**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Any Additional Procedures Used, 2010**

| Additional Procedures Used | Number | Percentage |
|----------------------------|--------|------------|
| No Additional Procedure    | 690    | 93.6%      |
| Sharp Curettage            | 45     | 6.1%       |
| Other                      | 12     | 1.6%       |

Note: Failure to add to 100 percent is due to multiple additional procedures  
 Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

**Figure 36**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Type of Anesthetic Used, 2010**



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

Figure 36, to the left, illustrates the type of anesthetic used for abortions performed in South Dakota. In 2010, 60.9 percent of patients were given a local or regional anesthetic while 0.8 percent were given a general anesthetic. Patients who received no anesthetic made up 38.3 percent.

Reason for the Induced Abortion

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asked a question about the reason for the induced abortion. Table 63, on the next page, illustrates the reasons that patients had induced abortions from 2006 to 2010. The patient did not desire to have the child has been the highest response since 2006.

The patient could not afford the child has been the second highest response since 2006. In 2009, 32.3 percent of patients gave more than one response while in 2010, 23.1 percent of patients gave more than one response

**Table 63**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Reason for Abortion, 2006-2010**

| Reason for Induced Abortion   | 2006   |         | 2007   |         | 2008   |         | 2009   |         | 2010   |         |
|---|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
|   | Number | Percent |
| The mother did not desire to have the child   | 633    | 84.6%   | 588    | 83.2%   | 546    | 64.4%   | 492    | 64.0%   | 487    | 66.1%   |
| The mother could not afford the child   | 160    | 21.4%   | 237    | 33.5%   | 361    | 42.6%   | 386    | 50.2%   | 329    | 44.6%   |
| The mother's emotional health was at risk   | 16     | 2.1%    | 37     | 5.2%    | 52     | 6.1%    | 60     | 7.8%    | 48     | 6.5%    |
| The mother would suffer substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function if the pregnancy continued | 11     | 1.5%    | 12     | 1.7%    | 20     | 2.4%    | 24     | 3.1%    | 14     | 1.9%    |
| The pregnancy was a result of rape or incest  | 3      | 0.4%    | 12     | 1.7%    | 10     | 1.2%    | 8      | 1.0%    | 6      | 0.8%    |
| Other   | 48     | 6.4%    | 54     | 7.6%    | 79     | 9.3%    | 77     | 10.0%   | 57     | 7.7%    |
| Refused to answer   | 0      | 0.0%    | 0      | 0.0%    | 0      | 0.0%    | 1      | 0.1%    | 0      | 0.0%    |

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

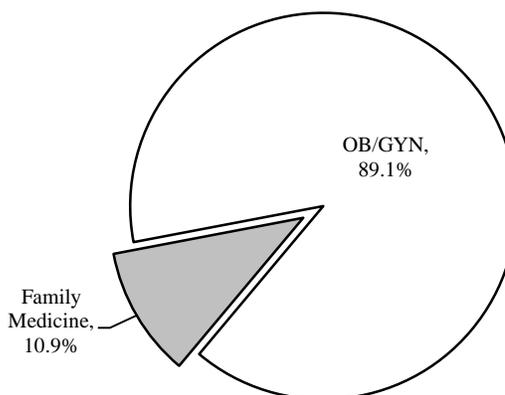
Physician Specialty Information

Figure 37, to the right, illustrates the specialty of the physicians who performed abortions in South Dakota in 2010. The majority of abortions were performed by an OB/GYN. During the 2010 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 2010 indicated that patients received the required counseling.

**Figure 37**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Physician's Specialty, 2010**



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. The data showed that of the 1,072 Voluntary and Informed Consent forms received, 737 received the medical information in person. Of the 1,072 forms that were received, 737 indicated that the medical information was provided by the physician performing the induced abortion.

Physicians performing the abortion supplied 1,066 of the patients with the resource information. One patient received the information from an agent of the physician performing the induced abortion. Five reported receiving the information from both an agent of the physician performing the abortion as well as the physician performing the abortion. A total of 1,064 patients reported receiving the resource information by telephone and seven reported receiving the information in person. One patient received the resource information from both sources.

Of the 1,072 forms received, 1,072 indicated that the patient was offered the printed materials on public and private assistance agencies as well as the Fetal Growth and Development booklet. Regarding the Fetal Growth and Development booklet, 68 patients accepted this while 1,004 did not.

Of the 1,072 forms received, 1,072 patients were offered the Department of Health website address for "Information on Fetal Development, Birth, Abortion, and Adoption." One hundred and one patients accepted the website address while 971 did not.

In regards to the patient obtaining the induced abortion, 737 indicated that the patient went on to obtain the induced abortion while 335 did not have the procedure.

Of the 737 forms representing the patients who had the procedure, 737 indicated that the patient was offered the opportunity to view the sonogram. Of these, 323 accepted the opportunity to view the sonogram while 414 did not accept the opportunity to view the sonogram.

#### Parental Notice

Of the 36 Parental Consent forms received, 35 indicated the person responsible for the minor patient was a parent and one form indicated the person responsible for the minor was a guardian. However, two forms indicated that parental notice was not given because a judge of a circuit court, after an appropriate hearing, authorized a physician to perform the induced abortion without prior notice. All 36 minor patients went on to have the induced abortion.

