

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
HEALTH

A public report providing statistics
compiled from all abortions reported
to DPH

2024



INTRODUCTION

SC Code of Laws 44-41-60 requires that all abortions performed in the state be reported to the South Carolina Department of Public Health (DPH).

To comply with changes required by South Carolina statute, DPH Vital Statistics adopted a new reporting form on August 23, 2023. This report is based on data collected utilizing this form (See Appendix). In many instances in this report, for consistency in comparison, data reported for 2023 only includes that from 8/23/23 through 12/31/23. Those 2023 data points are indicated with an asterisk (*). It is important to understand that for those counts, the 2023 total represents data from a little more than four months, in contrast to the 2024 total which reflects twelve months. Data prior to 8/23/23 can be found on previous abortion reports on our website: <https://dph.sc.gov/professionals/public-health-data/biostatistics-publications>.

The data presented in this report is based on data for abortion occurring or prescribed in South Carolina, also referred to as occurrence data.

Due to privacy and confidentiality concerns, DPH will apply suppression rules for all reports containing 2023 data and forward. DPH's suppression rule is that values less than 5 will be suppressed on all Vital Statistics forms. This is reflected as "<5" in the report whenever the true value is 1-4. Additionally, in locations where only one number in a dataset is suppressed or if reidentification of the true value would still be possible, the report suppresses the next lowest number in the dataset. This is reflected as "#" in the report. For example, in the below sample dataset the rules would be applied in the following manner:

Unsuppressed Values:

Year	Total	Value 1	Value 2	Value 3
2023	25	12	9	4
2024	27	20	4	3
2025	30	12	7	11

Suppressed Values:

Year	Total	Value 1	Value 2	Value 3
2023	25	12	#	<5
2024	27	20	<5	<5
2025	30	12	7	11

Table 1.
Abortions by Probable Gestational Age
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	6 or less weeks		7 - 13 weeks		14 - 19 weeks		20 - 23 weeks	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	3,025	2,946	97.39	55	1.82	18	0.60	6	0.20
2023*	790	772	97.72	9	1.14	9	1.14	-	0

Table 2.
Fetal Heartbeat Detected**
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	Yes		No	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	3,025	39	1.29	2,986	98.71
2023*	790	13	1.65	777	98.35

Table 3.
Abortions by Probable Gestational Age if a Heartbeat was Not Detected
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	6 or less weeks		7 - 13 weeks		14 - 19 weeks		20 - 23 weeks	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	2,986	2,945	98.63	41	1.37	-	0	-	0
2023*	777	772	99.36	5	0.64	-	0	-	0

Table 3.a
Abortions by Probable Gestational Age if a Heartbeat was Detected
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	6 or less weeks		7 - 13 weeks		14 - 19 weeks		20 - 23 weeks	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	39	< 5	#	14	35.90	18	46.15	#	#
2023*	13	-	0	< 5	#	#	#	-	0

*Data for 2023 is from 8/23/23 through 12/31/23. Data prior to 8/23/23 can be found on previous abortion reports on our website: <https://dph.sc.gov/professionals/public-health-data/biostatistics-publications>

**As defined by S.C. Code § 44-41-610(6)

Table 4.
Reason for the Abortion if Probable Gestational Age is 12 Weeks or Less and a Heartbeat was Detected
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	Medical Emergency		Fatal Fetal Anomaly		Rape/Incest	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	11	5	45.45	< 5	#	< 5	#
2023*	< 5	< 5	#	< 5	#	< 5	#

Table 5.
Reason for the Abortion if Probable Gestational Age is Over 12 Weeks
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	Medical Emergency		Fatal Fetal Anomaly		No Heartbeat Detected	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	28	5	17.86	21	75.00	-	0
2023*	9	< 5	#	#	#	-	0

Table 6.
If the reason for abortion was due to a medical emergency, did method used provide the best opportunity for the
unborn child to survive?
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	Yes		No	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	36	28	77.78	8	22.22
2023*	13	#	#	< 5	#

Table 7.
If the method of abortion did not provide the best opportunity for the unborn child to survive, did the provider specify
on the report the basis of the determination that a different method of abortion would pose a greater risk of death or
irreversible physical impairment to the mother?
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	Yes		No	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	8	8	100.00	-	0
2023*	< 5	< 5	100.00	-	0

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Table 8.
Abortions by Facility and Race
by Year, South Carolina, 2023 - 2024

Year	Facility Name	White	Black	Other	Unknown	Total
2024	Greenville Women's Clinic	963	532	89	0	1,584
	Planned Parenthood -- Columbia	285	529	45	14	873
	Planned Parenthood -- Charleston	292	192	#	#	521
	MUSC Medical Center	11	9	0	0	20
	Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital	5	< 5	< 5	< 5	9
	Lowcountry OBGYN - Mount Pleasant	#	< 5	0	0	8
	Prisma Health Richland	< 5	< 5	0	0	6
	Spartanburg Medical Center	< 5	0	0	< 5	< 5
	East Cooper OBGYN - Mullis Office	0	< 5	0	0	< 5
	Total	1,567	1,270	160	28	3,025
2023	Greenville Women's Clinic	2,386	2,413	359	0	5,158
	Planned Parenthood -- Columbia	533	1,068	32	0	1,633
	Planned Parenthood -- Charleston	585	671	#	< 5	1,337
	MUSC Medical Center	30	#	< 5	0	43
	Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital	< 5	< 5	0	0	5
	Prisma Health Patewood Hospital	< 5	0	0	0	< 5
	Spartanburg Medical Center	< 5	0	0	0	< 5
	Prisma Health OBGYN - Sunset Dr.	0	< 5	< 5	0	< 5
	Palmetto Women's Health	< 5	0	0	0	< 5
	Prisma Health Richland	< 5	0	0	0	< 5
	Lowcountry OBGYN - Mount Pleasant	< 5	0	0	0	< 5
	Total	3,546	4,164	476	< 5	8,187

Table 9.
Abortions by Method and Probable Gestational Age
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Method of Abortion	Total	Weeks Gestation			
			Under 6 weeks	7 - 13 weeks	14 - 19 weeks	20 - 23 weeks
2024	Total	3,025	2,946	55	18	6
	Dilation and Curettage	158	140	18	-	-
	Manual Vacuum Aspiration	194	#	< 5	-	-
	Electrical Vacuum Aspiration	96	#	< 5	-	-
	Dilation and Evacuation	18	-	-	#	< 5
	Combined Induction Abortion and Dilation and Evacuation	< 5	< 5	-	-	-
	Medication Abortion	2,552	2,520	#	< 5	-
	Induction Abortion with Prostaglandins	< 5	-	-	< 5	< 5
	Induction Abortion with Intra-Amniotic Instillation	-	-	-	-	-
	Induction Abortion - other	< 5	-	-	-	< 5
	Hysterotomy / Hysterectomy	-	-	-	-	-
	Intact Dilation and Extraction (partial birth)	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	< 5	-	< 5	-	-
2023*	Total	790	772	9	9	-
	Dilation and Curettage	24	#	#	-	-
	Manual Vacuum Aspiration	27	27	-	-	-
	Electrical Vacuum Aspiration	44	44	-	-	-
	Dilation and Evacuation	#	-	-	#	-
	Combined Induction Abortion and Dilation and Evacuation	-	-	-	-	-
	Medication Abortion	686	#	< 5	-	-
	Induction Abortion with Prostaglandins	< 5	-	-	< 5	-
	Induction Abortion with Intra-Amniotic Instillation	-	-	-	-	-
	Induction Abortion - other	< 5	-	-	< 5	-
	Hysterotomy / Hysterectomy	-	-	-	-	-
	Intact Dilation and Extraction (partial birth)	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-

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Table 10.
Intra-fetal Injection Used in an Attempt to Induce Fetal Demise
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Year	Total	Yes		No	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2024	3,025	-	0	3,025	100
2023*	790	-	0	790	100

Table 11.
Abortions by Maternal Age
by Year, South Carolina, 2023* - 2024

Age Group	2024		2023*	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	3,025	100	790	100
Under 15	< 5	#	< 5	#
15 - 16	#	#	#	#
17-19	204	6.74	70	8.86
20-24	828	27.37	215	27.22
25-29	800	26.45	214	27.09
30-34	673	22.25	157	19.87
35 & Over	495	16.36	124	15.70

Table 12.
Abortions for SC Residents vs. Out of State Residents
by Month, South Carolina, 2023 - 2024

Patient Residence	Month of Termination (1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024)												Total
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
SC Residence	279	248	284	231	266	208	219	201	199	245	213	175	2,768
Out of State	29	33	26	19	26	25	22	16	12	12	19	18	257
Total	308	281	310	250	292	233	241	217	211	257	232	193	3,025
Patient Residence	Month of Termination (1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023)												Total
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
SC Residence	523	504	592	517	525	548	465	460	146	184	157	189	4,810
Out of State	485	482	488	422	359	379	402	288	16	17	21	18	3,377
Total	1,008	986	1,080	939	884	927	867	748	162	201	178	207	8,187

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Appendix

		REPORT OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY		STATE FILE NUMBER	
1. Patient's ID Number (Do Not Enter Patient's Name)		2. Age (Last Birthday)		3. Date of Pregnancy Termination (Month, Day, Year)	
4. Facility Name		5. City/Town or Location of Pregnancy Termination		6. County of Pregnancy Termination	
7. Residence - State or Foreign Country			8. Residence - County		
9. Of Hispanic Origin? ☐ No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latina ☐ Yes, Mexican/Mexican American/Chicana ☐ Yes, Puerto Rican ☐ Yes, Cuban ☐ Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic/Latina Specify _____		10. Race ☐ White ☐ Black or African American ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native (Name of the enrolled or principal tribe) _____ ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Chinese ☐ Filipino ☐ Japanese ☐ Korean ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Other Asian (Specify) _____ ☐ Native Hawaiian ☐ Guamanian or Chamorro ☐ Samoan ☐ Other Pacific Islander (Specify) _____ ☐ Other (Specify) _____		11. Education (Specify the highest degree or level completed) ☐ 8th grade or less ☐ 9th -12th grade no diploma ☐ High school graduate or GED completed ☐ Some college credit, but no degree ☐ Associate degree (e.g., AA, AS) ☐ Bachelor's degree (e.g., BA, AB, BS) ☐ Master's degree (e.g., MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA) ☐ Doctorate or professional degree (e.g., PhD, MD)	
12. Patient Married? ☐ Yes ☐ No			13. Date Last Normal Menses Began (Month, Day, Year)		
14. Previous Pregnancies					
LIVE BIRTHS			OTHER TERMINATIONS		
14a. Now Living NUMBER _____ ☐ NONE		14b. Now Dead NUMBER _____ ☐ NONE		14c. Spontaneous NUMBER _____ ☐ NONE	
				14d. Induced (DO NOT INCLUDE THIS TERMINATION) NUMBER _____ ☐ NONE	
(Pursuant to Chapter 41, Title 44, of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended)					
15. Fetal Heartbeat and Probable Gestational Age a. Was a fetal heartbeat detected? ☐ Yes ☐ No – See instructions. b. Enter weeks of probable gestational age: _____ If 12 weeks or less, go to question 15c. If more than 12 weeks, go to question 16. c. Was the reason for the abortion due to rape or incest? ☐ Yes – Go to question 20. ☐ No – Go to question 16. (Terminations performed due to rape or incest must be reported within 24 hours to the county sheriff where the termination is performed.)			18. Medical Emergency a. Did a medical emergency exist that required the termination of the pregnancy? ☐ Yes – Go to Question 18b. ☐ No – Go to question 19. b. Specify the type of medical emergency that existed: _____ c. Specify the rationale that made the termination necessary to avert the death or serious risk of substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function, not including psychological or emotional conditions: _____ Go to question 19.		
16. Did a fatal fetal anomaly exist that required the termination of the pregnancy? ☐ Yes – Go to Question 17. ☐ No – Go to question 18.			19. Best Opportunity for Survival a. Was the method of abortion used one that, in reasonable medical judgment, provided the best opportunity for the unborn child to survive? ☐ Yes – Go to question 20. ☐ No – Go to question 19b. b. Provide the basis of the determination that termination of the pregnancy in that manner (best opportunity) would pose a greater risk either of the death of the pregnant woman or of the substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function, not including psychological or emotional conditions, of the woman than would other available methods: Specify: _____ Go to question 20.		
17. Specify the medical rationale for the determination of a fatal fetal anomaly: _____ _____ _____					
20. TERMINATION PROCEDURES					
20a. PRIMARY PROCEDURE USED TO TERMINATE THE PREGNANCY (CHECK ONLY ONE)			20b. ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES USED IF ANY (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)		
Check Only One Primary Procedure			Type of Procedure		
☐ Dilation and Curettage (D&C) ☐ Manual Vacuum Aspiration ☐ Electrical Vacuum Aspiration ☐ Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) ☐ Combined Induction Abortion and Dilation and Evacuation ☐ Medication Abortion (such as, but not limited to, mifepristone/misoprostol or methotrexate/misoprostol) ☐ Induction Abortion with Prostaglandins ☐ Induction Abortion with Intra-Amniotic Instillation (such as, but not limited to, saline or urea) ☐ Induction Abortion - Other ☐ Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy ☐ Intact Dilation and Extraction (partial birth) ☐ Other - Specify _____			Check all Additional Procedures Used		
			☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐		
21. Was an intra-fetal injection used in an attempt to induce fetal demise (such as, but not limited to, intra-fetal potassium chloride or digoxin)? ☐ YES ☐ NO					
ITEM 22 MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH PATIENT, REGARDLESS OF AGE.	22a. WAS INFORMED WRITTEN CONSENT OBTAINED FROM THE PATIENT? ☐ Yes ☐ No		22c. IF PATIENT HAS BEEN COURT ADJUDGED MENTALLY INCOMPETENT, INFORMED WRITTEN CONSENT OBTAINED FROM: (check one)		
	22b. IF NO, INFORMED WRITTEN CONSENT WAS NOT OBTAINED DUE TO: (check one) 1 ☐ Medical Emergency 3 ☐ Not Capable/Mentally Incompetent 2 ☐ Incest 4 ☐ None of the above		1 ☐ Spouse 3 ☐ Legal Guardian 2 ☐ Parent 4 ☐ None of the above		
ITEM 23 MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH PATIENT, UNDER 17 YEARS OF AGE.	23a. IF PATIENT IS UNDER 17 YEARS OF AGE, ADDITIONAL INFORMED WRITTEN CONSENT OBTAINED FROM: (check one)		23b. IF PATIENT IS UNDER 17 YEARS OF AGE AND ADDITIONAL INFORMED WRITTEN CONSENT WAS NOT OBTAINED, CHECK REASON BELOW: (check one)		
	1 ☐ Parent 4 ☐ Person in Loco Parentis 2 ☐ Legal Guardian 5 ☐ None of the above 3 ☐ Grandparent		1 ☐ Emancipated Minor 4 ☐ Incest 2 ☐ Court Order 5 ☐ None of the above 3 ☐ Medical Emergency		
24. Date Report Completed					