

# 2021 Abortion Statistics

December 2022

HD0344P



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# 2021 ABORTION STATISTICS

## Executive Summary

Pennsylvania has been monitoring and reporting on abortion data since 1975. This report is produced pursuant to Section 3214 of the Abortion Control Act, 18 Pa. C.S. § 3214(e)(1).

In 2021, there were 33,206 abortions performed in Pennsylvania. Nearly half, (14,949) of all abortions performed in Pennsylvania were to white individuals, and 14,620 were to Black or African-American individuals. Abortions to individuals of Hispanic origin accounted for 3,862, or 11.6 percent, of all abortions in 2021. More than 88 percent (29,358) of the abortions performed in Pennsylvania in 2021 were to unmarried individuals.

The largest age group having abortions was 25-29, accounting for 9,771 (29.4 percent) of all 2021 abortions. Individuals under age 20 accounted for 7.7 percent of all abortions in 2021, and individuals under age 18 accounted for 2.1 percent. Comparatively, in 2020, individuals under age 20 accounted for 7.9 percent, and individuals under age 18 accounted for 2.4 percent.

Similar to 2020, 92.9 percent of the abortions performed in 2021 were on Pennsylvania residents. Residents of other states, territories and other countries accounted for just 2,352 abortions in 2021.

Of the abortions performed in 2021 in Pennsylvania, 92.1 percent were performed in nine counties: Allegheny; Bucks; Dauphin; Delaware; Lehigh; Montgomery; Northampton; Philadelphia; and York.

More than 36 percent of Pennsylvania residents having abortions were residents of Philadelphia County. Other counties that account for a greater percentage of resident abortions included: Allegheny (3,437); Montgomery (1,767); Delaware (1,720); Dauphin (1,082); Bucks (1,033); and Lehigh (1,025). Of all 67 counties, 26 (38.8 percent) showed a decrease in the number of resident abortions performed in 2021 compared to 2020.

In 2021, there were 322 reports of complications from abortions that were submitted by physicians; 34.7 percent more than the 239 reported in 2020. More than 74 percent of the complications were related to retained products of conception, 12.7 percent to bleeding and 5.9 percent to infection.

Notes: The source for the number of abortions reported in Pennsylvania in 2021 is the "Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy," which is an individual report filed for each procedure. The source for the complications data is "Abortions: Report of Complications," a separate reporting form completed by physicians who have provided medical care to an individual because of a complication resulting from an abortion or attempted abortion.

Unknowns are excluded from all calculations.

**Pennsylvania Induced Abortion Report  
January - December 2021**

**Table 1**

**Induced Abortions Performed in  
Pennsylvania by Age of Woman**

<u>Age (Years)</u>	<u>Number</u>
12 or Under	3
13	19
14	59
15	112
16	201
17	293
18	792
19	1,094
20 - 24	9,101
25 - 29	9,771
30 - 34	7,049
35 - 39	3,551
40 - 44	1,076
45 or Older	85
Unknown	0
Total	33,206

**Table 2**

**Induced Abortions Performed in  
Pennsylvania by Weeks of Gestation**

<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>	<u>Number</u>
8 or Less	22,702
9 - 10	5,155
11 - 12	2,071
13 - 14	1,313
15 - 17	1,013
18 - 20	525
21 - 23	427
24 or More	0
Total	33,206

Note: Weeks of gestation are based on clinical estimate.

**Table 3**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in**  
**Pennsylvania by Race of Woman**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Race of Woman</u>	<u>Number</u>
White	14,949
Black or African-American	14,620
Asian / Pacific Islander	1,082
Multi-Race	1,426
All Other Races	309
Unknown	820
Total	33,206

**Table 4**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in**  
**Pennsylvania by Hispanic Origin of Woman**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Hispanic Origin</u>	<u>Number</u>
Hispanic	3,862
Non-Hispanic	29,290
Unknown	54
Total	33,206

Note: Hispanic origin can be of any race.

**Table 5**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in**  
**Pennsylvania by Primary Type of Procedure**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Primary Abortion Procedure</u>	<u>Number</u>
Suction Curettage	13,410
Sharp Curettage	4
Dilation and Evacuation	1,360
Intra-Uterine Instillation (Saline or Prostaglandin)	3
Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy	3
Medical (Nonsurgical)	18,370
Other	56
Total	33,206

**Table 6**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in**  
**Pennsylvania by Marital Status of Woman**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Marital Status</u>	<u>Number</u>
Married	3,724
Unmarried	29,358
Unknown	124
Total	33,206

**Table 7**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Residence and Age of Woman**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Residence</u>	<u>Age of Woman (In Years)</u>									
	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>Under 15</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>35-39</u>	<u>40+</u>	<u>Unknown</u>
Total Pennsylvania	30,854	73	571	1,756	8,395	9,076	6,590	3,304	1,089	0
Adams	49	0	2	3	21	12	6	5	0	0
Allegheny	3,437	11	71	160	855	1,076	758	382	124	0
Armstrong	46	0	0	3	19	11	11	1	1	0
Beaver	251	1	6	22	59	81	49	23	10	0
Bedford	10	0	0	1	2	3	1	3	0	0
Berks	935	1	25	64	302	242	180	92	29	0
Blair	106	0	2	13	39	26	18	7	1	0
Bradford	7	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	0	0
Bucks	1,033	3	12	69	257	254	236	150	52	0
Butler	166	0	1	9	57	44	29	16	10	0
Cambria	147	0	3	6	53	38	33	10	4	0
Cameron	6	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	0
Carbon	95	0	1	8	24	35	17	10	0	0
Centre	118	0	0	6	41	27	30	12	2	0
Chester	806	1	13	57	199	202	168	120	46	0
Clarion	28	0	0	1	9	8	7	3	0	0
Clearfield	38	0	2	3	7	14	5	4	3	0
Clinton	28	0	1	0	13	7	5	1	1	0
Columbia	86	0	0	7	30	18	15	13	3	0
Crawford	64	0	1	6	21	11	14	9	2	0
Cumberland	320	2	5	23	88	84	65	39	14	0
Dauphin	1,082	3	12	56	309	337	226	103	36	0
Delaware	1,720	7	43	80	424	498	398	232	38	0
Elk	19	0	1	0	6	6	5	1	0	0
Erie	212	1	6	15	56	61	39	28	6	0
Fayette	178	0	4	8	63	41	36	23	3	0
Forest	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0
Franklin	50	0	0	2	22	14	9	1	2	0
Fulton	7	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	1	0
Greene	28	1	0	2	4	9	8	3	1	0
Huntingdon	30	0	0	1	5	6	15	2	1	0
Indiana	93	0	2	12	31	23	17	7	1	0
Jefferson	31	1	0	3	13	10	4	0	0	0
Juniata	16	0	0	1	8	3	2	2	0	0
Lackawanna	479	1	10	32	138	132	101	47	18	0
Lancaster	725	1	14	45	228	205	121	79	32	0
Lawrence	86	0	1	5	27	29	15	7	2	0
Lebanon	162	0	1	10	47	45	37	17	5	0
Lehigh	1,025	1	11	65	303	302	189	111	43	0
Luzerne	725	1	16	58	208	219	146	60	17	0

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**Table 7**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Residence and Age of Woman**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Residence</u>	<u>Age of Woman (In Years)</u>									
	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>Under 15</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>35-39</u>	<u>40+</u>	<u>Unknown</u>
Lycoming	145	0	1	7	41	43	38	12	3	0
McKean	10	0	0	1	4	1	2	1	1	0
Mercer	123	0	5	10	32	45	21	7	3	0
Mifflin	29	0	1	2	8	10	7	1	0	0
Monroe	385	0	4	22	103	102	95	41	18	0
Montgomery	1,767	3	26	79	422	427	428	278	104	0
Montour	8	0	0	1	2	3	1	1	0	0
Northampton	667	2	20	35	188	184	132	75	31	0
Northumberland	91	0	2	10	28	23	16	10	2	0
Perry	35	2	0	0	8	13	6	6	0	0
Philadelphia	11,216	25	190	625	2,970	3,541	2,464	1,059	342	0
Pike	35	1	1	0	7	8	6	11	1	0
Potter	7	0	0	0	1	3	1	2	0	0
Schuylkill	212	0	6	21	60	62	41	17	5	0
Snyder	12	0	0	1	2	4	4	1	0	0
Somerset	43	0	0	2	7	17	9	7	1	0
Sullivan	7	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	0	0
Susquehanna	18	0	1	0	9	5	3	0	0	0
Tioga	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Union	28	0	1	2	6	6	6	4	3	0
Venango	32	0	2	1	12	8	8	0	1	0
Warren	12	0	2	1	6	0	3	0	0	0
Washington	272	2	10	11	91	65	49	30	14	0
Wayne	47	0	1	3	6	12	12	8	5	0
Westmoreland	394	0	10	19	123	108	76	41	17	0
Wyoming	16	0	2	0	5	5	3	0	1	0
York	793	2	19	42	256	245	136	64	29	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Other States/Countries</u>										
Delaware	936	4	10	44	260	301	205	84	28	0
Maryland	26	0	0	3	7	9	4	2	1	0
New Jersey	313	0	0	18	73	88	75	48	11	0
New York	19	0	1	0	7	3	4	3	1	0
Ohio	557	2	17	29	166	177	92	53	21	0
West Virginia	390	2	7	29	156	90	57	42	7	0
Other States/Territories	111	0	0	7	37	27	22	15	3	0
Other Countries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Other States/ Countries	2,352	8	35	130	706	695	459	247	72	0
Total All Abortions	33,206	81	606	1,886	9,101	9,771	7,049	3,551	1,161	0

**Table 8**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by County of Procedure**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>
Adams	-	Lackawanna	-
Allegheny	6,713	Lancaster	-
Armstrong	-	Lawrence	-
Beaver	-	Lebanon	-
Bedford	-	Lehigh	1,561
Berks	861	Luzerne	757
Blair	-	Lycoming	-
Bradford	-	McKean	-
Bucks	1,258	Mercer	-
Butler	-	Mifflin	-
Cambria	-	Monroe	-
Cameron	-	Montgomery	1,058
Carbon	-	Montour	7
Centre	-	Northampton	2,009
Chester	986	Northumberland	-
Clarion	-	Perry	-
Clearfield	-	Philadelphia	13,265
Clinton	-	Pike	-
Columbia	-	Potter	-
Crawford	-	Schuylkill	-
Cumberland	-	Snyder	-
Dauphin	1,377	Somerset	-
Delaware	1,628	Sullivan	-
Elk	-	Susquehanna	-
Erie	-	Tioga	-
Fayette	-	Union	1
Forest	-	Venango	-
Franklin	-	Warren	-
Fulton	-	Washington	-
Greene	-	Wayne	-
Huntingdon	-	Westmoreland	-
Indiana	-	Wyoming	-
Jefferson	-	York	1,725
Juniata	-		
		Total	33,206

**Induced Abortions: Report of Complications  
January - December 2021**

**Table 9A  
Type of Complication by Age of Woman**

Age Group	Total	Infection	Retained Products of Conception	Bleeding	Other
Under 15	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 19	22	0	18	1	3
20 - 24	78	6	55	11	6
25 - 29	93	5	68	13	7
30 - 34	76	7	55	11	3
35 - 39	40	1	31	5	3
40+	13	0	12	0	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 9B  
Type of Complication by Weeks of Gestation**

Weeks of Gestation	Total	Infection	Retained Products of Conception	Bleeding	Other
8 or Less	201	11	160	19	11
9 - 10	51	3	41	6	1
11 - 12	24	2	12	8	2
13 - 14	10	0	8	0	2
15 - 17	11	1	6	2	2
18 - 20	11	0	4	2	5
21 - 23	5	0	2	3	0
24+	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	9	2	6	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 9C  
Type of Complication by Termination Procedure Used**

Procedure	Total	Infection	Retained Products of Conception	Bleeding	Other
Suction Curettage	88	7	70	5	6
Sharp Curettage	18	2	7	7	2
Dilation/Evacuation	22	0	8	7	7
Medical	180	6	147	21	6
Other	12	3	7	0	2
Unknown	2	1	0	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>23</b>

Notes: These data are based on Reports of Complications submitted by physicians who have provided care to a woman in need of medical care because of a complication resulting from an abortion or attempted abortion.

Weeks of gestation are based on clinical estimate.



**Table 10**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Age of Woman and Weeks of Gestation**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Age (Years)</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>							
		<u>8 or Less</u>	<u>9-10</u>	<u>11-12</u>	<u>13-14</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-20</u>	<u>21-23</u>	<u>24 or More</u>
Under 15	81	31	20	12	5	6	5	2	0
15 - 17	606	281	142	61	42	41	22	17	0
18 - 19	1,886	1,194	347	136	86	74	38	11	0
20 - 24	9,101	6,147	1,530	586	378	249	135	76	0
25 - 29	9,771	6,825	1,463	615	338	293	126	111	0
30 - 34	7,049	4,934	1,022	409	250	193	107	134	0
35 - 39	3,551	2,456	486	189	170	115	72	63	0
40+	1,161	834	145	63	44	42	20	13	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	33,206	22,702	5,155	2,071	1,313	1,013	525	427	0

**Table 11**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Primary Type of Procedure and Weeks of Gestation**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Primary Procedure</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>							
		<u>8 or Less</u>	<u>9-10</u>	<u>11-12</u>	<u>13-14</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-20</u>	<u>21-23</u>	<u>24 or More</u>
Suction Curettage	13,410	7,383	2,302	1,815	913	593	276	128	0
Sharp Curettage	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Dilation and Evacuation	1,360	63	26	35	353	393	223	267	0
Intra-Uterine Instillation- Saline or Prostaglandin	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Hysterotomy/ Hysterectomy	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Medical (Nonsurgical)	18,370	15,225	2,815	210	41	25	25	29	0
Other	56	29	10	10	3	1	0	3	0
Total	33,206	22,702	5,155	2,071	1,313	1,013	525	427	0

Note: Weeks of gestation are based on clinical estimate.

**Table 12**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Residence and Weeks of Gestation**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Residence</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>							
		<u>8 or Less</u>	<u>9-10</u>	<u>11-12</u>	<u>13-14</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-20</u>	<u>21-23</u>	<u>24 or More</u>
Total Pennsylvania	30,854	21,221	4,826	1,895	1,220	894	453	345	0
Adams	49	35	5	3	2	1	2	1	0
Allegheny	3,437	2,111	694	250	142	113	65	62	0
Armstrong	46	26	10	3	3	2	2	0	0
Beaver	251	137	55	33	9	6	2	9	0
Bedford	10	6	1	0	0	2	0	1	0
Berks	935	699	119	55	24	22	11	5	0
Blair	106	67	17	8	3	3	5	3	0
Bradford	7	3	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
Bucks	1,033	768	139	55	31	20	14	6	0
Butler	166	106	27	9	8	6	2	8	0
Cambria	147	82	37	10	9	6	1	2	0
Cameron	6	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carbon	95	65	16	6	3	3	2	0	0
Centre	118	88	13	6	5	3	1	2	0
Chester	806	565	127	46	30	11	15	12	0
Clarion	28	18	5	4	1	0	0	0	0
Clearfield	38	25	4	2	3	1	2	1	0
Clinton	28	20	5	1	0	1	0	1	0
Columbia	86	62	13	3	3	3	2	0	0
Crawford	64	42	15	1	3	2	0	1	0
Cumberland	320	224	51	20	16	3	3	3	0
Dauphin	1,082	775	177	56	43	16	8	7	0
Delaware	1,720	1,246	219	90	69	47	29	20	0
Elk	19	11	6	2	0	0	0	0	0
Erie	212	109	55	21	8	9	9	1	0
Fayette	178	103	30	23	6	10	3	3	0
Forest	4	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Franklin	50	35	5	4	2	1	0	3	0
Fulton	7	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Greene	28	14	8	1	1	3	0	1	0
Huntingdon	30	16	5	2	4	0	2	1	0
Indiana	93	61	17	8	1	2	1	3	0
Jefferson	31	16	9	1	4	0	0	1	0
Juniata	16	12	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
Lackawanna	479	305	90	42	22	12	5	3	0
Lancaster	725	478	129	54	36	16	6	6	0
Lawrence	86	51	16	8	3	3	1	4	0
Lebanon	162	110	29	13	7	1	2	0	0
Lehigh	1,025	749	147	55	25	27	11	11	0
Luzerne	725	502	116	49	23	20	12	3	0

(Continued)

**Table 12**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Residence and Weeks of Gestation**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Residence</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Weeks of Gestation</u>							
		<u>8 or Less</u>	<u>9-10</u>	<u>11-12</u>	<u>13-14</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-20</u>	<u>21-23</u>	<u>24 or More</u>
Lycoming	145	99	28	8	2	4	2	2	0
McKean	10	6	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
Mercer	123	68	26	17	5	3	2	2	0
Mifflin	29	23	4	1	1	0	0	0	0
Monroe	385	270	50	27	18	10	6	4	0
Montgomery	1,767	1,326	206	65	56	67	28	19	0
Montour	8	6	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Northampton	667	495	80	32	26	24	7	3	0
Northumberland	91	67	14	4	6	0	0	0	0
Perry	35	19	9	4	2	0	0	1	0
Philadelphia	11,216	7,847	1,636	653	462	345	176	97	0
Pike	35	22	7	3	1	1	1	0	0
Potter	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Schuylkill	212	146	39	12	8	6	0	1	0
Snyder	12	7	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Somerset	43	29	7	3	2	1	0	1	0
Sullivan	7	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Susquehanna	18	10	4	3	0	1	0	0	0
Tioga	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union	28	20	2	3	2	0	0	1	0
Venango	32	17	6	1	4	2	0	2	0
Warren	12	6	2	2	1	0	0	1	0
Washington	272	146	68	20	13	14	4	7	0
Wayne	47	31	5	2	3	5	0	1	0
Westmoreland	394	229	77	36	15	20	6	11	0
Wyoming	16	10	2	1	0	1	1	1	0
York	793	559	128	51	41	10	0	4	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Other States/Countries</u>									
Delaware	936	654	97	69	41	42	24	9	0
Maryland	26	19	1	1	0	2	3	0	0
New Jersey	313	211	41	8	13	18	13	9	0
New York	19	12	3	1	0	0	1	2	0
Ohio	557	279	100	53	21	36	23	45	0
West Virginia	390	226	76	36	16	17	6	13	0
Other States/Territories	111	80	11	8	2	4	2	4	0
Other Countries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Other States/ Countries	2,352	1,481	329	176	93	119	72	82	0
Total All Abortions	33,206	22,702	5,155	2,071	1,313	1,013	525	427	0

Note: Weeks of gestation are based on clinical estimate.

**Table 13**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Number of Previous Live Births and Percentage Distribution**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Zero	12,132	36.5
One	8,525	25.7
Two	6,974	21.0
Three	3,415	10.3
Four or More	2,160	6.5
Unknown	0	0.0
Total	33,206	100.0

**Table 14**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Number of Previous Induced Abortions and Percentage Distribution**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Induced Abortions</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Zero	17,412	52.4
One	7,944	23.9
Two	3,960	11.9
Three	1,915	5.8
Four or More	1,975	5.9
Unknown	0	0.0
Total	33,206	100.0

Note: Percents may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

**Table 15**  
**Induced Abortions Performed in Pennsylvania**  
**by Number of Medical Complications of Pregnancy**  
**January - December 2021**

<u>Medical Complication</u>	<u>Number</u>
Pre-existing Medical Conditions Which Would Complicate Pregnancy	159
Complication Resulting From Termination	5