

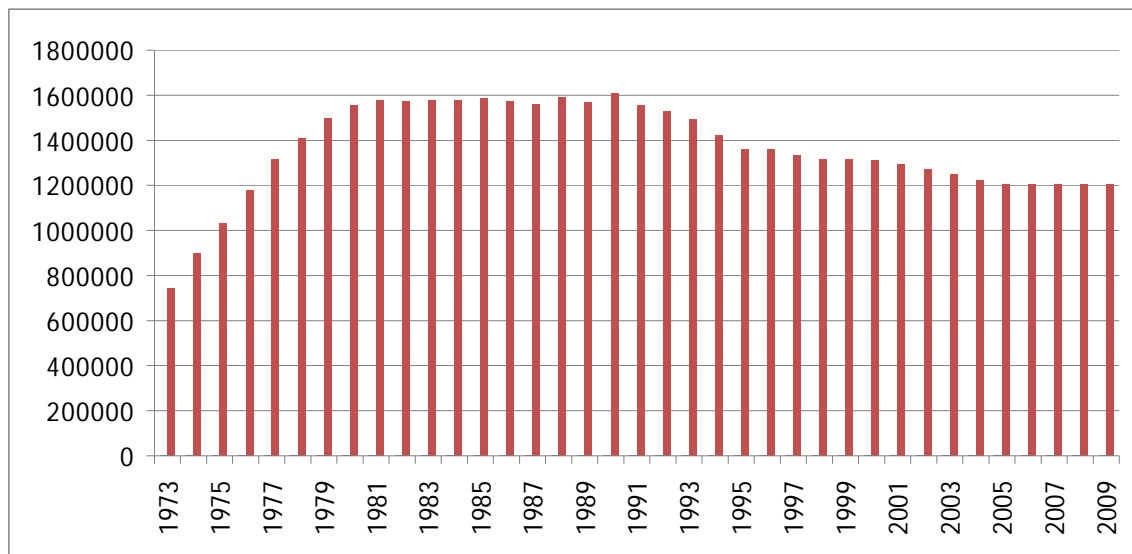
North Carolina Reported Abortion Statistics 2009

On the national level, to date more than **52,000,000** babies have died to abortion since 1973. (1)

United States Abortion Statistics

52,008,665 abortions 1973-2009

Reported abortions in the United States, by year 1973 – 2009



(2)

North Carolina makes up approximately 2.2 percent of the national yearly average of 1.2 million. (3)

The following statistical information is provided by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Epidemiology, State Center for Health Statistics in Raleigh, North Carolina. Additional abortion information for North Carolina can be found on their web site at <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/>.

Summary of Reported Abortions in North Carolina, 2009

On average, about 72 abortions per day were performed on North Carolina residents in 2009. (4)

During 2009, there were a total of 30,596 abortions reported to the State Center for Health Statistics. Of the abortions performed in North Carolina, 5,169 were to residents of other states, including South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee, and Florida. (5)

North Carolina Reported Abortions (6)

	Live Births	Total	State Residents
2004	119,773	33,954	29,337
2005	123,040	32,335	27,674
2006	127,646	35,088	29,430
2007	130,886	33,233	28,545
2008	130,758	31,882	27,234
2009	126,785	30,596	26,123

In 2009 the **ratio of total abortions** to live births was reported to be 1 abortion per 4 live births. (7)

Since 2004, approximately 18% of **all pregnancies to residents** in North Carolina ended with an abortion. (8)

Since 2004, the yearly average of total reported abortions in North Carolina is 32,848. (9)

In 2009, there were a total of 26,123 abortions to **residents** of North Carolina, representing a 4.1 percent decrease from 2008. The percentage of abortions of residents to total pregnancies decreased from 17.1% in 2008 to 16.9% in 2009. (10)

Of the 2009 reported abortions, only .9 percent were performed in hospital settings. The remaining 99.1 percent occurred in 19 non-hospital facilities, primarily free-standing clinics. (11)

The numbers, for abortions to residents, varied widely **by county of residence during 2009** with all of the 100 counties represented. The number of abortions by county of residence ranged from 2 to 3,983. The most populace counties accounted for the greatest frequencies. (12)

Of the 30,596 abortions reported in North Carolina, a total of 9,996 abortions or 32.7 percent of the state total occurred in Mecklenburg County, while 24.8 percent occurred in Wake County, 11.5 percent occurred in Guilford County, and 10.4 percent occurred in Orange Co. (13)

2009 TOTAL NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENT PREGNANCIES

INDUCED ABORTIONS

TOTAL PREGNANCIES

	TOTAL	White	Minority	Unknown	TOTAL	White	Minority	Unknown
TOTAL - ALL AGES	26,123	10,490	12,808	2,825	153,763	100,952	49,986	2,825
Ages 10 - 14	134	36	89	9	324	141	174	9
Ages 15 - 19	3,963	1,611	1,979	373	18,142	9,941	7,828	373
Ages 20 - 24	8,540	3,598	4,182	760	42,652	25,778	16,114	760
Ages 25 - 29	6,093	2,291	3,070	732	40,833	27,929	12,172	732
Ages 30 - 34	3,765	1,387	1,900	478	31,775	22,979	8,318	478
Ages 35 - 39	2,150	928	970	252	15,675	11,345	4,078	252
Ages 40 - 44	614	317	231	66	3,336	2,393	877	66
Ages 45 & UP	47	29	12	6	195	143	46	6

The highest abortion rate (which is the number of induced abortions per 1,000 women of reproductive age) for North Carolina residents in 2009 occurred to women ages 20-24. The total of resident abortions to women ages 20-24 accounted for 32.7% of the total amount of resident abortions in 2009. (14)

The abortion fraction (which is the number of induced abortions per 1,000 reported pregnancies) was highest among women ages 15-19. Nearly 22% of all reported pregnancies to women ages 15-19 ended in abortion. (15)

Women, age 24 and younger, accounted for over 48% of the total abortions to residents in 2009. (16)

The average age of North Carolina residents obtaining abortions in 2009 was 25.7 years. The average educational level was 12.9 years. (17)

Of the North Carolina residents who obtained abortions in 2009, 40% were white, 49% were minorities, and 11% were of race "unknown." (18)

Of the total pregnancies to residents of North Carolina, over 10% of all pregnancies to women who were white ended in abortion, nearly 26% of all pregnancies to women who were minorities ended in abortion. (19)

INDUCED ABORTIONS

TOTAL PREGNANCIES

	TOTAL	White	Minority	Unknown	TOTAL	White	Minority	Unknown
UNMARRIED - TOTAL	19,681	7,605	10,324	1,752	73,756	37,121	34,883	1,752

75.3 percent of North Carolina residents who obtained an abortion in 2009 were not "legally married" (this includes women who were separated but not legally divorced). The marital status of 5.9% of the women was unknown. (20)

INDUCED ABORTIONS

	TOTAL	White	Minority	Unknown
Unmarried 10 - 14	126	34	83	9
Unmarried 15 - 19	3,567	1,451	1,810	306
Unmarried 20 - 24	7,064	2,904	3,635	525

85 percent of women aged 24 and younger who obtained an abortion in 2009 were not legally married. (21)

NC RESIDENT ABORTIONS: CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN RECEIVING ABORTIONS

North Carolina Residents with percentages, 2003-2008

	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
TOTALS	29337	100	27674	100	29430	100	28545	100	27234	100	26123	100
AGE												
14 and under	185	0.6	205	0.7	146	0.5	163	0.6	140	0.5	134	0.5
15-19	4479	15.3	4234	15.3	4395	14.9	4435	15.5	4147	15.2	3963	15.2
20-24	9762	33.3	8954	32.4	9600	32.6	9268	32.5	8765	32.2	8540	32.7
25-29	6853	23.4	6521	23.6	6931	23.6	6533	22.9	6353	23.3	6093	23.3
30-34	4483	15.3	4035	14.6	4163	14.1	4046	14.2	3817	14	3765	14.4
35 and over	2916	9.9	2985	10.8	3227	11	3211	11.2	3010	11.1	2811	10.8
Unknown	659	2.2	740	2.7	968	3.3	889	3.1	1002	3.7	817	3.1
RACE												
White	12568	42.8	11931	43.1	12594	42.8	12307	43.1	11169	41	10490	40.2
Minority	14226	48.5	13102	47.3	13772	46.8	13201	46.2	13040	47.9	12808	49.0
Unknown	2543	8.7	2641	9.5	3064	10.4	3037	10.6	3025	11.1	2825	10.8
MARITAL STATUS												
Married	6437	21.9	5798	21	6185	21	5525	19.4	5075	18.6	4909	18.8
Unmarried	21525	73.4	20505	74.1	21338	72.5	21414	75	20467	75.2	19681	75.3
Unknown	1375	4.7	1371	5	1907	6.5	1606	5.6	1692	6.2	1533	5.9
EDUCATION												
8 and under	1063	3.6	918	3.3	911	3.1	981	3.4	967	3.6	888	3.4
9 to 11	3662	12.5	3425	12.4	3537	12	3448	12.1	3249	11.9	3007	11.5
12	9742	33.2	8797	31.8	9583	32.6	8825	30.9	8508	31.2	8202	31.4
13 and over	11865	40.4	11637	42.1	12324	41.9	12394	43.4	11643	42.8	11540	44.2
Unknown	3005	10.2	2897	10.5	3075	10.4	2897	10.1	2867	10.5	2486	9.5

Trends in characteristics of women obtaining abortions who reside in North Carolina has been consistent throughout the period beginning in the year 2004 and concluding in the year 2009.

Average yearly totals of N. C. resident abortion rates from 2004 to 2009 with 2009 comparison:

The average yearly total is 28,057 (2009 total 26,123).

The average yearly total for woman age 15-19 is 4,276 (2009 total-3,963).

The average yearly total for woman age 20-24 is 9,148 (2009 total-8,540).

The average yearly total for woman age 25-29 is 6,547 (2009 total-6,093).

The average yearly total for white women is 11,843 (2009 total-10,490).

The average yearly total for minority women is 13,358 (2009 total-12,808).

The average yearly total for unmarried women is 20,821 (2009 total-19,681). (22)

Suction curettage was the most common reported abortion procedure in 2009, accounting for 51.9 percent of all resident abortion procedures. The suction curettage procedure involves dilating a woman's cervix, inserting a flexible tube into her uterine cavity, and suctioning out the unborn baby's tissue and the placenta using an electric vacuum pump. (23)

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) was the second most common abortion procedure for North Carolina residents in 2009 at 25.5 percent. During the D&E procedure, an abortionist dilates a woman's cervix and inserts sharp instruments, as well as suction devices and forceps, which are then used to cut up and extract her unborn baby, piece by piece. (24)

It is important to note that in 1977, Congress adopted the Hyde Amendment, which prohibited the use of any federal funds contributed to the Medicaid program for abortions except when the pregnant woman's life would be endangered if she were to carry the pregnancy to term. As a result of this loss of federal funds, in 1978 the General Assembly established the State Abortion Fund, from which payments were made for abortions for eligible women. (25)

In 1978, Governor James B. Hunt took \$250,000 that been appropriated by the legislature for mental health and used these funds to pay for abortions. In 1979, he transferred \$303,000 that had been appropriated for rest homes and used that money to pay for medically unnecessary abortions beyond the \$1 million the General Assembly had appropriated at his request. In 1980, Gov. Hunt transferred \$367,000 from Aid to Families with Dependent Children for tax paid abortions. This was in addition to the \$1 million allocated by the General Assembly. Finally, in 1981, Gov. Hunt transferred \$235,000 from Aid to Families with Dependent Children to increase the State Abortion Fund. This transfer was also in addition to the \$1 million the General Assembly appropriated for tax paid abortions. (26)

In 1995, the General Assembly drastically reduced payments for abortions by the adoption of the following provision:

(b) Eligibility for services of the State Abortion Fund shall be limited to women whose income is below the federal poverty level, as revised annually, and who are not eligible for Medicaid. The State Abortion Fund shall be used to fund abortions only to terminate pregnancies resulting from cases of rape or incest, or to terminate pregnancies that, in the written opinion of one doctor licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina, endanger the life of the mother. (27)

In 1995, the State Abortion Fund was reduced to \$50,000 with stipulations that the money could only be used to pay for abortions when the life of the mother was at risk or in cases of rape and incest. Prior to this time, there were virtually no restrictions on the use of taxpayers' money to fund abortions. In 1997, public funds (including Medicaid) paid for five abortions to preserve the woman's life, 59 abortions for the case of rape, and two abortions for the case of incest. (28)

Resources

1. "Factsheets: Abortion In The US." National Right to Life. Available from http://www.nrlc.org/Factsheets/FS03_AbortionIntheUS.pdf. Internet; accessed 10 December 2010.
2. Ibid.
-Graphic represents totals and estimates provided by the National Right to Life Committee.
3. Ibid.
-This percentage was reached by dividing the total number of abortions in the state of North Carolina in 2009 (26,123) by the total number of estimated abortions nationwide in 2009 (1.2million).
4. "Reported Pregnancies for 2009". North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/totalpregnc.pdf> Internet; accessed 10 December 2010.
-This average was reached by dividing the total number of resident abortions in 2009 (26,123) by the average number of days in a year (365).
5. "Reported Pregnancies for 2009". North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/intro.html>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.

6. "Reported Pregnancies 2004" through "Reported Pregnancies 2009". North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2004/intro.html> through <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/intro.html>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.
7. "Reported Pregnancies 2009". North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/intro.html>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.
-The ratio was reached by comparing the reported total live births (126,785) to the reported total abortions (30,596) to occur in North Carolina in 2009.
8. "Reported Pregnancies 2004" through "Reported Pregnancies 2009". North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2004/totalpregnc.pdf> through <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/totalpregnc.pdf>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.
-This percentage was reached by comparing the total pregnancies (reported live births and abortions) to the reported total amount of abortions during the period of 2004-2009.
9. Ibid.
-The average was reached by totaling the number of reported abortions during the period of 2004-2009 and dividing it by the number of years (6) during the period.
10. "Reported Pregnancies 2008" and "Reported Pregnancies 2009". North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2008/intro.html>. and <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/intro.html>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.
-These percentages were reached by comparing the reported totals from 2008 to 2009.
11. "Reported Pregnancies 2009". North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/intro.html>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.
12. "Reported Pregnancies 2009." North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/intro.html>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.
13. Ibid.
14. "2009 Total North Carolina Resident Pregnancies." North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/totalpregnc.pdf>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.
-The percentage was reached by comparing the reported total of abortions for the group ages 20-24 (8,540) to the total number of reported resident abortions (26,123).

15. Ibid.

-The percentage was reached by comparing the reported total of abortions for the group ages 15-19 (3,963) to the total number of reported pregnancies (18,142) for that age group.

16. Ibid.

-The percentage was reached by comparing the reported total abortions for women ages 24 and younger (12,637) to the reported total abortions (26,123).

17. "Reported Pregnancies 2009." North Carolina Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/intro.html>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.

18. "NC Resident Abortions, 2000-2009: Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions." North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/abortioncharacteristics.pdf>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.

19. "2009 Total North Carolina Resident Pregnancies." North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/totalpregnc.pdf>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.

-The percentages were reached by comparing the total reported abortions of each group (white 10,490 – minority 12,808) to the total reported number of pregnancies of each group (white 100,952 – minority 49,986).

20. "NC Resident Abortions, 2000-2009: Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions." North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/abortioncharacteristics.pdf>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.

21. "2009 Total North Carolina Resident Pregnancies." North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/totalpregnc.pdf>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.

-The percentage was reached by comparing the reported total of abortions for Unmarried women ages 24 and younger (10,757) to the reported total of abortions for that same group (12,637).

22. "NC Resident Abortions, 2000-2009: Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions." North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Available from <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/pregnancies/2009/abortioncharacteristics.pdf>. Internet; accessed 22 December 2010.

-These averages were reached by totaling the number of reported abortions for Each category during the period of 2004-2009 and dividing the total by the number of years (6) during the period.

23. Ibid, page 2.

-For definition of "Suction Curettage," see: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, "Reported Pregnancies 2009," Glossary of Terms: Letters "S-Z"

24 Ibid.

-For definition of "Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)," see: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, "Reported Pregnancies 2009," Glossary of Terms: Letters "A-F" (scroll down to find term).

25. " Rosie J. v. N.C. Dept. of Human Resources." North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts. Available from [http:// www.aoc.state.nc.us/www/public/sc/opinions/1997/232-96-1.htm](http://www.aoc.state.nc.us/www/public/sc/opinions/1997/232-96-1.htm). Internet; accessed 4 February 2011.

26. The information about the history of the State Abortion Fund was provided by N.C. State Representative Paul "Skip" Stam (R-37th).

27. " Rosie J. v. N.C. Dept. of Human Resources." North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts. Available from <http://www.aoc.state.nc.us/www/public/sc/opinions/1997/232-96-1.htm>. Internet; accessed 4 February 2011.

28. The information about the history of the State Abortion Fund was provided by N.C. State Representative Paul "Skip" Stam (R-37th).