

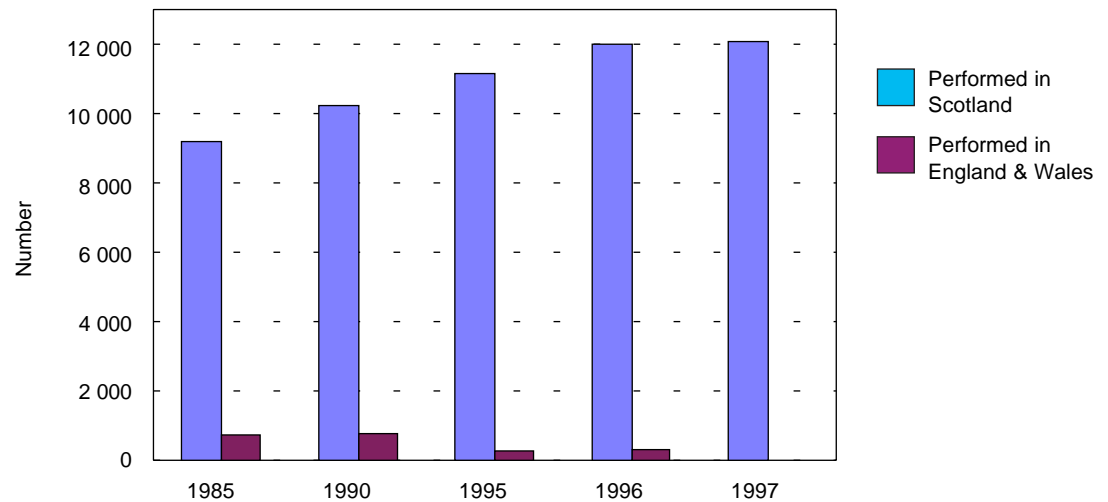
Abortion Statistics 1996 & 1997

This Health Briefing presents statistics on abortions performed in NHS hospitals and other approved places ⁽¹⁾. The figures for abortions performed in Scotland are derived from notifications of termination of pregnancy under the Abortion Act 1967 to the Chief Medical Officer of the Scottish Office Department of Health. Figures for 1996 exclude details of abortions on Scottish residents carried out in England and Wales to allow comparison with 1997, figures for which are not yet available.

(1) Places approved under the Abortion Act 1967.

Abortions performed on Scottish residents

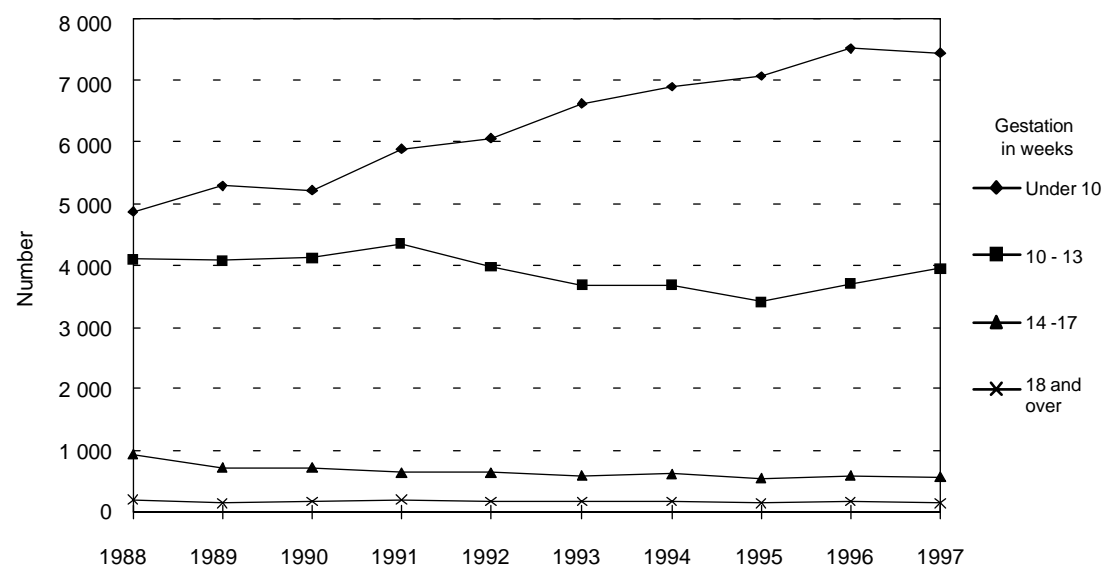
Figure 1 Number of abortions by year



The number of abortions performed in Scotland rose slightly in 1997 to 12,080, an increase of 0.8% from the previous year. This represents a rise in the abortion rate from 10.9 to 11.0 per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years.

Abortions by period of gestation

Figure 2 Number of abortions by period of gestation

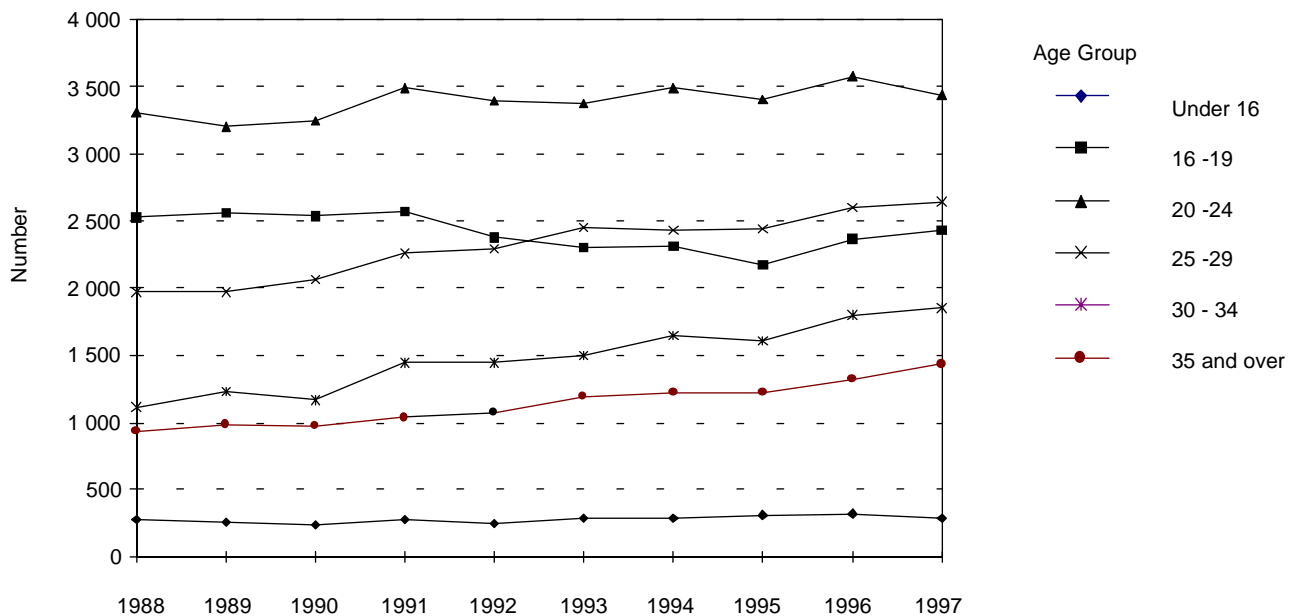


The number of abortions carried out at less than 10 weeks gestation has increased over the last 10 years (Figure 2). In 1997, 61.4% of all abortions were carried out at less than ten weeks gestation compared with 48.1% in 1988.

These figures exclude abortions performed in England & Wales on Scottish residents.

Abortions by age of women

Figure 3 Number of abortions by age and year

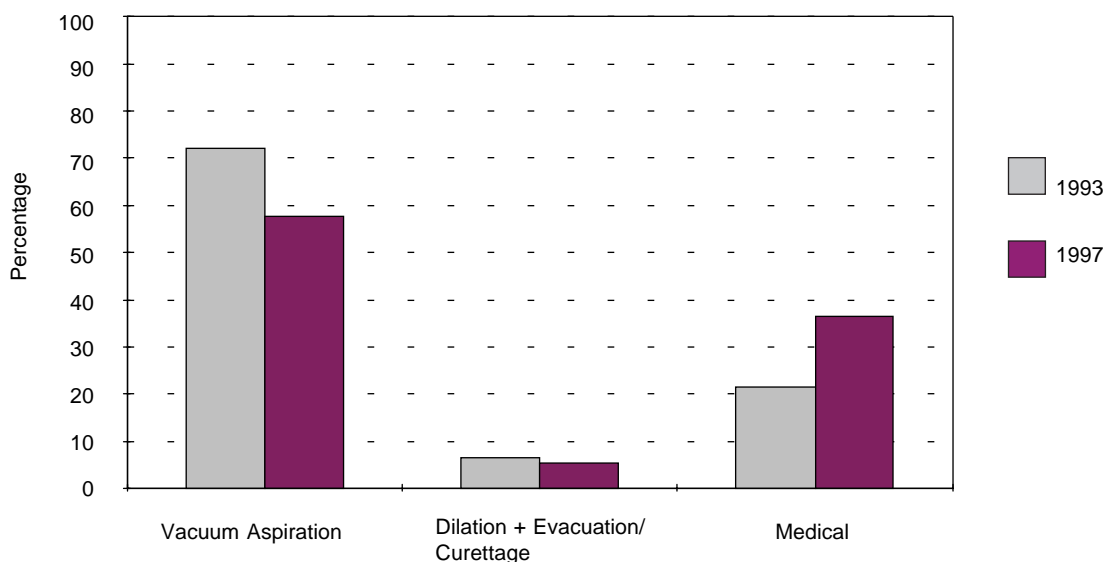


Although the total number of abortions carried out in Scotland has increased over the last 10 years (Figure 3) there has been a change in the distribution of abortions among the age groups. The percentage of abortions among women under 25 years of age has declined whilst the percentage of abortions among women aged 25 and over has increased. However, in all years the percentage of abortions was highest among women aged 20-24 (32.6% of all abortions in 1988 compared with 28.4% in 1997). The percentage of abortions among women aged under 20 fell from 27.8% in 1988 to 22.5% in 1997. The largest increase occurred among women aged 30-34 (up from 10.9% to 15.3% of all abortions in 1988 and 1997, respectively).

These figures exclude abortions performed in England & Wales on Scottish residents.

Abortions by method of termination

Figure 4 Method of termination



Between 1993 and 1997 there was an increase in the percentage of terminations carried out by medical methods, up from 21.6% in 1993 to 36.6% in 1997. This corresponds with a decrease in the use of the vacuum aspiration method, from 71.9% of all cases in 1993 to 57.8% in 1997.

These figures exclude abortions performed in England & Wales on Scottish residents.

More detailed unpublished data on abortion statistics can be obtained subject to the prior permission of the Chief Medical Officer of the Scottish Office Department of Health. For information contact Ross Elder on 0131- 551 8049

Reference Tables

1 Abortions¹ by place, age, marital state, period of gestation, parity and grounds for termination

| | 1995 | 1996 ^r | 1997 ^p | 1995 | 1996 ^r | 1997 ^p |
|--|--------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Total Abortions on Scottish Residents | Number | | | Rate per 1000 women aged 15-44 | | |
| <i>of which</i> | 11 434 | (7) | | 10.4 | (7) | |
| Performed in Scotland ² | 11 143 | 11 978 | 12 080 | 10.1 | 10.9 | 11.0 |
| NHS hospitals | 11 026 | 11 861 | 11 893 | 10.0 | 10.8 | 10.9 |
| Approved places ³ | 117 | 117 | 187 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Performed in England & Wales | 291 | | | 0.3 | | |
| NHS hospitals | 20 | (7) | | - | (7) | |
| Approved places ³ | 271 | | | 0.2 | | |
| Age of Women | (7) | | | Rate per 1000 women ⁸ | | |
| Under 16 | 323 | 323 | 289 | X | (7) | X |
| 16-19 | 2 208 | 2 362 | 2 428 | 18.4 | 19.5 | 19.5 |
| 20-24 | 3 485 | 3 571 | 3 434 | 19.5 | 20.9 | 21.2 |
| 25-29 | 2 503 | 2 603 | 2 643 | 12.4 | 13.1 | 13.6 |
| 30-34 | 1 670 | 1 801 | 1 852 | 8 | 8.6 | 8.9 |
| 35-39 | 911 | 960 | 1 090 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 5.5 |
| 40-44 | 301 | 331 | 320 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.8 |
| 45 and over | 33 | 27 | 24 | X | X | X |
| Marital State | | | | Percentage | | |
| Single | 7 911 | 8 465 | 8 577 | 69.2 | 70.7 | 71.0 |
| Married | 2 247 | 2 321 | 2 369 | 19.7 | 19.4 | 19.6 |
| Widowed, divorced or separated | 1 006 | 923 | 908 | 8.8 | 7.7 | 7.5 |
| Not known | 270 | 269 | 226 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 1.9 |
| Period of Gestation (weeks) | | | | Cumulative percentage | | |
| Under 10 | 7 214 | 7 494 | 7 421 | 63.1 | 62.6 | 61.4 |
| 10-13 | 3 460 | 3 716 | 3 946 | 93.4 | 93.6 | 94.1 |
| 14-17 | 563 | 594 | 557 | 98.3 | 98.5 | 98.7 |
| 18-19 | 113 | 125 | 104 | 99.3 | 99.6 | 99.6 |
| 20-24 | 79 | 42 | 50 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 100.0 |
| 25 and over | 5 | 7 | 2 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Parity ⁴ | | | | Percentage | | |
| 0 | 6 191 | 6 701 | 6 632 | 54.1 | 55.9 | 54.9 |
| 1 | 2 262 | 2 297 | 2 312 | 19.8 | 19.2 | 19.1 |
| 2 | 1 927 | 1 925 | 2 089 | 16.9 | 16.1 | 17.3 |
| 3 | 750 | 748 | 755 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 6.3 |
| 4 | 221 | 223 | 208 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.7 |
| 5 and over | 80 | 84 | 84 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Not stated | 3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Grounds for Abortion ^{5,6} | | | | Percentage | | |
| A | 7 | 4 | 10 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| B | 35 | 38 | 26 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| C | 10 840 | 11 713 | 11 841 | 93.4 | 96.9 | 97.3 |
| D | 580 | 171 | 146 | 5.0 | 1.4 | 1.2 |
| E | 139 | 166 | 147 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.2 |
| Emergency | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| G | | | | | | |

1 Refers to therapeutic abortions notified in accordance with the Abortion Act 1967.

2 Includes a small number of terminations carried out in Scotland on women normally resident outwith Scotland (23 in 1997).

3 Defined as in Section 1(3) of the Abortion Act 1967.

4 The number of preceding completed pregnancies.

5 As some notifications record more than one Statutory Ground, the numbers and percentages of Grounds exceed the total number of abortions.

6 See page 8 for definitions of grounds.

7 England & Wales data for 1996 are excluded to allow comparison with 1997.

8 Rates are per 1000 women in the age group; for 'all ages' the rate is per 1000 women aged 15-44.

Source: Notifications (to the Chief Medical Officer, SDOH) of abortions performed under the Abortion Act 1967; ONS (for abortions performed in England and Wales).

p Provisional: excludes abortions in England & Wales on Scottish residents data for which are not yet available.

r Revised.

2a Abortions¹ by health board of treatment and area of residence: 1996^r

| Health Board of treatment | Area of residence | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | All Areas | Argyll & Clyde | Ayrshire & Arran | Borders | Dumfries & Galloway | Fife | Forth Valley | Grampian | Greater Glasgow | Highland | Islands ² | Lanark- shire | Lothian | Tayside | Outwith Scotland |
| All Areas | 11 978 | 737 | 687 | 163 | 219 | 737 | 569 | 1 454 | 2 305 | 444 | 96 | 913 | 2 504 | 1 129 | 21 |
| Argyll & Clyde | 655 | 602 | 23 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 24 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| Ayrshire & Arran | 655 | 1 | 650 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Borders | 122 | - | - | 121 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Dumfries & Galloway | 214 | - | - | 1 | 212 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| Fife | 566 | - | - | - | - | 563 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - |
| Forth Valley | 528 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 510 | - | - | - | - | 8 | 1 | 7 | - |
| Grampian | 1 508 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 435 | - | 6 | 62 | - | - | 5 | - |
| Greater Glasgow | 2 611 | 128 | 12 | - | 1 | - | 10 | 1 | 2 268 | 2 | 5 | 182 | - | - | 2 |
| Highland | 453 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 11 | - | 434 | 6 | - | - | - | - |
| Islands ² | 23 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 23 | - | - | - | - |
| Lanarkshire | 683 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 | - | - | 674 | - | - | 1 |
| Lothian | 2 722 | 4 | - | 41 | 3 | 49 | 48 | - | 5 | 1 | - | 46 | 2 503 | 8 | 14 |
| Tayside | 1 238 | 1 | - | - | - | 123 | - | 7 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 105 | 1 |

1 Refers to therapeutic abortions notified in accordance with the Abortion Act 1967 and excludes abortions performed in England and Wales on Scottish residents, to allow comparison with 1997.

2 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles Health Boards.

Source: Notification (to the Chief Medical Officer, SOHHD) of abortions performed under the Abortion Act, 1967

^r Revised

2b Abortions¹ by health board of treatment and area of residence: 1997^p

| Health Board of treatment | Area of residence | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | All Areas | Argyll & Clyde | Ayrshire & Arran | Borders | Dumfries & Galloway | Fife | Forth Valley | Grampian | Greater Glasgow | Highland | Islands ² | Lanark- shire | Lothian | Tayside | Outwith Scotland |
| All Areas | 12 080 | 804 | 650 | 194 | 253 | 680 | 571 | 1 472 | 2 310 | 454 | 92 | 884 | 2 548 | 1 145 | 23 |
| Argyll & Clyde | 714 | 680 | 17 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 12 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 |
| Ayrshire & Arran | 623 | - | 619 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Borders | 153 | - | - | 150 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Dumfries & Galloway | 248 | - | - | - | 246 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Fife | 486 | - | - | - | - | 484 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| Forth Valley | 531 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 507 | - | 1 | - | - | 9 | 4 | 5 | - |
| Grampian | 1 535 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 453 | - | 9 | 64 | - | - | 5 | 4 |
| Greater Glasgow | 2 626 | 117 | 13 | - | 2 | 12 | 8 | - | 2 289 | 2 | 4 | 173 | 2 | - | 4 |
| Highland | 457 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 9 | - | 440 | 5 | - | - | - | - |
| Islands ² | 18 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 18 | - | - | - | - |
| Lanarkshire | 663 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | 658 | - | - | - |
| Lothian | 2 748 | 3 | - | 44 | 2 | 47 | 53 | - | 5 | 1 | 1 | 43 | 2 539 | 6 | 4 |
| Tayside | 1 278 | - | - | - | - | 132 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 128 | 4 |

1 Refers to therapeutic abortions notified in accordance with the Abortion Act 1967 and excludes abortions performed in England and Wales on Scottish residents, data for which are not yet available.

2 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles Health Boards.

p Provisional.

Source: Notification (to the Chief Medical Officer, SOHHD) of abortions performed under the Abortion Act, 1967

3a Abortions¹ by age, marital state, period of gestation, grounds for termination and area of residence:1996^r

| | All Areas | Argyll & Clyde | Ayrshire & Arran | Borders | Dumfries & Galloway | Fife | Forth Valley | Grampian | Greater Glasgow | Highland | Islands ⁴ | Lanarkshire | Lothian | Tayside | Other ⁵ |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| All Abortions | 11 978 | 737 | 687 | 163 | 219 | 737 | 569 | 1 454 | 2 305 | 444 | 96 | 913 | 2 504 | 1 129 | 21 |
| <i>Rate per 1000 live births</i> | <i>202.0</i> | <i>148.0</i> | <i>166.2</i> | <i>143.9</i> | <i>135.9</i> | <i>192.4</i> | <i>178.4</i> | <i>240.3</i> | <i>209.6</i> | <i>186.6</i> | <i>125.3</i> | <i>133.9</i> | <i>275.5</i> | <i>260.4</i> | |
| <i>Rate per 1000 women aged 15-44</i> | <i>10.9</i> | <i>8.2</i> | <i>8.9</i> | <i>8.1</i> | <i>7.8</i> | <i>10.1</i> | <i>9.7</i> | <i>12.6</i> | <i>11.3</i> | <i>10.7</i> | <i>7.0</i> | <i>7.4</i> | <i>14.4</i> | <i>14.2</i> | |
| Age of Women | Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 323 | 23 | 30 | 3 | 13 | 19 | 21 | 40 | 42 | 11 | 3 | 29 | 57 | 30 | 2 |
| 16-19 | 2 362 | 141 | 175 | 45 | 55 | 155 | 110 | 311 | 424 | 91 | 20 | 196 | 395 | 242 | 2 |
| 20-24 | 3 571 | 223 | 199 | 41 | 54 | 241 | 169 | 434 | 690 | 130 | 22 | 256 | 769 | 341 | 2 |
| 25-29 | 2 603 | 165 | 141 | 26 | 45 | 148 | 120 | 280 | 545 | 75 | 25 | 201 | 595 | 229 | 8 |
| 30-34 | 1 801 | 105 | 73 | 18 | 35 | 96 | 96 | 232 | 350 | 82 | 16 | 128 | 408 | 159 | 3 |
| 35-39 | 960 | 57 | 48 | 19 | 11 | 57 | 30 | 110 | 184 | 42 | 7 | 80 | 212 | 100 | 3 |
| 40-44 | 331 | 20 | 17 | 11 | 5 | 19 | 21 | 44 | 65 | 12 | 2 | 21 | 66 | 27 | 1 |
| 45 and over | 27 | 3 | 4 | - | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | - |
| Marital State | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 70.7 | 69.7 | 77.6 | 68.1 | 76.3 | 70.1 | 69.4 | 68.4 | 73.9 | 65.5 | 63.5 | 69.4 | 71.3 | 66.0 | 61.9 |
| Married | 19.4 | 17.6 | 16.2 | 20.9 | 21.0 | 20.1 | 20.4 | 23.6 | 17.2 | 22.7 | 21.9 | 18.2 | 19.6 | 18.4 | 38.1 |
| Widowed, divorced or separated | 7.7 | 8.3 | 6.3 | 8.0 | 2.7 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 6.7 | 7.6 | 8.6 | 11.5 | 9.7 | 8.2 | 6.4 | 0.0 |
| Not stated/not known | 2.2 | 4.3 | 0.0 | 3.1 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 2.6 | 0.9 | 9.2 | 0.0 |
| Period of Gestation (weeks) | Cumulative percentage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 10 | 62.6 | 50.3 | 37.4 | 60.7 | 69.9 | 60.9 | 54.5 | 74.2 | 57.2 | 67.1 | 70.8 | 61.2 | 67.2 | 74.1 | 57.1 |
| Under 14 | 93.6 | 93.6 | 95.8 | 93.3 | 93.2 | 89.7 | 94.6 | 93.1 | 94.4 | 94.1 | 96.9 | 95.7 | 93.3 | 92.0 | 95.2 |
| Under 18 | 98.5 | 99.1 | 99.0 | 98.8 | 96.8 | 96.9 | 97.7 | 98.0 | 99.2 | 98.6 | 100.0 | 99.7 | 99.0 | 97.2 | 100.0 |
| Under 20 | 99.6 | 99.7 | 99.7 | 99.4 | 99.1 | 98.8 | 99.5 | 99.4 | 99.8 | 99.3 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 99.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 25 | 99.9 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 99.8 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 99.8 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 28 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 10 weeks gestation | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Surgical | 61.3 | 95.1 | 99.6 | 53.5 | 96.7 | 76.6 | 80.6 | 43.7 | 57.0 | 45.6 | 77.9 | 87.1 | 43.9 | 64.6 | 83.3 |
| Medical | 38.7 | 4.9 | 0.4 | 46.5 | 3.3 | 23.4 | 19.4 | 56.3 | 43.0 | 54.4 | 22.1 | 12.9 | 56.1 | 35.4 | 16.7 |
| Grounds for Abortion^{2,3} | Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A | 4 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - |
| B | 38 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 8 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 10 | 7 | - |
| C | 11 713 | 730 | 676 | 162 | 215 | 714 | 557 | 1 425 | 2 224 | 439 | 88 | 900 | 2 469 | 1 094 | 20 |
| D | 171 | 7 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 88 | - | 1 | 19 | 44 | 1 | - |
| E | 166 | 3 | 10 | - | 3 | 22 | 10 | 28 | 30 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 21 | 25 | 1 |
| Emergency | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

1 Refers to therapeutic abortions notified in accordance with the Abortion Act 1967 and excludes abortions performed in England and Wales on Scottish residents, to allow comparison with 1997.

2 As some notifications record more than one Statutory Ground, the number of grounds exceeds the number of abortions.

3 See Conventions for definition of Grounds.

4 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles Health Boards.

5 Patients resident outwith Scotland.

Source: Notification (to the Chief Medical Officer, SOHHD) of abortions performed under the Abortion Act, 1967

3b Abortions¹

by age, marital state, period of gestation, grounds for termination and area of residence:1997^p

| | All Areas | Argyll & Clyde | Ayrshire & Arran | Borders | Dumfries & Galloway | Fife | Forth Valley | Grampian | Greater Glasgow | Highland | Islands ⁵ | Lanarkshire | Lothian | Tayside | Other ⁶ |
|--|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| All Abortions | 12 080 | 804 | 650 | 194 | 253 | 680 | 571 | 1 472 | 2 310 | 454 | 92 | 884 | 2 548 | 1 145 | 23 |
| <i>Rate per 1000 live births²</i> | <i>203.7</i> | <i>161.5</i> | <i>157.2</i> | <i>171.2</i> | <i>156.9</i> | <i>177.5</i> | <i>179.0</i> | <i>243.3</i> | <i>210.1</i> | <i>190.8</i> | <i>120.1</i> | <i>129.7</i> | <i>280.4</i> | <i>264.1</i> | |
| <i>Rate per 1000 women aged 15-44</i> | <i>11.0</i> | <i>9.0</i> | <i>8.5</i> | <i>9.6</i> | <i>9.1</i> | <i>9.4</i> | <i>9.8</i> | <i>13.0</i> | <i>11.3</i> | <i>11.1</i> | <i>6.8</i> | <i>7.2</i> | <i>14.5</i> | <i>14.5</i> | |
| Age of Women | Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 289 | 18 | 19 | 4 | 5 | 28 | 16 | 28 | 49 | 9 | 2 | 24 | 50 | 37 | - |
| 16-19 | 2 428 | 148 | 146 | 36 | 67 | 144 | 117 | 339 | 422 | 118 | 18 | 175 | 445 | 251 | 2 |
| 20-24 | 3 434 | 229 | 170 | 40 | 60 | 181 | 163 | 419 | 716 | 113 | 20 | 219 | 761 | 337 | 6 |
| 25-29 | 2 643 | 160 | 124 | 41 | 55 | 143 | 121 | 329 | 542 | 86 | 24 | 204 | 591 | 215 | 8 |
| 30-34 | 1 852 | 151 | 104 | 31 | 30 | 104 | 84 | 201 | 349 | 70 | 15 | 152 | 385 | 171 | 5 |
| 35-39 | 1 090 | 74 | 65 | 28 | 32 | 56 | 57 | 117 | 177 | 42 | 7 | 90 | 239 | 104 | 2 |
| 40-44 | 320 | 23 | 21 | 10 | 4 | 22 | 12 | 35 | 50 | 16 | 6 | 20 | 73 | 28 | - |
| 45 and over | 24 | 1 | 1 | 4 | - | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5 | - | - | - | 4 | 2 | - |
| Marital State | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 71.0 | 67.2 | 69.2 | 57.7 | 71.5 | 66.5 | 66.2 | 72.8 | 76.5 | 72.5 | 68.5 | 69.6 | 72.9 | 65.2 | 65.2 |
| Married | 19.6 | 21.8 | 22.5 | 23.7 | 22.1 | 21.8 | 24.2 | 20.7 | 15.2 | 17.6 | 17.4 | 20.1 | 19.8 | 19.2 | 21.7 |
| Widowed, divorced or separated | 7.5 | 9.6 | 8.0 | 12.4 | 5.1 | 10.7 | 7.7 | 6.2 | 6.6 | 8.6 | 14.1 | 9.7 | 6.5 | 6.6 | 13.0 |
| Not stated/not known | 1.9 | 1.5 | 0.3 | 6.2 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 0.3 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 8.9 | 0.0 |
| Period of Gestation (weeks) | Cumulative percentage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 10 | 61.4 | 50.6 | 34.9 | 69.6 | 56.1 | 54.0 | 60.2 | 76.4 | 58.0 | 64.1 | 69.6 | 50.2 | 65.2 | 74.9 | 69.6 |
| Under 14 | 94.1 | 95.5 | 95.7 | 90.2 | 92.5 | 89.7 | 93.0 | 92.6 | 95.9 | 91.9 | 95.7 | 97.1 | 94.5 | 92.1 | 95.7 |
| Under 18 | 98.7 | 99.5 | 99.4 | 98.5 | 98.0 | 97.5 | 98.4 | 97.9 | 99.5 | 98.2 | 98.9 | 99.7 | 98.7 | 97.7 | 100.0 |
| Under 20 | 99.6 | 99.9 | 99.5 | 99.5 | 100.0 | 98.4 | 99.5 | 99.4 | 99.9 | 99.3 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 99.6 | 99.4 | 100.0 |
| Under 25 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 99.8 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 99.8 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 28 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 10 weeks gestation | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Surgical | 55.2 | 96.1 | 99.1 | 32.6 | 95.1 | 69.5 | 73.5 | 36.0 | 57.5 | 34.4 | 71.9 | 85.1 | 41.3 | 45.9 | 93.8 |
| Medical | 44.8 | 3.9 | 0.9 | 67.4 | 4.9 | 30.5 | 26.5 | 64.0 | 42.5 | 65.6 | 28.1 | 14.9 | 58.7 | 54.1 | 6.3 |
| Grounds for Abortion^{3,4} | Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A | 10 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | 3 | - |
| B | 26 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 4 | - |
| C | 11 841 | 798 | 644 | 188 | 246 | 660 | 557 | 1 454 | 2 260 | 447 | 88 | 865 | 2 500 | 1 111 | 23 |
| D | 146 | 12 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 7 | 1 | 64 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 44 | 4 | 1 |
| E | 147 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 8 | 18 | 17 | 4 | - | 10 | 29 | 25 | - |
| Emergency | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

1 Refers to therapeutic abortions notified in accordance with the Abortion Act 1967 and excludes abortions performed in England and Wales on Scottish residents, data for which are not yet available.

2 The rate per 1 000 livebirths are calculated using 1996 GRO figures, data for 1997 are not yet available.

3 As some notifications record more than one Statutory Ground, the number of grounds exceeds the number of abortions.

4 See Notes page 8 for definition of Grounds.

5 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles Health Boards.

6 Patients resident outwith Scotland.

p Provisional.

Source: Notification (to the Chief Medical Officer, SOHHD) of abortions performed under the Abortion Act, 1967

Statutory Grounds for Abortion from April 1991

Non Emergency

- A** the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk to the life of the pregnant woman greater than if the pregnancy were terminated.
- B** the termination is necessary to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman.
- C** the pregnancy has NOT exceeded its 24th week and that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman.
- D** the pregnancy has NOT exceeded its 24th week and that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of the existing child(ren) of the family of the pregnant woman.
- E** there is a substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped.

Emergency

- F** it was necessary to save the life of the woman.
- G** it was necessary to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman.

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GENERAL ENQUIRIES

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