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OFFICE OF POPULATION CENSUSES
AND SURVEYS

THE
REGISTRAR GENERAL'S
STATISTICAL REVIEW
OF
ENGLAND AND WALES
FOR THE YEAR

1972

SUPPLEMENT ON ABORTION

LONDON

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CORRECTIONS

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Table 10, Page 13

7 and over, age-group 20-24	Total	<i>for - read 2</i>
	Semi-skilled	<i>for - read 1</i>
	Not classified	<i>for - read 1</i>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. General

The Abortion Act 1967, which came into effect on 27th April 1968, permits termination of pregnancy by a registered medical practitioner subject to certain conditions. Regulations made under the Act (The Abortion Regulations 1968, Statutory Instrument 1968 No.390 as amended by 1969 No.636, in relation to England and Wales) require any such termination to be notified within seven days, in a form prescribed in Schedule 2 of the principal Regulations, to the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security or to the Chief Medical Officer of the Welsh Office, according to where the termination takes place. By arrangement the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys undertakes the statistical processing and analysis of the notification forms. This supplement to the Registrar General's Statistical Review gives some statistics derived from them for England and Wales for 1972. The following paragraphs set out the background to these statistics and the definitions used in compiling them.

2. Conditions of the Act

A legally induced abortion must be

- (a) performed by a registered medical practitioner,
- (b) performed, except in emergency, in a National Health Service Hospital or in a place for the time being approved for the purpose of the Act,
- (c) certified by two registered medical practitioners as necessary on one or other of the grounds:

- 1. the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk to the life of the pregnant woman greater than if the pregnancy were terminated,
 - 2. the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk of injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman greater than if the pregnancy were terminated,
 - 3. the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk of injury to the physical or mental health of any existing children of the family greater than if the pregnancy were terminated,
 - 4. 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,
- or in emergency cases, certified by the operating practitioner as immediately necessary-
- 5. to save the life of the pregnant woman, or
 - 6. to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman.

The above numbering of the grounds for termination appears in the notification form itself, and is used for brevity in the tables. Combinations of grounds are not infrequently recorded, and the tabulations distinguish two such: 2 and 4 together, and 3 with any others (usually 2 and/or 4). Where ground 1 is stated with any other, the case is treated as ground 1.

The Act provides that in relation to grounds numbered above as 2 and 3 the certifying practitioner may take account of the pregnant woman's actual or reasonably foreseeable environment.

3. Scope of data

The figures in the main tables are derived from notification forms received during 1972 and up to the end of January 1973 relating to legally induced abortions which took place in England and Wales in 1972.

The relative categories of the *International Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death, 8th Revision (1965)* are those numbered 640 (abortion induced for medical indications) and 641 (abortion induced for other legal indications).

In table headings, 'All cases' signifies all terminations taking place in England and Wales, whatever the country of the woman's usual residence.

Tables 2, 4B, 5, 7-12, 14 and 16-22, however, being primarily of demographic rather than medical interest, exclude abortions of women whose usual residence was stated to be outside England and Wales. These are shown separately in Table 15.

4. Rates

Tables 2A, B and C, give annual abortion rates for England and Wales as a whole, for standard regions, area aggregates and hospital regions according to the declared usual residence of the woman. The denominator is the estimated population of women in the age range 15-49 at mid 1972. The marital status categories used in the denominator do not coincide with those used for the abortions. In the former, separated women are counted as married, whereas in the latter they are included with the divorced and widowed women. (See note 6). As population estimates by marital status for regions are not available, regional rates are age-specific only.

5. Place of Termination (type of premises)

Except in emergency, abortion operations must be carried out in N.H.S. hospitals, in certain approved Services' hospitals, or in other premises specifically approved by the Secretary of State. At the end of 1972 there were 55 such approved places and 13 approved Services' hospitals. In the tables these latter hospitals are included under the heading 'Other Places'.

In 1972 one operation was recorded as having been performed, as an emergency, in a place other than those in the three categories of premises mentioned.

6. Age and Marital status

The notification form asks for the woman's date of birth and the age tabulated is that at the last birthday before the operation. The categories of marital status distinguished on the notification form are (a) single (b) married (c) widowed (d) divorced or separated. Except in Tables 8, 14 and 15(ii), the relatively small categories (c) and (d) are combined for tabulation purposes. This classification differs from that used for measuring the population estimates. (See note 4).

7. Parity

The form requires the number of the woman's previous (a) live births (b) stillbirths (c) abortions to be stated. In Tables 7, 9 and 10 analysis is by the number of previous live births, and in Tables 5 and 16C(i) by the number of live and stillbirths together. Answers under (c) are probably incomplete.

8. Previous Abortion under the Act

A question on the form about the date of the last termination of pregnancy under the Act enables cases of previous therapeutic abortion since 27th April 1968, to be identified. These are shown in Table 16C(iii) by the woman's age and hospital region of residence.

9. Method of Termination

Five main operative methods are listed on the form, with provision for specifying any other method. Where more than one is used, in Tables 1A(v), 13 and 16C(iv) the case is classified under the major operation.

10. Gestation period

The form provides for a statement of the date of the last menstrual period as well as the date of operation. In accordance with international convention the gestation period is calculated as the number of completed weeks between these two dates. Where the l.m.p. is stated vaguely, for example as in 'early April' or 'third week in June', a guessed single date is inserted, such as 7th April and 22nd June. When no date is stated for a case it is included in the 'not stated' category.

11. Duration of stay

Duration of stay in hospital or approved place is tabulated as the interval in days between date of admission and date of discharge (the latter actual or expected). An interval of 0 days means admission and discharge on the same date. As notification forms should be completed and forwarded within seven days of operation, the tabulated durations are limited at the upper end to '7 days and over'. A date of discharge was not stated and could not be inferred in 7.7% of cases resident in England and Wales.

12. Region of operation

Hospitals and approved places are classified to the hospital region in which they are situated, except that London teaching hospitals are shown as a separate group. The composition of hospital regions in terms of entire local government areas is set out in the Registrar General's Statistical Review from year to year, e.g. the 1971 volume, Part II, pages xxx-xxxiii.

13. Area of residence

Tables 2, 15, 16, 17 and 18 are derived from the statement of the woman's usual address. In so far as temporary residence in England and Wales may sometimes be stated, instead of the true usual residence, figures in Table 15 may be incomplete. Table 17 is limited to standard regions, hospital regions, conurbations, aggregates of types of area and local government areas with a resident population of 100,000 and over. Figures for smaller areas are not provided in the interests of preserving confidentiality.

The composition of standard regions and conurbations is set out in the Registrar General's Statistical Review from year to year, e.g. the 1971 volume, Part II, pages xiv-xvii.

14. Sterilisation

Tables 4B, 10 and 11B provide analyses of cases where sterilisation accompanied the abortion operation, and Tables 16B and 16C(vi) give some additional figures for regions. Where no answer was provided to the question, it was assumed that sterilisation was not performed unless the nature of the operation implied the opposite; all women who were stated to have had hysterectomy have been counted among those sterilised.

15. Occupation

The form asks for the woman's occupation, or that of her husband if she is married. Unfortunately, the information provided under this heading is often incomplete or too vague or general to permit satisfactory classification. However, in view of the sociological interest, an attempt has been made to analyse the data in terms of groups of occupations, whether of the woman or her husband, which correspond (to some extent) with conventional social classes used in various of the Registrar General's publications. Since, however, assessment of job status is not always possible, the classification is not strictly that of social class. These groups of occupations, presented in Tables 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 20 and 21 are:

Professional: e.g. doctors, architects, lecturers.

Intermediate: e.g. nurses, sales managers, entertainers.

Skilled: e.g. secretaries, salesmen, hairdressers.

Semi-skilled: e.g. waitresses, farm workers, telephonists.

Unskilled: e.g. kitchen hands, dock labourers, window cleaners.

Not classified: e.g. students, housewives, members of the armed forces, occupations inadequately described or not stated, unemployed.

16. Existing children

Tables 11A and B analyse the data according to the number of existing children living in the woman's family. This is defined on the form as a woman's natural children and any adopted, foster or step-children up to the age of 16 years living with her.

17. Medical grounds

Questions 11(a) and (b) on the notification form ask about the medical condition of the woman in terms of any obstetric or non-obstetric disease found or reported and any suspected medical condition of the foetus. The answers are coded according to the *International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 8th Revision (1965)*, slightly adapted to the context of abortions. In particular, Category 307 (Transitional situational disturbances) is used as a residual group and includes general and miscellaneous terms and vague references to the mental state of the pregnant woman, e.g. mental health (risk to), mental illness (risk of), attempted suicide or tendency to suicide. Also included are disorders not specified as psychotic associated with other or unspecified physical conditions, which would otherwise be included in ICD 309.9. Two codes outside the range of the ICD 649 and 669, have been added to accommodate certain reported conditions, as described in Table 19. The large variety of medical conditions reported are aggregated into significant groups of the International Classification (ICD) code numbers and presented in Table 19. This shows numbers of conditions and not numbers of cases.

18. Environmental and other conditions (non-medical)

Question 11(c) on the notification form asks about non-medical grounds for termination, pursuant to the statutory provision that certifying practitioners may take account of 'the pregnant woman's actual or reasonably foreseeable environment' in relation to statutory grounds 2 and 3. Apart from some cases where question 11(c) was mistakenly answered by a reference back to the statutory grounds already stated, twenty-nine per cent (30,976) of all cases included some information about social conditions. These were cited in most cases in addition to medical reasons. The reasons, as the practitioner has seen fit to record them, have been classified to broad social groupings which have been used in the analysis shown in Table 12. Where more than one condition was stated an arbitrary order of priority was used for selecting the condition to be tabulated.

19. Complications or death

The question under this heading relates to the occurrence of complications or death prior to notification of an abortion. Notification should be made within seven days and the notifying doctor may not hear of complications or death occurring after the patient has been discharged from the place of operation. Data available from answers to this question will, from time to time, be analysed and discussed and published in medical journals.

Deaths recorded on the forms totalled 15, including one woman who was not normally resident in England or Wales. On reference to the death certificate in each case it was found that the certifying practitioner or coroner had not necessarily attributed cause of death to the abortion operation but sometimes to the illness which was considered the underlying cause of death. Of the 14 deaths of resident women, in 10 cases abortion was shown to be the underlying cause, whilst in the remaining 4 death was attributed to other conditions. The method of termination, period of gestation and age at death are presented in Table 22.

TABLES

TABLE 1A. Legally induced abortions by age of woman and:-

	England and Wales, 1972									
	All cases									
(SUMMARY) (i) marital status (ii) type of premises (iii) statutory grounds (iv) gestation weeks (v) type of operation	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
All legally induced abortions	159,884	3,320	29,050	42,512	31,163	24,478	18,159	8,016	695	2,491
(i) Marital status										
Single	77,293	3,319	27,770	30,308	10,146	3,100	1,166	341	25	1,118
Married	69,327	1	992	9,524	17,000	18,198	14,924	6,957	608	1,123
Widowed, divorced or separated	13,169	-	283	2,667	3,986	3,170	2,054	703	61	245
Not stated	95	-	5	13	31	10	15	15	1	5
(ii) Type of premises										
NHS hospitals	57,086	2,101	9,910	11,392	11,149	9,499	7,695	3,854	357	1,129
Approved places	102,417	1,210	19,064	31,055	19,932	14,917	10,417	4,137	335	1,350
Other places	381	9	76	65	82	62	47	25	3	12
(iii) Statutory grounds*										
1	3,880	39	387	966	743	689	606	339	41	70
2	120,668	3,201	27,706	36,159	21,422	14,543	10,548	4,837	395	1,857
3	4,363	13	150	762	1,131	1,076	802	330	27	72
4	1,174	8	97	284	384	199	115	53	9	25
5	10	-	2	2	3	-	-	3	-	-
6	15	2	1	4	4	1	2	1	-	-
2 with 4	1,168	17	66	215	279	220	169	148	33	21
3 with others	28,606	40	641	4,120	7,197	7,750	5,917	2,305	190	446
(iv) Gestation weeks†										
Under 9 weeks	33,524	393	3,903	8,070	7,119	6,483	4,913	1,962	158	523
9 and under 13 weeks	92,182	1,851	17,082	24,904	18,010	13,888	10,239	4,514	363	1,331
13 weeks and over	31,242	992	7,626	8,864	5,422	3,627	2,684	1,385	159	483
Not stated	2,936	84	439	674	612	480	323	155	15	154
(v) Type of operation										
Hysterotomy - abdominal	8,098	212	686	1,018	1,546	1,834	1,678	912	94	118
Hysterotomy - vaginal	213	6	22	30	44	49	38	18	-	6
Hysterectomy	892	2	11	26	87	193	280	239	31	23
Vacuum aspiration	67,970	1,598	12,769	17,431	13,455	10,339	7,641	3,311	250	1,176
Dilatation	64,849	1,063	11,926	18,990	12,640	9,471	6,765	2,817	262	915
Other types of termination	2,785	197	829	762	461	254	134	93	10	45
Multiple methods, including Not stated	15,077	242	2,807	4,255	2,930	2,338	1,623	626	48	208

* For statutory grounds see page v.

† For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.

TABLE 1B. Legally induced abortions. Quarterly and annual notifications; annual occurrences for residents of England and Wales (SERIAL) England and Wales and non-residents by type of premises; rates per 1,000 women ages 15-44 (residents) 1968-1972

Year	Notifications received					Occurrences reported					Rates per 1,000 women 15-44 (residents)
	Quarter				Total	Total	Residents		Non-residents		
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th			In NHS Hospital	Non NHS	In NHS Hospital	Non NHS	
1968 (8 months)	-	4,411	7,938	9,907	22,256	23,641	14,492	7,840	68	1,241	3.46
1969	11,342	13,116	13,871	15,828	54,157	54,819	33,562	16,267	166	4,824	5.26
1970	17,742	21,082	22,253	22,774	83,851	86,565	47,370	28,592	308	10,295	7.97
1971	22,808	31,202	34,449	38,315	126,774	126,777	53,455	41,115	251	31,956	10.03*
1972	37,166	39,190	39,972	40,386	156,714	159,884	56,861	51,704	225	51,094	11.47

* Based on revised population figure for 1971.

TABLE 2A. Legally induced abortions by age and marital status, with rates per 1,000 women

Marital status	England and Wales, 1972								Total 15 and over†
	Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45 and over*	Not stated		
	Numbers								
All	691	23,899	26,908	36,872	17,832	474	1,889	107,874	
Married	-	689	6,352	23,646	14,934	423	850	46,894	
Single	691	22,950	18,290	7,544	790	9	841	50,424	
Widowed	-	4	54	323	314	12	15	722	
Divorced/separated	-	252	2,202	5,323	1,768	30	180	9,755	
Unknown	-	4	10	36	26	-	3	79	
	Rates‡								
All	-	14.54	15.32	11.73	6.33	0.30	-	11.27	9.73
Single	-	15.28	26.00	22.28	4.05	0.06	-	18.10	17.36
Married/widowed/divorced/separated	-	6.65	8.18	10.45	6.50	0.32	-	8.44	7.01

* Rates per 1,000 women aged 45-49.

† Including age not stated.

‡ Cases of unknown marital status are distributed proportionately.

TABLE 2B. Legally induced abortions by age and area of residence, with rates per 1,000 women

Area of residence	England and Wales, standard regions, Wales, conurbations, urban and rural aggregates 1972								
	All ages	Under 16	16-19*	20-24	25-34	35-44	45 and over†	Not stated	Total 16 and over‡
Numbers									
ENGLAND AND WALES	108,565	2,804	21,786	26,908	36,872	17,832	474	1,889	105,761
Standard regions:									
North	5,895	153	1,226	1,222	1,996	1,198	24	76	5,742
Yorkshire and Humberside	7,725	254	1,721	1,596	2,462	1,541	42	109	7,471
North West	11,878	304	2,425	2,872	3,953	2,098	63	163	11,574
East Midlands	5,833	199	1,249	1,221	1,968	1,091	33	72	5,634
West Midlands	11,486	340	2,618	2,671	3,677	1,926	46	208	11,146
East Anglia	2,879	91	639	596	961	513	13	66	2,788
South East	50,370	1,079	9,266	13,913	17,720	7,186	189	1,017	49,291
South West	7,277	265	1,566	1,646	2,324	1,303	30	143	7,012
Wales	5,222	119	1,076	1,171	1,811	976	34	35	5,103
Urban and rural aggregates:									
Conurbations	47,696	985	8,663	13,798	16,431	6,715	169	935	46,711
Areas outside conurbations:									
Urban areas with populations of 100,000 and over	13,983	395	3,100	3,468	4,532	2,210	64	214	13,588
Urban areas with populations of 50,000 and under 100,000	10,422	309	2,307	2,441	3,434	1,724	50	157	10,113
Urban areas with populations under 50,000	20,195	611	4,389	4,170	6,788	3,820	91	326	19,584
Rural districts	16,269	504	3,327	3,031	5,687	3,363	100	257	15,765

Area of residence	England and Wales, standard regions, Wales, conurbations, urban and rural aggregates 1972								
	All ages	Under 16	16-19*	20-24	25-34	35-44	45 and over†	Not stated	Total 16 and over‡
Rates									
ENGLAND AND WALES	-	-	13.26	15.33	11.73	6.33	0.31	-	9.71
Standard regions:									
North	-	-	10.42	10.76	9.95	6.15	0.23	-	7.84
Yorkshire and Humberside	-	-	10.56	9.49	8.25	5.60	0.28	-	7.08
North West	-	-	10.63	12.15	9.45	5.50	0.30	-	7.85
East Midlands	-	-	10.97	10.12	8.83	5.52	0.31	-	7.40
West Midlands	-	-	14.93	14.74	10.77	6.41	0.28	-	9.60
East Anglia	-	-	11.58	9.82	8.74	5.32	0.26	-	7.49
South East	-	-	16.32	21.22	15.36	7.15	0.35	-	12.56
South West	-	-	12.24	12.88	9.97	6.15	0.26	-	8.57
Wales	-	-	11.37	12.77	10.91	6.29	0.39	-	8.56
Urban and rural aggregates:									
Conurbations	-	-	16.20	22.50	16.13	7.40	0.33	-	13.04
Areas outside conurbations:									
Urban areas with populations of 100,000 and over	-	-	13.69	14.26	11.76	6.22	0.31	-	9.61
Urban areas with populations of 50,000 and under 100,000	-	-	13.79	13.77	11.37	6.14	0.32	-	9.35
Urban areas with populations under 50,000	-	-	12.00	11.04	9.56	6.05	0.27	-	8.08
Rural districts	-	-	9.52	8.80	7.81	5.22	0.31	-	6.59

* Rates per 1,000 women aged 15-19.
 † Rates per 1,000 women aged 45-49.
 ‡ Rates per 1,000 women aged 15-49. Not stated ages included.

TABLE 2C. Legally induced abortions by age and area of residence, with rates per 1,000 women

Area of residence	England and Wales, hospital regions 1972								
	All ages	Under 16	16-19*	20-24	25-34	35-44	45 and over†	Not stated	Total 16 and over‡
Numbers									
ENGLAND AND WALES	108,565	2,804	21,786	26,908	36,872	17,832	474	1,889	105,761
Hospital regions:									
Newcastle	5,549	149	1,137	1,160	1,868	1,142	24	69	5,400
Leeds	5,117	151	1,166	1,082	1,603	1,011	21	83	4,966
Sheffield	7,872	279	1,674	1,620	2,640	1,522	46	91	7,593
East Anglian	3,039	97	677	632	1,012	539	14	68	2,942
North West Metropolitan	16,049	264	2,571	4,804	5,791	2,148	61	410	15,785
North East Metropolitan	8,520	173	1,695	2,041	3,003	1,388	35	185	8,347
South East Metropolitan	8,866	248	1,792	2,208	3,087	1,332	37	162	8,618
South West Metropolitan	11,198	194	1,941	3,561	3,956	1,335	33	178	11,004
Wessex	3,543	132	790	785	1,177	583	13	63	3,411
Oxford	3,840	126	846	839	1,269	700	18	42	3,714
South Western	6,330	228	1,365	1,450	2,005	1,125	29	128	6,102
Welsh	5,222	119	1,076	1,171	1,811	976	34	35	5,103
Birmingham	11,486	340	2,618	2,671	3,677	1,926	46	208	11,146
Manchester	7,968	219	1,617	1,896	2,673	1,420	39	104	7,749
Liverpool	3,966	85	821	988	1,300	685	24	63	3,881

Area of residence	England and Wales, hospital regions 1972								
	All ages	Under 16	16-19*	20-24	25-34	35-44	45 and over†	Not stated	Total 16 and over‡
Rates									
ENGLAND AND WALES	-	-	13.26	15.33	11.73	6.33	0.31	-	9.71
Hospital regions:									
Newcastle	-	-	10.38	10.94	10.07	6.33	0.25	-	7.95
Leeds	-	-	10.66	9.62	8.14	5.47	0.21	-	7.05
Sheffield	-	-	10.66	9.93	8.76	5.63	0.31	-	7.31
East Anglian	-	-	11.67	9.94	8.73	5.32	0.27	-	7.52
North West Metropolitan	-	-	18.36	27.64	19.30	8.47	0.45	-	15.76
North East Metropolitan	-	-	15.98	16.90	13.96	7.16	0.33	-	11.25
South East Metropolitan	-	-	16.04	18.51	14.43	6.91	0.35	-	11.57
South West Metropolitan	-	-	17.87	26.73	17.98	7.03	0.32	-	14.56
Wessex	-	-	11.48	10.98	8.98	5.03	0.21	-	7.60
Oxford	-	-	12.48	11.31	8.96	5.93	0.30	-	8.06
South Western	-	-	12.85	13.58	10.34	6.36	0.29	-	8.93
Welsh	-	-	11.37	12.77	10.91	6.29	0.39	-	8.56
Birmingham	-	-	14.93	14.74	10.77	6.41	0.28	-	9.60
Manchester	-	-	10.89	11.88	9.39	5.55	0.27	-	7.81
Liverpool	-	-	10.05	12.59	9.50	5.32	0.35	-	7.85

* Rates per 1,000 women aged 15-19.
 † Rates per 1,000 women aged 45-49.
 ‡ Rates per 1,000 women aged 15-49. Not stated ages included.

TABLE 5. Legally induced abortions by age, number of previous live and still born children and marital status

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Previous live and still born children	Marital status	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
0	Total	50,497	2,784	20,225	17,581	6,072	1,805	842	315	25	848
	Single	45,560	2,784	19,910	15,888	4,601	1,097	415	115	6	744
	Married	3,298	-	244	1,164	922	422	291	161	16	78
	Widowed/divorced/separated	1,622	-	69	525	544	284	135	38	3	24
	Not stated	17	-	2	4	5	2	1	1	-	2
1	Total	12,432	20	1,315	4,141	3,234	1,787	1,150	510	32	243
	Single	4,186	20	866	1,886	926	301	87	26	1	73
	Married	5,490	-	292	1,408	1,459	1,014	800	380	27	110
	Widowed/divorced/separated	2,740	-	155	845	843	469	261	103	4	60
	Not stated	16	-	2	2	3	2	1	-	-	-
2	Total	19,010	-	211	3,282	5,557	4,652	3,464	1,407	104	333
	Single	838	-	52	371	232	110	50	12	-	11
	Married	15,208	-	129	2,281	4,377	3,865	2,966	1,235	95	260
	Widowed/divorced/separated	2,945	-	30	627	939	675	445	158	9	62
	Not stated	19	-	-	3	9	2	3	2	-	6
3	Total	13,841	-	27	1,363	3,624	4,025	3,157	1,309	112	224
	Single	303	-	5	102	98	62	22	8	1	5
	Married	11,822	-	21	1,072	3,002	3,429	2,801	1,203	104	190
	Widowed/divorced/separated	1,703	-	1	188	520	533	330	95	7	29
	Not stated	13	-	-	1	4	1	4	3	-	2
4	Total	7,100	-	2	407	1,572	2,180	1,808	931	76	124
	Single	122	-	-	29	41	25	16	7	1	3
	Married	6,146	-	1	325	1,293	1,876	1,609	860	68	114
	Widowed/divorced/separated	828	-	1	53	237	278	182	63	7	7
	Not stated	4	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
5	Total	3,071	-	-	89	497	965	947	474	48	51
	Single	46	-	-	5	10	15	13	2	-	1
	Married	2,674	-	-	71	417	818	848	430	45	45
	Widowed/divorced/separated	346	-	-	13	68	132	86	39	3	5
	Not stated	5	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	-
6	Total	1,328	-	1	16	152	387	454	270	24	24
	Single	22	-	-	2	5	6	5	4	-	-
	Married	1,157	-	1	14	131	327	393	251	19	21
	Widowed/divorced/separated	146	-	-	-	16	54	55	13	5	3
	Not stated	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	3
7	Total	584	-	-	1	36	144	205	164	22	12
	Single	7	-	-	-	2	4	4	1	-	-
	Married	516	-	-	1	30	125	178	151	22	9
	Widowed/divorced/separated	61	-	-	-	4	19	23	12	-	3
	Not stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Total	279	-	-	-	11	61	104	84	15	4
	Single	4	-	-	-	3	3	1	-	-	-
	Married	244	-	-	-	9	47	89	80	15	4
	Widowed/divorced/separated	31	-	-	-	2	11	14	4	-	-
	Not stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 and over	Total	246	-	-	1	3	33	81	108	14	6
	Single	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
	Married	210	-	-	1	3	26	68	97	10	5
	Widowed/divorced/separated	33	-	-	-	-	7	11	10	4	1
	Not stated	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Not stated	Total	177	-	5	27	38	37	30	18	2	20
	Single	25	-	4	7	6	4	-	-	-	4
	Married	129	-	1	15	24	30	26	17	2	14
	Widowed/divorced/separated	22	-	-	5	8	3	4	1	-	1
	Not stated	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

TABLE 6. Legally induced abortions by age, gestation weeks and marital status

England and Wales, 1972
All cases

Gestation weeks* and marital status	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
Under 9 weeks										
Total	33,524	393	3,903	8,070	7,119	6,483	4,913	1,962	158	523
Single	14,303	393	3,769	5,996	2,613	876	333	91	5	227
Married	16,674	-	113	1,709	3,773	4,874	4,095	1,718	139	253
Widowed/divorced/separated	2,533	-	21	363	728	730	483	151	14	43
Not stated	14	-	-	2	5	3	2	2	-	-
9 and under 13 weeks										
Total	92,182	1,851	17,082	24,904	18,010	13,888	10,239	4,514	363	1,331
Single	44,807	1,850	16,384	17,715	5,725	1,725	638	174	14	582
Married	39,798	1	534	5,593	9,979	10,389	8,442	3,927	321	612
Widowed/divorced/separated	7,526	-	161	1,591	2,288	1,770	1,149	405	28	134
Not stated	51	-	3	5	18	4	10	8	-	3
13 weeks and over										
Total	31,242	992	7,626	8,864	5,422	3,627	2,684	1,385	159	483
Single	17,049	992	7,230	6,192	1,667	459	175	71	6	257
Married	11,358	-	302	2,006	2,878	2,558	2,123	1,177	136	178
Widowed/divorced/separated	2,811	-	92	660	871	607	383	133	17	48
Not stated	24	-	2	6	6	3	3	4	-	-
Not stated										
Total	2,936	84	439	674	612	480	323	155	15	154
Single	1,134	84	387	405	141	40	20	5	-	52
Married	1,497	-	43	216	370	377	264	135	12	80
Widowed/divorced/separated	299	-	9	53	99	63	39	14	2	20
Not stated	6	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	2

* For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.

TABLE 7A. Legally induced abortions: all women
by number of previous live born children and by age

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Age	Total	Number of previous live born children								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 and over	Not stated
All ages	108,565	50,645	12,581	19,357	13,710	6,919	2,916	1,235	1,006	196
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	98	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	586	583	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	691	688	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	2,113	2,096	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	4,318	4,236	76	5	-	-	-	-	-	1
17	5,395	5,187	187	18	1	-	-	1	-	1
18	6,038	5,553	431	50	2	-	-	-	-	2
19	6,035	5,259	613	136	22	2	-	-	-	3
Under 20	24,590	23,019	1,327	209	25	2	-	1	-	7
20	5,748	4,616	734	322	66	9	1	-	-	-
21	5,531	4,021	816	509	158	21	-	1	-	5
22	5,527	3,669	871	660	245	64	10	-	-	8
23	5,105	2,913	868	830	356	100	26	3	-	9
24	4,997	2,418	851	965	201	40	6	-	-	8
20-24	26,908	17,637	4,140	3,286	1,333	395	77	10	-	30
25	5,012	2,039	903	1,120	614	248	71	9	2	6
26	4,253	1,484	683	1,092	638	247	70	25	4	10
27	3,994	1,095	616	1,131	735	297	86	24	4	6
28	3,855	835	582	1,154	801	327	108	39	4	5
29	3,682	656	494	1,146	791	376	134	45	23	17
25-29	20,796	6,109	3,278	5,643	3,579	1,495	469	142	37	44
30	3,437	504	422	1,069	786	408	151	62	27	8
31	3,181	408	388	976	730	430	149	64	28	8
32	3,311	352	360	1,021	833	431	186	76	46	6
33	3,112	321	343	837	824	449	187	82	59	10
34	3,035	247	309	862	828	415	230	85	51	8
30-34	16,076	1,832	1,822	4,765	4,001	2,133	903	369	211	40
35	2,850	217	256	815	762	437	195	83	77	8
36	2,723	205	278	826	675	368	204	89	67	11
37	2,507	165	245	766	605	358	206	79	76	7
38	2,163	132	218	609	573	320	154	82	70	5
39	1,999	131	204	552	509	301	152	81	67	2
35-39	12,242	850	1,201	3,568	3,124	1,784	911	414	357	33
40	1,800	119	181	488	439	286	139	67	72	9
41	1,496	80	143	393	355	222	126	70	102	5
42	1,104	70	105	261	245	203	96	43	78	3
43	757	31	67	188	177	127	59	56	51	1
44	433	22	35	115	96	77	40	16	31	1
40-44	5,590	322	531	1,445	1,312	915	460	252	334	19
45	242	9	18	62	55	41	18	15	24	-
46	110	7	6	23	22	22	13	4	12	1
47	69	4	7	13	19	10	7	4	5	-
48	28	1	1	3	9	2	5	2	4	1
45-48	449	21	32	101	105	75	43	25	45	2
49 and over	25	3	2	6	7	2	2	1	1	1
Not stated	1,889	852	248	334	224	118	51	21	21	20

TABLE 7B. Legally induced abortions: married
women by number of previous live born children and by age

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Age	Total	Number of previous live born children								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 and over	Not stated
All ages	46,894	3,342	5,642	15,557	11,720	6,003	2,532	1,075	880	143
16	23	15	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	75	28	33	12	1	-	-	1	-	-
18	217	76	108	32	1	-	-	-	-	-
19	374	125	148	81	18	1	-	-	-	1
Under 20	689	244	294	128	20	1	-	1	-	1
20	651	158	225	211	48	8	1	-	-	-
21	946	211	253	341	118	19	-	-	-	4
22	1,251	276	270	457	188	8	-	-	-	4
23	1,570	266	344	574	278	81	19	3	-	5
24	1,934	260	333	720	413	165	33	6	-	4
20-24	6,352	1,171	1,425	2,303	1,045	321	61	9	-	17
25	2,242	257	366	855	494	203	56	7	2	2
26	2,182	228	303	848	507	202	60	22	4	8
27	2,337	201	281	901	614	242	72	20	4	2
28	2,398	140	287	912	652	275	95	32	1	4
29	2,508	111	266	939	696	314	110	40	20	12
25-29	11,667	937	1,503	4,455	2,963	1,236	393	121	31	28
30	2,429	100	228	898	657	342	123	51	22	8
31	2,286	90	188	800	635	361	131	51	23	7
32	2,501	84	212	862	702	382	149	65	40	5
33	2,355	95	218	694	679	385	157	70	49	8
34	2,408	63	194	723	739	365	199	78	42	5
30-34	11,979	432	1,040	3,977	3,412	1,835	759	315	176	33
35	2,335	66	179	690	691	390	172	72	69	6
36	2,204	65	186	705	588	331	184	76	58	11
37	2,055	59	164	655	542	318	183	69	60	5
38	1,802	46	160	529	507	281	135	75	64	5
39	1,673	62	148	484	449	268	140	65	55	2
35-39	10,069	298	837	3,063	2,777	1,588	814	357	306	29
40	1,538	53	128	434	393	264	124	64	69	9
41	1,303	45	114	341	333	203	113	59	90	5
42	963	38	75	228	232	184	89	40	75	2
43	680	16	52	168	165	121	55	54	48	1
44	381	15	30	99	85	72	37	16	26	1
40-44	4,865	167	399	1,270	1,208	844	418	233	308	18
45	214	7	16	57	51	36	17	10	20	-
46	100	5	4	20	22	20	12	4	12	1
47	63	2	6	12	17	10	7	4	5	-
48	26	1	1	3	8	1	5	2	4	1
45-48	403	15	27	92	98	67	41	20	41	2
49 and over	20	-	2	6	6	2	1	1	1	1
Not stated	850	78	115	263	191	109	45	18	17	14

TABLE 7C. Legally induced abortions: single women by number of previous live born children and by age

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Age	Total	Number of previous live born children								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 and over	Not stated
All ages	51,115	45,636	4,141	821	295	114	47	22	10	29
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	98	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	586	583	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	691	688	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	2,113	2,096	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	4,289	4,218	68	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
17	5,287	5,147	134	5	-	-	-	-	-	1
18	5,750	5,458	276	14	-	-	-	-	-	2
19	5,511	5,097	378	30	4	-	-	-	-	2
Under 20	23,641	22,704	876	51	4	-	-	-	-	6
20	4,868	4,404	393	59	12	-	-	-	-	-
21	4,232	3,721	408	79	23	2	-	1	-	-
22	3,814	3,280	428	78	19	6	-	-	-	3
23	2,954	2,521	324	77	23	5	2	-	-	2
24	2,422	1,999	313	66	26	12	3	-	-	3
20-24	18,290	15,925	1,864	359	103	25	5	1	-	8
25	2,050	1,649	289	70	27	9	3	-	-	3
26	1,425	1,133	202	62	21	5	1	1	-	-
27	1,013	786	170	30	16	6	2	1	-	2
28	806	588	144	38	21	11	2	1	-	1
29	627	461	111	32	8	8	3	2	1	1
25-29	5,921	4,617	916	232	93	39	11	5	1	7
30	458	325	79	27	16	4	5	2	-	-
31	362	252	75	20	8	3	3	3	-	1
32	322	212	60	23	16	5	4	1	-	1
33	260	180	37	16	7	5	1	1	-	1
34	221	138	48	18	8	5	1	1	1	1
30-34	1,623	1,107	299	104	61	24	15	7	2	4
35	154	107	22	10	3	4	5	2	1	-
36	157	102	26	14	7	3	3	1	1	-
37	131	87	15	15	6	2	3	1	2	-
38	101	67	15	8	5	4	1	1	-	-
39	72	52	10	4	3	3	1	2	-	-
35-39	615	415	88	51	21	16	12	6	6	-
40	74	53	13	4	3	1	-	-	-	-
41	33	23	4	3	-	1	1	1	-	-
42	41	24	4	5	3	1	1	1	-	-
43	16	9	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
44	11	6	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
40-44	175	115	26	13	7	7	3	3	1	-
45	3	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
46	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
47	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-48	7	4	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
49 and over	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not stated	841	747	71	11	5	2	1	-	-	4

TABLE 8. Legally induced abortions by age, occupation group and marital status

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Occupation group	Marital status	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
All groups	Total	108,565	2,804	21,786	26,908	20,796	16,076	12,242	5,590	474	1,889
	Single	51,115	2,804	20,837	18,290	5,921	1,623	615	175	9	841
	Married	46,894	-	689	6,352	11,667	11,979	10,069	4,865	423	850
	Widowed	722	-	4	54	148	175	206	108	12	15
	Divorced/separated	9,755	-	252	2,202	3,033	2,290	1,340	428	30	180
Not known	79	-	4	10	27	9	12	14	-	3	
Professional	Total	2,305	1	45	343	658	562	462	175	19	40
	Single	421	1	36	175	145	43	11	4	-	6
	Married	1,800	-	8	160	484	499	437	162	19	31
	Widowed	3	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
	Divorced/separated	80	-	1	8	27	19	13	9	-	3
Not known	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Intermediate	Total	15,482	18	1,652	4,784	3,376	2,448	1,931	935	82	256
	Single	8,005	18	1,589	4,027	1,640	410	156	39	4	122
	Married	6,383	-	54	611	1,382	1,743	1,577	828	76	112
	Widowed	94	-	1	8	24	18	24	16	-	3
	Divorced/separated	996	-	8	138	327	277	173	52	2	19
Not known	4	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	
Skilled	Total	40,145	477	9,569	10,323	7,443	5,563	4,227	1,852	140	551
	Single	20,494	477	9,254	7,391	2,197	597	220	61	3	294
	Married	16,825	-	252	2,301	4,390	4,301	3,615	1,634	127	205
	Widowed	155	-	-	6	35	36	46	26	4	2
	Divorced/separated	2,655	-	60	621	818	627	346	127	6	50
Not known	16	-	3	4	3	2	-	4	-	-	
Semi-skilled	Total	12,794	176	2,521	3,167	2,506	2,014	1,458	710	50	192
	Single	5,884	176	2,415	2,079	752	263	84	23	2	90
	Married	5,697	-	83	835	1,397	1,469	1,176	609	45	85
	Widowed	90	-	-	4	13	24	31	15	1	2
	Divorced/separated	1,117	-	23	249	340	258	166	62	4	15
Not known	6	-	-	-	4	-	1	1	-	-	
Unskilled	Total	4,053	56	651	859	791	748	570	283	26	69
	Single	1,134	56	564	324	99	45	21	4	-	21
	Married	2,579	-	72	455	611	630	494	254	24	39
	Widowed	16	-	-	1	2	5	2	5	1	-
	Divorced/separated	322	-	15	78	79	68	53	19	1	9
Not known	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	
*Not classified	Total	33,786	2,076	7,348	7,432	6,022	4,741	3,594	1,635	157	781
	Single	15,177	2,076	6,979	4,294	1,088	265	123	44	-	308
	Married	13,610	-	220	1,990	3,403	3,337	2,770	1,378	134	378
	Widowed	364	-	3	35	73	91	102	46	6	8
	Divorced/separated	4,585	-	145	1,108	1,442	1,041	589	159	17	84
Not known	50	-	1	5	16	7	10	8	-	3	

* Main components of the 'not classified' group in the above table are:

Occupation	Total	Single	Married	Others
Not stated	16,064	5,439	8,714	1,911
Not occupied or student	9,908	9,108	566	234
Housewife	6,971	494	3,677	2,800

TABLE 9. Legally induced abortions by age, number of previous live born children and occupation group

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Previous live born children	Occupation group	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
Total	Total	108,565	2,804	21,786	26,908	20,796	16,076	12,242	5,590	474	1,889
	Professional	2,305	1	45	343	658	562	462	175	19	40
	Intermediate	15,482	18	1,652	4,784	3,376	2,448	1,931	935	82	256
	Skilled	40,145	477	9,569	10,323	7,443	5,563	4,227	1,852	140	551
	Semi-skilled	12,794	176	2,521	3,167	2,506	2,014	1,458	710	50	192
	Unskilled	4,053	56	651	859	791	748	570	283	26	69
	Not classified	33,786	2,076	7,348	7,432	6,022	4,741	3,594	1,635	157	781
0	Total	50,645	2,784	20,235	17,637	6,109	1,832	850	322	24	852
	Professional	647	1	39	253	242	65	24	13	1	9
	Intermediate	8,262	18	1,593	4,041	1,725	468	216	60	9	132
	Skilled	20,924	473	9,103	7,379	2,413	761	360	133	6	296
	Semi-skilled	5,565	174	2,321	1,939	709	223	78	33	2	86
	Unskilled	1,044	54	551	289	75	27	20	9	-	19
	Not classified	14,203	2,064	6,628	3,736	945	288	152	74	6	310
1	Total	12,581	20	1,307	4,140	3,278	1,822	1,201	531	34	248
	Professional	276	-	5	51	110	54	37	14	2	3
	Intermediate	1,747	-	52	476	547	321	217	98	6	30
	Skilled	4,296	4	394	1,398	1,136	657	460	169	10	68
	Semi-skilled	1,662	2	175	565	415	257	148	72	4	24
	Unskilled	475	2	77	167	107	54	33	24	-	11
	Not classified	4,125	12	604	1,483	963	479	306	154	12	112
2	Total	19,357	-	209	3,286	5,643	4,765	3,568	1,445	107	334
	Professional	726	-	1	28	212	246	172	47	8	12
	Intermediate	2,678	-	7	190	701	821	631	270	16	42
	Skilled	6,556	-	57	1,035	1,979	1,609	1,253	514	32	77
	Semi-skilled	2,273	-	21	415	667	526	424	169	13	38
	Unskilled	829	-	20	219	205	195	113	59	4	14
	Not classified	6,295	-	103	1,399	1,879	1,368	975	386	34	151
3	Total	13,710	-	25	1,333	3,579	4,001	3,124	1,312	112	224
	Professional	437	-	-	8	69	132	154	60	5	9
	Intermediate	1,738	-	-	54	297	551	518	259	28	33
	Skilled	4,462	-	11	370	1,222	1,355	1,014	596	31	63
	Semi-skilled	1,675	-	2	179	437	504	370	150	11	22
	Unskilled	759	-	3	123	223	206	129	60	2	13
	Not classified	4,639	-	9	599	1,331	1,253	939	387	37	84
4	Total	6,919	-	2	395	1,495	2,133	1,784	915	77	118
	Professional	148	-	-	3	17	49	45	28	2	4
	Intermediate	687	-	-	15	73	196	226	149	13	15
	Skilled	2,306	-	1	101	505	730	624	297	23	25
	Semi-skilled	848	-	-	53	184	279	201	112	10	9
	Unskilled	476	-	-	51	116	142	114	43	6	4
	Not classified	2,454	-	1	172	600	737	574	286	23	61
5	Total	2,916	-	-	77	469	903	911	460	45	51
	Professional	44	-	-	-	6	11	17	9	-	1
	Intermediate	216	-	-	3	22	56	72	54	6	3
	Skilled	896	-	-	20	129	270	291	157	19	10
	Semi-skilled	418	-	-	13	63	135	125	74	-	8
	Unskilled	239	-	-	7	46	70	80	30	5	1
	Not classified	1,103	-	-	34	203	361	326	136	15	28
6	Total	1,235	-	1	10	142	369	414	252	26	21
	Professional	16	-	-	-	1	2	8	3	1	1
	Intermediate	68	-	-	5	13	28	21	1	-	-
	Skilled	383	-	1	6	41	115	83	8	4	4
	Semi-skilled	193	-	-	-	18	62	44	6	2	2
	Unskilled	114	-	-	2	15	33	35	23	5	1
	Not classified	461	-	-	2	62	144	157	78	5	13
7 and over	Total	1,006	-	-	-	37	211	357	334	46	21
	Professional	8	-	-	-	-	2	5	1	-	-
	Intermediate	54	-	-	-	-	9	19	21	4	1
	Skilled	268	-	-	-	10	54	93	96	11	4
	Semi-skilled	144	-	-	-	8	26	49	54	4	3
	Unskilled	112	-	-	-	4	20	45	34	4	5
	Not classified	420	-	-	-	15	100	146	128	23	8
Not stated	Total	196	-	7	30	44	40	33	19	3	20
	Professional	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	Intermediate	32	-	-	5	6	13	4	3	1	-
	Skilled	54	-	2	14	8	12	7	7	-	4
	Semi-skilled	16	-	2	3	5	2	2	2	-	-
	Unskilled	5	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1
	Not classified	86	-	3	7	24	11	19	6	2	14

TABLE 10. Legally induced abortions with sterilisation: age by number of previous live born children and occupation group

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Previous live born children	Occupation group	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
Total	Total	13,891	3	48	817	2,799	3,930	3,836	2,057	176	225
	Professional	262	-	-	3	35	89	90	40	3	2
	Intermediate	1,188	-	-	29	137	397	260	21	21	22
	Skilled	4,295	-	14	216	906	1,216	1,221	623	48	51
	Semi-skilled	1,659	1	6	88	324	498	452	247	19	24
	Unskilled	947	-	4	90	223	245	231	128	16	10
	Not classified	5,540	2	21	391	1,174	1,563	1,445	759	69	116
0	Total	259	3	28	35	34	46	47	53	4	9
	Professional	4	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-
	Intermediate	28	-	2	3	1	4	8	8	2	-
	Skilled	84	-	9	11	8	15	19	19	1	3
	Semi-skilled	27	1	2	3	7	6	3	3	-	2
	Unskilled	15	-	3	4	1	2	3	2	-	-
	Not classified	101	2	12	14	16	17	15	20	1	4
1	Total	635	-	10	46	78	131	214	141	8	7
	Professional	11	-	-	-	1	5	2	2	1	-
	Intermediate	64	-	-	3	6	7	31	16	-	-
	Skilled	195	-	3	11	18	43	87	28	2	3
	Semi-skilled	71	-	2	3	9	14	25	15	1	2
	Unskilled	30	-	-	5	3	5	6	11	-	-
	Not classified	264	-	5	24	41	57	63	69	4	1
2	Total	3,260	-	9	267	701	861	900	447	29	46
	Professional	115	-	-	2	19	45	36	11	2	-
	Intermediate	375	-	1	12	51	102	125	76	3	5
	Skilled	1,049	-	2	70	242	266	302	148	7	12
	Semi-skilled	341	-	1	31	70	100	90	43	3	3
	Unskilled	157	-	1	22	39	36	26	28	4	1
	Not classified	1,223	-	4	130	280	312	321	141	10	25
3	Total	4,026	-	1	278	997	1,193	1,008	453	40	56
	Professional	75	-	-	-	10	24	30	11	-	-
	Intermediate	385	-	-	8	52	120	111	74	9	11
	Skilled	1,251	-	-	72	334	379	300	137	11	18
	Semi-skilled	472	-	1	25	119	144	129	44	4	6
	Unskilled	253	-	-	33	73	50	21	21	1	2
	Not classified	1,590	-	-	140	409	453	388	166	15	19
4	Total	2,856	-	-	146	625	883	732	380	39	51
	Professional	24	-	-	1	1	6	8	8	-	-
	Intermediate	203	-	-	3	20	53	74	46	3	4
	Skilled	928	-	-	38	208	286	256	119	12	9
	Semi-skilled	330	-	-	19	71	111	72	48	6	3
	Unskilled	235	-	-	22	65	64	60	17	5	2
	Not classified	1,136	-	-	63	260	363	262	142	13	33
5	Total	1,500	-	-	41	246	462	486	222	16	27
	Professional	23	-	-	-	3	6	9	4	-	1
	Intermediate	79	-	-	4	21	31	20	20	2	1
	Skilled	440	-	-	12	71	128	146	73	7	3
	Semi-skilled	208	-	-	7	32	68	63	34	-	4
	Unskilled	128	-	-	2	30	36	46	13	-	1
	Not classified	622	-	-	20	106	203	191	78	7	17
6	Total	688	-	-	4	85	209	226	136	17	11
	Professional	6	-	-	-	-	3				

TABLE 11A. Legally induced abortions by number of existing children, marital status and occupation group

Marital status and occupation group	Existing children												
	Total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 and over	Not stated
All	108,565	52,601	11,966	19,080	13,173	6,470	2,628	1,095	474	204	86	67	721
Total	108,565	52,601	11,966	19,080	13,173	6,470	2,628	1,095	474	204	86	67	721
Professional	2,305	687	275	722	410	143	37	12	5	3	1	1	9
Intermediate	15,482	8,587	1,586	2,606	1,671	643	196	56	29	10	2	2	94
Skilled	40,145	21,843	4,004	6,491	4,301	2,166	787	358	122	41	19	16	197
Semi-skilled	12,794	5,874	1,562	2,229	1,605	787	394	155	70	35	8	8	66
Unskilled	4,053	1,112	474	852	735	449	220	91	47	23	15	6	29
Not classified	33,786	14,698	4,065	6,180	4,451	2,282	994	422	201	92	41	34	326
Single	51,115	46,450	3,435	712	264	102	40	15	6	3	2	-	86
Total	51,115	46,450	3,435	712	264	102	40	15	6	3	2	-	86
Professional	421	404	13	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate	8,005	7,450	442	77	15	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Skilled	20,494	19,245	1,043	114	34	16	6	3	1	-	-	-	32
Semi-skilled	5,884	5,181	514	92	49	22	10	1	2	-	-	-	13
Unskilled	1,134	958	117	23	21	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	5
Not classified	15,177	13,212	1,306	402	145	51	20	11	3	3	2	-	22
Married	46,894	4,135	5,729	15,498	11,359	5,659	2,292	959	420	176	76	60	531
Total	46,894	4,135	5,729	15,498	11,359	5,659	2,292	959	420	176	76	60	531
Professional	1,800	249	243	699	402	141	36	11	5	3	1	1	9
Intermediate	6,383	805	843	2,265	1,530	597	182	52	29	10	1	2	66
Skilled	16,825	1,492	2,114	5,740	3,933	2,047	754	342	118	39	19	16	151
Semi-skilled	5,697	441	723	1,803	1,380	703	348	148	62	33	14	6	44
Unskilled	2,579	109	258	744	658	415	202	84	47	23	14	6	21
Not classified	13,610	1,039	1,550	4,246	3,396	1,756	772	322	159	68	33	29	240
Widowed/divorced/separated	10,477	1,995	2,789	2,848	1,541	705	292	118	48	24	8	7	102
Total	10,477	1,995	2,789	2,848	1,541	705	292	118	48	24	8	7	102
Professional	83	33	19	19	8	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate	1,090	330	300	262	126	39	14	4	-	-	1	-	14
Skilled	2,810	895	844	636	274	103	26	13	3	2	-	-	14
Semi-skilled	1,207	252	323	333	175	62	37	6	6	2	-	2	9
Unskilled	338	45	100	85	55	28	14	7	-	-	1	-	3
Not classified	4,949	440	1,203	1,513	903	471	200	87	39	20	6	5	62
Not known	79	21	13	22	9	4	4	3	-	1	-	-	2
Total	79	21	13	22	9	4	4	3	-	1	-	-	2
Professional	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate	4	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Skilled	16	11	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Semi-skilled	6	-	2	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unskilled	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not classified	50	7	6	19	7	4	2	2	-	1	-	-	2

TABLE 11B. Legally induced abortions accompanied by sterilisation, by number of existing children, marital status and occupation group

Marital status and occupation group	Existing children												
	Total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 and over	Not stated
All	13,891	437	728	3,300	4,012	2,711	1,375	613	295	134	61	46	179
Total	13,891	437	728	3,300	4,012	2,711	1,375	613	295	134	61	46	179
Professional	262	9	12	112	77	25	16	5	1	2	-	-	3
Intermediate	1,188	48	73	373	372	189	75	24	15	5	1	1	12
Skilled	4,295	122	235	1,054	1,267	884	393	182	62	27	13	9	47
Semi-skilled	1,659	47	80	357	465	314	202	93	43	24	7	7	20
Unskilled	947	25	36	174	251	227	118	48	33	15	9	4	7
Not classified	5,540	186	292	1,230	1,580	1,072	571	261	141	61	31	25	90
Single	323	104	37	53	64	32	17	6	4	3	1	-	2
Total	323	104	37	53	64	32	17	6	4	3	1	-	2
Professional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate	14	6	2	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Skilled	50	26	5	5	6	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
Semi-skilled	50	18	8	6	9	5	4	1	1	-	-	-	-
Unskilled	18	8	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not classified	191	50	21	36	41	21	9	5	2	3	1	-	2
Married	12,409	290	609	3,014	3,665	2,431	1,226	545	257	116	54	41	161
Total	12,409	290	609	3,014	3,665	2,431	1,226	545	257	116	54	41	161
Professional	261	9	11	112	77	25	16	5	1	2	-	-	3
Intermediate	1,108	38	64	349	349	181	74	22	15	5	-	1	10
Skilled	4,105	88	211	1,016	1,225	852	384	176	59	27	13	9	45
Semi-skilled	1,495	26	63	334	428	287	181	87	37	23	7	5	17
Unskilled	884	16	29	162	236	216	110	47	33	15	9	4	7
Not classified	4,556	113	231	1,041	1,350	870	461	208	112	44	25	22	79
Widowed/divorced/separated	1,136	42	81	228	277	245	129	59	34	14	6	5	16
Total	1,136	42	81	228	277	245	129	59	34	14	6	5	16
Professional	1	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate	66	4	19	19	22	8	1	2	-	-	1	-	2
Skilled	139	5	19	33	36	28	5	6	2	-	-	-	2
Semi-skilled	112	3	9	17	28	22	16	4	5	1	-	2	3
Unskilled	44	3	6	11	7	9	7	1	-	-	-	-	-
Not classified	774	22	39	148	184	178	100	46	27	13	5	3	9
Not known	23	1	1	5	6	3	3	3	-	1	-	-	-
Total	23	1	1	5	6	3	3	3	-	1	-	-	-
Professional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Skilled	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Semi-skilled	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unskilled	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not classified	19	1	1	5	5	3	1	2	-	1	-	-	-

TABLE 12. Legally induced abortions where environmental and other conditions were stated, with proportions, distinguishing type of premises

England and Wales, 1972
Residents

Note: This table is necessarily restricted to those cases (33% of the total) where the practitioner saw fit to refer in question 11(c) of the form to environmental or other factors, or (mistakenly) to refer back to the terms of the statutory grounds, as reasons for termination. Such reasons were mostly in addition to the specific medical reasons shown in Table 19. See page viii.

Code	Description	NHS Hospitals		Approved and Other places	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
	Reference to statutory grounds	3,925	13.5	454	7.2
	Statutory ground 1	91	0.3	1	0.0
01	Statutory ground 1	91	0.3	1	0.0
02	2	2,515	8.7	297	4.7
03	3	464	1.6	53	0.8
04	4	33	0.1	-	-
07	2 and 4	24	0.1	2	0.0
08	3 with any other	767	2.6	98	1.6
09	Other multiple	31	0.1	3	0.0
	Concerning the mother	16,152	55.6	3,543	56.2
1V	Failed contraception in single girl	24	0.1	11	0.2
10	Unmarried (16 or over)	607	2.1	436	6.9
11	Under 16 years	251	0.9	24	0.4
12	Widowed, divorced, separated	277	1.0	41	0.7
13	Multiparity	958	3.3	239	3.8
14	Too old - high medical risk in primipara	461	1.6	74	1.2
15	Young or immature	768	2.6	256	4.1
16	Physical handicap or illness	10	0.0	3	0.0
17	Students (nurse, university student, etc.)	250	0.9	72	1.1
18	Other specified reasons pertaining to mother	1,099	3.8	1,197	19.0</

TABLE 12 - continued

Code	Description	NHS Hospitals		Approved and Other places	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
	Concerning economic factors	2,836	9.8	576	9.1
60	Insufficient income for family - husband not able to support	75	0.3	5	0.1
61	Loss of employment for woman	162	0.6	65	1.0
63	Other specified economic reasons	20	0.1	3	0.0
64	Unspecified economic reasons, financial difficulties	2,579	8.9	503	8.0
	Concerning housing	293	1.0	107	1.7
65	Inadequate housing	101	0.3	19	0.3
66	Material home conditions inadequate	16	0.1	-	-
68	Other specified environmental reasons	23	0.1	1	0.0
69	Unspecified environmental reasons	153	0.5	87	1.4
	Concerning rape and violence	54	0.2	13	0.2
70	Unwanted intercourse, under 16	6	0.0	1	0.0
71	Unwanted intercourse, 16 or over	3	0.0	2	0.0
72	Rape, single girl under 16	7	0.0	1	0.0
73	Rape, single girl 16 or over	22	0.1	8	0.1
74	Rape, married woman	8	0.0	-	-
75	Incest	8	0.0	1	0.0
	All cases with question 11(c) completed	29,053	100.0	6,302	100.0
	All cases with medical reasons and question 11(c) not completed	27,624		45,376	
	All cases with question 11 (a)-(c) not completed	184		26	
	Total cases treated for abortion	56,861		51,704	

TABLE 13. Legally induced abortions by age, main operation and gestation weeks

England and Wales, 1972

All cases

Main operation	Gestation weeks*	All ages	All cases									
			Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated	
Hysterotomy - abdominal	Total	7,986	202	664	983	1,534	1,815	1,671	908	93	116	
	Under 9	258	7	7	22	45	68	71	33	3	2	
	9-12	2,854	37	92	231	531	779	732	382	35	35	
	13	1,027	20	56	103	217	241	235	128	10	17	
	14	891	12	82	97	168	207	194	107	13	11	
	15-16	1,317	44	137	196	269	258	250	130	13	20	
	17-19	942	48	164	198	178	144	105	79	12	14	
	20-23	385	23	92	88	64	50	34	25	3	6	
	24 and over	50	5	6	12	10	8	5	3	-	1	
	Not stated	262	6	28	36	52	60	45	21	4	10	
Hysterotomy - vaginal	Total	213	6	22	30	44	49	38	18	-	6	
	Under 9	19	-	-	3	6	4	2	4	-	-	
	9-12	120	5	12	21	16	29	22	11	-	4	
	13	19	-	3	3	6	4	-	-	-	1	
	14	21	1	1	-	7	9	2	1	-	-	
	15-16	12	-	1	1	4	-	5	-	-	1	
	17-19	7	-	2	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	
	20-23	8	-	3	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	
	24 and over	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	
	Not stated	5	-	-	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	
Hysterotomy with others	Total	112	10	22	35	12	19	7	4	1	2	
	Under 9	18	-	3	6	1	4	2	1	-	1	
	9-12	50	5	9	13	8	9	4	1	-	1	
	13	12	-	3	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	
	14	10	2	3	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	
	15-16	12	-	2	6	1	2	1	-	-	-	
	17-19	7	2	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	
	20-23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	24 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Not stated	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Hysterectomy	Total	852	2	10	23	82	175	271	235	31	23	
	Under 9	85	-	-	2	9	21	28	21	3	1	
	9-12	414	-	3	8	38	90	139	115	9	12	
	13	89	1	-	1	7	16	28	25	7	4	
	14	86	-	1	7	4	11	35	22	5	1	
	15-16	70	-	2	2	8	16	22	15	3	2	
	17-19	46	-	2	3	8	6	5	18	4	-	
	20-23	23	1	2	-	2	6	3	9	-	-	
	24 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Not stated	39	-	-	-	6	9	11	10	-	3	
Hysterectomy with others	Total	40	-	1	3	5	18	9	4	-	-	
	Under 9	7	-	-	-	1	4	2	-	-	-	
	9-12	19	-	1	1	2	9	3	3	-	-	
	13	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	
	14	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	
	15-16	6	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	
	17-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	20-23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	24 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Not stated	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	
Vacuum aspiration	Total	67,970	1,598	12,769	17,431	13,455	10,339	7,641	3,311	250	1,176	
	Under 9	14,380	220	1,829	3,186	3,020	2,735	2,165	896	63	266	
	9-12	44,704	1,095	8,721	11,717	8,822	6,609	4,764	2,109	152	715	
	13	4,165	129	1,128	1,205	719	448	315	141	15	65	
	14	1,737	56	448	524	298	177	138	57	8	31	
	15-16	1,106	38	315	317	206	100	75	29	6	20	
	17-19	335	12	81	106	66	38	21	5	1	5	
	20-23	85	2	20	27	15	9	6	2	1	3	
	24 and over	33	2	5	9	4	4	6	1	-	2	
	Not stated	1,425	44	222	340	305	219	151	71	4	69	
Dilatation and evacuation	Total	64,849	1,063	11,926	18,990	12,640	9,471	6,765	2,817	262	915	
	Under 9	14,972	128	1,649	3,871	3,195	2,912	2,109	815	77	216	
	9-12	35,200	574	6,498	10,434	6,915	5,027	3,633	1,529	133	457	
	13	5,190	115	1,286	1,635	880	573	429	177	16	79	
	14	3,510	96	903	1,146	629	332	227	116	12	49	
	15-16	3,452	89	988	1,121	558	335	197	103	13	48	
	17-19	1,399	39	386	479	247	128	65	36	4	15	
	20-23	235	8	68	77	42	20	12	4	2	2	
	24 and over	31	-	11	7	6	3	2	1	-	1	
	Not stated	860	14	137	220	168	141	91	36	5	48	

* For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.

Table 13 - continued

Main operation	Gestation weeks*	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
Paste	Total	621	32	185	171	98	58	36	21	2	18
	Under 9	6	-	2	-	-	5	3	1	-	-
	9-12	155	4	42	37	27	21	14	6	1	3
	13	109	6	35	34	13	8	5	5	-	3
	14	115	9	34	30	21	7	6	4	1	3
	15-16	110	6	33	32	19	7	8	2	-	3
	17-19	68	3	21	22	11	5	2	2	-	2
	20-23	26	1	13	9	1	1	-	-	-	1
	24 and over	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Not stated	31	3	5	6	6	6	1	1	-	3
Laminaria tents	Total	91	3	26	32	13	10	4	2	1	-
	Under 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9-12	19	1	5	6	3	4	-	-	-	-
	13	10	-	1	5	3	-	-	1	-	-
	14	14	-	2	7	3	-	1	-	-	-
	15-16	23	2	8	7	-	5	1	-	-	-
	17-19	20	-	9	6	3	-	1	-	-	-
	20-23	3	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
	24 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	Not stated	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Combined vaginal methods	Total	14,651	217	2,712	4,144	2,839	2,289	1,589	613	48	200
	Under 9	3,717	36	402	971	831	719	522	187	12	37
	9-12	8,294	108	1,621	2,348	1,567	1,271	902	344	32	101
	13	1,038	28	279	323	168	121	66	36	2	15
	14	597	15	167	196	87	65	39	15	1	14
	15-16	508	15	130	177	90	49	27	10	-	10
	17-19	213	6	72	66	24	23	12	6	-	4
	20-23	50	2	14	17	11	4	1	-	-	-
	24 and over	15	-	-	4	5	3	2	-	-	-
	Not stated	219	7	27	42	56	34	18	15	1	19
Intra-uterine medical inductions	Total	1,818	140	532	493	317	164	83	58	7	24
	Under 9	20	1	8	2	3	2	2	2	-	-
	9-12	149	13	37	31	35	19	6	6	1	1
	13	113	9	31	36	21	10	1	3	-	2
	14	167	13	46	44	27	12	13	6	2	4
	15-16	529	37	147	132	94	59	25	26	1	8
	17-19	551	42	165	164	96	40	25	13	2	4
	20-23	186	13	69	53	27	11	6	2	1	4
	24 and over	31	5	10	9	1	3	2	-	-	1
	Not stated	72	7	19	22	13	8	3	-	-	-
Other medical inductions	Total	255	22	86	66	33	22	11	12	-	3
	Under 9	7	-	1	-	3	3	-	-	-	-
	9-12	38	3	10	9	6	3	2	4	-	1
	13	30	3	13	6	1	2	1	2	-	2
	14	35	1	15	6	5	4	4	-	-	-
	15-16	73	8	20	22	14	4	1	4	-	-
	17-19	50	6	18	17	2	4	3	-	-	-
	20-23	14	1	6	4	1	1	-	1	-	-
	24 and over	4	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
	Not stated	4	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Medical inductions with vaginal methods	Total	155	22	38	38	29	14	5	4	-	5
	Under 9	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9-12	35	5	5	10	10	1	2	1	-	1
	13	21	5	9	8	2	-	2	2	-	-
	14	14	5	2	2	3	2	-	-	-	-
	15-16	44	3	11	13	7	7	1	-	-	2
	17-19	23	4	9	2	2	4	2	-	-	-
	20-23	12	2	2	3	4	-	-	-	-	1
	24 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Not stated	5	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Multiple methods, including Not stated	Total	271	3	57	73	62	35	29	9	-	3
	Under 9	34	-	2	7	5	8	10	2	-	-
	9-12	131	1	26	38	30	17	16	3	-	-
	13	22	-	7	4	7	2	1	1	-	-
	14	14	2	4	5	1	1	-	1	-	-
	15-16	30	-	10	11	3	3	2	-	-	1
	17-19	22	-	6	2	10	2	-	1	-	1
	20-23	9	-	1	2	4	1	-	1	-	-
	24 and over	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	Not stated	7	-	-	4	1	1	-	-	-	-

* For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.

TABLE 14. Legally induced abortions by month of operation, age and marital status

England and Wales, 1972

Cases resident in England and Wales

Age and marital status	Total	Month of operation															
		Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.				
All ages																	
Total	108,565	8,323	8,996	9,559	8,109	9,410	9,252	9,128	8,994	8,832	9,665	9,507	8,790				
Single	51,115	3,815	4,154	4,470	3,846	4,397	4,341	4,266	4,224	4,188	4,680	4,588	4,146				
Married	46,894	3,680	4,010	4,165	3,482	4,035	4,013	3,972	3,889	3,769	4,093	3,981	3,805				
Widowed	722	71	61	71	51	72	58	65	54	59	55	62	43				
Divorced/separated	9,755	750	765	848	726	902	830	818	815	811	833	871	786				
Not known	79	7	6	5	4	4	10	7	12	5	4	5	10				
10-15																	
Total	2,804	191	272	236	200	217	219	209	231	240	289	272	228				
Single	2,804	191	272	236	200	217	219	209	231	240	289	272	228				
Married	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Widowed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Divorced/separated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
16-19																	
Total	21,786	1,545	1,742	1,896	1,625	1,871	1,825	1,826	1,771	1,819	2,047	2,024	1,795				
Single	20,837	1,492	1,680	1,815	1,554	1,782	1,748	1,741	1,701	1,727	1,961	1,937	1,699				
Married	689	38	45	58	43	61	56	59	55	63	68	68	75				
Widowed	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1				
Divorced/separated	252	15	16	23	28	26	19	26	15	28	17	19	20				
Not known	4	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-				
20-24																	
Total	26,908	2,169	2,193	2,433	2,126	2,404	2,321	2,222	2,209	2,121	2,278	2,291	2,141				
Single	18,290	1,455	1,478	1,607	1,452	1,636	1,600	1,518	1,479	1,449	1,591	1,552	1,473				
Married	6,352	534	557	609	509	561	509	517	547	487	511	520	491				
Widowed	54	5	5	7	2	6	5	6	1	3	4	7	3				
Divorced/separated	2,202	173	151	210	162	201	205	181	181	172	212	212	173				
Not known	10	2	2	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	1				
25-29																	
Total	20,796	1,591	1,700	1,810	1,528	1,798	1,814	1,775	1,755	1,714	1,836	1,778	1,697				
Single	5,921	432	463	527	427	499	506	510	518	506	529	519	485				
Married	11,667	922	987	1,014	859	993	1,029	998	952	922	1,042	999	950				
Widowed	148	19	11	13	12	19	11	10	13	10	11	12	7				
Divorced/separated	3,033	216	238	255	229	285	252	269	275	253	246	250	250				
Not known	27	2	1	1	1	2	3	5	3	1	1	2	5				
30-34																	
Total	16,076	1,229	1,364	1,446	1,168	1,430	1,350	1,380	1,350	1,287	1,440	1,358	1,274				
Single	1,623	123	127	146	99	140											

TABLE 15. Legally induced abortions by age of woman and:-
(i) country of usual residence
(ii) marital status
(iii) gestation weeks

England and Wales, 1972
Cases not resident in England and Wales

	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-34	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
(i) Country										
British Isles										
Scotland	835	2	219	308	138	68	56	28	1	15
N.Ireland	775	12	169	275	115	80	72	34	3	15
Irish Republic	974	6	128	382	251	110	53	29	3	12
Channel Islands and Isle of Man	295	6	72	101	45	33	23	12	1	2
Other European										
Belgium and Luxembourg	2,536	23	357	721	526	381	348	151	11	18
Denmark	86	1	11	28	30	13	2	-	-	1
France	25,189	174	3,255	8,889	5,223	3,490	2,588	1,203	95	272
German Federal Republic	17,531	255	2,595	3,822	3,336	3,809	2,518	890	92	214
Italy	480	15	61	147	109	78	44	12	2	12
Netherlands	243	3	61	90	37	22	17	9	2	2
Austria	257	3	51	81	44	52	17	5	2	2
Norway and Sweden	93	-	18	34	18	12	7	1	1	2
Portugal	18	-	2	2	6	3	2	2	-	1
Spain	730	5	60	269	201	103	64	14	3	11
Switzerland	675	3	106	245	164	78	46	19	3	11
Others	74	-	17	15	15	15	8	4	-	-
America										
Canada	52	-	6	26	12	4	2	1	-	1
U.S.A.	131	-	24	57	28	9	9	1	-	3
Others	24	1	4	7	4	3	5	-	-	-
Rest of World	321	7	48	105	65	39	36	11	2	8
(ii) Marital status										
Total	51,319	516	7,264	15,604	10,367	8,402	5,917	2,426	221	602
Single	26,178	515	6,933	12,018	4,225	1,477	551	166	16	277
Married	22,433	1	303	3,172	5,333	6,219	4,855	2,092	185	273
Widowed	408	-	3	28	91	84	128	63	5	6
Divorced/separated	2,284	-	24	383	714	621	380	104	14	44
Not known	16	-	1	3	4	1	3	1	1	2
(iii) Gestation weeks*										
Total	51,319	516	7,264	15,604	10,367	8,402	5,917	2,426	221	602
Under 9	13,680	75	1,204	3,471	2,897	2,840	2,115	852	63	163
9-12	27,554	271	3,954	8,695	5,611	4,388	3,002	1,224	113	298
13	3,635	48	715	1,241	687	420	331	131	13	49
14	2,283	39	482	798	442	250	166	73	9	24
15-16	2,207	42	489	780	383	258	156	78	10	31
17-19	1,117	24	278	402	184	111	71	30	7	12
20-23	327	10	85	111	52	32	16	14	3	4
24 and over	33	3	9	7	4	4	4	1	-	1
Not stated	483	4	50	121	107	99	56	23	3	20

* For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.

TABLE 16A. Legally induced abortions by hospital region of residence, age and marital status

England and Wales, hospital regions 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Hospital region	Marital status	All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
ENGLAND AND WALES	Total	108,565	2,804	21,786	26,908	20,796	16,076	12,242	5,590	474	1,889
	Single	51,115	2,804	20,837	18,290	5,921	1,623	615	175	9	841
	Married	46,894	-	689	6,352	11,667	11,979	10,069	4,865	423	850
	Widowed/divorced/separated	10,477	-	256	2,256	3,181	2,465	1,546	536	42	195
	Not stated	79	-	4	10	27	9	12	14	-	3
Newcastle	Total	5,549	149	1,137	1,160	984	884	751	391	24	69
	Single	2,190	149	1,089	674	165	59	20	3	-	31
	Married	2,783	-	39	357	657	703	626	350	23	28
	Widowed/divorced/separated	574	-	9	128	161	122	105	38	1	10
	Not stated	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leeds	Total	5,117	151	1,166	1,082	838	765	698	313	21	83
	Single	2,349	151	1,128	737	180	69	30	17	1	36
	Married	2,200	-	22	230	487	573	566	268	18	36
	Widowed/divorced/separated	567	-	16	115	170	123	102	28	2	11
	Not stated	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Sheffield	Total	7,872	279	1,674	1,620	1,386	1,254	1,028	494	46	91
	Single	3,273	279	1,610	1,015	74	28	5	-	-	35
	Married	3,802	-	44	433	917	965	887	444	40	52
	Widowed/divorced/separated	790	-	20	172	238	193	113	44	6	4
	Not stated	7	-	-	-	4	2	-	1	-	-
East Anglian	Total	3,039	97	677	632	571	441	382	157	14	68
	Single	1,303	97	652	398	104	31	9	1	-	11
	Married	1,444	-	17	173	379	352	322	139	14	48
	Widowed/divorced/separated	289	-	8	61	87	57	50	17	-	9
	Not stated	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
North West Metropolitan	Total	16,049	264	2,571	4,804	3,528	2,263	1,515	633	61	410
	Single	8,836	264	2,449	3,689	1,580	440	164	29	2	219
	Married	5,874	-	94	872	1,527	1,476	1,160	540	54	151
	Widowed/divorced/separated	1,327	-	28	242	418	344	188	63	5	39
	Not stated	12	-	1	3	3	1	-	-	-	1
North East Metropolitan	Total	8,520	173	1,695	2,041	1,731	1,272	954	434	35	185
	Single	3,730	173	1,610	1,275	443	96	49	12	-	72
	Married	3,982	-	64	601	1,022	1,002	787	378	35	93
	Widowed/divorced/separated	801	-	21	164	265	174	116	41	-	20
	Not stated	7	-	1	1	-	2	3	-	-	-
South East Metropolitan	Total	8,866	248	1,792	2,208	1,752	1,335	929	403	37	162
	Single	4,048	248	1,699	1,404	453	116	45	15	-	68
	Married	3,974	-	75	612	1,032	1,029	767	348	32	79
	Widowed/divorced/separated	840	-	18	191	265	190	117	40	5	14
	Not stated	4	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1
South West Metropolitan	Total	11,198	194	1,941	3,561	2,465	1,491	963	372	33	178
	Single	6,483	194	1,853	2,775	1,145	298	93	27	1	97
	Married	3,750	-	66	568	1,021	970	722	305	32	66
	Widowed/divorced/separated	950	-	20	215	292	223	146	39	-	15
	Not stated	15	-	2	3	7	-	2	1	-	-
Wessex	Total	3,543	132	790	785	650	527	401	182	13	63
	Single	1,603	132	757	500	134	35	15	11	-	19
	Married	1,595	-	23	222	401	416	332	156	10	35
	Widowed/divorced/separated	340	-	9	63	113	76	52	15	3	9
	Not stated	5	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
Oxford	Total	3,840	126	846	839	663	606	478	222	18	42
	Single	1,677	126	821	526	128	29	22	5	-	20
	Married	1,826	-	19	242	437	493	414	192	14	15
	Widowed/divorced/separated	332	-	6	71	96	84	42	22	4	7
	Not stated	5	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-
South Western	Total	6,330	228	1,365	1,450	1,097	908	758	367	29	128
	Single	2,828	228	1,324	900	222	53	36	10	-	55
	Married	2,902	-	32	400	710	704	649	326	25	56
	Widowed/divorced/separated	598	-	9	150	165	151	72	30	4	17
	Not stated	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Welsh	Total	5,222	119	1,076	1,171	973	838	666	310	34	35
	Single	2,102	119	1,026	697	175	48	17	5	2	13
	Married	2,610	-	32	357	641	672	562	279	29	18
	Widowed/divorced/separated	505	-	18	115	157	117	67	24	3	4
	Not stated	5	-	-	2	-	1	-	2	-	-
Birmingham	Total	11,486	340	2,618	2,671	1,976	1,701	1,310	616	46	208
	Single	5,313	340	2,496	1,750	440	138	43	18	1	87
	Married	5,059	-	85	658	1,223	1,307	1,101	535	42	108
	Widowed/divorced/separated	1,111	-	37	262	313	256	165	62	3	13
	Not stated	3	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Manchester	Total	7,968	219	1,617	1,896	1,468	1,205	957	463	39	104
	Single	3,517	219	1,541	1,247	345					

TABLE 16B. Legally induced abortions accompanied by sterilisation, by hospital region of residence, age and marital status

Hospital region	Marital status	England and Wales, hospital regions 1972									
		All ages	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Not stated
ENGLAND AND WALES	Total	13,891	3	48	817	2,799	3,930	3,836	2,057	176	225
	Single	323	3	30	63	71	65	61	23	2	5
	Married	12,409	-	17	671	2,490	3,509	3,465	1,895	158	204
	Widowed/divorced/separated	1,134	-	1	82	235	353	302	129	16	16
	Not stated	25	-	-	1	3	3	8	10	-	-
Newcastle	Total	1,398	-	4	100	305	406	372	193	7	11
	Single	23	-	2	6	5	5	4	-	-	1
	Married	1,261	-	2	86	281	370	326	179	7	10
	Widowed/divorced/separated	113	-	-	7	19	31	42	14	-	-
	Not stated	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leeds	Total	696	-	3	38	124	211	196	107	7	10
	Single	29	-	3	7	7	4	4	4	-	-
	Married	590	-	-	25	102	180	172	95	6	10
	Widowed/divorced/separated	77	-	-	6	15	27	20	8	1	-
	Not stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheffield	Total	1,262	-	2	61	250	360	351	208	16	14
	Single	22	-	1	4	5	5	6	1	-	-
	Married	1,145	-	1	48	219	324	324	200	15	14
	Widowed/divorced/separated	91	-	-	9	24	30	21	6	1	-
	Not stated	4	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-
East Anglian	Total	561	-	1	16	126	136	170	77	10	25
	Single	9	-	-	-	6	1	2	-	-	-
	Married	515	-	1	15	111	125	157	73	10	23
	Widowed/divorced/separated	36	-	-	1	9	10	10	4	-	2
	Not stated	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
North West Metropolitan	Total	1,075	1	4	50	180	319	312	169	16	24
	Single	45	1	4	6	9	11	11	2	1	-
	Married	937	-	-	40	161	275	270	157	13	21
	Widowed/divorced/separated	91	-	-	4	10	33	29	10	2	3
	Not stated	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
North East Metropolitan	Total	776	-	1	25	145	224	216	131	14	20
	Single	19	-	1	2	5	5	4	2	-	-
	Married	686	-	-	22	130	198	191	114	14	17
	Widowed/divorced/separated	69	-	-	1	10	21	20	14	-	3
	Not stated	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
South East Metropolitan	Total	1,010	-	2	53	215	307	278	131	15	9
	Single	22	-	1	1	5	5	9	-	-	1
	Married	909	-	-	44	192	278	251	124	12	8
	Widowed/divorced/separated	79	-	1	8	18	24	18	7	3	-
	Not stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South West Metropolitan	Total	736	-	2	30	144	227	209	101	12	11
	Single	24	-	-	4	3	8	7	1	1	-
	Married	654	-	2	25	127	201	186	93	11	9
	Widowed/divorced/separated	56	-	-	1	14	18	15	6	-	2
	Not stated	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Wessex	Total	622	1	4	48	132	175	152	91	5	14
	Single	19	1	4	2	1	2	3	6	-	-
	Married	557	-	-	42	118	163	138	81	3	12
	Widowed/divorced/separated	44	-	-	4	12	10	10	4	2	2
	Not stated	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Oxford	Total	394	-	-	23	84	118	112	50	5	2
	Single	4	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
	Married	360	-	-	23	81	105	104	41	4	2
	Widowed/divorced/separated	27	-	-	-	1	13	7	5	1	-
	Not stated	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
South Western	Total	1,019	-	2	64	207	274	290	148	13	21
	Single	14	-	-	5	2	2	5	-	-	-
	Married	943	-	2	58	192	247	270	143	13	20
	Widowed/divorced/separated	61	-	-	3	13	25	14	5	-	1
	Not stated	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Welsh	Total	917	-	-	62	188	261	275	115	11	5
	Single	10	-	-	3	2	2	2	1	-	-
	Married	854	-	-	55	177	244	255	107	11	5
	Widowed/divorced/separated	51	-	-	4	9	15	18	5	-	-
	Not stated	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Birmingham	Total	1,101	-	5	71	234	288	292	168	14	29
	Single	24	-	4	4	5	7	-	2	-	2
	Married	1,004	-	1	56	212	260	276	160	13	26
	Widowed/divorced/separated	71	-	-	11	17	21	15	5	1	1
	Not stated	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Manchester	Total	1,645	1	15	136	331	446	433	248	18	17
	Single	44	1	9	14	10	7	2	-	-	1
	Married	1,403	-	6	102	274	384	387	221	15	14
	Widowed/divorced/separated	198	-	-	20	47	55	44	27	3	2
	Not stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liverpool	Total	679	-	3	40	134	178	178	120	13	13
	Single	15	-	1	5	4	1	1	3	-	-
	Married	591	-	2	32	113	155	158	107	11	13
	Widowed/divorced/separated	70	-	-	3	17	20	19	9	2	-
	Not stated	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-

TABLE 16C. Legally induced abortions by hospital region of residence and

(i) number of previous live and still born children
(ii) statutory grounds
(iii) age for cases of previous abortion under the Act
(iv) type of operation
(v) type of premises and duration of stay
(vi) type of premises, gestation weeks and sterilisation

	England and Wales, hospital regions 1972															
	England and Wales	Newcastle	Leeds	Sheffield	East Anglian	North West Metropolitan	North East Metropolitan	South East Metropolitan	South West Metropolitan	Wessex	Oxford	South Western	Welsh	Birmingham	Manchester	Liverpool
Total	108,565	5,549	5,117	7,872	3,039	16,049	8,520	8,866	11,198	3,543	3,840	6,330	5,222	11,486	7,968	3,966
(i) Number of previous live and still born children																
0	50,497	2,105	2,324	3,236	1,328	8,831	3,738	3,931	6,379	1,644	1,690	2,857	2,094	5,172	3,411	1,757
1	12,432	594	507	828	313	1,956	969	1,095	1,386	383	379	669	532	1,362	962	497
2	19,011	1,077	882	1,483	577	2,401	1,632	1,727	1,556	625	743	1,229	1,033	2,016	1,394	636
3	13,841	897	682	1,126	419	1,534	1,207	1,140	1,018	482	558	872	842	1,456	1,085	523
4	7,100	471	394	611	229	724	564	493	247	247	275	425	430	788	617	268
5	3,071	221	171	299	92	348	226	240	194	92	110	154	160	362	246	156
6	1,328	99	78	145	38	111	81	84	96	35	52	60	75	184	119	73
7	584	40	30	71	20	55	35	41	39	18	24	33	26	75	56	21
8	279	20	18	31	7	31	20	19	12	7	6	12	17	34	31	14
9 and over	245	17	23	29	6	26	14	9	7	9	2	11	10	28	34	20
Not stated	177	8	8	13	10	32	34	16	18	3	1	8	3	9	13	1
(ii) Statutory grounds*																
1	1,711	77	103	160	59	253	136	115	190	67	37	116	70	157	120	51
2	82,988	3,999	3,805	5,695	2,227	12,751	6,495	7,443	9,207	2,464	2,627	5,060	4,085	8,200	6,042	2,888
3	4,171	411	230	424	140	422	240	210	323	164	351	254	178	298	344	182
4	1,126	50	64	97	40	102	81	62	66	47	58	105	71	134	83	66
5	10	-	-	1	2	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	-
6	14	1	-	2	-	4	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2 with 4	887	42	39	71	35	116	61	66	58	30	21	45	94	85	69	55
3 with others	17,658	969	876	1,422	536	2,401	1,506	967	1,354	768	745	749	722	2,611	1,309	723
(iii) Previous abortion cases by age																
All ages	4,035	171	163	254	111	782	295	382	556	98	146	198	95	465	207	112
Under 16	33	3	2	-	2	5	2	5	4	-	2	1	1	4	2	-
16-19	556	21	25	39	22	83	38	57	55	21	22	29	13	71	43	17
20-24	1,239	38	48	77	38	251	86	108	192	27	46	61	29	138	68	32
25-29	978	45	30	51	21	208</										

TABLE 16C - continued

	England and Wales	Newcastle	Leeds	Sheffield	East Anglian	North West Metropolitan	North East Metropolitan	South East Metropolitan	South West Metropolitan	Wessex	Oxford	South Western	Welsh	Birmingham	Manchester	Liverpool
(v) Type of premises and duration of stay																
All premises																
Total	108,565	5,549	5,117	7,872	3,039	16,049	8,520	8,866	11,198	3,543	3,840	6,330	5,222	11,486	7,968	3,966
0 days	3,868	123	138	96	21	249	546	929	214	126	140	257	114	525	299	91
1 day	51,431	617	2,498	3,702	1,032	8,884	4,092	3,525	6,401	1,690	1,827	2,353	1,343	8,357	3,050	2,060
2 days	18,147	1,567	774	1,019	789	2,464	1,291	1,552	1,739	820	974	1,773	1,396	674	949	366
3 days	9,322	894	698	959	194	1,405	759	756	1,061	203	187	463	485	230	762	266
4 days	4,173	266	179	356	90	675	319	250	393	65	80	261	365	156	582	156
5 days	2,257	245	91	200	68	329	191	111	160	58	83	165	182	71	204	99
6 days	1,766	220	67	186	54	152	119	182	109	52	65	155	119	44	136	106
7 days and over	9,283	822	424	1,118	360	896	630	857	663	303	237	469	736	473	943	352
Not stated	8,318	795	248	236	431	995	573	704	458	226	247	434	482	976	1,043	470
NHS hospitals																
Total	56,861	5,022	2,393	3,954	2,150	7,285	4,300	5,663	4,403	1,881	2,130	4,379	3,861	2,576	5,042	1,822
0 days	2,747	108	73	7	12	179	516	903	166	106	125	243	85	7	205	12
1 day	5,204	201	136	220	297	962	210	542	274	193	438	573	124	457	450	127
2 days	15,029	1,529	571	772	690	1,924	1,056	1,397	1,250	728	737	1,674	1,312	347	811	331
3 days	9,110	877	683	946	184	1,381	736	748	1,034	192	171	453	479	208	757	261
4 days	4,040	264	168	350	83	658	317	246	375	57	72	248	118	574	148	
5 days	2,154	241	83	195	60	318	188	106	154	52	77	160	179	49	196	96
6 days	1,709	213	63	180	49	145	118	179	104	51	64	152	119	36	133	103
7 days and over	9,030	803	417	1,094	347	861	601	846	634	285	224	455	731	451	934	347
Not stated	7,838	786	199	190	428	957	558	696	414	217	222	421	468	903	982	397
Approved places																
Total	51,371	478	2,712	3,898	869	8,749	4,189	3,196	6,745	1,610	1,665	1,940	1,357	8,894	2,925	2,144
0 days	1,121	15	65	89	9	70	30	26	48	20	15	14	29	518	94	79
1 day	46,222	416	2,361	3,482	735	7,922	3,881	2,983	6,127	1,496	1,389	1,780	1,218	7,899	2,600	1,933
2 days	3,065	37	203	241	88	639	231	155	487	77	233	97	84	320	138	35
3 days	142	2	13	8	9	22	12	7	13	2	7	10	5	22	5	
4 days	107	-	10	5	7	16	-	4	15	2	5	11	-	17	7	
5 days	91	-	8	5	7	2	5	6	5	4	4	3	22	8	3	
6 days	43	-	3	5	7	1	3	4	4	-	3	-	7	3	3	
7 days and over	160	-	3	22	7	31	17	9	20	2	10	5	18	9	5	
Not stated	420	8	47	41	2	33	15	4	25	6	10	13	13	61	73	

(vi) Type of premises, gestation weeks* and sterilisation

	England and Wales	Newcastle	Leeds	Sheffield	East Anglian	North West Metropolitan	North East Metropolitan	South East Metropolitan	South West Metropolitan	Wessex	Oxford	South Western	Welsh	Birmingham	Manchester	Liverpool
NHS hospitals																
Under 9 weeks																
All cases	8,234	804	361	577	293	1,157	531	1,054	658	257	282	611	418	363	597	271
Sterilisation cases	1,539	174	69	163	68	163	82	119	79	88	40	121	50	105	146	92
9-12 weeks																
All cases	34,363	3,103	1,505	2,409	1,328	4,467	2,700	3,429	2,562	1,180	1,408	2,754	2,209	1,450	2,758	1,101
Sterilisation cases	7,480	794	408	682	293	581	408	579	363	1,180	1,408	2,754	2,209	1,450	2,758	1,101
13 weeks and over																
All cases	12,525	1,005	461	882	446	1,384	891	1,000	1,025	372	396	891	1,202	648	1,532	390
Sterilisation cases	4,048	378	169	356	148	270	256	249	219	127	88	289	431	333	595	160
Gestation not stated																
All cases	1,739	110	66	86	83	277	178	180	158	72	44	123	32	115	155	60
Sterilisation cases	445	30	28	27	32	30	36	37	33	20	9	35	7	54	51	16
Approved places																
Other hospitals																
Under 9 weeks																
All cases	11,610	86	449	791	190	2,433	1,032	853	1,729	361	348	458	234	1,644	597	405
Sterilisation cases	82	3	5	12	4	9	7	7	10	7	4	4	-	6	3	1
9-12 weeks																
All cases	30,265	315	1,616	2,251	546	4,976	2,485	1,851	3,987	1,007	1,046	1,151	790	5,251	1,735	1,258
Sterilisation cases	186	11	10	13	9	14	4	13	24	15	21	10	2	30	8	2
13 weeks and over																
All cases	9,115	123	614	829	141	1,213	621	468	986	279	284	4	324	1,912	559	456
Sterilisation cases	102	8	6	8	7	8	3	6	6	10	4	306	2	22	3	3
Gestation not stated																
All cases	714	3	45	47	12	142	82	31	93	15	32	36	13	103	35	25
Sterilisation cases	9	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	1	-	1	1	-

* For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.

England and Wales, hospital regions 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

TABLE 16D. Legally induced abortions by hospital region of operation, type of premises and hospital region of residence

Hospital region of operation	England and Wales	Hospital region of residence														
		Newcastle	Leeds	Sheffield	East Anglian	North West Metropolitan	North East Metropolitan	South East Metropolitan	South West Metropolitan	Wessex	Oxford	South Western	Welsh	Birmingham	Manchester	Liverpool
England and Wales																
NHS	56,861	5,022	2,393	3,954	2,150	7,285	4,300	5,663	4,403	1,881	2,130	4,379	3,861	2,576	5,042	1,822
Non NHS	51,704	527	2,724	3,918	889	8,764	4,220	3,203	6,795	1,662	1,710	1,951	1,361	8,910	2,926	2,144
Newcastle																
NHS	5,071	5,003	46	3	4	4	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	6	1
Non NHS	56	47	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leeds																
NHS	2,206	5	2,162	32	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-
Non NHS	135	3	125	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheffield																
NHS	3,859	4	46	3,771	6	3	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	19	4	3
Non NHS	1,188	7	142	850	1	7	2	1	10	-	6	2	10	48	59	43
East Anglian																
NHS	2,207	2	1	83	2,057	15	23	1	2	2	18	1	-	1	1	-
Non NHS	330	-	2	21	256	9	38	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
North West Metropolitan																
NHS	5,178	-	1	1	26	4,818	103	18	137	14	53	3	-	-	1	3
Non NHS	13,942	115	449	580	229	4,691	1,528	713	2,920	396	461	279	262	864	365	90
North East Metropolitan																
NHS	3,969	-	1	1	38	149	3,722	20	27	1	1	1	2	-	3	3
Non NHS	9,799	63	38	66	222	3,018	2,268	655	2,368	421	369	161	90	18	32	10
South East Metropolitan																
NHS	4,723	-	2	3	3	54	21	4,527	8							

TABLE 18. Legally induced abortions by marital status, occupation group, hospital region of usual residence and type of premises

England and Wales:
Hospital regions, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Hospital region of usual residence	Type of premises	Total	Single							Married							Others						
			Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated	Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated	Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated
ENGLAND AND WALES	NHS	56,861	97	2,654	6,944	2,453	639	4,759	3,236	939	3,090	9,817	3,488	1,839	3,665	7,080	32	460	1,243	629	217	2,212	1,368
	Non NHS	51,704	324	5,351	13,550	3,431	4,979	2,203	861	3,293	7,008	2,209	740	1,231	1,634	52	634	1,583	584	123	2,876	543	
Newcastle	NHS	5,022	2	198	651	232	96	371	304	93	259	1,087	345	281	143	420	1	33	102	56	43	229	76
	Non NHS	527	3	53	152	35	11	60	22	10	33	45	13	4	34	16	-	2	16	5	-	8	5
Leeds	NHS	2,393	4	79	256	108	29	229	136	32	143	431	130	74	162	2	20	55	24	10	131	76	
	Non NHS	2,724	16	270	661	142	22	288	109	35	218	392	128	39	56	98	2	35	82	32	12	52	35
Sheffield	NHS	3,954	3	98	347	150	54	295	157	62	238	1,032	297	183	164	415	1	23	77	49	11	203	95
	Non NHS	3,918	17	352	951	265	25	392	167	52	262	641	205	52	84	115	3	42	126	39	9	83	36
East Anglian	NHS	2,150	7	112	241	93	38	186	122	45	124	349	145	61	118	282	-	15	42	25	9	86	50
	Non NHS	889	8	79	204	54	16	113	30	27	81	111	27	7	49	18	-	8	25	6	2	19	5
North West Metropolitan	NHS	7,285	27	500	1,184	426	66	663	363	137	338	1,019	424	170	386	890	7	79	166	89	20	189	142
	Non NHS	8,764	99	1,116	2,342	719	72	931	328	184	555	946	283	100	164	278	17	114	243	90	17	101	65
North East Metropolitan	NHS	4,300	3	202	541	163	34	286	236	64	179	611	276	122	448	709	2	31	82	39	17	149	106
	Non NHS	4,220	17	416	1,136	233	37	279	147	60	264	709	198	97	92	153	5	44	149	46	11	85	42
South East Metropolitan	NHS	5,663	5	296	717	220	45	477	379	107	329	1,088	354	144	299	631	4	41	122	56	15	173	161
	Non NHS	3,203	15	378	862	204	28	322	100	61	240	470	109	31	58	53	5	49	104	33	6	45	30
South West Metropolitan	NHS	4,403	22	352	742	210	33	427	276	59	205	527	194	80	441	404	5	52	115	57	9	117	76
	Non NHS	6,795	68	863	2,010	484	43	722	231	127	397	768	228	67	127	126	11	98	190	68	12	95	60
Wessex	NHS	1,881	1	55	141	44	16	182	159	21	104	218	93	26	197	423	-	10	40	12	5	68	66
	Non NHS	1,662	7	153	472	123	30	169	51	30	104	198	53	22	75	31	-	24	48	19	2	36	15
Oxford	NHS	2,130	2	83	232	98	31	209	83	58	141	357	149	73	70	310	3	22	58	26	9	75	41
	Non NHS	1,710	14	142	385	104	19	190	85	49	124	240	63	19	105	68	1	16	37	14	3	14	18
South Western	NHS	4,379	7	172	543	205	71	412	249	67	260	663	219	85	411	578	3	35	97	33	8	176	85
	Non NHS	1,951	1	168	442	104	20	173	261	29	120	174	51	13	72	160	-	19	51	11	3	21	58
Welsh	NHS	3,861	-	163	397	126	75	299	235	49	231	728	214	193	129	625	-	18	54	32	18	166	109
	Non NHS	1,361	9	127	358	78	20	146	69	23	81	154	56	28	36	63	-	12	40	14	5	30	12
Birmingham	NHS	2,576	4	68	197	66	24	196	130	39	165	390	153	81	423	357	2	21	40	22	4	109	85
	Non NHS	8,910	25	687	2,167	587	99	696	367	117	498	1,537	587	186	205	321	8	96	289	136	30	166	106
Manchester	NHS	5,042	10	196	574	247	15	383	325	64	264	945	340	167	224	583	2	40	156	86	27	237	157
	Non NHS	2,926	15	330	776	175	23	310	138	37	195	340	117	36	37	82	-	49	121	42	4	61	38
Liverpool	NHS	1,822	-	80	181	65	12	144	82	42	110	372	155	99	50	191	-	20	37	23	12	104	43
	Non NHS	2,144	10	217	632	124	30	188	98	20	121	283	91	39	37	52	-	26	62	29	7	60	18

TABLE 19. Medical grounds for legally induced abortions, number of reasons given by type of premises
(includes answers to questions 11a and b, and excludes answers to question 11c on the notification form)

England and Wales, 1972
Residents

ICD 8th Rev.	Medical conditions	NUMBER OF REASONS GIVEN *							
		PRIMARY CONDITION MENTIONED		SECONDARY CONDITION MENTIONED		SUSPECTED MEDICAL CONDITION OF FOETUS			
		Relating to present pregnancy		Relating to present pregnancy		Condition of foetus in previous pregnancy		Suspected condition in present foetus	
		NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS
056	Rubella	725	51	3	-	-	-	-	-
0560	Rubella	549	28	2	-	-	-	-	-
0561	Rubella contact	143	18	-	-	-	-	-	-
0562	Rubella immunisation	33	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
000-055)	Other infective and parasitic diseases	196	21	20	-	-	-	7	1
057-136)									
010-019	Tuberculosis	105	6	11	-	-	-	-	-
135	Sarcoidosis	19	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
150-159	Malignant neoplasm of digestive organs and peritoneum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
180-184	Malignant neoplasm of female reproductive tract	23	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
180	Malignant neoplasm of cervix uteri	20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
140-149)	Other malignant neoplasm of specified sites (including secondary neoplasm)	58	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
160-174)									
188,189)									
174	Malignant neoplasm of breast	50	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
190-199	Malignant neoplasm of other and unspecified sites	12	1	2	-	-	-	1	-
200-209	Neoplasm of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissue	10	-	1	-	-	1	1	1
218-221	Benign neoplasm of female reproductive tract	152	21	27	2	-	-	-	-
218	Uterine fibroma	121	14	25	2	-	-	-	-
220	Benign neoplasm of ovary	28	6	2	-	-	-	-	-
210-217)	Benign neoplasm of other sites	9	2	1	-	-	-	1	-
223-228)									
230-239	Neoplasm of unspecified nature	64	5	2	-	-	-	-	-
234	Neoplasm of unspecified nature of uterus	52	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
240-258	Endocrine diseases	197	17	26	3	2	-	5	1
242	Thyrotoxicosis with or without goitre	53	5	3	-	-	-	-	-
250	Diabetes mellitus	110	6	15	1	-	-	-	-
260-269	Nutritional diseases	13	-	2	-	4	-	3	-
270-279	Other metabolic diseases	54	21	21	3	13	-	16	1
277	Obesity not specified as of endocrine origin	33	21	19	3	-	-	-	-
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	52	12	9	3	5	-	14	3
290-299	Mental disorders - Psychoses	628	82	22	5	-	-	1	-
295	Schizophrenia	108	5	6	-	-	-	1	-
296	Affective psychoses	339	74	8	2	-	-	-	-
300	Mental disorders - Neuroses	16,299	44,854	737	256	-	-	-	-
301	Mental disorders - Personality disorders	291	39	21	3	-	-	-	-
303,304	Mental disorders - Alcoholism, drug dependence	39	4	1	-	-	-	-	-
304	Drug dependence	30	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
302	Mental disorders - Other non-psychotic	15,126	4,232	376	44	1	-	-	-
305-309)									
307	Transient situational disturbances	15,088	4,220	371	43	-	-	-	-
310-315	Mental retardation	216	16	19	3	13	1	4	-
315	Unspecified mental retardation	216	16	19	3	13	1	4	-
320-358	Diseases of nervous system	317	21	27	4	13	1	31	3
330	Hereditary neuromuscular disorders	8	1	-	-	3	1	18	1
340	Multiple sclerosis	45	1	2	2	-	-	-	1
345	Epilepsy	205	15	14	1	2	-	4	1

* A single case may provide up to three reasons, one in each of the divisions, i.e. primary maternal, secondary maternal and foetal.

TABLE 19 - continued

ICD 8th Rev.	Medical conditions	NUMBER OF REASONS GIVEN*							
		PRIMARY CONDITION MENTIONED		SECONDARY CONDITION MENTIONED		SUSPECTED MEDICAL CONDITION OF FOETUS			
		Relating to present pregnancy		Relating to present pregnancy		Condition of foetus in previous pregnancy		Suspected condition in present foetus	
		NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS
360-389	Eye and ear diseases	46	6	8	1	9	1	13	3
390-398	Rheumatic heart disease and active rheumatic fever	141	8	10	1	-	-	-	-
394	Diseases of mitral valve	86	5	5	-	-	-	-	-
400-429	Other heart disease and hypertensive disease	503	40	95	11	-	-	-	-
401	Essential benign hypertension	395	37	81	9	-	-	-	-
429	Ill-defined heart disease	36	1	4	2	-	-	-	-
430-438	Cerebrovascular disease	36	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
430	Subarachnoid haemorrhage	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
440-458	Other diseases of circulatory system	222	25	41	5	-	-	-	-
450	Pulmonary embolism and infarction	25	1	8	-	-	-	-	-
451	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis	43	4	6	2	-	-	-	-
454	Varicose veins of lower extremities	58	10	15	2	-	-	-	-
460-519	Diseases of respiratory system	271	15	23	2	1	-	-	-
491	Chronic bronchitis	33	3	4	-	-	-	-	-
493	Asthma	169	8	11	2	1	-	-	-
518	Bronchiectasis	26	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
520-569	Other diseases of digestive system	98	6	12	2	1	-	-	-
563	Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis	48	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
570-577	Diseases of liver, gallbladder and pancreas	29	3	6	2	1	-	-	-
580-599	Diseases of urinary system	186	15	37	3	-	-	-	-
582	Chronic nephritis	17	4	2	1	-	-	-	1
590	Infections of kidney	66	3	8	2	-	-	-	-
610,611	Diseases of breast	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
612-629	Diseases of female genital tract	104	21	19	2	-	-	-	-
623	Uterovaginal prolapse	20	5	4	1	-	-	-	-
626	Disorders of menstruation	46	4	5	-	-	-	-	-
630-678	See next page								
680-709	Diseases of skin and subcutaneous tissue	35	-	4	1	-	-	1	-
710-738	Diseases of musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	134	14	11	2	-	-	2	-
712	Rheumatoid arthritis and allied conditions	31	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
725	Displacement of intervertebral disc	36	3	4	-	-	-	-	-
740-759	Congenital anomalies	113	9	11	-	196	15	1,016	89
741	Spina bifida	5	-	1	-	42	4	9	1
746	Congenital anomalies of heart	33	2	2	-	10	1	6	1
759	Congenital syndromes affecting multiple systems	4	1	-	-	42	3	92	15
760-779	Maternal conditions associated with perinatal morbidity (placenta and child)	-	-	1	1	32	-	345	32
775	Haemolytic disease of newborn without mention of kernicterus	-	-	-	-	19	-	223	17
780-796	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions (including medical reason unknown)	186	54	33	5	-	-	12	4
790	Nervousness and debility	29	10	4	3	-	-	-	-
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence (nature of injury)	59	7	40	1	-	-	257	27
N962	Adverse effect of hormones and synthetic substitutes	1	1	14	1	-	-	28	-
N970	Adverse effect of psychotherapeutics	6	-	2	-	-	-	18	4
N990	Effects of radiation	3	1	2	-	-	-	136	15

* A single case may provide up to three reasons, one in each of the divisions, i.e. primary maternal, secondary maternal and foetal.

TABLE 19 - continued

ICD 8th Rev.	Medical conditions	NUMBER OF REASONS GIVEN*											
		PRIMARY CONDITION MENTIONED		SECONDARY CONDITION MENTIONED		SUSPECTED MEDICAL CONDITION OF FOETUS							
		Relating to previous pregnancy		Relating to present pregnancy		Relating to previous pregnancy		Relating to present pregnancy		Condition of foetus in previous pregnancy		Suspected condition in present foetus	
		NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS	NHS	Non NHS
630-634	Complications of pregnancy	196	35	293	29	10	2	14	2	-	-	-	-
632	Haemorrhage of pregnancy	8	-	24	6	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
635-639	Urinary infections and toxaeias of pregnancy	249	18	198	49	19	3	13	1	-	-	-	-
637	Pre-eclampsia, eclampsia and toxemia unspecified	228	16	102	20	16	3	9	-	-	-	-	-
638	Hyperemesis gravidarum	11	2	91	28	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
640-645	Complications of abortion (and previous abortions)	29	5	14	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
643	Spontaneous abortion	22	4	3	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
649	Pregnancy in the presence of IUCD and/or previous recurrent premature or stillbirth deliveries	-	-	112	11	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
650-678	Complications of delivery and puerperium (and previous delivery)	125	18	167	34	14	1	34	1	-	-	-	-
651	Delivery complicated by placenta praevia or antepartum haemorrhage	24	2	6	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
669	Surgical procedures in present or previous pregnancy, previous Caesarean section	-	-	118	25	-	-	22	1	-	-	-	-

* A single case may provide up to three reasons, one in each of the divisions, i.e. primary maternal, secondary maternal and foetal.

TABLE 20. Legally induced abortions by marital status, occupation group and (i) statutory grounds (ii) gestation weeks

England and Wales, 1972

Cases resident in England and Wales

Statutory grounds and gestation weeks	Total	Single							Married							Others						
		Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated	Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated	Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated
(i) Statutory grounds*																						
1	1,711	6	79	156	54	9	68	46	36	170	370	119	58	157	229	-	21	28	20	3	53	29
2	82,988	408	7,672	19,719	5,489	1,042	9,254	4,811	1,155	4,003	10,054	3,335	1,444	2,735	5,312	62	733	1,982	794	199	1,625	1,160
3	4,171	1	31	87	61	6	93	136	70	275	947	408	214	454	592	-	45	132	78	31	347	163
4	1,126	1	26	44	19	4	25	31	36	145	276	88	31	124	246	-	3	5	4	1	10	7
5	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	14	-	2	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	1	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 with 4	887	-	35	51	19	5	29	29	39	99	199	74	34	79	133	1	6	15	6	3	24	7
3 with others	17,658	5	160	436	242	67	269	384	464	1,687	4,977	1,670	798	1,341	2,199	21	286	664	311	103	1,029	545
(ii) Gestation weeks†																						
Under 9	19,844	122	1,747	3,337	846	125	1,605	765	591	1,781	3,256	987	365	895	1,610	26	285	533	188	45	423	312
9	16,803	74	1,358	2,959	807	140	1,433	677	323	1,181	2,927	925	386	754	1,315	11	182	465	172	46	408	260
10	18,392	71	1,426	3,509	910	168	1,612	841	284	1,091	3,010	992	431	802	1,501	15	184	502	201	52	506	284
11	17,012	63	1,181	3,376	980	203	1,515	861	237	870	2,553	927	412	745	1,392	12	155	468	199	59	517	287
12	12,421	37	842	2,661	789	168	1,159	710	138	524	1,813	608	314	523	929	10	96	283	159	51	373	234
13	8,213	14	511	1,704	558	111	824	490	90	310	1,171	450	211	339	609	3	73	193	108	30	265	149
14	4,930	8	285	1,021	340	62	448	305	38	192	719	268	155	228	349	2	39	113	53	25	166	114
15	3,113	9	205	606	226	48	298	191	20	120	414	168	81	137	258	2	25	79	44	4	110	68
16	1,972	3	126	375	128	28	192	166	14	66	226	100	46	104	158	1	17	56	27	6	87	46
17-19	2,566	9	149	465	160	39	313	214	17	93	288	111	81	139	200	2	19	51	21	14	114	67
20-23	709	3	43	138	28	19	122	54	3	22	76	18	19	29	55	-	4	20	8	1	31	16
24 and over	137	-	14	19	7	3	21	6	1	5	14	9	4	7	10	-	3	4	2	-	5	3
Not stated	2,453	8	118	324	105	20	196	159	44	128	358	134	74	194	328	-	12	59	31	7	83	71

* For statutory grounds see page v.
† For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.

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TABLE 21. Legally induced abortions by marital status, occupation group, duration of stay and type of premises

England and Wales, 1972

Cases resident in England and Wales

Duration of stay and type of premises	Total	Single							Married							Others							
		Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated	Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated	Professional	Intermediate	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Others	Not stated	
Total																							
NHS hospitals	56,861	97	2,654	6,944	2,453	639	4,759	3,236	939	3,090	9,817	3,488	1,839	3,665	7,080	32	460	1,243	629	217	2,212	1,368	
Non NHS	51,704	324	5,351	13,550	3,431	495	4,979	2,203	861	3,293	7,008	2,209	740	1,231	1,634	52	634	1,583	584	123	876	543	
0 days																							
NHS hospitals	2,747	7	178	393	118	24	230	218	75	169	373	134	54	118	357	3	28	68	22	10	57	111	
Non NHS	1,121	5	85	250	65	6	82	42	19	77	207	59	20	10	38	-	14	60	33	2	29	18	
1 day																							
NHS hospitals	5,204	15	289	795	217	45	525	295	120	359	746	270	108	408	459	5	59	135	46	16	179	113	
Non NHS	46,227	293	4,853	12,276	3,127	449	4,364	1,985	744	2,884	6,278	1,995	666	924	1,461	46	571	1,425	513	116	775	482	
2 days																							
NHS hospitals	15,029	33	930	2,173	748	198	1,469	930	259	786	2,134	726	362	900	1,751	8	137	344	177	45	576	343	
Non NHS	3,118	22	322	756	195	23	351	133	68	235	408	118	44	127	90	5	37	78	26	2	51	27	
3 days																							
NHS hospitals	9,110	15	450	1,295	501	134	863	591	130	429	1,504	504	273	525	910	7	69	214	102	39	362	193	
Non NHS	212	1	11	36	11	2	35	12	6	14	9	4	1	37	12	-	2	5	2	1	7	4	
4 days																							
NHS hospitals	4,040	8	164	564	213	65	386	268	35	172	629	218	109	239	524	1	19	94	42	19	157	114	
Non NHS	133	-	12	31	4	1	32	4	3	6	10	3	1	11	8	-	1	2	1	-	2	1	
5 days																							
NHS hospitals	2,154	1	81	258	91	34	190	130	30	86	365	122	73	157	300	1	14	35	22	8	101	55	
Non NHS	103	1	8	23	4	4	13	2	1	11	14	2	-	7	5	-	1	-	2	1	1	4	
6 days																							
NHS hospitals	1,709	2	67	145	63	16	112	78	24	96	374	115	81	98	264	1	13	26	18	10	65	41	
Non NHS	57	-	3	14	1	-	5	3	-	6	4	-	2	12	-	-	3	1	-	-	2	-	
7 days and over																							
NHS hospitals	9,030	5	165	467	196	57	403	312	112	508	2,167	809	508	748	1,667	1	51	149	93	37	364	211	
Non NHS	253	-	11	42	3	6	47	7	6	24	19	9	-	61	8	1	2	1	2	-	3	1	
Not stated																							
NHS hospitals	7,838	11	330	854	306	66	581	414	154	485	1,525	590	271	472	848	5	70	178	107	33	351	187	
Non NHS	480	2	46	122	21	4	50	15	14	36	59	19	6	42	12	-	5	9	4	2	6	6	

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TABLE 22. Deaths following legally induced abortions by age, period of gestation and method of termination

England and Wales, 1972
Cases resident in England and Wales

Gestation weeks*	Method	Under 16	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over
Under 9 weeks	Abdominal (Hysterotomy (Hysterectomy)								
	Vaginal (Vacuum aspiration (Other methods)					1		(1)†	
9 to 12 weeks	Abdominal (Hysterotomy (Hysterectomy)						(2)	(1)	
	Vaginal (Vacuum aspiration (Other methods)		1			1	(1)		
13 to 16 weeks	Abdominal (Hysterotomy (Hysterectomy)							(1)	
	Vaginal (Vacuum aspiration (Other methods)		1	1					
17 weeks and over	Abdominal (Hysterotomy (Hysterectomy)				1		(1)†		
	Vaginal (Vacuum aspiration (Other methods)	1							
Not stated	Abdominal (Hysterotomy (Hysterectomy)								
	Vaginal (Vacuum aspiration (Other methods)								

On certification of cause of death see page viii.
Numbers in brackets indicate that sterilisation was also performed in these cases.
There was also 1 death of a non-resident woman.

* For definition of gestation weeks see page vi.
† Included here are 2 deaths occurring in 1972 and notified in 1973.

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