# State of Alaska Induced Abortion Statistics 2003

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Bureau of Vital Statistics

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# Alaska Induced Abortion 2003 Statistics

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# **Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics**

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Alaska Induced Abortion Statistics, 2003, published by the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, contains information about induced abortions that occurred in Alaska during calendar year 2003.

Why is abortion reporting important? Induced abortion data can be used to:

- Monitor trends in the number, rate, and ratio of induced abortions.
- Assess changes in the types of procedures used to end a pregnancy and the gestational age (in weeks) when abortions are performed.
- Calculate pregnancy rates.
- Identify the characteristics of women who are at risk for unintended pregnancy.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of family planning programs and programs to prevent unintended pregnancy.

Unintended pregnancy refers to pregnancies that are unwanted or when the mother wanted to be pregnant at a later date. From 1991 to 2000 in Alaska, 42.6 percent of all pregnancies that resulted in a live birth were unintended<sup>1</sup>. In the U.S., it is estimated that 49 percent of pregnancies are unintended with about half of these pregnancies ended by an abortion<sup>2</sup>. Thus reducing the number of unintended pregnancies would likely reduce the number of abortions.

Alaska has followed the recent national trend in declining birth rates. The fertility rate in Alaska has declined 18.4 percent since 1990, while the teen birth rate declined 37.3 percent. However, birth rates are based only on the number of live births and may change as a result of the rate at which women become pregnant, the rate at which women choose to end their pregnancy in an abortion, or a combination of both. Abortion reporting can provide a better understanding of which factors are driving the birth rate in Alaska.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Schoellhorn J, Wiens HN, Perham-Hester K. *Alaska Maternal and Child Health Data Book 2003*. Anchorage, AK: Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Unit, Section of Maternal Child and Family Health, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Social Services, June 2003.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Henshaw SK, Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, Family Planning Perspectives, 1998, 30(1):24-29 & 46.

#### **Reporting Issues**

The information in this report is based on induced abortion reports received by the Bureau of Vital Statistics before February 1st, 2004. A copy of the form used to report induced termination of pregnancies is located in Appendix B. Definitions of the terms used in this report are located in Appendix A. In this report, the terms abortion and induced termination of pregnancy are used synonymously with induced abortion.

In Alaska, reports of induced terminations of pregnancy are mandated by AS 18.50.245. Hospitals, clinics, or other institutions where an induced termination of pregnancy is performed are required to submit a report to the Bureau. The report cannot contain the name of the patient, but must contain information similar to the United States Standard Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy, as published by the National Center for Health Statistics. Reports of abortion are strictly confidential and must be destroyed after preparing the annual report.

Alaska Statutes also require that any reports produced from induced termination of pregnancy forms may only be presented in aggregate form so that specific individuals may not be identified. Furthermore, the report may not identify or provide information that can be used to identify the name of the physician who performed the induced abortion, the name of the facility where the abortion occurred, or the name of the municipality or community in which the abortion occurred. Because of the reporting guidelines outlined in state statutes, induced abortion statistics by borough or census area are not available for publication.

This report only contains information on induced terminations of pregnancies that occurred in Alaska. In the past several years over 200 Alaska women on average obtained abortions out of state. For example, 239 Alaska women obtained abortions in Washington State during 2002<sup>3</sup>. It is unknown how many Alaska women obtained abortions in states other than Washington. Since the out of state occurrence data is incomplete, it is not included in this report.

Pregnancy rates are based on the total number of live births, induced abortions, and fetal deaths per 1,000 women of childbearing age. Currently, population estimates are not available for 2003, so pregnancy rates cannot be calculated. Additionally, birth data for 2003 is preliminary, since data for Alaska residents who gave birth out of state is incomplete. The induced abortion information for 2003, however, is final. Once the birth data for 2003 is complete and population estimates are available, information on pregnancy rates, abortion rates, and abortion ratios will be published and posted on the Bureau's web site (<a href="www.vitalrecords.alaska.gov">www.vitalrecords.alaska.gov</a>).

<sup>3</sup>Center for Health Statistics, Washington State Department of Health. Pregnancy and Induced Abortion Statistics. Dec. 2003.

## **Executive Summary**

- A total of 1,806 induced abortions were reported in Alaska in 2003, with Alaska women accounting for over 99 percent of the induced abortions that occurred in Alaska.
- Over six of every ten women in Alaska who obtained an abortion in 2003 reported they
  had no previous abortions. One of every seven women reported that they had two or
  more previous abortions.
- Most (54 percent) of the women who obtained abortions in 2003 were less than 25 years of age. In the most recent year for which national data are available (year 2000), 52 percent of women who obtained an abortion were less than 25 years of age<sup>4</sup>.
- Women age 15 to 17 accounted for 8.5 percent of all induced abortions in Alaska during 2003. Nationally in 2000, 6.5 percent of women who obtained an abortion were age 15 to 17 years.
- Teens (age 15 to 19 years) received 21 percent of the abortions in 2003. Eighteen percent of women in the U.S. who obtained an abortion in 2000 were teenagers.
- In Alaska, 78 percent (excluding unknown responses) of women who obtained an abortion in 2003 were unmarried. In the U.S., the most recent information shows 81 percent of women who obtained an abortion were unmarried.
- In 2003, over 58 percent of women who obtained an induced abortion in Alaska reported they had one or more previous live births. Sixty percent of U.S. women who received an abortion in 2000 reported they had one or more previous live births.
- More than nine of every 10 of induced abortions in Alaska were performed at 12 weeks or less gestational age. In 2000, 87 percent of abortions performed in the U.S. involved pregnancies of 12 weeks or less gestational age.
- Suction curettage was the most commonly performed procedure in Alaska at 80 percent. Suction curettage was used in over 96 percent of abortions performed in the U.S. during 2000.
- Unmarried, white women age 20 to 29 accounted for almost one-fourth (24 percent) of all abortions received in Alaska during 2003.
- Slightly over half (54.6 percent) of all women who obtained abortions in Alaska during 2003 reported that they used their own financial resources as the source of payment. More than one-third (33.9 percent) reported that Medicaid was the source of payment.

<sup>4</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Surveillance Summaries, November 28, 2003. MMWR 2003:52(No. SS-12).

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# **Summary of Characteristics of Women Receiving Abortions in Alaska: 2003**

**TABLE 1** 

| IADEL I                         | Abortions   | Percent     |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Residence                       | ADUITIONS   | reiceiit    |
| Alaska                          | 1,794       | 99.3        |
| Other State                     | , 8         | 0.4         |
| Not Stated                      | 4           | 0.2         |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
| •                               |             |             |
| Age                             | 12          | 0.7         |
| Under 15<br>15-19               | 12<br>373   | 0.7         |
| 15-19                           | 154         | 20.7<br>8.5 |
| 18-19                           | 219         | 12.1        |
| 20-24                           | 600         | 33.2        |
| 25-29                           | 364         | 20.2        |
| 30-34                           | 232         | 12.8        |
| 35-39                           | 152         | 8.4         |
| 40-44                           | 66          | 3.7         |
| 45 and over                     | 1           | 0.1         |
| Not Stated                      | 6           | 0.3         |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
| Race                            |             |             |
| Asian                           | 126         | 7.0         |
| Black                           | 115         | 7.0<br>6.4  |
| Alaska Native                   | 320         | 17.7        |
| White                           | 1,042       | 57.7        |
| Other/Not Stated                | 203         | 11.2        |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
|                                 |             |             |
| Marital Status                  |             |             |
| Married                         | 373         | 20.7        |
| Unmarried<br>Unknown/Not Stated | 1,336<br>97 | 74.0<br>5.4 |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
| Total                           | 1,000       | 100.0       |
| Education                       |             |             |
| Less than 12 years              | 197         | 10.9        |
| 12 years                        | 628         | 34.8        |
| 13 or more years                | 439         | 24.3        |
| Other/Not Stated                | 542         | 30.0        |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
| Previous Live Births            |             |             |
| 0                               | 739         | 40.9        |
| 1                               | 499         | 27.6        |
| 2                               | 309         | 17.1        |
| 3                               | 128         | 7.1         |
| 4                               | 71          | 3.9         |
| 5 or more                       | 48          | 2.7         |
| Not stated                      | 12          | 0.7         |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
| Previous Abortions              |             |             |
| 0                               | 1,111       | 61.5        |
| 1                               | 409         | 22.6        |
| 2                               | 170         | 9.4         |
| 2 3                             | 57          | 3.2         |
| 4                               | 23          | 1.3         |
| Over 4                          | 15          | 0.8         |
| Not Stated                      | 21          | 1.2         |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
| Weeks of Gestation <sup>1</sup> |             |             |
| 1-4                             | 25          | 1.4         |
| 5-8                             | 991         | 54.9        |
| 9-12                            | 687         | 38.0        |
| 13-16                           | 64          | 3.5         |
| 17-20                           | 11          | 0.6         |
| 21-24                           | 1           | 0.1         |
| Not Stated                      | 27          | 1.5         |
| Total                           | 1,806       | 100.0       |
|                                 |             |             |

 ${}^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}\text{Gestation}$  based on the physician's estimate

Table 2 Number of Induced Abortions by Race and Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Daga             | Age Group |     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |            |  |  |
|------------------|-----------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------------|--|--|
| Race             | Total     | <15 | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+ | Not Stated |  |  |
| Asian            | 126       | 1   | 5     | 15    | 44    | 24    | 19    | 14    | 4     | 0   | 0          |  |  |
| Black            | 115       | 0   | 5     | 16    | 53    | 19    | 15    | 4     | 2     | 0   | 1          |  |  |
| Alaska Native    | 320       | 4   | 36    | 34    | 100   | 72    | 42    | 27    | 4     | 0   | 1          |  |  |
| White            | 1042      | 4   | 84    | 127   | 341   | 210   | 140   | 88    | 44    | 1   | 3          |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated | 203       | 3   | 24    | 27    | 62    | 39    | 16    | 19    | 12    | 0   | 1          |  |  |
| Total            | 1806      | 12  | 154   | 219   | 600   | 364   | 232   | 152   | 66    | 1   | 6          |  |  |

Table 3 Induced Abortions by Age and Percentage by Race:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Dago             | Age Group |     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |            |  |
|------------------|-----------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------------|--|
| Race             | Total     | <15 | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+ | Not Stated |  |
| Asian            | 100.0     | 0.8 | 4.0   | 11.9  | 34.9  | 19.0  | 15.1  | 11.1  | 3.2   | 0.0 | 0.0        |  |
| Black            | 100.0     | 0.0 | 4.3   | 13.9  | 46.1  | 16.5  | 13.0  | 3.5   | 1.7   | 0.0 | 0.9        |  |
| Alaska Native    | 100.0     | 1.3 | 11.3  | 10.6  | 31.3  | 22.5  | 13.1  | 8.4   | 1.3   | 0.0 | 0.3        |  |
| White            | 100.0     | 0.4 | 8.1   | 12.2  | 32.7  | 20.2  | 13.4  | 8.4   | 4.2   | 0.1 | 0.3        |  |
| Other/Not Stated | 100.0     | 1.5 | 11.8  | 13.3  | 30.5  | 19.2  | 7.9   | 9.4   | 5.9   | 0.0 | 0.5        |  |
| Total            | 100.0     | 0.7 | 8.5   | 12.1  | 33.2  | 20.2  | 12.8  | 8.4   | 3.7   | 0.1 | 0.3        |  |

Table 4 Induced Abortions by Race and Percentage by Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Dago             |       |       |       |       |       | Age G | roup  |       |       |       |            |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| Race             | Total | <15   | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+   | Not Stated |
| Asian            | 7.0   | 8.3   | 3.2   | 6.9   | 7.3   | 6.6   | 8.2   | 9.2   | 6.1   | 0.0   | 0.0        |
| Black            | 6.4   | 0.0   | 3.2   | 7.3   | 8.8   | 5.2   | 6.5   | 2.6   | 3.0   | 0.0   | 16.7       |
| Alaska Native    | 17.7  | 33.3  | 23.4  | 15.5  | 16.7  | 19.8  | 18.1  | 17.8  | 6.1   | 0.0   | 16.7       |
| White            | 57.7  | 33.3  | 54.5  | 58.0  | 56.8  | 57.7  | 60.3  | 57.9  | 66.7  | 100.0 | 50.0       |
| Other/Not Stated | 11.2  | 25.0  | 15.6  | 12.3  | 10.3  | 10.7  | 6.9   | 12.5  | 18.2  | 0.0   | 16.7       |
| Total            | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0      |

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Table 5 Number of Induced Abortions by Marital Status and Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Marital Status     |       | Age Group |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |            |  |  |  |
|--------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------------|--|--|--|
| Marital Status     | Total | <15       | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+ | Not Stated |  |  |  |
| Married            | 373   | 0         | 0     | 16    | 94    | 101   | 67    | 65    | 30    | 0   | 0          |  |  |  |
| Unmarried          | 1336  | 10        | 141   | 195   | 480   | 246   | 157   | 71    | 29    | 1   | 6          |  |  |  |
| Unknown/Not Stated | 97    | 2         | 13    | 8     | 26    | 17    | 8     | 16    | 7     | 0   | 0          |  |  |  |
| Total              | 1806  | 12        | 154   | 219   | 600   | 364   | 232   | 152   | 66    | 1   | 6          |  |  |  |

Table 6 Induced Abortions by Age and Percentage by Marital Status:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Marital Status     |       | Age Group |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |            |  |  |  |
|--------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------------|--|--|--|
| Marital Status     | Total | <15       | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+ | Not Stated |  |  |  |
| Married            | 100.0 | 0.0       | 0.0   | 4.3   | 25.2  | 27.1  | 18.0  | 17.4  | 8.0   | 0.0 | 0.0        |  |  |  |
| Unmarried          | 100.0 | 0.7       | 10.6  | 14.6  | 35.9  | 18.4  | 11.8  | 5.3   | 2.2   | 0.1 | 0.5        |  |  |  |
| Unknown/Not Stated | 100.0 | 2.1       | 13.4  | 8.2   | 26.8  | 17.5  | 8.2   | 16.5  | 7.2   | 0.0 | 0.0        |  |  |  |
| Total              | 100.0 | 0.7       | 8.5   | 12.1  | 33.2  | 20.2  | 12.8  | 8.4   | 3.7   | 0.1 | 0.3        |  |  |  |

Table 7 Induced Abortions by Marital Status and Percentage by Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Marital Status     | Age Group |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |            |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| Marital Status     | Total     | <15   | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+   | Not Stated |
| Married            | 20.7      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 7.3   | 15.7  | 27.7  | 28.9  | 42.8  | 45.5  | 0.0   | 0.0        |
| Unmarried          | 74.0      | 83.3  | 91.6  | 89.0  | 80.0  | 67.6  | 67.7  | 46.7  | 43.9  | 100.0 | 100.0      |
| Unknown/Not Stated | 5.4       | 16.7  | 8.4   | 3.7   | 4.3   | 4.7   | 3.4   | 10.5  | 10.6  | 0.0   | 0.0        |
| Total              | 100.0     | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0      |

Table 8 Number of Induced Abortions by Type of Procedure and Weeks of Gestation: Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Turns of Dun and turn         |       |     |     | Weeks of | f Gestatio | n     |       |            |
|-------------------------------|-------|-----|-----|----------|------------|-------|-------|------------|
| Type of Procedure             | Total | 1-4 | 5-8 | 9-12     | 13-16      | 17-20 | 21-24 | Not Stated |
| Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) | 16    | 0   | 1   | 2        | 1          | 11    | 1     | 0          |
| Mifepristone (RU-486)         | 335   | 23  | 309 | 1        | 0          | 0     | 0     | 2          |
| Sharp Curettage               | 9     | 0   | 0   | 0        | 0          | 0     | 0     | 9          |
| Suction Curettage             | 1436  | 2   | 678 | 684      | 63         | 0     | 0     | 9          |
| Other/Not Stated              | 10    | 0   | 3   | 0        | 0          | 0     | 0     | 7          |
| Total                         | 1806  | 25  | 991 | 687      | 64         | 11    | 1     | 27         |

Table 9 Induced Abortions by Type of Procedure and Percentage by Weeks of Gestation:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Time of Dragodina             | Weeks of Gestation |       |       |       |       |       |       |            |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Type of Procedure             | Total              | 1-4   | 5-8   | 9-12  | 13-16 | 17-20 | 21-24 | Not Stated |  |  |  |  |
| Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) | 0.9                | 0.0   | 0.1   | 0.3   | 1.6   | 100.0 | 100.0 | 0.0        |  |  |  |  |
| Mifepristone (RU-486)         | 18.6               | 92.0  | 31.2  | 0.1   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 7.4        |  |  |  |  |
| Sharp Curettage               | 0.5                | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 33.3       |  |  |  |  |
| Suction Curettage             | 79.5               | 8.0   | 68.4  | 99.6  | 98.4  | 0.0   | 0.0   | 33.3       |  |  |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated              | 0.6                | 0.0   | 0.3   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 25.9       |  |  |  |  |
| Total                         | 100.0              | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0      |  |  |  |  |

Table 10 Induced Abortions by Weeks of Gestation and Percentage by Type of Procedure: Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Type of Drocodure             |       | Weeks of Gestation |      |      |       |       |       |            |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Type of Procedure             | Total | 1-4                | 5-8  | 9-12 | 13-16 | 17-20 | 21-24 | Not Stated |  |  |  |  |
| Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) | 100.0 | 0.0                | 6.3  | 12.5 | 6.3   | 68.8  | 6.3   | 0.0        |  |  |  |  |
| Mifepristone (RU-486)         | 100.0 | 6.9                | 92.2 | 0.3  | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.6        |  |  |  |  |
| Sharp Curettage               | 100.0 | 0.0                | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 100.0      |  |  |  |  |
| Suction Curettage             | 100.0 | 0.1                | 47.2 | 47.6 | 4.4   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.6        |  |  |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated              | 100.0 | 0.0                | 30.0 | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 70.0       |  |  |  |  |
| Total                         | 100.0 | 1.4                | 54.9 | 38.0 | 3.5   | 0.6   | 0.1   | 1.5        |  |  |  |  |

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Table 11 Number of Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Age: Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Mathada & Dayna ant      | Age Group |     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |            |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------------|
| Method of Payment        | Total     | <15 | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+ | Not Stated |
| Cash                     | 989       | 8   | 63    | 105   | 318   | 210   | 140   | 101   | 43    | 0   | 1          |
| Insurance                | 44        | 0   | 2     | 2     | 9     | 9     | 8     | 6     | 7     | 1   | 0          |
| Medicaid                 | 612       | 4   | 65    | 90    | 224   | 120   | 64    | 32    | 10    | 0   | 3          |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 12        | 0   | 0     | 2     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 1     | 0     | 0   | 0          |
| Other/Not Stated         | 149       | 0   | 24    | 20    | 47    | 22    | 16    | 12    | 6     | 0   | 2          |
| Total                    | 1806      | 12  | 154   | 219   | 600   | 364   | 232   | 152   | 66    | 1   | 6          |

Table 12 Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Percentage by Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Method of Payment        | Age Group |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |            |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
|                          | Total     | <15   | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+   | Not Stated |
| Cash                     | 54.8      | 66.7  | 40.9  | 47.9  | 53.0  | 57.7  | 60.3  | 66.4  | 65.2  | 0.0   | 16.7       |
| Insurance                | 2.4       | 0.0   | 1.3   | 0.9   | 1.5   | 2.5   | 3.4   | 3.9   | 10.6  | 100.0 | 0.0        |
| Medicaid                 | 33.9      | 33.3  | 42.2  | 41.1  | 37.3  | 33.0  | 27.6  | 21.1  | 15.2  | 0.0   | 50.0       |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 0.7       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.9   | 0.3   | 8.0   | 1.7   | 0.7   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0        |
| Other/Not Stated         | 8.3       | 0.0   | 15.6  | 9.1   | 7.8   | 6.0   | 6.9   | 7.9   | 9.1   | 0.0   | 33.3       |
| Total                    | 100.0     | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0      |

Table 13 Induced Abortions by Age and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Method of Payment        | Age Group |     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |            |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------------|
|                          | Total     | <15 | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45+ | Not Stated |
| Cash                     | 100.0     | 0.8 | 6.4   | 10.6  | 32.2  | 21.2  | 14.2  | 10.2  | 4.3   | 0.0 | 0.1        |
| Insurance                | 100.0     | 0.0 | 4.5   | 4.5   | 20.5  | 20.5  | 18.2  | 13.6  | 15.9  | 2.3 | 0.0        |
| Medicaid                 | 100.0     | 0.7 | 10.6  | 14.7  | 36.6  | 19.6  | 10.5  | 5.2   | 1.6   | 0.0 | 0.5        |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 100.0     | 0.0 | 0.0   | 16.7  | 16.7  | 25.0  | 33.3  | 8.3   | 0.0   | 0.0 | 0.0        |
| Other/Not Stated         | 100.0     | 0.0 | 16.1  | 13.4  | 31.5  | 14.8  | 10.7  | 8.1   | 4.0   | 0.0 | 1.3        |
| Total                    | 100.0     | 0.7 | 8.5   | 12.1  | 33.2  | 20.2  | 12.8  | 8.4   | 3.7   | 0.1 | 0.3        |

Table 14 Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Race:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Method of Payment        | Race  |               |       |       |       |                  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|--|--|--|
|                          | Total | Alaska Native | Asian | Black | White | Other/Not Stated |  |  |  |
| Cash                     | 989   | 128           | 95    | 59    | 591   | 116              |  |  |  |
| Insurance                | 44    | 1             | 4     | 2     | 34    | 3                |  |  |  |
| Medicaid                 | 612   | 181           | 27    | 50    | 294   | 60               |  |  |  |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 12    | 3             | 0     | 1     | 8     | 0                |  |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated         | 149   | 7             | 0     | 3     | 115   | 24               |  |  |  |
| Total                    | 1806  | 320           | 126   | 115   | 1042  | 203              |  |  |  |

Table 15 Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Percentage by Race:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Method of Payment        | Race  |               |       |       |       |                  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|--|--|
|                          | Total | Alaska Native | Asian | Black | White | Other/Not Stated |  |  |
| Cash                     | 54.8  | 40.0          | 75.4  | 51.3  | 56.7  | 57.1             |  |  |
| Insurance                | 2.4   | 0.3           | 3.2   | 1.7   | 3.3   | 1.5              |  |  |
| Medicaid                 | 33.9  | 56.6          | 21.4  | 43.5  | 28.2  | 29.6             |  |  |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 0.7   | 0.9           | 0.0   | 0.9   | 0.8   | 0.0              |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated         | 8.3   | 2.2           | 0.0   | 2.6   | 11.0  | 11.8             |  |  |
| Total                    | 100.0 | 100.0         | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0            |  |  |

Table 16 Induced Abortions by Race and Percentage by Method of Payment:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Method of Payment        | Race  |               |       |       |       |                  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|--|--|
|                          | Total | Alaska Native | Asian | Black | White | Other/Not Stated |  |  |
| Cash                     | 100.0 | 12.9          | 9.6   | 6.0   | 59.8  | 11.7             |  |  |
| Insurance                | 100.0 | 2.3           | 9.1   | 4.5   | 77.3  | 6.8              |  |  |
| Medicaid                 | 100.0 | 29.6          | 4.4   | 8.2   | 48.0  | 9.8              |  |  |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 100.0 | 25.0          | 0.0   | 8.3   | 66.7  | 0.0              |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated         | 100.0 | 4.7           | 0.0   | 2.0   | 77.2  | 16.1             |  |  |
| Total                    | 100.0 | 17.7          | 7.0   | 6.4   | 57.7  | 11.2             |  |  |

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Table 17 Number of Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Marital Status:
Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Moth od of Downsont      | Marital Status |         |           |                    |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Method of Payment        | Total          | Married | Unmarried | Unknown/Not Stated |  |  |  |  |
| Cash                     | 989            | 232     | 702       | 55                 |  |  |  |  |
| Insurance                | 44             | 15      | 28        | 1                  |  |  |  |  |
| Medicaid                 | 612            | 92      | 506       | 14                 |  |  |  |  |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 12             | 2       | 10        | 0                  |  |  |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated         | 149            | 32      | 90        | 27                 |  |  |  |  |
| Total                    | 1806           | 373     | 1336      | 97                 |  |  |  |  |

Table 18 Induced Abortions by Method of Payment and Percentage by Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Mathad of Daymant        | Marital Status |         |           |                    |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Method of Payment        | Total          | Married | Unmarried | Unknown/Not Stated |  |  |  |  |
| Cash                     | 54.8           | 62.2    | 52.5      | 56.7               |  |  |  |  |
| Insurance                | 2.4            | 4.0     | 2.1       | 1.0                |  |  |  |  |
| Medicaid                 | 33.9           | 24.7    | 37.9      | 14.4               |  |  |  |  |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 0.7            | 0.5     | 0.7       | 0.0                |  |  |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated         | 8.3            | 8.6     | 6.7       | 27.8               |  |  |  |  |
| Total                    | 100.0          | 100.0   | 100.0     | 100.0              |  |  |  |  |

Table 19 Induced Abortions by Marital Status and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2003

| Method of Payment        | Marital Status |         |           |                    |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|--|--|--|
|                          | Total          | Married | Unmarried | Unknown/Not Stated |  |  |  |
| Cash                     | 100.0          | 23.5    | 71.0      | 5.6                |  |  |  |
| Insurance                | 100.0          | 34.1    | 63.6      | 2.3                |  |  |  |
| Medicaid                 | 100.0          | 15.0    | 82.7      | 2.3                |  |  |  |
| Multiple Payment Sources | 100.0          | 16.7    | 83.3      | 0.0                |  |  |  |
| Other/Not Stated         | 100.0          | 21.5    | 60.4      | 18.1               |  |  |  |
| Total                    | 100.0          | 20.7    | 74.0      | 5.4                |  |  |  |

### **Appendix A: Technical Notes**

**Abortion** – The termination (spontaneous or induced) of a pregnancy before the fetus has attained viability. When the term abortion is used in this report, it refers to an induced abortion.

**Gestational Age** - The number of weeks between the first day of the last menstrual period and the date of delivery or the end of the pregnancy. This report uses the physician's estimate of gestational age.

**Induced Abortion** The purposeful interruption of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus, and which does not result in a live birth.

#### **Induced Abortion Procedures**

**Dilation and Evacuation** (D&E) is a procedure that is generally used after 12 weeks of gestation and is usually done on an outpatient basis. Dilation and evacuation may involve a combination of vacuum aspiration, dilation and curettage (D&C), and the use of surgical instruments (such as forceps).

**Hysterectomy** is a surgical procedure in which the uterus is removed either with the fetus inside or after the fetus has been removed. It is rarely performed in association with an abortion, and then only when a pathological condition of the uterus (such as fibroid tumors) or an emergency warrants its removal.

**Hysterotomy** is a surgical procedure that involves surgical entry into the uterus (as in a cesarean section) and the removal of a fetus that is too small to survive, even with extraordinary life support measures. Hysterotomy is rarely performed and then only if other abortion procedures fail.

**Mifepristone** (also known as RU-486) is usually used along with a prostaglandin for ending pregnancies of up to 49 days gestation. The administration of mifepristone causes the placenta to detach from the uterine wall. A second drug (misoprostol) is given two days later to induce uterine contractions, expelling the products of conception.

**Methotrexate** interferes with the vitamin folic acid and kills rapidly growing cells. It is also used for the nonsurgical treatment of ectopic pregnancies (when fertilized eggs grow outside the uterus). Methotrexate is administered by injection and is followed 5 to 7 days later with misoprostol to stimulate uterine contractions.

**Saline/Prostaglandin** (Intrauterine Instillation) are rarely used procedures that involve either withdrawing a portion of amniotic fluid from the uterine cavity by a needle inserted through the abdominal wall and replacing this fluid with a concentrated salt solution (known as saline instillation) or injecting a prostaglandin (a substance with hormone-like activity) into the amniotic sac (known as intra-uterine prostaglandin instillation). Both processes induce labor, resulting in the expulsion of the fetus.

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**Sharp Curettage** (Dilation and Curettage, D&C) requires the dilation (temporary widening) of the cervix (the uterine opening). The fetal and placental tissues are then scraped out with a curette, which resembles a small spoon.

**Suction Curettage** (Vacuum Aspiration) is a frequently performed procedure that is generally used in the first 12 weeks of gestation (the first trimester). This procedure is done on an outpatient basis and may be done in a physician's office or a clinic.

After the cervix is dilated, a flexible cannula (a small, hollow tube) is inserted into the uterus through the cervix. The tube is attached to a pump, which is used to evacuate the uterine contents through the cannula.

**Spontaneous Abortion** The loss of a fetus during pregnancy due to natural causes.

# **Appendix B: Sample Induced Termination of Pregnancy Report Form**

# REPORT OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY

### PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

|   | ENT'S AGE  2) DATE OF PREGNANCY TERMINATION: (MM/DD/YY) // |   | ICE STATE 4) CI                   | TY OR LOCA  | TION                           |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 5) PATIENT'S ETHNICITY                              | 6) PATIENT'S RACE  | •                                       | 7) MARITAL STA                    | TUS         |                                |
| ☐ NON-HISPANIC                                      | □ WHITE  |   | ☐ MARRIEI                         | D           |                                |
| ☐ MEXICAN   | ☐ AFRICAN AMERICA  | ,                                       | ☐ UNWED                           |             |                                |
| ☐ PUERTO RICAN                                      | ☐ NATIVE ALASKAN C<br>AMERICAN INDIAN                      | )R                                      | 8) EDUCATION                      | E LICUEST C | GRADE COMPLETED)               |
| ☐ CUBAN   | AMERICAN INDIAN  □ ASIAN                                   |   | ELEMENTARY/SI                     |             |                                |
| ☐ CENTRAL OR SOUTH  AMERICAN                        | ☐ NATIVE HAWAIIAN  |   | (0-12)                            |             | (1-4 OR 5+)                    |
| ☐ OTHER OR UNKNOWN                                  | PACIFIC ISLANDER   |   |                                   |             |                                |
| HISPANIC  | OTHER  |   |                                   |             |                                |
|   | (SPECIFY)  |   |                                   |             |                                |
| PREVIOUS PR   | EGNANCIES (COMPLETE E                                      | EACH SECTION                            | ON. DO NOT LEA                    | VE BLANK.)  |                                |
| 9) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTH                    | S 10) NUMBER OF PRE<br>SPONTANEOUS                         |   |                                   |             | INDUCED ABORTIONS TERMINATION) |
| 9A) NOW LIVING 9B) NOW DEAD                         |  |   | ,                                 |             | TERMINATION)                   |
| NUMBER NUMBER                                       | NUMBER   |   | NUMBER                            |             |                                |
| □ NONE □ NONE                                       | □ NONE   |   | □ NONE                            |             |                                |
| 12) PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATE OF GESTA                   | ATION 13) DATE LAST (MM/DD/YY)                             | NORMAL M                                | ENSES BEGAN                       | 14) METHOD  | OF PAYMENT                     |
|   | (1411411/2027 1 1 )  |   |                                   | □ ме        | DICAID                         |
|   |  |   |                                   | ☐ INS       | SURANCE                        |
| COMPLETED WEEKS                                     | /  | _/                                      |                                   |             | HER                            |
|   |  |   |                                   | (SP         | PECIFY)                        |
| 15) PRIMARY PROCEDURE USED TO T<br>(CHECK ONE ONLY) | ERMINATE PREGNANCY   |   | HIS TERMINATION<br>TION OF A CONG |             |                                |
| 15A)   SUCTION CURETTAGE                            |  | YES 🗆                                   | I                                 | ΝО □        |                                |
| 15B) DILATION AND EVACUATION                        | N  | 16B) TYPE                               | OF CONGENITAL                     | ANOMALY     |                                |
| 15C) ☐ SHARP CURETTAGE  15D) ☐ SALINE               |  | CHROMOS                                 | OMAL ANOMALY                      | YES 🗆       | ] NO 🗆                         |
| 15E) D PROSTAGLANDIN                                |  | NEURAL TU                               | JBE DEFECT                        | YES 🗆       | ] NO □                         |
| 15F)  HYSTERECTOMY                                  |  | HEART AN                                | OMALY                             | YES □       | ] NO □                         |
| 15G) 🗆 HYSTEROTOMY                                  |  | VENTRAL V                               | WALL DEFECT                       | YES 🗆       | ] NO □                         |
| 15H)   MIFEPRISTONE                                 |  | OTHER                                   |                                   | YES □       |                                |
| 15I)  |  |   |                                   |             |                                |
| 15J) OTHER (SPECIFY)                                |  | (====================================== |                                   |             |                                |

06-1566 (01/2003)

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