

A FEW ABORTION STATISTICS FOR LOUISIANA, 2005 & 2006 (Final, 7/10)¹

| | <u>2005²</u> | | <u>2006²</u> | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------|
| Total Abortions Reported: | 8,860² | (100 %) | 6,204 | (100 %) |
| <u>Parish where Done</u> | | | | |
| Bossier | 1,067 | (12.0 %) | 684 | (11.0%) |
| Caddo | 2,818 | (31.8 %) | 1,946 | (31.4%) |
| E. Baton Rouge | 1,006 | (11.4 %) | 911 | (14.7%) |
| Jefferson | 1,922 | (21.7 %) | 2,660 | (42.9%) |
| Orleans | 2,047 | (23.1 %) | 1-2 ³ | (<0.1%) |

Reason, as Reported:

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------|------------|
| <i>Rape/Incest</i> | 1 | (0.01%) | 0 | (0 %) |
| <i>Risk of fetal deformity</i> | 2 | (0.02%) | 1-4 ³ | (< 0.1 %) |
| <i>Physical health</i> | 15 | (0.2 %) | 1-4 ³ | (< 0.1 %) |
| <i>Mental Health</i> | 31 | (0.4 %) | 6 | (< 0.1 %) |
| <i>Other</i> | 157 | (1.8 %) | 0 | (0 %) |
| <i>Unknown</i> | 8,654 | (97.7 %) | 6,193 | (99.8 %) |

Mother's (Known) Age:

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| < 15 | 76 | (0.9 %) | 55 | (0.9 %) |
| 15-19 | 1,382 | (15.6 %) | 1,022 | (16.6 %) |
| 20-24 | 3,093 | (34.9 %) | 2,178 | (35.3 %) |
| 25-29 | 2,167 | (24.5 %) | 1,518 | (24.6 %) |
| 30-34 | 1,110 | (12.5 %) | 769 | (12.4 %) |
| > 34 | 900 | (10.2 %) | 629 | (10.2 %) |

Baby's (Known) Gestational Age:

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 12 weeks and under | 7,132 | (80.5 %) | 5,043 | (81.3 %) |
| 13-20 weeks | 1,351 | (15.2 %) | 886 | (14.3 %) |
| 21 weeks (5 mos.) or over | 299 | (3.4 %) | 180 | (2.9 %) |

Baby's Age and Method of Abortion:

Suction curettage:

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| <i>All</i> | 7,605 | (85.8 %) | 5,486 | (88.4 %) |
| 16 weeks and under | 6,952 | (78.5 %) | 4,965 | (80.0 %) |
| 17-20 weeks | 338 | (3.8 %) | 274 | (4.4 %) |
| 21 weeks (5 mos.) and over | 256 | (3.5 %) | 179 | (2.9 %) |

"Dilatation & Evacuation:"

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|----------|-----|------------|
| <i>All</i> | 115 | (1.3 %) | < 5 | (< 0.1 %) |
| 16 weeks and under | 26 | (0.3 %) | 5 | (< 0.1 %) |
| 17-20 weeks | 49 | (0.6 %) | - | - |
| 21 weeks (5 mos.) and over | 40 | (0.4 %) | - | - |

"Unknown" and Other:

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|------------|-----|------------|
| <i>All</i> | 1,120 | (12.6 %) | 702 | (11.3 %) |
| 16 weeks and under | 1,095 | (12.4 %) | 689 | (11.1 %) |
| 17-20 weeks | 4 | (< 0.1 %) | < 5 | (< 0.1 %) |
| 21 weeks (5 mos.) and over | 3 | (< 0.1 %) | < 5 | (< 0.1 %) |

¹ Source: Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals. All percentages given are in relation to total number of abortions for each year. Reported *Non-white/White* proportions of abortions performed: 2005 – 51.2% / 24.8% (2.1 : 1); 2006 – 49.3% / 38.8% (1.3 : 1).

² The marked reduction in reported abortions done in Louisiana, from 11,224 in 2004 to 8,860 in 2005 (23.8%) was, with little doubt, due primarily to population flights out of state caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as also partially reflected in totals for parish where done. This abrupt change in "baseline" appears to have continued in 2006, and with a further reported reduction from 2005 totals of 2,656 abortions, or 30.0%; the reason for this last drop has yet to be determined, but may be related to closure of the affected area's principal abortion facilities in Orleans Parish plus out-of-state displacement of the most abortion-susceptible population.

³ Range (actual number suppressed by DHH to maintain confidentiality).

(Provided as a public service by *The Hippocratic Resource*, Baton Rouge, LA

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W. A. Krotoski, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., President, and Francis Rinaudo, Jr., D.D.S., Vice-President

www.LaDocs4Life.org or www.LaHealthProfs4Life.org