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June 23, 2025

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#WeCount Study Finds 1 in 4 Abortions is Facilitated by Telehealth, With Half in Ban States

Abortion Care Continued to Increase in 2024, Surpassing Volume From 2022 and 2023

Denver, CO — The Society of Family Planning released its latest [#WeCount report](#) today on the eve of the third year of the devastating *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* decision, showing that, despite state bans on abortion care, abortions continue to increase across the country. The report contains new data through the end of 2024, highlighting how a patchwork system, fueled by telehealth abortion care, has developed to meet the urgent and ongoing need for care nationwide.

#WeCount found that in 2024, there were about 1.14 million abortions provided by licensed clinicians across the U.S., including abortion care provided within brick-and-mortar clinics and via telehealth. This 2024 total is higher than #WeCount’s total of 1.06 million in 2023.

“The #WeCount findings make clear that abortion bans haven’t stopped people from seeking care,” said Alison Norris, MD, PhD, #WeCount Co-Chair and professor at The Ohio State University’s College of Public Health and co-principal investigator of the Ohio Policy Evaluation Network. “As care shifts across state lines and into telehealth care, what’s emerging is a deeply fragmented system where access depends on where you live, how much money you have, and whether you can overcome barriers to care.”

Telehealth continues to bolster access to abortion care, as by the end of 2024, 25% of abortions were delivered through telehealth. This represents a significant increase since #WeCount began counting telehealth abortion care in the second quarter of 2022, when telehealth accounted for just 5% of abortion care.

“Telehealth has become a vital tool in expanding abortion care—especially for people in states with bans,” said Dr. Ushma Upadhyay, #WeCount Co-Chair and professor at the University of California, San Francisco’s Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH). “But this access is far from guaranteed. Anti-abortion extremists are using junk science and now turning their attacks toward telehealth, trying to dismantle a lifeline for people in ban states by attempting to roll back access.”

Shield laws continue to facilitate abortion access, especially in states where abortion is banned. Through the end of 2024, eight states have active shield laws that provide legal protections to clinicians who offer abortion care via telehealth to people in states with bans on abortion or

telehealth. An average of 12,330 abortions per month were provided under shield laws in the final quarter of 2024, an increase from a monthly average of 8,747 over the first quarter of 2024. As abortion care has increased across the country, it has also increased in states where it is banned. Texas has seen the highest number of medication abortions via telehealth under shield law protections, with an average of 3,427 monthly at the end of 2024, and several other states that ban abortion, including Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Texas saw more monthly abortions by the end of 2024 than in the months before *Dobbs* was decided. .

“Millions of people live in states where abortion is banned or restricted, and traveling for care isn’t an option for everyone,” said Dr. Angel Foster, Co-Founder of the Massachusetts Medication Abortion Access Project (The MAP), a shield law practice. “By providing safe, affordable medication abortion via telemedicine, we make sure people can get the care they need—no matter where they live or what they can afford.”

The full #WeCount report is [available here](#).

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[#WeCount](#) is a national effort that reports the monthly number of abortions in the U.S., by state and month starting in April 2022. #WeCount data include clinician-provided abortions, defined in this report as medication or procedural abortions completed by a licensed clinician within the U.S. in a clinic, private medical office, hospital, or virtual-only clinic. This report does not reflect any self-managed abortions, defined as any attempt to end a pregnancy outside the formal health care system.

The Society of Family Planning advances a vision of just and equitable abortion and contraception informed by science.