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#WeCount Report Shows That Demand for Abortion Remains High 15 Months After *Roe* was Overturned

Telehealth provision of abortion rises to 16% of abortion care, driving elevated abortion volume

Denver, CO—The Society of Family Planning released its fifth #WeCount [report](#) today, showing that in the 15 months following the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* decision, the number of abortions in the United States remains consistently elevated compared to pre-*Dobbs* levels, even as in-person abortion care has been dismantled in the states that ban abortion. Notably, for the first time, #WeCount is able to highlight that abortions provided via telehealth now make up 16% of all abortion care nationwide.

The February 2024 #WeCount report estimates that between July 2023 - September 2023, there were between 81,000 and nearly 89,000 abortions monthly. These counts are lower than those in the previous report covering April - June 2023, but higher than in the pre-*Dobbs* months. In the 14 states with total abortion bans, over 120,000 fewer abortions occurred compared to pre-*Dobbs* numbers. The states with the greatest decline in abortion volume include Texas, Georgia, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Alabama.

“#WeCount shows that even when a state bans abortion, people continue to need and seek abortion care,” said **Alison Norris, MD, PhD, #WeCount Co-Chair and professor at The Ohio State University’s College of Public Health**. “We can’t let the overall consistent number of abortions nationally obscure the incredible unmet need and disastrous impact of abortion bans on people who already have the least access.”

The states with the largest cumulative increases in abortion volume over 15 months included Illinois, Florida, and California. While most surge states bordered states with abortion bans, we also saw increases in states that were more geographically distant from states with abortion bans, including California, New Jersey, New York, and Massachusetts.

While the majority of abortion care is provided in person, telehealth now makes up a large proportion of the abortion care landscape. In July 2023, there were 14,110 telehealth abortions, in August there were 14,060, and in September there were 13,770. This number includes abortions via telehealth provided by brick-and-mortar clinics and virtual-only providers (including those providing care to people living in states with total abortion bans or restrictions on telehealth under shield laws that protect telehealth).

“In the post-*Dobbs* era, healthcare providers in some states are forging innovative new solutions to provide abortion access,” said **Dr. Ushma Upadhyay, PhD, MPH, #WeCount Co-Chair and professor at the University of California, San Francisco’s Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH)**. “Telehealth abortion is now a central pillar in the abortion care landscape—and the continued availability of abortion care demands that we must ensure equitable access to this essential health care service.”

“The process of seeking abortion care in the US can feel frustrating and needlessly complex. We aim to change this by simplifying care and empowering people throughout the process,” said **Melissa Grant, Chief Operations Officer of carafem**. “Through telemedicine, we have successfully reduced costs and improved healthcare accessibility, particularly in rural areas, offering round-the-clock access to care.”

“Although ACCESS Reproductive Justice operates in a state without an abortion ban, we still hear directly from folks in California and from across the country who face significant barriers to care, and more resources are needed to support them. Last year, ACCESS RJ supported more than 1,500 individuals, an increase of over 150% since the end of *Roe v. Wade*,” said **Jessica Pinckney Gil, executive director of ACCESS RJ (California)**. “We also quadrupled the amount of direct funding to callers. Regardless of geographical boundaries, we will continue our work to ensure all Californians and folks who call us have the freedom to make empowered and dignified decisions about their sexual and reproductive health, including the decision to have an abortion, without shame or stigma.”

#WeCount will continue to track data about the number of abortions provided in each state through December 2024.

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#WeCount is a time-limited study collecting monthly abortion volume data by state to better understand the impact of the Supreme Court’s decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization on abortion access. #WeCount data include clinician-provided abortions, defined as medication or procedural abortions completed by a licensed clinician in a clinic, private medical office, hospital, or virtual-only clinic in the US known to offer abortion care during the period of study. This report does not reflect any self-managed abortions, defined as any attempt to end a pregnancy outside the formal healthcare system.

The Society of Family Planning is a source for science regarding abortion and contraception. The Society is made up of a multidisciplinary community of scholars, clinicians, and others united around a vision of just and equitable abortion and contraception informed by science.