

## Therapeutic Abortions, Waterloo Region and Ontario, 2012, 2013, 2014

### Definition:

Number and rate of therapeutic abortions per 1,000 females of reproductive age.

Reproductive age is defined as the age range from 15 to 49 years.

### Limitations and Notes:

Therapeutic abortions are surgical or medical methods of pregnancy termination. The term 'therapeutic abortion' was coined in Canada when the only legal abortions were performed for medical reasons, but now refers to any induced abortion performed legally in Canada. Also known as an induced abortion.

Therapeutic abortions data capture pregnancies ending in abortive procedures performed in hospitals, abortion clinics, and private physician offices. Abortions completed out-of-province are not included. This number may constitute a relatively large number of abortions, especially those over 20 weeks' gestation.<sup>1</sup>

**Table 1. Number and rate of therapeutic abortions per 1,000 females aged 15 to 49 years, Waterloo Region & Ontario, 2012, 2013, 2014**

Place of residence	Year	Number	Rate
Waterloo Region	2012	1,428	10.7
	2013	1,383	10.4
	2014	1,427	10.8
Ontario	2012	44,947	13.8
	2013	42,559	13.0
	2014	42,240	13.0

**Table 2. Number and rate of therapeutic abortions per 1,000 females aged 10 to 49 years, by age group, Waterloo Region & Ontario, 2014**

Place of residence	Age group	Number	Rate
<b>Waterloo Region</b>	<b>10 to 14 years</b>	NR	NR
	<b>15 to 19 years</b>	158	9.4
	<b>20 to 24 years</b>	415	21.0
	<b>25 to 29 years</b>	395	19.9
	<b>30 to 34 years</b>	232	11.9
	<b>35 to 39 years</b>	155	8.4
	<b>40 to 44 years</b>	69	3.7
	<b>45 to 49 years</b>	NR	NR
<b>Ontario</b>	<b>10 to 14 years</b>	36	0.1
	<b>15 to 19 years</b>	4,060	9.7
	<b>20 to 24 years</b>	11,656	24.3
	<b>25 to 29 years</b>	10,147	21.6
	<b>30 to 34 years</b>	8,153	17.4
	<b>35 to 39 years</b>	5,714	12.5
	<b>40 to 44 years</b>	2,307	4.9
	<b>45 to 49 years</b>	203	0.4

## Limitations and Notes (continued):

Medically/pharmacologically-induced abortions, those induced by the emergency contraceptive pill, RU 486, or methotrexate (usually reserved for ectopic pregnancies), are also not captured. Pregnancies ending in spontaneous abortion (i.e., miscarriage) or fetal loss are not captured.

'NR' means Not Reportable. Numbers and rates based on numbers less than 5 cannot be reported and have been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup>Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario. (2012). Core indicators: pregnancy rate. Accessed on September 21, 2012 at: <http://www.apheo.ca/index.php?pid=139>.

## Source:

Hospital and Medical Services Data 2012-2014, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, IntelliHEALTH ONTARIO, Date Extracted: June 15, 2016.

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**Table 3. Number and rate of therapeutic abortions per 1,000 females aged 15 to 49 years, by municipality, Waterloo Region, 2014**

Municipality	Number	Rate
<b>Cambridge</b>	393	12.0
<b>Kitchener</b>	714	12.2
<b>Waterloo</b>	233	8.9
<b>North Dumfries</b>	15	6.9
<b>Wellesley</b>	8	3.2
<b>Wilmot</b>	31	6.9
<b>Woolwich</b>	33	6.0
<b>Waterloo Region</b>	<b>1,427</b>	<b>10.8</b>