The annual number of abortions in the United States is continuing to decline.
Deaths associated with abortion declined dramatically after legalization.

1970: Abortion laws liberalized in 15 states

Roe v. Wade, Jan. 22, 1973
In 2011, the U.S. abortion rate reached its lowest level since 1973.
The abortion rate among teenagers declined in the late 1980s and 1990s, and is now stable.
White women account for the majority of abortions, but the proportion of abortions that are obtained by white women has declined steadily.
The proportion of abortions obtained by Hispanic women increased between 1991 and 2004.
Black and Hispanic women have historically had higher abortion rates than white women.
Poor and low-income women account for an increasing share of U.S. abortions.
More than 80% of women having abortions are unmarried
Since 1990, a majority of women having abortions have been mothers
Nearly one-half of abortion patients have had a previous abortion, though this proportion has stabilized since the early 1990s.
Since 1973, nearly 90% of abortions have taken place in the first three months of pregnancy.
Early medication abortion accounted for 23% (239,400) of all abortions performed in nonhospital facilities, an increase from 6% in 2001.

An estimated 36% of eligible abortions (those performed up to nine weeks’ gestation) were early medication abortions.

59% of all known providers offered this service, compared with 33% in early 2001.
Early medication abortion as a percentage of all abortions

Number of abortions, in millions

- 2001: 5%
- 2011: 23%

Legend:
- Early medication abortions
- Total number of abortions
The number of U.S. abortion providers declined steadily between 1982 and 2000, but appears to have stabilized in recent years.
Facilities providing only medication abortion in 2011 had a significant impact

- A minimum of 17% of all providers (193) offered only early medication abortion; most were nonspecialized clinics or physicians’ offices with small caseloads.
The percentage of U.S. counties with no abortion provider remains high (87% in 2011)
Since 1973, about one-third of women (34% in 2011) have lived in a county with no abortion provider.
The inflation-adjusted cost of an abortion has remained relatively stable over time, despite increased restrictions and a decline in demand.
More abortion restrictions were enacted in 2011–2013 than in the entire previous decade.
In 2000, 13 states were considered hostile to abortion rights.
In 2013, 27 states were considered hostile to abortion rights.
For more information, visit www.guttmacher.org