

Table 1. Countries, by restrictiveness of abortion law, according to region, 1997

Abortion restrictiveness	The Americas and the Caribbean	Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa	East and South Asia and the Pacific	Europe	Sub-Saharan Africa	
To save the woman's life	Brazil–R Chile–ND Colombia Dominican Republic El Salvador–ND Guatemala Haiti Honduras Mexico–R Nicaragua–SA/PA Panama–PA/R/F Paraguay Venezuela	Afghanistan Egypt–SA Iran Lebanon Libya–PA Oman Syria–SA/PA United Arab Emirates–SA/PA Yemen	Bangladesh Indonesia Laos Myanmar Nepal Papua New Guinea Philippines Sri Lanka	Ireland	Angola Benin Central African Rep. Chad Congo (Brazzaville) Côte d'Ivoire Dem. Rep. of Congo–F Gabon Guinea-Bissau–SA/PA Kenya Lesotho	Madagascar Mali Mauritania Mauritius Niger Nigeria Senegal Somalia Sudan–R Tanzania Togo Uganda
Physical health	Argentina–R (limited) Bolivia–R/I Costa Rica Ecuador–R/I (limited) Peru Uruguay–R	Kuwait–SA/PA/F Morocco–SA Saudi Arabia–SA/PA	Pakistan Rep. of Korea–SA/R/I/F Thailand–R	Poland–R/I/F/PA	Burkina Faso–R/F/I Burundi Cameroon–R Eritrea Ethiopia Guinea	Malawi–SA Mozambique Rwanda Zimbabwe–R/I/F
Mental health	Jamaica–PA Trinidad & Tobago	Algeria Iraq–SA/F/R/I Israel–F/R/I Jordan	Australia Hong Kong–F/R/I Malaysia New Zealand–F/I	Northern Ireland Portugal–PA/F/R Spain–F/R Switzerland	Botswana–F/R/I Gambia Ghana–F/R/I	Liberia–F/R/I Namibia–F/R/I Sierra Leone
Socioeconomic grounds			India–PA/R/F Japan–SA Taiwan–SA/PA/I/F	Finland–R/F Great Britain–F	Zambia	
Without restriction as to reason	Canada–L Cuba*–PA United States–PV Puerto Rico–PV	Armenia* Azerbaijan* Georgia* Kazakstan* Kyrgyz Rep.* Tajikistan* Tunisia* Turkey*–SA/PA Turkmenistan* Uzbekistan*	Cambodia†–PA China–PA/L Mongolia* N. Korea–L Singapore‡ Vietnam–L	Albania* Austria† Belarus* Belgium† Bosnia-Herzegovina*–PA Bulgaria* Croatia*–PA Czech Rep.*–PA Denmark*–PA Estonia* France*–PA Germany† Greece*–PA Hungary* Italy§–PA Latvia* Lithuania* Macedonia*–PA Moldova* Netherlands–PV Norway*–PA Romania† Russian Fed.* Slovak Rep.*–PA Slovenia*–PA Sweden** Ukraine* Yugoslavia*–PA	South Africa*	

*Gestational limit of 12 weeks. †Gestational limit of 14 weeks. ‡Gestational limit of 24 weeks. §Gestational limit of 90 days. **Gestational limit of 18 weeks. *Notes:* For gestational limits, duration of pregnancy is calculated from the last menstrual period, which is generally considered to occur two weeks prior to conception. Thus, statutory gestational limits calculated from the date of conception have been extended by two weeks. ND=Existence of defense of necessity is highly doubtful. SA=Spousal authorization required. PA=Parental authorization required. R=Abortion allowed in cases of rape. I=Abortion allowed in cases of incest. F=Abortion allowed in case of fetal impairment. L=Law does not indicate gestational limit. PV=Law does not limit previability abortions.