

Table 4. Percentage distribution of women who had an abortion, by main reason given for seeking the abortion, according to age, marital status and level of education, various countries and years

Background characteristic, country and year	Wants to postpone childbearing	Wants no (more) children	Socio-economic factors	Relationship problem; partner does not want the pregnancy	Too young; parent(s) or other(s) object to pregnancy	Risk to maternal or fetal health	Other	Total	N
AGE									
<25 yrs.									
Australia, 1992	na	2.8	44.1	8.4	41.2	2.3	1.2	100.0	3,855
Colombia, 1990–1991	23.1	0.0	40.5	10.9	22.7	2.4	0.4	100.0	220
Czech Republic, 1993	38.9	6.2	5.3	12.4	5.3	14.2	17.7	100.0	104
Finland, 1993	na	0.1	88.3	na	11.1	0.5	0.1	100.0	3,899
Romania, 1993	u	60.8*	21.2	6.5	na	4.9	6.5	100.0	689
Turkey, 1993	18.9	34.3	23.2	0.2	na	22.2	1.2	100.0	350
United States, 1987–1988	27.1	3.3	34.4	9.1	19.3	4.1	2.7	100.0	1,109
Zambia, 1985–1986	29.4	0.0	68.4	1.5	na	0.7	na	100.0	136
≥25 yrs.									
Australia, 1992	na	15.2	40.5	13.8	21.2	6.7	2.8	100.0	2,778
Colombia, 1990–1991	17.1	6.8	38.6	18.4	6.5	12.3	0.3	100.0	282
Czech Republic, 1993	9.8	40.0	15.5	6.6	2.5	13.0	12.7	100.0	404
Finland, 1993	na	12.8	83.8	na	0.0	3.3	0.1	100.0	6,443
Romania, 1993	u	70.1*	19.0	2.9	na	3.4	5.0	100.0	1,427
Turkey, 1993	5.1	64.8	14.9	0.4	na	14.3	0.5	100.0	1,188
United States, 1987–1988	22.6	15.7	28.5	22.3	0.4	9.3	1.2	100.0	650
Zambia, 1985–1986	71.1	7.8	12.5	2.3	na	6.3	na	100.0	128
CURRENT MARITAL STATUS									
Married									
Colombia, 1990–1991†	17.0	8.1	39.2	15.9	2.6	16.3	0.7	100.0	268
Czech Republic, 1993	16.0	36.4	13.2	5.3	1.3	15.1	12.8	100.0	432
Finland, 1993	na	19.4	74.8	na	0.0	5.7	0.0	100.0	2,743
Philippines, 1979	10.9	31.3	40.8	3.8	na	6.0	7.2	100.0	265
Thailand, 1983–1984	u	16.0‡	70.3	na	na	13.3	0.4	100.0	64
Turkey, 1993	7.9	58.5	16.8	0.4	na	16.1	0.5	100.0	1,608
United States, 1987–1988	25.9	25.6	26.7	7.4	0.2	13.4	0.9	100.0	256
Unmarried									
Colombia, 1990–1991	14.7	1.2	42.7	16.1	22.4	2.7	0.3	100.0	334
Czech Republic, 1993	14.5	14.5	14.5	21.7	13.3	2.4	19.3	100.0	76
Finland, 1993	na	3.9	89.3	na	5.7	1.0	0.1	100.0	7,599
Philippines, 1979	11.4	na	21.5	30.4	32.9	na	3.8	100.0	79
Thailand, 1983–1984	na	na	46.9	na	31.3	7.8	14.0	100.0	686
Turkey, 1993	12.6	51.5	20.4	0.0	na	11.0	4.5	100.0	66
United States, 1987–1988	25.4	4.9	32.8	15.2	14.5	4.8	2.4	100.0	1,490
EDUCATION									
<secondary school									
Colombia, 1990–1991	14.2	2.4	38.9	25.9	5.9	12.9	0.0	100.0	85
Czech Republic, 1993	14.3	34.7	14.0	5.8	4.2	14.3	12.7	100.0	283
Romania, 1993	u	68.3*	20.8	4.2	na	3.1	3.5	100.0	1,210
Turkey, 1993§	4.6	62.6	12.9	0.2	na	19.2	0.5	100.0	507
United States, 1987–1988	25.9	6.2	22.8	7.7	32.3	3.5	1.6	100.0	382
≥secondary school									
Colombia, 1990–1991	16.1	4.7	41.4	14.6	14.8	8.2	0.4	100.0	516
Czech Republic, 1993	17.6	31.0	12.7	10.2	1.6	11.8	15.1	100.0	225
Romania, 1993	u	64.7*	17.7	4.3	na	5.4	7.8	100.0	906
Turkey, 1993§	9.6	56.3	18.7	0.4	na	14.4	0.6	100.0	1,167
United States, 1987–1988	25.5	8.3	34.6	15.8	6.8	6.8	2.3	100.0	1,368

*Includes both spacing and limiting (as these categories were not separated in Romania). †Women in cohabiting relationship are considered as "currently married." ‡These women cited a method failure as their reason for the abortion; whether that method was to postpone or stop childbearing is unknown. §Education breakdown for Turkey is less than completed primary and at least primary. Notes: The distributions for Australia and the Philippines are based on the number of responses. na=not applicable, because that reason was not included in the study. u=unavailable, because a combined category covered more than one reason. Sources: See Appendix.