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New Report Shows Major Drop in Abortion

San Francisco, CA—A new report released today by the national [#WeCount Project](#) shows that in the two months after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* in June, there was a dramatic decrease in abortions as state bans shut down abortion care and pushed abortion out of reach for thousands of people.

In July and August 2022, providers reported 5,270 and 5,400 fewer abortions per month, respectively, compared to April 2022. The drop was driven by states that banned or severely restricted abortion care. In states that banned abortion during that time, abortions decreased by 95%, comparing August to April. Meanwhile, states with legal protections for abortion saw a comparably small rise in abortion care.

Some states that have abortion protections and that border states with abortion bans—such as North Carolina and Kansas—have seen the biggest increases. The baseline data for this report, from April 2022, already reflects a decline in available abortions, especially in Texas and other states where severe restrictions pre-dated the June decision.

“Overturning *Roe v. Wade* created a sudden disruption in abortion care, compounding the crisis in access that people in some states had already experienced before the decision. We are likewise not seeing a comparable surge in other states to close this gap, which suggests that traveling to get care in a state that allows abortion has not been a realistic option for a significant portion of people denied care,” said Alison Norris, MD, PhD, #WeCount Co-Chair and associate professor at The Ohio State University’s College of Public Health. “If this trend were to continue for next 12 months, we’d project more than 60,000 people who need abortion care will be unable to obtain it.”

“These data represent thousands of people and families whose lives are turned upside down because of abortion bans. Traveling to get an abortion is an impossible barrier for many people. We know that those denied an abortion are more likely to experience debt, eviction, and bankruptcy – which impacts them and their children for years to come. Others will manage their abortions outside the traditional health care system, which carries a potential risk of arrest in many states,” said Dr. Ushma Upadhyay, #WeCount Co-Chair and professor at University of California, San Francisco’s Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH).

The #WeCount Project will continue to track and release data about the number of abortions provided in each state in the coming months. [The Society of Family Planning](#) is leading this effort, in collaboration with providers, researchers and other stakeholders, to collect the data, support analysis, and disseminate findings.

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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.

The Society of Family Planning (SFP) is a source for science regarding abortion and contraception. SFP 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.