



700 Melvin Avenue / Suite 1 / Annapolis, MD 21401
410-269-6397 / 301-858-8304 / Fax 410-269-9138
www.mdrtl.org



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Maryland Abortion Rate Declines Slightly; Abortion Still Far from Rare

The infamous mantra since the 1990s has been “safe, legal, and rare.” However, recent statistics, even from pro-abortion sources, continue to disprove the mantra.

New York City made the headlines recently when it was announced that [over 40 percent of all pregnancies in the city ends in induced abortion](#).

New data recently released by the [Alan Guttmacher Institute](#), formerly the research arm of Planned Parenthood, show that in 2008, Maryland moved from third to fourth place in terms of abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women age 15 to 44). Maryland’s abortion rate ranks fifth if Washington, D.C., is considered.

There were 34,290 abortions in Maryland in 2008 and a total of 34 abortion providers in Maryland. Its abortion rate was 29, about 48 percent higher than the national abortion rate of 19.6.

The number of abortions actually increased Maryland since 2005 (the year of the last Guttmacher report), but the abortion rate declined from 31.5 to 29. The number of abortion providers also declined; in 2005 there were 41.

The 2005 report howed only New York and New Jersey with higher abortion rates than Maryland. In the 2008 report, Delaware surpassed all three states as its abortion rate shot up 39 percent, from 28.8 to 40.

Maryland was one of 23 states with a declining abortion rate, possibly due in part to the decline in the number of abortion providers. The abortion rate increased in 26 states and remained the same on one.

Maryland’s high abortion rate is not surprising considering the lack of [protective laws](#) in Maryland, where abortions can be performed on demand with no consideration for the impact on the life of the unborn or the woman.

Maryland also has a relatively dense population, so most women are able to obtain an abortion nearby. Maryland’s large racial minority population also is a

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factor in Maryland's high abortion rate, as abortion rates tend to be significantly higher among Black and Hispanic women.

Maryland Right to Life is fighting to reverse Maryland's reputation as an "abortion-friendly" state. Please join us; become a [member of Maryland Right to Life](#). Your generous response will help save lives!

Contact Your U.S. Representative to Repeal Pro-Abortion, Pro-Rationing Healthcare Law

The United States House of Representatives will soon vote on repealing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the pro-abortion and pro-rationing health care bill passed in 2010.

Please contact your representatives today and urge them to support H.R. 2. [Enter your zip code here to open an email urging your representatives to repeal federal health care reform.](#)

More information on the abortion funding provisions and rationing concerns in the health care bill is available here: [NRLC Action Alert](#).

Abortions Skyrocket in China; Unknown Emotional Impact on Society

China, with its strong dictatorial government dedicated to population control, is an abortion leader in the international community. Forced abortions are not uncommon; China strictly enforces a one-child policy and other population controls.

Abortion in China is legal and widely available. About 9.2 million hospital abortions took place in 2008; non-hospital abortions may push that number to 13 million. China's population is about 4.2 times that of the United States, but its annual abortion total is at least 7.7 times the U.S. figure of 1.2 million.

[Greater acceptance of premarital sex among the young and the stigma of unwed pregnancy have contributed to a sharp rise in total number of abortions](#) in China; the number grew by 1.6 million between 2007 and 2008. The lack of a strong pro-life movement is another factor. Government regulations in China prevent individuals in traditionally pro-life communities, like Christians and Buddhists, from becoming politically and culturally active.

The emotional toll on Chinese women is unknown, but the clinic operators understand the reality. Some of them reportedly bury their tiny victims who have reached three or four months and "clearly resemble miniature babies, as a gesture of respect for their lives cut short."

Maryland Right to Life Petition Against Abortions Late in Pregnancy Gains Ground; More Signatures Needed

The publicity gained by notorious abortionist LeRoy Carhart coming to Maryland has led to a resurgence of interest in passing protective laws in our

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state. Carhart, who specializes in killing babies late in pregnancy, was driven out of Nebraska, which passed legislation to ban abortion after 20 weeks, when the unborn child has the capacity to feel pain.

Petition signatures have been coming in daily, but many more names are needed to lobby effectively for protective laws. If you have not already done so, [please add your name to the list of Marylanders](#) who want the Maryland General Assembly to pass laws to protect unborn human life..

Clicking [here](#) to sign the petition online. Click [here](#) to download and print a petition form that can be passed around to family, friends, neighbors, and church members. Please mail completed petitions to MDRTL at the address shown at the bottom of the petition page.

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