WIDESPREAD IMPACT OF GEORGIA’S 20-WEEK ABORTION BAN

WHILE LATER ABORTIONS ARE A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF ALL ABORTIONS PERFORMED IN THE U.S., OVER 11,000 WOMEN EACH YEAR NEED ABORTIONS AFTER 20 WEEKS GESTATION.

Georgia is one of only two states in the Southeast where outpatient abortion care after 20 weeks is provided. In 2012, Georgia was the only state in the Southeast and Midwest that provided outpatient abortion care after 24 weeks. Women traveled from throughout the South, the Midwest, and parts of the Northeast to receive abortion care in Georgia after 24 weeks.

*Although Georgia’s ban is referred to as a 20-week ban, the law that passed in 2012 actually sought to ban abortions starting at 22 weeks from a woman’s last menstrual period (LMP).

ABOUT THE 20-WEEK BAN
Georgia’s 20-week abortion ban was passed in 2012; part of the law went into effect in 2013, which led Georgia abortion providers to stop providing abortion care at 24 weeks from a woman’s last menstrual period. The rest of the 20-week ban is on hold while a court case challenging it continues.*

PROPORTION OF WOMEN HAVING AN ABORTION IN GEORGIA AT 24+ WEEKS BEFORE THE BAN, BY STATE OF RESIDENCE

[Map showing the proportion of women having an abortion in Georgia at 24+ weeks before the ban, by state of residence.]

- >10%
- 5% - <10%
- >0% - <5%
- 0%
PROPORTION OF WOMEN HAVING AN ABORTION IN GEORGIA BETWEEN 22 AND 24 WEEKS, BY STATE OF RESIDENCE

OVERALL DECREASE IN ABORTIONS AFTER 20 WEEKS IN GA, BY GESTATION, FROM 2012 TO 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 – &lt;22 weeks</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>389</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 – &lt;24 weeks</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24+ weeks</td>
<td>392</td>
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WHEN A TYPE OF ABORTION CARE, SUCH AS LATER ABORTION CARE, IS ALREADY SCARCE IN A GEOGRAPHIC REGION, BANNING IT IN ONE STATE IN THAT REGION HAS AN IMPACT ON WOMEN’S HEALTH AND ACCESS TO ABORTION WELL-BEYOND THAT STATE. OUTPATIENT ABORTION CARE AFTER 20 WEEKS IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE IN THE MIDWEST OR SOUTHEAST. IF GEORGIA’S ENTIRE 20-WEEK BAN GOES INTO EFFECT, ONLY ONE STATE IN THE SOUTHEAST WILL OFFER OUTPATIENT ABORTION CARE AFTER 20 WEEKS.