

TO NEWS-DESK

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PRESS RELEASE

**Abortions in England and Wales on Residents of the Irish Republic in 2016
Numbered 3,265 just 186 less than in 2015.**

- Abortions on residents of the Irish Republic in English and Welsh clinics numbered 3,265 in 2016 according to the Report from the English Department of Health released on 13th June 2017.
- The 3,265 abortions in 2016 is a rate of 3.25 abortions per 1,000 female residents aged 15-44. The rate for English and Welsh residents aged 15-44 is 16.6 per 1,000 women, over five times the Irish rate. The Irish abortion rate (5.1% of Births) is approximately the same as it was in the late seventies. despite a significant increase in the female population since then and also in political support for induced abortion.
- In numerical terms, abortions levelled off in the 1980s, then rose sharply after 1992, rising to a peak of 6,675 in 2001 (a rate of 7.5 per 1,000 women). There has been a steady decrease since then and the 3,265 abortions in 2016 shows a 51.1% drop in numbers from what it was in 2001.
- The English Department of Health again showed the numbers from all Irish counties having abortions. Dublin had 36%, of the total, Cork 7%, Galway 3% .and the rest spread over the remaining counties. However, the numbers are not completely reliable as 520 neglected to give their counties of origin.
- 240 Irish teenagers had abortions in 2016 compared with 273 in 2014 and 939 in 2001. 100 Irish residents had abortions over 20 week's gestation.
- There is some missing data in this Report due to faulty form-filling. . Of the 185,576 abortions carried out on residents of England and Wales in 2016, according to the reports of previous years, 98.0% were carried out on Ground C and 99.95% of those were given on grounds that included mental health. This is abortion on demand.
- As well as giving numbers of residents who had abortions in each county, the Report also tells us that 1,597 of the Irish residents having abortions were married or in a civil partnership (644 in 2015). It also reports that 141 residents had abortions under

Ground E in anticipation that the baby would be physically or mentally defective. Some of the conditions listed are certainly not “fatal” foetal abnormality. 43 of the 141 abortions were Downs Syndrome children. The Irish residents are also listed by ethnicity or country of origin and it lists 2,557 (78%) of all residents having abortions as being of Irish origin and 22% non-Irish ethnically.

Comment: This is good news for those defending the right to life of all human beings. All the media and pro-abortion campaigners (some funded from abroad), have not stopped a declining abortion rate. Indeed, it is one of the world’s lowest abortion rates.

Note 1: For further information contact John O’Reilly at 01-6854038

Note 2: The Second Look Project is a Charity founded in 2002. Its function is to study, and explain issues and defend human life at all stages of development from conception to natural death.

Note 3: The number of women in the Republic in 2016 aged 15-44 is taken as 1,003,333 and 2016 births as 63,897 (CSO projection for 2016)