

Freedom of Information request 481-20

Request

1. Can you please outline how many abortions have been carried out broken down by month Jan 2017-Dec 2017 / Jan 2018-Dec 2018 / Jan 2019-Dec 2019 / Jan 2020-Oct 2020
 - a) By age range in each period – Under 18 / 20-30 / 30-40 / 40-50 / 50+
 - b) Broken down by the number conducted using at Abortion Pill Treatment at home / the number performed in a medical or hospital setting broken down by month in each year 2017-2020 (as above)
2. The number of morning after pills prescribed by your health board broken down by month in each year 2017-2020 (as above)

Response

1.
 - a. The table below details the number of abortions carried out each month between January 2017 and October 2020, including a breakdown by age range:

Month	Under 18	18-29	30-39	40-49	Total
January 2017		6	<5	<5	11
February 2017	<5	9			10
March 2017	<5	<5	<5	<5	6
April 2017	<5	6	<5		9
May 2017		<5	<5		<5
June 2017	<5	6	<5		11
July 2017	<5	6	<5		11
August 2017		<5	<5		5
September 2017	<5	7	<5	<5	12
October 2017		8	<5	<5	10
November 2017		6	<5	<5	8
December 2017		<5	<5		<5
January 2018		<5	<5		5
February 2018					0
March 2018		5	<5		6
April 2018	<5	<5	<5		6
May 2018	<5	<5	<5		5
June 2018			<5		<5
July 2018	<5	<5	<5		6
August 2018			<5		<5
September 2018		<5			<5
October 2018			<5	<5	<5
November 2018		<5	<5		<5
December 2018	<5	<5	<5		6
January 2019		<5	<5		5
February 2019	<5	<5	<5		7
March 2019		<5	<5	<5	6
April 2019	<5	<5			5

May 2019		<5	<5		6
June 2019	<5	<5	<5	<5	9
July 2019		<5	<5		<5
August 2019		<5			<5
September 2019	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
October 2019	<5	5			6
November 2019		<5	<5		<5
December 2019		<5			<5
January 2020	<5	5	<5		7
February 2020		<5			<5
March 2020		<5			<5
April 2020		<5			<5
May 2020		<5			<5
June 2020			<5		<5
July 2020		<5	<5		<5
August 2020	<5				<5
September 2020	<5	<5			<5
October 2020					0
					229

As the number of events in some areas are very small, and in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, for any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the [ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol](#).

- b. All abortions listed in the table above were performed at the Borders General Hospital.
2. The data for this request is available publically, up to August 2020. Therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 please use this link to access the csv files containing all available information:

<https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/prescriptions-in-the-community>

You can filter for the drug items that you are interested in. The files contain data for all health boards. Here is a link to the webpage that identifies which HB code to use for NHS Borders (S08000016) – HealthBoard 2014 code information is in the 9th section down.

<https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/geography-codes-and-labels>

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **481-20** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.