

## Freedom of Information request 172-22

---

### Request

Under the Freedom of Information could you please inform me how many terminations have been due to abnormalities?

### Response

Under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere. For your information please find a link to the data, and the definitions of Grounds for Termination below:

Link to the data required. Scroll to Data Files and then click on Table 2: terminations by place, age, deprivation, gestation, repeat terminations and grounds for termination and NHS board of residence: <https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/termination-of-pregnancy-statistics/termination-of-pregnancy-statistics-year-ending-december-2020/>

Link to the full 2020 report: <https://publichealthscotland.scot/media/7976/2021-05-25-terminations-2020-report.pdf>

Please see the table below for the Grounds and Definitions:

Grounds	Definition
A	The continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk to the life of the pregnant women greater than if the pregnancy were terminated.
B	The termination is necessary to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman.
C	The pregnancy has NOT exceeded its 24th week and that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman.
D	The pregnancy has NOT exceeded its 24th week and that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of the existing child(ren) of the family of the pregnant woman.
E	There is substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped.
F	In case of emergency: It was necessary to save the life of the woman.
G	In case of emergency: It was necessary to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman.

Under Section 15 Duty to provide advice and assistance please see the table below for the number of terminations carried out at NHS Borders on Ground E for 2018, 2019 and 2020. The 2020 data is the most up to date data available.

2018	5
2019	<5
2020	<5

Please note that as NHS Borders is such a small Board and the number of terminations carried out on Ground E are very small, to provide further details could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(1) (b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics which states that 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.

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](mailto: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 **172-22** 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.