

## Factsheet References

Statement	Reference
<b>Unintended pregnancy in australia</b>	
An unintended pregnancy is a pregnancy that occurs when no children or no more children are desired or a pregnancy that occurs earlier than desired.	<b>Santelli J, Rochat R, Hatfield-Timajchy K, Gilbert BC, Curtis K, Cabral R, et al. The measurement and meaning of unintended pregnancy. <i>Perspect Sex Reprod Health</i>. 2003;35(2):94–101.</b>
An unintended pregnancy does not necessarily mean the pregnancy is unwanted.	<b>Santelli J, Rochat R, Hatfield-Timajchy K, Gilbert BC, Curtis K, Cabral R, et al. The measurement and meaning of unintended pregnancy. <i>Perspect Sex Reprod Health</i>. 2003;35(2):94–101.</b>
6.5 million women of reproductive age 15-49 years.	<b>Australian Bureau of Statistics. Population - states and territories: National, state and territory population 2025 [updated September 18 2025]. Available from: <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/national-state-and-territory-population/latest-release">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/national-state-and-territory-population/latest-release</a>.</b>
1 in 4 Australian women had an unintended pregnancy in the past 10 years.	<b>Taft AJ, Shankar M, Black KI, Mazza D, Hussainy S, Lucke JC. Unintended and unwanted pregnancy in Australia: a cross-sectional, national random telephone survey of prevalence and outcomes. <i>Med J Aust</i>. 2018;209(9):407–8.</b>
31% of unintended pregnancies ended in abortion.	<b>Taft AJ, Shankar M, Black KI, Mazza D, Hussainy S, Lucke JC. Unintended and unwanted pregnancy in Australia: a cross-sectional, national random telephone survey of prevalence and outcomes. <i>Med J Aust</i>. 2018;209(9):407–8.</b>
Women living in rural areas are 1.4 times more likely to experience unintended pregnancy.	<b>Rowe H, Holton S, Kirkman M, Bayly C, Jordan L, McNamee K, et al. Prevalence and distribution of unintended pregnancy: the Understanding Fertility Management in Australia National Survey. <i>Aust N Z J Public Health</i>. 2016;40(2):104–9.</b>

<p>41% of women aged 18-32 years reported that their first pregnancy was unintended.</p>	<p><b>Rowe H, Holton S, Kirkman M, Bayly C, Jordan L, McNamee K, et al. Prevalence and distribution of unintended pregnancy: the Understanding Fertility Management in Australia National Survey. Aust N Z J Public Health. 2016;40(2):104–9.</b></p>
<p>13% of women aged 19-24 years who have ever had vaginal sex report experiencing an unintended pregnancy.</p>	<p><b>Shankar M, Hooker L, Edvardsson K, Norman WV, Taft AJ. The prevalence and variations in unintended pregnancy by socio-demographic and health-related factors in a population-based cohort of young Australian women. Aust N Z J Public Health. 2023;47(3):100046.</b></p>
<p><b>Utilisation of long-acting reversible contraception</b></p>	
<p>Long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) including intrauterine devices (IUDs) and implants are one of the most effective forms of reversible contraception, with a reported failure rate of &lt;1%.</p>	<p><b>Grzeskowiak LE, Calabretto H, Amos N, Mazza D, Ilomaki J. Changes in use of hormonal long-acting reversible contraceptive methods in Australia between 2006 and 2018: A population-based study. Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol. 2021;61(1):128–34.</b></p>
<p>LARC uptake in women aged 15-44 years in 2018: 11% used LARC as a method of contraception (excluding copper IUDs)</p>	<p><b>Grzeskowiak LE, Calabretto H, Amos N, Mazza D, Ilomaki J. Changes in use of hormonal long-acting reversible contraceptive methods in Australia between 2006 and 2018: A population-based study. Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol. 2021;61(1):128–34.</b></p>
<p>LARC uptake in women aged 15-44 years in 2018: 6% used a hormonal IUD</p>	<p><b>Grzeskowiak LE, Calabretto H, Amos N, Mazza D, Ilomaki J. Changes in use of hormonal long-acting reversible contraceptive methods in Australia between 2006 and 2018: A population-based study. Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol. 2021;61(1):128–34.</b></p>
<p>LARC uptake in women aged 15-44 years in 2018: 5% used an etonogestrel implant</p>	<p><b>Grzeskowiak LE, Calabretto H, Amos N, Mazza D, Ilomaki J. Changes in use of hormonal long-acting reversible contraceptive methods in Australia between 2006 and 2018: A population-based study. Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol. 2021;61(1):128–34.</b></p>
<p>Globally, approximately 19% of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) use LARCS.</p>	<p><b>United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). World Family Planning 2022: Meeting the changing</b></p>

	needs for family planning: Contraceptive use by age and method. [page 17] UN DESA/POP/2022/TR/NO. 4.
32% of women of reproductive age in Canada use LARCs.	Campbell AJ, Claydon VE, Liva S, Cote AT. Changes in Canadian contraceptive choices: results of a national survey on hormonal contraceptive use. BMC Womens Health. 2025;25(1):147.
31% of women of reproductive age in Sweden use LARCs.	Hellstrom A, Gemzell Danielsson K, Kopp Kallner H. Trends in use and attitudes towards contraception in Sweden: results of a nationwide survey. Eur J Contracept Reprod Health Care. 2019;24(2):154–60.
36% of women of reproductive age in New Zealand use LARCs.	Family Planning NZ. Contraception Use Survey 2020. [online] <a href="https://sexualwellbeing.org.nz/media/swpnktyo/contraception-use-survey-2020.pdf">https://sexualwellbeing.org.nz/media/swpnktyo/contraception-use-survey-2020.pdf</a> .
38% of women of reproductive age in Denmark use LARCs.	Kristensen SI, Lidegaard O. Hormonal contraceptive use in Denmark 2010-2019. Dan Med J. 2021;68(6).
51% of women of reproductive age in England use LARCs.	NHS England. (2025). Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, England (Contraception), 2024-25. [online] <a href="https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/sexual-and-reproductive-health-services/2024-25">https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/sexual-and-reproductive-health-services/2024-25</a>
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Reference</b>
<b>Legislation &amp; cost of abortion in high income countries</b>	
Across the world, 60% or 1.12 billion women live in countries where abortion is broadly legal, including Australia. In the past 30 years, more than 60 countries have decriminalised abortion.	Center for Reproductive Rights. The World's Abortion Laws [Available from: <a href="https://reproductiverights.org/maps/worlds-abortion-laws/">https://reproductiverights.org/maps/worlds-abortion-laws/</a> ].
In comparison to our international counterparts, financial costs remain a major barrier for women accessing abortion services in Australia.	World Health Organisation. Abortion 2024 [Available from: <a href="https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/abortion.">https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/abortion.</a> ]

<p>Comprehensive abortion care includes the provision of information, abortion management and post-abortion care.</p>	<p><b>World Health Organisation. Abortion 2024</b>  <b>[Available from:</b>  <a href="https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/abortion">https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/abortion.</a><b>]</b></p>
<p>Making these services more accessible within the healthcare system is part of achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:</p>	<p><b>United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals</b> <b>[Available from:</b> <a href="https://sdgs.un.org/goals">https://sdgs.un.org/goals.</a><b>]</b></p>
<p>Cost of medical and surgical abortions  Australia: \$605- \$1,330 AUD</p>	<p><b>MSI Australia. Medical abortion.</b> <b>[Available at:</b>  <a href="https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/medical-abortion/">https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/medical-abortion/</a><b>]</b></p>
<p>Cost of medical and surgical abortions  Australia: \$605- \$1,330 AUD</p>	<p><b>MSI Australia. Surgical abortion services.</b>  <b>[Available at:</b>  <a href="https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/surgical-abortion/">https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/surgical-abortion/</a><b>]</b></p>
<p>In Australia, the financial costs to a patient accessing medical abortion includes the cost of blood tests, ultrasounds, follow-up appointments and treatments.</p>	<p><b>MSI Australia. Medical abortion.</b> <b>[Available at:</b>  <a href="https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/medical-abortion/">https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/medical-abortion/</a><b>]</b></p>
<p>This cost varies depending on which state you live in, whether you hold Medicare card or health care card, and whether it is being provided via a private or public service.</p>	<p><b>MSI Australia. Medical abortion.</b> <b>[Available at:</b>  <a href="https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/medical-abortion/">https://www.msiaustralia.org.au/abortion-services/medical-abortion/</a><b>]</b></p>