

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Health:

**Early Termination Figures**

- 1. In Estimates this year you said there were 517 pregnancy terminations performed from 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019 – how many of those terminations were early according to definition in the *Termination of Pregnancy Law Reform* legislation?**

Updated data for termination or pregnancy for the period 1 July 2018 - 31 March 2019 is 529.

Early medical terminations occur at no more than nine weeks gestation as per Therapeutic Good Administration regulations and guidelines. It is not a definition in the Termination of Pregnancy Law Reform Act.

418 or 79.02% were early medical terminations.

- 2. Of those early terminations – how many were urban based and how many were remote/rural based?**

All women having an early medical termination of pregnancy must remain within a safe two hour drive from a hospital for the duration of the termination; none are performed outside of this radius.

Of the 418 early medical terminations of pregnancy, 366 were women stating their region of residence origin as urban, with 52 giving their region of residence origin as rural or remote.

**3. What were the age ranges of those clients?**

87.08% of women having an early medical termination of pregnancy were aged 20-39 years.

4% of women having an early medical termination were aged 15-19 years and approximately 5.26% of women having an early medical termination were aged 40 years or older.

**4. When do you expect the review of the legislation to be completed and will it be released publicly?**

The legislative review has been completed following extensive consultation with stakeholders and is currently with Government for consideration.

**5. What ongoing resources are you providing to ensure Territory women are well informed about their options?**

Consumer documents were published on 1 July 2017 accompanying commencement of the legislation, regulations and clinical guidelines. The documents are available online.

<https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/hospitals-health-services/abortion-termination-of-pregnancy-in-the-nt>

'Pregnancy Options for Women in the Territory' explains the three unbiased options for women with an unexpected pregnancy or one where there is a problem.

"Having a termination of pregnancy (abortion) in the Northern Territory' and explains methods of termination.