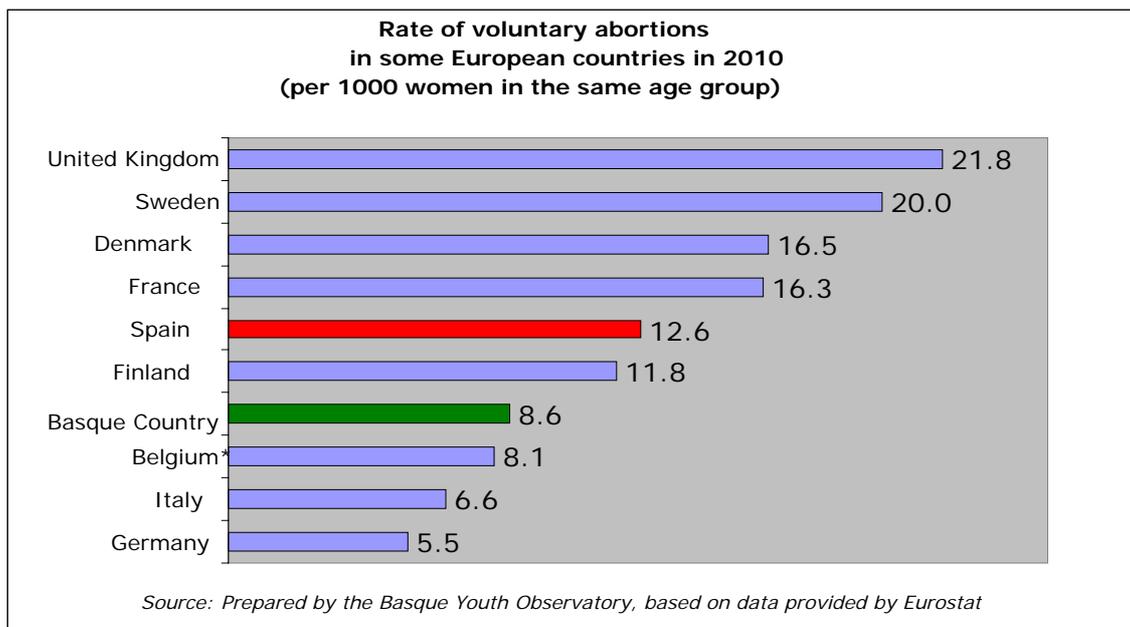


The rate of voluntary abortions among women aged 15 to 19 in the Basque Autonomous Region is 8.6 per 1,000 women in the same age group

The United Kingdom ranks first in the EU27 regarding abortion rates per 1,000 women in the same age group with 21.8

According to a report prepared by the Basque Youth Observatory based on data published by [Eurostat](#), the rate of voluntary abortions among Spanish women aged 15 to 19 is 12.6, an average value in the EU27.

The rate of voluntary abortions among Basque women aged 15 to 19 is, on the other hand, 8.6 for every 1,000 women in the same age group, based on data provided by the [Directorate of Knowledge Management and Assessment](#) of the Department of Health of the Basque Government.



The European country with the highest voluntary abortion rate among women aged 15 to 19 is the UK, with 21.8. This circumstance is due the fact that it has one of the oldest legal acts in Europe (the Abortion Act dates from 1967), that abortion is legal up to 24 weeks of gestation and because it is the place where women come from many surrounding countries that have more restrictive legislation, for example, Ireland.

Sweden has also reached a voluntary abortion rate of 20.0 per 1000 women of the same age. Abortion in Sweden is a Social Security benefit and Swedish women can access it until the twelfth week of pregnancy with the only requirement of consulting with their doctor.

Germany is the country with the lowest rate of voluntary abortions among women aged 15-19 (5.5). This is because German abortion laws are very restrictive, although it is allowed in the first fourteen weeks of gestation and in certain cases.

However, comparison between EU27 countries on this issue is very complex due to multiple factors, such as the various laws, the way records are kept and whether a country's health system covers voluntary abortions free of cost.

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