

Induced abortion 1990 to 2014: Global, regional, and subregional trends

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Why Estimate Abortion Incidence?

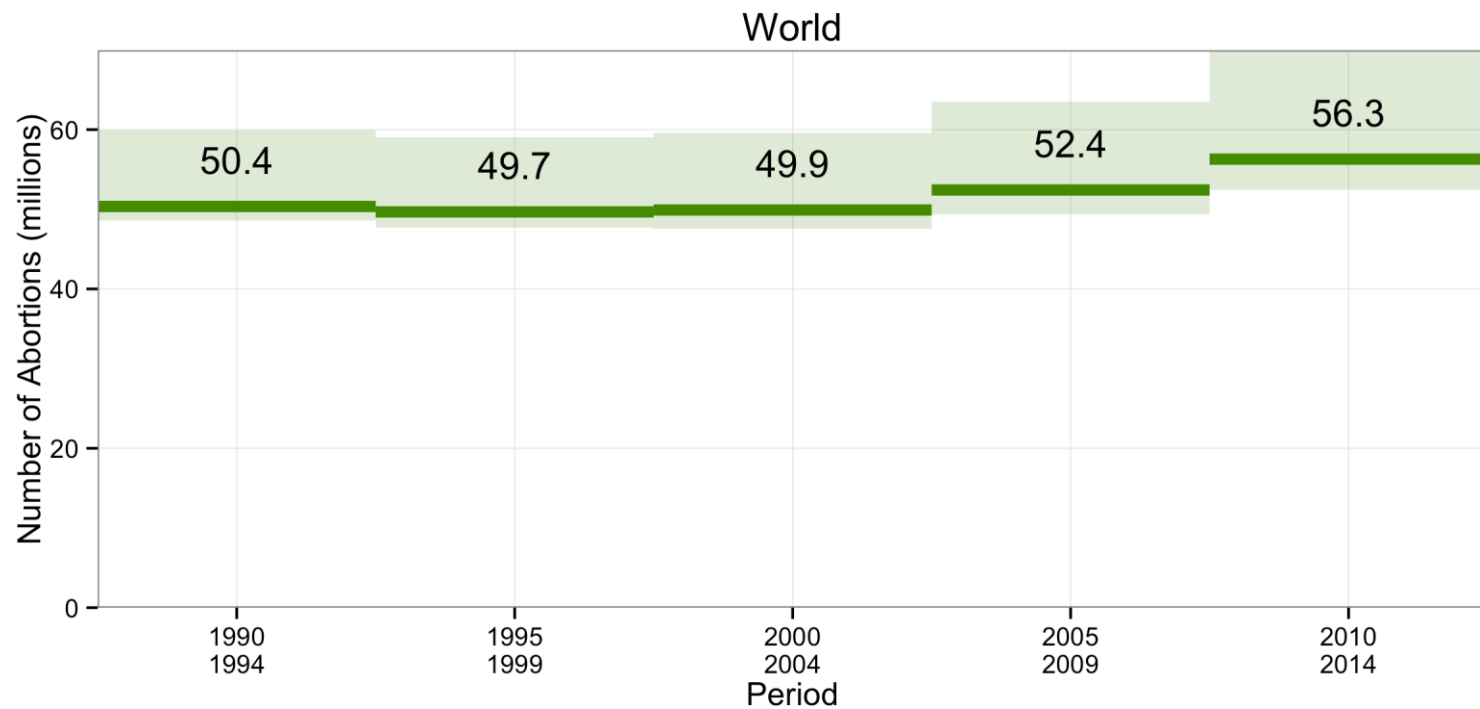
- **To help monitor trends in abortion and unintended pregnancy**
- **To bring awareness to the magnitude of unsafe abortions**
- **To motivate investments in prevention of unintended pregnancy and unsafe abortion**
- **To help ensure an informed discourse on abortion**

Estimation Approach

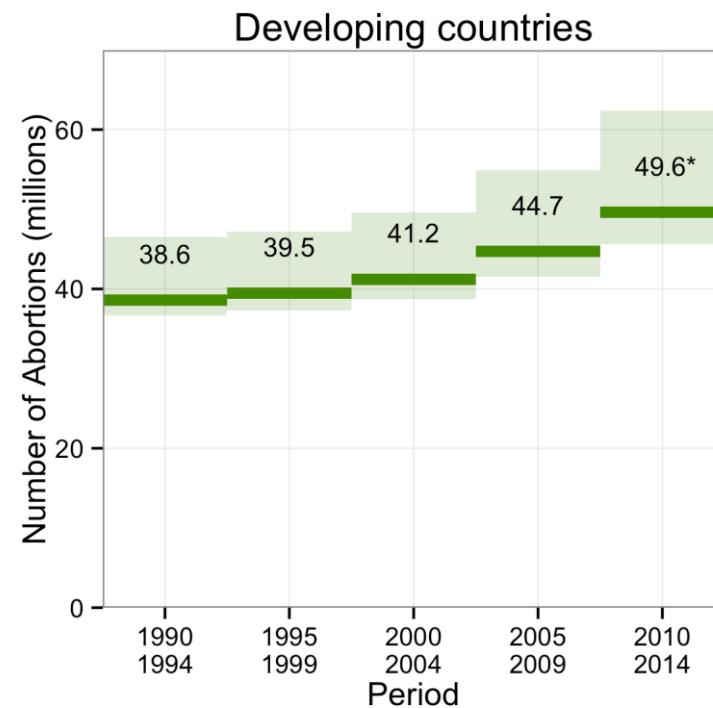
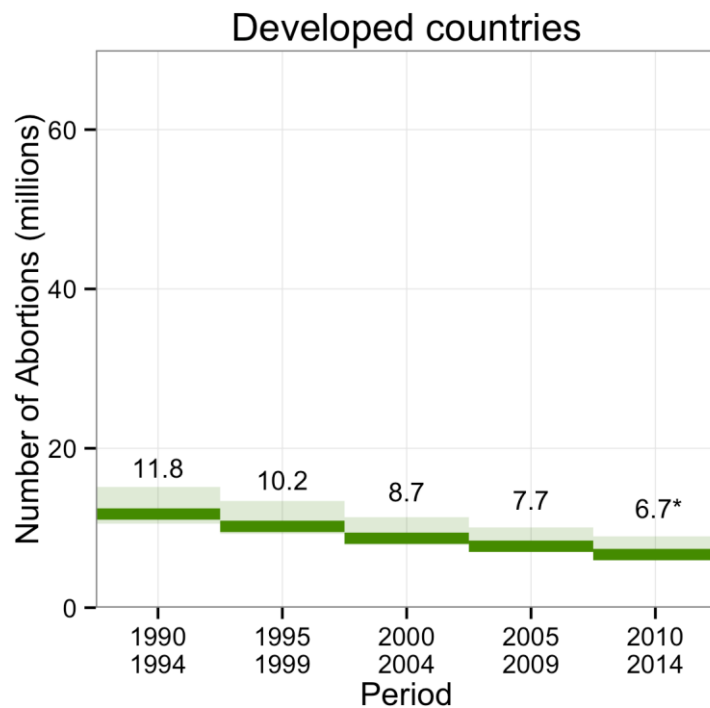
- **Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling**
 - Available abortion data
 - Data on factors associated with abortion incidence
 - Hierarchical time series model
 - Estimates numbers and rates of abortion

Findings

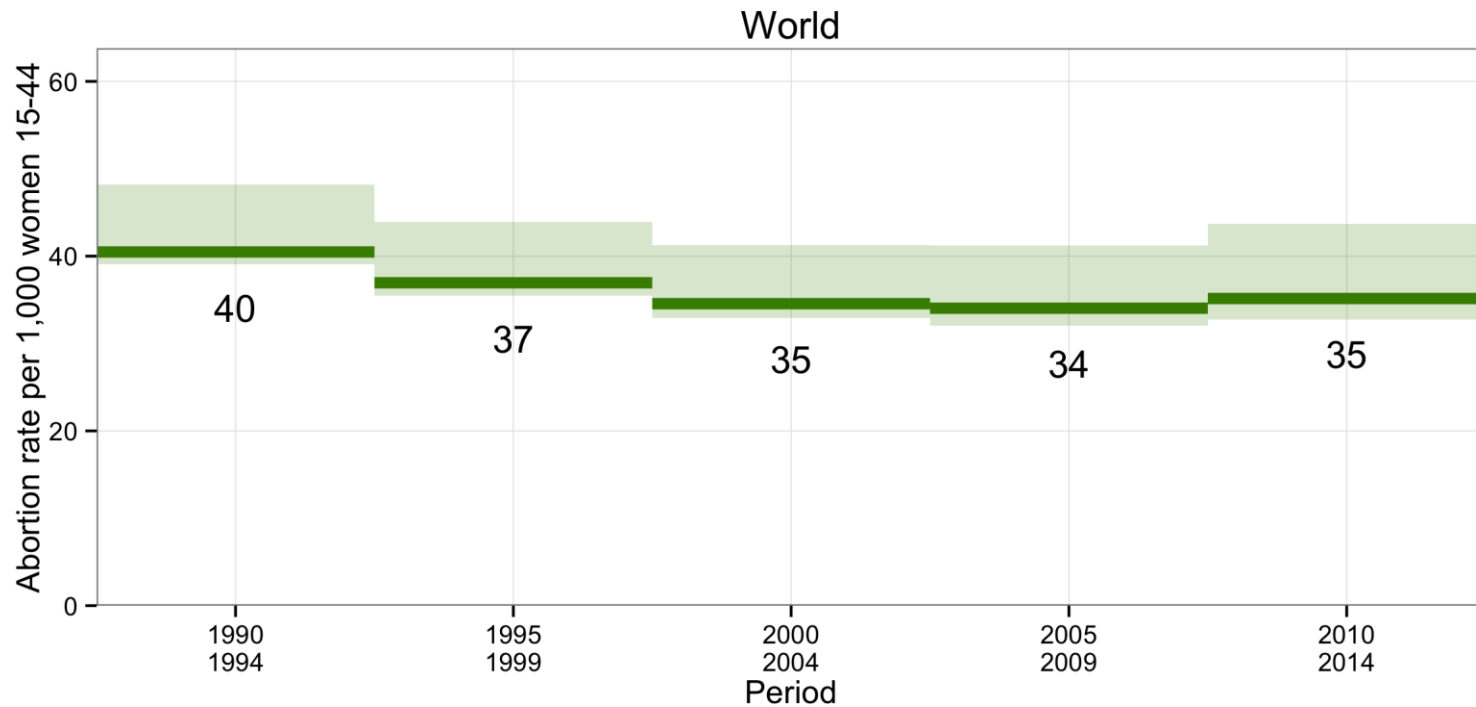
About 56 million abortions took place each year in 2010-2014



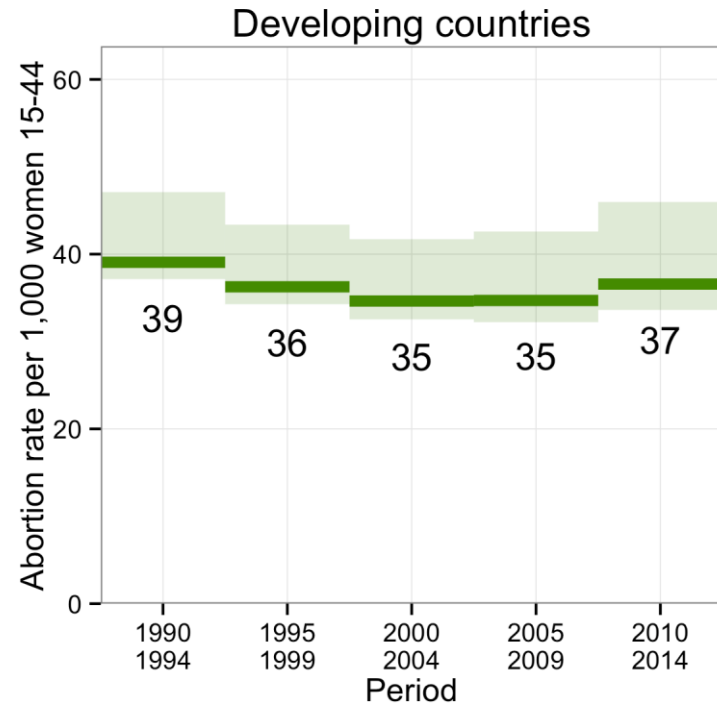
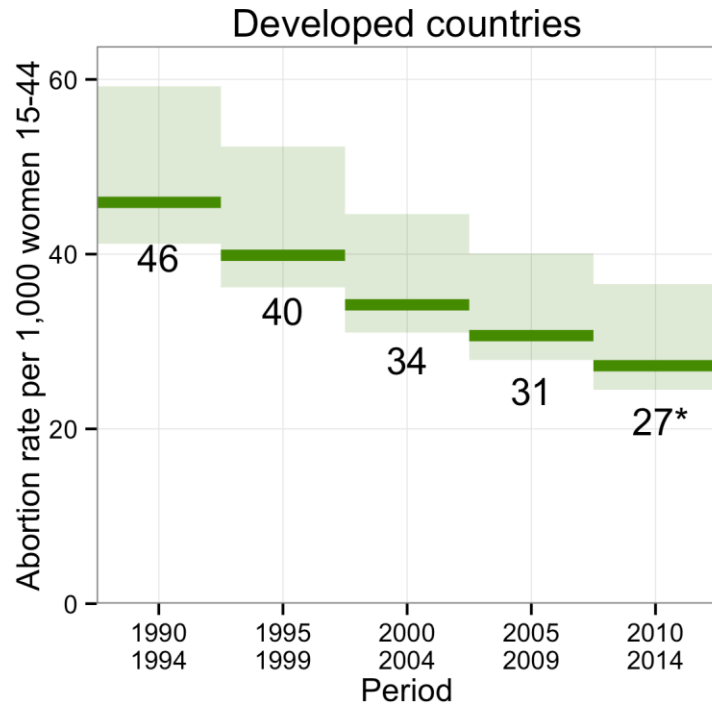
The annual number of abortions increased in developing regions



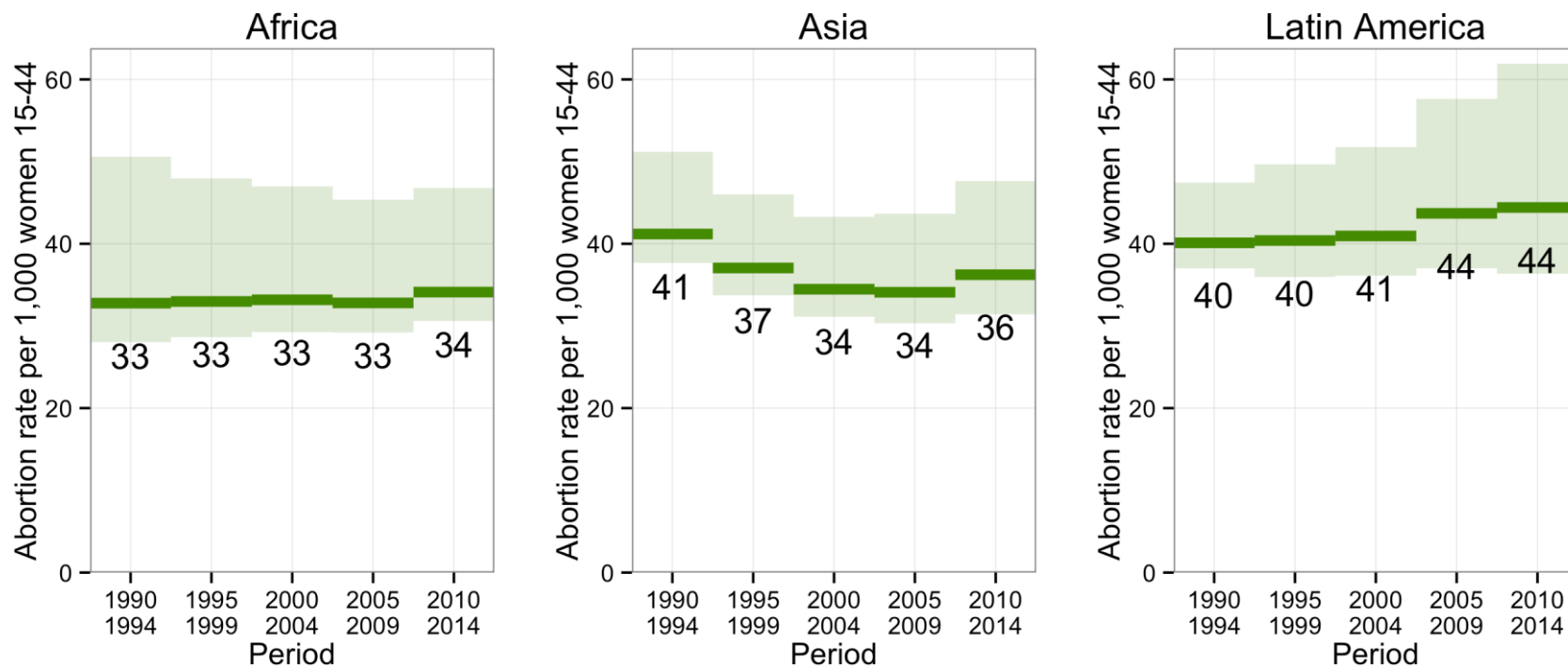
The global abortion rate fell slightly



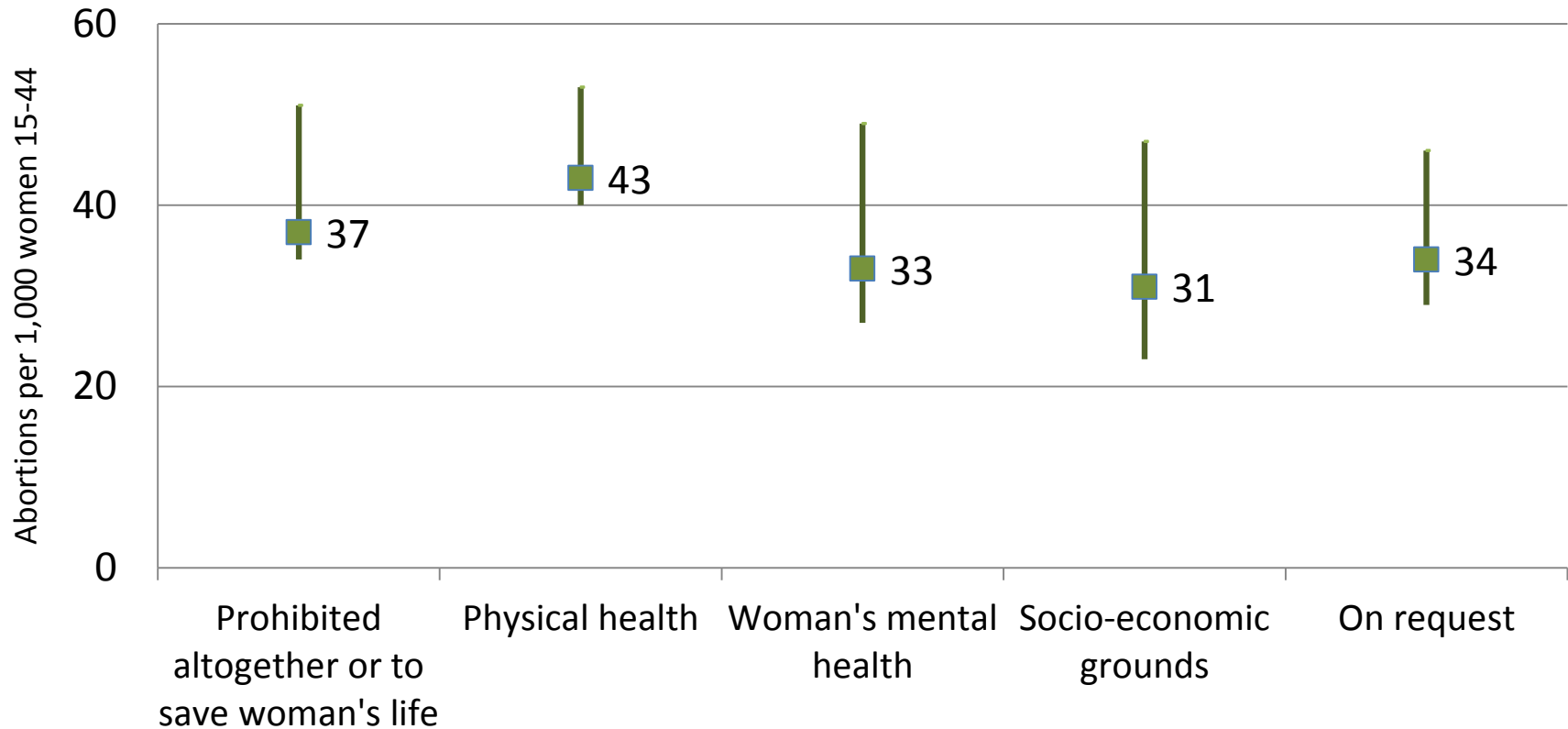
The abortion rate fell significantly in the developed world, but not in the developing world



No change in abortion rates in developing regions



Abortion rates are similar in countries grouped by legal status



Summary of Findings & Policy Implications

Key Findings

■ Abortion Incidence in 2010-2014

- Worldwide, 56 million induced abortions occurred each year, on average
- There were 35 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44
- The abortion rate fell in the developed world, did not change in the developing world
- The average abortion rate was similar in countries with restrictive and liberal abortion laws
- Though not presented here, abortion rate is higher among married than unmarried women

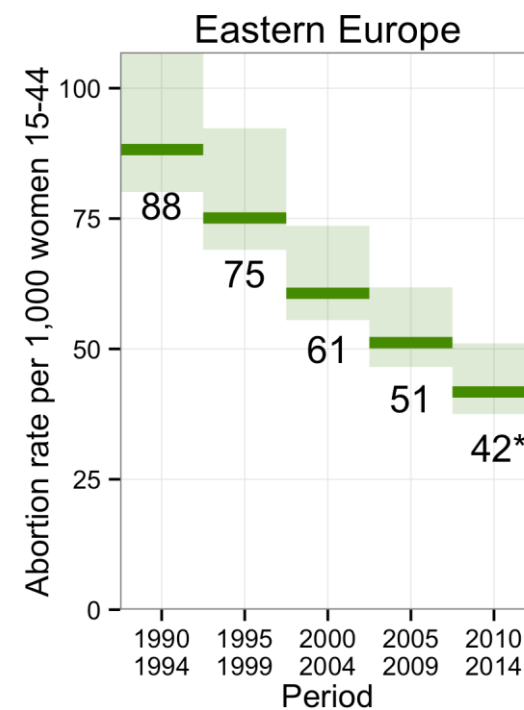
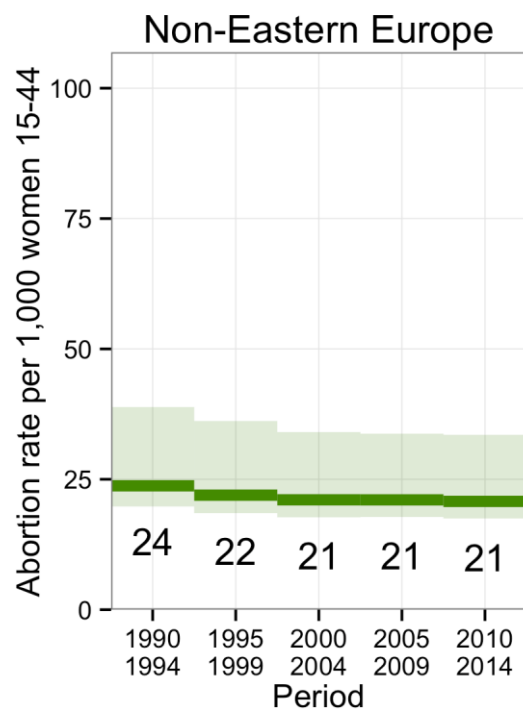
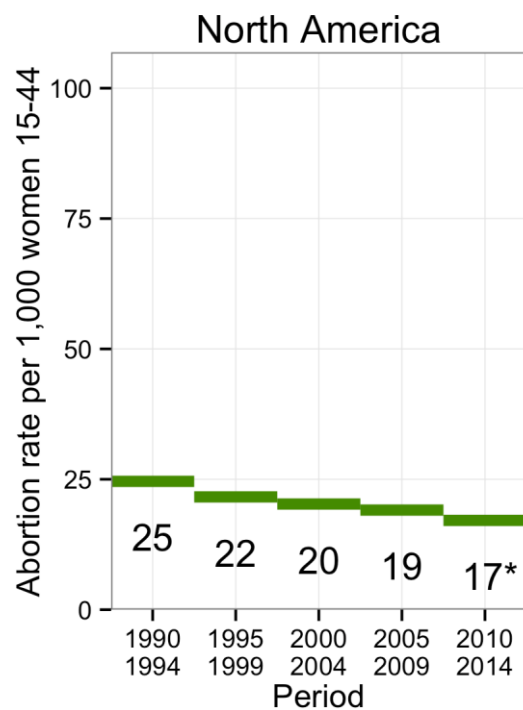
Policy Implications

- **Address barriers to contraceptive use in developing countries**
 - Improve the *quality* of family planning services
- **Ensure women have access to safe abortion care**
 - Abortion is prevalent throughout the world
- **Ensure access to post-abortion care**
 - Millions of women experience complications from unsafe abortions

UK Government
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Special
Programme of Research, Development and Research
Training in Human Reproduction

Abortion rate fell significantly in the developed regions



The abortion rate is higher among married women than unmarried women

