

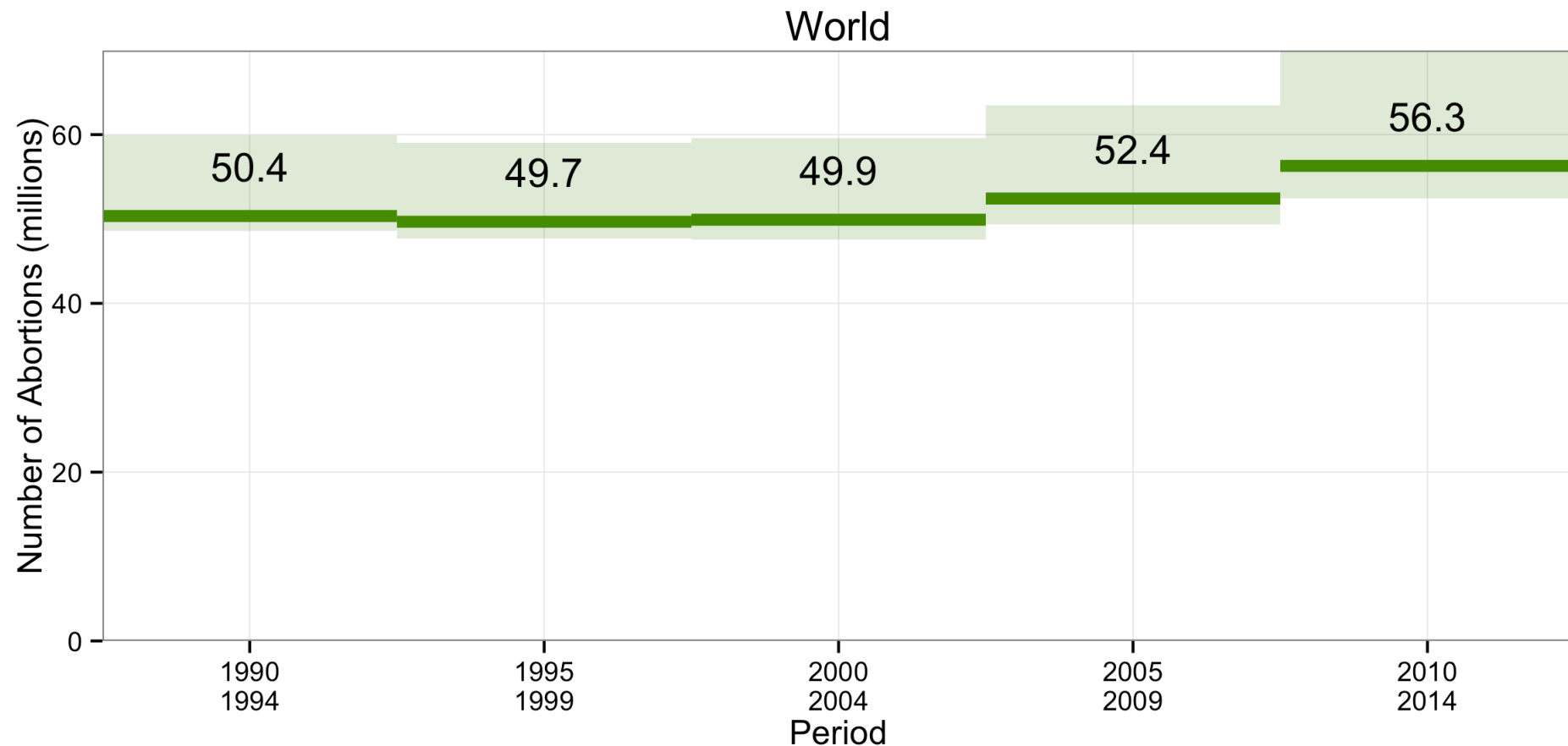
# **Evidence on abortion worldwide**

Gilda Sedgh, ScD  
Guttmacher Institute

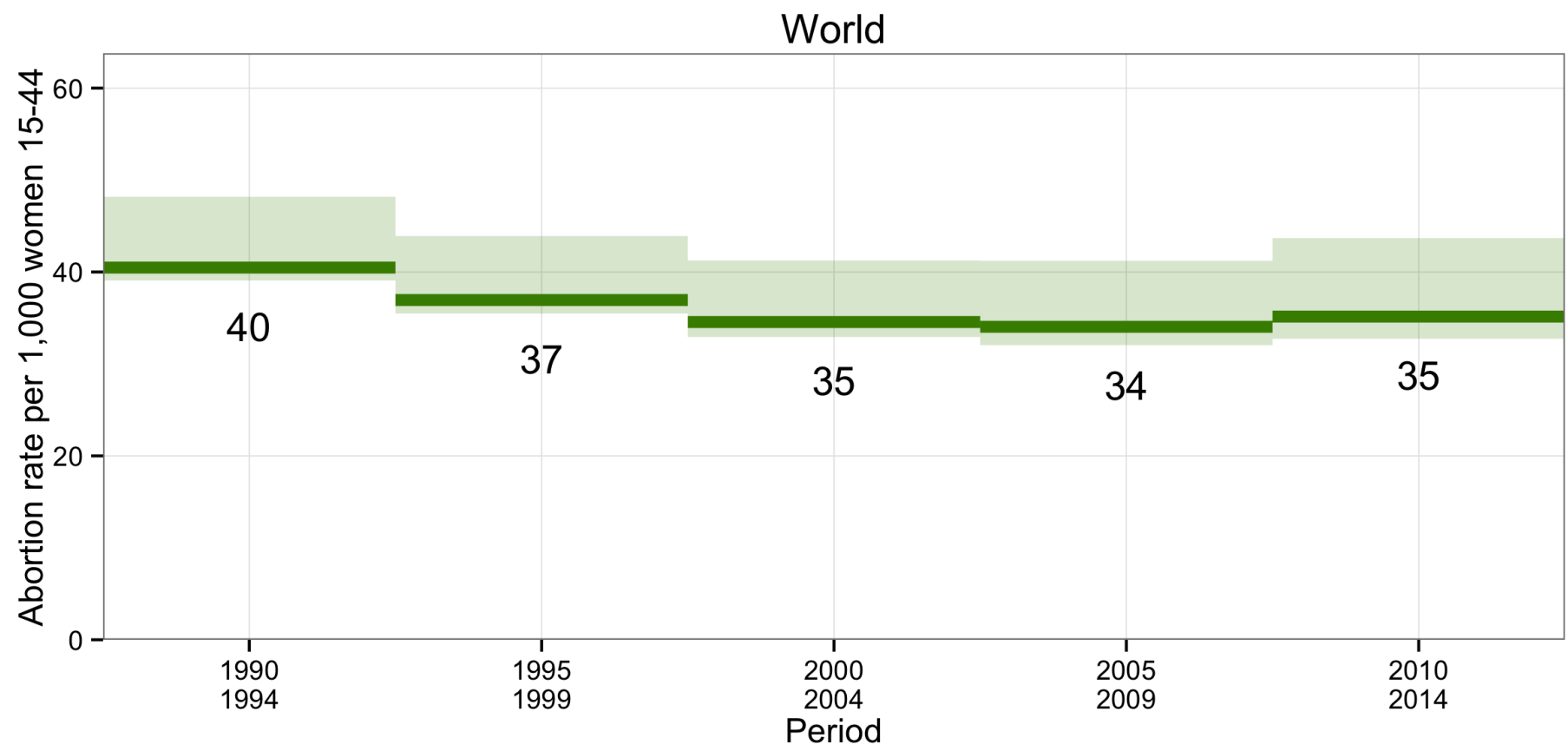
**Presentation to the Oireachtas Joint Committee  
on the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution**  
November 8, 2017



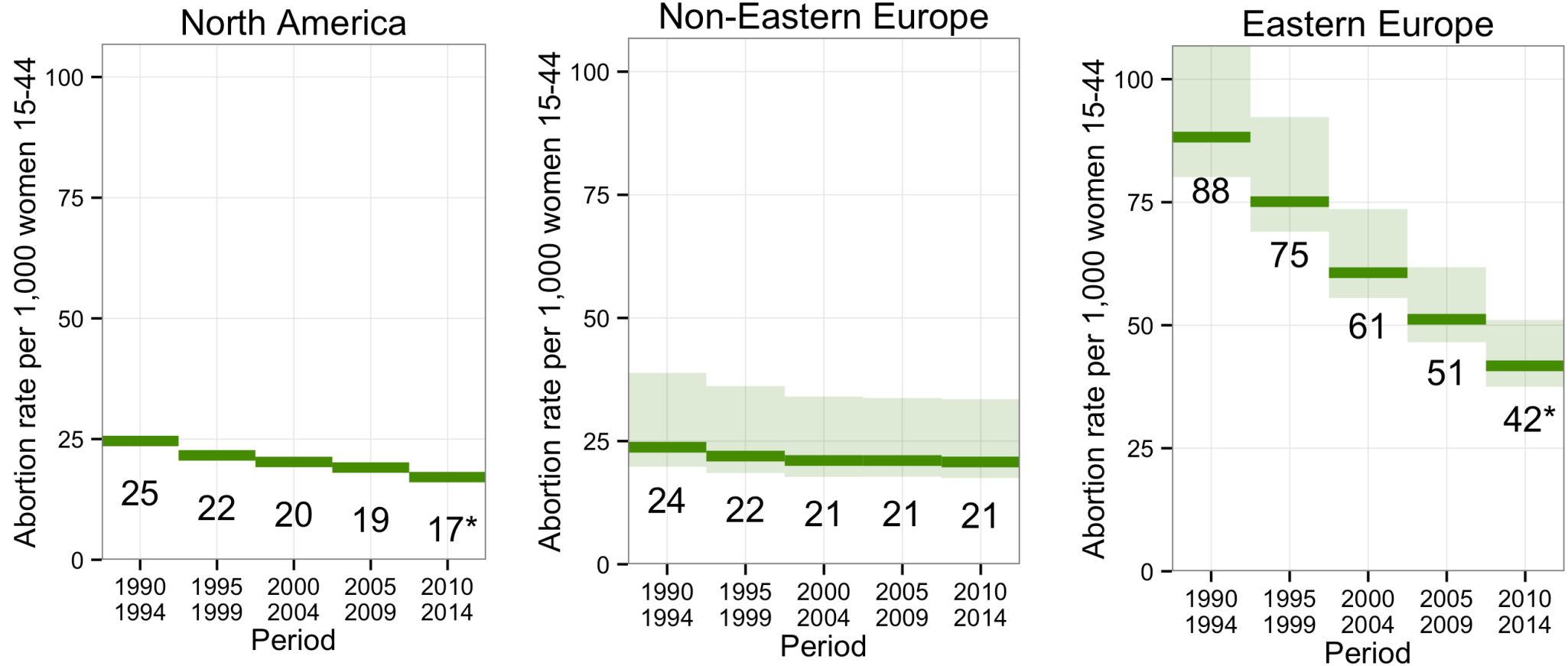
## About 56 million abortions took place each year in 2010-2014



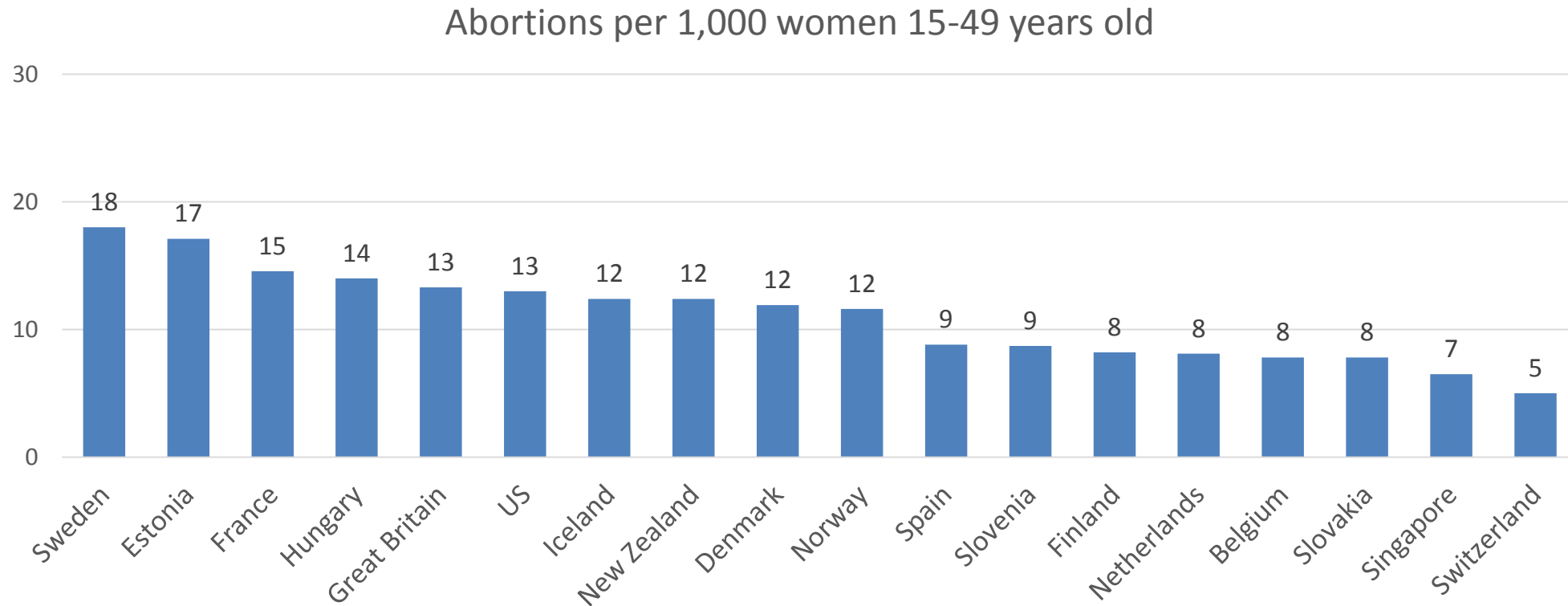
# There are about 35 abortions for every 1,000 women of childbearing age



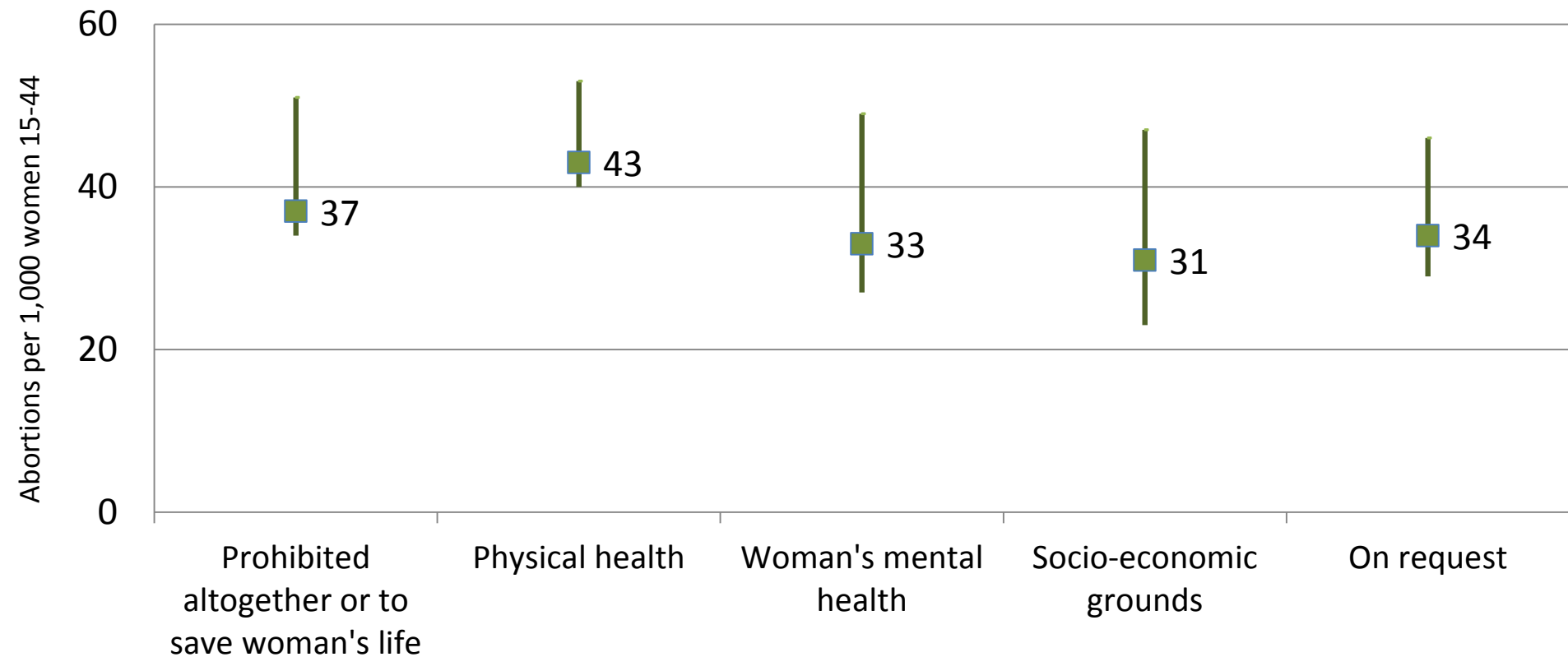
# Abortion rates are low or declining in developed subregions



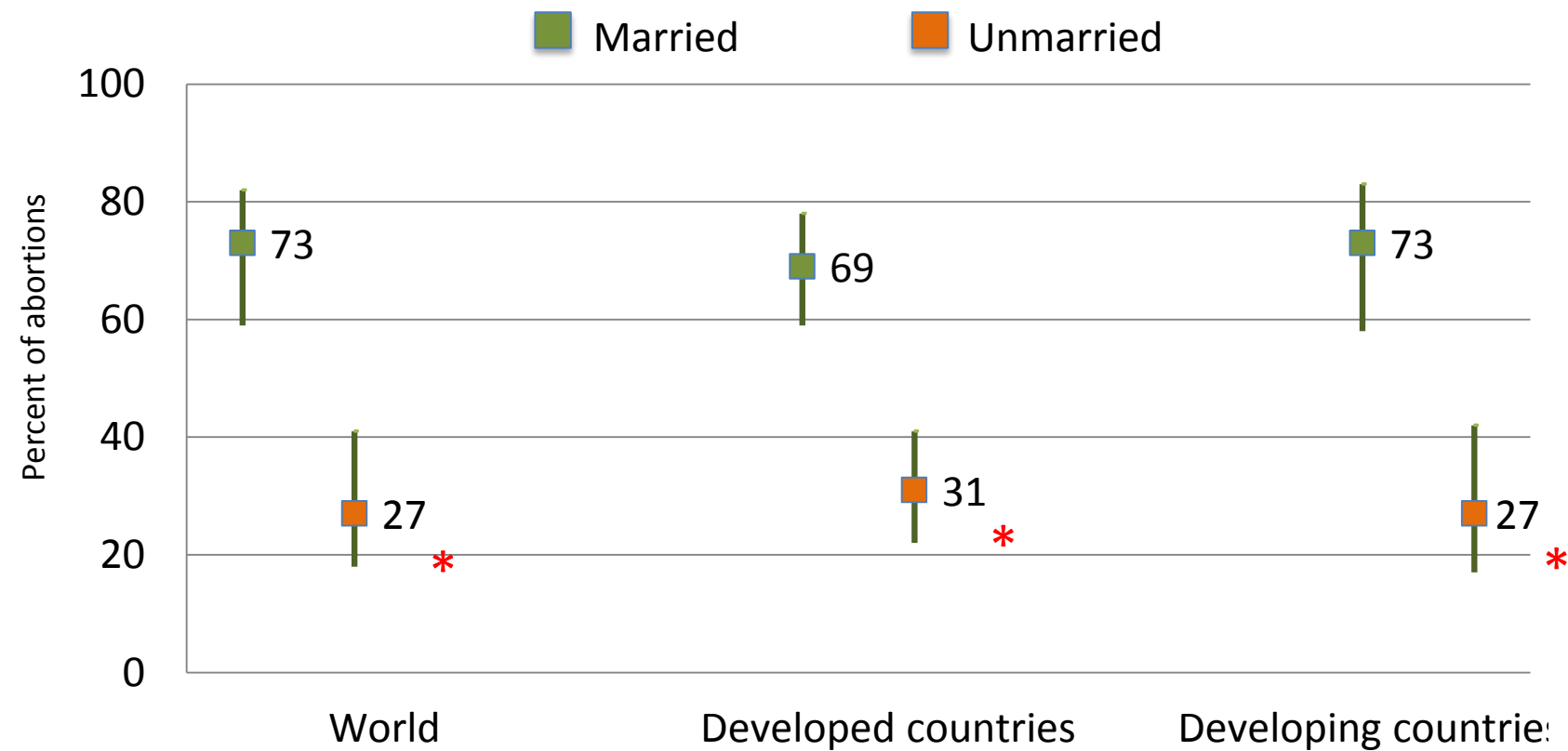
## Abortion rates vary across countries where abortion is legal on broad grounds



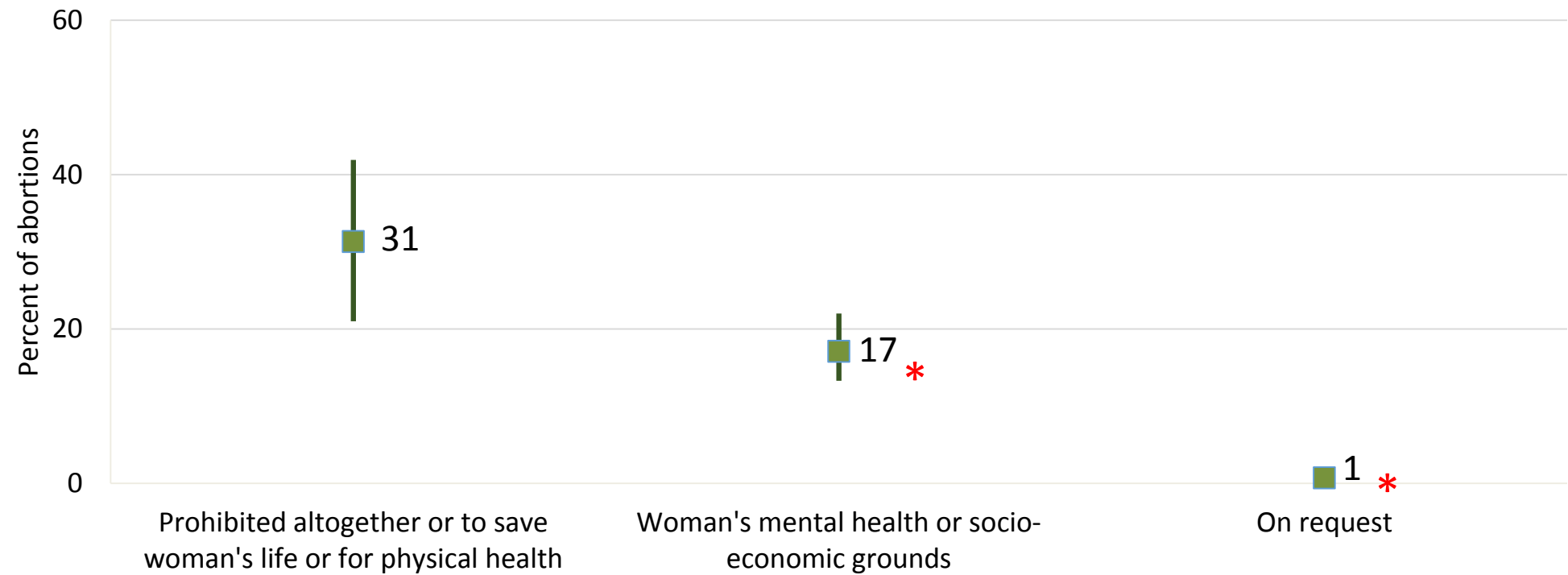
# The abortion rate is similar in countries grouped by legal status



## Married women account for the majority of abortions

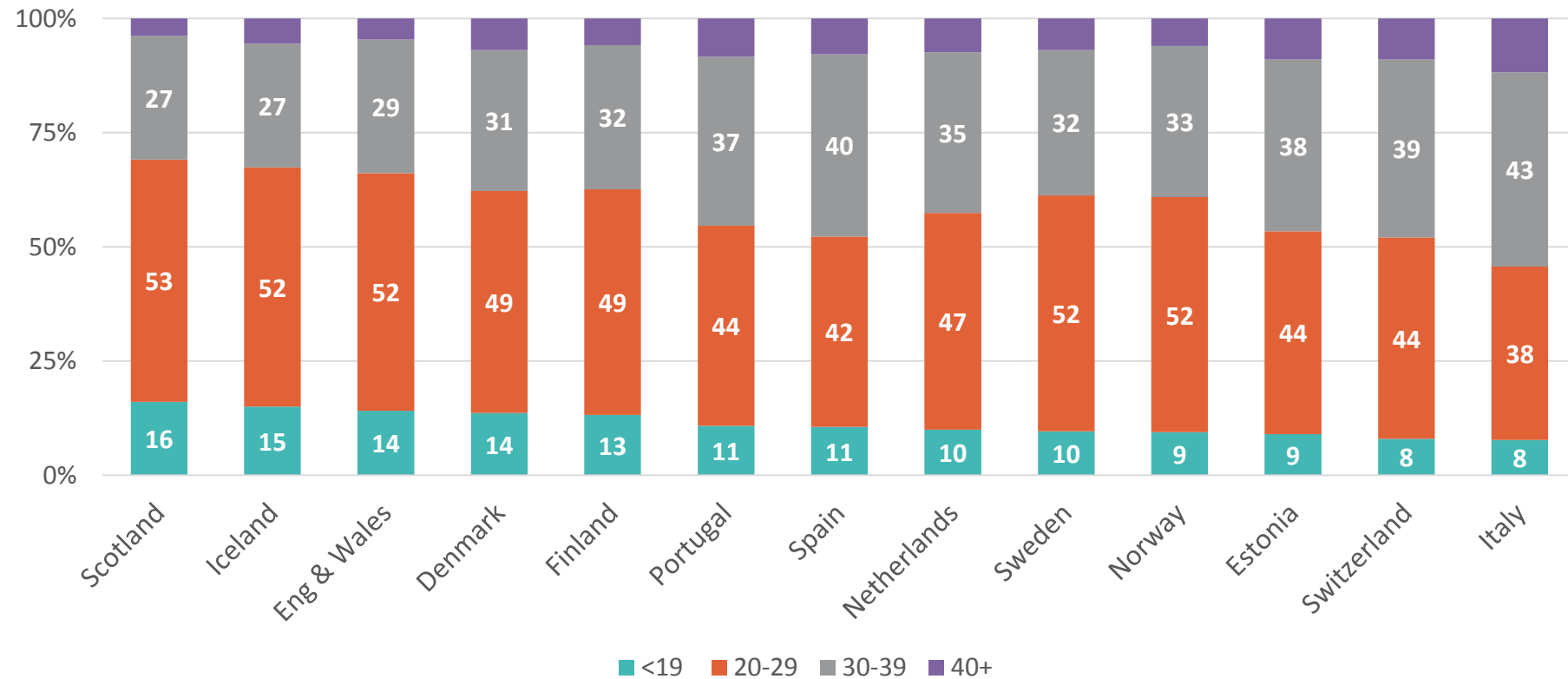


# Abortions are less safe in countries with restrictive abortion laws



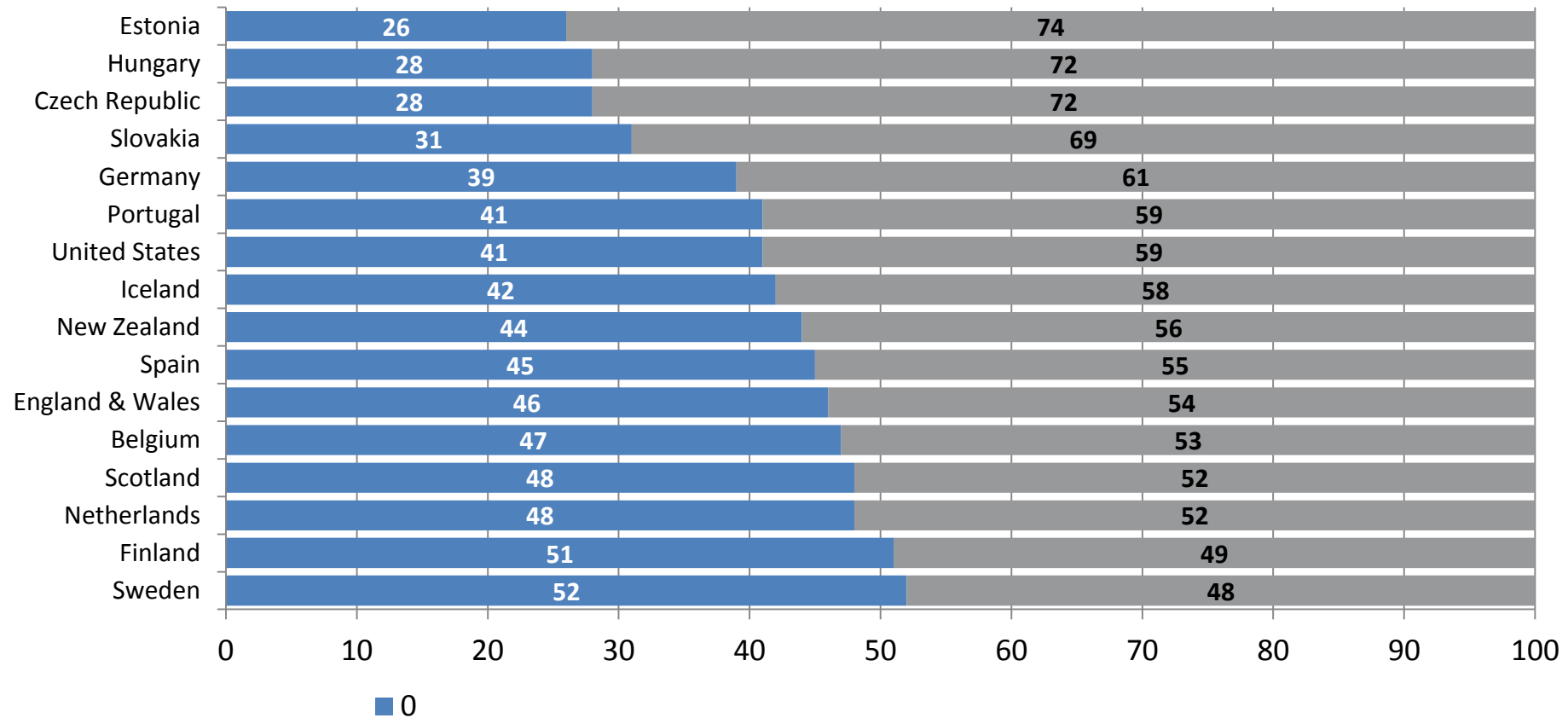


## About half of women obtaining abortions are 20-29 years old in countries with data



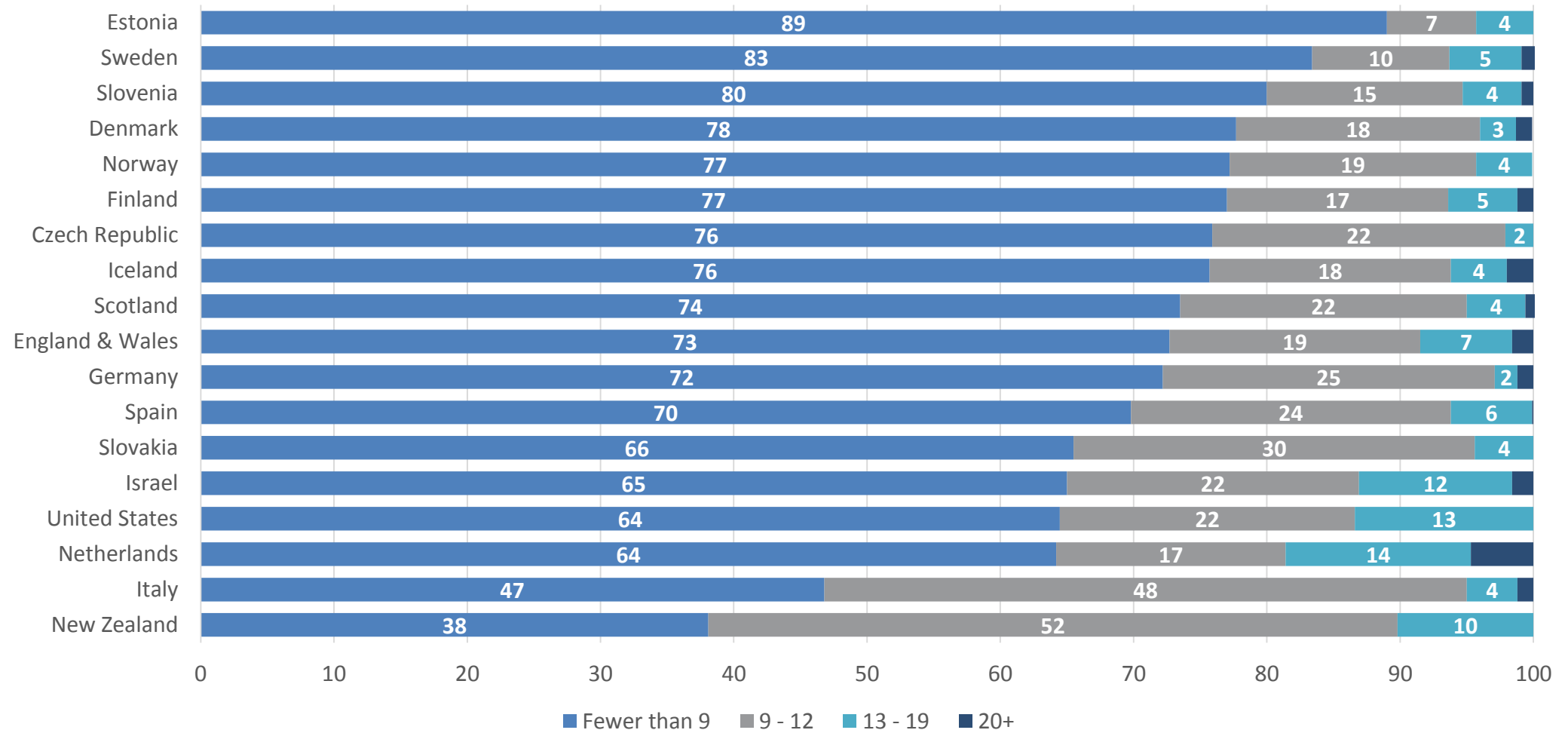
\*Or most recent year

## Most women who have had abortions have at least one child



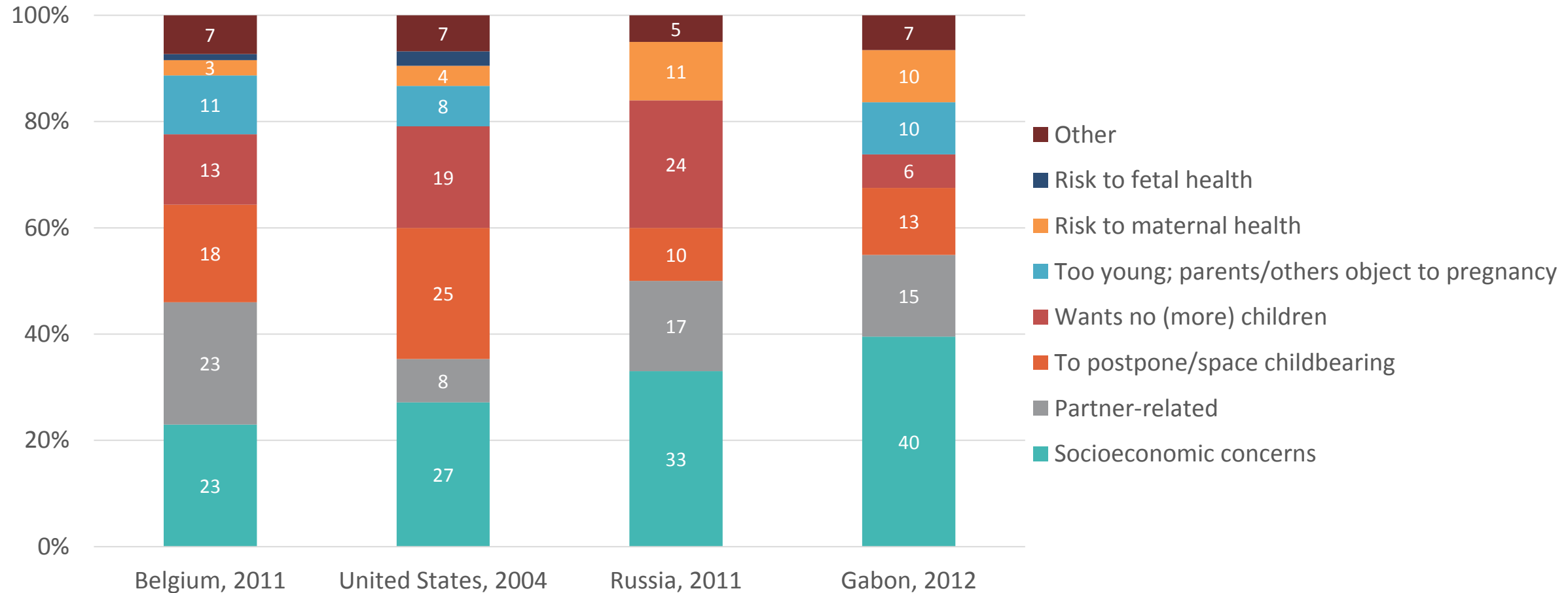
\*Or most recent year

# Most abortions are performed by the ninth week of pregnancy

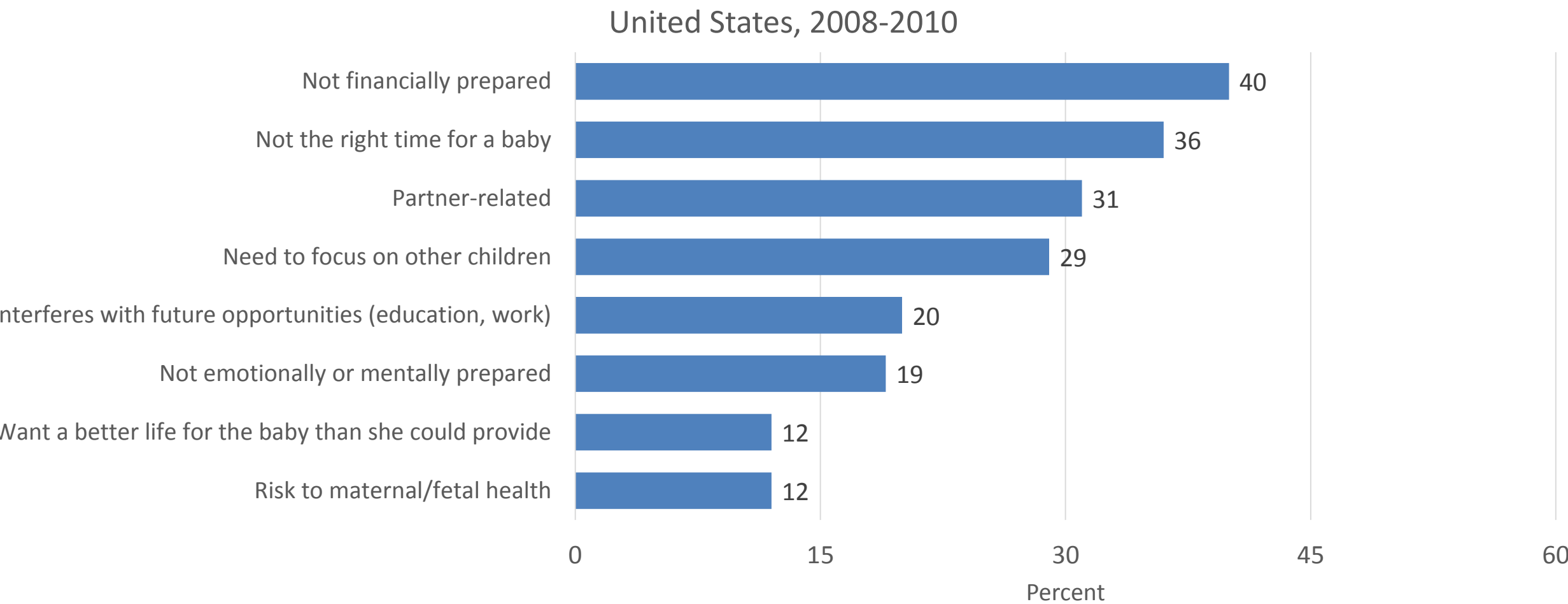


\*Or most recent year

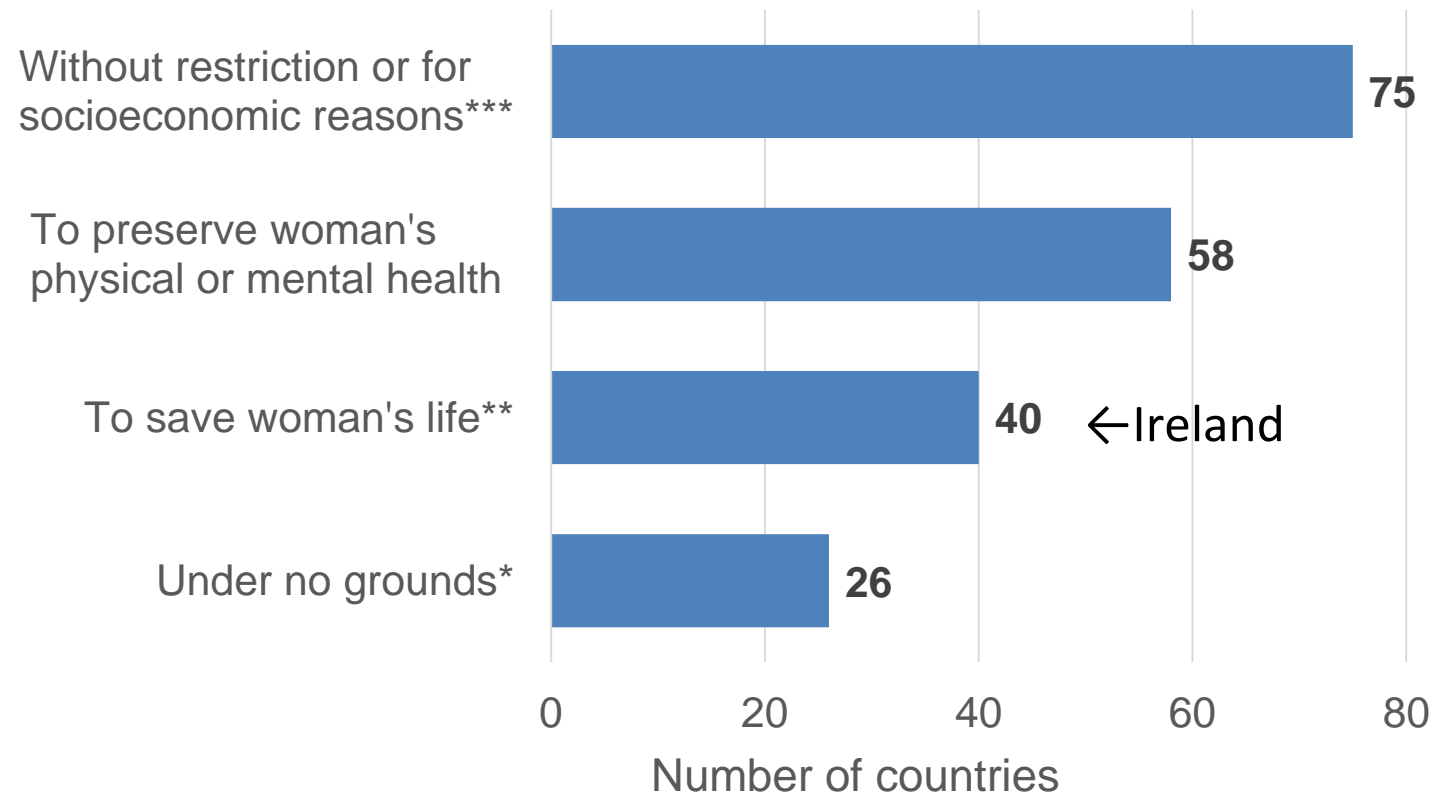
# Women report a variety of reasons for obtaining an abortion



# Many women report more than one reason for obtaining an abortion



## Worldwide, 75 countries allow abortion without restriction as to reason or for socioeconomic reasons

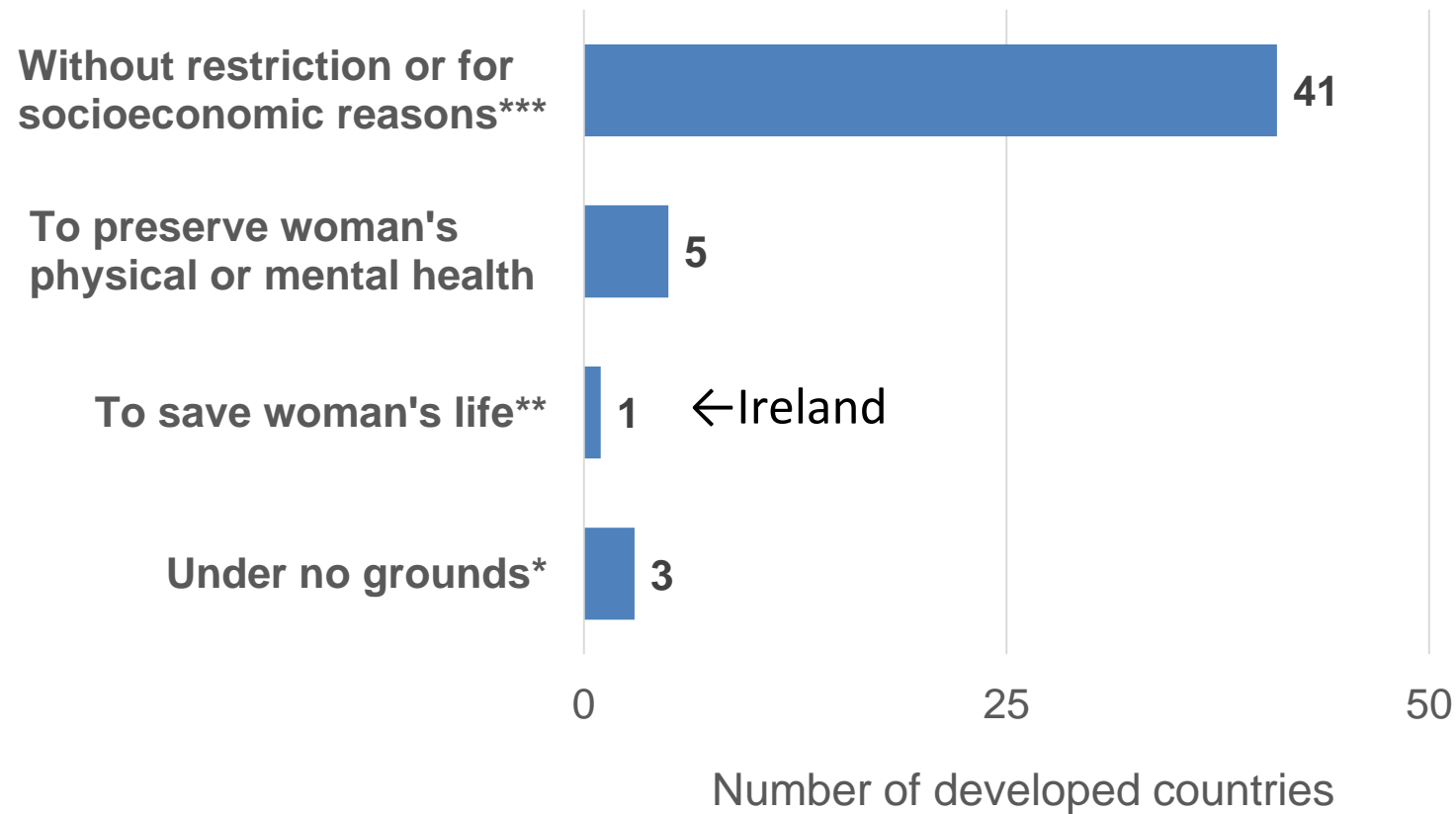


\*\*\* Some with gestational limits

\*\* Some countries allow abortion in cases of rape or other extenuating circumstances

\* Might allow abortion in cases of medical necessity

## The majority of developed countries allow abortion without restriction as to reasons or for socioeconomic reasons



\*\*\* Some with gestational limits

\*\* Some countries allow abortion in cases of rape or other extenuating circumstances

\* Might allow abortion in cases of medical necessity

# Thank you



# **APPENDIX SLIDE**

## Abortions are less safe in low income countries

