Alarming Rate of Clinic Closures

Abortion Care Network tracks clinic closures across the United States. Of all abortion clinic closures in the last five years, the vast majority have been independent abortion care providers.\textsuperscript{6}

In 2012, there were 510 independent abortion care providers in the US. Since then, 145 clinics have closed, reducing the total number of independent providers by 28% in just five years. Twenty of those clinics closed in 2012; 40 closed in 2013; 23 closed in 2014; 33 closed in 2015; and 19 closed in 2016. As of July 2017, 10 independent abortion clinics have already closed this year.

When clinics close, patients are forced to travel farther, find overnight lodging, take additional time away from work (often unpaid), and find childcare, increasing both medical and personal out-of-pocket costs. Patients are also forced to wait longer to access care, may not be able to access the method of their choice, and in some cases, may not be able to obtain an abortion at all.\textsuperscript{3, 13, 14, 15} Additionally, when clinics close and fewer providers remain in each state, it becomes increasingly easy for anti-choice extremists – including politicians – to concentrate their efforts on a single clinic, at times terrorizing the last remaining lifeline in a given state.\textsuperscript{7, 16}