

Michigan Infant Mortality Reduction Plan Fact Sheet

Infant Mortality Rate

- The 2010 infant mortality rate in Michigan set a new record low rate at 7.1 deaths per 1,000 live births, but remains higher than the national average.
- For every 1,000 Michigan live births, approximately seven infants die before reaching their first birthday.
- The Michigan infant mortality rate continues to be higher than the national rate. In 2010, the Michigan infant mortality rate was 7.1 per 1,000 live births, versus the 2010 infant death rate for the United States at 6.1 per 1,000 live births.
- Michigan experienced a significant decline in infant mortality during the early 1990s, and in recent years the infant mortality rates have begun to level off.
- The disparity between the African-American infant mortality rate and the rate for Caucasian infants continues.
- In 2010 the Caucasian infant mortality rate was 5.5 per 1,000 live births while the African-American rate was 14.2 per 1,000 live births – a new record low. The infant mortality rate for infants of other races was 5.1 per 1,000 live births.

Characteristics of Infants (*Certain newborns have a higher risk of dying*)

- In 2010 infants born with a very low birth weight (less than 1,500 grams or 3.1 pounds) experienced an infant death rate of 240.9 per 1,000 live births compared to a rate of 2.3 for those infants weighing 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) or more.
- Multiple birth infants had an infant mortality rate of 24.8 per 1,000 live births compared to the rate of 6.4 for single birth infants.
- The infant mortality rate was higher for male infants at 7.6 per 1,000 male live births than for female infants at 6.6 per 1,000 female live births.

Characteristics of Mother

- Infant death rates were the lowest for mothers ages 30-39 and highest for mothers younger than 20, but the bulk of the deaths occur to mothers ages 20-29.
- Unmarried mothers had infant mortality rates nearly twice those of married mothers.
- Women receiving inadequate prenatal care experienced infant mortality rates three times as high as those women receiving adequate prenatal care.
- Mothers exposed to secondhand smoke while pregnant had an infant death rate of 9.5 per 1,000 live births compared to a rate of 6.0 for mothers who were not exposed to secondhand smoke during pregnancy.