

Infant Mortality *rankings*

Infant mortality is defined as the death of a baby before his or her first birthday. By definition infant mortality does not include still birth babies but does include neonatal death (less than 28 days since birth) and perinatal death (28 to 364 days after birth).

Infant mortality is an important indicator of health status of the current population and is used to predict the health trends of the next generation. Unfortunately, The United States has one of the highest infant mortality rates among developed or industrialized nations. In comparison to our neighbors across the pond, Great Britain, the U.S has an infant mortality rate of 5.85 deaths per 1000 infants in comparison to Great Britain's 3.86 deaths per 1000 infants.

Within the United States, Michigan ranks 22nd for the highest rate of infant mortality with 6.4 infant deaths per 1,000 births.

Receiving prenatal care, even before conception, can aid in identifying issues that may affect the health of the baby and in turn reduce the risk of infant death. Infant mortality can be directly linked to several causes, including complications arising due to a preterm birth or low birth weight, Sudden Infant Death (SIDS), birth defects, and accidents. Regular prenatal visits can help insure that your baby is growing at a healthy rate and can mediate complications that may lead to preterm birth.

A significant contribution in reducing the risk of infant death is newborn screening. Screening is conducting right after birth so that if any ailments are present, but not readily noticeable, treatment can begin immediately and possibly save an infant's life.

| RANK | STATE | RATE |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | AL | 9.1 |
| 2 | AK | 5.4 |
| 3 | AZ | 5.4 |
| 4 | AR | 8.1 |
| 5 | CA | 4.2 |
| 6 | CO | 4.8 |
| 7 | CT | 4.8 |
| 8 | DE | 7.9 |
| 9 | FL | 6.1 |
| 10 | GA | 7.5 |
| 11 | HI | 6.1 |
| 12 | ID | 6.1 |
| 13 | IL | 6.3 |
| 14 | IN | 7.5 |
| 15 | IA | 6.1 |
| 16 | KS | 5.9 |
| 17 | KY | 6.7 |
| 18 | LA | 8.0 |
| 19 | ME | 5.8 |
| 20 | MD | 6.6 |
| 21 | MA | 3.9 |
| 22 | MI | 6.4 |
| 23 | MN | 5.1 |
| 24 | MS | 8.6 |
| 25 | MO | 6.5 |
| 26 | MT | 5.9 |
| 27 | NE | 6.2 |
| 28 | NV | 5.7 |
| 29 | NH | 3.7 |
| 30 | NJ | 4.1 |
| 31 | NM | 6.2 |
| 32 | NY | 4.5 |
| 33 | NC | 7.2 |
| 34 | ND | 6.5 |
| 35 | OH | 7.4 |
| 36 | OK | 7.4 |
| 37 | OR | 4.6 |
| 38 | PA | 6.1 |
| 39 | RI | 5.7 |
| 40 | SC | 7.0 |
| 41 | SD | 4.8 |
| 42 | TN | 7.4 |
| 43 | TX | 5.7 |
| 44 | UT | 5.4 |
| 45 | VT | 0.0 |
| 46 | VA | 5.8 |
| 47 | WA | 4.3 |
| 48 | WV | 7.3 |
| 49 | WI | 6.3 |
| 50 | WY | 5.0 |

2016 Data. The number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Source: <https://wonder.cdc.gov>.