

Maternal and Infant Health

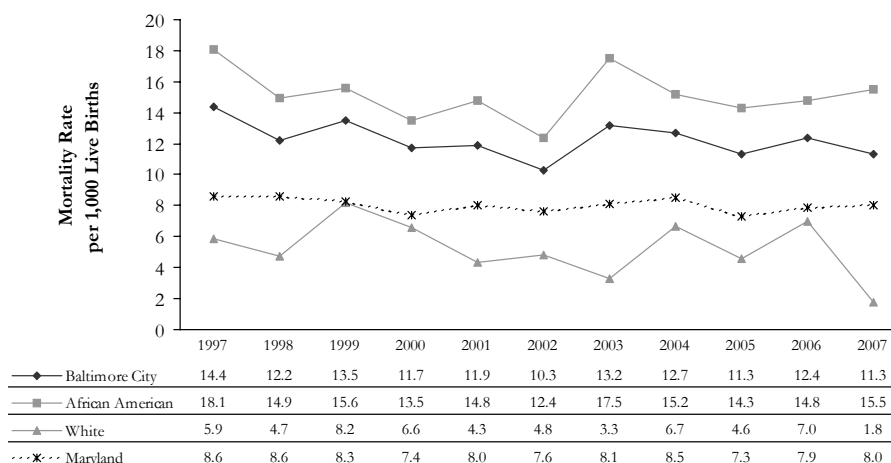
Infant Mortality

Infant Mortality: Death of infants less than one year of age (Infant Mortality Rate: the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births)

Importance: Considered one of the most sensitive health indicators of a population

National statistic: 6.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2006 (preliminary data). **Healthy People 2010 goal:** 4.5 per 1,000 live births

Infant Mortality Rate, Baltimore City by Race and Maryland, 1997-2007



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Maryland Annual Vital Statistics Report (2007 data are preliminary). Rates for other races and ethnicities are not available due to the small number of events in each subgroup.

Rank	Cause of Infant Death	Baltimore City			Maryland		
		Number	Rate*	Percent	Rank	Number	Rate* Percent
1	Disorders relating to short gestation and unspecified low birth weight	31	317.7	26%	1	123	158.9 20%
2	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	20	205.0	17%	3	67	86.5 11%
3	Congenital Abnormalities	12	123.0	10%	2	110	142.1 18%
4	Newborn affected by maternal complications of pregnancy	10	102.5	8%	4	46	59.4 8%
5	Bacterial sepsis of newborn	5	51.2	4%	6	25	32.3 4%
6	Newborn affected by maternal complications of placenta, cord and membran	4	41.0	3%	5	34	43.9 6%
7	Newborn affected by other complications of labor and delivery	4	41.0	3%	not in MD top ten		
8	Respiratory distress of newborn	4	41.0	3%	7	23	29.7 4%
9	Neonatal hemorrhage	3	30.7	3%	8	15	19.4 2%
10	Pulmonary hemorrhage originating in the perinatal period	3	30.7	3%	not in MD top ten		
	All other causes (residual)	25	256.2	21%	n/a		
	All Causes	121	1240.1	100%		615	794.3 100%

Source: DHMH Vital Statistics Administration. *Rate per 100,000 live born infants. See technical notes for more information about the ICD-10 code groups for each leading cause of infant death. Causes in Maryland's top ten that were not in Baltimore City's top ten: Necrotizing enterocolitis of newborn (9th) and Diseases of the circulatory system (10th).

- In 2007, a total of 112 Baltimore City infants died, resulting in an infant mortality rate of 11.3 per 1,000 live births.
- In 2007, Baltimore City's infant mortality rate was 1.4 times greater than Maryland's rate resulting in 33 excess infant deaths.*
- The infant mortality rate among whites in Baltimore decreased by almost 75% from 2006 to 2007. Among African American infants, the mortality rate increased by 5% during this same time period. As a result, African American infants were almost nine times as likely to die in 2007 compared to white infants.
- Disorders related to low birth weight and short gestational age led to the largest number of deaths (26% of all deaths) among Baltimore City infants in 2006. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome was the second leading cause accounting for 17% of Baltimore City infant deaths. Baltimore City infants were two times as likely to die from disorders relating to low birth weight and short gestational age compared to Maryland infants and almost two and a half times as likely to die of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

*Excess Infant Deaths: The number of infant deaths in Baltimore City that is in excess of what would be expected if Baltimore City had the same infant mortality rate as Maryland.