

Table 21. Infant mortality rates, fetal mortality rates, and perinatal mortality rates, by race: United States, selected years 1950–2005

[Data are based on death certificates, fetal death records, and birth certificates]

Race and year	Neonatal ¹				Fetal mortality rate ²	Late fetal mortality rate ³	Perinatal mortality rate ⁴
	Infant ¹	Under 28 days	Under 7 days	Postneonatal ¹			
All races							
Deaths per 1,000 live births							
1950 ⁵	29.2	20.5	17.8	8.7	18.4	14.9	32.5
1960 ⁵	26.0	18.7	16.7	7.3	15.8	12.1	28.6
1970	20.0	15.1	13.6	4.9	14.0	9.5	23.0
1980	12.6	8.5	7.1	4.1	9.1	6.2	13.2
1990	9.2	5.8	4.8	3.4	7.5	4.3	9.1
1995	7.6	4.9	4.0	2.7	7.0	3.6	7.6
1999	7.1	4.7	3.8	2.3	6.7	3.4	7.1
2000	6.9	4.6	3.7	2.3	6.6	3.3	7.0
2001	6.8	4.5	3.6	2.3	6.5	3.3	6.9
2002	7.0	4.7	3.7	2.3	6.4	3.2	6.9
2003	6.9	4.6	3.7	2.2	6.2	3.0	6.7
2004	6.8	4.5	3.6	2.3	---	---	---
2005	6.9	4.5	3.6	2.3	---	---	---
Race of child: ⁶ White							
1950 ⁵	26.8	19.4	17.1	7.4	16.6	13.3	30.1
1960 ⁵	22.9	17.2	15.6	5.7	13.9	10.8	26.2
1970	17.8	13.8	12.5	4.0	12.3	8.6	21.0
1980	11.0	7.5	6.2	3.5	8.1	5.7	11.9
Race of mother: ⁷ White							
1980	10.9	7.4	6.1	3.5	8.1	5.7	11.8
1990	7.6	4.8	3.9	2.8	6.4	3.8	7.7
1995	6.3	4.1	3.3	2.2	5.9	3.3	6.5
1999	5.8	3.9	3.1	1.9	5.7	3.0	6.1
2000	5.7	3.8	3.0	1.9	5.6	2.9	5.9
2001	5.7	3.8	3.0	1.9	5.5	2.9	5.9
2002	5.8	3.9	3.1	1.9	5.5	2.8	5.9
2003	5.7	3.9	3.1	1.8	5.2	2.7	5.8
2004	5.7	3.8	3.0	1.9	---	---	---
2005	5.7	3.8	3.0	1.9	---	---	---
Race of child: ⁶ Black or African American							
1950 ⁵	43.9	27.8	23.0	16.1	32.1	---	---
1960 ⁵	44.3	27.8	23.7	16.5	---	---	---
1970	32.6	22.8	20.3	9.9	23.2	---	34.5
1980	21.4	14.1	11.9	7.3	14.4	8.9	20.7
Race of mother: ⁷ Black or African American							
1980	22.2	14.6	12.3	7.6	14.7	9.1	21.3
1990	18.0	11.6	9.7	6.4	13.3	6.7	16.4
1995	15.1	9.8	8.2	5.3	12.7	5.7	13.8
1999	14.6	9.8	7.9	4.8	12.6	5.4	13.2
2000	14.1	9.4	7.6	4.7	12.4	5.4	13.0
2001	14.0	9.2	7.6	4.8	12.1	5.3	12.8
2002	14.4	9.5	7.8	4.8	11.9	5.2	12.8
2003	14.0	9.4	7.5	4.6	12.0	5.1	12.4
2004	13.8	9.1	7.3	4.7	---	---	---
2005	13.7	9.1	7.3	4.7	---	---	---

--- Data not available.

¹Infant (under 1 year of age), neonatal (under 28 days), early neonatal (under 7 days), and postneonatal (28 days–11 months).

²Number of fetal deaths of 20 weeks or more gestation per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths.

³Number of fetal deaths of 28 weeks or more gestation (late fetal deaths) per 1,000 live births plus late fetal deaths.

⁴Number of late fetal deaths plus infant deaths within 7 days of birth per 1,000 live births plus late fetal deaths.

⁵Includes births and deaths of persons who were not residents of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

⁶Infant deaths, live births, and fetal deaths are tabulated by race of child. See [Appendix II, Race](#).

⁷Infant deaths are tabulated by race of decedent; fetal deaths and live births are tabulated by race of mother. See [Appendix II, Race](#).

NOTES: Infant mortality rates in this table are based on infant deaths from the mortality file (numerator) and live births from the natality file (denominator). Inconsistencies in reporting race for the same infant between the birth and death certificate can result in underestimated infant mortality rates for races other than white or black. Infant mortality rates for minority population groups are available from the Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set and are presented in Tables 19–20 and 23–24. Data for additional years are available. See [Appendix III](#).

SOURCES: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System: Kung H-C, Hoyert DL, Xu JQ, Murphy SL. Deaths: Final data for 2005. National vital statistics reports, vol 56 no 10. Hyattsville, MD: NCHS. 2008 and unpublished numbers.