

**Table 23. Infant mortality rates, fetal mortality rates, and perinatal mortality rates, according to race: United States, selected years 1950–99**

[Data are based on the National Vital Statistics System]

Race and year	Infant <sup>1</sup>	Neonatal <sup>1</sup>			Postneonatal <sup>1</sup>	Fetal mortality rate <sup>2</sup>	Late fetal mortality rate <sup>3</sup>	Perinatal mortality rate <sup>4</sup>
		Under 28 days	Under 7 days					
All races								
Deaths per 1,000 live births								
1950 <sup>5</sup>	29.2	20.5	17.8	8.7	18.4	14.9	32.5	
1960 <sup>5</sup>	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	
1985	10.6	7.0	5.8	3.7	7.8	4.9	10.7	
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	
1996	7.3	4.8	3.8	2.5	6.9	3.6	7.4	
1997	7.2	4.8	3.8	2.5	6.8	3.5	7.3	
1998	7.2	4.8	3.8	2.4	6.7	3.4	7.2	
1999	7.1	4.7	3.8	2.3	---	---	---	
Race of child: <sup>6</sup> White								
1950 <sup>5</sup>	26.8	19.4	17.1	7.4	16.6	13.3	30.1	
1960 <sup>5</sup>	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: <sup>7</sup> White								
1980	10.9	7.4	6.1	3.5	8.1	5.7	11.8	
1985	9.2	6.0	5.0	3.2	6.9	4.5	9.5	
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	
1996	6.1	4.0	3.2	2.1	5.9	3.3	6.4	
1997	6.0	4.0	3.2	2.0	5.8	3.2	6.3	
1998	6.0	4.0	3.1	2.0	5.7	3.1	6.2	
1999	5.8	3.9	3.1	1.9	---	---	---	
Race of child: <sup>6</sup> Black								
1950 <sup>5</sup>	43.9	27.8	23.0	16.1	32.1	---	---	
1960 <sup>5</sup>	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: <sup>7</sup> Black								
1980	22.2	14.6	12.3	7.6	14.7	9.1	21.3	
1985	19.0	12.6	10.8	6.4	12.8	7.2	17.9	
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	
1996	14.7	9.6	7.8	5.1	12.5	5.5	13.3	
1997	14.2	9.4	7.8	4.8	12.5	5.5	13.2	
1998	14.3	9.5	7.8	4.8	12.3	5.3	13.1	
1999	14.6	9.8	7.9	4.8	---	---	---	

--- Data not available.

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

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

<sup>3</sup>Number of fetal deaths of 28 weeks or more gestation per 1,000 live births plus late fetal deaths.

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

<sup>5</sup>Includes births and deaths of persons who were not residents of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

<sup>6</sup>Infant deaths are tabulated by race of decedent; live births and fetal deaths are tabulated by race of child (see Appendix II, Race).

<sup>7</sup>Infant 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 national linked files of live births and infant deaths and are presented in tables 20–21 and 24–25. Data for additional years are available (see Appendix III).

SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System; *Vital statistics of the United States, vol II, mortality, part A*, for data years 1950–93. Public Health Service. Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office; for 1994–99, data are available on the NCHS Web site at [www.cdc.gov/nchs/datawh/statab/unpubd/mortabs.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/datawh/statab/unpubd/mortabs.htm); Hoyert DL, Smith BL, Arias E, Murphy SL. Deaths: Final data for 1999. National vital statistics reports. vol 49 no 8. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 2001.