

**Table 22. Infant mortality rates, fetal mortality rates, and perinatal mortality rates, according to race: United States, selected years 1950–2001**

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

| 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  | 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                                    |                                       |
| 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  | 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                                    |                                       |
| Race of child: <sup>6</sup> Black or African American  |                     |                       |              |      |                           |                                   |  |                                       |
| 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 or African American |                     |                       |              |      |                           |                                   |  |                                       |
| 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  | 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                                   |                                       |

--- 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 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.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System: Arias E, Anderson RN, Kung HC, Murphy SL, Kochanek KD. Deaths: Final data for 2001. National vital statistics reports. vol 52 no 3. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 2003.