

Table 25. Infant mortality rates and international rankings: Selected countries, selected years 1960–99

[Data are based on reporting by countries]

| Country ² | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 1995 | 1998 | 1999 ³ | International rankings ¹ | |
|--|-------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------|
| | | | | | | | | 1960 | 1999 |
| Infant ⁴ deaths per 1,000 live births | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia | 20.2 | 17.9 | 10.7 | 8.2 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 5.7 | 5 | 22 |
| Austria | 37.5 | 25.9 | 14.3 | 7.8 | 5.4 | 4.9 | 4.4 | 24 | 9 |
| Belgium | 31.2 | 21.1 | 12.1 | 8.0 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 4.9 | 20 | 14 |
| Bulgaria | 45.1 | 27.3 | 20.2 | 14.8 | 14.8 | 14.4 | 14.5 | 30 | 35 |
| Canada | 27.3 | 18.8 | 10.4 | 6.8 | 6.0 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 14 | 18 |
| Chile | 125.1 | 78.8 | 33.0 | 16.0 | 11.1 | 10.9 | 10.1 | 36 | 32 |
| Costa Rica | 67.8 | 65.4 | 20.3 | 15.3 | 13.3 | 12.6 | 11.8 | 33 | 34 |
| Cuba | 37.3 | 38.7 | 19.6 | 10.7 | 9.4 | 7.1 | 6.4 | 23 | 26 |
| Czech Republic | 20.0 | 20.2 | 16.9 | 10.8 | 7.7 | 5.2 | 4.6 | 4 | 12 |
| Denmark | 21.5 | 14.2 | 8.4 | 7.5 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 8 | 7 |
| England and Wales | 22.5 | 18.5 | 12.1 | 7.9 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 8 | 24 |
| Finland | 21.0 | 13.2 | 7.6 | 5.6 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 3.7 | 6 | 5 |
| France | 27.5 | 18.2 | 10.0 | 7.3 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 15 | 8 |
| Germany ⁵ | 35.0 | 22.5 | 12.4 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 4.7 | 4.5 | 22 | 10 |
| Greece | 40.1 | 29.6 | 17.9 | 9.7 | 8.1 | 6.7 | 6.2 | 25 | 25 |
| Hong Kong | 41.5 | 19.2 | 11.2 | 6.2 | 4.6 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 26 | 1 |
| Hungary | 47.6 | 35.9 | 23.2 | 14.8 | 10.7 | 9.7 | 8.4 | 31 | 30 |
| Ireland | 29.3 | 19.5 | 11.1 | 8.2 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 5.5 | 17 | 19 |
| Israel ⁶ | 31.0 | 18.9 | 15.2 | 9.9 | 6.8 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 19 | 22 |
| Italy | 43.9 | 29.6 | 14.6 | 8.2 | 6.2 | 5.4 | 5.1 | 29 | 16 |
| Japan | 30.7 | 13.1 | 7.5 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 18 | 2 |
| Netherlands | 17.9 | 12.7 | 8.6 | 7.1 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 2 | 17 |
| New Zealand | 22.6 | 16.7 | 13.0 | 8.4 | 6.7 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 10 | 19 |
| Northern Ireland | 27.2 | 22.9 | 13.4 | 7.5 | 7.1 | 5.6 | 6.4 | 13 | 26 |
| Norway | 18.9 | 12.7 | 8.1 | 7.0 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3 | 6 |
| Poland | 54.8 | 36.7 | 25.5 | 19.3 | 13.6 | 9.5 | 8.9 | 32 | 31 |
| Portugal | 77.5 | 55.5 | 24.3 | 11.0 | 7.5 | 6.0 | 5.6 | 35 | 21 |
| Puerto Rico | 43.3 | 27.9 | 18.5 | 13.4 | 12.7 | 10.5 | 10.6 | 27 | 33 |
| Romania | 75.7 | 49.4 | 29.3 | 26.9 | 21.2 | 20.5 | 18.6 | 34 | 37 |
| Russian Federation ⁷ | --- | --- | 22.0 | 17.6 | 18.2 | 16.4 | 17.1 | --- | 36 |
| Scotland | 26.4 | 19.6 | 12.1 | 7.7 | 6.2 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 12 | 15 |
| Singapore | 34.8 | 21.4 | 11.7 | 6.7 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 21 | 4 |
| Slovakia | 28.6 | 25.7 | 20.9 | 12.0 | 11.0 | 8.8 | 8.3 | 16 | 29 |
| Spain | 43.7 | 28.1 | 12.3 | 7.6 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.5 | 28 | 10 |
| Sweden | 16.6 | 11.0 | 6.9 | 6.0 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 3.4 | 1 | 2 |
| Switzerland | 21.1 | 15.1 | 9.1 | 6.8 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 7 | 12 |
| United States | 26.0 | 20.0 | 12.6 | 9.2 | 7.6 | 7.2 | 7.1 | 11 | 28 |

--- Data not available.

¹Rankings are from lowest to highest infant mortality rates (IMR). Countries with the same IMR receive the same rank. The country with the next highest IMR is assigned the rank it would have received had the lower-ranked countries not been tied, i.e., skip a rank. Some of the variation in infant mortality rates is due to differences among countries in distinguishing between fetal and infant deaths.

²Refers to countries, territories, cities, or geographic areas with at least 1 million population and with "complete" counts of live births and infant deaths as indicated in the United Nations Demographic Yearbook.

³Rates for Israel and New Zealand are from 1998.

⁴Under 1 year of age.

⁵Rates for 1990 and earlier years were calculated by combining information from the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic.

⁶Includes data for East Jerusalem and Israeli residents in certain other territories under occupation by Israel military forces since June 1967.

⁷Excludes infants born alive after less than 28 weeks' gestation, of less than 1,000 grams in weight and 35 centimeters in length, who die within 7 days of birth.

NOTE: Some rates were revised and differ from the previous edition of *Health, United States*.

SOURCES: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD): OECD Health Data 2002, A Comparative Analysis of 30 Countries, www.oecd.org/els/health/; United Nations: Demographic Yearbook Historical Supplement 1948–1997, United Nations Publication, Sales No. E/F.99.XIII.12, New York, 2000; World Health Organization: World Health Statistics Annual. Vols. 1997–1999. Geneva; <http://www.euro.who.int/>; United States and Puerto Rico: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Statistics of the United States, vol. II, mortality part A (selected years). Public Health Service. Washington; Sweden: Statistics Sweden; Costa Rica: Dirección General de Estadísticas y Censos. Elaboración y estimación, Centro Centroamericano de Población, Universidad de Costa Rica, <http://populi.eest.ucr.ac.cr/observa/index1.htm>; Russian Federation: Goskomstat <http://www.gks.ru/eng/>.