

Infant Mortality

Nevada

Between 1998 and 2000, the Infant Mortality Rate in Nevada was 6.7. Of the 87,235 babies born during this period, 582 infants died before they reached their first birthday. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2001*, the 1998 rate for the U.S. was 7.2.¹

Counties

Among the 15 counties in Nevada for which statistically reliable rates could be calculated, the Infant Mortality Rate ranged from a low of 0 in Eureka, Lincoln, Pershing, and Storey counties to a high of 11.9 in White Pine County.

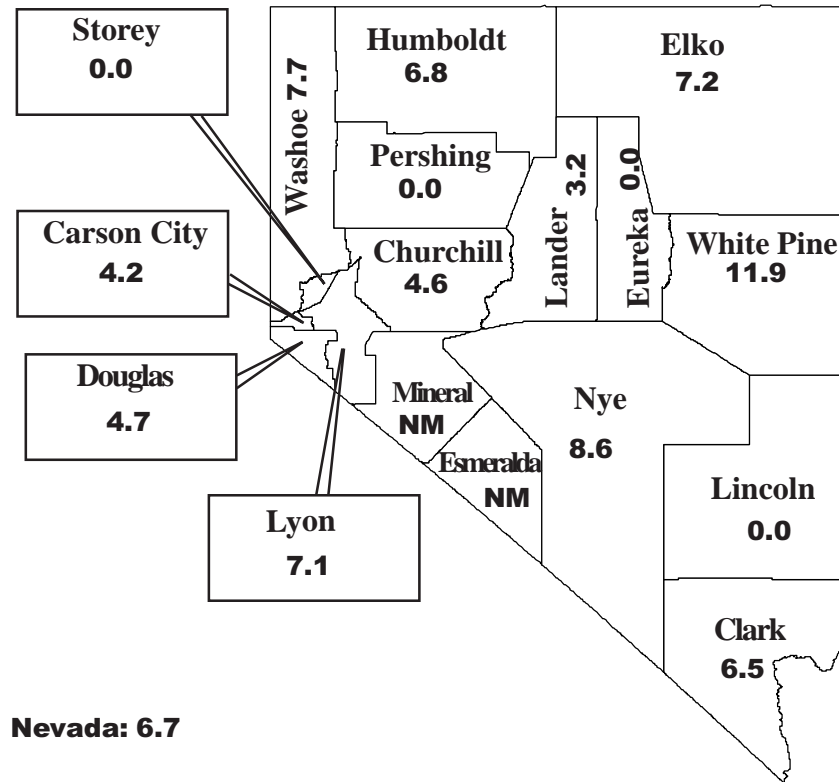
Significant Factors

- ❖ The three leading causes of infant death in 1999 were (1) congenital malformations, (2) low birthweight, and (3) sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).²
- ❖ Adverse sociological circumstances among teenage and unmarried mothers may be a more important contributor to the infant mortality rate than the young marital age or marital status per se.³
- ❖ The involvement of a father may have an effect on infant health, and may be a more important risk factor than unmarried status.⁴
- ❖ The use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs by pregnant women accounts for a significant portion of infant mortality and contributes to the fact that the U.S. has a higher infant mortality rate than most other developed countries.⁵

Definition

The Infant Mortality Rate measures the number of babies who die during their first year of life, per 1,000 live births. The data are reported by county of residence, rather than place of death.

Infant Mortality Rate: 1998-2000



Note: NM = Not Meaningful.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 1998-2000.