

Infant Mortality

Nevada

Between 2000 and 2002, the infant mortality rate in Nevada was 6.0 per 1,000 live births. Of the 93,850 babies born during this period, 561 infants died before they reached their first birthday. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*, the 2000 rate for the U.S. was 6.9.¹

Counties

The infant mortality rate ranged from a low of 3.2 in Carson City to a high of 10.8 in Nye County. Statistically reliable rates could not be calculated for eight counties due to a low number of births between 2000 and 2002.

Significant Factors

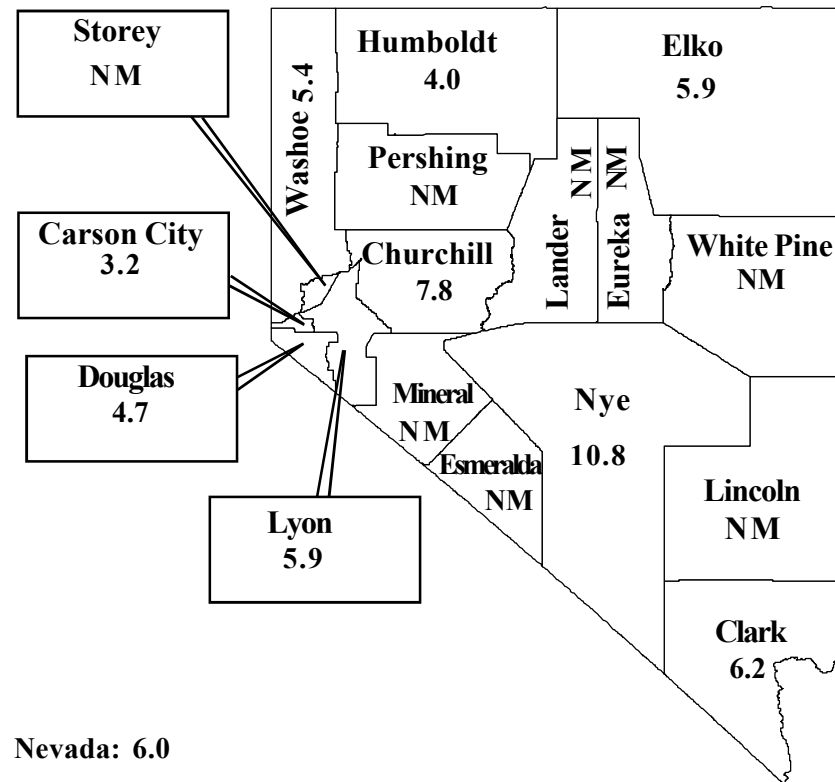
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released U.S. infant mortality statistics for 2001. Some highlights include:²

- ❖ The three major causes of infant mortality in the U.S., congenital malformations, low birthweight, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), accounted for 44 percent of all infant deaths.
- ❖ The infant-mortality rate for the U.S. fell to 6.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2001 from 6.9 in 2000. This decline was partially due to an 11 percent reduction in SIDS deaths between 2000 and 2001. In 2001, the infant-mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) for males was greater than that for females, 7.5 and 6.1, respectively.
- ❖ Tobacco use during pregnancy can impair a growing infant's oxygen supply and can lead to detrimental pregnancy and birth outcomes. These outcomes include infant mortality and low birthweight. The oxygen impairment is due to the passage of nicotine, carbon monoxide, and hydrogen cyanide into the fetal blood supply. In 2001, the infant-mortality rate for smokers was 10.5, compared to 6.5 for nonsmokers.

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.

**Nevada Infant Mortality Rate: 2000-2002
(Per 1,000 live births)**



Nevada: 6.0

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable. Rates are not shown for counties with less than 600 births. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2000-2002.