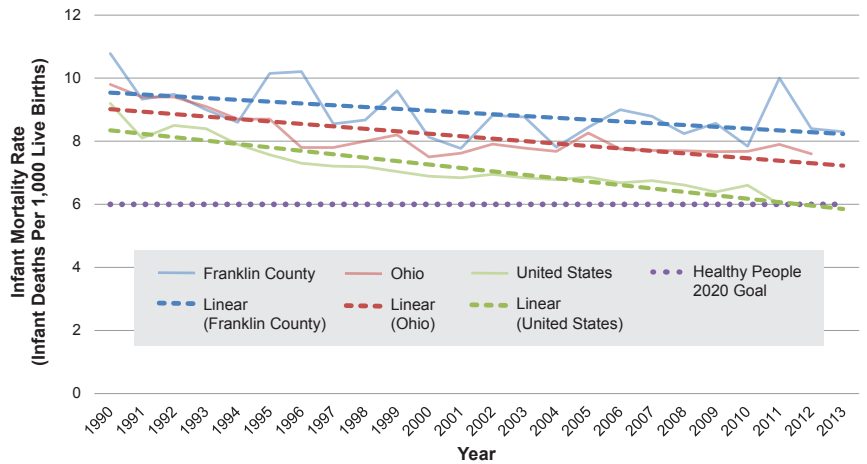


THE CASE FOR CHANGE: Infant Mortality In Franklin County

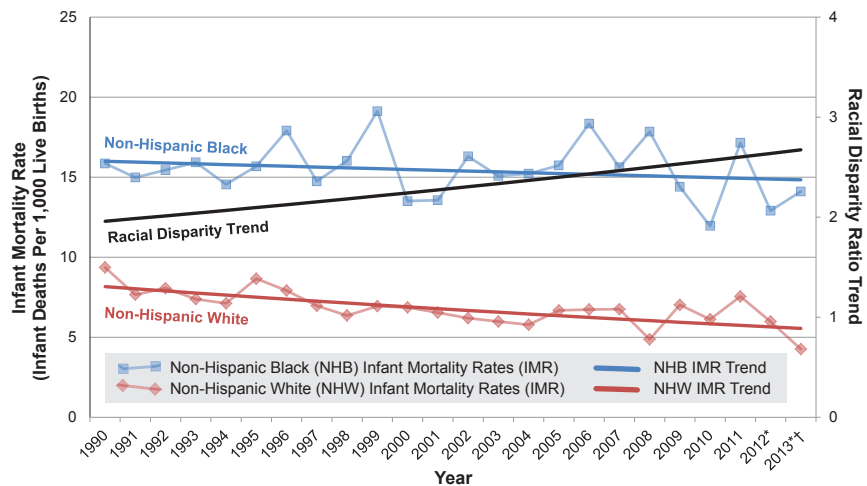
Infant mortality rates (IMR) have generally decreased over the years locally, statewide, and nationally. Even so, **Franklin County's IMR is decreasing at a slower pace compared to the rest of the country, resulting in a growing gap.** In fact, the IMR in Franklin County for 2013 is as high as the national rate back in the early 1990s.

◀ INFANT MORTALITY RATE, 1990-2013



Within Franklin County, different populations experience different IMRs. At times, **the non-Hispanic Black (NHB) rate has been over three times higher than the non-Hispanic White (NHW) rate.** This disparity or difference is unacceptable and inconsistent with our community values. While both populations are experiencing lower rates than 20 years ago, **the gap or difference between NHB and NHW rates is increasing,** much like the gap between Franklin County as a whole and the rest of the country.

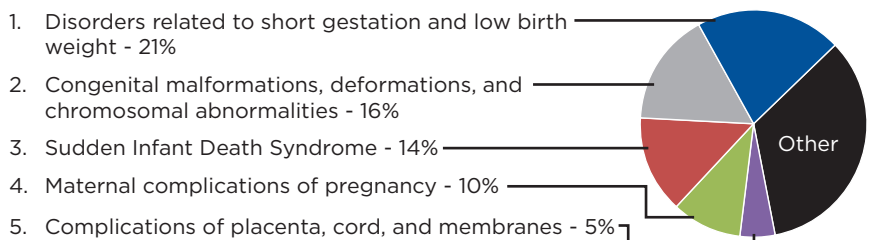
◀ INFANT MORTALITY RATE BY RACE, FRANKLIN COUNTY, 1990-2013



*Preliminary data (Source = CPH VitalView System)
†Year-to-date figure up through September, 2013 as of 10/20/2013

The top three causes of death for infants in Franklin County in 2013 are 1) preterm and low birth weight births, 2) birth defects, and 3) sudden infant death syndrome.

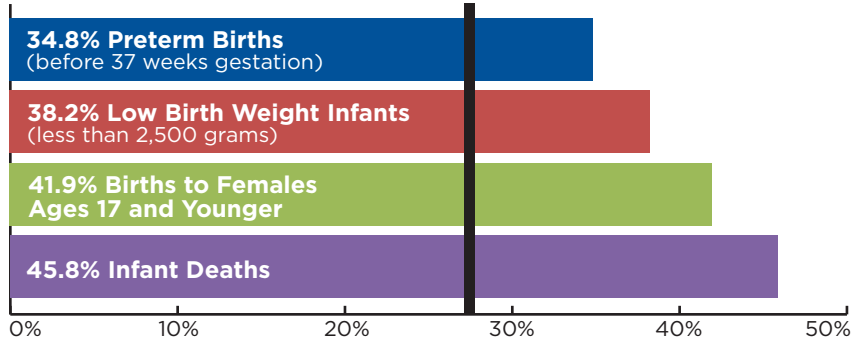
◀ LEADING CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, 2009-2011



Disproportionality is one way to examine disparities between groups within Franklin County. Though only 27% of births from 2011-2013 were to NHB moms, NHB births represent 35% of preterm births (before 37 weeks of gestation), 38 % of low birth weight births (less than 2,500 grams), 42% of births to teens 17 years and younger, and 46% of all infant deaths. **If there was equity among Franklin County residents, NHBs would only represent 27% of the births in each of these areas.**

DISPROPORTIONALITY

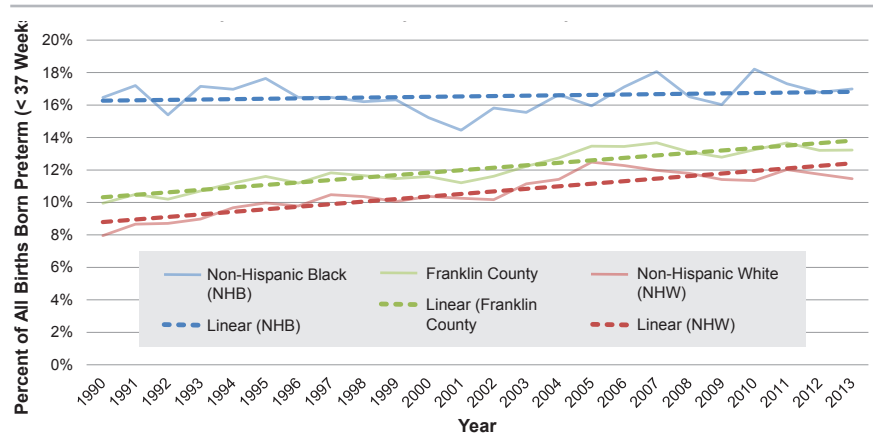
27.4% of births in 2011-2013* were to Non-Hispanic Black mothers, yet they represent...



*2012 and 2013 are preliminary data (Source = Ohio Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics). 2013 is year-to-date figure up through September, 2013 as of 10/20/2013.

The rate of preterm births in Franklin County is increasing. In 1990, preterm births accounted for 10% of all births. In 2013, preterm births account for 13% of all births. In addition to being a leading cause of infant mortality, being born preterm interferes with child development and may have life-long effects on children, families, and communities.

PRETERM BIRTHS (< 37 WEEKS) AS A PERCENT OF ALL BIRTHS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY, FRANKLIN COUNTY, 1990-2013



The Broader Impact of Preterm Birth: Every year, more than 13% of babies born in Franklin County are born too early (<37 weeks). Preterm birth is an important driver of infant mortality, but even those babies that survive face ongoing challenges and complications that impact our entire community.

Babies born prematurely:

- Are at a higher risk for death, cerebral palsy, breathing and respiratory problems, vision problems, hearing loss and feeding and digestive problems.
- Have health care costs that are 10 times higher than babies that are delivered full-term.
- Cost companies thousands of dollars in absenteeism and lost productivity.
- May face difficulties with school and learning that require costly early intervention, special education, and other support services.