

# INFANT MORTALITY: August 2013

**Infant mortality** – or the death of a baby before his/her first birthday – is a critical indicator of community health. While recent data shows national infant mortality rates decreasing, Ohio still has the 8<sup>th</sup> worst rate in the nation and the Columbus and Franklin County area has a rate that is twice as high as New York City's. In 2011, 174 infants died locally, with Black babies dying at twice the rate of White babies. In addition to infant deaths, this monthly indicator summary tracks preterm births, low birth weight births and sleep related infant deaths.

## BIRTHS

**1,650** babies were born, of which...

**12.0%** were **Preterm births\***  
 HP 2020 goal  $\leq 11.4\%$ <sup>1</sup>

**8.8%** were **Low birth weight births\***  
 HP 2020 goal  $\leq 7.8\%$ <sup>1</sup>

Percentages are based on births with available data: 1,648 for preterm and 1,647 for low birth weight births

## DEATHS

**16** babies died

### AGE

**69%** died **before reaching 28 days of age** (Neonatal)

**31%** died **between the ages of 28 days and 1 year** (Post-Neonatal)

### GENDER

The infant death **Male to Female** ratio was... **1.7** males to **1** female

### SLEEP RELATED DEATHS

**3** were sleep related infant deaths  
**(1 out of every 5.3)**

### ABOUT THE DATA

- ▶ All current and historical figures are preliminary and subject to change as new/updated information is received.
- ▶ Current and preliminary death data (2012 and after) are provided by the Columbus Office of Vital Statistics. Analysis is completed by the Office of Epidemiology within the Center for Epidemiology, Preparedness, and Response.
- ▶ Current and preliminary birth data are obtained from the Ohio Department of Health Secure Data Warehouse. Analysis is completed by the Office of Epidemiology within the Center for Epidemiology, Preparedness, and Response.

### MORTALITY RATE

The infant mortality rate was **9.7** infant deaths per 1,000 live births, which is **above the HP 2020 goal of  $\leq 6.0$** <sup>1</sup>

Current Value

Better HP 2020 goal upper limit Worse

### RACE

**63%** of Infant Deaths were to **Non-Hispanic Blacks (NHB)**, which is **higher** than the **percentage of births to NHBs (26%)**<sup>2</sup>

Current Value

Lower Similar to NHB Birth Percentage Higher

**Notations:**  
<sup>1</sup>Based on the Healthy People 2020 goals. Healthy People (HP) provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for improving the health of all Americans. More information on HP and HP 2020 health measures can be found at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/default.aspx>.  
<sup>2</sup>This is the predicted percentage of NHB infant deaths with the expectation that it should be similar to the 2007-11 average percentage of births to NHBs in Franklin County.

**Definitions:**  
**Low Birth Weight Birth-** A low birth weight birth is a birth to a baby who weighs less than 2,500 grams.  
**Preterm Birth-** A preterm birth is a birth to a baby who is younger than 37 weeks of gestation.  
**Sleep-Related Infant Deaths-** Sleep-related infant deaths are deaths caused by 1) sudden unexpected infant death (SUID), diagnosed as accidental suffocation, positional asphyxia, overlay, or of undetermined cause, and 2) sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

**Questions and Comments:** Please forward questions and comments to Kathy Cowen, MS, Director, Office of Epidemiology, Columbus Public Health via phone: (614) 645-6252, or e-mail: [kathyc@columbus.gov](mailto:kathyc@columbus.gov).

# INFANT MORTALITY: 2013 through August

**Infant mortality** – or the death of a baby before his/her first birthday – is a critical indicator of community health. While recent data shows national infant mortality rates decreasing, Ohio still has the 8<sup>th</sup> worst rate in the nation and the Columbus and Franklin County area has a rate that is twice as high as New York City's. In 2011, 174 infants died locally, with Black babies dying at twice the rate of White babies. In addition to infant deaths, this monthly indicator summary tracks preterm births, low birth weight births and sleep related infant deaths.

## BIRTHS

**12,344** babies were born, of which...

**13.4%** were **Preterm births\***  
 HP 2020 goal  $\leq 11.4\%$ <sup>1</sup>

**9.1%** were **Low birth weight births\***  
 HP 2020 goal  $\leq 7.8\%$ <sup>1</sup>

\*Percentages are based on births with available data: 12,316 for preterm and 12,318 for low birth weight births

## DEATHS

**107** babies died  x 2

### AGE

 **74.8%** died **before reaching 28 days of age** (Neonatal)

 **25.2%** died **between the ages of 28 days and 1 year** (Post-Neonatal)

### GENDER

The infant death **Male to Female** ratio was...  **1.1** to  **1** **males** **female**

### SLEEP RELATED DEATHS

**15** were sleep related infant deaths  **(1 out of every 7.1)**

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### MORTALITY RATE

The infant mortality rate was **8.7** infant deaths per 1,000 live births, which is **above the HP 2020 goal of  $\leq 6.0$ <sup>1</sup>**

Current Value



Better HP 2020 goal upper limit Worse

### RACE

**49%** of Infant Deaths were to **Non-Hispanic Blacks (NHB)**, which is **higher** than the **percentage of births to NHBs (26%<sup>2</sup>)**

Current Value



Lower Similar to NHB Birth Percentage Higher

**Notations:**  
<sup>1</sup>Based on the Healthy People 2020 goals. Healthy People (HP) provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for improving the health of all Americans. More information on HP and HP 2020 health measures can be found at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/default.aspx>.  
<sup>2</sup>This is the predicted percentage of NHB infant deaths with the expectation that it should be similar to the 2007-11 average percentage of births to NHBs in Franklin County.

**Definitions:**  
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