

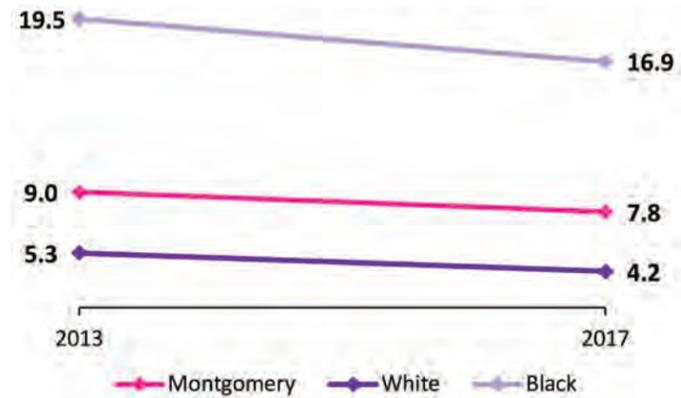
INFANT MORTALITY



SDOH SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

The causes of infant mortality can be related to the conditions in which moms and babies live, learn, work, and play. Communities experiencing higher levels of poverty, crime, and food insecurity, as well as deteriorating neighborhood and housing conditions often experience higher rates of infant mortality. Women living within these communities may experience higher levels of stress. High levels of stress can cause a baby to be born too early (prematurely), which can increase a baby's risk of dying before they reach their first birthday.

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births) by Race, Montgomery County, 2013-2017



Note: Due to small numbers, the Hispanic infant mortality rate cannot be calculated annually.
Source: Ohio Birth and Death Certificates, Ohio Department of Health

KEY FINDINGS

- ▶ All infant mortality rates declined since 2013.
- ▶ Black babies die at a rate 4 times higher than White babies.
- ▶ The Hispanic infant mortality rate from 2013 to 2017 is 7.7 deaths per 1,000 live births (data not shown).

Source: Ohio Death Certificates, Ohio Department of Health

Leading Causes of Infant Death, 2013-2017

Rank	Cause	% of Deaths
1	Prematurity/Related Conditions	32.1%
2	Birth Defects	14.1%
3	Maternal Complications	12.9%
4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	12.4%
5	Other Causes	8.4%

KEY FINDINGS

- ▶ Most babies die because they are born too early and too small.
- ▶ 68% of accidental deaths among infants are caused by sleep-related suffocation or strangulation in bed (data not shown).

Across the Nation

	Montgomery ¹	Ohio ¹	United States	HP 2020 Goal
Adequate Prenatal Care	73.6%	76.1%	75.6% ⁴	77.6%
Smoking During Pregnancy	8.7%	11.0%	5.5% ³	-
Breastfeeding at Hospital Discharge	70.8%	73.4%	-	81.9%
Preterm Birth	11.6%	10.4%	9.9% ³	9.4%
Low Birth Weight	9.8%	8.7%	8.3% ³	7.8%
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	7.8	7.2	5.8 ²	6.0
Black	16.9	15.6	11.3 ²	6.0
White	4.2	5.3	4.9 ²	6.0

¹Ohio Birth and Death Certificates, Ohio Department of Health, 2017

²Mortality public-use data on CDC Wonder online database, 2017

³National Vital Statistics, Birth Report, 2017

⁴National Vital Statistics, Adequate Prenatal Care Report, 2016

Public Health Importance

Women and families can take steps to give their baby the best chance for a healthy start in life. The steps for a healthy start begin before pregnancy occurs and continue throughout the pregnancy and after the baby is brought home.

PRECONCEPTION

- ▶ Manage existing medical conditions
- ▶ Eat a proper, nutritious diet
- ▶ Maintain a healthy weight

PRENATAL

- ▶ Begin care during the first trimester
- ▶ Quit smoking and drinking alcohol
- ▶ Know the signs of preterm labor

POSTPARTUM

- ▶ Breastfeed
- ▶ Avoid infant's exposure to secondhand smoke
- ▶ Place infant to sleep on his or her back

