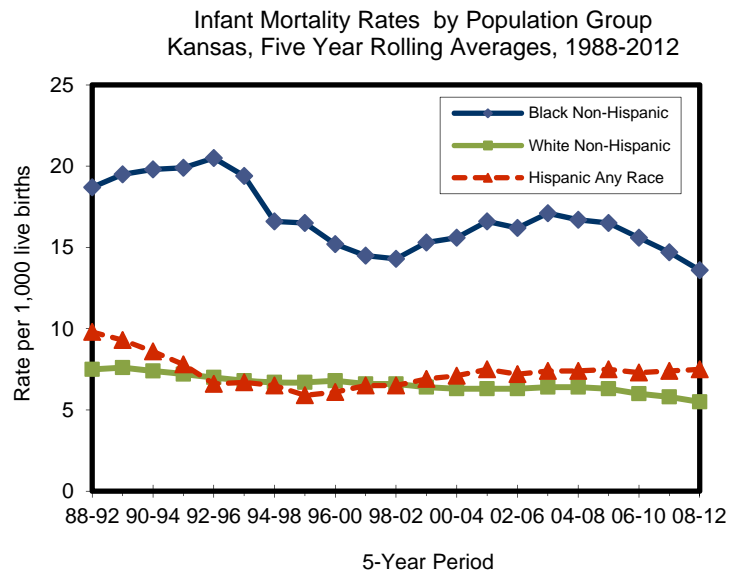


Infant Mortality in Kansas by Zip Code, 2003–2012

Infant mortality rates have traditionally been considered an important indicator of public health, at both the national and the state level. Kansas infant mortality rates have declined significantly over the last two decades,[1] but they have remained higher than national rates,[2] and higher than the target rate of 6.0 per 1,000 births set by the Healthy People 2020 program.[3] While Kansas urban areas have high numbers of infant deaths, a Florida study[4] documented that infant mortality rates for rural residents compared unfavorably to rates for urban residents. Infant mortality is a concern for the whole state.

Kansas Highlights

- There were 2,816 Kansas resident infant deaths in the 2003–2012 period, on average about 282 per year.
- Infant mortality rates for Black non-Hispanics has consistently been 2-3 times that for White non-Hispanics.
- The zip codes with the largest number of infant deaths over the 2003-2012 period are widely distributed across Kansas' 20 largest cities, but infant mortality also occurs in rural and small-town Kansas communities.



Want to know more about infant mortality?

For information about Kansas infant mortality prevention programs, visit the webpage of the Kansas Blue Ribbon Panel on Infant Mortality, <http://kansasinfantmortality.org/aboutus.asp>.

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Acknowledgements: Laurel Stanley, KDHE Geospatial Services

Related References:

- (1) Oakley D, Crawford G, Savage C. 2012 Kansas Annual Summary of Vital Statistics. Topeka, KS: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, 2013.
- (2) Moyer C, Savage C. BEPHI Data Brief No. 1: Infant Mortality. Topeka, KS: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, 2013.
- (3) Healthy People 2020 infant mortality targets available at <http://healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicId=26>. Accessed November 1, 2013.
- (4) Clarke L, Coward R. A multivariate assessment of the effects of residence on infant mortality. *Journal of Rural Health* 7(3): 246-265, 1991.

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- For a list of all publications issued by KDHE go to http://www.kdheks.gov/data_reports_stats.htm.
 - Visit Kansas Information for Communities (KIC) the department's online data query tool at <http://kic.kdhe.state.ks.us/kic/index.html>.
- Community Health Needs Assessment information at <http://www.kansashealthmatters.org/>.

