

**Table 16. Infant mortality rates, by birthweight: United States, selected years 1983–2006**

[Data are based on linked birth and death certificates for infants]

<i>Birthweight</i>	1983 <sup>1</sup>	1985 <sup>1</sup>	1990 <sup>1</sup>	1995 <sup>2</sup>	2000 <sup>2</sup>	2004 <sup>2</sup>	2005 <sup>2</sup>	2006 <sup>2</sup>
	Infant deaths per 1,000 live births <sup>3</sup>							
All birthweights . . . . .	10.9	10.4	8.9	7.6	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7
Less than 2,500 grams . . . . .	95.9	93.9	78.1	65.3	60.2	57.9	57.6	55.7
Less than 1,500 grams . . . . .	400.6	387.7	317.6	270.7	246.9	245.2	245.7	241.4
Less than 500 grams . . . . .	890.3	895.9	898.2	904.9	847.9	850.1	857.2	847.6
500–999 grams . . . . .	584.2	559.2	440.1	351.0	313.8	314.6	305.1	303.8
1,000–1,499 grams . . . . .	162.3	145.4	97.9	69.6	60.9	55.7	58.1	58.4
1,500–1,999 grams . . . . .	58.4	54.0	43.8	33.5	28.7	27.4	27.0	26.2
2,000–2,499 grams . . . . .	22.5	20.9	17.8	13.7	11.9	11.1	10.9	10.4
2,500 grams or more . . . . .	4.7	4.3	3.7	3.0	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3
2,500–2,999 grams . . . . .	8.8	7.9	6.7	5.5	4.6	4.2	4.2	4.0
3,000–3,499 grams . . . . .	4.4	4.3	3.7	2.9	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.1
3,500–3,999 grams . . . . .	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4
4,000 grams or more . . . . .	3.3	3.2	2.4	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5
4,000–4,499 grams . . . . .	2.9	2.9	2.2	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4
4,500–4,999 grams . . . . .	3.9	3.8	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.5	2.2	1.9
5,000 grams or more <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	14.4	14.7	9.8	8.5	*6.1	*4.9	*4.6	*5.4

\* Estimates are considered unreliable. Rates preceded by an asterisk are based on fewer than 50 deaths in the numerator.

<sup>1</sup>Rates based on unweighted birth cohort data.<sup>2</sup>Rates based on a period file using weighted data; unknown birthweight imputed when period of gestation is known and proportionately distributed when period of gestation is unknown. See Appendix I, National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set.<sup>3</sup>For calculation of birthweight-specific infant mortality rates, unknown birthweight has been distributed in proportion to known birthweight separately for live births (denominator) and infant deaths (numerator).<sup>4</sup>In 1989, a birthweight-gestational age consistency check instituted for the natality file resulted in a decrease in the number of deaths to infants coded with birthweights of 5,000 grams or more and a discontinuity in the mortality trend for infants weighing 5,000 grams or more at birth. Starting with 1989 data, the rates are believed to be more accurate.

NOTES: National linked files do not exist for 1992–1994. Data for additional years are available. See Appendix III.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set.