

Table 16. Infant mortality rates, by birthweight: United States, selected years 1983-2008

(Data are based on linked birth and death certificates for infants)

Birthweight	1983 ¹	1985 ¹	1990 ¹	1995 ²	2000 ²	2006 ²	2007 ²	2008 ²
All birthweights.....	10.9	10.4	8.9	7.6	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.6
Less than 2,500 grams.....	95.9	93.9	78.1	65.3	60.2	55.7	56.3	54.8
Less than 1,500 grams.....	400.6	387.7	317.6	270.7	246.9	241.4	241.5	238.2
Less than 500 grams.....	890.3	895.9	898.2	904.9	847.9	847.6	859.7	869.2
500-999 grams.....	584.2	559.2	440.1	351.0	313.8	303.8	300.3	290.7
1,000-1,499 grams.....	162.3	145.4	97.9	69.6	60.9	58.4	56.9	56.5
1,500-1,999 grams.....	58.4	54.0	43.8	33.5	28.7	26.2	26.9	27.5
2,000-2,499 grams.....	22.5	20.9	17.8	13.7	11.9	10.4	10.8	10.3
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	4.0	4.2	4.2
3,000-3,499 grams.....	4.4	4.3	3.7	2.9	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.1
3,500-3,999 grams.....	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.0	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.5
4,000 grams or more.....	3.3	3.2	2.4	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5
4,000-4,499 grams.....	2.9	2.9	2.2	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4
4,500-4,999 grams.....	3.9	3.8	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.3
5,000 grams or more ⁴	14.4	14.7	9.8	8.5	*6.1	*5.4	*5.2	*6.4

*Estimates are considered unreliable.

Rates preceded by an asterisk are based on fewer than 50 deaths in the numerator.

¹Rates based on unweighted birth cohort data.

²Rates 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.

³For 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). Thus, birthweight-specific infant mortality rates shown in this table may differ from those shown in other publications that do not correct for unknown birthweight.

⁴In 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.
See Appendix I, National Vital Statistics System (NVSS).

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