Infant Mortality 2016  
Mahoning County

Low Birth Weight and Prematurity

In 2016, 2498 babies were born to Mahoning County residents. 9.9% of infants were born with a Low Birth Weight¹ (<2500g) and 12.9% of infants were born Premature¹ (<37 weeks).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Low Birth Weight &lt;2500g</th>
<th>Premature &lt;37 weeks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHBlack</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHWhite</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Infant Mortality by birth weight and gestation

Healthy People 2020 has set a goal to lower low birth weight births to 7.8% by 2020.

The March of Dimes (MoD) has set a goal of lowering the preterm birth rates to 8.1% by 2020.

My Baby's 1st set a goal to reduce the rate of preterm births from 13.1% to 11.8% by 2019.

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¹LBW and Premature rates per 100 live births
²Based on births with available data: 1507 singleton births with a previous live birth
³Based on infant death with a previous live birth
⁴IMR=Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births
⁵Adapted from Ohio Department of Health
*Data for analysis was obtained from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Secure Data Warehouse; excludes birth records with missing/unknown data
Birth Spacing

In 2016, **36.2%** of live births³ had an interval of 18 months or less. The rate of infant mortality for births with poor birth spacing was **7.4³**.

**Percent of births with poor birth spacing by race and ethnicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>&lt;=18 Months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHBlack</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHWhite</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non-Hispanic Black women were most likely to have poor birth spacing. 39.9% of Non-Hispanic Black births had an <=18 month interval.

**Infant Mortality and Birth Spacing**

**My Baby's I** set a goal to reduce the percentage of women becoming pregnant within 18 months of a prior delivery to **28%** by 2017.

**Birth intervals of less than 18 months have been associated with poor birth outcomes including low birth weight, preterm birth, placental abruption, and other poor birth outcomes and maternal morbidities.**

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Infant Mortality

In 2016, Mahoning County experienced a significant drop in infant mortality compared to the 2015 overall rate of 11.0. The overall Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), in 2016, was 6.0. However, the disparity between Non-Hispanic Black and Non-Hispanic White infant mortality almost doubled (see Disparity).

Causes of Infant Death (Modified Dollfus Classification)\(^5\)

- Prematurity Related: 20.0%
- Congenital Anomalies: 13.3%
- Obstetric Conditions: 26.7%
- Other Infections: 6.7%
- External Injuries (includes sleep related): 6.7%
- Other: 26.7%

Overall Infant Mortality Rates, 2007-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>IMR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall Infant Mortality Rates, 2016

- Ohio: 7.4
- Mahoning County: 6.0

The death of a baby before his or her first birthday is a critical indicator of a community’s health. Healthy People 2020 set a goal to decrease the infant mortality rate to \(\leq 6.0\).

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\(^3\)Based on infant death with a previous live birth
\(^4\)IMR=Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births
\(^5\)Adapted from Ohio Department of Health
\(^*\)Data for analysis was obtained from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Secure Data Warehouse; excludes birth records with missing/unknown data
**Disparity**

While the overall infant mortality rate in Mahoning County has decreased, the disparity rate has **increased almost two times the 2015 rate**. In 2016, **66.7%** of infant deaths in Mahoning County were identified as Non-Hispanic Black.

### Deaths and Births based on race

![Deaths and Births](chart)

- Deaths: NHWhite 33.3%, NHBlack 66.7%
- Births: NHWhite 66.0%, NHBlack 25.5%

![Infant Mortality Rate](chart)

**Infant Mortality Rate based on race**

- NHBlack: 15.7
- NHWhite: 3.0

Ohio Black IM (15.2)

Ohio White IM (5.8)

Non-Hispanic Black infants were **1.2x more likely to be born Premature** than Non-Hispanic White infants, and **1.6x more likely to be born with a Low Birth Weight** than Non-Hispanic White infants.

### Preterm and Low Birth Weight rates based on race

- **Premature**: NHWhite 11.9, NHBlack 14.2
- **LBW**: NHWhite 8.2, NHBlack 13.4

**In Mahoning County, black infants were **5.2x more likely to die** than white infants. This is **almost two times the disparity rate of 2015 which was 2.7x.**

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