

FETAL, INFANT, AND CHILD DEATHS



*"Priest, Yukon River"
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In 2007...

- 64 fetal deaths occurred to Alaska mothers. From 2005-2007, the fetal death rate was 5.0 deaths per 1,000 births and fetal deaths.
- 69 infant deaths occurred of Alaska residents. From 2005-2007, the infant death rate was 6.3 infant deaths per 1,000 births.
- 33 infants died during the neonatal period. The leading cause of neonatal infant death was due to congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities.
- 36 infants died during the postneonatal period. The leading cause of postneonatal infant death was unintentional injuries (accidents).
- 94 children between the ages of 1 and 19 died. The leading cause of death among children was due to unintentional injuries (accidents).

Fetal and Infant Death Summary¹

A fetal death is defined as death before the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy.² In 2007, 64 fetal deaths occurred to Alaska mothers.

The fetal death rate is the number of fetal deaths per 1,000 live births and fetal deaths.³ From 2005-2007, the Alaska fetal death rate was 5.0.

In 2007, 69 infant deaths occurred to Alaska mothers. The infant mortality rate (IMR) is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live infant births for a given calendar year.³ From 2005-2007, the infant mortality rate for Alaska Natives was more than twice that of white mothers.

Table 12: Fetal Mortality Rates by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	3.9	5.2	6.8
White	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.1	3.6	4.0	4.8	4.7	3.9	3.5
Total	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	5.3	5.7	5.3	4.9	5.0

Table 13: Number of Infant Deaths by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	71	68	70	90	84	79	70	72	80	84
White	115	104	97	102	103	106	98	98	93	89
Total	212	194	184	205	206	210	196	200	206	206

Table 14: Infant Mortality Rates by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	9.8	9.4	9.6	12.2	11.4	10.7	9.4	9.3	10.0	10.3
White	5.8	5.3	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.1	5.1	4.7	4.5
Total	7.1	6.5	6.2	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.3

¹ Due to the low number of reportable events of Asian/PI and Black deaths, only the two predominant races in Alaska (Native and White) are reported.

² Alaska Statute 18.50.240 requires the filing of a fetal death certificate for each death that occurs where the pregnancy has lasted at least twenty weeks. This table only includes information in which the estimated gestation is at least twenty weeks.

³ A few additional (or) less infant deaths in Alaska can cause large fluctuations in the fetal death rate and the infant mortality rate from one year to the next. Therefore, Alaska's fetal death rate and infant mortality rates are calculated on a three-year moving average in order to provide a more reasonable basis for comparison.

Neonatal Infant Deaths^{1,2}

Neonatal deaths are deaths of infants under 28 days of age. These deaths are frequently associated with circumstances related to pregnancy and delivery. In 2007, 33 infants died within the neonatal period.

The neonatal infant mortality rate (IMR) is the number of neonatal infant deaths per 1,000 live infant births for a given calendar year. From 2005-2007, the neonatal infant mortality rate was 3.3

deaths per 1,000 births. During this period, Alaska Native infants were 1 1/2 times more likely to die during the neonatal period than white infants.

From 2003-2007, congenital malformations, deformations, and abnormalities was the leading cause of neonatal death.

Table 15: Number of Neonatal Deaths by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	30	27	31	31	28	22	30	33	36	31
White	64	57	56	61	58	59	47	50	48	49
Total	105	94	93	98	93	91	89	100	109	106

Table 16: Neonatal Infant Mortality Rates by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	4.2	3.7	4.3	4.2	3.8	3.0	4.0	4.3	4.5	3.8
White	3.2	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.1	3.1	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.5
Total	3.5	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.3

Table 17: Number of Neonatal Deaths by Cause (2003-2007)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities	8	10	8	8	12
Newborn affected by maternal complications of pregnancy	2	3	7	8	1
Newborn affected by complications of placenta, cord, and membranes	4	4	1	6	0
Disorders related to short gestation and low birth weight, not elsewhere classified	3	2	5	6	5
Other	16	17	10	14	15
Total	33	36	31	42	33

¹ Due to the low number of reportable events of Asian/PI and Black deaths, only the two predominant races in Alaska (Native and White) are reported.

² A few additional (or) less infant deaths in Alaska can cause large fluctuations in the infant mortality rate from one year to the next. Therefore, Alaska's neonatal infant mortality rates are calculated on a three-year moving average in order to provide a more reasonable basis for comparison.

Postneonatal Infant Deaths^{1,2}

Postneonatal deaths are deaths of infants between 28 and 364 days of age. These deaths are frequently associated with living conditions. In 2007, 36 infants died within the postneonatal period.

The postneonatal infant mortality rate (IMR) is the number of postneonatal infant deaths per 1,000 live infant births for a given calendar year. From 2005-2007, the postneonatal infant mortality rate was 3.1 deaths per 1,000

births. During this period, Alaska Native infants were three times as likely to die during the postneonatal period than white infants.

From 2003-2007, accidents were the leading cause of postneonatal death.

Table 18: Number of Postneonatal Deaths by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	41	41	39	59	56	57	40	39	44	53
White	51	47	41	41	45	47	51	48	45	40
Total	107	100	91	107	113	119	107	100	97	100

Table 19: Postneonatal Infant Mortality Rates by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	5.7	5.7	5.3	8.0	7.6	7.7	5.4	5.0	5.5	6.5
White	2.6	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.0
Total	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.1

Table 20: Number of Postneonatal Infant Deaths by Cause (2003-2007)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Sudden infant death syndrome	11	10	2	10	5
Accidents (unintentional injuries)	2	9	10	10	12
Congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities	4	4	6	1	4
Other	21	10	11	14	15
Total	38	33	29	35	36

¹ Due to the low number of reportable events of Asian/PI and Black deaths, only the two predominant races in Alaska (Native and White) are reported.

² A few additional (or) less infant deaths in Alaska can cause large fluctuations in the infant mortality rate from one year to the next. Therefore, Alaska's postneonatal infant mortality rates are calculated on a three-year moving average in order to provide a more reasonable basis for comparison.

Child Mortality Summary¹

The under 5 mortality rate measures how many deaths occur to children before their first birthday. For every 1,000 births, about 7 Alaskan children did not reach their fifth birthday from 2005-2007. Young Alaska Native children are approximately twice as likely to die before their fifth birthday than their white counterparts.

Mortality rates for children between the ages of 5 and 19 are calculated on an age-specific basis. From 2005-

2007, approximately 29 Alaskan children died for every 100,000 population. Native children between the ages 5 and 14 are roughly twice as likely to die than their white counterparts.

From 2005-2007, approximately 90 Alaskan teenagers died for every 100,000 population. Native teenagers (15-19) are approximately three times as likely to die than their white counterparts.

Table 21: Child Under 5 Mortality Rates by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	14.3	13.3	13.7	16.8	15.6	14.8	13.0	12.7	11.9	12.2
White	7.1	6.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.2	6.0	5.5	4.9
Total	9.1	8.4	7.9	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.2	8.1	7.7	7.3

Table 22: Child (5-14) Mortality Rates by Race (1996-2007)

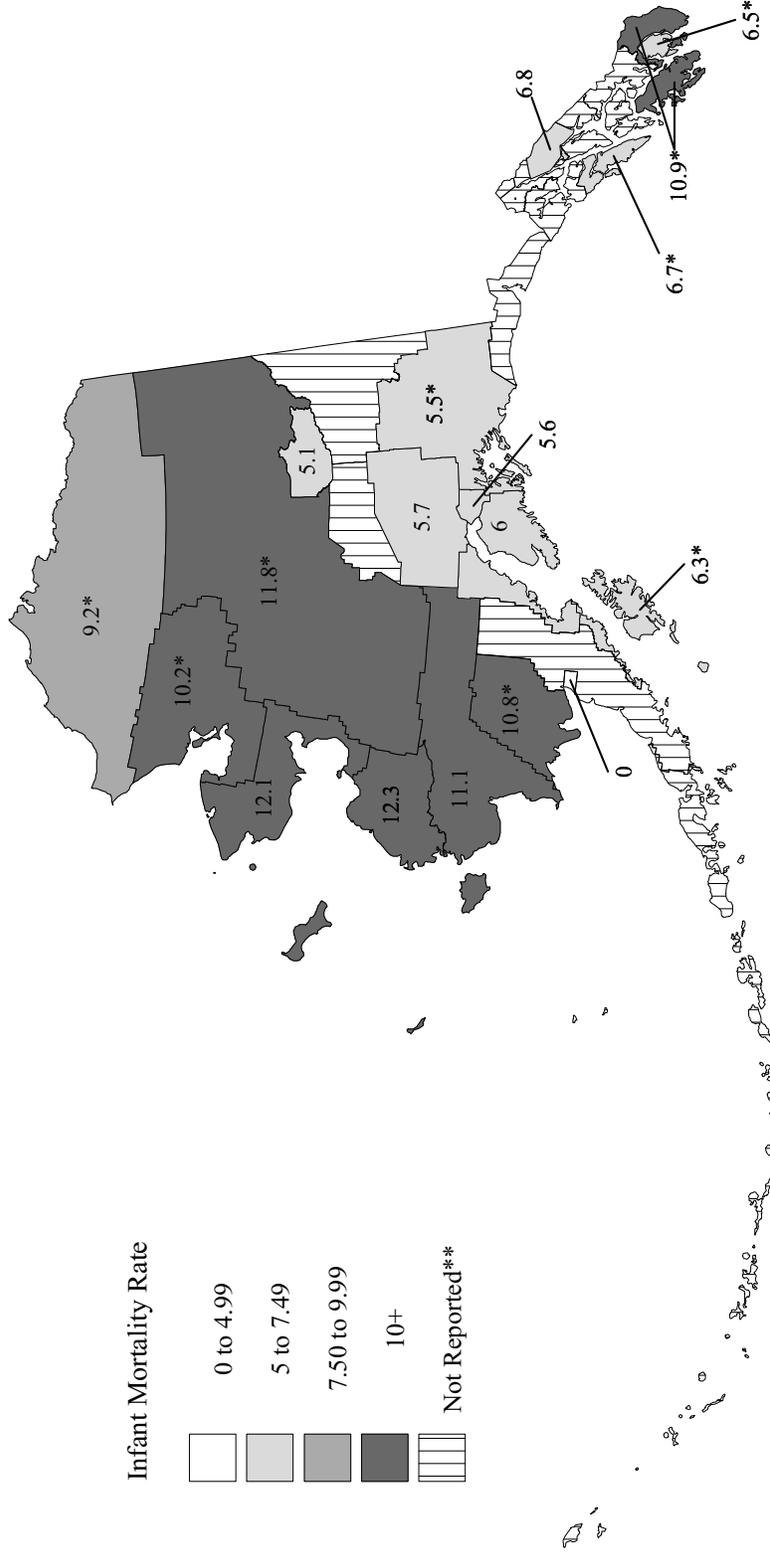
	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	50.0	45.2	39.5	43.8	51.0	49.1	48.3	43.4	49.8	53.3
White	22.3	21.0	19.6	19.0	22.4	25.7	25.2	25.4	24.6	22.4
Total	27.6	25.7	23.1	22.7	26.5	30.4	30.8	30.4	29.2	28.7

Table 23: Child (15-19) Mortality Rates by Race (1996-2007)

	96-98	97-99	98-00	99-01	00-02	01-03	02-04	03-05	04-06	05-07
Native	237.7	246.7	275.1	268.8	227.3	218.0	220.8	234.3	201.2	189.1
White	77.3	66.4	70.1	76.3	77.4	70.1	73.6	67.9	64.8	58.4
Total	112.4	106.9	115.0	117.9	108.3	100.1	106.1	106.7	98.6	90.0

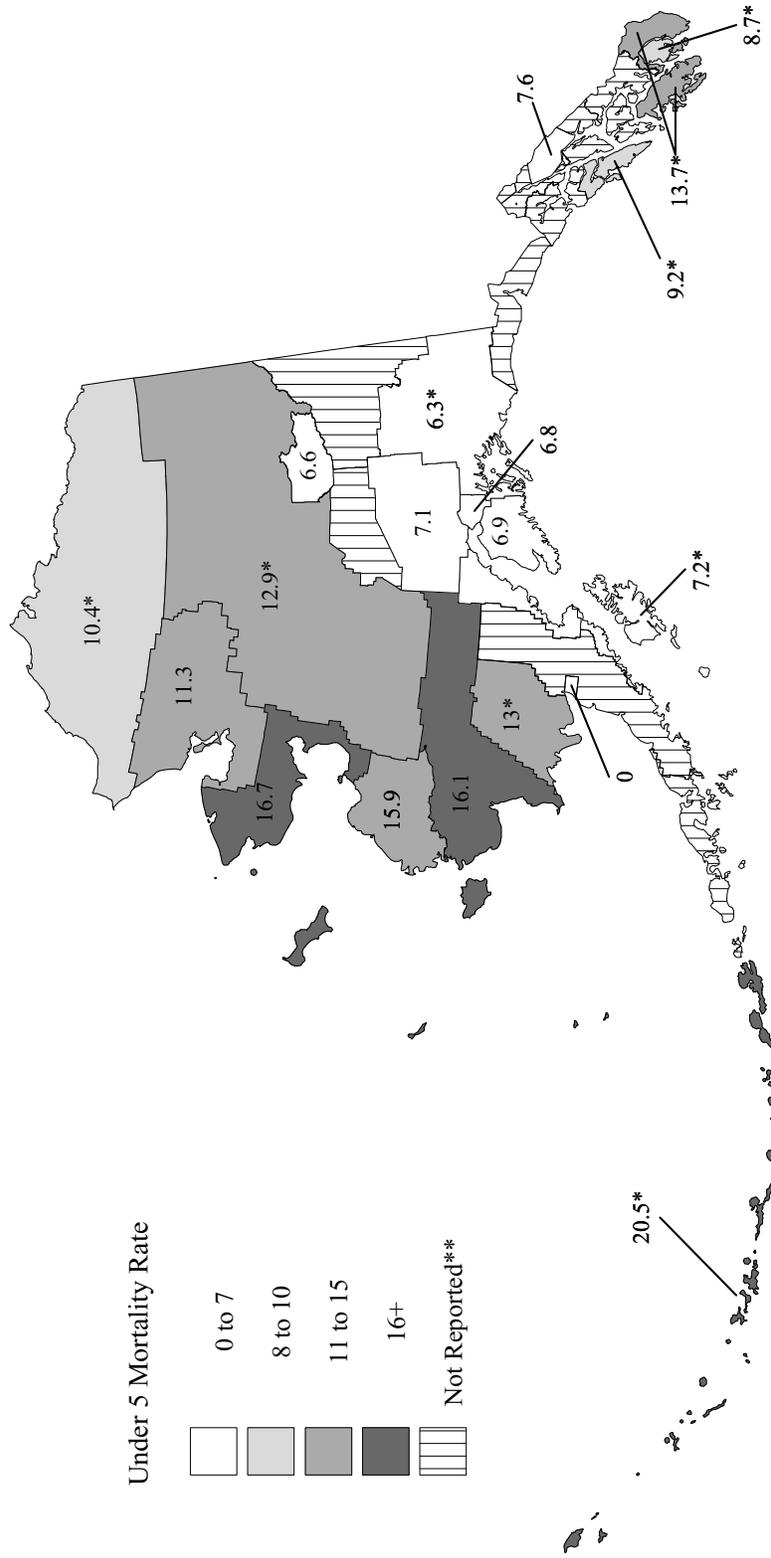
¹ Due to the low number of reportable events of Asian/PI and Black deaths, only the two predominant races in Alaska (Native and White) are reported.

Infant Mortality Rates by Census Area or Borough 1998-2007



*Rates based on fewer than 20 occurrences are statistically unreliable and should be used with caution.
**Rates based on fewer than 6 occurrences are not reported.

Under 5 Mortality Rates by Census Area or Borough 1998- 2007



*Rates based on fewer than 20 occurrences are statistically unreliable and should be used with caution.

**Rates based on fewer than 6 occurrences are not reported.