



# Annual Wisconsin Birth and Infant Mortality Report

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November 2015 Release

Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
Division of Public Health  
Office of Health Informatics

## Foreword

The Department of Health Services provides annual reports on vital statistics as a service to the people of Wisconsin and others interested in Wisconsin. The *Annual Birth and Infant Mortality Report, 2014*, is one of those reports, containing key findings and descriptive information collected by the State Vital Records Office. This report will be published annually beginning with the 2014 data year, and replaces two earlier report series: *Wisconsin Births and Infant Deaths* and *Births to Teens in Wisconsin*. Technical Notes are published as a separate document.

Additional health-related statistical information for Wisconsin is available through the Internet on the Department of Health Services site, at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/stats/index.htm>. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) is an online data query system, located at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/index.htm>, which includes birth data for multiple years and geographic areas in Wisconsin.

This publication was prepared by the Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services. The findings in this report were compiled by Yiwu Zhang, Karl Pearson, Wendy Hart, and Ousmane Diallo in the Office of Health Informatics. Patricia Nametz of the Bureau of Operations edited the report. Audrey Bruegman from the Vital Records section assisted with the graphic design. Draft review was provided by staff in the Bureau of Community Health Promotion, Division of Public Health. The report was prepared under the supervision of Oskar Anderson, Director of the Office of Health Informatics; Lisa Walker, State Registrar of Vital Records; and Milda Aksamitauskas, Section Chief, Health Analytics Section.

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## Introduction

This report presents information about Wisconsin residents' births that occurred in 2014. Information from previous years is also presented to show changes over time. This report includes information on the number and rate of live births; demographic characteristics of the mother, such as age, race/ethnicity, marital status, education, and number of previous births; characteristics of the pregnancy and delivery, including the trimester that prenatal care began, number of visits, and whether the mother smoked during pregnancy; characteristics of the newborn; and infant mortality rates. This report also includes information about infants who died before their first birthday and about fetuses of more than 20 weeks of gestation who were stillborn.

Beginning January 1, 2011, Wisconsin began collecting birth data from hospitals using a new web-based data entry system. The new system adopted the 2003 U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth. Previously, Wisconsin had been collecting data based on the 1989 U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth. Many changes have been made to the data collection process. Some information is no longer collected, new information has been added, and some information is still collected but using a different definition. Comparisons between 2014 data and data from years prior to 2011 should be made only with great caution. Please refer to the Technical Notes for a more complete description of changes.

Data used in the report include resident birth data, matched infant birth-death data, fetal death data, and induced abortion data. All data refer to Wisconsin residents unless otherwise noted.

All the information is presented according to place of residence. This means that events have been assigned to the area where the person lives (usually legal residence) regardless of where the events occurred. For births, the reference is to the residence of the mother. For infant deaths, the reference is to the residence of the infant at the time of death.

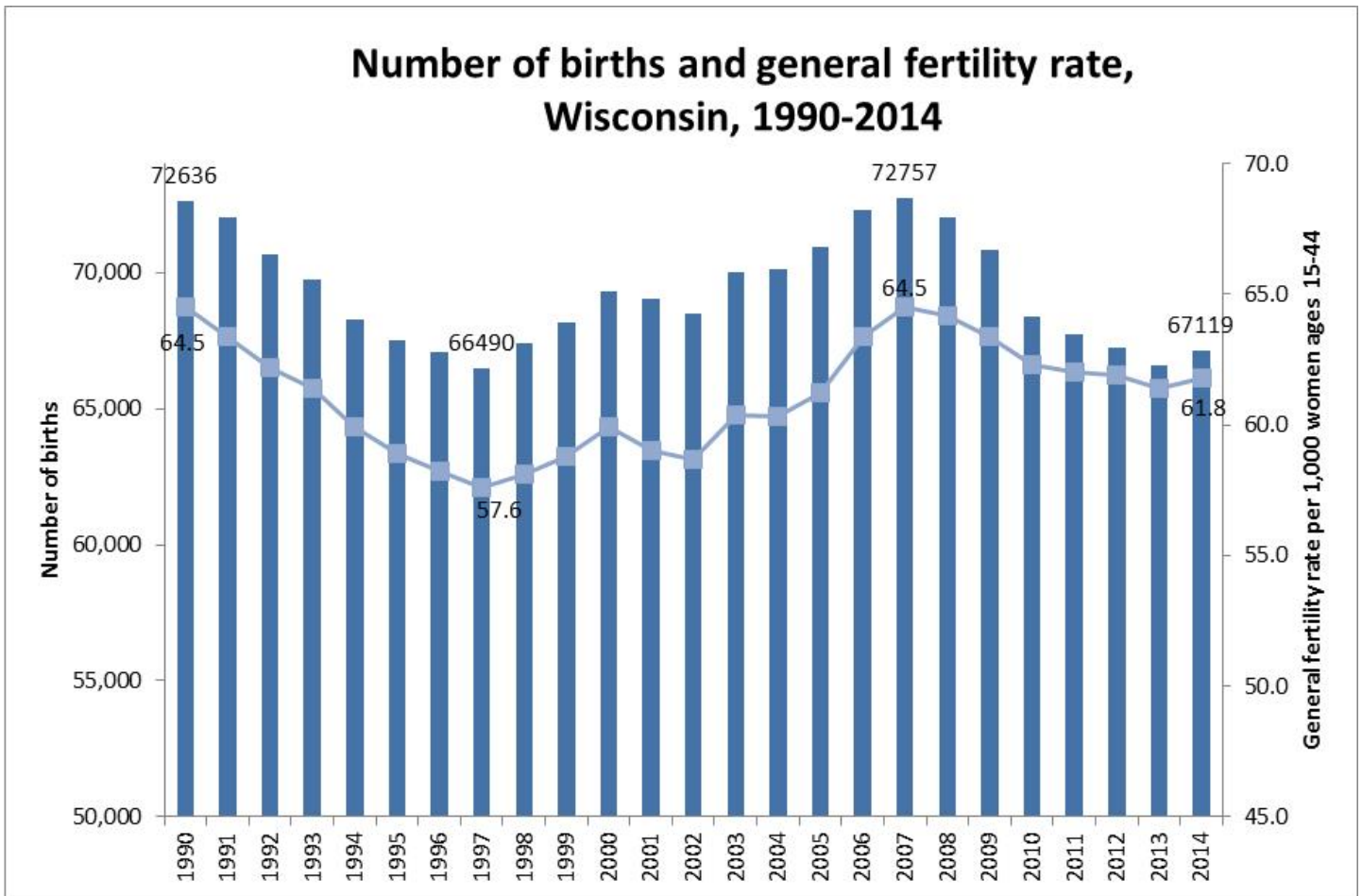
## Key Findings

**61.8**

The number of births per 1,000 women aged 15-44 (the general fertility rate) increased slightly in 2014 - the first increase since 2007.

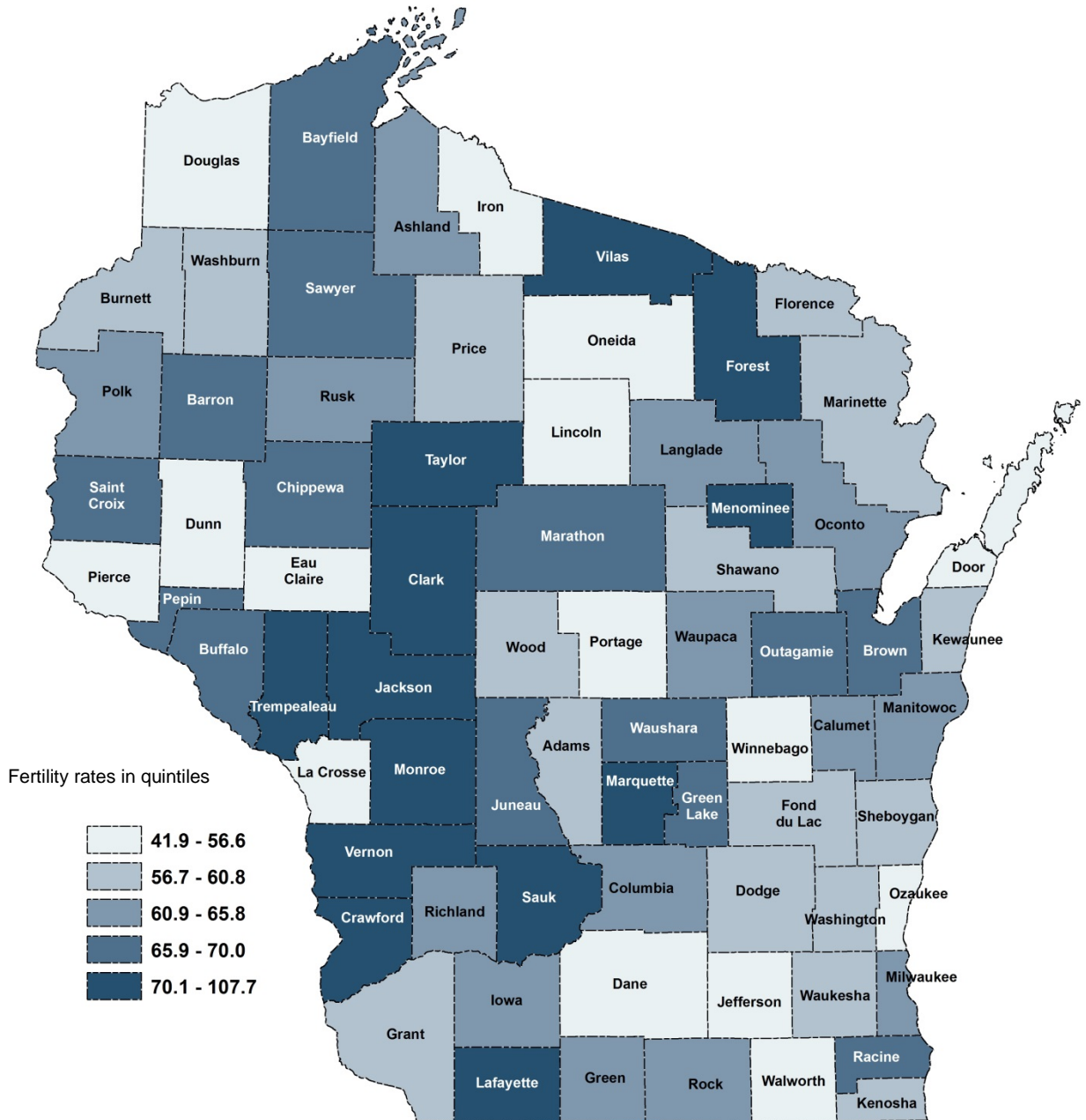
- In 2014, there were 67,119 live births to Wisconsin residents, 553 more than in 2013 (66,566).
- The 2014 general fertility rate was 61.8 births per 1,000 Wisconsin females aged 15-44, compared with 61.4 in 2013. The 2014 United States general fertility rate was 62.9. (See Technical Notes for source of U.S. data. Technical Notes are published in a separate document.)

Figure 1. Total number of births and general fertility rate, 1990-2014, Wisconsin. Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.



Map 1. Births per 1,000 females aged 15-44 (general fertility rate) by county, 2014, Wisconsin. Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

### Wisconsin Fertility Rates (Births per 1,000 Females Aged 15-44)



## 18.1

### Birth rates for teenagers declined for most race/ethnicity groups. The birth rate for Hispanic and African American teenagers didn't change compared to the previous year.

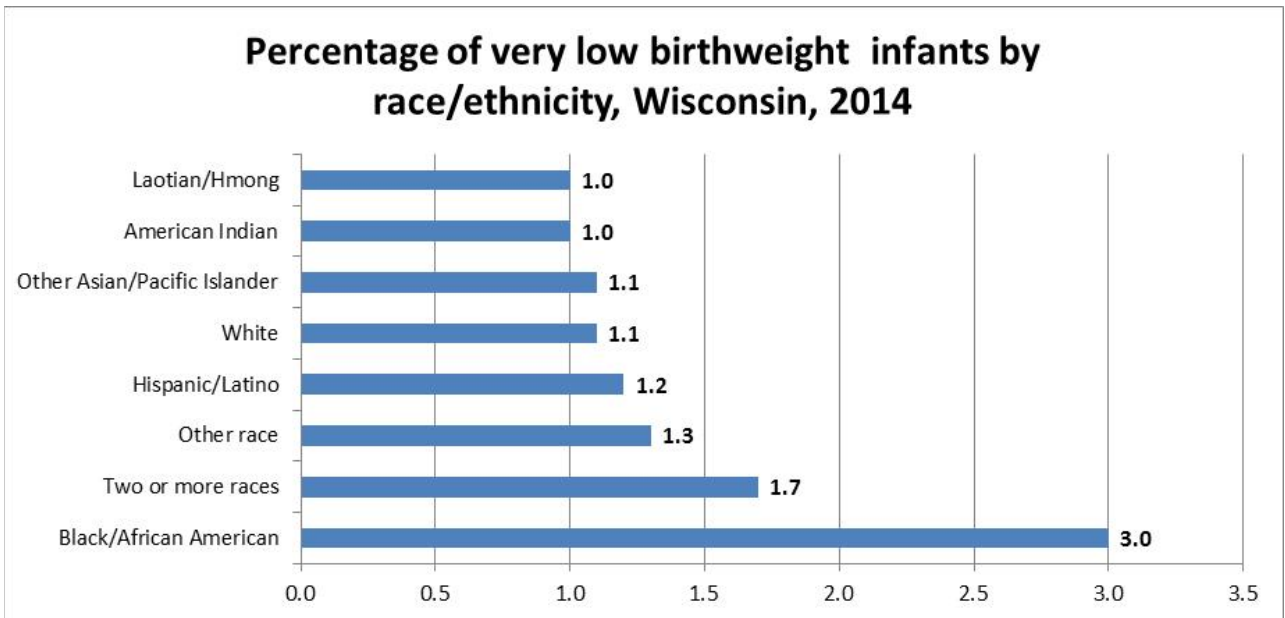
- In 2014, there were 3,413 live births to Wisconsin teens (mothers less than 20 years of age), a decrease from 3,729 teen births in 2013. Teen births represented 5 percent of Wisconsin births overall, compared to 6 percent in 2013.
- The 2014 Wisconsin teen birth rate was 18.1 births per 1,000 females aged 15-19, compared to 19.7 in 2013. (This rate excludes births to girls under 15 years of age.) In 2014, the U.S. teen birth rate was 24.2.
- The estimated pregnancy rate among Wisconsin teens in 2014 was 21.9 pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-19, compared to 23.9 in 2013. (This rate is calculated by adding births, reported fetal deaths, and reported induced abortions among females under 20 years of age, then dividing by the number of females aged 15-19.)
- The teen birth rate declined among the American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, and white populations. Among American Indians/Alaska Natives, the teen birth rate decreased from 40.5 in 2013 to 31.2 in 2014. The Asian teen birth rate declined from 22.4 in 2013 to 18.2 in 2014. The white teen birth rate declined from 11.7 in 2013 to 10.6 in 2014. The Black/African American teen birth rate was 45.9 in 2014, unchanged from the rate of 48.8 in 2013. The teen birth rate for Hispanics/Latinos was 30.8 in 2014, unchanged from the rate of 31.2 in 2013. (See Technical Notes for an explanation of race/ethnicity categories.)

## 9.1

### Over 7 percent of babies were born at low birthweight and over 9 percent of babies were born preterm in 2014.

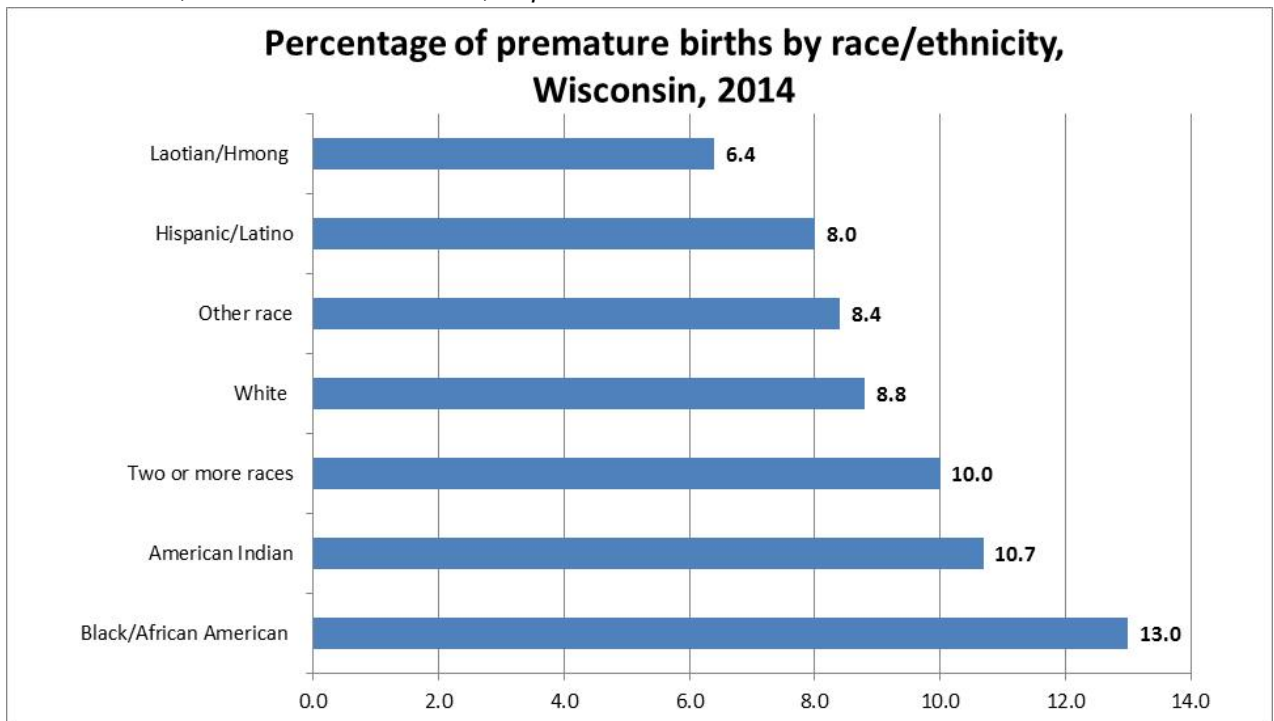
- In 2014, 4,925 Wisconsin infants were low birthweight; that is, they weighed less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth. This total represented 7.3 percent of all births (7.0 percent in 2013). In comparison, 8.0 percent of all infants born in the United States in 2013 weighed less than 2,500 grams.
- Among low birthweight infants, 891 (1.3 percent of all 2014 births) were born at very low birthweight (less than 1,500 grams or about 3.3 pounds) and were thus at the highest risk for health problems. This is the same percentage as in 2013.

Figure 2. Percentage of very low birthweight infants by race/ethnicity, Wisconsin, 2014. Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.



- In 2014, 6,137 Wisconsin infants were born prematurely (with a gestation of less than 37 weeks). This total represented 9.1 percent of all births, compared to 8.9 percent in 2013. The gestational age definition changed in 2013; see Technical Notes for full definition of prematurity.

Figure 3. Percentage of premature births by race/ethnicity, Wisconsin, 2014. Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

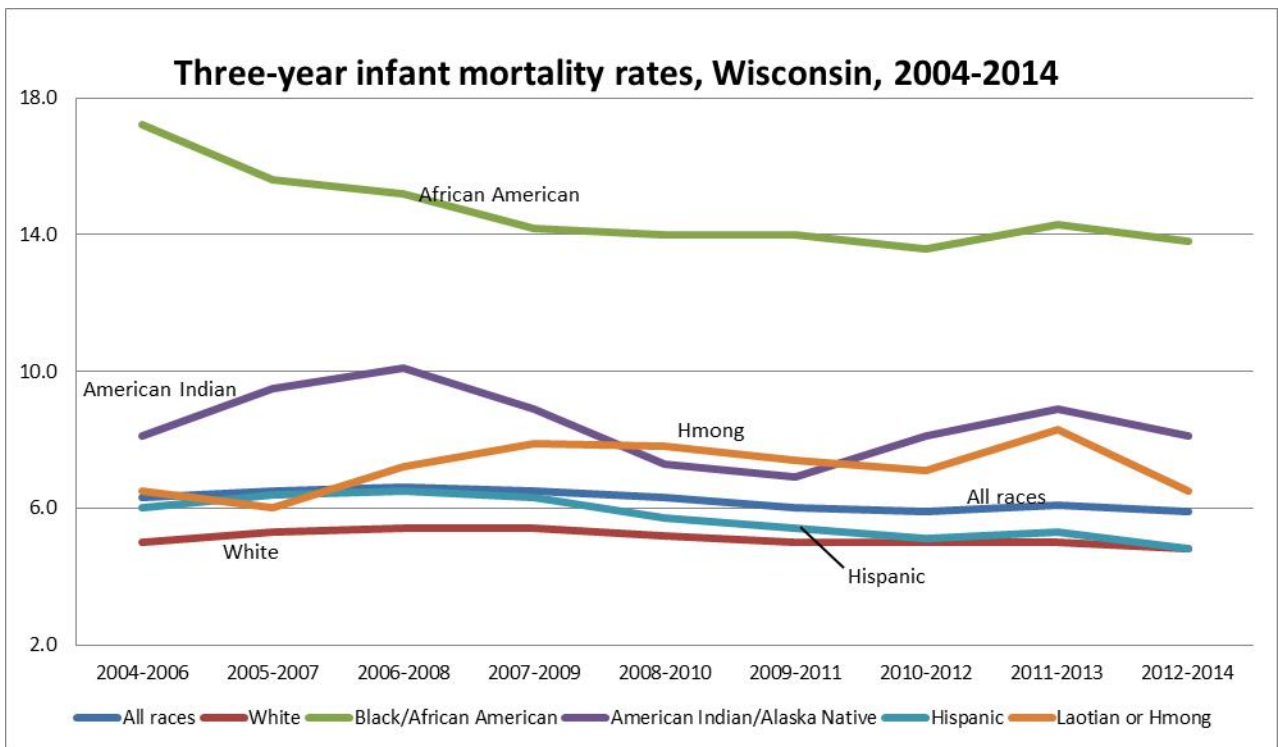


# 5.7

In 2014, 380 infants died before their first birthday. The infant mortality rate was 5.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

- In Wisconsin, 380 infants under the age of one year died in 2014. Almost three-quarters were neonatal deaths (infant lived less than 28 days). The 2014 infant mortality rate was 5.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 6.2 in 2013 and 6.0 in 2004. The 2013 U.S. infant mortality rate was 6.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births (2014 U.S. rate was not available at the time of this publication).
- Three-year rolling average infant mortality rates were calculated for the major race/ethnicity groups. During 2012-2014 the white infant mortality rate was 4.8 infant deaths per 1,000 births, compared to 13.8 for black/African American, 8.1 for American Indian/Alaska Native, 4.8 for Hispanic/Latino, and 6.5 for Laotian/Hmong infants.

Figure 4 and Table 1. Three-year infant mortality rates by race/ethnicity, Wisconsin, 2004-2006 through 2012-2014. Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

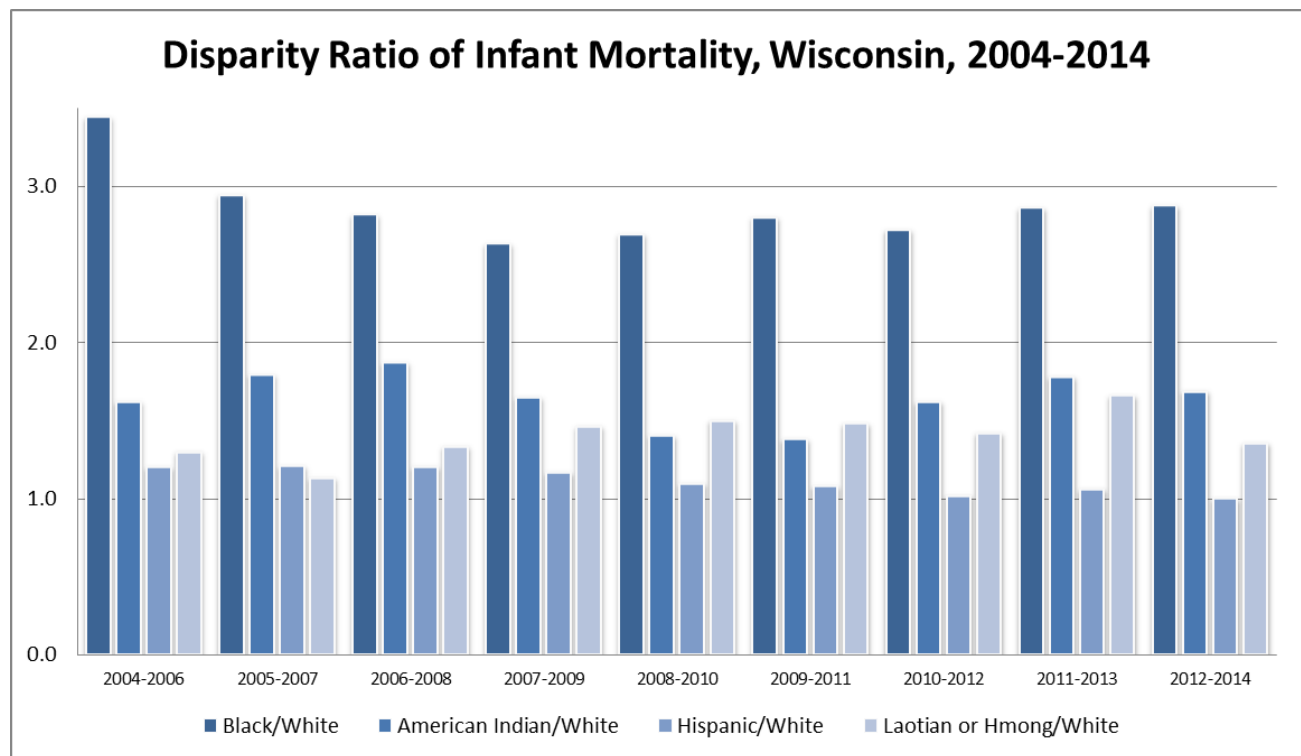




	2004-2006	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013	2012-2014
All race/ethnicity	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.0	5.9	6.1	5.9
White	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.8
Black/African American	17.2	15.6	15.2	14.2	14.0	14.0	13.6	14.3	13.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	8.1	9.5	10.1	8.9	7.3	6.9	8.1	8.9	8.1
Hispanic	6.0	6.4	6.5	6.3	5.7	5.4	5.1	5.3	4.8
Laotian/Hmong	6.5	6.0	7.2	7.9	7.8	7.4	7.1	8.3	6.5

- Infant mortality disparity ratios were calculated for the same three-year periods. During 2012-2014 the Black/White disparity ratio was 2.9, the American Indian/White ratio was 1.7, the Hispanic/White ratio was 1.0 and the Laotian or Hmong/White ratio was 1.4.

Figure 5 and Table 2. Three-year infant mortality disparity ratio by race/ethnicity, Wisconsin, 2004-2006 through 2012-2014. Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.



	2004- 2006	2005- 2007	2006- 2008	2007- 2009	2008- 2010	2009- 2011	2010- 2012	2011- 2013	2012- 2014
Black/White	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9
American Indian/White	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.7
Hispanic/White	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0
Laotian or Hmong/White	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.4

- In general, babies born to teens are more likely to die in infancy. In 2014, the infant mortality rate was 10.3 per 1,000 births to teens aged less than 20, compared with 5.4 per 1,000 births to mothers aged 20 and older. (In 2013, the rates were 11.5 per 1,000 births to teens and 5.9 per 1,000 births to mothers older than 20.)
- There were 317 fetal deaths recorded in 2014. Fetal deaths or stillbirths are reported if the fetus reached 20 weeks of gestation or 350 grams. Please see Technical Notes for a full definition.

## 75.6

### Select maternal characteristics of Wisconsin births in 2014; 75.6 percent of infants were breastfed at hospital discharge.

- In 2014, non-Hispanic white women accounted for 72.6 percent of Wisconsin resident births, compared to 73.1 percent in 2013. Non-Hispanic black/African American women accounted for 9.8 percent of 2014 births, compared to 9.4 percent in 2013. Births to Hispanic women accounted for 9.5 percent of the total in 2014, compared to 9.6 percent of total births in 2013. (See Technical Notes for explanation of race/ethnicity categories.)
- In 2014, 11.3 percent of Wisconsin women who gave birth had not finished high school, 44.3 percent had earned an associate degree or higher, and 19.4 percent had attended some college but had not yet earned a degree. In 2013, these percentages were 11.8 percent, 43.9 percent, and 19.3 percent, respectively.
- The overall proportion of women who received first-trimester prenatal care was 75.4 percent in 2014, compared to 75.6 percent in 2013.
- The proportion of births in which the mother reported smoking during pregnancy was 13.1 percent in 2014, compared to 13.6 percent in 2013.
- Cesarean sections represented 26.1 percent of all births in 2014, compared to 26.2 percent in 2013.
- The proportion of births in which the mother was obese at the time she became pregnant was 28.1 percent in 2014, compared to 27.5 in 2013.
- In 2014, 75.6 percent of infants were breastfed at discharge from the birth facility, compared to 73.8 percent in 2013.



## Olivia and Mason were the most popular newborn names in 2014.

Table 3. Most popular first names for newborns, Wisconsin, 2014. Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

Girls		Boys	
1.	Olivia	1.	Mason
2.	Emma	2.	Liam
3.	Ava	3.	William
4.	Evelyn	4.	Henry
5.	Sophia	5.	Oliver
6.	Harper	6.	Logan
7.	Charlotte	7.	Jackson
8.	Isabella	8.	Noah
9.	Abigail	9.	Owen
10.	Amelia	10.	Ethan
11.	Nora	11.	Alexander
12.	Avery	12.	Carter
13.	Ella	13.	Lucas
14.	Lillian	14.	Jack
15.	Aubrey	15.	Elijah
16.	Emily	16.	Benjamin
17.	Elizabeth	17.	Jacob
18.	Zoey	18.	Nolan
19.	Grace	19.	Michael
20.	Addison	20.	Samuel
21.	Natalie	21.	Wyatt
22.	Claire	22.	James
23.	Lily	23.	Caleb
24.	Brooklyn	24.	Levi
25.	Mia	25.	Aiden

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